

September 27, 2023

The Honorable Wes Moore
Governor
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable William C. Ferguson IV	The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
President	Speaker
Senate of Maryland	House of Delegates
State House, H-107	State House, H-101
Annapolis, MD 21401	Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Governor Moore, 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 education agencies' jurisdiction for the upcoming school year.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Deputy Director, Joseph Pignataro, joseph.pignataro@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Kate Bryan
Executive Director

2023 Annual School Resource Officer - 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 (SRO) coverage and *adequate coverage* reports¹ that each Local Education Agency (LEA) shares with MCSS by the start of each school year. *Education Article § 7-1501* defines a 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 LEA or a Baltimore City School Police Officer.

It is important to note that the nature of law enforcement *adequate coverage* varies. Adequate coverage in Maryland public schools can occur in any of the following ways:

- 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, but 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.
- 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 SRO training curriculum; yet, individuals named above providing "adequate law enforcement coverage" to schools are not required to complete this comprehensive training.

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

¹ Each LEA's report must include the public schools in the LEA's jurisdiction that have a full-time school resource officer assigned to the school; and, if a public school in the LEA'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 information collected in August 2023 from Maryland's 24 LEAs. 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.

Figure 1 represents the total number of Maryland public schools, 288 schools have a full time SRO, while 1,137 Maryland public schools are provided law enforcement coverage through other means. Figure 2 provides a breakdown of adequate coverage by jurisdiction. Figure 3 provides a visual representation for each LEA of the proportion of coverage provided for each school within the jurisdiction, SRO or through other means.

Figure 1. School Resource Officer Coverage in Maryland Public Schools

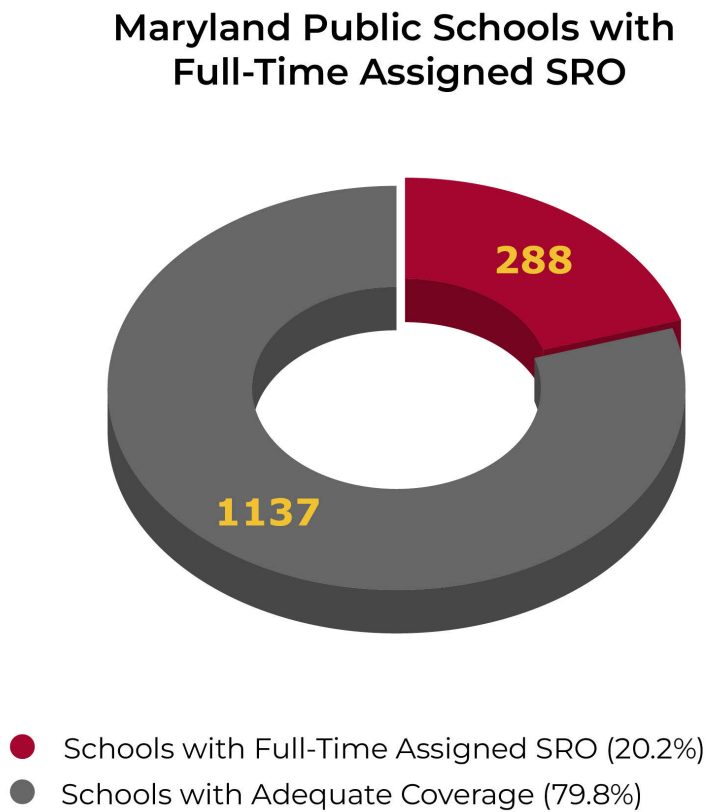


Figure 2 provides a breakdown of total SROs in each LEA and the number of schools that have a full-time assigned SRO. In school systems where a SRO provides coverage to more than one school, the total number of SROs will exceed the number of schools in that system with full-time assigned SROs.

Figure 2. School Resource Officer coverage and adequate coverage by LEA

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	1	21
Anne Arundel	125	30	26	99
Baltimore Co.	176	86	66	110
Baltimore City	160	73	15	145
Calvert	25	13	13	12
Caroline	10	8	8	2
Carroll	44	13	13	31
Cecil	30	6	0	30
Charles	39	18	18	21
Dorchester	13	5	4	9
Frederick	69	22	11	58
Garrett	12	5	1	11
Harford	54	28	21	33
Howard	78	14	14	64
Kent	5	2	2	3
Montgomery	210	28	0	210
Prince George's	208	28	26	182
Queen Anne's	14	9	9	5
St. Mary's	28	7	7	21
Somerset	9	9	7	2
Talbot	9	4	3	6
Washington	45	10	0	45
Wicomico	26	10	9	17
Worcester	14	19	14	0
Total	1,425	452	288	1,137

Figure 3 is a visual representation of the proportion of Maryland public schools by LEA that have an SRO assigned full time versus law enforcement adequate coverage.

Figure 3. Proportional comparison of coverage by LEA

