
Diversion Opportunities and Services in the Community in Maryland

October 29, 2020

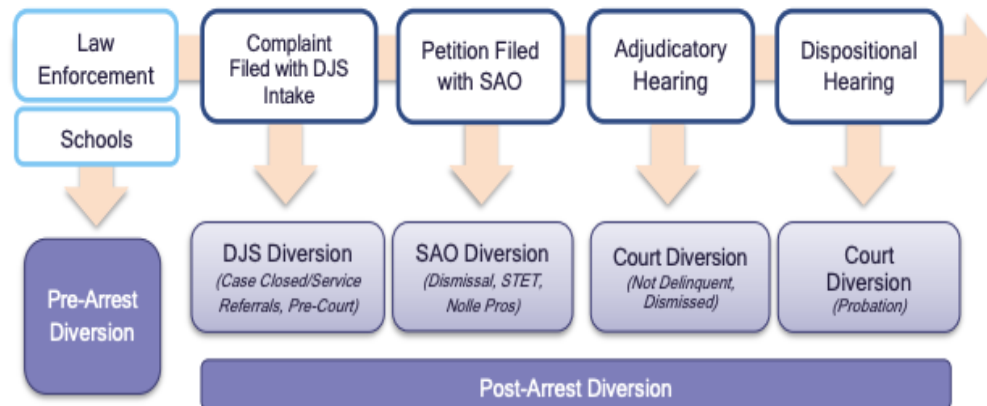
Youth Diversion in Maryland

Police: Some police departments have diversion programs for youth who have been arrested (e.g. Baltimore City diverts 10-13% of youth arrested each year through their program)

DJS: Excluding felony cases and handgun violations, a DJS intake officer can divert cases by resolving the case at intake or through informal pre-court supervision

SAO: For cases that result in an authorized formal petition, the SAO can deny, withdraw, or send the petition back to DJS (12% of all authorized formal petitions in FY 2019)

Figure 1. Juvenile Justice Process and Diversion Flow Chart - Maryland



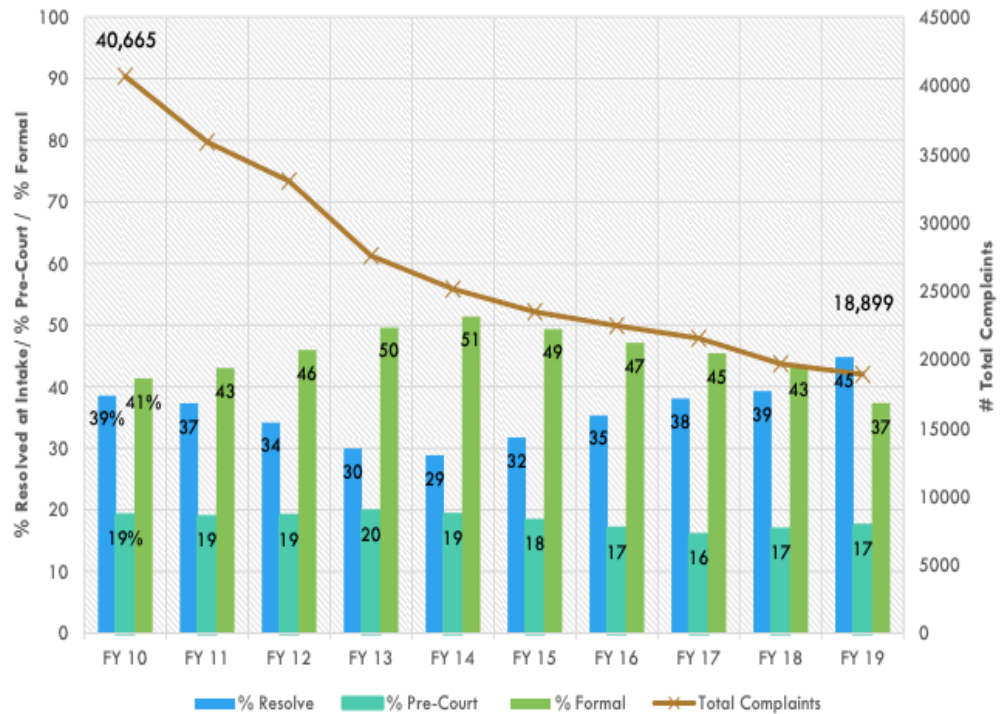
Source: Best Practices in Youth Diversion (August, 2018)

DJS Case Forwarding Decisions Over Time

Complaints have decreased by over 50% from 40,665 in FY 2010 to 18,899 in FY 2019

The percentage of cases **resolved at intake** has increased from 29% in FY 2014 to 45% in FY 2019

The percentage of cases resulting in **pre-court supervision** has remained about the same over time

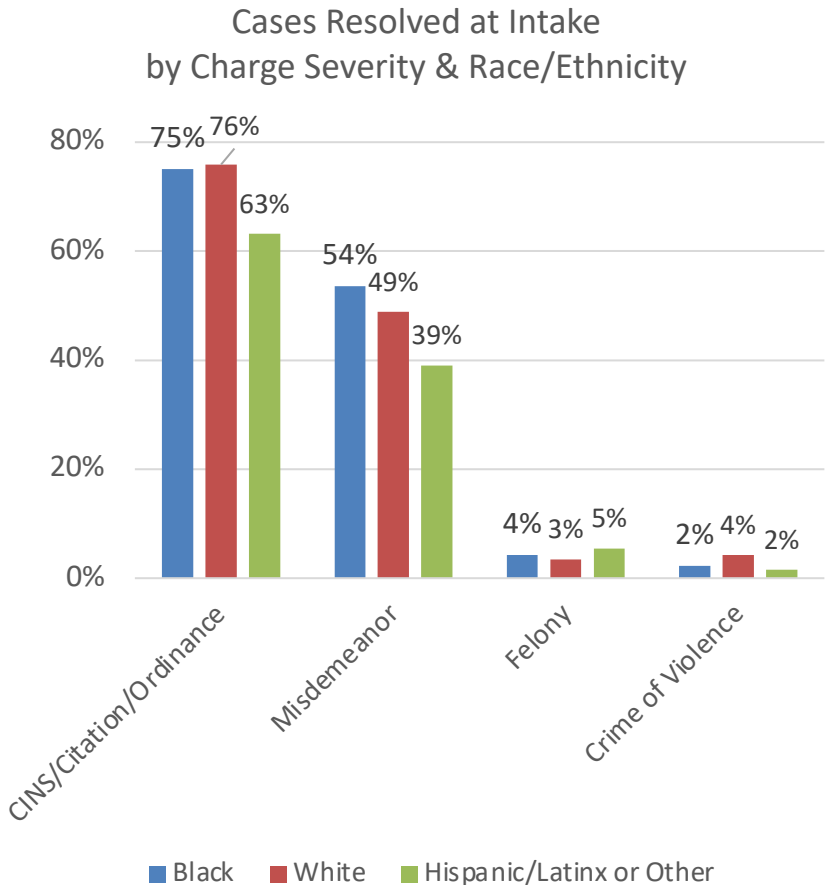


Data Source: Maryland DJS Alternatives to Detention & Informal Case Processing Performance Report (December, 2019)

Cases Resolved at Intake in FY19

Overall, 45% of cases in FY2019 were resolved at intake

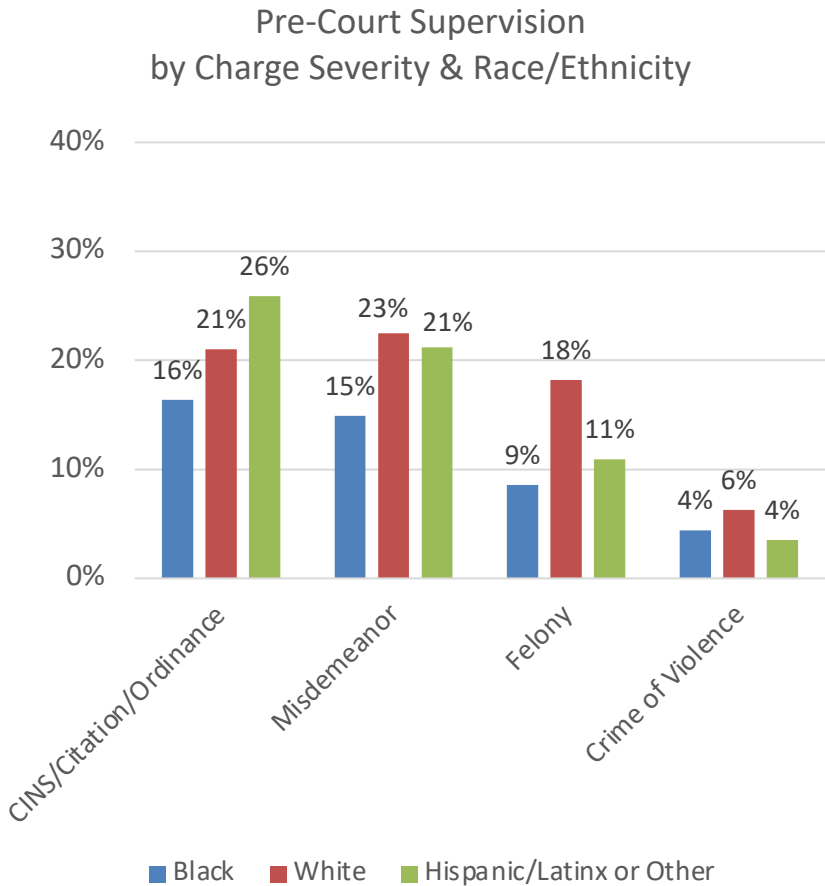
	% of Cases Resolved at Intake
Male	40.7%
Female	56.1%
Black	43.6%
White	51.2%
Hispanic/Latinx or Other	36.7%
Baltimore City	17.7%
Central	48.6%
Eastern Shore	56.6%
Metro	29.0%
Southern	58.5%
Western	37.5%
CINS/Citation/Ordinance	74.0%
Misdemeanor	51.2%
Felony	4.3%
Crime of Violence	2.6%



Cases Resulting in Pre-Court Supervision in FY19

Overall, 17% of cases in FY2019 resulted in pre-court supervision

	% of Cases Resulting in Pre-Court Supervision
Male	14.3%
Female	18.7%
Black	13.0%
White	21.0%
Hispanic/Latinx or Other	19.2%
Baltimore City	8.1%
Central	10.6%
Eastern Shore	14.7%
Metro	26.0%
Southern	14.3%
Western	22.7%
CINS/Citation/Ordinance	20.3%
Misdemeanor	17.5%
Felony	10.6%
Crime of Violence	4.6%



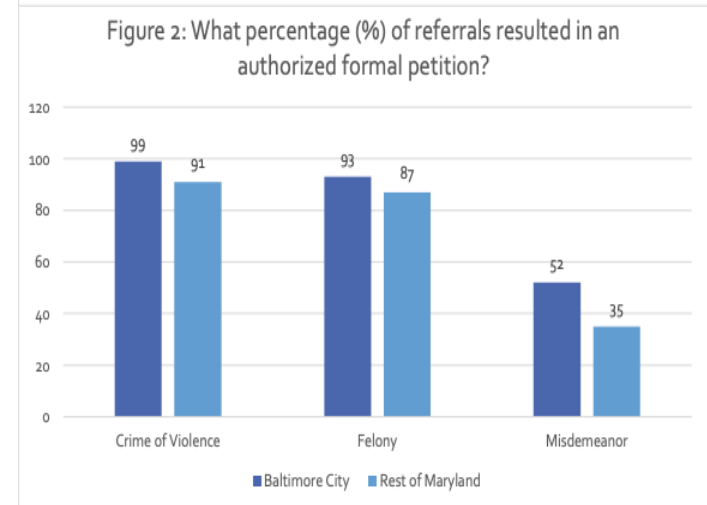
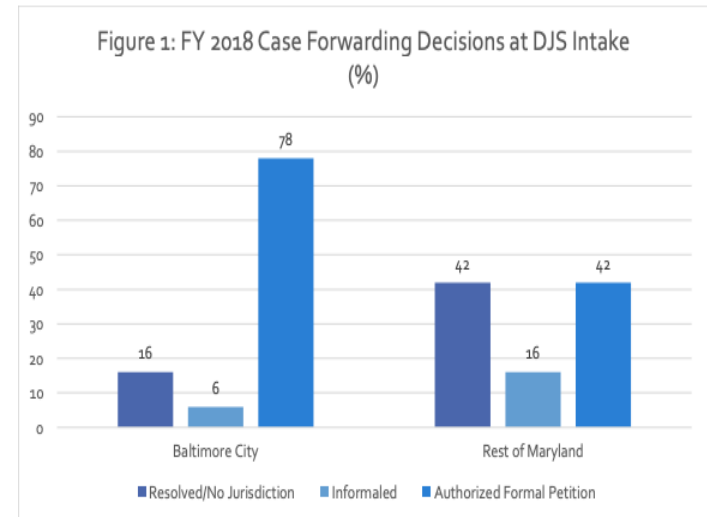
DJS Diversion – Baltimore City and the Rest of Maryland

22% of cases in Baltimore City were diverted in FY2018 in comparison to 58% for the rest of MD

- Baltimore City has a much larger percentage of more serious offenses (60%) in comparison to the rest of Maryland (17%)
- Even for misdemeanors, a larger percentage result in a formal petition in Baltimore City (52%) in comparison to the rest of Maryland (35%)
- Different booking process in Baltimore in comparison to the rest of Maryland

Severity of Offenses in FY2018

	Misdemeanor	Felony	Crime of Violence
Baltimore City	40%	30%	30%
Rest of MD	70%	7%	10%



Data Source: Baltimore Youth Diversion Assessment, Center for Children’s Law & Policy (April, 2019)

Pre-Court Supervision Completion

The % of youth that successfully complete their pre-court supervision has remained stable over time at about 80%

	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
% Successful Completion	81.2	79.2	78.2
% Unsuccessful/Non-compliant	18.8	20.8	21.8

For cases that were unsuccessful, between 35-40% were forwarded to the State's Attorney

	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
% of Unsuccessful Cases Forwarded to State's Attorney	38.7	35.3	40.1

Data Source: Maryland DJS Alternatives to Detention & Informal Case Processing Performance Report (December, 2019)

Recidivism Outcomes

The recidivism rate (juvenile) for youth on pre-court supervision within 12 months after the complaint decision date was 9%

	Formal Referral (N=3,481)	Pre-Court Supervision (N=2,379)	Case Resolved at Intake (N=5,938)
New, Sustained Juvenile Offense	532 (15%)	216 (9%)	437 (7%)

Data Source: Maryland DJS Alternatives to Detention & Informal Case Processing Performance Report (December, 2019)

Recidivism (juvenile & adult) within 12 months after completing MST and FFT

	Multi-systemic therapy (N=18)	Family functional therapy (N=45)
Referred to DJS/Arrested	6 (33%)	17 (38%)
Adjudicated delinquent/Convicted	1 (6%)	6 (13%)
Committed to DJS/Incarcerated	0 (0%)	3 (7%)

Data Source: Summary of MST and FFT Outcomes for Pre-Court Youth (September, 2020)

Services by Region

At intake, youth are screened by an intake decision tool to determine their needs and connect them to appropriate services in the community

Region	# of Programs Available	Most Common Services (programs providing service as a % of all programs in a region)		
		Mental Health	Family Focused	Substance Use Disorder
Baltimore City	27	63%	19%	41%
Central	81	56%	31%	16%
Eastern Shore	81	53%	31%	27%
Metro	15	33%	33%	13%
Southern	49	35%	24%	18%
Western	59	39%	25%	15%

Other less common types of services that can be matched to youths' needs include education, employment, community service, mentorship, victim awareness, anger management, etc.

Note: Services are not mutually exclusive, one program can provide multiple types of services

Main Takeaways

- While complaints have decreased, the percentage of cases resolved at intake has increased while the percentage of cases resulting in pre-court supervision has remained relatively stable over time
- Those most likely to have their cases diverted (either resolved at intake or through pre-court supervision) are girls, white youth, and youth with less serious alleged charges
- All regions except Baltimore City divert over half their cases through resolution at intake or pre-court supervision
- On average, about 4 out of 5 youth successfully complete pre-court supervision, and about 90% of youth who complete pre-court supervision are not re-adjudicated/re-convicted within a 12-month follow-up period
- The number of programs available to youth in the community varies by region, with the most common services provided focusing on mental health, family dynamics, and substance use disorders