



# **Juveniles Charged as Adults in Maryland**

**7/1 - 12/31/2017**

**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 relocated 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.

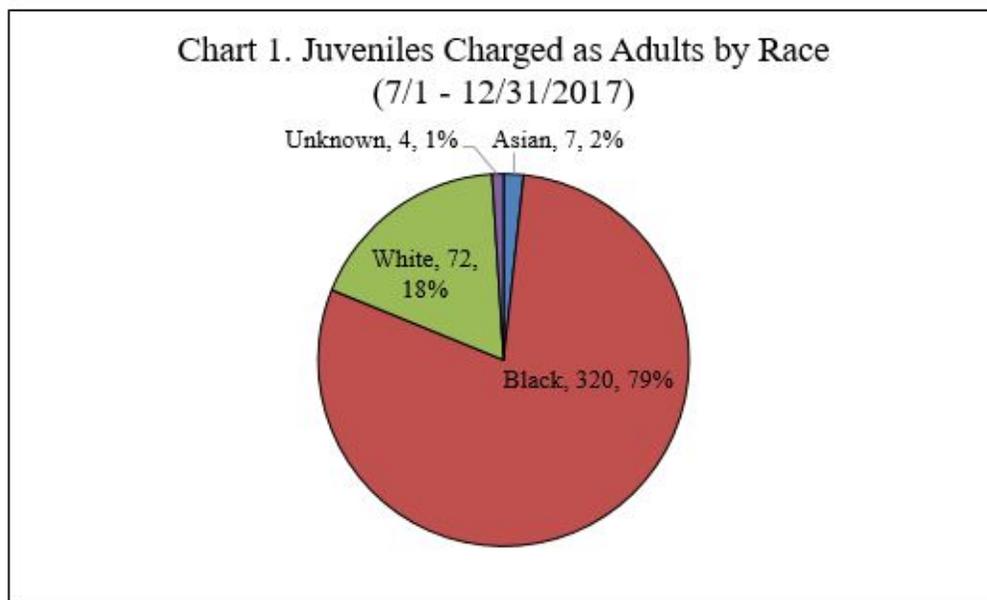
## METHODOLOGY

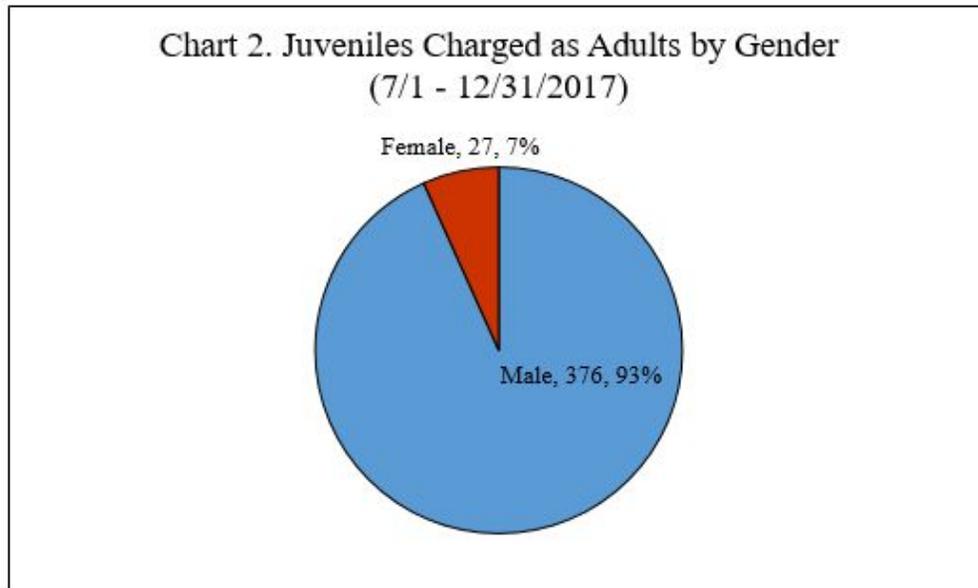
The most recent report includes data received from CJIS on juveniles charged as adults in Maryland from July 1 – December 31, 2017.

## RESULTS

### Demographics

From January 1 – December 31, 2017, a total of 403 juveniles were charged as adults in Maryland. Charts 1 and 2 as well as Tables 1 - 4 depict the demographic characteristics of juveniles charged as adults. The vast majority of juveniles charged as adults were male (93.3%), black (79.4%) and between the ages of 16 or 17 (93.5%).





**Table 1. Age of Juveniles Charged as Adults**

Age	Number of Juveniles	Percent of Total Juveniles Charged as Adults
10	1	0.2%
11	1	0.2%
12	2	0.5%
13	6	1.5%
14	4	1.0%
15	12	3.0%
16	124	30.8%
17	253	62.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Table 2. Ethnicity/Race of Juveniles Charged as Adults by Gender**

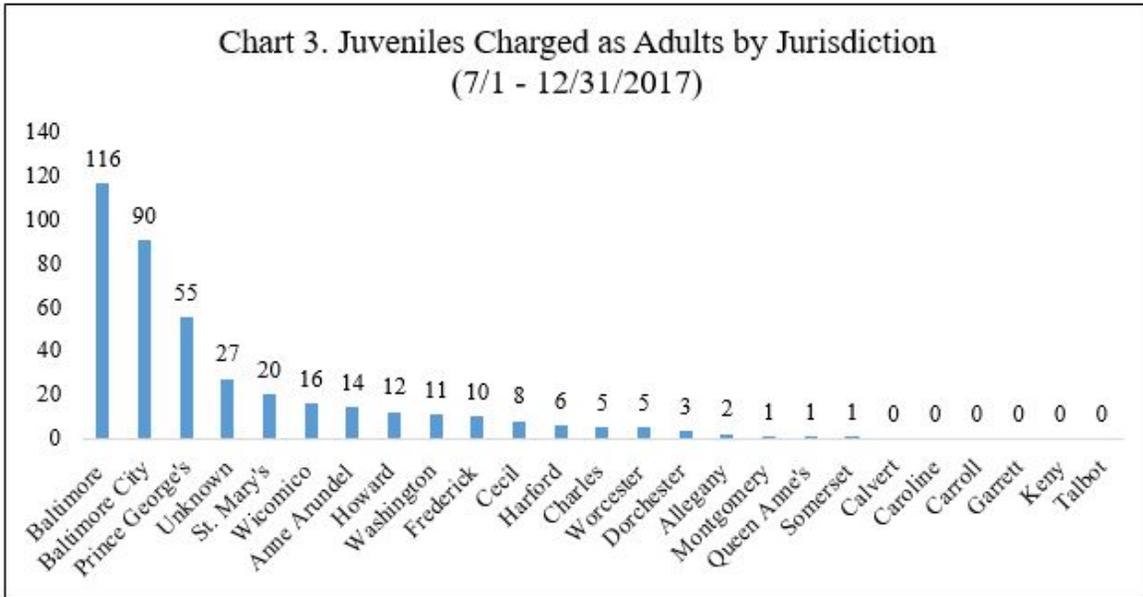
Ethnicity/Race	Male	Female	Total
Asian	6	1	7
% within Ethnicity/Race	1.6%	3.7%	1.7%
Black	301	19	320
% within Ethnicity/Race	80.1%	70.4%	79.4%
White	66	6	72
% within Ethnicity/Race	17.6%	22.2%	17.9%
Unknown	3	1	4
% within Ethnicity/Race	0.8%	3.7%	1.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>403</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Age</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Unknown</b>	<b>Total</b>
Under 14	5	0	4	1	10
% within Ethnicity/Race	1.6%	0.0%	5.6%	25.0%	2.5%
14	4	0	0	0	4
% within Ethnicity/Race	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%
15	8	1	3	0	12
% within Ethnicity/Race	2.2%	14.3%	4.2%	0.0%	3.0%
16	103	0	21	0	124
% within Ethnicity/Race	32.2%	0.0%	29.2%	0.0%	30.8%
17	200	6	44	3	253
% within Ethnicity/Race	62.5%	85.7%	61.1%	75.0%	62.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>403</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

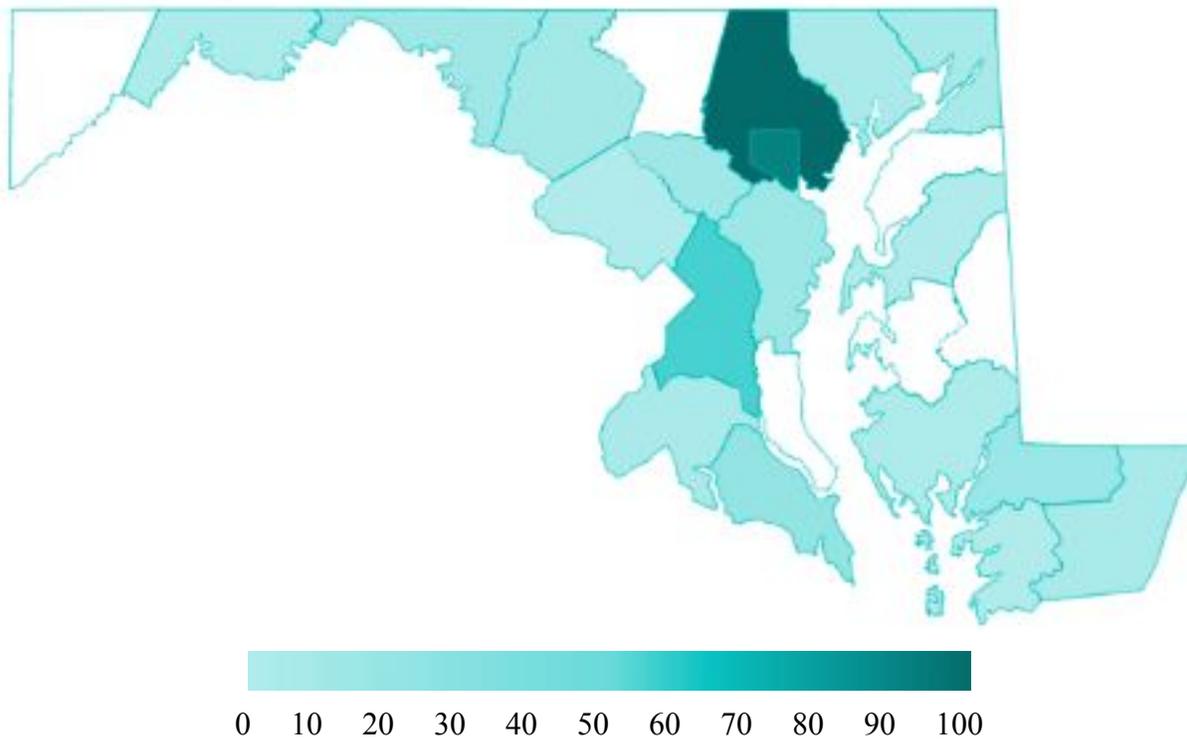
<b>Age</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
Under 14	7	3	10
% within Ethnicity/Race	1.9%	11.1%	2.5%
14	1	3	4
% within Gender	0.3%	11.1%	1.0%
15	10	2	12
% within Gender	2.2%	7.4%	3.0%
16	117	7	124
% within Gender	31.1%	25.9%	30.8%
17	241	12	253
% within Gender	64.1%	44.4%	62.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>403</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### **Jurisdiction**

Chart 3 and Map 1 depict the number of juveniles charged as adults broken down by jurisdiction. The five jurisdictions with the highest numbers from July 1 - December 31, 2017 were Baltimore County (116), Baltimore City (90), Prince George's County (55), St. Mary's County (20), and Wicomico County (16). There were also 27 arrests where the jurisdiction field was missing and are coded as unknown.



**Map 1. Number of Juveniles Charged as Adults by Jurisdiction (7/1 - 12/31/2017)**



## **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

- 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

#### 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 5, over 77% of juveniles charged as adults, during the second half of 2017 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.

<b>Table 5. Juveniles Charged as Adults by Exclusionary Offense Type</b>		
<b>14-15 Years Old</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage of Total in Age Group</b>
1st Degree Murder	3	100%
<b>Total Number Age 14-15 with Exclusionary Offenses</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18.8%</b>
<b>Total Number of Juveniles Charged as Adults Age 14-15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>16-17 Years Old</b>		
Armed Robbery (and attempted)	117	37.7%
Assault (1st degree)	73	23.5%
Carjacking	32	10.3%
Handgun Possession	55	17.7%
Handgun Use in a Violent Crime	1	0.3%
Kidnapping	2	0.6%
Murder (1st, 2nd, and attempted)	23	7.4%
Rape (1st, 2nd, and attempted)	7	2.3%
<b>Total Number Age 16-17 with Exclusionary Offenses</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>82.3%</b>
<b>Total Number of Juveniles Charged as Adults Age 16-17</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>All Juveniles</b>		
<b>Total Number All Ages with Exclusionary Offenses</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>77.7%</b>
<b>Total Number of Juveniles Charged as Adults</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As shown in Table 6, there was no significant difference between black (78.8%) and white juveniles (73.6%) on their likelihood of being arrested and charged with an exclusionary offense. Table 7 indicates there was a significant difference between the percentages of male and female juveniles who were charged with exclusionary offenses (79.0% and 59.3% respectively). Regarding the top five counties, only 10% and 13% of juveniles charged as adults in St. Mary's and Wicomico Counties were charged with an exclusionary offense (see Table 8).

<b>Table 6. Juveniles Charged with Exclusionary Offenses by Race</b>		
<b>Race</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Asian	5 of 7	71.4%
Black	252 of 320	78.8%
White	53 of 72	73.6%
Unknown	3 of 4	75.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>313 of 403</b>	<b>77.7%</b>

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Male	297 of 376	79.0%
Female	16 of 27	59.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>221 of 280</b>	<b>78.9%</b>

<b>County</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Baltimore County	94 of 116	81.0%
Baltimore City	82 of 90	91.1%
Prince George's County	50 of 55	90.9%
St. Mary's County	2 of 20	10.0%
Wicomico County	2 of 16	12.5%
All other counties	83 of 106	78.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>313 of 403</b>	<b>77.7%</b>

### 5 Year Trends

As indicated in Table 9, the number of juveniles charged as adults has decreased by 52% from 2013 -2017 while the percentage of juveniles charged with exclusionary offenses has increased from 63% of all arrests in 2013 to 79% of all arrests in 2017. Additionally, there was little variation in the demographic makeup of these juveniles over the five year period.

<b>Year</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Total Juveniles charged as adults	1,418	1,521	798	756	683
% Black	80.0%	82.2%	80.6%	78.6%	78.8%
% White	19.1%	15.9%	17.4%	19.6%	19.3%
% Male	90.1%	91.8%	90.5%	91.9%	92.2%
% Under 16	5.2%	3.6%	4.4%	3.0%	5.4%
Charged with exclusionary offenses	62.8%	70.4%	80.0%	78.8%	79.0%

**SUMMARY**

During the last six months of 2017, there were just over 400 juveniles charged as adults in Maryland with the vast majority being, black males between the ages of 16 and 17. Nearly 80% of these juveniles were charged with exclusionary offenses and were required by law to be charged as adults. Pursuant to *House Bill 943, Chapter 25 of 2002*, the Center will continue to receive data from CJIS on juveniles charged as adults and will report semi-annually the breakdown of the numbers and percentages in this report.