



EMPOWER
MISSISSIPPI

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VIOLENT CRIME IN MISSISSIPPI

A Data-Supported Analysis and
Evidence-Based Solutions



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report examines the current state of violent crime in Mississippi, using official FBI crime statistics to determine the extent of the problem. The latest year for those statistics to be comparable to previous years and to other states is 2020. We then explore the reasons for the recent spike in violent crime and offer potential policy solutions that are grounded in evidence. Among the findings:

- ▶ Mississippi's violent crime rate in 2020 was 27 percent lower than the national average, and it has remained consistently below the national average over the last decade. It was lower than all other states in our region. However, our homicide rate was notably higher.
- ▶ In 2019, the violent crime rate in Mississippi was 3 percent lower than it was in 2010, but the spike in 2020 resulted in an 8 percent increase for the decade.
- ▶ It is too soon to tell if this is a trend or a blip on the otherwise downward trend in crime that began almost three decades ago.
- ▶ Homicide, a subset of the overall violent crime rate, jumped 66 percent over the three year period of 2017-2020. This acceleration was far faster than any comparison state – jumping almost twice as fast as the next-highest state and almost three times the national rate of increase.
- ▶ Although violent crime rates increased in urban and rural areas, the sheer number of homicides in the Capital City skews Mississippi's data. Jackson accounted for less than 6 percent of the state's population in 2020 but more than 50 percent of all homicides.



Did recent criminal justice reform laws passed by the legislature and signed by the governor contribute to the recent spike in violent crime and murder?

- ▶ There is no evidence to support a conclusion that reforms have contributed to any increase in violent crime rates. *All* states experienced homicide spikes in 2020, including those that implemented justice reforms similar to those passed by Mississippi and those that did not. The most significant increases in violent crime in our region occurred in two states that have *not* enacted criminal justice reforms.
- ▶ Mississippi’s two largest criminal justice reforms, enacted in 2014 and 2021, do not coincide in time with the recent increase in violent crime.
- ▶ After being among the top states in imprisonment rates the past several years, we now, as of 2022, have the highest imprisonment rate in the country, and now we imprison more people than in 2019. Notably, however, this is not due to the increase in violent crimes. In 2021, 73 percent of prison admissions were for drug or other nonviolent crimes, indicating that law enforcement and prosecutors, at least in some locations, are not prioritizing violent crime.

Solutions

- ▶ Properly fund law enforcement and ensure that the money is used to attract, pay well, and properly train officers.
- ▶ Focus limited law enforcement resources on the most serious offenses, and address mental health and addiction issues at the community level. These are elements in a substantially better long-term strategy for public safety than reverting to a “lock everyone up and throw away the key” mentality that is both costly and ineffective.
- ▶ Most people who commit crimes after leaving prison do so within 12 months of their release. Preparing people with job skills, life skills, and mental or addiction treatment while they are in prison and soon after their release effectively reduces the likelihood they will return to the life they led before going to prison.





INTRODUCTION

Crime is a hot topic in Mississippi and around the country. News reports routinely lead with shootings and other crimes of violence.

Any life that is lost to violence is a tragedy and rightly sparks outrage among the public as well as elected officials. While absolute safety is not obtainable among humans, government has a role to provide reasonable protections against violence for its citizens. In fact, government's primary responsibilities are to safeguard individual rights to life, liberty, and property and ensure that justice is done when those rights are violated.

State and local policies aimed at addressing crime and curbing violence should be based in evidence. **Basing policy decisions on media - including social media - narratives and anecdotes can result in unintended consequences that squander tax dollars without actually reducing violent crime.**

Suggestions that the recent spike in violent crime and homicides is due to statewide criminal justice reforms are not supported by evidence. These reforms, which were intended in part to reduce unnecessary imprisonment, were passed in 2014 and 2021, neither of which align with the violent crime spike. Additionally, while these reforms were statewide, increases in homicides are concentrated primarily in the City of Jackson. If criminal justice reforms were a driver of crime rates, the impact would not be so isolated.

Contrary to the assertion by some that those reforms would "let everybody out of prison," There are now *more* people in Mississippi prisons than there were in 2019. In fact, Mississippi recently became the state with the highest imprisonment rate in the nation. This unenviable ranking carries with it a number of social and fiscal consequences, and it puts us further into the crosshairs of a U.S. Department of Justice that is already actively investigating Mississippi's prison system.

Empower Mississippi is committed to increasing public safety and reducing crime. Evidence over the past 30 years has shown that when limited resources are applied to prosecuting and incarcerating the biggest threats to public safety, instead of an overly broad approach that leads to mass incarceration, communities are safer at a lower cost to the state. Other components of that strategy are included in our recommendations at the end of this report.

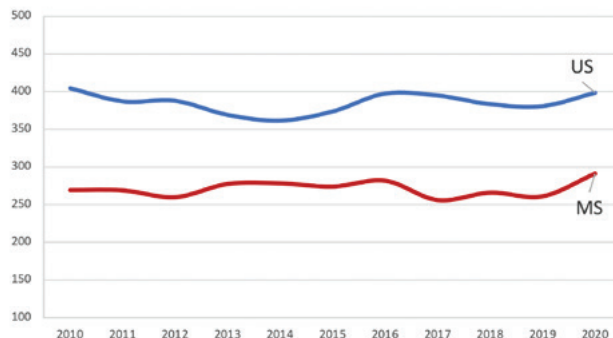
In a systemic sense, this commitment extends to Empower's work in education and around expanding economic opportunity. There is ample data and evidence to support the idea that adequate education and sufficient job opportunities have a meaningful impact on reducing crime and reducing incarceration rates.

In a more direct sense, we are committed to reforming our justice system to ensure that the state is not over-criminalizing conduct that does not pose a direct public safety threat, that punishments are proportionate to the underlying offense, and that there is a path to earning redemption and a second chance for those who make mistakes and learn from them.

But none of these objectives exists in a vacuum, nor are they disconnected from one of the primary roles of government: preserving public safety and order in our communities. In recent months, there has been an increase in concern over violent crime. This report provides perspective on the public policy aspects of this important concern.

PART 1: THE DATA IN CONTEXT

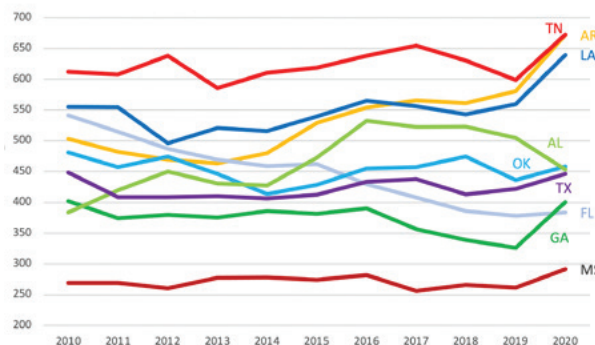
Figure 1: U.S. & Mississippi Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 population



See Table 1 in Appendix for data associated with this graph

A look at other states in the region reveals that Mississippi’s violent crime rate has consistently been significantly lower than those states every year measured over the last decade.

Figure 2: Comparison States Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 population



See Table 1 in Appendix for data associated with this graph

All but two comparison states saw an increase or a negligible decrease in violent crime rates over the last decade. Only Florida (-29%) and Oklahoma (-5%) saw significant decreases. Mississippi’s increase of 8% for the decade was lower than all four of its contiguous states – Arkansas (33%), Alabama (18%), Louisiana (15%), and Tennessee (10%).

[Note: In this report, we rely on data compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) from local law enforcement agencies throughout the country. For agencies that do not report their data, the FBI presents an estimate using comparable data from similar communities that did report their data, either in Mississippi or elsewhere. Because the FBI changed the crime reporting process in 2021, the most recent data that can be used to compare to previous years and to other states is from 2020.]

VIOLENT CRIME

Mississippi’s violent crime rate (which the FBI defines as homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault occurrences per 100,000 residents) is markedly lower than the US average – 27% lower in 2020 – and has remained consistently below the national average over the last decade. This, despite the fact that the state’s violent crime rate in 2020 was 8% higher than in 2010, while the national average over that time period decreased slightly. It should be noted, however, that all of Mississippi’s increase for the decade is attributable to the spike in 2020. If we had stopped the comparison at 2019, it would have shown a 3% decrease in violent crime since 2010.



The one-year jump in violent crime from 2019 to 2020 was striking. In Mississippi, violent crime increased 11% in that one year, which was in the middle of the pack of comparison states. Every comparison state saw a significant spike in 2020 with the lone exception of Alabama - one of the few states in the country to see a decrease in violent crime rates that year.

While the overall *violent crime* rate in Mississippi is still lower than its neighboring states, its homicide rate is notably higher.

Ten-Year Violent Crime Rate Changes (2010-2020)

STATE	PERCENT CHANGE
Arkansas	33%
Alabama	18%
Louisiana	15%
Tennessee	10%
Mississippi	8%
Texas	-0.4%
Georgia	-0.5%
United States	-1.5%
Oklahoma	-5%
Florida	-29%

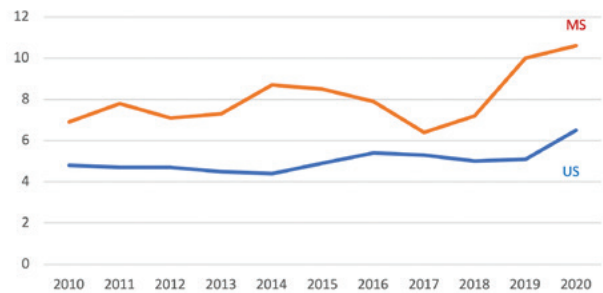
One-Year Violent Crime Rate Changes (2019-2020)

VIOLENT CRIME RATES	PERCENT CHANGE
Georgia	23%
Arkansas	16%
Louisiana	14%
Tennessee	12%
Mississippi	11.5%
Texas	6%
Oklahoma	5%
United States	5%
Florida	1%
Alabama	-10%

HOMICIDE

[Note: Homicide rates appear relatively low because they are calculated per 100,000 people, so measuring percentage changes can be deceiving. Still, the data is clear that Mississippi's homicide rate is higher than most other states and is escalating faster.]

Figure 3: U.S. & Mississippi Homicide Rate per 100,000 population

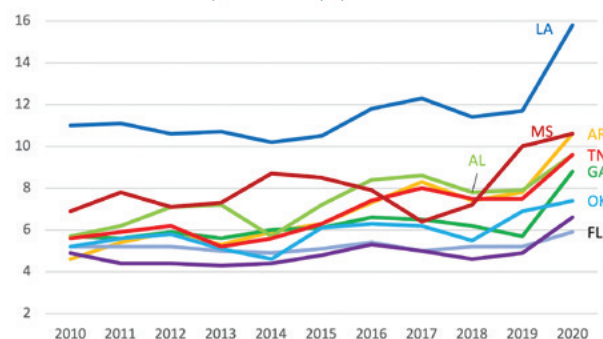


See Table 2 in Appendix for data associated with this graph

The 2020 spike in the rate of homicide was a nationwide phenomenon, not limited to the Magnolia State. The national homicide rate had remained relatively stable from 2010-2019, but it saw a marked increase from 2019-2020 at 27%.

Mississippi's homicide rate in 2020 was higher than the national average of 6.5 and was tied with Arkansas for the second highest in the region at 10.6, behind Louisiana's 15.8 - nearly 50% higher than Mississippi's.

Figure 4: Comparison States Homicide Rate per 100,000 population



See Table 2 in Appendix for data associated with this graph

When measuring changes in the homicide rate over the last decade, Mississippi's increase of 54% falls in the middle of the distribution of comparison states, well below increases seen in neighboring states of Arkansas (130%), and Tennessee (71%).

Ten-year Homicide Rate Changes (2010-2020)

STATE	CHANGE
Arkansas	130%
Tennessee	71%
Alabama	68%
Georgia	54%
Mississippi	54%
Louisiana	44%
Oklahoma	42%
United States	35%
Texas	35%
Florida	13%

However, Mississippi's homicide rate over the three-years from 2017-2020 accelerated far faster than any comparison state - jumping almost twice as fast as the next-highest state and almost three times the national rate of increase. In that short period, Mississippi's rate surged 66%. (The increase from 2019-2020 was 6 percent, the lowest of the comparison states, which is why the three-year vantage point is important.) As discussed below, the homicide rate in the City of Jackson is a major driver of this increase.

One-Year Homicide Rate Changes (2019-2020)

STATE	CHANGE
Georgia	54%
Arkansas	36%
Louisiana	35%
Texas	35%
Tennessee	28%
United States	27%
Alabama	22%
Florida	13%
Oklahoma	7%
Mississippi	6%

Three-Year Homicide Rate Changes (2017-2020)

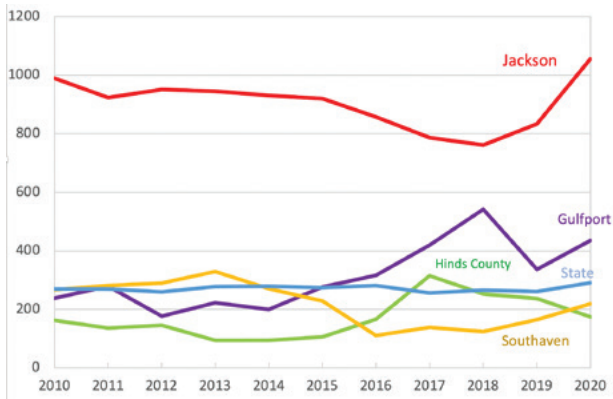
STATE	CHANGE
Mississippi	66%
Georgia	35%
Texas	32%
Louisiana	28%
Arkansas	28%
US	23%
Tennessee	20%
Oklahoma	19%
Florida	18%
Alabama	12%





CITIES

Figure 5: Local Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 population



See Table 3 in Appendix for data associated with this graph

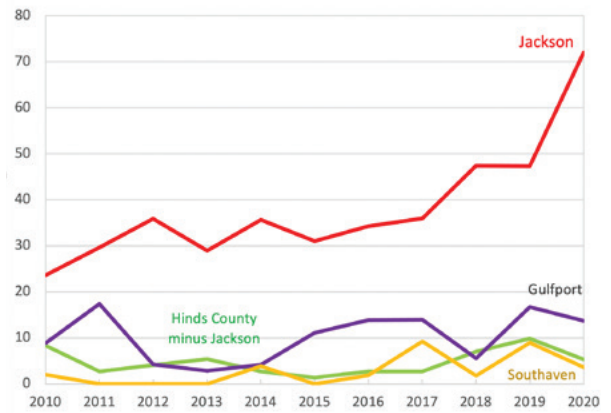
Examining local crime rates provides a more detailed picture of which communities in the state are hardest hit by violence and most in need of proven solutions to prevent violence. Urban areas typically see higher rates of violent crime than rural areas, but the FBI data for the past two years shows significant increases in rural areas as well.

Violent Crime Rate

CITY	2019-2020	LAST DECADE
Jackson	27%	7%
Hinds County (excluding Jackson)	-26%	7%
Gulfport	29%	83%
Southaven	33%	-18%

This report examines crime rates among Mississippi’s three largest cities by population: Jackson, Gulfport, and Southaven. We also include rates for the areas of Hinds County outside the Jackson city limits. This comparison makes it clear that the City of Jackson is a hotspot for violent crime in the state.

Figure 6: Local Homicide Rate per 100,000 population



See Table 4 in Appendix for data associated with this graph

No other city in Mississippi comes close, even though Gulfport’s rate almost doubled from 2010 - 2020. After declining by 25 percent from 2012 to 2018, Jackson’s *violent crime* rate rose sharply from 2018 to 2020. It is now more than double that of Gulfport, and more than 4x that of Southaven. As a reminder, the rate takes into account differences in population, making this an apples-to-apples comparison.





The homicide rate in Jackson is the highest in the state by far – almost 5x higher than Gulfport and over 18x higher than Southaven – and one of the highest in the nation.¹ Based on the 152 homicides in the city publicly reported by Jackson Police Department for 2021, that trend appears to be continuing.²

In 2020, the City of Jackson had 110 homicides, according to FBI data. (According to the Jackson Police Department, the actual number was 130. Jackson chooses not to report its statistics to the FBI, so the FBI data is based on other cities in the country that are similar to Jackson). Even the lower number of 110 accounts for more than half of the 213 total homicides in Mississippi. Jackson accounts for less 6% of the state’s population but over half of the state’s homicides.

Gulfport, recorded 10 murders in 2020 and Southaven recorded 2. Such small numbers can cause percentage

changes to appear large when the actual number of homicides increases by only one or two, and the adjustment to a “per 100,000” rate is applied.

Homicides in Hinds County, where Jackson is located, actually declined 43% outside of Jackson from 2019-2020 and fell 33% over the past decade, demonstrating that the problem is concentrated in the city itself.

Homicide Rate

CITY	2019-2020	LAST DECADE
Jackson	52%	205%
Hinds County (excluding Jackson)	-46%	-36%
Gulfport	-18%	55%
Southaven	-59%	79%



PART 2: EFFECT OF MISSISSIPPI'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORMS

Some have suggested that the recent increase in violent crime is due to criminal justice reforms that have been enacted by the legislature and signed by the governor over the past few years.

The evidence does not support that assertion.

- ▶ All states experienced homicide spikes in 2020, including those that implemented justice reforms similar to those passed by Mississippi and those that did not.
- ▶ The most significant increases in violent crime in our region over the past decade occurred in two states that have *not* enacted criminal justice reforms.
- ▶ Mississippi's two largest criminal justice reforms, enacted in 2014 and 2021, do not coincide in time with the sharp rise in violent crime.
- ▶ These reforms were statewide, but increases in homicides are heavily concentrated in the City of Jackson. If criminal justice reforms were a driver of increased homicide rates, the geographic impact would not be so isolated.
- ▶ After being among the top states in imprisonment rates the past several years, we now, as of 2022, have the *highest* imprisonment rate in the country and more people in our prisons than in 2019, before the pandemic and before the 2021 reforms. Notably, however, this is not due to the increase in violent crimes. In 2021, 73 percent of prison admissions were for drug or other nonviolent crimes, indicating that law enforcement and prosecutors, at least in some locations, are not prioritizing violent crime.
- ▶ People convicted of murder were *not* made eligible for parole in these reforms. Moreover, the law does *not grant or require parole* for anyone. It merely allows people who have been convicted of certain crimes to be *considered* for parole by the Parole Board. It is the Parole Board's responsibility to determine whether the person has proven rehabilitation and is not a threat to society.
- ▶ The academic literature supports the counterintuitive idea that evidence-based policies which decrease incarceration like those implemented in Mississippi do *not* lead to higher crime rates.^{3,4}

PART 3: RESEARCH

Criminology is a field of academic study devoted to understanding causes and solutions to crime. A review of the available literature offers some suggestions as to what caused the nationwide spike in homicides in 2020, but there's not yet a scholarly consensus on the cause. This is due in part to the recency of the spike.

Among the explanations offered for the increase in homicide are widespread social unrest, political divisions, and lockdown/pandemic-related factors, such as increased unemployment and alcohol use, as well as social isolation and stress.^{5,6} Some preliminary hypotheses suggest that a "pullback" in policing following widespread protests in mid-2020 could have contributed. More study is needed to validate this hypothesis. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) found that counties with the highest poverty levels experienced the greatest increase in homicide rates from 2019 to 2020.

MORE POLICE, FEWER PRISONS

Strong support exists in the academic literature for the finding that increasing police presence results in reduced crime.^{7,8,9} By their own admission, the City of Jackson's

police force is understaffed, with 100 fewer officers than the Department receives funding to employ.¹⁰

This problem exists nationwide.¹¹ Investing in and properly resourcing police isn't only an effective way to reduce violent crime,¹² it's also one of the most efficient.^{13,14}

Some policymakers and advocates could be concerned that an increased police presence could lead to increased community tension or more use-of-force incidents. Available data actually shows the opposite. Studies demonstrate that staffing shortages lead to increased fatigue and burnout, increasing the likelihood of a breakdown in community-police relations.^{15,16,17}

"Clearance rates," meaning the proportion of crime cases solved, hit historic lows in 2020. Nearly half of all murders that occurred that year have not been solved.¹⁸ The City of Jackson was featured in a CBS News article discussing the phenomenon in June 2022, in which Jackson Police Chief James Davis cited understaffing, including a shortage of investigators, and long backlogs that contribute to a low clearance rate. In addition to delaying closure for victims or their families, a low clearance rate can further erode community trust in police, which can lead to a lack of willingness to share





information that would help solve crimes, thus continuing an unproductive cycle.¹⁹

One instinct to reduce crime can be to put more people in prison, for longer, to “clean up the streets.” Not only is this costly, the research cited above demonstrates that it’s ineffective and diverts resources from policing, which is more effective at reducing crime.

Deterrence is apparently not a factor. Murder in Mississippi carries a life sentence, which has been the case for decades. The severity of this sentence clearly did not prevent an increase in homicides in 2020. Academic research shows that the *certainty* of sanction is much more important than the *severity* of the sentence.²⁰ This finding is supported by a meta-analysis of all available literature, which shows that sentences intended to deter crime have almost no impact on crime rates.²¹

Incapacitation, or the impact of someone not committing new crimes because they are incarcerated, does have an

impact, but it’s almost completely outweighed by negative effects once people are released.²² These findings support policies aimed at (1) reducing incarceration on the front end through mental health or substance abuse treatment, when appropriate, rather than incarceration; (2) reforming prisons, including providing incentives for good behavior and for participating in job training programs; and (3) dramatically improving the process of preparing people to successfully re-enter society after incarceration so that they are less likely to commit more crimes.

Data suggests that police spend much of their time on routine calls, and very little on violent crimes.²³ Criminal justice reforms that reduce interactions for nonviolent drug offenses would provide more capacity for officers to deal with violent offenses. In fact, research suggests that carefully scaling back efforts to enforce drug prohibition can allow jurisdictions to re-prioritize criminal justice resources and reduce violence.²⁴

PART 4: SOLUTIONS FOR VIOLENT CRIME IN MISSISSIPPI

A comprehensive review of research about reducing violent crime shows that the best path forward for Mississippi is to focus on local solutions. Increasing the number of police officers and justice system capacity (prosecutors, public defenders, and judges) is a proven way to reduce violent crime.

Some of this work is already happening with recent state appropriations to fund more judges, public defenders, and prosecutors in Hinds County, which has a significant backlog of cases. State leaders have also enlarged the Capitol Police force, which has jurisdiction not only at the Capitol but in a fairly sizable portion of the city. Elected leaders can continue to allocate resources to support evidence-based approaches to crime prevention programs and services.

1. Properly fund law enforcement and ensure that the money is used to attract, pay well, and properly train officers, so that there will be a sufficient number

of them to implement community-based policing approaches that have been shown to build trust and to deter crime. Bolstering a city police force or a county sheriff's department can yield significant dividends through reduced violence. Aside from significantly boosting salaries to attract the best talent and the most dedicated officers, alternative recruitment and retention strategies should be explored, including hiring and retention bonuses, relocation assistance, and third-party recruitment services.

2. Increase judicial capacity. The capacity shortage in Jackson is not limited to police officers. The shortage of prosecutors, defense attorneys (including public defenders), judges, and habitable jail space, as well as a substantial backlog at the State Crime Lab, which delays prosecutions, contribute to a criminal justice backlog. Some of these functions are funded by state taxes, and the state legislature can play a role in increasing judicial capacity, but the City of Jackson and Hinds County must take the initiative. Local initiative is imperative especially with regard to jail space, which is so limited that many criminals are released immediately, and many are "field released," meaning they are essentially given a ticket and are not detained at all.

3. Prioritize police time on violent crime reduction. Criminal justice personnel are stretched thin, made worse by a shrinking police force. Time spent on low-level offenses and nonviolent drug offenses can detract from addressing serious, violent crimes. Diverting low-level offenders to alternative programs like drug courts or diversion programs frees up jail space as well as law enforcement and judicial resources to focus on serious offenses.

4. Prioritize prosecutors' time on violent crime reduction. An indication of how prosecutors now spend time in Mississippi is the fact that 73 percent of our prison admissions²⁵ in 2021 were for drug and other non-violent crimes.



5. Enhance programs that prepare those in prison to transition successfully back into the community, often referred to as “re-entry” programs. The majority of people who re-offend do so within the first year of their release from prison.²⁶ Research demonstrates that well-constructed reentry programs can measurably reduce recidivism.²⁷ Job training, life skills training, addiction treatment and other types of support allow them to re-enter society as productive citizens, less likely to return to the lifestyle that led them to prison and less likely to see crime as their only means to support themselves and their families.

6. Continue statewide justice reform. Mississippi’s legislature has worked in recent years to reduce the state’s high prison population by de-prioritizing low-level nonviolent offenses. Continued reforms with these goals will allow Mississippi to devote more resources toward reducing serious, violent crime in the state. Reducing the use of perfunctory community supervision sentences can allow parole and probation agents to more adequately supervise the high-risk individuals in their caseloads.

7. Prioritize local solutions aimed at disrupting violence, especially in the City of Jackson. This includes innovative solutions that build upon successful programs in other cities, including “Operation Ceasefire” in Boston.²⁸ This program practices “focused deterrence,” where high-risk individuals are identified and offered intervention services in conjunction with swift enforcement for those who engage in criminal behavior. When implemented in partnership with neighborhood, church, and community organizations, the program has proven successful at reducing violent crime. In addition, seemingly simple changes in urban infrastructure like improved street lighting and cleaning vacant lots have also shown a surprising influence in reducing violence.^{29,30} These improvements can be implemented outside the criminal justice system, without further overburdening law enforcement.

8. Remove arbitrary barriers to occupational licensing due to prior criminal activity. Some occupational licensing boards automatically disqualify a person who has a criminal record, regardless of how long ago the offense occurred or whether it relates to the occupation for which the person is applying. These boards should be required consider those factors before turning someone away from a productive profession.

9. Enable a strong economy with adequate job or entrepreneurial opportunities to provide sufficient income for families. This includes, among other things, removing the many regulatory barriers to obtaining occupational licenses, as described above.

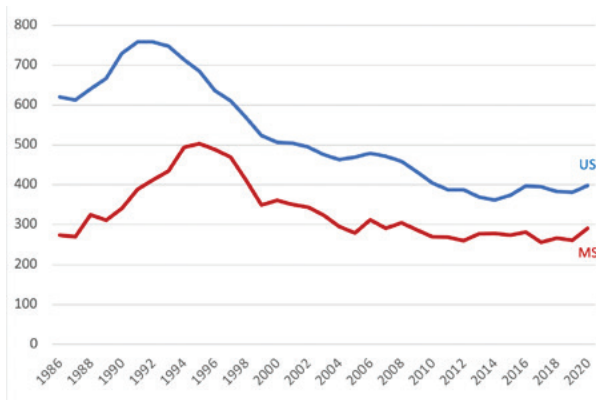
10. Work with churches and other community organizations to address underlying issues, such as addiction, mental illness, and homelessness. This is not to suggest that these conditions excuse criminal behavior nor that all people who experience these conditions will commit crimes; it is an acknowledgment that these conditions often accompany criminal behavior, and that our jails and prisons are ill-equipped to treat them, which means the behavior will continue if an alternative is not pursued.



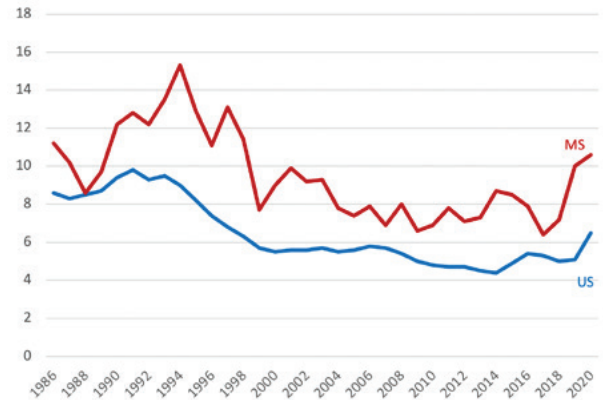
HISTORICAL RATES

The following graphs show data beyond the scope of this report, but they provide historical perspective.

Violent Crime Rate in MS and US 1986-2020



Homicide Crime Rate in MS and US 1986-2020





DATA TABLES

Rates = Occurrences per 100,000 residents. Source: FBI.

Table 1: Violent Crime Rate - MS, US, and comparison states 2010-2020

VIOLENT CRIME RATES	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019-2020	2010-2020
US	404.5	387.1	387.8	369.1	361.6	373.7	397.5	394.9	383.4	380.8	398.5	4.6%	-1.5%
MS	269.3	269.0	260.1	277.5	278.3	274.0	281.7	256.2	266.0	261.2	291.2	11.5%	8.1%
AR	503.5	482.3	469.6	463.2	480.2	529.5	554.3	566.0	561.6	580.8	671.9	15.7%	33.4%
FL	541.3	514.6	487.0	469.3	458.9	462.5	429.4	408.1	385.9	378.2	383.6	1.4%	-29.1%
GA	402.3	374.6	380.0	375.4	385.8	381.3	390.4	356.5	338.9	326.2	400.1	22.7%	-0.5%
LA	555.3	554.6	496.3	521.2	515.9	539.8	565.0	556.3	543.3	559.7	639.4	14.2%	15.1%
OK	481.4	457.5	474.4	446.1	413.8	428.6	455.3	457.4	474.6	436.3	458.6	5.1%	-4.7%
AL	383.7	419.8	450.3	431.0	427.7	473.0	532.4	522.4	523.1	504.7	453.6	-10.1%	18.2%
TN	612.0	607.8	638.5	585.8	610.7	618.9	638.5	655.0	630.4	598.9	672.7	12.3%	9.9%
TX	448.4	408.6	408.6	410.3	406.7	412.7	433.8	437.8	412.9	421.8	446.5	5.9%	-0.4%

Table 2: Homicide Rate - MS, US, and comparison states 2010-2020

HOMICIDE RATE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019-2020	2010-2020	2017-2020
US	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.9	5.4	5.3	5	5.1	6.5	27%	35%	23%
MS	6.9	7.8	7.1	7.3	8.7	8.5	7.9	6.4	7.2	10	10.6	6%	54%	66%
AR	4.6	5.4	5.9	5.3	5.9	6.3	7.3	8.3	7.4	7.8	10.6	36%	130%	28%
FL	5.2	5.2	5.2	5	4.9	5.1	5.4	5	5.2	5.2	5.9	13%	13%	18%
GA	5.7	5.6	5.9	5.6	6	6.1	6.6	6.5	6.2	5.7	8.8	54%	54%	35%
LA	11	11.1	10.6	10.7	10.2	10.5	11.8	12.3	11.4	11.7	15.8	35%	44%	28%
OK	5.2	5.6	5.8	5.1	4.6	6.1	6.3	6.2	5.5	6.9	7.4	7%	42%	19%
AL	5.7	6.2	7.1	7.2	5.7	7.2	8.4	8.6	7.8	7.9	9.6	22%	68%	12%
TN	5.6	5.9	6.2	5.2	5.6	6.3	7.4	8	7.5	7.5	9.6	28%	71%	20%
TX	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.8	5.3	5	4.6	4.9	6.6	35%	35%	32%

Table 3: Local Violent Crime Rate - 2010-2020

VIOLENT CRIME RATE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019-20	2010-20	2017-20
Jackson	990.1	924.2	950.8	944.8	930.7	920.5	857.8	787.0	761.5	833.0	1056.0	27%	7%	34%
Hinds County minus Jackson	163.0	135.8	146.1	93.7	94.4	106.1	165.7	315.2	252.1	237.3	174.9	-26%	7%	-45%
Gulfport	237.5	278.6	176.9	222.5	199.3	276.9	316.3	419.1	541.3	336.1	435.2	29%	83%	4%
Southaven	267.4	281.8	289.8	329.4	270.1	228.2	110.9	138.8	123.8	164.9	219.1	33%	-18%	58%

Table 4: Local Homicide Rate - 2010-2020

HOMICIDE RATE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019-20	2010-20	2017-20
Jackson	23.6	29.7	35.9	29.0	35.6	31.1	34.3	35.9	47.4	47.3	72.0	52%	205%	100%
Hinds County minus Jackson	8.4	2.7	4.1	5.4	2.7	1.4	2.7	2.7	7.0	9.8	5.3	-46%	-36%	95%
Gulfport	8.9	17.4	4.3	2.8	4.2	11.1	13.9	13.9	5.6	16.7	13.7	-18%	55%	-1%
Southaven	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0	1.9	9.3	1.8	9.0	3.7	-59%	79%	-61%

Table 5: Local Homicide Count - 2010-2020

HOMICIDE COUNT	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019-20	2010-20	2017-20
Jackson	41	52	63	50	61	53	58	60	78	76	110	45%	168%	83%
Hinds County	6	2	3	4	2	1	2	2	5	7	4	-43%	-33%	100%
Gulfport	6	12	3	2	3	8	10	10	4	12	10	-17%	67%	0%
Southaven	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	5	1	5	2	-60%	100%	-60%
Mississippi	165	187	174	144	169	160	155	150	153	194	213	10%	29%	42%

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