

State Trends 2018-2020

CAMPAIGN FOR
YOUTH  JUSTICE

WINNING THE CAMPAIGN:

State Trends in
Fighting the Treatment
of Children As Adults
in the Criminal Justice
System

2005 - 2020

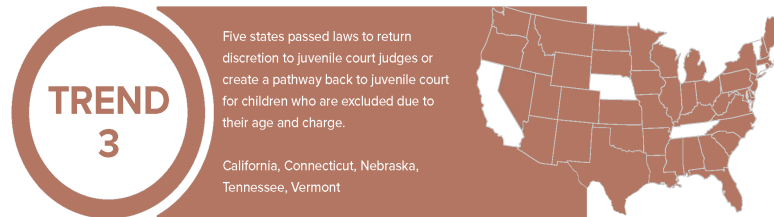
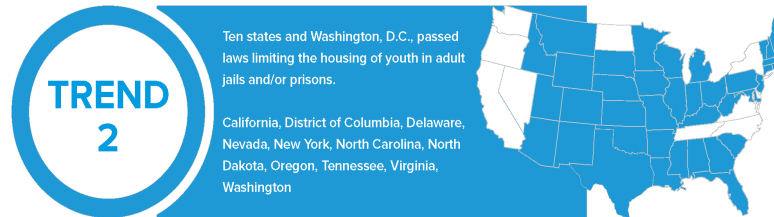
CAMPAIGN FOR
YOUTH  JUSTICE
BECAUSE THE CONSEQUENCES AREN'T MINOR



TRENDS OVER TIME

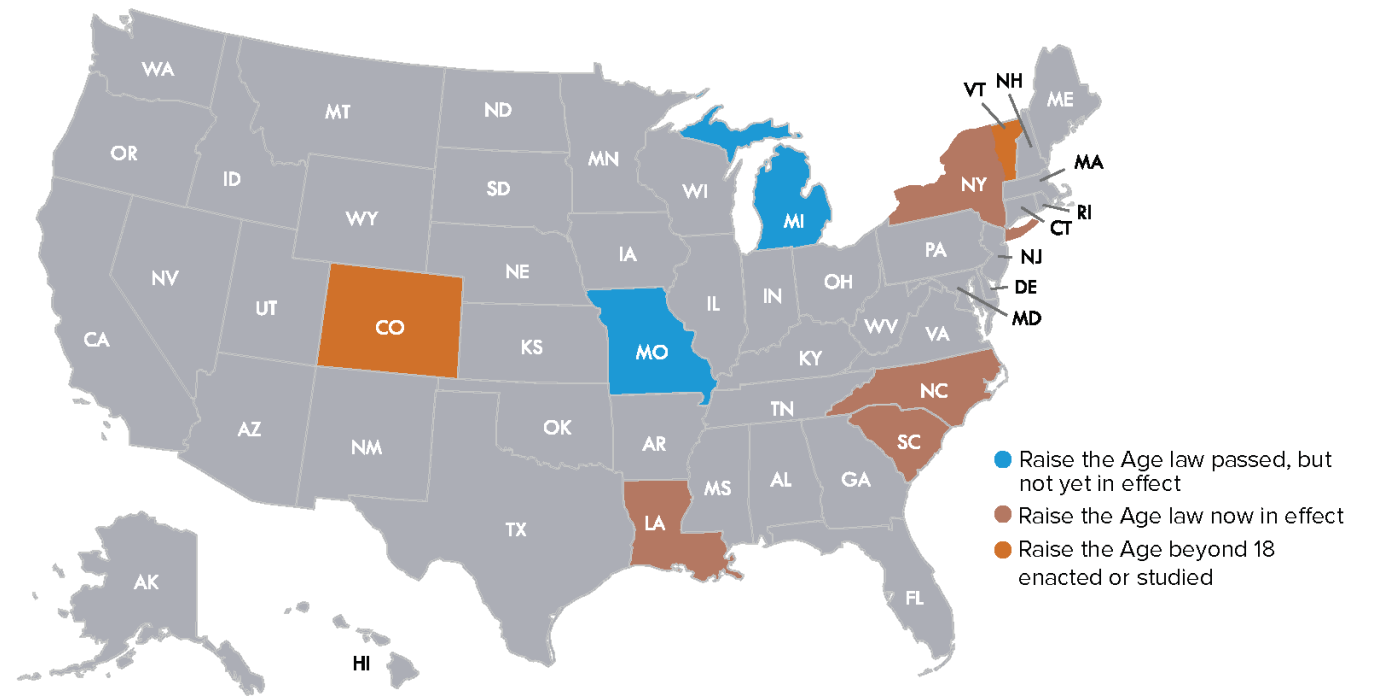
- 40 States & DC
- 24 states (2018-2020)
- 100+ State Laws
- 2 Federal Laws
- 150k-200k fewer children in adult court every year

STATE TRENDS 2018-2020



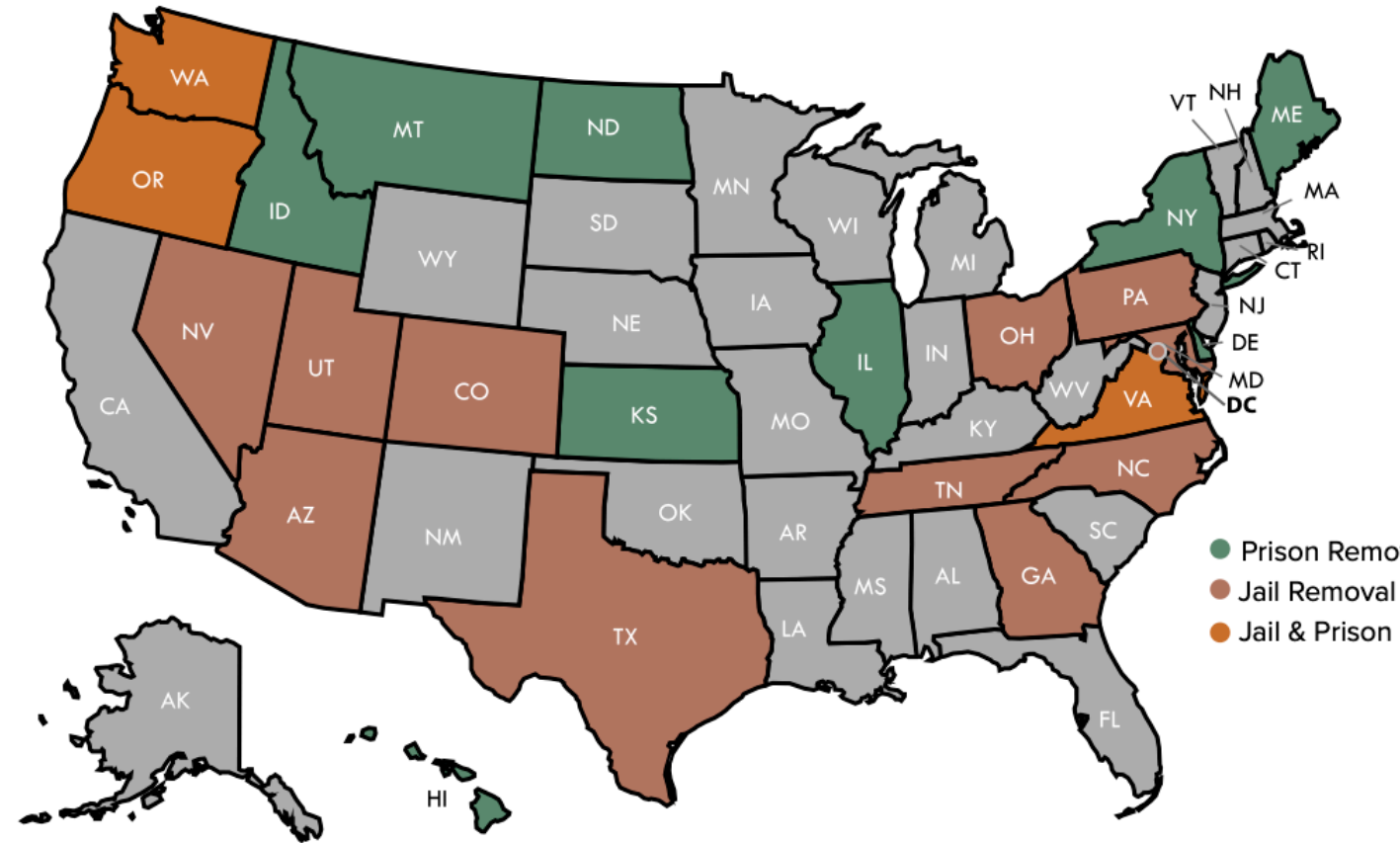
RAISE THE AGE

- Reform Blocks the Front Door to Adult Justice System
- Biggest impact in terms of # of youth in adult court (lowering numbers by 150k/year.
- Implementation shows similar findings across states.
- Only 3 states—Georgia, Texas, and Wisconsin remain.



JAIL & PRISON REMOVAL

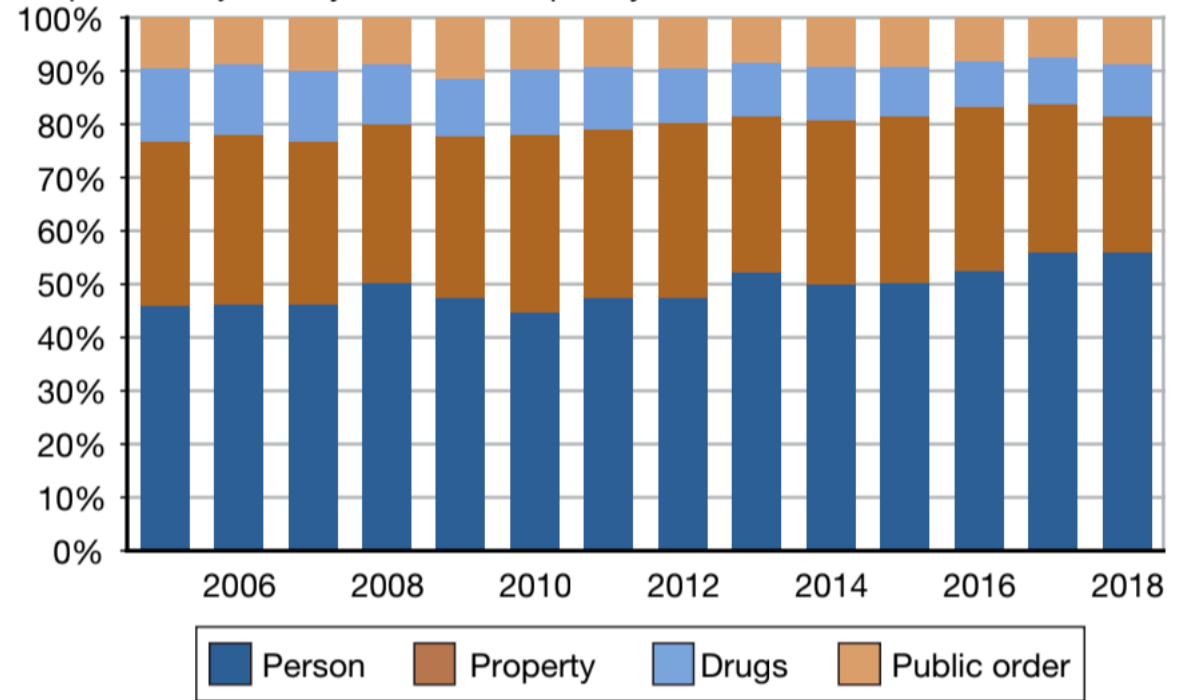
- Utilize federal law to incentivize this movement across states.
- PREA (2003)—70% drop in the number of youth in adult prisons.
- JJDPA (2018)—should help remove youth from adult jails get to zero.
- 13k/night down to 3,400/night
- 70% of youth charged as adults already are held in youth facilities pre-trial.



JUDICIAL & REVERSE WAIVER

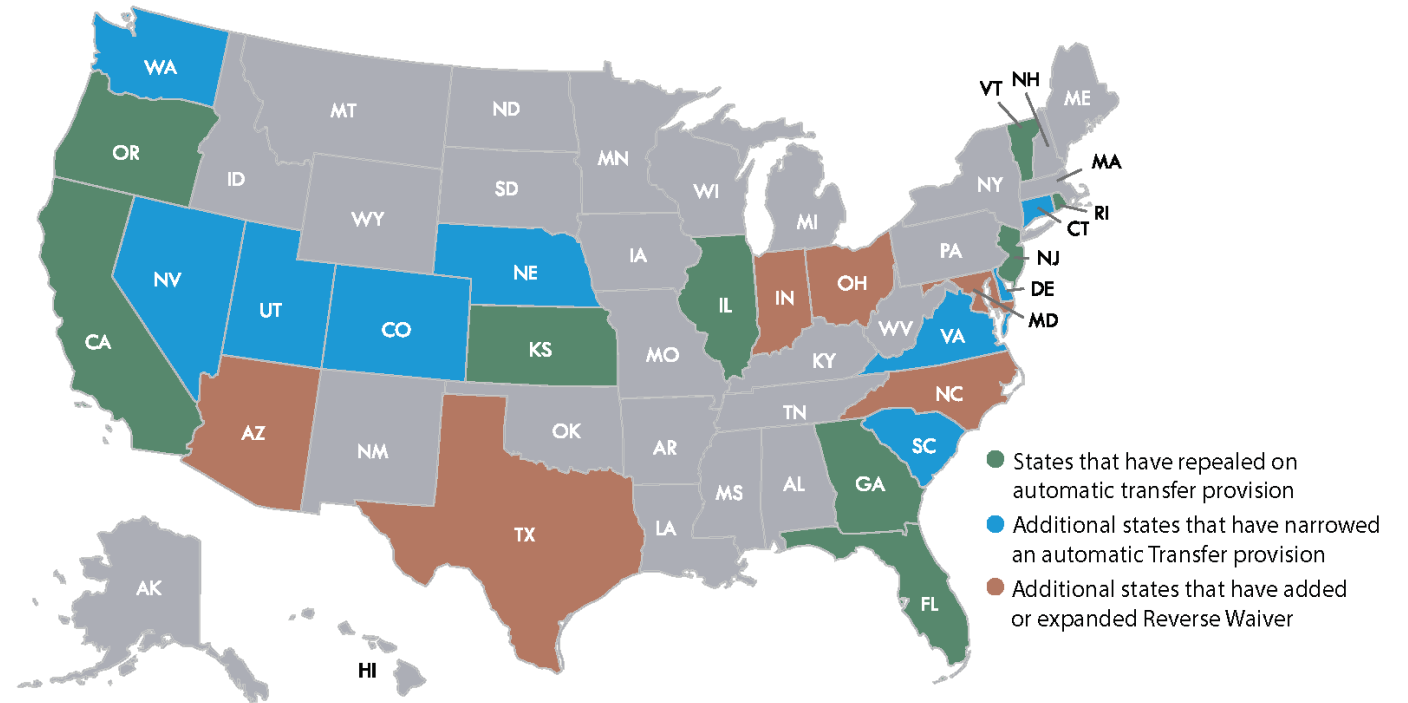
- Mitigating the Harm

Proportion of judicially waived delinquency cases



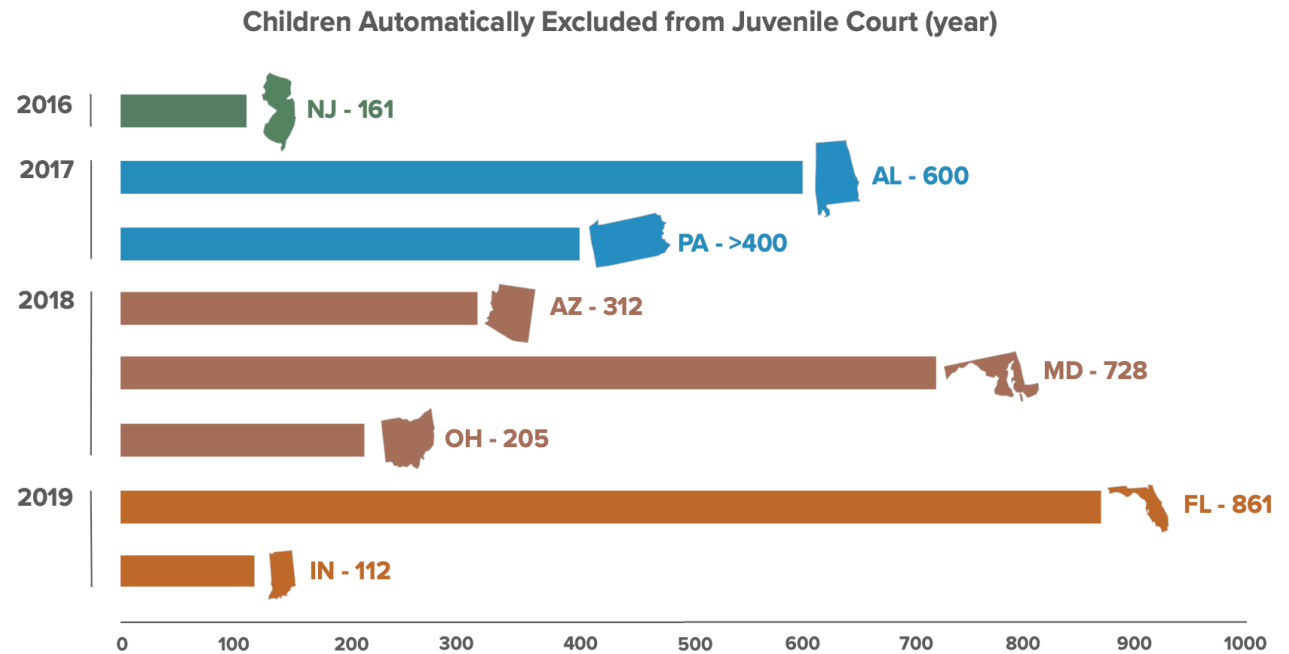
AUTOMATIC TRANSFER

- “Sleeper” campaign—but critically important.
- 6 states (geographically dispersed) have totally repealed automatic transfer
- Begins to equalize the playing field regarding racial & ethnic disparities



STATES WITH ~200 Youth/Year Charged As Adults

- In all of these states, children charged as adults is decreasing
- NJ & FL have passed reforms
- PA & FL some prosecutors have shifted practice (OH/TN moving in the wrong direction).
- Every state has egregious racial & ethnic disparities
- No correlation between rates of youth violence & charging children as adults.



STATE PARTNERS: WINS 2018-2020

MICHIGAN: RAISE THE AGE

- **Jason Smith**, Michigan Center for Youth Justice

CALIFORNIA: ENDS AUTOMATIC TRANSFER & RETURNS DISCRETION TO JUDGES

- **Elizabeth Calvin**, Human Rights Watch & California Alliance for Youth & Community Justice
- **Oscar Canales**, Anti-Recidivism Coalition & California Alliance for Youth & Community Justice

UTAH: ENDS AUTOMATIC TRANSFER

- **Brett Peterson**, Director of Utah Division of Juvenile Justice

NEXT STEPS: CAMPAIGN FOR YOUTH JUSTICE

- CLOSE DECEMBER 31, 2020
- TRANSITION RESOURCES & KNOWLEDGE TO THE SENTENCING PROJECT
- SUPPORT 5 STATES IN 2021 (GA, IN, MD, PA, TX)
- YJAM MOVES TO NJJN (National Juvenile Justice Network) & CJJ (Coalition for Juvenile Justice)
- ENCOURAGE FUNDERS TO SUPPORT 8 STATES WITH 200+ YOUTH TRANSFERRED TO ADULT COURT