



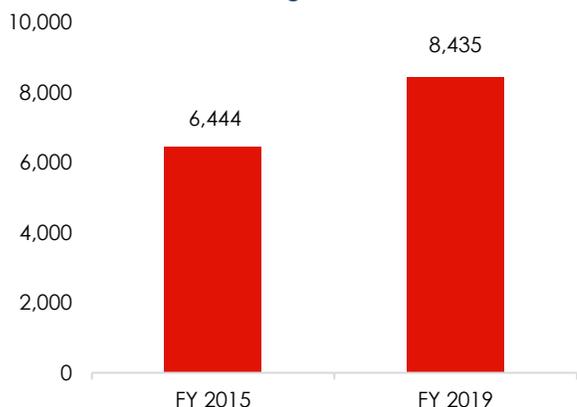
Quick Facts

— Methamphetamine Trafficking Offenses —

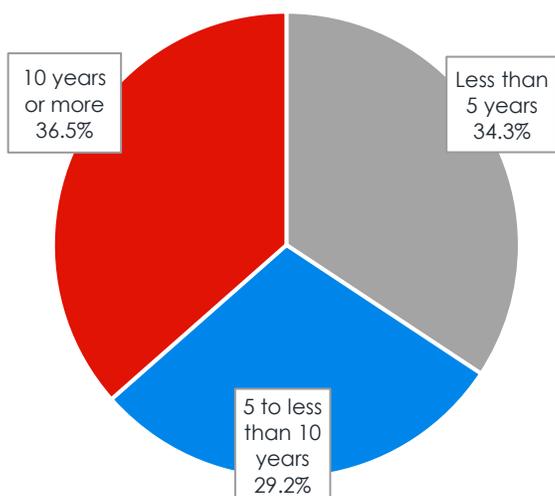
Fiscal Year 2019

- ▶ IN FY 2019, 76,538 CASES WERE REPORTED TO THE U. S. SENTENCING COMMISSION.
- ▶ 20,085 CASES INVOLVED DRUGS.¹
- ▶ 19,765 INVOLVED DRUG TRAFFICKING.²
- ▶ 42.7% OF THE DRUG TRAFFICKING CASES INVOLVED METHAMPHETAMINE.
- ▶ METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFICKING OFFENDERS HAVE INCREASED BY 30.9% SINCE FY 2015.

Number of Methamphetamine Trafficking Offenders



Sentence Length FY 2019



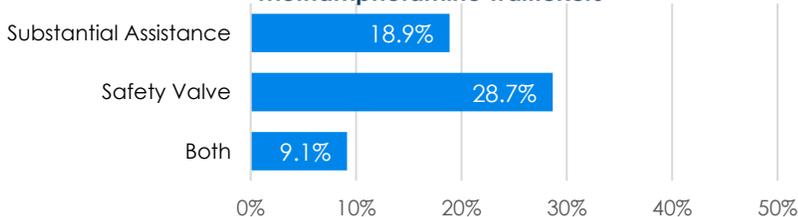
Offender and Offense Characteristics³

- 78.0% of methamphetamine trafficking offenders were men.
- 42.1% of methamphetamine trafficking offenders were Hispanic, 40.0% were White, 13.4% were Black, and 4.5% were Other races.
- Their average age was 37 years.
- 82.2% were United States citizens.
- 39.9% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I); 6.2% were Career Offenders (§4B1.1).
- The median Base Offense Level in these cases was 32, corresponding to between 1.5 and five kilograms of methamphetamine mixture, or 150 and 500 grams of methamphetamine actual/"ICE."
- Sentences were increased for:
 - ◆ possessing a weapon (26.2%);
 - ◆ having a leadership/supervisory role in the offense (5.7%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
 - ◆ having minor or minimal participation in the offense (22.3%);
 - ◆ meeting the safety valve criteria in the sentencing guidelines (34.2%).
- The top five districts for methamphetamine trafficking offenders were:
 - ◆ Southern District of California (862);
 - ◆ Western District of Texas (434);
 - ◆ Northern District of Texas (425);
 - ◆ District of Arizona (385);
 - ◆ Eastern District of Tennessee (275).

Punishment

- The average sentence for methamphetamine trafficking offenders was 95 months.
- 98.5% were sentenced to prison.
- 81.0% were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty; of those offenders, 56.7% were relieved of that penalty.

Means of Relief from Mandatory Minimum Penalty for Methamphetamine Traffickers





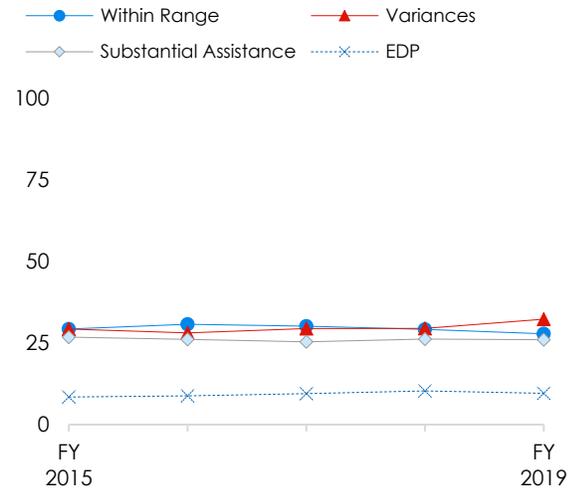
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— **Methamphetamine Trafficking Offenses** —

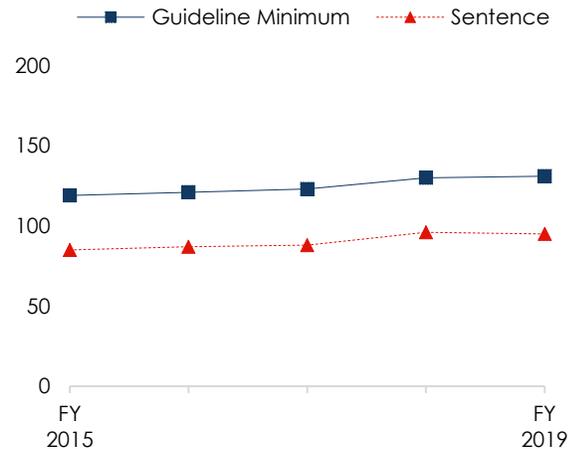
Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

- Of the 67.7% of methamphetamine trafficking offenders sentenced under the *Guidelines Manual*:
 - 41.1% were sentenced within the guideline range.
 - 38.4% received a substantial assistance departure.
 - Their average sentence reduction was 46.0%.
 - 14.2% received an Early Disposition Program (EDP) departure.⁴
 - Their average sentence reduction was 56.9%.
- 32.3% received a variance; of those offenders:
 - 98.2% received a below range variance.
 - Their average sentence reduction was 32.8%.
 - 1.8% received an above range variance.
 - Their average sentence increase was 44.7%.
- The average guideline minimum and the sentence imposed has increased slightly over the past five years.
 - The average guideline minimum increased from 119 months in fiscal year 2015 to 131 months in fiscal year 2019.
 - The average sentence imposed increased from 85 months in fiscal year 2015 to 95 months in fiscal year 2019.

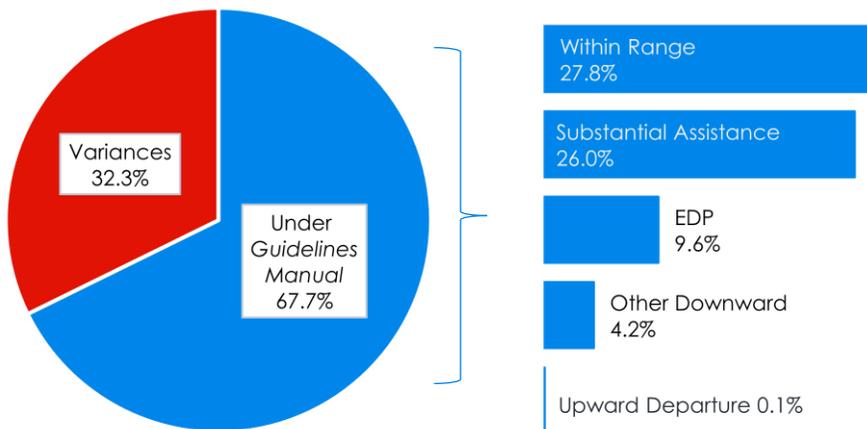
Sentence Relative to the Guideline Range (%)



Average Guideline Minimum and Average Sentence (months)



Sentence Imposed Relative to the Guideline Range FY 2019



¹ Drug offenses include cases where offenders were sentenced under USSG Chapter Two, Part D (Drugs). There were 8,467 methamphetamine offenders sentenced under USSG Chapter Two, Part D (Drugs) in FY 2019.

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 guideline application information were excluded from analysis.

⁴ "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.

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