

## 2. Number of death sentences (since 1946)

The following statistics are based on the "Survey of Judicial Statistics since the Meiji Era ("明治以降裁判統計要覧," 1946)", "White Paper on Crime FY1997 ("犯罪白書 平成9年度", 1997)" and the "Annual Report of Judicial Statistics ('Shiho-Tokei') ("司法統計年報," from FY1948 to the present)". Click on the links to see the sources.

Numbers in parentheses (e.g., "(3)") represent the number of sentences by Saiban-in (Lay Judge) Trials. Hyphens ("-") mean that no statistical data exists.

| YEAR                |      | Trial Court | High Court |           |                       | Supreme Court |           |                       | Sources                                                  |                                                                                                         |
|---------------------|------|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                     |      |             | Total      | Dismissal | reversed and rendered | Total         | Dismissal | reversed and rendered | Trial Court (Saiban-in (Lay Judge) Trial)                | Appeal and Supreme courts                                                                               |
| Showa 21            | 1946 | 40          | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     | Survey of Judicial Statistics since the Meiji Era, p.148 | See "3. Number of death sentences in High Courts " and "4. Number of death sentences in Supreme court " |
| Showa 22            | 1947 | 105         | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     | White Paper on Crime FY1997, Table II-10                 |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 23            | 1948 | 116         | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     | 1960, p.41                                               |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 24            | 1949 | 55          | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 25            | 1950 | 62          | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 26            | 1951 | 44          | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 27            | 1952 | 37          | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 28            | 1953 | 22          | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 29            | 1954 | 20          | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 30            | 1955 | 34          | -          | -         | -                     | -             | -         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 31            | 1956 | 24          | -          | -         | 5                     | 17            | 17        | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 32            | 1957 | 35          | -          | -         | 5                     | 19            | 19        | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 33            | 1958 | 25          | 16         | 15        | 1                     | 17            | 17        | -                     | 1970, Table 23, p.44                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 34            | 1959 | 28          | 29         | 29        |                       | 12            | 12        | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 35            | 1960 | 12          | 18         | 16        | 2                     | 31            | 31        | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 36            | 1961 | 29          | 11         | 8         | 3                     | 16            | 16        | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 37            | 1962 | 12          | 17         | 15        | 2                     | 13            | 13        | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 38            | 1963 | 12          | 7          | 7         |                       | 13            | 13        | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 39            | 1964 | 12          | 9          | 7         | 2                     | 10            | 10        | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 40            | 1965 | 16          | 12         | 8         | 4                     | 5             | 5         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 41            | 1966 | 14          | 17         | 14        | 3                     | 9             | 9         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 42            | 1967 | 6           | 9          | 9         |                       | 12            | 12        | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 43            | 1968 | 15          | 10         | 9         | 1                     | 8             | 8         | -                     | 1972, Table 26, p.47                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 44            | 1969 | 9           | 16         | 10        | 6                     | 9             | 9         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 45            | 1970 | 9           | 6          | 5         | 1                     | 9             | 9         | -                     | 1977, Table 26, p.42                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 46            | 1971 | 4           | 5          | 3         | 2                     | 6             | 6         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 47            | 1972 | 3           | 6          | 6         |                       | 6             | 6         | -                     | 1982, Table 26, p.42.                                    |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 48            | 1973 | 4           | 4          | 1         | 3                     | 3             | 3         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 49            | 1974 | 6           | -          | -         |                       | 1             | 1         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 50            | 1975 | 5           | 3          | 3         |                       | 2             | 2         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 51            | 1976 | 4           | 4          | 4         |                       | 1             | 1         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 52            | 1977 | 9           | 6          | 5         | 1                     | 2             | 2         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 53            | 1978 | 6           | 2          | 1         | 1                     | 4             | 4         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 54            | 1979 | 7           | 3          | 2         | 1                     | 4             | 4         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 55            | 1980 | 9           | 5          | 4         | 1                     | 4             | 4         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 56            | 1981 | 2           | 2          | 2         |                       | 3             | 3         | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 57            | 1982 | 11          | 9          | 9         |                       |               |           | -                     | 1983, Table 36, p.196-7                                  |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 58            | 1983 | 5           | 4          | 3         | 1                     |               |           | -                     |                                                          |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 59            | 1984 | 6           | 6          | 6         |                       | 3             | 3         | -                     | 1984, Table 36, p.196-7                                  |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 60            | 1985 | 9           | 5          | 4         | 1                     | 1             | 1         | -                     | 1985, Table 36-1, p.196-7                                |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 61            | 1986 | 5           | 7          | 7         |                       |               |           | -                     | 1986, Table 36-1, p.196-7                                |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 62            | 1987 | 6           | 8          | 8         |                       | 6             | 6         | -                     | 1987, Table 36-1, p.196-7                                |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 63            | 1988 | 10          | 4          | 4         |                       | 7             | 7         | -                     | 1988, Table 36-1, p.196-7                                |                                                                                                         |
| Showa 64 / Heisei 1 | 1989 | 2           | 5          | 4         | 1                     | 5             | 5         | -                     | 1989, Table 36-1 p.204-5                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 2            | 1990 | 2           | 3          | 3         |                       | 7             | 7         | -                     | 1990, Table 36-1 p.204-5                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 3            | 1991 | 3           | 4          | 4         |                       | 4             | 4         | -                     | 1991, Table 36-1 p.202-3                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 4            | 1992 | 1           | 4          | 3         | 1                     | 4             | 4         | -                     | 1992, Table 36-1 p.202-3                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 5            | 1993 | 4           | 1          | 1         |                       | 5             | 5         | -                     | 1993, Table 36-1 p.202-3                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 6            | 1994 | 8           | 4          | 4         |                       | 2             | 2         | -                     | 1994, Table 36-1 p.202-3                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 7            | 1995 | 11          | 4          | 3         | 1                     | 3             | 3         | -                     | 1995, Table 36-1 p.202-3                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 8            | 1996 | 1           | 3          | 3         |                       | 4             | 4         | -                     | 1996, Table 36-1 p.202-3                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 9            | 1997 | 3           | 2          | 2         |                       | 4             | 4         | -                     | 1997, Table 36-1 p.202-3                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 10           | 1998 | 7           | 7          | 7         |                       | 5             | 5         | -                     | 1998, Table 36-1 p.202-3                                 |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 11           | 1999 | 8           | 4          | 3         | 1                     | 4             | 4         | -                     | 1999, Table 32, p.42                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 12           | 2000 | 14          | 6          | 4         | 2                     | 3             | 3         | -                     | 2000, Table 32, p.42                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 13           | 2001 | 10          | 16         | 12        | 4                     | 4             | 4         | -                     | 2001, Table 32, p.42                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 14           | 2002 | 18          | 4          | 3         | 1                     | 2             | 2         | -                     | 2002, Table 32, p.42                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 15           | 2003 | 13          | 17         | 17        |                       | 0             |           | -                     | 2003, Table 32, p.42                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 16           | 2004 | 14          | 15         | 11        | 4                     | 13            | 13        | -                     | 2004, Table 32, p.42                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 17           | 2005 | 13          | 15         | 11        | 4                     | 10            | 10        | -                     | 2005, Table 32, p.42                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 18           | 2006 | 13          | 15         | 12        | 3                     | 16            | 16        | -                     | 2006, Table 33, p.44                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 19           | 2007 | 14          | 14         | 13        | 1                     | 18            | 18        | -                     | 2007, Table 33, p.44                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 20           | 2008 | 5           | 14         | 12        | 2                     | 8             | 8         | -                     | 2008, Table 33, p.44                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 21           | 2009 | 9           | 9          | 7         | 2                     | 16            | 16        | -                     | 2009, Table 33, p.44                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 22           | 2010 | 4<br>(3)    | 3          | 2         | 1                     | 7             | 7         | -                     | 2010, Table 33, p.44<br>(2010, Table 46, p.66)           |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 23           | 2011 | 10<br>(9)   | 2          | 2         |                       | 22            | 22        | -                     | 2011, Table 33, p.44<br>(2011, Table 46, p.66)           |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 24           | 2012 | 3<br>(3)    | 5          | 5         |                       | 9             | 9         | -                     | 2012, Table 33, p.44<br>(2012, Table 46, p.66)           |                                                                                                         |
| Heisei 25           | 2013 | 5<br>(5)    | 3          | 3         |                       | 6             | 6         | -                     | 2013, Table 33, p.44<br>(2013, Table 46, p.66)           |                                                                                                         |

## 2. Number of death sentences (since 1946)

The following statistics are based on the "Survey of Judicial Statistics since the Meiji Era ("明治以降裁判統計要覧," 1946)", "White Paper on Crime FY1997 ("犯罪白書 平成9年度", 1997)" and the "Annual Report of Judicial Statistics ('Shiho-Tokei') ("司法統計年報," from FY1948 to the present)". Click on the links to see the sources.

Numbers in parentheses (e.g., "(3)") represent the number of sentences by Saiban-in (Lay Judge) Trials. Hyphens ("-") mean that no statistical data exists.

| YEAR                  |      | Trial Court | High Court |           |                       | Supreme Court |           |                       | Sources                                                                         |                           |
|-----------------------|------|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                       |      |             | Total      | Dismissal | reversed and rendered | Total         | Dismissal | reversed and rendered | Trial Court (Saiban-in (Lay Judge) Trial)                                       | Appeal and Supreme courts |
| Heisei 26             | 2014 | 2<br>(2)    | 8          | 8         |                       | 6             | 6         |                       | <a href="#">2014, Table 33, p. 44</a><br><a href="#">(2014, Table 46, p.66)</a> |                           |
| Heisei 27             | 2015 | 4<br>(4)    | 1          | 1         |                       | 3             | 3         |                       | <a href="#">2015, Table 33, p. 44</a><br><a href="#">(2015, Table 46, p.66)</a> |                           |
| Heisei 28             | 2016 | 3<br>(3)    | 4          | 4         |                       | 6             | 6         |                       | <a href="#">2016, Table 33, p. 44</a><br><a href="#">(2016, Table 46, p.66)</a> |                           |
| Heisei 29             | 2017 | 3<br>(3)    |            |           |                       | 3             | 3         |                       | <a href="#">2017, Table 33, p. 44</a><br><a href="#">(2017, Table 46, p.66)</a> |                           |
| Heisei 30             | 2018 | 4<br>(4)    | 2          | 2         |                       | 2             | 2         |                       | <a href="#">2018, Table 33</a><br><a href="#">(2018, Table 46)</a>              |                           |
| Heisei 31/<br>Reiwa 1 | 2019 | 2<br>(2)    | 3          | 3         |                       | 3             | 3         |                       | <a href="#">2019, Table 33</a><br><a href="#">(2019, Table 46)</a>              |                           |
| Reiwa 2               | 2020 | 3<br>(3)    |            |           |                       | 1             | 1         |                       | <a href="#">2020, Table 33</a><br><a href="#">(2020, Table 46)</a>              |                           |
| Reiwa 3               | 2021 | 3<br>(2)    | 2          | 2         |                       | 2             | 2         |                       | <a href="#">2021, Table 33</a><br><a href="#">(2021, Table 46)</a>              |                           |
| Reiwa 4               | 2022 | 0<br>(0)    | 1          | 1         |                       |               |           |                       | <a href="#">2022, Table 33</a><br><a href="#">(2022, Table 46)</a>              |                           |
| Reiwa 5               | 2023 | 1<br>(1)    | 1          | 1         |                       | 3             | 3         |                       | <a href="#">2022, Table 33</a><br><a href="#">(2022, Table 46)</a>              |                           |
| Reiwa 6               | 2024 | 3<br>(3)    |            |           |                       |               |           |                       | <a href="#">2024, Table 33</a><br><a href="#">(2024, Table 46)</a>              |                           |

Numbers in parentheses (e.g., "(3)") represent the number of sentences by Saiban-in (Lay Judge) Trials.

Hyphens ("-") mean that no statistical data exists.

The statistics on the number of death sentences issued by the High Courts and the Supreme Court, as compiled by the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, "Considering the Abolition of the Death Penalty([https://www.nichibenren.or.jp/activity/criminal/deathpenalty/shiryoku.html#data02\\_1](https://www.nichibenren.or.jp/activity/criminal/deathpenalty/shiryoku.html#data02_1))", were calculated using the following formulas:

[total sentences in High Courts] = [dismissal] + [reversed and rendered] + [withdrawal]  
[total sentences in Supreme Court] = [dismissal] + [reversed and rendered] + [withdrawal]

We calculated these same statistics using the following formulas:

[total sentences in High Courts] = [dismissal] + [reversed and rendered]  
[total sentences in Supreme Court] = [dismissal] + [reversed and rendered]

Recommended citation: "Number of death sentences from CrimeInfo (crimeinfo.jp)"