

State.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Vermont—										
Cities .. . . . .	...	...	...	...	2.0	2.0	...	3.9	3.8	3.8
Rural .. . . . .	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	2.0	1.0	1.3	2.3	3.8
Washington —										
Cities .. . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.7	8.1
Rural .. . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.3	4.2
Wisconsin—										
Cities .. . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.1	1.9
Rural .. . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.6	1.7

It will thus be seen that for the ten-year period beginning with 1900 the average number of homicides in the States where capital punishment had been abolished per hundred thousand population was: Maine, 2.5; Michigan, 3.8; Rhode Island, 5; and for the two years, 1908 and 1909, for which Wisconsin reported her homicides, she averaged 4.1, there being a decrease in 1909 over the previous year. In some of the States where capital punishment prevailed we find that for a ten-year period, beginning with the year 1900, the average number of homicides per 100,000 population was: Indiana, 6.4; New Jersey, 4; New York, 4.8; and for the four years reported by Pennsylvania an average of 9.8. Ohio reports for the year 1909 only, giving 10.2; California for a four-year period shows twenty homicides per 100,000 population. While Massachusetts only shows an average of 2.57 for each 100,000 population, the increase in that State from 1905 to 1909 was 100 per cent. It will be further seen that California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Indiana, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont, where capital punishment obtains, and where it is enforced rigidly, show an increase in the number of homicides for the period reported in the above statistics, while of the five states that have abolished the death penalty, only Michigan shows an increase, which is slight, but her general average for a ten-year period is less than either of the states that have retained the death penalty, with the exception of Vermont and New Hampshire; and that they have increased their homicide rate per annum continually, while Michigan shows a decrease in 1909 over the previous year. Besides the record shows that the death penalty has been abolished in Vermont and New Hampshire by practice for twenty years.

The general average for the period reported in the above table of statistics for the five states where the death penalty has been revoked is 3.85 per 100,000 population, while for the states inflicting the death

penalty for the period reported the general average is 8.25, or nearly 115 per cent greater. The average homicidal rate in Tennessee was five times greater than in either of the abolition states.

While I was unable to get the statistics on this question from Kansas, I am reliably informed that the number of homicides in that state per capita is comparatively small, and in a recent letter from the secretary of the present Governor of that state he informs me that the people there are universally pleased with the workings of the new law abolishing the death penalty, and that there is no disposition to restore capital punishment in that state. It will be remembered that there has never been a legal execution in that state since 1872, the governors in their discretion failing to sign the death warrants at the end of one year's imprisonment, as the law required.

The results obtained in foreign countries from the abolition of the death penalty are no less beneficial than in the United States. I take the following facts and statistics from Report No. 108 on capital crimes of the fifty-fourth United States Congress, first session, printed January 22, 1896, by order of the House of Representatives:

Belgium.—The penalty of death has not been abolished in Belgium, but since 1866 it has not been executed. In order to appreciate the results, the following statistics are given. For the period from 1831 to 1890, in the first thirty-five years, there were 321 capital condemnations, which was at the rate of 9.17 per year. In the twenty-five years following the cessation of executions there were 201, which was at the rate of 8.004, showing a decrease of 1.1696.

Costa Rica.—The results of the abolition of capital punishment for all offences in Costa Rica are considered very favourable, thus confirming public sentiment against capital punishment.

Haiti.—The constitution of 1879 abolished the death penalty for political offences. Since the period of said abolition political crimes have not been more frequent.

Holland.—There has been no increase or crime since the abolition of the death penalty.

Italy.—Since the abolition of the death penalty by the new common penal code, which went into force January 1, 1890, the results obtained