



## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CENTER  
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ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Pamela Harris**  
State Court Administrator  
410-260-1295

February 28, 2023

Honorable Wes Moore  
Governor  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Honorable Bill Ferguson  
President of the Senate  
State House, H-107  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Honorable Adrienne A. Jones  
Speaker of the House  
State House, H-101  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: JRA – Number of Substance Abuse Assessments Ordered

Dear Governor Moore, President Ferguson, and Speaker Jones:

Pursuant to the Justice Reinvestment Act, SB 1005/Ch. 515, 2016, the Judiciary herein submits its report on the number of substance abuse assessments ordered by courts in criminal cases under Maryland Code, Health – General Article § 8-505.

The report covers the period of January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Walter at (410) 260-1725, or via email at [jamie.walter@mdcourts.gov](mailto:jamie.walter@mdcourts.gov).

Sincerely,

Pamela Harris  
State Court Administrator

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Hon. Wes Moore  
Hon. Bill Ferguson  
Hon. Adrienne A. Jones  
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cc: Honorable Matthew J. Fader, Chief Justice, Supreme Court  
Honorable Audrey J.S. Carrión, Chair, Conference of Circuit Judges  
Honorable Daniel M. Long, Chair, Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board  
Honorable John P. Morrissey, Chief Judge, District Court  
Eric G. Luedtke, Chief Legislative Officer, Office of the Governor  
Sally McMillan Robb, Chief of Staff, President of the Senate  
Jeremy P. Baker, Chief of Staff, Speaker of the House  
Kelley O'Connor, Assistant State Court Administrator, Government Relations &  
Public Affairs  
Sarah Albert, Mandated Reports Specialist

**Maryland Judiciary**  
**Calendar Year (CY) 2022**  
**JRA – Number of Substance Abuse**  
**Assessments Ordered**



**February 2023**

**Substance Abuse Disorder Assessments Ordered, HG-8-505  
Calendar Year 2022**

Between Circuit and District Court locations, there were 997 substance abuse disorder assessments ordered in calendar year 2022. Please see breakdown by county below (Table 1).

**Table 1: CY 2022 8-505 Orders**

<b>County</b>	<b>Circuit Court</b>	<b>District Court</b>	<b>Total</b>
Allegany	34	25	<b>59</b>
Anne Arundel	100	4	<b>104</b>
Baltimore City	78	13	<b>91</b>
Baltimore County	50	1	<b>51</b>
Calvert	8	0	<b>8</b>
Caroline	7	1	<b>8</b>
Carroll	14	0	<b>14</b>
Cecil	9	0	<b>9</b>
Charles	50	0	<b>50</b>
Dorchester	19	0	<b>19</b>
Frederick	56	6	<b>62</b>
Garrett	7	40	<b>47</b>
Harford	13	4	<b>17</b>
Howard	22	0	<b>22</b>
Kent	5	0	<b>5</b>
Montgomery	66	39	<b>104</b>
Prince George's	119	21	<b>140</b>
Queen Anne's	15	0	<b>15</b>
Saint Mary's	8	0	<b>8</b>
Somerset	21	6	<b>27</b>
Talbot	1	0	<b>1</b>
Washington	55	8	<b>63</b>
Wicomico	46	7	<b>53</b>
Worcester	18	1	<b>19</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>997</b>

Commentary Regarding Data Findings and Collection of CY 2021 and CY 2022 Data:

As in previous years, CY 2022 8-505 order data collection reflects efforts to increase the accuracy of counting orders through the identification and elimination of multiple evaluation codes used by certain courts. The Maryland Judiciary continues to train and educate clerks about use of these codes, particularly for courts in Maryland Electronic Court (MDEC) counties. Of note, Prince George’s County was converted to MDEC on October 17, 2022, and Baltimore City, the final jurisdiction to be converted, is scheduled for May 2024.

In comparing CY 2022 (Table 1) and CY 2021 (Table 2) data, orders for evaluation decreased by 16% in CY 2022 over CY 2021 in the circuit and District Courts, with the circuit court decreasing by 15.8% and the District Court decreasing by 8.3%.

**Table 2: CY 2021 8-505 Orders**

County	Circuit Court	District Court	Total
Allegany	20	7	27
Anne Arundel	91	13	104
Baltimore City	128	10	138
Baltimore County	53	0	53
Calvert	8	28	36
Caroline	13	0	13
Carroll	27	0	27
Cecil	9	1	10
Charles	15	1	16
Dorchester	15	0	15
Frederick	55	2	57
Garrett	2	16	18
Harford	38	9	47
Howard	18	1	19
Kent	9	0	9
Montgomery	160	11	171
Prince George's	151	62	213
Queen Anne’s	10	1	11
Saint Mary’s	6	1	7
Somerset	11	2	13
Talbot	3	0	3
Washington	60	4	64
Wicomico	38	22	60
Worcester	23	1	24
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>1,155</b>

Please see below for specific notes regarding each case management system.

***Circuit Court for Baltimore City*** – Confirmed that the number provided is the number of orders, not the number of defendants.

***Baltimore City District Court (District Court Mainframe)*** – As referenced in the Judiciary’s previous 8-505 legislative reports, a new code identifying 8-505 orders was implemented in the District Court Mainframe in May of 2017. However, to control for any instances in which the code was not used and to ensure all 8-505 orders were captured, several data queries were run through docket text and comments to get a total number of assessments ordered.

***MDEC (Circuit & District Court)*** – MDEC “Event” report was run for CY 2021 to identify the frequency of codes indicating the court order or receipt of in-patient, out-patient, and in-custody evaluations.

***Circuit Court for Prince George’s County***– Prince George’s County converted to MDEC in October 2022. To identify all CY 2022 orders for evaluation, Prince George’s County legacy case management systems in the circuit and District Courts and MDEC “event” reports were queried.