



# QuickFacts

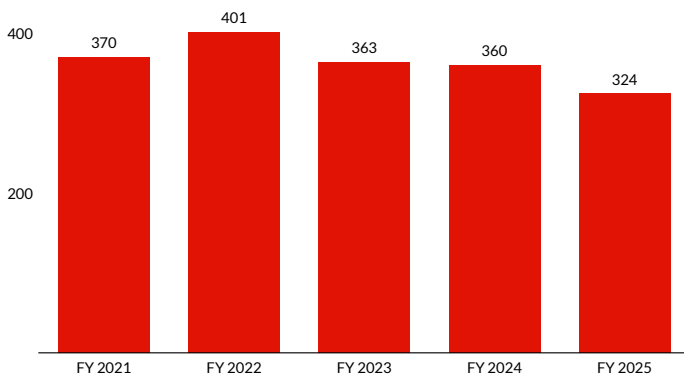
## Tax Fraud

### Population Snapshot

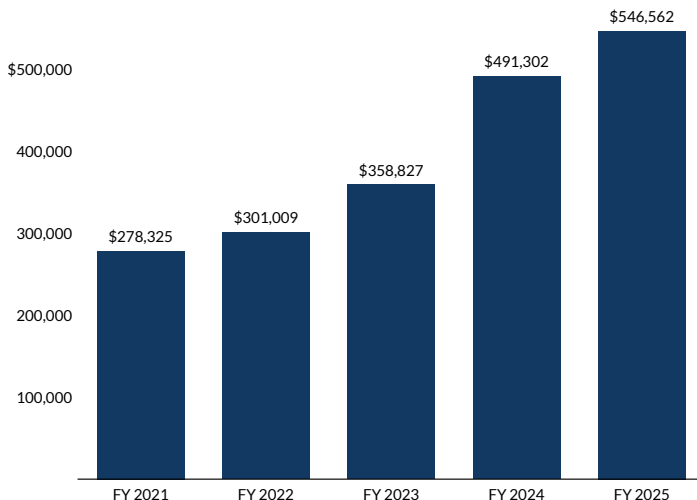
66,662 cases were reported in FY25;  
324 involved tax fraud.<sup>1</sup>

Tax fraud offenses have  
decreased 12% since FY21.

### Number of Tax Fraud Offenses



### Median Loss for Tax Fraud Offenses<sup>2</sup>



### Individual and Offense Characteristics

73% of individuals sentenced for tax fraud were men.

51% were White, 19% were Black, 18% were Hispanic, and 12% were Other races.

Their average age was 53 years.

94% were United States citizens.

86% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I).

72% received the adjustment at USSG §4C1.1 for zero criminal history points.

The median loss for these offenses was \$546,562;<sup>3</sup>

- 7% involved loss amounts of less than \$100,000;
- 28% involved loss amounts greater than \$1.5 million.

Sentences were increased for:

- using sophisticated means to execute or conceal the offense (16%);
- a leadership or supervisory role in the offense (6%);
- abusing a public position of trust or using a special skill (2%);
- obstructing or impeding the administration of justice (4%).

Sentences were decreased for:

- minor or minimal participation in the offense (2%).

The top five districts for tax fraud offenses were:

- Middle District of Florida (30);
- District of New Jersey (24);
- Southern District of New York (17);
- Central District of California (15);
- Southern District of Florida (14).

### Punishment

The average sentence length for individuals sentenced for tax fraud was 17 months.

68% were sentenced to prison.

No individuals were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty.



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### Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

43% of sentences for tax fraud were under the Guidelines Manual.

- 25% were within the guideline range.
- 15% were substantial assistance departures.
  - *The average sentence reduction was 78%.*
- 2% were some other downward departure.
  - *The average sentence reduction was 60%.*

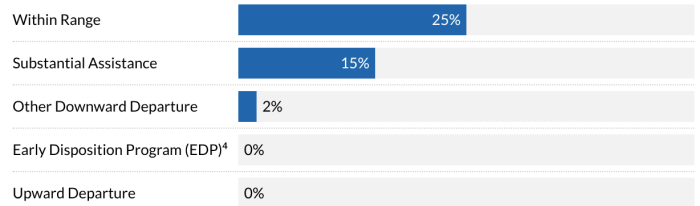
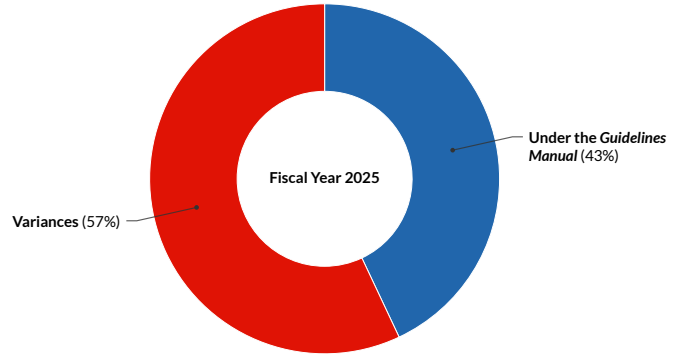
57% of sentences for tax fraud were variances.

- 56% were downward variances.
  - *The average sentence reduction was 61%.*
- 1% were upward variances.
  - *The average sentence increase was 36%.*

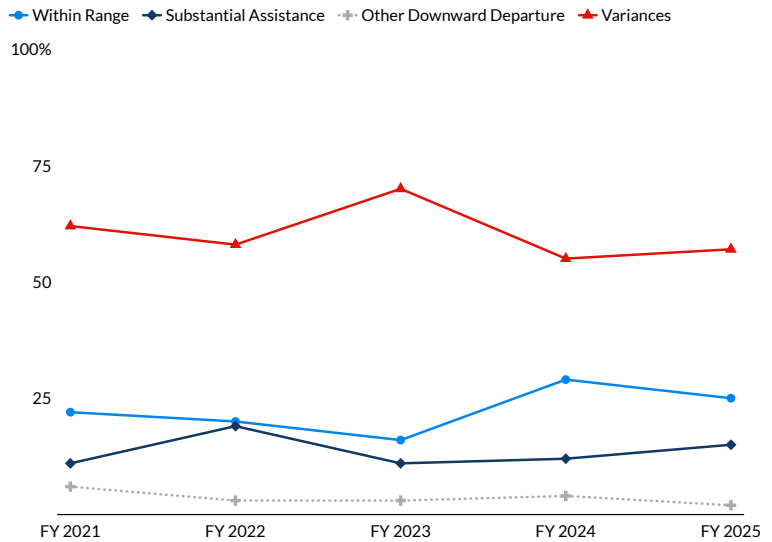
The average guideline minimum and average sentence imposed have remained steady over the past five years.

- The average guideline minimum was 25 months in fiscal year 2021 and 26 months in fiscal year 2025.
- The average sentence imposed was 14 months in fiscal year 2021 and 17 months in fiscal year 2025.

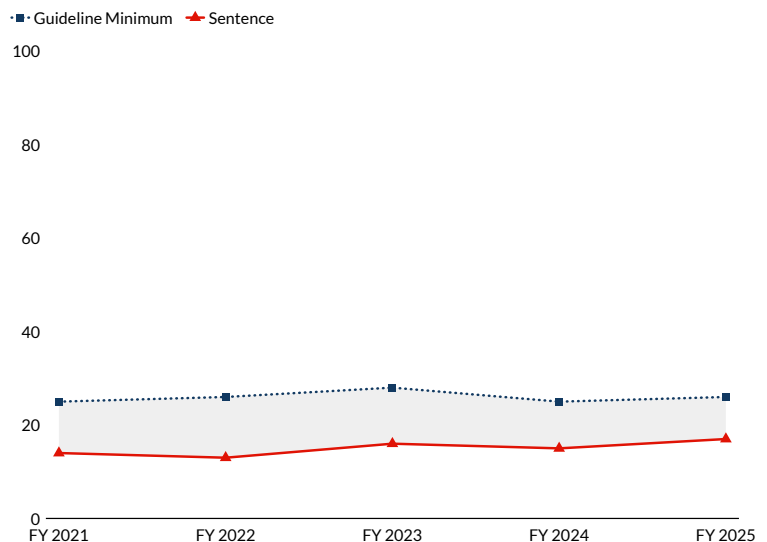
### Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range



### Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range by Fiscal Year



### Average Guideline Minimum and Average Sentence (months)



<sup>1</sup> Tax fraud offenses include cases in which the individual was sentenced under §2T1.1 or §2T1.4 (Tax Evasion; Willful Failure to File Return, Supply Information, or Pay Tax; Fraudulent or False Returns, Statements, or Other Documents or Aiding, Assisting, Procuring, Counseling, or Advising Tax Fraud).

<sup>2</sup> Cases with incomplete sentencing information were excluded from the analysis.

<sup>3</sup> The Loss Table was amended effective November 1, 2001 and November 1, 2015.

<sup>4</sup> "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 2021 through FY 2025 Datafiles, USSCFY21-USSCFY25.