

# Louisiana: Death Penalty Facts

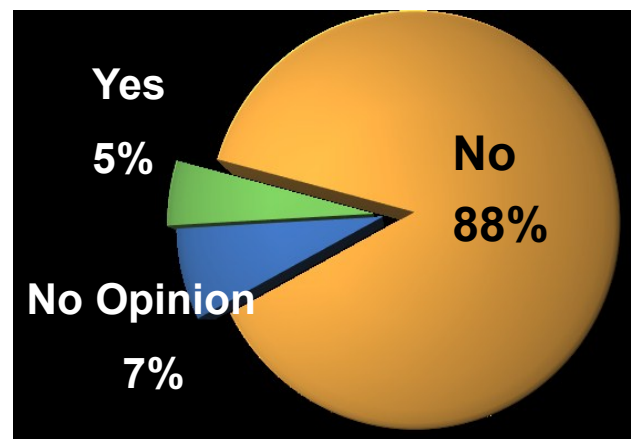
- \* There are 88 inmates currently on Death Row in Louisiana.
- \* Since 1976 Louisiana has executed 28 people.
- \* In September 2012, Damon Thibodeaux became Louisiana's 9th person to be found innocent of the crime that sent him to Death Row. He is the nation's 141st exoneree, having spent 15 years on Death Row.
- \* In Louisiana, the odds of a death sentence are 97% higher if a victim is white rather than black.
- \* The South accounts for over 80% of executions yet continues to have the highest murder rate in the U.S.
- \* The last state led execution happened in 2002.
- \* Nationally, public support for the Death Penalty is declining with 61% of voters rejecting the death penalty as a punishment for murder in 2010.



*Studies show that the death penalty does not bring lasting relief to victims of homicides and may actively harm their psychological and emotional well-being.*

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Do executions lower homicide rates?



*In 2009, police chiefs ranked the death penalty last among ways to reduce violent crime and considered the death penalty the least efficient use of taxpayers' money."*

Death Penalty Information Center