



QuickFacts

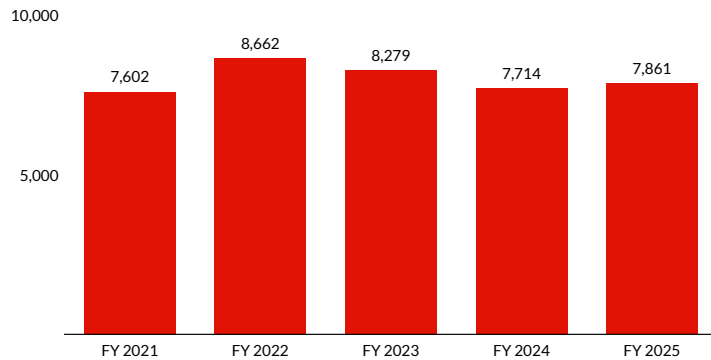
Federally Sentenced Women

Population Snapshot

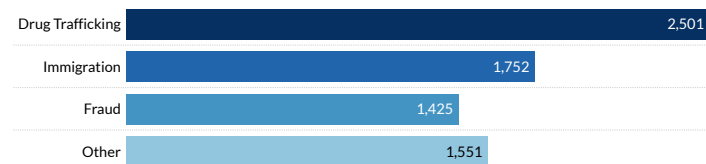
66,662 cases were reported in FY25;
7,861 involved federally sentenced women.¹

Women accounted for
12% of all individuals
sentenced in FY25.

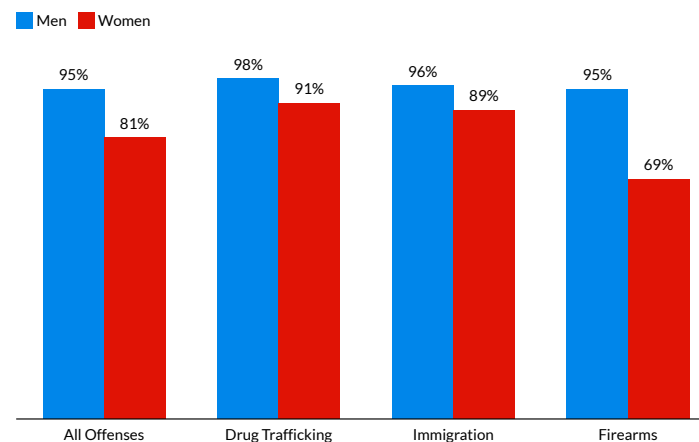
Number of Federally Sentenced Women



Most Common Offense Types for Women



Prison Rates by Offense Type



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Individual and Offense Characteristics

44% of federally sentenced women were Hispanic, 30% were White, 20% were Black, and 6% were Other races.²

- Among women sentenced for **drug trafficking offenses**, 41% were White, followed by Hispanic (38%), Black (15%), and Other races (6%).
- Among women sentenced for **immigration offenses**, 88% were Hispanic, followed by White (7%), Black (3%), and Other races (2%).
- Among women sentenced for **fraud offenses**, 43% were Black, followed by White (36%), Hispanic (16%), and Other races (5%).

Their average age was 39 years.

79% were United States citizens.

71% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I);

- 11% were CHC II;
- 9% were CHC III;
- 3% were CHC IV;
- 2% were CHC V;
- 3% were CHC VI.

49% of women received the adjustment at §4C1.1 for zero criminal history points, compared to 26% of men.

9% of women were sentenced for an offense involving weapons, compared to 13% of men.

The top five districts for federally sentenced women were:

- Western District of Texas (884);
- Southern District of Texas (731);
- District of Arizona (398);
- Southern District of California (342);
- District of New Mexico (262).

The top seven districts where women comprised the highest proportion of the overall caseload were:

- Northern District of West Virginia (25%);
- District of Montana (21%);
- Western District of Virginia (21%);
- District of Vermont (20%);
- District of North Dakota, (19%);
- District of Idaho (19%);
- Southern District of California (19%).

Punishment

The average sentence for women was 33 months, compared to 53 months for men.

81% were sentenced to prison, compared to 95% of men.

19% were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty, compared to 23% of men.



QuickFacts Federally Sentenced Women

Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

64% of sentences for women were under the *Guidelines Manual*.

- 38% were within the guideline range.
- 17% were substantial assistance departures.
 - The average sentence reduction was 63%.
- 6% were Early Disposition Program (EDP) departures.³
 - The average sentence reduction was 64%.
- 3% were some other downward departure.
 - The average sentence reduction was 59%.

36% of sentences for women were variances.

- 33% were downward variances.
 - The average sentence reduction was 57%.
- 2% were upward variances.
 - The average sentence increase was 80%.

The average guideline minimum has fluctuated while the average sentence imposed has remained steady over the past five years.⁴

- The average guideline minimum increased and decreased throughout the fiscal years. The average guideline minimum was 55 months in fiscal year 2021 and 51 months in fiscal year 2025.
- The average sentence imposed was 32 months in fiscal year 2021 and 33 months in fiscal year 2025.

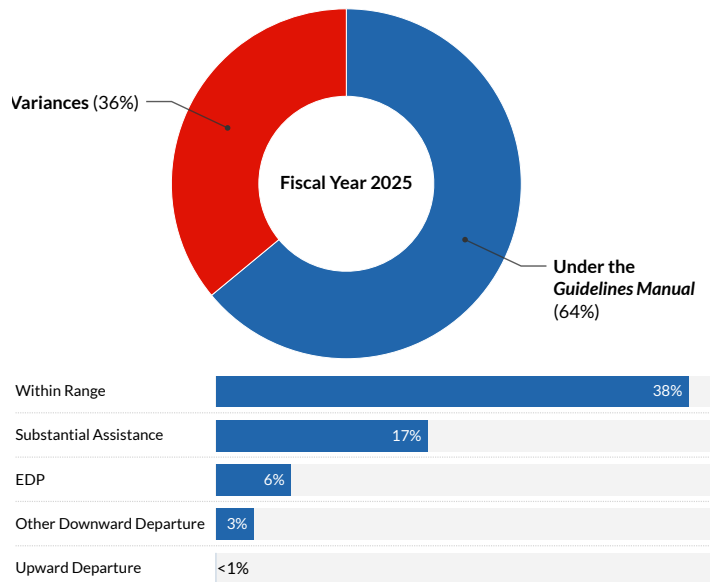
¹ Cases with incomplete sentencing information were excluded from the analysis.

² Among men sentenced in the federal system, 55% were Hispanic; their average age was 38 years; 56% were United States citizens; and they had more extensive criminal histories (47% were Criminal History Category I).

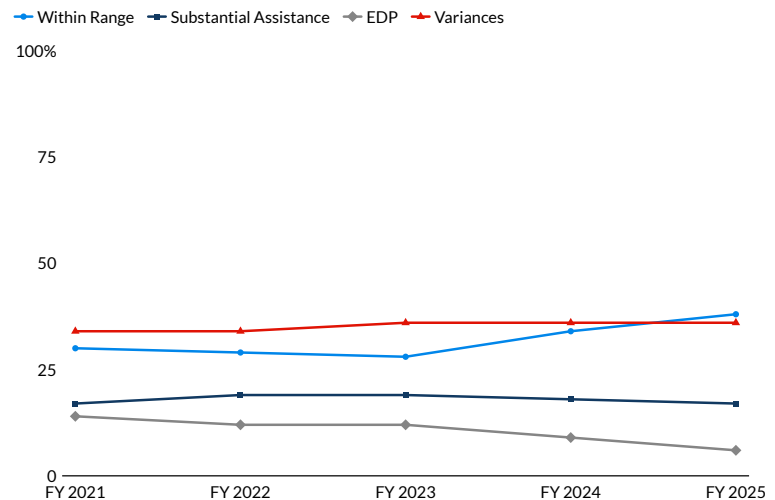
³ "Early Disposition Program" (or EDP) departures are departures where the government sought a sentence below the guideline range because the defendant participated in the government's Early Disposition Program, through which cases are resolved in an expedited manner. See USSG §5K3.1.

⁴ For men sentenced in the federal system, the average guideline minimum and average sentence imposed have fluctuated over the past five years. The average guideline minimum increased and decreased throughout the fiscal years. The average guideline minimum was 67 months in fiscal year 2021 and 65 months in fiscal year 2025. The average sentence increased and decreased throughout the fiscal years. The average sentence was 52 months in fiscal year 2021 and 53 months in fiscal year 2025.

Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range



Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range by Fiscal Year



Average Guideline Minimum and Average Sentence (months)

