

District of Columbia

Data Source: Firearms Tracing System

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

ATF Firearms Trace Data Disclaimer

- 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.
- 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 the District of Columbia in Calendar Year 2017



2,101

Firearm Types with a District of Columbia Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Derringers	Unknown Types	Other
1,607	280	116	81	8	5	4

* Other includes Machineguns, a Flare Gun and a Receiver/Frame.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a District of Columbia Recovery



January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

9mm	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	.22 Cal	.32 Cal	.357 Cal	12GA	.25 Cal
661	382	208	190	140	125	69	66	65	48

NOTE: There were 107 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 40 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a District of Columbia Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Found Firearm	Aggravated Assault	Homicide	Simple Assault	Robbery	Dangerous Drugs	Weapon Offense
1,020	794	76	57	35	24	21	20	16

NOTE: There were 38 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a District of Columbia Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Virginia	Maryland	North Carolina	Georgia	South Carolina
538	198	120	118	94
District of Columbia	West Virginia	Florida	Pennsylvania	Texas
60	45	42	35	28
Ohio	Tennessee	Alabama	Kentucky	Arizona
27	23	17	17	11

NOTE: An additional 29 states accounted for 102 other traces.
The source state was identified in 1,475 total traces.

Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a District of Columbia Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017



Under 3 Months	3 Months to Under 7 Months	7 Months to Under 1 Year	1 Year to Under 2 years	2 Years to Under 3 Years	3 Years and Over
49	71	82	179	121	962

1/1/2017-12/31/2017 District of Columbia Average Time-to-Crime: **9.49 Years**

1/1/2017-12/31/2017 National Average Time-to-Crime: **9.30 Years**

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a District of Columbia Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

17 & Under	18 to 21	22 to 24	25 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	Over 50
60	271	203	279	181	58	50

1/1/2017-12/31/2017 District of Columbia Average Age of Possessor: **28 Years**

1/1/2017-12/31/2017 National Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a District of Columbia Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Washington, DC

2,101

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

- Includes traces with a recovery state of District of Columbia. Traces in which the recovery state was not provided were included when the requesting agency state was equal to the District of Columbia.
- Includes Firearms Recovered and Traced between 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2017, or, if the recovery date was blank, the trace entry date was between 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2017.
- 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, 2018.
- All traces may not have been submitted or completed at the time of this study.

Firearm Types and Calibers with a District of Columbia Recovery

- Includes same criteria as Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a District of Columbia 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.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics (continued)

Top Source States for Firearms with a District of Columbia 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 District of Columbia 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 District of Columbia 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 District of Columbia 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.