

Table of Contents
Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission

<i>Agency Profile</i>	1
Agency Expenditure Overview	3
Agency Financing by Fund	4
Agency Change Summary	5

<http://mn.gov/sentencing-guidelines/>

AT A GLANCE

- Eleven Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission (MSGC) members represent key criminal justice stakeholders and the public
- MSGC creates and improves Sentencing Guidelines
- Guidelines give judges uniform standards to apply when sentencing over 18,000 felony cases annually
- MSGC staff help criminal justice professionals in all 87 counties use the Guidelines correctly
- MSGC staff publish reports and conduct research on felony sentencing for Commission, Legislature, and the public

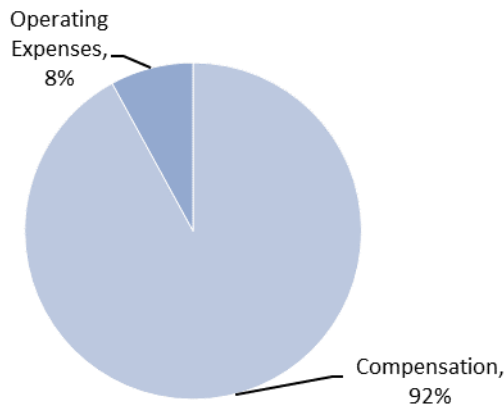
PURPOSE

The MSGC exists to establish rational and consistent sentencing standards that—

- Promote public safety;
- Reduce sentencing disparity;
- Recommend felony sanctions that are proportional to the crime’s severity and the offender’s criminal history; and
- Support the appropriate use of finite correctional resources.
- The MSGC supports the statewide outcome that **people in Minnesota are safe**
- The MSGC supports the statewide outcome of **efficient and accountable government services**

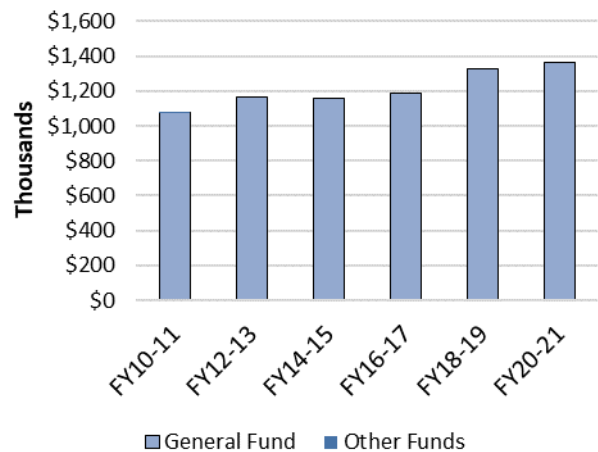
BUDGET

**Spending by Category
FY 2021 Actual**



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

The MSGC’s activities are financed entirely through the General Fund. Its payroll budget consists of one (1) Executive Director, four (4) research analysts, and one (1) management analyst. Operating expenses included leased space, technology costs, education delivery costs, and office expenses.

STRATEGIES

The Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission utilizes the following strategies to accomplish its mission:

- The MSGC meets monthly to work on improving the Sentencing Guidelines.
- From time to time, the MSGC makes recommendations to the Legislature regarding changes to criminal law, criminal procedure, and other aspects of sentencing.
- MSGC staff create and maintain a comprehensive and accurate database on felony sentences.
- MSGC staff publish reports on sentencing practices and related criminal justice issues. These reports help policymakers, criminal justice officials, and the public evaluate felony sentencing policy and proposed legislation.
- A sentencing worksheet is required whenever a judge sentences a felony, and MSGC staff review every worksheet to ensure the accurate and consistent application of the Sentencing Guidelines.
- MSGC staff provide in-person and web-based educational opportunities to help practitioners understand and correctly apply Sentencing Guidelines policies.
- As needed, the MSGC and its staff respond to changes in case law, legislation, and issues raised by interested parties by making changes to the Sentencing Guidelines and the Electronic Worksheet System.
- Annually, MSGC staff work with the Department of Corrections to generate prison bed projections.
- MSGC members and staff serve on committees and task forces to further the goals of the criminal justice system.

RESULTS

Type of Measure	Name of Measure	Previous	Current	Dates
Quantity	Felony offenders' sentencing worksheets reviewed	18,284	20,703	2018 & 2019
Quantity	Individual data reports prepared for practitioners, media, and the public	300	250	2019 & 2020
Quality	Number of agency fiscal notes completed; timeliness percentage	50; 100%	20; 100%	2019 & 2020
Results	Percentage of felony offenders receiving the recommend Sentencing Guidelines sentence	75%	73.7%	2018 & 2019

Minn. Stat. sec. 244.09 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/244.09>) provides the legal authority for the MSGC.

Sentencing Guidelines Commission

Agency Expenditure Overview

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY20	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Estimate FY23	Forecast Base	
					FY24	FY25
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>						
1000 - General	673	677	683	822	765	765
Total	673	677	683	822	765	765
Biennial Change				156		25
Biennial % Change				12		2
<u>Expenditures by Program</u>						
Mn Sentencing Guideline Com	673	677	683	822	765	765
Total	673	677	683	822	765	765
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>						
Compensation	626	624	643	693	701	711
Operating Expenses	47	50	41	129	64	54
Other Financial Transaction		3				
Total	673	677	683	822	765	765
<u>Full-Time Equivalent</u>						
	5.95	5.53	5.56	6.00	6.00	6.00

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY20	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Estimate FY23	Forecast Base	
					FY24	FY25
1000 - General						
Balance Forward In		6		57		
Direct Appropriation	679	687	740	765	765	765
Cancellations		16				
Balance Forward Out	6		57			
Expenditures	673	677	683	822	765	765
Biennial Change in Expenditures				156		25
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				12		2
Full-Time Equivalents	5.95	5.53	5.56	6.00	6.00	6.00

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	Biennium 2024-25
Direct				
Fund: 1000 - General				
FY2023 Appropriations	765	765	765	1,530
Forecast Base	765	765	765	1,530