

Table 5.60.2006

Length of prison sentence received by felony defendants in the 75 largest counties

By conviction offense, United States, 2006^a

Most serious felony conviction offense	Number of defendants	Number of months		Felony defendants sentenced to prison						
		Mean	Median	Total	Percent receiving a maximum sentence length in months of:					
					1 to 24	25 to 48	49 to 72	73 to 120	Over 120 ^b	Life
All offenses	11,359	49	24	100%	51%	24%	11%	8%	6%	1%
Violent offenses	2,550	94	48	100	27	23	16	15	16	3
Murder	138	NA	NA	100	0	2	0	5	41	52
Rape	97	NA	NA	100	14	20	11	22	29	4
Robbery	1,086	NA	NA	100	20	25	16	20	19	(c)
Assault	816	NA	NA	100	39	26	16	10	9	(c)
Other violent	415	NA	NA	100	35	18	22	12	13	0
Property offenses	3,273	38	24	100	57	22	9	8	4	0
Burglary	1,084	NA	NA	100	49	24	10	12	6	0
Larceny/theft	872	NA	NA	100	66	20	5	6	2	0
Motor vehicle theft	499	NA	NA	100	61	19	11	7	2	0
Forgery	254	NA	NA	100	45	30	9	9	7	0
Fraud	235	NA	NA	100	55	24	15	5	2	0
Other property	329	NA	NA	100	61	21	12	5	2	0
Drug offenses	3,801	34	24	100	59	24	9	5	2	0
Trafficking	1,568	NA	NA	100	40	33	12	10	5	0
Other drug	2,234	NA	NA	100	73	18	7	2	1	0
Public-order offenses	1,545	33	24	100	59	25	12	3	2	0
Weapons	582	NA	NA	100	49	28	17	5	2	0
Driving-related	423	NA	NA	100	57	26	12	4	2	0
Other public-order	541	NA	NA	100	71	20	6	1	2	0

Note: These data were collected by the Pretrial Justice Institute for the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics as part of the State Court Processing Statistics program. The data are based on 39 of the 75 most populous counties in the United States and a sample of 16,211 felony defendants' cases collected from the 39 sampled counties. These cases were representative of the estimated 58,100 felony defendants whose cases were filed in the 75 counties in May 2006. The sample was designed and selected by the U.S. Census Bureau. These data are estimates derived from a sample and therefore are subject to sampling variation.

Data on length of prison sentence were available for 99.9% of all cases in which a convicted defendant received a prison sentence. Seven percent of prison sentences included a probation term and 9% included a fine. Total for all offenses includes cases that could not be classified into one of the four major offense categories. For methodology, definitions of terms, and crimes within offense categories, see [Appendix 13](#).

^aDetail may not add to total because of rounding.

^bExcludes life sentences.

^cLess than 0.5%.

Source: U. S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Felony Defendants in Large Urban Counties, 2006*, Bulletin NCJ 228944 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, May 2010), p. 13, Table 13 and p. 27. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.