



Cruel and Unusual Punishment: The Juvenile Death Penalty

Facts and Figures

Current March 16, 2004

- Juvenile offenders executed since 1976 in US: **22**
- Juvenile offenders under sentence of death in US: **73**
- States that prohibit the juvenile death penalty: **31**
- States with no juvenile offenders on death row: **38**
- States that have not carried out a juvenile execution: **43**
- Texas juvenile executions as a percentage of all juvenile executions in US: **59**
- Texas, Oklahoma, and Virginia juvenile executions as percentage of all executions in US: **82**
- Juvenile death sentences imposed in 1999: **15**
- Juvenile death sentences imposed in 2003: **2**
- Juvenile death sentences as percentage of all death sentences imposed in US, 1973-2003: **3**
- Juvenile death sentences as percentage of all death sentences imposed in US, 2003: **1**
- Percentage of juvenile death sentences reversed: **86**
- Approximate percentage of homicides committed by juveniles in which the victim was white: **50**
- Percentage of juveniles who are on death row who killed a white person: **72**
- Percentage of juveniles executed who killed a white person: **77**
- Of last 10 juveniles executed in Texas, number who were black or Hispanic: **9**
- Estimated extra dollar amount of carrying out a capital sentence vs. non-capital prison sentence, in millions: **2.16**
- Percentage of current death row juveniles who were victims of childhood abuse or neglect: **60**
- Percentage of current death row juveniles who have a diagnosed mental health disorder: **43**
- Ratio of mental health disorder rate among death row juvenile offenders to that of general adolescent population: **4:1**
- On average, number of "traumatic life determinant factors" experienced by juveniles on death row: **4**
- Juvenile executions as percentage of all executions in US, last 10 years: **4**
- Juvenile executions as percentage of all executions in the rest of the world, last 10 years: **.04**
- Rank of US in number of juvenile executions carried out worldwide, last 10 years: **1**

Sources by line:

- 1-11, 22, chart: Victor L. Streib, *The Juvenile Death Penalty Today*, at law.onu.edu/faculty/streib.html, February 29, 2004.
- 3: On 3/3/04 the WY Governor signed HB 5 into law, and the SD Governor signed SB 182.
- 13: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*.
- 14-16: NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, "Death Row USA Summer 2003," July 2003.
- 17: *Costs of Processing Murder Cases in North Carolina*, Sanford Institute of Public Policy, Duke University, May 1993.
- 18-21: Chris Mallett, PhD, "Socio-Historical Analysis of Juvenile Offenders on Death Row," *Juvenile Correctional Mental Health Report*, August 2003.
- 23, 24: Amnesty International, *The Exclusion of Child Offenders Under International Law*, July 2003.

Jurisdiction	Juvenile Offenders Executed	Juv. Offenders Under Death Sentence
Texas	13	28
Virginia	3	1
Oklahoma	2	0
Louisiana	1	5
Georgia	1	2
South Carolina	1	3
Missouri	1	0
Alabama	0	14
Arizona	0	4
Mississippi	0	5
North Carolina	0	5
Florida	0	3
Pennsylvania	0	2
Nevada	0	1
Alaska	0	0
Arkansas	0	0
California	0	0
Colorado	0	0
Connecticut	0	0
Delaware	0	0
District of Columbia	0	0
Hawaii	0	0
Idaho	0	0
Illinois	0	0
Indiana	0	0
Iowa	0	0
Kansas	0	0
Kentucky	0	0
Maine	0	0
Maryland	0	0
Massachusetts	0	0
Michigan	0	0
Minnesota	0	0
Montana	0	0
Nebraska	0	0
New Hampshire	0	0
New Jersey	0	0
New Mexico	0	0
New York	0	0
North Dakota	0	0
Ohio	0	0
Oregon	0	0
Rhode Island	0	0
South Dakota	0	0
Tennessee	0	0
U.S. Military	0	0
Utah	0	0
Vermont	0	0
Washington	0	0
West Virginia	0	0
Wisconsin	0	0
Wyoming	0	0
Federal Government	0	0
US Military	0	0
Total	22	73