Update on the U.S. Death Penalty (and other musings)

Robin Konrad April 17, 2021



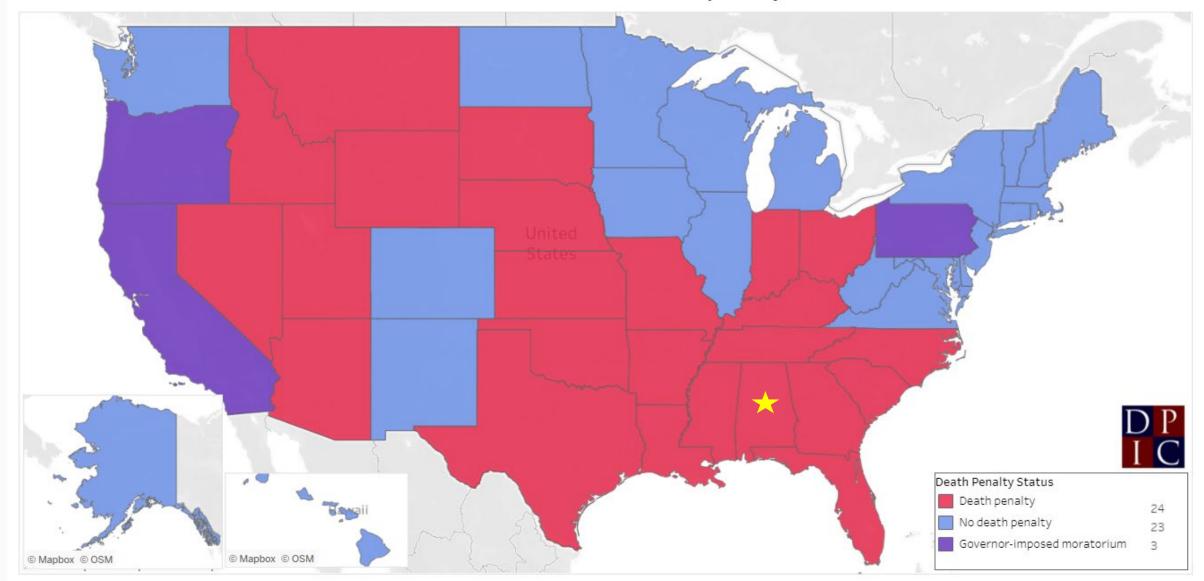


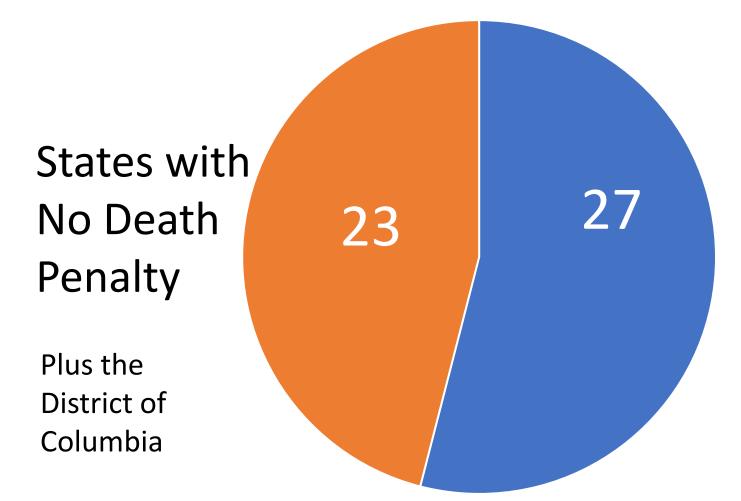
D P DEATH PENALTY I C INFORMATION CENTER

https://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org



States with and without the death penalty - 2021



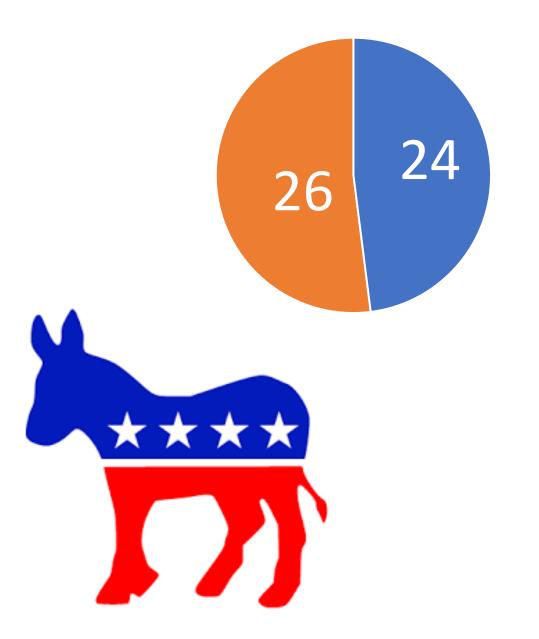


States with Death Penalty

Plus the U.S. Government and U.S. Military

States with Governor Imposed Moratorium

- California Gov. Newsom
- Oregon Gov. Brown
- Pennsylvania Gov. Wolf



VIRGINIA:

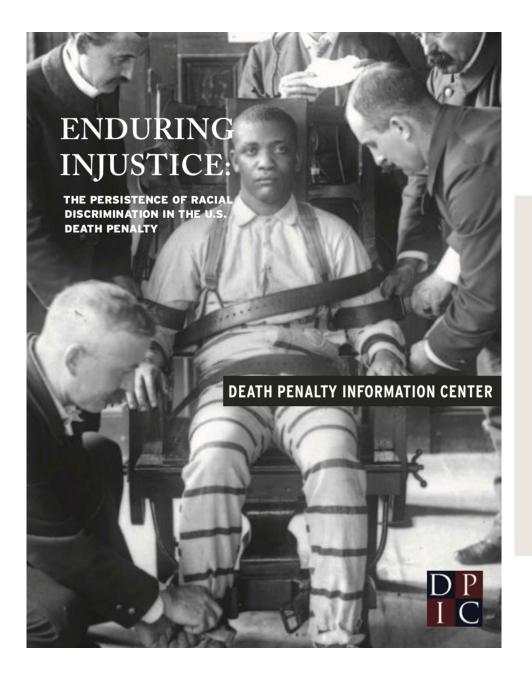
FIRST IN THE SOUTH TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY.

MURDER		RAPE	ATTEMPTED	ARMED
Black 185	white 46	Black White	Black White	Black White
			20 0 ** ** ** ** ** **	;;;
		**		

Race Disparities in Virginia Executions from 1900-1969

Virginia provides an illustration of how much race determined who was executed for non-murder crimes. Before the Civil War, Virginia explicitly provided different penalties for white people and its enslaved population. By 1848, white people could be sentenced to death only for first-degree murder while enslaved Black people could

be executed for a number of non-homicide offenses.⁵⁸ Although this formal distinction was gone by the twentieth century, the state's executions showed that in practice different rules were being applied to white and Black defendants.



Equal Justice Equal Justice

Museum and Memorial Our Work News Abou

Racial Bias

People of color are more likely to be prosecuted for capital murder, sentenced to death, and executed, especially if the victim in the case is white.

Related Report

Lynching in America

The death penalty is a direct descendant of racial terror lynching.



Virginia 2021

Colorado 2020

Abolition in the past decade New Hampshire 2019

Washington 2018

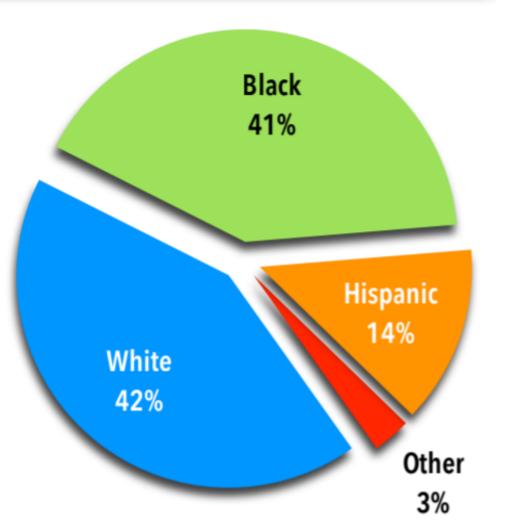
Delaware 2016

Maryland 2013

Connecticut 2012

Illinois 2011

DEATH ROW PRISONERS BY RACE



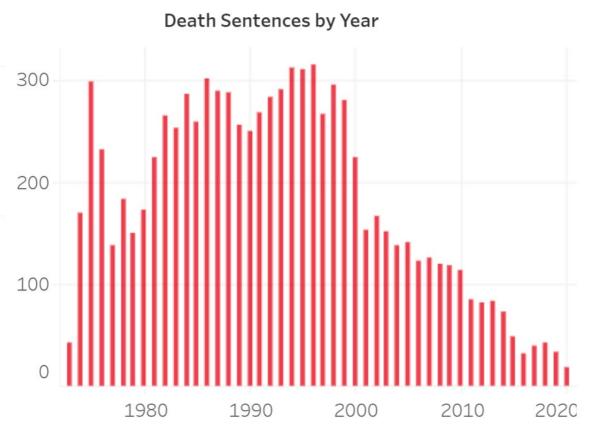
DEATH ROW PRISONERS BY STATE: October 1, 2020

California	711	Tennessee	51	Idaho	8
Florida	347	Oklahoma	45	Indiana	8
Texas	210	Georgia	45	Utah	7
Alabama	170	Mississippi	42	U.S. Military	4
Pennsylvania	142	South Carolina	39	Virginia	2
North Carolina	141	Arkansas	31	Montana	2
Ohio	141	Kentucky	28	New Hampshire	1
Arizona	119	Oregon	24	South Dakota	1
Nevada	70	Missouri	22	Wyoming	1
Louisiana	68	Nebraska	12		
U.S. Gov't	55	Kansas	10		
		I		TOTAL: 2,553	

Race of Death Row Prisoners and **Death Row Prisoners by State** Source: NAACP Legal Defense Fund, "Death Row USA" (October 1, 2020). The combined state totals are slightly higher than the reported national total. That is because a few prisoners are sentenced to death in more than one state. Those prisoners are included in each state's totals, but only once in the national total.

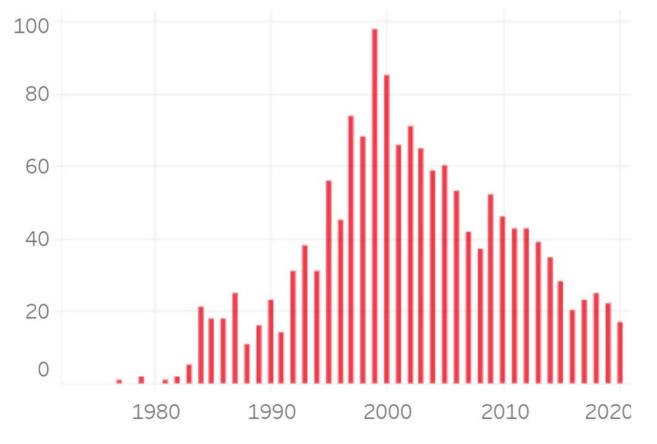
New Death Sentences

2020 Death Sentences by State **Total Sentences** 18 United States 5 1 1 1 D P I C Mexico © 2021 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



Executions

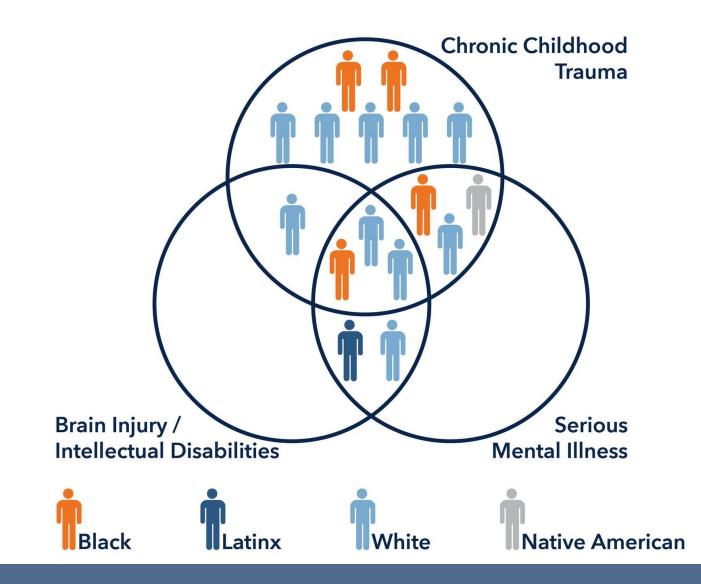
Executions by Year

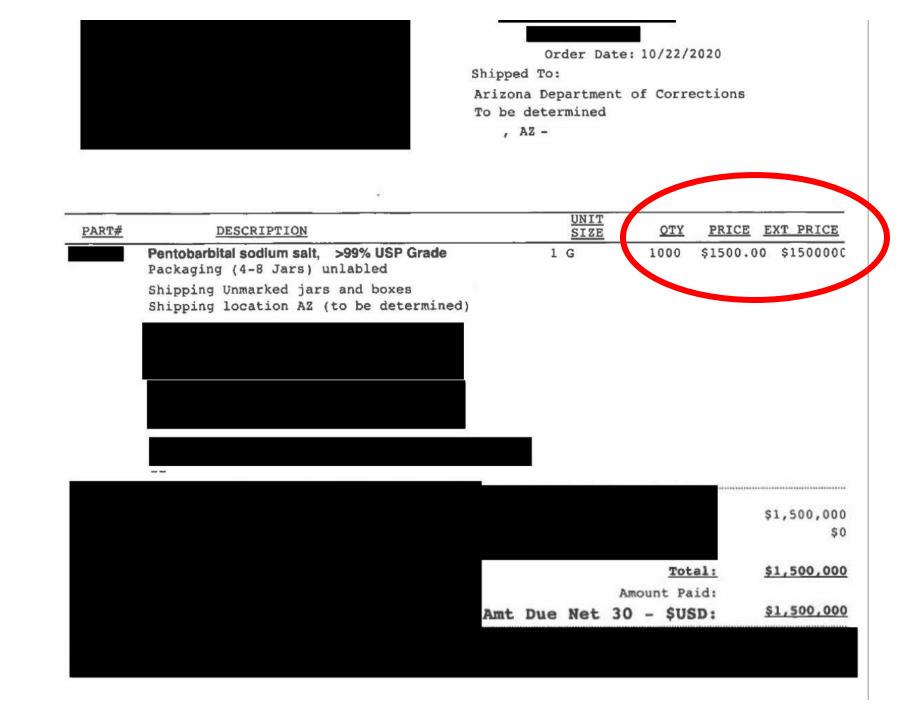


Executions By State

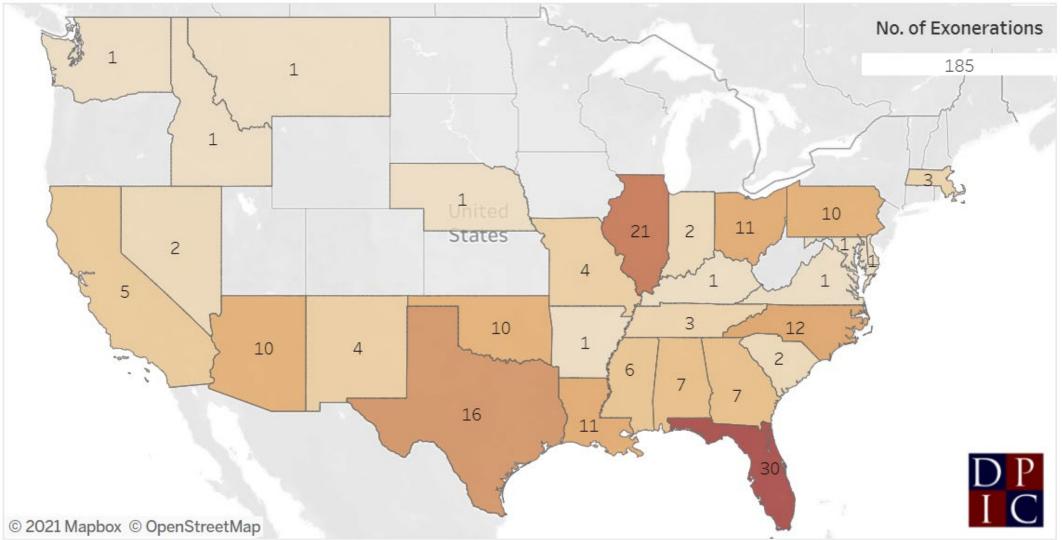
State	2020	2019
U.S. Government	10	0
Texas	3	9
Alabama	1	3
Georgia	1	3
Missouri	1	1
Tennessee	1	3
Florida	0	2
South Dakota	0	1
Total	17	22

PROBLEMATIC EXECUTIONS IN 2020





Death-Row Exonerations



Will the death penalty in the U.S. be abolished?

1972

Reinstated: 1976



U.S. Supreme Court