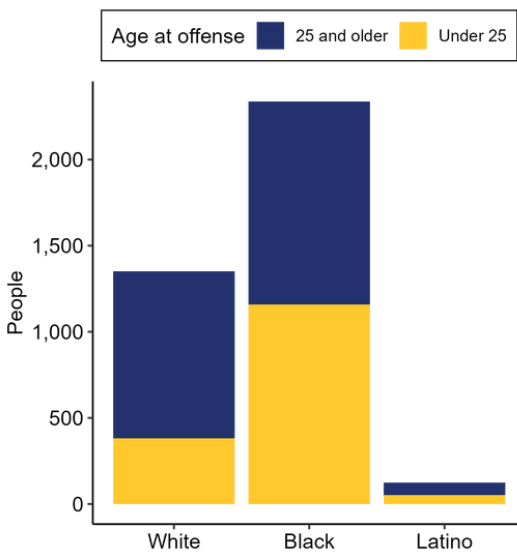
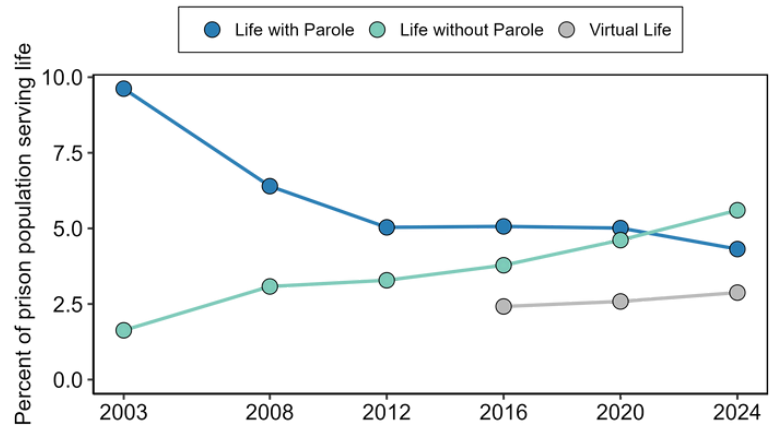
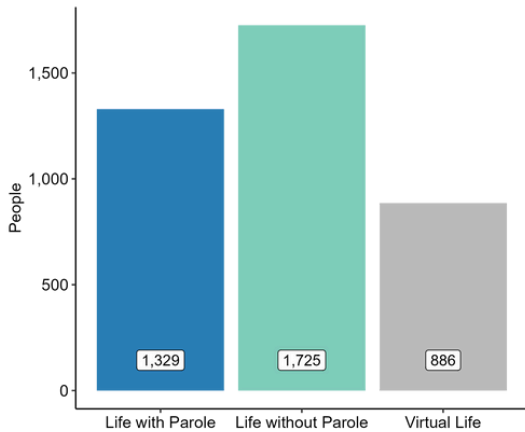


Life Imprisonment in North Carolina

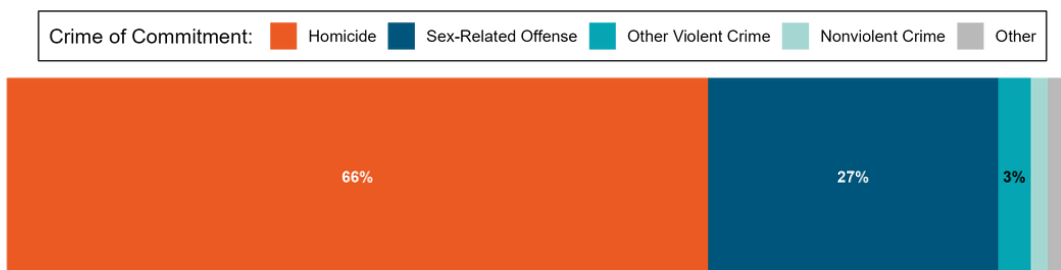
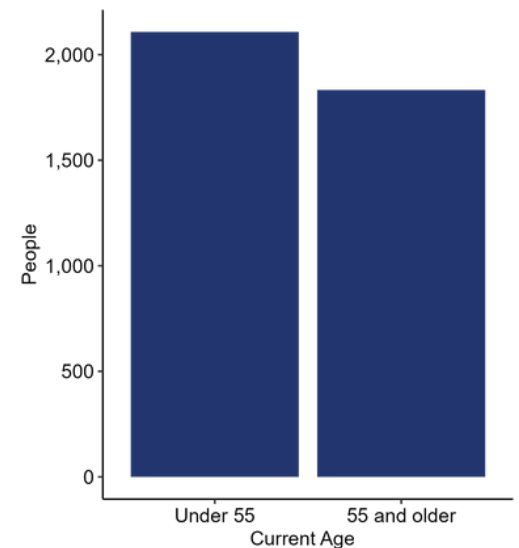


As of 2024, there were **3,940** people in North Carolina serving a life sentence, **13%** of the total prison population. This makes North Carolina the **31st** highest ranked state by proportion of incarcerated people serving life sentences.



Black people make up **23%** of the population in North Carolina but **59%** of people serving life sentences. **50%** of Black people serving life sentences were **under the age of 25** at the time of offense.

47% of people serving life are **55 or older**.



*Data Note: Virtual Life is defined as a sentence of 50 years or more. This data was first collected in 2016.