

Puerto Rico

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 Puerto Rico in Calendar Year 2017



988

Firearm Types with a Puerto Rico Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Pistols	Rifles	Revolvers	Shotguns	Receivers/Frames	Unknown Types	Other
740	140	71	22	7	5	3

* Other includes Machineguns and a Derringer.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Puerto Rico Recovery



January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017



.40 Cal	9mm	.45 Cal	7.62mm	.38 Cal	MULTI	.223 Cal	.357 Cal	5.56mm	12GA	.22 Cal
354	203	79	49	43	40	38	35	23	22	17

NOTE: There were 45 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 40 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Puerto Rico Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Weapons Trafficking	Weapon Offense	Family Offense	Found Firearm	None Provided	Dangerous Drugs	Traffic Offense	Simple Assault
209	206	123	107	88	76	57	44	13	11

NOTE: There were 54 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

*A homicide category was reported on six traces.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Puerto Rico Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Florida	Puerto Rico	Texas	Pennsylvania	Ohio
265	225	25	11	10
Alabama	Georgia	Virginia	Alaska	Arizona
9	7	6	4	4
California	Louisiana	South Carolina	Arkansas	Indiana
4	4	4	3	3
Michigan	Oklahoma			
3	3			

NOTE: An additional 18 states accounted for 27 other traces.
The source state was identified in 617 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Puerto Rico 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
20	21	30	53	46	410

1/1/2017-12/31/2017 Puerto Rico Average Time-to-Crime: **9.01 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Puerto Rico 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
0	59	85	146	151	79	63

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

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

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a Puerto Rico Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

San Juan	Guaynabo	Bayamon	Carolina	Caguas	Ponce	Trujillo Alto	Toa Baja	Manati	Toa Alta
268	143	122	78	65	27	24	15	12	12

NOTE: There were 60 additional municipalities that accounted for 221 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for one trace.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

- Includes traces with a recovery state of Puerto Rico. Traces in which the recovery state was not provided were included when the requesting agency state was equal to Puerto Rico.
- 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 Puerto Rico Recovery

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

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Puerto Rico 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 Puerto Rico 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 Puerto Rico 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 Puerto Rico 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 Puerto Rico 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.