



SENTENCING SNAPSHOT

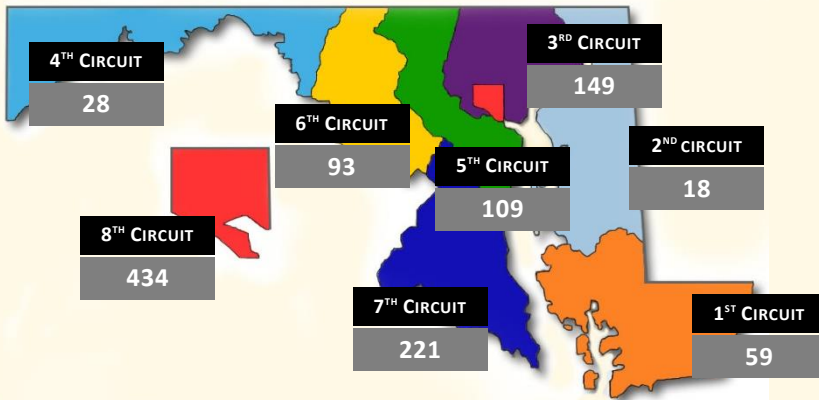


ISSUE 8—SEPTEMBER 2022

SENTENCING TRENDS IN MARYLAND CIRCUIT COURTS FOR MURDER

This Sentencing Snapshot examines all murder convictions, including attempts, conspiracies, and solicitations, that were sentenced in Maryland circuit courts in calendar years 2017 through 2021. Methodology for this report may be found on the [MSCCSP website](http://www.mscdsp.org).

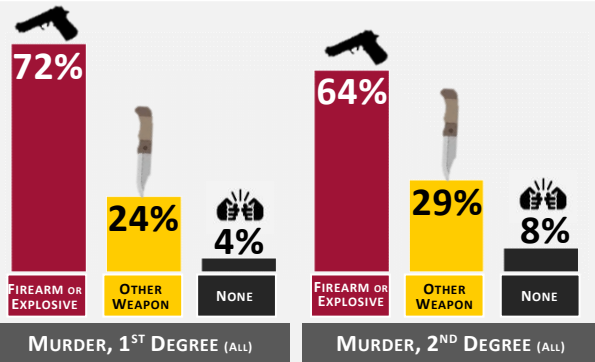
MURDER CONVICTIONS SENTENCED IN MARYLAND CIRCUIT COURTS, 2017 THROUGH 2021



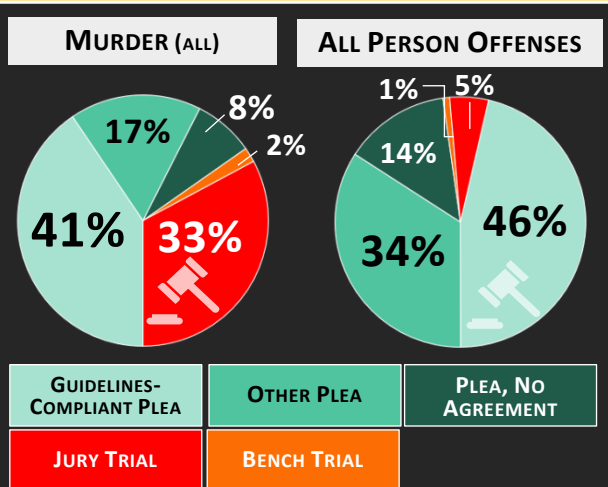
MURDER, 1 ST DEGREE		
COMPLETED OFFENSE	399	61%
ATTEMPT	165	25%
CONSPIRACY	83	13%
SOLICITATION	7	1%
TOTAL	654	

MURDER, 2 ND DEGREE		
COMPLETED OFFENSE	278	61%
ATTEMPT	174	38%
CONSPIRACY	5	1%
TOTAL	457	

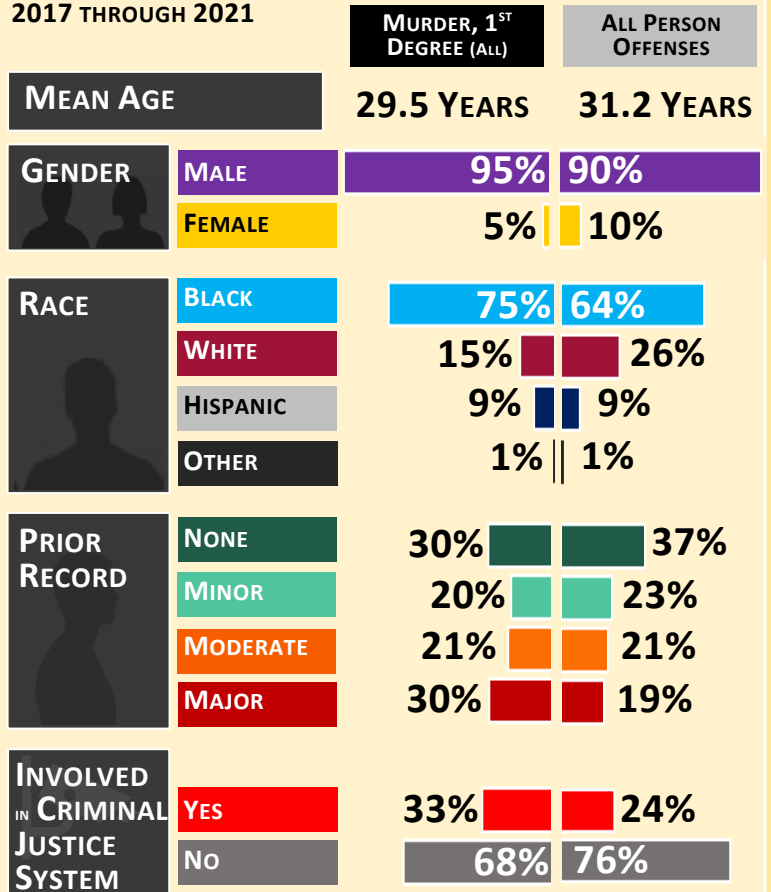
WEAPON PRESENCE



DISPOSITION TYPE



CHARACTERISTICS OF DEFENDANTS SENTENCED FOR MURDER AND OTHER PERSON OFFENSES 2017 THROUGH 2021



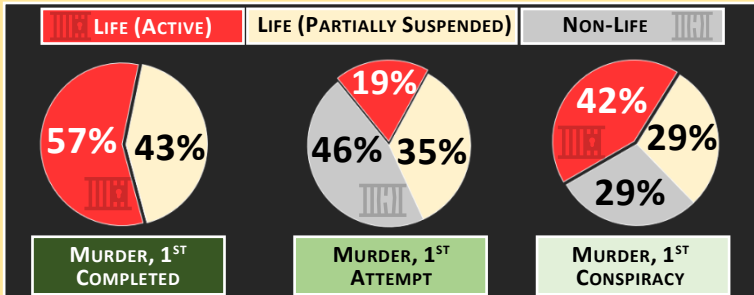


AVERAGE SENTENCES FOR MURDER CONVICTIONS SENTENCED IN MARYLAND CIRCUIT COURTS

TERMS TO KNOW	
Statutory Maximum	Maximum incarceration allowed by Maryland law.
Guidelines-Applicable Sentence	Includes jail/prison time, credit for time served, and home detention. Does not include suspended time.

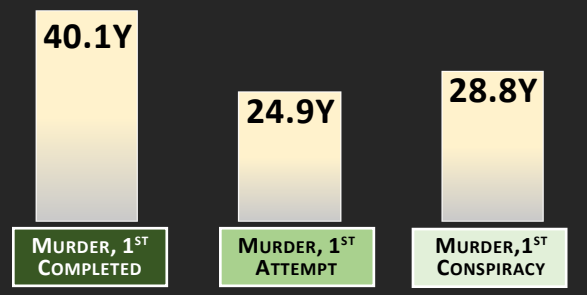
MURDER, 1ST DEGREE

LIFE SENTENCES: ACTIVE VERSUS PARTIALLY SUSPENDED*



* MURDER, 1ST DEGREE (EXCLUDING ATTEMPTS, CONSPIRACIES, AND SOLICITATIONS), SHALL BE SENTENCED TO IMPRISONMENT FOR LIFE, A PORTION OF WHICH MAY BE SUSPENDED (CR, § 2-201).

AVERAGE GUIDELINES-APPLICABLE SENTENCE FOR LIFE (PARTIALLY SUSPENDED) AND NON-LIFE SENTENCES



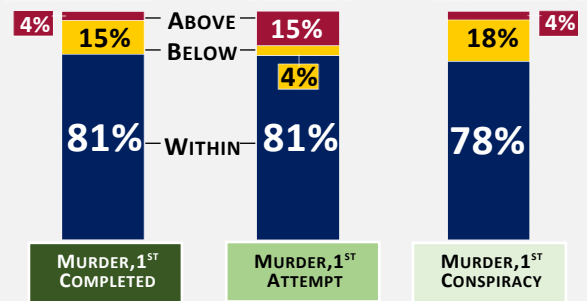
PERSON OFFENSE MATRIX	OFFENDER SCORE								
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	
7	3Y-8Y	4Y-9Y	5Y-10Y	6Y-12Y	7Y-13Y	8Y-14Y	10Y-15Y	12Y-20Y	
8	4Y-9Y	5Y-10Y	5Y-12Y	7Y-13Y	8Y-15Y	10Y-18Y	12Y-20Y	15Y-25Y	
9	5Y-10Y	7Y-13Y	8Y-15Y	10Y-15Y	12Y-18Y	15Y-25Y	18Y-30Y	20Y-30Y	
10	10Y-18Y	10Y-21Y	12Y-25Y	15Y-25Y	15Y-30Y	18Y-30Y	20Y-35Y	20Y-L	
11	12Y-20Y	15Y-25Y	18Y-25Y	20Y-30Y	20Y-30Y	25Y-35Y	25Y-40Y	25Y-L	
12	15Y-25Y	18Y-25Y	18Y-30Y	20Y-35Y	20Y-35Y	25Y-40Y	25Y-L	25Y-L	
13	20Y-30Y	25Y-35Y	25Y-40Y	25Y-L	25Y-L	30Y-L	L	L	
14	20Y-L	25Y-L	28Y-L	30Y-L	L	L	L	L	

THE GUIDELINES RANGE FOR MURDER, 1ST DEGREE* IS ALWAYS LIFE TO LIFE
 *(EXCLUDING ATTEMPTS, CONSPIRACIES, AND SOLICITATIONS)

TOP 10 MOST COMMON GUIDELINES RANGES:
 MURDER, 1ST DEGREE ATTEMPT

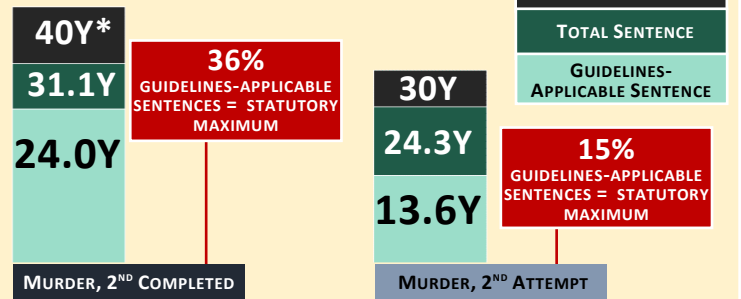
TOP 10 MOST COMMON GUIDELINES RANGES:
 MURDER, 1ST DEGREE CONSPIRACY

SENTENCING GUIDELINES COMPLIANCE



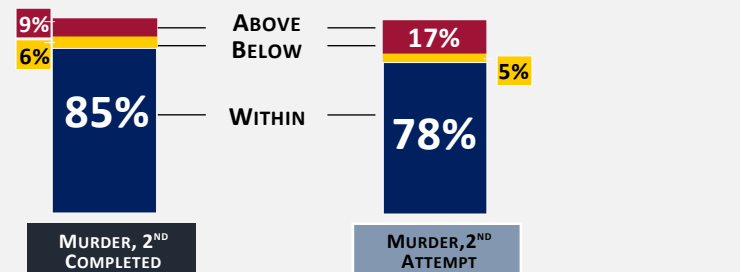
MURDER, 2ND DEGREE

AVERAGE SENTENCES



PERSON OFFENSE MATRIX	OFFENDER SCORE								
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	
7	3Y-8Y	4Y-9Y	5Y-10Y	6Y-12Y	7Y-13Y	9Y-14Y	10Y-15Y	12Y-20Y	
8	4Y-9Y	5Y-10Y	5Y-12Y	7Y-13Y	8Y-15Y	10Y-18Y	12Y-20Y	15Y-25Y	
9	5Y-10Y	7Y-13Y	8Y-15Y	10Y-15Y	12Y-18Y	15Y-25Y	18Y-30Y	20Y-30Y	
10	10Y-18Y	10Y-21Y	12Y-25Y	15Y-25Y	15Y-30Y	18Y-30Y	20Y-35Y	20Y-L	
11	12Y-20Y	15Y-25Y	18Y-25Y	20Y-30Y	20Y-30Y	25Y-35Y	25Y-40Y	25Y-L	
12	15Y-25Y	18Y-25Y	18Y-30Y	20Y-35Y	20Y-35Y	25Y-40Y	25Y-L	25Y-L	
13	20Y-30Y	25Y-35Y	25Y-40Y	25Y-L	25Y-L	30Y-L	L	L	
14	20Y-L	25Y-L	28Y-L	30Y-L	L	L	L	L	

SENTENCING GUIDELINES COMPLIANCE YEAR



TOP 10 MOST COMMON GUIDELINES RANGES:
 MURDER, 2ND DEGREE COMPLETED*

*GUIDELINES RANGES CAPPED AT 40Y

TOP 10 MOST COMMON GUIDELINES RANGES:
 MURDER, 2ND DEGREE ATTEMPT

* EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2017, THE STATUTORY MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR MURDER, 2ND DEGREE (EXCLUDING ATTEMPTS), INCREASED FROM 30 YEARS TO 40 YEARS.