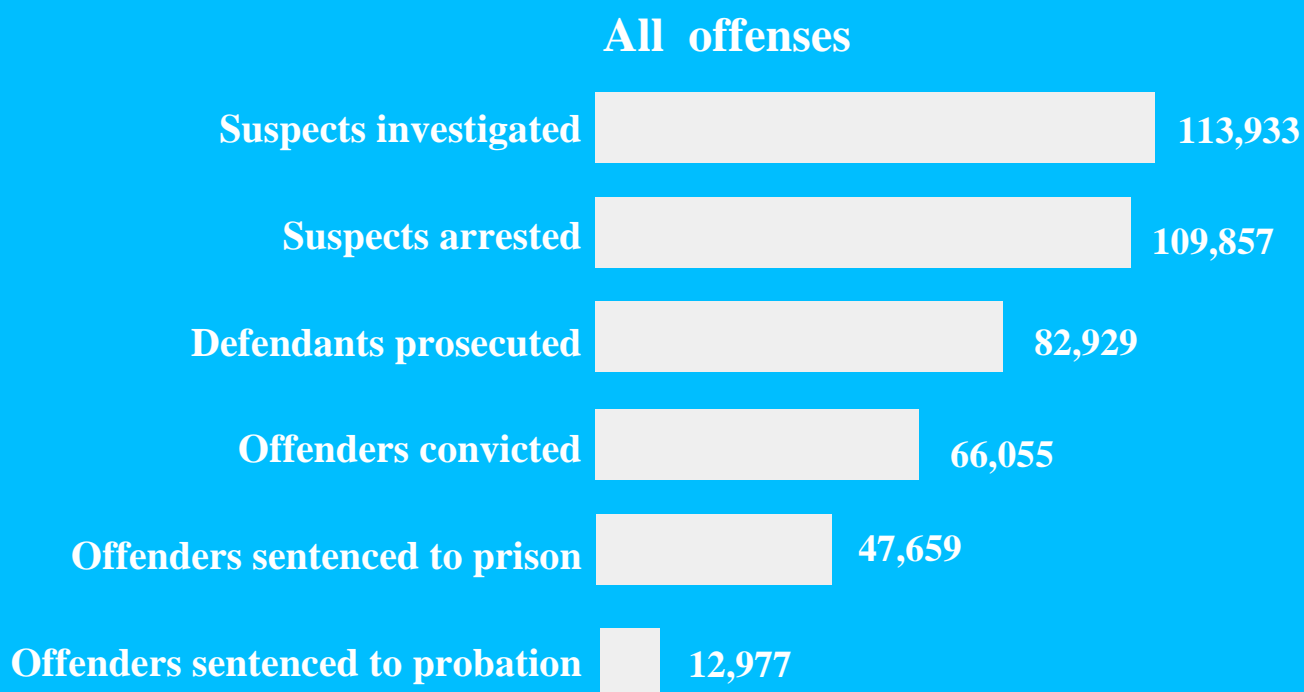




Bureau of Justice Statistics

Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 1999

Federal criminal case processing, October 1, 1998, through September 30, 1999



A Federal Justice Statistics Program Report

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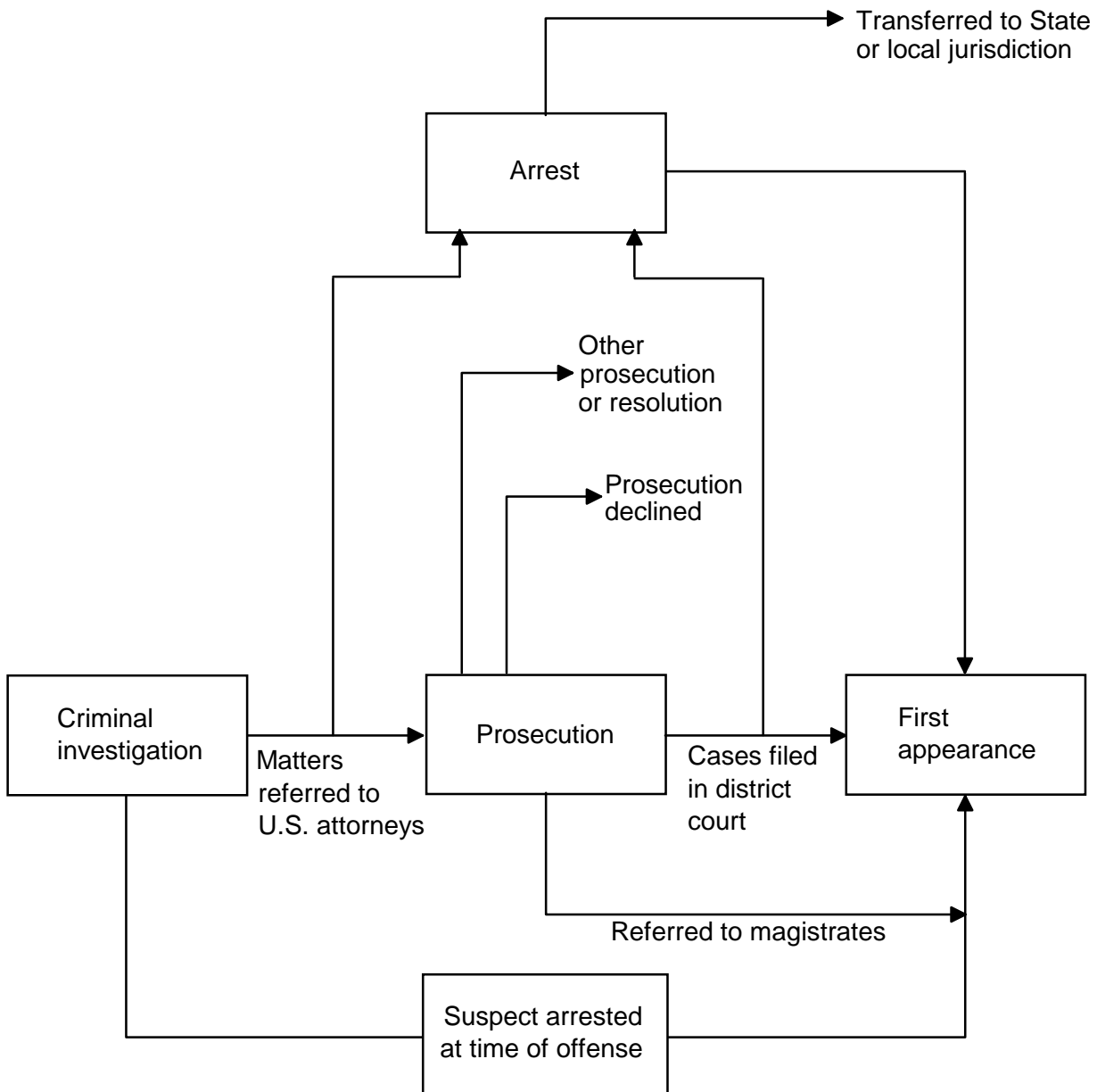
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Chapter 1

Arrests for Federal offenses



Sixty-six Federal agencies employ full-time personnel empowered to make arrests. As of June 1998, these agencies employed about 83,000 officers.¹ More than half (56%) of all law enforcement officers were employed by the Department of Justice. The Department of Treasury employed 24% of all officers.

Offenders arrested by Federal agencies are transferred to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service for processing, transportation, and detention.² During 1999, the U.S. Marshals Service received 109,857 offenders for processing from the Federal law enforcement agencies, including nearly 29,000 offenders arrested by deputy U.S. Marshals.

Arrests by offense categories (table 1.1)

During 1999, 109,857 offenders were arrested by Federal law enforcement agencies for violations of Federal law. A third of all arrests were for public order offenses; 29% for drug offenses; 15% for property offenses; 14% for supervision violations; 4% for violent offenses; and 4% to secure and safeguard a material witness.

Approximately 39% of drug arrests involved cocaine; 29%, marijuana; 11%, amphetamine (or methamphetamine); 7%, heroin; and the remainder other drugs or drug paraphernalia (figure 1.1).

Almost two-thirds of arrests for public-order offenses were immigration offenses. Most (82%) of these were for illegal entry into the United States; 13% involved alien smuggling; 4% involved false claims of citizenship by entrants to the United States; and

¹Brian A. Reaves and Timothy C. Hart, *Federal Law Enforcement Officers, 1998*, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Washington, DC (NCJ-177607).

²The Federal agency making the arrest may be different from the Federal agency initiating the investigation involving the arrestee. Statistics describing agencies initiating investigations are shown in table 2.3 of chapter 2, "Prosecution."

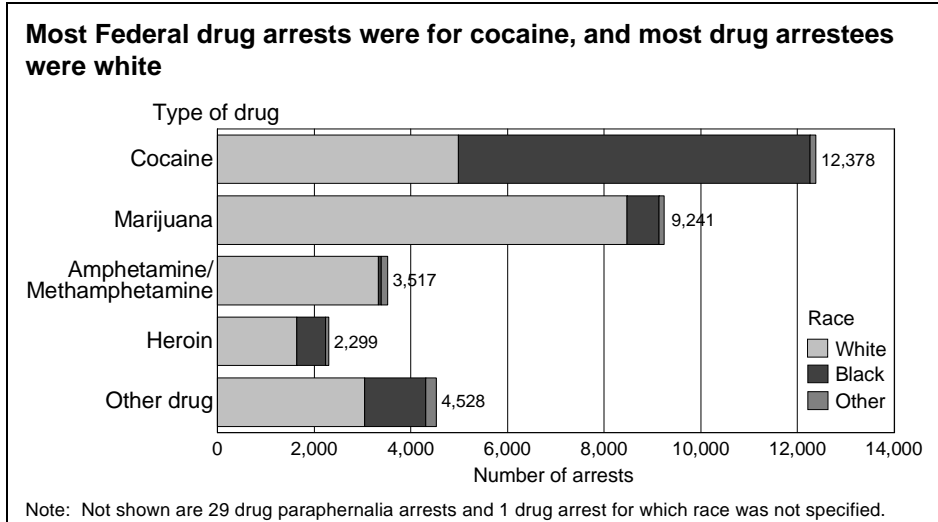


Figure 1.1. Type of drug involved in drug arrests, by race of arrestee, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

about 2% involved other immigration violations (figure 1.2).

Arrests by law enforcement agencies (table 1.2)

During 1999, 72% of all arrests for Federal offenses were made by components of the Department of Justice; the Treasury components accounted for 11% of all arrests. In addition, 3% of arrests were made by State and local agencies and 7% of offenders were arrested after voluntarily reporting to the U.S. Marshals following a summons.

Within the Department of Justice, 36% of arrests were made by the U.S. Marshals Service, 34% were made by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 15% each were made by the FBI and the Drug Enforcement Administration, and less than 1% were

made by other Department of Justice components.

Within the Treasury Department, 59% of arrests were made by the U.S. Customs Service, 20% were made by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, 15% were made by the Secret Service, and 6% were made by the IRS.

Arrests across demographic groups (table 1.3)

Most (85%) of offenders arrested by Federal law enforcement agencies during 1999 were male. Most (71%) were white and about a quarter were black. Individuals between the 21 and 40 years comprised nearly 70% of all those arrested. A third of those arrested were identified as noncitizens.

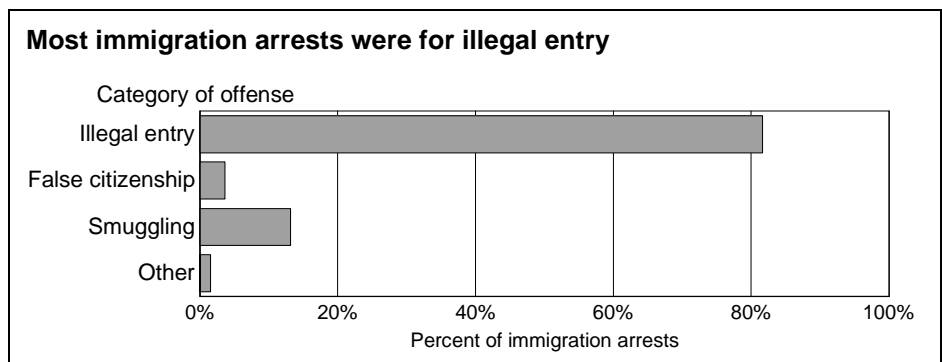


Figure 1.2. Type of immigration arrests, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Most (67%) offenders arrested for drug offenses were white, while 31% were black. Of those offenders arrested on charges involving cocaine, 59% were white and 40% were black. Of those offenders arrested on charges involving marijuana, 92% were white and 7% were black (figure 1.1).

Arrests by Drug Enforcement Administration agents (tables 1.4-1.5)

During 1999, agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration arrested 37,746 suspects. Some of these suspects were referred to U.S. attorneys for a prosecutorial decisions; others were referred to a State prosecutor. Suspects arrested by DEA agents were predominantly white (67%) non-Hispanic (62%) male (83%) who were U.S. citizens (77%). The highest proportion of them were between 21 and 30 years old (43%).

Whites were usually the highest proportion of suspects arrested for all drug types, with the exception of crack cocaine, where blacks were the highest proportion.

A little over 4% of all suspects were armed at the time of arrest. Males were almost twice as likely to be armed at arrest as females (5% vs. 3%). Non-Hispanics (5%) and U.S. citizens (5%) were more likely to be armed at time of arrest than were Hispanics (3%) and non-U.S. citizens (3%).

If armed at arrest, offenders from all demographic subgroups were more likely to be armed with a handgun than any other weapon.

Table 1.1. Arrests for Federal offenses, by offense, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Most serious offense	Number	Percent
All offenses	109,857	100%
Violent offenses	4,276	3.9%
Murder*	287	0.3
Negligent manslaughter	28	—
Assault	876	0.8
Robbery	2,505	2.3
Sexual abuse*	247	0.2
Kidnaping	156	0.1
Threatening communication	142	0.1
Other violent offenses	35	—
Property offenses	16,749	15.3%
Fraudulent	13,260	12.1%
Embezzlement	1,211	1.1
Fraud*	10,164	9.3
Forgery	357	0.3
Counterfeiting	1,528	1.4
Other	3,489	3.2%
Burglary	153	0.1
Larceny*	2,124	1.9
Motor vehicle theft	385	0.4
Arson and explosives	124	0.1
Transportation of stolen property	587	0.5
Other property offenses*	116	0.1
Drug offenses	31,992	29.1%
Public-order offenses	37,097	33.8%
Regulatory	752	0.7%
Antitrust	6	—
Food and drug	255	0.2
Civil rights	82	0.1
Other regulatory offenses	409	0.4
Other	36,345	33.1%
Weapons	4,284	3.9
Immigration	22,851	20.8
Tax law violations*	1,305	1.2
Bribery	264	0.2
Civil rights	306	0.3
National defense	17	—
Escape	649	0.6
Racketeering and extortion	651	0.6
Gambling	139	0.1
Obscene material*	305	0.3
Child Support Recovery	387	0.4
Nonviolent sex offenses	451	0.4
Obstruction of justice	435	0.4
Traffic offenses	2,041	1.9
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and jurisdictional offenses	1,749	1.6
All other offenses*	511	0.5
Supervision violations	15,652	14.3%
Material witness	4,016	3.7%
Unknown or indeterminable	75	

—Less than .05%.

*In this table, "Murder" includes nonnegligent manslaughter; "Sexual abuse" includes only violent sex offenses; "Fraud" excludes tax fraud; "Larceny" excludes transportation of stolen property; "Other property offenses" excludes fraudulent property offenses, and includes destruction of property and

trespassing; "Tax law violations" includes tax fraud; "Obscene material" denotes the mail or transport thereof; and "All other offenses" includes offenses with unclassifiable offense type.

Table 1.2. Arrests for Federal offenses and booked by USMS, by Federal law enforcement agency, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Arresting agency*	Most serious offense at arrest								
	All	Violent	Property		Drug	Public-order		Supervision violations	Material witness
			Fraudulent	Other		Regulatory	Other		
All agencies	109,857	4,276	13,260	3,489	31,992	752	36,345	15,652	4,016
Department of Agriculture	195	3	54	14	21	75	27	1	0
Department of Defense	489	29	34	73	30	4	309	10	0
Department of the Interior	1,181	90	8	59	146	89	737	51	0
Indian Affairs	125	55	1	11	10	0	18	29	0
Park Police	1,056	35	7	48	136	89	719	22	0
Department of Justice	78,776	3,502	6,119	1,693	20,964	268	29,138	13,096	3,946
Drug Enforcement Administration	11,718	42	90	15	11,221	44	257	29	9
Federal Bureau of Investigation	11,760	2,224	2,950	696	4,030	71	1,608	133	41
Immigration and Naturalization Service	26,804	37	518	3	352	0	21,847	321	3,716
Marshals Service	28,466	1,198	2,561	977	5,358	152	5,413	12,605	180
Other DOJ	28	1	0	2	3	1	13	8	0
Department of State	304	1	270	1	4	0	27	0	1
Department of the Treasury	12,373	117	2,384	162	6,815	16	2,765	60	39
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms	2,461	38	85	65	433	0	1,822	8	8
Customs Service	7,286	22	341	31	6,278	7	533	39	26
Internal Revenue Service	738	5	266	15	89	3	351	4	5
Secret Service	1,888	52	1,692	51	15	6	59	9	0
Federal judiciary	747	20	297	192	48	2	97	89	1
U.S. Postal Service	1,124	42	522	360	87	8	97	6	1
Other	14,668	472	3,572	935	3,877	290	3,148	2,339	28
Self-report, subpoena	7,967	146	2,898	660	965	186	1,696	1,407	7
State and local	3,434	183	164	101	1,583	17	697	686	2
Task force	1,007	9	12	2	878	0	94	11	1
Other	2,260	134	498	172	451	87	661	235	18

*This table displays data by the arresting Federal agency. The arresting agency may be different from the Federal agency that initiated the investigation involving the arrestee. Statistics describing agencies initiating investigations are shown in table 2.3 of chapter 2, "Prosecution."

Table 1.3. Characteristics of Federal arrestees, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Arrestee characteristic	Number arrested	Percent of suspects arrested on—								
		All	Violent	Property		Drug	Public order		Supervision	Material witness
				Fraudulent	Other		Regulatory	Other		
All arrestees	109,857	100%	3.9%	12.1%	3.2%	29.1%	0.7%	33.1%	14.3%	3.7%
Male/female										
Male	93,365	85.0%	90.4%	70.5%	73.7%	84.6%	90.8%	90.3%	86.4%	85.4%
Female	16,479	15.0	9.6	29.5	26.3	15.4	9.2	9.7	13.6	14.6
Race										
White	77,599	70.6%	43.7%	63.6%	60.5%	67.2%	85.5%	82.3%	59.8%	93.3%
Black	27,052	24.6	38.8	31.0	31.9	30.8	7.3	12.9	34.7	2.2
Native American	1,875	1.7	14.1	0.7	4.4	0.4	1.6	0.9	3.5	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	2,549	2.3	3.0	4.0	2.5	1.0	4.1	3.0	1.4	3.5
Other	769	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.5	1.5	0.9	0.5	0.7
Age										
Under 19 years	2,472	2.3%	6.5%	0.6%	3.7%	2.1%	2.3%	2.3%	0.9%	7.6%
19-20 years	6,507	5.9	8.8	3.5	7.2	6.1	5.1	6.6	3.3	12.7
21-30 years	44,758	40.8	40.1	30.4	32.3	44.3	25.3	44.1	34.8	51.6
31-40 years	31,880	29.0	27.6	28.8	29.0	28.7	25.3	28.4	34.6	19.9
Over 40 years	24,126	22.0	17.0	36.8	27.8	18.9	42.0	18.5	26.4	8.3
Citizenship										
U.S. citizen	62,159	56.6%	84.8%	76.1%	85.6%	65.0%	74.6%	32.3%	78.1%	2.3%
Not U.S. citizen	38,010	34.6	6.4	13.2	5.4	26.6	7.2	59.1	13.5	90.2
Missing/indeterminate	9,688	8.8	8.7	10.6	9.0	8.4	18.2	8.7	8.5	7.4

Table 1.4. Characteristics of suspects arrested by Drug Enforcement Administration agents, by type of drug, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Arrestee characteristic	Total arrested	Percent arrested	Drug type					Other or non-drug
			Cocaine powder	Crack cocaine	Marijuana	Methamphetamine	Opiates	
All arrestees*	37,746	100%	9,318	6,227	8,053	8,646	3,232	2,270
Male/female								
Male	30,966	82.6%	7,909	5,299	6,642	6,686	2,700	1,730
Female	6,540	17.4	1,363	897	1,340	1,905	506	529
Race								
White	24,409	67.3%	5,559	1,079	6,028	7,943	2,029	1,771
Black	11,272	31.1	3,286	4,914	1,613	129	971	359
Native American	204	0.6	43	30	51	54	9	17
Asian/Pacific Islander	363	1.0	44	40	39	161	43	36
Ethnicity								
Hispanic	13,811	38.1%	4,472	657	3,724	2,670	1,895	393
Non-Hispanic	22,446	61.9	4,535	5,232	4,037	5,643	1,258	1,741
Age								
Under 19 years	278	0.7%	47	76	79	31	30	15
19-20 years	1,935	5.2	347	469	509	346	127	137
21-30 years	15,863	42.6	3,993	3,143	3,408	3,116	1,253	950
31-40 years	11,482	30.9	2,907	1,617	2,224	3,137	1,012	585
Over 40 years	7,655	20.6	1,885	851	1,716	1,883	760	560
Citizenship								
U.S. citizen	26,883	76.7%	5,970	5,528	5,359	6,428	1,787	1,811
Not U.S. citizen	8,187	23.3	2,639	343	2,103	1,596	1,209	297

*Includes offenders for whom offense or characteristics are unknown.

Table 1.5. Characteristics of suspects arrested by Drug Enforcement Administration agents, by weapon use at time of arrest, October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Arrestee characteristic	Total arrested	Total armed	Percent armed	If armed, percent with—		
				Handgun	Shotgun or rifle	Other weapon
All arrestees*	37,746	1,570	4.2%	79.4%	24.1%	8.1%
Male/female						
Male	30,966	1,388	4.5%	78.7%	23.1%	8.4%
Female	6,540	169	2.6	84.6	30.8	6.5
Race						
White	24,409	936	3.8%	74.7%	29.9%	9.9%
Black	11,272	553	4.9	87.2	14.6	5.2
Native American	204	10	4.9	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	363	16	4.4	87.5	31.3	0
Ethnicity						
Hispanic	13,811	445	3.2%	77.3%	20.2%	6.3%
Non-Hispanic	22,446	1,048	4.7	80.6	26.2	7.9
Age						
Under 19 years	278	13	4.7%	84.6%	38.5%	7.7%
19-20 years	1,935	96	5.0	80.2	28.1	6.3
21-30 years	15,863	707	4.5	81.9	18.2	7.6
31-40 years	11,482	430	3.7	77.7	27.4	8.1
Over 40 years	7,655	301	3.9	76.1	30.6	9.6
Citizenship						
U.S. citizen	26,883	1,209	4.5%	81.2%	24.5%	8.8%
Not U.S. citizen	8,187	265	3.2	75.8	22.3	6.0

*Includes offenders for whom offense or characteristics are unknown. —Too few cases to obtain statistically reliable data.

Chapter notes

Tables 1.1-1.3 were derived from the U.S. Marshals Prisoner Tracking System. Only records of arrests made during October 1, 1998, through September 30, 1999, were selected. Information on individual cases, offenses, and detainees were used to construct the tables.

Tables 1.4-1.5 were derived from the DEA Defendants Statistical System. Only records of arrests made during October 1, 1998, through September 30, 1999, were selected. Some suspects arrested by DEA agents may be transferred to state or local jurisdiction and not the U.S. Marshals service. Therefore, counts of DEA arrests from tables 1.4-1.5 may be higher than those reported in table 1.2.

Offenses of arrest were classified by the U.S. Marshals into their four-digit offense codes. These were then aggregated into the offense categories shown in the tables. These categories are similar, but may not be directly comparable, to categories used in other tables of this *Compendium*.