

SHARING INFORMATION AND ALIGNING
GOALS ACROSS SYSTEMS:

THE USE OF LOCAL JAIL DATA TO IMPLEMENT
SUCCESSFUL JAIL REDUCTION POLICIES

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Key Attributes of the Jail

- Admissions x LOS = Jail Population
- High volume of admissions/and releases (about 10 million per year)
- Significant number of multiple bookings per year
- Low Length of Stay – LOS (about 23 days per release)
- Skewed distribution – large number of releases with short LOS and very few with very long LOS (over a year) – but they occupy most of the beds
- The jail population is the result of decisions by others:
 - Defendants/Offender
 - Police
 - Defense Counsel
 - Prosecutor
 - Courts
 - Other county/state agencies

The Two Key jail Data Files You Need

1. Snapshot of the Current Jail Population
 2. The last 12 months of Jail Releases – why?
 - Seasonality
 - Measure most current trends
- Key variables (about 20) in each data file
 - I.D. and Demographic (DOB, Gender, Race, Ethnicity)
 - Current charges/offenses/bail amounts
 - Inmate classification/security data
 - Pretrial Risk Assessment data
 - Mental Health Flags
 - Booking date, Current Date, Release Date
 - For Release File –Method of Release
 - One part-time researcher who knows a excel and a statistical package (e.g., SPSS, SAS, etc.)

Attribute	Number	Percent	Average Length of Stay (days)
Total	658	4.0%	61.1
Gender			
Female	100	15.2%	47.7
Male	558	84.8%	63.5
Race/Ethnicity			
Asian	1	0.2%	13.3
Black	347	52.7%	64.6
White	287	43.6%	56.8
Hispanic	21	3.2%	74.2
Unknown	2	0.3%	43.0
Age at Booking			
17-24	145	22.0%	14.7
26-34	250	38.0%	15.7
35-44	151	22.9%	16.7
45 and Older	112	17.0%	16.7

Admission Type	Number	Percent	Average Length of Stay (days)
Pretrial	335	50.9%	51.3
Sentenced	257	39.1%	66.7
Hold-Parole Violator	8	1.2%	11.2
Hold-State Prisoner	18	2.7%	70.7
Hold-Other Jurisdiction	30	4.6%	31.8
Hold-In Transit	10	1.5%	140.3
Legal Status at Booking			
Pretrial only	335	50.9%	51.3
Sentenced only	257	39.1%	66.7
Other	66	10.0%	89.2

Attribute	Number	Percent	Average Length of Stay (days)
Total	16,366	100.0%	15.9
Gender			
Female	3,903	23.8%	9.9
Male	12,462	76.1%	17.8
Missing/Unknown	1	0.0%	0.2
Race/Ethnicity			
Asian	8	0.0%	16.2
Black	8,253	50.4%	7.0
White	7,802	47.7%	14.2
Hispanic	220	1.3%	29.5
Unknown	83	0.5%	29.1
Age at Booking			
17-24	3,446	21.1%	14.7
26-34	6,279	38.4%	15.7
35-44	3,559	21.7%	16.7
45 and Older	3,082	18.8%	16.7

Attribute	
Total Jail Releases	16,366
Total Number of Persons Released	12,974
Persons with one release	9,834
Persons with two releases	1,805
Persons with three releases	504
Persons with four releases	168
Persons with five or more releases	122
Length of Stay	
Average (Mean)	15.9 days
Median	1.2 days
Number releases within 24 hours	7,550
Number released between 1 and 9 days	2,859
Number released between 3 and 10 days	2,284
Number released between 10 and 30 days	1,797
Number released between 30 and 90 days	1,041
Number released over 90 days	835

Release Reason	Number	Average Length of Stay (days)	Percent of Releases	Calculated ADP
Total	16,366	15.9	100.0%	212
Bond	2,601	5.1	15.9%	36
Court Order	1,012	10.4	6.2%	29
Dismissed	704	8.9	4.3%	17
Federal Court Order	1,090	0.2	6.7%	1
Moved	2,767	37.7	16.9%	286
Normal	2,322	46.3	14.2%	294
Own Recognizance	3,095	1.7	18.9%	14
Supervised Own Recognizance	2,208	3.1	13.5%	19
Time Served	363	7.2	2.2%	7
Other	204	15.7	1.2%	9

Stress Test

- Helps you understand in greater detail your "target populations"
- Helps you understand weaknesses in data systems
- Makes you test your proposed jail reduction policies
- How is it done
 - Draw small *random* samples (about 35 in total) of target populations
 - Have detailed court and other agency data collected on the sampled cases
 - Assemble group of prepared and influential decision-makers for four hours
 - Review each case and make a decision to either divert or reduce LOS
 - Evaluate results and make adjustments to proposed policies
