

Table 5.26

Average time served until first release for offenders sentenced to prison in U.S. District Courts

By offense, 1986, 1988-94

(In months)

Most serious conviction offense <sup>a</sup>	Average time served until first release							Preliminary 1994
	1986	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	
All offenses <sup>b</sup>	14.6	17.9	17.7	18.2	20.1	21.7	23.9	25.1
Violent offenses	46.4	49.8	48.0	52.9	54.5	54.4	55.9	53.5
Murder/manslaughter	41.8	52.8	43.5	62.5	55.8	49.9	64.0	51.3
Assault	40.4	40.5	38.9	45.5	49.8	48.2	57.4	52.1
Robbery	50.1	54.2	54.2	56.3	57.8	59.6	56.8	56.2
Rape	B	48.3	71.4	59.4	72.2	69.4	B	B
Other sex offenses	24.8	29.8	30.6	32.4	26.6	23.8	31.0	28.7
Kidnaping	66.1	93.6	67.9	104.6	95.3	93.5	93.4	97.2
Threats against the President	26.3	26.6	23.7	21.0	23.9	30.8	21.6	29.3
Property offenses	15.6	16.3	15.8	15.7	15.9	15.8	15.4	15.3
Fraudulent offenses	13.3	14.4	14.7	14.4	14.6	14.8	14.5	14.6
Embezzlement	9.8	10.5	10.0	11.4	10.8	10.0	9.1	9.4
Fraud <sup>c</sup>	12.7	14.1	14.7	14.3	14.5	15.1	15.2	15.1
Forgery	14.8	16.7	16.1	14.5	16.7	14.9	13.6	13.0
Counterfeiting	18.8	19.0	18.6	18.1	18.5	20.1	17.6	17.9
Other offenses	19.7	20.5	18.0	18.8	19.0	18.4	18.1	17.5
Burglary	17.3	24.5	24.9	25.3	24.2	23.0	23.8	23.9
Larceny	18.3	17.4	15.8	16.2	14.1	14.6	13.4	11.3
Motor vehicle theft	24.1	27.4	21.6	21.7	29.8	24.8	20.5	21.3
Arson	26.5	28.0	33.2	36.8	39.7	35.5	37.7	39.7
Transportation of stolen property	22.8	27.1	24.3	28.7	23.2	24.6	25.4	22.2
Other	9.9	9.0	5.8	14.3	17.1	17.6	19.8	22.7
Drug offenses	20.6	23.2	24.3	27.1	28.4	29.7	33.0	35.0
Trafficking	21.1	23.9	25.2	28.1	30.0	31.5	35.1	36.6
Possession and other	8.0	9.2	8.7	9.1	8.2	7.1	7.2	7.7
Public-order offenses	6.3	8.9	8.3	7.8	9.1	11.0	12.4	13.7
Regulatory offenses	14.8	17.2	16.6	16.6	17.2	16.2	18.0	19.2
Other offenses	5.9	8.3	7.8	7.4	8.6	10.7	12.1	13.3
Weapons offenses	18.2	19.5	18.7	19.1	18.9	20.4	23.5	27.8
Immigration offenses	3.3	4.4	3.9	3.6	4.2	5.3	5.5	6.2
Tax law violations including tax fraud	9.3	10.7	10.9	11.8	12.1	13.5	13.8	14.0
Bribery	11.4	12.8	13.3	10.8	11.0	12.1	13.0	14.2
Perjury	10.3	11.0	16.1	12.9	13.8	16.1	15.8	15.6
National defense	17.5	15.1	20.9	22.8	23.0	24.2	16.6	26.1
Escape	21.4	17.0	19.1	19.0	19.5	19.0	22.9	18.4
Racketeering and extortion	22.1	26.1	29.7	29.8	31.4	36.2	36.7	36.0
Gambling offenses	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Liquor offenses	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Mail or transport of obscene material	21.0	34.1	20.1	23.1	17.7	16.3	25.8	29.4
Traffic offenses	2.0	2.2	2.6	1.9	2.4	2.4	3.0	2.9
Migratory birds	5.1	4.8	5.7	6.1	7.7	6.9	7.0	7.1
Other	13.8	15.5	10.8	12.6	15.4	14.7	16.4	13.2

Note: See Note, table 5.15. Time-served data in this table are based on a new method and supersede time-served data in prior Federal Justice Statistics reports. Thus, data reported here will differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. These data include only prisoners serving U.S. District Court sentences first released in the indicated calendar year, regardless of sentence length. The data exclude subsequent releases (e.g., parole violators) and prisoners received from other sources (e.g., courts-martial and probation violators). For methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 13.

<sup>a</sup>Prisoners are classified according to the offense associated with the longest sentence actually imposed. Offense categories are based on combinations of offense designations used by the Bureau of Prisons. They are similar to the categories in other tables, but may not be directly comparable.

<sup>b</sup>Total includes offenders whose offense category could not be determined.

<sup>c</sup>Excludes tax fraud.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1982-93, With Preliminary Data for 1994*, NCJ-160088 (Washington, DC: USGPO, 1996), p. 18.