

# OHIO

## STATISTICAL INFORMATION

**Current Governor:** Bob Taft  
**Term of Office:** Jan. 2003 - Jan. 2007

**Legislative Term:** Jan.-Dec.

**Total Inmate Pop.**  
(As of 5/1/05): 43,869      **White: 51.4%**    **Black: 48.5%**    **Latino/a: 2%**    **Other: 0%**

**Death Row Pop.**  
(As of 4/1/05): 198      **White: 90**      **Black: 97**      **Latino/a: 3**      **Other: 4**

**EXECUTIONS:**  
**Since 1976:** 16      **White: 10**      **Black: 5**      **Latino/a: 0**      **Other: 0**  
(As of 6/28/05)

**Carried out in 2003:** 3

**Carried out in 2004:** 7

**Carried out in 2005:** 1      **Scheduled for 201**  
(As of 6/28/05)

**INMATES REMOVED FROM DEATH ROW BETWEEN 1973 AND 2004**      *(does not include those executed by the state or those who died of natural causes):*

**Total Number:** 142

**Sentence/Conviction overturned (minus exonerated):** 131

**Sentence reduced:** 9

**Exoneration:** 2

**Other:** 0

## RELATED STATUTORY PROVISIONS:

**Life without Parole:** yes

**Prohibits the execution of juvenile offenders:** yes

**Prohibits the execution of mentally retarded offenders:** yes

**Prohibits the execution of mentally ill offenders:** no

## CURRENT STATUS OF THE MORATORIUM:

**Moratorium:** no

**Study:** no

## **HISTORY OF LEGISLATION ADDRESSING ABA ISSUES**

**Moratorium/Study:** Current: One bill was introduced proposing a study on the death penalty (HB260).

Previous Years: 2003-04: One bill introduced creates a Capital Punishment--Study Imposition/Administration. Creates a Capital Case Commission to study capital punishment in OH and recommend improvements in procedures (HB172). 2001-02: One bill introduced would prohibit the death penalty unless convicted beyond any doubt of aggravated murder (HB101); One bill introduced would permit evidence at the sentencing hearing in capital cases to show that the death penalty has been imposed in a demographically disparate manner and to require that demographic information be included in the Attorney General's annual capital case status report (HB102); 2000: One bill introduced would have placed a moratorium on executions and created a commission to study the state's death penalty system.

### **Capital Offenses and Procedures:**

Current: None.

Previous Years: None.

### **Aggravating and Mitigating Circumstances:**

Current: None.

Previous Years: None.

### **DNA Testing and Preservation of Material Evidence:**

Current: None.

Previous Years: 2003: One bill was signed into effect by the governor which establishes a mechanism for the DNA testing of certain inmates serving a prison term or for a felony or under a sentence of death (SB11).

### **Crime Labs and Medical Examiner Offices:**

Current: None.

Previous Years: None.

### **Counsel Qualifications, Training and Competency:**

Current: None.

Previous Years: None.

### **Counsel Compensation:**

Current: None.

Previous Years: None.

**Judges and Juries:** Current: None.

Previous Years: None.

**Racial and Ethnic**

**Minorities:** Current: None.

Previous Years: None.

**Juvenile Offenders:** Current: None.

Previous Years: None.

**Mental Retardation,** Current: None

**Mental Disability**

**and Mental**

**Competency:**

Previous Years: *2003-04: Two bills introduced implement the recommendations of the Mental Retardation and Developmental Disorder Victims of Crime Task Force (SB4, HB4). 2001-02 : One bill introduced that would prohibit the imposition of a death sentence on mentally retarded offenders (HB346); One bill introduced that defines mental retardation for use in determining whether a person convicted of aggravated murder and a specification of an aggravating circumstance is a person with mental retardation (SB298).*

**Special Notes:** Current: None

Previous years: *2004 : One bill introduced that would authorize a board hearing officer, a board member, and the Office of Victims' Services to petition the Parole Board for a full board hearing regarding the re-parole of a prisoner. Provides that if a majority of the Parole Board members are present at a meeting, the majority of those present can decide whether to hold a full board hearing. Permits, in cases involving murder or aggravated murder, the victim, the victim's representative, or certain family members of the victim to ask the Parole Board to hold a full board hearing regarding the defendant's proposed parole or re-parole, and, if such a request is made, requires the Parole Board to hold a full board hearing. Requires the prosecutor to notify the victim of an offense of the services offered by the Office of Victims' Services if the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction is the offender's custodial agency (HB375, SB375).*

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND LEGAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT  
HAVE PASSED MORATORIUM RESOLUTIONS**

Ohio State Bar Association, November 8, 1997\*

Cuyahoga County Bar Association

City of Cincinnati, December 19, 2001

City of Dayton

City of Oberlin

Village of Yellow Springs

Anawim Community (Cincinnati)

Community Council of Dayton

Cuyahoga County Bar Association

\* The Ohio State Bar Association did not call for a moratorium per se, but said that no one should be executed until there are no remaining factors impeding the reliability of the death penalty.

**\*\*Last Updated on August 26, 2005**