

Officer and Inmate Wellness with Post Occupancy Data

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Course Description

The facility is built on the central goal to improve inmate rehabilitation and officer wellness shaped by an impassioned discussion about the amount of time a corrections officer spends inside the jail during his/her career. A 25-year officer spends 56,250 hours or six years of his/her life in the facility by the time they retire, in most cases more time than any inmate who passes through. These guiding discussions drove the design goals to include inmate rehabilitation rather than incarceration; design for an enhanced officer and employee wellness experience; and view the building as an asset to the community rather than a liability. As a replacement to the old facility, the team tested buildings which gauged qualities such as air quality, temperature, acoustics, etc. in both the existing and new facility. We will share the direct impact these features have on officer and inmate health.

Learning Objectives

1. Understand concepts of inmate and officer wellness based on the built environment around them.
2. Review strategies of sustainability and wellness in the Skagit County Community Justice Center.
3. Review Post Occupancy survey information and processes used to gain information from existing and new facilities.
4. Learn how these strategies inform the daily life of staff and officers.



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Skagit County Jail



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WELL-AP



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Emerging Professional





Owner: Skagit County

Location: Mount Vernon, WA

Area: 100,754 GSF

Housing: 7 Housing Classification

Pods + 2 Work Release/Crew Dorms

Beds: 398

Indirect/Direct Supervision

of Officers: 63 at opening

Programming: 2012

Design: 2014 - 2015

Construction Complete: March 2017

Contractor: Lydig Construction

Total Construction Budget: \$42.5M

Cost / Bed: \$106,800



Existing Jail
City Center, Mt. Vernon



New Jail
South Mt. Vernon
(1.8 miles)

Existing Facility:

Opened in **1984**

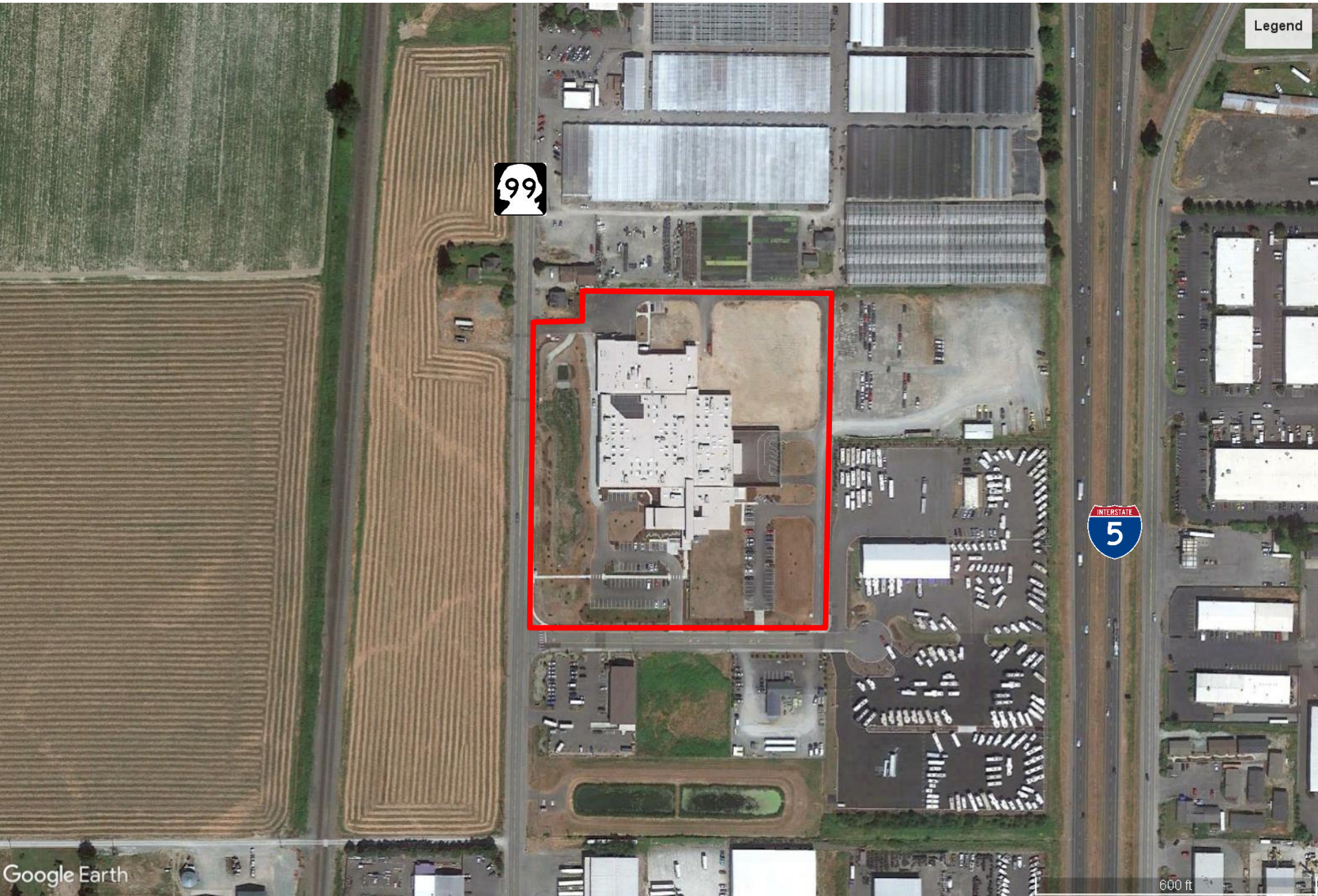
Beds: **83**

of Correctional Officers: **44**



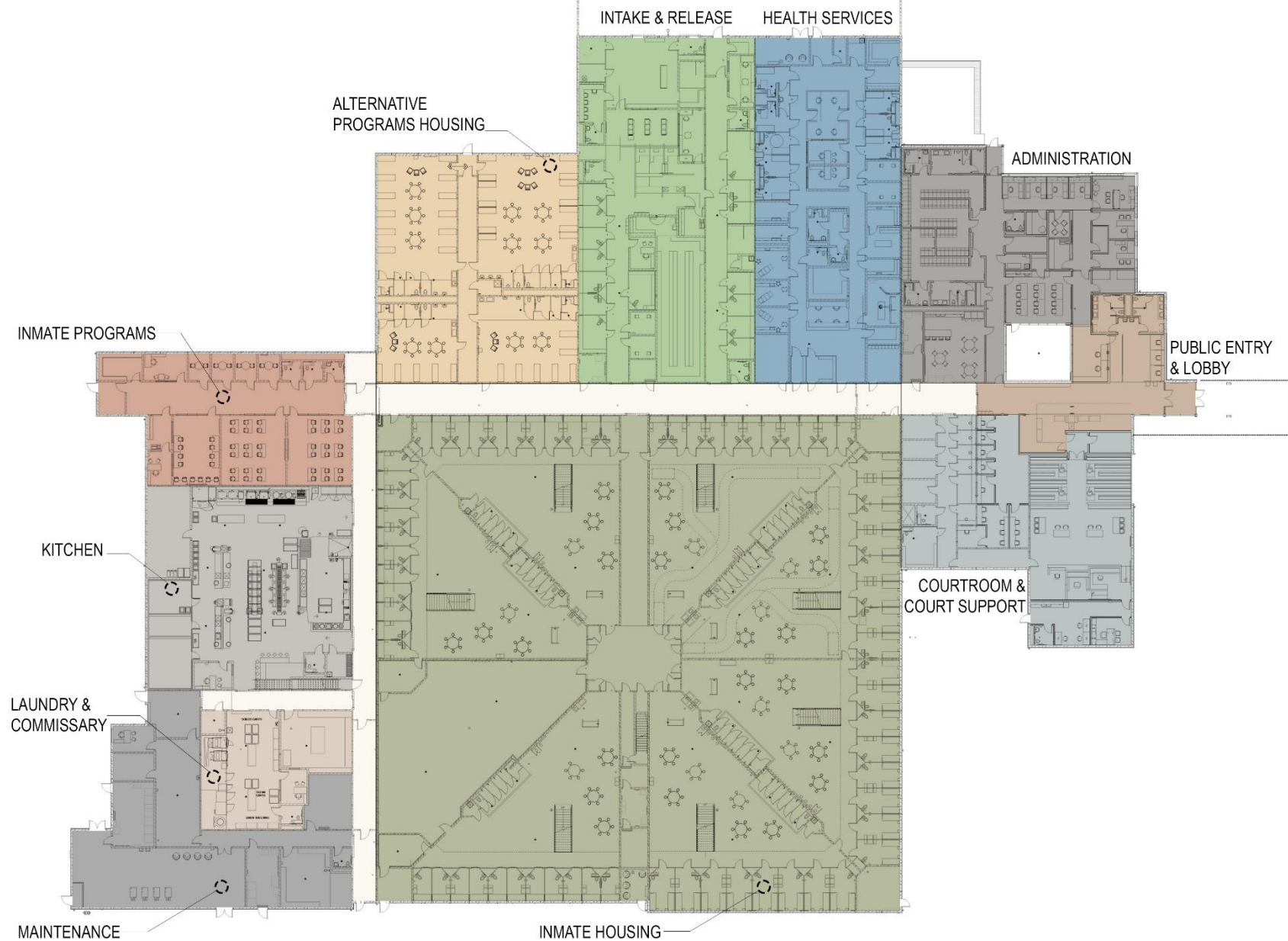






Legend







Officer Wellness:

Average career:

**6 year
sentence**

(+56,000 hours)

Average officer lifespan:

**57-61
years old**

(average 79 in USA)

Data Collection



- Pre/Post Occupancy study
- Self report survey distributed to both staff and inmates
 - Staff – Online
 - Inmates – Hard Copy
- Survey examines
 - Perceptions of building features such as acoustics, lighting, thermal comfort, and access to natural daylight.
 - Levels of stress, depression, and feelings of safety, security, victimization.
 - Functionality of common spaces
- Pre-occupancy survey distributed Aug-Sept 2017
- Post occupancy survey distributed Aug-Sept 2018

Outcomes and Limits

Pre-occupancy Study 2017 - Staff & Inmates

- Limits
 - Washington state participants only
 - Small sample size for staff
 - Staff and inmates from a smaller rural town
 - Majority Caucasian population (inmates & staff)
 - Low Cronbach's alpha for inmate survey

Outcomes and Limits

Pre-occupancy Study 2017 - Staff & Inmates

- Staff Data

- Reporting higher levels of stress and lower levels of fear of being victimized
- Reporting higher levels of depression also report higher levels of fear of being victimized
- Older staff reported high levels of depression compared to younger staff

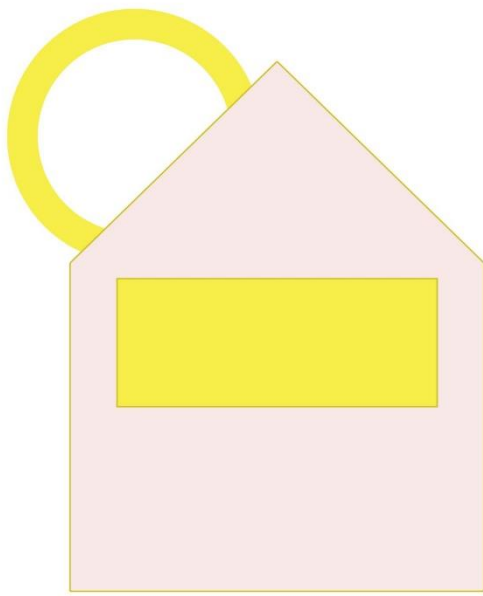
- Inmate Data

- Reporting the facility is noisy reported higher fear of being victimized
- When access to natural light decreases, levels of depression increased
- Inmates who reported higher levels of education reported higher levels of depression

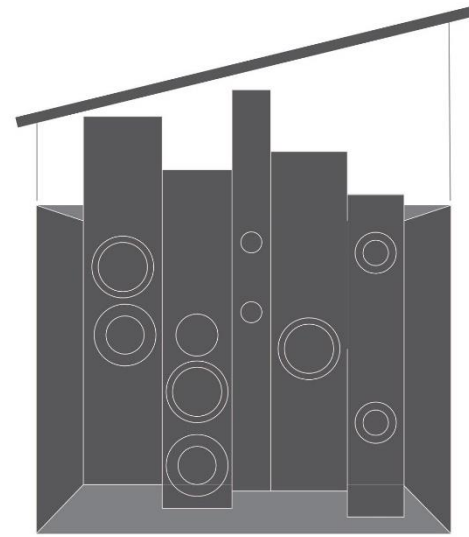
Outcomes and Limits

Pre-occupancy Study 2017 - Staff & Inmates

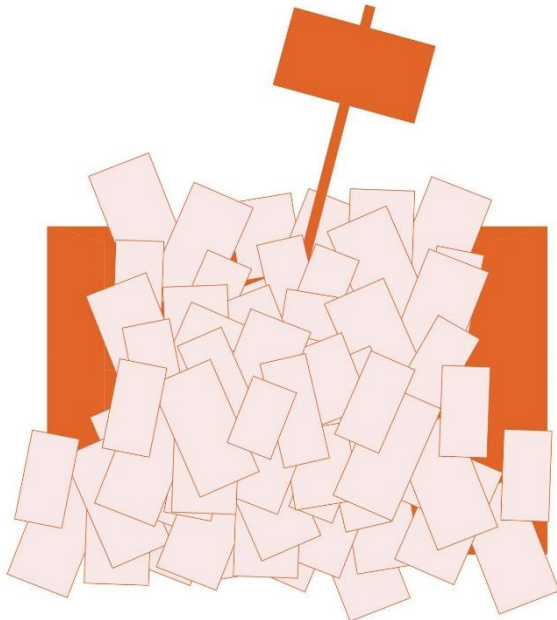
- How can we address these?
 - Metal wall panels are typically not acoustically treated. Provide acoustical treatment within cells and dayrooms
 - Skylights within each dayroom



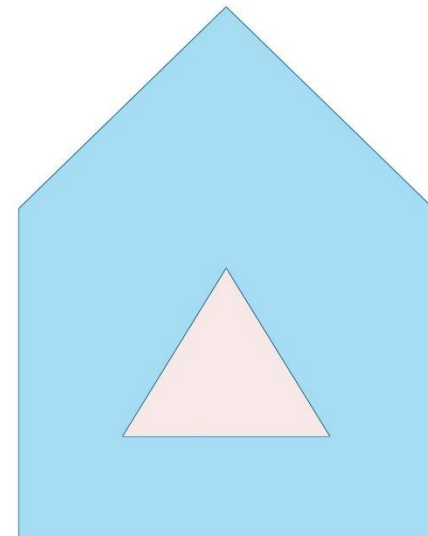
Daylight



Acoustics



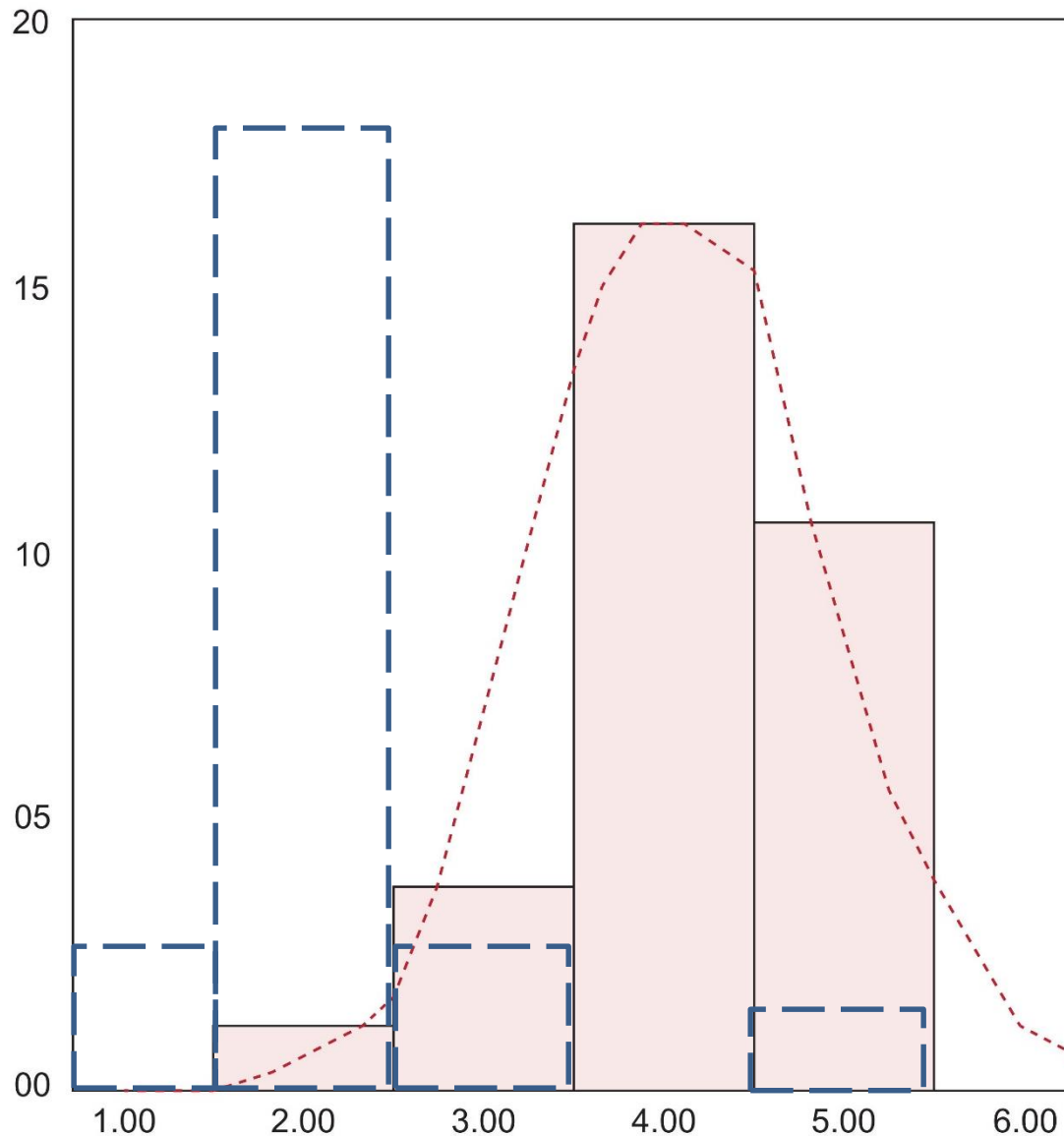
Stress/Depression



Victimization

DAYLIGHT

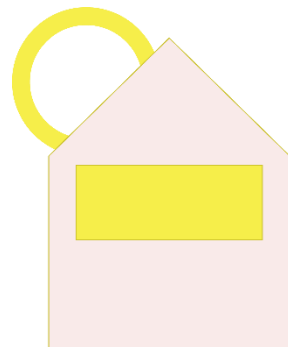
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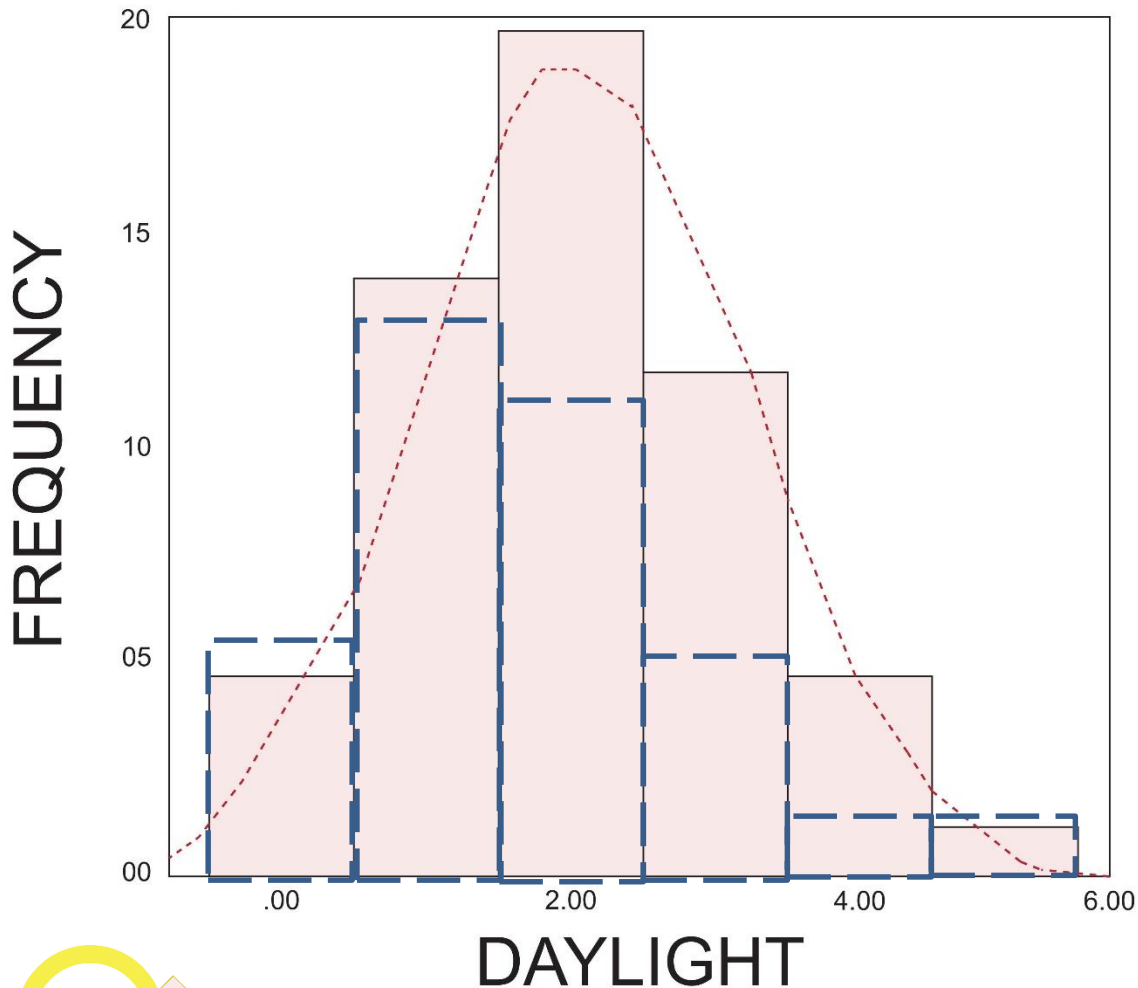
Staff:

Inverse correlation,
as access to daylight
increase levels of
stress decrease

As daylight decreases,
staff feel less safe
and secure



DAYLIGHT



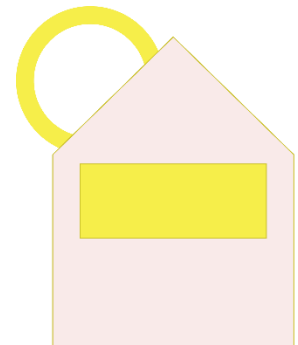
Inmates:

Strong positive correlation
access to natural daylight
attributes to higher
feelings of safety &
security.

Significant at 95%
confidence interval

Inverse correlation, as
access to daylight
increase levels of stress
decrease

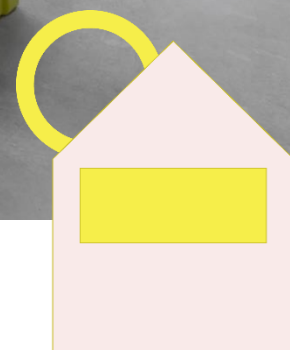
As levels of daylight
increase, reported levels
of depression decrease.









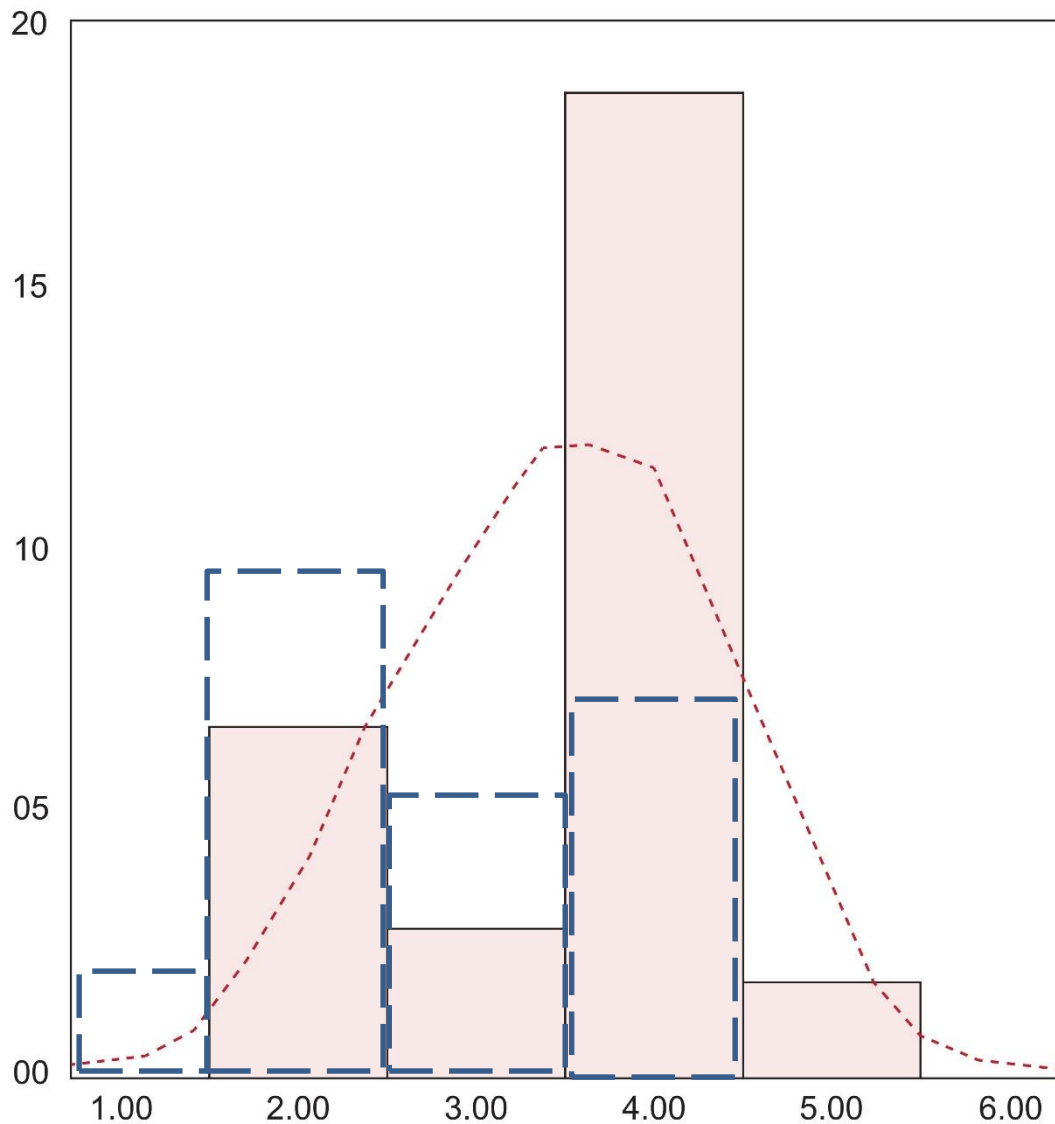


ACOUSTICS

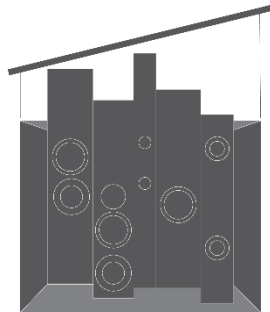
Staff:

As acoustics get better, staff report lower levels of depression and lower levels of fear of being victimized.

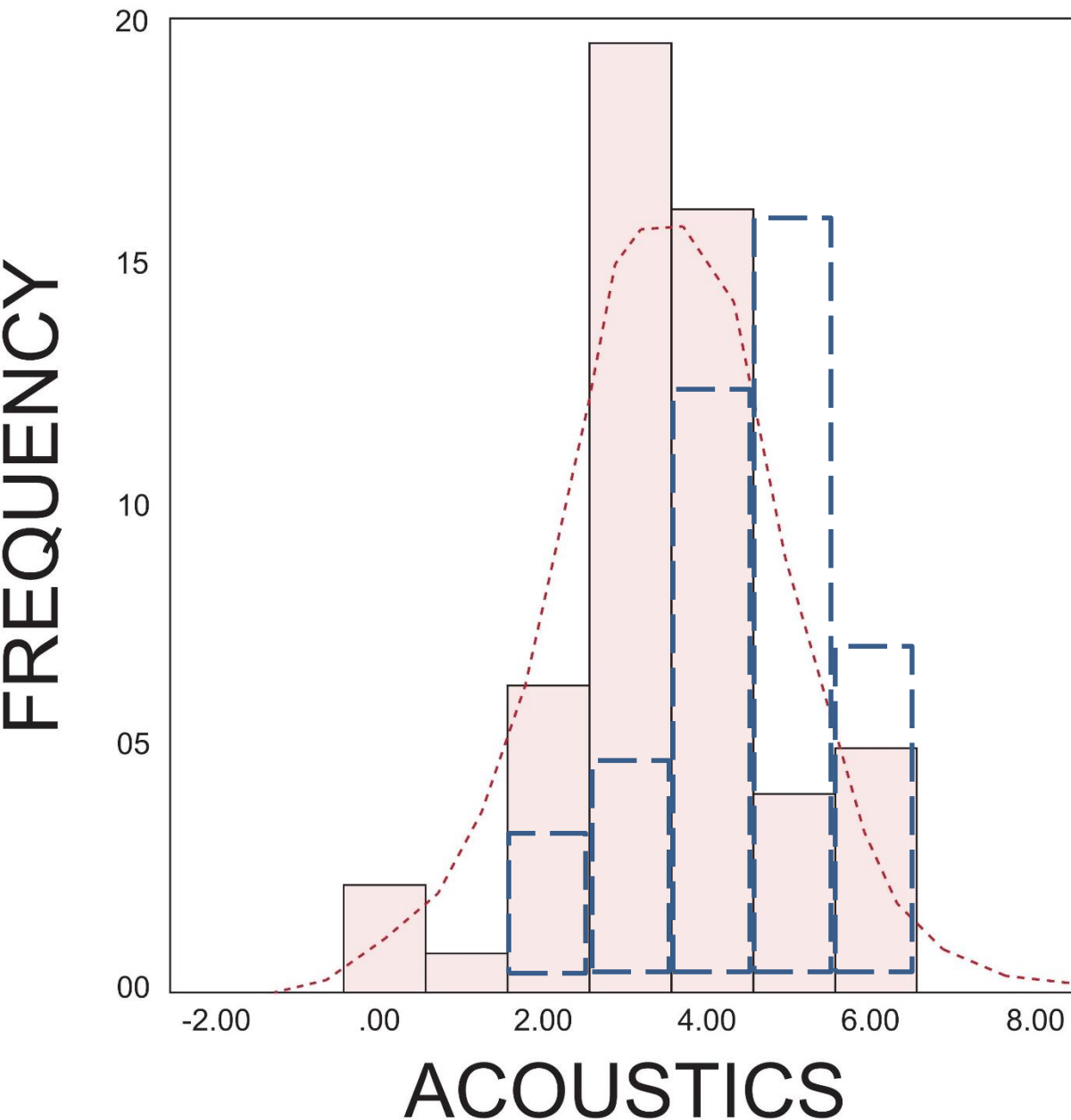
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ACOUSTICS



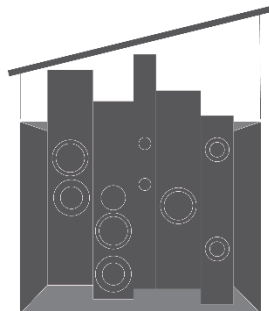
ACOUSTICS

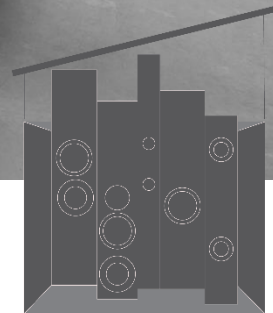


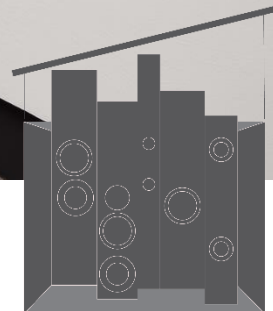
Inmates:

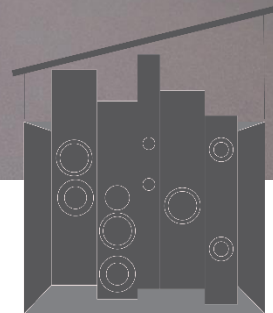
Similar to the previous study, as inmates report lower noise levels they feel more safe and secure in their environment and less likely to be victimized

As inmates report higher noise levels, they feel more stressed in their environment









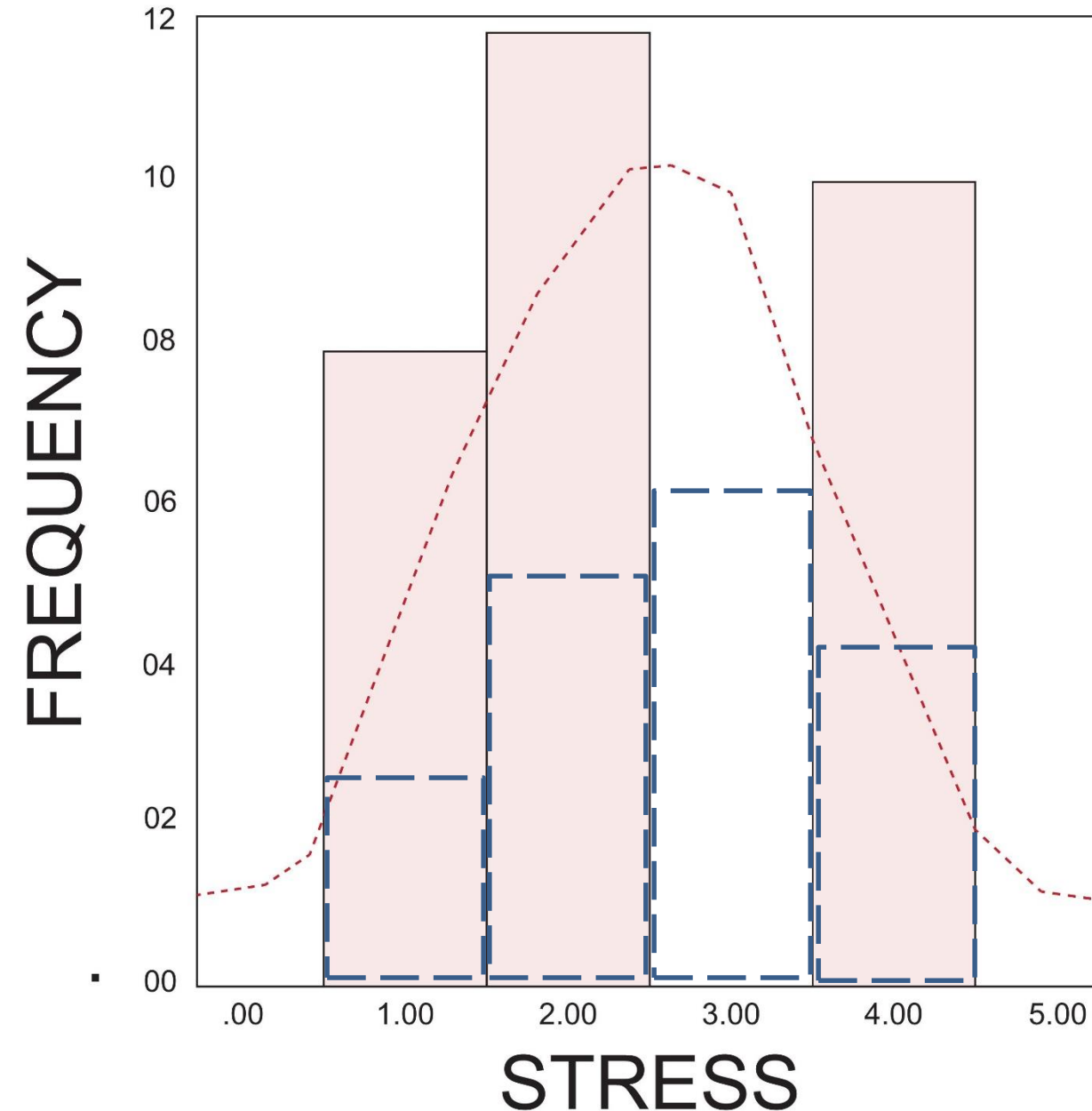
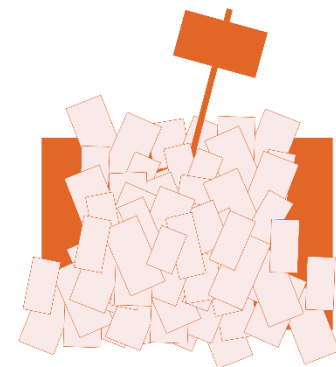
STRESS

Staff:

Inverse correlation, as access to daylight increase levels of stress decrease.

As reported feelings of stress decrease, staff report more satisfaction with their feelings of safety and security.

Higher levels of depression are correlated with higher levels of fear of being victimized.



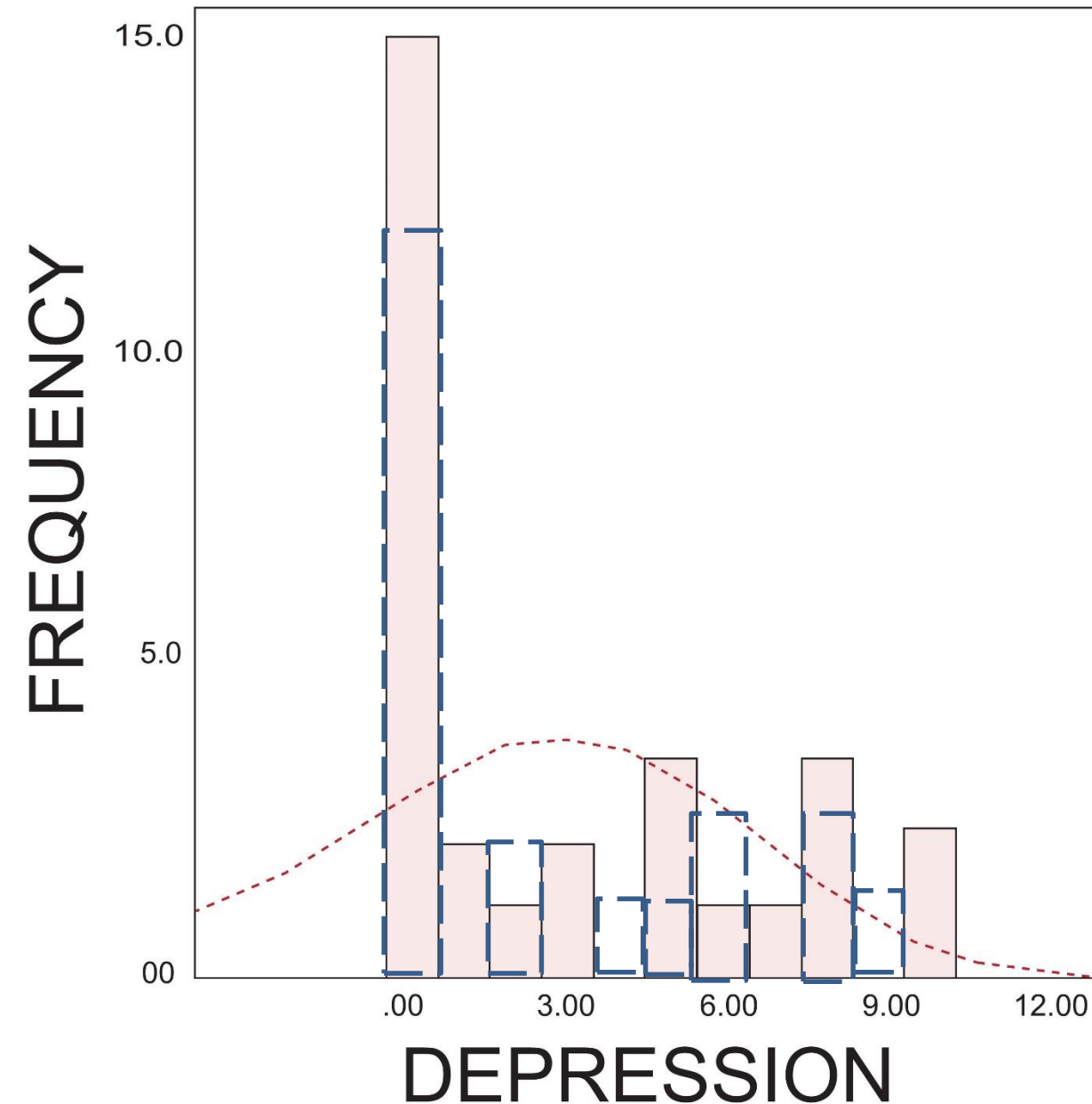
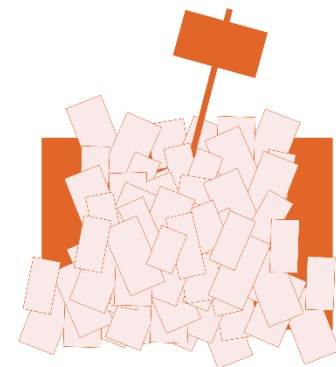
DEPRESSION

Staff:

Inverse correlation, as
access to daylight
increase levels of stress
decrease

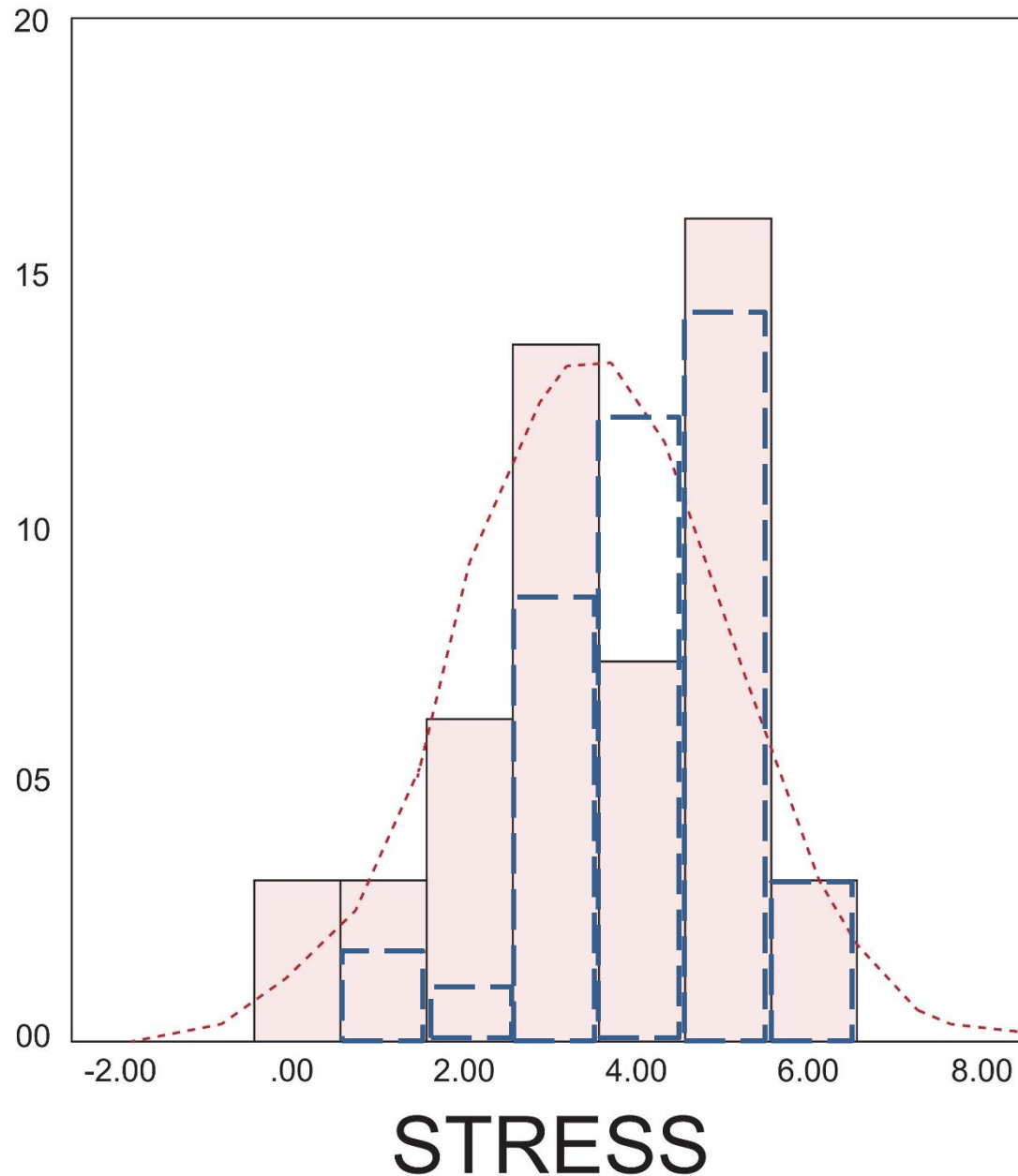
As reported feelings of
stress decrease, staff
report more satisfaction
with their feelings of safety
and security

Higher levels of
depression are correlated
with higher levels of fear
of being victimized



STRESS

FREQUENCY

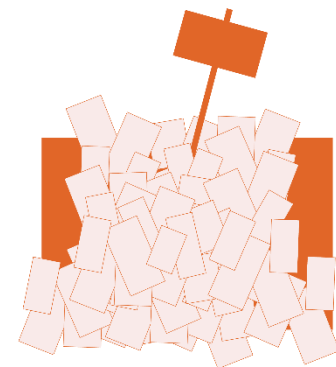


Inmates:

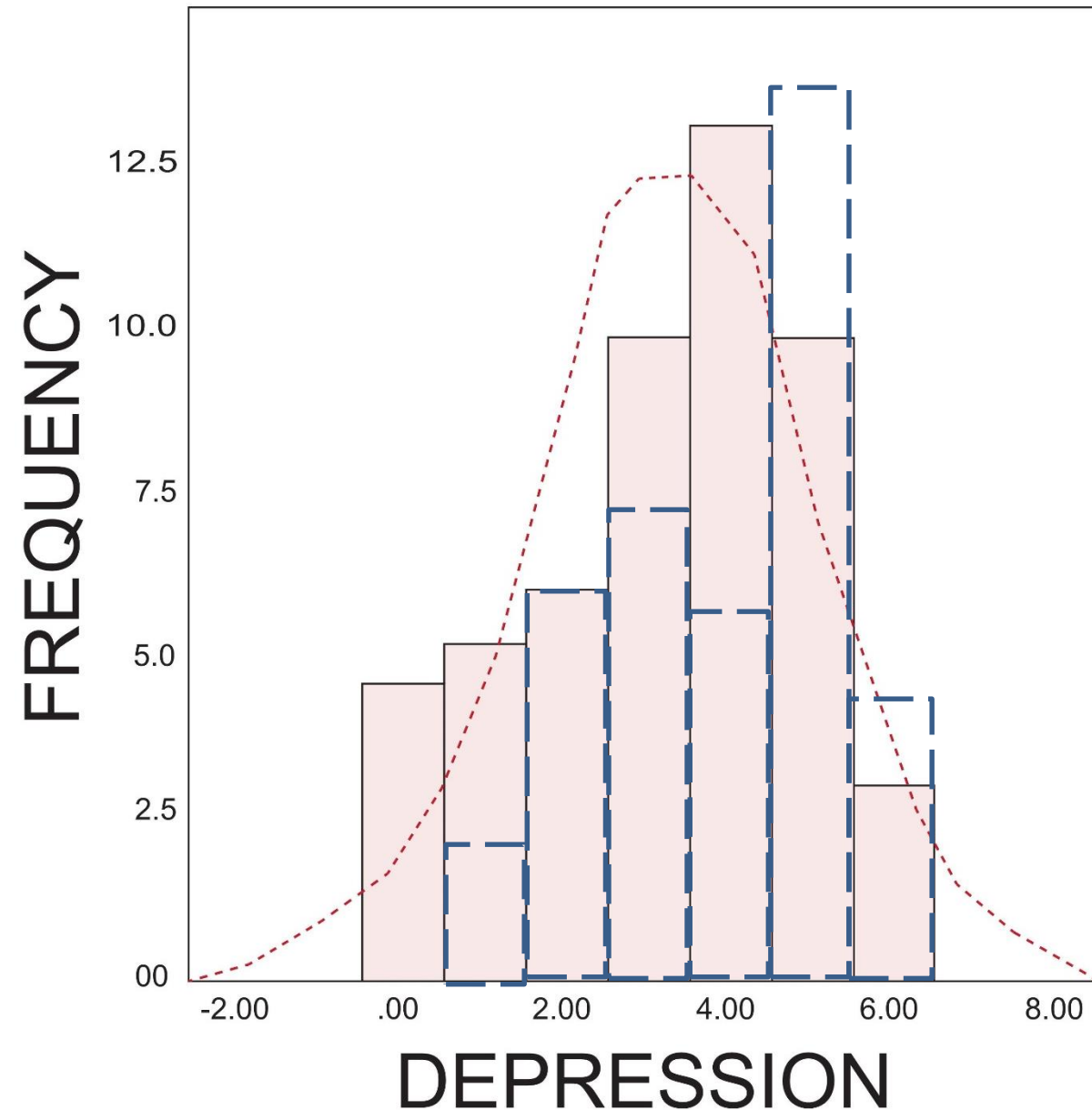
As inmates report higher levels of feeling safe and secure they report lower levels of stress

Higher levels of depression are correlated with higher levels of fear of being victimized and low levels of feeling safe and secure

Higher levels of depression are correlated with low levels of access to daylight



DEPRESSION

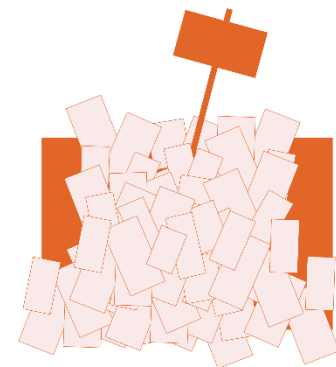


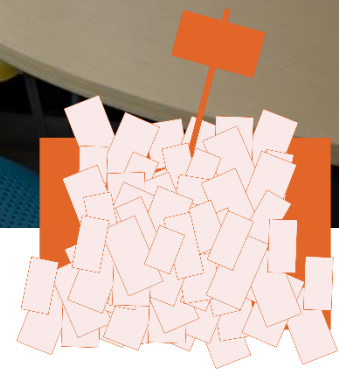
Inmates:

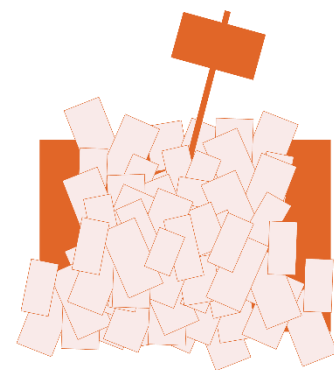
As inmates report higher levels of feeling safe and secure they report lower levels of stress

Higher levels of depression are correlated with higher levels of fear of being victimized and low levels of feeling safe and secure

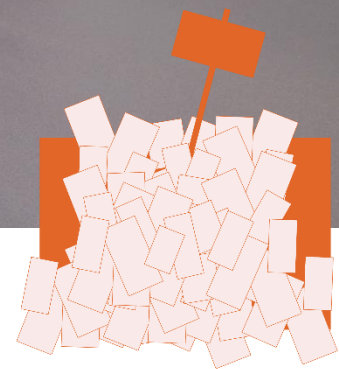
Higher levels of depression are correlated with low levels of access to daylight





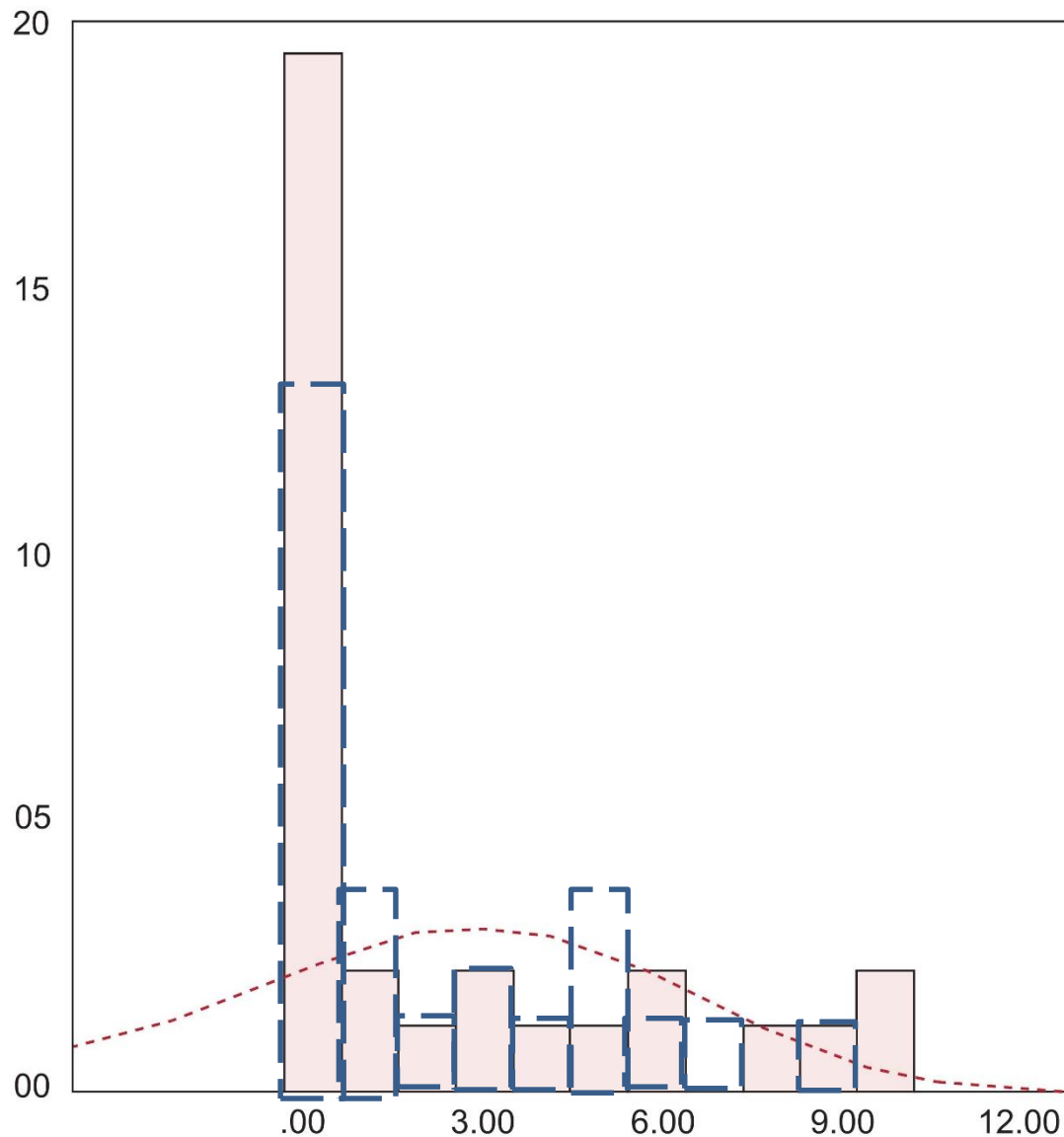






VICTIMIZATION

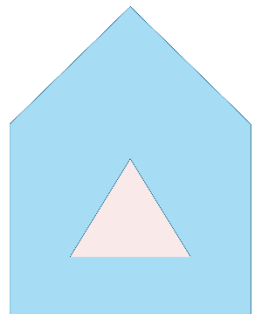
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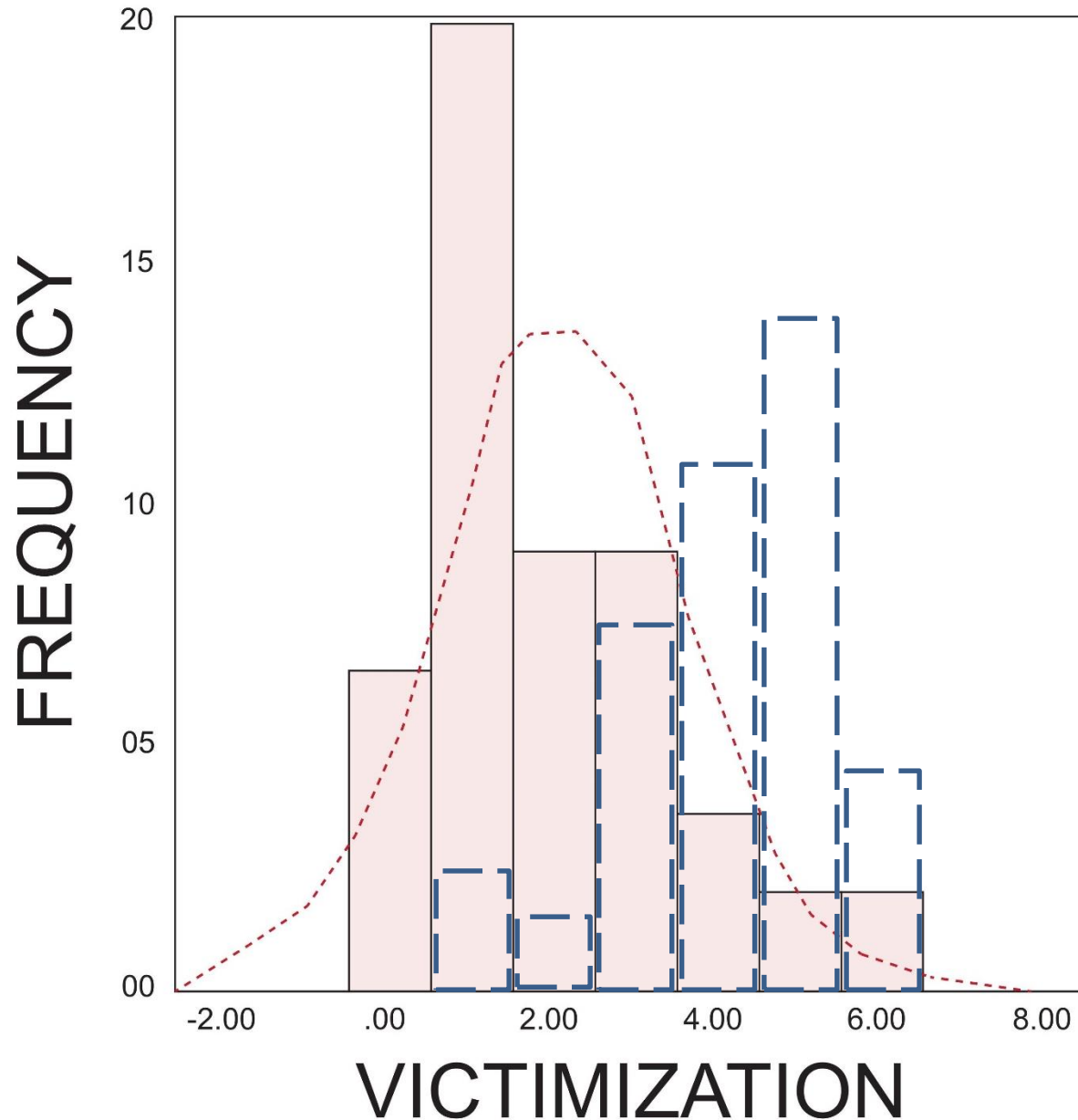
VICTIMIZATION

Staff:

As reported levels of safety and security increase reported fear of victimization decrease



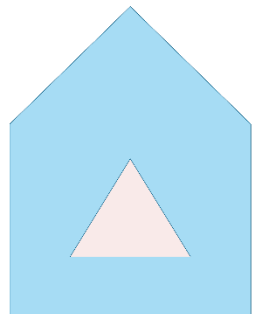
VICTIMIZATION

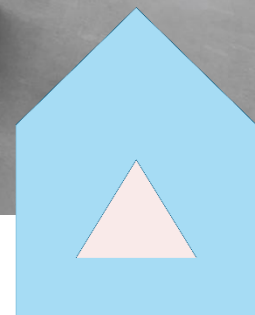


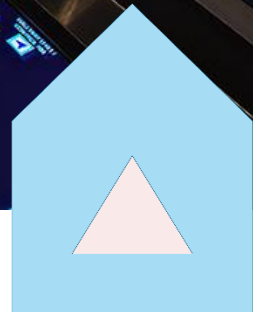
Inmates:

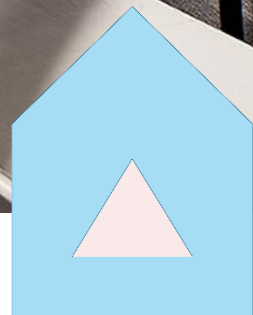
Higher levels of depression are correlated with higher levels of fear of being victimized and low levels of feeling safe and secure

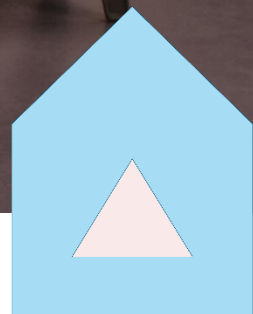
As inmates perceive their area to be noisy, they report high levels of fear of being victimized















Q & A

Thank you.

