

I. OVERVIEW

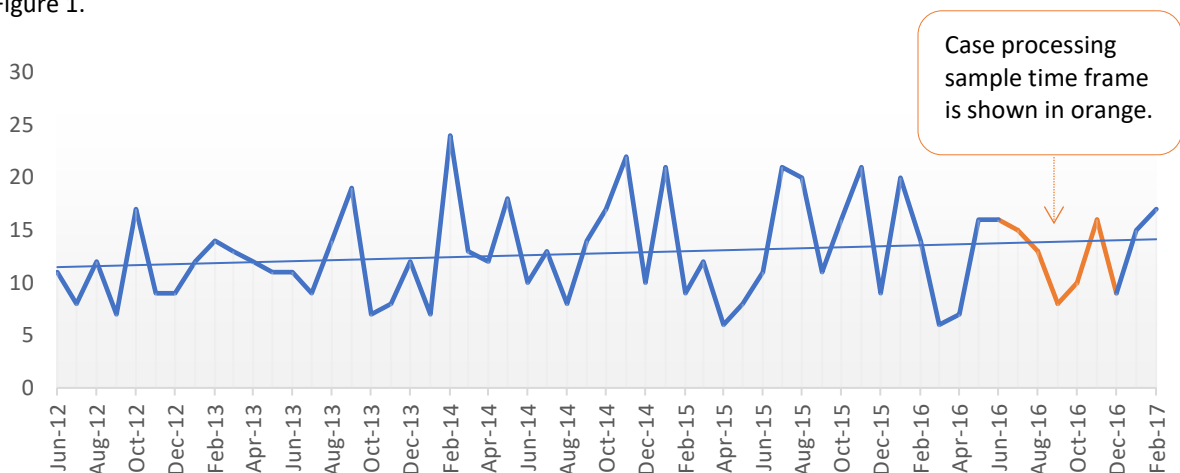
This study examines the case processing time and case outcomes of youth charged as adults in Baltimore City. It begins with a more general examination of trends in the arrest and commitment of youth to the Baltimore City Detention Center (BCDC), the decision to transfer custody to a juvenile facility, and the decision whether to transfer jurisdiction to the juvenile court. The focus then shifts to a more in-depth assessment of a recent sample of Baltimore City youth charged as adults and admitted to a juvenile detention facility between June 1, 2016 and November 30, 2016.

II. TRENDS

A. Baltimore City Detention Center (BCDC) Commitment¹

- An average of 13 youth charged as adults were committed to the Baltimore City Detention Center each month, ranging from a low of 6 to a high of 24 youth between June, 2012 and February, 2017 (n= 730).²

Figure 1.



- The two most common offenses (based on the top charge) included armed robbery / robbery (44.4%) and handgun possession/violation (24.3%), accounting for over two-thirds of the cases.

Armed Robbery / Robbery	324 (44.4%)	Armed Carjacking/Carjacking	33 (4.5%)
Hand Gun Poss./Violation	177 (24.3%)	Murder 1 st	19 (2.6%)
Attempted Murder	78 (10.7%)	Rape / Sex Offense	20 (2.7%)
Assault 1 st	74 (10.1%)	Other	5 (0.7%)

¹ Source: Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office Tracking Sheet

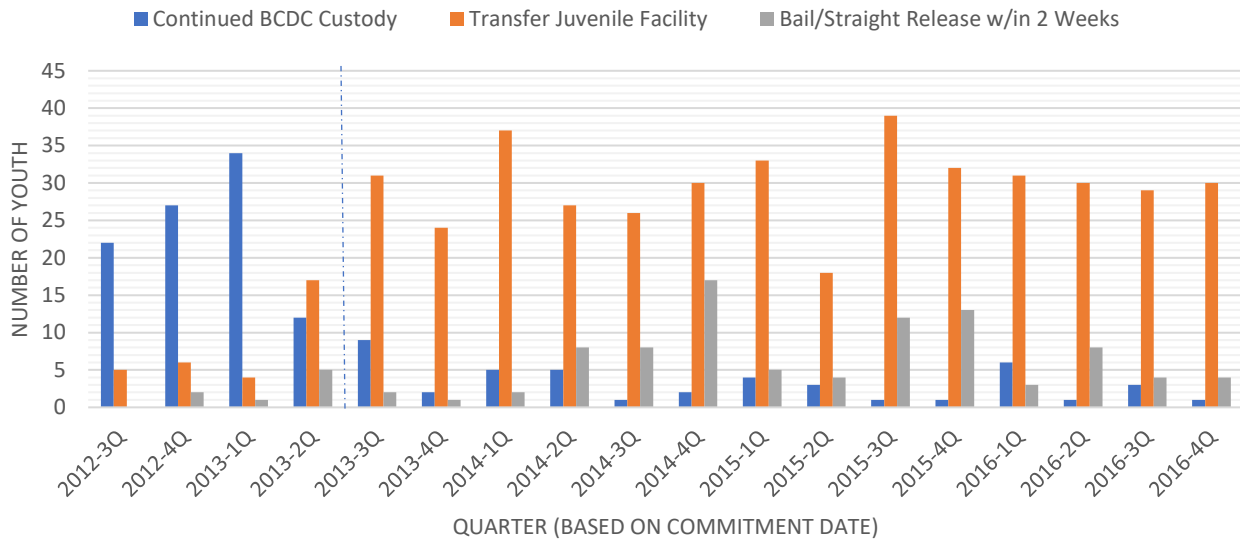
² This is a case level analysis based on youth SID, court case number, and BCDC commitment date. If a youth returns to BCDC for the same case, the subsequent BCDC admission is not counted.

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B. PHYSICAL CUSTODY DECISION

- Following the July 1, 2013 multi-agency agreement to detain eligible youth who are charged as adults in juvenile facilities (and the subsequent passage of SB172 / HB618), the vast majority of youth are now transferred to a juvenile facility and/or released (n= 687).³

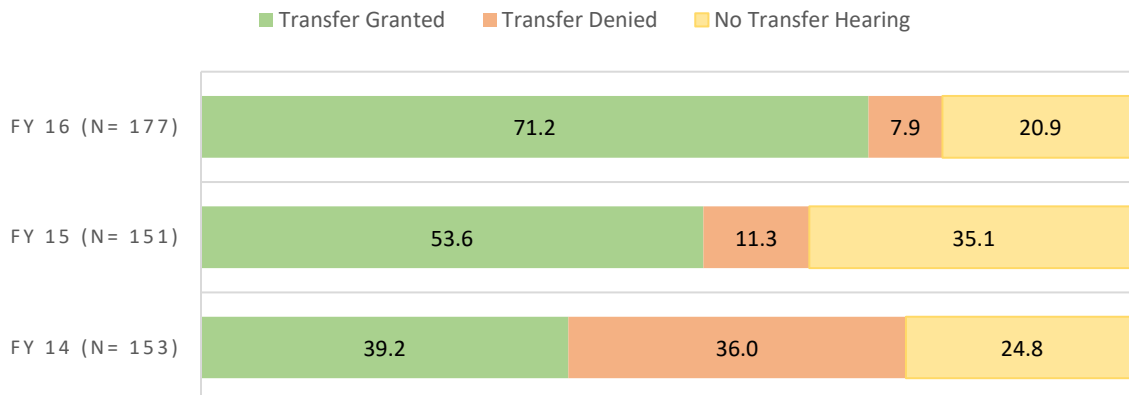
Figure 2.



C. TRANSFER TO JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION BY FISCAL YEAR OF COMMITMENT

- Youth charged as adults are increasingly likely to be transferred to juvenile court jurisdiction.

Figure 3.



³ This chart is based on commitment date, not transfer date. Transfer to a juvenile facility may occur in a subsequent quarter.

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D. ADULT COURT OUTCOME AND CASE PROCESSING TIME (FY 14 – FY 16 COMBINED)

Figure 4.

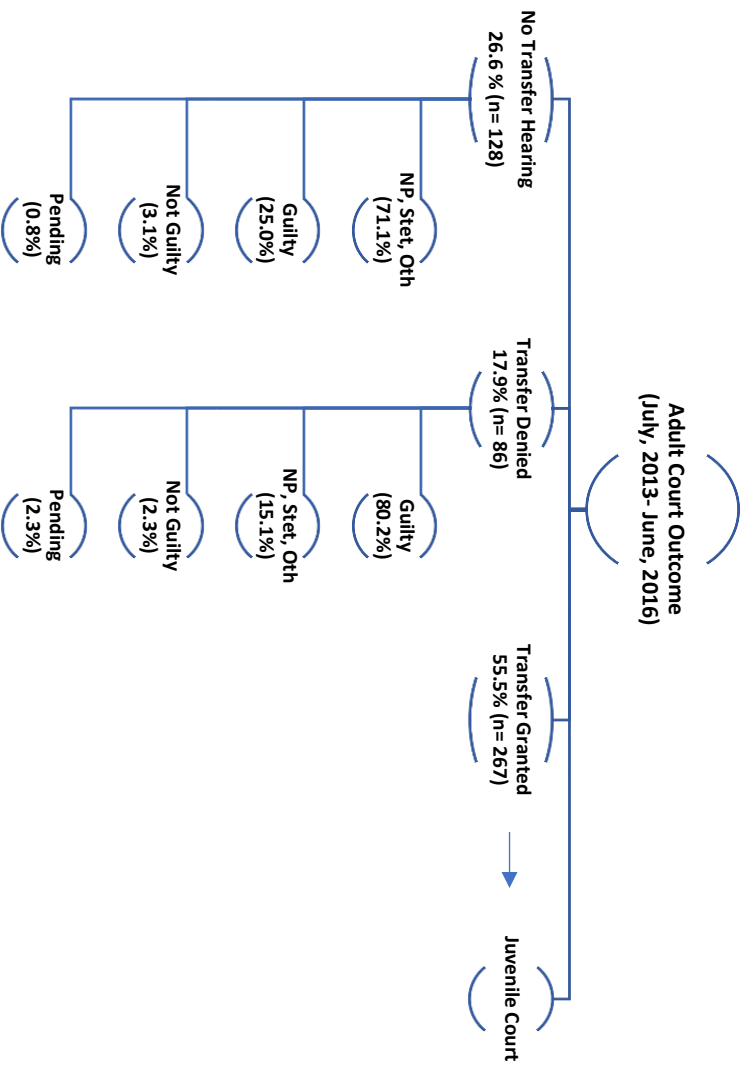


Table 2. Case Processing Time (in Days) from BCDC Commitment Date

	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Days to Transfer Hearing			
Average	n = 115	n = 97	n=140
Median	153 days	156 days	154 days
IQ Range (25 th to 75 th %)	126 104 to 174	146 106 to 180	143 114 to 182
Days to Nolle Prose only			
Average	n = 38	n = 39	n = 23
Median	119 days	31 days	74 days
IQ Range (25 th to 75 th %)	26 9 to 199	15 14 to 30	32 14 to 110
Days to Trial (Final) if not Transferred or NP			
Average	n = 54	n = 29	n = 24
Median	318 days	255 days	268 days
IQ Range (25 th to 75 th %)	266 165 to 479	201 138 to 340	256 181 to 323

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III. CASE PROCESSING SAMPLE (JUNE, 2016 – NOVEMBER, 2016)

Sample

All Baltimore City youth residents charged as adults and admitted to a juvenile detention facility between June 1, 2016 and November 30, 2016 are included in the sample. Note that eight Baltimore City residents charged in Baltimore or Harford County have been excluded from the study. Preliminary results are described here. The transfer outcome is still pending for 3% of the cases (n= 2).

Procedure

Each case in the sample was followed in three databases: (a) the Department of Juvenile Services, ASSIST database; (b) the Baltimore City Circuit Court, Quest database; and (c) the Maryland Judiciary Case Search. These electronic sources were supplemented by an excel database maintained by the State’s Attorney’s Office that tracks case processing and case outcomes of youth committed to BCDC. See Appendix A for more information on data sources.

Table 3. Sample Overview (n= 67)

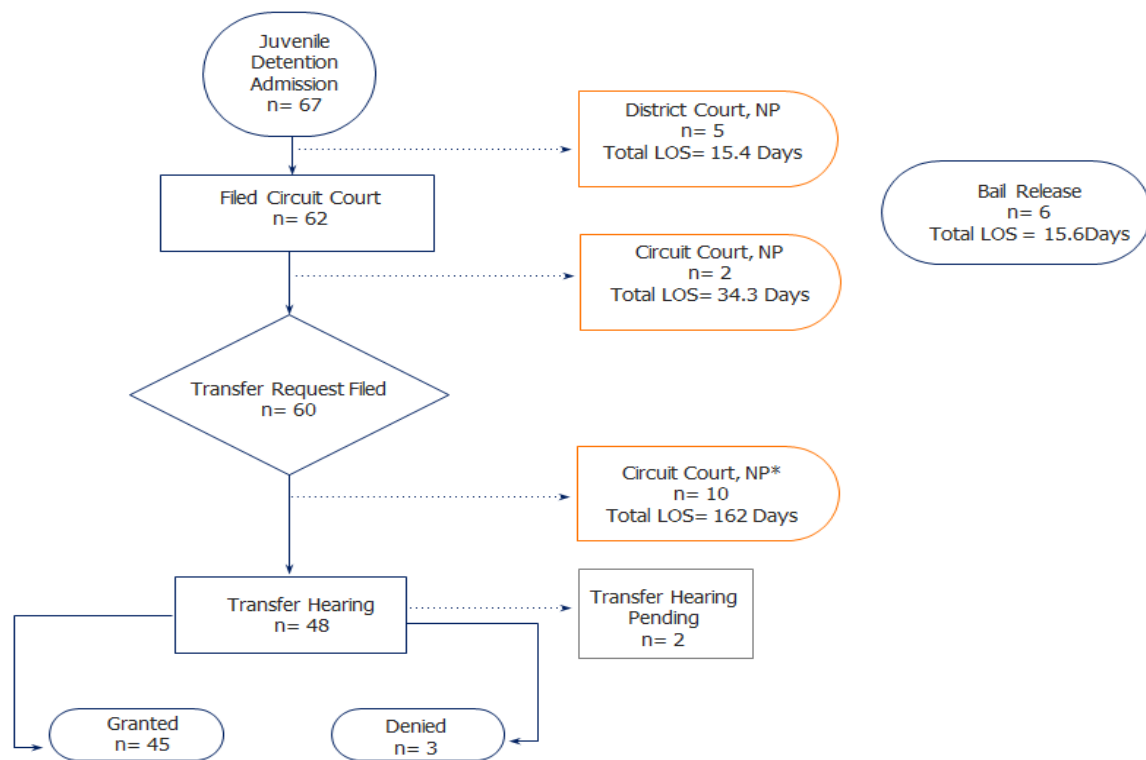
Court Jurisdiction, n (%)	
Baltimore City	67 (100%)
Male, n (% yes)	
	67 (100%)
Race/Ethnicity, n (%)	
Black	66 (98.5%)
Hispanic / Latino	1 (1.5%)
White	0 (--)
Age at Admission in Years, X (SD)	
	16.96 (0.61)
	Median= 16.75
	Range: 15.97 – 18.59
Top Charge, n (%)	
Armed Robbery / Robbery	27 (40.3%)
Attempted Murder	3 (4.5%)
Assault 1 st	10 (14.9%)
Armed Carjacking / Carjacking	7 (10.4%)
Handgun / Firearm	15 (22.4%)
Rape / Sex Offense (1 st or 2 nd degree)	3 (4.5%)
Kidnapping	1 (1.5%)
Murder	1 (1.5%)

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IV. SAMPLE CASE FLOW AS OF OCTOBER 3, 2017

- 97.0% of the cases have completed adult case processing (as of October 3, 2017)
- Six youth were released on bail (median detention LOS= 16.5 days) (9.0% of the sample).
- 25% of the cases were nolled prossed (n= 17)
- 10% of the cases (n= 7) were nolled prossed at either the District Court level (median detention LOS= 15.4 days) or at the Circuit Court level prior to arraignment (median detention LOS= 34.3 days)
- 15% of the cases (n= 10) were nolle prossed after the request for transfer was filed (median detention LOS= 162 days)
- 3.0% of the cases (n= 2) are pending a transfer hearing. As of October 1, 2017, these 2 youth have been detained for an average of 323 days, facing alleged charges of armed carjacking and attempted murder, 1st degree.

Figure 5.



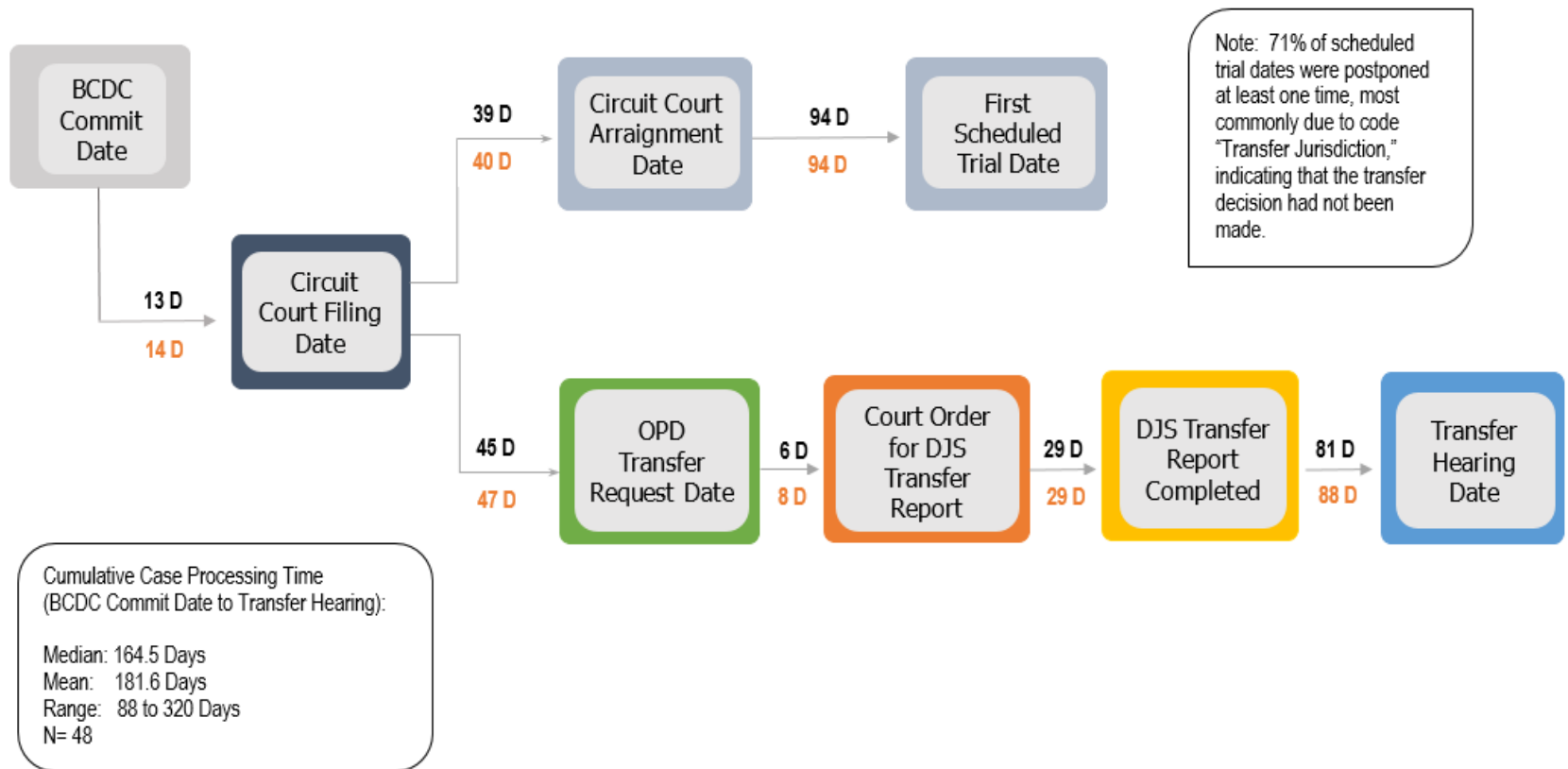
*Note that n= 2 youth whose cases were NP at the Circuit Court level were released on bail.

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V. PRELIMINARY ADULT CASE PROCESSING TIME THROUGH TRANSFER HEARING

Figure 6 displays the median (above arrow in black) and mean (below arrow in orange) number of days that elapsed *between* each decision point. All youth processed through each stage or decision point as of October 3, 2017 are included. Two cases in the sample (3%) are pending a transfer hearing.

Figure 6



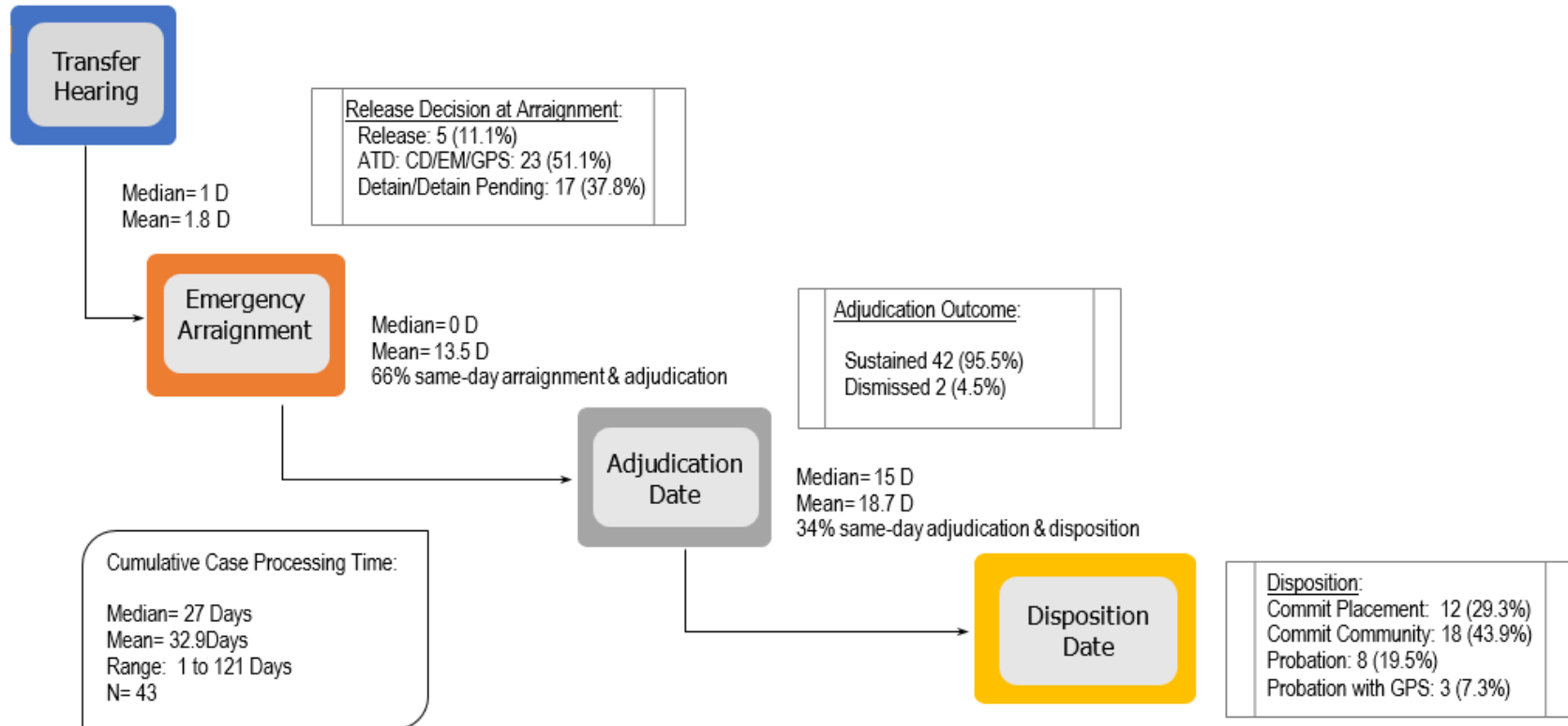
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VI. PRELIMINARY JUVENILE CASE PROCESSING TIME

Figure 7 presents the number of days that elapse between each juvenile court hearing as well as hearing outcome.

- A median of 27 days elapsed between the transfer hearing and the completed juvenile disposition hearing (n= 43 cases)⁴
- At arraignment, 51% of youth were released on an ATD; at adjudication, most cases were found *facts sustained* (96%); and at disposition, the most common disposition was community commitment (44%).

FIGURE 7.



⁴ Note n= 1 case is currently pending at adjudication and n= 1 case is pending at disposition.

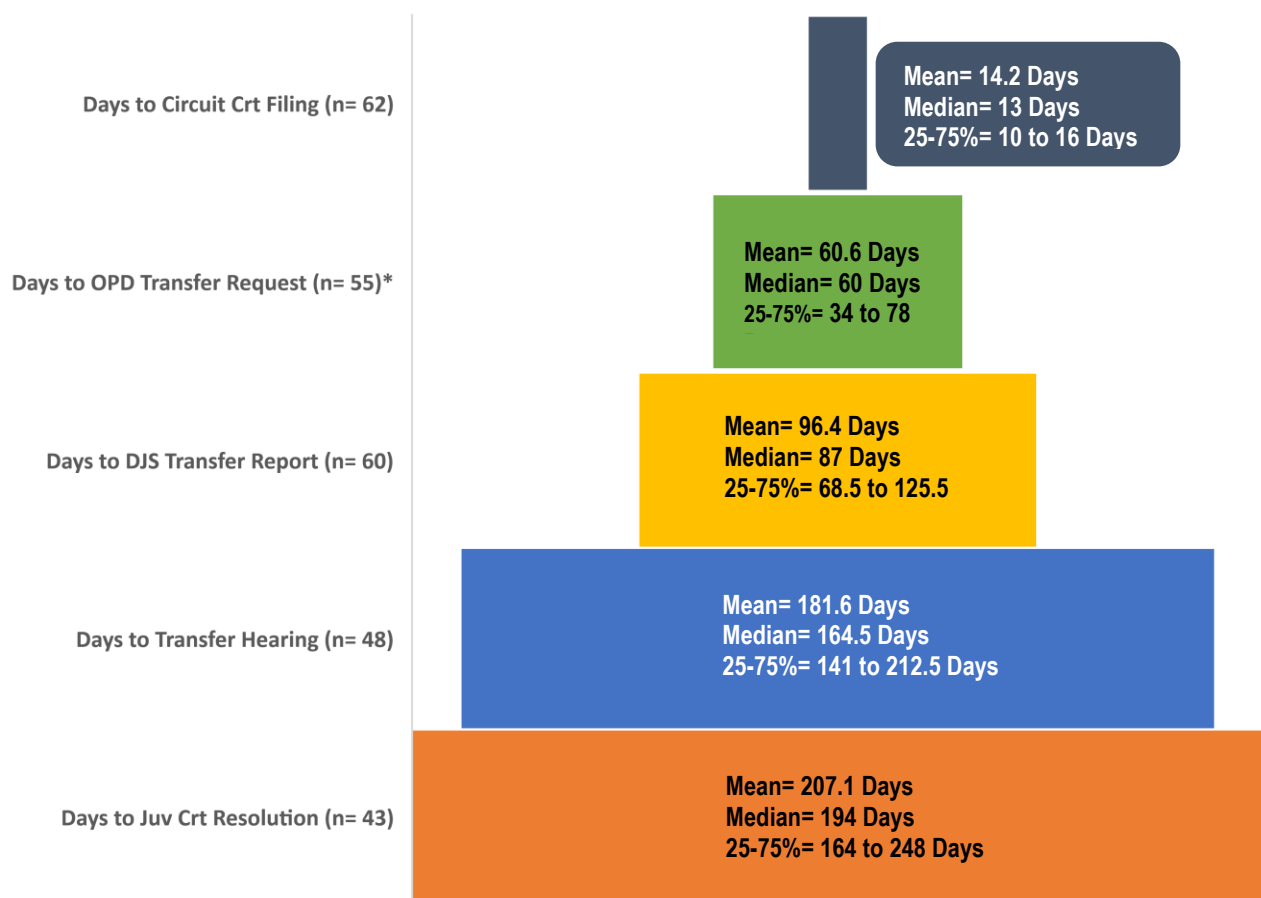
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VIII. CUMULATIVE CASE PROCESSING TIME

Figure 8 presents the *cumulative* number of days that elapsed between the BCDC commitment date and each case processing stage.

- An average of **14** days elapsed between BCDC commitment and circuit court filing; an average of **61** days elapsed between BCDC commitment and OPD transfer request; an average of **96** days elapsed between BCDC commitment and completed DJS transfer report; and an average of **182** days elapsed between BCDC commitment and completed transfer hearing.
- For those cases transferred to the juvenile court, an average of **207** days elapsed between BCDC commitment and juvenile case resolution. The middle 50% of cases were resolved in between **164** and **248** days.

FIGURE 8. CUMULATIVE CASE PROCESSING TIME IN DAYS⁵



* The OPD Transfer Request date was missing for n= 5 cases that were not available on the Maryland Judiciary Case Search.

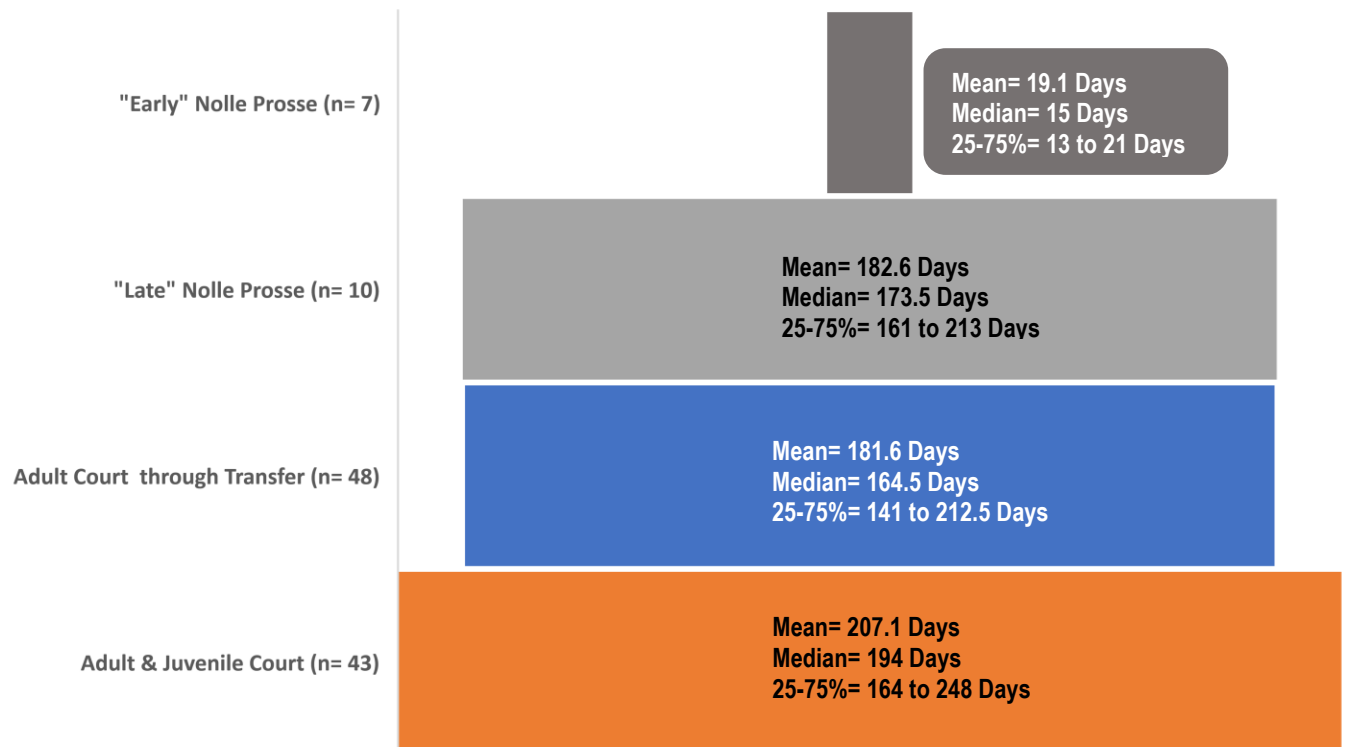
⁵ Note that the length of each bar represents the average number of days between the BCDC commitment date and the specified case processing stage. The middle 50% of cases fall within the 25th and 75th percentiles shown on the chart as **25-75%**.

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As shown in Figure 5, approximately, 25% of the cases in the sample were nolle prossed. Figure 9 examines case processing time by case resolution type. Cases that were nolle prossed at the District Court level or Circuit Court level (prior to arraignment) are categorized as “early” nolle prosse.

- An average of **19** days elapsed between BCDC commitment and the “early” nolle prosse of a case.
- An average of **183** days elapsed between BCDC commitment and the “late” nolle prosse of a case similar to the number of days that elapsed for a completed transfer hearing.

FIGURE 9. CUMULATIVE CASE PROCESSING TIME BY CASE RESOLUTION TYPE



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Appendix A – Data Sources	
Source	Primary Fields
DJS-ASSIST	Juvenile Detention Admission / Release Dates Court Order for Waiver Report Date Waiver Report Completion Date
QUEST	Adult Case Status Transfer Hearing Date Transfer Hearing Outcome Juvenile Court Petition Number Juvenile Emergency Arraignment Date Juvenile Adjudication Date Juvenile Disposition Date Detention Decision at Arraignment Juvenile Disposition
Maryland Judiciary Case Search	Offense Date Arrest /Commitment Date District Court Outcome Circuit Court File Date Circuit Court Case Number Circuit Court Charges OPD Waiver Request Date Court Order for Waiver Report Date Transfer Hearing Scheduled Transfer Hearing Postponement Transfer Hearing Date Adult Disposition
State's Attorney's Office Tracking Sheet	BCDC Commitment Date BCJC Transfer Date Bail Release Date Arraignment Date Transfer Hearing Date Top Count (across current cases) Circuit Court Trial Date(s) Circuit Court Outcome

*Note that not all date values were available for all youth at all points in the system (e.g., n= 5 cases were not found in the Maryland Judiciary Case Search). Even if a case was found on the Maryland Judiciary Case Search, the descriptive information did not always contain the necessary dates. The calculated durations are based on available data at each decision point.