

THE DEATH PENALTY IN 2021: YEAR END REPORT

VIRGINIA'S HISTORIC ABOLITION HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUING DECLINE OF DEATH PENALTY

EXECUTIONS CHARACTERIZED BY BOTCHES AND OUTLIER PRACTICES

KEY FINDINGS

- Virginia becomes 23rd state, and first in the South, to abolish the death penalty
- Seventh consecutive year with fewer than 30 executions and 50 new death sentences
- New study finds one exoneration for every 8.3 executions
- Federal execution spree ends, new administration halts all federal executions and announces policy review

NOTE:

Items marked with an asterisk are subject to change, depending on whether additional death sentences are imposed by the end of the year.

