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Table 5.4

Arrests and convictions resulting from court-authorized orders for interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications

United States, 1979-96

Year arrests and convictions reported ^a	Year installed																		
	1979 (N=533)	1980 (N=524)	1981 (N=562)	1982 (N=518)	1983 (N=602)	1984 (N=773)	1985 (N=722)	1986 (N=676)	1987 (N=634)	1988 (N=678)	1989 (N=720)	1990 (N=812)	1991 (N=802)	1992 (N=846)	1993 (N=938)	1994 (N=1,100)	1995 (N=1,024)	1996 (N=1,035)	
1979																			
Arrests	1,717	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	368	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1980																			
Arrests	585	1,871	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	424	259	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1981																			
Arrests	111	637	1,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	250	474	248	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1982																			
Arrests	44	93	558	1,725	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	108	310	745	453	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1983																			
Arrests	61	290	330	705	1,716	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	122	325	473	776	521	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1984																			
Arrests	26	17	116	238	664	2,393	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	18	95	143	389	833	649	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1985																			
Arrests	5	0	104	43	266	638	2,469	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	18	22	93	98	320	958	660	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1986																			
Arrests	3	11	37	64	174	334	1,026	2,410	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	62	15	47	88	226	409	1,114	761	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1987																			
Arrests	0	0	21	77	42	225	419	759	2,226	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	0	7	54	45	80	265	552	830	506	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1988																			
Arrests	0	0	0	18	2	67	169	305	716	2,486	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	0	0	5	31	7	55	195	523	936	543	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1989																			
Arrests	0	0	0	0	26	59	9	138	186	969	2,804	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	0	5	1	5	11	72	39	163	341	1,192	706	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1990																			
Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	3	67	125	54	251	986	2,057	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	0	0	0	1	4	17	53	85	141	400	823	420	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1991																			
Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91	5	106	289	897	1,388	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	0	0	0	0	5	3	2	82	23	203	490	550	1,358	X	X	X	X	X	X
1992																			
Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	2	38	18	120	213	801	2,685	X	X	X	X	X
Convictions	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	9	66	186	357	827	607	X	X	X	X	X
1993																			
Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	29	23	83	270	983	2,428	X	X	X	X
Convictions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	16	57	111	142	210	895	413	X	X	X
1994																			
Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	8	67	155	326	981	2,852	X	X	X
Convictions	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	11	8	52	111	169	450	912	772	X	X	X
1995																			
Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	15	6	8	26	111	67	390	1,165	2,577	X	X
Convictions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	6	7	81	148	164	538	965	494	X	X
1996																			
Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	7	2	30	40	130	209	1,246	2,464	X
Convictions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	1	2	40	50	233	403	1,112	502	X

Note: See Note, table 5.2. Arrests, trials, and convictions resulting from the interceptions of wire, oral, and electronic communication do not always occur within the same year as the implementation of the court order. This table presents arrest and conviction data for the year court-authorized interception began and subsequent years.

^aIncludes arrests and convictions that occurred prior to the year in which they were reported.

Source: Administrative Office of the United States Courts, *Report on Applications for Orders Authorizing or Approving the Interception of Wire or Oral Communications for the Period January 1, 1981 to December 31, 1981* (Washington, DC: Administrative Office of the United States Courts, 1982), p. 20; Administrative Office of the United States Courts, *Report on Applications for Orders Authorizing or Approving the Interception of Wire, Oral, or Electronic Communications for the Period January 1, 1992 to December 31, 1992* (Washington, DC: USGPO, 1993), p. 29; and Administrative Office of the United States Courts, *1996 Wiretap Report* (Washington, DC: Administrative Office of the United States Courts, 1997), p. 35. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.