



# Federal Justice Statistics, 2019

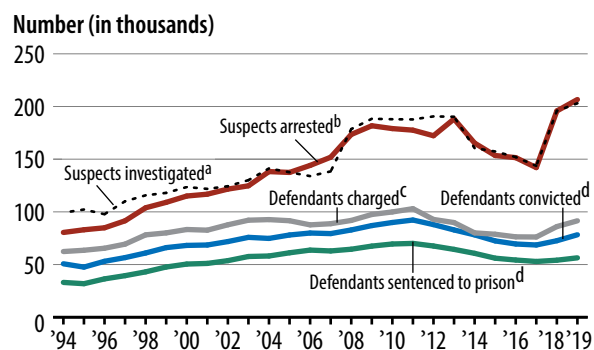
Mark Motivans, Ph.D., *BJS Statistician*

Federal arrests increased by 10,859 from fiscal year (FY) 2018 to FY 2019, reaching their highest level in 25 years at 206,630 arrests (figure 1).<sup>1</sup> Of the 373,056 persons under federal correctional control at fiscal year-end 2019, 60% were in secure confinement and 40% were under community supervision (table 1). This was a decline from fiscal year-end 2009, when 389,031 persons were under federal correctional control.

This report describes cases processed by the federal criminal justice system. Data are from Bureau of Justice Statistics' Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP), which collects, standardizes, and reports on administrative data received from six federal justice agencies: the U.S. Marshals Service, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), and U.S. Sentencing Commission.

<sup>1</sup>In this report, annual data are for the fiscal year, which is from October 1 to September 30.

**FIGURE 1**  
Suspects and defendants processed in the federal justice system, FY 1994–2019



Note: See appendix table 1 for estimates.

<sup>a</sup>Suspects in matters investigated by U.S. attorneys. Suspects in more than one matter are counted separately.

<sup>b</sup>Suspects arrested by federal law enforcement. Suspects arrested more than once are counted separately. Excludes District of Columbia Superior Court arrests.

<sup>c</sup>Defendants charged with a felony or a Class A misdemeanor in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately.

<sup>d</sup>Defendants in cases terminated with a felony or a Class A misdemeanor in U.S. district court. Defendants in more than one terminated case are counted separately.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the U.S. Marshals Service, Prisoner Tracking and Justice Detainee Information System; Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, National Legal Information Office Network System database; and Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal years 1994–2019.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- During fiscal year (FY) 2019, federal law enforcement made 206,630 arrests, a 6% increase from the 195,771 arrests in FY 2018 and a 14% increase from the 181,726 arrests in FY 2009.
- An immigration offense was the most serious arrest offense in 57% of federal arrests in FY 2019.
- In FY 2019, the five federal judicial districts along the U.S.-Mexico border accounted for 66% of federal arrests.
- Of the 27,543 arrests by the Drug Enforcement Administration in FY 2019, the most common drug type was methamphetamine (9,076 arrests), followed by heroin and opioids (6,686 arrests).
- Non-U.S. citizens made up 44% of defendants charged in U.S. district court in FY 2019, 29% of whom were from Mexico, 10% from Central America, and 2% from the Caribbean Islands.

**TABLE 1****Persons in federal confinement or under federal supervision in the community, fiscal year-end 2009, 2018, and 2019**

	2009		2018		2019	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Total</b>	389,031	100%	372,354	100%	373,056	100%
<b>In secure confinement</b>	242,846	62.4%	222,315	59.7%	221,974	59.5%
Pretrial detention	58,202	15.0	60,430	16.2	64,816	17.4
Federal Bureau of Prisons (post-sentencing)*	184,644	47.5	161,885	43.5	157,158	42.1
<b>In the community</b>	146,185	37.6%	150,039	40.3%	151,082	40.5%
Pretrial release supervision	26,132	6.7	22,597	6.1	24,595	6.6
Post-sentencing supervision	120,053	30.9	127,442	34.2	126,487	33.9
Supervised release	94,703	24.3	111,024	29.8	110,932	29.7
Probation	23,054	5.9	15,465	4.2	14,658	3.9
Parole	2,296	0.6	953	0.3	897	0.2

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Federal populations are shown as of September 30, 2009, 2018, and 2019.

\*Counts include federally sentenced persons in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP). Counts exclude persons in federal prison for the District of Columbia code offenses, military code offenses, state boarders, and foreign treaty transfers. Unsensenced federal prisoners in the BOP are counted in pretrial detention counts.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System; U.S. Marshals Service, Justice Detainee Information System; and Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2009, 2018, and 2019.

## Definitions of major offense categories

**Violent**—Includes murder, negligent or nonnegligent manslaughter, aggravated or simple assault, sexual abuse, robbery, kidnapping, and threats against the U.S. president.

**Property**—Includes fraudulent and other types of property offenses.

**Fraudulent property**—Includes embezzlement, fraud, forgery, and counterfeiting.

**Other property**—Includes burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, arson, transportation of stolen property, and other property offenses such as destruction of property and trespassing.

**Drug**—Includes the manufacture, import, export, distribution, or dispensing of a controlled or counterfeit substance, or the possession of a controlled or counterfeit substance with intent to manufacture or distribute.

**Public order**—Includes regulatory and other types of public order offenses.

**Regulatory public order**—Includes violation of agriculture, antitrust, labor, food and drug, motor carrier, and other federal regulations.

**Other public order**—Includes nonregulatory violations concerning tax law (tax fraud), bribery, perjury, national defense, escape, racketeering and extortion, gambling, liquor, mailing or transporting obscene materials, traffic, migratory birds, conspiracy, aiding and abetting, jurisdiction, and other offenses.

**Weapon**—Includes violations of any of the provisions of 18 U.S.C. §§ 922-923 concerning the manufacture, import, possession, receipt, and licensing of firearms and ammunition.

**Immigration**—Includes offenses involving illegal entrance into the United States, illegal reentry after being deported, the willful failure to leave when ordered, or the transportation or harbor of any non-U.S. citizens not admitted by an immigration officer.

**Supervision violation**—Includes violations of bail, violations of pretrial or post-sentencing supervision in the community (probation), and failures to appear.

## Arrest and booking

Arrests in this section refer to the most serious offenses that suspects were booked for by deputy U.S. marshals. Each of the 94 federal judicial districts has a U.S. marshal, as well as deputy U.S. marshals, responsible for taking suspects charged with a federal crime into custody (which involves booking, processing, and detaining the suspects), overseeing court security, and coordinating prisoner transportation.

## In FY 2019, federal law enforcement agencies made 206,630 arrests for federal offenses

During FY 2019, 8 in 10 federal arrests were for immigration, drug, or supervision violations (165,123). Immigration (117,425 arrests) was the most common arrest offense in FY 2019 (table 2). More than half (57%) of federal arrests involved an immigration offense as the most serious arrest offense. The next most common arrest offenses were for drug offenses (12% of all arrests) and supervision violations (11%).

**TABLE 2**  
Federal arrests, by most serious offense and federal district, FY 2018–2019

	FY 2018		FY 2019		Percent change, 2018-2019
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
<b>Total arrests</b>	195,771	100%	206,630	100%	5.5%
<b>Most serious offense at arrest</b>					
Violent	3,811	1.9%	3,807	1.8%	-0.1%
Property	10,395	5.3	10,363	5.0	-0.3
Fraud	8,966	4.6	8,954	4.3	-0.1
Other	1,429	0.7	1,409	0.7	-1.4
Drug	22,387	11.4	24,432	11.8	9.1
Public order	7,428	3.8	7,406	3.6	-0.3
Regulatory	234	0.1	222	0.1	-5.1
Other	7,194	3.7	7,184	3.5	-0.1
Weapon	10,562	5.4	11,629	5.6	10.1
Immigration	108,667	55.5	117,425	56.8	8.1
Material witness	7,472	3.8	8,302	4.0	11.1
Supervision violation	25,049	12.8	23,266	11.3	-7.1
<b>Federal judicial district</b>					
U.S.-Mexico border district	126,293	64.5%	136,252	65.9%	7.9%
Arizona	28,934	14.8	31,475	15.2	8.8
California Southern	13,710	7.0	16,822	8.1	22.7
New Mexico	9,641	4.9	9,247	4.5	-4.1
Texas Southern	45,740	23.4	48,358	23.4	5.7
Texas Western	28,268	14.4	30,350	14.7	7.4
Other	69,478	35.5	70,378	34.1	1.3

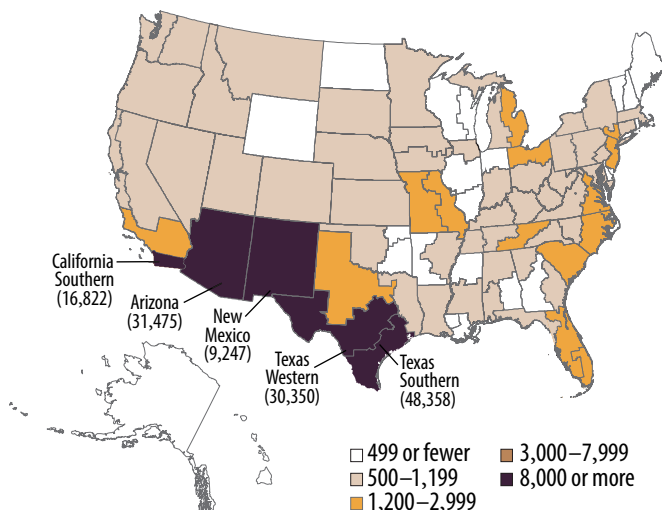
Note: Suspects with more than one arrest are counted separately. The most serious offense at arrest is determined by the deputy U.S. marshal at booking. The federal district is the location of the federal court where booking takes place.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the U.S. Marshals Service, Justice Detainee Information System, fiscal years 2018–2019.

**Two-thirds (66%) of arrests in FY 2019 were in the five federal judicial districts along the U.S.-Mexico border**

The five federal judicial districts along the U.S.-Mexico border (California Southern, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas Southern, and Texas Western) accounted for 66% of all federal arrests in FY 2019, up from 65% in 2018 (**map 1**). Texas Southern (48,358) had the most arrests, followed by Arizona (31,475) and Texas Western (30,350).

**MAP 1**  
**Number of federal arrests, by federal judicial district, FY 2019**



Note: A total of 206,630 suspects were arrested for a federal offense from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019. Federal districts not shown on map (number of arrests for a federal offense in FY 2019 in parentheses): District of Columbia (586), Guam (102), Northern Mariana Islands (0), Puerto Rico (1,518), and U.S. Virgin Islands (153).

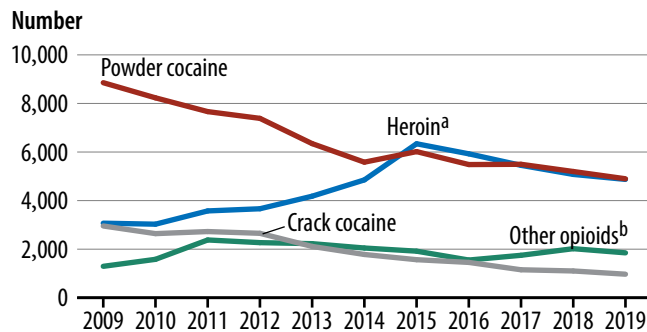
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the U.S. Marshals Service, Justice Detainee Information System, fiscal year 2019.

## Arrests by the Drug Enforcement Administration

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) enforces the controlled substances laws and regulations of the United States, including investigating major drug offenders at the national and international levels. The DEA coordinates with foreign governments and federal, state, tribal, and local agencies. It has 239 offices in the U.S. and 91 offices in 68 countries.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>See <https://www.dea.gov/domestic-divisions>. “Suspects arrested by the DEA” describes arrests in which each arrest of an individual suspect is counted separately. Individual suspects can be arrested by the DEA more than once in a year. DEA data do not distinguish between arrests referred for state or federal prosecution. Arrest counts reported by the DEA overlap with bookings data collected by the U.S. Marshals Service and reported in table 2. DEA data include all arrests made by DEA agents and do not describe whether a DEA arrest is a state or federal case. Therefore, comparisons should not be made between DEA and U.S. Marshals booking data, which include bookings for federal cases only.

**FIGURE 2**  
Federal and state arrests by the Drug Enforcement Administration, by powder cocaine, crack cocaine, heroin, and other opioids, FY 2009–2019



Note: The unit of count is an arrest by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Each arrest for an individual is counted separately. Includes state and federal arrests made by the DEA. See appendix table 2 for estimates.

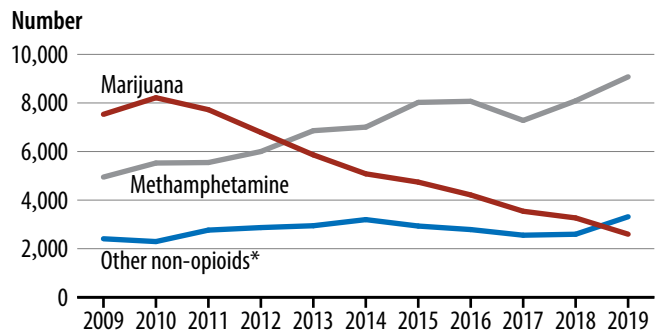
<sup>a</sup>Includes heroin, morphine, and opium base.

<sup>b</sup>Opioids are synthetic compounds that emulate the effects of natural compounds found in the opium poppy. Synthetic opioids are commonly available by prescription but can also be manufactured in labs.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Drug Enforcement Administration, Defendant Statistical System, fiscal years 2009–2019.

The DEA reported 27,543 drug arrests in fiscal year (FY) 2019, which was similar to the 27,348 arrests in FY 2018 (appendix table 2). A third (33%) of drug arrests were for methamphetamine (figure 2) and a quarter (24%) were for heroin and other opioids (figure 3) in FY 2019. From FY 2009 to FY 2019, DEA arrests for methamphetamine increased the most, at an average annual percent change of 7% per year, followed by arrests for heroin and other opioids (5%). During that period, arrests declined each year on average by 10% for crack cocaine, 10% for marijuana, and 6% for powder cocaine.

**FIGURE 3**  
Federal and state arrests by the Drug Enforcement Administration, by marijuana, methamphetamine, and other non-opioids, FY 2009–2019



Note: The unit of count is an arrest by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Each arrest for an individual is counted separately. Includes state and federal arrests made by the DEA. See appendix table 2 for estimates.

\*Includes non-opioid pharmaceutical controlled substances, other depressants, sedatives, ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, hallucinogens, synthetic cannabinoids, other steroids, equipment to manufacture controlled substances, and drug use paraphernalia.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Drug Enforcement Administration, Defendant Statistical System, fiscal years 2009–2019.

## Investigation and prosecution

Ninety-three U.S. attorneys served as the chief federal prosecutor within their judicial district in FY 2019.<sup>3</sup> Federal law enforcement agencies referred the most matters to U.S. attorneys in FY 2019. Referrals also came from state and local law enforcement agencies.

### In FY 2019, most suspects were referred by the Department of Homeland Security

Agencies within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) referred 59% of the 203,030 suspects in matters sent to U.S. attorneys in FY 2019, the same percentage as in FY 2018 (table 3). Law enforcement agencies

<sup>3</sup>One U.S. attorney serves two districts: Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. This section combines Guam with the Northern Mariana Islands for statistical reporting.

**TABLE 3**  
Suspects in matters opened by U.S. attorneys, by referring authority, FY 2009 and FY 2017–2019

Department/authority	FY 2009	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Defense	2.6%	2.2%	1.4%	1.3%
Homeland Security	60.9	47.6	59.1	59.5
Interior	1.6	2.0	1.0	0.7
Justice	22.5	33.2	26.1	26.7
Treasury	1.4	1.2	0.7	0.7
Federal/state task force	2.1	2.8	2.9	2.6
Other*	8.9	11.0	8.8	8.5
Number of suspects	188,341	143,684	195,842	203,030

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The department or authority is the entity making the referral for criminal action to the U.S. attorneys' offices. Percentages are based on records with nonmissing referring authority data. In 2009, there were 268 records missing referring agency. In 2018, there was one record missing referring agency and in 2019 there were 17 records missing referring agency. The unit of count is a suspect in a matter referred to U.S. attorneys. Suspects in more than one matter are counted separately. A matter is opened when a federal prosecutor spends 1 hour or more investigating.

\*Includes the departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Labor, State, and Transportation; and state and local authorities.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, National Legal Information Office Network System database, fiscal years 2009 and 2017–2019.

within the Department of Justice (DOJ) referred 27% of suspects in matters referred to U.S. attorneys in FY 2019, compared to 26% in FY 2018, 33% in FY 2017, and 23% in FY 2009. In FY 2019, about 3% of suspects in matters opened by U.S. attorneys were referred by federal or state task forces.

### U.S. attorneys prosecuted 44% of suspects in matters concluded in FY 2019

U.S. attorneys establish policies and priorities within their federal judicial districts and determine which cases they prosecute. In choosing to prosecute, U.S. attorneys account for factors such as available resources and the priorities of the DOJ and state and local law enforcement. To conclude a matter, U.S. attorneys may file charges and prosecute defendants in U.S. district court, file charges and prosecute matters before U.S. magistrate judges, or decline matters, resulting in no further action in U.S. district court. In FY 2019, U.S. attorneys most commonly chose to prosecute weapon (75%) and drug (74%) offenses, followed by property-other-than-fraud (53%) and violent (51%) offenses (table 4).

U.S. magistrate judges have the authority to adjudicate or dispose of misdemeanor offenses under 18 U.S.C. § 3401. Magistrate judges' matters differ from prosecutions in that they typically require less than 1 hour of an assistant U.S. attorney's time and are processed quickly in court. Forty-three percent of matters concluded by U.S. attorneys in FY 2019 were disposed by U.S. magistrate judges. Matters that were most likely to be disposed by U.S. magistrate judges involved immigration (71%) and property-other-than-fraud (17%) offenses. U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute 13% of matters concluded in FY 2019. The cases most likely to be declined were regulatory public order (45%) and property fraud (42%) offenses.

**TABLE 4****Outcome and case processing time of suspects in matters concluded, FY 2019**

	Number of suspects in matters concluded	Outcome <sup>a</sup>			Prosecutor decision/median case processing time <sup>b</sup>			
		Prosecuted in U.S. district court	Disposed of by U.S. magistrate	Declined to prosecute	Total	Prosecuted in U.S. district court	Disposed of by U.S. magistrate	Declined to prosecute
<b>Total</b>	205,329	43.8%	43.2%	13.0%	14 days	22 days	2 days	535 days
<b>Lead charge<sup>c</sup></b>								
Violent	5,048	51.4%	8.8%	39.9%	97 days	28 days	95 days	333 days
Property	19,165	51.9	8.0	40.1	319	109	153	695
Fraud	16,785	51.7	6.7	41.6	343	132	95	717
Other	2,380	53.1	17.3	29.6	144	31	526	512
Drug	33,863	74.0	8.8	17.1	43	27	73	573
Public order	18,738	45.3	15.6	39.1	165	35	76	586
Regulatory	3,100	42.4	13.1	44.6	214	32	93	594
Other	15,638	45.9	16.1	38.0	156	35	75	583
Weapon	15,566	75.1	4.1	20.9	42	28	74	265
Immigration	112,922	28.5	71.1	0.5	3	22	1	298
<b>Federal judicial district</b>								
U.S.-Mexico border	120,310	29.9%	67.8%	2.3%	3 days	23 days	1 day	548 days
Arizona	29,372	18.9	77.2	3.9	0	26	0	657
California Southern	15,242	40.4	58.1	1.5	7	26	6	773
New Mexico	9,526	47.1	48.5	4.5	8	12	5	411
Texas Southern	39,143	24.0	75.0	1.0	2	20	1	605
Texas Western	27,027	38.3	59.4	2.3	5	23	1	425
Other	85,019	63.5	8.5	28.0	91	30	97	534

<sup>a</sup>Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The unit of count is a suspect in a matter referred to U.S. attorneys. Suspects investigated in more than one matter are counted separately. Twenty-seven records were missing the suspect's lead charge.

<sup>b</sup>Case processing time reflects the time from receipt of a matter to the U.S. attorney's decision to prosecute the matter as a case in U.S. district court, refer the matter for disposal by a U.S. magistrate, or decline the matter, resulting in no further action in U.S. district court. The median is the midpoint of processing time. A median of 1 day means that at least half of suspects received a disposition within a day of the matter's referral.

<sup>c</sup>The lead charge is the substantive statute that is the primary basis for referral. It is most often, but not always, the charge with the greatest potential sentence.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, National Legal Information Office Network System database, fiscal year 2019.

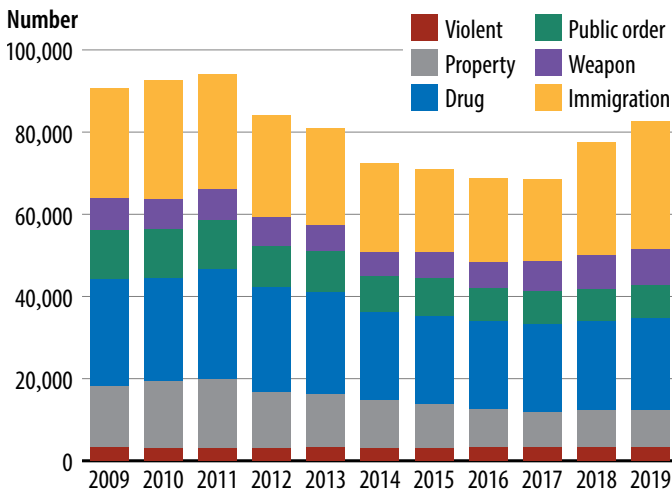
## Case filing, adjudication, and sentencing

This section describes the workload of U.S. district courts, including the disposition of criminal proceedings and the sentencing of convicted defendants. The district courts serve as the general trial courts of the federal judicial system and have original jurisdiction over any case arising under federal statutes, the U.S. Constitution, or treaties. Each U.S. district court has at least one U.S. district judge, who is appointed by the U.S. President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

### 13% more defendants were charged with immigration offenses in FY 2019 than in FY 2018

From FY 2018 to FY 2019, the number of persons charged with a federal offense grew 7%, from 77,579 to 82,694 (figure 4). During that period, the number of persons charged with immigration offenses increased 13% and those charged with weapon offenses increased 8%. The number of persons charged with property offenses decreased 2% from FY 2018 to FY 2019 (appendix table 3).

**FIGURE 4**  
Defendants in criminal cases filed in U.S. district court, by offense type, FY 2009–2019



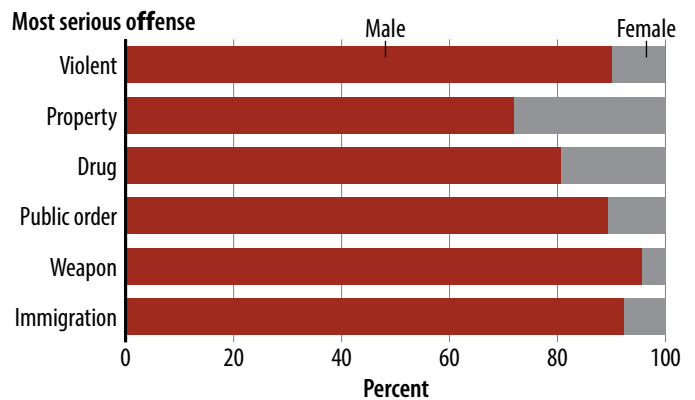
Note: The unit of count is a defendant in a case filed in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately. Includes defendants charged in U.S. district court with a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor as the most serious charge. See appendix table 3 for estimates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal years 2009–2019.

### Most defendants charged in U.S. district court in FY 2019 were male

A total of 69,060 males and 10,136 females were charged in U.S. district court in FY 2019, with males accounting for 87% of all defendants and females accounting for 13% (appendix table 4). Females made up 28% of defendants charged with a property offense and 19% of defendants charged with a drug offense in FY 2019 (figure 5).

**FIGURE 5**  
Percent of defendants charged in U.S. district court, by sex and most serious offense, FY 2019



Note: The unit of count is a defendant in a case filed in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately. Includes defendants charged in U.S. district court with a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor offense as the most serious charge. Percentages are based on nonmissing data. There were 206 records missing sex of defendant; 219 records were missing defendant's offense type. See appendix table 4 for estimates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year 2019.



Forty-eight percent of females charged in U.S. district court in 2019 were Hispanic, 31% were white, and 15% were black (table 5). Of the males charged, 60% were Hispanic, 20% were black, and 17% were white. Seventy-eight percent of charged females were U.S. citizens. Males who were charged split almost equally between U.S. citizens (53%) and

non-U.S. citizens (47%). Among male non-U.S. citizens who were charged, the most common countries or regions of citizenship were Mexico (32%), Central America (11%), the Caribbean Islands (2%), and South America (2%). More than half (58%) of defendants charged in U.S. district court in FY 2019 were Hispanic. Two thirds (66%) of defendants were ages 25 to 44, while

**TABLE 5**  
**Demographic characteristics of defendants charged in U.S. district court, by sex of defendant, FY 2019**

Demographic characteristic	All defendants		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Total</b>	79,402	100%	69,060	100%	10,136	100%
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>						
White <sup>a</sup>	14,552	19.0%	11,496	17.2%	3,053	31.4%
Black <sup>a</sup>	14,957	19.5	13,492	20.1	1,458	15.0
Hispanic	44,662	58.2	39,965	59.7	4,679	48.1
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander <sup>a</sup>	1,081	1.4	856	1.3	224	2.3
American Indian/ Alaska Native <sup>a</sup>	1,479	1.9	1,169	1.8	310	3.2
<b>Age</b>						
17 or younger	22	<0.05%	21	<0.05%	1	<0.05%
18–19	913	1.2	783	1.1	129	1.3
20–24	8,977	11.3	7,726	11.2	1,246	12.3
25–29	13,470	17.0	11,773	17.1	1,694	16.7
30–34	14,884	18.8	13,084	19.0	1,789	17.7
35–39	13,413	16.9	11,826	17.1	1,580	15.6
40–44	10,488	13.2	9,211	13.3	1,277	12.6
45–49	7,045	8.9	6,137	8.9	906	8.9
50–54	4,301	5.4	3,694	5.4	602	5.9
55–59	2,762	3.5	2,342	3.4	417	4.1
60–64	1,609	2.0	1,347	2.0	262	2.6
65 or older	1,334	1.7	1,100	1.6	232	2.3
Median age	35 yrs.	~	35 yrs.	~	35 yrs.	~
<b>Citizenship</b>						
U.S. citizen	44,507	56.4%	36,634	53.2%	7,853	78.0%
Non-U.S. citizen	34,405	43.6	32,172	46.8	2,214	22.0
<b>Country/region of citizenship</b>						
North America	76,829	97.4%	66,955	97.3%	9,837	97.7%
United States	44,507	56.4	36,634	53.2	7,853	78.0
Mexico	23,159	29.4	21,707	31.6	1,444	14.3
Canada	95	0.1	80	0.1	14	0.1
Caribbean Islands <sup>b</sup>	1,306	1.7	1,205	1.8	100	1.0
Central America <sup>b</sup>	7,762	9.8	7,329	10.7	426	4.2
South America <sup>b</sup>	1,108	1.4	1,004	1.5	104	1.0
Asia and Oceania <sup>b</sup>	419	0.5	350	0.5	68	0.7
Europe <sup>b</sup>	359	0.5	315	0.5	44	0.4
Africa <sup>b</sup>	197	0.3	182	0.3	14.0	0.1

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The unit of count is a defendant in a case filed in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately. Includes defendants charged in U.S. district court with a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor offense as the most serious charge. Percentages are based on nonmissing cases. There were 206 records missing sex of defendant, 2,671 records missing race or ethnicity of defendant, 184 records missing age of defendant, and 490 records missing defendant's citizenship status.

~Not applicable.

<sup>a</sup>Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic whites and “black” refers to non-Hispanic blacks). Represents defendants’ self-reported race and ethnicity during the pretrial interview. Information was collected for one race and one ethnicity category.

<sup>b</sup>Countries aggregated by region.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year 2019.

13% were age 50 or older. The youngest defendants (age 19 or younger) and oldest defendants (age 65 or older) together made up 3% of persons charged in FY 2019.

**9 in 10 defendants adjudicated in U.S. district court in FY 2019 were convicted**

Of the 84,782 defendants adjudicated in FY 2019, about 92% were convicted (table 6). Nearly all defendants charged with immigration (97%), weapon (93%), and drug (93%) offenses were convicted. About 90% of adjudicated defendants pled guilty. Two percent of

defendants were adjudicated through a bench or jury trial. Defendants adjudicated in U.S.-Mexico border districts had a higher conviction rate (96%) than defendants in nonborder districts (90%). Among felony offenses, rates of nonconviction ranged from 3% for immigration offenses to 12% for regulatory offenses. Cases that were dismissed or otherwise concluded by the judge or prosecutor accounted for most nonconvictions (7%). Acquittals (293 days), dismissals (215 days), and guilty pleas (197 days) took less time to process from case filing to disposition than trials that ended in convictions (559 days).

**TABLE 6**  
**Disposition and case processing time of defendants in cases terminated in U.S. district court, FY 2019**

Most serious offense at termination	Total cases terminated	Convicted			Not convicted		
		Total	Guilty plea	Bench/jury trial	Total	Bench/jury trial	Dismissed
<b>All offenses</b>	84,782	92.3%	90.4%	2.0%	7.7%	0.4%	7.3%
<b>Type of charge</b>							
Felony	78,543	94.4%	92.4%	2.0%	5.6%	0.4%	5.2%
Violent	2,654	91.9	85.2	6.7	8.1	1.3	6.8
Property	8,581	92.2	88.5	3.8	7.8	0.6	7.2
Fraud	7,470	92.6	88.6	3.9	7.4	0.5	6.9
Other	1,111	89.9	87.4	2.5	10.1	0.7	9.4
Drug	22,158	93.0	90.6	2.4	7.0	0.4	6.7
Public order	6,291	93.3	89.7	3.6	6.7	0.7	6.0
Regulatory	675	88.3	84.3	4.0	11.7	1.8	9.9
Other	5,616	93.9	90.4	3.6	6.1	0.6	5.5
Weapon	9,511	93.2	90.6	2.6	6.8	0.6	6.3
Immigration	29,348	97.0	96.7	0.3	3.0	0.1	2.9
Misdemeanor	6,239	65.9	64.8	1.1	34.1	0.3	33.8
<b>Federal judicial district</b>							
U.S.-Mexico border	33,357	95.8%	95.3%	0.6%	4.2%	0.2%	4.0%
Arizona	5,877	96.6	95.9	0.7	3.4	0.1	3.3
California Southern	5,200	89.3	88.3	1.0	10.8	0.3	10.4
New Mexico	4,038	98.8	98.7	0.1	1.2	<0.1	1.2
Texas Southern	8,011	97.2	96.8	0.4	2.8	0.2	2.6
Texas Western	10,231	96.4	95.9	0.6	3.6	0.1	3.5
Other	51,425	90.0	87.2	2.9	10.0	0.5	9.5
<b>Median time from filing to disposition*</b>	202 days	202 days	197 days	559 days	219 days	293 days	215 days

Note: Includes information on felony defendants; Class A misdemeanants, whether handled by U.S. district judges or U.S. magistrates; and other misdemeanants, provided they were handled by U.S. district judges. Court personnel determine the most serious offense at termination as the offense with the greatest statutory maximum sentence. The unit of count is a defendant in a case terminated in U.S. district court. Defendants in more than one case are counted separately. The median is the midpoint between the slowest and fastest processing times. A median of 202 days means that half of defendants received a disposition in less than 202 days and half received a disposition in more than 202 days. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

\*Includes the interval from the time a case is filed in U.S. district court to sentencing for defendants who were convicted and the interval from case filing to disposition for defendants who were not convicted or whose cases were dismissed.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal year 2019.

## Nearly 3 in 4 convicted defendants were sentenced to prison in FY 2019

Of the 78,256 defendants convicted in U.S. district court in FY 2019, about three-quarters (72%) were sentenced to prison (table 7). The remainder received a suspended sentence (18%), a sentence of probation only (8%), or a fine only (2%). People most likely to receive prison terms were those convicted of violent (93%), weapon (91%), or drug (90%) felonies. Twenty-six percent of persons convicted of a misdemeanor received a prison sentence in FY 2019.

## Defendants sentenced to prison in FY 2019 received a median term of 30 months

In FY 2019, the median prison sentence for a felony was 33 months. Violent offenders received a median of 84 months in prison, while drug offenders received a median of 66 months, and other public order offenders received a median of 60 months. The median prison term for immigration offenders convicted of a felony was 10 months. Defendants convicted and sentenced to prison in the five U.S.-Mexico border districts received a median prison sentence of 14 months, compared to a median of 54 months in the 89 federal judicial districts not along the U.S.-Mexico border. This difference was due to the higher percentage of immigration cases in the border districts. In FY 2019, the median probation sentence for a felony was 36 months, while probation sentences for a misdemeanor had a median length of 12 months.

**TABLE 7**  
**Type and length of sentence imposed for convicted defendants, by offense and district, FY 2019**

Most serious offense at case termination	Number convicted	Type of sentence				Median sentence length	
		Prison*	Probation only	Fine only	Suspended	Prison	Probation
<b>All offenses</b>	78,256	72.2%	8.1%	1.7%	18.0%	30 mos.	36 mos.
<b>Type of offense</b>							
Felony	74,144	74.8%	6.7%	0.3%	18.2%	33 mos.	36 mos.
Violent	2,439	92.7	3.0	0.2	4.1	84	36
Property	7,913	64.0	20.3	1.0	14.6	24	36
Fraud	6,914	65.8	18.0	1.1	15.1	24	36
Other	999	51.7	36.7	0.4	11.2	20	36
Drug	20,598	89.8	4.1	0.2	5.9	66	36
Public order	5,871	79.8	12.1	0.8	7.3	51	36
Regulatory	596	55.7	31.3	2.2	10.8	24	36
Other	5,275	82.5	9.9	0.7	6.9	60	36
Weapon	8,863	90.9	5.0	0.1	3.9	48	36
Immigration	28,460	59.3	4.6	0.1	35.9	10	36
Misdemeanor	4,112	25.5	32.3	26.5	15.7	4	12
<b>Federal judicial district</b>							
U.S.-Mexico border	31,959	67.2%	6.2%	0.2%	26.5%	14 mos.	36 mos.
Arizona	5,678	67.3	6.9	0.1	25.7	14	36
California Southern	4,641	65.1	5.2	0.1	29.5	18	60
New Mexico	3,988	98.3	1.6	<0.01	0.1	2	24
Texas Southern	7,788	78.2	2.9	0.1	18.9	18	36
Texas Western	9,864	46.9	10.6	0.3	42.2	18	36
Other	46,297	75.7	9.4	2.7	12.2	54	36

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The unit of count is a defendant in a case terminated with a conviction and sentence in U.S. district court. Defendants convicted and sentenced in more than one case are counted separately. The most serious offense is determined by court personnel as the offense with the greatest statutory maximum sentence. The median prison term is the midpoint of prison terms imposed. A median of 30 months means that half of defendants received a prison term of less than 30 months and half received a prison term of more than 30 months. There were 201 records missing type of sentence.

\*Includes sentences to incarceration, such as mixed (a prison term followed by a probation term) and life sentences.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal year 2019.

## The type of federal sentence imposed in 2019 varied by sex, age, and race and ethnicity

Convicted males (74%) were sentenced to prison more often than convicted females (60%) (table 8).

Twenty-one percent of females received a probation-only sentence, compared to 6% of males. Eighty-five percent of convicted black defendants received a prison sentence, compared to 80% of American Indian or Alaska Native defendants; 77% of white defendants; 68% of Asian,

**TABLE 8**  
Characteristics of sentenced persons, FY 2019

Demographic characteristic	Number convicted	Type of sentence				Median sentence length	
		Prison <sup>a</sup>	Probation only	Fine only	Suspended	Prison	Probation
<b>Total</b>	78,256	72.2%	8.1%	1.7%	18.0%	30 mos.	36 mos.
<b>Sex</b>							
Male	65,357	74.3%	6.1%	0.9%	18.7%	30 mos.	36 mos.
Female	8,999	60.4	21.1	2.1	16.4	24	36
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>							
White <sup>b</sup>	13,980	76.9%	14.0%	2.0%	7.0%	57 mos.	36 mos.
Black <sup>b</sup>	14,563	84.9	8.5	1.1	5.5	60	36
Hispanic	42,815	67.4	5.1	0.2	27.2	18	36
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander <sup>b</sup>	1,051	68.1	19.3	2.3	10.4	37	36
American Indian/ Alaska Native <sup>b</sup>	1,302	80.4	13.1	0.9	5.7	37	36
<b>Age</b>							
18–19	1,214	59.8%	9.9%	2.3%	28.0%	13 mos.	36 mos.
20–24	8,557	67.4	9.1	2.1	21.4	24	36
25–29	13,013	72.4	7.1	1.0	19.5	32	36
30–34	13,847	73.3	6.3	0.8	19.7	30	36
35–39	12,583	75.1	6.0	0.7	18.3	33	36
40–44	9,466	75.2	6.4	0.7	17.7	30	36
45–49	6,491	74.3	8.3	0.9	16.6	30	36
50–54	4,070	74.4	9.7	1.1	14.8	31	36
55–59	2,483	71.7	13.2	1.5	13.6	36	36
60–64	1,461	71.1	17.5	1.2	10.3	36	36
65 or older	1,196	61.5	25.6	2.4	10.5	36	36
Median age	35 yrs.	35 yrs.	36 yrs.	31 yrs.	33 yrs.	~	~
<b>Citizenship</b>							
U.S. citizen	40,163	81.2%	11.4%	1.3%	6.1%	51 mos.	36 mos.
Non-U.S. citizen	33,854	63.1	3.5	0.2	33.1	13	36
<b>Country/region of citizenship</b>							
North America	69,262	74.2%	7.7%	0.6%	17.5%	37 mos.	36 mos.
United States	38,858	81.9	11.2	1.0	5.9	51	36
Mexico	21,998	67.7	2.8	0.1	29.4	13	36
Canada	79	70.5	9.0	5.1	15.4	41	60
Caribbean Islands <sup>c</sup>	1,302	76.7	6.6	0.2	16.5	30	36
Central America <sup>c</sup>	7,025	51.4	3.8	0.1	44.7	10	36
South America <sup>c</sup>	929	71.1	4.9	0.2	23.8	57	36
Asia and Oceania <sup>c</sup>	414	64.0	16.3	3.2	16.6	30	36
Europe <sup>c</sup>	295	64.8	8.5	2.0	24.8	26	36
Africa <sup>c</sup>	218	73.4	4.6	0.5	21.6	30	24

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The unit of count is a defendant in a case filed in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately. Includes defendants charged in U.S. district court with a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor offense as the most serious charge. Percentages are based on nonmissing cases. There were 201 records missing sentence type, 3,900 records missing sex of defendant, 4,545 records missing race or ethnicity of defendant, 3,875 records missing age of defendant, and 4,239 records missing defendant's citizenship status.

~Not applicable.

<sup>a</sup>Includes sentences to incarceration, such as mixed (a prison term followed by a probation term) and life sentences.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks). Defendants self-reported race and ethnicity during the pretrial interview. Information was collected for one race and one ethnicity category.

<sup>c</sup>Countries aggregated by region.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File; U.S. Sentencing Commission, Monitoring data file; and Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year 2019.

Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander defendants; and 67% of Hispanic defendants. Black defendants were sentenced to a median of 60 months in prison, compared to a median sentence of 57 months for white defendants. Defendants convicted in FY 2019 had a median age of 35 years. Eighty-one percent of convicted defendants who were U.S. citizens received a prison sentence, compared to 63% of non-U.S. citizens. One third (33%) of convicted defendants who were non-U.S. citizens received a suspended sentence, compared to 6% of U.S. citizens.

parole, or supervised release, or were admitted for a reason other than a U.S. district court commitment. In FY 2019, 21,075 persons entered federal prison for drug offenses, most of whom (15,574, or 74%) had been sentenced to more than 1 year.

A total of 65,581 persons were released from federal prison in FY 2019. Most of them (50,620) were being released for the first time since their U.S. district court commitment. There were 6,695 fewer inmates in federal prison on September 30, 2019 than October 1, 2018. During 2019, the number of persons in federal prison for drug offenses declined by 3,208 and the number of persons in federal prisons for immigration offenses declined by 2,426. The number of persons committed to federal prison for public order (339) and weapon (51) offenses increased during FY 2019.

## Federal prison

In FY 2019, a total of 58,886 federally sentenced persons were admitted to federal prison (table 9). Of these, 45,425 entered federal prison on U.S. district court commitments. Another 13,461 persons were returned to federal prison for violating conditions of probation,

**TABLE 9**  
**Admissions and releases of federal prisoners, by offense, FY 2019**

Most serious commitment offense <sup>a</sup>	Population at start of year <sup>b</sup>	Persons admitted			Persons released			Population at end of year <sup>g</sup>	Net population change
		District court <sup>c</sup>		All other <sup>e</sup>	First release <sup>d</sup>		All other <sup>f</sup>		
		Sentence of 1 year or less	Sentence of more than 1 year			Time served of 1 year or less		Time served of more than 1 year	
<b>Total</b>	163,853	6,331	39,094	13,461	8,196	42,424	14,961	157,158	-6,695
<b>Violent</b>	9,826	85	1,487	1,021	103	1,724	1,182	9,410	-416
<b>Property</b>	9,467	703	3,131	1,170	841	3,792	1,349	8,498	-969
Fraud	8,000	527	2,678	833	669	3,242	993	7,136	-864
Other	1,467	176	453	337	172	550	356	1,362	-105
<b>Drug</b>	76,351	456	15,574	5,045	555	18,105	5,623	73,143	-3,208
<b>Public order</b>	25,699	447	5,733	1,427	511	5,258	1,499	26,038	339
Regulatory	3,119	203	1,080	164	183	1,063	169	3,151	32
Other	22,580	244	4,653	1,263	328	4,195	1,330	22,887	307
<b>Weapon</b>	29,508	202	7,206	2,752	220	7,033	2,856	29,559	51
<b>Immigration</b>	12,338	4,394	5,838	1,995	5,891	6,373	2,389	9,912	-2,426

Note: The unit of count is a person admitted to or released from the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Persons who are admitted and released in the same year are counted separately. Excludes persons sentenced to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by the D.C. Superior Court, military prisoners transferred to Federal Bureau of Prisons' facilities to serve their sentence, U.S. citizen prisoners transferred to the U.S. from another country to serve their sentence closer to home, and persons convicted of a state offense but serving time in a federal prison for their security needs. Percentages are based on nonmissing cases. Offense information was missing at the start of the year for 664 persons and at the end of the year for 598 persons. Persons who entered or left a prison temporarily (such as for transit to another location, for health care, or to serve a weekend sentence) were not counted as admitted or released.

<sup>a</sup>Offense with the longest sentence imposed at conviction.

<sup>b</sup>The population as of October 1, 2018.

<sup>c</sup>Persons committed by a U.S. district court for U.S. Code violations.

<sup>d</sup>Persons released after being committed by a U.S. district court.

<sup>e</sup>Persons who were committed following a return to prison for violating conditions of their supervised release, or were received for examination, treatment, or transfer to another jurisdiction.

<sup>f</sup>Persons released from prison without a new court commitment after they were committed for violating conditions of their supervised release.

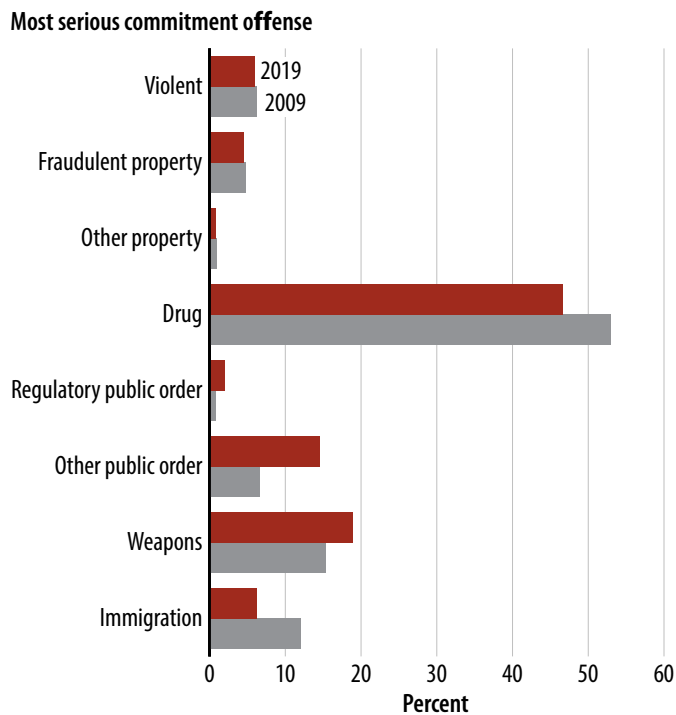
<sup>g</sup>The population as of September 30, 2019.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year 2019.

## Persons committed for a drug offense made up nearly half the population in federal prison at fiscal year-end 2019

In 2009 and 2019, most people in federal prison were serving time for a drug offense (figure 6). Persons with a drug offense as the most serious commitment offense made up 47% of the prison population at fiscal year-end 2019, down from 53% at fiscal year-end 2009. Persons serving time for a weapon offense increased from 15% of the prison population in 2009 to 19% in 2019. Persons serving time for a violent offense remained at 6% in 2009 and 2019, and persons serving time for an immigration offense decreased from 12% in 2009 to 6% in 2019.

**FIGURE 6**  
Percent of persons in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, by most serious commitment offense, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019



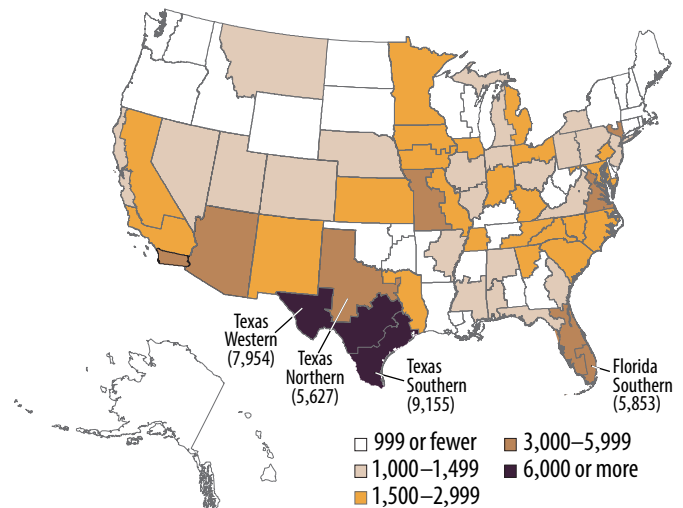
Note: Based on the offense with the longest sentence. The unit of count is the individual, federally sentenced person in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons on September 30, 2009 and September 30, 2019. Includes persons sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes persons sentenced to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by the D.C. Superior Court, military prisoners transferred to Federal Bureau of Prisons' facilities to serve their sentence, U.S. citizen prisoners transferred to the U.S. from another country to serve their sentence closer to home, and persons convicted of a state offense but serving time in a federal prison for their security needs. See *Methodology*. Percentages are based on nonmissing data. There were 1,334 records missing offense type in 2009 and 598 records missing offense type in 2019. See appendix table 5 for estimates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019.

## Four judicial districts committed 18% of persons in federal prison at fiscal year-end 2019

At fiscal year-end 2019, nearly a fifth (18%) of people in federal prison had been committed from four districts: Texas Southern (9,155), Texas Western (7,954), Florida Southern (5,853), and Texas Northern (5,627) (map 2). Courts in three states (Texas, California, and Florida) committed 31% of inmates in federal prison at fiscal year-end 2019.

**MAP 2**  
Federally sentenced persons in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, by judicial district of commitment, fiscal year-end 2019



Note: The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) had custody of 157,158 federally sentenced persons on September 30, 2019. Data were missing for district of commitment (2). The unit of count is the individual, federally sentenced person in BOP custody. Includes persons sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes persons sentenced to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by the D.C. Superior Court, military prisoners transferred to Federal Bureau of Prisons' facilities to serve their sentence, U.S. citizen prisoners transferred to the U.S. from another country to serve their sentence closer to home, and persons convicted of a state offense but serving time in a federal prison for their security needs. The map shows the number of persons in BOP custody by the federal judicial district in which they received their sentence to the BOP. Federal districts not shown on map (number of persons in BOP custody in parentheses): District of Columbia (756), Guam (78), Northern Mariana Islands (20), Puerto Rico (3,025), and U.S. Virgin Islands (153).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2019.

### The type of commitment offense varied by person's race and ethnicity at year-end 2019

Hispanic, black, and white persons in federal prison at fiscal year-end 2019 were most commonly committed for drug offenses (figure 7). The majority of persons serving time for a drug (29,153) and immigration (9,366) offense were Hispanic. Most persons serving time for a weapon (24,888) and violent (3,281) offense were black. The largest number of persons serving time for a public order offense (14,980) were white. American Indians and Alaska Natives were most commonly in prison for violent (2,118), drug (560), or weapon (420) offenses.

### Nearly 1 in 5 federally sentenced persons in the BOP were non-U.S. citizens in FY 2019

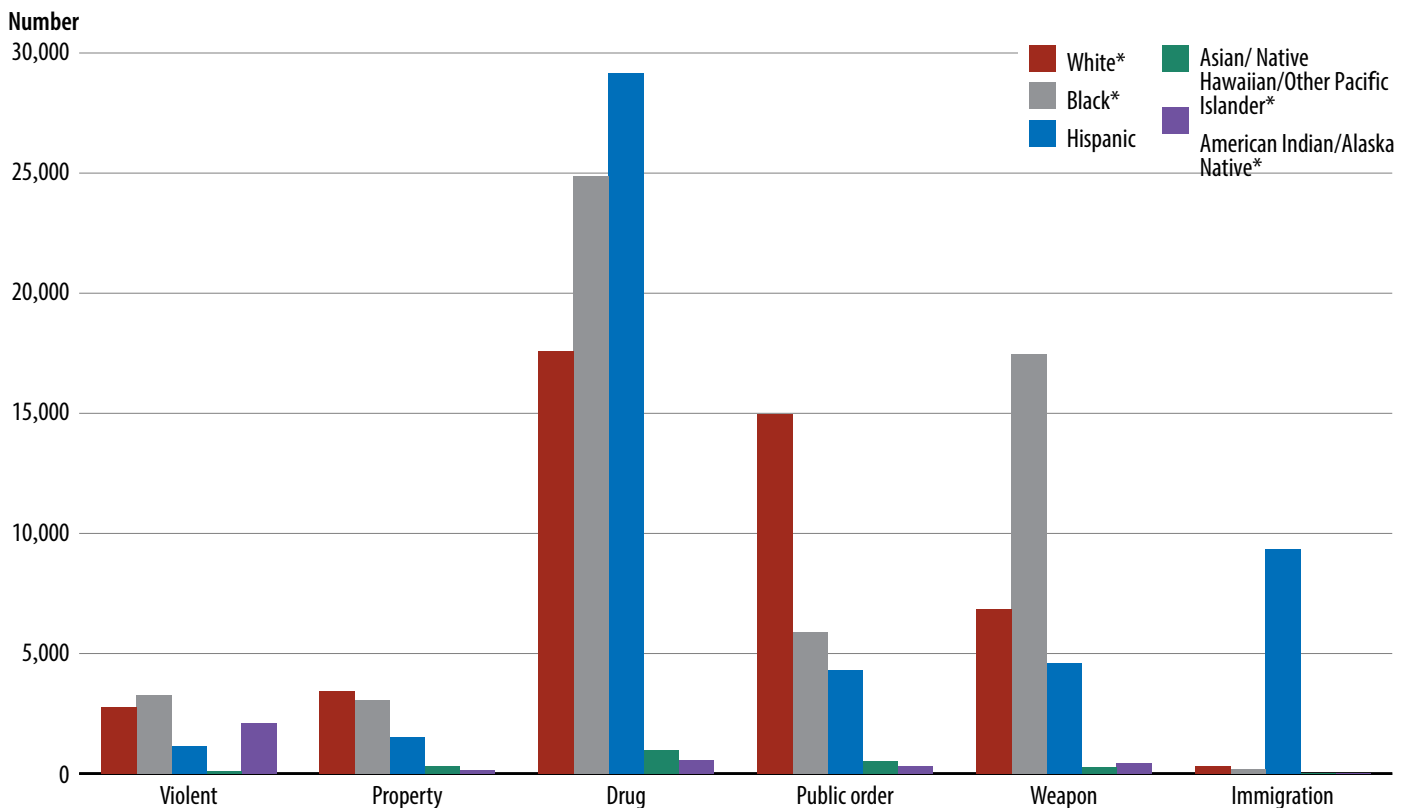
In FY 2019, nearly 12% of federally sentenced persons were citizens of Mexico, 2% were citizens of Caribbean countries, 2% were citizens of Central American

countries, and 2% were citizens of South American countries (table 10). From FY 2009 to FY 2019, the portion of persons who were non-U.S. citizens decreased from 26% to 18%. During that period, the number of Mexican nationals in federal prison decreased by an average of 6% annually.

### The number of persons in federal prison age 65 or older increased 52% from FY 2009 to FY 2019

The median age of persons in federal prison was 40 years in FY 2019, compared to 37 years in FY 2009. The number of persons age 65 or older increased 52%, from 3,295 persons in FY 2009 to 5,012 persons in FY 2019. Persons age 65 or older made up about 3% of all federal people in FY 2019, compared to 2% in FY 2009.

**FIGURE 7**  
Race or ethnicity of federally sentenced persons in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, by most serious commitment offense, fiscal year-end 2019



Note: Data are based on the offense with the longest sentence. The unit of count is the individual, federally sentenced prisoner in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons on September 30, 2019. Includes prisoners sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes persons sentenced to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by the D.C. Superior Court, military prisoners transferred to Federal Bureau of Prisons' facilities to serve their sentence, U.S. citizen prisoners transferred to the U.S. from another country to serve their sentence closer to home, and persons convicted of a state offense but serving time in a federal prison for their security needs. See *Methodology*. There were 598 records missing offense type. See appendix table 6 for estimates.

\*Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2019.

**TABLE 10****Demographic characteristics of federally sentenced persons in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019**

Demographic characteristic	2009		2019		Average annual percent change, 2009–2019 <sup>a</sup>
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
<b>Total</b>	184,644	100%	157,158	100%	-1.6%
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	172,375	93.4%	145,762	92.8%	-1.6%
Female	12,269	6.6	11,396	7.3	-0.1
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>					
White <sup>b</sup>	50,792	27.5%	46,236	29.4%	-0.9%
Black <sup>b</sup>	67,654	36.6	54,941	35.0	-2.0
Hispanic	60,140	32.6	50,196	31.9	-1.7
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander <sup>b</sup>	2,818	1.5	2,162	1.4	-2.6
American Indian/Alaska Native <sup>b</sup>	3,240	1.8	3,623	2.3	1.1
<b>Age</b>					
17 or younger	31	<0.1%	5	<0.1%	-5.4%
18–19	347	0.2	172	0.1	-5.6
20–24	10,745	5.8	6,033	3.8	-5.5
25–29	28,106	15.2	17,459	11.1	-4.6
30–34	37,239	20.2	24,970	15.9	-3.8
35–39	34,554	18.7	28,845	18.4	-1.7
40–44	25,767	14.0	26,117	16.6	0.2
45–49	19,717	10.7	19,880	12.7	0.1
50–54	12,898	7.0	13,753	8.8	0.7
55–59	7,566	4.1	9,466	6.0	2.3
60–64	4,379	2.4	5,446	3.5	2.3
65 or older	3,295	1.8	5,012	3.2	4.4
Median age	37 yrs.	~	40 yrs.	~	~
<b>Citizenship</b>					
U.S. citizen	135,738	73.6%	128,634	81.9%	-0.5%
Non-U.S. citizen	48,723	26.4	28,523	18.2	-5.0
<b>Country/region of citizenship</b>					
North America	179,128	97.1%	152,955	97.3%	-1.5%
United States	135,738	73.6	128,634	81.9	-0.5
Mexico	34,301	18.6	18,570	11.8	-5.7
Canada	404	0.2	192	0.1	-6.8
Caribbean Islands <sup>c</sup>	5,543	3.0	2,970	1.9	-6.0
Central America <sup>c</sup>	3,142	1.7	2,589	1.7	-1.5
South America <sup>c</sup>	2,950	1.6	2,441	1.6	-1.7
Asia and Oceania <sup>c</sup>	1,386	0.8	819	0.5	-5.1
Europe <sup>c</sup>	526	0.3	491	0.3	-0.6
Africa <sup>c</sup>	471	0.3	451	0.3	-0.3

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Federal prisoner populations are shown as of September 30, 2009 and 2019. Includes prisoners sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes persons sentenced to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by the D.C. Superior Court, military prisoners transferred to Federal Bureau of Prisons' facilities to serve their sentence, U.S. citizen prisoners transferred to the U.S. from another country to serve their sentence closer to home, and persons convicted of a state offense but serving time in a federal prison for their security needs. Percentages are based on nonmissing cases. There were 183 records missing citizenship in 2009 and one record missing citizenship in 2019.

~Not applicable.

<sup>a</sup>Average annual percent change measures the change over a period of two or more years. It shows the average rate of increase (or decrease) in persons in federal prison per year from 2009–2019. See *Methodology*.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic whites and “black” refers to non-Hispanic blacks). Defendants self-reported race and ethnicity during the presentence interview. Information was collected for one race and one ethnicity category.

<sup>c</sup>Countries aggregated by region.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019.



## Federal supervision in the community

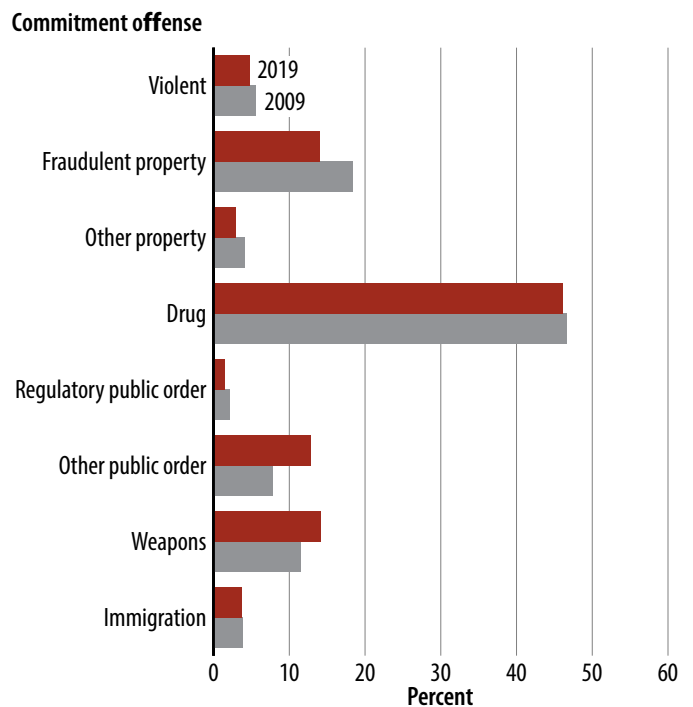
The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts' Probation and Pretrial Services system oversees the federal supervision of persons in the community. This includes persons released before trial and persons supervised in the community after being convicted. Federal probation officers monitor compliance with the court-ordered conditions of supervision.

### 88% of persons were under federal supervision following release from prison at fiscal year-end 2019

At fiscal year-end 2019, a total of 126,487 persons were under federal supervision in the community. About 88% were on supervised release (110,932) or parole (897) after release from prison (table 11). The remaining 12% were on probation (14,658), which is a sentence to a term of supervision in the community in the federal justice system. Of the 126,487 persons under federal supervision at fiscal year-end 2019, 84% were male and 16% were female. The relatively higher rates of females than males on federal supervision reflected a greater likelihood of females than males being sentenced to probation. Black (44,505) and white (40,495) persons together made up 69% of persons under federal supervision in the community at fiscal year-end 2019. The median age of persons on probation was 40 years. The median age of persons under supervised release was 42 years, and persons on parole had a median age of 55 years. Three percent of persons under post-conviction federal supervision at fiscal year-end 2019 were non-U.S. citizens.

The number of persons on post-conviction supervision in the community increased from 123,371 in FY 2009 to 126,487 in FY 2019 (not shown in table). Persons on supervision for a drug offense made up a slightly smaller share of persons under federal supervision in the community, decreasing from 47% at fiscal year-end 2009 to 46% at fiscal year-end 2019 (figure 8). During that period, the number of persons under supervision for a fraudulent property offense decreased from 18% to 14% of all persons under community supervision, while the number of persons under supervision for an other public order offense increased from 8% to 13% and the number of persons under supervision for a weapon offense increased from 12% to 14% of all the number of persons under supervision.

**FIGURE 8**  
Persons under federal supervision in the community, by type of commitment offense, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019



Note: The unit of count is an individual person serving a term under federal supervision in the community. Percentages are based on nonmissing data. There were 513 records missing commitment offense in 2009 and 238 records missing commitment offense in 2019. See appendix table 7 for estimates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019.

**TABLE 11****Demographic characteristics of persons under post-conviction federal supervision, fiscal year-end 2019**

Demographic characteristic	All persons		Probation		Supervised release		Parole	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Total</b>	126,487	100%	14,658	11.6%	110,932	87.7%	897	0.7%
<b>Sex</b>								
Male	105,940	83.9%	9,057	62.7%	96,008	86.6%	875	97.6%
Female	20,326	16.1	5,382	37.3	14,922	13.4	22	2.4
<b>Race/Hispanic origin<sup>a</sup></b>								
White <sup>b</sup>	40,945	33.2%	5,767	41.9%	34,889	32.1%	289	34.6%
Black <sup>b</sup>	44,505	36.1	3,714	27.0	40,366	37.2	425	50.9
Hispanic	32,194	26.1	3,326	24.1	28,774	26.5	94	11.3
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander <sup>b</sup>	2,725	2.2	518	3.8	2,194	2.0	13	1.6
American Indian/Alaska Native <sup>b</sup>	2,867	2.3	453	3.3	2,400	2.2	14	1.7
<b>Age</b>								
17 or younger	26	<.01%	22	0.2%	4	<.01%	0	<.01%
18–19	208	0.2	126	0.9	82	0.1	0	<.01
20–24	4,320	3.4	1,336	9.3	2,965	2.7	19	2.1
25–29	11,881	9.4	1,913	13.3	9,924	9.0	44	4.9
30–34	17,204	13.6	1,892	13.1	15,256	13.8	56	6.2
35–39	21,036	16.7	1,838	12.7	19,135	17.3	63	7.0
40–44	19,864	15.7	1,561	10.8	18,240	16.4	63	7.0
45–49	16,729	13.3	1,457	10.1	15,172	13.7	100	11.2
50–54	12,219	9.7	1,204	8.3	10,908	9.8	107	11.9
55–59	9,514	7.5	1,112	7.7	8,295	7.5	107	11.9
60–64	6,156	4.9	820	5.7	5,219	4.7	117	13.0
65 or older	7,109	5.6	1,158	8.0	5,730	5.2	221	24.6
Median age	~	42 yrs.	~	40 yrs.	~	42 yrs.	~	55 yrs.
<b>Citizenship</b>								
U.S. citizen	122,426	97.1%	13,676	94.8%	107,899	97.4%	851	95.6%
Non-U.S. citizen	3,669	2.9	746	5.2	2,884	2.6	39	4.4
<b>Country of citizenship</b>								
North America	124,990	99.8%	14,153	98.1%	109,961	99.3%	876	98.4%
United States	122,426	97.1	13,676	94.8	107,899	97.4	851	95.6
Mexico	820	0.7	191	1.3	622	0.6	7	0.8
Canada	29	<0.1	12	<0.1	17	<0.1	0	<.01
Caribbean <sup>c</sup>	1,410	1.8	155	1.1	1,239	1.1	16	1.8
Central America <sup>c</sup>	305	0.2	119	0.8	184	0.2	2	0.2
South America <sup>c</sup>	168	0.1	44	0.3	115	0.1	9	1.0
Asia and Oceania <sup>c</sup>	550	0.4	129	0.9	418	0.4	3	0.3
Europe <sup>c</sup>	212	0.2	54	0.4	156	0.1	2	0.2
Africa <sup>c</sup>	175	0.1	42	0.3	133	0.1	0	<.01

Note: The unit of count is an individual person under federal supervision on September 30, 2019. Percentages are based on nonmissing cases. There were 221 records missing age of defendant, 221 records missing sex of defendant, 3,251 records missing race or ethnicity of defendant, and 97 records missing defendant's citizenship status.

~Not applicable.

<sup>a</sup>Includes suspects for whom characteristics are not known.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

<sup>c</sup>Countries aggregated by region.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Office of Probation and Pretrial Services, Pretrial Services Act Information System, fiscal year 2019.

## Methodology

This report uses data from the Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP), a collection from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The FJSP receives administrative data files from six federal criminal justice agencies. Data represent the federal criminal case-processing stages from arrest to imprisonment and release. BJS standardizes this information to maximize comparability across and within agencies over time. This includes—

- applying, where possible, the person-case as the primary unit of count (exceptions include at arrest, where the unit of count is the individual suspect; at sentencing under federal sentencing guidelines, where the unit of count is the sentencing event; and at imprisonment, where the unit of count is the prisoner). The unit of analysis in this report is a combination of a person and an arrest, matter or case. For example, if a person is arrested and booked twice in the indicated time period, such as with a supervision violation and again with a new offense, this is counted as two arrests/bookings. The unit of analysis for incarceration, probation, parole, or other supervised release is a person entering custody or supervision, a person leaving custody or supervision, or a person in custody or supervision at year-end. For example, if a person is convicted in two concurrent cases and committed once to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons in the indicated time period, they are counted as one admission to a term of incarceration.
- delineating the fiscal year (October 1 through September 30) as the period for reported events
- applying a uniform offense classification across agencies. Offense categories for federal arrestees are based on the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Crime Information Center (NCIC) offense classifications, which are aggregated into the offense categories shown in the report. Offense categories for persons in prison or on federal supervision are based on offense classifications used by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AOUSC), respectively. Data from the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys is classified using United States Code titles and sections, into the AOUSC offense classification system and then aggregated into the offense categories used in the tables.
- classifying dispositions and sentences imposed.

## FJSP data sources

**U.S. Marshals Service:** The Justice Detainee Information System provides information on suspects arrested for federal offenses. Suspects are counted more than once in a fiscal year if they are arrested multiple times during the period. This report uses the most serious arrest offense that suspects were booked for by the deputy U.S. marshal. Deputy U.S. marshals take federal suspects who have been charged with a crime into custody (which includes booking, processing, and detaining the suspects), oversee court security, and coordinate prisoner transportation, among other duties.

**Drug Enforcement Administration:** The Defendant Statistical System contains data on suspects arrested within the U.S. by Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents. The data include information on the characteristics of persons arrested and the type of drug for which they were arrested. Suspects are counted more than once in a fiscal year if they are arrested multiple times by the DEA during the period.

**Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys:** The Legal Information Office Network System database contains information on the investigation and prosecution of suspects in criminal matters received and concluded and criminal cases filed and terminated by U.S. attorneys. Suspects are counted more than once in a fiscal year if they are involved in multiple matters received and concluded during the period. A matter is defined as a referral in which an attorney spends 1 hour or more investigating. The lead charge is used to classify the most serious offense at referral and is defined as the substantive statute that is the primary basis of referral.

**Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts:** The Criminal Master File contains information about the criminal proceedings against defendants whose cases were filed and terminated in U.S. district courts. A criminal case is initiated by the government, usually through the U.S. attorney's office in coordination with a law enforcement agency. A criminal case is terminated when a defendant is convicted following plea or trial, acquittal of the defendant after trial, or dismissal of the case. The Criminal Master File includes information on cases involving felonies and Class A and B misdemeanors handled by U.S. district judges.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup>A felony is classified as an offense for which the maximum term of imprisonment is more than 1 year in prison. Offenses classified as misdemeanors include those for which the maximum term of imprisonment is less than 1 year in prison. Class A misdemeanors include offenses for which the maximum term of imprisonment is 1 year or less but more than 6 months in prison. Class B misdemeanors include offenses for which the maximum term of imprisonment is 6 months or less but more than 30 days in prison.

Offenses are based on the most serious charged offense, as determined by the probation officer responsible for interviewing the defendant. The probation officer classifies the major offense charged into AOUSC four-digit offense codes, which are maintained and updated by the AOUSC. For defendants charged with more than one offense on an indictment, the probation officer chooses the offense carrying the most severe penalty or, in the case of two or more charges carrying the same penalty, the one with the highest offense severity. The offense severity level is determined by the AOUSC, which ranks offenses according to the maximum sentence, type of crime, and maximum fine amount.

This report also uses AOUSC data from the Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System (PACTS), which contains information on defendants interviewed and supervised by pretrial services. These data are used to describe background characteristics of persons who are arraigned. PACTS data are also used to describe persons under post-sentencing supervision in the community.

**U.S. Sentencing Commission:** The Monitoring Database contains information on criminal defendants sentenced pursuant to the provisions of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984. Data files are limited to defendants whose court records have been obtained by the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

**Federal Bureau of Prisons:** The SENTRY database contains information on all federally sentenced persons admitted to or released from federal prison during a fiscal year and persons in federal prison at fiscal year-end (September 30). The prisoner count reported by the FJSP differs from what is reported by the BOP, although data are from the same source (SENTRY). For example, the BOP reported 177,214 prisoners as of September 30, 2019. (See [https://www.bop.gov/about/statistics/population\\_statistics.jsp](https://www.bop.gov/about/statistics/population_statistics.jsp).) The FJSP starts with data extracted from SENTRY that differs slightly from this total (176,830). The difference (384 records) may be due to the timing of when the data request was made. The data reported by the BOP draws on a more current extract of the database which includes updated records. Of the 176,830 records, 14,551 records were dropped because the prisoner was not listed at a BOP custodial facility. The excluded records included designations to community confinement, home confinement, a hospital, Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention, material witness, and presentence admission. Next, 956 records were excluded due to missing commitment offense, and 3,689 prisoners were excluded because they were sentenced by the District of Columbia Superior Court. Finally, 476 prisoners were dropped because they were held as a state boarder, a foreign treaty

transfer, or serving a sentence from a military court commitment. Of the 176,830 prisoners reported by the BOP in custody on September 30, 2019, a total of 157,158 (89% of the total population) met the criteria as federally sentenced prisoners (figure 9). Average annual percentage change used in figure 1, table 10, and appendix table 2 measures the average rate of growth (or decline) in the number per year between 2009 and 2019. The following formula is used:

$$\left[ \left( \frac{\text{n}^{\text{th}} \text{ year}}{\text{First year}} \right)^{1/n} - 1 \right] \times 100$$

To compute the total average annual percent change in the BOP custody population (2009-2019):

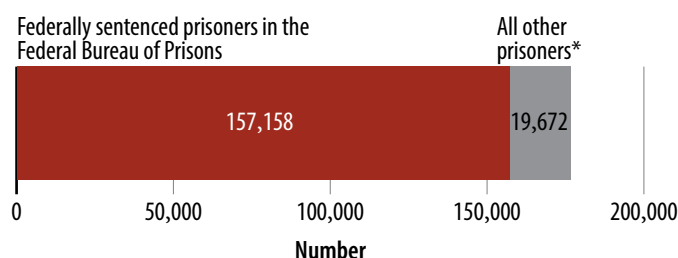
$$\left\{ \left[ \left( \frac{157,158}{184,644} \right)^{\frac{1}{2019-2009}} - 1 \right] \times 100 = [(.85114^{0.10}) - 1] \times 100 = (0.984011 - 1) \times 100 \approx -1.6\% \right.$$

### Other resources

FJSP data are available in the Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics Tool, an interactive BJS web tool that permits users to query the federal data and download the results as a spreadsheet.<sup>5</sup> This tool is available on the BJS website. It provides statistics by the stage of the federal criminal case process, including law enforcement, prosecution and courts, and incarceration. Users can generate queries for up to three variables using data for the years 1998 to 2019. Users can also generate queries by the title and section of the U.S. criminal code.

<sup>5</sup>The BJS Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics (FCCPS) query tool is available here: <https://www.bjs.gov/fjsrc/>.

**FIGURE 9**  
**Universe of prisoners held under the Federal Bureau of Prisons jurisdiction and federally sentenced prisoners in custody, fiscal year-end 2019**



Note: Excludes persons sentenced to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by the D.C. Superior Court, military prisoners transferred to Federal Bureau of Prisons' facilities to serve their sentence, U.S. citizen prisoners transferred to the U.S. from another country to serve their sentence closer to home, and persons convicted of a state offense but serving time in a federal prison for their security needs. See appendix table 8 for estimates.

\*Includes federally sentenced prisoners held in private facilities.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2019.

**APPENDIX TABLE 1****Estimates for figure 1: Suspects and defendants processed in the federal justice system, FY 1994–2019**

Fiscal year	Suspects investigated <sup>a</sup>	Suspects arrested <sup>b</sup>	Defendants charged <sup>c</sup>	Defendants convicted <sup>d</sup>	Defendants sentenced to prison <sup>d</sup>
1994	99,251	80,450	62,327	50,701	33,022
1995	102,220	82,989	63,547	47,556	31,805
1996	97,776	84,860	65,480	53,076	36,373
1997	110,034	91,504	69,351	56,570	39,431
1998	115,692	103,866	78,172	60,958	43,041
1999	117,994	109,033	80,031	66,055	47,659
2000	123,559	115,025	83,251	68,156	50,451
2001	121,818	116,777	82,614	68,533	51,057
2002	124,335	121,610	87,727	71,798	53,682
2003	130,078	124,708	92,085	75,805	57,629
2004	141,215	138,223	92,645	74,782	58,106
2005	137,590	137,411	91,578	78,042	61,151
2006	133,935	144,072	87,650	79,904	63,699
2007	138,410	151,844	88,742	79,356	62,893
2008	178,570	173,463	91,835	82,823	64,529
2009	188,341	181,726	97,513	86,975	67,499
2010	187,916	179,034	99,921	89,902	69,494
2011	187,735	177,547	103,021	92,240	70,049
2012	190,596	172,248	92,789	87,908	67,582
2013	190,267	188,164	89,843	82,838	64,390
2014	160,505	165,265	80,051	78,155	60,626
2015	157,313	153,478	78,742	72,427	56,018
2016	151,994	151,460	76,276	69,487	54,274
2017	143,684	142,008	76,138	68,553	52,898
2018	195,842	195,771	86,024	72,588	54,112
2019	203,030	206,630	91,520	78,256	56,366
Average annual percent change, 1999-2019 <sup>e</sup>	104.6%	156.8%	46.8%	54.3%	60.2%
Percent change, 2018-2019	3.7	5.5	6.4	7.8	2.3

<sup>a</sup>Suspects in matters investigated by U.S. attorneys. Suspects in more than one matter are counted separately.

<sup>b</sup>Suspects arrested by federal law enforcement. Suspects arrested more than once are counted separately. Excludes District of Columbia Superior Court arrests.

<sup>c</sup>Defendants charged with a felony or a Class A misdemeanor in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately.

<sup>d</sup>Defendants in cases terminated with a felony or a Class A misdemeanor in U.S. district court. Defendants in more than one terminated case are counted separately.

<sup>e</sup>Average annual percent change measures the change over a period of two or more years. It shows the average rate of increase (or decrease) per year from 2009-2019. See *Methodology*.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the U.S. Marshals Service, Prisoner Tracking and Justice Detainee Information System; Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, National Legal Information Office Network System database; and Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal years 1994–2019.

**APPENDIX TABLE 2**

**Estimates for figure 2 and 3: Estimates for figure 2: Federal and state arrests by the Drug Enforcement Administration, by powder cocaine, crack cocaine, heroin, and other opioids, FY 2009–2019; and figure 3: Federal and state arrests by the Drug Enforcement Administration, by marijuana, methamphetamine, and other non-opioids, FY 2009–2019**

Fiscal year	Total	Powder cocaine	Crack cocaine	Heroin <sup>a</sup>	Other opioids <sup>b</sup>	Marijuana	Methamphetamine	Other non-opioids <sup>c</sup>
2009	31,061	8,854	2,955	3,070	1,294	7,532	4,948	2,408
2010	31,517	8,231	2,640	3,029	1,582	8,215	5,527	2,293
2011	32,379	7,664	2,726	3,575	2,379	7,723	5,547	2,765
2012	31,628	7,386	2,653	3,664	2,269	6,787	6,000	2,869
2013	30,532	6,346	2,113	4,181	2,227	5,862	6,858	2,945
2014	29,549	5,582	1,782	4,852	2,048	5,082	7,005	3,197
2015	31,593	6,017	1,567	6,340	1,918	4,741	8,023	2,932
2016	29,486	5,484	1,455	5,926	1,553	4,213	8,068	2,787
2017	27,223	5,495	1,152	5,452	1,748	3,541	7,280	2,555
2018	27,348	5,198	1,103	5,078	2,020	3,266	8,088	2,595
2019	27,543	4,899	970	4,837	1,849	2,597	9,076	3,315
Average annual percent change, 2009-2019 <sup>d</sup>	-1.1%	-5.6%	-10.2%	5.4%	5.2%	-9.8%	6.5%	3.9%

Note: The unit of count is an arrest by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Each arrest for an individual is counted separately. Includes state and federal arrests made by the DEA.

<sup>a</sup>Includes heroin, morphine, and opium base.

<sup>b</sup>Opioids refer to synthetic compounds that emulate the effects of natural compounds found in the opium poppy. Synthetic opioids are commonly available by prescription but can also be manufactured in labs.

<sup>c</sup>Includes non-opioid pharmaceutical controlled substances, other depressants, sedatives, ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, hallucinogens, synthetic cannabinoids, other steroids, equipment to manufacture controlled substances, and drug use paraphernalia.

<sup>d</sup>Average annual percent change measures the change over a period of two or more years. It shows the average rate of increase (or decrease) in DEA drug arrests per year from 2009-2019. See *Methodology*.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Drug Enforcement Administration, Defendant Statistical System, fiscal years 2009–2019.

**APPENDIX TABLE 3**

**Estimates for figure 4: Defendants in criminal cases filed in U.S. district court, by offense type, FY 2009–2019**

Fiscal year	Total	Violent	Property	Drug	Public order	Weapon	Immigration
2009	90,634	3,186	15,015	26,053	11,762	7,865	26,753
2010	92,540	2,990	16,362	25,096	11,898	7,312	28,882
2011	93,997	3,157	16,688	26,724	12,074	7,352	28,002
2012	84,237	2,994	13,868	25,310	10,145	6,863	25,057
2013	81,045	3,200	13,078	24,745	9,929	6,501	23,592
2014	72,453	3,112	11,647	21,318	8,989	5,782	21,605
2015	71,072	3,086	10,613	21,588	9,208	6,142	20,435
2016	68,862	3,227	9,424	21,288	8,022	6,507	20,394
2017	68,584	3,180	8,743	21,348	8,069	7,157	20,087
2018	77,579	3,401	8,952	21,524	7,925	8,306	27,471
2019	82,694	3,374	8,792	22,563	7,918	8,942	31,105
Percent change, 2018-2019	6.6%	-0.8%	-1.8%	4.8%	-0.1%	7.7%	13.2%

Note: The unit of count is a defendant in a case filed in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately. Includes defendants charged in U.S. district court with a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor as the most serious charge.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal years 2009–2019.

**APPENDIX TABLE 4****Estimates for figure 5: Percent of defendants charged in U.S. district court, by sex and most serious offense, FY 2019**

Most serious offense	Male	Female
Total	87.2%	12.8%
Violent	90.0	10.0
Property	71.9	28.1
Drug	80.6	19.4
Public order	89.3	10.7
Weapon	95.7	4.3
Immigration	92.2	7.8

Note: The unit of count is a defendant in a case filed in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately. Includes defendants charged in U.S. district court with a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor offense as the most serious charge. Percentages are based on nonmissing data. There were 206 records missing sex of defendant; 219 records were missing offense type.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year 2019.

**APPENDIX TABLE 5****Estimates for figure 6: Percent of prisoners in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, by most serious commitment offense, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019**

Most serious commitment offense	2019	2009
Violent	6.0%	6.3%
Fraudulent property	4.6	4.8
Other property	0.9	1.0
Drug	46.7	53.0
Regulatory public order	2.0	0.9
Other public order	14.6	6.6
Weapon	18.9	15.3
Immigration	6.3	12.1

Note: Based on the offense with the longest sentence. The unit of count is the individual, federally sentenced prisoner in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons on September 30, 2009 and September 30, 2019. Includes prisoners sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes persons sentenced to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by the D.C. Superior Court, military prisoners transferred to Federal Bureau of Prisons' facilities to serve their sentence, U.S. citizen prisoners transferred to the U.S. from another country to serve their sentence closer to home, and persons convicted of a state offense but serving time in a federal prison for their security needs. See *Methodology*. Percentages are based on nonmissing data. There were 1,334 records missing offense type in 2009 and 598 records missing offense type in 2019.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019.

**APPENDIX TABLE 6****Estimates for figure 7: Race or ethnicity of federally sentenced persons in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, by most serious commitment offense, fiscal year-end 2019**

Most serious commitment offense	White*	Black*	Hispanic	Asian/ Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	American Indian/ Alaska Native*
Violent	2,786	3,281	1,139	86	2,118
Property	3,443	3,069	1,522	311	151
Drug	17,584	24,888	29,153	958	560
Public order	14,980	5,901	4,313	524	320
Weapon	6,851	17,455	4,581	252	420
Immigration	309	187	9,366	15	35

Note: Data are based on the offense with the longest sentence. The unit of count is the individual, federally sentenced prisoner in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons on September 30, 2019. Includes prisoners sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes persons sentenced to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by the D.C. Superior Court, military prisoners transferred to Federal Bureau of Prisons' facilities to serve their sentence, U.S. citizen prisoners transferred to the U.S. from another country to serve their sentence closer to home, and persons convicted of a state offense but serving time in a federal prison for their security needs. See *Methodology*. There were 598 records missing offense type.

\*Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2019.

---

**APPENDIX TABLE 7****Estimates for figure 8: Persons under federal supervision in the community, by type of commitment offense, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019**

Commitment offense	2019	2009
Violent	4.8%	5.6%
Fraudulent property	14.1	18.4
Other property	2.9	4.2
Drug	46.1	46.6
Regulatory public order	1.5	2.1
Other public order	12.8	7.8
Weapon	14.2	11.5
Immigration	3.7	3.9

Note: The unit of count is a person serving a term under federal supervision in the community. Percentages are based on nonmissing data. There were 513 records missing commitment offense in 2009 and 238 records missing commitment offense in 2019.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year-end 2009 and 2019.

---

---

**APPENDIX TABLE 8****Estimates for figure 9: Universe of prisoners held under the Federal Bureau of Prisons' jurisdiction and federally sentenced prisoners in the bureau's custody, fiscal year-end 2019**

Jurisdiction	Number
Total	176,830
Federally sentenced prisoners in the Federal Bureau of Prisons	157,158
All other prisoners*	19,672

Note: Excludes persons sentenced to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by the D.C. Superior Court, military prisoners transferred to Federal Bureau of Prisons' facilities to serve their sentence, U.S. citizen prisoners transferred to the U.S. from another country to serve their sentence closer to home, and persons convicted of a state offense but serving time in a federal prison for their security needs.

\*Includes federally sentenced prisoners held in private facilities.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2019.

---





The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Doris J. James is the acting director.

This report was written by Mark Motivans. George E. Browne verified the report.

David Fialkoff edited the report. Carrie Epps-Carey produced the report.

October 2021, NCJ 301158



NCJ 301158

**Office of Justice Programs**  
**Building Solutions • Supporting Communities • Advancing Justice**  
[www.ojp.gov](http://www.ojp.gov)