

COVID-19 Survey Results: Fox Valley Adult Transition 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 27 people imprisoned at Fox Valley Adult Transition Center (ATC) responded to survey items contained within the COVID-19 survey during the time frame of late April to early May 2020. The results were tallied on May 27th, 2020. As of April 24th, 2020, there were 55 people imprisoned at Fox Valley ATC according to IDOC's daily population report; however, this number may include residents who were furloughed and not physically present at the facility. This sample of survey respondents, thus consists of, at minimum, 49.09% of Fox Valley's population. As of June 8, 2020, there were 19 people reported to be at Fox Valley in IDOC's daily population report.

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 Fox Valley 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 27.

The results of the surveys JHA collected from people imprisoned at Fox Valley ATC 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	22	82%
Inmate info channel on TV	4	15%
Verbal communication by staff	3	11%
Other	3	11%
I did not get this 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	4	15%
Yes	21	81%
Unsure	1	4%
Total	26	100%
No response: 1 (3.7%)		

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	10	40%
2 to 3 times last week	5	20%
Once last week	2	8%
None	8	32%
Total	25	100%
No response: 2 (7.4%)		

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	4	15%
Yes	13	50%
Unsure	2	8%
No, I did not get any cleaning chemicals	7	27%
Total	26	100%
No response: 1 (3.7%)		

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	1	4%
Some areas cleaned, but not all	7	27%
Yes, all areas were cleaned	17	65%
Unsure	1	4%
Total	26	100%
No response: 1 (3.7%)		

Q6: Have you tried to get medical care because of COVID-19 in the last week?		
No, because I did not want to	3	11%
No, because I was not sick	23	85%
Yes, but no response from staff	1	4%
Yes, and staff responded	-	-
Total	27	100%
No response: -		

Q7: Would you tell IDOC staff (medical or security) if you were sick because of COVID-19?		
No	10	37%
Yes	15	56%
Unsure	2	7%
Total	27	100%
No response: -		

Q8: Did you go to yard at least once in the last week?		
No, not allowed to	27	100%
No, did not want to	-	-
Yes	-	-
Total	27	100%
No response: -		

Q9a: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by washing their hands often?		
No	6	24%
Yes	13	52%
Unsure	6	24%
Total	25	100%
No response: 2 (7.4%)		

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	7	26%
Yes	14	52%
Unsure	6	22%
Total	27	100%
No response: -		

Q9c: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by cleaning shared items after use (example: phones)?		
No	4	15%
Yes	16	62%
Unsure	6	23%
Total	26	100%
No response: 1 (3.7%)		

Q9d: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by staying at least 6 feet away from other people when possible?		
No	12	46%
Yes	12	46%
Unsure	2	8%
Total	26	100%
No response: 1 (3.7%)		

Q10a: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by washing your hands often?		
No	-	-
Yes	27	100%
Unsure	-	-
Total	27	100%
No response: -		

Q10b: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by covering your mouth with inside of arm when coughing/sneezing?		
No	-	-
Yes	26	96%
Unsure	1	4%
Total	27	100%
No response: -		

Q10c: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by cleaning shared items after use (example: phones)?		
No	-	-
Yes	25	100%
Unsure	-	-
Total	25	100%
No response: 2 (7.4%)		

Q10d: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by staying at least 6 feet away from other people when possible?		
No	4	16%
Yes	20	80%
Unsure	1	4%
Total	25	100%
No response: 2 (7.4%)		

Q11: Could you take a shower at least 3 times last week?		
No	-	-
Yes	26	100%
Total	26	100%
No response: 1 (3.7%)		

Q12: Did you get laundry service in the last week (whites and blues)?		
No, was not offered	3	13%
No, do not want to use laundry service	-	-
Yes, and my laundry was cleaned	20	83%
Yes, but they did not use detergent	1	4%
Total	24	100%
No response: 3 (11.11%)		

Q13: Did you get at least one free phone call in the last week?		
No	18	69%
Yes	4	15%
Yes, but the call cut out early	-	-
This does not apply to me	4	15%
Total	26	100%
No response: 1 (3.7%)		

Q14: Did you get a free video visit in the last week?		
No	20	77%
Yes, and it worked	-	-
Yes, but bad service/ cut short	-	-
This does not apply to me	6	23%
Total	26	100%
No response: 1 (3.7%)		

Q15: Could you send and get mail in the last week?		
No	1	4%
Yes	26	96%
This does not apply to me	-	-
Total	27	100%
No response: -		

Q16: Did commissary run on schedule this week?		
Yes, full shop	-	-
Yes, limited shop	1	4%
Yes, but not my unit's shop week	-	-
No	22	96%
Total	23	100%
No response: 4 (14.81%)		

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