Federal Justice Statistics, 2017-2018

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Federal arrests increased by 53,763 from fiscal year (FY) 2017 to FY 2018, reaching their highest level in 25 years at 195,771 arrests **(figure 1)**. This marked the first rise in federal arrests since they dropped 25% from a former high of 188,164 arrests in 2013 to 142,008 arrests in 2017.[1]

Of the 372,354 persons under federal correctional control at fiscal year-end 2018, 60% were in secure confinement and 40% were under community supervision **(table 1)**. This was similar to fiscal year-end 2017, when 372,531 persons were under federal correctional control (59% in secure confinement and 41% supervised in the community).

This report describes persons processed by the federal criminal justice system. Data are from the Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP), which collects, standardizes, and reports on administrative data received from six federal justice agencies: the U.S. Marshals Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the

[1]In this report, data are for the fiscal year, which is from October 1 to September 30.

Bulletin

FIGURE 1
Suspects and defendants processed in the federal justice system, FY 1994-2018
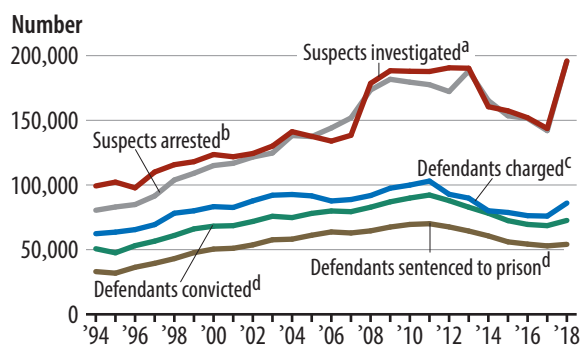
[a]Suspects in matters investigated by U.S. attorneys. Suspects investigated in more than one matter are counted separately.
[b]Suspects arrested by federal law enforcement. Suspects arrested more than once are counted separately. Excludes District of Columbia Superior Court arrests.
[c]Defendants charged with a felony or a Class A misdemeanor in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately.
[d]Defendants in cases terminated with a felony or a Class A misdemeanor in U.S. district court. Defendants in more than one terminated case are counted separately.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the U.S. Marshals Service, Prisoner Tracking and Justice Detainee Information System; Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, National Legal Information Office Network System database; and Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal years 1994-2018.

HIGHLIGHTS

- During fiscal year (FY) 2018, federal law enforcement made 195,771 arrests, a 38% increase from the 142,008 arrests in FY 2017.

- An immigration offense was the most serious arrest offense in 56% of federal arrests in FY 2018.

- In FY 2018, the five federal judicial districts along the U.S.-Mexico border accounted for 65% of federal arrests.

- Drug Enforcement Administration arrests in FY 2018 most often involved methamphetamine (8,088 arrests), followed by heroin and opioids (7,098 arrests).

- Thirty-one percent of defendants charged in U.S. district court in FY 2018 were from Mexico, 8% were from Central America, and 2% were from the Caribbean.

- Non-U.S. citizens made up 43% of defendants charged in U.S. district court in FY 2018 and 19% of federally sentenced prisoners in Federal Bureau of Prisons custody at fiscal year-end 2018.

- Of the 372,354 persons under some form of federal correctional control at fiscal year-end 2018, 60% were in secure confinement and 40% were under community supervision.

TABLE 1
Offenders in federal confinement or under federal supervision in the community, Fiscal Year-end 2008, 2017, and 2018

	2008		2017		2018	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	381,723	100%	372,531	100%	372,354	100%
Secure confinement	234,629	61.4%	218,222	58.6%	222,315	59.7%
Pre-trial detention	56,745	14.8	53,579	14.4	60,430	16.2
Federal Bureau of Prisons (post-sentencing)*	177,884	46.6	164,643	44.2	161,885	43.5
Community supervision	147,094	38.6%	154,309	41.4%	150,039	40.3%
Pre-trial release	27,041	7.1	21,848	5.9	22,597	6.1
Post-sentencing	120,053	31.5	132,461	35.6	127,442	34.2
Supervised release	94,703	24.8	114,537	30.7	111,024	29.8
Probation	23,054	6.0	16,895	4.5	15,465	4.2
Parole	2,296	0.6	1,029	0.3	953	0.3

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Federal offender populations are shown as of September 30, 2008, 2017, and 2018.

*Counts include federally sentenced prisoners in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP). Counts exclude persons in federal prison for District of Columbia code offenses, military code offenses, treaty transfer cases, and as state boarders. Unsentenced federal offenders in the BOP are counted in pre-trial detention counts.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System; U.S. Marshals Service, Justice Detainee Information System; and Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2008, 2017, and 2018.

Definitions of major offense categories

Violent—Includes murder, negligent or non-negligent manslaughter, aggravated or simple assault, sexual abuse, robbery, kidnapping, and threats against the president.

Property—Includes fraudulent and other types of property offenses.

Fraudulent property—Includes embezzlement, fraud (including tax fraud), forgery, and counterfeiting.

Other property—Includes burglary, larceny, motor-vehicle theft, arson, transportation of stolen property, and other property offenses, such as destruction of property and trespassing.

Drug—Includes the manufacture, import, export, distribution, or dispensing of a controlled or counterfeit substance, or the possession of a controlled or counterfeit substance with intent to manufacture or distribute.

Public order—Includes regulatory and other types of offenses.

Regulatory public order—Includes violation of agriculture, antitrust, labor, food and drug, motor-carrier, and other federal regulations.

Other public order—Includes non-regulatory violations concerning tax law (tax fraud), bribery, perjury, national defense, escape, racketeering and extortion, gambling, liquor, mailing or transporting obscene materials, traffic, migratory birds, conspiracy, aiding and abetting, jurisdiction, and other offenses.

Weapons—Includes violations of any of the provisions of 18 U.S.C. §§ 922-923 concerning the manufacture, import, possession, receipt, and license of firearms and ammunition.

Immigration—Includes offenses involving illegal entrance into the U.S., illegal reentry after being deported, the willful failure to leave when ordered, or the transportation or harbor of any non-U.S. citizens not admitted by an immigration officer.

Supervision violations—Includes violations of bail, violations of pre-trial or post-sentencing supervision in the community (probation), and failures to appear.

Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the U.S. Sentencing Commission, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP).

Arrest and booking

This section presents the most serious offenses that suspects were booked for by deputy U.S. marshals. Each of the 94 federal judicial districts has a U.S. marshal and deputy U.S. marshals responsible for taking suspects charged with a federal crime into custody (which involves booking, processing, and detaining the suspects), overseeing court security, and coordinating prisoner transportation.

In FY 2018, federal law enforcement agencies made 195,771 arrests for federal offenses

Immigration was the most common arrest offense in FY 2018 (108,667 arrests) (table 2). Fifty-six percent of federal arrests in FY 2018 involved an immigration offense as the most serious arrest offense. Arrests for supervision violations (13% of all arrests) and drug offenses (11%) were the next-most common. During that time, 8 in 10 federal arrests were for immigration, drug, or supervision violations (156,103 arrests).

TABLE 2
Federal arrests, by most serious offense and federal judicial district, FY 2017 and FY 2018

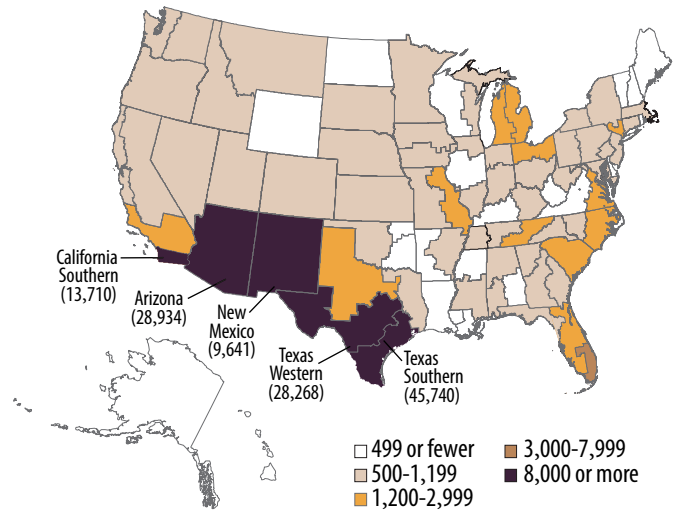|	FY 2017		FY 2018		Percent change, 2017-2018
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total arrests	142,008	100%	195,771	100%	37.9%
Most serious offense at arrest					
Violent	3,679	2.6%	3,811	1.9%	3.6%
Property	10,246	7.2	10,395	5.3	1.5
Fraud	8,672	6.1	8,966	4.6	3.4
Other	1,574	1.1	1,429	0.7	-9.2
Drug	22,611	15.9	22,387	11.4	-1.0
Public order	7,775	5.5	7,428	3.8	-4.5
Regulatory	252	0.2	234	0.1	-7.1
Other	7,523	5.3	7,194	3.7	-4.4
Weapons	9,091	6.4	10,562	5.4	16.2
Immigration	58,031	40.9	108,667	55.5	87.3
Material witness	5,684	4.0	7,472	3.8	31.5
Supervision violations	24,890	17.5	25,049	12.8	0.6
Federal judicial district					
U.S.-Mexico border district	76,171	53.6%	126,293	64.5%	65.8%
Arizona	20,664	14.6	28,934	14.8	40.0
California Southern	8,003	5.6	13,710	7.0	71.3
New Mexico	5,989	4.2	9,641	4.9	61.0
Texas Southern	21,405	15.1	45,740	23.4	113.7
Texas Western	20,110	14.2	28,268	14.4	40.6
Other	65,837	46.4	69,478	35.5	5.5

Note: Suspects with more than one arrest are counted separately. The most serious offense at arrest is determined by the deputy U.S. marshal at booking. The federal judicial district is the location of the federal court where booking takes place. Data were missing for offense in 2017 (1).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the U.S. Marshals Service, Justice Detainee Information System, fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

About 2 in 3 arrests in FY 2018 took place in the five federal judicial districts along the U.S.-Mexico border

The five federal judicial districts along the U.S.-Mexico border (Arizona, California Southern, New Mexico, Texas Southern, and Texas Western) accounted for 65% of all federal arrests in FY 2018, up from 58% in FY 2016 (see *Federal Justice Statistics, 2015-2016,* NCJ 251770, BJS, January 2019) (map 1). Texas Southern had the most arrests in FY 2018 (45,740 arrests), followed by Arizona (28,934) and Texas Western (28,268).

MAP 1
Number of federal arrests, by federal judicial district, **FY 2018**

California Southern (13,710)
Arizona (28,934)
New Mexico (9,641)
Texas Western (28,268)
Texas Southern (45,740)

499 or fewer
500-1,199
1,200-2,999
3,000-7,999
8,000 or more

Note: A total of 195,771 suspects were arrested for a federal offense from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018. Not shown: District of Columbia (1,550), Guam (93), Northern Mariana Islands (0), Puerto Rico (1,586), and U.S. Virgin Islands (88).
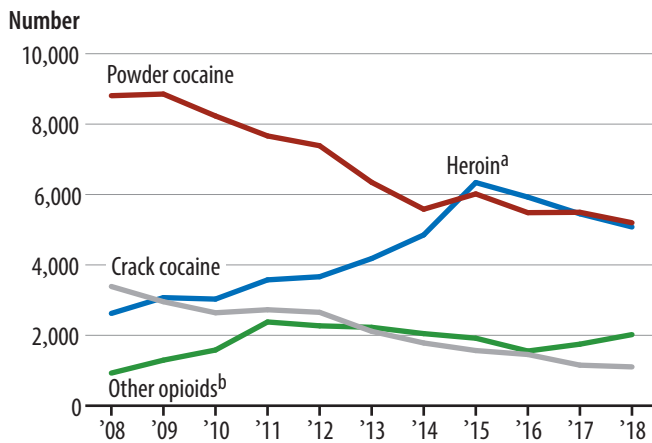
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the U.S. Marshals Service, Justice Detainee Information System, fiscal year 2018.

Arrests by the Drug Enforcement Administration

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) enforces the controlled-substances laws and regulations of the U.S. This includes investigating major drug offenders at the national and international levels. The DEA coordinates with foreign governments and federal, state, tribal, and local agencies. It has 239 offices in the U.S. and 91 offices in 68 countries. (See https://www.dea.gov/domestic-divisions.)[2]

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[2]"Suspects arrested by the DEA" describes arrests in which each arrest of an individual suspect is counted separately. Individual suspects can be arrested by the DEA more than once in one year. DEA data do not distinguish between arrests that are referred for either state or federal prosecution.

The DEA reported 27,348 drug arrests in FY 2018, which was similar to the 27,223 arrests in FY 2017. From FY 2008 to FY 2018, DEA arrests for other opioids increased the most at about 10% per year, followed by arrests for heroin (8%) and methamphetamine (6%) **(figures 2 and 3)**. During that period, arrests declined each year on average by 10% for crack cocaine, 6% for marijuana, and 5% for powder cocaine. The DEA made 7,098 arrests for heroin and other opioids in FY 2018, which represented 26% of all drug arrests in FY 2018 (27,348) and double the arrests for heroin and other opioids in FY 2008. The DEA also made 8,088 arrests for methamphetamine in FY 2018.

FIGURE 2
Federal and state arrests by the Drug Enforcement Administration, by powder cocaine, crack cocaine, heroin, and other opioids, FY 2008-2018

Note: The unit of count is an arrest by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Each arrest for an individual is counted separately. Includes state and federal arrests made by the DEA.
[a]Includes heroin, morphine, and opium base.
[b]Opioids refer to synthetic compounds that emulate the effects of natural compounds found in the opium poppy. Synthetic opioids are commonly available by prescription but can also be manufactured in labs.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Drug Enforcement Administration, Defendant Statistical System, fiscal years 2008-2018.

FIGURE 3
Federal and state arrests by the Drug Enforcement Administration, by marijuana, methamphetamine, and other non-opioids, FY 2008-2018
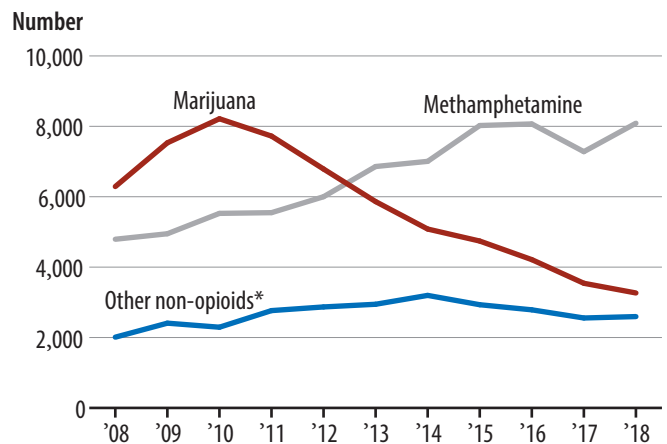
Note: The unit of count is an arrest by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Each arrest for an individual is counted separately. Includes state and federal arrests made by the DEA.
*Includes non-opioid pharmaceutical controlled substances, other depressants, sedatives, ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, hallucinogens, synthetic cannabinoids, other steroids, equipment to manufacture controlled substances, and drug-use paraphernalia.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Drug Enforcement Administration, Defendant Statistical System, fiscal years 2008-2018.

Investigation and prosecution

Ninety-three U.S. attorneys served as the chief federal prosecutor within their judicial district in FY 2018.[3] Federal law enforcement agencies referred the most matters to U.S. attorneys in FY 2018. Referrals also came from state and local law enforcement.

In FY 2018, most suspects were referred by the Department of Homeland Security

Agencies within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) referred 59% of the 195,842 suspects in matters sent to U.S. attorneys in FY 2018, up from 48% in FY 2017 (table 3). This increase was due to growth in immigration and property offenses that were referred by DHS (not shown in tables). Law enforcement agencies within the Department of Justice (DOJ) referred 26% of

[3]One U.S. attorney serves two districts (Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands). This section combines Guam with the Northern Mariana Islands for statistical reporting.

TABLE 3
Suspects in matters opened by U.S. attorneys, by referring authority, FY 2008 and FY 2016-2018

Department/authority	FY 2008	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Defense	2.4%	2.0%	2.2%	1.4%
Homeland Security	60.1	52.6	47.6	59.1
Interior	1.5	2.0	2.0	1.0
Justice	22.7	29.7	33.2	26.1
Treasury	1.4	1.3	1.2	0.7
Federal/state task forces	2.1	2.0	2.8	2.9
Other*	9.8	10.4	11.0	8.8
Number of suspects	178,570	151,994	143,684	195,842

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The department or authority is the entity making the referral for criminal action to the U.S. attorneys' offices. Percentages are based on records with non-missing referring-authority data. Data were missing for referring authority in 2008 (276), in 2016 (41), and in 2018 (1). The unit of count is a suspect in a matter referred to U.S. attorneys. Suspects in more than one matter are counted separately. A matter is opened when a federal prosecutor spends one hour or more investigating.

*Includes the departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Labor, State, and Transportation; and state and local authorities.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, National Legal Information Office Network System database, fiscal years 2008 and 2016-2018.

suspects in matters referred to U.S. attorneys in FY 2018, compared to 33% in FY 2017, 30% in FY 2016, and 23% in FY 2008. In FY 2018, about 3% of suspects in matters opened by U.S. attorneys were referred by federal or state task forces.

U.S. attorneys prosecuted 43% of suspects in matters concluded in FY 2018

U.S. attorneys establish policies and priorities within their federal judicial districts and determine which cases they prosecute. In choosing to prosecute, U.S. attorneys account for factors such as available resources and the priorities of the DOJ and state and local law enforcement. To conclude a matter, U.S. attorneys may file charges and prosecute defendants in U.S. district court, file charges and prosecute matters before U.S. magistrates, or decline matters, resulting in no further action in U.S. district court. In FY 2018, U.S. attorneys most commonly prosecuted weapons (76%) and drug (73%) matters, followed by property other (58%) and violent (54%) matters (table 4).

U.S. magistrates have the authority to adjudicate, or dispose of, misdemeanor offenses under 18 U.S.C. § 3401. Magistrates' matters differ from prosecutions in that they typically require less than one hour of an assistant U.S. attorney's time and are processed quickly in court. Forty-five percent of matters concluded by U.S. attorneys in FY 2018 were disposed of by U.S. magistrates. Offenses that were most likely to be disposed of by U.S. magistrates included immigration (73%) and public-order (18%) offenses. U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute 13% of matters concluded in FY 2018. The cases most likely to be declined were regulatory public-order (47%) and property fraud (43%) offenses.

TABLE 4
Outcome and case-processing time of suspects in matters concluded, FY 2018

	Number of suspects in matters concluded	Outcome[a]			Prosecutor decision/case-processing time (median)[b]			
		Prosecuted in U.S. district court	Disposed of by U.S. magistrate	Declined to prosecute	Total	Decision to prosecute in U.S. district court	Decision to dispose of by U.S. magistrate	Decision to decline matter
Total	195,757	42.5%	44.7%	12.8%	12 days	24 days	1 day	516 days
Lead charge[c]								
Violent	5,081	54.0%	9.5%	36.6%	89 days	27 days	114 days	307 days
Property	19,020	51.2	7.4	41.5	302	97	128	663
Fraud	16,700	50.3	6.8	43.0	333	123	114	679
Other	2,320	57.7	11.6	30.7	112	31	232	481
Drug	31,919	73.3	9.0	17.8	39	26	73	576
Public order	18,228	45.9	18.3	35.9	152	40	84	520
Regulatory	3,192	37.7	15.6	46.7	225	37	57	559
Other	15,036	47.6	18.9	33.6	140	41	90	509
Weapons	13,672	76.2	4.6	19.3	35	26	78	246
Immigration	107,794	26.4	73.1	0.5	2	22	1	379
Federal judicial district								
U.S.-Mexico border	114,557	27.7%	70.1%	2.2%	2 days	23 days	1 day	509 days
Arizona	26,630	19.8	76.7	3.5	0	26	0	534
California Southern	11,297	56.3	42.8	0.9	15	25	7	513
New Mexico	9,859	42.7	53.2	4.1	8	11	5	419
Texas Southern	40,678	16.6	82.2	1.2	1	20	0	675
Texas Western	26,093	34.9	62.9	2.2	7	23	2	464
Other	81,200	63.3	8.9	27.8	87 days	28 days	105 days	517 days

[a]Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The unit of count is a suspect in a matter referred to U.S. attorneys. Suspects investigated in more than one matter are counted separately. Data were missing for lead charge (43).

[b]Case-processing time reflects the time from receipt of a matter to the U.S. attorney's decision to prosecute the matter as a case in U.S. district court, refer the matter for disposal by a U.S. magistrate, or decline the matter, resulting in no further action in U.S. district court. The median is the midpoint of processing time. A median of one day means that at least half of the suspects received a disposition within a day of when the matter was referred.

[c]The lead charge is the substantive statute that is the primary basis for referral. It is most often, but not always, the charge with the greatest potential sentence.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, National Legal Information Office Network System database, fiscal year 2018.

Case filing, adjudication, and sentencing

This section describes the workload of U.S. district courts, including the disposition of criminal proceedings and the sentencing of convicted defendants. The courts serve as the general trial courts of the federal judicial system and have original jurisdiction over any case arising under federal statutes, the U.S. Constitution, or treaties. Each U.S. district court has at least one U.S. district judge, who is appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate.

37% more defendants were charged with immigration offenses in FY 2018 than in FY 2017

From FY 2017 to FY 2018, the number of defendants charged with a federal offense grew from 68,584 to 77,579 (figure 4). During that period, the number of persons charged with immigration offenses increased by 37%; weapons offenses by 16%; and violent offenses by 7%. Persons charged with public-order offenses decreased by 2% from FY 2017 to FY 2018.

FIGURE 4
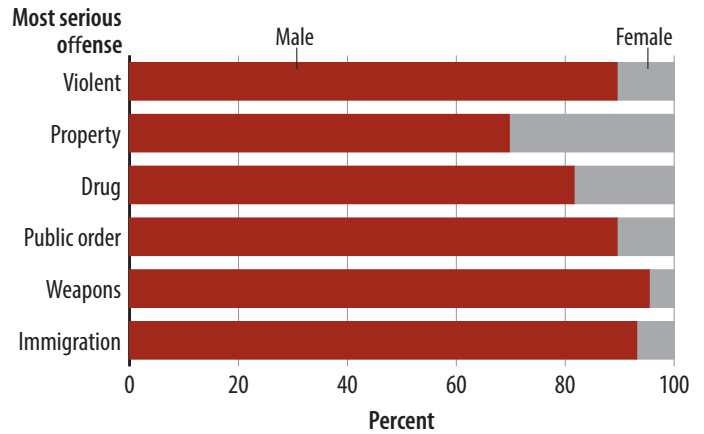**Defendants in criminal cases filed in U.S. district court, by offense type, FY 2008-2018**
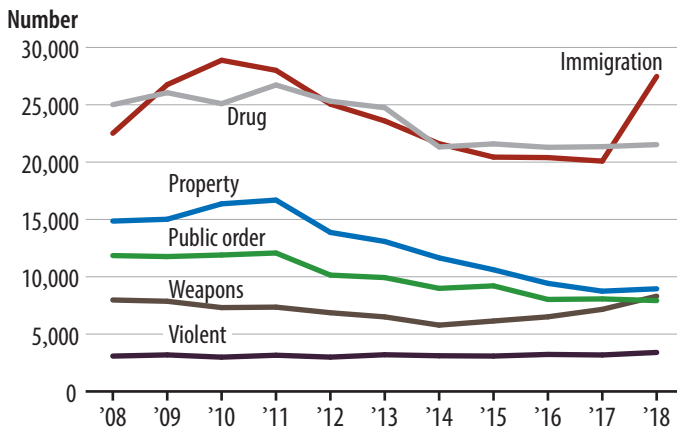
Note: The unit of count is a defendant in a case filed in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately. Includes defendants charged in U.S. district court with a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor as the most serious charge.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal years 2008-2018.

Most defendants charged in U.S. district court in FY 2018 were male

A total of 63,654 males and 9,278 females were charged in U.S. district court in FY 2018, with males accounting for 87% of all defendants. Females made up 30% of defendants charged with a property offense and 18% of defendants charged with a drug offense (figure 5).

FIGURE 5
Defendants charged in U.S. district court, by sex and most serious offense, FY 2018

Note: The unit of count is a defendant in a case filed in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately. Includes defendants charged in U.S. district court with a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor as the most serious charge. Data were missing for sex (178) and offense (185).
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year 2018.

Of the females charged in FY 2018, about 45% were Hispanic, 31% were white, and 18% were black **(table 5)**. Of the males charged, 59% were Hispanic, 20% were black, and 17% were white. Seventy-nine percent of charged females were U.S. citizens. The number of charged males was almost evenly split between U.S. citizens (54%) and non-U.S. citizens (46%). Among male non-U.S. citizens who were charged, the most common countries or regions of citizenship were Mexico (33%), Central America (9%), the Caribbean Islands

TABLE 5
Demographic characteristics of defendants charged in U.S. district court, by sex of defendant, FY 2018

Demographic characteristic	All defendants		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	73,110	100%	63,654	100%	9,278	100%
Race/ethnicity						
White[a]	13,448	19.1%	10,677	17.3%	2,768	31.3%
Black[a]	14,239	20.2	12,621	20.5	1,611	18.2
Hispanic	40,510	57.4	36,556	59.2	3,941	44.6
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander[a]	967	1.4	737	1.2	228	2.6
American Indian/Alaska Native[a]	1,422	2.0	1,137	1.8	284	3.2
Age						
17 or younger	25	<0.1%	25	<0.1%	0	0.0%
18-19	764	1.1	642	1.0	122	1.3
20-24	8,018	11.0	6,875	10.8	1,140	12.3
25-29	12,579	17.2	10,955	17.2	1,617	17.4
30-34	13,402	18.4	11,840	18.6	1,557	16.8
35-39	12,565	17.2	11,107	17.5	1,451	15.6
40-44	9,526	13.1	8,404	13.2	1,119	12.1
45-49	6,534	9.0	5,637	8.9	895	9.7
50-54	4,271	5.9	3,683	5.8	584	6.3
55-59	2,609	3.6	2,237	3.5	370	4.0
60-64	1,480	2.0	1,258	2.0	218	2.4
65 or older	1,188	1.6	982	1.5	203	2.2
Median age	35 yrs.	~	35 yrs.	~	35 yrs.	~
Citizenship						
U.S. citizen	41,338	57.0%	34,068	53.8%	7,248	79.0%
Non-U.S. citizen	31,204	43.0	29,258	46.2	1,931	21.0
Country/region of citizenship						
North America	70,868	97.7%	61,866	97.7%	8,966	97.7%
United States	41,338	57.0	34,068	53.8	7,248	79.0
Mexico	22,364	30.8	21,078	33.3	1,273	13.9
Canada	91	0.1	69	0.1	22	0.2
Caribbean Islands[b]	1,210	1.7	1,102	1.7	108	1.2
Central America[b]	5,865	8.1	5,549	8.8	315	3.4
South America[b]	858	1.2	783	1.2	75	0.8
Asia and Oceania[b]	389	0.5	317	0.5	71	0.8
Europe[b]	235	0.3	192	0.3	43	0.5
Africa[b]	192	0.3	168	0.3	24	0.3

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The unit of count is a defendant in a case filed in U.S. district court. Defendants charged in more than one case are counted separately. Includes defendants charged in U.S. district court with a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor as the most serious charge. Data were missing for sex (178), race or ethnicity (2,524), age (149), and citizenship (568).

~Not applicable.

[a]Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks). The defendant self-reported race and ethnicity during the pre-trial interview. Information was collected for one race and one ethnicity category.

[b]Countries aggregated by region.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year 2018.

(2%), and South America (1%). Fifty-eight percent of defendants charged in U.S. district court in FY 2018 were Hispanic. Sixty-six percent of defendants were ages 25 to 44, and 13% were age 50 or older. The youngest defendants (age 19 or younger) and oldest defendants (age 65 or older) together made up 3% of persons charged in FY 2018.

9 in 10 defendants adjudicated in U.S. district court in FY 2018 were convicted

Of the 78,996 defendants adjudicated in FY 2018, about 92% were convicted (table 6). Nearly all defendants charged with immigration (97%), weapons (94%),

and drug (93%) offenses were convicted. About 90% of adjudicated defendants pled guilty. Two percent of defendants were adjudicated through a bench or jury trial. Defendants adjudicated in U.S.-Mexico border districts had a higher conviction rate (96%) than defendants in non-border districts (89%). Among felony offenses, rates of non-conviction ranged from 3% for immigration offenses to 12% for regulatory offenses. Cases that were dismissed or otherwise concluded by the judge or prosecutor accounted for most non-convictions (8%). Dismissals (258 days), acquittals (266 days), and guilty pleas (195 days) took less time to process from case filing to disposition than trials that ended in convictions (549 days).

TABLE 6
Disposition and case-processing time of defendants in cases terminated in U.S. district court, FY 2018

Most serious offense at termination	Total cases terminated	Convicted			Not convicted		
		Total	Guilty plea	Bench/ jury trial	Total	Bench/ jury trial	Dismissed
All offenses	78,996	91.9%	89.9%	2.0%	8.1%	0.4%	7.7%
Type of charge							
Felony	71,138	94.2%	92.1%	2.1%	5.8%	0.5%	5.3%
Violent	2,634	91.5	85.5	6.0	8.5	1.8	6.8
Property	8,624	91.8	87.9	4.0	8.2	0.7	7.4
Fraud	7,512	92.0	88.0	4.0	8.0	0.6	7.4
Other	1,112	91.0	87.2	3.8	9.0	1.3	7.7
Drug	20,991	92.8	90.6	2.2	7.2	0.3	6.8
Public order	6,673	92.3	88.4	3.9	7.7	0.8	6.9
Regulatory	721	87.9	82.3	5.7	12.1	2.4	9.7
Other	5,952	92.8	89.2	3.7	7.2	0.6	6.5
Weapons	8,498	94.3	91.7	2.6	5.7	0.9	4.8
Immigration	23,718	97.2	96.9	0.3	2.8	0.1	2.7
Misdemeanor	7,858	70.7	70.1	0.6	29.3	0.3	29.1
Federal judicial district							
U.S.-Mexico border	29,815	95.9%	95.3%	0.6%	4.1%	0.3%	3.8%
Arizona	4,843	95.9	94.9	1.0	4.1	0.3	3.9
California Southern	6,126	92.8	92.0	0.8	7.2	0.4	6.8
New Mexico	4,043	98.5	98.4	0.1	1.5	<0.1	1.5
Texas Southern	6,371	96.3	95.7	0.6	3.7	0.2	3.4
Texas Western	8,432	96.6	96.1	0.5	3.4	0.2	3.1
Other	49,181	89.4	86.6	2.8	10.6	0.6	10.0
Median time from filing to disposition*	201 days	198 days	195 days	549 days	258 days	266 days	258 days

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Includes information on felony defendants; Class A misdemeanants, whether handled by U.S. district judges or U.S. magistrates; and other misdemeanants, provided they were handled by U.S. district judges. Court personnel determine the most serious offense at termination as the offense with the greatest statutory-maximum sentence. The unit of count is a defendant in a case terminated in U.S. district court. Defendants in more than one case are counted separately. The median is the midpoint between the slowest and fastest processing times. A median of 201 days means that half of the defendants received a disposition in less than 201 days and half received a disposition in more than 201 days.

*Includes the interval from the time a case is filed in U.S. district court to sentencing for defendants who were convicted, and the interval from case filing to disposition for defendants who were not convicted or whose cases were dismissed.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal year 2018.

3 in 4 convicted defendants were sentenced to prison in FY 2018

Of the 72,588 defendants convicted in U.S. district court in FY 2018, 75% were sentenced to prison (table 7). The remainder received a suspended sentence (15%), a sentence of probation only (9%), or a fine only (2%). Persons convicted of violent (93%), weapons (92%), or drug (91%) felonies were most likely to receive prison terms. Thirty-four percent of persons convicted of misdemeanors received prison sentences in FY 2018.

Defendants sentenced to prison in FY 2018 received a median term of 30 months

In FY 2018, the median prison sentence for a felony was 34 months. Violent offenders received a median of 77 months in prison, while drug offenders received a median of 63 months and other public-order offenders received a median of 51 months. The median prison term for immigration offenders was 12 months. Defendants convicted and sentenced to prison in the five U.S.-Mexico border districts received a median sentence

TABLE 7
Type and length of sentence imposed for convicted offenders, by offense and district, FY 2018

Most serious offense at case termination	Number convicted	Type of sentence				Median sentence length	
		Prison*	Probation only	Fine only	Suspended	Prison	Probation
All offenses	72,588	74.8%	8.5%	2.1%	14.5%	30 mos.	36 mos.
Type of offense							
Felony	67,035	78.2%	7.2%	0.3%	14.4%	34 mos.	36 mos.
Violent	2,410	93.1	2.6	0.1	4.2	77	36
Property	7,920	65.3	21.7	0.6	12.3	24	36
Fraud	6,908	67.3	19.4	0.7	12.7	24	36
Other	1,012	52.0	38.1	0.2	9.7	21	36
Drug	19,489	91.0	3.7	0.3	5.0	63	36
Public order	6,159	80.2	13.3	0.8	5.7	48	36
Regulatory	634	59.6	30.0	2.9	7.6	24	36
Other	5,525	82.6	11.4	0.6	5.5	51	36
Weapons	8,014	91.5	4.1	0.3	4.1	48	36
Immigration	23,043	64.9	5.0	0.2	29.9	12	36
Misdemeanor	5,553	34.3	24.9	24.2	16.6	4	12
Federal judicial district							
U.S.-Mexico border	28,598	73.3%	6.5%	0.2%	20.0%	14 mos.	36 mos.
Arizona	4,643	75.0	7.6	<0.1	17.4	14	36
California Southern	5,685	69.2	4.4	0.2	26.2	14	60
New Mexico	3,983	98.5	1.5	<0.1	<0.1	2	24
Texas Southern	6,138	87.4	2.8	0.2	9.6	21	36
Texas Western	8,149	52.3	12.5	0.4	34.8	18	36
Other	43,990	75.8	9.9	3.4	11.0	51	36

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The unit of count is a defendant in a case terminated with a conviction and sentence in U.S. district court. Defendants convicted and sentenced in more than one case are counted separately. The most serious offense is determined by court personnel as the offense with the greatest statutory-maximum sentence. The median prison term is the midpoint of prison terms imposed. A median of 30 months means that half of the defendants received a prison term of less than 30 months and half received a prison term of more than 30 months. Data were missing for type of sentence (240).

*Includes sentences to incarceration, such as mixed (a prison term followed by a probation term) and life sentences.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Criminal Master File, fiscal year 2018.

of 14 months, compared to a median of 51 months in other districts. This was due to the higher percentage of immigration cases in the border districts.

In FY 2018, the median probation sentence for a felony was 36 months. Probation sentences for a misdemeanor had a median length of 12 months.

Federal prison

In FY 2018, a total of 59,248 sentenced offenders were admitted to the BOP, of whom 47,620 had been committed by a U.S. district court (table 8). The remaining 11,628 offenders were returning to federal prison for violating conditions of their probation, parole, or supervised release or were admitted for a reason other than a U.S. district court commitment. Most prisoners admitted to the BOP had been convicted of a drug offense (36%), and the majority of them received a prison sentence of more than one year (74%).

A total of 64,397 prisoners were released from federal prison in FY 2018, of whom 52,404 were released for the first time since their commitment by a U.S. district court. From the start to the end of FY 2018, the number of federal prisoners declined by 5,419. This included decreases in immigration offenders (down 3,180) and drug offenders (down 2,323) and increases in public-order offenders (up 953) and weapons offenders (up 477).

TABLE 8
Admissions and releases of federal prisoners, by offense, FY 2018

Most serious commitment offense[a]	Population at start of year[b]	Prisoners admitted			Prisoners released			Population at end of year[g]	Net population change
		District court[c]			First release[d]				
		Sentence of 1 year or less	Sentence of more than 1 year	All other[e]	Time served of 1 year or less	Time served of more than 1 year	All other[f]		
Total	167,034	7,824	39,796	11,628	9,679	42,725	11,993	161,885	-5,149
Violent	10,023	76	1,409	957	98	1,538	1,071	9,758	-265
Property	10,125	705	3,298	1,251	848	3,827	1,327	9,377	-748
Fraud	8,575	554	2,826	921	672	3,313	956	7,935	-640
Other	1,550	151	472	330	176	514	371	1,442	-108
Drug	79,058	689	15,660	4,731	864	17,690	4,849	76,735	-2,323
Public order	24,679	504	5,513	1,332	571	4,477	1,348	25,632	953
Regulatory	3,027	170	1,074	162	186	974	162	3,111	84
Other	21,652	334	4,439	1,170	385	3,503	1,186	22,521	869
Weapons	28,397	175	6,980	2,505	188	6,472	2,523	28,874	477
Immigration	14,024	5,618	6,804	780	7,040	8,535	807	10,844	-3,180

Note: The unit of count is a person admitted to or released from the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Offenders who are admitted and released in the same year are counted separately. Excludes District of Columbia Superior Court offenders, military code offenders, state boarders, and foreign treaty transfers. Offenders who entered or left a prison temporarily (such as for transit to another location, for health care, or to serve a weekend sentence) are not counted as admitted or released. Data were missing for offense at the start of the year (728) and at the end of the year (665).

[a]The offense with the longest sentence imposed at conviction.

[b]The population as of October 1, 2017.

[c]Prisoners who were committed by a U.S. district court for U.S. Code violations.

[d]Prisoners who were released after being committed by a U.S. district court.

[e]Prisoners who were committed following a return to prison for violating conditions of their supervised release or who were received for examination, treatment, or transfer to another jurisdiction.

[f]Prisoners who were released from prison without a new court commitment after they were committed for violating conditions of their supervised release.
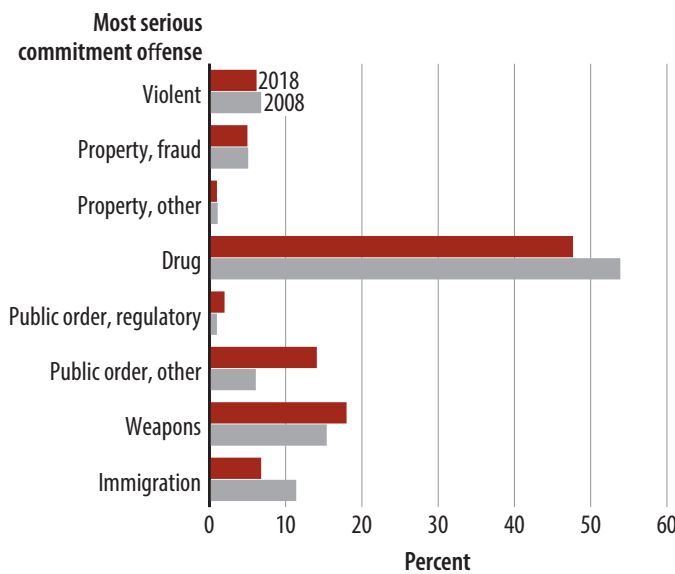
[g]The population as of September 30, 2018.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year 2018.

Drug offenders made up nearly half of the federal prisoners at fiscal year-end 2018

Prisoners with a drug offense as the most serious commitment offense made up 48% of the prison population at fiscal year-end 2018, down from 54% at fiscal year-end 2008 **(figure 6)**. During that period, the number of weapons offenders increased from 15% to 18% of the prison population, while the number of violent offenders decreased from 7% to 6% and immigration offenders decreased from 11% to 7%.

Four judicial districts committed 19% of federal prisoners at fiscal year-end 2018

At fiscal year-end 2018, about a fifth (19%) of inmates in federal prison were committed from four federal judicial districts: Texas Southern (10,047), Texas Western (8,314), Florida Southern (6,200), and Florida Middle (5,611) **(map 2)**. Three states (Texas, Florida, and California) committed 31% of federal prisoners at fiscal year-end 2018.

FIGURE 6
Prisoners in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, by most serious commitment offense, Fiscal Year-end 2008 and 2018

Note: Data are based on the offense with the longest sentence. The unit of count is the individual, federally sentenced prisoner in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons on September 30, 2008 and 2018. Includes prisoners sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes District of Columbia code offenders, military code offenders, foreign treaty transfers, state boarders, and pre-sentenced offenders. See *Methodology*. Percentages are based on non-missing data. Data were missing for offense in 2008 (1,387) and in 2018 (665).
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2008 and 2018.

MAP 2
Federally sentenced offenders in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, by judicial district of commitment, Fiscal Year-end 2018
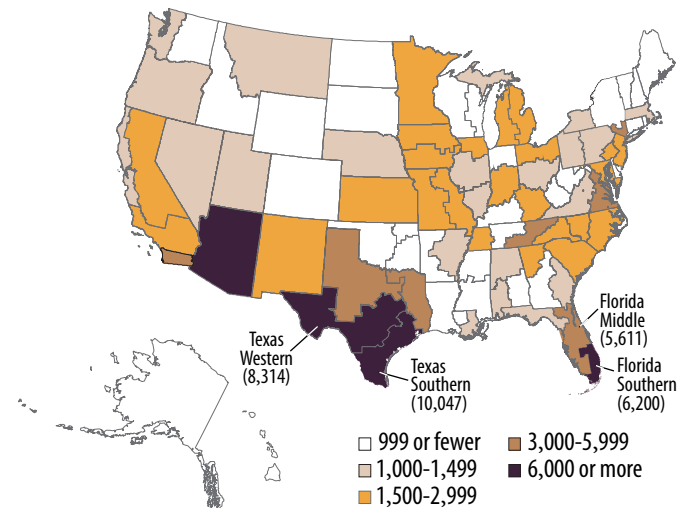
Note: The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) had custody of 161,885 federally sentenced offenders on September 30, 2018. The unit of count is the individual, federally sentenced prisoner in BOP custody. Includes prisoners sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes District of Columbia code offenders, military code offenders, foreign treaty transfers, state boarders, and pre-sentenced offenders. Data were missing for district of commitment (2). The map shows the number of persons in BOP custody, by the federal judicial district in which they received their sentence to the BOP. Not shown: District of Columbia (742), Guam (98), Northern Mariana Islands (24), Puerto Rico (3,195), and U.S. Virgin Islands (143).
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2018.

The type of commitment offense varied by federal prisoners' race and ethnicity at fiscal year-end 2018

Drug offenses were the most common commitment offense for Hispanic, black, white, Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Other Pacific Islander federal prisoners at fiscal year-end 2018 (figure 7). Hispanic prisoners accounted for the largest number of drug (30,398) and immigration (10,301) commitment offenses. Black prisoners accounted for the largest number of weapons (16,873) and violent (3,468) offenses. White prisoners accounted for the largest number of public-order (14,835) offenses. The most common offenses for American Indians and Alaska Natives were violent (2,076), drug (586), and weapons offenses (455).

Nearly 1 in 5 federally sentenced prisoners in the BOP were non-U.S. citizens in FY 2018

In FY 2018, nearly 13% of federally sentenced prisoners were citizens of Mexico, 2% were citizens of Caribbean countries, 2% were citizens of Central American countries, and 2% were citizens of South American countries (table 9). From FY 2008 to FY 2018, the portion of federal prisoners who were non-U.S. citizens decreased from 26% to 19%. During that period, the number of prisoners with Mexican citizenship decreased by an average of 11% annually.

The number of prisoners age 65 or older increased by 69% from FY 2008 to FY 2018

The median age of prisoners was 40 years in FY 2018, compared to 37 years in FY 2008. The number of prisoners age 65 or older increased 69%, from 3,028 prisoners in FY 2008 to 5,104 prisoners in FY 2018. Persons age 60 or older made up about 7% of all federal prisoners in FY 2018, compared to 4% in FY 2008.

FIGURE 7

Race or ethnicity of federally sentenced offenders in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, by most serious commitment offense, Fiscal Year-end 2018
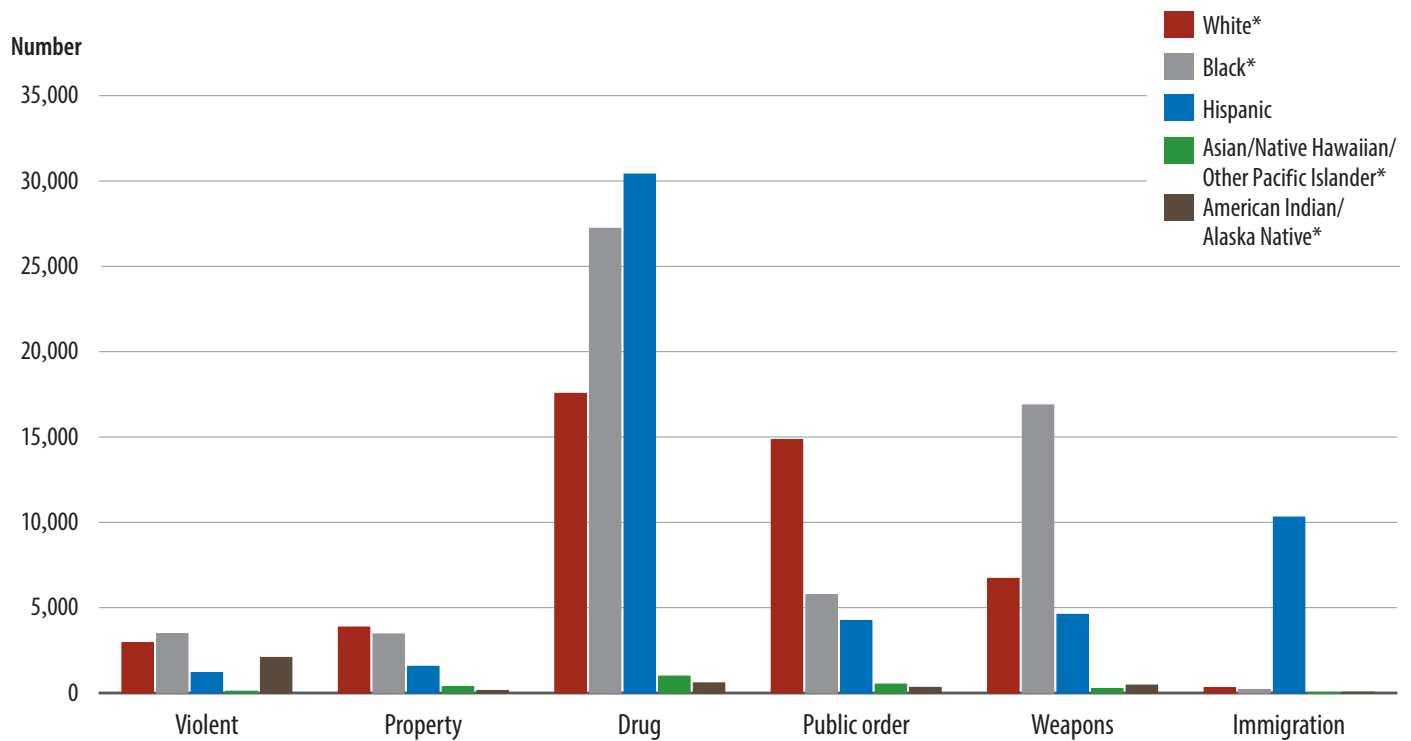
Note: Data are based on the offense with the longest sentence. The unit of count is the individual, federally sentenced prisoner in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons on September 30, 2018. Includes prisoners sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes District of Columbia code offenders, military code offenders, foreign treaty transfers, state boarders, and pre-sentenced offenders. See *Methodology*. Percentages are based on non-missing data. Data were missing for offense (665).

*Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2018.

TABLE 9
Demographic characteristics of federally sentenced prisoners in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Fiscal Year-end 2008 and 2018

Demographic characteristic	2008 Number	2008 Percent	2018 Number	2018 Percent	Average annual growth rate, 2008-2018[a]
Total	177,884	100%	161,885	100%	-0.9%
Sex					
Male	165,916	93.3%	150,465	92.9%	-0.9%
Female	11,968	6.7	11,420	7.1	-0.4
Race/ethnicity					
White[b]	49,963	28.1%	46,512	28.7%	-0.7%
Black[b]	65,672	36.9	57,132	35.3	-1.4
Hispanic	56,445	31.7	52,372	32.4	-0.6
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander[b]	2,679	1.5	2,237	1.4	-1.7
American Indian/Alaska Native[b]	3,125	1.8	3,632	2.2	1.5
Age					
17 or younger	30	<0.1%	4	<0.1%	<0.1%
18-19	401	0.2	184	0.1	-6.3
20-24	10,613	6.0	6,055	3.7	-5.3
25-29	28,317	15.9	18,110	11.2	-4.3
30-34	35,601	20.0	25,553	15.8	-3.1
35-39	33,237	18.7	30,352	18.7	-0.8
40-44	24,544	13.8	26,475	16.4	0.8
45-49	18,816	10.6	20,742	12.8	1.0
50-54	12,105	6.8	14,067	8.7	1.6
55-59	7,161	4.0	9,639	6.0	3.1
60-64	4,031	2.3	5,600	3.5	3.4
65 or older	3,028	1.7	5,104	3.2	5.5
Median age	37 yrs.	~	40 yrs.	~	~
Citizenship					
U.S. citizen	131,215	73.9%	131,035	80.9%	0.0%
Non-U.S. citizen	46,444	26.1	30,848	19.1	-3.8
Country/region of citizenship					
North America	172,120	96.9%	157,680	97.4%	-0.8%
United States	131,215	73.9	131,035	80.9	0.0
Mexico	31,898	18.0	20,584	12.7	-4.0
Canada	372	0.2	184	0.1	-6.4
Caribbean Islands[c]	5,547	3.1	3,127	1.9	-5.5
Central America[c]	3,088	1.7	2,750	1.7	-0.8
South America[c]	3,127	1.8	2,358	1.5	-2.6
Asia and Oceania[c]	1,394	0.8	858	0.5	-4.7
Europe[c]	509	0.3	524	0.3	0.3
Africa[c]	509	0.3	463	0.3	-0.7

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Federal prisoner populations are shown as of September 30, 2008 and 2018. Includes prisoners sentenced in U.S. district court. Excludes District of Columbia code offenders, military code offenders, foreign treaty transfers, state boarders, and pre-sentenced offenders. Data were missing for citizenship in 2008 (225) and in 2018 (2).
~Not applicable.
[a]Calculated using each fiscal-year-end count from 2008 to 2018.
[b]Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks). The prisoner self-reported race and ethnicity during the pre-sentence interview. Information was collected for one race and one ethnicity category.
[c]Countries aggregated by region.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2008 and 2018.

Federal supervision in the community

The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts' Probation and Pretrial Services system oversees the supervision of federal offenders in the community. This includes persons released before trial and persons supervised in the community after being convicted. Federal probation officers monitor offenders' compliance with the court-ordered conditions of their supervision.

88% of offenders were under federal supervision following release from prison at fiscal year-end 2018

At fiscal year-end 2018, about 88% of offenders under federal community supervision were either on supervised release (111,055) or parole (955) after they were released from prison (table 10). The remaining 12% of offenders were on probation, which is a sentence to a term of supervision in the community. Of the 127,478 offenders under federal supervision at fiscal year-end 2018, about 83% were male and 17% were female. The relatively higher rates of females than males on federal supervision reflected females' greater likelihood than males of being sentenced to probation. Black (44,114) and white (42,366) offenders made up 70% of persons under federal supervision in the community at fiscal year-end 2018. The median age of offenders who were on probation was 41 years, who were under supervised release was 42 years, and who were on parole was 55 years. Three percent of persons under post-conviction federal supervision at fiscal year-end 2018 were non-U.S. citizens.

The number of persons on supervision in the community increased from 120,053 in FY 2008 to 127,478 in FY 2018 (not shown in tables). Drug offenders made up a slightly larger share of persons under federal supervision, increasing from 46% at fiscal year-end 2008 to 47% at fiscal year-end 2018 (figure 8). During that period, property-fraud offenders decreased from 19% to 15% of persons under supervision, while other public-order offenders increased from 8% to 12% and weapons offenders increased from 11% to 13% of persons under supervision.

FIGURE 8
Offenders under federal supervision in the community, by type of commitment offense, Fiscal Year-end 2008 and 2018
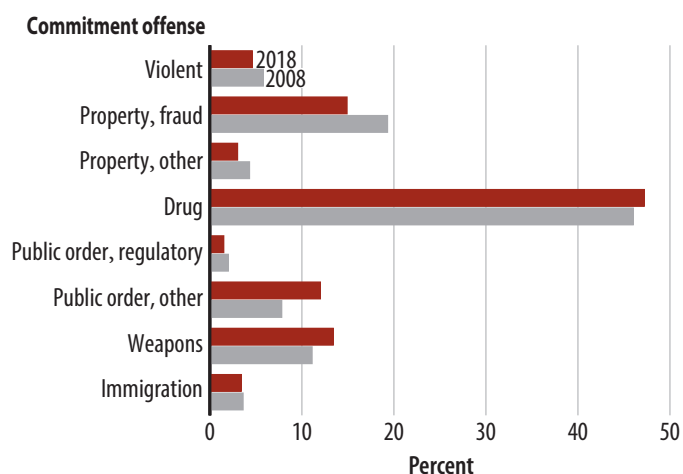
Note: The unit of count is the individual, federally sentenced prisoner in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons on September 30, 2008 and 2018. Percentages are based on non-missing data. Data were missing for commitment offense in 2008 (272) and in 2018 (201).
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year-end 2008 and 2018.

TABLE 10
Demographic characteristics of offenders under post-sentencing federal supervision, Fiscal Year-end 2018

Demographic characteristic	All offenders		Probation		Supervised release		Parole	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	127,478	100%	15,468	12.1%	111,055	87.1%	955	0.8%
Sex								
Male	106,151	83.4%	9,508	62.3%	95,711	86.2%	932	97.6%
Female	21,109	16.6	5,746	37.7	15,340	13.8	23	2.4
Race/ethnicity								
White[a]	42,366	34.1%	6,398	43.8%	35,656	32.8%	312	34.9%
Black[a]	44,114	35.5	3,901	26.7	39,771	36.5	442	49.4
Hispanic	32,139	25.8	3,286	22.5	28,743	26.4	110	12.3
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander[a]	2,867	2.3	575	3.9	2,274	2.1	18	2.0
American Indian/ Alaska Native[a]	2,887	2.3	449	3.1	2,425	2.2	13	1.5
Age								
17 or younger	11	<0.1%	10	0.1%	1	<0.1%	0	<0.1%
18-19	92	0.1	75	0.5	17	<0.1	0	<0.1
20-24	3,489	2.7	1,245	8.2	2,233	2.0	11	1.2
25-29	11,259	8.9	1,982	13.0	9,224	8.3	53	5.6
30-34	17,022	13.4	1,908	12.5	15,051	13.6	63	6.6
35-39	21,568	17.0	1,955	12.8	19,558	17.6	55	5.8
40-44	20,276	15.9	1,702	11.2	18,500	16.7	74	7.8
45-49	17,064	13.4	1,614	10.6	15,339	13.8	111	11.6
50-54	12,735	10.0	1,364	8.9	11,263	10.1	108	11.3
55-59	9,897	7.8	1,237	8.1	8,547	7.7	113	11.8
60-64	6,427	5.1	935	6.1	5,368	4.8	124	13.0
65 or older	7,425	5.8	1,231	8.1	5,951	5.4	243	25.5
Median age	42 yrs.	~	41 yrs.	~	42 yrs.	~	55 yrs.	~
Citizenship								
U.S. citizen	123,163	97.0%	14,417	94.7%	107,843	97.3%	903	95.4%
Non-U.S. citizen	3,816	3.0	811	5.3	2,961	2.7	44	4.7
Country of citizenship								
North America	125,804	99.1%	14,903	97.9%	109,971	99.2%	930	98.2%
United States	123,163	97.0	14,417	94.7	107,843	97.3	903	95.4
Mexico	860	0.7	192	1.3	660	0.6	8	0.8
Canada	45	<0.1	21	0.1	24	<0.1	0	<0.1
Caribbean Islands[b]	1,457	1.2	174	1.1	1,266	1.1	17	1.8
Central America[b]	279	0.2	99	0.7	178	0.2	2	0.2
South America[b]	198	0.2	57	0.4	130	0.1	11	1.2
Asia and Oceania[b]	577	0.5	139	0.9	434	0.4	4	0.4
Europe[b]	229	0.2	70	0.5	157	0.1	2	0.2
Africa[b]	171	0.1	59	0.4	112	0.1	0	<0.1

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Total includes offenders for whom characteristics were unknown. The unit of count is an individual offender under federal supervision on September 30, 2018. Percentages are based on non-missing cases. Data were missing for type of supervised release (105), sex (218), race or ethnicity (3,105), age (213), and citizenship (499).

~Not applicable.

[a]Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks). The offender self-reported race and ethnicity during the pre-trial interview. Information was collected for one race and one ethnicity category.

[b]Countries aggregated by region.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Probation and Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System, fiscal year-end 2018.

Methodology

This report uses data from the Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP), a collection from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The FJSP receives administrative data files from six federal criminal justice agencies. Data represent the federal criminal case-processing stages from arrest to imprisonment. BJS standardizes this information to maximize comparability across and within agencies over time. This includes—

- applying, where possible, the person-case as the primary unit of count (exceptions include at arrest, where the unit of count is the individual suspect; at sentencing under federal sentencing guidelines, where the unit of count is the sentencing event; and at imprisonment, where the unit of count is the prisoner)

- delineating the fiscal year (October 1 through September 30) as the period for reported events

- applying a uniform offense classification across agencies

- classifying dispositions and sentences imposed.

FJSP data sources

U.S. Marshals Service: The Justice Detainee Information System provides information on suspects arrested for federal offenses. Suspects may be counted more than once in a fiscal year if they are arrested multiple times during the period. This report uses the most serious arrest offense that suspects were booked for by the deputy U.S. marshal. Deputy U.S. marshals take federal suspects who have been charged with a crime into custody (which includes booking, processing, and detaining the suspects) oversee court security, and coordinate prisoner transportation, among other duties.

Drug Enforcement Administration: The Defendant Statistical System contains data on suspects arrested within the U.S. by DEA agents. The data include information on the characteristics of arrestees and the type of drug for which they were arrested. Suspects may be counted more than once in a fiscal year if they are arrested multiple times by the DEA during the period.

Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys: The Legal Information Office Network System database contains information on the investigation and prosecution of suspects in criminal matters received and concluded and criminal cases filed and terminated by U.S. attorneys. Suspects may be counted more than once in a fiscal year if they are involved in multiple matters received

and concluded during the period. A matter is defined as a referral in which an attorney spends one hour or more investigating. The lead charge is used to classify the most serious offense at referral and is defined as the substantive statute that is the primary basis of referral.

Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AOUSC): The Criminal Master File contains information about the criminal proceedings against defendants whose cases were filed and terminated in U.S. district courts. It includes information on cases involving felonies and Class A and B misdemeanors handled by U.S. district judges.[4]

Offenses are based on the most serious charged offense, as determined by the probation officer responsible for interviewing the defendant. The probation officer classifies the major offense charged into AOUSC four-digit offense codes, which are maintained and updated by the AOUSC. For defendants charged with more than one offense on an indictment, the probation officer chooses the offense carrying the most severe penalty or, in the case of two or more charges carrying the same penalty, the one with the highest offense severity. The offense severity level is determined by the AOUSC, which ranks offenses according to the maximum sentence, type of crime, and maximum fine amount.

This report also uses AOUSC data from the Pretrial Services Automated Case Tracking System (PACTS), which contains information on defendants interviewed and supervised by pre-trial services. These data are used to describe background characteristics of defendants who are arraigned. PACTS data are also used to describe persons under post-sentencing supervision in the community.

U.S. Sentencing Commission: The Monitoring Database contains information on criminal defendants sentenced pursuant to the provisions of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984. Data files are limited to defendants whose court records have been obtained by the U.S. Sentencing Commission. These data do not appear in this report.

Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP): The SENTRY database contains information on all federally sentenced

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[4]A felony is classified as an offense for which the maximum term of imprisonment is more than one year in prison. Offenses classified as misdemeanors include those for which the maximum term of imprisonment is less than one year in prison. Class A misdemeanors include offenses for which the maximum term of imprisonment is one year or less but more than 6 months in prison. Class B misdemeanors include offenses for which the maximum term of imprisonment is 6 months or less but more than 30 days in prison.

offenders admitted into or released from federal prison during a fiscal year and offenders in federal prison at fiscal year-end (September 30). The prisoner count reported by the FJSP differs from what is reported by the BOP although data are from the same source (SENTRY). For example, the BOP reports 181,698 prisoners as of September 30, 2018.[5] The FJSP starts with data extracted from SENTRY that differs slightly from this total (181,302). Of the 181,302 records, 13,882 records were dropped because the prisoner was not designated at an

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[5]See www.bop.gov/about/statistics/population_statistics.jsp.

FIGURE 9
Universe of prisoners held under the Federal Bureau of Prisons' jurisdiction and federally sentenced prisoners in the bureau's custody, Fiscal Year-end 2018
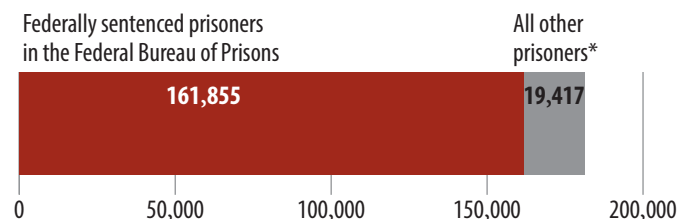
Note: Excludes records missing commitment offense; prisoners committed by the District of Columbia Superior Court; prisoners housed as state boarders, treaty transfers, or military court commitments; and prisoners designated to community confinement, home confinement, pre-sentence detention, hospital, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention.
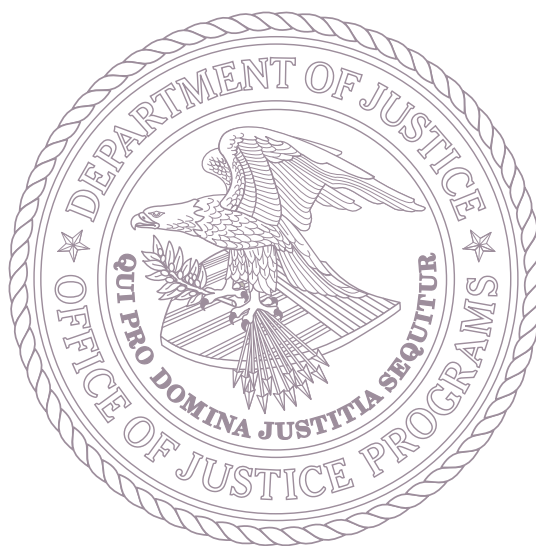*Includes federally sentenced prisoners held in private facilities.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY database, fiscal year-end 2018.

assigned BOP custodial facility. Among the excluded records were designations to community confinement, home confinement, a hospital, Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention, material witness, and pre-sentence admission. Next, 902 records were excluded due to missing commitment offense, and 4,113 prisoners were dropped because they were sentenced by the District of Columbia Superior Court. Finally, 520 prisoners were dropped because the prisoner was a state boarder, a treaty transfer, or serving a sentence from a military court commitment. Of the 181,302 prisoners reported by the BOP in custody on September 30, 2018, a total of 161,885 (89% of the total population) met the criteria as federally sentenced prisoners **(figure 9)**.

Other resources

FJSP data are available in the Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics Tool, an interactive BJS web tool that permits users to query the federal data and download the results as a spreadsheet. This tool is available on the BJS website. It provides statistics by the stage of the federal criminal-case process, including law enforcement, prosecution and courts, and incarceration. Users can generate queries for up to three variables using data for the years 1998 to 2016. Users can also generate queries by the title and section of the U.S. criminal code.

NCJ 254598

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