



John Howard Association of Illinois

P.O. Box 10042, Chicago, IL 60610-0042
Tel. 312-291-9237 Fax. 312-526-3714

Menard Correctional Center (MSU): Inmate Survey Results from JHA's Monitoring Visit Conducted November 7th 2018

Menard Correctional Center's Medium Security Unit (MSU) housed 411 adult male inmates on the day of JHA's monitoring visit. JHA collected 161 surveys from inmates (38.7% of the population) during our monitoring visit of this prison. Inmate responses to survey questions are reported below.

Responses to Inmate Demographic Questions:

Race		
Black	69	43%
White	61	38%
Hispanic	8	5%
Other	12	8%
No response	11	7%
Total	161	100%

Age		
Under 26	10	6%
26-35	35	22%
36-45	46	29%
46-55	20	12%
Over 55	39	24%
No response	11	7%
Total	161	100%

What County are you from?		
Cook County	51	32%
Not Cook County	99	62%
No response	11	7%
Total	161	100%

Primary assignment		
Work	30	19%
School	11	7%
Unassigned	97	60%
Other	3	2%
No response	20	12%
Total	161	100%

Responses to Inmate Survey Questions:

Q1: I feel safe		
Strongly Agree	16	10%
Agree	44	27%
Neutral	37	23%
Disagree	22	14%
Strongly Disagree	33	21%
No Response	9	6%
Total	161	100%

Q2: Most staff treat inmates with respect		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	22	14%
Neutral	29	18%
Disagree	40	25%
Strongly Disagree	56	35%
No Response	7	4%
Total	161	100%

Q3: Most inmates treat other inmates with respect		
Strongly Agree	13	8%
Agree	47	29%
Neutral	49	30%
Disagree	27	17%
Strongly Disagree	19	12%
No Response	6	4%
Total	161	100%

Q4: Mental Health Treatment is available		
Strongly Agree	17	11%
Agree	49	30%
Neutral	42	26%
Disagree	15	9%
Strongly Disagree	25	16%
No Response	13	8%
Total	161	100%

Q5: Most staff follow rules		
Strongly Agree	6	4%
Agree	27	17%
Neutral	33	21%
Disagree	31	19%
Strongly Disagree	57	35%
No Response	7	4%
Total	161	100%

Q6: My Correctional Counselor is effective		
Strongly Agree	10	6%
Agree	13	8%
Neutral	28	17%
Disagree	36	22%
Strongly Disagree	65	40%
No Response	9	6%
Total	161	100%

Q7: I am satisfied with medical services		
Strongly Agree	8	5%
Agree	15	9%
Neutral	28	17%
Disagree	40	25%
Strongly Disagree	63	39%
No Response	7	4%
Total	161	100%

Q8: I avoid health care to avoid \$5 co-pay		
Strongly Agree	71	44%
Agree	22	14%
Neutral	17	11%
Disagree	17	11%
Strongly Disagree	27	17%
No Response	7	4%
Total	161	100%

Q9: The disciplinary process is fair		
Strongly Agree	8	5%
Agree	9	6%
Neutral	43	27%
Disagree	32	20%
Strongly Disagree	57	35%
No Response	12	8%
Total	161	100%

Q10: This facility is safe for inmates		
Strongly Agree	12	8%
Agree	32	20%
Neutral	43	27%
Disagree	27	17%
Strongly Disagree	38	24%
No Response	9	6%
Total	161	100%

Q11: There is at least one staff member who I could ask for help		
Strongly Agree	26	16%
Agree	37	23%
Neutral	32	20%
Disagree	24	15%
Strongly Disagree	34	21%
No Response	8	5%
Total	161	100%

Q12: The grievance process is effective		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	5	3%
Neutral	33	21%
Disagree	39	24%
Strongly Disagree	69	43%
No Response	10	6%
Total	161	100%

Q13: I would feel comfortable filing a grievance		
Strongly Agree	11	7%
Agree	14	9%
Neutral	30	19%
Disagree	36	22%
Strongly Disagree	62	39%
No Response	8	5%
Total	161	100%

Q14: This facility is better now than last year		
Strongly Agree	6	4%
Agree	9	6%
Neutral	64	40%
Disagree	25	16%
Strongly Disagree	37	23%
No Response	20	12%
Total	161	100%

Q15: Contraband from outside the facility often gets inside		
Strongly Agree	13	8%
Agree	14	9%
Neutral	38	24%
Disagree	38	24%
Strongly Disagree	44	27%
No Response	14	9%
Total	161	100%

Q16: There is frequent gang activity here		
Strongly Agree	23	14%
Agree	26	16%
Neutral	40	25%
Disagree	32	20%
Strongly Disagree	31	19%
No Response	9	6%
Total	161	100%

Q17: Mail is timely		
Strongly Agree	16	10%
Agree	35	22%
Neutral	26	16%
Disagree	33	21%
Strongly Disagree	42	26%
No Response	9	6%
Total	161	100%

Q18: Temperature is comfortable		
Strongly Agree	8	5%
Agree	42	26%
Neutral	40	25%
Disagree	29	18%
Strongly Disagree	37	23%
No Response	5	3%
Total	161	100%

Q19: Posted schedules are accurate		
Strongly Agree	7	4%
Agree	39	24%
Neutral	35	22%
Disagree	37	23%
Strongly Disagree	35	22%
No Response	8	5%
Total	161	100%

Q20: Ventilation is adequate		
Strongly Agree	8	5%
Agree	39	24%
Neutral	37	23%
Disagree	34	21%
Strongly Disagree	34	21%
No Response	9	6%
Total	161	100%

Q21: When something is broken it is fixed in a timely manner		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	14	9%
Neutral	22	14%
Disagree	45	28%
Strongly Disagree	70	44%
No Response	7	4%
Total	161	100%

Q22: I am satisfied with food from dietary		
Strongly Agree	4	3%
Agree	7	4%
Neutral	27	17%
Disagree	39	24%
Strongly Disagree	75	47%
No Response	9	6%
Total	161	100%

Q23: Clothing provided by state is adequate		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	13	8%
Neutral	14	9%
Disagree	28	17%
Strongly Disagree	99	62%
No Response	4	3%
Total	161	100%

Q24: I have adequate access to showers		
Strongly Agree	34	21%
Agree	62	39%
Neutral	28	17%
Disagree	15	9%
Strongly Disagree	17	11%
No Response	5	3%
Total	161	100%

Q25: Enough state hygiene items are provided		
Strongly Agree	6	4%
Agree	8	5%
Neutral	15	9%
Disagree	22	14%
Strongly Disagree	106	66%
No Response	4	3%
Total	161	100%

Q26: There is enough rec		
Strongly Agree	13	8%
Agree	36	22%
Neutral	38	24%
Disagree	23	14%
Strongly Disagree	45	28%
No Response	6	4%
Total	161	100%

Q27: I have adequate access to law library		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	20	12%
Neutral	46	29%
Disagree	28	17%
Strongly Disagree	54	34%
No Response	8	5%
Total	161	100%

Q28: I have enough access to phones		
Strongly Agree	12	8%
Agree	38	24%
Neutral	25	16%
Disagree	21	13%
Strongly Disagree	57	35%
No Response	8	5%
Total	161	100%

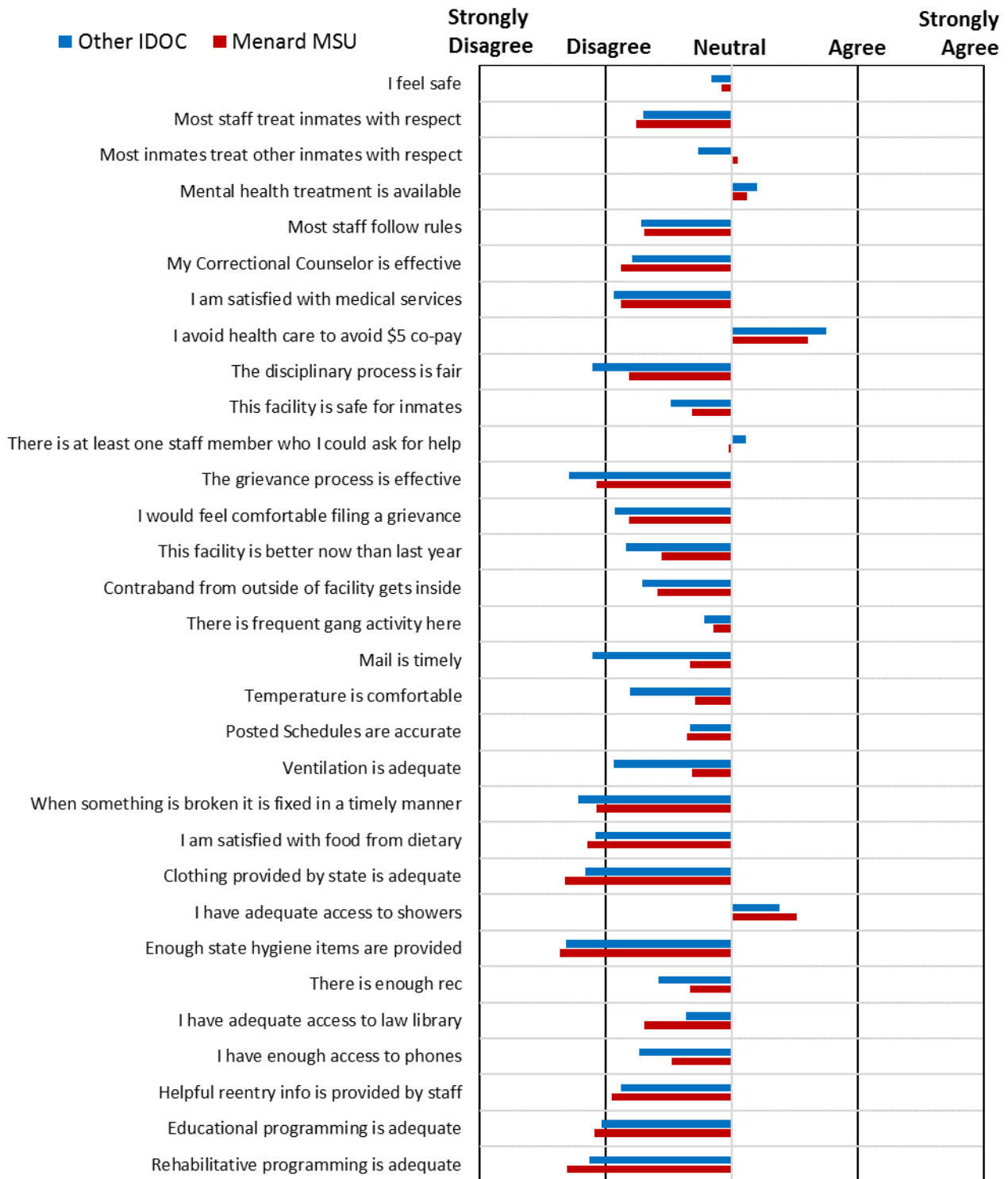
Q29: Helpful reentry info is provided by staff		
Strongly Agree	3	2%
Agree	7	4%
Neutral	46	29%
Disagree	31	19%
Strongly Disagree	62	39%
No Response	12	8%
Total	161	100%

Q30: Education programming is adequate		
Strongly Agree	6	4%
Agree	10	6%
Neutral	27	17%
Disagree	30	19%
Strongly Disagree	78	48%
No Response	10	6%
Total	161	100%

Q31: Rehabilitative programming is adequate		
Strongly Agree	5	3%
Agree	5	3%
Neutral	23	14%
Disagree	24	15%
Strongly Disagree	94	58%
No Response	10	6%
Total	161	100%

- Not all percentages reported for individual survey items add up to 100% due to percentages being rounded to whole number.

Comparison Chart: Average Inmate Response to Survey Items, Menard MSU Compared to Other IDOC Prisons JHA Visited During 2018



Other IDOC facilities surveyed include the following prisons: Centralia, Danville, Dixon, Jacksonville, Kewanee, Lawrence, Logan, Menard, Murphysboro, Pontiac, Pontiac MSU, Robinson, Shawnee, Stateville, and Vienna.

Methodology:

For the comparison chart, average inmate survey responses were calculated by converting the survey response options “Strongly Disagree” through “Strongly Agree” to a numerical value of -2 through 2 for each survey question, so that “Strongly Disagree” equals -2, “Disagree” equals -1, and so on, and then an average was calculated based on the aggregate responses to each survey item, or question after applying filter: prison x and all prisons other than prison x. The bars indicate the direction from, and the extent to which the average inmate response to each survey item deviates from “neutral,” or 0 as a numerical value for the prison highlighted in this summary of results versus all other prisons included in the sample.

When JHA conducted a monitoring visit of a prison, paper copies of the Inmate Survey were mailed to the prison prior to JHA’s visit and distributed by IDOC staff. Enough surveys were provided so that every inmate had an opportunity to complete a survey if they elected to do so. Each survey was accompanied by an information sheet, explaining to the inmate that participation was voluntary and completed surveys would be held in confidence by JHA staff. The information sheet was constructed based on the Federal Bureau of Prisons guidelines for anonymous surveys for prisoners. On the day of the monitoring visit, completed surveys were collected from the inmates who volunteered to complete a survey by JHA staff.