

# MARYLAND CENTER for SCHOOL SAFETY

September 21, 2021

The Honorable Larry Hogan  
Governor  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable William C. Ferguson IV  
President  
Senate of Maryland  
State House, H-107  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones  
Speaker  
House of Delegates  
State House, H-101  
Annapolis, MD 21401

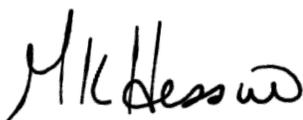
Re: Report required by Ed. Art. § 7-1502(g)(18) (MSAR # 11570) and § 7-1508(e)(3) (MSAR # 11591)

Dear Governor Hogan, President Ferguson, and Speaker Jones:

Pursuant to the Maryland Safe to Learn Act of 2018 (Senate Bill 1265) Ed. Art. § 7-1502(g)(18) (MSAR # 11570) and § 7-1508(e)(3) (MSAR # 11591), the Maryland Center of School Safety (MCSS) respectfully submits this report summarizing School Resource Officer (SRO) and adequate law enforcement coverage within each local school systems' jurisdiction for the 2021-2022 school year.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact me at, [kate.hession1@maryland.gov](mailto:kate.hession1@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,



Kate Hession  
Executive Director



## 2021 Annual School Resource Officers / Adequate Coverage Report

*Submitted by:* Kate Hession, Executive Director | *Prepared by:* Craig Meister and Jeyan Jebaraj

Annually, on or before October 1, the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS) must provide the Governor and General Assembly with a summary of the school resource officer coverage and *adequate coverage* reports<sup>1</sup> that each local school system shares with MCSS by the start of each school year.

Education Article § 7-1501 defines a school resource officer as a law enforcement officer who has been assigned to a school in accordance with a memorandum of understanding between the chief of a law enforcement agency and the local education agency or a Baltimore City school police officer.

As always, it is important to note that the nature of law enforcement *adequate coverage* varies, and it often takes the form of:

- sheriff's deputies working overtime to provide adequate coverage to public schools;
- patrol deputies who respond to calls for service at schools that do not have an assigned SRO;
- SRO supervisors, who are not routinely assigned to a specific school, who provide supplemental patrol service and respond to calls for service at public schools when needed; and
- State police agencies who conduct school safety checks in their area of patrol;
- officers/deputies who are not SROs who are permitted access to the school building so they can check emails and conduct other official business while at the school or on school property.

SROs and school security employees in Maryland complete the Maryland Center for School Safety's robust SRO training curriculum; yet, individuals providing "adequate law enforcement coverage" to schools are not required to complete this comprehensive training. Topics covered in our SRO training curriculum include De-escalation, Disability Awareness, Maintaining a Positive School Climate, Constructive Interactions with Students, Implicit Bias, and Disability and Diversity Awareness with specific attention to Racial and Ethnic Disparities. This holistic training prepares an SRO to fulfill four distinct roles within a school community: the Role of Educator, the Role of Emergency Manager, the Role of Informal Counselor, and the Role of Law Enforcement.

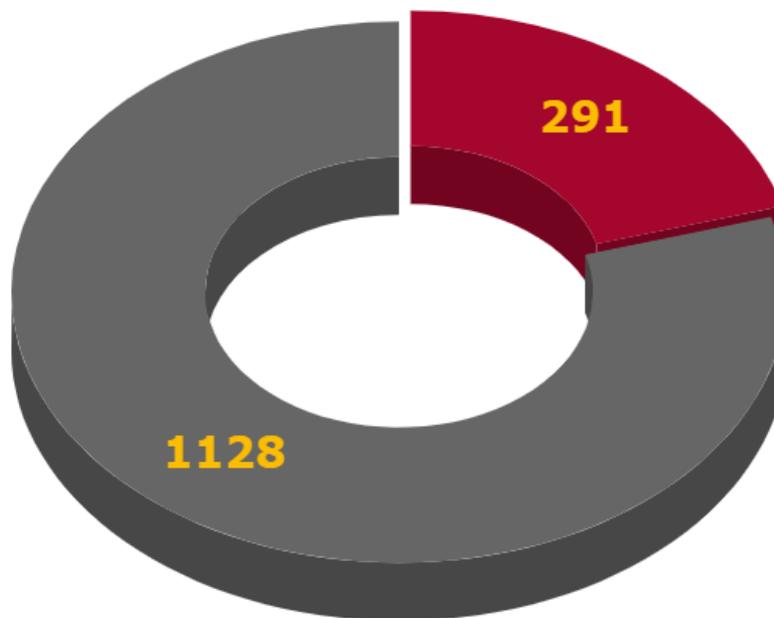
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<sup>1</sup> Each local school system's report must include the public schools in the local school system's jurisdiction that have a full-time school resource officer assigned to the school; and, if a public school in the local school system's jurisdiction is not assigned a full-time school resource officer, the adequate local law enforcement coverage that will be provided to the public school.

The data presented below are based on reports received from Maryland's twenty-four local school systems. Only schools with a full-time assigned SRO are counted as having SRO coverage. Schools where an SRO covers or supports multiple schools throughout the school day are counted as having adequate coverage.

The chart on page 3 provides the total number of SROs in Maryland.

## Maryland Public Schools with Full-Time Assigned SRO



- Schools with Full-Time Assigned SRO (20.5%)
- Schools with Adequate Coverage (79.5%)

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Jurisdiction	Number of Public Schools	Number of SROs	Number of Schools with Full Time Assigned SRO	Number of Schools with Adequate Law Enforcement Coverage
Allegany	22	5	0	22
Anne Arundel	124	25	23	101
Baltimore Co.	175	83	54	121
Baltimore City	165	82	37	128
Calvert	25	11	10	15
Caroline	10	8	10	0
Carroll	40	13	13	27
Cecil	30	6	0	30
Charles	37	17	17	20
Dorchester	14	3	2	12
Frederick	68	22	15	53
Garrett	12	5	1	11
Harford	56	25	25	31
Howard	77	13	13	64
Kent	5	2	2	3
Montgomery	209	21	0	209
Prince George's	205	29	28	177
Queen Anne's	14	5	5	9
St. Mary's	29	7	7	22
Somerset	9	4	4	5
Talbot	8	4	3	5
Washington	46	10	0	46
Wicomico	25	9	9	16
Worcester	14	13	13	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,419</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>1128</b>

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The Sankey diagram below is a visualization of the proportion of public schools in each local school system that are served by a full-time assigned School Resource Officer (SRO) versus law enforcement adequate coverage.

