



April 26, 2022

# Raise The Age

# My Background

- Crime analyst and data analytics consultant based out of New Orleans.
- Former analyst for the Central Intelligence Agency and Department of Defense.
- My analysis of crime trends and data has been published in the New York Times, FiveThirtyEight, The Atlantic, and more.
- Cited as an expert on crime trends and data by numerous publications across the political spectrum from Fox News to CNN.

# Overview

- Murder increased by nearly 30 percent nationally and by 35 percent in Louisiana in 2020.
- Louisiana has had the nation's highest murder rate for 32 straight years through 2020.
- There is no evidence that Louisiana's implementation of Raise The Age in 2019 and 2020 contributed to the statewide increase in murder or gun violence.

## The 2020 Murder Increase

- Began nationally in early 2020, accelerated in May 2020, and has stayed elevated ever since.
- Involved large increases in red states and blue states, big cities and small towns, and everywhere in-between.
  - Murder rose by 68 percent in Louisiana cities (70 percent in Louisiana cities excluding New Orleans).
- Likely caused by a complex combination of factors related to and exacerbated by the pandemic.

US Murders Per Month, 2010 - 2020



All data on national or statewide murder is from the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Report available through 2020.

# Raise The Age and the Murder Increase

Why Raise The Age does not logically fit as a driver of the murder increase:

- The increase in murder was part of a national trend which does not fit the timeline of implementation.
  - Murder fell in Louisiana in March/April 2019 when Raise The Age was first implemented, and the increase in murder in 2020 began in May/June, before the second phase of implementation.
- Kids under 18 commit a small fraction of all murders both in Louisiana and nationally. This did not change after Raise The Age was implemented.
  - Kids under 18 made up 4.4 percent of all murder offenders in Louisiana in 2020, down from 5 percent in 2018 and 4.9 percent in 2019.

Share of Murder Offenders Under 18 (Source: FBI SHR)

State	% Under 18
Louisiana	4.4%
Arkansas	5.8%
Georgia	5.0%
Texas	4.6%
<b>National Average</b>	3.6%

## Raise The Age and New Orleans Gun Violence

Similarly, there is no evidence that Raise The Age is a driver of increasing murder in New Orleans:

- New Orleans reached a 50-year low in murder in 2019 after Raise The Age was implemented.
- The vast majority of New Orleans gun violence is perpetrated by adults both before and after Raise The Age implementation.
  - Kids under 18 made up 7.2 percent of all people arrested for a murder in New Orleans between 2015 and 2019 and 8.1 percent in 2020 and 2021.
  - Kids under 18 made up 8.1 percent of all people arrested in a non-fatal shooting between 2015 and 2019 and 5.8 percent in 2020 and 2021.

# Raise The Age and New Orleans Juvenile Detention

Juvenile detention in New Orleans has declined after Raise The Age's implementation.

- The Juvenile Justice Intervention Center averaged 38.8 juveniles detained per day between 2017 and February 2019. JJIC averaged 36.5 juveniles detained per day between March 2019 and December 2021.
- The December 2019 ransomware attack, the pandemic, and decreasing NOPD commissioned strength have all likely contributed to fewer juvenile arrests and detentions.

JJIC Detentions Per Day, 2017 - 2021

