January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
(1) Firearm traces are designed to assist law enforcement authorities in conducting investigations by tracking the sale and possession of specific firearms. Law enforcement agencies may request firearms traces for any reason, and those reasons are not necessarily reported to the Federal Government. Not all firearms used in crime are traced and not all firearms traced are used in crime.

(2) Firearms selected for tracing are not chosen for purposes of determining which types, makes or models of firearms are used for illicit purposes. The firearms selected do not constitute a random sample and should not be considered representative of the larger universe of all firearms used by criminals, or any subset of that universe. Firearms are normally traced to the first retail seller, and sources reported for firearms traced do not necessarily represent the sources or methods by which firearms in general are acquired for use in crime.
Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced in Virginia by Calendar Year

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Firearm Types with a Virginia Recovery
January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

Pistols: 4,794
Revolvers: 1,146
Rifles: 1,055
Shotguns: 718
Derringers: 49
Receivers/Frames: 23
Machineguns: 21
Any Other Weapons: 4
Silencers: 4
Destructive Devices: 3
Unknown Types: 3
Flare Gun: 2

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Virginia Recovery
January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

NOTE: There were 973 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 118 traces with an unknown caliber.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Virginia Recovery
January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

NOTE: There were 1,208 additional traces that were associated with other categories.
NOTE: An additional 33 states and the District of Columbia accounted for 307 other traces. The source state was identified in 5,789 total traces.
Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery
January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

1/1/2015-12/31/2015 Virginia Average Time-to-Crime: 8.65 Years
1/1/2015-12/31/2015 National Average Time-to-Crime: 10.48 Years

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery
January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

1/1/2015-12/31/2015 Virginia Average Age of Possessor: 35 Years
1/1/2015-12/31/2015 National Average Age of Possessor: 36 Years

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery
January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

Chesapeake 273
Suffolk 139
North Chesterfield 136
Richmond 1,107
Virginia Beach 574
Norfolk 546
Newport News 477
Portsmouth 312
Roanoke 294
Hampton 279

NOTE: There were 402 additional municipalities that accounted for 3,683 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for three traces.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced
- Includes traces with a recovery state of Virginia. Traces in which the recovery state was not provided were included when the requesting agency state was equal to Virginia.
- Includes Firearms Recovered and Traced between 1/1/2015 – 12/31/2015, or, if the recovery date was blank, the trace entry date was between 1/1/2015 – 12/31/2015.
- Duplicate traces, Firearms Not Recovered, Gun Buyback and Firearms Turned In are not included in this figure.
- Data was extracted from the Firearms Tracing System (FTS) on April 11, 2016.
- All traces may not have been submitted or completed at the time of this study.

Firearm Types and Calibers with a Virginia Recovery
- Includes same criteria as Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Virginia Recovery
- Includes same criteria as Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced. Beginning in CY 2010, attempted homicide, attempted suicide and negligent vehicular manslaughter are reported in separate categories.

Top Source States for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery
- Includes same criteria as Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced.
- Traces must identify a purchaser and the state in which the final dealer is located.

Time-to-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery
- Includes same criteria as Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced.
- Traces must identify a purchaser.
- Time-to-Crime was calculated for those traces in which the purchase date could be subtracted from the recovery date.

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery
- Includes same criteria as Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced.
- Includes traces that provide a possessor and the possessor's date of birth.
- Possessor's age is calculated by subtracting the possessor's date of birth from the recovery date.

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery
- Includes same criteria as Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced.
- Includes traces with a recovery city, or, if the recovery city was not provided, the requesting agency had jurisdiction only within that city.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information