

Table 5.60.2002

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

By conviction offense, United States, 2002^a

Most serious felony conviction offense	Number of defendants	Felony defendants sentenced to prison								
		Number of months ^b		Percent receiving a maximum sentence length in months of:						
		Mean ^c	Median	Total	1 to 24	25 to 48	49 to 72	73 to 120	Over 120 ^d	Life
All offenses	10,113	58	32	100%	46%	25%	11%	9%	8%	1%
Violent offenses	2,352	113	60	100	22	20	15	18	19	5
Murder	202	349	480	100	0	1	2	9	49	38
Rape	166	164	120	100	7	16	11	29	27	10
Robbery	821	105	72	100	17	20	14	22	25	1
Assault	812	71	48	100	31	27	17	15	9	1
Other violent	353	70	48	100	35	18	23	14	10	1
Property offenses	3,364	42	24	100	55	23	9	7	5	0
Burglary	1,089	56	36	100	43	26	9	13	8	0
Larceny/theft	824	33	24	100	65	23	7	1	5	0
Motor vehicle theft	565	36	24	100	56	23	13	5	3	0
Forgery	365	47	24	100	56	19	15	5	6	0
Fraud	129	40	24	100	55	20	12	10	3	0
Other property	391	27	18	100	71	20	4	4	1	0
Drug offenses	3,196	42	30	100	49	29	12	6	4	(e)
Trafficking	1,598	56	36	100	31	37	17	10	6	1
Other drug	1,599	29	18	100	67	21	7	3	2	0
Public-order offenses	1,192	34	24	100	58	26	9	5	2	0
Weapons	281	42	28	100	48	34	8	5	4	0
Driving-related	491	36	24	100	53	26	14	5	1	0
Other public-order	420	28	23	100	70	21	2	5	2	0

Note: See Note, table 5.51.2002. Data on length of prison sentence were available for 100% of all cases in which a convicted defendant received a prison sentence. Nine percent of prison sentences included a probation term and 11% included a fine. Table excludes portions of sentences that were suspended. 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.

^bAll prison sentences were rounded to the nearest month.

^cLife sentences and sentences greater than 40 years were assigned a value of 480 months.

^dExcludes life sentences.

^eLess than 0.5%.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Felony Defendants in Large Urban Counties, 2002*, NCJ 210818 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2006), p. 32, Table 31.