Monitoring Federal Criminal Sentences Codebook

Study Design

This study aims to inquire any socioeconomic and racial disparaties in the federal criminal justice system between 1995 and 2015. Specifically, this study utilizes a series of dataset that contains information on federal criminal cases sentenced under the Sentencing Guidelines and Policy Statements of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984. This series was maintained and distributed by the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data, which is primarily sponsored by Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Institute of Justice, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Each year includes the criminal sentences from the beginning of a fiscal year to the end of the following year (e.g. FY 2015 would include sentences from October 1st to September 30 of the following year).

Sampling

The data for this study was drawn from cases that were sentenced between 1995 and 2015 and deemed constitutional. The sample of data was then selected from each year, ignoring cases that require special coding (e.g. life without parole was removed as it required it being coded as 9997).

Variable Index

```
## ===============================================================================
##
##    USSCIDN 'Unique sequential identification number given to cases upon
##    receipt at US Sentencing Commission'
##
## -------------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##    Storage mode: integer
##    Measurement: interval
##
##            Min:    246845.000
##            Max:   2307847.000
##           Mean:   1177100.573
##       Std.Dev.:    613083.144
##       Skewness:         0.405
##       Kurtosis:        -0.993
##          Miss.:     69353.000
##            NAs:     69353.000
##
## ===============================================================================
##
##    MONRACE
##
## -------------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##    Storage mode: integer
##    Measurement: nominal
##
##                  Values and labels      N      Percent
```

```
##
##     1    'White/Caucasian'         824762     71.0   67.2
##     2    'Black'                   289873     24.9   23.6
##     3    'American Indian'          19450      1.7    1.6
##     4    'Asian/Pacific Islander'   24533      2.1    2.0
##     5    'Other'                     3775      0.3    0.3
##    NA M                            64674             5.3
##
## ==============================================================================
##
##     YEAR 'Year which the defendent's case was sentenced'
##
## ------------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##     Storage mode: integer
##     Measurement: interval
##
##              Min:   1996.000
##              Max:   2015.000
##             Mean:   2007.041
##        Std.Dev.:       5.269
##        Skewness:      -0.358
##        Kurtosis:      -0.835
##           Miss.:  47338.000
##             NAs:  47338.000
##
## ==============================================================================
##
##     MONSEX 'Indicates the defendant's gender'
##
## ------------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##     Storage mode: integer
##     Measurement: nominal
##
##     Values and labels       N       Percent
##
##         0    'Male'    1058194      87.3   86.2
##         1    'Female'   153709      12.7   12.5
##        NA M              15164              1.2
##
## ==============================================================================
##
##     CITIZEN 'Indicates the defendent's citizenship with respect to US
##     citizen'
##
## ------------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##     Storage mode: integer
##     Measurement: nominal
##
##              Values and labels       N       Percent
##
##     1    'US Citizen'            726344      60.2   59.2
```

```
##      2    'Resident/Legal Alien'   69049     5.7    5.6
##      3    'Illegal Alien'          383494   31.8   31.3
##      4    'Other'                   25625    2.1    2.1
##           (unlab.vld.)               1332    0.1    0.1
##    NA M                             21223            1.7
##
## ================================================================
##
##    EDUCATN 'Indicates the highest level of education achieved by the
##    defendant'
##
## ----------------------------------------------------------------
##
##    Storage mode: integer
##    Measurement: ordinal
##
##                     Values and labels      N      Percent
##
##      0    'No Schooling'                 12571     1.1    1.0
##      1    'Below High School'           538330    47.6   43.9
##      2    'High School Graduate'        492756    43.6   40.2
##      3    'Special Degree'               23258     2.1    1.9
##      4    'College Graduate'             46346     4.1    3.8
##      5    'Advanced/Professional Degree'  17076    1.5    1.4
##    NA M                                  96730            7.9
##
## ================================================================
##
##    AGE 'Indicates the age of the defendant.'
##
## ----------------------------------------------------------------
##
##    Storage mode: integer
##    Measurement: interval
##
##            Min:    16.000
##            Max:   103.000
##           Mean:    34.976
##       Std.Dev.:    10.765
##       Skewness:     0.832
##       Kurtosis:     0.431
##          Miss.:  7860.000
##            NAs:  7860.000
##
## ================================================================
##
##    STATMIN 'Total statuary minimum prison term in months'
##
## ----------------------------------------------------------------
##
##    Storage mode: integer
##    Measurement: interval
##
##            Min:     0.000
```

```
##              Max:     9996.000
##             Mean:       37.390
##         Std.Dev.:      301.727
##         Skewness:       31.910
##         Kurtosis:     1049.617
##            Miss.:    26302.000
##              NAs:    26302.000
##
## ================================================================================
##
##     STATMAX 'Total statuary maximum prison term in months'
##
## --------------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##     Storage mode: integer
##     Measurement: interval
##
##              Min:        0.000
##              Max:    96720.000
##             Mean:     1466.239
##         Std.Dev.:     3256.618
##         Skewness:        2.345
##         Kurtosis:        6.048
##            Miss.:    82743.000
##              NAs:    82743.000
##
## ================================================================================
##
##     DISPOSIT 'Disposition of the defendant's case'
##
## --------------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##     Storage mode: integer
##     Measurement: nominal
##
##      Values and labels       N        Percent
##
##      0   'Guilty Plea' 1176566     95.9     95.9
##      1   'Trial'          47588      3.9      3.9
##      2   'Other'           2434      0.2      0.2
##     NA M                    479               0.0
##
## ================================================================================
##
##     TOTPRISN 'Total number months of imprisonment ordered'
##
## --------------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##     Storage mode: integer
##     Measurement: interval
##
##              Min:        0.000
##              Max:      985.000
##             Mean:       48.068
```

4

```
##         Std.Dev.:    63.299
##         Skewness:     3.048
##         Kurtosis:    16.113
##
## ============================================================================
##
##    XFOLSOR 'The final offense level, as determined by the court'
##
## ----------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##    Storage mode: integer
##    Measurement: interval
##
##              Min:      0.000
##              Max:     50.000
##             Mean:     18.607
##         Std.Dev.:      8.908
##         Skewness:      0.263
##         Kurtosis:     -0.720
##            Miss.:   7825.000
##              NAs:   7825.000
##
## ============================================================================
##
##    XCRHISSR 'The final criminal history category, as determined by the
##    court'
##
## ----------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##    Storage mode: integer
##    Measurement: interval
##
##              Min:    1.000
##              Max:    6.000
##             Mean:    2.442
##         Std.Dev.:    1.700
##         Skewness:    0.886
##         Kurtosis:   -0.509
##
## ============================================================================
##
##    DISTRICT 'The district in which the defendant's case is sentenced'
##
## ----------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##    Storage mode: integer
##    Measurement: nominal
##
##          Values and labels      N      Percent
##
##     0   'Maine'              3550     0.3    0.3
##     1   'Massachusetts'      8981     0.7    0.7
##     2   'New Hampshire'      3213     0.3    0.3
##     3   'Rhode Island'       2586     0.2    0.2
```

```
##     4  'Puerto Rico'       14968   1.2   1.2
##     5  'Connecticut'        6306   0.5   0.5
##     6  'New York North'     7685   0.6   0.6
##     7  'New York East'     21865   1.8   1.8
##     8  'New York South'    27514   2.2   2.2
##     9  'New York West'      9767   0.8   0.8
##    10  'Vermont'            3024   0.2   0.2
##    11  'Delaware'           1993   0.2   0.2
##    12  'New Jersey'        14686   1.2   1.2
##    13  'Penn. East'        15284   1.2   1.2
##    14  'Penn. Mid'          8220   0.7   0.7
##    15  'Penn. West'         7231   0.6   0.6
##    16  'Maryland'          11857   1.0   1.0
##    17  'N Carolina East'   10923   0.9   0.9
##    18  'N Carolina Mid'     7872   0.6   0.6
##    19  'N Carolina West'   10736   0.9   0.9
##    20  'South Carolina'    17149   1.4   1.4
##    22  'Virginia East'     26027   2.1   2.1
##    23  'Virginia West'      8084   0.7   0.7
##    24  'W Virginia North'   5308   0.4   0.4
##    25  'W Virginia South'   5019   0.4   0.4
##    26  'Alabama North'      7921   0.6   0.6
##    27  'Alabama Mid'        3745   0.3   0.3
##    28  'Alabama South'      6689   0.5   0.5
##    29  'Florida North'      6592   0.5   0.5
##    30  'Florida Mid'       27859   2.3   2.3
##    31  'Florida South'     39171   3.2   3.2
##    32  'Georgia North'     12437   1.0   1.0
##    33  'Georgia Mid'        6376   0.5   0.5
##    34  'Georgia South'      7257   0.6   0.6
##    35  'Louisiana East'     7088   0.6   0.6
##    36  'Louisiana West'     5948   0.5   0.5
##    37  'Miss. North'        3088   0.3   0.3
##    38  'Miss. South'        5935   0.5   0.5
##    39  'Texas North'       19547   1.6   1.6
##    40  'Texas East'        14578   1.2   1.2
##    41  'Texas South'      102454   8.3   8.3
##    42  'Texas West'       107188   8.7   8.7
##    43  'Kentucky East'      9273   0.8   0.8
##    44  'Kentucky West'      6174   0.5   0.5
##    45  'Michigan East'     14185   1.2   1.2
##    46  'Michigan West'      7286   0.6   0.6
##    47  'Ohio North'        13947   1.1   1.1
##    48  'Ohio South'         9915   0.8   0.8
##    49  'Tennessee East'    11342   0.9   0.9
##    50  'Tennessee Mid'      4873   0.4   0.4
##    51  'Tennessee West'     9262   0.8   0.8
##    52  'Illinois North'    15637   1.3   1.3
##    53  'Illinois Cent'      6206   0.5   0.5
##    54  'Illinois South'     6444   0.5   0.5
##    55  'Indiana North'      6649   0.5   0.5
##    56  'Indiana South'      5340   0.4   0.4
##    57  'Wisconsin East'     6442   0.5   0.5
##    58  'Wisconsin West'     3025   0.2   0.2
```

```
##     60   'Arkansas East'    5876    0.5    0.5
##     61   'Arkansas West'    3848    0.3    0.3
##     62   'Iowa North'       6753    0.6    0.6
##     63   'Iowa South'       6710    0.5    0.5
##     64   'Minnesota'        8212    0.7    0.7
##     65   'Missouri East'   14009    1.1    1.1
##     66   'Missouri West'   12506    1.0    1.0
##     67   'Nebraska'        10662    0.9    0.9
##     68   'North Dakota'     4186    0.3    0.3
##     69   'South Dakota'     7056    0.6    0.6
##     70   'Arizona'         81337    6.6    6.6
##     71   'California North' 12282   1.0    1.0
##     72   'California East'  16524   1.3    1.3
##     73   'California Cent.' 26923   2.2    2.2
##     74   'California South' 66826   5.4    5.4
##     75   'Hawaii'           5411    0.4    0.4
##     76   'Idaho'            4254    0.3    0.3
##     77   'Montana'          6048    0.5    0.5
##     78   'Nevada'           9857    0.8    0.8
##     79   'Oregon'          10112    0.8    0.8
##     80   'Washington East'  6354    0.5    0.5
##     81   'Washington West' 11672    1.0    1.0
##     82   'Colorado'         9314    0.8    0.8
##     83   'Kansas'          10483    0.9    0.9
##     84   'New Mexico'      46726    3.8    3.8
##     85   'Oklahoma North'   3402    0.3    0.3
##     86   'Oklahoma East'    1609    0.1    0.1
##     87   'Oklahoma West'    5550    0.5    0.5
##     88   'Utah'            12241    1.0    1.0
##     89   'Wyoming'          4586    0.4    0.4
##     90   'Dist of Columbia' 6933    0.6    0.6
##     91   'Virgin Islands'   1528    0.1    0.1
##     93   'Guam'             1524    0.1    0.1
##     94   'N Mariana Island'  380    0.0    0.0
##     95   'Alaska'           2858    0.2    0.2
##     96   'Louisiana Middle' 2794    0.2    0.2
##
## ===============================================================================
##
##     MONCIRC 'The circuit in which the defendant's case is sentenced'
##
## -------------------------------------------------------------------------------
##
##     Storage mode: integer
##     Measurement: nominal
##
##     Values and labels      N       Percent
##
##         (unlab.vld.) 1227067    100.0    100.0
```

7