

Table 31

**DOWNWARD DEPARTURE CASES: DEGREE OF DEPARTURE
FOR OFFENDERS IN EACH PRIMARY OFFENSE CATEGORY¹
Fiscal Year 1997**

PRIMARY OFFENSE	n	DEGREE OF DECREASE FOR DOWNWARD DEPARTURE		
		Median Sentence in Months ²	Median Decrease in Months from Guideline Minimum	Median Percent Decrease from Guideline Minimum
TOTAL	5,005	18.0	10.0	34.8
Murder	7	30.0	51.0	70.1
Manslaughter	11	5.0	10.0	50.0
Kidnaping/Hostage-Taking	6	50.0	29.0	40.0
Sexual Abuse	38	27.0	38.0	56.4
Assault	53	12.0	15.0	60.0
Robbery	195	50.0	15.0	23.8
Arson	9	27.0	21.5	64.6
Drugs - Trafficking	2,038	24.0	12.0	33.3
Drugs - Communication Facility	46	23.0	22.5	64.5
Drugs - Simple Possession	8	0.0	12.0	100.0
Firearms	211	21.0	12.0	38.9
Burglary/B&E	5	5.0	6.0	72.4
Auto Theft	5	5.0	12.0	81.5
Larceny	115	0.0	8.0	100.0
Fraud	457	0.0	9.0	99.5
Embezzlement	90	0.0	8.0	99.6
Forgery/Counterfeiting	27	4.0	8.0	77.8
Bribery	26	0.0	10.0	100.0
Tax	74	0.0	7.0	100.0
Money Laundering	100	30.0	15.0	35.8
Racketeering/Extortion	52	36.5	22.0	36.3
Gambling/Lottery	9	5.0	6.0	58.3
Civil Rights	10	58.5	17.0	23.7
Immigration	1,177	22.0	7.0	25.0
Pornography/Prostitution	63	0.0	12.0	100.0
Prison Offenses	19	6.0	4.0	37.5
Administration of Justice	91	6.0	9.0	60.0
Environmental/Wildlife	4	0.0	8.0	100.0
National Defense	2	19.5	14.0	42.6
Antitrust	3	0.0	10.0	100.0
Food & Drug	5	0.0	10.0	100.0
Other Miscellaneous Offenses	49	0.0	12.0	100.0

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¹Of the 48,848 cases, 5,574 received a downward departure. Of these, 5,365 had complete guideline application information. An additional 344 cases were excluded due to several logical criteria. Of the remaining 5,021 cases, 16 were excluded due to one or more of the following reasons: missing offense type (3), missing guideline minimum (2), missing sentence information (13).

²Cases with guideline minimums of life or probation (*i.e.*, sentence lengths of zero months) were included in the sentence average computations as 470 months and zero months respectively, but were excluded from measures of decrease in the table.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, 1997 Datafile, USSCFY97.