
Survey Results



Southwestern Illinois 2023 MQPL Survey Results

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Introduction

Southwestern Illinois (SWICC) is a minimum-security male prison within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) that housed approximately 386 people on March 13, 2023. SWICC is a substance use disorder treatment prison with this programming provided by contractor GEO Group. The John Howard Association of Illinois (JHA) conducted a modified short [Measuring the Quality of Prison Life](#) (MQPL) survey by providing enough survey packets (consisting of the [MQPL survey](#), informed consent notice/instruction sheet, and privileged mail prepaid business reply envelope addressed to JHA) so that every person incarcerated at SWICC had an opportunity to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey if they chose to do so. JHA received 140 responses to the MQPL survey from people at SWICC through May 24, 2023, representing approximately 36% of the static population. JHA also conducted a monitoring visit of the prison in March 2023.



The MQPL questions are organized by dimensions: harmony, professionalism, security, and well-being & development (descriptions on next page). JHA's survey also included questions on demographics of respondents as well as some questions JHA had asked in previous JHA surveys. Results are presented in this report first in chart format, followed by table format. Tables are organized in the order that questions appeared on the survey.

Description of MQPL Dimensions

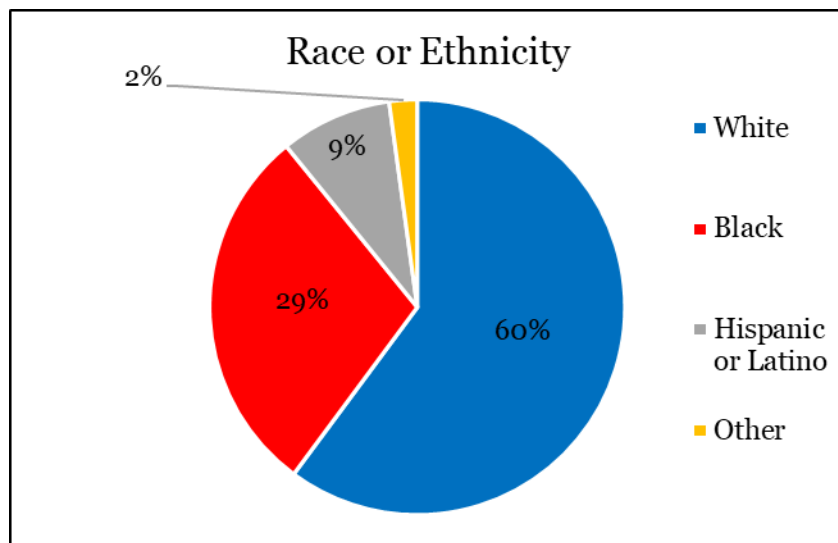
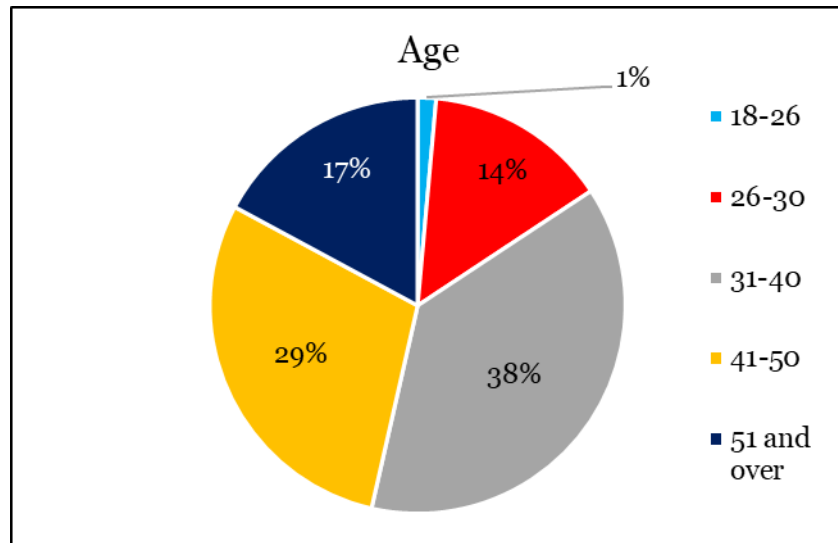
- **Harmony: Questions relating to interpersonal aspects of the prison experience**
 - Respect/courtesy – Positive, respectful, and courteous attitudes towards incarcerated people by staff.
 - Staff-incarcerated people relationships – Trusting, fair and supportive interactions between staff and incarcerated people.
 - Humanity – An environment characterized by kind regard and concern for the person, which recognizes the value and humanity of the individual.
 - Decency – The extent to which staff and the regime are considered reasonable and appropriate.
 - Care for the vulnerable – The care and support provided to incarcerated people at risk of self-harm, suicide, or bullying.
 - Help and assistance – Support and encouragement given to incarcerated people for problems including drugs, healthcare, and progression.
- **Professionalism: Questions relating to how the prison operates**
 - Staff professionalism – Staff confidence and competence in the use of authority.
 - Bureaucratic legitimacy – The transparency and responsiveness of the prison/prison system and its moral recognition of the individual.
 - Fairness – The perceived impartiality, proportionality, and legality of punishments and procedures.
 - Organization and consistency – The clarity, predictability, and reliability of the prison.
- **Security: Questions relating to use of authority and safety**
 - Policing and security – Staff supervision and control of the prison environment.
 - Incarcerated person safety - The feeling of security or protection from harm, threat, or danger.
 - Incarcerated person adaptation – The need or pressure to get involved in trade and allegiances.
 - Drugs and exploitation – The level of drugs, bullying, and victimization in the prison environment.
- **Well-being & Development: Questions relating to welfare and prospects**
 - Personal development – An environment that helps incarcerated people with offending behavior, preparation for release, and the development of their potential.
 - Well-being – Feelings of pain, punishment and tension experienced by incarcerated people.

- **Additional MQPL Questions**

- Decision-making – The extent to which administrators prioritize security concerns over other factors.
- Family contact – An environment that facilitates incarcerated people maintaining relationships with loved ones.

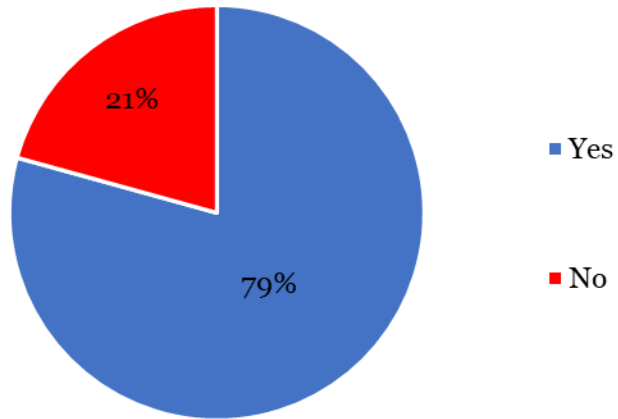
Charts: Demographic Information of Respondents

Total respondents = 140¹

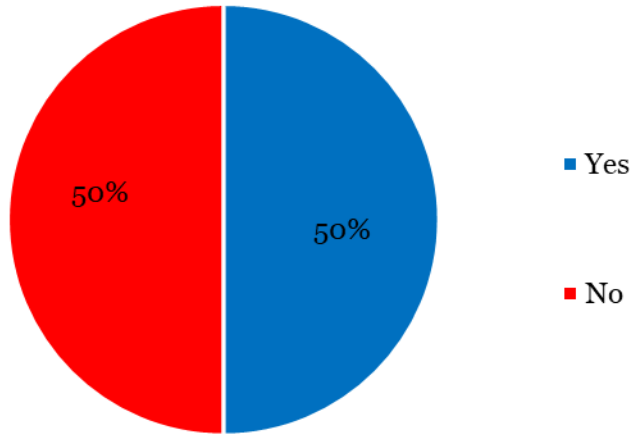


¹ Due to rounding, not all percentages total 100%. Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of respondents per question.

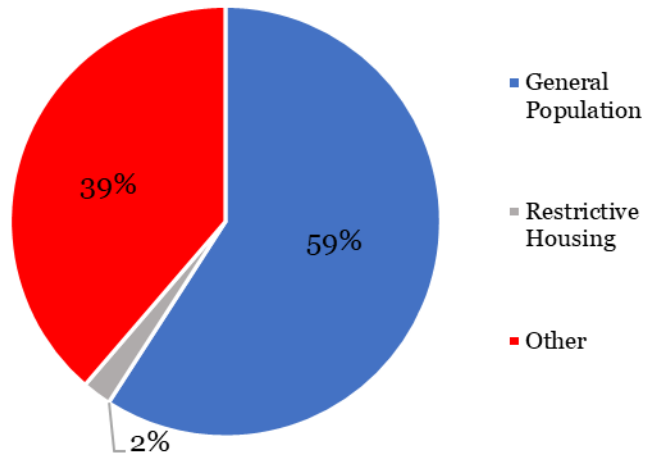
Are you within two years of release?



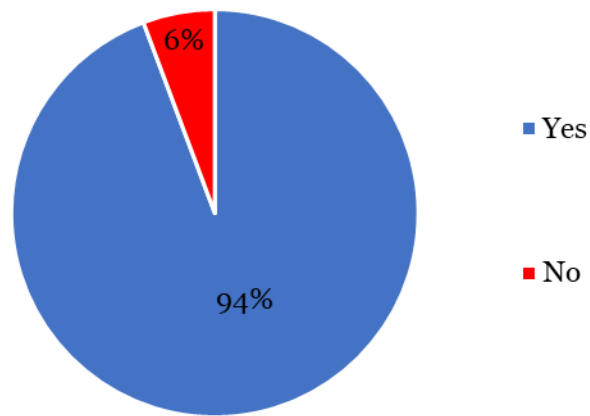
Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?



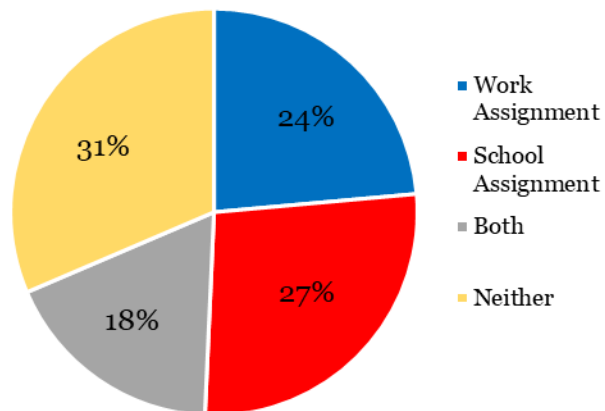
What housing status are you currently on?



Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area?



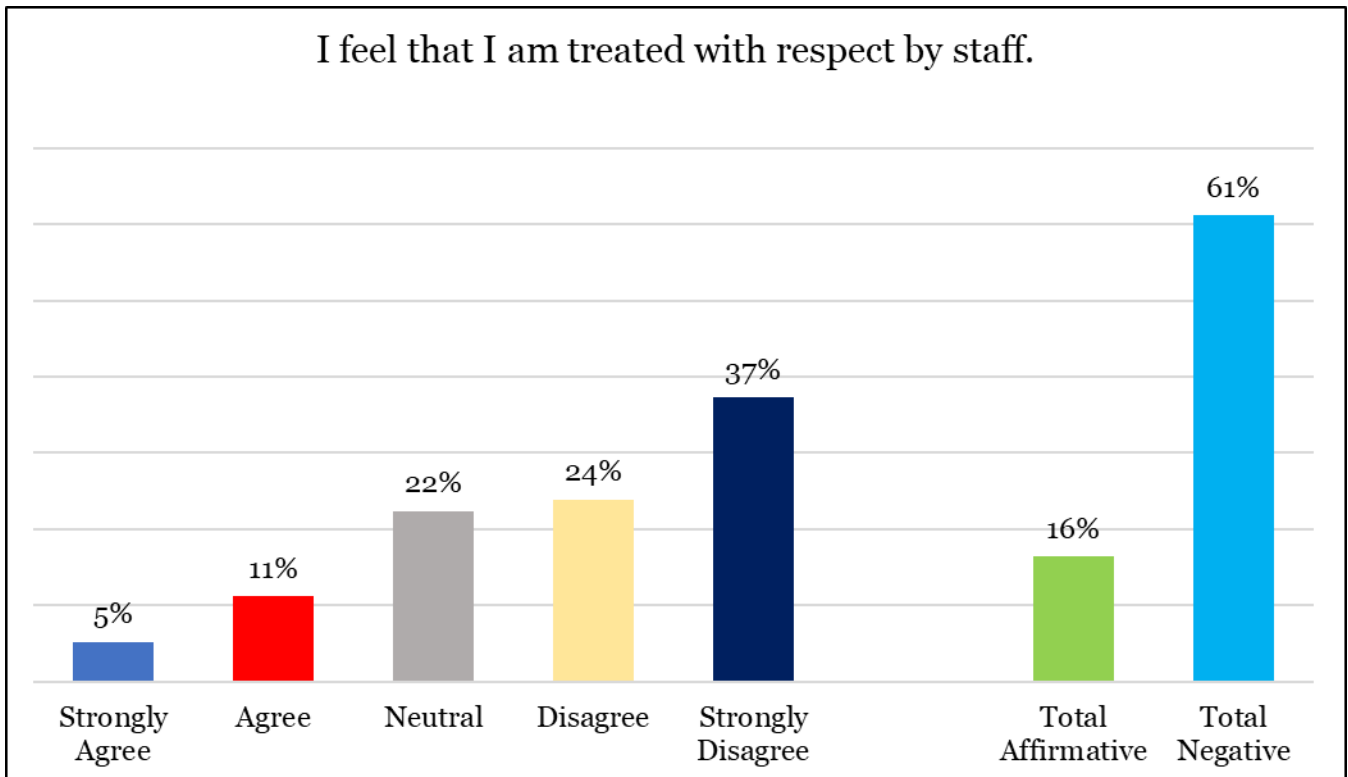
Do you have a work or school assignment?



Charts: MQPL Dimensions²

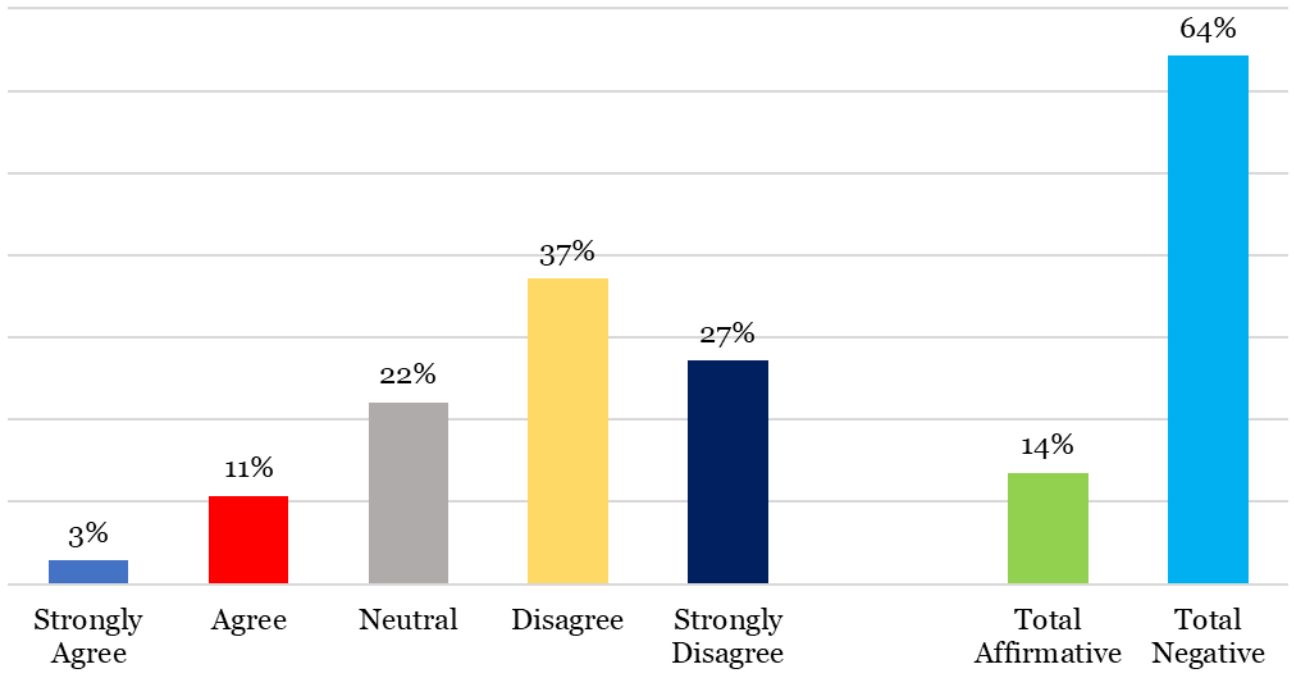
Harmony

RESPECT / COURTESY – POSITIVE, RESPECTFUL, AND COURTEOUS ATTITUDES TOWARDS INCARCERATED PEOPLE BY STAFF

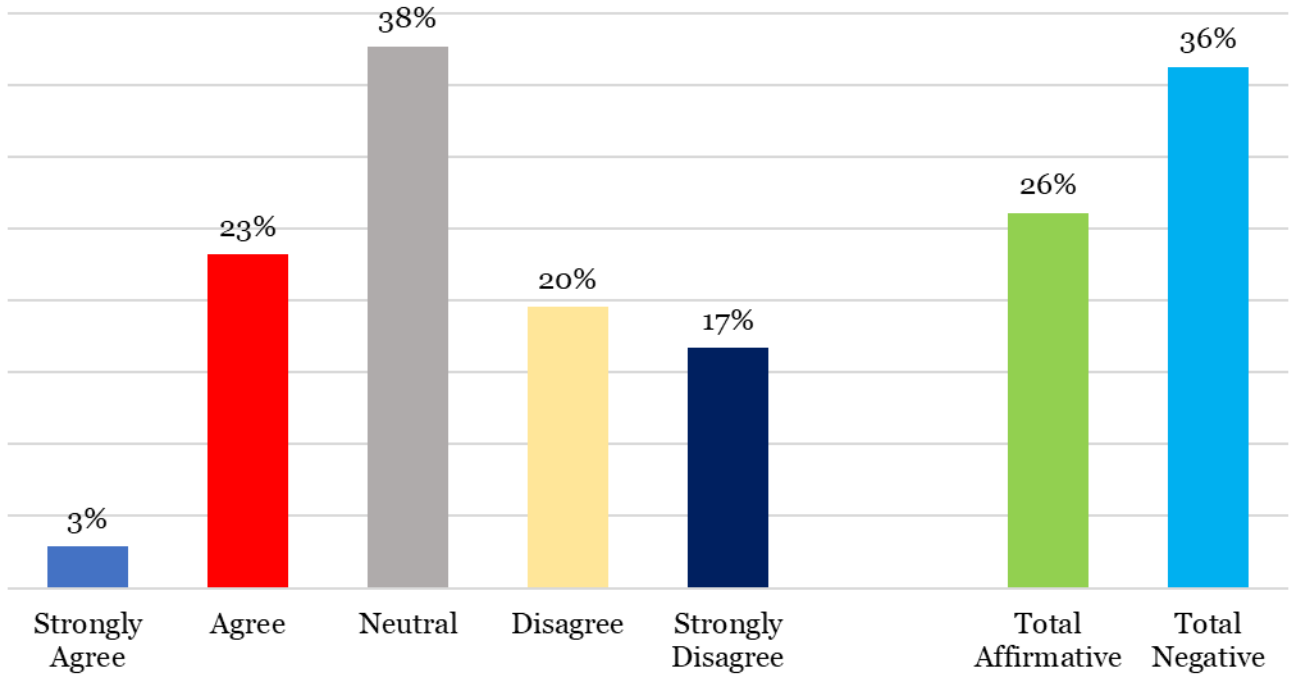


² "Total Affirmative" combines "Strongly Agree" and "Agree." "Total Negative" combines "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree." Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of responses per question.

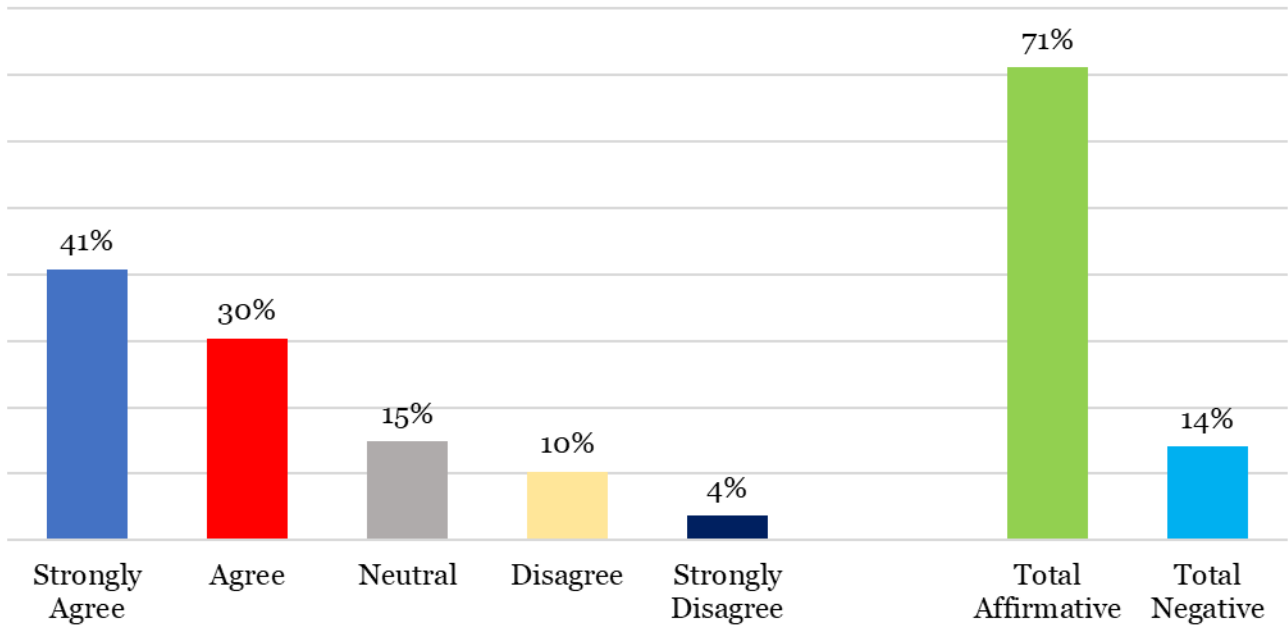
Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.



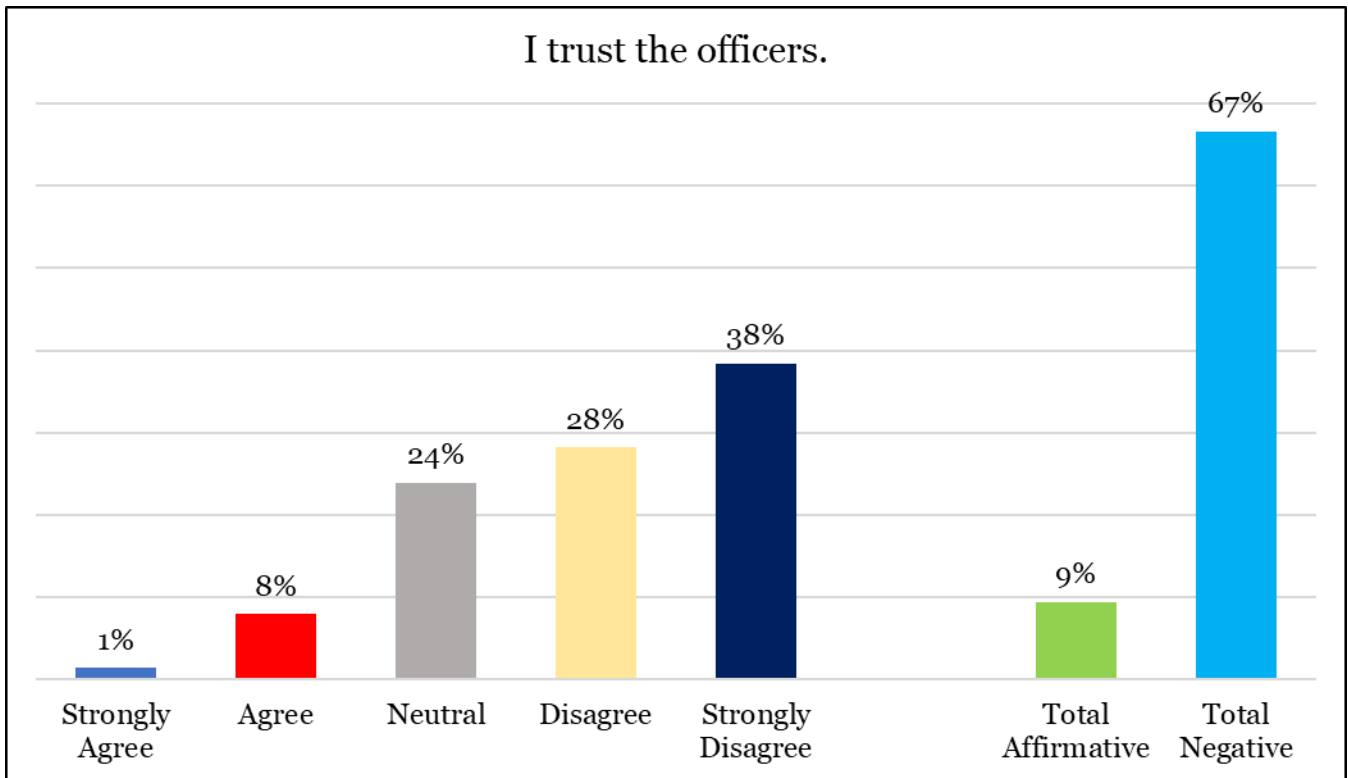
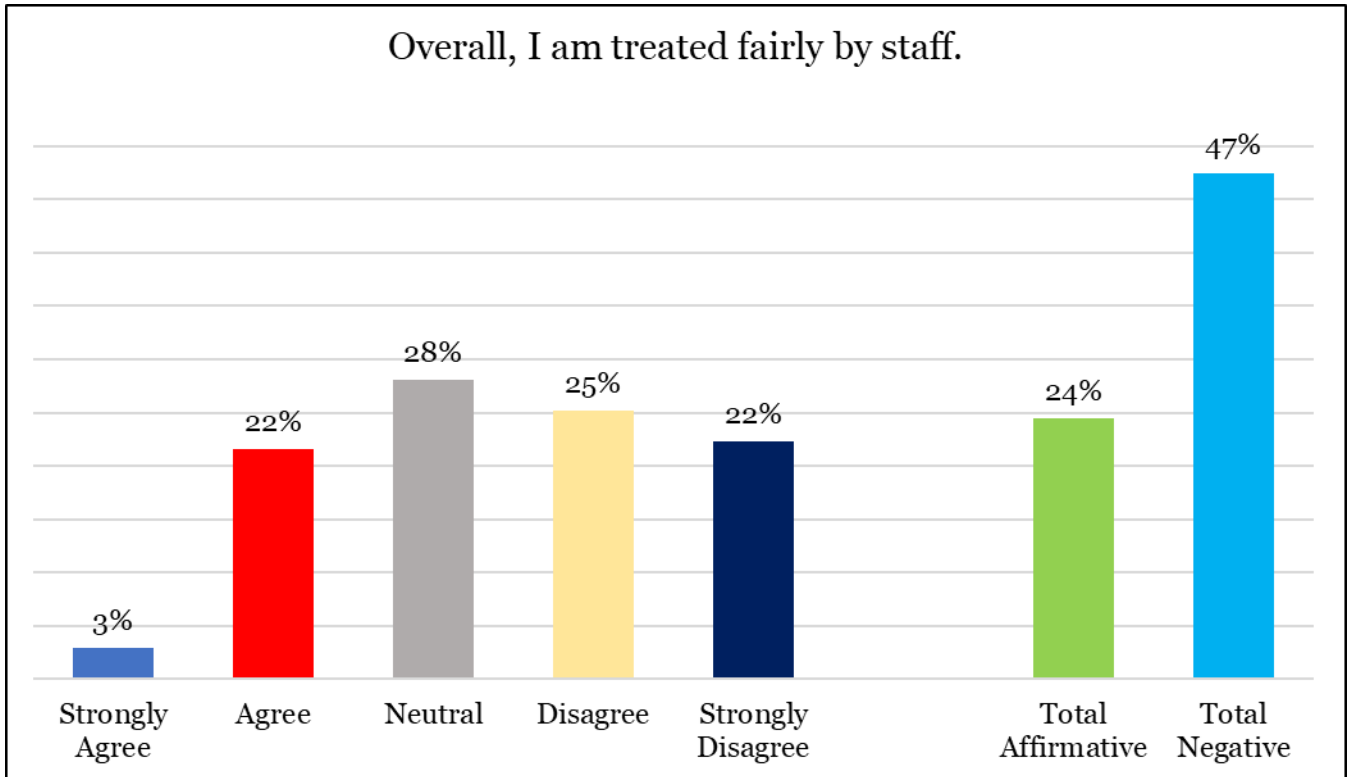
I get along well with the officers on my unit.



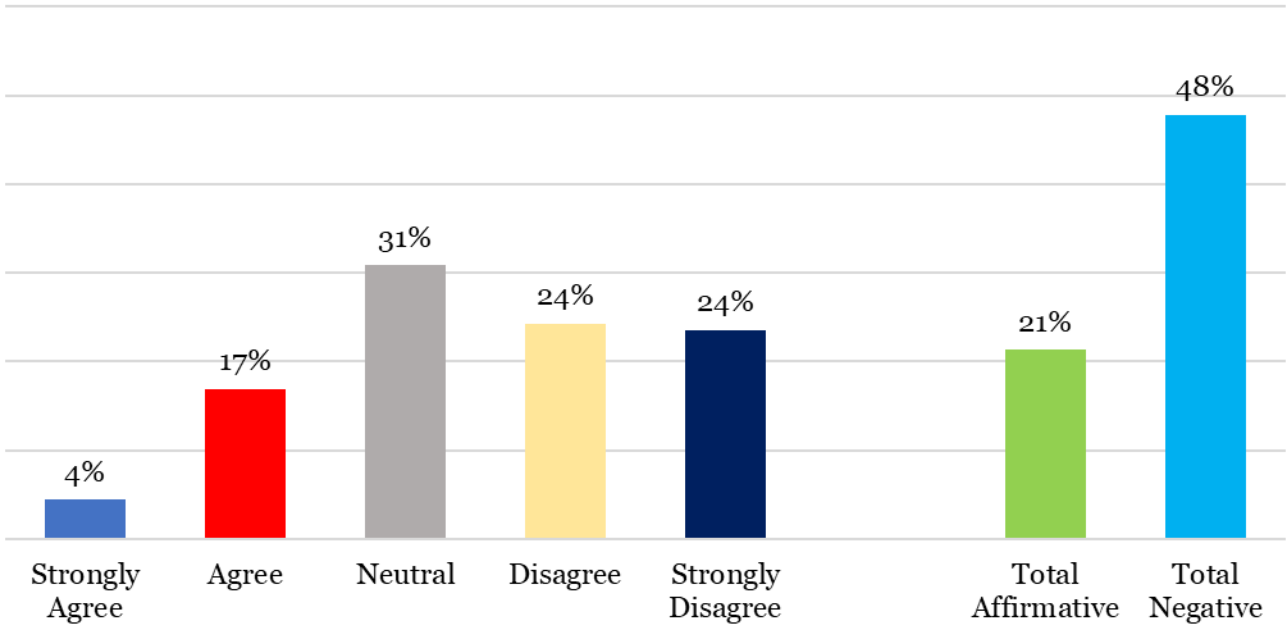
Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.



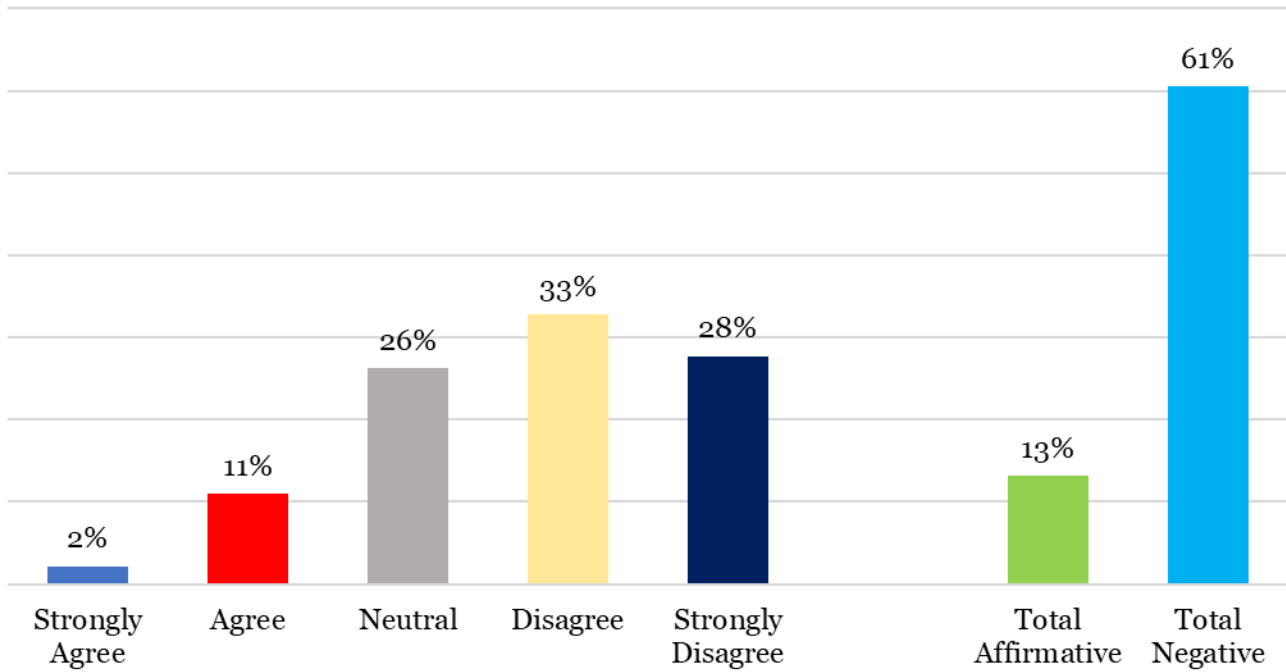
STAFF-INCARCERATED PEOPLE RELATIONSHIPS – TRUSTING, FAIR AND SUPPORTIVE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN STAFF AND INCARCERATED PEOPLE



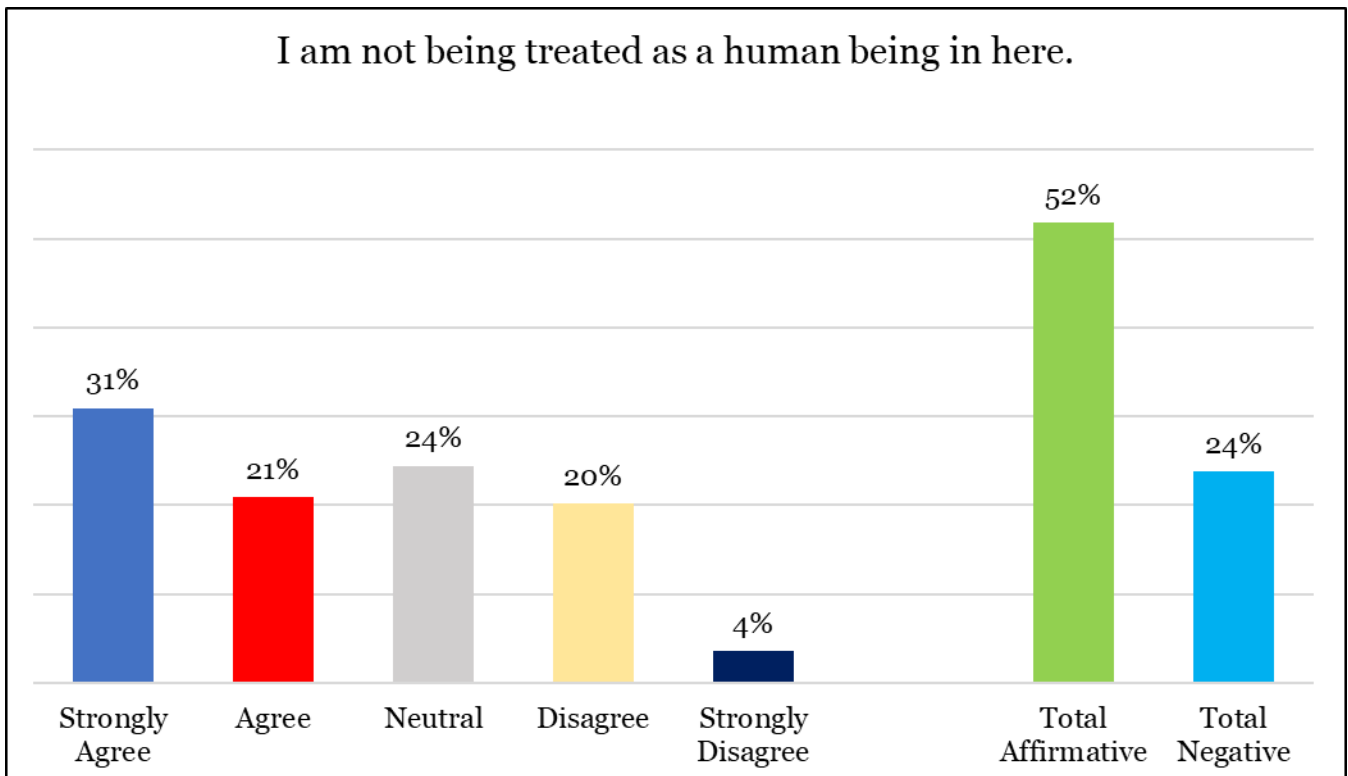
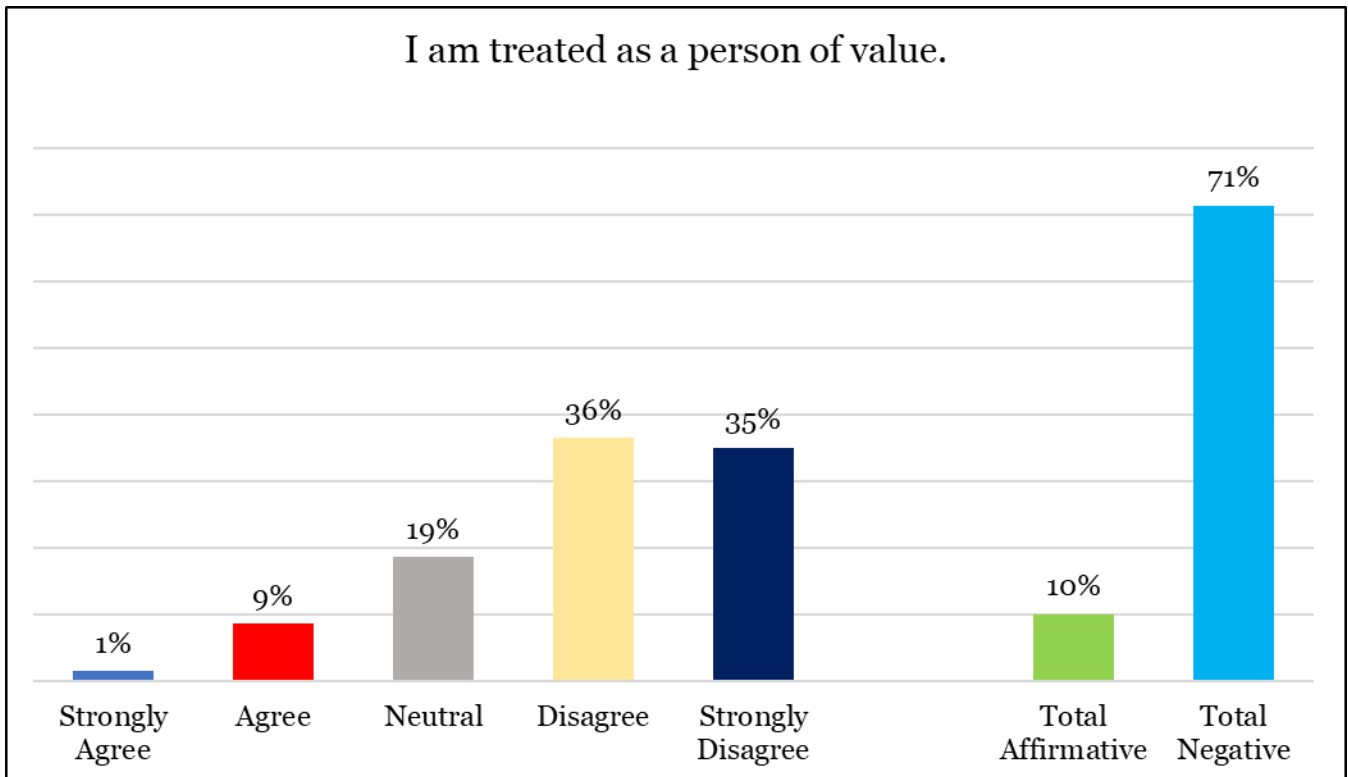
When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.



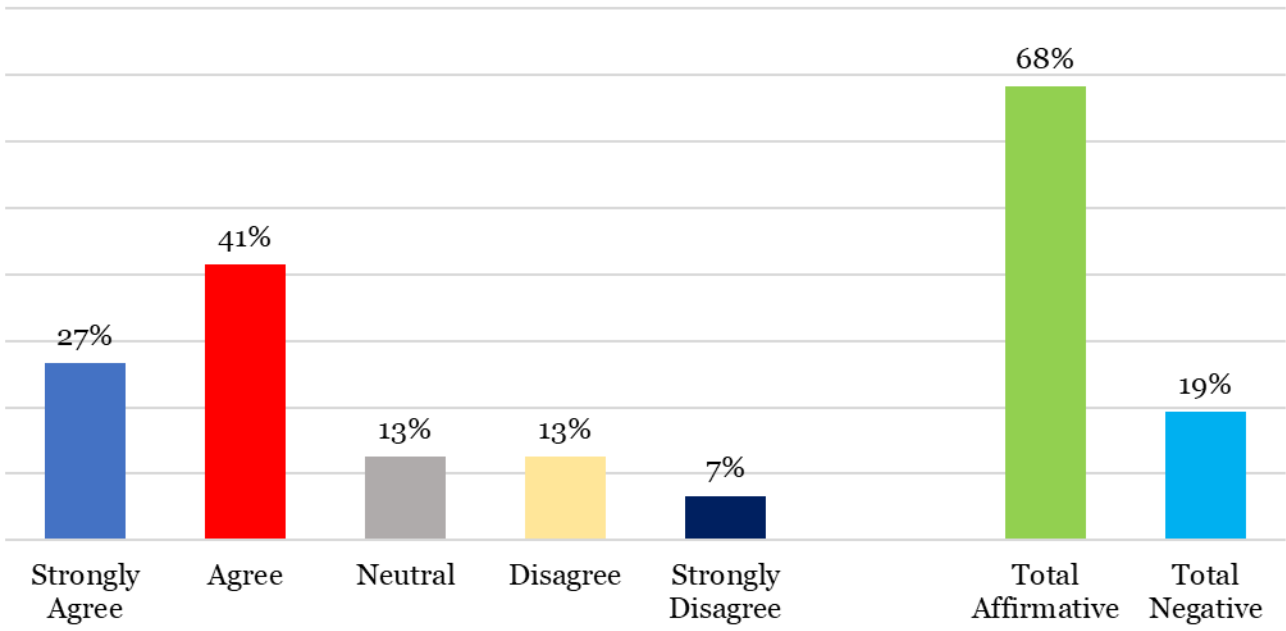
I receive support from staff when I need it.



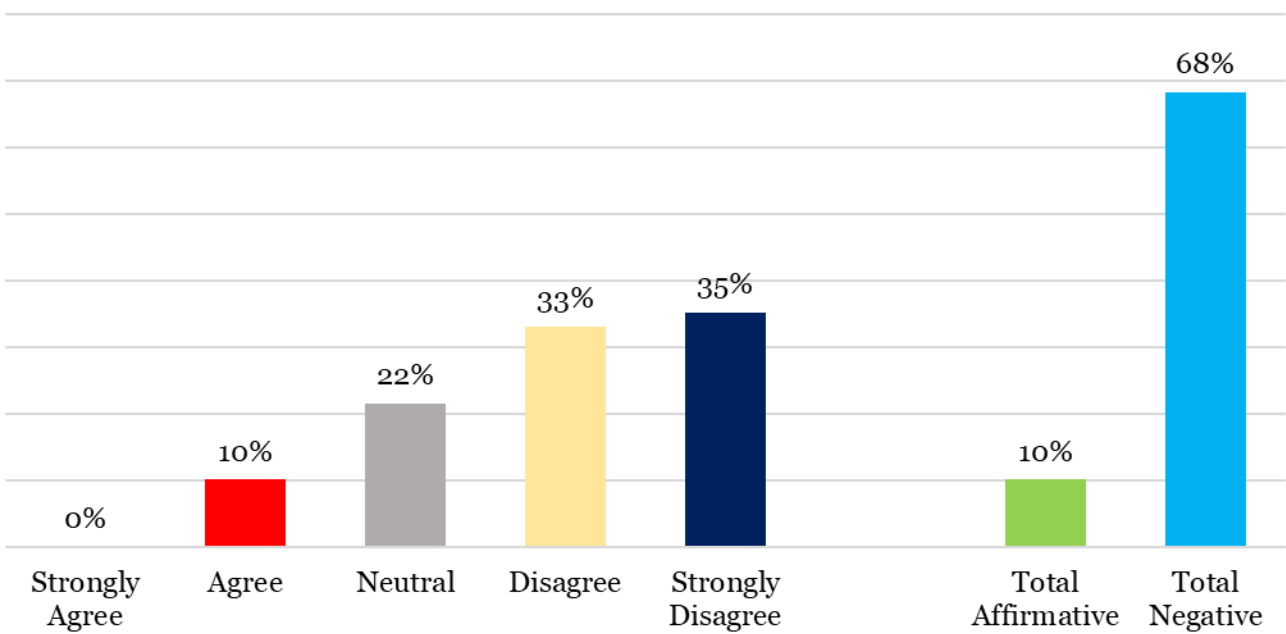
HUMANITY – AN ENVIRONMENT CHARACTERIZED BY KIND REGARD AND CONCERN FOR THE PERSON, WHICH RECOGNIZES THE VALUE AND HUMANITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL



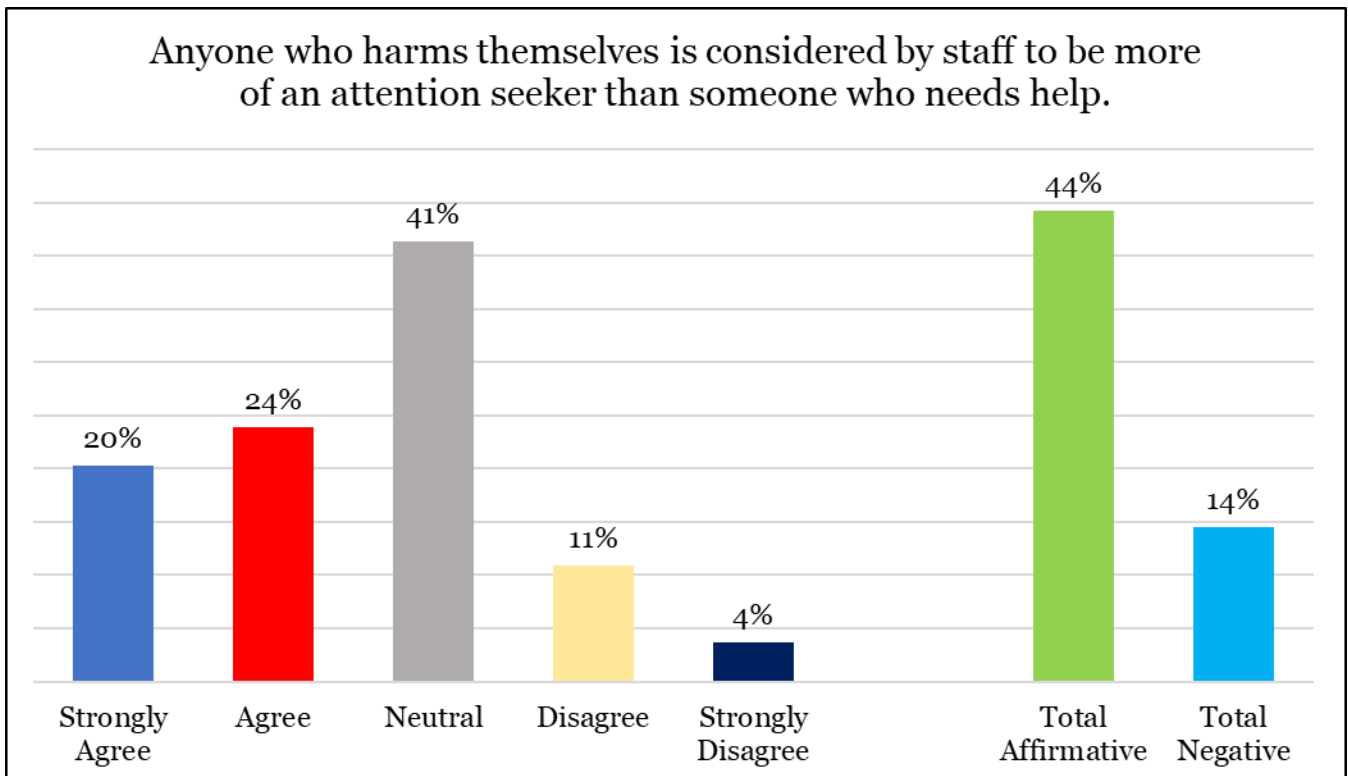
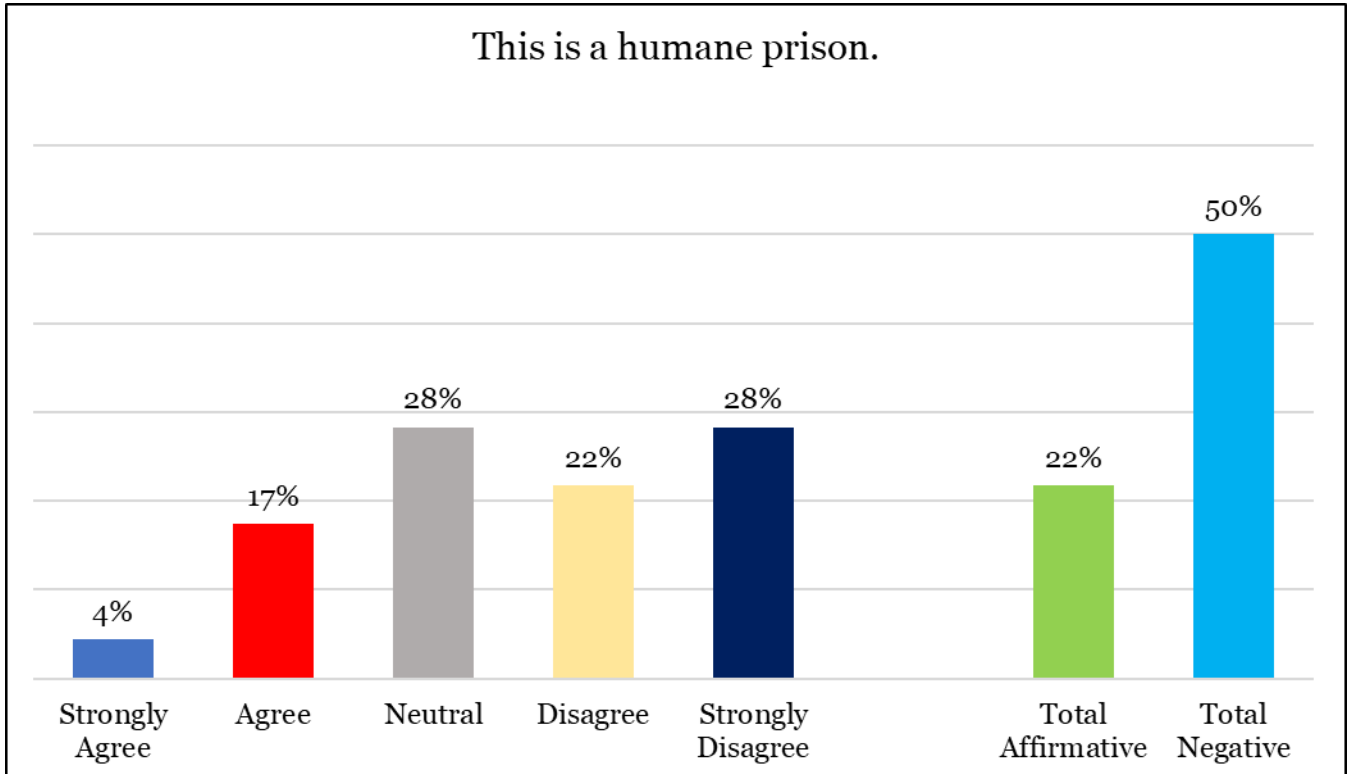
Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.



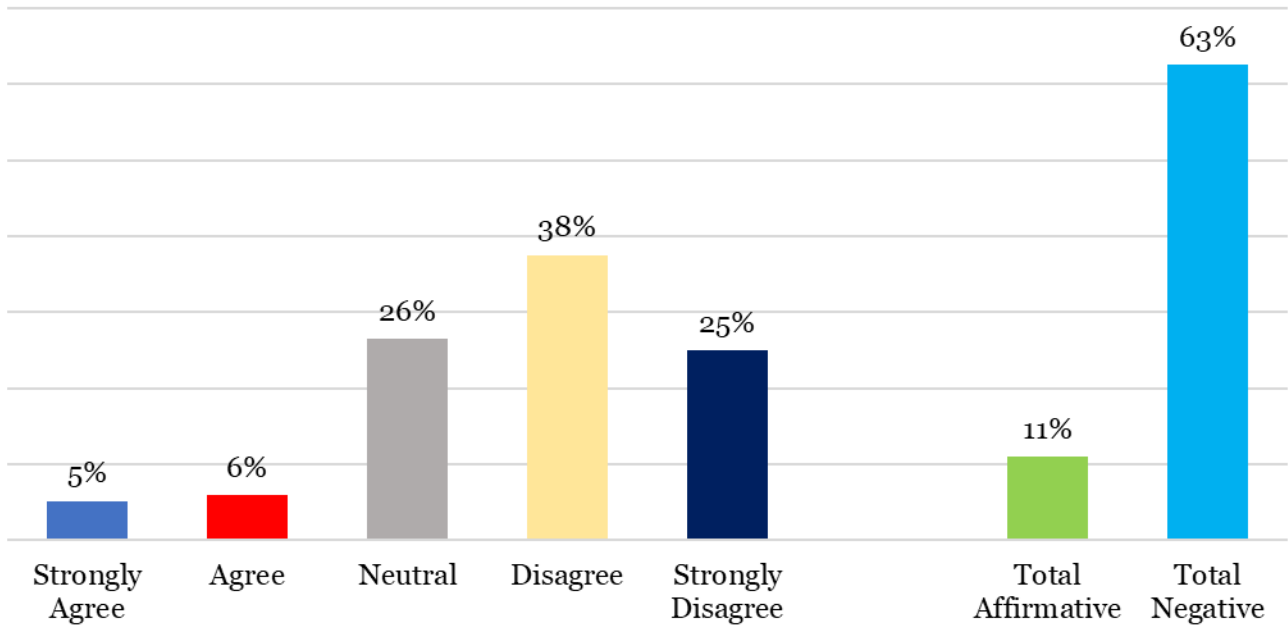
Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.



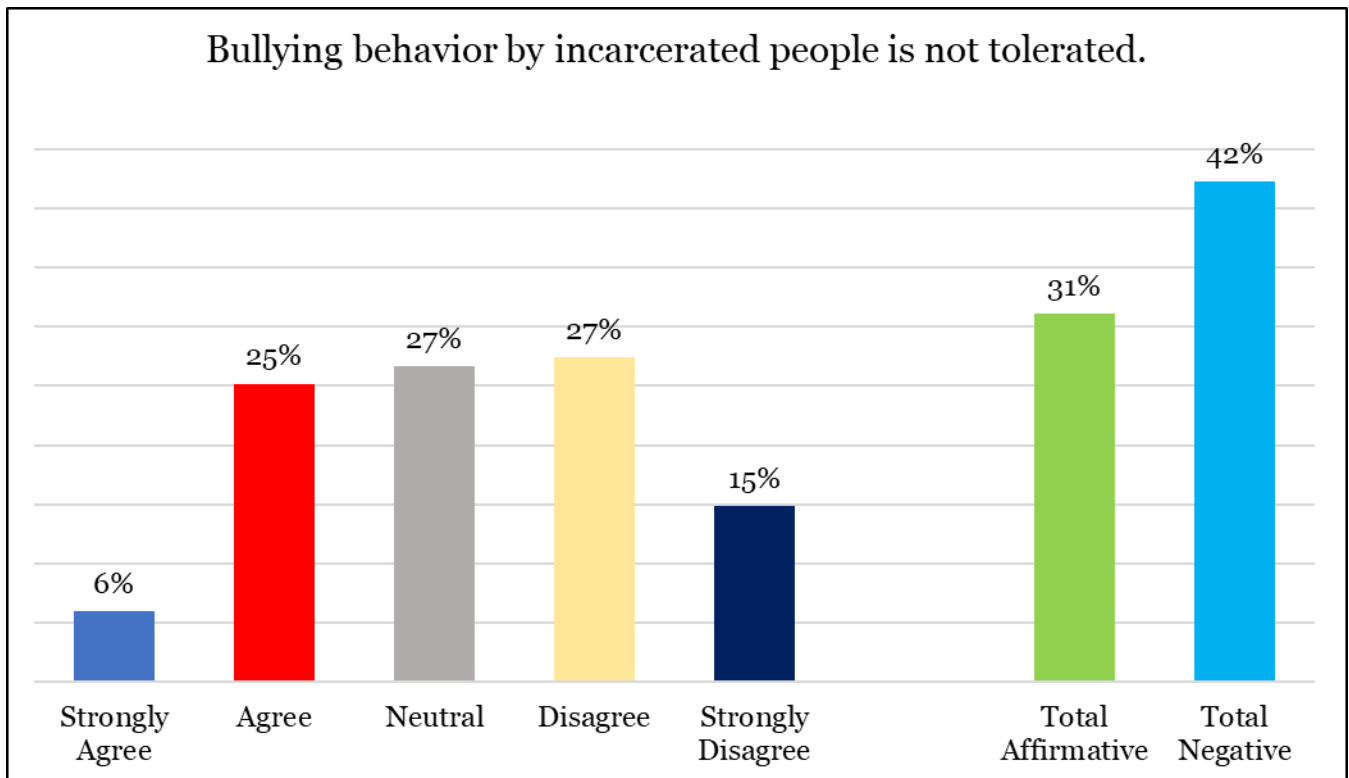
DECENCY - THE EXTENT TO WHICH STAFF AND THE REGIME ARE CONSIDERED REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE



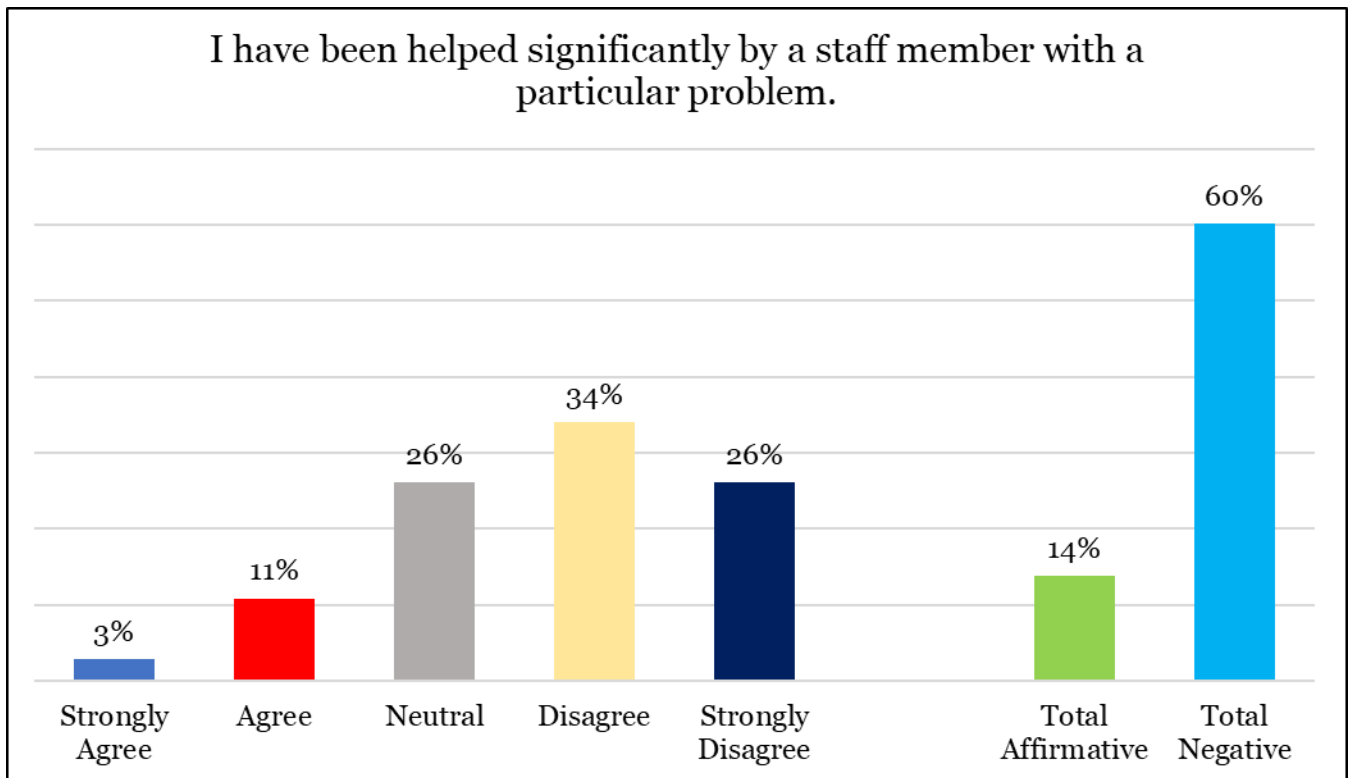
Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.



CARE FOR THE VULNERABLE – THE CARE AND SUPPORT PROVIDED TO INCARCERATED PEOPLE AT RISK OF SELF-HARM, SUICIDE OR BULLYING

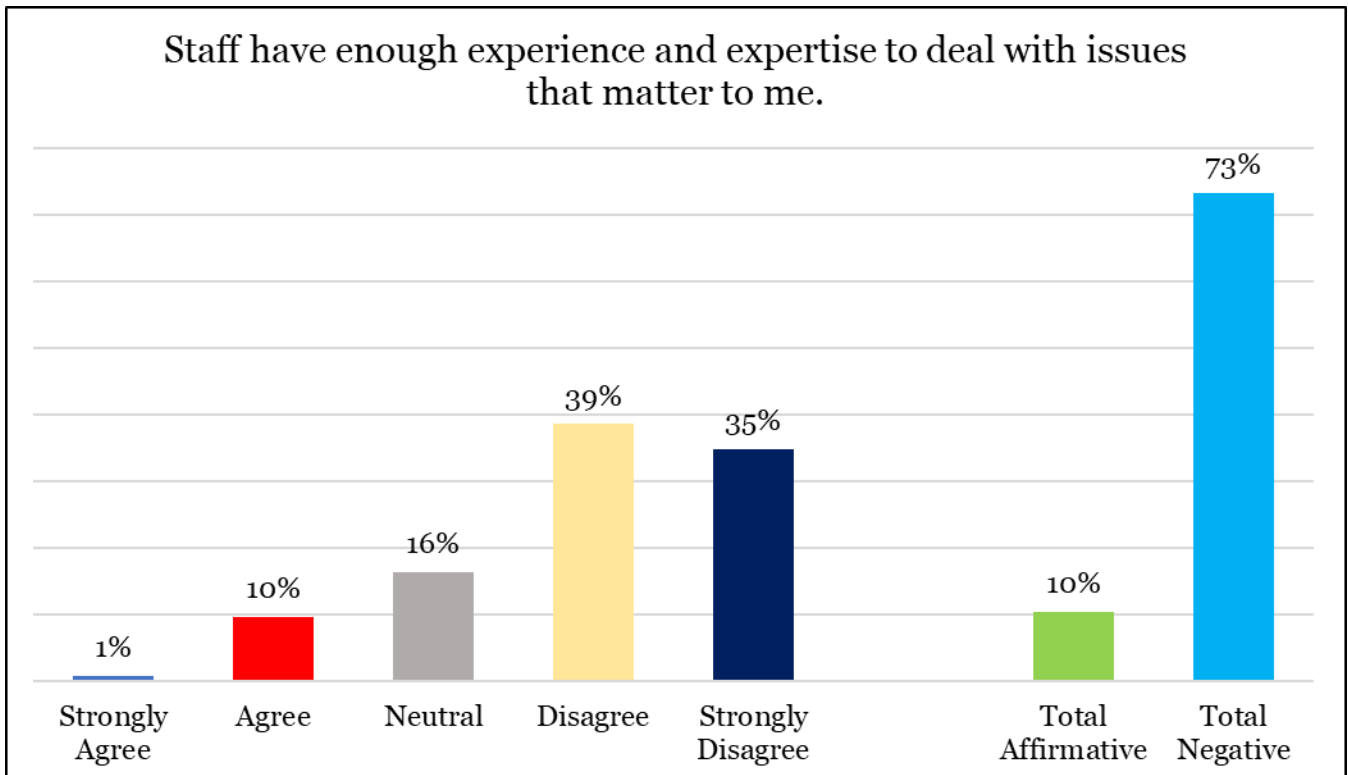
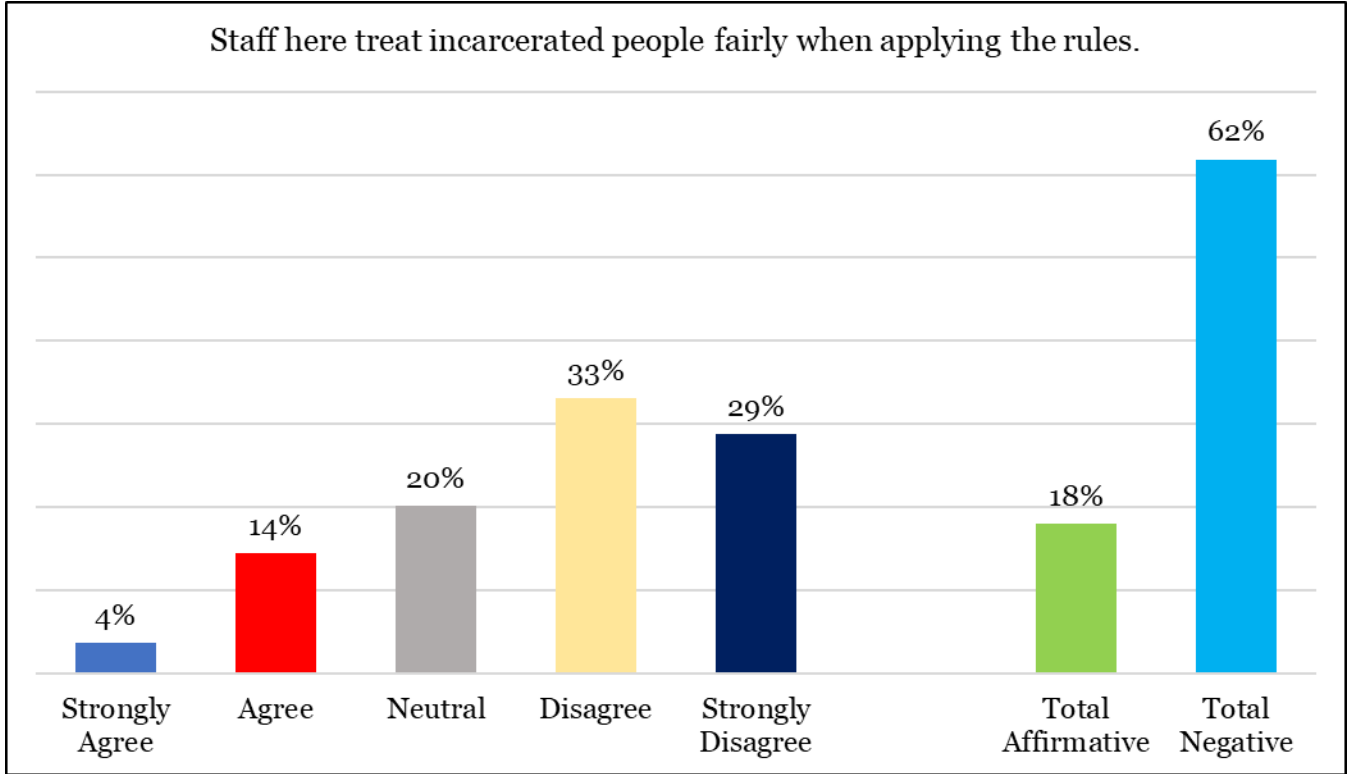


HELP AND ASSISTANCE – SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT GIVEN TO INCARCERATED PEOPLE FOR PROBLEMS INCLUDING DRUGS, HEALTHCARE AND PROGRESSION

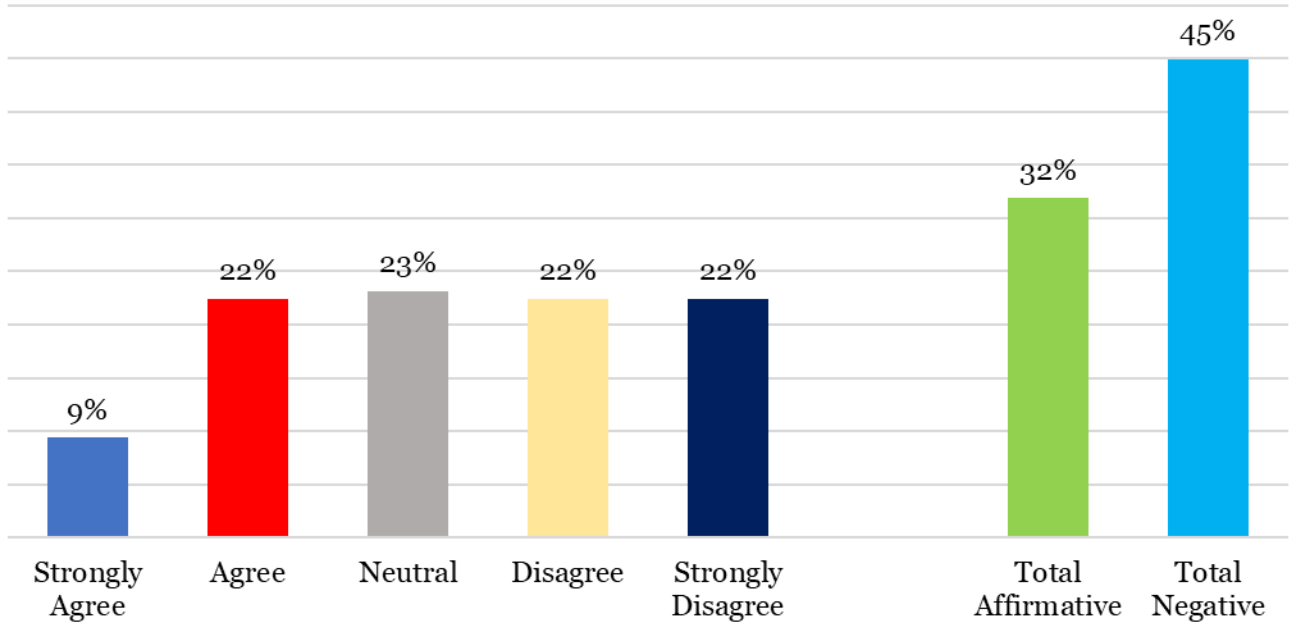


Professionalism

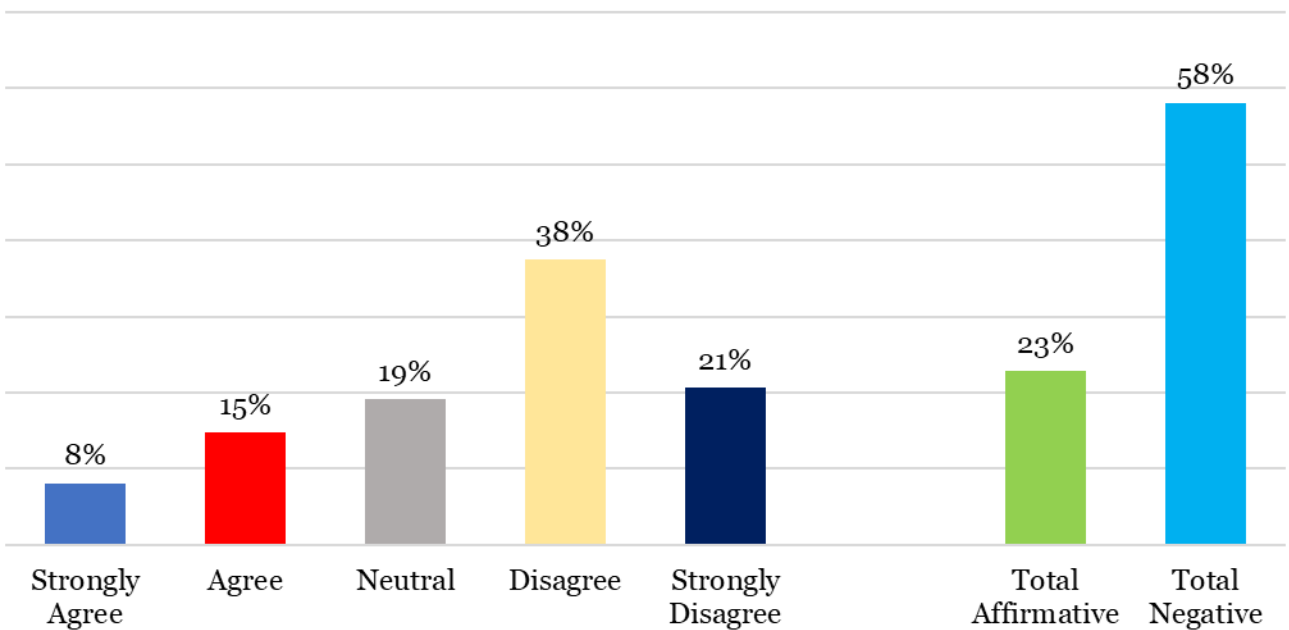
STAFF PROFESSIONALISM – STAFF CONFIDENCE AND COMPETENCE IN THE USE OF AUTHORITY



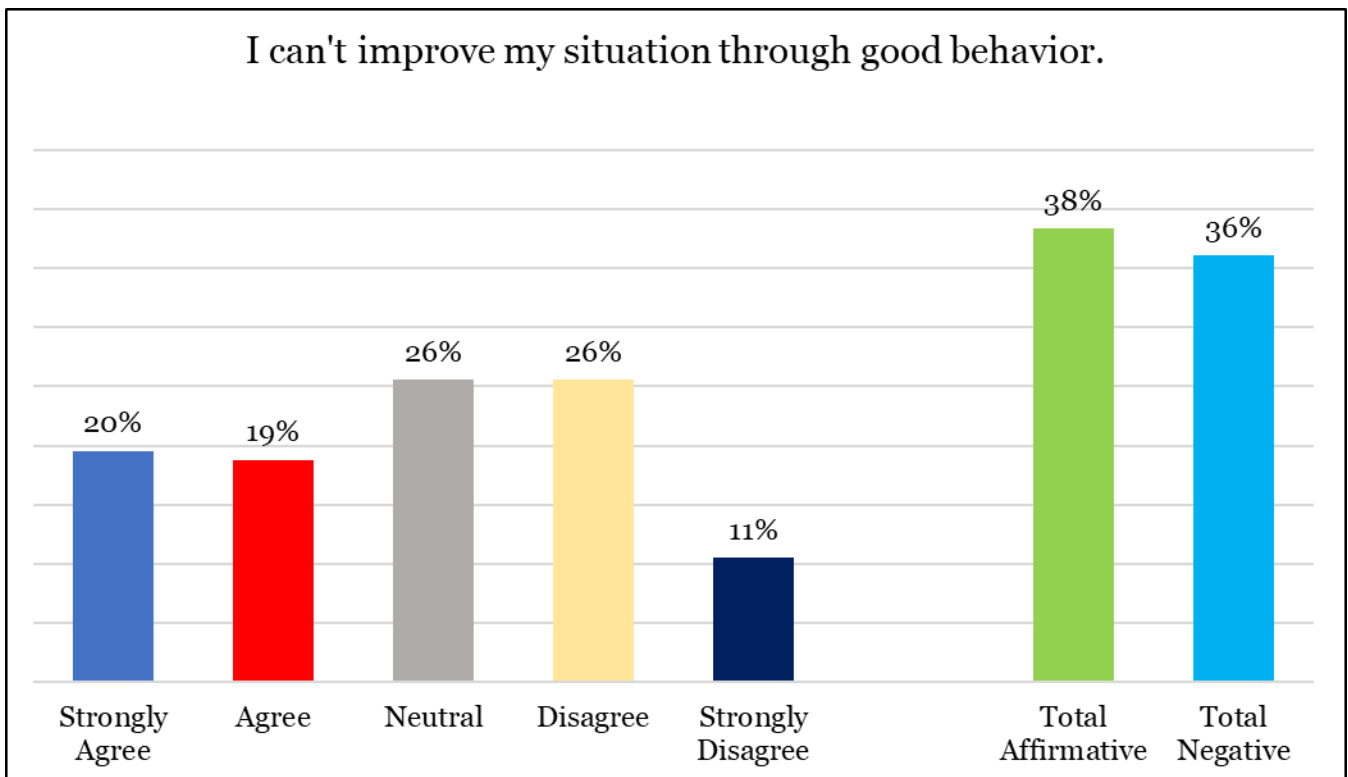
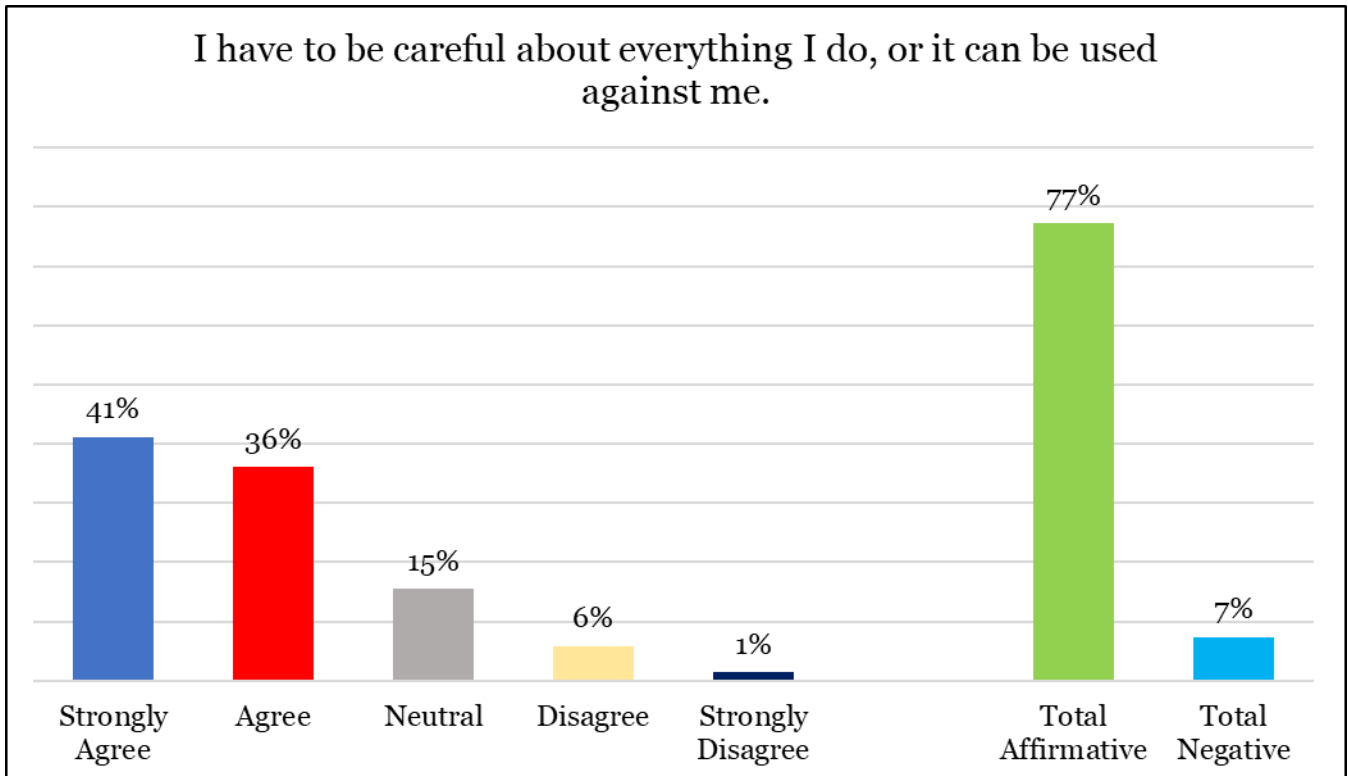
The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.



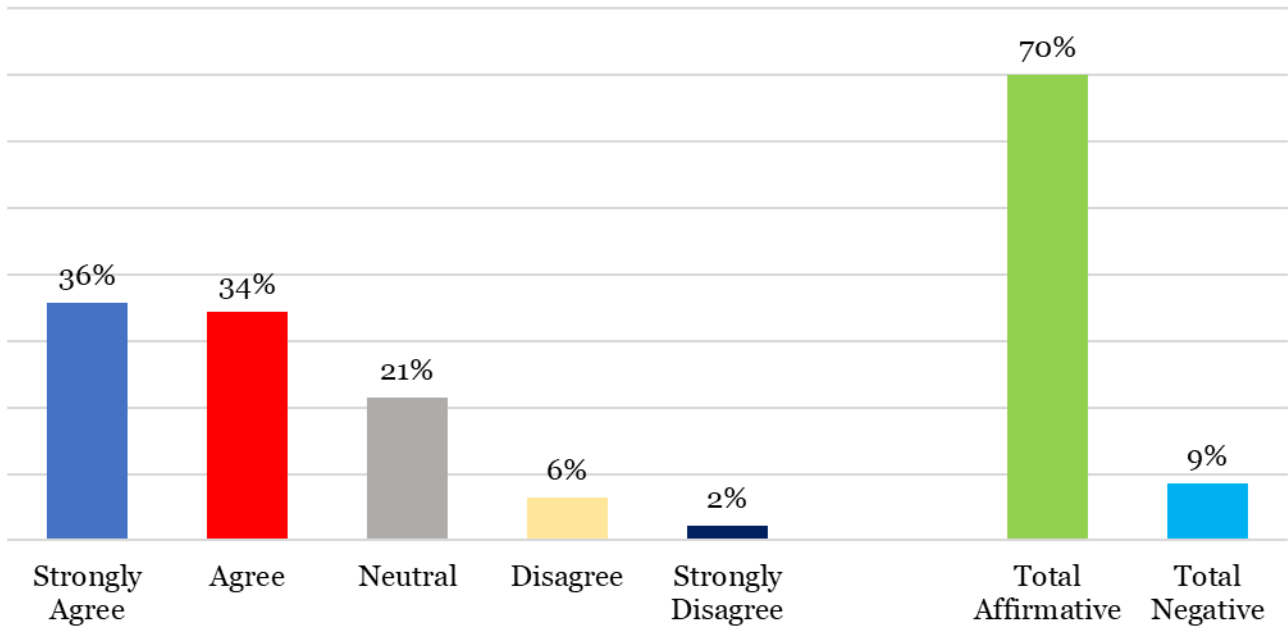
If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.



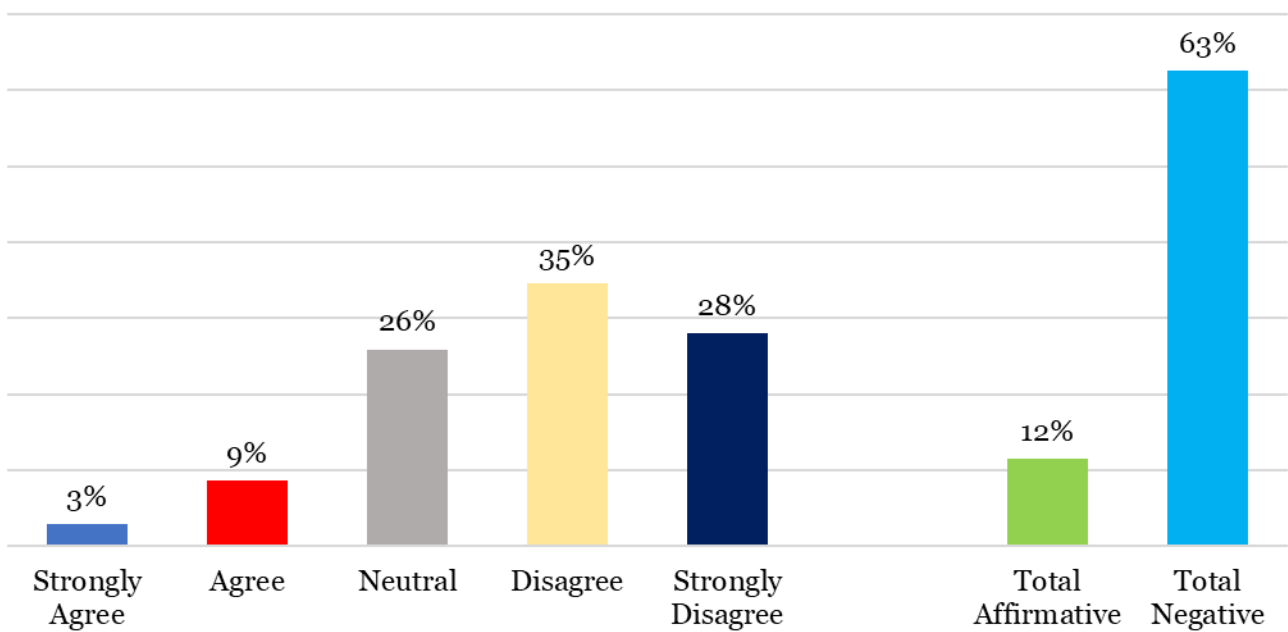
BUREAUCRATIC LEGITIMACY – THE TRANSPARENCY AND RESPONSIVENESS OF THE PRISON/PRISON SYSTEM AND ITS MORAL RECOGNITION OF THE INDIVIDUAL



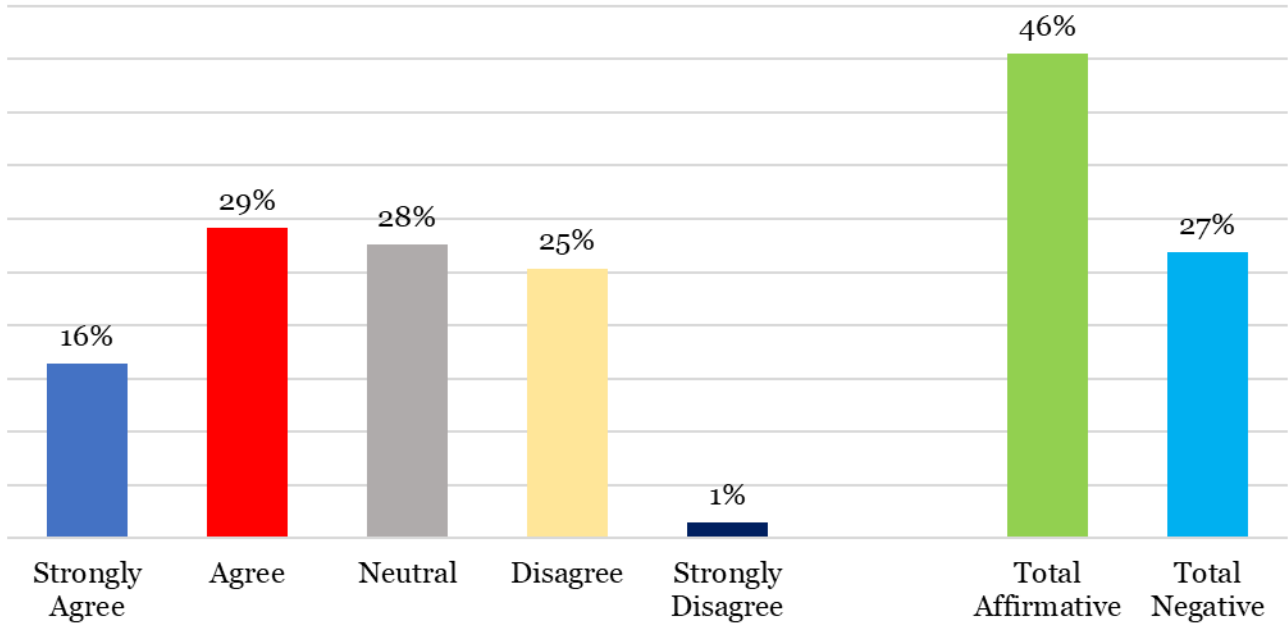
All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.



When important decisions are made about me, I am treated as an individual, not a number.

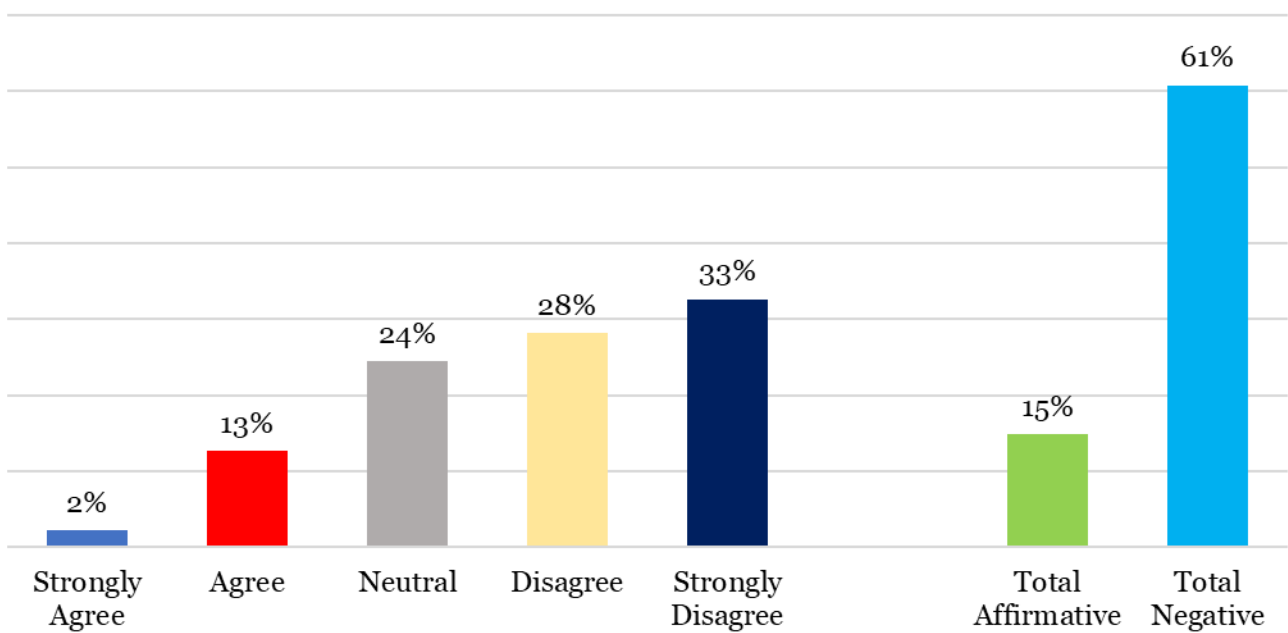


To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.

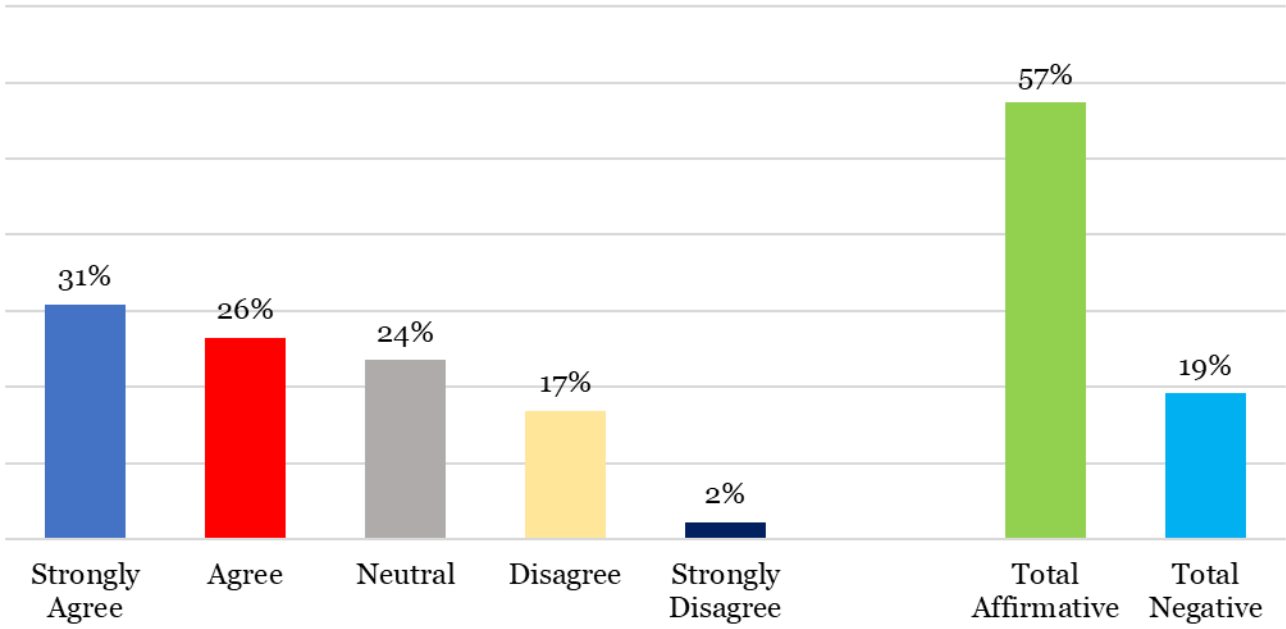


FAIRNESS – THE PERCEIVED IMPARTIALITY, PROPORTIONALITY AND LEGALITY OF PUNISHMENTS AND PROCEDURES

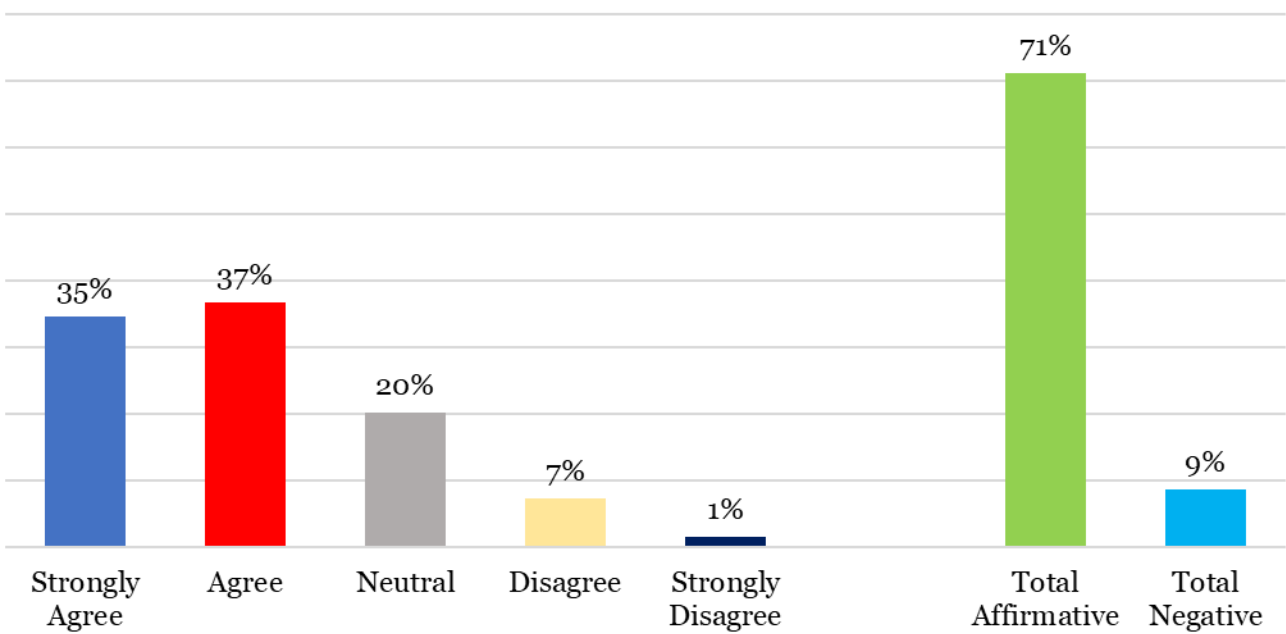
The disciplinary system is fair.



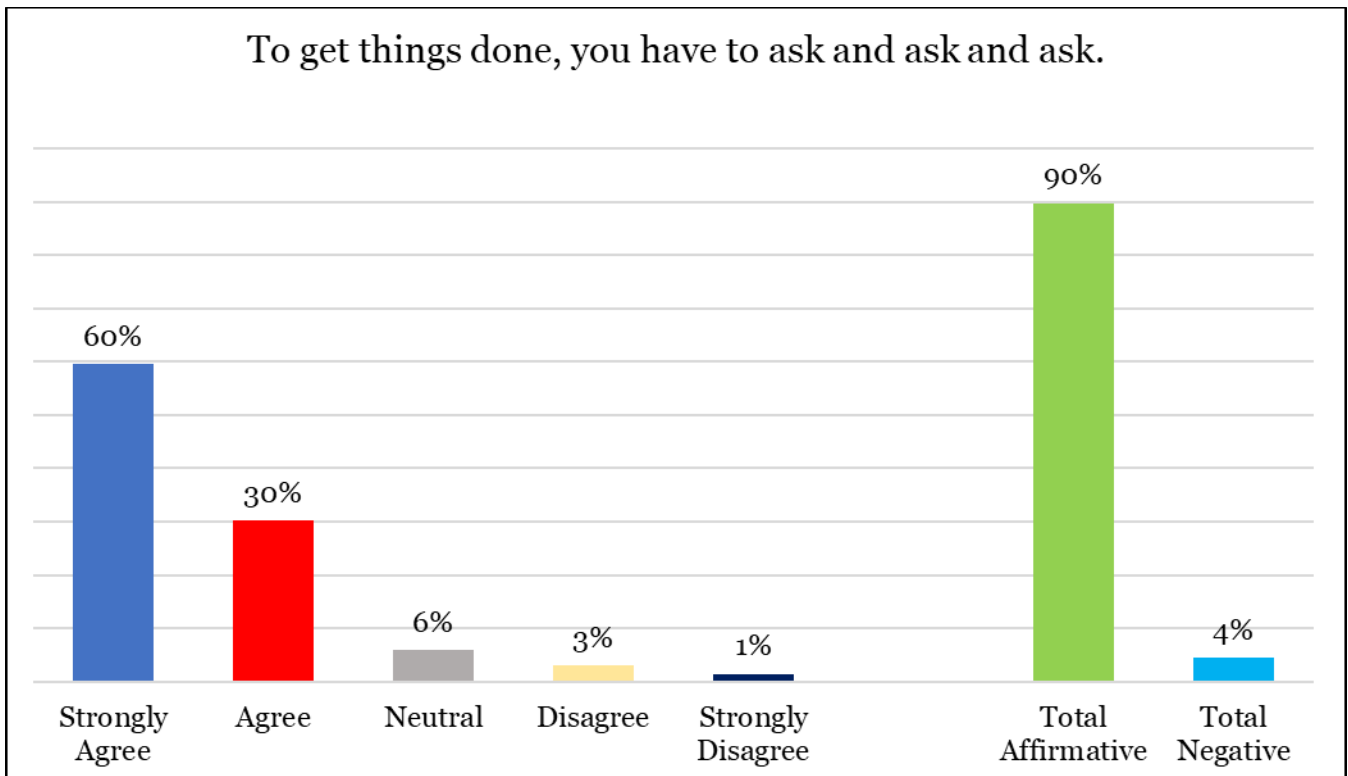
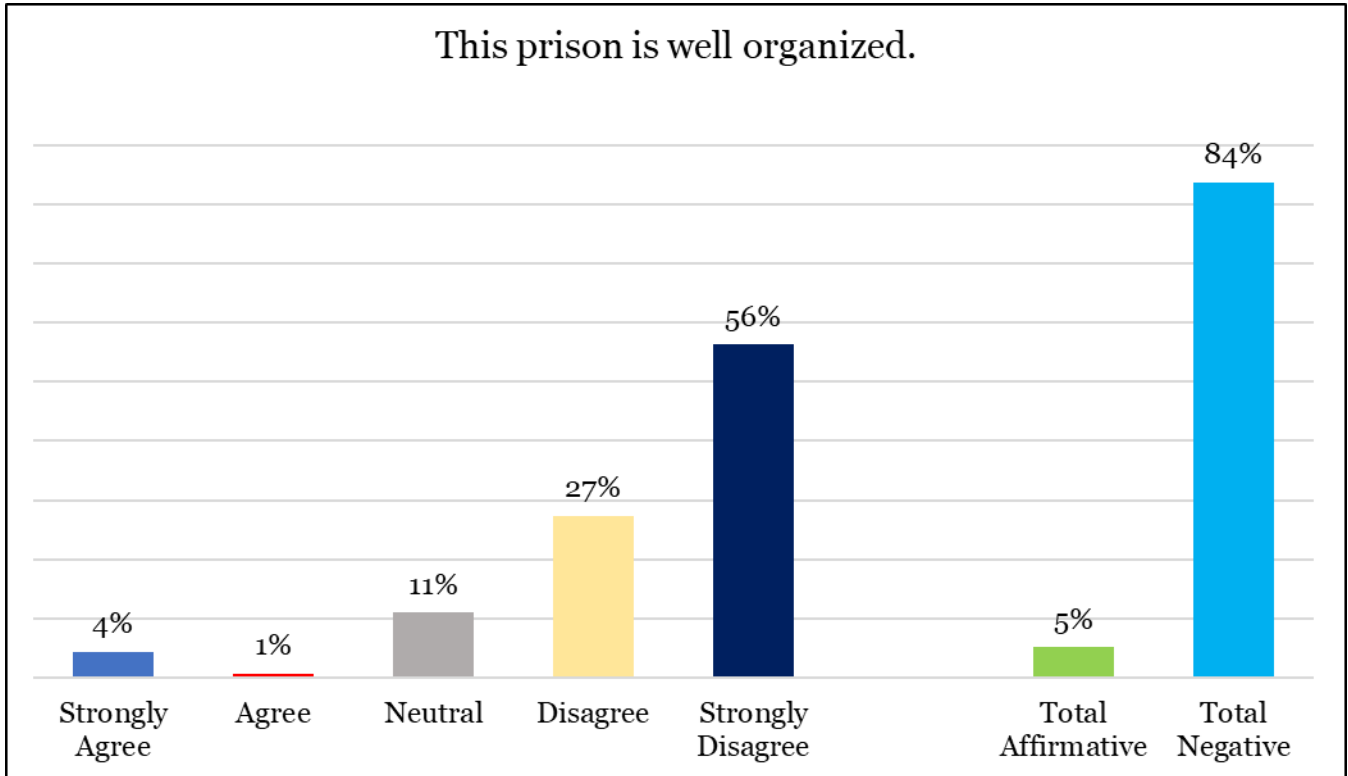
Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.



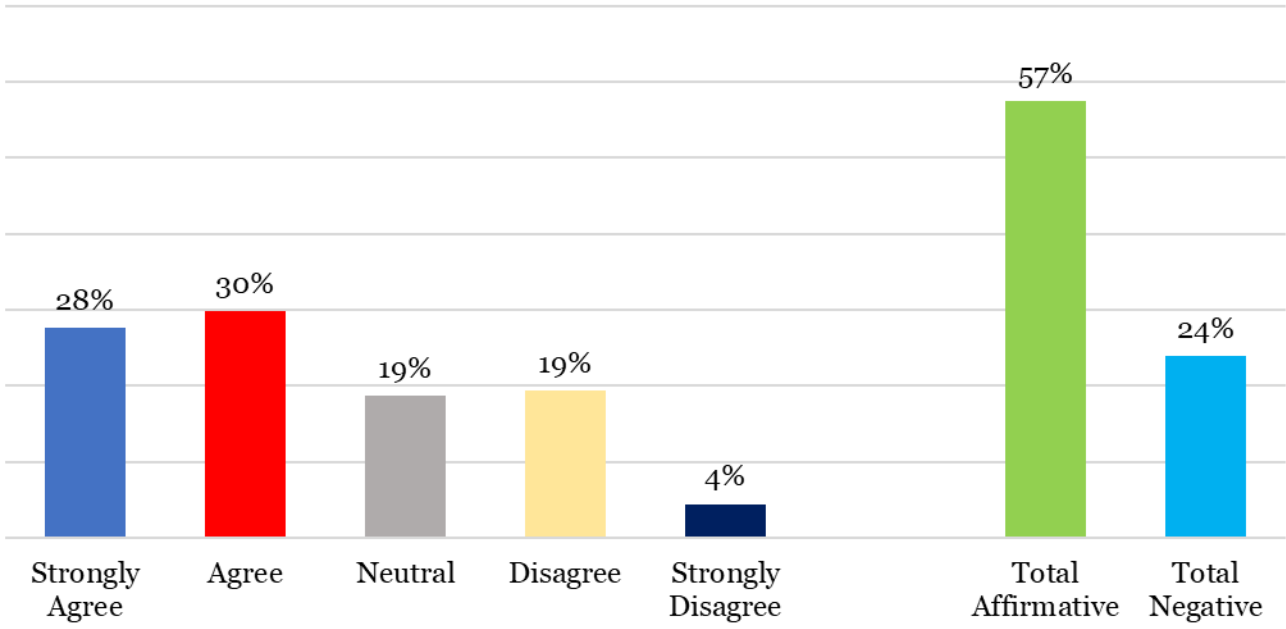
This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.



ORGANIZATION AND CONSISTENCY – THE CLARITY, PREDICTABILITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE PRISON

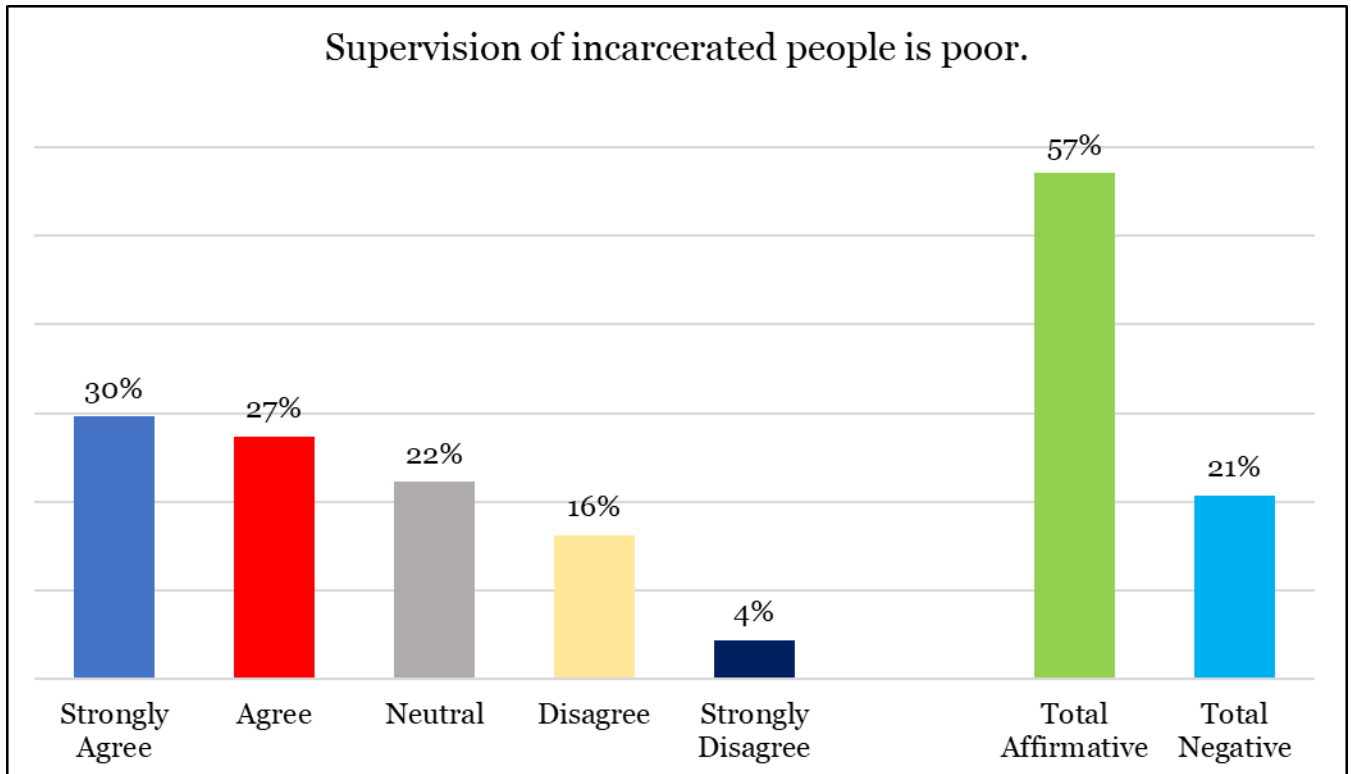


You never know the rules.

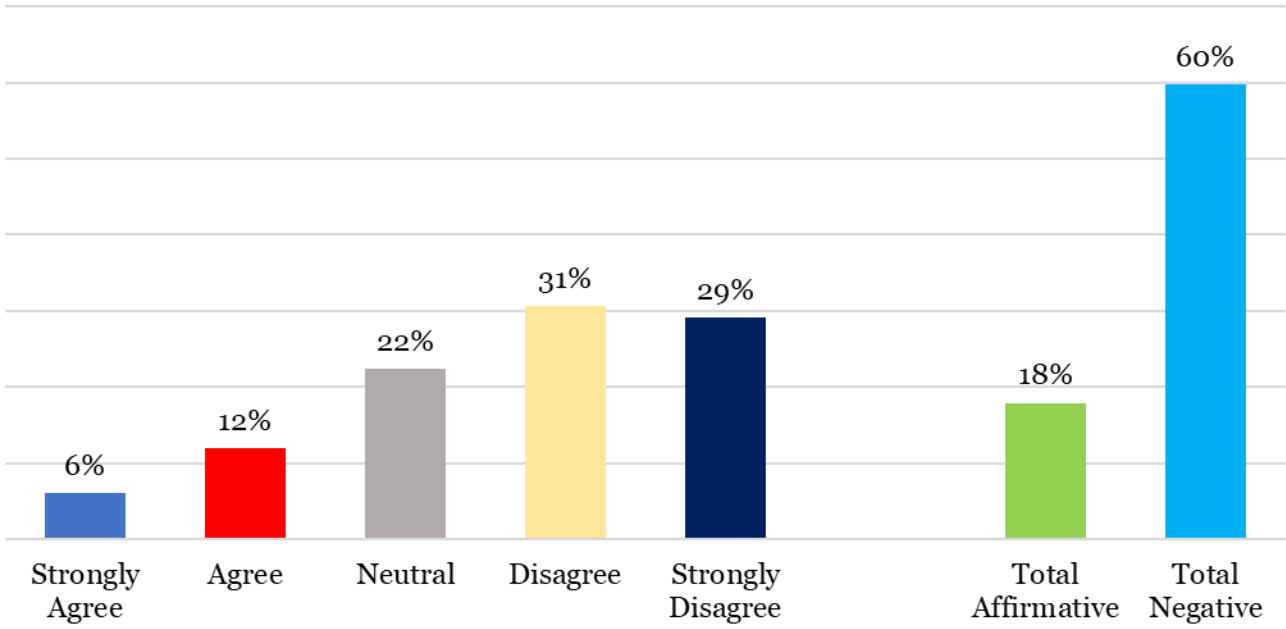


Security

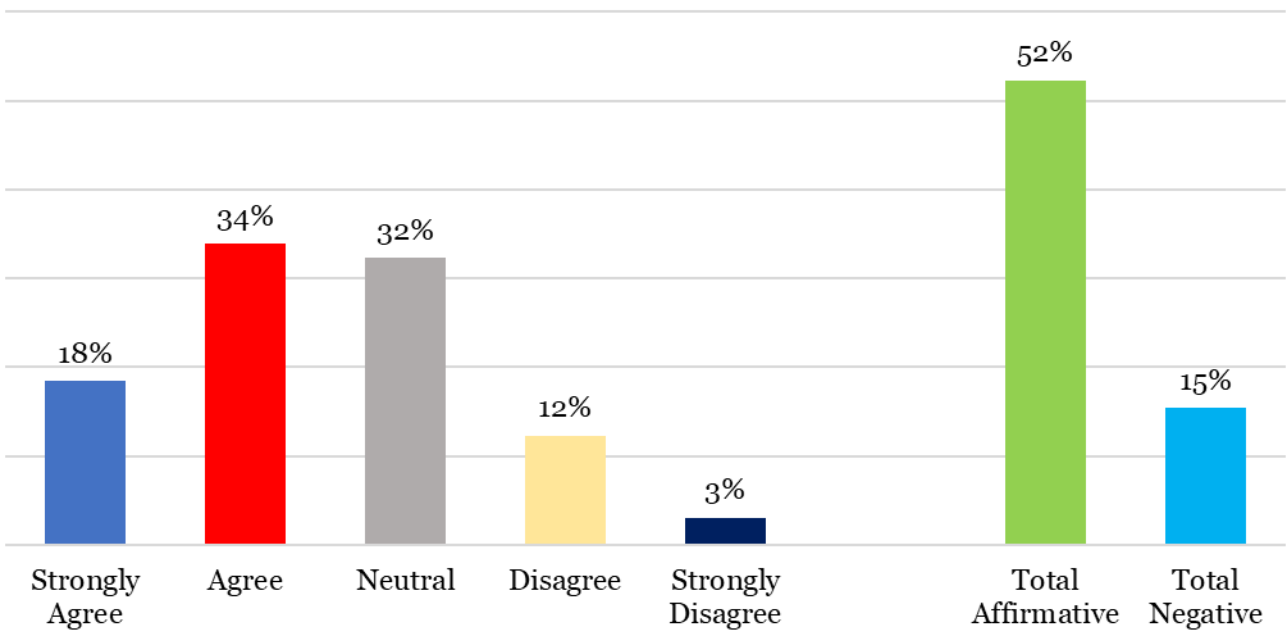
POLICING AND SECURITY – STAFF SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE PRISON ENVIRONMENT



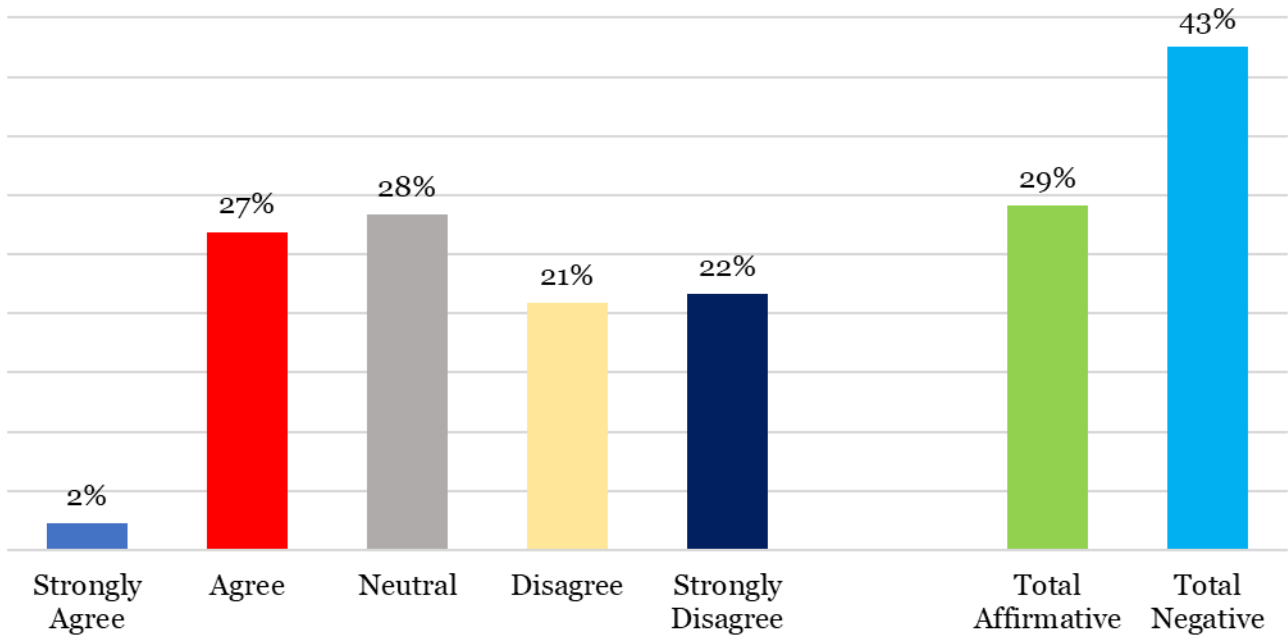
This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.



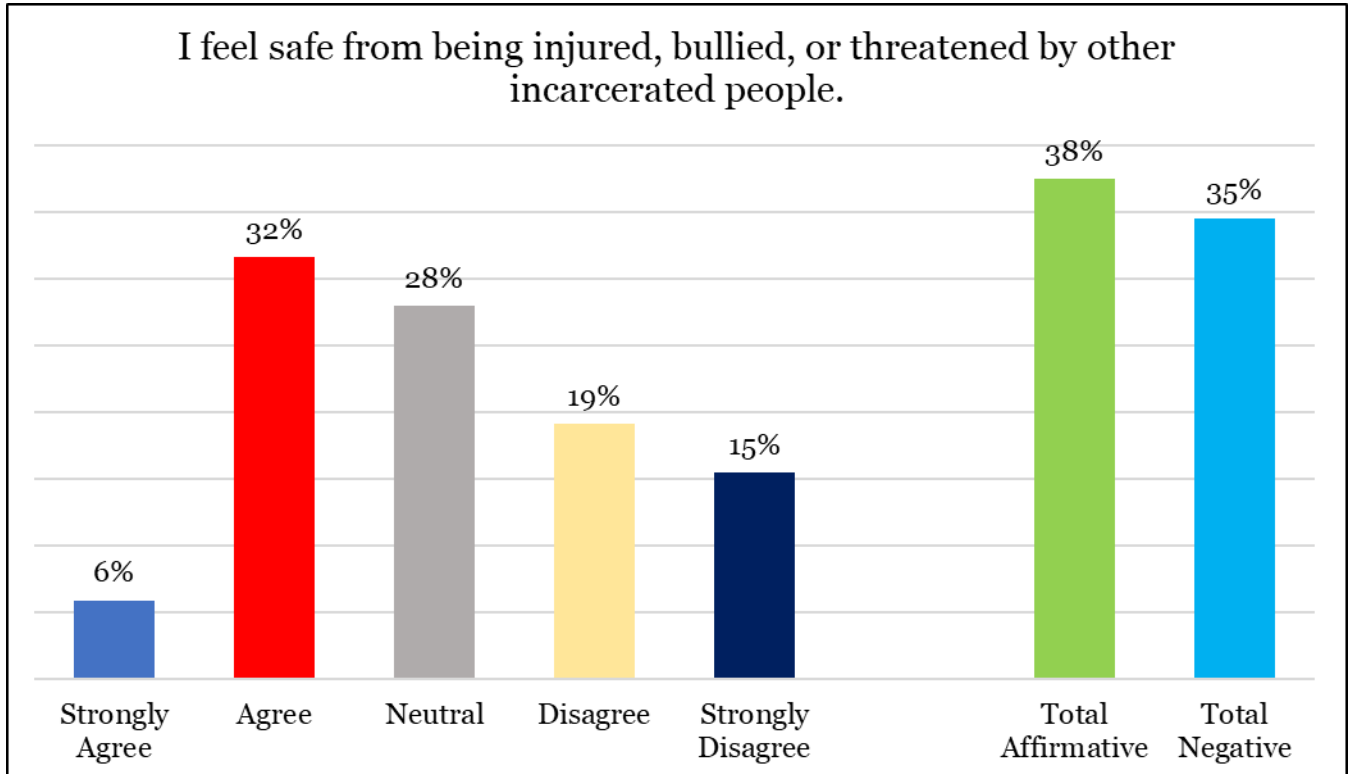
There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.



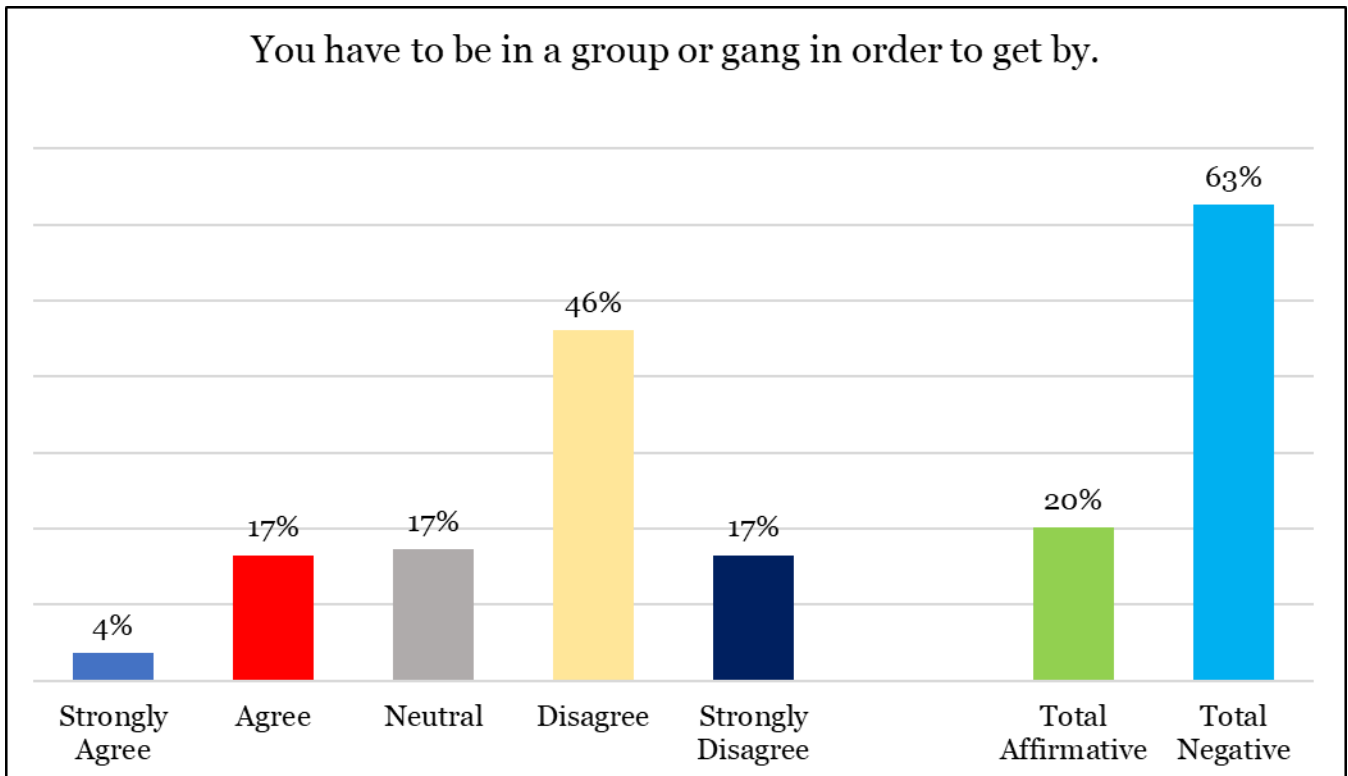
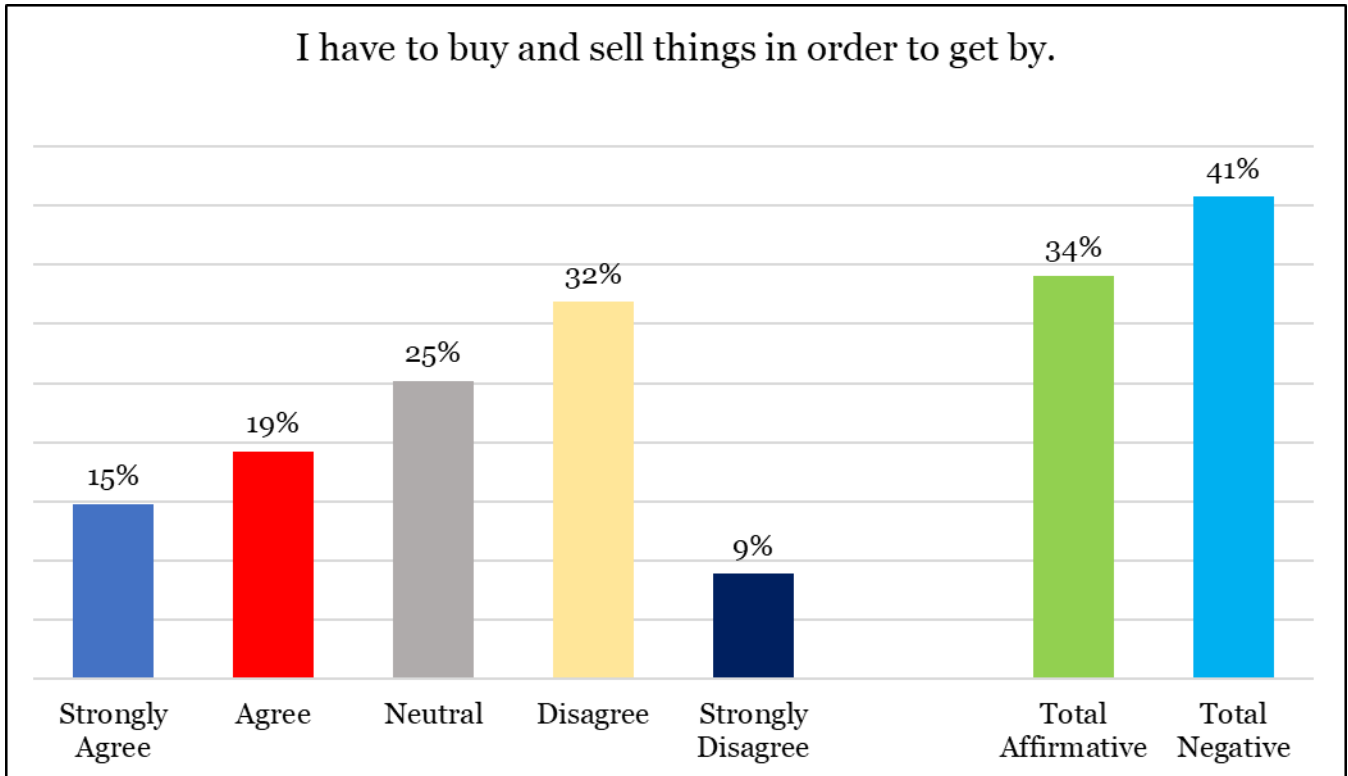
Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.



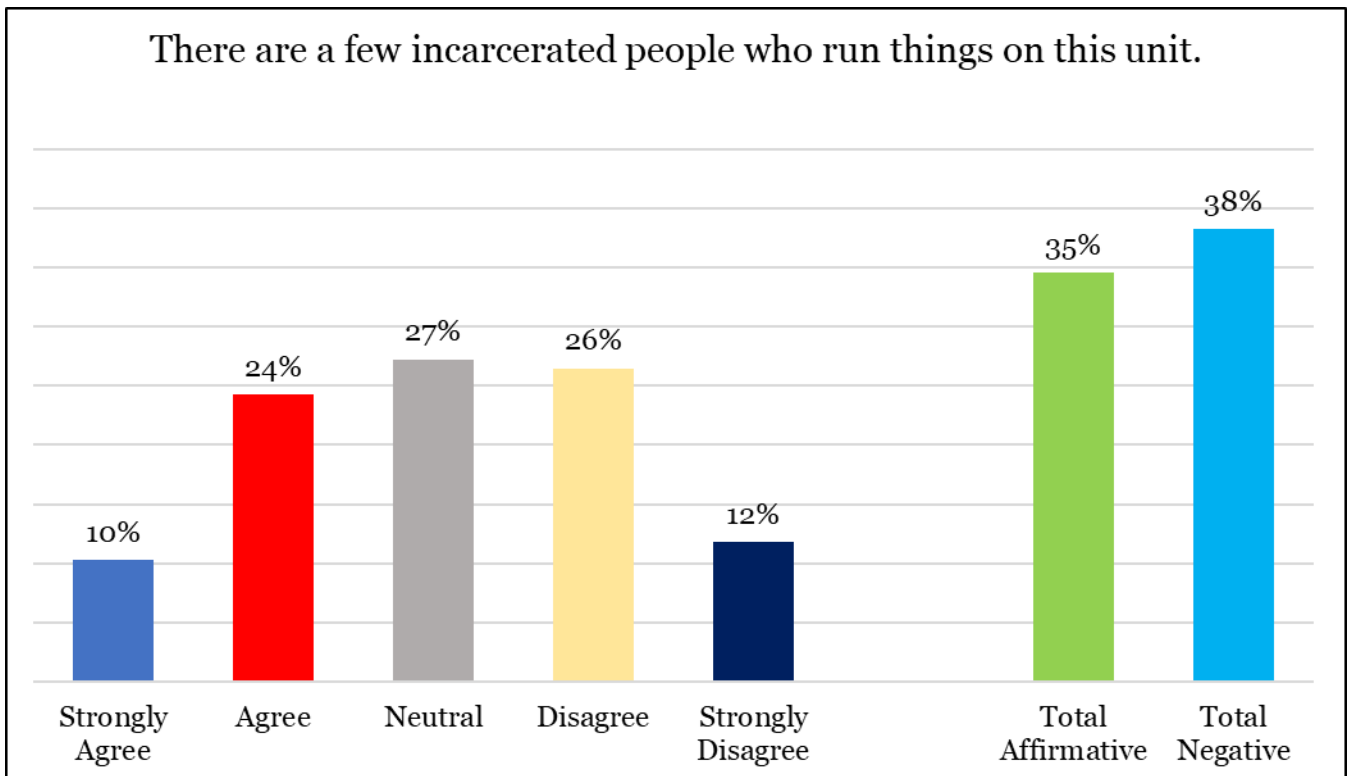
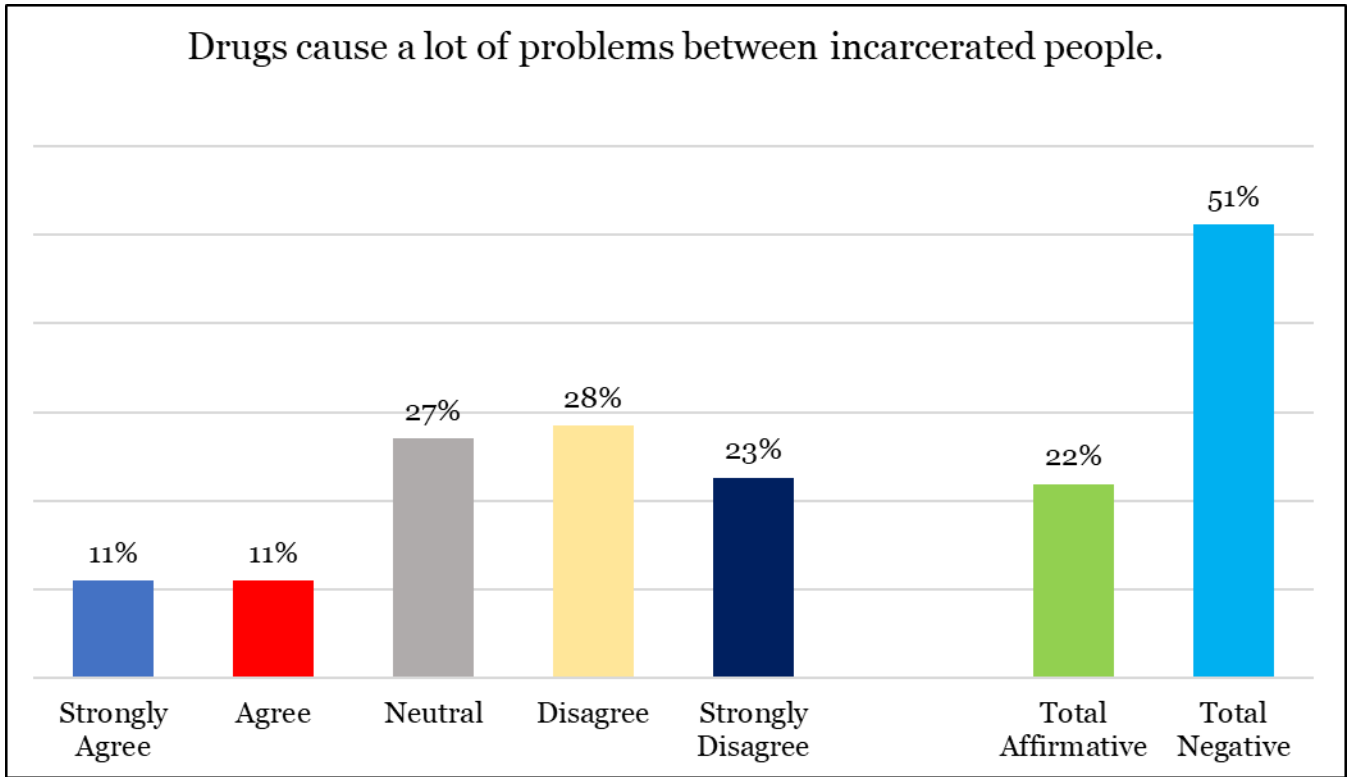
INCARCERATED PERSON SAFETY – THE FEELING OF SECURITY OR PROTECTION FROM HARM, THREAT OR DANGER



INCARCERATED PERSON ADAPTATION – THE NEED OR PRESSURE TO GET INVOLVED IN TRADE AND ALLEGIANCES

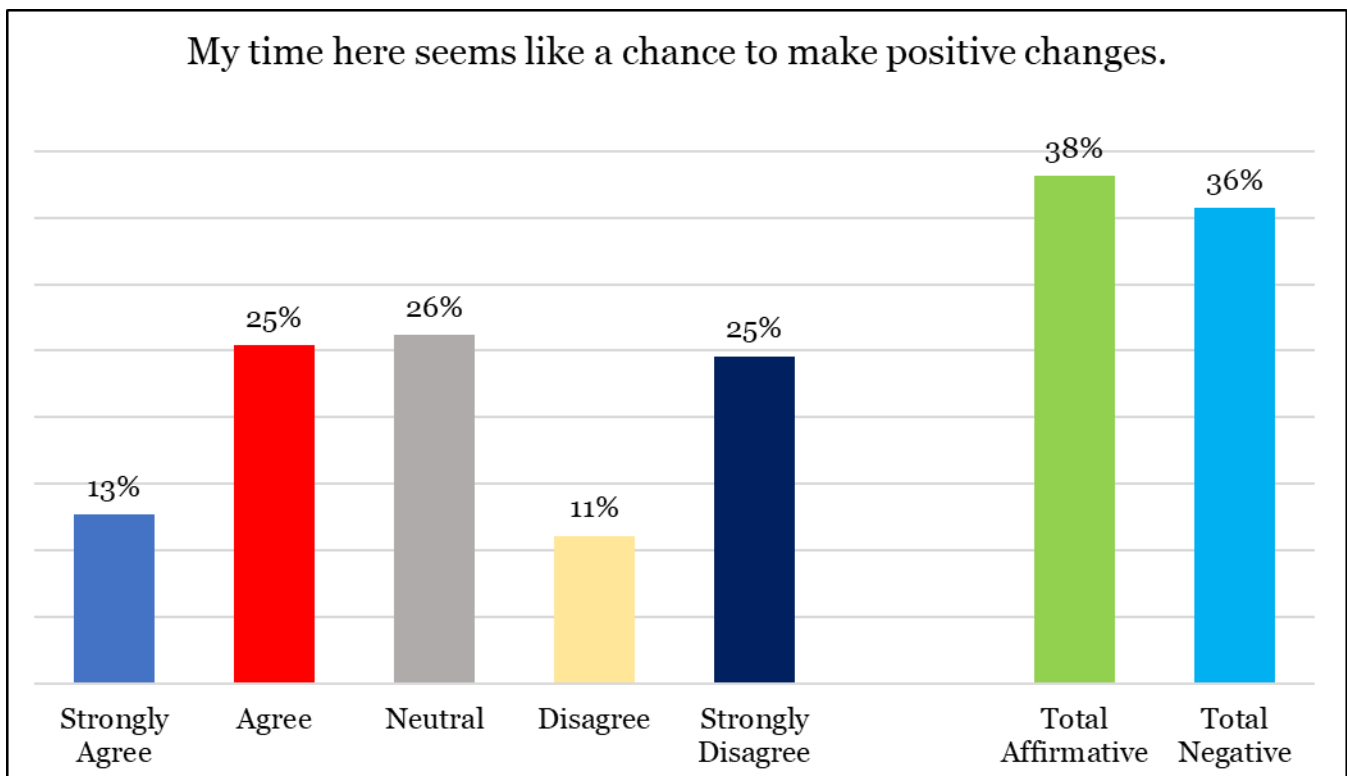
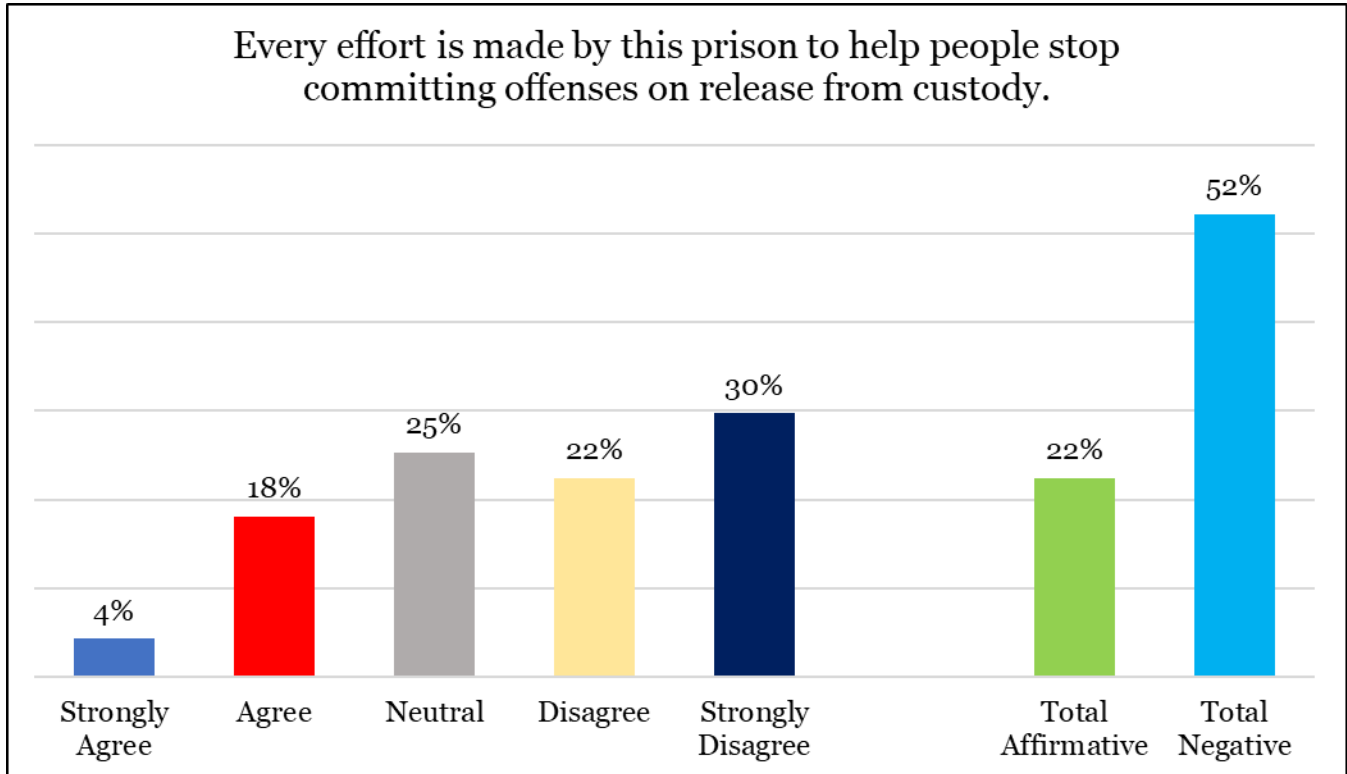


DRUGS AND EXPLOITATION – THE LEVEL OF DRUGS, BULLYING AND VICTIMIZATION IN THE PRISON ENVIRONMENT

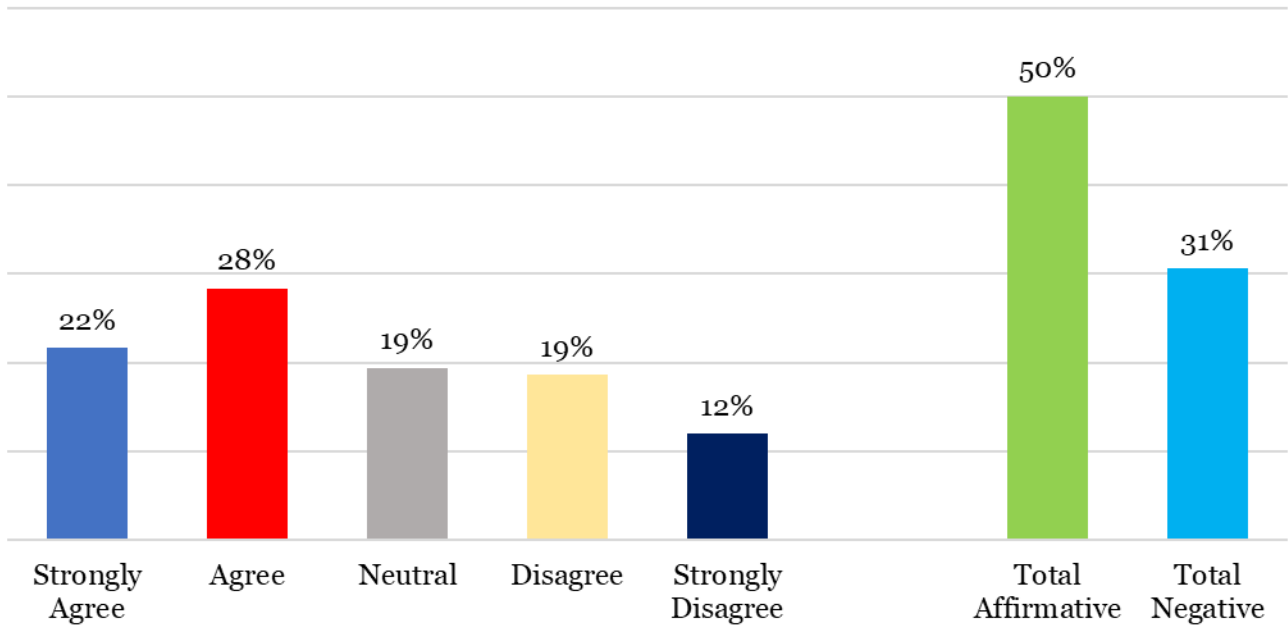


Well-being and Development

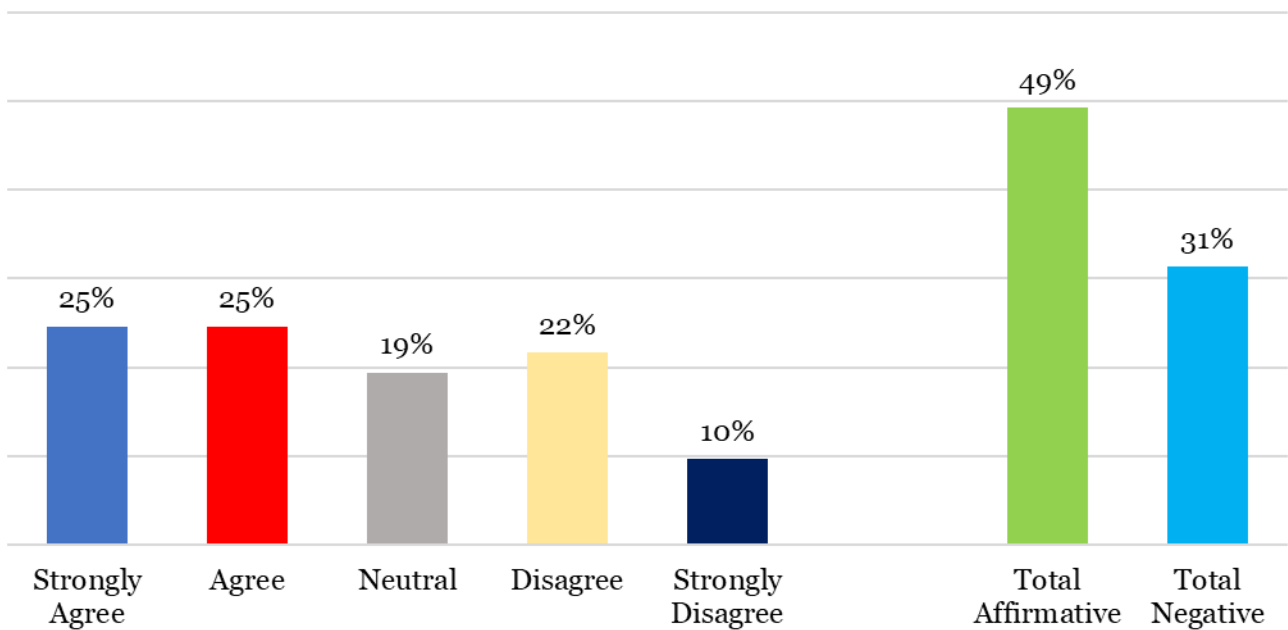
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT – AN ENVIRONMENT THAT HELPS INCARCERATED PEOPLE WITH OFFENDING BEHAVIOR, PREPARATION FOR RELEASE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR POTENTIAL



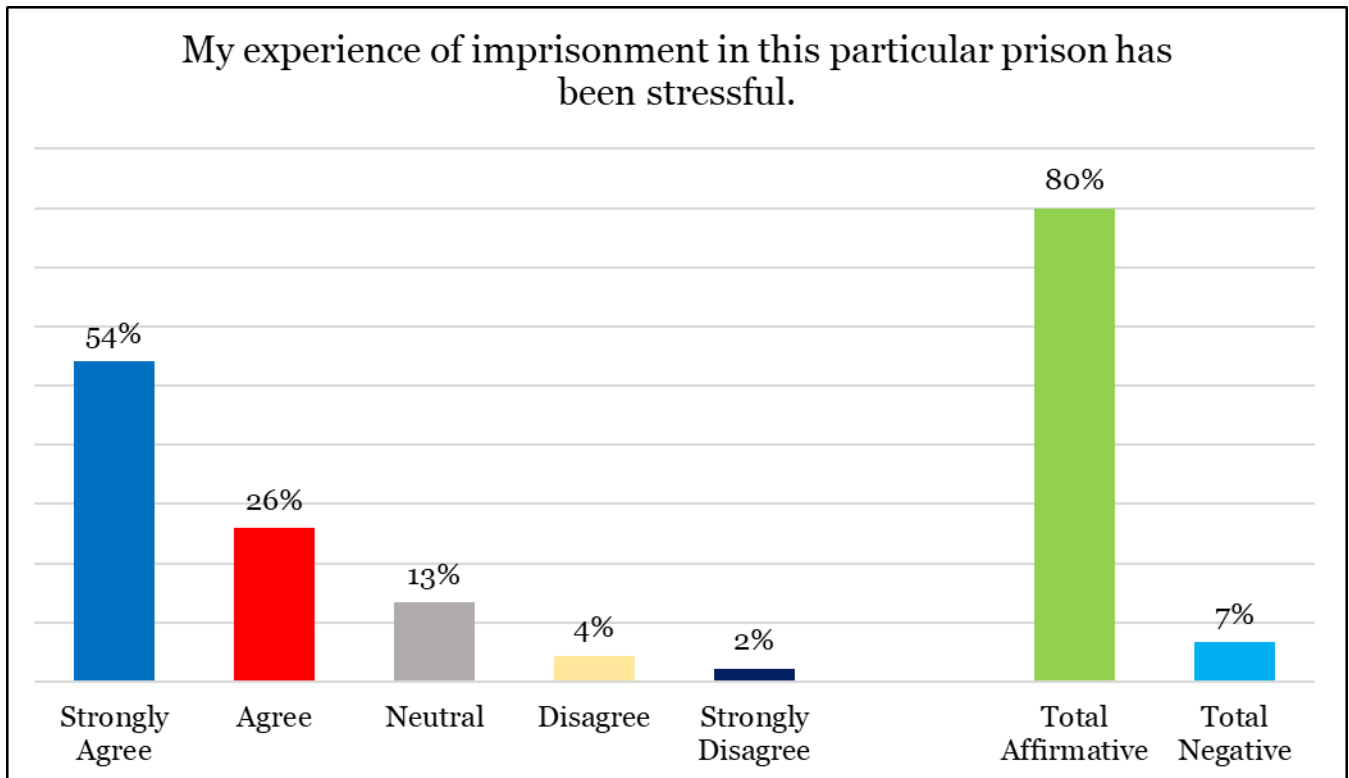
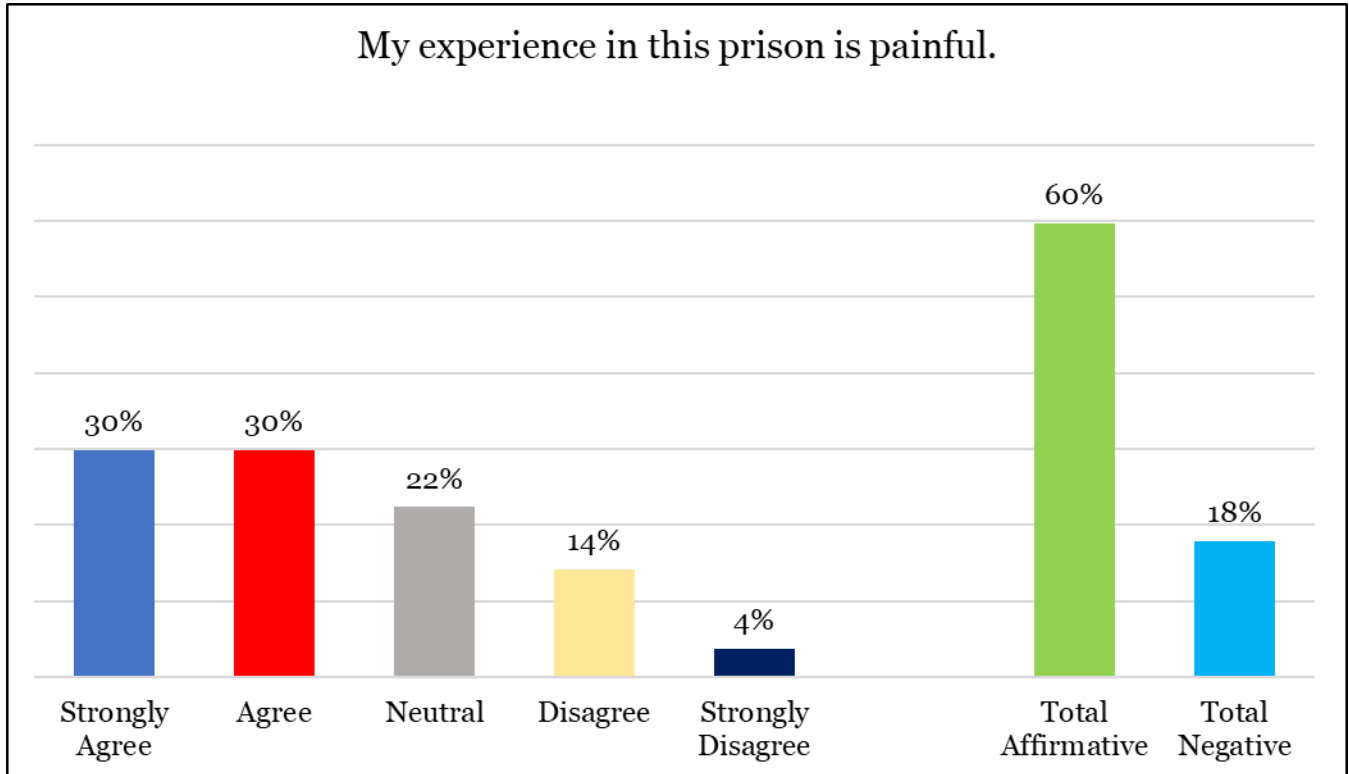
The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.



On the whole, I am just doing time rather than using my time.

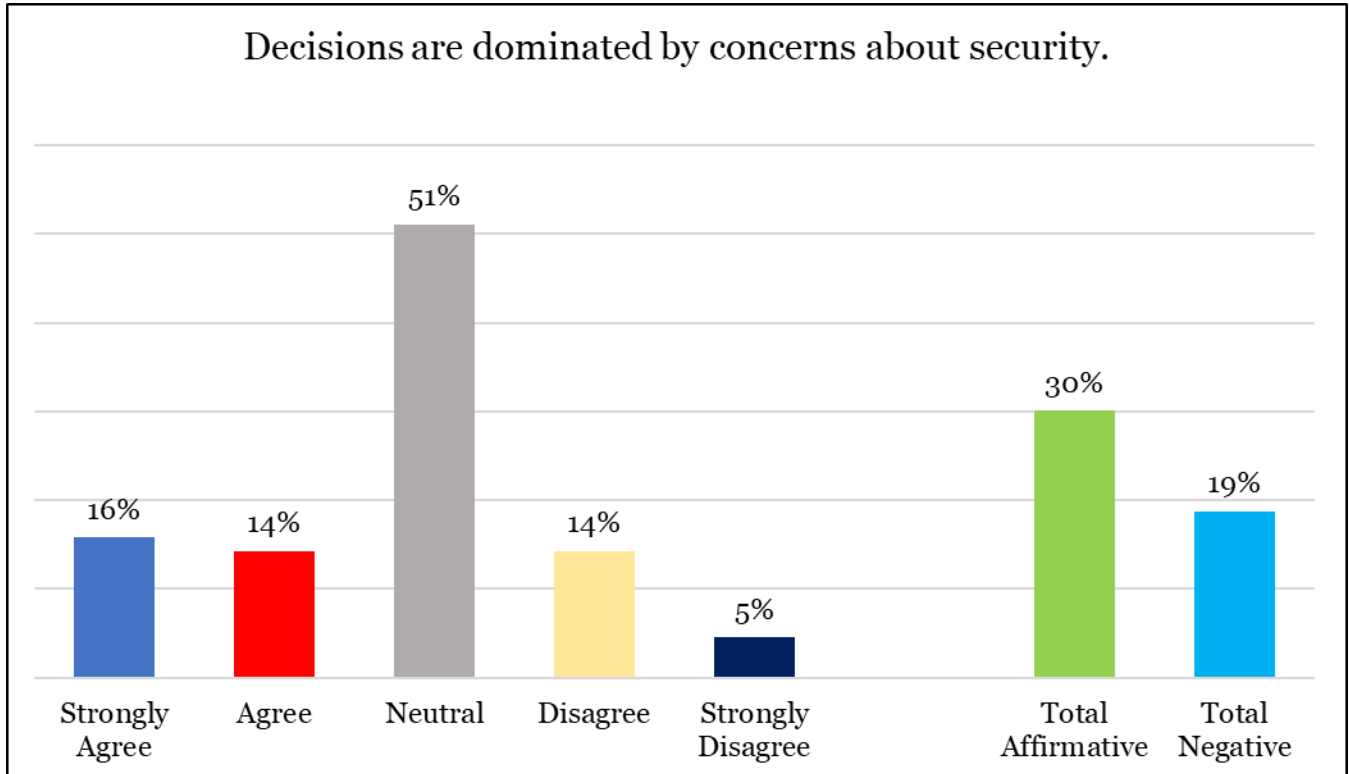


WELL-BEING – FEELINGS OF PAIN, PUNISHMENT AND TENSION EXPERIENCED BY INCARCERATED PEOPLE

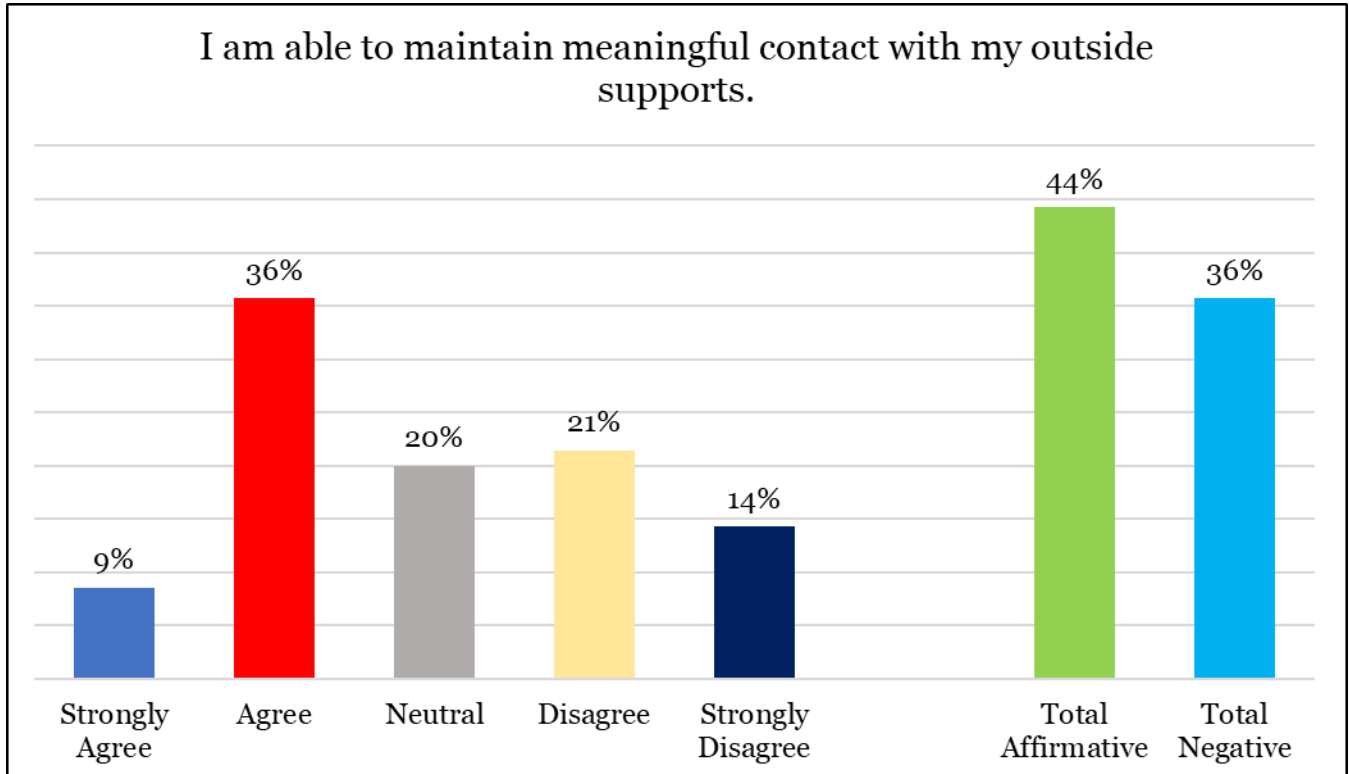


Additional Questions

DECISION-MAKING – THE EXTENT TO WHICH ADMINISTRATORS PRIORITIZE SECURITY CONCERNS OVER OTHER FACTORS

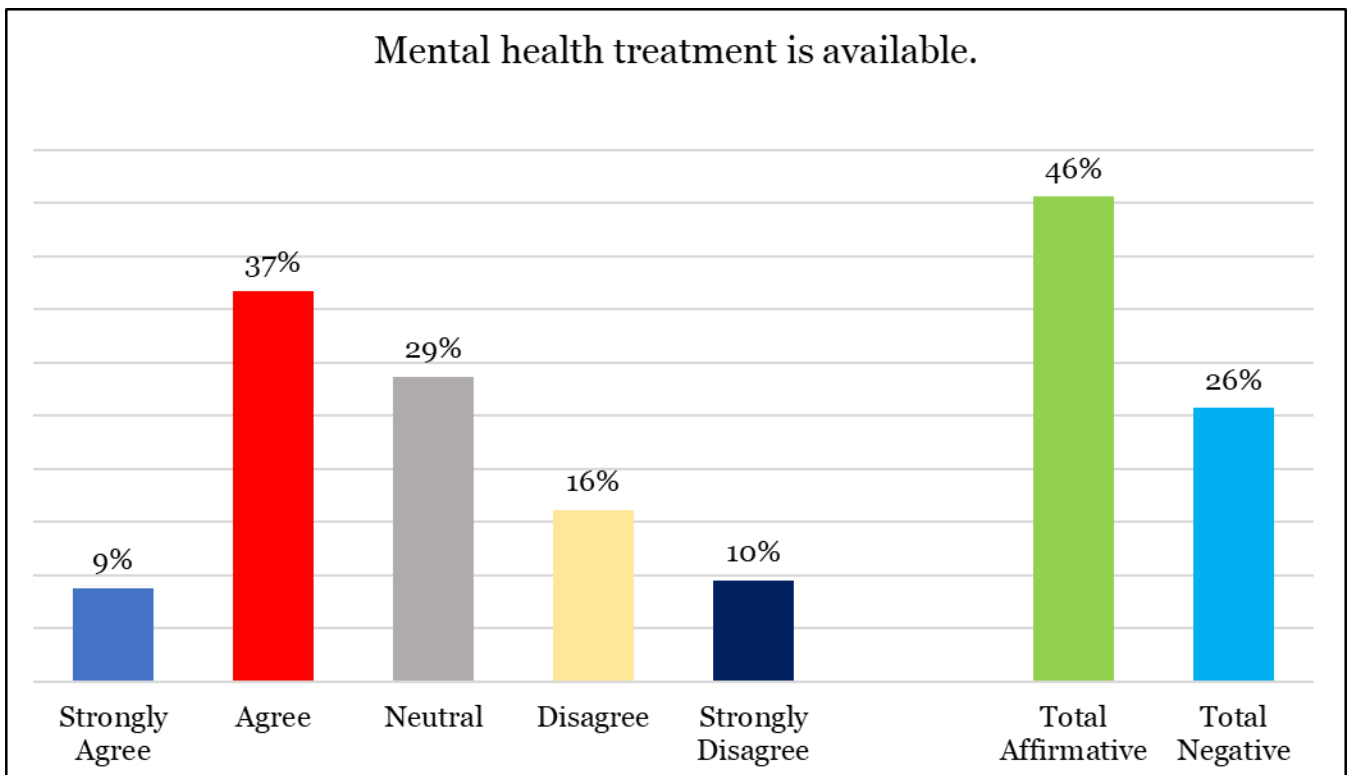
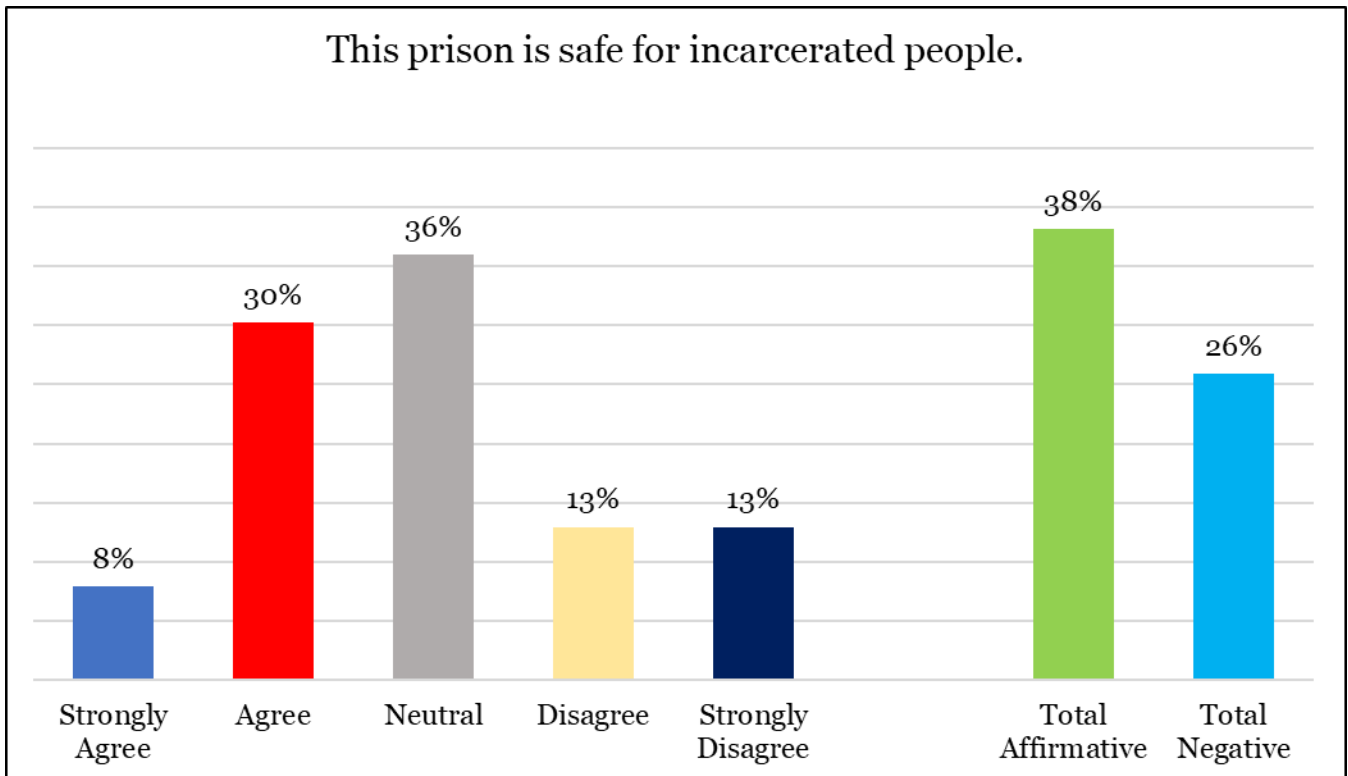


FAMILY CONTACT – AN ENVIRONMENT THAT FACILITATES INCARCERATED PEOPLE MAINTAINING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOVED ONES

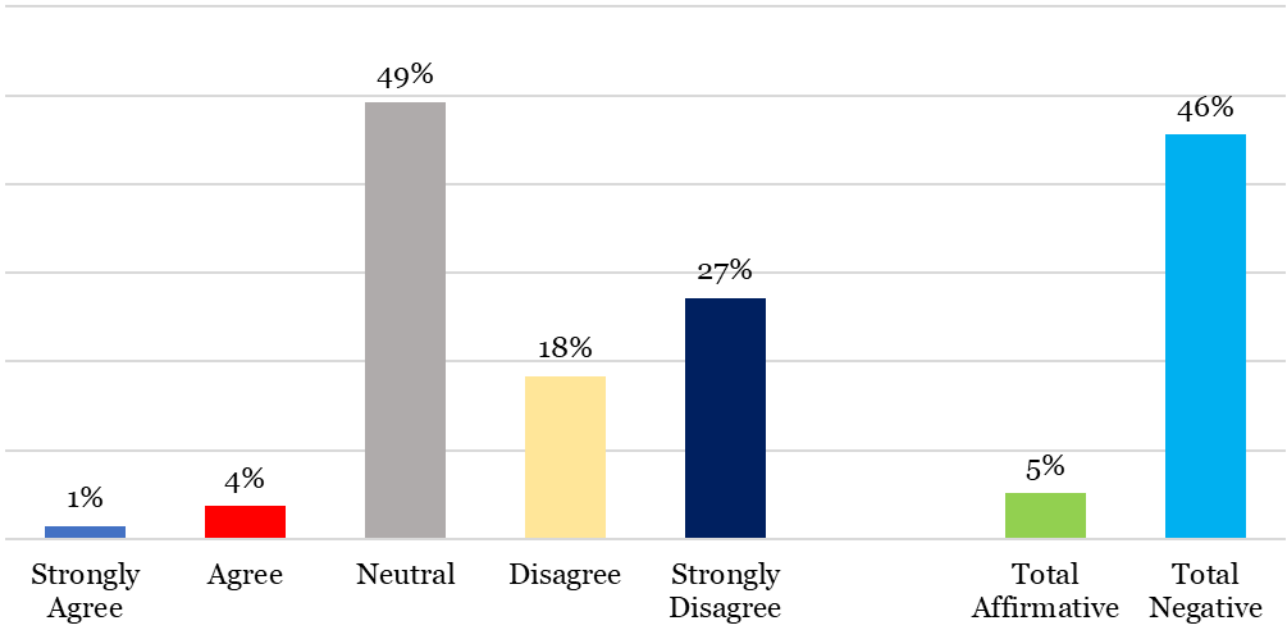


Charts: JHA Questions

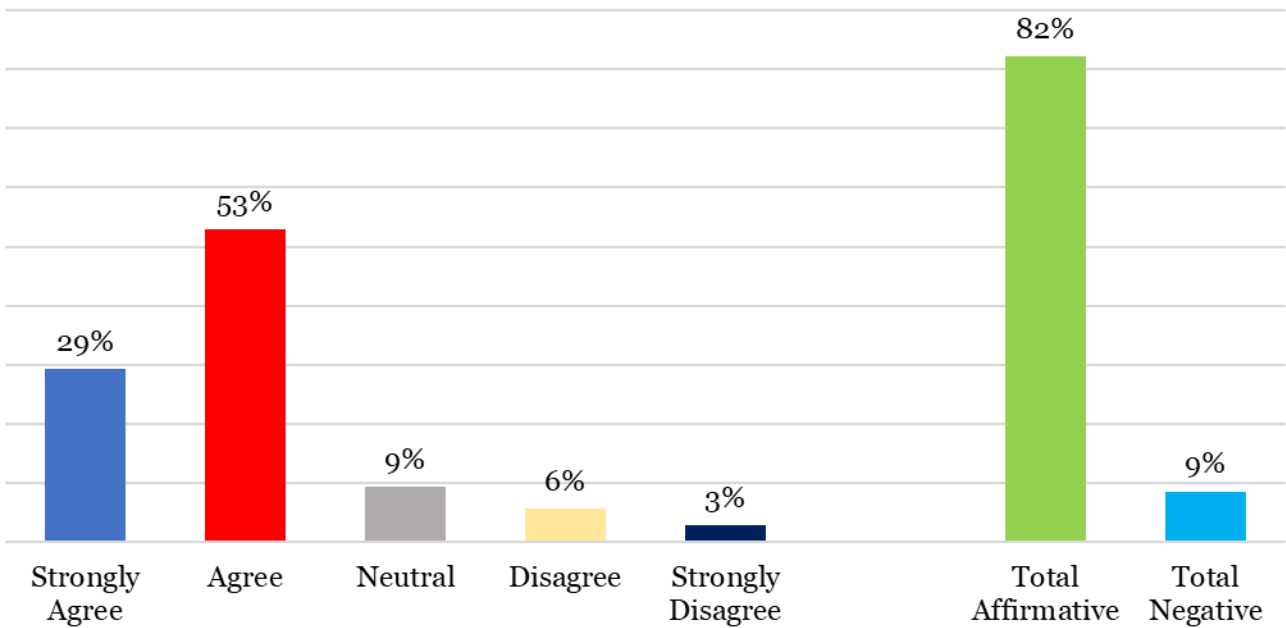
QUESTIONS USED IN PREVIOUS JHA SURVEYS



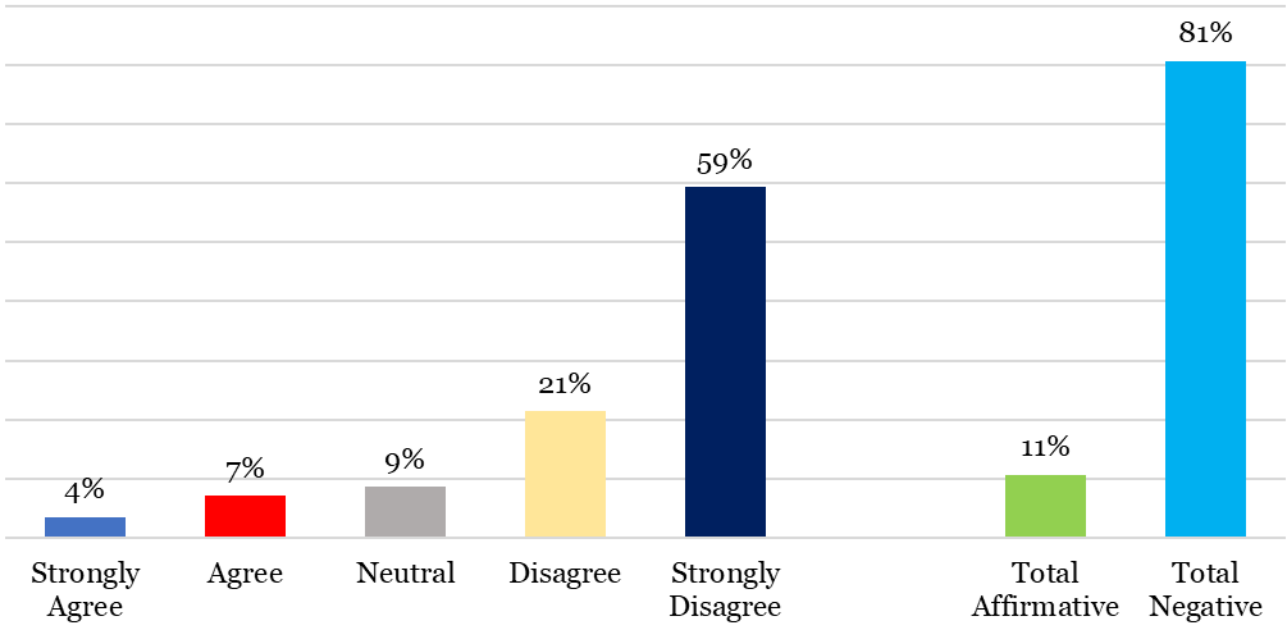
This prison is better now than it was last year.



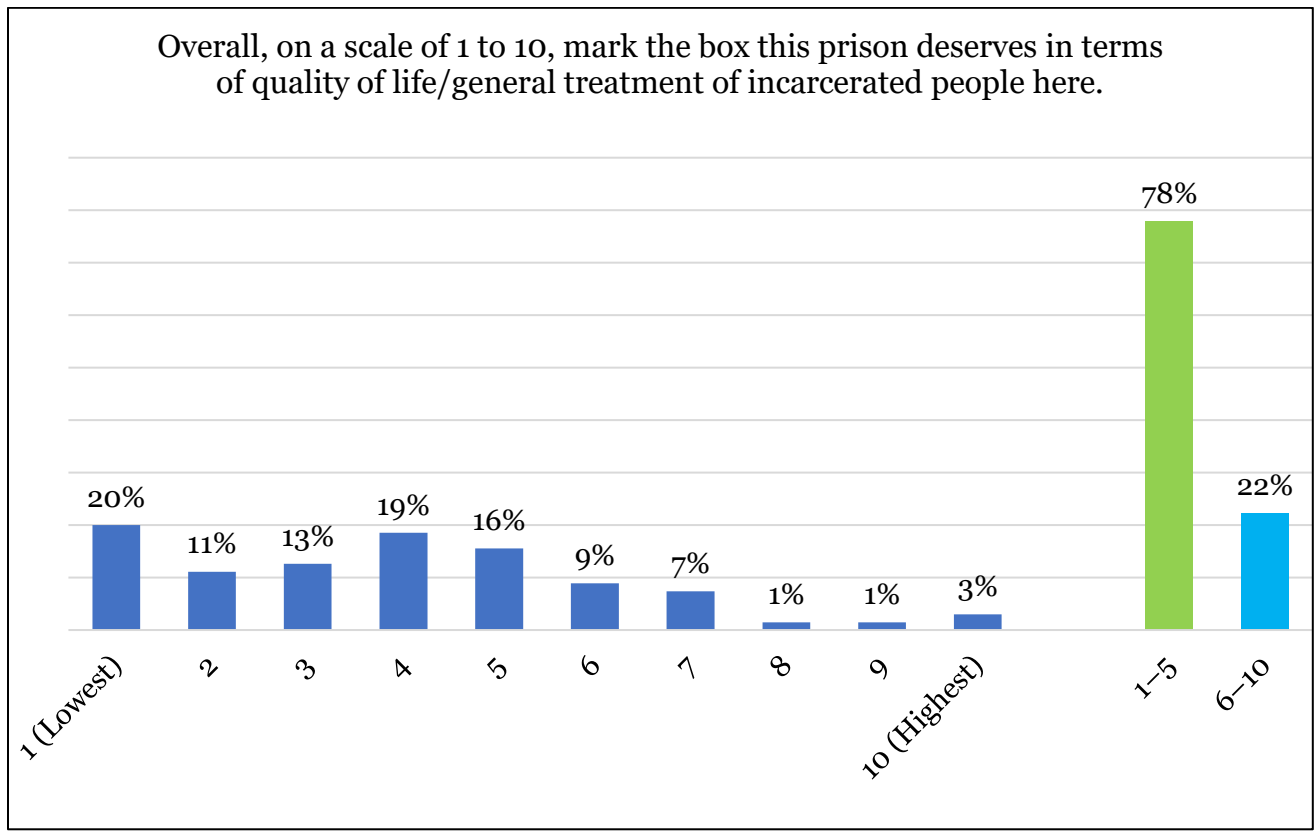
I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.



I am satisfied with food from dietary.



OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE



Tables of Results by Individual Survey Items

Age		
18-26	2	1%
26-30	20	14%
31-40	53	38%
41-50	41	29%
51 and over	24	17%
No response	0	

Race or ethnicity		
White	83	60%
Black	40	29%
Hispanic or Latino	12	9%
Other	3	2%
No response	2	

Are you within two years of release?		
Yes	111	79%
No	29	21%
No response	0	

Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?		
Yes	70	50%
No	70	50%
No response	0	

What housing status are you currently on?		
General Population	81	59%
Restrictive Housing	3	2%
Other	53	39%
No response	3	

Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area?		
Yes	132	94%
No	8	6%

Do you have a work or school assignment?		
Work Assignment	33	24%
School Assignment	38	27%
Both	25	18%
Neither	44	31%
No response	0	

Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.		
Strongly Agree	4	3%
Agree	15	11%
Neutral	31	22%
Disagree	52	37%
Strongly Disagree	38	27%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	19	14%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	90	64%
No response	0	

I receive support from staff when I need it.		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	15	11%
Neutral	36	26%
Disagree	45	33%
Strongly Disagree	38	28%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	18	13%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	83	61%
No response	3	

Staff here treat incarcerated people fairly when applying the rules.		
Strongly Agree	5	4%
Agree	20	14%
Neutral	28	20%
Disagree	46	33%
Strongly Disagree	40	29%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	25	18%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	86	62%
No response	1	

I trust the officers.		
Strongly Agree	2	1%
Agree	11	8%
Neutral	33	24%
Disagree	39	28%
Strongly Disagree	53	38%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	13	9%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	92	67%
No response	2	

I get along well with the officers on my unit.		
Strongly Agree	4	3%
Agree	32	23%
Neutral	52	38%
Disagree	27	20%
Strongly Disagree	23	17%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	36	26%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	50	36%
No response	2	

The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.		
Strongly Agree	13	9%
Agree	31	22%
Neutral	32	23%
Disagree	31	22%
Strongly Disagree	31	22%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	44	32%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	62	45%
No response	2	

I have been helped significantly by a staff member with a particular problem.		
Strongly Agree	4	3%
Agree	15	11%
Neutral	36	26%
Disagree	47	34%
Strongly Disagree	36	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	19	14%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	83	60%
No response	2	

Overall, I am treated fairly by staff.		
Strongly Agree	4	3%
Agree	30	22%
Neutral	39	28%
Disagree	35	25%
Strongly Disagree	31	22%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	34	24%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	66	47%
No response	1	

I am treated as a person of value.		
Strongly Agree	2	1%
Agree	12	9%
Neutral	26	19%
Disagree	51	36%
Strongly Disagree	49	35%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	14	10%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	100	71%
No response	0	

Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.		
Strongly Agree	36	27%
Agree	56	41%
Neutral	17	13%
Disagree	17	13%
Strongly Disagree	9	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	92	68%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	26	19%
No response	5	

I feel safe from being injured, bullied, or threatened by other incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	8	6%
Agree	43	32%
Neutral	38	28%
Disagree	26	19%
Strongly Disagree	21	15%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	51	38%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	47	35%
No response	4	

If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.		
Strongly Agree	11	8%
Agree	20	15%
Neutral	26	19%
Disagree	51	38%
Strongly Disagree	28	21%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	31	23%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	79	58%
No response	4	

To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.		
Strongly Agree	22	16%
Agree	39	29%
Neutral	37	28%
Disagree	34	25%
Strongly Disagree	2	1%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	61	46%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	36	27%
No response	6	

Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	55	41%
Agree	41	30%
Neutral	20	15%
Disagree	14	10%
Strongly Disagree	5	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	96	71%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	19	14%
No response	5	

Staff have enough experience and expertise to deal with issues that matter to me.		
Strongly Agree	1	1%
Agree	13	10%
Neutral	22	16%
Disagree	52	39%
Strongly Disagree	47	35%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	14	10%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	99	73%
No response	5	

To get things done, you have to ask and ask and ask.		
Strongly Agree	81	60%
Agree	41	30%
Neutral	8	6%
Disagree	4	3%
Strongly Disagree	2	1%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	122	90%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	6	4%
No response	4	

Supervision of incarcerated people is poor.		
Strongly Agree	40	30%
Agree	37	27%
Neutral	30	22%
Disagree	22	16%
Strongly Disagree	6	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	77	57%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	28	21%
No response	5	

I can't improve my situation through good behavior.		
Strongly Agree	26	20%
Agree	25	19%
Neutral	34	26%
Disagree	34	26%
Strongly Disagree	14	11%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	51	38%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	48	36%
No response	7	

The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.		
Strongly Agree	29	22%
Agree	38	28%
Neutral	26	19%
Disagree	25	19%
Strongly Disagree	16	12%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	67	50%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	41	31%
No response	6	

My experience of imprisonment in this particular prison has been stressful.		
Strongly Agree	73	54%
Agree	35	26%
Neutral	18	13%
Disagree	6	4%
Strongly Disagree	3	2%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	108	80%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	9	7%
No response	5	

Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.		
Strongly Agree	42	31%
Agree	36	26%
Neutral	32	24%
Disagree	23	17%
Strongly Disagree	3	2%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	78	57%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	26	19%
No response	4	

I have to be careful about everything I do, or it can be used against me.		
Strongly Agree	56	41%
Agree	49	36%
Neutral	21	15%
Disagree	8	6%
Strongly Disagree	2	1%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	105	77%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	10	7%
No response	4	

On the whole, I am just doing time rather than using my time.		
Strongly Agree	33	25%
Agree	33	25%
Neutral	26	19%
Disagree	29	22%
Strongly Disagree	13	10%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	66	49%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	42	31%
No response	6	

Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	36	27%
Neutral	38	28%
Disagree	28	21%
Strongly Disagree	29	22%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	39	29%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	57	43%
No response	6	

This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.		
Strongly Agree	8	6%
Agree	16	12%
Neutral	30	22%
Disagree	41	31%
Strongly Disagree	39	29%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	24	18%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	80	60%
No response	6	

When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.		
Strongly Agree	6	4%
Agree	23	17%
Neutral	42	31%
Disagree	33	24%
Strongly Disagree	32	24%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	29	21%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	65	48%
No response	4	

This prison is well organized.		
Strongly Agree	6	4%
Agree	1	1%
Neutral	15	11%
Disagree	37	27%
Strongly Disagree	76	56%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	7	5%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	113	84%
No response	5	

You never know the rules.		
Strongly Agree	37	28%
Agree	40	30%
Neutral	25	19%
Disagree	26	19%
Strongly Disagree	6	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	77	57%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	32	24%
No response	6	

I feel that I am treated with respect by staff.		
Strongly Agree	7	5%
Agree	15	11%
Neutral	30	22%
Disagree	32	24%
Strongly Disagree	50	37%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	22	16%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	82	61%
No response	6	

My experience in this prison is painful.		
Strongly Agree	40	30%
Agree	40	30%
Neutral	30	22%
Disagree	19	14%
Strongly Disagree	5	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	80	60%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	24	18%
No response	6	

I have to buy and sell things in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	20	15%
Agree	26	19%
Neutral	34	25%
Disagree	43	32%
Strongly Disagree	12	9%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	46	34%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	55	41%
No response	5	

There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	24	18%
Agree	44	34%
Neutral	42	32%
Disagree	16	12%
Strongly Disagree	4	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	68	52%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	20	15%
No response	10	

Decisions are dominated by concerns about security.		
Strongly Agree	21	16%
Agree	19	14%
Neutral	68	51%
Disagree	19	14%
Strongly Disagree	6	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	40	30%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	25	19%
No response	7	

The disciplinary system is fair.		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	17	13%
Neutral	33	24%
Disagree	38	28%
Strongly Disagree	44	33%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	20	15%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	82	61%
No response	5	

My time here seems like a chance to make positive changes.		
Strongly Agree	16	13%
Agree	32	25%
Neutral	33	26%
Disagree	14	11%
Strongly Disagree	31	25%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	48	38%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	45	36%
No response	14	

There are a few incarcerated people who run things on this unit.		
Strongly Agree	14	10%
Agree	33	24%
Neutral	37	27%
Disagree	36	26%
Strongly Disagree	16	12%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	47	35%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	52	38%
No response	4	

I am not being treated as a human being in here.		
Strongly Agree	43	31%
Agree	29	21%
Neutral	34	24%
Disagree	28	20%
Strongly Disagree	5	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	72	52%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	33	24%
No response	1	

You have to be in a group or gang in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	5	4%
Agree	23	17%
Neutral	24	17%
Disagree	64	46%
Strongly Disagree	23	17%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	28	20%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	87	63%
No response	1	

Bullying behavior by incarcerated people is not tolerated.		
Strongly Agree	8	6%
Agree	34	25%
Neutral	36	27%
Disagree	37	27%
Strongly Disagree	20	15%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	42	31%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	57	42%
No response	5	

When important decisions are made about me, I am treated as an individual and not a number.		
Strongly Agree	4	3%
Agree	12	9%
Neutral	36	26%
Disagree	48	35%
Strongly Disagree	39	28%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	16	12%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	87	63%
No response	1	

All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.		
Strongly Agree	50	36%
Agree	48	34%
Neutral	30	21%
Disagree	9	6%
Strongly Disagree	3	2%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	98	70%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	12	9%
No response	0	

Drugs cause a lot of problems between incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	15	11%
Agree	15	11%
Neutral	37	27%
Disagree	39	28%
Strongly Disagree	31	23%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	30	22%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	70	51%
No response	3	

Anyone who harms themselves is considered by staff to be more of an attention seeker than someone who needs help.		
Strongly Agree	28	20%
Agree	33	24%
Neutral	57	41%
Disagree	15	11%
Strongly Disagree	5	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	61	44%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	20	14%
No response	2	

I am able to maintain meaningful contact with my outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	12	9%
Agree	50	36%
Neutral	28	20%
Disagree	30	21%
Strongly Disagree	20	14%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	62	44%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	50	36%
No response	0	

This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.		
Strongly Agree	48	35%
Agree	51	37%
Neutral	28	20%
Disagree	10	7%
Strongly Disagree	2	1%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	99	71%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	12	9%
No response	1	

Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	0	0%
Agree	14	10%
Neutral	30	22%
Disagree	46	33%
Strongly Disagree	49	35%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	14	10%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	95	68%
No response	1	

This is a humane prison.		
Strongly Agree	6	4%
Agree	24	17%
Neutral	39	28%
Disagree	30	22%
Strongly Disagree	39	28%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	30	22%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	69	50%
No response	2	

Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.		
Strongly Agree	7	5%
Agree	8	6%
Neutral	36	26%
Disagree	51	38%
Strongly Disagree	34	25%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	15	11%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	85	63%
No response	4	

This prison is safe for incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	11	8%
Agree	42	30%
Neutral	50	36%
Disagree	18	13%
Strongly Disagree	18	13%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	53	38%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	36	26%
No response	1	

Mental health treatment is available.		
Strongly Agree	12	9%
Agree	50	37%
Neutral	39	29%
Disagree	22	16%
Strongly Disagree	13	10%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	62	46%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	35	26%
No response	4	

This prison is better now than it was last year.		
Strongly Agree	2	1%
Agree	5	4%
Neutral	67	49%
Disagree	25	18%
Strongly Disagree	37	27%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	7	5%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	62	46%
No response	4	

I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.		
Strongly Agree	41	29%
Agree	74	53%
Neutral	13	9%
Disagree	8	6%
Strongly Disagree	4	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	115	82%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	12	9%
No response	0	

Every effort is made by this prison to help people stop committing offenses on release from custody.		
Strongly Agree	6	4%
Agree	25	18%
Neutral	35	25%
Disagree	31	22%
Strongly Disagree	41	30%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	31	22%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	72	52%
No response	2	

I am satisfied with food from dietary.		
Strongly Agree	5	4%
Agree	10	7%
Neutral	12	9%
Disagree	30	21%
Strongly Disagree	83	59%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	15	11%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	113	81%
No response	0	

Overall, on a scale of 1 to 10, mark the box this prison deserves in terms of quality of life/general treatment of incarcerated people here.

1 (Lowest)	27	20%
2	15	11%
3	17	13%
4	25	19%
5	21	16%
6	12	9%
7	10	7%
8	2	1%
9	2	1%
10 (Highest)	4	3%
<i>1-5</i>	105	78%
<i>6-10</i>	30	22%
No Response	5	
Mean Score		3.9



This report was written by JHA staff. Media inquiries should be directed to JHA's Executive Director Jennifer Vollen-Katz at (312) 291-9183 or jvollen@thejha.org

Incarcerated individuals can send privileged mail to report issues to the John Howard Association, P.O. Box 10042, Chicago, IL 60610-0042. JHA staff read every letter and track this information to monitor what is occurring behind prison walls and to advocate for humane policies and practices. Family and friends can contact JHA via our website www.thejha.org or by leaving us a voicemail at (312) 291-9183.

Since 1901, JHA has provided public oversight of Illinois' juvenile and adult correctional facilities. Every year, JHA staff and trained volunteers inspect prisons, jails, and detention centers throughout the state. Based on these inspections, JHA regularly issues reports that are instrumental in improving prison conditions. JHA humbly thanks everyone who graciously shared their experiences and insights with us.

