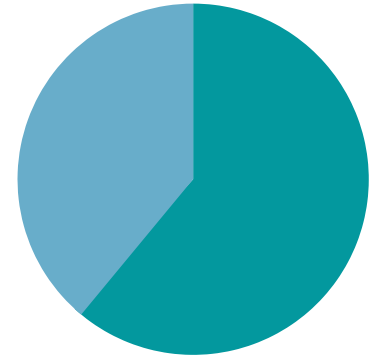




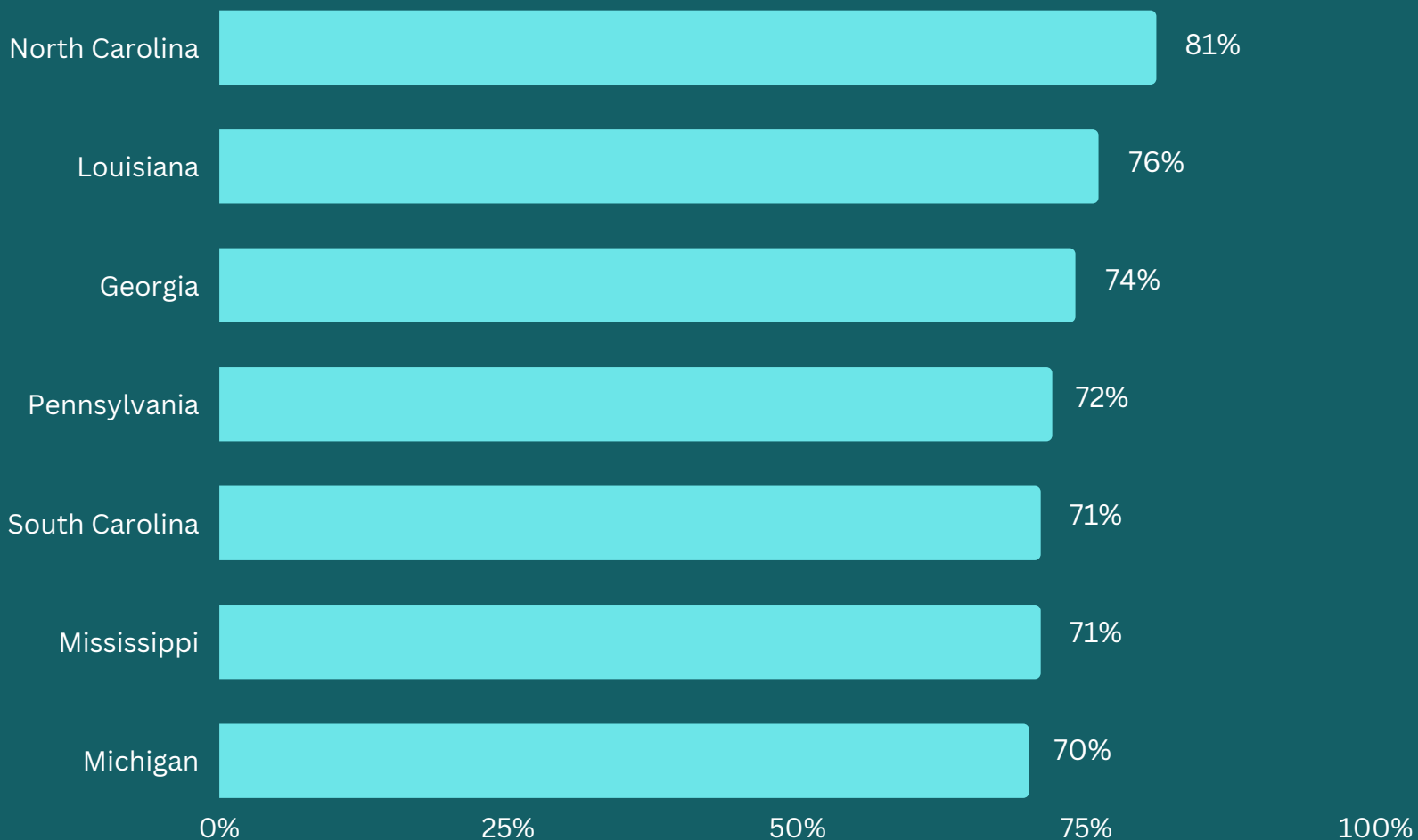
States must do more to confront racist history of sentencing Black children to die in prison

Historically, Black children in the United States have been disproportionately sentenced to die in prison.

61% of all children sentenced to life without parole have been Black despite making up roughly 10-13% of the U.S. population.



These states have a shockingly disproportionate number of Black people serving juvenile life without parole sentences:



The practice of sentencing children to die in prison has decreased dramatically. But for Black children, disparities in juvenile life without parole sentences have worsened in recent years.

The U.S. Supreme Court decisions *Miller v. Alabama* (2012) and *Montgomery v. Louisiana* (2016) set new standards for children in the criminal legal system, granting individuals who were serving juvenile life without parole (JLWOP) eligibility for resentencing. Despite the gains made since *Miller* in abolishing life without parole for children in over half of all U.S. states, JLWOP lives on in certain parts of the country and racial disparities have gotten worse: of all new cases since the 2012 *Miller* decision, **77%** of JLWOP sentences have been imposed on Black children.

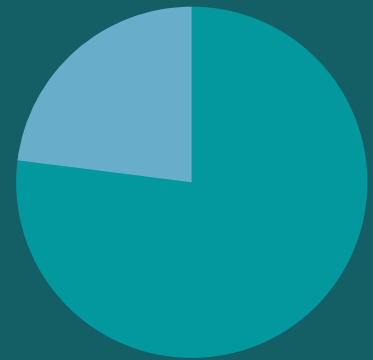
Black children also make up the majority of those awaiting resentencing, thus benefiting less from the standards set by *Miller* than their white counterparts. For instance, of those who have not yet been resentenced in **Michigan**, **74%** are Black.

Furthermore, in a state like **Georgia**, where the use of JLWOP since *Miller* **has more than doubled**, worsening racial disparities in the state are particularly alarming.

Of those who have been sentenced to JLWOP since 2012,

77%

are Black children.



In Georgia:	
Pre-Miller	Post-Miller
70% of children sentenced to JLWOP are Black	76% of children sentenced to JLWOP are Black

Without urgent action, our history of criminalizing and condemning Black children to die behind bars will continue into the present day. Join us this Black History Month and beyond to rewrite the future.

Note on data: Since 2016, the Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth has collected individual-level data for every person in the United States convicted of life without parole for a crime committed under the age of 18. This data is collected and updated using information from state partner organizations, state departments of correction, dockets and legal filings, and outreach from those serving these sentences and their families.