

U.S. Sentencing Commission Compassionate Release Data Report

Fiscal Years 2020 to 2022



December 2022

Introduction

As part of its ongoing mission, the United States Sentencing Commission provides Congress, the judiciary, the executive branch, and the general public with data extracted from and based on sentencing documents submitted by courts to the Commission.¹ Data is reported on an annual basis in the Commission's *Annual Report* and *Sourcebook of Federal Sentencing Statistics*.²

The Commission also reports preliminary data for an ongoing fiscal year in order to provide real-time analysis of sentencing practices in the federal courts. Since 2005, the Commission has published a series of quarterly reports that are similar in format and methodology to tables and figures produced in the *Sourcebook of Federal Sentencing Statistics*. The quarterly reports contain cumulative data for the ongoing fiscal year (*i.e.*, data from the start of the fiscal year through the most current quarter). From time to time the Commission also reports data regarding other sentencing trends, such as resentencings or other modifications of sentences previously imposed.

Section 3582(c)(1)(A) of title 18, United States Code, provides courts with the authority to reduce a term of imprisonment after it has been imposed in specific circumstances. One of the circumstances provided in the statute is that “extraordinary and compelling reasons” warrant such a reduction. Motions asserting that reason are commonly referred to as “compassionate release” motions. When considering any motion under section 3582(c)(1)(A), courts are also required to consider the factors set forth in section 3553(a) of title 18 and to find that any reduction “is consistent with applicable policy statements issued by the Sentencing Commission.”³

Before December 2018, courts were authorized to consider motions under section 3582(c)(1)(A) only if they were filed by the Director of the Bureau of Prisons. In December 2018, Congress amended that portion of section 3582 to authorize courts to also consider motions filed by offenders, in certain circumstances.⁴

¹ In each federal felony or Class A misdemeanor case, sentencing courts are required to submit the following documents to the Commission: the Judgment and Commitment Order, the Statement of Reasons, the plea agreement (if applicable), the indictment or other charging document, and the Presentence Report. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 994(w).

² Electronic copies of the 1995-2021 ANNUAL REPORT and SOURCEBOOK OF FEDERAL SENTENCING STATISTICS are available at the Commission's website at www.ussc.gov.

³ U.S. SENTENCING COMM'N, Guidelines Manual §1B1.13 (Nov. 2021) [hereinafter USSG].

⁴ The First Step Act of 2018 (Pub. L. No. 115-391 (2018)) went into effect on December 21, 2018. Section 603 of the Act amended section 3582(c)(1)(A) of title 18 to authorize “defendants” (*i.e.*, offenders) to file a motion for compassionate release “after the defendant has fully exhausted all administrative rights to appeal a failure of the Bureau of Prisons to bring a motion on the defendant's behalf or the lapse of 30 days from the receipt of such a request by the warden of the defendant's facility, whichever is earlier.”

With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic,⁵ the courts received thousands of compassionate release motions, most filed by offenders. This report provides an analysis of the compassionate release motions filed with the courts during the COVID-19 pandemic. The data in this report reflects compassionate release motions decided by the courts during fiscal years 2020 through fiscal year 2022 (October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2022). Prior to October 1, 2020, courts submitted to the Commission documentation regarding motions for all compassionate release that were granted, but not for compassionate release motions that were denied. For the time period of January 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020, the Commission obtained documentation for compassionate release motions that were denied, where available, by searching court records using the PACER system. Beginning October 1, 2020, courts began submitting to the Commission documentation for all compassionate release motions, regardless of whether they were granted or denied. The data in this report is limited to motions for which the Commission received or obtained court documentation and completed its analysis by November 7, 2022.

⁵ The World Health Organization declared the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. President Trump declared a national emergency concerning the coronavirus (COVID-19) on March 13, 2020.

Table 1

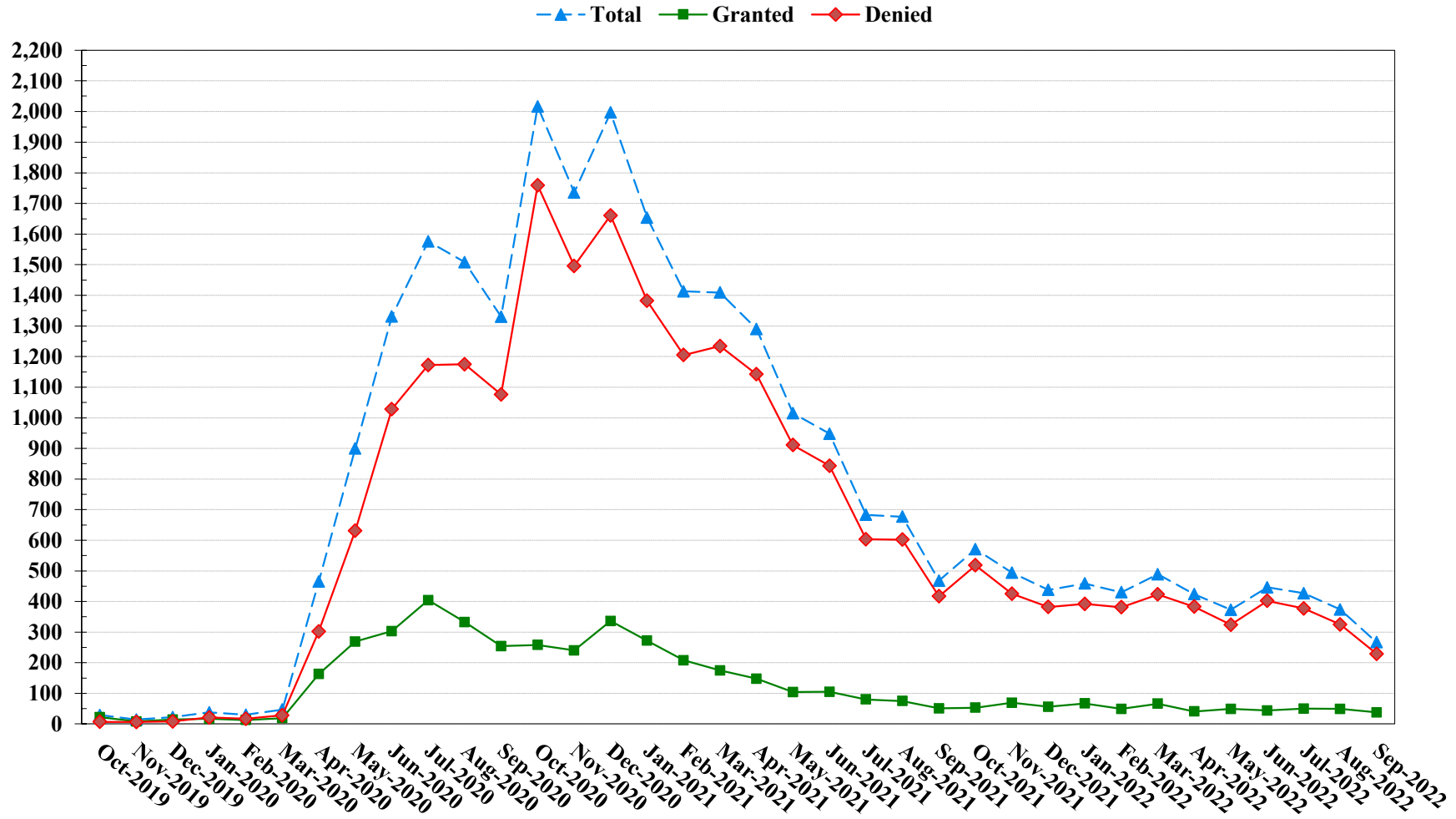
**MOTIONS FOR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE
BY MONTH OF COURT DECISION¹**

Year	Month	Total	Granted		Denied	
		N	N	%	N	%
TOTAL		27,789	4,502	16.2	23,287	83.8
2019	October	29	22	75.9	7	24.1
2019	November	14	8	57.1	6	42.9
2019	December	22	14	63.6	8	36.4
2020	January	38	17	44.7	21	55.3
2020	February	30	13	43.3	17	56.7
2020	March	47	19	40.4	28	59.6
2020	April	465	163	35.1	302	64.9
2020	May	900	269	29.9	631	70.1
2020	June	1,331	303	22.8	1,028	77.2
2020	July	1,576	404	25.6	1,172	74.4
2020	August	1,508	333	22.1	1,175	77.9
2020	September	1,330	254	19.1	1,076	80.9
2020	October	2,017	258	12.8	1,759	87.2
2020	November	1,736	240	13.8	1,496	86.2
2020	December	1,997	336	16.8	1,661	83.2
2021	January	1,654	272	16.4	1,382	83.6
2021	February	1,413	208	14.7	1,205	85.3
2021	March	1,409	175	12.4	1,234	87.6
2021	April	1,290	148	11.5	1,142	88.5
2021	May	1,015	104	10.2	911	89.8
2021	June	948	105	11.1	843	88.9
2021	July	683	80	11.7	603	88.3
2021	August	677	75	11.1	602	88.9
2021	September	468	51	10.9	417	89.1
2021	October	571	53	9.3	518	90.7
2021	November	494	69	14.0	425	86.0
2021	December	438	56	12.8	382	87.2
2022	January	459	67	14.6	392	85.4
2022	February	430	49	11.4	381	88.6
2022	March	489	66	13.5	423	86.5
2022	April	424	41	9.7	383	90.3
2022	May	373	49	13.1	324	86.9
2022	June	446	44	9.9	402	90.1
2022	July	427	50	11.7	377	88.3
2022	August	374	49	13.1	325	86.9
2022	September	267	38	14.2	229	85.8

¹ Of the 28,666 cases reported to the Commission, 877 were excluded due to indeterminable motion status.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Figure 1
MOTIONS FOR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE
BY MONTH OF COURT DECISION



SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 2

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF MOTIONS FOR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE BY DISTRICT¹

District	Total		Granted		Denied		District	Total		Granted		Denied	
	N		N	%	N	%		N		N	%	N	%
TOTAL	27,789		4,502	16.2	23,287	83.8							
Southern Florida	1,216		149	12.3	1,067	87.7	Western Tennessee	254		14	5.5	240	94.5
Eastern Virginia	1,041		158	15.2	883	84.8	Hawaii	233		47	20.2	186	79.8
Middle Florida	971		54	5.6	917	94.4	Southern West Virginia	224		18	8.0	206	92.0
Maryland	816		267	32.7	549	67.3	Nebraska	212		23	10.8	189	89.2
Northern Texas	758		40	5.3	718	94.7	District of Columbia	212		61	28.8	151	71.2
Western North Carolina	666		33	5.0	633	95.0	Eastern Arkansas	210		7	3.3	203	96.7
Western Missouri	650		57	8.8	593	91.2	Colorado	199		29	14.6	170	85.4
South Carolina	648		107	16.5	541	83.5	Eastern Louisiana	195		19	9.7	176	90.3
Eastern North Carolina	647		118	18.2	529	81.8	Western Wisconsin	195		14	7.2	181	92.8
Southern Iowa	611		49	8.0	562	92.0	Utah	190		29	15.3	161	84.7
Southern New York	610		138	22.6	472	77.4	South Dakota	189		18	9.5	171	90.5
Northern Illinois	573		153	26.7	420	73.3	Massachusetts	187		80	42.8	107	57.2
Southern Indiana	571		42	7.4	529	92.6	Oregon	183		114	62.3	69	37.7
Eastern Michigan	548		171	31.2	377	68.8	North Dakota	181		7	3.9	174	96.1
Minnesota	508		101	19.9	407	80.1	Northern Georgia	174		80	46.0	94	54.0
Eastern Missouri	499		51	10.2	448	89.8	Maine	171		11	6.4	160	93.6
Middle North Carolina	475		27	5.7	448	94.3	Southern Alabama	160		15	9.4	145	90.6
Middle Pennsylvania	466		24	5.2	442	94.8	Southern Ohio	157		46	29.3	111	70.7
Western Texas	462		36	7.8	426	92.2	Northern Alabama	153		21	13.7	132	86.3
New Jersey	450		50	11.1	400	88.9	Northern West Virginia	146		12	8.2	134	91.8
Central Illinois	429		61	14.2	368	85.8	Middle Tennessee	141		34	24.1	107	75.9
Eastern Texas	411		11	2.7	400	97.3	Middle Alabama	141		6	4.3	135	95.7
Northern Iowa	409		22	5.4	387	94.6	Eastern Washington	140		29	20.7	111	79.3
Eastern California	378		66	17.5	312	82.5	Alaska	139		29	20.9	110	79.1
Southern Texas	370		102	27.6	268	72.4	New Hampshire	135		27	20.0	108	80.0
Eastern New York	370		85	23.0	285	77.0	Western New York	126		35	27.8	91	72.2
Eastern Kentucky	367		21	5.7	346	94.3	Wyoming	124		24	19.4	100	80.6
Eastern Pennsylvania	351		102	29.1	249	70.9	Northern Mississippi	119		15	12.6	104	87.4
Western Virginia	343		81	23.6	262	76.4	Northern Florida	114		45	39.5	69	60.5
Western Pennsylvania	335		39	11.6	296	88.4	Vermont	113		44	38.9	69	61.1
Northern California	322		115	35.7	207	64.3	Northern Oklahoma	106		39	36.8	67	63.2
Central California	322		106	32.9	216	67.1	Western Oklahoma	89		3	3.4	86	96.6
Western Michigan	321		12	3.7	309	96.3	Rhode Island	88		33	37.5	55	62.5
Western Washington	314		68	21.7	246	78.3	Nevada	79		35	44.3	44	55.7
Northern Indiana	309		21	6.8	288	93.2	Northern New York	69		20	29.0	49	71.0
Southern Georgia	296		8	2.7	288	97.3	Eastern Oklahoma	68		4	5.9	64	94.1
Northern Ohio	293		62	21.2	231	78.8	Arizona	64		22	34.4	42	65.6
Southern Illinois	289		14	4.8	275	95.2	Middle Louisiana	61		3	4.9	58	95.1
Southern California	286		105	36.7	181	63.3	New Mexico	61		25	41.0	36	59.0
Kansas	269		108	40.1	161	59.9	Western Louisiana	47		16	34.0	31	66.0
Connecticut	268		98	36.6	170	63.4	Puerto Rico	30		25	83.3	5	16.7
Western Kentucky	268		13	4.9	255	95.1	Western Arkansas	27		2	7.4	25	92.6
Middle Georgia	265		4	1.5	261	98.5	Idaho	23		8	34.8	15	65.2
Eastern Tennessee	263		48	18.3	215	81.7	Delaware	21		4	19.0	17	81.0
Montana	262		40	15.3	222	84.7	Guam	19		8	42.1	11	57.9
Southern Mississippi	256		14	5.5	242	94.5	Northern Mariana Islands	7		1	14.3	6	85.7
Eastern Wisconsin	255		50	19.6	205	80.4	Virgin Islands	6		0	0.0	6	100.0

¹ Of the 28,666 cases reported to the Commission, 877 were excluded due to indeterminable motion status.

Table 3

**MOTIONS FOR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE
IN EACH CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT¹**

CIRCUIT District	TOTAL	Granted		Denied	
	N	N	%	N	%
TOTAL	27,789	4,502	16.2	23,287	83.8
D.C. CIRCUIT	212	61	28.8	151	71.2
District of Columbia	212	61	28.8	151	71.2
FIRST CIRCUIT	611	176	28.8	435	71.2
Maine	171	11	6.4	160	93.6
Massachusetts	187	80	42.8	107	57.2
New Hampshire	135	27	20.0	108	80.0
Puerto Rico	30	25	83.3	5	16.7
Rhode Island	88	33	37.5	55	62.5
SECOND CIRCUIT	1,556	420	27.0	1,136	73.0
Connecticut	268	98	36.6	170	63.4
New York					
Eastern	370	85	23.0	285	77.0
Northern	69	20	29.0	49	71.0
Southern	610	138	22.6	472	77.4
Western	126	35	27.8	91	72.2
Vermont	113	44	38.9	69	61.1
THIRD CIRCUIT	1,629	219	13.4	1,410	86.6
Delaware	21	4	19.0	17	81.0
New Jersey	450	50	11.1	400	88.9
Pennsylvania					
Eastern	351	102	29.1	249	70.9
Middle	466	24	5.2	442	94.8
Western	335	39	11.6	296	88.4
Virgin Islands	6	0	0.0	6	100.0
FOURTH CIRCUIT	5,006	821	16.4	4,185	83.6
Maryland	816	267	32.7	549	67.3
North Carolina					
Eastern	647	118	18.2	529	81.8
Middle	475	27	5.7	448	94.3
Western	666	33	5.0	633	95.0
South Carolina	648	107	16.5	541	83.5
Virginia					
Eastern	1,041	158	15.2	883	84.8
Western	343	81	23.6	262	76.4
West Virginia					
Northern	146	12	8.2	134	91.8
Southern	224	18	8.0	206	92.0

Table 3 (cont.)

CIRCUIT District	TOTAL	Granted		Denied	
	N	N	%	N	%
FIFTH CIRCUIT	2,679	256	9.6	2,423	90.4
Louisiana					
Eastern	195	19	9.7	176	90.3
Middle	61	3	4.9	58	95.1
Western	47	16	34.0	31	66.0
Mississippi					
Northern	119	15	12.6	104	87.4
Southern	256	14	5.5	242	94.5
Texas					
Eastern	411	11	2.7	400	97.3
Northern	758	40	5.3	718	94.7
Southern	370	102	27.6	268	72.4
Western	462	36	7.8	426	92.2
SIXTH CIRCUIT	2,612	421	16.1	2,191	83.9
Kentucky					
Eastern	367	21	5.7	346	94.3
Western	268	13	4.9	255	95.1
Michigan					
Eastern	548	171	31.2	377	68.8
Western	321	12	3.7	309	96.3
Ohio					
Northern	293	62	21.2	231	78.8
Southern	157	46	29.3	111	70.7
Tennessee					
Eastern	263	48	18.3	215	81.7
Middle	141	34	24.1	107	75.9
Western	254	14	5.5	240	94.5
SEVENTH CIRCUIT	2,621	355	13.5	2,266	86.5
Illinois					
Central	429	61	14.2	368	85.8
Northern	573	153	26.7	420	73.3
Southern	289	14	4.8	275	95.2
Indiana					
Northern	309	21	6.8	288	93.2
Southern	571	42	7.4	529	92.6
Wisconsin					
Eastern	255	50	19.6	205	80.4
Western	195	14	7.2	181	92.8
EIGHTH CIRCUIT	3,496	337	9.6	3,159	90.4
Arkansas					
Eastern	210	7	3.3	203	96.7
Western	27	2	7.4	25	92.6
Iowa					
Northern	409	22	5.4	387	94.6
Southern	611	49	8.0	562	92.0
Minnesota	508	101	19.9	407	80.1
Missouri					
Eastern	499	51	10.2	448	89.8
Western	650	57	8.8	593	91.2
Nebraska	212	23	10.8	189	89.2
North Dakota	181	7	3.9	174	96.1
South Dakota	189	18	9.5	171	90.5

Table 3 (cont.)

CIRCUIT District	TOTAL	Granted		Denied	
	N	N	%	N	%
NINTH CIRCUIT	2,771	793	28.6	1,978	71.4
Alaska	139	29	20.9	110	79.1
Arizona	64	22	34.4	42	65.6
California					
Central	322	106	32.9	216	67.1
Eastern	378	66	17.5	312	82.5
Northern	322	115	35.7	207	64.3
Southern	286	105	36.7	181	63.3
Guam	19	8	42.1	11	57.9
Hawaii	233	47	20.2	186	79.8
Idaho	23	8	34.8	15	65.2
Montana	262	40	15.3	222	84.7
Nevada	79	35	44.3	44	55.7
Northern Mariana Islands	7	1	14.3	6	85.7
Oregon	183	114	62.3	69	37.7
Washington					
Eastern	140	29	20.7	111	79.3
Western	314	68	21.7	246	78.3
TENTH CIRCUIT	1,106	261	23.6	845	76.4
Colorado	199	29	14.6	170	85.4
Kansas	269	108	40.1	161	59.9
New Mexico	61	25	41.0	36	59.0
Oklahoma					
Eastern	68	4	5.9	64	94.1
Northern	106	39	36.8	67	63.2
Western	89	3	3.4	86	96.6
Utah	190	29	15.3	161	84.7
Wyoming	124	24	19.4	100	80.6
ELEVENTH CIRCUIT	3,490	382	10.9	3,108	89.1
Alabama					
Middle	141	6	4.3	135	95.7
Northern	153	21	13.7	132	86.3
Southern	160	15	9.4	145	90.6
Florida					
Middle	971	54	5.6	917	94.4
Northern	114	45	39.5	69	60.5
Southern	1,216	149	12.3	1,067	87.7
Georgia					
Middle	265	4	1.5	261	98.5
Northern	174	80	46.0	94	54.0
Southern	296	8	2.7	288	97.3

¹ Of the 28,666 cases reported to the Commission, 877 were excluded due to indeterminable motion status.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 4**MOTIONS FOR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE
BY YEAR OF ORIGINAL SENTENCE¹**

Fiscal Year	Total	Granted		Denied	
	N	N	%	N	%
TOTAL	27,684	4,465	16.1	23,219	83.9
2022	78	10	12.8	68	87.2
2021	666	66	9.9	600	90.1
2020	2,965	406	13.7	2,559	86.3
2019	4,461	580	13.0	3,881	87.0
2018	3,370	458	13.6	2,912	86.4
2017	2,598	304	11.7	2,294	88.3
2016	2,006	239	11.9	1,767	88.1
2015	1,784	264	14.8	1,520	85.2
2014	1,478	219	14.8	1,259	85.2
2013	1,301	236	18.1	1,065	81.9
2012	1,051	209	19.9	842	80.1
2011	841	143	17.0	698	83.0
2010	727	126	17.3	601	82.7
2009	705	141	20.0	564	80.0
2008	578	126	21.8	452	78.2
2007	473	99	20.9	374	79.1
2006	397	112	28.2	285	71.8
2005	325	92	28.3	233	71.7
2004	285	73	25.6	212	74.4
2003	229	63	27.5	166	72.5
2002	184	50	27.2	134	72.8
2001	161	57	35.4	104	64.6
2000	171	63	36.8	108	63.2
1999	138	52	37.7	86	62.3
1998	116	43	37.1	73	62.9
1997	125	35	28.0	90	72.0
1996	105	47	44.8	58	55.2
1995	89	42	47.2	47	52.8
1994	94	33	35.1	61	64.9
1993	78	27	34.6	51	65.4
1992	52	22	42.3	30	57.7
1991	30	18	60.0	12	40.0
1990	16	8	50.0	8	50.0
1989	7	2	28.6	5	71.4

¹ Of the 27,789 cases reported to the Commission, 105 were excluded from this analysis because the cases cannot be matched with an original case in the Commission's records.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 5

ORIGIN OF GRANTED MOTIONS FOR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE¹

CIRCUIT	Total	Defendant		Director BOP		Attorney for the Government		Joint Motion ²	
	N	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
TOTAL	4,491	4,318	96.1	45	1.0	8	0.2	120	2.7
D.C. CIRCUIT	61	60	98.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.6
FIRST CIRCUIT	174	171	98.3	1	0.6	0	0.0	2	1.1
SECOND CIRCUIT	418	417	99.8	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0
THIRD CIRCUIT	219	207	94.5	2	0.9	0	0.0	10	4.6
FOURTH CIRCUIT	820	810	98.8	5	0.6	2	0.2	3	0.4
FIFTH CIRCUIT	253	241	95.3	9	3.6	2	0.8	1	0.4
SIXTH CIRCUIT	421	411	97.6	4	1.0	0	0.0	6	1.4
SEVENTH CIRCUIT	354	347	98.0	4	1.1	0	0.0	3	0.8
EIGHTH CIRCUIT	337	296	87.8	1	0.3	1	0.3	39	11.6
NINTH CIRCUIT	791	729	92.2	9	1.1	1	0.1	52	6.6
TENTH CIRCUIT	261	254	97.3	4	1.5	0	0.0	3	1.1
ELEVENTH CIRCUIT	382	375	98.2	5	1.3	2	0.5	0	0.0

¹ Of the 4,502 cases in which the court granted a motion for compassionate release, 11 cases were excluded from this analysis because the information received by the Commission prevented a determination of motion origin.

² Joint motion by the defendant and the attorney for the government.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 6**DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS FOR OFFENDERS MAKING
MOTIONS FOR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE¹**

Demographics	Granted		Denied	
	N	%	N	%
Race/Ethnicity				
White	1,425	32.0	7,154	30.9
Black	2,045	46.0	11,273	48.7
Hispanic	798	17.9	3,963	17.1
Other	180	4.0	769	3.3
Total	4,448	100.0	23,159	100.0
Citizenship				
U.S. Citizen	4,024	91.0	21,272	91.9
Non-Citizen	398	9.0	1,885	8.1
Total	4,422	100.0	23,157	100.0
Gender				
Male	4,066	90.4	21,180	91.0
Female	434	9.6	2,096	9.0
Total	4,500	100.0	23,276	100.0
Average Age at Original Sentence		42	39	
Average Age at Release		50	45	

¹ Of the 27,789 cases reported to the Commission, cases were excluded from each section of this table due to the following reasons: missing race information (182), missing citizenship information (210), missing gender information (13), and missing age information (163).

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 7

**SELECTED SENTENCING FACTORS FOR OFFENDERS
MAKING MOTIONS FOR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE¹**

Sentencing Factors	Granted	Denied
	%	%
Weapon^{2,3}	34.8	34.8
Weapon Specific Offense Characteristic	17.0	19.5
Firearms Mandatory Minimum Applied	21.1	17.8
Safety Valve²	8.9	7.0
Guideline Role Adjustments²		
Aggravating Role (USSG §3B1.1)	17.5	16.5
Mitigating Role (USSG §3B1.2)	3.9	1.9
Obstruction Adjustment (USSG §3C1.1)	8.9	7.8
Sentence Relative to the Guideline Range		
Within Range	45.5	48.8
Above Range	2.5	4.5
Below Range	52.0	46.7
Criminal History Category		
I	29.1	25.6
II	10.0	9.5
III	14.2	15.5
IV	10.2	11.2
V	6.7	8.0
VI	29.7	30.3
Career Offender (§4B1.1)²	18.2	17.1

¹ Of the 27,789 cases reported to the Commission, 105 were excluded from this analysis because the cases cannot be matched with an original case in the Commission's records.

² This section was limited to the 26,604 cases with complete guideline application information.

³ In 681 cases the court applied the weapon specific offense characteristic and the offender was also convicted of a firearms offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 8

**TYPE OF CRIME FOR OFFENDERS
RECEIVING COMPASSIONATE RELEASE¹**

TYPE OF CRIME	N	%
TOTAL	4,448	100.0
Administration of Justice	18	0.4
Antitrust	2	0.0
Arson	9	0.2
Assault	26	0.6
Bribery/Corruption	22	0.5
Burglary/Trespass	0	0.0
Child Pornography	137	3.1
Commercialized Vice	4	0.1
Drug Possession	1	0.0
Drug Trafficking	2,351	52.9
Environmental	4	0.1
Extortion/Racketeering	14	0.3
Firearms	546	12.3
Food and Drug	1	0.0
Forgery/Counter/Copyright	6	0.1
Fraud/Theft/Embezzlement	382	8.6
Immigration	43	1.0
Individual Rights	8	0.2
Kidnapping	10	0.2
Manslaughter	3	0.1
Money Laundering	151	3.4
Murder	87	2.0
National Defense	11	0.2
Obscenity/Other Sex Offenses	4	0.1
Prison Offenses	15	0.3
Robbery	474	10.7
Sexual Abuse	70	1.6
Stalking/Harassing	3	0.1
Tax	43	1.0
Other	3	0.1

¹ Of the 4,502 cases in which the court granted a motion for compassionate release, 37 were excluded from this analysis because the cases cannot be matched with an original case in the Commission's records. Of the remaining cases, 17 were excluded due to missing information on the type of crime.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 9**TYPE OF CRIME FOR OFFENDERS
DENIED COMPASSIONATE RELEASE¹**

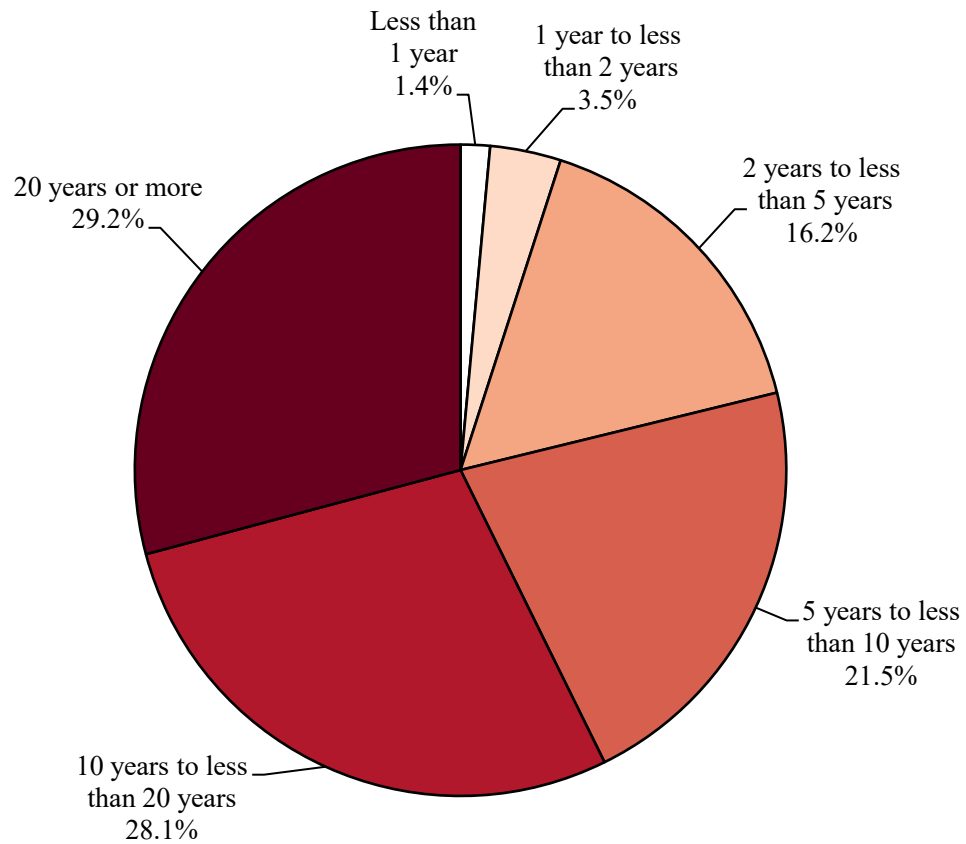
TYPE OF CRIME	N	%
TOTAL	23,193	100.0
Administration of Justice	58	0.3
Antitrust	2	0.0
Arson	46	0.2
Assault	200	0.9
Bribery/Corruption	62	0.3
Burglary/Trespass	5	0.0
Child Pornography	964	4.2
Commercialized Vice	18	0.1
Drug Possession	2	0.0
Drug Trafficking	11,990	51.7
Environmental	3	0.0
Extortion/Racketeering	81	0.3
Firearms	3,414	14.7
Food and Drug	6	0.0
Forgery/Counter/Copyright	18	0.1
Fraud/Theft/Embezzlement	1,677	7.2
Immigration	112	0.5
Individual Rights	33	0.1
Kidnapping	118	0.5
Manslaughter	10	0.0
Money Laundering	652	2.8
Murder	545	2.3
National Defense	50	0.2
Obscenity/Other Sex Offenses	25	0.1
Prison Offenses	82	0.4
Robbery	1,899	8.2
Sexual Abuse	894	3.9
Stalking/Harassing	52	0.2
Tax	155	0.7
Other	20	0.1

¹ Of the 23,287 cases in which the court denied a motion for compassionate release, 68 were excluded from this analysis because the cases cannot be matched with an original case in the Commission's records. Of the remaining cases, 26 were excluded due to missing information on the type of crime.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Figure 2

ORIGINAL SENTENCE LENGTH FOR OFFENDERS RECEIVING COMPASSIONATE RELEASE¹



¹ Of the 4,502 cases in which the court granted a motion for compassionate release, information on the original sentence length was missing in 81 cases.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 10
REASONS GIVEN BY SENTENCING COURTS FOR
FOR GRANTED MOTIONS¹
Fiscal Year 2020

REASONS	N	%
COVID-19/pandemic	1,304	61.6
Missing/no reason provided	249	11.8
Serious physical or medical condition (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A)(ii))	186	8.8
Terminal illness (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A)(i))	68	3.2
Rehabilitation	51	2.4
Age 65 and deteriorating health and served 10 years/75% (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(B))	43	2.0
Multiple 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) penalties	40	1.9
Extraordinary and compelling (not specified)	36	1.7
Deteriorating physical or mental health due to aging process (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A))	25	1.2
Family circumstance - care for minor child (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(C))	23	1.1
Nearly meets requirements of USSG §1B1.13, Notes (1)(A)-(C)	19	0.9
Serious functional or cognitive impairment (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A)(ii))	10	0.5
Career Offender issues	10	0.5
Family circumstance - care for spouse or registered partner (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(C))	8	0.4
21 U.S.C. § 851 enhanced drug penalties	7	0.3
Other mandatory minimum penalties/long sentence	6	0.3
Mandatory nature of guideline at sentencing	4	0.2
BOP failure to provide treatment	3	0.1
Safety Valve disqualification	2	0.1
BOP Program Statement	2	0.1
Age 70 and served 30 years of sentence (18 U.S.C. § 3559)	1	0.0
Other	20	0.9
TOTAL	2,117	100.0

¹ The court granted a motion for compassionate release in 1,819 cases in Fiscal Year 2020. Courts may cite multiple reasons for granting motions; consequently, the total number of granted reasons cited generally exceeds the total number of cases. In this table, 2,117 reasons were cited for the 1,819 cases.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 11
REASONS GIVEN BY SENTENCING COURTS
FOR DENIAL OF MOTION¹
Fiscal Year 2020

REASONS	N	%
18 U.S.C § 3553(a) factors	2,162	22.5
Not at risk from COVID/pandemic	2,107	21.9
Failure to exhaust administrative remedies	1,719	17.9
No extraordinary and compelling reason provided	1,115	11.6
Protection of the public	1,019	10.6
Insufficient proof of serious physical and medical condition	431	4.5
Defendant able to provide self-care in prison	196	2.0
Does not meet age or length of time served requirement under 18 U.S.C. § 3559	179	1.9
Missing/no reason provided	165	1.7
Rehabilitation insufficient	85	0.9
Post-sentencing/post-conviction conduct	59	0.6
Other care available for minor child	53	0.6
Insufficient proof of deteriorating physical or mental health	17	0.2
Other care available for spouse or partner	17	0.2
Insufficient proof of serious functional or cognitive impairment	11	0.1
Mandatory minimum penalty	8	0.1
Binding plea agreement	6	0.1
Other	280	2.9
TOTAL	9,629	100.0

¹ The court denied a motion for compassionate release in 5,471 cases in Fiscal Year 2020. Courts may cite multiple reasons for denying motions; consequently, the total number of denial reasons cited generally exceeds the total number of cases. In this table, 9,629 reasons were cited for the 5,471 cases.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 12
REASONS GIVEN BY SENTENCING COURTS FOR
FOR GRANTED MOTIONS¹
Fiscal Year 2021

REASONS	N	%
COVID-19/pandemic	1,285	52.4
Missing/no reason provided	281	11.5
Serious physical or medical condition (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A)(ii))	159	6.5
Multiple 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) penalties	151	6.2
Rehabilitation	115	4.7
Terminal illness (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A)(i))	49	2.0
Family circumstance - care for minor child (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(C))	48	2.0
21 U.S.C. § 851 enhanced drug penalties	47	1.9
Extraordinary and compelling (not specified)	39	1.6
Other mandatory minimum penalties/long sentence	38	1.5
Nearly meets requirements of USSG §1B1.13, Notes (1)(A)-(C)	31	1.3
Career Offender issues	28	1.1
Age 65 and deteriorating health and served 10 years/75% (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(B))	18	0.7
Deteriorating physical or mental health due to aging process (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A))	16	0.7
Mandatory nature of guideline at sentencing	14	0.6
Family circumstance - care for spouse or registered partner (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(C))	10	0.4
BOP failure to provide treatment	10	0.4
ACCA issues	7	0.3
Conviction/sentencing errors	7	0.3
Guideline amendment	7	0.3
Serious functional or cognitive impairment (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A)(ii))	6	0.2
Age 70 and served 30 years of sentence (18 U.S.C. § 3559)	4	0.2
Safety Valve disqualification	2	0.1
BOP Program Statement	1	0.0
Other	81	3.3
TOTAL	2,454	100.0

¹ The court granted a motion for compassionate release in 2,052 cases in Fiscal Year 2021. Courts may cite multiple reasons for granting motions; consequently, the total number of granted reasons cited generally exceeds the total number of cases. In this table, 2,454 reasons were cited for the 2,052 cases.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 13
REASONS GIVEN BY SENTENCING COURTS
FOR DENIAL OF MOTION¹
Fiscal Year 2021

REASONS	N	%
18 U.S.C § 3553(a) factors	7,371	31.0
No extraordinary and compelling reason provided	4,021	16.9
Not at risk from COVID/pandemic	3,847	16.2
Protection of the public	2,172	9.1
Failure to exhaust administrative remedies	1,981	8.3
Insufficient proof of serious physical and medical condition	1,070	4.5
Defendant able to provide self-care in prison	616	2.6
Does not meet age or length of time served requirement under 18 U.S.C. § 3559	446	1.9
Missing/no reason provided	349	1.5
Other care available for minor child	200	0.8
Rehabilitation insufficient	178	0.7
Post-sentencing/post-conviction conduct	119	0.5
Insufficient proof of deteriorating physical or mental health	30	0.1
Other care available for spouse or partner	28	0.1
Binding plea agreement	25	0.1
Mandatory minimum penalty	16	0.1
Insufficient proof of serious functional or cognitive impairment	6	0.0
Other	1,267	5.3
TOTAL	23,742	100.0

¹ The court denied a motion for compassionate release in 13,255 cases in Fiscal Year 2021. Courts may cite multiple reasons for denying motions; consequently, the total number of denial reasons cited generally exceeds the total number of cases. In this table, 23,742 reasons were cited for the 13,255 cases.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 14
REASONS GIVEN BY SENTENCING COURTS FOR
FOR GRANTED MOTIONS¹
Fiscal Year 2022

REASONS	N	%
COVID-19/pandemic	186	20.7
Multiple 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) penalties	97	10.8
Serious physical or medical condition (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A)(ii))	84	9.3
Rehabilitation	82	9.1
Missing/no reason provided	77	8.6
Career Offender issues	50	5.6
Terminal illness (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A)(i))	40	4.4
21 U.S.C. § 851 enhanced drug penalties	37	4.1
Other mandatory minimum penalties/long sentence	37	4.1
Nearly meets requirements of USSG §1B1.13, Notes (1)(A)-(C)	32	3.6
Family circumstance - care for minor child (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(C))	31	3.4
Age 65 and deteriorating health and served 10 years/75% (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(B))	24	2.7
Conviction/sentencing errors	17	1.9
Deteriorating physical or mental health due to aging process (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A))	12	1.3
BOP failure to provide treatment	12	1.3
Extraordinary and compelling (not specified)	11	1.2
Mandatory nature of guideline at sentencing	11	1.2
ACCA issues	7	0.8
Family circumstance - care for spouse or registered partner (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(C))	6	0.7
Safety Valve disqualification	5	0.6
Serious functional or cognitive impairment (USSG §1B1.13, Note 1(A)(ii))	3	0.3
Age 70 and served 30 years of sentence (18 U.S.C. § 3559)	2	0.2
BOP Program Statement	1	0.1
Other	36	4.0
TOTAL	900	100.0

¹ The court granted a motion for compassionate release in 631 cases in Fiscal Year 2022. Courts may cite multiple reasons for granting motions; consequently, the total number of granted reasons cited generally exceeds the total number of cases. In this table, 900 reasons were cited for the 631 cases.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.

Table 15
REASONS GIVEN BY SENTENCING COURTS
FOR DENIAL OF MOTION¹
Fiscal Year 2022

REASONS	N	%
18 U.S.C § 3553(a) factors	2,586	28.1
Not at risk from COVID/pandemic	1,658	18.0
No extraordinary and compelling reason provided	1,605	17.4
Insufficient proof of serious physical and medical condition	529	5.7
Failure to exhaust administrative remedies	527	5.7
Protection of the public	467	5.1
Defendant able to provide self-care in prison	402	4.4
Rehabilitation insufficient	368	4.0
Other care available for minor child	179	1.9
Does not meet age or length of time served requirement under 18 U.S.C. § 3559	94	1.0
Missing/no reason provided	82	0.9
Post-sentencing/post-conviction conduct	35	0.4
Other care available for spouse or partner	29	0.3
Mandatory minimum penalty	14	0.2
Binding plea agreement	11	0.1
Insufficient proof of deteriorating physical or mental health	10	0.1
Insufficient proof of serious functional or cognitive impairment	6	0.1
Other	605	6.6
TOTAL	9,207	100.0

¹ The court denied a motion for compassionate release in 4,561 cases in Fiscal Year 2022. Courts may cite multiple reasons for denying motions; consequently, the total number of denial reasons cited generally exceeds the total number of cases. In this table, 9,207 reasons were cited for the 4,561 cases.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, Compassionate Release Datafile.