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
- 2.1% OF DRUG TRAFFICKING CASES INVOLVED OXYCODONE.
- OXYCODONE TRAFFICKING OFFENDERS HAVE DECREASED BY 51.3% SINCE FY 2015.

Number of Oxycodecolor Offenders

Sentence Length FY 2019

Offender and Offense Characteristics³

- 71.4% of oxycodone trafficking offenders were men.
- 44.6% of oxycodone trafficking offenders were White, 33.4% were Black, 13.4% were Hispanic, and 8.5% were Other races.
- Their average age was 42 years.
- 95.9% were United States citizens.
- 57.3% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I); 2.4% 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 (10.2%);
  - having a leadership/supervisory role in the offense (14.1%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
  - having minor or minimal participation in the offense (6.1%);
  - meeting the safety valve criteria in the sentencing guidelines (35.0%).
- The top five districts for oxycodone trafficking offenders were:
  - Eastern District of Kentucky (43);
  - Southern District of New York (25);
  - District of North Dakota (25);
  - Eastern District of Pennsylvania (18);
  - District of Nevada (15).

Punishment

- The average sentence for oxycodone trafficking offenders was 45 months.
- 84.5% were sentenced to prison.
- Oxycodone trafficking does not carry a mandatory minimum penalty.

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

- Of the 56.6% of oxycodone trafficking offenders sentenced under the Guidelines Manual:
  - 42.9% were sentenced within the guideline range.
  - 50.6% received a substantial assistance departure. Their average sentence reduction was 68.1%.
  - 5.6% received some other downward departure. Their average sentence reduction was 50.7%.
- 43.4% received a variance; of those offenders:
  - 97.2% received a below range variance. Their average sentence reduction was 50.4%.
  - 2.8% received an above range variance. Their average sentence increase was 191.6%.
- The average guideline minimum and the sentence imposed has remained relatively steady over the past five years.
  - The average guideline minimum decreased from 75 months in fiscal year 2015 to 68 months in fiscal year 2019.
  - The average sentence imposed decreased from 46 months in fiscal year 2015 to 45 months in fiscal year 2019.

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 464 oxycodone 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.