

Table 5.2

Court-authorized orders for interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications

United States, 1969-96

	State	Federal
1969	268	33
1970	414	182
1971	531	285
1972	649	206
1973	734	130
1974	607	121
1975	593	108
1976	549	137
1977	549	77
1978	489	81
1979	466	87
1980	483	81
1981	483	106
1982	448	130
1983	440	208
1984	512	289
1985	541	243
1986	504	250
1987	437	236
1988	445	293
1989	453	310
1990	548	324
1991	500	356
1992	579	340
1993	526	450
1994	600	554
1995	526	532
1996	568	581

Note: The Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts is required, in accordance with provisions of 18 U.S.C. 2519(1), to transmit to Congress a report regarding applications for orders authorizing or approving the interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications. This report is required to contain information about the number of such orders and any extensions granted. Every State and Federal judge is required to file a written report on each application made. This report is required to contain information on the grants and denials, name of applicant, offense involved, type and location of device, and duration of authorized intercept. Prosecuting officials who have applied for intercept orders are required to file reports containing information on the cost of the intercepts; the number of days the device was in operation; the number of incriminating intercepts recorded; and the results of the intercepts in terms of the number of arrests, trials, convictions, and motions to suppress evidence obtained through the use of intercepts. Forty-six jurisdictions (the Federal Government, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and 42 States) had statutes authorizing the interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications during 1996; 24 of these jurisdictions had court-authorized orders for interception during 1996 (Source, **1996**, pp. 6, 7).

Source: Administrative Office of the United States Courts, **Report on Applications for Orders Authorizing or Approving the Interception of Wire or Oral Communications for the Period January 1, 1977 to December 31, 1977** (Washington, DC: Administrative Office of the United States Courts, 1978), p. xvi; Administrative Office of the United States Courts, **Report on Applications for Orders Authorizing or Approving the Interception of Wire, Oral, or Electronic Communications for the Period January 1, 1988 to December 31, 1988** (Washington, DC: USGPO, 1989), p. 19; and Administrative Office of the United States Courts, **1996 Wiretap Report** (Washington, DC: Administrative Office of the United States Courts, 1997), p. 29. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.