



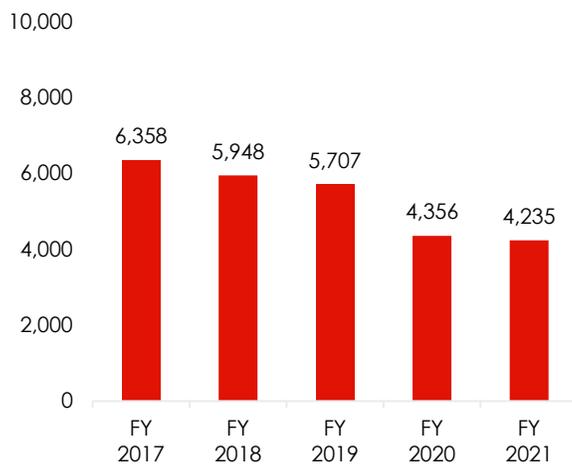
# Quick Facts

— Theft, Property Destruction, and Fraud Offenses —

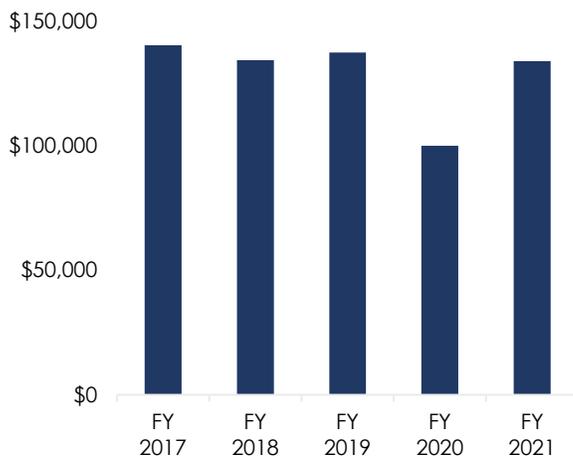
## Fiscal Year 2021

- ▶ IN FY 2021, 57,287 CASES WERE REPORTED TO THE U.S. SENTENCING COMMISSION.
- ▶ 4,235 OF THESE INVOLVED THEFT, PROPERTY DESTRUCTION, AND FRAUD.<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ THEFT, PROPERTY DESTRUCTION, AND FRAUD OFFENSES HAVE DECREASED BY 33.4% SINCE FY 2017.

**Number of Theft, Property Destruction, and Fraud Offenders**



**Median Loss for Theft, Property Destruction, and Fraud Offenses**



## Offender and Offense Characteristics<sup>2</sup>

- 69.1% of theft, property destruction, and fraud offenders were men.
- 42.9% were White, 30.2% were Black, 19.3% were Hispanic, and 7.6% were Other races.
- Their average age was 43 years.
- 85.1% were United States citizens.
- 71.0% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I).
- The median loss for these offenses was \$134,086;<sup>3</sup>
  - ◆ 14.5% involved loss amounts of \$6,500 or less;
  - ◆ 15.0% involved loss amounts greater than \$1.5 million.
- Sentences were increased for:
  - ◆ the number of victims or the extent of harm to them (30.6%);<sup>4</sup>
  - ◆ sophisticated means used to execute or conceal the offense (16.1%);
  - ◆ using an unauthorized means of identification (14.5%);
  - ◆ a leadership or supervisory role in the offense (9.9%);
  - ◆ abusing a public position of trust or using a special skill (18.7%);
  - ◆ obstructing or impeding the administration of justice (3.9%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
  - ◆ minor or minimal participation in the offense (3.5%).
- The top five districts for theft, property destruction, and fraud offenders were:
  - ◆ Central District of California (190);
  - ◆ Southern District of New York (171);
  - ◆ Western District of Texas (167);
  - ◆ Southern District of Florida (165);
  - ◆ Northern District of Texas (162).

## Punishment

- The average sentence length was 21 months.
- 70.9% of theft, property destruction, and fraud offenders were sentenced to prison.
- 10.5% were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty; of those offenders, 26.1% were relieved of that penalty.



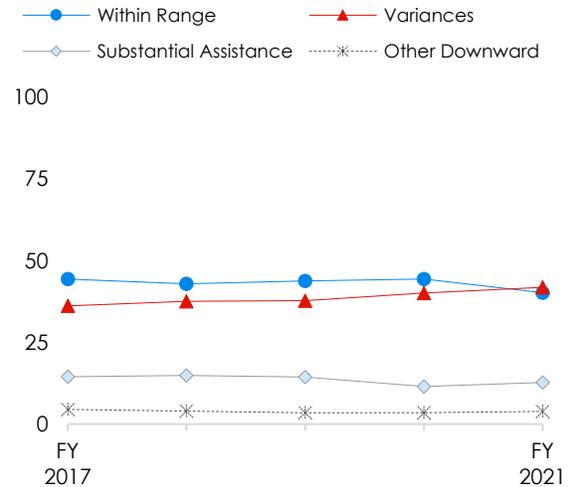
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@theusscgov

— Theft, Property Destruction, and Fraud Offenses —

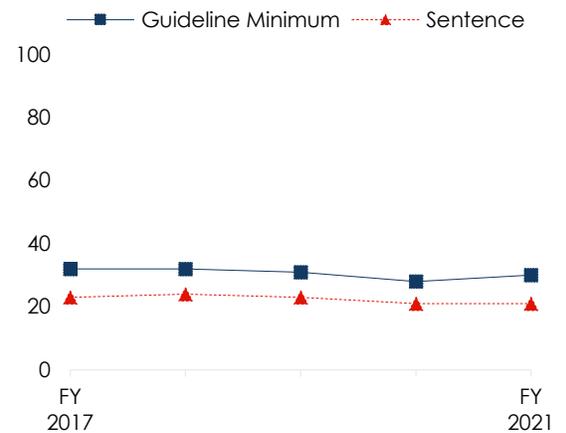
**Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range**

- Of the 58.1% of theft, property destruction, and fraud offenders sentenced under the *Guidelines Manual*:
  - ◆ 69.2% were sentenced within the guideline range.
  - ◆ 21.9% received a substantial assistance departure.
    - ◇ Their average sentence reduction was 64.3%.
  - ◆ 6.8% received some other downward departure.
    - ◇ Their average sentence reduction was 58.8%.
- 41.9% received a variance; of those offenders:
  - ◆ 94.5% received a downward variance.
    - ◇ Their average sentence reduction was 59.6%.
  - ◆ 5.5% received an upward variance.
    - ◇ Their average sentence increase was 94.6%.
- The average guideline minimum and average sentence imposed remained steady over the past five years.
  - ◆ The average guideline minimum decreased from 32 months in fiscal year 2017 to 30 months in fiscal year 2021.
  - ◆ The average sentence imposed decreased from 23 months in fiscal year 2017 to 21 months in fiscal year 2021.

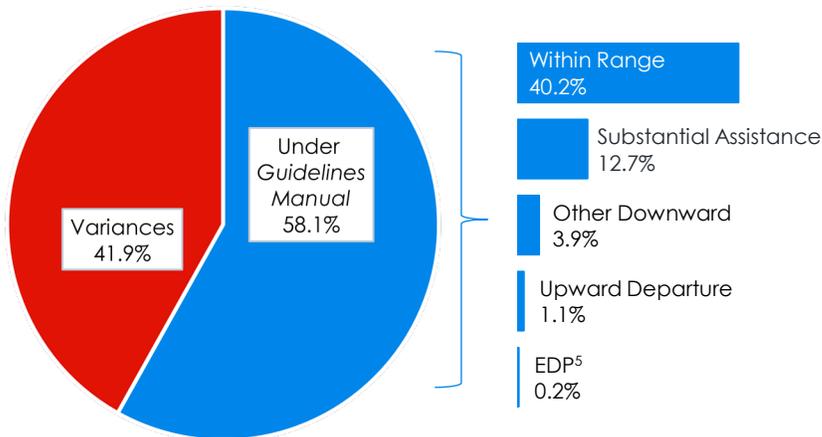
**Sentence Relative to the Guideline Range (%)**



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



**Sentence Imposed Relative to the Guideline Range FY 2021**



<sup>1</sup> Theft, Property Destruction, and Fraud offenses include cases in which the offender was sentenced under §2B1.1 (Larceny, Embezzlement, and Other Forms of Theft; Offenses Involving Stolen Property; Property Damage or Destruction; Fraud and Deceit; Forgery; Offenses Involving Altered or Counterfeit Instruments Other than Counterfeit Bearer Obligations of the United States).

<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> The Victims Table and Sophisticated Means adjustment were amended effective November 1, 2015.

<sup>5</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.