
**Survey Comment
Report**



Taylorville 2023 MQPL Survey Comments



Table of Contents

Introduction	3
OPEN-ENDED SURVEY QUESTIONS	3
Q12. What are the most positive things about life in this prison?	3
Q13. What are the most negative things about life in this prison?	9
Q14. What suggestions do you have for improvement?	18
Q15. Please write any other comments or feedback on this survey below.....	26
OTHER MARGINALIA COMMENTS	36

Introduction

Taylorville is a minimum-security male prison within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) that housed 1,067 people on March 27, 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 Taylorville had an opportunity to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey if they chose to do so. JHA received 250 responses to the MQPL survey from people at Taylorville through June 15, 2023, representing approximately 23% of the static population. JHA visited Taylorville in May 2023. Taylorville had about 100 spaces in a “Voluntary Sex Offender Treatment Program” (VSOTP) and had transitioned to having more than 90% of the population who were registrants, which was an increase from about 50% in 2021.

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

OPEN-ENDED SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q12. What are the most positive things about life in this prison?

1. I work dietary so I get a little better food, no much, but a little better. The quality of food we get here is terrible. Especially the vegetables.
2. Honestly, very, very little!
3. you can change who you are in here
4. The opportunity to better myself Like jobs & school

5. The most positive thing about life in prison is taking the time to reflect on your crime, its affect on people you love can bring about positive thoughts and actions in Life after prison.
6. Able to get group therapy. When available.
7. Nothing
8. Air conditioning, spring beds, yard
9. Dorm life. You can usually shower or use the phone when you want. You can get ice whenever you need.
10. AC works sometimes
11. Limited availability of educational opportunities @ college level, but would be better to have even more variety.
12. The cleanliness, vocational opportunities, therapy opportunities
13. Not being locked in cells, more movement, good time for sex offenders
14. My tablet makes it easier
15. They keep your heart pumping and blood pressure high because you have to fight for what you need.
16. yard is the most positive.
17. None
18. The Food, Yard Times & It's more of an open environment compared to other prisons.
19. you have time to sit and think
20. you get the opportunity to change your life for the best.
21. Food better than most, movement within house/wing (dorms) unrestricted & free, ice machine, phone system (sign up) yard
22. The yard schedule and ability to move a little more freely (dorms)
23. programs
24. learn our mistake. Deal with miserable individual. meet Respectable officer
25. Yard, Food, and some of the incarcerated individuals
26. There are more than one opportunity to change self by growing through participating in Education, special programs, and work assignments.
27. Nothing—No way for educational, mental, financial growth
28. They allow inmates to open Bank account
29. Compared to the other prisons I've been in the food in the chow hall is better and people don't get stabbed or hit in the head with pad locks.
30. I feel that I am being help
31. getting out to go to yard everyday and the food
32. NA
33. It's taught my a great lesson on my crime I did, and gave me a opportunity, to take a drug + Alcohol program to get my addiction under control.
34. NA
35. Adequate yard and gym time. Adequate religious services, school, and exercise programs. Visitation is fairly liberal but short length. Cable TV, tablet, and a decent commissary.
36. food people in it to a point
37. Absolutely minimal responsibility. healthcare sucks but its free
38. frequent yard & gym
39. You learn from positive who talk positive.
40. Everyone is short (about to go home)
41. yard, The descent occasional meals, the programs
42. GEO class

43. weights
44. Chance to turn your life around. I get yard daily. I look to better myself. It gives you choices to better yourself if you want it!
45. A chance for me to become a better person. For me, it has given me time to realize how horrible I was. I have been able to take some programs that have really helped me.
46. sadly my experience in prison has been poor, prison from my experience make people worst, it is almost impossible to go to reentry centers and people with significant time can't enroll in school because priority is given to people about to go home
47. Nothing is positive about being in prison. Mass incarceration & the money spent on the private execution of the soul could be better spend on treatment programs, counseling, & crime prevention.
48. It's clean here.
49. The support of your fellow prisoners
50. There are groups of Individuals who help each other get through mental/physical crises.
51. Air Conditioning. 14 hour Dayroom. Ice Machine.
52. Food is better than last place some classes are available air conditioned beds with springs unlimited ice
53. Being incarcerated with people with similar offenses. Not having a cell door lock behind you
54. The yard has a lot of activities you participate in or you can choose to do thing by yourself.
55. None
56. Not locked in cell, dietary, weekly comm., clean, nice visiting room, large yard
57. School sometimes but there are a handful, a small handful, of staff who are okay and the programs
58. After several decades of being behind bars I'm finally in a dorm, despite rule being changed to reflect more Blacks being allowed in this prison.
59. By being here you learn not to return to this life!
60. There are, and I've met a few good guys thats incarcerated here who are on a positive level.
61. Air conditioning and no cells
62. Because I have been here **[5+]** years I have established my place w/ staff and am allowed to have multiple "Jobs" to stay busy. Dietary is the best in the state.
63. Treat us good.
64. Central heat and air
65. No outside influences like drugs, alcohol, nicotine
66. Not much
67. The openness and connectivity with some staff and peers willing to help you grow.
68. taking classes, yard
69. Food, yard, security
70. Food. Yard
71. yard, Chapel, the food, TVs in Dayroom, ice machine, safe and clean bathrooms.
72. Learn To Make Better Choice In Life
73. This prison does have some positive things. The V.S.O.T.P. program is positive and The lakeland college courses.
74. none
75. Generally, Good food quality

76. Dorm setting
77. That this is an S.O. prison and that we don't have to look over our shoulders all the time. Most inmates treat each other with a degree of respect
78. No one is getting Raped or being Raped.
79. Food and yard I think.
80. Im not locked In a cell so I can use the phone freely
81. Recreation, Dietary, Air-Conditioning
82. Food at Dietary is better than most other prisons. Air Conditioning. Access to a Dental Hygienist. Excluding Covid lockdowns there is good access to Yard & Gym. opportunity to exercise at this facility. Some education opps here.
83. Daily yard, dayroom open most of the day. Programs + school.
84. Programs + school.
85. This prison is climate controlled and I don't fear for my life here. I have had some educational opportunities here as well.
86. The safety, the yard is plentiful & the AC.
87. Trying to be more healthy, no smoking drinking etc. Keep food healthy. Going to church @ Graham.
88. Nothing
89. There are no positives to life in confinement
90. Dorms out of a 2 men cell
91. Well I like that we get good time, But hate we have to go through treatment to get it.
92. It is minimum + has a program aimed at my release + no return. I am also able to get education. The dorm setting provides for a lot of freedom.
93. Religious freedom. Clinical services and psych programs
94. Alcohol/drug program helps others to be prepared when you get out of prison
95. They give us the care we need, when asks for it.
96. They are coming up with new programs to help people
97. Contact with my family for support
98. Fairly open movement, cleanliness of facility. Most of the staff are cordial, especially with me due to my job assignment. I work regularly with command level staff, and get treated well because of it.
99. Daily Access to yard activities.
100. I get more freedom!
101. prison give a person time to change their behavior + their way of living if they want to change for the good
102. School and some of the programs they give us
103. Not as stressing and other incarcerated do try and help other find info when it time to leave
104. Yard??... Everything else needs work!!
105. A. air conditioning, B. Frequent yards
106. The yard
107. Not being in a 2 man cell.
108. Opportunity to grow/betterment
109. We have A/C that works
110. Cable is ok. Commissary is better than 2 years ago
111. Housing Air conditioning, ice machine on wings, daily yard
112. Sobriety
113. No comment
114. I struggle to find positive.
115. Unable to get help when need
- 116.

117. To real learn in a good way of life
118. I have more movement here than in other prison
119. not much positive about Taylorville CC
120. You can get plenty of exercise, you have TV and heat and air conditioning. Hot showers, and good water to drink. They have some good classes, but it's hard to keep Teachers.
121. I only have [12+] more months in this nuthouse.
122. As compared to what?
123. IDK
124. access to our recreation yard. And access to the showers From 6Am to 9:00Pm
125. The dorm setting
126. The food in dietary is better than anywhere else I have been. The prison is in much better condition than anywhere else Ive been. Very clean.
127. Having yard Every day.
128. you get the chance to Right all your wrongs.
129. The open Dayroom, Food is 10 times better than Shawnee
130. I go home soon if I get the Good time.
131. The opportunity to get the help you need and receive good time afterwards.
132. I obtained my Culinary Certificate. It is a dorm setting so more movement.
133. There's many problems to be taken advantage of.
134. The people I came to know. How to deal with High stress situations
135. Have not found much
136. None
137. really not much but almost all the people here have similar crimes making it safer for inmates with certain kinds of cases
138. Not Enough work for Everyone!
139. Yard time and rec. opportunities.
140. Getting out an going home, Not enough jobs
141. Only prison I've been to.
142. Overall liberty and opportunity to improve.
143. air conditioning better food
144. None you can't get good time if you are doing 85% of your time
145. Access to phones, showers, dayroom all day from 6 am - 9 pm. Minus shift changes and count.
146. The ability to try different programs. Lack of gang presence inmate hierarchy. There are some food offerings that are wonderful. Opportunity for yard daily. Interactions with staff (i.e... most officers are usually polite or formal. Most are not out to get you)
147. The most positive thing in prison is being alive and to know that you have a chance to go back with your family when your outdate comes.
148. This is my [3rd+] Bit. But I was picked up on a warrant so I get to start from rock bottom I don't know where I'm going this time but I have gotten to get 1 set my priorities straight.
149. Air Conditioning/Heat, Lack of staff interaction, Plenty of time out of cells/rooms, Yard time, Art classes
150. Vocational classes are excellent, and should a crisis occur, mental health staff generally helps.
151. your able to more around, not being locked up in cells all day long.
152. This only positive is that I'm 2 months from release.
153. Not being lock in a cell. A.C. (Air Conditioning, if on) Commissary once a week is good - but too expensive to survive.

154. yard time, and phone calls
155. None
156. I can appreciate life as a free man. I had time to evaluate my past and make change. I got off drugs, so I can think clearly
157. Nothing No jobs or Schools or Programs to Help Anybody
158. Plenty of time to read and work out.
159. Rec
160. Yard time continues to move as long as your locked up
161. think twice before you commit another crime! Make you think twice!
162. Not enough jobs. Not enough commissary
163. N/A
164. Work
165. Commissary every week, minimal violence, Yard offered every day, Laundry multiple times a week
166. that you can have to contract
167. No cells, more time in Dayroom.
168. they have some good programs + the food is decent
169. Air conditioning. Phone Access daily
170. It's changed me to be a better person
171. One day we will get out!
172. Its mostly sex offenders so there aint any bullying by crime. Food quality is excellent. People are safe from inmate predatory behavior.
173. I found God and myself
174. To learn your mistake and move forward, to about change the way of life, to avoid gossip and judgmental people
175. Time to think about your mistakes.
176. Less fights and inmates will help you out
177. Food is decent
178. It is kept clean
179. I feel the openness and freedom relatively speaking especially coming from a 23-1 to a 16-8 It's way different and I spend less time not doing anything and actually progress socially and physically
180. Commissary every week, yard every day, and gang bullshit. Good food
181. There is spiritual guidance from compassionate volunteers, though not **[STAFF ROLE AND NAME REDACTED]**.
182. Getting on the phone, showering every day, + getting yard every day.
183. I am better person
184. The fact that we are in dorms and not cells.
185. Freer moment due it being a dorm.
186. Nothing there all out for themselves
187. Lake Land College vocational classes, yard (recreational activity)
188. Nothing!
189. All of my basic needs are being met
190. No worries about security related to my charges (sex offenses) because it is a sex offender specific prison.
191. That this is a dorm environment, more free movement inside the house. Incarcerated guys and staff generally have good relationships, treat each other well, can joke around with staff. Yard is offered daily. There are school options. Air conditioned housing as well as all the other buildigns, staying comfortable helps to keep good morale.

192. Can't think of anything positive they took away anything positive
193. yard
194. Being able to see and talk to your family.
195. No cell doors
196. Nothing
197. Availability of TV and tablets (music, messaging, etc.) Relatively free mobility and not being locked up in a cell.
198. Not all the COs are assholes
199. none
200. yard time
201. I was placed here because of my minimum status and time remaining.
202. Not being trapped in a cell
203. Get u on track
204. Nothing at all

Q13. What are the most negative things about life in this prison?

1. The absolute lazyness. Our AC & ice machine are broke. There is mold everywhere. In the showers, the kitchen, the ceiling tile etc, etc. Also phone is Broken (Q13) 1) They sleep on the job at night all the time. 2) The ansul lines in the kitchen have so much grease on them there is no way they could work when needed. 3) The outfeed side of the dish machine is so nasty it's unbelievable. They changed our phone use & it is about ready to come to a brawl 4) every Wednesday they go through our rooms & destroy the entire room. 5) I've never seen such lazy & hateful people.
2. Dietary, commissary, and health care! Also, officers that just don't care.
3. when you are trying to get help by healthcare you have to call family or friends to get help by healthcare there is no privacy here at taylorville CC
4. The food & climate control
5. Most negative things about life in prison are the negative people in prison.
6. Value system is backwards. Victims get punished. Offenders are rewarded. Staff are afraid to confront Blacks. Staff deliberately house inmates with conflicts together. Rules are different every shift. Most decisions are made via emotions v.s. intellect. Little or no support for the Arts. Libraries are discouraged. Labels are negatively used. Designed to fail.
7. Can not get good time of any sort at all if you don't sign up for the S.O. program. Not all are treated the same when it comes to receiving good time.
8. everything
9. Letting gang members in. Letting gang members do whatever they want with absolutely no punishment. No oversight of staff.
10. Stuff running out in commissary. Small portions of food in dietary. You only get half the amount of most food per menu.
11. Too cold A/C. Stand outside in All weather to go to healthcare, - cold, Rain
12. When a medical emergency is called and the staff slowly respond & the inmate dies
13. Absurd charges for movement when 1 yr. ago, movement was free and direct to places as needed - Not late for things due to movement times. Marching 2x2 like military "ants" is ridiculous. Standing in lines outside buildings in bad weather.

14. The food, the lack of responses from request slips. In order to get answers someone on the outside has to call.
15. The cable service (TV), commissary variety, Healthcare
16. Discrimination on my religious believe
17. The rude comments made by officers. They conduct compliance checks to dispose of nuisance trash, But when they do conduct there compliance checks they tear Everything up! and we have to fix Everything again, over and over.
18. The staff is nothing but hate full. To most of us inless your one of the few special ones that kiss up to them.
19. the way that staff and officers talk and treat People.
20. the ventilation is poor in the dorms & bathroom
21. The poorly trained staff, medical services, disrespect from staff & being understaffed so often.
22. you are away from friends & family.
23. Being around very negative people who don't want anything in life.
24. Inconsistency on part of CO's to interpret the rules, Healthcare, dental, eye, ALL
25. The video visits are inconsistent and not working. Some officers are very degrading to individuals in custody.
26. some people
27. Gossip, judgmental, Bothering people, Bully can't speak up. commissary item is limited. spoiled Black individual
28. There is no accountability among staff when they harm us. The discriminatory treatment of the sex offender population. There is no upward mobility for jobs and opportunities if you stay out of trouble. Retaliation by staff. The Nepotism.
29. Short-staffing happened too often! When shorted staff—we lost chapel services, LTS: Yard line and or Gyms (Leisure Times Services)
30. Educational opportunities—to help lower the chances of return
31. STAFF
32. The staff is very degrading
33. I have no been here Long
34. N/A
35. NA
36. One negative thing for me would be they need to hire more dr. especially eye drs. because I haven't had glasses since [DATE REDACTED], They were taken cause they were broken, and I've been waiting to long, my vision is bad and I get headaches + see spots, + propley wont get an appt. or glasses till I am released from here.
37. The S.O. program is so backed up its basically non-existent and too little too late. You can't do both drug/alcohol and S.O. treatment. You are lucky to get a phone call a day, two at most. Healthcare is very difficult to get and usually not effective. The staff (everyone) doesn't care what inmates do, what happens in the houses as long as it doesn't effect them.
38. CO's talked down on people acting out on little things for themselves
39. loss of freedom
40. Disciplinary system and the petty small rules result in big consequences
41. The nurses don't really try to understand and help you when it comes to try and say what's hurting you. Only the doctor try.
42. having 19 cell mates. Also having this an all sex off. prison gives the COs cause to treat us poorly.
43. sometimes the CO's do too much, I mean more than they have to

44. 1. Being away from family 2. Visiting is too short for being a minimum prison 3. Their staff is very judgmental of offenses of reason of sentence 4. They mock and do not treat each person as a humane person.
45. How they handle you good time
46. The Good time situations sucks here
47. Food serving at dietary are small. Commissary is always messed up. Half the time they don't have what your wanting. Some staff treat you like trash. If your a sex offender you can't get good time, unless you get into treatment but still have to do treatment when your released! (No fair)
48. No toilet paper, soap, shampoo, or Laundry soap. Being forced to buy your own Necessities for daily living with no money. \$13.00 a month does not pay for clothing, shoes, + hygiene products. Aren't we suppose to get these free?
49. not enough space in programs or school
50. how people in custody are treated, if you lock up a vicious dog in a cage and rattle it and talk bad to the dog do you expect that dog to come out better?
51. Lack of phones & phone times. Depression & dependence on the state. We breed lazy people here with no corrections or education. Reduce the population, add phones, remove the one size Fits all mentality to punishment. Destroy the prison & spend the "Billions" on treatment, social workers, education, & other options to reduce crime. Help our communities before its to late...
52. In order to receive "good time" you have to complete the sex offender program. They won't let you take the class until you have 18-12 months left. Do 7 years have 4 years of good time you cannot use!
53. Staff conduct
54. The staff have no regard to anyone mental/physical health. When A fight/health code gets called the Staff are very slow to respond on unit Resulting In many Individuals harm/death (on a certain occasion)
55. there are only 4 phones per wing, there are 100 people per wing there are 20 people crammed in a small room. Commissary is horrible staff treats you a certain way because of your offense.
56. Mail is very very very slow. 20 man dorms absolutely no privacy no quiet space inside. Healthcare in general is horrible
57. Being treated differently because of our offenses. Not having a cell to hid in every now and then. No the irony is not lost on me...
58. The healthcare professionals are not very professional. Apparently Ibuprofen is the cure all for everything and they don't tell you what is wrong with you.
59. Some CO
60. Staff is very, extremely negative toward sexual offenders. Example: **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** has a sign in her window "No gawking, keep walking." As if her and her female staffers are so highly offended if an inmate looks in their direction. These females choose to work in this environment.
61. The derogatory manner and ways staff treats us. just because this prison is 90% sex offenders thats just cause for them to treat and talk down to us. an Individual who commits a senseless murder is treated better
62. Staff treat sex offenders (for which this prison is) as if they are trash. No respect, gossip, degrade and overall just lack any human decency. Including the **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]**.
63. To lose your freedom

64. There are too many homosexuals here. and I see and here abominable things that they do, and it seems this institution promote it by agreeing that theres nothing wrong with this filth. they also play and talk the talk the homosexual games its a shame.
65. No quiet places. Being a sex offender and denied jobs because of it.
66. Staff behave as if they are only allowed to discipline/enforce rules upon non-gang members. Wexford is awful.
67. Healthcare for diabetes
68. Everything else
69. Being away from your loved ones
70. medical
71. The treatment of sex offenders in a 90% S/O prison mainly do to misinformation about S/O's
72. restriction, not seeing family much, trying to remember all rules
73. Not being able to enroll in Cognitive behavior programs, due to low or non-security level or remaining length of time remaining to service
74. So little time in library, poor healthcare, No Doctor available, No dentist.
75. Medical staff
76. Healthcare unit needs more Dentist, Oculist. Need more library Time. This place needs Teachers.
77. Lost Time Apart From Life Family + Friends
78. The treatment of individuals by staff. They treat us less than and hang the fact that some of us are earning good time and about to return to society over our heads. and use other individuals as tools against the rest
79. making us stand outside in all type of weather to receive our meds.
80. Meaningful access to Law Library; staff accountability, constant disinformation + food quantity for several years now (low); only non-sex offenders get the best Jobs; we are treated like 4th class inmates
81. Dorm setting
82. S.O. course is made to shame the inmate and as we are told, "we have no cure." we can't express our opinions as **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** thinks she is infalable and no one can say anything that she doesn't agree. Many people rather stay their time than do the program and deal with this woman.
83. the staff make it hard to Enjoy the Little things in Life (in prison).
84. I am Just a number to them.
85. Due to the fact that lts mostly sex offenders at my prison were treated differently than the Inmates that dont have sex offenses.
86. Not enough opportunities to advance my education or prepare for society.
87. Sleeping in a dormitory, noisy. 4 phones for 100 people in dorm. No phone access on yard.
88. Zero income producing opportunities to help support my family and help me get on my feet.
89. Staff don't care, commissary, mail
90. To many personalitys In the dorms.
91. When at med line you stand outside by a dumpster. No matter if it's rain, snow, cold as hell. Officers are in rain resistance out wear, up against the healthcare Buld. A wind block as well. While we (inmates) are treated as live stock. When there's ample space inside.
92. Healthcare and administrative staff continually use misdirection to get you to leave them alone rather than helping you. Food and commissary has plummeted in quality

- in the last 2 years. Lack of staff causes difficulties i.e. no construction teacher, no officer for yard, etc.
93. This place has gotten worse year over year since 2020. Foods, staff, commissary, education and mail room are the worst it has been since I got here **[5+]** years ago.
 94. All the things you miss, people, family etc.
 95. not getting good time for school or working without going through the sex offenders program when its not mandatory
 96. It is a place you must remain in
 97. Apathy
 98. I would say that we don't get the 6 months. And we gotta go through alot circles to do or get things done.
 99. Sometimes getting things done is frustrating. Not all the COs are interested in even making a call on your behalf. Some COs are very good
 100. In prison sex offenders are discriminated from certain jobs. This makes us feel we are low on a totem pole. Prison makes me cringe from the label sex offender.
 101. The cost of food in commissary. Not enough Food in commissary. The dietary food like the so called hot dogs people can't chew it fast enough
 102. The sex offender program is negative towards the inmates. As the **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]**.
 103. Poor Healthcare
 104. You can't get into school if they say you have to much time. You can not get into school if you have more than 18 months so if you have years to do you cant build your education.
 105. The food is terrible/the environment is filthy/The officers treat you with disrespect
 106. Sgt **[NAME REDACTED]** always thinks the worst of people. He stares at you as if you are guilty of breaking a rule when you've done nothing wrong. Some staff make fun of, or talk openly about people's cases, in front of other staff/inmates. Healthcare only has 1 part-time doctor works 5 hours per week
 107. Officer **[NAME REDACTED]**. There's universal agreement among individual in custody that she is tyrannical. She lacks all compassion and dehumanizes the men at Taylorville. Absolutely toxic.
 108. They don't understand my disability.
 109. unnecessary treatment from staff. And not being able to work in certain job.
 110. These staff members judge all inmates
 111. The fact that they sell things on commissary then tell you, you cant have it anymore
 112. They staff really doesn't care about you, they just want a check and go home!!
 113. A. Poor healthcare/conduct of their staff, B. Retaliation for grievances, C. Mail Handling (six weeks behind at the moment, with little sorted each day)
 114. Staff School
 115. Taking forever to get me to see a Dr. to help me take care of my cancer and loss of sight.
 116. Discrimination by staff/ harassment by staff/Mental Health **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** is horrible **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** is bad. Cuts you off. Mischaracterizes your words etc.
 117. The torture we have to go thru to get our Good time in this S/O program. I should have been waived do to How old my charge was and the nature of my case. I'm not a threat to my community. I Don't rape or like kids. I was young myself 20 and she was 16. Based off a lie about her age.
 118. Overcrowding in the chowhall and overall lack of programs to help inmates get ready for life outside

119. poor healthcare, poor seating in chow hall adequate for over weight individuals to sit in comfortably to eat without hurting themselves, proper mail service, proper access to law library, proper commissary available to us, staff does not do any thing to help us better ourselves and are really just spin master, being they say one thing and do not follow through it. Dorm life creates major sickness as dorms are incubators of sickness.
120. Gangs, Guards, The Fact that sex offenders have to go through VSOTP to receive good time even if they are 50%
121. No comment
122. This prison is the worst I have been in in [20+] yrs of Incarceration. I would do max time rather than be here.
123. Look at as not being human
124. Judgement other individual for who they are, Easy to believe the gossip story that's nothing to do with them, They are pay attention to all negative and violent experience, Many more. They bring their personality negative inside the prison
125. They aren't let me utilize the programs offered and the [STAFF ROLE REDACTED] is a tyrant who is mean and abusive to inmates.
126. Lack of proper religious services. Food in Dietary not being at the minimal amount listed on menu
127. All of the Officers and some of the CO's are related, so if one doesn't like you, None of them like you. The Medical Staff is terrible, they ignore your problems and will let you die. The [STAFF ROLE REDACTED] lies and says your fine when you are not.
128. They do not offer a Quality Sex Offender Program. Unless you Enjoy being degraded daily and called a "CHOMO" there is No way to Earn Good time.
129. Same
130. Staff School
131. the way we are Treated by Staff and CO's
132. There is not enough good time classes and no teachers also they keep playing with giving people their good time especially for S.O. inmates they say we're supposed to be getting good time even while waiting to get in the S.O. program and we're not I've been waiting a year.
133. The worst things about Taylorville Correctional center is the lack of fresh air in the rooms. There is a very bad ant problem in the rooms. There are flys in the kitchen area. This prison does not obey "keep away" orders. I.A. does not take threats between inmates seriously. The officers are always falling asleep at their desk.
134. Some of the staff are terrible people (Which is true of every prison) The commissary could be better. Not enough teachers or people to run the programs.
135. Dealing with these rude CO who try and put all of us down and call us all type of name.
136. I was subjected to a search of my personal property by a CO which took 3-1/2 hours because I had the audacity to point out that a "rule" she was enforcing against me was not really a rule at all. That amount of time far exceeds even the Tactical Team shakedowns I have previously received. Even though the officer could not prove that here supposed "rule" existed, she doggedly stuck to her assertion that I could not store books and paper in any property box, to the point that I had to send their "excess" to be shipped out, and resort to going through another officer to get it returned. Eventually, the remainder of the property taken from me was returned. In a grievance on the issue, the counselor and grievance officer both attempt to cover for the offending officer, transparently avoiding doing their due diligence in investigating the incident and enabling the officers involved to lie on record. The process has

- taken months (over five months since it was originally written and has been with the ARB for an excessive amount of time. They seem to be intentionally dragging their feet so as to delay the inevitable lawsuit that will result from their denial of my grievance.
137. Being told what you can & cant do
 138. many of the officers use slang terms for some of the guys like chomo, Chester Molester. The officers sometimes write tickets for stuff that IDOC gave us and call it contraband.
 139. Doing SO Groups to Get All the Good time
 140. havent been here long enough to answer this question
 141. There is no organization among staff. Things are hit and miss. Also a lack of communication. The mail room is also horrible.
 142. We can't get numerous contracts for good time, we're only allowed 2 at a time.
 143. High Stressful Situation from staff + those in custody. Being treated less than human by staff + unable to speak out about it. The Biasness against sex offenders
 144. most everything
 145. Not enough food or state pay
 146. The inmate workers are pretty much given free reign and lord their status over other inmates
 147. The staff does not do there jobs right.
 148. Since this prison was opened to gang members, the amount of violence and racism between inmates with little to lax repercussions has gotten worse. The [3+] years I have been here it is like 2 prisons. Non-sex offenders are treated as special and better actual humans then sex offenders. This attitude is practiced by staff and a lot of the program administrators. We are not worth any respect in their eyes.
 149. Being told you are useless. Guards not doing their jobs. Putting to many people in sleeping area.
 150. That I'm here instead of home.
 151. over crowding
 152. They treat Black people wrong in this prison
 153. No privacy because of Dorm setting.
 154. Inconsistent application of rules/expectation by staff. Budget cuts that effect our menu. Staffing shortages (post covid mostly) that cause yard/programs to not be offered. Lack of programs/educational opportunities, misinformation by staff. Lack of simple organization/communication between different areas here. Grievance procedures rarely make change and have been used to intentionally forget those who voice complaints. Consistent commissary.
 155. We do not get help when we need and we do not being treat fairly most of the time we been treated like trash. Not like human being
 156. Gossip & Stealing. The lack of support, I have no one & I'm all alone. But Ive never had "anybody" stay in my life even before I started getting Locked up.
 157. Lack of Programs, Verbally Abusive Non-security staff - constant daily, Lack of staffing, sex offender bias, non-security staff creating rules, selective enforcement of covid protocols, No Librarian, No College courses, Covid visitation policies, slow-reaction time of medical staff, chapel service
 158. Certain staff will look up the offenses of certain individuals in custody then target those individuals based on their convictions (shakedown, harassment). Cable has been downgraded and channels lost. Rules are created out of thin air, without rationale behind them. Many actions are taken by staff as a result of retaliation, and the rationale used for said actions are security.

159. The administration doesn't really commit themselves to serving a person in custody in a timely fashion. Health care can use an overhauling on the behalf, very poor service.
160. The staff and administrators treat inmates with disdain - sometimes verbally but consistently with their actions or inaction. There is little to no rehabilitative effort here, and up until this point every effort has been made to keep sex offenders (the majority of Taylorville inmates) in prison and away from our families.
161. CO's make fun of the crime(s) of Sex Offenders. They HATE sex crimes, and they make us feel unsafe (walk on "eggshells") as if we'll harm them. They make us feel doomed - unwanted.
162. none trained staffing
163. Others taking control over others. Inmates threatening others. And the one causing the trouble does not get nothing done but the one not doing wrong gets moved. This includes the phone too.
164. Rules not being followed by CO's + staff unless you are of a certain race. Blacks don't get punished for breaking rules like Whites + Hispanics do. Most rule breakers are gangbangers
165. Being away from family and friends. My Dad died and I couldn't attend funeral. No freedom
166. everything
167. Staff indifference towards individuals and discrimination solely based on offense.
168. Commissary list and dietary
169. Grievance Procedures do not work. Staff retaliate against grievants. Wexford Health Care + Medical staff. **[STAFF NAME AND ROLE REDACTED]**
170. Inmates tell officers what to do. Officers always writing bogus tickets. They don't care about your mental state.
171. Everything you could think of is negative to think about coming back!
172. Being told you are no good. Being told you are hopeless
173. Everything
174. N/A
175. Medical attention and phone list
176. Staff (including medical staff) speaks to + treat offenders as liars and/or less than human. Low quality bedding (pillows, etc); Counselors are unable to assist offenders in any regard (must learn from other offenders in custody)
177. they hold your good time because you're a sex offender
178. Staff talk bad about the inmates, considering it's a sex offender facility. Suggesting cruel treatment!
179. the officers
180. Dorms (No Privacy). Rules not inforced enough. Too many sex offenders
181. N/A
182. If you are not a homosexual, you Are on the outside, looking in! + I mean that!
183. I'm in the final third of a **[20+]** year sentence, I cant get into programming because I have too much time left + they keep bringing in short timers who have preference even if they've been in + out of jail. This is my 1st bit + I have a decade of waitlists. I was on crisis **[more than once]** in '22 and they treat me like I'm attention seeking.
184. Negative talk by staff and inmate about your case
185. about individual miserable people, about commissary the staff control what we need, about gossip and easy to believe the staff for the individual story and favoritism (Bible Boys)
186. Racism. Sex offenders are treated like shit.

187. Family forgets about you, loss of relationships, losing bonding time with my kids, ignorant people making time difficult
188. covid testing every week
189. Mail, overnight crew sleeps! Incarcerated people doing CO jobs, Treat us like sex offenders don't matter, belittle and treat us like shit. Everybody has a different set of rules and they NEVER run medline at the same time - coordination and schedule are messy
190. officers talk to inmate like trash, has no respect
191. no privacy
192. The sex offender rehab program and **[STAFF NAME AND ROLE REDACTED]** who is negative towards inmates. Guarantees an inmate will reoffend. Shows no support and most inmates feel being set up for failure and now any good time accumulated is no longer honored once being treated by **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]**.
193. Rules aren't enforced, change every shift. Hearing of tickets is arbitrary often dismissed without reason. The quality of inmate food/commissary has dropped dramatically, in comparison the officers has only gone up.
194. Dealing with people who practice poor hygiene and who aren't courteous towards others.
195. I can't get the right treatment on time when I need it
196. Almost everything. They treat sex offenders like human trash. Not like someone who made a mistake.
197. It being a dorm. Being a sex offender joint and all of the unfounded, no bases retribution just because of my case and nothing else and that exist in every single person
198. The treatment programs and less opportunities to get good time
199. No Help when needed.
200. Staff treatment of individuals in custody. More jobs for Individual in Custody.
201. There health care is a "joke" and staff are too!
202. 1. Some requests are just ignored repeatedly, 2. The medical treatment is sometimes deficient.
203. The staff is lazy + unprofessional. Unwilling to their job beyond the most basic security functions.
204. Limited chapel program options since covid-19 started. The elimination of the "no gang affiliation" designation, I think the change was in 2021, now gang members can come to TCC and that change has been noticeable in things like more fights here. I transferred here over **[5+]** years ago because it was the only no gang facility, I know nothing about gangs and never been exposed to that lifestyle, it has made TCC a less positive environment.
205. They took half our channels away from the TV they even took away TBS because **[STAFF NAME AND ROLE REDACTED]** told them to
206. all the rest of it
207. The food they serve us is small portions. Having to do covid testing every week.
208. Bathroom and showers
209. This place lacks consistency. Every other week there is no memos, changing their own rules from previous weeks, officers and lieutenants flirting and fraternizing on the clock
210. Nitpicking **[ILLEGIBLE]** and arbitrary rules which change all the time and are not consistently enforced. Essentially poor health care + poor access to MDs and specialists (eye doctor especially)

- 211. They take things on shakedowns just to take them and say it concerns a security threat. Nobody seems to know whats going on administratively here.
- 212. Everything
- 213. staff make arbitrary rules to fit their mood. If you are overweight, there is no accommodation for seating. The prison cut the chairs off the tables and moved them in 4 inches, so if you are fat you can't sit at the table. All they would have to do is allow us to sit at one of the few tables that have not been altered.
- 214. Health care is lacking. Health of prisoners unknown by healthcare workers
- 215. the staff and the rules they change whenever they see fit
- 216. Food healthcare
- 217. The fact that taylorville field services & Records hold you past your outdate

Q14. What suggestions do you have for improvement?

- 1. They need accountability. They answer to no-one & there are no consequences. The public needs to be aware. I have never in my **[50+]** years seen such lazy people.
- 2. Too many to mention!
- 3. Let us get privacy in here
- 4. better food and climate control
- 5. **[10+]** years 4 different prisons and this is the best by far. I feel Like a human who is Cared about here.
- 6. Consistency, consistency, consistency. Consequences for staff & inmates. Library, Art & music programs.
- 7. Make officers take anger management classes when needed. Let S.O. choose it if they want to take S.O. therapy don't use good time as a leverage.
- 8. less people more chances to go home
- 9. Turn it back into a gang free prison. Oversight of staff. Equal rules and punishment no matter what race you are.
- 10. More variety of food items on commissary. Better quality food in dietary. Put it back to a minimum security prison. Make a cell house for people 50+ years old.
- 11. Build a canopy so people waiting, can get out of the weather. Enlarge HCU - Not Big enough. Hire more professional people - Drs. Nurses, etc.
- 12. Get rid of gang bangers like this place was in the past
- 13. Slow Eating Area area instituted - "SNAP" Trays in P.M. Allow "good time" for all contracts for work, school, programs, etc. Day for Day "good time" for program participation due to volume of work required & group activities!
- 14. Better communication. A better system than paper between individual and administration would solve a lot of the issues.
- 15. Better cable, Better food, Better faster Healthcare services
- 16. give All incarcerated People the compliance handbooks as well as the handbook For officers Rules to All individuals of the incarcerated.
- 17. Make all staff do sensitivity training & also better can be co have to do 30 days in and be treated as others.
- 18. Need a state pay increasement. and more job availability.
- 19. Get the vents cleaned professionally done

20. Hiring respectful better trained staff from medical staff to guards.
21. More treatment programs and honor the good time contracts and let everyone get there time to there sentence
22. Most of the people here need sex offender treatment but get kicked out before completion, so they have the problem before they came in
23. The whole healthcare dept. It is sub-standard, consistency enforcing rules, personal relations training for CO's (yea we messed up, but we're human beings too), more frequent clothing exchanges
24. Better communication and follow through from staff.
25. Good Time for those working on Real change in Life
26. to stop individual gossip story and judgmental monitor commissary items and price and never limit How much one spend if not c-grade include Gtl link amount
27. The destruction of AFSCME (i.e. the Corrections Union). Get rid of the nepotism. Too many staff are related, and/or dating/married to each other. Accountability among staff.
28. Assessment to Satellite Education—college level provided by well-known colleges and universities regarding skills and knowledge development.
29. More viable programs/educational opportunities and open up the 'industries', to let guys make some money for themselves and families.
30. Springfield staff to visit inmates
31. There needs to be more jobs and activities. The ability to do more crafts besides draw or paint would be nice.
32. Nothing yet
33. N/A
34. NA
35. They Need to be more on top of things, and more concerned about our medical needs, maybe hire more people so things can get done around here, + not have to wait so long for serious needs. "Very highly recommended!"
36. Triple or quadruple S.O. treatment staff so treatment is immediate. Enable S.O. and drug/alcohol treatment to be taken together. Listen to patients utilize outside doctors and specialist more, repeated visits to nurses isn't helpful. Double the amount of phones or let tablets make calls. Prison leadership should do surveys on staff and do follow ups since staff does not follow directives as it is.
37. Better staff that are willing to actually do their Job correctly
38. CO's need to be in **[ILLEGIBLE]**. CO's need to grow up.
39. Fire the whole mailroom staff
40. Treat the inmates like human and not be biased.
41. This place needs nurses that'll try to help you seriously.
42. Not my Job.
43. Make commissary more consistent on its schedule
44. They abuse their power over (MGC) meritorious good time credit. They miss interpret the access to it because of certain crimes. ILCS 720 does not give them the power to over step their authority for early release
45. give everyone their Goodtime so It wont be overcrowded
46. get Rid of the good time rules
47. Good time should be given to everyone. If you work or do something to earn good time then you should get the credit not just build it up in a master file.
48. Officers here are afraid of gang members, to the point they sound terrified. It comes back to the rest of us. Someone in charge needs to experience life in here, to be able to judge how wrong it is.

49. make staff accountable for how they treat persons in custody
50. We deserve a better justice system. Prosecutors have too much power with little oversight. It's an adversarial system where the prosecutor must "win" at all costs. Plea deals are a massive problem & going to trial is a death sentence because overcharging of dozens of "counts" to secure a plea deal on 1 or 2. Most people just take a plea because lawyers found an easy way to not prepare for trial &/or do their job. Easy money makes for a poor justice system. Public Execution = Bygone Era. Private Execution = Modern Day prisons. Foucault "Discipline & Punish"
51. Let us take the sex offender any time. Or Mandatory 2 years of sex offender class in the free world to get our good time.
52. More fresh fruit and vegetables
53. Better response training, stricter staff standards, more mental health classes, more interaction with high ranking staff, more response to grievances/Pushing of Grievances Instead of them being disposed of by staff.
54. Freer movement, better commissary, more phones, less inmates per wing, less bias
55. More consideration given to requests from population. Get rid of 5 of the sports networks they recently added to TV channels and bring back food TV, travel channel and others. Also reduce population back to intended limit of 600
56. End the culture of retaliation against inmates. Encourage good behavior with fair security protocols instead of blanket punishment for one bad actor
57. better health, dental, ear & eye care. A less prejudiced person **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]**. Needs better mental health facilities.
58. Better Healthcare
59. Have staff go thru some kind of training for dealing with S.O.'s
60. Someone needs to watch the watchers and oversee the overseers maybe some night classes, but first and foremost staff needs to be held accountable and know that they are not above the law
61. Train staff on how to deal with individuals in custody. Take away the power the **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** has where she determines, based on her attitude, who will get good time.
62. Too many to write down here...but I am going to write a class action lawsuit on behalf of some things that go on here. This prison is violating in some matters. The 8th amendment of the constitution's bill of rights!
63. this prison needs a good warden who can tell someone the truth it needs its administration to be overhauled. the dietary can offer more nutritious foods such as fresh salads and fruits and well-cooked meats and properly cooked vegetables.
64. Allow sex offenders to have jobs and earn good time if they stay ticket free.
65. Return facility to non STG status and remove all the gang members. Equitable enforcement of rules. Hire enough staff and adequately fund IDOC!
66. Totally free movement all day except @ count times
67. More Time To eat our meals. Access To A Doctor
68. True help in growing, moving forward, not backwards as we are being treated like max offenders because we have sex offenses; not like we have 5 years or less and want help.
69. more educational/Behavioral/work opportunity. Improve the mail Delivery system for more consistent mail Delivery.
70. More case planning for individuals we are closer to their projected release date
71. Hire professionals.
72. More library time

73. hire more Teachers please, a second Doctor and another Dentist also one optamologist, oculist.
74. Learn To Hold My Ownship For My Mistake In Life
75. Other than someone to really hold IDOC and Taylorville accountable I don't think much can be done, because things will be okay for a moment, but they'll just go back to the same old ways
76. Let one wing go at a time to receive meds so everyone can stand inside.
77. Fix the things in Q13. That is a good start.
78. Improve Preparation for Life After Prison
79. The biggest one: Get someone new to **[STAFF ROLE AND DETAILS REDACTED]** People get kicked out for a winny the poo drawing, he was holding a flower, we can't have pictures of our own families because if she considers it to be sexual we get kicked out of the program. we have to always be hoping that my drawing is not considered sexual as we are going to be called out and very out loud to shame us then get kicked out. Some are kicked out without being giving a reason. This camp would have better training by someone who doesn't talk to us with a look of disgust, and a demeaning answer, unless I kiss her ass. which I guess I'm staying my entire sentence. Not all of us are Rapists here or molesters, or groomers.
80. Freedom of Religion—A Better understanding **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** For All Religions & Services.
81. Please respect my prison rights and use names and not bed numbers. Taylorville, I'm Just a number.
82. To be treated fairly
83. More programs and college classes including a bachelor's degree program and more vocational courses.
84. More jobs for us. Install phones on yard. Sell better earplugs.
85. The rules change every day—on purpose. Zero communication between staff/departments
86. Improved staff levels (too many openings), better responses from senior staff (wardens)
87. Give all individuals in this prison the chance to show their worth if they are to be judged let it be based off disciplinary and not who you (think) they are
88. The **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** is hateful, vindictive, despises men, and difficult to deal with. She knows that she controls our only way to activate our good time and she lords it over us and uses any excuse to deny it and remove people from her program. She is unprofessional and needs removed or at the very least serious oversight. Also, 97% of inmates here are sex offenders and we are denied many jobs based on this.
89. Staff needs more training on knowing the rules instead of making up their own as they go day to day & how to treat individuals in custody as human beings (despite their case). Mailroom here is the worst I have ever heard of. Phones on the yard would get rid of 50% of the problems on the wing. More college classes. Not let certain individuals with certain jobs or cases dictate what goes on in here.
90. There needs to be more work for young people + training in the trades, carpentry, electrical, plumbing etc. Keep food, commissary, yard, movement, to keep people happy + from coming back.
91. to get people here to follow the rules instead of making the rules different everyday.
92. Make the "justice" system about truth, not number of convictions (politics)
93. Federal Government takeover most corrupt State In United States Starting at Governor **[ILLEGIBLE]**

94. I would say help us out more, & treat us as a person
95. Better communication with inmates during special situations ie lockdowns or even when services are changing. Coordination between departments—healthcare, dietary, housing units, commissary, education are often not on the same page. It causes confusion
96. None that I can articulate at this moment
97. Please give better dietary Food. Please bring the Food Price down so that other's could get more things. Please let the in custody people (me) have \$20.00 for hygiene. \$15.00 is not enough
98. give us someone who can teach us and, is their to teach us and, doesn't put us down.
99. Allow everybody to get into school, Allow All individuals to get Jobs, Change the disciplinary system
100. Better training for officers. Deweaponize the correctional system
101. Healthcare needs improvement. Doctor + Nurse practitioner wait lists are too long. Weed out the "bad apples" of staff. Return this facility to Gang-free. It's not as safe as it used to be prior to the bangers getting here.
102. Serve larger portions of food at dietary. Reduce population. 1200 men are shoe-horned into a facility that was designed to house 600.
103. They have to relise not everyone in here is lying or trying to get away with things.
104. Have to deal with staff + other inmates. Also being away from my love ones. I also think that it is not right that people with sex crime have to participate in the VSOTP program in order to receive good time.
105. Listen to the inmates more
106. Offer more support for people getting out and stop waiting tell their time is up to let them know about things they need to do.
107. There are a few voc programs but there needs to be more, for the number of people in custody.
108. Better staff in healthcare and mail room, more options for SOs to work, more staff oversight
109. A better mix environment, not just sex offenders. That change might help.
110. Medical. Food. Commissary. Being consistent!
111. Get **[STAFF NAMES AND ROLES REDACTED]** replaced + proactive oversight on staff's discriminatory + harassing practices because of the majority of inmates classification as sex offenders
112. Fix the S/O treatment!!! Not everyone needs to be here getting help. If I haven't reoffended in over 20+ yrs I think I've proven I'm not a threat and need S/O treatment.
113. hire people that give a damn and not just here to collect a paycheck
114. 1st set it up where all Individuals in custody can earn sentence credit exactly the same as every other criminally charged individual in custody is charged with. Let Individuals transfer to which ever prison they want to go without keeping them bound to certain prisons determined by their security status.
115. More programs. Let sex offenders w/ 50% receive good time without going through the VSOTP
116. bajen las sentencias hay **[ILLEGIBLE]** **[translated from Spanish: lower the sentences [ILLEGIBLE]]**
117. When placed on a list for VSOTP Subtract Good Time in considering time remaining/priority for programs. Eliminate Internet Sign-ups for visitors. Re-Entry opportunities.

118. Change All Staffs
119. They need to pay attention to the individual story if true or not before they believe. Look for individual who bully, need more observation for individual movement inside at night
120. stop discriminating against sex offenders when it comes to certain jobs
121. everyone needs to be treated the same rules applied to everyone
122. To not hire relation and to completely fire the whole medical personnel. To not spin us all of the time also.
123. more phones to contact your support system on the outside. There's not much help here. Make good time available to get.
124. None that will help or get resolved w/o retaliation/negative incidents
125. Everything needs to be improved.
126. get more teachers and counselors so people can actually do something productive so they can succeed once they are released
127. get officers in here that will do their job properly and they need to respond to our request. I put a note into I.A. 6 months ago about a security issue and I never got a response and I.A. never came to talk to me about it.
128. Not much. For the most part they are doing a great job here. Hire more teachers and more people to run the V.S.O.T.P.
129. Better staffing and not having those CO that think there better than us.
130. There needs to be more accountability for the COs and consequences when they violate the rules. Officers charged with the duty to police their own need to perform that duty with the same fevor that they employ when persecuting inmates, for the most trivial things. When I suggested consequences for the officers involved in the theft of my property, I got told that such suggestions were not in scope for the grievance process, but that is absurd. When else should I ask for justice? They are essentially requiring that I take them to court to even have a chance to resolve something so basic.
131. More mental health
132. More training for the officers in How to deal with difficult people. How to deescalate tensful situations
133. more openness
134. same as (q13) above
135. More organization. More effort put towards communication Also for commissary prices to be lower.
136. As long as it doesn't interfere with other programs we should be able to get more than 2 contracts for good time.
137. Better improvement in movement access to yard at all time for all. Being allowed to have access to a committee from all houses to communicate are needs + wants. Better dietary foods + servings
138. every one knowing all the rules, CO writing tickets on someone not following Rules
139. More pay on a variety of jobs not \$17 for every thing but a few jobs
140. Hold everyone accountable to the same rules and less favoritism between officers + inmates
141. Do a better job for the inmates on food + support!
142. If an inmate is violent toward staff or another inmate, they should have their security classification raised and be transferred accordingly. Create an outside call line (like "PREA") to call and report to outside source about staff misconduct. If you report cases to your prison they find a way to get rid of grievance (i.e. - bribe with job or etc.) to protect staff because union is to strong.

143. Better guards. Better food.
144. Continue to offer opportunities for improvement.
145. better officers, better school, better Health care
146. They should treat everyone equal
147. More uniform application of rules/expectations by staff of inmates. Higher standards for officers to be held to accountability. Follow through and communication on grievances. Open more educational programs (like other facilities in Illinois) to prepare us for careers after our incarceration. Fuller menus (due to budget cuts of State) Less use of inmates to communicate/act like officers.
148. The federal government has to be more involve with state prisons in order to change the way we been treated
149. I could really use a Friend or something so I can acquire support and also be able to give the support & Love I have to those who keep me.
150. More staffing. Accountability for staff conduct. More PROGRAMS. Lift all covid-era policies. More Earned Sentencing Credited Programs. A doctor, dentist, optometrist. Risk assessments for S.O. in order to reduce the waiting list. Reentry programming.
151. As a minimum security prison, movement has been unnaturally restricted. Lightening such practices will help. The cable channels have been dictated by the VSOTP counselor even though barely 10% of the population are in the said program. This needs to be changed.
152. Staff and people in custody could mutually work together to improve the quality of life in this prison by making themselves and resources available when needed.
153. Legislation that leads to investment in the people of Illinois (including prisoners) We can't suddenly make IDOC give a shit about inmates, and any judgement in our favor is likely better than nothing but will be narrowly focused. IDOC exists to house inmates, any of their programs/opportunities are a joke and are not available to all who want to take part or are not accredited.
154. Talk to inmates with respect - NOT yelling at us as if we're their personal "punching bags" to release personal problems they go through at their home(s). Give us (things) we NEED, and not act like it's their's they paid for themselves.
155. have the proper officers trained to run a prison right
156. To have everyone sign the phone 1 time and get back in line so everyone can get a phone time
157. Return it to a gang free facility
158. I don't know, maybe COs could talk to us like we were human. Don't lock people up to dam long.
159. everything
160. Departments shouldn't have influence over LTS programs because they are "uncomfortable" with the presence of individuals in their own gym and rec areas.
161. The food on dietary and commissary needs to have a lot more variety.
162. Nothing will change the way the AFSCME operates in this prison until CO's start going to jail
163. Get a whole new administration.
164. Staff listen more to individuals in custody.
165. Need to hire new people for all shifts. Better health care. Better food
166. Better trained staff
167. N/A
168. Respect from all staff; Not to be treated as a liar, manipulator, or less than a human. Offer better bedding (provided or for purchase); Improve Phone/Visit list approval process possibly by creating an electronic submission option

169. make it Better for people to get in the sex offender program with out being brought down by the **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]**.
170. New staff who want to be here + trained on how to be professional!
171. NA
172. Staff needs to stop letting gang affiliated inmates run things with impunity.
173. N/A
174. Close down + start over from warden #1 to the coordinators of their programs. (Most are a joke). Example: **[STAFF ROLE AND DESCRIPTION REDACTED]** who hates men!
175. There is a problem with the IDOC culture. Remove the wardens + put people who are responsive, present + fair. Preferably people who won't "spin" us.
176. For the staff to do they job and respect you
177. monitor commissary staff and item and price what we need. Monitor individual movement especially at night at bathroom, look to individual who bully pay attention what they say and correct individual disrespect other
178. Treat people like individuals. Stop paining all inmates with one brush. Individual effort means nothing.
179. figure out how to parole people out properly
180. covid testing every two weeks
181. Get the mail sorted, run medline on time, treat people humanely, bigger portions of food, we need more professional staff and CO's. Less buddy-buddy of COs/inmates - more regulation of SOP's Standard Operating Procedure. No more inmates doing CO or staffs jobs!
182. Officers treat inmate like humans. Officers upheld the rules. No sitting on table keep quiet area quiet etc.
183. There's not a whole lot to improve Maybe some officers be less asses, or a chance to get a little privacy and better mattresses
184. Remove **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]** from teaching sex offender treatment class, anyone who thinks sex offenders should be castrated and are untreatable is not good for that position, no inmate wants to undergo treatment from her
185. Better structure/discipline for officers. Also, they need to be more sensitive + considerate by treating us as individuals as opposed to just numbers The staff listens more to constructive criticism, need to carry out their duties + honor their uniform with pride.
186. Better Sociology skills.
187. Believe when somebody said I am sick or feel treated unfair, or intimidated.
188. There is not enough space to list everything. Educate All Staff!!
189. How about prison life **[ILLEGIBLE]**. No decision, **[ILLEGIBLE]** (Like work release) being based on most everything and never the crime committed.
190. Shut it down everything is rusty and falling apart and get a better **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]**. The one they have now treats everyone like shit and doesn't care about her job.
191. Hire all new employees. Fire everybody who works here
192. More accountability through external oversight. More educational and mental health courses
193. Shut it down! Its very bad!
194. 1. Always give responses to written requests. 2. Post the desired address to send requests to. 3. Don't open and read mail marked "privileged" or "legal"
195. Microwaves.

196. Bring back the chapel choirs. TCC had 5 choirs, each played different types of music. The chaplain disbanded them and we have had no chapel music for a number of years now, this also reduces the attendance at chapel programs. Bring back the weekend Christian retreats we would have every spring and autumn in the gym, that stopped due to covid-19. Allow longer visits, it's only approx. 2 hours, it used to be double that, it's not long enough for someone who has to travel 5 hours to visit me for only 2 hours.
197. Get rid of [STAFF NAME REDACTED] + allow us to have all of our tv channels
198. fire all staff start over
199. Better food, bigger portions. Let us get good time without programs. If we are sentenced to 50% we should get it soon as we can.
200. Air quality
201. Add another phone, currently 4 phones for 5 rooms. Make 1 phone for each room to avoid conflicts. Better mail system
202. Hire more MDs and provide more timely and consistent health care. Medical visits are done with no concern for privacy of the patient. HIPPA rules are broken frequently.
203. I'd like to say tear it down and let us (me) go, but firing the bunch and hire people who want to work here would be a start to treating us like people.
204. when it comes to jobs treat everyone here the same.
205. Staff, rules, housing
206. Get People who take inmates serious
207. If the Department is going to continue being biased because of a person's conviction, they should review a persons behavior and work history and use that to determine what jobs and opportunities they can participate in.
208. Remove [NAME REDACTED] out of the records office & [NAMES REDACTED] from field services & Remove [NAME REDACTED] from Being warden It's too many family members on staff here as well

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

1. This place hasn't been painted in years. I've been here [3+] yrs & it hasn't happened. The VCT flooring hasn't been stripped, buffed & waxed in ages.
2. People who are at 85% should be able to get good time if It's first time in are If there Trying to better themselves Like working are being in programs
3. N/A
4. A person not matter the crime would be best suited to go first to a max prison for a certin amount of time be for going to a more minimal prison, because I've seen after these [10+] years, people coming to prison for the first time and going straight to a min prison don't mind coming back because "its not that bad".
5. In this prison they (staff) create monsters of inmates and then are afraid to control them. They also cave to any threat of a Lawsuit. Many correctional officers lack Education in human services.
6. N/A

7. This is the worst ran prison ive ever been at. Create and ethics board for oversight of staff.
8. I would rather Be in a 2 man medium joint than this dorm crap. Not enough room for wheelchairs in rooms on this side.
9. I find it wrong that I can't get me good time cause my offense. I got [5+] years at 50% I should get up to a year of good time. But because of my offense would get it.
10. Some non-security staff members don't fully listen to concerns. Some program heads humiliate & mentally/verbally abuse. Some inmates are allowed to use their job to gain favoritism & unfair advantages. Stop the movement restrictions and foolish walking long distances to nearby buildings - direct routes more sensible. Allow more time for consuming meals in dietary. 5+ COs at dietary but "short staffed" so school closed. Allow more teaching assistants based on their capabilities & not on their charges - SEX OFFENDERS not allowed, but not all are violent or child molesters. They are in classes safely, why not helping teach college level course as some have taught before.
11. The quality of food is not only terrible but the quantity, especially nutritious food like fruits and vegetables.
12. it's hard to get a Job around here unless you know someone
13. many grievances get summited Everyday, even those with (merit) get denied! I have a staff conducted That can Prove that I was spit on by a Lieutenant on camera and still got denied.
14. You all need to do a total review of the prison with out them knowing be under cover to really see the truth
15. Sgt. [NAME REDACTED] has more power than [NAME REDACTED]. The warden of security gets told what to do by Sgt. [NAME REDACTED]
16. None
17. get rid of 3 to Life
18. If you complete your sex offender treatment you should be able to get disciplinary good time. I completed sex offender treatment and didn't get anything but my work good time.
19. The dental care at TAY CC is without compromise inhuman! Have an abscessed tooth, need extraction? Put on a 3 month waitlist. Given 10 days worth of Tylenol and sent back to your bunk. Overall healthcare system is a disaster. Horriably long wait times, extremely understaffed, questionable qualifications! Can't see? Well, wait 6 months for glasses.
20. Monitor and more punishment black tough guy his behavior. never listen and believe to gossip story or shits. never spoiled black individual and stand by at bubble area. monitor bully individual and always listen what the story about. find individual complain too much. correct all they behavior
21. Staff here do what they want rules and policy be damned. Retaliation is big here. We are all treated like creeps no matter what good behavior we show staff. Jobs are limited. Opportunities are lacking. We just are relegated to playing cards & dominos on the deck.
22. I like this survey. I believe that my comments and or feedbacks will be need in Continuous Improvement intention. Thanks
23. Help us, please!! Have the staff stop looking up individuals and humiliating them about their cases—to other CO's, staff, or inmates. Not enough food!
24. I trust you all can help with more programs that will allow 85%er get good time
25. I Have nothing now to Think about I only Been here a week sorry
26. the Best Place to be for the first time being Incarsarated

27. NA
28. We Need more cleaning supplies for every house, more doctors, maybe another phone or 2 in each house so people aren't fighting over them, medical problems or issues people have taken care of quicker, and not such a long waiting list, cause it could be more serious, and needs taken care of ASAP.
29. Not enough S.O. treatment staff, too long of wait. S.O. director kicks people out for next to nothing, needs oversight. 4 phones for 100 people isn't nearly enough. Supervise correctional officers, most do not care about job or inmates.
30. It needs to be easier to see a specialist. I've had an ear infection and have been deaf for 3 weeks because I had to use ear wax remover for 2 weeks before seeing a nurse practitioner, now trying to get a follow-up and still can't hear.
31. things won't change anyway.
32. I firmly believe the academy in springfield must have 20,000 Training officers because every single CO does shit differently. I'd rather have an Asshole CO because hes usually an asshole 24/7 so you know what to expect!
33. You get sick here it takes some time to get help.
34. hope this helps.
35. the Prison in Taylorville C.C. has withheld distribution to certain prisoners on (MGC). this is a violation of the Law for individuals who were sentenced to 50% sentence without receiving MGC for early release. This has been going on for 2 years. (Earned Discretionary Good Time)
36. Programs should stop you from getting your Goodtime rite away
37. Get Rid of the rules that require you to Do programs to get good time.
38. I worked dietary the whole time I've been here I go home this [DATE REDACTED]! I mainly did what I could to stay under the radar and work on turning my life around. Its going to be a struggle but I have only been locked up 2 years. I stuck to myself most of the time cause some people dont understand that you get what you give. I try to respect everyone. I see it is not that way for everyone. Some think cause they are here Things should always benefit them. They won't do anything good but expect good things. If you want good things you got to put in the work to earn good things.
39. Thank you for your efforts. God Bless You!!
40. Maybe more programs and or Jobs sex offender can do.
41. a LGBTQIA+ support group
42. I have seen many staff Retaliate to grievances put towards them/disposing of Grievances by staff. Ive also witnessed many staff that Just sleep/nap on the Job Instead of watch over the unit. There Is also a very high level of disrespect to Incarcerated Individuals by certain staff. many staff have made Racist/degrading comments towards myself and others.
43. As pertains to Q14 our wing only has 4 tables to accommodate 100 people. That is seating for 20. There are benches to sit at but not near enough tables. At the last 3 "town hall" meetings we were promised additional tables within a week. Its been 3 months now
44. The only thing consistent is inconsistency! Thank you
45. I make no excuse for my horrible criminal offense, But nothing is taken into consideration except my offense when it comes to job assignment or programs.
46. I hope and pray this survey brings about change and not just a waste of paper. When I first got lock up in the late 80's prisons had a respectful fear of the JHA, I hope it returns for the better of everyone.

47. The law library is closed due to no staff. Mail isn't passed out daily due to staff shortages. Activities are cancelled due to staff shortages. Staff assignments aren't being filled leaving IDOC in disarray
48. It's a good survey but it doesn't go far enough...for instance all prisons should have one man cells! Since the Illinois prison population has been cut from 49,000 to 29,000, this could be done...also there should be one prison set aside for only sensitive prisoners. Which there are about ten different categories of these types of people! I will be starting my own prison reform organization upon my release. I want to thank you people for this survey.
49. this institution house mostly sex offenders, some of them such as myself had a sex case 30+ years ago and is still having to be treated wrongly I'm not here on a sex charge now and I still can't work a 3rd shift job because of a sex offense in my background [30+] years ago. this being a SO prison we should have the opportunity to be placed on one of these jobs. but this facility is dehumanizing us because of a very long past incident and thats not justfully implemented.
50. Some officers here treat us like the scum of the earth.
51. I signed a non-STG agreement to be here. I believe IDOC should be severely punished for renegeing on that deal. This facility/staff has/have basically surrendered to gangs for fear of being accused of racism.
52. Illinois needs to pass laws for early parole like other states. Long prison terms for minor offenses with no chance for early parole does not encourage inmates to try to better themselves. Implement more home confinement with ankle monitoring so prisons can be emptied out and some of them shut down. Illinois has too many prisons.
53. Thank you for taking the time to do we hope the info is helpful in helping all prisons moving forward
54. Individuals serving a 50% of their sentence and have accumulated Earned Program Sentence Credit but are unable to receive it unless their enrolled in the sex offender treatment program which contingent upon them being awarded Earned Program Sentence Credit which will give them an earlier release date
55. Thank you!
56. Overall this place is great! I feel safe, I keep busy working, exercising and praying. But hire more people please!
57. I hope that this survey brings some good and effective change, if not immediate then in the long run. I filling out this survey in hopes of change. because it's desperately needed. Change has to start but it also needs help!!!
58. When we hold a town hall meeting. The Warden should be open to difference ideas!
59. We need Better Classes and Programs. NOW. Not just to those who have A Short time, But to the people who have A lot of time who Really want to take Classes & Programs. I wish that inmates could Learn a trade and Be paid A Fair wage. I wish that programs For inmates who were incarcerated over 20 years could or would Be set up to help them Learn a trade or Career, to keep them out of prison.
60. 19 roommates everyone gets beans and things to give people gas It stinks. Always being called by a number. 100 people and only 4 phones. If you don't wake up in time you have no chance to get a phone for that day. You have to be up at 7 am even if your 19 cellmates were loud and kept you up all night.
61. Staff here speaks respectfully to inmates, unlike other facilities in IL.
62. healthcare here needs to improve. I was not treated well. I have a bad knee [MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED] and Im being forced to climb up my bunk.

63. The mail room—operates when it wishes to. Quite often Mon-Fri no mail, only state mail & newspapers. Not sure if mail even goes out on time. Sent letter to bank 3 wks ago, still no reply from the bank.
64. This is my first and hopefully only incarceration. Other guys tell me that we are lucky to have this food and climate control. If that is the case I think Illinois Prisons need a serious overhaul. This place is a dumpster fire compared to prisons in Oregon or a Scandinavian country. If it's the best we have to offer then as a state and a country we are failing. That being said, I am happy to be here instead of somewhere worse in this state. We have no access to music programs also. Thank you.
65. Horticulture & the Culinary classes here are the best things that are ran right & people feel treated as they are actual human beings. Its so night & day from those classes (voc) versus the rest of the prison. The voc building actually cares about the individuals. Set something up that lets those with the means to get college class from correspondence classes proctored. The phones & mailroom are the two biggest problems that could easily be fixed and aren't. These two issues (poorly undertrained & understaffed) mailroom (which seems to be on purpose here & a joke) & NOT enough phones (just put some on the yard like everywhere else) are easily 90% of the individual in custodys issues/stress here. Certain staff dictate your privileges or how they treat you by your case & there are plenty that are straight forward on not liking S.O.'s but thats your job & location of prison you work at.
66. Keep people doing pos. things. Give them something good here + when they get out (education). The S.O. program give very mixed signals. The **[STAFF ROLE AND DESCRIPTION REDACTED]** + the S.O. program needs to do more. Need to be able to get good time for good behavior. Program instructor gives false hope, lets you take class + then for small or no reason removes you from class. Need to have someone who can actually help people, here + when they get out. Give people goals to work toward.
67. Need people who know how to run a prison, they change the rules everyday or don't do what they say. they change rules everyday, but don't follow them or make the guards follow them.
68. Seek the truth in the courts. PD's are paid by the same entity that pays the prosecutors. Poor people have no chance at justice. Public opinion sways many outcomes.
69. **[REDACTED MOSTLY ILLEGIBLE/UNINTELLIGIBLE]**
70. Ect
71. Perhaps John Howard can once a year update the prison population with work John Howard is doing to make life humane for people with sex convictions inside of prisons and on parole.
72. Please let these things looked into. Thank you
73. Pretty much find someone better to run the sex offender program. And, that is thier for us. And, not against us.
74. The **[STAFF NAME AND ROLE REDACTED]** treats individuals like scum by berating them and using their case towards every situation
75. If there are any issues we are suppose to file grievances. When we do file grievances the officers inform the other officers & acts of retaliation are committed against the individual filing the grievance. There is no confidentiality
76. The recorded/written record of **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]** has to be a mile long list of complaints. She's a shining example of IDOC's bureaucratic system of insanity which deeps dangerous employees on staff for decades. I Appreciate JHA's Attempt to be a check on power. IDOC is a closed society with zero accountability for human

- rights violations and unacceptable job performance. This won't change for as long as the collectivized Union is in power. Good luck! Taylorville C.C.
77. Thank you for your support
 78. There's a lot of questions have to be answered different because some CO are cool some are not at all
 79. Need to help a little more when people in custody are getting OUT!!
 80. None
 81. They only see our offense we will never get a fair shot here in this prison. When I say never HELL will freeze over first!!
 82. Healthcare is at the least negligent, as it comes to older IICs, and everyone as a whole. Their treatment of **[NAME REDACTED]** in particular almost killed him. Please INVESTIGATE Psych/M. Health + Healthcare. Would be happy to take a lie detector vs. any staff here regarding the issues I've outlined above. Please investigate Mental Health Care + Regular Health Care.
 83. I am currently incarcerated for a case unrelated to an 20+yr old sex offense and I feel like I'm serving time for that all over again. In order to get good time I have to do S/O treatment and this program is so degrading to most of us. I feel like I should not be in this program do to how old and the nature of my offense. I feel like I'm walking around on egg shells because the head counselor will kick us out for ANYTHING she feels is a needed reason. Example: Guys have been removed because they want Good time and she don't believe we should get it and will put you out.
 84. The survey should look into the restrictions that are required upon certain classes of crimes which are majorly punitive in causing the Individuals in custody charged with certain crimes which actually cause them to serve a additional sentence above and beyond the adjudged sentence ordered by the sitting Judge who sentenced.
 85. Sex offender shouldn't be put on the back burner because of the crime. If sentenced to 50% they should be able to receive good time w/out jump through all these hoops. I hope this survey will encourage some change & reform.
 86. gracias, Thank you for the survey my hope is in you.
 87. Most are saying this survey is pointless because Nothing changes as a result. A lot are not doing it.
 88. Why ask these question, and not help people that need help from you?
 89. 1. Everything is okay the staff, the officer, 2. But the commissary situation is expensive price, 3. No selections of food we can buy and limit amount you can buy even not C-grade, 4. Give punishment indivial for gossip or talking shit other individual. Always tell to individual mind their own business and respect other
 90. Phones are not monitored by staff, so some inmates sign up and use the phones 14 times a day. Why can't they limit the phone calls down to 2 times a day per inmate?
 91. I really hope something can be done about this place. I have tried for a year, since I have been here, to get a job or get into schooling and I have gotten nowhere because someone was afraid I was going to get their job and told a lie about me.
 92. This is more than likely a waste of taxpayer dollars. But hopefully not.
 93. Afraid to really write anything.
 94. All the staff need to undergo Psych evaluations, and Drug tests weekly.
 95. we need more positive activities so that when released we can be productive members of society and don't come back to prison
 96. The blankets are as thin as the sheets. The officers rarely turn on the heat during winter, and they rarely turn on the air during summer. There are bunk beds in every room, 20 people to a room with no privacy. The commissary list has a lot of items that they do not have in the warehouse, most people in here only get state pay and

- they can not afford things like \$68 shoes, \$20 hot pot, \$12 fan. If we try to save our state pay to get these things we will starve. The waiting period for a state loan fan or hot pot is close to 4 months. We are not treated properly in here. The IDOC counselor has told me that IDOC will "try" to find me a place to parole to. He also said there is no guarantee that they will find a place, and if they do there is no guarantee that the place will accept me. I feel the staff here at Taylorville Correctional Center do not take our freedom seriously.
97. Overall this is one of the better prisons I've been to. Plus they have the V.S.O.T.P. which is needed in more prisons. The gangs + inmates do not run the phones here and there is not many fights it seems like. The food in dietary is Top Notch. For the most part they are really Helpful trying to help us get Home. We dont usually get much help.
 98. The one thing that is going on in this prison is a CO **[NAME REDACTED]** in 5 house is trying to control other individuals and not move them which they ask to be moved he threaten them if they write placement to be move, he will write them a ticket.
 99. That's all I have for now.
 100. The **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** needs to stop puffing out her chest like a rooster, yelling and degrading many of us telling us what to read and what not to read. Coloring Books are for kids. Gaming book are not allowed. But the prison allows them and now wants to ban Majic just because she thinks its a kids game if thats the case get rid of chess, dominos & other card games
 101. More portions on our trays. They throw away so much food. Why cant they give us more portions so we arent still hungry after every meal.
 102. The big issue is commissary pricing. It is way to high especially for people living off of state pay. Either prices need to lower or state pay needs to raise to offset the impact.
 103. The food serving from dietary are not for the average adult, the restrictive rules in the housing unit about use of showers, the sink, ice machine etc. be lifted. I have lived in prison for over **[10+]** yrs having spent only 1 yr in Taylorville but for a low level security then where I was previously was I am more stress here the any where else due to the restrictiveness of staff + security
 104. Nothing will work until everyone knows, and follows The rules.
 105. The Chaplain at this facility does not help with getting **[ILLEGIBLE]** or Bible Studys She fights us on getting Bibles + Religious neckless. Taylorville C.C.
 106. I feel all nonviolent offenders should be eligible for good times including sex offenders. How is it fair that some people get good time for school or working and others don't. not everyone labeled as sex offenders are rapists or molesters
 107. None at this time!
 108. Illinois prisons all need new officers that know how to run a prison.
 109. Even so come quickly Lord Jesus. Praise the Lord!!!
 110. Improve the health care. The Health care here at Taylorville is Not good At All
 111. The **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** talk about you and put you down
 112. I appreciate the fact that there are some people/organizations out there who truly care for our well being. Hopefully some of these surveys can help to improve care for all inmates. We made mistakes. My goal is to never repeat those mistakes. The more support we have in here (especially for those with less education) can only help us to keep society safer upon our release.
 113. This place they don't care when it someone is dying they take too much time to get you to health care about 30 minute just to get you out the unit. A lot times they don't know what to do their training is really poor when it comes to save a life of a human.

114. This Box isnt Big enough for my comments. So tell me... No think about what you would want & what you need in order to stay the person you are today then imagine not having none of it now & you've been chasing it for as long as you can remember. Now add all your Hopes & Dreams in for the ones you Love I have None of that. That's what we need real support + No Hoops & Ladders.
115. This is a majority sex offender facility, but we only have two sex offender counselors. There are hundreds of men on the waiting list, but only 100 group counseling spots available. Our two counselors are overworked, under-appreciated, and they need help. Our wardens are no show and this facility is operated by security who "strongly dislike" sex offenders. Rules are created and selectively fitted to keep sex offenders in their housing units and out of the preferred jobs and programs.
116. Overall, the facility isn't bad. Improvements in staff conduct in relation to retaliation must be addressed. Further, the counselor of the VSOTP has far too much authority to dictate what happens within the rest of the facility.
117. I'm not asking them to downplay security, after all this is a prison. But I would like security and other departments to be mindful and aware of peoples needs and really try to meet them, without prejudgment and personal biases.
118. Most inmates take programs/work/education in prison as a means to an end ideally with some benefit to the inmate. The point I made above is that there are few benefits there at taylorville as pay is low and most of us are not eligible for time off our sentence. Furthermore IDOC hires officers whose job is not to help or rehabilitate inmates but to keep inmates incarcerated. We as a society do not value inmates' lives or well being but we do guarantee some protections which unfortunately need to be inforced through lawsuits. For context I grew up in low income housing but now have a comfortable middle class life even now, but I never expected to be as disgusted as I am by the way felons are treated by the criminal justice system.
119. Please help us - ALL prisons! Thank you...
120. All the officers do in this prison is sleep and write tickets if you bother them. No respect for inmates. Don't put family members phone numbers in. not giving you all your good time and keeps things from leaving the inside of these walls. Ask for surveillance (Tapes)
121. Have staff sit on wing when it is time to sign the phone list. And give ID to CO when yard time comes up have CO check to make sure it is your time.
122. I think people should be able to take our cases to trial without hanging more time on us, to plea out. To many good people go to prison for no good reason. It's a crime to keep young men away from there children. What does that solve? I wish there were alternatives for the young people in our county. family is key. Thanks Love rules God Bless
123. Taylorville CC Need a lot of Improvement Done to this place.
124. Inspections should be made to staff social media participation in relation to opinions and bias toward individuals that may affect their motivation to properly perform their jobs. Certain treatment providers should be verified for proper certification to provide specific CBT.
125. The state needs more ICRP houses for people on parole. It would also be nice to have more natural light in each of the housing units.
126. Staff here have zero accountability. The grievance system doesn't work. I/A + the ARB only protect staff. Cameras never catch negative staff conduct. They lie on grievances + when you catch them the ARB doesn't send grievances back to you.
127. This survey was needed, we need people to come down and talk to the inmates. And need the ass kickers in 5 house here. Thank you

128. Need to hire new people for all shifts + positions
129. Help us sex offenders - 3 to Life parole
130. Many "rules" are not written or explained in any handbook. Instead, first time offenders must rely on other offenders to learn how to get answers or how to get things done or who to write to for information.
131. Change the way sex offender get good time at 50%
132. Questions were good.
133. NA
134. N/A
135. I've said enough, now who has the backbone to do something about it? (enough said) Too much talking (spinning) here + Nothing ever improves, Nothing. Always there's a taking away from the little we have, Always
136. Please encourage them to bring back college academic as well as increase vocational training (welding, HUAC, construction etc.) Please start doing in person visits again!! Thank you.
137. Some staff treat us like animal s we already doing out Depths to society we should not have staff down us about our case call us child molester god forgave us no matter what we in for. they are staff they should not be talking about us like that
138. more punishment for Black people and tough guy [ILLEGIBLE], more punishment for brothering other individual, always say a warning not to do a gossip lie story, monitor individual negative behavior and aggressiveness, monitor commissary item, price, and behavior of staff, customer always right. monitor individual who bully and scared to say something and reasons
139. Racism, discrimination and retaliation are the order of the day.
140. The CO's who are supposed to be protecting us at night have a knack for sleeping on overnights. I, personally had to help a man who passed out and hit his head on the floor while CO's were sleeping. They also call house to house to warn each other if Major's or VIP's are coming through to avoid getting caught up. Cameras do not point at the "Bubble" Area.
141. This place is so much nicer than where I was before so I am very grateful I don't feel the bubbles represent my feelings cause neutral is an ambivalent way of saying
142. Remove [STAFF NAME REDACTED] from sex offender Rehab program
143. I've witnessed officers sleeping on every shift, they play favorites + fraternize/flirt with select inmates but no one else. We're told they are short on staff, yet things are consistently cancelled (law library, religious services, yard) when staff is simply standing around doing nothing: our rights (not privileges) are constantly taken away.
144. We need fresh vegetables & special diets back for people with cancer
145. When it is all said and done and I MSR I will have done [20+] yrs straight. Laws and IDOC policies must change and focus on what is or is not done and not ones case. I should be able to go to work release. I have no money, no place to go, possibly institutionalized and because I'm a sex offender it is that that prevents me from acquiring what non-sex offenders can, even with way worse disciplinary records and no rehabilitation and locked up over and over and over.
146. This place sucks.
147. Hire all new employees. Fire everybody
148. None at this time.
149. Well there has been 4 people who passed away this month alone 4-1-23 in this prison! Its quite concerning that they a 2 day a week Doctor and no full time Doctor! The nurses are disrespectful and very very rude! Its nursing staff like that that makes us not even go over their for issues we have!

150. I would like to talk with a lawyer. But, I do not know how to contact one. Could you please add a requested respond by date to future mailings.
151. There should be more or better training guiding staff + administration on how to view us as people, not our charges.
152. Since the covid virus is now no worse than the flu virus, they need to stop regular covid testing and quarantining a housing unit or wing for one positive test. I'm not aware of any serious illness here due to covid for well over a year, so why are 99 guys being punished for one guy getting a positive test even though he is removed from that house? Since Springfield consolidated all IDOC commissary to their one warehouse, TCC is not allowed to order items from the multiple vendors we used in the past, so TCC has no control over the type of food or health items we want to order. This change greatly reduced the quality and quantity of items we can buy, the has been a problem both the inmates and staff have complained about. For example we can no longer buy healthy options like Raisin Bran cereal, Fiber powder, or a normal toothbrush and Twin Bic Razor. Plus I just recently heard that Springfield claims we are buying too much commissary and will be reducing the amount and variety of things we can have in commissary. That makes no sense and will only create inmate problems. Why is Springfield trying to fix something that is not broken by controlling commissary and taking away the individual facilities ability to choose what is best for their own populations?
153. The **[STAFF ROLE REDACTED]** should not work here she insults the inmates + doesn't allow anyone to complete the program. She also claims to be **[DETAILS REDACTED]** + therefore takes it out on everyone.
154. If they would give everyone good time prisons wouldn't be over populated like they are now.
155. More job/trades training
156. 3rd shifts always sleeping. I was on a dietary diet. They took it from me for budget cuts. Mail system is terrible, takes months to get back mail from outside.
157. I thought we all eat the same instead of staff eating like there better than us and Inmates work the kitchen eat special why we get little state shots
158. Currently the system is doing nothing to help prepare us for release with resources or financially to succeed after release. If guys like myself have no family left to go home to, we are released with nothing and destined to fail and come right back to prison. Job skills and some way to earch some money prior to release would go a long way to succeeding after release. The current prison jobs pay little to nothing each month and even if a person could save all their "state pay" in todays economy a person couldn't rent a hotel room for the night.
159. The staff here talks to you like your not human, All the counselors are never at work and when they are all they do is sit around and gossip About the inmates cases and talk down to us, nothing as far as any Help for the prisoners is ever recived and Taylorville staff take it upon them selfs to deny our Host sites only to porpusly violate our parole at the door, some thing must be done to stop these People Because they are still holding People with 3 to life Past there outdate and they personally pick and choose who they like Enough to let go home and the staff at this prison don't like Black People at all and they don't hide it either and they hate sex offenders especily if your married or have a good support system, the last time JHA came the warden Told us if we complain to you about all issues or staff That she would put us on a Bus straight to Menard prison

OTHER MARGINALIA COMMENTS

Q5. What is your housing status?

1. [GP] #5-house
2. [Other] A.D.A. Housing Unit

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

Relationships between staff & incarcerated people are generally good.

1. [N] In between

I receive support from staff when I need it.

1. [N] In between

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

1. [D] Somewhat

I am treated as a person of value.

1. [Blank] NO!

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. [N] some what

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

1. [A] drug program

I can't improve my situation through good behavior

1. [A] 8 years of good time is worthless until time your short to get in the SO program + **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]** said we dont get the prior good time
2. [SA] Because I am a sex offender

My time here seems like a chance to make positive changes

1. [A] Agree + disagree If none of our good time in our master file counts why even do it then

To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.

1. [SA] Because I am a sex offender

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

1. [SA] 50% Inconsistencies

Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.

1. [SA] S/O Program

I have to be careful about everything I do, or it can be used against me.

1. [SA] S/O programs

Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.

1. [A] Some/sometimes

This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.

1. [D] There are elements of it

Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.

1. [SD] For staff yes

Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.

1. [SA] None S/O Offenders
2. [A] Not in a good way

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

This prison is better now than it was last year.

1. [N] I Don't know
2. [N] ????

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

1. [SA] or bullshit reason

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

1. [SA] Right on point
2. [SA] **[ILLEGIBLE]** Running Rampant

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

1. [SD] only because there are no cells
2. [D] No cells

Drugs cause a lot of problems between incarcerated people.

1. [SD] Never once

I feel that I am treated with respect by staff.

1. [SA] S/O program



This report was compiled by JHA staff. Media inquiries should be directed to JHA's Executive Director Jennifer Vollen-Katz at (312) 291-9555 x205 or jvollen@thejha.org

Incarcerated individuals can send privileged mail to report concerns and issues to the John Howard Association, P.O. Box 10042, Chicago, IL 60610-0042. JHA staff are reading every letter and tracking this information to monitor what is occurring behind prison walls and to advocate for humane policies and practices. Family and friends can contact JHA via our website www.thejha.org or by leaving us a voicemail at (312) 291-9183.

Since 1901, JHA has provided public oversight of Illinois' juvenile and adult correctional facilities. Every year, JHA staff and trained volunteers inspect prisons, jails, and detention centers throughout the state. Based on these inspections, JHA regularly issues reports that are instrumental in improving prison conditions. JHA humbly thanks everyone who agreed to be interviewed for this report and who graciously shared their experiences and insights with us.

