



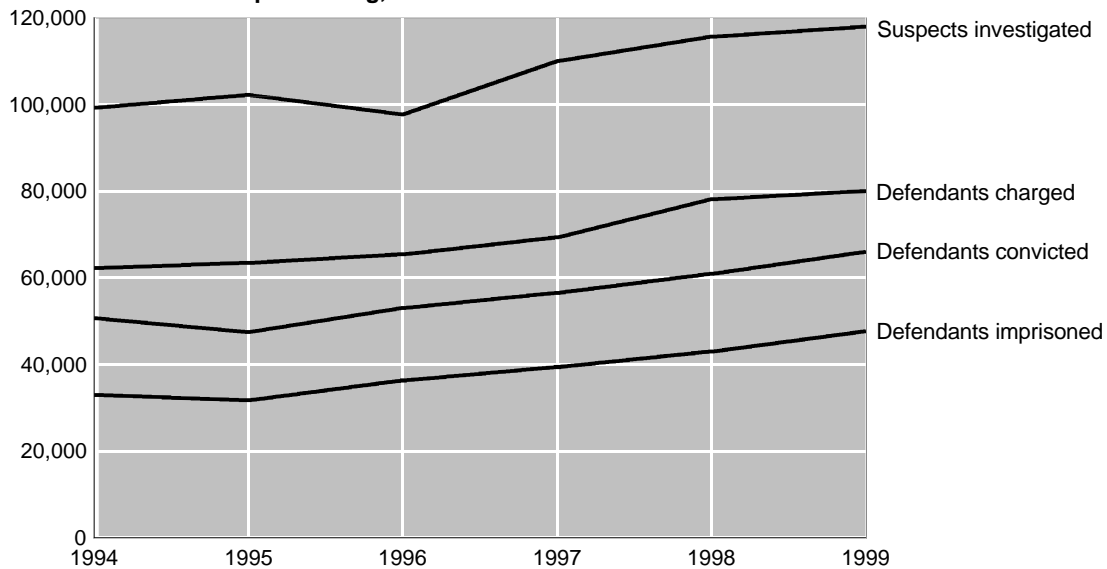
Bureau of Justice Statistics

Federal Justice Statistics: Reconciled Data

Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1999

With trends 1982-99

Federal criminal case processing, 1994-99





Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1999

With trends 1982-99

Federal Justice Statistics: Reconciled Data

February 2001, NCJ 186180

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Statistics

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To order additional copies of this report or CD-ROMs containing the Federal Justice database, call the BJS Clearinghouse at 1-800-732-3277.

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Highlights

- w During 1999, 109,452 offenders were arrested by Federal law enforcement agencies for possible violation of Federal law. Almost 30% of all arrests were for drug offenses, a fifth (21%) for immigration offenses, 15% for property offenses, 14% for supervision violations, 4% for violent offenses, and about 4% to secure and safeguard a material witness.
- w During 1999, U.S. attorneys initiated investigations involving 117,994 suspects for possible violations of Federal law. Almost a third (32%) of those investigated were suspected of a drug violation.
- w Between 1994 and 1999, investigations initiated by U.S. attorneys have increased 18.9% — from 99,251 to 117,994. Investigations for immigration violations increased from 5,526 to 15,539; for drug offenses, investigations increased from 29,311 to 37,313.
- w During 1999, U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute a smaller proportion of those investigated, as declinations decreased from 36% of matters concluded during 1994 to 27% during 1999.
- w Criminal charges were filed against 80,031 defendants (felony and misdemeanor) in U.S. district courts during 1999 — a 28% increase since 1994.
- w During 1999 criminal cases involving 75,723 defendants were concluded in U.S. district courts. Of these, 87% were convicted. Almost all (95%) of those convicted pleaded guilty or no contest.
- w Drug prosecutions have comprised an increasing proportion of the Federal criminal caseload — from 21% of defendants in cases terminating in U.S. district court during 1982 to 36% during 1999.
- w Since implementation of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, the proportion of defendants sentenced to prison increased from 54% during 1988 to 72% during 1999. The proportion of drug offenders sentenced to prison increased from 79% to 92%.
- w Prison sentences imposed increased from 55.1 months during 1988 to 58.1 months during 1999. For drug offenses, prison sentences increased from 71.3 months to 75.4 months; for weapon offenses, sentences imposed increased from 52.3 months to 99.5 months.
- w Time expected to be served increased from 26.9 months for offenders admitted during 1988 to 44.8 months for offenders admitted during 1999. For drug offenses, the amount of time an incoming offender could expect to serve increased from 39.3 months to 61.8 months; for weapon offenses, expected time served increased from 32.4 months to 75.7 months.

Federal criminal case processing, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

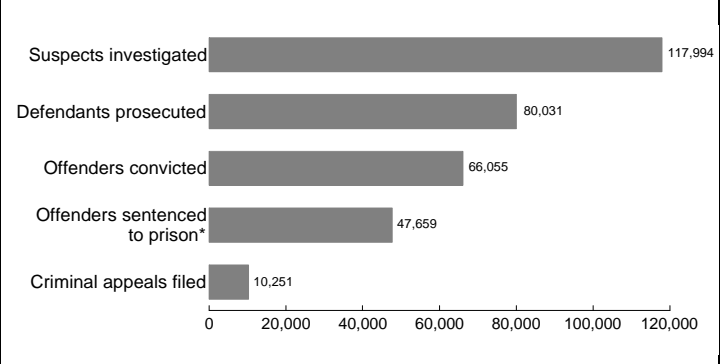


Figure H.1.

Number of offenders under Federal correctional supervision, September 30, 1999

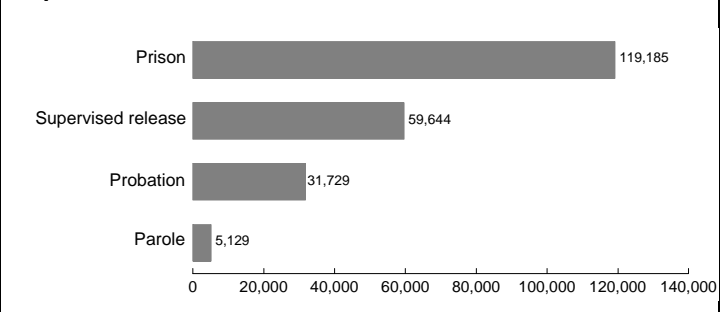


Figure H.2.

- w During 1999, the U.S. Court of Appeals received 10,251 criminal appeals. Forty-seven percent of these appeals challenged both the conviction and the sentence imposed.
- w During 1999, 96,502 offenders were under Federal community supervision. Supervised release has become the primary form of supervision in the Federal system: 61.8% of offenders were on supervised release compared to 32.9% on probation, and 5.3% remaining on parole.
- w On September 30, 1999, 119,185 offenders were serving a prison sentence in Federal prison; 57% were incarcerated for a drug offense; 11% for a violent offense; 8% for a weapon offense; 7% for a property offense, 8% for an immigration offense; and 9% for all other offenses.

*Prison includes offenders given life and death sentences, and includes new law offenders given prison-community split sentences (prison and conditions of alternative community confinement). Also included are offenders given mixed sentences of prison plus probation, applicable only to offenders sentenced pursuant to laws applicable prior to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.

Introduction

Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1999, second in an annual series, provides statistics that describe defendants processed at different stages of the Federal criminal justice system for the 12-month period ending September 30, 1999. Also included are figures describing trends in Federal criminal case processing during the 1982-99 period.

The data presented are compiled from the BJS Federal justice database. The Federal justice database is comprised of data provided by the U.S. Marshals Service, the Executive Office for the U.S. Attorneys, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the U.S. Sentencing Commission, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts provides data describing the Federal court docket — criminal, civil, and appellate — as well as pretrial services, probation, parole, and supervised release.

The Federal justice database may be obtained electronically from the Federal Justice Statistics Resource Center website or on CD-ROM from the BJS Clearinghouse. For more detailed information on obtaining the Federal justice database, see page ii.

Statistics presented in this report include the number of suspects arrested by Federal law enforcement agencies for violations of Federal law, the number of suspects investigated by U.S. attorneys for possible violations of Federal law, the outcome of U.S. attorney investigations (prosecution or declination), the number of defendants prosecuted in U.S. district courts, the outcome of criminal cases (convicted, not convicted), sanctions imposed on defendants convicted (type of sentence imposed and length of imprisonment), the number and type of criminal appeals filed, and the number of offenders under Federal correctional supervision — prison, probation, parole, and supervised release. A related publication, the *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics*, provides more detail on many of the statistics presented in this

report — including statistics on up to 40 offense categories and statistics on additional case processing concepts such as pretrial release and demographic characteristics of offenders.

Several case processing statistics presented in this report have previously been reported by the agencies. However, because individual agencies use different criteria to collect, tabulate, and report on case processing events, statistics published by each of the agencies may not be directly comparable. In this report, BJS has attempted to reconcile differences in data collection and reporting in order to present comparable statistics across stages of the Federal criminal justice system. For a description of the reconciliation effort and the methodology employed, see *Comparing Case Processing Statistics* (NCJ-169274) and *Reconciling Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics* (NCJ-171680).

Since many terms and concepts used in this report have specialized meanings — either because they refer to specific provisions of Federal law or they refer to procedures used by agencies supplying the data — readers are encouraged to reference the glossary of the *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics* for definitions of concepts.

Modifications to *Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1999*

In *Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1999*, a new detailed offense category, **Nonviolent sex offenses**, was introduced and is classified under the larger **Public-order offenses** category. Included in this new category are offenses such as pornography and prostitution. Formerly, such offenses had been included under the detailed offense category **Other sex offenses**, which was classified under **Violent offenses**. Therefore, comparisons between tables in this report and tables in the 1998 report must be made with this reclassification in mind.

Federal criminal case processing, 1999

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October 1, 1998 – September 30, 1999

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Table 1. Arrests for Federal offenses, by offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

| Most serious offense | Number | Percent ^a |
|--|---------|----------------------|
| All offenses^b | 109,452 | 100% |
| Violent offenses^c | 4,236 | 3.9 |
| Property offenses | 16,627 | 15.2 |
| Fraudulent^c | 13,187 | 12.1 |
| Other^c | 3,440 | 3.1 |
| Drug offenses | 31,937 | 29.2 |
| Public-order offenses | 36,943 | 33.8 |
| Regulatory | 748 | 0.7 |
| Other | 36,195 | 33.1 |
| Weapons | 4,258 | 3.9 |
| Immigration | 22,837 | 20.9 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 1,269 | 1.2 |
| Other | 7,831 | 7.1 |
| Supervision violations | 15,651 | 14.3 |
| Material witness | 4,008 | 3.7 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offense | 50 | |

^aPercent based on number whose offense category could be determined.

^bIncludes suspects whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Table 2. Suspects in criminal matters investigated by U.S. attorneys, by offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

| Most serious offense investigated ^a | Suspects in criminal matters received by U.S. attorneys | |
|--|---|----------------------|
| | Number | Percent ^b |
| All offenses^c | 117,994 | 100% |
| Violent offenses^d | 5,768 | 5.0 |
| Property offenses | 28,011 | 24.1 |
| Fraudulent^d | 24,200 | 20.8 |
| Other^d | 3,811 | 3.3 |
| Drug offenses | 37,313 | 32.0 |
| Public-order offenses | 45,337 | 38.9 |
| Regulatory | 6,332 | 5.4 |
| Other | 39,005 | 33.5 |
| Weapons | 6,982 | 6.0 |
| Immigration | 15,539 | 13.3 |
| Tax law violation ^d | 982 | 0.8 |
| Other | 15,502 | 13.3 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 1,565 | |

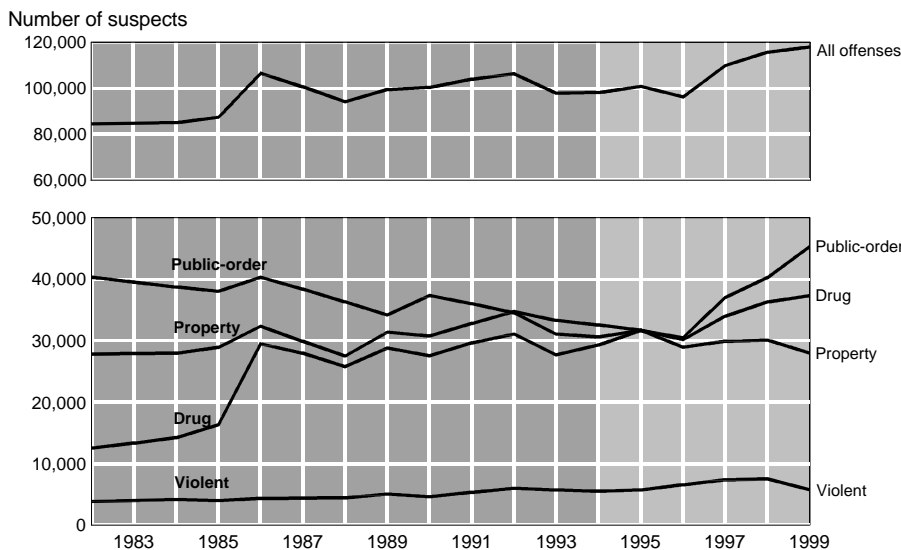
^aBased on the decision of the assistant U.S. attorney responsible for the matter.

^bPercent based on number whose offense category could be determined.

^cIncludes suspects whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^dIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Number of suspects in criminal matters investigated by U.S. attorneys, by category of offense, 1982-99



Note: Data for 1982 through 1993 are estimated from calendar year data; see *Methodology*. Beginning in 1994, data are reported on the Federal fiscal year running from October 1 through September 30.

Figure 1

Table 3. Disposition of suspects in matters concluded by U.S. attorneys, by offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

| Most serious offense investigated ^a | Suspects in criminal matters concluded | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------|---|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| | Total number of suspects | Prosecuted before U.S. district court judge ^b | | Concluded by U.S. magistrate ^c | | Declined prosecution ^d | |
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| All offenses^e | 113,933 | 68,384 | 60.0% | 14,545 | 12.8% | 31,004 | 27.2% |
| Violent offenses^f | 5,631 | 3,327 | 59.1 | 308 | 5.5 | 1,996 | 35.4 |
| Property offenses | 28,314 | 14,032 | 49.6 | 2,321 | 8.2 | 11,961 | 42.2 |
| Fraudulent^f | 24,575 | 12,319 | 50.1 | 1,678 | 6.8 | 10,578 | 43.0 |
| Other^f | 3,739 | 1,713 | 45.8 | 643 | 17.2 | 1,383 | 37.0 |
| Drug offenses | 36,765 | 28,372 | 77.2 | 2,132 | 5.8 | 6,261 | 17.0 |
| Public-order offenses | 42,026 | 22,419 | 53.3 | 9,119 | 21.7 | 10,488 | 25.0 |
| Regulatory | 5,698 | 1,648 | 28.9 | 445 | 7.8 | 3,605 | 63.3 |
| Other | 36,328 | 20,771 | 57.2 | 8,674 | 23.9 | 6,883 | 18.9 |
| Weapons | 5,919 | 4,149 | 70.1 | 110 | 1.9 | 1,660 | 28.0 |
| Immigration | 15,201 | 11,794 | 77.6 | 2,935 | 19.3 | 472 | 3.1 |
| Tax law violation ^f | 1,193 | 737 | 61.8 | 35 | 2.9 | 421 | 35.3 |
| Other | 14,015 | 4,091 | 29.2 | 5,594 | 39.9 | 4,330 | 30.9 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 1,197 | 234 | 19.5 | 665 | 55.6 | 298 | 24.9 |

^aBased on the decision of the assistant U.S. attorney responsible for the matter.

^bIncludes suspects whose cases were filed in U.S. district court before a district court judge.

^cIncludes defendants in misdemeanor cases that were terminated in U.S. district court before a U.S. magistrate.

^dIncludes suspects whose matters were declined for prosecution by U.S. attorneys upon review.

^eIncludes suspects whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^fIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Table 4. Defendants in cases proceeded against in U.S. district courts, by offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

| Most serious offense charged ^a | Defendants in cases commenced | |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| | Number | Percent ^b |
| All offenses^c | 80,031 | 100% |
| Felonies | 67,442 | 84.4 |
| Violent offenses^d | 2,976 | 3.7 |
| Property offenses | 14,779 | 18.5 |
| Fraudulent^d | 12,028 | 15.1 |
| Other^d | 2,751 | 3.4 |
| Drug offenses | 29,306 | 36.7 |
| Trafficking | 27,296 | 34.2 |
| Possession and other | 2,010 | 2.5 |
| Public-order offenses | 20,381 | 25.5 |
| Regulatory | 1,245 | 1.6 |
| Other | 19,136 | 23.9 |
| Weapons | 4,924 | 6.2 |
| Immigration | 10,550 | 13.2 |
| Tax law violation ^d | 661 | 0.8 |
| Other | 3,001 | 3.8 |
| Misdemeanors^d | 12,474 | 15.6 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 115 | |

^aBased on the offense carrying the most severe statutory maximum penalty.

^bPercent distribution based on the defendants for whom an offense category could be determined.

^cIncludes defendants for whom an offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^dIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Table 5. Disposition of defendants in cases terminated in U.S. district courts, by offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

| Most serious offense charged ^a | Number of defendants | Percent convicted | Defendants in cases terminating in U.S. district courts | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | | | Number convicted | | | Number not convicted | | |
| | | | Total | Plea ^b | Trial ^c | Total | Dismissed ^d | Acquitted ^e |
| All offenses^e | 75,723 | 87.2% | 66,055 | 62,819 | 3,236 | 9,668 | 8,552 | 1,116 |
| Felonies | 62,839 | 90.5 | 56,865 | 54,005 | 2,860 | 5,974 | 5,332 | 642 |
| Violent offenses^f | 3,093 | 89.9 | 2,781 | 2,518 | 263 | 312 | 243 | 69 |
| Property offenses | 14,055 | 90.4 | 12,712 | 12,152 | 560 | 1,343 | 1,183 | 160 |
| Fraudulent^f | 11,587 | 90.6 | 10,493 | 10,039 | 454 | 1,094 | 962 | 132 |
| Other^f | 2,468 | 89.9 | 2,219 | 2,113 | 106 | 249 | 221 | 28 |
| Drug offenses | 27,008 | 89.9 | 24,275 | 22,967 | 1,308 | 2,733 | 2,502 | 231 |
| Trafficking | 25,334 | 89.8 | 22,748 | 21,536 | 1,212 | 2,586 | 2,367 | 219 |
| Possession and other | 1,674 | 91.2 | 1,527 | 1,431 | 96 | 147 | 135 | 12 |
| Public-order offenses | 18,683 | 91.5 | 17,097 | 16,368 | 729 | 1,586 | 1,404 | 182 |
| Regulatory | 1,306 | 83.7 | 1,093 | 1,034 | 59 | 213 | 177 | 36 |
| Other | 17,377 | 92.1 | 16,004 | 15,334 | 670 | 1,373 | 1,227 | 146 |
| Weapons | 4,087 | 88.6 | 3,623 | 3,269 | 354 | 464 | 394 | 70 |
| Immigration | 9,759 | 95.4 | 9,306 | 9,216 | 90 | 453 | 426 | 27 |
| Tax law violation ^f | 635 | 95.7 | 608 | 568 | 40 | 27 | 23 | 4 |
| Other | 2,896 | 85.2 | 2,467 | 2,281 | 186 | 429 | 384 | 45 |
| Misdemeanors^f | 12,793 | 71.2 | 9,115 | 8,748 | 367 | 3,678 | 3,207 | 471 |
| Unknown or indeterminable | 91 | 82.4 | 75 | 66 | 9 | 16 | 13 | 3 |

^aBased on the offense carrying the most severe statutory maximum penalty.

^bIncludes *nolo contendere*.

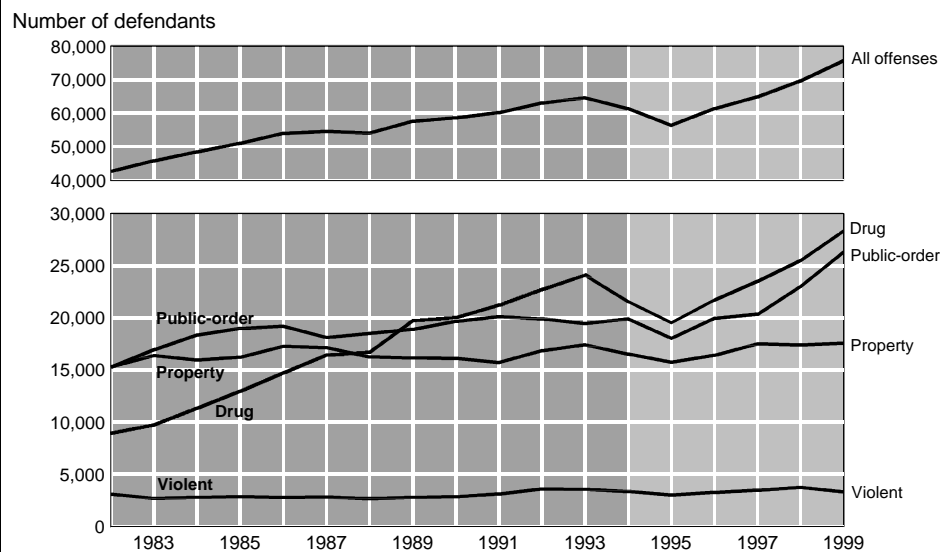
^cIncludes bench and jury trials.

^dIncludes defendants in cases dismissed for lack of evidence or lack of Federal interest.

^eIncludes defendants for whom an offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^fIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Number of defendants in criminal cases terminated in U.S. district court, by category of offense, 1982-99



Note: Data for 1982 through 1993 are based on a 12-month calendar year reporting period ending December 31. Beginning in 1994, data are reported on the Federal fiscal year running from October 1 through September 30. Figure 2 displays data by major offense category, but does not show the felony/misdemeanor distinction. Therefore, the data points on the trend lines will not match the data in Appendix table A.7, nor will the 1999 data points match the data in table 5, above.

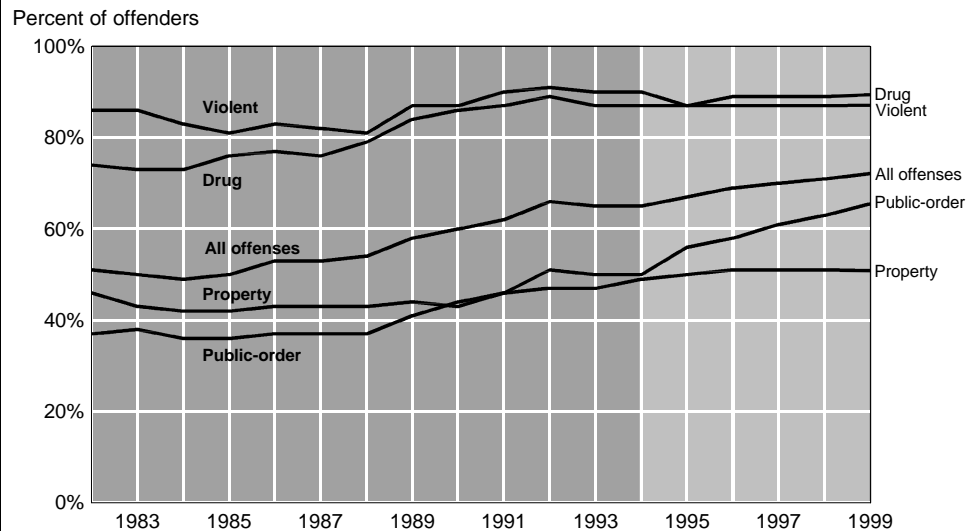
Figure 2

Table 6. Sanctions imposed on offenders convicted and sentenced in U.S. district courts, by offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

| Most serious offense of conviction ^a | Offenders convicted and sentenced | | | | | | Months of imprisonment imposed ^f | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------|---|---------|
| | Number | | | | | | Mean | Median |
| | Total | Imprisonment ^b | Mixed sentence ^c | Probation ^d | Fine only | Other ^e | | |
| All offenses^g | 66,055 | 47,090 | 569 | 12,408 | 3,148 | 2,658 | 58.1 mo | 33.0 mo |
| Felonies | 55,864 | 45,596 | 474 | 7,491 | 275 | 1,873 | 59.6 | 36.0 |
| Violent offenses^h | 2,715 | 2,463 | 26 | 182 | 3 | 38 | 88.1 | 60.0 |
| Property offenses | 12,232 | 7,058 | 146 | 4,171 | 141 | 642 | 24.1 | 15.0 |
| Fraudulent^h | 10,203 | 5,938 | 129 | 3,340 | 130 | 599 | 22.4 | 14.0 |
| Other^h | 2,029 | 1,120 | 17 | 831 | 11 | 43 | 33.0 | 18.0 |
| Drug offenses | 23,476 | 21,557 | 137 | 1,134 | 45 | 572 | 75.4 | 51.0 |
| Trafficking | 21,698 | 19,990 | 127 | 981 | 32 | 539 | 74.8 | 48.0 |
| Possession and other | 1,778 | 1,567 | 10 | 153 | 13 | 33 | 83.4 | 60.0 |
| Public-order offenses | 17,441 | 14,518 | 165 | 2,004 | 86 | 621 | 48.7 | 30.0 |
| Regulatory | 1,410 | 621 | 6 | 665 | 45 | 68 | 26.3 | 15.0 |
| Other | 16,031 | 13,897 | 159 | 1,339 | 41 | 553 | 49.7 | 30.0 |
| Weapons | 3,423 | 3,106 | 85 | 190 | 2 | 36 | 99.5 | 60.0 |
| Immigration | 9,357 | 8,398 | 29 | 409 | 17 | 474 | 30.7 | 27.0 |
| Tax law violation ^h | 653 | 328 | 16 | 299 | 3 | 4 | 20.1 | 12.0 |
| Other | 2,598 | 2,065 | 29 | 441 | 19 | 39 | 57.6 | 30.0 |
| Misdemeanors^h | 10,118 | 1,462 | 94 | 4,879 | 2,873 | 783 | 10.8 | 4.0 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 73 | 32 | 1 | 38 | 0 | 2 | 62.2 | 36.5 |

^aBased on the disposition offense with the most severe sentence.
^bIncludes offenders given life and death sentences, and includes new law offenders given prison-community split sentences (prison and conditions of alternative community confinement).
^cIncludes offenders given mixed sentences of prison plus probation; applicable only to offenders sentenced pursuant to laws applicable prior to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.
^dIncludes offenders given probation plus conditions of confinement, such as home confinement or intermittent confinement.
^eIncludes offenders who had no sentence imposed, those with sealed sentences, and those who were deported.
^fCalculations exclude offenders given life or death sentences. For new law offenders given prison-community split sentences, imprisonment length includes prison sentences only.
^gIncludes offenders for whom offense categories could not be determined or for whom a sentence was unknown. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.
^hIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Defendants convicted in U.S. district court: Percentage sentenced to prison, by category of offense, 1982-99



Note: Data for 1982 through 1993 are based on a 12-month calendar year reporting period ending December 31. Beginning in 1994, data are reported on the Federal fiscal year running from October 1 through September 30. Figure 3 displays data by major offense category, but does not show the felony/misdemeanor distinction. Since table 6 and Appendix tables A.9 and A.10 show felonies and misdemeanors separately, the percentages displayed in figure 3 cannot be calculated from numbers appearing in the tables.

Figure 3

Table 7. Criminal appeals filed, by type of criminal case and offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

| Most serious offense of conviction ^a | Number of criminal appeals filed | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------|
| | | | Guidelines-based appeals | | | | |
| | Total | Preguideline | Total | Sentence only | Conviction only | Sentence and conviction | Other |
| All offenses^b | 10,251 | 1,535 | 8,716 | 2,379 | 1,368 | 4,839 | 130 |
| Violent offenses^c | 559 | 87 | 472 | 114 | 80 | 270 | 8 |
| Property offenses | 1,739 | 264 | 1,475 | 389 | 216 | 840 | 30 |
| Fraudulent^c | 1,338 | 195 | 1,143 | 312 | 164 | 642 | 25 |
| Other^c | 401 | 69 | 332 | 77 | 52 | 198 | 5 |
| Drug offenses | 4,513 | 621 | 3,892 | 1,044 | 631 | 2,160 | 57 |
| Public-order offenses | 2,958 | 348 | 2,610 | 716 | 402 | 1,460 | 32 |
| Regulatory | 162 | 31 | 131 | 38 | 18 | 74 | 1 |
| Other | 2,796 | 317 | 2,479 | 678 | 384 | 1,386 | 31 |
| Weapons | 1,070 | 136 | 934 | 225 | 157 | 537 | 15 |
| Immigration | 934 | 30 | 904 | 291 | 108 | 504 | 1 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 91 | 16 | 75 | 15 | 14 | 46 | 0 |
| Other | 701 | 135 | 566 | 147 | 105 | 299 | 15 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 482 | 215 | 267 | 116 | 39 | 109 | 3 |

^aBased on the disposition offense with the most severe sentence.

^bIncludes offenders for whom offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other non-fraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Table 8. Offenders under Federal supervision, by offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

| Most serious offense of conviction ^b | Offenders under active supervision ^a | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------|--------|--------------------------------|---------|--------|--------------------|
| | Total | Probation | | Post-incarceration supervision | | | |
| | | Number | Number | Percent | Parole | | Supervised release |
| | | | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| All offenses^c | 96,502 | 31,729 | 100% | 5,129 | 100% | 59,644 | 100% |
| Felonies^d | 85,759 | 21,527 | 68.3 | 5,121 | 99.9 | 59,111 | 99.3 |
| Violent offenses^e | 5,439 | 680 | 2.2 | 1,383 | 27.0 | 3,376 | 5.7 |
| Property offenses | 28,262 | 11,996 | 38.0 | 548 | 10.7 | 15,718 | 26.4 |
| Fraudulent^e | 23,381 | 9,647 | 30.6 | 333 | 6.5 | 13,401 | 22.5 |
| Other^e | 4,881 | 2,349 | 7.4 | 215 | 4.2 | 2,317 | 3.9 |
| Drug offenses | 37,929 | 3,477 | 11.0 | 2,662 | 51.9 | 31,790 | 53.4 |
| Trafficking | 33,774 | 3,064 | 9.7 | 2,420 | 47.2 | 28,290 | 47.5 |
| Possession and other | 4,155 | 413 | 1.3 | 242 | 4.7 | 3,500 | 5.9 |
| Public-order offenses | 13,840 | 5,179 | 16.4 | 526 | 10.3 | 8,135 | 13.7 |
| Regulatory | 2,331 | 1,385 | 4.4 | 33 | 0.6 | 913 | 1.5 |
| Other | 11,509 | 3,794 | 12.0 | 493 | 9.6 | 7,222 | 12.1 |
| Weapons | 4,123 | 588 | 1.9 | 171 | 3.3 | 3,364 | 5.6 |
| Immigration | 1,334 | 673 | 2.1 | 4 | 0.1 | 657 | 1.1 |
| Tax law violation ^e | 1,733 | 1,042 | 3.3 | 26 | 0.5 | 665 | 1.1 |
| Other | 4,319 | 1,491 | 4.7 | 292 | 5.7 | 2,536 | 4.3 |
| Misdemeanors^e | 10,743 | 10,202 | 32.4 | 8 | 0.2 | 533 | 0.9 |

^aIncludes offenders under active supervision at the close of the fiscal year. This population includes offenders under the three major forms of supervision: probation, supervised release, and parole. Included under parole are two less common types of old law release: mandatory release and special parole. Excluded from the number of offenders under active supervision reported in the table are offenders released to military parole and offenders under community supervision prior to sentencing (such as during pretrial release or pretrial investigation).

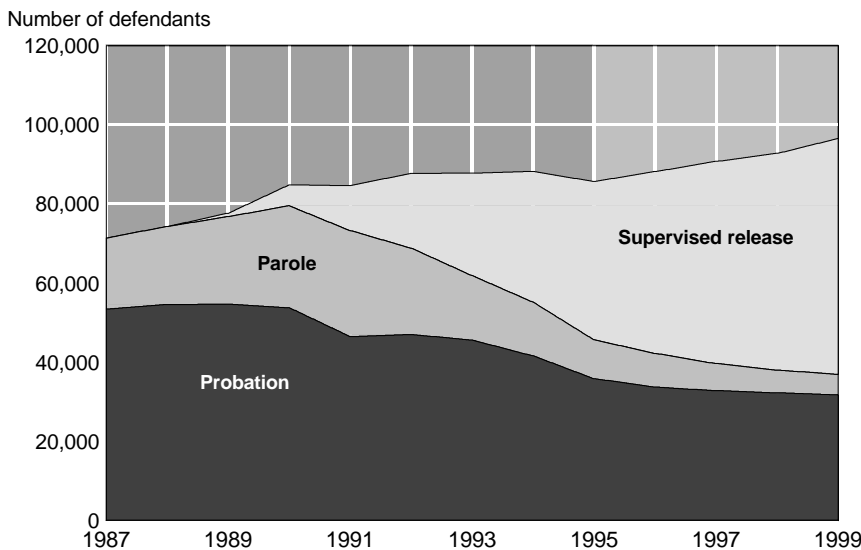
^bBased on the offense with the longest sentence imposed.

^cIncludes offenders for whom offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^dIncludes 289 total offenders, 195 offenders under probation, 2 under parole, and 92 under supervised release whose felony offense category could not be determined.

^eIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other non-fraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Number of offenders under Federal supervision, by type of supervision, 1987-99



Note: Data for 1987 through 1994 are based on a count of the supervised population as of June 30. Beginning in 1995, data are based on a count as of September 30.

Figure 4

Table 9. Federal prison admissions and releases, by offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

| Most serious original offense of conviction ^a | Population at start of year | Prisoners admitted | | Prisoners released | | Population at end of year | Net change |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| | | District court ^b | All other ^c | District court ^d | All other ^e | | |
| All offenses^f | 107,671 | 47,391 | 16,595 | 37,672 | 14,800 | 119,185 | 11,514 |
| Violent offenses^g | 12,675 | 2,342 | 2,826 | 1,959 | 2,529 | 13,355 | 680 |
| Property offenses | 8,484 | 6,602 | 3,987 | 6,576 | 3,815 | 8,682 | 198 |
| Fraudulent^g | 6,424 | 5,527 | 2,425 | 5,460 | 2,363 | 6,553 | 129 |
| Other^g | 2,060 | 1,075 | 1,562 | 1,116 | 1,452 | 2,129 | 69 |
| Drug offenses | 62,438 | 20,991 | 5,509 | 15,737 | 4,841 | 68,360 | 5,922 |
| Trafficking | 61,990 | 20,767 | 4,968 | 15,553 | 4,337 | 67,835 | 5,845 |
| Possession and other | 448 | 224 | 541 | 184 | 504 | 525 | 77 |
| Public-order offenses | 22,047 | 16,836 | 3,838 | 12,986 | 3,279 | 26,456 | 4,409 |
| Regulatory | 1,087 | 657 | 236 | 694 | 238 | 1,048 | -39 |
| Other | 20,960 | 16,179 | 3,602 | 12,292 | 3,041 | 25,408 | 4,448 |
| Weapons | 8,701 | 2,527 | 1,017 | 1,847 | 904 | 9,494 | 793 |
| Immigration | 7,150 | 10,848 | 1,009 | 8,076 | 775 | 10,156 | 3,006 |
| Tax law violation ^g | 392 | 309 | 87 | 350 | 108 | 330 | -62 |
| Other | 4,717 | 2,495 | 1,489 | 2,019 | 1,254 | 5,428 | 711 |
| Unknown or indeterminable | 2,027 | 620 | 435 | 414 | 336 | 2,332 | 305 |

^aBased on the offense having the longest sentence.

^bOffenders committed from U.S. district courts.

^cIncludes other commitments, such as offenders committed from other courts and violators of conditions of supervised release.

^dIncludes prisoners released for the first time from a U.S. district court commitment.

^eIncludes prisoners released from commitments other than a first release from a U.S. district court commitment.

^fIncludes prisoners for whom an offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^gIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

U.S. district court commitments and first releases from Federal prison, by expected or actual time in prison, 1986-99

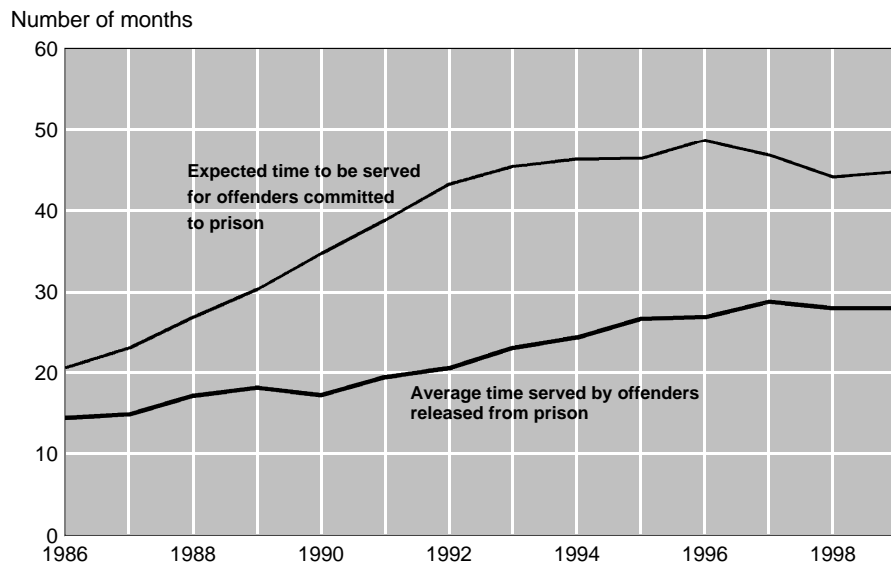


Figure 5

Methodology

The Federal justice database

Source of data

The source of data for all tables in *Federal Criminal Case Processing* is the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) Federal justice database. The database is presently constructed from source files provided by the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys (EOUSA), the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AOUSC), and the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP). AOUSC also maintains the data collected by the U.S. Court of Appeals and the Federal Probation and Supervision Information System (FPSIS). Federal law prohibits the use of these files for any purpose other than research or statistics. A description of the source agency data files is provided in table M.2 at the end of this section.

Data universe

The universe of the BJS Federal justice database includes criminal suspects investigated for violations of Federal criminal law, criminal suspects arrested for violations of Federal criminal law, defendants in cases filed in U.S. district courts, and offenders entering Federal corrections and correctional supervision.

The universe of criminal suspects arrested is all suspects arrested by the Federal law enforcement agencies (including the USMS), state agencies, and self-reported arrests and transferred to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service for processing, transportation, and detention.

The universe of criminal suspects is limited to those whose matters were investigated by U.S. attorneys and in which the investigation took at least one hour of a U.S. attorney's time.

The universe of defendants in Federal criminal courts is limited to those defendants whose cases were filed in a U.S. district court, whether before a U.S. district court judge or a U.S. magistrate. This includes all felony

defendants, Class A misdemeanor defendants, and those defendants charged with petty offenses and handled by a U.S. district court judge.

The universe of offenders includes all sentenced offenders entering Federal prison regardless of the source of their commitment (e.g., U.S. district court, State court, or military court, or return from a violation of conditions of supervision) or length of sentence. This may include some offenders who were convicted of immigration offenses who were committed for petty offenses.

The universe of supervised offenders includes persons entering and exiting terms of Federal supervision, and persons under Federal supervision during the fiscal year. Supervision types include probation, parole, and supervised release. Included amongst parole supervisees are those under two less common types of "old law" supervision (sentenced prior to the implementation of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984): mandatory release and special release.

The universe of suspects, defendants, and offenders varies from table to table in this report, depending on the definition of the statistic reported and the source of the data.

Reporting period

Wherever possible, matters or cases have been selected according to some event which occurred during fiscal year 1999 (October 1, 1998, through September 30, 1999). Some data files provided by source agencies are organized according to a calendar year time frame; these have been combined and divided into fiscal years for purposes of this report. Files which are organized by their source agencies according to fiscal year nonetheless include some pertinent records in later years' files. For example, tabulations of suspects in matters concluded during fiscal year 1999 have been assembled from source files containing records of 1999 matters concluded which were entered into the data

system during fiscal years 1998 or 1999.

In the figures showing trends in Federal criminal case processing, information is presented for a period between 1982 and 1999. Data from the EOUSA are estimated from 1982 through 1993, as data prior to 1993 included appeals information not included in the subsequent years. Because of changes in the reporting and collection of data over time, data collected prior to 1994 from AOUSC and EOUSA were reported on a calendar-year basis; data collected from 1994-1999 are on a fiscal-year basis. The figures are marked and noted according to the period of measurement. In figure 4, data collected from FPSIS reflect the supervised population as of June 30 for the period of 1987-1994, and the population as of September 30 for the period of 1995-1999. In figure 5, data collected from BOP, presented from 1985-1999, are reported on a fiscal-year basis.

Table construction and interpretation

Universe in each table

The universe in table 1 is suspects arrested for violations of Federal criminal law and transferred to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service.

The universe in tables 2 and 3, and figure 1 is suspects in criminal matters investigated by U.S. attorneys. A person appearing in multiple matters will be counted separately for each matter. Matters include criminal proceedings handled exclusively by U.S. attorneys, or in which U.S. attorneys provided assistance and spent at least one hour of time.

The universe in tables 4, 5, and 6, as well as figures 2 and 3, is defendants adjudicated and sentenced in U.S. district court. Included are defendants charged with felonies, Class A and B misdemeanors, and petty offenses if the petty offenses are handled by U.S. district court judges. Defendants who

appear in more than one case are counted separately for each distinct case in which they appear. Defendants may have been charged under "old law" (pre-Sentencing Reform Act) or "new law" (post-Sentencing Reform Act) standards.

The universe in table 7 is criminal appeals filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals. Appeals filed include both Preguidelines- and Guidelines-based appeals. The Sentencing Reform Act allowed for the appeal of sentences imposed, where previously only the conviction could be appealed.

The universe in table 8 and figure 4 is offenders entering, exiting, or under active supervision. Active supervision includes supervisees who report regularly to their supervising officers. Excluded are offenders released to military parole and offenders who are under community release prior to sentencing.

The universe in table 9 and figure 5 is sentenced Federal offenders committed into Federal prison facilities — regardless of the court from which they were committed and regardless of the length of sentence. This includes primarily offenders committed from U.S. district courts by U.S. district court judges, but also includes those committed by U.S. magistrates, military courts, and some State courts. In addition, it includes offenders who violated conditions of supervised release and who were returned to prison for their violations rather than from a court commitment.

Unit of analysis

The unit of analysis in tables 1 through 7 is a combination of a person (or corporation) and a matter or case. For example, if a single person is involved in three different criminal cases during the time period specified in the table, he or she is counted three times in the tabulation. Similarly, if a single criminal case involves a corporate defendant and four individual defendants, it counts five times in the tabulation.

In tables 8 and 9, the unit of analysis for incarceration, probation, parole, or other supervised release is a person entering custody or supervision, or a person leaving custody or supervision. For example, a person convicted in two concurrent cases and committed once to the custody of the BOP in the indicated time period is counted as one admission to a term of incarceration. A person who leaves a BOP facility, reenters, and leaves again in the same fiscal-year period would be counted as one admission and two releases. A person who terminates probation twice in the indicated time period, such as with a violation and again after reinstatement, is counted as two terminations of probation.

Interpretation

The data presented in this report are a statistical presentation of offenders processed in the Federal criminal justice system. The tables presented describe the number of offenders processed and the outcome of that processing at each stage of the Federal criminal justice system. Because many tables represent different cross-sections of offenders, comparisons across tables are not necessarily valid.

Offense classifications

Procedure

The offense classification procedure used in this report is based on the classification system followed by the AOUSC. Specific offenses in the AOUSC classification are combined to form the BJS categories shown in this report's tables.*

For data from USMS (table 1) offense categories are based on the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) offense classifications, which are converted into U.S. Marshals' four digit offense codes. These offense codes are

*These categories correspond to the BJS crime definitions and, to the extent possible, are organized and presented consistent with BJS publications on State criminal justice systems.

then aggregated into the offense categories shown in table 1.

For data from EOUSA (tables 2 and 3, figure 1), which include U.S. Code citations but do not include the AOUSC offense classifications, U.S. Code titles and sections are translated into the AOUSC classification system and then aggregated into the offense categories used in the tables. Offense categories for prisoners in table 9 are based on combinations of offense designations used by BOP. They are similar to the categories in other tables, but may not be directly comparable.

Felony/misdemeanor distinctions

Felony and misdemeanor distinctions are provided where possible. Felony offenses are those with a maximum penalty of more than 1 year in prison. Misdemeanor offenses are those with a maximum penalty of 1 year or less. Felonies and misdemeanors are further classified using the maximum term of imprisonment authorized. Section 3559, U.S. Code, Title 18 classifies offenses according to the following schedule:

Felonies

Class A felony — life imprisonment, or if the maximum penalty is death.

Class B felony — 25 years or more.

Class C felony — less than 25 years but more than 10 years.

Class D felony — less than 10 years but more than 5 years.

Class E felony — less than 5 years but more than 1 year.

Misdemeanors

Class A misdemeanor — 1 year or less but more than 1 month.

Class B misdemeanor — 6 months or less but more than 30 days.

Class C misdemeanor — 30 days or less but more than 5 days.

Infraction — 5 days or less, or if no imprisonment is authorized.

In this report, felony and misdemeanor distinctions are provided where the data permit these distinctions. Tables 1, 2, and 3 do not use this distinction because many suspects cannot be so classified at the investigation stage in the criminal justice process. Table 7 does not use this distinction because the Court of Appeals data do not allow for such a breakout. Table 9 does not use this distinction because BOP offense categories do not allow for such a breakout. None of the figures showing trend data report this distribution.

Figures 2 and 3 display data by major offense category but do not show the felony/misdemeanor distinction. Therefore, the data points for major offense categories represented on the trend lines will not match the data in Appendix tables A.7, A.9, and A.10, respectively, nor will the 1999 data points match the data for major offense categories in tables 5 and 6.

Classification level

Offenses in the tables in this report are classified, at the most general level, into felony and misdemeanor categories. Felonies are then broken out by four main level offense classifications: violent, property, drug, and public-order offenses. Property and public-order offenses are broken out into two

sublevels. The main-level and sub-group categories are composed of individual offense types. Where the data source allows, drug offenses are broken out into the individual offense level. "Other public-order offenses" include a limited breakout at the individual offense type level. Table M.1 shows a list of specific offenses under each offense category.

Offense categories

For offenses referred to in table M.1, the following conditions apply:

"**Murder**" includes nonnegligent manslaughter.

"**Sexual abuse**" includes only violent sex offenses. Nonviolent sex offenses, such as prostitution, are included in a separate category, "**Nonviolent sex offenses.**" Including nonviolent sex offenses in a separate category is a change from previous years' reports and therefore the 1999 tables are not directly comparable with the appendix tables in this report, or with older editions of this report.

"**Fraud**" excludes tax fraud.

"**Larceny**" excludes transportation of stolen property.

"**Other property felonies**" excludes fraudulent property offenses, and includes destruction of property and trespass.

"**Tax law violations**" includes tax fraud.

"**Obscene material**" denotes the mail or transport thereof.

"**All other felonies**" includes felonies with unclassifiable offense type.

"**Misdemeanors**" includes misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

"**Drug possession**" also includes other drug misdemeanors.

Most serious offense selection

Where more than one offense is charged or adjudicated, the most serious offense (the one that may or did result in the most severe sentence) is used to classify offenses. The offense description may change as the criminal justice process proceeds. Tables indicate whether investigated, charged, or adjudicated offenses are used.

In tables 2 and 3, the most serious offense is based on the criminal lead charge as determined by the assistant U.S. attorney responsible for the criminal proceeding.

In tables 4 and 5, the most serious offense charged is the one that has the most severe potential sentence.

For table 6, conviction offenses are based on the disposition offenses having the most severe penalty.

| Table M.1. Breakout of main category offenses | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Felonies | | | | | | |
| Violent offenses | Property offenses | | Drug offenses | Public-order offenses | | Misdemeanors |
| | Fraudulent | Other | | Regulatory | Other | |
| Murder | Embezzlement | Burglary | Trafficking | Agriculture | Weapons | Larceny |
| Negligent manslaughter | Fraud | Larceny | Possession | Antitrust | Immigration offenses | Drug possession |
| Assault | Forgery | Motor vehicle theft | Other drug offenses | Food and drug | Tax law violations | Immigration |
| Robbery | Counterfeiting | Arson and explosives | | Transportation | Bribery | Traffic offense |
| Sexual abuse | | Transportation of stolen property | | Civil rights | Perjury, contempt, and intimidation | Other misdemeanors |
| Kidnaping | | Other property offenses | | Communications | National defense | Fraudulent property |
| Threats against the President | | | | Custom laws | Racketeering/ extortion | |
| | | | | Postal laws | Gambling | |
| | | | | Other regulatory offenses | Nonviolent sex offenses | |

In table 7, an offense is classified into the category that represents the underlying offense of conviction, based on the disposition offense with the most severe sentence.

In table 8, the most serious offense of conviction is either the one having the longest sentence imposed or, if equal sentences were imposed or there was no imprisonment, it was the offense carrying the highest severity code as determined by AOUSC's offense severity code ranking.

In table 9, prisoners are classified according to the offense which bears the longest single incarceration sentence.

Estimations

Several methods were used to estimate the trend data in this report.

Estimated number of suspects in criminal matters

Because of a change in the reporting protocol for information received from the EOUSA effective with fiscal year 1994 data, it was necessary to estimate certain statistics for years 1982-1993. Prior to 1994, reports of the number of suspects in criminal matters included appellants in Federal criminal appeals. Because full-source agency data prior to 1994 could not be accessed, an estimation procedure was used to estimate the number of appellants within main offense categories and then subtract them from the number of suspects in criminal matters which included appellants. The procedure is described in the following paragraphs.

The objective was to estimate the number of appellants included in reports of the number of suspects in criminal matters. This is denoted below as A_{EO} .

Using existing data on appellants derived from alternative sources, such as AOUSC reports, an estimator was developed based on the assumption that the ratio of appellants to defendants plus appellants in the EOUSA data

was equal to the observed ratio of appellants to appellants plus defendants in the AOUSC data, or:

$$\frac{A_{AO}}{(A_{AO}+D_{AO})} = \frac{A_{EO}}{(A_{EO}+D_{EO})}$$

where:

- A_{AO} = number of AO appellants
- D_{AO} = number of AO defendants
- A_{EO} = number of EO appellants
- D_{EO} = number of EO defendants

Solving for A_{EO} yields:

$$A_{EO} = \frac{A_{AO}}{(A_{AO}+D_{AO})} \times (A_{EO}+D_{EO})$$

Solving for A_{EO} yields the estimator above. This estimator was used to produce estimates each year between 1982 and 1993 using data from these years. The estimated number of appellants in suspects in criminal matters was subtracted from the reported number to derive the estimated number of suspects in criminal matters. These were used in figure 1. These estimates were done at the level of offense category (violent, property, drugs, and public-order).

Estimated expected time to be served for offenders entering prison

The methodology for estimating expected time to be served to first release for prisoners entering the BOP system from a district court commitment involves grouping prisoners by their fiscal year of entry. Once this grouping has occurred, each prisoner is classified into one of the following categories:

- a) a prisoner who has been released by the end of the observation window (1985-99);
- b) a prisoner still incarcerated at the end of the observation window who was sentenced prior to the passage of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 (an "old law" prisoner);
- c) a prisoner still incarcerated at the end of the observation window who

was sentenced after to the passage of the Sentencing Reform Act (a "new law" prisoner).

For prisoners in category (a) actual time served is recorded. For those prisoners in category (b), an estimate of time to be served is used, based on the mean time served by similar prisoners in previous entering years (1985-98). For prisoners in category (c) sentenced to more than 1 year, time to be served is 87% of the sentence imposed, which is the minimum sentence to be served under the Sentencing Reform Act. For prisoners in category (c) sentenced to 1 year or less, time to be served is equal to the sentence imposed.

Statistics appearing in *Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1999*

The statistics appearing in this report are as follows:

Table 1. Suspects arrested

This is the number of suspects arrested by Federal law enforcement agencies for violations of Federal law and transferred to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service for booking and pretrial detention. Not included are suspects arrested by Federal agencies and transferred directly to the custody of a State prosecutor.

Table 2. Suspects in matters investigated by U.S. attorneys

This is the number of suspects in criminal matters whom U.S. attorneys spent at least one hour investigating. It excludes suspects whose matters were immediately declined or whose matters were received via transfer from another district. An immediate declination is one in which a U.S. attorney declines to prosecute a criminal matter without investigating the matter. Suspects may include persons, corporations, or other legal entities. Matters are limited to criminal matters investigated by U.S. attorneys or matters in which U.S. attorneys assisted in the investigation. Suspects appearing in

more than one matter are counted separately for each matter.

Table 3. Suspects in matters concluded by U.S. attorneys

This is the number of suspects in criminal matters concluded by U.S. attorneys, regardless of the year in which the criminal matter was opened. A matter is defined as concluded when a U.S. attorney files a case in a U.S. district court before a U.S. district court judge, when a U.S. attorney declines to prosecute the matter, or when a misdemeanor case is concluded before a U.S. magistrate. The table excludes suspects whose matter was declined immediately or whose matter was concluded by transfer. Suspects in matters concluded may include persons, corporations, or other legal entities and are limited to the suspects investigated or prosecuted by U.S. attorneys, or in which U.S. attorneys assisted in the investigation or prosecution. Suspects appearing in more than one matter are counted separately for each matter.

Table 4. Defendants in cases commenced

This is the number of defendants in cases proceeded in U.S. district court, either before a U.S. district court judge or a U.S. magistrate. Proceedings are initiated on or after the date a case is filed in a U.S. district court. Included in the count are defendants in cases handled by U.S. district court judges plus Class A misdemeanors, whether handled by a U.S. district court judge or a U.S. magistrate. Also included are defendants in cases involving petty offenses (Class B or C misdemeanors) if they were handled by U.S. district court judges. These cases included all cases commenced regardless of the source of prosecution — U.S. attorneys or Department of Justice. Excluded from this count are defendants whose cases were opened by transfer from another district (e.g., a Rule 20 or Rule 40 transfer). Defendants appearing in more than one case are counted separately in each case.

Table 5. Defendants in cases terminated

This is the number of defendants whose cases were terminated in U.S. district court. A case is terminated if a defendant is found not guilty, the charges are dismissed, or when a defendant is sentenced, if he or she was convicted. Included in the count are defendants in cases handled by U.S. district court judges plus Class A misdemeanors, whether handled by a U.S. district court judge or a U.S. magistrate. Also included are defendants in cases involving petty offenses (Class B or C misdemeanors) if they were handled by U.S. district court judges. These cases included all cases commenced regardless of the source of prosecution — U.S. attorneys or Department of Justice. Excluded from this count are defendants whose cases were opened by transfer from another district (e.g., a Rule 20 or Rule 40 transfer). Defendants appearing in more than one case are counted separately in each case.

Defendants are classified as convicted if they pleaded guilty, *nolo contendere*, or if they are found guilty at trial. Defendants convicted by trial included those found guilty by reason of insanity. Defendants not convicted includes defendants whose cases were dismissed and those who were acquitted or found not guilty at trial.

Table 6. Defendants sentenced

This is the number of defendants sentenced in U.S. district court. Included are defendants sentenced in cases handled by U.S. district court judges plus Class A misdemeanors, whether handled by a U.S. district court judge or a U.S. magistrate. Also included are defendants sentenced for petty offenses (Class B or C misdemeanors) if they were handled by U.S. district court judges. These cases included all cases commenced regardless of the source of prosecution — U.S. attorneys or Department of Justice. Excluded from this count are defendants whose cases were opened by transfer

from another district (e.g., a Rule 20 or Rule 40 transfer). Defendants appearing in more than one case are counted separately in each case.

The sanctions shown in table 5 include imprisonment only, mixed sentences of prison plus supervision, probation, and fine only. Imprisonment is limited to defendants receiving terms of imprisonment but no probation, including life and death sentences, but excluding suspended sentences or sentences to fewer than 4 days. New law offenders receiving prison-community split sentences (prison and conditions of alternative community confinement) are also included. Mixed sentences include defendants given sentences of both prison and probation (applies to offenders sentenced under "old law" standards only). Probation includes defendants given sentences of probation. Defendants who received probation plus conditions of confinement such as intermittent confinement, home detention, or community confinement are classified under probation. Fine only includes defendants who received only a fine. Other sentences include sealed sentences, prison sentences of 4 days or less, deportations, and cases in which the defendant was convicted but not given a sentence. The statistics on mean and median prison sentences are based on the number given prison exclusive of life and death sentences. For offenders given prison-community split sentences, only the prison sentence length is included in the calculation.

Table 7. Criminal appeals filed

This table reports the number of criminal appeals filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals. Prior to implementation of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, only criminal convictions could be appealed. However, the Sentencing Reform Act provided for the appellate review of sentences imposed given that the sentence was (1) imposed in violation of the law; (2) imposed as the result of an incorrect sentencing guideline application; (3) outside the

recommended guideline sentencing range; or (4) imposed for an offense for which no sentencing guideline exists and is plainly unreasonable. Both the defendant and the Government have the right to appeal an imposed sentence (18 U.S.C. § 3742).

Table 8. Offenders under Federal supervision

This table reports the number of offenders under active supervision at the close of the fiscal year. It includes offenders under three forms of supervision: probation, supervised release, and parole. Included in parole supervisees are those under two less common types of "old law" (sentenced prior to the implementation of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984), mandatory release and special release. The unit of analysis is a unique person released on supervision.

Table 9. Prisoners

This table reports the number of sentenced Federal offenders committed into the custody of the BOP, released from this custody, or in Federal prison. "Into the custody of" includes prisoners in BOP facilities plus contract facilities. Contract facilities generally house offenders prior to release from prison. Sentenced offenders include felony, misdemeanor, and petty offenders sentenced to prison regardless of the judge — U.S. district court judge or U.S. magistrate — who sentenced the offender. The unit of analysis is a unique person in Federal prison. The unit of count for prisoner movements is based on admissions and releases into and from Federal prison. A unique person may appear more than once in a column showing admissions and releases if that person was admitted or released from Federal prison more than once during the reporting period.

Included in the counts of district court commitments are offenders sentenced from district courts. This includes some offenders sentenced by U.S. magistrates. Other admissions include offenders committed from other

courts and offenders returning to prison for violations of conditions of supervised release. A first release is defined as a release from a district court commitment. Other releases include releases of offenders who were serving terms for violating conditions of supervised release — offenders who were committed on other than a district court commitment.

Table M.2. Source agencies for data tables in *Federal Criminal Case Processing*

| Data source agency — data files | Description of data files contents | Tables |
|---|--|--|
| United States Marshals Service (USMS) — Prisoner Tracking System | Contains information about the arrests made by Federal law enforcement agencies (including the USMS), State agencies, and self-reported arrests. The Prisoner Tracking System contains information on offenders transferred to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service for processing, transportation, and detention. | Table 1 |
| Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys (EOUSA) — Central System and Central Charge Files | Contains information on the investigation and prosecution of suspects in criminal matters received and concluded, criminal cases filed and terminated, and criminal appeals filed and handled by U.S. attorneys. The central system files contain defendant-level records about the processing of matters and cases; the central charge files contain the records of the charges filed and disposed in criminal cases. Data are available on matters and cases filed, pending, and terminated. | Tables 2, 3 Appendix tables A.1, A.2, A.3, A.4, A.5 |
| Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AOUSC) — Criminal Termination Files | Contains information about the criminal proceedings against defendants whose cases were filed in U.S. district courts. Includes information on felony defendants, Class A misdemeanants — whether handled by U.S. district court judges or U.S. magistrates — and other misdemeanants provided they were handled by U.S. district court judges. The information in the data files cover criminal proceedings from case filing through disposition and sentencing. Data are available on criminal defendants in cases filed, pending, and terminated. | Tables 4, 5, 6 Appendix tables A.6, A.7, A.8, A.9, A.10, A.12, A.13 |
| AOUSC: Court of Appeals | Contains information on criminal appeals filed and terminated in U.S. courts of appeals. Records of appeals filed, pending, or terminated include information on the nature of the criminal appeal, the underlying offense, and the disposition of the appeal. | Table 7 Appendix table A.11 |
| AOUSC — Federal Probation and Supervision Information System (FPSIS) | Contains information about supervisions provided by probation officers for persons placed on probation or supervised release from prison. The files contain records of individuals entering, or currently on supervision, as well as records of offenders terminating supervision. | Table 8 Appendix table A.14 |
| Bureau of Prisons (BOP): Extract from BOP’s online Sentry System | The data extracts contain information on all offenders released from prison over a specific period of time plus information about the offenders in prison when the data extracts are made. The information covers the time that offenders enter prison until their release from the jurisdiction of the BOP. | Table 9 Appendix table A.15 |

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Table A.1. Suspects in criminal matters investigated by U.S. attorneys, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense investigated | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 99,251 | 102,220 | 97,776 | 110,034 | 115,692 | 117,994 |
| Violent offenses^c | 5,570 | 5,720 | 6,570 | 7,354 | 7,527 | 5,768 |
| Property offenses | 32,579 | 31,759 | 28,962 | 29,916 | 30,125 | 28,011 |
| Fraudulent^c | 28,491 | 27,836 | 25,245 | 25,854 | 26,328 | 24,200 |
| Other^c | 4,088 | 3,923 | 3,717 | 4,062 | 3,797 | 3,811 |
| Drug offenses | 29,311 | 31,686 | 30,227 | 34,027 | 36,355 | 37,313 |
| Public-order offenses | 30,665 | 31,668 | 30,502 | 37,093 | 40,265 | 45,337 |
| Regulatory | 5,059 | 5,371 | 5,154 | 5,423 | 6,541 | 6,332 |
| Other | 25,606 | 26,297 | 25,348 | 31,670 | 33,724 | 39,005 |
| Weapons | 5,996 | 5,376 | 4,462 | 4,870 | 4,907 | 6,982 |
| Immigration | 5,526 | 7,256 | 7,122 | 9,366 | 14,114 | 15,539 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 1,473 | 1,348 | 1,428 | 1,403 | 1,174 | 982 |
| Other | 12,611 | 12,317 | 12,336 | 16,031 | 13,529 | 15,502 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 1,126 | 1,387 | 1,515 | 1,644 | 1,420 | 1,565 |

Note: Most serious offense investigated is based on the decision of the assistant U.S. attorney responsible for the matter.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes suspects whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other non-fraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Table A.2. Suspects in criminal matters concluded by U.S. attorneys, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense investigated | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 94,980 | 102,309 | 98,454 | 99,459 | 106,022 | 113,933 |
| Violent offenses^c | 5,339 | 5,399 | 6,107 | 6,570 | 6,865 | 5,631 |
| Property offenses | 31,752 | 33,888 | 31,038 | 28,633 | 27,461 | 28,314 |
| Fraudulent^c | 28,038 | 29,861 | 27,294 | 25,157 | 23,712 | 24,575 |
| Other^c | 3,714 | 4,027 | 3,744 | 3,476 | 3,749 | 3,739 |
| Drug offenses | 27,697 | 31,261 | 30,708 | 32,072 | 33,991 | 36,765 |
| Public-order offenses | 29,604 | 30,861 | 29,562 | 30,882 | 36,650 | 42,026 |
| Regulatory | 4,990 | 5,264 | 4,843 | 4,582 | 5,427 | 5,698 |
| Other | 24,614 | 25,597 | 24,719 | 26,300 | 31,223 | 36,328 |
| Weapons | 5,992 | 5,732 | 4,673 | 4,646 | 4,742 | 5,919 |
| Immigration | 5,299 | 6,660 | 6,929 | 8,774 | 13,249 | 15,201 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 1,478 | 1,329 | 1,403 | 1,349 | 1,024 | 1,193 |
| Other | 11,845 | 11,876 | 11,714 | 11,531 | 12,208 | 14,015 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 588 | 900 | 1,039 | 1,302 | 1,055 | 1,197 |

Note: Most serious offense investigated is based on the decision of the assistant U.S. attorney responsible for the matter.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes suspects whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other non-fraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Table A.3. Suspects in criminal matters concluded by U.S. attorneys: Number prosecuted before U.S. district court judge, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense investigated | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 50,802 | 55,703 | 56,938 | 60,383 | 64,993 | 68,384 |
| Violent offenses^c | 3,256 | 3,223 | 3,784 | 4,153 | 4,294 | 3,327 |
| Property offenses | 14,680 | 15,918 | 15,270 | 14,544 | 14,353 | 14,032 |
| Fraudulent^c | 12,683 | 13,858 | 13,337 | 12,663 | 12,408 | 12,319 |
| Other^c | 1,997 | 2,060 | 1,933 | 1,881 | 1,945 | 1,713 |
| Drug offenses | 19,427 | 21,445 | 21,548 | 24,400 | 26,266 | 28,372 |
| Public-order offenses | 13,195 | 14,809 | 15,974 | 16,744 | 19,782 | 22,419 |
| Regulatory | 1,297 | 1,509 | 1,396 | 1,332 | 1,571 | 1,648 |
| Other | 11,898 | 13,300 | 14,578 | 15,412 | 18,211 | 20,771 |
| Weapons | 3,821 | 3,758 | 2,935 | 3,192 | 3,347 | 4,149 |
| Immigration | 2,789 | 4,305 | 5,830 | 7,243 | 10,505 | 11,794 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 927 | 881 | 862 | 897 | 661 | 737 |
| Other | 4,361 | 4,356 | 4,951 | 4,080 | 3,698 | 4,091 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 244 | 308 | 362 | 542 | 298 | 234 |

Note: Most serious offense investigated is based on the decision of the assistant U.S. attorney responsible for the matter. Number of suspects includes suspects whose cases were filed in U.S. district court before a district court judge.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes suspects whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other non-fraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Table A.4. Suspects in criminal matters concluded by U.S. magistrates, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense investigated | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|-------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 9,754 | 10,710 | 8,684 | 10,007 | 12,243 | 14,545 |
| Violent offenses^c | 264 | 295 | 295 | 352 | 305 | 308 |
| Property offenses | 1,781 | 2,043 | 1,771 | 1,919 | 2,171 | 2,321 |
| Fraudulent^c | 1,536 | 1,743 | 1,511 | 1,635 | 1,651 | 1,678 |
| Other^c | 245 | 300 | 260 | 284 | 520 | 643 |
| Drug offenses | 1,821 | 2,456 | 2,262 | 1,903 | 1,561 | 2,132 |
| Public-order offenses | 5,838 | 5,693 | 4,128 | 5,549 | 7,695 | 9,119 |
| Regulatory | 198 | 224 | 275 | 266 | 386 | 445 |
| Other | 5,640 | 5,469 | 3,853 | 5,283 | 7,309 | 8,674 |
| Weapons | 189 | 190 | 137 | 153 | 116 | 110 |
| Immigration | 2,217 | 1,989 | 775 | 1,229 | 2,374 | 2,935 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 49 | 29 | 32 | 37 | 24 | 35 |
| Other | 3,185 | 3,261 | 2,909 | 3,864 | 4,795 | 5,594 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 50 | 223 | 228 | 284 | 511 | 665 |

Note: Most serious offense investigated is based on the decision of the assistant U.S. attorney responsible for the matter. Number of suspects includes defendants in misdemeanor cases which were terminated in U.S. district court before a U.S. magistrate.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes suspects whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other non-fraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Table A.5. Suspects in criminal matters concluded by U.S. attorneys: Number declined prosecution, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense investigated | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 34,424 | 35,896 | 32,832 | 29,069 | 28,786 | 31,004 |
| Violent offenses^c | 1,819 | 1,881 | 2,028 | 2,065 | 2,266 | 1,996 |
| Property offenses | 15,291 | 15,927 | 13,997 | 12,170 | 10,937 | 11,961 |
| Fraudulent^c | 13,819 | 14,260 | 12,446 | 10,859 | 9,653 | 10,578 |
| Other^c | 1,472 | 1,667 | 1,551 | 1,311 | 1,284 | 1,383 |
| Drug offenses | 6,449 | 7,360 | 6,898 | 5,769 | 6,164 | 6,261 |
| Public-order offenses | 10,571 | 10,359 | 9,460 | 8,589 | 9,173 | 10,488 |
| Regulatory | 3,495 | 3,531 | 3,172 | 2,984 | 3,470 | 3,605 |
| Other | 7,076 | 6,828 | 6,288 | 5,605 | 5,703 | 6,883 |
| Weapons | 1,982 | 1,784 | 1,601 | 1,301 | 1,279 | 1,660 |
| Immigration | 293 | 366 | 324 | 302 | 370 | 472 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 502 | 419 | 509 | 415 | 339 | 421 |
| Other | 4,299 | 4,259 | 3,854 | 3,587 | 3,715 | 4,330 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 294 | 369 | 449 | 476 | 246 | 298 |

Note: Most serious offense investigated is based on the decision of the assistant U.S. attorney responsible for the matter. Number of suspects includes suspects whose matters were declined for prosecution by U.S. attorneys upon review.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes suspects whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other non-fraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Table A.6. Defendants in cases proceeded against in U.S. district courts, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense charged | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 62,327 | 63,547 | 65,480 | 69,351 | 78,172 | 80,031 |
| Felonies | 47,341 | 50,483 | 52,656 | 57,022 | 64,769 | 67,442 |
| Violent offenses^c | 3,222 | 2,838 | 3,457 | 3,603 | 3,763 | 2,976 |
| Property offenses | 13,155 | 13,837 | 14,130 | 13,890 | 14,955 | 14,779 |
| Fraudulent^c | 10,301 | 10,909 | 11,525 | 11,371 | 12,401 | 12,028 |
| Other^c | 2,854 | 2,928 | 2,605 | 2,519 | 2,554 | 2,751 |
| Drug offenses | 20,275 | 20,983 | 21,677 | 24,693 | 28,021 | 29,306 |
| Trafficking | 20,052 | 20,191 | 20,522 | 23,403 | 26,318 | 27,296 |
| Possession and other | 223 | 792 | 1,155 | 1,290 | 1,703 | 2,010 |
| Public-order offenses | 10,689 | 12,825 | 13,392 | 14,836 | 18,030 | 20,381 |
| Regulatory | 1,256 | 1,265 | 1,123 | 1,117 | 1,359 | 1,245 |
| Other | 9,433 | 11,560 | 12,269 | 13,719 | 16,671 | 19,136 |
| Weapons | 3,557 | 4,212 | 3,651 | 3,837 | 4,287 | 4,924 |
| Immigration | 2,453 | 3,866 | 5,390 | 6,726 | 9,254 | 10,550 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 787 | 760 | 707 | 788 | 673 | 661 |
| Other | 2,636 | 2,722 | 2,521 | 2,368 | 2,457 | 3,001 |
| Misdemeanors^c | 14,980 | 13,036 | 12,774 | 12,267 | 13,254 | 12,474 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 6 | 28 | 50 | 62 | 149 | 115 |

Note: Most serious offense charged is based on the offense carrying the most severe statutory maximum penalty.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes defendants whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Table A.7. Defendants in cases terminating in U.S. district courts, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense charged | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 61,404 | 56,480 | 61,434 | 64,956 | 69,769 | 75,723 |
| Felonies | 47,292 | 44,462 | 49,283 | 53,097 | 56,160 | 62,839 |
| Violent offenses^c | 3,227 | 2,864 | 3,091 | 3,241 | 3,418 | 3,093 |
| Property offenses | 13,182 | 12,426 | 12,816 | 13,725 | 13,215 | 14,055 |
| Fraudulent^c | 10,193 | 9,817 | 10,260 | 11,152 | 10,854 | 11,587 |
| Other^c | 2,989 | 2,609 | 2,556 | 2,573 | 2,361 | 2,468 |
| Drug offenses | 20,219 | 18,189 | 20,305 | 22,374 | 23,432 | 27,008 |
| Trafficking | 20,056 | 17,823 | 19,486 | 21,379 | 21,867 | 25,334 |
| Possession and other | 163 | 366 | 819 | 995 | 1,565 | 1,674 |
| Public-order offenses | 10,664 | 10,983 | 13,071 | 13,757 | 16,095 | 18,683 |
| Regulatory | 1,383 | 1,181 | 1,151 | 1,069 | 1,353 | 1,306 |
| Other | 9,281 | 9,802 | 11,920 | 12,688 | 14,742 | 17,377 |
| Weapons | 3,673 | 3,674 | 3,843 | 3,485 | 3,650 | 4,087 |
| Immigration | 2,371 | 3,211 | 5,111 | 6,165 | 7,985 | 9,759 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 741 | 680 | 687 | 727 | 795 | 635 |
| Other | 2,496 | 2,237 | 2,279 | 2,311 | 2,312 | 2,896 |
| Misdemeanors^c | 14,111 | 11,989 | 12,115 | 11,795 | 13,503 | 12,793 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 1 | 29 | 36 | 64 | 106 | 91 |

Note: Most serious offense charged is based on the offense carrying the most severe statutory maximum penalty.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes defendants whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Table A.8. Defendants in cases terminating in U.S. district courts: Percent convicted, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense charged | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 82.6% | 84.2% | 86.4% | 87.1% | 87.4% | 87.2% |
| Felonies | 86.2 | 86.6 | 89.0 | 89.8 | 89.9 | 90.5 |
| Violent offenses^c | 87.9 | 88.7 | 88.1 | 89.9 | 90.1 | 89.9 |
| Property offenses | 87.3 | 87.5 | 89.5 | 89.7 | 89.8 | 90.4 |
| Fraudulent^c | 87.7 | 88.0 | 89.6 | 89.8 | 89.8 | 90.6 |
| Other^c | 85.9 | 85.6 | 89.5 | 89.3 | 89.4 | 89.9 |
| Drug offenses | 85.9 | 85.6 | 88.3 | 89.3 | 89.1 | 89.9 |
| Trafficking | 86.0 | 85.5 | 88.3 | 89.3 | 88.8 | 89.8 |
| Possession and other | 78.5 | 88.3 | 88.2 | 89.0 | 92.7 | 91.2 |
| Public-order offenses | 84.9 | 86.8 | 89.9 | 90.8 | 91.3 | 91.5 |
| Regulatory | 81.3 | 79.8 | 82.5 | 85.7 | 87.7 | 83.7 |
| Other | 85.5 | 87.7 | 90.6 | 91.2 | 91.6 | 92.1 |
| Weapons | 85.2 | 84.8 | 87.5 | 87.6 | 86.6 | 88.6 |
| Immigration | 92.2 | 93.6 | 96.1 | 95.9 | 94.8 | 95.4 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 92.2 | 90.7 | 91.0 | 93.7 | 94.6 | 95.7 |
| Other | 77.5 | 82.8 | 83.5 | 83.5 | 87.3 | 85.2 |
| Misdemeanors^c | 70.4 | 75.2 | 75.6 | 74.8 | 76.8 | 71.2 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | — | 86.2 | 80.6 | 82.8 | 84.0 | 82.4 |

Note: Most serious offense charged is based on the offense carrying the most severe statutory maximum penalty.

—Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes defendants whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Table A.9. Offenders convicted and sentenced in U.S. district courts, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense of conviction | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 50,701 | 47,556 | 53,076 | 56,570 | 60,958 | 66,055 |
| Felonies | 39,624 | 37,713 | 42,992 | 46,878 | 50,494 | 55,864 |
| Violent offenses^c | 2,704 | 2,423 | 2,660 | 2,876 | 3,078 | 2,715 |
| Property offenses | 11,113 | 10,569 | 11,125 | 12,010 | 11,862 | 12,232 |
| Fraudulent^c | 8,671 | 8,484 | 9,055 | 9,919 | 9,752 | 10,203 |
| Other^c | 2,442 | 2,085 | 2,070 | 2,091 | 2,110 | 2,029 |
| Drug offenses | 16,400 | 14,778 | 17,365 | 19,115 | 20,867 | 23,476 |
| Trafficking | 16,197 | 14,322 | 16,485 | 18,057 | 19,417 | 21,698 |
| Possession and other | 203 | 456 | 880 | 1,058 | 1,450 | 1,778 |
| Public-order offenses | 9,407 | 9,943 | 11,842 | 12,877 | 14,687 | 17,441 |
| Regulatory | 1,309 | 1,177 | 1,169 | 1,211 | 1,187 | 1,410 |
| Other | 8,098 | 8,766 | 10,673 | 11,666 | 13,500 | 16,031 |
| Weapons | 3,232 | 3,062 | 3,033 | 2,871 | 3,160 | 3,423 |
| Immigration | 2,152 | 3,045 | 4,929 | 6,044 | 7,569 | 9,357 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 712 | 659 | 655 | 715 | 752 | 653 |
| Other | 2,002 | 2,000 | 2,056 | 2,036 | 2,019 | 2,598 |
| Misdemeanors^c | 11,072 | 9,818 | 10,054 | 9,636 | 10,375 | 10,118 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 5 | 25 | 30 | 56 | 89 | 73 |

Note: Most serious offense is based on the disposition offense with the most severe sentence.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes offenders whose offense category could not be determined or whose sentence was unknown. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Table A.10. Offenders convicted and sentenced in U.S. district courts: Number sentenced to prison, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense of conviction | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 33,022 | 31,805 | 36,373 | 39,431 | 43,041 | 47,659 |
| Felonies | 31,070 | 29,759 | 34,345 | 37,747 | 41,420 | 46,070 |
| Violent offenses^c | 2,518 | 2,209 | 2,419 | 2,619 | 2,808 | 2,489 |
| Property offenses | 6,411 | 6,215 | 6,559 | 7,110 | 7,114 | 7,204 |
| Fraudulent^c | 4,868 | 4,928 | 5,322 | 5,871 | 5,860 | 6,067 |
| Other^c | 1,543 | 1,287 | 1,237 | 1,239 | 1,254 | 1,137 |
| Drug offenses | 14,973 | 13,502 | 15,984 | 17,637 | 19,280 | 21,694 |
| Trafficking | 14,841 | 13,133 | 15,248 | 16,718 | 18,013 | 20,117 |
| Possession and other | 132 | 369 | 736 | 919 | 1,267 | 1,577 |
| Public-order offenses | 7,168 | 7,833 | 9,383 | 10,381 | 12,218 | 14,683 |
| Regulatory | 644 | 572 | 540 | 603 | 506 | 627 |
| Other | 6,524 | 7,261 | 8,843 | 9,778 | 11,712 | 14,056 |
| Weapons | 2,901 | 2,803 | 2,773 | 2,663 | 2,914 | 3,191 |
| Immigration | 1,857 | 2,751 | 4,183 | 5,262 | 6,880 | 8,427 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 314 | 265 | 311 | 317 | 376 | 344 |
| Other | 1,452 | 1,442 | 1,576 | 1,536 | 1,542 | 2,094 |
| Misdemeanors^c | 1,948 | 2,039 | 2,020 | 1,679 | 1,590 | 1,556 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 4 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 31 | 33 |

Note: Most serious offense of conviction is based on the disposition offense with the most severe sentence. Number of offenders includes offenders given life and death sentences, and includes new law offenders given prison-community split sentences (prison and conditions of alternative community confinement). Number of offenders also includes offenders given mixed sentences of prison plus probation, applicable only to offenders sentenced pursuant to laws applicable prior to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes offenders whose offense category could not be determined or whose sentence was unknown. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Table A.11. Criminal appeals filed, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious underlying offense of conviction | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 10,674 | 10,162 | 10,889 | 10,521 | 10,535 | 10,251 |
| Violent offenses^c | 856 | 700 | 685 | 739 | 742 | 559 |
| Property offenses | 1,949 | 1,767 | 2,093 | 1,972 | 1,947 | 1,739 |
| Fraudulent^c | 1,410 | 1,323 | 1,581 | 1,519 | 1,439 | 1,338 |
| Other^c | 539 | 444 | 512 | 453 | 508 | 401 |
| Drug offenses | 5,102 | 4,499 | 5,099 | 4,750 | 4,845 | 4,513 |
| Public-order offenses | 2,439 | 2,197 | 2,521 | 2,602 | 2,553 | 2,958 |
| Regulatory | 288 | 220 | 196 | 224 | 178 | 162 |
| Other | 2,151 | 1,977 | 2,325 | 2,378 | 2,375 | 2,796 |
| Weapons | 1,141 | 1,034 | 1,183 | 1,135 | 982 | 1,070 |
| Immigration | 261 | 277 | 353 | 417 | 693 | 934 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 146 | 103 | 140 | 150 | 122 | 91 |
| Other | 603 | 563 | 649 | 676 | 578 | 701 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 328 | 999 | 491 | 458 | 448 | 482 |

Note: Appeals were classified into the offense category that represents the underlying offense of conviction. Offenses represent the statutory offense charged against a defendant in a criminal appeal.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes offenders whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.

Table A.12. Offenders convicted and sentenced in U.S. district courts: Number sentenced to probation only, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense of conviction | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 12,781 | 11,602 | 11,789 | 12,046 | 12,108 | 12,408 |
| Felonies | 7,677 | 7,030 | 7,138 | 7,387 | 7,208 | 7,491 |
| Violent offenses^c | 164 | 198 | 209 | 223 | 235 | 182 |
| Property offenses | 4,327 | 3,987 | 4,035 | 4,275 | 4,044 | 4,171 |
| Fraudulent^c | 3,477 | 3,217 | 3,238 | 3,475 | 3,249 | 3,340 |
| Other^c | 850 | 770 | 797 | 800 | 795 | 831 |
| Drug offenses | 1,204 | 992 | 1,011 | 1,054 | 1,092 | 1,134 |
| Trafficking | 1,139 | 926 | 888 | 940 | 952 | 981 |
| Possession and other | 65 | 66 | 123 | 114 | 140 | 153 |
| Public-order offenses | 1,982 | 1,853 | 1,883 | 1,835 | 1,837 | 2,004 |
| Regulatory | 575 | 531 | 542 | 522 | 582 | 665 |
| Other | 1,407 | 1,322 | 1,341 | 1,313 | 1,255 | 1,339 |
| Weapons | 296 | 221 | 229 | 182 | 208 | 190 |
| Immigration | 217 | 204 | 376 | 310 | 769 | 409 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 388 | 386 | 338 | 379 | 359 | 299 |
| Other | 506 | 511 | 398 | 442 | 410 | 441 |
| Misdemeanors^c | 5,103 | 4,556 | 4,631 | 4,612 | 4,844 | 4,879 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 1 | 16 | 20 | 47 | 56 | 38 |

Note: Most serious offense of conviction is based on the disposition offense with the most severe sentence. Number of offenders includes offenders given probation plus conditions of confinement, such as home confinement or intermittent confinement.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes offenders whose offense category could not be determined or whose sentence was unknown. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Table A.13. Offenders convicted and sentenced in U.S. district courts: Mean number of months of imprisonment imposed, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense of conviction | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 62.6 mo | 63.3 mo | 61.7 mo | 59.3 mo | 58.9 mo | 58.1 mo |
| Felonies | 65.6 | 66.8 | 64.6 | 61.5 | 60.6 | 59.6 |
| Violent offenses^c | 92.3 | 98.5 | 92.7 | 86.1 | 84.4 | 88.1 |
| Property offenses | 26.4 | 27.3 | 24.1 | 24.4 | 25.6 | 24.1 |
| Fraudulent^c | 20.0 | 21.9 | 21.1 | 22.1 | 22.4 | 22.4 |
| Other^c | 46.2 | 47.5 | 37.0 | 35.2 | 40.4 | 33.0 |
| Drug offenses | 83.9 | 87.1 | 84.8 | 81.1 | 78.7 | 75.4 |
| Trafficking | 84.0 | 88.0 | 85.0 | 81.3 | 78.3 | 74.8 |
| Possession and other | 46.0 | 66.0 | 77.0 | 77.7 | 84.3 | 83.4 |
| Public-order offenses | 52.0 | 53.6 | 51.2 | 47.6 | 47.3 | 48.7 |
| Regulatory | 32.2 | 27.8 | 26.7 | 26.5 | 27.8 | 26.3 |
| Other | 54.0 | 55.6 | 52.7 | 48.9 | 48.1 | 49.7 |
| Weapons | 83.0 | 95.0 | 100.0 | 102.1 | 101.3 | 99.5 |
| Immigration | 23.0 | 24.0 | 23.0 | 23.0 | 26.4 | 30.7 |
| Tax law violation ^c | 16.0 | 19.0 | 32.0 | 21.3 | 18.2 | 20.1 |
| Other | 42.0 | 43.0 | 51.0 | 51.5 | 54.4 | 57.6 |
| Misdemeanors^c | 12.3 | 9.8 | 11.1 | 10.0 | 11.6 | 10.8 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 64.0 | 71.4 | 23.0 | 30.2 | 33.8 | 62.2 |

Note: Most serious offense of conviction is based on the disposition offense with the most severe sentence. Calculations for imprisonment length exclude offenders given life or death sentences. For new law offenders given prison-community split sentences, imprisonment length includes prison sentences only.

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes offenders whose offense category could not be determined or whose sentence was unknown. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Table A.14. Offenders under Federal supervision, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious offense of conviction | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 ^a |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| All offenses^b | 87,689 | 85,662 | 88,189 | 90,751 | 92,813 | 96,502 |
| Felonies^c | 74,597 | 74,260 | 76,851 | 79,804 | 81,828 | 85,759 |
| Violent offenses^d | 4,873 | 4,753 | 5,036 | 5,270 | 5,577 | 5,439 |
| Property offenses | 28,525 | 27,512 | 27,208 | 27,585 | 27,519 | 28,262 |
| Fraudulent^d | 22,609 | 21,989 | 22,034 | 22,621 | 22,678 | 23,381 |
| Other^d | 5,916 | 5,523 | 5,174 | 4,964 | 4,841 | 4,881 |
| Drug offenses | 28,238 | 29,343 | 31,859 | 33,743 | 35,402 | 37,929 |
| Trafficking | 26,841 | 26,865 | 28,517 | 29,942 | 31,416 | 33,774 |
| Possession and other | 1,397 | 2,478 | 3,342 | 3,801 | 3,986 | 4,155 |
| Public-order offenses | 12,891 | 12,534 | 12,590 | 12,942 | 13,066 | 13,840 |
| Regulatory | 2,275 | 2,192 | 2,104 | 2,187 | 2,196 | 2,331 |
| Other | 10,616 | 10,342 | 10,486 | 10,755 | 10,870 | 11,509 |
| Weapons | 3,924 | 3,731 | 3,832 | 3,908 | 4,038 | 4,123 |
| Immigration | 1,083 | 959 | 1,180 | 1,405 | 1,272 | 1,334 |
| Tax law violation ^d | 2,184 | 2,129 | 1,978 | 1,890 | 1,859 | 1,733 |
| Other | 3,425 | 3,523 | 3,496 | 3,552 | 5,356 | 4,319 |
| Misdemeanors^d | 13,092 | 11,402 | 11,338 | 10,947 | 10,985 | 10,743 |

Note: Most serious offense of conviction is based on the offense with the longest sentence imposed. Number of offenders includes offenders under active supervision at the close of the fiscal year. This population includes offenders under the three major forms of supervision: probation, supervised release, and parole. Included under parole are two less common types of old law release: mandatory release and special parole. Excluded from the number of offenders under active supervision reported in the table are offenders released to military parole and offenders under community supervision prior to sentencing (such as during pretrial release or pretrial investigation).

^aIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^bIncludes offenders whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^cIncludes offenders whose felony offense category could not be determined. A felony offense category could not be determined for 70 offenders during 1994, 118 during 1995, 158 during 1996, 264 during 1997, 264 during 1998, and 289 during 1999.

^dIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud; and "Misdemeanors" include misdemeanors, petty offenses, and unknown offense levels.

Table A.15. Population at the end of the year in Federal prisons, by offense, 1994-99

| Most serious original offense of conviction | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 ^a | 1999 ^b |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|-------------------|
| All offenses^c | 84,362 | 88,658 | 92,672 | 98,944 | 108,925 | 119,185 |
| Violent offenses^d | 11,179 | 11,409 | 11,523 | 11,658 | 12,656 | 13,355 |
| Property offenses | 7,888 | 7,842 | 7,781 | 8,151 | 8,627 | 8,682 |
| Fraudulent^d | 5,725 | 5,823 | 5,807 | 6,148 | 6,465 | 6,553 |
| Other^d | 2,163 | 2,019 | 1,974 | 2,003 | 2,162 | 2,129 |
| Drug offenses | 50,579 | 52,782 | 55,194 | 58,610 | 63,011 | 68,360 |
| Trafficking | 50,197 | 52,401 | 54,870 | 58,201 | 62,564 | 67,835 |
| Possession and other | 382 | 381 | 324 | 409 | 447 | 525 |
| Public-order offenses | 13,776 | 15,655 | 17,227 | 19,197 | 22,273 | 26,456 |
| Regulatory | 878 | 894 | 919 | 1,013 | 1,059 | 1,048 |
| Other | 12,898 | 14,761 | 16,308 | 18,184 | 21,214 | 25,408 |
| Weapons | 6,774 | 7,446 | 7,696 | 8,082 | 8,742 | 9,494 |
| Immigration | 2,486 | 3,420 | 4,476 | 5,454 | 7,430 | 10,156 |
| Tax law violation ^d | 364 | 364 | 347 | 358 | 376 | 330 |
| Other | 3,274 | 3,531 | 3,789 | 4,290 | 4,666 | 5,428 |
| Unknown or indeterminable offenses | 940 | 970 | 947 | 1,328 | 2,358 | 2,332 |

Note: Most serious offense is based on the offense having the longest sentence.

^aThe yearend population for 1998 was adjusted to reflect an additional 1,013 prisoners reported in the *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 1998*.

^bIn the 1999 data, nonviolent sex offenses were reclassified from "Violent offenses" to "Public-order offenses."

^cIncludes prisoners whose offense category could not be determined. See *Methodology* for a listing of detailed offense categories within each major offense category.

^dIn this table, "Violent offenses" may include nonnegligent manslaughter; "Fraudulent property" excludes tax fraud; "Other nonfraudulent property" excludes fraudulent property and includes destruction of property and trespassing; and "Tax law violation" includes tax fraud.