

EFFECTIVE USE OF FEDERAL SENTENCING DATA

United States Sentencing Commission

• Independent agency in the judicial branch created by the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984

• Guidelines effective November 1, 1987

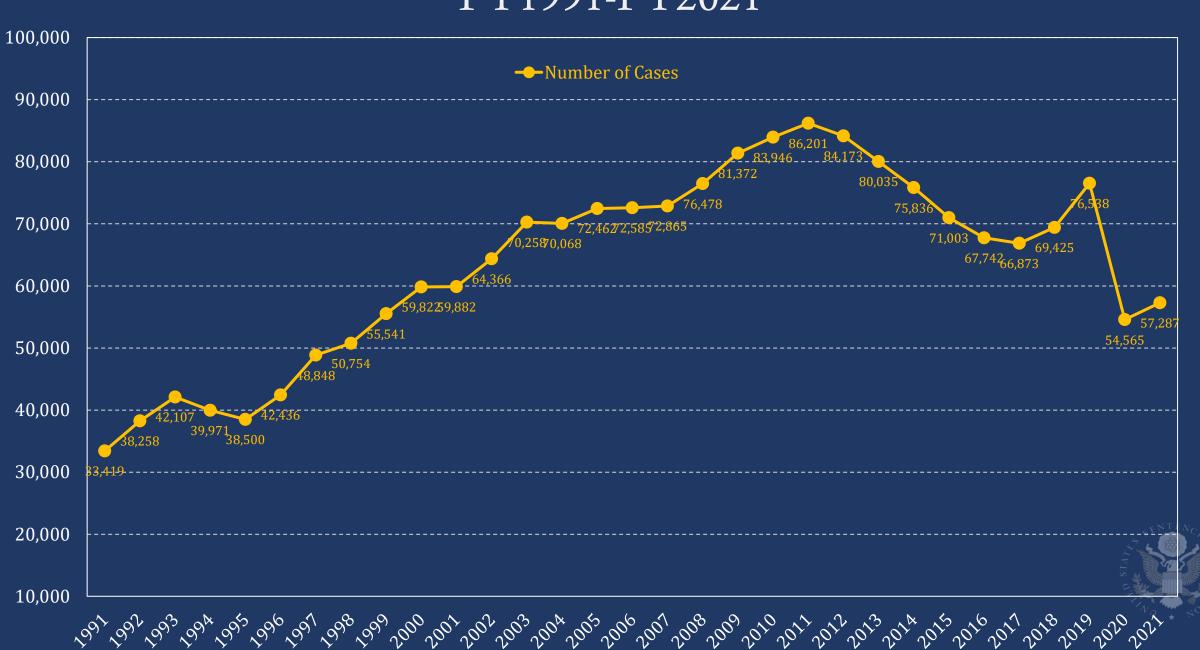
 A principal purpose is to collect, analyze, research, and distribute a broad array of information on federal crime and sentencing issues

What Types of Cases are in the Commission's Datafile and Why? Federal Jurisdiction

- Federal Jurisdiction includes offenses:
 - In places under federal control (*e.g.*, parks, parkways, military bases, Indian Country)
 - Against or by federal official (e.g., judge, law enforcement officer)
 - Relating to exclusive federal government powers
 - That occur outside the United States
 - That affect interstate commerce
- Federal cases are "selected" for prosecution
 - Drug Trafficking, Immigration, Firearms, and Fraud predominate
 - Very small proportion are violent offenses
 - Non-citizens account for about one-third of offenders



Federal Caseload Trend FY1991-FY2021



What Sentencing Commission Datafiles are Available?

- Datafiles with sentencing events
 - Individual (Felonies and Class A misdemeanors)
 - Organizational
- Data does *not* include
 - Dismissals or acquittals
 - Probation violations/supervised release revocations
 - The investigative process
 - Prosecutorial decision-making
 - Class B and Class C misdemeanors
 - Juvenile offenders
 - Death penalty cases

UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

VARIABLE CODEBOOK FOR INDIVIDUAL OFFENDERS

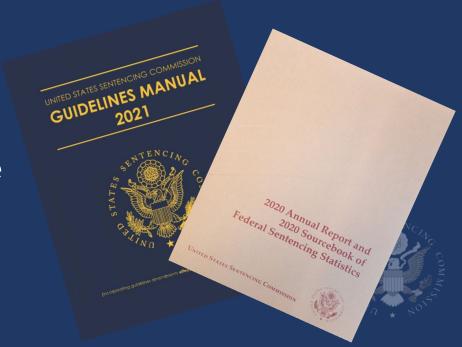


STANDARDIZED RESEARCH DATA DOCUMENTATION FOR FISCAL YEARS 1999 - 2021

Datafiles available: ussc.gov icpsr.umich.edu bjs.ojp.gov

How is the USSC Data Collected?

- Report of sentence to USSC within 30 days of judgment required under 28 U.S.C. § 994(w)
 - Five documents submitted to the Commission
- Real-time data entry of documents received from the courts
- Extensive data edits/quality control
 - Out of range/unusual values
 - Logical inconsistencies
 - All cases with sentences outside the guideline range



Where Does the Data Come From? Five Sentencing Documents

Indictment/charging document

- Charges filed against defendant
- No data collected

2) Plea agreement

- If written plea
- Data collected in limited circumstances

4) Judgment and commitment order (J&C)

- Statutes of conviction
- Sentence imposed
- Conditions of probation or supervision
- Fines, restitution, special assessments

3) Presentence investigation report (PSR) 5) Statement of reasons (SOR)

- Offender demographics
- Guideline application
- Criminal history calculation

- Final offense level
- Criminal history category
- Sentencing range
- Sentence relative to guideline range
- Reasons for out-of-range sentences

Advisory Federal Sentencing Guidelines and the USSC Individual Offender Datafile



SENTENCING TABLE

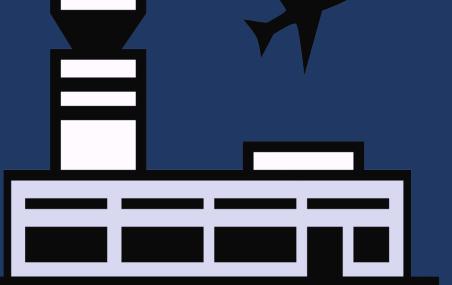
(in months of imprisonment)

| (in months of imprisonment) | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | | |
| | Offense Level | I (0 or 1) | (2 or 3) | III (4, 5, 6) | IV (7, 8, 9) | V (10, 11, 12) | VI (13 or more) |
| _ | 1 2 | 0-6 | 0-6 | 0-6 | 0-6 | 0-6 | 0-6 |
| | 3 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 2-8 | 1-7 3-9 |
| Zone A | 4 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 1-7 | 2-8 4-10 | 4-10 6-12 | 6-12 0-15 |
| Louis A | 5 | ŏ-ŏ | 1-7 | 2-8 | 4-10 6-12 | 9-15 | 12-18 |
| _ | 7 8 | 0-6 0-6 | 2-8 4-10 6-12 | 4-10 6-12 | 8-14 10-16 | 12-18 15-21 | 15-21 18-24 21-27 |
| Zone B | 9 10 | 4-10 6-12 | 6-12 8-14 | 8-14 10-16 | 12-18 | 18-24 21-27 | 21-27 24-30 |
| _ | 11 | 8-14 | 10-16 | 12-18 | 18-24 | 24-30 | 27-33 |
| Zone C | 12 13 | 10-16 12-18 | 12-18 15-21 | 15-21 18-24 | 21-27 24-30 | 27-33 30-37 | 30-37 33-41 |
| | 14 15 | 15-21 18-24 | 18-24 21-27 | 21-27 24-30 | 27-33 30-37 | 33-41 37-46 | 37-46 41-51 |
| | 16 17 | 21-27 24-30 | 24-30 27-33 | 27-33 30-37 | 33-41 37-46 | 41-51 46-57 | 46-57 51-63 |
| | 18 | | 30-37 | 33-41 | 41-51 | 51-63 | 57-71 |
| | - 19 20 21 | 30-37 |) 33-41 37-46 41-51 | 37-46 41-51 46-57 | 46-57 51-63 57-71 | 57-71 63-78 70-87 | 63-78 70-87 77-96 |
| Zone D | 22 23 24 | 41-51 46-57 51-63 | 46-57 51-63 57-71 | 51-63 57-71 63-78 | 63-78 70-87 77-96 | 77-96 84-105 92-115 | 84-105 92-115 100-125 |
| | 25 26 27 | 57-71 63-78 70-87 | 63-78 70-87 78-97 | 70-87 78-97 87-108 | 84-105 92-115 100-125 | 100-125 110-137 120-150 | 110-137 120-150 130-162 |
| Louic D | 28 29 30 | 78-97 87-108 97-121 | 87-108 97-121 108-135 | 97-121 108-135 121-151 | 110-137 121-151 135-168 | 130-162 140-175 151-188 | 140-175 151-188 168-210 |
| | 31 32 33 | 108-135 121-151 135-168 | 121-151 135-168 151-188 | 135-168 151-188 168-210 | 151-188 168-210 188-235 | 168-210 188-235 210-262 | 188-235 210-262 235-293 |
| | 34 35 36 | 151-188 168-210 188-235 | 168-210 188-235 210-262 | 188-235 210-262 235-293 | 210-262 235-293 262-327 | 235-293 262-327 292-365 | 262-327 292-365 324-405 |
| | 37 38 39 | 210-262 235-293 262-327 | 235-293 262-327 292-365 | 262-327 292-365 324-405 | 292-365 324-405 360-life | 324-405 360-life 360-life | 360-life 360-life 360-life |
| | 40 41 42 | 292-365 324-405 360-life | 324-405 360-life 360-life | 360-life 360-life 360-life | 360-life 360-life 360-life | 360-life 360-life 360-life | 360-life 360-life 360-life |
| | 43 | life | life | life | life | life | life |



Hypothetical Drug Trafficking Defendant

- 21 year old, male, U.S. citizen arrested by U.S. Customs arriving at JFK airport on an international flight in possession of a duffel bag containing **2.2kg of powder cocaine**
- Directed by another to bring the drugs into the U.S. small role in the conspiracy
- Has <u>no criminal history</u> and had <u>no weapon</u> during the commission of this offense









Statutory Provisions Hypothetical Drug Trafficking Defendant

- Pled guilty to one count: 21 U.S.C. § 846 (Attempt and conspiracy)
 - NWSTAT1-NWSTATx Title, Section, and Subsection number of each unique statute
- Statute requires <u>5-40 years imprisonment</u>
 - Statutory minimum prison term for all counts **STATMIN**=60
 - Statutory maximum prison term for all counts STATMAX=480









Guideline Application Hypothetical Drug Trafficking Defendant

Most appropriate Chapter 2 guideline from Statutory Index in Appendix A of *Guidelines Manual*

§2D1.1 (Unlawful Manufacturing, Importing, Exporting, Trafficking, or Possession; Continuing Criminal Enterprise)





Guideline-Based Analysis SOURCES

| Values | Definition | Explanation |
|--------|--|--|
| 1 | Information Represents Known Court Findings | Court's version of guideline application (SOR) matches PSR or clearly documents discrepancies |
| 3 | PSR information coded: Insufficient information on SOR | PSR version of guideline application is coded, SOR findings differ from PSR and cannot be reconciled |
| 5 | PSR information coded: Missing SOR | PSR version of guideline application is coded |
| 6 | 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) conviction only | No guideline application information, statutory provisions apply |
| 7 | 18 U.S.C. § 1028A conviction only | No guideline application information, statutory provisions apply |
| 8 | No Analogous Guidelines | No guideline application information, Class A Misdemeanors (no guidelines applied or a guideline does exist) |
| 9 | PSR Waived, Missing, Multiple Offense Levels | No guideline application information, no PSR or multiple final offense levels |

Guideline Application for Hypothetical Drug Defendant



Guideline Application Instructions

Chapter 2

- 1. Determine offense guideline in Chapter 2 (e.g., §2D1.1 Drug Trafficking)
- 2. Apply the base offense level (BOL)
- 3. Apply appropriate specific offence characteristics (SOC)

Chapter 3

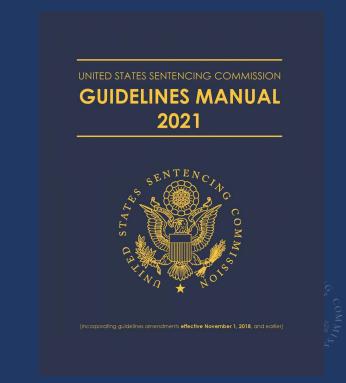
- 4. Apply victim, role, and obstruction adjustments
- 5. Apply acceptance of responsibility

Chapter 4

6. Determine Criminal History Category

Chapter 5

- 7. Determine guideline range
- 8. Determine sentencing requirements and options
- 9. Determine whether departure provisions apply



Chapter Two: Apply the Base Offense Level §2D1.1 Drug Quantity Table

```
Level 26 (BASEHI)
(7)
At least 400 G but less than 700 G of Heroin;
At least 2 KG but less than 3.5 KG of Cocaine;
At least 112 G but less than 196 G of Cocaine Base;
At least 400 G but less than 700 G of PCP, or
       at least 40 G but less than 70 G of PCP (actual);
At least 200 G but less than 350 G of Methamphetamine, or
       at least 20 G but less than 35 G of Methamphetamine (actual), or
       at least 20 G but less than 35 G of "Ice";
At least 200 G but less than 350 G of Amphetamine, or
       at least 20 G but less than 35 G of Amphetamine (actual);
At least 4 G but less than 7 G of LSD;
At least 160 G but less than 280 G of Fentanyl;
At least 40 G but less than 70 G of a Fentanyl Analogue;
At least 400 KG but less than 700 KG of Marihuana......
```

Chapter Two: Apply Specific Offense Characteristics Selected §2D1.1 SOCs

- (1) If a dangerous weapon (including a firearm) was possessed +2 (ADJ_BHI).
- (2) If the defendant used violence, made a credible threat to use violence, or directed the use of violence, +2 (ADJ_CHI).
- (3) If the defendant unlawfully imported or exported a controlled substance under circumstances in which (A) an aircraft other than a regularly scheduled commercial air carrier was used to import or export the controlled substance, (B) a submersible vessel or semi-submersible vessel as described in 18 U.S.C. § 2285 was used, or (C) the defendant acted as a pilot, ...increase by 2 levels. If the resulting offense level is less than level 26, increase to level 26. (ADJ_DHI)
- ...
- (18) If the defendant meets the criteria set forth in subdivisions (1)-(5) of subsection (a) of §5C1.2 (Safety Valve) -2 (ADJ_SHI)



Example of AMENDYR Issues Safety Valve

| AMENDYR (Guidelines Manual) | Safety Valve SOC in §2D1.1 | Adjustment Variable in Datafile |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2002 | (b)(6) | ADJ_GHI |
| 2003 | (b)(6) | ADJ_GHJ |
| 2004 | (b)(7) | ADJ_HHI |
| 2005 | (b)(7) | ADJ_HHI |
| 2006 | (b)(9) | ADJ_JHI |
| 2007 | (b)(11) | ADJ_LHI |
| 2008 | (b)(11) | ADJ_LHI |
| 2009 | (b)(11) | ADJ_LHI |
| 2010 | (b)(16) | ADJ_QHI |
| 2011 | (b)(16) | ADJ_QHI |
| 2012 | (b)(16) | ADJ_QHI |
| 2013 | (b)(16) | ADJ_QHI |
| 2014 | (b)(17) | ADJ_RHI |
| 2015 | (b)(17) | ADJ_RHI |
| 2016 | (b)(17) | ADJ_RHI |
| 2018 - Present | (b)(18) | ADJ_SHI |



Illustration of AMENDYR Issues Safety Valve Fiscal Year 2021

§2D1.1 Cocaine Offenders with BOL 26 SOURCES=1 The Freq Procedure for AMENDYR

| AMENDYR | Frequency | Percent | Safety Valve Adjustment Variable |
|---------|-----------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| TOTAL | | 100.0 | |
| 2014 | 1 | 0.1 | ADJ_ <mark>R</mark> HI |
| 2016 | 6 | 0.5 | ADJ_ <mark>R</mark> HI |
| 2018 | 1,186 | 99.4 | ADJ_ <mark>S</mark> HI |



Chapter Three Selected Adjustments and Variables

- Victim Adjustments (VCTADJHI) (any applied):
 - §3A1.1 Hate Crime Motivation or Vulnerable Victim (VULVCTHI)
 - §3A1.2 Official Victim (OFFVCTHI)
 - §3A1.3 Restraint of Victim (RSTRVCHI)
 - §3A1.4 International Terrorism (TERORHI)
 - §3A1.5 Serious Human Rights Offense (HUMANHI)
- Role Adjustments (ROLADJHI) (any applied):
 - §3B1.1 Aggravating Role (AGGROLHI)
 - §3B1.2 Mitigating Role (MITROLHI)
 - §3B1.3 Abuse of Position of Trust or Use of Special Skill (ABUSHI)
 - §3B1.4 Using a Minor to Commit a Crime (USKIDHI)
 - §3B1.5 Use of Body Armor (USARMHI)
- Obstruction of Justice §3C1.1 (OBSTRCHI)
- Multiple Counts of Conviction §3D1.1- §3D1.5 (NOCOUNTS)
- Acceptance of Responsibility §3E1.1 (ACCTRESP)



Apply Acceptance of Responsibility (ACCTRESP)

- §3E1.1(a) If the defendant clearly demonstrates acceptance of responsibility for his offense, decrease by **2** levels.
- §3E1.1(b) If the defendant qualifies for a decrease under subsection (a), the offense level determined prior to the operation of subsection (a) is level **16** or greater, and upon motion of the government...decrease by **1** additional level.



Guideline Application for Cocaine Trafficking Example

| Chapter 2 – Offense Conduct | Variable | | Level Applied |
|---|----------|---|------------------|
| Determine guideline | GDLINEHI | §2D1.1 | |
| Apply Base Offense Level | BASEHI | 2.2Kg cocaine | 26 |
| Apply Specific Offense Characteristics | ADJ_SHI | "Safety Valve" | -2 |
| Chapter 3 – Adjustments | | | |
| Victim, role, obstruction | MITROLHI | Mitigating Role §3B1.2(b) | -2 |
| Acceptance of Responsibility | ACCTRESP | -2 levels §3E1.1(a) -1 level §3E1.1(b) | -3 |
| Final Offense Level (FOL) | XFOLSOR | | <mark>=19</mark> |
| Chapter 4 - Criminal History | | | |
| Chapter 5 - Determining the Sentence | | | |
| Guideline range | | | |

SENTENCING TABLE

(in months of imprisonment)

| (in months of imprisonment) | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Criminal History Category (Criminal History Points) | | | | | |
| | Offense Level | (0 or 1) | (2 or 3) | III (4.5. റ | IV (7. 8. 9) | (10, 11, 12) | VI (13 or more) |
| - | 1 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 | 0-6 | 0-6 | 0-6 | 0-6 |
| | 3 | 0-6 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 2-8 | 1-7 3-9 |
| Zone A | 4 5 6 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 0-6 | 0-6 1-7 | 2-8 4-10 | 4-10 6-12 | 6-12 9-15 |
| | | 0-6 | 1-7 | 2-8 | 6-12 | 9-15 | 12-18 |
| - | 7 8 | 0-6 0-6 4-10 | 2-8 4-10 6-12 | 4-10 6-12 8-14 | 8-14 10-16 12-18 | 12-18 15-21 18-24 | 15-21 18-24 21-27 |
| Zone B | 9 10 | 6-12 | 8-14 | 10-16 | 15-21 | 21-27 | 24-30 |
| Zone C | 11 12 | 8-14 10-16 | 10-16 12-18 | 12-18 15-21 | 18-24 21-27 | 24-30 27-33 | 27-33 30-37 |
| Zone C | 13 | 12-18 15-21 | 15-21 18-24 | 18-24 21-27 | 24-30 | 30-37 | 33-41 |
| | 14 15 | 18-24 | 21-27 | 24-30 | 27-33 30-37 | 33-41 37-46 | 37-46 41-51 |
| | 16 17 | 21-27 24-30 | 24-30 27-33 | 27-33 30-37 | 33-41 37-46 | 41-51 46-57 | 46-57 51-63 |
| | - 18 - | 27-33 30-37 | 30-37 33-41 | 33-41 37-46 | 41-51 46-57 | 51-63 57-71 | 57-71 63-78 |
| | -20 21 | 33-41 37-46 | 37-40 41-51 | 41-51 46-57 | 31-93 37-71 | 63-78 70-87 | 70-87 77-96 |
| | 22 23 | 41-51 46-57 | 46-57 51-63 | 51-63 57-71 | 63-78 70-87 | 77-96 84-105 | 84-105 92-115 |
| | 24 | 51-63 | 57-71 | 63-78 | 77-96 | 92-115 | 100-125 |
| | 25 26 27 | 57-71 63-78 70-87 | 63-78 70-87 78-97 | 70-87 78-97 87-108 | 84-105 92-115 100-125 | 100-125 110-137 120-150 | 110-137 120-150 130-162 |
| Zone D | 28 29 | 78-97 | 87-108 | 97-121 | 110-137 | 130-162 | 140-175 |
| | 29 30 | 87-108 97-121 | 97-121 108-135 | 108-135 121-151 | 121-151 135-168 | 140-175 151-188 | 151-188 168-210 |
| | 31 32 33 | 108-135 121-151 | 121-151 135-168 | 135-168 151-188 | 151-188 168-210 | 168-210 188-235 | 188-235 210-262 |
| | | 135-168 | 151-188 | 168-210 | 188-235 | 210-262 | 235-293 |
| | 34 35 36 | 151-188 168-210 188-235 | 168-210 188-235 210-262 | 188-235 210-262 235-293 | 210-262 235-293 262-327 | 235-293 262-327 292-365 | 262-327 292-365 324-405 |
| | 37 | 210-262 | 235-293 | 262-327 | 292-365 | 324-405 360-life | 360-life |
| | 38 39 | 235-293 262-327 | 262-327 292-365 | 292-365 324-405 | 324-405 360-life | 360-life | 360-life 360-life |
| | 40 41 | 292-365 324-405 | 324-405 360-life | 360-life 360-life | 360-life 360-life | 360-life 360-life | 360-life 360-life |
| | 42 43 | 360-life life | 360-life life | 360-life life | 360-life life | 360-life life | 360-life life |



Chapter 4: Criminal History

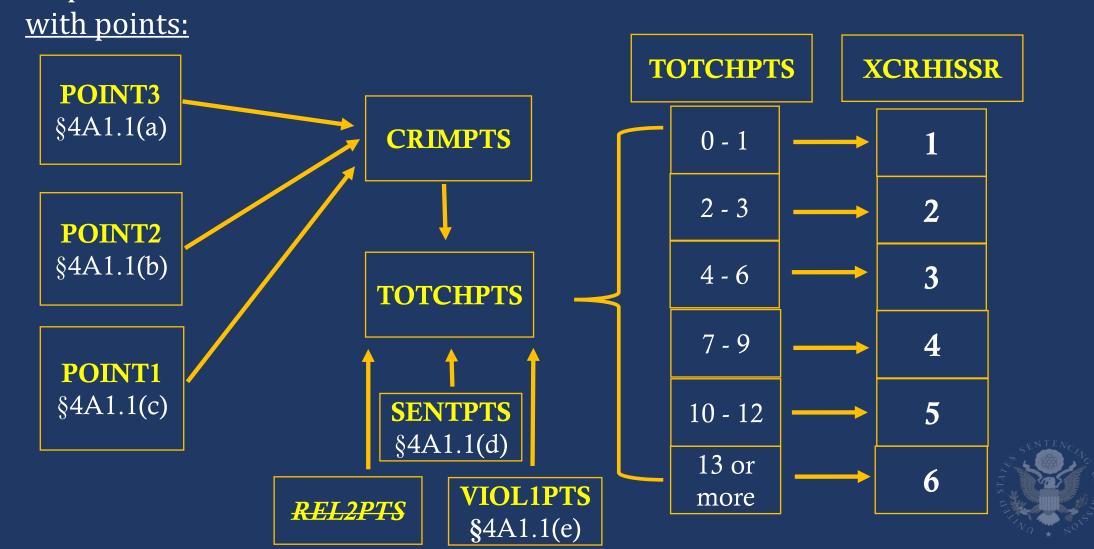
§4A1.1. Criminal History Category

The total points from subsections (a) through (e) determine the criminal history category in the Sentencing Table in Chapter Five, Part A.

- (a) Add **3 points** for each prior sentence of imprisonment exceeding one year and one month. (POINT3)
- (b) Add **2 points** for each prior sentence of imprisonment of at least sixty days not counted in (a). (POINT2)
- (c) Add **1 point** for each prior sentence not counted in (a) or (b), up to a total of 4 points for this subsection. (POINT1)
- (d) Add **2 points** if the defendant committed the instant offense while under any criminal justice sentence, including probation, parole, supervised release, imprisonment, work release, or escape status. (SENTPTS)
- (e) Add **1 point** for each prior sentence resulting from a conviction of a crime of violence that did not receive any points under (a), (b), or (c) above because such sentence was counted as a single sentence, up to a total of 3 points for this subsection. (VIOLPTS)

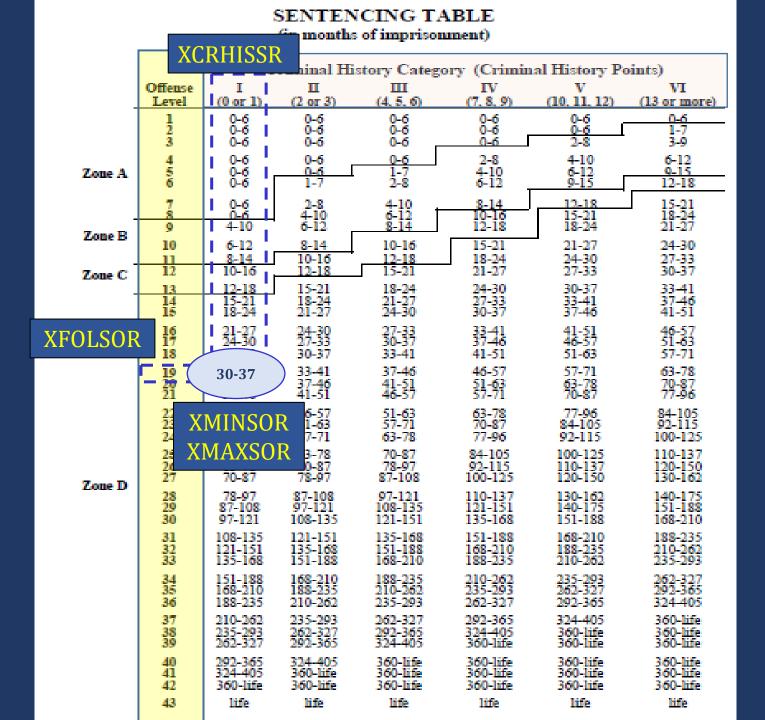
Criminal History Variables

Number of prior convictions with points:



Guideline Application for Cocaine Trafficking Example

| Charatan 2 Office a Canada at | *** | | Level |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| Chapter 2 – Offense Conduct | Variable | | Applied |
| Determine guideline | GDLINEHI | §2D1.1 | |
| Apply Base Offense Level | BASEHI | 2.2Kg cocaine | 26 |
| Apply Specific Offense Characteristics | ADJ_RHI | "Safety Valve" | -2 |
| Chapter 3 – Adjustments | | | |
| Victim, role, obstruction | MITROLHI | Mitigating Role §3B1.2(b) | -2 |
| Acceptance of Responsibility | ACCTRESP | -2 levels §3E1.1(a) -1 level §3E1.1(b) | -3 |
| Final Offense Level (FOL) | XFOLSOR | | =19 |
| Chapter 4 - Criminal History | XCRHISSR | No Priors- Criminal History Points=0 | CHC I |
| Chapter 5 - Determining the Sentence | | | |
| Guideline range | XMINSOR XMAXSOR | FOL 19 CHC I | <mark>30-37</mark> |





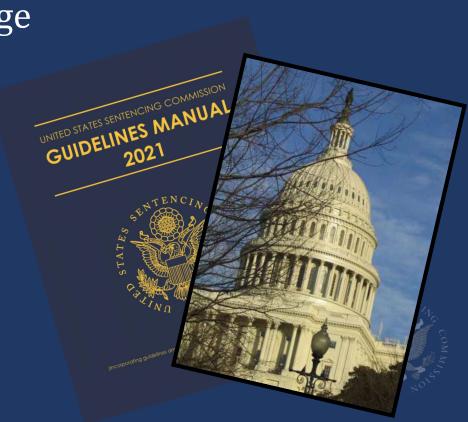
The Relationship Between Guideline Ranges and Statutory Ranges



Statutory Penalties Override Sentencing Ranges Calculated Under the Guidelines

Regardless of the sentencing range calculated under the guidelines, the final sentencing range is constrained by statutory restrictions established by Congress (*e.g.*, mandatory minimums and statutory maximums).

See §§5G1.1 & 5G1.2



Three Sets of Sentencing Range Variables

Calculated Guideline Range

XMINSOR

Minimum of range calculated by the court under the guidelines

XMAXSOR

Maximum of range calculated by the court under the guidelines

Statutory Range

STATMIN

Total statutory minimum prison term for all counts of conviction

STATMAX

Total statutory maximum prison term for all counts of conviction

Final Sentencing Range

GLMIN

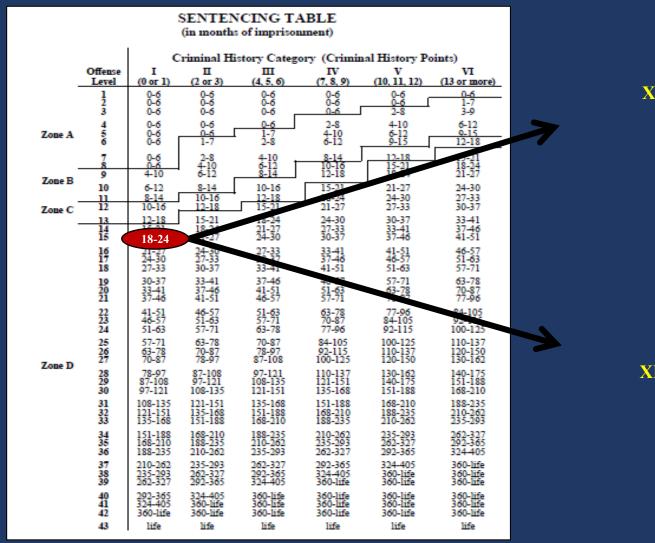
Minimum guideline range adjusted for statutory minimum penalties

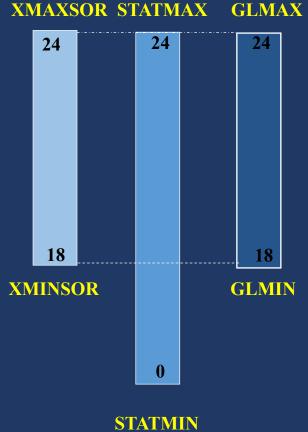
GLMAX

Maximum guideline range adjusted for statutory maximum penalties



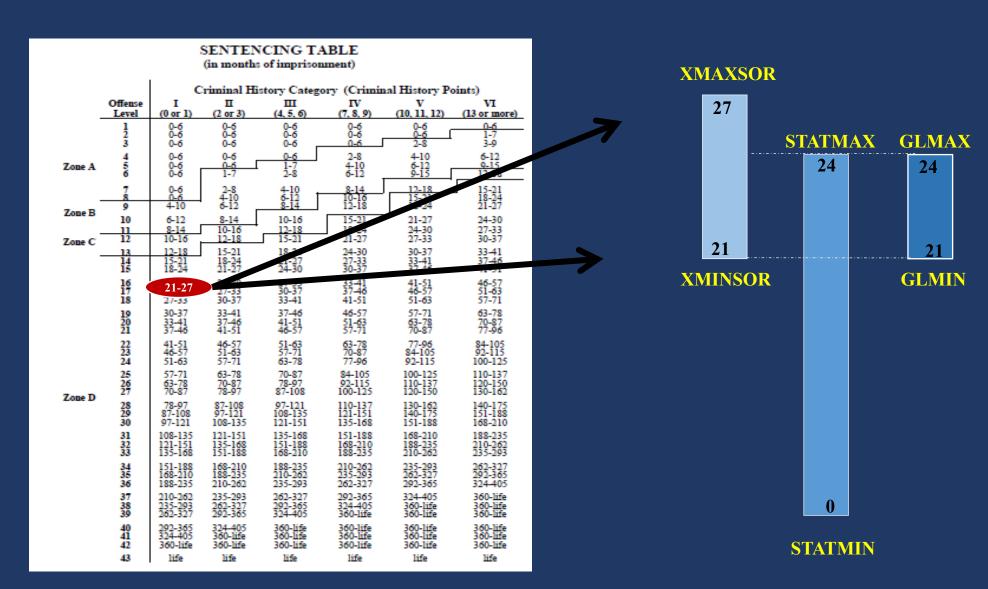
The Guideline Range Can Fall Entirely Within the Statutory Range



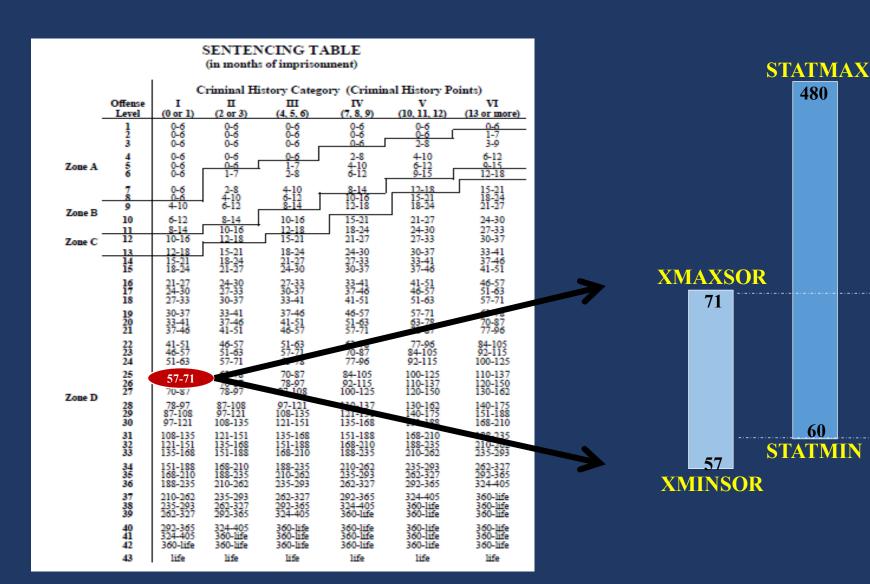




The Statutory Maximum Can Override the Calculated Guideline Maximum



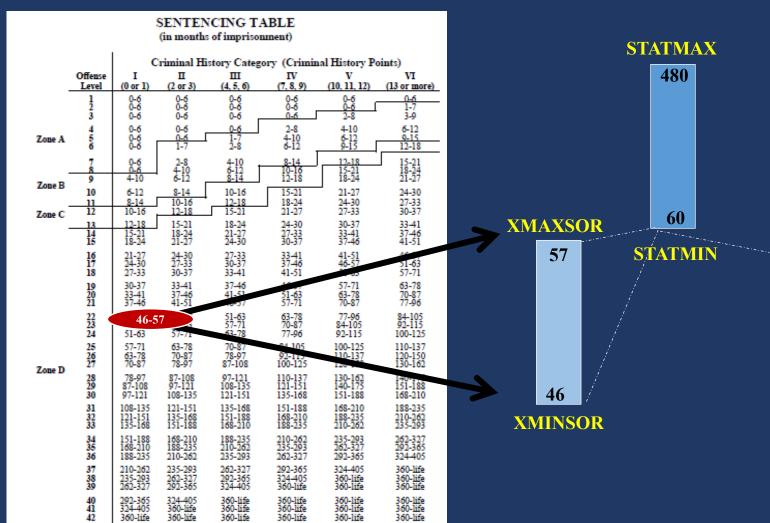
The Statutory Minimum Can Override the Calculated Guideline Minimum





GLMAX

The Statutory Minimum Can Override the Entire Calculated Guideline Range



life

life

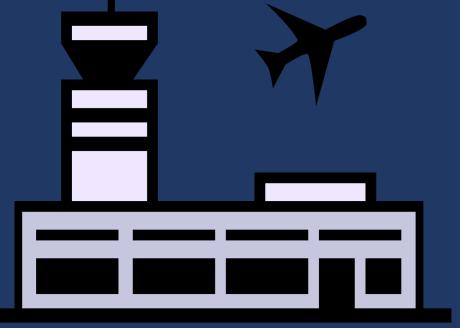


GLMAX=60

GLMIN=60

Statutory Provisions Hypothetical Drug Trafficking Defendant

- Pled guilty to one count: 21 U.S.C. § 846 (Attempt and conspiracy)
- Carries a statutory range of <u>5-40 years imprisonment</u>
- Has **no criminal history** and had **no weapon** during the commission of this offense making him eligible for the **Safety Valve** provision.

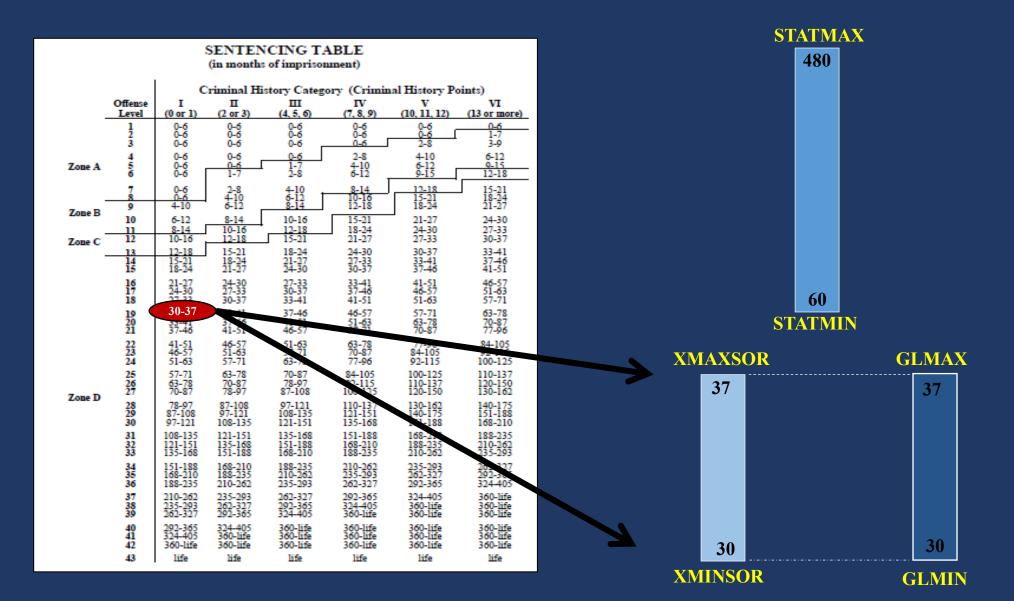








Hypothetical Drug Trafficking Defendant with Safety Valve Eliminating Statutory Override



Guideline Provisions that Override the Calculated Guideline Range



Co-Defendant of Hypothetical Drug Trafficking Defendant 38

- A 21 year old, male, U.S. citizen arrested by U.S. Customs at JFK following a flight from Colombia in possession of a duffel bag containing 2.2kg of powder cocaine.
- Directed by another to bring the drugs into the U.S.
 - Small role in the conspiracy eligible for a minor role reduction.
- Has two prior drug trafficking convictions making him ineligible for Safety Valve and qualified for Career Offender.









Guideline Provisions that Override the Calculated Guideline Range

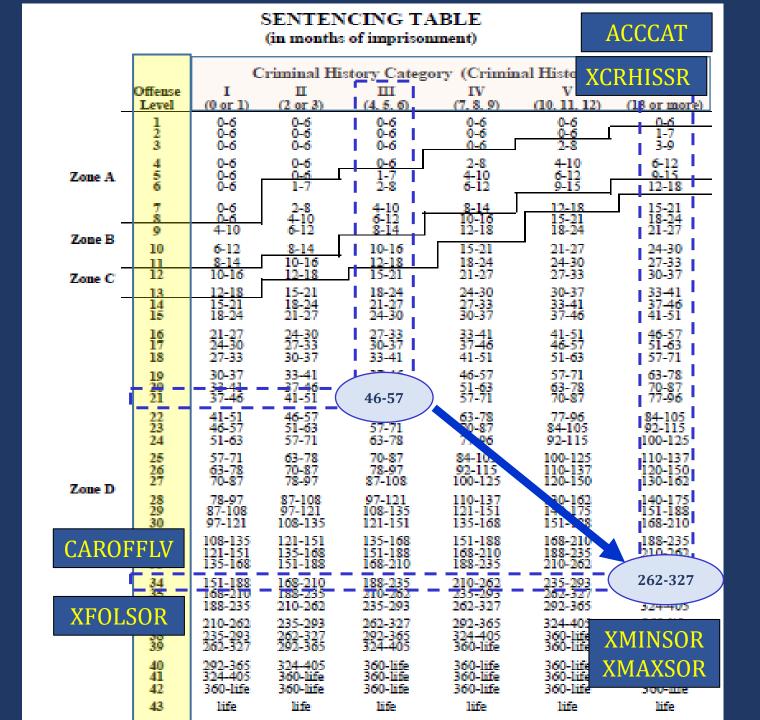
• These provisions may override both Criminal History (XCRHISSR) and the Final Offense Level (XFOLSOR)

| Adjusted Crim | inal Histor | ry Category |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | ACCCAT | |

| §3A1.4 | Terrorism | TERORHI |
|-----------------|---|----------------------|
| §§4B1.1 - 4B1.2 | Career Offender | CAROFFLV |
| §4B1.3 | Criminal Livelihood | CRIMLIV |
| §4B1.4 | Armed Career Criminal | ACCOFFLV |
| §4B1.5 | Repeat and Dangerous Sex Offender Against Minors | SEXOFFNA SEXOFFNB |

Co-Defendant Career Offender Guideline Override Example

| Chapter 2 – Offense Conduct | Variable | | Level Applied |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---|----------------------|
| Determine guideline | GDLINEHI | §2D1.1 | |
| Apply Base Offense Level | BASEHI | 2.2Kg cocaine | 26 |
| Chapter 3 – Adjustments | | | |
| Victim, role, obstruction | MITROLHI | Mitigating Role §3B1.2(b) | -2 |
| Acceptance of Responsibility | ACCTRESP | -2 levels §3E1.1(a) -1 level §3E1.1(b) | -3 |
| Final Offense Level (FOL) | XFOLSOR | | =21 |
| | | | |
| Chapter 4 - Criminal History | XCRHISSR | 2015 conviction for marijuana trafficking 90 days prison 2014 conviction for cocaine trafficking 90 days prison | +2 +2 =CHC III |
| Chapter 5 - Determining the Sentence | | | (4 |
| Guideline range | XMINSOR XMAXSOR | FOL 21 CHC III | 46-57 |





| Co-Defendant Career Offender Guideline Override Example | | | | |
|---|----------------------|--|---|--|
| Chapter 2 – Offense Conduct | Variable | | | |
| Determine guideline | GDLINEHI | §2D1.1 | | |
| Apply Base Offense Level | BASEHI | 2.2Kg cocaine | 26 | |
| Chapter 3 – Adjustments | | | | |
| Victim, role, obstruction | MITROLHI | Mitigating Role §3B1.2(b) | -2 | |
| Acceptance of Responsibility | ACCTRESP CAROFFEN | -2 levels §3E1.1(a) -1 level §3E1.1(b) | -3 | |
| Final Offense Level (FOL) | XFOLSOR | | =21 =34 | |
| | CAROFFLV | Career Offender | <mark>=34</mark> | |
| Chapter 4 - Criminal History | XCRHISSR ACCCAT | 2015 conviction for marijuana trafficking 90 days prison 2014 conviction for cocaine trafficking 90 days prison Career Offender | +2 +2 CHC III <mark>CHC VI</mark> | |
| Chapter 5 - Determining the Sentence | | | | |
| Guideline range | XMINSOR | FOL 21 CHC III | 46-57 | |

FOL 34 CHC VI

XMAXSOR

262-327

Variables Related to Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range and Sentences Imposed



Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

- Within guideline range
- Above guideline range
- Below guideline range





Sentence Relative to the Guideline Range Variables SENTRNGE

0 = Within Range

1 = Upward Departure

2 = 5K1.1/Substantial Assistance

3 = Early Disposition/5K3.1

4 = Government Sponsored Departure

5 = Downward Departure

6 = Above Range Variance

7 = Government Sponsored Variance

8 = Below Range Variance

· = Missing, Indeterminable, or Inapplicable

Under the Manual

Outside the Manual



Sentence Type and Length Variables

Yes=months

Alternative

Sentences

Included?

No=missing

Sentence Type

SENTIMP

1=Prison Only
2=Prison/Alternatives
3=Probation/Conditions
4=Probation Only
0=Fine Only

Sentence Length
(In Months)

Probation Sentences Included?

| Yes=0 | No=missing |
|----------|------------|
| SENSPLTØ | SENSPLT |
| SENTTOTØ | SENTTOT |

Analyzing Sentence Length Using SENTTOT, SENTTOTO, SENSPLT, SENSPLTO, SENTTCAP, and SENSPCAP Fiscal Year 2021

§2D1.1 Cocaine Offenders SOURCES=1 (all BOLs)

Comparison of Sentence Length Variables

| Variable | N | Mean | Median | Minimum | Maximum |
|-----------|-------|------|--------|---------|---------|
| SENTTOT | 2,646 | 69 | 60 | 0.03 | 1,356 |
| SENTTOT0 | 2,722 | 67 | 60 | 0 | 1,356 |
| SENSPLT | 2,674 | 69 | 60 | 0.03 | 1,356 |
| SENSPLT0 | 2,722 | 68 | 60 | 0 | 1,356 |
| SENTTCAP* | 2,646 | 69 | 60 | 0.03 | 470 |
| SENSPCAP* | 2,722 | 67 | 60 | 0 | 470 |



Guideline Analysis versus Primary Crime Type Analysis



Primary Crime Type Analysis (OFFGUIDE): Hypothetical Drug Trafficking Defendant

Most appropriate Primary Crime Type: Drug Trafficking based on §2D1.1 as GDLINEHI Based on **GDLINEHI** (or statute if no primary sentencing guideline)

> Example Drug & Weapon: 21 U.S.C. § 841 (Attempt and conspiracy) 5-40 years and Weapon Possession (18 U.S.C. § 924(c) 5yrs-Life:

OFFGUIDE = Drug Trafficking based on §2D1.1 as GDLINEHI





Guideline Analysis v. Primary Crime Type Analysis Fiscal Year 2021

Comparison of Primary Sentencing Guideline and Primary Crime Type

| | OFFGUIDE | | |
|---|------------------|---------|--|
| GDLINEHI | Drug Trafficking | | |
| | Number | Percent | |
| §2D1.1 Drug Trafficking | 16,922 | 98.3 | |
| §2D1.2 Drug Offenses Near Protected Locations | 249 | 1.5 | |
| §2D1.8 Renting/Managing Drug Establishment | 21 | 0.1 | |
| §2X3.1 Accessory After the Fact (DT Reference GL) | 20 | 0.1 | |
| §2D1.5 Continuing Criminal Enterprise | 4 | 0.0 | |
| §2D1.10 Endanger Human Life While Manufacturing | 1 | 0.0 | |
| Total | 17,217 | 100.0 | |

Special Drug Trafficking Grouping Fiscal Year 2021

The "Big 7" Drug Trafficking Primary Sentencing Guidelines

(DTGDL=1 and SOURCES=1)

| GDLINEHI | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|
| §2D1.1 Drug Trafficking | 16,922 | 98.4 |
| §2D1.2 Drug Offenses Near Protected Locations | 249 | 1.4 |
| §2D1.5 Continuing Criminal Enterprise | 4 | 0.02 |
| §2D1.6 Use of Communication Facility | 0 | 0.0 |
| §2D1.8 Renting/Managing Drug Establishment | 21 | 0.1 |
| §2D1.10 Endangering While Illegally Manufacturing | 1 | 0.03 |
| §2D1.14 Narco-Terrorism | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 17,197 | 100.0 |

General Cautions for Using USSC Data



Avoid the Most Common Errors

- Use the Codebook and Appropriate Guidelines Manuals
- Run variable frequencies
 - Missing data bias for some variables due to documentation: Citizenship, Drug Weight, Loss Amount
 - Misleading values due to some codes: Missings, Life sentences, Ranges
 - Check the Codebook for changes in values over time
- BE AWARE OF CERTAIN VARIABLES
 - Alternative Sentences and Sentencing Zones SENTIMP, SENSPLTO,
 & SENSPCAP
 - Number of Counts of Conviction NOCOUNTS
 - Think About if you need to Screen on SOURCES
 - Does **AMENDYR** Affect Your Analysis?



Research Dashboard on USSC Website



GUIDELINES

RESEARCH

POLICYMAKING

EDUCATION

ABOUT

BY TOPIC

> 2021 SOURCEBOOK

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DATA REPORTS

By Geography

By Guideline

By Quarter

Prison Impact Reports

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Research Notes

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QUICK FACTS

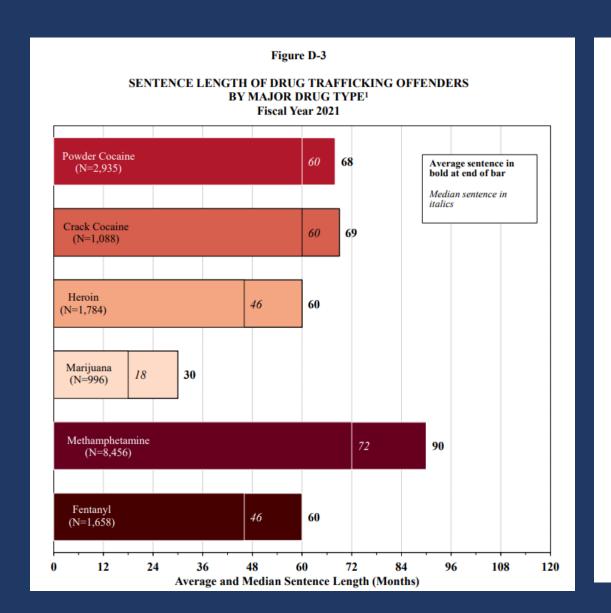
> LIST OF ALL PUBLICATIONS

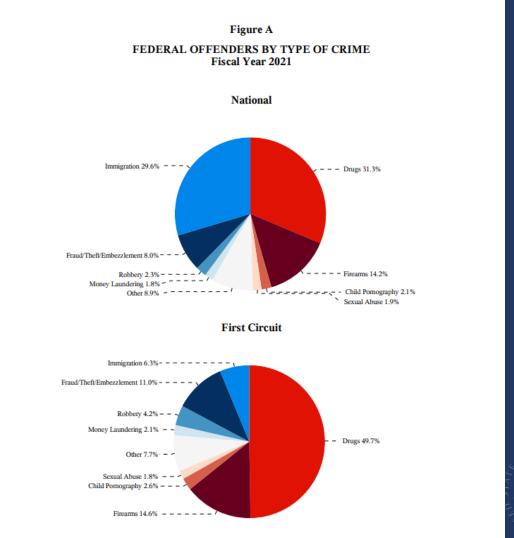
RESEARCH & DATA MISSION

- > The Commission collects, analyzes, and disseminates a broad array of information on federal crime and sentencing practices.
- > In this section, you will find a comprehensive collection of research and data reports published on sentencing issues and other areas of federal crime.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO COMMISSION DATA AND DOCUMENTS

Sourcebook and Geographic Packets



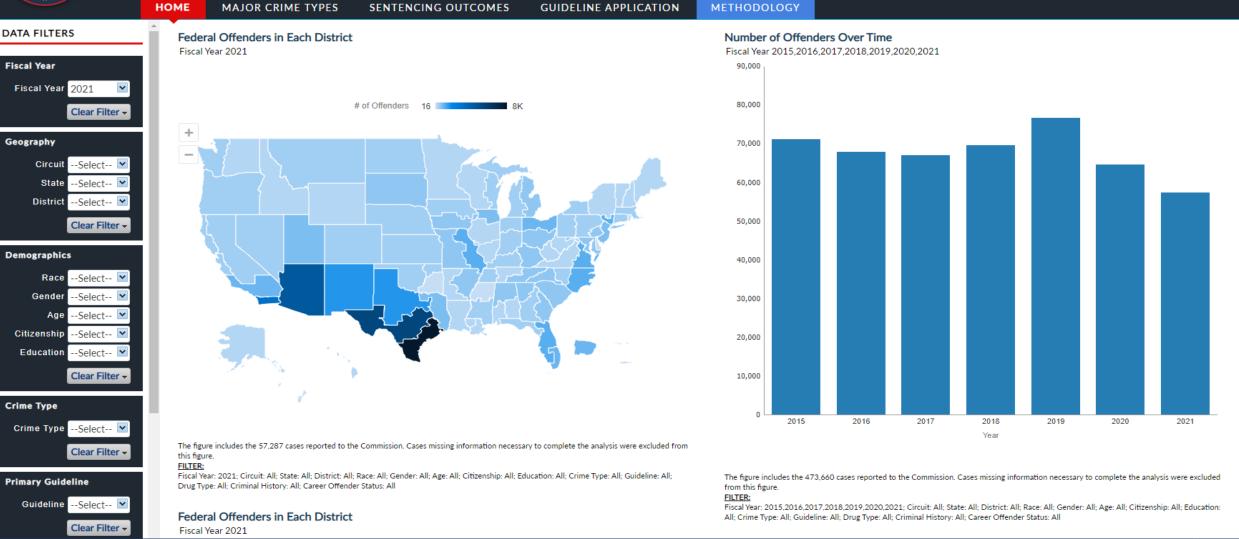


Interactive Data Analyzer (IDA)



UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

INTERACTIVE DATA ANALYZER



Publications and Data Resources





Fiscal Year 2021

Overview of Federal Criminal Cases





COMPASSIONATE RELEASE

THE IMPACT OF THE FIRST STEP ACT AND COVID-19 PANDEMIC



United States Sentencing Commission Quarterly Data Report



1st Quarter Release Preliminary Fiscal Year 2022 Data Through December 31, 2021



USSC Guideline Training Tools



askORD@ussc.gov









