



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
New York Field Division

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ATF SHARES NY STATE CRIME GUN DATA *DATA AVAILABLE ON-LINE*

NEW YORK - William G. McMahon, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' (ATF), New York Field Division today releases aggregate trace data for crime guns recovered in New York State for calendar year 2007.

A review of ATF firearms trace data compiled from Jan.1 to Dec. 31, 2007, for several regions in New York State reveals:

- 10,288 firearms were submitted to ATF to be traced.
7,846 handguns and 2,442 long guns.
- Statewide, handguns outnumbered long guns 3 to 1.
- 57% of all firearms recovered were in NY City.
- In NY City, handguns outnumbered long guns 5 to 1.
- Each region has unique concerns when dealing with newer weapons.

The New York State and City statistics are posted on the ATF NY web site;
http://www.atf.gov/field/newyork/trace_data.htm.

A key component of ATF's enforcement mission is the tracing of firearms on behalf of thousands of Federal, State, local, and foreign law enforcement agencies, yet only about 30% of the crime guns recovered nationwide are submitted to ATF to be traced. However, New York State, since 2002, has had mandatory crime gun tracing through the ATF Crime Gun Center in Brooklyn. The Gun Center is the central repository for recovered and traced firearms in New York and gives ATF and our law enforcement partners an accurate and timely picture of illegal gun trafficking. The most important piece of information of a traced firearm, other than the purchaser, is the Time to Crime (TTC) statistic. That is, the time period from the initial sale of a weapon by a federally licensed dealer to its recovery by law enforcement. Every gun with a TTC less than 2 years is looked at individually by analysts. A TTC less than 2 years may be a strong indicator of illegal firearms trafficking. A snapshot fact sheet for this 2 year time period is attached to this release.

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Trace data tracks the transfer of a firearm from the importer or manufacturer to the gun's first purchaser. This information can assist law enforcement in ultimately pinpointing the individual(s) who used the gun to commit a crime. ATF conducts traces to identify criminals for prosecution; therefore firearms trace data is considered sensitive criminal intelligence. It is vital that this intelligence be shared with our State and local law enforcement partner to better assist them in investigating and solving violent crimes impacting their communities.

Again, ATF is committed to providing critically important trace data to law enforcement agencies who seek our assistance. To ensure that we furnish the results in a timely manner, we must make certain that our efforts remain focused on criminal investigations, including the analysis of comprehensive crime gun trends and patterns.

By posting these statistics, New Yorkers can now use the Internet to find specific firearm recovery information and gain some insight into these recoveries by learning about the types of offenses and where firearms were recovered within their state.

Special Agent in Charge McMahon said, "That by analyzing trace results ATF can better focus our resources to stop the flow of illegal guns into New York."

More information on ATF and its programs is at www.atf.gov.

Attachment:

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**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
(ATF), New York Field Division**

2 year or less Time To Crime category

The NY City, Westchester, Long Island and Rochester regions all had larger handgun (pistol, revolver and derringer) recoveries versus long guns (shotgun and rifle).

New York City –total 405 weapons, 89% handguns and 11% long guns.
94% handguns purchased outside NYS and 52% long guns from within NYS.

Westchester – total 44 weapons, 75% handguns and 25% long guns.
55% handguns purchased out of NY State (NYS) while 82% long guns from within NYS.

Long Island – total 50 weapons, 60% handguns and 40% long guns.
90% handguns purchased outside NYS, 90% long guns within NYS.

Rochester - total 41 weapons, 56% handguns and 44% long guns.
70% handguns purchased outside NYS, 89% long guns from within NYS.

Conversely, the Albany, Syracuse and Buffalo regions all had a larger number of long guns recovered versus handguns.

Albany – total 53 weapons, 33% handguns and 66% long guns.
88% of handguns purchased outside of NYS and 91% long guns from within NYS.

Syracuse – total 48 weapons, 40% handguns and 60% long guns.
89% handguns purchased outside NYS and 100% long guns from within NYS.

Buffalo – total 91 weapons, 31% handguns and 69% long guns.
57% handguns purchased outside NYS and 95% long guns from within NYS.

* Region/County identification legend:

New York City (Manhattan, Bronx, Queens, Kings, Richmond)

Westchester Region (Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, Putnam, Ulster, Dutchess)

Long Island Region (Nassau, Suffolk)

Albany Region (Columbia, Greene, Delaware, Rensselaer, Albany, Schohaire, Otsego, Schenectady, Montgomery, Herkimer, Fulton, Saratoga, Washington, Warren, Hamilton, Essex, Clinton, Franklin)

Syracuse Region (Broome, Tioga, Tompkins, Cortland, Chenango, Madison, Onondaga, Cayuga, Oneida, Oswego, Lewis, Jefferson, St. Lawrence)

Rochester Region (Wayne, Monroe, Livingston, Ontario, Yates, Seneca, Steuben, Schuyler, Chemung)

Buffalo Region (Niagara, Erie, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany, Wyoming, Genesee, Orleans)