

Jail Visitation Policies

A Review of Minnesota



Children of Incarcerated Caregivers



Jail Visitation Policies

A Review of Minnesota

Jails



Jails are locally operated correctional facilities (i.e., operated by cities or counties) that generally confine individuals before and/or after the judicial decision or sentence, and/or house inmates for relatively short sentences. Sentences to jail are typically for misdemeanor offenses and usually last one year or less.

Background and Significance

A recent estimate suggests that nearly 7 million individuals in the U.S. are incarcerated. This estimate is more than any other country in the world (Glaze & Kaeble, 2014). Many of these individuals are parents. As of midyear 2007, 52% of state and 63% of federal inmates were parents of minor children (Glaze & Maruschak, 2008). However, these figures tell only part of the story. They do not account for parents held in jails due to the fact that such institutions do not routinely track the parental status of inmates upon intake. Thus, the number of incarcerated parents is likely higher. This means that a large number of children are experiencing or have experienced parental incarceration. Close to 2 million children in the U.S. currently have a parent in a state or federal correctional facility (Glaze et al., 2008). And more than 5 million (i.e., 1 in 14 or 7%) children had a parent go to prison or jail at some point in their lives (Murphey & Cooper, 2015). An estimated 15,000 children have experienced the incarceration of a parent in Minnesota alone (Shlafer, Gerrity, Ruhland, & Wheeler, 2013).

A substantial body of research details the negative implications of parental incarceration for child well-being. Children of incarcerated parents are more likely to have multiple risk factors and develop problematic outcomes than peers whose parents are not incarcerated. This includes mental health problems (i.e., internalizing and externalizing behaviors), academic difficulties, and criminal activity (Lee, Fang, & Luo, 2013; Murray & Farrington, 2008; Turney & Haskins, 2014; Murray, Farrington, Sekol, & Olsen, 2009; Murray, Farrington, & Sekol, 2012). According to the Bureau of Justice (BJS), the majority of mothers and nearly half of fathers reside with at least one child prior to incarceration. Approximately three-quarters of mothers and one fourth of fathers served serving as a primary caregiver prior to incarceration (Glaze et al., 2008). Following release, many of these parents will return to live with their children and resume their caregiving roles. Positive contact and healthy communication between incarcerated parents and their children can help maintain, or even enhance, the quality of the parent-child relationship (Shlafer, Loper, & Schillmoeller, 2015).



Supportive relationships and interactions are important for facilitating resilience in children with jailed parents. They may also ameliorate some of the negative outcomes associated with parental incarceration (Poehlmann & Eddy, 2013).

There is considerable variation in the frequency and type of contact that incarcerated parents can have with their children. Glaze et al. (2008) conducted computer-assisted personal interviews with parents held in federal and state prisons. Letter-writing and phone calls are the most frequent mediums of communication: an estimated 52% of parents in state prisons report having at least monthly mail contact with at least one of their children, and 38% report at least monthly phone contact. Visitation is the least common form of contact: 60% of imprisoned parents report that they never receive visits. This is likely due to barriers (e.g., transportation costs and the remote location of many facilities) families face when trying to visit an inmate.

Depending on each facility's policy, visits can take multiple forms. These include, but are not limited to: (1) face-to-face visits—also referred to as “contact visits”—in which inmates and family members meet in a common space or (2) barrier visits in which a barrier (i.e., Plexiglas) separates inmates and visitors. Although physical contact is possible in the former, it is generally not available in the latter. Recently, jails and prisons began to offer video visitation either in lieu of- or in addition to- physical or barrier visits. Similar to Skype, video visitation enables real-time visual and audio connection through a computer or secure telecommunications network. This type of visitation may or may not require families to travel to the facility. In most cases, families must pay a fee for the “visit” if they choose access outside the facility. Moreover, physical visits are more common in state and federal prisons, while barrier and video visitation are more prevalent in jails (Shlafer, Loper, & Schillmoeller, 2015).

A wealth of literature points to potential benefits of parent-child contact for inmates. Frequent visitation with family members has been associated with better post-release outcomes (Bales & Mears, 2008). Similarly, frequent phone and letter contact has been associated with less perceived parenting stress during incarceration (Loper, Carlson, Levitt, & Scheffel, 2009), and higher levels of contact during prison related to an inmate's self-reported attachment to children after release (La Vigne, Naser, Brooks, & Castro, 2005). Similarly, other studies attest to the importance of home and family connections for returning inmates (Travis, Solomon, & Waul, 2001; Visser & Courtney, 2007). This body of work provides strong evidence that family contact can be positive for inmates during incarceration and following release. However, the research on child-specific outcomes is substantially more limited, and findings related to the benefits of such contact are mixed.

In a meta-analysis on contact between children and their incarcerated parents, Poehlmann et al. (2010) argue that the effects of parent-child contact could not be generalized as good or bad; such effects are dependent on variations in the quality of visitation experiences. Other studies support this assertion.



According to Shlafer et al. (2010), caregivers and children reported problematic descriptions of personal visitation experiences, and caregivers expressed concerns about bringing children into the prison setting. Similarly, Dallaire et al. (2014) found that frequent in-person contact via barrier visitation is associated with more internalizing problems in a sample of children (7-12 years of age) visiting their jailed mothers.

Poehlmann-Tynan et al. (2014) observed young children's reactions to non-contact (e.g., barrier and video) visits in jail settings. Findings indicate positive and negative aspects to young children's experiences of video and barrier visits. All children expressed happiness when seeing their incarcerated parents and most expressed loving sentiments. However, an increase in negative affective expression was observed between the time children entered the jail and the conclusion of the visit. The longer the children were in the facility, the clingier and distressed they became (Poehlmann-Tynan et al., 2014).

The complicated nature of findings on child-specific outcomes of prison and jail visitation is indicative of the complex contexts in which these visits occur. Few facilities take children's needs into consideration in the development of their visitation practices. As a result, the visitation environment may expose children to stressors that can negatively impact the quality of the parent-child interaction. Policies and visitation types can vary by facility even within the same state's department of corrections. The same is true for jails, which are managed at the county- or city-level with a lot of administrative discretion (Boudin, Stutz, & Littman, 2013; Shlafer et al., 2015). The problem with this approach is that it results in substantial inequality in access to visitation from one facility to another. With no clear guidelines or requirements for accessibility of information about visitation policies, it may be difficult for caregivers to ensure that they are adhering to the facility rules required to make the visit happen. More troubling is the fact that lack of information does not allow caregivers to adequately prepare the child for the visit. This is important because prison and jail visiting environments can be scary for young children (Shlafer et al., 2010).

Thus, there is a need for further research to identify obstacles, in policy or practice, to frequent and high quality prison and jail practices. Given the infrequent nature of parent-child visits, it is imperative that when visits do occur, they are as stress-free and meaningful as possible for caregivers and children alike. By making visitation policies and practical implementation more transparent it would create opportunities for those who participate in the visitation process to work with correctional administrators to improve outcomes for all involved.

An important step towards this goal is exploring the context in which visits occur. Given that jails have almost 19 times more annual admissions than prisons (Subramanian, Delaney, Roberts, Fishman, & McGarry, 2015), and jail inmates are more likely to receive visits than their imprisoned counterparts, we chose to focus specifically on jail visitation. This is particularly important insofar as the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) already has relatively comprehensive information regarding visitation on its website.



A multidisciplinary team of research fellows conducted a relatively comprehensive review of jail visitation policies in Minnesota's 87 counties using publicly available information on websites. The purpose of this review was to determine availability and accessibility of visitation-related information. Findings illustrate inconsistencies in jail visitation policies across Minnesota as well as a lack of easily accessible information. Results of this summary suggest a need for jail administrators to present visit-related information in a format that is accessible not only to those who make and study visitation policies but also to those whose personal relationships are so profoundly affected by them: inmates and their families.

Introduction

A review of jail visitation policies in Minnesota was designed and executed with three goals in mind: (1) gain an overview of current state visitation policies; (2) present findings, with an infographic, to community stakeholders, and; (3) make policy recommendations to facilitate child-friendly visits. Understanding these policies is critical because they impact not only inmates and their families, but also facility personnel. These summary findings are organized as follows. The first part describes the methodology implemented and its limitations. The second part provides key findings, which include: (1) institutional authority over visitation; (2) type and duration of visits; (3) minor (i.e., child) visit restrictions; (4) visit approval; (5) visitor search and appearance; (6) inmate visit eligibility; (7) contact and non-contact visits; (8) family-friendly visits; (9) visitation hours; and (10) accessibility and transportation. The third part outlines next steps in better understanding visitation policies, particularly as they pertain to families, in Minnesota. The supplement consist of website screenshots of all county jails in Minnesota.

Part 1

Data Source

We reviewed publicly available information from county and sheriff websites to determine each county jail's visitation policies. Although this survey consisted of reviewing publicly available sources such as websites and directories, an effort was made to update all relevant contact information for administrators by visiting each county's respective website. This includes reviewing the most recent directory of county employees. A review of the Minnesota Sheriff's Association (www.mnsheriffs.org) directory yielded a list of jails (see Appendix A) in addition to contact information for administrators. Qualtrics (2015) was used to organize and manage data. An infographic of this report is also included (see Appendix B), in addition to, a checklist for incorporating visitation information (see Appendix C).

Limitations

The methodology that was implemented (i.e., descriptive) in this summary has a few limitations that are important to recognize.



This review did not evaluate how visitation policies are implemented at each respective facility from the perspectives of jail administrators or visitors. Given the substantial discretion allowed to corrections administrators, it is possible that publicly available (i.e., website) information on visitation policies differs in practice. Another limitation is that this review did not differentiate between facility populations, thus making it difficult to gauge how many families may be affected by each facility's specific policies. Despite these limitations, this survey provides insight into current visitation policies because it describes the publicly available information to which inmates' families have access.

Research Team

University of Minnesota

Damir S. Utržan, M.S., ABD, LAMFT
Doctoral Candidate in Family Social Science

Brian Wilson, Ph.D.
Doctorate in Philosophy

Amy Cosimini, M.A., ABD
Doctoral Candidate in Spanish and Portuguese

Claire Hepworth, B.A.
Bachelors in Sociology of Law, Criminology, and Deviance

Macalester College

Dagmara Franczak
Bachelors Student in International and Russian Studies

Part 2

Key Findings

The findings in this report come from publicly available information, specifically websites. What is concerning, however, is that important information regarding visitation policies was unavailable on many facilities' websites. An absence of publicly available information means that caregivers and their children are unable to find relevant standards and policies, and therefore may be deterred from visiting or even turned away, when they attempt to visit an inmate. Without clear information available to help visitors understand policies and protocols for visitation, visitors, including children, could be turned away from the facility, after hours and or even days dedicated to planning and traveling for a visit.

Visitor Restrictions

The number of visitors allowed varies significantly between facilities (see Figure 1 for availability of information regarding visit restrictions across jails in Minnesota). Approximately 35% of jails clearly report restrictions on the number of visitors.



For instance, Cottonwood County Jail (Windom, Minnesota) restricts visits to one per day. Rice County Jail (Faribault, Minnesota) also restrict visits but to two adults with one child or one adult with two children. Approximately 5% of jails report not restricting visits and information is unavailable for the remaining 60% of jails. It is reasonable to assume that the former (i.e., no visit restrictions) do not report visit restrictions rather than not having them altogether. It is troubling that information about restrictions on both the number of visitors and number of visits an inmate can receive is not publicly available for the majority of facilities.

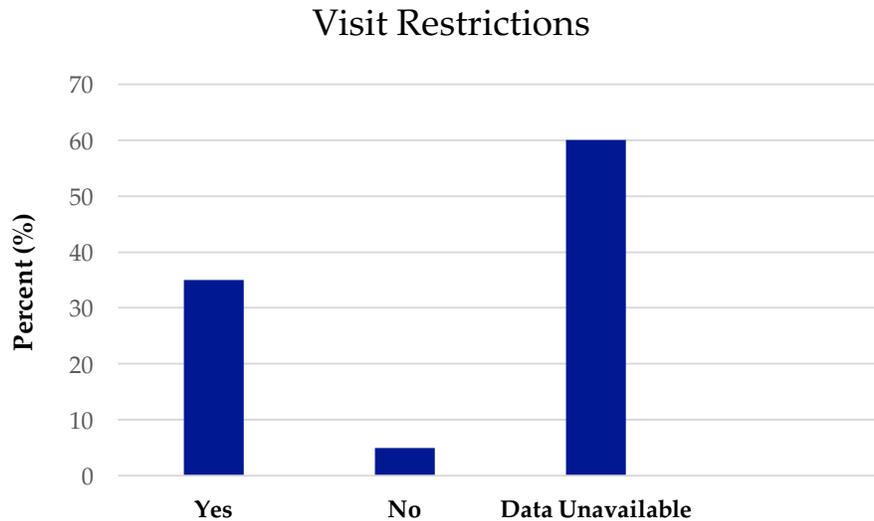


Figure 1. Availability of information on visit restrictions for jails in Minnesota.

Duration of Visits

The duration of visits allowed at Minnesota jails reportedly ranges from 15-60 minutes, though 20 minutes was the most frequently reported time allotment (see Figure 2 for visit duration restrictions for jails in Minnesota). For instance, Clearwater County Jail (Bagley, Minnesota) limits visits to 15-minutes, whereas Clay County Jail (Moorhead, Minnesota) limits them to 60-minutes. McLeod County Jail (Glencoe, Minnesota) is an outlier in terms of duration restrictions. They limit “visiting hours...to [two-hour] time blocks for each cell block area.” *This is nearly seven times longer than the vast majority of other jails in Minnesota.*

It is important to note that reported visiting times are likely minimums subject to administrative discretion (e.g., correctional officer). As noted by a number of facility websites, visitors may be given more time pending others are not waiting. This type of administrative discretion is not available for families participating in video visits, which are often time-bound (i.e., the technology automatically stops the visit when the time is done). Moreover, these discrepancies are a problem because they do not take into consideration that visitors may not live close to the facility or have appropriate transportation, work one or more jobs with unpredictable hours, and are required to manage multiple responsibilities while raising children.



Therefore, from the perspective of the adult caring for a child of an incarcerated caregiver, the burden of arranging for a child/children to visit may outweigh the benefit of a limited visit.

Visit Duration Restrictions

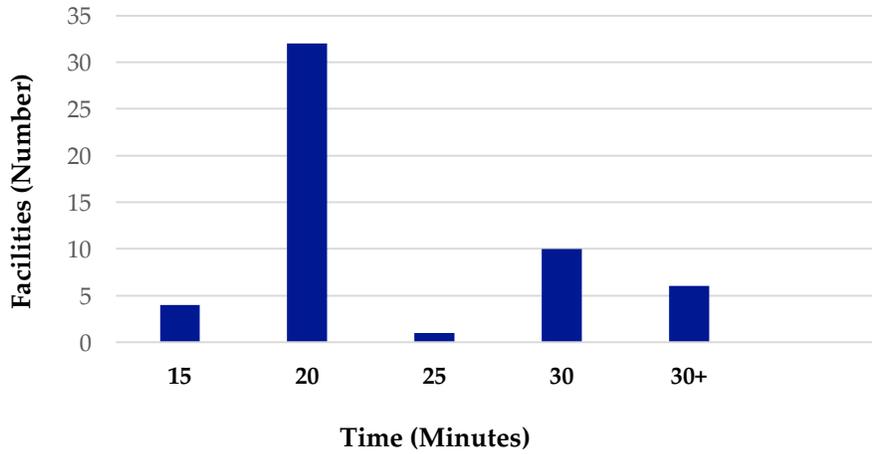


Figure 2. Visit duration restrictions for jails in Minnesota.

Minor (i.e., Child) Visit Restrictions

Nearly 55% of jails report restrictions on visitation by minors, and 3% do not. Information was unavailable for the remaining 42% of jails (see Figure 3 for visit restrictions applying to minors for jails in Minnesota).

Minor Visit Restrictions

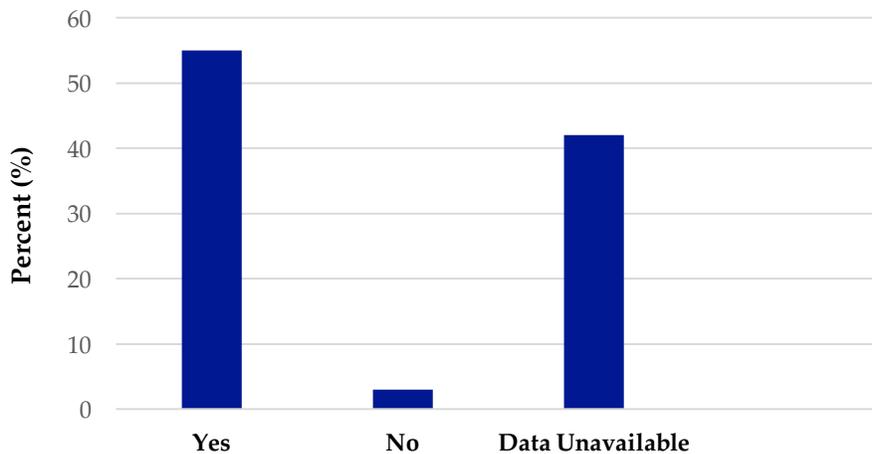


Figure 3. Minor visit restrictions for jails in Minnesota.

For instance, Kanabec County Jail (Mora, Minnesota) requires visitors to be at least 18 years of age unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Morrison County Jail (Little Falls, Minnesota) also requires minors to be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.



Compared to other facilities, Morrison County Jail requires minors to “...present a birth certificate with their parent’s name on it at time of visiting.” And Marshall County Jail (Warren, Minnesota) does not allow anyone under 18 years of age to visit. Visit restrictions for minors add considerable barriers to maintaining family relationships. When they are not clearly delineated on the facilities’ website, these policies can lead to unnecessary inconvenience and disappointment for minors to attempt to visit an incarcerated parent.

Visit Approval

Jail policies, likely aimed at maintaining security and eliminating contraband require families to apply for visitation. Approximately 33% of jails report that prior approval is required, and 25% do not have information on their site about whether approval is necessary. *Information is unavailable for the remaining 42% of jails* (see Figure 4 for visit approval requirements for jails in Minnesota). The application process for jails is unclear in terms of requirements. For instance, Kittson County Jail (Hallock, Minnesota) does not require completion of an application but requests visitors to “...please call [one] day in advance to make arrangements.” Red Wing County Jail (Red Wing, Minnesota) does not provide any visitation requirements altogether.

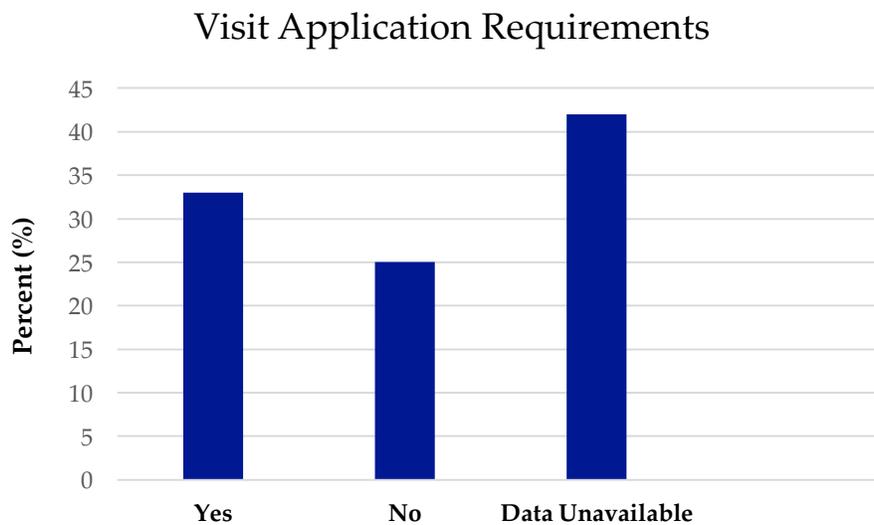


Figure 4. Visit application requirements for detention facilities in Minnesota.

Visitor Search and Appearance

Visitor Search

Jails search visitors in order to prevent contraband from entering the facility. Approximately 16% of jails report that visitor searches are required, 6% report not requiring such searches, and information about searches is unavailable for the vast majority (i.e., 78%) of jails. Visitor search requirements for jails vary. For instance, Renville County Jail (Olivia, Minnesota) does not require visitors to be searched but necessitates background and/or warrant checks. Pine County Jail (Pine City, Minnesota) also does not require visitors to be searched but does require warrant checks.



Hubbard County Jail (Park Rapids, Minnesota), on the other hand, states that “[v]isitors may be subject to a pat search and if necessary a strip search or search with a metal detector.”

Visitor Appearance

Approximately 25% of jails report that a dress code is required, 5% report that a dress code is not required, and information is unavailable for 70% of jails. This lack of information is surprising, because jails generally have some appearance requirements. Chisago County Jail (Center City, Minnesota) requires visitors to wear proper attire for the duration of the visit. They emphasize that footwear is a requirement. Freeborn County Detention Center (Albert Lea, Minnesota) is more specific in terms of appearance requirements; “Visitors cannot wear sleeveless tops, halter tops, tank tops, hats, shorts, mini-skirts/dresses, see-through clothing, or camouflage attire. Brief cut or otherwise provocative clothing will not be permitted.” They also have appearance requirements for children ten years of age and younger (e.g., “Children age [ten] or younger may not be allowed to wear shorts during visitation”). The absence of information regarding uniform policies and accessibility creates an unnecessary risk for children being turned away and not seeing their incarcerated caregiver,

Inmate Visit Eligibility

Approximately 11% of jails clearly report that special housing (e.g., solitary confinement, high-risk, etc.) inmates are eligible for visitation. This is in contrast to the 11% that report special housing inmates being ineligible for visits. Some facilities restrict visits until an inmate has been brought to court. For instance, Freeborn County Detention Center (Alberta Lee, Minnesota) makes visits contingent on first appearing before a judge (i.e., inmates are not eligible for visits immediately after arrest and detention). Information is unavailable for 78% of jails (see Figure 5 for inmate visit eligibility for jails in Minnesota). For instance, Cook County Jail (Marais, Minnesota) does not provide information on inmate visit eligibility.

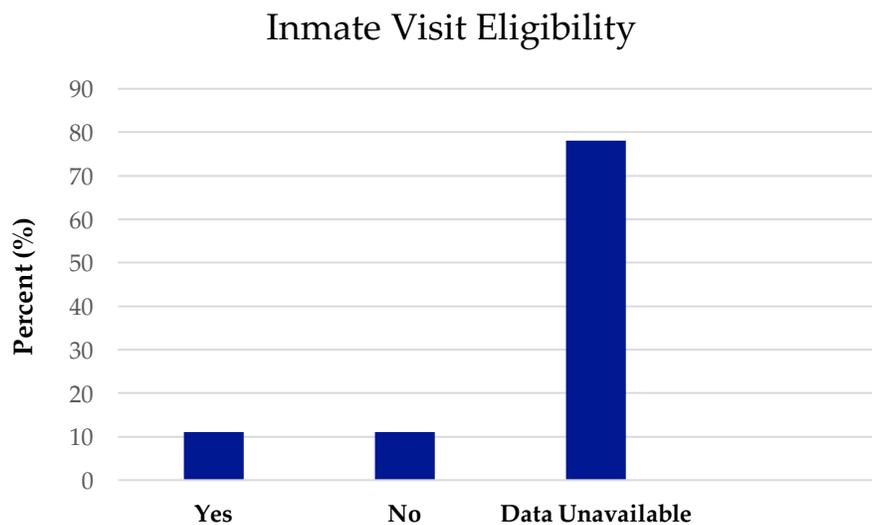


Figure 5. Inmate eligibility for visits for jails in Minnesota.



Types of Visits

Contact Visits

Contact visits, also referred to as face-to-face visits, generally allow inmates and family members to meet in a common space. Limited contact (e.g., holding hands) may be allowed, other displays of affection (e.g., kissing, hugging, etc.) is generally prohibited. Approximately 26% of jails report having contact visitation, 32% report not having contact visitation, and information is unavailable for 58% of jails. For instance, Steel County Detention Center (Owatonna, Minnesota) permits two 15-minute contact visits per day. However, it is unclear what type of specific contact visitation is permitted for most of the jails.

Non-Contact Visits

Non-contact visits, on the other hand, usually consist of being separated by a partition and communicating through a telephone or audio/video booth in a different section of the jail. Recent technological advances enable visits from home with audio/video or e-mail through Inmate Canteen (www.inmatecanteen.com) and Securus (www.securustech.com). The latter being used by Ramsey County Jail (Saint Paul, Minnesota). Approximately 71% of jails report availability of audio/video visits, 29% audio (i.e., telephone) visits, 29% partition-separated visits, 3% other visit types (i.e., home-based audio/video). Information was unavailable for 18% of jails. For instance, Fillmore County Jail (Preston, Minnesota) only permits non-contact visits unless authorized in advance by facility administrators. While limited to 20 minutes, Inmate Canteen facilitates video visits (similar to Skype) at a cost of 39¢ per minute for a total cost of approximately \$8.00. Inmates can also communicate with visitors over e-mail at a cost of 25¢ per message. Inmate Canteen mitigates a number challenges associated with contact visitations, including number of visitors, childcare, and transportation (see Figure 6 for visit types at jails in Minnesota).

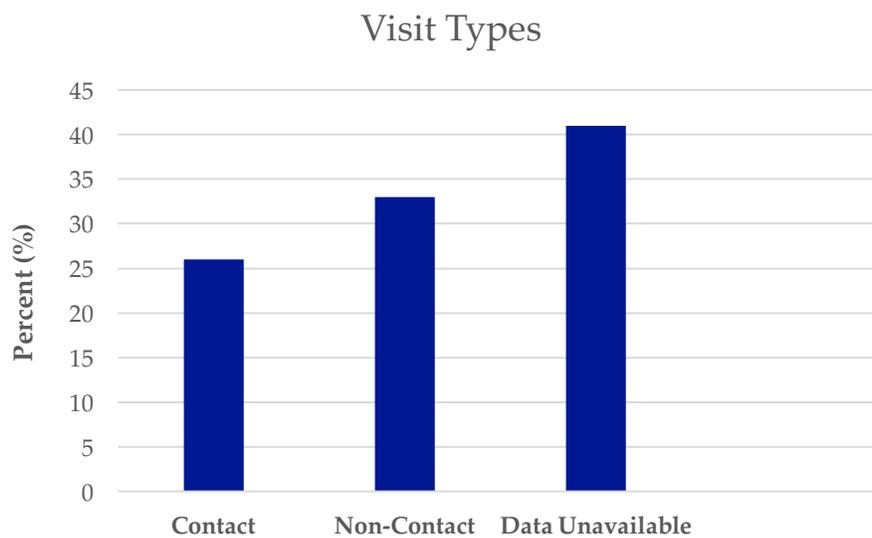


Figure 6. Visit types at detention facilities in Minnesota.



Family-Friendly Visits

Only one facility provided detailed information about child-friendly visits. Washington County Jail (Stillwater, Minnesota) dedicates an entire website to visiting information for children. They offer caregivers suggestions (e.g., “We recommend that you visit the inmate once on your own, before bringing the child”) and designate *Special Family Visiting Times* during which inmates with minor visitors receive first priority for visitations. Dr. Rebecca Shlafer of the University of Minnesota worked with Washington County to update their website, which is an example of how thoughtful, family-focused information can be presented clearly on a jail’s website.

Visitation Hours

During the week, jail visitation hours cluster around 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (Tuesday to Friday). Weekend visitation hours cluster around 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Visit restrictions reported also differed between the week and weekend. This affects children insofar as they may have to adjust their schedule (i.e., missing school) in lieu of visiting an incarcerated caregiver.

Transportation and Accessibility

Transportation

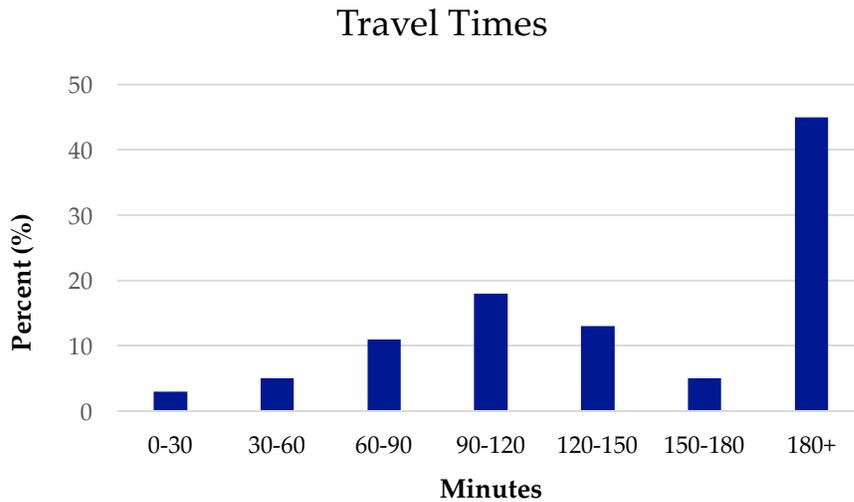


Figure 7. Travel times using public transportation for jails in Minnesota.

Visiting family members in facilities can be difficult without reliable means of transportation. Depending on the facilities’ policy, there may also be unforeseen consequences that eliminate visitation altogether (e.g., lockdowns) or other interruptions (e.g., more visitors than the facility can reasonably accommodate). As such, families are not guaranteed their visit even if they complete all required documentation and arrive early. Approximately 44% of facilities were accessible by public transportation. The remaining 56% were inaccessible.



Estimated travel times using public transportation, from the Twin Cities, ranged from 30 minutes to over three hours (see Figure 7 for estimated travel times using public transportation for jails in Minnesota). The Twin Cities were chosen as a starting point, instead of another location, given its population size and ability to compare travel times using *Google Maps*. For instance, a family traveling from the Twin Cities (Minneapolis, Minnesota) to visit an inmate at Washington County Jail (Stillwater, Minnesota) would have to take an eastbound bus with over 100 stops for nearly 2.5 hours. *The same visit with a vehicle would take approximately 33 minutes.*

Additionally, families may end up spending a few hundred dollars and preparing for a visit over several days only to find out that a jail is handicap inaccessible. Approximately 9% of facilities reported being handicap accessible or willing to offer assistance to visitors with disabilities. For instance, Itasca County Jail (Grand Rapids, Minnesota) reports that visitors with disabilities will be given assistance. The remaining 90% of facilities' websites did not contain information regarding accommodations for visitors with disabilities.

Part 3

Discussion and Policy Recommendations

Discussion

Compiling and evaluating data related to detention facility visitation policies in Minnesota was a significant undertaking, particularly given the number of facilities and lack of information publicly available. *This task provided tremendous insight into the lengths a family has to go through, and the resources necessary, to successfully plan to visit a detention facility: lengths and resources that were tasking even to researchers.* And this research does not take into consideration a myriad of other factors that could potentially interrupt or altogether cancel an already short visit. The lack of information on some of the jail websites could leave caregivers and children unable to navigate visitation policies. While some county jail websites had thorough information about visitation policies and could prepare family for a visit and what to expect, other websites severely lacked even basic information for caregivers to figure out what they needed to do in order to visit an incarcerated parent. Additional research should evaluate how these policies affect families and facility administrators. A combination of quantitative (i.e., survey) and qualitative (i.e., interviews) research strategies would further elucidate how family visitations and current policies contribute to- or detract from- promoting and protecting the parent-child relationship of incarcerated caregivers.

Implications

This review's findings have several implications for jail visitation policymakers. The administrators at each facility, regardless of whether it is a prison, jail, or workhouse, have substantial discretion to implement policies. Detention facilities in Minnesota should have a mechanism to implement consistent visitation policies, or at the very least, ensure that the same type of information about visits is consistently available.

Jail Visitation Policies



Facilities' websites should make an effort to provide clear, comprehensive information about visiting policies for prospective visitors. This could include information directed towards caregivers to help them prepare their minor children for the visit. Easily accessible, transparent visitation policies would allow inmates' families to maximize contact with their loved ones and avoid the anger and frustration of being turned away for a visit. In turn, this may promote institutional security and make visits less chaotic for corrections officers. This survey is the first step in a lengthy process to ensure that incarceration does not negatively affect those least responsible: children.

References

- Bales, W.D., & Mears, D.P. (2008). Inmate social ties and the transition to society: Does visitation reduce recidivism? *Journal of Research in Crime & Delinquency*, 45, 87-321.
- Boudin, C., Stutz, T., & Littman, A. (2013). Prison visitation policies: A fifty state survey. *Yale Law & Policy Review*, 32(1), 149-189.
- Dallaire, D.H., Zeman, J., & Thrash, T. (2014). Differential effects of type of children's contact with their jailed mothers and children's behavior problems. In J. Poehlmann-Tynan (Ed.), *Children's contact with incarcerated parents: Implications for policy and intervention. Advances in child and family policy and practice*. New York: Springer
- Subramanian, R., Delaney, R., Roberts, S., Fishman, N., & McGarry, P. (2015). Incarceration's front door: The misuse of jails in America. Retrieved from www.vera.org/pubs/special/incarcerations-front-door-misuse-jails-america
- Glaze, L. & Maruschak, L. (2008)ents in prison and their minor children. Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice. Retrieved from www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/pptmc.pdf.
- Glaze, L. & Kaeble, D. (2014). Correction populations in the United States, 2013. Bureau of Justice Statistics, Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice. Retrieved from www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cpus13.pdf.
- La Vigne, N.G., Naser, R.L., Brooks, L.E., & Castro, J.L. (2005). Examining the effect of incarceration and in-prison family contact on prisoners' family relationships. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, 21(4), 314-335.
- Loper, A.B., Carlson, L.W., Levitt, L., & Scheffel, K. (2009). Parenting stress, alliance, child contact, and adjustment of imprisoned mothers and fathers. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 48(6), 483-503.
- Murphey, D., & Cooper, P. M. (2015, October). Parents behind bars: What happens to their children? (Rep.). Retrieved July 1, 2016, from Child Trends website: www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/2015-42ParentsBehindBars.pdf



- Murray, J., & Farrington, D. P. (2008). Parental imprisonment: Long-lasting effects on boys' internalizing problems through the life course. *Development and Psychopathology, 20* (1), 273–290.
- Murray, J., Farrington, D. P., Sekol, I., & Olsen, R. F. (2009). Effects of parental imprisonment on child antisocial behavior and mental health: A systematic review. *Campbell Systematic Reviews, 4*, 1–105. Oslo, Norway: Campbell Collaboration.
- Poehlmann, J., & Eddy, J. M. (Eds.) (2013). Relationship processes and resilience in children with incarcerated parents. *Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development, 78*(3), 75–93.
- Shlafer, R.J., Loper, A.B., & Schillmoeller, L. (2015). Is parent-child contact during parental incarceration beneficial? In J. Poehlmann-Tynan (Ed.), *Children's contact with incarcerated parents: Implications for policy and intervention. Advances in child and family policy and practice*. New York: Springer.
- Shlafer, R.J., Gerrity, E., Ruhland, E., & Wheeler, M. (2013). Children with incarcerated parents – Considering children's outcomes in the context of family experiences. *Children's Mental Health eReview*. Retrieved from: www.extension.umn.edu/family/cyfc/our-programs/ereview/docs/June2013ereview.pdf
- Qualtrics. (2015). Provo, UT: Qualtrics, Inc.

Appendix A

Jails in Minnesota and Administrator Contact Information

Facility	Administrator	Contact
Aitkin County Jail	Debbie Hamilton	deb.hamilton@co.aitkin.mn.us
Anoka County Jail	David Pacholl	dave.pacholl@co.anoka.mn.us
Becker County Jail	Randy Hodgson	rkhodgs@co.becker.mn.us
Beltrami County Jail	Cindy Borowski	cindy.borowski@co.beltrami.mn.us
Benton County Jail	Susan Johnson	susan.johnson@co.benton.mn.us
Big Stone County Jail	John Haukos	john.haukos@co.big-stone.mn.us
Blue Earth County Jail	Kevin Sorensen	kevin.sorensen@blueearthcountymn.gov
Brown County Jail	Mike Mathiowetz	mike.mathiowetz@co.brown.mn.us
Carlton County Jail	Paul Coughlin	paul.coughlin@co.carlton.mn.us
Carver County Jail	Reed Ashpole	rashpole@co.carver.mn.us
Cass County Jail	Joel Norenberg	joel.norenberg@co.cass.mn.us
Chippewa County Jail	Dale Johnson	djohnson@co.chippewa.mn.us
Chisago County Jail	Brandon Thyen	bjthyen@co.chisago.mn.us
Clay County Jail	Julie Savat	julie.savat@co.clay.mn.us
Clearwater County Jail	Clarence LaCroix	clarence.lacroix@co.clearwater.mn.us
Cook County Jail	Judy Siverson	judy.sivertson@co.cook.mn.us
Cottonwood County Jail	Kristi Sell	kristi.sell@co.cottonwood.mn.us
Crow Wing County Jail	Heath Fosteson	heath.fosteson@crowwing.us
Dakota County Jail	Jodi Roloff	jodi.rolloff@co.dakota.mn.us
Steele County Detention Center	Ron Hammann	ron.hammann@co.steele.mn.us
Douglas County Jail	Brian Rubenstein	brian.m.rubenstein@state.mn.us
Faribault County Jail	Joe Anderson	N/A
Fillmore County Jail	Jaime Fenske	jfenske@co.fillmore.mn.us
Freeborn County Detention Center	Mike Stasko	mike.stasko@co.freeborn.mn.us
Goodhue County Jail	Brian Coleman	brian.coleman@co.goodhue.mn.us
Grant County Jail	Dwight Walvatne	dwight.walvatne@co.grant.mn.us
Hennepin County Jail	Mike Wresh	mike.wresh@hennepin.us
Houston County Jail	Mark Schiltz	mark.schiltz@co.houston.mn.us
Hubbard County Detention Center	Joe Henry	jhenry@co.hubbard.mn.us
Isanti County Jail	Denis Valentyn	dennis.valentyn@sheriff.co.isanti.mn.us
Itasca County Jail	Lucas Thompson	lucas.thompson@co.itasca.mn.us
Jackson County Jail	Gary Reif	gary.reif@co.jackson.mn.us
Kanabec County Jail	Joanne Nelson	joanne.nelson@co.kanabec.mn.us
Kandiyohi County Jail	Matt Akerson	3303@co.kandiyohi.mn.us
Kittson County Jail	Kelly Kukowski	kkukowski@so.co.kittson.mn.us



Appendix A Cont.

Jails in Minnesota and Administrator Contact Information

Facility	Administrator	Contact
Koochiching County Jail	Pete Kalar	pete.kalar@co.koochiching.mn.us
La Qui Parle County Jail	Kevin Sorensen	kevin.sorensen@blueearthcountymn.gov
Lake County Jail	Steve Olson	steve.olson@co.lake.mn.us
Lake of the Woods County Jail	Sandy Peterson	sandy_p@co.lake-of-the-woods.mn.us
Le Sueur County Jail	Ryan Overn	movern@co.le-sueur.mn.us
Lincoln County Jail	Linda Sorensen	lsorensen@co.lincoln.mn.us
Lyon County Jail	Brad Marks	bradmarks@co.lyon.mn.us
Mahnomen County Jail	Misty Amberg	misty.amberg@co.mahnomen.mn.us
Marshall County Jail	James Duckstad	jim.duckstad@co.marshall.mn.us
Martin County Jail	Mark Geerdes	mark.geerdes@co.martin.mn.us
McLeod County Jail	Kate Jones	katherine.jones@co.mcleod.mn.us
Meeker County Jail	Joshua Berg	joshua.berg@co.meeker.mn.us
Mille Lacs County Jail	Mike Smith	mike.smith@co.mille-lacs.mn.us
Morrison County Jail	Scott MacKissock	scottm@co.morrison.mn
Mower County Jail	Robert Roche	rsroch@co.mower.mn.us
Murray County Jail	Donna Mollema	dmollema@co.murray.mn.us
Nicollet County Jail	Joel Polzin	jpolzin@co.nicollet.mn.us
Nobles County Jail	Monette Berkevich	msoderholm@co.nobles.mn.us
Norman County Jail	Jeremy Thornton	jeremy.thornton@co.norman.mn.us
Olmsted County Detention Center	Brian Howard	howard.brian@co.olmsted.mn.us
Ottertail County Detention Center	Richard Akerman	rakerman@co.otter-tail.mn.us
Pennington County Jail	Susan Halverson	shalverson@penningtonsheriff.org
Pine County Jail	Rick Boland	rick.boland@co.pine.mn.us
Pipestone County Jail	Ed Scholten	ed.scholten@co.pipestone.state.mn.us
Polk Tri-County Jail	Andrew Larson	andrew.larson@co.polk.mn.us
Pope County Sheriff	Tim Riley	tim.riley@co.pope.mn.us
Ramsey County Jail	Joe Paget	joe.paget@co.ramsey.mn.us
Redwood County Jail	Jim Hildenbrandt	jim_h@co.redwood.mn.us
Renville County Jail	Elaine Johnson	elaine_j@co.renville.mn.us
Rice County Jail	Carol Holinka	cholinka@co.rice.mn.us
Rock County Jail	Evan Verbrugge	evan.verbrugge@co.rock.mn.us
Roseau County Jail	Matt Restad	matt.restad@co.roseau.mn.us
Scott County Jail	Doug Schnurr	dschnurr@co.scott.mn.us
Sherburne County Jail	Brian Frank	brian.frank@co.sherburne.mn.us
Sibley County Jail	Aaron Louwagie	aaronl@co.sibley.mn.us



Appendix A Cont.

Jails in Minnesota and Administrator Contact Information

Facility	Administrator	Contact
St. Cloud City Jail	Brett Mushatt	brett.mushatt@ci.stcloud.mn.us
St. Louis County Jail	Robyn Wojciechowski	wojor@stlouiscountymn.gov
Stearns County Jail	Mark Maslonkowski	mark.maslonkowski@co.stearns.mn.us
Stevens County Jail	Jason Dingman	jasondingman@co.stevens.mn.us
Swift County Jail	Tracy Koosman	tracy.koosman@co.swift.mn.us
Todd County Jail	Scott Wright	scott.wright@co.todd.mn.us
Traverse County Detention Center	Mary Theisen	mary.theisen@co.traverse.mn.us
Wabash County Jail	Charlene Rickard	crickard@co.wabasha.mn.us
Wadena County Detention Center	Bill Cross	bill.cross@co.wadena.mn.us
Waseca County Jail	Tim Kinniry	tim.kinniry@co.waseca.mn.us
Washington County Jail	Chuck Yetter	chuck.yetter@co.washington.mn.us
Watonwan County Jail	Gene Brown	gene.brown@co.watonwan.mn.us
Wilkin County Jail	Matthew Brodina	mbrodina@co.wilkin.mn.us
Winona County Jail	Steven Buswell	sbuswell@co.winona.mn.us
Wright County Jail	Patrick O'Malley	patrick.omalley@co.wright.mn.us
Yellow Medicine County Jail	Kathy Busack	kathy.busack@co.ym.mn.gov



Appendix B

Infographic of Summary Report

Jail Visitation Policies

A Survey of Minnesota

87
Counties

87
Jails

1 in 6 Minnesota Children Experience Parental Incarceration

10,000
Minnesota Children with Incarcerated Parents

Compared to their counterparts, children of incarcerated parents have more internalizing problems (e.g., anxiety and depression), externalizing problems (e.g., oppositional defiant disorder and conduct disorder), and long-term physical problems (e.g., asthma and migraines).

Visit Restrictions

Response	Percentage
Yes	35%
No	5%
N/A	60%

Visit Time Restrictions

Time (Minutes)	Percent (%)
15	~5%
20	~32%
25	~1%
30	~10%
30+	~5%

Unclear Visitor Appearance Requirements

70%

Unclear Visitor Search Requirements

78%

Pre-Visit Approval Requirement

Response	Percentage
Yes	33%
No	25%
N/A	42%

Unclear Restrictions for Special Housing Inmates

78%

Weekday jail visitation hours cluster around 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (Tuesday and Friday).
Weekend visitation hours cluster around 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm.

A family traveling from the Twin Cities (Minneapolis, Minnesota) to visit an inmate in Washington County Jail (Stillwater, Minnesota), would have to take an eastbound bus with over 100 stops for nearly 2.5 hours.

The same trip would take approximately 33 minutes by car.

Children of Incarcerated Caregivers

Sources
Minnesota Department of Education. (MDE; 2016). Minnesota student survey. Retrieved from www.education.state.mn.edu.
Utrzan, D.S., Wilson, B., Cosimini, A., Hepworth, C., & Franczak, D. (2016). Jail visitation policies: A review of Minnesota. Minneapolis, MN: Children of Incarcerated Caregivers.

www.cicmn.org



Appendix C



Visitation Information: Jail Website Checklist

Category	Guiding Question(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit Hours	What are the visiting hours, including family-specific hours?
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit Type	What types of visits are available (e.g., video, glass barrier, contact, etc.)? Are images of the visiting area available?
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit Waiting Period	What are the average waiting periods? What days/times are busiest?
<input type="checkbox"/> Visitation Waiting Room Resources	What is/not allowed in the waiting room? What, if any, resources for children are provided (e.g., toys)?
<input type="checkbox"/> Visitation Waiting Room Accessibility	Is the waiting room handicap accessible (e.g., power-assist doors)? Is storage available (e.g., lockers)? If so, what is the fee? Are child-related items allowed in the waiting room (e.g., strollers)?
<input type="checkbox"/> Application Requirements	Are applications required for visiting an inmate? If so, what is the application process?
<input type="checkbox"/> Inmate Visitation Eligibility	Are any inmates (e.g., solitary confinement) ineligible for visits?
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit Cancellation Policies	Under which, if any, circumstances are visits subject to cancellation?
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit Procedure(s)	Are visitors required to present identification? If so, which forms of identification are acceptable? Are visitors restricted to biological relatives (e.g., children) or legal relationships (e.g., spouse)? What are the search procedure(s)? What, if any, are the penalties for violating visit policies or procedures? Are visitors allowed to use the restroom during visits? Is the number of visitors restricted? Is the number of visits an inmate can receive restricted?
<input type="checkbox"/> Prohibited Items	What, if any, items are prohibited in the facility?
<input type="checkbox"/> Visitor Dress Code	Is there a dress code for visitors? If so, what is it?
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Transportation	If available, what is the closest public transportation (e.g., bus) station?
<input type="checkbox"/> Child-Friendly Information	Are there resources for families and children? Is there a link to Sesame Street's <i>Little Children, Big Challenges: Incarceration</i> toolkit?

