

Violent crimes by juveniles have increased in India

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Context

- Violent crimes include sexual offences such as rape, acts of physical violence such as murder, bodily injury or attempted murder, and other offences such as arson, dacoity, and robbery.
- Offences such as rash driving, causing death by negligence, forgery, cheating, trespassing, fraud, pickpocketing, thefts, and obscene acts in public places have been excluded from this analysis as they are all considered mostly non-violent in nature.
- A **State-wise breakdown** of violent crimes committed by juveniles in India shows that **Madhya Pradesh accounted for 21.8%** of all such cases between 2017 and 2022, followed by **Maharashtra with 18%**.
- Rajasthan (9.6%), Chhattisgarh (8.4%), and Tamil Nad(5.8%) ranked third, fourth, and fifth, respectively.
- Regarding the **proportion of violent crimes among all juvenile offences** within each State, **Jharkhand had the highest share** (67%) in the 2017 to 2022 period. In Tripura, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, over 60% of the juvenile offences can be classified as violent in the same period.
- Many central and eastern States are hotspots for violent juvenile crimes, with Madhya Pradesh being the most affected.
- Odisha, however, remains an exception in the region, with only 10% of all juvenile crimes being violent in nature

