

COVID-19 Survey Results: East Moline 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 490 people imprisoned at East Moline 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 1,055 people imprisoned at East Moline. Thus, this sample of survey respondents consists of 46.45% of East Moline'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 East Moline 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 490.

The results of the surveys JHA collected from people imprisoned at East Moline 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	324	66.12%
Inmate info channel on TV	77	15.71%
Verbal communication by staff	29	5.92%
Other	100	20.41%
I did not get this information	25	5.10%
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	199	41.89%
Yes	255	53.68%
Unsure	21	4.42%
Total	475	100%
No response: 15 (3.06%)		

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	70	14.46%
2 to 3 times last week	30	6.20%
Once last week	105	21.69%
None	279	57.64%
Total	484	100%
No response: 6 (1.22%)		

Q4: Did you get enough cleaning chemicals to thoroughly clean your cell/sleeping area in the last week?		
No, I did not get enough to make cell clean	119	24.95%
Yes	71	14.88%
Unsure	21	4.40%
No, I did not get any cleaning chemicals	266	55.77%
Total	477	100%
No response: 13 (2.65%)		

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	96	20.17%
Some areas cleaned, but not all	237	49.79%
Yes, all areas were cleaned	100	21.01%
Unsure	43	9.03%
Total	476	100%
No response: 14 (2.86%)		

Q6: Have you tried to get medical care because of COVID-19 in the last week?		
No, because I did not want to	23	4.86%
No, because I was not sick	361	76.32%
Yes, but no response from staff	71	15.01%
Yes, and staff responded	18	3.81%
Total	473	100%
No response: 17 (3.47%)		

Q7: Would you tell IDOC staff (medical or security) if you were sick because of COVID-19?		
No	39	8.09%
Yes	400	82.99%
Unsure	43	8.92%
Total	482	100%
No response: 8 (1.63%)		

Q8: Did you go to yard at least once in the last week?		
No, not allowed to	101	21.26%
No, did not want to	196	41.26%
Yes	178	37.47%
Total	475	100%
No response: 15 (3.06%)		

Q9a: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by washing their hands often?		
No	191	39.46%
Yes	101	20.87%
Unsure	192	39.67%
Total	484	100%
No response: 6 (1.22%)		

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	257	53.65%
Yes	99	20.67%
Unsure	123	25.68%
Total	479	100%
No response: 11 (2.24%)		

Q9c: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by cleaning shared items after use (example: phones)?		
No	176	37.05%
Yes	216	45.47%
Unsure	83	17.47%
Total	475	100%
No response: 15 (3.06%)		

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	345	73.09%
Yes	82	17.37%
Unsure	45	9.53%
Total	472	100%
No response: 18 (3.67%)		

Q10a: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by washing your hands of		
No	9	1.89%
Yes	464	97.68%
Unsure	2	0.42%
Total	475	100%
No response: 15 (3.06%)		

Q10b: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by covering your mouth with inside of arm when coughing/sneezing?		
No	26	5.49%
Yes	436	91.98%
Unsure	12	2.53%
Total	474	100%
No response: 16 (3.27%)		

Q10c: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by cleaning shared items after use (example: phones)?		
No	60	12.71%
Yes	398	84.32%
Unsure	14	2.97%
Total	472	100%
No response: 18 (3.67%)		

Q10d: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by staying at least 6 feet away from others when possible?		
No	190	41.04%
Yes	248	53.56%
Unsure	25	5.40%
Total	463	100%
No response: 27 (5.51%)		

Q11: Could you take a shower at least 3 times last week?		
No	28	5.80%
Yes	455	94.20%
Total	483	100%
No response: 7 (1.43%)		

Q12: Did you get laundry service in the last week (whites and blues)?		
No, was not offered	40	8.39%
No, do not want to use laundry service	14	2.94%
Yes, and my laundry was cleaned	371	77.78%
Yes, but they did not use detergent	52	10.90%
Total	477	100%
No response: 13 (2.65%)		

Q13: Did you get at least one free phone call in the last week?		
No	239	51.96%
Yes	133	28.91%
Yes, but the call cut out early	24	5.22%
This does not apply to me	64	13.91%
Total	460	100%
No response: 30 (6.12%)		

Q14: Did you get a free video visit in the last week?		
No	218	46.78%
Yes, and it worked	54	11.59%
Yes, but bad service/ cut short	73	15.67%
This does not apply to me	121	25.97%
Total	466	100%
No response: 24 (4.90%)		

Q15: Could you send and get mail in the last week?		
No	60	12.77%
Yes	385	81.91%
This does not apply to me	25	5.32%
Total	470	100%
No response: 20 (4.08%)		

Q16: Did commissary run on schedule this week?		
Yes, full shop	7	1.50%
Yes, limited shop	248	53.22%
Yes, but not my unit's shop week	26	5.58%
No	185	39.70%
Total	466	100%
No response: 24 (4.90%)		