Entry into Jail: Accounting for Individual and Contextual Risk Factors

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Introduction

- Jail has negative effects on education, employment, health, and relationships
- Survey measures cannot separate jail from incarceration
  - Average jail stay is less than 10 days
- Lack of temporal ordering of context and behaviors that precede an individuals first time in jail

Research Questions and Data

1. Does parental incarceration or school punishment increase risk of jail?
2. Does this hold true after accounting for prior behaviors and contexts?

Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study (TARS)
- Five waves of data collected 2001-2012
- Respondents ages 25-32 at fifth interview (n=1147)
- Temporal ordering of individual and contextual factors that increase risk of jail
- Official measures of criminal justice contact and respondent's county jail rates

Variables and Figures

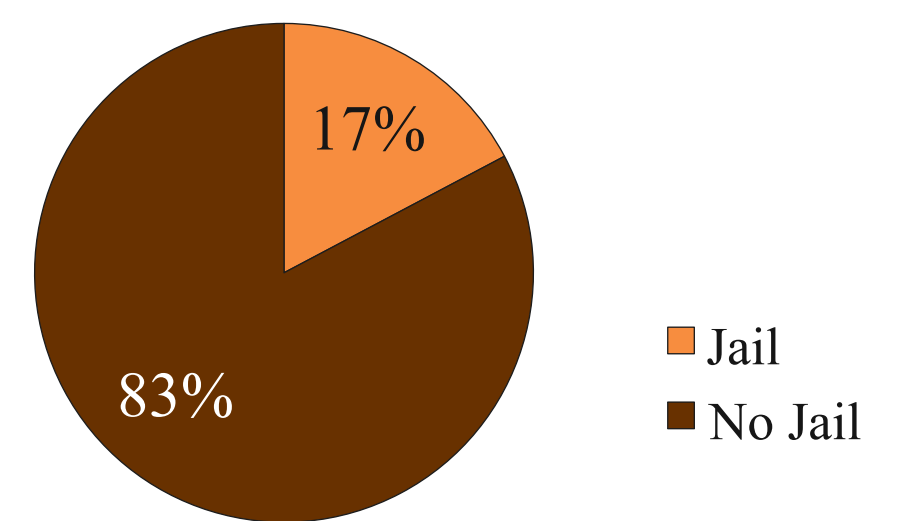Figure 1. Respondents Jail Experience

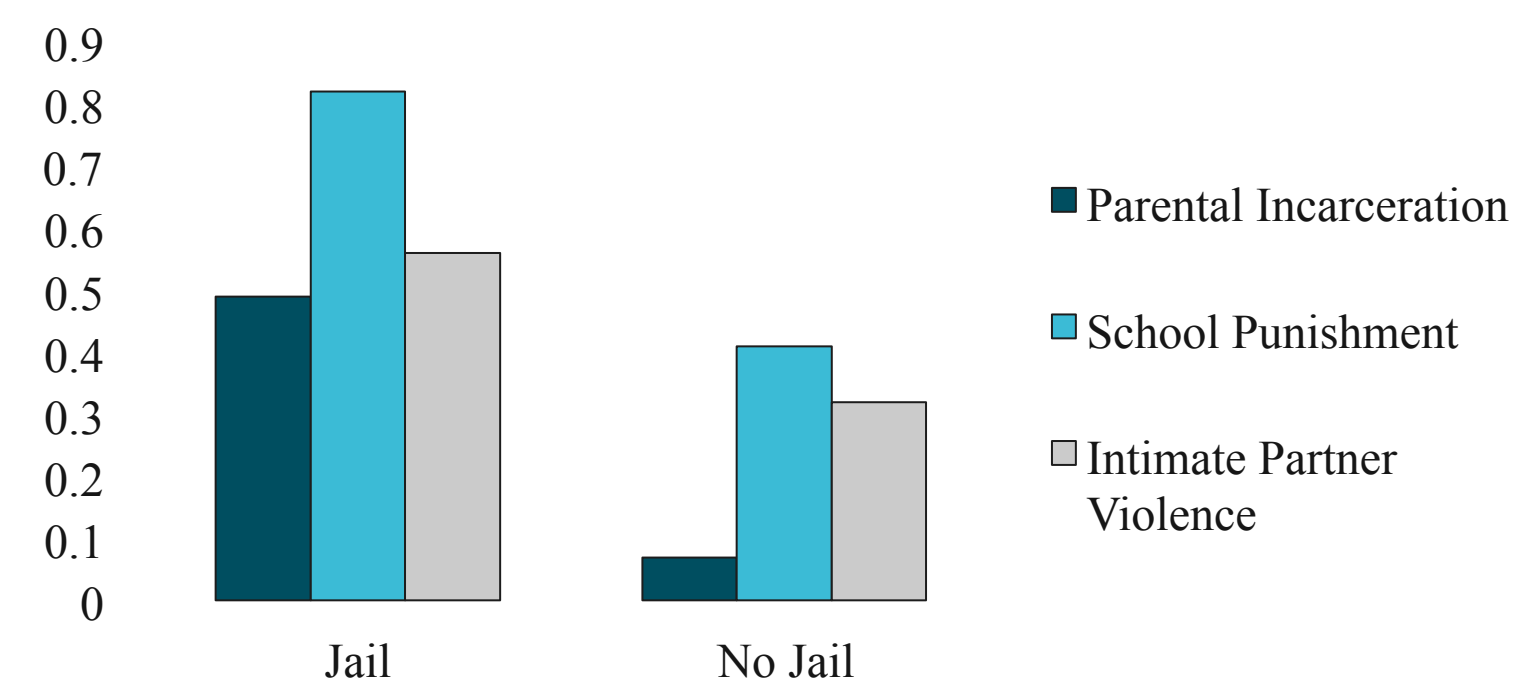

Entry into Jail

Figure 2. Risk Factor Averages by Jail Experience
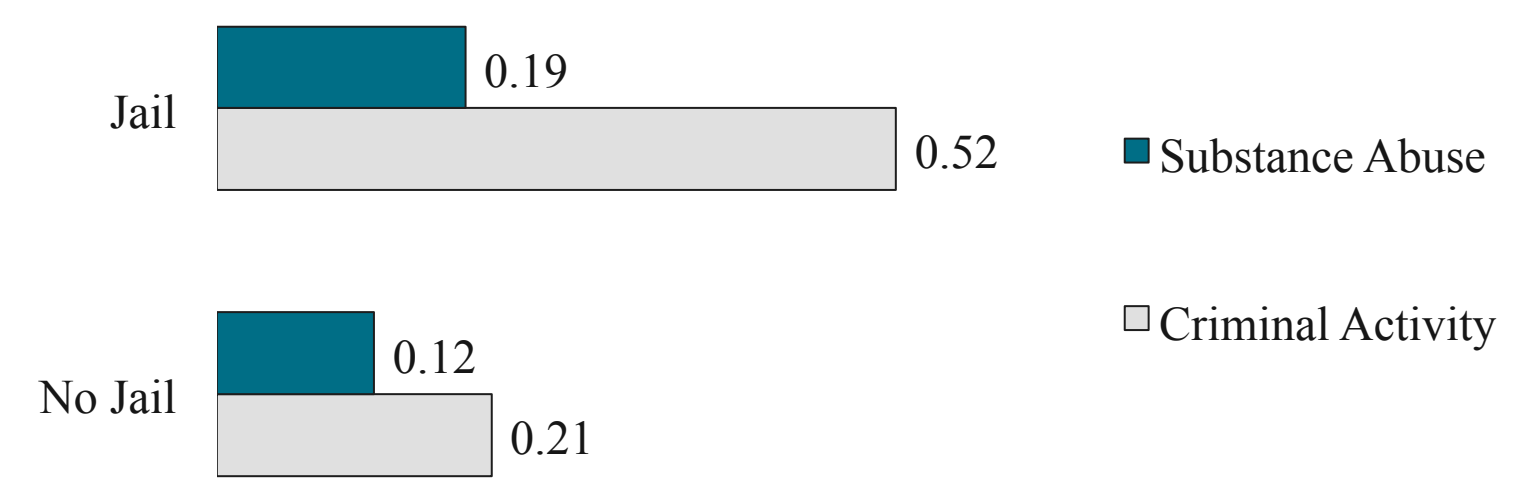

Figure 3. Risk Factor Averages by Jail Experience

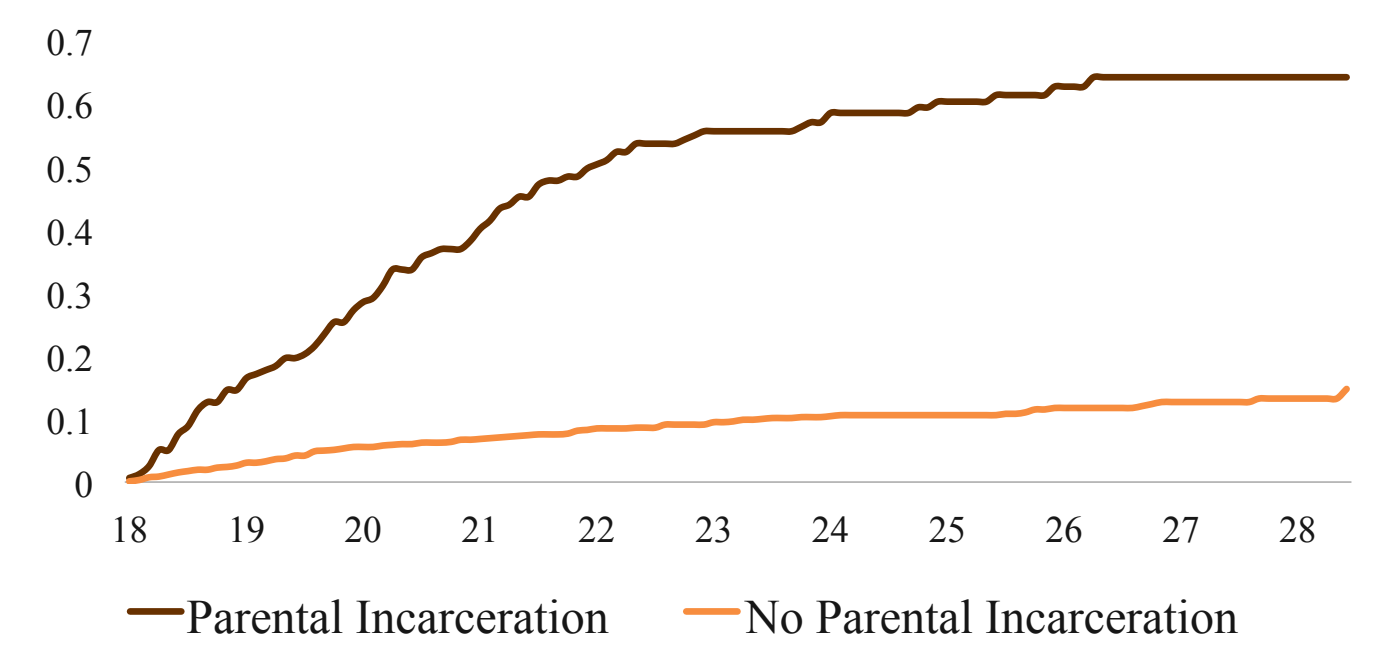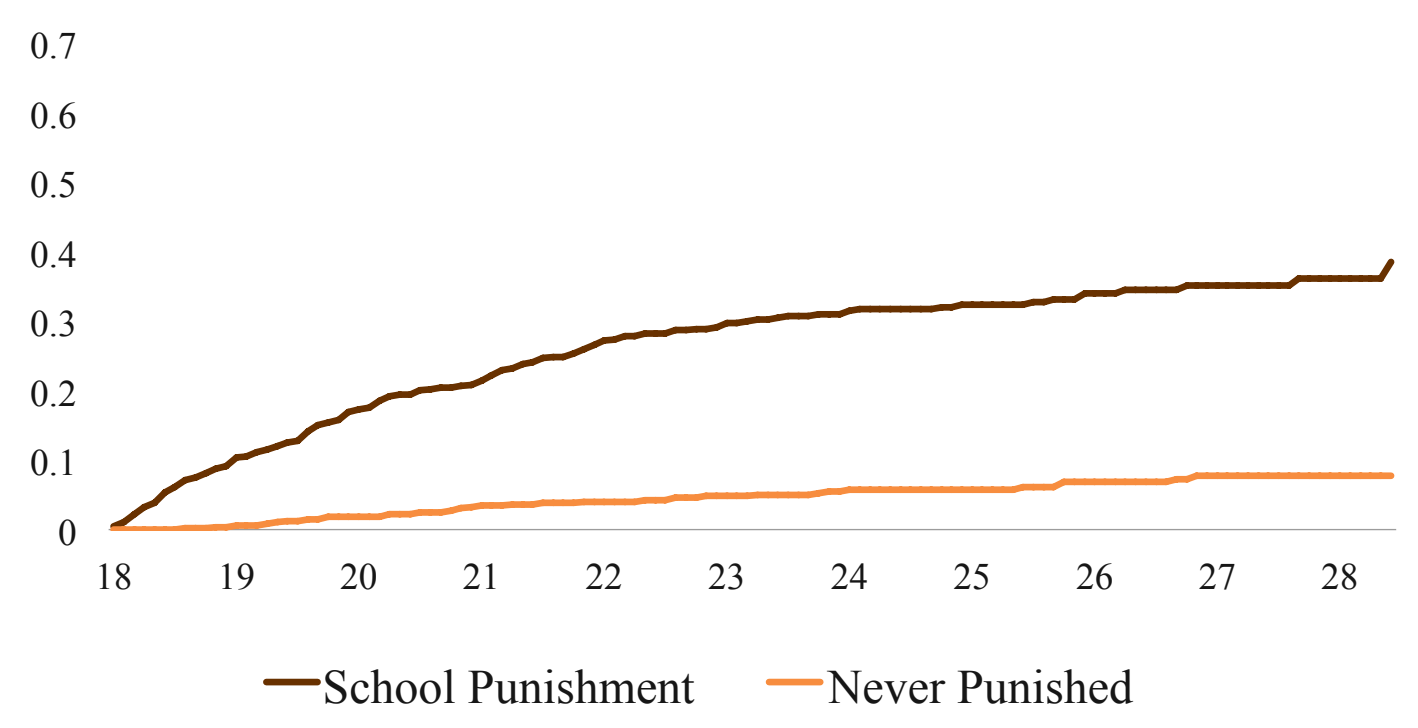Figure 4. Probability of Jail by Parental Incarceration Status

Figure 5. Probability of Jail by School Punishment Status

Analyses

Table 1. Discrete-Time Logistic Regressions Predicting Odds of Jail

Variable	Zero Order	Model 2	Model 3
Parental Incarceration	7.94***	3.97***	3.83***
School Punishment	6.39***	3.22***	3.08***
Substance Abuse	2.34***	1.17	1.18
Criminal Activity	1.89***	1.33**	1.31*
Intimate Partner Violence	2.30***	1.44*	1.41*
County Jail Rates	1.00*	1.00	.99
Concentrated Disadvantage	1.13***	1.07***	1.06***
Gainful Activity	0.50***		.79*

We control for age and age squared in each model
Person Months=152753

Table 2. Discrete-Time Logistic Regressions Predicting Odds of Jail

Variable	Model 4	Model 5[a]	Model 6[b]
Parental Incarceration	4.10***	3.52***	3.23***
School Punishment	2.99***	2.44***	2.23***
Criminal Activity	1.27*	1.16	1.15
Intimate Partner Violence	1.47**	1.49**	1.47**
Concentrated Disadvantage	1.07***	1.06***	1.02
Gainful Activity	0.78*	.77*	.78*
Dating	0.62*	.68*	.66**
Cohabiting	0.54*	.63†	.63†
Married	0.20*	.29†	.28†
Black			2.33***

We control for age, age squared, jail rates, and substance abuse in each model
[a]Controls for gender and family structure
[b]Controls for gender, family structure, and Hispanic. White is the reference

Discussion

Summary

- Accounting for prior behaviors and context, individuals who experienced parental incarceration or school punishment were significantly more likely to go to jail

Implications

- Parental incarceration and school punishment have distinct effects unrelated to behavior and context
- More research is needed to understand unique effects
- Policy cannot solely focus on behaviors or context