
Survey Results



Pinckneyville 2023 MQPL Survey Results

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Introduction

Pinckneyville Correctional Center is a medium-security male prison within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) that housed 1,916 people on January 3, 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 Pinckneyville had an opportunity to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey if they chose to do so. JHA received 612 responses to the MQPL survey from people at Pinckneyville through July 1, 2023, representing approximately 32% of the static population. JHA visited Pinckneyville 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

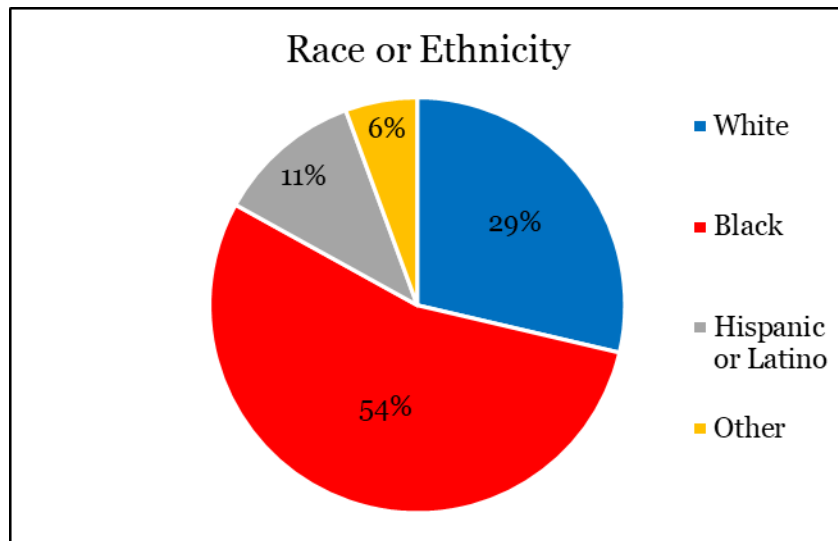
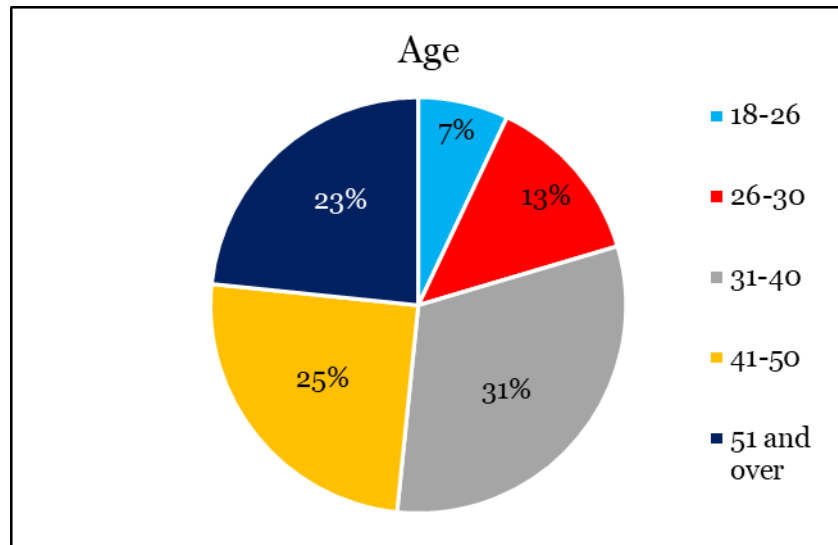
- **Harmony: Questions relating to interpersonal aspects of the prison experience**
 - Respect/courtesy – Positive, respectful, and courteous attitudes towards incarcerated people by staff.
 - Staff-incarcerated people relationships – Trusting, fair and supportive interactions between staff and incarcerated 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.

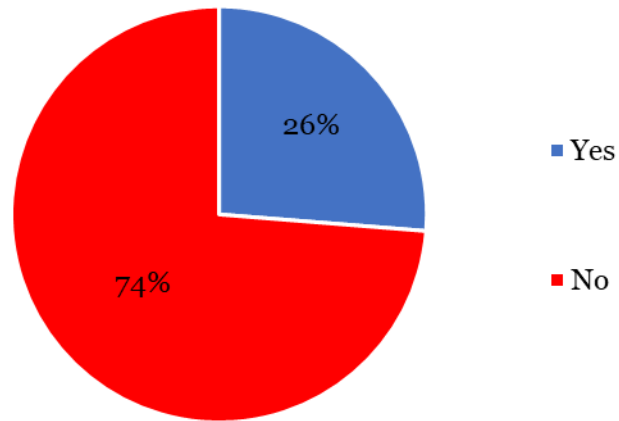
Charts: Demographic Information of Respondents

Total respondents = 614¹

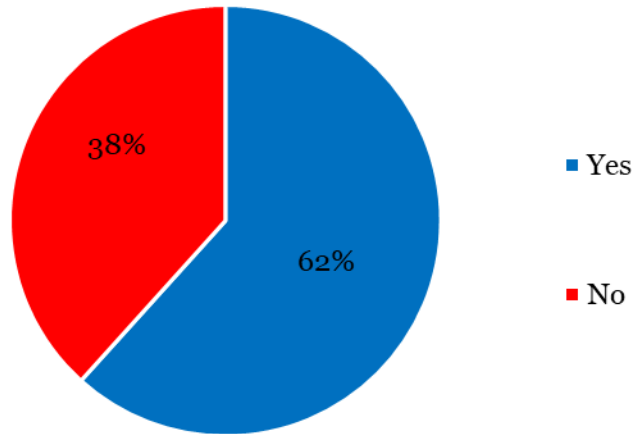


¹ Due to rounding, not all percentages total 100%. Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of respondents per question.

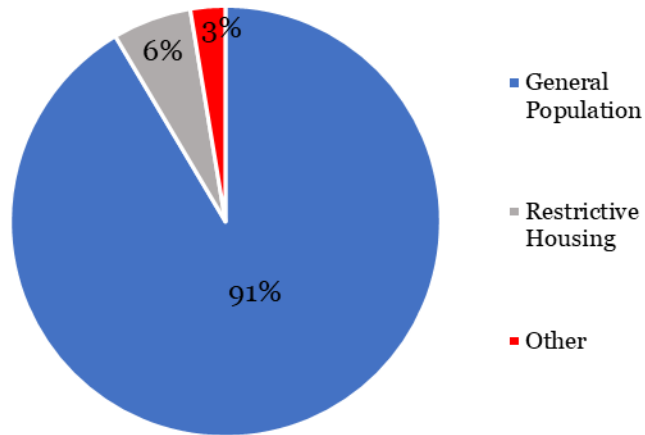
Are you within two years of release?



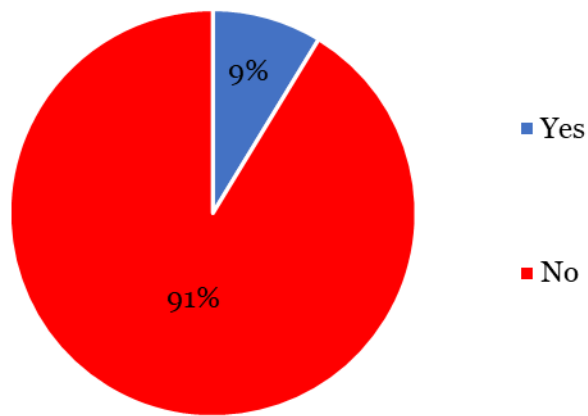
Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?



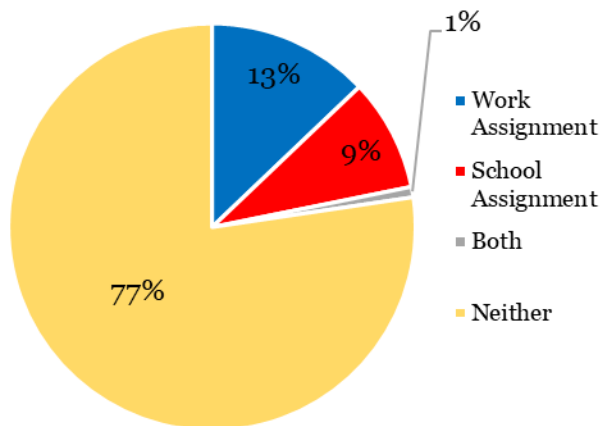
What housing status are you currently on?



Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area?



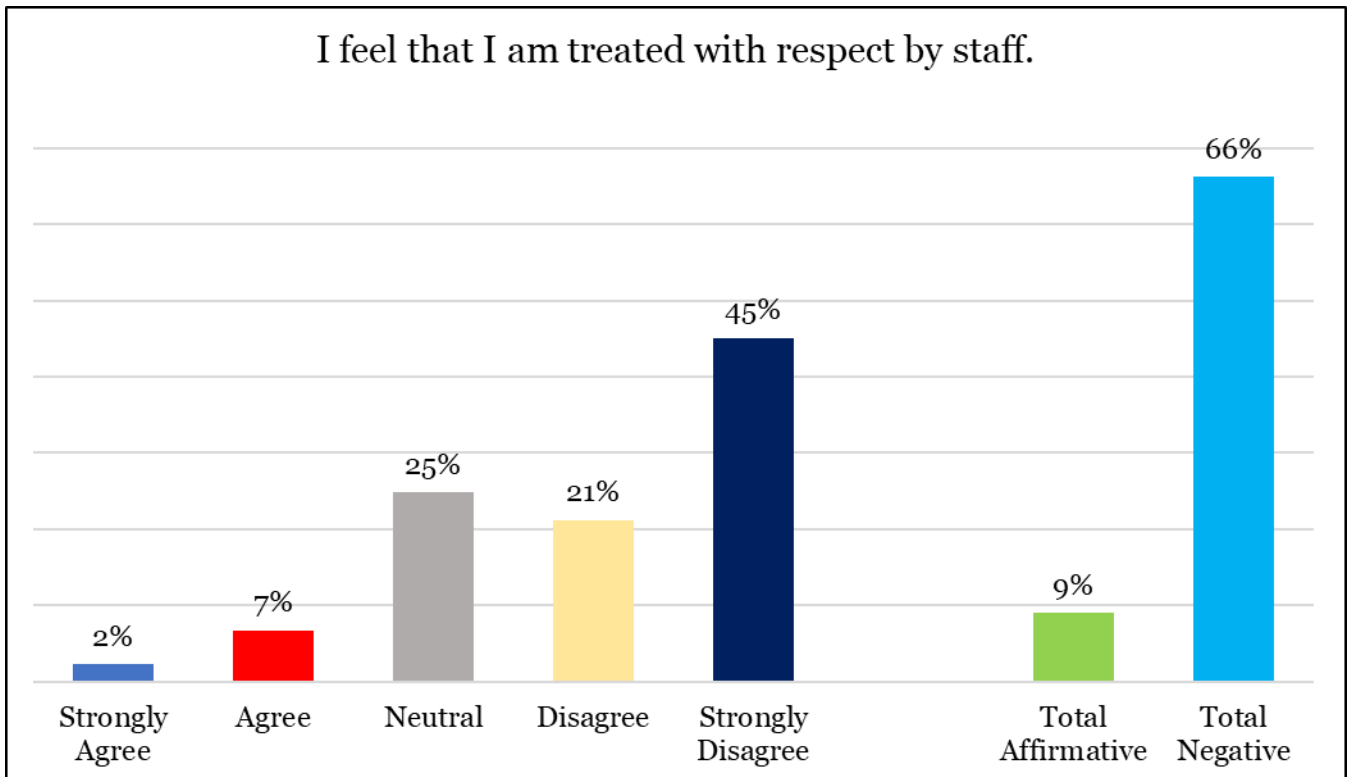
Do you have a work or school assignment?



Charts: MQPL Dimensions²

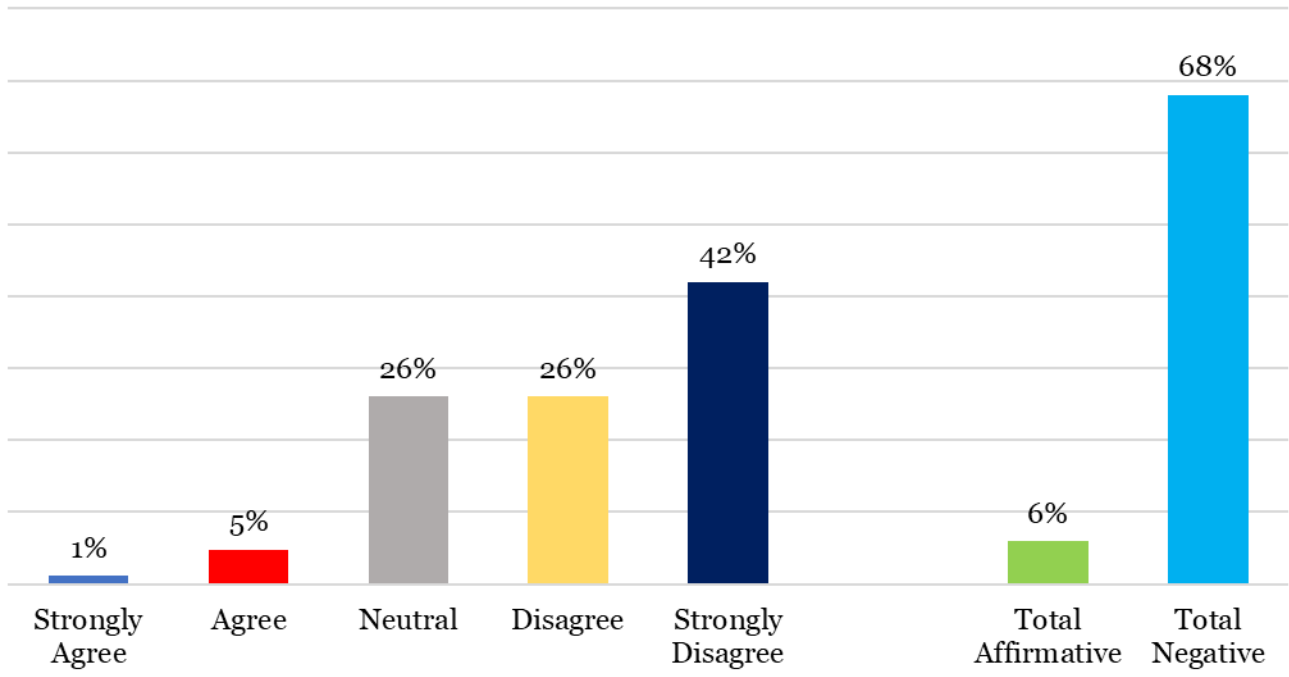
Harmony

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

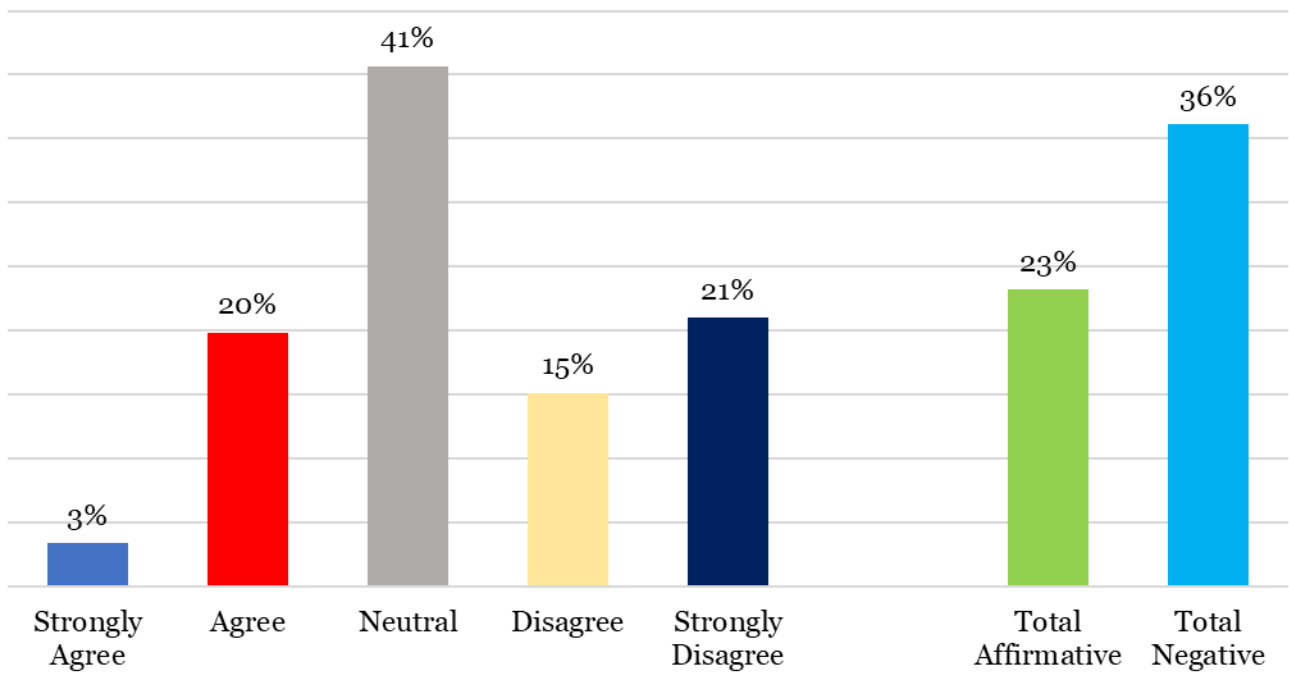


² “Total Affirmative” combines “Strongly Agree” and “Agree.” “Total Negative” combines “Strongly Disagree” and “Disagree.” Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of responses per question.

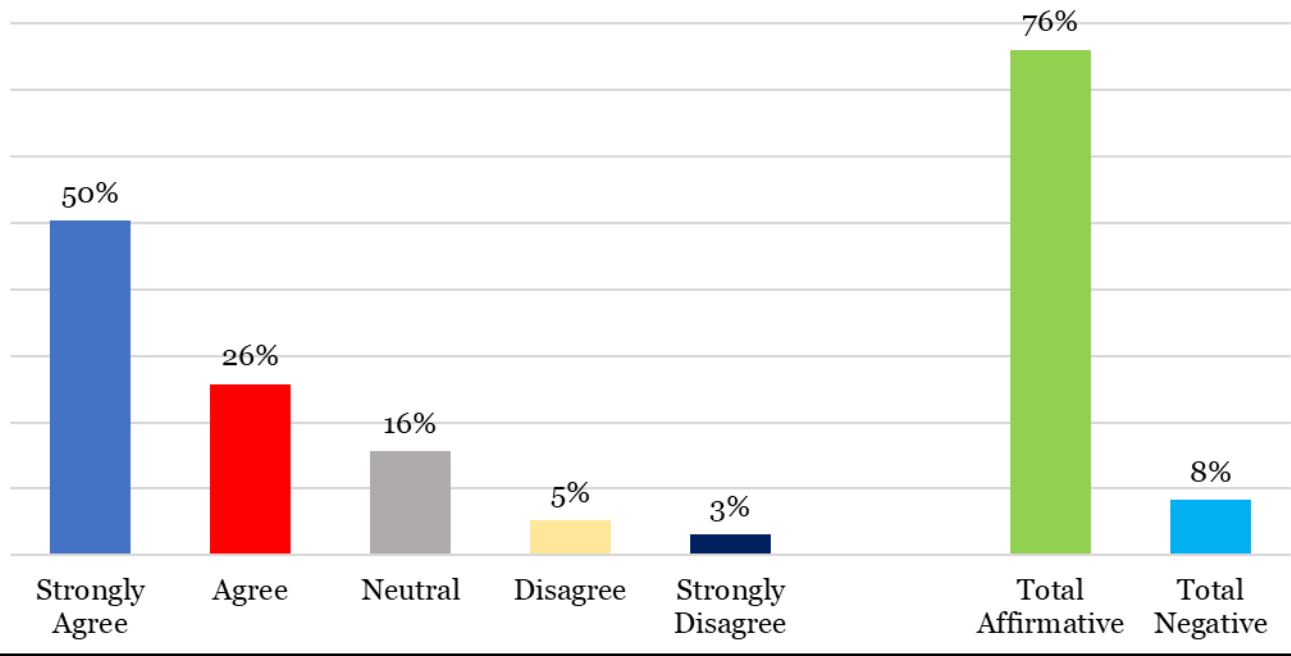
Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.



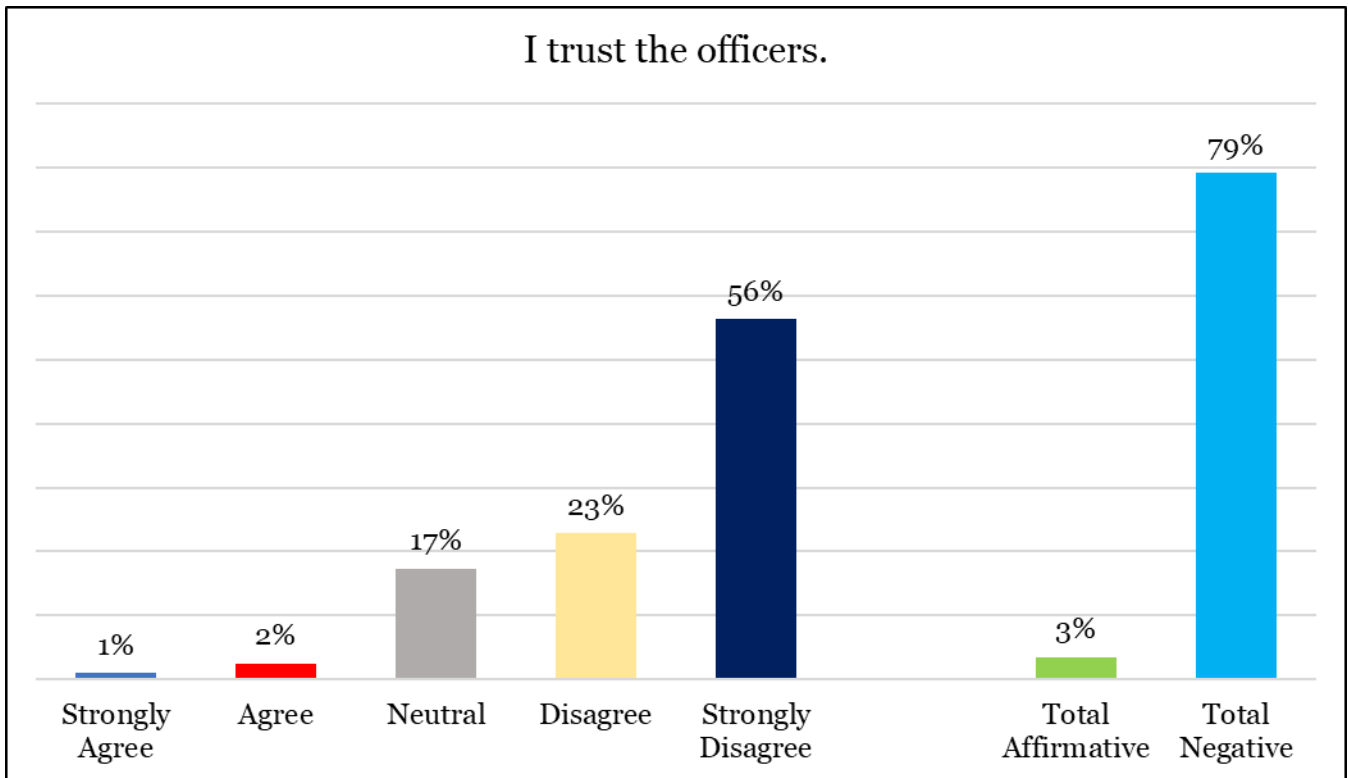
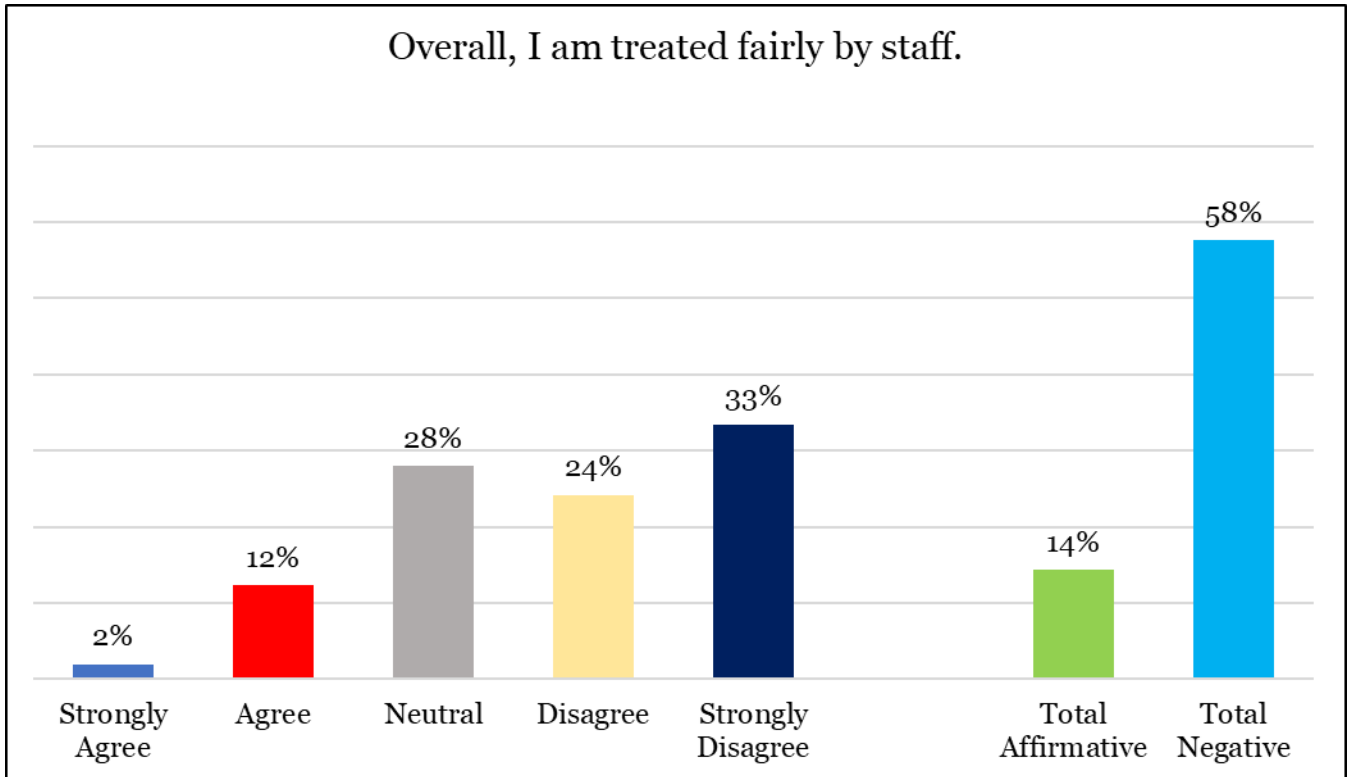
I get along well with the officers on my unit.



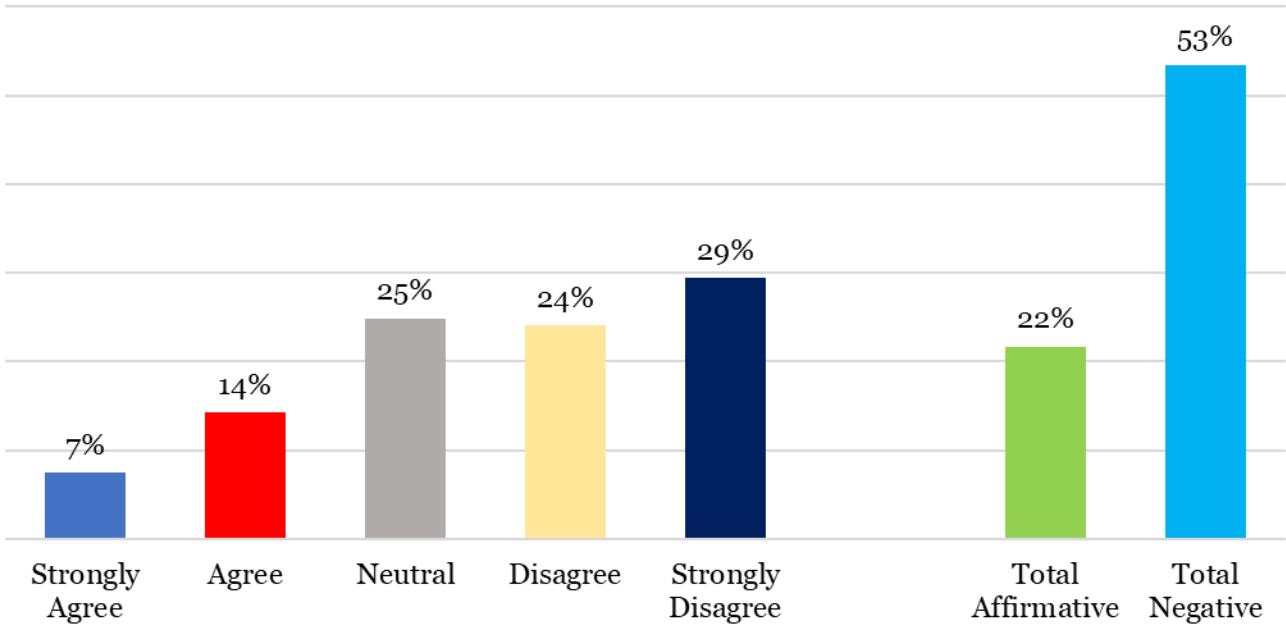
Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.



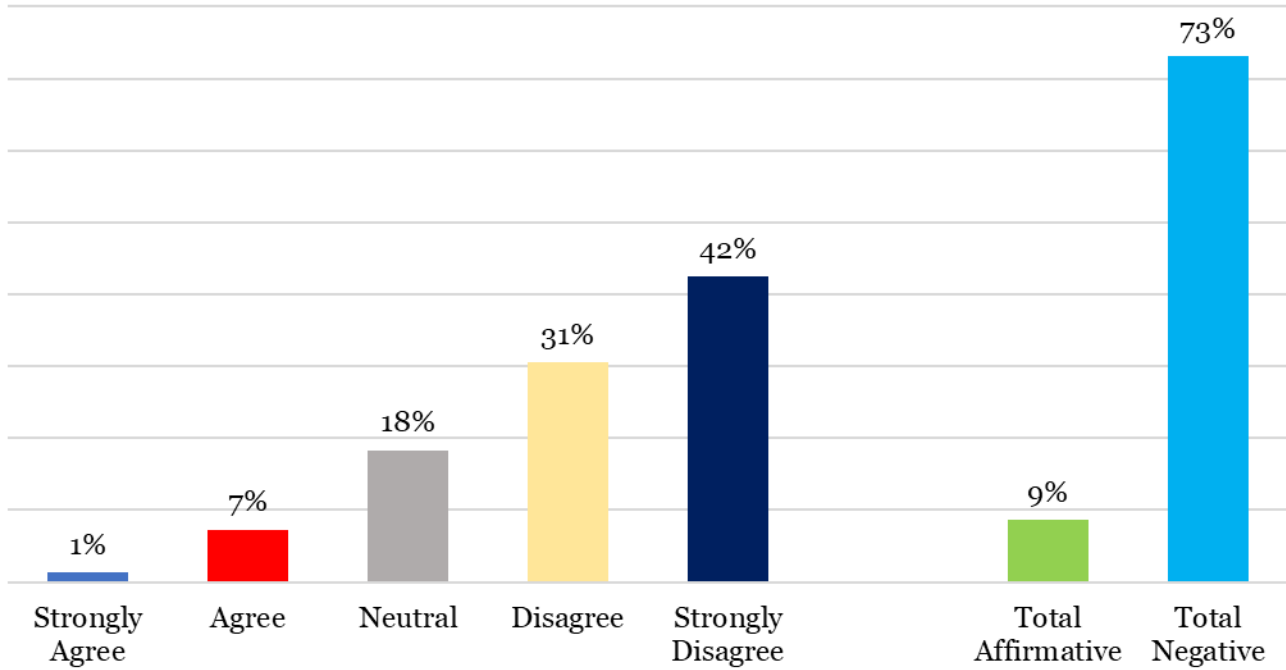
STAFF-INCARCERATED PEOPLE RELATIONSHIPS – TRUSTING, FAIR AND SUPPORTIVE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN STAFF AND INCARCERATED PEOPLE



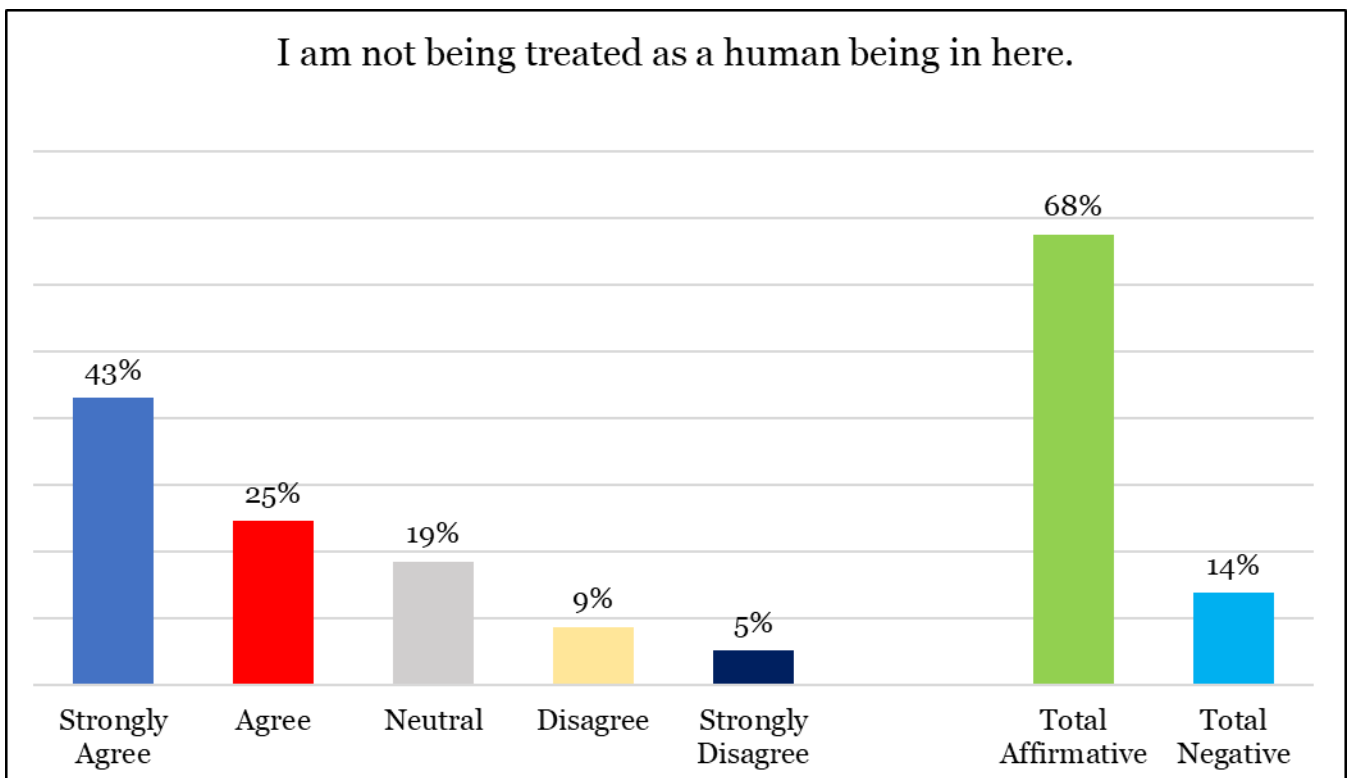
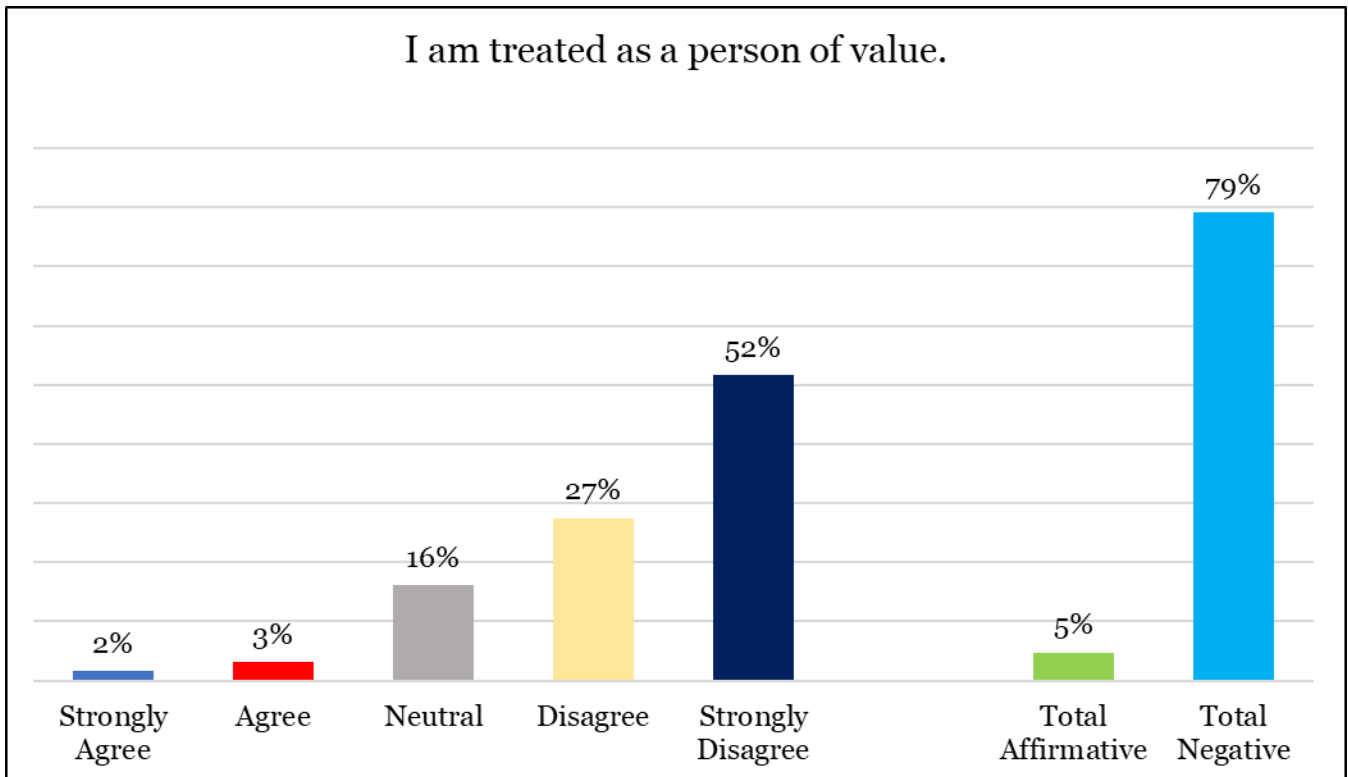
When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.



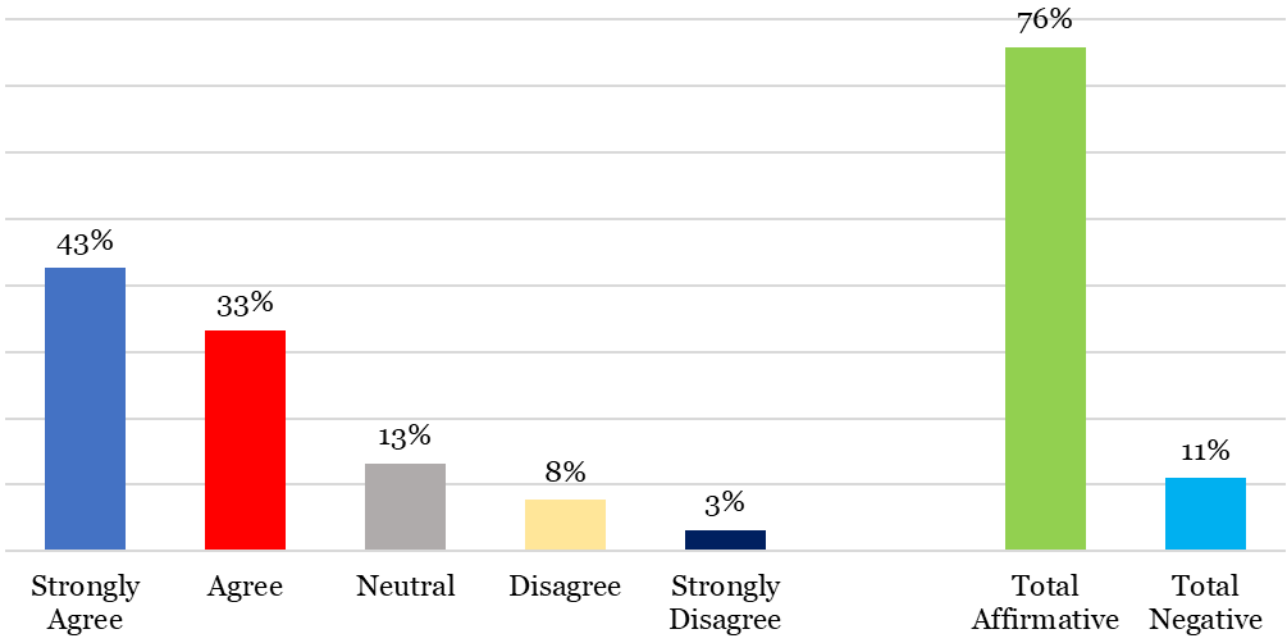
I receive support from staff when I need it.



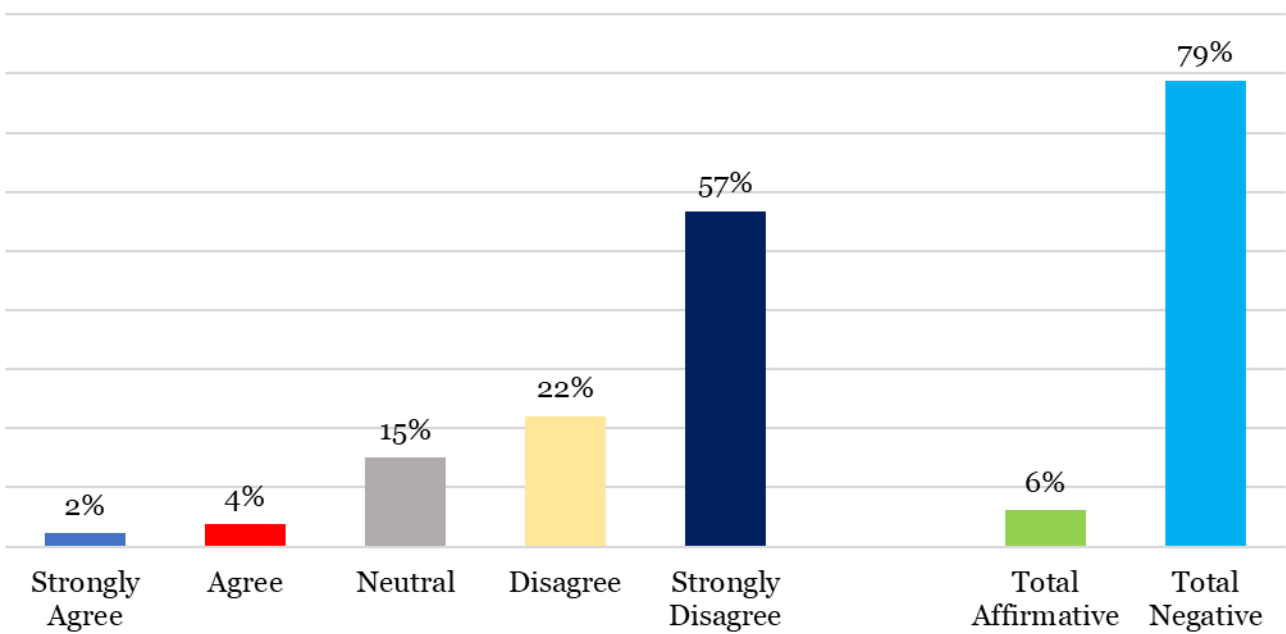
HUMANITY – AN ENVIRONMENT CHARACTERIZED BY KIND REGARD AND CONCERN FOR THE PERSON, WHICH RECOGNIZES THE VALUE AND HUMANITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL



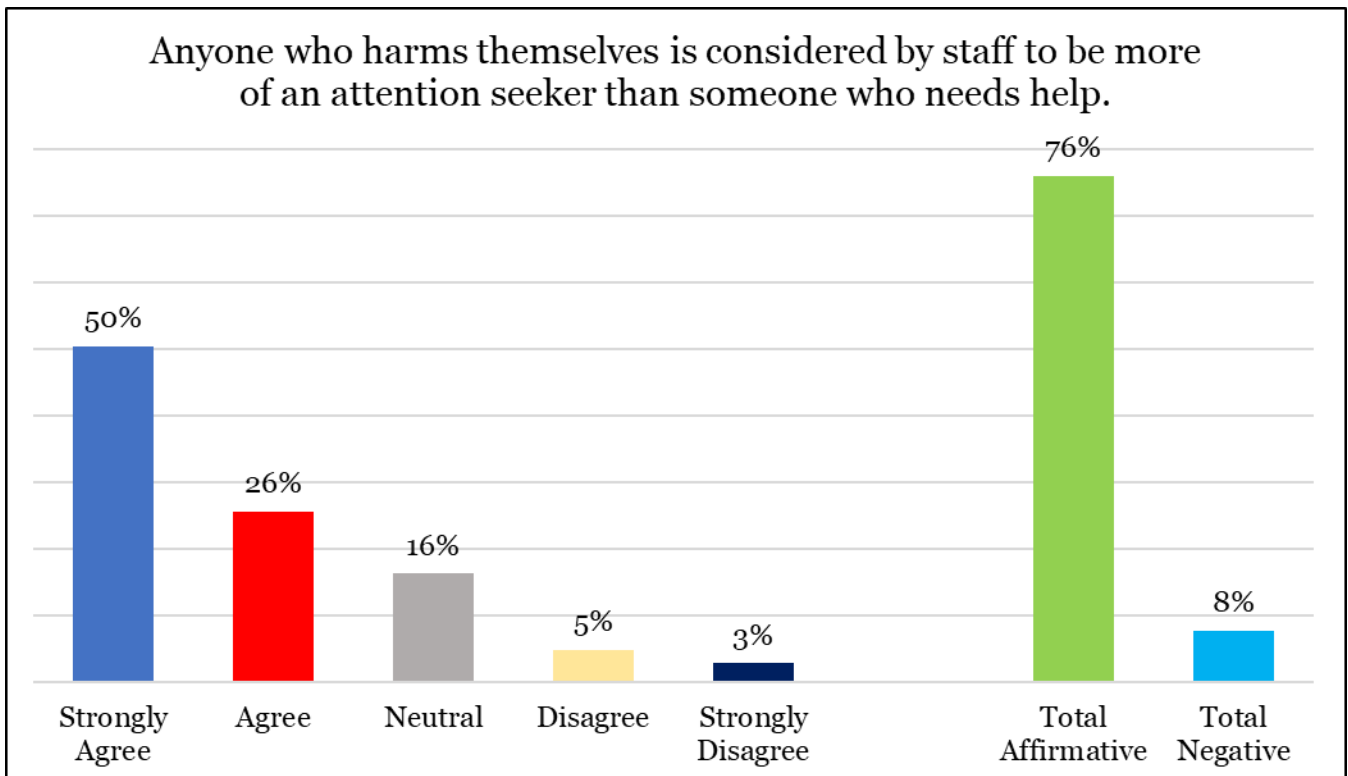
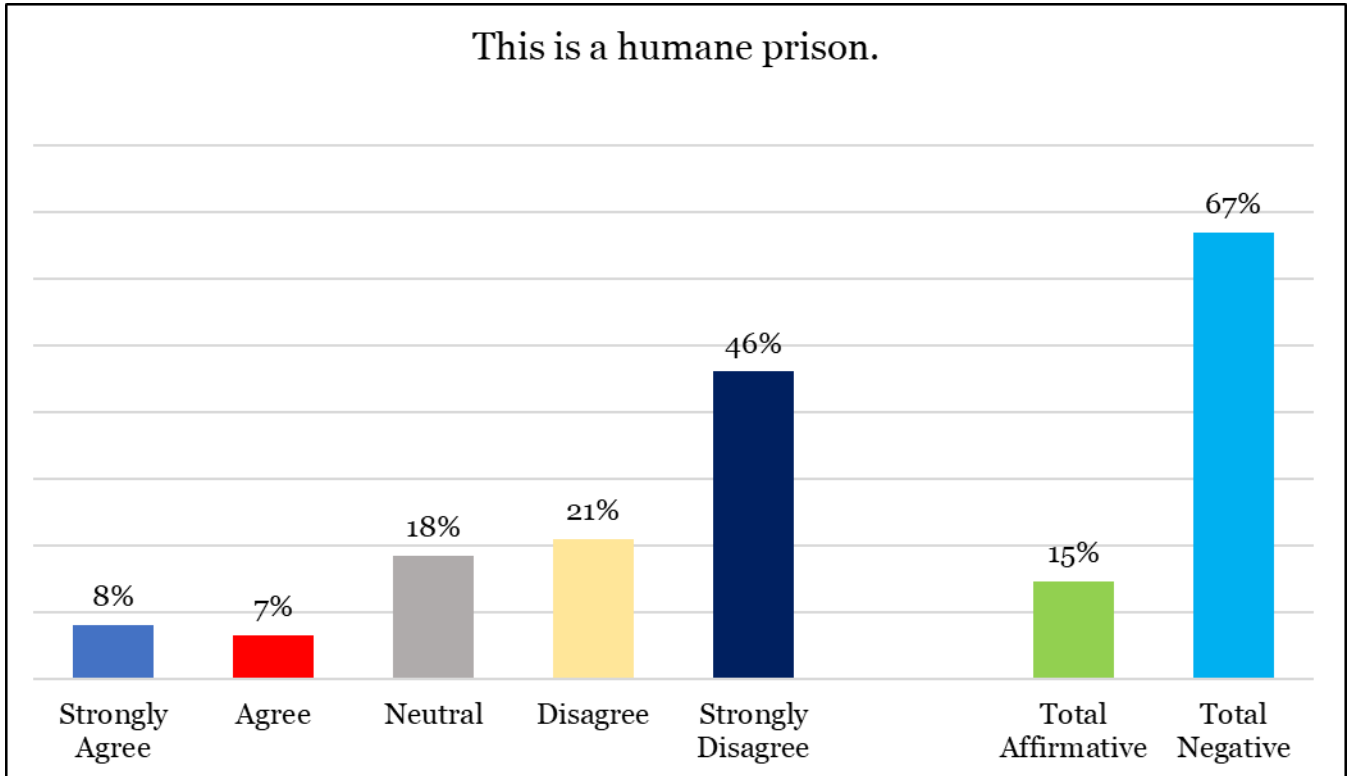
Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.



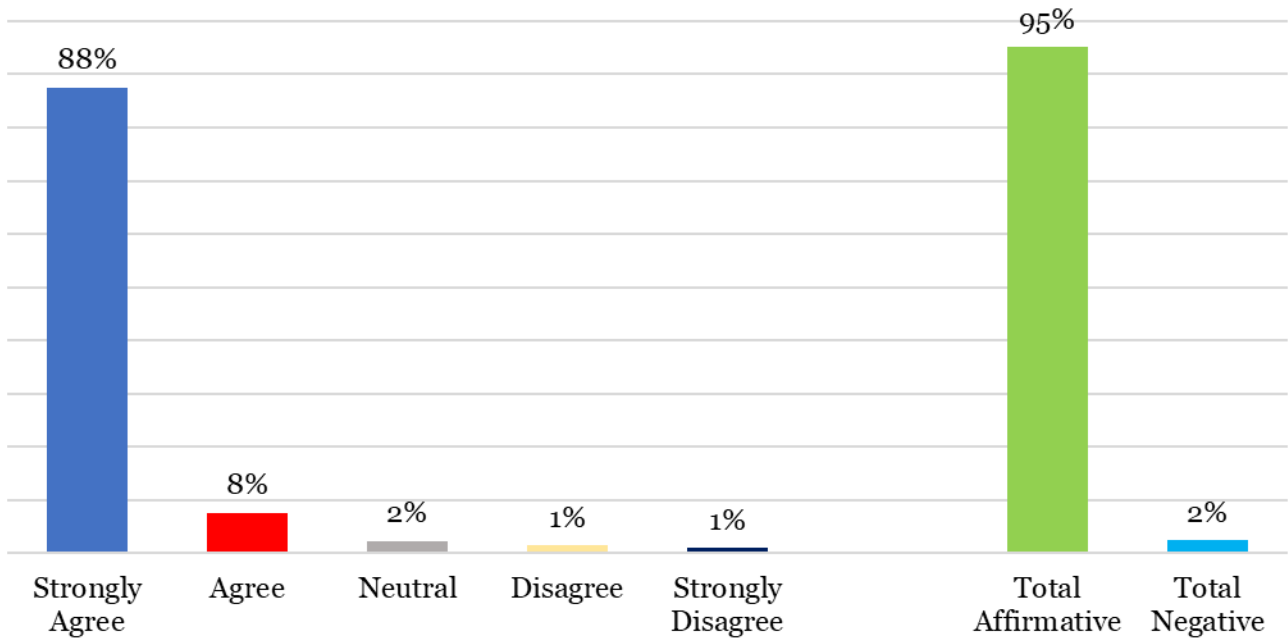
Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.



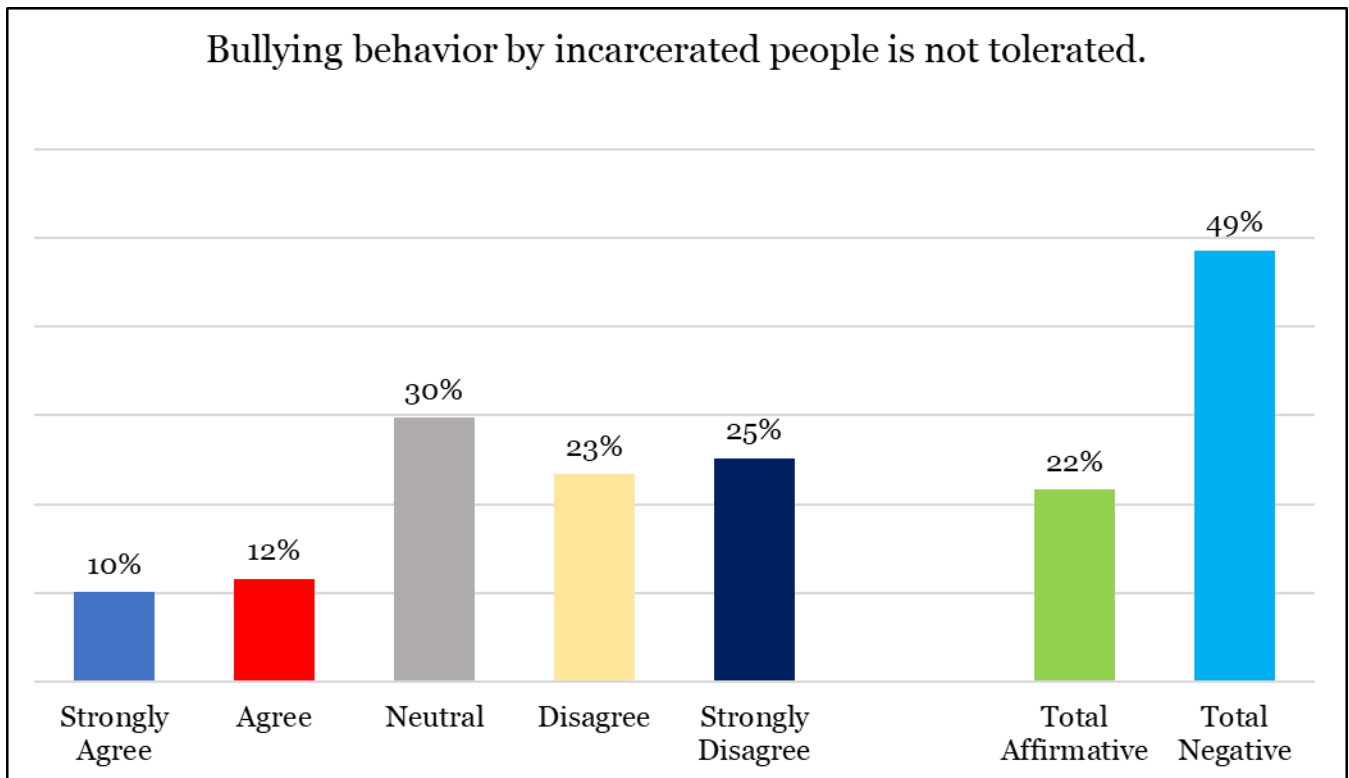
DECENCY - THE EXTENT TO WHICH STAFF AND THE REGIME ARE CONSIDERED REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE



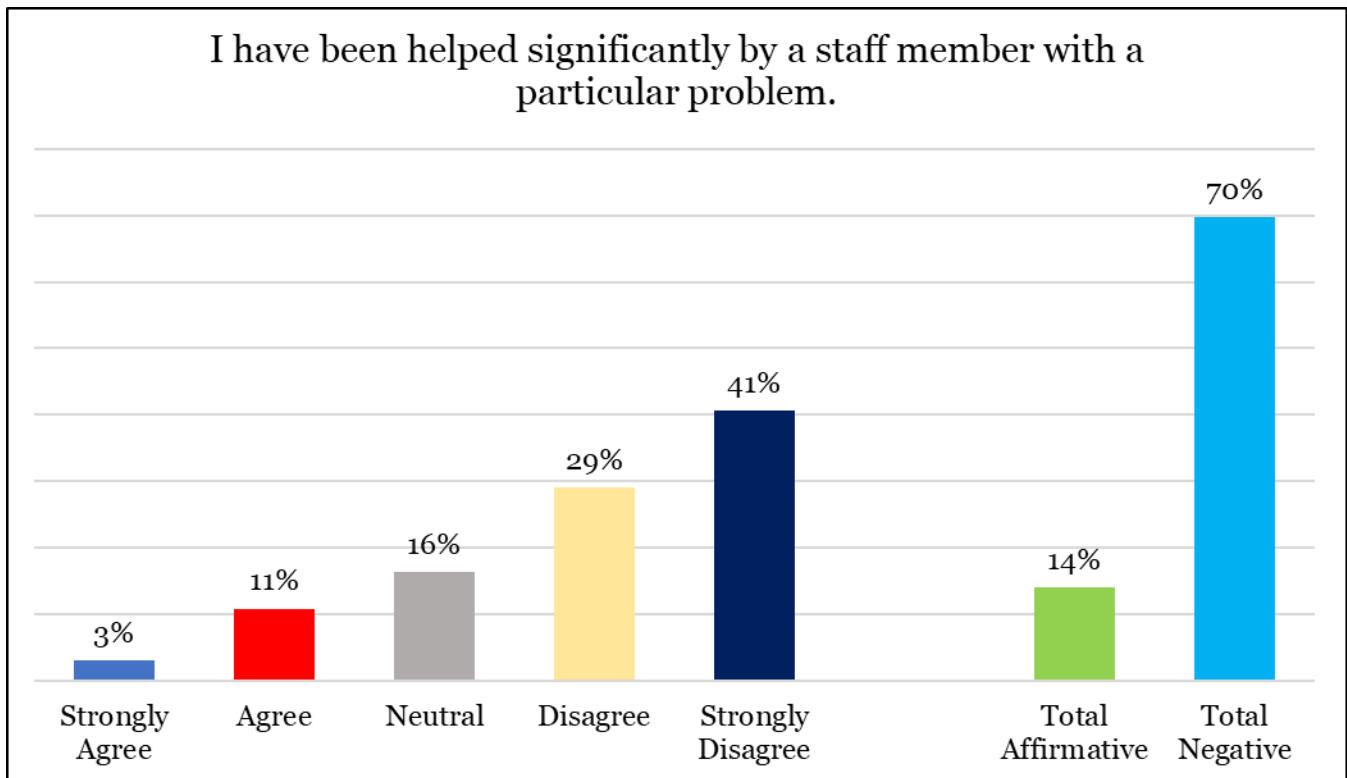
Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.



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

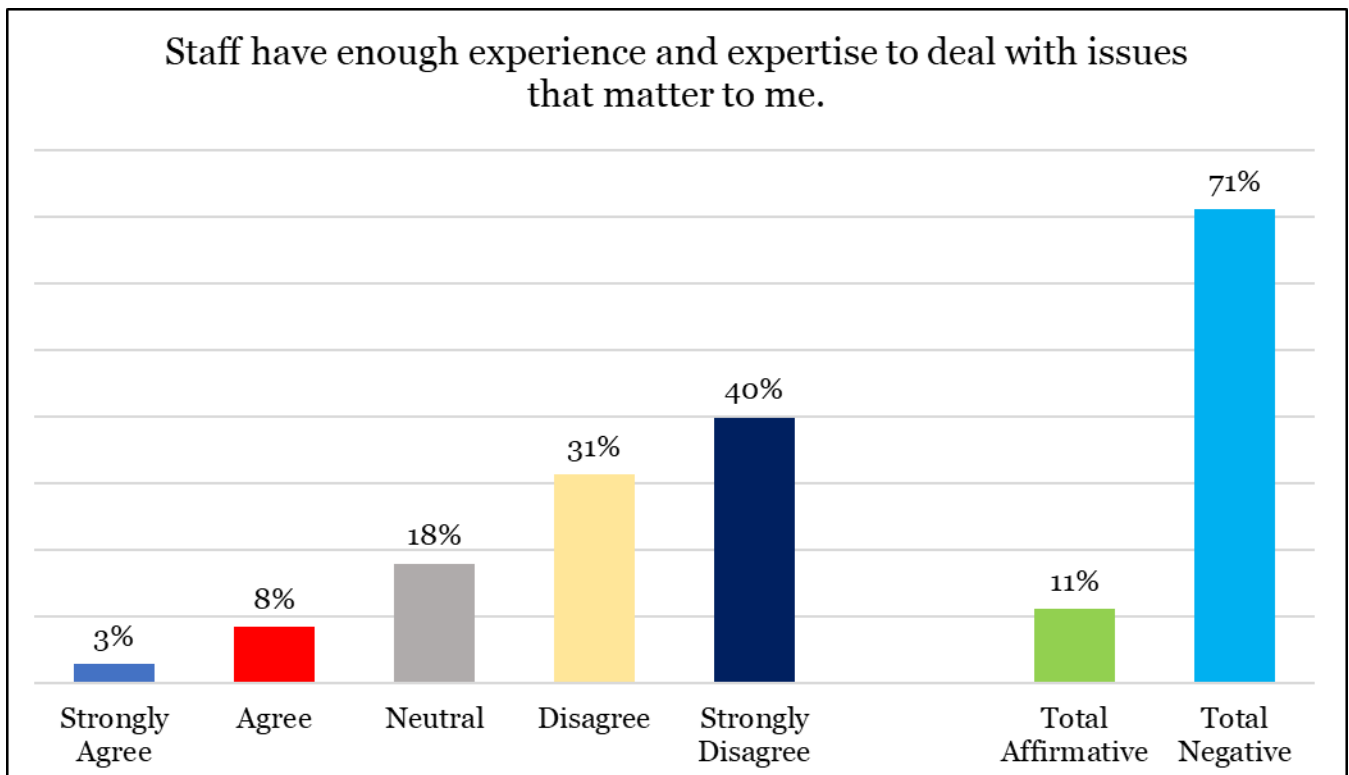
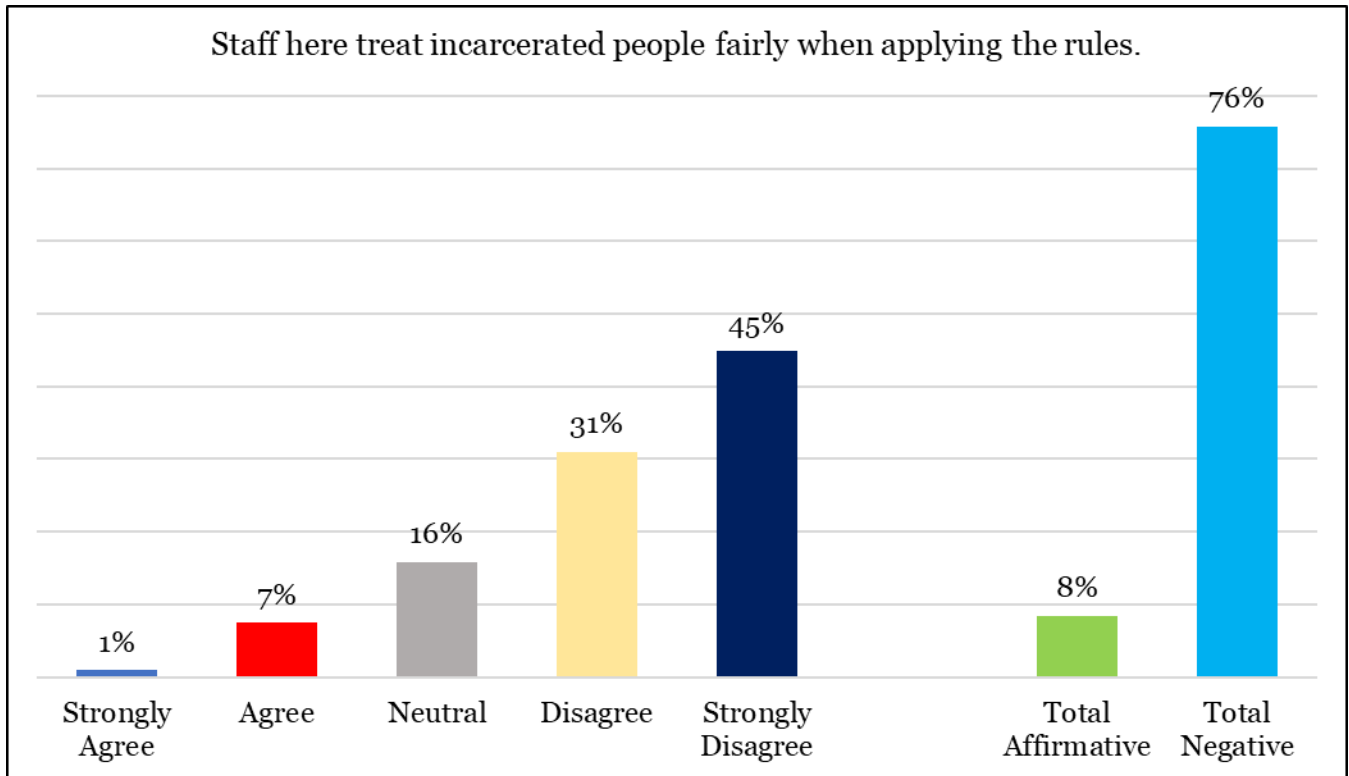


HELP AND ASSISTANCE – SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT GIVEN TO INCARCERATED PEOPLE FOR PROBLEMS INCLUDING DRUGS, HEALTHCARE AND PROGRESSION

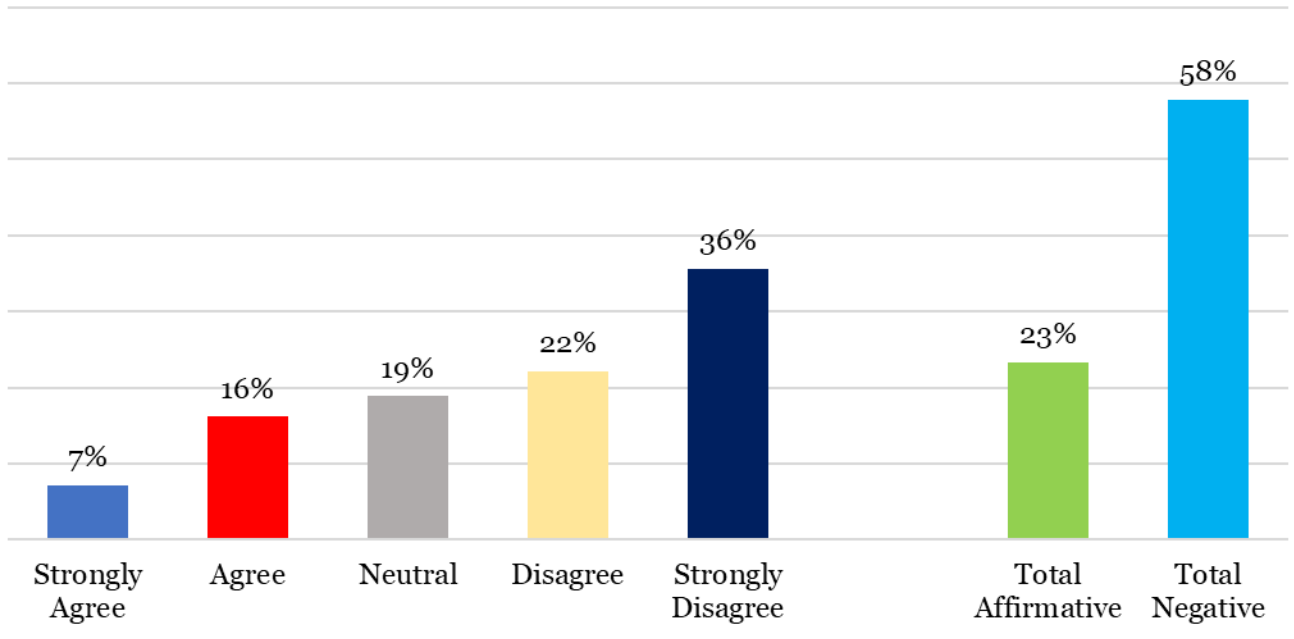


Professionalism

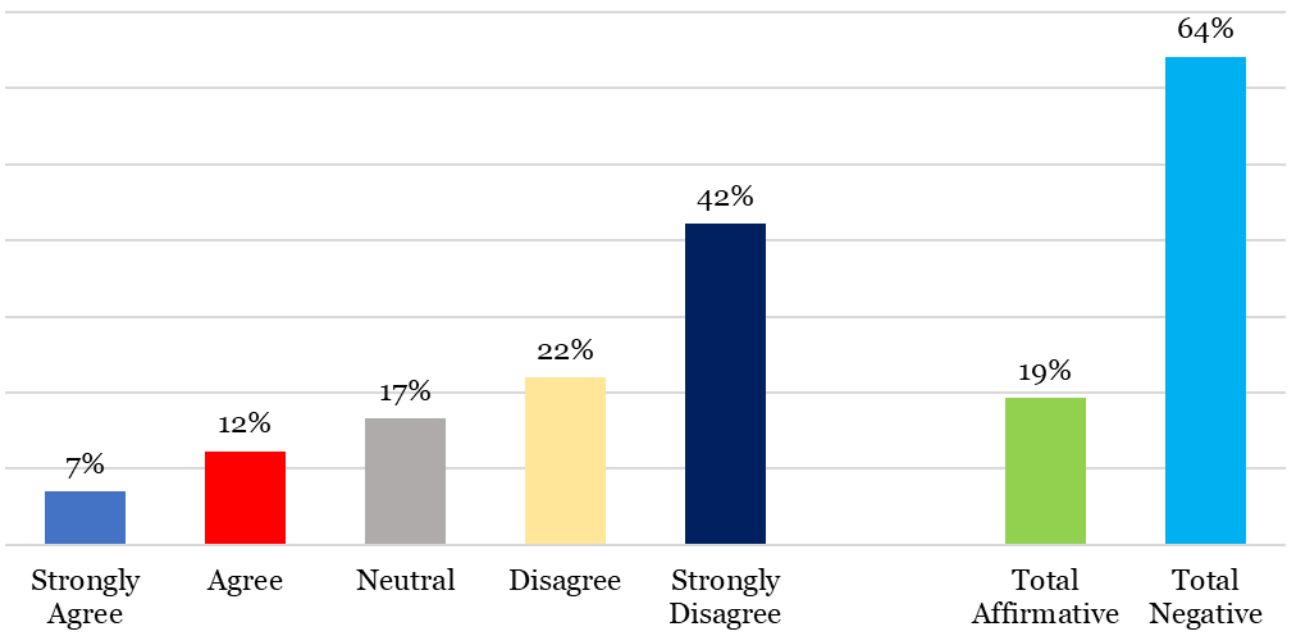
STAFF PROFESSIONALISM – STAFF CONFIDENCE AND COMPETENCE IN THE USE OF AUTHORITY



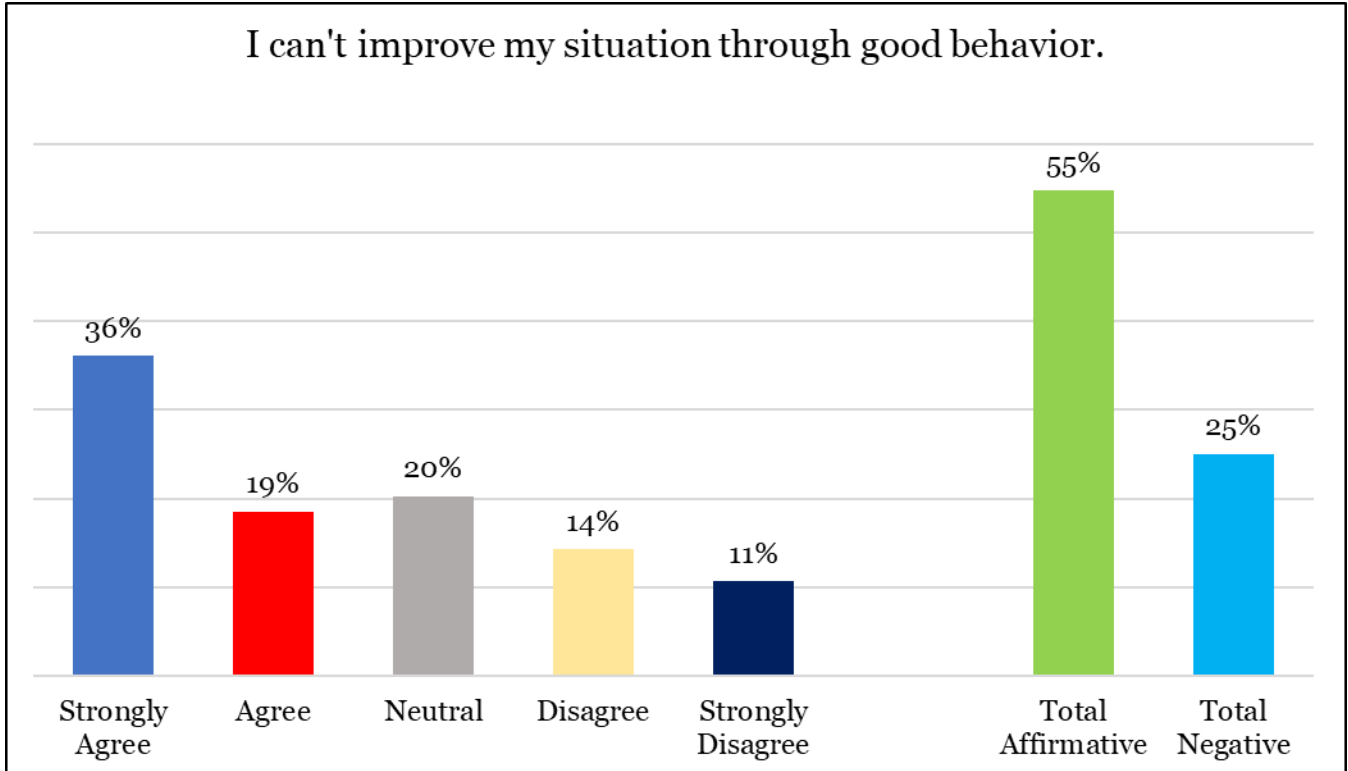
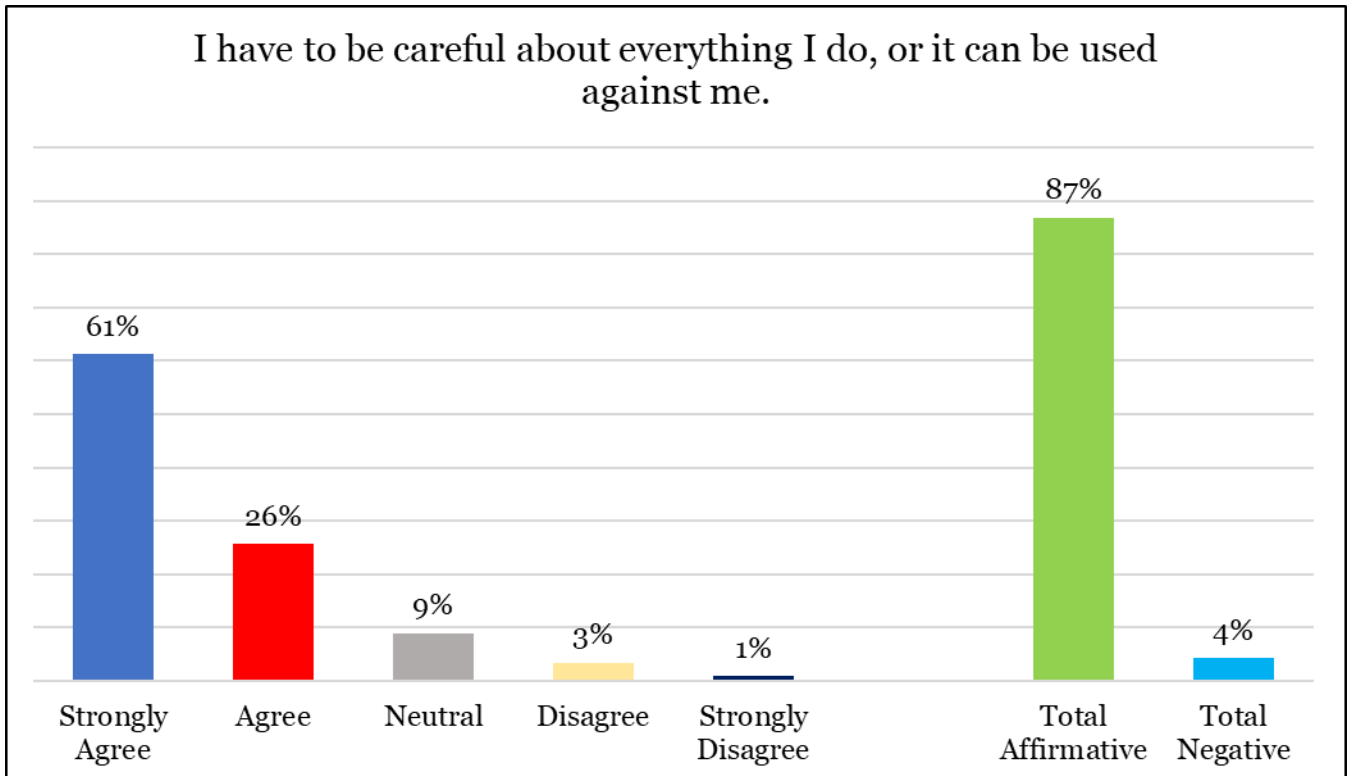
The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.



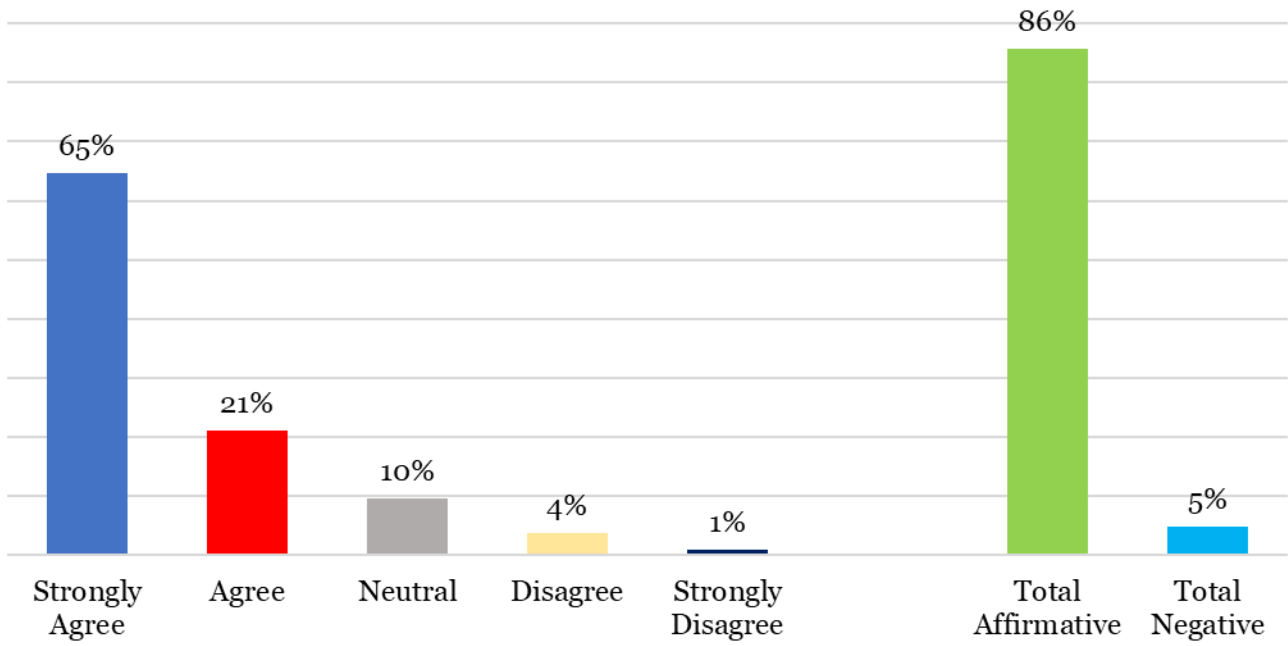
If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.



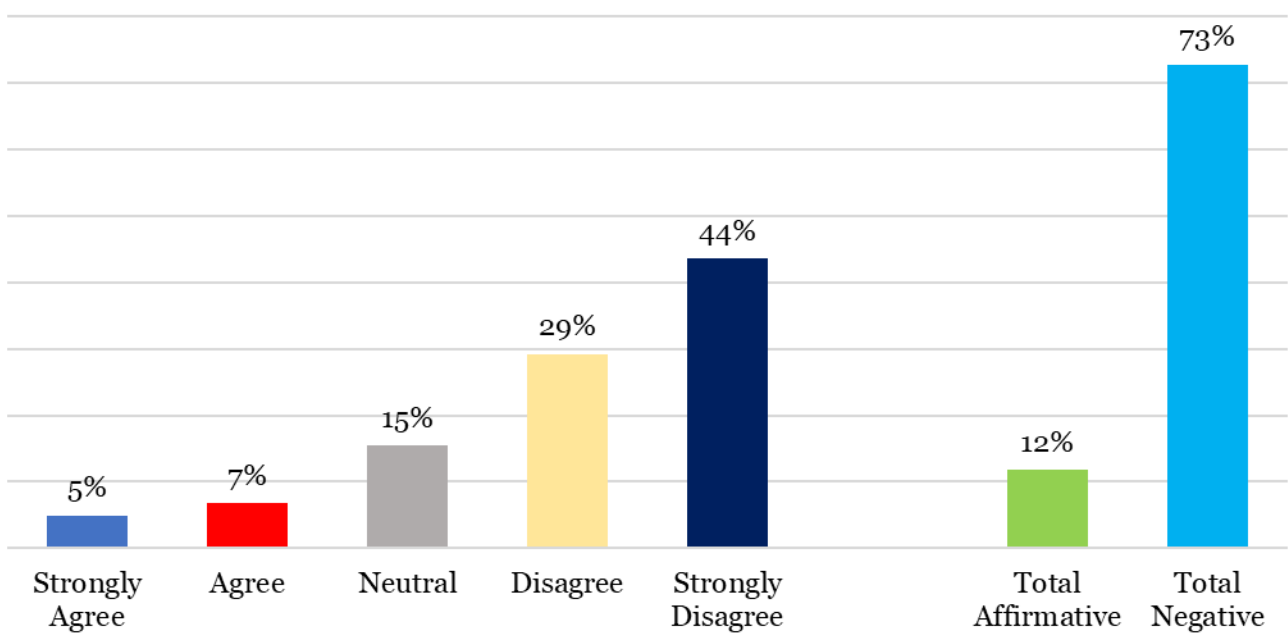
BUREAUCRATIC LEGITIMACY – THE TRANSPARENCY AND RESPONSIVENESS OF THE PRISON/PRISON SYSTEM AND ITS MORAL RECOGNITION OF THE INDIVIDUAL



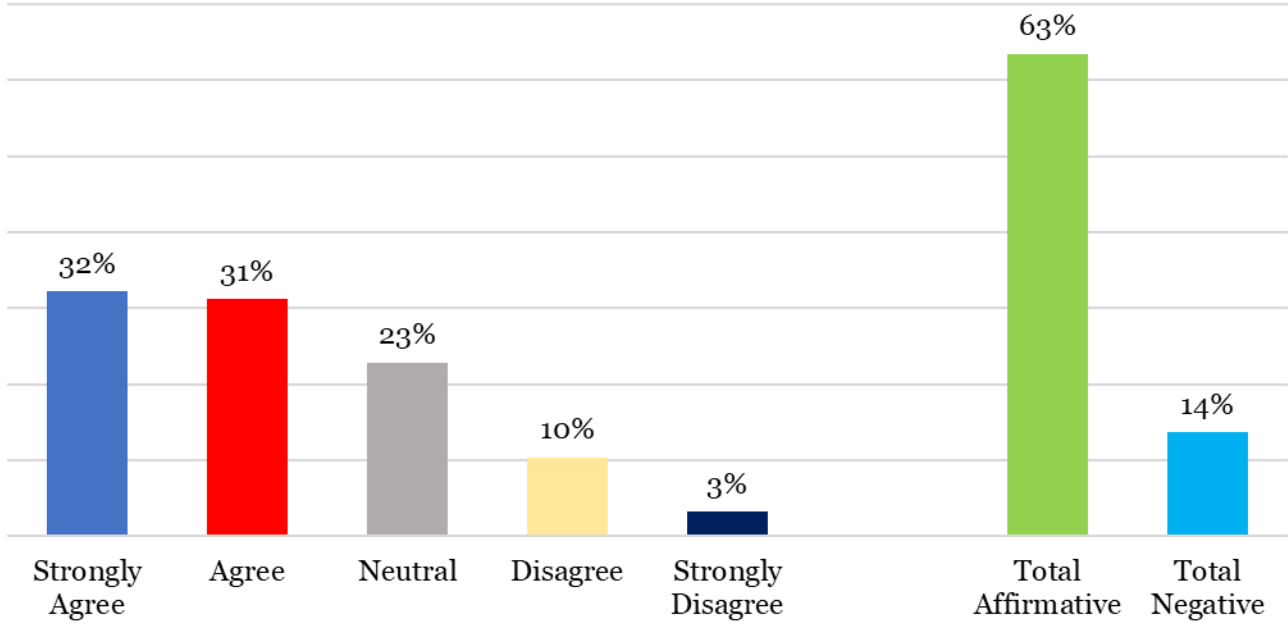
All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.



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

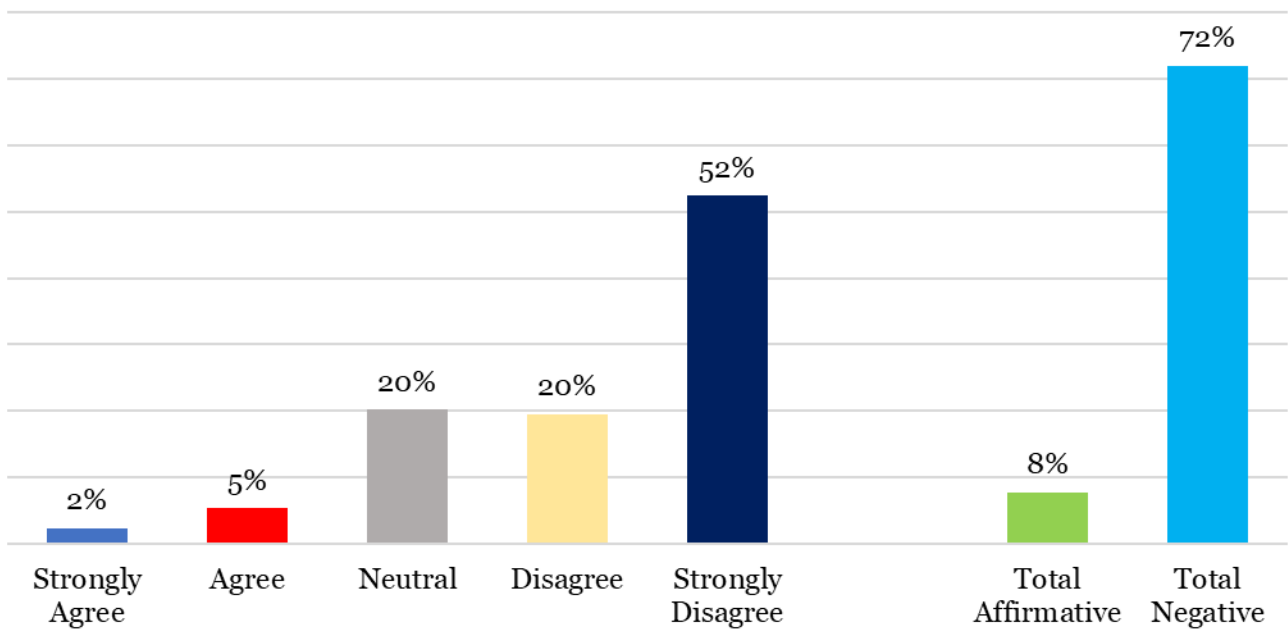


To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.

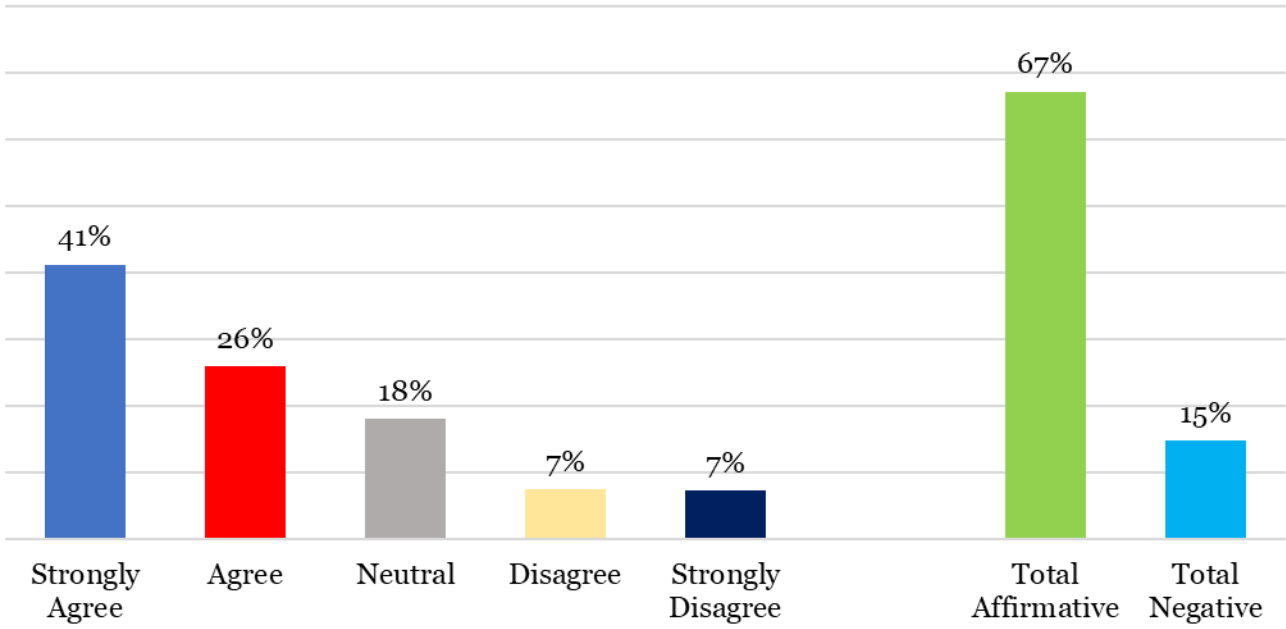


FAIRNESS – THE PERCEIVED IMPARTIALITY, PROPORTIONALITY AND LEGALITY OF PUNISHMENTS AND PROCEDURES

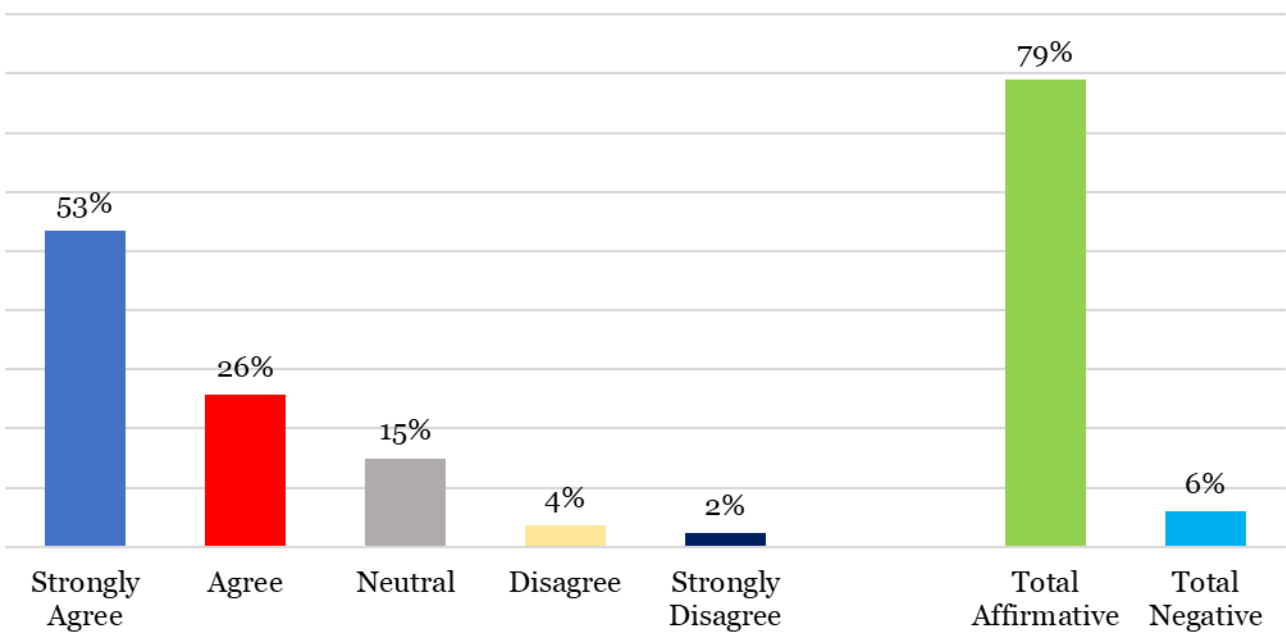
The disciplinary system is fair.



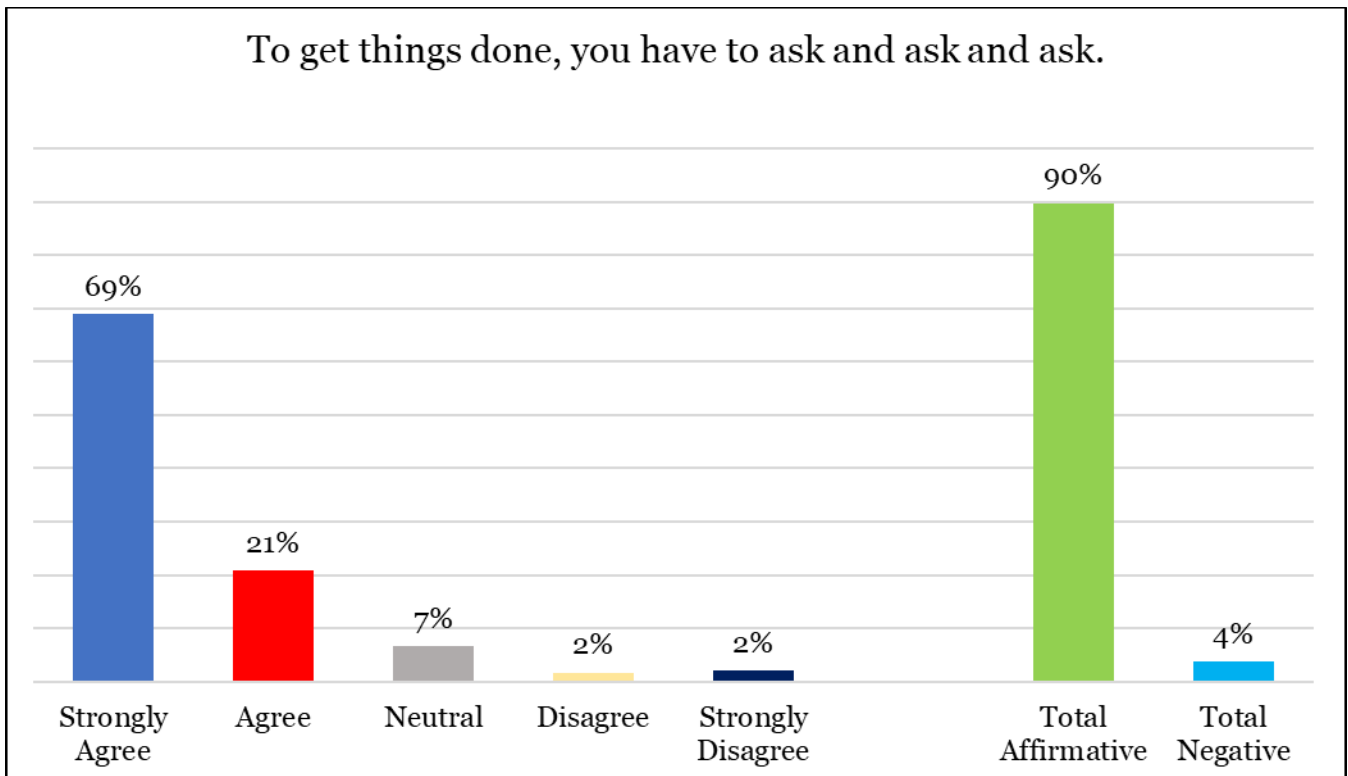
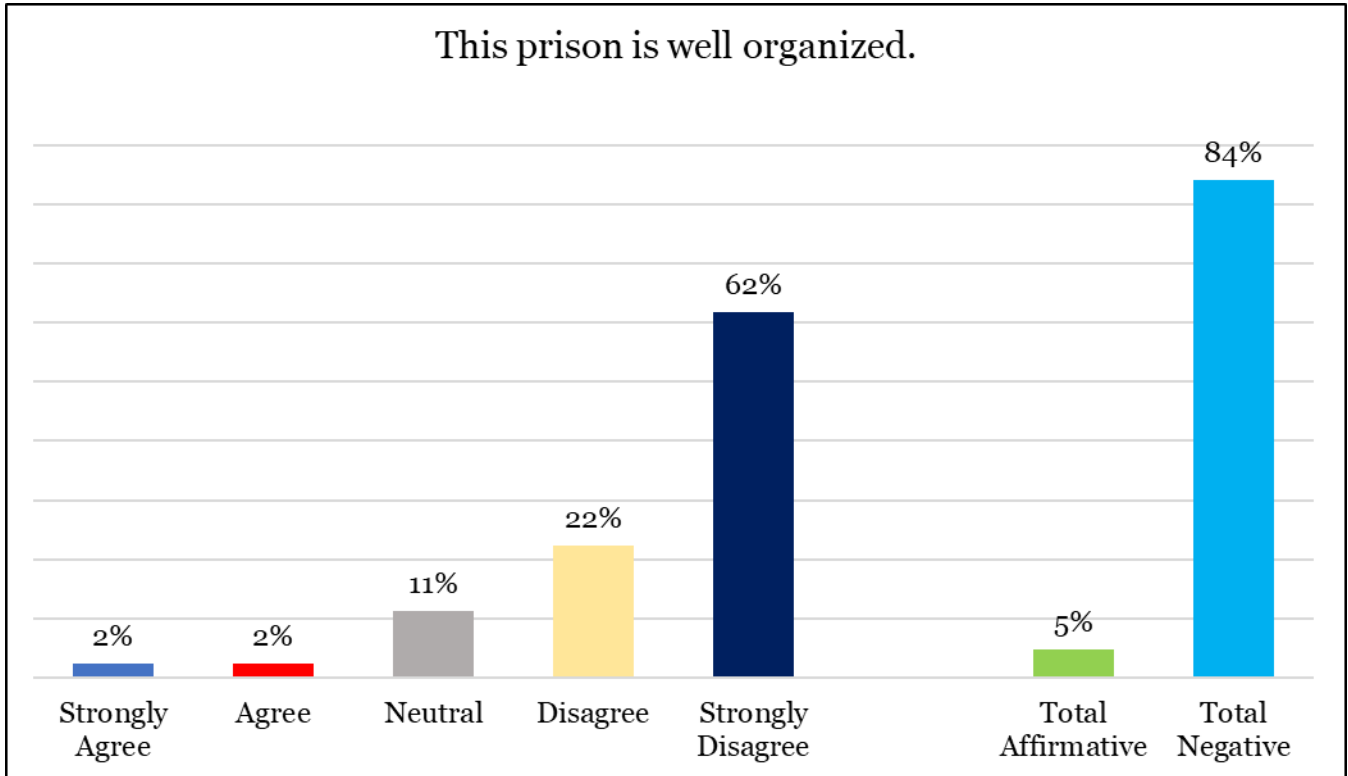
Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.



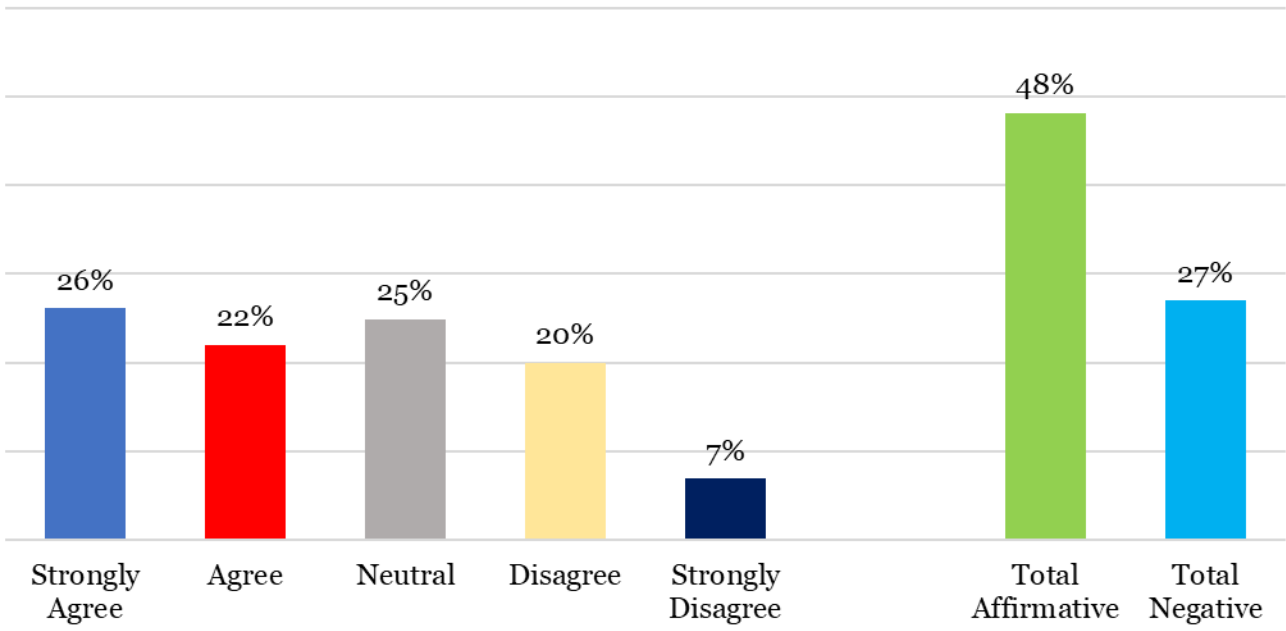
This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.



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

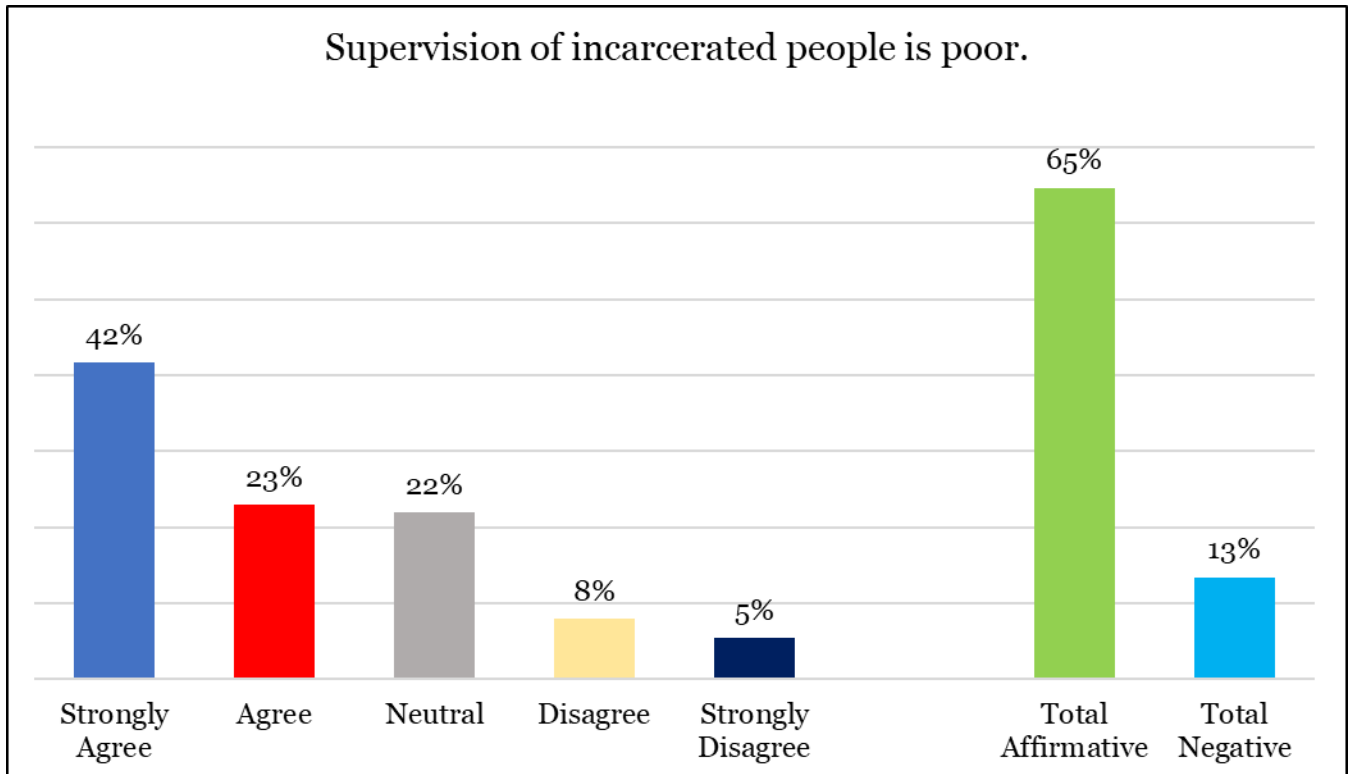


You never know the rules.

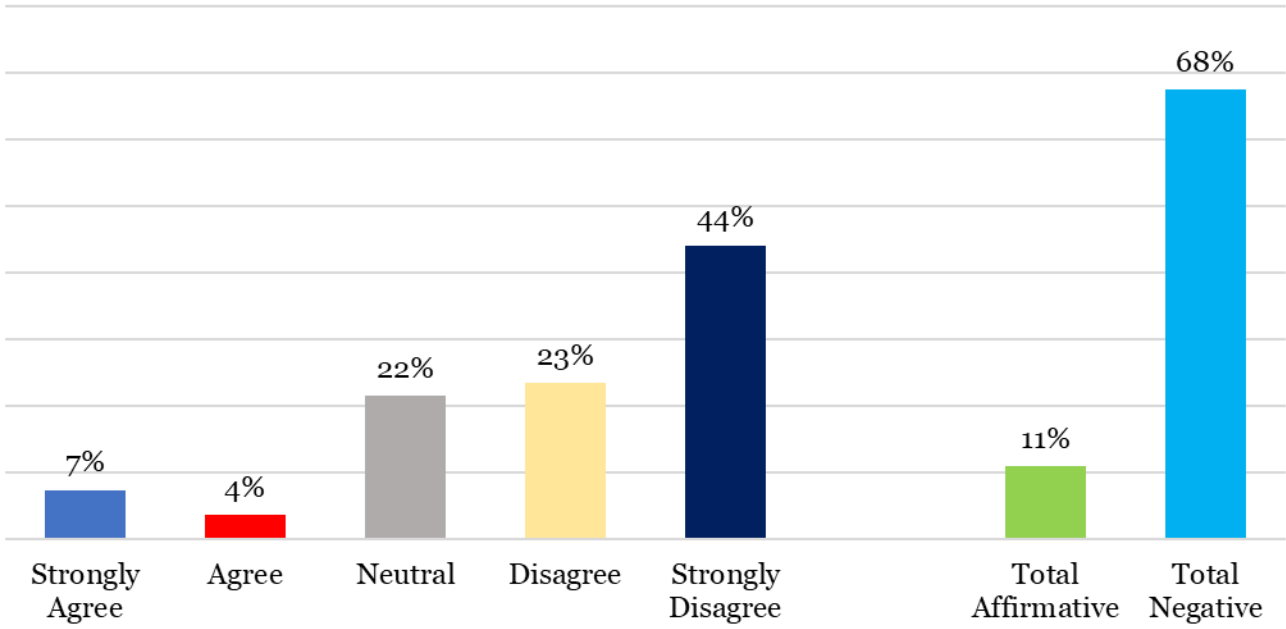


Security

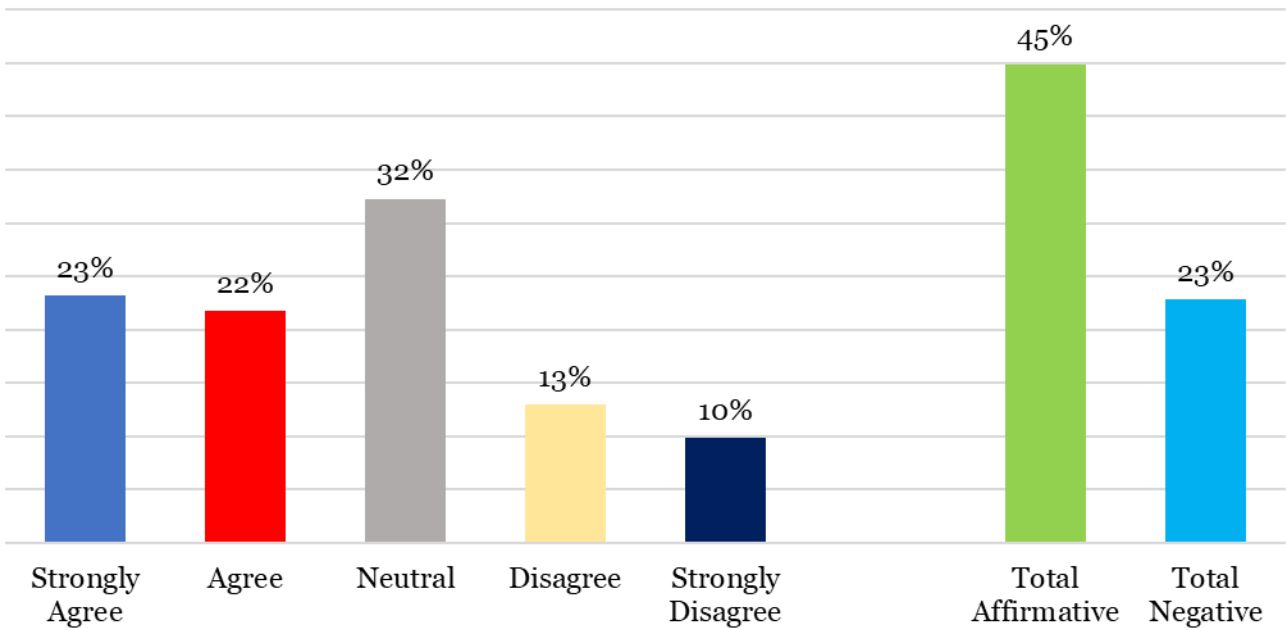
POLICING AND SECURITY – STAFF SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE PRISON ENVIRONMENT



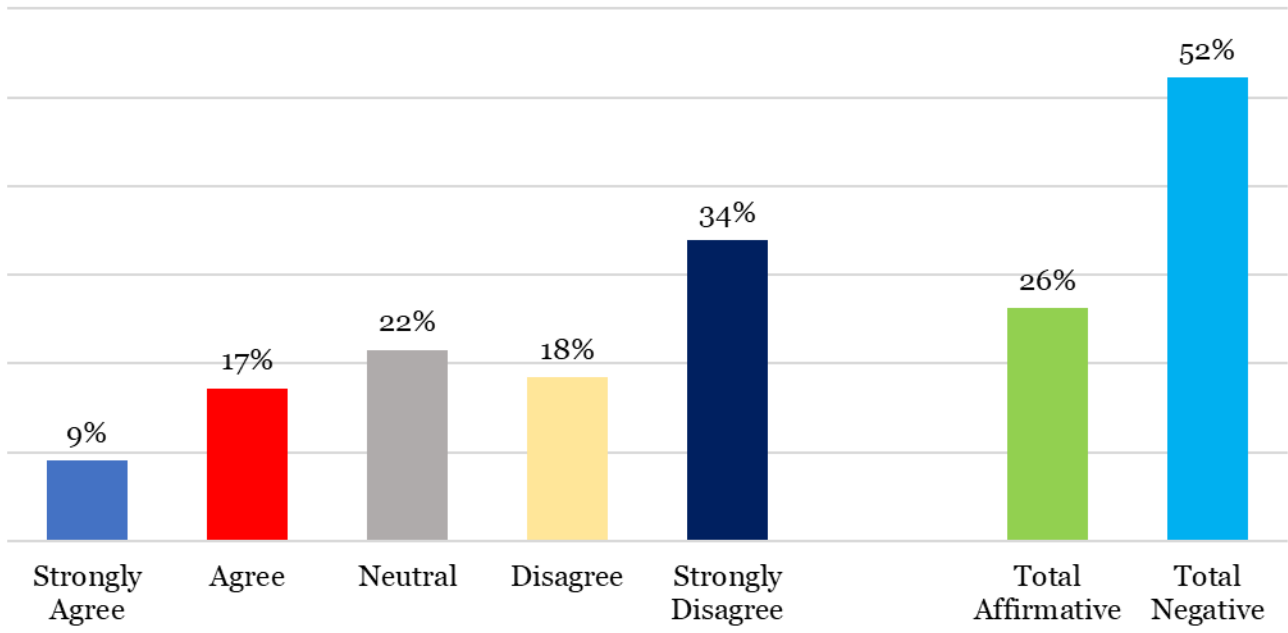
This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.



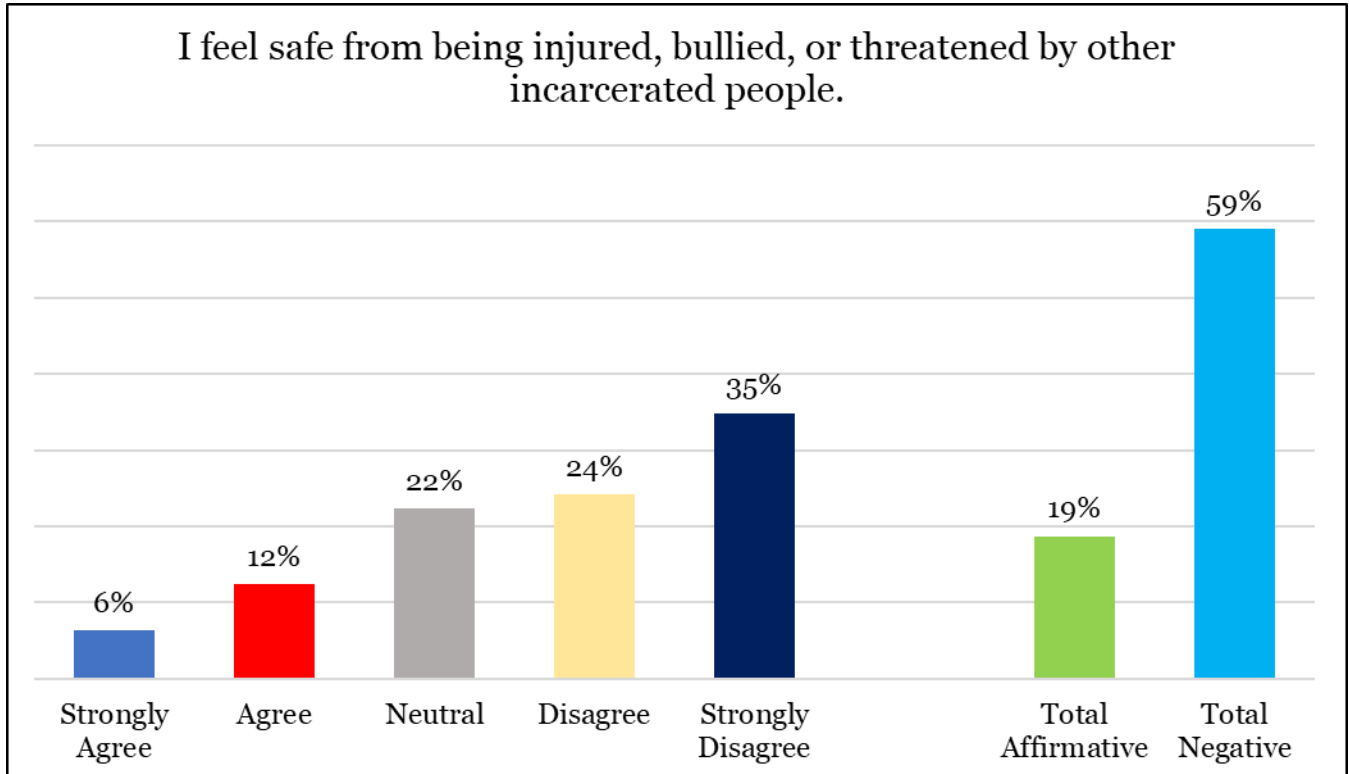
There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.



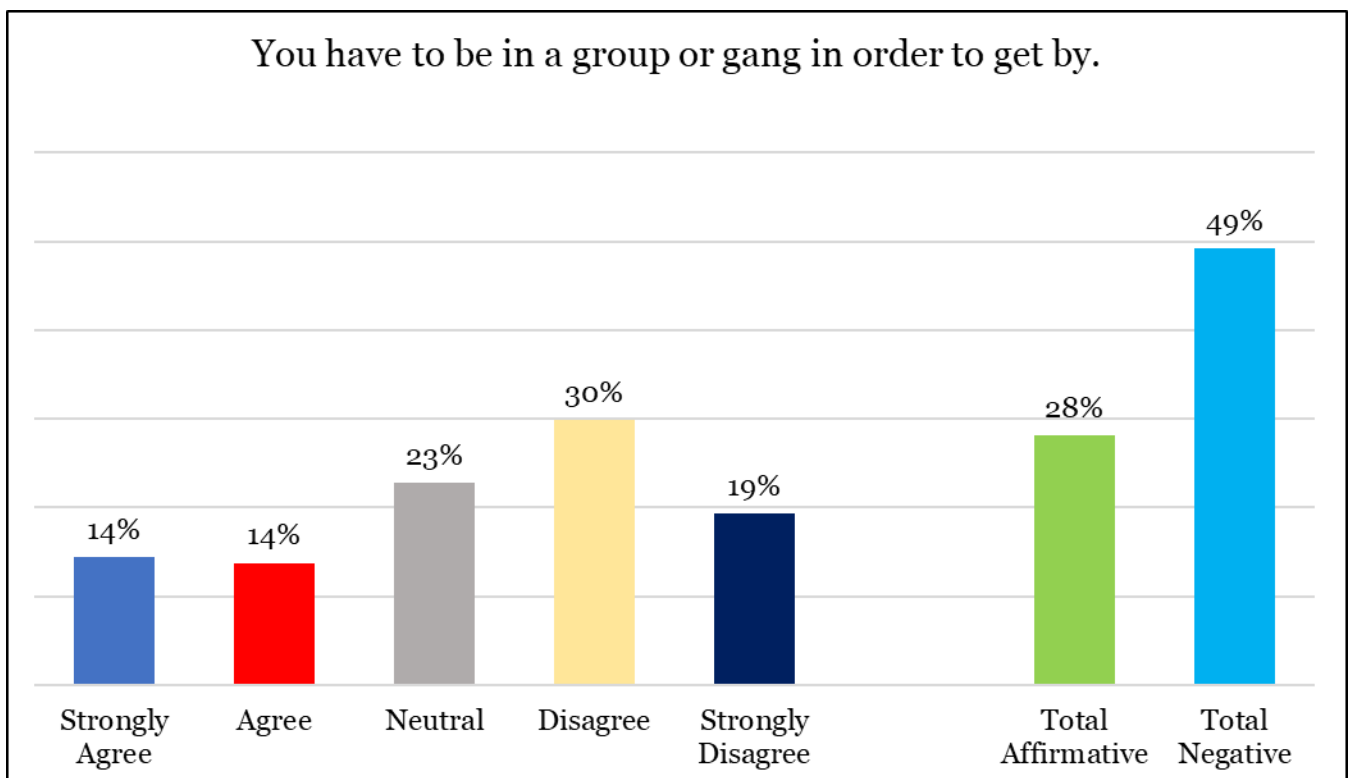
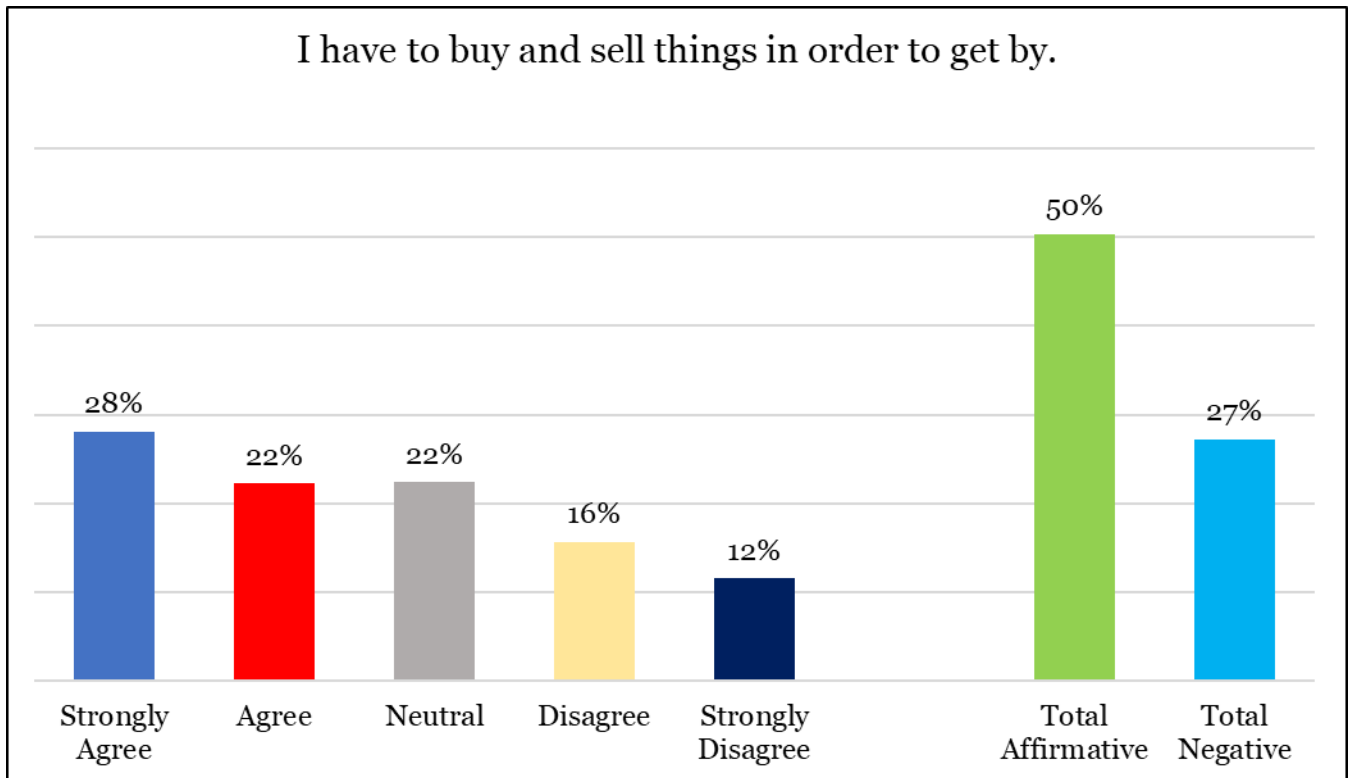
Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.



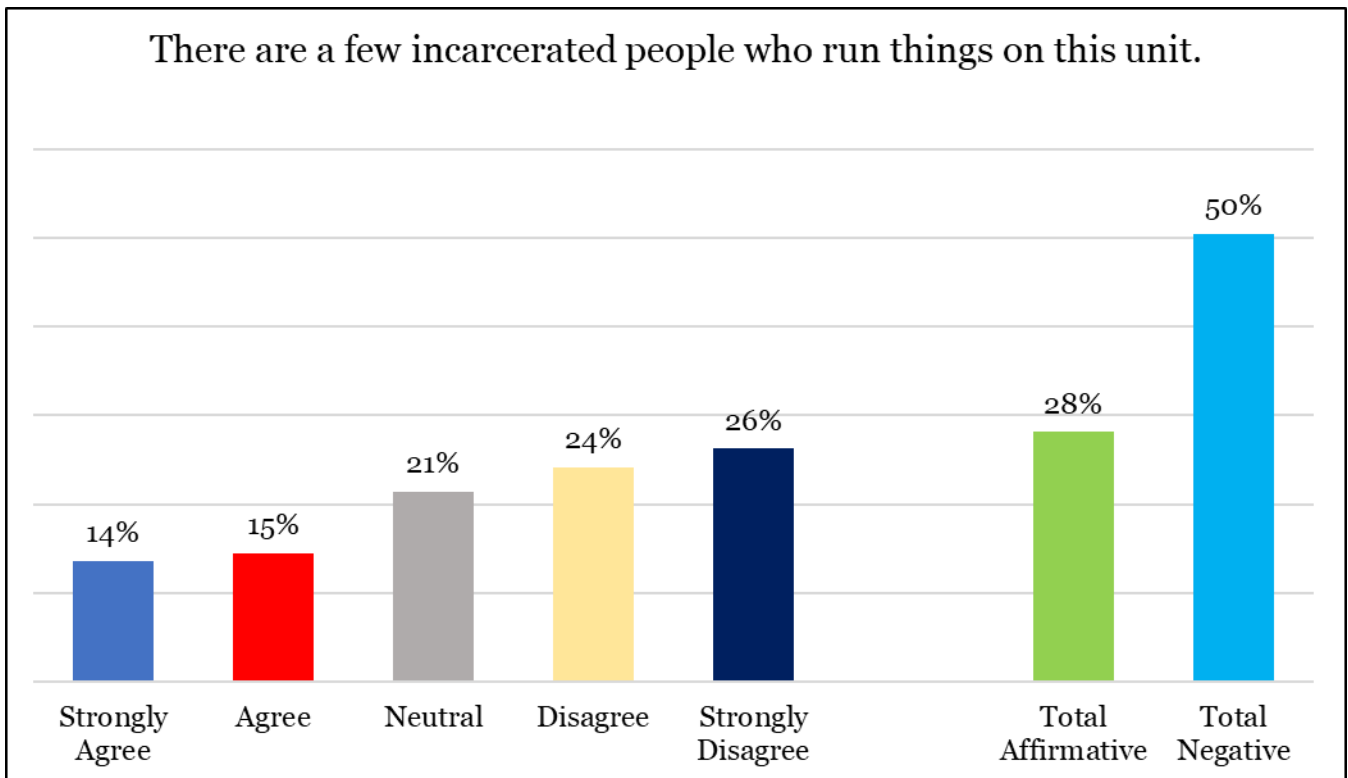
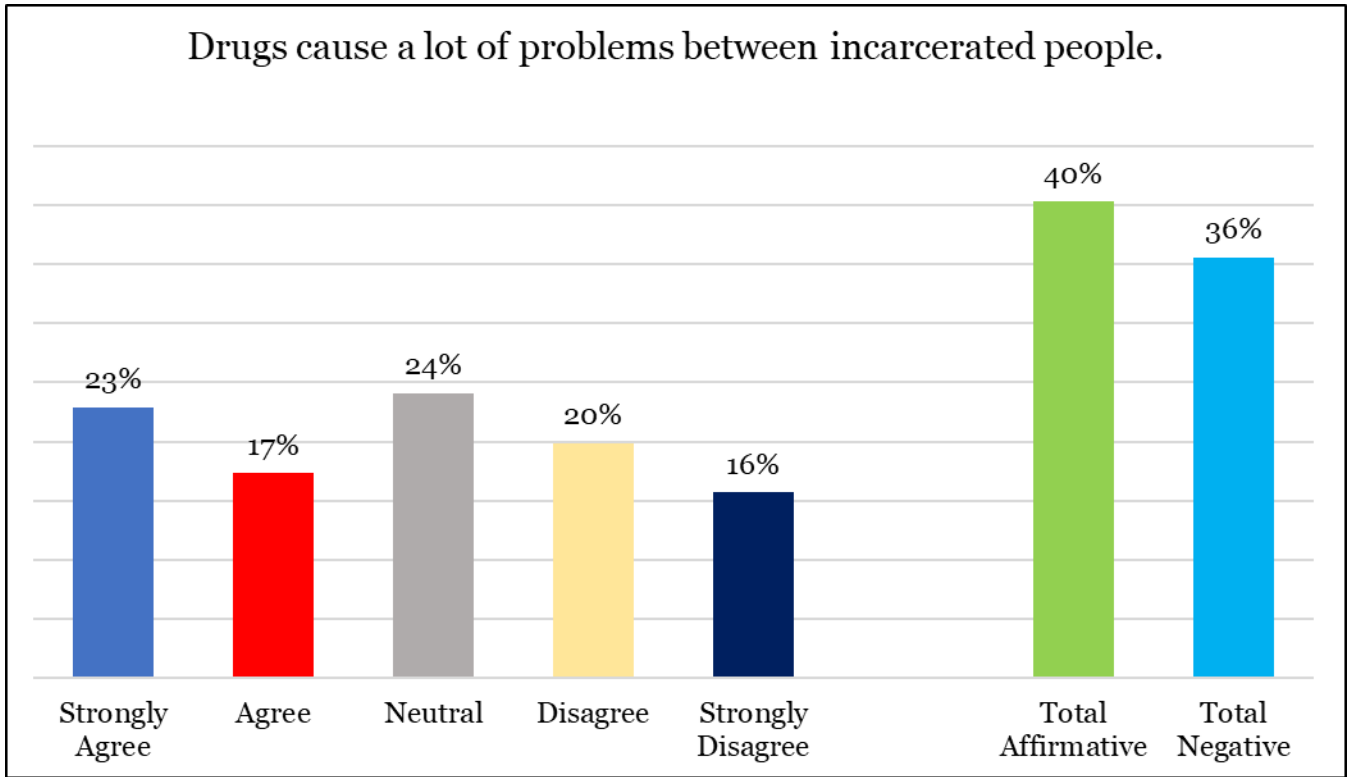
INCARCERATED PERSON SAFETY – THE FEELING OF SECURITY OR PROTECTION FROM HARM, THREAT OR DANGER



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

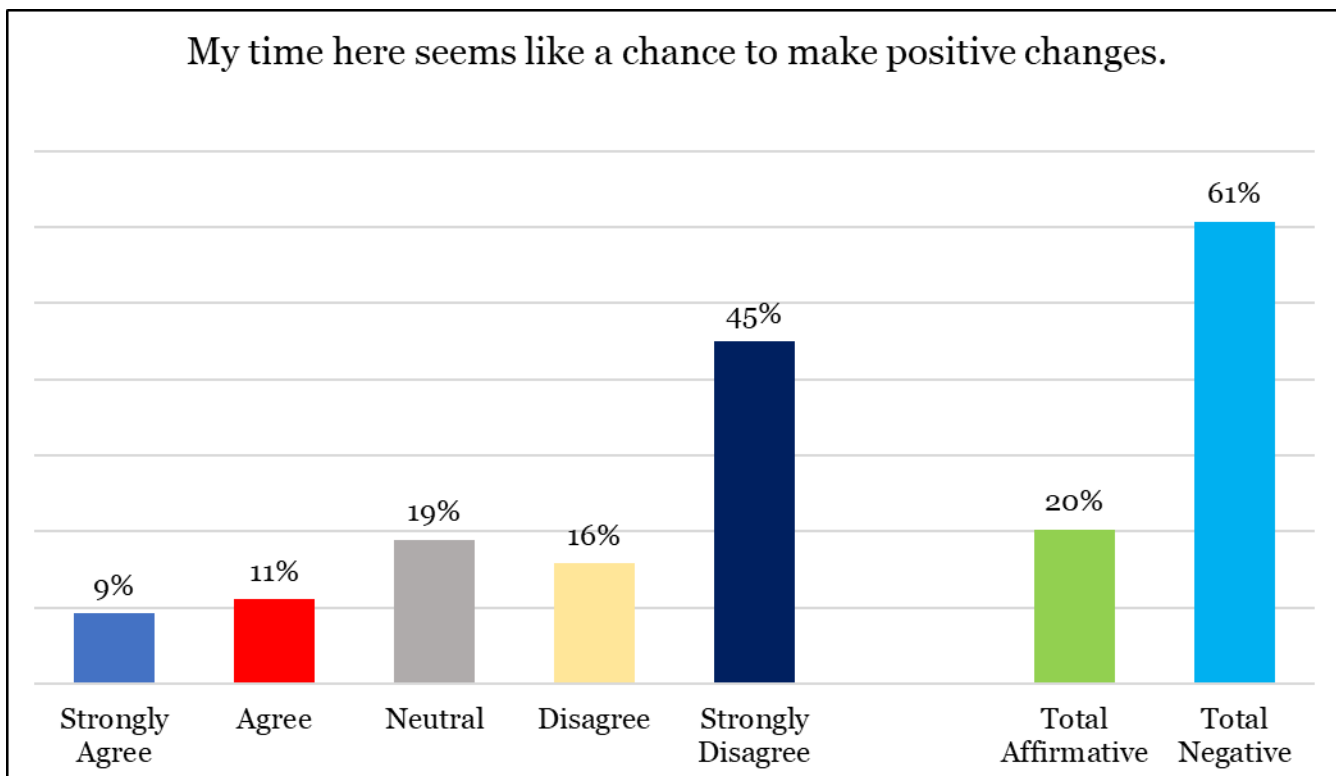
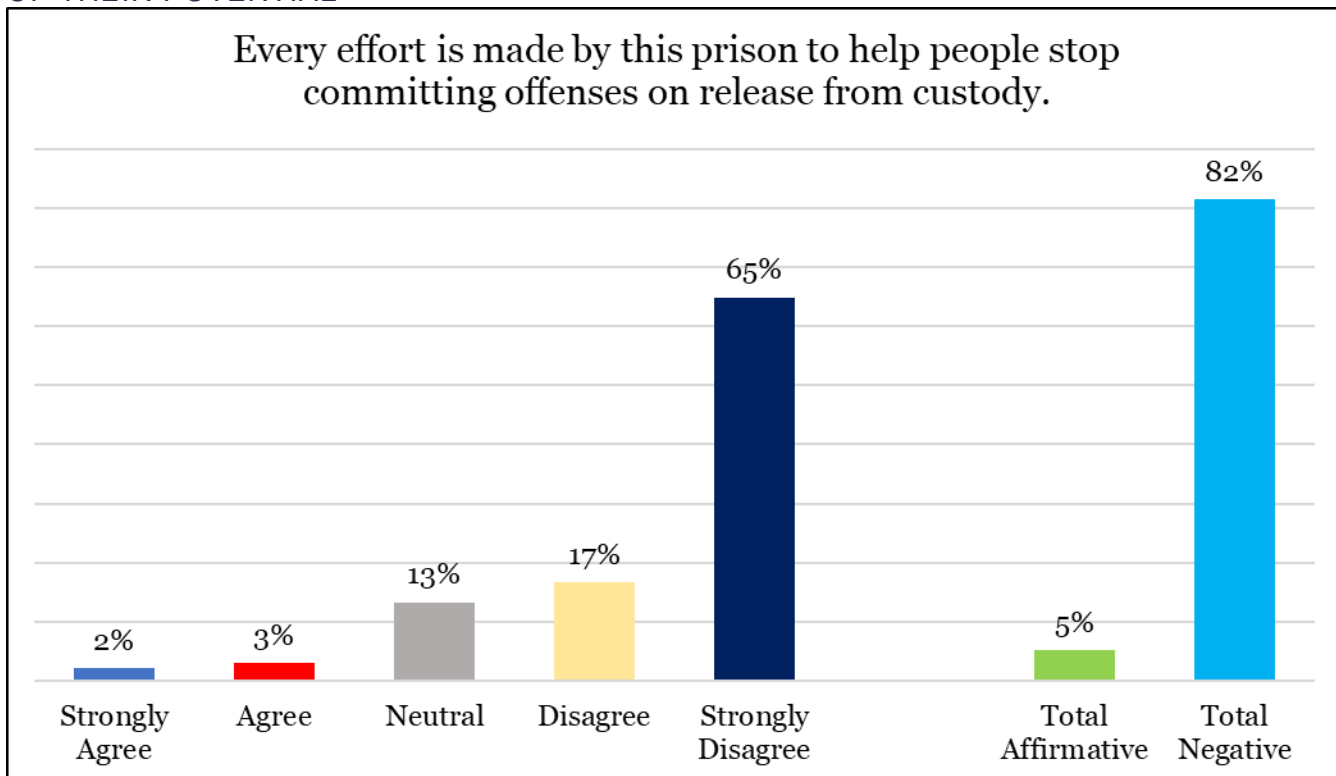


DRUGS AND EXPLOITATION – THE LEVEL OF DRUGS, BULLYING AND VICTIMIZATION IN THE PRISON ENVIRONMENT

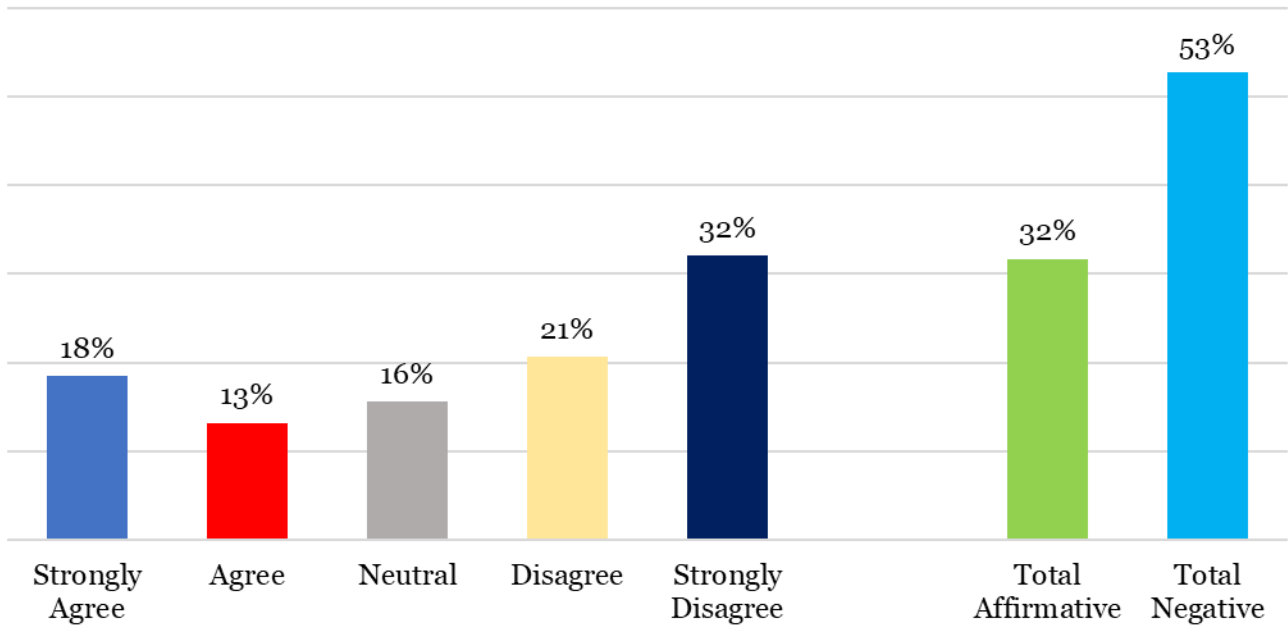


Well-being and Development

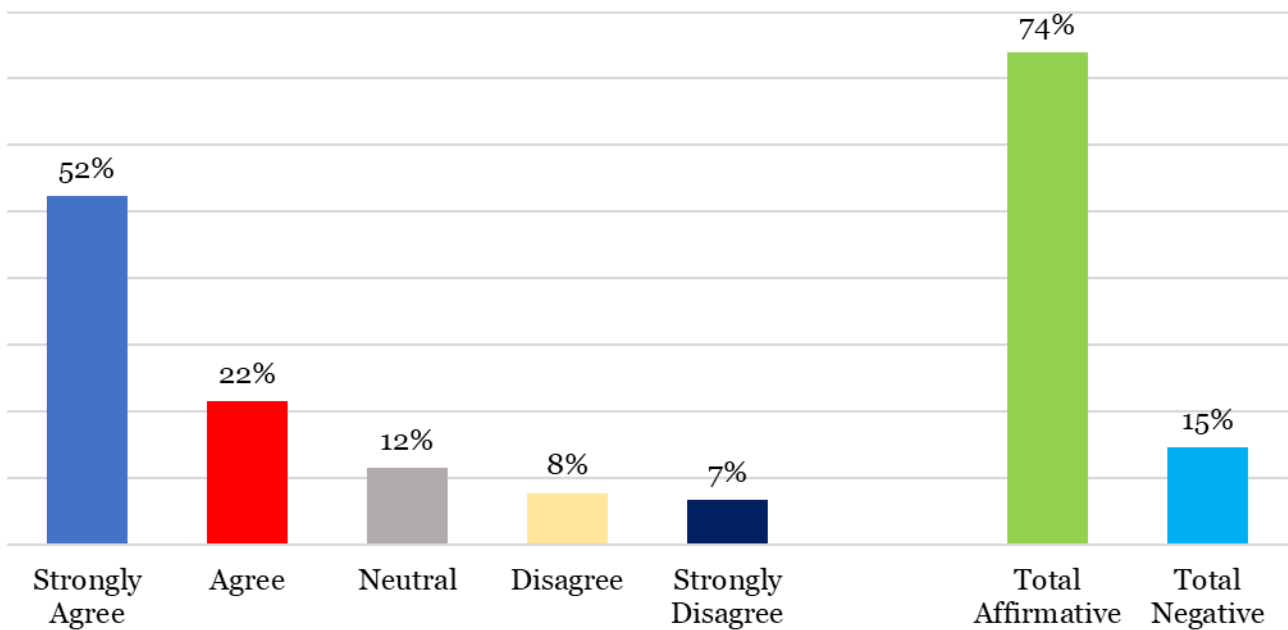
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT – AN ENVIRONMENT THAT HELPS INCARCERATED PEOPLE WITH OFFENDING BEHAVIOR, PREPARATION FOR RELEASE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR POTENTIAL



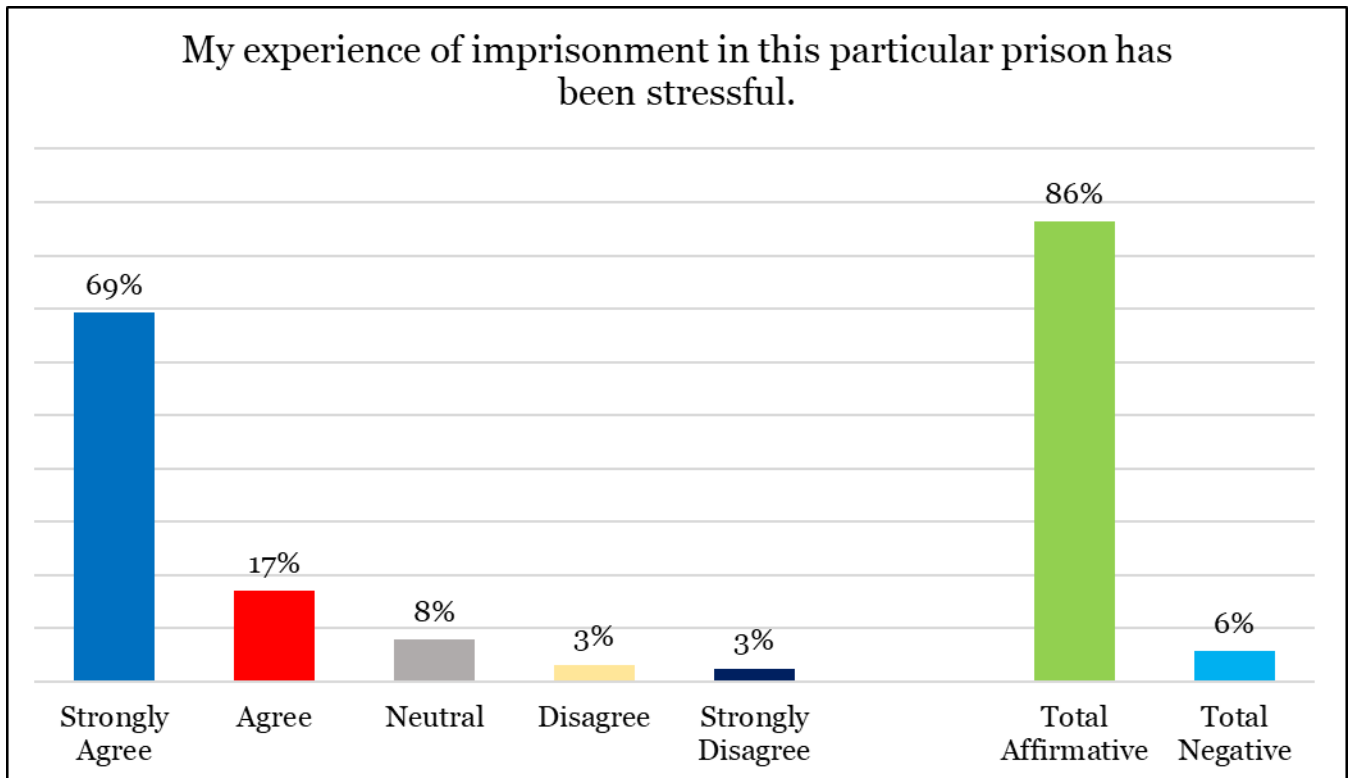
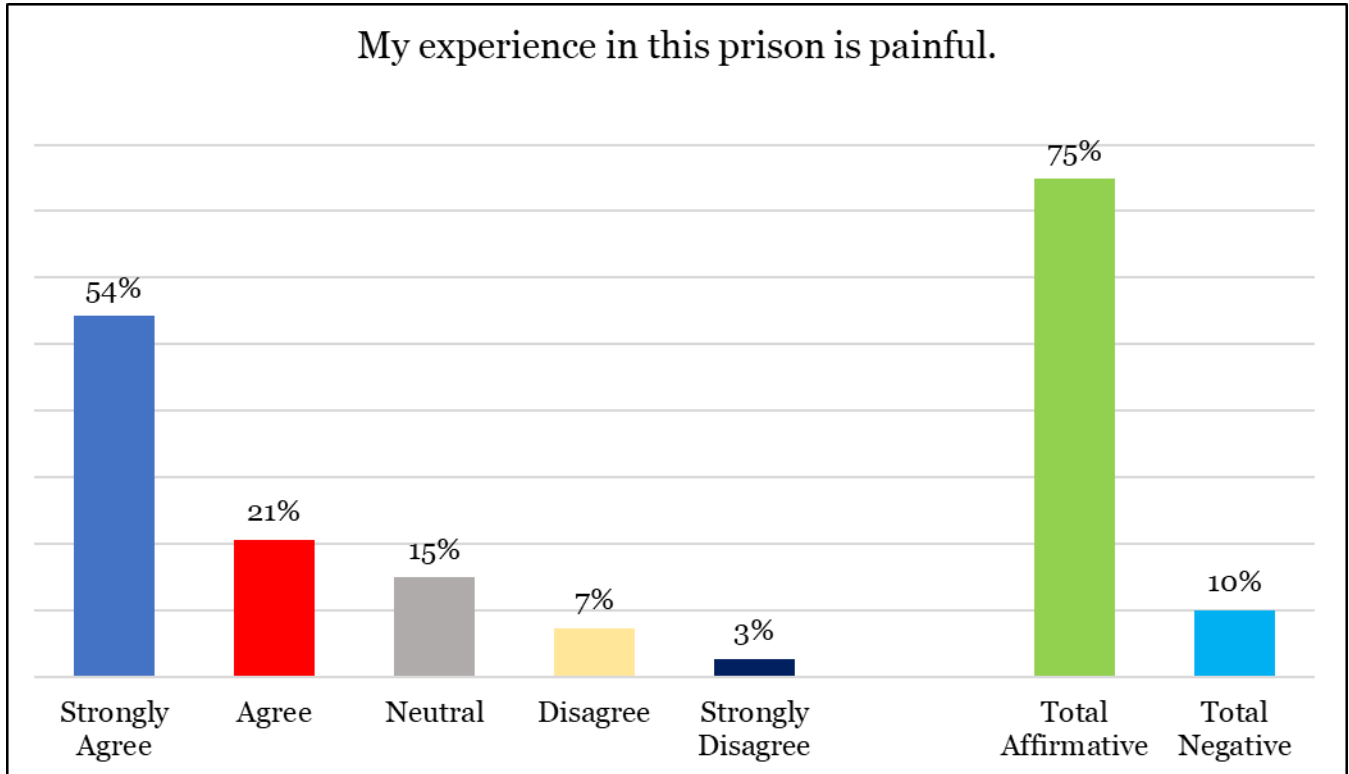
The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.



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

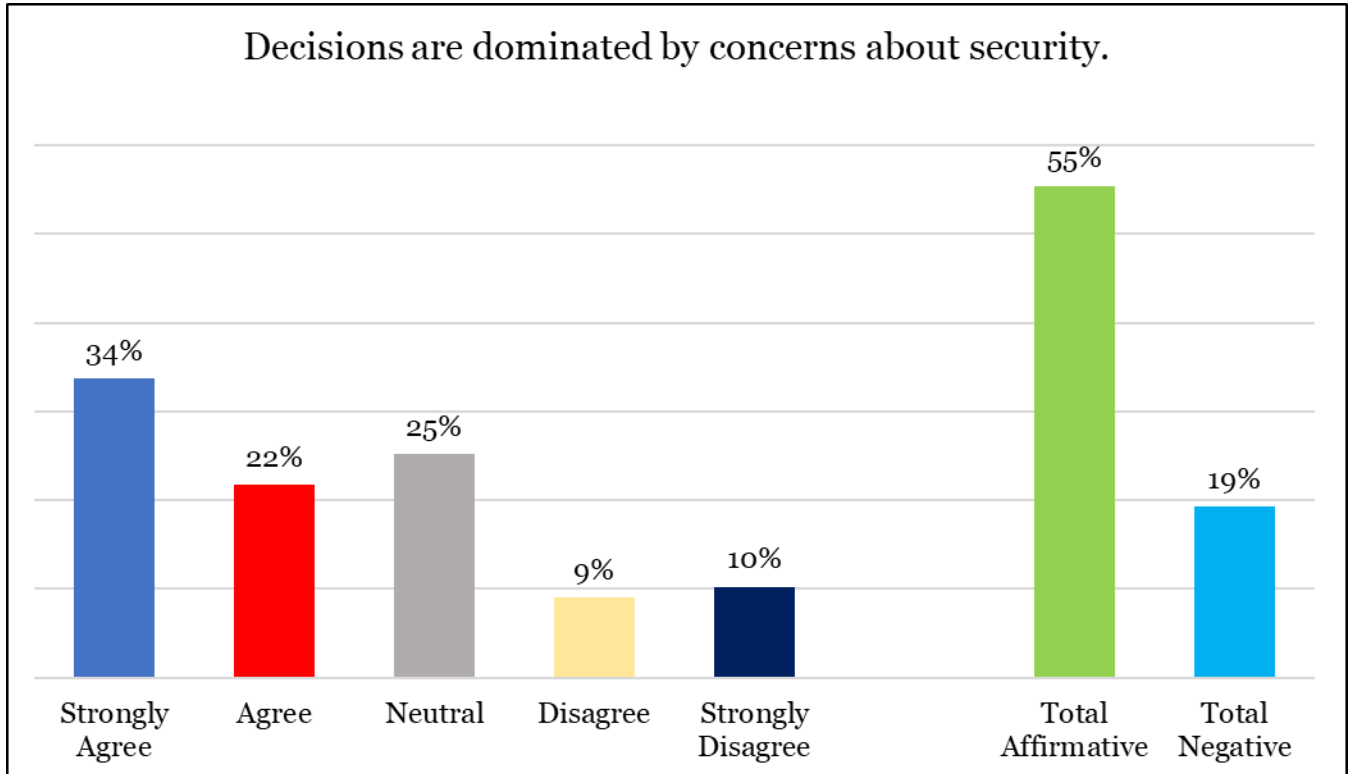


WELL-BEING – FEELINGS OF PAIN, PUNISHMENT AND TENSION EXPERIENCED BY INCARCERATED PEOPLE

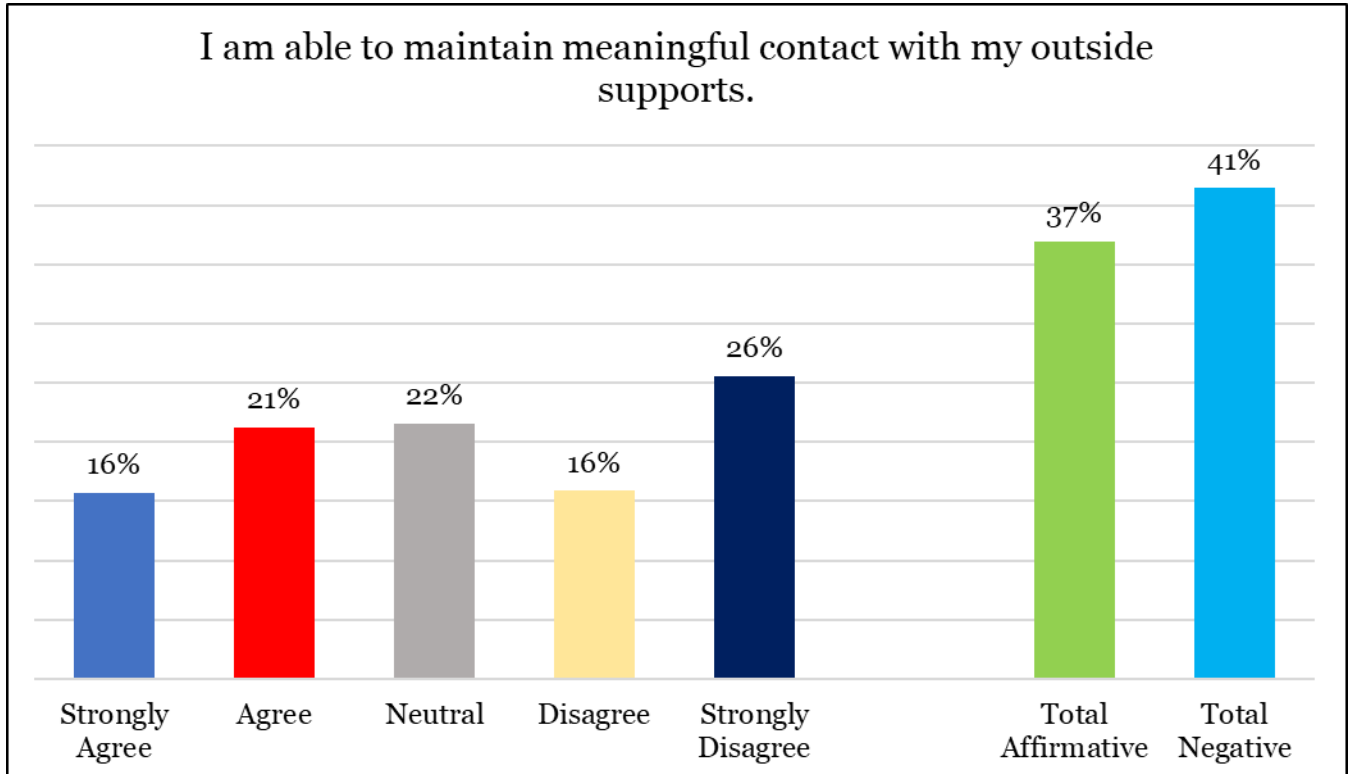


Additional Questions

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

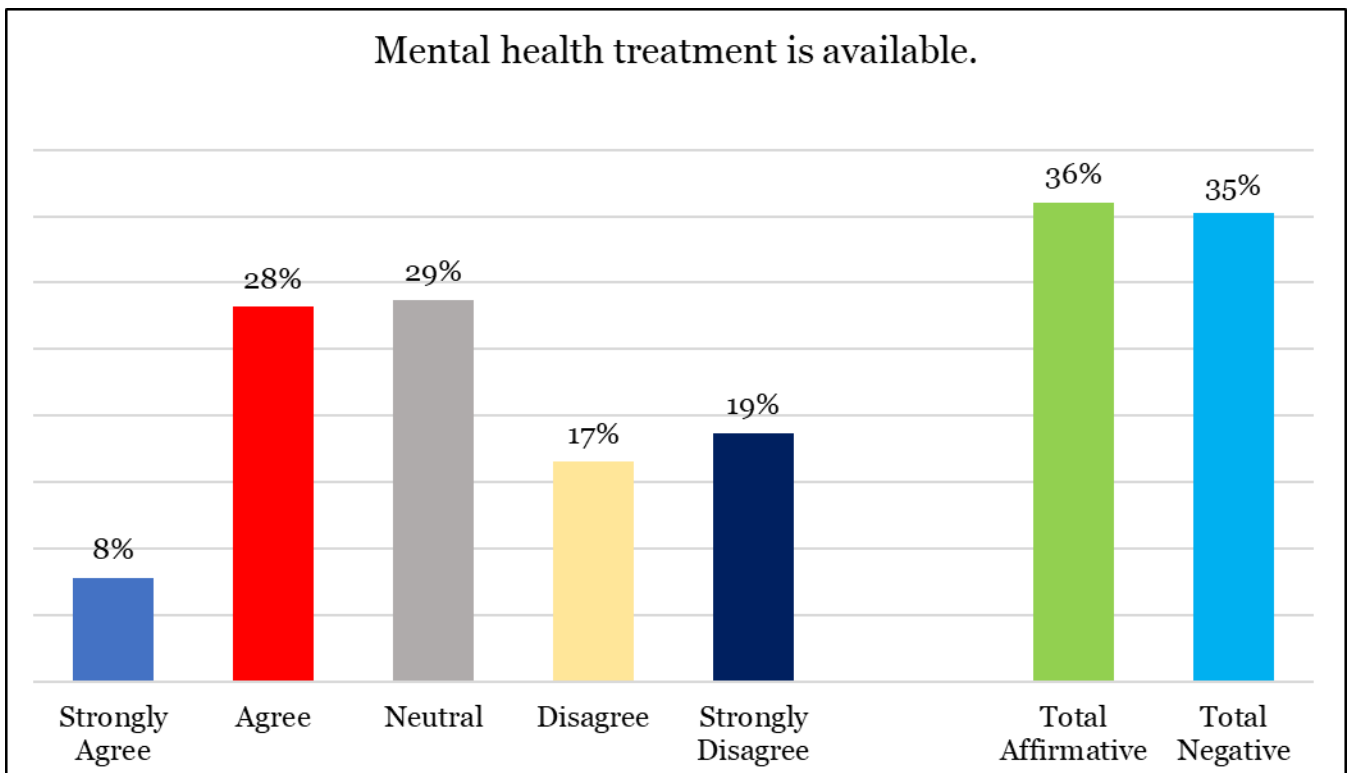
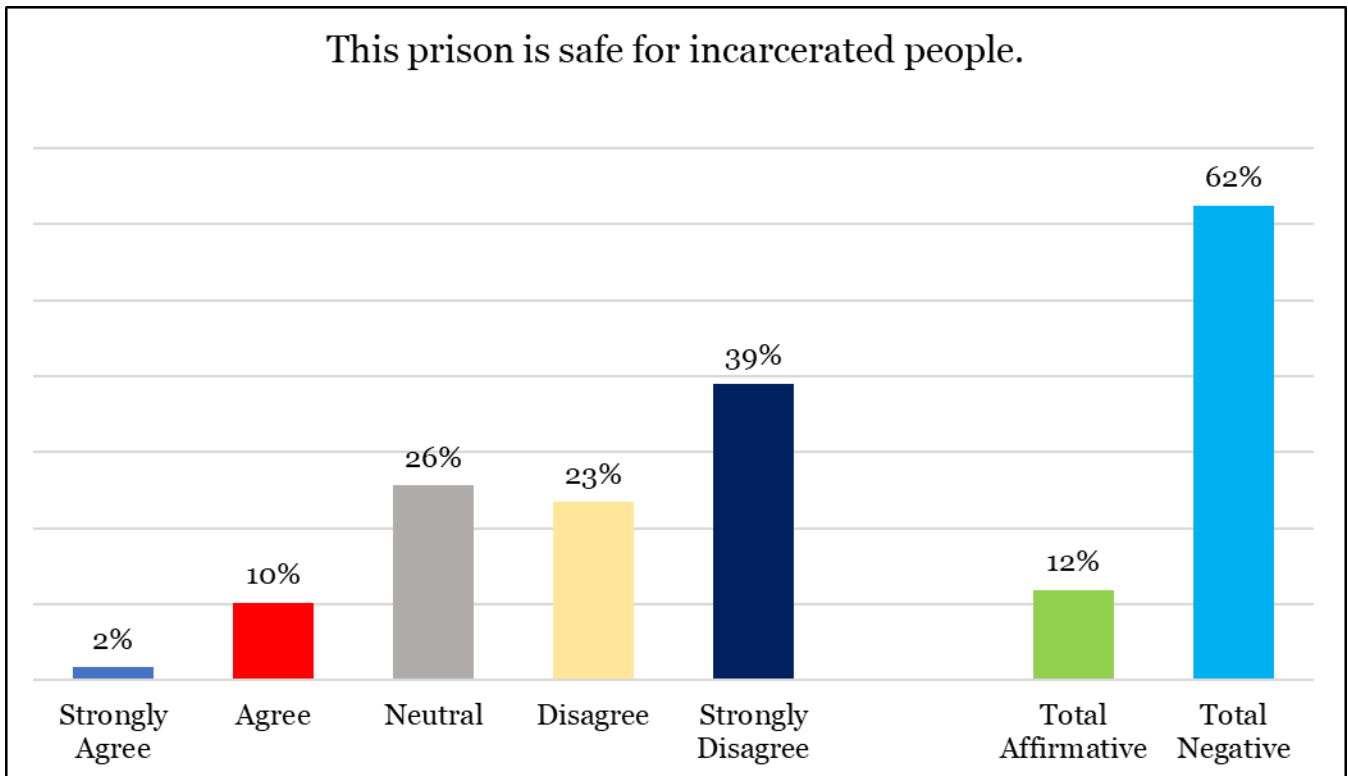


FAMILY CONTACT – AN ENVIRONMENT THAT FACILITATES INCARCERATED PEOPLE MAINTAINING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOVED ONES

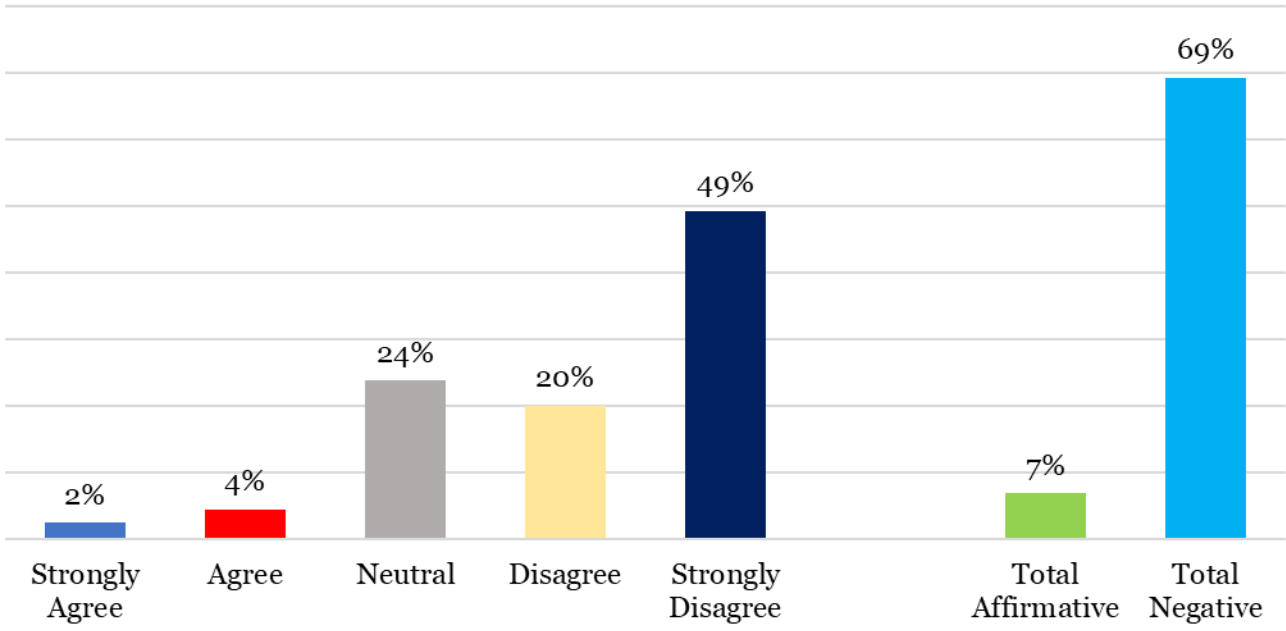


Charts: JHA Questions

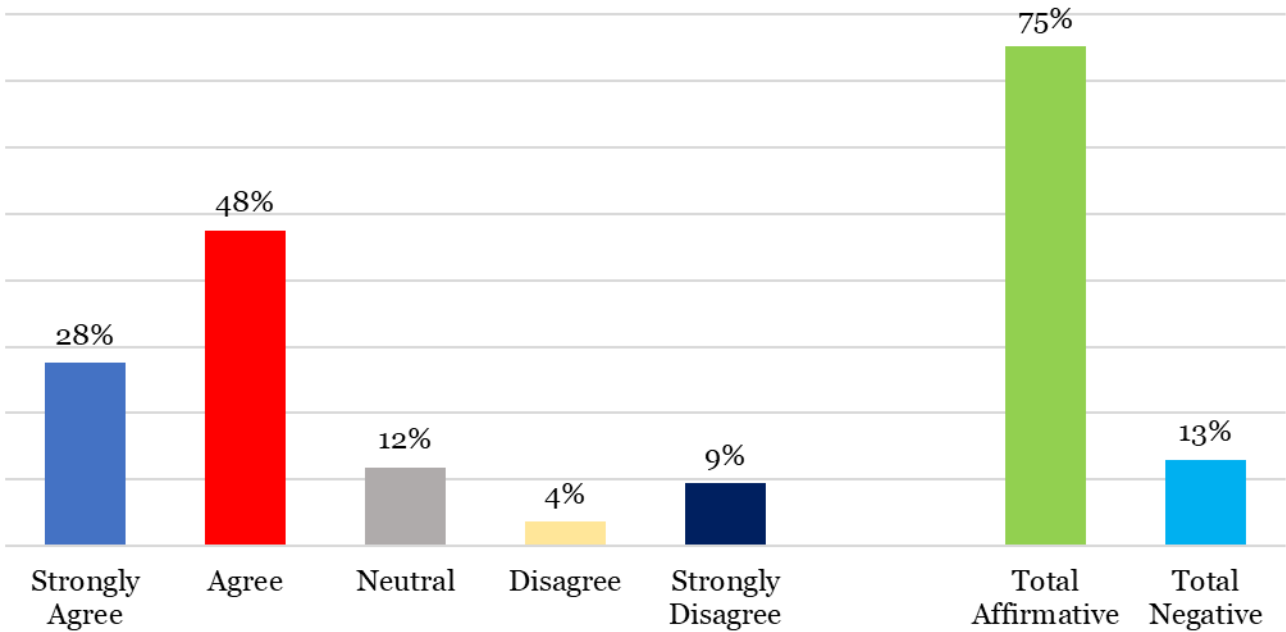
QUESTIONS USED IN PREVIOUS JHA SURVEYS



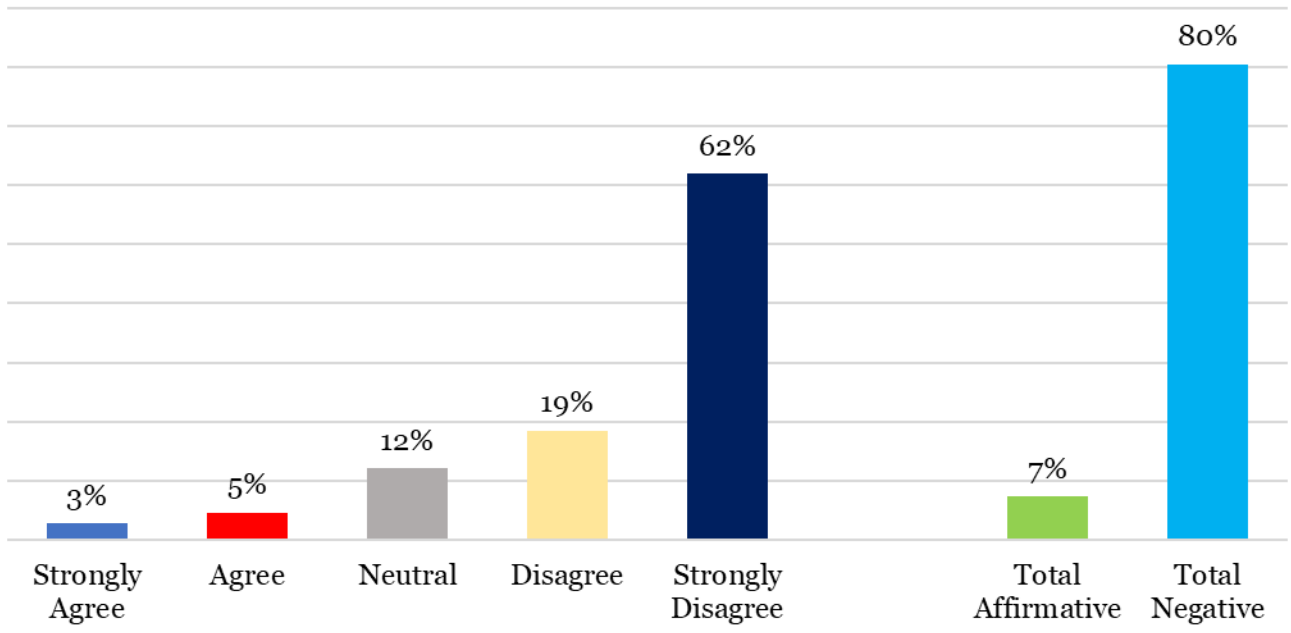
This prison is better now than it was last year.



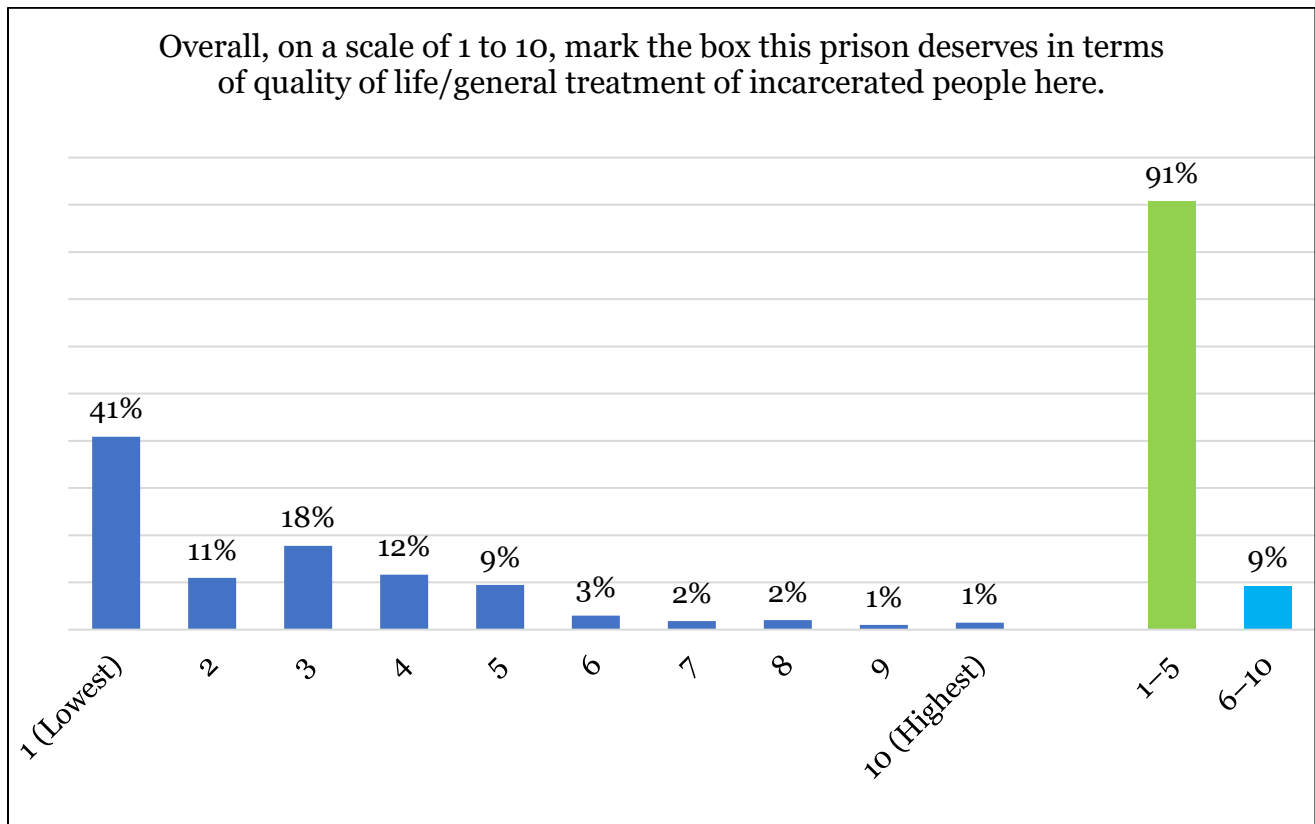
I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.



I am satisfied with food from dietary.



OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE



Tables of Results by Individual Survey Items

Age		
18-26	43	7%
26-30	82	13%
31-40	191	31%
41-50	153	25%
51 and over	143	23%
No response	2	

Race or ethnicity		
White	174	29%
Black	330	54%
Hispanic or Latino	69	11%
Other	34	6%
No response	7	

Are you within two years of release?		
Yes	160	26%
No	449	74%
No response	5	

Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?		
Yes	372	62%
No	231	38%
No response	11	

What housing status are you currently on?		
General Population	557	91%
Restrictive Housing	36	6%
Other	16	3%
No response	5	

Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area?		
Yes	53	9%
No	555	91%

Do you have a work or school assignment?		
Work Assignment	78	13%
School Assignment	54	9%
Both	5	1%
Neither	468	77%
No response	9	

Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.		
Strongly Agree	7	1%
Agree	29	5%
Neutral	158	26%
Disagree	158	26%
Strongly Disagree	255	42%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	36	6%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	413	68%
No response	7	

I receive support from staff when I need it.		
Strongly Agree	8	1%
Agree	44	7%
Neutral	111	18%
Disagree	185	31%
Strongly Disagree	257	42%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	52	9%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	442	73%
No response	9	

Staff here treat incarcerated people fairly when applying the rules.		
Strongly Agree	6	1%
Agree	45	7%
Neutral	96	16%
Disagree	188	31%
Strongly Disagree	272	45%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	51	8%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	460	76%
No response	7	

I trust the officers.		
Strongly Agree	6	1%
Agree	15	2%
Neutral	105	17%
Disagree	138	23%
Strongly Disagree	341	56%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	21	3%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	479	79%
No response	9	

I get along well with the officers on my unit.		
Strongly Agree	20	3%
Agree	118	20%
Neutral	242	41%
Disagree	90	15%
Strongly Disagree	125	21%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	138	23%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	215	36%
No response	19	

The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.		
Strongly Agree	43	7%
Agree	97	16%
Neutral	113	19%
Disagree	133	22%
Strongly Disagree	214	36%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	140	23%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	347	58%
No response	14	

I have been helped significantly by a staff member with a particular problem.		
Strongly Agree	19	3%
Agree	66	11%
Neutral	99	16%
Disagree	176	29%
Strongly Disagree	246	41%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	85	14%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	422	70%
No response	8	

Overall, I am treated fairly by staff.		
Strongly Agree	12	2%
Agree	75	12%
Neutral	170	28%
Disagree	147	24%
Strongly Disagree	203	33%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	87	14%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	350	58%
No response	7	

I am treated as a person of value.		
Strongly Agree	10	2%
Agree	19	3%
Neutral	98	16%
Disagree	167	27%
Strongly Disagree	314	52%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	29	5%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	481	79%
No response	6	

Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.		
Strongly Agree	251	43%
Agree	196	33%
Neutral	78	13%
Disagree	46	8%
Strongly Disagree	19	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	447	76%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	65	11%
No response	24	

I feel safe from being injured, bullied, or threatened by other incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	37	6%
Agree	73	12%
Neutral	131	22%
Disagree	142	24%
Strongly Disagree	205	35%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	110	19%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	347	59%
No response	26	

If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.		
Strongly Agree	41	7%
Agree	72	12%
Neutral	97	17%
Disagree	129	22%
Strongly Disagree	247	42%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	113	19%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	376	64%
No response	28	

To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.		
Strongly Agree	189	32%
Agree	183	31%
Neutral	134	23%
Disagree	61	10%
Strongly Disagree	19	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	372	63%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	80	14%
No response	28	

Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	295	50%
Agree	151	26%
Neutral	92	16%
Disagree	31	5%
Strongly Disagree	18	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	446	76%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	49	8%
No response	27	

Staff have enough experience and expertise to deal with issues that matter to me.		
Strongly Agree	16	3%
Agree	49	8%
Neutral	105	18%
Disagree	184	31%
Strongly Disagree	234	40%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	65	11%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	418	71%
No response	26	

To get things done, you have to ask and ask and ask.		
Strongly Agree	408	69%
Agree	123	21%
Neutral	39	7%
Disagree	10	2%
Strongly Disagree	12	2%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	531	90%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	22	4%
No response	22	

Supervision of incarcerated people is poor.		
Strongly Agree	245	42%
Agree	135	23%
Neutral	129	22%
Disagree	47	8%
Strongly Disagree	32	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	380	65%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	79	13%
No response	26	

I can't improve my situation through good behavior.		
Strongly Agree	212	36%
Agree	109	19%
Neutral	119	20%
Disagree	84	14%
Strongly Disagree	63	11%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	321	55%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	147	25%
No response	27	

The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.		
Strongly Agree	109	18%
Agree	78	13%
Neutral	92	16%
Disagree	122	21%
Strongly Disagree	189	32%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	187	32%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	311	53%
No response	24	

My experience of imprisonment in this particular prison has been stressful.		
Strongly Agree	413	69%
Agree	102	17%
Neutral	47	8%
Disagree	19	3%
Strongly Disagree	15	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	515	86%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	34	6%
No response	18	

Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.		
Strongly Agree	153	26%
Agree	106	18%
Neutral	44	7%
Disagree	43	7%
Strongly Disagree	396	67%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	87	15%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	25	
No response	243	41%

I have to be careful about everything I do, or it can be used against me.		
Strongly Agree	363	61%
Agree	152	26%
Neutral	53	9%
Disagree	20	3%
Strongly Disagree	5	1%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	515	87%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	25	4%
No response	21	

On the whole, I am just doing time rather than using my time.		
Strongly Agree	309	52%
Agree	127	22%
Neutral	68	12%
Disagree	46	8%
Strongly Disagree	40	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	436	74%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	86	15%
No response	24	

Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.		
Strongly Agree	52	9%
Agree	99	17%
Neutral	124	22%
Disagree	106	18%
Strongly Disagree	195	34%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	151	26%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	301	52%
No response	38	

This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.		
Strongly Agree	43	7%
Agree	21	4%
Neutral	126	22%
Disagree	137	23%
Strongly Disagree	258	44%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	64	11%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	395	68%
No response	29	

When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.		
Strongly Agree	44	7%
Agree	84	14%
Neutral	147	25%
Disagree	142	24%
Strongly Disagree	174	29%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	128	22%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	316	53%
No response	23	

This prison is well organized.		
Strongly Agree	14	2%
Agree	14	2%
Neutral	67	11%
Disagree	132	22%
Strongly Disagree	366	62%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	28	5%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	498	84%
No response	21	

You never know the rules.		
Strongly Agree	154	26%
Agree	130	22%
Neutral	147	25%
Disagree	118	20%
Strongly Disagree	41	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	284	48%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	159	27%
No response	24	

I feel that I am treated with respect by staff.		
Strongly Agree	13	2%
Agree	39	7%
Neutral	144	25%
Disagree	123	21%
Strongly Disagree	262	45%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	52	9%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	385	66%
No response	33	

My experience in this prison is painful.		
Strongly Agree	318	54%
Agree	121	21%
Neutral	88	15%
Disagree	43	7%
Strongly Disagree	16	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	439	75%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	59	10%
No response	28	

I have to buy and sell things in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	163	28%
Agree	129	22%
Neutral	130	22%
Disagree	91	16%
Strongly Disagree	67	12%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	292	50%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	158	27%
No response	34	

There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	132	23%
Agree	124	22%
Neutral	184	32%
Disagree	74	13%
Strongly Disagree	56	10%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	256	45%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	130	23%
No response	44	

Decisions are dominated by concerns about security.		
Strongly Agree	194	34%
Agree	125	22%
Neutral	145	25%
Disagree	52	9%
Strongly Disagree	59	10%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	319	55%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	111	19%
No response	3	
	9	

The disciplinary system is fair.		
Strongly Agree	14	2%
Agree	32	5%
Neutral	119	20%
Disagree	115	20%
Strongly Disagree	308	52%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	46	8%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	423	72%
No response	26	

My time here seems like a chance to make positive changes.		
Strongly Agree	53	9%
Agree	64	11%
Neutral	109	19%
Disagree	91	16%
Strongly Disagree	259	45%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	117	20%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	350	61%
No response	38	

There are a few incarcerated people who run things on this unit.		
Strongly Agree	79	14%
Agree	84	15%
Neutral	124	21%
Disagree	140	24%
Strongly Disagree	152	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	163	28%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	292	50%
No response	35	

I am not being treated as a human being in here.		
Strongly Agree	262	43%
Agree	150	25%
Neutral	113	19%
Disagree	53	9%
Strongly Disagree	31	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	412	68%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	84	14%
No response	5	

You have to be in a group or gang in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	85	14%
Agree	81	14%
Neutral	134	23%
Disagree	176	30%
Strongly Disagree	114	19%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	166	28%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	290	49%
No response	24	

Bullying behavior by incarcerated people is not tolerated.		
Strongly Agree	60	10%
Agree	69	12%
Neutral	177	30%
Disagree	139	23%
Strongly Disagree	150	25%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	129	22%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	289	49%
No response	19	

When important decisions are made about me, I am treated as an individual and not a number.		
Strongly Agree	30	5%
Agree	41	7%
Neutral	93	15%
Disagree	176	29%
Strongly Disagree	262	44%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	71	12%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	438	73%
No response	12	

All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.		
Strongly Agree	390	65%
Agree	127	21%
Neutral	58	10%
Disagree	23	4%
Strongly Disagree	6	1%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	517	86%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	29	5%
No response	10	

Drugs cause a lot of problems between incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	136	23%
Agree	103	17%
Neutral	143	24%
Disagree	118	20%
Strongly Disagree	93	16%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	239	40%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	211	36%
No response	21	

Anyone who harms themselves is considered by staff to be more of an attention seeker than someone who needs help.		
Strongly Agree	303	50%
Agree	154	26%
Neutral	98	16%
Disagree	29	5%
Strongly Disagree	17	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	457	76%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	46	8%
No response	13	

I am able to maintain meaningful contact with my outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	94	16%
Agree	127	21%
Neutral	129	22%
Disagree	95	16%
Strongly Disagree	153	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	221	37%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	248	41%
No response	16	

This is a humane prison.		
Strongly Agree	48	8%
Agree	39	7%
Neutral	110	18%
Disagree	125	21%
Strongly Disagree	275	46%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	87	15%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	400	67%
No response	17	

This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.		
Strongly Agree	321	53%
Agree	154	26%
Neutral	90	15%
Disagree	22	4%
Strongly Disagree	14	2%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	475	79%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	36	6%
No response	13	

Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.		
Strongly Agree	527	88%
Agree	46	8%
Neutral	14	2%
Disagree	9	1%
Strongly Disagree	6	1%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	573	95%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	15	2%
No response	12	

Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	14	2%
Agree	23	4%
Neutral	91	15%
Disagree	134	22%
Strongly Disagree	344	57%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	37	6%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	478	79%
No response	8	

This prison is safe for incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	10	2%
Agree	61	10%
Neutral	153	26%
Disagree	140	23%
Strongly Disagree	233	39%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	71	12%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	373	62%
No response	17	

Mental health treatment is available.		
Strongly Agree	47	8%
Agree	169	28%
Neutral	172	29%
Disagree	99	17%
Strongly Disagree	112	19%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	216	36%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	211	35%
No response	15	

I am satisfied with food from dietary.		
Strongly Agree	17	3%
Agree	28	5%
Neutral	74	12%
Disagree	113	19%
Strongly Disagree	378	62%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	45	7%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	491	80%
No response	4	

This prison is better now than it was last year.		
Strongly Agree	14	2%
Agree	26	4%
Neutral	139	24%
Disagree	117	20%
Strongly Disagree	288	49%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	40	7%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	405	69%
No response	30	

I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.		
Strongly Agree	167	28%
Agree	288	48%
Neutral	72	12%
Disagree	22	4%
Strongly Disagree	57	9%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	455	75%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	79	13%
No response	8	

Every effort is made by this prison to help people stop committing offenses on release from custody.		
Strongly Agree	13	2%
Agree	18	3%
Neutral	80	13%
Disagree	100	17%
Strongly Disagree	389	65%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	31	5%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	489	82%
No response	14	

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)	246	41%
2	66	11%
3	107	18%
4	70	12%
5	57	9%
6	18	3%
7	11	2%
8	12	2%
9	6	1%
10 (Highest)	9	1%
<i>1-5</i>	546	91%
<i>6-10</i>	56	9%
No Response	12	
Mean Score		2.5



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.

