

# A Broken System: Error Rates in Capital Cases

## State Report Card

OKLAHOMA, 1977-1995

### History

<b>First Death Sentence</b>	1977
First Direct Appeal	1980
First Consensual Execution	1995
First Non-Consensual Execution	1990

### Sentences and Executions

<b>Total Number of Death Sentences</b>	220
Total Number of Executions	6
Percentage of Death Sentences Carried Out	3%

### Error Rates

#### State Direct Appeal

Number Reviewed on Direct Appeal	192
Number Reversed on Direct Appeal	93
Percentage Reversed on Direct Appeal	48%
Number Awaiting Direct Appeal	28
Percentage Awaiting Direct Appeal	13%
Number Forward to State Post-Conviction	99

#### State Post-Conviction

Number Reviewed on Post-Conviction	Unknown
Number Reversed on Post-Conviction	2
Percentage Reversed on Post-Conviction	2%
Number Forward to Federal Habeas Corpus	Unknown

#### State Direct Appeal and State Post-Conviction Combined

Overall Rate of Error Found by State Courts	50%
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## Federal Habeas Corpus

Number Reviewed on Habeas Corpus	12
Number Reversed on Habeas Corpus	6
Percentage Reversed on Habeas Corpus	50%

## Overall Rates Including [and Excluding] State Post-Conviction

Overall Error Rate	75% [74%]
Overall Success Rate	25% [26%]

### Time

Time From First Death Sentence to First Non-Consensual Execution	13.00
Average Time from Sentence to Execution	14.67
Average Time from Sentence to Final Federal Relief	9.00

## Sentencing and Execution Rates

<b>Death Sentences per 1000 Homicides</b>	39.16
Death Sentences per 100,000 Population	7.06
Death Sentences per 1000 Prison Population	24.07
Non-Consensual Executions per 1000 Homicides	0.89
Non-Consensual Executions per 100,000 Population	0.16
Non-Consensual Executions per 1000 Prison Population	0.55

## Demographic Information

<b>Average Population</b>	3,085,645
Average Homicides	264
Average Homicide Rate per 100,000 Population	8.33
Average Prison Admissions	4,213
Average Prison Population	9,138
Percentage Population Non-White	16%

## Court Factors

Political Pressure (judicial elections)	8
Party Competition (gubernatorial elections)	0
State Court Criminal Caseload per 1000 Population	37.77
Expenditures per Capita on Courts	24.55

Sources: DRCen; Death Row U.S.A., Winter 2000; DADB; HCDB; Appendix C; USCen; UCRDB; USCen; PrisCen; PolPres; CtCaLd; CtExpen