

# 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 individual's first time in jail

## Research Questions and Data

- Does parental incarceration or school punishment increase risk of jail?
- 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

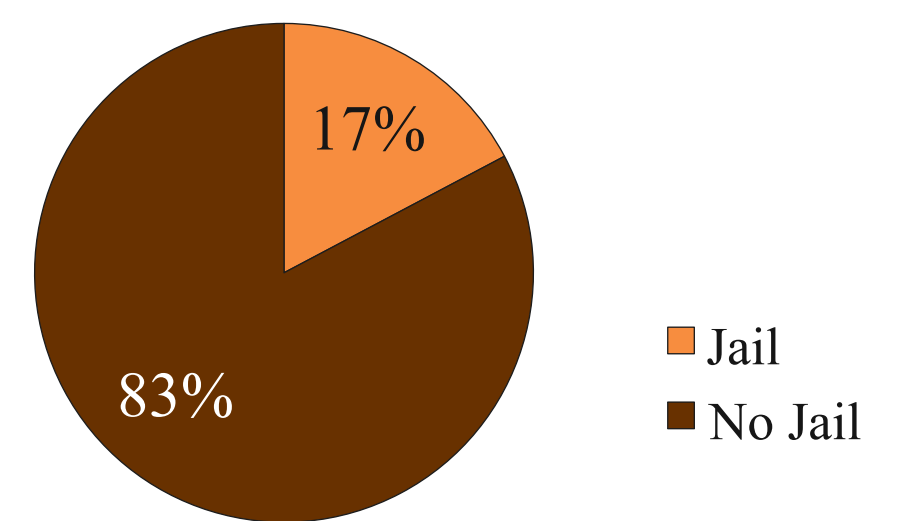


Figure 2. Risk Factor Averages by Jail Experience

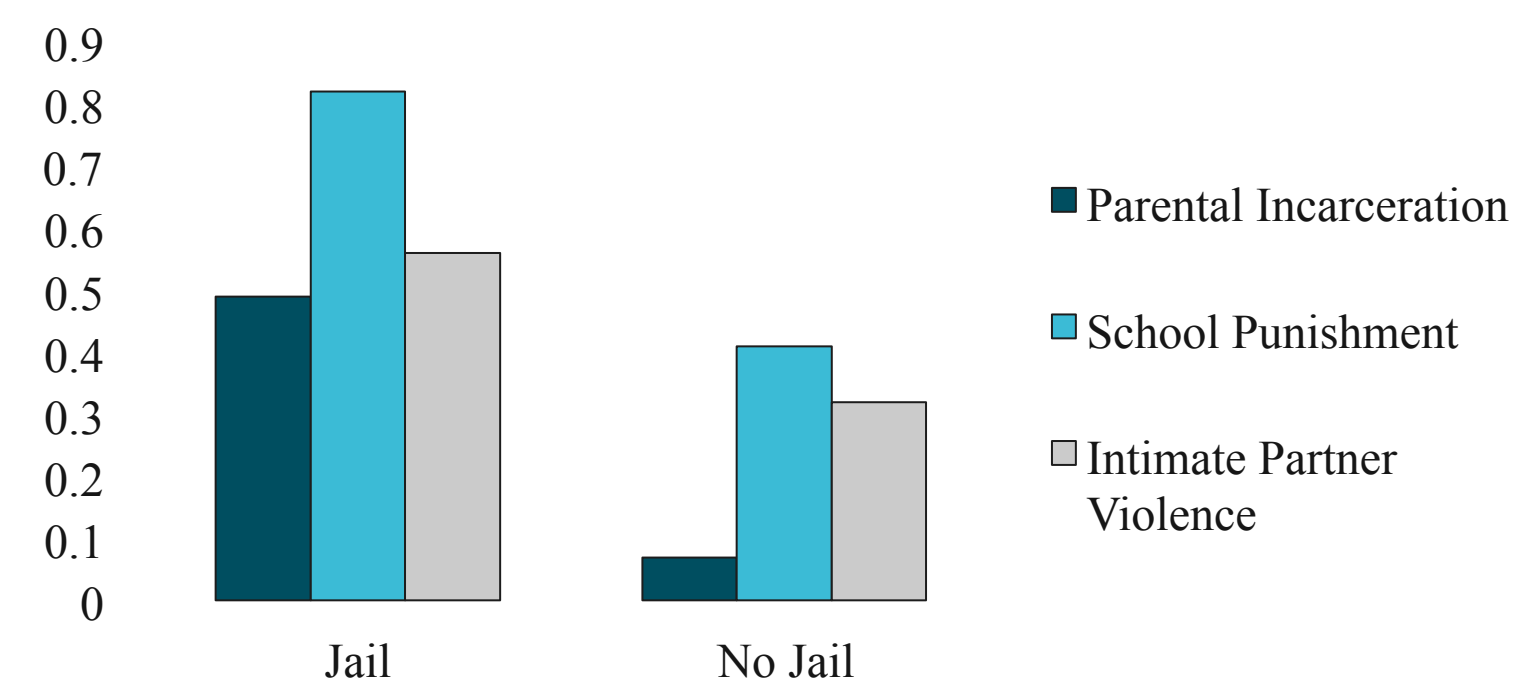
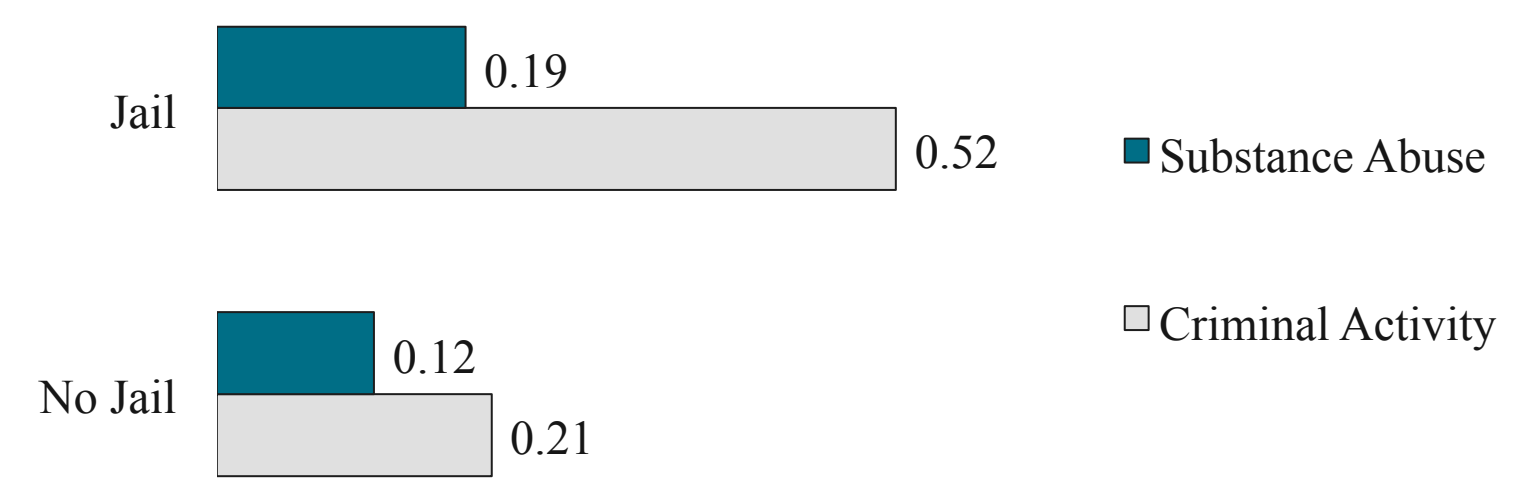


Figure 3. Risk Factor Averages by Jail Experience



## Entry into Jail

Figure 4. Probability of Jail by Parental Incarceration Status

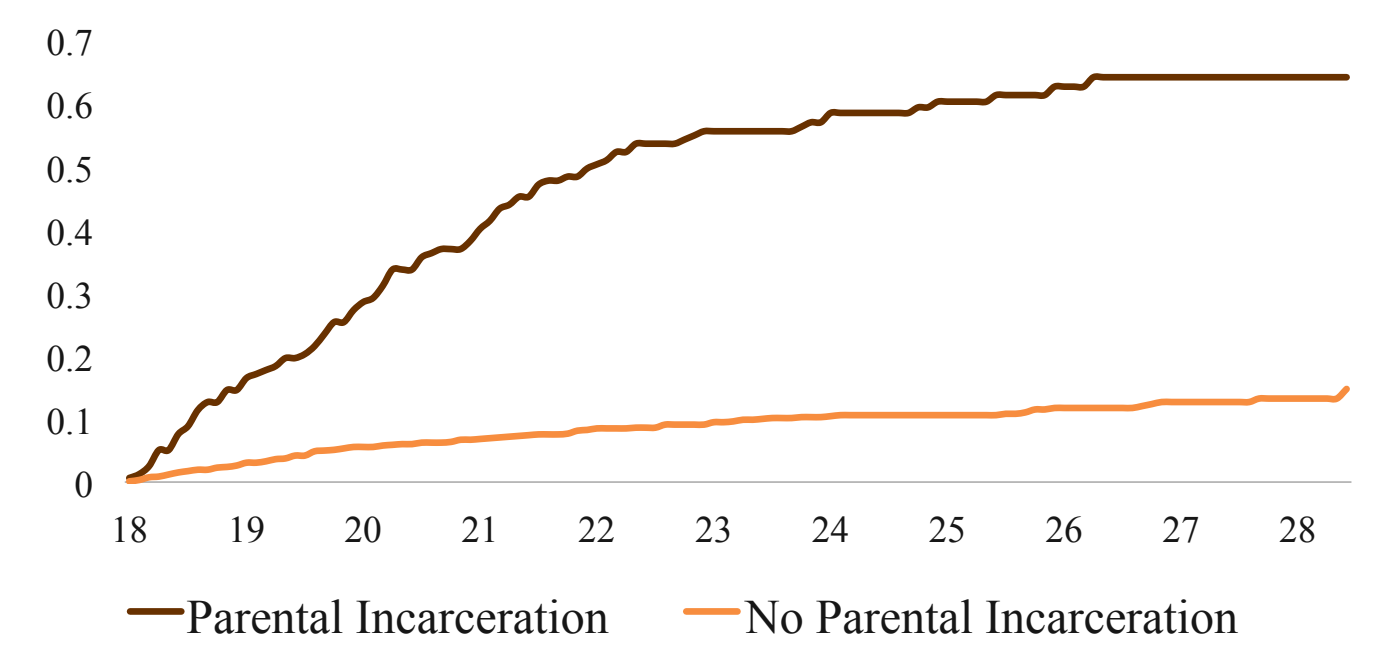
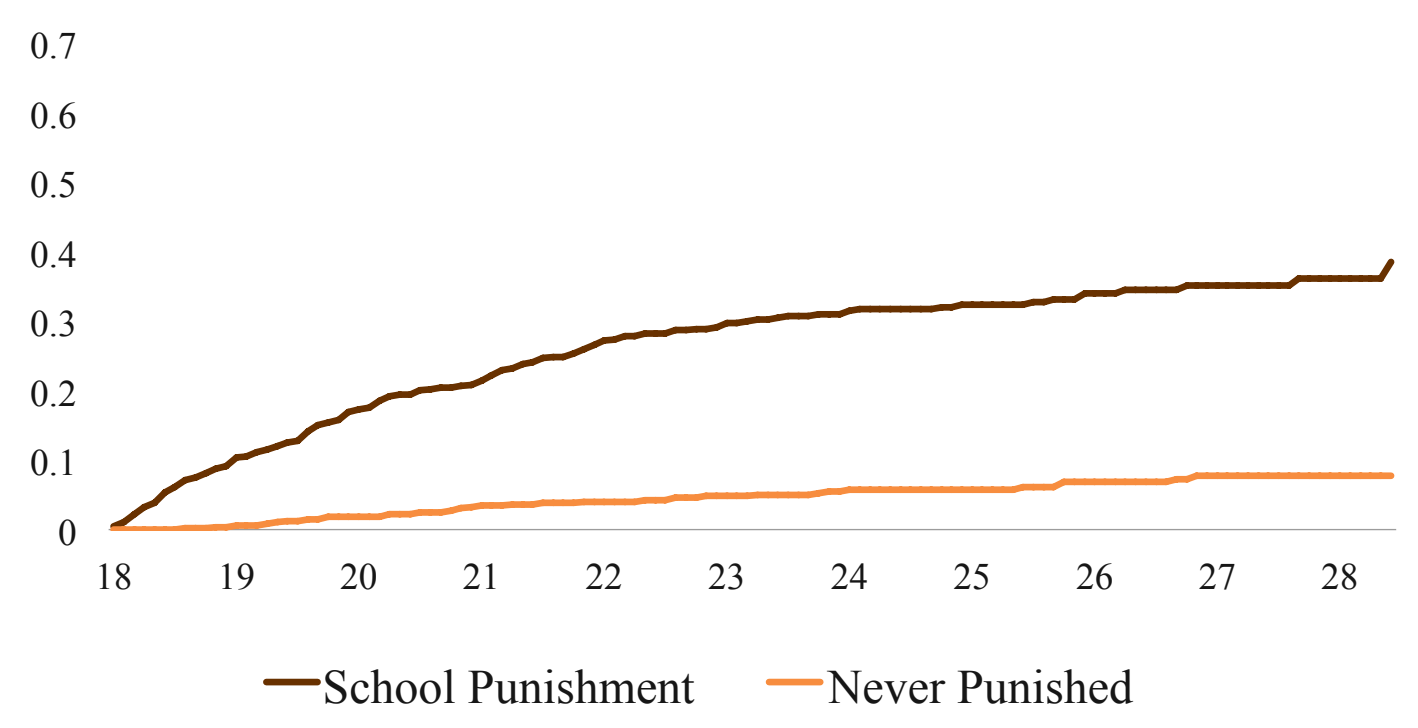


Figure 5. Probability of Jail by School Punishment Status



## 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 <sup>a</sup> | Model 6 <sup>b</sup> |
|---------------------------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 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  
<sup>a</sup>Controls for gender and family structure  
<sup>b</sup>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

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