MOST COMMON OUTCOMES

CALIFORNIA HAS THE LARGEST DEATH ROW IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AT 548 PEOPLE.

THERE ARE THREE POSSIBLE OUTCOMES THAT WOULD LEAD TO AN END TO THEIR CAPITAL HABEAS LITIGATION:

A reduction in sentence (including exoneration)

274

people have received grants of relief from their death sentence and/or have been resentenced to a lesser sentence since 1977.

Death by non-execution causes

194

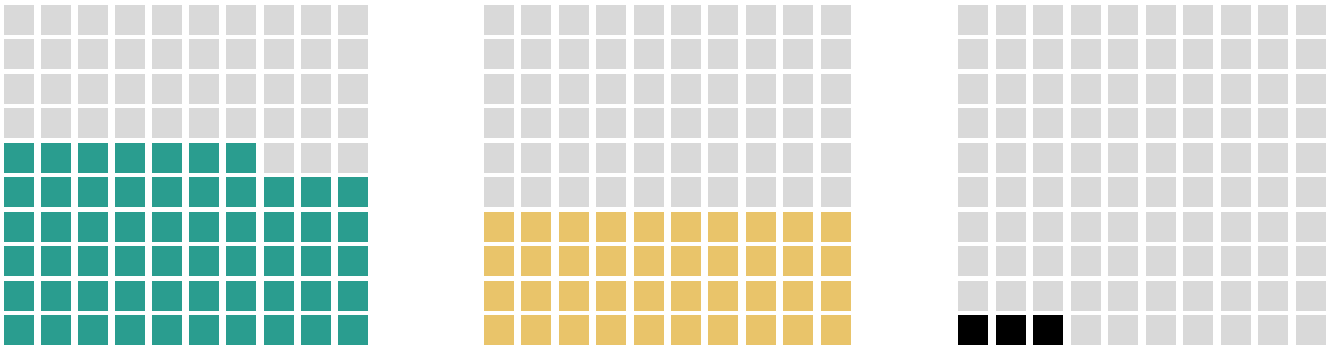
people on death row have passed away from other causes.

Execution by the State of California

13

people have been executed by the State of California, out of the 1,023 people it has sentenced to death.

The currently predicted outcomes for the **548 people on California's death row:**



Predicted to have sentence reduced ~57%

Predicted to die by non-execution means ~40%

Predicted to die by execution ~3%

Thus, those currently sentenced appear to
HAVE A 97% CHANCE OF A NON-EXECUTION OUTCOME.

A PERSON SENTENCED TO DEATH IN CALIFORNIA...

is **21 times** more likely to obtain a reversal and **14 times** more likely to die while incarcerated than be executed.

The information in this fact sheet comes from the 2025 Annual Report, updated 11/01/2026, and from the sources cited therein. The Habeas Corpus Resource Center (HCRC) was created to address the clear need for qualified attorneys to represent death-sentenced individuals in habeas corpus proceedings. More information about HCRC, and what we do, may be found on our public website: www.hcrc.ca.gov.