



John Howard Association of Illinois

2015 recipient of MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions

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Menard Correctional Center: Inmate Survey Results from JHA's Monitoring Visit Conducted October 10th2017

Menard Correctional Center is a maximum-security prison that housed 2,844 adult male inmates on the day of JHA's monitoring visit. JHA collected 1,523 surveys from inmates (53.6% of the population) during our monitoring visit of this prison. Inmate responses to survey questions are reported below.

Responses to Inmate Demographic Questions:

Race		
Black	901	59%
White	285	19%
Hispanic	166	11%
Other	112	7%
No response	59	4%
Total	1523	100%

Age		
Under 26	126	8%
26-35	462	30%
36-45	443	29%
46-55	251	16%
Over 55	206	14%
No response	35	2%
Total	1523	100%

How long have you been in this prison?		
Less than 6 months	122	8%
6 months or more	1353	89%
No response	48	3%
Total	1523	100%

Primary assignment		
Work	159	10%
School	17	1%
Unassigned	1200	79%
Other	46	3%
No response	101	7%
Total	1523	100%

Responses to Inmate Survey Questions:

Q1: I feel safe		
Strongly Agree	49	3%
Agree	146	10%
Neutral	435	29%
Disagree	322	21%
Strongly Disagree	527	35%
No Response	44	3%
Total	1523	100%

Q2: Staff treat inmates with respect		
Strongly Agree	5	0%
Agree	81	5%
Neutral	297	20%
Disagree	440	29%
Strongly Disagree	672	44%
No Response	28	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q3: Inmates treat inmates with respect		
Strongly Agree	65	4%
Agree	282	19%
Neutral	659	43%
Disagree	295	19%
Strongly Disagree	180	12%
No Response	42	3%
Total	1523	100%

Q4: I know the rules or where to find them		
Strongly Agree	140	9%
Agree	537	35%
Neutral	279	18%
Disagree	310	20%
Strongly Disagree	217	14%
No Response	40	3%
Total	1523	100%

Q5: Staff follow rules		
Strongly Agree	16	1%
Agree	74	5%
Neutral	252	17%
Disagree	391	26%
Strongly Disagree	752	49%
No Response	38	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q6: My Correctional Counselor is effective		
Strongly Agree	42	3%
Agree	140	9%
Neutral	255	17%
Disagree	318	21%
Strongly Disagree	743	49%
No Response	25	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q7: I am satisfied with medical services		
Strongly Agree	23	2%
Agree	68	4%
Neutral	144	9%
Disagree	296	19%
Strongly Disagree	971	64%
No Response	21	1%
Total	1523	100%

Q8: I avoid health care to avoid \$5 co-pay		
Strongly Agree	677	44%
Agree	285	19%
Neutral	187	12%
Disagree	149	10%
Strongly Disagree	199	13%
No Response	26	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q9: The disciplinary process is fair		
Strongly Agree	19	1%
Agree	39	3%
Neutral	185	12%
Disagree	308	20%
Strongly Disagree	929	61%
No Response	43	3%
Total	1523	100%

Q10: This facility is safe for inmates		
Strongly Agree	18	1%
Agree	89	6%
Neutral	292	19%
Disagree	367	24%
Strongly Disagree	724	48%
No Response	33	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q11: There is at least one staff member who I could ask for help		
Strongly Agree	169	11%
Agree	455	30%
Neutral	263	17%
Disagree	225	15%
Strongly Disagree	366	24%
No Response	45	3%
Total	1523	100%

Q12: The grievance process is effective		
Strongly Agree	8	1%
Agree	33	2%
Neutral	132	9%
Disagree	296	19%
Strongly Disagree	1030	68%
No Response	24	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q13: I would feel comfortable filing a grievance		
Strongly Agree	48	3%
Agree	116	8%
Neutral	208	14%
Disagree	374	25%
Strongly Disagree	747	49%
No Response	30	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q14: Contraband from outside facility often gets inside		
Strongly Agree	56	4%
Agree	96	6%
Neutral	420	28%
Disagree	394	26%
Strongly Disagree	445	29%
No Response	112	7%
Total	1523	100%

Q15: There is frequent gang activity here		
Strongly Agree	329	22%
Agree	277	18%
Neutral	447	29%
Disagree	190	12%
Strongly Disagree	157	10%
No Response	123	8%
Total	1523	100%

Q16: Mail is timely		
Strongly Agree	51	3%
Agree	212	14%
Neutral	332	22%
Disagree	378	25%
Strongly Disagree	513	34%
No Response	37	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q17: Adequate cleaning supplies are provided		
Strongly Agree	15	1%
Agree	75	5%
Neutral	112	7%
Disagree	350	23%
Strongly Disagree	934	61%
No Response	37	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q18: Temperature is comfortable		
Strongly Agree	14	1%
Agree	86	6%
Neutral	258	17%
Disagree	359	24%
Strongly Disagree	776	51%
No Response	30	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q19: Posted schedules are accurate		
Strongly Agree	28	2%
Agree	111	7%
Neutral	327	21%
Disagree	417	27%
Strongly Disagree	579	38%
No Response	61	4%
Total	1523	100%

Q20: Ventilation is adequate		
Strongly Agree	10	1%
Agree	76	5%
Neutral	200	13%
Disagree	343	23%
Strongly Disagree	843	55%
No Response	51	3%
Total	133	100%

Q21: When something is broken it is fixed in a timely manner		
Strongly Agree	12	1%
Agree	79	5%
Neutral	170	11%
Disagree	399	26%
Strongly Disagree	837	55%
No Response	26	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q22: I am satisfied with food from dietary		
Strongly Agree	3	0%
Agree	24	2%
Neutral	52	3%
Disagree	178	12%
Strongly Disagree	1248	82%
No Response	18	1%
Total	1523	100%

Q23: Clothing provided by state is adequate		
Strongly Agree	13	1%
Agree	96	6%
Neutral	155	10%
Disagree	319	21%
Strongly Disagree	918	60%
No Response	22	1%
Total	1523	100%

Q24: I have adequate access to showers		
Strongly Agree	59	4%
Agree	351	23%
Neutral	378	25%
Disagree	276	18%
Strongly Disagree	415	27%
No Response	44	3%
Total	1523	100%

Q25: Enough state hygiene items are provided		
Strongly Agree	11	1%
Agree	33	2%
Neutral	72	5%
Disagree	261	17%
Strongly Disagree	1128	74%
No Response	18	1%
Total	1523	100%

Q26: There is enough rec		
Strongly Agree	24	2%
Agree	104	7%
Neutral	191	13%
Disagree	365	24%
Strongly Disagree	805	53%
No Response	34	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q27: I have adequate access to law library		
Strongly Agree	17	1%
Agree	86	6%
Neutral	244	16%
Disagree	301	20%
Strongly Disagree	848	56%
No Response	27	2%
Total	1523	100%

Q28: I have enough access to phones		
Strongly Agree	56	4%
Agree	257	17%
Neutral	320	21%
Disagree	292	19%
Strongly Disagree	558	37%
No Response	40	3%
Total	1523	100%

Q29: Helpful reentry info is provided by staff		
Strongly Agree	18	1%
Agree	35	2%
Neutral	304	20%
Disagree	283	19%
Strongly Disagree	802	53%
No Response	81	5%
Total	1523	100%

Q30: Rehabilitative & Education programming is adequate		
Strongly Agree	7	0%
Agree	22	1%
Neutral	125	8%
Disagree	183	12%
Strongly Disagree	1151	76%
No Response	35	2%
Total	1523	100%

*Not all percentages reported for individual survey items add up to 100% due to percentages being rounded to whole number.