
Survey Results



Robinson 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

Robinson is a minimum-security male prison within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) that housed approximately 974 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](#), informed consent notice/instruction sheet, and privileged mail prepaid business reply envelope addressed to JHA) so that every person incarcerated at Robinson had an opportunity to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey if they chose to do so. After initially receiving only ten responses from Robinson, JHA redistributed surveys using the same method in October 2023. JHA received 214 responses to the MQPL survey from people at Robinson through the end of 2023, representing approximately 22% of the static population. JHA also conducted a monitoring visit of the prison close in time to the October survey distribution.



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

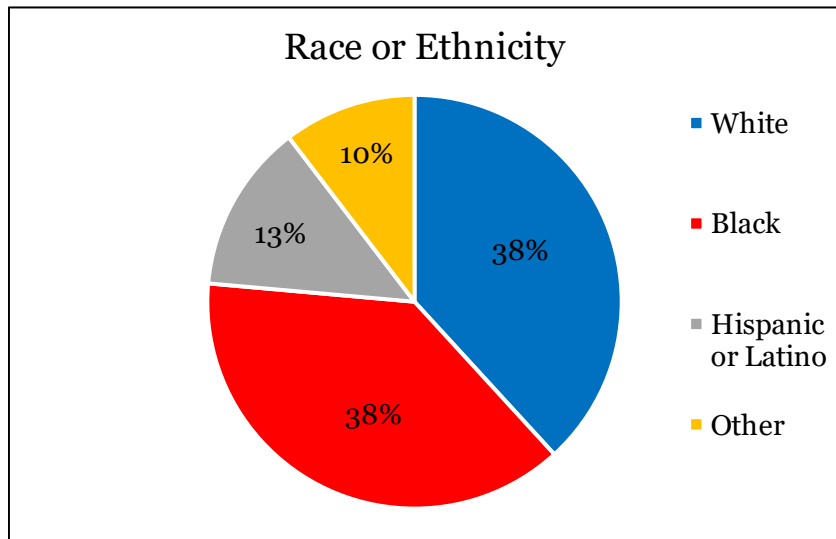
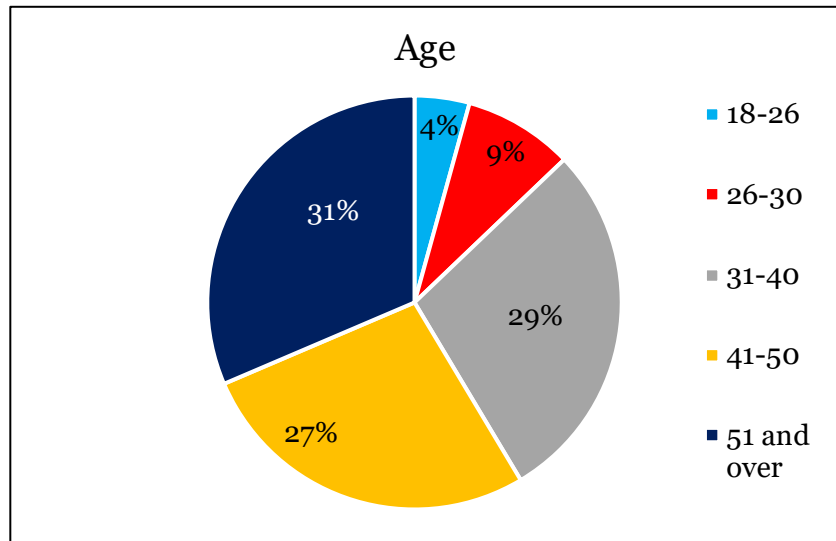
- **Harmony: Questions relating to interpersonal aspects of the prison experience**
 - Respect/courtesy – Positive, respectful, and courteous attitudes towards incarcerated people by staff.
 - Staff-incarcerated people relationships – Trusting, fair and supportive interactions between staff and incarcerated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

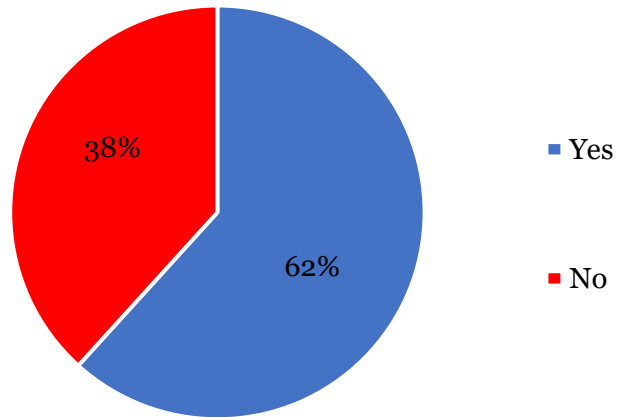
Charts: Demographic Information of Respondents

Total respondents = 213¹

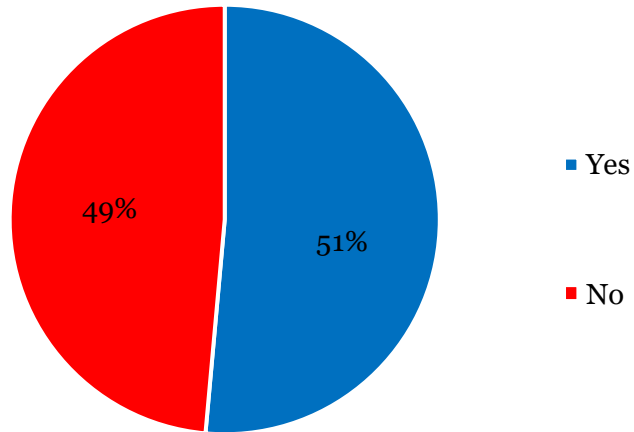


¹ Due to rounding, not all percentages total 100%. Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of respondents per question.

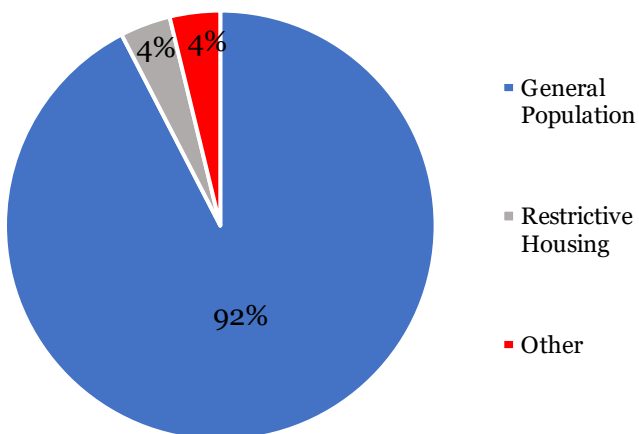
Are you within two years of release?



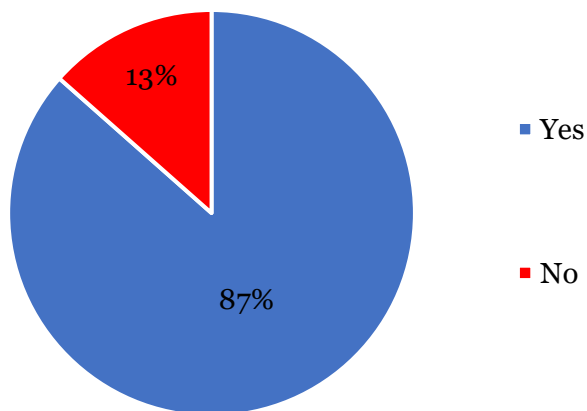
Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?



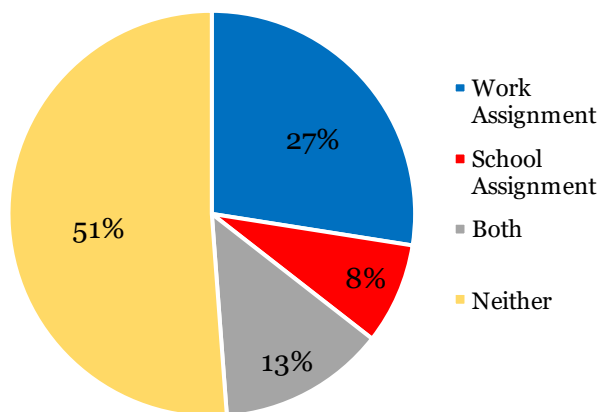
What housing status are you currently on?



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



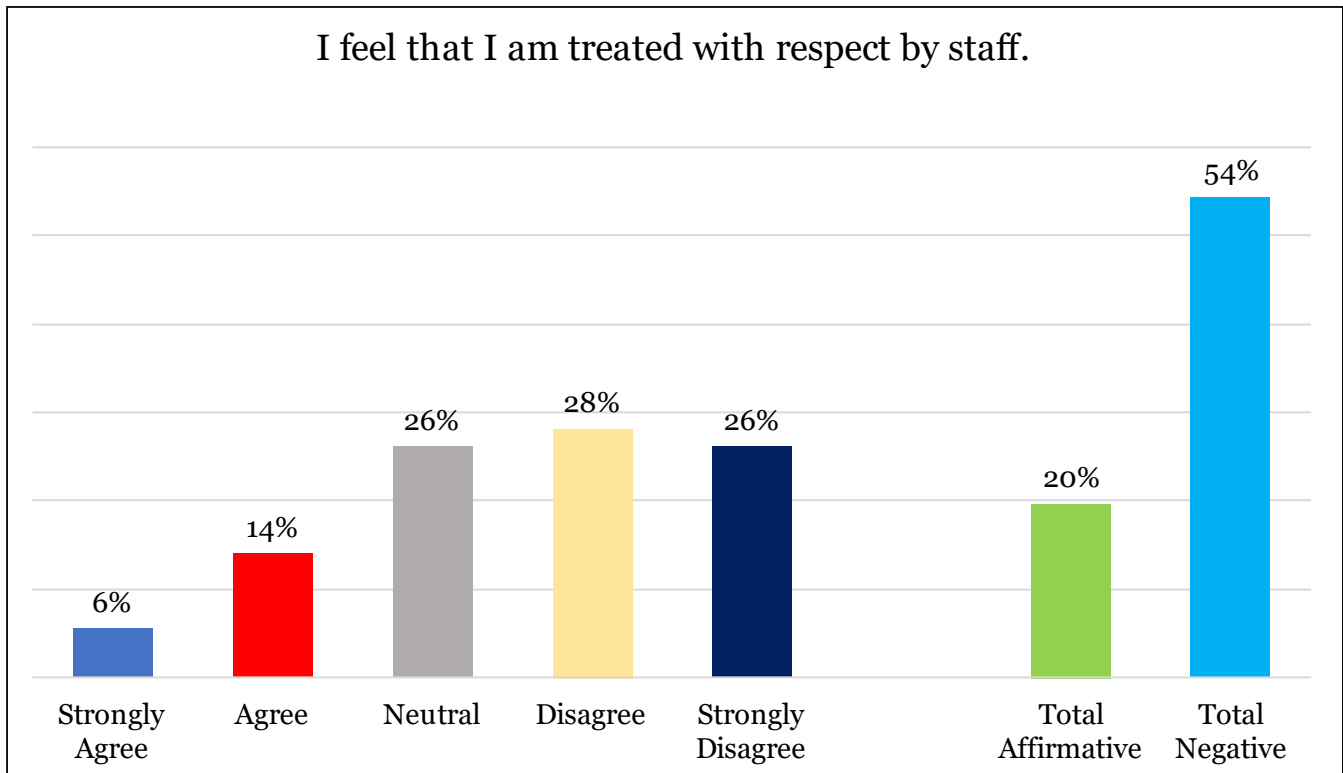
Do you have a work or school assignment?



Charts: MQPL Dimensions²

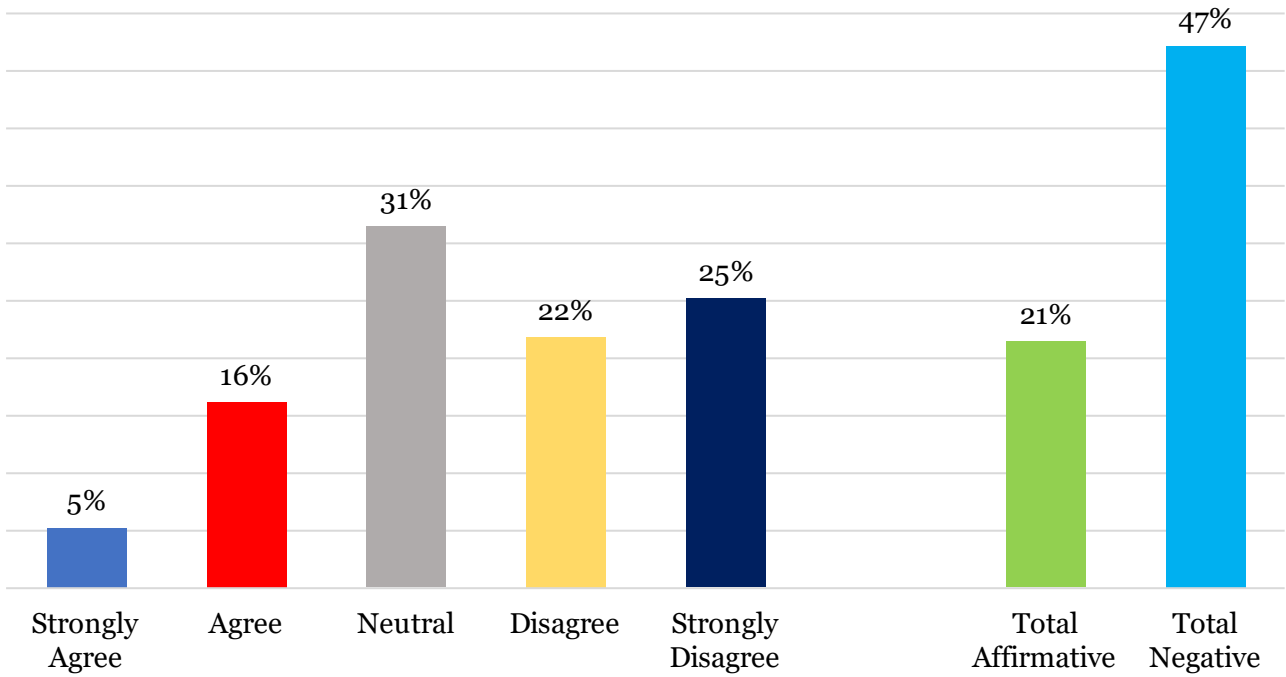
Harmony

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

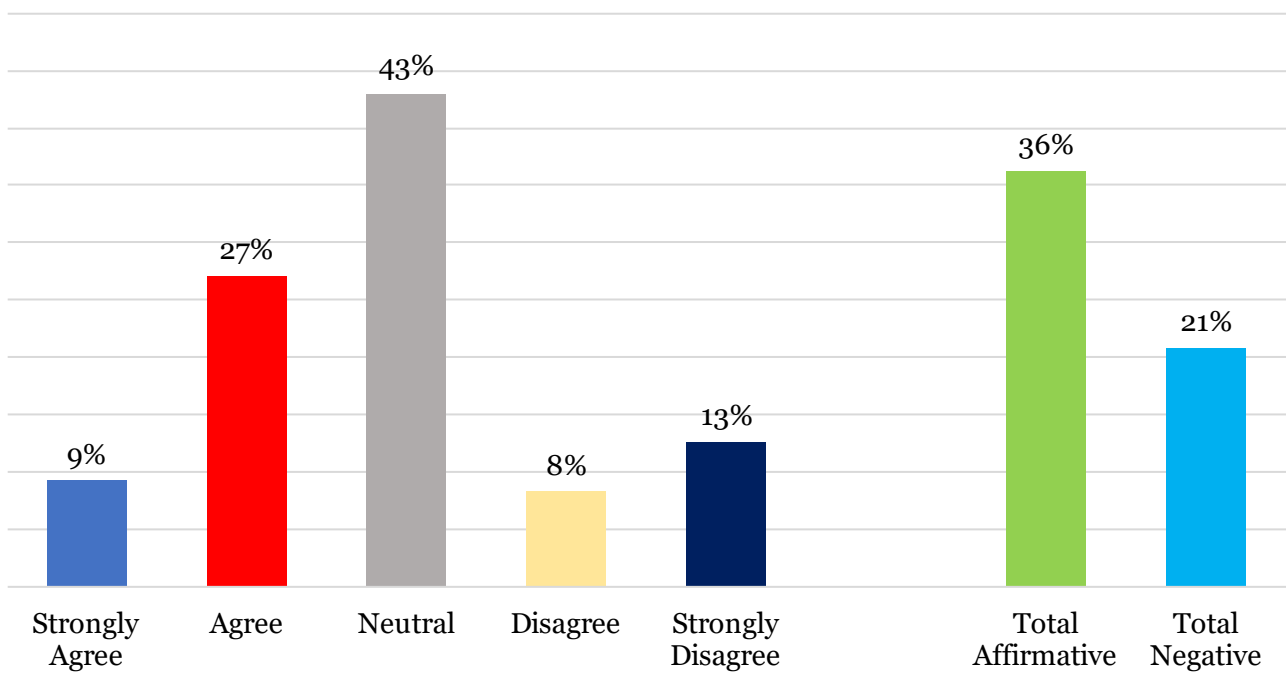


² “Total Affirmative” combines “Strongly Agree” and “Agree.” “Total Negative” combines “Strongly Disagree” and “Disagree.” Not all respondents responded to all questions; see tables at end of document for number of responses per question.

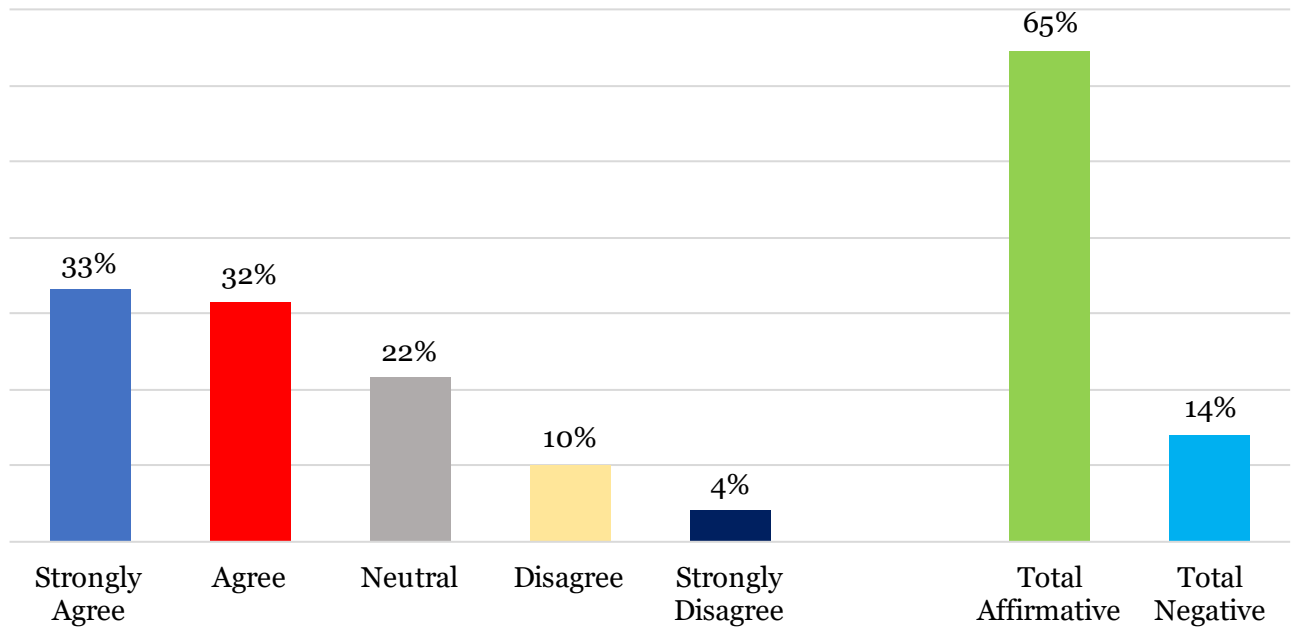
Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.



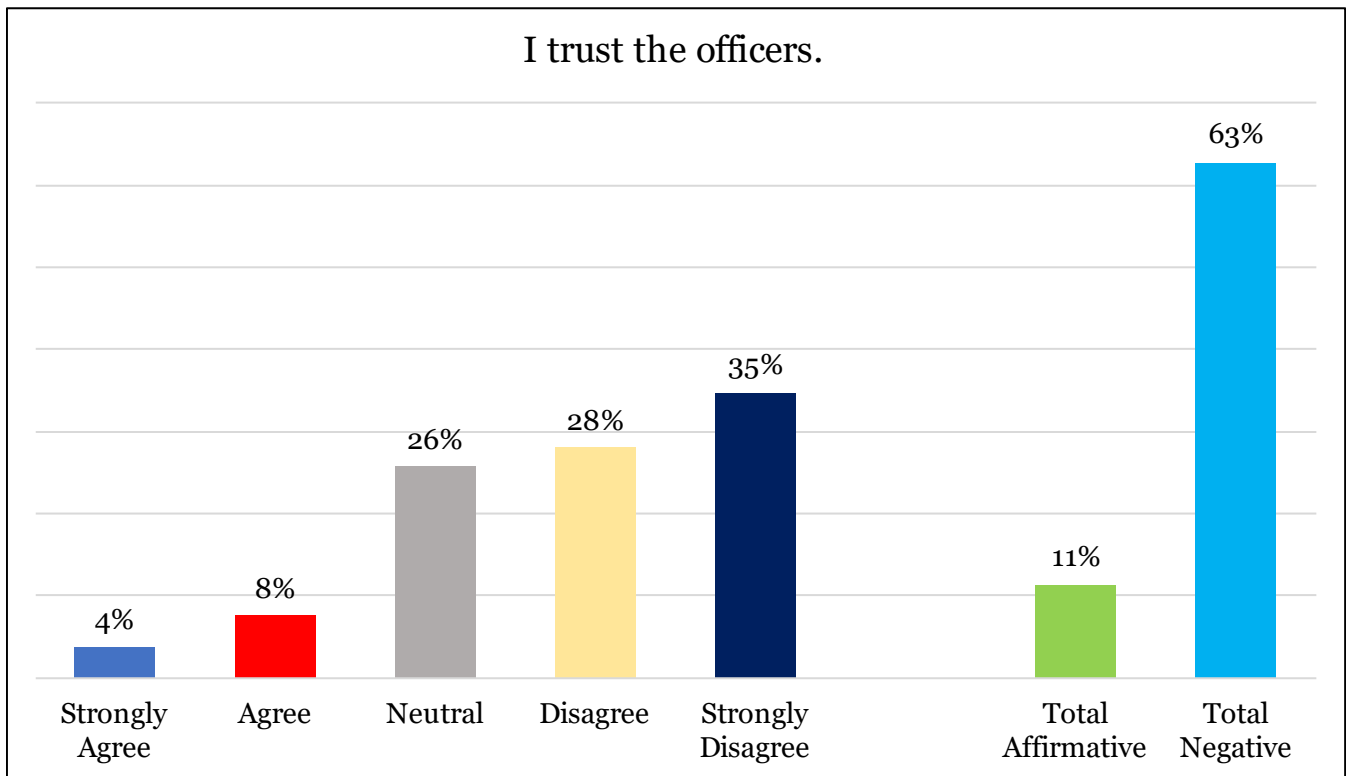
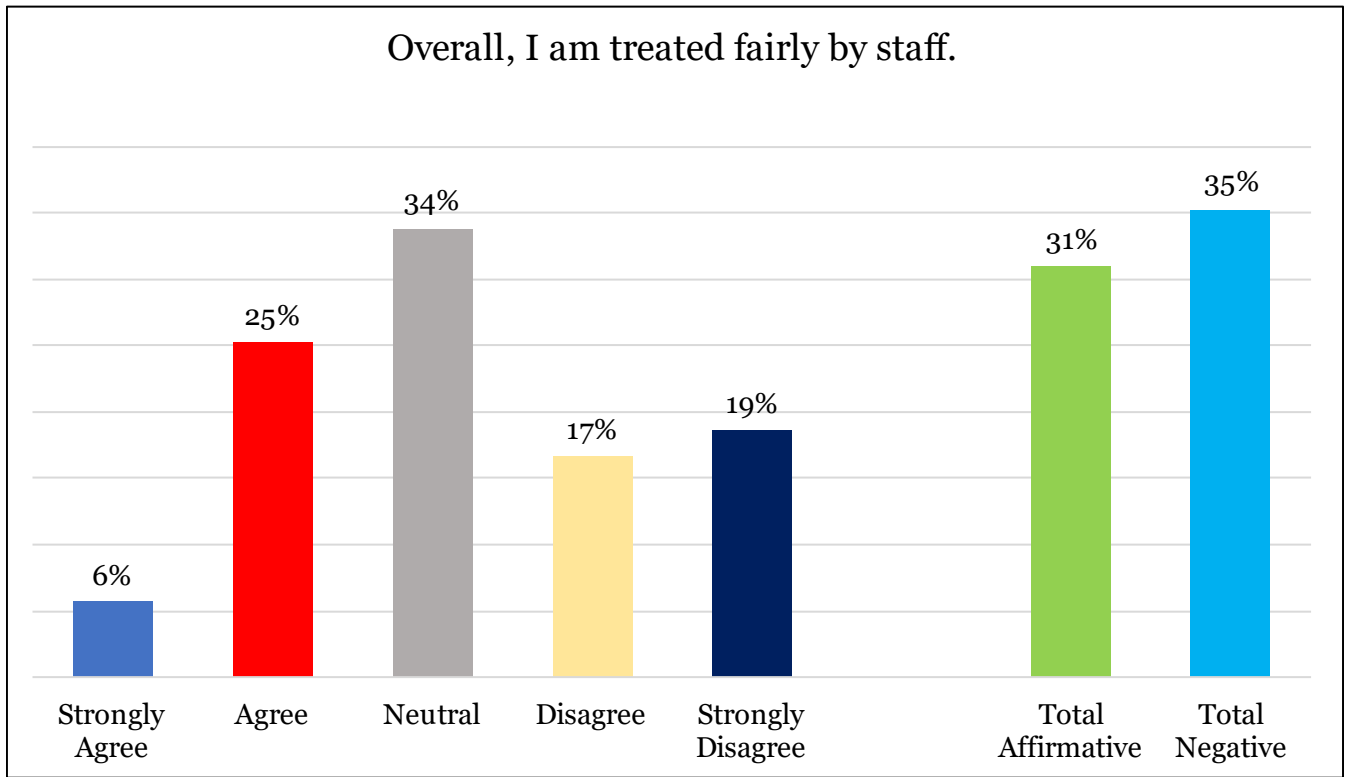
I get along well with the officers on my unit.



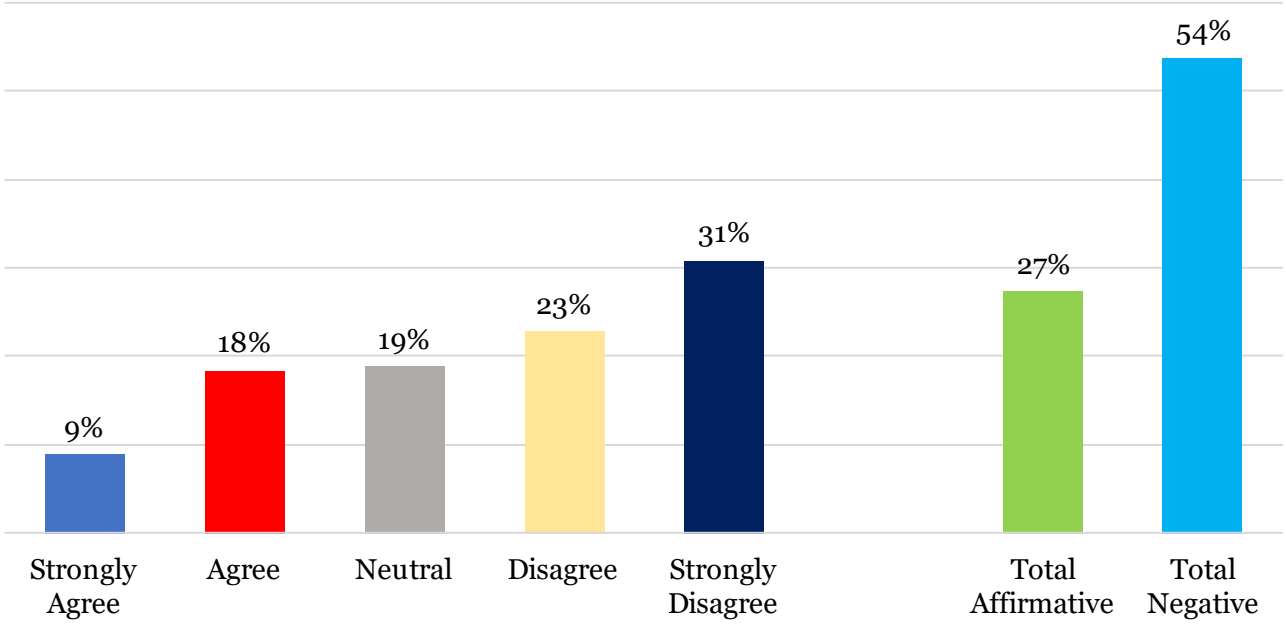
Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.



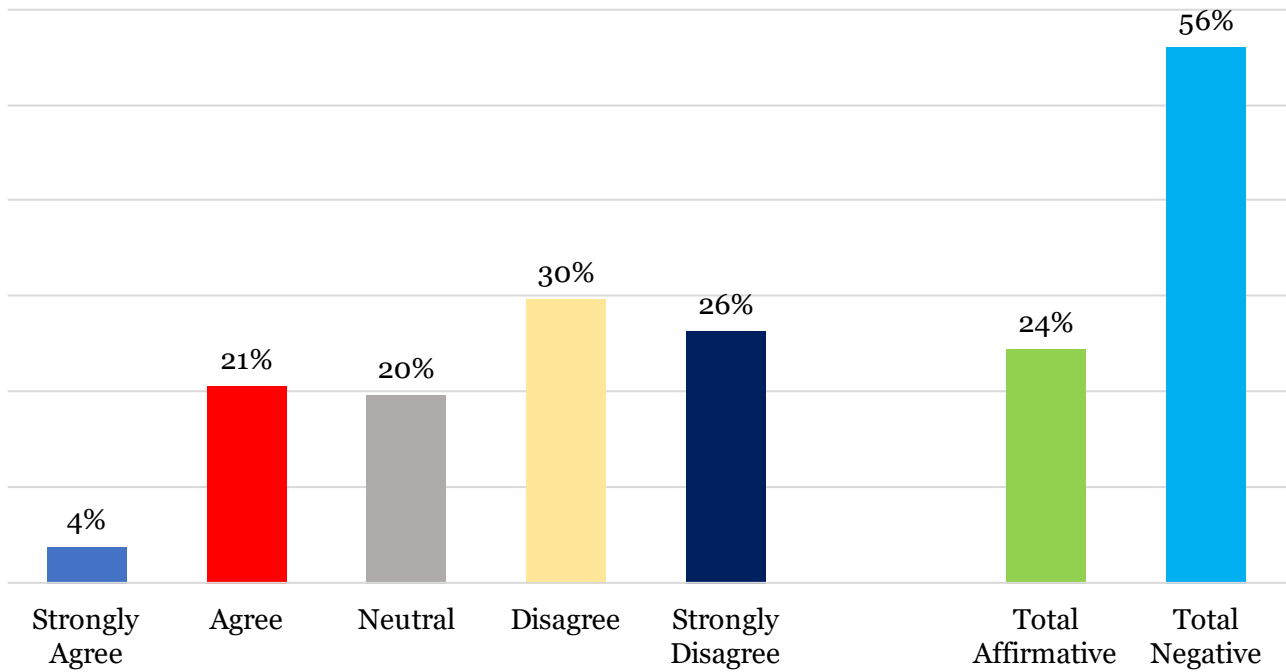
STAFF-INCARCERATED PEOPLE RELATIONSHIPS – TRUSTING, FAIR AND SUPPORTIVE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN STAFF AND INCARCERATED PEOPLE



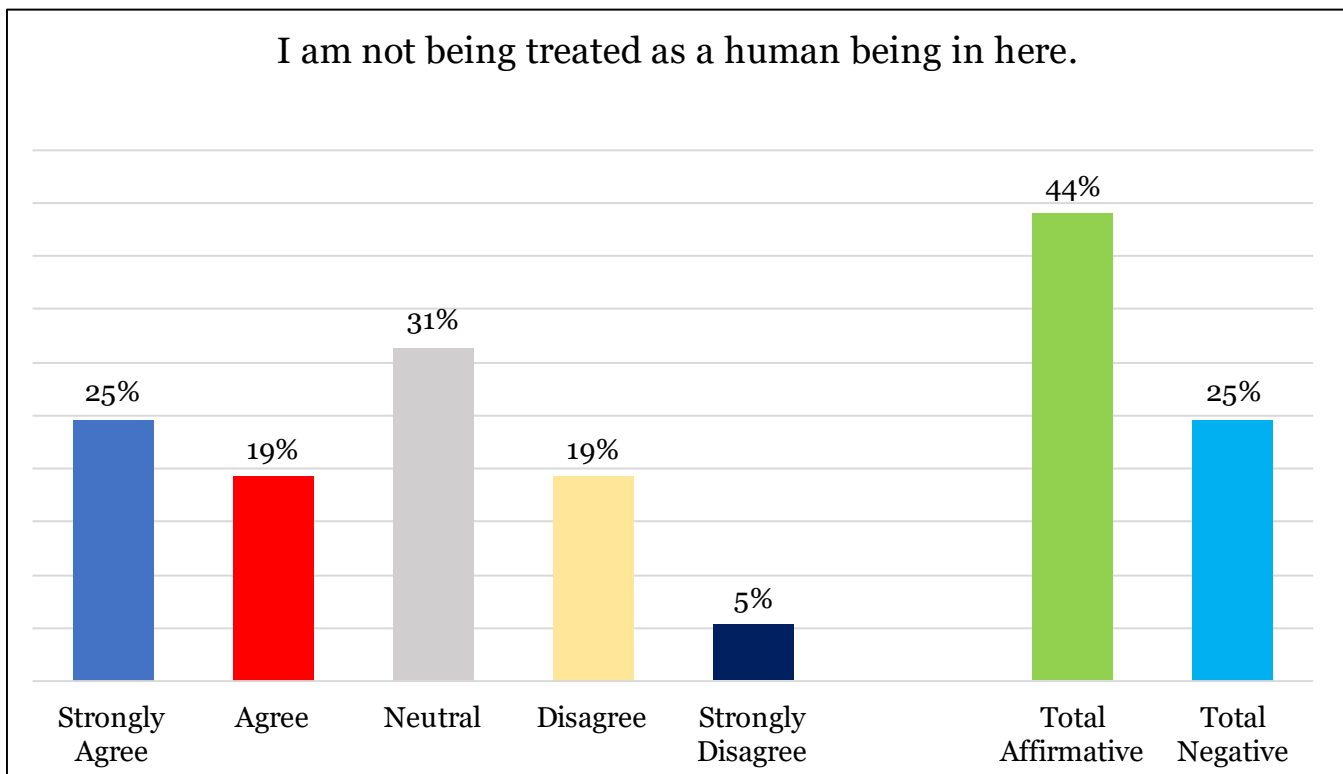
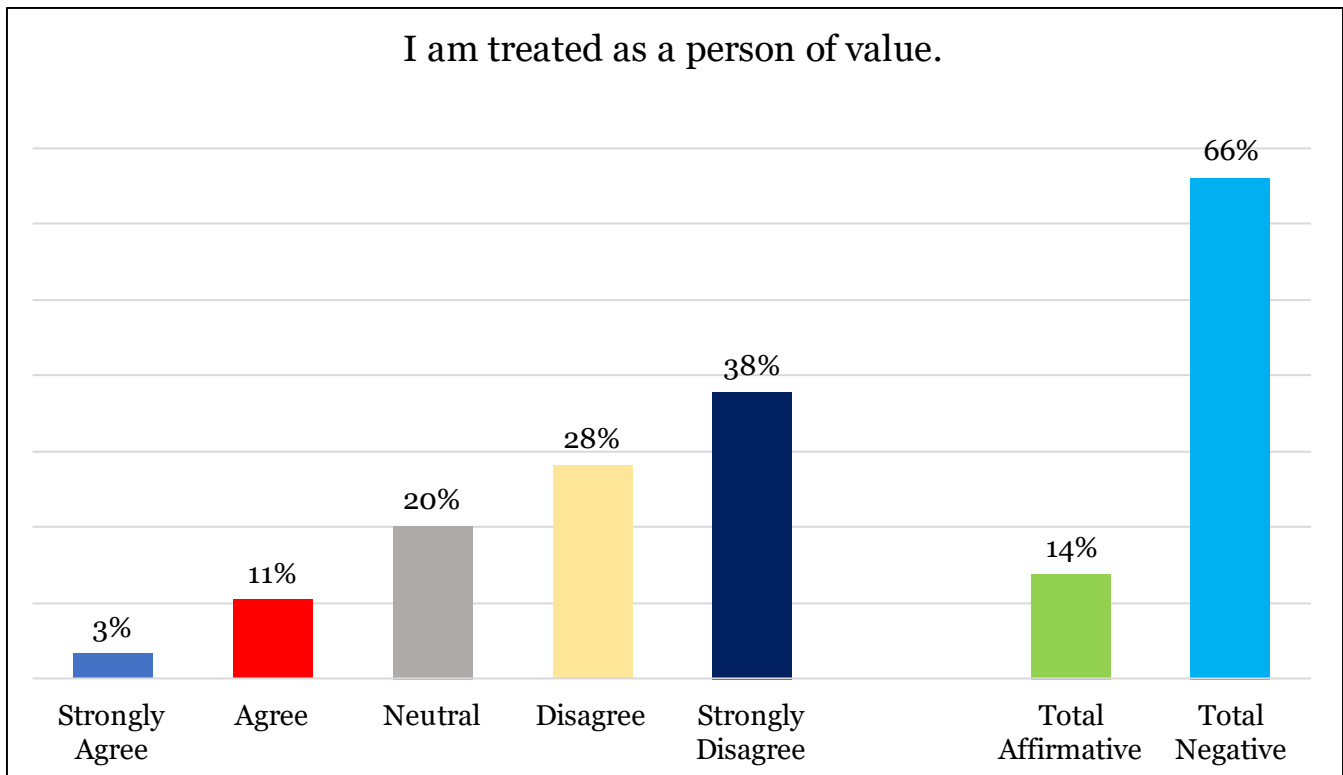
When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.



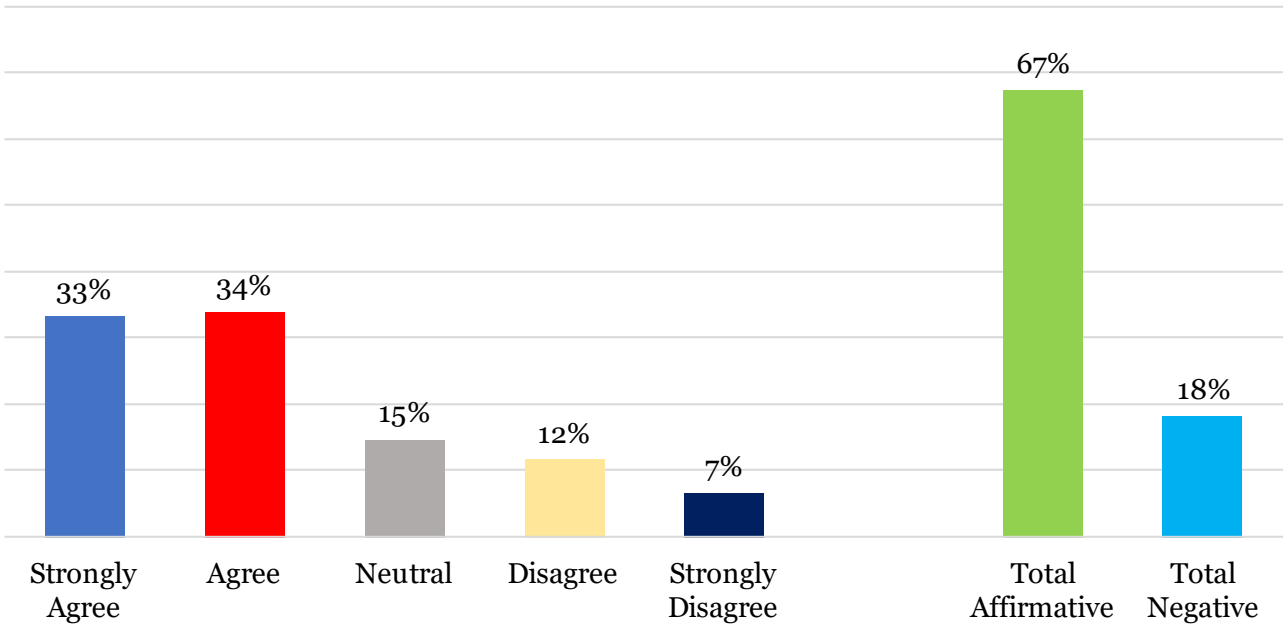
I receive support from staff when I need it.



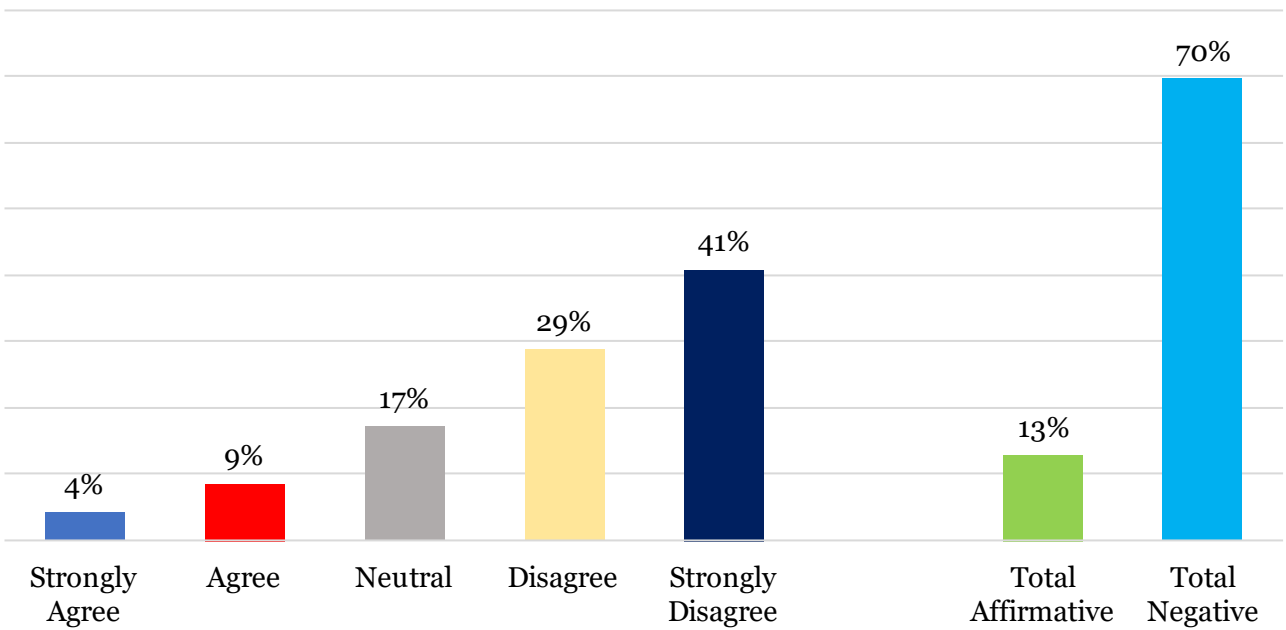
HUMANITY – AN ENVIRONMENT CHARACTERIZED BY KIND REGARD AND CONCERN FOR THE PERSON, WHICH RECOGNIZES THE VALUE AND HUMANITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL



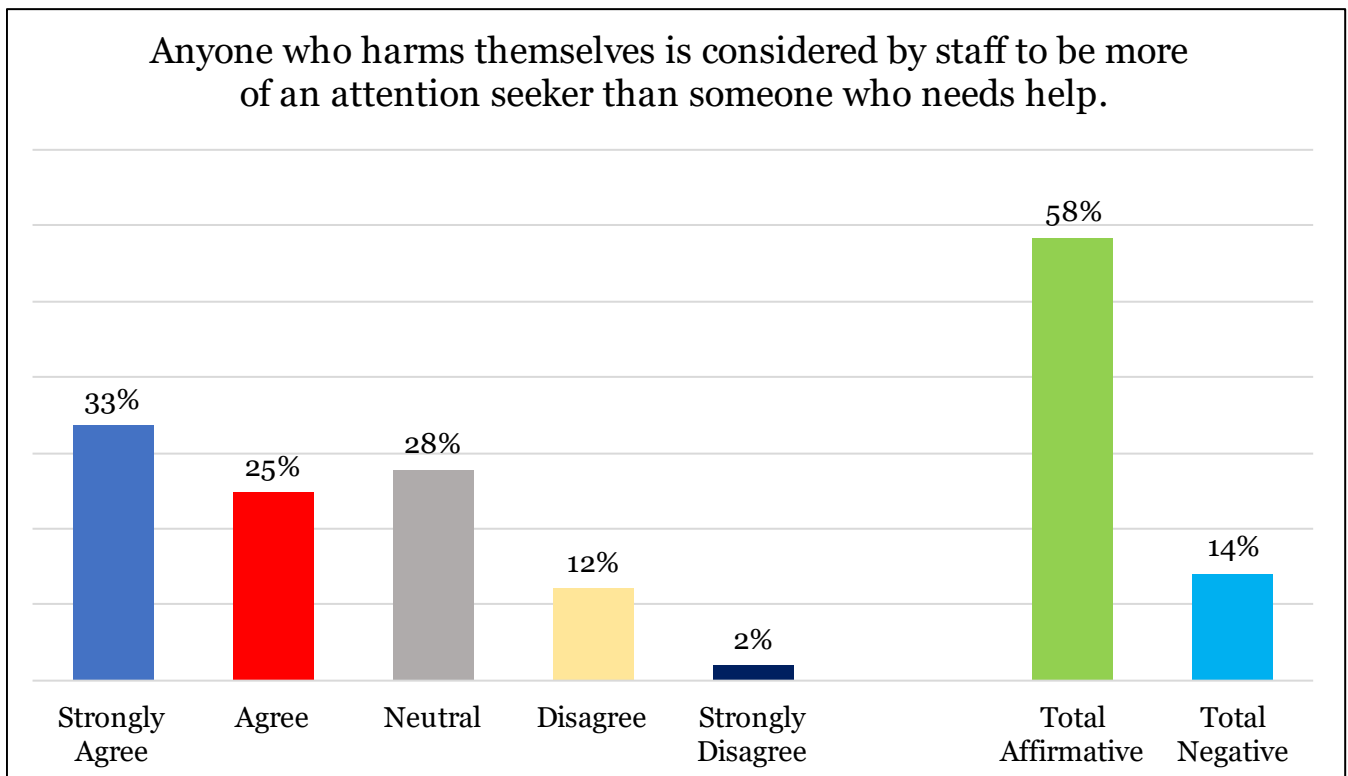
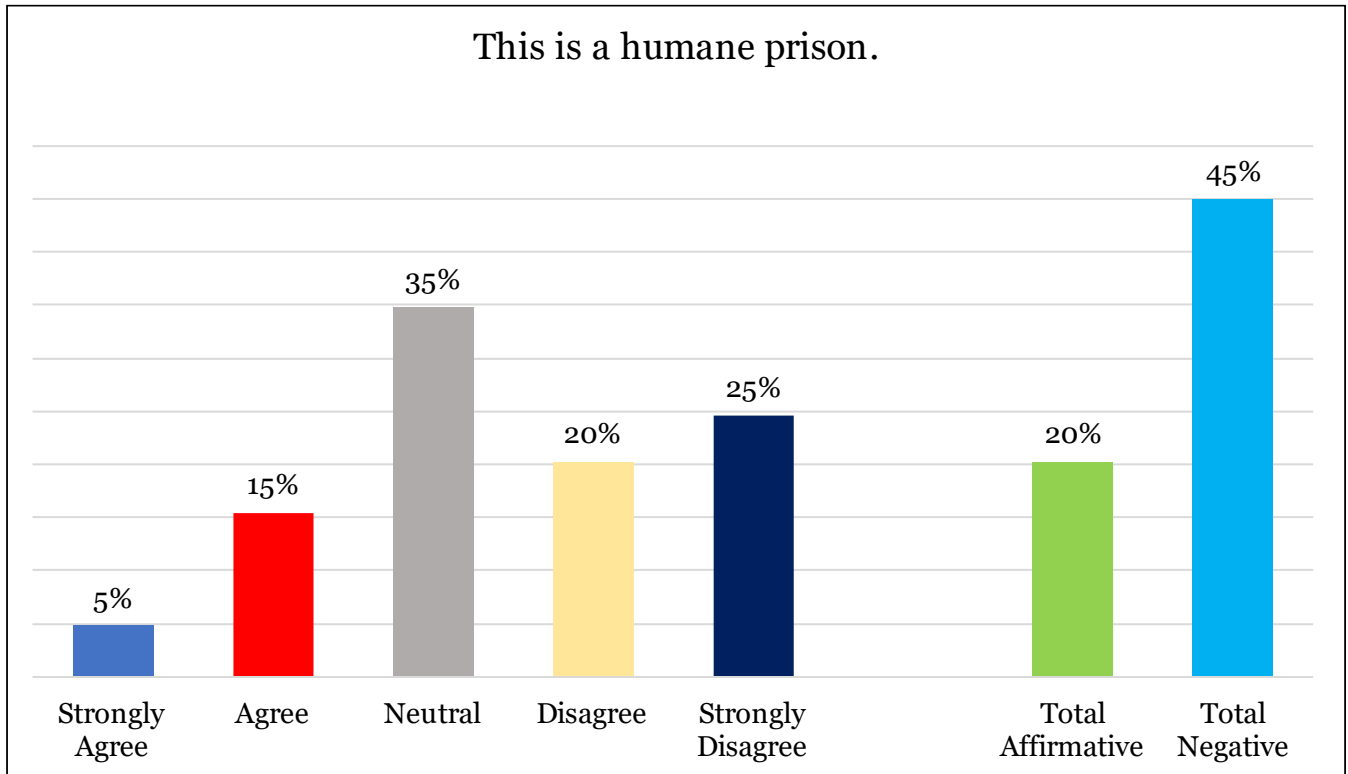
Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.



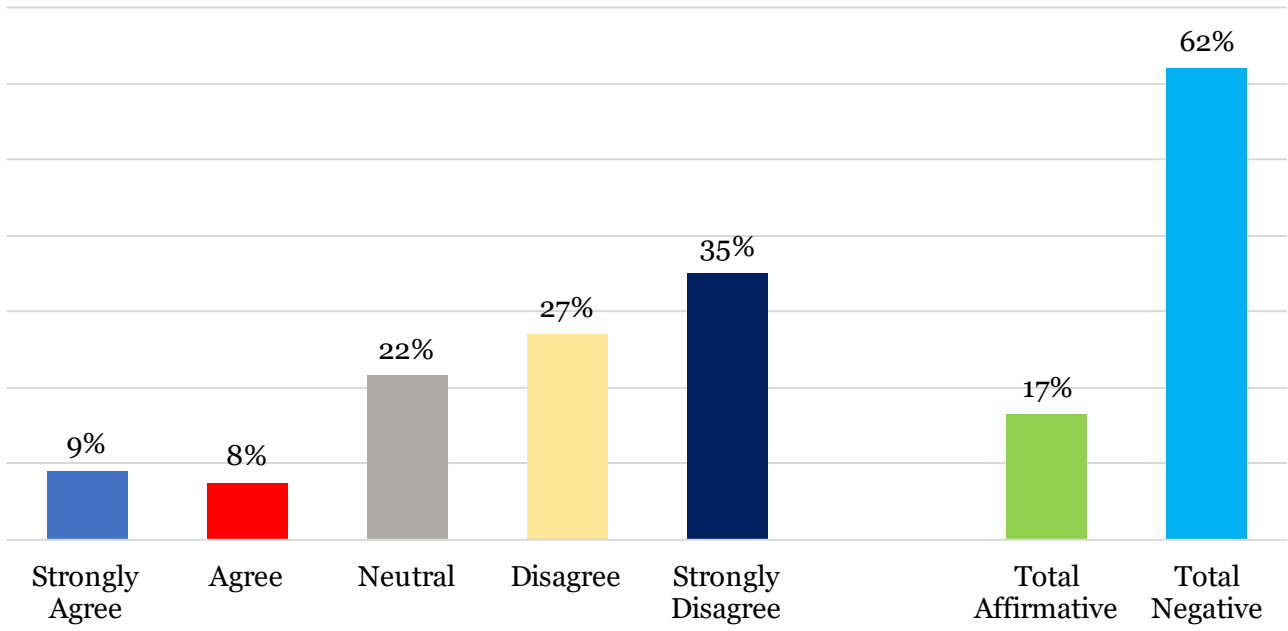
Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.



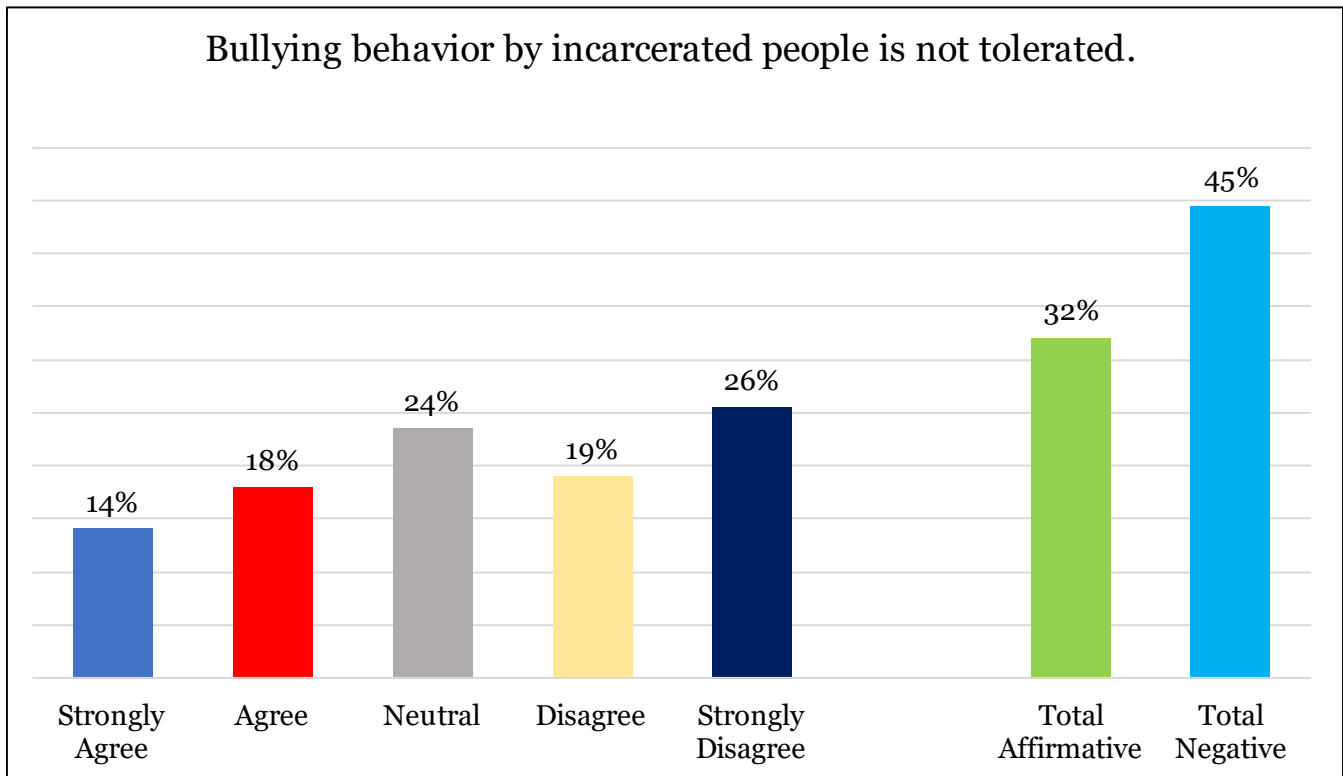
DECENCY - THE EXTENT TO WHICH STAFF AND THE REGIME ARE CONSIDERED REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE



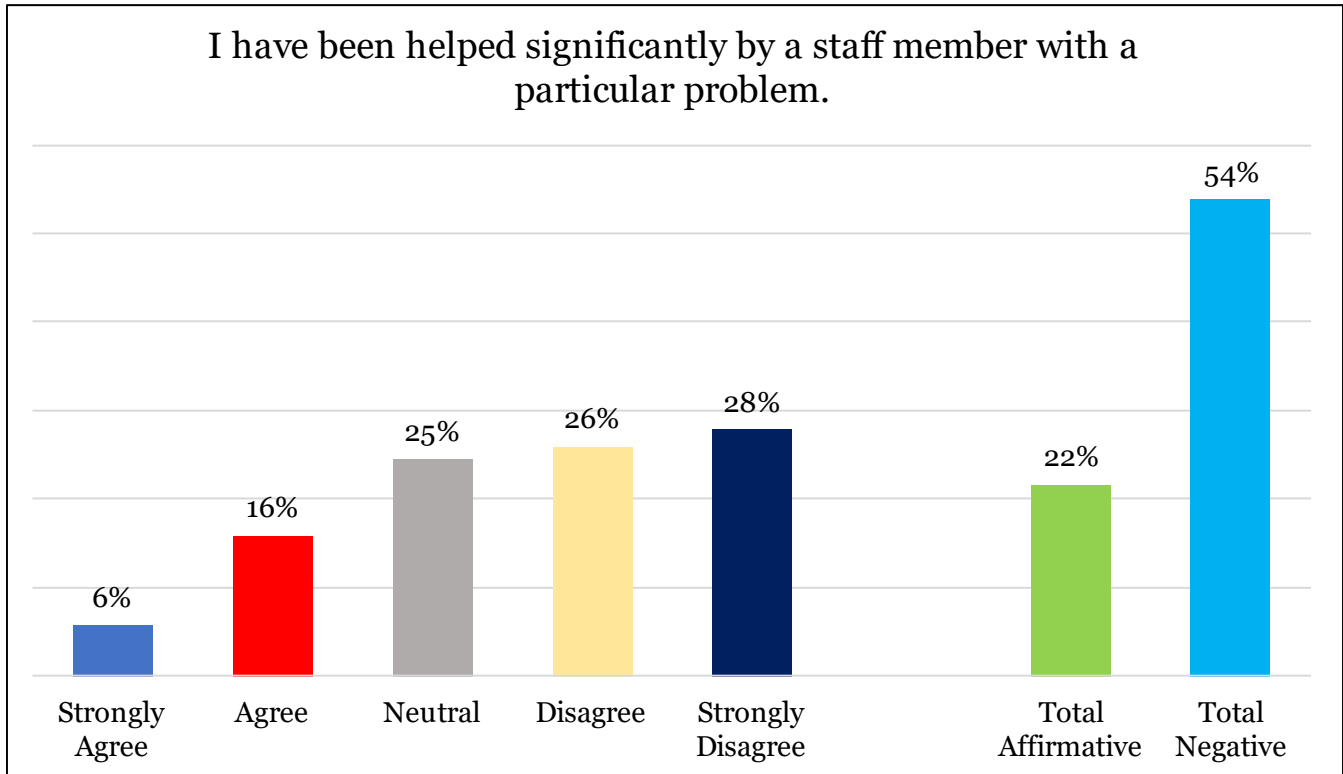
Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.



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

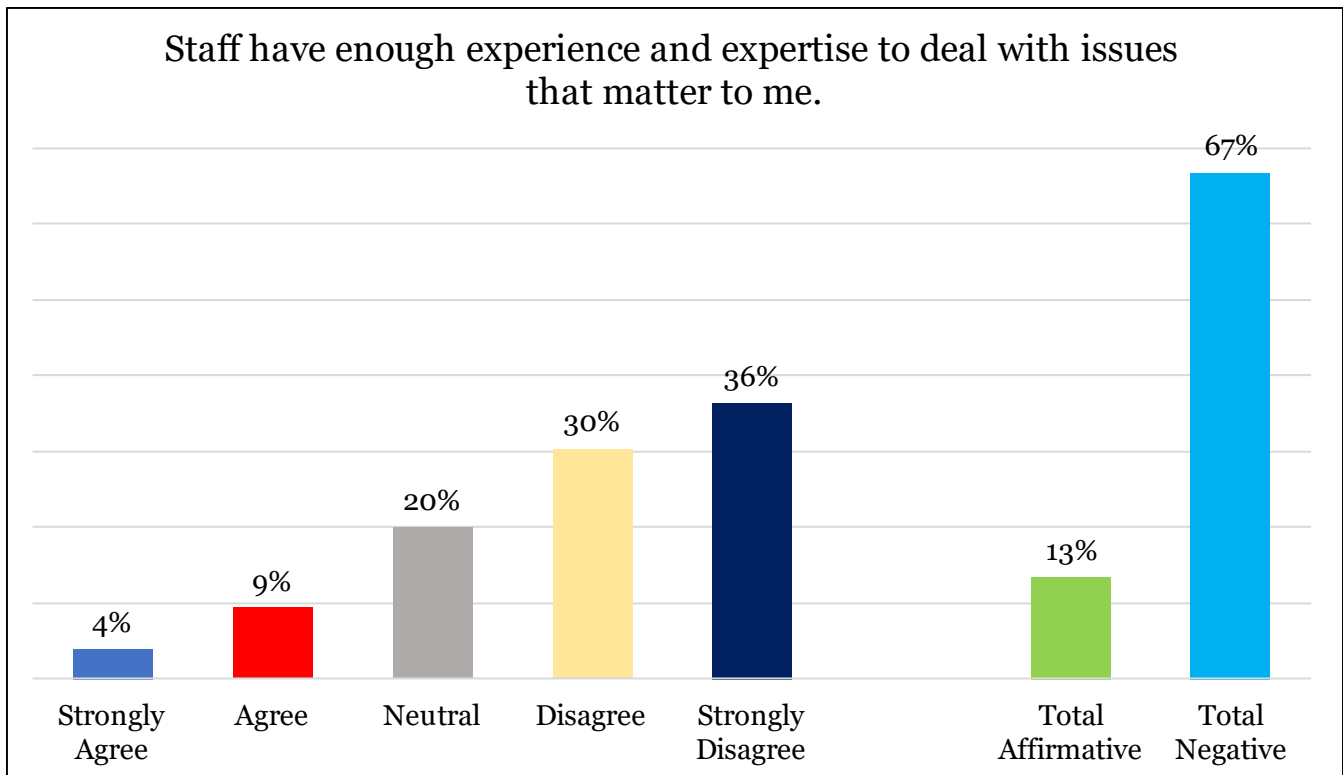
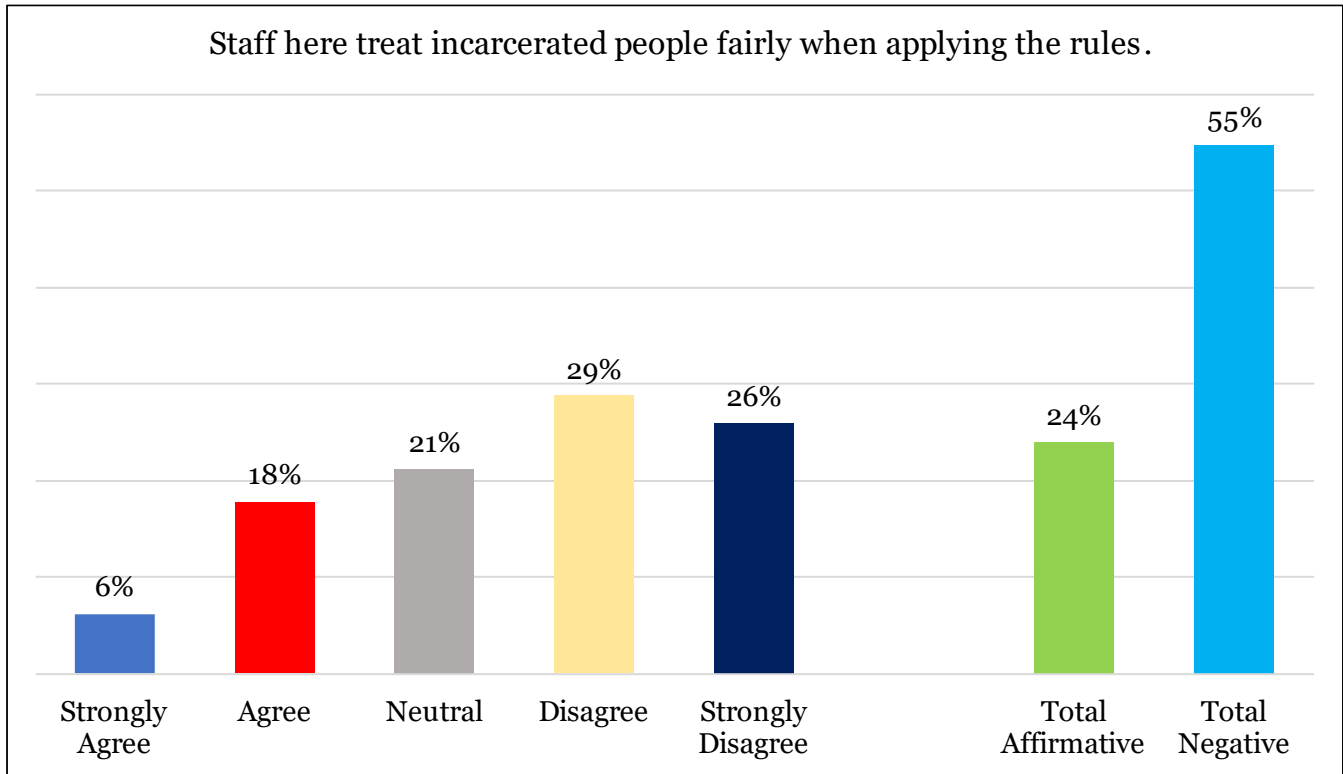


HELP AND ASSISTANCE – SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT GIVEN TO INCARCERATED PEOPLE FOR PROBLEMS INCLUDING DRUGS, HEALTHCARE AND PROGRESSION

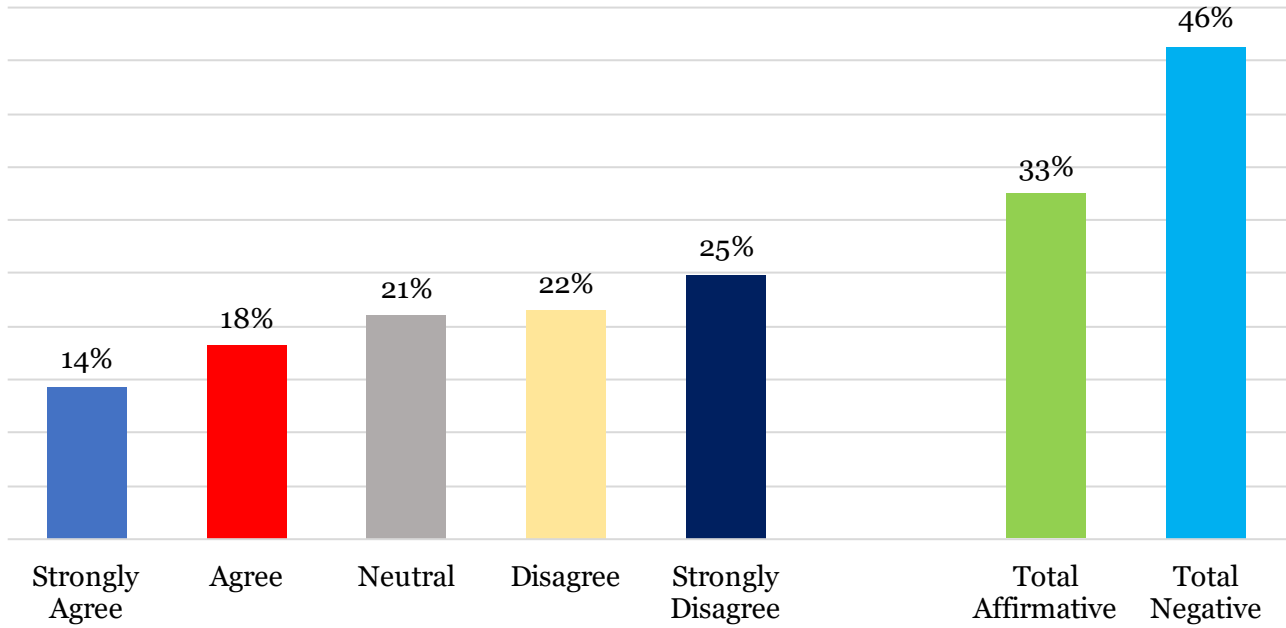


Professionalism

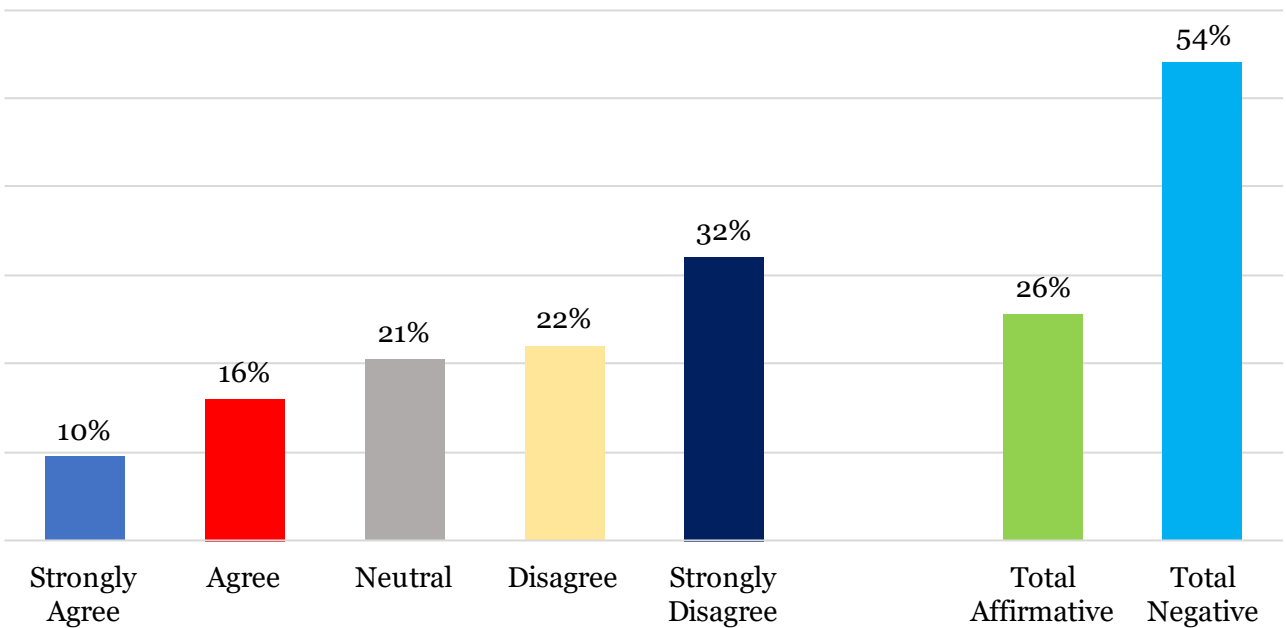
STAFF PROFESSIONALISM – STAFF CONFIDENCE AND COMPETENCE IN THE USE OF AUTHORITY



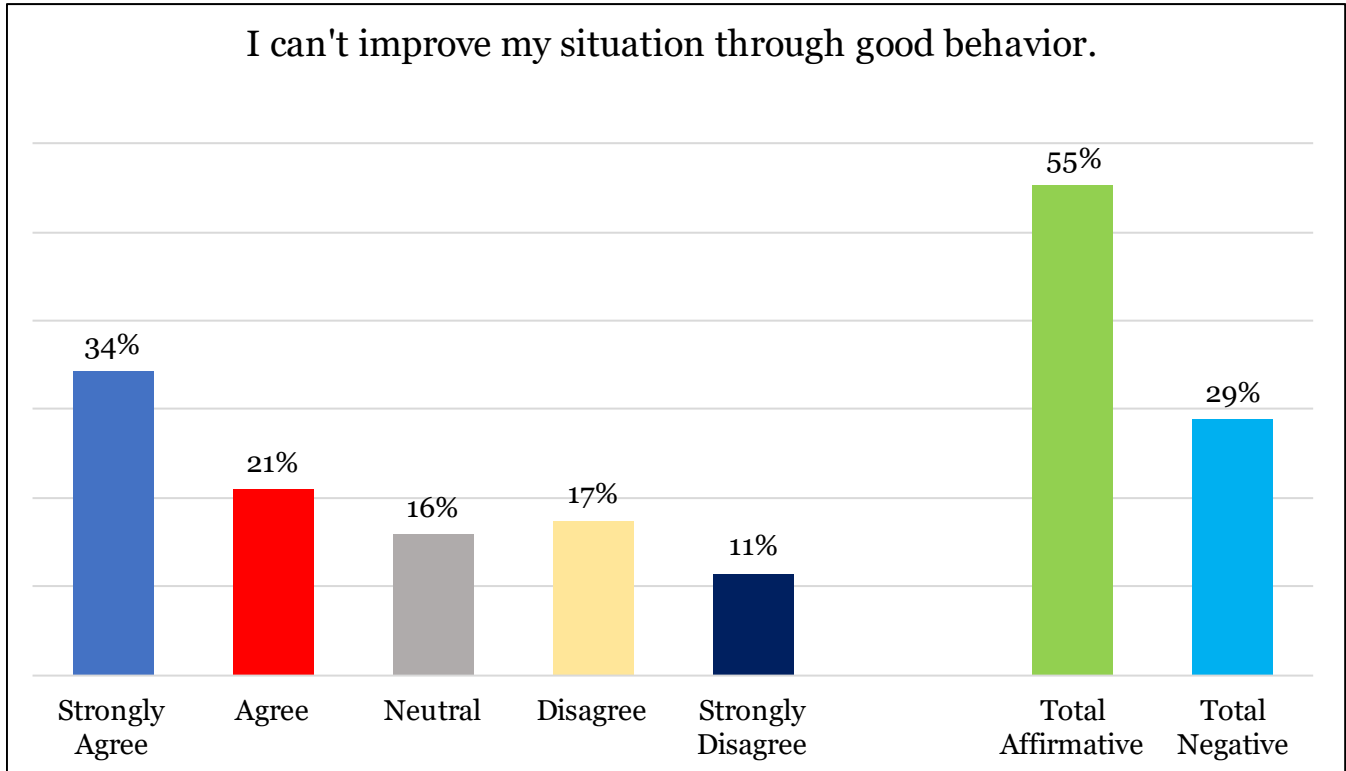
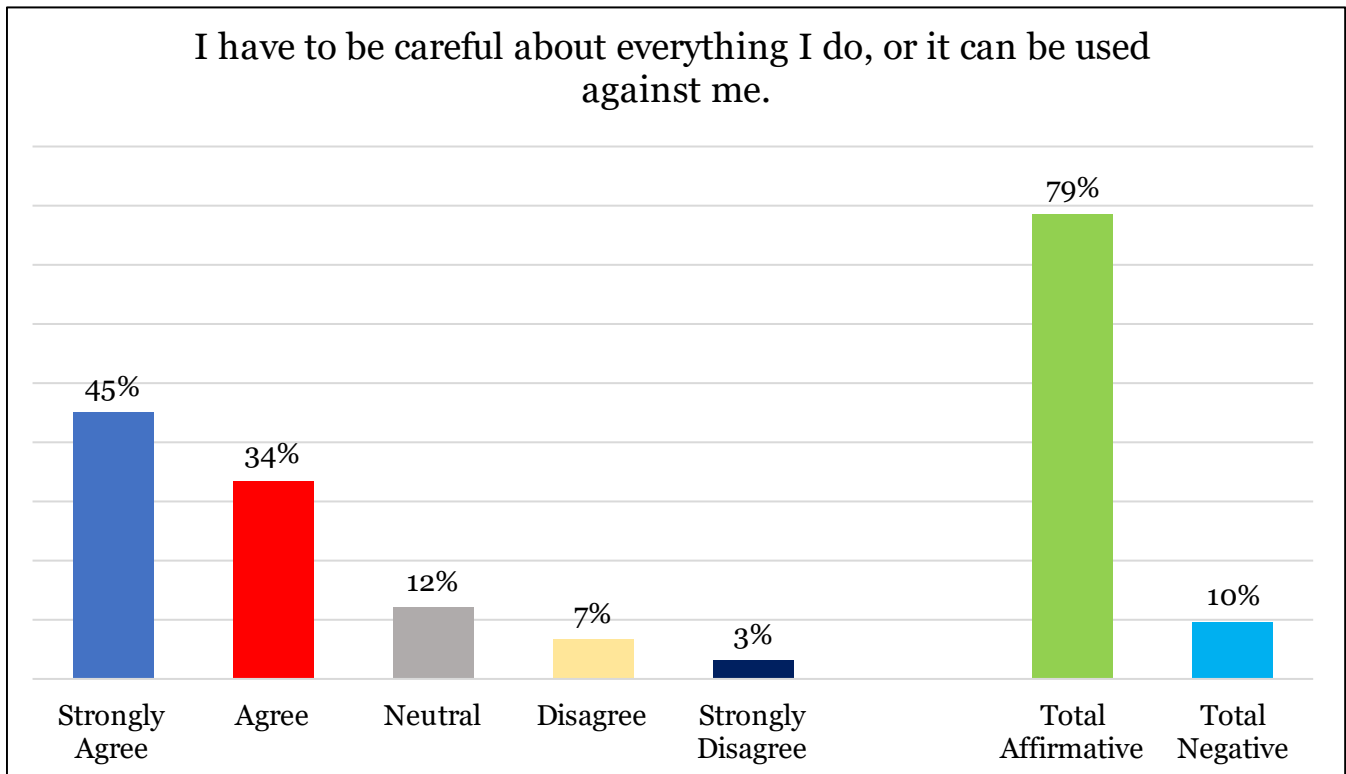
The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.



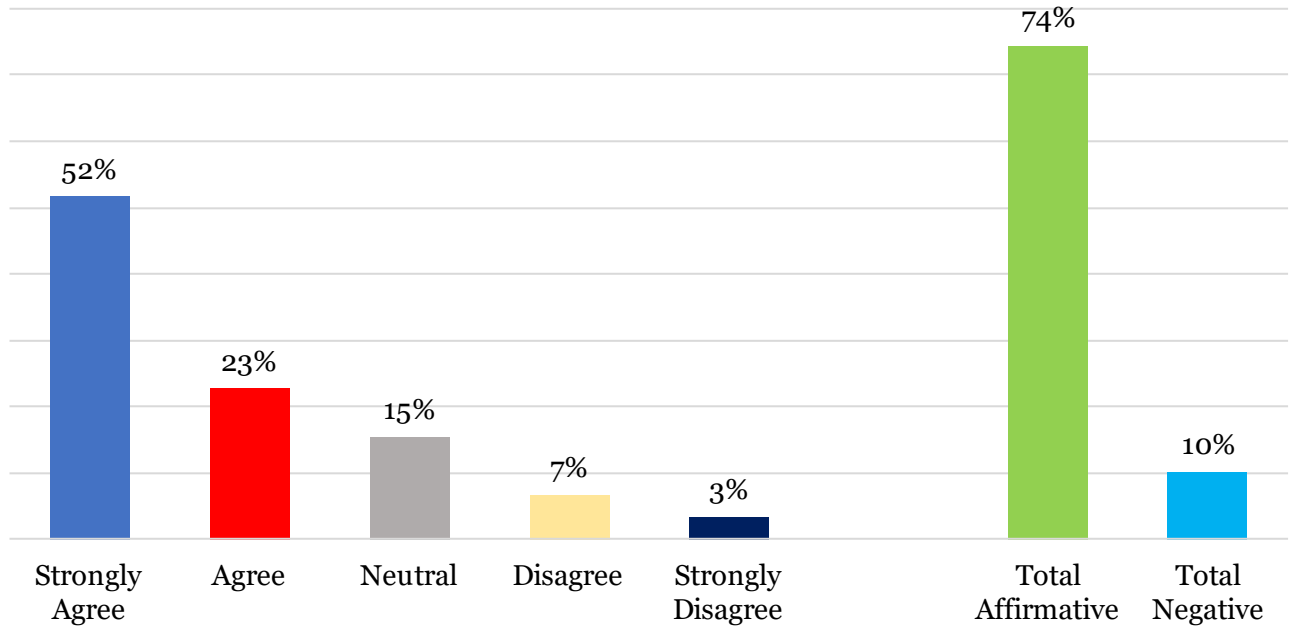
If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.



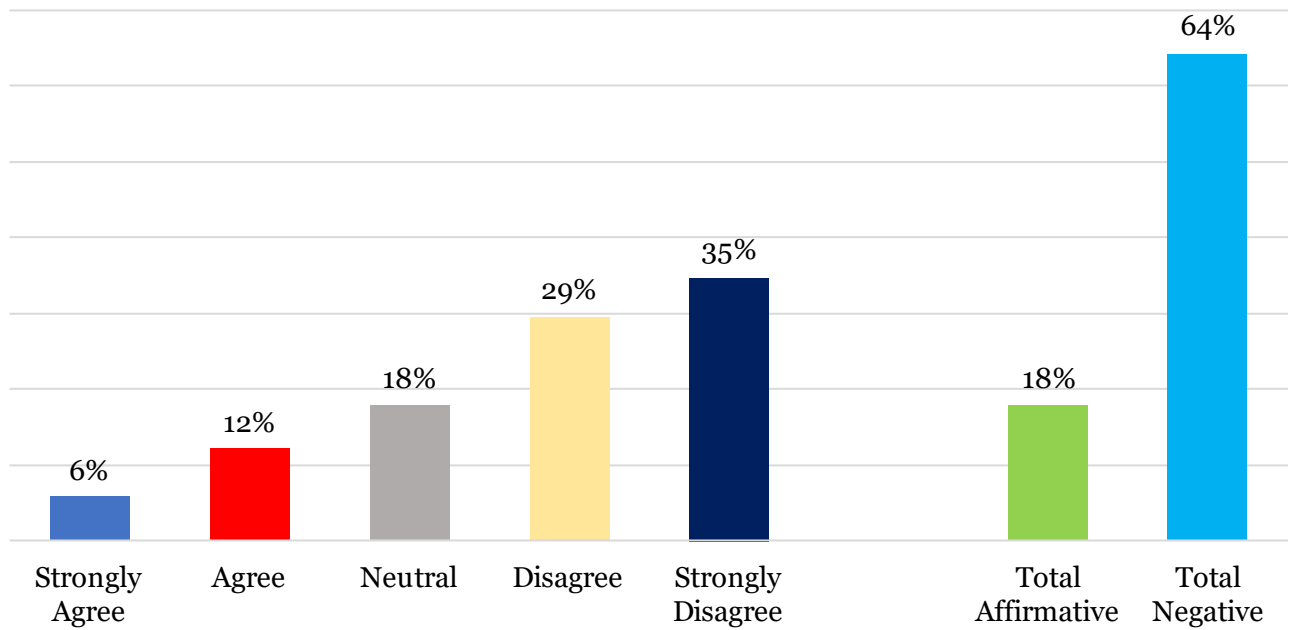
BUREAUCRATIC LEGITIMACY – THE TRANSPARENCY AND RESPONSIVENESS OF THE PRISON/PRISON SYSTEM AND ITS MORAL RECOGNITION OF THE INDIVIDUAL



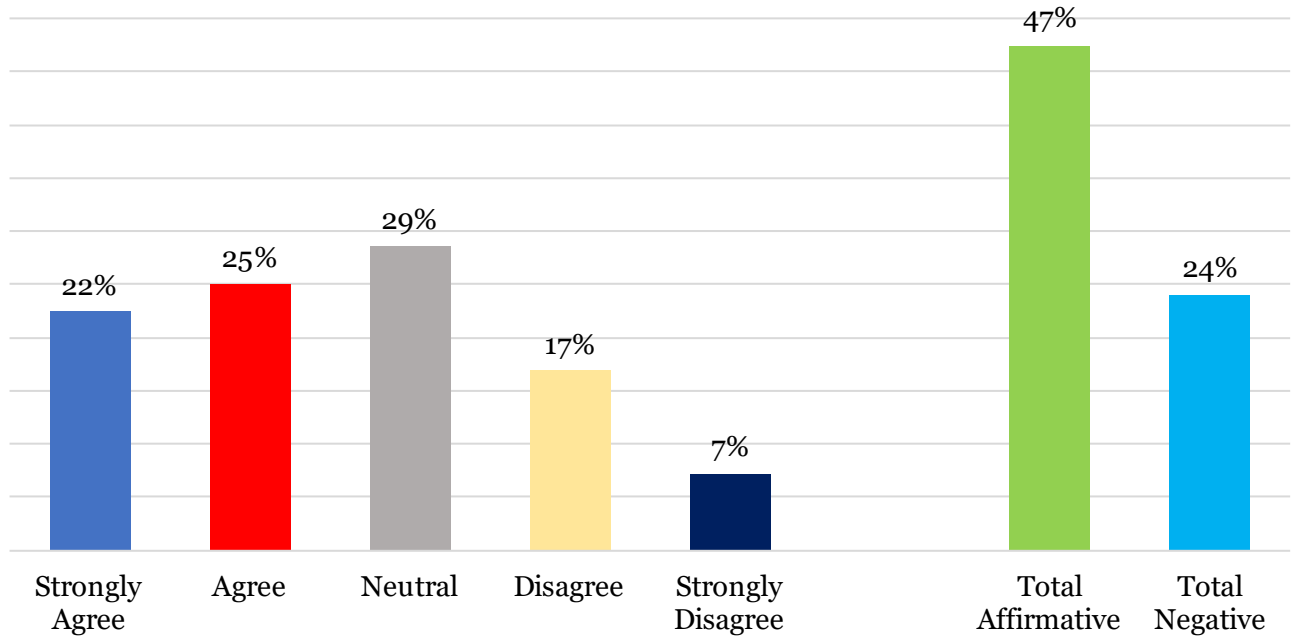
All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.



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

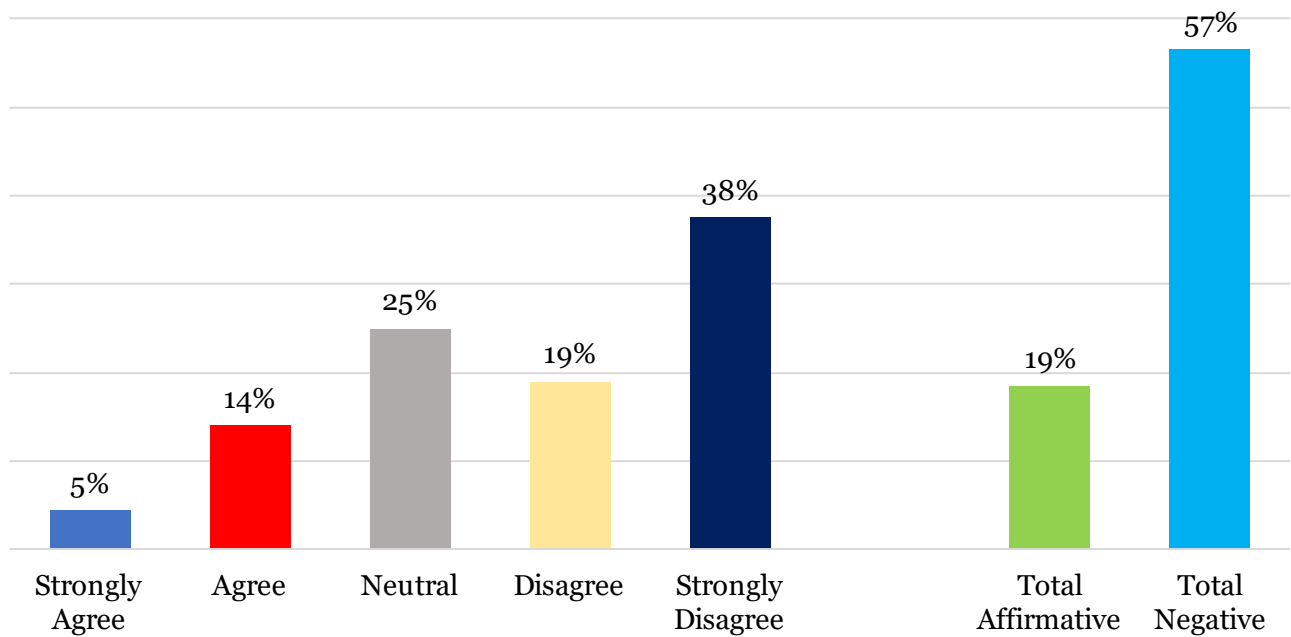


To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.

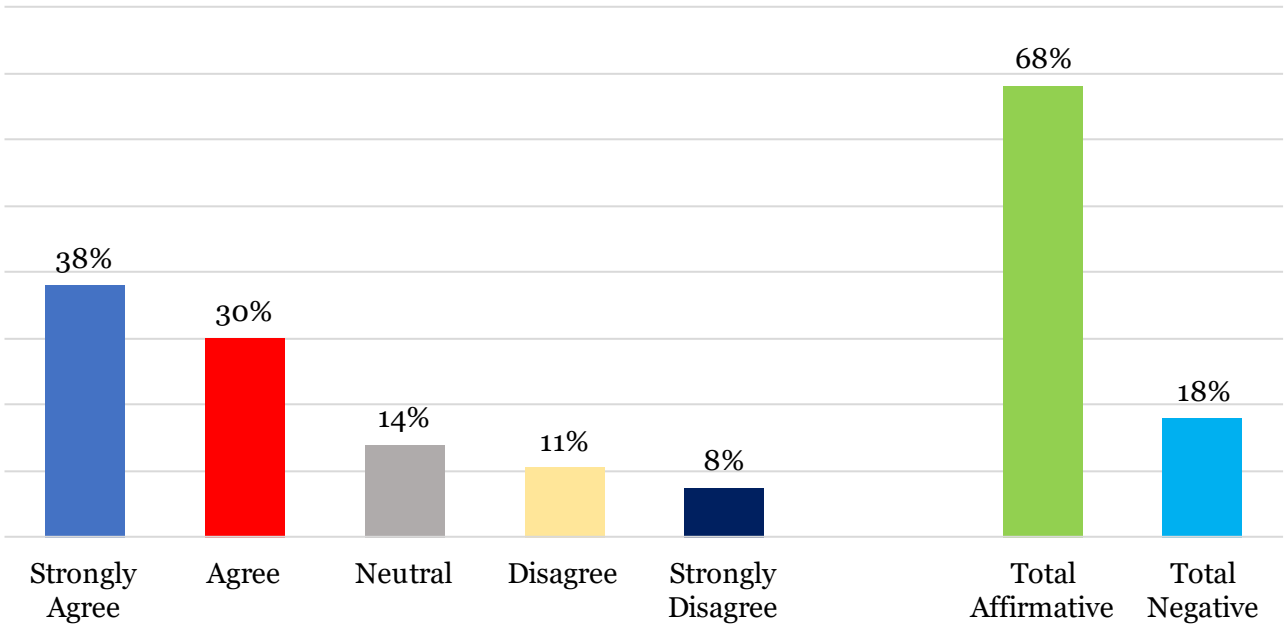


FAIRNESS – THE PERCEIVED IMPARTIALITY, PROPORTIONALITY AND LEGALITY OF PUNISHMENTS AND PROCEDURES

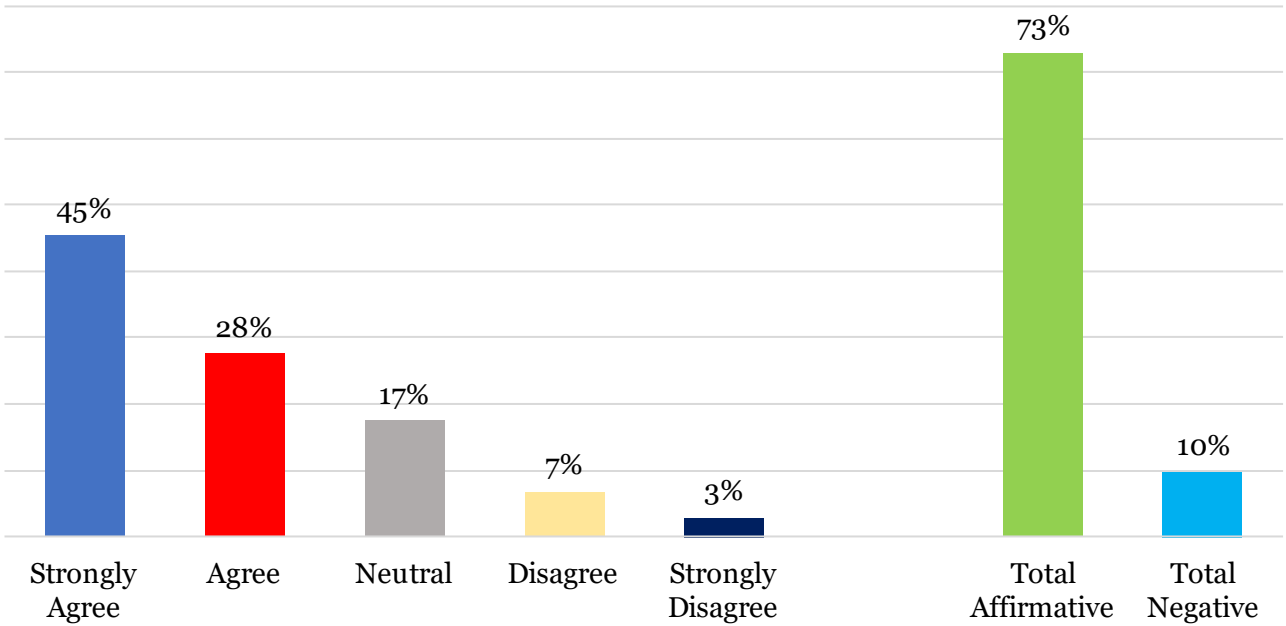
The disciplinary system is fair.



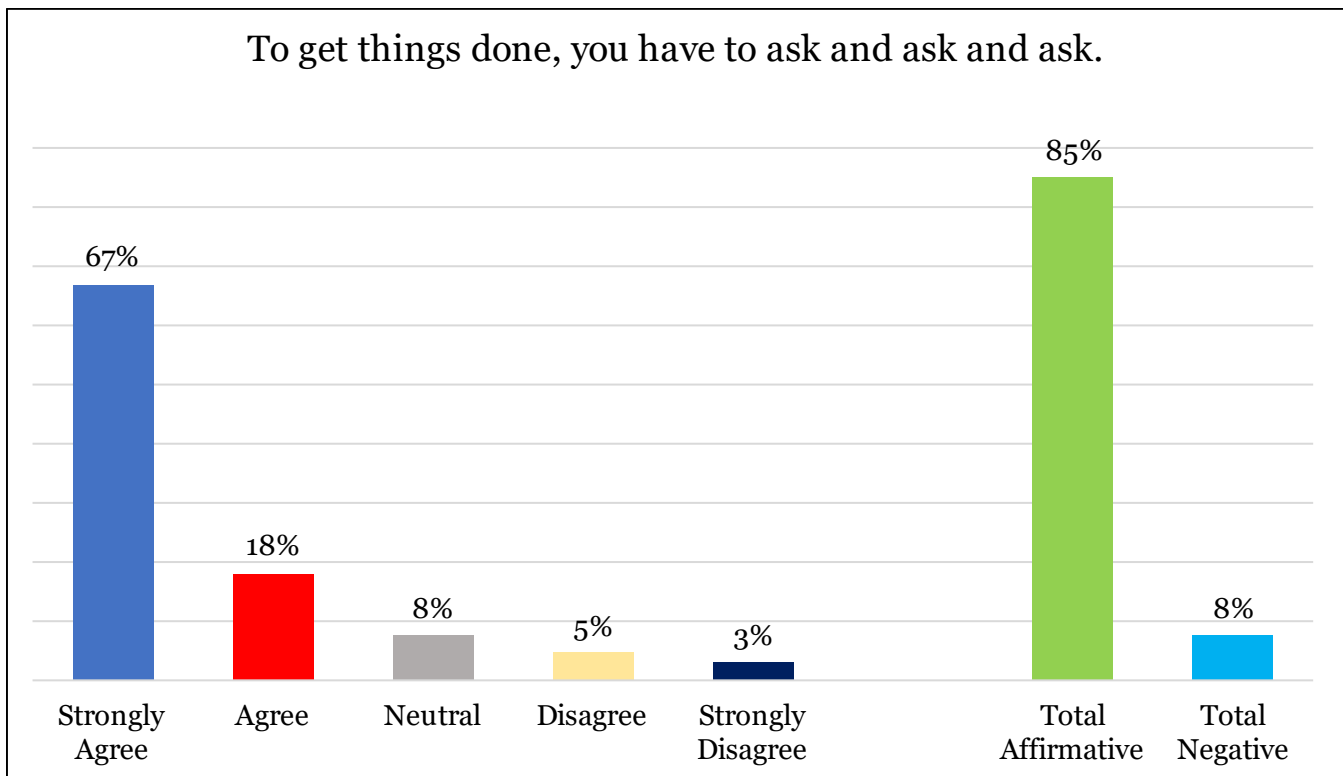
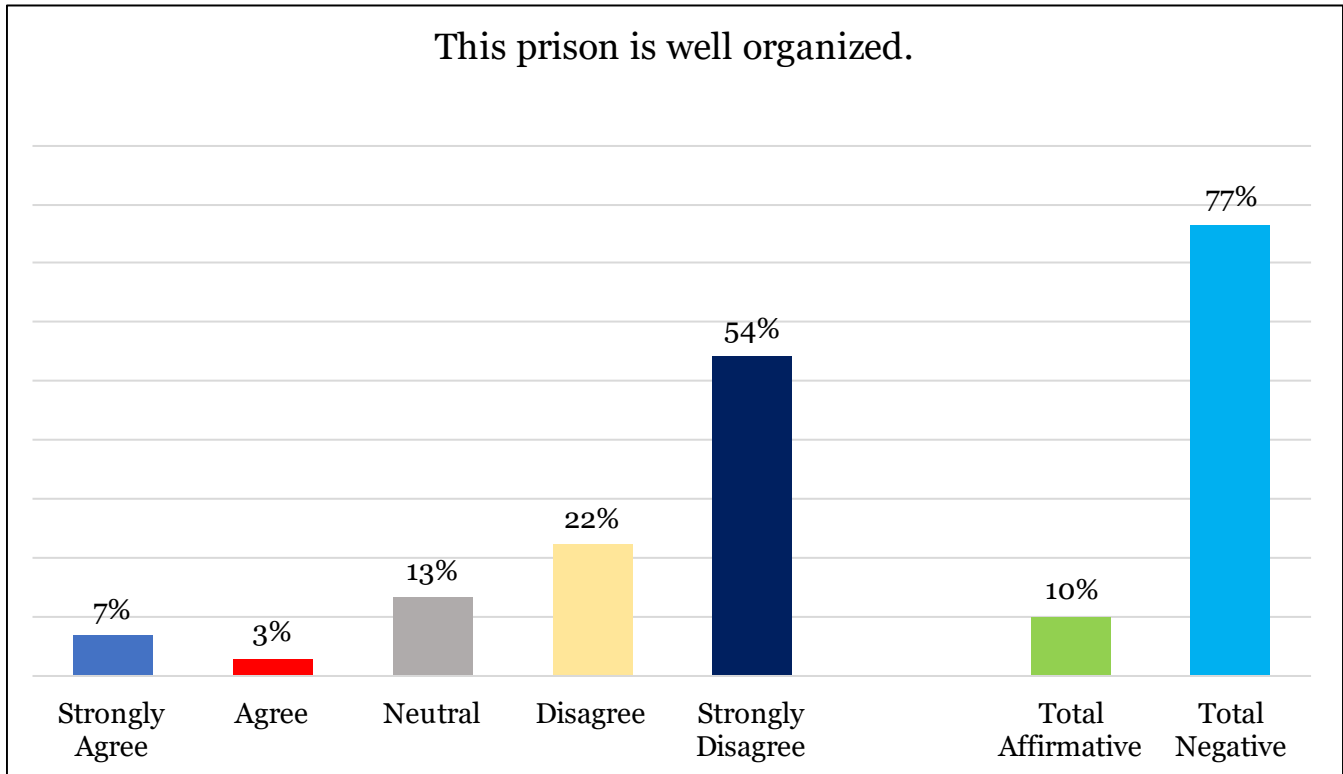
Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.



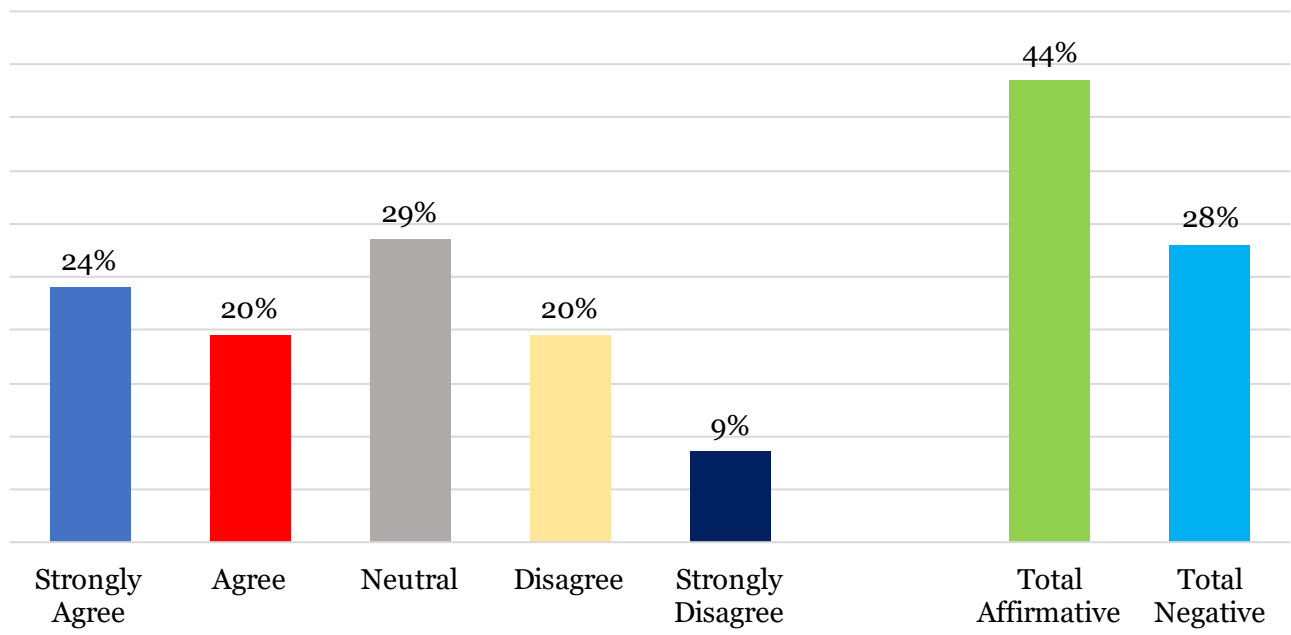
This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.



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

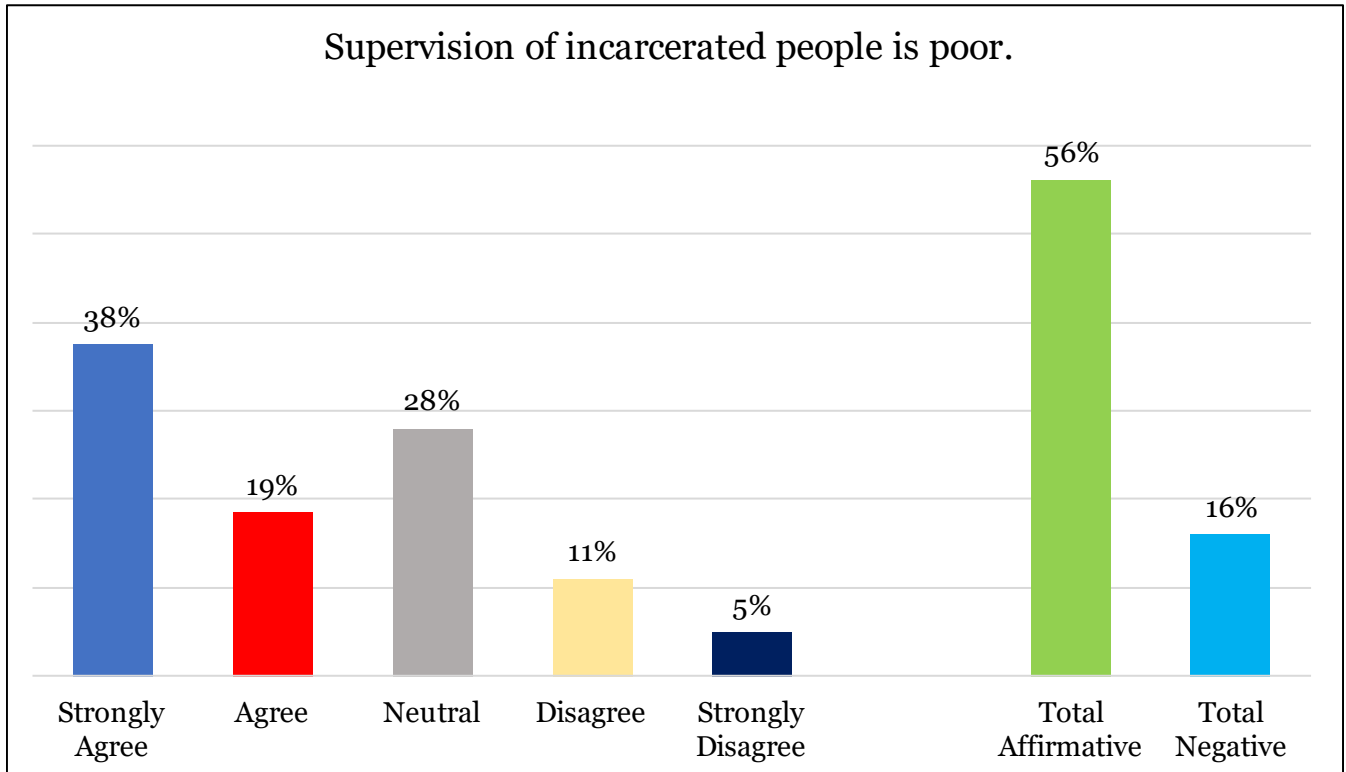


You never know the rules.

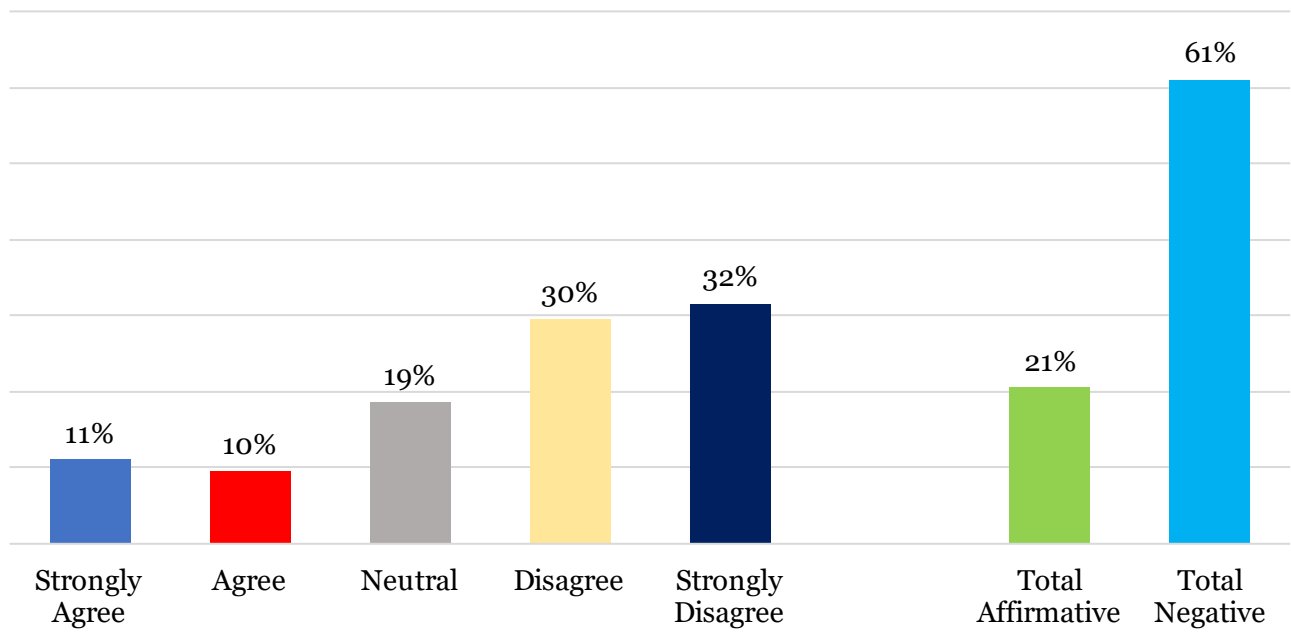


Security

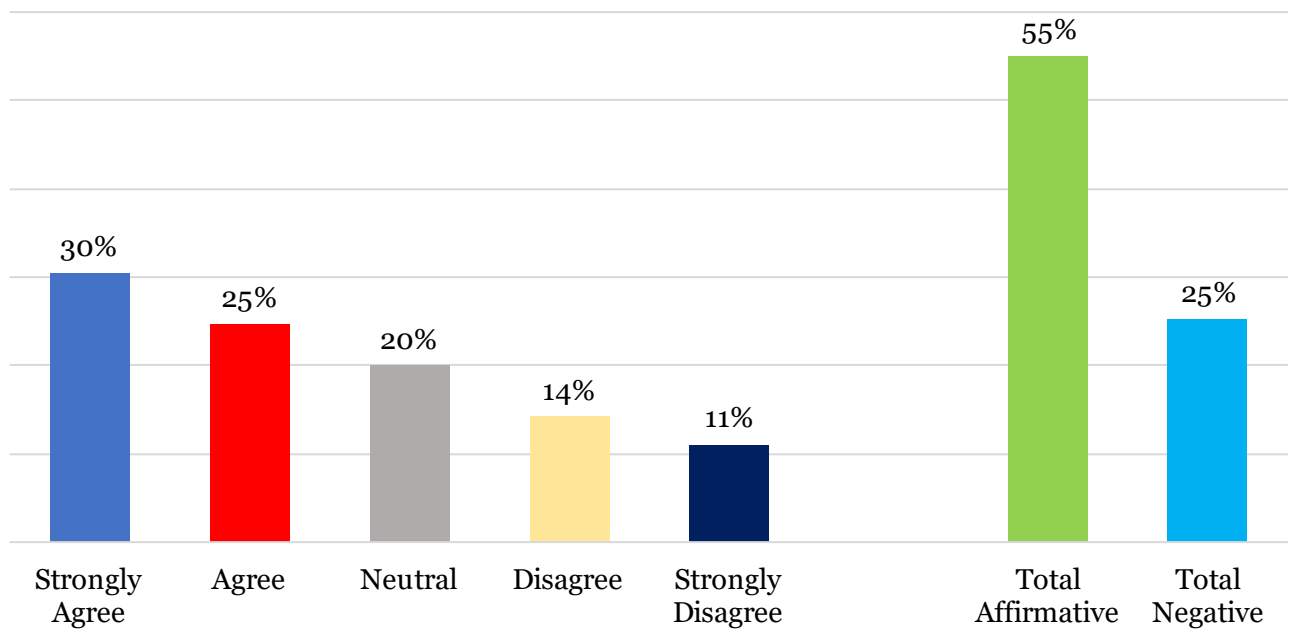
POLICING AND SECURITY – STAFF SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE PRISON ENVIRONMENT



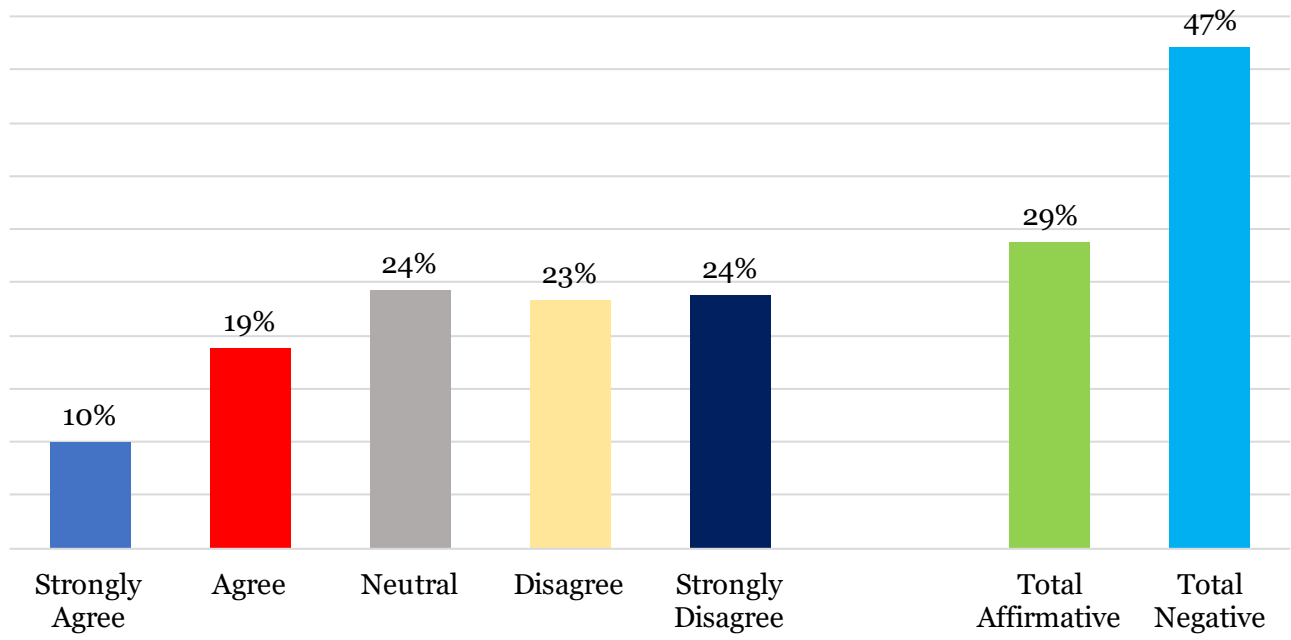
This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.



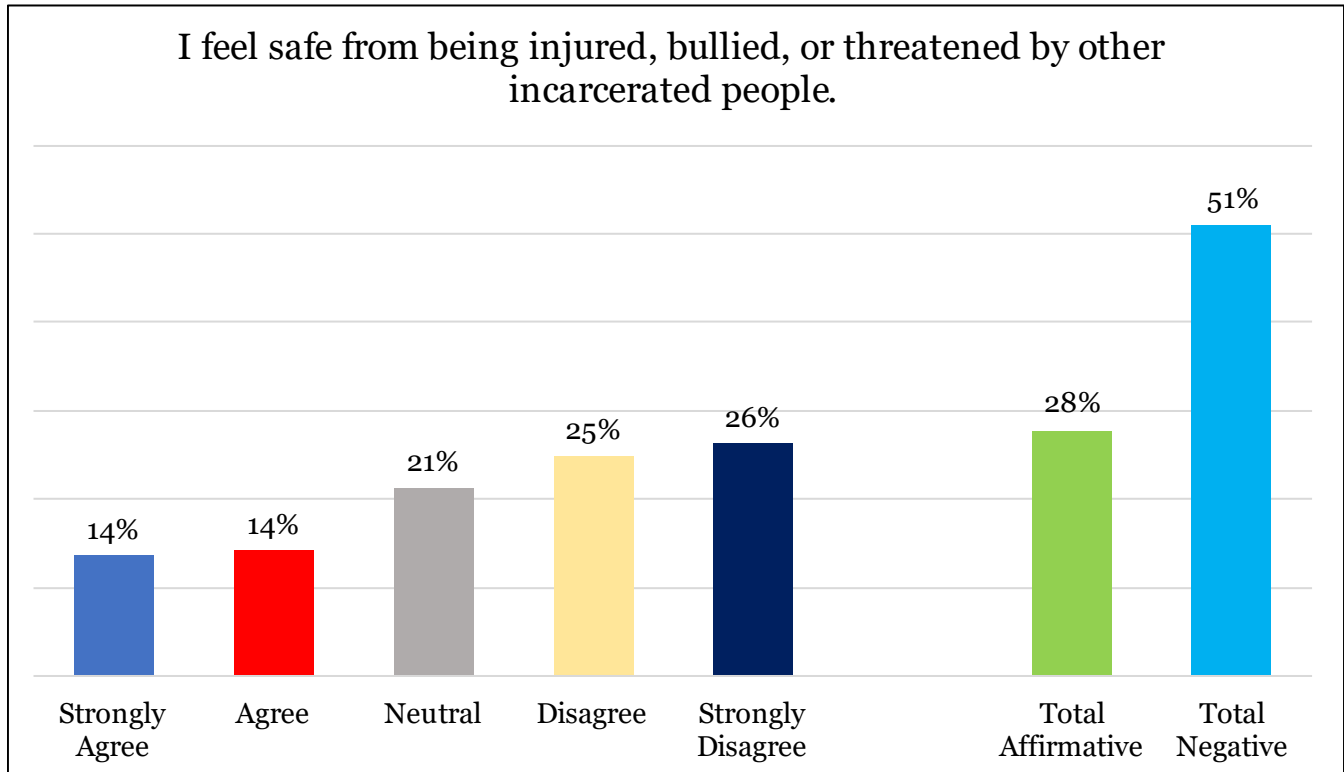
There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.



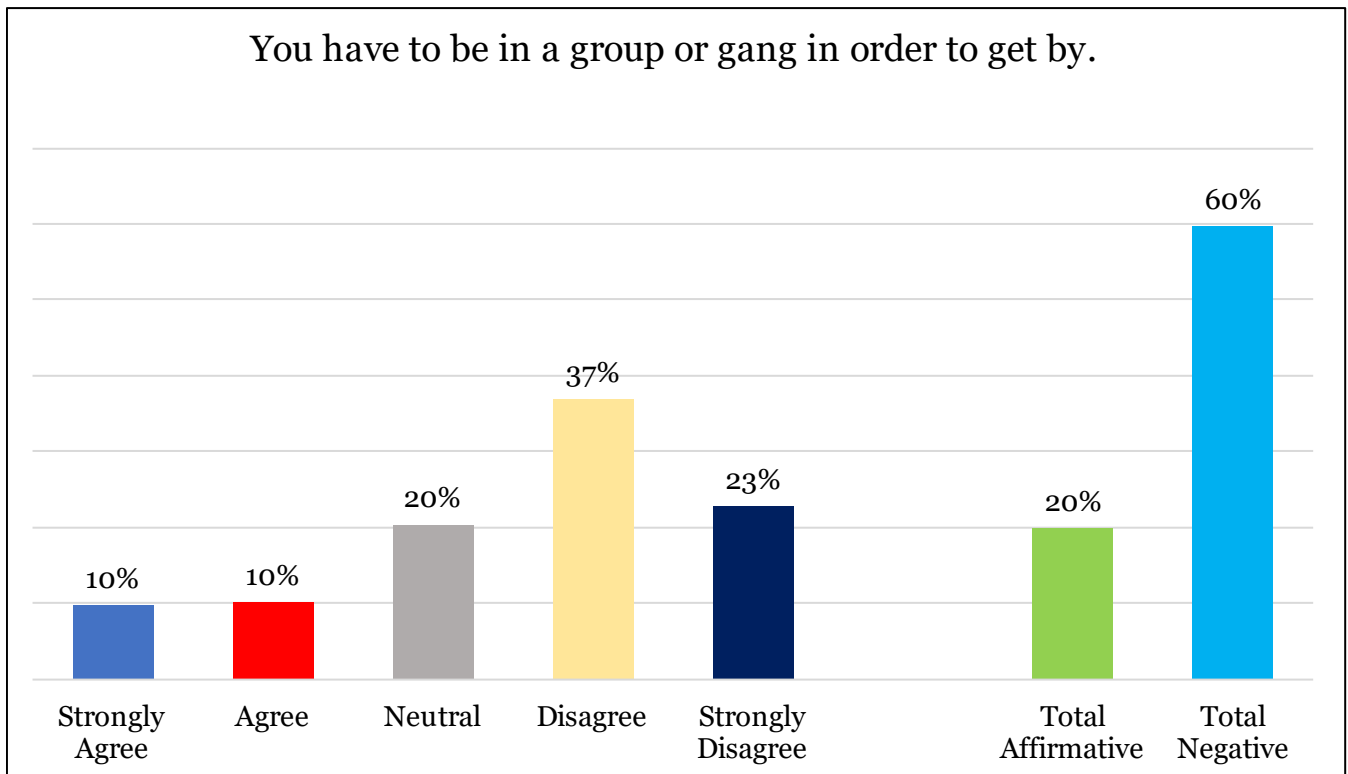
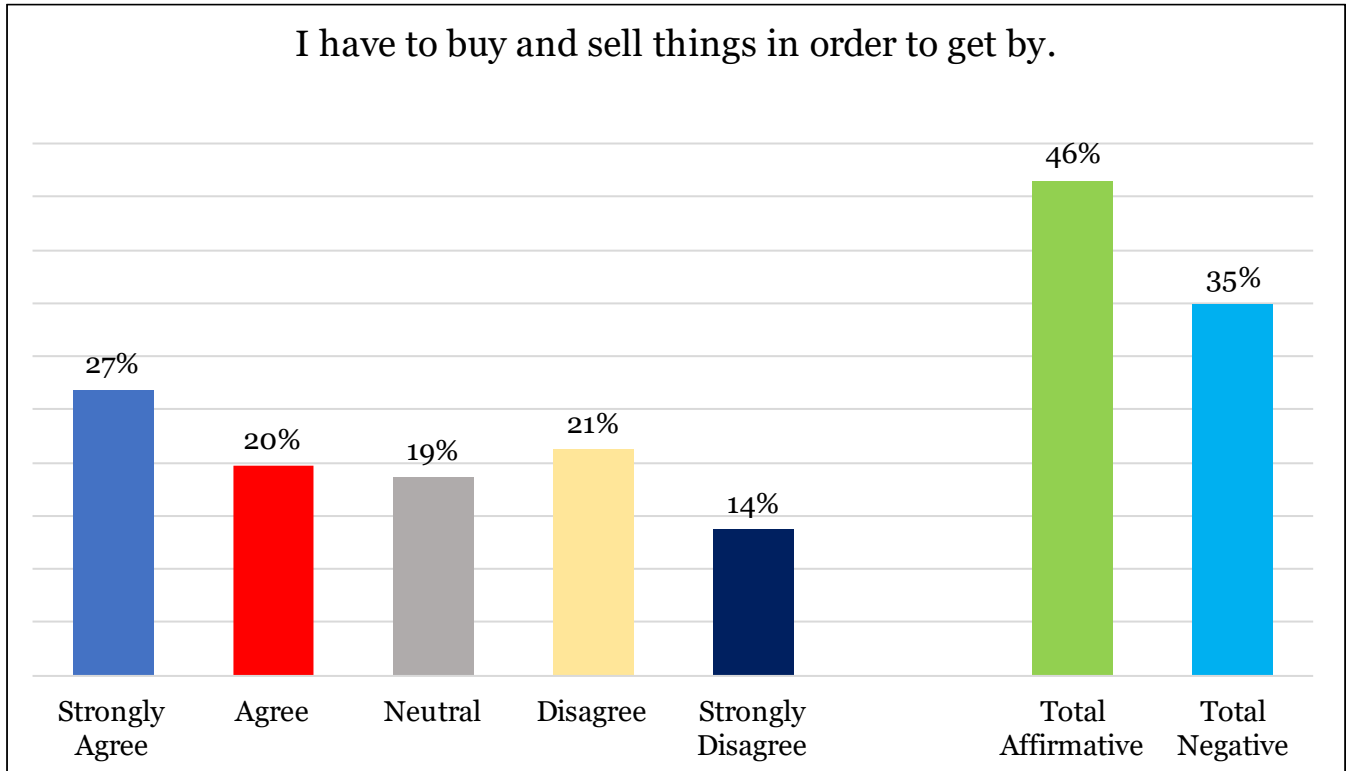
Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.



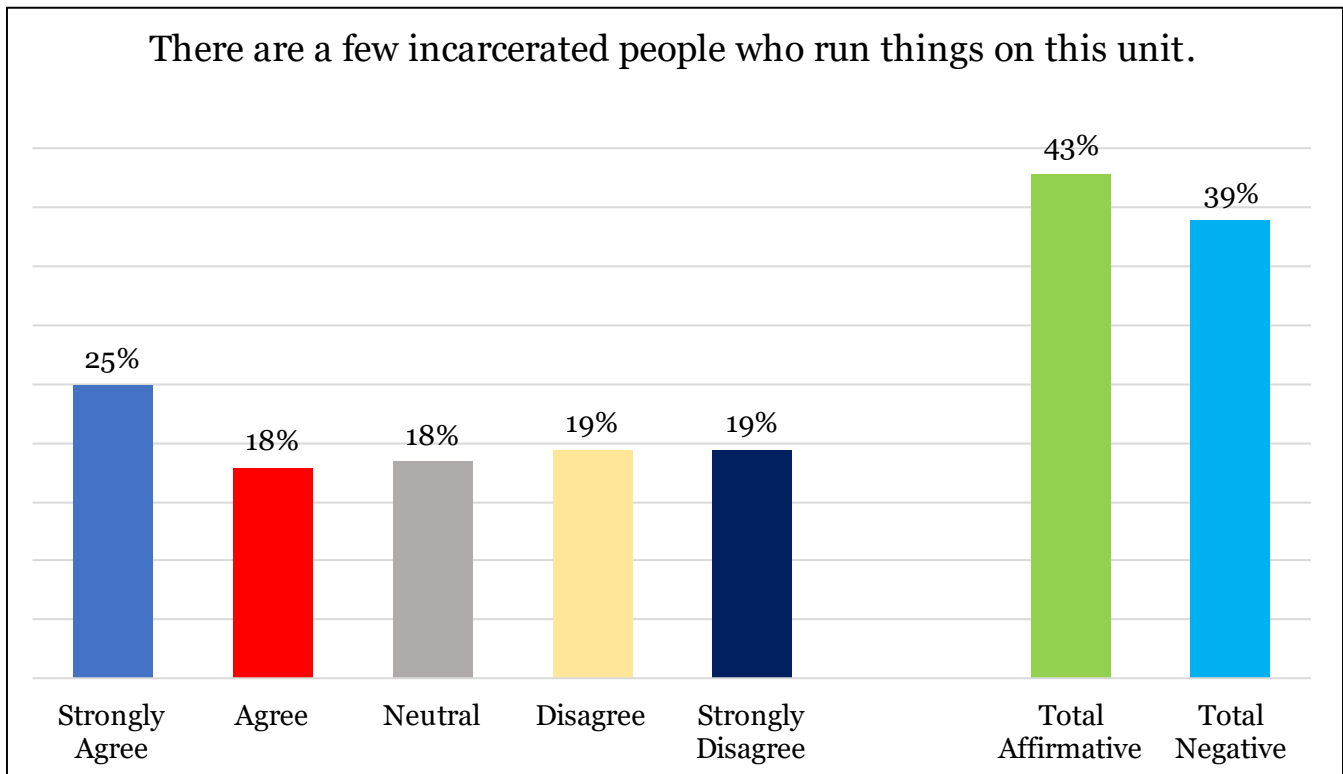
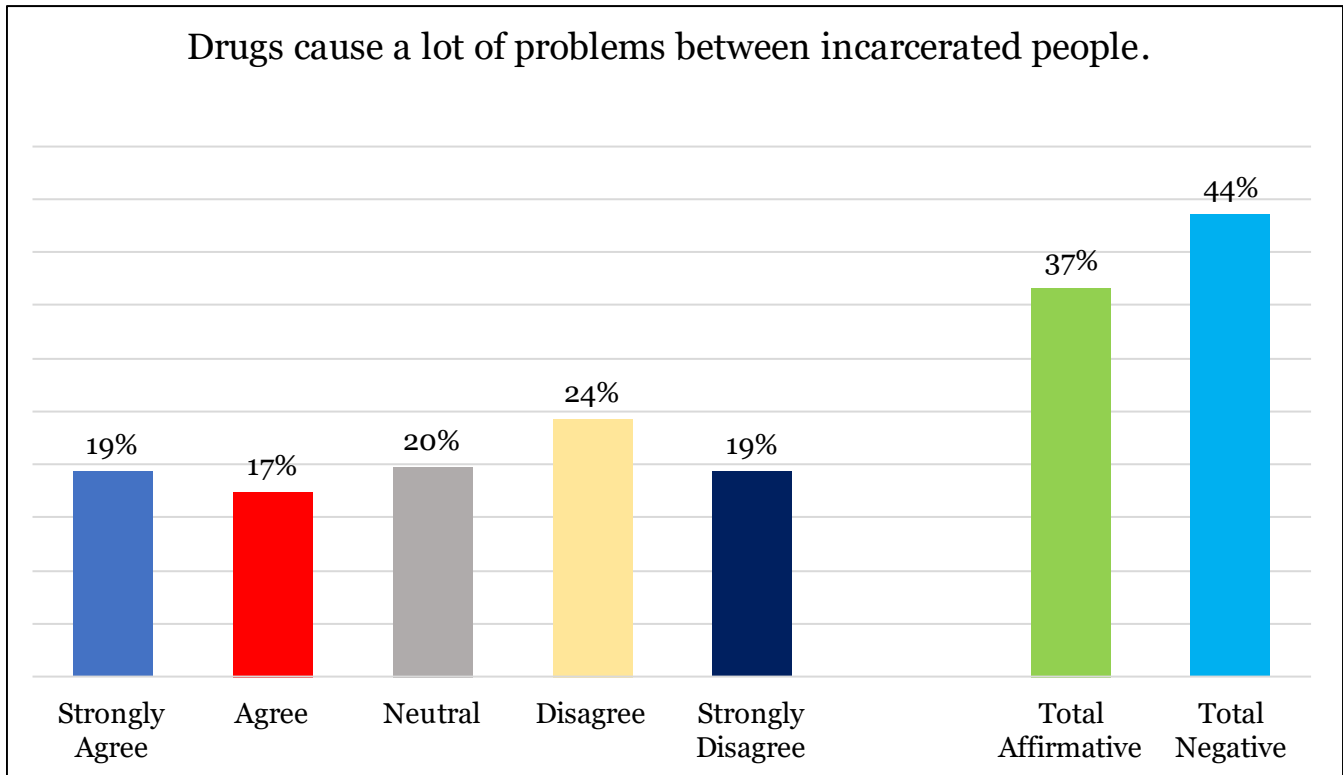
INCARCERATED PERSON SAFETY – THE FEELING OF SECURITY OR PROTECTION FROM HARM, THREAT OR DANGER



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

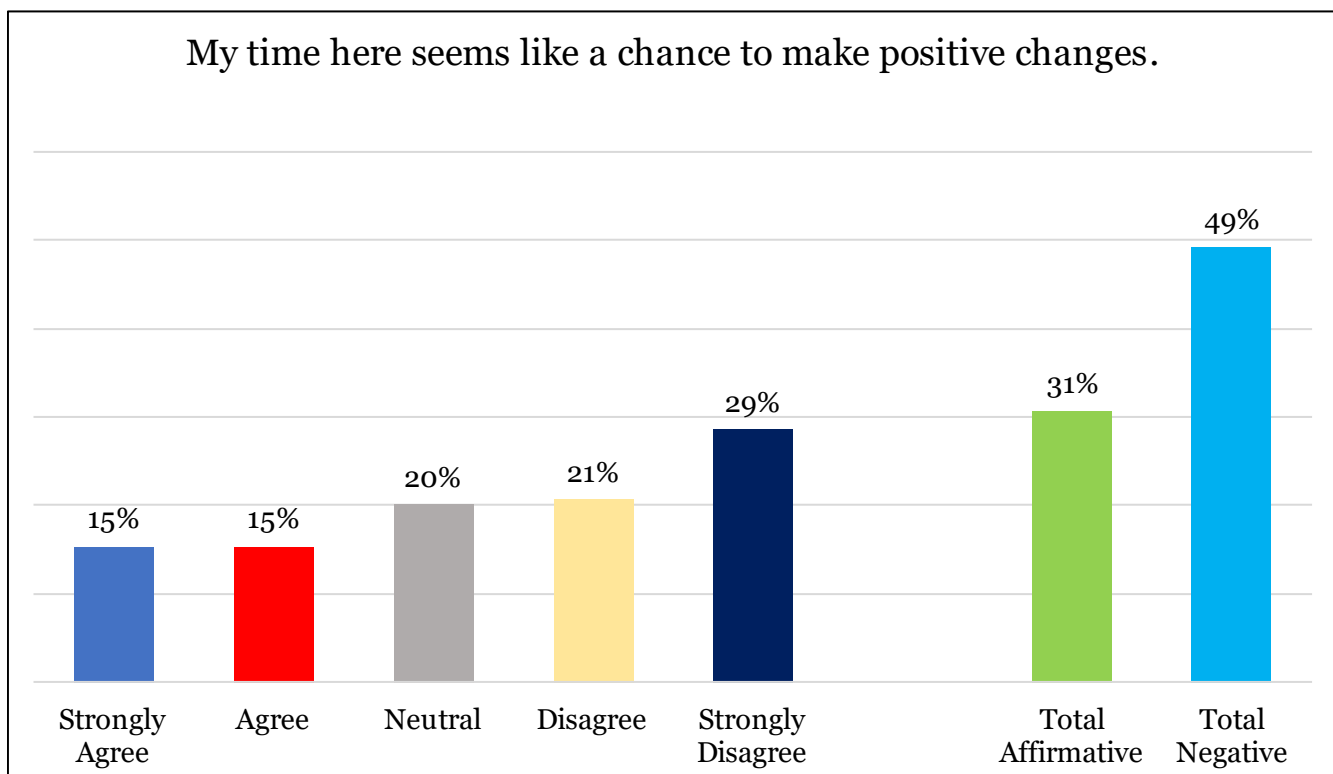
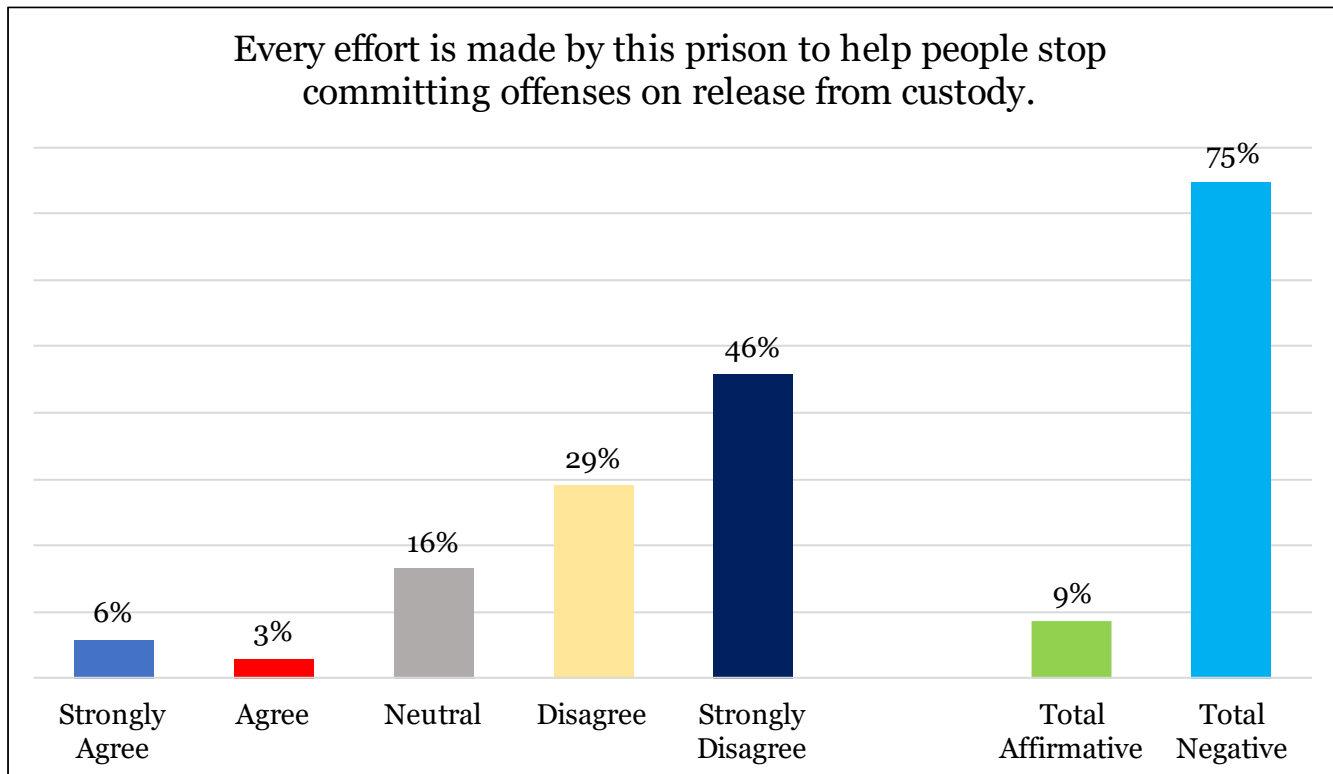


DRUGS AND EXPLOITATION – THE LEVEL OF DRUGS, BULLYING AND VICTIMIZATION IN THE PRISON ENVIRONMENT

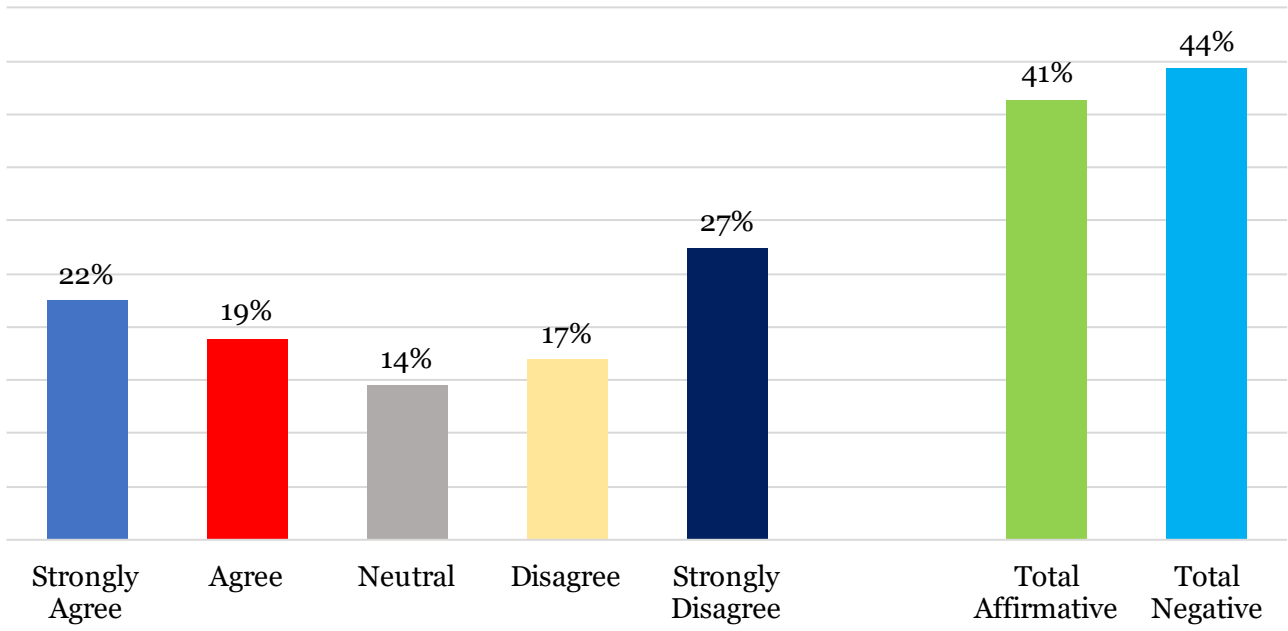


Well-being and Development

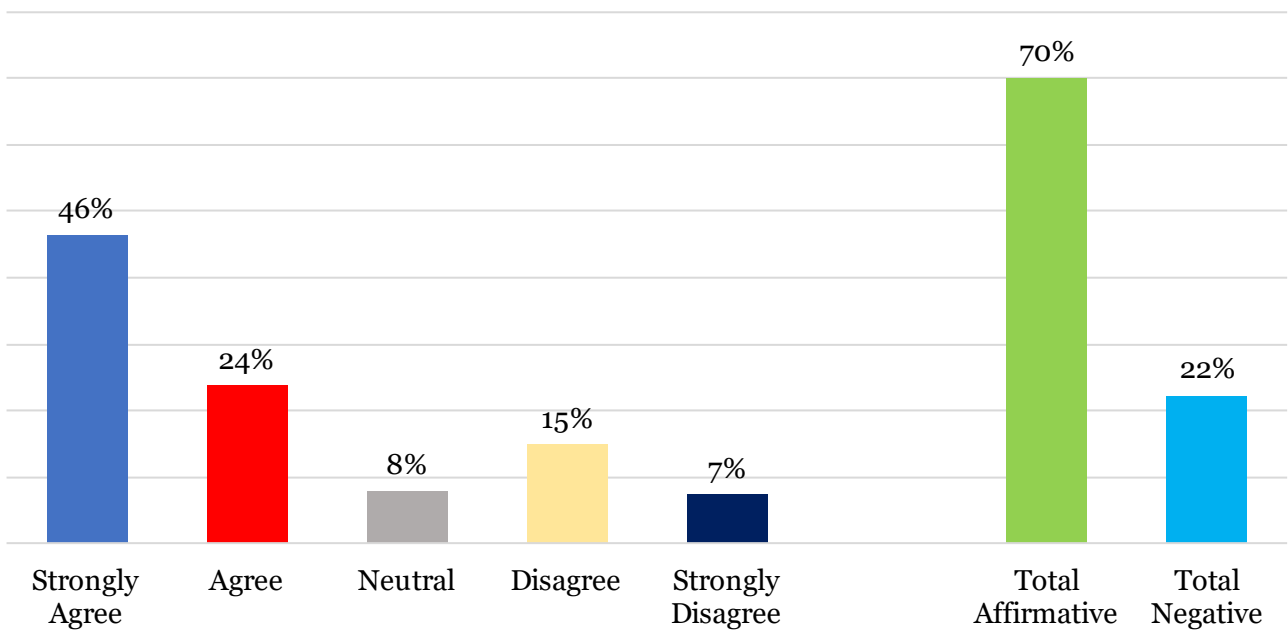
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT – AN ENVIRONMENT THAT HELPS INCARCERATED PEOPLE WITH OFFENDING BEHAVIOR, PREPARATION FOR RELEASE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR POTENTIAL



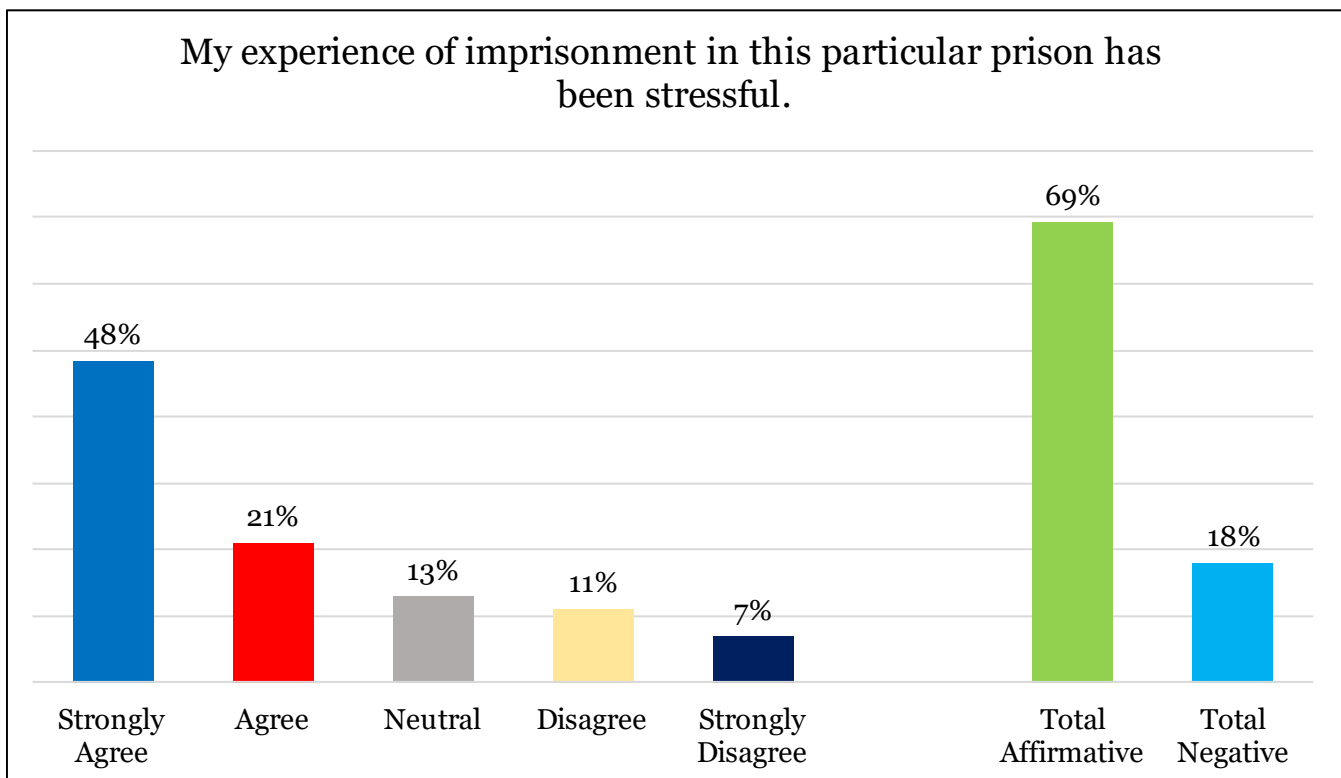
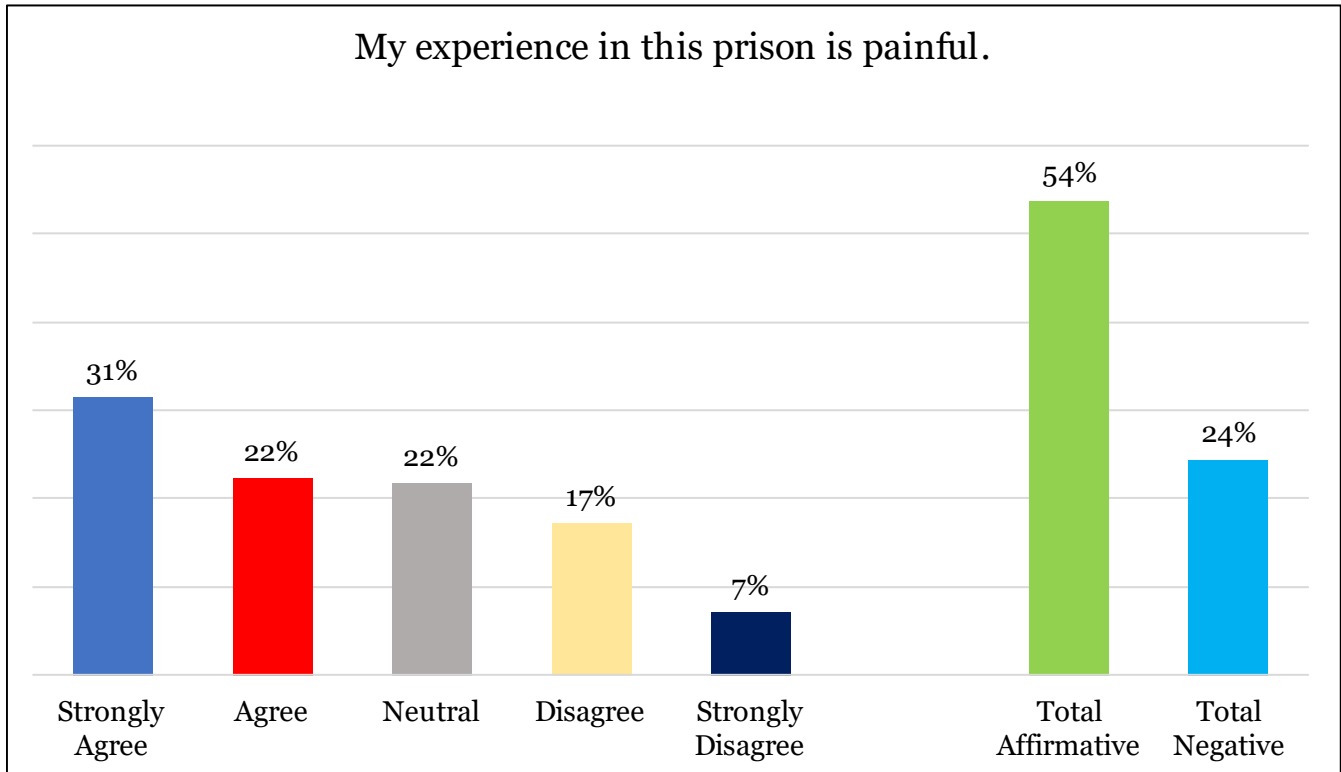
The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.



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

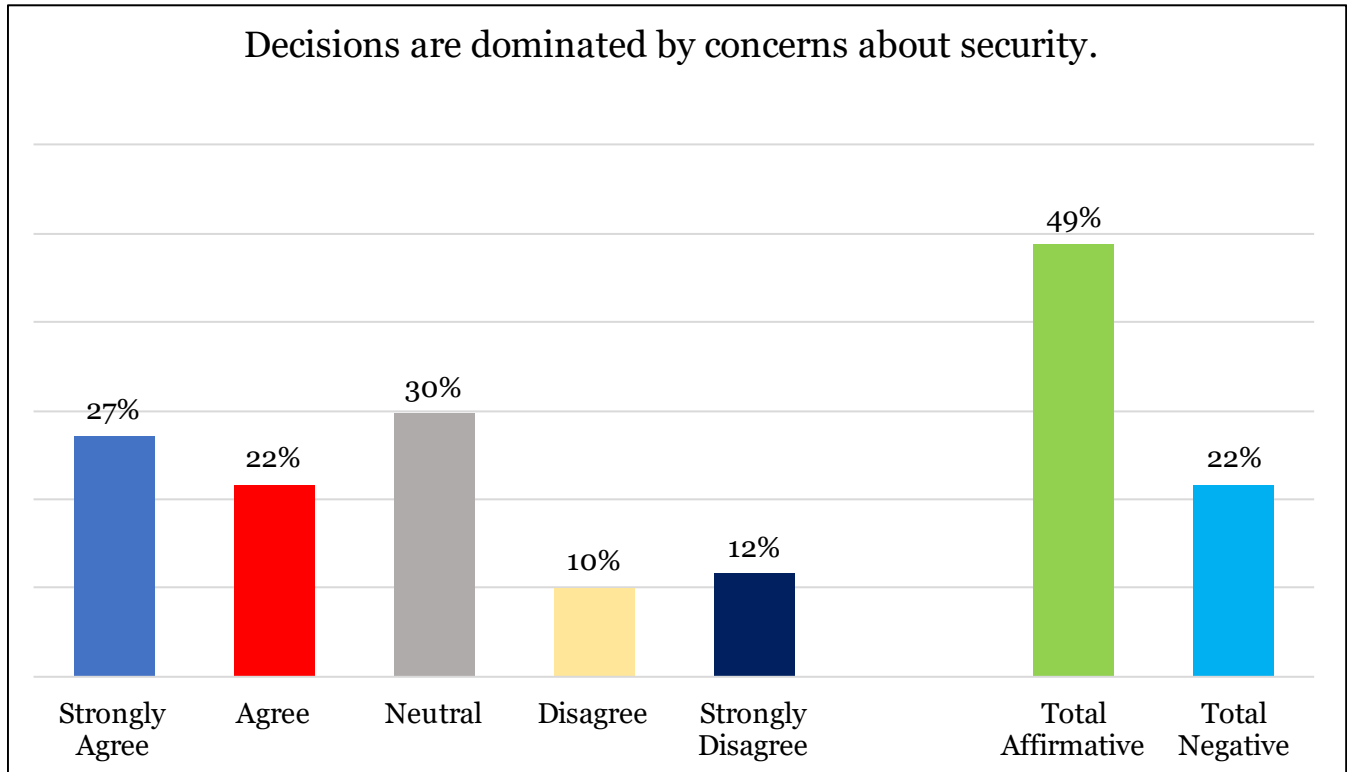


WELL-BEING – FEELINGS OF PAIN, PUNISHMENT AND TENSION EXPERIENCED BY INCARCERATED PEOPLE

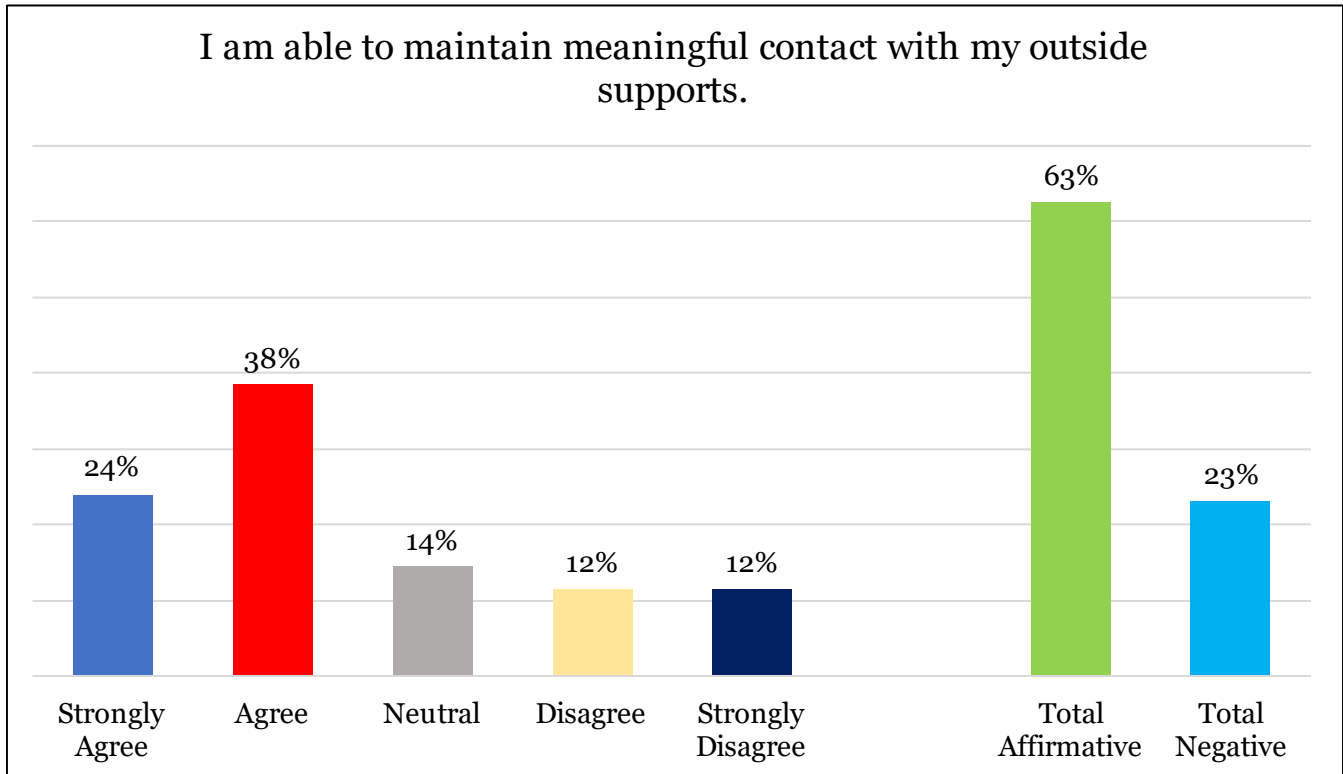


Additional Questions

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

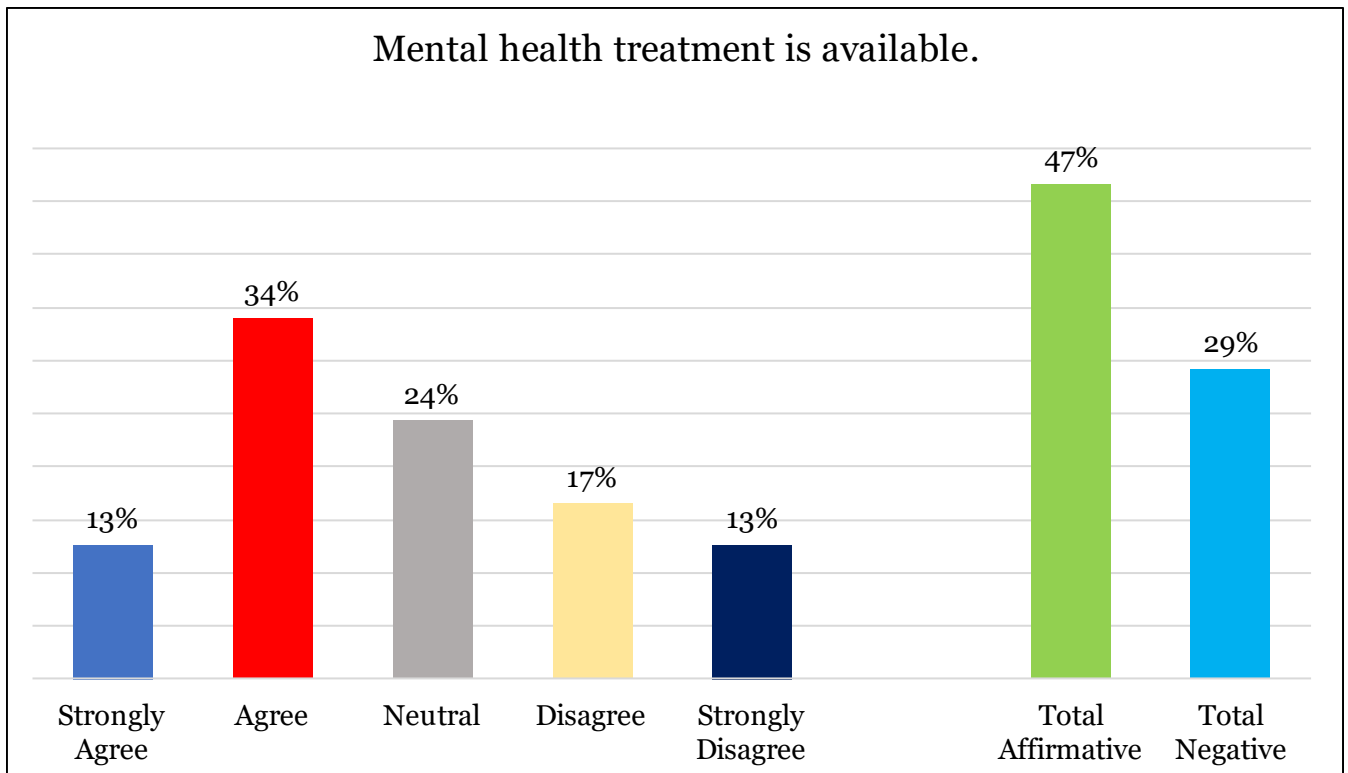
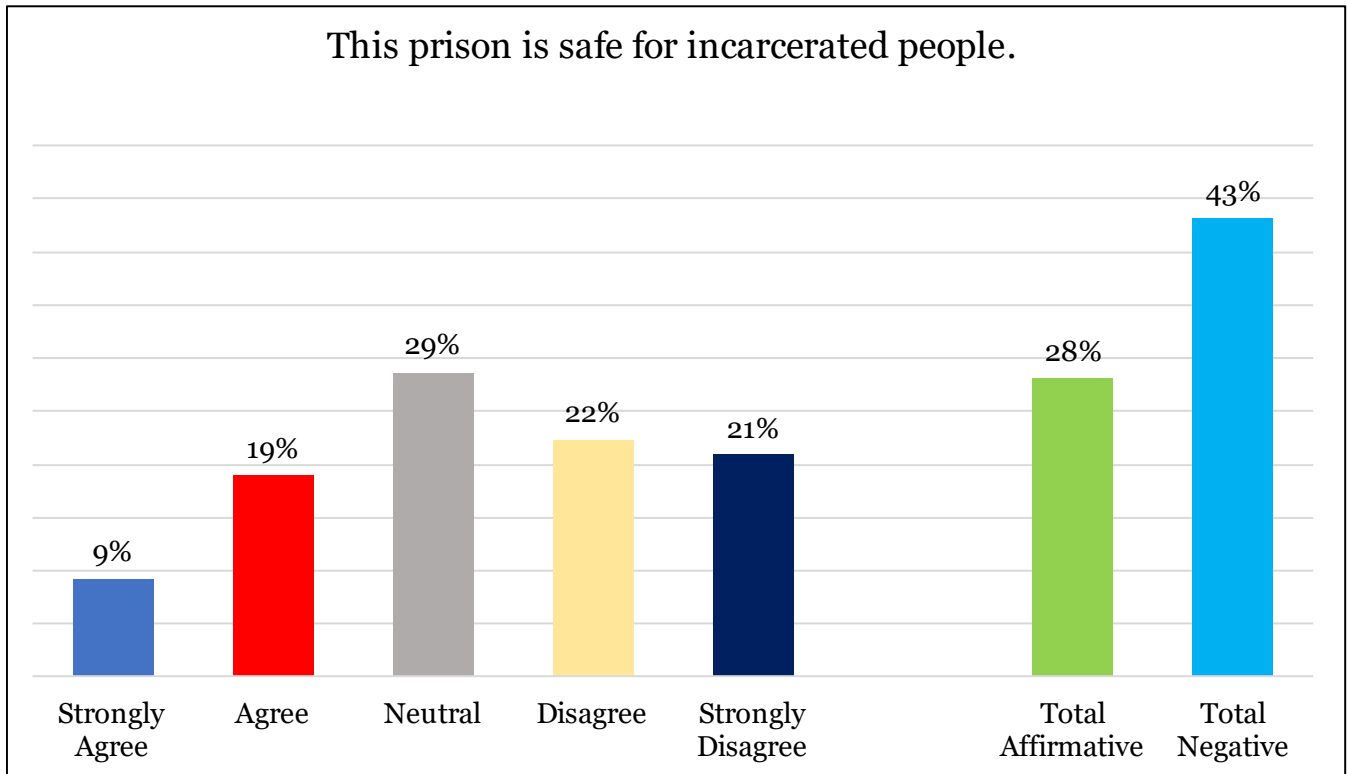


FAMILY CONTACT – AN ENVIRONMENT THAT FACILITATES INCARCERATED PEOPLE MAINTAINING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOVED ONES

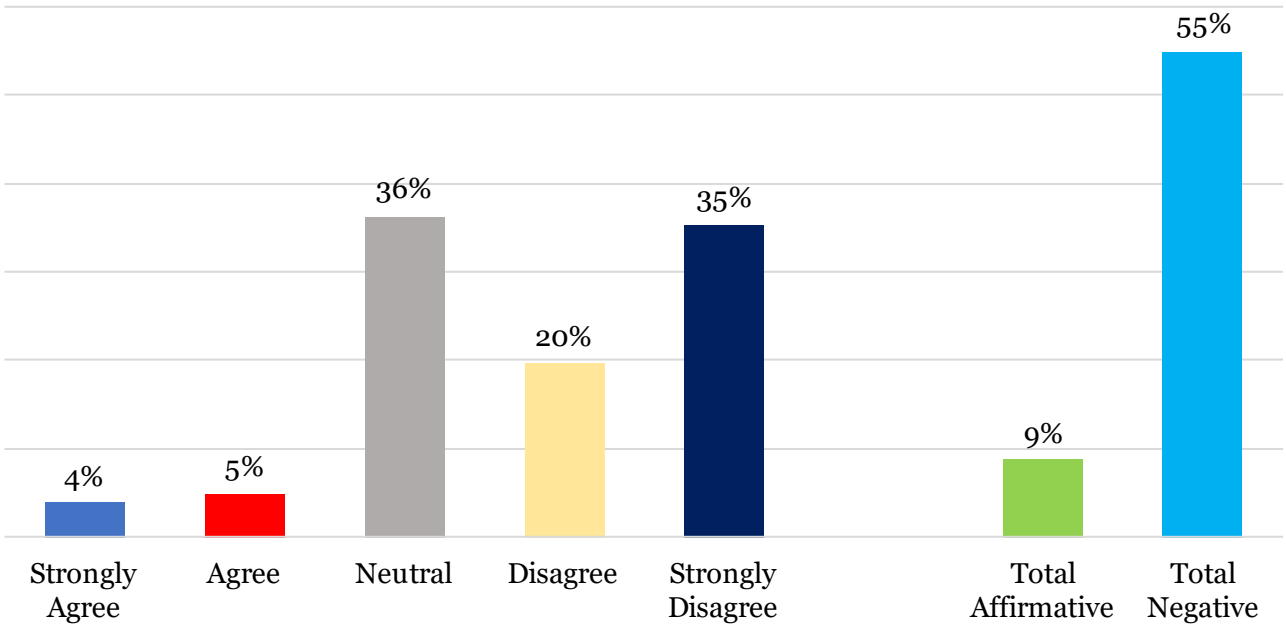


Charts: JHA Questions

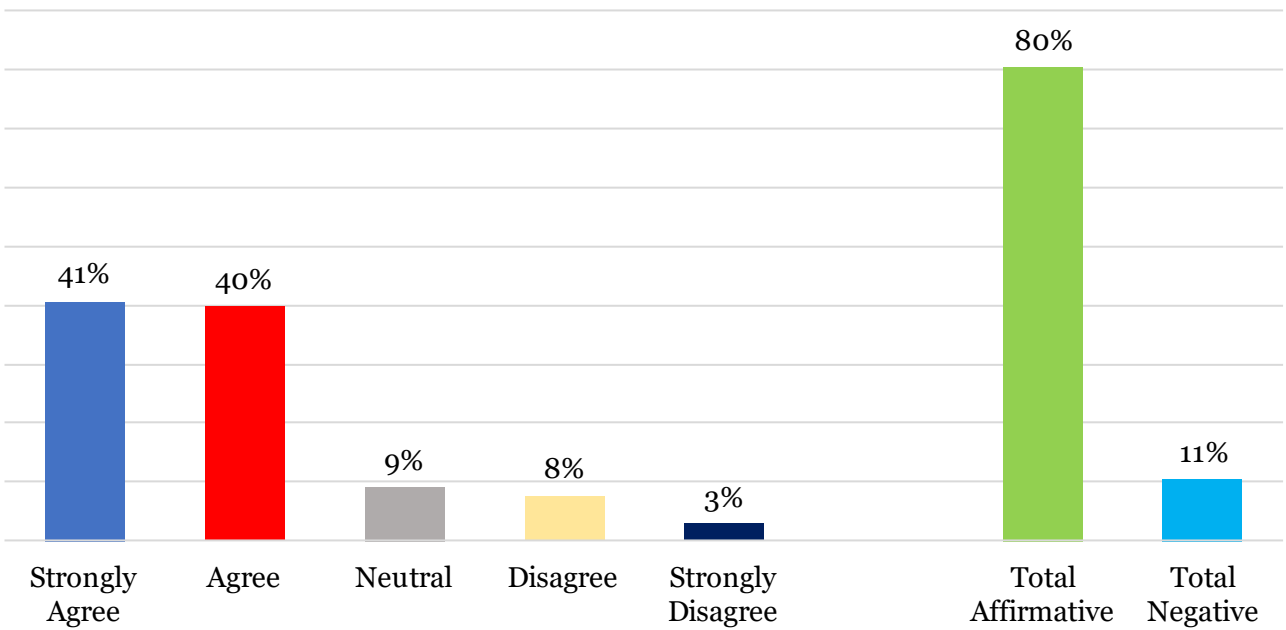
QUESTIONS USED IN PREVIOUS JHA SURVEYS



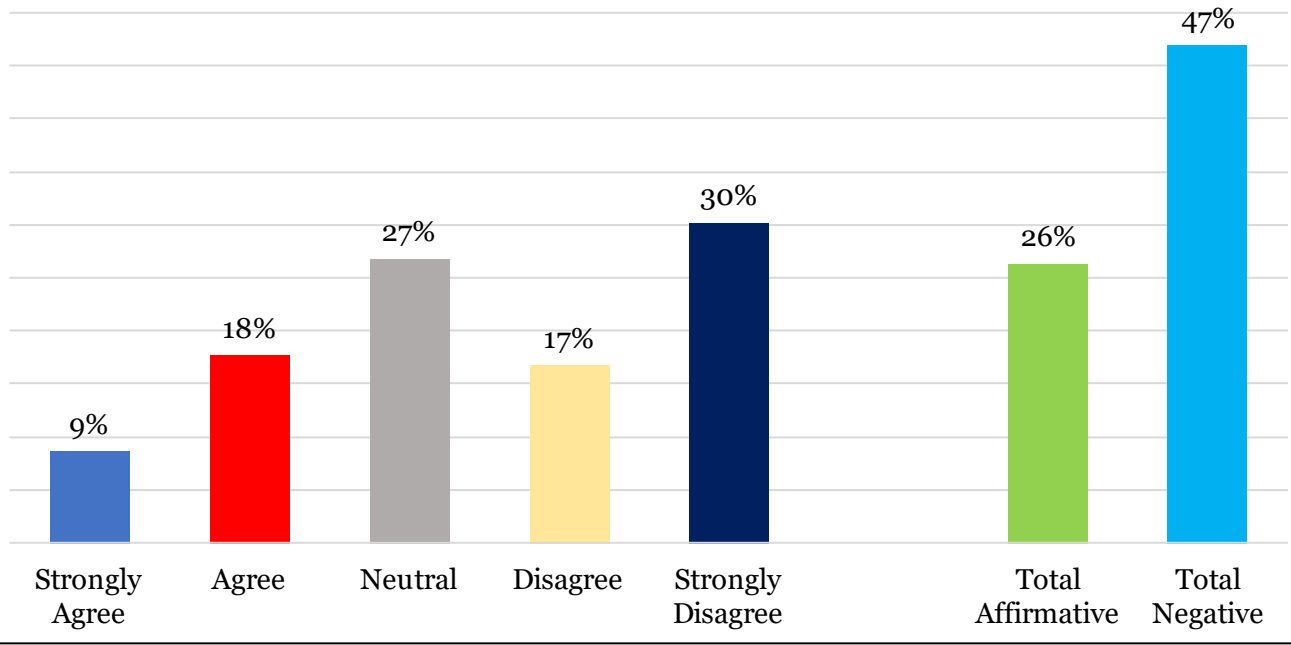
This prison is better now than it was last year.



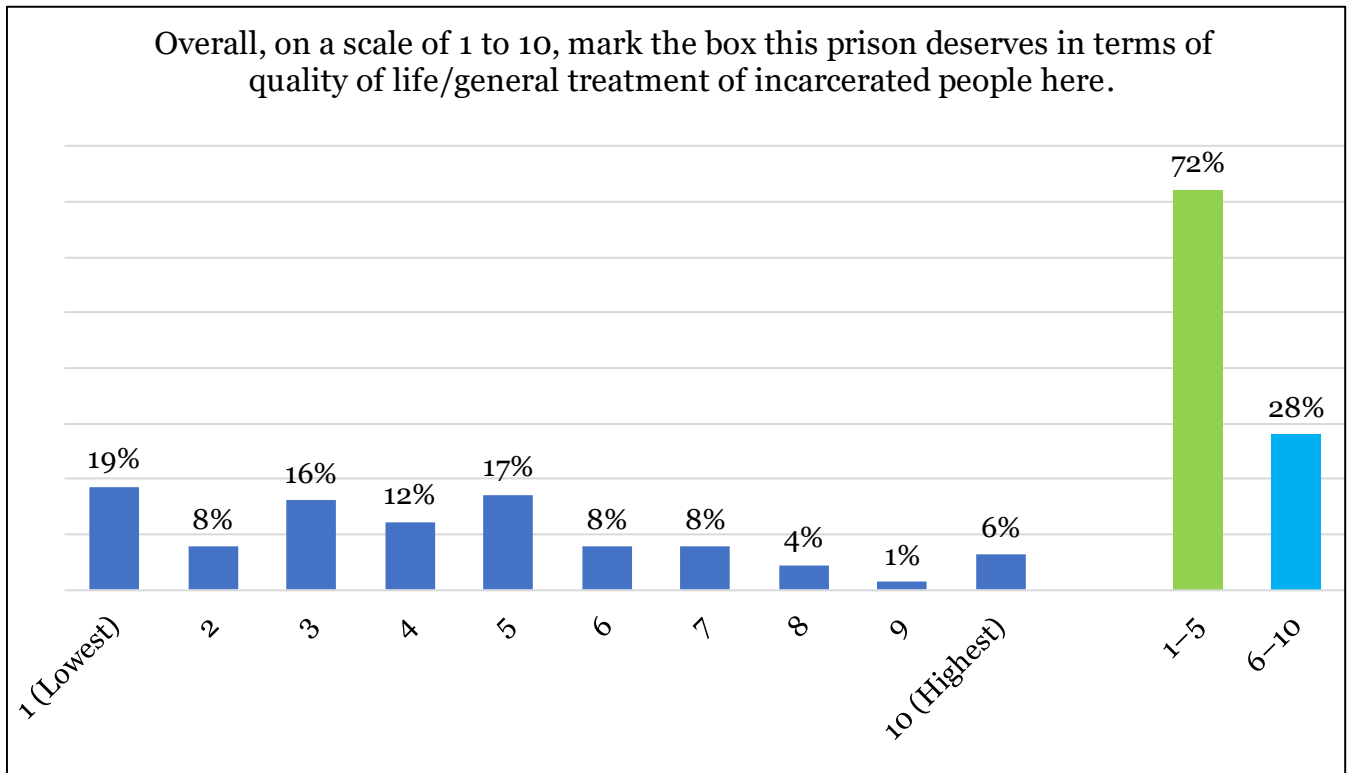
I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.



I am satisfied with food from dietary.



OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE



Tables of Results by Individual Survey Items

Age		
18-26	9	4%
26-30	18	9%
31-40	60	29%
41-50	57	27%
51 and over	66	31%
No response	3	

Race or ethnicity		
White	81	38%
Black	81	38%
Hispanic or Latino	28	13%
Other	22	10%
No response	3	

Are you within two years of release?		
Yes	129	62%
No	80	38%
No response	4	

Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?		
Yes	108	51%
No	102	49%
No response	3	

What housing status are you currently on?		
General Population	195	92%
Restrictive Housing	8	4%
Other	8	4%
No response	2	

Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area?		
Yes	180	87%
No	28	13%

Do you have a work or school assignment?		
Work Assignment	58	27%
School Assignment	17	8%
Both	28	13%
Neither	108	51%
No response	2	

Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.		
Strongly Agree	11	5%
Agree	34	16%
Neutral	66	31%
Disagree	46	22%
Strongly Disagree	53	25%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	45	21%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	99	47%
No response	3	

I receive support from staff when I need it.		
Strongly Agree	8	4%
Agree	43	21%
Neutral	41	20%
Disagree	62	30%
Strongly Disagree	55	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	51	24%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	117	56%
No response	4	

Staff here treat incarcerated people fairly when applying the rules.		
Strongly Agree	13	6%
Agree	37	18%
Neutral	44	21%
Disagree	60	29%
Strongly Disagree	54	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	50	24%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	114	55%
No response	5	

I trust the officers.		
Strongly Agree	8	4%
Agree	16	8%
Neutral	54	26%
Disagree	59	28%
Strongly Disagree	73	35%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	24	11%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	132	63%
No response	3	

I get along well with the officers on my unit.		
Strongly Agree	19	9%
Agree	56	27%
Neutral	89	43%
Disagree	17	8%
Strongly Disagree	26	13%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	75	36%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	43	21%
No response	6	

The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.		
Strongly Agree	30	14%
Agree	38	18%
Neutral	44	21%
Disagree	45	22%
Strongly Disagree	52	25%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	68	33%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	97	46%
No response	4	

I have been helped significantly by a staff member with a particular problem.		
Strongly Agree	12	6%
Agree	33	16%
Neutral	51	25%
Disagree	54	26%
Strongly Disagree	58	28%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	45	22%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	112	54%
No response	5	

Overall, I am treated fairly by staff.		
Strongly Agree	12	6%
Agree	53	25%
Neutral	71	34%
Disagree	35	17%
Strongly Disagree	39	19%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	65	31%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	74	35%
No response	3	

I am treated as a person of value.		
Strongly Agree	7	3%
Agree	22	11%
Neutral	42	20%
Disagree	59	28%
Strongly Disagree	79	38%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	29	14%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	138	66%
No response	4	

Some of the treatment I receive is degrading.		
Strongly Agree	66	33%
Agree	67	34%
Neutral	29	15%
Disagree	23	12%
Strongly Disagree	13	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	133	67%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	36	18%
No response	15	

I feel safe from being injured, bullied, or threatened by other incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	27	14%
Agree	28	14%
Neutral	42	21%
Disagree	49	25%
Strongly Disagree	52	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	55	28%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	101	51%
No response	15	

If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.		
Strongly Agree	19	10%
Agree	32	16%
Neutral	41	21%
Disagree	44	22%
Strongly Disagree	64	32%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	51	26%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	108	54%
No response	13	

To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.		
Strongly Agree	44	22%
Agree	49	25%
Neutral	56	29%
Disagree	33	17%
Strongly Disagree	14	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	93	47%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	47	24%
No response	17	

Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	66	33%
Agree	63	32%
Neutral	43	22%
Disagree	20	10%
Strongly Disagree	8	4%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	129	65%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	28	14%
No response	13	

Staff have enough experience and expertise to deal with issues that matter to me.		
Strongly Agree	8	4%
Agree	19	9%
Neutral	40	20%
Disagree	61	30%
Strongly Disagree	73	36%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	27	13%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	134	67%
No response	12	

To get things done, you have to ask and ask and ask.		
Strongly Agree	134	67%
Agree	36	18%
Neutral	15	8%
Disagree	9	5%
Strongly Disagree	6	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	170	85%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	15	8%
No response	13	

Supervision of incarcerated people is poor.		
Strongly Agree	75	38%
Agree	37	19%
Neutral	56	28%
Disagree	22	11%
Strongly Disagree	10	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	112	56%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	32	16%
No response	13	

I can't improve my situation through good behavior.		
Strongly Agree	69	34%
Agree	42	21%
Neutral	32	16%
Disagree	35	17%
Strongly Disagree	23	11%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	111	55%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	58	29%
No response	12	

The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.		
Strongly Agree	45	22%
Agree	38	19%
Neutral	29	14%
Disagree	34	17%
Strongly Disagree	55	27%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	83	41%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	89	44%
No response	12	

My experience of imprisonment in this particular prison has been stressful.		
Strongly Agree	97	48%
Agree	42	21%
Neutral	26	13%
Disagree	22	11%
Strongly Disagree	14	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	139	69%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	36	18%
No response	12	

Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.		
Strongly Agree	76	38%
Agree	60	30%
Neutral	28	14%
Disagree	21	11%
Strongly Disagree	15	8%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	136	68%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	36	18%
No response	13	

I have to be careful about everything I do, or it can be used against me.		
Strongly Agree	90	45%
Agree	67	34%
Neutral	24	12%
Disagree	13	7%
Strongly Disagree	6	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	157	79%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	19	10%
No response	13	

On the whole, I am just doing time rather than using my time.		
Strongly Agree	94	46%
Agree	48	24%
Neutral	16	8%
Disagree	30	15%
Strongly Disagree	15	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	142	70%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	45	22%
No response	10	

Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.		
Strongly Agree	20	10%
Agree	38	19%
Neutral	49	24%
Disagree	47	23%
Strongly Disagree	48	24%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	58	29%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	95	47%
No response	11	

This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.		
Strongly Agree	22	11%
Agree	19	10%
Neutral	37	19%
Disagree	59	30%
Strongly Disagree	63	32%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	41	21%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	122	61%
No response	13	

When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.		
Strongly Agree	18	9%
Agree	37	18%
Neutral	38	19%
Disagree	46	23%
Strongly Disagree	62	31%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	55	27%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	108	54%
No response	12	

This prison is well organized.		
Strongly Agree	14	7%
Agree	6	3%
Neutral	27	13%
Disagree	45	22%
Strongly Disagree	109	54%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	20	10%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	154	77%
No response	12	

You never know the rules.		
Strongly Agree	48	24%
Agree	39	20%
Neutral	57	29%
Disagree	39	20%
Strongly Disagree	17	9%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	87	44%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	56	28%
No response	13	

I feel that I am treated with respect by staff.		
Strongly Agree	11	6%
Agree	28	14%
Neutral	52	26%
Disagree	56	28%
Strongly Disagree	52	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	39	20%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	108	54%
No response	14	

My experience in this prison is painful.		
Strongly Agree	62	31%
Agree	44	22%
Neutral	43	22%
Disagree	34	17%
Strongly Disagree	14	7%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	106	54%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	48	24%
No response	16	

I have to buy and sell things in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	53	27%
Agree	39	20%
Neutral	37	19%
Disagree	42	21%
Strongly Disagree	27	14%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	92	46%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	69	35%
No response	15	

There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	58	30%
Agree	47	25%
Neutral	38	20%
Disagree	27	14%
Strongly Disagree	21	11%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	105	55%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	48	25%
No response	22	

Decisions are dominated by concerns about security.		
Strongly Agree	54	27%
Agree	43	22%
Neutral	59	30%
Disagree	20	10%
Strongly Disagree	23	12%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	97	49%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	43	22%
No response	14	

The disciplinary system is fair.		
Strongly Agree	9	5%
Agree	28	14%
Neutral	50	25%
Disagree	38	19%
Strongly Disagree	75	38%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	37	19%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	113	57%
No response	13	

My time here seems like a chance to make positive changes.		
Strongly Agree	29	15%
Agree	29	15%
Neutral	38	20%
Disagree	39	21%
Strongly Disagree	54	29%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	58	31%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	93	49%
No response	24	

There are a few incarcerated people who run things on this unit.		
Strongly Agree	50	25%
Agree	36	18%
Neutral	37	18%
Disagree	39	19%
Strongly Disagree	39	19%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	86	43%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	78	39%
No response	12	

I am not being treated as a human being in here.		
Strongly Agree	51	25%
Agree	40	19%
Neutral	65	31%
Disagree	40	19%
Strongly Disagree	11	5%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	91	44%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	51	25%
No response	6	

You have to be in a group or gang in order to get by.		
Strongly Agree	20	10%
Agree	21	10%
Neutral	42	20%
Disagree	76	37%
Strongly Disagree	47	23%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	41	20%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	123	60%
No response	7	

Bullying behavior by incarcerated people is not tolerated.		
Strongly Agree	28	14%
Agree	36	18%
Neutral	47	24%
Disagree	38	19%
Strongly Disagree	51	26%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	64	32%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	89	45%
No response	13	

When important decisions are made about me, I am treated as an individual and not a number.		
Strongly Agree	12	6%
Agree	25	12%
Neutral	37	18%
Disagree	61	29%
Strongly Disagree	72	35%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	37	18%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	133	64%
No response	6	

All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.		
Strongly Agree	107	52%
Agree	47	23%
Neutral	32	15%
Disagree	14	7%
Strongly Disagree	7	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	154	74%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	21	10%
No response	6	

Drugs cause a lot of problems between incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	39	19%
Agree	35	17%
Neutral	40	20%
Disagree	49	24%
Strongly Disagree	39	19%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	74	37%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	88	44%
No response	11	

Anyone who harms themselves is considered by staff to be more of an attention seeker than someone who needs help.		
Strongly Agree	69	33%
Agree	51	25%
Neutral	57	28%
Disagree	25	12%
Strongly Disagree	4	2%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	120	58%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	29	14%
No response	7	

I am able to maintain meaningful contact with my outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	50	24%
Agree	80	38%
Neutral	30	14%
Disagree	24	12%
Strongly Disagree	24	12%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	130	63%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	48	23%
No response	5	

This is a humane prison.		
Strongly Agree	10	5%
Agree	32	15%
Neutral	72	35%
Disagree	42	20%
Strongly Disagree	51	25%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	42	20%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	93	45%
No response	6	

This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.		
Strongly Agree	94	45%
Agree	57	28%
Neutral	36	17%
Disagree	14	7%
Strongly Disagree	6	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	151	73%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	20	10%
No response	6	

Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.		
Strongly Agree	18	9%
Agree	15	8%
Neutral	43	22%
Disagree	54	27%
Strongly Disagree	70	35%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	33	17%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	124	62%
No response	13	

Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.		
Strongly Agree	9	4%
Agree	18	9%
Neutral	36	17%
Disagree	60	29%
Strongly Disagree	85	41%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	27	13%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	145	70%
No response	5	

This prison is safe for incarcerated people.		
Strongly Agree	19	9%
Agree	39	19%
Neutral	59	29%
Disagree	46	22%
Strongly Disagree	43	21%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	58	28%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	89	43%
No response	7	

Mental health treatment is available.		
Strongly Agree	26	13%
Agree	70	34%
Neutral	50	24%
Disagree	34	17%
Strongly Disagree	26	13%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	96	47%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	60	29%
No response	7	

This prison is better now than it was last year.		
Strongly Agree	8	4%
Agree	10	5%
Neutral	74	36%
Disagree	40	20%
Strongly Disagree	72	35%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	18	9%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	112	55%
No response	9	

I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.		
Strongly Agree	85	41%
Agree	83	40%
Neutral	19	9%
Disagree	16	8%
Strongly Disagree	6	3%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	168	80%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	22	11%
No response	4	

Every effort is made by this prison to help people stop committing offenses on release from custody.		
Strongly Agree	12	6%
Agree	6	3%
Neutral	34	16%
Disagree	60	29%
Strongly Disagree	95	46%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	18	9%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	155	75%
No response	6	

I am satisfied with food from dietary.		
Strongly Agree	18	9%
Agree	37	18%
Neutral	56	27%
Disagree	35	17%
Strongly Disagree	63	30%
<i>Affirmative (SA/A)</i>	55	26%
<i>Negative (SD/D)</i>	98	47%
No response	4	

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)	38	19%
2	16	8%
3	33	16%
4	25	12%
5	35	17%
6	16	8%
7	16	8%
8	9	4%
9	3	1%
10 (Highest)	13	6%
<i>1-5</i>	147	72%
<i>6-10</i>	57	28%
No Response	9	
Mean Score		4.3



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.

