
Survey Results



Decatur 2022 MQPL Survey Results

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Description of MQPL Dimensions	4
Charts: Demographic Information of Respondents	6
Charts: MQPL Dimensions.....	9
Harmony.....	9
Professionalism.....	20
Security	28
Well-being and Development.....	33
Additional Questions	36
Charts: JHA Questions.....	38
Tables of Results by Individual Survey Items.....	42

Introduction

Decatur Correctional Center is a minimum-security female prison within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) that housed 411 people on July 15, 2022. 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 Decatur had an opportunity to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey if they chose to do so. JHA received 204 responses to the MQPL survey from people at Decatur through the end of 2022, representing approximately 49.6% of the static population. JHA also conducted a monitoring visit of the prison close in time to survey distribution.



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

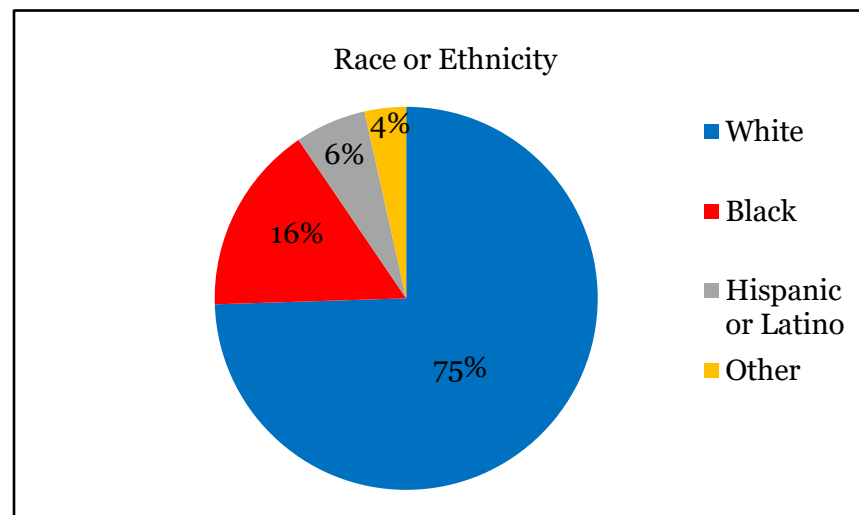
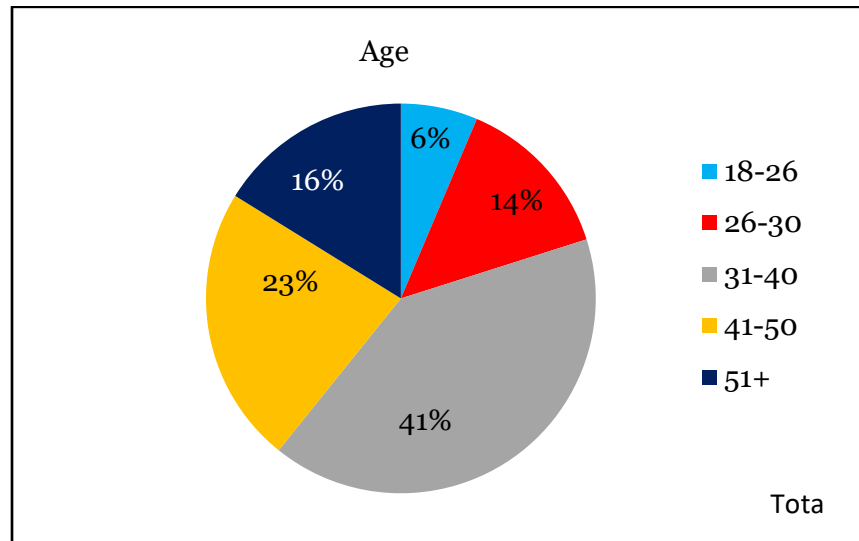
- **Harmony: Questions relating to interpersonal aspects of the prison experience**
 - Respect/courtesy – Positive, respectful, and courteous attitudes towards incarcerated people by staff.
 - Staff-incarcerated people relationships – Trusting, fair and supportive interactions between staff and incarcerated 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.

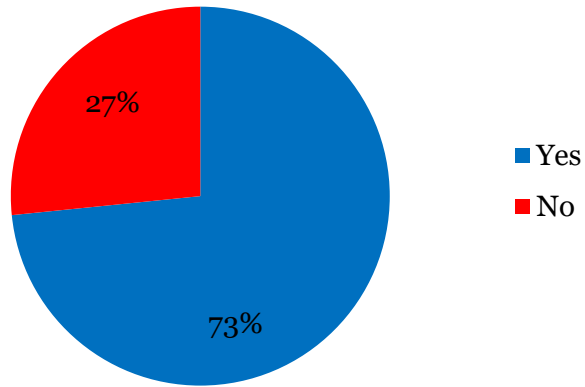
Charts: Demographic Information of Respondents

Total respondents = 204¹

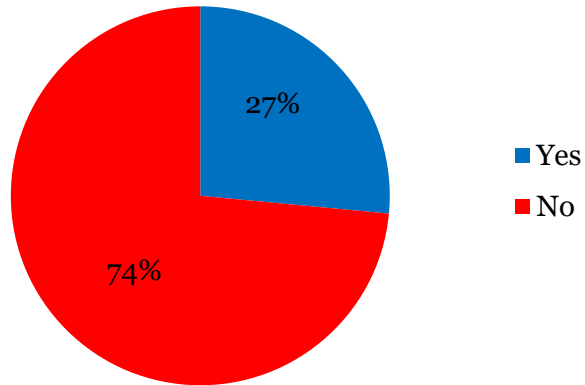


¹ Due to rounding, not all percentages total 100%. Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of respondents per question.

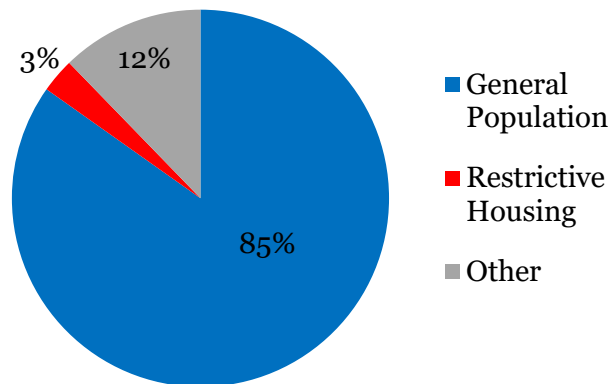
Are you within 2 years of release?



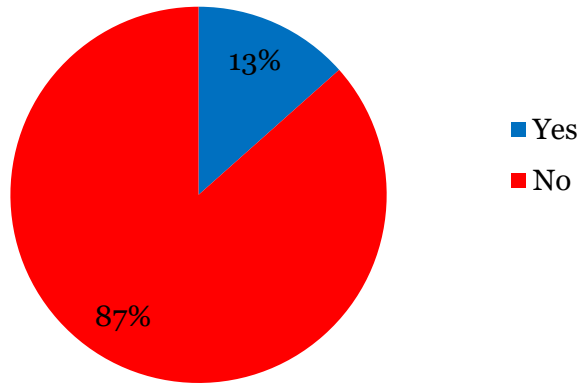
Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?



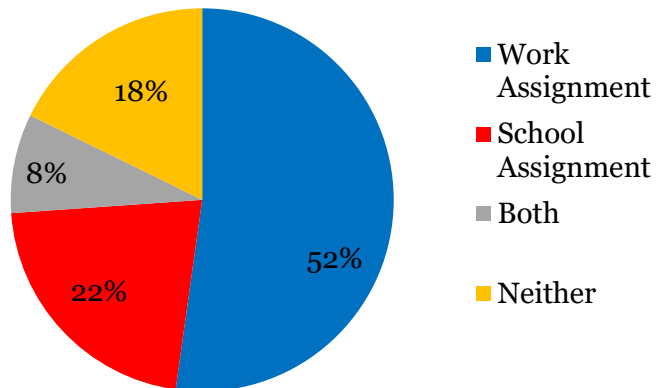
What is your housing status?



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



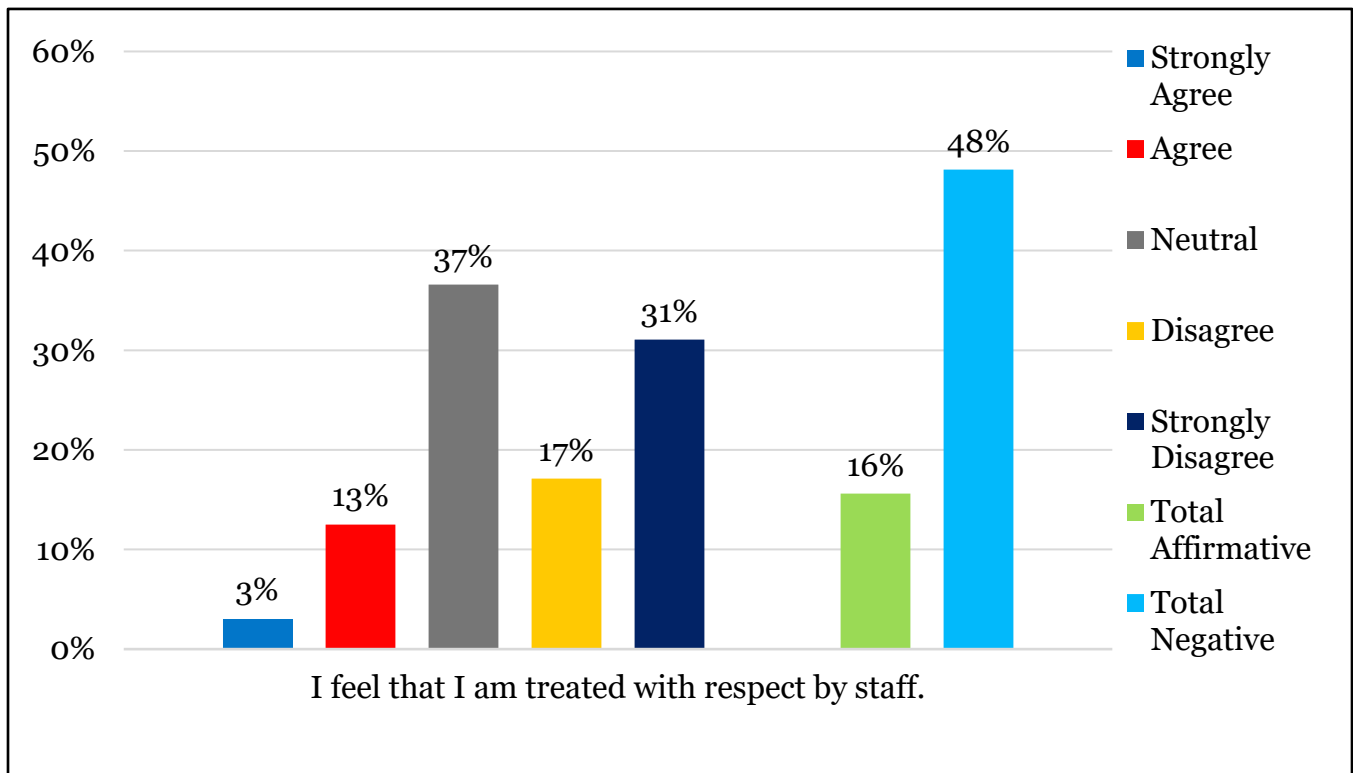
Do you have a work or school assignment?



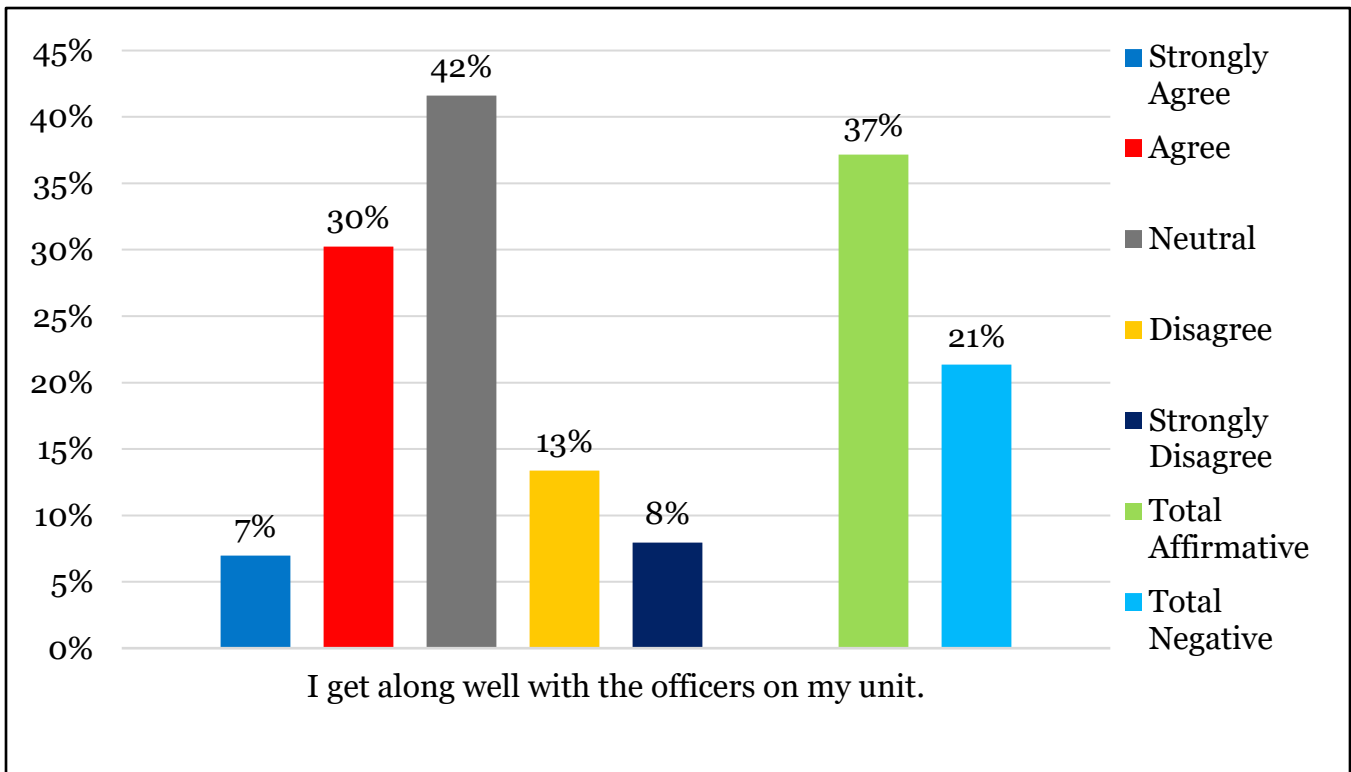
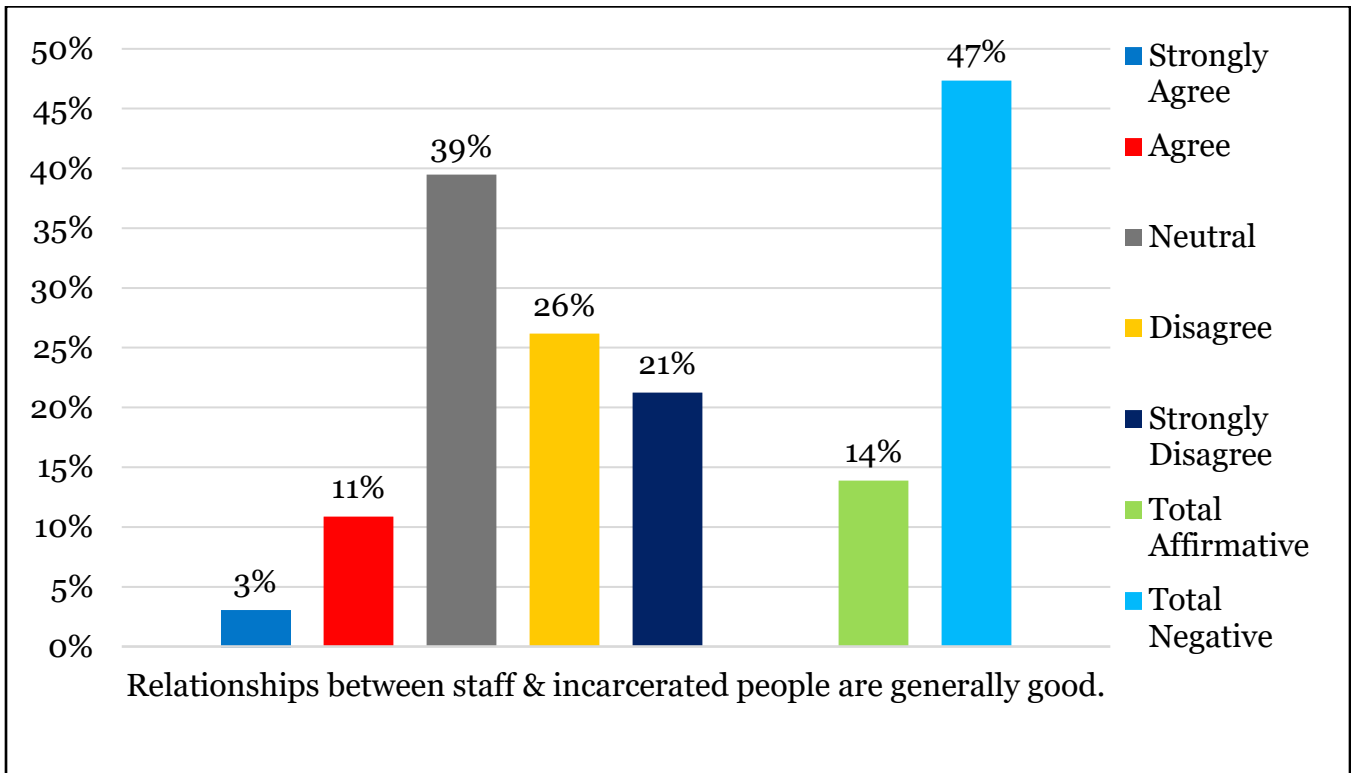
Charts: MQPL Dimensions²

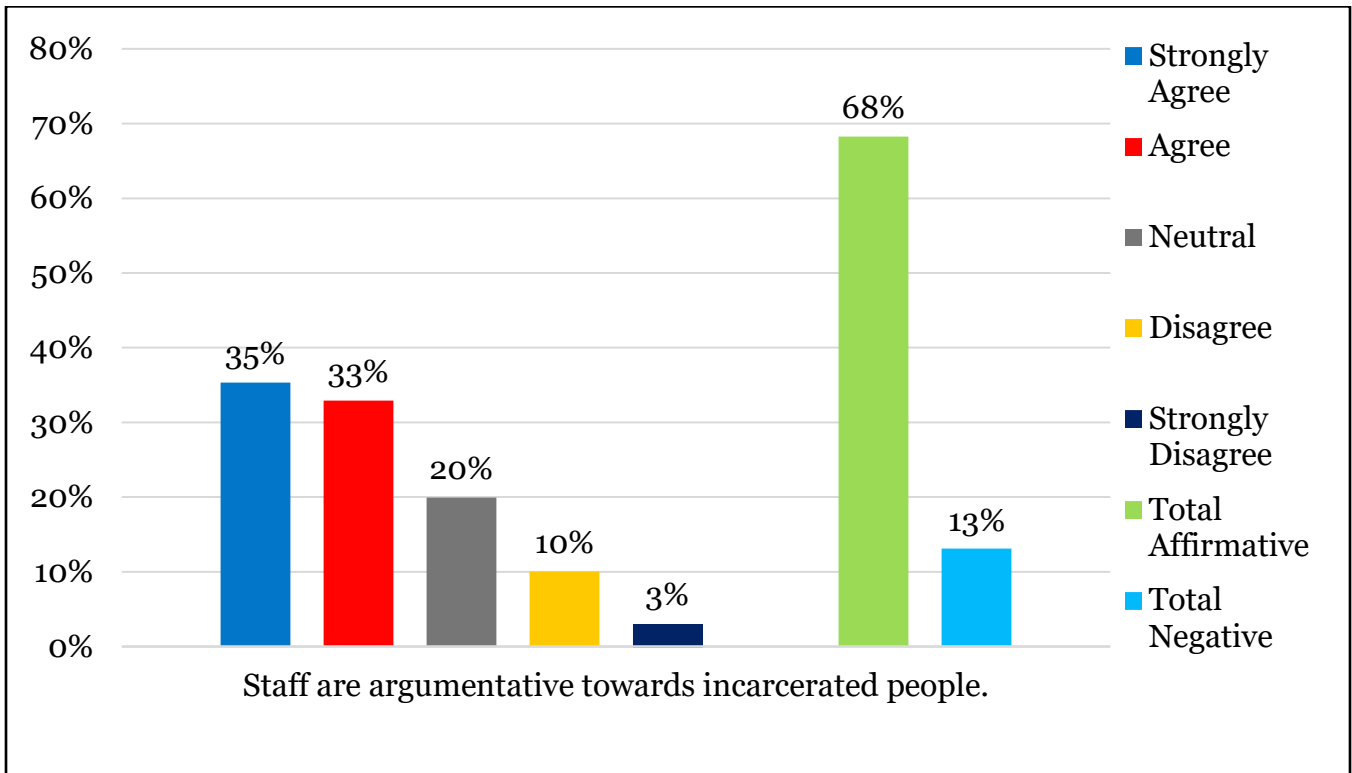
Harmony

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

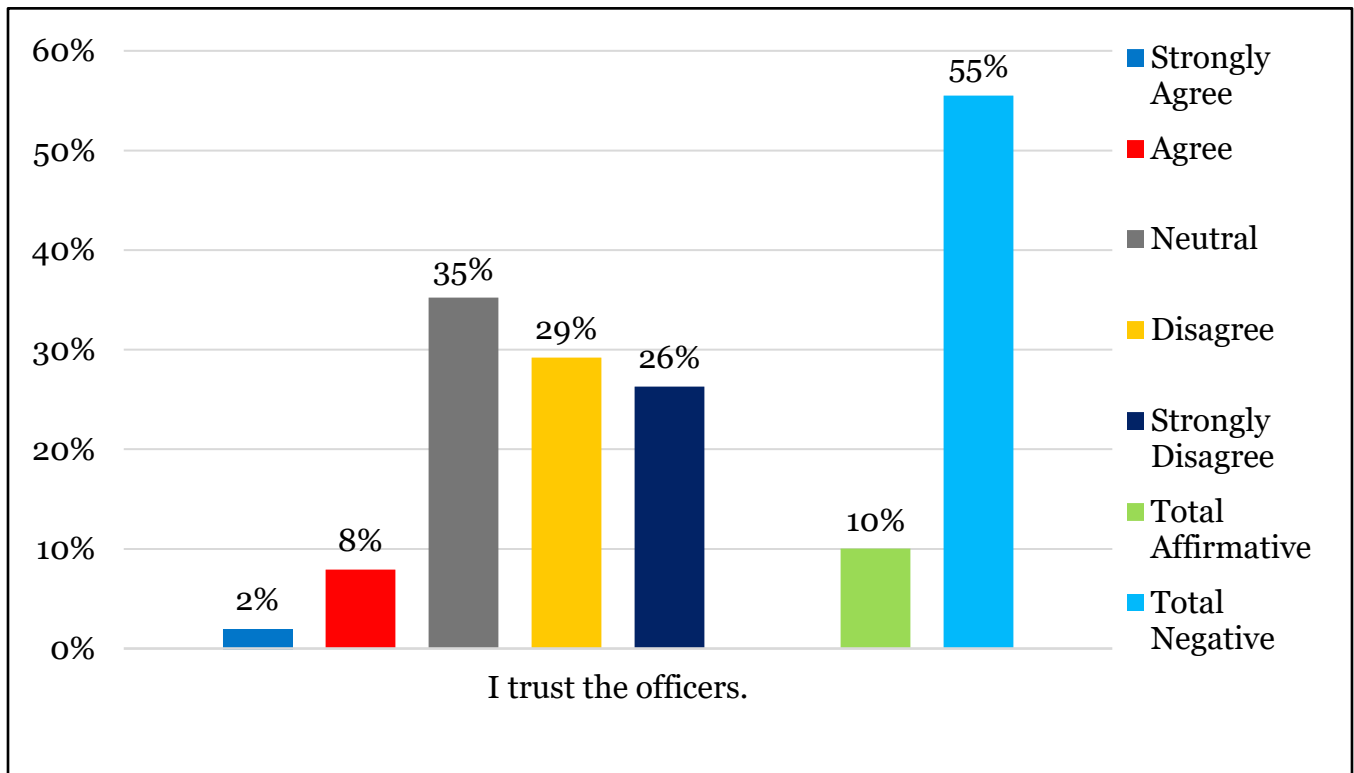
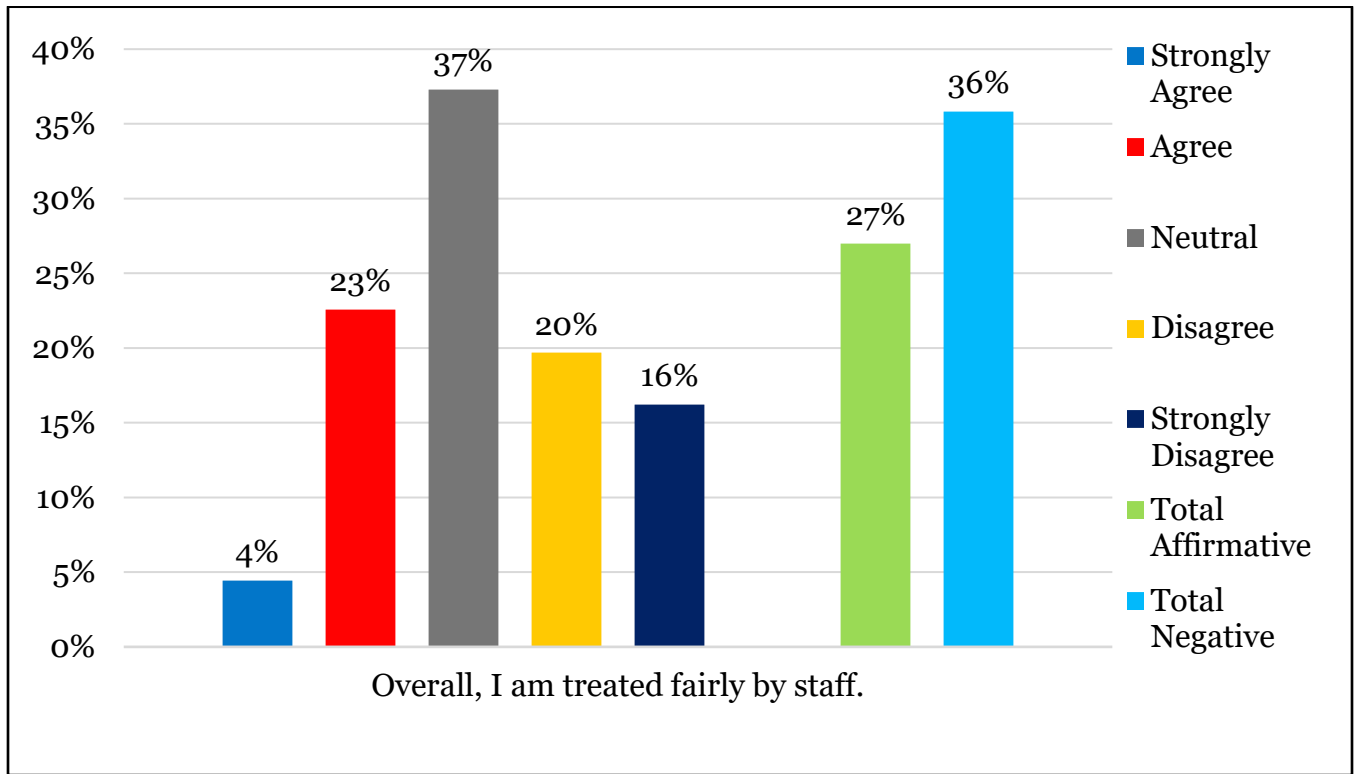


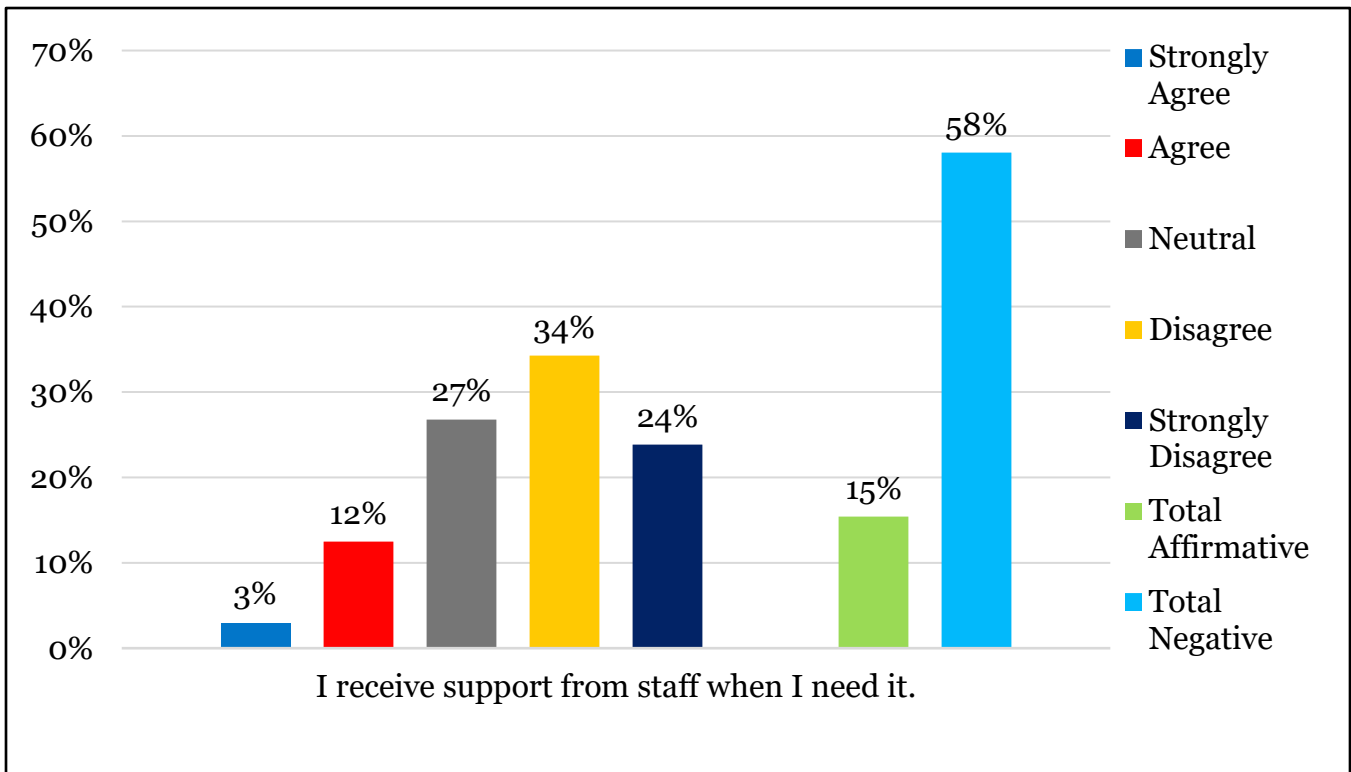
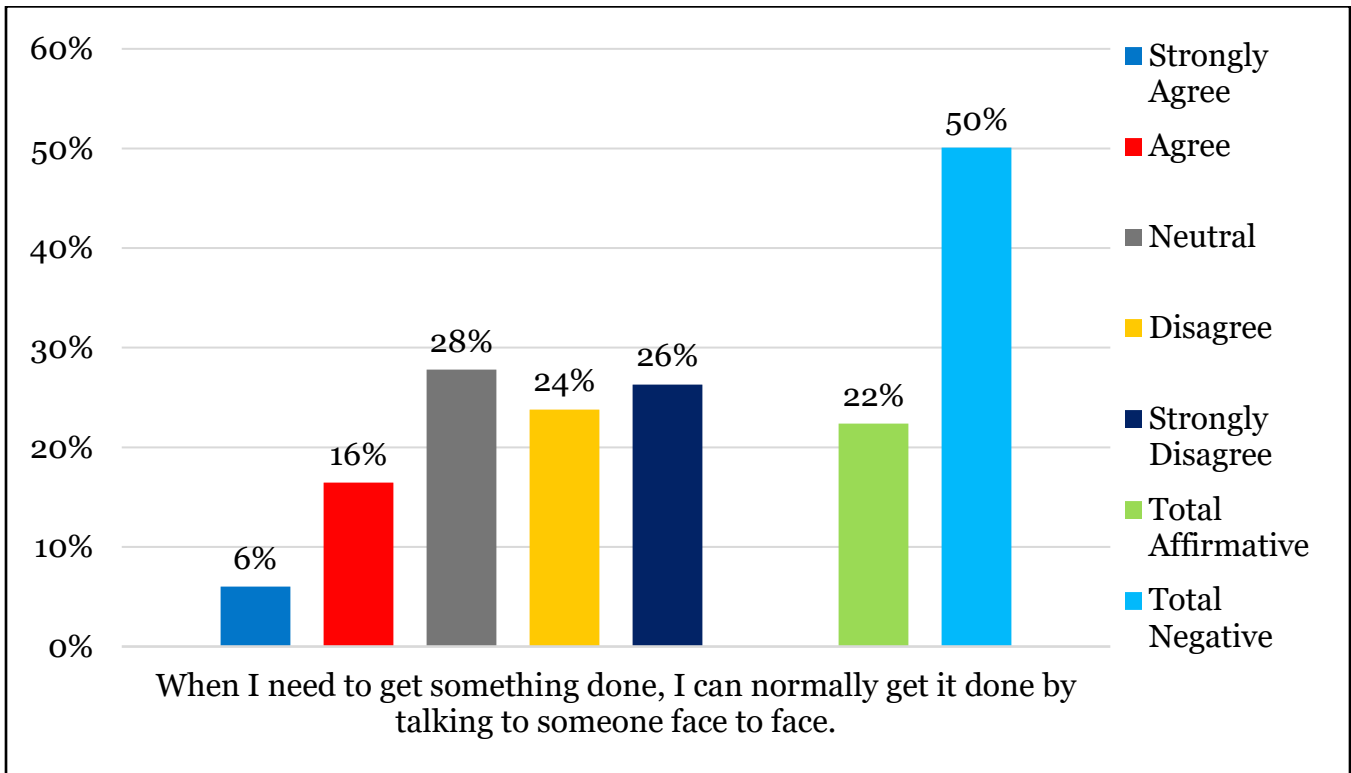
² "Total Affirmative" combines "Strongly Agree" and "Agree." "Total Negative" combines "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree." Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of responses per question.



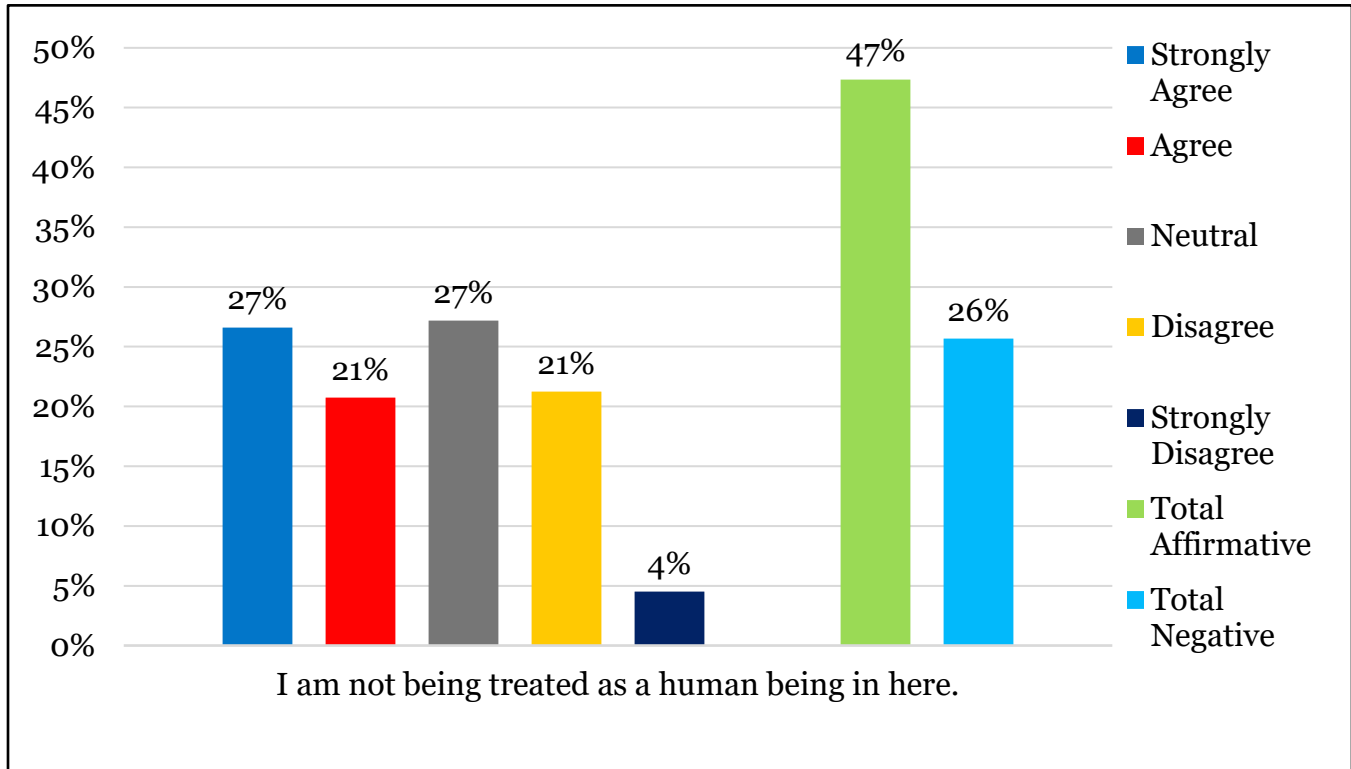
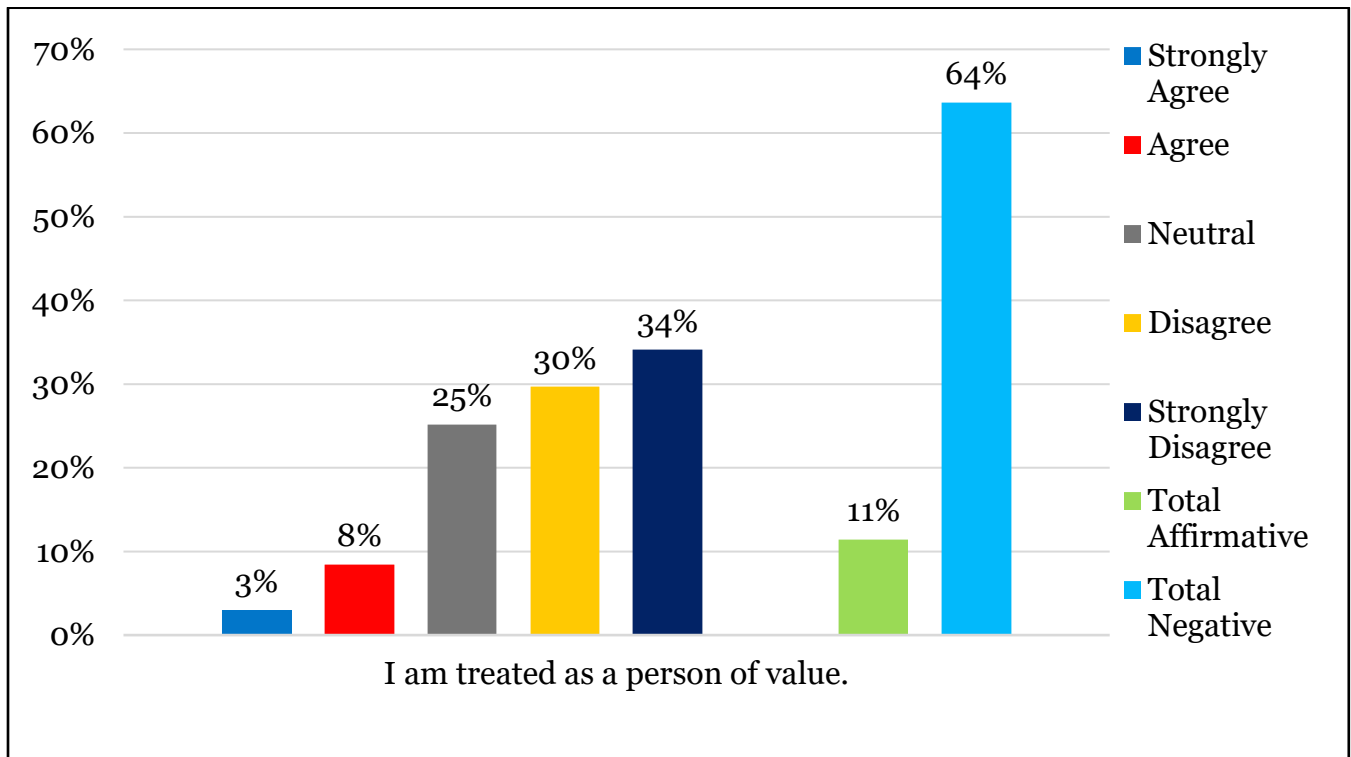


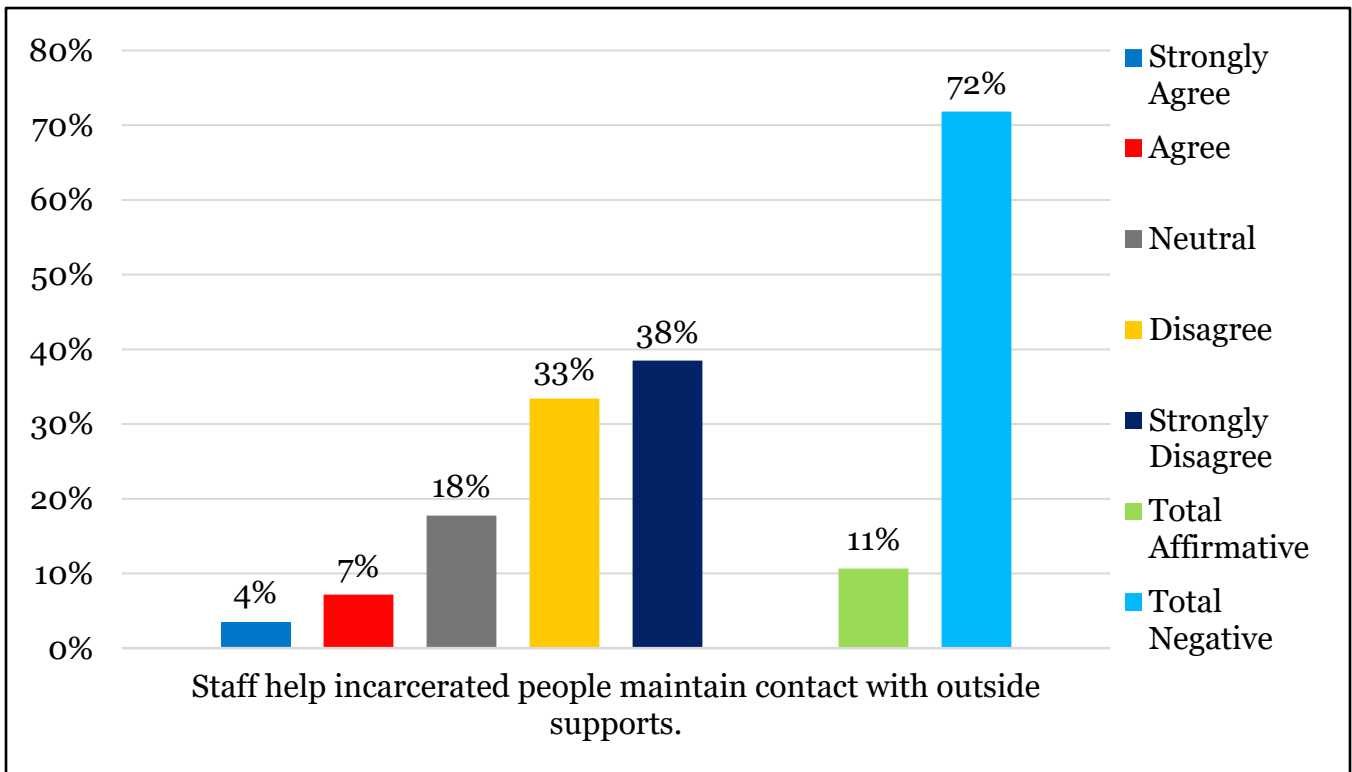
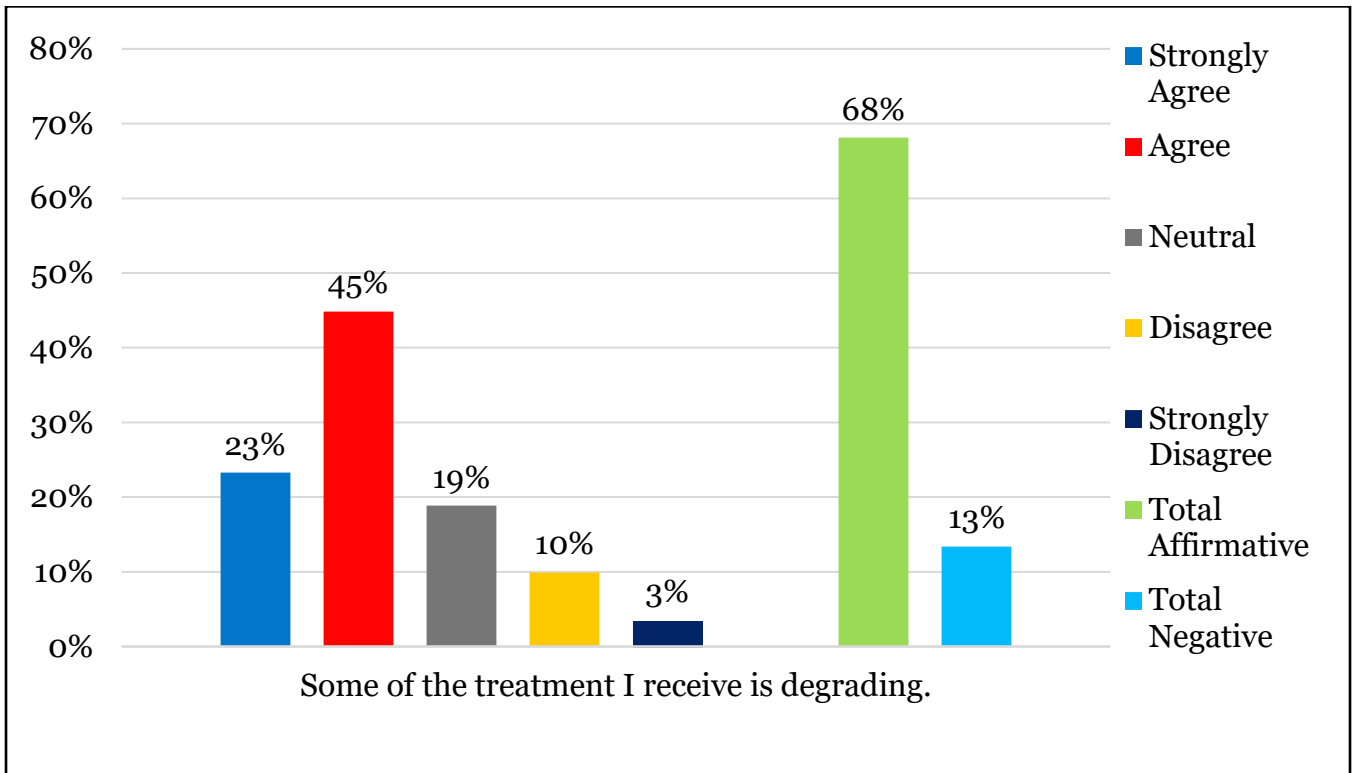
STAFF-INCARCERATED PEOPLE RELATIONSHIPS – TRUSTING, FAIR AND SUPPORTIVE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN STAFF AND INCARCERATED PEOPLE



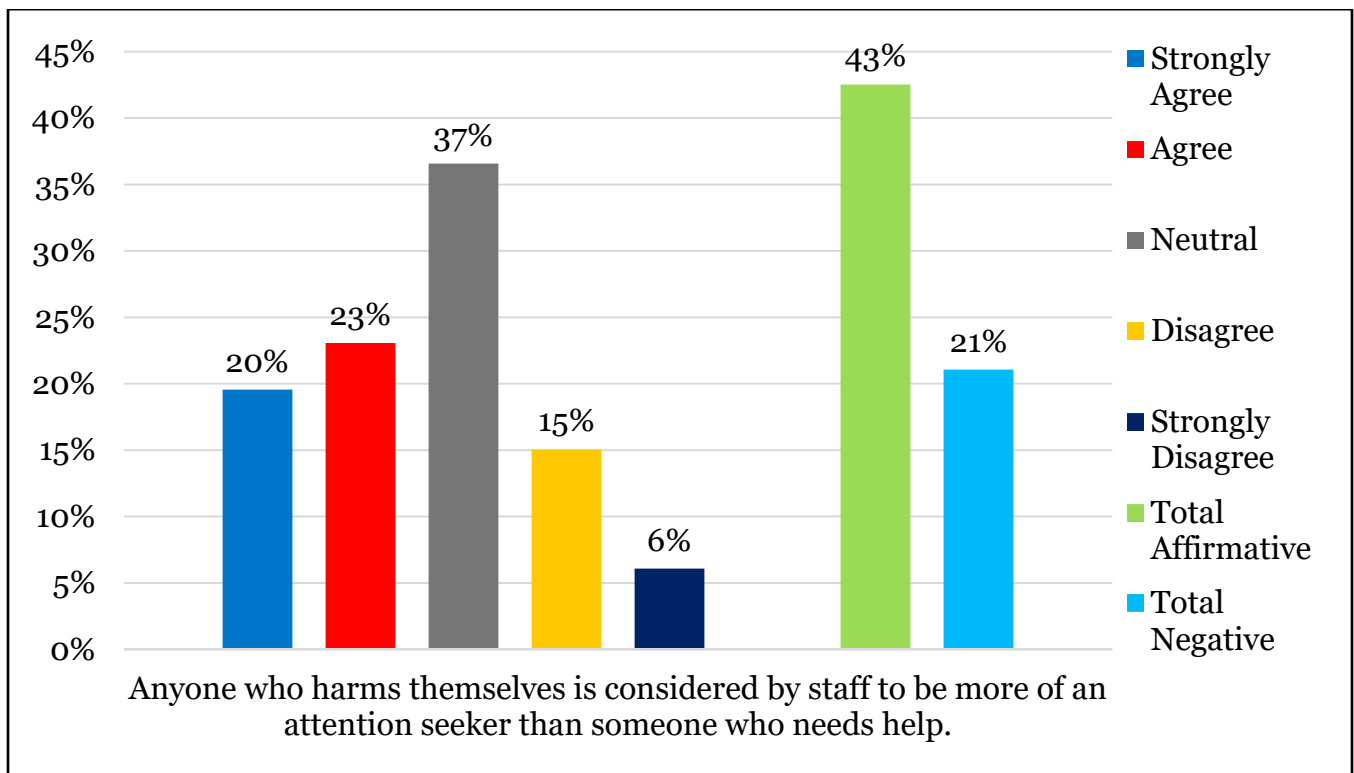
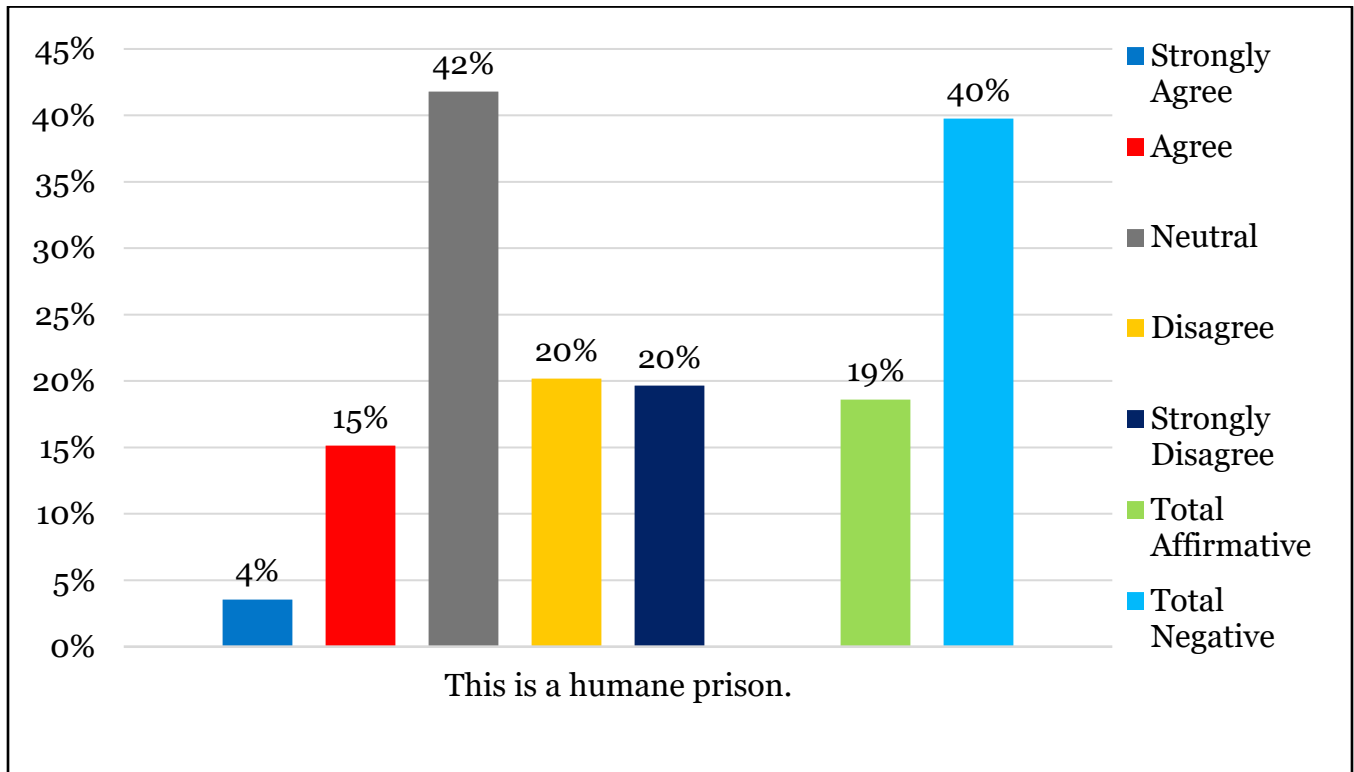


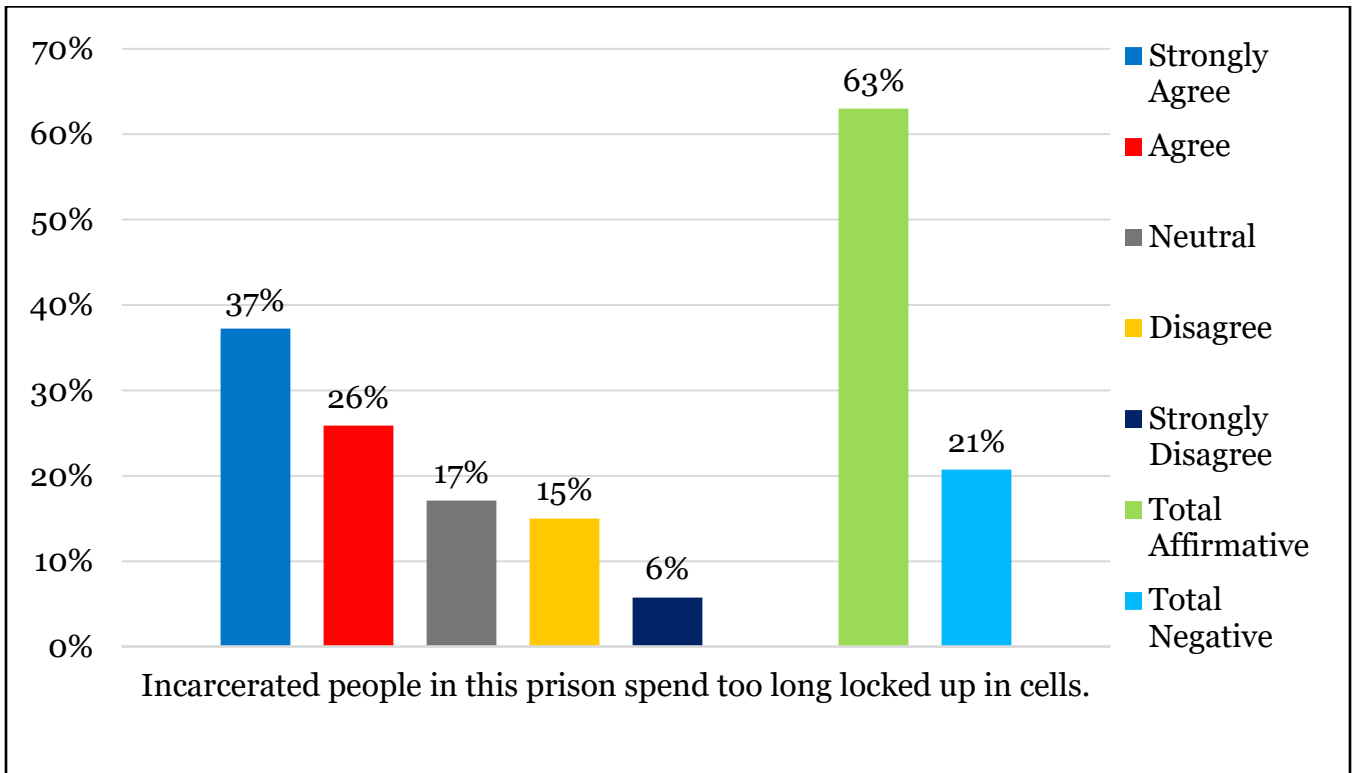
HUMANITY – AN ENVIRONMENT CHARACTERIZED BY KIND REGARD AND CONCERN FOR THE PERSON, WHICH RECOGNIZES THE VALUE AND HUMANITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL



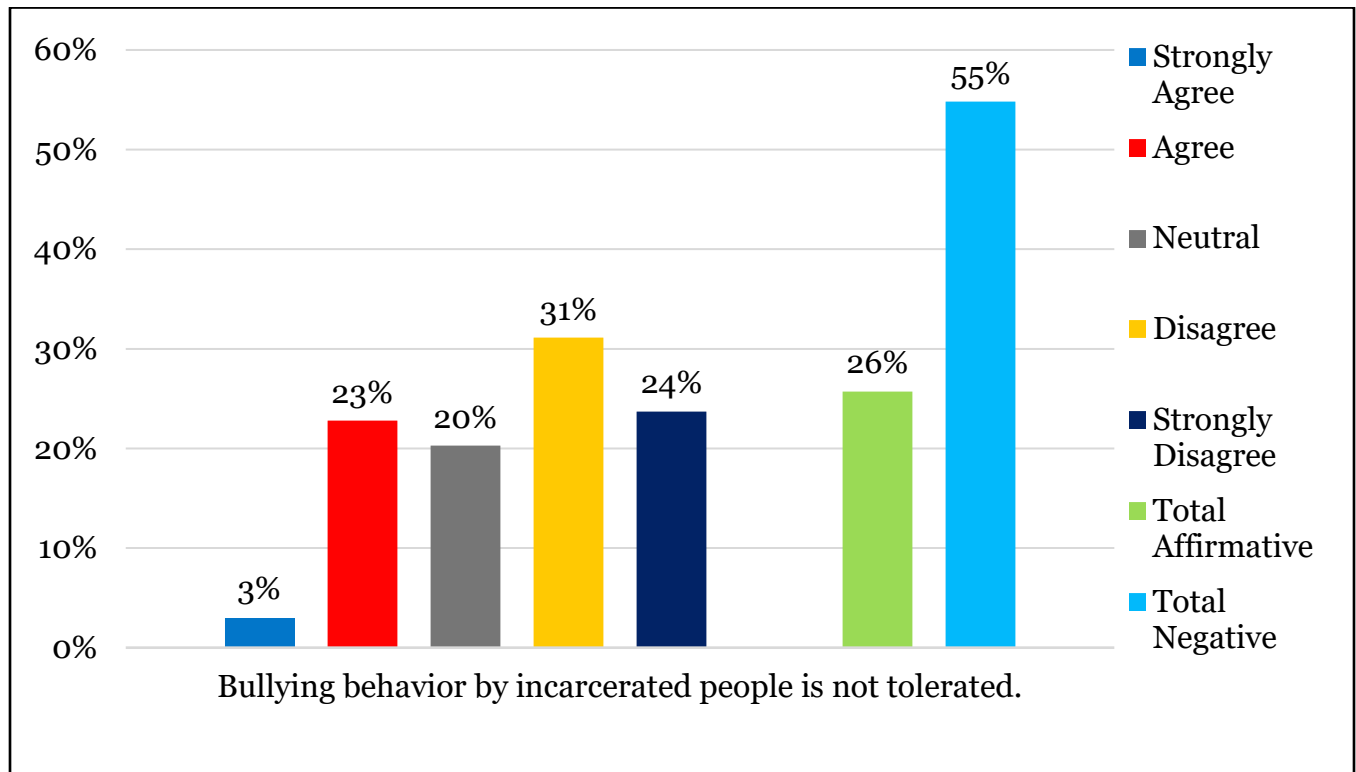


DECENCY - THE EXTENT TO WHICH STAFF AND THE REGIME ARE CONSIDERED REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE

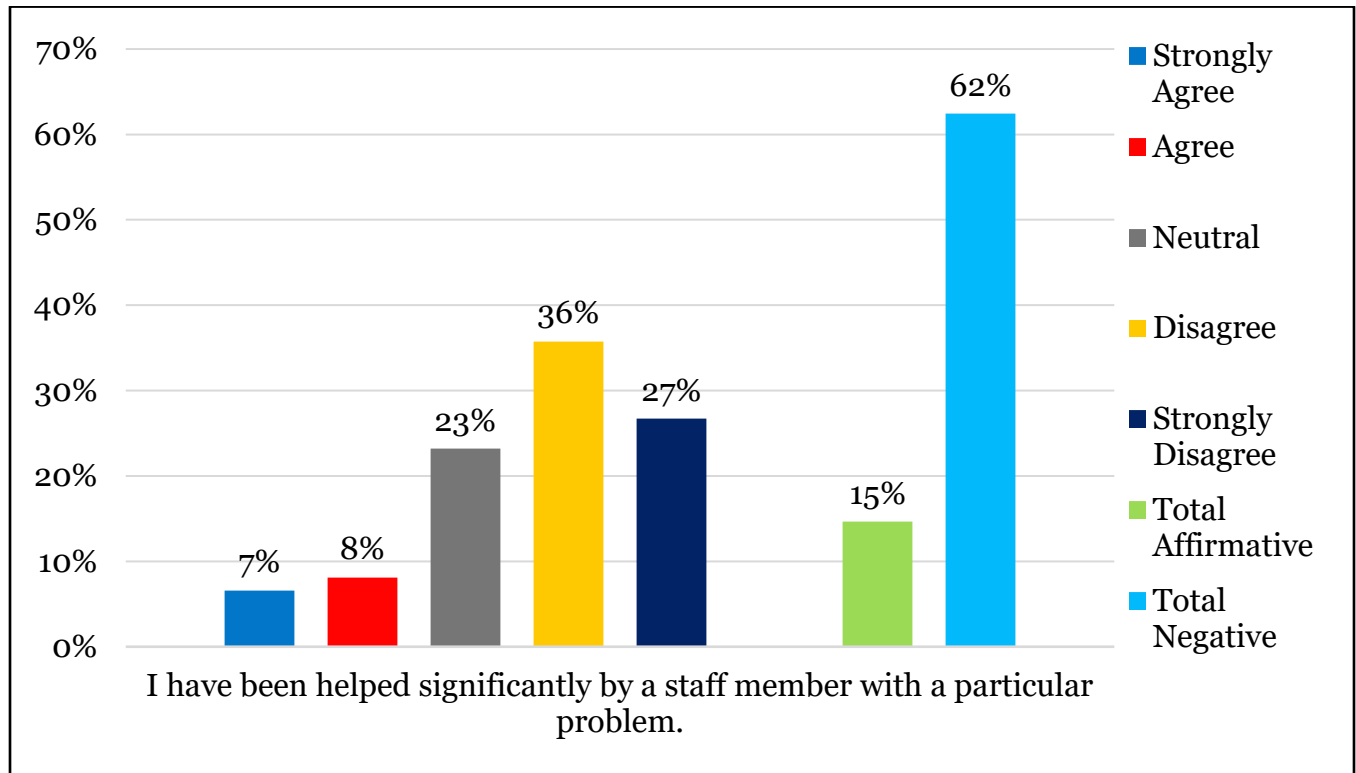




CARE FOR THE VULNERABLE – THE CARE AND SUPPORT PROVIDED TO INCARCERATED PEOPLE AT RISK OF SELF-HARM, SUICIDE OR BULLYING

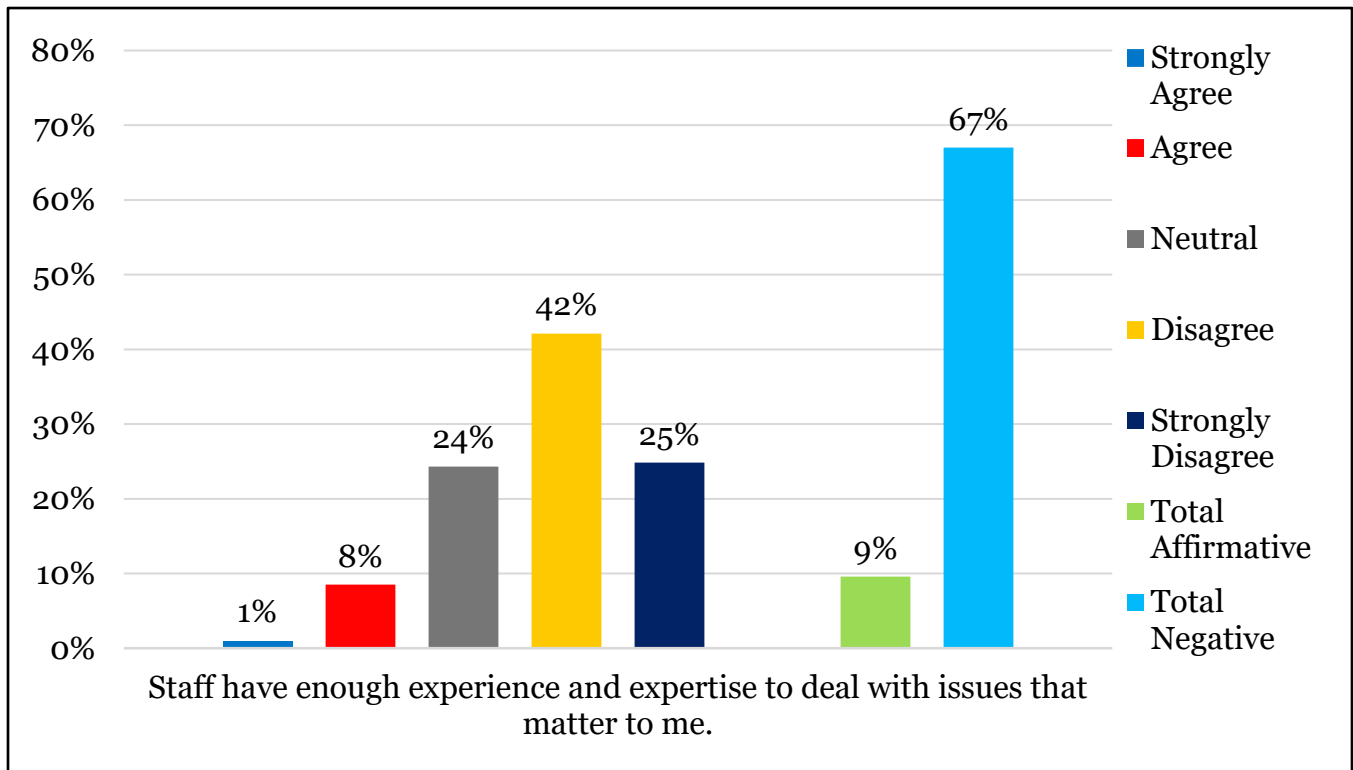
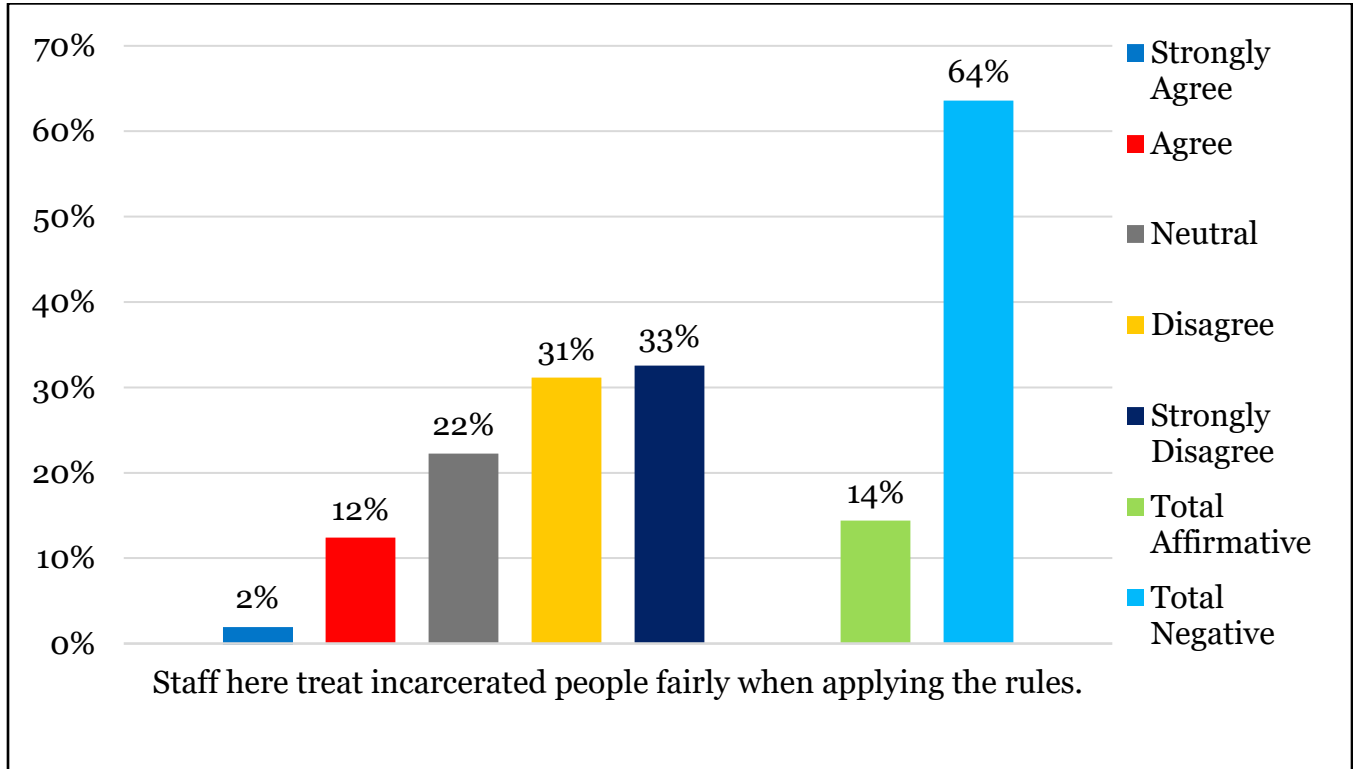


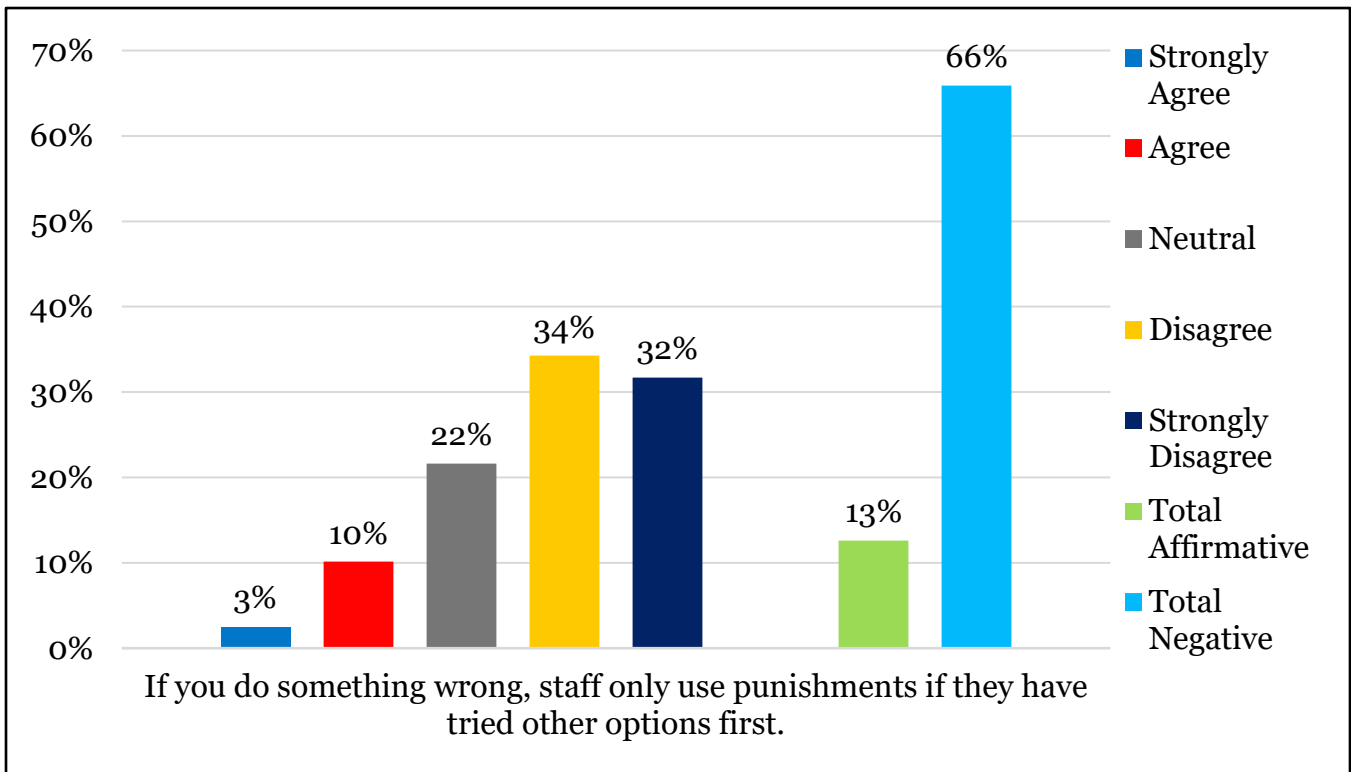
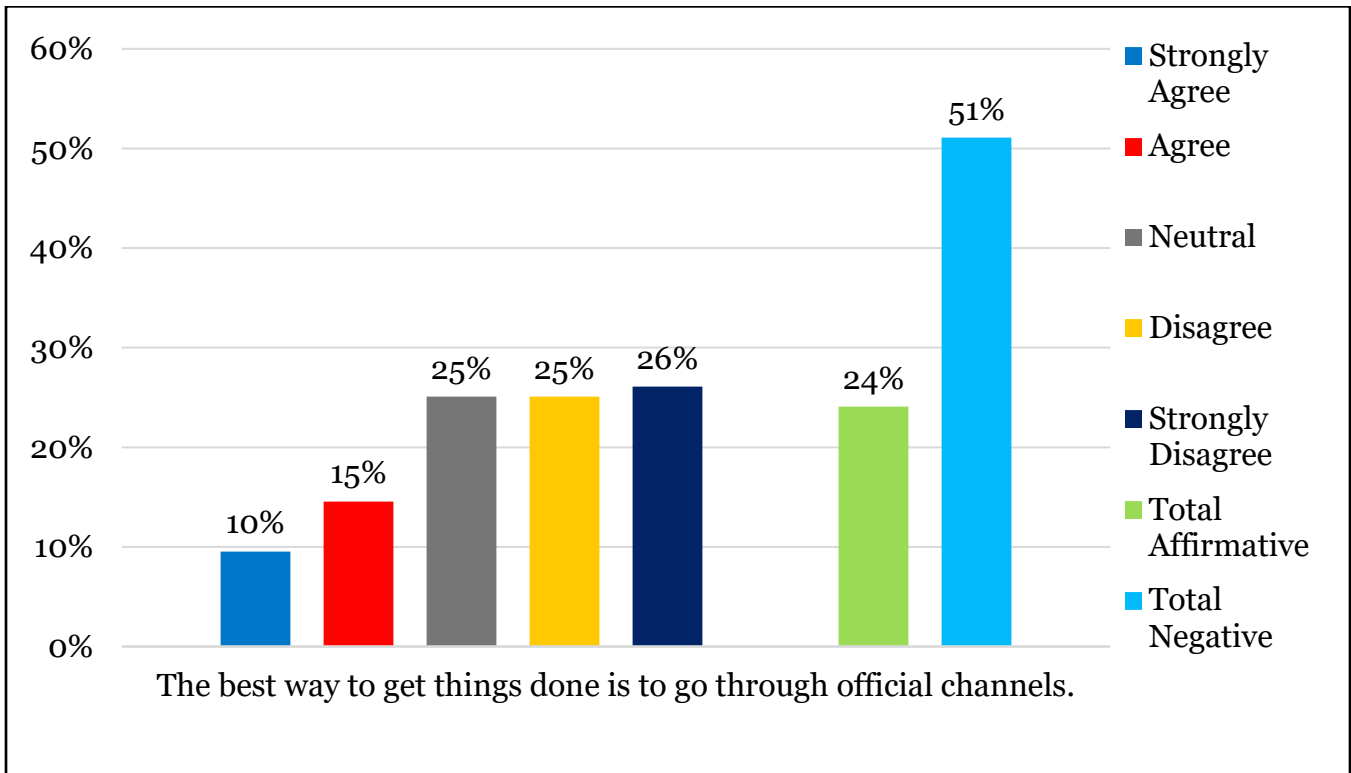
HELP AND ASSISTANCE – SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT GIVEN TO INCARCERATED PEOPLE FOR PROBLEMS INCLUDING DRUGS, HEALTHCARE AND PROGRESSION



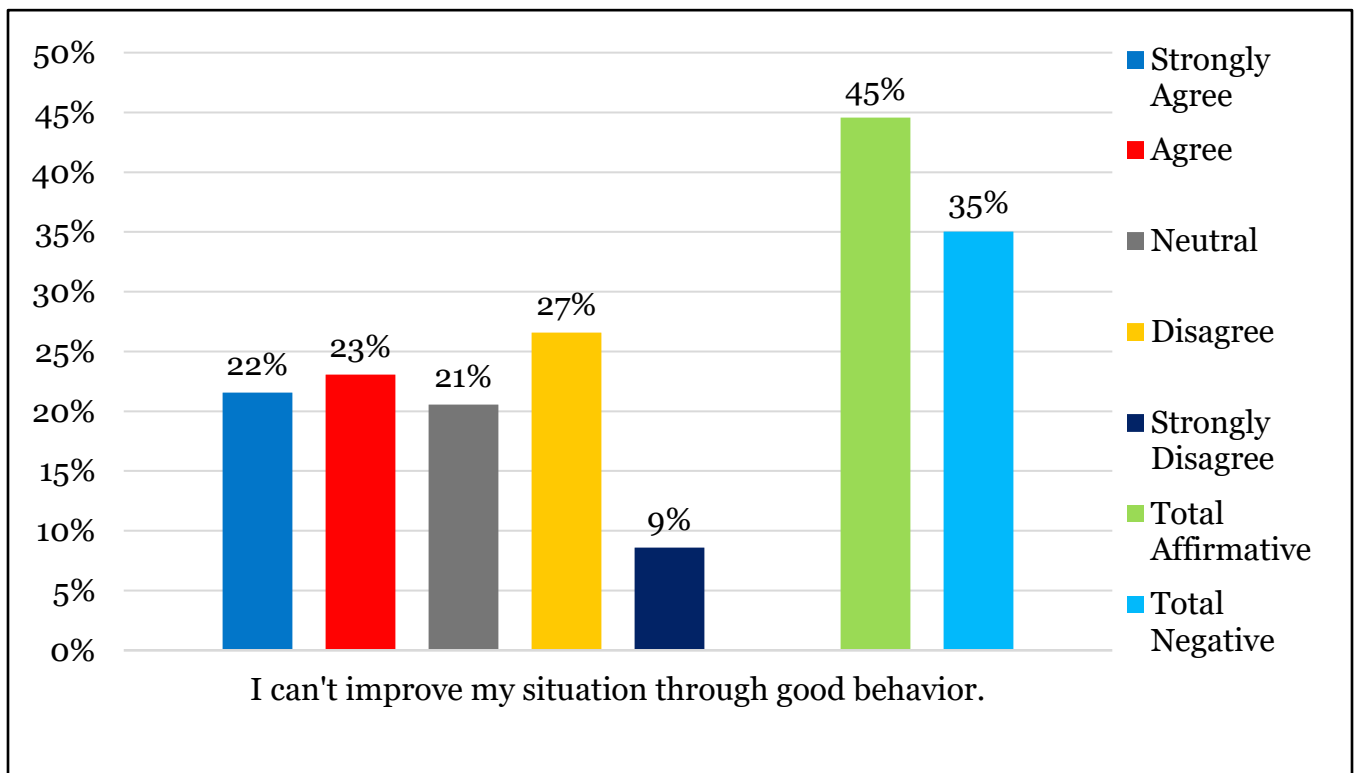
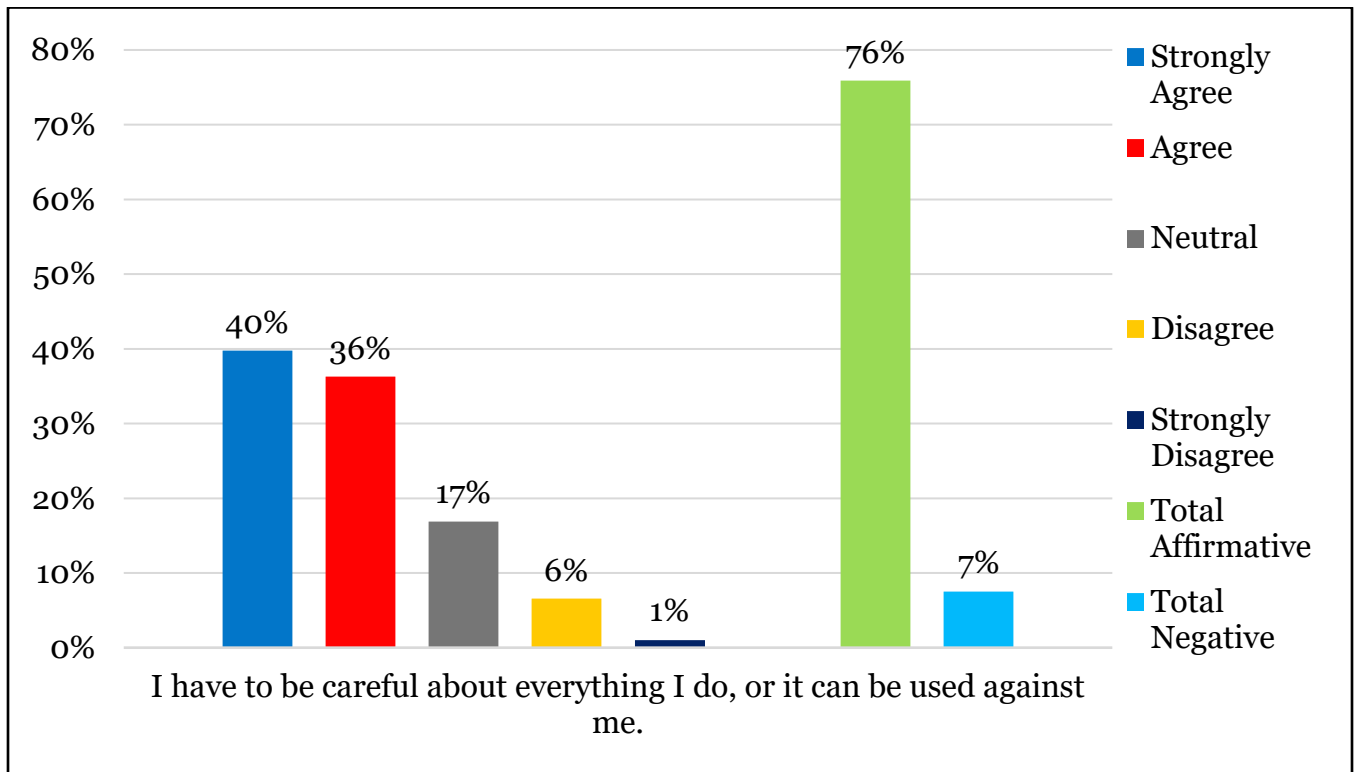
Professionalism

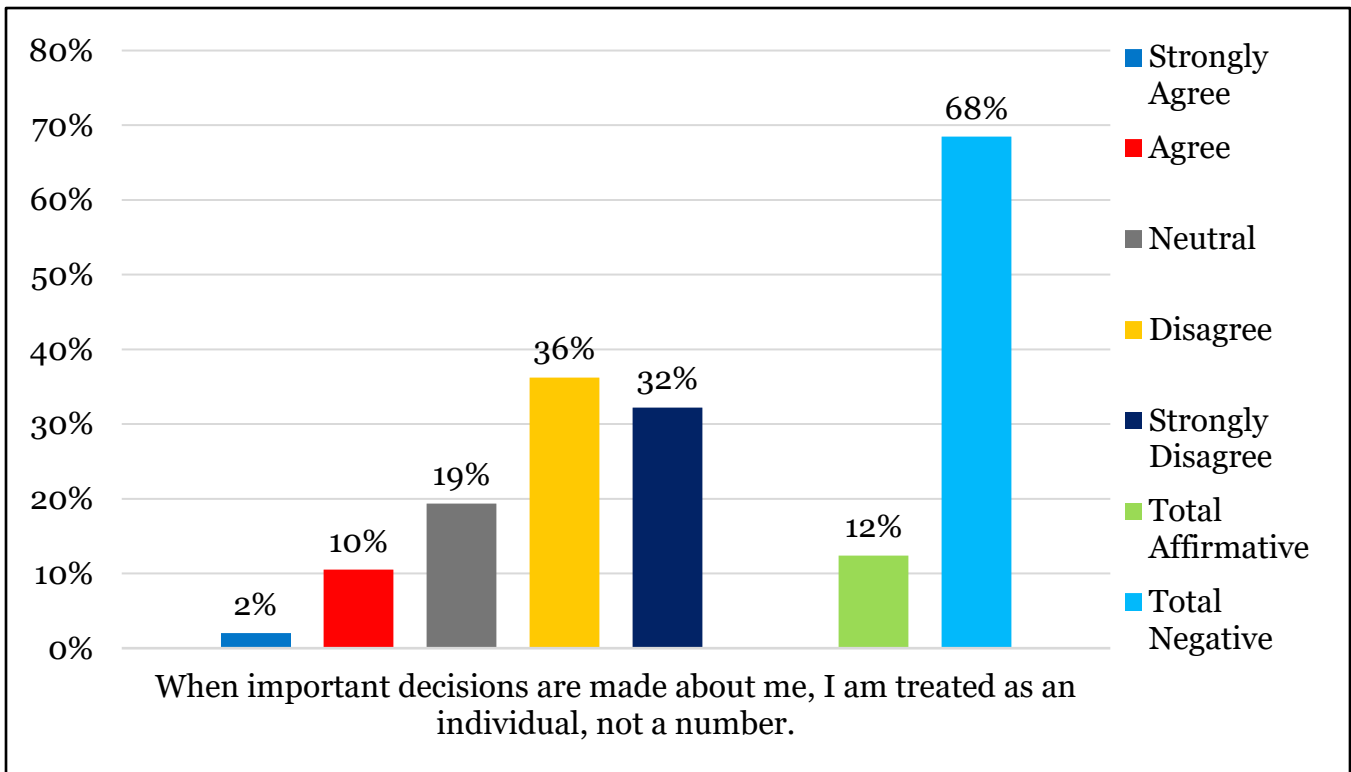
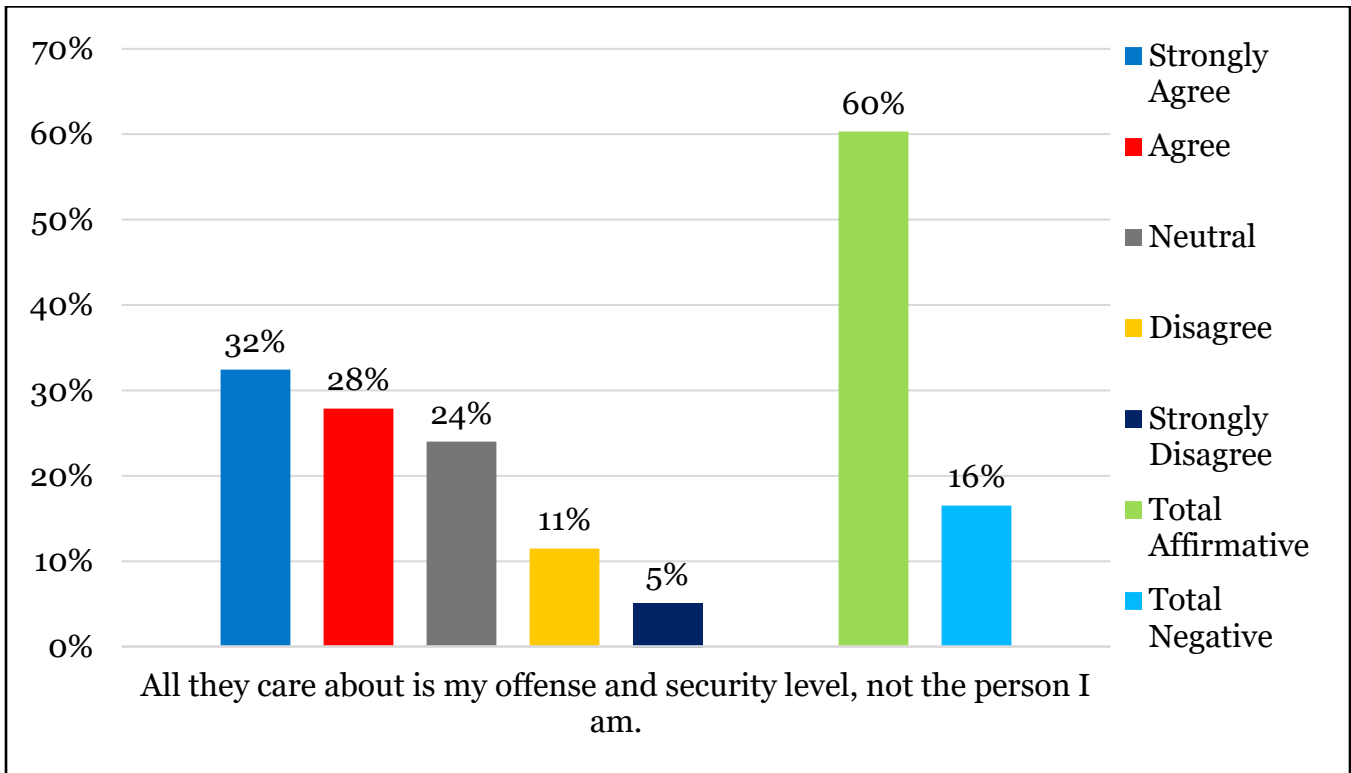
PROFESSIONALISM – STAFF CONFIDENCE AND COMPETENCE IN THE USE OF AUTHORITY

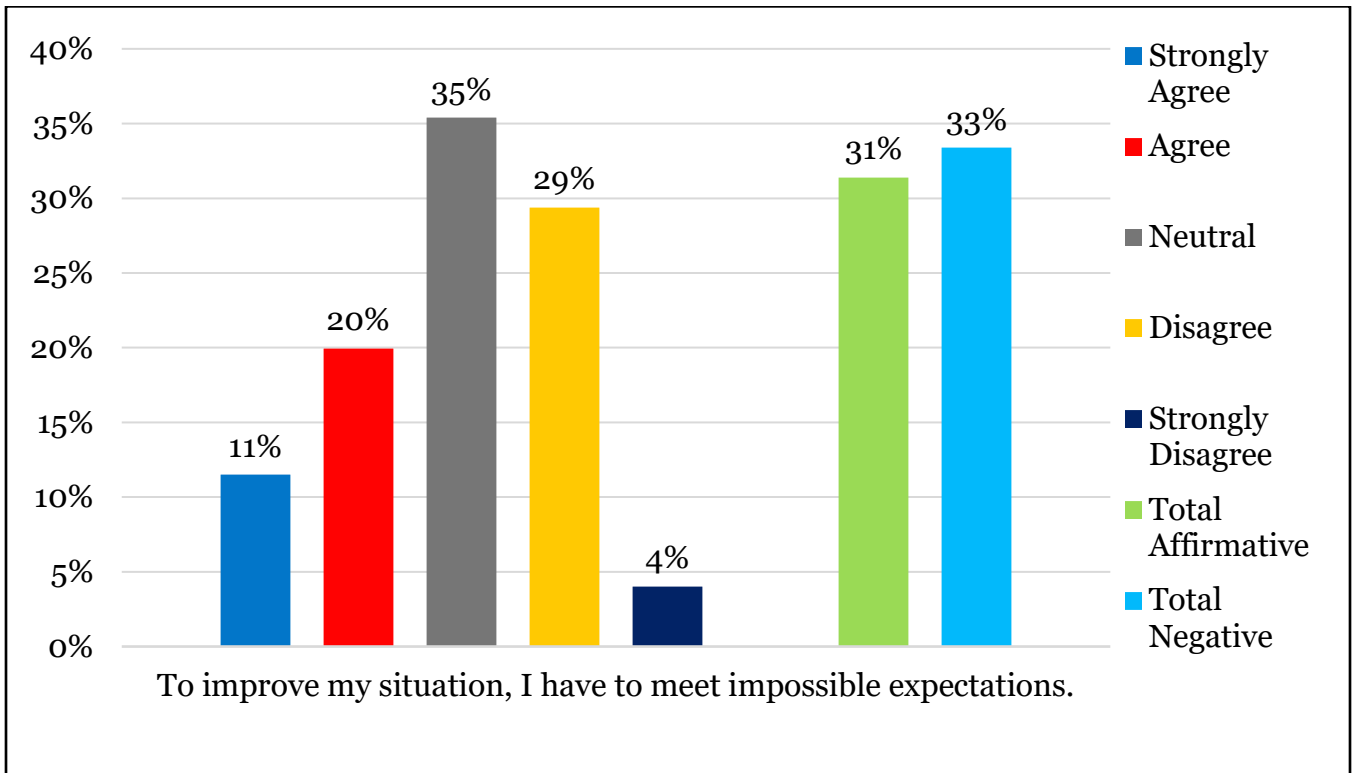




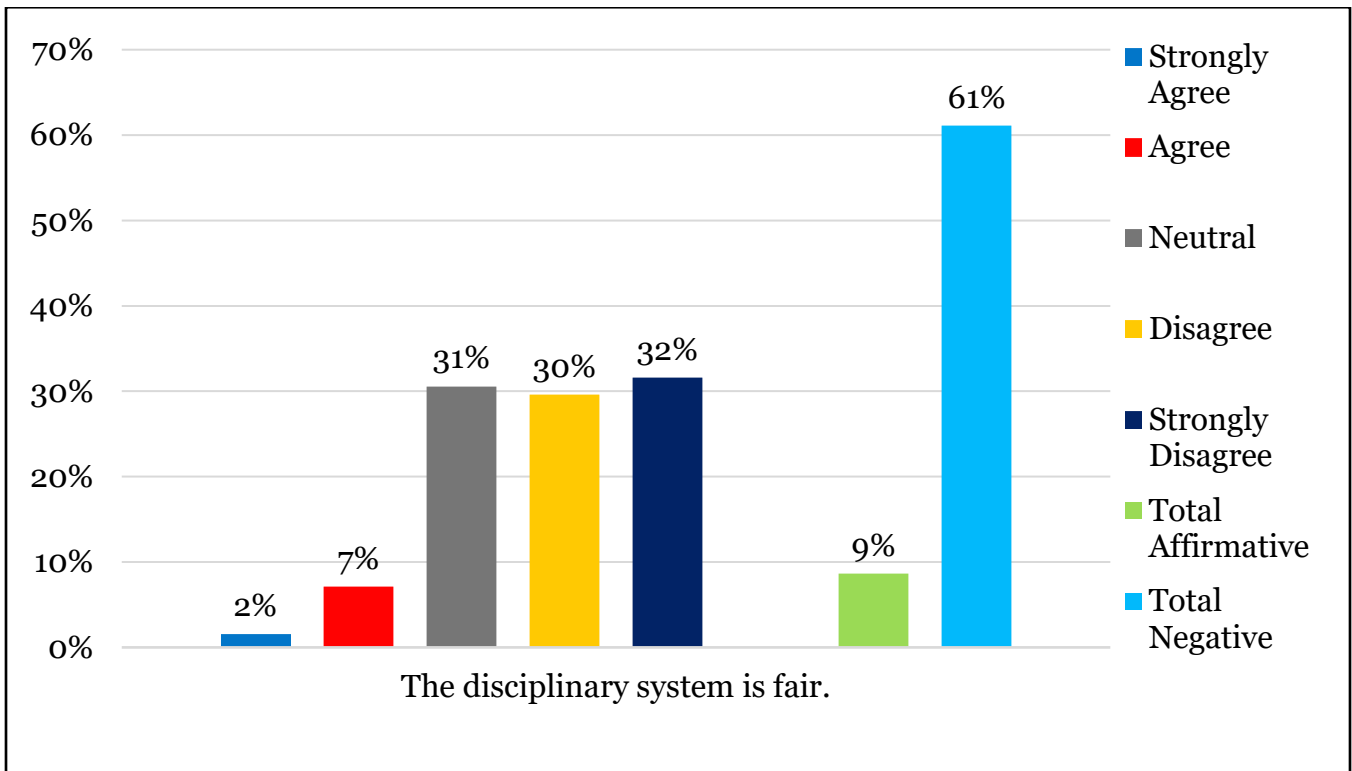
BUREAUCRATIC LEGITIMACY – THE TRANSPARENCY AND RESPONSIVENESS OF THE PRISON/PRISON SYSTEM AND ITS MORAL RECOGNITION OF THE INDIVIDUAL

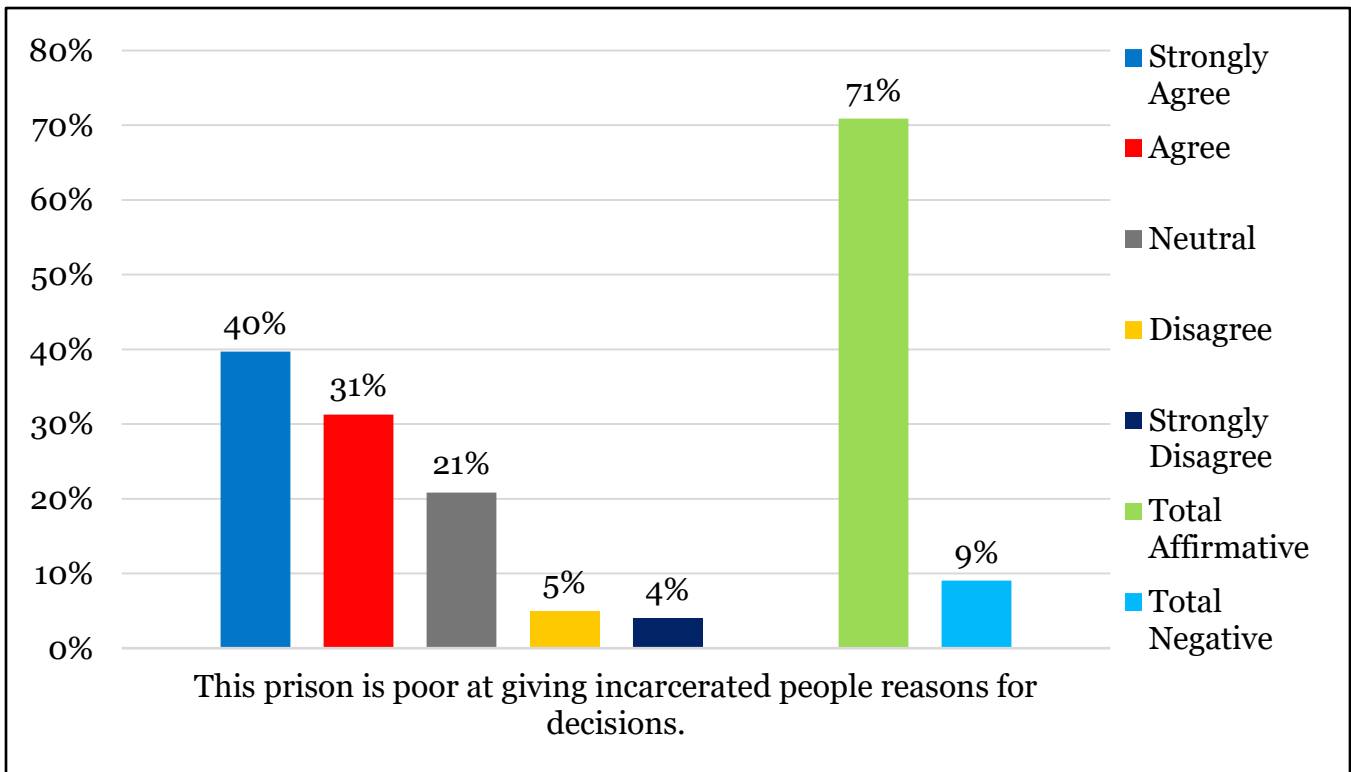
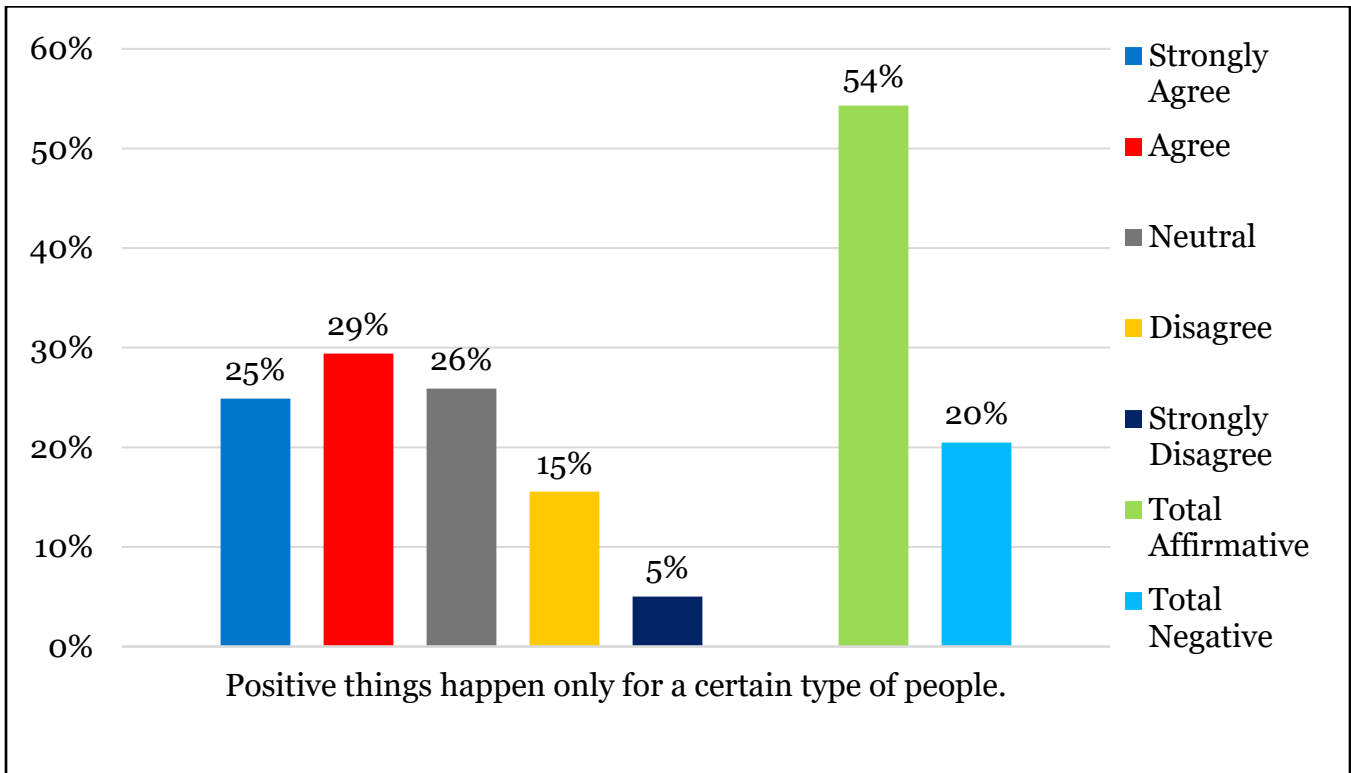




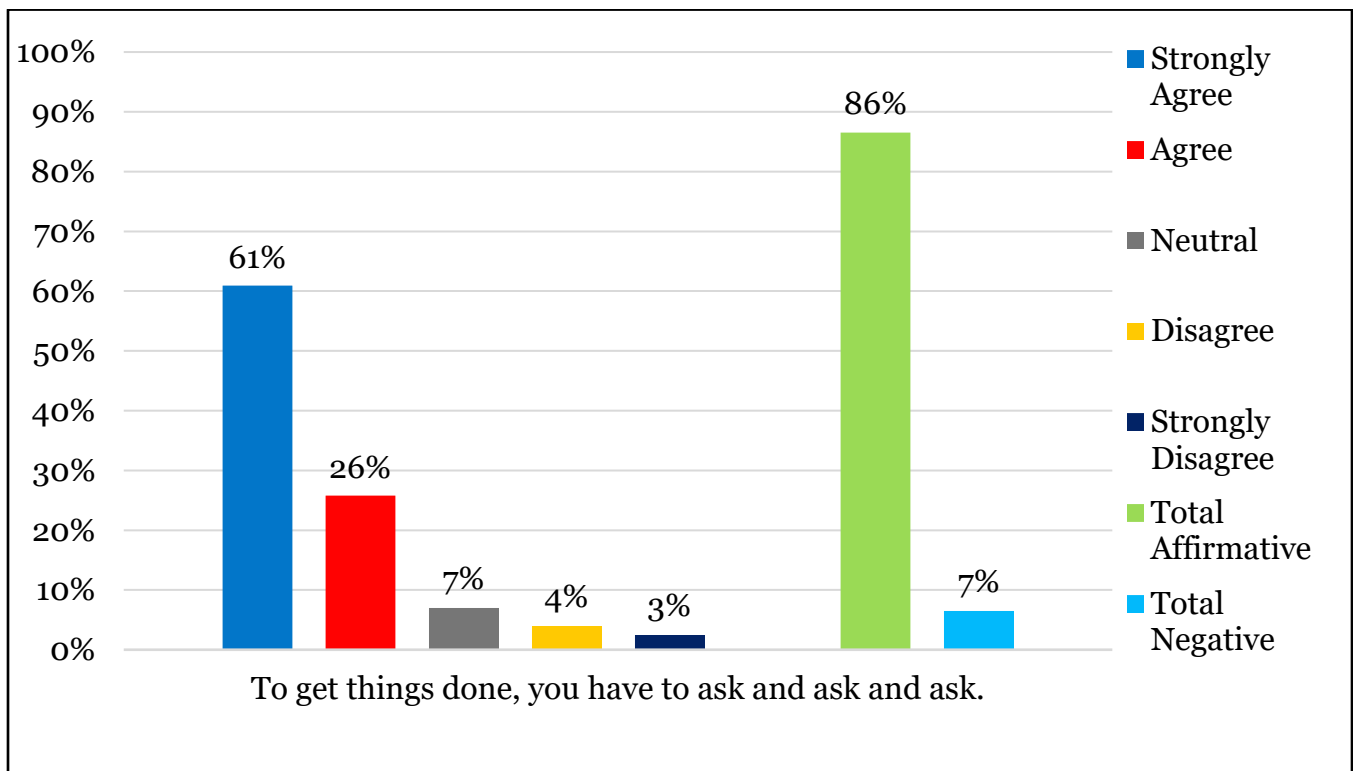
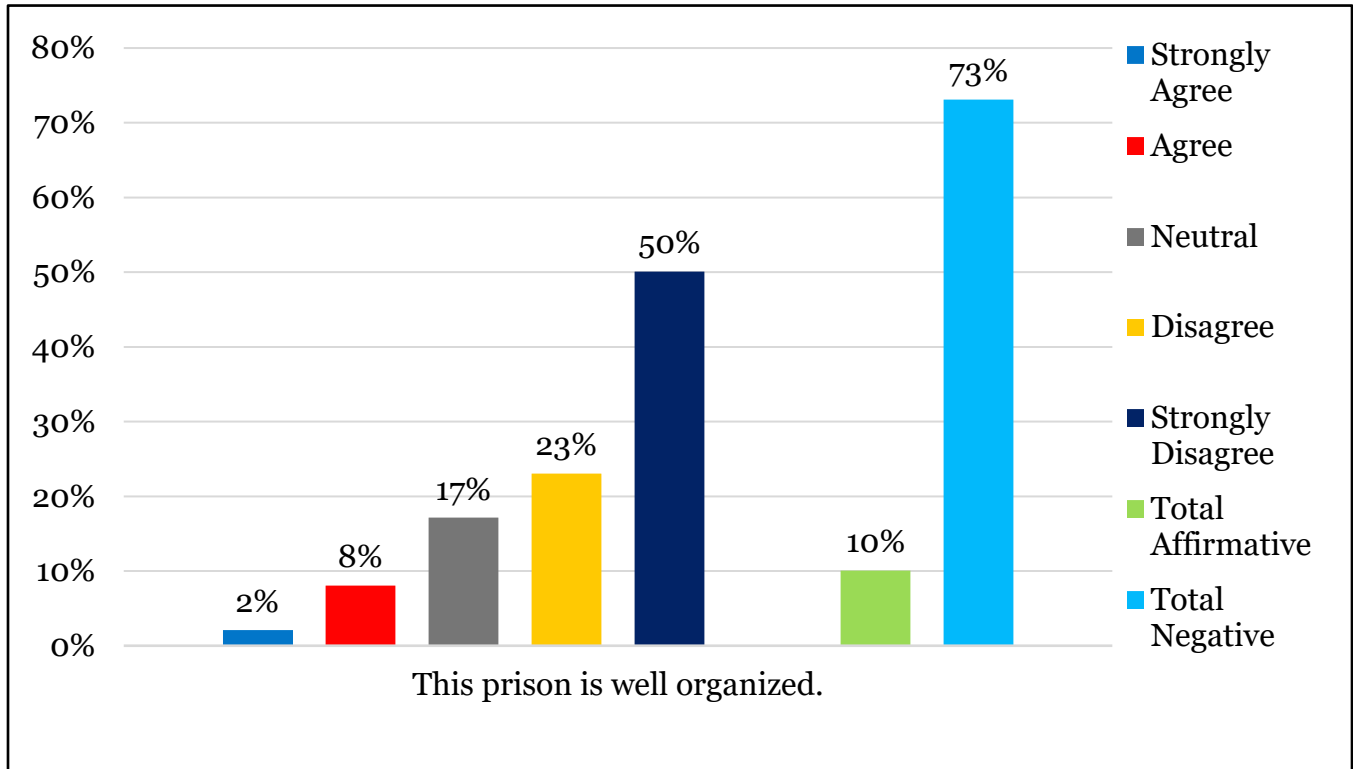


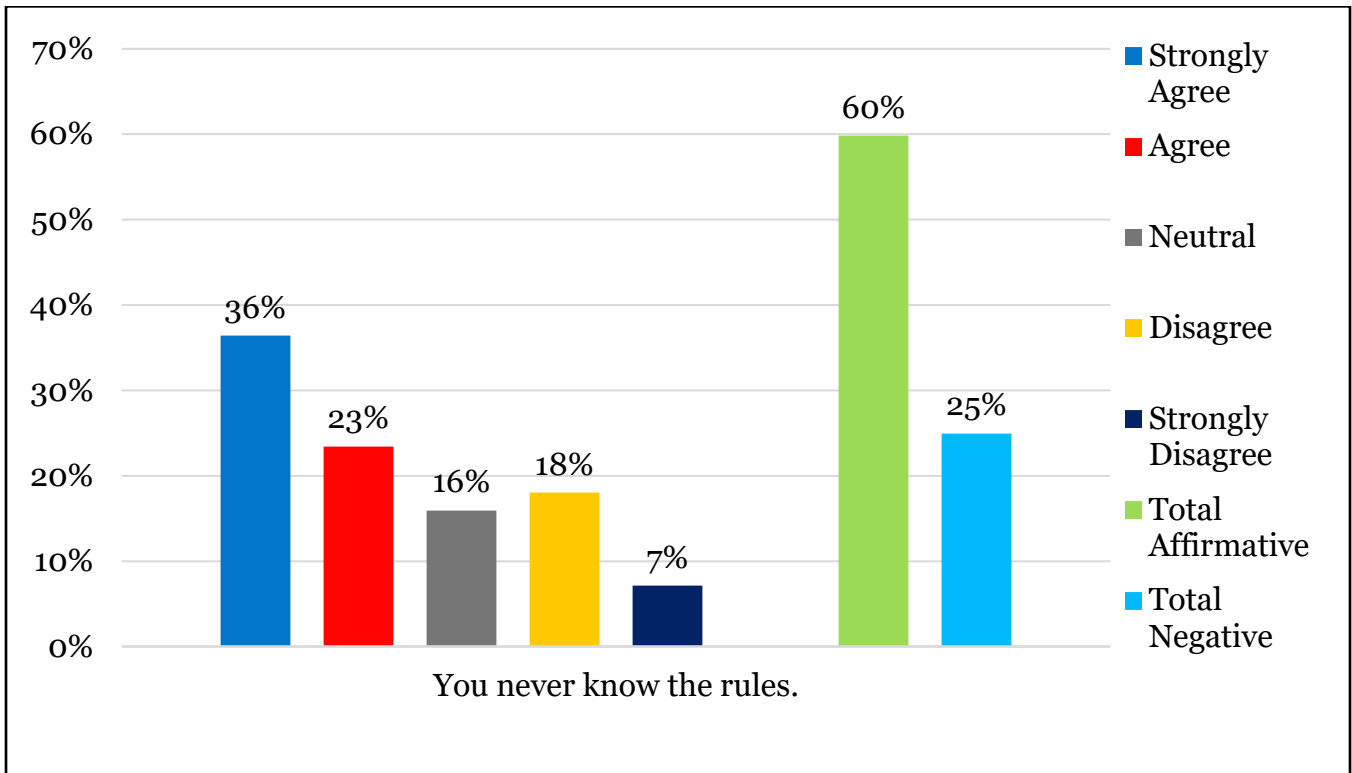
FAIRNESS – THE PERCEIVED IMPARTIALITY, PROPORTIONALITY AND LEGALITY OF PUNISHMENTS AND PROCEDURES





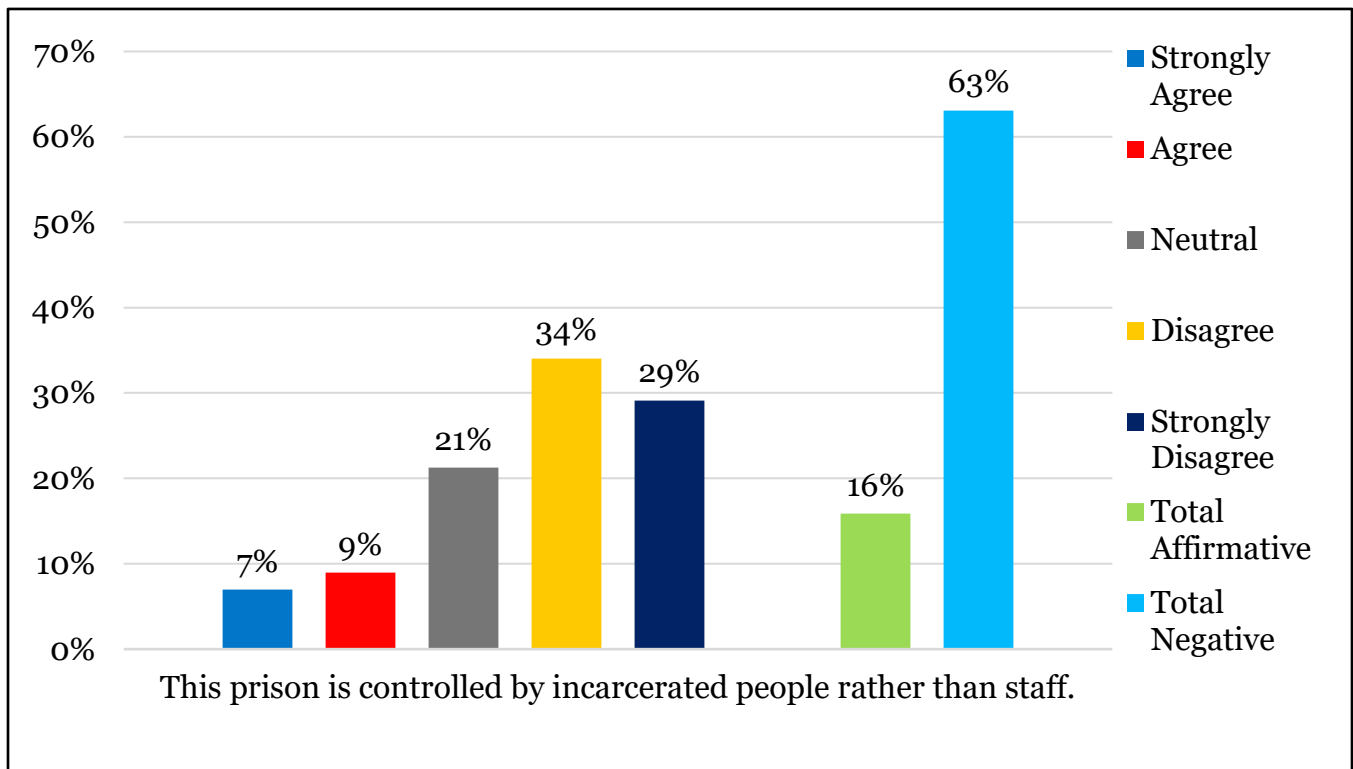
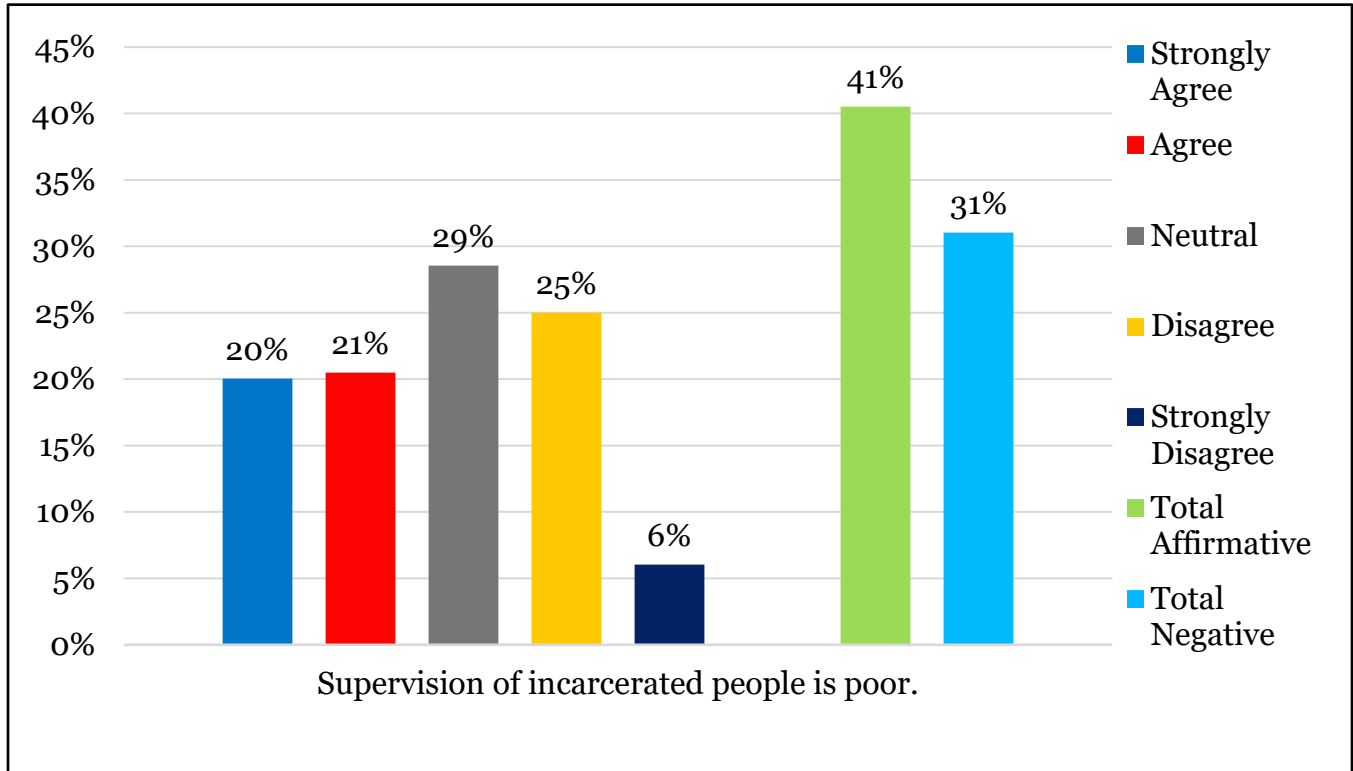
ORGANIZATION AND CONSISTENCY – THE CLARITY, PREDICTABILITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE PRISON

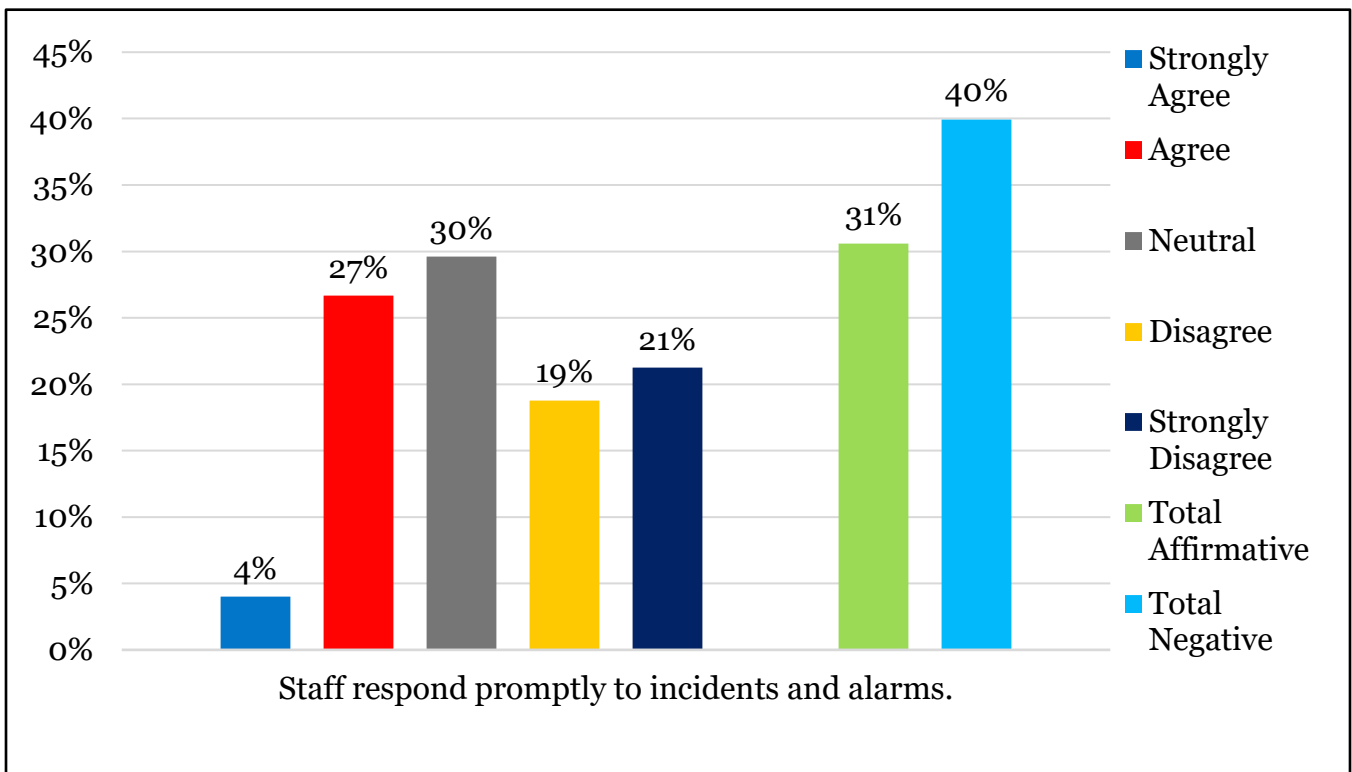
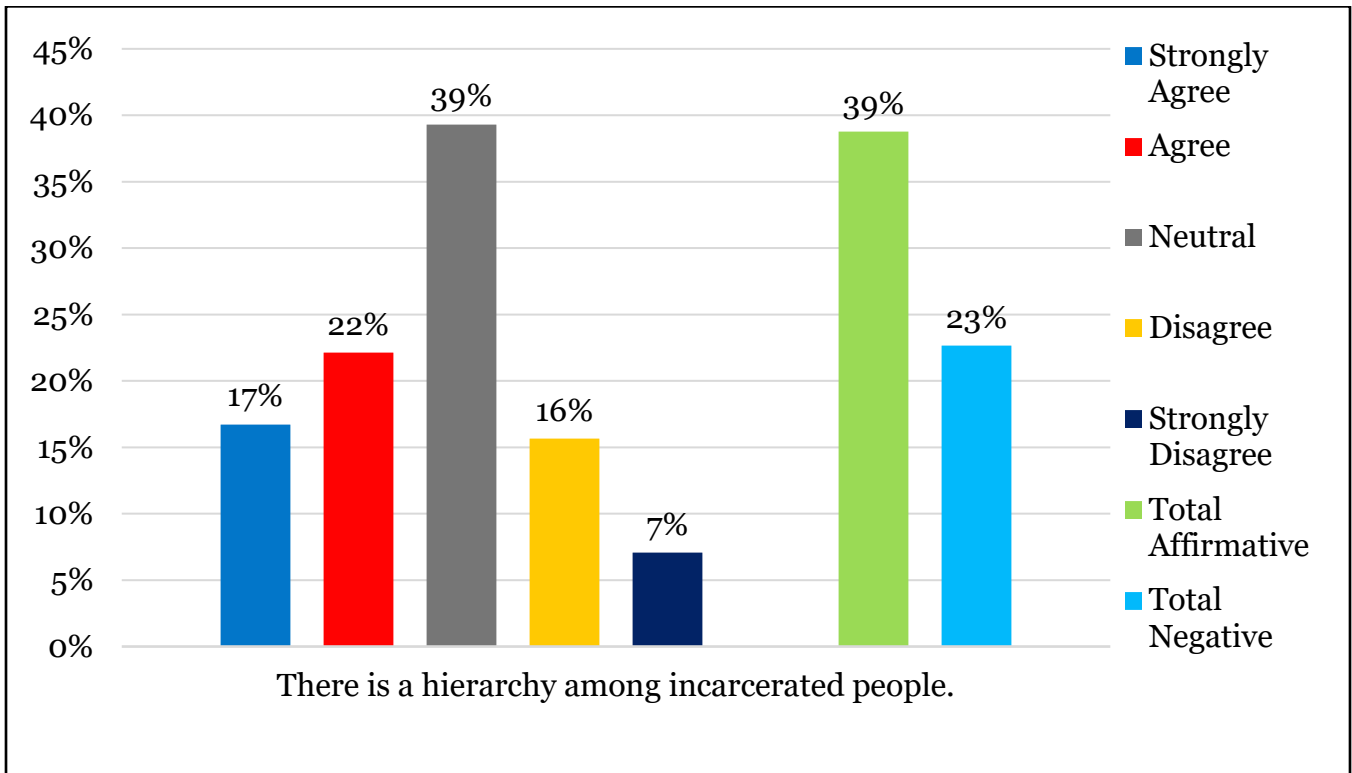




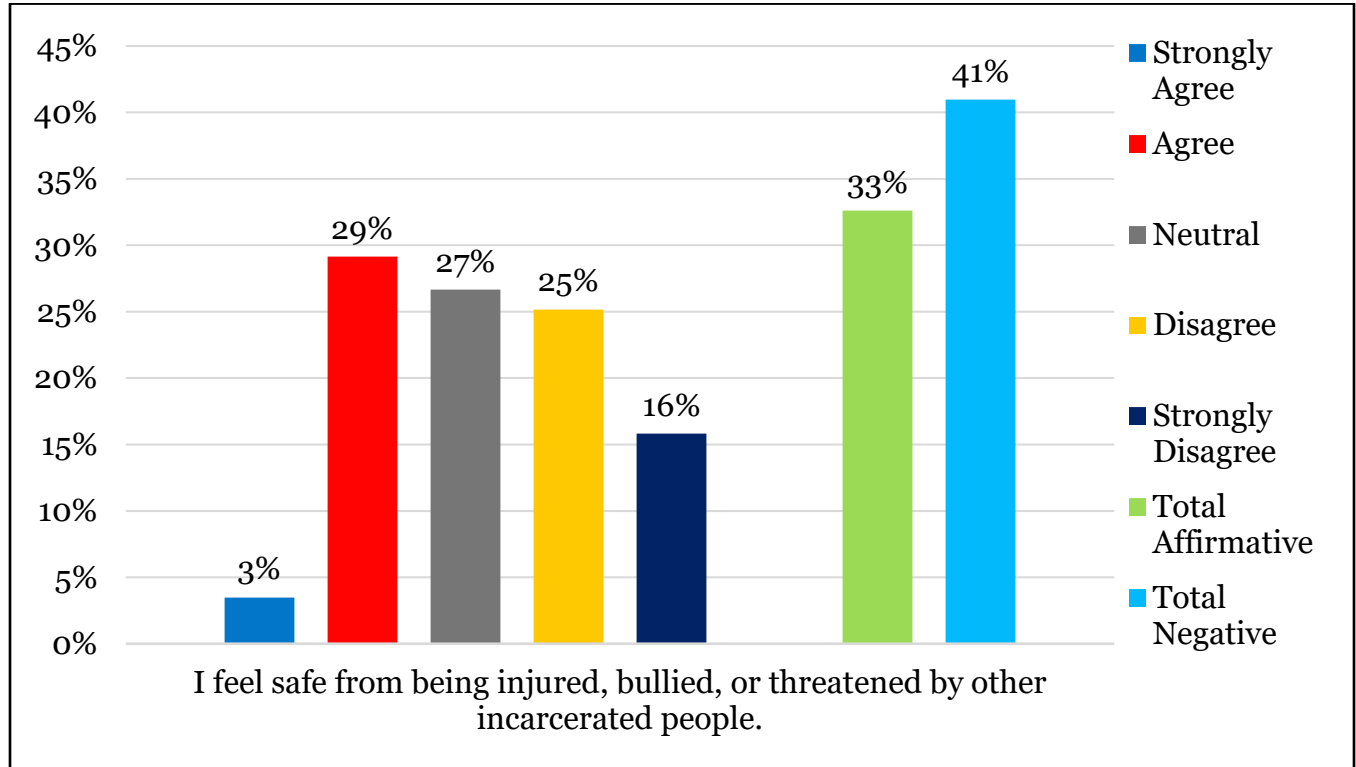
Security

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

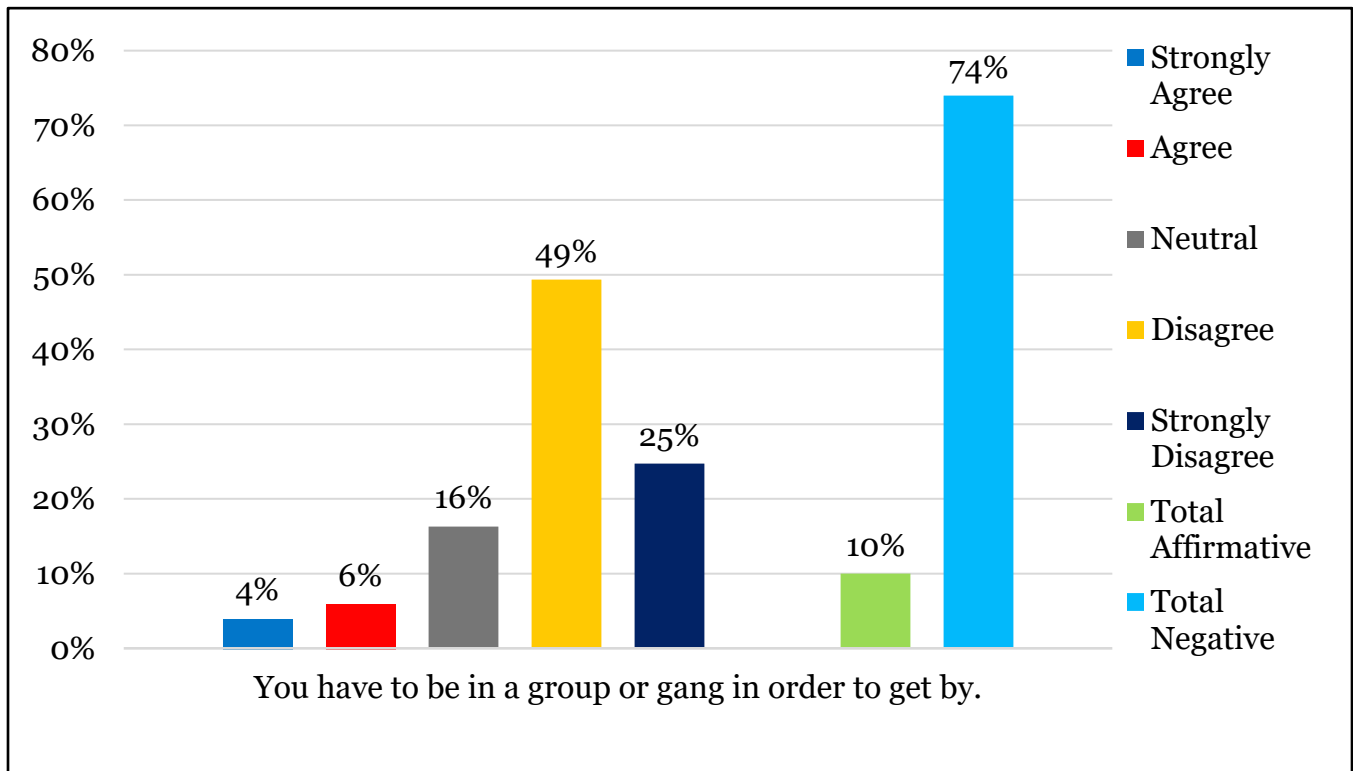
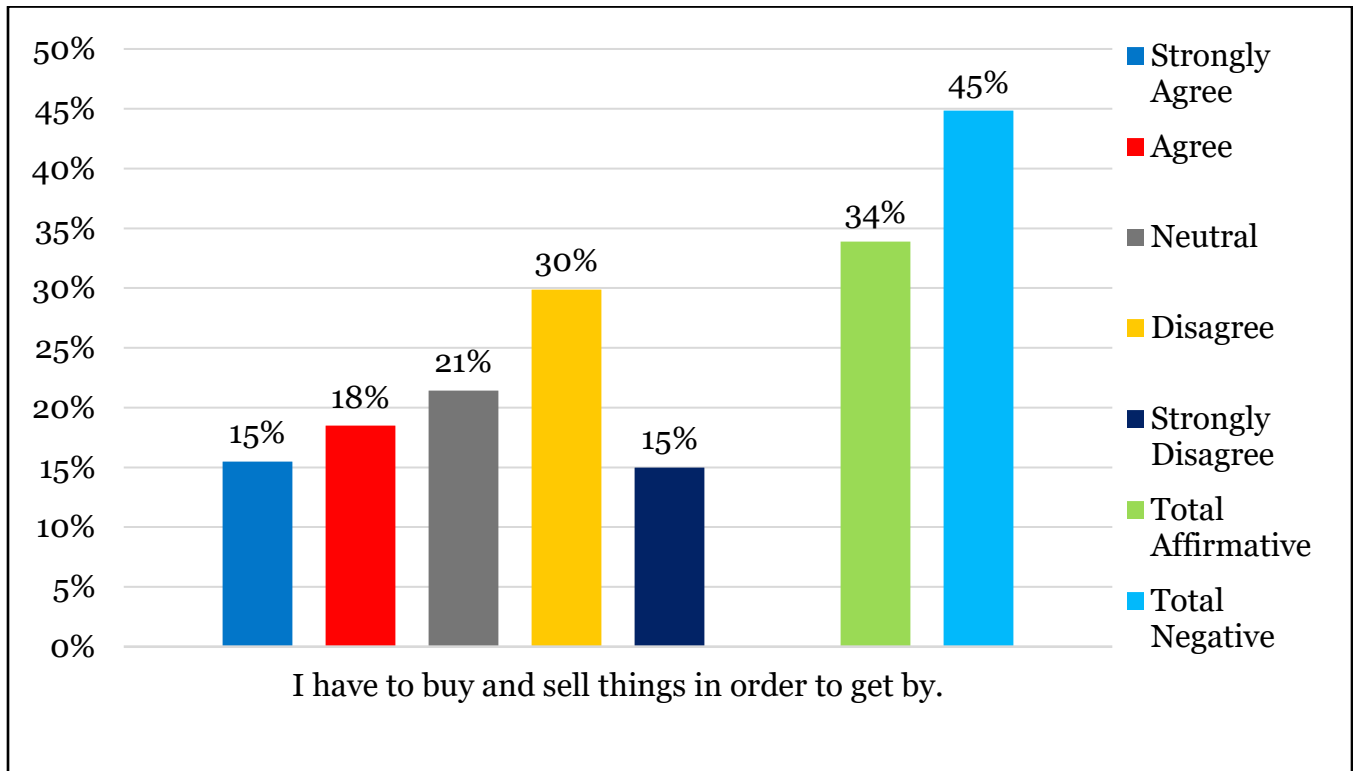




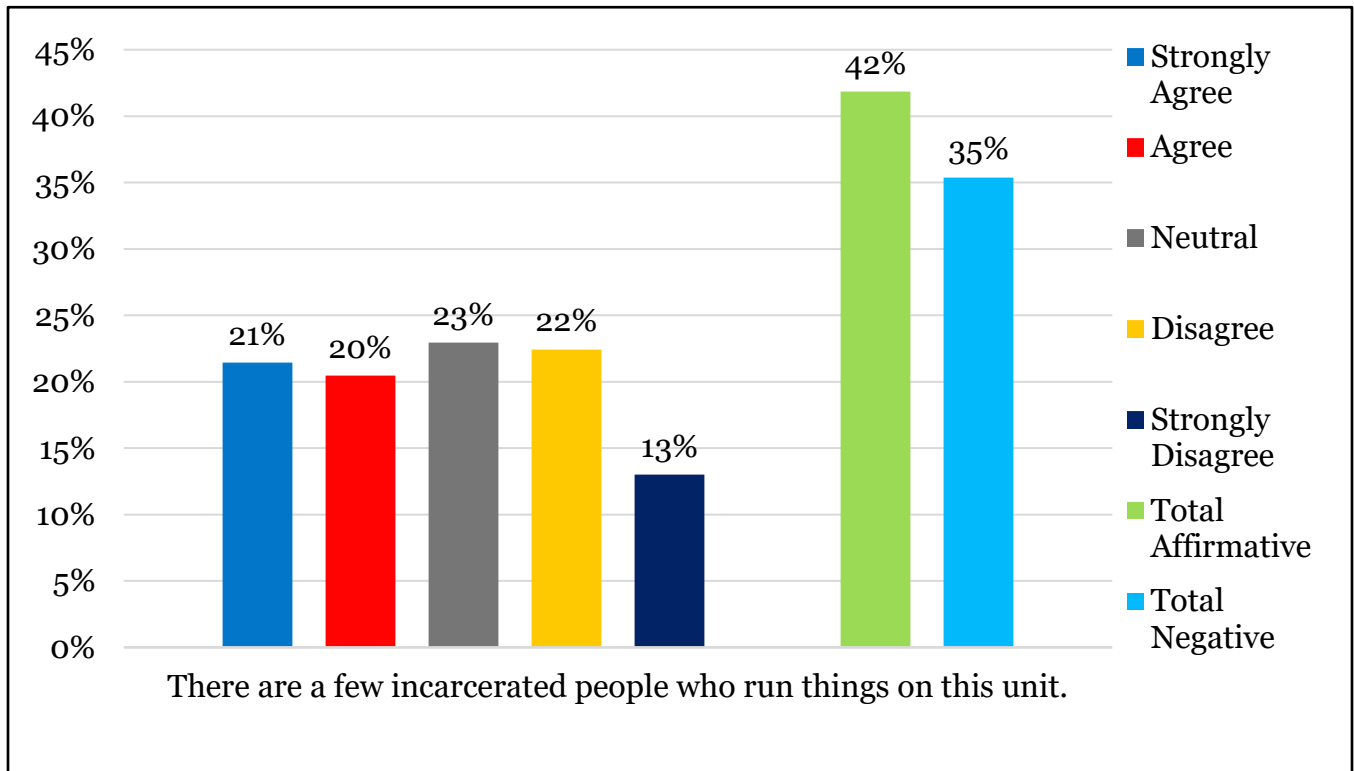
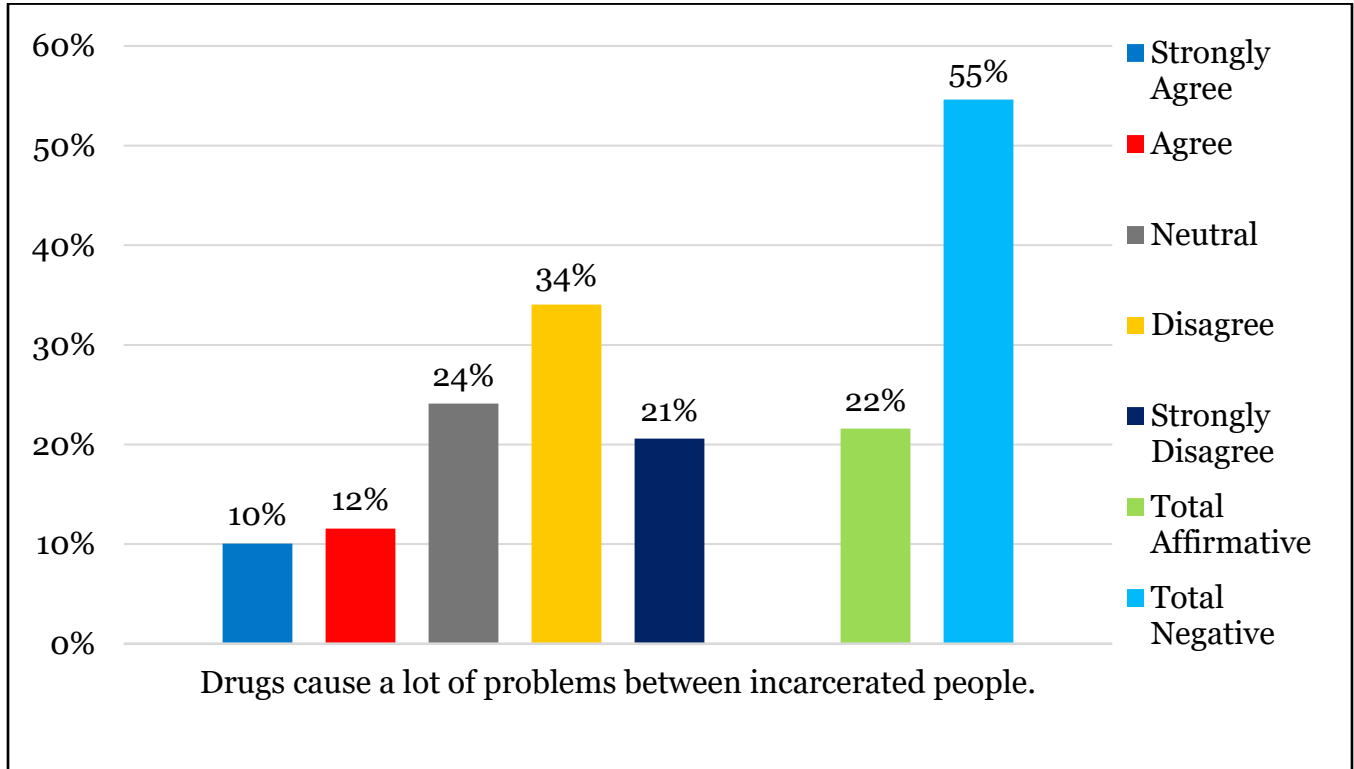
INCARCERATED PERSON SAFETY – THE FEELING OF SECURITY OR PROTECTION FROM HARM, THREAT OR DANGER



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

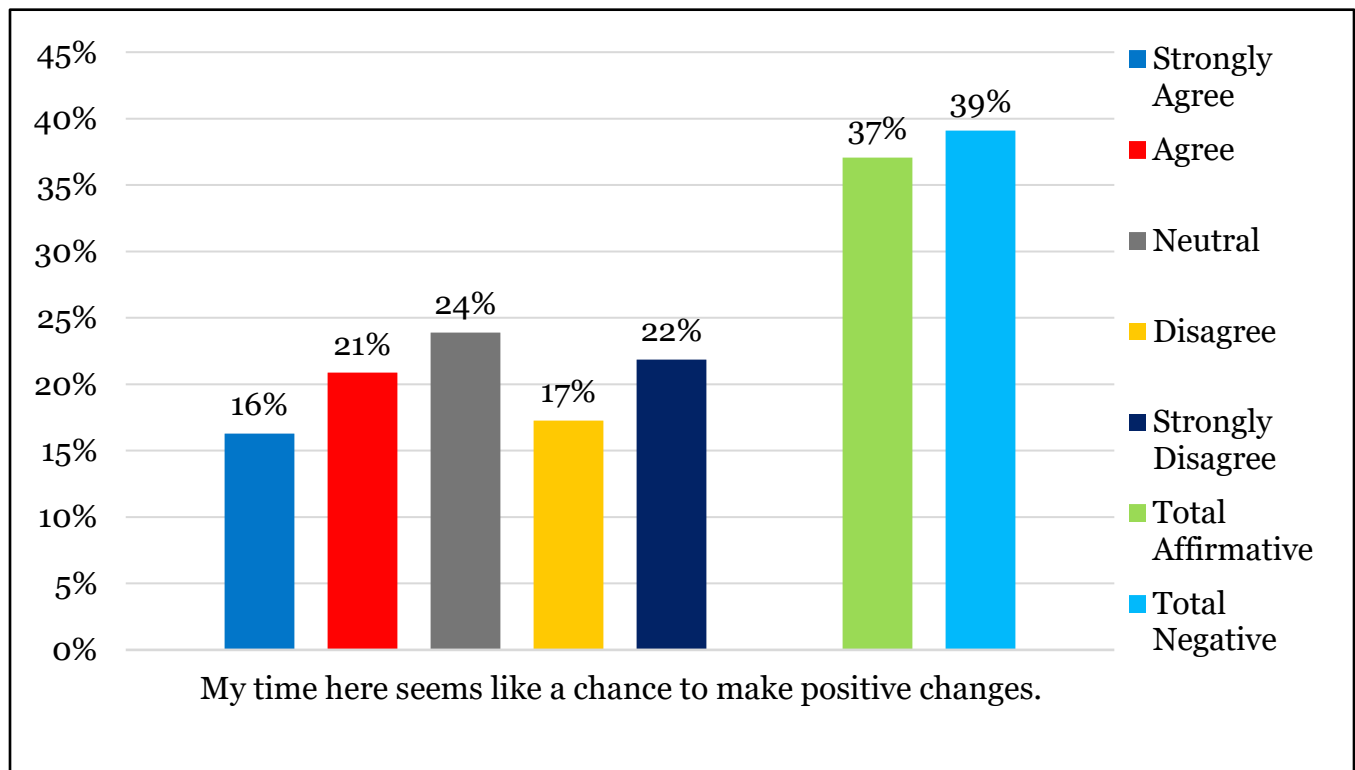
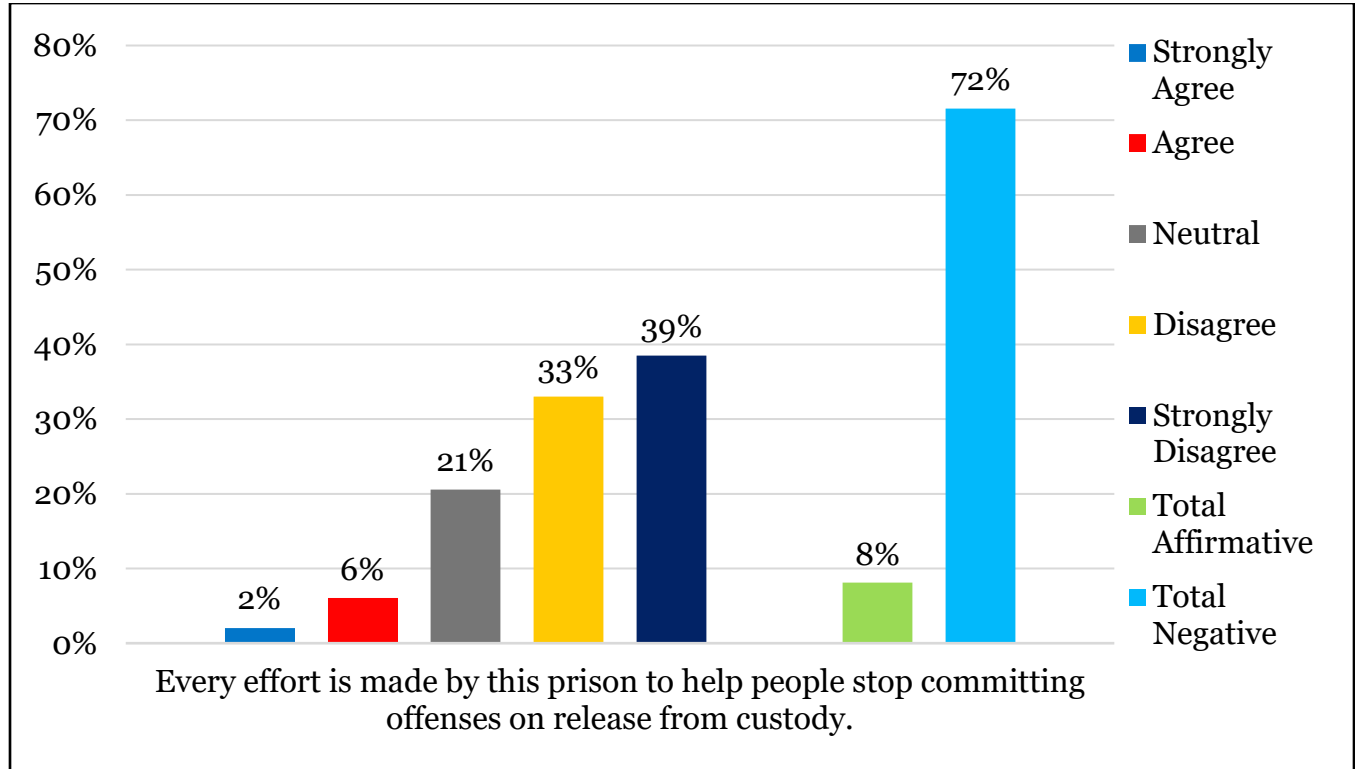


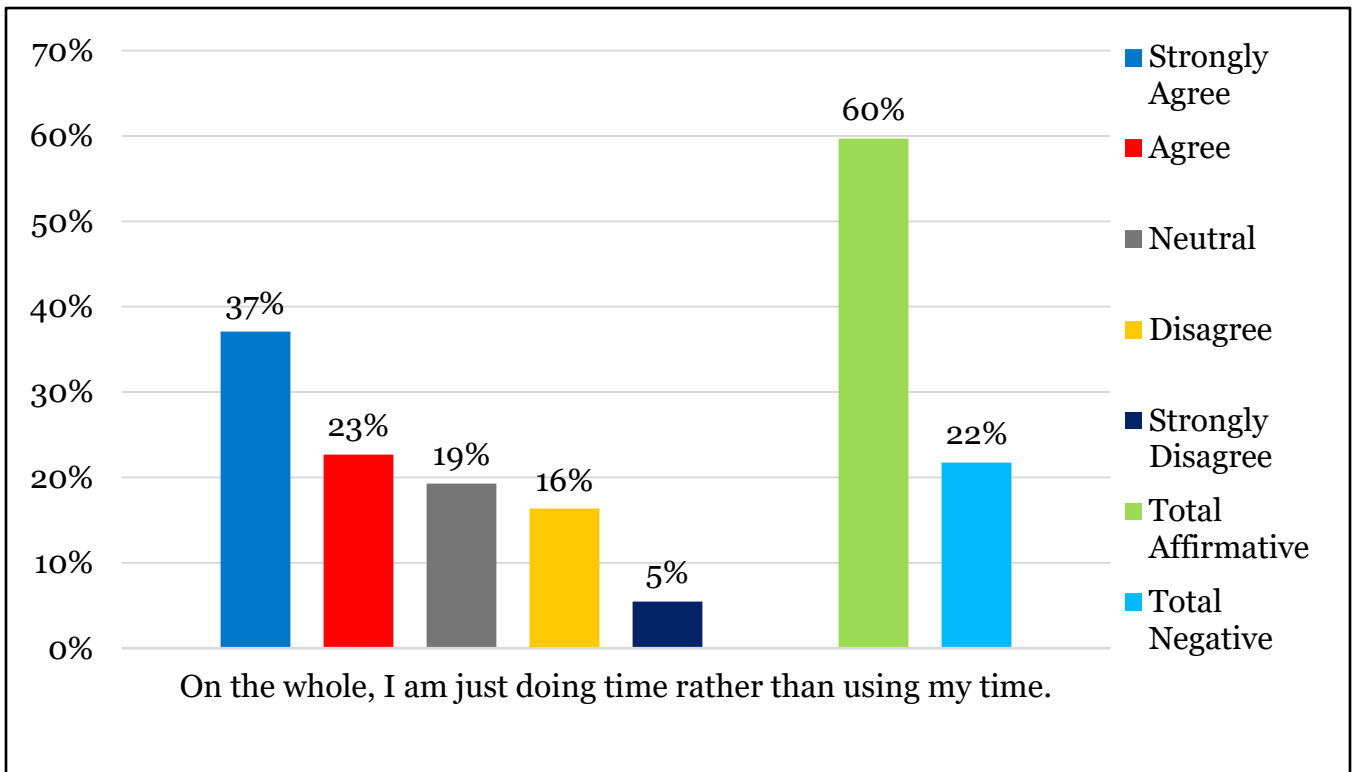
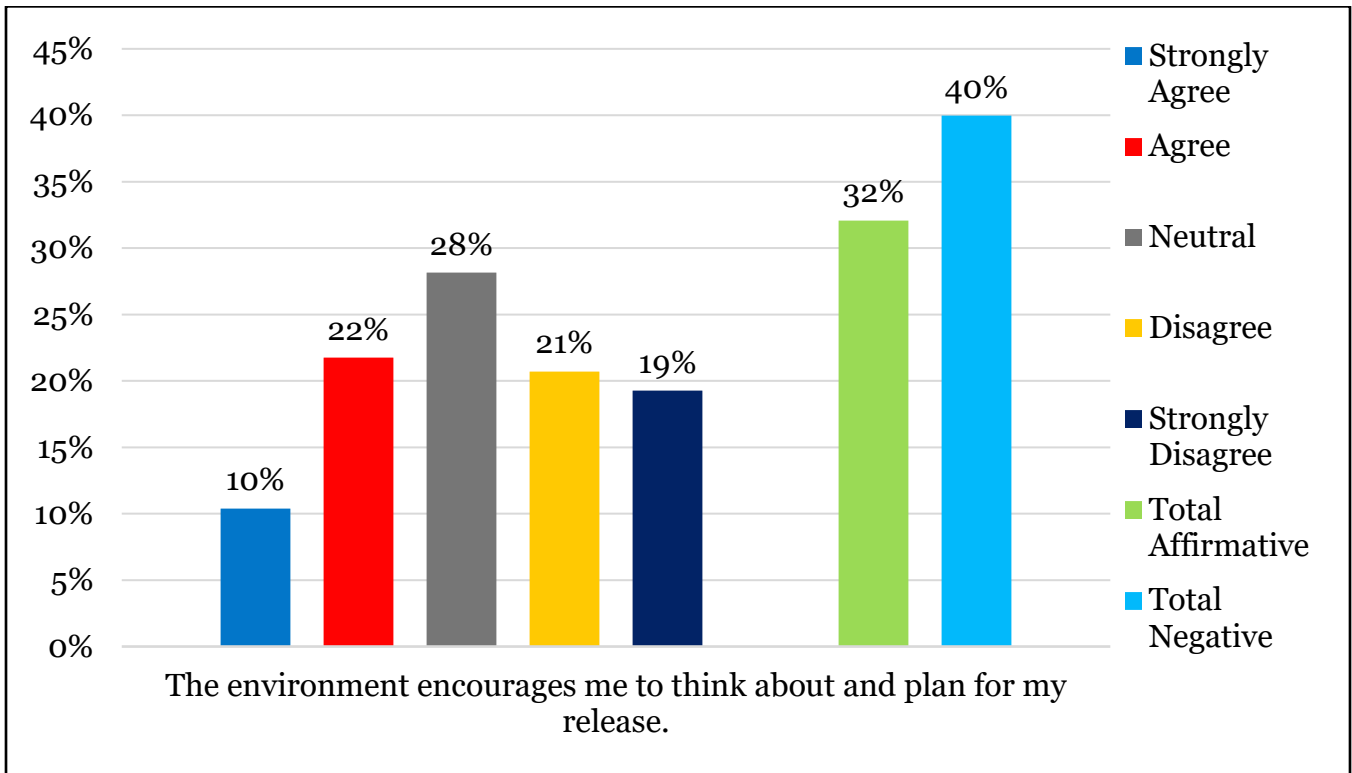
DRUGS AND EXPLOITATION – THE LEVEL OF DRUGS, BULLYING AND VICTIMIZATION IN THE PRISON ENVIRONMENT



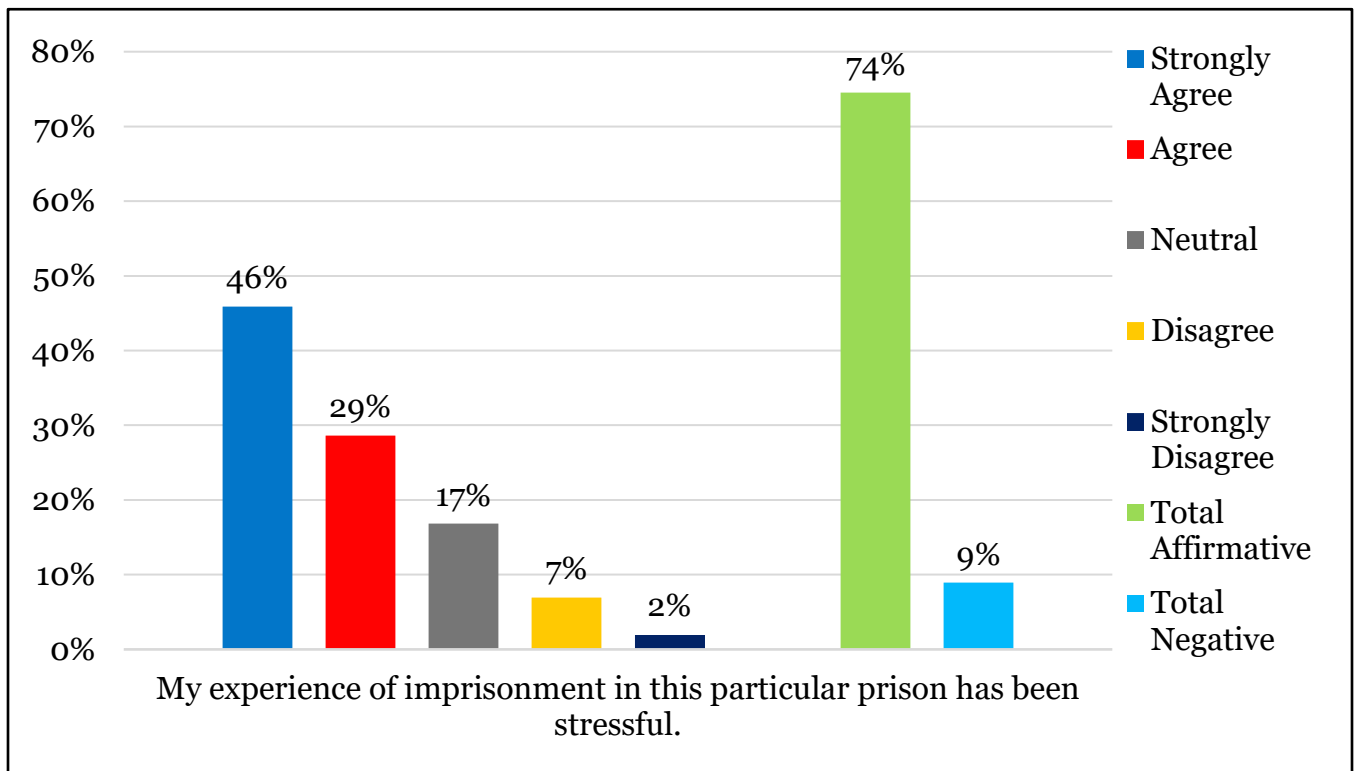
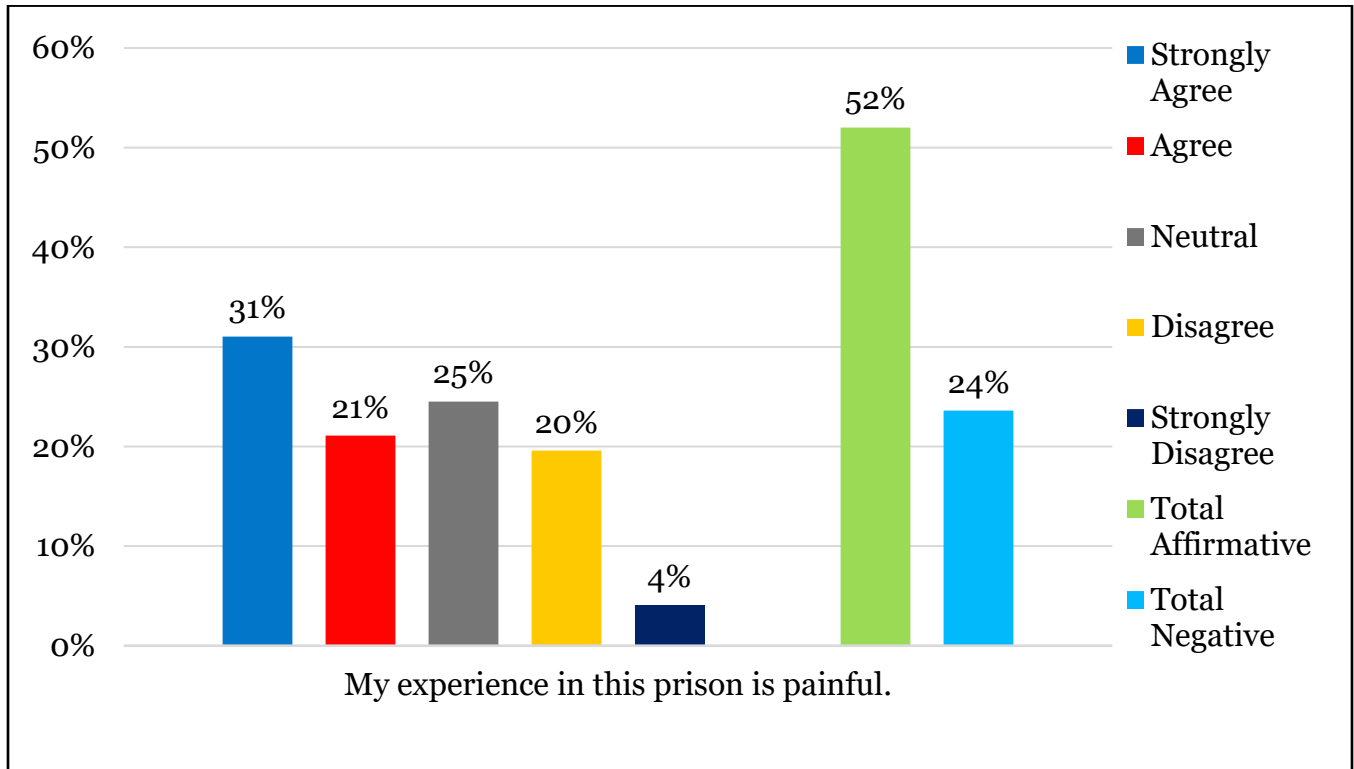
Well-being and Development

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



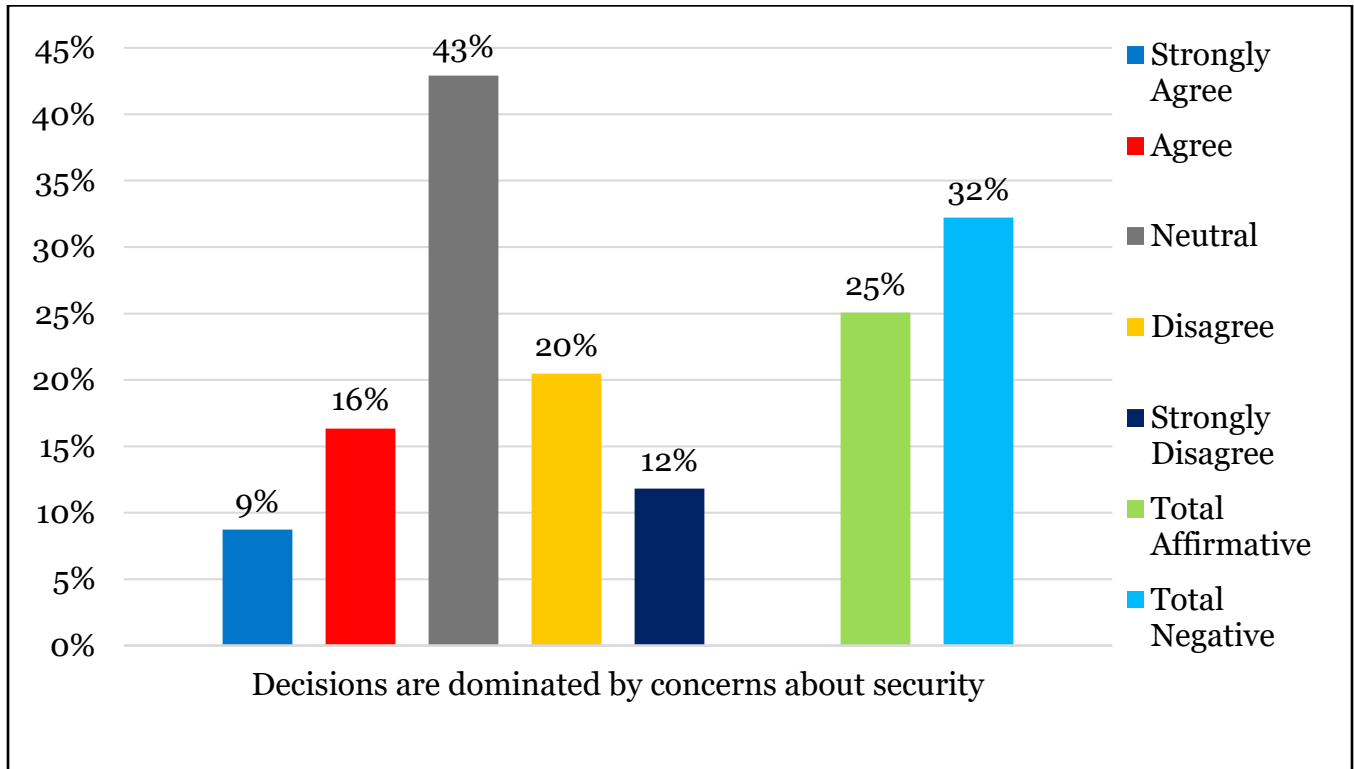


WELL-BEING – FEELINGS OF PAIN, PUNISHMENT AND TENSION EXPERIENCED BY INCARCERATED PEOPLE

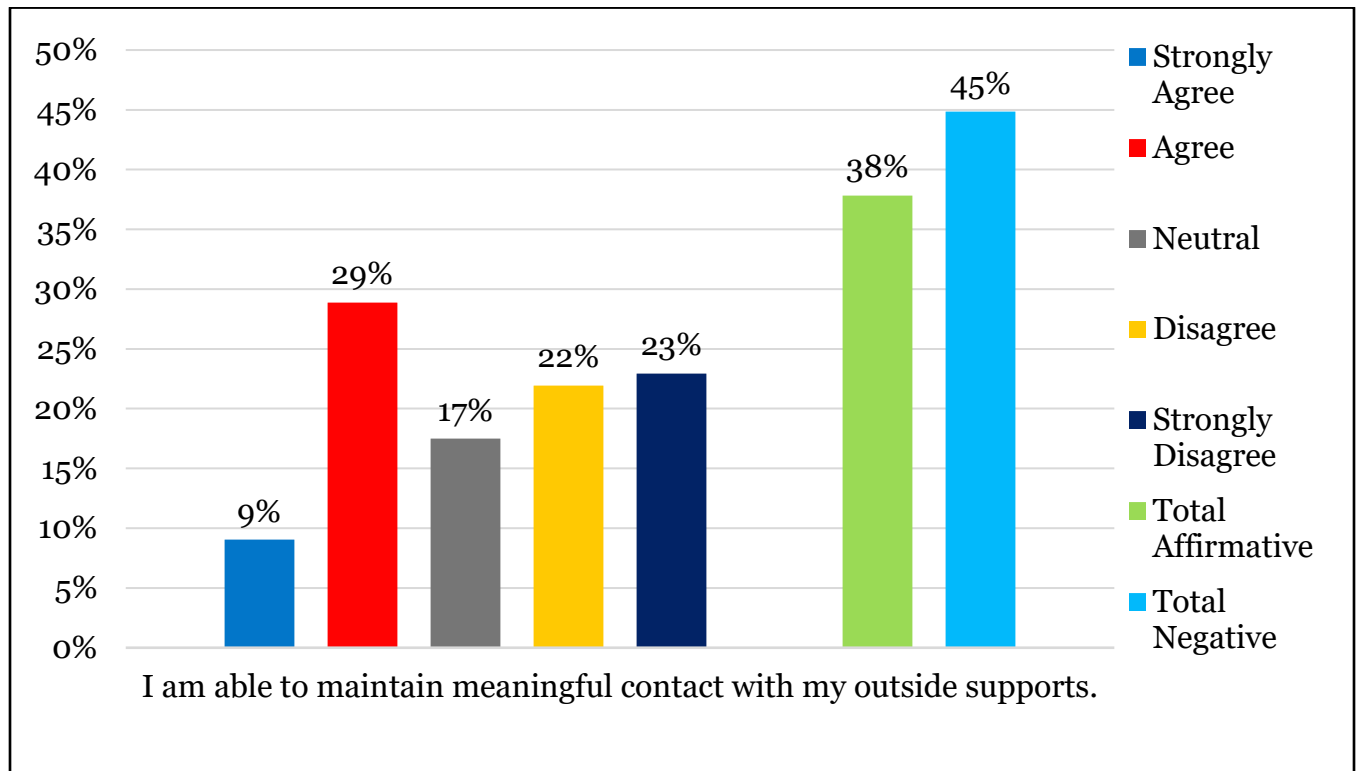


Additional Questions

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

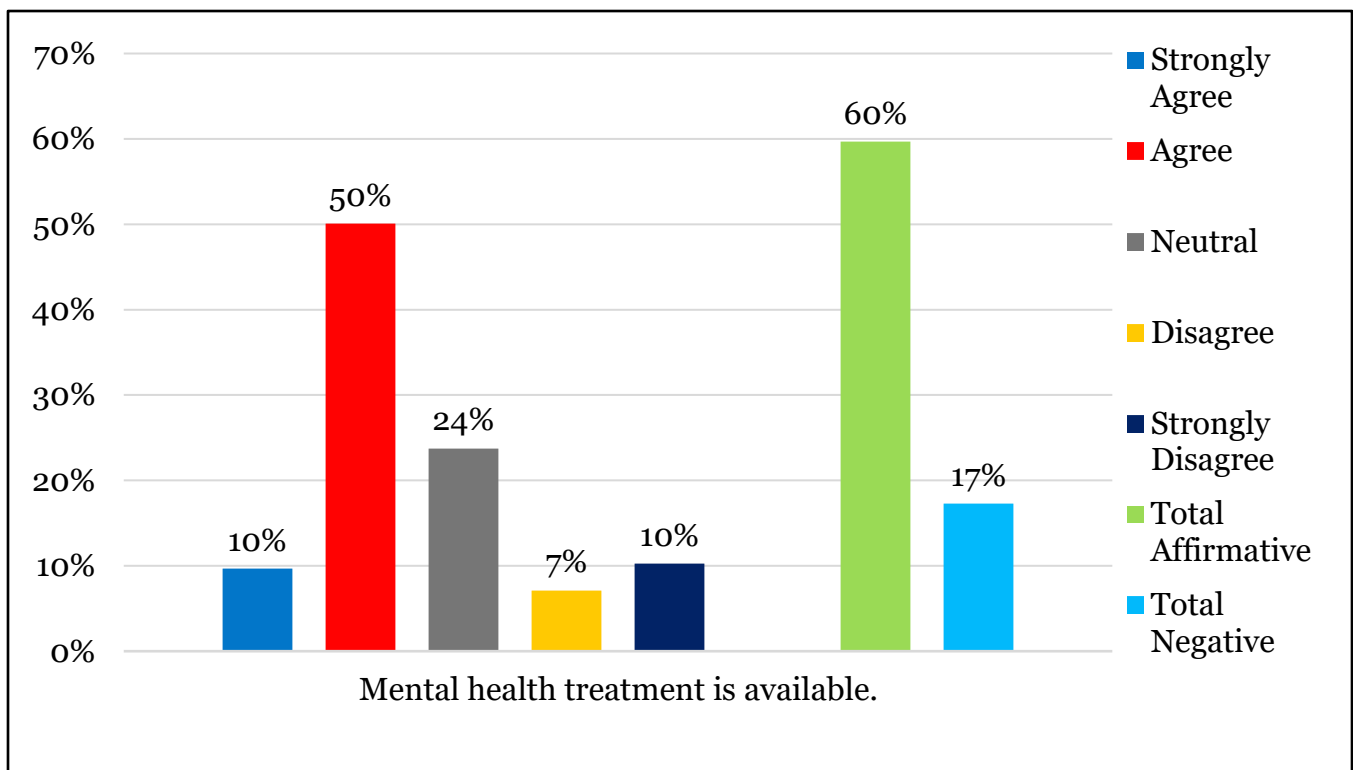
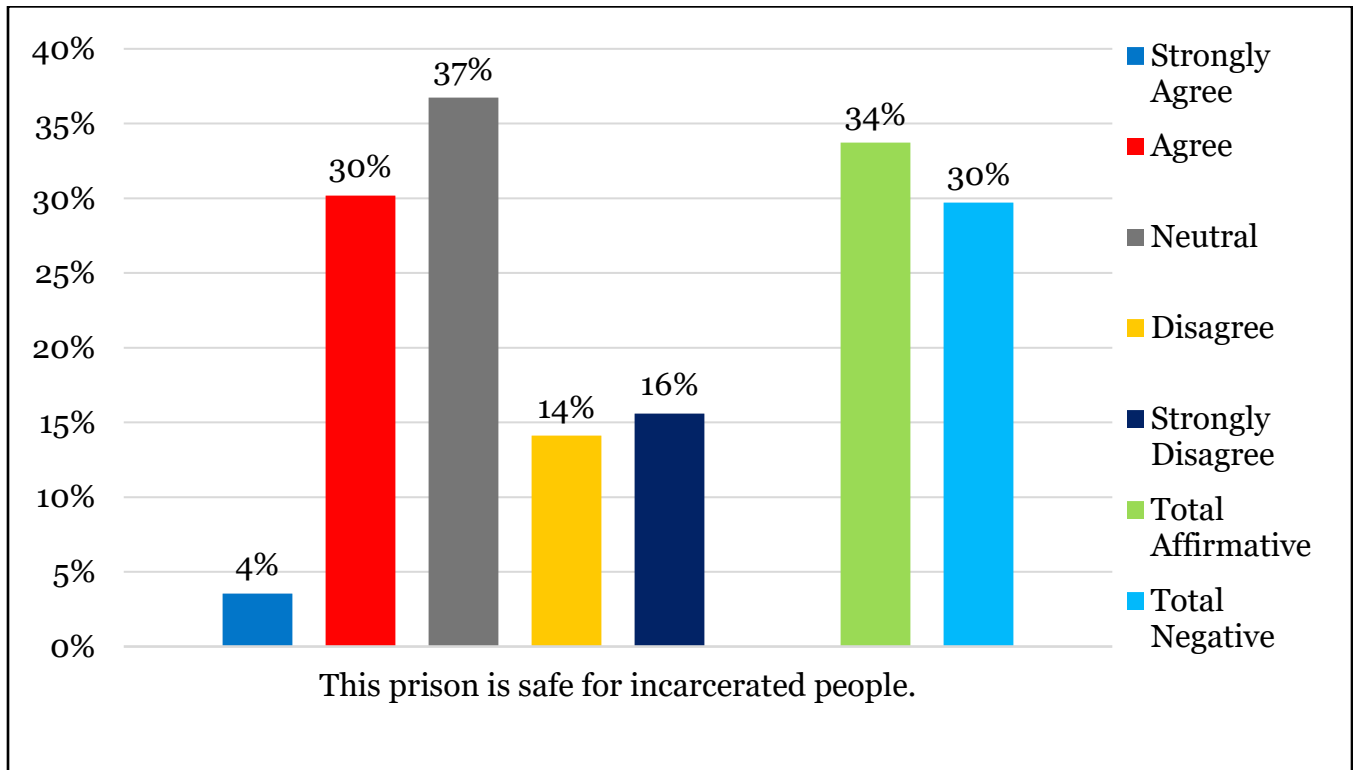


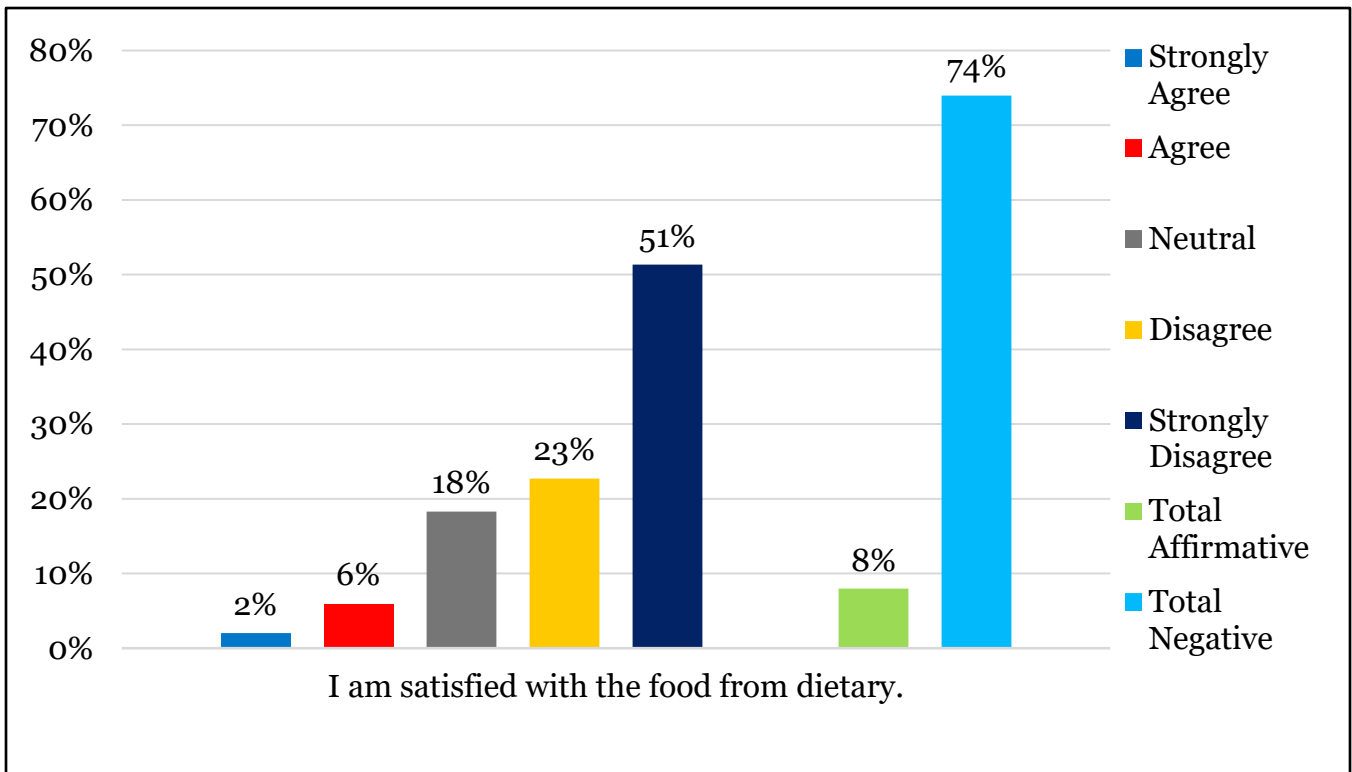
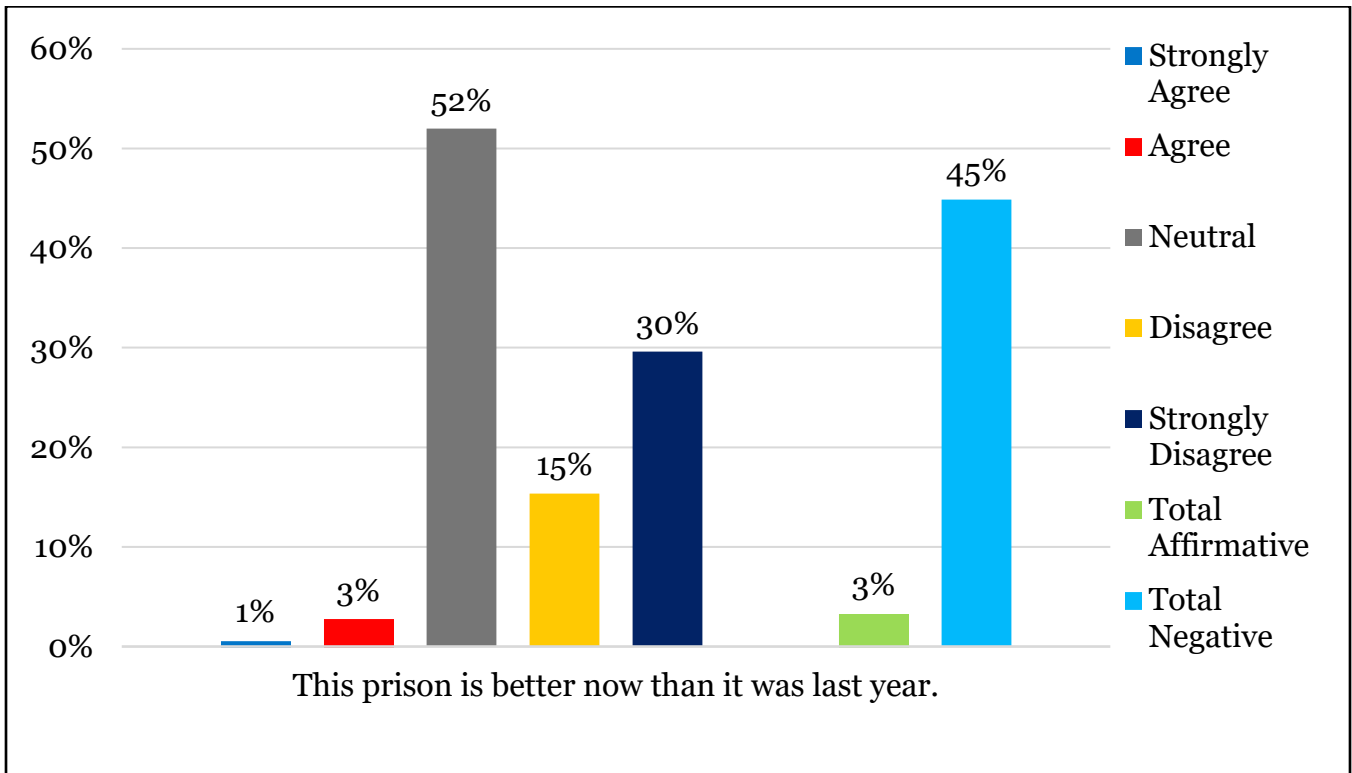
FAMILY CONTACT – AN ENVIRONMENT THAT FACILITATES INCARCERATED PEOPLE MAINTAINING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOVED ONES

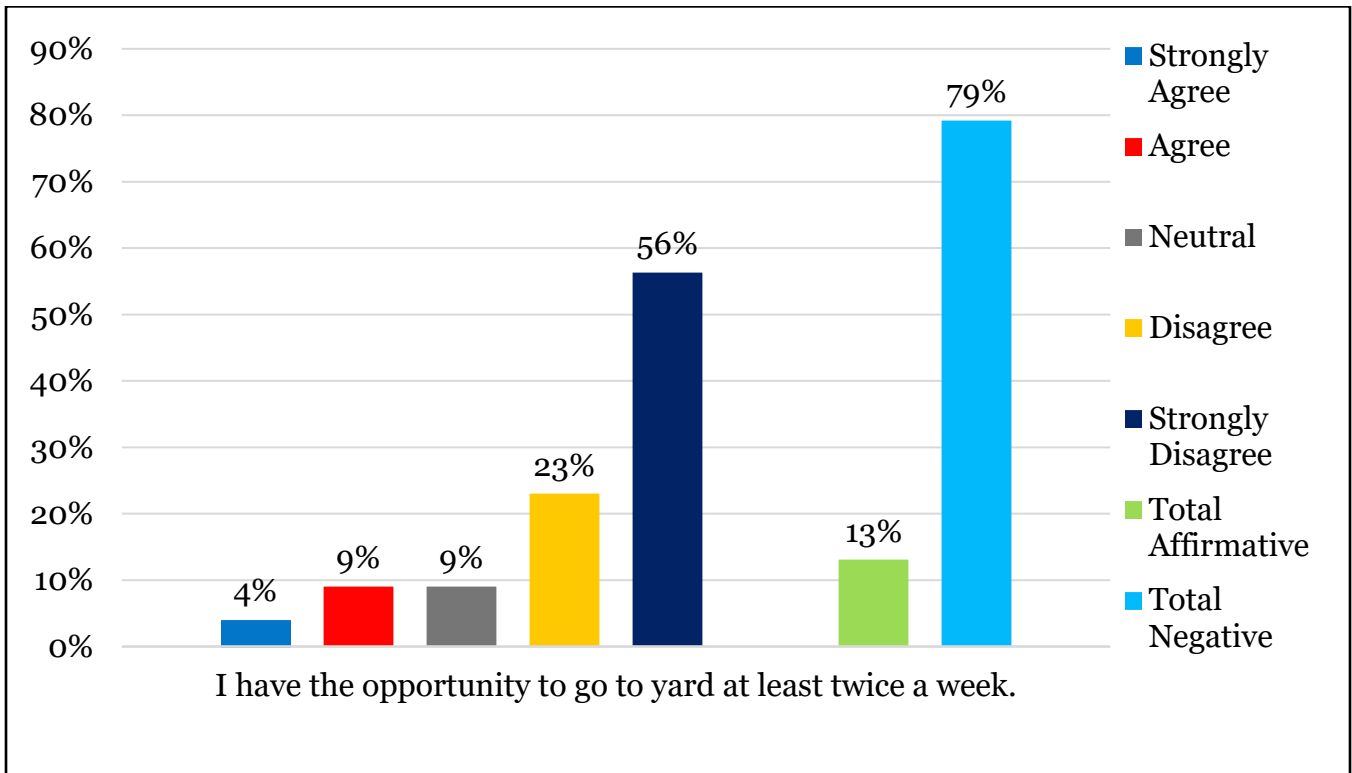


Charts: JHA Questions

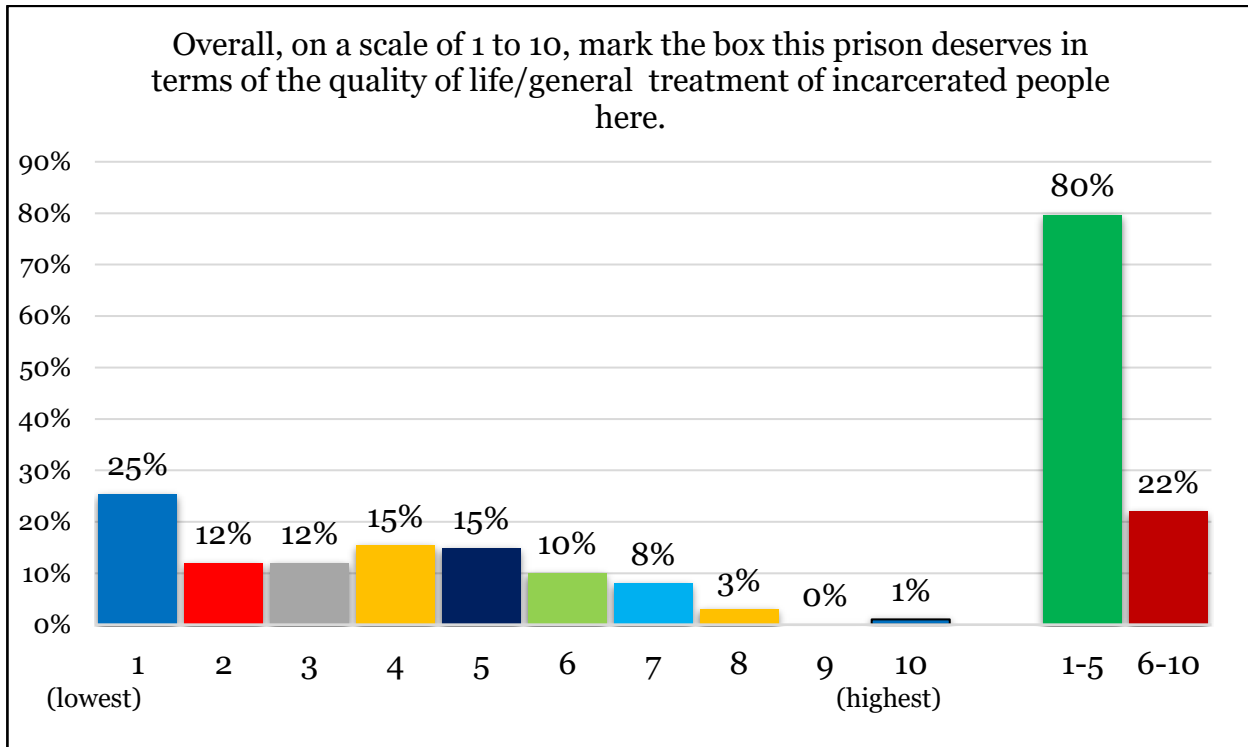
QUESTIONS USED IN PREVIOUS JHA SURVEYS







OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE



Tables of Results by Individual Survey Items

Age		
18-26	13	6%
26-30	28	14%
31-40	83	41%
41-50	47	23%
51 and over	33	16%

Race or ethnicity		
White	149	75%
Black	32	16%
Hispanic or Latino	12	6%
Other	7	4%
No response: 4		

Are you within two years of release?		
Yes	149	73%
No	54	27%
No response: 1		

Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?		
Yes	53	27%
No	147	74%
No response: 4		

What housing status are you currently on?		
General Population	173	85%
Restrictive Housing	6	3%
Other	25	12%

Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area?		
Yes	27	13%
No	174	87%
No response: 3		

Do you have a work or school assignment?		
Work Assignment	106	52%
School Assignment	44	22%
Both	17	8%
Neither	36	18%
No response: 1		

Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	22	11%
Neutral	80	39%
Disagree	53	26%
Strongly Disagree	43	21%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	27	14%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	96	47%
No response: 1		

I receive support from staff when I need it.		
Strongly Agree	6	3%
Agree	25	12%
Neutral	54	27%
Disagree	69	34%
Strongly Disagree	48	24%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	31	15%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	117	58%
No response: 2		

Staff here treat incarcerated people fairly when applying the rules.		
Strongly Agree	4	2%
Agree	25	12%
Neutral	45	22%
Disagree	63	31%
Strongly Disagree	66	33%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	29	14%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	129	64%
No response: 1		

I trust the officers.		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	16	8%
Neutral	71	35%
Disagree	59	29%
Strongly Disagree	53	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	19	10%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	112	55%
No response: 2		

I get along well with the officers on my unit.		
Strongly Agree	14	7%
Agree	61	30%
Neutral	84	42%
Disagree	27	13%
Strongly Disagree	16	8%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	75	37%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	43	21%
No response: 2		

The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.		
Strongly Agree	19	10%
Agree	29	15%
Neutral	50	25%
Disagree	50	25%
Strongly Disagree	52	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	48	25%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	102	51%
No response: 4		

I have been helped significantly by a staff member with a particular problem.		
Strongly Agree	13	7%
Agree	16	8%
Neutral	46	23%
Disagree	71	36%
Strongly Disagree	53	27%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	29	15%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	124	63%
No response: 5		

Overall, I am treated fairly by staff.		
Strongly Agree	9	4%
Agree	46	23%
Neutral	76	37%
Disagree	40	20%
Strongly Disagree	33	16%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	55	27%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	73	36%

I am treated as a person of value.		
Strongly Agree	6	3%
Agree	17	8%
Neutral	51	25%
Disagree	60	30%
Strongly Disagree	69	34%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	23	11%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	129	64%
No response: 1		

Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.		
Strongly Agree	47	23%
Agree	91	45%
Neutral	38	19%
Disagree	20	10%
Strongly Disagree	7	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	138	68%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	27	13%
No response: 1		

I feel safe from being injured, bullied, or threatened by other incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	7	3%
Agree	59	29%
Neutral	54	27%
Disagree	51	25%
Strongly Disagree	32	16%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	66	32%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	83	41%
No response: 1		

If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	20	10%
Neutral	43	22%
Disagree	68	34%
Strongly Disagree	63	32%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	25	13%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	131	66%
No response: 5		

To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.		
Strongly Agree	23	11%
Agree	40	20%
Neutral	71	35%
Disagree	59	29%
Strongly Disagree	8	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	63	31%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	67	33%
No response: 3		

Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	71	35%
Agree	66	33%
Neutral	40	20%
Disagree	19	10%
Strongly Disagree	5	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	137	68%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	24	13%
No response: 3		

Staff have enough experience and expertise to deal with issues that matter to me.		
Strongly Agree	1	1%
Agree	17	8%
Neutral	49	24%
Disagree	85	42%
Strongly Disagree	50	25%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	18	9%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	135	67%
No response: 2		

To get things done, you have to ask and ask and ask.		
Strongly Agree	121	61%
Agree	51	26%
Neutral	14	7%
Disagree	8	4%
Strongly Disagree	5	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	172	87%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	13	7%
No response: 5		

Supervision of incarcerated people is poor.		
Strongly Agree	40	20%
Agree	41	21%
Neutral	57	29%
Disagree	50	25%
Strongly Disagree	12	6%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	81	41%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	62	31%
No response: 4		

I can't improve my situation through good behavior.		
Strongly Agree	43	22%
Agree	46	23%
Neutral	41	21%
Disagree	53	27%
Strongly Disagree	17	9%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	89	45%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	70	36%
No response: 4		

The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.		
Strongly Agree	21	10%
Agree	44	22%
Neutral	57	28%
Disagree	42	21%
Strongly Disagree	39	19%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	65	32%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	81	40%
No response: 1		

My experience of imprisonment in this particular prison has been stressful.		
Strongly Agree	93	46%
Agree	58	29%
Neutral	34	17%
Disagree	14	7%
Strongly Disagree	4	2%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	151	75%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	18	9%
No response: 1		

Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.		
Strongly Agree	50	25%
Agree	59	29%
Neutral	52	26%
Disagree	31	15%
Strongly Disagree	9	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	109	54%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	40	20%
No response: 3		

I have to be careful about everything I do, or it can be used against me.		
Strongly Agree	80	40%
Agree	73	36%
Neutral	34	17%
Disagree	13	6%
Strongly Disagree	2	1%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	153	76%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	15	7%
No response: 2		

On the whole, I am just doing time rather than using my time.		
Strongly Agree	74	37%
Agree	46	23%
Neutral	39	19%
Disagree	33	16%
Strongly Disagree	11	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	120	59%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	44	21%
No response: 1		

This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.		
Strongly Agree	14	7%
Agree	18	9%
Neutral	43	21%
Disagree	69	34%
Strongly Disagree	59	29%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	32	16%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	128	63%
No response: 1		

This prison is well organized.		
Strongly Agree	4	2%
Agree	16	8%
Neutral	34	17%
Disagree	46	23%
Strongly Disagree	100	50%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	20	10%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	146	73%
No response: 4		

I feel that I am treated with respect by staff.		
Strongly Agree	6	3%
Agree	25	13%
Neutral	73	37%
Disagree	34	17%
Strongly Disagree	62	31%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	31	16%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	96	48%
No response: 4		

Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.		
Strongly Agree	8	4%
Agree	54	27%
Neutral	60	30%
Disagree	38	19%
Strongly Disagree	43	21%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	62	31%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	81	40%
No response: 1		

When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.		
Strongly Agree	12	6%
Agree	33	16%
Neutral	56	28%
Disagree	48	24%
Strongly Disagree	53	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	45	22%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	101	50%
No response: 2		

You never know the rules.		
Strongly Agree	73	36%
Agree	47	23%
Neutral	32	16%
Disagree	36	18%
Strongly Disagree	13	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	120	59%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	49	24%
No response: 3		

My experience in this prison is painful.		
Strongly Agree	62	31%
Agree	42	21%
Neutral	49	25%
Disagree	39	20%
Strongly Disagree	8	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	104	52%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	47	24%
No response: 4		

There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	31	17%
Agree	41	22%
Neutral	73	39%
Disagree	29	16%
Strongly Disagree	12	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	72	39%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	41	23%
No response: 18		

Decisions are dominated by concerns about security.		
Strongly Agree	17	9%
Agree	32	16%
Neutral	84	43%
Disagree	40	20%
Strongly Disagree	23	12%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	49	25%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	63	32%
No response: 8		

The disciplinary system is fair.		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	14	7%
Neutral	61	31%
Disagree	59	30%
Strongly Disagree	63	32%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	17	9%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	122	62%
No response: 4		

My time here seems like a chance to make positive changes.		
Strongly Agree	32	16%
Agree	41	21%
Neutral	47	24%
Disagree	34	17%
Strongly Disagree	43	22%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	73	37%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	77	39%
No response: 7		

There are a few incarcerated people who run things on this unit.		
Strongly Agree	43	21%
Agree	41	20%
Neutral	46	23%
Disagree	45	22%
Strongly Disagree	26	13%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	84	41%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	71	35%
No response: 3		

I am not being treated as a human being in here.		
Strongly Agree	54	27%
Agree	42	21%
Neutral	55	27%
Disagree	43	21%
Strongly Disagree	9	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	96	48%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	52	25%
No response: 1		

I have to buy and sell things in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	31	15%
Agree	37	18%
Neutral	43	21%
Disagree	60	30%
Strongly Disagree	30	15%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	68	33%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	90	45%
No response: 3		

You have to be in a group or gang in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	8	4%
Agree	12	6%
Neutral	33	16%
Disagree	100	49%
Strongly Disagree	50	25%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	20	10%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	150	74%
No response: 1		

Drugs cause a lot of problems between incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	20	10%
Agree	23	12%
Neutral	48	24%
Disagree	68	34%
Strongly Disagree	41	21%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	43	22%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	109	55%
No response: 4		

When important decisions are made about me, I am treated as an individual and not a number.		
Strongly Agree	4	2%
Agree	21	10%
Neutral	39	19%
Disagree	73	36%
Strongly Disagree	65	32%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	25	12%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	138	68%
No response: 2		

Bullying behavior by incarcerated people is not tolerated.		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	46	23%
Neutral	41	20%
Disagree	63	31%
Strongly Disagree	48	24%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	51	26%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	111	55%
No response: 1		

All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.		
Strongly Agree	65	32%
Agree	56	28%
Neutral	48	24%
Disagree	23	11%
Strongly Disagree	9	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	121	60%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	32	16%
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	39	20%
Agree	46	23%
Neutral	73	37%
Disagree	30	15%
Strongly Disagree	12	6%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	85	43%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	42	21%
No response: 4		

Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	14	7%
Neutral	35	18%
Disagree	66	33%
Strongly Disagree	76	38%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	21	11%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	142	71%
No response: 6		

I am able to maintain meaningful contact with my outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	18	9%
Agree	58	29%
Neutral	35	17%
Disagree	44	22%
Strongly Disagree	46	23%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	76	38%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	90	45%
No response: 3		

This is a humane prison.		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	30	15%
Neutral	83	42%
Disagree	40	20%
Strongly Disagree	39	20%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	37	19%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	79	40%
No response: 5		

This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.		
Strongly Agree	80	40%
Agree	63	31%
Neutral	42	21%
Disagree	10	5%
Strongly Disagree	7	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	143	71%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	17	9%
No response: 2		

Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.		
Strongly Agree	72	37%
Agree	50	26%
Neutral	32	17%
Disagree	29	15%
Strongly Disagree	11	6%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	122	63%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	40	21%
No response: 10		

This prison is safe for incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	60	30%
Neutral	73	37%
Disagree	28	14%
Strongly Disagree	31	16%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	67	34%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	59	30%
No response: 5		

Every effort is made by this prison to help people stop committing offenses on release from custody.		
Strongly Agree	4	2%
Agree	12	6%
Neutral	41	21%
Disagree	66	33%
Strongly Disagree	77	39%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	16	8%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	143	72%
No response: 4		

Mental health treatment is available.		
Strongly Agree	19	10%
Agree	98	50%
Neutral	47	24%
Disagree	14	7%
Strongly Disagree	20	10%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	117	60%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	34	17%
No response: 6		

I am satisfied with food from dietary.		
Strongly Agree	4	2%
Agree	12	6%
Neutral	37	18%
Disagree	46	23%
Strongly Disagree	104	51%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	16	8%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	150	74%
No response: 1		

This prison is better now than it was last year.		
Strongly Agree	1	1%
Agree	5	3%
Neutral	95	52%
Disagree	28	15%
Strongly Disagree	54	30%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	6	3%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	82	45%
No response: 21		

I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.		
Strongly Agree	8	4%
Agree	17	9%
Neutral	17	9%
Disagree	46	23%
Strongly Disagree	113	56%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	25	13%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	159	79%
No response: 3		

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

1 (Lowest)	51	25%
2	24	12%
3	24	12%
4	31	15%
5	30	15%
6	19	10%
7	15	8%
8	6	3%
9	0	0%
10 (Highest)	1	1%
<i>1-5</i>	160	79%
<i>6-10</i>	41	22%
No response: 3		
Mean: 3.59		



This report was written by JHA staff. Media inquiries should be directed to JHA's Executive Director Jennifer Vollen-Katz at (312) 291-9555 x205 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 are reading every letter and tracking 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 agreed to be interviewed for this report and who graciously shared their experiences and insights with us.

