

Quick Facts 🖦 🖍

— Women in the Federal Offender Population —

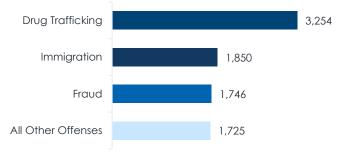
Fiscal Year 2019

- IN FY 2019, 76,538 CASES WERE REPORTED TO THE U.S. SENTENCING COMMISSION.
 - ▶ 9,390 OF THESE INVOLVED FEMALE OFFENDERS.¹
 - FEMALE OFFENDERS ACCOUNTED FOR 12.3% OF ALL FEDERAL OFFENDERS SENTENCED IN FY 2019.



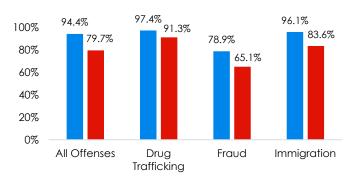
Number of Female Federal Offenders

Most Common Guidelines for Female Offenders



Male and Female Offenders Sentenced to Prison by Guideline





Offender and Offense Characteristics

- 43.5% of female offenders were Hispanic, 32.9% were White, 17.6% were Black, and 6.1% were Other races.²
 - Among female drug trafficking offenders, 41.6% were Hispanic followed by White (40.1%), Black (13.4%), and Other races (5.0%).
 - Among *female immigration offenders*, 88.4% were Hispanic followed by White (7.0%), Other races (2.8%), and Black (1.9%).
 - Among *female fraud offenders*, 43.6% were White, followed by Black (31.3%), Hispanic (18.6%), and Other races (6.5%).
- Their average age was 37 years.
- 78.7% were United States citizens.
- 66.7% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I);
 - ◆ 11.2% were CHC II;
 - ♦ 11.0% were CHC III;
 - ♦ 4.6% were CHC IV;
 - ◆ 2.7% were CHC V;
 - 3.8% were CHC VI.
- 6.8% of female offenders were sentenced for an offense involving weapons, compared to 10.6% of male offenders.
- The top five districts for female offenders were:
 - Western District of Texas (898);
 - Southern District of Texas (830);
 - District of Arizona (576);
 - Southern District of California (566);
 - District of New Mexico (334).
- Districts with the highest proportion of their overall caseload comprising of female offenders were:
 - District of Guam (30.6%);
 - Western District of Virginia (25.0%);
 - District of Hawaii (22.9%);
 - District of Vermont (21.8%);
 - District of Montana (21.5%).

Punishment

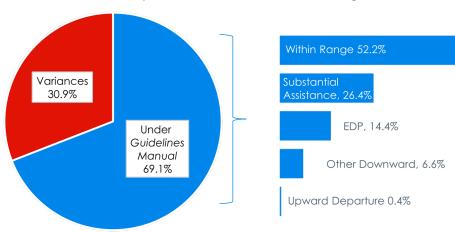
- The average sentence for female offenders was 30 months, compared to 47 months for male offenders.
- 79.7% were sentenced to prison, compared to 94.4% of male offenders.
- 28.5% were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty, compared to 25.0% of male offenders.



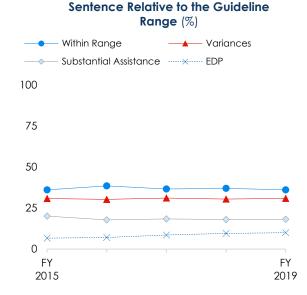
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Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

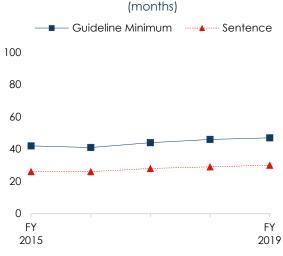
- Of the 69.1% of female offenders sentenced under the Guidelines Manual:
 - 52.2% were sentenced within the guideline range.
 - 26.4% received a substantial assistance departure.
 Their average sentence reduction was 60.0%.
 - 14.4% received an Early Disposition Program (EDP) departure.³
 Their average sentence reduction was 57.9%.
 - 6.6% received some other downward departure.
 Their average sentence reduction was 53.1%.
- 30.9% received a variance; of those offenders:
 - 97.2% received a below range variance.
 Their average sentence reduction was 55.8%.
 - 2.8% received an above range variance.
 - ♦ Their average sentence increase was 61.4%.
- The average guideline minimum and sentence imposed have increased over the past five years.⁴
 - The average guideline minimum increased from 42 months in fiscal year 2015 to 47 months in fiscal year 2019.
 - The average sentence imposed increased from 26 months in fiscal year 2015 to 30 months in fiscal year 2019.



Sentence Imposed Relative to the Guideline Range FY 2019



Average Guideline Minimum and Average Sentence



Cases with incomplete sentencing information were excluded from the analysis.

² Among male offenders, 57.0% were Hispanic; 53.6% were Citizens; and, their average age was 36 years. Male offenders had more extensive criminal histories (41.3% were Criminal History Category I).

³ "Early Disposition Program (or EDP) departures" are departures where the government sought a sentence below the guideline range because the defendant participated in the government's Early Disposition Program, through which cases are resolved in an expedited manner. See USSG §5K3.1.

⁴ For male offenders, the average guideline minimum decreased from 63 months in fiscal year 2015 to 59 months in fiscal year 2019. The average sentence imposed decreased from 49 months in fiscal year 2015 to 47 months in fiscal year 2019.

SOURCE: United States Sentencing Commission, FY 2015 through FY 2019 Datafiles, USSCFY15-USSCFY19.