

OUR OFFICE

The District of Columbia Sentencing Commission

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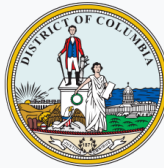
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THE MISSION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SENTENCING COMMISSION IS TO IMPLEMENT, MONITOR, AND SUPPORT THE DISTRICT'S VOLUNTARY SENTENCING GUIDELINES, TO PROMOTE FAIR AND CONSISTENT SENTENCING POLICIES, TO INCREASE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF SENTENCING POLICIES AND PRACTICES, AND TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GUIDELINES SYSTEM IN ORDER TO RECOMMEND CHANGES BASED ON ACTUAL SENTENCING AND CORRECTIONS PRACTICE AND RESEARCH.

D.C. SENTENCING: ROBBERY OFFENSES

D.C. Sentencing
Commission

June 2020

INTRODUCTION

This brochure is intended to provide interested parties and the general public with a quick overview of sentencing trends for Robbery offenses. This brochure contains information on sentence types, lengths, and offender demographics. The Commission is hopeful that providing sentencing trends for Robbery offenses committed within the District will inform, as well as educate, the public regarding current sentencing practices.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY

The deliberate action by a person that shows the unlawful intent to by force or threat of force take property from another person's immediate possession.

- Least Serious Felony: Probation, Short Split, and Prison sentences.*

ROBBERY

The deliberate action of taking property unlawfully from a person by means of force or threat.

- Serious Felony: Short Split or Prison only sentences.

ARMED ROBBERY

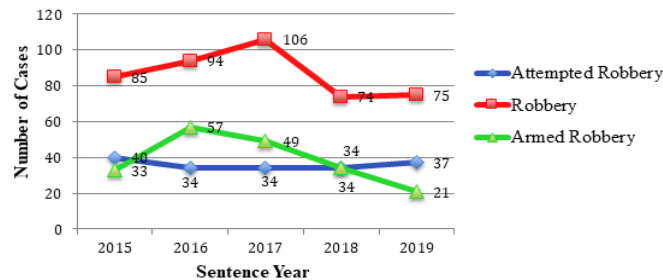
The deliberate action of taking property unlawfully from a person by means of force or threat or force while using a dangerous weapon, such as a gun or knife.

- Most Serious Felony: Prison only sentences.
- Armed Robbery has a Mandatory Minimum sentence of five years in prison.

SENTENCING INFORMATION

- Between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2019 there were a total of 938 individual robbery offenses sentenced, resulting in 809 felony robbery cases in the District of Columbia, including Attempt and Armed offenses.

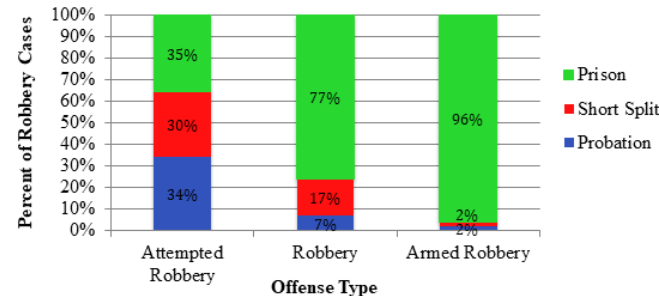
Robbery Sentences by Year, Case Level (2015-2019)



Between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2019 there were a total of:

- 458 cases sentenced for Robbery
- 187 cases sentenced for Attempted Robbery
- 194 cases sentenced for Armed Robbery

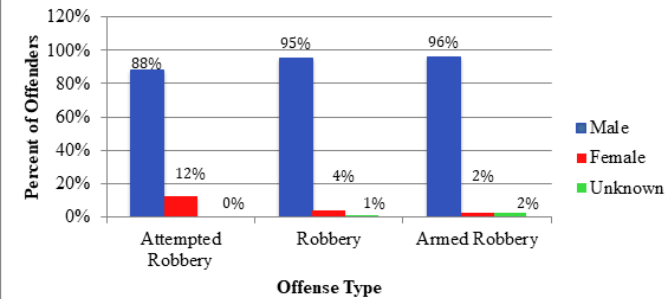
Robbery by Sentence Type, Case Level (2015-2019)



- 74% of all robbery offenses received a prison sentence.
- 10.5% of all robbery offenses received a probation sentence.
- 15% of all robbery offenses received a short split sentence.
- The average length of a prison sentence for all robbery offenses was 41 months.
- The average length of a probation sentence for all robbery offenses was 17 months.

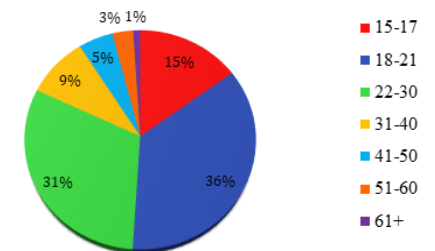
DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Sentence Type by Gender, Case Level (2015-2019)



- 95% of all robbery offenders were male.
- 5% of robbery offenders were females.
- Among females sentenced for robbery offenses, 40% were sentenced for attempted robbery.
- 70% of armed robbery offense sentenced included the use of a knife or firearm.

Sentence by Age Group, Case Level (2015-2019)



- 36% of all robbery offenders were aged 18-21 at the time of the offense, representing the largest percentage of robbery sentences imposed in the District.
- 31% of all robbery offenders were aged 22-30 at the time of the offense, representing the second largest percentage of robbery sentences imposed in the District.
- Less than 1% off all robbery offenders were aged 60 or older at the time of the offense.
- 73% of robbery offenders had a prior criminal conviction.

*Short Split Sentence: Includes a period of incarceration (prison) of up to six months followed by a period of probation.

