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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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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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Demographic Characteristics and Year-Specific Rates of Service Use Cohort Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Stable</th>
<th>Increasing</th>
<th>Decreasing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>49.2%</td>
<td>44.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 2</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 3</td>
<td>38.3%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>55.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 4</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 5</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trajectory Group 1
- Stable across the time period; average one arrest every 2 years

Trajectory Group 2
- Begins period averaging 2 per year, drops steadily over the period
- 11% Starts high (average of 5 in the first year) but descends; ends period with average of one

Trajectory Group 3
- Begins period averaging 2 per year, drops steadily over the period
- 22.4% Average one arrest per year through period

Trajectory Group 4
- Begins period averaging 2 per year, drops steadily over the period
- 15.1% Average one arrest every 2 years

Trajectory Group 5
- Begins period averaging 2 per year, drops steadily over the period
- 15.0% Average one arrest every 2 years

Implications
- Arrests receiving mental health services display varying patterns of offending over time
- These patterns likely reflect different system management profiles
- Simple demographic and diagnostic data do not predict group membership well
- To make these useful to service system planners, more data that would predict individuals’ likely trajectories is needed
- This critical is an 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 enthusiastic cooperation of our beloved colleagues, Dr. Steven Banks.