



Bureau of Justice Statistics

State Court Sentencing of Convicted Felons, 1996

In State courts

Trends in felony sentencing 1988-96

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State Court Sentencing of Convicted Felons, 1996

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Profile of felons convicted in State courts, 1996

The 1996 National Judicial Reporting Program compiled demographic data (sex, race, and age) as well as sentencing information for persons convicted of a felony in State courts. This section summarizes results from that collection.

White defendants, including Hispanics, were 54% of those convicted of a felony in State courts; black felons, including Hispanics, were 44%; and persons of other races (American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, and Pacific Islanders), including Hispanics, 2% (table 2.1).

Among persons convicted, white felons were less likely than blacks to be sent to prison: 32% of convicted white defendants received a prison sentence; 46% of black defendants received a prison sentence (table 2.5).

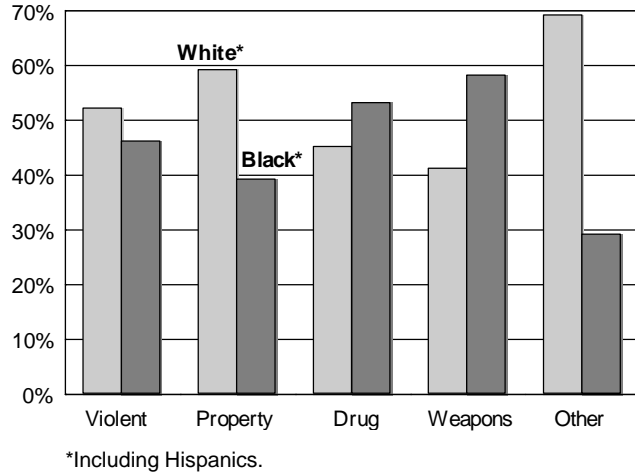
The average State prison sentence was 1 month longer for whites than blacks: 63 months for whites and 62 months for blacks (table 2.7).

Other findings were —

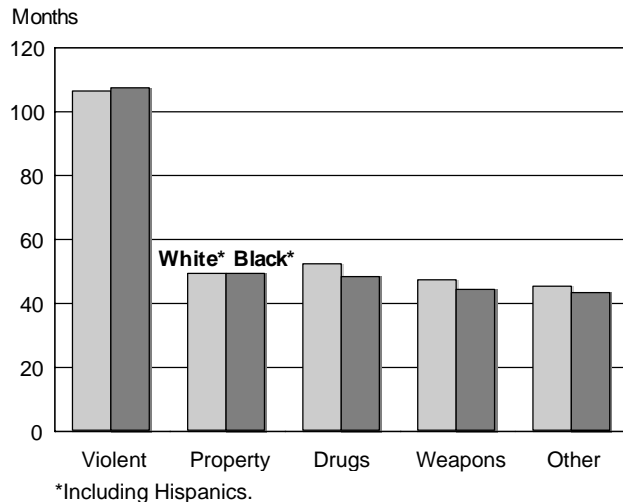
- In 1996 men comprised 84% of persons convicted of a felony (table 2.1). An estimated 41% of males received a State prison sentence, compared to 24% of females (table 2.4).
- The most serious conviction offense was a violent felony in 9% of cases for women, and 21% of cases for men. Among convicted whites, 19% had a violent felony conviction offense; among blacks, 20% (table 2.8).

- The average age of felons convicted in 1996 was 31 years (table 2.3).

Of drug offenders convicted in State courts in 1996, 53% were black and 45% were white



The average sentence to prison imposed by State courts was nearly the same for both whites and blacks in 1996



- Men sentenced to prison nationwide had an average sentence length of 5 years and 3 months, while women nationwide had an average prison sentence of 3 years and 11 months (table 2.6).

- Men nationwide were sentenced to local jail for an average of 6 months, and women for 5 months (table 2.6). The larger proportion of violent conviction offenses for men partly explains their greater likelihood of a sentence to incarceration and longer average sentences.

Table 2.1. Demographic characteristics of persons convicted of felonies by State courts, by offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent of convicted felons											
	Total	Gender		Race			Age at sentencing					
		Male	Female	White	Black	Other	13-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60 or older
All offenses	100%	84%	16%	54%	44%	2%	9%	41%	33%	14%	3%	1%
Violent offenses	100%	92%	8%	52%	46%	2%	12%	42%	28%	12%	4%	2%
Murder ^a	100	91	9	44	54	2	14	50	21	10	3	2
Sexual assault ^b	100	99	1	70	27	3	6	32	31	18	8	5
Robbery	100	93	7	32	66	2	23	48	23	6	1	--
Aggravated assault	100	89	11	55	43	2	10	43	29	13	3	1
Other violent ^c	100	90	10	69	29	2	6	40	32	15	4	2
Property offenses	100%	77%	23%	59%	39%	2%	11%	42%	32%	13%	2%	1%
Burglary	100	93	7	62	36	2	17	44	28	9	1	--
Larceny ^d	100	77	23	56	41	3	11	40	32	13	3	1
Fraud ^e	100	59	41	60	38	1	5	41	35	16	3	1
Drug offenses	100%	83%	17%	45%	53%	2%	6%	40%	35%	15%	3%	1%
Possession	100	81	19	49	49	2	4	36	40	17	3	1
Trafficking	100	84	16	43	56	1	7	44	32	14	3	1
Weapons offenses	100%	96%	4%	41%	58%	1%	12%	46%	26%	11%	3%	1%
Other offenses^f	100%	89%	11%	69%	29%	2%	7%	36%	36%	16%	4%	1%

Note: Data on sex were available for 782,079 cases; on race, 602,734; and on age 736,117. Racial categories include Hispanics. --Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.2. Gender, race, and age of felons convicted in State courts, by offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent of convicted felons											
	Total	Gender		Race			Age at sentencing					
		Male	Female	White	Black	Other	13-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60 or older
All offenses	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Violent offenses	17%	19%	9%	16%	18%	20%	24%	18%	14%	15%	20%	33%
Murder ^a	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
Sexual assault ^b	3	4	--	4	2	4	2	2	3	4	8	16
Robbery	4	5	2	3	7	5	11	5	3	2	1	--
Aggravated assault	7	8	5	7	7	8	8	8	7	7	8	11
Other violent ^c	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	3
Property offenses	30%	27%	42%	34%	26%	36%	38%	31%	29%	27	23%	19%
Burglary	9	10	4	11	8	12	18	10	8	6	4	3
Larceny ^d	12	11	17	13	11	18	15	12	12	12	12	9
Fraud ^e	8	6	21	9	7	6	4	8	9	9	7	8
Drug offenses	36%	36%	38%	30%	42%	28%	24%	36%	39%	40%	34%	25%
Possession	14	13	16	12	14	12	7	13	18	18	13	9
Trafficking	22	23	22	18	28	15	17	23	21	22	20	16
Weapons offenses	3%	4%	1%	3%	4%	2%	5%	4%	3%	3%	4%	4%
Other offenses^f	14%	15%	10%	17%	9%	15%	10%	12%	15%	16%	19%	19%

Note: See note on tables 1.1, and 2.1. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding. Some estimates in this table are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable. Racial categories include Hispanics.

--Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.3. Average age of convicted felons in State courts, by offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Average age in years	
	Mean	Median
All offenses	31 yr	30 yr
Violent offenses	30 yr	28 yr
Murder ^a	29	25
Sexual assault ^b	35	33
Robbery	26	24
Aggravated assault	31	29
Other violent ^c	32	31
Property offenses	30 yr	29 yr
Burglary	28	26
Larceny ^d	30	29
Fraud ^e	32	31
Drug offenses	31 yr	30 yr
Possession	32	32
Trafficking	31	29
Weapons offenses	30 yr	27 yr
Other offenses^f	32 yr	31 yr

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.4. Offense and gender of felons, by type of sentence imposed, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent of felons sentenced to —						
	Total	Incarceration			Nonincarceration		
		Total	Prison	Jail	Total	Probation	Other
Male							
All offenses	100%	73%	41%	32%	27%	25%	2%
Violent offenses	100%	81%	58%	23%	19%	18%	2%
Murder ^a	100	95	92	3	5	4	--
Sexual assault ^b	100	80	63	18	20	18	1
Robbery	100	88	73	15	12	11	1
Aggravated assault	100	75	43	32	25	23	2
Other violent ^c	100	75	39	36	25	23	2
Property offenses	100%	68%	38%	30%	32%	29%	3%
Burglary	100	73	47	27	27	25	2
Larceny ^d	100	69	34	35	31	27	3
Fraud ^e	100	55	28	27	45	42	3
Drug offenses	100%	76%	38%	38%	24%	22%	2%
Possession	100	75	31	44	25	23	2
Trafficking	100	76	41	35	24	22	2
Weapons offenses	100%	70%	42%	28%	30%	28%	2%
Other offenses^f	100%	68%	33%	35%	32%	29%	3%
Female							
All offenses	100%	59%	24%	34%	41%	38%	4%
Violent offenses	100%	64%	36%	28%	36%	34%	3%
Murder ^a	100	85	80	4	15	15	--
Sexual assault ^b	100	58	39	18	43	38	4
Robbery	100	76	55	21	23	22	1
Aggravated assault	100	56	25	31	44	41	3
Other violent ^c	100	65	23	42	35	30	5
Property offenses	100%	51%	22%	29%	49%	45%	4%
Burglary	100	70	31	39	30	28	2
Larceny ^d	100	55	23	32	45	40	5
Fraud ^e	100	44	19	24	56	52	4
Drug offenses	100%	68%	25%	42%	32%	30%	2%
Possession	100	70	22	48	30	27	3
Trafficking	100	66	28	38	34	32	2
Weapons offenses	100%	58%	30%	28%	42%	40%	2%
Other offenses^f	100%	54%	21%	33%	46%	40%	6%

Note: See note on tables 1.1, and 2.1. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding. Some estimates in this table are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable.

--Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnapping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.5. Offense and race of felons, by type of sentence imposed, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent of felons sentenced to —						
	Total	Incarceration			Nonincarceration		
		Total	Prison	Jail	Total	Probation	Other
White							
All offenses	100%	66%	32%	34%	34%	31%	3%
Violent offenses	100%	76%	51%	25%	24%	22%	2%
Murder ^a	100	94	89	4	6	6	1
Sexual assault ^b	100	80	61	18	20	19	2
Robbery	100	85	67	17	15	14	1
Aggravated assault	100	70	36	34	30	27	3
Other violent ^c	100	70	37	34	30	27	3
Property offenses	100%	60%	30%	30%	40%	36%	4%
Burglary	100	69	40	28	31	29	2
Larceny ^d	100	60	26	34	40	35	5
Fraud ^e	100	49	23	26	51	46	4
Drug offenses	100%	68%	27%	41%	32%	29%	3%
Possession	100	68	22	47	32	28	3
Trafficking	100	68	30	38	32	30	2
Weapons offenses	100%	62%	31%	30%	38%	35%	3%
Other offenses^f	100%	64%	28%	36%	36%	32%	4%
Black							
All offenses	100%	74%	46%	28%	26%	24%	2%
Violent offenses	100%	82%	65%	17%	18%	16%	1%
Murder ^a	100	95	92	2	5	5	--
Sexual assault ^b	100	81	69	12	19	18	2
Robbery	100	88	75	13	12	12	1
Aggravated assault	100	75	50	25	25	23	2
Other violent ^c	100	76	49	27	24	22	2
Property offenses	100%	68%	41%	27%	32%	30%	2%
Burglary	100	78	57	22	22	20	2
Larceny ^d	100	70	39	31	30	28	2
Fraud ^e	100	54	28	26	46	43	3
Drug offenses	100%	75%	43%	32%	25%	23%	2%
Possession	100	72	36	36	28	26	2
Trafficking	100	77	47	30	23	22	1
Weapons offenses	100%	70%	46%	25%	30%	28%	1%
Other offenses^f	100%	70%	37%	33%	30%	27%	3%

Note: See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, and 2.1. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding.

Some estimates in this table are based on as few as one case and are therefore unreliable.

Racial categories include Hispanics.

--Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.6. Mean length of felony State court sentences imposed, by offense and gender of felons, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Mean maximum sentence length (in months) for felons sentenced to —			
	Total	Incarceration		Probation
		Prison	Jail	
Male				
All offenses	38 mo	63 mo	6 mo	40 mo
Violent offenses	77 mo	104 mo	7 mo	46 mo
Murder ^a	257	265	9	75
Sexual assault ^b	96	119	8	65
Robbery	82	95	10	52
Aggravated assault	42	68	6	39
Other violent ^c	32	57	6	38
Property offenses	31 mo	50 mo	6 mo	38 mo
Burglary	41	60	7	43
Larceny ^d	23	39	6	35
Fraud ^e	25	43	5	37
Drug offenses	28 mo	50 mo	6 mo	41 mo
Possession	19	38	5	35
Trafficking	33	55	7	45
Weapons offenses	29 mo	44 mo	6 mo	33 mo
Other offenses^f	24 mo	42 mo	6 mo	40 mo
Female				
All offenses	23 mo	47 mo	5 mo	38 mo
Violent offenses	44 mo	73 mo	6 mo	42 mo
Murder ^a	167	176	8	65
Sexual assault ^b	55	75	9	81
Robbery	51	66	9	44
Aggravated assault	26	50	5	39
Other violent ^c	19	46	5	38
Property offenses	21 mo	43 mo	5 mo	37 mo
Burglary	24	48	5	43
Larceny ^d	19	39	5	35
Fraud ^e	23	46	4	38
Drug offenses	20 mo	43 mo	6 mo	39 mo
Possession	14	34	5	34
Trafficking	25	49	6	43
Weapons offenses	20 mo	34 mo	5 mo	36 mo
Other offenses^f	20 mo	42 mo	5 mo	38 mo

Note: See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, and 2.1. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding. Some estimates in this table are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.7. Mean length of felony State court sentences imposed, by offense and race of felons, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Mean maximum sentence length (in months) for felons sentenced to —			
	Total	Incarceration		Probation
		Prison	Jail	
White				
All offenses	35 mo	63 mo	5 mo	38 mo
Violent offenses	73 mo	106 mo	6 mo	46 mo
Murder ^a	261	271	7	77
Sexual assault ^b	98	122	7	66
Robbery	77	93	8	50
Aggravated assault	36	64	6	39
Other violent ^c	32	56	6	36
Property offenses	28 mo	49 mo	5 mo	37 mo
Burglary	37	58	6	43
Larceny ^d	21	40	5	35
Fraud ^e	24	45	5	36
Drug offenses	24 mo	52 mo	5 mo	36 mo
Possession	17	43	5	33
Trafficking	28	56	6	38
Weapons offenses	26 mo	47 mo	4 mo	32 mo
Other offenses^f	24 mo	45 mo	6 mo	40 mo
Black				
All offenses	42 mo	62 mo	7 mo	40 mo
Violent offenses	88 mo	107 mo	8 mo	44 mo
Murder ^a	238	244	9	64
Sexual assault ^b	107	121	10	64
Robbery	90	101	11	50
Aggravated assault	52	73	7	38
Other violent ^c	41	60	6	35
Property offenses	32 mo	49 mo	6 mo	36 mo
Burglary	47	61	7	41
Larceny ^d	25	40	7	35
Fraud ^e	24	41	5	35
Drug offenses	31 mo	48 mo	6 mo	44 mo
Possession	20	33	6	36
Trafficking	37	54	7	48
Weapons offenses	32 mo	44 mo	6 mo	32 mo
Other offenses^f	27 mo	43 mo	7 mo	38 mo

Note: Some estimates in this table are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable. Racial categories include Hispanics.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.8. Gender and race of felons sentenced to incarceration or prison by State courts, by offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent of convictions				
	Total	Gender		Race	
		Male	Female	White	Black
Incarceration					
All offenses	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Violent offenses	20%	21%	9%	19%	20%
Murder ^a	2	2	1	1	2
Sexual assault ^b	3	4	--	5	2
Robbery	6	6	3	4	8
Aggravated assault	7	8	5	7	7
Other violent ^c	1	1	1	2	1
Property offenses	28%	25%	37%	31%	24%
Burglary	10	10	5	12	8
Larceny ^d	11	10	16	12	11
Fraud ^e	6	4	15	7	5
Drug offenses	37%	37%	44%	31%	43%
Possession	13	13	19	12	14
Trafficking	24	24	25	19	29
Weapons offenses	3%	4%	1%	2%	4%
Other offenses^f	13%	14%	9%	17%	8%
Prison					
All offenses	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Violent offenses	26%	27%	13%	26%	25%
Murder ^a	3	3	2	3	3
Sexual assault ^b	5	5	--	8	3
Robbery	9	9	4	6	11
Aggravated assault	7	8	5	8	7
Other violent ^c	1	1	1	2	1
Property offenses	27%	25%	38%	31%	24%
Burglary	12	12	5	14	10
Larceny ^d	10	9	16	11	9
Fraud ^e	5	4	16	7	4
Drug offenses	33%	33%	40%	25%	40%
Possession	10	10	15	8	11
Trafficking	23	23	25	17	29
Weapons offenses	4%	4%	1%	3%	4%
Other offenses^f	11%	12%	9%	15%	7%

Note: See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, and 2.1. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding. Some estimates in this table are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable. Racial categories include Hispanics.

--Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.9. Gender and race of felons sentenced to jail or probation by State courts, by offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent of convictions				
	Total	Gender		Race	
		Male	Female	White	Black
Jail					
All offenses	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Violent offenses	12%	14%	6%	12%	11%
Murder ^a	--	--	--	--	--
Sexual assault ^b	2	2	--	2	1
Robbery	2	2	1	1	3
Aggravated assault	7	7	5	7	6
Other violent ^c	1	2	1	2	1
Property offenses	28%	25%	36%	30%	25%
Burglary	8	8	5	9	6
Larceny ^d	13	12	16	13	13
Fraud ^e	7	5	15	7	7
Drug offenses	42%	42%	47%	37%	49%
Possession	17	18	23	16	18
Trafficking	24	25	24	21	31
Weapons offenses	3%	3%	1%	2%	4%
Other offenses^f	15%	16%	10%	18%	11%
Probation					
All offenses	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Violent offenses	12%	14%	8%	11%	12%
Murder ^a	--	--	--	--	--
Sexual assault ^b	2	3	--	2	1
Robbery	2	2	1	1	3
Aggravated assault	6	7	5	6	6
Other violent ^c	1	1	1	1	1
Property offenses	37%	32%	50%	39%	32%
Burglary	9	10	3	10	7
Larceny ^d	15	12	19	15	13
Fraud ^e	13	9	28	14	13
Drug offenses	33%	32%	30%	28%	40%
Possession	12	12	12	11	15
Trafficking	20	20	18	17	25
Weapons offenses	4%	4%	1%	3%	5%
Other offenses^f	15%	18%	11%	18%	10%

Note: See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, and 2.1. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding. Some estimates in this table are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable. Racial categories include Hispanics.

-- Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.10. Percent of convicted felons sentenced by State courts to incarceration or prison, by gender, race, and offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent receiving designated sentence			
	White		Black	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Sentenced to incarceration				
All offenses	68%	54%	76%	63%
Violent offenses	78%	60%	84%	66%
Murder ^a	95	82	95	89
Sexual assault ^b	81	52	82	68
Robbery	86	74	88	76
Aggravated assault	72	52	78	59
Other violent ^c	72	58	77	67
Property offenses	64%	48%	73%	56%
Burglary	69	63	79	78
Larceny ^d	64	46	74	60
Fraud ^e	52	45	59	47
Drug offenses	70%	62%	76%	71%
Possession	69	65	74	69
Trafficking	70	59	78	71
Weapons offenses	62%	60%	72%	56%
Other offenses^f	66%	50%	71%	63%
Sentenced to prison				
All offenses	35%	19%	49%	32%
Violent offenses	52%	32%	67%	43%
Murder ^a	90	78	93	85
Sexual assault ^b	62	41	70	54
Robbery	68	52	76	56
Aggravated assault	38	18	53	32
Other violent ^c	39	19	50	36
Property offenses	33%	19%	46%	27%
Burglary	42	22	58	43
Larceny ^d	29	16	42	29
Fraud ^e	25	20	33	22
Drug offenses	29%	18%	45%	35%
Possession	24	15	38	30
Trafficking	32	20	48	38
Weapons offenses	32%	25%	47%	31%
Other offenses^f	30%	17%	38%	34%

Note: See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, and 2.1. Racial categories include Hispanics.

--Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.11. Percent of convicted felons sentenced by State courts to jail or probation, by gender, race, and offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent receiving designated sentence			
	White		Black	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Sentenced to jail				
All offenses	33%	35%	27%	31%
Violent offenses	25%	28%	16%	23%
Murder ^a	5	4	2	4
Sexual assault ^b	19	11	12	14
Robbery	17	22	12	21
Aggravated assault	34	33	25	26
Other violent ^c	33	39	27	31
Property offenses	30%	29%	26%	28%
Burglary	27	41	21	35
Larceny ^d	35	30	31	30
Fraud ^e	27	25	26	25
Drug offenses	41%	43%	32%	35%
Possession	46	50	36	39
Trafficking	38	39	30	33
Weapons offenses	30%	35%	25%	25%
Other offenses^f	36%	33%	33%	29%
Sentenced to probation				
All offenses	32%	46%	24%	37%
Violent offenses	22%	40%	16%	34%
Murder ^a	5	18	5	11
Sexual assault ^b	19	48	18	32
Robbery	14	26	12	24
Aggravated assault	28	48	22	41
Other violent ^c	30	42	23	33
Property offenses	36%	52%	27%	44%
Burglary	31	37	21	22
Larceny ^d	36	54	26	40
Fraud ^e	48	55	41	53
Drug offenses	30%	38%	24%	29%
Possession	31	35	26	31
Trafficking	30	41	22	29
Weapons offenses	38%	40%	28%	44%
Other offenses^f	34%	50%	29%	37%

Note: See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, and 2.1. Racial categories include Hispanics.

--Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnapping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.12. Mean length of State felony sentences to incarceration or prison, by gender and race of felons, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Mean sentence length (in months) for persons who were —			
	White		Black	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Sentenced to incarceration				
All offenses	37 mo	21 mo	44 mo	26 mo
Violent offenses	75 mo	42 mo	90 mo	47 mo
Murder ^a	270	161	246	152
Sexual assault ^b	97	70	107	57
Robbery	79	43	90	48
Aggravated assault	37	22	54	31
Other violent ^c	33	21	42	25
Property offenses	29 mo	21 mo	34 mo	23 mo
Burglary	39	15	46	37
Larceny ^d	21	18	26	22
Fraud ^e	24	25	26	19
Drug offenses	26 mo	17 mo	32 mo	24 mo
Possession	18	13	20	16
Trafficking	30	21	37	28
Weapons offenses	27 mo	14 mo	32 mo	18 mo
Other offenses^f	25 mo	17 mo	26 mo	31 mo
Sentenced to prison				
All offenses	65 mo	48 mo	63 mo	45 mo
Violent offenses	106 mo	75 mo	108 mo	68 mo
Murder ^a	280	172	252	159
Sexual assault ^b	121	83	122	66
Robbery	95	56	100	60
Aggravated assault	64	52	75	50
Other violent ^c	56	54	61	41
Property offenses	49 mo	46 mo	49 mo	40 mo
Burglary	58	36	60	62
Larceny ^d	39	43	40	38
Fraud ^e	42	51	42	36
Drug offenses	53 mo	45 mo	48 mo	41 mo
Possession	44	38	33	30
Trafficking	57	49	54	45
Weapons offenses	47 mo	27 mo	44 mo	28 mo
Other offenses^f	45 mo	39 mo	41 mo	52 mo

Note: See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, and 2.1. Racial categories include Hispanics.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.

Table 2.13. Mean length of State felony sentences to jail or probation, by gender and race of felons, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Mean sentence length (in months) for persons who were —			
	White		Black	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Sentenced to jail				
All offenses	6 mo	5 mo	7 mo	6 mo
Violent offenses	6 mo	5 mo	8 mo	7 mo
Murder	8	5	9	13
Sexual assault ^b	7	4	10	21
Robbery	8	8	11	9
Aggravated assault	6	4	7	6
Other violent ^c	6	5	6	8
Property offenses	6 mo	4 mo	7 mo	5 mo
Burglary	6	4	8	6
Larceny ^d	5	4	7	6
Fraud ^e	5	4	6	5
Drug offenses	5 mo	5 mo	7 mo	6 mo
Possession	5	5	6	6
Trafficking	6	5	7	7
Weapons offenses	4 mo	4 mo	6 mo	6 mo
Other offenses^f	6 mo	5 mo	7 mo	6 mo
Sentenced to probation				
All offenses	38 mo	37 mo	41 mo	37 mo
Violent offenses	45 mo	51 mo	46 mo	38 mo
Murder ^a	84	64	70	50
Sexual assault ^b	65	95	66	52
Robbery	51	41	51	44
Aggravated assault	37	50	38	36
Other violent ^c	36	35	34	39
Property offenses	37 mo	37 mo	36 mo	34 mo
Burglary	43	43	41	37
Larceny ^d	34	36	36	34
Fraud ^e	36	37	35	35
Drug offenses	37 mo	35 mo	44 mo	43 mo
Possession	34	31	36	36
Trafficking	38	38	49	47
Weapons offenses	32 mo	28 mo	32 mo	30 mo
Other offenses^f	40 mo	40 mo	40 mo	30 mo

Note: See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, and 2.1. Racial categories include Hispanics.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

^fComposed of nonviolent offenses such as receiving stolen property and vandalism.