



SENTENCING SNAPSHOT

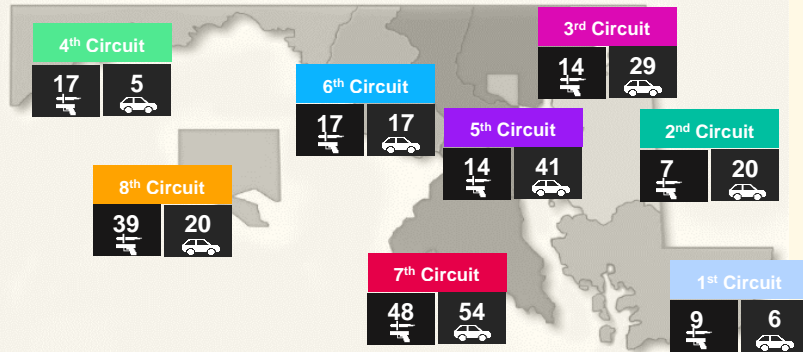


Issue 9—March 2023

Sentencing Trends in Maryland Circuit Courts for Manslaughter

This Sentencing Snapshot examines all manslaughter convictions sentenced in Maryland circuit courts in calendar years 2017 through 2021. Methodology for this report may be found on the [MSCCSP website](https://www.msccsp.org).

Manslaughter Convictions in Maryland Circuit Courts, 2017 - 2021



	Offense	#	Statute	Stat Max	Seriousness Category
Handgun	Voluntary Manslaughter*	105	CR, § 2-207	10Y	IV
	Involuntary Manslaughter	60	CR, § 2-207	10Y	IV
Vehicle/Vessel	Manslaughter by Vehicle or Vessel	117	CR, § 2-209	10Y (1 st Offense) 15Y (Subsequent)	IV III
	Criminally Negligent Manslaughter by Vehicle or Vessel	75	CR, § 2-210	3Y (1 st Offense) 5Y (Subsequent)	VII V
	Total	357			

*Voluntary manslaughter is the only type of manslaughter defined as a crime of violence pursuant to CR, § 14-101.

Key Takeaways

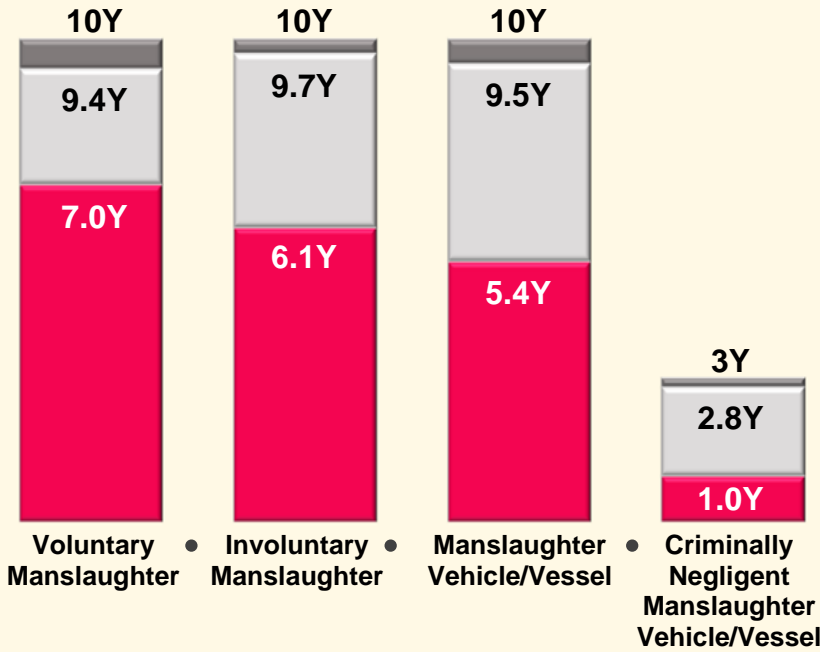
- The 7th Circuit has the highest number of manslaughter convictions.
- Relative to other types of manslaughter, defendants convicted of voluntary manslaughter receive, on average, the longest non-suspended sentence.
- Over half (52%) of voluntary manslaughter convictions involve a firearm or explosive.
- Voluntary manslaughter convictions are more likely than other manslaughter convictions to be disposed of via a jury trial.
- Sentences for most types of manslaughter are more likely than all person offenses to depart above the guidelines.

Characteristics of Defendants Sentenced for Manslaughter, 2017 - 2021

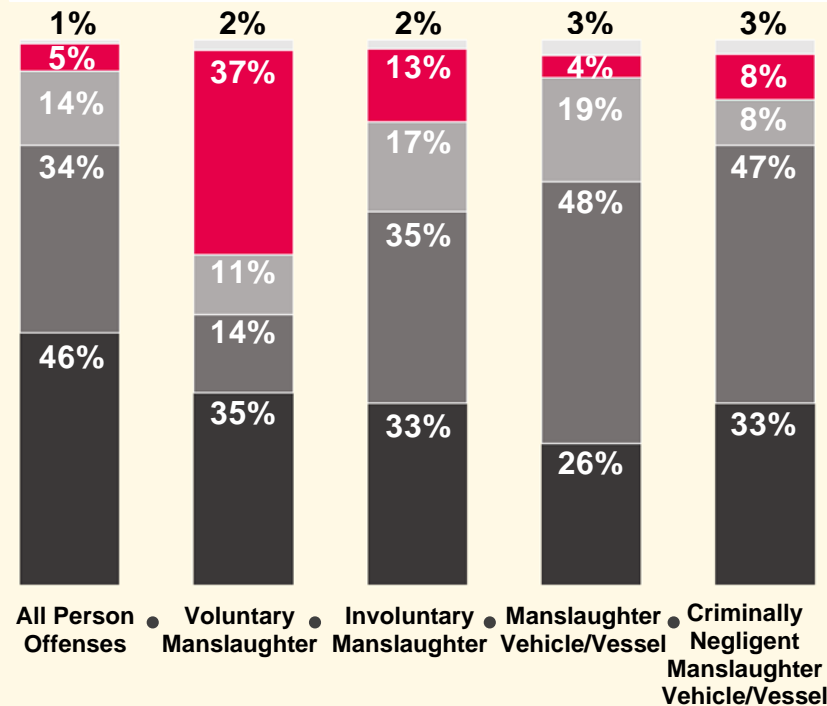
	Gender		Race				Prior Adult Criminal Record				Involvement in Criminal Justice System	
	Male	Female	Black	White		None	Minor		Yes	No		
				Hispanic	Other		Moderate	Major				
Voluntary Manslaughter	84%	16%	75%	12%	10%	37%	22%	18%	24%	30%	70%	
Involuntary Manslaughter	86%	15%	54%	32%	10%	22%	30%	23%	25%	28%	72%	
Manslaughter Vehicle/Vessel	82%	18%	47%	42%	11%	39%	24%	15%	22%	24%	76%	
Criminally Negligent Manslaughter Vehicle/Vessel	78%	22%	44%	50%	4%	63%	18%	10%	10%	11%	89%	



Mean Sentences for Defendants Convicted of Manslaughter in Maryland Circuit Courts, 2017-2021



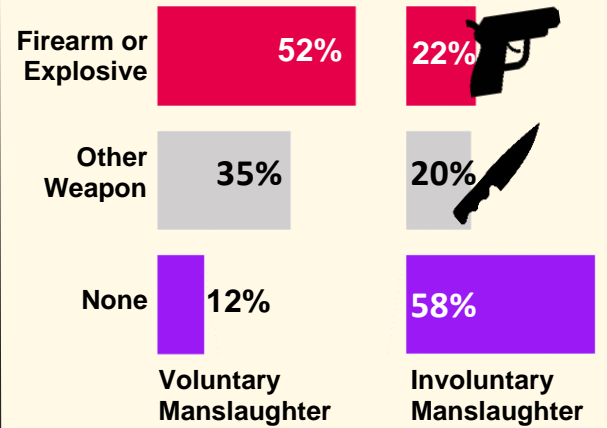
Disposition Type



5 Defendants convicted of manslaughter by vehicle/vessel were sentenced as subsequent offenders.

2 Defendants convicted of criminally negligent manslaughter by vehicle/vessel were sentenced as subsequent offenders.

Weapon Presence



Sentencing Guidelines Compliance

