

Restrictive Housing 2023-2024 Report

Correctional Services Article, Section 9-614(b)

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

September 18, 2025

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor



DOROTHY LENNIG
Executive Director

September 18, 2025

The Honorable William C. "Bill" Ferguson IV
President of the Senate
State House, H-107
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Adrienne Jones
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House, H-101
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Correctional Services Article § 9-614(b) (MSAR #15664)

Dear President Ferguson and Speaker Jones:

As required by § 9-614(b) of the Correctional Services Article, please find an enclosed copy of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's report, titled *Restrictive Housing 2023-2024 Report*. This report includes information from correctional units regarding restrictive housing from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2024.

Should you have any questions relating to the information provided in this report, please feel free to contact me at 410-697-9338.

As required, five color copies will be sent to the DLS Legislative Library.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dorothy J. Lennig".

Dorothy J. Lennig, Esq.
Executive Director

cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)

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Introduction

In accordance with § 9-614(b) of the Correctional Services Article, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (Office) must make restrictive housing information submitted by correctional units available on its website and, when the information has been received from every correctional unit, promptly submit a report to the General Assembly. It also requires each correctional unit¹ to submit the information from the preceding year to the Office by December 31 of each year.

Pursuant to its charge, this *Restrictive Housing 2023-2024 Report* includes information from correctional units regarding incarcerated individuals placed in restrictive housing between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2024. It also provides a follow-up to several reports submitted in prior years. To view these reports, please visit the Office's website at:

<https://gocpp.maryland.gov/reports-and-publications/#MSAC-reports>.

Restrictive Housing

Restrictive housing refers to “a form of physical separation that has not been requested by the incarcerated individual in which the incarcerated individual is placed in a locked room or cell for approximately 22 hours or more out of a 24-hour period.”² For the two-year reporting period, 17 of Maryland's 24 local correctional facilities submitted restrictive housing information to the Office, as required by law. The following correctional facilities did not submit restrictive housing information for the specified reporting periods:

- Baltimore County, Dorchester County, Kent County, Somerset County, and Talbot County did not submit the required information for federal fiscal 2023, which covered a period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.
- Baltimore County, Dorchester County, Harford County, Kent County, Queen Anne's County, Somerset County, and Talbot County did not submit the required information for federal fiscal 2024, which covered a period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

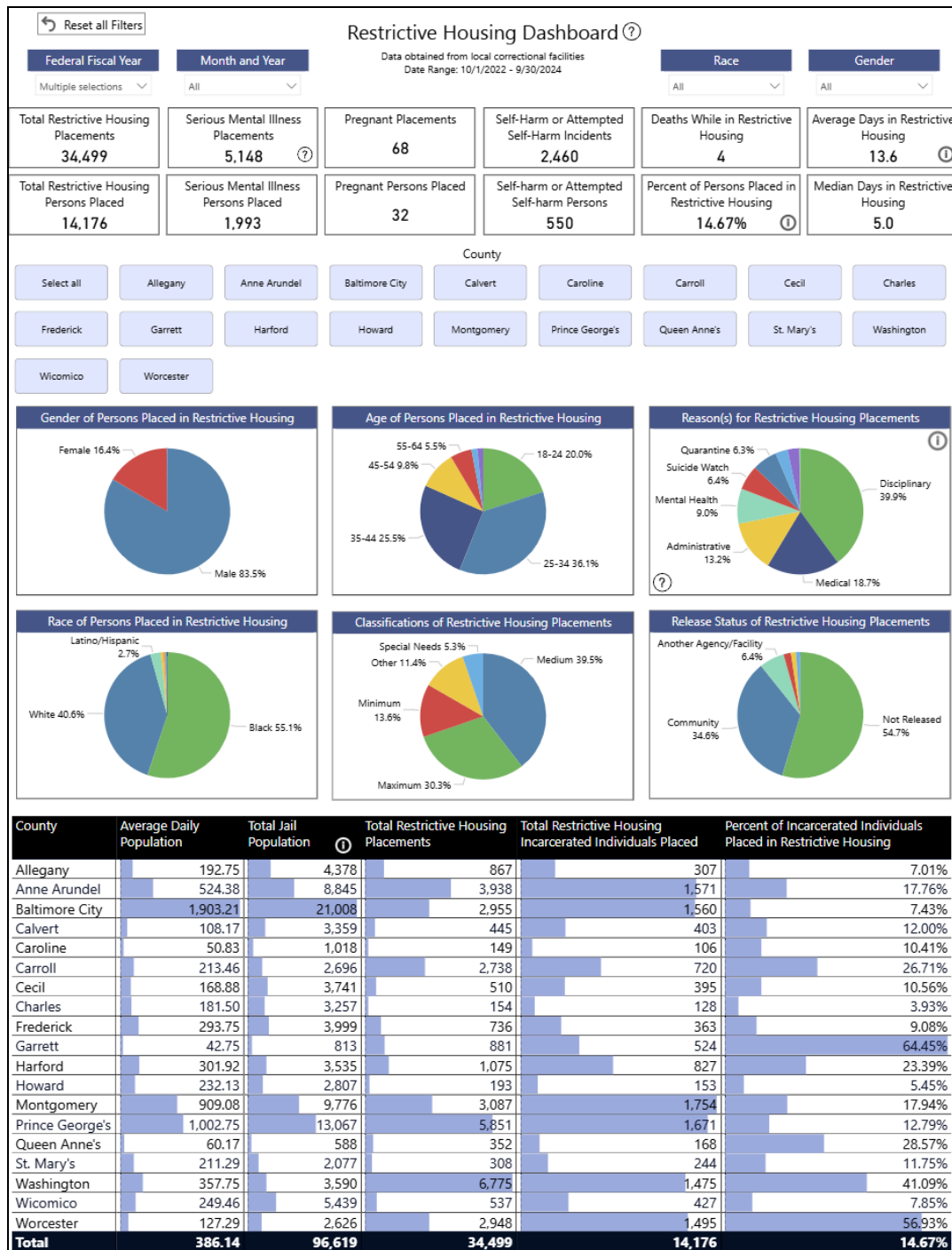
Of the reporting agencies, between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2024, there were approximately 96,619 incarcerated individuals in local correctional units. From this total, 14.67% (n = 14,176) were placed in restrictive housing (*as shown in the **Restrictive Housing***

¹ [Correctional Services Article, § 2-401\(b\)\(1\)](#) defines a correctional unit as “a unit of Maryland State or local government that is directly responsible for the care, custody, and control of individuals committed to the custody of the unit for the commission or alleged commission of a crime or an act that would be a crime if committed by an adult.

² [Correctional Services Article, § 9-614\(a\)\(3\)\(i\)](#).

Dashboard below).³ Collectively, the 14,176 individuals who were placed in restrictive housing accounted for 34,499 total instances of restrictive housing placement. For more information and/or to review the **Restrictive Housing Dashboard** and its interactive capability, please visit: <https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjojODAzYTU1ZDI6NTgxOC00M2E0LWI2YzMtMTQ0ODUwNWJjMjc0IiwidCI6IjYwYWZlOWUyLTQ5Y2QtNDliMS04ODUxLTY0ZGYwMjc2YTJlOCl9>.

³ The total jail population is calculated by adding the number of intakes during the selected time period and the “stock” population (the number of persons incarcerated, inclusive of both pretrial and sentenced) during the selected time period.



During the reporting period, 1,993 incarcerated individuals with serious mental illness were placed in restrictive housing. These individuals accounted for 14.9% (n = 5,148) of all restrictive housing placements (n = 34,499). For the purpose of this report, correctional units provided the following definitions of “serious mental illness” that were used to collect and submit the required restrictive housing information (*as described in Table 1*).

The following correctional facilities did not submit a definition for serious mental illness, as required: Allegany County, Caroline County, Cecil County, Charles County, Harford County, Howard County, Queen Anne’s County, Washington County, Wicomico County, and Worcester County.

Table 1: Definition of Serious Mental Illness by Correctional Unit and Most Recent Reporting Period	
Correctional Unit & Reporting Period	Definition
Anne Arundel County (FFY 2024)	The Anne Arundel County Department of Detention Facilities defines serious mental illness as a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder that results in major functional impairment that interferes with or limits an individual’s ability to perform major life activities. Throughout the course of the illness, these symptoms may range from mild to moderate to severe, and the impairment could manifest itself on a continuing or intermittent basis. Consistent with COMAR 10.21.17.02, these symptoms may include major psychotic, affective, or personality disorders recognized by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM 5), the authoritative guide to the diagnosis of mental disorders, and require interventions by mental health professionals. Because of their functional impairment and risk to their own safety or that of others, individuals presenting with these types of symptoms cannot be safely housed in the general population and require restrictive housing for their protection and access to services.
Calvert County (FFY 2024)	The Detention Center has adopted the National Institute of Mental Health’s definition. From www.nimh.nih.gov the following definition applies: Serious mental illness (SMI) is defined as a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder resulting in serious functional impairment, which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. The burden of mental illnesses is particularly concentrated among those who experience disability due to SMI.
Carroll County (FFY 2023)	The following Mental Illnesses are defined as serious by the MCCJTP and used by the Carroll County Detention Center Mental Health staff: Schizophrenia, Schizophreniform Disorder, Schizoaffective Disorder (Bipolar and Depressive Type), Delusional Disorder, Other and or Unspecified Schizophrenia or Psychotic Disorders, Major Depressive Disorder, Bipolar I Disorder (Hypomanic, Manic, Depressed), Unspecified Bipolar Disorder, Bipolar II Disorder, Schizotypal Personality Disorder and Borderline Personality Disorder.
Frederick County (FFY 2024)	Serious Mental Illness – is defined as a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder resulting in serious functional impairment, which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. In general, Serious Mental Illness includes, but is not limited to, the following diagnosis: (1) Schizophrenia, (2) Schizoaffective Disorder, (3) Bipolar Disorder, (4) Moderate to severe Major Depression, (5) and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.
Garrett County (FFY 2024)	SMI diagnoses include but are not limited to Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective Disorder, Major Depressive Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Unspecified Psychotic Disorder, and borderline personality disorder.
Montgomery County (FFY 2024)	Serious mental illness (SMI) is defined as a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder resulting in serious functional impairment, which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. SMI includes disorders such as bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, schizophrenia, and schizoaffective disorder.
Prince George’s County (FFY 2023)	Any inmate with a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder which impairs their ability to actively participate in one or more activities to be considered as seriously mentally ill.
St. Mary’s County (FFY 2024)	Serious mental illness is defined by someone over 18 having (within the past year) a diagnosable mental, behavior, or emotional disorder that causes serious functional impairment that substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities.

	Serious Mental Illness - DSM IV Diagnosis of Schizophrenia, Delusional Disorders, Schizotypal, Major Affective Disorders including Bipolar Disorder and Borderline Personality Disorders.
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Between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2024, 32 pregnant incarcerated individuals were placed into restrictive housing a total of 68 times.

During the reporting period, there were a total of 2,464 incidents of attempted self-harm, self-harm, and death. Of the 2,466 incidents, 1,105 occurred for attempted self-harm, 1,355 consisted of self-harm, and four resulted in death while placed in restrictive housing.

In addition, incarcerated individuals were placed in restrictive housing for an average length of 13.6 days, and a median length of five days. Furthermore, of the individuals placed in restrictive housing, 34.6% (n = 5,155) were released directly into the community following their restrictive housing placement. The majority of placed individuals (54.7%; n = 8,154) were not released directly into the community as of September 30, 2024.

During the reporting period, local correctional units reported no changes to their written policies or procedures regarding the use and conditions of restrictive housing, including steps to reduce reliance on restrictive housing.

Conclusion

The Office will continue to work with correctional units to ensure all required data elements are received in a timely manner, made available on its website, and submitted in a report to the General Assembly each year.