

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 5.52.2006

Characteristics of felony defendants in the 75 largest counties

By arrest charge, United States, 2006^a

| Most serious arrest charge | Sex | | Race, ethnicity | | | | | | Age | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | Number of defendants | Male | Female | Number of defendants | White, non-Hispanic | Black, non-Hispanic | Other, non-Hispanic | Hispanic, any race | Number of defendants | Under 18 years | 18 to 20 years | 21 to 24 years | 25 to 29 years | 30 to 34 years | 35 to 39 years | 40 years and older |
| All offenses | 57,980 | 82% | 18% | 56,978 | 29% | 45% | 2% | 24% | 57,948 | 3% | 14% | 17% | 16% | 13% | 12% | 26% |
| Violent offenses | 13,264 | 87 | 13 | 13,035 | 26 | 47 | 2 | 25 | 13,246 | 6 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 12 | 10 | 23 |
| Murder | 370 | 97 | 3 | 368 | 10 | 67 | 1 | 22 | 370 | 7 | 19 | 18 | 24 | 13 | 7 | 11 |
| Rape | 666 | 98 | 2 | 645 | 30 | 39 | 1 | 30 | 665 | 4 | 15 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 15 | 18 |
| Robbery | 3,446 | 90 | 10 | 3,407 | 20 | 57 | 3 | 20 | 3,451 | 13 | 27 | 17 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 15 |
| Assault | 6,381 | 83 | 17 | 6,288 | 26 | 47 | 2 | 26 | 6,376 | 3 | 13 | 17 | 17 | 14 | 11 | 25 |
| Other violent | 2,400 | 85 | 15 | 2,329 | 35 | 33 | 3 | 30 | 2,385 | 2 | 11 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 12 | 31 |
| Property offenses | 16,907 | 76 | 24 | 16,545 | 36 | 39 | 2 | 23 | 16,882 | 2 | 15 | 15 | 17 | 13 | 13 | 25 |
| Burglary | 4,495 | 88 | 12 | 4,412 | 36 | 36 | 1 | 27 | 4,486 | 3 | 19 | 16 | 15 | 11 | 13 | 23 |
| Larceny/theft | 5,257 | 68 | 32 | 5,186 | 34 | 44 | 2 | 20 | 5,259 | 2 | 14 | 13 | 16 | 12 | 14 | 29 |
| Motor vehicle theft | 1,661 | 87 | 13 | 1,626 | 26 | 38 | 5 | 31 | 1,653 | 4 | 23 | 17 | 16 | 14 | 11 | 16 |
| Forgery | 1,414 | 63 | 37 | 1,387 | 40 | 37 | 4 | 20 | 1,416 | 1 | 9 | 18 | 19 | 14 | 11 | 28 |
| Fraud | 2,109 | 62 | 38 | 2,021 | 37 | 39 | 3 | 22 | 2,091 | 1 | 8 | 12 | 19 | 16 | 16 | 29 |
| Other property | 1,971 | 84 | 16 | 1,916 | 40 | 36 | 3 | 21 | 1,977 | 2 | 16 | 20 | 18 | 14 | 10 | 20 |
| Drug offenses | 21,197 | 83 | 17 | 20,904 | 26 | 49 | 1 | 24 | 21,223 | 2 | 13 | 17 | 15 | 13 | 12 | 28 |
| Trafficking | 8,474 | 88 | 12 | 8,348 | 16 | 59 | 2 | 23 | 8,482 | 3 | 17 | 22 | 17 | 11 | 10 | 21 |
| Other drug | 12,724 | 80 | 20 | 12,556 | 33 | 43 | 1 | 24 | 12,741 | 2 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 33 |
| Public-order offenses | 6,612 | 89 | 11 | 6,494 | 30 | 41 | 2 | 27 | 6,597 | 2 | 12 | 17 | 16 | 14 | 11 | 28 |
| Weapons | 1,953 | 96 | 4 | 1,934 | 14 | 60 | (b) | 26 | 1,958 | 3 | 25 | 27 | 20 | 10 | 4 | 12 |
| Driving-related | 1,836 | 89 | 11 | 1,793 | 39 | 25 | 2 | 34 | 1,836 | 0 | 3 | 12 | 18 | 16 | 12 | 39 |
| Other public-order | 2,822 | 84 | 16 | 2,767 | 37 | 40 | 2 | 22 | 2,805 | 2 | 9 | 13 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 31 |

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 sex of defendants were available for 99.8% of all cases; data on race and Hispanic origin, 99%; and data on age, 99.7%. U.S. Census Bureau data for 2004 indicate that the distribution of the population of the 75 largest counties was 52% white, non-Hispanic; 16% black, non-Hispanic; 9% other race, non-Hispanic; and 23% Hispanics of any race. For methodology, definitions of terms, and crimes within offense categories, see [Appendix 13](#).

^aDetail may not add to total because of rounding.

^bLess 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), pp. 4, 19, 20. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.