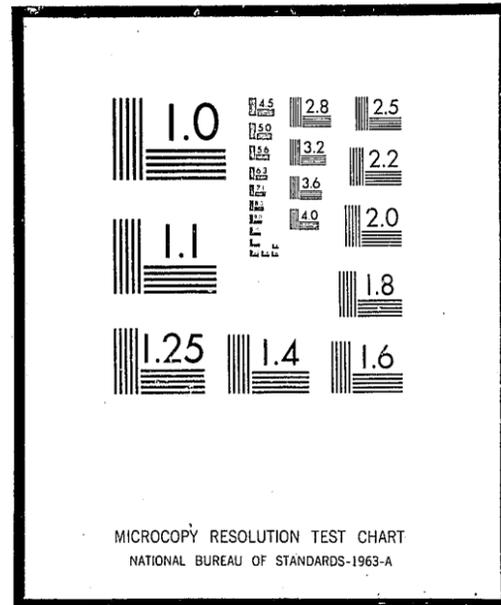


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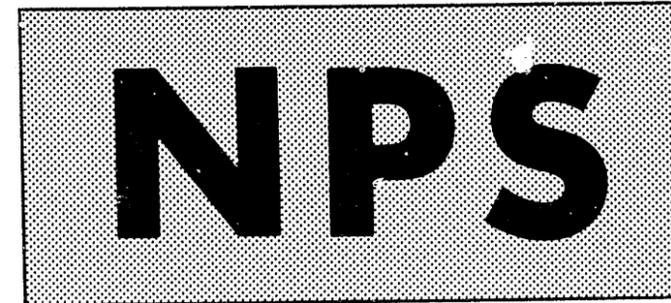
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BULLETIN

NATIONAL  
PRISONER STATISTICS  
NUMBER 39 JUNE, 1966  
EXECUTIONS  
1930 - 1965

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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BUREAU OF PRISONS  
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NCJ-00216844

# EXECUTIONS: 1930-1965

## INTRODUCTION

Seven executions were carried out by civil authorities in the United States during calendar year 1965. This is the lowest number of executions in any of the 36 years covered by this report—and eight fewer than the 15 recorded in 1964.

A total of 3,856 prisoners have been executed under civil authority in the United States from 1930 through 1965. As Chart 1 and Table 1 indicate, there has been a general decline during this period in the use of the death penalty, from a high of 199 in 1935 to the low of seven last year.

During the period covered, executions carried out under State authorities numbered 3,823, or more than 99 percent of the total, while the 33 Federal executions accounted for less than one percent.<sup>1</sup>

## COVERAGE

The information for this report was submitted to the National Prisoner Statistics program of the Federal Bureau of Prisons by cooperating prison officials in the 43 jurisdictions which had legal provisions for the death penalty during 1965. Last year these included 41 States, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Government.

During 1965, four of these 41 States—New York, Vermont, West Virginia and Iowa—eliminated the death penalty by legislative action, bringing to 13 the total number of States which no longer provide the death penalty. New York became the latest State to eliminate the death sentence when Governor Nelson

<sup>1</sup> The 33 Federal executions were carried out in the following years and States—1963: Iowa (1); 1957: Georgia (2); 1956: Missouri (1); 1954: New York (1); 1953: Missouri (2); New York (2); 1950: Alaska (1); 1948: Alaska (1), Florida (1), California (3); 1945: Wyoming (1); 1943: Tennessee (1); 1942: District of Columbia (6); 1939: Alaska (1); 1938: Indiana (1), Illinois (1), Michigan (1), Kansas (2); 1936: Indiana (1), Oklahoma (1), Arizona (1); 1930: Kansas (1).

A. Rockefeller, on June 1, 1965, signed a bill abolishing capital punishment for the offenses of murder, kidnaping where the victim is not released alive, and treason. The twelfth State to abolish the death sentence was Vermont; on April 15, 1965, Governor Philip H. Hoff signed legislation eliminating the death penalty for the crimes of murder, kidnaping for ransom, treason, and killing or destruction of vital property by a group in wartime. West Virginia was the eleventh State to repeal the death sentence; Governor Hulett C. Smith signed a bill on March 18, 1965, eliminating capital punishment for the offenses of murder, kidnaping for ransom, kidnaping the victim of a crime as a hostage, rape, carnal knowledge, and treason—this measure became effective 90 days after passage, on June 18, 1965. Iowa became the tenth State to abolish capital punishment when Governor Harold E. Hughes signed an abolition measure on February 25, 1965. The legislation took effect on July 4, 1965, and eliminated the death sentence for the offenses of murder and kidnaping for ransom.

Oregon, in 1964, became the ninth State to abolish the death penalty, by means of a public referendum which carried with 60 percent of the vote in the November election. Michigan abolished capital punishment in 1846 for all crimes except treason, and in 1963 also eliminated the death penalty for this offense—substituting life imprisonment. North Dakota abolished capital punishment in 1915, Minnesota in 1911, Maine in 1887, Wisconsin in 1853, and Rhode Island in 1852. Alaska and Hawaii eliminated the death penalty in 1957, shortly before achieving statehood.

Four of these 13 States have retained the death penalty for certain exceptional crimes. New York provides the death penalty for persons found guilty of killing a peace officer acting in the line of duty, and for convicts serving a life sentence who murder a guard or an inmate while in jail or while attempting to escape. Vermont sanctions the death penalty

for those persons convicted of first degree murder who commit an "unrelated" second murder, and for convicts who murder any person employed in any capacity in or about the State Prison or House of Correction. In addition, Vermont, like New York, retains the death penalty for persons found guilty of killing a law enforcement officer acting in the line of duty. North Dakota provides the death penalty for treason, as well as for first degree murder committed by a prisoner serving a life sentence for first degree murder. Rhode Island has a mandatory death sentence for prisoners convicted of committing murder while serving a life sentence for any offense.

In addition to the 13 States in which the death penalty is not now in effect, three other States have experimented, during the past 36 years, with abolition of the death penalty for varying periods of time—South Dakota from 1915 to 1938, Kansas from 1907 to 1934, and Delaware from 1958 to 1961.

Information is presented in this report on all prisoners executed under civil authority from 1930 through 1965. In addition, for the years 1960-1965, data are presented on prisoners received from court under sentence of death, prisoners under sentence of death whose cases were disposed of by means other than execution, and prisoners who were under the death sentence at the end of the year. It should be noted that prisoners under sentence of death who are being held in local or county jails ordinarily are not included in National Prisoner Statistics figures. Two exceptions to this are: (1) prisoners held in the Cook County, Illinois Jail and the District of Columbia Jail (the only local institutions in which executions are carried out), and (2) a few cases in States where prisoners awaiting execution in State prisons are subsequently returned to a local jail pending outcome of an appeal or other legal action.

The "under sentence of death" interval begins when the court first pronounces the sentence of death and terminates either at the time of execution or at the time of some other disposition which releases the individual from the sentence of death, such as commutation, transfer to a mental hospital, grant of a new

trial, reversal of judgment, vacated sentence, suicide, or death from natural causes. Many prisoners "under sentence of death" at the close of 1965 had received short stays or reprieves granted by State governors. In addition, a large number had appeals before State or Federal courts. The remainder had their dates of execution set for sometime in 1966—although these prisoners, too, could still appeal or receive executive or judicial stays.

#### EXECUTIONS CARRIED OUT IN FOUR JURISDICTIONS

The declining number of executions since 1930 has been accompanied by a decrease in the number of jurisdictions implementing the death penalty.

In 1930, executions were carried out in 32 jurisdictions in the United States. This number held fairly constant until 1945, but generally declined from that time until 1965, when only four jurisdictions implemented the death penalty. Table 2 indicates that since 1930 the 17 jurisdictions in the Southern region of the United States have accounted for 2,305, or 59.8 percent of the 3,856 executions carried out during this period.

The four jurisdictions holding executions in 1965 were Kansas with four, and Alabama, Missouri and Wyoming, with one each. Two of these four jurisdictions—Missouri and Alabama—also had executions in 1964.

Figure A. - PRISONERS EXECUTED UNDER CIVIL AUTHORITY IN THE UNITED STATES, BY STATE, OFFENSE, RACE AND AGE: 1965

State	Offense	Race	Age
Alabama.....	Murder	White	34
Kansas.....	Murder	White	22
Kansas.....	Murder	White	23
Kansas.....	Murder	White	33
Kansas.....	Murder	White	36
Missouri....	Murder	Negro	22
Wyoming.....	Murder	White	22

#### METHOD OF EXECUTION

Four of the seven executions in 1965 were by hanging (Kansas), two were carried out in the gas chamber (Missouri and Wyoming) and one was by electrocution (Alabama). Among the jurisdictions which retained the death penalty at the close of 1965, 21 prescribed electrocution, 10 lethal gas, six hanging, and one shooting or hanging. Executions ordered by the Federal courts are carried out in accordance with the method used by the State in which the death sentence is imposed. If the laws of the State prohibit capital punishment, the Federal court designates another State in which the sentence is to be carried out. Methods of execution in 1965 in the respective jurisdictions are shown in Table 2.

#### OFFENSE, RACE, SEX, AND AGE

All of the seven men executed in 1965 were sentenced for murder. Six of those executed were white and one was Negro. The median age was 24.4 years, and ranged from three 22-year olds executed in Missouri, Kansas, and Wyoming to a 36-year old executed in Kansas.

Table 1 indicates that 2,065, or 53.6 percent, of the 3,856 prisoners executed in the United States from 1930 to 1965 were Negro, 1,749 or 45.4 percent were white, and 42, or 1.1 percent were of other races. Figure B shows that 19 of the 42 were American Indian, 13 were Filipino, eight were Chinese, and two were Japanese.

Executions for murder account for 3,332, or 86.4 percent, of the total executions carried out under civil authority in the United States since 1930. These were divided almost evenly between whites and non-whites (Table 3). There were 455 executions for rape during the 36-year period, and 407, or 89.5 percent of these were non-white (Table 1).

Figures C and D present information on the 32 women executed in the United States since 1930. Twenty of these were white and 12 were Negro. Except for two Federal executions—one for espionage and one for kidnaping—all of the 32 were executed for murder.

Figure B. - AMERICAN INDIANS AND ORIENTALS EXECUTED IN THE UNITED STATES, BY STATE: 1930-1965 (a)

State	Total	American Indian	Filipino	Chinese	Japanese
United States	42	19	13	8	2
FEDERAL .....	2	2	-	-	-
STATE .....	40	17	13	8	2
Arkansas .....	1	1	-	-	-
California ...	18	3	11	3	1
Colorado .....	1	-	-	-	1
Nebraska .....	1	1	-	-	-
New Jersey ...	2	1	1	-	-
New York .....	5	1	1	3	-
North Carolina	5	5	-	-	-
Ohio .....	1	-	-	1	-
Oklahoma .....	3	3	-	-	-
Texas .....	1	1	-	-	-
Washington ...	2	1	-	1	-

(a) All executed for murder, except for 2 American Indians executed for rape in North Carolina.

FIGURE C. - WOMEN EXECUTED UNDER CIVIL AUTHORITY IN THE UNITED STATES, BY STATE AND RACE: 1930-1965<sup>(a)</sup>

Region and State	Total	White	Negro
United States	32	20	12
Percent	100.0	62.5	37.5
FEDERAL .....	2	2	-
TOTAL STATE .....	30	18	12
Alabama .....	3	2	1
Arizona .....	1	1	-
California .....	4	4	-
Delaware .....	1	1	-
Georgia .....	1	-	1
Illinois .....	1	1	-
Louisiana .....	2	1	1
Mississippi .....	3	-	3
New York .....	5	4	1
North Carolina .	2	-	2
Ohio .....	3	2	1
Pennsylvania ...	2	1	1
South Carolina .	2	1	1

(a) All were executed for murder except for two Federal executions, one for espionage and one for kidnaping.

FIGURE D. - WOMEN EXECUTED UNDER CIVIL AUTHORITY IN THE UNITED STATES, BY YEAR AND RACE: 1930-1965 (a)

Year	Total	White	Negro
All years . . . .	32	20	12
1962 . . . . .	1	1	-
1957 . . . . .	1	1	-
1955 . . . . .	1	1	-
1954 . . . . .	2	1	1
1953 . . . . .	3	3	-
1951 . . . . .	1	1	-
1947 . . . . .	2	1	1
1946 . . . . .	1	-	1
1945 . . . . .	1	-	1
1944 . . . . .	3	-	3
1943 . . . . .	3	1	2
1942 . . . . .	1	1	-
1941 . . . . .	1	1	-
1938 . . . . .	2	2	-
1937 . . . . .	1	-	1
1936 . . . . .	1	1	-
1935 . . . . .	3	2	1
1934 . . . . .	1	1	-
1931 . . . . .	1	1	-
1930 . . . . .	2	1	1

(a) All were executed for murder except for two Federal executions, one for espionage and one for kidnaping.

**ELAPSED TIME FROM SENTENCE OF DEATH TO EXECUTION**

"Elapsed time from sentence of death to execution" refers to the period between the first imposition of the death penalty and the date of execution. The median elapsed time for the seven men executed in 1965 was 44.5 months—more than double the median elapsed time of 20.5 months recorded in 1964. For those executed in 1965 the elapsed time ranged from ten months and ten days for a murderer executed in Wyoming, to five years and 13 days for two murderers executed in Kansas.

One of the seven prisoners executed in 1965 had been received that year, one in 1962, three in 1961, and two in 1960.

The elapsed time from sentencing to date of execution is determined by several factors. In addition to State laws governing the date of execution there are appeals, which may be made at all levels of the State courts as well as to the United States Supreme Court. These, in

addition to judicial and executive orders granting stays or reprieves, account for the variation in elapsed time.

**PRISONERS SENTENCED TO DEATH IN 1965**

During 1965, 67 prisoners were sentenced to death—31 less than the 98 reported in 1964. Of the total, 60 were convicted for murder, five for rape, one for kidnaping, and one for burglary. All of the 67 were males; 34 were white and 33 were Negro.

At the close of 1965, 63 were still under sentence of death, one had been executed, and three had their cases disposed of by means other than execution (one was granted a new trial, one was commuted to life, and one was transferred to a mental hospital).

**OTHER DISPOSITIONS NOT RESULTING IN EXECUTION**

During calendar year 1965, the sentences of 62 prisoners (all males) were disposed of by means other than execution. As noted, these "other dispositions" include commutations, transfers to mental hospitals, grants of new trials, reversals of judgment, vacated sentences, suicides, and deaths by natural causes. Figure G indicates that calendar year 1965 had the second highest number of "other dispositions" than in any year since 1960, when this information first became available. The highest number of "other dispositions" occurred in 1964 when the sentences of 68 prisoners were disposed of by means other than execution.

Thirty-nine of these 62 "other dispositions" had their death sentences reversed, vacated, or were granted new trials (11 of these were reconvicted and sentenced to life imprisonment), 19 had their sentences commuted (14 to life and five to 99 years), and four were transferred to mental hospitals.

Fifty-seven of the 62 prisoners receiving a disposition other than execution had been sentenced for murder, four for rape, and one for burglary. The median elapsed time—the period from first imposition of the death sentence to the date of "other disposition"—for the 62 prisoners was 33.3 months. Figure G indicates that this was the highest elapsed time for

"other dispositions" in any year since 1961, when this information first became available. The median elapsed time in 1965 ranged from four months and three days for a murderer transferred to a mental hospital in Ohio, to eight years, six months and six days for a burglar whose sentence was commuted to life in Alabama.

**PRISONERS UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH AT THE CLOSE OF 1965**

At the beginning of 1965, 333 prisoners were under sentence of death. It should be noted that the number of prisoners under sentence of death on January 1 is higher than recorded at the close of 1964 (315) for two reasons: (1) a number of prisoners sentenced to death are not always brought to the attention of reporting authorities until the following year; and (2) a few prisoners previously reported as having been "disposed of by other means" by reason of having been granted a new trial, are subsequently re-sentenced to death but are included in the current "awaiting execution at the beginning of year" figure rather than being counted as new court commitments. Including the 67 prisoners received from court during the year, the total number of prisoners under sentence of death during 1965 was 400. Of these, seven were executed, 62 had their cases disposed of by means other than execution, and 331 were awaiting execution at the end of the year. This marks the highest year-end population awaiting execution since 1953, when statistics on this subject first became available.

Of the 331 prisoners awaiting execution at year's end, 279 had been sentenced for murder, 47 for rape, three for kidnaping (two in New Hampshire and one in Kansas), one for assault by a life prisoner (California), and one for burglary (North Carolina).

Approximately half of the prisoners awaiting execution at the close of 1965 were distributed among six States: California had 47, Florida 42, Louisiana 28, Maryland 20, Alabama 15, and Pennsylvania 15.

The median age of the 331 awaiting execution at year's end was 31.2 years, and ranged from three 18-year old males—two convicted of rape in Florida, and one convicted of murder

Figure E. - CHARACTERISTICS OF PRISONERS EXECUTED IN 1965, PRISONERS WHOSE SENTENCE WAS DISPOSED OF BY OTHER MEANS IN 1965, AND PRISONERS UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH ON DECEMBER 31, 1965

Item	Executed 1965	Other disposition 1965	Under sentence of death 12-31-65
Total . . . . .	7	62	331
Age (in years)			
Median age . . . . .	24.4	28.9	31.2
16 to 19 . . . . .	-	1	6
20 to 24 . . . . .	4	15	53
25 to 29 . . . . .	-	19	87
30 to 34 . . . . .	2	4	73
35 to 44 . . . . .	1	16	74
45 to 54 . . . . .	-	3	22
55 and over . . . . .	-	4	12
Unknown . . . . .	-	-	4
Elapsed time (in months) (a)			
Median elapsed time . . . . .	44.5	33.3	30.8
3 and under . . . . .	-	-	16
4 to 6 . . . . .	-	2	15
7 to 12 . . . . .	1	7	33
13 to 18 . . . . .	-	6	26
19 to 24 . . . . .	-	5	50
25 to 36 . . . . .	-	16	53
37 to 48 . . . . .	4	11	44
49 to 60 . . . . .	-	11	33
61 to 72 . . . . .	2	1	29
73 to 84 . . . . .	-	1	15
85 to 96 . . . . .	-	1	5
97 and over . . . . .	-	1	12
Year first received sentence of death:			
1946 . . . . .	-	-	1
1953 . . . . .	-	-	2
1954 . . . . .	-	-	-
1955 . . . . .	-	-	1
1956 . . . . .	-	-	4
1957 . . . . .	-	2	7
1958 . . . . .	-	-	2
1959 . . . . .	-	2	16
1960 . . . . .	2	6	30
1961 . . . . .	3	11	36
1962 . . . . .	1	10	43
1963 . . . . .	-	18	48
1964 . . . . .	-	10	78
1965 . . . . .	1	3	63

(a) "Elapsed time" for those executed is the period between the first imposition of the death penalty and the date of execution. In the case of those whose cases were disposed of by other means, it is the period between the date of the first imposition of the death sentence and the time of other disposition. For prisoners awaiting execution at year's end, elapsed time is computed from the date of the first imposition of the death sentence to Dec. 31, 1965.

Figure F. - MOVEMENT OF PRISONERS UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH BY OFFENSE: 1965

Offense	Reported under sentence of death on 1-1-65	Received from court during 1965	Executed 1965			Other dispositions not resulting in execution				Reported under sentence of death 12-31-65(c)		
			Total	Present 1-1-65	Received in 1965	Total	Commu-tations (a)	Transfer to mental hospital	Other (b)	Total	Year received 1965	Prior years
Total ...	333	67	7	6	1	62	19	4	39	331	63	268
Murder .....	283	60	7	6	1	57	17	4	36	279	56	223
Rape .....	46	5	-	-	-	4	1	-	3	47	5	42
Kidnaping ....	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	2
Assault by life prisoner ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Burglary .....	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-

(a) All commuted to life except 5 prisoners in Tennessee commuted to 99 years.

(b) Includes reversals of judgments, vacated sentences and grants for new trials.

(c) Includes prisoners reported with appeals or other judicial or executive action pending. Excludes prisoners granted new trials.

in Alabama—to a 66-year old murderer in Florida. Three 19-year olds were among the prisoners awaiting execution at year's end—one was convicted for rape and two for murder.

Elapsed time for this group is computed from the first imposition of the death sentence to December 31, 1965. The median elapsed time for the total group was 30.8 months. The longest elapsed time was 12 years, nine months and nine days—for two Negro prisoners convicted of aggravated rape in Louisiana.

#### MOVEMENT OF PRISONERS UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH: 1960-1965

In 1960 the Federal Bureau of Prisons revised the data collection form submitted to the officials participating in the "Executions" aspect of the National Prisoner Statistics program. The new form provided data on the number of prisoners under sentence of death at the beginning and end of the year, the number of prisoners received from court under sentence of death during the year, and the disposition of prisoners under sentence of death. The information derived from the expanded program is summarized in Figure G. As shown, the six-year period from 1960 through 1965 was char-

acterized by: (1) a general decrease in the annual number of prisoners received from court under sentence of death; (2) a general decrease in the number of prisoners executed under civil authority in the United States each year; (3) an increase in the number of prisoners whose cases were disposed of by means other than execution; (4) an increase in the number of prisoners awaiting execution at year's end ( a low of 210 in 1960 to a high of 331 in 1965); and (5) an increase in elapsed time for those executed, those whose cases were disposed of by means other than execution, and for those awaiting execution at year's end.

#### MILITARY EXECUTIONS

Executions carried out by the armed forces are excluded from this report. For the 36-year period since 1930, the Army (including Air Force) carried out 160 executions—148 of these during the period 1942-1950, three each in 1954, 1955, and 1957 and one each in 1958, 1959, and 1961. Of the 160 executions, 106 were for murder (including 21 involving rape), 53 were for rape and one was for desertion. The Navy has executed no one since 1849.

Figure G. - MOVEMENT OF PRISONERS UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH: 1960-1965

Number of prisoners	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Under sentence of death, Jan. 1 <sup>(a)</sup> .....	333	300	275	273	212	189
Received from court during year.....	67	98	91	99	136	113
Executed during year.....	7	15	21	47	42	56
Median elapsed time (in months)...	44.5	20.5	16.0	20.5	16.2	17.0
Other dispositions.....	62	68	48	58	49	36
Median elapsed time (in months) <sup>(b)</sup>	33.3	23.5	22.4	16.6	18.7	-
Commutations.....	19	9	15	27	17	22
Transfer to mental hospitals.	4	3	1	4	3	3
Other <sup>(c)</sup> .....	39	56	32	27	29	11
Under sentence of death, Dec. 31.....	331	315	297	267	257	210
Median elapsed time (in months)...	30.8	26.8	24.0	16.7	14.4	13.4

(a) The number of prisoners under sentence of death on January 1 is higher than recorded at the close of the preceding year for two reasons: (1) a few prisoners sentenced to death are not always brought to the attention of reporting authorities until the following year; and (2) a few prisoners previously reported as having been "disposed of by other means" by reason of having been granted a new trial, are subsequently re-sentenced to death but are included in the current "awaiting execution at beginning of year" figure rather than being counted as new court commitments.

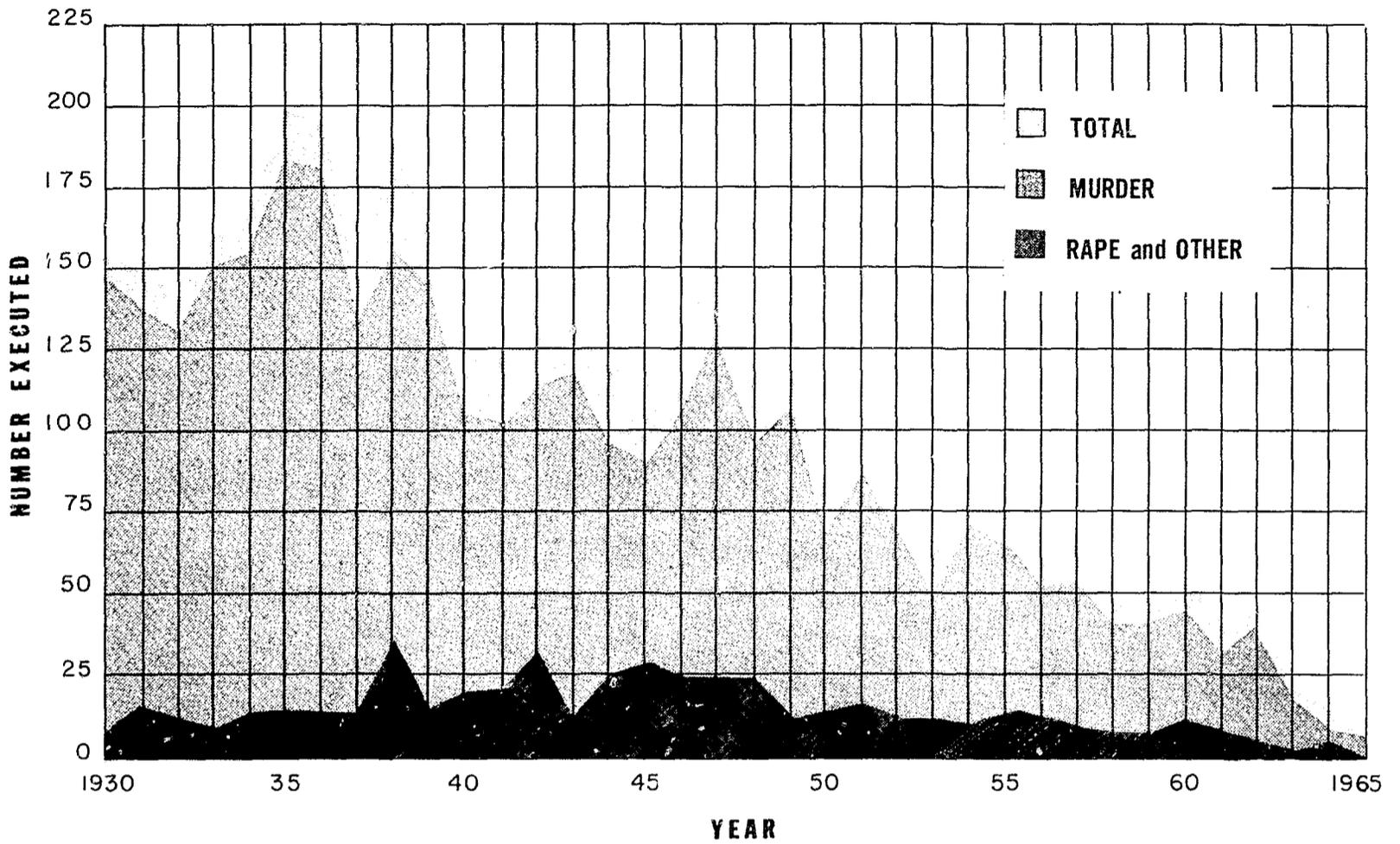
(b) Information not available for 1960.

(c) Includes reversals of judgment, vacated sentences, grants for new trial, suicide, or death from natural causes.

CHART 1

# EXECUTIONS: 1930 - 1965

PRISONERS EXECUTED UNDER CIVIL AUTHORITY IN THE UNITED STATES, BY OFFENSE

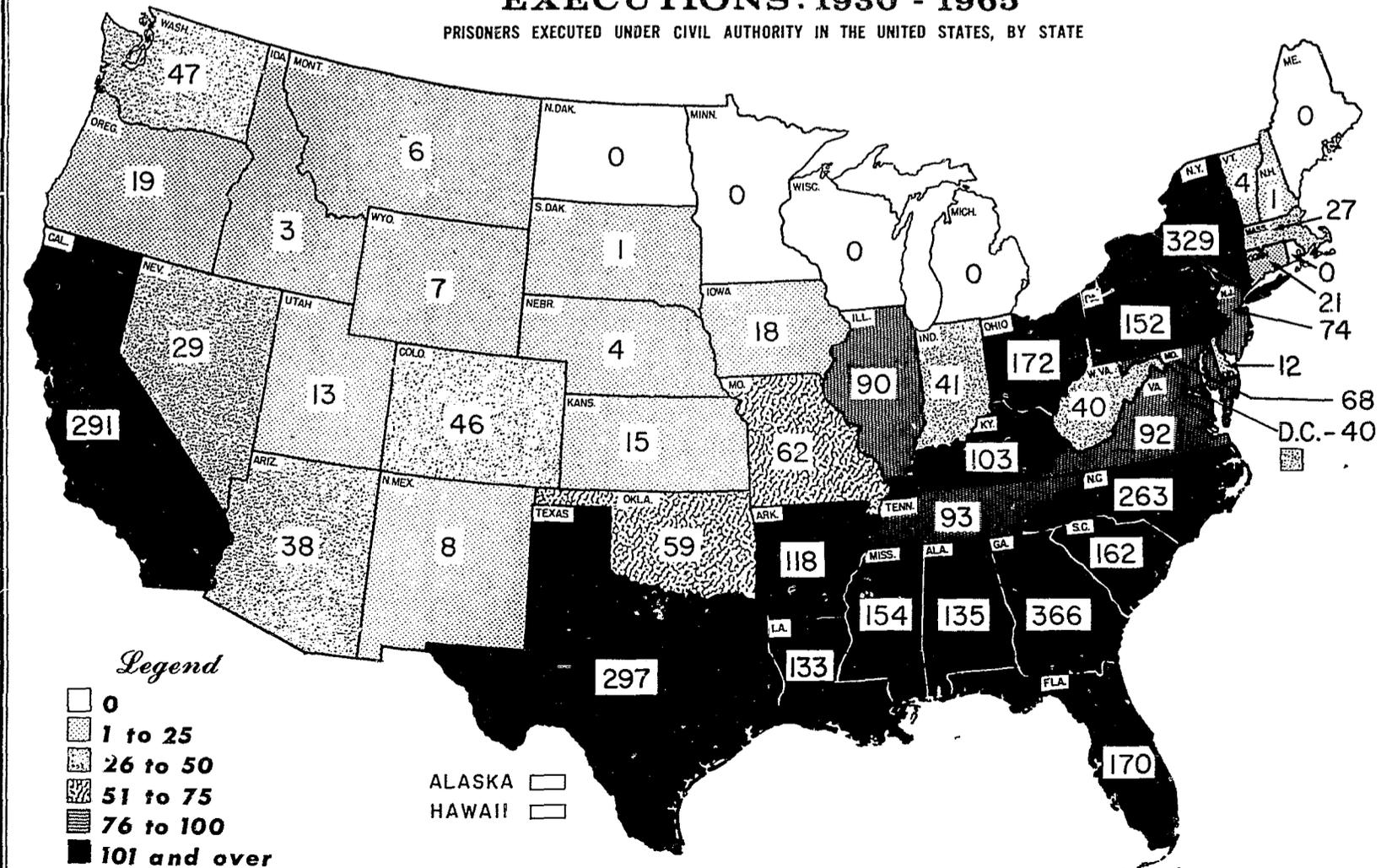


SOURCE: TABLE 1

CHART 2

# EXECUTIONS: 1930 - 1965

PRISONERS EXECUTED UNDER CIVIL AUTHORITY IN THE UNITED STATES, BY STATE



**Legend**

- 0
- 1 to 25
- 26 to 50
- 51 to 75
- 76 to 100
- 101 and over

ALASKA

HAWAII

NOTE: Excludes 33 Federal executions carried out in the United States during the period covered.

Source: Table 3

Table 1. - PRISONERS EXECUTED UNDER CIVIL AUTHORITY IN THE UNITED STATES, BY RACE, OFFENSE AND YEAR: 1930 TO 1965  
(For years 1930-1959 excludes Alaska and Hawaii except for three Federal executions in Alaska: 1939, 1948, and 1950.)

Year	All offenses				Murder				Rape				Other offenses (a)			
	Total	White	Negro	Other	Total	White	Negro	Other	Total	White	Negro	Other	Total	White	Negro	
	3,856	1,749	2,065	42	3,332	1,653	1,629	40	455	48	405	2	69	38	31	
100.0	45.4	53.6	1.1	100.0	49.9	49.0	1.2	100.0	10.5	89.0	0.4	100.0	55.1	44.9		
1965	7	6	1	-	7	6	1	-	6	3	3	-	-	-	-	
1964	15	8	7	-	9	5	4	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	
1963	21	13	19	-	18	15	15	-	4	2	7	-	-	-	-	
1962	47	28	22	-	41	18	26	-	8	1	8	-	-	-	-	
1961	42	21	35	-	44	18	26	-	8	1	8	-	-	-	-	
1960	49	16	33	-	41	15	26	-	8	7	7	-	-	-	-	
1959	49	20	28	1	41	20	20	1	7	2	8	-	-	-	-	
1958	65	34	31	1	54	32	22	1	10	7	8	-	-	-	-	
1957	65	21	44	1	52	20	31	1	12	11	12	-	-	-	-	
1956	76	44	32	1	65	41	24	1	7	11	8	-	-	-	-	
1955	81	38	42	1	71	37	33	1	7	11	6	-	-	-	-	
1954	62	30	31	1	51	25	25	1	12	11	6	-	-	-	-	
1953	83	36	47	1	71	35	31	1	17	15	9	-	-	-	-	
1952	57	37	47	1	87	55	31	-	13	4	9	-	-	-	-	
1951	105	57	47	-	68	36	32	-	13	4	9	-	-	-	-	
1950	82	40	42	-	68	36	32	-	13	4	9	-	-	-	-	
1949	119	50	67	2	107	49	56	2	10	10	10	-	-	-	-	
1948	119	35	82	2	95	32	61	2	22	21	21	-	-	-	-	
1947	153	42	111	1	129	40	89	1	23	21	21	-	-	-	-	
1946	131	46	84	1	107	45	61	1	22	22	22	-	-	-	-	
1945	117	41	75	1	90	37	52	1	26	22	22	-	-	-	-	
1944	120	47	70	3	96	48	48	3	24	22	22	-	-	-	-	
1943	131	54	74	3	118	54	63	1	13	11	11	-	-	-	-	
1942	147	67	80	1	115	57	58	1	25	21	21	-	-	-	-	
1941	123	59	63	1	102	55	46	1	20	16	16	-	-	-	-	
1940	124	49	75	-	105	44	61	-	15	13	13	-	-	-	-	
1939	160	80	77	3	145	79	63	3	12	12	12	-	-	-	-	
1938	190	96	92	4	155	90	63	4	25	24	24	-	-	-	-	
1937	147	69	74	2	133	67	62	2	13	11	11	-	-	-	-	
1936	195	92	101	2	181	86	93	2	13	11	8	-	-	-	-	
1935	199	119	77	3	184	115	66	3	14	11	13	-	-	-	-	
1934	168	65	102	1	154	64	89	1	14	13	6	-	-	-	-	
1933	160	77	81	2	151	75	74	3	10	10	10	-	-	-	-	
1932	140	62	75	3	128	62	63	4	10	14	6	-	-	-	-	
1931	153	77	72	4	137	76	57	4	15	14	6	-	-	-	-	
1930	155	90	65	-	147	90	57	-	15	14	6	-	-	-	-	

(a) 24 armed robbery, 20 kidnaping, 11 burglary, 8 espionage (6 in 1942 and 2 in 1953), 6 aggravated assault.

Table 2. - PRISONERS EXECUTED UNDER CIVIL AUTHORITY IN THE UNITED STATES, BY STATE AND YEAR: 1930-1965  
(Method of Execution in 1965: E-Electrocution, G-Lethal Gas, H-Hanging, S-Shooting or Hanging.)

Region and State	Total	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1955-59	1950-54	1945-49	1940-44	1935-39	1930-34
United States	3,856	7	15	21	47	42	56	304	413	639	645	891	776
FEDERAL(a)	33	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	6	6	7	9	1
TOTAL STATE	3,823	7	15	20	47	42	56	301	407	633	638	882	775
NORTHEAST	608	-	-	3	4	3	7	51	56	74	110	145	155
Maine(b)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
New Hampshire	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Vermont(b)	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Massachusetts	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	11	7
Rhode Island(b)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Connecticut	21	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	5	5	3	2
New York(b)	329	-	-	2	2	2	6	25	27	36	78	73	80
New Jersey	74	-	-	1	2	-	-	9	8	8	6	16	24
Pennsylvania	152	-	-	-	2	1	-	12	19	21	15	41	41
NORTH CENTRAL	403	5	2	3	7	2	2	16	42	64	42	113	105
Ohio	172	-	-	2	2	1	2	12	20	36	15	39	43
Indiana	41	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	5	2	20	11
Illinois	90	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	8	5	13	27	34
Michigan(b)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Wisconsin(b)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Minnesota(b)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Iowa(b)	18	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	4	3	7	1
Missouri	62	1	2	1	-	-	-	2	5	9	6	20	16
North Dakota(b)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
South Dakota(b)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	XX	XX
Nebraska	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-
Kansas(b)	15	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	3	-	XX
SOUTH	2,305	1	12	10	22	26	32	183	244	419	413	524	419
Delaware(b)	12	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	-	2	2	6	2
Maryland	68	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	2	19	26	10	6
Dist. of Col.	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	13	3	5	15
Virginia	92	-	-	-	-	4	1	8	15	22	13	20	8
West Virginia(b)	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	9	2	10	10
North Carolina	263	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	14	62	50	80	51
South Carolina	162	-	-	-	2	5	1	10	16	29	32	30	37
Georgia	366	-	2	2	1	3	6	34	51	72	58	73	64
Florida	170	-	2	1	5	2	2	27	22	27	38	29	15
Kentucky	103	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	8	15	19	34	18
Tennessee	93	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	18	19	31	16
Alabama	135	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	14	21	29	41	19
Mississippi	154	-	1	2	1	5	1	21	15	26	34	22	26
Arkansas	118	-	1	-	-	-	8	7	11	18	20	33	20
Louisiana	133	-	-	-	-	1	-	13	14	23	24	19	39
Oklahoma	59	-	-	1	1	-	3	3	4	7	6	9	25
Texas	297	-	5	4	9	3	8	25	49	36	38	72	48
WEST	507	1	1	4	14	11	15	51	65	76	73	100	96
Montana	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	1
Idaho	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
Wyoming	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	3
Colorado	46	-	1	-	2	1	1	2	1	7	6	9	16
New Mexico	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	2
Arizona	38	-	-	2	-	-	-	6	2	3	6	10	7
Utah	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	1	3	2	-
Nevada	29	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	9	5	5	3	5
Washington	47	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	4	7	9	13	10
Oregon(b)	19	XX	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	6	6	1	1
California	291	-	1	11	8	9	35	39	45	35	57	51	51
Alaska(c)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii(c)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	-	-	-	-	-	-

(a) See the text for the States and years in which the 33 Federal executions occurred.  
(b) Death penalty is illegal as indicated (XX), except for the provisions indicated in the text.  
(c) Alaska and Hawaii, when territories, abolished capital punishment in 1957. As States, Alaska and Hawaii are included in series beginning January 1, 1960.

Table 3. - PRISONERS EXECUTED UNDER CIVIL AUTHORITY IN THE UNITED STATES, BY OFFENSE, RACE, AND STATE: 1930-1965

(For years 1930-1959, excludes Alaska and Hawaii except for three Federal executions in Alaska, one each in 1939, 1948 and 1950.)

Region and State	All offenses				Murder				Rape				Other offenses							
	Total	White	Negro	Other	Total	White	Negro	Other	Total	White	Negro	Other	Total			Armed robbery		Kid-napping	Other offenses (a)	
													White	Negro	White	Negro	White	White	Negro	
United States	3,856	1,749	2,065	42	3,332	1,663	1,629	40	455	48	405	2	69	38	31	5	19	20	13	12
Percent .	100.0	-	-	-	86.4	-	-	-	11.8	-	-	-	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FEDERAL .....	33	28	3	2	16	11	3	2	2	2	-	-	15	15	-	1	-	6	8	-
TOTAL STATE .....	3,823	1,721	2,062	40	3,316	1,652	1,626	38	453	46	405	2	54	23	31	4	19	14	5	12
NORTHEAST .....	608	424	177	7	606	422	177	7	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	-
Maine (b) .....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
New Hampshire .	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont (c) ...	4	4	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts .	27	25	2	-	27	25	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island(b)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Connecticut ...	21	18	3	-	21	18	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New York (c) ..	329	234	90	5	327	232	90	5	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Jersey ....	74	47	25	2	74	47	25	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania ..	152	95	57	-	152	95	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NORTH CENTRAL ...	403	257	144	2	393	254	137	2	10	3	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ohio .....	172	104	67	1	172	104	67	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indiana .....	41	31	10	-	41	31	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois .....	90	59	31	-	90	59	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michigan (b)...	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Wisconsin (b)...	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Minnesota (b)...	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Iowa (c) .....	18	18	-	-	18	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri .....	62	29	33	-	52	26	26	-	10	3	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Dakota (b)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
South Dakota (c)	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska .....	4	3	-	1	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas (c) ....	15	12	3	-	15	12	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Region and State	All offenses				Murder				Rape				Other offenses							
	Total	White	Negro	Other	Total	White	Negro	Other	Total	White	Negro	Other	Total			Armed robbery		Kid-napping	Other offenses (a)	
													White	Negro	White	Negro	White	White	Negro	
SOUTH .....	2,305	636	1,659	10	1,823	584	1,231	8	443	43	398	2	39	9	30	4	19	5	-	11
Delaware (c) ...	12	5	7	-	8	4	4	-	4	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland .....	68	13	55	-	44	7	37	-	24	6	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dist. of Col. .	40	3	37	-	37	3	34	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia .....	92	17	75	-	71	17	54	-	21	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Virginia (c)	40	31	9	-	36	28	8	-	1	-	1	-	3	3	-	-	-	3	-	-
North Carolina	263	59	199	5	207	55	149	3	47	4	41	2	9	-	9	-	-	-	-	9
North Carolina	162	35	127	-	120	30	90	-	42	5	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia .....	366	68	298	-	299	65	234	-	61	3	58	-	6	-	6	-	6	-	-	-
Florida .....	170	57	113	-	133	55	78	-	36	1	35	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Tennessee .....	103	51	52	-	88	47	41	-	20	1	9	-	5	3	2	3	2	-	-	-
Tennessee .....	93	27	66	-	66	22	44	-	27	5	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alabama .....	135	28	107	-	106	26	80	-	22	2	20	-	7	-	7	-	5	-	-	2
Mississippi ...	154	30	124	-	130	30	100	-	21	-	21	-	3	-	3	-	3	-	-	-
Arkansas .....	118	27	90	1	99	25	73	1	19	2	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Louisiana .....	133	30	103	-	116	30	86	-	17	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma .....	59	41	15	3	53	39	11	3	4	-	4	-	2	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
Texas .....	297	114	182	1	210	101	108	1	84	13	71	-	3	-	3	-	3	-	-	-
WEST .....	507	404	82	21	494	392	81	21	-	-	-	-	13	12	1	-	-	7	5	1
Montana .....	6	4	2	-	6	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho .....	3	3	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming .....	7	6	1	-	7	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado .....	46	40	5	1	46	40	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Mexico ....	8	6	2	-	8	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona .....	38	28	10	-	38	28	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utah .....	13	13	-	-	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada .....	29	27	2	-	29	27	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Washington ....	47	40	5	2	46	39	5	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Oregon (c) ....	19	16	3	-	19	16	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
California .....	291	221	52	18	279	210	51	18	-	-	-	-	12	11	1	-	-	6	5	1
Alaska (d) ....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Hawaii (d) ....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX

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(a) In this category the 8 Federal executions were for espionage. The 9 executions in North Carolina and the 2 in Alabama were for burglary. In California, the 6 executions were for aggravated assault committed by prisoners under a life sentence.  
 (b) Death penalty illegal during entire period, except for provisions indicated in the text.  
 (c) See text for period during which death penalty was in force.  
 (d) Alaska and Hawaii when territories abolished capital punishment in 1957. As States, Alaska and Hawaii are included in this series beginning Jan. 1, 1960.

Table 4. - MOVEMENT OF PRISONERS UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH BY STATE AND OFFENSE: 1965

Region and State	Prisoners reported under sentence of death: 1-1-65				Received from court during 1965			Executed in 1965			Other dispositions not resulting in execution			Prisoners reported under sentence of death: 12-31-65(c)					
	Total	Offense			Total	Offense		Total	Offense		Total	Com-mu- ted (a)	Trans- to mental hosp.	Other (b)	Total	Offense			
		Mur- der	Rape	Oth- er		Mur- der	Rape		Oth- er	Mur- der						Rape	Mur- der	Rape	Oth- er
United States	333	283	46	4	67	60	5	2	7	7	-	62	19	4	39	331	279	47	5
FEDERAL .....	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
TOTAL STATE .....	333	283	46	4	66	59	5	2	7	7	-	62	19	4	39	330	278	47	5
NORTHEAST .....	54	52	-	2	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	9	5	1	3	52	50	-	2
Maine(d) .....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
New Hampshire ..	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Vermont(e) .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts ..	5	5	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	-	-
Rhode Island(d) ..	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Connecticut .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New York(e) .....	21	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	1	1	14	14	-	-
New Jersey .....	13	13	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	14	14	-	-
Pennsylvania .....	13	13	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	15	-	-
NORTH CENTRAL .....	34	34	-	-	13	12	-	1	5	5	-	7	2	3	2	35	34	-	1
Ohio .....	9	9	-	-	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	2	1	13	13	-	-
Indiana .....	6	6	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-
Illinois .....	10	10	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12	-	-
Michigan(d) .....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Wisconsin(d) .....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Minnesota(d) .....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Iowa(e) .....	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri .....	3	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	2	-	-
North Dakota(d) ..	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
South Dakota .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas .....	5	5	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	4	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
SOUTH .....	162	115	46	1	28	22	5	1	1	1	-	23	11	-	12	166	118	47	1
Delaware .....	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Maryland .....	19	13	6	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	20	14	6	-
Dist. of Col. ..	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Virginia .....	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	1	-
West Virginia(e) ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina ..	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5	1
South Carolina ..	7	4	3	-	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	9	5	4	-
Georgia .....	10	8	2	-	5	4	1	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	2	11	8	3	-
Florida .....	33	21	12	-	9	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	28	14	-
Kentucky .....	8	8	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	8	8	-	-
Tennessee .....	5	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alabama .....	19	16	2	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	2	-	1	15	14	1	-
Mississippi .....	4	1	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	3	1	2	-
Arkansas .....	12	7	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	12	7	5	-
Louisiana .....	28	17	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	17	11	-
Oklahoma .....	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	-	-
Texas .....	6	6	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	8	8	-	-
WEST .....	83	82	-	1	18	18	-	-	1	1	-	23	1	-	22	77	76	-	1
Montana .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming .....	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Colorado .....	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	6	6	-	-
New Mexico .....	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Arizona .....	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	13	13	-	-
Utah .....	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Nevada .....	4	4	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	-
Washington .....	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Oregon(d) .....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
California .....	54	53	-	1	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	21	-	-	21	47	46	-	1
Alaska(d) .....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Hawaii(d) .....	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX

END

(a) All were commuted to life except 5 prisoners in Tennessee commuted to 99 years.  
 (b) Includes reversals of judgement, vacated sentences and grants for new trials.  
 (c) Includes prisoners with appeals or other judicial or executive action pending.  
 (d) Death penalty illegal except for the provisions indicated in the text.  
 (e) Death penalty abolished during 1965. See the text for the exact dates.