Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 1996, page 495

Table 5.84

Persons indicted, awaiting trial on Dec. 31, and convicted of offenses involving abuse of public office

By level of government, 1973-95

| | Elected or appointed official | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | <u>Total</u> Awaiting | | | Federal Awaiting | | | State Awaiting | | | Local Awaiting | | | Others involved Awaiting | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | In- dicted | trial on Dec. 31 | Con- victed | In- dicted | trial on Dec. 31 | Con- victed | In- dicted | trial on Dec. 31 | Con- victed | In- dicted | trial on Dec. 31 | Con- victed | In- dicted | trial on Dec. 31 | Con- victed |
| Total | 20,847 | 5,580 | 17,902 | 8,907 | 1,587 | 7,798 | 1,629 | 521 | 1,370 | 5,103 | 1,681 | 4,163 | 5,208 | 1,791 | 4,571 |
| 1973 | 191 | 18 | 144 | 60 | 2 | 48 | 19 | 0 | 17 | 85 | 2 | 64 | 27 | 14 | 15 |
| 1974 | 305 | 5 | 213 | 59 | 1 | 51 | 36 | 0 | 23 | 130 | 4 | 87 | 80 | 0 | 52 |
| 1975 | 294 | 27 | 211 | 53 | 5 | 43 | 36 | 5 | 18 | 139 | 15 | 94 | 66 | 2 | 56 |
| 1976 | 391 | 199 | 260 | 111 | 1 | 101 | 59 | 30 | 35 | 194 | 98 | 100 | 27 | 70 | 24 |
| 1977 | 535 | 210 | 440 | 129 | 32 | 94 | 50 | 33 | 38 | 157 | 62 | 164 | 199 | 83 | 144 |
| 1978 | 530 | 205 | 418 | 133 | 42 | 91 | 55 | 20 | 56 | 171 | 72 | 127 | 171 | 71 | 144 |
| 1979 | 579 | 178 | 419 | 114 | 21 | 102 | 56 | 29 | 31 | 211 | 63 | 151 | 198 | 65 | 135 |
| 1980 | 727 | 213 | 602 | 123 | 16 | 131 | 72 | 28 | 51 | 247 | 82 | 168 | 285 | 87 | 252 |
| 1981 | 808 | 231 | 730 | 198 | 23 | 159 | 87 | 36 | 66 | 244 | 102 | 211 | 279 | 70 | 294 |
| 1982 | 813 | 186 | 671 | 158 | 38 | 147 | 49 | 18 | 43 | 257 | 58 | 232 | 349 | 72 | 249 |
| 1983 | 1,076 | 222 | 972 | 460 ^a | 58 | 424 | 81 | 26 | 65 | 270 | 61 | 226 | 265 | 77 | 257 |
| 1984 | 931 | 269 | 934 | 408 | 77 | 429 | 58 | 21 | 52 | 203 | 74 | 196 | 262 | 97 | 257 |
| 1985 | 1,157 | 256 | 997 | 563 | 90 | 470 | 79 | 20 | 66 | 248 | 49 | 221 | 267 | 97 | 240 |
| 1986 | 1,208 | 246 | 1,026 | 596 | 83 | 523 | 88 | 24 | 71 | 232 | 55 | 207 | 292 | 84 | 225 |
| 1987 | 1,276 | 368 | 1,081 | 651 | 118 | 545 | 102 | 26 | 76 | 246 | 89 | 204 | 277 | 135 | 256 |
| 1988 | 1,274 | 288 | 1,067 | 629 | 86 | 529 | 66 | 14 | 69 | 276 | 79 | 229 | 303 | 109 | 240 |
| 1989 | 1,348 | 375 | 1,149 | 695 | 126 | 610 | 71 | 18 | 54 | 269 | 122 | 201 | 313 | 109 | 284 |
| 1990 | 1,176 | 300 | 1,084 | 615 | 103 | 583 | 96 | 28 | 79 | 257 | 98 | 225 | 208 | 71 | 197 |
| 1991 | 1,452 | 346 | 1,194 | 803 | 149 | 665 | 115 | 42 | 77 | 242 | 88 | 180 | 292 | 67 | 272 |
| 1992 | 1,189 | 380 | 1,081 | 624 | 139 | 532 | 81 | 24 | 92 | 232 | 91 | 211 | 252 | 126 | 246 |
| 1993 | 1,371 | 403 | 1,362 | 627 | 133 | 595 | 113 | 39 | 133 | 309 | 132 | 272 | 322 | 99 | 362 |
| 1994 | 1,165 | 332 | 969 | 571 | 124 | 488 | 99 | 17 | 97 | 248 | 96 | 202 | 247 | 95 | 182 |
| 1995 | 1,051 | 323 | 878 | 527 | 120 | 438 | 61 | 23 | 61 | 236 | 89 | 191 | 227 | 91 | 188 |

Note: Questionnaires are sent annually to the U.S. attorneys' offices in each of the Federal judicial districts eliciting data concerning indictments and convictions during the year as well as prosecutions awaiting trial on December 31 of each year. These data cover persons elected or appointed to office and career (staff) government employees; "others involved" include individuals who hold no official position, but who participated in an offense aimed at corrupting another's public office. "Abuse of public office" includes offenses such as extortion, bribery, and conflict of interest. Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK.

^aThe 1983 figures were reviewed to attempt to identify the reason for the substantial increase in prosecutions of Federal officials. The explanation appears to be two-fold; there

has been a greater focus on Federal corruption nationwide, and there appears to have been more consistent reporting of lower-level employees who abused their office, cases that may have been overlooked in the past. For reference, the U.S. attorneys' offices were told: "For purposes of this questionnaire, a public corruption case includes any case involving abuse of office by a public employee. We are not excluding low-level employees or minor crimes, but rather focusing on the job-relatedness of the offense and whether the offense involves abuse of the public trust placed in the employee."

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, "Report to Congress on the Activities and Operations of the Public Integrity Section for 1991," pp. 28, 29; "1992," pp. 36, 37; "1995," pp. 31, 32. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice. (Mimeographed.)