

Data-Driven Approach to Protecting Public Safety, Improving and Expanding Rehabilitative Treatment and Services, and Advancing Equity Through Alternatives to Incarceration

Second Interim Report

July 29, 2022

SANDAG

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**Words Used by
Community Survey
Respondents with No
Incarceration or Family
Member History of
Incarceration**



**Words Used by
Community Survey
Respondents who had a
History of Incarcerated or
Family Member History of
Incarceration**



NOTE: A “word cloud” is a visual representation of word frequency. The larger the font size of the word, the more often it was mentioned in community forum feedback or community survey open-ended responses.
SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Forums and Community Surveys, 2022

Figure ES 1
SUMMARY OF SECOND INTERIM REPORT KEY FINDINGS

Over **2,000** individuals shared feedback on alternatives to incarceration through a **community survey** and **4 community forums**.

Of the respondents who had never been incarcerated, **47%** thought there should be more emphasis on funding community services, compared to **75%** of those formerly or currently incarcerated.

The top 3 community concerns for those never incarcerated included **homelessness, mental health services, and property crime**. Those who have been incarcerated were more concerned about **inequities in the justice system**.

79% of incarcerated individuals reported having unmet needs at the time of their most recent incarceration and the average number of needs was almost **6**.

The most common significant needs of incarcerated individuals according to the survey included **employment assistance, housing navigation, and assistance paying for basic necessities**.

Less than 2 in 5 who said they had a significant need for employment assistance, housing navigation, and assistance paying for basic necessities received these types of services.

Just over **two-thirds** of community survey respondents with a family member who has been incarcerated said that **substance use** was the primary unmet need that contributed to their family member's justice system involvement.

68% of survey respondents who had ever been incarcerated reported barriers to receiving services.

Incarcerated community survey respondents who indicated they had some type of **disability** reported significantly **more needs** and were more likely to report **barriers** to receiving services.

The most common barriers to receiving services are that they are **not easy to get to** and it is **difficult to find out what services are available**.

9 in 10 formerly incarcerated community survey respondents say their incarceration **impacted their families** and more than **two-thirds** said it impacted their **employment status and mental health**.

Personal motivation, community support, services to address underlying needs, and consequences for behavior choices all play some part in **successful reentry**.

Preliminary Take Aways from the Community and Incarcerated Persons that Will Inform Future Recommendations

Based on the perspectives and feedback from the community through the survey and community forums, as well as the Advisory Group and Working Group, the following preliminary take aways and recommendations (which are explored in more detail starting on page 34) are offered for the County's consideration.

- Addressing these issues will take all of us and a paradigm shift from a primary punitive perspective to one that includes restorative justice.
- Conducting needs assessment is essential, as is seeing people as individuals; one size does not fit all.
- Prevention is as important as alternatives to incarceration.
- Do not forget the victims.
- Ensure proven programs are implemented as designed and with fidelity.
- Provide more mentorship and increase collaboration with those with lived experience who have successfully reentered the community.
- Encourage personal motivation.
- Explore ways to better share data across systems.
- Support families who have family members with underlying needs.
- Increase conversations regarding where there should be more serious consequences for criminal behavior or not engaging in treatment.
- Prepare individuals for suitable jobs with a livable wage.
- Establish private-public partnerships and remove the employment stigma associated with hiring incarcerated individuals.
- Housing is critical.
- Address disparities and disproportionality in programs and services.

Next Steps

SANDAG has requested a three-month no-cost extension that would allow more time to compile the data and feedback required to completely address the research goals of this project. The Draft Comprehensive Report and Recommendations would be finalized December 15, 2022 and the Final Comprehensive Report and Recommendations would be finalized March 15, 2023. These reports will summarize the information shared to date, as well as additional analyses related to:

- the jail population and their receipt of service prior to incarceration;
- an analysis of the level and type of justice system contact individuals had who were not booked during the pandemic due to policy decisions in place at the time;
- a gap analysis that compares service needs of the population, services that are available, and barriers to services;
- a review of best practices and program models; and
- a cost analysis that compares investing in alternatives to incarceration in the next 1, 5, 10, and 20 years.

Introduction and Project Background

On October 19, 2021, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors directed County staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) entitled “A Data Driven Approach to Protecting Public Safety, Improving and Expanding Rehabilitative Treatment and Services, and Advancing Equity through Alternatives to Incarceration: Building on Lessons Learned during the COVID-19 Pandemic”. As noted in this Board item, “mass incarceration disproportionately impacts the poor, homeless, mentally ill, and people of color and does not make us safer.”

The Criminal Justice Research Division (CJRD) of SANDAG responded to this RFP and signed a contract with the County of San Diego on January 21, 2022, to serve as the independent contractor on this effort. In this role, SANDAG is analyzing data and seeking community input to identify the primary drivers of reduced incarceration rates during COVID-19, disaggregating the populations affected, analyzing outcomes associated with these short-term changes in incarceration policy, and recommending policy changes that will reduce jail populations safely and permanently, with the overarching goal of better protecting public safety with alternatives to incarceration.

On March 15, 2022, SANDAG staff [presented](#) on the [Preliminary Report](#) for the project to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, which included an overview of the goals, methodologies, and timeline. The [Initial Interim Report](#) was later [presented](#) to the Board of Supervisors on May 24, 2022. This Initial Interim Report provided an overview of community outreach efforts; described policy drivers of decreased incarceration rates and how the incarcerated population changed during the pandemic; and presented recent crime statistics for the region.

All information related to this project is posted to www.SANDAG.org/ATISStudy. Between February 23, 2022, and June 20, 2022, there have been 10,282 page views, up from 2,801 as of April 30, 2022.

Community Survey Analysis

Community Survey Overview

An important component of this project is engaging with the community and conducting a community survey was a significant part of this effort. This survey was created based on previous locally conducted surveys and a literature review. The survey also incorporated feedback from and pre-testing by the [ATI Working Group](#) and [Advisory Group](#). The survey was made available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) (and other languages upon request) and could be completed electronically (with a link or QR code) or via paper copy. Flyers and social media posts (in English and Spanish) were created and used as means to recruit survey respondents. Survey distribution methods included outreach to the media, which resulted in coverage in the [San Diego Union Tribune](#); inclusion in the SANDAG Region Newsletter, as well as other elected officials' electronic communication; flyer distribution; social media posts; distribution through the networks of Advisory Group and Working Group members; outreach at local detention facilities, Probation offices, and the Hall of Justice; outreach through County libraries and parks; and distribution at Bike to Work Day pit stops. While the original timeline for the distribution of the community survey was the first three weeks in April, the distribution was reconsidered to ensure that the Advisory Group and Working Group were able to provide feedback and assist in pre-testing the instrument. As such, the survey was distributed on May 6, 2022. Originally, the deadline to complete the survey was May 27, 2022, however, this deadline was extended a little longer than one week, which brought the surveying to a close on June 5, 2022. A total of 1,990 surveys were completed by this due date and available for analysis.

It should be noted that this survey sample was **not random** and reflects the outreach efforts that were undertaken, as well as the level of interest in the topic by those who responded. As such, this convenience sample does **not** provide a statistically valid representation of the opinions of San Diego County residents overall, but instead it shows the opinions of those motivated to respond.

Community Forum Overview

Four virtual community forums were held via ZOOM on Thursday, June 23, 2022 (5:30 to 7:15 p.m.), Wednesday, June 29, 2022 (5:30 to 7:15 p.m.), Tuesday, July 5, 2022 (5:30 to 7:15 p.m.), and Thursday, July 7, 2022 (11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.). These forums were recorded (in English for all four and in Spanish for all but the first) and are available on the [ATI study page](#). Similar outreach to the community survey was conducted, including social media, emails, [news coverage](#), and requests to networks to share this opportunity to give input on alternatives to incarceration. An estimated 145 individuals attended these forums, not including SANDAG staff. Transcripts of the forums were analyzed for common themes, which are described later in this report.

Community Survey Sample Description

Of the 1,990 completed surveys, around one in five (21%) were completed by an individual who reported that they had ever been incarcerated (89% had been released and 11% were still incarcerated). In describing the sample of those who completed the survey, it is important to note that those who indicated a history of incarceration differed significantly¹ from those who did not indicate this history. Table 1 presents information about the characteristics of survey respondents by their history of incarceration. As this table shows, those who were previously incarcerated were significantly more likely to indicate that they were male, younger, Hispanic/Latino/Latina, Black/African-American, or another race, and primarily spoke either exclusively Spanish or English and Spanish equally in their household. They were also more likely to have completed the survey in Spanish, live in the Central area of the County, as opposed to North San Diego City,² report that they had completed 12 years of education or less, and report having a disability³. There was no significant difference in the percent with a history of serving in the military (12% and 13%, respectively) (not shown).

Around two in every five survey respondents (42%) indicated that they or an immediate family member had been the victim of a crime in the previous three years – 27% were a victim themselves and 30% had a family member who was a victim (Figure 1). When asked what type of crime they were a victim of, most reported property (76% for themselves and 74% for a family member), followed by violent (27% and 33%, respectively) and other types of crime (7% and 5%, respectively).⁴

Figure 1
SELF-REPORTED HISTORY OF CRIME VICTIMIZATION

42% crime victim or family member was a victim in past 3 years	
27% victim themselves	30% family member a victim
76% property	74% property
27% violent	33% violent
7% other	5% other

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

¹ Findings which are statistically significant mean that the differences are most likely not due to chance introduced by sampling. In statistical analysis, a probability level of .05 is often used, and findings with a significance level of $p < .05$ are noted as appropriate in tables and figures.

² Respondents were asked to provide the ZIP code in which they lived, and this information was recoded into one of seven Major Statistical Areas (MSA) that describe different geographical areas of the County.

³ The survey defined disability as a physical or mental impairment or medical condition that substantially limits major life activity.

⁴ Of the 36 individuals who reported being the victim of an other type of crime themselves, 23 said they were a victim of harassment, 7 of driving under the influence (DUI), 3 of a hate crime, and 3 of trespassing. Of the 28 individuals who reported a family member was a victim of an other type of crime, 13 indicated harassment, 12 DUI, 2 trespassing, and 1 a hate crime.

Table 1
CHARACTERISTICS OF ATI COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONDENTS BY HISTORY OF INCARCERATION

	Never Incarcerated	Incarcerated
Gender*		
Male	40%	78%
Female	58%	22%
Non-binary	2%	<1%
Age*		
Under 25	2%	5%
25 to 39	27%	46%
40 and older	71%	50%
Mean age*	49.4	40.9
Identify as Hispanic/Latino/Latina*	20%	49%
Race*		
White/Caucasian	78%	47%
Black/African-American	7%	15%
Asian/Pacific Islander	6%	9%
Native American	2%	2%
Other	7%	28%
Highest Level of education completed*		
No degree	2%	15%
High school diploma or GED	3%	32%
Some college or vocation certificate	13%	28%
Associate's or Bachelor's Degree	39%	18%
Master's Degree or Higher	43%	6%
Primary language spoken in household*		
English	92%	71%
Spanish	2%	12%
English and Spanish equally	6%	15%
Other	1%	1%
Completed survey in Spanish*	1%	8%
Residence location in the County*		
Central	24%	32%
East Suburban or East County	16%	18%
North San Diego City	24%	12%
North County East	12%	15%
North County West	11%	8%
South	13%	15%
Have a disability*	10%	26%
TOTAL	1,394-1,564	295-426

*Significant at $p < .05$.

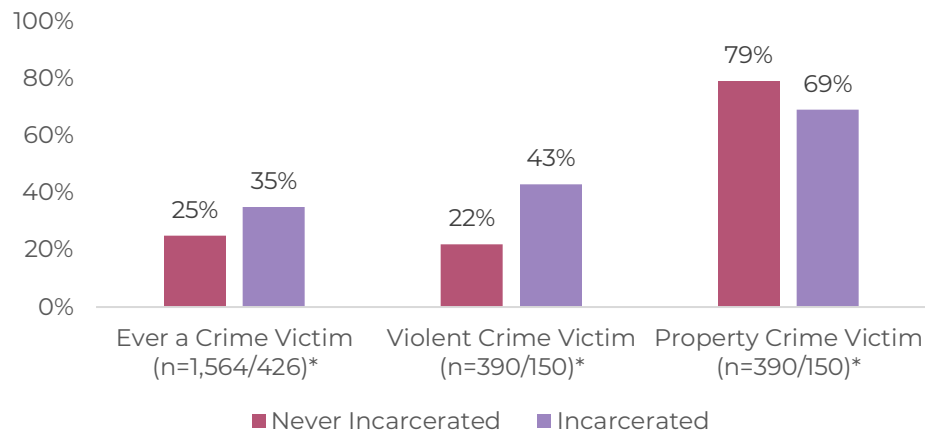
NOTE: Cases with missing information not included. Percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Additional analyses indicated that those who reported ever being incarcerated were significantly more likely to report being victimized (35%), compared to those who had never been incarcerated (25%). In addition, there was variation regarding what type of crime they were a victim of, with those who were incarcerated more likely to

report being a victim of a violent crime and those not incarcerated more likely to report being a victim of a property crime (Figure 2).

Figure 2
SELF-REPORTED HISTORY OF CRIME VICTIMIZATION BY HISTORY OF INCARCERATION



*Significant at $p < .05$.

NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Project Goal 2, Research Question 8

What are the opinions and perceptions of public safety partners and community-based stakeholders regarding COVID-19-related policy changes and the effect on individuals and the community? (SOW 3.9.1, 3.9.2., and 3.9.3)⁵

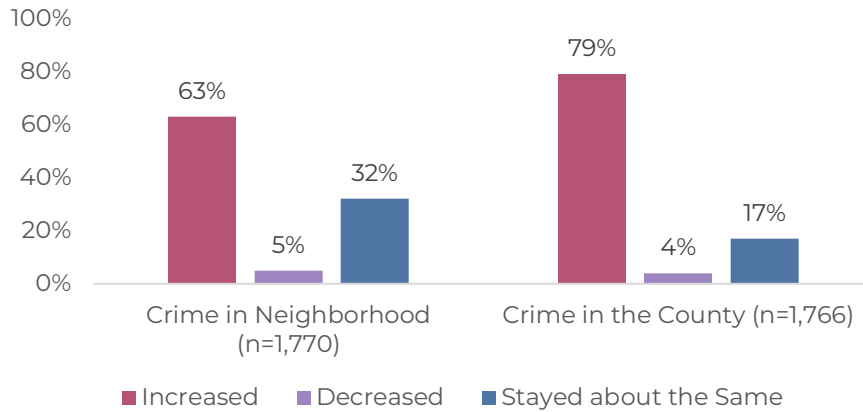
Community Survey Respondents' Perception of Crime

While both violent and property crime increased the past year,⁶ crime rates remain at historic lows. When community survey respondents were asked if they thought crime in their neighborhood and the County overall had increased, decreased, or stayed the same, compared to three years ago (2019, or pre-pandemic), the majority said it had increased (Figure 3).

⁵ As part of the contracted scope of work (SOW) for this project, the County of San Diego outlined a number of research questions to be answered. These call-out boxes highlight which research questions are being addressed with the data being presented.

⁶ Pre-pandemic, the violent crime rate was 3.41, and it increased in both 2020 (3.45) and in 2021 (3.74). The 2020 rate of 3.45 was the seventh lowest rate since 1980 and the 2021 rate was the tenth lowest (and was the same rate that was seen in 2012). Pre-pandemic, the property crime rate was 16.53 and this 2019 rate represented the fourth consecutive decrease. It dropped to a 42-year low in 2020, but then increased (to the second lowest rate) in 2021 (16.14). SOURCE: SANDAG CJ Bulletin: 42 Years of Crime in the San Diego Region

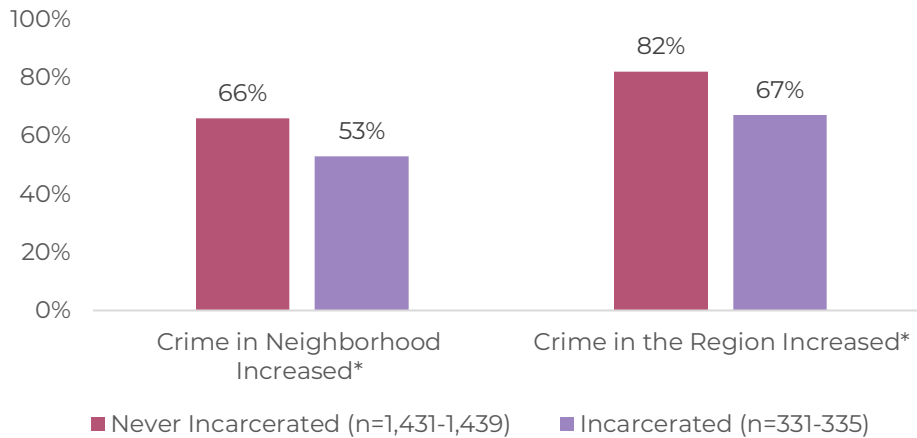
Figure 3
PERCEPTION OF CHANGES IN CRIME IN THE PAST THREE YEARS



NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Interestingly, perception of change in crime also varied by one’s history of incarceration. Those with an incarceration history were significantly less likely to perceive that crime had increased, as shown in Figure 4, and more likely to report it had decreased.

Figure 4
PERCEPTION OF CHANGES IN CRIME IN THE PAST THREE YEARS BY HISTORY OF INCARCERATION



*Significant at $p < .05$.
 NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Individuals who reported that they or an immediate family member had been a victim of crime in the past three years were also significantly more likely to perceive that crime had increased during the same time period in their neighborhood (74% versus 55%) and the region overall (85% versus 75%) (not shown).

Community Survey Respondents' Opinions about the Public Safety System in San Diego County

Community Survey respondents were presented with a list of six statements about the public safety system in San Diego County and asked to rate their level of agreement with each statement on a five-point scale from “Strongly Agree” to “Strongly Disagree”. As the following series of figures show, there were significant differences in the opinions of survey respondents who reported a history of prior or current incarceration and those that did not.

First, while both groups were likely to disagree to some degree with the statements that the current system is effective at maintaining public safety (Figure 5) and in providing justice to crime victims (Figure 6), those who said they were never incarcerated were more likely to disagree, compared to those who were previously or currently incarcerated.

A portion of both groups were also likely to disagree with the statements that the current system keeps individuals from reentering the criminal justice system (Figure 7) and that nonviolent people are rehabilitated and prepared to reenter society (Figure 8), but again, those with no history of incarceration expressed significantly greater levels of disagreement. When asked if the system treats everyone with fairness and equity, both groups again were likely to express some level of disagreement, but this time, those who were previously or currently incarcerated were more likely to disagree (Figure 9).

Community survey respondents were most likely to agree there was **room for improvement** in the effectiveness of the current system in terms of equity, ability to rehabilitate, and provide justice, but there were **differences** related to whether more emphasis should be placed on **funding services in the community**.

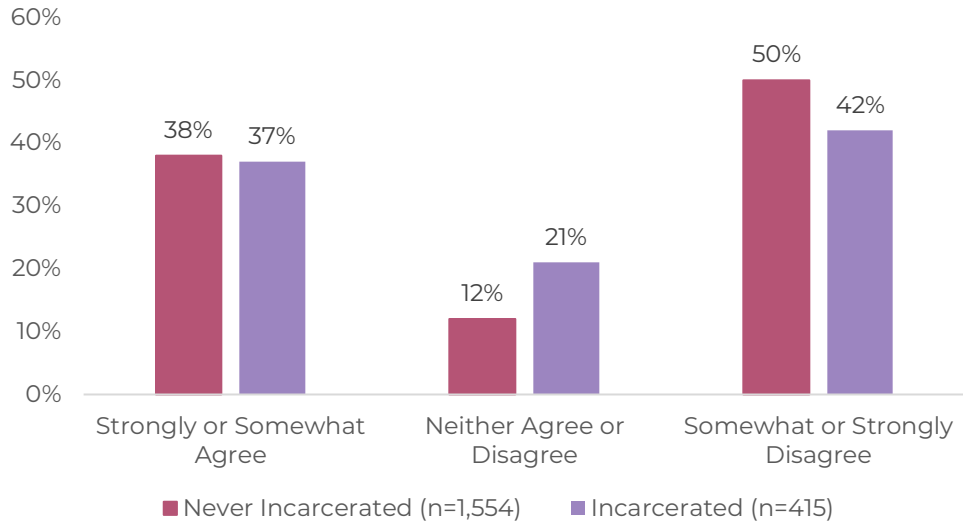
“There doesn't seem to be any consequences for criminal behavior these days. Without accountability, crime will increase at the expense of residents. Criminals cause trauma and other damage and victims get nothing. Victims struggle for years, while the criminal is out on the streets”.

-Community Survey Respondent

In the last of the six questions, respondents were asked if they thought “more emphasis should be placed on funding services for individuals in the community with justice system contact, rather than putting them in jail”. As Figure 10 shows, while three-quarters (75%) of those previously or currently incarcerated expressed some level of agreement with this statement, just under half (47%) of those never incarcerated did.

Figure 5

“THE CURRENT SYSTEM IS EFFECTIVE AT MAINTAINING PUBLIC SAFETY”*



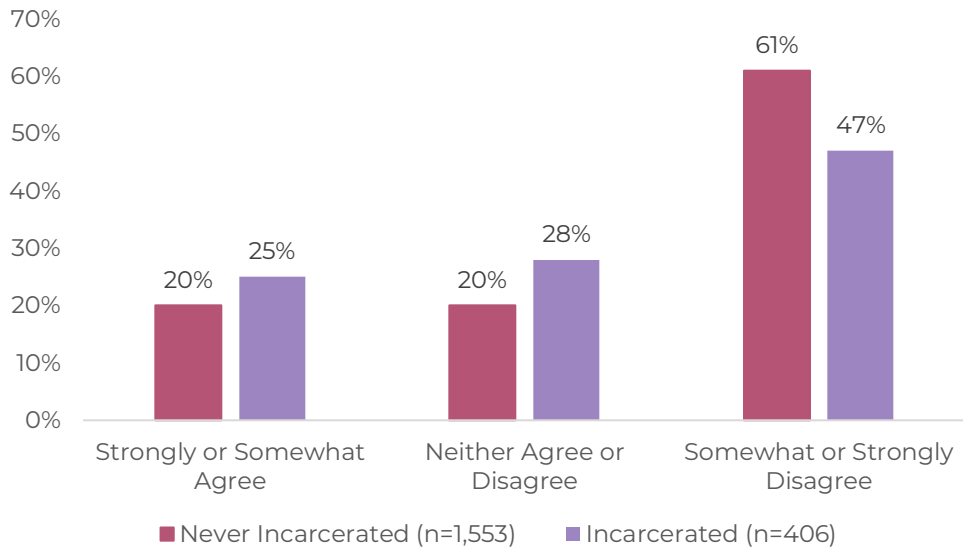
*Significant at $p < .05$.

NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Figure 6

“THE CURRENT SYSTEM IS EFFECTIVE AT PROVIDING JUSTICE TO VICTIMS”*

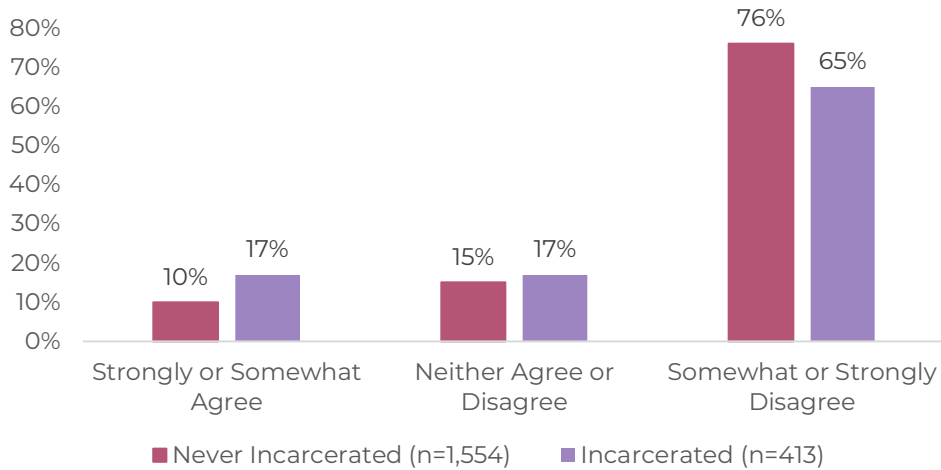


*Significant at $p < .05$.

NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Figure 7
“THE CURRENT SYSTEM KEEPS INDIVIDUALS FROM REENTERING INTO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM”*

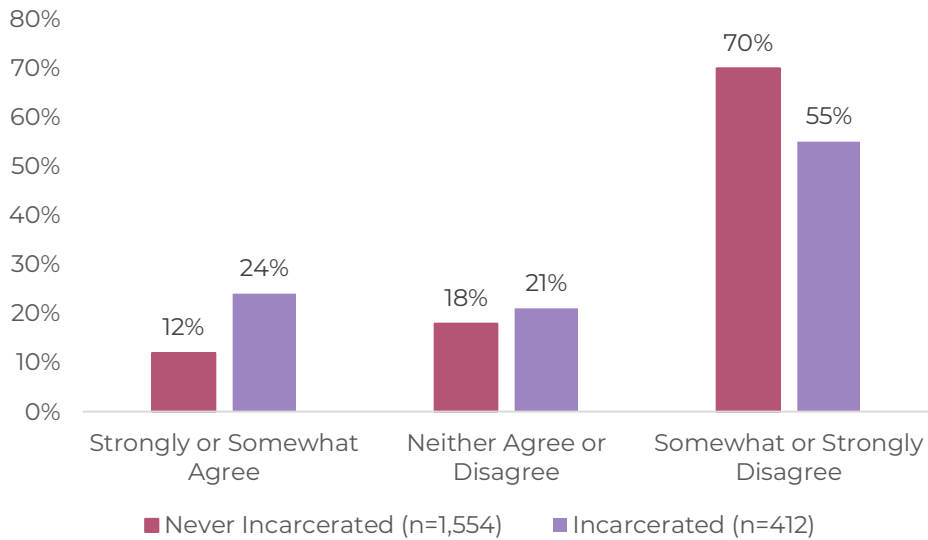


*Significant at $p < .05$.

NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Figure 8
“THE CURRENT SYSTEM REHABILITATES NONVIOLENT PEOPLE AND PREPARES THEM FOR REENTRY INTO SOCIETY”*



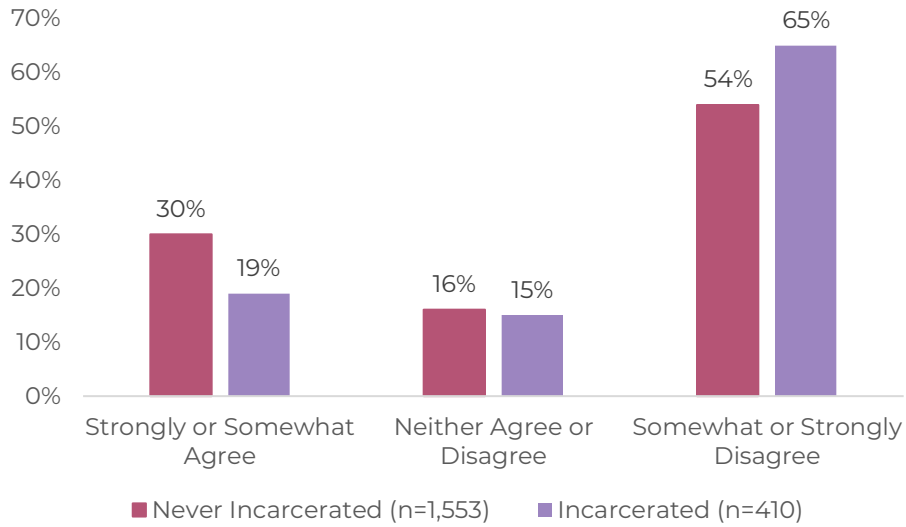
*Significant at $p < .05$.

NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Figure 9

“THE CURRENT SYSTEM TREATS EVERYONE WITH FAIRNESS AND EQUITY”*



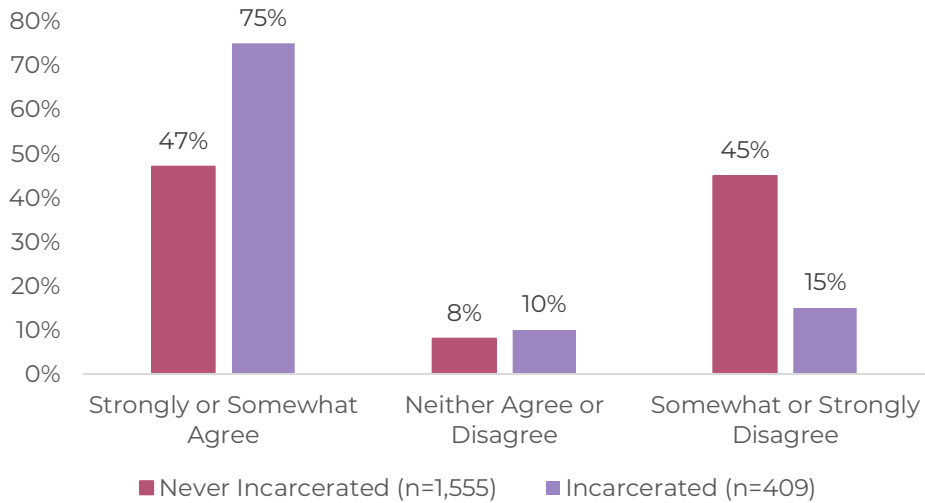
*Significant at $p < .05$.

NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Figure 10

“MORE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED ON FUNDING SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY WITH JUSTICE SYSTEM CONTACT, RATHER THAN PUTTING THEM IN JAIL”*



*Significant at $p < .05$.

NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Community Survey Respondents' Community Concerns

In another series of survey questions, respondents were asked to rate their level of concern on nine possible issues related to public safety in the San Diego region and share if they were “Very Concerned”, “Somewhat Concerned”, “Not Concerned”, or they did not know or had no opinion. Analyses were conducted to compare which issues generated the greatest level of concern and how the levels of concern varied based on respondents' history of incarceration. As the next two figures show, there were significant differences for each of the issues, with the exception of violent crime.



The community issue mentioned by the greatest percentage of both groups as something they were “Very Concerned” about was homelessness. However, this was given the higher rating of concern for a greater percentage of the never incarcerated group, compared to those who have been incarcerated (72% and 62%, respectively) (Figure 11). For those never incarcerated, this was followed by the availability of mental health services, property crime, illegal drug use, illegal use of guns, not enough policing, violent crime, unequitable and unfair treatment in the justice system, and over policing. In comparison, those with a history of incarceration generally expressed less concern for each of the issues listed, compared to those with no history of incarceration, with some exceptions. Specifically, those with a history of incarceration were more concerned about unequitable/unfair treatment in the justice system (their second top concern), and over policing (their eighth top concern) than those without an incarceration history.

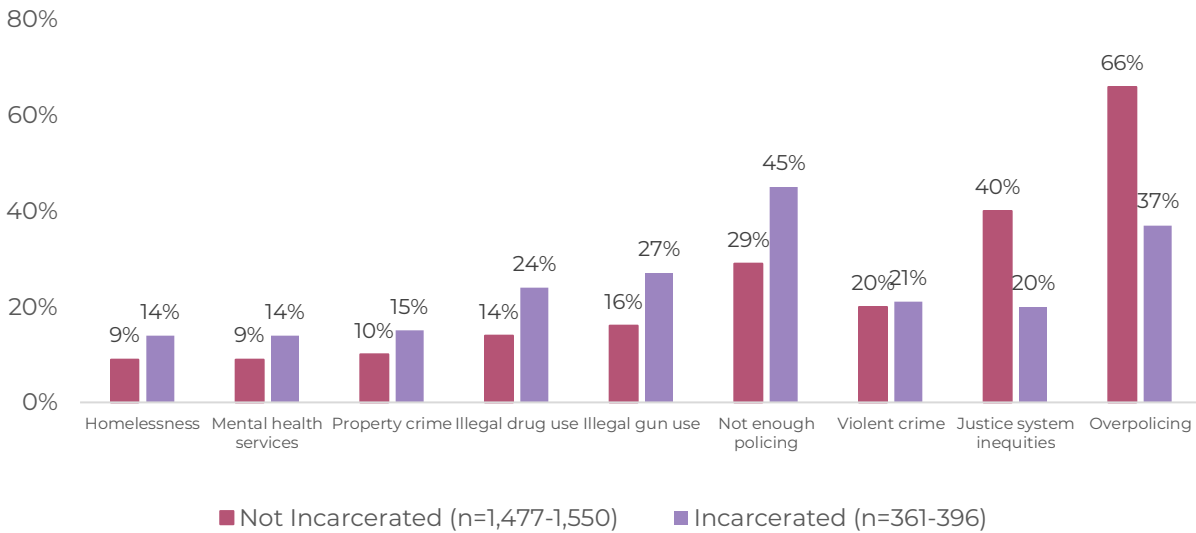
Comparing differences in regard to those who said they were “not concerned”, respondents with a history of incarceration were more likely to describe themselves this way, compared to those without a history of incarceration, with the exception of justice system inequities and over policing (Figure 12).

Figure 11
COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONDENTS' WHO WERE "VERY CONCERNED" WITH VARIOUS COMMUNITY ISSUES BY HISTORY OF INCARCERATION*



*Differences significant for all concerns except violent crime at $p < .05$.
 NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Figure 12
COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONDENTS' WHO WERE "NOT CONCERNED" WITH VARIOUS COMMUNITY ISSUES BY HISTORY OF INCARCERATION*



*Differences significant for all concerns except violent crime at $p < .05$.
 NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Project Goal 3, Research Question 11

What rehabilitative and restitutive program needs does this population have and how do needs vary by other characteristics? (SOW 3.7.6)

Needs of Incarcerated Individuals Who Completed the Community Survey

Understanding the needs of individuals is a key goal of this study, and as part of the community survey, individuals who indicated they had ever been incarcerated were asked to rate how great of a need they had for different types of services at the time of their most recent incarceration. Respondents indicated their level of need on a three-point scale (“Significant Need”, “Somewhat of a Need” or “Not a Need”) and were also given the option to indicate that they were unsure of their level of need. Respondents were also able to describe another need if it was not included in the eleven options listed.⁷

When interpreting these statistics, it is important to note that:

- An individual may have a need that they did not identify because they did not have the level of awareness or assistance to be able to determine it was a need.
- This is not a random sample of incarcerated individuals, and it is possible that those who did not participate in the survey could have a different level of need than the sample of individuals that did.
- Every number and percentage here represents a complex individual and these aggregate statistics are not meant to take away in any way the uniqueness of each person and circumstance.

Overall, those surveyed reported a mean of 4.0 significant needs and 5.9 needs that were described as significant or somewhat of a need. Twenty-nine percent (29%) failed to describe any significant needs and 21% indicated not having any needs at all (not shown).

As Table 2 shows, between 25% and 58% described having a significant need, with the most common including employment assistance (58%), housing navigation (56%) and help paying for basic necessities (55%). The items most often described as “not a need” included anger management therapy (53%), mental health treatment (41%), and substance abuse treatment (39%).

79% of incarcerated individuals reported having unmet needs at the time of their most recent incarceration and the average number of needs respondents reported having was almost **6**.

⁷ Twelve individuals indicated another need, including legal services (6 respondents), family services (4), veteran services (1), and human trafficking assistance (1).

Table 2
SELF-REPORTED NEEDS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS AT THE TIME OF THEIR MOST RECENT INCARCERATION

	Significant Need	Somewhat of a Need	Not a Need
Employment assistance	58%	16%	26%
Housing navigation	56%	17%	26%
Help paying for basic necessities	55%	21%	25%
Transportation assistance	46%	22%	32%
Medical health care	44%	21%	34%
Help obtaining documentation	43%	21%	36%
Substance abuse treatment	41%	19%	39%
Peer mentorship	40%	28%	32%
Education services	39%	26%	35%
Mental health treatment	36%	23%	41%
Anger management therapy	25%	22%	53%
TOTAL	339-356		

*NOTE: Cases with missing information not included. Percentages based on multiple responses.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022*

Additional analyses were conducted to better understand if the number of needs

Younger individuals, those who identify as **Black**, and those with a **disability** had the greatest number of needs at the time of incarceration, on average.

varied by any individual characteristic and three were found to be significantly related, as Table 3 shows. Specifically, individuals who identified as White, not having a disability, and being 40 years of age and older reported having fewer significant needs and needs overall, compared to other races, those with a disability, and those 39 years of age and younger.

Table 3
MEAN NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT AND ANY NEED BY INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTIC

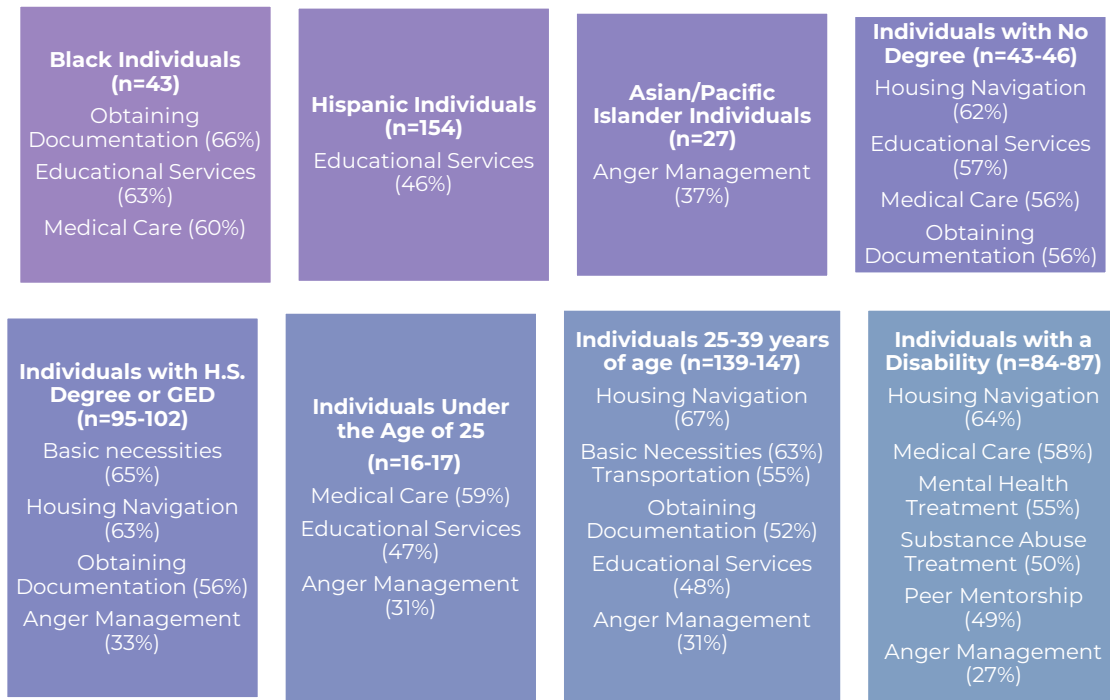
	Number of Significant Needs	Number of Needs at All
Race*		
White/Caucasian (n=147)	3.8	6.2
Black/African-American (n=47)	5.8	8.1
Asian/Pacific Islander (n=28)	4.8	7.1
Native American (n=6)	5.8	8.5
Other (n=88)	4.5	6.4
Disability*		
Yes (n=92)	5.4	7.8
No (n=265)	4.1	6.2
Age*		
Under 25 (n=17)	4.9	6.4
25 to 39 (n=159)	5.1	7.3
40 and older (n=173)	3.8	6.1

**Significant at p < .05.
 NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022*

While the need for employment services did not vary by an individual’s age, race, education level, or having a disability, several other needs did. Figure 13 shows individuals who were significantly more likely to report a need (significant or somewhat) for this type of service. When interpreting this information, it is important to remember that this does not mean that every individual described with this characteristic had this need and that others who do not have this characteristic do not have this need, but rather, this group was more likely to have the need on average. The number of individuals in a particular group could also be relatively small, so generalizations should be made with caution.

*“More funding for mental health, homelessness, and drug prevention is required. In addition, the three strikes law should consider age and the severity of the crime. Too many juveniles are in jail mainly due to drugs and mental illness.”
 -Community Survey Respondent*

Figure 13
INDIVIDUALS MOST LIKELY TO REPORT A SIGNIFICANT NEED FOR THIS TYPE OF SERVICE*



*Significant at $p < .05$.

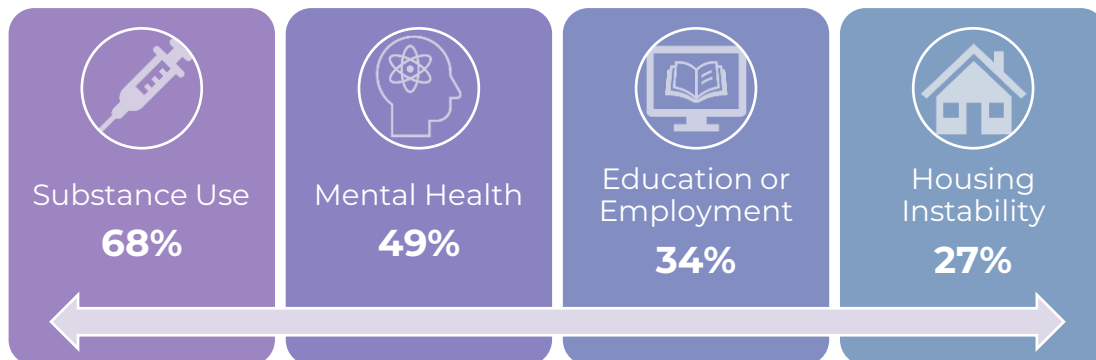
NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.

SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Community Survey Respondents' Perception of the Needs of Family Members Who Have Been Incarcerated

Just over one-third (34%) of community survey respondents responded affirmatively when asked if anyone in their family had been incarcerated as an adult. When these individuals were asked to describe what underlying needs their family member(s) had that may have contributed to justice system involvement (that could have been addressed with services in the community prior to incarceration), the most common answer was substance use treatment (68%), followed by mental health treatment (49%), education/employment (34%), and housing instability (27%); 15% said they were not aware of any underlying needs (Figure 14). Four percent noted other underlying needs which included a traumatic childhood (7), personal issues (7), discrimination (5), financial troubles (4), medical issues (3), other addictions (1), and victimization (1) (not shown).

Figure 14
FAMILY MEMBERS' PERCEPTION OF INCARCERATED FAMILY MEMBER'S UNDERLYING NEEDS



NOTE: Cases with missing information not included. Percentages based on multiple responses.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Incarcerated Community Survey Respondents' Receipt of Services

In another series of questions, previously/currently incarcerated individuals were asked if they had received any of these types of services while they were incarcerated, in the community, or both. Table 4 presents an analysis of what percent of individuals received a service (regardless of where) by whether they had indicated a significant need, somewhat of a need, or that it was not a need at all.

Some notable results from this analysis include:

Services to meet the two most common needs (employment assistance and housing navigation) were received by around **one-third or fewer** of survey respondents.

- The two services with the greatest number of individuals indicating a significant need – employment assistance and housing navigation – were received by the smallest percentage of individuals (35% and 27% respectively).
- Help paying for basic necessities was the third most frequently cited significant need and was received by only 39% of individuals.
- The service most often provided to those with a significant need was substance abuse treatment, and this was still only received by just under three in every five individuals (59%).
- Between 11% and 27% of individuals who said they did not have a need for a service indicated they had received it any way. This could represent a misalignment in service delivery where an individual's needs are not taken into consideration to the degree they could be, or alternatively, that individuals have needs they are not aware of.

Table 4
PERCENT OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS WHO RECEIVED A SERVICE BY THEIR SELF-REPORTED LEVEL OF NEED*

	Significant Need	Somewhat of a Need	Not a Need
	(Number in parentheses represents the number that indicated that need)		
Substance abuse treatment	59% (142)	60% (63)	25% (135)
Medical health care	58% (150)	54% (72)	27% (119)
Mental health treatment	52% (117)	51% (75)	14% (140)
Help obtaining documentation	48% (139)	45% (65)	16% (121)
Education services	44% (135)	46% (90)	22% (118)
Transportation assistance	34% (158)	35% (75)	14% (109)
Help paying for necessities	39% (189)	37% (71)	18% (87)
Peer mentorship	38% (133)	29% (96)	14% (108)
Anger management therapy	37% (82)	38% (72)	13% (180)
Employment assistance	35% (203)	36% (56)	15% (89)
Housing navigation	27% (196)	37% (60)	11% (92)

**Significant at p < .05.
 NOTE: Cases with missing information not included. Percentages based on multiple responses.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022*

To better understand where services were provided, Table 5 presents the percent of individuals who reported they received a particular service in custody or the community. It should be noted that individuals could have said they received services in both. As this table shows, with the exception of educational services and anger management therapy, individuals were more likely to report they received a particular service in the community, as opposed to in custody. Of those clients who reported receiving a service, between 32% and 70% reported receiving it in custody, while 59% to 83% reported receiving it in the community.

Table 5
WHERE INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED SERVICES

(Number in parentheses represents the number that indicated that received the service)	Custody	Community
Educational services (131)	70%	59%
Anger management therapy (85)	66%	59%
Mental health treatment (125)	60%	70%
Medical care (167)	59%	71%
Housing navigation (87)	56%	69%
Substance abuse treatment (164)	54%	74%
Peer mentorship (98)	54%	70%
Employment assistance (107)	44%	76%
Help obtaining documentation (119)	45%	70%
Transportation assistance (99)	40%	80%
Help paying for necessities (121)	32%	83%

*NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022*

Perception of Helpfulness of Services Received by Incarcerated Community Survey Respondents

When asked to describe how helpful the service they received was, the greatest percentage described the peer mentorship and help obtaining documentation as “very helpful” (Table 6). Employment assistance, which was one of the top five identified needs was very helpful to almost three in five (57%) but was also among the five rated by 16% to 17% (the greatest percentages) as being “not very helpful.” The other four services rated as “not very helpful” included substance abuse treatment, transportation assistance (also a top five need), education services, and anger management.

“Being out for over 10 years I’ve seen a consistent need of change with the justice system with the problem getting worse. More programs/mentors are desperately needed as well as housing and job placement.”

- Community Survey Respondent

Table 6
HOW HELPFUL SERVICES RECEIVED WERE

	Very Helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Not Very Helpful
Peer mentorship	64%	27%	9%
Help obtaining documentation	60%	32%	8%
Medical health care	57%	36%	7%
Employment assistance	57%	27%	16%
Help paying for necessities	56%	34%	10%
Substance abuse treatment	55%	30%	16%
Transportation assistance	53%	31%	17%
Housing navigation	51%	37%	12%
Mental health treatment	50%	37%	13%
Education services	50%	34%	16%
Anger management therapy	44%	40%	16%
Total	81-161		
<i>NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.</i>			
<i>SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022</i>			

Effect of Incarceration on Community Survey Respondents

Survey respondents who reported any history of incarceration were also asked if it had an impact on their employment or ability to get a job, their mental health, and on their family. As Figure 15 shows, almost 9 in 10 reported incarceration impacted their family in some way (71% “Very Much” and 17% “Somewhat”) and around three-quarters reported that it affected their employment or ability to get a job (52% “Very

“When you’re doing time, your family does time too.”

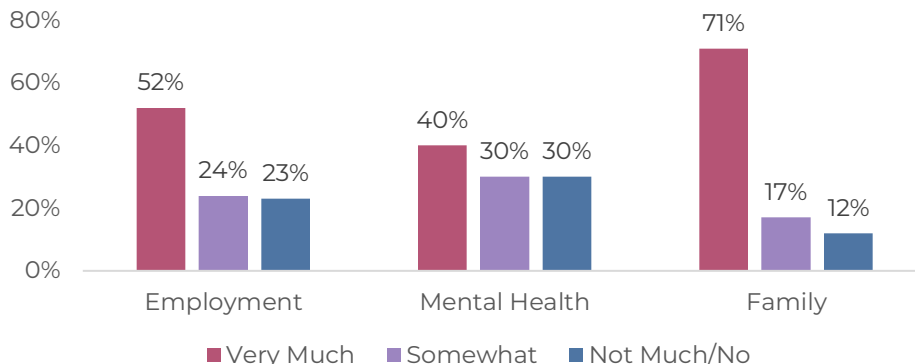
- Community Survey Respondent

“No one will hire me because of my grand theft and it’s hard to get a job unless it’s somewhere under the table or where they don’t do background checks.”

-Community Survey Respondent

Much” and 24% “Somewhat). Seventy percent also reported it affected their mental health in some way (40% “Very Much” and 30% “Somewhat”).

Figure 15
EFFECT INCARCERATION HAD ON EMPLOYMENT, MENTAL HEALTH, AND FAMILY

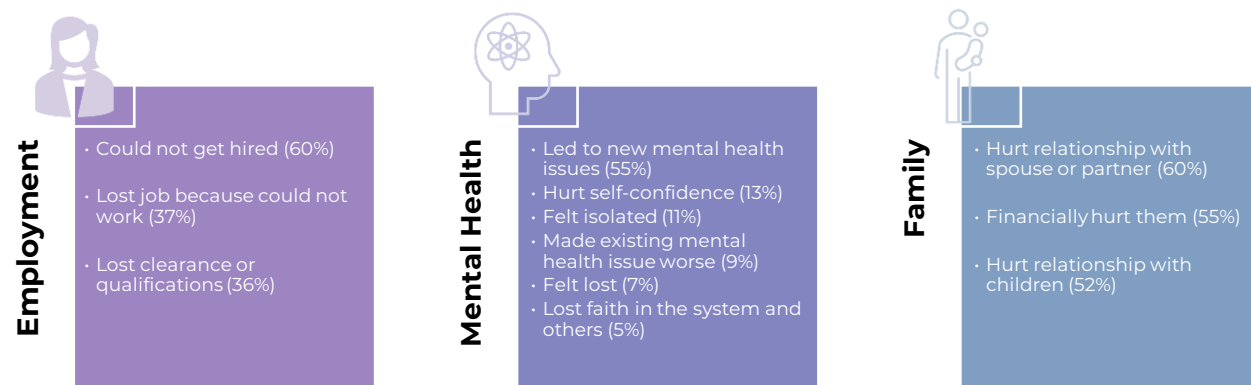


NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Figure 16 provides additional insight from respondents regarding how incarceration had impacted their employment, mental health, and family. In terms of employment, the greatest challenge was being able to get hired with a conviction record, for mental health, it led to new mental health issues (such as post-traumatic stress disorder), and in terms of family relations, it hurt the quality of relationships as well as had a negative financial impact.⁸

“Made me feel less than everyone else.”
 - Community Survey Respondent

Figure 16
IMPACT INCARCERATION HAD ON EMPLOYMENT, MENTAL HEALTH, AND FAMILY



NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

⁸ Ten individuals shared how their incarceration had other impacts on their employment including creating feelings of anxiety/fear (5) and taking a longer time to get hired (5). Sixty-six (66) individuals shared other impacts on the family, including hurting relationships with other family members (26), being unable to help the family (18), being perceived negatively by the family (17), and creating stress for the family (6).

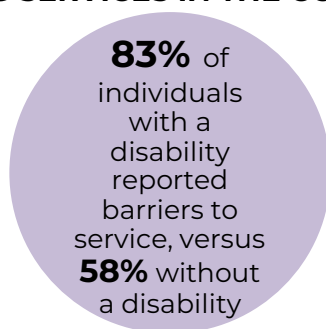
Project Goal 3, Research Question 12

What are the gaps in services and facilities for justice involved individuals who are unhoused or homeless, face substance use challenges, struggle with mental and behavioral health needs, are youth or young adult offenders, or are otherwise strong candidates for diversion programs and alternatives to incarceration? What are barriers and limitations to receiving services? (SOW 3.7.5)

Barriers to Services Reported by Incarcerated Community Survey Respondents

As part of the community survey, individuals who had previously been or were currently incarcerated were asked if there had been any barriers to receiving services they had sought in the community and almost two-thirds (65%) responded affirmatively. Additional analyses revealed that respondents' age, primary language spoken, gender, and race/ethnicity were not significantly correlated with experiencing barriers, but having a disability was, as Figure 17 shows.

Figure 17
INDIVIDUALS WITH A DISABILITY MORE LIKELY TO REPORT BARRIERS TO RECEIVING SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY*



**Significant at $p < .05$.*

NOTE: Cases with missing information not included. Seventy (70) individuals with a disability answered the question about barriers, as did 187 without a disability.

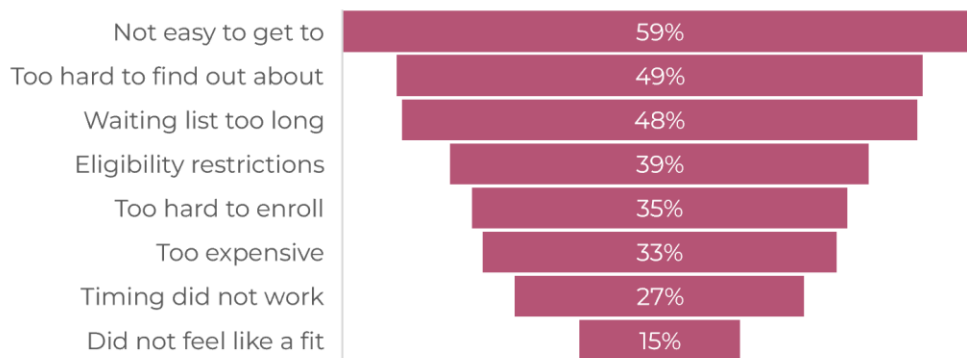
SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

When further probed regarding what barriers to receiving services they faced, the three most common reasons (Figure 18) included that the service was not easy to get to, that it was too hard to find out about what services were available, and that the waiting list was too long. Others also noted that there were restrictions for who the service would take, it was too hard to enroll, it was too expensive, and the timing of availability did not work for the individual. Other responses not included in the list of possible barriers were noted by 17 individuals (9%) and included other logistical issues (9), lack of mentorship or follow-up (5), the perception of bias on the part of the program (2), and substance use (1) (not shown).

"Nobody answers the phone anymore or everybody just keeps referring you".

- Community Survey Respondent

Figure 18
BARRIERS TO RECEIVING SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY



NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

"In addiction or mental health illness you need someone to help you get to the help. I couldn't do it on my own for 30+ years. I needed a psychiatrist, medication, behavior therapy, to feel a part of the community."

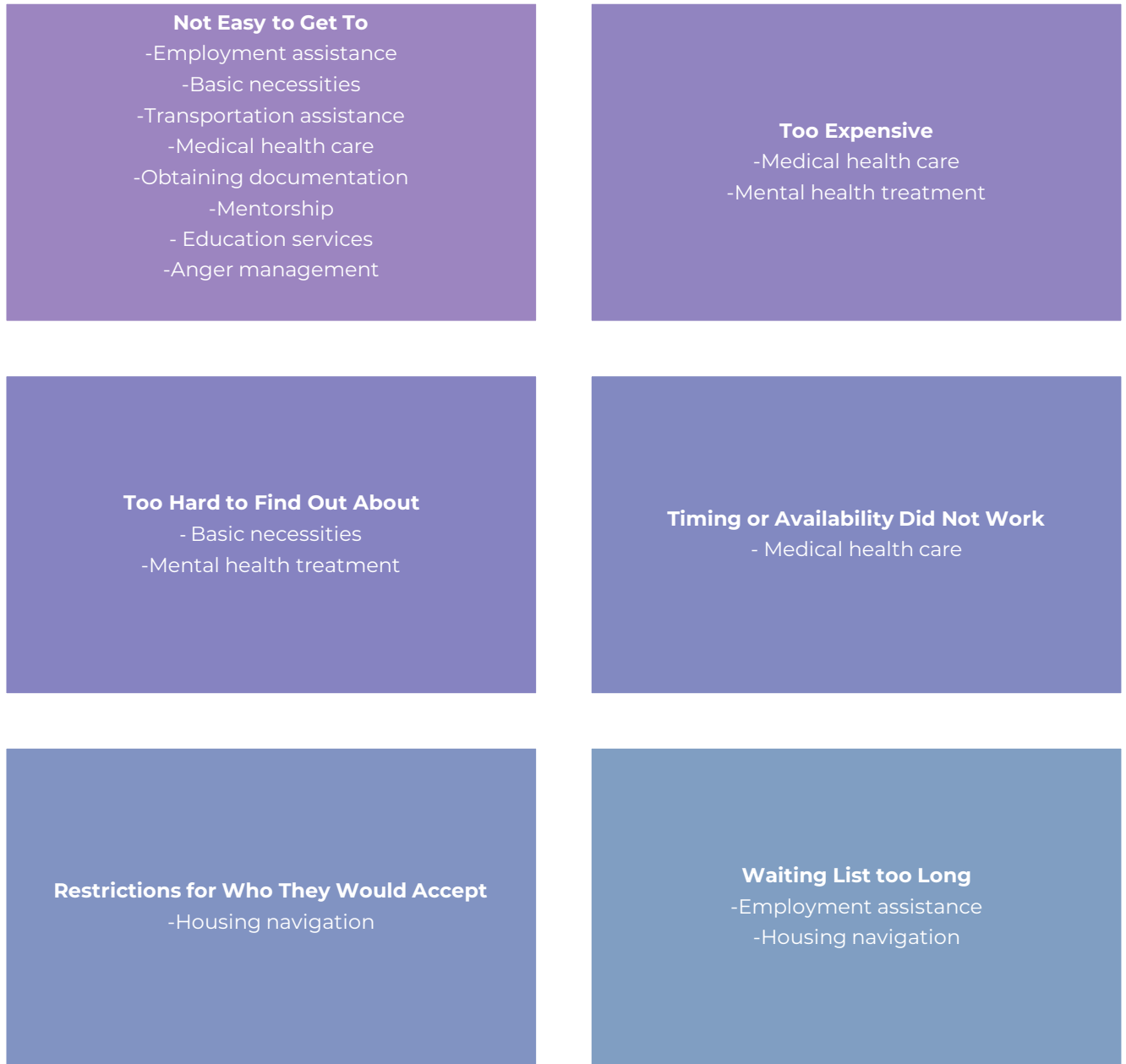
- Community Survey Respondent

Additional analyses were conducted to determine if any needs were significant predictors of a particular barrier being noted. As Figure 19 shows, services not being easy to get to was the most frequently reported barrier. The accessibility of services was reported as a barrier by individuals in eight of the eleven possible needs, with the only needs not associated with this barrier being housing navigation, substance abuse treatment, and mental health services. Those with a

The most common barrier for most service needs is being **difficult to get to**.

self-reported need for housing navigation were significantly more likely to report program eligibility criteria as a barrier, as well as long wait lists. Those with a self-reported need for mental health treatment were significantly more likely to report that it was too expensive or too hard to find out about. Finally, cost and timing were cited as barriers to medical health care, difficulty finding out about services was cited as a barrier for paying for basic necessities and long waiting lists were cited as a barrier for employment assistance.

Figure 19
SELF-REPORTED NEEDS MOST OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH A PERCEIVED BARRIER TO RECEIVING COMMUNITY SERVICES

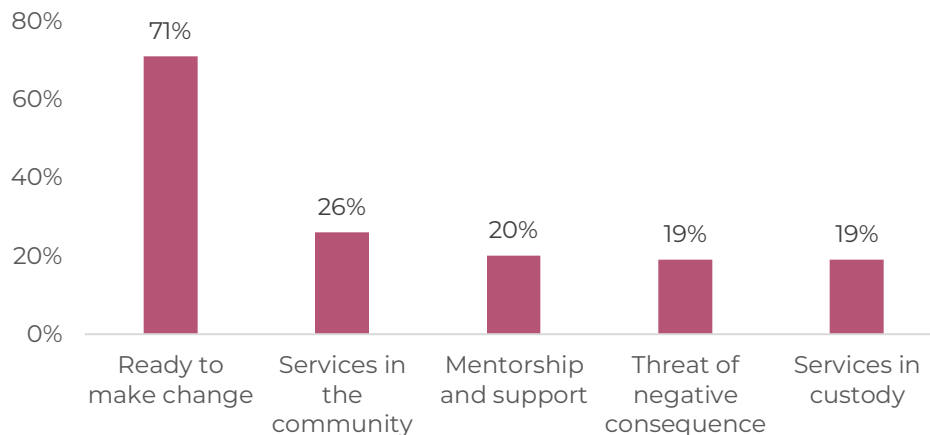


NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
 SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Perception of What Led to Successful Reentry from Incarcerated Community Survey Respondents

Finally, 362 individuals who had a history of incarceration were asked if they thought they had successfully reentered society and if so, what led to this success. Overall, 81% thought they had successfully reentered and 19% said they still had not. Of those who felt they had been successful, almost three-quarters (71%) said that they were ready to make the change themselves, 26% noted the impact of community services, 20% reported that a mentor or someone else helped them, 19% noted the possibility of a negative impact (e.g., prison time) motivated them, and 19% said that services in custody contributed to their successful reentry (Figure 20).

Figure 20
INCARCERATED COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF WHAT LED TO THEIR SUCCESSFUL REENTRY



NOTE: Cases with missing information not included.
SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Survey, 2022

Because the road to successful reentry is often not simple or straightforward, the open-ended responses of some of those who answered these questions are highlighted here to show the myriad factors that contribute to successful recovery, including individual choice, community support, and programs to address underlying issues.

- *“I was lucky enough to have an amazing probation officer who cared for me. I also became an active member of a sober group which helped tremendously. Active membership is key”.*
- *“I felt like I was losing my mind. I was. My mental health was fractured. It still is. I’ve made considerable triumphs over my past choices and lifestyle. I continue to grow as an individual. I found my faith in God again”.*
- *“The offense was driving over the legal limit for alcohol and I was guilty. It made me realize that getting arrested was way better than causing someone else to be harmed by my actions”.*

- *“At the age of 34 years old, I decided I needed help. So, I was referred to a drug treatment program in Oceanside called Family Recovery Center. I received intensive residential drug treatment for one year, and then I completed outpatient for one year. A total of 2 years of accountability helped me to maintain a strong foundation. Through this program, I gained life skills, parenting, employment skills, and housing. I reunified with my oldest children that I had abandoned during my 18-year drug addiction. My youngest son received services at FRC also”.*
- *“At my lowest point i was living on the streets of mission bay park, using illicit drugs. Through the assistance of community resources I am now a senior at UCSD in honors standing preparing to study abroad in Paris France next fall. I am sober, financially stable, mentally, emotionally and physically well and am dedicated to lifting up individuals with similar lived experiences. Punitive means of addressing harm did not prevent any of my past mistakes, even after experiencing incarceration, a strong, compassionate and cohesive community who acknowledged my struggles and empowered me to change was the answer”.*
- *“Group and individual therapy helped me find a new balance. Probation terms forced me to change”.*
- *“I was entered into Drug Court, it was the first time I was offered treatment after decades of drug charges. I should have been referred to treatment my first offense, I could have gotten clean sooner and not had so many consequences”.*
- *“They reached out and was willing to help me change and gave me hope and I have the courage now”.*
- *“Education was the key to my successful reentry along with a competent and caring Family Health Clinician who helped me with my mental health and family reunification”.*

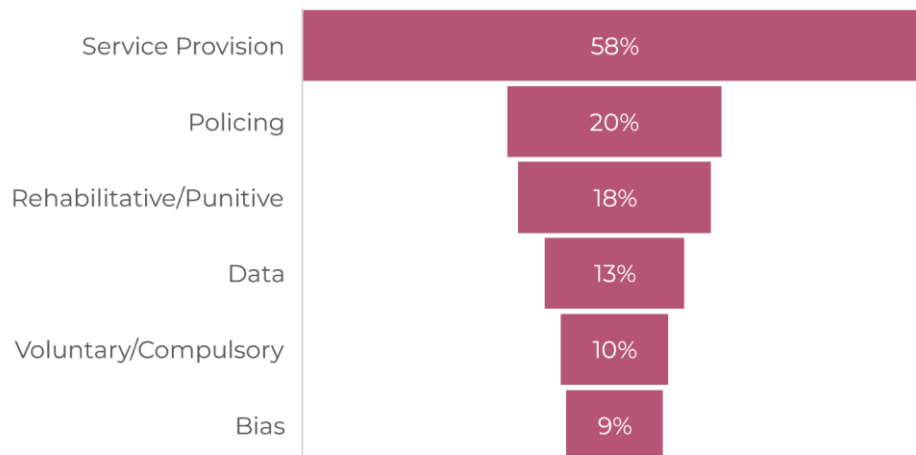
Community Forum Initial Analysis

As previously described, four community forums were held virtually in June and July 2022. These forums were facilitated by SANDAG staff and included a 15-minute overview of the project, followed by 90 minutes for attendees to share their input. Forum participants were asked to share their views on six questions in particular, but all feedback was welcomed. The six questions of particular interest included:

1. What are the greatest gaps in services in your community?
2. What are barriers to receiving services in your community?
3. How can we encourage treatment that is voluntary, as opposed to court-ordered?
4. What are your greatest public safety concerns in the community and why?
5. Do you know of any policies or programs that are effective alternatives to incarceration that the County should be aware of?
6. What is working well in terms of the public safety system and services delivery you would like to note?

While a more detailed review will be conducted to ensure that key themes were captured, the following preliminary analysis outlines some of the recurring themes from staff notes that were analyzed and categorized. As Figure 21 shows, six primary themes were identified, with the primary relating to services and supports for incarcerated individuals (58%), followed by law enforcement and policing (20%), a rehabilitative versus punitive focus (18%), data (13%), voluntary participation in programming (10%), and bias in the system (9%).

Figure 21
KEY TOPICS DISCUSSED IN ATI COMMUNITY FORUMS



SOURCE: SANDAG ATI Community Forums, 2022

Service Provision

Over half of the forum discussion related in some way to gaps and barriers to receiving support services before, during, and after incarceration, especially about availability and efficacy. A good amount of the discussions was also focused on structural concerns regarding behavioral health and other services, as well as limited funding and resources. A common sentiment that was expressed was that improved resources, communication, and innovation could effectively and safely reduce the incarcerated population. Some of the opinions shared regarding service provision included:

- Programs such as Mobile Crisis Response Teams (MCRT) are promising, but under-resourced;
- Waitlists are too long;
- Services need to be tailored to meet an individual's need and staff need to be effectively trained to provide these services;
- Services are fragmented, rather than connected or offered in a continuum, and there is a need for more supportive hand-offs and better communication between providers;
- Service providers should be better paid to ensure their retention;
- The County should consider offering individuals in need incentives to engage in behavioral health treatment;
- The provision of housing and vocational skills training is essential;
- There is a need to conduct behavioral health assessments at the time of incarceration; and
- There is a need to provide more services during incarceration, including peer support and vocational support.

Policing

While community forum participants were reminded that the focus of the study was not on law enforcement or policing, a number of individuals shared thoughts and concerns regarding how the police interact with the public and the topic of over-policing. Additional details regarding these comments will be provided in the final report as a possible area for further research and exploration at the regional level.

Rehabilitative/Punitive

Several participants brought up the purpose of the justice system and questioned whether the focus should be on rehabilitation or punishment. Many noted that punishment can be counter to the goal of rehabilitation, while others noted that both are necessary. Concerns regarding the treatment of individuals in custody were expressed, as well as the suggestion that the jail be operated by a non-law enforcement entity. Others noted the importance of graduated sanctions and progressive sentencing.

Data

A number of participants mentioned that better data availability and sharing of data were important things to strive for. These sentiments included the public needing more data related to jail intake, plea bargains, crime, arrest, and homelessness. Others noted the importance of being able to share case data across law enforcement and behavioral health services, including assessment data, the need for data on young adults (ages 18 to 24), and the need for data on individuals once they leave treatment.

Voluntary/Compulsory

The challenges of incentivizing individuals to take part in voluntary treatment was interwoven through several of the discussions. Some challenges that were discussed in regard to voluntary treatment included individuals experiencing substance abuse issues or addiction, having mental health disorders, or having dual diagnoses. Though there was no one simple answer for how this could be addressed, some participants noted that the passage of Proposition 47 had a negative effect on programs such as Drug Court when the options of consequences for drug use were taken away.

Bias

Finally, some of the participants also expressed concerns about systemic bias, including bias related to race, ethnicity, and income, and how it affects the goals of alternatives to incarceration.

Preliminary Take Aways and Recommendations

Project Goal 2, Research Question 9

What recommendations for policy change to safely reduce jail populations and better protect public safety through alternatives to incarceration, including what additional services and supports may be needed, should be made, based on data and public safety, social service, mental and behavioral health partners, and community, including people with lived experience input? (SOW 3.4, 3.7.4, and 3.7.9)

While the compilation of recommendations will be more comprehensive once the study is complete, the following are made based on the information shared as part of the community survey and through the community forums. These recommendations also reflect feedback and input from the Advisory Group and Working Group.

- **Addressing these issues will take all of us and a paradigm shift.** The issue of justice system reform that sees everyone equally as an individual with underlying needs is not a simple one that can be solved just by law enforcement or by continuing to work in silos. Rather, it will take a paradigm shift on the part of a community where everyone is invested in addressing this issue. Data from the community survey showed divergent views regarding ensuring accountability from offenders with a more punitive perspective on the one hand, versus a more restorative justice perspective where human potential and the possibility of change is supported on the other. Having challenging conversations and continuing to utilize data and human stories will be essential as the region moves forward to determine the best way to invest in solutions that are cost-effective, equitable, and effective.

"The problem of homelessness and lack of support for people with drug abuse and mental illness problems is far beyond the scope of law enforcement. It's not only addressing those problems in a decisive way, but also creating an environment in which people feel valued and that participation is worthwhile. Our economy emphasizes efficiency at the expense of social fabric or responsibility to communities or the future - even to their own customers. I don't see much reason for hope."

-Community Survey Respondent

"Efforts to continually demonize offenders only works to further isolate them and reinforce their criminality. Restorative Justice practices, community justice, cognitive behavioral therapy and life skills are all programs that should be appropriately funded. We take people from unwelcome situations and place them into a worse situation where we are shocked when offenders do not reform."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Conducting needs assessments is essential, as is seeing people as individuals.** The data presented here showed that some incarcerated

individuals had needs that remained unmet after incarceration and that some individuals may have received services that they did not need. Best practice research has shown the importance of conducting validated risk and needs assessments to best meet people where they are. Having well-trained staff to administer these assessments and allocating resources to enable clients to not only be seen as numbers are important components as well.

"I believe the justice system has to get more personal with the incarcerated people in order to know how to help them. There's no way you can treat everyone in a standard way because every case is different as are our needs."

-Community Survey Respondent

"I appreciate that this survey is taking place and support efforts to address the causes of crime as opposed to being reactionary and locking people up afterwards. The system is definitely broken as we can see folks who enter the justice system and never escape. Rehabilitation and not excessive punishment should be the answer. Otherwise, we're wasting public resources to incarcerate people and losing the talents and abilities of those people to contribute to society."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Prevention is as important as alternatives to incarceration.** A common adage is that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." With the focus of the current study being alternatives to incarceration for low-level offenders, it is important to also note that prevention and creating thriving communities at even earlier stages is essential for our community. Many of the needs expressed by those with a history of incarceration may have existed prior to incarceration and helping to meet these needs earlier could potentially have changed the trajectory for some.

"Crime prevention should be start by providing more resources to low-income schools, invest in more after/before school programs for children in low-income areas, as well as more parks and safe/green areas. Provide more affordable and healthy foods in low-income areas and keep public transportation at a low cost, or even free."

-Community Survey Respondent

"We need more community outreach for jobs, education, and housing; make us more aware or knowledgeable of what agencies and programs are available in our communities, but this needs to start in grade or middle schools and continue into the college communities."

-Community Survey Respondent

"I would love to see transformation of the San Diego justice system into one that uses funding for community resources, mental and physical health to ultimately prevent crimes rather than using the money to punish people after crimes have occurred. Please divest from policing and invest our community."

-Community Survey Respondent

"The system is designed for failure and repeat. We must never enter the system but have intervention first for substance use, mental health, homelessness and poverty."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Don't forget the victims.** Many individuals with a history of incarceration have experienced victimization and traumatic life events. There are also individuals affected by crime that have not been involved in the system as offenders. The harm both groups have experienced needs to be acknowledged and the perspective of victims is important to keep in mind as alternatives are considered.

"I support new ideas that would provide alternatives to incarceration for lower-level criminal behavior. I also support restorative justice where the victim can participate in the process."

-Community Survey Respondent

"I support reforms in the criminal justice system, but I encourage any changes to be fair and responsive to victims of crime."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Ensure proven programs are implemented as designed and with fidelity.** Investing in programs that sound promising in theory but have not been evaluated in practice is not the best use of limited resources. In addition, having proven programs in place that are not implemented as designed will not adequately address underlying needs. As alternatives to incarceration are considered, the County is encouraged to creatively explore programs not previously implemented, but to not do so at the expense of what the field has shown is effective. Furthermore, the County should not provide funding for programs at a level at which model fidelity is not possible.

"We need to get real about the effectiveness of all these programs and resources offered to both homeless and offenders. Every year we increase the amount of spending on all of the above and yet homelessness keeps going up and crime is on the incline. At some point when your theories about the solutions aren't panning out you need to reconsider if those theories are indeed solutions. I'd wager we could dump money endlessly into homelessness and criminal rehabilitation and, just as we haven't seen any progress in either category, we'd continue in the same direction. Reevaluate your positions. Reconsider if you're asking the right questions."

-Community Survey Respondent

"I'm so grateful you are interested in hearing the opinions and thoughts of your constituency. Young men and women of color are profoundly hurt and families destroyed by our justice system. We have so much more knowledge now about how to better serve the community and justice. Let's be innovative and use some of the great resources we have in the universities, nonprofit organizations, and expertise."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Provide more mentorship and increase collaboration with those with lived experience who have successfully reentered the community.** Community survey respondents with a history of incarceration were most likely to describe mentorship they received as helpful. When asked what led to their successful reentry, they also noted the importance of having community supports. An Advisory Group member noted the challenges of navigating relationships with probation, parole, and law enforcement, highlighting that part of

mentorship can take the form of coaching individuals on how to do this. Another Advisory Group member noted the important work grassroots organizations are doing, but that they are often doing so with minimal funding and may not have the infrastructure to competitively seek grant or County funding. Creating more ways for the community to provide mentorship, especially those with lived experience, should be a key goal as alternatives to incarceration are expanded in the region. Additionally, finding ways to better support those in the community doing important work is also encouraged.

"Build a support team everyone should have a mentor."

-Community Survey Respondent

"San Diego needs to do better about reaching out to and listening to persons with lived experience. Having public comment at city or county meetings is NOT enough and is not welcoming to all individuals. An option could be reaching out to individuals in current diversionary programs and having meaningful conversations with them and how they experience policing, incarceration, and community reentry services. San Diego needs to start with the needs of individuals in our communities and preventing the need to commit crimes or drown in substance abuse and stop focusing on criminalizing those that need a hand from their neighbors."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Encourage personal motivation.** Personal motivation is important, but creating connections with clients to support this motivation is key. When individuals who felt they had successfully reentered society after incarceration were asked what they would attribute this to, the most common answer was personal motivation. When this finding was discussed with the Advisory Group, it was noted that in many cases, service providers are able to help facilitate this motivation by creating connections with clients so that when they are ready to engage in treatment, they know how and where to easily obtain it. As funding decisions for future programs are considered, it is important to consider these underlying connections and recognize that while their long-term impact may be difficult to quantify, they are an important part of supporting long-term change.

"All this will only work if the person is ready for that change and from being out there for many years myself this is going to be a challenge for the city & state."

-Community Survey Respondent

"I want to share how the behavioral health center on date street and the second chance program allowed me to change my life. To reenter into society. To become a part of what I longed to be a part of. To address my addiction and give me a focus on a future. Hope. Sense of family. Guidance. The privilege of freedom in myself and from my past convictions. Take pride in my better choices I can make for myself."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Explore ways to better share data across systems.** Historically, the social service system and justice system have operated from different perspectives;

however, the distance between these two systems has decreased in recent years. There is still progress to be made, including ways to share data more effectively across systems which could facilitate timely access to needed services.

"The question isn't whether we need to do more, let's coordinate and integrate what we already have, then identify gaps, then add more. All the questions about prioritizing assumes (to me) that all services are smoothly integrated. They're not. That is the problem. If prevention, enforcement, treatment and resources were truly integrated, you wouldn't need a committee to talk about inequity or lack of collaboration. Work together like we did during the pandemic to get COVID-19 to be more under control. Share the info each agency has with each other. Let the strengths of each agency work together to create a flow that any door is a door to services. Not, I don't know, we don't handle that, call this group, etc. Everyone already knows everyone, now they have to act like it."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Support families who have family members with underlying needs.** Family members are affected by incarceration and supporting families is also an important piece of the puzzle.

"It would be nice to have more funds going into the Adult System in mental health, drug programs, and counseling programs for the families that deal with family members that have committed crimes, the perpetual drug offender, alcoholic, or serious crimes."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Increase conversations regarding when there should be more serious consequences for criminal behavior or not engaging in treatment.** While the need for alternatives to incarceration was noted by many in the community, another common theme also related to accountability and ensuring that individuals are held responsible for the consequences of their actions. Respondents also expressed that when individuals are not held accountable, creating positive change can be more challenging. The balance between creating a system that ensures accountability with compassion will require ongoing collaboration, communication, and the use of data to understand how this balance can be achieved.

"Even as a criminal I understood that I should be incarcerated for my crimes. Current laws reward criminals to stay a criminal, there are no consequences, all of us must face severe consequences for our actions. As a criminal I knew what I was doing, it was only from hard consequences that I changed my life path."

-Community Survey Respondent

"Adding more services is great, but there needs to be a stick as well as a carrot approach and I do not see that anymore."

-Community Survey Respondent

"I work in the justice system. We need incentives and consequences to change people's behavior. The legislature has gone too far in reducing consequences for criminal conduct. All

the incentives / services in the world won't fix the issues unless offenders know there are real consequences for not changing their ways".

-Community Survey Respondent

"The criminal justice system should strive toward balance in the application and prosecution of statutes on the books. The ultimate goal is to provide a safe community for all, which requires a multi-pronged approach to include, including prosecution and incarceration. That withstanding we also need to focus on community-based solutions and strengthen the family unit while creating more opportunity".

-Community Survey Respondent

"We will not progress as people if we have to always choose one thing over the other. We can succeed if we increase our laws/consequences but at the same time provide additional resources for individuals. Only providing additional resources is NOT the answer, if there are no consequences for ones actions".

-Community Survey Respondent

"The de-criminalization movement (which I voted for) has failed. It had all of the same beautiful intentions and the same horrific unintended consequences of the de-institutionalization movement that closed state-funded long-term psychiatric hospitals. While jail is not where I want my patients, I do prefer it over dying on the streets. Without a forced (though compassionate care), the sickest among them will die and contribute to generations of trauma that will continue to erode society. If the County jails and DA's office are unwilling or unable for force care within the justice system, the government must develop other mechanisms to force care (and provide the infrastructure to reasonably do so)".

-Community Survey Respondent

"I think that alternatives to incarceration are great in theory but because of human nature, you need to have the threat of incarceration to have people choose to take the alternative. In an ideal world alternative to incarceration would work but then in an ideal world people would not be doing things that put them in a position to need alternatives to incarceration. Thinking of criminals like kids is the easiest way to see how they think. Kids don't always make good decisions because they want to do the easiest things that require the least amount of work".

-Community Survey Respondent

"Criminal justice reform and supporting a strong safe community in partnership with local law enforcement are absolutely not mutually exclusive. Additionally, treatment programs/options are sorely lacking, and de-criminalization is exacerbating the issues. I have family who have struggled with substance abuse for decades and have been involved in the criminal justice system. Those that were successful in overcoming their issues were offered incarceration and or treatment. They were ultimately placed in their own personal low point and made a conscious decision to get well and make that a lifetime work goal. Removing the consequences from those who commit crimes removes any sort catalyst for them to get better".

-Community Survey Respondent

"I am very concerned about the false dichotomy between prevention and enforcement. We need both!! Smart prevention policies will reduce the need for incarceration and make everyone safer, but deterrence also has a role in protecting the community, especially the most vulnerable, from crime".

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Prepare individuals for suitable jobs.** Employment assistance was the number one need identified by community survey respondents and was also one of the services they were least likely to receive, due in part to the high number of perceived barriers.

"I work with the public and have seen a huge difference in folks who have meaningful work and those who do not. In addition to having income, people with meaningful work do not have as much time or energy to participate in crime. It would be very beneficial to offer more services assisting people, especially young people, in finding and keeping meaningful jobs as one piece in the puzzle to increasing public safety."

-Community Survey Respondent

- **Establish private-public partnerships and remove the employment stigma associated with hiring formerly incarcerated individuals.** Engagement with the private sector is an important part of creating employment opportunities. Creating private-public partnerships and open dialogues with businesses that could employ formerly incarcerated individuals is essential. It is one thing to teach skills to individuals, and it is another to teach and support them through navigating the job market. Addressing the stigma of hiring formerly incarcerated individuals and finding businesses who are ready to partner with support networks to offer opportunities could provide the economic foundation for an individual to continue on a positive life trajectory and avoid future incarceration.

"I just paroled less than a year ago and as far as empathy goes, I was fortunate to find employment with some employers that are really understanding of my situation and things of that nature. Even though I was ready to change, I do hit those snags where I think about giving up and reverting back to my old ways because it's easier and life gets hard out here but having employers that really understand my situation help. If I had an employer that didn't have any empathy for my situation, I would have lost my job and been right back to square one, with the possibility of me falling back into old ways."

-ATI Advisory Group Member

- **Housing is critical.** Housing navigation was the second most identified need by community survey respondents who had been incarcerated, and it was also one of the services received least often. Addressing this fundamental need is essential for individuals to be able to address other needs they may have.

"San Diego really needs to evaluate the resources and funding that is allocated to the re-entry population. More housing resources need to be available to individuals re-entering the community from jail and often get overlooked for resources because of their criminal history. And yet they are expected to not recommit crimes with nowhere to live. We have to find solutions to this problem."

-Community Survey Respondent

"I believe we need to ensure anyone working fulltime should be able to pay their rent. And not have that stressor affect their stability and wellbeing."

-Community Survey Respondent

➤ **Address disparities and disproportionality in programs and services.**

Disparities noted in this report, including those who had a history of incarceration being more likely to identify as Hispanic/Latino/Latina and Black/African-American, have been identified and discussed elsewhere. As part of program/service design and evaluation, the County should assess how racial/ethnic groups are impacted, how access to services may differ, and how County policies and procedures may influence disproportionality in outcomes.

"There is no equal justice under the law. Black and brown people are discriminated against. Elected officials are just playing to the crowd and not being honest or abiding by their sworn duties to protect all people equally and with dignity."

-Community Survey Respondent

"All the systems used for interventions of Black, Brown and Native American family's need to be revamped to discontinue poverty and their racial bias practices."

-Community Survey Respondent

"Many individuals end up being arrested, end up being arraigned, and they are told by their attorneys because of their color, sometimes that they might as well take a plea bargain so that sentencing would be less for them. This is a travesty."

-Community Forum Participant

- **Critically look at barriers:** The majority of community survey respondents with a history of incarceration noted barriers to receiving services. Additionally, when reviewing the community survey data at the July Advisory Group meeting, one of the Advisory Group members noted that paying the cost of mandated classes can be a challenge for some of the formerly incarcerated population facing financial challenges and that being able to offer scholarships or financial support to pay the cost of classes or other programming is important. A later component of this study will be exploring these gaps and barriers more closely, but it is important to note here that even if quality services are available, they will make little difference if those who need them are unable to get to them, into them, afford them, or do not know about them.

"The outpatient mental health clinic policy of walk-in only limits the ability of individuals to get connected to outpatient mental health treatment prior to release. If appointments were able to be made, more individuals would be able to connected to mental health treatment prior to their release. Also the restriction of 290s (officially), arson registrants (officially), and individuals with high mental health needs (unofficially) at the County-funded residential substance use treatment programs means that those who really need residential substance use treatment aren't able to receive it."

-Community Survey Respondent

Community Survey Final Comments That Were Shared

The following comments are verbatim as shared by respondents who chose to leave a comment to the survey's final question, "Do you have any final comments to share?" These comments are being added here so the voices of those who took the time to do the survey can be heard directly. Please note that apart from translating Spanish comments to English, no editing has occurred.

Open-Ended Survey Comments
Reform the criminal justice system
Not nearly enough options to get answers for this survey.
I have lived in San Diego for 20 years, I have never seen the issue of homelessness so bad. The Hep A outbreak the shigella outbreak all of the public health issues related to homeless.
Making stealing and drugs legal makes it hard to stop doing stuff
Thank you for this service , for your efforts to helping the community and your hard work.
Divest funds from police departments and reallocate them to non-policing forms of public safety and community support. Additionally, support those who need services by diverting individuals with mental health and substance use conditions away from jails and prisons and toward more appropriate and culturally competent community-based mental health care.
There is no equal justice under the law. Black and brown people are discriminated against. Elected officials are just playing to the crowd and not being honest or abiding by their sworn duties to protect all people equally and with dignity.
Thank you for asking the public for their opinions and comments regarding incarceration. More funding for mental health, homelessness, and drug prevention is required. Further, the 3 strikes law should consider age and the severity of the crime. Too many juveniles are in jail mainly due to drugs and mental illness.
Even as a criminal I understood that I should be incarcerated for my crimes. Current laws reward criminals to stay a criminal, there are no consequences, all of us must face severe consequences for our actions. As a criminal I knew what I was doing, it was only from hard consequences that I changed my life path.
We need more police , more drug treatment facilities for the homeless and people tht get out of jail... But most of all stronger sentences for crimes.
It would be nice to have more funds going into the Adult System in mental health, drug programs, and counseling programs for the families that deal with family members that have committed crimes, the perpetual drug offender, alcoholic, or serious crimes. It gets help for the offender for rehabilitation, but for family members that deal with this behavior on a daily/weekly/monthly basis when they stumble and fall. or when they hurt of kill someone, what help is available for them? They feel guilty like they didn't do enough...
The institution of policing must be dismantled and we need to follow the blueprint of activist/organizers in and outside of San Diego who know that if every community received resources (as outlined by minoritized community) communities that are currently suffering from current and historical inequities can and will thrive. Another point you can't assist minoritized communities' without having an oppression analysis, which includes anti-Blackness, racism/white supremacy, homophobia/transphobia, Xenophobia.....
Please find a way to get the homeless off our streets.
I THINK THERE NEEDS TO BE MORE LAW ENFORCCMENT HIRED. QUIT CODDLING THE CRIMINALS. THEY MADE A CHOICE REGARDLESS OF THEIR BACKGROUND, THEY CHOSE TO COMMIT A CRIME, THEN THEY NEED TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTIONS. THERE NEEDS TO BE HARSHER SENTENCES AND PUNISHMENT FOR CRIMINALS, NOT LESS. MOST CANNOT BE REHABILITATED SO STOP WASTING TAX PAYERS MONEY TRYING TO.
An African culture community center should be built in City heights area. This should help engage African youth in education, culture, and bring our community together to address youth crime, domestic violence, etc . African community has no resources and African youth crime is on the rise . Please help us. JK
Questions like "is crime increasing or decreasing" are only designed to reveal the effectiveness of copaganda, or propaganda by police to keep people immobilized by fear and increase their police budgets. It's purely job security for police to spread misinformation and public tax dollars should not be used to fearmonger. This survey needed to ask questions about whether police are inflicting harm in the community. The violent crime snd property crime engaged in my police should be reflected in crime statistics and clearly distinguishable from other criminal conduct. People should know how many assaults, death and thefts the people they are paying to protect and serve are engaging in as if compares to crime by others. Victimization by police is insidious and should not be covered up but exposed.
There is always room for improvement when it comes to the criminal justice system and incarceration.

Focus on mental health issues is needed
SANDAG needs to hold the County accountable for their jails deaths and their need to sincerely fund homelessness services since that is their job. It should be embarrassing to the SANDAG members that they have been completely ineffective at getting the County to do their part even with new elected leaders promising change. The backside of this city is increasingly disappointing given the progress that had been made prior to the pandemic.
California makes it comfortable for criminals! They can do what they want....whatever the cost!
Thank you for taking the time to get everyone's opinions!
Mass incarceration is a miserable, failed system.
biased survey questions
Quality of life has gone from great to not so great with the crime wave of break ins, burglaries, hot prowls., car thefts, homelessness.
Keep the criminals in jail - no early release.
mentorship is the way that best helped me, also i was going to die if i did not change my behaviors
rolling back penalties to minimal or non existent levels has done nothing but increase violence
The criminal justice system has been severely watered down because of the politics of the past two years - where people of color are not facing strong enough consequences for their crimes. If you commit a crime - you should be arrested and face consequences, no matter your color. Color has no bearing.
the justice system needs more focus on rehabilitation and re-entry services. we're running a hamster wheel.
1. Policing needs to ask, every time, every call: how would I respond if this was a wealthy white man? 2. Down-size the army. 3. Disengage from the war on drugs. 4. Read the "defund police" websites and books to get familiar with the ideas in a non-confrontational way. (Go past the slogan, be curious, find out what they think.) 5. Require higher educational attainment from candidates for the force. Make the cadet school rigorous, such as in other countries. 7. Make quality improvement programs around inmate safety and health. Take action immediately. Treat it like a crisis!
We need more community resources and reentry programs for citizens returning home from prison. More and more citizens are coming home with very limited resources. Fund our community organizations. Those who are more close to our communities, those who have a relationship with the community, those who know our needs.
Thank you for asking the public for their opinion. I do hope that there are efforts to reach underserved or Justice impacted populations via their communities as we know that less than 20% will complete this
I'm glad the county is asking these questions. I hope the answers will help County programs become stronger, better directed and more equitable.
Being out for over 10 years I've seen a consistent need of change with the justice system with the problem getting worse. More programs/mentors are desperately needed as well as housing and job placement.
The system is designed for failure and repeat. We must never enter the system but have intervention first for substance use, mental health, homelessness and poverty.
I hope these surveys turn into actual changes.
We need to build support in our schools and communities to help address the issue of incarceration. Focus on prevention now.
Stop the anarchy and hold criminals accountable.
The criminal justice system needs reform. The county needs to help dismantle white supremacy.
Clean up the streets, make criminals accountable and stop victimizing criminals.
I appreciate the chance to respond to this survey. Thank you.
Close the boarders/ increase police/ trash services/ create areas for homeless in areas that are not already impacted with people.
I may live in 92075 but I grew up in Ocean Beach in the 1980's and have had plenty of experience with homeless issues and violence in a community. I appreciate this survey and hope it leads to improving San Diego.
Please enforce sentencing for criminals and stop releasing them - remove Penny bail
Encinitas has been overtaken by homeless people who often commit violent and non-violent crimes. The leadership MUST do something about cleaning up our town. We need a higher police presence and we need to get these vagrants out of our town. They have essentially been invited here by Blakespear and her cronies. The liberal policies are ruining our peaceful town. Something must be done for the safety and peace of all residents.
Tine to get back to the basics. Breaking laws should have consequences. Fund law enforcement.
Make laws for the safety of the general public and enforce them.
I think the current laws need to be enforced. Also, people should be treated more fairly.

We need new leadership & woke politics needs to go
The question isn't whether we need to do more, let's coordinate and integrate what we already have, then identify gaps, then add more. All the questions about prioritizing assumes (to me) that all services are smoothly integrated. They're not. That is the problem. If prevention, enforcement, treatment and resources were truly integrated, you wouldn't need a committee to talk about inequity or lack of collaboration. Work together like we did during the pandemic to get COVID-19 to be more under control. Share the info each agency has with each other. Let the strengths of each agency work together to create a flow that any door is a door to services. Not, I don't know, we don't handle that, call this group, etc. Everyone already knows everyone, now they have to act like it.
Please help increase the pay of mental health workers including addiction therapists to increase the workforce and quality of care.
The public needs to be involved in all decisions made within this organization, as tax payers people need to be listened to.
The current incarceration system fail to promote diversion to folks that need them A comprehensive assessment system should be able to move individuals into treatment services quickly Data sharing across system could facilitate timely access to needed services
Policies on Decriminalization of drugs and lower penalties for crimes is what has caused the dramatic increase in homelessness and increase in crime.
Todd Gloria and Catherine Blakespear are terrible Mayors
Increase police and start enforcing the law. As a small business owner, we can't even stop thieves from stealing our merchandise. Stop being soft on criminals.
Policing has gone down due to budget cuts, too much oversight by those that don't understand policing, and the lack of the city to prosecute and sentence violent and non-violent criminals. The criminals feel that the revolving door policies allow them to keep committing crimes with no consequences. Homelessness is getting out of control and a blight on the city to both locals, and tourists. Tourism will begin to suffer due to the look of the city as being dirty and run-down with tent cities.
The penalties for theft in particular need to be increased significantly. Theft has risen drastically since penalties and jail time were reduced or eliminated. Theft, regardless of the value is not a victimless crime. Victims deserve justice for theft or even attempted theft whether violent or not and regardless of the value.
Be conservative with our tax money
you suck
reinstate second amendment right for felons after 5 years non offending. i live far from a cop shop and i want to be able to defend my family
San Diego is one of the safest counties in California, due to largely conservative government. Liberals simply don't understand criminals and constantly make ineffective laws, the rampant crime in the rest of California shows that. By the time people realize the ineffectiveness of liberal justice laws, too many good, decent people have been horribly victimized.
I have members of my family with disabilities, mental health and eating disorder. There's limited to absolutely no treatment for eating disorders for your youth young adults and adults this interferes with their ability to learn and make progressive and productive choices.
Return to pre-Covid enforcement of laws.
There is question bias implicit in your survey Dividing us by race and class is not a sustainable way to govern. We all want to live peacefully but allowing some to take advantage via leniency only encourages more of that behavior.
I force the laws we already have with regard to vagrants. Sleeping in bushes and on our sidewalks, public intoxication public urinating
Don't tax road use
Public Safety needs to actually embrace harm reduction, population health data, treatment for SUD and SMI. Allow increased access to care and treat drug use as a disease, not just day it publicly.
Funding for mental health services and substance use treatment is necessary.
We have a very broken system.
I believe we need to ensure anyone working fulltime should be able to pay their rent. And not have that stressor affect their stability and well being.
Some of the questions seemed "leading". I thought a few questions needed more options.
To help low income residents, stop charging for fix it ticket requirements requiring court approval, etc. Allow local police dept to view and confirm compliance with no charge.
Mental health care
We need to address bias in the criminal justice system. Until the courts can admit and acknowledge their bias, we won't see any change.

Build the mental health hospital as soon as possible to house those in crisis instead of jails. Provide more affordable housing and lasting solutions for the homeless. Incentivize builders for affordable housing inventory. Don't treat law enforcement as the enemy when they're just trying to keep us safe. Don't use cancel culture to get what you want and claim to know about martial law or communism when we worked so hard to escape all that, as well as religious and political persecution only to be discriminated again for being Asians. Address the needs of your taxpayers first before putting money on the legal defense of illegal immigrants. We all waited in line and followed the law, why can't others do the same? There has to be more advocacy for the victims. These days it feels like those who commit the crime has more rights and receive more compassion than victims.

Encinitas city council has invited the homeless here. Crime has increased.

Thank you for asking these questions and being interested in this subject.

I work with the public and have seen a huge difference in folks who have meaningful work and those who do not. In addition to having income, people with meaningful work do not have as much time or energy to participate in crime. It would be very beneficial to offer more services assisting people, especially young people, in finding and keeping meaningful jobs as one piece in the puzzle to increasing public safety.

Thank you for doing this survey. Please publish the results. I hope this is being spread across the county until it is representative of all constituents and not just those of privilege like me who have the time and technology to respond. We skew surveys.

I was a teaching artist in prison. The experience has definitely affected my views of our system.

Adding more services is great, but there needs to be a stick as well as a carrot approach and I do not see that anymore.

Liberal laws ALWAYS means MORE crime against the law-abiding citizens. If people want respect and want to be treated with respect then be a good person! We ALL know right from wrong! Be disrespectful to law enforcement and break the laws then its ALL ON YOU for your bad experience...takeaway is Be a law abiding respectful person and life can be good...until you cross paths with a "bad person!" It's shameful how many bad people are in this world! NO ONE CAN DENY THIS..if you do, then you are part of the problem!

The de-criminalization movement (which I voted for) has failed. It had all of the same beautiful intentions and the same horrific unintended consequences of the de-institutionalization movement that closed state-funded long-term psychiatric hospitals. While jail is not where I want my patients, I do prefer it over dying on the streets. Without a forced (though compassionate care), the sickest among them will die and contribute to generations of trauma that will continue to erode society. If the County jails and DA's office are unwilling or unable for force care within the justice system, the government must develop other mechanisms to force care (and provide the infrastructure to reasonably do so). We need revised welfare & institutions code, more IMDs, more locked BHUs, and forced inpatient drug treatment. probation and parole need to be able to force offenders whose criminality is complicated by MH issues into treatment. More patients need long-acting injectable antipsychotics because they cannot comply with oral medication regimens. If you actually care about the incarcerated, the addicted, the homeless, the mentally ill, or victims, you have to find a way to force psychiatric care more easily, more often, for longer periods of time, and with greater follow through.

The problem of homelessness and lack of support for people with drug abuse and mental illness problems is far beyond the scope of law enforcement. It's not only addressing those problems in a decisive way, but also creating an environment in which people feel valued and that participation is worthwhile. Our economy emphasizes efficiency (automate people out of the way) and profitability (for shareholders) at the expense of social fabric or responsibility to communities or the future - even to their own customers. I don't see much reason for hope. Can SANDAG create some cultural shift in San Diego to make everyone feel like stakeholders in our shared future? Like we want to take care of each other?

Not sure how these survey questions fall under SANDAG's purview. I answered because normal residents should be answering instead of those of you on SANDAG pushing an agenda. It felt very much like a social justice agenda being pushed from a transportation committee. 😞

I wish we could call it the Criminal Legal System instead of Justice because I don't feel there's much Justice actually served.

In the neighborhood I currently live in, everything works well: the streets are clean and walkable, there are trees, there are parks, beaches, and a skate park all accessible to people of all ages. In the neighborhood I grew up in, older adults carried sticks to beat off stray dogs or gangs that would attack them as they walked, every large tree was cut down and the city cited maintenance needs, there were no safe parks nearby and the beaches took an hour to get to by bus. This is the inequity of San Diego. When our transportation and environment is obviously so different across neighborhoods, it shows what and who San Diego cares about and this feeling of an environmental violence translates to individual people who are left knowing they are unwelcome. Let's get the built environment to correct these disparities and offer people safety and opportunity at all ages.

We need to stop the soft on crime policies. Criminals need to serve time for their crimes. We need more law enforcement to keep the communities safe.

Reserve police ONLY for most violent crimes, substitute mental health workers, and social workers for lesser issues, remove police stations from inner cities and replace with social workers and services. STOP police officers training out of the country! Weed out bad apples in PD, just as we do in Every profession, and institute immediate professional, legal, criminal and fiscal consequences for officers who brutalize and murder unarmed black and brown people!!!

Has being formerly incarcerated, I had to make a conscious decision that no matter what, I'm going to stay clean and be successful. I work my but off and didn't let my felony define who I am. Through all of the negative responses, I never gave up. I had a CEO who believe in me and gave me my opportunity. By Ray King saving my life, I'm able to save others.
There needs to be an active program for mental health workers come to some emergency calls instead of police! For people who are having a mental health crisis. The police don't care about the members in the community anymore. My husband was illegally arrested when he was having a mental health crisis and he died in jail. If the police took him to the hospital like I asked or if PERT would have showed up then he might still be alive!!! I've lost all my trust and faith in the San Diego Sheriff's Department. Serve and protect, yeah right not anymore unfortunately.
I know the system is failing my family.especially the children if they needed the law they wouldn't call them and that's due to the law not protecting them so sad
I think that alternatives to incarceration are great in theory but because of human nature, you need to have the threat of incarceration to have people choose to take the alternative. In an ideal world alternatives to incarceration would work but then in an ideal world people would not be doing things that put them in a position to need alternatives to incarceration. Thinking of criminals like kids is the easiest way to see how they think. Kids don't always make good decisions because they want to do the easiest things that require the least amount of work.
Thank you for this survey
MORE peer support specialist to help engage and reentry to society.
More funding for public schools less for police. Police do not prevent crime, this is proven.
People need to feel consequences before they change.
We just need to enforce the laws that we already have.
Too little, too late for when I was in the judicial/court systems...could have turned out worse mentally...veterans weren't addressed until I was out. Gang bangers and drug addicts had it easier inside.
Put incarcerated people to work, take away their privileges, no TV, no cell phones(pun intended), give them access to select library books, let them attend assorted classes to enhance their well-being, have them grow food, and do anything that supports our communities. Don't let them vegetate, make them productive...
I think homelessness is a huge issue and I think the DA's office offers a viable solution. Understanding that many who are homeless choose to be on the street, it's a huge concern. Minds smarter than mine, must have solutions. define what is meant by "over policing"
Please help clean up San Diego county. As a native and life long resident it's really sad to see how bad it's become. From downtown SD to north county... Crime needs to be punished. Criminals aren't scared of the consequences of their actions and aren't going to change their ways because they're not being prosecuted.
Victims are being left behind and criminals are getting emboldened. If anyone spends 5 minutes downtown they'll see how far things have fallen in the last 2 years. The excuse of covid is getting old. Progressive policies are breaking our county and making it less safe and allowing flagrant criminal behavior to go unchecked. Ralphs downtown now has fully armed security because our community is failing to protect our businesses and law abiding residences. There is zero attempt to be evidence based when it comes to rehabilitating individuals, instead, it's a blank check to continue committing crime unchecked.
I think early intervention at the high school level, such as anger management & DV prevention classes would be beneficial. Also, first time offenders may benefit from alternatives to custody
Stop giving the police department more and more money. It's not working to make San Diego safer.
Taking someone's life savings through fraud is as life changing as a violent crime. Poverty, as I was raised in, is not an excuse to commit crimes - property crimes or violent crimes.
Need Contitutional Carry - 2nd Admendment - in San Diego....take back our County and take down the Criminals ourselves....Let L.E. do their real jobs!
Courts are too lenient. Laws are too lenient. Criminals should be locked up and removed from society. Homeless should be removed from the streets. Graffiti should be cleaned up. Elected officials should keep us safe, not allow criminals back on the street.
We need more Police Officers, stricter penalties, drugs can not just be misdemeanor crimes. The homeless issue has to be addressed now. They have taken over the streets of San Diego.
We need to have laws and consequences for actions to uphold a functioning society. I don't like the idea of raising small children knowing that lighter sentences are being handed out to career criminals in the name of equity. I care about community safety and people can't follow the rules then other arrangements need to be made.
Any reference to inequitable treatment refers to my belief that victims are not treated equally to defendants. They are no longer adequately protected or respected. Instead, we bend over backwards for defendants, who are often repeat violent offenders.
As for de-escalation. All highschool students should go through training on how to deal with police. Their rights should be explained but also explain how to behave when stopped. Show an officer's perspective. Do situational role play. Officer gets a call of armed person in a red honda. Stops red honda not realizing just some kid. Kid

<p>doesn't comply, doesn't understand there could be other reasons for stop. Kid pulls something out, officer reacts.. bad situation. There are programs that i have participated in as a citizen where we got to see and make the decisions police have to make. It is crazy. Can't just fix the officer side but need to fix society side. Oh and your ranking questions were biased.</p>
<p>I think we need both more police with additional training and more community preventions and support resources.</p>
<p>Crime prevention should be start by providing more resources to low income schools, invest in more after/before school programs for children in low income areas, as well as more parks and safe/green areas. Provide more affordable and healthy foods in low income areas and keep public transportation at a low cost, or even free.</p>
<p>The leniency towards criminals and the inability to focus on "personal responsibility" is why we are failing. Stop blaming others. Stop doing wrong things. Stop celebrating poor behavior.</p>
<p>Thank you for taking the time to create this survey, I hope it will help create a better and safer San Diego.</p>
<p>Increasing the shoplifting amount to \$900 to qualify for a felony just increased crime. Crime pays if you commit financial crimes, the sentences are ridiculously low. Stop early release, criminals are not getting enough time as it is.</p>
<p>I work in the justice system. We need incentives and consequences to change people's behavior. The legislature has gone too far in reducing consequences for criminal conduct. All the incentives / services in the world won't fix the issues unless offenders know there are real consequences for not changing their ways.</p>
<p>I hope to leave San Diego as soon as possible because the homeless situation has impacted safety, quality of my life, and local government has been ineffective at addressing the problem. I do not want to pay high taxes to facilitate those who will not do anything to improve their own lives or accept treatment.</p>
<p>We need to clean up our streets and feel safe again, starts with investing in social services & drug prevention. Still need accountability for offenders. Consider getting offenders to do clean up city but real work service in lieu of custody.</p>
<p>Put criminals in jail</p>
<p>Thank you for doing this survey. I pray for a better, safer San Diego.</p>
<p>Stop letting violent offenders out. Rapists just get slaps on the wrist for their crimes. More justice for victims.</p>
<p>The homeless petty crime problem is unbearable. It is difficult to go to work, go shopping, eat a meal out without being accosted by some mental patient/drug addict. The mental health care system doesn't seem to work at all! Anything, including simply warehousing them away from the public would be better than this!</p>
<p>It appears the questions in this survey are phrased in a way to affirm the writer's/ questioners pre existing beliefs which causes me great concerns about the efficacy of the survey over all</p>
<p>criminals are being treated better than victims and law abiding citizens. criminals continue to commit crimes because there is no punishment, no jail time, and no accountability. the justice system is laughable to them right now.</p>
<p>Homelessness is a huge issue in San Diego that has gotten worse over the years. With criminal justice reform in California over the past decade, many nonviolent offenders that would have been incarcerated in the past are now free. This seems to have increased the homeless population. We must address this issue. Many of these individuals have unaddressed drug problems and mental health issues, a lot of them also commit property crimes as well. We must come up with funding and new ideas to get these individuals off the streets in order to make sure San Diego stays a safe and beautiful city.</p>
<p>Criminals are smart. If they know there's a way to escape culpability, they will use that excuse, or blame others for their actions. Again, I'm happy to offer treatment... when it's truly wanted and not an excuse. If we lower our standards when dealing w/ offenders, they will only rise as low as we set our standards.</p>
<p>California and large cities in California are crime invested and a disgrace thanks to the soft on crime laws, lack of proper sentencing and inadequate mental health services. I don't want San Diego County to go into the criminal abyss like LA County and San Francisco County. Their alternatives to incarceration failed and should serve as an example to our San Diego County leaders to not pursue the same same folly.</p>
<p>-More police officers are needed. -Do not defund the police, and stop letting violent criminals out of jail early. -Mental health care is greatly needed for these criminals. -Diversion programs are good.</p>
<p>I've lived downtown for the past 10 years and have witnessed first-hand an increase in homelessness and crime rates - both violent and non violent crimes. My husband and I have a 2 year old now and are seriously considering moving because what we see on a daily basis is unsanitary (homeless tents everywhere, open drug use, trash, etc.) and unsafe. Prop 47 really made the community less safe and took away incentives for defendants to go to rehab/ seek treatment by classifying drug crimes as misdemeanors. Although drug use itself is not violent, people on drugs tend to commit crimes, violent ones and property crimes. Prop 47 also took away law enforcement's willingness and/ability to enforce laws by reclassifying crimes as misdemeanors. There are plenty of services available already - people are just not willing to use them. Increasing funding for these services is not going to solve the problem.</p>
<p>Too many to write here, but I believe police need to be more involved in the community they patrol and need more training on cultural diversity and the dynamics within.</p>
<p>Please build more jails and insane asylums. We need to get rid of the crooks and the homeless.</p>

As a taxpaying member of society who was brought up the right way, I think I am being taxed too heavily and an inordinate amount of my taxes are being wasted on feel good programs to help criminals that are recidivists
The questions about equitable treatment assumes there is inequality. I know from personal experience that great efforts are made to ensure there is equitable treatment.
Many of the items were written in a way that seems to indicate a pre-determined outcome to this study.
Law Enforcement needs the resources to help the homelessness. They need to be teamed up with health providers to make this work.
We need more options for treatment/placement for violent mental health offenders.
Why are you only interested if someone has been a victim within the last 3 years but ask if someone has ever been incarcerated, not limiting that to the last 3 years? Victims of serious crime that happened more than 3 years ago should be heard and considered just as much as people who have been arrested/incarcerated more than 3 years ago.
Homelessness, Mental Health, Drugs and guns should be a priority for combatting crime in San Diego County.
Put more police on the streets and make the laws mean something. Everyone needs to be held accountable.
We need more police officers.
Thanks for all you do
More funding and resources for law enforcement.
Thanks
I believe the Justice system is corrupt. Employees in the Justice system need to be educated more about victims and how to handle situations. The male testosterone is intense and often comes off very harsh in bad situations. Also, Covid has not helped. My ex husband should be in prison for the things he has done but instead we gave him a slap on his wrist and let him go. Now he has warrants out for his arrest. They should have listened to what I said and arrested him from the beginning.
Public safety is at a critical point where we are seeing the increase of violence and crime due to ill conceived policies that let dangerous offenders return to or remain in the community. Protect the community first.
I have been the victim of several violent crimes but not within the last three years - there are too many guns in our country- there are too many desensitized people with access to guns - there are too many people who go untreated for mental illness - there is a lack of education regarding gender equity and racial equity - and a lack of regard for women and non-white people
Increase programs like the Veterans Court to facilitate opportunities back into the community. Treatment and reduction in charges for drugs, domestic violence and petty theft.
Homelessness is number one issue to me that directly affects my personal feeling of safety. Wish more offenders had the opportunity to wipe their slate clean if they committed a crime once. Perhaps 4 years of military service with an honorable discharge could be a voluntary option as opposed to jail. For repeat offenders, would like to identify the issue, face punishment, and find a way back to rehabilitation for that person. Or, if it doesn't seem possible, a way to incarcerate them or keep them from harming the public while still contributing to society.
All of society should be viewed as a family. If a child is bad you talk with them, show patience, practice understanding, and try to point them in the right direction.
no we can not do any thing the law makers all do what they want.
The outpatient mental health clinic policy of walk-in only limits the ability of individuals to get connected to outpatient mental health treatment prior to release. If appointments were able to be made, more individuals would be able to be connected to mental health treatment prior to their release. Also the restriction of 290s (officially), arson registrants (officially), and individuals with high mental health needs (unofficially) at the County-funded residential substance use treatment programs means that those who really need residential substance use treatment aren't able to receive it.
California justice system is not applied equally. Minorities are more likely to receive multiple enhancements
Stop giving criminals excuses to commit more crime. Criminals are being let out of custody who have no business being in our community.
This will make absolutely no difference! You're all crooked anyway and do not care about this really.
Thank you for this survey.
More funding for law enforcement! More training and resources! Not less!
The Sheriff's office is understaffed which leads to problems. Everyone needs to support Law enforcement and let them enforce the laws that are in place and reinstate stronger penalties for crimes. Prop 47 isn't working and the increasing crime rates are proof of that. The criminals are laughing and having a great time ruining hard working people's lives in the process.
Something has to be done to attract and keep quality an highly trained first responders.
Leadership really has to stop making excuses for violent offenders. Here's a solution, stop putting drug users, drug dealers, "soft criminals", etc., in prison. Help THOSE TYPES of offenders. Save prison space for violent

offenders, child molesters, murderers, etc. Our prisons should be reserved for people like them. Do you really think you can change people who like to rape and murder? The studies show you usually can't. If you really want to make a difference, start helping victims and empowering them. Start creating tough laws that actually deter or punish criminals. Start putting people away who deserve to be put away. Victims like myself find it completely offensive that you want to put violent offenders back out on the streets. Unless you find a genius way of doing it and unless they can guarantee they will never offend again, stop wasting time trying to find ways to make life better for criminals and start using your time and money to make our neighborhoods, communities, and citizen safer from predators/offenders. It's very clear when people deserve to spend most or the rest of their life behind bars, so it would be of service to everyone if you start being hard on the people who are hard on victims and lighten up on people who actually deserve to be helped or have problems that can be improved. Funny... child rapists are placed back in communities, but some thieves or drug dealers are serving Three Strikes life sentences. You guys already know what to do, stop wasting everyone's time with these surveys and take on the solutions you already know will fix "overcrowding" in prisons. Rehabilitation, resources, and reentry for violent criminals, huh? You people are funny.

It is amazing in this whole survey about crime there were no questions about sentencing of criminals or letting convicted criminal out of prison/jail early. This is a huge problem that has directly affected the current crime wave in California.

Please do not overlook victims and services. Address the homeless issue. We do not need a new stadium but we desperately need affordable housing, showers & hot food kitchens.

Financial crimes are a public safety issue and should be included in survey's of this nature. Financial crime victimization has a domino effect and can lead to increased mental health issues, homelessness and other difficulties. While I cannot argue that resources to address economic crimes should be greater than those that address violent crime issues - leaving them out entirely demonstrates a myopic view of the issues facing communities and how to address them appropriately.

We need to tackle implicit bias in our justice system. Also, homelessness in California is getting out of control. The release of non-violent offenders is increasing the safety and property of our communities. No one is afraid of the criminal justice system anymore.

99% of all San Diegans abide by the law, no matter what race. the 1% that endanger the majority should face the full extent of the law. Stop releasing convicted felons early!

My sister was murdered in San Diego County. Horrible treatment by the detectives. They missed important evidence at the murder scene. I provided them with the murderer's resume which listed him as an expert marksman in the USMC. When I brought it to the attention to on if the detective to ask why he missed it and to get it into evidence, he said to me verbatim, "I met your sister on the autopsy table because she was a drug addict". I have no words to convey to you how disgustingly unprofessional and intentionally hurtful this behavior of this detective was. I gave the evidence to Tracy Prior who was able to have the murderer's coma ding officers from the USMC testify against him citing that there is no way that he accidentally shot my sister because there is no accidental misfire in the marine corp. I'm still disgusted. That detective should have been removed from duty. The murderer was convicted because of my detective work and Tracy Prior whom I thank God for.

Stop being easy on criminals. Stop enabling the homeless.

We will not progress as people if we have to always choose one thing over the other. We can succeed if we increase our laws/consequences but at the same time provide additional resources for individuals. Only providing additional resources is NOT the answer, if there are no consequences for ones actions.

Prioritizing reducing the revolving door among offenders, develop programs and diversion courts addressing mitigating factors to reduce recidivism; provide comprehensive community-based resources with competent staff to navigate multiple systems and ensure formerly incarcerated do not fall through the cracks. Apply research-informed policy and other factors when determining sentencing across offender types.

I wish more would be done to send reoffenders back to prison. I would also like to see prop 47,57 and AB109 repealed. They have not worked and are actively harming my community.

DAs, first responders, educators, County leadership need to be educated in threat assessment and the pathway warning behaviors to targeted violence

Thank you for asking these questions.

To my ranking on equitable treatment - please also ensure that the definition of equitable is reflective of what it means. It does NOT mean equal. Equitable gives more to those who need more to be on the same level as everyone else.

San Diego really needs to evaluate the resources and funding that is allocated to the re-entry population. More housing resources need to be available to individuals re-entering the community from jail and often get overlooked for resources because of their criminal history. And yet they are expected to not recommit crimes with nowhere to live. We have to find solutions to this problem!

Provide more funding to youth diversion programs

The justice system needs to move towards restorative and transformative justice practices. More community support and less police would make folks in the community feel safer.

I am grateful for the few probation officers who care about their clients. I believe the probation department needs to be the first line of defense AGAINST recidivism not FOR it.

All this will only work if the person is ready for that change and from being out there for many years myself this is going to be a challenge for the city & state.
It is time to restore law and order and to allow the police to protect law abiding citizens.
Though my family has, thankfully, not been victims of crimes in the last 3 years, violent crimes and property crimes have risen dramatically in our neighborhood. From car and garage break ins and retail theft to shootings..even our public schools have gotten violent!
Please understand the crime is escalating and there is little prosecution of property and auto crimes. The city needs to house the homeless in outlying areas where it is cheaper. Requiring coastal, downtown or urban areas to provide housing for homeless is ridiculous; Not affordable, and shouldn't be mixed in with homes where people work hard, follow the law, don't do illegal drugs and are responsible. This may seem unfair, but it is reality. Get the homeless help for their addictions and problems, and when they are clean, they can do volunteer work for the city/county or work.
The city needs to take action about crime in down town. It is AWFUL!!! All San Diego public servants should be ashamed of themselves. Allowing the worst of society control the majority.
If criminals served more jail time, I think they would be less inclined to commit these crimes. Jail should be punishment, an unpleasant experience to ensure criminals do not repeat crimes and therefore have to go to jail again.
Thank you for providing this survey and being a change agent in the community. We need more residential drug treatment programs (men and women) that are equipped to address severe criminogenic needs, and mental health. We also need residential drug treatment program for men to reunify with their children.
Start enforcing existing laws for drug possession and being under the influence of a controlled substance to address the rampant drug usage among the homeless population.
The Police are not the problem. The police need additional resources. People need to be held accountable for their own actions. The homeless issue is out of control. Cities, States, and the Federal Government are dumping millions of dollars into trying to fix it and it is hardly making any impact. There needs to be a structured system to address the problem.
I believe the county needs to provide more services and support to victims of crime, especially with helping people who face domestic violence, elder abuse, child abuse and sex trafficking. Victims are often isolated without access to resources, they need the community to help. I strongly disagree with any attempts to decriminalize acts of violence and abuse. Please help those needing protection from abuse so they can become hopeful and safe. Thank you
Presently, response times are very slow. This increases crime, as the likelihood of being caught is lower. It can also lead to officers arriving to a situation that has greatly escalated by the time they do so, whereas it could have been more manageable had they arrived sooner.
Time to go back to enforcing laws and prosecuting crimes. Enough of the progressive nonsense - you have destroyed enough.
Low wages, high rents, increased homelessness, this triggers drug use to manage the streets crime, legalizing marijuana didn't help, polices hands are tied, not respected, neighborhoods in chaos, people aren't getting arrested, increasing more people to commit crimes due to no accountability, just cited and released, judicial system not being respected just manipulated, overall change is needed please
Social services needs more workers. Grant funded projects have too many limitations to effectively meet all demographics of the community
There will always be crime. I think the key to reducing it is working with youth, reducing drug abuse and helping the mentally ill. This will not be easy and it will take years to accomplish,
If criminals are going to be allowed to continue to roam the streets when they should be incarcerated, this will only lead to continued victimization that could have been prevented. The police are doing their best but the elites keep hindering their abilities for political gain. The elites who control this don't seem to care until it leaks into their neighborhood. This is going to force the good people of the state to continue to leave until there is nothing left behind but a degenerate criminal society. Things need to change and criminals held accountable!
The need to have churches, synagogues and mosques be a part of the solution and starting a non profit like Hope Now for Youth (Fresno CA) and Jobs of Hope (Greeley, CO - my husband started the one in CO 8 years ago and is still going strong) it has been insurmountable in getting gang youth off the street and into jobs. Please look at those websites and if interested in hearing more, please contact me at tanyae@speakupnow.org
I hope that this survey will give insight to the broken criminal justice system and more prevention and community services will be implemented to stop the cycle of incarceration and the criminalizing of homelessness and mental health.
I propose community service as an alternative to jail. Our communities are dirty and unkept. Have the law breakers clean, do landscaping, fix our fences, sweep and mop. (cleaning public toilets alone can be a stellar great project) Accountability is also repaying the person that was wronged.
More consequences to crimes because it start with small theft (package, broke in cars etc) then leads to violent. A 80 year old neighbor was going to be assaulted because he was taking pictures of thief's. All police said was well we can't do much. The thief's knew this and were let go. Next action would be for resident to take matters into own hands.

<p>Most crimes and criminals are driven by illegal drugs. Therefore, since we'll never be able to eradicate the drugs, the sentences for drug crimes need to be severe and include long sentences. Drug programs are good, but only as good as the individual's desire to be clean.</p>
<p>Thanks for your efforts in analyzing public opinion in this matter!</p>
<p>Utilize our taxes more efficiently. stop paying these politicians and use the taxes towards accessible services to the community. Let us not become SAN FRANCISCO</p>
<p>I have worked in the criminal justice system as a substance abuse counselor for over 15 years and as a homeless/mental health service provide for many years also</p>
<p>San Diego needs to do better about reaching out to and listening to persons with lived experience. Having public comment at city or county meetings is NOT enough and is not welcoming to all individuals. An option could be reaching out to individuals in current diversionary programs and having meaningful conversations with them and how they experience policing, incarceration, and community reentry services. San Diego needs to start with the needs of individuals in our communities and preventing the need to commit crimes or drown in substance abuse, and stop focusing on criminalizing those that need a hand from their neighbors.</p>
<p>Start with getting this passed https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-joint-resolution/53?s=1&r=43 (Abolition of Slavery Amendment 2021) It is shocking and disgusting that slavery has been allowed to continue into the 21st century via the criminal justice system. Remove the financial incentives for holding people in the criminal justice system. Work on addressing past injustices that have led to economic disparities. I like what you have proposed. Incarceration is not rehabilitation. It appears to only place a person on an even greater negative trajectory. An arrest is enough to ruin a person's life (and those around them) whether they are guilty or not. Incarceration can be devastating. Alternatives that point people in a positive direction are absolutely needed.</p>
<p>Strong cohesive communities are the answer- not over policing and prosecution.</p>
<p>I come from a career law enforcement family although I'm in Ministry and look at things a little differently. SDCSO manages to do well on the resources they have at their disposal...some of the questions are pie in the sky questions. Only so much is humanly possible. It has taken a long time to get to where we are, it will take a long time to correct things. Additional funds need to be used (for instance homeless ness) but the funds need to be used wisely and not just a bandaid to an existing problem. Finally, there is no one perfect answer. Thank you SDCSO for all you do in the county.</p>
<p>people in post-prison parole supervision need more active supervision and stricter supervision.</p>
<p>Criminals need to start be held responsible for their crime. Part of the problem is there is no accountability!!!</p>
<p>Some people make mistakes in life, some people need a second chance. Don't be so quick to throw someone in jail, when jailtime isn't deserved. Start looking at the BIG PICTURE. The justice system isn't FAIR. And is designed to keep minorities on the inside.</p>
<p>The organization I work for provides trauma-informed services, including skills training for former inmates. If incarceration is meant to rehabilitate offenders, then why do we need to keep rehabilitating them after they're released? The prevalence of programs to assist people who are just getting out of jail/ prison tells us that our carceral system isn't rehabilitating people. And it turns out that what does rehabilitate people is job training, mental health support, and positive community and personal relationships. And if those are the things that reduce recidivism, then that's what we should be doing instead of jail</p>
<p>Please hold those breaking the laws accountable and stop making the victims of crime pay for the abuses of criminals.</p>
<p>Thank you</p>
<p>We need more community outreach for jobs, education, and housing; make us more aware or knowledgeable of what agencies and programs are available in our communities, but this needs to start in grade or middle schools and continuing into the college communities.</p>
<p>Our neighborhood is overrun with drug users and unhoused individuals in camps blocking businesses and sidewalks. We need to do better for our community members.</p>
<p>Establish incentives to attract and retain law enforcement. Bring the # of officers up to an adequate ratio to citizens. Enact laws/policies allowing the city to address the homeless crisis (if mental health issue is suspected, deliver them to in-patient facility for evaluation/services, for their safety and safety of the community.</p>
<p>Please stop tolerating homelessness and drug abuse. They go hand in hand. The mentally ill people living on the street have lost their minds due to drug abuse. Leaving them on the street is inhumane. They need to be taken to a safe place, not to jail, but to a homeless shelter/community where they can be evaluated and kept until their issues are treated and they can live safely in our communities.</p>
<p>All the systems used for interventions of Black, Brown and Native American family's need to be revamped to discontinue poverty and their racial bias practices.</p>
<p>Criminals must be held accountable and actually locked up in jail and prison for their crimes! Continuing to be soft on crime and let criminals out early/not sentence them to jail is making our crime problem way worse.</p>
<p>The father of my children was released from prison in August 2020 from multiple drug charges, and released with little to no supervision because of covid. He would violate parole, and get released the next morning. No follow up, no consequence, nothing. All because they want to lower jail populations. He developed a worse drug addiction than even before he originally got arrested. And now guess what?!? He died of a fentanyl overdose February 2022. Not even 2 years after being out of prison. Now 2 small children will never know their dad and social security is</p>

stuck paying out survivors benefits for the next decade plus on his behalf. WAY TO GO SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT AND PAROLE OFFICERS! If y'all had just revoked his parole and sent him back to prison after his multiple parole violations he'd still be here. JARED DANIEL TURNER of Lakeside, CA. Died 02/07/22 at 34 years old. You all did nothing to help support rehabilitation. Just left him to the streets. And now he's gone. Glad yours jails are empty though. Good job.

No one will hire me because of my grand theft and it's hard to get a job unless it's some where under the table or where they don't do background checks

Fuck the police and fuck your survey- art, not prisons.

Please start enforcing the laws

Once you become a part of this system, you never leave it. 13 years after "serving my time" I'm still being punished. My "rights" that are not supposed to be infringed are still violated on a daily basis. The elected officials and "governors" of this state and city are just as guilty as everyone else. No one in history has ever not committed a crime, but judge away. I think that records should be dropped after 10 years of no arrests. I think that in modern times, driving is a right and should stop being attacked. You people want money and scores yet one of the first attacks you make on people is taking away people's legal ability to commute to WORK, HOME, BUY GROCERIES, SEE CHILDREN AND SUCCESSFULLY REENTER THE COMMUNITY IN A POSITIVE, SUCCESSFUL MANNER. This state does not promote freedom and liberty. Or, oneness and cooperation. California is the least American state in the country. Which is also why a lot of people are leaving and have already left. Making more laws does not make people more free. It doesn't even make people more safe. It's oppressive, and should stop. Public humiliation and public execution should make a come back. Elections for office should take place more often so people have the option of righting their misplaced votes. Stop telling people what to do with their bodies. Stop taking peoples children. Military veterans who have seen war do not make good public servants (police). They are a danger to the public and play by a different set of rules, whether you believe it or not. God bless our vets, but they don't belong in policing. THE LAW should be a high school graduation requirement in every county. It should also be a graduation requirement for law enforcement officers, silly thought, I know. Stop censoring... everything.

Prison reform is needed. Employees make comments to wives such as they are stupid and need to leave their husbands. Employees and sheriffs need more training on how to handle mentally challenged people and those undergoing a mental crisis.

Decriminalizing everything is making our streets incredibly unsafe. Our states policies and practices have created this problem.

Don't tie the hands of our police officers Hold the persons committing crimes accountable. Focus on proper training and have meticulous standards of who becomes police officers. We want the best of the best. Make the compensation to be a police office worth the risk of life and limb. This is such a huge topic and I wish all of our elected leaders the best for all of our sakes

When you take consequences away for small actions, this leads to larger and worse action. Consequences do not necessarily equate to incarceration, but this does not negate the need. Treating or managing someone based solely on their "preferred" identity or affiliation negates genuine equality and justice.

Please hold non-custodial parents to the same standard in complying with court orders as non-custodial parents are. I haven't had a video chat with my 5 year old in over two years. Although, the court ordered her father to ensure facilitation of these video chats 5x per week. My license is threatened to be suspended if I am delinquent one child support payment. Yet, the family court staff will not enforce the order unless I hire a lawyer for a \$7,500 retainer. It isn't fair, and I am now being financially and emotionally abused. This is all stemmed from misdemeanor domestic violence, which is essentially an awful fight between two consenting adults. A separate clause should be created to convict those in a consensual relationship at the time of the fight. He hit me too but no one cares. I'm just left to be financially and emotionally abused. The family law system needs attention and revision in many areas, not just this.

good luck with the work you are doing

Questions are unclear and appear slanted.

Release those deserve second chance at life!!!

Surveys are only effective when the results are published, and actions are taken to rectify issues disclosed in the survey. If there is no change, please do not send another survey.

Crime is out of control in our county.

This system needs to change from a system of punishment to a system of justice.

You do racial profiling by just asking my ethnicity. I've worked all my life. No assistance ever. You must take care of the homeless with compassion and dignity

Stop with the high gas prices. Please I work for hospice and literary half my check go's to gas.

San Diego county needs to help SAN DIEGO citizens with homelessness and housing needs immediately! Residents of the city of San Diego are in desperate need of housing and have been for a long time! It's time for San Diego to make their residents/ citizens a priority in this housing crisis! Ex convicts get preferential treatment before a single mother with children that's literally sleeping in the streets with her kids cause all the shelters are at capacity! What type of future are we creating when the children that will bring us into the future are literally living

in tents and going to be with their stomachs empty! I can understand this happening in the 80's, 90's, hey even the early 2000's but for us to be in 2022 and we are still seeing family's literally sleeping in tents while sex offenders are moving into brand new sky rise buildings is beyond despicable and disrespectful! San Diego mayor and city council should be ashamed of themselves for allowing the little funding we do have for housing to go to grown sex offenders before children and family's! Only way we can do better is to actually want to and address the issues at hand and that's homelessness and housing crisis in SAN DIEGO CITY NOT COUNTY!

Just do what is better for the community.

Individuals need to be held accountable for their actions.

Ptsd keeps me from being coftable enough to work around others.

I'm doing the best I can. I'm going to die because of heart failure I finally bought a trailer and for a private property spot to park it on that I pay 250 a month it's off Dallas I don't bother any one ever in fact I have been asked to do work for a few neighbors I'm not dirty I have no where else to go I'm not in the way yet I've asked to move by La mesa also directly across the street the other cars are not trashed and basically are in the way yet no one's asked them to leave it's un fair and unjust I guess I'm going to just sleep where ever until I get harassed

Repeal prop 47.

Police need better training and higher education. No police office should just have a high school diploma. A lawyer needs 4 yes. Of college plus 3 yes. Of law school and has to pass thr state bar before they are able to practice law. Cops need only a diplomaand a few weeks of training. This is ridiculous. They also should have at least an associates degree and take special training and learn how to treat everyone. Not just white people fair. Im afraid to live my own house out of fear of being hurt by a police office. The fear is real in African Americans. I dont understand why our so called leaders don't understand this. Help us all before its too late.

Property crime is epidemic. The police ignore it. This is wrong.

I fully support our law enforcement agencies and believe politicians have corrupted our system.

There needs to be more income equality or nothing will change

The ongoing de-criminalization of crime in California (prop 47, no cash bail, de-carceration) is directly responsible for the decreasing quality of life and increase in lawlessness in this state. Homeless people need a place to sleep and be left alone with services if they want them. But they should not be allowed to take over our public spaces. The mentally ill should be hospitalized. Criminals should be incarcerated so they cannot continue to victimize the public. This all costs money but no more than the current mess we're already paying for. Audit the non-profits, and require concrete results in order to continue funding.

Because of how we were treated during a violent crime that happened to my family , we do not trust police anymore. Instead of victims we were treated like we were the criminals, yet we did nothing to deserve the treatment we endured and to this day still suffer as victims but don't know who to turn to for assistance

I am beyond frustrated at our leadership across the board. I am a responsible, law-abiding single middle-aged female and do not feel safe in my own community. The simple fact of enforcing our current laws would make a DRAMATIC difference and put San Diego back on the map. I work in hospitality and tourism and the number of out of town guests who comment on our homeless issue and resulting 'human feces' on walking paths is a complete embarrassment and is hurting the pockets of tax paying, lawful citizens like me, who depend on tourism

Drug use in public has exploded in the past 2 years. In all my years here, I have never seen open fentanyl and meth consumption until now, even on the trolley in front of families. The RV and van life people are ruining our communities. This is not sustainable not compassionate to let drug addicts rot on the street and in their stupid vans

I'm less concerned with rehabilitating criminals, and more concerned with protecting victims from criminals. Laws that focus on keeping criminals out of jail are reckless and put our communities at risk. By the time a person is an adult, we have likely missed the window of opportunity to divert them from crime. We should focus more on equitable education - preventing young members of marginalized communities from ever having to make the decision to be a criminal based on lack of better options/alternatives.

Just enforce current laws

All of our issues can be solved, not by more laws, but by enforcing those we already have. It's not acceptable to pick and choose which laws are enforced.

Consequences prevent future same behaviors

Public safety should promote safety and security for EVERYONE not just people with privilege and wealth.

The ranking situation on this survey is ineffective. Most of those points go hand in hand in order to better our community. The only one that doesn't match up is stricter laws, which we KNOW will not work because over policing and criminalizing our community only leads to MORE CRIME

What worked for me was receiving services while I learned to stay sober

I ranked homelessness as a high concern, but lower on the ranking system because that, to me, intertwines with addressing mental health after significant decreases in funding across the country. I don't attribute homelessness to crime. This view is more of the entire judicial system and not necessarily San Diego.

Yes. We had someone in the neighborhood who had the air let out of their tires and SIX POLICE UNITS responded. What the fuck. And then a homeless person was naked; someone saw the whole thing and said no violence or anything, just exposed homeless person, and SEVEN POLICE UNITS responded. I saw them blasting down the street sirens ablaze like they were responding to a serial killer. That's why there's not enough police, because half a dozen or more cars are responding to the most minor issues. Also, 92116 is inundated with police helicopter noise, that the hell is all-day-every-day helicopter presence doing for public safety? It's harassment and a waste of money. Maybe if 6 cars weren't responding to a flat tire there'd actually be more resources for real issues and the excess of helicopter use would be abated. Finally, street safety is being negatively impacted due to parking being perpetually removed, because people are frustrated circling the blocks trying to find a place to park and their focus is not on who might be on the road but rather if the open spot up ahead is a parking spot or a driveway. I myself fall into that boat. Removing neighborhood parking is DECREASING, not INCREASING, public safety, and severely increasing tensions amongst and between neighbors who park like jerks. Hard for Czar Gloria to comprehend being chauffeured around I'm sure.

I think San Diego is doing more than other cities but there is a long way to go. I would like my tax dollar spent on services that are proven to reduce recidivism, help with treatment of any health (physical, mental, substance abuse) issues. I don't think money is well-spent on incarcerating non-violent offenders.

We do not need new laws. All of our issues stem from tolerance and lack of enforcing existing law.

Stop giving everything away: make those that break the law accountable: need to keep people in jail to pay for their crime and give justice to victims: stop decriminalizing crime

Efforts to continually demonize offenders only works to further isolate them, and reinforce their criminality. Restorative Justice practices, community justice, cognitive behavioral therapy and life skills are all programs that should be appropriately funded. We take people from unwelcome situations and place them into a worse situation where we are shocked when offenders do not reform. San Diego County has an issue with their ability to keep inmates safe that has been further exacerbated by sheriff leadership that try and minimize the severity. Multiple reports have been released for San Diego that all point to a problem. It is more comprehensive, however. The US has over 2.2M incarcerated, which is the most in the world. We are not doing something right, we are doing something grossly wrong ~ and if we continue to ignore the problem or vilify offenders (especially by politicians seeking elected office) ~ it harms our ability as a society to provide the necessary care for the least among us. Society deserves better, justice-involved persons deserve better and victims deserve better.

The incarceration system is extremely flawed and needs reformation. These cut-down incarceration periods equate a "slap on the wrist" for everything from property crimes to violent crimes. It is extremely disheartening to see the same criminals being picked up by police one day and walking around doing drugs and/or committing the same crimes in the same places just days later. It is unfair to the public who does their best to live their own lives and have to constantly be on alert or avoid certain places altogether because they fear for the safety of themselves, their families, and their property. Criminals need to be held accountable for their actions and need to stop being let off the hook with their "coupon" (aka ticket for misdemeanors) or their two night stay in jail. I am tired of constantly fearing for my safety just because of my particular demographic. Please start HOLDING CRIMINALS ACCOUNTABLE.

It's offensive to ask if we have a disability. There should also have been questions about bail, court assistance, etc.

I work downtown (92101) and the homeless population has exploded in recent years. I feel unsafe walking from my car into work and walking anywhere on my lunchbreak. The debris spills out into the street rendering the sidewalks unusable. Very sad.

Stricter laws and longer jail sentences instead of prematurely releasing violent and repeat offenders

stop the racism and hate, it is not good for mankind.

I'm not sure the situation will get better any time soon. Completing this survey might be useless.

Need to be tougher on criminals

The criminal justice system should strive toward balance in the application and prosecution of statutes on the books. The ultimate goal is to provide a safe community for all, which requires a multi-pronged approach to include, including prosecution and incarceration. That withstanding we also need to focus on community-based solutions and strengthen the family unit while creating more opportunity.

Prevention is very needed, but I had to rank it as 6 because of the urgency of the other issues. San Diego has to do something to increase the number of police officers who are out in the community. And something has to be done about porch pirates too!

I was offered a life changing program while I was incarcerated. I do understand that its not for everyone but today I am proud to say I am 4 years clean. I am also employed by the same program I was offered while I was in jail. I am a peer support specialist who support individuals while they learn a new way of life.

We need to be tougher on crime. The current laws allow criminals to continue to commit crimes because there are no consequences for their actions. Our victims and business owners continue to be victimized due to these terrible new laws that don't punish criminals. We need more police and more jails!

Recurring Theft, while petty, still should be treated seriously enough to deter them.

I've been on both sides of the justice system and I have unfortunately lost hope in the words "justice" or "equality". The re-incarceration recidivism rates speak volumes and without change these rates will just multiply and

eventually infect the future generations and pre-dispose their generations to hate, anger, conformity in inequality and injustice.
Work on conservatism for seriously mentally ill homeless people. Pick up people who ranting and raving in the streets. Patrol neighborhoods more.
Responses in the previous section are based on data.
Despite the criticisms of Law Enforcement most a very good people. They need to require more education at entry level. They need better training and most of all they need a more respectful and livable wage.
PUT MORE PEOPLE IN JAIL AND REMOVE THE HOMELESS FROM CHULA VISTA.
Funding needs to be redirected to the areas of concern in this County and it is always Homelessness, Substance Abuse & Mental Health.
People's lives and family are severely harmed by being held before trial. Justice system is skewed by pressure on poor people to plead guilty whether they are or not. Police should not have to deal with mental illness - family problems except to de-escalate them. Police are too militarized and need retraining to lessen hostility generated by encounters. But we have good cops and we need more. City should build dorm-style residences for chronic homeless. Shelters largely fail.
Financial hardship / socioeconomic issues are primary indicator for incarceration and crime. People need income.
Focus on serving the community needs for mental health and safety. Beware of the agendas of equality
This survey is faulty in its premises by offering/promoting "solutions" that are generally permissive and reflect the fantasies of unelected bureaucrats.
More laws need to be enacted to allow for stricter punishment for criminals. Keep criminals longer in jail instead of allowing them into diversion programs.
We need more police officers due to our ever growing population
HHSA BHS and AIS have not developed a system to proactively assess and intervene on people who the most vulnerable and are unable/unwilling to engage.
Quite a good survey. Now...let us know the results please. Thank you very much. Alice Jacobson
Thank you for soliciting community feedback!
I believe a project should be established to understand WHY people remain homeless and what remedies THEY feel they need to move on with their lives. Police presence in communities should make people feel safer, not afraid; so some community outreach programs should be established. Police Officers should be trained to use non-deadly force - speaking, understanding the situation, then tasers, with guns being drawn but not immediately fired. Ensure that ALL Officers are "mental health" trained so that they recognize mentally ill persons as such and follow proper protocols. Officers should remain "color blind" when responding to domestic violence calls.
There are not enough mental health and addition services for all age groups.
It is appalling the lack of training and empathy prosecutors have when dealing with victims of crime, let alone criminal defendants. If you are not trained on the cycle of violence, how do you expect to understand your victims? If you cannot empathize with your victims, you sure as hell cannot empathize with defendants and the traumas they themselves have experienced. This severely impacts every part of the criminal "justice" system. Not only does the carelessness and lack of understanding make victims feel unheard, but it also prevents getting at the root cause of the problem that put the defendant in a criminal court in the first place. So much emphasis is placed upon punishment rather than prevention and rehabilitation. This is an outdated model. We are primed for punishment as a way of societal revenge. If we were looking for true change, we would focus on the root problems and work our way outwards from there - homelessness, access to food, lack of education, childcare/healthcare, etc.
Homeless is #1 concern
Based off SDPD for house address, feel differently for another agency where I work at, who is well staffed
Criminal justice reform and supporting a strong safe community in partnership with local law enforcement are absolutely not mutually exclusive. Additionally, treatment programs/options are sorely lacking and de-criminalization is exacerbating the issues. I have family who have struggled with substance abuse for decades and have been involved in the criminal justice system. Those that were successful in overcoming their issues were offered incarceration and or treatment. They were ultimately placed in their own personal low point and made a conscious decision to get well and make that a lifetime work goal. Removing the consequences from those who commit crimes removes any sort catalyst for them to get better. Adding services to assist the community and law enforcement is a must, but not just on the front end, but in the long term services available to those who are willing to try. Buzzword-based reforms and well-intended but poorly thought out concepts forced upon an already taxed local government/law enforcement agencies just push us further into the gaping hole we now inhabit. A stronger focus on reasoned, objective partnerships with law enforcement should be the focus with civic-minded dialogue and sharing of perspectives at the heart of any attempt at progress. Letting small groups of close-minded individuals steer policy and action is a recipe for disaster.
Get rid of the progressive leftist policies! They are destroying our state! All the man made crises need to stop!

This is an extremely important topic and I'm glad to see that the county and Sandag are working together on it
check any "bright ideas" with someone in the behavioral economics field. you may find more studies and behavioral tests inciteful, often the answer isn't just more funding
People that commit crimes should be prosecuted. Those that commit crime should have consequences for their crime. Soft on crime just doesn't work.
There should be no alternative to incarceration for Sex Offenders (violent and non-violent). Stricter policies for all sex crimes, including but not limited to community notification, minimum distance between residence of sex offenders (violent AND non-violent) and schools and parks, should be implemented. There are numerous sex offenders living in close proximity to schools and parks. Sex crimes (violent and non-violent) should always be reveled in a background check, regardless of how long ago the crime was committed or sentence was served.
I'm not sure how to do it, but I think more should be done to address those in crisis before they act out violently. Perhaps a visit with a mental health professional when someone is fired or laid off. Maybe with a couple of follow up visits.
Criminals should be prosecuted based on current laws and not based on political background. San Diego does not need someone like George Gascon and his radical views.
I think that this initiative is fantastic for the county - especially since it's based on data. Onward and upward!
Hold criminals accountable.
The prison system is hard because some people are really bad people, but we must do everything to help those who want to help themselves.
Budget more on equitable community resources, treatment and police/sheriff oversight and training and less on military grade equipment
Would like to see more cooperation between County of San Diego and cities within the county
MAKE SAN DEIGO SAFE!!
Yes, vote down any law that allows a mother to kill her unborn child. It is barbaric.
Jails need to be more humane with appropriate medical services and no privately run jails/prisons. Focus should be on rehabilitation.
Use the existing laws and put suspects in jail for the crimes they commit. We don't need any NEW laws!
I hope that law enforcement will be very aware of and effective against hate crimes and discrimination.
Defunding the police is not wise policy. Stop the politics. Enforce the laws that we already have.
no questions covering lack of enforcement -- property crimes in particular often don't even rate a response, and too often crimes below a certain dollar value aren't investigated or perpetrators aren't charged -- the message is "do a small crime and nothing happens"
1. broken window policies are proven effective 2. enact straight forward policies AND enforce them ...
Thanks for asking for citizen input!
We need safe, supervised injection sites to prevent overdose deaths and to provide information about treatment options.
Your survey question re: race is flawed
Need more policing
Thankful for the police who serve our city.
The most important goal ought to be to reduce the number of crime victims and the resulting damage being done to them. We should learn from the many cities and jurisdictions that have recently decided not to prosecute certain crimes or perpetrators and analyze if this approach has reduced the number of crime victims or not. I think the data shows crime is going up in these areas compared to those taking a more traditional approach.
Ex Military do not make good cops. They shoot to kill as a training reflex.
There is not enough clinical focus on mental illness and support for those in need. Untreated mental illness is dangerous and destructive.
I am very concerned about the false dichotomy between prevention and enforcement. We need both!! Smart prevention policies will reduce the need for incarceration and make everyone safer, but deterrence also has a role in protecting the community, especially the most vulnerable, from crime.
The homeless issue is out of control in San Diego. I am scared to walk around my own neighborhood.
I support new ideas that would provide alternatives to incarceration for lower level criminal behavior . I also support restorative justice where the victim can participate in the process
Many of the homeless are mentally ill and should be forced into treatment. To allow the homeless to take over Downtown San Diego and have it become another (ruined) San Francisco is appalling. That seems to be what's happening.
People that break the law and prey on other people should not have more rights and access to services than poor people that follow the rules of civilized society and don't commit crimes. ** They just don't have enough money

and they don't commit crimes to get more. ** The problem with those that want to do away with accountability and the range of options including jail, is that they have never been dirt poor or grown up realizing what it feels like to go hungry, only those people realize that poor people are mostly good people that just don't have enough money. What they do have is a sense of what's right and what's wrong when it comes to criminals that prey on them and take what little they have, and then to see no accountability to right the wrongs. Why should they do the right things instead of the easy things????
There needs to be more enforcement on individuals that are caught in community properties breaking and entering, breaking into cars, stealing packages, bikes etc. It is getting worse and worse as they are not being charged with crimes and are allowed to keep repeating the same behavior over and over with no consequence to them. There needs to be more emphasis on getting individuals with mental and drug abuse issues off the street and get them help. Housing for the homeless is key to helping our city. The community is unsafe and has gotten very concerning have witnessed the changes.
I am aware of two, possibly three citizens the SD Sherriff Dept. has contributed to their deaths due to medical conditions and this is unacceptable. Who watches the Watchmen?
laissez faire
needs and responses differ between city and county, suspect this survey applies to unincorporated areas of San Diego.
Appreciate the solicitation of community feedback.
Homelessness needs to be addressed. I am tired of not being able to go to public parks or go to Encinitas downtown and homeless are always present. Many appear mentally ill and therefore constitute potential threat to me and my family. I am tired of seeing homeless getting naked in public, walkingscreaming down the street. I am tired of seeing drug deals happening in our parks, In n Ot parking lot. I am tired of all the home thefts, bike thefts that are reported daily on NextDoor. I don't know if it is the sheriff's job to solve homelessness, but it is to help reduce crime.
Yes, there is a huge difference between violent and non-violent offenders. Please keep the public safe by from violent offenders and offer alternatives to nonviolent offenders.
I support reforms in the criminal justice system, but I encourage any changes to be fair and responsive to victims of crime.
I am a teacher in Adult Ed in Oceanside and see first-ha s the inequities in many of our laws, reactions to crimes, and results of incarceration.
We don't need to spend more money on anything. Just enforce the laws on the books.
Nothing
I'd like to see all homeless people put into a mental institution. People should not be allowed to live in public places or in cars.
The section about priorities in the justice system was all loaded questions slanted toward various talking points of the woke agenda, except one intentionally dumb and ham-handed option of "make laws more strict." I mean, what the hell even is that? Are you even trying to get real feedback, or do you just want people to tell you what you want to hear? Here is the real answer: SANDAG is probably the most incompetent and useless government institution I have ever heard of, and you should all be ashamed of yourselves. You should disband and then go drive off a cliff because you are too stupid to be in charge of anything.
Thank you. I impressed with the advisory board and look forward to results. Faith community involvement?
Not all cities are the same..each city needs to have the resources to handle their issues..but we all need to work together...
Public safety is the biggest expense for cities/counties. We need to shift spending to address the causes of incarceration - poverty, systemic racism, redlining, etc. More force is not needed. More services are needed.
We need to get tougher on criminals.
Please put law enforcement on your advisory committee!
More intervention upon first arrest
Focus resources EARLY - K-5 and break the cycle. Focus on at risk kids and get them support, resources, role models. By the time they are committing crimes, it is too hard to reform. Better to prevent than to try and fix or punish,
I agree with City Attorney Summer Stephan that the Proposition 47 has created a revolving door for crime. Also, it allows people to steal guns. Also, it allows violent felons to be released serving less than half their time. Consider the recent gang shootings in Sacramento.
1. Enforce existing laws instead of creating new ones 2. Hold all people to the same standards, treat equally
Thank you I hope this was helpful.
Stop spending money to bring more homeless to San Diego by enabling them to remain where they are through free temporary transient housing and needles etc.
Crime has consequences and the city needs to ENFORCE the current laws we have and LOCKUP these criminals and clean up our streets so us law abiding tax paying citizens can feel safe in this city again. Currently, criminals

and homeless have more rights than we do. This is no longer "Americas Finest City" but rather "America's Homeless, Junkie, Theft ridden Tent City"
Release mentally impaired prisoners unjustly convicted for a crime immediately.
Please for the love of god, get more police on force, clean up the homeless and mentally ill, get guns off the streets and deal with the drug problem here. We seriously need more police in our city. It's gotten dangerous and out of control..Takes away the glory of San Diego.
Statistics should be gathered and compiled about early released persons recommitting crimes and being repeat offenders before permanent changes made to bail and incarceration policies.
Start getting tents off street, not allow homeless to continue drug use if given housing, police those that continue to use off the streets . Homelessness has increased as a result of money going to housing. Require they get mental health and put our money there instead of housing. Fund the police!
SANDAG funnels \$400 million to bike-path projects many of which have very dubious justification. SANDAG wastes more money by not properly maintaining the toll road payments system. Now \$300,000 of public money is used for a survey which tells us what we already know (i.e. addressing the homeless mentally ill is a top priority). How much more money will SANDAG sponsored projects and contractors steal from the San Diego public? Why don't you do a survey on what the public thinks about SANDAG? You might learn something.
The canyon behind my house is full of homeless tansients. The scream, trespass in our yards. I even chased one away who was on my roof. We need help in Chollas Canyon. We report to get it done app and nothing much changes. We call 911 and no one shows up.
Police officers should be ambassadors for law enforcement. It should be standard practice to greet people when stopping for coffee or in a public setting and not responding to a call. I want to feel like we are on the same team. Right now it does not feel that way at all. I want to support the mission of our police officers but that is difficult with there is no connection to or understanding of who is serving my specific community,
I'm glad you're paying attention to this issue. We have to stop the mass incarceration of people and focus on serving those who need it most - poor, mentally ill, disadvantaged.
If you don't have public safety, YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING. Punishment/consequences for ANY crime must be WAY more severe than any "benefit(s)" from committing the crime.
Let's return to law and order - have reasonable laws/prosecute criminals/lock up convicted criminals/don't release criminals until their sentence is served. Enforce quality of life offenses (e.g. urinating in public, public intoxication, living on the streets).
need more police citing of loud motorcycles and modified cars without mufflers for noise infractions above certain decibel levels....bike taxi's also!
Enforce the laws currently on the "books."
Stop wasting our tax dollars on feel good solutions and throw the criminals in jail for along time.
I have a problem with the survey being set up to give you specific data in which to push whatever programs you desire. The system is not broken on the level of laws and enforcement it is broken on the level of the judicial system or mayors office that allows the criminals to go free, and who tells the police that they should not spend their efforts on preventing crime through neighborhood policing. In PB we are constantly struggling with violence, and burglaries or theft. It is wrong to assume that you know all of what happens through police data because most of my neighbors do not report because they have lost the confidence that they will be helped by law enforcement who's hands are tied as to what they can do to combat crime. Its not just homeless that are creating crimes and the survey makes me think that is what you are trying to use to get them services. I am not satisfied with the questions on this survey and don't feel that my answers have helped in anyway. If the goal is to keep people from being incarcerated then educate on the laws and have proper enforcement play out and ensure the judicial system do it's job. Change laws if that is the issue, but don't say the system is broken if you are not even using the system in the first place. You can say we did, but the judicial system was unjust. I may agree, but fix the unjust part and leave the crime policing and patrolling alone and fix the problem people that exist. You want to spend time rehabilitating criminals but want to tear down the police instead of rehabilitating the departments and officers who do wrong. It makes no sense.
We need more police and less homeless people on the streets.
I live 1 block from NW edge of Balboa Park; am very concerned about homelessness, encampments, open drug use everywhere including in alley between 6th and 7th (3500 block and canyon) + park and Hillcrest. We need more services for mental health + drug abuse - shelters + housing isn't enough and SDPD is helpless.
The death penalty should actually be enforced, as voted in numerous times. The Union Tribune's outrageous attacks on the Sheriff's Dept. are politically motivated, as they have made it extraordinarily clear over the years who THEY want as the new Sheriff.
If you want to prevent deviant civic behavior start teaching respect and responsibility in schools with three R's and stop with the racial and social engineering. Educate not endocrinatate
We have to rethink the way that we move forward as a society, and we have to make significant changes in how understand public service and the public good. Utilize science, facts, and reason to inform the way in which we develop , money and power cannot be the only means by which we make decisions, it is literally killing us:(
Some questions are pointed. Your question steers the respondent. Being that you're SANDAG I'm not surprised.

Leaders need to accept the fact that there are people who are criminals and have made the choice to pursue gain through criminal activity. Enforcement of existing laws is an important factor in a safe community and without that, it is difficult to implement self-help programs. Millions have been spent over the years on various programs to prevent people from turning to gang activity. The same is true for drug prevention and treatment programs as well as anti-poverty programs with mixed success. I doubt if anyone knows for sure how much money has been spent on these programs over the years or have conducted any real measurement of their effectiveness. You cannot implement effective programs when neighborhoods are unsafe without first providing a safe environment. As to reform programs, if you are going to release hundreds of convicted felons from jail, you need programs that support these individuals return to society, which is a costly endeavor in money and commitment for the long term. Just throwing money at a problem is not a solution.

I think defunding the police and/ or sheriff is not the answer, but addressing the types of training they get, actual rehabilitation and care of inmates incarcerated, and social equity to prevent crime in the first place should be emphasized. Look at the Scandinavian model of rehabilitation and see if we can apply anything from it.

Build more jails. Get tough on crime

Our representatives need to pay attention to their constituents and stop pandering the lowest common denominator

Keep up the great work!

I think they should reopen state run hospitals for the mentally ill. When they are there they are safe, clean, on their meds, and stable. I also think we must enforce the laws to get the homeless off the streets. The idea of the conservator court sounds great. They need to be in rehab if drug addicted, in jail if they are criminals, and in mental health facilities if they are mentally ill. Also enforce our laws and put criminals in jail !! Abolish capitol punishment which costs taxpayers millions and just put the most egregious criminals in prison for life with no parole.

FUND OUR POLICE !!!

Enforce the laws on the books!

I am opposed to the changes that made theft a misdemeanor. I am also opposed to the refusal of prosecutors to procedure criminals. I disagree with no-bail. I want stronger laws to force homeless with mental illness, addiction or physical disabilities into treatment. I am opposed to housing-first policies and think the proven, successful approach taken by private, faith-based homeless service providers should be the model. All county-supported homeless programs should have clear metrics to determine success and should be audited annually to prove they are spending taxpayer funds efficiently.

If the County is willing to assume the financial burden of paying awards to families affected by crimes committed by arrestees in the "alternatives to incarceration" scheme who are not incarcerated, go forward. If not, reconsider the notion of personal responsibility and that illegal actions have consequences, which should not cause harm to law-abiding citizens.

I really believe the increases in homelessness and crime in the last 20 years is related to the lack of mental health services and inability to force people to get help unless their family has resources to fight for a conservatorship in court. Perhaps earlier diagnosis and better treatments for mental illness should be the focus: I also thing a large number of homeless young people are those who have exited the foster system so we should do a better job of preparing them for life.

This city is incredibly dangerous, very little police around PB with a homeless population that isn't worried about getting caught. The tax paying citizens may soon take matters into their own hands. This is out of control

homeless problem can be helped by building some large yurts in parts of the county to take homeless to. In these yurts there will be bedding and classes to rehabilitate. If the homeless want to leave they can but, they need find there own way out. Stop giving homeless hotel rooms.

People have to want to change. If they don't want to they need to be locked up.

Enforce laws in Ocean Beach! There are drug addicts shooting up in broad daylight on Newport Ave. I don't feel safe!

Community members do not feel safe. We need to start enforcing the laws we already have even small theft.

Good luck!

I reject all alternatives to incarceration, and avoidance of the punishments defined by law. I will not vote for any politician, judge or district attorney that injects personal bias in prosecuting the law as written, with the intent of reducing sentencing guidelines defined by the law.

Law enforcement and advocacy for homelessness are not mutually exclusive. We need to increase efforts in both.

Enough with woke politics!!!! People do not have the right to terrorize a community. And people who defend themselves/ their property/ community should not be penalized. Woke politics is destroying this amazing city and it is the poor and middle class that suffer most

Simple solution for beach communities. Metered parking and paid parking lots. The van-lifers taking over the beach community is not fair to the families who are paying very high property and TOT taxes who want to enjoy a day at the beach. Van-lifers need to be sent inland to parking lots. The free parking at the beach is contributing to the problem. It's a pretty simple solution. Also, enforcing no habitation in vehicles and sleeping in public

<p>parks/beaches. They need to go somewhere where families trying to enjoy a day at the beach do not need to watch them shoot up and drink themselves to death. Paid parking ASAP!</p>
<p>Less emphasis on policing, more on community services</p>
<p>Homelessness needs to be the top priority. Criminals need to go to jail, drug laws (possession, sales, under the influence) strictly enforced. Mentally ill treated and if needed committed. Provide housing for those that are qualified and WILLING to follow rules. And most importantly give the police resources and training to properly do their jobs!</p>
<p>The crooks are not the victims. The victims are the victims. The cult mentality regarding immediately releasing crooks from jail deprives the crooks of their time to reflect on the anguish and mayhem they cause. It isn't hard to stay out of jail, just don't do the crime. There are enough laws written to protect us, enforce them and if jail is the punishment, don't cut it short and give the judges the chance to sentence them. The law abiding public doesn't deserve this shabby treatment. Jail isn't a death sentence. It's time out to think and consider something better. If thinking and reflecting are too much for the crook, let them sit there and be out of circulation for awhile to protect the real victims. That would be equitable treatment for the victims.</p>
<p>Look at other comparable cities to San Diego and follow those models. Public officials need to do their job, which is to represent the people that voted for them. Get budgets and funding in order. Cut the shit and take politics out of this. Human rights should not be political.</p>
<p>I'm unsure of Military disabilities as to things I have no knowledge of if I may have been exposed to. It is scary not knowing if you are a ticking time traveler. Military service can be very dangerous.</p>
<p>Not recognized because I avoid the hospitals and clinics.</p>
<p>Please continue to identify services, resources and support to keep our public servants (firefighters, police, rescue teams) well trained and current to support protecting our region.</p>
<p>Get rid of socialist in our government</p>
<p>We need a stronger police presence in the community and support the police. Keep criminals locked up and held accountable for the crimes they commit. Stop releasing the criminals back in the community and change laws to hold these people accountable to serve their time in County jail and prison</p>
<p>Over the years things came out great for me. I live alone, but am retired, healthy and happy now. I am lucky. Many around here are not so lucky, and there are an awful lot of people camped out on the sidewalks right now. I do not know what the solution is, but people are not trash. Please help.</p>
<p>Need more Officers to enforce our laws!!</p>
<p>I am strongly disappointed with how the Chula Vista Policedepartment operates and is managed.</p>
<p>CVPD needs to get their shit together and make Agent T. Craft. Sergeant!</p>
<p>System is protecting more criminals than civil people. Since politicians have their private guards they don't care about the rest of us. They want to look good at the eyes of criminals to gain votes to sounds that they care. Criminals like kids in school need to learn there are consequences for behavior. You work hard you have job and have good life. You brake the law you'll find strict reinforcement punishment so you learn it's not a good choice.</p>
<p>I wish lawmakers would stop making this complicated. Give people free housing and free drug treatment instead of doing study after study and random programs that don't help people directly.</p>
<p>There needs to be accountability for your actions. The victims of crime MUST be first in this issue. Criminals MUST be held accountable for their decisions and there MUST be a deterrent to prevent them from making a poor decision. STOP making excuses for people that CHOOSE to commit crimes and exhibit poor behavior.</p>
<p>Law enforcement personnel are over worked and under appre</p>
<p>The broken glass theory is best. People need to be held responsible for their actions. Their has to be consequences.</p>
<p>Mental health problems need to be addressed in hospitals and not jails. Addiction should be addressed in the community but if these cause violence then they need to be held accountable at an appropriate facility. Too many people in the community have Mental health issues that cannot be addressed because the mental health laws are too lenient and the mentally ill make irrational decisions about their treatment. A psychiatrist should have more power to treat appropriately so the state has to provide more hospitals than we currently have for mental health treatment.</p>
<p>I have lived in San diego count and I currently work in downtown SD. Since I've been back, this city is disgusting with homeless everywhere and using the sidewalk for housing and bathrooms and trash. The city let's it build up for days. I refuse to come to this city for entertainment</p>
<p>All these woke politicians are ruining this state and city.</p>
<p>Put more funds into bringing the jails up to date. You need to make the salaries for deputies an incentive to work there. They are losing to many experienced deputies to other agencies.</p>
<p>Thank you for asking for feedback.</p>
<p>I am concerned with how we do not hold those accountable that break the law. They are allowed to break the law and get a ticket and do not go to jail. The DA will only prosecute if they are 100% sure they will get a conviction. Criminals are released and spend no time in jail. That is why we have so many homeless. If they were to be kept</p>

in jail and participate in drug/alcohol programs in jail we would not have the problems. There are not many beds for those that are homeless and mentally ill. There are homeless people that want to stay that way. We need more police and the victims rights need to come before the criminals rights. The criminals are running the show and are not held accountable and are not sent to jail. They are put back on the street to continue committing crimes. The jails in San Diego county refuse criminals all the time and do not adhere to the rules. I am scared for myself and the officers on the street.

We need to enforce the current laws...Not make them stricter. We need to fund mental illness. There are too many people suffering from it.

In an attempt to make the criminal justice system more equitable there has been a direct effect of creating more victims. The push to treat criminals as victims or their circumstances as in no way helped them, instead it has allowed them to justify their actions. With this new empowerment they victimize without guilt or responsibility. Although there may be a few success stories of rehabilitation, there are countless new victims, often unreported, which pay the cost of allowing offenders to go free.

Support our law enforcement agencies.

Please lock up criminals and stop being so soft on crime. The political entities that think all people deserve to be victims of crime need to be re-educated.

Please, do not defund the police.

Do the crime, do the time. Stop all this woke crap!

The current situation is only going to get worse if we sit back and do nothing about the current policies and laws in place and are about to get passed. Way to much to put on here unfortunately but A few quick points. Go back to respecting each other as people on earth not based on gender, non gender, color, social class, political class etc. etc., correct the homeless situation here first before other countries, go back to respecting all first responders and give their funding back and once people feel appreciated again within that profession it will be like magic no more short staffing because right now there is absolutely no reason to go out on a badge and go out a risk your like for people who hate and disrespect you for just doing your job, hold people more accountable on their criminal behavior if they continue breaking the law, substance abuse is now rapid because no consequence to doing it... so go back to criminalizing most drugs won't solve the problem but it will prevent the person who does not want to break the law from trying it because now a days they dabble with it because they know nothing will happen if caught but the problem is they become hooked and it ruins their life's. I can go on and on but don't have the time to type it all out.

This survey is poorly constructed. Also very leading to what you want to hear. Be more direct. What's more important Police, Homeless, Community Services. Its clear what we are doing is not working so doing more of what we have done in the past will not give us better results. We need to help people help themselves not just handout free stuff or force them to change.

A very poorly constructed survey, your answer were geared towards getting responses that you wanted. Epic fail.

Please watch "Seattle Is Dying" a KOMO News Documentary. This is the best one hour explanation of mental health and drug addiction problems that are destroying communities. The last 15 minutes identifies a solution that really works!

We are all paying the price for the heavy hand of the political agenda of defunding law enforcement, going light on crime, and early release programs. With lack of support from political leadership (Mayor Todd Gloria) and Gloria's pursuit in terminating officers, we are seeing an overwhelming number of Officers leaving their careers and/or going to other agencies, 150 plus within three months and the number is growing. I have also spoken with parole officers who said their infrastructure and resources can not support the number of prisoners that are being released early. Therefore, the prisoners are forced to commit crimes and re-enter the criminal system.

I believe that the combined focus on deescalation, better police training/screening and providing more public services (namely housing and jobs) will help the goal of prevention as well as reduce the need for strict laws which have proved less effective in stopping crimes.

We need to find a solution on hiring more law enforcement & find some kind of incentives to keep them from quitting due to over work. They're putting their life on the line from all these criminals who has no morals & consideration in human life.

Incarceration is an important part of the criminal justice system. Early release into the community only endangers the community.

Alternatives to revolving door law enforcement must be addressed. Remand to programs, all persons on parole/probation must be directly supervised, community oriented policing must be initiated in all jurisdictions and city municipalities.

Enforce the laws we already have. Hold people accountable. Why do we have some many open warrants?

I think the police departments around San Diego are doing an excellent job with the resources they have to work with. They should receive less interference from those that know nothing about law enforcement.

Focus more on helping victims and punishing criminals!

Let the police do their job.

My opinion is that we should enforce the laws that are now in place. Catch and release for 'minor' crimes is ineffective. Early release of criminals is a threat to the community.

Police do not stop crime or create safety (the opposite is try for the poor and people of color). Community resources, crisis intervention specialists and social workers create safety, and do so preventatively, in a sustainable way. Assurance of a livable wage and health care (including mental health) reduce the socioeconomic suffering that create the conditions that push people to crime and substance abuse. I am a masters degree holding social worker and they are the experts local governments (and beyond) need to be consulting with on efforts for community change, equity, sustainability, and safety.

sandals money they receive is not spent in the manner in which they say it is going to be spent

I think police officers have an impossible job these days. That have to deal with the worst of our kind, quickly and effectively every single time. Yes, there are those that are not suited to the job. I have seen both kinds. They cannot remain. But for those that go about dealing with impossible situations every day, they need and deserve our support. They need the proper equipment and surveillance tools. In the end, if your child or loved one was in danger, wouldn't you want anything and everything done to bring them home safely? I would.

I'd like to help improve the prison and public safety systems

People should be punished for the crime they committed to also serve justice to the victims. Suspects are in and out of incarceration with minimal time in custody. They are sent to programs etc or released early where these same suspects make more victims when they should have been incarcerated. I have had two vehicles stolen with all my contents inside in the last 5 years. One vehicle went to Mexico per the police and never was located. The other was found 24 days later and was totaled with all my items missing. I work hard for my things and these people go unpunished or very little punishment. California waits until that same suspect, does a major crime like murder to get actual punishment. Why does society have to wait until a major violent crime happens to get appropriate punishment for these criminals especially repeat offenders. The DA's office is what needs some change with declining all these misdemeanor cases. You punish people hard at the start of their criminal career and get the resources then, could potentially stop them from committing major crimes later. Let them walk for their misdemeanor, non violent crimes, they will more than likely do more serious crimes later. Wake up San Diego!

Policing needs to go back to where it was. Community policing does not work. Retract laws allowing criminals to go free after serving a lighter sentence. Criminals know that punishments will not be enforced if caught. Police work as a career has diminished and become unbearable to watch as the public feels it can disrespect the badge and people behind it.

Homelessness is a complex issue. No one solution fits all. We desperately need more mental health resources and the legal ability to force some, who cannot take care of themselves, into permanent treatment.

The number one priority of government is to keep citizens safe. Government is currently failing at this responsibility. Permitting the commission of crimes, e.g., retail theft, with little or no consequences leads to more retail theft. Allowing the homeless to encamp on public streets, wander in retail parking lots, sleep on roadway medians, etc., whether they are drug addicted, mentally ill, or living on the street for some other reason leads to more homelessness. Weakness on the part of government, i.e., no bail, no jail, and apathy instead of action, has made us all less safe. Repeal laws that permit criminals to act with impunity; get the homeless off the streets through aggressive intervention; provide services, whether to the homeless, people recently released from jail, or non-violent criminals, that have proven, data-driven results. I beseech government to make our neighborhoods safe again. Thank you for the opportunity to provide my opinions.

More focus on rehabilitation and not punishment/retribution. Reduce barriers to effective re-entry including social systems of stigma. Consider reintegration into the community after extended periods of incarceration as being eligible for behavioral health services.

Sick and Tired of Politicians and DA's not doing what they took an oath to do.. A reckoning is coming at the Polls in November!!!

Thank you for our law enforcement county should not have approved so many new homes and no law enforcement

Need more police in Valley Center, need them to respond to crimes.

Due to COVID's impact on jail situation, I have seen more people cited and released which correlates with an increase in property and theft crimes in certain areas.

I understand Valley Center is unincorporated but with the recent addition of homes and more being built, the roads have become unsafer than ever. We need more police presence or other means to slow down traffic and make the streets safer.

Cut the liberal agenda. Voluntary programs have been offered for years and very few people take advantage. Less than 1% (0.85% to be exact) sought treatment in Oregon's decriminalization experiment.
<https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/oregon-decriminalized-drugs-2020-hows-83846382>

The survey seems to be pointed towards a softer enforcement of laws; you need to enforce existing laws far more strenuously - some traffic enforcement in Valley Center would be a good thing. Vagrancy is against the law; punish the vagrants. You are spending far too much money molly coddling vagrants, and public dope users. There will be a tax revolt if you continue. Two members of my family have removed their families from this state because of your ridiculous lack of law enforcement and pathetic schools (& business unfriendly climate; high business regulation; high taxes) Questions about the equity of law enforcement are ridiculous, and inherently racist; if you do the crime; you must do the time. Where in the constitution does it say that you get to be a criminal for no penalty if you happen to be of a minority group? Stricter laws? For what purpose? We voted for 3 strikes and you

are out, and the DAs have chosen not to follow the law at all; they themselves will be ousted. BTW Don't waste any more time and money on climate change until you get the Russians, Indians, and especially the Chinese to do half of the pollution cut-backs that we have already done at huge expense. You have reached the point of diminished returns on this matter. I would point out that the Greens in Germany have essentially caused the Russian war with the Ukraine: due to pressure from the Green party they shut down their nuclear and coal power plants and became power customers of the Russians; thereby financing the current war. Thank you.

Crime in Valley Center has gone way up in recent years and as a single mom, this concerns me.

State criminal codes need to be reinstated from before prop 47

Housing first does not work. Accountability and a faith component are key to success.

build more jails and keep the criminals in them. More severe punishments. Right now, the criminals have more rights than everyone else.

We need to get real about the effectiveness of all these programs and resources offered to both homeless and offenders. Every year we increase the amount of spending on all of the above and yet homelessness keeps going up and crime is on the incline. At some point when your theories about the solutions aren't panning out you need to reconsider if those theories are indeed solutions. I'd wager we could dump money endlessly into homelessness and criminal rehabilitation and, just as we haven't seen any progress in either category, we'd continue in the same direction. Reevaluate your positions. Reconsider if you're asking the right questions.

I hope this survey has positive outcomes for the issues raised.

The use of drugs in my area is out of control. Sheriff's response time is unbelievable over an hour or not at all. Neighbor got out last week after being in for 3 1/2 months. He immediately went back to using because they do not give them the tools to fight addiction when incarcerated. In less than a week the neighbor is back in jail this time for Attempted Murder. The attempt was on his father while he was in a drug induced fit. But if there is no services while they are in jail to help them what do you expect? Please mandatory drug classes for those in jail even when they are awaiting trial.

We need more law enforcement on the roads. People are driving so recklessly these days, because they know there is less law enforcement on the roads.

I help feed homeless people outside our zip code. We need to help more people move into reliable housing. Living on the streets is degrading to people. Good luck using budgets as efficient as possible.

We've gone soft on some people. If people are caught doing a crime there should be consequences. Right now the bad guys are emboldened because we're not tough enough when following the law. Some situations may require the "soft touch," but there has to be consequences when people break the law! And we need more Police.

Valley center needs more sheriff/police to patrol and enforce- this includes but not limited to traffic/speed enforcement-lots of accidents/mail theft/police presence on roads/civil complaints ie:enforcement-loud music disturbing peace etc-

We own cars. Mass transit, i.e. buses and the trolley system are fine for downtown citizens. Fix the freeways for the rest of us! We voted to expand the 78. Do it, as promised. Sandag ideas of mass transit for much of the county are a joke.

Concerned about growth and not enough police protection

i hope this gives you all the info u ned..i am in a reentry right now and i been here for 11 months i finally parole home june 16 and i have changed so much and i grew to love myself andto forgive..

Victims and the public should feel like the system punishes those who victimize others. Protect the people and punish the criminals. Send them to prison. Stop releasing career criminals. Law Enforcement have a hard job. Law Enforcement should always be glorified. The bad seeds don't define the hero's that took the oath to protect and serve. Stop the public scrutiny of individual bad cops nation wide and watch the hiring problem go away. No one wants to be a cop. Not hard to figure out why. Criminals have all the power. That needs to change.

Homeless is getting so bad.... Crime is the worst.... Victims are guilty and criminals are free to do as they please what a joke of a society

Stop taking away the rights of victims and making it seem like the ones doing the crime are not at fault. Let police officers do their job.

Seems the more our elected official try to help or to help in their own mind (bills passed) and the more money we spent on the problems, the situations got worse.

Please address the homelessness. We do NOT want to become another Los Angeles.

Hire more police. Build more jails. Punish criminals.

Please do not waste money on reentry efforts. Police need more resources and better pay. Also, a little more support for them would go a long way.

The state has loosened up on felony crime to much

California is doomed. I don't think there is any way to save it so we are moving out as soon as we can

Do not release criminals from jail and prison. Prosecute those who are arrested.

Don't not make alternatives to incarceration. Criminals must pay for their criminal actions, not be coddled. They can get services in and after custody, but custody is a must!

With our current situation of so many job openings, I would argue that we don't have a homeless issue or a need to build more housing. We have a drug issue. Secure the border from drug and human trafficking, focus more on family programs such as youth sports, and bring back accountability for theft and drug distribution. the problem is weak enforcement of current laws and appropriate accountability for criminals.

Change has to come from the Sheriff, Prosecuting Agencies and the Court. They and only they, have the ability at a local level to create diversion opportunities and policies that lead to alternatives to incarceration. A new mind set is needed. The community service providers need more opportunities for funding and we need to utilize the services more, because there are a lot services but they are totally under utilized and even ignored as a viable alternative to jail.

Continuing programs like this stops the revolving door of repeating offenders being incarcerated. Change for better has to happen.

We know we loose 50% of folks in transitions. Resources should be on site, with liasons and warm hand-offs are how resources are introduced and enrollment.

These questions are a bit too vague and can be misinterpreted depending on your bias when analyzing your results. I would work on improving these questions and perhaps have someone with an independent, non-motivated agenda, and with a data or statistical background, create the questions and review the answers.

Focus on police and stop giving inmates anything and everything. They are incarcerated as a punishment, but it's more like a retreat for them. If they complain, they get something right away. Take care of who you pay, not the trouble makers.

You could pour billions of dollars into communities, but until you actually go out and hold people accountavle for their actions, nothing is going to change.

Build a support team everyone should have a mentor.

Meant to check box that I have had family member incarcerated.

Thanks for hearing/listening to our community

Focus on providing services like basic needs (food, shelter, and mental health services) and crime will go down. Focus on prevention and providing services rather than spending money on police

Arresting and incarcerating criminals is the primary mechanism of public safety. Crime is going up because we no longer follow this model. Criminals serve little or no time for drug and property offences. This is a problem created by the state legislature and the courts. In the mean time the people of our community suffer with more criminals free to commit more crimes with almost no consequences for their actions, despite the best efforts of police.

If you make it easier to commit crime without significant consequences, more crime will be committed. The vast majority of citizens want to live in safety, and they see and understand reality. If you somehow think it's unfair to demand personal responsibility, or obedience to laws that apply equally to all, then I guess you're okay with more crime, drugs and the slow demise of a city and county, which of course, will compound over time, as responsible, productive law-abiding citizens throw up their hands and depart, and tourists find other places to travel.

Too many social services that are not effective. Too much main streaming of people with addition & mental problems. Madatory treatment and penalties keep borderline criminals the the right side of the law

I'm so grateful you are interested in hearing the opinions and thoughts of your constituency. Young men and women of color are profoundly hurt and families destroyed by out justice system. we have so much more knowledge now about how to better serve the community and justice. let's be innovative and use some of the great resources we have in the universities, nonprofit organizations and expertise.

Enforce laws we already have on the books and support police when they do their jobs. We attack the police but ignore rampant crime in our community, and somehow go back to blaming the police Let's hold people accountable for what they do and stop blaming society for the reason the person committed a crime.

WE do not need stricter laws but need to enforce the ones which are on the books. Legislators need to stop knee jerk reactions when passing laws with a better input from those impacted by their decisions. The law raising the misdemeanor amount to \$900.00 is one example of not understanding the consequences of such a decision. Criminals are not stupid and will quickly realize the benefits of such a decision. A fundamental responsibility of government is to provide a safe environment for its citizens, not provide opportunities for criminals to engage in criminal activity.

I appreciate that this survey is taking place and support efforts to address the causes of crime as opposed to being reactionary and locking people up afterwards. The system is definitely broken as we can see folks who enter the justice system and never escape. Rehabilitation and not excessive punishment should be the answer. Otherwise we're wasting public resources to incarcerate people and losing the talents and abilities of those people to contribute to society.

I would love to see San Diego lead the nation in alternatives to incarceration.

Crime has increased because we have tried to "HELP" everyone, we don't need to help, we need more strict laws to keep violent felons in prison longer.

Why has crime gone up so dramatically in California? Criminals should be held responsible for their behavior.

I wish that positive Public Safety stories was given the equal amount of time as are negative Public Safety stories in all forms of the media. It seems we are more interested in the negative than we are the positive.

Yes. I love to see The Homeless. Crisis end to get themes in a home as Todd Gloria said 10 years ago. Aliso Gun Control. Teach kids to respect each other respect. Bullying. Brina a lot of problems.
what is happening in our county jails is deplorable and shameful. Jail should not be a death sentence. abolish prisons and put money into community services
We need to stop placating people and their bad judgement and choices; we need more police & to allow police to do their job without fear of retribution and lawsuits; we need more jails and LESS reform
The ranking question was hard to do because it's all dependent on what the crime is. For instance, some crimes have way too strict of punishment while others way too little. There needs to be more APPROPRIATE punishment and education for the crime.
I am seriously considering moving myself and my business out of San Diego. We came here 10 years ago and quality of life has gotten progressively worse over time. The homeless situation is out of control and there is no tangible evidence that anything is being done despite throwing millions of dollars at the problem.
Thank you for collecting this info
I think racism and domestic terrorists are our biggest threat right now
The system needs to make sure that violators are held accountable for their actions!!
Thank you for the survey. I wish there would have been more community information regarding the survey. I just found out about it and I hope there are more. I also feel crime is definitely up since COVID and I see a definite need on our freeways and surface streets. Not enough policing. People DON'T obey traffic laws and it's out of control. It frightens me to just drive to the store and it's not just my age!
We "the People" need to support law enforcement, give them the tools, technology, training, and equipment to keep them safe, keep our communities safe, and keep those who commit criminal acts brought to justice and locked-up. Being under the influence of illegal drugs and/or alcohol is not an excuse for one's misbehavior, and it's NOT a get out of Jail card because they did not mean to commit a crime. From simple theft to killing someone, they must be accountable. We need more police officers, more jails, and far better trained mental counseling to deal with the many issues these criminals have. I am tired of hearing in the media, the "police are to blame." The police don't arrest people who are not committing crimes or doing something illegal. Only the ones who are committing crimes, and they are usually the same people who cry "foul!" I am 100% opposed to allowing convicted criminals, addicts, gang members, and career criminals from being released from incarceration before they have served their time. A survey should be taken on how many criminals on probation or parole are re-arrested soon after their release from jail! AND PUBLISH YOUR RESULTS! Don't be bias. Question? Regarding the issues of jail deaths, how many of those are due to illegal drugs such as Fentanyl, gang violence, or other medical issues.
I applaud the effort to make the county more safe and more equitable. This is a really difficult problem, but we must try.
We need to stop criminalizing the police officers that protect us and hire more of them. We need to stop the drugs coming across the border and we need to help the homeless by putting them in facilities where they can receive the help they need until they are fully rehabilitated.
Help!
It is a crisis that you can't get someone to answer 911 immediately. I was in hold for 20 minutes on non emergency line and finally hung up and called 911. No excuse for the dismal communication/dispatch. The city should call state of emergency to get police and 911 fully staffed. I appreciate all police services but we need more police out walking beats in some areas to deter crime. Even traffic violations need enforcing. Drivers boldly run red lights and make illegal turns because they know they can get away with it.
San Diego is going downhill quickly due to the increase in crime in the Metro area.
Too much porch pirating, car break ins, property trespassing and theft. Because of the law of people not getting jail time for anything stolen under 900\$ worth thieves are out of control. It's all over Nextdoor etc.
Sex offenders should not just be dumped back out in society. They don't change. People should not have an easy time incarcerated and then get out early to reoffend. Stop letting criminals have more rights than law abiding, hard-working, tax paying citizens
Repeal Prop 47. Once perpetrators are arrested, prosecute and keep them locked away from civil society. Our quality of life has deteriorated. Also, remove homeless encampments where P2P Meth is used, and human trafficking is rampant. Fund and build hospitals for those picked up, so they can get off drugs and reclaim dignity. Press state and feds to stop Meth from crossing border. China to Mexico to San Diego ruins lives.
Disappointed in San Diego's response to growing problems of homelessness. Health and safety concerns for everyone.
I would love to see transformation of the San Diego justice system into one that uses funding for community resources, mental and physical health to ultimately prevent crimes rather than using the money to punish people after crimes have occurred. Please divest from policing and invest our community.
Hope this survey helps improve safety for all.
Multiple women assaulted by homeless people with knives LEAVING "safe luxury highrises" in san diego. Police dont answer calls about violent homeless, nothing is done about the theft/bike chop shops in east village.

Focus on family reunification and mental health and vocational services for homeless. If people aren't from San Diego, stabilize them and effect family reunification and but them a bus ticket home
More needs to be done to prevent theft in residential neighborhoods
When you have the power to change so many humans' lives and ACTIVELY benefit from the issues and blame this and that instead of DOING SOMETHING, then ask yourself this, why did I become a PUBLIC SERVANT?????
The San Diego City Council and the San Diego County Board of Directors are headed in the wrong direction with respect to public safety as they are becoming more progressive than representative
Stop with the social justice excuses and rewarding bad behavior. Start holding people accountable for their decisions.
We need more attention to reports that are being made about neighbors selling drugs, we have to protect our children, grandchildren and human beings in general.
It's sad to go into a grocery store and see people walking out of the store with items they did not pay for. You know they didn't pay for it, like students from high school walking out of Albertsons after with alcohol. The lack of respect for decency
survey somewhat superficial, leaving no room to explain context.
Effective wraparound service for children, youth, young adults and adults and strong family support education as well as improve payments for medical providers and better train therapist. The providers who take medical seem to be those who are new and lack the experience to properly treat out youth and limit the level of services provided due to finding limitation. When youth is struggling they have to meet a three goals working 6 visits if they don't immediately meet the goal they are discharged in order to even receive therapy I had to wait up to three months to be seen the waiting time is ridiculous. I had to trained the therapist about my sons eating disorder. If a child has developmental disabilities the available treatment is almost non existent. My daughter who had Down syndrome never made it to the top of the list for some individuals with learning disabilities the treatment options are non existent they can also get into mental health issues leading to community safety and trouble with the law. Majority of people in prison have a disability and lack proper mental health support.
We need tougher sentencing and more jails plus mental hospitals for the homeless.
Start incarcerating criminals and enforce drug laws! Utilize 5150 WI and make our communities safe again.
Please more public housing vouchers and resources for the recovering addict community
I was thankful to the second chance program
They need harder sentences for criminals, not easier ones. If you do the crime, you need to do the time. Stop making it easier for criminals, they don't care if they get arrested because snowflakes have made it so they don't get punished anymore. More police and stiffer penalties!!
SANDAG should spend this much time collecting data to support crime statistics that SDPD provides.
Refund Community.
Real reform needs to include a reallocation of police resources, not defunding, but police should be called when required, other services need to be funded to respond when a police presence is unnecessary, or police and mental health professionals need to be trained to answer calls together. When a police officer fails to turn on his body camera during an encounter that results in the injury or death of someone, that officer should be terminated. No excuses. The police unions yield way to much power. Policy makers need to stand up to them rather than seeking their endorsements. It's a major conflict of interest.
We need to have interventions that support families.
Hold criminals accountable
The District Attorney plays a major role in all that's happening in our society
Do not like the rating on priority issue... is not reflective
Our justice system does not protect victims or the public because cases are dropped and guilty people are released without serving their sentences. If there's a shortage of jails, we need to build more. We need mandated drug rehabilitation centers to help people get clean and stay sober to beat homelessness and crime. The police can only do so much of people are immediately released without help.
I'm concerned about public safety and decriminalization. More people are committing crimes with little consequence which impacts community safety.
Toughen up and enforce the laws before we are over-run with even more crime. Put more of the city budget towards Law Enforcement.
Take police out of San Diego schools. Our community's children become criminals when police them; we must choose to protect them instead.
More resources need to be provided to help our incarcerated loved ones as well as the community to avoid incarceration.
Thank you for doing this important work & I can't wait for you to share the results.

Chula Vista Police Dept. Family Protection Unit and Domestic Violence Response Team is a great example of community policing, partnering with social services, serving victims/children, and checking-in with offenders to keep them accountable.
We need accountability and incarceration for those who choose to violate society's laws.
There must be consequences for people breaking the law. More cops are needed. More jails are needed.
Use a gun, go to jail.
Add a period in all schools for children where they can exercise how to talk about anything in an open forum, such as bullying, home safety, dealing with their emotions, etc
Thank you!
I want to share how the behavioral health center on date street and the second chance program allowed me to change my life. To renter into society. To become a part of what I longed to be a part of. To address my addiction amd give me a focus on a future. Hope. Sense of family Guidance. The privilege of freedom in myself and from my past convictions. Take pride in my better choices I can make for myself.
Alternatives to incarceration for violent crime is perplexing and baffling.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE IN ASKING THESE QUESTIONS!
Fellow San Diegans, I think there should be more funding for the resources needed for homeless and druggies also there needs to be a team dedicated to the battle against fentanyl and the city needs to help out with this FENTANYL USAGE AND OVERDOSE ISSUE in and out of custody...please read this and help out ASAP!
I believe that the justice system should decrease incarceration for people with drug offenses and mental health issues.
Peace to you. Peace, love, unity, respect, happiness.
I like the programs available now for people who just get out of prison.
I have been working on a plan to help with homelessness, jail, probation, and help with COVID 19. Contact me at rmlkovits@gmail.com. - Ryan Milkovits
The system is severely flawed. The DA is out of control with the quick to incarcerate approach. Also the threats of heavy time to force people to plea to crimes they didn't commit.
Free housing for a year, housing and all IDs and paperwork taken care of.
Upon release if housing is available I think is a great need because some people give 2 years or more and get out and have no place to go.
No, but if you want to work you can find a job!
For having no felonies or any criminal past not even a ticket to my name, the punishment I feel was not fair, but harsh. When there are habitual criminals who get a slap on the wrist for worse crimes. I have been incarcerated for over 3 years w no write ups and yet I can't get time off my sentence and forever have a felony that makes having a decent career difficult.
Change should be made in all areas in order to have a overall impact on all levels and phases. Capitol Hill to the hills and canyons filled with homelessness. It begins with perspective.
Thank you for your support.
Your court system is biased.
Career counseling services should be available in custody.
Career counseling services as well as DUI classes should be offered in custody
Definite changes need to be made to justice system.
I'm so happy because I'm almost going home with my family after been in jail for the last 4 years.
Better exercise equipment
DA would not hear out my side of the story didn't try to hurt no one but my self that night but they don't care.
Jail does not help make things worse.
Yeah, the fact that I can't get a job because of my criminal past is hard and cause me to give up and relapse on meth!
Your medical staff needs to be more competent and all the deputies need to be in the same page that's why all "trustees" do what they want. not following the rules.
I believe the justice system has to get more personal with the incarcerated people in order to know how to help them. There's no way you can treat everyone in a standard way because every case is different as are our needs.
high blood pressure
Deputies do not care for inmates well-being.
Please try to help us with these lack of resources

The counselor Ben has heled me get my driver's license and I was able to get to an appointment and got paid.	
I hope this helps us ALL!	
GET RID OF METH AND HEROIN	
People have reasons that are not criminal but felt like pressure to have to do things that result into criminal activity. Some do not even know they are committing the crime, due to mental, pressure, or stress.	
The system should work more towards keeping jails empty instead of trying to keep them full and keeping people continually in the system.	
This is a wonderful survey, and the woman that passed these forms out deserve a raise ASAP!	
Help getting a place to lay my head once I get out stay out the streets	
I need to be in some type of disability due to my gun shot and help getting a place to lay my head once I get out to stay out the streets	
I think the government should have programs instead of making us go to prison. I find it worse in here rather than a program.	
They way we are treated in here, is immoral I'm not talking about loss of freedom, it's jail. It's the basic stuff. The one that stand at the top comes from the top. How the DA is allowed to flat out lie, I don't understand. There enough punishment built in.	
Thank you	
I hope this brings new methods and resources to inform the public on how the homeless and veteran communities are also Americans and people that had ambition and lives just like the ones with homes and need a hand and compassion so that they can recover from the past and rejoin a society that cares again and not if its just convenient.	
More alternatives for drug crimes. People should not go to jail for drugs. It's a travesty. Treatment not punishment!	
Yes I have mental health issues and substance abuse issues but the judicial system keeps sending back to prison and not help with my homelessness mental health issues and drug abuse I need help.	
CA jail is hell and human right are been violate every single day. I will sue this place when I'm out. Book ID 22716222-0 Not even hunger strike made a difference Paulo	
Hope it all goes well for all of us	
thank you (this person is homeless)	
God bless all of us	
would like to get my GED please	
My name is Alonzo Thompson and I'd like too thank you for this study that can help very much...hopefully to change lives...thank you for your time and help...	
thank you	
Sometimes people that have violent crimes where accidents like drinking and driving. It would be nice if they still had opportunities as well.	
fix the fucking system	
Thanx, but I want to puke	
I'm blind in my right eye. Completely blind, due to a lack of medical attention while incarcerated. I had an abscess on my brain which lead to my current state	
Special ed	
I want a custody alternative. Thank you	
Fuck jail and fuck you too! :)	
There should be better more alternative to custody in county and prison	
sober living is what we need no place makes it easy to make the same choices	
More programs need to be more readily available as an alternative to prisons and jails.	
Thank you	
Poner enfasis y profesionalismo en Internal Affairs local w Federal Police	Focus on professionalism in local Internal affairs with federal police
si quiero estudiar en espanol	Yes, I want to study in Spanish
dios los bendiga	God bless you
Yo pienso que nadie deberia hacer mas de 10 anos en estado local nos deberian mandar a prision	I believe nobody should do more than 10 years in local state they should send us to prison.

<p>Yo pienso que las cárceles del condado no son adecuados para sentencias de más de 10 años, eso es un abuso humanitario</p>	<p>I believe county jails are not appropriate for sentences of more than 10 years, that is a humanitarian abuse.</p>
<p>He notado que las leyes cambian mucho a como pasan los años, muchos a favor de unos pero otras para hundir a ciertas personas más.</p>	<p>I have noticed laws change a lot as years pass by, many in favor of certain people, but others to bring certain people down.</p>
<p>La Propuesta 47 y el haber determinado que el uso de la marihuana para uso recreativo es algo legal, han resultado en un resquebrajamiento de nuestra sociedad. La propuesta 47 ha hecho que una persona pueda de manera flagrante simplemente entrar a una tienda a robar. No es un robo porque la gente necesite comer. Es simplemente porque quiere tener algo que no puede comprar. Yo toda la vida he tenido que trabajar y ahorrar para comprar. El tener que trabajar y ahorrar no es algo negativo. Al trabajar y ahorrar, me siento orgullosa de lo poco que tengo; me siento feliz porque lo he logrado yo. En cuanto a la marihuana, es un hecho de que ahora la marihuana es más potente que hace décadas. Quizás algunas personas han podido funcionar igual de bien aunque la fuman, pero hay muchísimas más que lo único que les interesa es fumarla y no les interesa esforzarse en la vida. Y a otros pobres, la marihuana les ha llevado a intentar otras drogas, con resultados desastrosos.</p>	<p>Proposition 47 and the determination that the recreational use of marijuana is something legal have resulted in breakdown of our society. Proposition 47 has blatantly made it possible for a person to simply walk into a store to steal. It is not robbery because people need to eat. It is simply because they want to have something that they cannot buy. All my life I have had to work and save to buy. Having to work and save is not a negative thing. By working and saving, I feel proud of how little I have; I feel happy because I have achieved it. As for marijuana, it is a fact that marijuana is now more potent than it was decades ago. Perhaps some people have been able to function just as well even though they smoke it, but there are many more who are only interested in smoking it and are not interested in making an effort in life. And for other poor people, marijuana has led them to try other drugs, with disastrous results.</p>
<p>Mi comunidad y mi familia se ha visto afectada por el incremento de homeless en mi área dejando basura, haciendo sus necesidades fisiológicas en la calle y usando drogas ilícitas sin importar que haya niños cerca lo cual hace que se perciba un ambiente de inseguridad y suciedad, el cual las autoridades no han atendido adecuadamente ya que ahora no nos sentimos tranquilos al salir de nuestras casas</p>	<p>My community and my family have been affected by the increase in homeless people in my area leaving garbage, doing their physiological needs on the street and using illicit drugs regardless of the fact that there are children nearby, which creates a perception of an insecure and filthy environment, which the authorities have not dealt adequately since now we do not feel tranquil when leaving our houses</p>