



Bureau of Justice Statistics

State Court Sentencing of Convicted Felons, 1996

In State courts

Trends in felony sentencing 1988-96

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State Court Sentencing of Convicted Felons, 1996

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Felony case processing in State courts, 1996

Nationwide in 1996, 91% of convictions were the product of a guilty plea (table 4.2). That number is not the same as the percentage of felony convictions that involved a plea bargain between the prosecution and the defense. Plea bargains, in which the defendant agrees to plead guilty in exchange for dropped or reduced charges or in exchange for a reduced sentence, is a common practice in the criminal justice system. The proportion of those who pleaded guilty as part of a plea bargain is not known.

- An estimated 906,000 persons pleaded guilty to a felony offense (table 4.1). Of all felony offenses, persons convicted of murder were the least likely to have pleaded guilty (54%) and the most likely to have been convicted by a jury (40%) (table 4.2).

- Of felons convicted in State courts, 4% were found guilty by a jury, and 5% were found guilty by a judge in a bench trial (table 4.2). The most serious offenses — the violent crimes of murder, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and other violent offenses — comprised about 17% of all felony convictions but an estimated 49% of all jury trials (table 4.3).

- Sentences to prison or jail occurred in 88% of jury convictions, 62% of bench trial convictions (decided by a judge alone), and 64% of guilty pleas (table 4.4).

- An estimated 76% of felons convicted by a jury received a prison sentence, compared to 49% of those convicted by a judge and 38% of those who pleaded guilty (table 4.4).

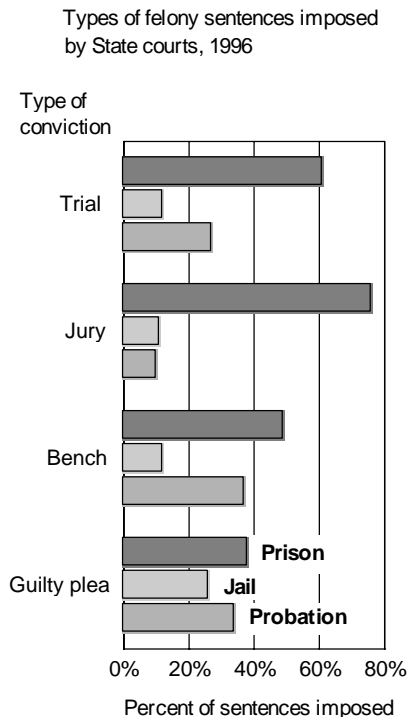
- Prison sentences were much longer for felons convicted by a jury trial (12½ years) than for felons who pleaded guilty (4½ years) or were convicted by a judge (5 years and 10 months) (table 4.5).

- Felons sentenced to jail in a jury trial received a mean or average sentence of 7 months. The mean jail sentence in a bench trial was 8 months; in a guilty plea, 6 months (table 4.5).

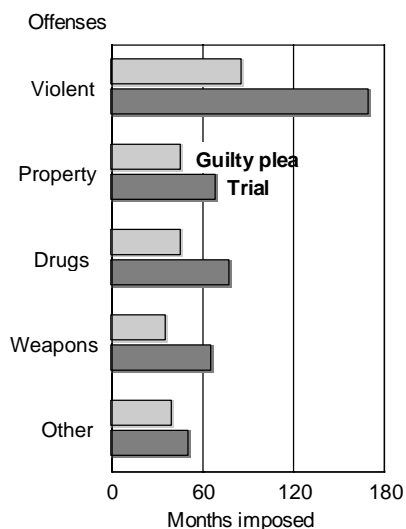
- Murderers convicted by a jury were the most likely of all convicted defendants to have received a life sentence (43%) or the death penalty (5%). Sentences to life in prison or death for murder or nonnegligent manslaughter occurred in about 14% of the bench trials and 17% of the guilty pleas (table 4.6).

- In 36% of jury trial convictions nationwide, felons were found guilty of multiple offenses. Twenty-six percent of the guilty pleas and 23% of the bench trial convictions involved multiple offenses (table 4.7).

Prison was the result of 61% of the sentences imposed following a trial versus 38% of the sentences following a guilty plea



On average, felons convicted of a violent offense following trial received a prison sentence twice the length of the sentence of those who pleaded guilty



The following findings on elapsed time are based on cases with complete disposition information. Because small differences exist between cases with complete information and cases with incomplete information, these statistics may differ from other elapsed-time statistics derived from the survey:

- Mean elapsed time from date of arrest to date of felony conviction was about 6 months. Jury cases took the longest time (about 9½ months). Guilty plea cases took just under 6 months and bench trials took about 6 months. The longest average time was for murder or nonnegligent manslaughter, just over 11½ months, and the shortest, just over 5⅓ months for larceny (table 4.9).

- Mean elapsed time from conviction to sentencing for persons convicted of a felony varied according to the method of conviction. Jury cases took the longest time (over 2 months) and bench cases took the least (less than half a month) (table 4.10).

- Mean elapsed time from arrest to sentencing in 1996 was just over 7 months; the median was nearly 5 months (table 4.11).

- Cases decided by juries had a mean elapsed time from arrest to sentencing of nearly 12 months; those disposed by bench trial had a mean of just over 6½ months; those disposed by guilty plea had a mean of nearly 8 months (table 4.11).

Table 4.1. Number of felony convictions in State courts, by offense and type of conviction, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Number of felons convicted by —				Guilty plea
	Total	Total	Jury	Bench	
All offenses	997,970	92,015	37,541	54,474	905,957
Violent offenses	167,824	29,319	17,671	11,648	138,508
Murder ^a	11,430	5,298	4,519	780	6,133
Sexual assault ^b	30,057	5,568	3,414	2,154	24,489
Robbery	42,831	6,985	4,128	2,858	35,844
Aggravated assault	69,522	9,390	4,653	4,737	60,134
Other violent ^c	13,984	2,077	958	1,119	11,908
Property offenses	298,631	19,380	5,536	13,844	279,251
Burglary	93,197	7,282	2,705	4,577	85,915
Larceny ^d	123,201	7,327	2,155	5,172	115,874
Fraud ^e	82,233	4,771	676	4,095	77,462
Drug offenses	347,774	28,587	9,843	18,744	319,185
Possession	135,270	12,228	2,908	9,321	123,040
Trafficking	212,504	16,359	6,935	9,424	196,145
Weapons offenses	33,337	2,880	1,217	1,663	30,456
Other offenses^f	150,404	11,849	3,274	8,575	138,557

Note: Detail may not add to the total because of rounding. Data on type of conviction were available for 629,593 cases. Table includes estimates for cases missing a designation of type of conviction.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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

Table 4.2. Percent of felons convicted in State courts, by offense and type of conviction, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent of felons convicted by —				Guilty plea
	Total	Trial			
	Total	Jury	Bench		
All offenses	100%	9%	4%	5%	91%
Violent offenses	100%	18%	11%	7%	83%
Murder ^a	100	46	40	7	54
Sexual assault ^b	100	19	11	7	81
Robbery	100	16	10	7	84
Aggravated assault	100	14	7	7	86
Other violent ^c	100	15	7	8	85
Property offenses	100%	6%	2%	5%	94%
Burglary	100	8	3	5	92
Larceny ^d	100	6	2	4	94
Fraud ^e	100	6	1	5	94
Drug offenses	100%	8%	3%	5%	92%
Possession	100	9	2	7	91
Trafficking	100	8	3	4	92
Weapons offenses	100%	9%	4%	5%	91%
Other offenses^f	100%	8%	2%	6%	92%

Note: See note on tables 1.1 and 4.1. Detail may not sum to the total because of rounding.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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

Table 4.3. Type of conviction of felons convicted in State courts, by offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Percent convicted by —				Guilty plea
	Total	Trial			
	Total	Jury	Bench		
All offenses	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Violent offenses	17%	33%	49%	22%	15%
Murder ^a	1	7	14	2	1
Sexual assault ^b	3	7	10	4	3
Robbery	4	8	11	5	4
Aggravated assault	7	10	12	9	6
Other violent ^c	1	2	2	2	1
Property offenses	31%	21%	14%	26%	32%
Burglary	9	19	7	9	10
Larceny ^d	12	7	5	9	13
Fraud ^e	9	6	2	8	9
Drug offenses	34%	30%	25%	33%	34%
Possession	11	11	6	14	11
Trafficking	22	19	19	19	23
Weapons offenses	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Other offenses^f	15%	13%	9%	16%	15%

Note: See note on tables 1.1 and 4.1. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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

Table 4.4. Offense of felons convicted in State courts, by the type of conviction and type of sentence imposed, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Total	Incarceration			Nonincarceration		
		Total	Prison	Jail	Total	Probation	Other
Trial							
All offenses	100%	73%	61%	12%	28%	26%	2%
Violent offenses	100%	87%	77%	9%	13%	12%	1%
Murder ^a	100	98	97	1	2	2	--
Sexual assault ^b	100	89	82	6	11	11	1
Robbery	100	91	85	6	9	9	1
Aggravated assault	100	78	59	19	22	20	2
Other violent ^c	100	75	63	12	25	23	2
Property offenses	100%	63%	53%	10%	37%	35%	2%
Burglary	100	77	68	9	23	21	2
Larceny ^d	100	59	47	12	41	39	2
Fraud ^e	100	50	40	11	50	48	2
Drug offenses	100%	68%	54%	14%	32%	30%	2%
Possession	100	55	37	18	45	42	2
Trafficking	100	75	64	11	25	23	2
Weapons offenses	100%	73%	57%	16%	27%	24%	3%
Other offenses^f	100%	65%	48%	17%	35%	32%	3%
Jury							
All offenses	100%	88%	76%	11%	10%	10%	1%
Violent offenses	100%	93%	88%	6%	6%	5%	1%
Murder ^a	100	97	96	1	3	2	--
Sexual assault ^b	100	95	90	5	5	5	1
Robbery	100	93	89	4	6	5	1
Aggravated assault	100	89	76	12	11	10	1
Other violent ^c	100	98	84	14	3	3	1
Property offenses	100%	78%	63%	14%	21%	19%	1%
Burglary	100	88	77	11	11	10	1
Larceny ^d	100	71	54	17	26	25	2
Fraud ^e	100	59	39	20	41	40	1
Drug offenses	100%	85%	71%	15%	10%	10%	--%
Possession	100	83	61	22	10	10	--
Trafficking	100	87	75	12	10	10	--
Weapons offenses	100%	80%	61%	19%	18%	17%	1%
Other offenses^f	100%	84%	61%	23%	16%	14%	2%

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

--Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnapping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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

Table 4.4. (cont.) Offense of felons convicted in State courts, by the type of conviction and type of sentence imposed, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Total	Incarceration			Nonincarceration		
		Total	Prison	Jail	Total	Probation	Other
Bench							
All offenses	100%	62%	49%	12%	39%	37%	3%
Violent offenses	100%	76%	61%	14%	25%	23%	2%
Murder ^a	100	100	99	1	--	--	--
Sexual assault ^b	100	79	71	8	21	21	1
Robbery	100	87	80	7	15	14	1
Aggravated assault	100	67	42	25	33	30	4
Other violent ^c	100	55	45	10	44	41	3
Property offenses	100%	58%	49%	9%	43%	41%	2%
Burglary	100	70	62	8	30	27	3
Larceny ^d	100	54	44	10	47	45	2
Fraud ^e	100	49	40	9	51	50	2
Drug offenses	100%	58%	45%	13%	45%	42%	3%
Possession	100	47	30	17	55	53	3
Trafficking	100	66	56	10	36	33	3
Weapons offenses	100%	68%	54%	14%	34%	30%	4%
Other offenses^f	100%	58%	43%	14%	43%	39%	3%
Guilty plea							
All offenses	100%	64%	38%	26%	36%	34%	2%
Violent offenses	100%	74%	54%	20%	26%	24%	2%
Murder ^a	100	92	88	4	8	7	--
Sexual assault ^b	100	74	58	16	26	24	2
Robbery	100	84	70	15	16	15	1
Aggravated assault	100	66	40	25	34	31	3
Other violent ^c	100	67	38	28	33	30	3
Property offenses	100%	57%	32%	25%	43%	40%	3%
Burglary	100	67	44	23	33	31	2
Larceny ^d	100	57	28	29	43	39	4
Fraud ^e	100	47	25	21	53	50	3
Drug offenses	100%	66%	36%	30%	34%	32%	2%
Possession	100	63	30	33	37	34	2
Trafficking	100	67	39	28	33	31	2
Weapons offenses	100%	62%	38%	24%	38%	36%	1%
Other offenses^f	100%	60%	29%	31%	40%	37%	3%

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

--Less than 0.5%.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnapping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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

Table 4.5. Average felony sentence length in State courts, by the type of conviction, type of sentence imposed, and offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Maximum sentence length (in months) for convictions by –									
	Total		Trial				Bench		Guilty plea	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Sentences to prison										
All offenses	61 mo	36 mo	107 mo	60 mo	150 mo	120 mo	70 mo	48 mo	54 mo	36 mo
Violent offenses	104 mo	68 mo	170 mo	139 mo	205 mo	180 mo	116 mo	84 mo	86 mo	60 mo
Murder ^a	237	300	314	720	332	**	258	240	191	182
Sexual assault ^b	117	72	170	120	215	180	83	60	100	70
Robbery	102	72	158	120	180	144	128	120	90	70
Aggravated assault	70	48	118	72	144	96	89	60	59	37
Other violent ^c	57	36	92	60	124	72	51	36	48	36
Property offenses	48 mo	36 mo	69 mo	48 mo	93 mo	66 mo	58 mo	48 mo	46 mo	36 mo
Burglary	61	48	92	60	112	84	74	60	57	46
Larceny ^d	39	29	50	36	65	48	47	36	38	25
Fraud ^e	39	29	46	32	65	60	46	33	39	28
Drug offenses	50 mo	36 mo	78 mo	48 mo	100 mo	70 mo	61 mo	43 mo	46 mo	36 mo
Possession	36	24	49	36	79	48	35	24	35	24
Trafficking	55	36	87	60	106	72	72	60	50	36
Weapons offenses	40 mo	24 mo	66 mo	40 mo	91 mo	60 mo	46 mo	36 mo	36 mo	24 mo
Other offenses^f	41 mo	36 mo	51 mo	36 mo	83 mo	48 mo	34 mo	24 mo	40 mo	36 mo
Sentences to jail										
All offenses	6 mo	6 mo	8 mo	6 mo	7 mo	6 mo	8 mo	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo
Violent offenses	7 mo	6 mo	9 mo	6 mo	9 mo	6 mo	10 mo	9 mo	7 mo	6 mo
Murder ^a	9	12	9	6	9	6	8	9	9	12
Sexual assault ^b	8	6	11	12	12	12	10	12	7	6
Robbery	10	9	14	12	10	12	17	12	10	9
Aggravated assault	7	6	8	6	8	6	9	6	7	6
Other violent ^c	6	6	6	6	5	4	8	6	6	6
Property offenses	6 mo	6 mo	8 mo	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo	9 mo	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo
Burglary	7	6	8	6	5	2	10	11	7	6
Larceny ^d	6	5	8	6	6	6	8	6	6	5
Fraud ^e	5	5	9	6	6	6	10	12	5	5
Drug offenses	6 mo	6 mo	8 mo	6 mo	7 mo	8 mo	8 mo	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo
Possession	6	6	7	6	6	6	7	6	6	6
Trafficking	6	6	9	8	8	8	9	6	6	6
Weapons offenses	6 mo	6 mo	7 mo	6 mo	7 mo	6 mo	6 mo	4 mo	6 mo	5 mo
Other offenses^f	6 mo	6 mo	7 mo	6 mo	7 mo	6 mo	7 mo	3 mo	6 mo	6 mo

See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3. Some estimates in this table are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable.

**Because the median includes felons sentenced to life in prison, the median sentence to prison is greater than 50 years.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnapping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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

Table 4.5. (cont.) Average felony sentence length in State courts, by the type of conviction, type of sentence imposed, and offense, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Maximum sentence length (in months) for convictions by —									
	Total		Total		Jury		Bench		Guilty plea	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Sentences to probation										
All offenses	41 mo	36 mo	48 mo	60 mo	50 mo	54 mo	48 mo	60 mo	41 mo	36 mo
Violent offenses	48 mo	36 mo	50 mo	60 mo	58 mo	60 mo	46 mo	60 mo	48 mo	36 mo
Murder ^a	71	60	243	360	281	360	60	60	68	60
Sexual assault ^b	66	60	52	60	61	60	50	60	67	60
Robbery	52	60	58	60	74	60	55	60	52	60
Aggravated assault	41	36	45	48	49	54	38	36	41	36
Other violent ^c	43	36	50	60	36	36	51	60	42	36
Property offenses	40 mo	36 mo	46 mo	60 mo	44 mo	48 mo	47 mo	60 mo	40 mo	36 mo
Burglary	45	36	45	48	43	60	50	60	45	36
Larceny ^d	39	36	48	60	40	36	48	60	38	36
Fraud ^e	39	36	45	60	52	60	45	60	39	36
Drug offenses	42 mo	36 mo	49 mo	60 mo	56 mo	60 mo	49 mo	60 mo	41 mo	36 mo
Possession	36	36	44	60	50	60	43	48	36	24
Trafficking	45	36	54	60	57	60	56	60	45	36
Weapons offenses	34 mo	25 mo	36 mo	36 mo	41 mo	36 mo	34 mo	24 mo	34 mo	24 mo
Other offenses^f	40 mo	36 mo	49 mo	60 mo	41 mo	36 mo	51 mo	60 mo	40 mo	36 mo

See note on tables 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3. Some estimates in this table are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable.

**Because the median includes felons sentenced to life in prison, the median sentence to prison is greater than 50 years.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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

Table 4.6. Type of conviction in State courts, by the type of sentence imposed on felons convicted of murder or nonnegligent manslaughter, 1996

Nature of conviction	Type of sentence			
	Total	Life	Death	Other*
All	100%	27%	2%	71%
Trial	100	41	5	54
Jury	100	43	5	52
Bench	100	12	2	86
Guilty plea	100	14	3	86

Note: Detail may not sum to total because of rounding.
 *Includes sentences to incarceration or probation.

Table 4.7. Type of conviction in State courts, by number of felony conviction offenses, 1996

Type of conviction	Percent convicted of —		
	Total	One offense	Two or more offenses
All	100%	74%	26%
Trial	100	72	28
Jury	100	64	36
Bench	100	77	23
Guilty plea	100	74	26

Note: See note on table 1.6. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding.

Table 4.8. Percent of conviction offenses of felons convicted in State courts, by type of conviction and type of sentence imposed, 1996

Type of conviction	Percent of felons sentenced to —						
	Total	Incarceration			Nonincarceration		
		Total	Prison	Jail	Total	Probation	Other
Convicted of one offense							
All	100%	63%	35%	27%	37%	34%	3%
Trial	100	74	58	15	26	24	2
Jury	100	90	76	15	10	9	1
Bench	100	63	48	15	37	34	3
Guilty plea	100	62	34	29	38	35	3
Convicted of multiple offenses							
All	100%	67%	46%	20%	33%	31%	2%
Trial	100	72	72	8	20	18	2
Jury	100	90	84	7	10	9	1
Bench	100	67	59	8	33	30	3
Guilty plea	100	65	44	22	35	33	2

Note: See note on tables 1.2 and 1.6. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding.

Table 4.9. Average number of days between arrest and conviction for felony cases in State courts, by type of conviction, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Number of days between arrest and conviction for cases disposed by —				
	Total	Trial			Guilty plea
		Total	Jury	Bench	
Mean number of days					
All offenses	182 days	221 days	288 days	182 days	177 days
Violent offenses	207 days	268 days	326 days	185 days	195 days
Murder ^a	350	380	395	244	328
Sexual assault ^b	232	277	331	223	222
Robbery	189	229	271	164	181
Aggravated assault	187	236	297	172	180
Other violent ^c	189	211	318	165	183
Property offenses	166 days	196 days	247 days	180 days	163 days
Burglary	169	204	237	184	166
Larceny ^d	163	197	262	179	161
Fraud ^e	164	186	254	178	162
Drug offenses	182 days	216 days	262 days	190 days	178 days
Possession	178	184	267	160	176
Trafficking	184	236	261	216	179
Weapons offenses	182 days	201 days	284 days	141 days	180 days
Other offenses^f	193 days	191 days	245 days	177 days	193 days
Median number of days					
All offenses	134 days	163 days	231 days	128 days	131 days
Violent offenses	157 days	209 days	272 days	139 days	149 days
Murder ^a	285	305	318	185	277
Sexual assault ^b	176	217	273	140	170
Robbery	149	186	225	120	146
Aggravated assault	144	191	261	146	140
Other violent ^c	141	153	266	118	140
Property offenses	119 days	146 days	209 days	126 days	118 days
Burglary	126	165	198	152	124
Larceny ^d	116	144	219	132	114
Fraud ^e	118	124	212	118	117
Drug offenses	135 days	159 days	208 days	131 days	133 days
Possession	130	139	217	121	128
Trafficking	138	173	208	142	135
Weapons offenses	139 days	165 days	210 days	111 days	138 days
Other offenses^f	138 days	141 days	198 days	122 days	138 days

See note on tables 1.1. Some estimates in this table are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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

Table 4.10. Average number of days between conviction and sentencing for felony cases in State courts, by type of conviction, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Number of days between conviction and sentencing for cases disposed by —				
	Total	Trial		Bench	Guilty plea
		Total	Jury		
Mean number of days					
All offenses	57 days	34 days	72 days	12 days	60 days
Violent offenses	56 days	41 days	58 days	17 days	60 days
Murder ^a	46	59	62	24	38
Sexual assault ^b	52	24	31	17	59
Robbery	54	41	52	25	57
Aggravated assault	60	39	65	16	64
Other violent ^c	59	55	128	8	61
Property offenses	59 days	29 days	84 days	11 days	62 days
Burglary	62	34	85	7	65
Larceny ^d	62	35	93	16	64
Fraud ^e	52	15	59	9	55
Drug offenses	58 days	39 days	93 days	12 days	60 days
Possession	56	28	91	11	60
Trafficking	59	46	93	12	60
Weapons offenses	63 days	47 days	73 days	23 days	65 days
Other offenses^f	48 days	17 days	58 days	6 days	52 days
Median number of days					
All offenses	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
Violent offenses	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
Murder ^a	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual assault ^b	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated assault	0	0	0	0	0
Other violent ^c	0	0	0	0	0
Property offenses	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny ^d	0	0	0	0	0
Fraud ^e	0	0	0	0	0
Drug offenses	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
Possession	0	0	0	0	0
Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons offenses	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
Other offenses^f	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days

Note: See note on table 1.1. Some estimates are based on as few as 1 case and are therefore unreliable.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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

Table 4.11. Mean and median number of days between arrest and sentencing for felony cases disposed by State courts, 1996

Most serious conviction offense	Number of days between arrest and sentencing for cases disposed by —				
	Total	Trial			Guilty plea
		Total	Jury	Bench	
Mean					
All offenses	219 days	267 days	355 days	202 days	235 days
Violent offenses	252 days	321 days	382 days	215 days	259 days
Murder ^a	396	430	447	268	360
Sexual assault ^b	289	320	370	248	283
Robbery	239	290	333	202	238
Aggravated assault	228	291	360	209	252
Other violent ^c	218	265	436	175	252
Property offenses	213 days	234 days	334 days	196 days	231 days
Burglary	211	247	319	197	234
Larceny ^d	205	240	346	203	230
Fraud ^e	227	213	363	188	231
Drug offenses	209 days	259 days	326 days	212 days	229 days
Possession	204	216	312	181	221
Trafficking	211	285	330	238	232
Weapons offenses	217 days	276 days	372 days	188 days	236 days
Other offenses^f	219 days	224 days	323 days	187 days	230 days
Median					
All offenses	149 days	211 days	293 days	154 days	164 days
Violent offenses	184 days	263 days	315 days	181 days	188 days
Murder ^a	327	363	377	191	282
Sexual assault ^b	220	279	307	192	209
Robbery	176	239	284	188	174
Aggravated assault	165	247	295	181	178
Other violent ^c	161	197	306	148	194
Property offenses	142 days	182 days	281 days	154 days	156 days
Burglary	139	202	267	165	158
Larceny ^d	135	193	287	164	153
Fraud ^e	154	147	342	123	156
Drug offenses	136 days	202 days	264 days	155 days	159 days
Possession	129	170	262	142	163
Trafficking	139	227	264	168	157
Weapons offenses	148 days	232 days	300 days	163 days	161 days
Other offenses^f	157 days	162 days	255 days	128 days	167 days

Note: The grand total includes all cases, whether or not conviction type was known. Data on time to dispose of felonies were available for 521,919 cases.

^aIncludes nonnegligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes rape.

^cIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter and kidnaping.

^dIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^eIncludes forgery and embezzlement.

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