
Survey Results



Lincoln 2023 MQPL Survey Results

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Description of MQPL Dimensions	4
Charts: Demographic Information of Respondents	6
Charts: MQPL Dimensions.....	9
Harmony.....	9
Professionalism.....	20
Security	28
Well-being and Development.....	34
Additional Questions	37
Charts: JHA Questions.....	39
Tables of Results by Individual Survey Items.....	43

Introduction

Lincoln is a minimum-security male prison within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) that housed approximately 763 people on March 27, 2023. Lincoln is an IDOC designated “Rapid Re-entry” prison primarily for people within 18 months of release. 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](#), informed consent notice/instruction sheet, and privileged mail prepaid business reply envelope addressed to JHA) so that every person incarcerated at Lincoln had an opportunity to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey if they chose to do so. JHA received 193 responses to the MQPL survey from people at Lincoln through the June 7, 2023, representing approximately 25% of the static population. JHA also conducted a monitoring visit of the prison in May 2023.



The MQPL questions are organized by dimensions: harmony, professionalism, security, and well-being & development (descriptions on next page). JHA’s survey also included questions on demographics of respondents as well as some questions JHA had asked in previous JHA surveys. Results are presented in this report first in chart format, followed by table format. Tables are organized in the order that questions appeared on the survey.

Description of MQPL Dimensions

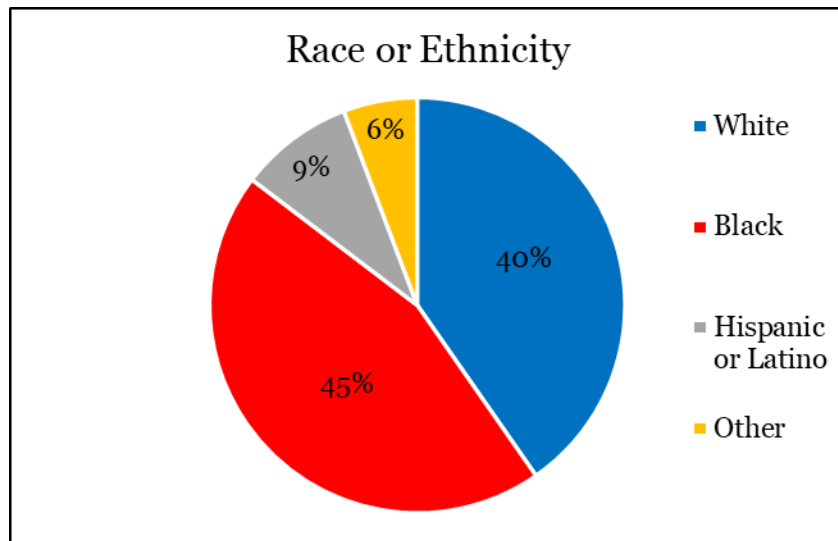
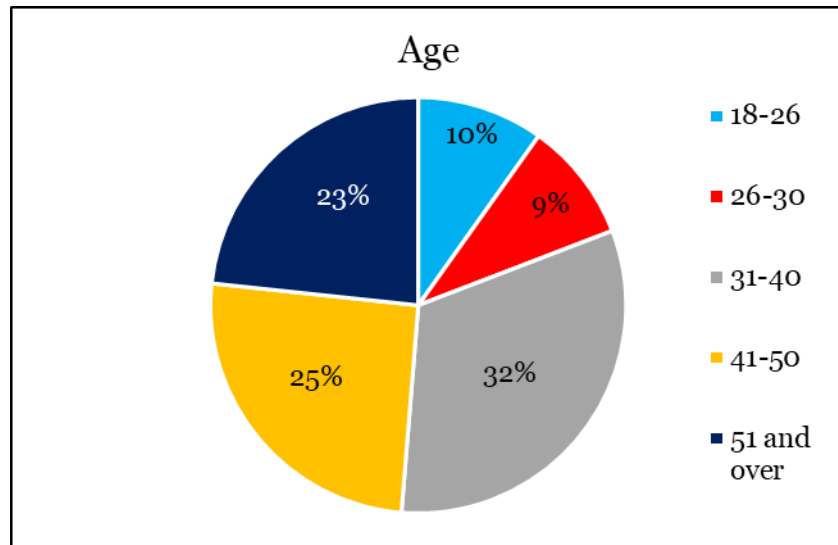
- **Harmony: Questions relating to interpersonal aspects of the prison experience**
 - Respect/courtesy – Positive, respectful, and courteous attitudes towards incarcerated people by staff.
 - Staff-incarcerated people relationships – Trusting, fair and supportive interactions between staff and incarcerated people.
 - Humanity – An environment characterized by kind regard and concern for the person, which recognizes the value and humanity of the individual.
 - Decency – The extent to which staff and the regime are considered reasonable and appropriate.
 - Care for the vulnerable – The care and support provided to incarcerated people at risk of self-harm, suicide, or bullying.
 - Help and assistance – Support and encouragement given to incarcerated people for problems including drugs, healthcare, and progression.
- **Professionalism: Questions relating to how the prison operates**
 - Staff professionalism – Staff confidence and competence in the use of authority.
 - Bureaucratic legitimacy – The transparency and responsiveness of the prison/prison system and its moral recognition of the individual.
 - Fairness – The perceived impartiality, proportionality, and legality of punishments and procedures.
 - Organization and consistency – The clarity, predictability, and reliability of the prison.
- **Security: Questions relating to use of authority and safety**
 - Policing and security – Staff supervision and control of the prison environment.
 - Incarcerated person safety - The feeling of security or protection from harm, threat, or danger.
 - Incarcerated person adaptation – The need or pressure to get involved in trade and allegiances.
 - Drugs and exploitation – The level of drugs, bullying, and victimization in the prison environment.
- **Well-being & Development: Questions relating to welfare and prospects**
 - Personal development – An environment that helps incarcerated people with offending behavior, preparation for release, and the development of their potential.
 - Well-being – Feelings of pain, punishment and tension experienced by incarcerated people.

- **Additional MQPL Questions**

- Decision-making – The extent to which administrators prioritize security concerns over other factors.
- Family contact – An environment that facilitates incarcerated people maintaining relationships with loved ones.

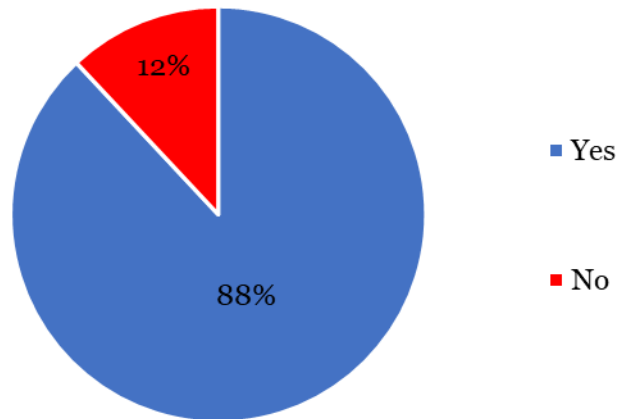
Charts: Demographic Information of Respondents

Total respondents = 193¹

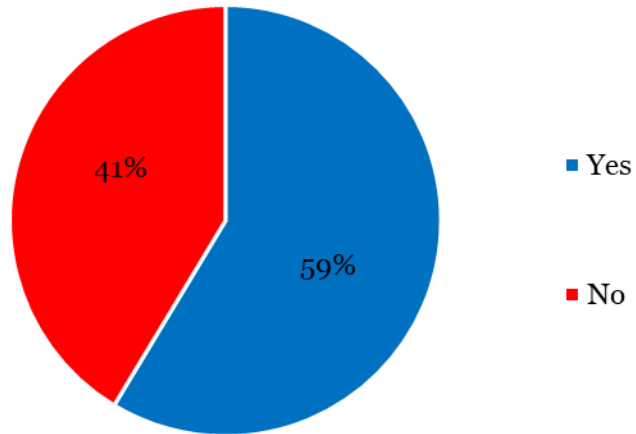


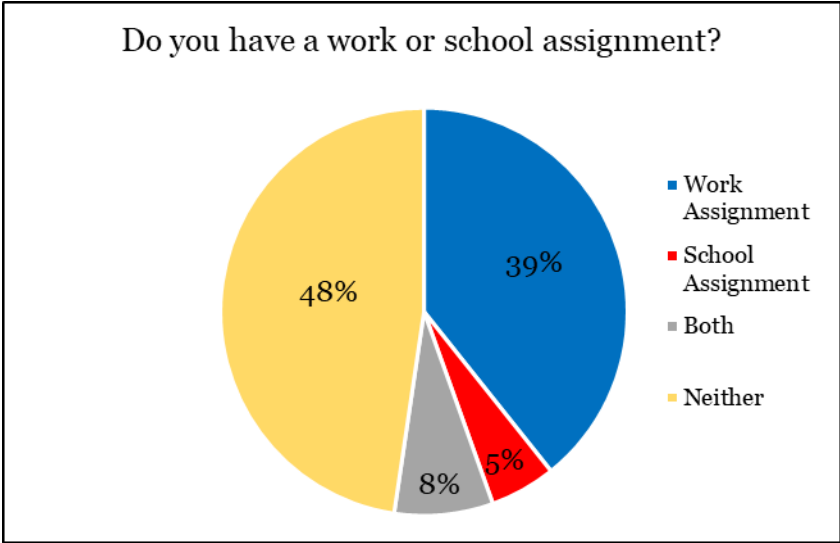
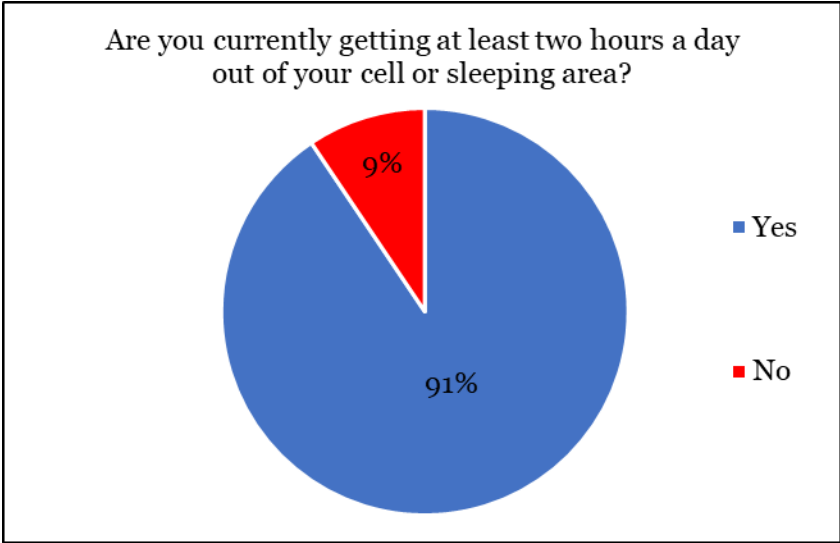
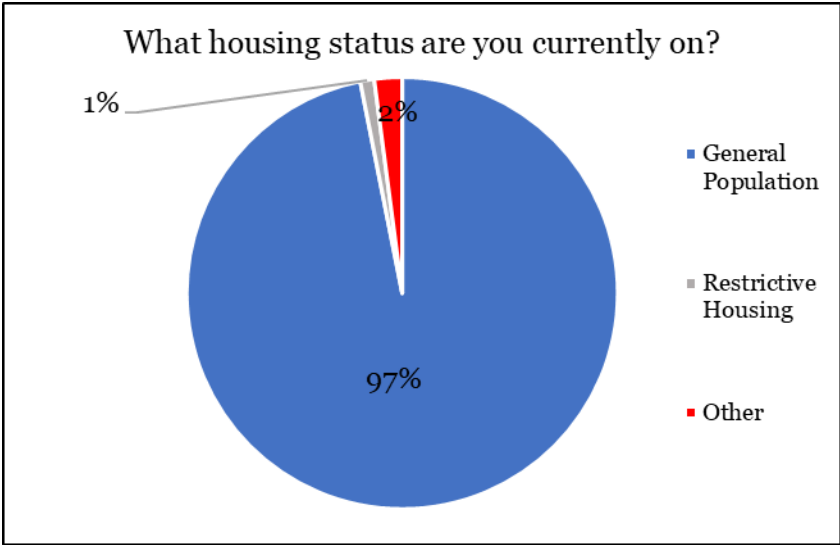
¹ Due to rounding, not all percentages total 100%. Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of respondents per question.

Are you within two years of release?



Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?

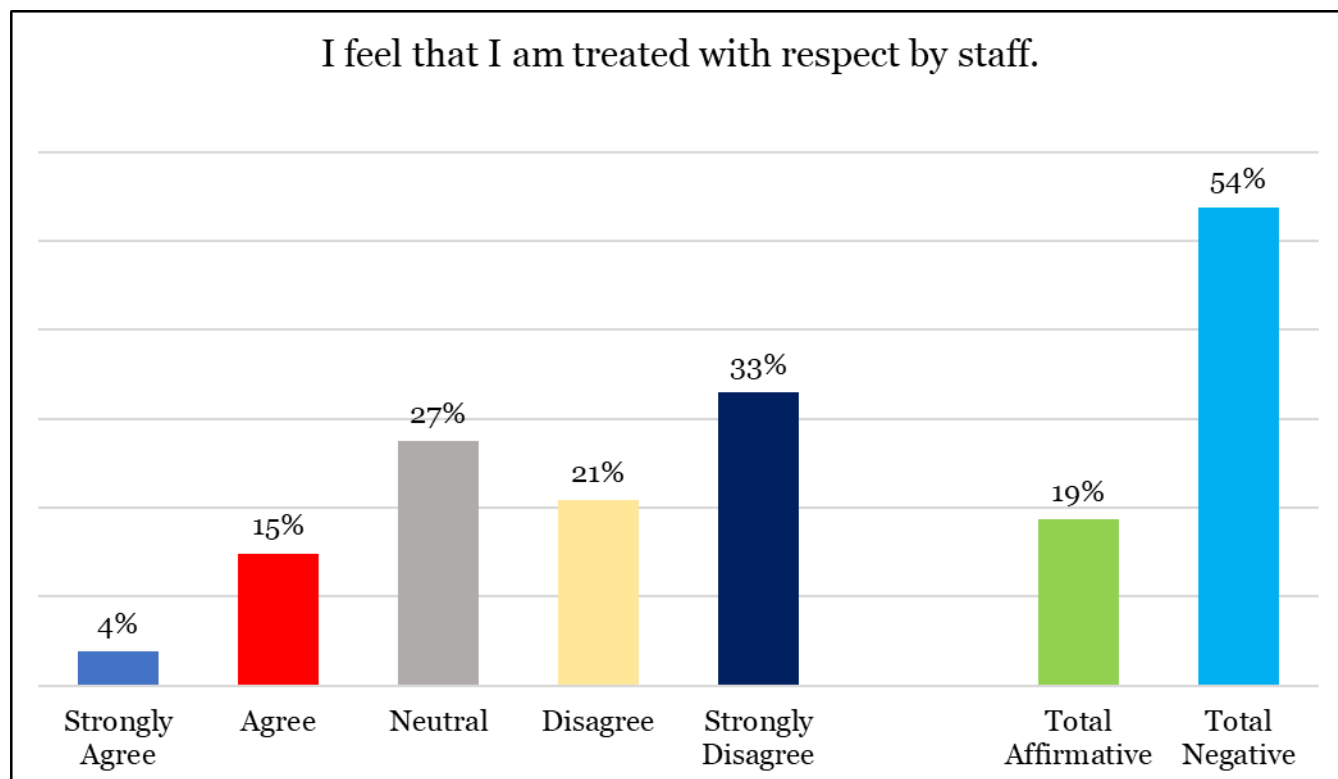




Charts: MQPL Dimensions²

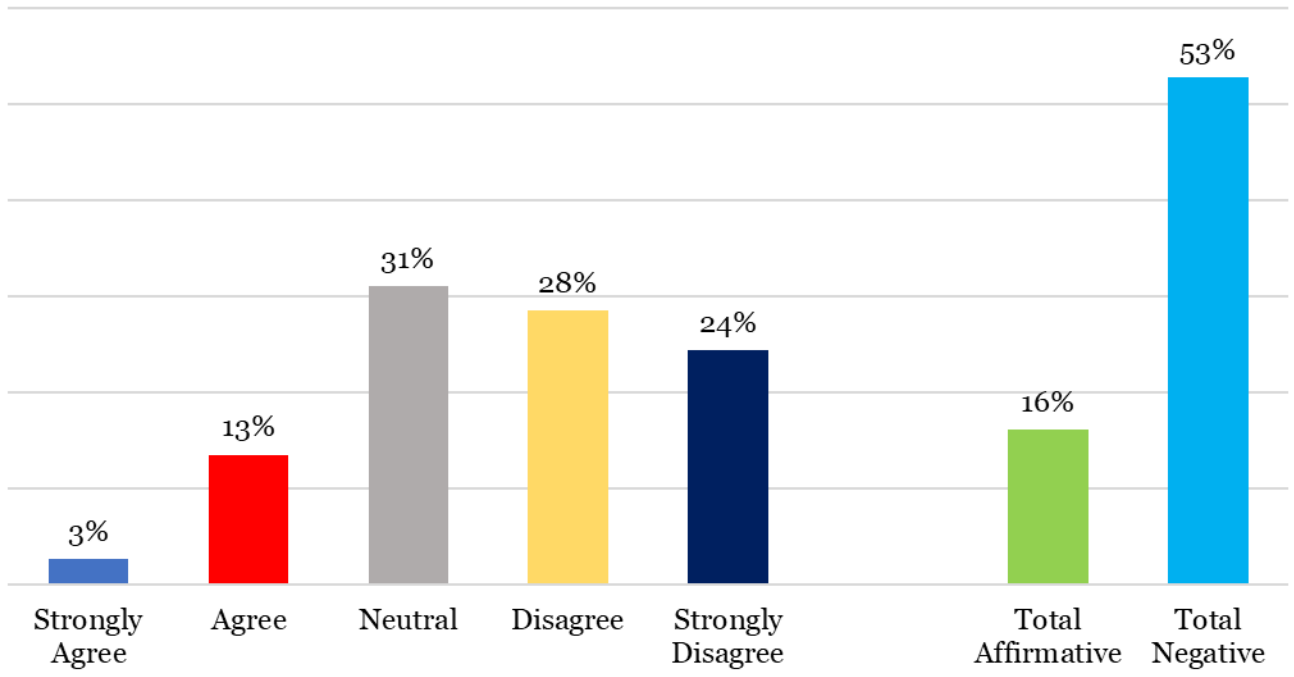
Harmony

RESPECT / COURTESY – POSITIVE, RESPECTFUL, AND COURTEOUS ATTITUDES TOWARDS INCARCERATED PEOPLE BY STAFF

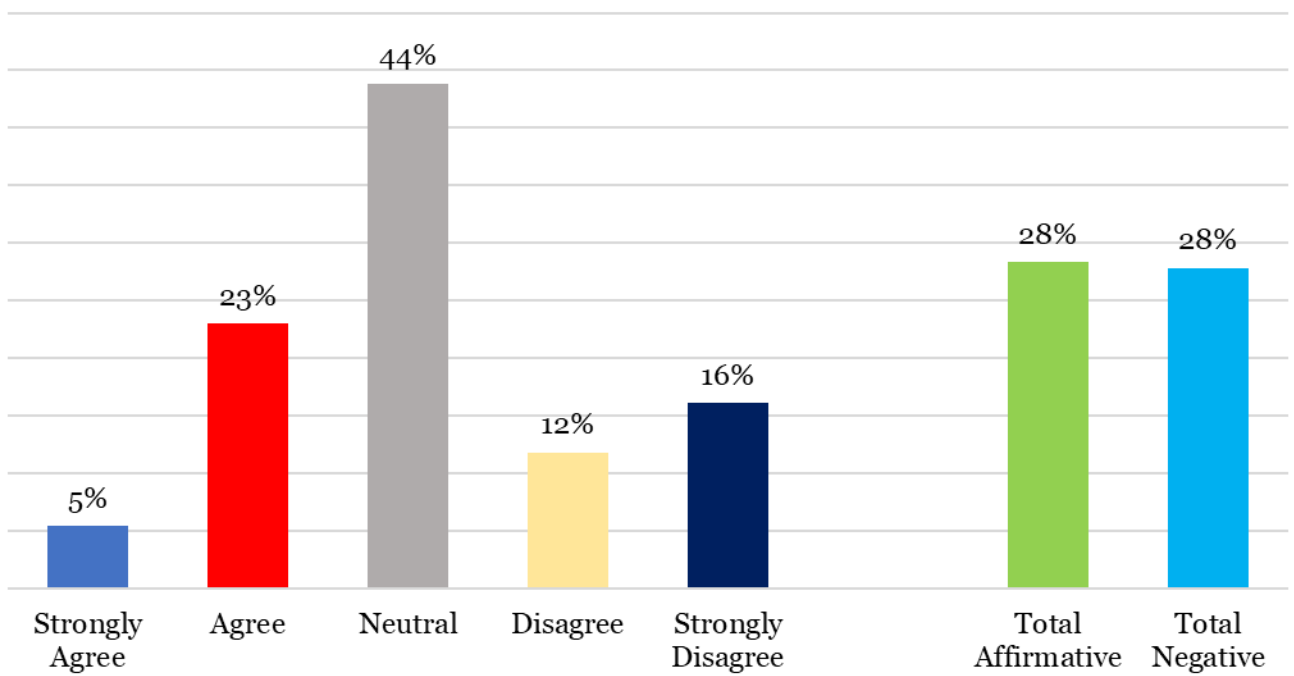


² "Total Affirmative" combines "Strongly Agree" and "Agree." "Total Negative" combines "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree." Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of responses per question.

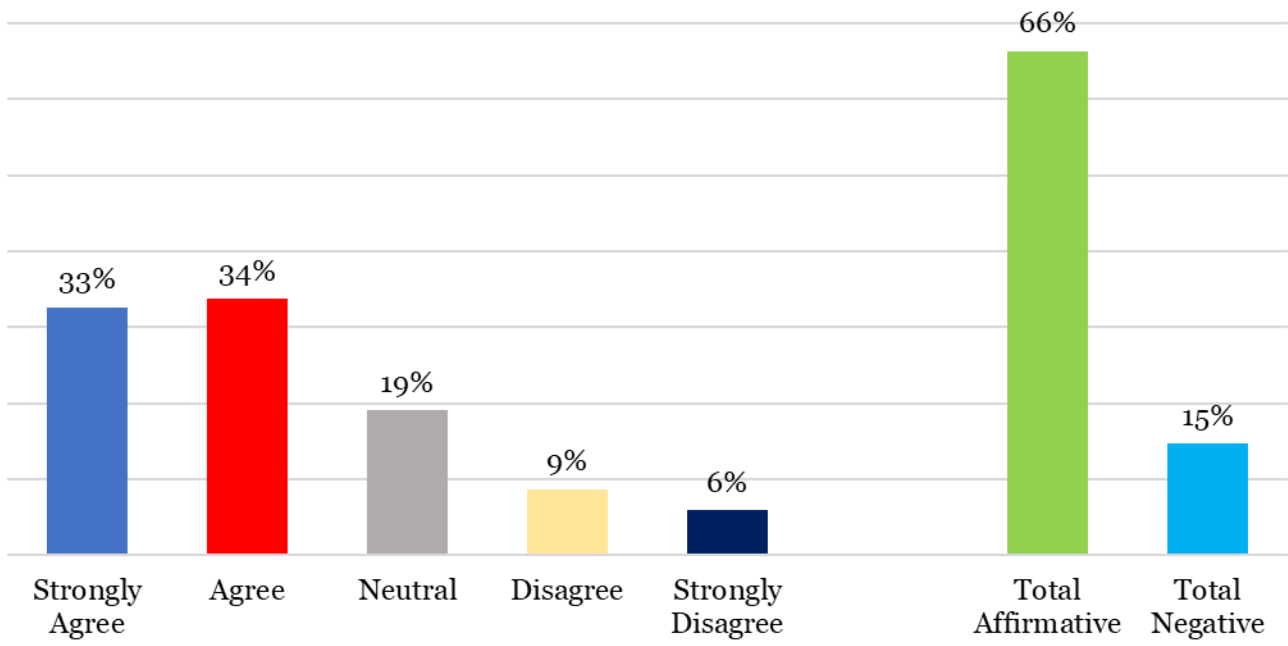
Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.



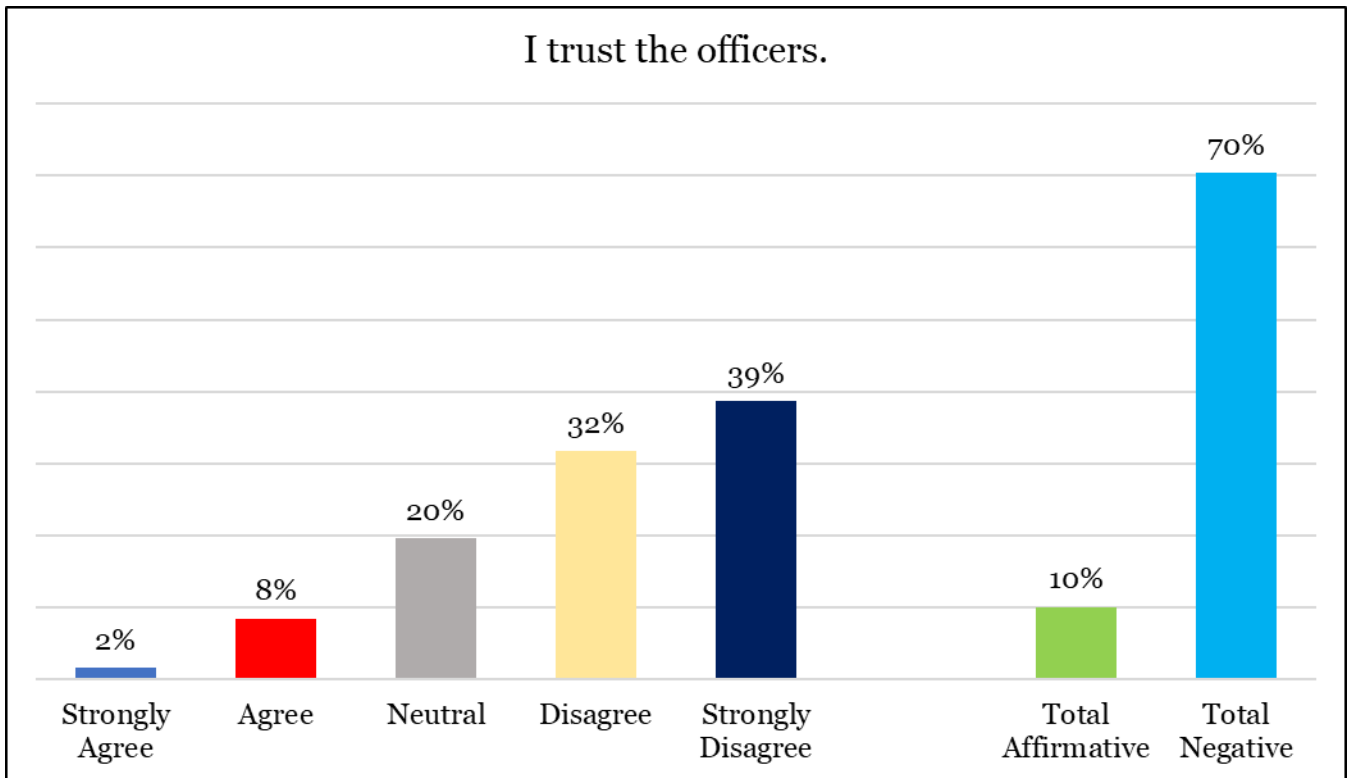
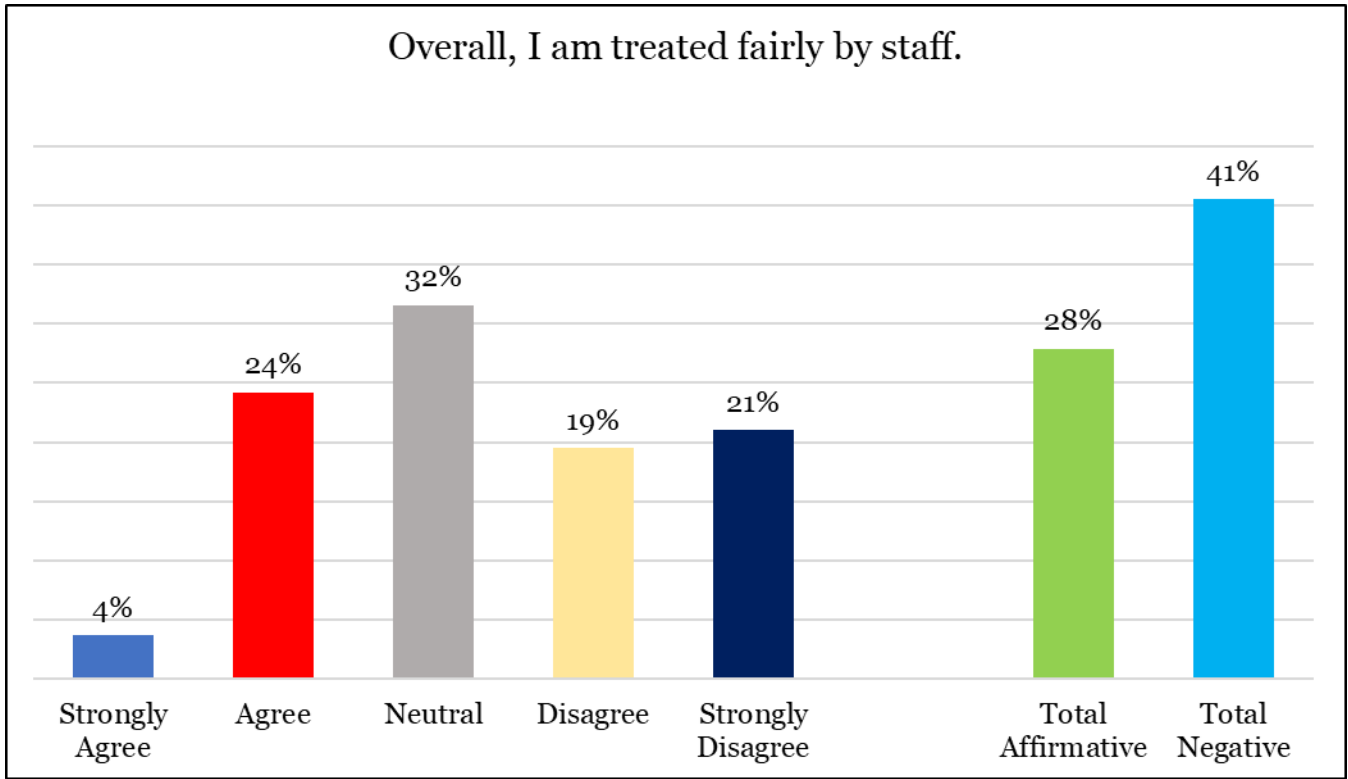
I get along well with the officers on my unit.



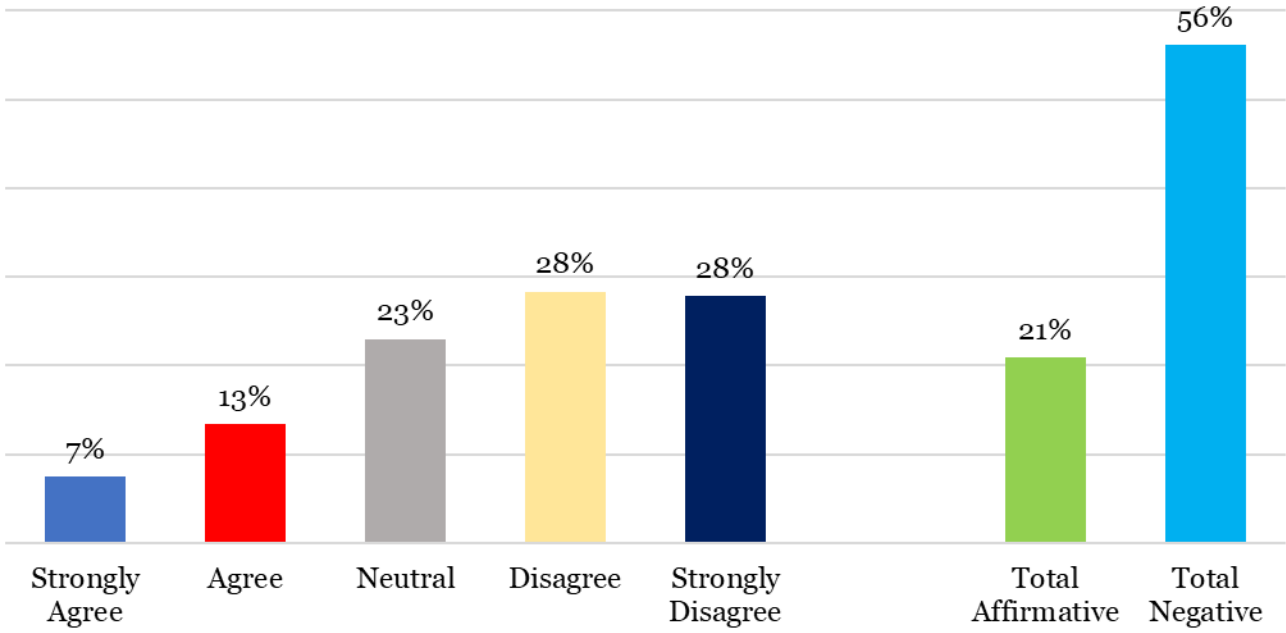
Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.



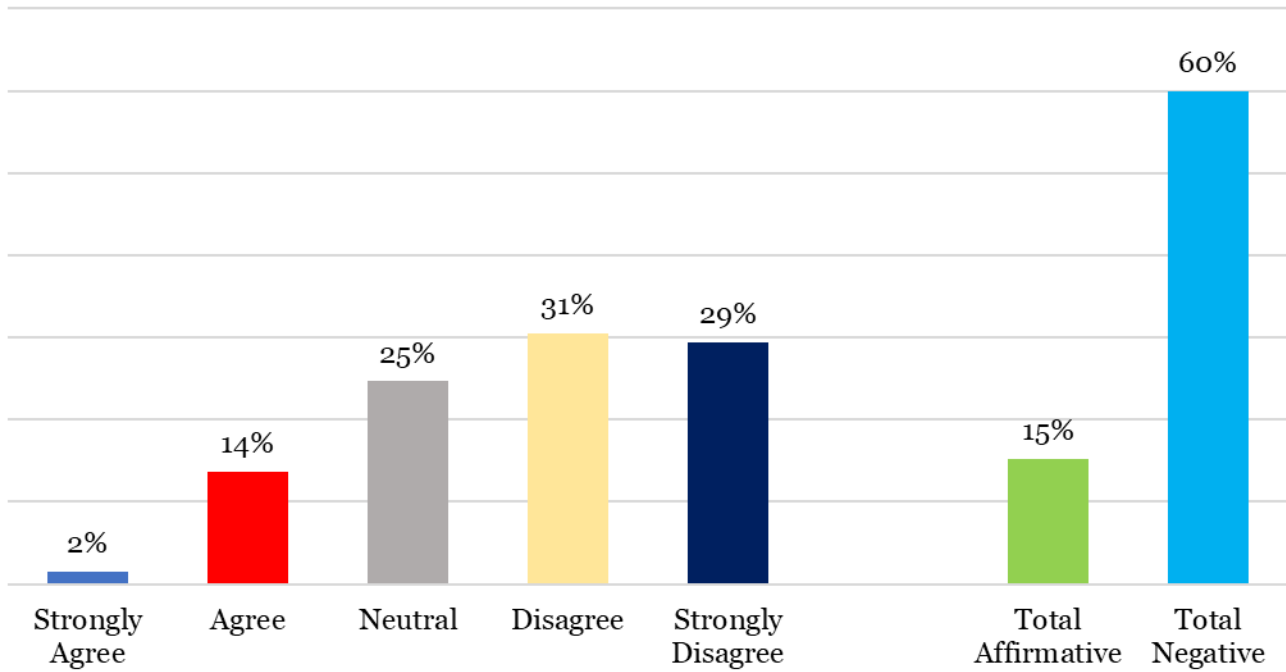
STAFF-INCARCERATED PEOPLE RELATIONSHIPS – TRUSTING, FAIR AND SUPPORTIVE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN STAFF AND INCARCERATED PEOPLE



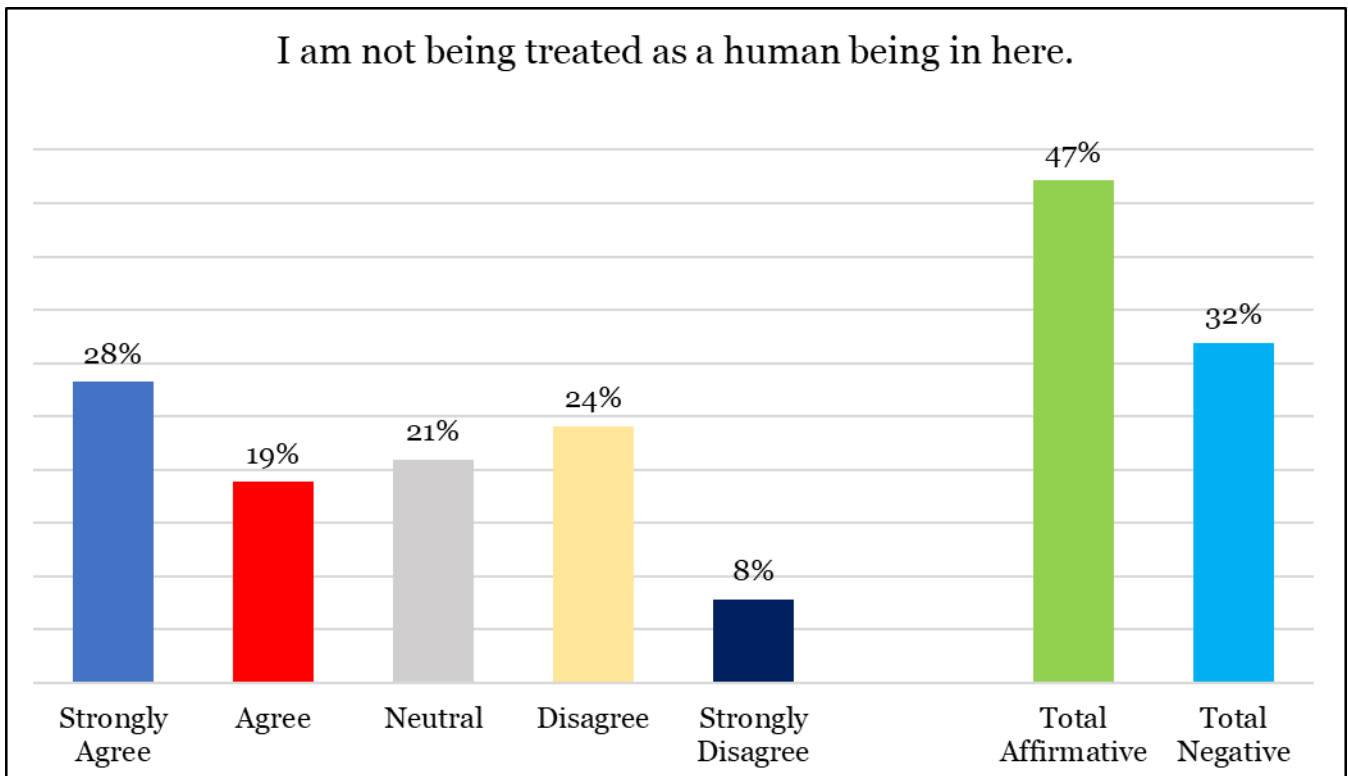
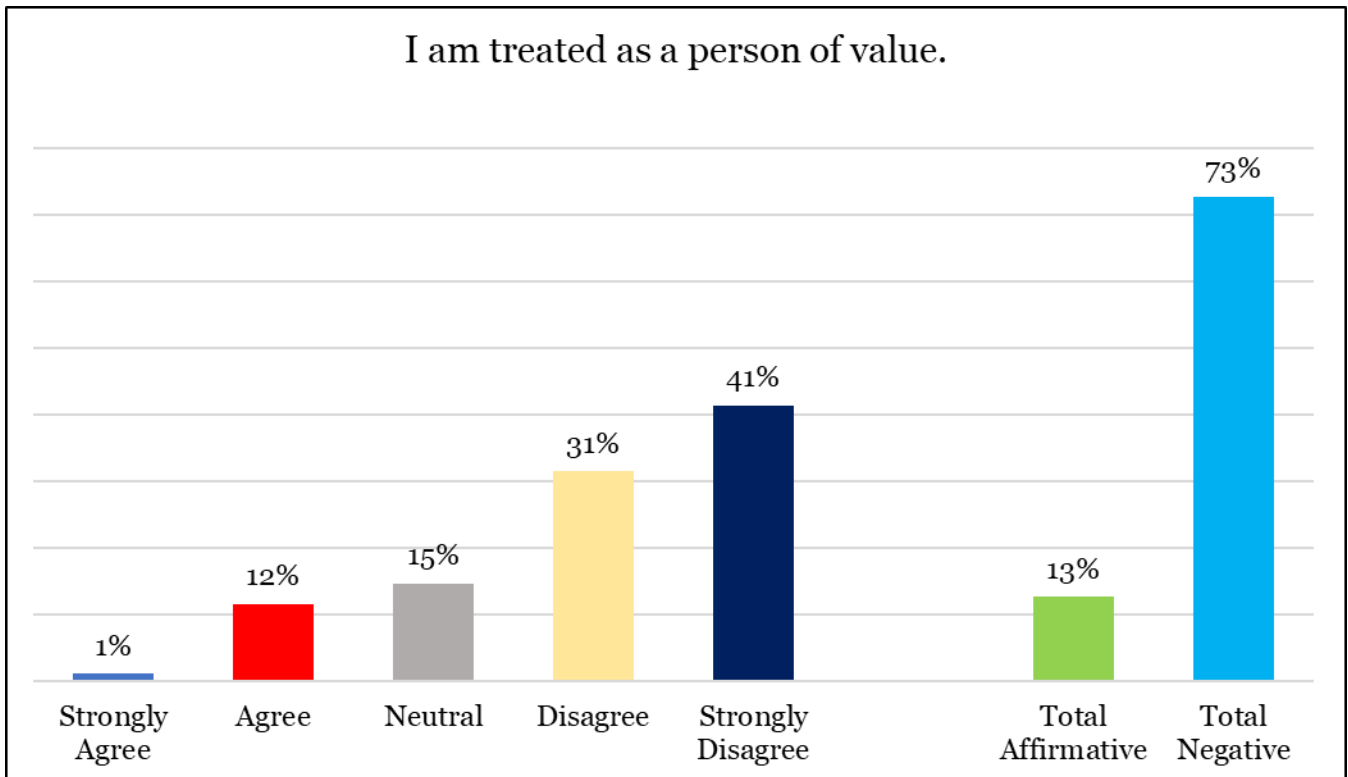
When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.



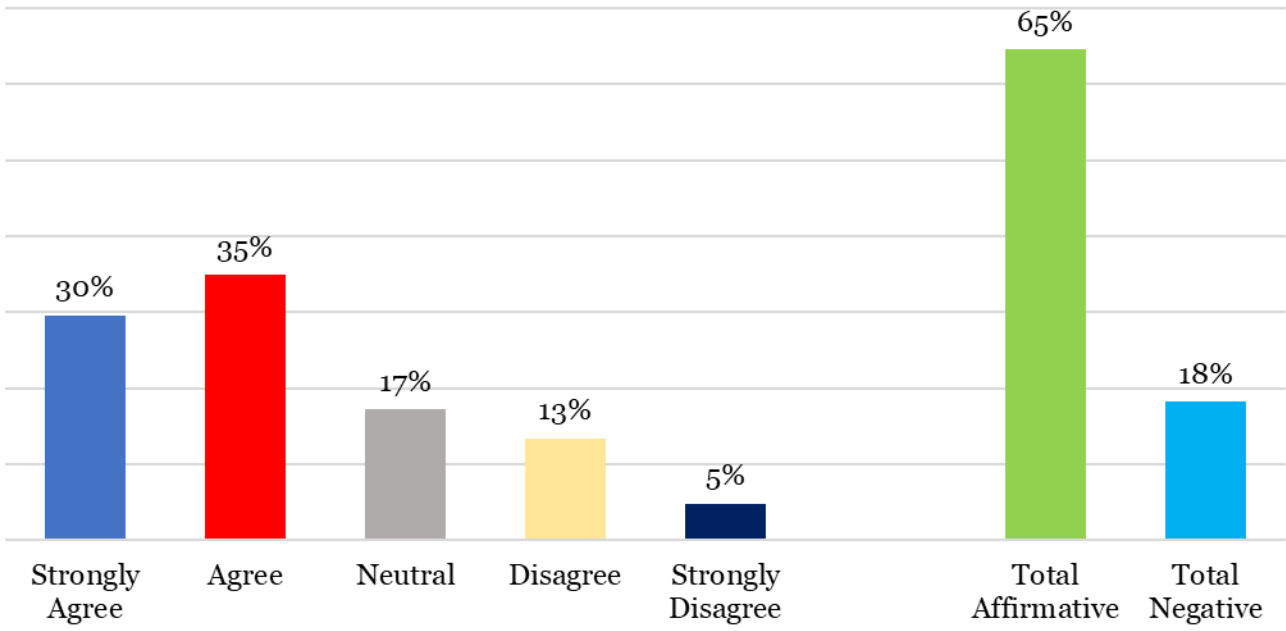
I receive support from staff when I need it.



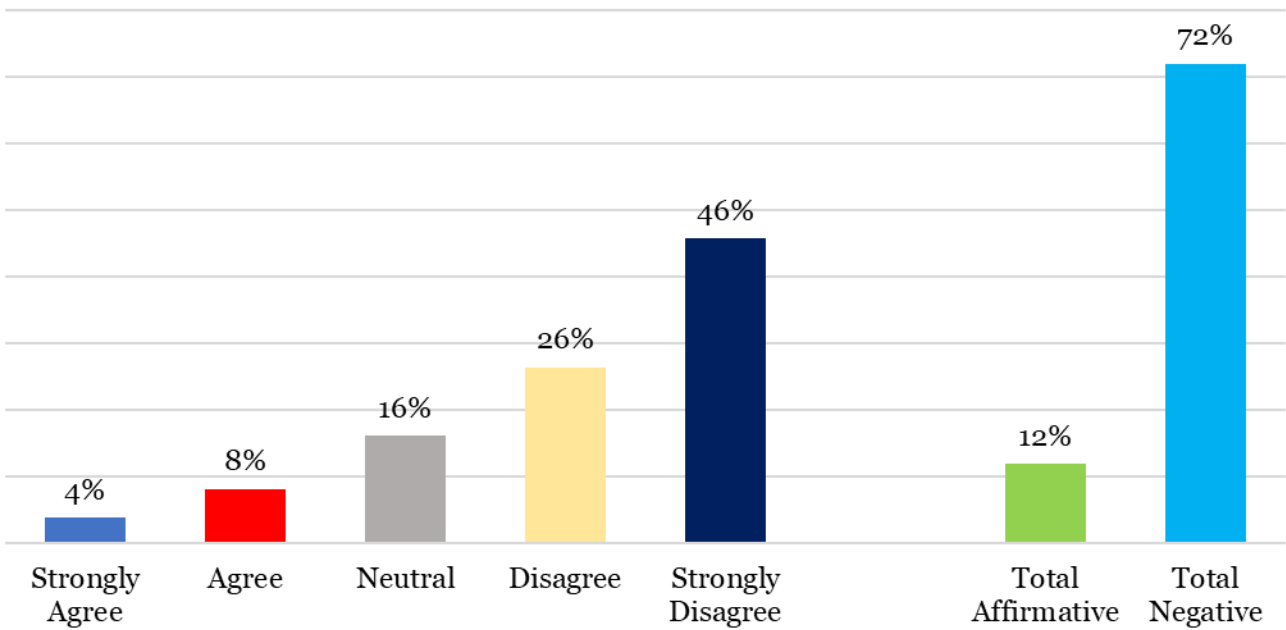
HUMANITY – AN ENVIRONMENT CHARACTERIZED BY KIND REGARD AND CONCERN FOR THE PERSON, WHICH RECOGNIZES THE VALUE AND HUMANITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL



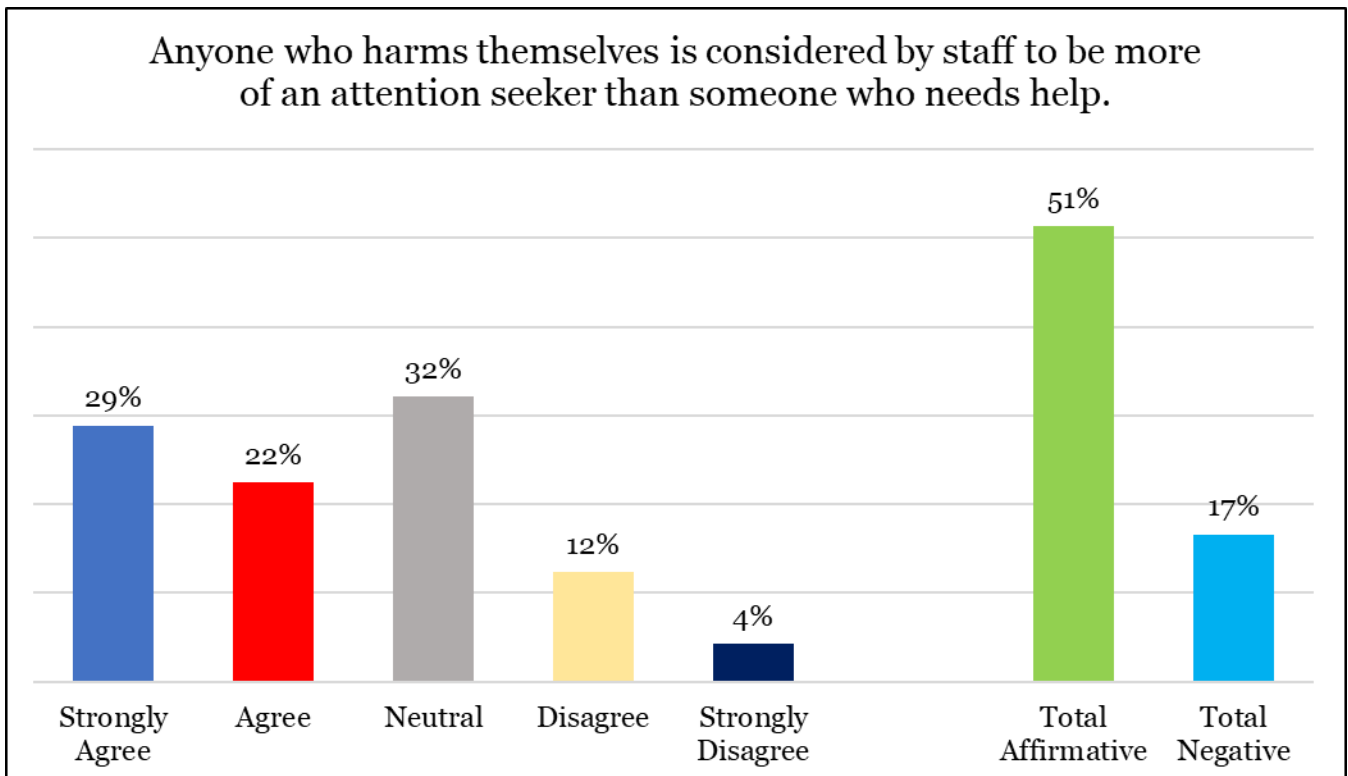
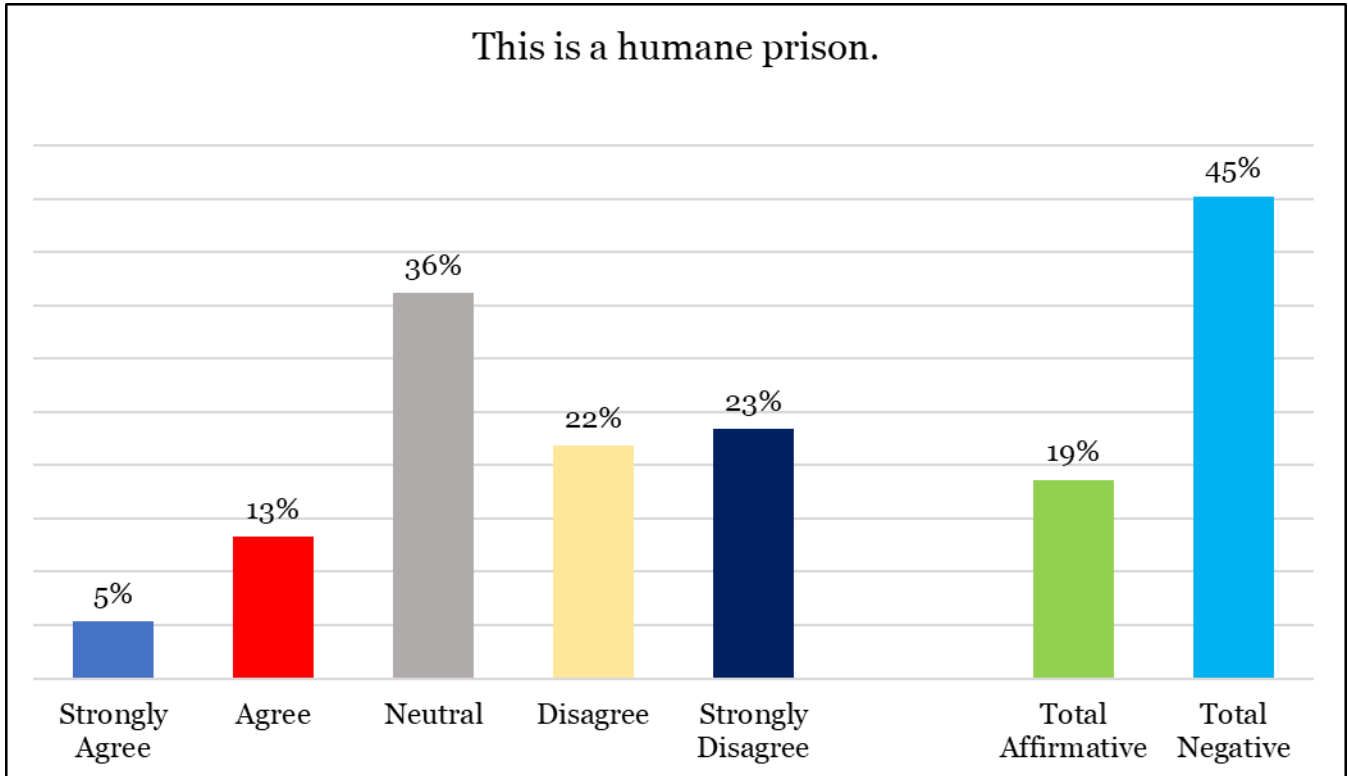
Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.



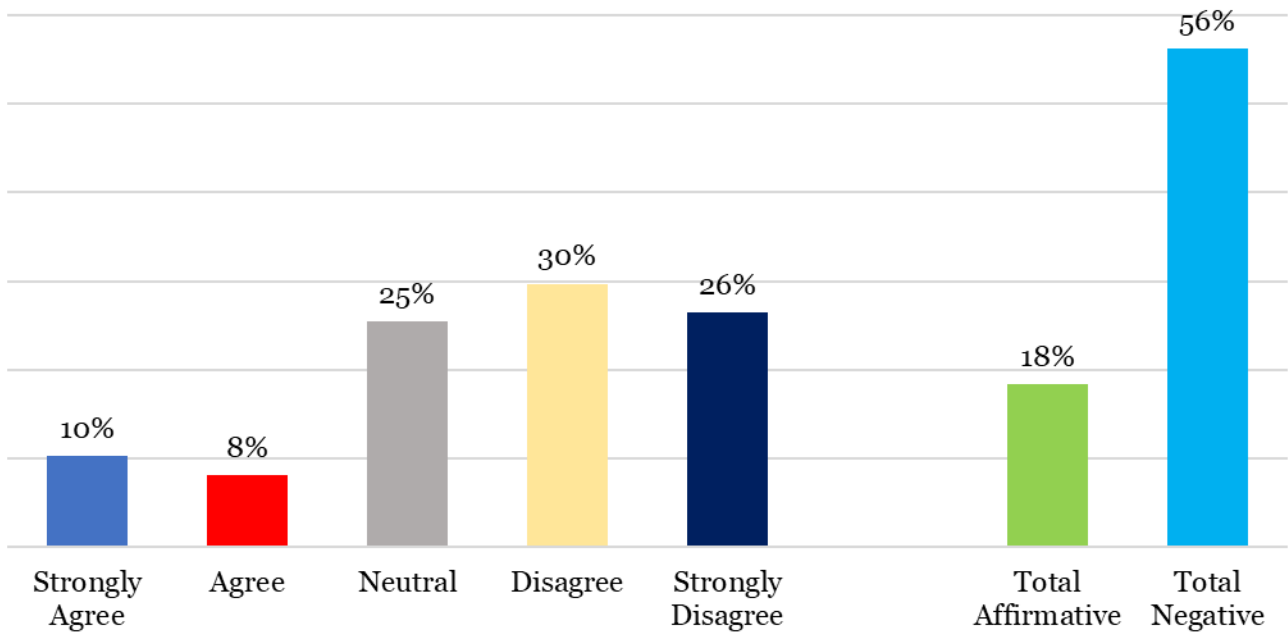
Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.



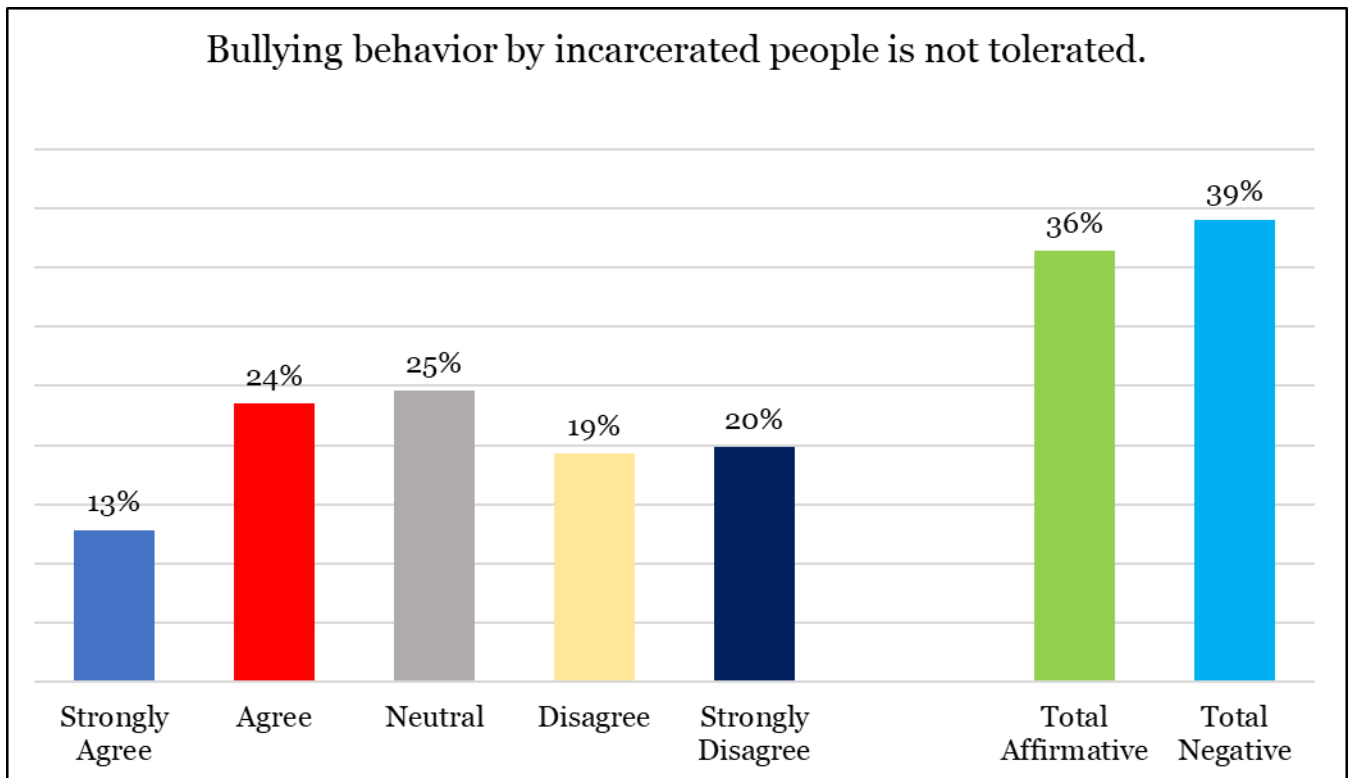
DECENCY - THE EXTENT TO WHICH STAFF AND THE REGIME ARE CONSIDERED REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE



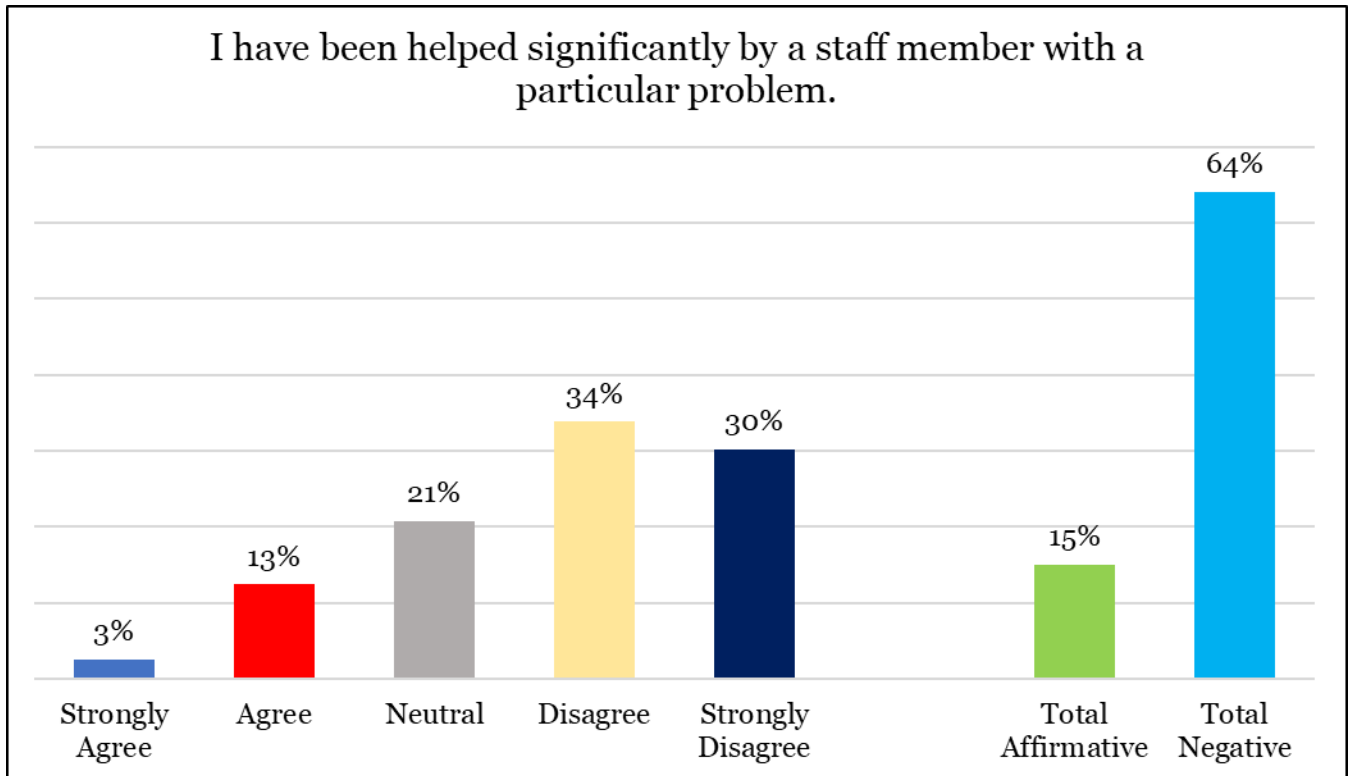
Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.



CARE FOR THE VULNERABLE – THE CARE AND SUPPORT PROVIDED TO INCARCERATED PEOPLE AT RISK OF SELF-HARM, SUICIDE OR BULLYING

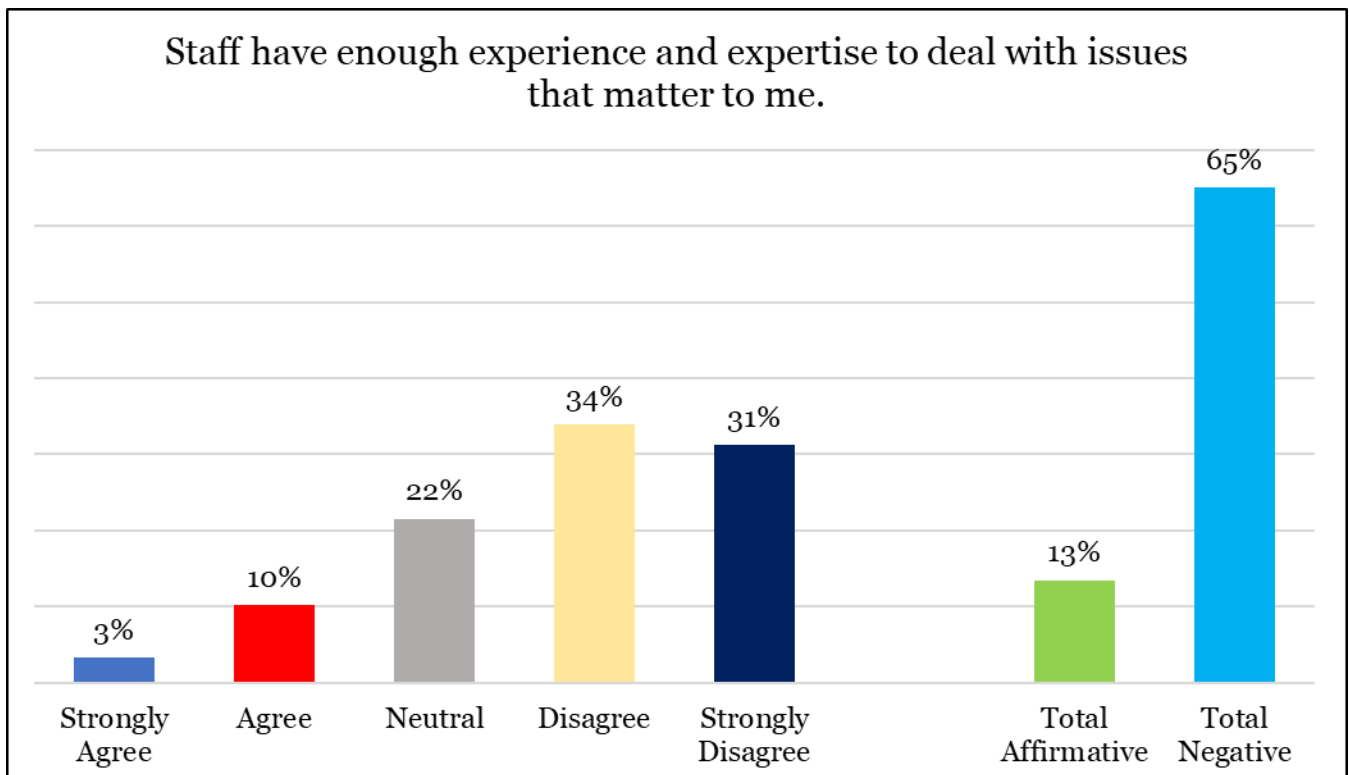
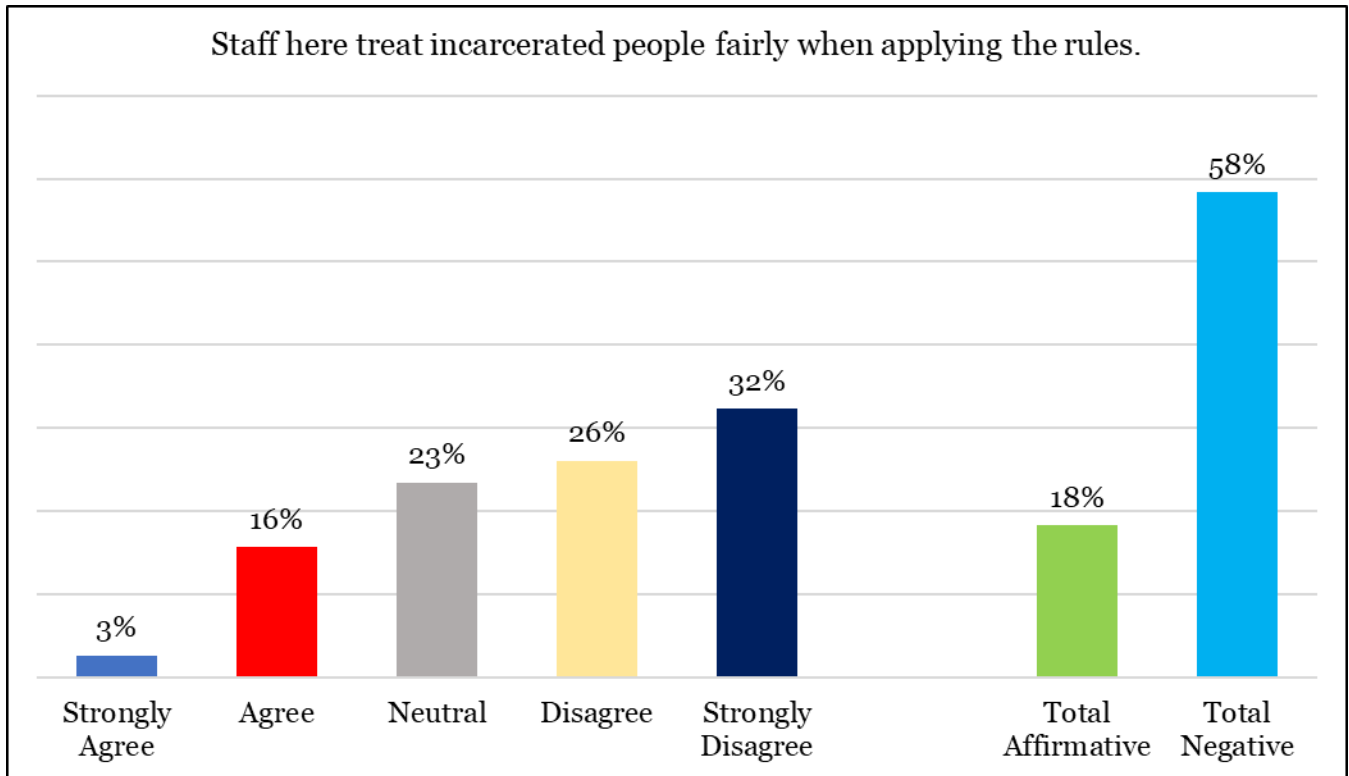


HELP AND ASSISTANCE – SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT GIVEN TO INCARCERATED PEOPLE FOR PROBLEMS INCLUDING DRUGS, HEALTHCARE AND PROGRESSION

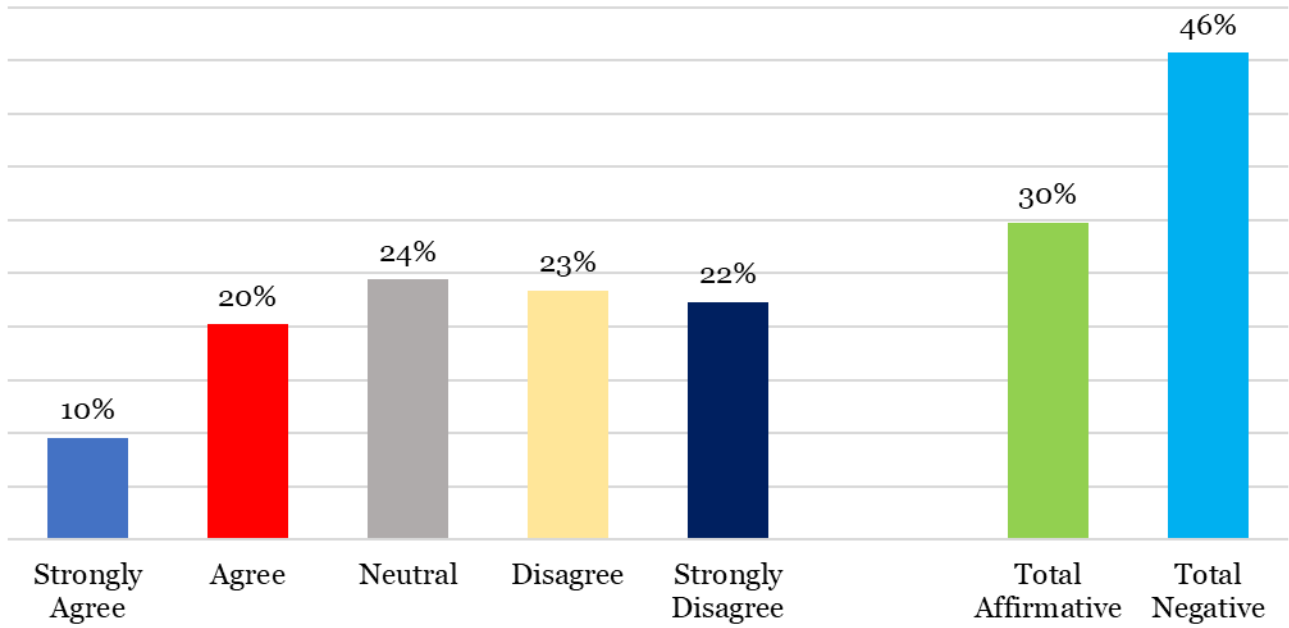


Professionalism

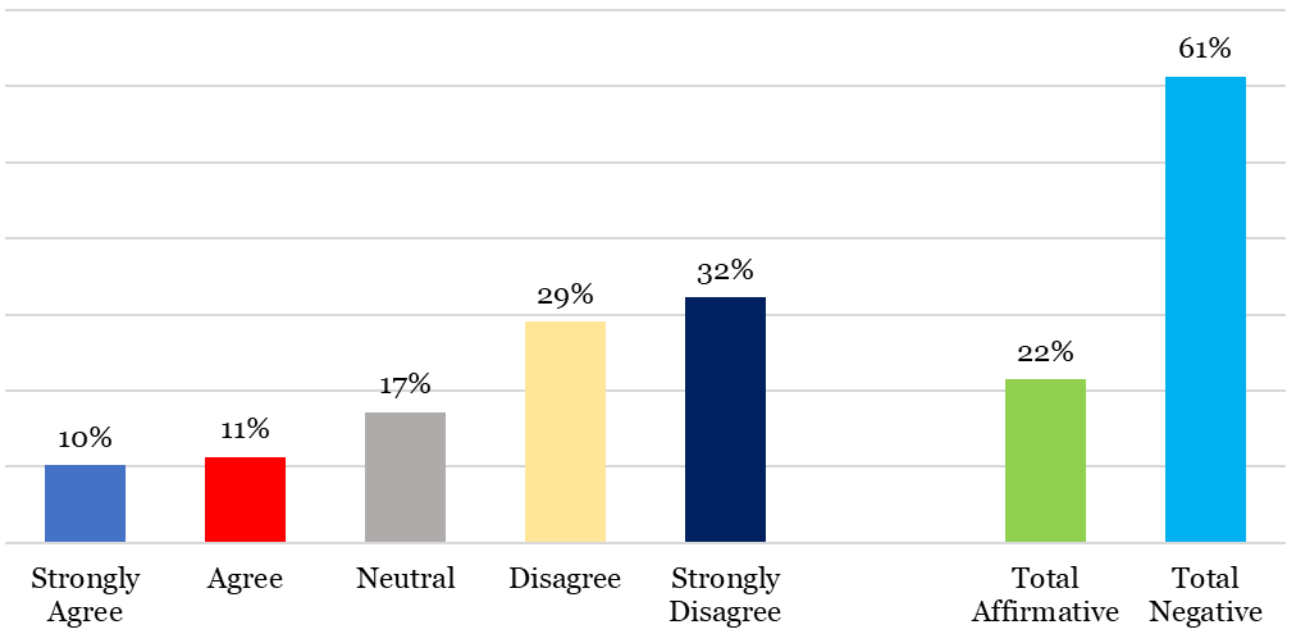
STAFF PROFESSIONALISM – STAFF CONFIDENCE AND COMPETENCE IN THE USE OF AUTHORITY



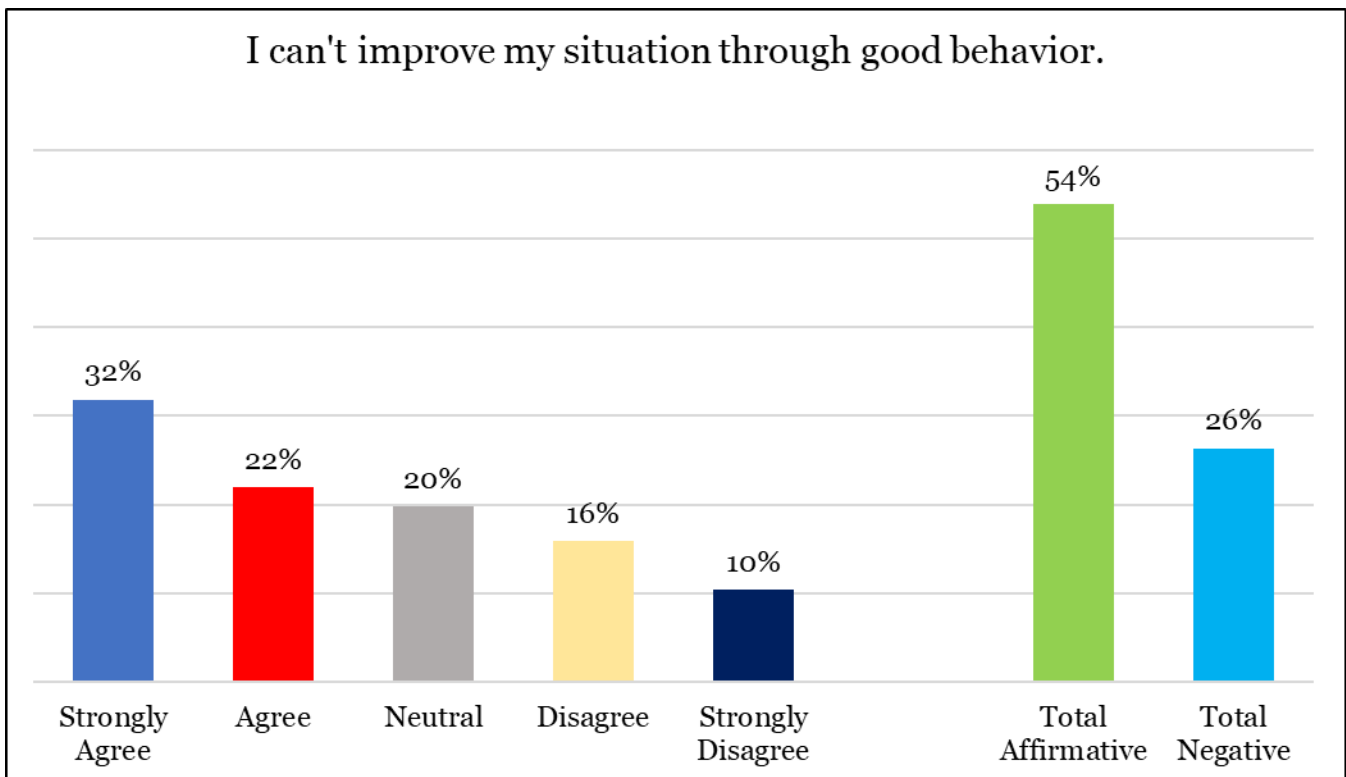
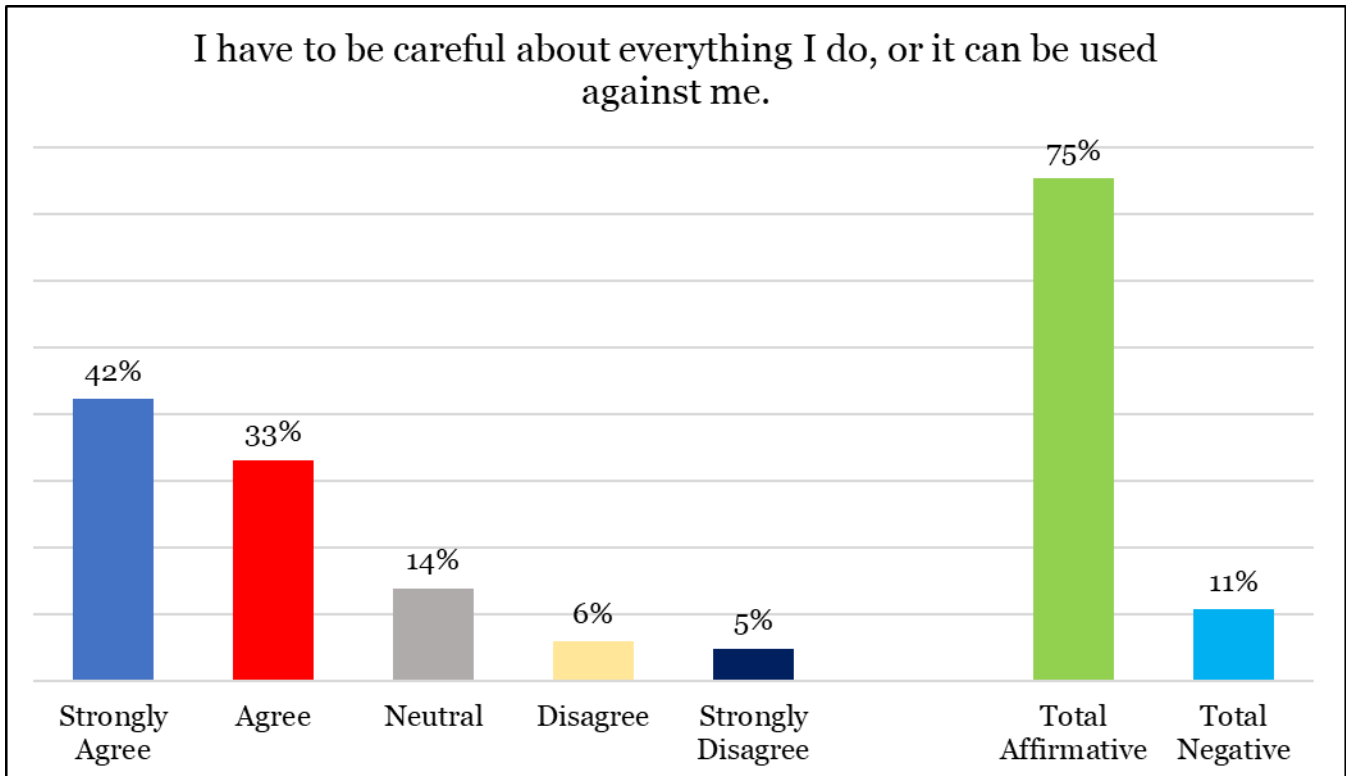
The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.



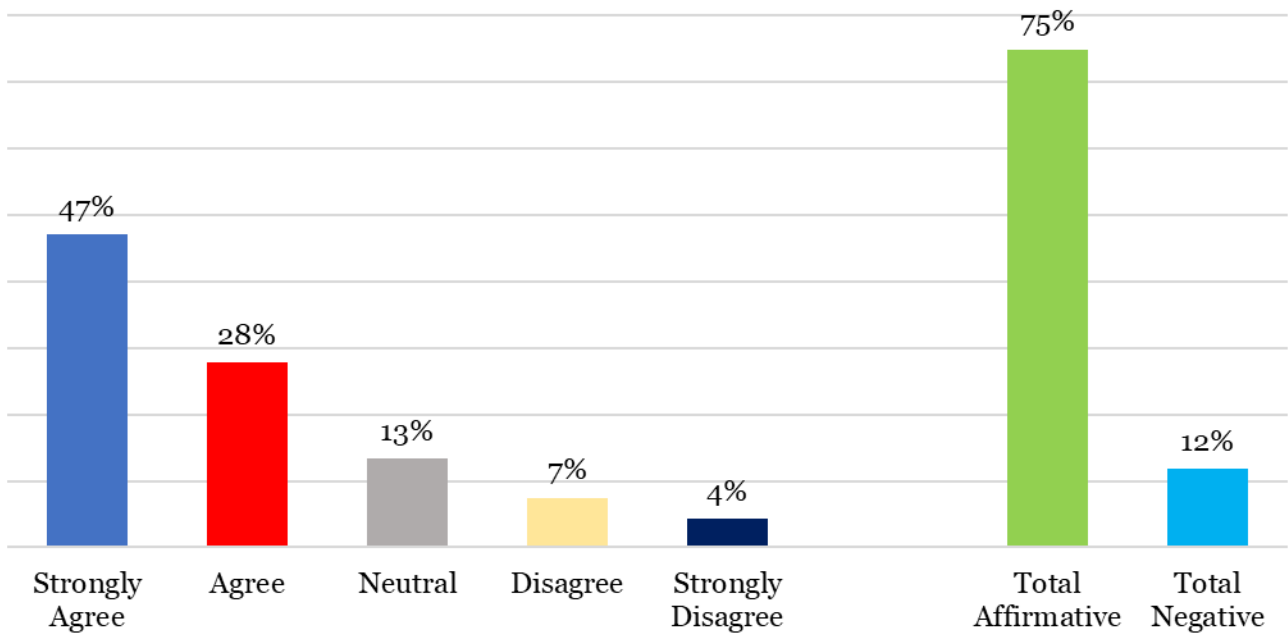
If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.



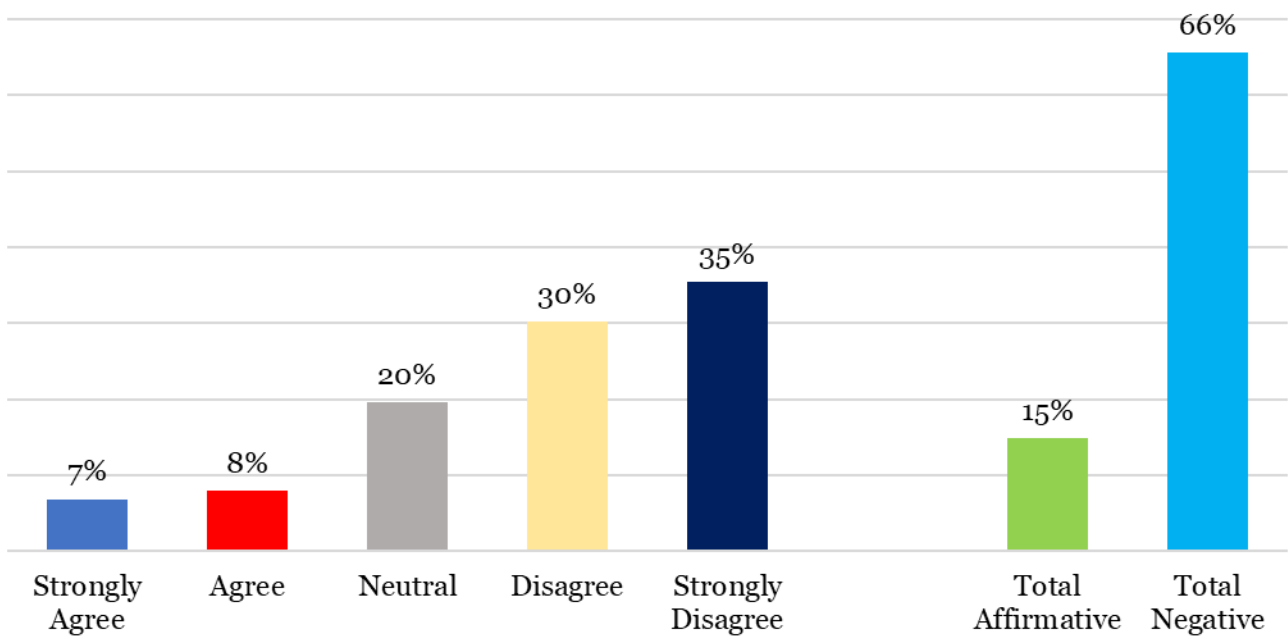
BUREAUCRATIC LEGITIMACY – THE TRANSPARENCY AND RESPONSIVENESS OF THE PRISON/PRISON SYSTEM AND ITS MORAL RECOGNITION OF THE INDIVIDUAL



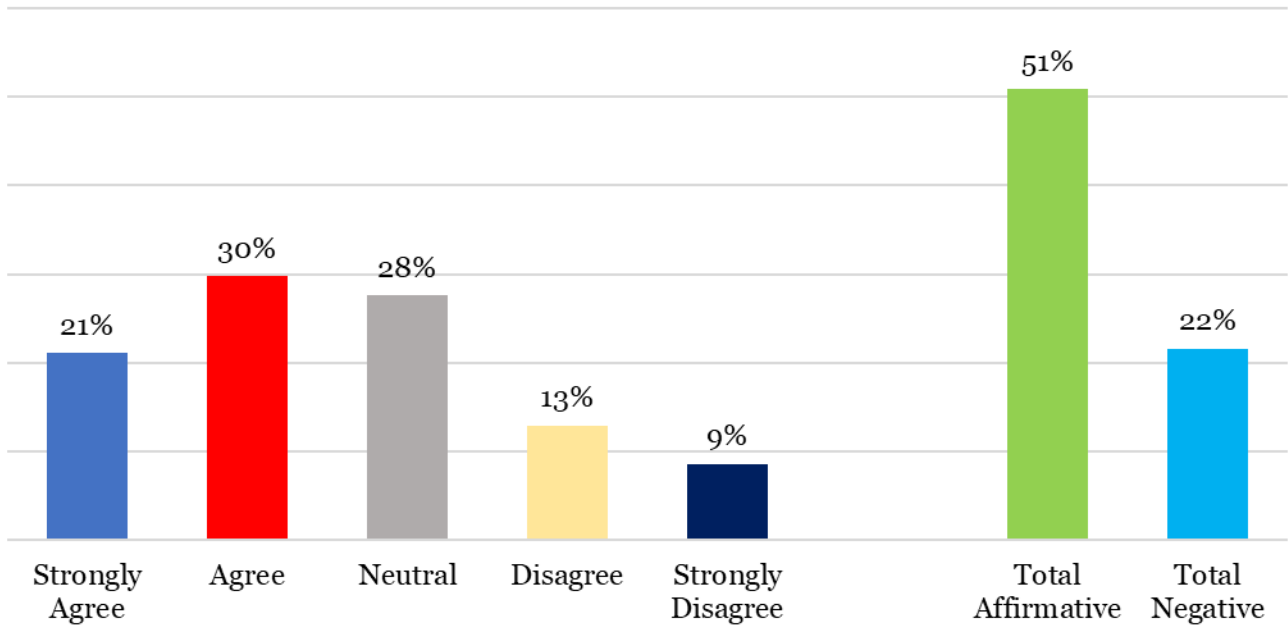
All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.



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

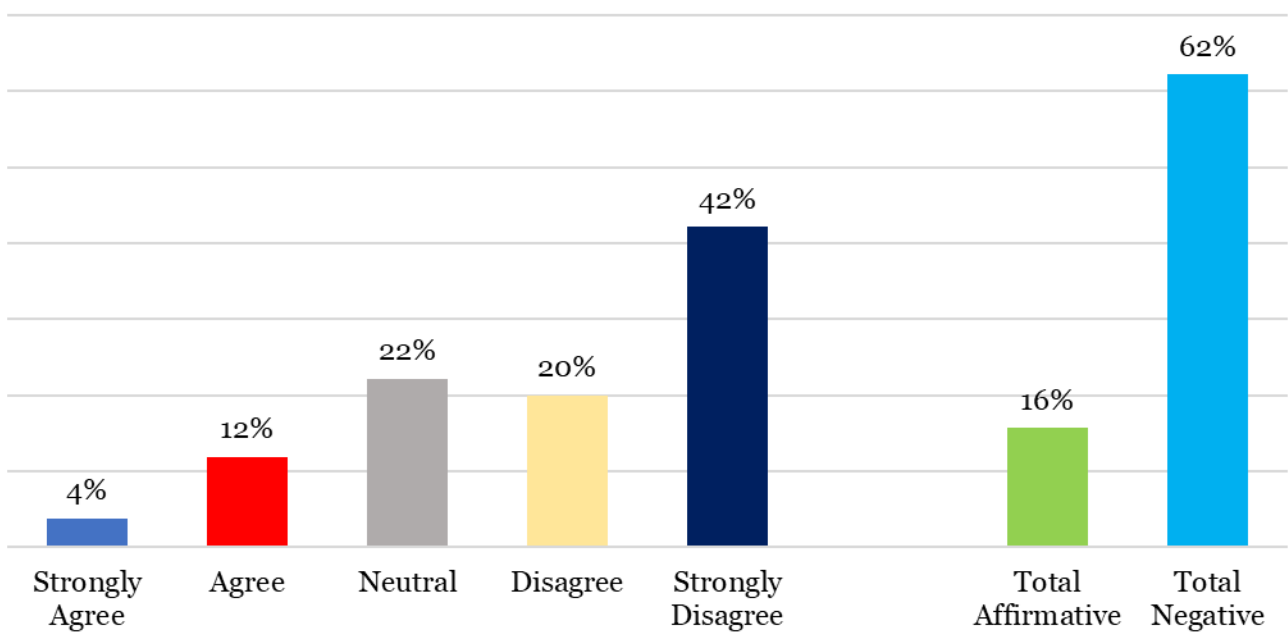


To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.

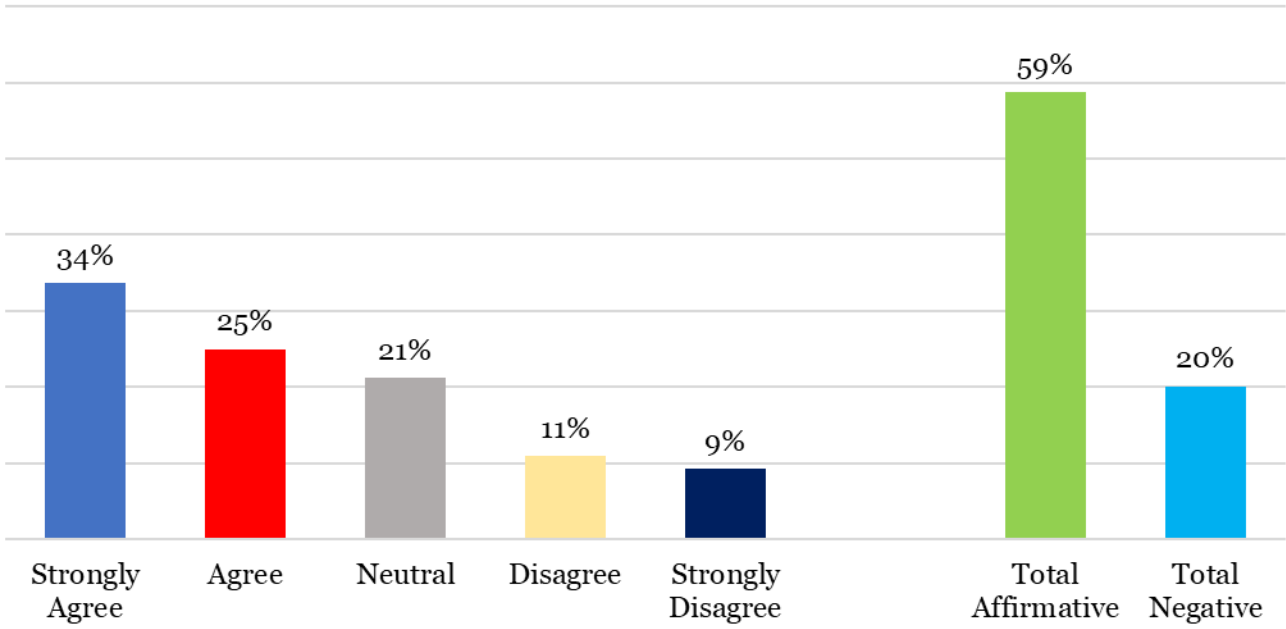


FAIRNESS – THE PERCEIVED IMPARTIALITY, PROPORTIONALITY AND LEGALITY OF PUNISHMENTS AND PROCEDURES

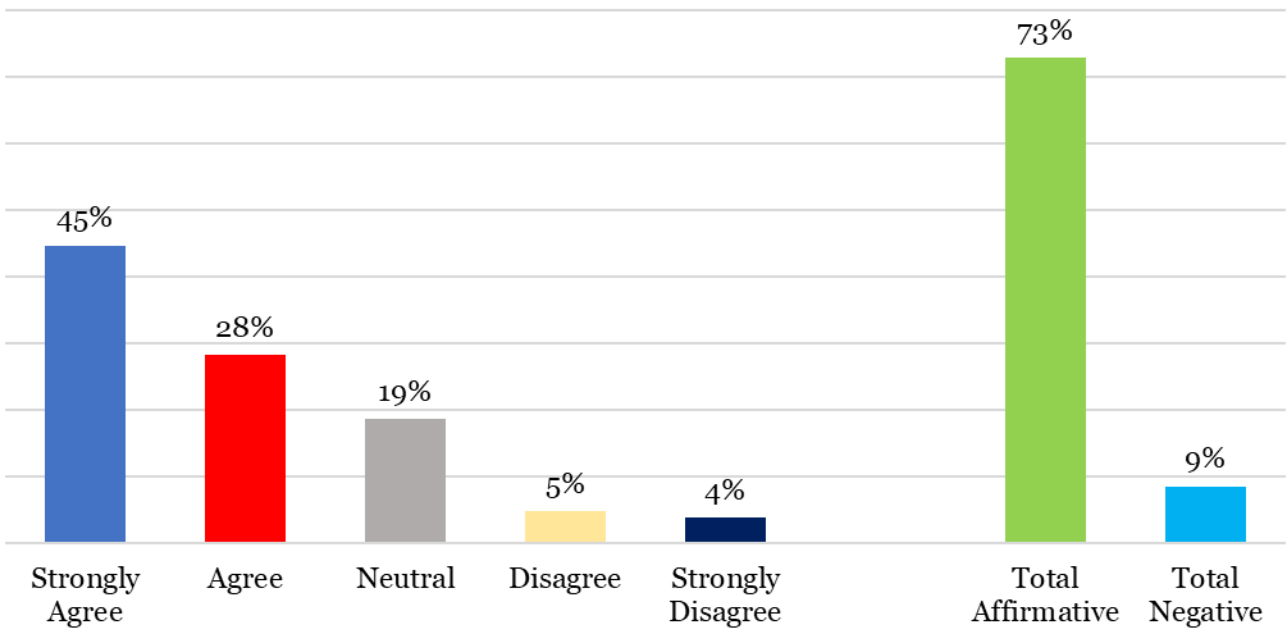
The disciplinary system is fair.



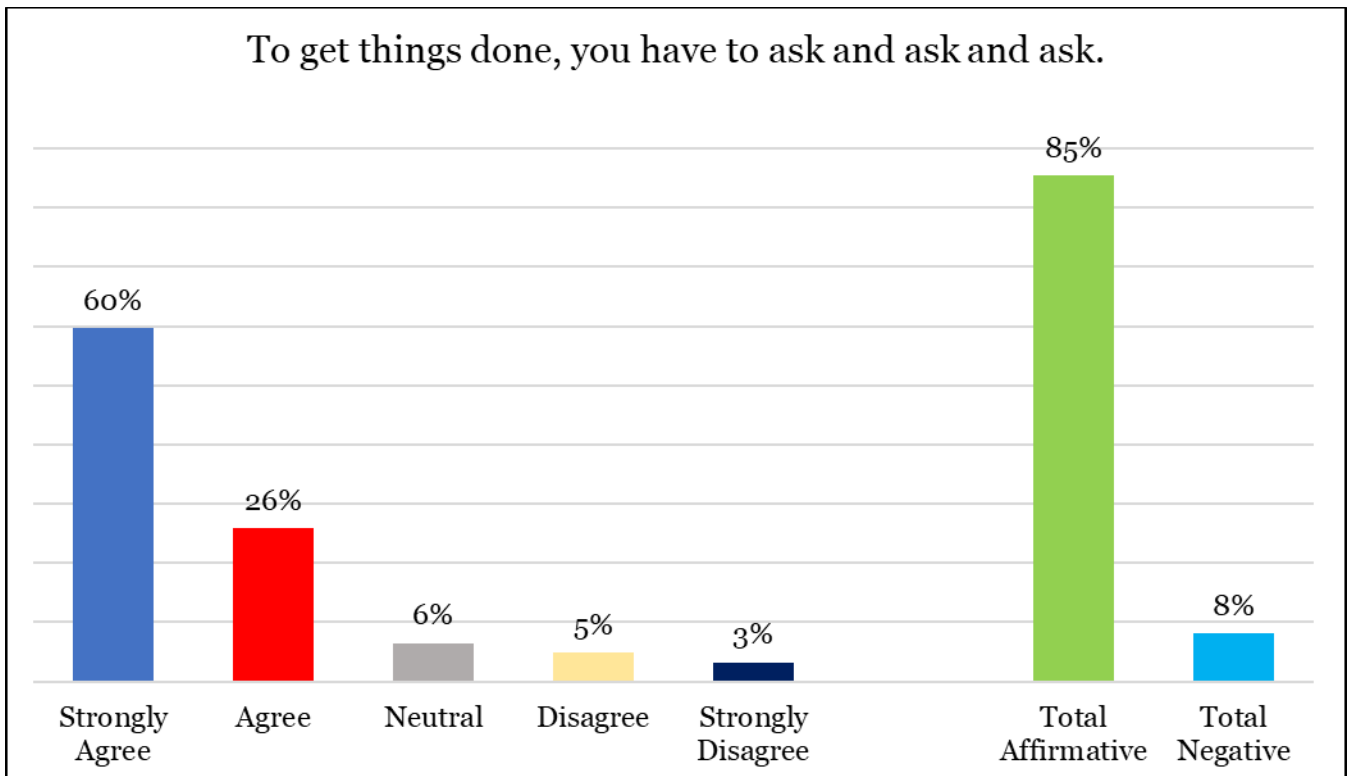
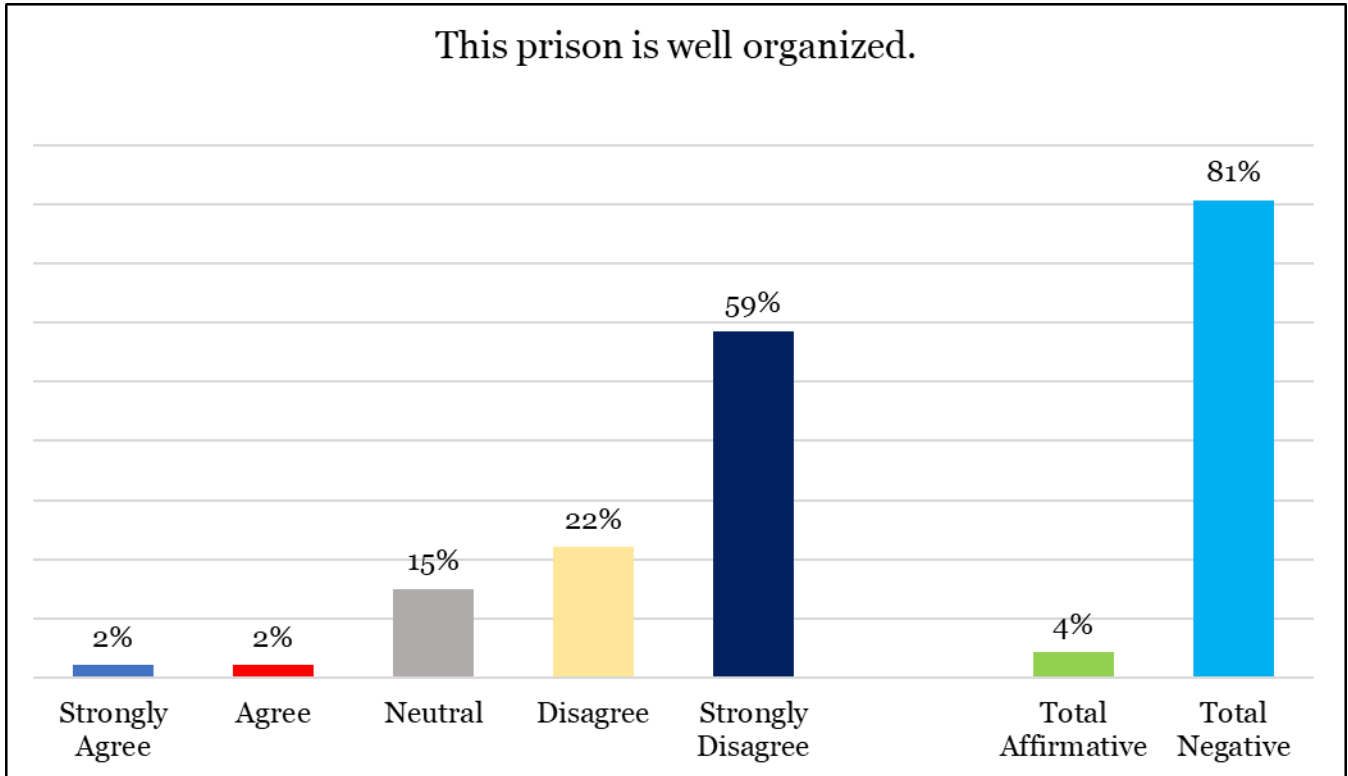
Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.



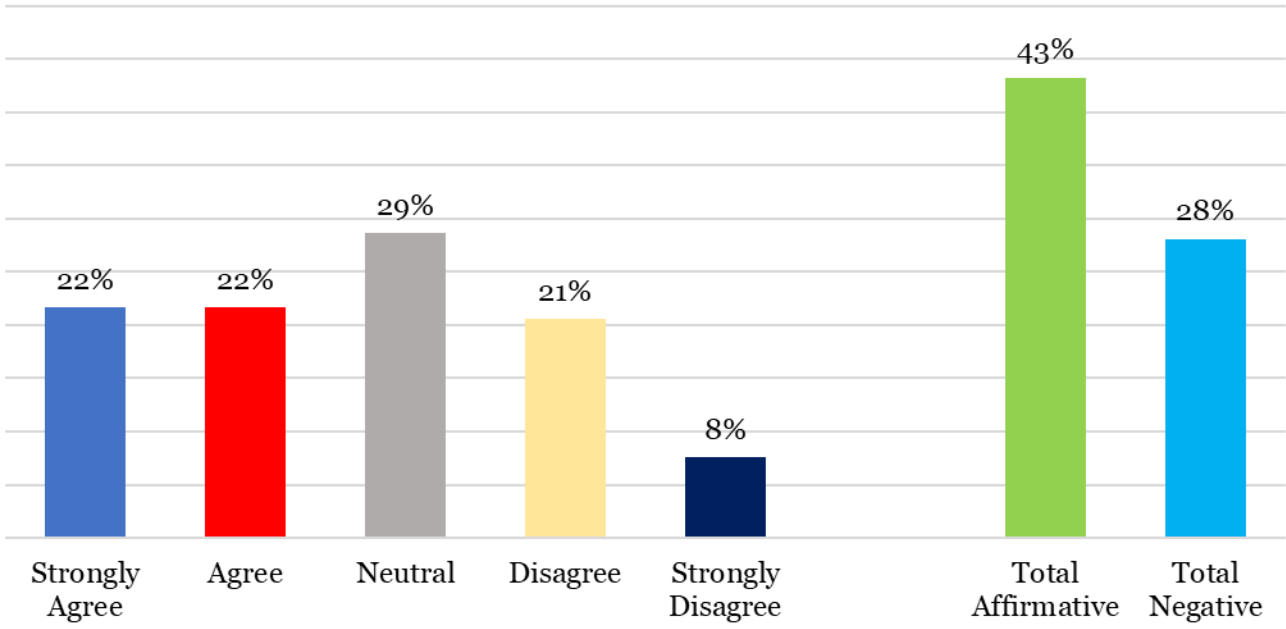
This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.



ORGANIZATION AND CONSISTENCY – THE CLARITY, PREDICTABILITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE PRISON

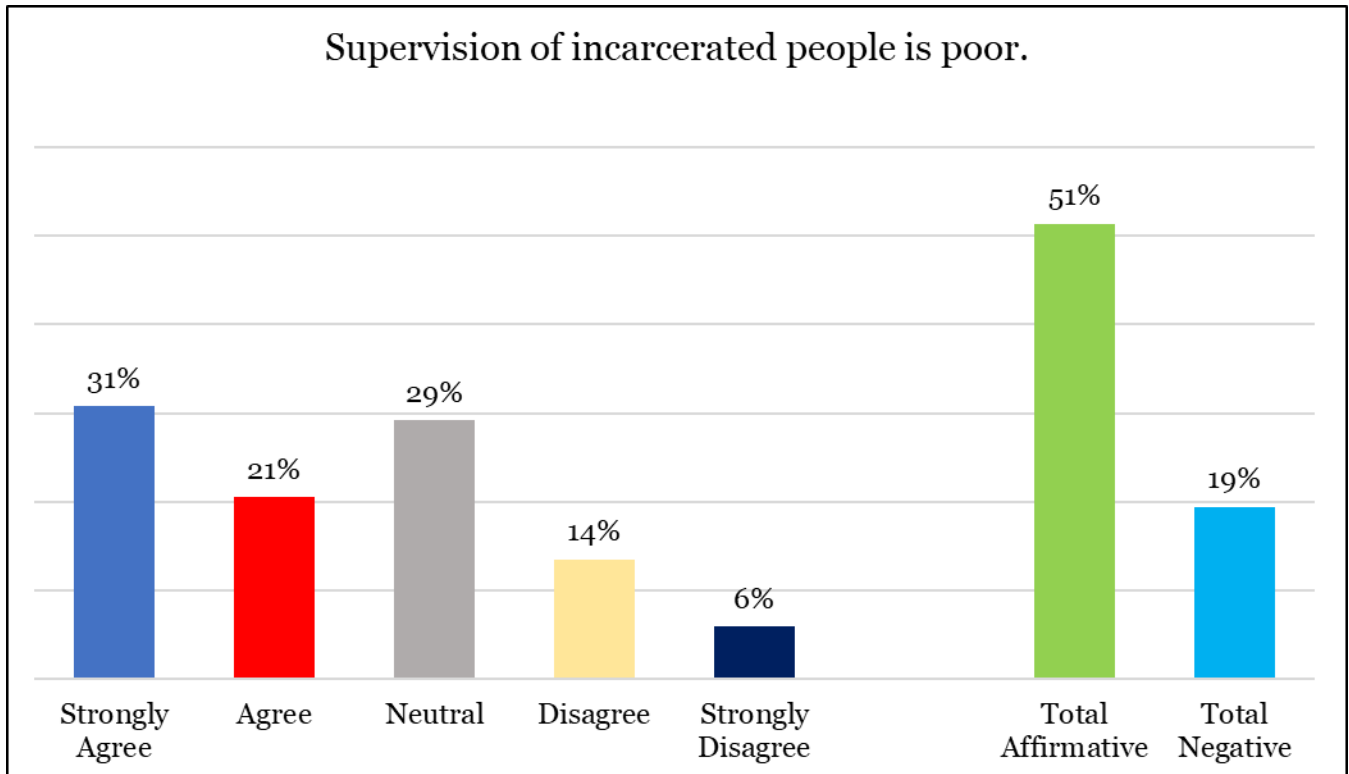


You never know the rules.

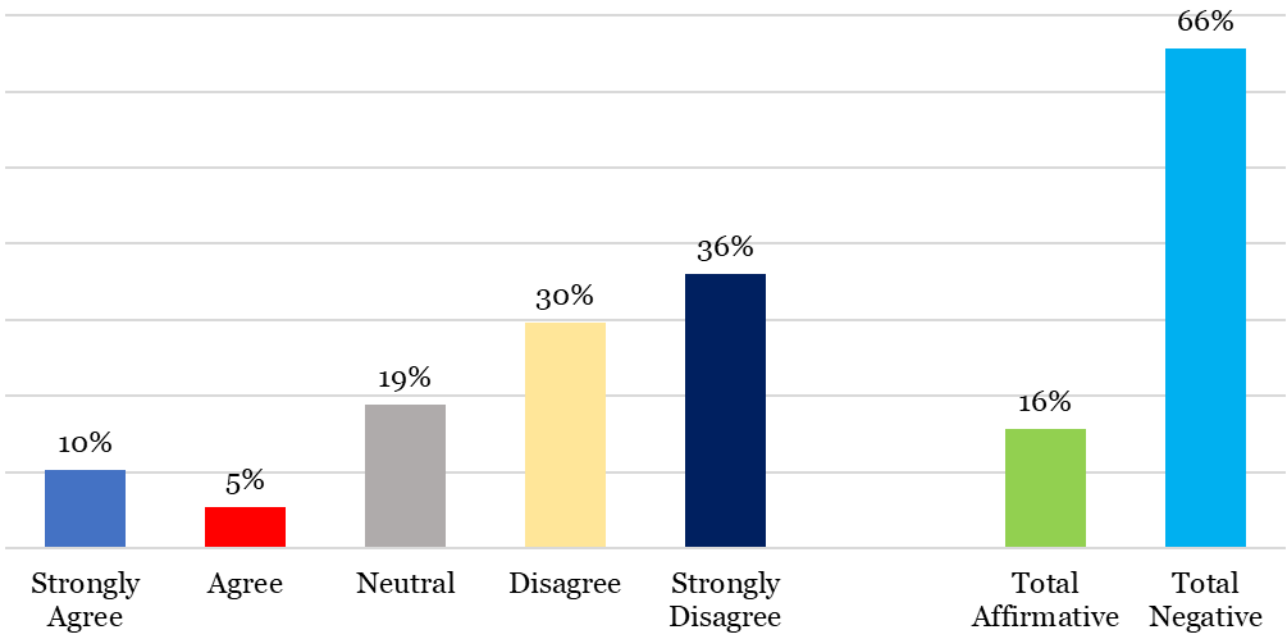


Security

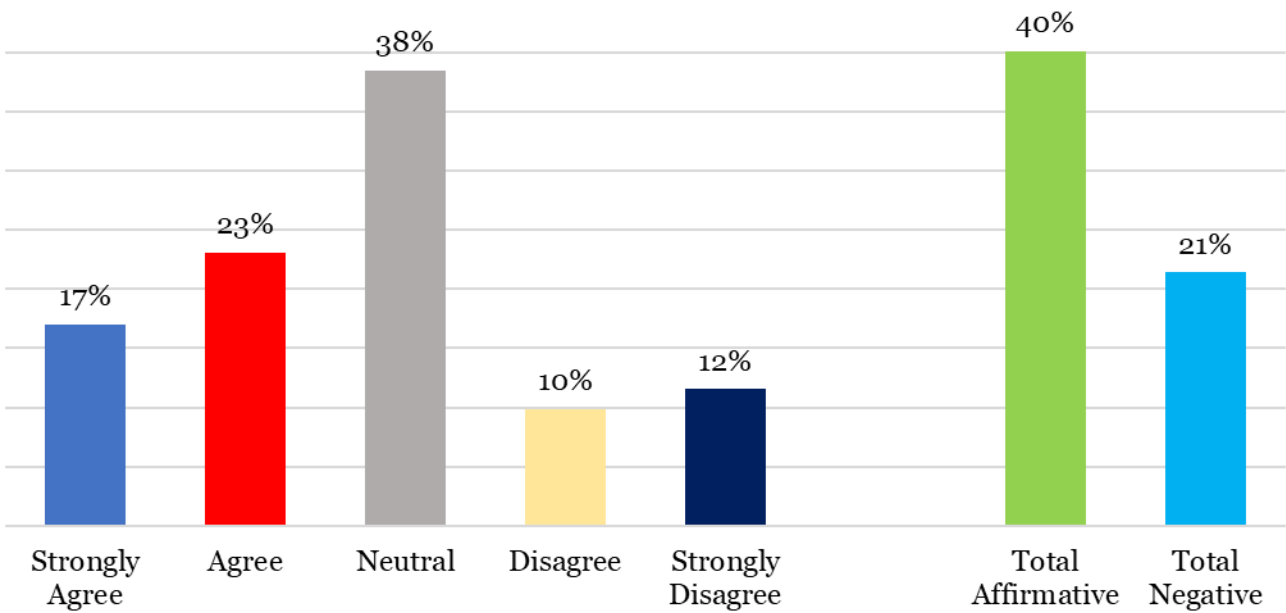
POLICING AND SECURITY – STAFF SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE PRISON ENVIRONMENT



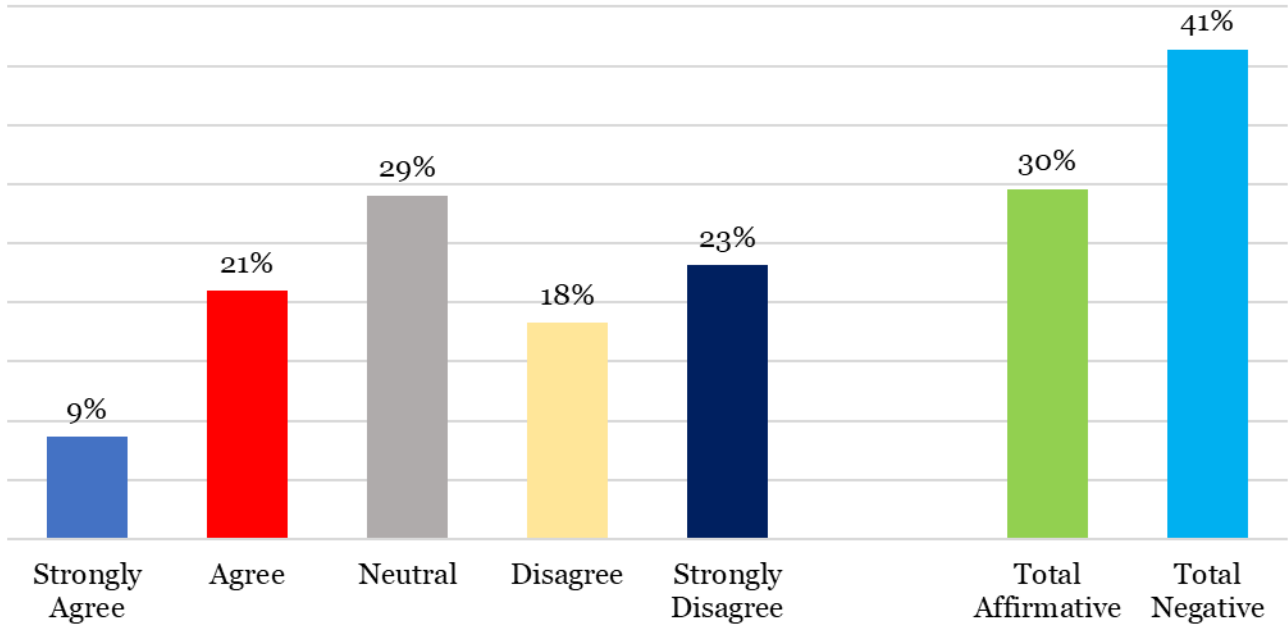
This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.



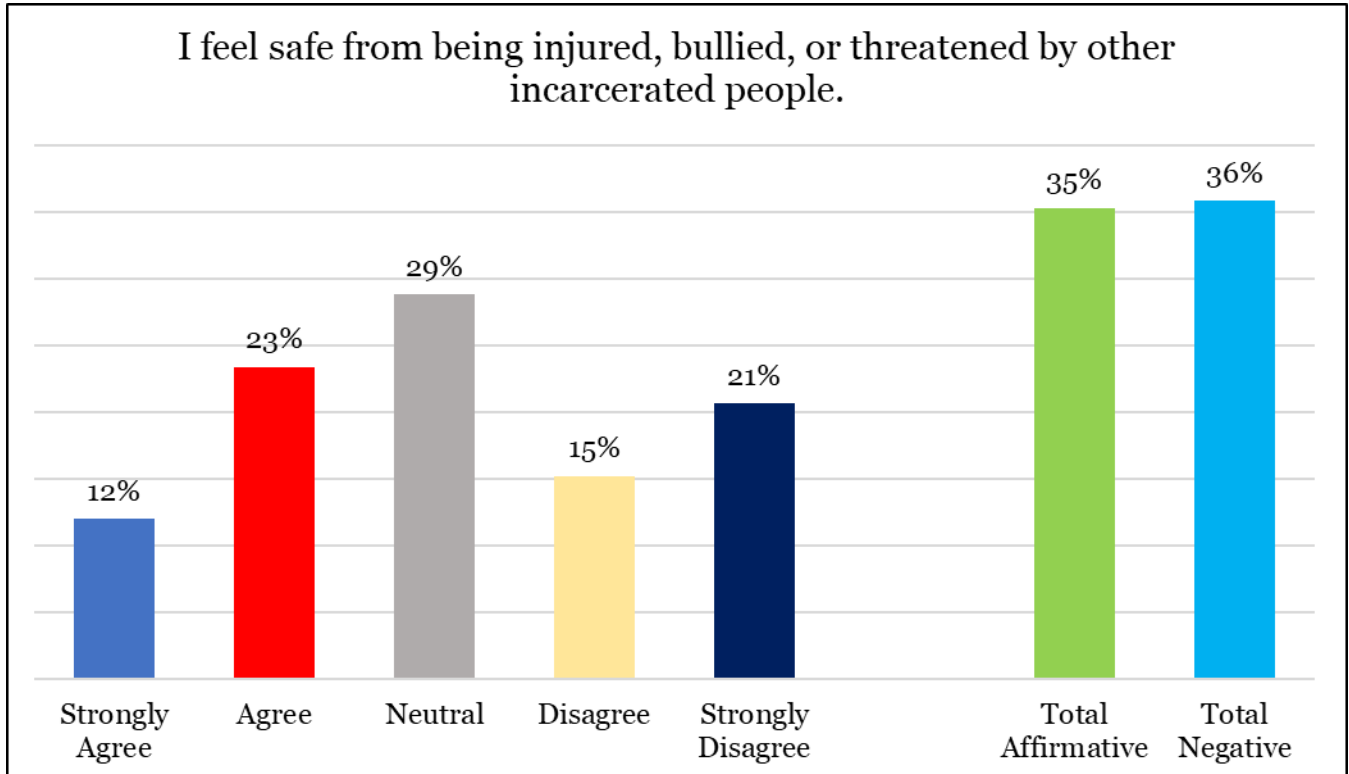
There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.



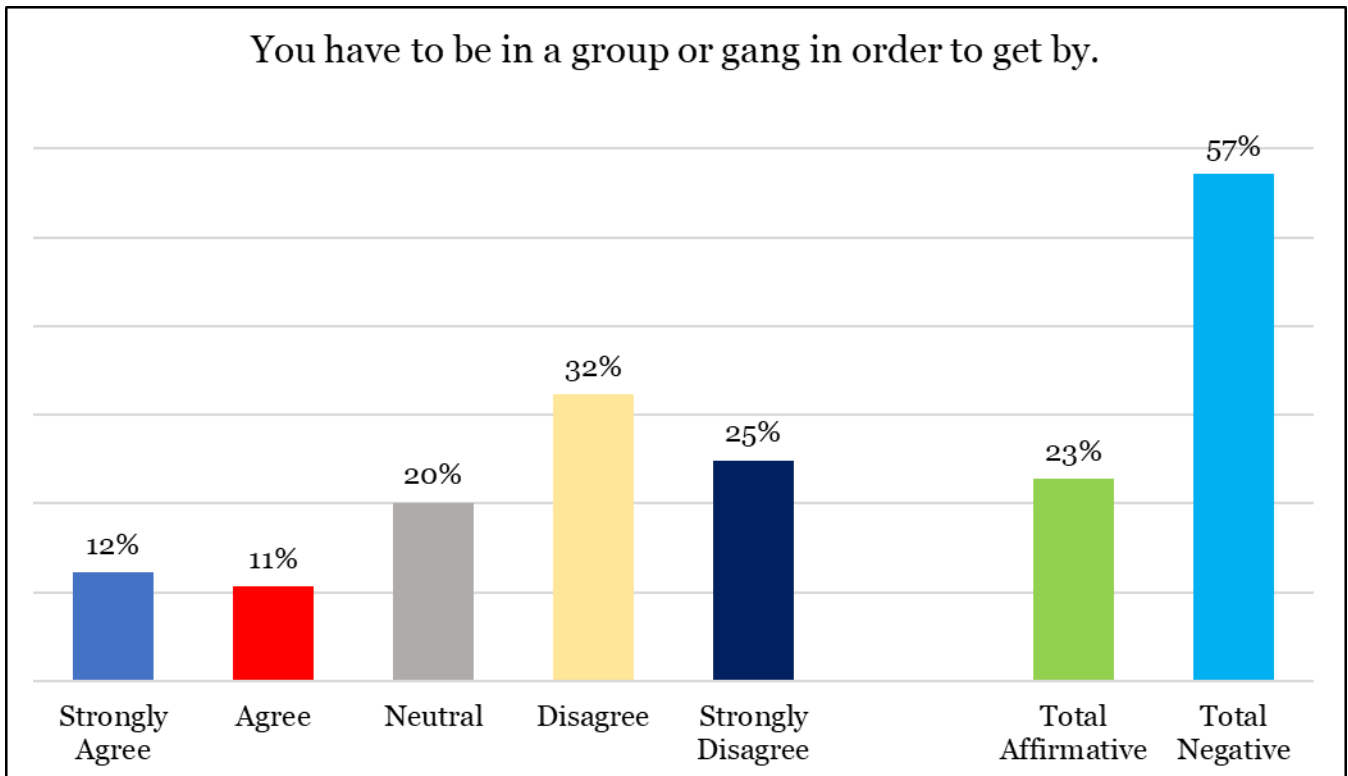
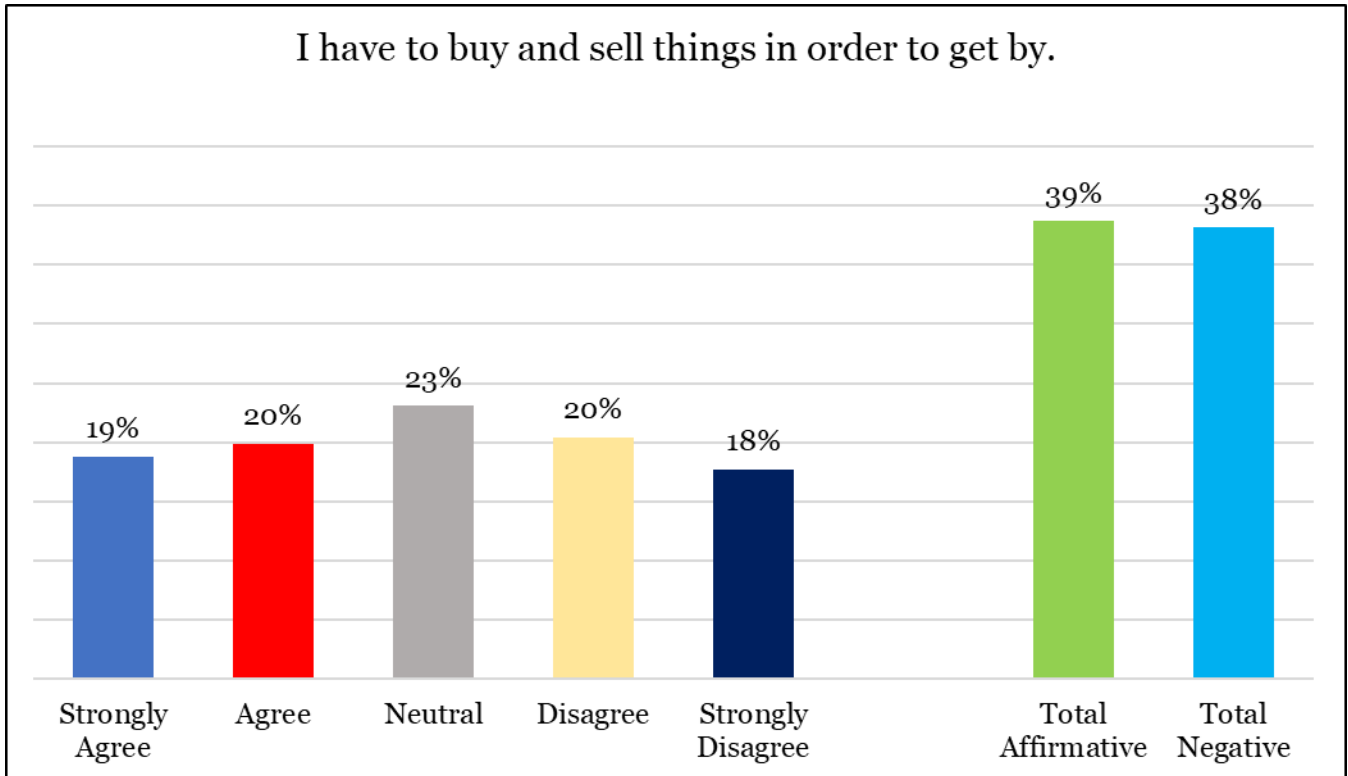
Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.



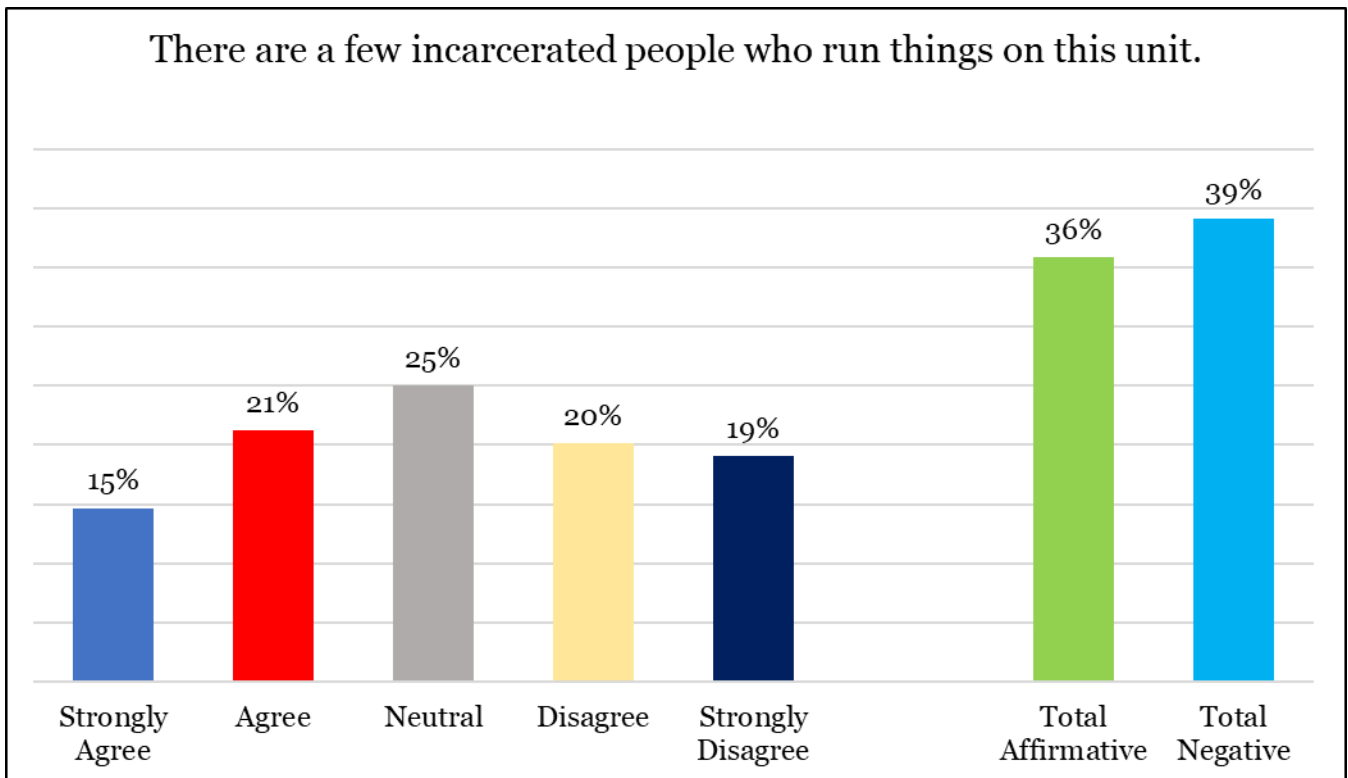
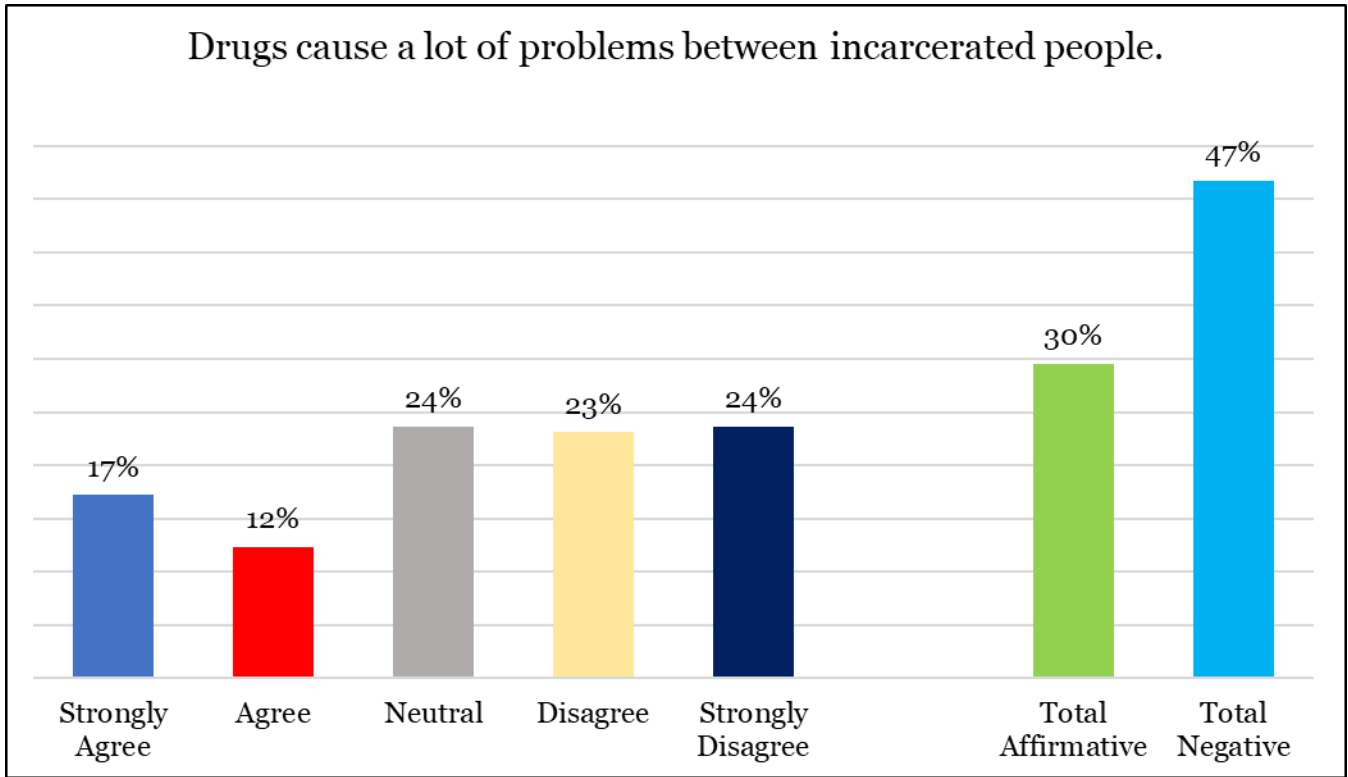
INCARCERATED PERSON SAFETY – THE FEELING OF SECURITY OR PROTECTION FROM HARM, THREAT OR DANGER



INCARCERATED PERSON ADAPTATION – THE NEED OR PRESSURE TO GET INVOLVED IN TRADE AND ALLEGIANCES

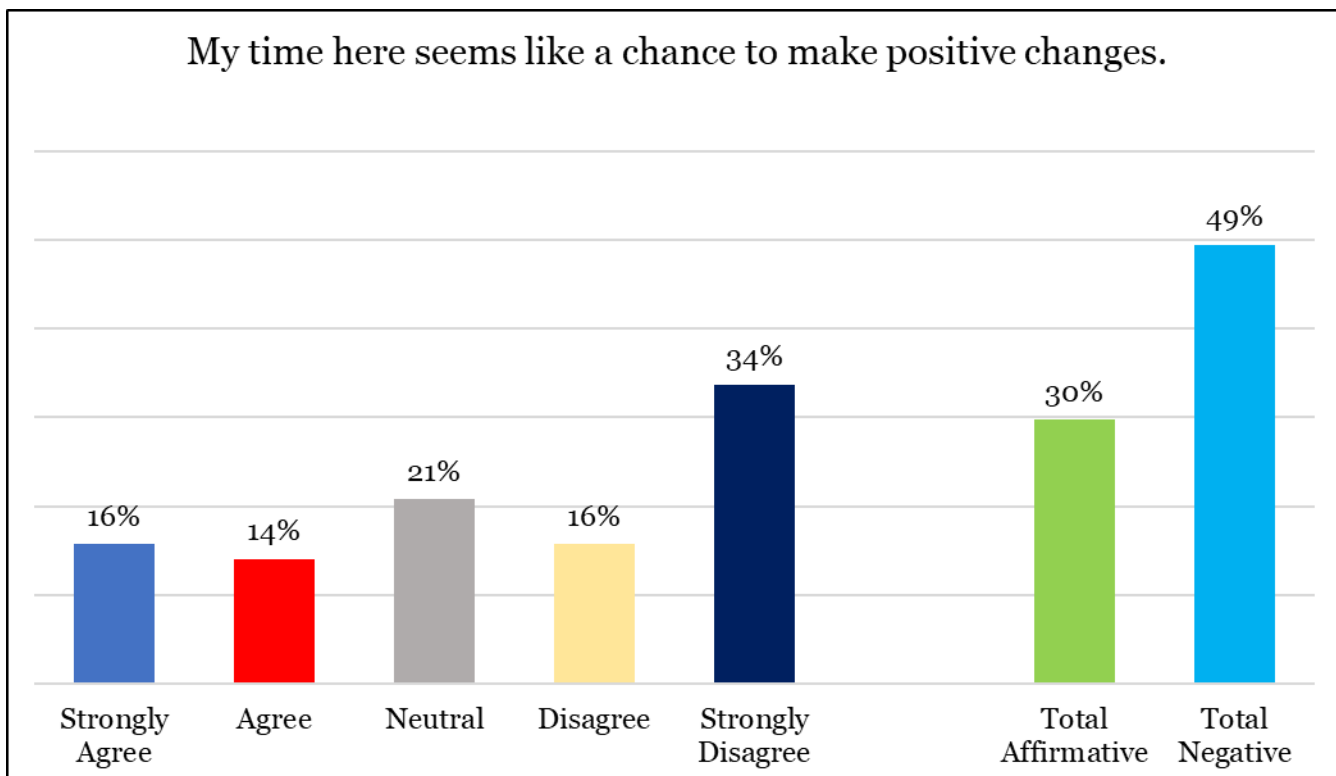
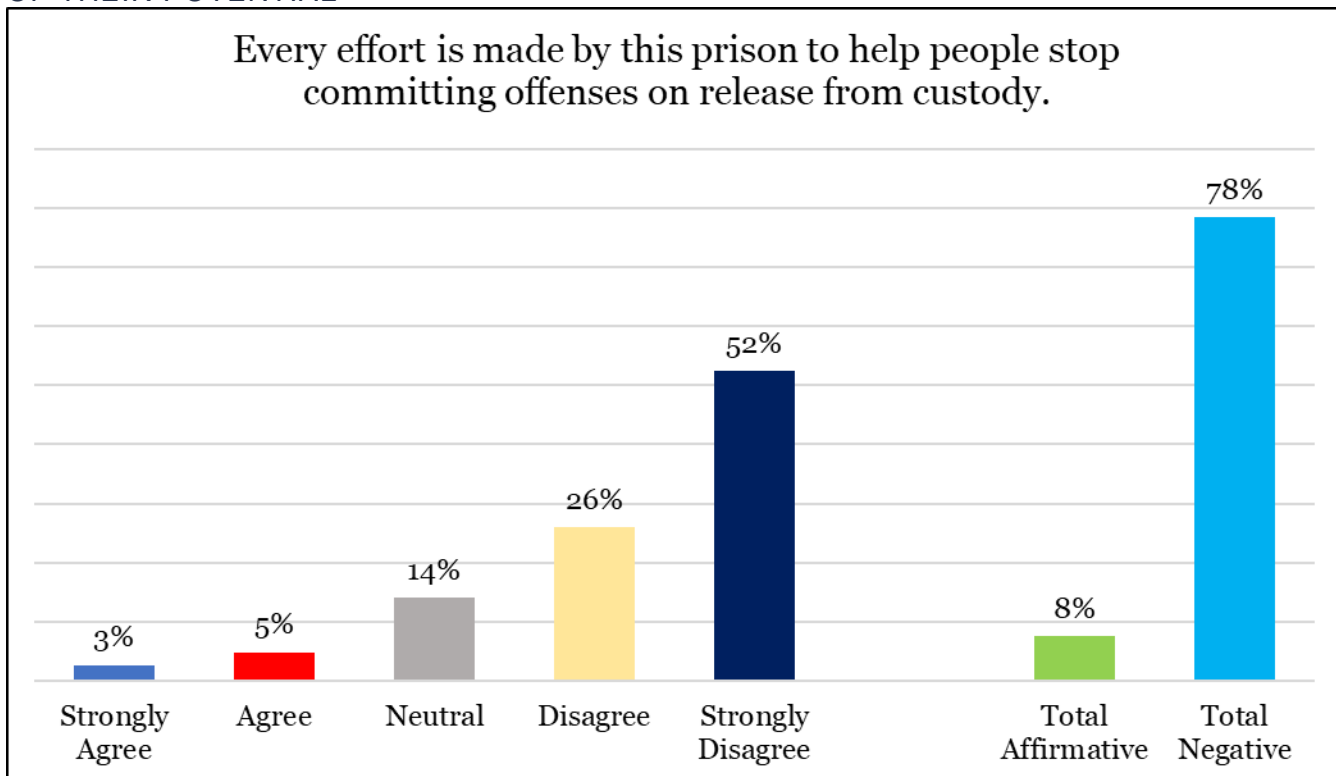


DRUGS AND EXPLOITATION – THE LEVEL OF DRUGS, BULLYING AND VICTIMIZATION IN THE PRISON ENVIRONMENT

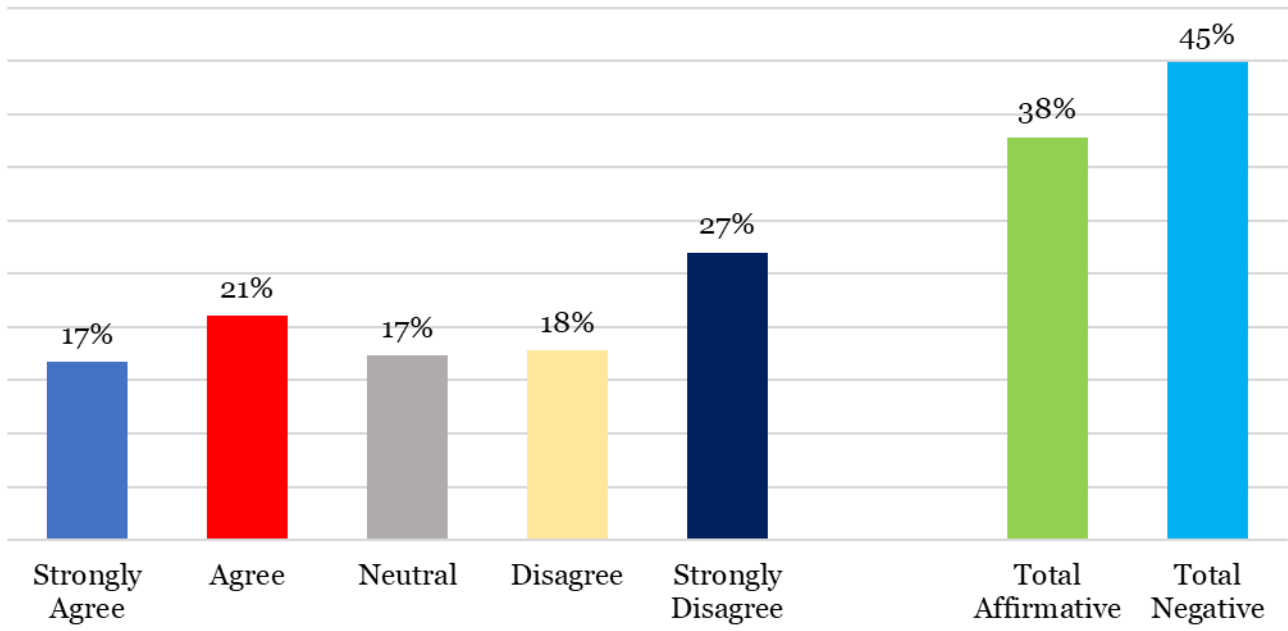


Well-being and Development

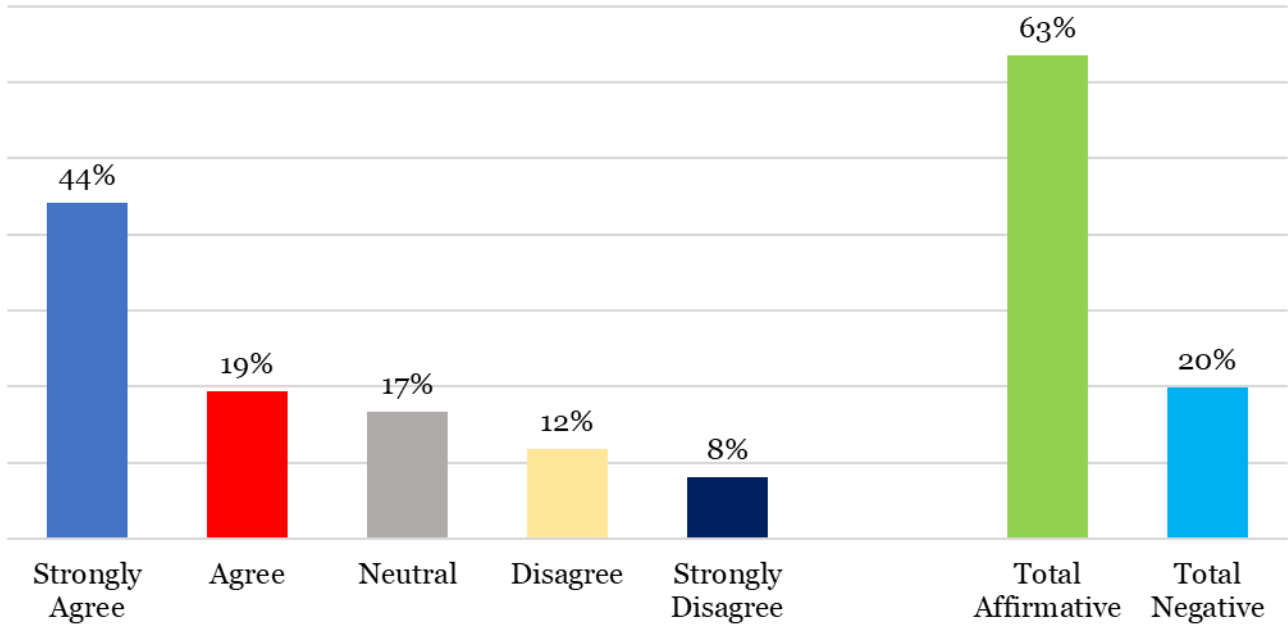
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT – AN ENVIRONMENT THAT HELPS INCARCERATED PEOPLE WITH OFFENDING BEHAVIOR, PREPARATION FOR RELEASE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR POTENTIAL



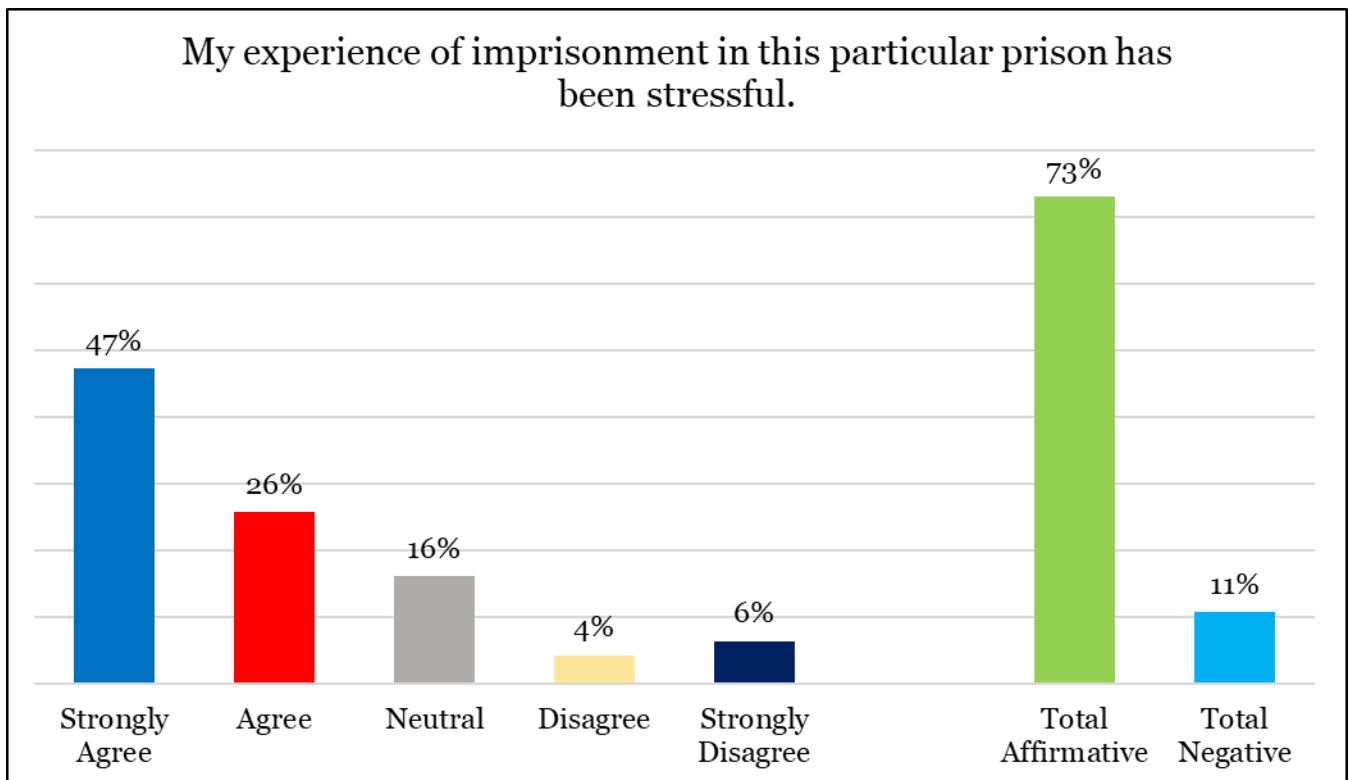
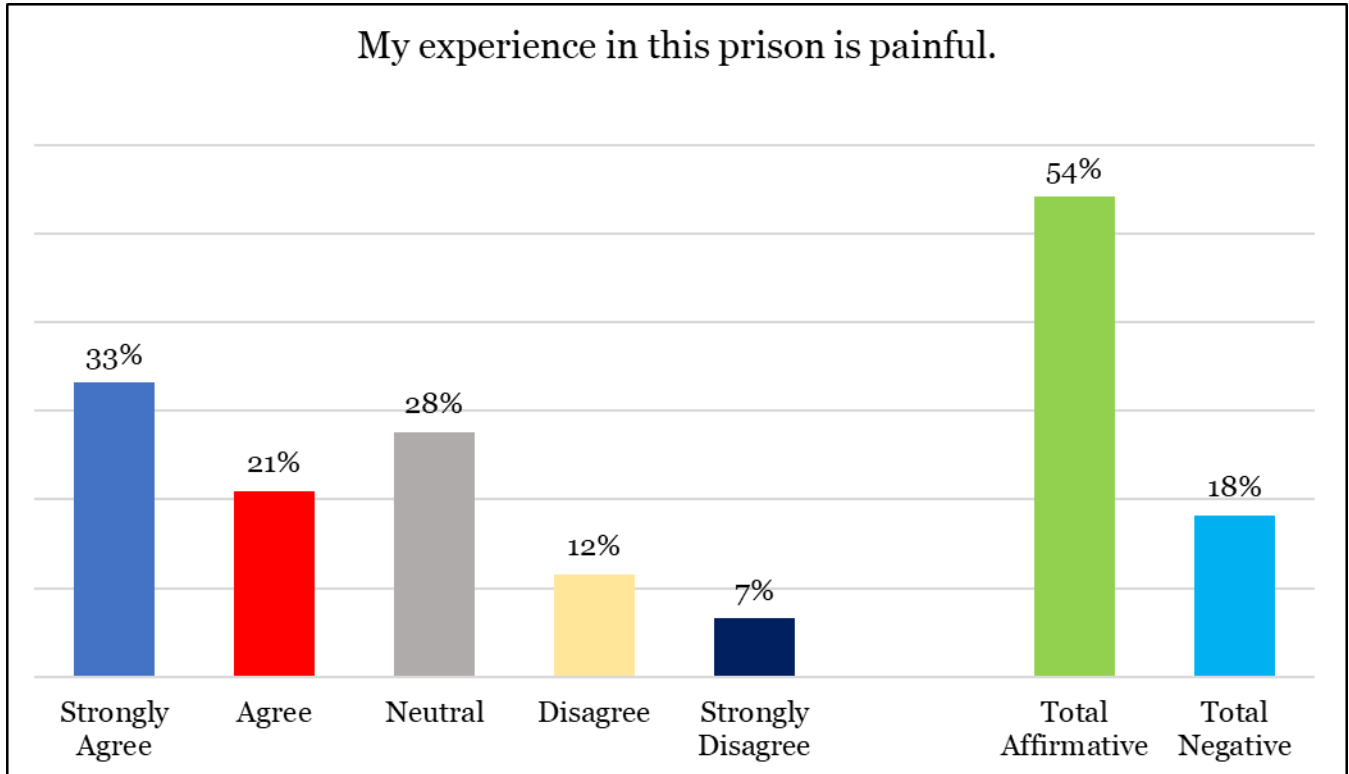
The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.



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

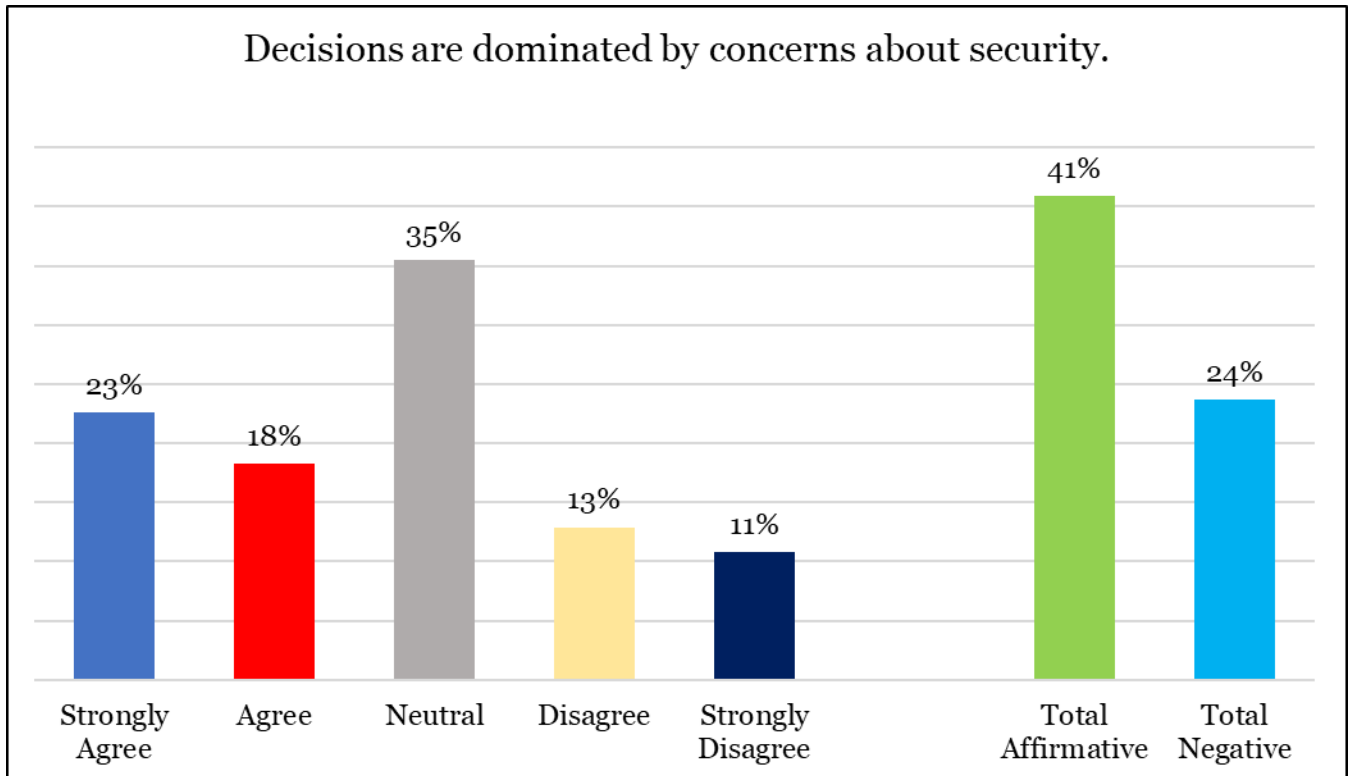


WELL-BEING – FEELINGS OF PAIN, PUNISHMENT AND TENSION EXPERIENCED BY INCARCERATED PEOPLE

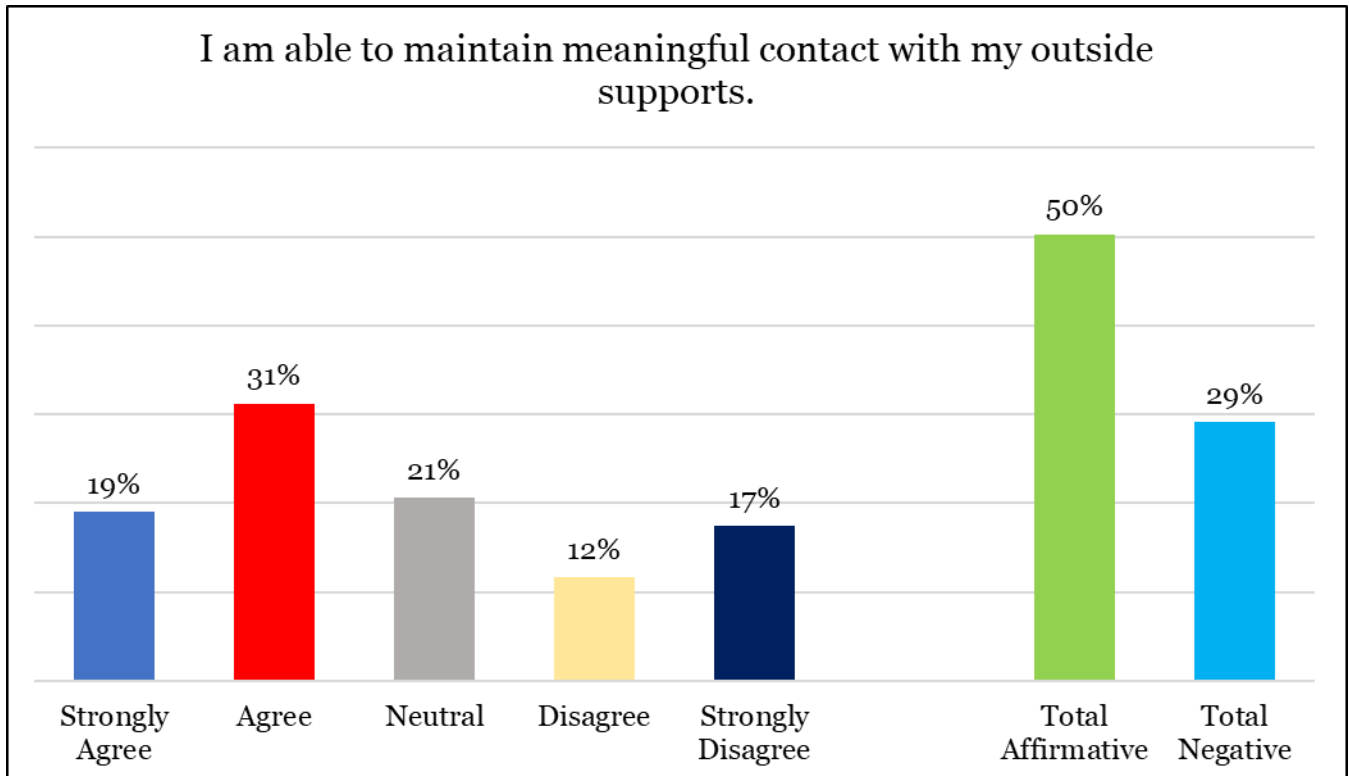


Additional Questions

DECISION-MAKING – THE EXTENT TO WHICH ADMINISTRATORS PRIORITIZE SECURITY CONCERNS OVER OTHER FACTORS

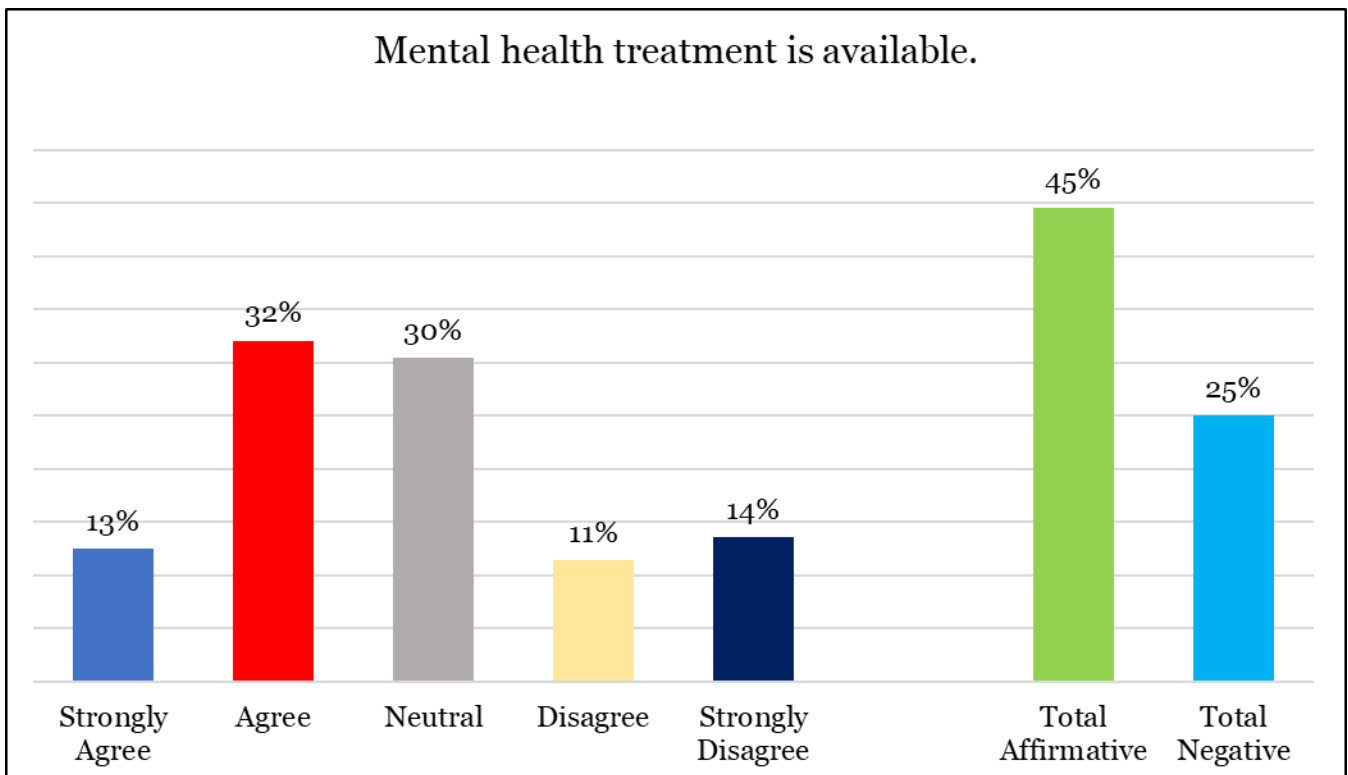
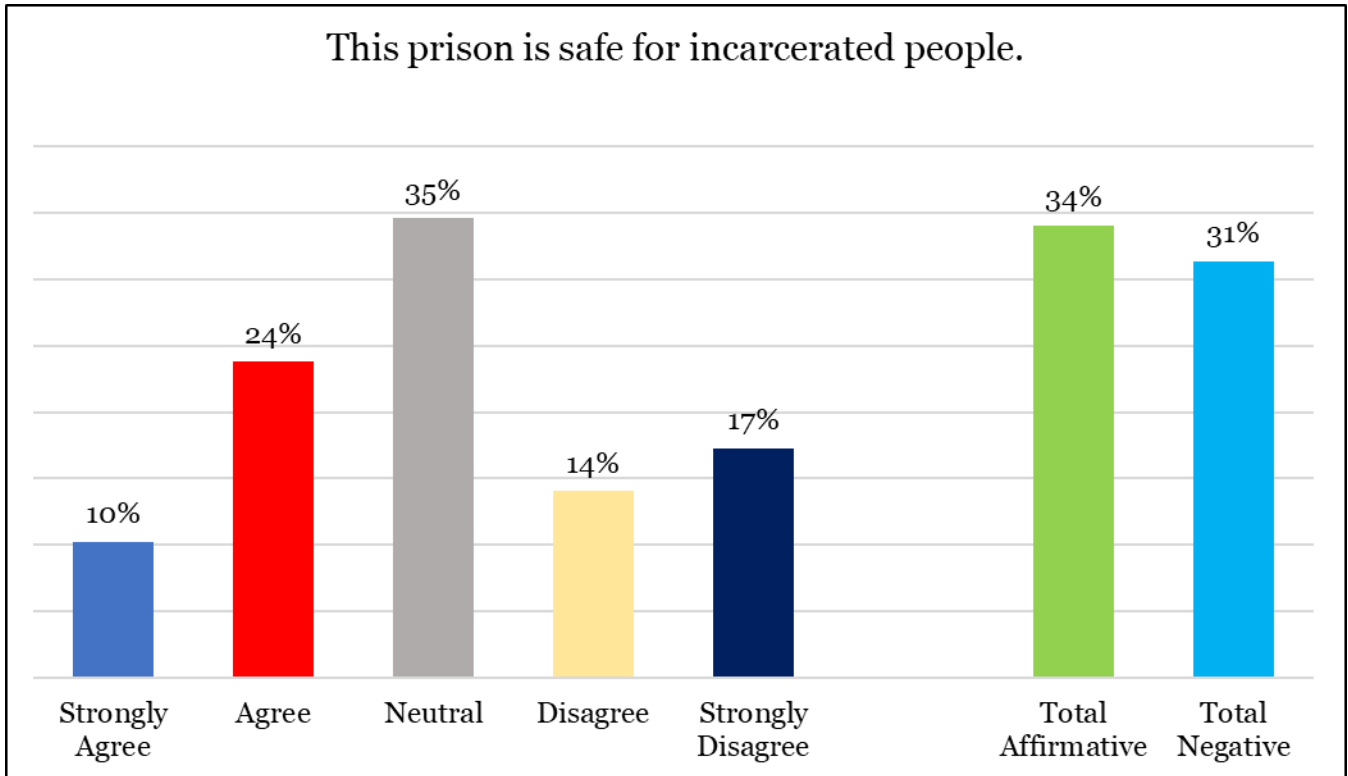


FAMILY CONTACT – AN ENVIRONMENT THAT FACILITATES INCARCERATED PEOPLE MAINTAINING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOVED ONES

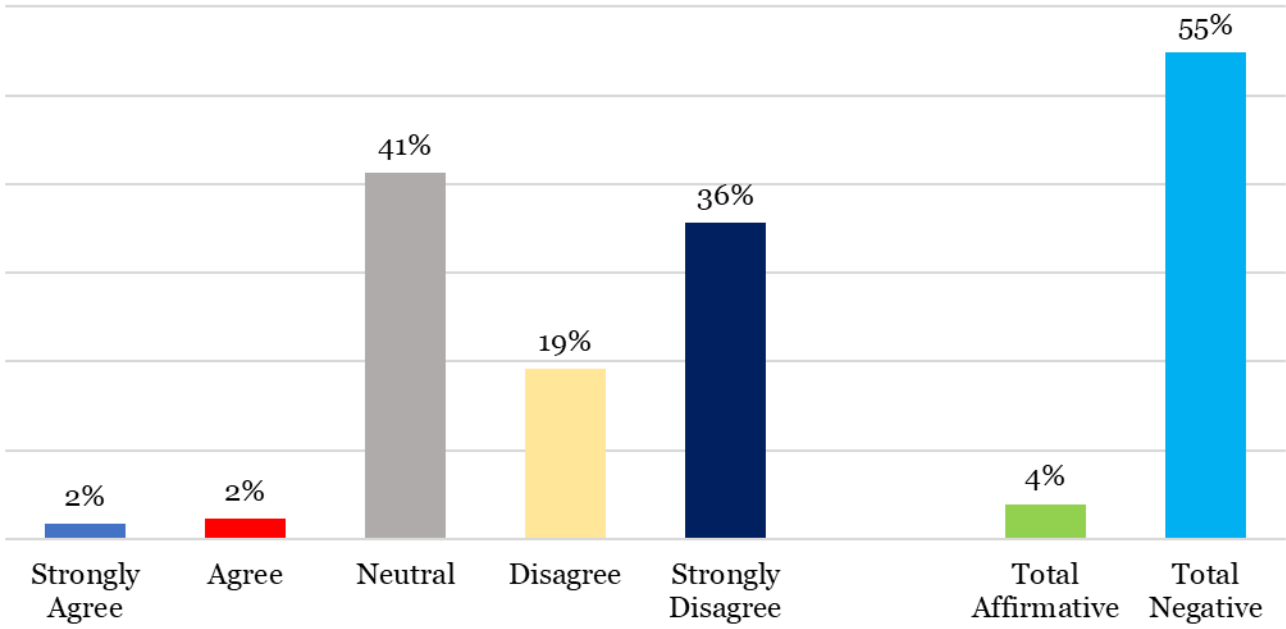


Charts: JHA Questions

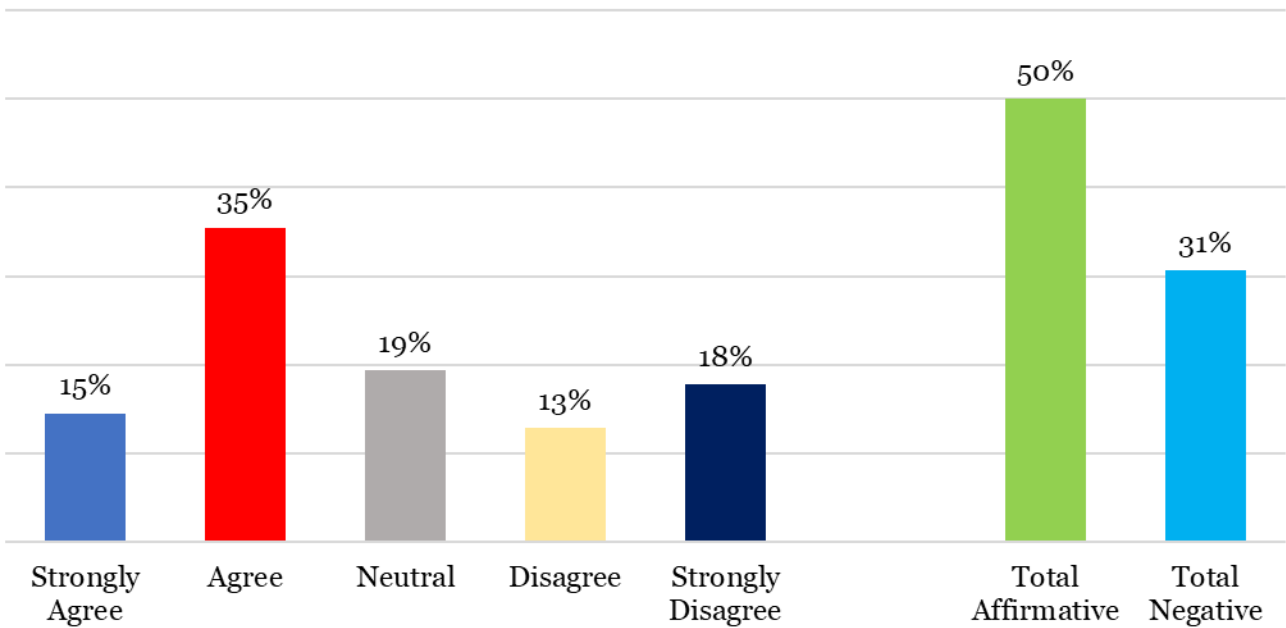
QUESTIONS USED IN PREVIOUS JHA SURVEYS



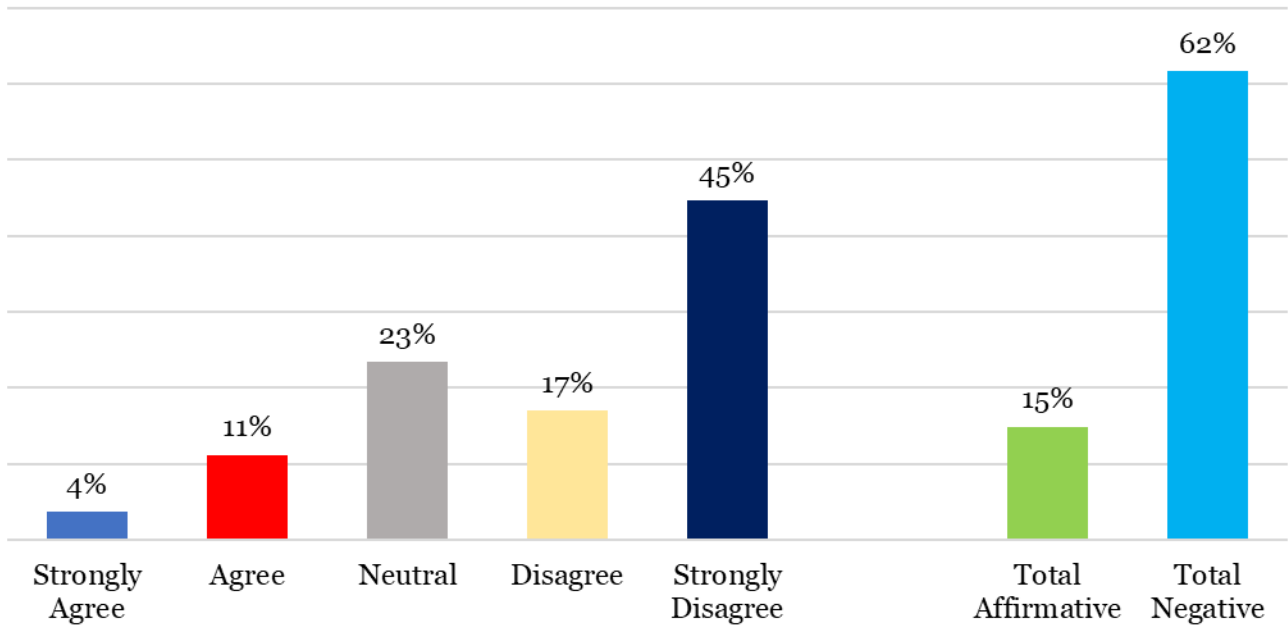
This prison is better now than it was last year.



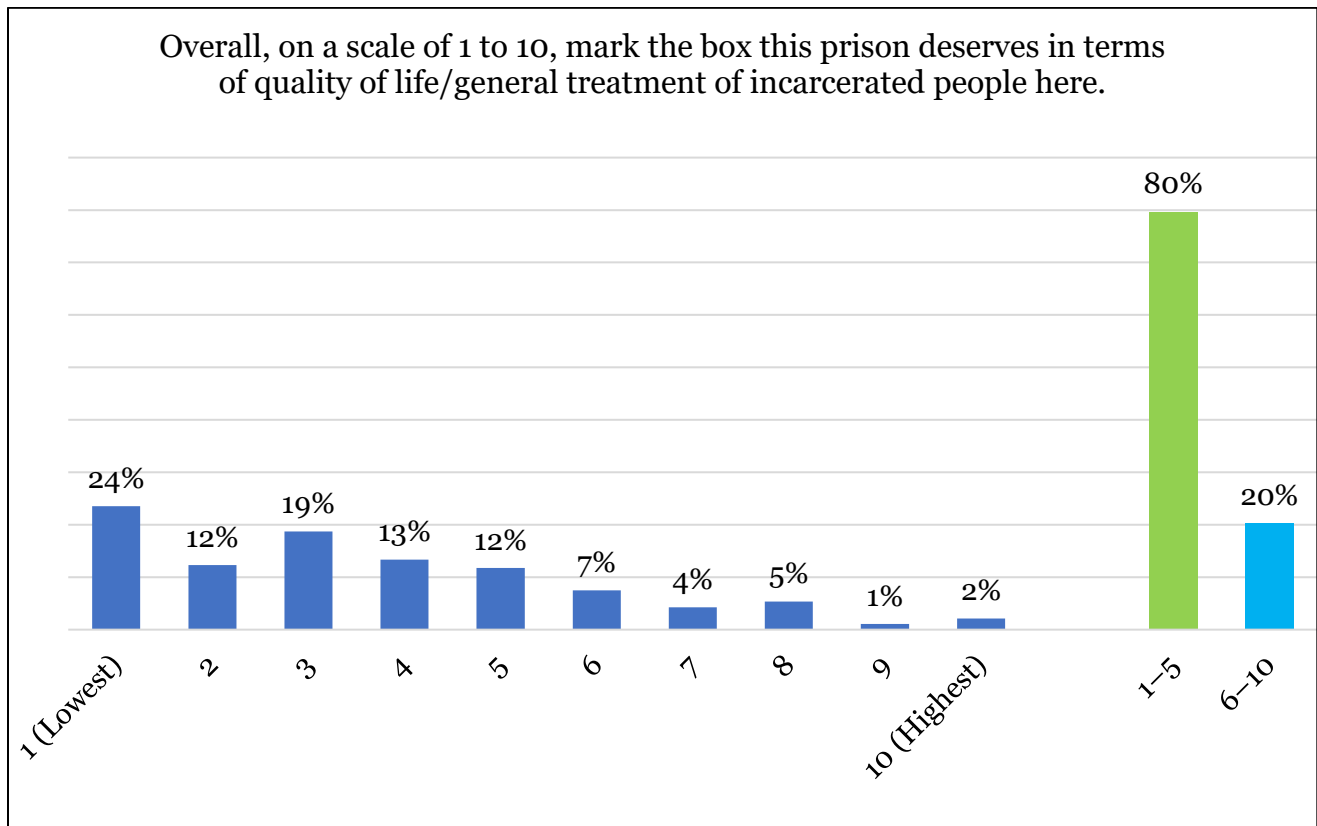
I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.



I am satisfied with food from dietary.



OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE



Tables of Results by Individual Survey Items

Age		
18-26	19	10%
26-30	18	9%
31-40	62	32%
41-50	49	25%
51 and over	45	23%
No response	0	

Race or ethnicity		
White	77	40%
Black	86	45%
Hispanic or Latino	17	9%
Other	11	6%
No response	2	

Are you within two years of release?		
Yes	169	88%
No	23	12%
No response	1	

Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?		
Yes	112	59%
No	79	41%
No response	2	

What housing status are you currently on?		
General Population	186	97%
Restrictive Housing	2	1%
Other	4	2%
No response	1	

Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area?		
Yes	173	91%
No	18	9%

Do you have a work or school assignment?		
Work Assignment	75	39%
School Assignment	10	5%
Both	15	8%
Neither	91	48%
No response	2	

Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	26	13%
Neutral	60	31%
Disagree	55	28%
Strongly Disagree	47	24%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	31	16%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	102	53%
No response	0	

I receive support from staff when I need it.		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	26	14%
Neutral	47	25%
Disagree	58	31%
Strongly Disagree	56	29%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	29	15%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	114	60%
No response	3	

Staff here treat incarcerated people fairly when applying the rules.		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	30	16%
Neutral	45	23%
Disagree	50	26%
Strongly Disagree	62	32%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	35	18%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	112	58%
No response	1	

I trust the officers.		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	16	8%
Neutral	37	20%
Disagree	60	32%
Strongly Disagree	73	39%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	19	10%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	133	70%
No response	4	

I get along well with the officers on my unit.		
Strongly Agree	10	5%
Agree	43	23%
Neutral	82	44%
Disagree	22	12%
Strongly Disagree	30	16%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	53	28%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	52	28%
No response	6	

The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.		
Strongly Agree	18	10%
Agree	38	20%
Neutral	46	24%
Disagree	44	23%
Strongly Disagree	42	22%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	56	30%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	86	46%
No response	5	

I have been helped significantly by a staff member with a particular problem.		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	24	13%
Neutral	40	21%
Disagree	65	34%
Strongly Disagree	58	30%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	29	15%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	123	64%
No response	1	

Overall, I am treated fairly by staff.		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	46	24%
Neutral	60	32%
Disagree	37	19%
Strongly Disagree	40	21%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	53	28%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	77	41%
No response	3	

I am treated as a person of value.		
Strongly Agree	2	1%
Agree	22	12%
Neutral	28	15%
Disagree	60	31%
Strongly Disagree	79	41%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	24	13%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	139	73%
No response	2	

Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.		
Strongly Agree	55	30%
Agree	65	35%
Neutral	32	17%
Disagree	25	13%
Strongly Disagree	9	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	120	65%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	34	18%
No response	7	

I feel safe from being injured, bullied, or threatened by other incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	22	12%
Agree	43	23%
Neutral	53	29%
Disagree	28	15%
Strongly Disagree	38	21%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	65	35%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	66	36%
No response	9	

If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.		
Strongly Agree	19	10%
Agree	21	11%
Neutral	32	17%
Disagree	54	29%
Strongly Disagree	60	32%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	40	22%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	114	61%
No response	7	

To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.		
Strongly Agree	39	21%
Agree	55	30%
Neutral	51	28%
Disagree	24	13%
Strongly Disagree	16	9%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	94	51%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	40	22%
No response	8	

Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	60	33%
Agree	62	34%
Neutral	35	19%
Disagree	16	9%
Strongly Disagree	11	6%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	122	66%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	27	15%
No response	9	

Staff have enough experience and expertise to deal with issues that matter to me.		
Strongly Agree	6	3%
Agree	19	10%
Neutral	40	22%
Disagree	63	34%
Strongly Disagree	58	31%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	25	13%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	121	65%
No response	7	

To get things done, you have to ask and ask and ask.		
Strongly Agree	111	60%
Agree	48	26%
Neutral	12	6%
Disagree	9	5%
Strongly Disagree	6	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	159	85%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	15	8%
No response	7	

Supervision of incarcerated people is poor.		
Strongly Agree	57	31%
Agree	38	21%
Neutral	54	29%
Disagree	25	14%
Strongly Disagree	11	6%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	95	51%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	36	19%
No response	8	

I can't improve my situation through good behavior.		
Strongly Agree	58	32%
Agree	40	22%
Neutral	36	20%
Disagree	29	16%
Strongly Disagree	19	10%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	98	54%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	48	26%
No response	11	

The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.		
Strongly Agree	31	17%
Agree	39	21%
Neutral	32	17%
Disagree	33	18%
Strongly Disagree	50	27%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	70	38%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	83	45%
No response	8	

My experience of imprisonment in this particular prison has been stressful.		
Strongly Agree	88	47%
Agree	48	26%
Neutral	30	16%
Disagree	8	4%
Strongly Disagree	12	6%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	136	73%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	20	11%
No response	7	

Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.		
Strongly Agree	62	34%
Agree	46	25%
Neutral	39	21%
Disagree	20	11%
Strongly Disagree	17	9%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	108	59%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	37	20%
No response	9	

I have to be careful about everything I do, or it can be used against me.		
Strongly Agree	79	42%
Agree	62	33%
Neutral	26	14%
Disagree	11	6%
Strongly Disagree	9	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	141	75%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	20	11%
No response	6	

On the whole, I am just doing time rather than using my time.		
Strongly Agree	82	44%
Agree	36	19%
Neutral	31	17%
Disagree	22	12%
Strongly Disagree	15	8%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	118	63%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	37	20%
No response	7	

Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.		
Strongly Agree	16	9%
Agree	39	21%
Neutral	54	29%
Disagree	34	18%
Strongly Disagree	43	23%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	55	30%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	77	41%
No response	7	

This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.		
Strongly Agree	19	10%
Agree	10	5%
Neutral	35	19%
Disagree	55	30%
Strongly Disagree	67	36%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	29	16%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	122	66%
No response	7	

When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.		
Strongly Agree	14	7%
Agree	25	13%
Neutral	43	23%
Disagree	53	28%
Strongly Disagree	52	28%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	39	21%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	105	56%
No response	6	

This prison is well organized.		
Strongly Agree	4	2%
Agree	4	2%
Neutral	28	15%
Disagree	41	22%
Strongly Disagree	109	59%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	8	4%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	150	81%
No response	7	

You never know the rules.		
Strongly Agree	40	22%
Agree	40	22%
Neutral	53	29%
Disagree	38	21%
Strongly Disagree	14	8%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	80	43%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	52	28%
No response	8	

I feel that I am treated with respect by staff.		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	27	15%
Neutral	50	27%
Disagree	38	21%
Strongly Disagree	60	33%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	34	19%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	98	54%
No response	11	

My experience in this prison is painful.		
Strongly Agree	60	33%
Agree	38	21%
Neutral	50	28%
Disagree	21	12%
Strongly Disagree	12	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	98	54%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	33	18%
No response	12	

There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	31	17%
Agree	42	23%
Neutral	70	38%
Disagree	18	10%
Strongly Disagree	21	12%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	73	40%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	39	21%
No response	11	

The disciplinary system is fair.		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	22	12%
Neutral	41	22%
Disagree	37	20%
Strongly Disagree	78	42%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	29	16%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	115	62%
No response	8	

There are a few incarcerated people who run things on this unit.		
Strongly Agree	27	15%
Agree	39	21%
Neutral	46	25%
Disagree	37	20%
Strongly Disagree	35	19%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	66	36%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	72	39%
No response	9	

I have to buy and sell things in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	35	19%
Agree	37	20%
Neutral	43	23%
Disagree	38	20%
Strongly Disagree	33	18%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	72	39%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	71	38%
No response	7	

Decisions are dominated by concerns about security.		
Strongly Agree	42	23%
Agree	34	18%
Neutral	66	35%
Disagree	24	13%
Strongly Disagree	20	11%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	76	41%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	44	24%
No response	7	

My time here seems like a chance to make positive changes.		
Strongly Agree	28	16%
Agree	25	14%
Neutral	37	21%
Disagree	28	16%
Strongly Disagree	60	34%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	53	30%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	88	49%
No response	15	

I am not being treated as a human being in here.		
Strongly Agree	54	28%
Agree	36	19%
Neutral	40	21%
Disagree	46	24%
Strongly Disagree	15	8%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	90	47%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	61	32%
No response	2	

You have to be in a group or gang in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	23	12%
Agree	20	11%
Neutral	38	20%
Disagree	61	32%
Strongly Disagree	47	25%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	43	23%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	108	57%
No response	4	

Bullying behavior by incarcerated people is not tolerated.		
Strongly Agree	24	13%
Agree	44	24%
Neutral	46	25%
Disagree	36	19%
Strongly Disagree	37	20%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	68	36%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	73	39%
No response	6	

When important decisions are made about me, I am treated as an individual and not a number.		
Strongly Agree	13	7%
Agree	15	8%
Neutral	37	20%
Disagree	57	30%
Strongly Disagree	67	35%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	28	15%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	124	66%
No response	4	

All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.		
Strongly Agree	88	47%
Agree	52	28%
Neutral	25	13%
Disagree	14	7%
Strongly Disagree	8	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	140	75%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	22	12%
No response	6	

Drugs cause a lot of problems between incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	32	17%
Agree	23	12%
Neutral	44	24%
Disagree	43	23%
Strongly Disagree	44	24%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	55	30%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	87	47%
No response	7	

Anyone who harms themselves is considered by staff to be more of an attention seeker than someone who needs help.		
Strongly Agree	54	29%
Agree	42	22%
Neutral	60	32%
Disagree	23	12%
Strongly Disagree	8	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	96	51%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	31	17%
No response	6	

I am able to maintain meaningful contact with my outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	36	19%
Agree	59	31%
Neutral	39	21%
Disagree	22	12%
Strongly Disagree	33	17%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	95	50%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	55	29%
No response	4	

This is a humane prison.		
Strongly Agree	10	5%
Agree	25	13%
Neutral	68	36%
Disagree	41	22%
Strongly Disagree	44	23%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	35	19%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	85	45%
No response	5	

This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.		
Strongly Agree	84	45%
Agree	53	28%
Neutral	35	19%
Disagree	9	5%
Strongly Disagree	7	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	137	73%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	16	9%
No response	5	

Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.		
Strongly Agree	19	10%
Agree	15	8%
Neutral	47	25%
Disagree	55	30%
Strongly Disagree	49	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	34	18%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	104	56%
No response	8	

Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	15	8%
Neutral	30	16%
Disagree	49	26%
Strongly Disagree	85	46%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	22	12%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	134	72%
No response	7	

This prison is safe for incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	19	10%
Agree	44	24%
Neutral	64	35%
Disagree	26	14%
Strongly Disagree	32	17%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	63	34%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	58	31%
No response	8	

Mental health treatment is available.		
Strongly Agree	23	13%
Agree	59	32%
Neutral	56	30%
Disagree	21	11%
Strongly Disagree	25	14%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	82	45%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	46	25%
No response	9	

This prison is better now than it was last year.		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	4	2%
Neutral	73	41%
Disagree	34	19%
Strongly Disagree	63	36%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	7	4%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	97	55%
No response	16	

I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.		
Strongly Agree	27	15%
Agree	66	35%
Neutral	36	19%
Disagree	24	13%
Strongly Disagree	33	18%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	93	50%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	57	31%
No response	7	

Every effort is made by this prison to help people stop committing offenses on release from custody.		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	9	5%
Neutral	26	14%
Disagree	48	26%
Strongly Disagree	97	52%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	14	8%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	145	78%
No response	8	

I am satisfied with food from dietary.		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	21	11%
Neutral	44	23%
Disagree	32	17%
Strongly Disagree	84	45%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	28	15%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	116	62%
No response	5	

Overall, on a scale of 1 to 10, mark the box this prison deserves in terms of quality of life/general treatment of incarcerated people here.

1 (Lowest)	44	24%
2	23	12%
3	35	19%
4	25	13%
5	22	12%
6	14	7%
7	8	4%
8	10	5%
9	2	1%
10 (Highest)	4	2%
<i>1-5</i>	149	80%
<i>6-10</i>	38	20%
No Response	6	
Mean Score		3.7



This report was written by JHA staff. Media inquiries should be directed to JHA's Executive Director Jennifer Vollen-Katz at (312) 291-9183 or jvollen@thejha.org

Incarcerated individuals can send privileged mail to report issues to the John Howard Association, P.O. Box 10042, Chicago, IL 60610-0042. JHA staff read every letter and track this information to monitor what is occurring behind prison walls and to advocate for humane policies and practices. Family and friends can contact JHA via our website 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 graciously shared their experiences and insights with us.

