

Table 5.55

Felony sentences imposed by State and Federal courts

By offense, United States, 1994

Most serious conviction offense	Total	Percent of felons sentenced to:			Straight probation
		Total	Incarceration Prison	Jail	
Violent offenses					
Murder/manslaughter^a					
State and Federal	100%	97%	95%	2%	3%
State	100	97	95	2	3
Federal	100	91	88	3	9
Rape					
State and Federal	100	88	71	17	12
State	100	88	71	17	12
Federal	100	89	77	13	11
Robbery					
State and Federal	100	88	78	11	12
State	100	88	77	11	12
Federal	100	97	95	2	3
Aggravated assault					
State and Federal	100	75	48	27	25
State	100	75	48	27	25
Federal	100	82	67	15	18
Other violent^b					
State and Federal	100	75	45	30	25
State	100	75	45	30	25
Federal	100	80	68	13	20
Property offenses					
Burglary					
State and Federal	100	75	53	22	25
State	100	75	53	22	25
Federal	100	90	79	10	10
Larceny^c					
State and Federal	100	66	38	28	34
State	100	66	38	28	34
Federal	100	55	31	23	45
Motor vehicle theft					
State and Federal	100	72	39	34	28
State	100	72	38	34	28
Federal	100	75	55	21	25
Other theft					
State and Federal	100	65	38	27	35
State	100	65	38	27	35
Federal	100	51	28	24	49
Fraud/forgery^d					
State and Federal	100	59	31	28	41
State	100	60	32	28	40
Federal	100	56	27	29	44
Fraud^d					
State and Federal	100	61	31	30	39
State	100	62	32	30	38
Federal	100	56	28	29	44
Forgery					
State and Federal	100	58	32	26	42
State	100	58	32	26	42
Federal	100	55	25	30	45
Drug offenses					
Possession					
State and Federal	100	66	34	32	34
State	100	66	34	32	34
Federal	100	65	41	24	35
Trafficking					
State and Federal	100	73	51	22	27
State	100	71	48	23	29
Federal	100	92	84	8	8

Note: See Notes, tables 5.50 and 5.54. For persons receiving a combination of sentences, the sentence designation came from the most severe penalty imposed -- prison being the most severe, followed by jail, then probation. Both State and Federal sentences included 1 or 2% not designated as prison, jail, or probation. The table classifies them under probation. For methodology used to collect the Federal data, see Appendix 13. For methodology used to collect the State data and definitions of offenses used for these tables, see Appendix 14.

^aDoes not include negligent manslaughter.

^bIncludes offenses such as negligent manslaughter, sexual assault, and kidnapping.

^cIncludes motor vehicle theft.

^dIncludes embezzlement.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Felony Sentences in the United States, 1994*, Bulletin NCJ-165149 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, July 1997), p. 5. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.