



**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH,
AND VICTIM SERVICES**

**Juveniles Charged as Adults in Maryland
(7/1/2020 - 12/31/2020)**

*Criminal Procedure Article § 10-219(b)(6); EX ORD
01.01.2020.02/Ch. 11, 2020*

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Introduction

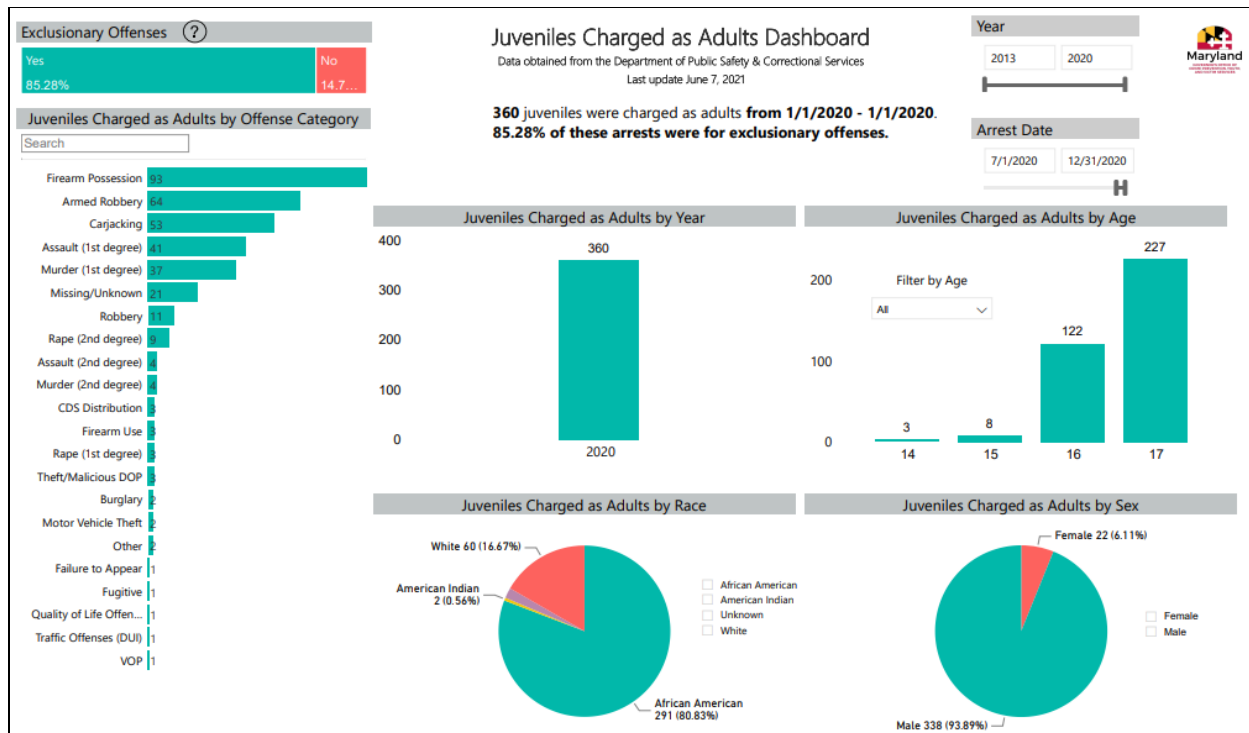
Chapter 252 of 2002 (House Bill 943), *Juvenile Justice - Criminal History Record Information - Dissemination*, required the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository (CJIS) to report information to the Maryland Justice Analysis Center on data pertaining to juveniles charged as adults in Maryland, to include the gender, race, and age of each.¹ It also required the Maryland Justice Analysis Center to report to the Governor and the General Assembly by June 30 and December 31 of each year, on the results of its research, evaluation, and statistical analysis on this matter. In 2007, the Maryland Justice Analysis Center moved to the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (previously known as the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention²) and was renamed the Maryland Statistical Analysis Center (Center). Given this change, and pursuant to § 10-219(b)(6) of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Center shall submit the semi-annual reports to the Governor and the General Assembly.

Juveniles Charged as Adults

In accordance with § 10-219(b)(6) of the Criminal Procedure Article, this *Juveniles Charged as Adults* report provides specific information on juveniles charged as adults in Maryland between July 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. As illustrated on the following page, the *Juveniles Charged as Adults Dashboard* includes aggregate data from CJIS.

¹ Maryland General Assembly. (2002). [Chapter 252 of 2002 \(House Bill 9443\). Juvenile Justice - Criminal History Record Information - Dissemination.](#)

² Maryland General Assembly. (2020). [Chapter 11. Acts of 2020.](#) In March 2020, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention was renamed the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services.

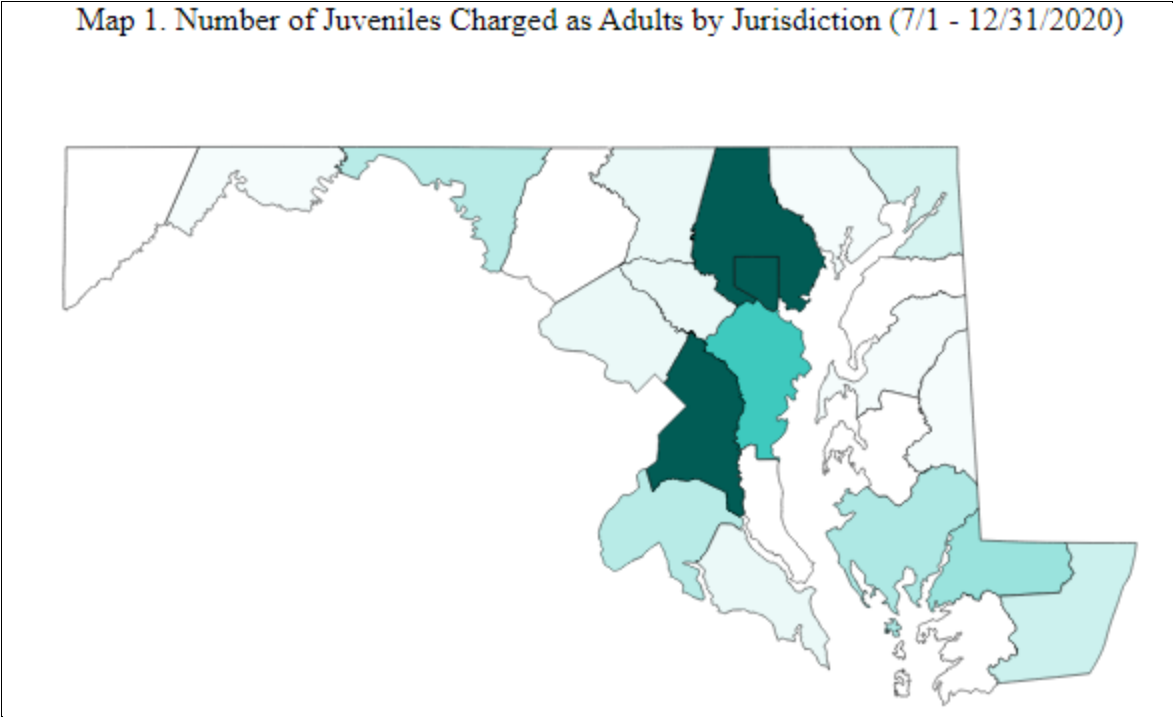
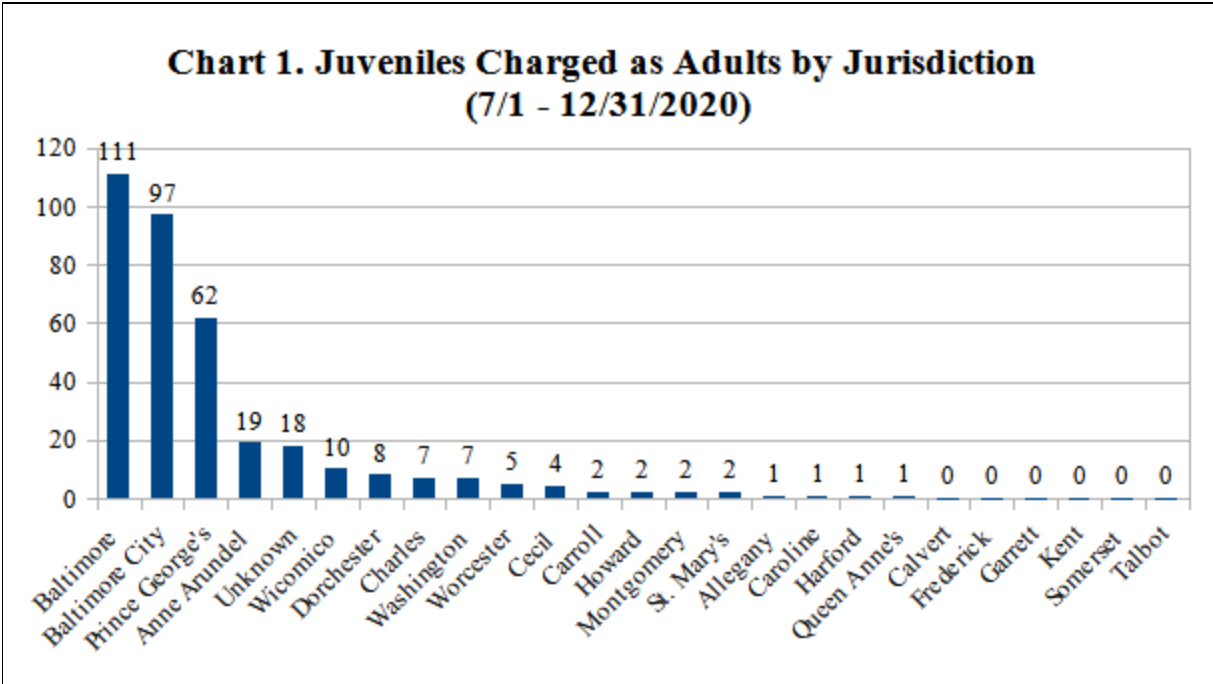


Demographics

Between July 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020, a total of 360 juveniles were charged as adults in Maryland. The vast majority were male (93.9%) and between the age of 16 and 17 years old (96.9%). Most juveniles charged as adults were African American (80.8%), followed by White (16.7%) and unknown race (1.9%). Less than 1% of the juveniles were American Indian. Please see the depiction above.

Jurisdiction

As illustrated on the following page, **Chart 1. Juveniles Charged as Adults by Jurisdiction** and **Map 1. Number of Juveniles Charged as Adults by Jurisdiction** illustrates the number of juveniles charged per jurisdiction. The majority of juveniles charged as adults, between July 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020, occurred within five jurisdictions: Baltimore County (n = 111), Baltimore City (n = 97), Prince George's County (n = 62), Anne Arundel County (n = 19), and Wicomico County (n = 10). Eighteen arrests also occurred in which the jurisdiction field was missing and, as a result, were coded as unknown.



Offense Type

Maryland law provides that juveniles who commit certain offenses must be charged as adults. These exclusionary offenses include the following:

<i>Juveniles 14 Years and Older</i>	<i>Juveniles 16 Years and Older</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First degree murder ● First degree rape ● First degree sex offense ● Any attempts or conspiracies to commit the above offenses 	<u>Serious Violent Offenses</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Abduction ● 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
	<u>Firearms Offenses</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 illustrated above in the *Juveniles Charged as Adults Dashboard*, over 85% of juveniles that were charged as adults during the second half of the 2020 calendar year, were charged with exclusionary offenses that prohibited them from being charged in a juvenile court. Firearm possession, armed robbery, and carjacking were the most common exclusionary offenses.

As shown in *Table 1. Juveniles Charged with Exclusionary Offenses by Race*, there was a minimal difference between African American (85.6%) and White (86.6%) juveniles on the number of exclusionary offense arrests. *Table 2. Juveniles Charged with Exclusionary Offenses by Gender* indicates a small difference between male and female juveniles who were charged with exclusionary offenses.

Table 1. Juveniles Charged with Exclusionary Offenses by Race		
Race	Frequency	Percent
African American	249 of 291	85.6%
American Indian	1 of 2	50.0%
White	52 of 60	86.6%
Unknown	5 of 7	71.4%
Total	307 of 360	85.3%

Table 2. Juveniles Charged with Exclusionary Offenses by Gender		
Gender	Frequency	Percent
Males	289 of 338	85.5%
Females	18 of 22	81.2%
Total	307 of 360	85.3%

As shown below, *Table 3. Juveniles Charged with Exclusionary Offenses by Top Five Jurisdictions* illustrates the percentage of all juveniles, within the top five jurisdictions, who were charged with an exclusionary offense.

Table 3. Juveniles Charged with Exclusionary Offenses by Top Five Jurisdictions		
Jurisdiction	Frequency	Percent
Baltimore County	91 of 111	82.0%
Baltimore City	94 of 97	96.9%
Prince George's County	59 of 62	95.2%
Anne Arundel County	17 of 19	89.5%
Wicomico County	0 of 10	0.0%

Trends

As indicated in *Table 4. Juveniles Charged as Adults Statistics by Year (2015 - 2020)*, the number of juveniles charged as adults decreased by 14.4% between 2015 to 2017, then increased by 34.6% in 2018 and another 3.3% in 2019, and finally decreased by 20.3% in 2020. The percentage of juveniles charged with exclusionary offenses also increased from 80% of all arrests in 2015 to 83.3% of all offenses in 2020. In addition, there was little variation in the demographic make-up of these juveniles over the same period.

Table 4. Juveniles Charged as Adults Statistics by Year (2015 - 2020)						
Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total juveniles charged as adults	798	756	683	919	949	756
% African American	80.6%	78.6%	78.8%	78.8%	80.7%	80.4%
% White	17.4%	19.6%	19.3%	19.3%	16.9%	16.8%
% Male	90.5%	91.9%	92.2%	91.2%	89.9%	92.7%
% Under 16	4.4%	3.0%	5.4%	4.6%	4.8%	3.6%
Charged with exclusionary offenses	80.0%	78.8%	79.0%	79.3%	79.2%	83.3%

Conclusion

Pursuant to § 10-219(b)(6) of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Center will continue to receive data from CJIS on juveniles charged as adults and will submit semi-annual reports to the Governor and the General Assembly as it relates to the results of its research, evaluation, and statistical analysis on this matter.