

Juvenile Life Without Parole: Facts and Figures

1. Age under which children are prohibited from activities including voting, serving on a jury, serving in armed combat, purchasing or using tobacco or alcohol, and marrying or consenting to medical treatment without parental consent: **18 or older**
2. States with civil laws recognizing that kids are different in maturity and responsibility: **50**
3. Individuals serving life without parole (“LWOP”) for a non-homicide offense committed at age 13: **2**
4. Individuals serving LWOP for crimes committed at age 13: **9**
5. States with a first-time juvenile offender serving LWOP for armed burglary: **1 (FL)**
6. Number of states that account for nearly 90 percent of the juveniles sentenced to LWOP for non-homicide offenses: **3 (FL, LA, IA)**
7. States that currently have juvenile offenders incarcerated for life for non-homicide crimes: **6 (FL, LA, IA, CA, NE, SC)**
8. Percentage of individuals serving juvenile LWOP for a non-homicide offense who are minorities: **100**
9. Estimated number of individuals in the U.S. currently serving LWOP for crimes committed as juveniles: **2,500**
10. Individuals in the U.S. currently serving LWOP for non-homicide juvenile crimes: **109**
11. Years since a 13-year-old has been sentenced to LWOP for a non-homicide offense: **18**
12. 13- and 14-year-olds sentenced to LWOP over the last approximately 30 years: **73**
13. Number of child offenders serving life without parole outside of the United States: **0**
14. Nations opposing the 2006 UN General Assembly Resolution calling on all nations to abolish juvenile LWOP: **1 (United States)**
15. Nations that have not ratified Article 37 of the Convention of the Rights of the Child, prohibiting juvenile LWOP sentences: **2 (United States and Somalia)**

Sourcing by line:

1: *Roper v. Simmons* Opinion of the Court; ABA Juvenile Justice Center

2,4,11,12: Sullivan *petitioner* brief

3,8: Equal Justice Initiative, *Cruel and Unusual: Sentencing 13- and 14-Year-Old Children to Die in Prison*

5,7: Graham *petitioner* brief

6,10: Paolo Annino, et al., *Juvenile Life without Parole for Non-Homicide Offenses: Florida Compared to Nation*