

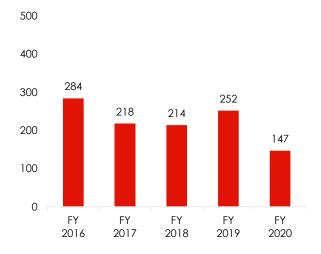
# 

Bribery Offenses

### Fiscal Year 2020

- IN FY 2020, 64,565 CASES WERE REPORTED TO THE U.S. SENTENCING COMMISSION.
  - ▶ 147 INVOLVED BRIBERY.¹
    - BRIBERY OFFENSES HAVE DECREASED BY 48.2% SINCE FY 2016.

## **Number of Bribery Offenders**



## **Median Loss for Bribery Offenses**



#### Offender and Offense Characteristics<sup>2</sup>

- 85.5% of bribery offenders were men.
- 39.6% were Black, 34.7% were White, 18.1% were Hispanic, and 7.6% were Other races.
- Their average age was 50 years.
- 89.7% were United States citizens.
- 85.5% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I).
- The median loss for these offenses was \$30,690;3
  - ♦ 40.8% involved loss amounts of \$15,000 or less;
  - ♦ 15.3% involved loss amounts of greater than \$1.5 million.
- Sentences were increased for:
  - being a public official (47.6%);
  - involving multiple bribes (75.2%);
  - involving a high-level elected official (33.8%);
  - a leadership or supervisory role in the offense (4.8%);
  - abusing a public position of trust or using a special skill
    1%1
  - obstructing or impeding the administration of justice (7.6%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
  - minor or minimal participation in the offense (8.3%).
- The top five districts for bribery offenders were:
  - ♦ Southern District of Florida (12);
  - District of New Jersey (9);
  - Northern District of Illinois (8);
  - Southern District of New York (8);
  - ♦ District of South Carolina (8).

## **Punishment**

- The average sentence for all bribery offenders was 15 months.
- 64.8% were sentenced to prison.
- 2.8% were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty; none were relieved of the penalty.



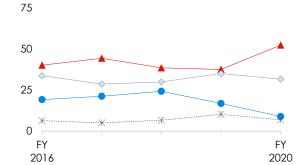
## Bribery Offenses

## Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

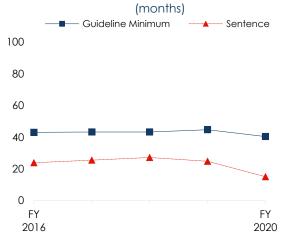
- Of the 47.6% of bribery offenders sentenced under the Guidelines Manual:
  - ♦ 18.8% were sentenced within the guideline range.
  - ♦ 66.7% received a substantial assistance departure.
    - ♦ Their average sentence reduction was 76.6%.
  - ♦ 14.5% received some other downward departure.
    - ♦ Their average sentence reduction was 59.8%.
- 52.4% received a variance; of those offenders:
  - 100% received a downward variance.
    - ♦ Their average sentence reduction was 69.3%.
- The average guideline minimum remained steady and the average sentence imposed fluctuated over the past five years.
  - ♦ The average guideline minimum decreased from 43 months in fiscal year 2016 to 40 months in fiscal year 2020.
  - The average sentence imposed increased and decreased throughout the fiscal years. The average sentence was 24 months in fiscal year 2016 and 15 months in fiscal year 2020.

## Sentence Relative to the Guideline Range (%)

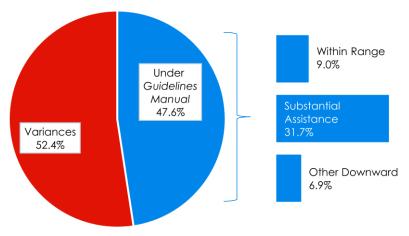




# Average Guideline Minimum and Average Sentence



## Sentence Imposed Relative to the Guideline Range FY 2020



Bribery offenses include cases in which the offender was sentenced under §2C1.1 or §2C1.2 (Offering, Giving, or Receiving a Bribe; Extortion Under Color of Official Right; Fraud Involving the Deprivation of the Intangible Right to Honest Services of Public Officials; Conspiracy to Defraud by Interference with Governmental Functions or Offering, Giving, Soliciting, or Receiving a Gratuity).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Cases with incomplete sentencing information were excluded from the analysis.

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$  The Loss Table was amended effective November 1, 2001 and November 1, 2015.