

DEATH PENALTY SENTENCES



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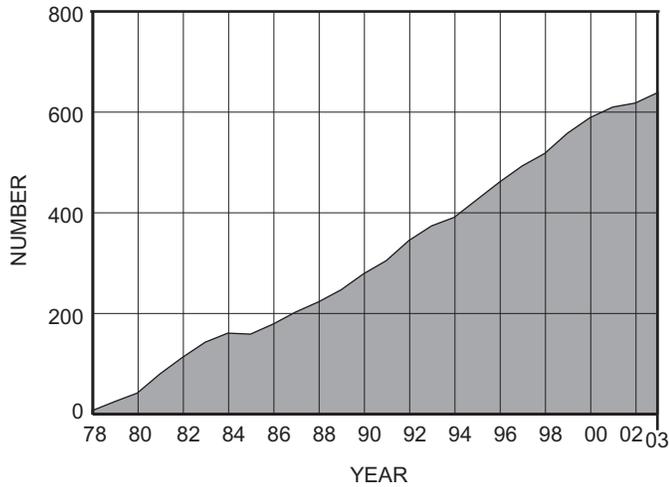
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DEATH PENALTY SENTENCES

This section contains information about persons sentenced to death in California courts in 2003. Death penalty data were extracted from the 2003 Offender-Based Transaction Statistics system. For detailed information regarding the death penalty and the criteria by which a person can be sentenced to death, refer to California Penal Code sections 190 through 190.9.

Figure 46
 PERSONS UNDER CALIFORNIA
 SENTENCE OF DEATH, 1978-2003



Source: Table 35.

During 2003, there were 22 persons convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to death. These were initial death sentences only and do not include persons who were resentenced to death after their death sentences were reversed on appeal. By the end of 2003, there were 639 persons under sentence of death in California.

Of the 22 persons newly sentenced to death in 2003:

- All 22 were male.
- Five were white; 4 were Hispanic; 11 were black; 2 fell into the “other” race/ethnic group category.
- The average (mean) age at arrest was 30.
- Los Angeles County sentenced the largest number (5).

Additional information can be found in Tables 35 and 36.

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