

# MARYLAND CENTER for SCHOOL SAFETY

September 30, 2022

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

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

The Honorable Adrienne A.  
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 upcoming school year.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Deputy Director, Joseph Pignataro, [joseph.pignataro@maryland.gov](mailto:joseph.pignataro@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,



Kate Hession  
Executive Director



## 2022 Annual School Resource Officers / Adequate Coverage Report

Annually, 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 (SRO) as a sworn law enforcement officer who has been assigned to a school in accordance with a memorandum of understanding between 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 including after-school events held on campus;
- 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;
- State police agencies who conduct school safety checks in their area of patrol;
- officers/deputies who are not SROs but 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; and
- officers who are assigned to a geographic area containing a grouping of K-12 schools and tasked to be primary responders to both emergency and non-emergency calls made from these schools.

SROs and school security employees (SSEs) 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. In 2021, MCSS began updating the (2019) model SRO/SSE training. MCSS spent a year working with local and state subject matter experts in an effort to expand the existing training program to include new and much-needed modules and provide deeper training on several existing modules. MCSS added six new modules to the training and expanded modules on *De-escalation, Disability and Diversity Awareness, Implicit Bias, and Restorative Approaches*.

If you have questions or would like more information about the training provided to SROs in Maryland, please contact [training.mcass@maryland.gov](mailto:training.mcass@maryland.gov).

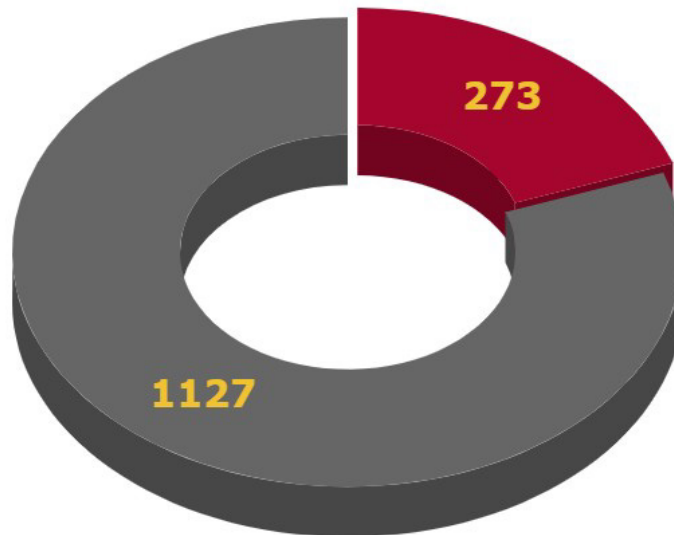
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<sup>1</sup> Each local school system's report must include the public schools in the local school system's jurisdiction that have a full-time school resource officer assigned to the school; and, if a public school in the local school system's jurisdiction 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 full-time 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 (19.5%)
- Schools with Adequate Coverage (80.5%)

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The table below provides a breakdown of total SROs in each local school system and the number of schools that have a full-time assigned SRO. In school systems where a SRO provides coverage to more than one school, the total number of SROs will exceed the number of schools in that system with full-time assigned SROs.

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	23	5	0	23
Anne Arundel	124	26	24	100
Baltimore Co.	171	83	57	114
Baltimore City	155	77	22	133
Calvert	25	11	10	15
Caroline	10	9	10	0
Carroll	41	13	13	28
Cecil	30	6	0	30
Charles	37	19	17	20
Dorchester	13	2	2	11
Frederick	70	22	10	60
Garrett	12	5	1	11
Harford	54	27	21	33
Howard	77	15	13	64
Kent	5	2	2	3
Montgomery	211	18	0	211
Prince George's	198	26	23	175
Queen Anne's	15	7	8	7
St. Mary's	28	7	7	21
Somerset	9	9	8	1
Talbot	8	4	3	5
Washington	45	8	0	45
Wicomico	26	10	9	17
Worcester	13	16	13	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>1,127</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.

