

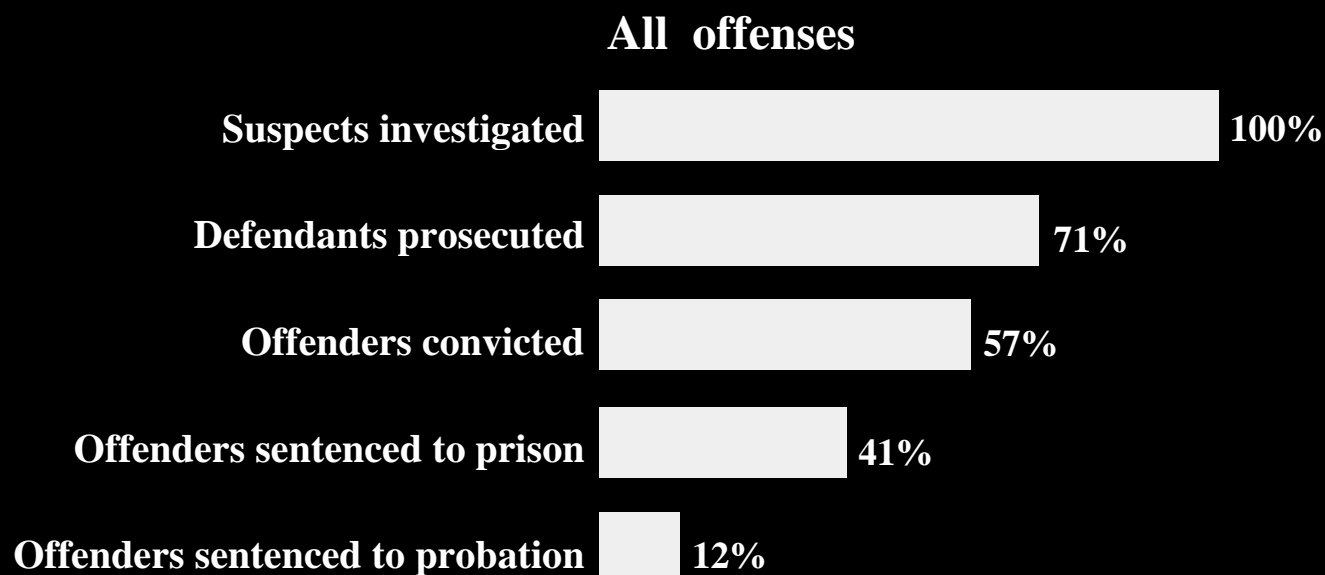


## Bureau of Justice Statistics

# Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 1998

### Federal criminal case processing in matters concluded by United States attorneys

October 1, 1997, through September 30, 1998



A Federal Justice Statistics Program Report



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# Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 1998

May 2000, NCJ 180258

# Arrests for Federal offenses

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*October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998*

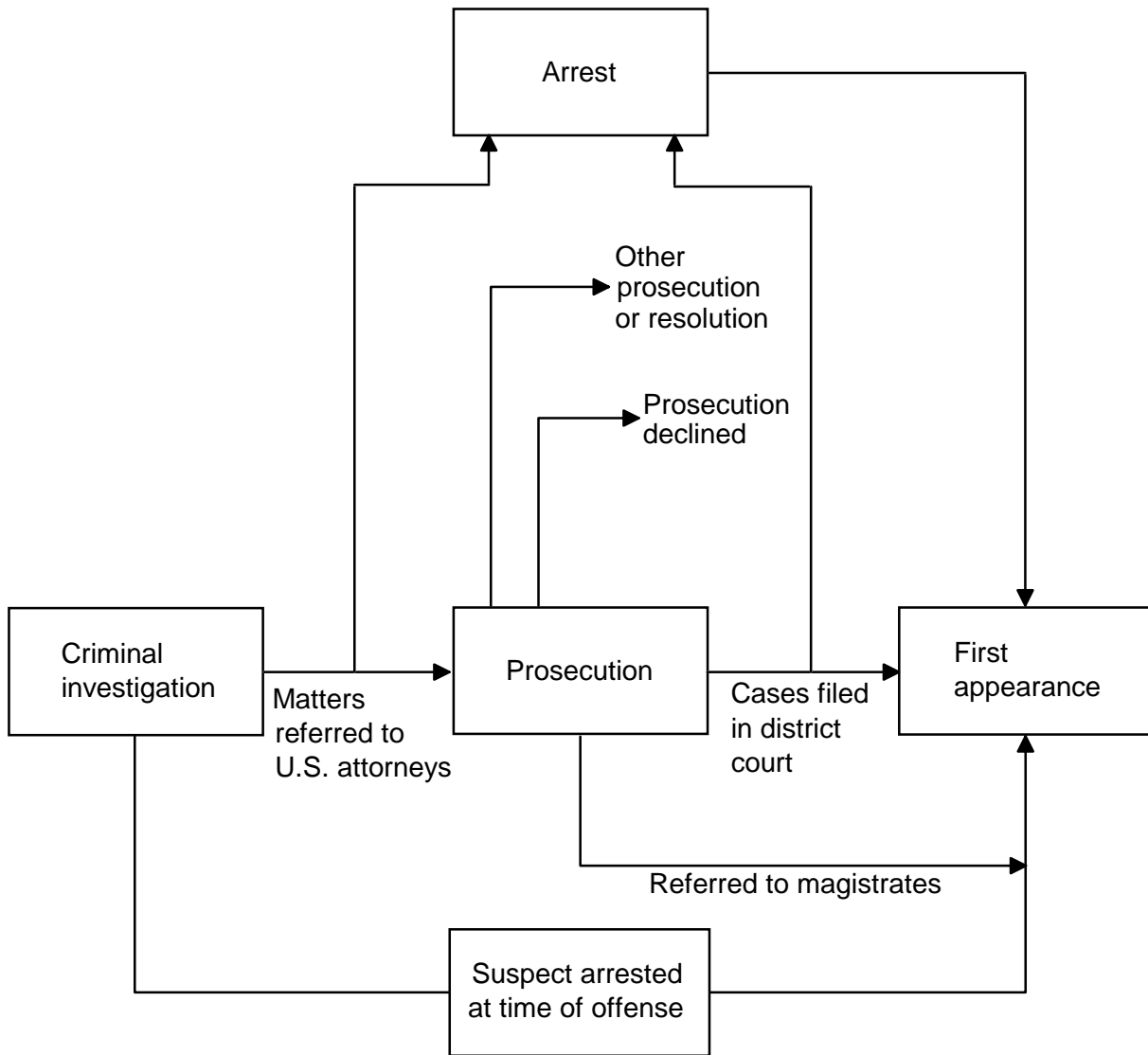
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Chapter 1

**Arrests for Federal offenses**

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Sixty-six Federal agencies employ full-time personnel empowered to make arrests. As of June 1998, these agencies employed about 83,000 officers.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> During 1998, the U.S. Marshals Service received 104,422 offenders for processing from the Federal law enforcement agencies, including nearly 29,000 offenders arrested by deputy U.S. marshals.

**Arrests by offense category (table 1.1)**

During 1998, 104,422 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; 16% for property offenses; 15% for supervision violations; 5% for violent offenses; and 3% to secure and safeguard a material witness.

Approximately 41% of drug arrests involved cocaine; 28%, marijuana; 10%, amphetamine (or methamphetamine); 4%, 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 (80%) of these were for illegal entry into the United States; 13% involved alien smuggling; 6% involved false claims of citizenship by entrants to the United States; and about 1% involved other immigration violations (figure 1.2).

<sup>1</sup>Brian A. Reaves, Federal Law Enforcement, 1996, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Washington, DC (NCJ-164617).

<sup>2</sup>The 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."

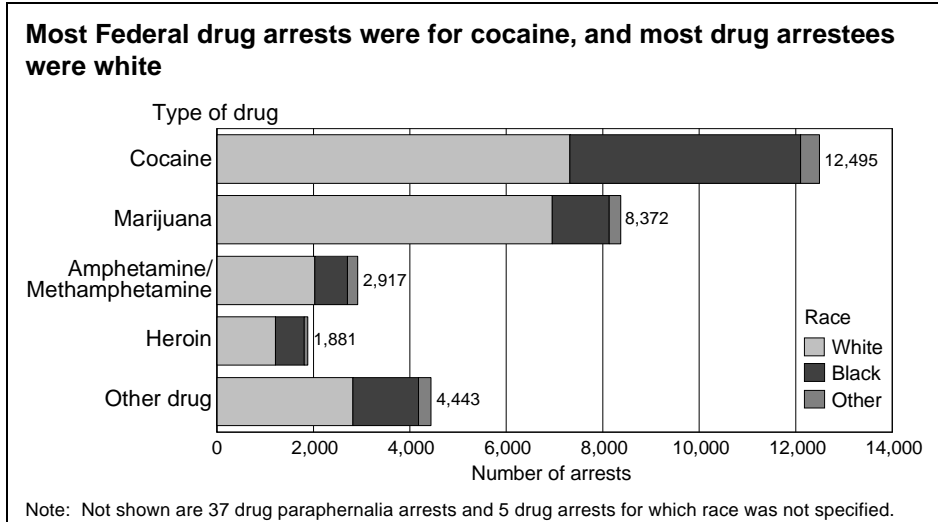


Figure 1.1. Type of drug involved in drug arrests, by race of arrestee, October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998

**Arrests by law enforcement agencies (table 1.2)**

During 1998, 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 8% of offenders were arrested after voluntarily reporting to the U.S. marshals following a summons.

Of those arrests made by the Department of Justice, the U.S. Marshals Service made 37%; the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 33%; the FBI, 15%; the Drug Enforcement Administration, 14%; and other Department of Justice agencies, less than 1%.

Of those arrests made by the Treasury Department, the U.S. Customs Service made 57%; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, 18%; the Secret Service, 18%; and the IRS, 7%.

**Arrests across demographic groups (table 1.3)**

Most (85%) of offenders arrested by Federal law enforcement agencies during 1998 were male. Seventy percent were white and 25% were black. Individuals between 21 and 40 years old comprised nearly 70% of all those arrested. One-third of those arrested were identified as noncitizens.

Most (68%) offenders arrested for drug offenses were white, while 29% were black. Of those offenders arrested on charges involving cocaine, 59% were white and 38% were black.

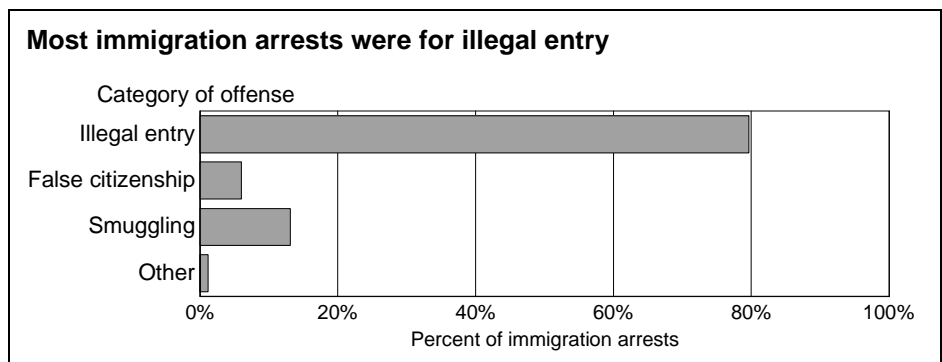


Figure 1.2. Type of immigration arrests, October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998

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Of those offenders arrested on charges involving marijuana, 83% were white and 14% were black (figure 1.1).

**Table 1.1. Arrests for Federal offenses, by offense, October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998**

Most serious offense	Number	Percent
<b>All offenses</b>	104,422	100%
<b>Violent offenses</b>	5,033	4.8%
Murder*	272	0.3
Negligent manslaughter	45	—
Assault	881	0.8
Robbery	2,946	2.8
Rape	18	—
Other sex offenses*	526	0.5
Kidnaping	220	0.2
Threatening communication	95	0.1
Other violent offenses	30	—
<b>Property offenses</b>	16,867	16.2%
<b>Fraudulent</b>	13,287	12.7%
Embezzlement	1,245	1.2
Fraud*	10,084	9.7
Forgery	384	0.4
Counterfeiting	1,574	1.5
<b>Other</b>	3,580	3.4%
Burglary	177	0.2
Larceny*	2,289	2.2
Motor vehicle theft	318	0.3
Arson and explosives	121	0.1
Transportation of stolen property	548	0.5
Other property offenses*	127	0.1
<b>Drug offenses</b>	30,150	28.9%
<b>Public-order offenses</b>	33,774	32.3%
<b>Regulatory</b>	779	0.7%
Antitrust	19	—
Food and drug	295	0.3
Civil rights	79	0.1
Other regulatory offenses	386	0.4
<b>Other</b>	32,995	31.6%
Weapons	3,549	3.4
Immigration	20,947	20.1
Tax law violations*	1,245	1.2
Bribery	226	0.2
Civil rights	321	0.3
National defense	30	—
Escape	590	0.6
Racketeering and extortion	919	0.9
Gambling	203	0.2
Obscene material*	280	0.3
Child Support Recovery	308	0.3
Prostitution	43	—
Obstruction of justice	464	0.4
Traffic	1,816	1.7
Conspiracy, aiding and abetting, traffic, and jurisdictional offenses	1,564	1.5
All other offenses*	490	0.5
<b>Supervision</b>	15,200	14.6%
<b>Material witness</b>	3,398	3.3%

—Less than .05%.

\*In this table, "Murder" includes nonnegligent manslaughter; "Other sex offenses" may include some nonviolent offenses; "Fraud" excludes tax fraud; "Larceny" excludes transportation of stolen property; "Other property offenses" excludes fraudulent property offenses, and includes destruction of property and trespass; "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, by Federal law enforcement agency, October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998**

Arresting agency*	Most serious offense at arrest								
	All	Violent	Property		Drug	Public-order		Supervision	Material witness
			Fraudulent	Other		Regulatory	Other		
<b>All agencies</b>	104,422	5,033	13,287	3,580	30,150	779	32,995	15,200	3,398
<b>Department of Agriculture</b>	229	10	30	9	71	2	82	23	2
<b>Department of Defense</b>	330	30	53	21	89	5	73	58	1
<b>Department of the Interior</b>	971	55	141	34	237	9	313	169	13
Indian Affairs	157	11	14	9	27	3	60	24	9
Park Police	814	44	127	25	210	6	253	145	4
<b>Department of Justice</b>	75,608	3,531	8,931	2,416	21,539	553	25,152	10,741	2,745
Drug Enforcement Administration	11,153	511	1,526	356	3,619	95	3,045	1,669	332
FBI	11,659	771	1,925	503	3,700	90	2,688	1,808	174
Immigration and Naturalization Service	24,143	625	1,310	420	5,653	79	12,025	2,324	1,707
Marshals Service	28,618	1,620	4,163	1,135	8,559	289	7,384	4,936	532
Other DOJ	35	4	7	2	8	0	10	4	0
<b>Department of State</b>	424	21	89	17	140	4	93	57	3
<b>Department of the Treasury</b>	11,386	501	1,413	362	3,583	68	3,454	1,570	435
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms	2,068	131	323	81	660	18	475	362	18
Customs Service	6,460	210	555	158	2,045	26	2,346	744	376
Internal Revenue Service	855	40	144	37	277	9	183	149	16
Secret Service	2,003	120	391	86	601	15	450	315	25
<b>Federal judiciary</b>	841	37	171	53	257	11	178	122	12
<b>U.S. Postal Service</b>	1,016	58	186	50	287	13	232	174	16
<b>Other</b>	13,617	790	2,273	618	3,947	114	3,418	2,286	171
Self-report, subpoena	7,954	436	1,425	366	2,291	70	1,847	1,409	110
State and local	3,315	213	486	150	938	31	955	516	26
Task force	299	16	33	18	130	1	66	33	2
Other	2,049	125	329	84	588	12	550	328	33

\*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." Additionally, table does not include arrests by Federal agencies that were referred to State or local authorities for prosecution.



**Table 1.3. Characteristics of Federal arrestees, October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998**

Arrestee characteristic	Number arrested	Percent of suspects arrested on—								
		All	Violent	Property		Drug	Public order		Supervision	Material witness
				Fraudulent	Other		Regulatory	Other		
<b>All arrestees</b>	104,422	100%	4.8%	12.7%	3.4%	28.9%	0.7%	31.6%	14.6%	3.3%
<b>Male/female</b>										
Male	88,998	85.2%	85.3%	83.6%	84.2%	85.1%	86.3%	86.0%	84.8%	86.7%
Female	15,473	14.8	14.7	16.4	15.8	14.9	13.7	14.0	15.2	13.3
<b>Race</b>										
White	73,091	70.0%	61.5%	61.3%	60.0%	67.6%	67.8%	77.8%	65.8%	91.0%
Black	26,457	25.3	31.1	33.6	33.5	28.5	26.2	17.5	29.3	6.0
Other	4,923	4.7	7.4	5.1	6.5	3.9	6.0	4.7	4.9	3.0
<b>Age</b>										
Under 18 years	2,510	2.4%	2.6%	1.6%	1.7%	2.1%	2.6%	3.0%	2.2%	3.3%
19-20 years	6,419	6.2	6.2	4.8	5.5	6.0	4.2	7.1	5.4	8.4
21-30 years	41,985	40.2	38.5	37.5	38.8	39.6	35.8	42.7	38.9	44.3
31-40 years	30,414	29.1	28.9	30.4	30.3	29.3	30.9	28.1	29.8	28.6
Over 40 years	23,035	22.1	23.9	25.8	23.7	23.0	26.4	19.1	23.7	15.5
<b>Citizenship</b>										
U.S. citizen	60,166	57.6%	68.4%	68.3%	68.6%	61.9%	63.9%	45.7%	64.5%	32.8%
Not U.S. citizen	34,600	33.1	21.8	20.4	20.2	29.2	15.9	46.3	24.6	61.8
Missing/indeterminate	9,714	9.3	9.8	11.3	11.2	8.9	20.2	8.0	10.9	5.4

## Chapter notes

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Tables 1.1-1.3 were derived from the U.S. Marshals Prisoner Tracking System database. Only records of arrests made during October 1, 1997, through September 30, 1998, were selected. Information on individual cases, offenses, and detainees were used to construct the tables.

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 the categories used in tables in other chapters of this *Compendium*.