



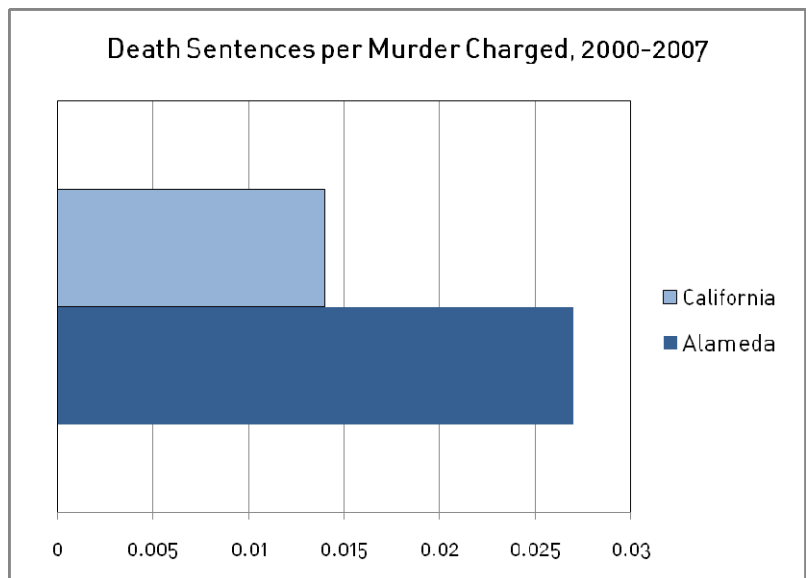
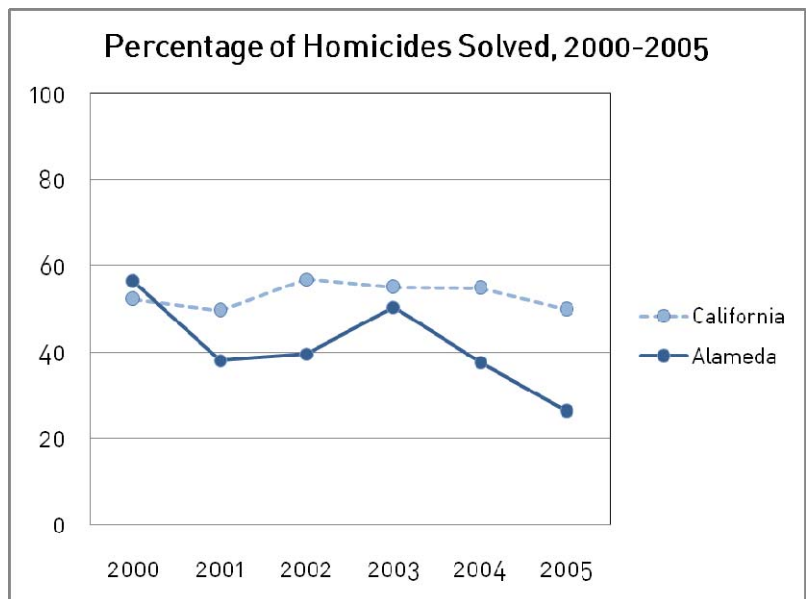
www.AlamedaDeathPenalty.org

Alameda County Death Penalty Fact Sheet

**Bottom Line: \$14.3 million or more wasted seeking execution since 2000.
Alameda ranks 4th in total death sentences since 2000,
while more and more homicides go unsolved.**

	Average Homicide Rate 2000-2005	Average Percentage of Homicides Solved 2000- 2005	Death Sentences per Year 2000-2007
Alameda County	8.33 per 100,000	41.37	1.625
Rank among 24 largest counties	3 rd	23 rd	4 th

- Each death penalty trial costs Alameda County approximately **\$1.1 million more** than a murder trial where the defendant is condemned to permanent imprisonment.
- Both defense and prosecution costs are far greater in death penalty trials than in standard murder trials. These expenses come out of the county budget, at the expense of other programs.
- There is no way to make death penalty trials less expensive. We have to use every possible protection to make sure we don't execute innocent people, or sentence people to death for the wrong reasons such as race or poverty.
- The Alameda County District Attorney decides when to pursue a death sentence. The DA is also an elected official accountable to the voters of the County.





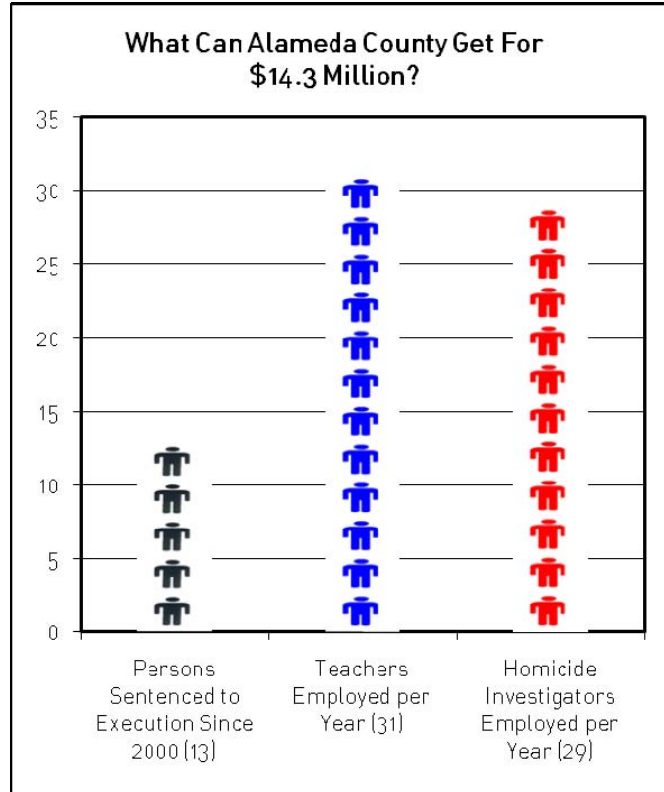
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Alameda County Sentences More People to Execution than Most Counties.

- Among the 24 largest counties in the state, Alameda County ranks 4th for total death sentences from 2000 to 2007, 4th for death sentences per capita and 5th for death sentences per murder charged.
- Compared to Fresno, Alameda County sends nine times as many people to death row per murder charged.
- Compared to Los Angeles County, Alameda County sends more than twice as many people to death row per murder charged.
- Among Bay Area counties, only Contra Costa sentences as many people to death. Alameda County alone has sentenced twice as many people to death since 2000 as Santa Clara, San Mateo, Sonoma and Napa combined. The remaining three Bay Area counties have had no death sentences since 2000 (Solano, Marin and San Francisco).

The estimated **\$14.3 million** Alameda County has spent seeking execution since 2000 could have funded the salaries of:

- **31** additional experienced high school teachers per year;
- or
- **29** additional homicide investigators per year.



Sources

Data reflects the most recent years available from the sources below.

California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, available at: <http://ag.ca.gov/cjsc/>

California Department of Education, available at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, capital punishment information, available at: http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/Reports_Research/capital.html

U.S. Census Bureau, California information available at: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06000.html>