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Bureau of Justice Statistics

120069



Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1980-87

A Federal Justice Statistics report

Prosecution

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(Revised May 1990)

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Joseph M. Bessette
Acting Director

This Bureau of Justice Statistics Report is based on data tabulations prepared by Kenneth Carlson, Jan Chaiken, and Lars Holmdahl of Abt Associates Inc. Thomas Hester and Carol Kaplan, chief, Federal statistics and information policy branch of BJS, wrote the text. Pearl Jusem, Design and Communication Services, and Marilyn Marbrook, BJS publications unit chief, administered production, assisted by Deborah Braschel and Jayne Pugh.

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Foreword

This report presents detailed information on the processing of cases in the Federal criminal justice system for the years 1980-87. The data describe initial prosecution decisions, referrals to magistrates, court dispositions, sentencing outcomes, and length of sentences imposed. Both the number of defendants and the percentage rates are presented for each stage of the process.

The report was developed under the Bureau of Justice Statistics' Federal Justice Statistics Program and is intended to complement the Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics issued each year and the various Bulletins and Special Reports on the Federal system. BJS hopes that this report will be of value to criminal justice practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and all others with an interest in understanding the working of the Federal criminal justice system.

This report is made possible through the cooperation of five Federal agencies that provided source records to BJS: the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the Pretrial Services Agency, the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, and the U.S. Parole Commission.

Joseph M. Bessette
Acting Director
Bureau of Justice Statistics

Note to reader

Note to Reader:

The tables in this report are based on data contained in the BJS Federal Justice Statistics database. Source records for the database were provided by the Executive Office for the United States Attorneys, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the Bureau of Prisons, and the United States Parole Commission.

Tables 1-7 and 13 and 14, which describe the number and rate of prosecutions and the results of magistrate proceedings, include only those cases handled by U.S. attorneys. All other tables, which describe the number and rate of convictions, pretrial release rates, sentencing patterns, incarceration rates, and length of sentence imposed, include all cases, regardless of the prosecuting agency.

Years identified in each table refer to the calendar year indicated.

The number of persons whom U.S. attorneys investigated and prosecuted and the number of persons convicted in U.S. district courts increased substantially between 1980 and 1987. Drug offenses accounted for most of the increase.

Case Screening:

- U.S. attorneys completed investigations of over 91,000 criminal suspects in 1987. This was an increase of 32% over the number of suspects investigated in 1980 (table 1).

- The number of suspects investigated for drug violations more than doubled between 1980 (9,546) and 1987 (22,729). The number of suspects investigated for offenses other than drug law violations increased by 15%.

- In 1987, 24,765 suspects were investigated for fraudulent property offenses which include embezzlement, forgery, counterfeiting, and all frauds except tax fraud. Of these, over half (15,859) were investigated for fraud. An additional 2,256 suspects were investigated for tax violations including tax fraud.

Prosecution:

- The number of suspects prosecuted by U.S. attorneys in U.S. district court increased 74% between 1980 and 1987: 31,218 suspects prosecuted in 1980 and 54,392 in 1987 (table 2).

- Almost one third (32.6%) of all persons prosecuted in 1987 were suspected of drug offenses (17,729 persons); one quarter (24.7%) were suspected of fraudulent property offenses (13,415 persons).

- Forty-five percent of all criminal suspects in matters closed by U.S. attorneys in 1980 were prosecuted in U.S. district court (table 3). The prosecution rate increased to 60% in 1987. The increase in district court filings largely reflected the reduced percentage of suspects who were referred for disposition by U.S. magistrates.

- The percentage of suspected drug violators prosecuted in U.S. district court increased from 73% in 1980 to 78% in 1987.

- Prosecution of suspects investigated for fraud (except tax fraud) increased from 32.7% in 1980 to 50.3% in 1987, with the major portion of the increase occurring between 1980 and 1982.

- Prosecutions for tax law violations (including tax fraud) increased from 56.3% in 1980 to 73 % in 1987, with the major portion of the increase occurring between 1980 and 1981.

- U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute 26,171 suspects investigated in matters closed in 1987 (table 4).

- The percentage of suspects whose cases U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute dropped slightly (from 32.5% to 28.7%) between 1980 and 1987 (table 5).

- Among crime categories involving more than 1,000 suspects, the declination rates were lowest for suspects investigated for immigration violations (3.1% in 1987, 2.5% in 1980) and drug offenses (16.5% in 1987, 19.1% in 1980).

- The number of suspects whose cases were referred for disposition by a U.S. magistrate decreased almost a third between 1980 (15,601 suspects) and 1987 (10,747 suspects) (table 6).

- Among suspects referred to U.S. magistrates in 1987, 40.7% were suspected of immigration offenses. Throughout the 1980-87 period, immigration suspects comprised the largest single crime category of suspects each year.

- Among suspects whose cases were concluded in each year, the percentage referred to U.S. magistrates declined from 22.5% in 1980 to 11.8% in 1987 (table 7).

- Except in 1982 and 1983, over 60% of all immigration suspects were referred to U.S. magistrates.

Adjudication:

- The number of offenders convicted of Federal crimes in U.S. district court increased 49% between 1980 and 1987: 44,518 offenders were convicted in 1987, and 29,943 were convicted in 1980 (table 9).

- The increase in the total number of convictions largely reflected the increased number of persons convicted of drug offenses (5,135 in 1980, 13,423 in 1987).

- Almost a third of all offenders convicted in U.S. district court in 1987 were convicted of drug offenses.

- Among cases filed in U.S. district court, conviction rates increased slightly between 1980 and 1987 (from 76.4% to 81.5%). The conviction rate for offenders charged with drug law violations, however, increased from 73.5% to 84.5% during the same period (table 10).

- U.S. magistrates convicted 6,993 defendants in 1987. A majority of these defendants (59.9%) were charged with immigration offenses (table 13).

- More than 59% of defendants disposed by U.S. magistrates in 1980 were convicted; more than 65% of defendants disposed by U.S. magistrates in 1987 were convicted (table 14).

- The conviction rate for cases disposed by U.S. magistrates was lower than the conviction rate in U.S. district court.

Sentencing:

- The number of offenders convicted in U.S. district court and sentenced to some time in prison increased from 13,766 in 1980 to 23,579 in 1987 (table 15).

- The increase in the total of offenders sentenced to prison almost entirely reflected the increase in the number of persons sentenced for a drug offense (3,675 in 1980, 10,196 in 1987) or fraud (1,384 in 1980, 3,097 in 1987).

- Among persons sentenced to incarceration in 1987, 43.2% were convicted of drug offenses. Ninety-four percent of these were convicted of trafficking. In 1980, 26.7% of all offenders sentenced to prison were convicted of drug offenses.

- The percent of convicted Federal offenders sentenced to some time in prison increased from 46% in 1980 to 53% in 1987. The change reflected the increase in the percent of offenders who were convicted of drug law violations. The incarceration rate for drug law violators was 75.9% in 1987 (table 16).

- Among specific crime categories which included over 1,000 persons in 1987, incarceration rates were highest for persons convicted of robbery (94.4%), drug trafficking (85.4%), weapons offenses (68.7%), and immigration offenses (63.4%).

Sentence length:

- Among offenders sentenced to a definite period of incarceration, average sentence length increased 25% from 44.3 months in 1980 to 55.2 months in 1987 (table 17).

- Among specific crime categories that included more than 1,000 persons in 1987, sentence length was longest for persons convicted of robbery (148.1 months), drug trafficking (69.1 months), and weapons offenses (53.3 months).

- Average sentence length increased substantially between 1980 and 1987 for persons convicted of drug offenses (47.1 months in 1980, 67.8 months in 1987), weapons offenses (37.6 months in 1980, 53.3 months in 1987), and fraud (24.9 months in 1980, 32.1 months in 1987).

Table 1. Number of suspects in criminal matters concluded, 1980-87

Most serious offense investigated	Number of suspects in criminal matters concluded							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses^a	69,344	68,393	77,794	76,677	77,768	78,407	86,995	91,310
Violent offenses	3,861	4,000	4,674	4,048	3,866	3,828	4,040	4,460
Murder	180	148	294	210	207	187	211	258
Assault	864	859	941	915	829	781	982	1,071
Robbery	2,426	2,557	2,966	2,378	2,303	2,150	2,120	2,257
Rape	30	36	28	49	46	75	83	161
Other sex offenses	63	69	66	63	88	246	338	456
Kidnaping	183	154	191	264	234	234	185	137
Threats against the President	115	177	188	169	159	155	121	120
Property offenses	21,429	21,985	27,148	25,328	24,711	23,508	26,081	28,900
Fraudulent offenses	16,594	17,467	22,086	20,936	20,240	19,554	22,076	24,765
Embezzlement	3,976	4,433	5,195	5,197	4,634	4,517	5,020	5,472
Fraud ^b	9,796	10,234	12,974	11,963	12,536	11,723	13,643	15,859
Forgery	2,797	2,782	3,893	3,730	3,045	3,257	3,372	3,392
Counterfeiting	25	18	24	46	25	57	41	42
Other offenses	4,835	4,518	5,062	4,392	4,471	3,954	4,005	4,135
Burglary	93	120	112	107	107	89	98	115
Larceny	2,680	2,379	2,829	2,451	2,361	2,187	2,349	2,575
Motor vehicle theft	817	797	952	811	762	714	783	938
Arson	19	13	24	6	20	23	14	25
Transportation of stolen property	114	90	151	148	102	188	98	118
Other	1,112	1,119	994	869	1,119	753	663	364
Drug offenses	9,546	9,668	12,186	12,647	13,993	15,669	18,633	22,729
Public-order offenses	32,622	31,240	31,799	32,931	33,866	33,845	36,099	33,606
Regulatory offenses	6,218	6,551	5,888	5,752	5,075	6,505	7,039	7,488
Agriculture	302	465	459	323	468	418	411	497
Antitrust	182	129	133	164	135	71	73	144
Fair labor standards	41	49	27	52	54	57	41	41
Food and drug	472	398	441	361	347	372	554	630
Motor carrier	114	141	136	158	173	142	133	144
Other regulatory offenses	5,107	5,369	4,692	4,694	4,898	5,445	5,827	6,032
Other offenses	26,404	24,689	25,911	27,179	27,791	27,340	29,060	26,118
Weapons offenses	1,796	2,219	2,729	2,696	2,430	2,702	3,086	3,190
Immigration offenses	8,186	6,563	5,943	7,399	7,279	6,933	8,416	6,888
Tax law violations ^c	1,312	1,389	1,817	1,556	1,874	1,858	2,052	2,256
Bribery	433	403	443	430	420	431	508	543
Perjury	219	174	236	243	263	283	295	266
National defense	465	355	579	660	694	746	640	576
Escape	3,156	3,203	3,269	3,139	2,992	2,693	2,814	2,873
Racketeering and extortion	1,705	1,714	1,631	1,798	1,956	1,805	1,745	1,971
Gambling offenses	254	135	149	219	203	108	338	299
Liquor offenses	68	53	40	30	41	24	13	5
Mail or transport of obscene materials	113	38	44	79	59	86	69	83
Migratory birds	1,134	1,105	1,133	1,074	1,255	1,083	670	775
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	7,435	7,154	7,737	7,650	8,085	8,293	7,971	5,875
Other	128	184	161	206	240	295	443	518
^a Total includes suspects for whom offense category could not be determined: 1,184 (1980), 1,500 (1981), 1,986 (1982), 1,723 (1983), 1,332 (1984), 1,577 (1985), 2,142 (1986), and 1,611 (1987).								
^b Excludes tax fraud.								
^c Includes tax fraud.								

Table 2. Suspects in criminal matters concluded: Number prosecuted in U.S. district court, 1980-87

Most serious offense investigated	Number of suspects who were prosecuted in U.S. district court							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses	31,218	35,117	44,144	43,538	44,058	45,957	49,931	54,392
Violent offenses	2,382	2,681	3,356	2,884	2,674	2,612	2,821	3,107
Murder	140	98	242	173	164	139	138	196
Assault	432	451	540	520	453	437	581	634
Robbery	1,652	1,911	2,331	1,901	1,803	1,675	1,661	1,732
Rape	16	21	22	26	37	45	54	118
Other sex offenses	24	28	26	23	38	123	207	308
Kidnaping	84	77	113	178	108	126	120	67
Threats against the President	34	95	82	63	71	67	60	52
Property offenses	8,321	10,267	14,628	13,693	13,052	12,955	14,135	15,989
Fraudulent offenses	6,250	8,063	11,912	11,268	10,753	10,749	11,799	13,415
Embezzlement	1,712	2,179	2,976	3,074	2,681	2,693	2,919	3,357
Fraud ^a	3,206	4,318	6,458	5,915	6,307	5,960	6,758	7,976
Forgery	1,324	1,555	2,467	2,260	1,756	2,064	2,105	2,057
Counterfeiting	8	11	11	19	9	32	17	25
Other offenses	2,071	2,204	2,716	2,425	2,299	2,206	2,336	2,574
Burglary	74	90	85	87	79	79	71	90
Larceny	1,332	1,363	1,780	1,564	1,486	1,420	1,525	1,703
Motor vehicle theft	404	473	564	465	444	414	510	551
Arson	9	3	13	2	7	12	5	11
Transportation of stolen property	72	56	89	97	61	96	53	63
Other	180	219	185	210	222	185	172	156
Drug offenses	7,003	7,697	9,906	10,162	11,224	12,576	14,952	17,729
Public-order offenses	12,696	13,709	15,167	15,902	16,419	16,837	16,764	16,673
Regulatory offenses	1,936	2,198	2,417	2,435	2,429	2,548	2,520	2,867
Agriculture	75	175	233	203	231	241	183	340
Antitrust	154	116	121	155	105	55	65	114
Fair labor standards	16	10	14	31	31	27	26	19
Food and drug	233	235	293	224	237	237	402	475
Motor carrier	61	92	70	101	110	85	76	75
Other regulatory offenses	1,397	1,570	1,686	1,721	1,715	1,903	1,768	1,842
Other offenses	10,760	11,511	12,750	13,467	13,990	14,289	14,244	13,806
Weapons offenses	1,078	1,605	1,970	2,000	1,768	2,016	2,218	2,211
Immigration offenses	2,850	2,308	2,184	2,881	2,523	2,355	2,179	2,304
Tax law violations ^b	738	996	1,338	1,146	1,423	1,521	1,565	1,648
Bribery	162	158	184	179	197	166	185	265
Perjury	114	106	141	159	172	191	174	170
National defense	187	114	245	226	255	257	208	281
Escape	756	985	919	1,003	896	785	898	929
Racketeering and extortion	536	601	786	813	918	933	969	1,129
Gambling offenses	101	93	83	131	139	56	262	205
Liquor offenses	42	32	25	21	23	18	12	2
Mail or transport of obscene materials	71	14	14	11	43	54	35	53
Migratory birds	381	357	137	208	281	230	200	563
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	3,736	4,116	4,709	4,672	5,313	5,613	5,148	3,797
Other	8	26	15	17	39	94	191	249

^aExcludes tax fraud. ^bIncludes tax fraud.

Table 3. Suspects in criminal matters concluded: Percent who were prosecuted in U.S. district court, 1980-87

Most serious offense investigated	Percent of suspects who were prosecuted							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses	45.0%	51.3%	56.7%	56.8%	56.7%	58.6%	57.4%	59.6%
Violent offenses	61.7%	67.0%	71.8%	71.2%	69.2%	68.2%	69.8%	69.7%
Murder	77.8	66.2	82.3	82.4	79.2	74.3	65.4	76.0
Assault	50.0	52.5	57.4	56.8	54.6	56.0	59.2	59.2
Robbery	68.1	74.7	78.6	79.9	78.3	77.9	78.3	76.7
Rape	53.3	58.3	78.6	53.1	80.4	60.0	65.1	73.3
Other sex offenses	38.1	40.6	39.4	36.5	43.2	50.0	61.2	67.5
Kidnaping	45.9	50.0	59.2	67.4	46.2	53.8	64.9	48.9
Threats against the President	29.6	53.7	43.6	37.3	44.7	43.2	49.6	43.3
Property offenses	38.8%	46.7%	53.9%	54.1%	57.9%	59.6%	54.2%	55.3%
Fraudulent offenses	37.7%	46.2%	53.9%	53.8%	53.1%	55.0%	53.4%	54.2%
Embezzlement	43.1	49.2	57.3	59.1	57.9	59.6	58.1	61.3
Fraud ^a	32.7	42.2	49.8	49.4	50.3	50.8	49.5	50.3
Forgery	47.3	55.9	63.4	60.6	57.7	63.4	62.4	60.6
Counterfeiting	32.0	-	45.8	41.3	36.0	56.1	41.5	59.5
Other offenses	42.8%	48.8%	53.7%	55.2%	51.4%	55.8%	58.3%	62.2%
Burglary	79.6	75.0	75.9	81.3	73.8	88.8	72.4	78.3
Larceny	49.7	57.3	62.9	63.8	62.9	64.9	64.9	66.1
Motor vehicle theft	49.4	59.3	59.2	57.3	58.3	58.0	65.1	58.7
Arson	-	-	54.2	-	35.0	52.2	-	44.0
Transportation of stolen property	63.2	62.2	58.9	65.5	59.8	51.1	54.1	53.4
Other	16.2	19.6	18.6	24.2	19.8	24.6	25.9	42.9
Drug offenses	73.4%	79.6%	81.3%	80.4%	80.2%	80.3%	80.2%	78.0%
Public-order offenses	38.9%	43.9%	47.7%	48.3%	49.4%	57.7%	46.4%	49.6%
Regulatory offenses	31.1%	33.6%	41.0%	42.3%	40.0%	39.2%	35.8%	38.3%
Agriculture	24.8	37.6	50.8	62.8	49.4	57.7	44.5	68.4
Antitrust	84.6	89.9	91.0	94.5	77.8	77.5	89.0	79.2
Fair labor standards	39.0	20.4	51.9	59.6	57.4	47.4	63.4	46.3
Food and drug	49.4	59.0	66.4	62.0	68.3	63.7	72.6	75.4
Motor carrier	53.5	65.2	51.5	63.9	63.6	59.9	57.1	52.1
Other regulatory offenses	27.4	29.2	35.9	36.7	35.0	34.9	30.3	30.6
Other offenses	40.8%	46.6%	49.2%	49.5%	50.3%	52.3%	49.0%	52.9%
Weapons offenses	60.0	72.3	72.2	74.2	72.8	74.6	71.9	69.3
Immigration offenses	34.8	35.2	36.7	38.9	34.7	34.0	25.9	33.4
Tax law violations ^b	56.3	71.7	73.6	73.7	75.9	81.9	76.3	73.0
Bribery	37.4	39.2	41.5	41.6	46.9	38.5	36.4	48.8
Perjury	52.1	60.9	59.7	65.4	65.4	67.5	59.0	63.9
National defense	40.2	32.1	42.3	34.2	36.7	34.5	32.5	48.8
Escape	24.0	30.8	28.1	32.0	29.9	29.1	31.9	32.3
Racketeering and extortion	31.4	35.1	48.2	45.2	46.9	51.7	55.5	57.3
Gambling offenses	39.8	68.9	55.7	59.8	68.5	51.9	77.5	68.6
Liquor offenses	61.8	60.4	62.5	70.0	56.1	75.0	-	-
Mail or transport of obscene materials	62.8	36.8	31.8	13.9	72.9	62.8	50.7	63.9
Migratory birds	33.6	32.3	12.1	19.4	22.4	21.2	29.9	72.6
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	50.2	57.5	60.9	61.1	65.7	67.7	64.6	64.6
Other	6.3	14.1	9.3	8.3	16.3	31.9	43.1	48.1

-Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data.

^aExcludes tax fraud.

^bIncludes tax fraud.

Table 4. Suspects in criminal matters concluded: Number whom U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute, 1980-87

Most serious offense investigated	Number of suspects whom U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses	22,525	20,244	20,912	20,648	21,689	21,356	24,422	26,171
Violent offenses	1,126	997	929	889	977	1,036	1,018	1,088
Murder	37	39	36	25	40	43	65	51
Assault	254	254	227	257	263	251	313	290
Robbery	636	535	491	400	431	437	391	455
Rape	14	15	5	20	9	30	26	38
Other sex offenses	36	36	40	37	49	123	127	142
Kidnaping	86	63	58	69	118	87	52	58
Threats against the President	63	55	72	81	67	65	44	54
Property offenses	10,428	9,425	10,015	9,724	9,805	9,007	10,333	10,963
Fraudulent offenses	8,855	8,245	8,722	8,556	8,640	7,880	9,194	9,760
Embezzlement	1,817	1,842	1,691	1,696	1,608	1,557	1,831	1,842
Fraud ^a	5,937	5,464	5,955	5,671	5,951	5,338	6,290	6,784
Forgery	1,091	934	1,071	1,165	1,068	964	1,054	1,117
Counterfeiting	10	5	5	24	13	21	19	17
Other offenses	1,573	1,180	1,293	1,168	1,165	1,127	1,139	1,203
Burglary	15	23	22	18	27	10	24	25
Larceny	1,007	736	744	683	709	632	684	685
Motor vehicle theft	378	294	342	321	306	289	256	360
Arson	7	7	9	4	12	10	9	13
Transportation of stolen property	31	28	55	49	37	83	38	50
Other	135	92	121	93	74	103	128	70
Drug offenses	1,827	1,336	1,520	2,044	2,276	2,557	3,050	3,752
Public-order offenses	8,539	8,041	7,954	7,522	8,204	8,304	9,351	9,768
Regulatory offenses	2,879	3,323	2,562	2,549	2,920	3,391	3,935	4,207
Agriculture	101	83	76	71	80	70	92	144
Antitrust	28	12	12	9	29	14	8	29
Fair labor standards	20	36	11	21	21	28	14	22
Food and drug	181	129	110	100	68	88	103	115
Motor carrier	43	34	54	51	56	55	57	67
Other regulatory offenses	2,506	3,029	2,299	2,297	2,666	3,136	3,661	3,830
Other offenses	5,660	4,718	5,392	4,973	5,284	4,913	5,416	5,561
Weapons offenses	601	529	650	618	604	612	805	894
Immigration offenses	202	269	442	157	223	189	179	211
Tax law violations ^b	484	326	401	366	412	312	447	581
Bribery	257	236	245	234	207	253	312	269
Perjury	100	61	88	82	88	92	116	90
National defense	122	72	188	247	320	371	332	198
Escape	1,039	941	995	936	952	852	796	898
Racketeering and extortion	1,117	891	795	926	999	818	742	817
Gambling offenses	153	35	58	86	61	51	75	92
Liquor offenses	22	19	14	9	8	4	0	1
Mail or transport of obscene materials	41	22	27	66	13	30	33	29
Migratory birds	68	59	84	45	36	69	49	60
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	1,380	1,200	1,324	1,060	1,214	1,123	1,349	1,225
Other	74	58	81	141	147	137	181	196

^aExcludes tax fraud. ^bIncludes tax fraud.

Table 5. Suspects in criminal matters concluded: Percent whom U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute, 1980-87

Most serious offense investigated	Percent of suspects whom U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses	32.5%	29.6%	26.9%	26.9%	27.9%	27.2%	28.1%	28.7%
Violent offenses	29.2%	24.9%	19.9%	22.0%	25.3%	27.1%	25.2%	24.4%
Murder	20.6	26.4	12.2	11.9	19.3	23.0	30.8	19.8
Assault	29.4	29.6	24.1	28.1	31.7	32.1	31.9	27.1
Robbery	26.2	20.9	16.6	16.8	18.7	20.3	18.4	20.2
Rape	46.7	41.7	17.9	40.8	19.6	40.0	31.3	23.6
Other sex offenses	57.1	52.2	60.6	58.7	55.7	50.0	37.6	31.1
Kidnaping	47.0	40.9	30.4	26.1	50.4	37.2	28.1	42.3
Threats against the President	54.8	31.1	38.3	47.9	42.1	41.9	36.4	45.0
Property offenses	48.7%	42.9%	36.9%	38.4%	39.7%	38.3%	39.6%	37.9%
Fraudulent offenses	53.4%	47.2%	39.5%	40.9%	42.7%	40.3%	41.6%	39.4%
Embezzlement	45.7	41.6	32.6	32.6	34.7	34.5	36.5	33.7
Fraud ^a	60.6	53.4	45.9	47.4	47.5	45.5	46.1	42.8
Forgery	39.0	33.6	27.5	31.2	35.1	29.6	31.3	32.9
Counterfeiting	40.0	-	20.8	52.2	52.0	36.8	46.3	40.5
Other offenses	32.5%	26.1%	25.5%	26.6%	26.1%	28.5%	28.4%	29.1%
Burglary	16.1	19.2	19.6	16.8	25.2	11.2	24.5	21.7
Larceny	37.6	30.9	26.3	27.9	30.0	28.9	29.1	26.6
Motor vehicle theft	46.3	36.9	35.9	39.6	40.2	40.5	32.7	38.4
Arson	-	-	37.5	-	60.0	43.5	-	52.0
Transportation of stolen property	27.2	31.1	36.4	33.1	36.3	44.1	38.8	42.4
Other	12.1	8.2	12.2	10.7	6.6	13.7	19.3	19.2
Drug offenses	19.1%	13.8%	12.5%	16.2%	16.3%	16.3%	16.4%	16.5%
Public-order offenses	26.2%	25.7%	25.0%	22.8%	24.2%	24.5%	25.9%	29.1%
Regulatory offenses	46.3%	50.7%	43.5%	44.3%	48.1%	52.1%	55.9%	56.2%
Agriculture	33.4	17.8	16.6	22.0	17.1	16.7	22.4	29.0
Antitrust	15.4	9.3	9.0	5.5	21.5	19.7	11.0	20.1
Fair labor standards	48.8	73.5	40.7	40.4	38.9	49.1	34.1	53.7
Food and drug	38.3	32.4	24.9	27.7	19.6	23.7	18.6	18.3
Motor carrier	37.7	24.1	39.7	32.3	32.4	38.7	42.9	46.5
Other regulatory offenses	49.1	56.4	49.0	48.9	54.4	57.6	62.8	63.5
Other offenses	21.4%	19.1%	20.8%	18.3%	19.0%	18.0%	18.6%	21.3%
Weapons offenses	33.5	23.8	23.8	22.9	24.9	22.6	26.1	28.0
Immigration offenses	2.5	4.1	7.4	2.1	3.1	2.7	2.1	3.1
Tax law violations ^b	36.9	23.5	22.1	23.5	22.0	16.8	21.8	25.8
Bribery	59.4	58.6	55.3	54.4	49.3	58.7	61.4	49.5
Perjury	45.7	35.1	37.3	33.7	33.5	32.5	39.3	33.8
National defense	26.2	20.3	32.5	37.4	46.1	49.7	51.9	34.4
Escape	32.9	29.4	30.4	29.8	31.8	31.6	28.3	31.3
Racketeering and extortion	65.5	52.0	48.7	51.5	51.1	45.3	42.5	41.5
Gambling offenses	60.2	25.9	38.9	39.3	30.0	47.2	22.2	30.8
Liquor offenses	32.4	35.8	35.0	30.0	19.5	16.7	-	-
Mail or transport of obscene materials	36.3	57.9	61.4	83.5	22.0	34.9	47.8	34.9
Migratory birds	6.0	5.3	7.4	4.2	2.9	6.4	7.3	7.7
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	18.6	16.8	17.1	13.9	15.0	13.5	16.9	20.9
Other	57.8	31.5	50.3	68.4	61.3	46.4	40.9	37.8

-Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data.

^aExcludes tax fraud.

^bIncludes tax fraud.

Table 6. Suspects in criminal matters concluded: Number who were referred to U.S. magistrates, 1980-87

Most serious offense investigated	Number of suspects who were referred to U.S. magistrates							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses	15,601	13,032	12,738	12,490	12,021	11,094	12,652	10,747
Violent offenses	353	322	389	275	215	180	201	265
Murder	3	11	16	12	3	5	8	11
Assault	178	154	174	138	113	93	88	147
Robbery	138	111	144	77	69	38	68	70
Rape	0	0	1	3	0	0	3	5
Other sex offenses	3	5	0	3	1	0	4	6
Kidnaping	13	14	20	17	8	21	13	12
Threats against the President	18	27	34	25	21	23	17	14
Property offenses	2,680	2,293	2,505	1,911	1,854	1,546	1,613	1,948
Fraudulent offenses	1,489	1,159	1,452	1,112	847	925	1,083	1,590
Embezzlement	447	412	528	427	345	267	270	273
Fraud ^a	653	452	561	377	278	425	595	1,099
Forgery	382	293	355	305	221	229	213	218
Counterfeiting	7	2	8	3	3	4	5	0
Other offenses	1,191	1,134	1,053	799	1,007	621	530	358
Burglary	4	7	5	2	1	0	3	0
Larceny	341	280	305	204	166	135	140	187
Motor vehicle theft	35	30	46	25	12	11	17	27
Arson	3	3	2	0	1	1	0	1
Transportation of stolen property	11	6	7	2	4	9	7	5
Other	797	808	688	566	823	465	363	138
Drug offenses	716	635	760	441	493	536	631	1,248
Public-order offenses	11,387	9,490	8,678	9,506	9,243	8,704	9,984	7,165
Regulatory offenses	1,403	1,030	909	767	726	566	584	414
Agriculture	126	207	150	48	157	107	136	13
Antitrust	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	1
Fair labor standards	5	3	2	0	2	2	1	0
Food and drug	58	34	38	37	42	47	49	40
Motor carrier	10	15	12	6	7	2	0	2
Other regulatory offenses	1,204	770	707	676	517	406	398	358
Other offenses	11,387	9,490	8,678	9,506	9,243	8,704	9,984	7,165
Weapons offenses	117	85	109	78	58	74	63	85
Immigration offenses	5,134	3,986	3,317	4,361	4,533	4,389	6,058	4,373
Tax law violations ^b	90	67	78	44	39	25	40	27
Bribery	14	9	14	17	16	12	11	9
Perjury	5	7	7	2	3	0	5	6
National defense	156	169	146	187	119	118	100	97
Escape	1,361	1,277	1,355	1,200	1,144	1,056	1,120	1,046
Racketeering and extortion	52	222	50	59	39	54	34	25
Gambling offenses	0	7	8	2	3	1	1	2
Liquor offenses	4	2	1	0	10	2	1	2
Mail or transport of obscene materials	1	2	3	2	3	2	1	1
Migratory birds	685	689	912	821	938	784	421	152
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	2,319	1,838	1,704	1,918	1,558	1,557	1,474	853
Other	46	100	65	48	54	64	71	73

^aExcludes tax fraud.

^bIncludes tax fraud.

Table 7. Suspects in criminal matters concluded: Percent who were referred to U.S. magistrates, 1980-87								
Most serious offense investigated	Percent of suspects referred to U.S. magistrates							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses	22.5%	19.1%	16.4%	16.3%	15.5%	14.1%	14.5%	11.8%
Violent offenses	9.1%	8.1%	8.3%	6.8%	5.6%	4.7%	5.0%	5.9%
Murder	1.7	7.4	5.4	5.7	1.4	2.7	3.8	4.3
Assault	20.6	17.9	18.5	15.1	13.6	11.9	9.0	13.7
Robbery	5.7	4.3	4.9	3.2	3.0	1.8	3.2	3.1
Rape	0	0	3.6	6.1	0	0	3.6	3.1
Other sex offenses	4.8	7.2	0	4.8	1.1	0	1.2	1.3
Kidnaping	7.1	9.1	10.5	6.4	3.4	9.0	7.0	8.8
Threats against the President	15.7	15.3	18.1	14.8	13.2	14.8	14.0	11.7
Property offenses	12.5%	10.4%	9.2%	7.6%	7.4%	5.9%	6.2%	6.7%
Fraudulent offenses	9.0%	6.6%	6.6%	5.3%	4.2%	4.7%	4.9%	6.4%
Embezzlement	11.2	9.3	10.2	8.2	7.4	5.9	5.4	5.0
Fraud ^a	6.7	4.4	4.3	3.2	2.2	3.6	4.4	6.9
Forgery	13.7	10.5	9.1	8.2	7.3	7.0	6.3	6.4
Counterfeiting	28.0	-	33.3	6.5	12.0	7.0	12.2	0
Other offenses	24.6%	25.1%	20.8%	18.2%	22.5%	15.7%	13.2%	8.7%
Burglary	4.3	5.8	4.5	1.9	.9	0	3.1	0
Larceny	12.7	11.8	10.8	8.3	7.0	6.2	6.0	7.3
Motor vehicle theft	4.3	3.8	4.8	3.1	1.6	1.5	2.2	2.9
Arson	-	-	8.3	-	5.0	4.3	-	4.0
Transportation of stolen property	9.6	6.7	4.6	1.4	3.9	4.8	7.1	4.2
Other	71.7	72.2	69.2	65.1	73.5	61.8	54.8	37.9
Drug offenses	7.5%	6.6%	6.2%	3.5%	3.5%	3.4%	3.4%	5.5%
Public-order offenses	34.9%	30.4%	27.3%	28.9%	33.5%	25.6%	27.7%	21.3%
Regulatory offenses	22.6%	15.7%	15.4%	13.3%	12.0%	8.7%	8.3%	5.5%
Agriculture	41.7	44.5	32.7	14.9	33.5	25.6	33.1	2.6
Antitrust	0	.8	0	0	.7	2.8	0	.7
Fair labor standards	12.2	6.1	7.4	0	3.7	3.5	2.4	0
Food and drug	12.3	8.5	8.6	10.2	12.1	12.6	8.8	6.3
Motor carrier	8.8	10.6	8.8	3.8	4.0	1.4	0	1.4
Other regulatory offenses	23.6	14.3	15.1	14.4	10.6	7.5	6.8	5.9
Other offenses	37.8%	34.3%	30.0%	32.2%	30.6%	29.8%	32.3%	25.8%
Weapons offenses	6.5	3.8	4.0	2.9	2.4	2.7	2.0	2.7
Immigration offenses	62.7	60.7	55.8	58.9	62.3	63.3	72.0	63.5
Tax law violations ^b	6.9	4.8	4.3	2.8	2.1	1.3	1.9	1.2
Bribery	3.2	2.2	3.2	4.0	3.8	2.8	2.2	1.7
Perjury	2.3	4.0	3.0	.8	1.1	0	1.7	2.3
National defense	33.5	47.6	25.2	28.3	17.1	15.8	15.6	16.8
Escape	43.1	39.9	41.4	38.2	38.2	39.2	39.8	36.4
Racketeering and extortion	3.0	13.0	3.1	3.3	2.0	3.0	1.9	1.3
Gambling offenses	0	5.2	5.4	.9	1.5	.9	.3	.7
Liquor offenses	5.9	3.8	2.5	0	24.4	8.3	-	-
Mail or transport of obscene materials	.9	5.3	6.8	2.5	5.1	2.3	1.4	1.2
Migratory birds	60.4	62.4	80.5	76.4	74.7	72.4	62.8	19.6
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	31.2	25.7	22.0	25.1	19.3	18.8	18.5	14.5
Other	35.9	54.3	40.4	23.3	22.5	21.7	16.0	14.1
-Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data. ^a Excludes tax fraud. ^b Includes tax fraud.								

Table 8. Number of defendants in cases terminated in U.S. district court, 1980-1987

Most serious offense charged	Number of defendants in U.S. district court cases terminated							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses^a	39,172	40,837	42,739	45,858	48,529	51,243	54,152	54,625
Violent offenses	2,871	3,022	3,111	2,737	2,814	2,871	2,818	2,850
Murder	186	196	187	164	186	157	147	156
Negligent manslaughter	8	13	6	10	20	27	30	18
Assault	651	619	637	585	558	653	679	706
Robbery	1,701	1,869	1,925	1,621	1,677	1,561	1,505	1,450
Rape	118	115	81	126	149	119	108	143
Other sex offenses	47	66	70	52	66	165	205	252
Kidnaping	109	88	100	117	91	113	89	79
Threats against the President	51	56	105	62	67	76	55	46
Property offenses	13,544	13,851	15,340	16,384	15,969	16,250	17,286	17,173
Fraudulent offenses	8,684	9,055	10,514	11,110	10,743	10,765	12,322	12,379
Embezzlement	1,871	2,042	2,224	2,182	1,971	1,989	2,262	2,216
Fraud ^b	4,178	4,622	5,244	5,902	6,216	5,842	6,980	7,646
Forgery	1,851	1,580	2,048	2,132	1,908	2,356	2,486	1,789
Counterfeiting	784	811	998	894	648	578	594	728
Other offenses	4,860	4,796	4,826	5,274	5,226	5,485	4,964	4,796
Burglary	183	178	167	238	183	191	122	138
Larceny	3,408	3,383	3,228	3,613	3,689	4,012	3,621	3,645
Motor vehicle theft	632	493	573	509	475	445	476	378
Arson	19	14	11	12	17	16	13	34
Transportation of stolen property	423	461	616	707	558	495	488	366
Other	195	267	231	195	304	326	244	235
Drug offenses	7,119	8,077	8,987	9,774	11,361	12,984	14,746	16,443
Possession	475	1,141	1,763	1,534	1,762	1,854	1,743	2,156
Trafficking, including importing and manufacturing	6,640	6,934	7,219	8,235	9,592	11,126	12,994	14,282
Other	4	2	5	5	7	4	9	5
Public-order offenses	15,638	15,887	15,301	16,963	18,380	19,009	19,202	18,153
Regulatory offenses	2,082	2,726	1,965	2,044	2,101	2,392	2,188	2,062
Agriculture	326	721	252	350	261	425	218	220
Antitrust	161	178	203	166	195	139	117	131
Fair labor standards	36	28	28	22	28	40	36	49
Food and drug	149	136	119	91	82	107	94	87
Motor carrier	77	118	72	99	93	96	76	48
Other regulatory offenses	1,333	1,545	1,291	1,316	1,442	1,585	1,647	1,527
Other offenses	13,556	13,161	13,336	14,919	16,279	16,617	17,014	16,091
Weapons	1,336	1,716	2,009	2,009	1,865	1,884	2,163	2,027
Immigration offenses	2,913	2,655	2,410	2,927	2,899	2,636	2,710	2,267
Tax law violations ^c	1,601	1,384	1,256	1,156	1,297	1,329	1,541	1,471
Bribery	201	207	217	236	245	243	237	243
Perjury	126	122	144	141	149	182	182	161
National defense	250	119	131	122	172	163	176	129
Escape	877	867	839	841	816	722	789	934
Racketeering and extortion	632	578	598	695	786	755	848	673
Gambling offenses	173	100	170	151	182	106	237	193
Liquor offenses	73	43	31	37	21	22	19	11
Mail or transport of obscene materials	43	43	21	64	22	47	26	85
Traffic	4,983	5,094	5,293	6,352	7,640	8,207	7,758	7,609
Migratory Birds	150	88	94	90	97	59	53	65
Other	198	145	123	98	88	262	275	223

^aTotals include defendants whose offense category could not be determined.

^bExcludes tax fraud

^cIncludes tax fraud

Table 9. Defendants in cases terminated in U.S. district court: Number convicted, 1980-87

Most serious offense of conviction	Number of convicted offenders							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses^a	29,943	32,007	34,193	37,187	39,065	40,924	43,920	44,518
Violent offenses	2,134	2,264	2,354	2,109	2,210	2,226	2,192	2,241
Murder	111	116	110	107	101	101	93	109
Negligent manslaughter	11	16	10	14	23	33	29	21
Assault	450	422	435	451	415	458	489	499
Robbery	1,371	1,523	1,564	1,318	1,440	1,308	1,258	1,233
Rape	49	53	48	67	90	75	80	95
Other sex offenses	43	49	59	31	58	140	167	213
Kidnaping	73	56	66	80	51	71	48	46
Threats against the President	26	29	62	41	32	40	28	25
Property offenses	10,780	11,074	12,781	13,523	13,042	13,274	14,546	14,349
Fraudulent offenses	6,733	7,262	8,792	9,098	8,723	8,958	10,520	10,443
Embezzlement	1,605	1,803	1,971	1,889	1,749	1,711	1,986	1,918
Fraud ^b	3,307	3,722	4,515	4,919	5,005	4,989	6,139	6,588
Forgery	1,180	1,068	1,470	1,567	1,417	1,774	1,906	1,348
Counterfeiting	641	669	836	723	552	484	489	589
Other offenses	4,047	3,812	3,989	4,425	4,319	4,316	4,026	3,906
Burglary	129	149	149	202	137	136	93	103
Larceny	3,026	2,738	2,800	3,168	3,188	3,260	3,023	3,057
Motor vehicle theft	458	409	481	435	396	361	425	323
Arson	10	8	4	6	14	12	10	21
Transportation of stolen property	260	300	397	494	389	347	324	246
Other	164	208	158	120	195	200	151	156
Drug offenses	5,135	5,981	6,979	7,657	8,898	10,289	11,984	13,423
Possession	498	1,085	1,598	1,597	1,808	1,770	1,636	2,193
Trafficking, including importing and manufacturing	4,633	4,893	5,377	6,055	7,086	8,517	10,336	11,224
Other	4	3	4	5	4	2	12	6
Public-order offenses	11,893	12,688	12,079	13,898	14,911	15,132	15,193	14,500
Regulatory offenses	1,828	2,364	1,813	1,945	2,001	2,167	2,010	1,847
Agriculture	308	616	202	284	233	369	174	167
Antitrust	125	140	163	156	171	118	74	110
Fair labor standards	30	15	26	30	27	38	42	60
Food and drug	105	95	99	75	67	86	85	72
Motor carrier	73	120	64	88	92	104	82	52
Other regulatory offenses	1,187	1,378	1,259	1,312	1,411	1,452	1,553	1,386
Other offenses	10,065	10,324	10,266	11,953	12,910	12,965	13,183	12,653
Weapons offenses	980	1,367	1,606	1,664	1,562	1,552	1,802	1,730
Immigration offenses	2,200	2,375	2,101	2,650	2,684	2,417	2,464	2,138
Tax law violations ^c	1,407	1,224	1,110	1,026	1,227	1,253	1,459	1,374
Bribery	170	150	156	183	189	203	200	182
Perjury	70	72	96	100	102	145	132	116
National defense	193	113	132	251	334	340	339	243
Escape	609	683	662	665	644	609	622	670
Racketeering and extortion	418	417	437	523	591	560	591	495
Gambling offenses	129	63	123	100	131	80	204	150
Liquor offenses	60	40	27	27	24	18	14	8
Mail or transport of obscene materials	11	32	20	20	19	42	32	35
Traffic offenses	3,590	3,630	3,661	4,592	5,286	5,551	5,091	5,328
Migratory birds	101	70	59	68	49	34	40	36
Other	127	88	76	84	68	161	193	148

^aTotal includes offenders for whom offense category could not be determined: 1 (1980), 4 (1984), and 3 (1985).

^bExcludes tax fraud.

^cIncludes tax fraud.

Table 10. Defendants in cases terminated in U.S. district court: Percent convicted, 1980-87

Most serious offense charged	Percent of defendants convicted in U.S. district court							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses^a	76.4%	78.4%	80.0%	81.1%	80.5%	79.9%	81.1%	81.5%
Violent offenses	79.1%	79.8%	80.7%	83.2%	83.0%	82.9%	82.4%	83.4%
Murder	71.0	73.5	70.6	78.0	71.0	75.8	76.9	78.8
Negligent manslaughter	-	-	-	-	75.0	81.5	73.3	-
Assault	66.7	69.3	69.2	74.2	71.7	72.1	72.0	70.7
Robbery	86.9	86.1	87.2	89.6	90.5	89.8	89.3	91.2
Rape	64.4	69.6	67.9	70.6	73.2	70.6	78.7	77.6
Other sex offenses	72.3	75.8	82.9	67.3	87.9	87.9	84.4	85.3
Kidnaping	77.1	72.7	77.0	76.9	75.8	82.3	74.2	79.7
Threats against the President	51.0	50.0	60.0	64.5	55.2	56.6	54.5	65.2
Property offenses	80.9%	81.2%	83.9%	83.7%	83.0%	82.2%	84.5%	84.3%
Fraudulent offenses	82.3%	82.7%	85.7%	84.6%	83.5%	84.5%	86.4%	85.9%
Embezzlement	86.7	87.6	91.1	91.5	89.6	88.6	89.6	89.7
Fraud ^b	78.9	80.1	82.7	81.5	80.1	82.1	84.6	84.0
Forgery	84.6	83.5	87.1	86.4	86.6	86.3	88.0	89.0
Counterfeiting	83.8	84.2	86.9	83.8	88.1	87.4	88.2	86.7
Other offenses	78.4%	78.2%	79.9%	81.8%	82.0%	77.7%	79.7%	80.3%
Burglary	73.2	74.7	80.8	80.7	69.4	75.9	71.3	78.3
Larceny	80.0	78.9	81.0	82.3	83.6	78.4	79.8	80.4
Motor vehicle theft	72.6	78.1	78.9	84.9	82.7	79.3	87.0	83.9
Arson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73.5
Transportation of stolen property	79.7	80.9	82.1	83.0	85.7	84.8	84.0	87.2
Other	73.3	67.8	61.9	63.6	63.8	57.7	61.1	64.3
Drug offenses	73.5%	75.9%	79.5%	80.6%	80.7%	81.6%	83.6%	84.5%
Possession	63.2	76.9	76.5	78.1	78.2	71.6	70.5	80.3
Trafficking, including importing and manufacturing	74.3	75.7	80.2	81.0	81.2	83.3	85.4	85.2
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public order offenses	73.4%	77.0%	76.3%	78.5%	77.8%	76.2%	76.0%	75.8%
Regulatory offenses	73.8%	75.2%	77.0%	78.4%	78.3%	77.7%	75.6%	74.4%
Agriculture	82.2	79.9	80.2	77.4	77.4	81.4	70.2	70.5
Antitrust	75.8	78.1	80.8	86.1	83.6	82.7	62.4	75.6
Fair labor standards	77.8	46.4	82.1	86.4	89.3	92.5	88.9	95.9
Food and drug	70.5	69.9	81.5	80.2	76.8	79.4	84.0	78.2
Motor carrier	92.2	93.2	88.9	85.9	93.5	96.9	97.4	89.6
Other regulatory offenses	70.7	72.3	74.6	76.8	76.6	74.6	75.5	73.5
Other offenses	73.4%	77.3%	76.2%	78.5%	77.7%	76.0%	76.1%	76.0%
Weapons	73.5	80.1	80.8	81.9	84.0	81.3	82.8	83.4
Immigration offenses	74.5	86.9	86.0	88.6	89.3	89.0	88.1	87.6
Tax law violations ^c	85.4	86.8	87.4	84.1	89.6	91.0	89.4	88.1
Bribery	78.1	77.3	76.5	82.2	80.4	85.2	82.3	79.4
Perjury	57.1	59.0	71.5	68.8	68.5	68.7	69.8	68.3
National defense	66.8	69.7	55.7	66.4	61.0	58.3	71.0	79.1
Escape	68.5	77.5	79.5	81.2	78.7	81.4	77.7	67.8
Racketeering and extortion	65.8	69.6	72.7	76.1	75.3	78.1	81.6	78.9
Gambling offenses	78.0	63.0	72.4	78.8	80.8	80.2	90.3	76.7
Liquor offenses	84.9	88.4	74.2	75.7	90.5	-	-	54.5
Mail or transport of obscene materials	23.3	74.4	90.5	31.3	77.3	76.6	88.5	30.6
Traffic	72.0	71.3	68.5	72.9	70.8	68.4	66.8	70.4
Migratory Birds	67.3	79.5	61.7	72.2	51.5	59.3	75.5	56.9
Other	60.6	51.7	58.5	60.2	56.8	58.8	57.1	52.5
-Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data.		465 (1980), 500 (1981), 406 (1982), 357 (1983), 216 (1984), 128 (1985), 223 (1986), and 121 (1987).					^b Excludes tax fraud.	
^a Total includes suspects for whom offense category could not be determined:							^c Includes tax fraud.	

Table 11. Defendants in cases terminated in U.S. district court: Number whose cases were dismissed, 1980-87

Most serious offense charged	Number of defendants whose cases were dismissed							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses	7,713	7,470	7,164	7,101	7,824	8,767	8,562	8,510
Violent offenses	468	475	446	332	344	367	393	348
Murder	39	35	35	26	27	30	26	18
Negligent manslaughter	2	5	1	1	3	5	5	5
Assault	173	144	149	99	107	140	152	157
Robbery	172	208	175	123	132	117	133	92
Rape	25	26	19	24	29	27	11	24
Other sex offenses	12	14	11	12	3	17	27	31
Kidnaping	20	18	21	25	20	12	17	12
Threats against the President	25	25	35	22	23	19	22	9
Property offenses	2,117	2,196	2,065	2,158	2,268	2,507	2,292	2,337
Fraudulent offenses	1,254	1,299	1,243	1,354	1,491	1,445	1,421	1,506
Embezzlement	215	198	144	151	160	196	200	209
Fraud ^a	686	754	744	839	1,050	885	883	1,037
Forgery	253	234	245	246	222	298	279	180
Counterfeiting	100	113	110	118	59	66	59	80
Other offenses	863	897	822	804	777	1,062	871	831
Burglary	43	39	29	42	49	42	35	28
Larceny	567	612	515	536	504	762	628	624
Motor vehicle theft	151	95	101	62	67	69	53	52
Arson	5	5	3	4	5	4	4	5
Transportation of stolen property	56	69	91	91	62	52	61	42
Other	41	77	83	69	90	133	90	80
Drug offenses	1,581	1,622	1,493	1,524	1,734	1,977	1,945	2,082
Possession	166	245	353	295	306	477	444	377
Trafficking, including importing and manufacturing	1,413	1,377	1,139	1,228	1,427	1,499	1,500	1,704
Other	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Public-order offenses	3,547	3,177	3,160	3,087	3,476	3,888	3,904	3,743
Regulatory offenses	406	556	338	333	332	402	421	398
Agriculture	42	118	43	66	43	72	53	57
Antitrust	11	19	18	6	7	11	28	6
Fair labor standards	2	15	5	1	1	2	2	2
Food and drug	43	39	17	15	19	20	13	10
Motor carrier	6	7	8	11	6	3	2	5
Other regulatory offenses	302	358	247	234	256	294	323	309
Other offenses	3,141	2,621	2,822	2,754	3,144	3,486	3,483	3,345
Weapons offenses	282	271	322	283	251	292	312	272
Immigration offenses	713	317	304	302	275	263	289	260
Tax law violations ^b	154	134	102	124	84	91	118	117
Bribery	27	28	36	28	24	21	18	34
Perjury	41	40	20	24	32	35	40	32
National defense	76	32	57	39	61	56	39	20
Escape	263	180	157	137	158	122	163	292
Racketeering and extortion	147	127	112	103	107	87	88	86
Gambling offenses	31	19	34	30	25	17	15	41
Liquor offenses	11	5	7	5	1	4	3	5
Mail or transport of obscene materials	26	6	2	40	5	11	3	59
Traffic offenses	1,251	1,377	1,588	1,581	2,042	2,369	2,286	2,010
Migratory birds	46	16	34	19	44	21	13	27
Other	73	69	47	39	35	97	96	90

^aExcludes tax fraud. ^bIncludes tax fraud.

Table 12. Defendants in cases terminated in U.S. district court: Percent whose cases were dismissed, 1980-87

Most serious offense charged	Percent of defendants whose cases were dismissed							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses^a	19.7%	18.3%	16.8%	15.5%	16.1%	17.1%	15.8%	15.6%
Violent offenses	16.3%	15.7%	14.3%	12.1%	12.2%	12.8%	13.9%	12.2%
Murder	21.0	17.9	18.7	15.9	14.5	19.1	17.7	11.5
Negligent manslaughter	-	-	-	-	15.0	18.5	16.7	-
Assault	26.6	23.3	23.4	16.9	19.2	21.4	22.4	22.2
Robbery	10.1	11.1	9.1	7.6	7.9	7.5	8.8	6.3
Rape	21.2	22.6	23.5	19.0	19.5	22.7	10.2	16.8
Other sex offenses	25.5	21.2	15.7	23.1	4.5	10.3	13.2	12.3
Kidnaping	18.3	20.5	21.0	21.4	22.0	10.6	19.1	15.2
Threats against the President	49.0	44.6	33.3	35.5	34.3	25.0	40.0	19.6
Property offenses	15.6%	15.9%	13.5%	13.2%	14.2%	15.4%	13.3%	13.6%
Fraudulent offenses	14.4%	14.3%	11.8%	12.2%	13.9%	13.4%	11.5%	12.2%
Embezzlement	11.5	9.7	6.5	6.9	8.1	9.9	8.8	9.4
Fraud ^b	16.4	16.3	14.2	14.2	16.9	15.1	12.7	13.6
Forgery	13.7	14.8	12.0	11.5	11.6	12.6	11.2	10.1
Counterfeiting	12.8	13.9	11.0	13.2	9.1	11.4	9.9	11.0
Other offenses	17.8%	18.7%	17.0%	15.2%	14.9%	19.4%	17.5%	17.3%
Burglary	23.5	21.9	17.4	17.6	26.8	22.0	28.7	20.3
Larceny	16.6	18.1	16.0	14.8	13.7	19.0	17.3	17.1
Motor vehicle theft	23.9	19.3	17.6	12.2	14.1	15.5	11.1	13.8
Arson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.7
Transportation of stolen property	13.2	15.0	14.8	12.9	11.1	10.5	12.5	11.5
Other	21.0	28.8	35.9	35.4	29.6	40.8	36.9	34.0
Drug offenses	22.2%	20.1%	16.6%	15.6%	15.3%	15.2%	13.2%	12.7%
Possession	34.9	21.5	20.0	19.2	17.4	25.7	25.5	17.5
Trafficking, including importing and manufacturing	21.3	19.9	15.8	14.9	14.9	13.5	11.5	11.9
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public order offenses	22.7%	20.0%	20.7%	18.2%	18.9%	20.5%	20.3%	20.6%
Regulatory offenses	19.5%	20.4%	17.2%	16.3%	15.8%	16.8%	19.2%	19.3%
Agriculture	12.9	16.4	17.1	18.9	16.5	16.9	24.3	25.9
Antitrust	6.8	10.7	8.9	3.6	3.6	7.9	23.9	4.6
Fair labor standards	5.6	53.6	17.9	4.5	3.6	5.0	5.6	4.1
Food and drug	28.9	28.7	14.3	16.5	23.2	18.7	13.8	21.8
Motor carrier	7.8	5.9	11.1	11.1	6.5	3.1	2.6	10.4
Other regulatory offenses	22.7	23.2	19.1	17.8	17.8	18.5	19.6	20.2
Other offenses	23.2%	19.9%	21.2%	18.5%	19.3%	21.0%	20.5%	20.8%
Weapons	21.1	15.8	16.0	14.1	13.5	15.5	14.4	13.4
Immigration offenses	24.5	11.9	12.6	10.3	9.5	10.0	10.7	11.5
Tax law violations ^c	9.6	9.7	8.1	10.7	6.5	6.8	7.7	8.0
Bribery	13.4	13.5	16.6	11.9	9.8	8.6	7.6	14.0
Perjury	32.5	32.8	13.9	17.0	21.5	19.2	22.0	19.9
National defense	30.4	26.9	43.5	32.0	35.5	34.4	22.2	15.5
Escape	30.0	20.8	18.7	16.3	19.4	16.9	20.7	31.3
Racketeering and extortion	23.3	22.0	18.7	14.8	13.6	11.5	10.4	12.8
Gambling offenses	17.9	19.0	20.0	19.9	13.7	16.0	6.3	21.2
Liquor offenses	15.1	11.6	22.6	13.5	4.8	18.2	-	-
Mail or transport of obscene materials	60.5	14.0	9.5	62.5	22.7	23.4	11.5	69.4
Traffic	25.1	27.0	30.0	24.9	26.7	28.9	29.5	26.4
Migratory Birds	30.7	18.2	36.2	21.1	45.4	35.6	24.5	41.5
Other	36.9	47.6	38.2	39.8	39.8	37.0	34.9	40.4
-Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data.	5 (1984), 128 (1985), and 100 (1986). Total excludes defendants for whom outcome could not be determined: 42 (1985), 128 (1986), and 171 (1987).					^b Excludes tax fraud.		
^a Total includes defendants for whom offense category could not be determined:						^c Includes tax fraud.		

Table 13. Defendants in matters disposed by U.S. magistrates: Number convicted, 1980-87

Most serious offense investigated	Number of defendants convicted in matters disposed by U.S. magistrates							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses	9,243	7,552	7,065	7,848	7,747	7,304	8,777	6,993
Violent offenses	94	69	71	69	55	50	40	81
Murder	0	1	3	6	2	1	1	4
Assault	73	63	60	58	52	43	31	66
Robbery	20	4	8	2	1	4	7	8
Rape	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Other sex offenses	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
Kidnaping	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Threats against the President	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Property offenses	1,255	1,132	1,151	974	1,024	718	887	1,119
Fraudulent offenses	542	392	490	413	322	330	606	987
Embezzlement	185	177	245	165	163	96	149	149
Fraud ^a	237	129	166	147	83	111	345	759
Forgery	115	85	77	99	74	120	108	79
Counterfeiting	5	1	2	2	2	3	4	0
Other offenses	713	740	661	561	702	388	281	132
Burglary	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Larceny	113	107	71	63	43	42	35	60
Motor vehicle theft	1	1	8	1	1	0	1	1
Arson	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Transportation of stolen property	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Other	598	632	581	496	657	345	244	71
Drug offenses	111	129	191	112	140	132	91	525
Public-order offenses	7,487	6,033	5,392	6,494	6,434	6,333	7,613	5,209
Regulatory offenses	465	400	384	248	322	231	291	197
Agriculture	99	159	132	30	134	89	108	11
Antitrust	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fair labor standards	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	0
Food and drug	6	11	2	7	0	0	0	3
Motor carrier	10	14	11	6	4	1	0	0
Other regulatory offenses	349	215	238	205	184	139	182	182
Other offenses	7,022	5,633	5,008	6,246	6,112	6,102	7,322	5,012
Weapons offenses	9	6	9	6	3	6	8	6
Immigration offenses	4,573	3,504	2,992	4,070	4,205	4,119	5,714	4,186
Tax law violations ^b	27	23	29	20	14	13	25	16
Bribery	3	2	2	0	1	0	2	0
Perjury	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3
National defense	102	134	78	130	79	78	76	73
Escape	15	16	16	13	8	10	15	11
Racketeering and extortion	3	0	4	5	4	1	0	1
Gambling offenses	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Liquor offenses	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	2
Mail or transport of obscene materials	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Migratory birds	562	622	740	735	828	688	381	119
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	1,707	1,276	1,098	1,235	943	1,144	1,055	552
Other	20	49	39	32	27	40	40	43

^aExcludes tax fraud. ^bIncludes tax fraud.

Table 14. Defendants in matters disposed by U.S. magistrates: Percent convicted, 1980-87

Most serious offense investigated	Magistrate dispositions resulting in conviction							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses^a	59.2%	57.9%	55.5%	62.8%	64.4%	65.8%	69.4%	65.1%
Violent offenses	26.6%	21.4%	18.3%	25.1%	25.6%	27.8%	19.9%	30.6%
Murder	-	-	-	-	66.7	-	-	-
Assault	41.0	40.9	34.5	42.0	46.0	46.2	35.2	44.9
Robbery	14.5	3.6	5.6	2.6	1.4	10.5	10.3	11.4
Rape	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other sex offenses	-	-	0	-	-	-
Kidnaping	-	-	0	0	0	0	-	-
Threats against the President	-	0	0	4.0	0	8.7	-	-
Property offenses	46.8%	49.4%	45.9%	51.0%	55.2%	46.4%	55.0%	57.4%
Fraudulent offenses	36.4%	33.8%	33.7%	37.1%	38.0%	35.7%	56.0%	62.1%
Embezzlement	41.4	43.0	46.4	38.6	47.2	36.0	55.2	54.6
Fraud ^b	36.3	28.5	29.6	39.0	29.9	26.1	58.0	69.1
Forgery	30.1	29.0	21.7	32.5	33.5	52.4	50.7	36.2
Counterfeiting	-	-	-	-	66.7	-	-	...
Other offenses	59.9%	65.3%	62.8%	70.2%	69.7%	44.9%	53.0%	36.9%
Burglary	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	...
Larceny	33.1	38.2	23.3	30.9	25.9	31.1	25.0	32.1
Motor vehicle theft	2.9	3.3	17.4	4.0	8.3	-	-	3.7
Arson	-	-	-	...	0	-	...	-
Transportation of stolen property	-	-	-	-	25.0	-	-	-
Other	75.0	78.2	84.4	87.6	79.8	74.2	67.2	51.4
Drug offenses	15.5%	20.3%	25.1%	25.4%	28.4%	24.6%	14.4%	42.1%
Public-order offenses	65.8%	63.6%	62.1%	68.3%	69.6%	72.8%	76.3%	72.7%
Regulatory offenses	33.1%	38.8%	42.2%	32.3%	44.4%	40.8%	49.8%	47.6%
Agriculture	78.6	76.8	88.0	62.5	85.4	83.2	79.4	-
Antitrust	...	-	0	-	...	-
Fair labor standards	-	-	-	...	0	-	-	...
Food and drug	10.3	32.4	5.3	18.9	0	0	0	7.5
Motor carrier	-	-	-	-	57.1	-	...	-
Other regulatory offenses	29.0	27.9	33.7	30.3	35.6	34.2	45.7	50.8
Other offenses	70.3%	66.6%	64.5%	71.5%	71.8%	75.0%	77.9%	74.2%
Weapons offenses	7.7	7.1	8.3	7.7	5.2	8.1	12.7	7.1
Immigration offenses	89.1	87.9	90.2	93.3	92.8	93.8	94.3	95.7
Tax law violations ^c	30.0	34.3	37.2	45.5	35.9	52.0	62.5	59.3
Bribery	-	-	-	-	6.3	-	-	-
Perjury	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
National defense	65.4	79.3	53.4	69.5	66.4	66.1	76.0	75.3
Escape	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.1	.7	-	1.3	1.1
Racketeering and extortion	5.8	0	8.0	8.5	10.3	1.9	0	4.0
Gambling offenses	...	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
Liquor offenses	-	-	-	...	0	-	-	-
Mail or transport of obscene materials	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
Migratory birds	82.0	90.3	81.1	89.5	88.3	87.8	90.5	78.3
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	73.6	69.4	64.4	64.4	60.5	73.5	71.6	64.7
Other	43.5	49.0	60.0	66.7	50.0	62.5	56.3	58.9
-Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data.		406 (1982), 357 (1983), 216 (1984), 128 (1985), 223 (1986), and 121 (1987).						
...No cases of this type occurred in the data.		^b Excludes tax fraud.						
^a Total includes defendants for whom offense category could not be determined: 465 (1980),		^c Includes tax fraud.						

Table 15. Offenders convicted in cases terminated in U.S. district court: Number sentenced to prison, 1980-87

Most serious offense of conviction	Number of convicted offenders who were sentenced to incarceration ^a							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses	13,766	15,360	17,481	18,505	19,125	20,605	23,058	23,579
Violent offenses	1,770	1,961	2,027	1,822	1,840	1,807	1,813	1,837
Murder	100	103	100	94	93	92	87	105
Negligent manslaughter	8	9	8	10	16	18	25	16
Assault	265	259	275	304	246	254	296	292
Robbery	1,252	1,442	1,453	1,231	1,309	1,210	1,186	1,164
Rape	29	44	44	57	63	60	65	83
Other sex offenses	31	30	37	23	43	85	88	113
Kidnaping	70	52	64	73	46	61	45	45
Threats against the President	15	22	46	30	24	27	21	19
Property offenses	4,630	4,874	5,834	5,864	5,414	5,612	6,291	6,234
Fraudulent offenses	2,825	3,161	3,873	3,736	3,396	3,696	4,416	4,610
Embezzlement	460	533	592	563	489	484	533	551
Fraud ^b	1,384	1,651	1,976	1,921	1,853	2,120	2,732	3,097
Forgery	610	597	806	839	722	803	872	606
Counterfeiting	371	380	499	413	332	289	279	356
Other offenses	1,805	1,713	1,961	2,128	2,018	1,916	1,875	1,624
Burglary	77	96	96	160	107	94	69	78
Larceny	1,180	1,089	1,223	1,299	1,304	1,252	1,196	1,125
Motor vehicle theft	321	283	338	310	277	263	325	220
Arson	6	5	0	6	9	5	8	19
Transportation of stolen property	178	207	268	313	264	250	229	148
Other	43	33	36	40	57	52	48	34
Drug offenses	3,675	4,353	5,138	5,565	6,487	7,774	9,272	10,196
Possession	114	453	718	542	741	762	677	609
Trafficking, including importing and manufacturing	3,560	3,899	4,417	5,022	5,743	7,012	8,588	9,584
Other	1	1	3	1	3	0	7	3
Public-order offenses	1,062	1,479	1,516	1,620	1,567	1,664	1,862	1,789
Regulatory offenses	484	623	516	581	596	661	688	601
Agriculture	54	149	31	75	25	51	24	16
Antitrust	32	40	54	30	34	6	7	11
Fair labor standards	11	3	4	9	3	4	2	3
Food and drug	5	9	4	5	6	10	13	19
Motor carrier	2	10	7	4	17	34	18	15
Other regulatory offenses	380	412	416	458	511	556	624	537
Other offenses	578	856	1,000	1,039	971	1,003	1,174	1,188
Weapons offenses	1,017	1,063	1,117	1,423	1,493	1,412	1,443	1,355
Immigration offenses	487	472	508	493	582	603	637	640
Tax law violations ^c	62	46	74	83	74	90	107	83
Bribery	48	47	67	66	64	99	74	80
Perjury	49	37	31	36	39	60	61	55
National defense	533	584	577	565	555	499	532	582
Escape	315	330	316	383	444	441	462	372
Racketeering and extortion	39	19	50	53	45	38	86	39
Gambling offenses	33	15	9	10	8	3	5	3
Liquor offenses								
Mail or transport of obscene materials	3	10	10	5	11	17	6	12
Traffic offenses	32	55	185	498	486	464	385	282
Migratory birds	1	4	0	5	3	2	1	1
Other	9	11	22	14	10	18	21	19

^aIncludes sentences to prison with or without probation. ^bExcludes tax fraud. ^cIncludes tax fraud.

Table 16. Offenders convicted in cases terminated in U.S. district court: Percent sentenced to prison, 1980-87

Most serious offense of conviction	Percent of convicted offenders sentenced to prison ^a							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses^b	46.0%	48.0%	51.1%	49.8%	49.0%	50.3%	52.5%	53.0%
Violent offenses	82.9%	86.6%	86.1%	86.4%	83.3%	81.2%	82.7%	82.0%
Murder	90.1	88.8	90.9	87.9	92.1	91.1	93.5	96.3
Negligent manslaughter	-	-	-	-	69.6	54.5	86.2	76.2
Assault	58.9	61.4	63.2	67.4	59.3	55.5	60.5	58.5
Robbery	91.3	94.7	92.9	93.4	90.9	92.5	94.3	94.4
Rape	59.2	83.0	91.7	85.1	70.0	80.0	81.3	87.4
Other sex offenses	72.1	61.2	62.7	74.2	74.1	60.7	52.7	53.1
Kidnaping	95.9	92.9	97.0	91.3	90.2	85.9	93.8	97.8
Threats against the President	57.7	75.9	74.2	73.2	75.0	67.5	75.0	75.0
Property offenses	42.9%	44.0%	45.6%	43.4%	41.5%	42.3%	43.2%	43.4%
Fraudulent offenses	42.0%	43.5%	44.1%	41.1%	38.9%	41.3%	42.0%	44.1%
Embezzlement	28.7	29.6	30.0	29.8	28.0	28.3	26.8	28.7
Fraud ^c	41.9	44.4	43.8	39.1	37.0	42.5	44.5	47.0
Forgery	51.7	55.9	54.8	53.5	51.0	45.3	45.8	45.0
Counterfeiting	57.9	56.8	59.7	57.1	60.1	59.7	57.1	60.4
Other offenses	44.6%	44.9%	49.2%	48.1%	46.7%	44.4%	46.6%	41.6%
Burglary	59.7	64.4	64.4	79.2	78.1	69.1	74.2	75.7
Larceny	39.0	39.8	43.7	41.0	40.9	38.4	39.6	36.8
Motor vehicle theft	70.1	69.2	70.3	71.3	69.9	72.9	76.5	68.1
Arson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	90.5
Transportation of stolen property	68.5	69.0	67.5	63.4	67.9	72.0	70.7	60.2
Other	26.2	15.9	22.8	33.3	29.2	26.0	31.8	21.8
Drug offenses	71.6%	72.8%	73.6%	72.7%	72.9%	75.6%	77.3%	75.9%
Possession	22.9	41.8	44.9	33.9	41.0	43.1	41.4	27.8
Trafficking, including importing and manufacturing	76.8	79.7	82.1	82.9	81.0	82.3	83.1	85.4
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public-order offenses	31.0%	32.9%	37.1%	37.8%	36.1%	35.8%	37.4%	36.6%
Regulatory offenses	26.5%	26.4%	28.5%	29.9%	29.8%	30.5%	34.2%	32.5%
Agriculture	17.5	24.2	15.3	26.4	10.7	13.8	13.8	9.6
Antitrust	25.6	28.6	33.1	19.2	19.9	5.1	9.5	10.0
Fair labor standards	36.7	-	15.4	30.0	11.1	10.5	4.8	5.0
Food and drug	4.8	9.5	4.0	6.7	9.0	11.6	15.3	26.4
Motor carrier	2.7	8.3	10.9	4.5	18.5	32.7	22.0	28.8
Other regulatory offenses	32.0	29.9	33.0	34.9	36.2	38.3	40.2	38.7
Other offenses	31.9%	34.4%	38.6%	39.1%	37.1%	36.6%	37.9%	37.2%
Weapons offenses	59.0	62.6	62.3	62.4	62.2	64.6	65.1	68.7
Immigration offenses	46.2	44.8	53.2	53.7	55.6	58.4	58.6	63.4
Tax law violations ^d	34.6	38.6	45.8	48.1	47.4	48.1	43.7	46.6
Bribery	36.5	30.7	47.4	45.4	39.2	44.3	53.5	45.6
Perjury	68.6	65.3	69.8	66.0	62.7	68.3	56.1	69.0
National defense	25.4	32.7	23.5	14.3	11.7	17.6	13.0	22.6
Escape	87.5	85.5	87.2	85.0	86.2	81.9	85.5	86.9
Racketeering and extortion	75.4	79.1	72.3	73.2	75.1	78.8	78.2	75.2
Gambling offenses	30.2	30.2	40.7	53.0	34.4	47.5	42.2	26.0
Liquor offenses	55.0	37.5	33.3	37.0	33.3	-	-	-
Mail or transport of obscene materials	-	31.3	50.0	25.0	-	40.5	13.8	34.3
Traffic offenses	.9	1.5	5.1	10.8	9.2	8.4	7.6	5.3
Migratory birds	1.0	5.7	0	7.4	6.1	5.9	2.5	2.8
Other	7.1	12.5	28.9	16.7	14.7	11.2	10.9	12.8
^a -Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data. ^b Includes sentences to prison with or without probation. ^c Total includes offenders for whom sentence category could not be determined: 627 (1980), 303 (1981), 254 (1982), 344 (1983), 253 (1984), 301 (1985), 241 (1986), and 212 (1987). Total includes offenders for whom offense category could not be determined: 1 (1980), 4 (1984), and 3 (1985). ^d Excludes tax fraud. ^e Includes tax fraud.								

Table 17. Offenders convicted in cases terminated in U.S. district court: Mean length of prison sentences, 1980-87

Most serious offense: of conviction	Average sentence length for convicted offenders sentenced to prison							
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
All offenses^a	44.3 mos.	47.1 mos.	47.8 mos.	46.4 mos.	47.3 mos.	50.7 mos.	52.7 mos.	55.2 mos.
Violent offenses	125.4 mos.	132.0 mos.	133.3 mos.	127.5 mos.	132.2 mos.	135.4 mos.	132.0 mos.	126.2 mos.
Murder	123.4	138.1	161.9	150.5	199.8	212.0	196.3	154.6
Negligent manslaughter	-	-	-	-	-	-	40.2	-
Assault	40.7	42.7	43.1	35.8	45.5	45.6	44.6	48.4
Robbery	141.5	150.4	153.1	147.9	149.1	151.1	153.2	148.1
Rape	85.7	124.7	113.2	113.2	141.9	123.3	143.8	114.4
Other sex offenses	39.7	45.1	73.5	71.8	75.6	81.0	68.2	59.5
Kidnaping	262.6	174.6	147.1	228.4	146.2	254.5	242.9	293.9
Threats against the President	39.4	35.0	42.4	44.7	39.0	48.2	26.2	45.0
Property offenses	29.4 mos.	29.8 mos.	31.1 mos.	32.3 mos.	31.2 mos.	33.0 mos.	34.3 mos.	32.5 mos.
Fraudulent offenses	27.1 mos.	26.4 mos.	28.3 mos.	28.4 mos.	28.3 mos.	31.1 mos.	32.8 mos.	31.1 mos.
Embezzlement	20.1	16.7	20.2	17.4	19.7	22.9	21.9	22.1
Fraud	24.9	26.7	27.9	26.6	26.4	30.0	33.8	32.1
Forgery	32.5	30.1	33.0	36.4	33.4	36.5	32.8	30.6
Counterfeiting	35.0	33.0	31.6	35.9	40.8	38.2	43.3	37.2
Other offenses	32.9 mos.	36.0 mos.	36.5 mos.	39.2 mos.	36.2 mos.	36.6 mos.	37.9 mos.	36.5 mos.
Burglary	46.0	51.5	74.5	92.9	79.5	67.0	41.9	59.0
Larceny	29.2	29.3	32.0	31.6	29.1	31.7	33.6	33.8
Motor vehicle theft	38.1	53.0	42.3	41.5	47.0	42.8	42.4	44.3
Arson	-	-	...	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation of stolen property	47.7	44.7	40.0	44.7	44.8	48.0	56.0	37.3
Other	9.3	10.8	10.7	13.5	21.3	15.5	24.1	11.7
Drug offenses	47.1 mos.	50.0 mos.	54.6 mos.	52.2 mos.	55.7 mos.	58.2 mos.	62.2 mos.	67.8 mos.
Possession	14.7	28.0	26.2	25.1	26.6	34.5	41.4	48.1
Trafficking, including importing and manufacturing	48.1	52.6	59.3	58.5	59.5	60.8	63.9	69.1
Other	-	-	-	-	-	...	-	-
Public-order offenses	24.5 mos.	27.1 mos.	25.6 mos.	26.4 mos.	27.8 mos.	32.7 mos.	36.9 mos.	35.5 mos.
Regulatory offenses	25.3 mos.	27.6 mos.	25.7 mos.	27.6 mos.	31.5 mos.	37.7 mos.	47.2 mos.	42.1 mos.
Agriculture	12.4	11.4	12.0	12.1	5.6	16.3	6.2	11.7
Antitrust	3.2	5.6	6.9	3.7	4.5	5.3	10.7	3.6
Fair labor standards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food and drug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor carrier	-	-	-	-	-	10.2	-	-
Other regulatory offenses	28.3	36.1	29.5	31.1	35.8	42.4	50.9	45.8
Other offenses	23.8 mos.	26.7 mos.	25.6 mos.	25.8 mos.	25.6 mos.	29.4 mos.	30.8 mos.	32.2 mos.
Weapons offenses	37.6	34.2	34.3	36.4	34.0	41.5	45.4	53.3
Immigration offenses	13.0	13.7	16.4	17.6	14.8	14.4	15.1	15.2
Tax law violations ^c	13.1	12.1	15.1	17.9	18.3	22.4	20.6	21.1
Bribery	14.3	32.7	26.7	19.1	16.5	25.8	41.9	29.9
Perjury	24.9	19.0	22.5	32.3	31.6	44.8	20.2	31.8
National defense	19.6	252.7	19.0	9.3	14.6	63.0	42.9	26.3
Escape	20.8	18.7	21.6	25.0	22.8	26.2	23.3	22.7
Racketeering and extortion	62.6	66.2	70.7	74.8	85.3	84.8	89.6	84.4
Gambling offenses	12.7	12.0	25.1	12.5	14.8	17.5	18.5	20.3
Liquor offenses	16.2	12.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mail or transport of obscene materials	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Traffic offenses	2.6	3.2	2.5	2.2	2.2	3.3	3.4	4.6
Migratory birds	-	-	...	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	14.8	-	-	-	2.8	-
<p>-Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data.</p> <p>...No cases of this type occurred in the data.</p> <p>^aTotal includes offenders for whom offense category could not be determined: 1 (1984) and 1 (1985).</p> <p>^bExcludes tax fraud.</p> <p>^cIncludes tax fraud.</p>								

Methodology

The data in this report come from the BJS Federal Justice Statistics database. The database is constructed from source files provided by the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AO), the Pretrial Services Agency, the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, and the U.S. Parole Commission. Federal law prohibits the use of the BJS database for any purpose other than research or statistics.

Data describing the number and rate of prosecutions and the results of magistrate proceedings include only those cases handled by U.S. attorneys. Data describing convictions in district court, sentencing patterns, pretrial release, and sentence length include all cases, regardless of the prosecuting authority.

In each table, data describe the calendar year indicated.

The offense classifications in the tables are based on the classification system used by the AO. Specific offenses in the AO classification are combined to form the BJS categories in the tables. These categories are designed to be as consistent as possible with BJS publications on State criminal justice systems.

Where more than one offense is charged or adjudicated, the most serious offense, the one that may result in the most severe sentence, is used in the classification. The offense description may change as a case goes through the criminal justice process. Tables indicate whether charged or adjudicated offenses are used.

The glossary defines all offense categories used, citing the U.S. Code. "Racketeering and extortion" offenses include primarily prosecutions under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act. "Murder" includes nonnegligent homicide but excludes negligent homicide. "Other sex offenses" for the most part refer to violent offenses but may also include some nonviolent offenses. "Other property offenses" include destruction of property and trespassing.

Explanatory notes

Exact definitions of all offense categories are provided in the glossary. The category "other sex offenses" may include some non-violent offenses. Larceny excludes transportation of stolen property. Racketeering and extortion refers primarily to prosecutions under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act.

Tables 1-7, 13 and 14. These tables describe the disposition of matters handled by U.S. attorneys. Data describing prosecutions by other agencies, including the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, were not available for this report. Data in all the remaining tables describe the processing of defendants in all court cases, regardless of the prosecuting agency.

Tables 8 and 10-14. These tables tabulate defendants according to the most serious offense charged.

Tables 9 and 15-17. These tables tabulate convicted offenders according to the most serious offense of conviction. Other BJS Federal Justice Statistics Program publications may present conviction data according to the most serious offense charged at the time of case filing.

Tables 15 and 16. These tables include all sentences to incarceration longer than 4 days regardless of whether the term was concurrent or consecutive with a period of probation, a fine, or other condition.

Table 17. Average lengths of prison sentences are tabulated for all adult offenders receiving a sentence with a maximum term, excluding only offenders receiving an indeterminate sentence such as a life sentence or a death sentence. The average is the mean value of the maximum terms to be served, considering all consecutive and concurrent sentences.

These figures differ from statistics published by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts for the average "regular" sentence imposed. "Regular" sentences exclude two categories of offenders included in the BJS calculations: offenders receiving a "split" sentence (5 days through 6 months followed by probation) and offenders sentenced under 18 USC 4205(b)(1) and (b)(2) (where a maximum term is set accompanied by no or a small minimum).

Glossary

This glossary defines each of the terms used in the tables. The definitions specifically describe the criteria used in establishing table classifications.

Definitions of offense categories describe all offenses included in each category. Statutory sections are cited in parentheses at the end of each definition.

Agriculture violation—violation of the Federal statutes on agriculture and conservation, for example, violations of the Agricultural Acts, Federal Seed Act, Game Conservation Acts, Insecticide Act, and the Packers and Stockyards Act; also violation of laws concerning plant quarantine and the handling of animals pertaining to research (title 7 U.S.C. except sections on food stamps).

Antitrust—violation of Federal antitrust statutes (15 U.S.C. 1, 2, 3, 8, 13(A)-(F), 20, 24, 701, and 72).

Arson—willfully or maliciously setting, or attempting to set, fire to any property within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States as defined in 18 U.S.C. 7 (18 U.S.C. 81).

Assault—intentionally inflicting or attempting or threatening to inflict bodily injury to anyone within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States as defined in 18 U.S.C. 7 or to any Government official, foreign official, official guest, internationally protected person, or any officer or employee of the United States designated in section 1114 of title 18; also certain violations of the Fair Housing Law (18 U.S.C. 111, 112(A)-(C), 113(A)-(F), 114, 351(C)-(E), 372, 1501-2, 1751(E), 1991, 2231(A)(B), and 2233; 21 U.S.C. 461(C), 675(A)(B), and 1041(C); 26 U.S.C. 7212(A)(B); 42 U.S.C. 3610(A), 3611(F), and 3631; 46 U.S.C. 701(6); and 49 U.S.C. 1472(k1) and 1475(J)(k1)).

Bail—the sum of money promised as a condition of release, to be paid if a released defendant defaults (18 U.S.C. 3142(c)).

Bribery—offering or promising anything of value with intent to unlawfully influence a public official, bank employee, officer or employee of the U.S. Government, witness, or any common carrier as well as soliciting or accepting such an offer. Soliciting or receiving anything of value in consideration of aiding a person to obtain employment in the U.S. Government. Receiving or soliciting any remuneration, directly or indirectly, in cash or any kind in return for purchasing, ordering, leasing, or recommending to purchase any good, service, facility, or item for which payment may be made through Medical Assistance Programs. Bribing in sporting contests is also illegal (18 U.S.C. 201(A)-(I), 203-5, 207(B)(C), 208-15, and 224; 21 U.S.C. 622; 26 U.S.C. 7214(A); 42 U.S.C. 1396H(B); 46 U.S.C. 239(I); and 49 U.S.C. 10(4), 917(B), and 1472(D)).

Burglary—breaking and entering into another's property with intent to steal within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 7; also including breaking and entering into any official bank, credit union, savings and loan institution, post office, vessel or steamboat assigned to the use of mail service, or personal property of the United States or breaking the seal or lock of any carrier facility containing inter-State or foreign shipments of freight or express (18 U.S.C. 2111, 2113(A), and 2115-17).

Collateral Bond—an agreement made by a defendant as a condition of his or her pretrial release that requires the defendant to post property valued at the full bail amount as an assurance of his or her intention to appear at trial.

Conspiracy—an agreement by two or more persons to commit or to effect the commission of an unlawful act or to use unlawful means to accomplish an act that is not in itself unlawful; also any overt act in furtherance of the agreement. A person charged with conspiracy is classified under the substantive offense alleged.

Counterfeiting—falsely making, forging, or altering any obligation or security of the United States, foreign obligation or security, coin or bar stamped at any mint in the United States, money order issued by the Postal Service, domestic or foreign stamp, or seal of any department or agency of the United States. Passing, selling, attempting to pass or sell, or bringing into the United States any of the above falsely made articles. Making, selling, or possessing any plates or stones used for printing counterfeit obligations or securities of the United States, foreign obligations or securities, Government transportation requests, or postal stamps (18 U.S.C. 331, 471-74, 476-81, 485-88, 490, 492, 500-502, 506-7, and 509; 21 U.S.C. 458(C4) and 611(B4); 26 U.S.C. 5604(A4) and 7241; and 46 U.S.C. 410).

Declination—the decision by a prosecutor not to file a case.

Deposit bond—an agreement made by a defendant as a condition of his or her release that requires the defendant to post a fraction of the bail before he or she is released.

Detention—the legally authorized confinement of persons after arrest, whether before or during prosecution. Only those persons held 2 or more days are classified as detained in this compendium.

Dismissal—termination of a case before trial or other final judgment (including nolle prosequi and deferred prosecution).

Disposition—the decision made on a case brought before the Federal criminal courts.

Distribution—delivery (other than by administering or dispensing) of a controlled substance (21 U.S.C. 802).

District of Columbia—the jurisdiction of the U.S. district court for the District of Columbia. This compendium includes Federal offenses prosecuted in U.S. district courts and excludes violations of the District of Columbia code and cases prosecuted in the District of Columbia superior court.

Drug offenses—possessing or trafficking in (distributing, importing, and manufacturing) controlled substances. Also furnishing of fraudulent or false information concerning prescriptions as well as any other unspecified drug-related offense. (See specific offenses in this glossary for citations.)

Embezzlement—fraudulently misapplying property by a person to whom such property has been entrusted or into whose hands it has lawfully come where offense is committed by bank officers or employees; officers or employees of the Postal Service; officers of lending, credit, or insurance institutions; any officer or employee of a corporation or association engaged in commerce as a common carrier; court officers of the U.S. courts; or officers or employees of the United States. Embezzling, stealing, or knowingly converting to one's own use or the use of another or without authority selling, conveying, or disposing of any money, property, records, or thing of value to the United States or any department thereof (12 U.S.C. 630; 15 U.S.C. 645(B)(C); 18 U.S.C. 332, 334, 641-57, 660, 664, 665(A)(B), 1025, 1163, 1709-11 and 1721; 22 U.S.C. 1179; 29 U.S.C. 501(C) and 502(B); 38 U.S.C. 3501; and 42 U.S.C. 2703A, 2971F(A)(B), 3220(B), and 3791).

Escape—departing or attempting to depart from the custody of a correctional institution; a judicial, correctional, or law enforcement officer; or a hospital where one is committed for drug abuse and drug dependency problems. Knowingly advising, aiding, assisting, or procuring the escape or attempted escape of any person from a correctional facility, an officer, or the above-mentioned hospital as well as concealing an escapee. Forcibly rescuing any person in an attempt to prevent execution or forcibly removing or attempting to remove the dead body of an executed offender in order to prevent an autopsy. Aiding or enticing any person belonging to the Armed Forces of a belligerent nation or fraction, who is interned in the United States in accordance with the law of nations, to escape or attempt to escape. Providing or attempting to provide to an inmate in prison a prohibited object or making, possessing, obtaining, or attempting to make or obtain a prohibited object (as defined in section 1791C of title 18). Instigating, assisting, attempting to cause, or causing any mutiny or riot at any Federal penal, detention, or correctional facility or conveying into any of these institutions any dangerous instrumentalities (18 U.S.C. 751, 752(A)(B), 753-57, 1071-74, 1791-92, 3150, and 4082(D); 42 U.S.C. 261(B)(C) and 3425-26; and 50 U.S.C. 822-23).

Failure to appear—willful absence from any court appointment.

Felony—a criminal offense punishable by death or imprisonment for a term exceeding 1 year (18 U.S.C. 1).

Filing—The initiation of a criminal case in U.S. district court by formal submission to the court of a charging document alleging that one or more named persons have committed one or more specified offenses. In this compendium, each defendant in a case is counted separately, and only the most serious alleged offense is considered.

Financial conditions—monetary conditions upon which release of a defendant before trial is contingent. Includes deposit bond, surety bond, and collateral bond (see individual definitions).

Food and drug violations—violations of the Federal Food and Drug Act (21 U.S.C. 16-17, 20-23, 62-63, 104, 111, 115, 117, 120, 122, 124, 126, 134(A)-(E), 141-45, 151-55, 157, 158, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209-12, 331(A)-(G), 331(I2)(I3), 331(J)-(P), 333(A)(B), 458(A1)-(A5), 459, 460(A)-(D), 461(A), 463, 466(A), 610(A)(B)(B2)(C), 611(A)(B3), 620(D), 642, 676(A), 1037, 1041(A), 1175, and 1175F; and 26 U.S.C. 4591, 4594(A)-(C), 4597(A), 4804(A2)(A4)(B), 4805(B), 4814(A1), 4815(A)(B), 4817, 4833(A2)(B)(C), 4834(A), 4841, 4862(B), 7234(A)-(C)(D1)(D2A)(D2B)(D3)(D4), 7235(A)-(E), 7236, 7264, 7265(A)(B), and 7266(A1)-(A3)(B)).

Forgery—falsely and with intent to defraud, making, counterfeiting, altering, or possessing with intent to pass off as genuine any U.S. Postal Service money order; postmarking stamp or impression; obligation or security of the United States; foreign obligation, security, or bank note; contractors' bond, bid, or public record; seal of a court or any department or agency of the U.S. Government; the signature of a judge or court officer; ships' papers; documents on entry of vessels; deed; power of attorney; customs matters; bond of distilleries; military or naval discharge certificate; coin or bar; and so forth. Also making, possessing, selling, or printing plates or stones for counterfeiting obligations or securities and receiving, possessing, concealing, selling, or disposing of any falsely made securities, tax stamps, or pledges that have crossed a State or the U.S. boundary after being stolen or unlawfully converted (18 U.S.C. 471-74, 478-79, 482-85, 493-98, 500, 503, 505-8, 1025, 2314-15, and 2318; 19 U.S.C. 1439; 21 U.S.C. 458(B)(C1)(C2), and 611(B1); 26 U.S.C. 5601(A4)(A5); 43 U.S.C. 1191-92; and 49 U.S.C. 1472(B)).

Fraud—unlawfully depriving a person of his or her property or legal rights through intentional misrepresentation of fact or deceit other than forgery or counterfeiting. Includes violations of statutes pertaining to lending and credit institutions, the Postal Service, inter-State wire, radio, television, veterans benefits, allotments, bankruptcy, marketing agreements, commodity credit, the Securities and Exchange Commission, railroad retirement, unemployment, Social Security, false personation, citizenship, passports, conspiracy, and claims and statements, excluding tax fraud. The category excludes fraud involving tax violations that are shown in a separate category under "Public-order, other offenses." (See specific offenses in this glossary for citations.)

Fraudulent property offenses—see "Property offenses, fraudulent."

Gambling—transporting, manufacturing, selling, possessing, or using any gambling device in the District of Columbia or any possession of the United States or within Indian country or the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States as defined in section 7 of title 18. Also transporting gambling devices in the jurisdiction of the United States, except under authority of the Federal Trade Commission or any State that has a law providing for their exemption from these provisions, transmitting wagering information in inter-State or foreign commerce, inter-State transporting of wagering paraphernalia, importing or transporting lottery tickets, or mailing lottery tickets or related matter. An employee of the Postal Service acting as a lottery agent is considered guilty of this offense (15 U.S.C. 1172-76; and 18 U.S.C. 1082(A)(B), 1084, 1301-3, 1953, and 1955).

Guilty plea—a plea in response to formal charges admitting that the defendant committed offenses as charged. This category also includes plea of nolo contendere.

Hispanic—ethnic category based on classification by reporting agency. Hispanic persons may be of any race.

Homicide—see murder

Immigration offenses—offenses involving illegal entrance into the United States, illegally reentering after being deported, willfully failing to deport when so ordered, or willfully remaining beyond days allowed on conditional permit. Falsely representing oneself to be a citizen of the United States or counterfeiting any visa, permit, or other document to enter the United States as well as violating any of the provisions for travel of citizens or aliens during war or national emergency. Also bringing in or harboring any aliens not duly admitted by an immigration officer (8 U.S.C. 331, 333-34, 338-39, 1185(C), 1252(D)(E), 1282(A)(C), 1286-87, 1321, and 1324-26; and 18 U.S.C. 911 and 1546).

Incarceration—any sentence of confinement, including prison, jail, and other residential placements.

Indeterminate sentence—a prison sentence whose maximum or minimum term is not specifically established at the time of sentencing (18 U.S.C. 4205 B(1)(2)).

Jurisdictional offenses—acts that are Federal crimes because of the place in which they occur, such as on an aircraft, on Federal land or property, and for certain crimes on Indian reservations or at sea, but that cannot be classified in a more specific substantive category.

Kidnaping—unlawfully seizing any person, within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States as defined by section 7 of title 18, for ransom or reward, except in the case of a minor by a parent. Also receiving, possessing, or disposing of any money or other property that has been delivered as ransom or reward in connection with

a kidnaping as well as conspiring to kidnap. This offense includes kidnaping or attempting to kidnap any Government official, the President of the United States, the President-elect, the Vice President, any foreign official, any official guest, or any internationally protected person (18 U.S.C. 351(B)-(D), 1201-2, and 1751(B)-(C)).

Labor law violations—violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Taft-Hartley Act (labor-management relations), the Byrnes Act (transportation of strikebreakers), laws regarding the 8-hour day on public works, and peonage laws (18 U.S.C. 1231 and 1581-88; 29 U.S.C. 162, 186(A), 206-7, 211(C)(D), 212, 214-15, 216(A), 439(A)-(C), 463(B), 503(C), 504(B), and 1131; and 40 U.S.C. 321-22).

Larceny—taking and carrying away with intent to steal any personal property of another, within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 7. Stealing, possessing, converting to one's own use, or illegally selling or disposing of anything of value to the United States or any of its departments or agencies or any property made or being made under contract for the United States or any of its departments or agencies. Stealing anything of value (in excess of \$100) from a bank, the Postal Service, or any inter-State or foreign shipments by carrier. Receiving or possessing stolen property or pirate property. Stealing or obtaining by fraud any funds, assets, or property that are the subject of a grant, contract, or other form of assistance, whether received directly or indirectly, from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration or that belong to or are entrusted to the custody of an Indian tribal organization. This offense category excludes the transportation of stolen property (18 U.S.C. 641, 659, 661-62, 1024, 1163, 1660, 1702, 1704, 1707-8, and 2113(B)(C); 42 U.S.C. 3791; and 49 U.S.C. 1472(K1)).

Liquor violations—violations of Internal Revenue Service laws on liquor as well as violations of liquor laws not cited under these laws, such as smuggling goods into the United States; dispensing or unlawfully possessing intoxicants in Indian country; transporting intoxicating liquors into any State, territory, district, or possession where sale is prohibited; shipping packages containing unmarked and unlabeled intoxicants; failing to declare liquor at customs; shipping liquor by C.O.D.; knowingly delivering a liquor shipment to someone other than to whom it has been consigned; and violating in any way the Federal Alcohol Administration Act (18 U.S.C. 545, 1154-56, and 1262-65; 19 U.S.C. 1461; 26 U.S.C. 5061(B), 5113(A), 5115, 5171(A), 5179(A)-80, 5214(A), 5221(A), 5273(B), 5291(A), 5301(A)-(C), 5601(A1)-(A4)(A6)-(A14), 5602, 5603(A)(B), 5604(A1)-(A3), (A6)-(A13)(A15)-(A19), 5605-7, 5608(A)(B), 5661(A)(B), 5662, 5671-72, 5674, 5676(1-3)(5), 5681(A)-(C), 5682-83, 5685(A)(B), 5686-87, 5689, and 5691(A); and 27 U.S.C. 203, 205(E)(F), 206(A)(B), 207, and 208(A)(D)).

Mailing or transportation of obscene materials—knowingly using the mail for mailing obscene or crime-inciting matter, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 1461 and 39 U.S.C. 3001(E). Also transporting for sale or distribution, importing, or transporting any obscene matter in inter-State or foreign commerce (18 U.S.C. 1461-63, 1465, and 1718).

Major offense—(while on conditional release)—allegation, arrest, or conviction of a crime for which the minimum sentence is incarceration for over 90 days or greater than 1 year on probation. (See Introduction to Probation Statistical Reporting, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, 1981.)

Mandatory release—the release of an inmate from prison after confinement for a time period equal to his or her full sentence minus statutory good-time, if any. Federal prisoners released on mandatory release may still be subject to a period of post-release community supervision.

Matter—a potential case under review by a U.S. Attorney on which more than 1 hour is expended.

Matters concluded—matters about which a final decision has been reached by a U.S. Attorney. Specifically includes matters filed as cases, matters declined after investigation, matters referred for disposition by U.S. Magistrates, and matters otherwise terminated without reaching court.

Migratory birds offenses—taking, killing, or possessing migratory birds, or any part, nest, or egg thereof, in violation of Federal regulations or the transportation laws of the State, territory, or district from which the bird was taken. Misuse or nonuse of a migratory-bird hunting and conservation stamp. Violation of the regulations of Bear River Refuge in Utah and Ouchita National Forest sanctuary and refuge in (16 U.S.C. 690(D)(G), 693A, 701, 703-6, 707(A)(B), 708-11, and 718(A)(E)(G)).

Minor offense (while on conditional release)—conviction of a crime for which the maximum sentence is incarceration for 90 days or less, probation of 1 year or less, or a fine of \$500 or less. (See Introduction to Probation Statistical Reporting, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, 1981.)

Misdemeanor—a criminal offense punishable by a jail term not exceeding 1 year and any offense specifically defined as a misdemeanor by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts for the purposes of data collection. (This category includes offenses previously called minor offenses that were reclassified under the Federal Magistrates Act of 1979.)

Mixed sentence—a sentence requiring the convicted offender to serve more than 6 months of incarceration, followed by a term of probation. Unless otherwise noted, offenders receiving mixed sentences are included in both incarceration and probation categories (see also "Split sentence").

Most serious offense—the offense with the greatest potential penalty.

Motor carrier violations—violations of the Federal statutes listed below concerning the Motor Carrier Act (15 U.S.C. 1986, 1990, and 1990(C); and 49 U.S.C. 1(7)(17)(20), 10(1), 15(11)(12), 41(1), 46, 301-4, 322(A)(D), 917(A)(E)(F), 1021(A)(B)(E)(F), and 1159(A)).

Motor vehicle theft—inter-State or foreign transporting, receiving, concealing, storing, bartering, selling, or disposing of any stolen motor vehicle or aircraft (18 U.S.C. 2312 and 2313; and 49 U.S.C. 1472I, 11A, 11B, NA, and NB).

Murder—committing or attempting to commit murder (first or second degree) or voluntary manslaughter within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States (18 U.S.C. 7). Killing or attempting to kill any Government official, the President of the United States, the President-elect, the Vice President, any officers and employees of the United States, any foreign officials, any official guests, or any internationally protected persons. As applied to the owner or charterer of any steamboat or ve#-b), 2275-77, 2278 A (b), 2278 A (c)(b), and 2462 (g)).

Negligent manslaughter—causing the death of another, within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States as defined in 18 U.S.C. 7, by wanton or reckless disregard for human life. Also negligent manslaughter of any Government official, the President of the

United States, the President-elect, the Vice President, any officers and employees of the United States, any foreign officials, any official guests, or any internationally protected persons. This offense category also includes misconduct, negligence, or inattention to duties by ship officers on a steamboat or vessel resulting in death to any person (18 U.S.C. 351(A), 1112, 1114-16, and 1751(A); and 49 U.S.C. 1472(K1)).

Nolo contendere—defendant's plea in a criminal case indicating that he or she will not contest charges, but not admitting or denying guilt.

Not convicted—acquittal by bench or jury trial, mistrial, and dismissal (including nolle prosequi and deferred prosecution).

Offense—violation of U.S. criminal law. Where more than one offense is charged, the offense with the greatest potential penalty is reported.

Other property offenses—offenses that involve the destruction of property moving in inter-State or foreign commerce in the possession of a common or contract carrier. The malicious destruction of Government property, or injury to U.S. postal property such as mailboxes or mailbags. Trespassing on timber and Government lands is also included in this category of offenses (15 U.S.C. 1281; 16 U.S.C. 3, 9A, 45A, 45C-E, 114, 121-24, 146, 152, 163, 171, 403H-4, 413, 430H, 430Q, 430V, 460K-3, 460N-3, 460N-5, 460N-7, 471, 476-78, 478A, 479, 481-82, 551, and 604-6; 18 U.S.C. 1164, 1361-64, 1705-6, 1851-63, 2071(A)(B), and 2072; 24 U.S.C. 286; 40 U.S.C. 53, 101, 193(E)(O)(P)-(R), and 318(C); and 43 U.S.C. 316K).

Other public-order offenses

—violations of laws pertaining to abortion; bigamy; disorderly conduct on the U.S. Capitol grounds; civil disorder; hunting, trapping, or fishing on Indian lands or military areas and zones; and obscene or harassing telephone calls (18 U.S.C. 231, 1165, 1384-85, and 2101; 40 U.S.C. 193(B)-(D)(F)(G)(O)(P); and 47 U.S.C. 223). Included in "public-order, non-regulatory offenses" (q.v.).

Other regulatory offenses

—violations of civil rights, election laws, the Communication Act (including wire tapping and wire interception), contempt, laws regarding congressional contempt, custom laws (except narcotics and liquor), importation of injurious animals and birds, inter-State commerce (the Connally Act, Hot Oil Act, transportation or importation of prison-made goods, and the Railroad and Transportation Act), maritime and shipping laws, laws regarding stowaways, the Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, U.S. postal laws (excluding injury to postal property), intimidation of witness laws, aircraft regulations, explosives (except in vessels), the Gold Acts, train wrecking, and any other regulatory offenses not listed above. (For citations refer to the United States Title and Code Criminal Offense Citations, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, September 1982.)

Other sex offenses—transporting, coercing, or enticing any women to go from one place to another in inter-State or foreign commerce, in the District of Columbia, or in any territory or possession of the United States with the intent and purpose to engage in prostitution, debauchery, or any other immoral purpose. Importing, maintaining, or harboring any women for purposes of prostitution or debauchery or for any other immoral purpose. These offenses may be either violent or nonviolent (8 U.S.C. 1328 and 18 U.S.C. 2421-24).

Parole—period of supervision after release from custody before the expiration of sentence.

Perjury—knowingly or willfully giving false evidence or swearing to false statements under oath or by any means procuring or instigating any person to commit perjury. Making any false material declarations under oath in any proceeding before or ancillary to any court or grand jury of the United States. This offense also includes any officers and employees of the Government listed under 13 U.S.C. 21-25 who willfully or knowingly furnish or cause to be furnished any false information or statement (8 U.S.C. 1357(B), 13 U.S.C. 213, 18 U.S.C. 1621-23, and 22 U.S.C. 1203).

Personal recognizance—pretrial release condition in which the defendant promises to appear at trial and no financial conditions are required to be met.

Petty offense—criminal offense punishable by imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not more than \$500 or both (18 U.S.C. 1(3)).

Possession—acquiring a controlled substance by misrepresentation or fraud, attempting or conspiring to possess, or simple possession of a controlled substance in schedules I-V (as defined by 21 U.S.C. 812). Also possession of a controlled substance in schedule I or II or a narcotic drug in schedule III or IV on board a vessel of the United States or vessels within custom waters of the United States or by any citizen of the United States on board a vessel. Possessing any punch, die, plate, stone, or any other thing designed to reproduce the label upon any drug or container is an offense under this category. Distributing a small amount of marijuana for no remuneration is treated as simple possession and, therefore, is included in this offense category (21 U.S.C. 843(A3)(A5), 844(A), 846, 955, and 962-63).

Pretrial diversion—an agreement to defer (and possibly drop) prosecution conditioned on the defendant's good behavior and/or participation in programs during a stated period.

Pretrial release—the release of a defendant from custody, for all or part of the time before or during prosecution. The defendant may be released either on personal recognizance or unsecured bond or on financial conditions. The category includes defendants released within 2 days after arrest and defendants who were initially detained but subsequently released after raising bail or having release conditions changed at a subsequent hearing.

Property offenses, fraudulent—property offenses involving the elements of deceit or intentional misrepresentation. Specifically includes embezzlement, fraud (excluding tax fraud), forgery, and counterfeiting.

Property offenses, non-fraudulent—violent offenses against property: burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, arson, transportation of stolen property, and other property offenses (destruction of property and trespassing). These offenses are termed "non-fraudulent" only for the purpose of distinguishing them from the category "property offenses, fraudulent," above.

Public-order, non-regulatory offenses—offenses concerning weapons; immigration; tax law violations (tax fraud); bribery; perjury; national defense; escape; racketeering and extortion; gambling; liquor; mailing or transporting of obscene materials; traffic; migratory birds; conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses; and "other public-order offenses" (q. v.). These offenses are termed "non-regulatory" only for the purpose of distinguishing them from the category "public-order, regulatory offenses," below.

Public-order, regulatory offenses—violations of regulatory laws and regulations in agriculture, antitrust, labor law, food and drug, motor carrier, and other regulatory offenses that are not specifically listed in the category "public-order, non-regulatory offenses" above.

Q.v.—refer to the appropriate entry in this glossary for a definition of terms marked "(q.v.)."

Racketeering and extortion—using inter-State or foreign commerce or any facility in inter-State or foreign commerce to aid racketeering enterprises such as arson, bribery, gambling, liquor, narcotics, prostitution, and extortionate credit transactions. For officers or employees of the United States, or anyone representing himself or herself as such, obtaining property or money from another, with his or her consent induced by actual or threatened force, violence, blackmail, or unlawful interference with employment or business. Transmitting by inter-State commerce or through the mail any threat to injure the property, the person, or the reputation of the addressee or of another or to kidnap any person with intent to extort (18 U.S.C. 872-74, 875(A-D), 876-77, 892-94, 1951-52, 1954, 1962(A-D), and 1963; 19 U.S.C. 60; 27 U.S.C. 205(C); and 42 U.S.C. 2703(B)).

Rape—rape, assault with intent to commit rape, and carnal knowledge of a female under 16 who is not one's wife, within the territorial and special maritime jurisdictions of the United States as defined in 18 U.S.C. 7 (18 U.S.C. 113(A), and 2031-32; and 49 U.S.C. 1472(K1)).

Remove—transfer from Federal court (usually to a State court).

Robbery—taking anything of value from the person or presence of another by force or by intimidation, within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States (18 U.S.C. 7). Also robbery of bank property, U.S. postal property, or personal property of the United States. Also assaulting or putting the life of any person in jeopardy by the use of a dangerous weapon while committing or attempting to commit such robbery (18 U.S.C. 113(B), 1661, 1991, 2111-12, 2113(A)(D)(E), and 2114; and 49 U.S.C. 1472(K1)).

Sentence—sanction imposed on a convicted offender. For sentences to incarceration, the maximum time the offender may be held in custody is reported. (See also "Split sentence," "Mixed sentence," "Indeterminate sentence," and "Youth sentence.")

Special maritime and territorial jurisdiction—areas of Federal jurisdiction outside the jurisdiction of any State, including (1) the high seas, Great Lakes, and connecting waterways; (2) Federal lands; and (3) U.S.-owned aircraft in flight over the high seas (18 U.S.C. 7).

Split sentence—a sentence requiring the convicted person to serve a period of confinement of 6 months or less, followed by a period of probation. Unless otherwise noted, convicted offenders receiving split sentences are included in both the incarceration and probation categories (see "Mixed sentence").

Stale—too old to support successful prosecution.

Surety bond—an agreement by the defendant as a condition of his or her release that requires a third party (usually a bail bondsman) to promise to pay the full bail amount in the event that the defendant fails to appear.

Suspect—a person who is under investigation or interrogation as a likely perpetrator of a specific criminal offense.

Tax law violations—tax fraud offenses such as income tax fraud; evading or defeating tax; willful failure to file; fraudulently withholding on exemption certificate or failing to supply information; counterfeiting any stamps with intent to defraud the collection or payment of tax; willful failure to collect or pay tax; putting fraudulent or false statements on tax returns; failure to obey summons to produce any papers concerning taxes; preparers of returns disclosing or using any information for any purpose other than to assist in preparing returns; failing to furnish receipts for employees of tax withheld; failing to furnish information relating to certain trusts, annuity, and bond purchase plans; and not obtaining a license for a business that makes a profit from foreign items. Also included in this offense category are violations of excise and wagering tax laws and any other laws listed below from the Internal Revenue Service title (26 U.S.C. 3402, 4411-12, 4918(E)(H), 4919(B2), 5751(A1)(A2), 5752(A)-(D), 5762(A1)-(A11)(B), 6047(A)-(C), 6051, 6056, 6331, 6420(E2), 6421(F2), 6424(D2), 6427(E2), 6674, 7001, 7121-22, 7201-5, 7206(1)-(4)(5A)(5B), 7207, 7208(1), 7210, 7213(A1)-(A3)(B)-(D), 7215(A), 7216, 7231-32, 7322(2), 7261-62, 7272(A), 7512, 7513(B), 7602-3, and 7604(B); and 50A U.S.C. 243(A)).

Technical violation—failure to comply with any of the conditions of pretrial release, probation, or parole, excluding alleged new criminal activity. May result in revocation of release status.

Threats against the President—knowingly and willfully depositing in the mail, at any post office, or by any letter carrier a letter, paper, writing, print, missive, or document containing any threat to take the life of or to inflict bodily harm upon the President, Vice President, or any other officer in order of succession to the Presidency. Knowingly and willfully making such threats in any way to the above-named people (18 U.S.C. 871).

Traffic offenses—driving while intoxicated or any moving or parking violations on Federal lands (40 U.S.C. 212 B).

Trafficking—importing any controlled substance in schedule I, II, III, IV, or V (as defined by 21 U.S.C. 812). Manufacturing, distributing, selling, or possessing with intent to manufacture, distribute, or sell a controlled substance or a counterfeit substance. Exporting any controlled substance in schedules I-V. Manufacturing or distributing a controlled substance in schedule I or II for purposes of unlawful importation. Making or distributing any punch, die, plate, stone, or any other thing designed to reproduce the label upon any drug or container or removing or obliterating the label or symbol of any drug or container. Obtaining a prescription of a controlled substance in schedule III or IV without a written or oral prescription. Distributing for reasons other than medical a controlled substance in schedule V. Illegally crossing the border if the individual is addicted to or using drugs or has been convicted of any violation of narcotics or marijuana laws (18 U.S.C. 1407; and 21 U.S.C. 825(A)-(D), 829(B)(C), 841(A)(B1A)(B2)-(B4), 842(A4)-(A8), 843(A1)(A2)(A5)(B), 845(A)(B), 846, 952(A)(B), 953(A)(C)(E), 954-55, 957, 959, 960(A1)(B2), 961(2), and 962-63).

Transportation of stolen property—transporting, selling, or receiving stolen goods, stolen securities, stolen moneys, stolen cattle, fraudulent State tax stamps, or articles used in counterfeiting if the above articles or goods involve or constitute interstate or foreign commerce (18 U.S.C. 2314-17).

Trial conviction—conviction by judge or jury after trial.

True bill—an indictment.

United States—the territory occupied by the 50 states, the District of Columbia (q.v.), Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

U.S. Attorneys—all United States Attorneys. Prosecutorial data in this compendium come from the Docket and Reporting System of the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys.

Unsecured bond—an agreement by the defendant as a condition of his or her release in which the defendant agrees to pay full bond amount in the event of nonappearance at trial, but is not required to post security as a condition to release.

Violation (of pretrial release, probation, or parole)—allegation of a new crime or a technical violation (q.v.) while on pretrial release, probation, or parole.

Violent offenses—threatening, attempting, or actually using physical force against a person. Includes murder, negligent manslaughter, assault, robbery, rape, other sex offenses (some of which may be non-violent), kidnapping, and threats against the President. (See specific offenses for citations.)

Weapons violations—violations of any of the provisions of sections 922 and 923 of title 18 concerning the manufacturing, importing, possessing, receiving, and licensing of firearms and ammunition. Manufacturing, selling, possessing, or transporting (within any territory or possession of the United States, within Indian country, or within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States) (18 U.S.C. 7) any switchblade knife. Engaging in importing, manufacturing, or dealing in firearms if not registered with the secretary in the Internal Revenue Service District in which the business is conducted or not having paid a special occupational tax. Carrying on the U.S. Capitol grounds or within U.S. Capitol buildings any firearm, dangerous weapon, explosive, or incendiary device (2 U.S.C. 167(D); 15 U.S.C. 1242-43; 18 U.S.C. 922(A)-(M), 923, and 924(A)-(C); 18A U.S.C. 1202(A1)-(A5),(B1)(B5); 26 U.S.C. 5801-2, 5811-12, 5821-22, 5841-44, 5851, 5861(A)-(L), and 5871; 40 U.S.C. 193F(A); and 49 U.S.C. 1472(L1)(L2)).

Youth sentence—a sentence of confinement under the Youth Corrections Act (18 U.S.C. 5010(B)(C)).

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