



# QuickFacts

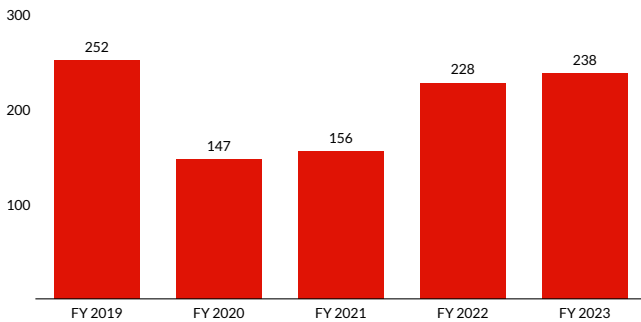
## Bribery Offenses

### Population Snapshot

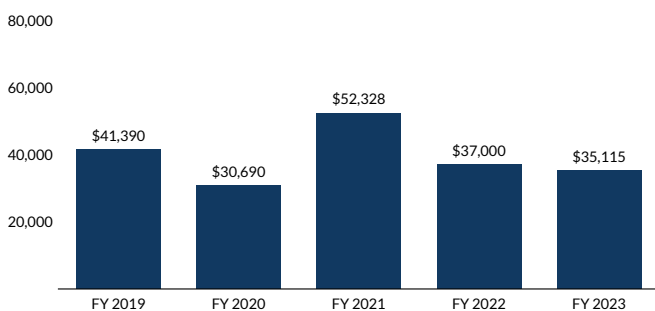
64,124 cases were reported in FY23;  
238 involved bribery.<sup>1</sup>

Bribery offenses have  
decreased by 5.6%  
since FY2019.

### Number of Bribery Offenses



### Median Loss for Bribery Offenses



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

- 77.3% of individuals sentenced for bribery offenses were men.
- 36.9% were White, 30.9% were Black, 18.5% were Hispanic, and 13.7% were Other races.
- Their average age was 50 years.
- 90.6% were United States citizens.
- 90.1% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I).
- The median loss for these offenses was \$35,115;<sup>3</sup>
  - 35.9% involved loss amounts of \$15,000 or less;
  - 9.5% involved loss amounts greater than \$1.5 million.
- Sentences were increased for:
  - being a public official (52.4%);
  - involving multiple bribes (79.0%);
  - involving a high-level elected official (55.8%);
  - a leadership or supervisory role in the offense (13.3%);
  - abusing a public position of trust or using a special skill (1.3%);
  - obstructing or impeding the administration of justice (6.0%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
  - minor or minimal participation in the offense (6.4%).
- The top five districts for individuals sentenced for bribery offenses were:
  - Southern District of New York (18);
  - Eastern District of New York (16);
  - District of Puerto Rico (12);
  - Eastern District of Northern Carolina (12);
  - District of Columbia (9).
- **Punishment**
- The average sentence for individuals sentenced for bribery offenses was 23 months.
- 82.0% were sentenced to prison.
- No individuals were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty.



# QuickFacts

## Bribery Offenses

### Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

Of the 55.8% of individuals sentenced for bribery offenses under the *Guidelines Manual*:

- 36.9% were sentenced within the guideline range.
- 56.9% received a substantial assistance departure.
  - Their average sentence reduction was 66.7%.
- 6.2% received some other downward departure.
  - Their average sentence reduction was 54.7%.

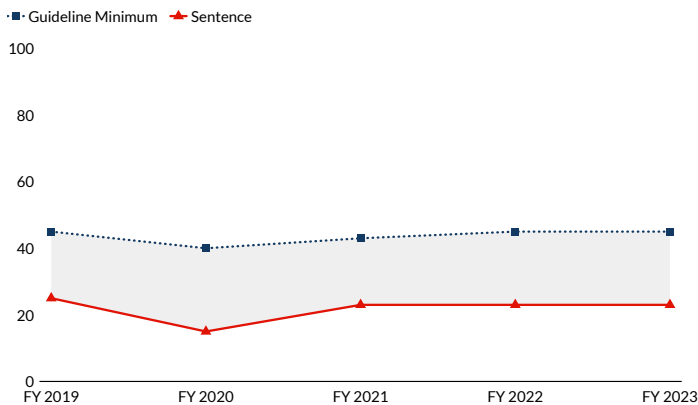
44.2% received a variance; of those individuals:

- 98.1% received a downward variance.
  - Their average sentence reduction was 56.6%.
- 1.9% received an upward variance.<sup>4</sup>

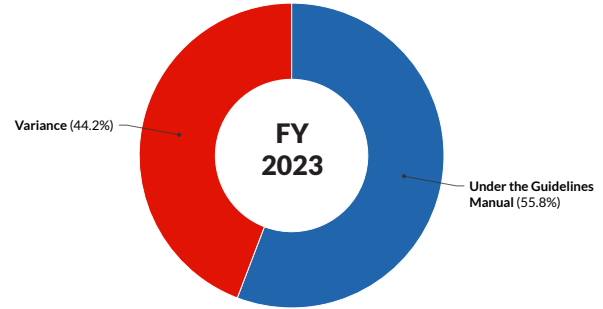
The average guideline minimum and average sentence imposed remained steady over the past five years.

- The average guideline minimum was 45 months in fiscal year 2019 and fiscal year 2023.
- The average sentence imposed decreased from 25 months in fiscal year 2019 to 23 months in fiscal year 2023.

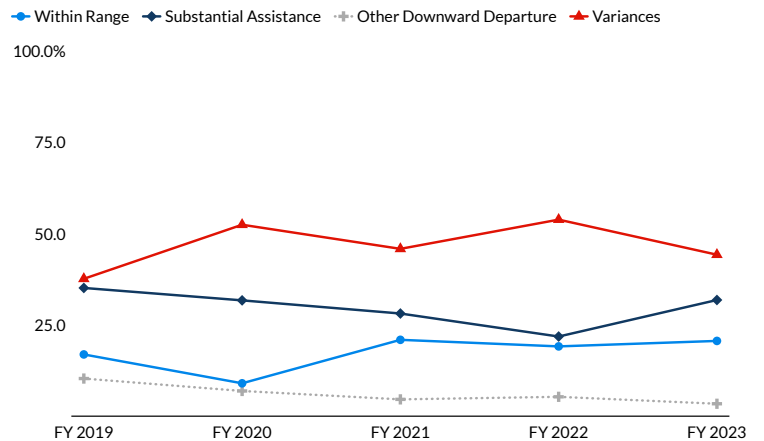
### Average Guideline Minimum and Average Sentence (months)



### Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range



### Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range



<sup>1</sup> 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>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.

<sup>4</sup> The Commission does not report the average for categories with three or fewer cases.