**Survey Comment Report** 



Jacksonville and Pittsfield Work Camp 2023 MQPL Survey Comments

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### Introduction

Jacksonville Correctional Center is a minimum-security male prison within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) that housed 722 people on March 13, 2023. 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, an informed consent notice/instruction sheet, and a privileged mail prepaid business reply envelope addressed to JHA) so that every person incarcerated at Jacksonville had an opportunity to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey if they chose to do so. JHA received 243 responses to the MQPL survey from people at Jacksonville through June 7, 2023, representing approximately 31% of the static population. Comments from 11 respondents, or about 8%, of the 132 people at the Pittsfield Work Camp, for which Jacksonville is the parent facility, are also included separately in this report. JHA visited Jacksonville in March 2023.

Below are the comments from the MQPL surveys for the open-ended survey questions followed by marginalia comments. Please note:

- All blank answers have been omitted
- Names and other personally identifying details have been redacted
- Spelling and grammar have been lightly edited for understanding and to account for possible transcriber typos

### **Jacksonville Correctional Center**

### **OPEN-ENDED SURVEY QUESTIONS**

# Q12. What are the most <u>positive</u> things about life in this prison?

- 1. The most positive thing is knowing you about to go home this the worse prison.
- getting to know new things about yourself!!!
- If you can get in school or work.
- 4. There is a over 40 unit for us older guys
- 5. the staff fucking each other
- 6. The inmates get along for the most part

- 7. Going home talking with Friends and Family
- 8. NO THING
- 9. Air conditioning
- 10. NONE
- 11. few inmates get to participate in programs
- 12. your not in a cell all day
- 13. Nothing
- 14. Having an out date!
- 15. A bit of movement
- 16. I really don't have anything positive to say about this prison honestly. Everything is off track and all we do is sit on our deck all day doing nothing.
- 17. Going home.
- 18. church
- 19. None
- 20. The only thing about this prison is every individual has a release date
- 21. This is a Dorm setting so we dont spend time in cells, They also have yard programs and vocational available
- 22. The G.O. program and Lakeland college offer programs to Rapid Re-entry
- 23. Not locked in cells.
- 24. Thinking of the possibilities of getting the tools to be successful in society
- 25. Getting help with life skills
- 26. Absolutely nothing
- 27. none life sucks in prison
- 28. None
- 29. A few staff members are receptive to helping you
- 30. to be honest there are none I can state. Iv been gone 10 years + coming here to what was supposed to be a "re-entry" facility was the worst decision iv made while in IDOC.
- 31. Commissary
- 32. N/A
- 33. Nothing Trying to get a job to get Good Time
- 34. most staff is good
- 35. me working
- 36. You can get a job but it doesn't help for commissary
- 37. There are places that are worse.
- 38. I don't see anything positive
- 39. open phone and dayroom hours
- 40. nothing
- 41. Being able to listen to music and call home
- 42. Nothing
- 43. Going home early if you are allowed any type of Good Time
- 44. It is not hard to talk to my loved ones on the outside
- 45. Gives you time to think about what you have done. Nothing. they need counselors who aren't going to lie to you.
- 46. The fact that we can call our loved ones everyday.
- 47. Being able to talk on the phone.
- 48. nothing at all Life in prison sucks
- 49. to get out!
- 50. There's NONE

- 51. maintaining a residence if your homeless not having to worry about being hungry. If your able to you can be in a program if your not 6 months + under
- 52. This is nothing positive in this prison.
- 53. Nothing
- 54. That it's only temporary.
- 55. I don't feel as if there are any positive things about life here...
- 56. NONE
- 57. Shelter, dorm living
- 58. safety
- 59. Being Paroled.
- 60. That you aren't locked in a cell all day
- 61. Nothing. This place sucks. Officers bitch too much about their co-workers and treat inmates w/ contempt. Put good officers in supervisory roles, not the idiots.
- 62. I can call my people everyday
- 63. Take a time to think and make changes on my life.
- 64. I'm not locked in a 2 man cell for long periods of time.
- 65. none
- 66. school, weightlifting, exercise
- 67. That I have less than a year left to do.
- 68. learning patience
- 69. AWO [NAME REDACTED], Major [REDACTED], LT. [REDACTED], SGT. [REDACTED]. SGT. C/O [REDACTED]
- 70. Trying to receive a closer outdate. But this place makes their own rules by stating that inmates like me with 6 months or less are not entitled to earn extra sentence credit
- 71. Not very much.
- 72. Nothing
- 73. Walk to dietary, library
- 74. there are none this place is like living in hell.
- 75. NOTHING
- 76. Being able to call home and receiving letters from loved ones.
- 77. Healthcare...nurses are angels!
- 78. The ability to not be lock down in a cell. The programs and good time conduct.
- 79. Nothing at all
- 80. nothing
- 81. If you want to change its been on me I make sure to find something positive every day.
- 82. Nothing
- 83. GTL give us the chance to have video visits with our family and loved ones that is so many miles away.
- 84. Nothing at all.
- 85. Nothing
- 86. I have a MSR
- 87. Nothing
- 88. There is none
- 89. Nothing
- 90. Having the time to think about the mistakes I made in my life that helped me end up in prison.
- 91. My own space physically / not mentally
- 92. Positive!!! Are you crazy...

- 93. visit
- 94. my outdate
- 95. got food
- 96. The fact that you can use the phone pretty much all day, and you don't have a bunch of time left 2 due.
- 97. The female officers ass
- 98. Nothing Bitch y'all is sick & weird
- 99. TV, Tablet.
- 100. School & programs
- 101. The GEO program.
- 102. I am in GEO
- 103. This jail has a negative impact on people. Theres no positive besides GEO program.
- 104. Getting mail, using phone, watching my TV and going home on my outdate
- 105. I have yet to find anything positive here. Just talk on phone, with GEO & COVID not much gym or yard.
- 106. not a thing at all
- 107. None
- 108. being sober
- 109. I'm in GEO, that's it. LOL
- 110. None here
- 111. That I get out soon
- 112. strictly being sober from hard drugs like meth, crack, coke, etc...
- 113. Watching my TV and reading.
- 114. Nothing positive!
- 115. A few reentry classes
- 116. schooling
- 117. Air condition
- 118. We are not locked in a cell 24 hours a day.
- 119. None
- 120. We are not locked in a cell all day. We can talk to our love ones every day.
- 121. I am treated fairly by other inmates, staff does what they can to be fair but also inforcing there rules. But they are very strickt.
- 122. Really nothing. Getting worse.
- 123. Contact with family
- 124. Jacksonville isn't trying to do nothing for nobody. They want people to come back to prison. There is no reentry or rehabilitation or anything here honestly this prison make me feel depressed a make me wanna kill myself. When I was at Centralia Correctional Center I never felt like this. I hate feeling like this they Run this prison like its a Maximum Security Prison No humanity here.
- 125. Walking to get a food tray.
- 126. Im in drug program
- 127. That I have a date to leave!
- 128. Seeing the outside of the fence.
- 129. Keep in contact with family
- 130. There are no positive things about life in this prison
- 131. You have a release date.
- 132. There are really none I can think of. I spent a year in Wisconsin immediately before this. I would give them a lot compared to here in regards to cleanliness organization (How things are run), treatment by staff, food, basically Everything
- 133. I can't find a single thing positive about it.

- 134. NONE
- 135. I do not fear for my physical safety by staffer, fellow inmates, I feel physically safe from harm
- 136. Your still alive
- 137. Only the GEO program
- 138. Reaching my outdate
- 139. Geting to go to church. When. They have it
- 140. Dorm setting. Alot of movement.
- 141. This is the Worst Place Ive Been Ran Down Ive Been Degraded talked Down to Always told to Shut up cant get in Schooling we are told we can't fill out for school or programs in low security/criteria and cant get any programs or school
- 142. Being positive in a positive situation is easy. Anyone can do that. But when we are positive in a negative situation like prison, "It shows me God is real."
- 143. Not in a cell, phone access and easier hygiene, than in higher security. Commissary is still very unreliable, but better than higher security, and is slowly improving from Covid/supply chain shortfalls. There is still more freedom at a dorm, than in an X-House. I would not go back.
- 144. there are not any this prison is bad too many people have died here.
- 145. NOTHING
- 146. cheap phone calls, decent inmates
- 147. THE END of it
- 148. The most positive thing about life in this prison is the opportunity it gave me to further my education thru Voc.
- 149. Makes you not want to come back. The programs and health benefits that are offered.
- 150. I have an outdate
- 151. Tryin to get to a different place + to work release so I stay outta site + outta staffs' way.
- 152. None
- 153. Getting clean
- 154. Good time possibilities
- 155. That is a dorm, and you have a lil more movement than prisons with cells
- 156. An outdate
- 157. Sober
- 158. To think about the life I was leading and make changes
- 159. There are none, programs are not engaging, school is severely understaffed. Jobs overwork us for measely pay and half day credit. We work 7 hours daily only to feel dumb at the end of the day.
- 160. I will get out one day!
- 161. Being able to exercise and talk to family.
- 162. Not locked in a cell, get a fair amount of yard & gym when not on guarentine
- 163. Yard, gym
- 164. I would say the reentry program for veterans
- 165. Good time
- 166. Yard and gym
- 167. That they can't lock you down inside the rooms
- 168. I am alive
- 169. Waking up .And thanking God for a new beginning.
- 170. Not being locked in a cell all day

- 171. Getting to eat 3 times a day \$17.00 dollars a month don't buy food. Or shoes or boots so 3 meals a day is a blessing. Work release would be better befor are release, but IDOC picks and choose who goes and who dont.
- 172. Yard and gym
- 173. I'm not dead.
- 174. The jobs
- 175. Not being in a cell all day.
- 176. Not being lock in a cell
- 177. Nothing
- 178. You can stop and think about your life and change the way you leave live your life.
- 179. Dayrooms and got a job quick
- 180. The freedom to be lazy the
- 181. Outdate, visits
- 182. Absolutly nothing
- 183. There is nothing positive about this prison. There are no ways to better yourself and there is no way to be by yourself if needed.
- 184. THERE AREN'T ANY. This place is run by liars and bullies who are abusive, untrained, and self serving.
- 185. That we are in a dayroom and not locked down
- 186. there are none
- 187. Gym + yard...
- 188. I could only get better
- 189. Not being in a cell and movement.
- 190. Nothing good ever happens in this prison for good people and the counselors dont want to people and the Warden and A.W dont want to help the people that need it
- 191. Ive on my own done bible study & am learning the word of Christ. Im not doing drugs & they give me plenty of time to sit on my ass. I worked 2 jobs for 35 yrs and now nothing. I was told in X-house "to want is to invite disappointment" so far this is IDOC
- 192. You have an outdate, open dorms, you know what time C/O's make their rounds
- 193. Their isnt really anything positive.
- 194. I like dorm style cell blocks. A/C and heat Library 2x a week. It being a minimum. The nurses and female C/O nice to look at l.o.l. It's short-term. Most positive is getting out of here. Food not bad just not enough. clean.
- 195. GEO Program
- 196. Getting out.
- 197. Not being locked up in cell / fair treatment from C/O
- 198. A/C
- 199. Nothing!
- 200. Having the opportunity to work and earn a half a day good time as a result.
- 201. Nothing
- 202. It makes you not wanting to come back
- 203. That I don't have to be here forever...That I do have a job and that I am tryn to go home to my loved ones
- 204. None
- 205. At least im able to breath, barely.
- 206. Knowing one day "God" will judge all people the same.
- 207. NOTHING
- 208. Using your time wisely while your in prison so that you have a better of not returning.
- 209. No cells free movement from sleeping areas to dayroom. More opportunity for phone usage

- 210. Nothing. They don't offer anything here.
- 211. Living to see another day
- 212. I'm closer to home but besides that this place is horrible
- 213. Having windows, walking to chow
- 214. My mental health support.
- 215. Nothing
- 216. Nothing

## Q13. What are the most <u>negative</u> things about life in this prison?

- 1. The correctional staff they over abuse there power and they are liars.
- 2. You can't control your situations and do the thing you will like to do. You can't attend any program this prison have to offer.
- 3. The C/O don't value, men as men, not as functions of a chain conventionalities. No opportunity for work, training. School for all! I was working at [MEDIUM-SECURITY IDOC PRISON REDACTED] Correctional Center for 3 years, Can't work here?
- 4. This is the worst run prison in the state of IL. From the Warden on down every dept. here does not follow state law at all They make up there own rules and follow what they wont!!! Not what the law says.
- 5. The staff and medical dont care what happens to inmate, and dietary here is a joke the food is either overcooked or undercooked everyday.
- 6. Hard to read books no peace and quiet always loud and noise being bother by other Inmates
- 7. ALL THE NEW RULES. If, you come in 6 month and under they cann't help you with nothing I thing that-in-justice
- 8. Lack of movement. poor food quality, small portions, black mold, staff incompetence and laziness, lack of programs, lack of job opportunities, warehousing of inmates (20 in 1 dorm), inconsistent with rules
- 9. Food, yard, staff, good time
- 10. If your time is 6 months or less you have no chance at get into a program or a job that will give you good time to be released early
- 11. being trapped in a room with 20-100 people & having to fight if you want to get on the phone, theres not enough phones for everybody to use
- 12. Sergeants Majors & Lt always in your face talking down to you
- 13. The way staff treats us.
- 14. Lack of scholastic ventures, havent taken my TABE test + been here 4 months! No consistency of schedules due to flimsy Covid policy
- 15. I never get responses to my mail I send out and they are very negative here.
- 16. Staff.
- 17. Short-timers get access to all the programs first; Good time seems to be passed out randomly instead of based on merit.
- 18. you cant see your family or kids or dont get your good time / EDSC.
- 19. not having jobs and lack of programming
- 20. Everything
- 21. we get treated unfairly and our disciplinary punishments are unnesscarry
- 22. The way the staff talks to me and others
- 23. Humiliation, Degrading attitudes

- 24. Inconsistency with any structure or schedule. Uncertainty because lack of communication w/ staff from the top down
- 25. Disrespectful staff and having to worry about staff taking property sold on commissary from inmates
- 26. The fact of if you are serving over 2 years you can not enroll in substance abuse, self-help courses due to the fact you have to much time to serve
- 27. Other people in prison
- 28. The way LT [REDACTED] and LT [REDACTED] treat us inmates
- 29. everything
- 30. Lack of programs to earn good-time. The denial rate here is high for better opportunities. Ex: work-release
- 31. The warden prohibiting me from working the good jobs when I haven't been in any trouble. Also purposefully shuns me when she sees me here at Jacksonville CC. (Warden [REDACTED])
- 32. the food is awful here, the staff talk to you crazy Alot of the time, there are very limited jobs + programs, + their is absolutley no consistency.
- 33. Other inmates
- 34. They run this institution like a max They talk to us Negatively They dont follow administrative code in areas with the visiting
- 35. lots
- 36. Lack of programming to get EDSC & school
- 37. It's ran like a max prison
- 38. the negative thing about Jacksonville is schooling and how the staff handle [ILLEGIBLE]
- 39. Food, some staff, clinical services
- 40. Im threatend every single day with my good time to be taken away even when Im not doing anything or talking in chow or line
- 41. 20 man dorms, gangs; rude, mean, incompetent employees
- 42. everything
- 43. Take your pick
- 44. The way staff treat Inmates. No programs for people with years left.
- 45. It is so hard to recieve any of the Earned Discretion Good Time because of old crimes which your debt was already paid to society. It's pretty much impossible to obtain
- 46. The way that you are treated, even when you have done nothing wrong. Especially by the lieutenants. The messed up and ever changing yard & gym schedules.
- 47. They submit you for EDSC before you have the ability to show you are trying to better yourself. They don't give you immediate opportunity to get Good time. Good time needs to be a full day-for-day not a half-day
- 48. The fact that were not aloud E-cigs or cigarettes. Also the fact that we have a certain time to go to sleep.
- 49. The officers.
- 50. Being away from my family and the people I love
- 51. they don't know how to run a prison
- 52. Its a crime school, I feel suicidal officers disrespect us, No bettering yourself.
- 53. Not being able to recieve the Earned Discretionary Good time due to your background. Not being able to join a program due to having 6 months or less to do.
- 54. I can't see my family the phones barely work
- 55. Everything, staff, food, living area, showers, bathrooms, phones

- 56. Not enough yard or patio. especially if you work or in school. The counselors don't seem to know anything! EDSC good time is rarely givin out.
- 57. The Loutenants and C/O harassment everyday...
- 58. Everything
- 59. the food, the staff, commissary
- 60. Food
- 61. Everything Else
- 62. This prison only offers min to no help to rehabilitate yourself.
- 63. Nothing is consistent. People (inmates) are treated like shit. Rules constantly change. This is a minimum operating as if its a maximum. Food is terrible.
- 64. They (IDOC) lie about this facility being a "Re-entry Center". There are no significant programs to prepare a long-term inmate such as myself (over [20+] years in so far) to prepare to reenter society successfully!!
- 65. They don't have anything to help people get good time, help people become better in life or just class to help them
- 66. No Courses. Or plans to change or be better.
- 67. I am Constantly surrounded by multiple people. The food is horrible and there is not much of it. The video visits barely work. The commissary is always messed up. COVID has made this a very stressful environment to be in. The dental and eye doctor is non-existent.
- 68. I have been here [15+] months without programming, school and am unable to try to better myself because I have more time to do than most inmates here
- 69. Being degraded, treated unfairly, lack of medical attention, I personally am being neglected medical treat w/ a severe [MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED] problem
- 70. constant rule changes, very few programs, disrespect by staff
- 71. racism and gang bullshit
- 72. The minimum effort from staff (officials more-so) treating LGBTQ inmates as human beings, complete disregard of proper investigations & surrounding mob-like action, malicious allegations from homophobic, transphobic inmates to pacify their uncomfortability!
- 73. A very injustice practice that says an Inmate with less than 6. month can't earn any extra sentence credit
- 74. The staff look at, speak to us, and treat us like scum of the earth. We have to file a grievance form to get anything done around here. It is very hard to get into programs to better ourselves.
- 75. Disrespectful officers, Lack of programs, Not Feeding us enough from dietary, Not enough commissary food, Mold in the shower / living area
- 76. unavailable programs, backed up for the TABE test, dental pain ignored, slow commissary.
- 77. the food sucks the staff and everything in here.
- 78. Disrespectful, officers, not enough food from dietary, lack of programming, inhumane invirement due to mold, not enough food on commissary
- 79. Dietary food, commissary, good time, programs, housing arrangments, my safety and security, being treated like an animal.
- 80. Counselors really dont seem to care. No school or programs unless you are short on time
- 81. The sanitation and healthcare. The food dieat and the lack of funding for commissary and how it is cash only \$
- 82. The lack of programming for short times offenders.
- 83. Everything

- 84. No rehabilitation, the down grading by staff, Theres nothing here No trades Nothing to leave with. Its a crime school
- 85. Not enough commissary food, Lack of programs
- 86. The way the staff goes about doing things in here. They comes to work with poor attitudes and do whatever they could to mess up our days here because NO One in a higher position is here on grounds to watch over them...
- 87. The officers actions
- 88. The way the LTs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] treat us inmates also Major [REDACTED] threats and intimidates all the inmates
- 89. The mailing system is ten days behind and money transfers are two weeks behind.
- 90. a lot
- 91. EVERYTHING
- 92. Disrespectful officers, not enough food from commissary, not enough food from dietary, lack of programming, inhumane invironment due to mold in showers, living areas.
- 93. The fact that when you want to take programs that you need to better yourself and they deny you them.
- 94. Dietary food is horrible and doesn't fill up a grown man
- 95. Dietary, commissary, school, healthcare etc...
- 96. The whole jail
- 97. Here is messed up, the staff are bad
- 98. unorganized from last time was here
- 99. Everything from the way it's run, & the treatment by some officers mainly Lt. [REDACTED] and Sgt [REDACTED] constantly bothering, taking and bullying people
- 100. The JVCC chow hall
- 101. The staff treat us wrong!!
- 102. disrespectful C/O's, bad mail service, chow hall food is bad.
- 103. Officers with bad attitude
- 104. The food! We do not get very much to eat and the quality is terrible.
- 105. The business office. This prison is so disfunctional and the food is bad on top of that the food is horrible
- 106. Disrespect from staff, horrible food, limited to programs / education, not enough recreation
- 107. Everything plus C/O [REDACTED], Lt [REDACTED] racists
- 108. The food + [NAME REDACTED] head of the GEO program
- 109. The C/O's Lt [REDACTED] is one of them he walk around and disrespect and take things from people just because he can and he say nobody is going to do nothing.
- 110. The way staff treats you, Limited programs, Unit counselor constantly lied.
- 111. losing time with kids
- 112. Administration is all fucked up. The Lieutenants walk through and harass us every night. The dietary food is shit. The Covid testing needs to stop theyre just making positive test randomly
- 113. The staff, the food + water. The living areas are nasty to live in bathroom no vent.
- 114. the staff treat you like shit
- 115. Being away from family, loved ones
- 116. Everything else.
- 117. Overcrowded and lack of programs and opportunity
- 118. The denial of good time

- 119. Lieutenant [REDACTED] is a thief. He stole my towel that I bought in commissary along with laundry bag full of hygiene that I had hanging on hook outside shower. He took others items also, then threw our stuff away!!! THEIF!!!
- 120. how this place treats us
- 121. To much and to many control freaks (staff)
- 122. The lack of programming, educational opportunities, and they are understaffed.
- 123. Everything
- 124. We don't have no type of programs. We don't have a lot of vocational classes. They don't give us our good time. They deny us good time because of criminal history and lack of programming. They make us wait to be put in for the TABE test.
- 125. The rules are constantly changing, and get stronger every time, I am treated like a number and not a person.
- 126. You miss your family. Nothing to do here to better yourself. This place don't help you. They make you want to come back to prison. Nothing here!!! Suck
- 127. Records office shirking valid paperwork!!!! Time out of housing unit!!
- 128. If you don't tell on people or (snitch) no programs I was told this was a Reentry they lied all we do is sit around all this time the way staff talk down at you it not supposed to be ran like a max this is supposed to be a minimum
- 129. The vegitabels here are known to cause prostate cancer "carrots and leafy greens" over tired of carrots
- 130. The food in dietary
- 131. Gangs run phones and wings. Might remind you of South Chicago.
- 132. The food. Staff. We are limited to who we can talk to inside and outside of prison.
- 133. Lack of available outdoor time!! Commissary Limit & Availability!! Beds!!! No padding
- 134. The way inmates are treated by staff
- 135. No classes or opportunities for development.
- 136. The commissary is horrible. I will spend 2 weeks longer than if I would have not received 30 days of good time!! They hold to notify if EDSC is received. Immediate release if from drug program without it, I will try to take away the good time?
- 137. Punishment is delivered in large waves rather than targeting the problem people. When something comes up a whole room, wing or even entire camp can suffer due to the actions of one or small group of people. Food is awful and the people who run the chow hall don't care. Staff is always looking to take stuff from us. There are C/O's and Lt's here who relish being known as "assholes", they enjoy watching us suffer and openly admit it. Expectations on how to live and maintain your area are impossible for anyone to follow long term and are designed so that officers can easily write you up for something on a whim. Medical decisions are sometimes made by staff who don't have medical training. Commissary is poorly run, poorly stocked and inmates that work there are allowed to help their friends and screw everyone else.
- 138. Staff, medical care, food, school, programs, jobs, maintenance, security, discipline
- 139. There are no opportunities for inmates with sex offenses. Even if your offense was 20 years ago and am not currently here on a sex case, you cannot get good time, murderers can. Cannot go to school. Cannot get a job. Cannot even leave for parole because of lack of halfway houses.
- 140. The treatment + mistreatment from staff
- 141. Commissary, healthcare, gym equipment, L.T.S., Dietary
- 142. Staff are degrading, yet don't have or set a standard to be respected.
- 143. The staff
- 144. The inmates us 50 years and older guys can't get away from.

- 145. Dirty, guards treat us Bad, Dont get to see family, phones are broke cant use, No programs, No reentry, MOLD This environment makes alot of people think about suicide! Its Horrible
- 146. The way staff treats + speak to incarcerated people. Being told to shut up.
- 147. Being around inmates and staff who are "miserable."
- 148. Daily disrespect, constantly, in interaction with officers when moving around the housing unit or elsewhere. Intimidating and aggressive officers, whom I feel are actively trying to trip up inmates, or create security threats as a pretext for other things, like harsher punishments or more staff. Inmates here are also aggressive idiots, But staff are on everyone's bumper ALL THE TIME. I feel there is a component of racial and/or case profiling, or targeting going on as well, here and at other facilities. It is very stressful here
- 149. everything here the food the counselors and staff
- 150. EVERYTHING
- 151. Too many people, too little space, over use of power by officers
- 152. The beginning of it
- 153. The most negative thing about this prison is the hostile environment
- 154. The most negative is having to be the new person and having to stand your ground which may lead to SEG.
- 155. The lies
- 156. No good time or day for day like it was sold to me when I took my time
- 157. Its hell
- 158. Away from my family
- 159. The C/Os enforcement of rules are beyond strict
- 160. Movement no condrdiction, treated like a mat I.E. no talking in chow line, walk in pairs, control movement. Staff doesn't know anything. Counselors are No help
- 161. I don't see my family
- 162. Can't get in programs or time cuts. I have [10+]yrs for non violent [OFFENSE DETAILS REDACTED] and have been denied for good time. IDK why I stay out of trouble
- 163. away from family. hard to recieve good time
- 164. See above
- 165. Lt. [REDACTED] and Warden [REDACTED]
- 166. Gang culture, arrogant officers, smelly bathrooms and horrible food that your forced to eat at a speedy pace
- 167. Hard to get in ANY programs, hard to get the good time deserved, some staff treatment
- 168. lack of programs and substantial schooling! Lack of good time contracts.
- 169. Being treated like a child and like an adult.
- 170. Everything else
- 171. Strick for lines and sooner store days everything else plus
- 172. The staff, LT's make each day harder and harder each day. Picking at you. Bulling you even and will call you (inmate) knowing it's a sign of disrespect
- 173. They feed us garbage, I dont feel safe nor protected, I dont get the help I deserve
- 174. Not being allowed to work or receive any sentence ruducting because I am under 6 months remaining
- 175. looking forward to #1 more month making \$17.00 a-month with no state booth
- 176. There isnt enough good time programs, and inmates with long sentences are not priority on no waitlist that offers good time

- 177. Jacksonville picks and choose who gets stuff, like jobs, good cloths, good mattresses. Most of us don't get state boots, and some of us have 4 or 5 years left to do. We need state boots
- 178. Not too many negative other than need to easy up on how strick talkin, and make it like college
- 179. Treatment by staff.
- 180. The treatment
- 181. Almost everything
- 182. Not being locked in a cell
- 183. I don't see my family
- 184. You can't do what you want to do why you here.
- 185. Staff treatment disciplinary i transford from a med security prison and feel like I stepped backwards
- 186. It's just a waste of time it damn sure isn't helping me get ready for success in the world it is just an opportunity to be lazy
- 187. Mental games played by staff toward prisoners
- 188. The staff
- 189. No good college programs, no programs to better yourself, staff treat you like crap. I treated my dog better than these staff do. You have to constitanly watch your back, worry about people stealing your stuff because it is easy to pop the back of your box up and get into the box. There are too many people in a dorm. There is no way to be by yourself. When stated to a staff they say it prepares you for home. There was more freedom at a medium than here. The cable is messed up. There is no 6 feet apart. There are NO benefits here. No fresh air, one window that doesn't even open.
- 190. Where to begin. Internal politics are played with the inmates as pawns. An Asst. warden making her own rules, a white 50+ Major mad that he is reporting to politically appointed Black females who is creating dissention among the inmates to make her look bad. He is the worst bully in here.
- 191. We are treated like shit and when it comes to our good time its hard to get even if this is your first offense.
- 192. Treat minimum like maximum change rules constantly
- 193. Staff treat us Bad and try to Intimidate, LT [REDACTED] C/O [REDACTED]
- 194. The staff
- 195. The staff acts as if this is a maximum security facility
- 196. Everything in this prison is negative and there is never no positive feedback from Ward. AW down to the staff
- 197. Ive gained 30lbs as most do in prison. (especially while they are still using Covid restrictions) Being treated like a piece of shit by C/O's when the inmates some are very Intelligent!!
- 198. Commissary is horrible (not consistent), C/O's are new & feel the need to act as if we're less than them, lieutenants feel the need to retaliate if the house unit speaks up, C/O's bully certain individuals, Seg is the first option for any infraction, mold in showers, sinks
- 199. The visits are short and strict, still have "glass" up in the visiting room. certian C/O's bully IIC and say theyll be back and try to look "good" when "Springfield" comes. Mail room loses mail and is overly strict. Certain inmates get what they want.
- 200. Not enough food on trays. Always a waiting list long time. Keep changing the rules. Warden and staff don't seem to know what they're doing. Hard time getting into programs or anything here. Lack of communication between staff and inmates. Shakedowns and checks alot. pissy officers.

- 201. Food, staff
- 202. No opportunities such as jobs, programs, and contracts. Staff are bias, counselors dont help and hardly know whats going on. Not a reentry.
- 203. No respect from C/O's
- 204. No groups, substance abuse groups, mental health groups, and jobs for inmate six month or less in IDOC custody
- 205. Poor food, staff eats all the good stuff while we eat slop, they do not eat the same meals as we do. Havent seen no #1 warden in 3 months, poor leadership, poor counseling staff, No one know anything
- 206. Everything!
- 207. Only being able to have one assignment at a time and not being given the opportunity to complete any programs.
- 208. Everything
- 209. Being around a lot of people
- 210. The lack of organization, good time contracts availibility always change, The shortage of staff for the prison to run smoothly..
- 211. No talking in chow, Only one contract for good time.
- 212. Mold in the showers, conditions are inhumane to be confined in.
- 213. Seeing the corruption from staff. Showing favoritism to gang bangers.
- 214. This is a warehouse for inmates, Little personal space no privacy, State / Springfield has commissary system screwed up?
- 215. The other negative inmates that do not want to change.
- 216. Heavy gang influences. If you are white and not in a gang then you will be bullied, preyed on, robbed, etc.
- 217. TABE test take 2 months to take. Commissary never has anything, and we go on the first and 27th only. No schooling. No drug treatment For all, B-grade for anything. No double contracts, poor state loan program, unreasonable searches, harassment.
- 218. Being a white inmate
- 219. Living environment, staff degrade us, mold, phones dont work, we dont barely get outside, No cleaning supplies, No schooling, No programs, Not a Re-entry like we are told, Do not teach anything here No classes No programs at all or they say we dont meet the requirements
- 220. NOT BEING TREATED LIKE I MATTER OR HAVE A FUTURE!!!
- 221. 1. Medical care / access sense of urgency, 2. Food, 3. Housing, 4. Sleep, 5. Opportunities to improve
- 222. Everything
- 223. getting burned with hot Boiling water

## Q14. What suggestions do you have for improvement?

- 1. They need to wear body cam and the phone system. Everybody don't get on it's not enough time.
- 2. The staff need to start treating the resident like human beings and not animals!!!
- 3. Some people have the opportunity to have skilled on release, make it for All.
- 4. Fire the warden ASAP and the major's Retrain all staff how to deal with inmates
- 5. Medical needs major improvements, staff needs to stop harassment of inmates on a daily basis
- 6. Work release

- 7. Change the sentence guide line instead of 50% to 35%. They give to must time out for you back ground and little crime that been upgrade a extent
- 8. No controlled movement, more yard / gym, 10 men to dorm instead of 20, better food with bigger potions, staff that do their job, more programs, more job opportunities, more consistent with rules
- 9. Less security, more yards gyms, more programs
- 10. Start giving us the E.D.S.C it is just about impossible to recieve due to background.
- 11. more phones, more programs, classes & things to learn while you are incarcerated to help you for when you get out
- 12. None
- 13. phone calls on the tablet. Better Dietary food. Better commissary.
- 14. Either get rid of the Covid lockdowns or come up with some policy that actually take steps to eradicate it instead of merely eradicating our yards, library, gyms in an effort to seem concerned. It's a farce.
- 15. More programming, work (job availability), opportunity to self help, and better work ethnic.
- 16. Close it.
- 17. Give each individual equal access to the programs available.
- 18. more yard time, gym Time, school ext
- 19. Love and care
- 20. None
- 21. we need new officers and staff thats going to treat us equal
- 22. Everyone treat everyone with respect and like a human
- 23. Better staff training.
- 24. More opportunities to program & earn good time. And get EDUCATED to have a better chance for a positive outcome after release
- 25. Not having to wait for programming based on release dates substance abuse, criminal thinking, anger management etc.
- 26. Fire LT [REDACTED] and LT [REDACTED].
- 27. officers should be respectful more inmate friendly + more rehabilitative programs for everybody
- 28. C/O's need better attitudes for starters.
- 29. Be consistently, consistent with daily operations. implement more programs. Allow IIC with later MSR's dates to enroll or partake in programs based on availability opposed to getting push back, due to later MSR's dates
- 30. Staff members + the food
- 31. more jobs, classes, + programs to help people be better prepared for society. more direct communication between staff + inmates, much more accountability for staff members, everyone want to "pass the buck" with each issue but the buck has to stop with someone.
- 32. More Good-time.
- 33. Food, They need to treat us better
- 34. Better food More jobs and more programming to help people get out.
- 35. **[ILLEGIBLE]**, yard, get people in the drug program, one guy got 18 monts whent & I got 14 and court orderd and I am still not there thats punish
- 36. Stop running Jacksonville like a max house because its a minimum
- 37. Better food, organization
- 38. shut it down
- 39. Make consequences for staff who break rules, that is a double standard here that is not acknowledge at all

- 40. Retrain staff to learn how to talk to people, more programs to help people.
- 41. Go back to the regular Good Time when it was called meritorious Good Time People with 50% cases at least got something instead of nothing. It only makes sense.
- 42. That it should be easier to transfer to another facility from Jacksonville C.C. Make this facility a re-entry like it is advertised to be
- 43. Allow everyone every opportunity to better themselves. Change all 50% to 35% and give them good time if they are first time offenders.
- 44. More time outside, Allow cigarettes on commissary, And no time limit on when we have to go to bed.
- 45. Train the officers better, and hold them accountable for their actions.
- 46. Shut it Down!
- 47. There needs to be more phones, living areas upgrading Theres mold everywhere. chow hall showers rusted vents There needs to be a Honor wing/Neutral wing
- 48. Give inmates who have 50% on their time to do the Good time if their on Good Behavior at least some of it like 3 months-6 months
- 49. Higher ups staff schooling Tru ATC Re-entry programs Good time for good behavior Work programs We get nothing
- 50. improved staff behaviors and attitudes towards inmates.
- 51. A chance to be outside everyday. More activities for inmates. That everyone gets a submitted to Springfield for EDSC that is elegable. Not just stoped at the counselor
- 52. give more people a chance to earn good time and enter programs...
- 53. the staff need to be replaced
- 54. Better food supervisors, more consistancy when it comes to the staff and commissary. Also for them to quit denying people EDSC without actually sending it off to Springfield
- 55. Better food
- 56. Retrain staff (security) and change administration
- 57. I think they should let anyone that want to get help be able to get it in the class they offer and not say your to short or to much time ect...
- 58. Hold officers and supervisors accountable for their conduct Get rid of problem inmates. Offer mental health and social skills, communication training to staff.
- 59. More programs, more vocational & trade training. Sensitivity training for staff & have real penalties for staff who abuse inmate mentally or verbally & who sleep on duty or break the rules themselves.
- 60. A class to help people, so when they get out in do better. Better food and the C/Os to treat us better.
- 61. Please classified people who dont
- 62. Get a full time Dentist and Eye Docter. Reduce the population by half. Better training for the food supervisors and Treat the facility like a minimum, instead of a med or max!
- 63. Make room for inmates with farther outdates to be able to get into school or a program
- 64. More jobs, more school, Everyone obeys the same rules, including C/Os inforcing them. Better medical attention
- 65. Different wardens, more programs, a thourgho investigation
- 66. C/O's need to do better job of enforcing rules especially after night time count
- 67. More training surrounding dealing with transgender post operative inmates
- 68. Allow inmates with 6 months or less a chance to recieve extra sentence credit and not be exempt from Programs & Jobs.

- 69. For the staff to be more fair to inmates. To make programs available to everyone to better their life. Hire more professional staff in school and programs.
- 70. More Programs, More Food from dietary, More food from commissary, More healthy, cleaner invirment
- 71. active contracts, college, better commissary. Dentist available.
- 72. shut it down.
- 73. More programs, more food, cleaner envirement
- 74. They need to seriously overhaul the structure of Illinois prison systems.
- 75. More school programs for people who really want them
- 76. Helthy food should be a choice and better healthcare and dental care...
- 77. Communication and more programs
- 78. New staff
- 79. More programs & rehabilitation.
- 80. more programs, more food from dietary, cleaner / healther invirment
- 81. Well maybe if they bring more programs and more release going home programs to this place it might just turn out to be a good safe place to do time at...
- 82. Need more programs
- 83. Fire LT [REDACTED] Lt [REDACTED] and Major [REDACTED]
- 84. When the staff says a certain number a days is needed to make something possible stick two what you say. Staff is bullshit on days to take test etc.
- 85. Nothing
- 86. Fire everyone get people with morals
- 87. more programs, more food from dietary, regular commissary schedule, cleaner environment, fix broken phones
- 88. Better counselors, security, and overall management.
- 89. Routine and structure
- 90. For an outside no bias source to come and have an open and honest sit down with staff and inmates.
- 91. redo the jail top to bottom
- 92. more school, programs, movement
- 93. leave us alone we already going thru enough, on top of dealing with their attitudes, all of us for the most part just wanna go home but this prison trys to keep us here longer.
- 94. Bring in female strippers
- 95. Nothing I'm dying & they dont care
- 96. Better food in chow hall and better C/O help.
- 97. Open up more going home release programs
- 98. Ask the lieutenants not to threaten to take our time in the chow hall for talking. It feels like they are retaliating against us.
- 99. more food + better, staff need to treat offenders with more respect instead of being rude
- 100. We are inmates who do want a better life, but we are not given a fair opportunity to learn, grow and educate.
- 101. Everything needs redone staff 1st cuz that's were all problems come from.
- 102. Feed us a little better
- 103. Every staff in here need to be talk to from the wardens to the Lt to the C/O's
- 104. more programs
- 105. More outside time, and programs, better food
- 106. Quality of dietary food. Fix the walks. Get new workout equipment.
- 107. Close it down.

- 108. more gym and yard time, more food from the kitchen
- 109. More programs that offer more life skills, more ease back to freedom.
- 110. Better food at Jacksonville Correctional Center, better mail service, and C/Os that have respect. They expect our respect and don't show it themselves.
- 111. more opportunity to get yourself in order
- 112. have internal affair more involved
- 113. Stop letting officers curse at us and stop telling us to shut up constantly!!!
- 114. Better communication among staff, better food cooked properly
- 115. New warden and major, way to much security for minimum security. All controlled line movement.
- 116. There should be more programming available. They should give you the opportunity to choose the program you want to participate in. They need to staff more people in the educational department so we can be tested quicker. EDSC should be judged on your current incarceration not on your past. they are literally denying the vast majority of inmates their good time.
- 117. They need more programs and vocational classes. They need to get people in to take the TABE test when they first get here. They need more job assignments for us to have something to do instead of sitting around.
- 118. That staff give warnings before, inforcing strickt tickets, or jumping to being strickt, or responding like we did something wrong, or that they are having a bad day.
- 119. Help people get ready for getting out, Not just throw them away. Help them. Feed us better. Here C/Os eat better than we do. Not the same food, as we get. They suppost to eat the same as us.
- 120. Time for patio, yard, gym, Commissary limits & availability!
- 121. Show some respect. Run it like a minimum not a max. Show a little humility don't show favoritism have college class. We are all human. and if I was supposed to be in Reentry the put me in where I belong.
- 122. Give us a decent food tray
- 123. people in charge of food distribution. Needs improvement
- 124. Fall Ky for some pointers. No good time available.
- 125. improve the quality and quantity of food, more yard and gym days, the attitude of staff.
- 126. Time for gym or outdoor patio, rec
- 127. Staff could treat inmates better and we could be given more yard + patio time. This prison needs more available programs.
- 128. Be treated like a human being.
- 129. More oversight. Better management + improving conditions v. trying to badger inmates
- 130. Fire all the officers and administration and start over. Run the place like a min. security place like its supposed to be. We joke that It's run like a new level called a "min-max" joint. Do a better job of placement of inmates in this facility. Too many that are sent here are loose cannons that need stronger restraints. There is no reason the food has to be as bad as it is. I wouldn't give most of it to a starving dog. Aim punishment toward the problem people and stop punishing the guys that aren't doing anything wrong. Body cams for all officers and continuous storage of videos archives so that when these officers treat us poorly we can have the video pulled up as proof to our complaints. These guys treat and talk to us any way they want and there are no repercussions for it.
- 131. shut the place down, or fire all staff and hire new staff

- 132. More opportunities for sex offenders to get out and improve their lives. Feel like my life and feelings do not matter to anybody. I paid my debt to society almost 20 years ago and they still hold it against me. No opportunities here or on the outside. Hopeless outlook.
- 133. Staff to address us more proper + friendly.
- 134. More L.T.S., Needs more vocational opportunities, more outdoor time
- 135. Replace 1/3 of staff with new. Transfer older 1/3 staff as they are complacent & disrespectful
- 136. Stop hiring racist officers
- 137. Puting all the older people in one houseing unit.
- 138. Schooling Programs Real counseling/ counselors
- 139. Fix things around the prison in a timely manner.
- 140. Getting more jobs & programs and giving everyone state boots and the same pay.
- 141. 1. Everyone should give and receive respect. People in here are just as nasty to others post-Covid, especially staff. I don't understand why staff has become so very aggressive in the past ~2 years. It is not just here, but at my previous facility as well. 2. More family / friend visitation, less Covid quarantines.3+ years now. Longer visitations, too. Loved ones have to drive distances to visit us. Some we haven't seen since pre-Covid, some can't visit now with vaccine mandates and rolling quarantines. It is psychologically harmful, painful.
- 142. It wouldn't matter there will never be a change here.
- 143. Fire LT [REDACTED] and LT [REDACTED]
- 144. Not have it so over populated, more programs are needed
- 145. More yard and gym
- 146. Clarification on SECURITY LEVEL + MORE RESPECT LESS Antagonizing from C/O'S
- 147. More involvement, maybe undercover people working with higher ups to see what the problems are.
- 148. Shut it down
- 149. give a guy day for day if they work like they do school cause not enough incentive for doin good here
- 150. Close
- 151. C/O's getting better education of what rules to enforce and when to give proper liency
- 152. Better staff training. Sensitivity training. Update the prison, better programming
- 153. More programs, more yard, patio, etc.
- 154. work with people to get a plan on how to plan when out
- 155. Hire more teachers, expand programs. Raise pay for workers and give them a day for every day they work if they spend 6 hours or more at their job.
- 156. Give us our good time.
- 157. Better quality of food, more attentive officers and more available jobs.
- 158. Be able to get good programs, receive the assessments needed to get in programs, not just when you get short. They wait till your short time to get in, then say your too short. so they dont have to put you in
- 159. More positive reinforcement + programs for reentry into society, more opportunities for schooling, the wait list is a year long
- 160. Better meals to eat, better commissary, and better recreation time
- 161. Better food in dietary
- 162. Programs and contracts, food could be better and store days more sooner

- 163. That Springfield comes and talk to guys about the prison face to face, just don't do a walk through and disregard our complaints.
- 164. Get a better crew fire everyone that is here now
- 165. Equal treatment
- 166. geting programs that will help keep me out of places like prison.
- 167. More early release programs, and make inmates with longer sentences priority for early release programs
- 168. Geting more than \$17.00 dollars a month and getting some good boots. Not everyone can pass the TABE test
- 169. Programs and contracts could be better and store days could be sooner
- 170. Overall humane treatment. I am an Individual in Custody being treated like an inmate.
- 171. it needs to have more programs
- 172. More programs, actual life skills giving to people reentering the streets, stop looking at us as a crime and start looking at us as peoples
- 173. staff improvement.
- 174. work on my life.
- 175. Stop writing tickets for the stupidist reasons
- 176. School + drug program + re-entry programs for every inmate in a timely manner + for staff to treat us like they want to be treated and they make rules that as they go
- 177. Programs, activitys, consistantcy in a schedule
- 178. The staff having better training and them also having to do anger management classes and for them to learn to talk to and treat individuals in custody with more respect
- 179. Staff retrained, more yard, less people in the dorms, more programs, more college classes, pay for jobs to be raised for what the job is If its a skilled job they should get more pay and if you have been gone for a long time or have a while left to do you should be placed in a dorm accordingly. There should be a honor dorm. Staff need to treat us like humans instead of animals. Better bedding, chow, blue clothes, just sell button up clothes on commissary, and better way to lock our property up.
- 180. get rid of these untrained children guards and the guards who try to provoke an incident and lie about it in a trumped up charge (personal experience).
- 181. Real officials that are trained since people have died here since I been here
- 182. Make it a reentry
- 183. Better staff and to treat us like humans
- 184. Start over
- 185. Nothing can change because the staff will not change.
- 186. There is no hope for this system
- 187. Correctional officers and personnel have got to have an extreme since of patience & understanding that we as a society have raised these people of ignorance
- 188. Get more training for the C/O's, communication, have more programs that teachers will attend, give more rec time, open the compound as a minimum not treat us as a medium, get people from Springfield to do random checks
- 189. Make the visits better. More phones so we can communicate better. Phones on the yard. More weights. More yard hours. Actual responses to grievances and no retaliation. Anonymous grievances. Retrain staff.
- 190. More food on trays. More staff and better trained. Being able to get into programs for help without a risk assement reavie or being on a waiting list 4 over a year. Better communication between staff members. Better attitudes. More programs self-help groups. Helping us instead enforcing us.

- 191. Close it down
- 192. Close this Correctional Center down
- 193. Better food for Individuals in Custody; free movement, since it being a min-camp.
- 194. More support groups, mental health groups, substance abuse group for inmate who have six months or less in IDOC custody
- 195. Get rid of the extreme control freaks in security, stop the controled line movement, this is a minimum security not med/max, stop targeting ADA and alleged sex offenders, New No 1 warden who is around. Get us a better commissary.
- 196. Work-release for everyone whose proven themselves in here, not on criminal record!
- 197. There are too many people in this prison. Population has quadrupled in the past year and its way too crowded in the dorms and dayroom.
- 198. More programs, and or jobs
- 199. More school and programming, to hire the other 2 wardens that we do not currently have here working. We only have one of three wardens working here so stuff is all screwed up.
- 200. Talking in chow, 2 contracts for good time and return my property
- 201. Certain areas in training need to be implamented.
- 202. IDOC can start by treating the inmates like people. Not like animals.
- 203. Close it!
- 204. They need to have more teachers so that more classes are available for inmates to get into.
- 205. Segregate known gang members away from others. We need more programs and hands-on training options here. There is long waitlists for school and programs now.
- 206. Better commissary, double contracts, better vocational schooling, more programs.
- 207. geting everyone the same good time.
- 208. Good time for behavior, schooling, programs, No / teachers programs school, Decent staff. They are Degrading
- 209. Fire Everyone, Revise every program, rule, regulation, Creat programs for people with short time to help them re-enter more successfully
- 210. 1. Hold all IDOC personell accountable for behavior, actions, language and job expectations, 2. Have set rules + expectations of prisoners in writing + don't changed things so frequently. 3. Programs for good time (More). Full time job should get full day credit good time, 4. Medical, medications (access + distribution).
- 211. Removing the staff thats only here for pay, and dont care about the incarcerated people at all.
- 212. Keep rules the same and treat Everyone the same and not Differently

# Q15. Please write any other comments or feedback on this survey below.

- 1. we need to come together and start doing some positive thing to get the residents the tools they need and the support to help us when we return back to society and living life on life terms!!!
- 2. we can write survey forever but what are you going to do with the info? Jacksonville Correctional Center 2268 East Monton Ave Jacksonville, IL 62650
- 3. Please Help Us!!!
- 4. we need more programs to help us get out sooner and the staff should help us get things done not stop us from doing them. Like going to school or drug programs
- 5. Should be treated a little better by officers If in pain will tell you to put in for sick call

- 6. It's in you hand
- 7. Jacksonville C.C. is by far the most incompetent, dysfunctional, and inconsistent prison I have ever done time. There is no real communication between staff and inmates are ALWAYS confused and unsure about what's going on. Drain the swamp here!!
- 8. the food here really is bad they don't care about the quality of the food they serve to incarcerated and the food is prepared different than staff. Send me back to where I came from, Gram better food more yard gyms and it's a medium max and the movement and officers are better
- 9. Start allowing inmates with 6 month or less get into a program or a job assignment to get pushed out the door sooner. Give good time for those who are on Good Behavior.
- 10. the staff here is unfair & harass people they like to make up new rules as they go & not do anything to fix the real issues going on here.
- 11. the staff make up some rules as they go along!
- 12. They are no concerned with helping us use our time constructively. They're only concerned about using us for free labor + subsidies from the government. We need more rehabs + less prisons. Seems like 80% of those locked up are addicts that desperately need help + aren't recieving it.
- 13. I would love to get treated as a regular individual or human being rather than a inmate. This jail really needs alot of improving on stuff and how they are conducting themselves such as TABE Testing on time.
- 14. Treat people how you would like to be Treated
- 15. None
- 16. Change our disciplinary consequences and staff
- 17. The staff here are creating a pressure cooker. The way they are making this a inmate against staff hostile environment.
- 18. There are alot of good people that staff JCC. Unfortunately the upper ranks are despicable human beings with no compassion. The behave like schoolyard bullies. Ruling with threats and intimidation.
- 19. I truely hope the fact that you can only enroll in programs by outdate can change.
- 20. This place is a fucking joke they make up there own rules just to write us inmates tickets
- 21. for Jacksonville to be a minimum its ran like maximum security + no programming for incarcerated individuals release...
- 22. survey is good if it makes it to you. And if you actually do something.
- 23. come tour this facility. you are aware like I am, IDOC is non-compliant with it's own policies rules & guidelines especially when it comes to providing productive things for IIC to do.
- 24. the Biggest problem iv seen is that staff has no respect for the upper management (the warden + major) which creates discruntled workers among staff which causes a trickle down effect + they take out their frustrations on us which causes more issues. as inmates we feel as if our voice + problems are not heard or cared about + its getting worse + worse.
- 25. Free me!!!
- 26. This place is disgusting
- 27. Need someone to do a 60 days in here. You'll see. You'll see how the food sucks here and how they treat us here. we need help down here in Jacksonville. Really Food Sucks need lettuce and veggattales Thank you!
- 28. Stop letting the C/Os eat all the inmates Food.

- 29. This is supposed to be a "Reentry" facility, but the programs, education, and drug tx is very scarcely available. Rather than working on self-improvement and earning "Good Time". Most time here is spent idle and on "Waiting lists"
- 30. It seems that there is a lot of ghost pay-roll and kickbacks in who ever runs commissary. The dietary officers make sure that the officers have a decent meal. The inmates got a weekly menu in whats for breakfast lunch dinner but it always not what is on the menu except for the officers. When we ask why we are not being serve what's on the menu. They reply "Welcome to Prison"
- 31. This prison is a disgrace and if it was exposed for what it is, It probably would be shut down, I work in dietary and its disgusting
- 32. N/A
- 33. I'm a short-timer but this facility isnt allowing people with 6 months and under to participate in any programs which is an injustice.
- 34. This survey neesd to be distributed more often. I believe this to be a great thing to convey our issues while remaining anonymous. A light desperately needs to be shined on this dark facility known also as Jacksonville Correctional Center. I pray that hope may yet return, If it ever existed here, to this forsaken prison.
- 35. I have written placement for 2 weeks without a response. Get new counselors, or get everyone immediate opportunitys to start earning good time. Everyone deserves good time.
- 36. There's a lot of things that could be improved but I honestly don't feel like much ever improves in places like this. I mean It is "prison" so it'll probably always be kind of horrible...
- 37. Start passing out more programs to help people once their back in the world, no matter how much time they have left.
- 38. Shut it down!
- 39. Gangs run the phone systems, some people cant get on. There is something wrong w/ the water everyone breaks out. We need more jobs, schooling & anything that can help us for when we get released. They dont hand out whites or any blues that fit. No shoes state boots None.
- 40. The prison system has made earning extra sentence credit impossible for many inmates to even also recieve the Earned Discretionary Good Time Credit It needs to go back to MGT + SMGT things were more normal then.
- 41. Staff are Degrading This place is nasty we don't get cleaning supplies we are lie to constantly This place is very Degrading there is No Rehabilitation
- 42. None
- 43. Jacksonville wont let you go to Pittsfield workcamp if your on a mental health case load. That seems like a paradox. Sitting on the unit all day stuck in you thoughts dosnt help mental health. Physical activity and work is scientifically proven to help mental health.
- 44. Jacksonville trick people into believing that is a reentry center
- 45. This prison on the website is advertized as a reentry center, which its not and there is not enough programs here for it to be considered a reentry center at all. Plus in most minimum security prison there is open movement, which here there is not because they started allowing child molesters to come here along with people with violent cases.
- 46. Strippers would be nice
- 47. The dietary should be investigated to daily calorie intake, and the passing of spoiled items, the counselors do not follow Administration Directives.

- 48. It really needs looked into on how they make it look like they offer help to everyone but don't they just do enough to get by and make it look good
- 49. Get rid of problem officers. Do drug + alcohol tests on officers. Start a mass firing + get rid of the punitive approach and replace it w/ a rehabilitative one. Not every inmate is a piece of shit. Stop treating people as if they are.
- 50. Some staff seem to intentionally "Bait" inmates to say something so they can be punished. Some staff turn a blind eye to inmate on inmate abuse and harassment especially those who are sex offenders or in the LGBTQ community. Some staff are openly hostile to these inmates + even make overt threats toward them + there's no recourse to punish or stop their unprofessional actions.
- 51. If they cared about there jobs this place would be a better place. all They care about is a check and showing off for the next person. You do not have good people here
- 52. Some inmates are so dirtys must be separates from or to other cells
- 53. Everyone in this institution is low level security, yet the correctional officers, constantly harass us, and walk through looking for things to confiscate or silly reasons to write people up. There is so little going on that they search for reasons to take people to seg, or write tickets.
- 54. I have tried multiple times to be heard about not being able to do anything here to better myself or stop from coming back here, they do nothing to try to lower the recidivism rate
- 55. This is the most unorginized, unfit place I've ever been. I lacks leadership. No employee's care what happens here. they sleep, and read, I.E. Don't Bother them. This prison need to be investigated.
- 56. you can't get a job if you have less than 6 months, They Do not follow the EDSC guidelines, I have been here over a year and still don't have a case plan. you can't get into any life skills programs unless you have a case plan. There are pot holes all over the walk ways, The work out equipment is in extremely poor condition
- 57. this is a correctional center not Chicago room jumping and gang activity is Bullshit some people like to sleep at night racism from blacks [ILLEGIBLE]
- I was transferred from my county jail in [MONTH REDACTED] 2023, transferred to Jacksonville in [THE FOLLOWING MONTH] 2023. I haven't even been here 4 weeks & Im being transferred again I only have 3 weeks left! The situation & unsafe discriminatory conduct per officials are numerous & couldn't possibly fit inside this bracket. If someone doesn't contact me, I'll contact asap by [DATE REDACTED]
- 59. They need to fix their mold infestation and repair the falling ceilings within the Housing units as well as the Food area and Healthcare unit
- 60. From my observance as a inmate, we are treated as dollar signs or human cattle and for the most part our future or well being is not a true concern of the state of Illinois. There are alot of inmates that want school, programs, and or treatment and it is not available to them.
- 61. They need to fix the mold infestation and repair the falling ceilings within the housing units as well as the food area and the health unit.
- 62. Something needs to be done before someone gets hurt. (Inmates and or staff)
- 63. Prison should be for people who commit violent crimes and not for people with civil mattrs.. They should allow us to have relation with our wife or husband. Help Rebuild America Fix Roads and schools and other public building...
- 64. I've been gone [5+ years] and Im just now getting in school 2023, I've been told I've had to much time for all programing the little bit I've came across from facility to facility

- 65. The way this store is ran here is all wrong. For one, they always run out of real food to buy because they doesn't buy enough. But junk sweet food, they over buy enough of that and charge us so much more than the real price. Everybody cant pay them prices. This joint need more real healthy food than all that sweet food.
- 66. The store is overcharging us
- 67. the LTs threat and intimidate us on a daily basis and make up there own rules just to write people tickets
- 68. The mailing system at Jacksonville seriously needs to improve. There are deadlines that cannot be met due to the mailing system being so far behind Also the [STAFF ROLE REDACTED] lady needs to go she is mean and not very helpful.
- 69. N/A
- 70. The people in this place suck as human beings
- 71. They are testing people every day for Covid an say they test positive when they aren't every single day they have 50 people in the Covid unit that aren't sick
- 72. They need to fix their mold infestation, repair failing ceilings in housing units, food area and health unit.
- 73. This prison was supposed to be or have a Re-entry program. That program has not started and needs to.
- 74. Never get space mentally, not enough yard, dietary food is doesn't fill my stomach
- 75. The Illinois prison system is horrible. It needs help in all aspects.
- 76. Since my last time here in **[5+ years ago]** the commissary is poor, the school programs are less, the food in dietary is less optionable, the movement is now ran more as a medium than minimum
- 77. If we were treated how people in power would want 2 be treated if the shoe was on the other foot. This place would run smooth! Thank y'all 4 listening
- 78. We need pussy
- 79. I hate all staff in Jacksonville [STAFF NAME REDACTED] is gay asf and [STAFF NAME REDACTED] sucks dick I hope they go to hell thank you!! And [STAFF NAME REDACTED] is a bitch yes dude from property he act like a hoe He need to take is panties out his ass
- 80. None at this time other than thank you!
- 81. Jacksonville is ran so poorly with the staff here. They are overcharging us with the store and there is never real food, just junk Food for us to buy
- 82. I think the quality and quantity of food could be better if they didn't have to pay four or five lieutenants to be in the chow hall for almost every meal
- 83. I understand we are in jail and facing consequences but how we are being treated is unacceptable and not humane
- 84. The staff are racist
- 85. I was a C/O at **[FEDERAL PRISON REDACTED]** and now have been on both sides of the fence. This prison offers not enough time to get an education don't get you into drug program with enough time to complete the program. The dietary looks good on paper but in reality they feed us like shit.
- 86. This is one of the worst prison I ever been in. I would rather be in Stateville or somewhere else besides here in Jacksonville. Springfield need to pop up down here and walk around and stop the others from call around give everyone a head up that they are coming because that would give them a chance to get everything together and to save they ass.
- 87. food in the dietary really needs to be upgraded
- 88. Lt. [REDACTED] needs to stop harassing people. I've written grievances for the shit.

- 89. You have no help here they can never answer the question about things. The water make your skin feel bad. The food is bad as hell. No real programs here to help out. The counselor does not know nothing to help you he tell you one thing then it change. He will tell you you getting your good time meaning (6 month to 1 year) then turn around and you don't get it that's crazy a lot of blacks don't get it at all. We need help here asap.
- 90. The Lt. fuck with you to much
- 91. None
- 92. Thank you for your time asking about our Quality of life.
- 93. Helping non-violent individuals get EDSC especially if they remain ticket free. Thank you! [NAME AND ID REDACTED]
- 94. They feed the officers way better than what we get. They get cheese, condiments, and much more than us.
- 95. This place needs to take control of these wild inmates on the wings, needs more programs to help us exceed when we get out! Better staff not assholes
- 96. Please look at dietary. I recently sent you FOIA documents about the use of IBF inmate benefit funds. Staff eating the good stuff while we eat slop, they do not eat the same meals as we do. [NAME AND ID REDACTED] 2268 E. Morton Ave Jacksonville, IL 62650 Put in institutional mail on [DATE REDACTED]/23 at 6pm
- 97. The prison system here in Illinois needs to be completely overhauled. I am a 40+ year old male who has never been incarcerated until recently. I have received no disciplinary tickets, I am enrolled in a program and I work. I am here for a non violent offense. While incarcerated, I have been punished unjustly for something I did not do. As punishment to my celly, I was locked in a shower for over an hour, standing on a tray lid surrounded by black mold. I have severe [MEDICAL CONDITION **EXACERBATED**, **DETAILS REDACTED**]. When asked for a grievance form, I was denied by each shift for 6 days. When finally receiving the grievance form, I could not turn in it because there was no grievance box provided to submit my grievance. When I complained of my treatment, I was sent to suicide (crisis) watch, stripped naked and forced to sleep on an unsanitary mat. There are truly no corrective measures in my experience during my incarceration in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The only thing that seems to be a done jovially is the distribution of meds which I'm sure the prison I'm house in receives monetary stipend for doing so. Many inmates have refused to fill out this survey because they share sentiment of it not making a difference. I truly hope that the motivation to send this to us is in the spirit of change. If this effort does result in any changes, then time spent filling them out would not have been done in vain. I truly pray that no one ever has to experience what I have. Maybe this survey will prevent that!
- 98. None
- 99. I know I did wrong things to end myself here, but I don't deserve to be treated like I am stupid, and looked at like a kill shelter dog.
- 100. Lots of people don't want to fill out this survey because you people wont help inmates here anyway. Food, C/Os, every night Lts. [REDACTED] come by every night picking on people. Taking stuff. When they shack down I bunk everyone must leave the room. The C/Os wont let us watch our stuff. They can set someone up. I really hope your office will truly look into this prison. You got a big problem here with 50 and over here, got only 1 wing over 40 here. 50 & 60 & 70 got to hang out with kids 18-35 scream all night. Old people need to sleep to. They need a wing of 50 and over Please call down here and tell them to move all the kids out of [HOUSING UNIT REDACTED] The young guys take the old people food and wont let them use the

- phone, and don't let them get there rest. You got mom & dad need there rest. Thank you!!! Call here about **[HOUSING UNIT REDACTED]**.
- 101. My problem is that I have [40+] months until my release. I was supposed to be sent or transferred to a reentry center/prison I have been in prison since [DATE REDACTED] I will have don [15+] years by my outdate in [DATE REDACTED]. I need rehabilitation not set in my bunk all day. I would be happy to give you my info
- 102. Nobody is fairly considered for EDSC. Slow dental, slow eye glasses
- 103. need more yard, gym, patio, Better food, more of it.
- 104. fed poorly and treated like an animal sums it up.
- 105. I was in Graham pop. before I got transferred here to Jacksonville and this place is so dirty and ran by ignorant people it makes time go by slow and hard, Id rather be behind a door.
- 106. Please use thicker bed pads, so we layin on steel bunk!!
- 107. I do not believe prisons will be changed. Courts should not hand out years of time for offenses that used to not even get you arrested. le. victimless crimes, traffic offenses, driving without a license. I got [5+] years.
- 108. Denied good time + work release due to "lack of programming". Completed a drug program contract and then got 30 days good time and denied work release again due to "lack of programming". The work release center is the drug treatment program!! No explanation. Also, the 30 days will now cost me 2 extra weeks than if I never received it!!! [NAME AND ID REDACTED]
- 109. Personally, I was sent here [15+] months ago for re-entry, I have experienced one re-entry summit and one reentry class about jobs, when I go home. Both lasting about an hour long. During my time here I have been degraded, by staff called names, skreemed at for no reason, searched everyday, touched by staff, stared at while in shower by staff, I feel mentally scared and abused and unprepared for my release. I asked for schooling, programs, and jobs the entire time I was here and told if I did not stop asking for things, I would be given tickets for every request I wrote so I gave up.
- 110. I feel like my life would matter more if I had a chance to actually improve it. Cannot get a job. Cannot go to school. Cannot get parole because no half way houses for sex offenders. Feel like nothing matters except freedom. Would rather be homeless and die of overdose than to live like a social outcast or pariah with no resources or help to better my condition and outlook
- 111. I would like to talk to John Howard staff personally + their letting visitors in make yall way back please [NAME AND ID REDACTED]
- 112. This place needs more movement for being a minimum facility. Med/max has more movement and activities.
- 113. Staff should leave their problems & prejudice at home. Their lack of professionalism is appalling as a veteran.
- 114. leting us 50 and over go to work release 2 years before leving prison. most all are family are Dead. we all deserve a 2nd chance. very few of us ever get by IDOC. I saved my \$17 a month state pay for a pair of gem sho's and when I got back to Jacksonville prison the inmates who work personal property stold my sho's. when you transfer from one prison to another you loose a lot of your stuff. Jacksonville prison is full of corrupion. I lost a lot of things from personal property stealing, my things.
- 115. This is my seventh bit in a prison. I'm am thankful I'm here at this one. It's not as bad as most would want it to claim it to be. It could be worse than this but it's not.

- 116. This place needs shut down its full of mold, The guards, luitenenants mainly, warden #2 wont answer any? or help This place is here for a paycheck They will tell u that the clothes don't fit cant get shoes, boots
- 117. Us inmates are being robbed on our pay for the work we do, for IDOC
- 118. Something truly has changed with staff-inmate relations in the past ~2 years. I used to feel trying to rehabilitate myself, proving myself and giving respect would make for a more respectful environment. I no longer feel it counts for much, but it should. Many staff also make mistakes and are incarcerated, but they very, very obviously no longer try to hide that they feel we are not human beings who messed up, sometimes very badly, but who love and have loved ones. Most, not all, but most now treat us and talk to us as if we are beyond redemption. They believe we are beyond redemption, and are increasingly making us feel so. The situation is dire. I do not feel safe anymore, from other inmates or even staff, here. Inmate-staff and inmate-inmate relations are as bad at Jacksonville as I have ever seen them. Something needs to change. We're miserable, so is staff. My biggest concerns, now, are: (in no particular order) Inmate-staff relations, safety and security (among inmates), family and friend visitation.
- 119. The LTs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] make up there own rules to threaten and intimidate inmates to write them bogus tickets on a daily basis
- 120. they should focus more on getting inmates out quicker instead of trying to keep us here longer
- 121. Need more weights for working out, calf raise machine
- 122. I just hope this work. [DATE REDACTED]
- 123. I believe this survey is good. My only real concern is why did I have to wait a month to get commissary, then when we do their out of the main things we need.
- 124. I've tried everything to get through I'm a very positive person and I am respectfule here it dont matter we are considered animals in a cage
- 125. Overall it's not a bad place. Just need more to do to stay positive and put older inmates here not just young city kids.
- 126. Do something to improve better overall prison life.
- 127. None
- 128. I'm from [OTHER STATE REDACTED] and have 10 at 50% for a ticket, although my [MULTIPLE DUI IN A FEW] years I've been stagnate, no programs no good time no opportunities [NAME AND ID REDACTED] Look me up
- 129. The counselors, staff, C/O's, Wardens, LTs and Majors here are Dicks
- 130. Thanks for asking our input. Most people dont in these places
- 131. More positive re enforcement and rehabilitation opportunities for re-entry into society. Better food options.
- 132. They dont feed us much and the quality is poor, Fix the food problem raise the morale
- 133. Okay place just need double contracts more good time given, store days need to come sooner
- 134. The staff, LT's come thru for compliance check but do shakedowns tearing up our property and talking to us like dogs and when we write grievances they are never answered or returned. The C/O's make jokes about the transgender that comes to this facility talk about them like DOGS and when guys say "they" feel mistreated they LGBTQ guys are overlooked. I just do feel nothing will be done be completing this survey
- 135. I am a nonviolent offender and a class 4 retail theft, They will not offer me any opportunities to gain any good time w/ life skills or anything

- 136. IDOC gets a-lot of moneys a-year for each person why can't we get #1 pair of state boots. The people who run clothing and personal property let the workers give there buddys the good stuff so they can seal it back on the housing unit. And split the goods up latter.
- 137. The commissary should be made more available to inmates
- 138. The lady at the library in Jacksonville prison talks to us inmates like we are worthless. It's all most impossible to get any legal work done she is so hatefull. The way she treats people is out right crimal. Thank you. & God bless you.
- 139. OK place just need some double contracts more good time given, store day need to come sooner, should make like an real college.
- 140. Nothing
- 141. do what I know whats right in life its self
- 142. Jacksonville is a Re-Entry there is very little Re-Entry + is ran like a medium max + inmates are treated like kids + talked down on and when ever Springfield is here they change there reutine for that day they are here.
- 143. Open programs and schooling to those that want it instead of outdates
- I came from a medium prison and the staff treated me better there than here. I had 144. more freedom and opportunity there as well. With this dorm setting of 20 people in a 21 x 16 cement box and no windows that can open it is inhumane. I feel more like a animal then a human being. Everyone is treated by staff "officers" like an animal instead of a person. They violate our rights on a daily basis by telling us to shut up. It is our right "freedom of speech" to talk. I feel more like a animal housed in this box with 19 other people and most of the people in this wing are young people. If we were to argue with them they immediately just want to fight. This environment DOES NOT promote people to be good but to acted out and want to get in trouble just to get out of this prison. There is no way that a person can do any amount of time here and not be changed. I thought coming to a minimum I would get more yard and more movement out the building not in the building. I didn't want to come here but I still did to not get in trouble, but now it is like they sent me here to make me get in trouble. This prison feels like a set up for us to just fail. To put a person in a prison like this that has done a lot of time in a 2 man cell is not good for that persons mental state. As a person who has done that I can contest to how bad it mess's that person up. We should be given the option to stay if we wanted. There should be ALOT more changed here and I could go on for page after page with this.
- 145. This prison was ok as prisons go until they brought in the current warden and the belligerent staff members. We followed the rules and were treated accordingly. Now we live in an atmosphere of constant harassment and abuse. The staff members who truly care are now few in number. The C/O staff are mostly playground bullies or people who have no business in the environment. This prison should be totally restaffed or CLOSED. I have never before been in trouble and I won't be back, but I would venture to say 50% or better will leave angry and reoffend in 90 day after release. A FEW HUNDRED MEN were sent here, being told "it is a reentry joint," they will get day for day, coming through the gate, there are classes and job (good time). ALL LIES. Get the feds to take over IDOC.
- 146. This prison is supposed to be a re-entry but we cant talk outside or in chow hall if we do we get tickets.
- 147. Why dont anyone come to the prisons anymore to ask us questions in person? Also the way the staff treat us is inhumane, they yell and disrespect us. Sometimes for no reason, they just assume we are all bad people.

- 148. I really doubt if this will go anywhere but in IDOC trash so why waste my breath. My name is **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** and Im not embarassed to write it down in case you have any questions concerning my answers
- 149. Jacksonville prison is ran with a retaliation attitude. C/O's do whatever they like. If they choose to lock doors so they're able to take naps. Telephones dont work.
- 150. Please take away the "shields" in the visiting room. Also give us a better chance to be heard. Were people too, we just made a mistake
- 151. The staff seems to not care or want to help correct us. The have poor attitudes. Staff has no clue what they doing due to lack of communication and common sense. Poorly trained. They also seem always short-staffed. Really backed up slow. I been on a waiting list for over a year. Long waiting. Having to take a risk assessment to get into programming for help is stupid. Especially having to score high risk to get into class ex. anger management. Food is not enough, I'm hungry after I walk back from chow hall. More than before I left. Also, more self-help programs would help. That you can actually get into. Officers are lazy and sleep on and off. Staff are lazy also. This is a minimum-minimum but it's ran like a min-med. It just needs to be ran better with people who actually want to correct offender rather than punish enforcers. Wardens here are the problem also. Lt. [REDACTED] is a dick. [STAFF NAME REDACTED] and [STAFF NAME REDACTED] aren't far behind. Female C/O's and staff are bitches, I mean unprofessional and bitter when I say that. The new staff they do hire ain't any better. Just don't seem to know what their doing or care. Just here 4 pay rather the make a difference.
- 152. Staff need self control. More money. Better excersize time
- 153. Everyone should get good time. And we know this "survey" is not going to do us any good!!
- 154. Good
- 155. Dietary is dirty, poor excuse for food supervisors, all are ex correctional officers who use food as punishment, while feeding staff like Kings, then they laugh at us when we complain. Poor grievance system, mainly the correctional staff that address the grievance
- 156. This prison sucks about everything from top rank to the bottom rank that has great idea's to help but can't. JCC
- 157. Being given the opportunity to go outside to the yard throughout the day would relieve stress on everyone.
- 158. None
- 159. I hope it makes a different
- 160. It would be nice if everyone could be on the same page. You can ask the top 6 people working here a question and get 6 different answers. Memos change each week & contradict each other..
- 161. They need to start giving 2 contracts and stop taking property from inmates that they sell and bigger living quarters (More room)
- 162. Thank you for being concerned and reading this response.
- 163. IDOC uses 20-25-30 year old criminal history against us. At the same time 65% of the officers chew tobbacco, witch is a crime just having it on the property. It's big me and little you, as in "inmate." Doing time in Jacksonville is like being "frozen in place."
- 164. I am 85%, get no good time + have over 4 years left! Have no use for programs, etc-get no "good time," Some at healthcare have been decent, but takes forever for eyes/hearing + such to be done! Am OLD ([70+]) + sent here despite not wishing to be in "dorm" type life!!! Walks to go to dietary healthcare commissary + etc ARE A MESS potholes, cracks + so forth. Have H.S. diploma, college hours, passed trade

- apprenticeship (all outside). School has been useless for me. No reason / use for me being here rather than where I was transferred from 5-6 weeks ago!
- 165. The GEO program is the best program Jacksonville Correctional Center has to offer.
- 166. For being minimum security, this facility does not prepare you for release. We spend most of our time idol with no real rehabilitation. There is a huge shortage of staff. Counselors are too busy and struggle to do anything for me in a timely manner. This is my first incarceration, and I feel worse off now (after 2 years) than I did before I came to prison. This experience has just caused me pain and suffering rather than helped to rehabilitate me or reduce recidivism.
- 167. Please actually do something to help Jacksonville C.C, John Howard please. Thank you
- 168. Stop prison corruption in Illinois?
- 169. let us earn goodtime for behavior let us get double contracts give us all schooling and programs get guys ready for society teach guys/something care about the guys locked up stock degrading them we are Human!
- 170. Jacksonville Correction Center is a poorly run (operationally) prison (top-down).

  There is zero accountability and communication to inmates + consistency of all aspects of operations is crap. This place has zero rehabilitation qualities programs + initiatives!
- 171. Give day for day of good time for all working jobs. Stop letting staff do shakedowns on people twice in one day and twice in one month. Stop letting staff take things we purchase from commissary.

### OTHER MARGINALIA COMMENTS

#### Q2. Race or ethnicity (White, Black, Hispanic or Latino, or Other)

- 1. [Other] Indian Irish Georgia Champaign American U.S.A.
- 2. [Other] 1/2 & 1/2

#### Q3. Are you within two years of release? (Yes/No)

- 1. [Blank] hell I don't know, what do you want from me?
- 2. [No] I have 4 years left

#### Q5. What housing status are you on?

1. [Other] Dorm

### Q6. Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area? (Yes or No)

- 1. [Blank] Not outside but inside
- 2. [No] By our choice Don't wish to be out in poor weather
- 3. [No] Not enough yard or gym for everyone

### Q7. Do you have a work or school assignment? (Work, School, Both, Neither)

- 1. [Work] Work assignment 1/2 .5 Hour a Day that is it!
- 2. [Work] 1/2 hour a day

# Q8. Mark response that best describes how you feel (Strongly Agree = SA, Agree = A, Neutral = N, Disagree = D, Strongly Disagree = SD)

Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.

- [Blank] For some inmates.
- 2. [Blank] Only if your stool pigeon.

I receive support from staff when I need it.

1. [A] Sometimes.

Staff treat incarcerated people fairly when applying the rules.

1. [SD] LT [REDACTED]

I trust the officers.

1. [SD] Don't trust most now, Only a small %.

I have been helped significantly by a member of staff with a particular problem.

- 1. [SA] I would have once said yes, I don't know anymore, Sometimes, in emergencies.
- 2. [A] Once.

Overall, I am treated fairly by staff.

- 1. [N] Except the warden.
- 2. [D] I am less than a person I feel, to D.O.C. anymore, I feel I'm livestock, I would have once said I thought my rehabilitation I've done was recognized and valued. Not anymore.
- 3. [blank] LT [REDACTED]

I am treated as a person of value.

- 1. [SD] If being in a zoo counts then "yes.
- 2. [SD] LT [REDACTED] = Dick.
- 3. [SD] The women in the library at Jacksonville is hateful to white inmates.

# Q9. Mark response that best describes how you feel (Strongly Agree = SA, Agree = A, Neutral = N, Disagree = D, Strongly Disagree = SD)

I feel safe from being injured, bullied, or threatened by other incarcerated people.

- 1. [Blank] I protect myself
- 2. [N] Not by staff

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

- 1. [SD] mean
- 2. [D] Not here
- 3. [SD] Fast to punish

Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.

1. [A] Not all but some

To get things done, you have to ask and ask and ask.

1. [SA] still nothing happen

Supervision of incarcerated people is poor.

1. [SA] someone died due to neglect last year

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

1. [SD] contemplate suicide

Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.

- 1. [SA] Yes
- 2. [Blank] snitches

My experience of imprisonment in this particular prison has been stressful.

- 1. [N] dont stress
- 2. [SA] Very stressful
- 3. [Blank] Because nothing is consistent here.

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

1. [N] ldk

This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.

1. [Blank] hell yes it is

This prison is well organized.

- 1. [Blank] Not at all.
- 2. [Blank] By inmates.

Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.

- 1. [A] Yes + no
- 2. [SD] someone died right by the officers' desk

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

1. [A] sometimes, rarely here

You never know the rules.

- 1. [Blank] They change all the time
- 2. [N] the staff twist the rules
- 3. [Blank] Things always change

My experience in this prison is painful.

1. [SA] Very

There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.

1. [N] Somewhat

There are a few incarcerated people who run things on this unit.

- 1. [SA] Snitches
- 2. [Blank] They try to.
- 3. [SA] The Informants

Decisions are dominated by concerns about security.

- 1. [SA] Mine
- 2. [Blank] IDK I guess

My time here seems like a chance to make positive changes.

- 1. [D] Suck Here
- 2. [SA] Jacksonville has no programs that are positive but church
- 3. [Blank] 50/50

# Q10. Mark response that best describes how you feel (Strongly Agree = SA, Agree = A, Neutral = N, Disagree = D, Strongly Disagree = SD)

I am not being treated as a human being in here.

1. [SA] LT [REDACTED]

You have to be in a group or gang in order to get by.

1. [D] Some gang activity

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

1. [SD] Treated like a bitch by the staff

Drugs cause a lot of problems between incarcerated people.

- 1. [N] ldk
- 2. [N] Not that I know of

Bullying behavior by incarcerated people is not tolerated.

- 1. [A] I think so
- 2. [Blank] IDK
- [Blank] Thats bull shit.

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

- 1. [SA] True
- 2. [SA] Treated like a bitch, the staff have really shitty people skills
- 3. [A] LT [REDACTED]
- 4. [A] Very very true

Anyone who harms themselves is considered by staff to be more of an attention seeker than someone who needs help.

- 1. [SA] True
- 2. [Blank] IDK
- 3. [SA] Probably

I am able to maintain meaningful contact with my outside supports.

- 1. [D] False
- 2. [D] Phone system here is crazy
- 3. [Blank] I guess

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

1. [Blank] IDK

Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.

- 1. [SD] False
- 2. [A] In emergencies, yes
- 3. [Blank] IDK staff are just a bunch of douche bags.
- 4. [SD] Make it harder.
- 5. [Blank] They do not help us

This is a humane prison.

- 1. [SD] False
- 2. [SD] HAHA?
- [Blank] For the most part.
- 4. [Blank] It is a nutt house gone mad.

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

- 1. [SA] True
- 2. [N] dorm settings
- 3. [Blank] DORM
- 4. [A] Indoors
- 5. [N] No cells, which is a plus
- 6. [D] No cells
- 7. [SD] No cells, only dorms
- 8. [Blank] Not applicable!

This prison is safe for incarcerated people.

- 1. [SD] False
- 2. [D] I do not feel so
- 3. [Blank] If your in a gang.

Mental health treatment is available.

- 1. [Blank] Don't know
- 2. [N] ldk
- 3. [D] Short of crisis
- 4. [Blank] IDK
- 5. [N] they suck here

This prison is better now than it was last year.

- 1. [Blank] Hell naw
- 2. [Blank] IDK I wasn't incarcerated

Every effort is made by this prison to help people stop committing offenses on release from custody.

- 1. [SD] False false
- 2. [N] ldk
- 3. [SD] There is nothing here at all!
- 4. [SD] No programs
- 5. [Blank] It has nothing going for it.

I am satisfied with food from dietary.

- 1. [Blank] False
- 2. [A] It's bad, but better than some
- 3. [SD] dog food, cat food, the other food treated like a bunch of bitches, not enough
- 4. [SD] garbage
- 5. [SD] BAD
- 6. [Blank] Only after I steal it.

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

1. [Blank] Maybe twice a month.

# Q11. 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. [1] watch your back at all times

#### **Miscellaneous Comments**

- 1. [NAME REDACTED]
- 2. Between inconsistent commissary problems, the awful food, the lack of communication + info, the very petty + strict "rules" they are inforcing, + lack of opportunities here the guys are feeling like they have nothing left to loose which is dangerous. The other + big issue is here at Jacksonville they have created a new orientation manual with all new rules but they havnt given these new rules to us so they are holding us to a new standard but we are unaware of what that standard is until we are penalized for a "new" violation, how is that possible? its a complete lack of accountability + communication to say the least.
- 3. Please Help Us
- 4. Help this place
- 5. Inmate: Must Read I'm discharging on [DATE REDACTED], if you guys don't contact I'll contact ya'll! xoxo [NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION REDACTED]. I am "post-operative" transgender inside a male facility!!!
- 6. [NAME REDACTED]
- 7. Fuck you
- 8. Please help us
- 9. We need state boots really really bad IDOC gets payed for each inmate. Thank you.
- 10. Fuck LT [REDACTED]
- 11. Thank you & God Bless the John Howard Association; Us inmates in custody need state boots some of us can't even get new white's like socks and underwear & t-shirts. Myself I have been gone [3+] years I've got socks and underwear #1 time back in 2021. I have rags for shoes. And I am [55+] years old.
- 12. There is a Lt. here named [REDACTED] and he trys to prevoke us into saying something to him so he can wright tickets, and he lies on the tickets as well. There is so much messed up stuff the staff do here. You would have to be here to see it. Please help us. I am trying to do good here but I feel like I have to walk on egg shells here. This prison doesnt care about reform. Please reach out to me, here is my name. [NAME AND ID REDACTED]
- 13. Thank you [NAME REDACTED]
- 14. Jacksonville can suck it.
- 15. Q16 Take all fencing down at all min. camps!
- 16. The only conditions your going to help improve is for the officers and queers, put your feet in our shoes o yeah, what shoes
- 17. LMAO
- Dated 3-14-2023. "Attention" How is it that. IDOC can use are past criminal history against us. We have done payed for our past crime or crimes. #2 Corinthians #5:17 says, Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed

away, behold. All things have become New. That tells me the people who runn IDOC our hypocrites. Who try to play "GOD." The Department of Corrections gets payed for each inmate. In 3 years I've only got white cloths #1 time 2 Pair of socks, and 2 Pair of Boxer underwears, I have never got state boots. \$17.00 dollars a month don't go very far. This is inhumain treatment. I believe in 2<sup>nd</sup> Chances. Don't You. Thank you. And God Bless You. Yes I am **[50+]** years old.

### Pittsfield Work Camp

### **OPEN-ENDED SURVEY QUESTIONS**

# Q12. What are the most <u>positive</u> things about life in this prison?

- 1. This is Pittsfield Work Camp in Illinois—through Jacksonville Corr. Center. The work camp is okay to me because I'm on Road Crew and get to go to work.
- 2. Able to work, Recreation.
- 3. programs, stay Drug free
- 4. They way the help our mental stability.
- 5. Better chance for work release
- 6. Im learning more about myself and wanting to be a better person
- 7. Drug free, programs, work.
- 8. Being able to go to school (GED). Having good movement. Being able to use the phone very early.

## Q13. What are the most <u>negative</u> things about life in this prison?

- 1. phone fairness, some staff to individuals relationships. The "white shirts" could be more understanding.
- 2. you Don't get your 6 mts good Time From Springfield
- 3. Not enough programs or schooling
- miss family
- 5. phones arent being used properly
- 6. Too many People in a Room, 20 man Dorms
- 7. My own mom cant come visit me. And it seems only a certain type of people get the EDSC (6 months good time)
- 8. away from family.
- 9. Being talked to like your less then by some C/O's. And so much more then this box can hold.

## Q14. What suggestions do you have for improvement?

- allow Double contracts for those whose can ear good-time. allow more programs for individuals
- More programs, More Jobs.
- 3. need more programs & counselor To help you more
- 4. Give us back our good time.
- 5. less People and Better chances for outside Jobs
- 6. Start letting inmates get double contracts to earn more good time, more programs and more people in the program. fix the commissary
- 7. more programs
- 8. More Educational programs, Better counselor
- 9. College classes are needed

## Q15. Please write any other comments or feedback on this survey below.

- 1. N/A
- 2. Pittsfield Is a good place and helps you on a better life
- 3. They have work camps that don't send people out to get good time have 85% here thats taking up jobs also they give people
- 4. Criminal history should not affect your chances for work release if you have never been there Before. That is a great stepping stone to have Before released Back into the free world!
- 5. It seems nobody gets the 6 months good time here unless you are from around the area. everybody gets denied for criminal history even when they have no criminal history!
- 6. need a better counselor Here, more programs to better you work ethics
- 7. Help us more to be ready for life outside of prison & not so much as treat us like it's maximum security.



# This report was compiled 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 concerns and 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 <a href="https://www.thejha.org">www.thejha.org</a> 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.

