

Execution statistics in the first six months of 2020 in Iran

In the first 6 months of 2020, concurrently with the escalating Covid-19 crisis, at least 114 death sentences have been carried out in Iran

Implementation of at least **114** **executions**
in the first 6 months of 2020,
concurrently with Covid19- crisis

Execution of 4 women prisoners
Execution of 3 political prisoners
Execution of 2 children

Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

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Breathing in Confinement, July 1, 2020: In the first six months of 2020, at least 114 people have been executed in various prisons in Iran.

Islamic Republic authorities have been executing the prisoners, while Iran has been involved in Covid-19 crisis since more than four months. With the outbreak of corona-virus infection in the country, and the spread of the disease in most prisons, the lives of prisoners are in serious danger. In particular, in lack of the very basic hygienic equipment needed to deal with this highly contagious virus,

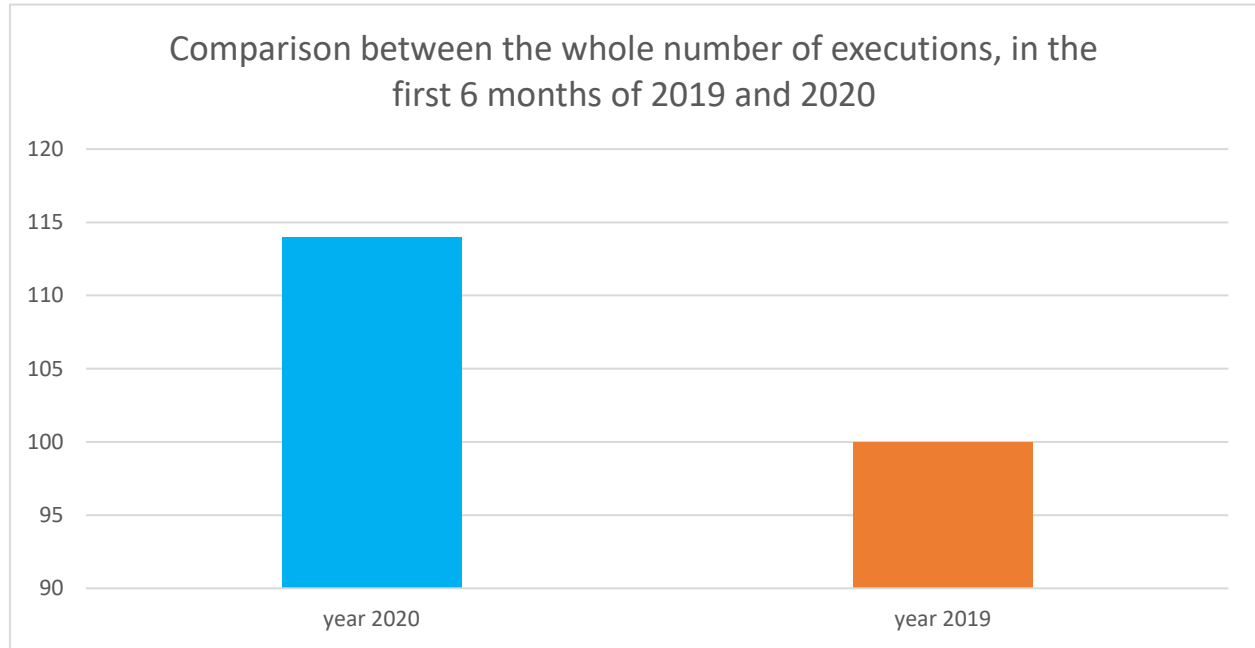
In addition, in protest against the very bad conditions where the prisoners are being held, widespread riots happened in various prisons, such as Saqqez, Ahvaz, and Tabriz Prison. And some of the inmates, managed to escape from the prisons. The authorities of the Islamic Republic however, arrested a number of them and, after returning them back to the prison, expedited the process of their execution.

At least three prisoners who managed to escape from Saqqez prison, were arrested by the security forces and were executed shortly afterwards.

From January 1 to July 1, 2020, at least 114 prisoners were executed by the authorities of the Islamic Republic.

The number of executions has increased compared to the same period in 2019.

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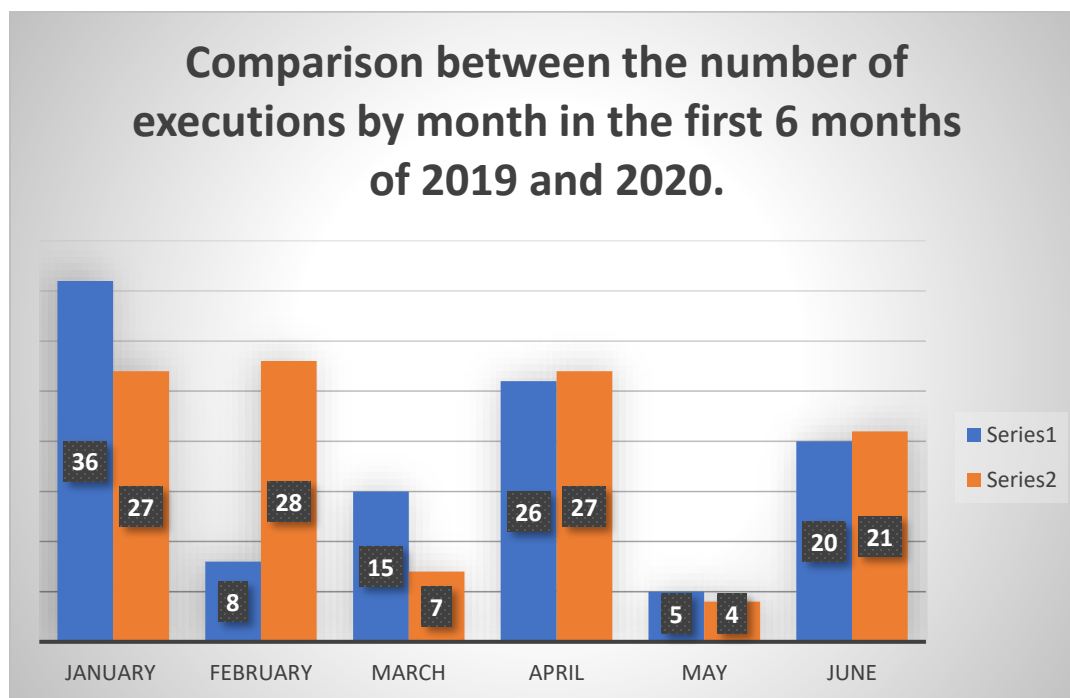


The whole number of executions in the first six months of the year

The whole number of executions in the first six months of 2020 by month, compared to the same period in 2019

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Blue bars: 2019 Orange bars: 2020

Of at least 114 executions in the first six months of 2020:

- Only 31 cases have been announced by the government's official media.
- Three political prisoners have been among the executed prisoners.
- Four women were executed.
- Two of the executed prisoners were below 18 at the time of alleged offence.
- Three of the executed prisoners were related to the prisoners' riots in fear of Coronavirus infection. They were under the death sentence but managed to escape from the prison. Shortly afterward however, they were arrested by the security forces and were executed quickly.
- More than 82% of the executed prisoners (94 cases) were charged by murder and 7 people were executed on drug charges.

Ignoring the protests by the international organizations, Islamic Republic authorities continue to carry out executions in prisons.

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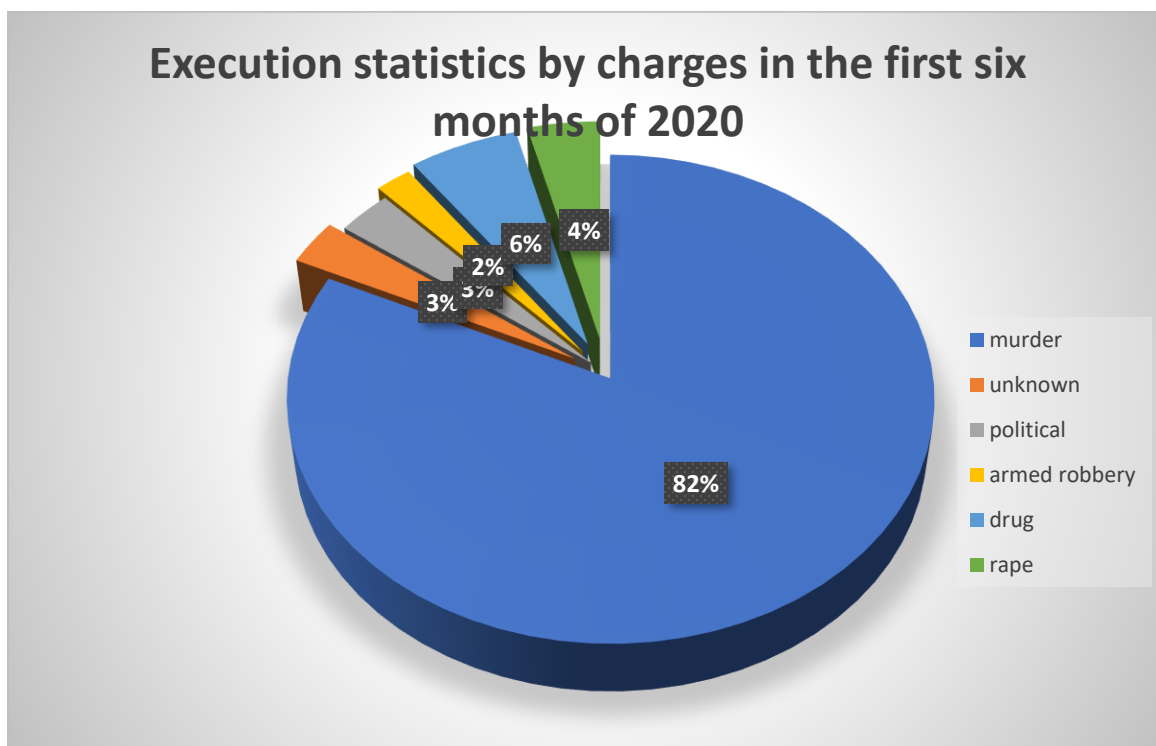
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Their efforts are aimed to, as far as possible, hide these executions from human rights activists and organizations. As such, the implementation of a very small number of death sentences is usually announced by the official media.

As a result, the statistics released by human rights activists are far less from the actual numbers. In the last six months, only 27 percent of executions have been announced by the state media.

Charges of the executed prisoners

Despite the abolition of the death penalty for drug charges, seven prisoners in various prisons have been executed on drug charges.



Murder 82% Unknown 3% Political 3% Armed robbery 2% Drugs 6% Rape 4%

Execution of the political prisoners

Three political prisoners were among the executed inmates. Two Kurd activists and a Baloch activist were executed during the past six months. After three years in prison, Hedayat

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Abdullahpour, a political prisoner, was secretly executed without the knowledge of his family and his lawyer.

Execution of children

Islamic Republic officials have executed two prisoners who were under the age of 18 at the time of the alleged crime. One of them was Shayan Saeedpour, who was executed in Saqez Central Prison on Tuesday, April 22, 2020. Shayan Saeedpour was among those inmates who escaped from Saqez prison during the riot in this jail. Unfortunately, he was arrested by security forces and returned back to the prison. He was born on September 21, 1997, and the murder, for which he was sentenced to death, was committed on August 13, 2015.

Shayan's execution and the execution of another prisoner named Majid Ismailzadeh, provoked a strong reaction from Amnesty International.

The Prisoners' Rights League in Iran, condemning all of the executions across the country's prisons, calls on the UN Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Iran, to take concrete and effective action to save the lives of prisoners, especially in the catastrophic situation of Covid-19 outbreak.