Fiscal Year 2018

- In FY 2018, 69,425 cases were reported to the U.S. Sentencing Commission.
- 5,948 of these involved theft, property destruction, and fraud.\(^1\),\(^2\)
- 2.9% of theft, property destruction, and fraud offenses involved mortgage fraud.\(^3\)
- Mortgage fraud has decreased by 73.3% since FY 2014.

**Number of Mortgage Fraud Offenders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Offenders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2014</td>
<td>641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2015</td>
<td>426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Median Loss for Mortgage Fraud Offenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Median Loss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2014</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2015</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>$1,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>$1,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Offender and Offense Characteristics

- 73.1% of mortgage fraud offenders were men.
- 51.2% were White, 25.3% were Hispanic, 15.3% were Black, and 8.2% were Other races.
- Their average age was 49 years.
- 91.8% were United States citizens.
- 87.1% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I).
- The median loss for these offenses was $1,314,617.\(^4\)
  - 27.4% involved loss amounts of $550,000 or less.
  - 29.0% involved loss amounts greater than $3,500,000.
- Sentences were increased for:
  - the number of victims or the extent of harm to victims (18.1%);
  - using sophisticated means to execute or conceal the offense (36.8%);\(^5\)
  - using an unauthorized means of identification (5.9%);
  - deriving more than $1 million in gross receipts from or substantially jeopardizing the safety and soundness of a financial institution (14.0%);
  - leadership or supervisory role in the offense (20.5%);
  - abusing a public position of trust or using a special skill (25.7%);
  - obstructing or impeding the administration of justice (4.1%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
  - minor or minimal participation in the offense (6.4%).
- The top five districts for mortgage fraud offenders were:
  - Southern District of Florida (30);
  - Northern District of Illinois (16);
  - Southern District of New York (13);
  - Central District of California (12);
  - Eastern District of New York (12).

Punishment

- The average sentence length for mortgage fraud offenders was 28 months.
- 87.7% were sentenced to prison.
- Less than 1% were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty.

For more Quick Facts, visit https://www.ussc.gov/research/quick-facts.
Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

- Of the 59.6% of mortgage fraud offenders sentenced under the Guidelines Manual:
  - 34.3% were sentenced within the guideline range.
  - 56.9% received a substantial assistance departure.
    - Their average sentence reduction was 69.9%.
  - 8.8% received some other downward departure.
    - Their average sentence reduction was 73.0%.
- 40.4% received a variance; of those offenders:
  - 97.1% received a downward variance.
    - Their average sentence reduction was 50.1%.
  - 2.9% received an upward variance.
- The average guideline minimum and average sentence imposed have fluctuated slightly over the past five years.
  - The average guideline minimum increased from 46 months in fiscal year 2014 to 50 months in fiscal year 2018.
  - The average sentence imposed increased from 26 months in fiscal year 2014 to 28 months in fiscal year 2018.