



Juveniles Charged as Adults in Maryland
1/1/16 – 6/30/16
CP 10-219(b)(6)
HB 943 / Ch. 252, 2002

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BACKGROUND

During the 2002 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly passed *House Bill 943, Chapter 252*. The bill requires the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository (CJIS) to report information to the Maryland Justice Analysis Center on data pertaining to juveniles charged as adults in Maryland. More specifically, CJIS must report the gender, race, and age of each juvenile charged as an adult. By June 30 and December 31 of each year, the Maryland Justice Analysis Center shall report to the Governor, and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, on the results of its research, evaluation, and statistical analysis on this matter. In 2007, the Maryland Justice Analysis Center was re-located to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention and was renamed the Maryland Statistical Analysis Center (Center), which is responsible for completing these semi-annual reports.

METHODOLOGY

The most recent report includes data received from CJIS on juveniles charged as adults in Maryland from January 1 – June 30, 2016.

RESULTS

Demographics

From January 1 – June 30, 2016, a total of 323 juveniles were charged as adults in Maryland. Tables 1-6 depict the demographic characteristics of juveniles charged as adults. The vast majority of juveniles charged as adults were male (91%), African American (81.1%) and either 16 or 17 years of age (96.6%).

Table 1. Race/Ethnicity of Juveniles Charged as Adults		
Race	Frequency	Percent
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	.3%
African American	262	81.1%
White	58	18%
Unknown	2	.6%
Total	323	100.0%

Table 2. Gender of Juveniles Charged as Adults		
Gender	Frequency	Percent
Males	294	91%
Females	29	9%
Total	323	100.0%

Table 3. Age of Juveniles Charged as Adults		
Age	Frequency	Percent
8	2	0.6%
14	4	1.2%
15	5	1.5%
16	61	18.9%
17	251	77.7%
Total	323	100.0%

Table 4. Ethnicity/Race of Juveniles Charged as Adults by Gender			
Race	Male	Female	Total
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	0	1
% within Ethnicity/Race	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%
African American	246	16	262
% within Ethnicity/Race	83.7%	55.2%	81.1%
White	45	13	58
% within Ethnicity/Race	15.3%	44.8%	18%
Unknown	2	0	2
% within Ethnicity/Race	.7%	0.0%	0.6%
Total	294	29	323
Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 5. Age of Juveniles Charged as Adults by Ethnicity/Race					
Age	American Indian/ Alaska Native	African American	White	Unknown	Total
8	0	2	0	0	2
% within Ethnicity/Race	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%
14	0	1	3	0	4
% within Ethnicity/Race	0.0%	0.4%	5.2%	0.0%	1.2%
15	0	2	3	0	5
% within Ethnicity/Race	0.0%	0.8%	5.2%	0.0%	1.5%
16	0	50	11	0	61
% within Ethnicity/Race	0.0%	19.1%	19.0%	0.0%	18.9%
17	1	207	41	2	251
% within Ethnicity/Race	100%	79.0%	70.7%	100.0%	77.7%
Total	1	262	58	2	323
Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 6. Age of Juveniles Charged as Adults by Gender			
Age	Male	Female	Total
8	2	0	2
% within Gender	0.7%	0.0%	0.6%
14	4	0	4
% within Gender	1.4%	0.0%	1.2%
15	4	1	5
% within Gender	1.4%	3.4%	1.5%
16	53	8	61
% within Gender	18%	27.6%	18.9%
17	231	20	251
% within Gender	78.6%	69.0%	77.7%
Total	294	29	323
Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Offense Type

Maryland law provides that juveniles who commit certain offenses must be charged as adults. These exclusionary offenses are listed below:

Juveniles 14 years and older

- First Degree Murder
- First Degree Rape
- First Degree Sex Offense
- Any attempts or conspiracies to commit the above offenses

Juveniles 16 years and older

Serious Violent Offenses

- Abducting, Kidnapping
- Second Degree Murder (and Attempted)
- Manslaughter (except Involuntary)
- Second Degree Rape (and Attempted)
- Second Degree Sex Offense (and Attempted)
- Third Degree Sex Offense (and Attempted)
- Armed Robbery (and Attempted)
- Carjacking or Armed Carjacking
- First Degree Assault

Firearms Offenses

- Wear, Carry, or Transport Handgun
- Use of a Handgun or Antique Firearm in the Commission of a Crime, Use of a Machine Gun in a Crime of Violence
- Use of a Machine Gun for Aggressive Purposes

- Possession of Unregistered Short-barreled Shotgun or Short-barreled Rifle
- Restrictions on Possession of a Regulated Firearm
- Restrictions on Sale, Rental, or Transfer of a Regulated Firearm
- Sale, Transfer, or Disposal of Stolen Regulated Firearm

As seen in Table 7, overall, 77.7% of juveniles charged as adults during the first half of 2016 were charged with exclusionary offenses that prohibited them from being charged in a juvenile court. Armed Robbery and First Degree Assault were the two most common exclusionary offenses.

Table 7. Juveniles Charged as Adults by Exclusionary Offense Type		
8-15 Years Old	Number	Percentage of Total in Age Group
1st Degree Murder	1	100.0%
1st Degree Rape	0	0.0%
1st Degree Sex Offense	0	0.0%
Total Number Age 8-15 with Exclusionary Offenses	1	9.1%
Total Number of Juveniles Charged as Adults Age 8-15	11	100.0%
16-17 Years Old		
Armed Robbery (attempted)	102	40.8%
Assault (1st degree)	58	23.2%
Carjacking	23	9.2%
Handgun Possession	24	9.6%
Handgun Use in a Violent Crime	3	1.2%
Kidnapping	0	0.0%
Manslaughter	0	0.0%
Murder (1st, 2nd, and attempted)	18	7.2%
Rape (1st, 2nd, and attempted)	5	2.0%
Regulated Firearm Possession	14	5.6%
Sex Offense (1st, 2nd, 3rd, and attempted)	3	1.2%
Total Number Age 16-17 with Exclusionary Offenses	250	80.1%
Total Number of Juveniles Charged as Adults Age 16-17	312	100.0%
All Juveniles		
Total Number All Ages with Exclusionary Offenses	251	77.7%
Total Number of Juveniles Charged as Adults	323	100.0%

According to Table 9, there was a slight difference between the percentages of male and female juveniles who were charged with exclusionary offenses (86.2% and 76.9% respectively). As

shown in Table 8, African American juveniles were more likely to be arrested and charged with an exclusionary offense than white juveniles (80.2% compared to 69%).

Table 8. Juveniles Charged with Exclusionary Offenses by Race		
Race	Frequency	Percent
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0 of 1	0.0%
African American	210 of 262	80.2%
White	40 of 58	69.0%
Unknown	1 of 2	50.0%
Total	251 of 323	77.7%

Table 9. Juveniles Charged with Exclusionary Offenses by Gender		
Gender	Frequency	Percent
Males	226 of 294	76.9%
Females	25 of 29	86.2%
Total	251 of 323	77.7%

Pursuant to *House Bill 943, Chapter 25 of 2002*, the Center will continue to receive data from CJIS on juveniles charged as adults and submit semi-annual reports on its research, evaluation, and statistical analysis of these findings.