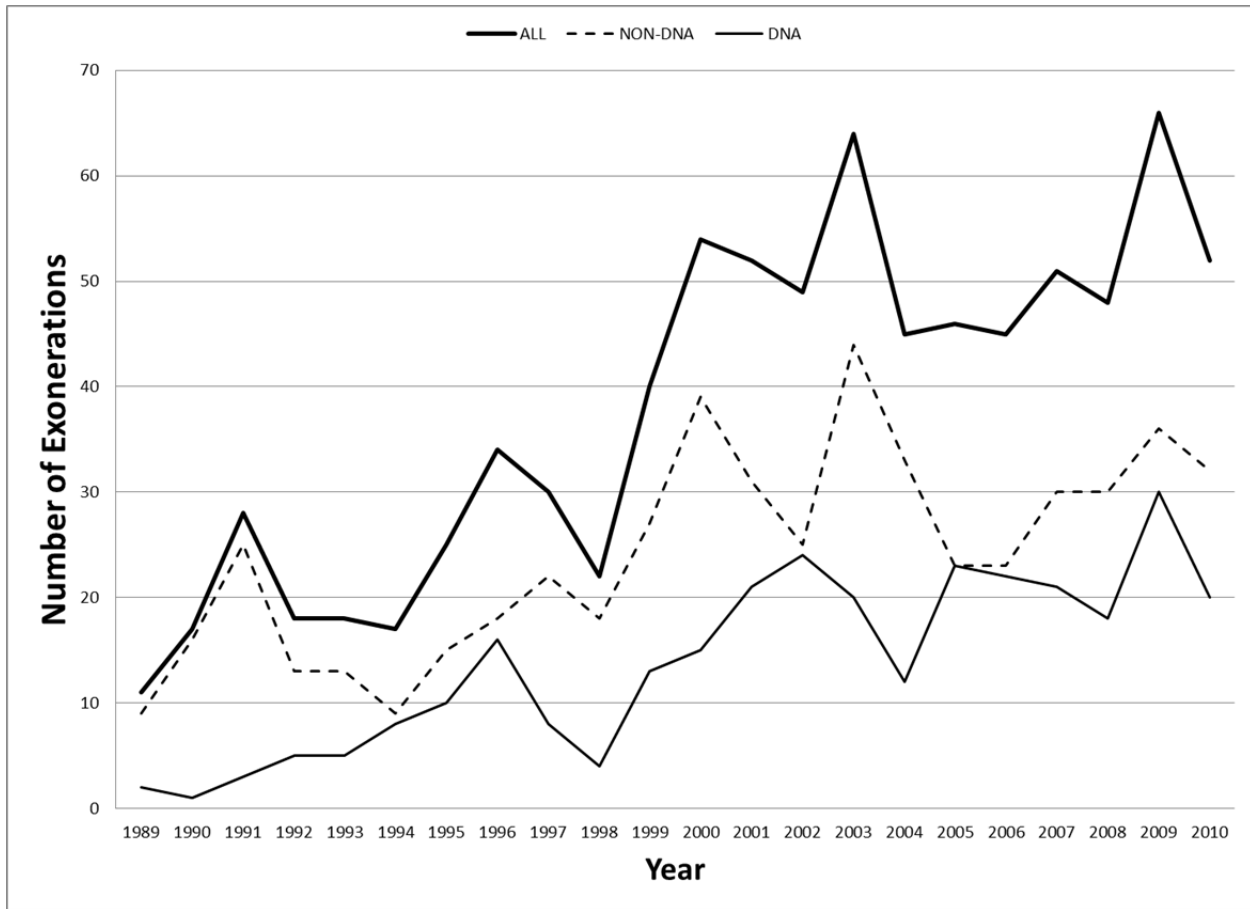


Exonerations in the United States, 1989 – 2012
Report by the National Registry of Exonerations

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Figure 1: Number of Exonerations by Basis, Over Time¹



¹ The actual numbers of exonerations by year and by basis are tabulated below. The numbers of cases for 2012 is obviously preliminary. So too are the numbers for 2011, because some exonerations that occurred in that year did not come to our attention in time to be coded by March 1, 2012.

BASIS	'89	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	TOTAL
DNA	2	1	3	5	5	8	10	16	8	4	13	15	21	24	20	12	23	22	21	18	30	20	19	5	325 (37%)
Other	9	16	25	13	13	9	15	18	22	18	27	39	31	25	44	33	23	23	30	30	36	32	17	0	548 (63%)
TOTAL	11	17	28	18	18	17	25	34	30	22	40	54	52	49	64	45	46	45	51	48	66	52	36	5	873 (100%)

**Table 8: Number of Exonerations
Top Ten States**

	Number of Exonerations	Rate per Capita, Standardized
1. Illinois	101	2.785
2. New York	88	1.606
3. Texas	84	1.182
4. California	79	0.750
5. Michigan	35	1.253
6. Louisiana	34	2.653
7. Florida	32	0.602
8. Ohio	28	0.859
9. Massachusetts	27	1.459
9. Pennsylvania	27	0.752
NATION	873	1.000

**Table 9: Exonerations Per Capita
Top Ten States**

	Rate per Capita, Standardized	Number of Exonerations
1. Illinois	2.785	101
2. Louisiana	2.653	34
3. New York	1.606	88
4. Mississippi	1.550	13
5. Massachusetts	1.459	27
6. Oklahoma	1.414	15
7. Washington	1.315	25
8. Wisconsin	1.306	21
9. Michigan	1.253	35
10. Alabama	1.184	16
NATION	1.000	873

Table 10: Number of Exonerations, Top Ten Counties

	Number of Exonerations	Rate per Capita, Standardized
1. Cook IL (Chicago)	78	5.311
2. Dallas TX	36	5.377
3. Los Angeles CA	23	0.829
4. Kern CA	20	8.426
5. Suffolk MA (Boston)	19	9.308
6. Wayne MI (Detroit)	18	3.497
7. Kings NY (Brooklyn)	16	2.260
8. Bronx NY	15	3.831
9. New York NY (Manhattan)	14	3.123
10. New Orleans LA	13	13.374
NATION	873	1.000

Table 11: Exonerations Per Capita, Top Ten Counties with Population over 300,000

	Rate per Capita, Standardized	Number of Exonerations
1. New Orleans LA	13.374	13
2. Suffolk MA (Boston)	9.308	19
3. Kern CA	8.426	20
4. Jefferson LA	6.542	8
5. Dallas TX	5.377	36
6. Cook IL (Chicago)	5.311	78
7. Clark WA	4.158	5
8. District of Columbia	4.115	7
9. Bronx NY	3.831	15
10. Wayne MI (Detroit)	3.497	18
NATION	1.000	873

**Table 12: Counties with More than 900,000 People
and No More than One Exoneration**

County	Population	Number of Exonerations
Riverside CA	2,189,641	1
San Bernardino CA	2,035,210	
Bexar TX	1,714,773	
Alameda CA	1,510,271	
Palm Beach FL	1,320,134	1
Oakland MI	1,202,362	1
Hennepin MN	1,152,425	1
Orange FL	1,145,956	1
Fairfax VA	1,081,726	
Contra Costa CA	1,049,025	1
Salt Lake UT	1,029,655	1
Honolulu HI	953,207	
Mecklenburg NC	919,628	1
Pinellas FL	916,542	1
Bergen NJ	905,116	
Wake NC	900,993	1

Table 13: Exonerations by Crime and Contributing Factors

	Mistaken Witness Identification	Perjury or False Accusation	False Confession	False or Misleading Forensic Evidence	Official Misconduct
Homicide (416)	27%	<u>64%</u>	25%	23%	<u>56%</u>
Sexual Assault (203)	<u>80%</u>	23%	8%	<u>37%</u>	18%
Child Sex Abuse (102)	26%	<u>74%</u>	7%	21%	<u>35%</u>
Robbery (47)	<u>81%</u>	17%	2%	6%	26%
Other Violent Crimes (47)	<u>51%</u>	<u>43%</u>	15%	17%	<u>40%</u>
Non-Violent Crimes (58)	19%	<u>52%</u>	3%	3%	<u>55%</u>
ALL CASES (873)	<u>43%</u>	<u>51%</u>	15%	24%	<u>42%</u>