Temporal Patterns of Arrest in a Cohort of Adults Receiving Mental Health Services: The Massachusetts Mental Health / Criminal Justice Cohort Study

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Temporal Patterns of Arrest in a Cohort of Adults Receiving Mental Health Services: The Massachusetts Mental Health / Criminal Justice Cohort Study

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The Massachusetts Mental Health / Criminal Justice Cohort

• Mental Health and Criminal Justice records, provides access to police records along the timeline of these exams to reduce offending and re-offending, including:
  - Demographic program
  - Mental Health Courts
  - Peer-to-Peer
  - Little information about scope of offending to grade service development.

This study provides data on prevalence, tip and temporal patterns of arrest for a large sample of adults followed for roughly 9.5 years.

Inclusion Criteria:
- 18 years of age or older
- Receiving case management, treatment, residential or services from Massachusetts Department of Mental Health between 7/1/91 and 1/31/92

Trajectory Analysis:
- Arrest data were obtained from the Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board’s “Criminal Offender Record Information” (CORI System)
- 5,958 cohort members (27%) registered at least one arrest
- The group consisted of 4,450 males, 27,846 for females and 1,596 individuals without sex.

The group compiled 41,860 charges; 27,044 for felonies and 14,816 for misdemeanors. The group compiled 41,860 charges; 27,044 for felonies and 14,816 for misdemeanors.

• Conspiracy Crimes
  - Serious Violent Crime)
  - Within a period of one year from the date of charge; overlap between groups

• The group contains 5 trajectories, 41860 charges; 27044 for felonies and 14816 for misdemeanors.

Demographic Characteristics and Yearly Arrest Rates of Service Use Cohort Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Arrest Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>30-35</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>50.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>45-50</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>35-40</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>50-55</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consequences of Trajectories

• The group contains 41,860 charges; 27,044 for felonies and 14,816 for misdemeanors.

The Massachusetts Mental Health / Criminal Justice Cohort

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Five-Group Trajectory Model

Trajectory Group 1
- Firearm Violations:
  - Possession of a controlled substance; possession with intent to distribute, a serious crime under state law, including a misdemeanor.

Trajectory Group 2
- Drug Crimes
  - Possession of a controlled substance; possession with intent to distribute, a serious crime under state law, including a misdemeanor.

Trajectory Group 3
- Minor Property Crimes
  - Theft/Shoplifting of an item worth less than under $500; malicious uttering (passing bad checks); breaking and entering; arson; motor vehicle theft

Trajectory Group 4
- Serious Property Crimes
  - Assault and Battery on a Police Officer

Trajectory Group 5
- Conspiracy Crimes
  - Serious Violent Crime

Implications
• Humus receiving mental health services display varying patterns of offending over time
• These patterns likely reflect different symptom management approaches
• Simple descriptive and diagramatic data do not predict group membership well
• To make these models to service system planners, more data that would predict individual trajectories is needed
• Only a critical understanding of how service use patterns are associated with these trajectories

Acknowledgement
The data analysis presented here would not have been possible without the perseverance, guidance and consistently congenial mentoring of our beloved colleagues, Dr. Steven Banks.