

Criminal History Records Research Across Maine and Massachusetts

Study Population

- ▶ Maine and Massachusetts SACs partnered in 2018 to research sex offenders released from a Maine DOC facility between 2005 and 2019 and a Massachusetts DOC between 2009 and 2018.
- ▶ Data related to commitment and release came from the Maine and Massachusetts DOCs
 - ▶ Offenders must have had at least one sex offense associated with the initial commitment

Criminal Histories

- ▶ To analyze recidivism, IDs from the DOC commitments were then matched to criminal history records
- ▶ Criminal histories came from the Massachusetts Department of Criminal Justice Information Services and the Maine Department of Public Safety
 - ▶ SEARCH assisted in compiling the Maine DPS data

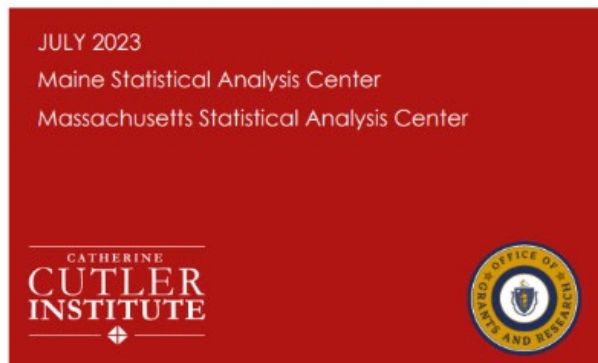
Cross-State Considerations

- ▶ Differences in ability to match DOC records with criminal histories
- ▶ Offenses are based on statutes, which differs by state
- ▶ Due to policies around when a person is sentenced to prison instead of jail, there were differences in the study population
 - ▶ e.g., Maine requires sentence lengths of greater than 9 months while Massachusetts' cutoff is 2.5 years

Final Report



RECIDIVISM AMONG SEX OFFENDERS IN MASSACHUSETTS & MAINE



- ▶ **Recidivism:** the presence of an arrest (in Maine) or arraignment (in Massachusetts) within five years of release and the arrest must have resulted in conviction
 - ▶ Recidivism rate was 43% in Maine and 25% in Massachusetts
- ▶ Used survival analysis (Cox Proportional Hazards) to attributes associated with recidivism

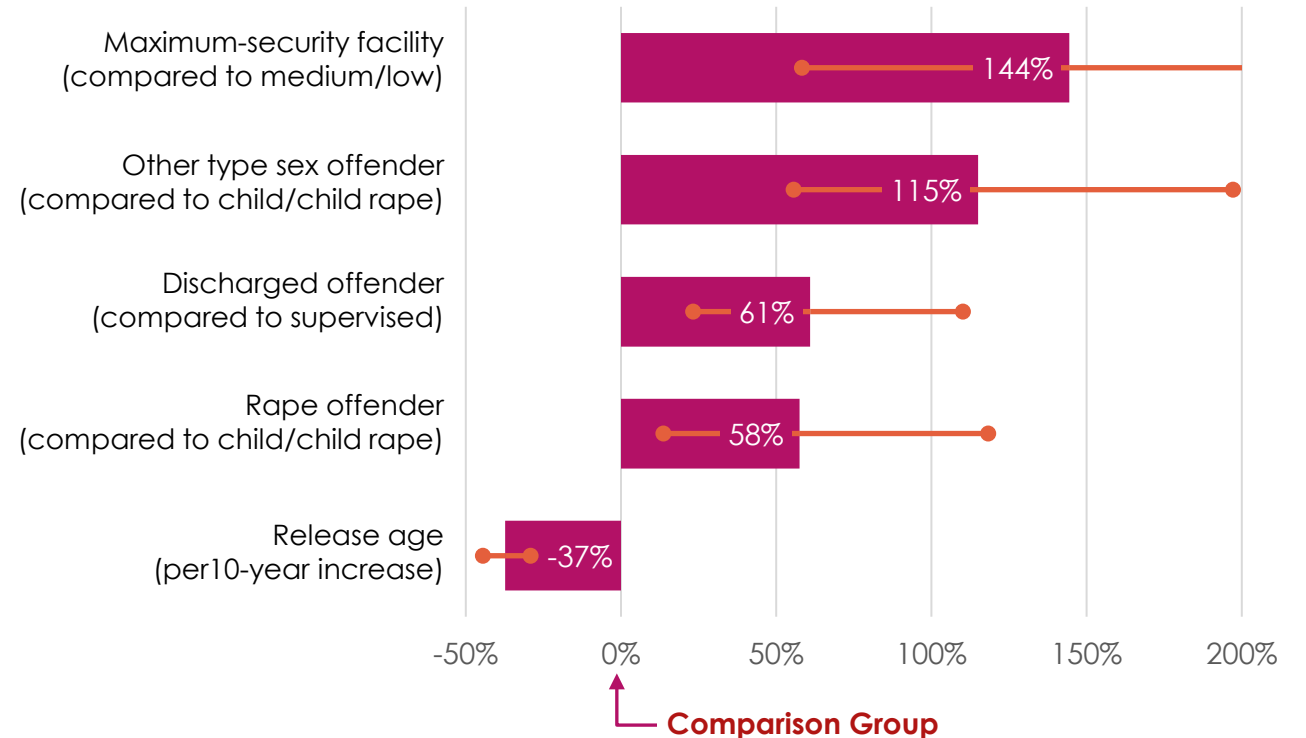
Maine Hazard Ratios

Attribute	Hazard Ratio	95% CIE
Rapist	1.168	0.861, 1.583
Other type sex offender	1.450	1.086, 1.936
Misdemeanor sex offense	1.455	1.047, 2.022
Discharged by 10-year increase in release age	0.791	0.657, 0.953
Supervised by 10-year increase in release age	0.616	0.533, 0.712



Massachusetts Hazard Ratios

Attribute	Hazard Ratio	95% CIE
Rape offender	1.576	1.14, 2.18
Other type sex offender	2.150	1.56, 2.97
Discharged offender	1.609	1.23, 2.10
Maximum-security facility	2.444	1.58, 3.77
Release age (per 10-year increase)	0.628	0.56, 0.71



Contact Information

George Shaler
gshaler@maine.edu

Tara Wheeler
tara.wheeler@maine.edu

Find the report at mainesac.org