



## Bureau of Justice Statistics

*National Pretrial Reporting Program*

# Felony Defendants in Large Urban Counties, 1992

*Arrest charges*

*Demographic characteristics*

*Criminal history*

*Pretrial release and detention*

*Adjudication*

*Sentencing*



---

# Felony Defendants in Large Urban Counties 1992

**Brian A. Reaves, Ph.D., and Pheny Z. Smith, Ph.D.**  
*BJS Statisticians*

**July 1995, NCJ-148826**

---

**U.S. Department of Justice**

Bureau of Justice Statistics

Jan M. Chaiken, Ph.D.  
Director

Brian A. Reaves and Pheny Z. Smith, BJS Statisticians, wrote this report. Thomas Hester and Yvonne Boston edited the report, which was produced by Ms. Boston under the supervision of Marilyn Marbrook. Data collection and processing were done by the staff of the Pretrial Services Resource Center under the supervision of Walt Smith. Carma Hogue of the U.S. Bureau of the Census assisted with sample design.

<b>Highlights</b>	<i>iii</i>
<b>National Pretrial Reporting Program</b>	1
<b>Arrest charges</b>	2
<b>Demographic characteristics</b>	4
<b>Criminal history</b>	8
<b>Pretrial release and detention</b>	17
<b>Adjudication</b>	25
<b>Sentencing</b>	30
<b>Methodology</b>	38
<b>Appendix</b>	41

# Highlights

## Arrest charges

An estimated 55,513 felony cases were filed in the State courts of the Nation's 75 largest counties during May 1992. About a fourth of these felony defendants were charged with a violent offense, usually assault (12.7%) or robbery (8.5%). Murder (1.1%) and rape (1.4%) defendants accounted for a small percentage of defendants.

About three-fourths of defendants were charged with a nonviolent felony. The most frequently charged nonviolent offenses were drug trafficking (16.4%), other drug offenses (13.7%), theft (12.7%), and burglary (12.0%).

The percentage of felony defendants who were charged with a violent offense in 1992 (26.5%) was slightly higher than in 1988 (21.3%). The percentage of drug defendants decreased from 34.9% in 1988 to 30.0% in 1992. The 1992 percentages of property defendants (34.9%) and public-order defendants (8.5%) were similar to 1988.

## Demographic characteristics

A majority (60%) of felony defendants charged as adults in the 75 largest counties were under age 30. A fifth were under age 21, including about a third of murder (35%) and robbery (31%) defendants. Defendants whose most serious arrest charge was a driving-related offense (21%) were the most likely to be age 40 or older.

A large majority (85%) of felony defendants were male. About half were black males, including 57% of those ages 18 to 20, and 65% of those under age 18. Black males accounted for a majority of the defendants whose most serious arrest charge was robbery (71%), murder (66%), or a weapons offense (64%). White males (71%) comprised a majority among the defendants facing driving-related charges.

## Criminal history

About 3 in 8 defendants had an active criminal justice status at the time of the current charged offense, including 17% who were on probation, 12% on pretrial release, and 8% on parole. Nearly half of robbery defendants had an active criminal justice status at the time of the current offense. About a third of robbery defendants were either on probation (19%) or parole (13%) at the time of the current charged offense.

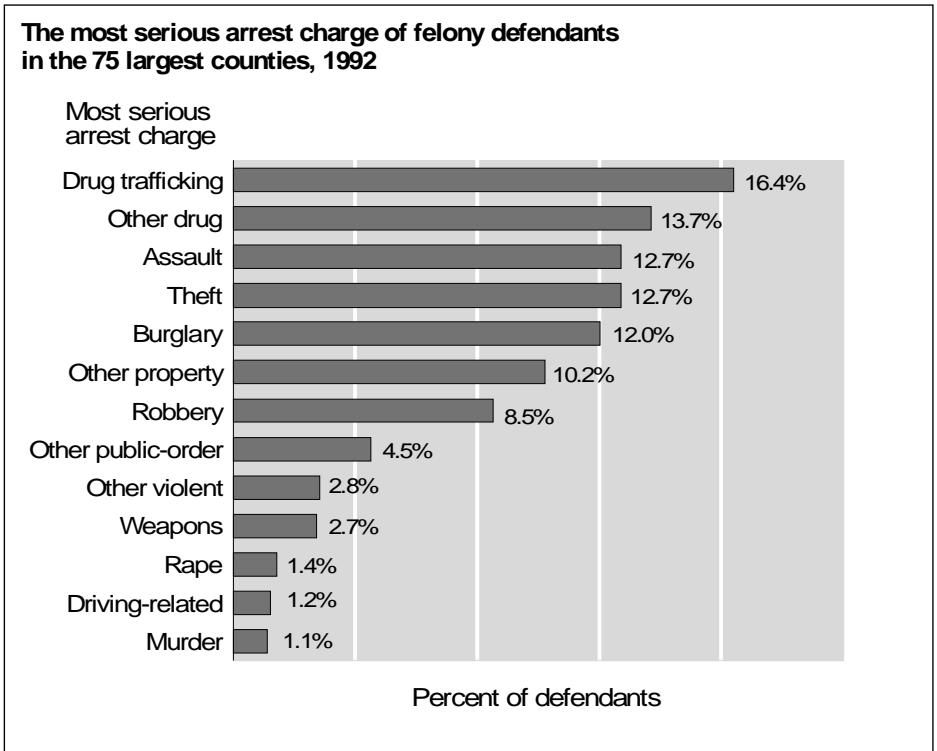
Two-thirds of all defendants had been arrested previously, with 36% having at least five prior arrest charges. A majority (55%) had a felony arrest record, and 38% had been previously convicted of at least one felony. Nearly half of burglary (47%) and robbery (43%) defendants had a felony conviction record. Twenty-two percent of robbery defendants had one or more prior convictions for a violent felony, compared to 13% of defendants overall.

## Pretrial release and detention

Just over a third of all felony defendants were detained until their case reached final disposition. About two-thirds of defendants already on parole (68%) were detained during the current case. A majority of defendants on probation (56%), or with five or more prior convictions (57%) were also detained.

About three-fourths of the defendants charged with murder were held until disposition, as were about half of defendants charged with rape, robbery, or burglary. Except for those charged with murder, a large majority of pretrial detainees had a bail amount set but failed to post the amount required to secure release. Among detained murder defendants, about the same percentage were held without bail as were held on bail.

Among those defendants who were released prior to case disposition, a



fourth failed to appear in court as scheduled. A third of those who failed to appear, representing 8% of all released defendants, were still fugitives at the end of the 1-year study period. About 1 in 7 released defendants were rearrested for a new offense allegedly committed while on pretrial release. Most of these new charges were for a felony. Overall, a third of released defendants committed one or more types of pretrial misconduct that involved a missed court appearance, a rearrest for a new offense, or some other violation that resulted in the revocation of their pretrial release.

### Adjudication

Ninety percent of defendants had their cases adjudicated within 1 year of arrest. Two-thirds of the cases adjudicated during this period ended with a conviction. The highest conviction rates were for defendants charged with a driving-related offense (90%), drug trafficking (78%), burglary (75%), or murder (72%). Nearly two-thirds of defendants charged with robbery (64%) or rape (63%) were convicted. Defendants charged with assault were the least likely to be convicted (51%).

Fifty-four percent of all defendants were convicted of a felony, and 14% were convicted of a misdemeanor. The highest felony conviction rates were for defendants charged with a driving-related felony (76%), murder (70%), burglary (64%), or drug trafficking (63%). The lowest felony conviction rate was found among assault defendants (36%).

Ninety-two percent of convictions occurring within 1 year of arrest were obtained through a guilty plea. About 4 in 5 guilty pleas were to a felony. Murder defendants (27%) were the most likely to have their case adjudicated by trial. About 4 in 5 trials resulted in a guilty verdict, including three-fourths of murder trials.

### Sentencing

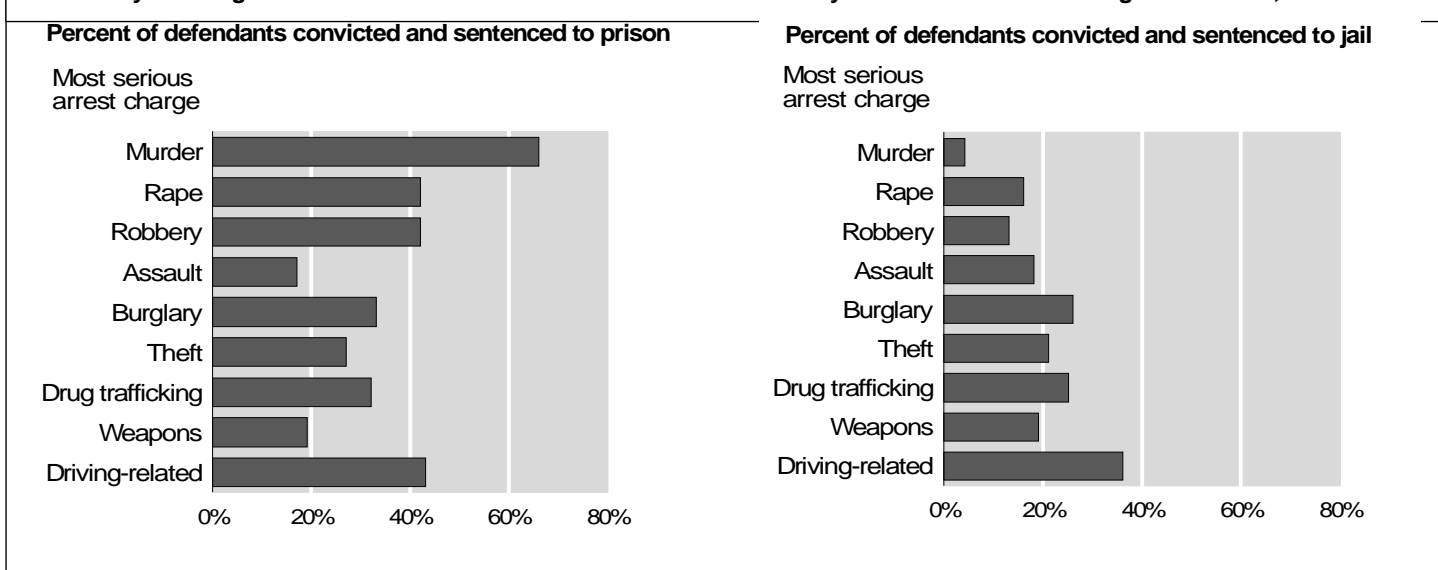
Overall, 71% of the defendants whose most serious conviction charge was a felony were sentenced to incarceration. Nearly all of the remaining convicted defendants received a probation sentence. About a third of felony convictions resulted in a prison term, including a majority of convictions for murder (92%), robbery (67%), and

rape (66%). Given prosecution, the chances of eventually being convicted and sentenced to prison were highest for murder defendants (66%), followed by those charged with a driving-related offense (43%), rape (42%), or robbery (42%).

Nearly two-thirds of those with multiple prior felony convictions were sentenced to prison following a felony conviction in the current case. About half of those with a single prior felony conviction and about a fourth of those without prior felony convictions received such a sentence.

Prison sentences were longest for those convicted of a violent felony, a median of 6 years and a mean of about 9 years. Within the violent offense category, median prison sentences ranged from 16 years for those convicted of murder to 6 years for rape and 5 years for robbery or assault. The median prison sentence for defendants convicted of a nonviolent felony was 3 years, ranging from 4 years for a drug trafficking conviction to about 2 years for a public-order conviction that did not involve a weapons offense.

**Probability of being convicted and sentenced to incarceration for felony defendants in the 75 largest counties, 1992**



## National Pretrial Reporting Program

---

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) initiated the biennial National Pretrial Reporting Program (NPRP) in February 1988 to collect demographic, criminal history, pretrial processing, adjudication, and sentencing information on felony defendants in State courts of the Nation's 75 most populous counties. The NPRP data do not include Federal defendants. The reader should refer to the annual BJS *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics* for information on the processing of Federal defendants.

The 1992 NPRP collected data for 13,206 felony cases filed during May 1992 in 40 of the Nation's largest counties. These cases, which were tracked for up to 1 year, were part of a 2-stage sample that was representative of the estimated 55,513 felony cases filed in the Nation's 75 most populous counties during that month.

In 1992, the 75 largest counties accounted for 37% of the Nation's population and about half of all reported crimes, arrests, and felony convictions.

## Arrest charges

For about two-thirds of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties, the most serious arrest charge was a property offense (35%) or a drug offense (30%) (table 1). (See *Methodology* for the specific crimes included in each offense category.)

About a third of property cases involved a theft charge, and another third, a burglary charge. Slightly more

than half of all drug cases involved drug trafficking charges. Overall, 16% of felony defendants were charged with drug trafficking (figure 1).

About a fourth of all defendants were charged with a violent offense. About half of these defendants were charged with aggravated assault, and about a third with robbery. Defendants charged with rape comprised about

5% of all defendants charged with a violent offense, and those charged with murder, 4%.

About 1 in 12 felony defendants in the 75 largest counties were charged with a public-order offense. About a third of these defendants faced felony weapons charges, and about a seventh were charged with a driving-related felony.

**Table 1. Felony defendants, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Felony defendants in the 75 largest counties	
	Number	Percent
All offenses	55,246	100.0%
Violent offenses	14,638	26.5%
Murder	592	1.1
Rape	790	1.4
Robbery	4,714	8.5
Assault	7,018	12.7
Other violent	1,524	2.8
Property offenses	19,303	34.9%
Burglary	6,630	12.0
Theft	7,012	12.7
Other property	5,662	10.2
Drug offenses	16,599	30.0%
Sales/trafficking	9,039	16.4
Other drug	7,560	13.7
Public-order offenses	4,707	8.5%
Weapons	1,518	2.7
Driving-related	680	1.2
Other public-order	2,509	4.5

Note: Data for the specific arrest charge were available for 99.5% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

**The most frequently charged offenses of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties, 1992**

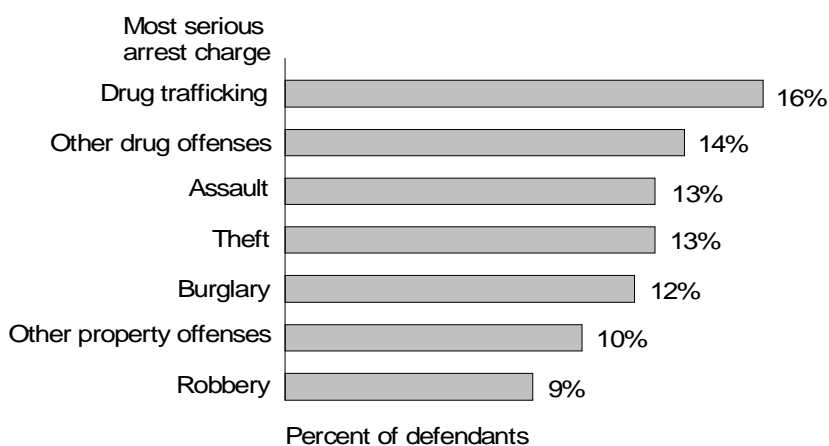


Figure 1

**Felony charges of defendants in the 75 largest counties, 1988, 1990, and 1992**

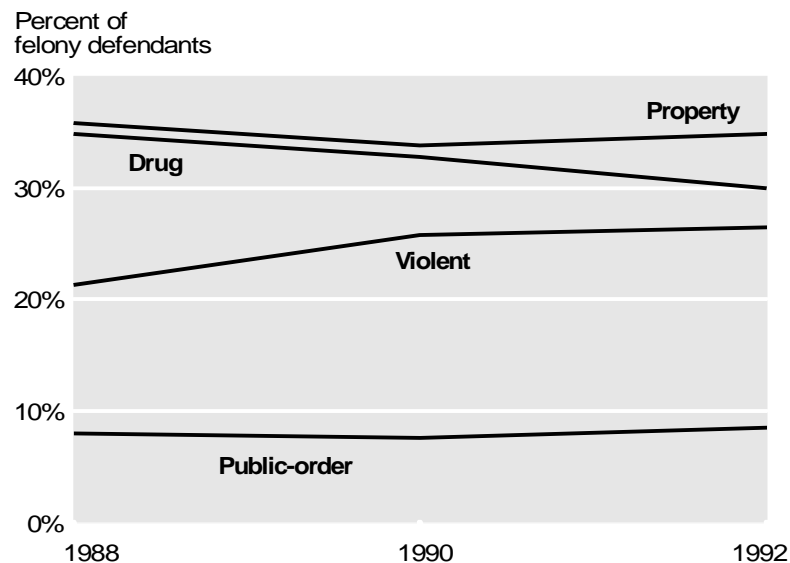


Figure 2

Compared with previous NPRP data collections based on cases filed in February 1988 and May 1990, the percentage of cases in 1992 involving property and public-order offenses was about the same (figure 2). The percentage of cases in which a violent offense was the most serious arrest charge was slightly higher in 1992 (26.5%) than in 1988 (21.3%), while the percentage of drug cases was slightly lower in 1992 (30.0%) than in 1988 (34.9%).

Nearly two-thirds of defendants whose most serious arrest charge was a violent offense were facing additional

charges, including 44% who were charged with at least one additional felony (table 2). Defendants whose most serious arrest charge was rape (58%), robbery (55%), or murder (53%) were more likely to be facing an additional felony charge than defendants charged with aggravated assault (36%) or other violent offenses (39%).

About half of property defendants (52%) and drug defendants (53%) were charged with more than one offense, with 38% charged with at least one additional felony. Among property defendants, burglary defendants

(57%) were the most likely to be facing an additional arrest charge, with 43% charged with at least one additional felony. Among drug defendants, those charged with drug trafficking (49%) were twice as likely as other drug defendants (24%) to have been charged with an additional felony.

Nearly half of public-order defendants were charged with multiple offenses, with 30% charged with more than one felony. Defendants facing weapons (52%) or driving-related (55%) charges were more likely to have been charged with more than one offense than other public-order defendants (41%).

**Table 2. Level of second most serious charge of felony defendants, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties				
		Total	No additional arrest charges	With 1 or more additional arrest charges		
				Total	Most serious additional arrest charge	
Felony	Misdemeanor					
All offenses	55,123	100%	46%	54%	39%	16%
Violent offenses	14,591	100%	38%	62%	44%	18%
Murder	592	100	42	58	53	5
Rape	783	100	35	65	58	7
Robbery	4,702	100	33	67	55	13
Assault	6,991	100	39	61	36	25
Other violent	1,524	100	48	52	39	13
Property offenses	19,255	100%	48%	52%	38%	14%
Burglary	6,618	100	43	57	43	13
Theft	6,994	100	52	48	37	11
Other property	5,644	100	50	50	33	17
Drug offenses	16,575	100%	47%	53%	38%	15%
Sales/trafficking	9,023	100	39	61	49	12
Other drug	7,552	100	57	43	24	19
Public-order offenses	4,703	100%	54%	46%	30%	17%
Weapons	1,518	100	48	52	34	18
Driving-related	680	100	45	55	29	25
Other public-order	2,505	100	59	41	27	14

Note: Data for the most serious arrest charge and the next most serious arrest charge were available for 99.8% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.



## Demographic characteristics

Eighty-five percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties were male (table 3). By arrest offense, men comprised the largest percentages among defendants charged with rape (97%), weapons offenses (95%), robbery (92%), or burglary (91%). About 1 in 5 defendants charged with property offenses other than burglary, and with drug offenses not involving the sale of drugs were female. Overall, about 1 in 6 defendants charged with a nonviolent offense were female,

compared to about 1 in 9 defendants charged with a violent offense.

Without consideration of Hispanic origin, which was poorly reported in some jurisdictions (see *Methodology*), 60% of defendants were black, 39% were white, and 1% were members of other racial groups. About three-fourths of murder and robbery defendants were black, as were about two-thirds of weapons defendants. About 3 in 5 defendants charged with drug sales, aggravated assault, or burglary were black. A large majority of the defend-

ants whose most serious arrest charge was a driving-related offense were white (82%). Whites (48%) and blacks (49%) comprised roughly equal percentages of rape defendants.

Black males accounted for a majority of the defendants whose most serious arrest charge was robbery (71%), murder (66%), or a weapons offense (64%). White males (71%) comprised a majority among the defendants facing driving-related charges.

**Table 3. Sex and race of felony defendants, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties											
		All defendants				Male				Female			
		Total	Black	White	Other	Total	Black	White	Other	Total	Black	White	Other
All offenses	49,437	100%	60%	39%	1%	85%	51%	33%	1%	15%	9%	6%	--
Violent offenses	13,213	100%	65%	33%	1%	89%	57%	30%	1%	11%	8%	3%	--
Murder	532	100	75	24	1	89	66	22	1	11	9	2	0
Rape	713	100	49	48	2	97	49	45	2	3	0	3	0
Robbery	4,178	100	77	22	1	92	71	20	1	8	6	3	0
Assault	6,414	100	61	38	1	85	51	34	1	15	10	4	--
Other violent	1,377	100	55	44	1	89	46	42	1	11	9	2	0
Property offenses	17,427	100%	56%	43%	2%	83%	46%	36%	1%	17%	10%	7%	--
Burglary	5,800	100	59	39	2	91	53	37	2	9	6	2	--
Theft	6,393	100	55	44	1	79	44	34	1	21	11	10	--
Other property	5,234	100	53	45	2	80	41	37	2	20	12	8	--
Drug offenses	14,682	100%	61%	38%	1%	83%	52%	31%	1%	17%	9%	7%	--
Sales/trafficking	7,907	100	62	37	1	86	54	31	1	14	8	6	--
Other drug	6,775	100	60	39	1	80	50	30	1	20	11	9	--
Public-order offenses	4,116	100%	56%	44%	1%	84%	45%	38%	1%	16%	10%	5%	--
Weapons	1,245	100	68	32	--	95	64	31	--	5	4	1	0
Driving-related	613	100	16	82	2	88	16	71	2	12	1	11	0
Other public-order	2,259	100	59	39	1	77	43	34	1	23	17	6	--

Note: Data on sex and race of defendants were available for 89% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. --Less than 0.5%.

Where reported, about a fourth of the felony defendants were Hispanic (table 4). The highest percentages of Hispanics were found among defendants charged with driving-related offenses (40%), drug trafficking (36%), and weapons offenses (34%). A majority of the defendants charged with robbery (65%) or murder (57%) were non-Hispanic blacks. Non-Hispanic whites comprised the largest percentage among defendants charged with a driving-related offense (45%).

The average age of defendants was 29 years (table 5). By specific offense, the average age ranged from 25 years for robbery defendants to 32 for those charged with driving-related offenses. About 60% of the defendants within each of the four major offense categories were under age 30. Four percent of all defendants were under age 18, and 21% were under 21. Eleven percent of defendants were age 40 or older. Defendants charged with driving-related offenses (21%) were about twice as likely as defendants overall to be 40 or older.

**Table 4. Race and Hispanic origin of felony defendants, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties				
		Total	Black non-Hispanic	White non-Hispanic	Other non-Hispanic	Hispanic, any race
All offenses	42,551	100%	49%	24%	1%	26%
Violent offenses	11,110	100%	54%	21%	1%	23%
Murder	496	100	57	18	1	24
Rape	609	100	40	35	3	22
Robbery	3,632	100	65	11	1	23
Assault	5,280	100	50	24	1	24
Other violent	1,094	100	46	31	2	21
Property offenses	15,273	100%	46%	29%	2%	23%
Burglary	5,230	100	46	25	2	27
Theft	5,814	100	48	29	1	21
Other property	4,229	100	44	35	2	19
Drug offenses	12,775	100%	49%	19%	1%	31%
Sales/trafficking	6,887	100	47	17	1	36
Other drug	5,889	100	51	22	1	25
Public-order offenses	3,394	100%	45%	27%	1%	27%
Weapons	1,145	100	50	15	--	34
Driving-related	514	100	13	45	2	40
Other public-order	1,736	100	51	29	1	18

Note: Data on both race and Hispanic origin of defendants were available for 77% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.  
--Less than 0.5%.

**Table 5. Age at arrest of felony defendants, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties								Average age at arrest
		Total	Under 18	18-20	21-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 or older	
All offenses	54,242	100%	4%	17%	19%	20%	17%	12%	11%	29 yrs.
Violent offenses	14,231	100%	6%	18%	18%	20%	16%	11%	11%	28 yrs.
Murder	588	100	11	24	19	19	10	9	10	26
Rape	786	100	4	16	12	20	16	15	17	31
Robbery	4,616	100	10	21	19	22	15	8	4	25
Assault	6,817	100	4	17	18	19	15	12	15	29
Other violent	1,424	100	3	15	16	18	19	12	17	31
Property offenses	18,969	100%	4%	19%	18%	19%	17%	12%	11%	28 yrs.
Burglary	6,513	100	3	19	19	22	17	13	8	28
Theft	6,896	100	4	19	17	17	17	13	12	29
Other property	5,561	100	4	18	19	19	17	10	12	28
Drug offenses	16,485	100%	3%	15%	19%	22%	18%	12%	12%	29 yrs.
Sales/trafficking	8,993	100	2	17	21	22	17	11	10	28
Other drug	7,492	100	4	14	15	22	19	13	14	30
Public-order offenses	4,559	100%	2%	13%	22%	21%	19%	10%	14%	30 yrs.
Weapons	1,514	100	5	21	24	20	12	6	12	27
Driving-related	680	100	0	9	13	24	26	7	21	32
Other public-order	2,365	100	1	9	23	21	21	12	13	30

Note: Data on age of defendants were available for 98% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

About half of murder defendants, robbery defendants, and weapons defendants were under age 25, compared to 40% of defendants overall (figure 3). About a third of murder (35%) and robbery (31%) defendants were under age 21, compared to a fifth of defend-

ants overall. Murder (11%) and robbery (10%) defendants were also more likely to be under age 18 than other defendants.

A higher percentage of defendants under the age of 21 (91%) were male

than other age groups (table 6). A majority of the defendants in each age group were black, ranging from nearly three-fourths of those under age 18 to just over half of those age 40 or older.

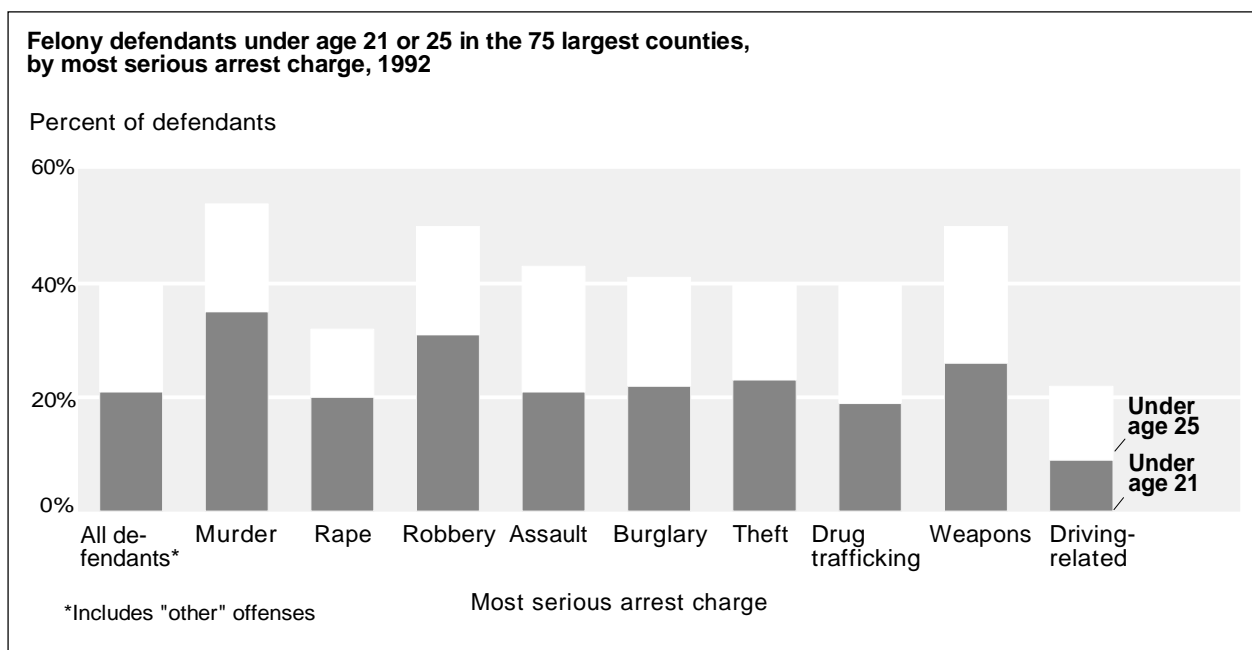


Figure 3

**Table 6. Sex and race of felony defendants, by age at arrest, 1992**

Age at arrest	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties											
		All defendants			Black			White			Other		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	48,835	100%	85%	15%	60%	51%	9%	39%	33%	6%	1%	1%	--
Under 18	1,823	100%	92%	8%	71%	65%	6%	27%	25%	2%	1%	1%	--
18-20	8,277	100	91	9	62	57	5	36	33	3	2	2	--
21-24	8,923	100	86	14	58	49	8	41	36	5	1	1	--
25-29	9,934	100	84	16	61	51	10	38	32	6	1	1	--
30-34	8,417	100	81	19	59	48	11	40	32	8	1	1	--
35-39	5,823	100	81	19	61	49	12	38	32	6	1	1	--
40 or older	5,639	100	83	17	55	46	9	44	36	8	1	1	--

Note: Data on age, sex, and race of defendants were available for 88% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. --Less than 0.5%.

Black males accounted for a majority of the defendants in the under 18 and 18-20 age categories (figure 4). They comprised approximately half of other age groups. White males comprised about a fourth of defendants under age 18 and about a third of older age groups. Black and white females each comprised relatively small percentages of the defendants in each age group.

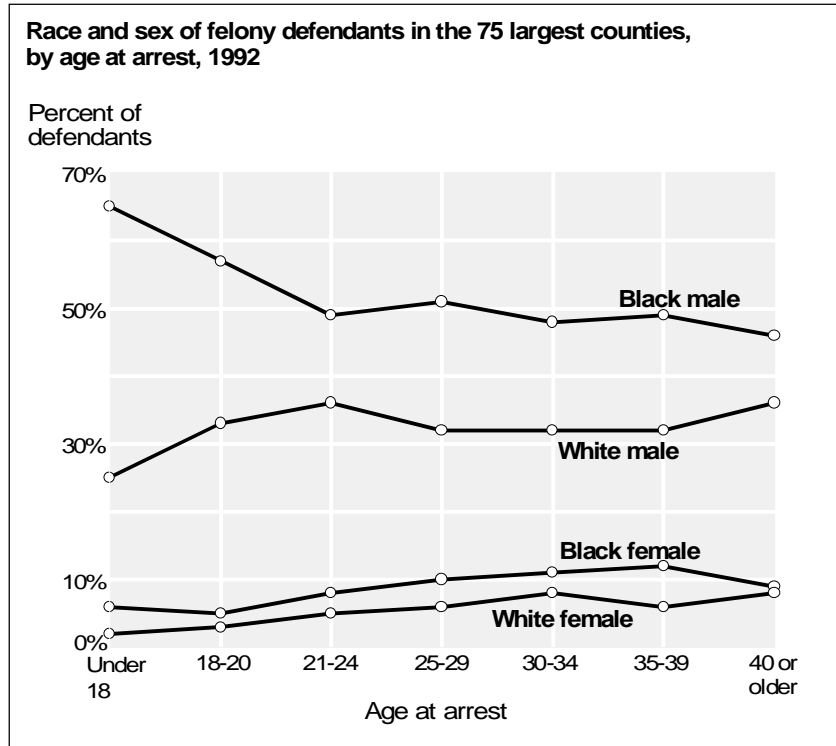


Figure 4

## Criminal history

### Criminal justice status at time of current offense

About 3 in 8 felony defendants had an active criminal justice status at the time of the offense that resulted in the current felony charges (table 7). Nearly half of defendants charged with robbery (47%) had an active criminal justice status at the time the charged offense occurred, as did more than a third of defendants charged with a weapons offense (42%), burglary (41%), drug trafficking (41%), or theft (40%).

When defendants' most serious criminal justice status is considered, nearly half of those with a criminal justice status were on probation at the time of the current charged offense. Overall, 17% of felony defendants were on probation, 12% were on pretrial release for a pending case, and 8% were on parole.

**Table 7. Criminal justice status of felony defendants at time of offense, by most serious current arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious current arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties						
		Without criminal justice status	With criminal justice status at time of offense					
		Total	Pro-bation	Pretrial release	Parole	In custody	Escapee	
All offenses	43,482	62%	38%	17%	12%	8%	1%	--
Violent offenses	10,949	64%	36%	15%	12%	8%	1%	--
Murder	492	62	38	19	8	11	0	0
Rape	638	73	27	12	10	4	1	0
Robbery	3,411	53	47	19	14	13	1	--
Assault	5,159	68	32	14	11	5	2	--
Other violent	1,249	72	28	11	11	6	--	0
Property offenses	15,623	61%	39%	19%	11%	8%	1%	--
Burglary	5,507	59	41	21	9	10	--	--
Theft	5,665	60	40	19	11	9	1	--
Other property	4,451	66	34	15	12	6	1	--
Drug offenses	13,184	63%	37%	16%	13%	8%	--	--
Sales/trafficking	7,000	59	41	16	15	9	--	--
Other drug	6,184	68	32	15	10	7	--	--
Public-order offenses	3,726	59%	41%	18%	10%	7%	3%	2%
Weapons	1,054	58	42	17	14	10	1	--
Driving-related	578	63	37	26	6	3	1	0
Other public-order	2,093	58	42	17	10	7	4	3

Note: Data on criminal justice status at time of offense were available for 79% of all cases. Nine percent of defendants with a criminal justice status had more than 1 type of status. For those cases, the status indicated is the most serious. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.  
--Less than 0.5%.

Allowing for defendants with multiple criminal justice statuses, those charged with robbery (13%) were more likely to have been on parole at the time of the current charged offense than those charged with assault, rape, or a driving-related felony (figure 5). The percentage of defendants on probation was about twice as high among those charged with a driving-related offense (26%) as among those charged with assault (14%) or rape (12%). The percentage of defendants on pretrial release ranged from 18% for those charged with robbery or drug trafficking to 8% for those charged with a driving-related offense.

### Prior arrests

Two-thirds of all defendants had at least one prior arrest for either a misdemeanor or a felony (table 8). The percentage of defendants with at least one prior arrest was fairly consistent across offense categories: 63% of defendants charged with a violent offense, 66% of property defendants, 68% of drug defendants, and 67% of public-order defendants.

Among defendants charged with a violent offense, those charged with robbery (70%) were the most likely to have a prior arrest record, and those charged with rape (53%) the least likely. Among defendants charged with a nonviolent offense, those charged with a driving-related offense (77%) or burglary (74%) were the most likely to have been arrested previously.

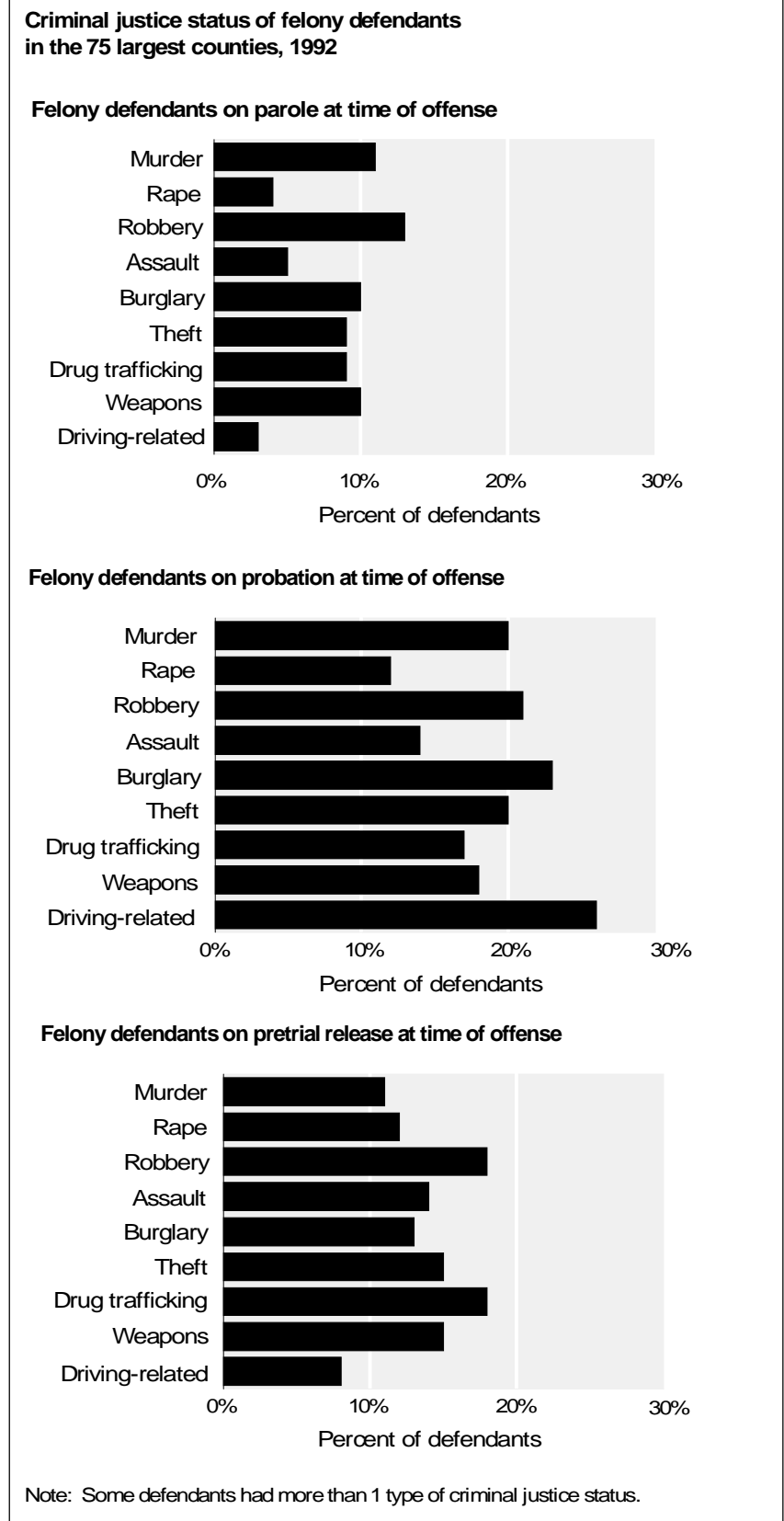


Figure 5

A majority (55%) of the defendants with an arrest record had at least five prior arrests. Overall, 36% of defendants had five or more prior arrests. Burglary (46%) and robbery (43%) defendants were the most likely to have five or more prior arrests. About a fifth (21%) of all defendants had 10 or more prior arrests, including 29% of burglary defendants and 26% of robbery defendants.

About three-fourths of the defendants under the age of 18 had no previous arrests (figure 6). This proportion dropped to about half among defendants ages 18 to 20, a third among those in the 21 to 24 age group, and about a fourth among those ages 25 to 49. Among defendants ages 25 to 49, a larger percentage had 5 or more prior arrests than had no prior arrests.

Among defendants with an arrest record, 5 in 6 had at least one previous

**Number of prior arrests of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties, by age at arrest, 1992**

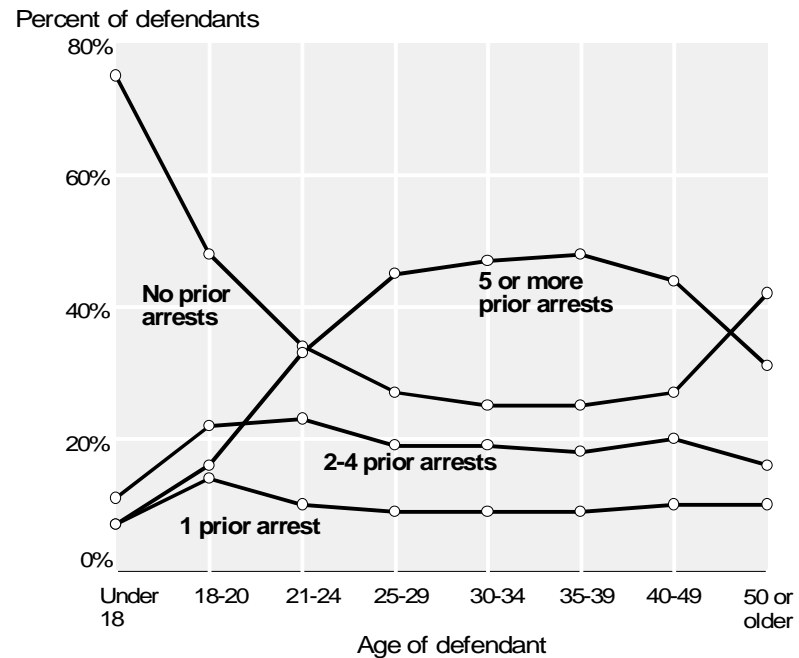


Figure 6

**Table 8. Number of prior arrest charges of felony defendants, by most serious current arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious current arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties						
		Total	Without prior arrest	With prior arrest				
				Total	1	2-4	5-9	10 or more
All offenses	48,837	100%	34%	66%	10%	20%	15%	21%
Violent offenses	12,598	100%	37%	63%	10%	18%	15%	21%
Murder	541	100	38	62	17	15	16	13
Rape	700	100	47	53	11	16	14	12
Robbery	4,334	100	30	70	8	18	17	26
Assault	5,631	100	40	60	10	18	13	19
Other violent	1,391	100	40	60	13	18	14	15
Property offenses	16,861	100%	34%	66%	10%	19%	15%	23%
Burglary	5,770	100	26	74	9	19	17	29
Theft	6,213	100	36	64	10	19	14	21
Other property	4,878	100	40	60	10	19	13	18
Drug offenses	15,226	100%	32%	68%	11%	22%	15%	21%
Sales/trafficking	8,153	100	31	69	9	22	15	22
Other drug	7,073	100	32	68	12	21	15	19
Public-order offenses	4,152	100%	33%	67%	10%	21%	17%	20%
Weapons	1,425	100	39	61	8	20	14	19
Driving-related	539	100	23	77	12	29	14	21
Other public-order	2,188	100	31	69	10	19	19	20

Note: Data on prior arrests were available for 88% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

arrest involving felony charges (table 9). Overall, 55% of all defendants had been previously arrested for a felony.

Among defendants charged with a violent offense, a majority of those facing charges for robbery (62%) or murder (56%) had a felony arrest record. Twenty-nine percent of robbery defendants had 5 or more prior felony arrests, and 14% had at least 10. Twenty percent of murder and assault defendants had five or more prior felony arrests.

Among property defendants, those charged with burglary (64%) were the most likely to have a felony arrest record. Thirty percent of burglary defendants had at least 5 prior felony arrests, and 14% had 10 or more. Among theft defendants, 23% had at least 5 prior felony arrests, and 11%, 10 or more such arrests.

A majority of drug trafficking defendants (58%) and those charged with other drug offenses (56%) had at least one prior felony arrest. Drug defendants charged with trafficking (23%)

were slightly more likely to have five or more prior felony arrests than were other drug defendants (19%).

Among public-order defendants, those facing weapons charges (53%) were more likely to have a felony arrest record than those facing charges for a driving-related felony (44%), but less likely than those charged with some other type of public-order offense (60%). About 21% of weapons defendants had 5 or more prior felony arrests, including 11% with 10 or more.

**Table 9. Number of prior felony arrest charges of felony defendants, by most serious current arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious current arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties								
		Without prior felony arrest				With prior felony arrest				
		Total	Total	Non-felony arrests only	No prior arrests	Total	Number of prior felony charges			
						1	2-4	5-9	10 or more	
All offenses	49,228	100%	45%	11%	34%	55%	13%	20%	13%	10%
Violent offenses	12,681	100%	47%	10%	37%	53%	11%	20%	13%	10%
Murder	541	100	44	6	38	56	19	17	15	5
Rape	708	100	57	10	47	43	12	18	9	4
Robbery	4,362	100	38	8	30	62	11	22	15	14
Assault	5,666	100	51	11	40	49	11	18	12	8
Other violent	1,403	100	56	16	40	44	10	20	8	7
Property offenses	17,024	100%	45%	11%	34%	55%	12%	19%	13%	11%
Burglary	5,814	100	36	10	26	64	11	23	16	14
Theft	6,284	100	47	11	36	53	13	16	12	11
Other property	4,926	100	52	12	40	48	13	18	10	8
Drug offenses	15,318	100%	43%	11%	32%	57%	14%	22%	13%	8%
Sales/trafficking	8,197	100	42	11	31	58	13	22	14	9
Other drug	7,121	100	44	12	32	56	15	22	12	7
Public-order offenses	4,206	100%	44%	11%	33%	56%	13%	19%	14%	9%
Weapons	1,433	100	47	8	39	53	13	20	10	11
Driving-related	550	100	56	33	23	44	14	14	12	4
Other public-order	2,222	100	40	9	31	60	14	19	18	9

Note: Data on prior felony arrests were available for 89% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.



## Prior convictions

Fifty-five percent of felony defendants were known to have at least one prior conviction for a misdemeanor or a felony (table 10). Among defendants charged with a violent offense, robbery defendants (58%) were the most likely to have been convicted previously. Twenty-one percent of robbery defendants had at least five prior convictions. Half of assault defendants had at least one prior conviction, and 18% had five or more. Slightly less than half of murder (47%) and rape (44%) defendants

had been previously convicted. About 1 in 7 murder defendants had five or more prior convictions, as did 1 in 10 rape defendants.

Overall, 57% of property defendants had been convicted previously, including 65% of burglary defendants. About a fourth (27%) of burglary defendants had five or more prior convictions. A majority (56%) of theft defendants also had a conviction record, including 23% with at least 5 prior convictions. Slightly more than half (56%) of drug de-

fendants had a prior conviction, and 18% had five or more.

Defendants charged with a driving-related offense (74%) were the most likely of all defendants to have a prior conviction and, along with burglary defendants, were the most likely to have five or more (28%). About half of weapons defendants had been previously convicted, with 13% having at least five convictions. Overall, 59% of public-order defendants had a conviction record, and 19% had five or more prior convictions.

**Table 10. Number of prior convictions of felony defendants, by most serious current arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious current arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties						
		Total	Without prior conviction	With prior conviction				
				Total	Number of prior convictions			
					1	2-4	5-9	10 or more
All offenses	49,360	100%	45%	55%	15%	21%	12%	7%
<b>Violent offenses</b>	13,137	100%	48%	52%	13%	21%	11%	7%
Murder	545	100	53	47	16	17	12	2
Rape	720	100	56	44	13	21	9	--
Robbery	4,395	100	42	58	12	25	13	8
Assault	6,115	100	50	50	13	20	11	7
Other violent	1,362	100	56	44	12	18	8	6
<b>Property offenses</b>	16,991	100%	43%	57%	14%	20%	14%	9%
Burglary	5,855	100	35	65	14	24	17	10
Theft	6,159	100	44	56	14	18	13	10
Other property	4,976	100	51	49	15	18	11	6
<b>Drug offenses</b>	15,053	100%	44%	56%	16%	21%	12%	6%
Sales/trafficking	8,289	100	44	56	17	21	12	6
Other drug	6,764	100	45	55	16	22	11	6
<b>Public-order offenses</b>	4,180	100%	41%	59%	17%	23%	13%	6%
Weapons	1,407	100	49	51	17	21	9	4
Driving-related	597	100	26	74	14	32	22	6
Other public-order	2,177	100	41	59	17	21	14	7

Note: Data on number of prior convictions were available for 89% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. --Less than 0.5%.

**Table 11. Number of prior felony convictions of felony defendants, by most serious current arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious current arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties								
		Total	Without prior felony conviction			With prior felony conviction				
			Total	Non-felony only	No prior convictions	Total	Number of prior felony convictions			
						1	2-4	5-9	10 or more	
All offenses	49,923	100%	62%	17%	45%	38%	15%	17%	5%	1%
Violent offenses	13,229	100%	64%	16%	48%	36%	14%	16%	5%	1%
Murder	552	100	65	12	53	35	15	14	5	0
Rape	725	100	74	18	56	26	13	12	1	0
Robbery	4,434	100	57	15	42	43	15	21	5	2
Assault	6,146	100	67	17	50	33	14	13	5	1
Other violent	1,372	100	72	16	56	28	13	10	4	1
Property offenses	17,223	100%	60%	17%	43%	40%	15%	18%	6%	2%
Burglary	5,926	100	53	18	35	47	16	23	7	2
Theft	6,251	100	61	17	44	39	14	17	7	2
Other property	5,047	100	68	17	51	32	14	13	3	1
Drug offenses	15,241	100%	62%	18%	44%	38%	17%	16%	4%	1%
Sales/trafficking	8,333	100	61	17	44	39	18	16	5	1
Other drug	6,910	100	64	19	45	36	16	16	4	1
Public-order offenses	4,229	100%	62%	21%	41%	38%	16%	17%	5%	--
Weapons	1,418	100	66	17	49	34	16	15	3	0
Driving-related	604	100	65	39	26	35	15	15	4	1
Other public-order	2,207	100	59	18	41	41	17	19	5	0

Note: Data on number of prior felony convictions were available for 90% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. --Less than 0.5%.

About 38% of all defendants, including two-thirds of those with a conviction record, had at least one prior felony conviction (table 11). By the most serious current arrest charge, burglary (47%) and robbery (43%) defendants were the most likely to have a prior felony conviction, and rape defendants (26%) the least likely.

Thirty-nine percent of theft defendants and drug trafficking defendants had a felony conviction record, as did about a third of defendants charged with murder, a driving-related offense, a weapons offense, or assault.

Although 74% of defendants facing driving-related charges had a conviction record, only about half of these defendants, 35% of all defendants facing a driving-related charge, had a prior felony conviction.

About a fourth (23%) of all defendants had multiple prior felony convictions, with burglary defendants (32%) the most likely to have more than one prior felony conviction and rape defendants (13%) the least likely. Six percent of all defendants had 5 or more prior felony convictions, and 1% had 10 or more.

About a third of the defendants with a prior felony conviction, 13% of defendants overall, had been previously convicted of a violent felony (table 12).

Compared to the overall average, a slightly higher percentage of defendants whose most serious current arrest charge was for a violent offense (18%)

had a prior violent felony conviction, while a slightly lower percentage of drug defendants (9%) had a prior conviction for a violent felony.

**Table 12. Most serious prior conviction of felony defendants, by most serious current arrest charge, 1992**

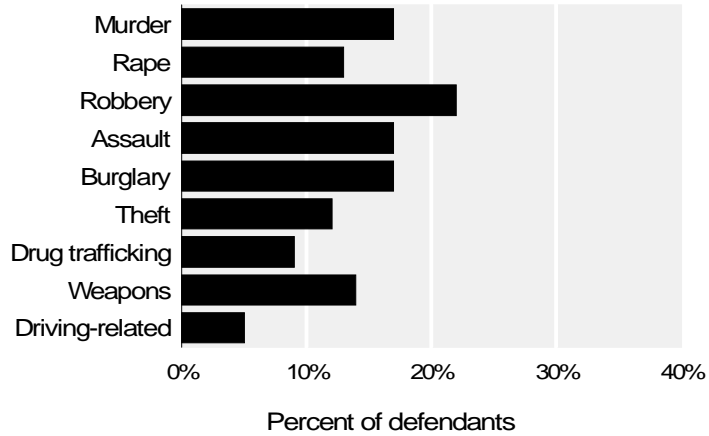
Most serious current arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties						
		Total	Without prior conviction	Most serious prior conviction				Misdemeanor
				Total	Felony			
				Total	Violent	Nonviolent		
All offenses	49,856	100%	44%	56%	38%	13%	25%	18%
Violent offenses	13,214	100%	48%	52%	36%	18%	18%	16%
Murder	549	100	53	47	35	17	19	12
Rape	725	100	56	44	26	13	13	18
Robbery	4,423	100	41	59	43	22	22	15
Assault	6,146	100	49	51	33	17	17	17
Other violent	1,373	100	56	44	28	14	14	16
Property offenses	17,217	100%	43%	57%	40%	13%	27%	17%
Burglary	5,910	100	35	65	47	17	31	17
Theft	6,264	100	44	56	39	12	27	17
Other property	5,042	100	50	50	32	9	22	18
Drug offenses	15,190	100%	44%	56%	38%	9%	29%	18%
Sales/trafficking	8,316	100	44	56	39	9	30	17
Other drug	6,875	100	45	56	36	9	27	19
Public-order offenses	4,235	100%	41%	59%	38%	13%	24%	21%
Weapons	1,415	100	49	52	34	14	20	17
Driving-related	601	100	26	74	35	5	30	40
Other public-order	2,220	100	40	60	41	15	26	19

Note: Data on most serious prior conviction were available for 90% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

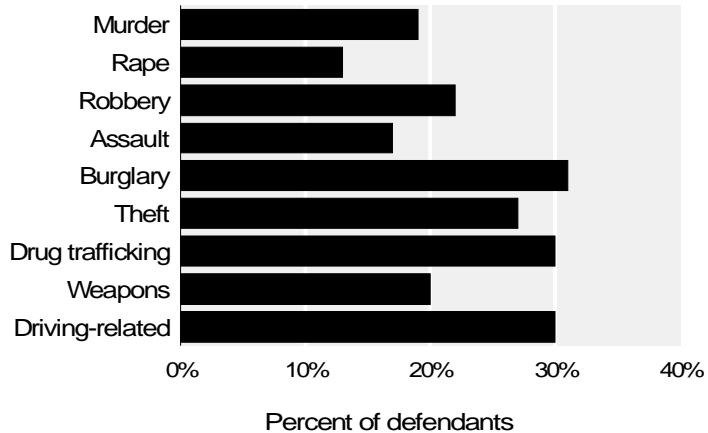
By specific arrest charge, the percentage of defendants previously convicted of a violent felony ranged from 22% for those charged with robbery to 5% among those facing driving-related charges (figure 7). The most serious prior conviction was more likely to be a nonviolent felony for defendants charged with burglary (31%), drug trafficking (30%), or theft (27%) than for other defendants. Although the most serious conviction was a non-violent felony for 30% of defendants facing driving-related charges, the most serious prior conviction for such defendants was most likely to be for a misdemeanor (40%).

**Most serious prior conviction of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties, 1992**

**Violent felony**



**Nonviolent felony**



**Misdemeanor**

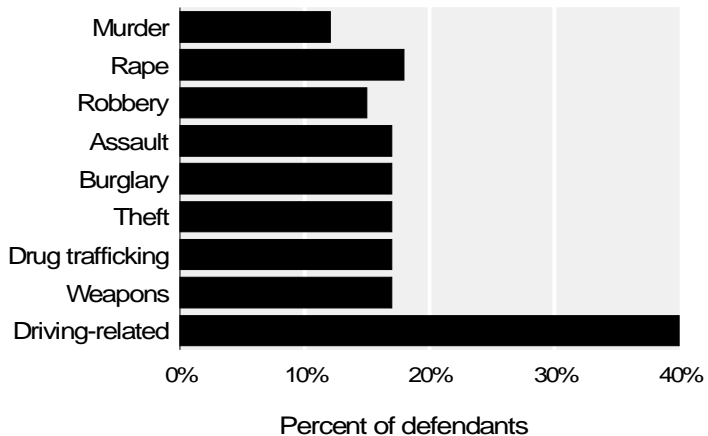


Figure 7

A majority of defendants in the 21 to 49 age range had a prior conviction, including two-thirds of those ages 30 to 39 (figure 8). Nearly half of defendants in the 25 to 39 age range had a prior felony conviction, and nearly a third in that age range had two or more. The proportion of defendants with a prior conviction for a violent felony was also highest in the middle categories, with about a sixth of those ages 25 to 49 having at least one.

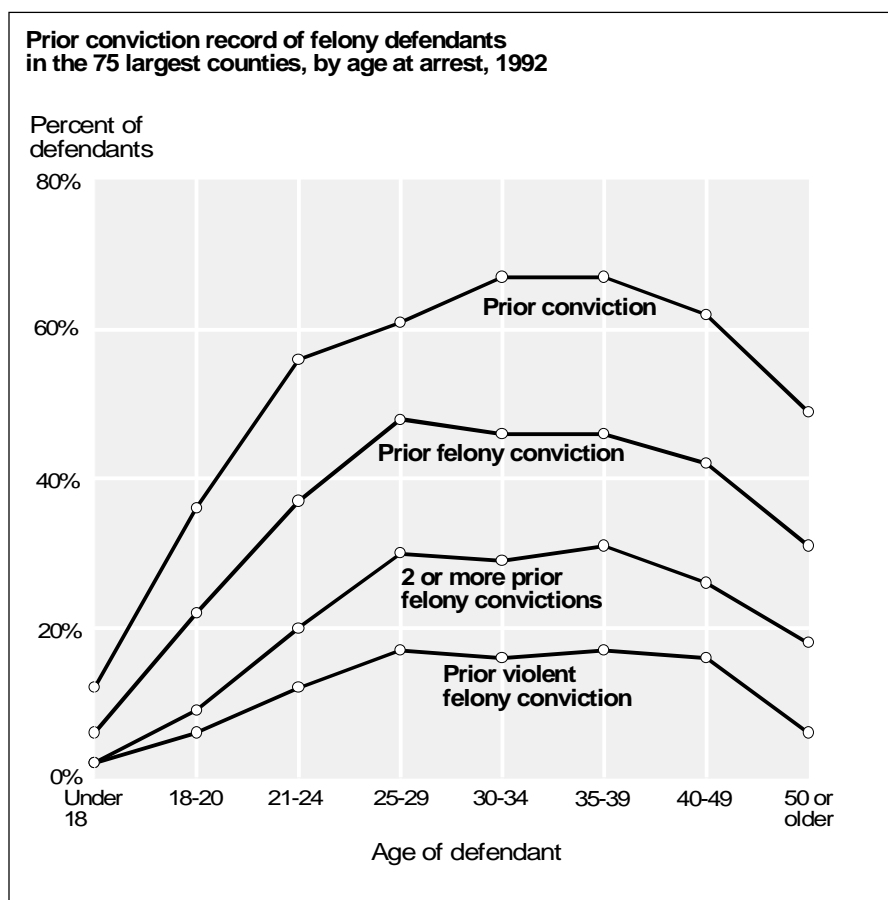


Figure 8

## Pretrial release and detention

**Table 13. Felony defendants released before or detained until case disposition, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties					
		Total	Detained until case disposition	Released before case disposition			
				Total released	Financial release	Nonfinancial release	Emergency release
All offenses	51,002	100%	37%	63%	25%	37%	2%
Violent offenses	13,638	100%	42%	58%	25%	33%	--
Murder	570	100	76	24	13	10	0
Rape	724	100	52	48	24	22	2
Robbery	4,467	100	50	50	21	29	--
Assault	6,509	100	32	68	29	39	--
Other violent	1,368	100	41	59	27	32	--
Property offenses	17,647	100%	37%	63%	21%	40%	2%
Burglary	6,176	100	49	51	16	34	1
Theft	6,434	100	33	67	21	42	4
Other property	5,037	100	29	71	26	43	2
Drug offenses	15,469	100%	32%	68%	27%	39%	2%
Sales/trafficking	8,517	100	34	66	29	36	1
Other drug	6,952	100	29	71	26	42	3
Public-order offenses	4,248	100%	35%	65%	33%	30%	1%
Weapons	1,437	100	29	71	42	28	1
Driving-related	645	100	27	73	42	31	0
Other public-order	2,167	100	42	58	25	31	1

Note: Data on detention/release outcome were available for 92% of all cases. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.  
--Less than 0.5%.

### Rates of release and detention

An estimated 63% of all defendants were released prior to the final disposition of their case (table 13). (See *Methodology* for definitions related to pretrial release.) Release rates varied slightly by general offense category, from 58% for defendants charged with a violent offense to 68% for drug defendants. Property (63%) and public-order (65%) defendants had release rates closest to the overall average.

Release rates varied more by specific offense charge. Within the violent offense category, about a fourth of murder defendants (24%) were released pretrial, compared to about half of rape (48%) and robbery (50%) defendants and about two-thirds of defendants facing assault charges (68%). Among drug defendants, those charged with drug trafficking (66%)

were slightly less likely to be released than those charged with other drug offenses (71%).

Among property defendants, those charged with theft (67%) were more likely to be released than those charged with burglary (51%). Public-order defendants charged with a weapons offense (71%) or a driving-related offense (73%) were more likely to be released than other public-order defendants (58%).

About 3 in 8 felony defendants were released under nonfinancial conditions that did not require the posting of bail. Types of release included under this category are release on personal recognizance (24% of all defendants and 38% of released defendants), conditional release (8% and 13% respectively), and release on unsecured bond (4% and 6%) (figure 9).

Another fourth secured release through financial terms that involved the posting of a financial bond in the form of money or property. Types of financial release included surety bond (13% of all defendants and 21% of released defendants), full cash bond (6% and 9% respectively), deposit bond (5% and 8%), and property bond (1% and 2%).

About 2% of defendants (3% of released defendants) were released prior to case disposition as the result of an emergency release used to relieve jail crowding. These releases did not involve the use of any of the financial or nonfinancial types of release mentioned above.

The remaining 37% of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties were detained in jail until the court disposed of their cases. Most pretrial detainees (83%) had a bail amount set but did not post the money required to secure release. The remainder, representing 17% of detained defendants and 6% of all defendants, were ordered held without bail. The percentage of defendants held without bail was considerably higher among those charged with murder (40%) than among other defendants (figure 10). Roughly half of detained murder defendants were denied bail, and about half were held on bail. The vast majority of other detained defendants were held on bail.

Court decisions about bail and pretrial release are primarily based on the judgment of whether a defendant will be in court as scheduled and whether there is potential danger to the community from crimes that a defendant may commit if released. Many States have established specific criteria to be considered by the courts when setting bail. Examples of such criteria are personal character and mental condition, employment and financial resources, family and community ties, offense seriousness, criminal justice status, prior criminal record, and prior court appearance record.

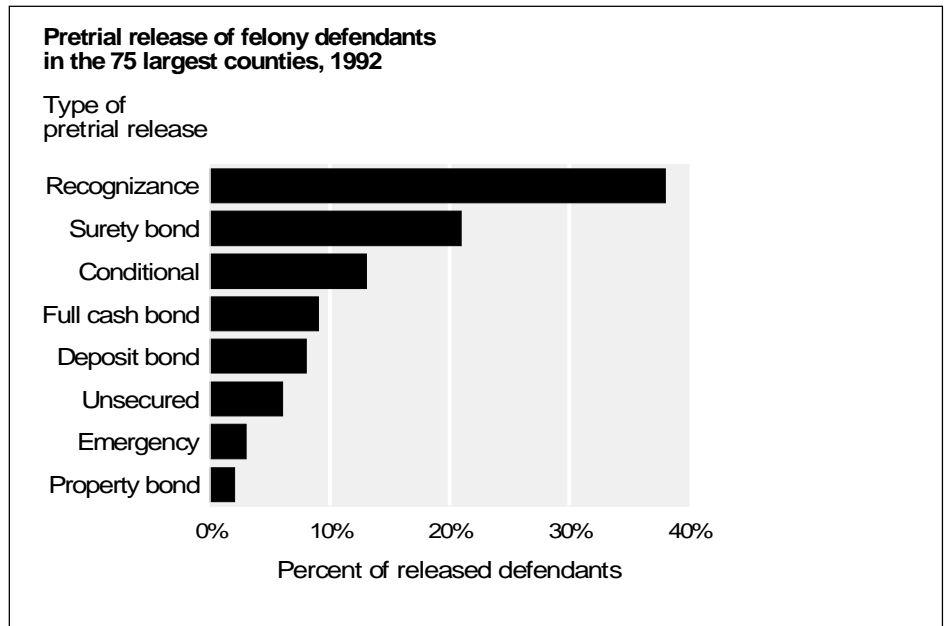


Figure 9

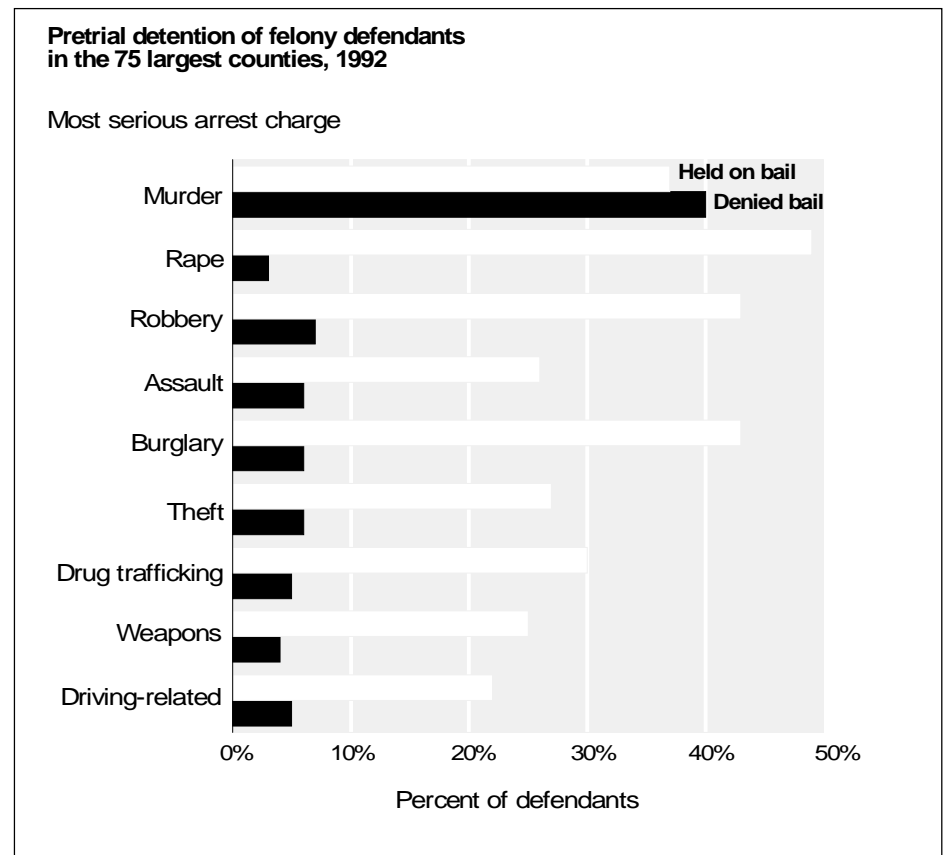


Figure 10

The NPRP data illustrate how pretrial release rates vary with factors such as prior criminal record, criminal justice status, and court appearance history. For example, just half of the NPRP defendants with a criminal justice status at the time of the alleged offense were released, compared to nearly three-fourths of the defendants without such a status (table 14). A slight majority (56%) of defendants already on pretrial release were released again, while less than half of the defendants on parole (32%) or probation (44%) at the time of the current charged offense were released pretrial.

Defendants with no prior arrests (81%) were much more likely to be released than those who had been previously arrested (55%). Among those defendants who had an arrest record, those who had never missed a court appearance (57%) had a slightly higher probability of pretrial release than those who had failed to appear at least once during a previous case (51%).

Seventy-nine percent of defendants without a prior conviction were released, compared to 61% of those with a single prior conviction, 50% of those with two to four prior convictions, and 43% of those with five or more. Slightly less than half of defendants with a felony conviction record were released, compared to nearly two-thirds of those whose prior conviction record included only misdemeanors.

Without controlling for their relation to legally relevant factors, release rates did vary somewhat by the demographic characteristics of sex, race, and age. For example, 3 in 4 female defendants were released, compared to about 3 in 5 male defendants.

Also, defendants under age 21 (71%) were more likely to be released than other defendants, and white defendants (67%) had a slightly higher release rate than other defendants (63%). When Hispanic origin was

considered (see *Methodology*), black non-Hispanic defendants (63%) had a higher release rate than Hispanic defendants (55%), but a lower release rate than white non-Hispanic defendants (73%).

**Table 14. Percent of felony defendants who were released prior to case disposition, by selected characteristics, 1992**

Characteristic	Felony defendants in the 75 largest counties	
	Number	Percent released
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	43,708	61%
Female	7,209	75
<b>Race</b>		
Black	27,458	63%
White	17,831	67
Other	588	62
<b>Race and Hispanic origin*</b>		
Black, non-Hispanic	19,669	63%
White, non-Hispanic	9,525	73
Other, non-Hispanic	579	63
Hispanic, any race	10,316	55
<b>Age at arrest</b>		
Under 21	10,708	71%
21-34	28,175	60
35 or older	11,564	62
<b>Criminal justice status</b>		
On parole	2,957	32%
On probation	6,081	44
On pretrial release	4,804	56
None	25,228	72
<b>Court appearance history</b>		
Failed to appear	11,378	51%
Made all appearances	14,576	57
No prior arrests	15,116	81
<b>Number of prior convictions</b>		
5 or more	9,191	43%
2-4	9,630	50
1	6,849	61
None	20,293	79
<b>Most serious prior conviction</b>		
Any type of felony	17,909	45%
Violent felony	6,293	43
Nonviolent felony	11,616	46
Misdemeanor	8,221	63

\*See *Methodology*.



## Bail amounts

Among cases in which a bail amount was set, the median bail amount set for defendants charged with a violent offense (\$10,000) was about twice that for other defendants (table 15). The mean bail amount was greater for defendants charged with a violent offense (\$31,800) or drug offense (\$37,500) than for public-order (\$12,900) or property (\$12,400) defendants.

By specific arrest charge, murder defendants had the highest median (\$75,000) and mean (\$164,600) bail amounts. Rape and robbery defendants also had mean and median bail amounts that exceeded the overall averages. Defendants charged with

rape had a median bail amount of \$23,500 and a mean bail amount of \$43,800. The mean bail amount for robbery defendants was \$32,400, while the median was \$10,000.

Although the median bail amount set for drug-trafficking defendants (\$5,000) was the same as the overall median, the mean bail amount for those charged with drug trafficking (\$55,300) was higher than for any other offense except murder.

Defendants who had a bail amount set and were able to secure pretrial release had lower median (\$3,500) and mean (\$7,800) bail amounts than detained defendants (a median of \$10,000 and a mean of \$39,800).

Among released defendants, the highest median bail amounts set were for those charged with murder (\$10,000) or rape (\$10,000), while the highest mean bail amounts were for defendants charged with murder (\$29,700), robbery (\$22,600), or rape (\$16,500).

Among detained defendants, the highest median bail amount was for murder defendants (\$100,000), followed by defendants charged with rape (\$25,000) or robbery (\$20,000). The highest mean bail amounts among detained defendants were found among those charged with murder (\$213,400), drug trafficking (\$102,100), or rape (\$57,000).

**Table 15. Median and mean bail amounts set for felony defendants, by pretrial detention/release outcome and most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Felony defendants in the 75 largest counties					
	Median bail amount			Mean bail amount		
	Total	Released	Detained	Total	Released	Detained
All offenses	\$5,000	\$3,500	\$10,000	\$25,400	\$7,800	\$39,800
Violent offenses	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$17,000	\$31,800	\$12,500	\$46,100
Murder	75,000	10,000	100,000	164,600	29,700	213,400
Rape	23,500	10,000	25,000	43,800	16,500	57,000
Robbery	10,000	5,000	20,000	32,400	22,600	37,200
Assault	5,000	5,000	10,000	20,700	7,400	35,600
Other violent	10,000	5,000	20,000	23,900	7,800	37,000
Property offenses	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$7,500	\$12,400	\$4,900	\$17,200
Burglary	5,000	5,000	10,000	14,700	6,600	17,700
Theft	4,000	2,000	5,000	8,800	3,900	12,700
Other property	4,000	2,500	5,000	13,300	4,700	22,800
Drug offenses	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$37,500	\$7,400	\$68,800
Sales/trafficking	5,000	5,000	10,000	55,300	8,100	102,100
Other drug	5,000	4,300	5,000	11,100	6,400	16,500
Public-order offenses	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$10,000	\$12,900	\$5,000	\$22,100
Weapons	3,000	2,000	10,000	10,500	4,300	20,900
Driving-related	2,000	2,000	4,000	7,200	4,200	13,200
Other public-order	5,000	2,500	15,000	16,600	6,200	24,400

Note: Data on bail amount were available for 99% of all defendants for whom a bail amount was set. Bail amounts have been rounded to the nearest hundred dollars. Table excludes defendants given nonfinancial release.

### Time from arrest to release

Overall, about half of all released defendants were released within 1 day of their arrest, and about three-fourths were released within 1 week (table 16). Generally, it took defendants released under financial terms longer to secure their release than those who were released under nonfinancial conditions. Among defendants who were released under financial conditions, the amount of time from arrest to pretrial release tended to increase as the bail amount did. (See *Pretrial Release of Felony Defendants, 1992*, BJS Bulletin, NCJ-148818, November 1994.)

By general offense category, defendants charged with violent offenses (46%) were less likely than other defendants to be released within 1 day of arrest. Released murder defendants (20%) were the least likely to have been released within a day of their arrest, followed by robbery

defendants (35%). Defendants released after being charged with a property offense other than burglary (62%) or with a driving-related offense (60%) were the most likely to have been released within 1 day of arrest.

Overall, 91% of pretrial releases occurred within 1 month of arrest; however, just 60% of released murder defendants were released within this time. The percentage of pretrial releases occurring within a month was 83% or more for all other offenses.

**Table 16. Time from arrest to release for felony defendants released before case disposition, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Released felony defendants in the 75 largest counties			
	Number of defendants	Percent who were released within		
		1 day	1 week	1 month
All offenses	32,551	52%	77%	91%
Violent offenses	7,873	46%	72%	87%
Murder	139	20	42	60
Rape	381	49	74	88
Robbery	2,138	35	67	83
Assault	4,418	52	76	89
Other violent	798	42	64	85
Property offenses	11,104	56%	79%	94%
Burglary	3,113	43	70	92
Theft	4,402	62	84	95
Other property	3,588	61	80	93
Drug offenses	10,740	51%	79%	93%
Sales/trafficking	5,671	51	79	91
Other drug	5,068	52	81	94
Public-order offenses	2,834	53%	75%	90%
Weapons	1,028	49	76	92
Driving-related	482	60	77	87
Other public-order	1,324	54	75	91

Note: Data on time from arrest to pretrial release were available for 98% of all cases involving a defendant who was released prior to case disposition. Release data were collected for 1 year. Defendants released after the end of the 1-year study period are excluded from the table.

## Conduct of released defendants

Among felony defendants who were released prior to case disposition, 75% made all scheduled court appearances, and bench warrants for failing to appear in court were issued for the remaining 25% (table 17). A higher percentage of released property

defendants (29%) and drug defendants (27%) failed to appear in court than defendants charged with violent (17%) or public-order (18%) offenses. Within the violent offense category, released robbery defendants (26%) were about twice as likely to miss a scheduled court appearance as other released defendants.

A third of the defendants who failed to appear in court, 8% of all defendants, were still fugitives at the end of the 1-year NPRP study. The other two-thirds were returned to the court (in some cases voluntarily) before the end of the study.

**Table 17. Released felony defendants who failed to make a scheduled court appearance, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of released felony defendants in the 75 largest counties who				
		Total	Made all court appearances	Failed to appear in court		
				Total	Returned to court	Remained a fugitive
All offenses	33,484	100%	75%	25%	17%	8%
Violent offenses	8,159	100%	83%	17%	11%	6%
Murder	139	100	92	8	8	0
Rape	389	100	89	11	7	4
Robbery	2,306	100	74	26	18	8
Assault	4,497	100	86	14	9	5
Other violent	828	100	88	12	8	4
Property offenses	11,449	100%	71%	29%	20%	10%
Burglary	3,261	100	70	30	20	10
Theft	4,474	100	68	32	21	11
Other property	3,713	100	74	26	19	8
Drug offenses	10,958	100%	73%	27%	19%	8%
Sales/trafficking	5,838	100	71	29	18	10
Other drug	5,120	100	74	26	20	6
Public-order offenses	2,918	100%	82%	18%	13%	6%
Weapons	1,056	100	84	16	12	4
Driving-related	490	100	78	22	17	5
Other public-order	1,373	100	81	19	12	7

Note: Data on the court appearance record for the current case were available for 99% of cases involving a defendant released prior to case disposition. All defendants who failed to appear in court and were not returned to the court during the 1-year study period are counted as fugitives. Some of these defendants may have been returned to the court at a later date.

Overall, 14% of released defendants were rearrested for a new offense allegedly committed while they awaited case disposition (table 18). About three-fourths of rearrested defendants were charged with a new felony, and a majority (60%) of these new felony arrests were for the same type of offense as the one that preceded the pretrial release.

By original arrest offense category, released public-order defendants had a slightly lower rearrest rate (9%) than other released defendants. By specific original arrest offense, pretrial rearrest rates were considerably higher for robbery defendants (20%) and drug trafficking defendants (19%) than for murder defendants (3%) and defendants awaiting disposition of a driving-related charge (5%).

**Table 18. Released felony defendants who were rearrested prior to case disposition, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of released felony defendants in the 75 largest counties				
		Total	Not rearrested	Total	Rearrested	
					Felony	Misdemeanor
All offenses	30,051	100%	86%	14%	10%	3%
Violent offenses	6,991	100%	88%	12%	8%	3%
Murder	125	100	97	3	3	0
Rape	356	100	91	9	7	3
Robbery	2,141	100	80	20	16	5
Assault	3,579	100	91	9	6	3
Other violent	791	100	96	4	1	3
Property offenses	10,147	100%	86%	14%	11%	4%
Burglary	2,865	100	84	16	13	3
Theft	3,987	100	85	15	11	4
Other property	3,295	100	87	13	9	3
Drug offenses	10,146	100%	84%	16%	13%	4%
Sales/trafficking	5,229	100	81	19	16	4
Other drug	4,918	100	87	13	9	3
Public-order offenses	2,765	100%	91%	9%	6%	2%
Weapons	1,032	100	89	11	9	2
Driving-related	464	100	95	5	4	1
Other public-order	1,269	100	92	8	5	3

Note: Rearrest data were available for 94% of cases involving a defendant released prior to case disposition. Rearrest data were collected for 1 year. Rearrests occurring after the end of this 1-year study period are not included in the table. Information on rearrests occurring in jurisdictions other than the one granting the pretrial release was not always available. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

Overall, 1 in 3 released felony defendants were charged with some type of misconduct prior to case disposition (table 19). This may have been in the form of a failure to appear in court, a new arrest, or some other violation that resulted in revocation of a defendant's pretrial release by the court. In some instances, a defendant committed more than one type of misconduct. The 33% misconduct rate was similar to that found in two previous NPRP studies based on filings in 1988 (35%) and 1990 (34%).

About 3 in 8 released drug and property defendants were charged with some type of pretrial misconduct, as were 2 in 8 defendants released pending disposition on violent or public-order charges. By specific arrest charge, more than a third of the released defendants facing charges for drug trafficking (40%), robbery (38%), burglary (38%), or theft (37%) allegedly committed some type of pretrial misconduct (figure 11). The lowest pretrial misconduct rates were found among defendants charged with murder (11%).

**Table 19. Released felony defendants charged with misconduct, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

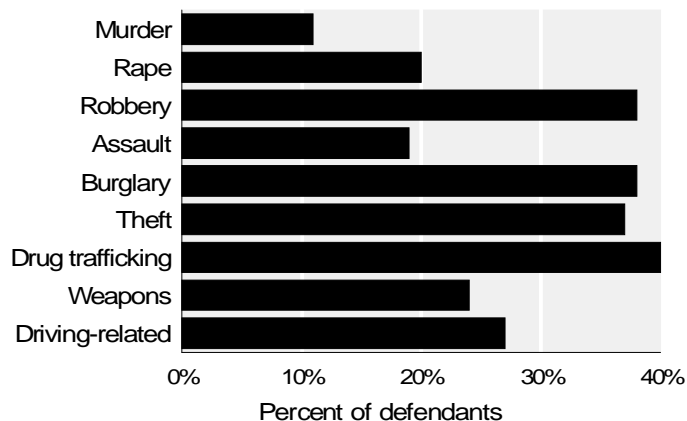
Most serious arrest charge	Released felony defendants in the 75 largest counties	
	Number	Percent charged with misconduct
All offenses	33,857	33%
Violent offenses	8,271	24%
Murder	139	11
Rape	389	20
Robbery	2,329	38
Assault	4,581	19
Other violent	833	17
Property offenses	11,598	36%
Burglary	3,310	38
Theft	4,501	37
Other property	3,787	33
Drug offenses	11,055	37%
Sales/trafficking	5,876	40
Other drug	5,179	34
Public-order offenses	2,933	25%
Weapons	1,056	24
Driving-related	494	27
Other public-order	1,384	26

Note: Misconduct may have been a new charged offense, failure to appear in court, or a technical violation of release conditions that resulted in the revocation of a defendant's pretrial release. Data were collected for up to 1 year.

**Misconduct by released felony defendants in the 75 largest counties, 1992**

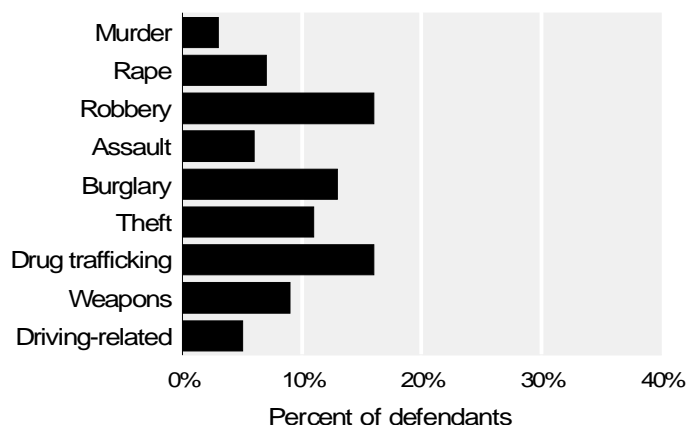
**Charged with any type of misconduct while on pretrial release**

Most serious arrest charge



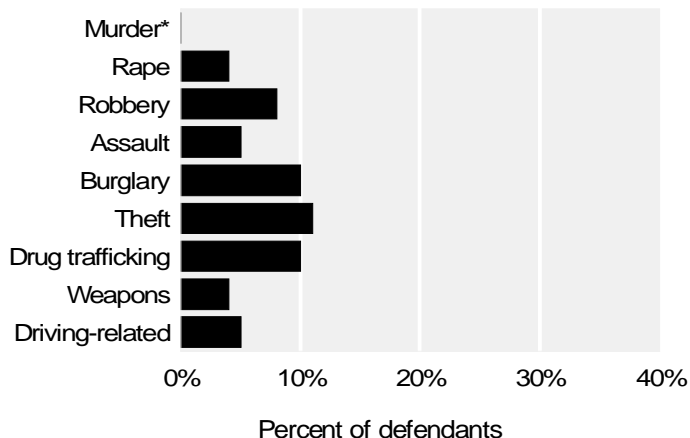
**Rearrested for a new felony while on pretrial release**

Most serious arrest charge



**Failed to appear in court and remained a fugitive after 1 year**

Most serious arrest charge



\*No murder defendant remained a fugitive after 1 year.

Figure 11

# Adjudication

## Time from arrest to adjudication

For half of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties, adjudication of their case occurred within 83 days of arrest (table 20), and 90% of all cases had been adjudicated by the end of the 1-year NPRP study period. The median elapsed time from arrest to adjudication was considerably longer for murder defendants (267 days) than for defendants charged with other offenses; the next longest medians were for robbery (112 days) and rape (105 days). Approximately 29% of murder defendants were still awaiting adjudication of their case after 1 year, compared to a maximum of 13% in any other offense category.

Generally, adjudication of their case occurred more quickly for detained felony defendants than for those released pending case disposition (figure 12). The median time from arrest to adjudication was more than a month longer for released defendants than for detained defendants in each offense category. The largest difference was among drug trafficking defendants: a median of 144 days from arrest to adjudication for those released, compared to 41 days for those detained.

For detained defendants overall, the median time from arrest to adjudication ranged from about 40 days for those charged with burglary, theft, drug trafficking, or a driving-related offense to 267 days for murder defendants. Among released defendants, the median time ranged from 98 days for defendants charged with a weapons offense to 316 days for murder defendants.

**Table 20. Time from arrest to adjudication for felony defendants, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Median number of days	Felony defendants in the 75 largest counties				
			Percent of cases adjudicated within				
			1 week	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year
All offenses	54,272	83 days	6%	24%	53%	74%	90%
Violent offenses	14,323	104 days	4%	19%	46%	70%	88%
Murder	584	267	1	6	14	37	71
Rape	771	105	1	16	45	71	90
Robbery	4,658	112	4	19	43	70	89
Assault	6,837	94	4	21	50	73	88
Other violent	1,475	93	3	22	50	72	89
Property offenses	18,911	75 days	5%	25%	57%	77%	90%
Burglary	6,529	67	5	28	60	79	92
Theft	6,861	79	4	24	55	75	89
Other property	5,522	78	6	22	56	76	90
Drug offenses	16,460	79 days	7%	25%	54%	73%	90%
Sales/trafficking	8,971	97	7	24	49	68	87
Other drug	7,489	63	7	27	60	79	93
Public-order offenses	4,579	74 days	8%	26%	57%	80%	93%
Weapons	1,495	92	7	20	50	79	95
Driving-related	671	92	4	17	49	77	88
Other public-order	2,413	56	9	33	63	82	94

Note: Data on time from arrest to adjudication were available for 98% of all adjudicated cases.

**Figure 12. Median time from arrest to adjudication for felony defendants in the 75 largest counties, by pretrial release status, 1992**

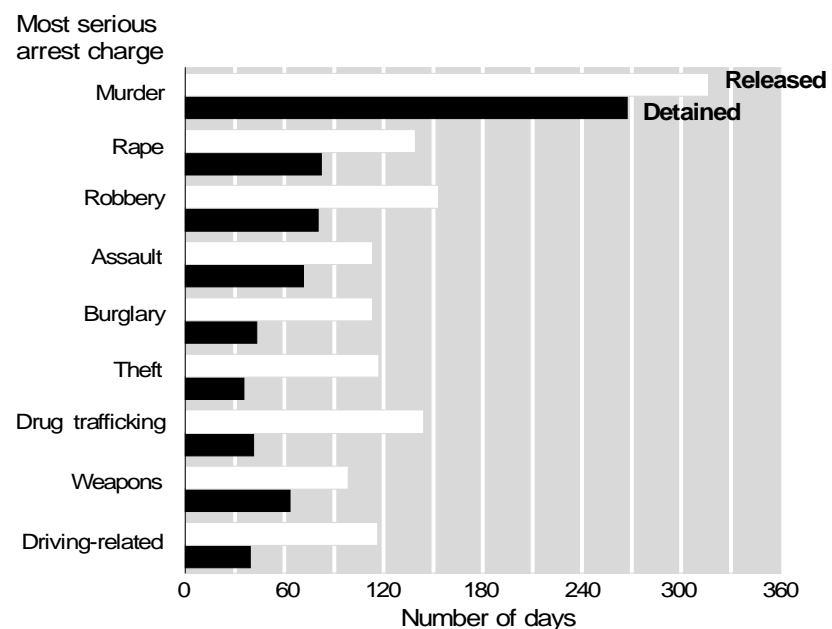


Figure 12

## Adjudication outcome

Of those cases that were adjudicated within 1 year, about two-thirds (68%) of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties were convicted (table 21). About 4 in 5 convictions were for a felony, with 54% of felony defendants eventually convicted of a felony.

By general offense category, defendants charged with a violent offense (58%) had a lower overall conviction rate than defendants charged with a

property, drug, or public-order offense. The conviction rate was 71% for each of these three latter categories.

By specific arrest offense, defendants charged with a driving-related offense (90%) had the highest overall conviction rate, and defendants charged with assault (51%) had the lowest.

Felony conviction rates were highest for defendants whose most serious arrest charge was a driving-related offense (76%), murder (70%), drug

trafficking (68%), or burglary (64%). The lowest felony conviction rate was for assault defendants (36%).

Charges were dismissed by the prosecutor or the court for about a fourth of defendants. Defendants charged with assault (41%) were the most likely to have had their cases dismissed, while defendants facing driving-related charges (6%) were the least likely. Less common adjudication outcomes were diversion/deferred adjudication (5%) and acquittals (1%).

**Table 21. Adjudication outcome for felony defendants, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties										
		Convicted							Not convicted			
		Total	Felony			Misdemeanor			Total	Dis-missed	Ac-quitted	Other outcome*
Total	Plea		Trial	Total	Plea	Trial						
All offenses	48,330	68%	54%	49%	5%	14%	13%	--	27%	26%	1%	5%
Violent offenses	12,469	58%	46%	40%	5%	12%	12%	--	39%	37%	2%	3%
Murder	421	72	70	49	21	2	2	0	28	22	6	0
Rape	710	63	54	51	3	9	8	1	35	32	3	2
Robbery	4,144	64	56	49	6	8	8	--	35	34	1	1
Assault	5,944	51	36	32	4	15	15	--	44	41	3	5
Other violent	1,252	59	46	39	7	13	12	1	38	36	2	2
Property offenses	17,055	71%	54%	49%	5%	18%	17%	--	23%	22%	1%	5%
Burglary	6,017	75	64	58	6	11	11	0	22	21	1	3
Theft	6,167	69	49	44	5	20	19	1	24	22	1	8
Other property	4,872	69	46	43	3	22	22	1	25	25	1	6
Drug offenses	14,641	71%	60%	55%	5%	11%	11%	--	21%	20%	1%	8%
Sales/trafficking	7,741	78	68	63	5	10	10	1	18	18	1	4
Other drug	6,900	63	51	46	5	12	12	--	24	23	1	12
Public-order offenses	4,167	71%	58%	54%	5%	13%	12%	--	26%	25%	1%	3%
Weapons	1,409	68	55	51	4	13	12	1	28	26	1	5
Driving-related	596	90	76	70	6	14	14	0	7	6	1	3
Other public-order	2,162	68	55	51	5	12	12	1	30	29	1	3

Note: Ten percent of all cases were still pending adjudication at the end of the 1-year study period. Data on adjudication outcome were available for 98% of those cases that had been adjudicated. Conviction offense may have differed from the arrest offense. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

\*Includes diversion and deferred adjudication.

Approximately half of all felony defendants eventually pleaded guilty to a felony, and another 13% pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor. About 7% of all cases adjudicated within 1 year went to a bench or jury trial. About a fifth of all trials ended with an acquittal, while the remainder ended with a guilty verdict. Murder defendants (27%) were the most likely to have their case go to trial, with about 3 in 4 such trials resulting in a guilty verdict.

Among the approximately 48,000 NPRP cases adjudicated within 1 year in the 75 largest counties, about 30,000 were disposed by a guilty plea (figure 13). A fourth of all pleas occurred within 1 month of arrest and just over half within 3 months. The next most common type of adjudication, dismissal of the charges against the defendant, occurred in about 12,000 cases. A third of dismissals occurred within the first month after arrest and two-thirds within 3 months.

Trials occurred in about 3,200 cases. About 1 in 7 trials were completed within a month of arrest and about 3 in 7 within 3 months. Diversion or deferred adjudication were used in about 2,600 cases, with a fifth of such outcomes occurring within 1 month of arrest, and three-fifths within 3 months.

In cases in which the defendant was convicted, the conviction was for the same felony offense as the original arrest charge in a majority of the cases (table 22). Among defendants arrested for murder and later convicted, 78% were convicted of murder. The corresponding percentages for other violent offenses were as follows: robbery (71%), rape (61%), and assault (58%).

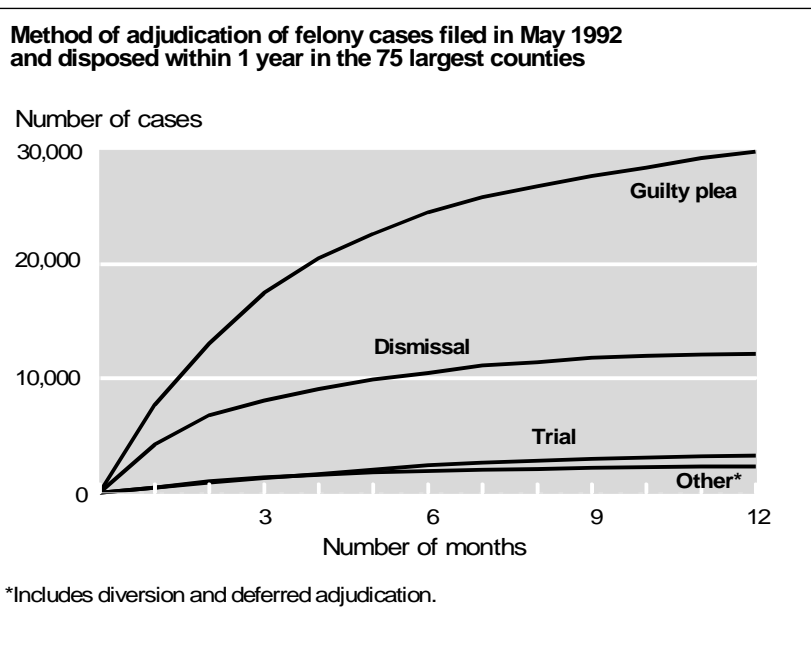


Figure 13

**Table 22. Conviction offense of defendants arrested for a violent offense and subsequently convicted, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties convicted of							
		Total	Violent felony					Non-violent felony	Misdemeanor
			Murder	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Other		
Murder	304	100%	<b>78%</b>	0	1%	11%	1%	6%	2%
Rape	441	100	0	<b>61</b>	2	8	14	1	14
Robbery	2,640	100	0	0	<b>71</b>	3	--	13	13
Assault	3,045	100	--	--	--	<b>58</b>	3	8	30

Note: Detail may not add to total because of rounding.



**Table 23. Conviction offense of defendants arrested for a nonviolent offense and subsequently convicted, by most serious arrest charge, 1992**

Most serious arrest charge	Number of defendants	Percent of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties convicted of								
		Nonviolent felony							Violent felony	Misdemeanor
		Total	Burglary	Theft	Drug sales	Weapons	Driving-related	Other		
Burglary	4,531	100%	<b>74%</b>	5%	0	--	0	6%	1%	15%
Theft	4,239	100	1	<b>65</b>	0	--	--	5	--	29
Drug sales	6,012	100	--	--	<b>74</b>	0	--	12	--	13
Weapons	956	100	0	0	1	<b>71</b>	--	7	2	19
Driving-related	525	100	0	0	0	0	<b>83</b>	1	1	16

Note: Detail may not add to total because of rounding.  
 --Less than 0.5%.

Among defendants who were charged with a nonviolent offense and later convicted, the percentages with the same conviction offense as arrest

offense were as follows: driving-related offense (83%), burglary (74%), drug sales (74%), weapons offense (71%), and theft (65%) (table 23).

**Table 24. Felony defendants, by conviction offense, 1992**

Most serious conviction offense	Felony defendants in the 75 largest counties	
	Number	Percent
All offenses	32,687	100.0%
All felonies	26,027	79.6%
Violent offenses	5,158	15.8%
Murder	241	.7
Rape	309	.9
Robbery	1,930	5.9
Assault	2,031	6.2
Other violent	648	2.0
Property offenses	9,355	28.6%
Burglary	3,520	10.8
Theft	3,353	10.3
Other property	2,483	7.6
Drug offenses	8,669	26.5%
Sales/trafficking	4,620	14.1
Other drug	4,049	12.4
Public-order	2,726	8.3%
Weapons	896	2.7
Driving-related	479	1.5
Other public-order	1,351	4.1
Other felonies	121	.4%
Misdemeanors	6,660	20.4%

Note: Data on conviction offense were available for 100% of cases involving defendants who had been convicted.

Except for weapons offenses and driving-related offenses, a smaller percentage of defendants were in each felony conviction offense category than were in the original distribution by arrest charge (tables 1 and 24). The biggest drop was in the violent felony category, which accounted for 26.5% of all defendants by arrest charge, but just 15.8% of them by conviction charge. Much of this change can be accounted for by the fact that about 1 in 8 defendants were originally facing felony assault charges, but just 1 in 16 convictions were for such an offense. Overall, a fifth of convicted felony defendants were convicted at the misdemeanor level.

Guilty pleas accounted for 92% of convictions occurring within 1 year of the May 1992 filing date (figure 14). About 4 in 5 guilty pleas were to a felony. More than half of the nearly 24,000 felony pleas were obtained within 3 months of the filing date. About two-thirds of the more than 6,000 misdemeanor guilty pleas occurred within 3 months.

Of the approximately 2,600 trial convictions obtained within 1 year, nearly all were for a felony. Overall, about 4 in 5 trials resulted in a conviction, with similar conviction rates for bench (83%) and jury trials (79%). About three-fourths of trials ended with a felony conviction, with a small percentage resulting in a misdemeanor conviction.

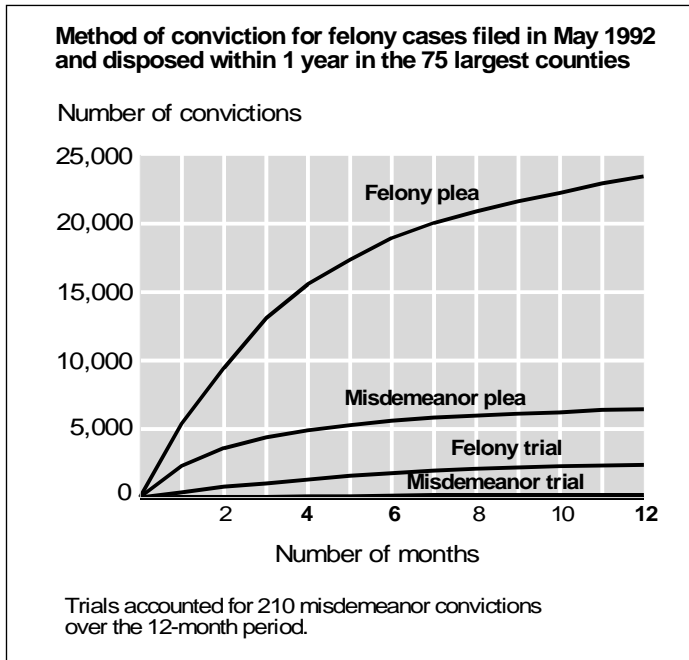


Figure 14

Type of trial	Percent of trials resulting in a conviction		
	Total	Felony	Misdemeanor
Total	80%	74%	6%
Jury	79	73	6
Bench	83	76	7

## Sentencing

### Time from conviction to sentencing

About 61% of convicted defendants were sentenced within 1 day of adjudication (table 25). Defendants convicted of a misdemeanor (83%) were more likely to be sentenced this quickly than those convicted of a felony (56%).

Sentencing after a felony conviction was slightly more likely to occur within 1 day if the conviction was for a property offense (62%) than if it was for a violent (54%), public-order (53%), or drug offense (50%). Less than half of defendants convicted of rape (34%), murder (36%) or a weapons offense (38%) were sentenced within 1 day of their conviction.

Eighty-nine percent of the defendants convicted of a misdemeanor and 77% of those convicted of a felony were sentenced within 30 days of the adjudication date. Nearly all (93%) convicted defendants were sentenced within 60 days, including 96% of those convicted of a misdemeanor and 93% of those convicted of a felony.

**Table 25. Time from conviction to sentencing for convicted defendants, by most serious conviction offense, 1992**

Most serious conviction offense	Number of defendants	Total	Percent of convicted defendants in the 75 largest counties who were sentenced within			
			0-1 day	2-30 days	31-60 days	61 days or more
All offenses	31,234	100%	61%	18%	14%	7%
All felonies	24,729	100%	56%	21%	15%	7%
Violent offenses	4,721	100%	54%	20%	18%	8%
Murder	190	100	36	27	29	8
Rape	270	100	34	24	29	12
Robbery	1,763	100	48	23	18	11
Assault	1,901	100	66	16	14	4
Other violent	597	100	51	19	17	13
Property offenses	9,119	100%	62%	20%	12%	6%
Burglary	3,435	100	63	21	11	6
Theft	3,265	100	64	18	11	7
Other property	2,420	100	58	19	17	6
Drug offenses	8,178	100%	50%	25%	17%	8%
Sales/trafficking	4,290	100	46	25	20	9
Other drug	3,888	100	54	25	14	7
Public-order offenses	2,589	100%	53%	20%	16%	11%
Weapons	816	100	38	25	22	16
Driving-related	475	100	60	12	18	10
Other public-order	1,299	100	60	20	11	9
Misdemeanors	6,505	100%	83%	6%	7%	4%

Note: Data on time from conviction to sentencing were available for 96% of cases that had reached sentencing. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

## Type and length of sentence

Overall, 71% of convicted defendants were sentenced to incarceration in a State prison or local jail (table 26). About three-fourths of the defendants convicted of a felony were sentenced to incarceration, compared to just over half of the defendants convicted of a misdemeanor. A majority (56%) of the incarceration sentences following a felony conviction were to State prison, while nearly all (96%) of the incarceration sentences resulting from a misdemeanor conviction were jail sentences.

Murder convictions (98%) were the most likely to result in a sentence to incarceration. Large percentages of the defendants convicted of rape

(91%), robbery (87%), or driving-related felonies (86%) were also sentenced to incarceration. Defendants convicted on weapons charges (57%) were the least likely to receive a sentence to incarceration following a felony conviction.

Overall, 41% of felony convictions resulted in a prison term, with defendants convicted of murder (92%) the most likely to be sent to prison. About two-thirds of rape (66%) and robbery (67%) convictions resulted in a prison sentence, as did 44% of convictions for burglary or a driving-related felony, 42% of drug trafficking convictions, and 40% of theft convictions. Defendants convicted of weapons-related offenses (29%) were the least likely

among those convicted of a felony to receive a prison sentence.

Twenty-seven percent of convicted defendants were sentenced to probation instead of incarceration, including 33% of those convicted of a misdemeanor and 25% of those convicted of a felony. Among defendants convicted of a felony but not sentenced to incarceration, 97% received a probation sentence. Among defendants convicted of a misdemeanor but not sentenced to incarceration, 76% were sentenced to probation. Defendants convicted of a weapons-related offense (41%) were the most likely to receive a probation sentence, and those convicted of murder (2%) the least likely.

**Table 26. Most severe type of sentence received by convicted defendants, by most serious conviction offense, 1992**

Most serious conviction offense	Number of defendants	Percent of convicted defendants in the 75 largest counties sentenced to						
		Total	Incarceration			Nonincarceration		
			Total	Prison	Jail	Total	Probation	Fine
All offenses	29,955	100%	71%	34%	37%	29%	27%	2%
All felonies	24,621	100%	74%	41%	33%	26%	25%	1%
Violent offenses	4,767	100%	78%	51%	27%	22%	21%	--
Murder	196	100	98	92	6	2	2	0
Rape	286	100	91	66	25	9	9	0
Robbery	1,767	100	87	67	20	13	13	0
Assault	1,927	100	69	33	36	31	30	1
Other violent	591	100	68	37	31	32	31	1
Property offenses	9,079	100%	74%	40%	34%	26%	25%	1%
Burglary	3,422	100	79	44	35	21	20	--
Theft	3,254	100	72	40	32	28	27	1
Other property	2,404	100	69	34	36	31	29	2
Drug offenses	8,104	100%	73%	39%	34%	27%	26%	1%
Sales/trafficking	4,283	100	75	42	33	25	24	1
Other drug	3,822	100	72	36	35	28	28	1
Public-order offenses	2,554	100%	67%	33%	34%	33%	32%	2%
Weapons	812	100	57	29	28	43	41	2
Driving-related	444	100	86	44	42	14	11	2
Other public-order	1,298	100	66	32	34	34	33	1
Misdemeanors	5,334	100%	57%	3%	54%	43%	33%	10%

Note: Data on type of sentence were available for 92% of cases involving defendants who had been convicted. Sixty-four percent of jail sentences and 16% of prison sentences included a probation term. Sentences to prison, jail, or probation may have included a fine, restitution, or community service. Fines may have included restitution or community service. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

--Less than 0.5%.

Once arrested and charged with a felony, the probability of being eventually convicted and sentenced to prison was highest for murder defendants (66%) (figure 15). The next highest probability of an eventual prison sentence was for defendants charged with rape (42%), robbery (42%), or a driving-related offense (43%). An eventual prison sentence was least likely to occur for felony defendants whose most serious arrest charge was assault (17%) or weapons-related (19%).

Chances of being convicted and sentenced to either prison or jail were highest for defendants charged with a driving-related offense (79%) and lowest for those charged with a weapons offense (38%) or assault (35%).

Among defendants who were convicted of a felony and subsequently sentenced to prison, the mean sentence was 68 months, and the median was 42 months (table 27). By general conviction offense category, defendants convicted of a violent felony received the longest prison sentences (a mean of 105 months and a median of 72 months), and those convicted of a public-order felony the shortest (a mean of 41 months and a median of 24 months). About a sixth of the defendants sentenced to prison also received a probation term.

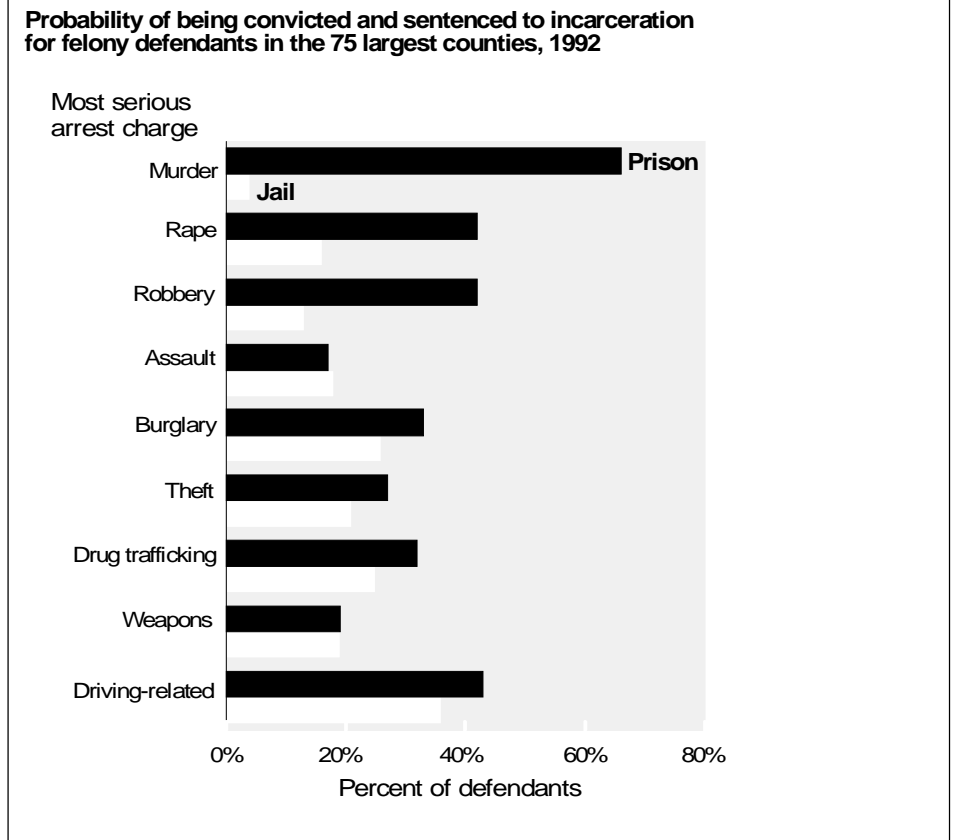


Figure 15

**Table 27. Length of prison sentence for defendants convicted of a felony, by most serious conviction offense, 1992**

Most serious conviction offense	Number of defendants	Number of months		Percent receiving a maximum sentence length in months of						
		Mean	Median	Total	1-24	25-48	49-72	73-120	Over	
									120*	Life
All offenses	9,325	68	42	100%	31%	28%	18%	12%	10%	1%
Violent offenses	2,290	105	72	100%	13%	21%	20%	21%	23%	2%
Murder	182	223	192	100	2	4	6	18	52	17
Rape	175	107	72	100	9	21	23	29	16	2
Robbery	1,155	105	64	100	12	22	21	19	24	1
Assault	597	80	60	100	19	23	19	26	14	0
Other violent	182	92	60	100	19	19	27	18	17	0
Property offenses	3,280	50	36	100%	39%	31%	15%	10%	5%	0
Burglary	1,432	55	36	100	35	33	16	12	5	0
Theft	1,167	45	36	100	43	33	14	7	3	0
Other property	681	50	36	100	44	27	15	10	6	0
Drug offenses	2,908	65	36	100%	30%	32%	20%	9%	9%	--
Sales/trafficking	1,676	75	48	100	17	37	23	13	10	1
Other drug	1,232	52	30	100	47	26	15	4	8	0
Public-order offenses	815	41	24	100%	55%	21%	15%	7%	3%	0
Weapons	218	54	36	100	29	26	26	14	5	0
Driving-related	184	24	21	100	67	26	7	0	0	0
Other public-order	413	41	24	100	63	16	12	6	3	0

Note: Data on length of prison sentence were available for 92% of cases in which a defendant received a prison sentence. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

--Less than 0.5%.

\*Excluding life sentences.

By specific felony conviction offense, defendants convicted of murder received the longest prison sentences — a mean of 223 months and a median of 192 months. After murder, defendants convicted of rape (107 months) or robbery (105 months) received the longest mean prison sentence (figure 16). Defendants convicted of rape received the second longest median prison sentence (72 months), followed by robbery (64 months), assault (60 months), and other violent offenses (60 months). Sixty-nine percent of murder convictions resulted in a prison term of more than 10 years, as did 25% of robbery

convictions and 18% of rape convictions. A sixth of all murder convictions resulted in a life sentence, as did very

small percentages of convictions for rape (2%), robbery (1%), or drug trafficking (1%).

**Mean prison sentence for defendants convicted of a felony in the 75 largest counties, 1992**

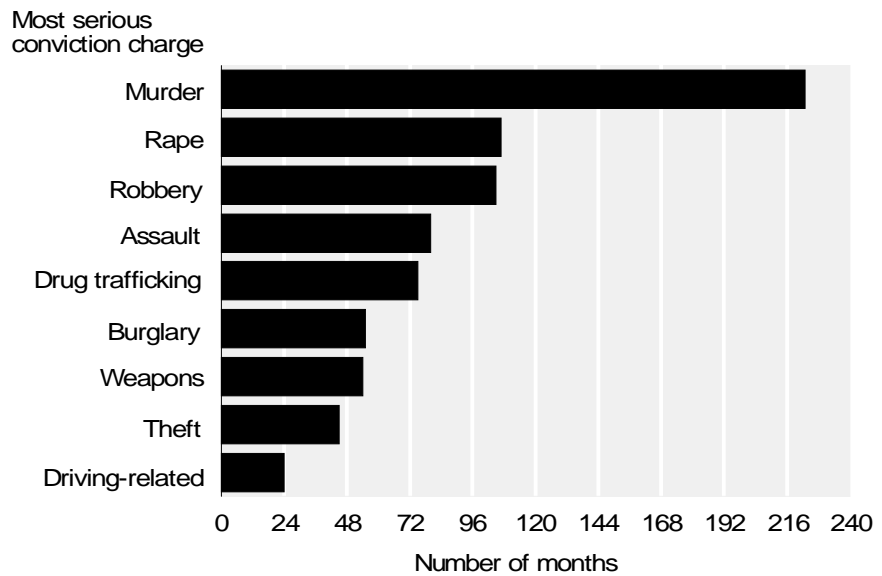


Figure 16

Defendants who were convicted of a felony and subsequently sentenced to jail received a mean term of 7 months and a median term of 6 months (table 28). Excluding murder and rape convictions (for which there

were few cases that resulted in a jail sentence), defendants sentenced to jail for robbery received the longest sentences (a mean of 13 months and a median of 11 months). Misdemeanor convictions resulted in a mean

jail term of 4 months and a median of 2 months. About 6% of all jail sentences for a felony conviction were for a period greater than 1 year, including 12% of those following a conviction for robbery or assault.

**Table 28. Length of jail sentence for convicted defendants, by most serious conviction offense, 1992**

Most serious conviction offense	Number of defendants	Felony defendants in the 75 largest counties sentenced to jail							
		Number of months		Percent receiving a maximum sentence in months of					
		Mean	Median	Total	1 or less	2-3	4-6	7-12	Over 12
All offenses	10,990	6	4	100%	24%	22%	25%	24%	5%
All felonies	8,092	7	6	100%	16%	22%	28%	27%	6%
Violent offenses*	1,308	9	6	100%	11%	18%	29%	33%	10%
Robbery	352	13	11	100	4	7	29	49	12
Assault	691	8	6	100	14	22	30	22	12
Other violent	181	5	5	100	14	31	26	26	2
Property offenses	3,104	7	6	100%	18%	20%	28%	27%	7%
Burglary	1,203	7	6	100	19	17	31	29	4
Theft	1,041	8	6	100	13	19	28	32	8
Other property	861	7	4	100	23	25	23	18	10
Drug offenses	2,769	7	6	100%	15%	26%	30%	25%	4%
Sales/trafficking	1,415	8	6	100	9	20	34	29	8
Other drug	1,354	5	3	100	22	31	25	21	1
Public-order offenses	860	6	3	100%	22%	28%	22%	25%	3%
Weapons	229	6	6	100	23	24	20	33	0
Driving-related	188	5	6	100	21	23	30	24	2
Other public-order	443	6	3	100	23	33	19	21	5
Misdemeanors	2,898	4	2	100%	47%	20%	18%	15%	1%

Note: Data on length of jail sentence were available for 97% of all cases in which a defendant received a jail sentence.

Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

\*Murder and rape have been excluded from the detail because of the small number of convictions for these offenses that resulted in a jail sentence. The total for violent offenses, however, does include these cases.

Nearly two-thirds (64%) of the jail sentences received by convicted defendants included a probation sentence to be served in addition to the jail time.

Among convicted defendants who received a probation sentence instead of incarceration, the median sentence length was 24 months (table 29). The median probation sentence for a felony conviction was 36 months, compared

to 12 months for a misdemeanor conviction. About 4% of defendants convicted of a felony and sentenced to probation were given a probation term of greater than 5 years.

Overall, 17% of the defendants who received a probation sentence were required to make restitution, with such a condition most likely for defendants convicted of a felony property offense

(32%) and least likely for those convicted of a drug-related felony (4%) (table 30). Fourteen percent of the defendants sentenced to probation were required to perform community service, 6% were required to enter a drug treatment program (including 12% of those convicted of a drug-related felony), 3% were placed on intensive probation, and 1% were subject to electronic monitoring.

**Table 29. Length of probation sentence for convicted defendants, by most serious conviction offense, 1992**

Most serious conviction offense	Felony defendants in the 75 largest counties sentenced to probation							
	Number of defendants	Median months	Percent receiving a sentence in months of					Over 60
			Total	1-12	13-24	25-36	37-60	
All offenses	8,005	24	100%	25%	27%	26%	19%	3%
All felonies	6,247	36	100%	16%	30%	26%	24%	4%
Violent offenses	1,024	36	100	18	25	22	28	6
Property offenses	2,296	30	100	19	29	30	18	4
Drug offenses	2,093	30	100	14	35	25	23	3
Public-order offenses	809	36	100	11	30	24	34	1
Misdemeanors	1,758	12	100%	59%	15%	24%	1%	--

Note: Data on length of probation sentence were available for 92% of all cases in which the most severe type of sentence a defendant received was probation. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.  
--Less than 0.5%.

**Table 30. Conditions of probation sentence received by convicted defendants, by most serious conviction offense, 1992**

Most serious conviction offense	Felony defendants in the 75 largest counties receiving a sentence to probation						
	Number of defendants	Percent whose sentence to probation included					Other
		Restitution	Community service	Drug treatment	Intensive probation	Electronic monitoring	
All offenses	8,005	17%	14%	6%	3%	1%	9%
All felonies	6,247	18%	14%	6%	4%	1%	9%
Violent offenses	1,024	13	7	5	6	1	14
Property offenses	2,296	32	17	4	4	2	9
Drug offenses	2,093	4	15	12	3	1	8
Public-order offenses	809	20	16	1	4	2	8
Misdemeanors	1,758	14%	13%	5%	2%	--	9%

Note: Data on probation conditions were available for 92% of all cases in which the most severe type of sentence a defendant received was probation. A defendant may have received more than one type of probation condition. Not all defendants sentenced to probation received probation conditions. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.  
--Less than 0.5%.



For defendants convicted of a felony on their current charge, the probability of receiving a sentence to incarceration was highest if they had multiple prior felony convictions (88%) (table 31). About 81% of defendants with

one prior felony conviction and 76% of those with only prior misdemeanor convictions were sentenced to incarceration. Defendants with no prior conviction record (60%) were the least likely to be sentenced to incarceration

for a felony conviction. Such defendants were more than 3 times as likely as defendants with multiple prior felony convictions to receive a probation sentence following a felony conviction (39% versus 11%).

**Table 31. Most severe type of sentence received by defendants convicted of a felony, by prior conviction record, 1992**

Prior conviction record and most serious current felony conviction	Number of defendants	Percent of defendants in the 75 largest counties convicted of a felony and sentenced to						
		Total	Incarceration			Nonincarceration		
			Total	Prison	Jail	Total	Probation	Fine
<b>More than 1 prior felony conviction</b>								
All offenses	6,141	100%	88%	64%	25%	12%	11%	--
Violent offenses	1,026	100	92	68	24	8	8	0
Property offenses	2,678	100	91	65	26	9	9	0
Drug offenses	1,808	100	83	61	22	17	16	1
Public-order offenses	612	100	87	60	27	13	13	0
<b>1 prior felony conviction</b>								
All offenses	4,100	100%	81%	53%	28%	19%	18%	1%
Violent offenses	713	100	84	62	22	16	16	0
Property offenses	1,487	100	79	48	31	21	20	1
Drug offenses	1,415	100	83	56	28	17	16	1
Public-order offenses	484	100	79	46	33	21	21	1
<b>Prior misdemeanor convictions only</b>								
All offenses	4,120	100%	76%	27%	48%	24%	24%	1%
Violent offenses	803	100	79	40	39	21	20	1
Property offenses	1,336	100	74	22	53	26	26	--
Drug offenses	1,439	100	75	26	49	25	24	1
Public-order offenses	498	100	74	25	49	26	25	2
<b>No prior convictions</b>								
All offenses	8,179	100%	60%	26%	34%	40%	39%	1%
Violent offenses	1,796	100	70	46	25	30	29	--
Property offenses	2,689	100	57	21	37	43	41	2
Drug offenses	2,838	100	62	23	38	38	37	1
Public-order offenses	805	100	42	10	33	58	55	3

Note: Data on prior conviction record and type of sentence were available for 88% of all cases. Sentences to incarceration may have also included a probation term. Sentences to prison, jail, or probation may have included a fine, restitution, or community service. Fines may have included restitution or community service. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.  
 --Less than 0.5%.

Nearly two-thirds (64%) of the defendants with multiple prior felony convictions were sentenced to prison after being convicted of a felony on their current charge (figure 17). Fifty-three percent of those with a single prior felony conviction and 27% of those with no prior felony convictions received a prison term.

Regardless of the type of current felony conviction, the most likely sentence for defendants with a prior felony conviction record was prison. For defendants with no prior felony convictions, jail was the most likely sentence if the current conviction was for a non-violent felony, and prison was the most likely sentence if the current conviction was for a violent felony.

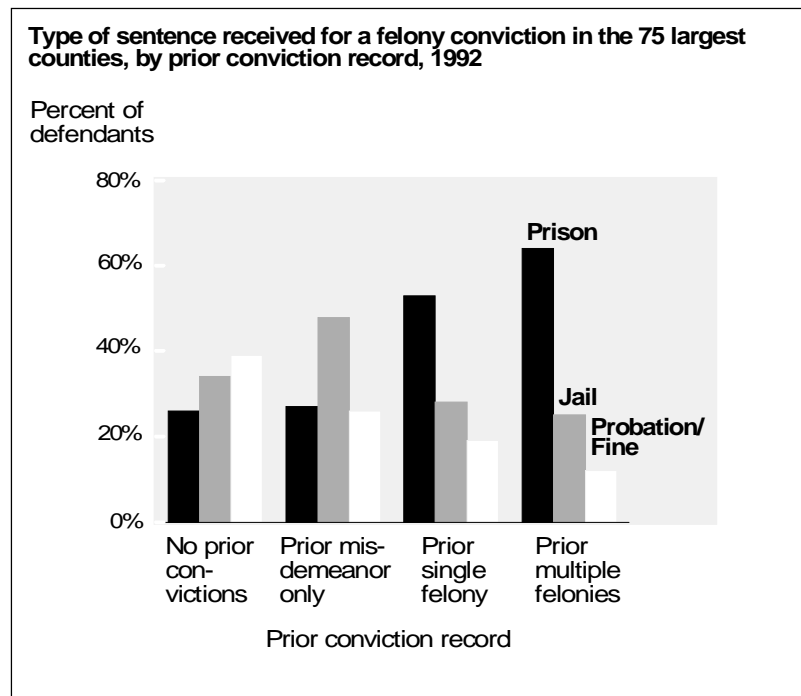


Figure 17

## Methodology

---

The NPRP sample was designed and selected by the U.S. Bureau of the Census under BJS supervision. It is a 2-stage stratified sample, with 40 of the 75 most populous counties selected at the first stage and a systematic sample of State court felony filings (defendants) within each county selected at the second stage. The 40 counties were divided into 4 first-stage strata based on court filing information obtained through a telephone survey. Fourteen counties were included in the sample with certainty because of their large number of court filings. The remaining counties were allocated to the three noncertainty strata based on the variance of felony court dispositions.

The second-stage sampling (filings) was designed to represent all defendants who had felony cases filed with the court during the month of May 1992. The participating jurisdictions provided data for every felony case filed on selected days during that month. Depending on the first-stage stratum in which it had been placed, each jurisdiction provided data for 1, 2, or 4 weeks' filings in May 1992. Data from jurisdictions that were not required to provide a full month of filings were weighted to represent the full month.

Data on 13,206 sample felony cases were collected from the 40 sampled jurisdictions. This sample represented 55,246 weighted cases filed during the month of May 1992 in the 75 most populous counties. Cases that could not be classified into one of the four major crime categories (violent, property, drug, public-order) because of incomplete information were omitted from the analysis. Data collection was supervised by the Pretrial Services Resource Center of Washington, D.C.

This report is based on data collected from the following jurisdictions: Arizona (Maricopa); California (Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara); District of Columbia; Florida (Broward, Dade, Duval, Hillsborough, Palm Beach, Pinellas); Georgia (Fulton); Illinois (Cook); Maryland (Montgomery); Massachusetts (Essex, Suffolk); Michigan (Wayne); Missouri (St. Louis); New Jersey (Essex); New York (Bronx, Erie, Kings, Monroe, New York, Queens); Ohio (Hamilton); Pennsylvania (Allegheny, Montgomery, Philadelphia); Tennessee (Shelby); Texas (Dallas, Harris, Tarrant); Utah (Salt Lake); Virginia (Fairfax); Washington (King); and Wisconsin (Milwaukee).

Because the data came from a sample, a sampling error (standard error) is associated with each reported number. In general, if the difference between two numbers is greater than twice the standard error for that difference, we can say that we are 95% confident of a real difference and that the apparent difference is not simply the result of using a sample rather than the entire population. All differences discussed in this report were statistically significant at or above the 95-percent confidence level.

### Race and Hispanic origin

Several jurisdictions did not provide complete reporting for defendants' Hispanic origin. As a result, the overall reporting level for race combined with Hispanic origin was 77%, compared to 91% for race alone. Because of this underreporting, the categories of race alone account for more defendants than the categories that include both race and Hispanic origin. A large preponderance of the persons with a Hispanic origin were white, although the category includes all races.

### Offense categories

Felony offenses were classified into 13 categories for this report. These categories were further divided into the four major crime categories of violent, property, drug, and public-order offenses. The following listings contain a representative summary of most of the crimes contained in each category; however, these lists are not meant to be exhaustive. All offenses, except for murder, include attempts and conspiracies to commit.

#### Violent offenses

*Murder*— Includes homicide, nonnegligent manslaughter, and voluntary homicide. Does not include attempted murder (classified as felony assault), negligent homicide, involuntary homicide, or vehicular manslaughter, which are classified as *other violent offenses*.

*Rape*— Includes forcible intercourse, sodomy, or penetration with a foreign object. Does not include statutory rape or nonforcible acts with a minor or someone unable to give legal consent, nonviolent sexual offenses, or commercialized sex offenses.

*Robbery*— Includes the unlawful taking of anything of value by force or threat of force.

*Assault*— Includes aggravated assault, aggravated battery, attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon, felony assault or battery on a law enforcement officer, and other felony assaults. Does not include extortion, coercion, or intimidation.

---

*Other violent offenses*— Includes vehicular manslaughter, involuntary manslaughter, negligent or reckless homicide, nonviolent or nonforcible sexual assault, kidnaping, unlawful imprisonment, child or spouse abuse, cruelty to child, reckless endangerment, hit-and-run with bodily injury, intimidation, and extortion.

### **Property offenses**

*Burglary*— Includes any type of entry into a residence, industry, or business with or without the use of force with the intent to commit a felony or theft, such as forcible entry and breaking and entering. Does not include possession of burglary tools, trespassing, or unlawful entry for which the intent is not known.

*Theft*— Includes grand theft, grand larceny, motor vehicle theft, and any other felony theft. Does not include receiving or buying stolen property, fraud, forgery, or deceit.

*Other property offenses*— Includes receiving or buying stolen property, forgery, fraud, embezzlement, arson, reckless burning, damage to property, criminal mischief, vandalism, bad checks, counterfeiting, criminal trespassing, possession of burglary tools, and unlawful entry.

### **Drug offenses**

*Drug sales/trafficking*— Includes trafficking, sales, distribution, possession with intent to distribute or sell, manufacturing, and smuggling of controlled substances. Does not include possession of controlled substances.

*Other drug offenses*— Includes possession of controlled substances, prescription violations, possession of drug paraphernalia, and other drug law violations.

### **Public-order offenses**

*Weapons*— Includes the unlawful sale, distribution, manufacture, alteration, transportation, possession, or use of a deadly weapon or accessory.

*Driving-related*— Includes driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, driving with a suspended or revoked license, or any other felony in the motor vehicle code.

*Other public-order offenses*— Includes flight/escape, parole or probation violations, prison contraband, habitual offender, obstruction of justice, rioting, libel and slander, treason, perjury, prostitution/pandering, bribery, and tax law violations.

### **Terms related to pretrial release**

*Released defendant*— Includes any defendant who was released from custody prior to the disposition of his or her case by the court. Includes defendants who were detained for some period of time before being released and defendants who were returned to custody after being released because of a violation of the conditions of pretrial release.

*Detained defendant*— Includes any defendant who remained in custody from the time of arrest until the disposition of his or her case by the court. This report also refers to detained defendants as "not released."

*Failure to appear*— Occurs when a court issues a bench warrant for a defendant's arrest because he or she has missed a scheduled court appearance.

### **Types of financial release**

*Full cash bond*— The defendant posts the full bail amount in cash with the court. If the defendant makes all court appearances, the cash is returned. If the defendant fails to appear in court, the bond is forfeited.

*Deposit bond*— The defendant deposits a percentage (usually 10%) of the full bail amount with the court. The percentage of the bail is returned after the disposition of the case, but the court often retains a small portion for administrative costs. If the defendant fails to appear in court, he or she is liable to the court for the full amount of the bail.

*Surety bond*— A bail bond company signs a promissory note to the court for the full bail amount and charges the defendant a fee for the service (usually 10% of the full bail amount). If the defendant fails to appear, the bond company is liable to the court for the full bail amount. Frequently the bond company requires the defendant to post collateral in addition to the fee.

*Property bond*— Also known as "collateral bond," this involves an agreement made by a defendant as a condition of pretrial release requiring that property valued at the full bail amount be posted as an assurance of his or her appearance in court. If the defendant fails to appear in court, the property is forfeited.

---

## **Types of nonfinancial release**

*Unsecured bond*— The defendant pays no money to the court but is liable for the full amount of bail should he or she fail to appear in court.

*Release on recognizance*— The court releases the defendant on the promise that he or she will appear in court as required.

*Citation release*— Arrestees are released pending their first court appearance on a written order issued by law enforcement personnel. Citation release is included in the release on recognizance category in this report.

*Conditional release*— Defendants are released under conditions and are usually supervised by a pretrial services agency. In some cases an unsecured bond is included. This type of release is also known as supervised release.

## **Other type of release**

*Emergency release*— Defendants are released solely in response to a court order placing limits on a jail's population.

## Appendix

**Appendix table A. Population, sampling weights, and number of cases, by jurisdiction, 1992**

County (State)	Population in 1992	Sampling weights			Number of cases	
		Filings	County	Total	Unweighted	Weighted
Maricopa (AZ)	2,210,000	4	1.00	4.0	319	1,276
Los Angeles (CA)	9,054,000	4	1.00	4.0	1,600	6,400
Sacramento (CA)	1,093,000	4	2.00	8.0	218	1,744
San Bernardino (CA)	1,534,000	2	2.00	4.0	84	336
San Diego (CA)	2,601,000	4	1.25	5.0	218	1,090
San Francisco (CA)	729,000	2	2.00	4.0	298	1,192
Santa Clara (CA)	1,529,000	4	1.25	5.0	211	1,055
Washington (DC)	585,000	4	1.25	5.0	103	515
Broward (FL)	1,301,000	4	1.00	4.0	221	884
Dade (FL)	2,008,000	4	1.00	4.0	442	1,768
Duval (FL)	701,000	4	1.25	5.0	143	715
Hillsborough (FL)	859,000	4	1.25	5.0	200	1,000
Palm Beach (FL)	901,000	4	1.00	4.0	133	532
Pinellas (FL)	855,000	2	2.00	4.0	199	796
Fulton (GA)	666,000	4	1.00	4.0	363	1,452
Cook (IL)	5,139,000	4	1.00	4.0	699	2,796
Montgomery (MD)	781,000	1	3.50	3.5	310	1,085
Essex (MA)	670,000	1	3.50	3.5	308	1,078
Suffolk (MA)	639,000	1	3.50	3.5	670	2,345
Wayne (MI)	2,096,000	4	1.00	4.0	208	832
St. Louis (MO)	1,001,000	1	3.50	3.5	224	784
Essex (NJ)	773,000	4	2.00	8.0	427	3,416
Bronx (NY)	1,195,000	4	1.00	4.0	444	1,776
Erie (NY)	972,000	1	3.50	3.5	299	1,047
Kings (NY)	2,286,000	4	1.00	4.0	485	1,940
Monroe (NY)	724,000	1	3.50	3.5	232	812
New York (NY)	1,489,000	4	1.00	4.0	548	2,192
Queens (NY)	1,951,000	4	1.25	5.0	283	1,415
Hamilton (OH)	872,000	2	2.00	4.0	230	920
Allegheny (PA)	1,334,000	4	1.00	4.0	77	308
Montgomery (PA)	690,000	1	3.50	3.5	214	749
Philadelphia (PA)	1,553,000	4	1.25	5.0	331	1,655
Shelby (TN)	845,000	2	2.00	4.0	345	1,380
Dallas (TX)	1,913,000	4	1.00	4.0	300	1,200
Harris (TX)	2,972,000	4	1.00	4.0	422	1,688
Tarrant (TX)	1,220,000	4	1.25	5.0	178	890
Salt Lake (UT)	764,000	1	3.50	3.5	227	795
Fairfax (VA)	857,000	1	3.50	3.5	298	1,043
King (WA)	1,558,000	2	2.00	4.0	268	1,072
Milwaukee (WI)	952,000	1	3.50	3.5	364	1,274

Note: In 14 of the 40 counties included in the 1992 NPRP study, prosecutors did not screen any felony arrests before filing charges. In these counties, the NPRP sample cases are representative of all felony cases received by prosecutors, and any cases screened out by prosecutors are included in the NPRP dismissal category. These counties are Broward, FL; Dade, FL; Palm Beach, FL; Fulton, GA; Montgomery, MD; Essex, NJ; Erie, NY; Monroe, NY; Hamilton, OH; Allegheny, PA; Montgomery, PA; Shelby, TN; Dallas, TX; and Fairfax, VA. In the other 26 NPRP jurisdictions, felony arrests were reviewed by prosecutors before the decision to file felony charges was made. In these jurisdictions, the NPRP sample cases do not include those in which a person was arrested for a felony but felony charges were not filed.

**Appendix table B. Most serious arrest charge of felony defendants, by jurisdiction, 1992**

County (State)	Percent of felony defendants within categories of most serious arrest charge				
	Total	Violent offenses	Property offenses	Drug offenses	Public-order offenses
Maricopa (AZ)	100%	26%	35%	26%	14%
Los Angeles (CA)	100	22	42	26	10
Sacramento (CA)	100	27	29	31	13
San Bernardino (CA)	100	25	40	25	10
San Diego (CA)	100	16	36	42	6
San Francisco (CA)	100	23	27	46	4
Santa Clara (CA)	100	21	31	40	8
Washington (DC)	100	20	17	48	15
Broward (FL)	100%	23%	26%	42%	10%
Dade (FL)	100	32	34	25	8
Duval (FL)	100	22	38	27	13
Hillsborough (FL)	100	28	42	25	5
Palm Beach (FL)	100	24	32	38	6
Pinellas (FL)	100	23	36	27	15
Fulton (GA)	100	18	36	38	8
Cook (IL)	100	16	32	43	9
Montgomery (MD)	100%	16%	61%	20%	4%
Essex (MA)	100	40	43	16	1
Suffolk (MA)	100	44	34	20	2
Wayne (MI)	100	25	27	25	22
St. Louis (MO)	100	13	54	21	12
Essex (NJ)	100	36	24	28	12
Bronx (NY)	100	25	23	43	10
Erie (NY)	100	33	40	20	7
Kings (NY)	100%	38%	25%	28%	9%
Monroe (NY)	100	28	35	25	12
New York (NY)	100	33	22	38	7
Queens (NY)	100	38	29	29	4
Hamilton (OH)	100	24	44	24	8
Allegheny (PA)	100	30	34	29	8
Montgomery (PA)	100	21	53	22	3
Philadelphia (PA)	100	42	33	26	0
Shelby (TN)	100%	24%	41%	32%	4%
Dallas (TX)	100	23	37	30	10
Harris (TX)	100	19	35	36	9
Tarrant (TX)	100	33	32	25	10
Salt Lake (UT)	100	14	43	39	4
Fairfax (VA)	100	9	63	18	10
King (WA)	100	18	29	48	6
Milwaukee (WI)	100	29	34	18	19

Note: Detail may not add to 100% because of rounding.

**Appendix table C. Sex and age at arrest of felony defendants, by jurisdiction, 1992**

County (State)	Percent of felony defendants							
	Sex			Age				
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Under 21	21-29	30-39	40 or older
Maricopa (AZ)	100%	89%	11%	100%	19%	39%	29%	13%
Los Angeles (CA)	100	86	14	100	17	43	29	10
Sacramento (CA)	100	85	15	100	9	44	35	12
San Bernardino (CA)	100	80	20	100	16	41	31	12
San Diego (CA)	100	85	15	100	16	47	25	12
San Francisco (CA)	100	91	9	100	7	40	37	16
Santa Clara (CA)	100	82	18	100	16	36	41	7
Washington (DC)	100	91	9	100	20	40	27	13
Broward (FL)	100%	89%	11%	100%	16%	41%	30%	12%
Dade (FL)	100	89	11	100	17	37	31	14
Duval (FL)	100	85	15	100	14	33	40	13
Hillsborough (FL)	100	74	26	100	18	35	37	12
Palm Beach (FL)	100	89	11	100	19	36	32	14
Pinellas (FL)	100	84	16	100	22	39	23	16
Fulton (GA)	100	90	10	100	17	37	32	14
Cook (IL)	100	86	14	100	23	40	27	9
Montgomery (MD)	100%	81%	19%	100%	21%	38%	29%	12%
Essex (MA)	100	87	13	100	19	45	26	10
Suffolk (MA)	100	87	13	100	23	41	25	11
Wayne (MI)	100	91	9	100	21	39	26	13
St. Louis (MO)	100	79	21	100	22	37	30	11
Essex (NJ)	100	83	17	100	27	39	24	10
Bronx (NY)	100	89	11	100	30	30	29	11
Erie (NY)	100	89	11	100	36	37	19	8
Kings (NY)	100%	89%	11%	100%	33%	38%	22%	8%
Monroe (NY)	100	93	7	100	34	36	22	9
New York (NY)	100	90	10	100	19	40	27	14
Queens (NY)	100	84	16	100	28	36	28	8
Hamilton (OH)	100	80	20	100	17	31	38	13
Allegheny (PA)	100	86	14	100	23	38	25	14
Montgomery (PA)	100	81	19	100	17	43	28	12
Philadelphia (PA)	100	90	10	100	23	44	24	9
Shelby (TN)	100%	86%	14%	100%	24%	38%	28%	10%
Dallas (TX)	100	79	21	100	24	34	31	11
Harris (TX)	100	81	19	100	23	32	29	15
Tarrant (TX)	100	80	20	100	20	38	24	18
Salt Lake (UT)	100	82	18	100	20	38	29	12
Fairfax (VA)	100	75	25	100	19	34	35	12
King (WA)	100	80	20	100	18	45	25	12
Milwaukee (WI)	100	82	18	100	24	39	29	9

Note: Detail may not add to 100% because of rounding.



**Appendix table D. Race and Hispanic origin of felony defendants, by jurisdiction, 1992**

County (State)	Percent of felony defendants								
	Race				Race and Hispanic origin				
	Total	Black	White	Other	Total	Black, non-Hispanic	White, non-Hispanic	Other, non-Hispanic	Hispanic, any race
Maricopa (AZ)	100%	17%	80%	2%	100%	16%	45%	2%	37%
Los Angeles (CA)	100	63	35	2	100	30	12	2	55
Sacramento (CA)	100	42	56	2	...	...	...	...	...
San Bernardino (CA)	100	45	50	5	...	...	...	...	...
San Diego (CA)	...	...	...	...	100	18	24	3	55
San Francisco (CA)	100	42	53	5	100	46	17	7	30
Santa Clara (CA)	100	22	73	6	100	16	17	7	60
Washington (DC)	100	99	1	0	...	...	...	...	...
Broward (FL)	100%	49%	51%	0	100%	47%	44%	0	9%
Dade (FL)	100	55	45	0	100	50	17	0	33
Duval (FL)	100	56	44	0	...	...	...	...	...
Hillsborough (FL)	100	49	51	0	100	48	46	0	6
Palm Beach (FL)	100	32	65	3	100	33	59	3	5
Pinellas (FL)	100	40	59	1	...	...	...	...	...
Fulton (GA)	100	88	12	--	100	85	10	--	4
Cook (IL)	100	72	28	--	100	71	16	--	13
Montgomery (MD)	100%	57%	40%	3%	100%	60%	30%	3%	7%
Essex (MA)	100	46	54	--	100	16	50	--	34
Suffolk (MA)	100	75	24	1	100	65	16	1	19
Wayne (MI)	100	92	8	0	100	91	7	0	2
St. Louis (MO)	100	60	40	0	100	59	40	0	1
Essex (NJ)	100	75	25	--	...	...	...	...	...
Bronx (NY)	...	...	...	...	100	31	6	--	63
Erie (NY)	100	70	30	0	100	70	20	0	11
Kings (NY)	100%	72%	28%	--	100%	54%	10%	--	36%
Monroe (NY)	100	73	25	1	...	...	...	...	...
New York (NY)	100	75	24	1	100	57	8	1	35
Queens (NY)	100	66	34	1	100	58	16	1	25
Hamilton (OH)	100	61	39	0	100	61	37	0	2
Allegheny (PA)	100	57	43	0	100	56	43	0	1
Montgomery (PA)	100	50	50	--	100	49	49	--	2
Philadelphia (PA)	100	74	26	0	...	...	...	...	...
Shelby (TN)	100%	81%	19%	--	100%	81%	18%	--	1%
Dallas (TX)	100	55	44	--	100	52	29	--	19
Harris (TX)	100	49	50	1	...	...	...	...	...
Tarrant (TX)	100	42	58	0	100	41	44	0	15
Salt Lake (UT)	100	7	87	6	100	5	59	7	29
Fairfax (VA)	100	39	57	4	100	38	46	4	13
King (WA)	100	40	57	3	100	40	51	3	6
Milwaukee (WI)	100	71	29	0	100	71	23	0	6

Note: Detail may not add to 100% because of rounding.  
 --Less than 0.5%.  
 ...Data were available for fewer than two-thirds of all cases.

**Appendix table E. Felony defendants released before or detained until case disposition, by jurisdiction, 1992**

County (State)	Percent of felony defendants									Detained until case disposition		
	Released before case disposition											
	Total	Financial release				Nonfinancial release				Total	Held on bail	Denied bail
	Surety bond	Full cash bond	Deposit bond	Other	Recognizance*	Conditional	Unsecured bond	Emergency				
Maricopa (AZ)	61%	18%	0	0	0	34%	9%	0	0	39%	33%	6%
Los Angeles (CA)	37	16	1	--	0	19	--	0	--	63	61	2
Sacramento (CA)	24	18	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	76	75	1
San Bernardino (CA)	46	14	0	0	0	26	6	0	0	54	51	4
San Diego (CA)	34	20	1	0	0	12	1	0	0	66	62	4
San Francisco (CA)	53	14	2	0	0	9	28	0	0	47	46	1
Santa Clara (CA)	47	21	1	0	0	15	11	0	0	53	46	6
Washington (DC)	68	1	1	1	0	16	50	0	0	32	17	15
Broward (FL)	59%	38%	11%	0	0	1%	9%	0	0	41%	32%	9%
Dade (FL)	46	1	1	6	0	1	37	0	0	54	42	13
Duval (FL)	31	13	10	1	1	7	0	0	0	69	65	4
Hillsborough (FL)	78	59	3	0	0	15	0	0	0	22	8	15
Palm Beach (FL)	67	35	5	0	0	22	4	0	0	33	32	2
Pinellas (FL)	67	28	1	0	1	32	4	1	0	33	28	5
Fulton (GA)	38	20	1	0	3	--	12	1	1	62	9	54
Cook (IL)	69	0	1	12	0	2	27	16	10	31	26	5
Montgomery (MD)	80%	4%	3%	1%	14%	40%	11%	7%	0	20%	5%	16%
Essex (MA)	87	0	15	0	0	71	1	0	0	13	13	--
Suffolk (MA)	77	1	11	0	0	64	1	0	0	23	19	4
Wayne (MI)	70	0	0	37	0	0	0	22	11	30	23	8
St Louis (MO)	76	10	14	7	12	31	1	2	0	24	14	10
Essex (NJ)	95	11	15	39	0	30	0	0	0	5	5	0
Bronx (NY)	78	0	22	0	0	57	0	0	0	22	22	0
Erie (NY)	76	1	3	--	1	71	--	0	0	24	24	0
Kings (NY)	81%	0	20%	0	0	62%	0	0	0	19%	17%	2%
Monroe (NY)	87	1	8	0	0	45	32	0	0	13	11	2
New York (NY)	75	0	17	0	0	59	0	0	0	25	22	3
Queens (NY)	74	0	27	0	0	47	0	0	0	26	21	5
Hamilton (OH)	84	1	1	15	3	2	14	--	47	16	16	0
Allegheny (PA)	83	12	0	19	0	51	0	0	1	17	17	0
Montgomery (PA)	87	4	1	21	--	0	--	60	0	13	13	0
Philadelphia (PA)	88	0	0	21	--	3	2	61	--	12	10	2
Shelby (TN)	57%	42%	--	0	0	14%	0	0	0	43%	35%	8%
Dallas (TX)	69	54	0	--	0	0	15	--	0	31	22	9
Harris (TX)	39	32	1	0	0	0	5	--	0	61	42	20
Tarrant (TX)	60	50	1	0	0	1	8	0	0	40	36	4
Salt Lake (UT)	67	17	1	0	0	4	45	0	0	33	19	13
Fairfax (VA)	69	29	5	0	0	1	19	15	0	31	31	--
King (WA)	63	3	4	1	--	43	11	0	0	38	33	4
Milwaukee (WI)	67	0	15	0	0	30	22	0	1	33	30	3

Note: Detail may not add to 100% because of rounding.

--Less than 0.5%.

\*Released on own recognizance.

**Appendix table F. Adjudication outcome for felony defendants, by jurisdiction, 1992**

County (State)	Adjudicated within 1 year	Percent of felony defendants						Other outcome
		Adjudication outcome						
		Convicted			Not convicted			
	Total	Felony	Misde-meanor	Total	Dismissed	Acquitted		
Maricopa (AZ)	96%	90%	84%	6%	10%	9%	1%	0
Los Angeles (CA)	94	74	69	5	21	20	1	6
Sacramento (CA)	96	76	60	17	20	20	0	3
San Bernardino (CA)	99	81	64	17	16	16	0	4
San Diego (CA)	100	90	82	8	7	7	--	3
San Francisco (CA)	82	82	64	18	12	12	0	5
Santa Clara (CA)	98	83	67	16	10	10	--	7
Washington (DC)	82	63	39	24	37	35	2	0
Broward (FL)	95%	69%	59%	10%	31%	29%	2%	--
Dade (FL)	95	44	43	1	50	48	1	6
Duval (FL)	99	66	51	14	33	32	1	1
Hillsborough (FL)	95	72	60	13	20	19	2	7
Palm Beach (FL)	100	83	38	46	15	14	1	2
Pinellas (FL)	93	72	68	4	25	25	0	3
Fulton (GA)	95	78	77	1	22	17	5	--
Cook (IL)	86	53	51	2	42	40	2	5
Montgomery (MD)	90%	50%	38%	12%	41%	40%	1%	9%
Essex (MA)	74	48	48	--	43	41	2	9
Suffolk (MA)	76	35	33	2	55	51	4	10
Wayne (MI)	94	62	61	1	32	24	8	6
St. Louis (MO)	81	92	87	5	8	8	0	0
Essex (NJ)	87	55	53	2	31	31	0	14
Bronx (NY)	95	71	34	37	29	28	--	0
Erie (NY)	94	48	16	32	52	52	--	0
Kings (NY)	95%	69%	38%	31%	31%	31%	0	0
Monroe (NY)	90	59	41	18	40	40	0	--
New York (NY)	92	64	36	28	36	36	1	0
Queens (NY)	93	70	39	31	30	27	2	0
Hamilton (OH)	92	77	39	38	22	21	1	1
Allegheny (PA)	78	87	73	13	13	13	0	0
Montgomery (PA)	67	83	50	33	8	8	0	9
Philadelphia (PA)	63	44	43	1	49	43	5	7
Shelby (TN)	80%	82%	46%	36%	18%	18%	0	0
Dallas (TX)	95	53	46	7	17	16	1	31
Harris (TX)	95	61	56	5	16	16	1	22
Tarrant (TX)	66	57	53	3	18	18	0	25
Salt Lake (UT)	95	79	36	43	20	18	1	1
Fairfax (VA)	95	68	30	38	32	31	1	--
King (WA)	96	91	83	8	9	7	1	0
Milwaukee (WI)	89	90	81	9	10	9	1	--

Note: Detail may not add to total because of rounding.  
 --Less than 0.5%.

**Appendix table G. Most severe type of sentence received by defendants convicted of a felony, by jurisdiction, 1992**

County (State)	Percent of felony defendants					
	Incarceration			Nonincarceration		
	Total	Prison	Jail	Total	Probation	Fine
Maricopa (AZ)	69%	36%	33%	31%	30%	1%
Los Angeles (CA)	96	40	57	4	4	0
Sacramento (CA)	93	37	56	7	7	0
San Bernardino (CA)	100	51	49	0	0	0
San Diego (CA)	87	37	50	13	13	0
San Francisco (CA)	86	33	53	14	13	1
Santa Clara (CA)	92	31	62	8	8	0
Washington (DC)	83	77	7	17	17	0
Broward (FL)	37%	27%	10%	63%	63%	1%
Dade (FL)	51	23	28	49	47	2
Duval (FL)	77	16	62	23	20	3
Hillsborough (FL)	36	31	5	64	63	1
Palm Beach (FL)	63	18	43	37	33	4
Pinellas (FL)	43	40	3	57	57	0
Fulton (GA)	68	60	7	32	32	0
Cook (IL)	55	43	12	45	45	0
Montgomery (MD)	66%	28%	38%	34%	33%	1%
Essex (MA)	67	4	63	33	33	0
Suffolk (MA)	50	6	45	50	47	2
Wayne (MI)	43	32	12	57	56	1
St. Louis (MO)	55	43	12	45	41	4
Essex (NJ)	50	37	14	50	49	1
Bronx (NY)	65	47	18	35	34	1
Erie (NY)	50	34	16	50	45	5
Kings (NY)	68%	43%	25%	32%	32%	0
Monroe (NY)	71	35	36	29	27	3
New York (NY)	78	61	17	23	23	0
Queens (NY)	61	48	13	39	38	1
Hamilton (OH)	88	82	7	12	11	1
Allegheny (PA)	45	17	29	55	55	0
Montgomery (PA)	68	21	46	31	30	2
Philadelphia (PA)	70	56	14	30	30	0
Shelby (TN)	93%	18%	75%	7%	4%	3%
Dallas (TX)	76	68	8	24	24	0
Harris (TX)	94	87	7	6	4	2
Tarrant (TX)	73	66	6	27	27	0
Salt Lake (UT)	88	72	16	12	10	2
Fairfax (VA)	93	65	27	7	4	4
King (WA)	90	26	64	10	9	1
Milwaukee (WI)	64	52	12	36	35	1

Note: See note on appendix table A. Sentences to incarceration may have also included a probation term. Sentences to prison, jail, and probation may have included a fine, restitution, or community service. Fines included restitution or community service in some instances. Detail may not add to 100% because of rounding.