

## COVID-19 Survey Results: Illinois River 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 791 people imprisoned at Illinois River Correctional Center responded to survey items contained within the COVID-19 survey during the time frame of April 24<sup>th</sup> to May 20<sup>th</sup> 2020. As of April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, there were 1,546 people imprisoned at Illinois River. Thus, this sample of survey respondents consists of 51.16% of Illinois River's prison population. COVID-19 surveys that were completed after May 20<sup>th</sup> 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 Illinois River 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 791.

The results of the surveys JHA collected from people imprisoned at Illinois River Correctional Center are tabulated on the pages that follow.

## Tables of Results by Individual Survey Items:

<b>Q1: How did you get information from IDOC about COVID 19 prevention?</b>		
Paper bulletin on unit	249	31.48%
Inmate info channel on TV	526	66.50%
Verbal communication by staff	87	11.00%
Other	160	20.23%
I did not get this information	15	1.90%
Total does not add to 100% for this question because more than one answer could be selected		

<b>Q2: Did you have enough soap to regularly wash your hands in the last week?</b>		
No	146	18.99%
Yes	601	78.15%
Unsure	22	2.86%
Total	769	100%
No response: 22 (2.78%)		

<b>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)?</b>		
Once a day	211	28.13%
2 to 3 times last week	70	9.33%
Once last week	209	27.87%
None	260	34.67%
Total	750	100%
No response: 41 (5.18%)		

<b>Q4: Did you get enough cleaning chemicals to thoroughly clean your cell/sleeping area in the last week?</b>		
No, I did not get enough to make cell clean	442	57.70%
Yes	58	7.57%
Unsure	17	2.22%
No, I did not get any cleaning chemicals	249	32.51%
Total	766	100%
No response: 25 (3.16%)		

<b>Q5: Did the common areas you have access to get cleaned at least two times a day in the last week (examples: dayrooms, showers)?</b>		
No	149	19.40%
Some areas cleaned, but not all	238	30.99%
Yes, all areas were cleaned	209	27.21%
Unsure	172	22.40%
Total	768	100%
No response: 23 (2.91%)		

<b>Q6: Have you tried to get medical care because of COVID-19 in the last week?</b>		
No, because I did not want to	45	5.90%
No, because I was not sick	614	80.47%
Yes, but no response from staff	79	10.35%
Yes, and staff responded	25	3.28%
Total	763	100%
No response: 28 (3.54%)		

<b>Q7: Would you tell IDOC staff (medical or security) if you were sick because of COVID-19?</b>		
No	59	7.62%
Yes	656	84.75%
Unsure	59	7.62%
Total	774	100%
No response: 17 (2.15%)		

<b>Q8: Did you go to yard at least once in the last week?</b>		
No, not allowed to	550	71.24%
No, did not want to	104	13.47%
Yes	118	15.28%
Total	772	100%
No response: 19 (2.40%)		

<b>Q9a: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by washing their hands often?</b>		
No	114	14.84%
Yes	303	39.45%
Unsure	351	45.70%
Total	768	100%
No response: 23 (2.91%)		

<b>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?</b>		
No	178	23.67%
Yes	253	33.64%
Unsure	321	42.69%
Total	752	100%
No response: 39 (4.93%)		

<b>Q9c: Did the inmates around you follow good health practices in the last week by cleaning shared items after use (example: phones)?</b>		
No	146	19.62%
Yes	385	51.75%
Unsure	213	28.63%
Total	744	100%
No response: 47 (5.94%)		

<b>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?</b>		
No	277	37.13%
Yes	301	40.35%
Unsure	168	22.52%
Total	746	100%
No response: 45 (5.69%)		

<b>Q10a: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by washing your hands often?</b>		
No	7	0.91%
Yes	761	98.45%
Unsure	5	0.65%
Total	773	100%
No response: 18 (2.28%)		

<b>Q10b: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by covering your mouth with inside of arm when coughing/sneezing?</b>		
No	24	3.15%
Yes	731	95.81%
Unsure	8	1.05%
Total	763	100%
No response: 28 (3.54%)		

<b>Q10c: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by cleaning shared items after use (example: phones)?</b>		
No	103	13.61%
Yes	629	83.09%
Unsure	25	3.30%
Total	757	100%
No response: 34 (4.30%)		

<b>Q10d: Did you follow good health practices in the last week by staying at least 6 feet away from others when possible?</b>		
No	146	20.03%
Yes	558	76.54%
Unsure	25	3.43%
Total	729	100%
No response: 62 (7.84%)		

<b>Q11: Could you take a shower at least 3 times last week?</b>		
No	597	77.84%
Yes	170	22.16%
Total	767	100%
No response: 24 (3.03%)		

<b>Q12: Did you get laundry service in the last week (whites and blues)?</b>		
No, was not offered	29	3.77%
No, do not want to use laundry service	20	2.60%
Yes, and my laundry was cleaned	618	80.36%
Yes, but they did not use detergent	102	13.26%
Total	769	100%
No response: 22 (2.78%)		

<b>Q13: Did you get at least one free phone call in the last week?</b>		
No	477	63.68%
Yes	190	25.37%
Yes, but the call cut out early	23	3.07%
This does not apply to me	59	7.88%
Total	749	100%
No response: 42 (5.31%)		

<b>Q14: Did you get a free video visit in the last week?</b>		
No	384	50.59%
Yes, and it worked	88	11.59%
Yes, but bad service/ cut short	97	12.78%
This does not apply to me	190	25.03%
Total	759	100%
No response: 32 (4.05%)		

<b>Q15: Could you send and get mail in the last week?</b>		
No	67	8.99%
Yes	647	86.85%
This does not apply to me	31	4.16%
Total	745	100%
No response: 46 (5.82%)		

<b>Q16: Did commissary run on schedule this week?</b>		
Yes, full shop	21	2.79%
Yes, limited shop	533	70.78%
Yes, but not my unit's shop week	77	10.23%
No	122	16.20%
Total	753	100%
No response: 38 (4.80%)		