

The Death Penalty in Nevada Since 1977

(Current as of March 26, 2021) ⁱ

Death sentences imposed: 189

Death sentences reversed by either state or federal court: 97 of 189 (51.3%)

Total number of individuals sentenced to death: 161

Number of individuals forever removed from death row following reversal: 60 of 161 (37.3%) ⁱⁱ

Number of individuals currently under sentence of death: 57

Number of persons pending either new trial and/or penalty phase: 9

Number of inmates executed after they “volunteered”: 11

Number of inmates involuntary executed: 1

Total executions: 12

Number of inmates who died of natural causes while under death sentence: 17 ⁱⁱⁱ

Number of inmates on death row that committed suicide of death-sentenced inmates: 6

Total non-execution deaths: 23

Last execution: Volunteer Daryl Mack on April 26, 2006

Only involuntary execution: Richard Moran on March 30, 1996 ^{iv}

Counties That Have Imposed Death Sentences

County	Total of Number of Death Sentences Since 1977	Number of Individuals Sentenced to Death	Number of Death Sentenced Inmates Currently on Death Row
Clark	139	117	42
Washoe	37	32	11
Carson City	5	4	1
Humboldt	2	2	0
Pershing	2	2	1
White Pine	2	2	1
Elko	1	1	0
Lyon	1	1	1
Totals:	189	161	

Racial/Ethnic Composition of Death Row Inmates

Individuals on death row under active death sentence as of March 21, 2021: 57 ^v

Race/Ethnic of Inmate	Number	Percentage of Death Row	Percentage of Nevada Population 2016 ^{vi}
White	28	49.1%	52.3%
Black	20	35.1%	8.6%
Hispanic	7	12.3%	28.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	3.5%	9.3%
Other	0	0%	0%

Total of All Individuals Sentenced to Death Since 1977: 161

Race/Ethnic of Inmate	Number	Percentage
White	85	52.8%
Black	54	33.5%
Hispanic	17	10.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	1.2%
Other	1	0.6%

ⁱ Based on data from provided by the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the District of Nevada, the Clark County Public Defender’s Office, the Special Public Defender’s Office and Clark County Office of Appointed Counsel. The information was cross-checked through various publicly available data sources including Westlaw, the Nevada Department of Prisons, Clark County Court “Odyssey “case tracking, the Washoe County Court “Case Inquiry” tracking system.

ⁱⁱ Greg Leonard is not included in this total as he was removed from the row on only one of his two cases; Ricky Sechrest and Robert Farmer are not included as they died awaiting a new penalty hearing.

ⁱⁱⁱ Ricky Sechrest and Robert Framer are included in this total. See above.

^{iv} Moran fired his attorneys “to ensure that no mitigating evidence would be presented on his behalf at sentencing.” Moran v. Godinez, 972 F.2d 263, 265 (9th Cir. 1992) At the time of his guilty plea, Moran was taking “Inderal, Dilantin, Phenobarbital, and Vistaril.” Id. A few months earlier, he had attempted suicide by slashing his wrist and shooting himself in the abdomen. Id. There was no formal competency hearing. Id. Questions of his competency led to his death sentence being overturned by the 9th circuit, but it was later reinstated when the United States Supreme Court ruled that standards for competency to stand trial and competency for self-representation are the same. Godinez v. Moran, 509 U.S. 389 (1993) Of note, Moran’s sentence of death was imposed by a three judge panel which has since been ruled unconstitutional. Johnson v State, 118 Nev, 787 (2002).

^v Does not include 9 individuals currently pending either new trial and/or penalty hearing.

^{vi} Based on 2010 U.S. Census data www.census.gov.quickfacts/table/pst045216/32.