

TABLE 5.1

Average Length of Felony Sentences  
in 2006\* by Offense, Race, and Gender

MOST SERIOUS CONVICTION OFFENSE	MEAN MAXIMUM SENTENCE LENGTH IN MONTHS FOR PERSONS WHO WERE			
	WHITE		BLACK	
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE
All offenses	40 months	25 months	45 months	25 months
Violent offenses	75	52	88	41
Murder/Nonnegligent manslaughter	265	225	266	175
Sexual assault	115	72	125	32
Robbery	89	61	101	54
Aggravated assault	42	30	48	29
Other violent	43	55	41	17
Property offenses	31	22	35	23
Burglary	41	29	50	34
Larceny	24	17	23	19
Fraud/Forgery	27	22	27	23
Drug offenses	31	22	36	22
Possession	21	17	25	15
Trafficking	39	26	40	27
Weapon offenses	34	24	34	24

\*Most recent data available

Source: Durose, M. R., Farole, D. J., & Rosenmerkel, S. P. (2010). *Felony sentences in state courts, 2006*. Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics.