

D.C. Sentencing Commission - Fast Facts

July 2021

Carjacking – Armed, Unarmed, and Attempted

Between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2020 there were a total of:

- 34 carjacking counts sentenced
- 32 carjacking cases sentenced
- 32 carjacking individuals sentenced

*Note that one carjacking case has been excluded from the following analysis since sentencing information was not available.

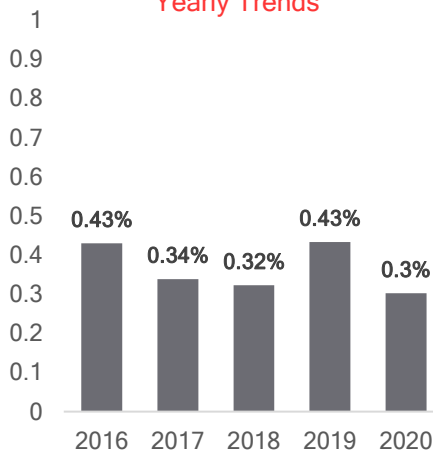


Definition: *Knowingly or recklessly by force or violence, whether against resistance or by sudden or stealthy seizure or snatching, or by putting in fear, or attempts to do so, taking from another person immediate actual possession of a person's motor vehicle.*

Mandatory Minimums

Carjacking : 7 years
Armed Carjacking: 15 years

Carjacking - Proportion of all Felony Counts Sentenced
Yearly Trends



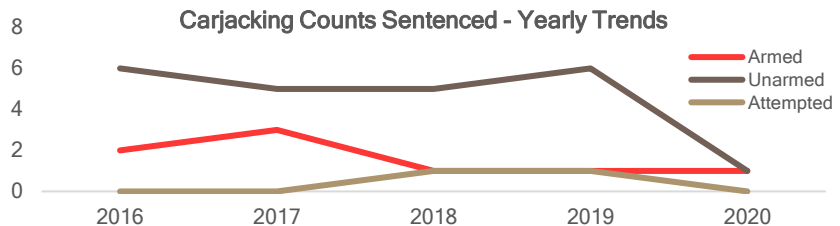
The proportion of carjacking counts sentenced has remained relatively stable between 2016 and 2020, representing between 0.3% and 0.43% of all counts sentenced each year.

While COVID-19 may have impacted the volume of counts sentenced, the proportion of carjacking counts sentenced in 2020 did not appear to be affected.

Carjacking

Sentencing Information

- Carjacking represented less than 1% (33 counts) of all felony offenses (9,152) sentenced between 2016 and 2020
 - Of the 33 carjacking counts sentenced, 23 (70%) were for unarmed carjacking, eight (24%) were for armed carjacking, and two (6%) were for attempted carjacking
 - Carjacking was the most serious offense convicted in all but one of the 31 carjacking cases sentenced
 - 14 of the 23 (61%) unarmed carjackings were initially indicted as an armed carjacking, and all the attempted carjackings were initially indicted as unarmed carjacking
 - 97% of carjacking counts received a prison sentence. Only one count (an attempted carjacking) received a short-split sentence
 - The average and median prison sentences for armed/unarmed carjacking are presented below:
- | | Average | Median |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|
| <u>Armed Carjacking</u> | 180 months | 180 months |
| <u>Unarmed Carjacking</u> | 87 months | 84 months |
- Approximately 25% of carjacking counts were sentenced under the Youth Rehabilitation Act (YRA)
 - 75% of carjacking counts (25 counts) were resolved via a plea agreement
 - Over half of the pleas (17 counts, 68%) were the result of 11(c)(1)(C) pleas
 - Except for 2020, each year there were between seven and eight carjacking counts sentenced, with unarmed carjacking being the most frequently sentenced type of carjacking each year



**2020 data is heavily impacted by the limited operations of D.C. Superior Court due to Covid-19

Criminal History and Compliance

- About 75% of individuals sentenced for carjacking had a prior conviction
- Nine individuals (30%) fell into the lowest Criminal History (CH) group A; there were no individuals in the highest CH group E
 - CH scores A and C were the dominant CH groups, each representing about 30% of individuals sentenced
- Two carjacking counts (belonging to the same case) received non-compliant sentences. All other sentences were compliant with the D.C. Voluntary Sentencing Guidelines

Offender Demographics

- On average, individuals sentenced for carjacking were 23 years old at the time of the offense; the median age at offense was 22
- All individuals sentenced for carjacking were male
- 90% of individuals sentenced for carjacking were black, the remaining 10% were white