Fiscal Year 2018

- IN FY 2018, 69,425 CASES WERE REPORTED TO THE U.S. SENTENCING COMMISSION.

- 2,564 OF THESE INVOLVED CONVICTIONS UNDER 18 U.S.C. § 924(c).1

- OFFENSES UNDER 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) INVOLVE THE USE OR CARRYING OF A FIREARM DURING AND IN RELATION TO A CRIME OF VIOLENCE OR DRUG TRAFFICKING CRIME, OR THE POSSESSION OF A FIREARM IN FURTHERANCE OF THOSE CRIMES.

Number of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) Offenders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Offenders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2014</td>
<td>2,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2015</td>
<td>2,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>2,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>2,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>2,564</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mandatory Minimum Penalties for 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) Offenders

- 70.0% of section 924(c) offenders were sentenced to prison; 4 the average sentence was 146 months.

- 73 months for offenders convicted only under section 924(c).
- 132 months for offenders also convicted of an offense not carrying a mandatory minimum.
- 207 months for offenders determined to be career offenders.
- 330 months for offenders convicted under multiple counts of section 924(c).

1 Cases with incomplete sentencing information were excluded from analysis.
2 The “30-year” mandatory category includes offenders with a single conviction (14.3%) or multiple convictions (85.7%).
3 The “Other” category includes offenders with a single conviction (7.6%) or with multiple convictions (92.4%).
4 Offenses under section 924(c) carry one of several mandatory minimum penalties depending on the circumstances of the offense.

For more Quick Facts, visit https://www.ussc.gov/research/quick-facts.
Punishment (continued)

- 86.0% of section 924(c) offenders were also convicted of another offense:
  - 51.2% for drug trafficking, 30.1% for robbery, and 8.0% for another firearms offense.

- 29.8% of all section 924(c) offenders were convicted of another offense carrying a mandatory minimum. In most cases, the other offense was a drug trafficking crime.

Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

Section 924(c) Only Offenders

- 90.3% of offenders with a conviction only under section 924(c) were sentenced under the Guidelines Manual; of those offenders:
  - 8.1% received a substantial assistance departure.
  - Their average sentence reduction was 51.0%.

Section 924(c) Cases Involving Career Offender

- 53.8% of section 924(c) offenders determined to be career offenders were sentenced under the Guidelines Manual; of those offenders:
  - 47.5% received a substantial assistance departure.
  - Their average sentence reduction was 53.3%.

- 46.2% received a variance.

- 99.0% received a below range variance.
  - Their average sentence reduction was 35.8%.

All Section 924(c) Cases

- The average guideline minimum and sentence for all section 924(c) offenders has declined over the past five years.
  - The average guideline minimum decreased from 212 months in fiscal year 2014 to 194 months in fiscal year 2018.
  - The average sentence decreased from 157 months in fiscal year 2014 to 146 months in fiscal year 2018.

5 The guideline sentence for a section 924(c) offense is the minimum term of imprisonment required by statute. USSG §2K2.4. Punishments under section 924(c) run consecutive to any other term of imprisonment. 18 U.S.C. § 924(c)(1)(D)(i).