



COVID-19 Survey Results: Centralia Correctional Center

The John Howard Association (JHA) is an independent citizen correctional oversight organization that goes into prisons to monitor conditions of confinement and treatment of people who are incarcerated; we fight for a fair and humane system and for government transparency and accountability. For 119 years we have been the eyes and ears of the public inside Illinois' prisons, reporting what we see, hear and learn inside facilities and using this information to recommend policy and practice changes and advocate for system reform.

It is critical that we know and understand how people in prison are experiencing the COVID-19 health crisis and what the government must do to meet the health needs of people in prison. To further this end, JHA launched a special system-wide COVID-19 survey to enable us to hear directly from those who are in prisons about prison conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The survey results reported herein indicate how 554 people imprisoned at Centralia Correctional Center responded to survey items contained within the COVID-19 survey during the time frame of April 24th to May 20th 2020. As of April 24th, 2020, there were 1,209 people imprisoned at Centralia. Thus, this sample of survey respondents consists of 45.82% of Centralia's prison population. COVID-19 surveys that were completed after May 20th will be accounted for in JHA's work and analyses conducted in the future, but are not reported below.

JHA provided prison administrators with enough survey packets (COVID-19 survey, informed consent notice/instruction sheet, and business reply envelope addressed to JHA) so that every person imprisoned at Centralia had an opportunity to participate in the COVID-19 survey if they chose to do so. Because some people who submitted a survey did not answer all questions within the survey, the count of people who responded to each question is less than the overall sample of 554.

The results of the surveys JHA collected from people imprisoned at Centralia Correctional Center are tabulated on the pages that follow.

Tables of Results by Individual Survey Items:

Q1: How did you get information from		
IDOC about COVID 19 prevention?		
Paper bulletin on unit	369	66.61%
Inmate info channel on	150	27.08%
TV		
Verbal communication	162	29.24%
by staff		
Other	90	16.25%
I did not get this	12	2.17%
information		
Total does not add to 100% for this question		
because more than one answer could be		
selected		

Q2: Did you have enough soap to regularly wash your hands in the last week?		
No	130	24.44%
Yes	388	72.93%
Unsure	14	2.63%
Total	532	100%
No response: 22 (3.97%)		

Q3: How often did you get cleaning chemicals from IDOC to clean your cell/sleeping area in the last week (examples: soap, bleach, Citral Green or peroxide)?		
Once a day	137	25.61%
2 to 3 times last week	34	6.36%
Once last week	73	13.64%
None	291	54.39%
Total	535	100%
No response: 19 (3.43%)	•	

Q4: Did you get enough cleaning chemicals to thoroughly clean your cell/sleeping area in the last week?		
No, I did not get enough	113	21.00%
to make cell clean		
Yes	116	21.56%
Unsure	21	3.90%
No, I did not get any	288	53.53%
cleaning chemicals		
Total	538	100%
No response: 16 (2.89%)		

Q5: Did the common areas you have access to get cleaned at least two times a day in the last week (examples: dayrooms, showers)?		
No	41	7.66%
Some areas cleaned, but	166	31.03%
not all		
Yes, all areas were	254	47.48%
cleaned		
Unsure	74	13.83%
Total	535	100%
No response: 19 (3.43%)		

Q6: Have you tried to get medical care because of COVID-19 in the last week?		
No, because I did not	33	6.12%
want to		
No, because I was not	447	82.93%
sick		
Yes, but no response	46	8.53%
from staff		
Yes, and staff responded	13	2.41%
Total	539	100%
No response: 15 (2.71%)		

Q7: Would you tell IDOC staff (medical or security) if you were sick because of COVID-19?		
No	40	7.35%
Yes	456	83.82%
Unsure	48	8.82%
Total	544	100%
No response: 13 (2.37%)		

Q8: Did you go to yard at least once in the last week?		
No, not allowed to	78	14.53%
No, did not want to	177	32.96%
Yes	282	52.51%
Total	537	100%
No response: 17 (3.07%)		

Q9a: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by washing their hands often?

No	121	22.45%
Yes	169	31.35%
Unsure	249	46.20%
Total	539	100%
No response: 15 (2.71%)		

Q9b: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by covering their mouth with inside of arm when coughing/sneezing?

No	156	29.32%
Yes	180	33.83%
Unsure	196	36.84%
Total	532	100%
No response: 22 (3.97%)		

Q9c: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by cleaning shared items after use (example: phones)?

No	159	30.06%
Yes	276	52.17%
Unsure	94	17.77%
Total	529	100%
No response: 25 (4.51%)		

Q9d: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by staying at least 6 feet away from others when possible?

No	246	46.59%
Yes	219	41.48%
Unsure	63	11.93%
Total	528	100%
No response: 26 (4.69%)		

Q10a: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by washing your hands often?

your mands often.		
No	9	1.65%
Yes	532	97.79%
Unsure	3	0.55%
Total	544	100%
No response: 10 (1.81%)		

Q10b: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by covering your mouth with inside of arm when coughing/sneezing?

No	11	2.04%
Yes	514	95.54%
Unsure	13	2.42%
Total	538	100%
No response: 16 (2.89%)		

Q10c: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by cleaning shared items after use (example: phones)?

No	63	11.80%
Yes	456	85.39%
Unsure	15	2.81%
Total	534	100%
No response: 20 (3.61%)		

Q10d: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by staying at least 6 feet away from others when possible?

No	116	22.14%
Yes	390	74.43%
Unsure	18	3.44%
Total	524	100%
No response: 30 (5.42%)		

 Q11: Could you take a shower at least 3 times last week?

 No
 25
 4.55%

 Yes
 524
 95.45%

 Total
 549
 100%

 No response: 5 (0.90%)

Q12: Did you get laundry service in the last week (whites and blues)?		
No, was not offered	101	19.46%
No, do not want to use	52	10.02%
laundry service		
Yes, and my laundry was	332	63.97%
cleaned		
Yes, but they did not use	34	6.55%
detergent		
Total	519	100%
No response: 35 (6.32%)		

Q13: Did you get at least one free phone call in the last week?		
No	295	55.87%
Yes	121	22.92%
Yes, but the call cut out	14	2.65%
early		
This does not apply to	98	18.56%
me		
Total	528	100%
No response: 26 (4.69%)		

Q14: Did you get a free video visit in the last week?		
No	206	39.77%
Yes, and it worked	84	16.22%
Yes, but bad service/ cut	133	25.68%
short		
This does not apply to	95	18.34%
me		
Total	518	100%
No response: 36 (6.50%)		

Q15: Could you send and get mail in the last week?		
No	30	5.85%
Yes	465	90.64%
This does not apply to	18	3.51%
me		
Total	513	100%
No response: 41 (7.40%)		

Q16: Did commissary run on schedule this week?		
Yes, full shop	6	1.17%
Yes, limited shop	113	21.98%
Yes, but not my unit's shop week	29	5.64%
No	366	71.21%
Total	514	100%
No response: 40 (7.22%)		

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