In FY 2018, 69,425 cases were reported to the U.S. Sentencing Commission. 18,964 of these involved drug trafficking. 2.4% of drug trafficking cases involved oxycodone. Oxycodone trafficking offenders have decreased by 60.2% since FY 2014.

Offender and Offense Characteristics

- 72.3% of oxycodone trafficking offenders were men.
- 50.6% of oxycodone trafficking offenders were White, 33.2% were Black, 10.8% were Hispanic, and 5.4% were Other races.
- Their average age was 41 years.
- 96.6% were United States citizens.
- 50.5% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I); 4.4% were Career Offenders (§4B1.1).
- The median Base Offense Level in these cases was 24, corresponding to between 498 and 1,990 30-milligram instant release pills of oxycodone.
- Sentences were increased for:
  - possessing a weapon (13.6%);
  - having a leadership/supervisory role in the offense (14.6%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
  - having minor or minimal participation in the offense (9.2%);
  - meeting the safety valve criteria in the sentencing guidelines (26.0%).
- The top six districts for oxycodone trafficking offenders were:
  - Eastern District of Pennsylvania (30);
  - Eastern District of Kentucky (26);
  - Northern District of West Virginia (19);
  - District of South Carolina (17);
  - Eastern District of Michigan (16);
  - Southern District of New York (16).

Punishment

- The average sentence for oxycodone trafficking offenders was 50 months.
- 86.7% were sentenced to prison.
- Oxycodone trafficking does not carry a mandatory minimum penalty.
Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

- Of the 59.2% of oxycodone trafficking offenders sentenced under the Guidelines Manual:
  - 45.1% were sentenced within the guideline range.
  - 45.9% received a substantial assistance departure.
    - Their average sentence reduction was 70.4%.
  - 8.6% received some other downward departure.
    - Their average sentence reduction was 47.2%.
  - 40.8% received a variance; of those offenders:
    - 98.2% received a below range variance.
      - Their average sentence reduction was 48.1%.
    - 1.8% received an above range variance.
      - Their average sentence increase was 6.3%.
- The average guideline minimum and the sentence imposed has remained relatively steady over the past five years.
  - The average guideline minimum decreased from 80 months in fiscal year 2014 to 76 months in fiscal year 2018.
  - The average sentence imposed increased from 49 months in fiscal year 2014 to 50 months in fiscal year 2018.

1 Drug trafficking offenses include cases where offenders were sentenced under USSG Chapter Two, Part D (Drugs).
2 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). Cases with incomplete sentencing information were excluded from the analysis.