

Facts on the Death Penalty in Ohio

1. Under its 1981 death penalty statute Ohio has carried out 53 executions by lethal injection since 1999, all men. Ohio's eight executions in 2010 was the second highest total in the United States after Texas.
2. In Feb. 2015 there were 140 inmates on death row.
3. There are 11 executions scheduled for 2016 at Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville.
4. Ohio's supply of Pentobarbital for use in lethal injections expired at the end of September, 2013. On January 16 The Ohio Department of Corrections executed a gasping Dennis McGuire in a procedure lasting 26 minutes using a combination of the sedative midazolam and the painkiller hydromorphone - that had never before been used in the U.S. Ohio now plans to execute without disclosing for 20 years the drugs compounded by unnamed firms
5. Since 1976 Ohio Governors have commuted 18 death sentences, including five by Governor Kasich. In November 2013 postponed the execution of Ronald Phillips for seven months so his "nonvital" organs could be harvested for transplanting as he requested. Governor Taft commuted the death sentence of Jerome Campbell of Hamilton County following DNA evidence established that it was his own blood on sneakers that the prosecution suggested to jurors was from the victim.
6. Nine men have been officially exonerated from Ohio's death row, 154 in the U.S.
7. 66% of inmates on death row are there for killing white victims and 31% are there for killing black victims. African Americans comprise 65% of victims of murder in Ohio.
8. In 2007, a study conducted by the American Bar Association concluded that Ohio was deficient in 93% of the protocols needed for a fair and accurate death penalty system. These deficiencies lead to the creation of the Ohio Supreme Court Joint Task Force to Review the Administration of the Death Penalty in 2011. In 2014 the task force recommended over 50 reforms.
9. During a lethal injection that took 90 minutes in 2006 Joe Clark protested "It don't work" and "They're not working." A year later the execution of Chris Newton took two hours, including a bathroom break. Romell Broom's 2009 execution was stopped by Gov. Ted Strickland after an execution team tried for two hours, and he remains on Death Row.
10. In August 2013 Billy Slagle committed suicide two days prior to his scheduled execution.
11. Hamilton County with 7% of Ohio's population accounts for 17% of those on Ohio's death row -- 24. Cuyahoga and Franklin Counties each with 10% of the state's population each account for less than 10% of those awaiting execution.
12. 19 U.S. states have abolished the death penalty. 100 countries have abolished the death penalty, 58 countries and territories are retentionist, and 22 countries carried out executions in 2014. The U.S. total of 35 executions in 2014 ranked 5th after China, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq.

Ohio Death Penalty References

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Representative Nickie J. Antonio (D-13) and Representative Dan Ramos (D-52)

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