

**Table 31**

**DOWNWARD DEPARTURE CASES: DEGREE OF DEPARTURE  
FOR OFFENDERS IN EACH PRIMARY OFFENSE CATEGORY<sup>1</sup>  
Fiscal Year 1999**

PRIMARY OFFENSE	n	DEGREE OF DECREASE FOR DOWNWARD DEPARTURE		
		Median Sentence in Months <sup>2</sup>	Median Decrease in Months from Guideline Minimum	Median Percent Decrease from Guideline Minimum
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,299</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>
<b>Murder</b>	8	79.5	49.0	40.5
<b>Manslaughter</b>	5	10.0	10.0	48.8
<b>Kidnaping/Hostage-Taking</b>	5	57.0	28.0	25.9
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	38	12.0	12.0	59.9
<b>Assault</b>	50	12.0	12.5	56.9
<b>Robbery</b>	209	41.0	14.0	23.8
<b>Arson</b>	4	34.0	14.0	32.6
<b>Drugs - Trafficking</b>	2,988	15.0	12.0	38.9
<b>Drugs - Communication Facility</b>	41	24.0	13.0	48.6
<b>Drugs - Simple Possession</b>	6	38.0	10.0	33.3
<b>Firearms</b>	240	22.5	12.0	37.7
<b>Burglary/B&amp;E</b>	4	16.5	17.0	40.0
<b>Auto Theft</b>	8	7.0	9.5	92.6
<b>Larceny</b>	123	0.0	8.0	100.0
<b>Fraud</b>	494	0.0	10.0	99.8
<b>Embezzlement</b>	86	0.0	7.0	99.5
<b>Forgery/Counterfeiting</b>	62	1.0	9.0	93.9
<b>Bribery</b>	24	4.0	12.0	83.1
<b>Tax</b>	75	0.0	8.0	100.0
<b>Money Laundering</b>	102	15.5	17.0	50.0
<b>Racketeering/Extortion</b>	102	36.0	16.5	36.4
<b>Gambling/Lottery</b>	11	0.0	6.0	100.0
<b>Civil Rights</b>	4	52.5	15.0	31.6
<b>Immigration</b>	2,303	27.0	14.0	34.3
<b>Pornography/Prostitution</b>	82	6.0	19.0	72.7
<b>Prison Offenses</b>	28	12.0	6.0	38.8
<b>Administration of Justice</b>	80	0.1	8.5	99.8
<b>Environmental/Wildlife</b>	27	0.0	10.0	100.0
<b>National Defense</b>	4	27.0	16.5	38.1
<b>Antitrust</b>	19	1.0	4.0	87.5
<b>Food &amp; Drug</b>	7	2.0	9.0	80.0
<b>Other Miscellaneous Offenses</b>	60	0.0	10.0	100.0

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<sup>1</sup>Of the 55,557 cases, 8,304 received a downward departure. Of these, 7,862 had complete guideline application information. An additional 476 cases

were excluded due to several logical criteria. Of the remaining 7,386 cases, 87 were excluded due to missing sentence information.

<sup>2</sup>Cases with guideline minimums of life or probation (*i.e.*, sentence lengths of zero months) were included in the sentence average computations as 470 months and zero months respectively, but were excluded from measures of decrease in the table.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, 1999 Datafile, USSCFY99.