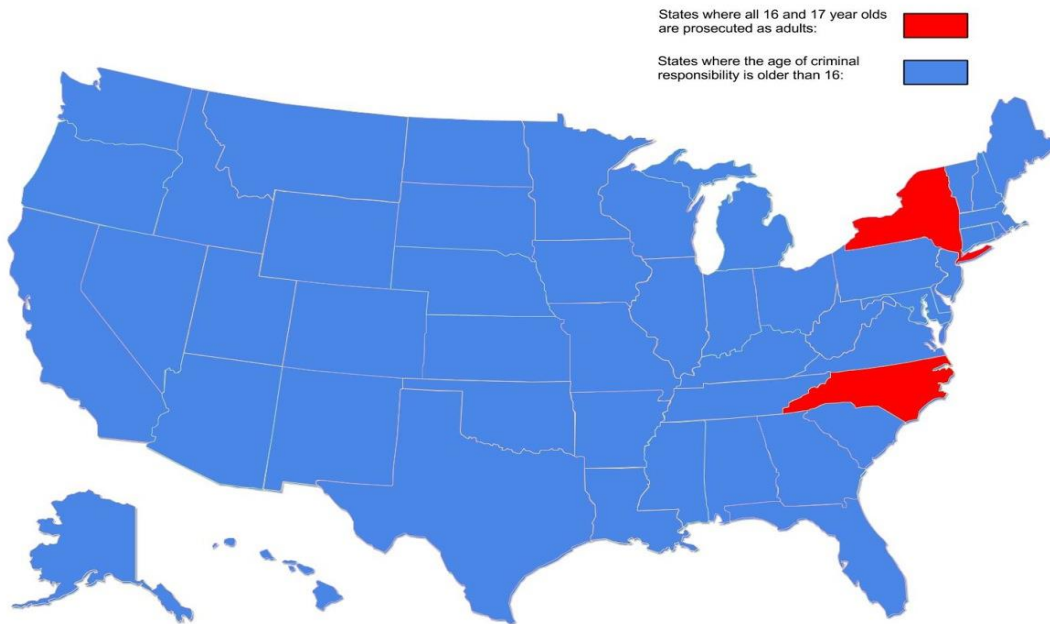


Only New York and North Carolina Prosecute ALL 16- and 17-Year-Old Children as Adults



Did you know that in New York:

- All 16- and 17-year-olds are treated as adults in the criminal justice system regardless of the alleged offense. This even applies for the overwhelming majority (72%) who are charged with misdemeanors!
- 16- and 17-year-olds prosecuted in adult courts, who are incarcerated or detained, are housed in adult jails and prisons. Research shows that youth are not safe in adult jails and prisons and are at the greatest risk of sexual victimization and physical violence of all inmate populations.
- Youth in adult jails and prisons do not have access to the same age-appropriate rehabilitative services that are available in juvenile facilities. While some progress has been made in limiting the use of solitary confinement, some young people continue to be exposed to prolonged isolation - severely damaging youths' mental health, physical health, and development.
- Youth are 36 times more likely to commit suicide in an adult facility than in a juvenile facility.
- Prosecuting youth in the adult system (rather than a juvenile system) has repeatedly been proven to increase their likelihood of committing crimes or violent acts in the future.
- When youth under age 19 are incarcerated, they are less likely to graduate high school and more likely to end up back in prison.
- Because 16- and 17-year-olds are treated as adults in NY they do not have access to the continuum of services that has successfully enabled New York's younger youth to remain in their homes and communities without endangering public safety.

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