

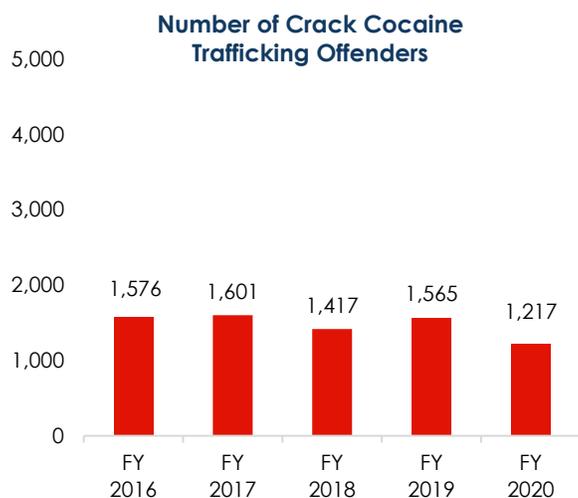


Quick Facts

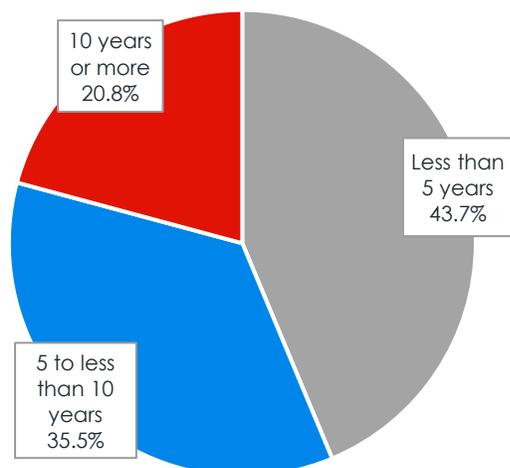
— Crack Cocaine Trafficking Offenses —

Fiscal Year 2020

- ▶ IN FY 2020, 64,565 CASES WERE REPORTED TO THE U.S. SENTENCING COMMISSION.
- ▶ 16,501 CASES INVOLVED DRUGS.¹
- ▶ 16,287 CASES INVOLVED DRUG TRAFFICKING.²
- ▶ 7.5% OF DRUG TRAFFICKING CASES INVOLVED CRACK COCAINE.
- ▶ CRACK COCAINE TRAFFICKING OFFENDERS HAVE DECREASED BY 22.8% SINCE FY 2016.



Sentence Length FY 2020



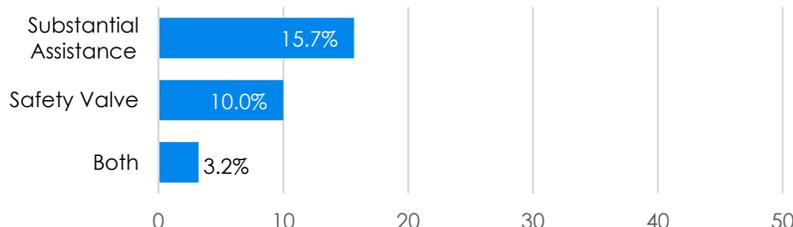
Offender and Offense Characteristics³

- 90.9% of crack cocaine trafficking offenders were men.
- 77.1% of crack cocaine trafficking offenders were Black, 15.9% were Hispanic, 6.3% were White, and 0.7% were Other races.
- Their average age was 36 years.
- 95.7% were United States citizens.
- 19.6% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I); 13.6% were Career Offenders (§4B1.1).
- The median Base Offense Level in these cases was 24, corresponding to between 28 and 112 grams of crack cocaine.
- Sentences were increased for:
 - ◆ possessing a weapon (39.3%);
 - ◆ a leadership or supervisory role in the offense (5.7%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
 - ◆ minor or minimal participation in the offense (4.1%);
 - ◆ meeting the safety valve criteria in the sentencing guidelines (8.8%).
- The top five districts for crack cocaine trafficking offenders were:
 - ◆ Southern District of New York (84);
 - ◆ Eastern District of North Carolina (59);
 - ◆ District of Puerto Rico (41);
 - ◆ Northern District of Texas (41);
 - ◆ Middle District of Florida (40).

Punishment

- The average sentence for crack cocaine trafficking offenders was 74 months.
- 96.9% were sentenced to prison.
- 44.0% were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty; of those offenders, 28.9% were relieved of that penalty.

Means of Relief from Mandatory Minimum Penalty for Crack Cocaine Traffickers

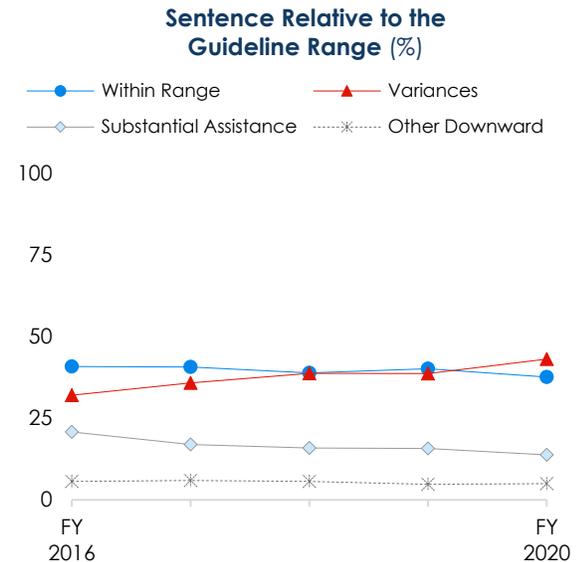




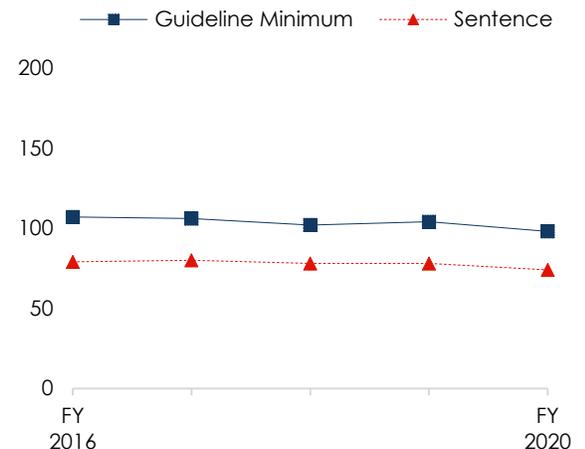
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Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

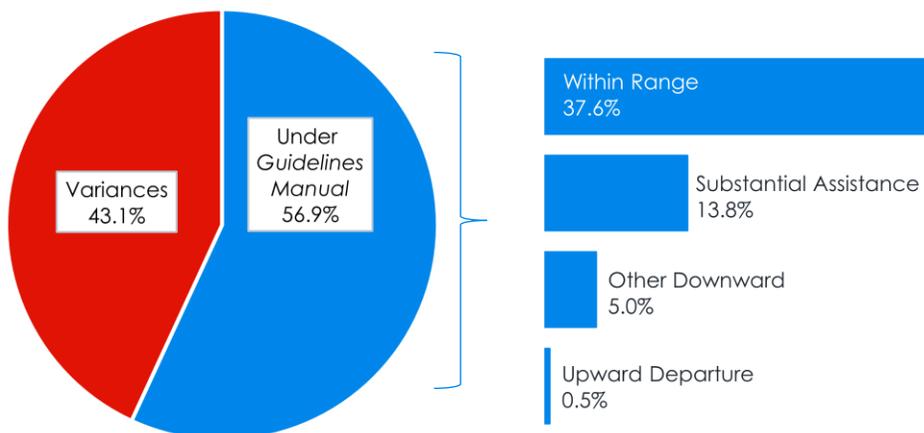
- Of the 56.9% of crack cocaine trafficking offenders sentenced under the *Guidelines Manual*:
 - 66.1% were sentenced within the guideline range².
 - 24.2% received a substantial assistance departure.
 - Their average sentence reduction was 56.8%.
 - 8.8% received some other downward departure.
 - Their average sentence reduction was 38.9%.
- 43.1% received a variance; of those offenders:
 - 94.2% received a downward variance.
 - Their average sentence reduction was 39.5%.
 - 5.8% received an upward variance.
 - Their average sentence increase was 41.8%.
- The average guideline minimum decreased and the average sentence imposed slightly decreased over the past five years.
 - The average guideline minimum decreased from 107 months in fiscal year 2016 to 98 months in fiscal year 2020.
 - The average sentence imposed decreased from 79 months in fiscal year 2016 to 74 months in fiscal year 2020.



Average Guideline Minimum and Average Sentence (months)



Sentence Imposed Relative to the Guideline Range FY 2020



¹ Drug offenses include cases where offenders were sentenced under USSG Chapter Two, Part D (Drugs). There were 1,224 crack cocaine offenders sentenced under USSG Chapter Two, Part D (Drugs) in FY 2020.

² Drug Trafficking offenders were sentenced under USSG §§2D1.1 (Drug Trafficking), 2D1.2 (Protected Locations), 2D1.5 (Continuing Criminal Enterprise), 2D1.6 (Use of a Communication Facility), 2D1.8 (Rent/Manage Drug Establishment), 2D1.10 (Endangering Human Life), or 2D1.14 (Narco-Terrorism).

³ Cases with incomplete sentencing information were excluded from analysis.