

Table N-8

**COMPARISON OF SENTENCE IMPOSED AND POSITION
RELATIVE TO THE GUIDELINE RANGE BY CIRCUIT¹
Fiscal Year 2015**

	National		Eighth Circuit	
	N	%	N	%
TOTAL CASES	68,270	100.0	4,563	100.0
CASES SENTENCED WITHIN GUIDELINE RANGE	32,262	47.3	2,020	44.3
CASES SENTENCED ABOVE GUIDELINE RANGE	1,506	2.2	144	3.2
DEPARTURE ABOVE GUIDELINE RANGE	444	0.7	30	0.7
Upward Departure From Guideline Range ²	349	0.5	24	0.5
Upward Departure With <i>Booker</i> /18 U.S.C. § 3553 ³	95	0.1	6	0.1
OTHERWISE ABOVE GUIDELINE RANGE	1,062	1.6	114	2.5
Above Guideline Range With <i>Booker</i> /18 U.S.C. § 3553 ⁴	1,002	1.5	108	2.4
All Remaining Cases Above Guideline Range ⁵	60	0.1	6	0.1
GOVERNMENT SPONSORED BELOW RANGE⁶	19,988	29.3	1,158	25.4
§5K1.1 Substantial Assistance Departure	8,470	12.4	693	15.2
§5K3.1 Early Disposition Program Departure	6,294	9.2	96	2.1
Other Government Sponsored Below Range	5,224	7.7	369	8.1
NON-GOVERNMENT SPONSORED BELOW RANGE	14,514	21.3	1,241	27.2
DEPARTURE BELOW GUIDELINE RANGE	2,104	3.1	80	1.8
Downward Departure From Guideline Range ²	1,521	2.2	49	1.1
Downward Departure With <i>Booker</i> /18 U.S.C. § 3553 ³	583	0.9	31	0.7
OTHERWISE BELOW GUIDELINE RANGE	12,410	18.2	1,161	25.4
Below Guideline Range With <i>Booker</i> /18 U.S.C. § 3553 ⁴	12,032	17.6	1,141	25.0
All Remaining Cases Below Guideline Range ⁵	378	0.6	20	0.4

¹ This table reflects the 71,003 cases sentenced nationally in Fiscal Year 2015, 4,578 of which were from district courts in the Eighth Circuit. Of these, 2,733 cases nationally and 15 cases from courts in the Eighth Circuit were excluded because information was missing from the submitted documents that prevented the comparison of the sentence and the guideline range. Descriptions of variables used in this table are provided in Appendix A.

² All cases with departures in which the court did not indicate as a reason either *United States v. Booker*, 18 U.S.C. § 3553, or a factor or reason specifically prohibited in the provisions, policy statements, or commentary of the *Guidelines Manual*.

³ All cases sentenced outside of the guideline range in which the court indicated both a departure (see footnote 2) and a reference to either *United States v. Booker*, 18 U.S.C. § 3553, or related factors as a reason for sentencing outside of the guideline system.

⁴ All cases sentenced outside of the guideline range in which no departure was indicated and in which the court cited *United States v. Booker*, 18 U.S.C. § 3553, or related factors as one of the reasons for sentencing outside of the guideline system.

⁵ All cases sentenced outside of the guideline range that could not be classified into any of the three previous outside of the range categories. This category includes cases in which no reason was provided for a sentence outside of the guideline range.

⁶ Cases in which a reason for the sentence indicated that the prosecution initiated, proposed, or stipulated to a sentence outside of the guideline range, either pursuant to a plea agreement or as part of a non-plea negotiation with the defendant.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, 2015 Datafile, USSCFY15.