



Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin

December 2001, NCJ 190598

Capital Punishment 2000

By Tracy L. Snell
BJS Statistician

Fourteen States executed 85 prisoners during 2000. The number executed was 13 fewer than in 1999. Those executed during 2000 had been under sentence of death an average of 11 years and 5 months, 6 months less than that for inmates executed in 1999.

At yearend 2000, 3,593 prisoners were under sentence of death. California held the largest number on death row (586), followed by Texas (450), Florida, (371), and Pennsylvania (238). Eighteen people were under a Federal death sentence.

During 2000, 27 States and the Federal prison system received 214 prisoners under sentence of death. Texas (34 admissions), California (31), Florida (20), North Carolina (18), and Pennsylvania (12) accounted for more than half of those sentenced in 2000.

During 2000, 83 men and 2 women were executed: 49 whites, 35 blacks, and 1 American Indian. The executed inmates included 6 Hispanics (all white). Eighty of the executions were carried out by lethal injection and 5 by electrocution.

From January 1, 1977, to December 31, 2000, 683 executions took place in 31 States. Sixty-five percent of the executions occurred in 5 States: Texas (239), Virginia (81), Florida (50), Missouri (46), and Oklahoma (30).

Highlights

Status of death penalty, December 31, 2000

Executions during 2000*	Number of prisoners under sentence of death	Jurisdictions without a death penalty
Texas 40	California 586	Alaska
Oklahoma 11	Texas 450	District of Columbia
Virginia 8	Florida 371	Hawaii
Florida 6	Pennsylvania 238	Iowa
Missouri 5	North Carolina 215	Maine
Alabama 4	Ohio 201	Massachusetts
Arizona 3	Alabama 185	Michigan
Arkansas 2	Illinois 163	Minnesota
Delaware 1	Oklahoma 129	North Dakota
Louisiana 1	Georgia 120	Rhode Island
North Carolina 1	Arizona 119	Vermont
South Carolina 1	Tennessee 97	West Virginia
Tennessee 1	Louisiana 90	Wisconsin
California 1	Nevada 88	
	Missouri 79	
	23 other jurisdictions 462	
Total 85	Total 3,593	

• At yearend 2000, 37 States and the Federal prison system held 3,593 prisoners under sentence of death, 1.5% more than at yearend 1999.

	Persons under sentence of death	
	1990	2000
White	1,379	1,990
Black	947	1,535
American Indian	25	29
Asian	15	27
Unknown race	1	12

• The 339 Hispanic inmates under sentence of death accounted for 11% of inmates with a known ethnicity.

• Fifty-four women were under sentence of death in 2000, up from 35 in 1990.

• At yearend the youngest death-row inmate was 18; the oldest was 85.

• Among persons for whom arrest information was available, the average age at time of arrest was 28; 2% of inmates were age 17 or younger.

• Of the 6,588 people under sentence of death between 1977 and 2000, 10% were executed, 3% died by causes other than execution, and 32% received other dispositions.

• The number of States authorizing lethal injection increased from 21 in 1990 to 36 in 2000. In 2000, 9 in 10 executions were by lethal injection, compared to 5 in 10 in 1990.

• Since 1977, 518 of the 683 executions (76%) were by lethal injection.

*For preliminary 2001 data on executions, see page 12.

Capital punishment laws

At yearend 2000 the death penalty was authorized by 38 States and the Federal Government (tables 1 and 2). During 2000 no State enacted new legislation authorizing capital punishment.

Statutory changes

During 2000, 5 States revised statutory provisions relating to the death penalty. Most of the changes involved additional aggravating circumstances and procedural amendments.

By State, the changes were as follows:

Colorado — Added as an aggravating factor use of a weapon during a Class 1 felony when use of the weapon itself constituted a felony under State or Federal law (CRS 16-11-103(5)(o)), effective 8/2/2000.

Florida — Authorized lethal injection as a method of execution, effective 1/14/2000. An inmate may elect in writing to be executed by electrocution within 30 days of the effective date or the date of sentence; if this option is waived, the method shall be lethal injection (FSA § 922.105).

Georgia — Revised the penal code to allow for lethal injection as the method of execution for all inmates sentenced to death for crimes committed on or after May 1, 2000; those whose offenses occurred before that date shall be executed by electrocution, effective 5/1/2000 (O.C.G.A. 17-10-38).

Table 1. Capital offenses, by State, 2000

Alabama. Intentional murder with 18 aggravating factors (13A-5-40(a)(1)-(18)).	Montana. Capital murder with 1 of 9 aggravating circumstances (46-18-303 MCA); capital sexual assault (45-5-503 MCA).
Arizona. First-degree murder accompanied by at least 1 of 10 aggravating factors (A.R.S. 13-703(F)).	Nebraska. First-degree murder with a finding of at least 1 statutorily-defined aggravating circumstance.
Arkansas. Capital murder (Ark. Code Ann. 5-10-101) with a finding of at least 1 of 10 aggravating circumstances; treason. Capital sentencing excludes persons found to be mentally retarded.	Nevada. First-degree murder with 14 aggravating circumstances.
California. First-degree murder with special circumstances; train wrecking; treason; perjury causing execution.	New Hampshire. Six categories of capital murder (RSA 630:1, RSA 630:5).
Colorado. First-degree murder with at least 1 of 15 aggravating factors; treason. Capital sentencing excludes persons determined to be mentally retarded.	New Jersey. Knowing/purposeful murder by one's own conduct; contract murder; solicitation by command or threat in furtherance of a narcotics conspiracy (NJSA 2C:11-3C).
Connecticut. Capital felony with 9 categories of aggravated homicide (C.G.S. 53a-54b).	New Mexico. First-degree murder with at least 1 of 7 statutorily-defined aggravating circumstances (Section 30-2-1 A, NMSA).
Delaware. First-degree murder with aggravating circumstances.	New York. First-degree murder with 1 of 12 aggravating factors. Capital sentencing excludes mentally retarded persons.
Florida. First-degree murder; felony murder; capital drug trafficking; capital sexual battery.	North Carolina. First-degree murder (NCGS §14-17).
Georgia. Murder; kidnaping with bodily injury or ransom when the victim dies; aircraft hijacking; treason.	Ohio. Aggravated murder with at least 1 of 9 aggravating circumstances. (O.R.C. secs. 2903.01, 2929.02, and 2929.04).
Idaho. First-degree murder with aggravating factors; aggravated kidnaping.	Oklahoma. First-degree murder in conjunction with a finding of at least 1 of 8 statutorily defined aggravating circumstances.
Illinois. First-degree murder with 1 of 15 aggravating circumstances.	Oregon. Aggravated murder (ORS 163.095).
Indiana. Murder with 16 aggravating circumstances (IC 35-50-2-9). Capital sentencing excludes persons determined to be mentally retarded.	Pennsylvania. First-degree murder with 18 aggravating circumstances.
Kansas. Capital murder with 7 aggravating circumstances (KSA 21-3439). Capital sentencing excludes persons determined to be mentally retarded.	South Carolina. Murder with 1 of 10 aggravating circumstances (§ 16-3-20(C)(a)). Mental retardation is a mitigating factor.
Kentucky. Murder with aggravating factors; kidnaping with aggravating factors (KRS 532.025).	South Dakota. First-degree murder with 1 of 10 aggravating circumstances; aggravated kidnaping.
Louisiana. First-degree murder; aggravated rape of victim under age 12; treason (La. R.S. 14:30, 14:42, and 14:113).	Tennessee. First-degree murder with 1 of 14 aggravating circumstances.
Maryland. First-degree murder, either premeditated or during the commission of a felony, provided that certain death eligibility requirements are satisfied.	Texas. Criminal homicide with 1 of 8 aggravating circumstances (TX Penal Code 19.03).
Mississippi. Capital murder (97-3-19(2) MCA); aircraft piracy (97-25-55(1) MCA).	Utah. Aggravated murder (76-5-202, Utah Code annotated).
Missouri. First-degree murder (565.020 RSMO 1994).	Virginia. First-degree murder with 1 of 12 aggravating circumstances (VA Code § 18.2-31).
	Washington. Aggravated first-degree murder.
	Wyoming. First-degree murder.

Mississippi — Revised the definition of capital murder to include among peace officers who were murdered victims conservation officers (was previously called “game warden”) (Miss. Code Ann § 97-3-19(2)(a)), effective 4/30/2000.

Mississippi also amended the code of criminal procedure setting a time limit of 1 year within which a defendant must apply for post-conviction relief. Upon exhaustion of appeals or failure to file for post-conviction relief in the allotted time, any stays of execution will be vacated and an execution date will be set (Miss. Code Ann. § 99-19-106), effective 7/1/2000.

New Jersey — Revised the penal code to create a mandatory sentence to life without the possibility of parole or commutation for offenders convicted of a capital offense but not sentenced to death (NJSA 2C:11-3b(4)), effective 8/22/2000.

Automatic review

Of the 38 States with capital statutes at yearend, 37 provided for review of all death sentences regardless of the defendant’s wishes. In South Carolina the defendant had the right to waive sentence review if he or she was deemed competent by the court (State v. Torrence, 473 S.E. 3d 703 (S.C. 1996)). Federal death penalty procedures did not provide for automatic review after a sentence of death had been imposed.

The State’s highest appellate court usually conducted the review. If either the conviction or sentence were vacated, the case could be remanded to the trial court for additional proceedings or retrial. As a result of retrial or resentencing, a death sentence could be reimposed.

While most of the 37 States authorized an automatic review of both the conviction and sentence, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Tennessee required review of the sentence only. In Idaho review of the conviction had to be filed through appeal or forfeited. In Indiana and Kentucky a defendant could waive review of the conviction.

In Virginia a defendant could waive an appeal of trial court error but could not waive review of the death sentence for arbitrariness and proportionality. In Mississippi the question of whether the defendant could waive the right to automatic review had not been addressed. In Wyoming neither statute nor case law precluded a waiver of appeal.

In Arkansas case law held that the supreme court review the trial court record for error in capital cases (State v. Robbins, 339 Ark. 379, 5 S.W. 3d 51 (1999)). Such a review is independent of a defendant’s right to waive appeals.

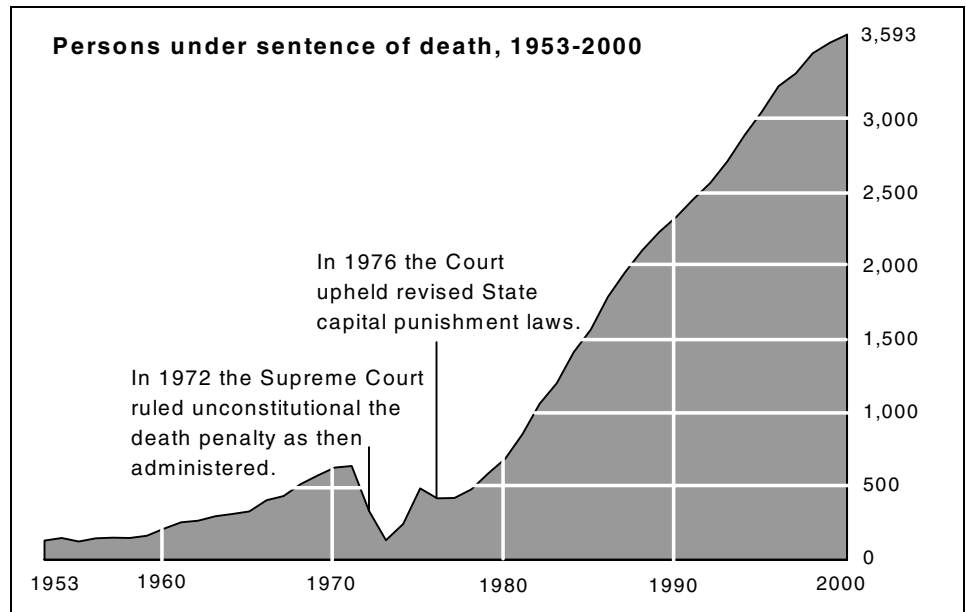


Figure 1

Table 2. Federal laws providing for the death penalty, 2000

8 U.S.C. 1342 — Murder related to the smuggling of aliens.	18 U.S.C. 1114 — Murder of a Federal judge or law enforcement official.	18 U.S.C. 1958 — Murder for hire.
18 U.S.C. 32-34 — Destruction of aircraft, motor vehicles, or related facilities resulting in death.	18 U.S.C. 1116 — Murder of a foreign official.	18 U.S.C. 1959 — Murder involved in a racketeering offense.
18 U.S.C. 36 — Murder committed during a drug-related drive-by shooting.	18 U.S.C. 1118 — Murder by a Federal prisoner.	18 U.S.C. 1992 — Willful wrecking of a train resulting in death.
18 U.S.C. 37 — Murder committed at an airport serving international civil aviation.	18 U.S.C. 1119 — Murder of a U.S. national in a foreign country.	18 U.S.C. 2113 — Bank-robbery-related murder or kidnaping.
18 U.S.C. 115(b)(3) [by cross-reference to 18 U.S.C. 1111] — Retaliatory murder of a member of the immediate family of law enforcement officials.	18 U.S.C. 1120 — Murder by an escaped Federal prisoner already sentenced to life imprisonment.	18 U.S.C. 2119 — Murder related to a carjacking.
18 U.S.C. 241, 242, 245, 247 — Civil rights offenses resulting in death.	18 U.S.C. 1121 — Murder of a State or local law enforcement official or other person aiding in a Federal investigation; murder of a State correctional officer.	18 U.S.C. 2245 — Murder related to rape or child molestation.
18 U.S.C. 351 [by cross-reference to 18 U.S.C. 1111] — Murder of a member of Congress, an important executive official, or a Supreme Court Justice.	18 U.S.C. 1201 — Murder during a kidnaping.	18 U.S.C. 2251 — Murder related to sexual exploitation of children.
18 U.S.C. 794 — Espionage.	18 U.S.C. 1203 — Murder during a hostage taking.	18 U.S.C. 2280 — Murder committed during an offense against maritime navigation.
18 U.S.C. 844(d), (f), (i) — Death resulting from offenses involving transportation of explosives, destruction of government property, or destruction of property related to foreign or interstate commerce.	18 U.S.C. 1503 — Murder of a court officer or juror.	18 U.S.C. 2281 — Murder committed during an offense against a maritime fixed platform.
18 U.S.C. 924(i) — Murder committed by the use of a firearm during a crime of violence or a drug-trafficking crime.	18 U.S.C. 1512 — Murder with the intent of preventing testimony by a witness, victim, or informant.	18 U.S.C. 2332 — Terrorist murder of a U.S. national in another country.
18 U.S.C. 930 — Murder committed in a Federal Government facility.	18 U.S.C. 1513 — Retaliatory murder of a witness, victim, or informant.	18 U.S.C. 2332a — Murder by the use of a weapon of mass destruction.
18 U.S.C. 1091 — Genocide.	18 U.S.C. 1716 — Mailing of injurious articles with intent to kill or resulting in death.	18 U.S.C. 2340 — Murder involving torture.
18 U.S.C. 1111 — First-degree murder.	18 U.S.C. 1751 [by cross-reference to 18 U.S.C. 1111] — Assassination or kidnaping resulting in the death of the President or Vice President.	18 U.S.C. 2381 — Treason.
		21 U.S.C. 848(e) — Murder related to a continuing criminal enterprise or related murder of a Federal, State, or local law enforcement officer.
		49 U.S.C. 1472-1473 — Death resulting from aircraft hijacking.

Method of execution

As of December 31, 2000, lethal injection was the predominant method of execution (36 States) (table 3).

Eleven States authorized electrocution; 4 States, lethal gas; 3 States, hanging; and 3 States, firing squad.

Eighteen States authorized more than 1 method — lethal injection and an alternative method — generally at the election of the condemned prisoner; however, 6 of these 18 stipulated which method must be used, depending on

the date of sentencing; 1 authorized hanging only if lethal injection could not be given; and if lethal injection is ever ruled to be unconstitutional, 1 authorized lethal gas, and 1 authorized electrocution.

The Federal Government authorizes the method of execution under two different laws. Offenses prosecuted under 28 CFR, Part 26, mandate lethal injection, while those prosecuted under the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994 (18 U.S.C. 3596) call for the method of the State in which the conviction took place.

Minimum age

In 2000 seven jurisdictions did not specify a minimum age for which the death penalty could be imposed (table 4).

In some States the minimum age was set forth in the statutory provisions that determine the age at which a juvenile may be transferred to adult court for trial as an adult. Fourteen States and the Federal system required a minimum age of 18. Seventeen States indicated an age of eligibility between 14 and 17.

Table 3. Method of execution, by State, 2000

Lethal injection	Electrocution	Lethal gas	Hanging	Firing squad
Arizona ^{a,b}	Nevada	Alabama	Arizona ^{a,b}	Delaware ^{a,c}
Arkansas ^{a,d}	New Hampshire ^a	Arkansas ^{a,d}	California ^a	New Hampshire ^{a,e}
California ^a	New Jersey	Florida ^a	Missouri ^a	Washington ^a
Colorado	New Mexico	Georgia ^{a,g}	Wyoming ^{a,h}	Utah ^a
Connecticut	New York	Kentucky ^{a,i}		
Delaware ^{a,c}	North Carolina	Nebraska		
Florida ^a	Ohio ^a	Ohio ^a		
Georgia ^{a,g}	Oklahoma ^a	Oklahoma ^f		
Idaho ^a	Oregon	South Carolina ^a		
Illinois	Pennsylvania	Tennessee ^{a,j}		
Indiana	South Carolina ^a	Virginia ^a		
Kansas	South Dakota			
Kentucky ^{a,i}	Tennessee ^{a,i}			
Louisiana	Texas			
Maryland	Utah ^a			
Mississippi	Virginia ^a			
Missouri ^a	Washington ^a			
Montana	Wyoming ^a			

Note: The method of execution of Federal prisoners is lethal injection, pursuant to 28 CFR, Part 26. For offenses under the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the method is that of the State in which the conviction took place, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3596.

^aAuthorizes 2 methods of execution.

^bArizona authorizes lethal injection for persons whose capital sentence was received after 11/15/92; for those sentenced before that date, the condemned may select lethal injection or lethal gas.

^cDelaware authorizes lethal injection for those whose capital offense occurred after 6/13/86; for those whose offense occurred before that date, the condemned may select lethal injection or hanging.

^dArkansas authorizes lethal injection for those whose capital offense occurred on or after 7/4/83; for those whose offense occurred before that date, the condemned may select lethal injection or electrocution.

^eNew Hampshire authorizes hanging only if lethal injection cannot be given.

^fOklahoma authorizes electrocution if lethal injection is ever held to be unconstitutional, and firing squad if both lethal injection and electrocution are held unconstitutional.

^gGeorgia authorizes lethal injection for those whose capital offense occurred on or after 5/1/2000; those whose offense occurred before that date are subject to electrocution.

^hWyoming authorizes lethal gas if lethal injection is ever held to be unconstitutional.

ⁱKentucky authorizes lethal injection for persons whose capital sentence was received on or after 3/31/98; for those sentenced before that date, the condemned may select lethal injection or electrocution.

^jTennessee authorizes lethal injection for those whose capital offense occurred after 12/31/98; those whose offense occurred before that date may select electrocution.

Table 4. Minimum age authorized for capital punishment, 2000

Age 16 or less	Age 17	Age 18	None specified
Alabama (16)	Georgia	California	Arizona
Arkansas (14) ^a	New Hampshire	Colorado	Idaho
Delaware (16)	North Carolina ^b	Connecticut ^e	Louisiana
Florida (16)	Texas	Federal system	Montana ^d
Indiana (16)		Illinois	Pennsylvania
Kentucky (16)		Kansas	South Carolina
Mississippi (16) ^e		Maryland	South Dakota ^f
Missouri (16)		Nebraska	
Nevada (16)		New Jersey	
Oklahoma (16)		New Mexico	
Utah (14)		New York	
Virginia (14) ^g		Ohio	
Wyoming (16)		Oregon	
		Tennessee	
		Washington	

Note: Reporting by States reflects interpretations by State attorney generals' offices and may differ from previously reported ages.

^aSee Ark. Code Ann. 9-27-318(c)(2)(Supp. 1999).

^bAge required is 17 unless the murderer was incarcerated for murder when a subsequent murder occurred; then the age may be 14.

^cSee Conn. Gen. Stat. 53a-46a(g)(1).

^dMontana law specifies that offenders tried under the capital sexual assault statute be 18

or older. Age may be a mitigating factor for other capital crimes.

^eThe minimum age defined by statute is 13, but the effective age is 16 based on interpretation of U.S. Supreme Court decisions by the Mississippi Supreme Court.

^fJuveniles may be transferred to adult court.

Age can be a mitigating factor.

^gThe minimum age for transfer to adult court by statute is 14, but the effective age is 16 based on interpretation of U.S. Supreme Court decisions by the State attorney general's office.

Table 5. Prisoners under sentence of death, by region, State, and race, 1999 and 2000

Region and State	Prisoners under sentence of death, 12/31/99			Received under sentence of death			Removed from death row (excluding executions) ^a			Executed			Prisoners under sentence of death, 12/31/00		
	Total ^b	White ^c	Black ^c	Total ^b	White ^c	Black ^c	Total ^b	White ^c	Black ^c	Total ^b	White ^c	Black ^c	Total ^b	White ^c	Black ^c
U.S. total	3,540	1,960	1,515	214	122	86	76	43	31	85	49	35	3,593	1,990	1,535
Federal^d State	18	5	12	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	18	5	13
	3,522	1,955	1,503	212	122	84	74	43	30	85	49	35	3,575	1,985	1,522
Northeast	255	89	154	16	7	9	5	2	2	0	0	0	266	94	161
Connecticut	6	3	3	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	7	4	3
New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Jersey	14	8	6	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	8	7
New York	5	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	2
Pennsylvania	230	74	144	12	5	7	4	1	2	0	0	0	238	78	149
Midwest	499	247	250	20	12	8	10	4	6	5	4	1	504	251	251
Illinois	160	58	102	9	4	5	6	2	4	0	0	0	163	60	103
Indiana	42	29	13	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	43	30	13
Kansas	3	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
Missouri	83	47	36	3	3	0	2	0	2	5	4	1	79	46	33
Nebraska	9	8	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	10	0
Ohio	199	99	99	3	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	201	98	102
South Dakota	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0
South	1,921	1,055	843	131	76	52	52	31	21	76	41	34	1,924	1,059	840
Alabama	183	95	87	11	6	5	5	3	2	4	1	3	185	97	87
Arkansas	40	16	24	3	2	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	40	16	24
Delaware	18	8	10	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	15	8	7
Florida	368	241	126	20	12	8	11	9	2	6	5	1	371	239	131
Georgia	116	60	55	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	64	55
Kentucky	39	32	7	3	3	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	40	33	7
Louisiana	85	27	57	9	4	5	3	1	2	1	0	1	90	30	59
Maryland	16	4	12	2	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	16	6	10
Mississippi	60	26	34	3	3	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	61	28	33
North Carolina	202	82	113	18	5	12	4	2	2	1	0	1	215	85	122
Oklahoma	141	86	49	7	3	3	8	4	4	11	4	6	129	81	42
South Carolina	65	33	32	5	4	1	3	2	1	1	0	1	66	35	31
Tennessee	97	61	34	4	1	3	3	2	1	1	1	0	97	59	36
Texas	460	266	190	34	21	12	4	3	1	40	24	16	450	260	185
Virginia	31	18	13	8	6	2	2	1	1	8	5	3	29	18	11
West	847	564	256	45	27	15	7	6	1	4	4	0	881	581	270
Arizona	117	101	12	7	7	0	2	2	0	3	3	0	119	103	12
California	556	335	202	31	15	13	0	0	0	1	1	0	586	349	215
Colorado	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	2
Idaho	21	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	21	0
Montana	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	5	0
Nevada	86	51	34	7	5	2	5	4	1	0	0	0	88	52	35
New Mexico	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
Oregon	25	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	24	0
Utah ^e	11	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	8	2
Washington	13	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	9	4
Wyoming	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0

Note: Some figures shown for yearend 1999 are revised from those reported in *Capital Punishment 1999* (NCJ 184795). The revised figures include 30 inmates who were either reported late to the National Prisoner Statistics program or were not in custody of State correctional authorities on 12/31/99 (7 in Florida; 5 in California; 4 in Illinois; 3 in Alabama; 2 each in Oklahoma and Tennessee; and 1 each in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah). Yearend 1999 figures exclude 14 inmates who were relieved of a death sentence by 12/31/99 (5 in Tennessee; 4 in Florida; 2 in the Federal Bureau of Prisons; and 1 each in Pennsylvania, Georgia and Maryland). Data for 12/31/99 also reflect an adjustment for 3 cases erroneously counted twice (2 in California and 1 in Indiana).

^aIncludes 18 deaths from natural causes (2 each in Pennsylvania, Florida, Texas, and Nevada; and 1 each in Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Arizona).

^bTotals include persons of races other than white and black.

^cThe reporting of race and Hispanic origin differs from that presented in tables 9 and 11. In this table white and black inmates include Hispanics.

^dExcludes persons held under Armed Forces jurisdiction with a military death sentence for murder.

^eRace has been changed from American Indian to white for 1 inmate.

Characteristics of prisoners under sentence of death at yearend 2000

Thirty-seven States and the Federal prison system held a total of 3,593 prisoners under sentence of death on December 31, 2000, an increase of 53, or 1.5% more than at the end of 1999 (table 5).

The Federal prison system count remained unchanged at 18. Three States reported 39% of the Nation's death row population: California (586), Texas (450), and Florida (371). Of the 39 jurisdictions with death penalty statutes enacted during 2000, New Hampshire had no one under a capital sentence, and Kansas, South Dakota, and Wyoming had 4 or fewer.

Among the 38 jurisdictions with prisoners under sentence of death at yearend 2000, 20 had more inmates than a year earlier, 5 had fewer inmates, and 13 had the same number. California had an increase of 30, followed by North Carolina (13). Oklahoma and Texas had the largest decreases (12 and 10, respectively).

During 2000 the number of white inmates under sentence of death rose by 30; the number of blacks increased by 20; and the number of persons of other races rose from 65 to 68.

The number of Hispanics under sentence of death rose from 326 to 339 during 2000 (table 6). Twenty-five Hispanics were received under sentence of death, 6 were removed from death row, and 6 were executed. Nearly three-quarters of the Hispanics were held in 3 States: California (114), Texas (101), and Florida (32).

Table 6. Hispanics and women under sentence of death, by State, 1999 and 2000

Region and State	Under sentence of death, 12/31/99 ^a		Received under sentence of death		Death sentence removed ^b		Under sentence of death, 12/31/00	
	Hispanics	Women	Hispanics	Women	Hispanics	Women	Hispanics	Women
U.S. total ^c	326	51	25	8	12	5	339	54
Alabama	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
Arizona	19	1	0	1	1	0	18	2
Arkansas	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
California	107	11	7	1	0	0	114	12
Colorado	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Connecticut	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Florida	33	4	1	0	2	1	32	3
Georgia	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1
Idaho	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Illinois	8	4	1	0	0	0	9	4
Indiana	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
Kentucky	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Louisiana	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Mississippi	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Missouri	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Nebraska	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Nevada	9	1	2	0	0	0	11	1
New Mexico	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
New York	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
North Carolina	2	4	1	2	0	0	3	6
Ohio	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Oklahoma	6	3	0	0	0	0	6	3
Oregon	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Pennsylvania	18	3	2	1	1	0	19	4
Tennessee	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2
Texas	100	9	8	0	7	2	101	7
Utah	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0

^aThe count of Hispanics and women under sentence of death at yearend 1999 has been revised.

^bIncludes six Hispanic men (1 in Florida and 5 in Texas) and 2 women (1 each in Arkansas and Texas) who were executed in 2000.

^cYearend totals include one Hispanic male under Federal jurisdiction.

During 2000 the number of women sentenced to be executed increased from 51 to 54. Nine women were received under sentence of death, 3 were removed from death row, and 2 were executed.

Women were under sentence of death in 18 States. More than half of women on death row at yearend were in California, Texas, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania.

State	Women under sentence of death, 12/31/00		
	Total*	White	Black
Total	54	33	18
California	12	8	2
Texas	7	4	3
North Carolina	6	4	1
Pennsylvania	4	1	3
Illinois	4	1	3
Alabama	3	2	1
Florida	3	2	1
Oklahoma	3	2	1
Tennessee	2	2	0
Arizona	2	2	0
Missouri	1	1	0
Kentucky	1	1	0
Georgia	1	1	0
Mississippi	1	1	0
Idaho	1	1	0
Indiana	1	0	1
Louisiana	1	0	1
Nevada	1	0	1

*Total includes races other than white and black.

Men were 98% (3,538) of all prisoners under sentence of death (table 7). Whites comprised 55%; blacks comprised 43%; and other races (1.9%) included 29 American Indians, 27 Asians, and 12 persons of unknown race. Among those for whom ethnicity was known, 11% were Hispanic.

The gender, race, and Hispanic origin of those under sentence of death at yearend 2000 were as follows:

	Persons under sentence of death, by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 12/31/00		
	White	Black	Other races
Male	1,957	1,516	65
Hispanic	309	14	11
Female	33	18	3
Hispanic	2	1	2

Among inmates under sentence of death on December 31, 2000, for whom information on education was available, three-fourths had either completed high school (38%) or finished 9th, 10th, or 11th grade (37%). The percentage who had not gone beyond eighth grade (14%) was larger than that of inmates who had attended some college (10%). The median level of education was the 11th grade.

Of inmates under a capital sentence and with reported marital status, more than half had never married; more than a fifth were married at the time of sentencing; and more than a fifth were divorced, separated, or widowed.

Table 7. Demographic characteristics of prisoners under sentence of death, 2000

Characteristic	Prisoners under sentence of death, 2000		
	Yearend	Admission	Removals
Total number under sentence of death	3,593	214	161
Gender			
Male	98.5%	96.3%	96.9%
Female	1.5	3.7	3.1
Race			
White	55.4%	57.0%	57.1%
Black	42.7	40.2	41.0
All other races*	1.9	2.8	1.9
Hispanic origin			
Hispanic	10.6%	17.0%	8.6%
Non-Hispanic	89.4	83.0	91.4
Education			
8th grade or less	14.4%	17.6%	12.7%
9th-11th grade	37.3	34.1	39.6
High school graduate/GED	38.2	39.8	40.3
Any college	10.1	8.5	7.5
Median	11th	11th	11th
Marital status			
Married	22.6%	23.5%	27.5%
Divorced/separated	21.0	18.7	25.4
Widowed	2.8	3.2	4.2
Never married	53.6	54.5	43.0

Note: Calculations are based on those cases for which data were reported. Missing data by category were as follows:

	Yearend	Admission	Removals
Hispanic origin	382	67	22
Education	490	38	27
Marital status	329	27	19

*At yearend 1999, other races consisted of 28 American Indians, 24 Asians, and 13 self-identified Hispanics. During 2000, 2 American Indians and 4 Asians were admitted; 1 American Indian, 1 Asian and 1 self-identified Hispanic were removed.

Persons under sentence of death, by race, 1968-2000

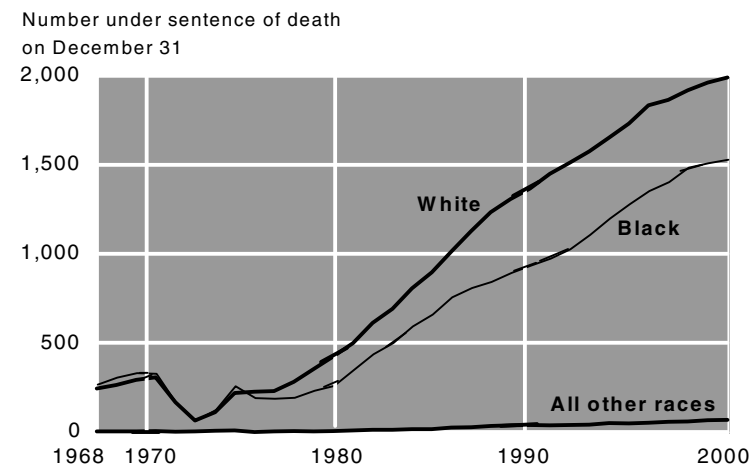


Figure 2

Among all inmates under sentence of death for whom date of arrest information was available, about half were age 20 to 29 at the time of arrest for their capital offense; 13% were age 19 or younger; and less than 1% were age 55 or older (table 8). The average age at time of arrest was 28 years. On December 31, 2000, 36% of all inmates were age 30 to 39, and 68% were age 25 to 44. The youngest offender under sentence of death was 18; the oldest was 85.

Entries and removals of persons under sentence of death

Between January 1 and December 31, 2000, 25 State prison systems reported receiving 212 prisoners under sentence of death; the Federal Bureau of Prisons received 2 inmates. More than half of the inmates were received in 5 States: Texas (34), California (31), Florida (20), North Carolina (18), and Pennsylvania (12).

All 214 prisoners who were received under sentence of death had been convicted of murder. By gender and race, 115 were white men, 85 were black men, 1 was an American Indian man, 4 were Asian men, 7 were white women, 1 was a black woman, and 1 was an American Indian woman. Of the 214 new admissions, 25 were Hispanic men.

Twenty States and the Federal Bureau of Prisons reported a total of 58 persons whose sentence of death was overturned or removed. Appeals courts vacated 27 sentences while upholding the convictions and vacated 27 sentences while overturning the convictions. Florida (9 exits) had the largest number of vacated capital sentences. Maryland, North Carolina, and Arizona each reported one commutation of a death sentence.

Table 8. Age at time of arrest for capital offense and age of prisoners under sentence of death at yearend 2000

Age	Prisoners under sentence of death			
	At time of arrest		On December 31, 2000	
	Number*	Percent	Number	Percent
Total number under sentence of death on 12/31/00	3,312	100%	3,593	100%
17 or younger	78	2.4	0	
18-19	353	10.7	11	0.3
20-24	888	26.8	237	6.6
25-29	747	22.6	490	13.6
30-34	545	16.5	613	17.1
35-39	357	10.8	686	19.1
40-44	178	5.4	654	18.2
45-49	101	3.0	390	10.9
50-54	40	1.2	289	8.0
55-59	15	0.5	127	3.5
60 or older	10	0.3	96	2.7
Mean age	28 yrs.		38 yrs.	
Median age	27 yrs.		38 yrs.	

Note: The youngest person under sentence of death was a white male in Arizona, born in April 1982 and sentenced to death in October 2000. The oldest person under sentence of death was a white male in Arizona, born in September 1915 and sentenced to death in June 1983.

*Excludes 281 inmates for whom the date of arrest for capital offense was not available.

As of December 31, 2000, 30 of 58 persons who were formerly under sentence of death were serving a reduced sentence, 13 were awaiting a new trial, 5 were awaiting resentencing, 2 had all capital charges dropped, and 5 had no action taken after being removed from under sentence of death. No information was available on the current status of 3 inmates.

In addition, 18 persons died while under sentence of death in 2000. All of these deaths were from natural causes — 2 each in Pennsylvania, Florida, Texas, and Nevada, and 1 each in Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Arizona.

From 1977, the year after the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of revised State capital punishment laws, to 2000, a total of 6,208 persons entered prison under sentence of death. During these 24 years, 683 persons were executed, and 2,312 were removed from under a death sentence by appellate court decisions and reviews, commutations, or death.¹

Among individuals who received a death sentence between 1977 and 2000, 3,058 (49%) were white, 2,542 (41%) were black, 509 (8%) were Hispanic, and 99 (2%) were other races. The distribution by race and Hispanic origin of the 2,995 inmates who were removed from death row between 1977 and 2000 was as follows: 1,564 whites (52%), 1,202 blacks (40%), 185 Hispanics (6%), and 44 persons of other races (1%). Of the 683 who were executed, 377 (55%) were white, 246 (36%) were black, 49 (7%) were Hispanic, and 11 (2%) were

¹An individual may have been received and removed from under sentence of death more than once. Data are based on the most recent sentence. of other races.

Criminal history of inmates under sentence of death in 2000

Among inmates under a death sentence on December 31, 2000, for whom criminal history information was available, 64% had prior felony convictions, including 8% with at least one previous homicide conviction (table 9).

Among those for whom legal status at the time of the capital offense was available, 39% had an active criminal justice status. Less than half of these were on parole, and a quarter were on probation. The remaining quarter had charges pending, were incarcerated, had escaped from incarceration, or had some other criminal justice status.

Criminal history patterns differed by race and Hispanic origin. More blacks (68%) than whites (62%) or Hispanics (59%) had a prior felony conviction.

About the same percentage of whites, blacks, and Hispanics had a prior homicide conviction (8%). A slightly higher percentage of Hispanics (24%) or blacks (19%) than whites (15%) were on parole when arrested for their capital offense.

Since 1988, data have been collected on the number of death sentences imposed on entering inmates. Among the 3,678 individuals received under sentence of death during that time, about 1 in 7 entered with 2 or more death sentences.

Number of death sentences received	Inmates
Total	100%
1	85
2	11
3 or more	5
Number admitted under sentence of death, 1988-2000	3,678

Table 9. Criminal history profile of prisoners under sentence of death, by race and Hispanic origin, 2000

	Number of prisoners under sentence of death				Percent of prisoners under sentence of death ^a			
	All ^b	White	Black	Hispanic	All ^b	White	Black	Hispanic
U.S. total	3,593	1,679	1,520	339	100%	100%	100%	100%
Prior felony convictions								
Yes	2,129	962	951	188	64.0%	61.7%	68.1%	58.9%
No	1,199	598	446	131	36.0	38.3	31.9	41.1
Not reported	265							
Prior homicide convictions								
Yes	285	132	126	23	8.1%	8.0%	8.5%	6.9%
No	3,245	1,521	1,361	312	91.9	92.0	91.5	93.1
Not reported	63							
Legal status at time of capital offense								
Charges pending	232	126	94	12	7.1%	8.3%	6.9%	3.9%
Probation	328	140	149	32	10.1	9.2	10.9	10.3
Parole	572	233	255	76	17.6	15.3	18.7	24.4
Prison escapee	38	23	11	3	1.2	1.5	0.8	1.0
Incarcerated	88	39	42	6	2.7	2.6	3.1	1.9
Other status	21	11	8	1	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.3
None	1,970	953	802	181	60.6	62.5	58.9	58.2
Not reported	344							

^aPercentages are based on those offenders for whom data were reported. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

^bIncludes persons of other races.

Executions

According to data collected by the Federal Government, from 1930 to 2000, 4,542 persons were executed under civil authority (table 10).²

²Military authorities carried out an additional 160 executions between 1930 and 1961.

Table 10. Number of persons executed, by jurisdiction, 1930-2000

State	Number executed sentence of death	
	Since 1930	Since 1977
U.S. total	4,542	683
Texas	536	239
Georgia	389	23
New York	329	
California	300	8
North Carolina	279	16
Florida	220	50
South Carolina	187	25
Ohio	173	1
Virginia	173	81
Louisiana	159	26
Alabama	158	23
Mississippi	158	4
Pennsylvania	155	3
Arkansas	141	23
Kentucky	105	2
Missouri	108	46
Illinois	102	12
Tennessee	94	1
Oklahoma	90	30
New Jersey	74	
Maryland	71	3
Arizona	60	22
Washington	50	3
Indiana	48	7
Colorado	48	1
District of Columbia	40	
West Virginia	40	
Nevada	37	8
Federal system	33	
Massachusetts	27	
Delaware	23	11
Oregon	21	2
Connecticut	21	
Utah	19	6
Iowa	18	
Kansas	15	
Montana	8	2
Wyoming	8	1
New Mexico	8	
Nebraska	7	3
Idaho	4	1
Vermont	4	
New Hampshire	1	
South Dakota	1	

After the Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976, 31 States executed 683 prisoners:

1977	1	1990	23
1979	2	1991	14
1981	1	1992	31
1982	2	1993	38
1983	5	1994	31
1984	21	1995	56
1985	18	1996	45
1986	18	1997	74
1987	25	1998	68
1988	11	1999	98
1989	16	2000	85

During this 24-year period, 5 States executed 446 prisoners: Texas (239), Virginia (81), Florida (50), Missouri (46), and Oklahoma (30). These States accounted for nearly two-thirds of all executions. Between 1977 and 2000, 372 white non-Hispanic men, 246 black non-Hispanic men, 49 Hispanic men, 6 American Indian men, 5 Asian men, and 5 white non-Hispanic women were executed.

During 2000 Texas carried out 40 executions, Oklahoma executed 11 persons; Virginia, 8; Florida, 6; Missouri, 5; Alabama, 4; Arizona, 3; Arkansas, 2; and Delaware, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and California, 1 each. The inmate executed in Tennessee was the first executed in that State since 1960. Eighty-three persons executed in 2000 were male and two were female. Forty-three were white; 35 were black; 6 were Hispanic; and 1 was American Indian.

From 1977 to 2000, 6,588 prisoners were under death sentences for varying lengths of time (table 11). The 683 executions accounted for 10% of those at risk. A total of 2,312 prisoners (35% of those at risk) were removed by means other than execution. About the same percentage of whites (12%), blacks (9%), and Hispanics (9%) were executed. Somewhat larger percentages of whites (37%) and blacks (35%) than Hispanics (26%) were removed from under a death sentence by means other than execution.

Persons executed, 1930-2000

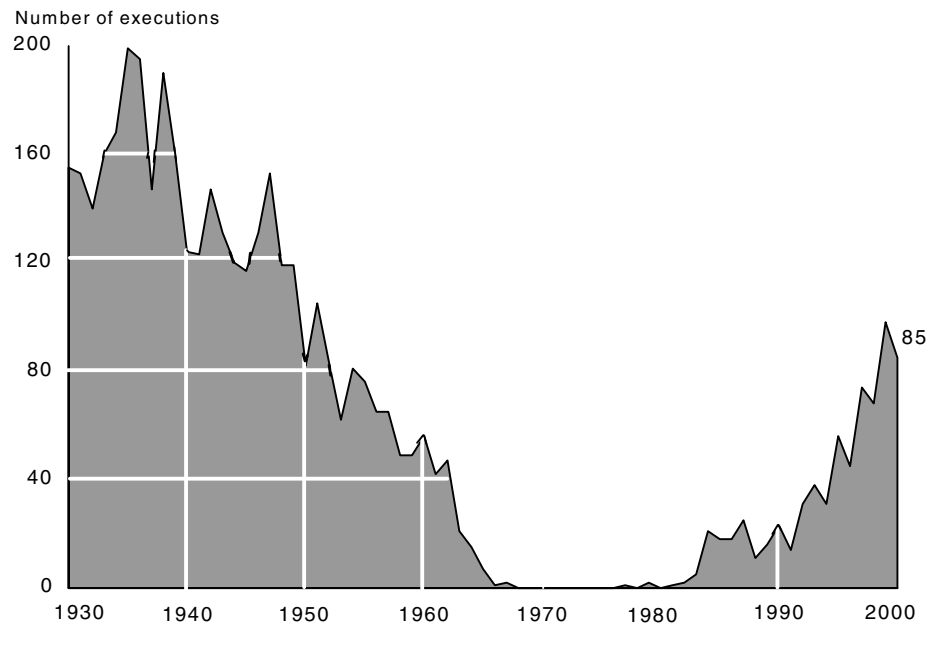


Figure 3

Table 11. Executions and other dispositions of inmates sentenced to death, by race and Hispanic origin, 1977-2000

Race/Hispanic origin ^b	Total under sentence of death 1977-2000 ^c	Prisoners executed		Prisoners who received other dispositions ^a	
		Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total	6,588	683	10.4%	2,312	35.1%
White	3,243	377	11.6%	1,187	36.6%
Black	2,722	246	9.0%	956	35.1%
Hispanic	524	49	9.4%	136	26.0%
All other races	99	11	11.1%	33	33.3%

^aIncludes persons removed from a sentence of death because of statutes struck down on appeal, sentences or convictions vacated, commutations, or death by other than execution.

^bWhite, black, and other categories exclude Hispanics.

^cIncludes persons sentenced to death prior to 1977 who were still under sentence of death on 12/31/00 (8), persons sentenced to death prior to 1977 whose death sentence was removed between 1977 and 12/31/00 (372), and persons sentenced to death between 1977 and 12/31/00 (6,208).

Among prisoners executed from 1977 to 2000, the average time spent between the imposition of the most recent sentence received and execution was more than 10 years (table 12). White prisoners had spent an average of 9 years and 8 months, and black prisoners, 10 years and 8 months. The 85 prisoners executed in 2000 were under sentence of death an average of 11 years and 5 months.

For the 683 prisoners executed between 1977 and 2000, the most common method of execution was lethal injection (518). Other methods were electrocution (149), lethal gas (11), hanging (3), and firing squad (2).

Method of execution	Executions, 1977-2000				
	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian
Total	377	246	49	6	5
Lethal injection	287	174	47	5	5
Electrocution	77	69	2	1	0
Lethal gas	8	3	0	0	0
Hanging	3	0	0	0	0
Firing squad	2	0	0	0	0

Among prisoners under sentence of death at yearend 2000, the average time spent in prison was 8 years, up 5 month from that of 1999.

Inmates under sentence of death	Elapsed time since sentencing	
	Mean	Median
Total	96 mo	83 mo
Male	97	83
Female	73	70
White	100	87
Black	96	81
Hispanic	85	69

The median time between the imposition of a death sentence and yearend 2000 was 83 months. Overall, the average time for women was 6.1 years, 2 years less than that for men (8.1 years). On average, whites, blacks, and Hispanics had spent from 85 to 100 months under a sentence of death.

Table 12. Time under sentence of death and execution, by race, 1977-2000

Year of execution	Number executed			Average elapse time from sentence to execution for:		
	All races*	White	Black	All races*	White	Black
Total	683	423	248	121 mo	116 mo	128 mo
1977-83	11	9	2	51 mo	49 mo	58 mo
1984	21	13	8	74	76	71
1985	18	11	7	71	65	80
1986	18	11	7	87	78	102
1987	25	13	12	86	78	96
1888	11	6	5	80	72	89
1989	16	8	8	95	78	112
1990	23	16	7	95	97	91
1991	14	7	7	116	124	107
1992	31	19	11	114	104	135
1993	38	23	14	113	112	121
1994	31	20	11	122	117	132
1995	56	33	22	134	128	144
1996	45	31	14	125	112	153
1997	74	45	27	133	126	147
1998	68	48	18	130	128	132
1999	98	61	33	143	143	141
2000	85	49	35	137	134	142

Note: Average time was calculated from the most recent sentencing date.
*Includes American Indians and Asians.

Advance count of executions: January 1, 2001 - November 30, 2001

To provide the latest data on capital punishment, BJS gathers information following each execution. The data include the date of execution, the jurisdiction, method used, and the name, race, and gender of each person executed.

Between January 1, 2001, and November 30, 2001, 15 States and the Federal Government executed 62 inmates. This represents a 22% decrease from the 79 executed during the same period in 2000.

Oklahoma and Texas had carried out 16, 52% of the executions in 2001. This is the most inmates executed in Oklahoma in a single year since the Federal Government began tracking executions on an annual basis.

The Federal Government executed two inmates, the first since 1963 (and the most since the two federally executed in 1957). New Mexico executed one inmate, the first since 1960.

Lethal injection accounted for all 62 executions. This is the first year since executions resumed in 1977 that lethal injection was the only method used.

Jurisdiction	Number of executions	Method used
Oklahoma	16	Lethal Injection
Texas	16	Lethal Injection
Missouri	7	Lethal Injection
North Carolina	5	Lethal Injection
Georgia	3	Lethal Injection
Federal Government	2	Lethal Injection
Indiana	2	Lethal Injection
Delaware	2	Lethal Injection
Virginia	2	Lethal Injection
Ohio	1	Lethal Injection
Arkansas	1	Lethal Injection
Florida	1	Lethal Injection
California	1	Lethal Injection
Nevada	1	Lethal Injection
New Mexico	1	Lethal Injection
Washington	1	Lethal Injection
Total	62	

Forty-five of those executed were white, 16 black, and 1 American Indian. Two women were executed in Oklahoma.

Final counts for all of 2001 will appear in *Capital Punishment 2001*, a BJS Bulletin, released in late 2002. This annual report will comprise data collected from State and Federal departments of correction. The report will cover all persons under sentence of death on December 31, 2001, as well as those removed from under sentence of death.

Methodology

Capital punishment information is collected annually as part of the National Prisoner Statistics program (NPS-8). This data series is collected in two parts: data on persons under sentence of death are obtained from the department of correction in each jurisdiction currently authorizing capital punishment; information on the status of death penalty statutes is obtained from the Office of the Attorney General in each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Government. Data collection forms and more detailed tables are available in *Correctional Populations in the United States*,

published annually. NPS-8 covers all persons under sentence of death at any time during the year who were held in a State or Federal nonmilitary correctional facility. Included are capital offenders transferred from prison to mental hospitals and those who may have escaped from custody. Excluded are persons whose death sentences have been overturned by the court, regardless of their current incarceration status.

The statistics reported in this Bulletin may differ from data collected by other organizations for a variety of reasons: (1) NPS-8 add inmates to the number under sentence of death not at

sentencing but at the time they are admitted to State or Federal correctional facility; (2) If in one year inmates entered prison under a death sentence or were reported as being relieved of a death sentence but the court had acted in the previous year, the counts are adjusted to reflect the dates of court decisions (see the note on table 5 for the affected jurisdictions); (3) NPS counts are always for the last day of the calendar year and will differ from counts for more recent periods.

All data in this report have been reviewed for accuracy by the data providers in each jurisdiction prior to publication.

Appendix table 1. Prisoners sentenced to death and the outcome sentence, by year of sentencing, 1973-2000

Year of sentence	Number sentenced to death	Number of prisoners removed from under sentence of death						Other or unknown reasons	Under sentence of death 12/31/2000
		Execution	Other death	Appeal or higher courts overturned— Death penalty statute	Conviction	Sentence	Sentence commuted		
1973	42	2	0	14	9	8	9	0	0
1974	149	10	4	65	15	30	22	1	2
1975	298	6	4	171	24	67	21	2	3
1976	233	14	5	136	17	43	15	0	3
1977	137	19	3	40	26	32	7	0	10
1978	185	35	6	21	36	62	8	0	17
1979	152	28	13	2	28	58	5	1	17
1980	173	42	13	3	29	48	7	0	31
1981	224	51	13	0	42	73	5	1	39
1982	266	55	14	0	36	68	7	1	85
1983	252	57	15	1	26	59	7	2	85
1984	285	51	10	2	39	61	6	8	108
1985	267	34	6	1	42	69	4	3	108
1986	300	47	19	0	45	52	6	5	126
1987	289	38	15	5	36	57	2	6	130
1988	292	37	12	0	33	54	3	0	153
1989	259	26	10	0	29	50	4	0	140
1990	253	26	8	0	33	37	2	0	147
1991	266	21	9	0	31	33	3	0	169
1992	288	21	9	0	21	36	5	0	196
1993	289	20	11	0	17	22	5	0	214
1994	318	14	7	0	21	23	2	0	251
1995	320	16	8	0	15	21	1	0	259
1996	318	9	4	0	14	27	1	0	263
1997	278	1	3	0	13	9	0	0	252
1998	303	3	2	0	3	3	0	0	292
1999	280	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	279
2000	214	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	214
Total, 1973-2000	6,930	683	223	461	681	1,102	157	30	3,593

Note: For those persons sentenced to death more than once, the numbers are based on the most recent death sentence.

Appendix table 2. Prisoners under sentence of death on December 31, 2000, by State and year of sentencing

State	Year of sentence for prisoners sentenced to and remaining on death row, 12/31/2000												Under sentence of death, 12/31/00	Average number of years under sentence of death, 12/31/00
	1974-79	1980-81	1982-83	1984-85	1986-87	1988-89	1990-91	1992-93	1994-95	1996-97	1998-99	2000	12/31/00	12/31/00
Florida	20	10	17	29	29	36	47	42	47	26	48	20	371	9.6
California	8	17	44	37	46	65	55	72	59	80	72	31	586	9.0
Texas	7	9	7	13	24	32	33	57	80	67	87	34	450	6.9
Georgia	7	3	6	5	13	9	11	11	14	17	20	4	120	9.1
Tennessee	2	5	8	9	14	9	8	6	8	12	12	4	97	10.2
Nebraska	2	1		1	1				2	2		2	11	10.5
Illinois	1	11	10	13	9	16	19	21	18	17	19	9	163	9.3
Nevada	1	3	7	10	4	8	10	1	14	15	8	7	88	8.9
North Carolina	1	2	3	4			12	43	47	41	44	18	215	5.4
Kentucky	1	1	7	2	4	1	2	4	3	3	9	3	40	9.3
Arizona	1		8	9	6	13	18	17	12	14	14	7	119	8.6
Arkansas	1					2		7	9	10	8	3	40	5.4
Alabama		3	9	6	16	17	12	13	31	29	38	11	185	7.3
Indiana		2	4	3	6	3	5	5	5	4	4	2	43	9.9
Mississippi		1	4		3	1	10	8	7	13	11	3	61	7.0
Pennsylvania		1	14	14	26	32	16	27	40	25	31	12	238	8.5
Oklahoma		1	2	10	15	12	13	7	18	23	21	7	129	7.7
Ohio			10	30	21	18	19	20	27	27	26	3	201	9.1
Louisiana			2	5	7	1	2	8	16	20	20	9	90	5.7
Missouri			2	5	6	5	6	8	16	15	13	3	79	7.1
Idaho			2	4	1	4	2	2	2	2	2		21	10.6
South Carolina			1	2	2	4	6	7	15	11	13	5	66	6.2
Utah			1	2		2	1	1		3	1		11	9.3
Montana			1		1			2		2			6	*
Delaware			1			1		6		4	3		15	6.5
Maryland				3		2	1	1		4	3	2	16	7.4
New Jersey					1		2	1	4	4	2	1	15	5.9
Colorado					1				1	1	2		5	*
Washington							2	2	2	4	3		13	5.5
Connecticut							2		1	1	1	2	7	*
Oregon							1	6	7	6	5		25	5.4
Federal system							1	4	2	4	5	2	18	4.2
South Dakota								1		1	1		3	*
New Mexico									2	2	1		5	*
Virginia									1	5	15	8	29	2.1
Wyoming										1	1		2	*
New York											5	1	6	*
Kansas											3	1	4	*
Total	52	70	170	216	256	293	316	410	510	515	571	214	3,593	8.0

Note: For those persons sentenced to death more than once, the numbers are based on the most recent death sentence.

*Averages not calculated for fewer than 10 inmates.

Appendix table 3. Number sentenced to death and number of removals, by jurisdiction and reason for removal, 1973-2000

State	Total sentenced to death, 1973-2000	Number of removals, 1973-2000					Under sentence of death, 12/31/00
		Executed	Died	Sentence or conviction overturned	Sentence commuted	Other removals	
U.S. total	6,930	683	223	2,244	157	30	3,593
Federal	24	0	0	6	0	0	18
Alabama	325	23	14	101	2	0	185
Arizona	231	22	10	73	6	1	119
Arkansas	97	23	2	30	2	0	40
California	753	8	31	113	15	0	586
Colorado	18	1	1	10	1	0	5
Connecticut	8	0	0	1	0	0	7
Delaware	41	11	0	15	0	0	15
Florida	847	50	31	375	18	2	371
Georgia	294	23	9	135	6	1	120
Idaho	37	1	1	12	2	0	21
Illinois	284	12	10	88	3	8	163
Indiana	93	7	1	38	2	2	43
Kansas	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Kentucky	74	2	2	29	1	0	40
Louisiana	205	26	3	79	6	1	90
Maryland	50	3	1	26	4	0	16
Massachusetts	4	0	0	2	2	0	0
Mississippi	165	4	3	94	0	3	61
Missouri	160	46	8	25	2	0	79
Montana	15	2	0	6	1	0	6
Nebraska	26	3	2	8	2	0	11
Nevada	133	8	7	27	3	0	88
New Jersey	49	0	3	23	0	8	15
New Mexico	27	0	1	16	5	0	5
New York	9	0	0	3	0	0	6
North Carolina	485	16	10	238	6	0	215
Ohio	354	1	10	133	9	0	201
Oklahoma	303	30	8	135	1	0	129
Oregon	46	2	1	18	0	0	25
Pennsylvania	336	3	12	83	0	0	238
Rhode Island	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
South Carolina	167	25	4	69	3	0	66
South Dakota	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Tennessee	196	1	10	86	0	2	97
Texas	863	239	23	105	45	1	450
Utah	26	6	0	8	1	0	11
Virginia	131	81	3	8	9	1	29
Washington	34	3	1	17	0	0	13
Wyoming	11	1	1	7	0	0	2
Percent	100%	9.9%	3.2%	32.4%	2.3%	0.4%	51.8%

Note: For those persons sentenced to death more than once, the numbers are based on the most recent death sentence.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Lawrence A. Greenfeld is acting director.

BJS Bulletins present the first release of findings from permanent data collection programs.

This Bulletin was written by Tracy L. Snell under the supervision of Allen J. Beck. Paige M. Harrison provided assistance and statistical review.

Tina Dorsey edited the report. Jayne Robinson prepared the report for final printing.

At the U.S. Census Bureau, Patricia A. Clark collected the data under the supervision of Gertrude B. Odom and Marilyn M. Monahan.

December 2001, NCJ 190598

Appendix table 4. Executions, by State and method, 1977-2000

State	Number executed	Lethal injection	Electrocution	Lethal gas	Hanging	Firing squad
Total	683	518	149	11	3	2
Alabama	23	0	23	0	0	0
Arizona	22	20	0	2	0	0
Arkansas	23	22	1	0	0	0
California	8	6	0	2	0	0
Colorado	1	1	0	0	0	0
Delaware	11	10	0	0	1	0
Florida	50	6	44	0	0	0
Georgia	23	0	23	0	0	0
Idaho	1	1	0	0	0	0
Illinois	12	12	0	0	0	0
Indiana	7	4	3	0	0	0
Kentucky	2	1	1	0	0	0
Louisiana	26	6	20	0	0	0
Maryland	3	3	0	0	0	0
Mississippi	4	0	0	4	0	0
Missouri	46	46	0	0	0	0
Montana	2	2	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	3	0	3	0	0	0
Nevada	8	7	0	1	0	0
North Carolina	16	14	0	2	0	0
Ohio	1	1	0	0	0	0
Oklahoma	30	30	0	0	0	0
Oregon	2	2	0	0	0	0
Pennsylvania	3	3	0	0	0	0
South Carolina	25	20	5	0	0	0
Tennessee	1	1	0	0	0	0
Texas	239	239	0	0	0	0
Utah	6	4	0	0	0	2
Virginia	81	55	26	0	0	0
Washington	3	1	0	0	2	0
Wyoming	1	1	0	0	0	0