

Virginia

Data Source: Firearms Tracing System

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

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 Virginia in Calendar Year 2019



11,124

Firearm Types with a Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Rifles	Revolvers	Shotguns	Machineguns	Derringers	Unknown Types	Other
7,739	1,265	1,149	788	77	50	25	31

* Other includes Receivers/Frames, Combinations, Any Other Weapons and a Silencer.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Virginia Recovery



January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019



9mm	.40 Cal	.22 Cal	.380 Cal	.45 Cal	12GA	.38 Cal	.357 Cal	7.62mm	5.56mm	.25 Cal
4,002	1,399	979	898	781	609	458	283	180	179	145

NOTE: There were 1,018 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 193 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Weapon Offense	Firearm Under Investigation	Possession of Weapon	Found Firearm	Dangerous Drugs	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Suicide	Homicide	Aggravated Assault	Property Crimes
3,187	1,724	1,608	1,007	952	563	282	249	230	201

NOTE: There were 1,121 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Virginia	North Carolina	Florida	Georgia	West Virginia
7,241	268	150	116	96
Texas	South Carolina	Tennessee	Pennsylvania	Ohio
84	79	76	68	60
Maryland	Alabama	Kentucky	California	Arizona
55	52	34	31	28
Mississippi				
28				

NOTE: An additional 34 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico accounted for 327 other traces. The source state was identified in 8,793 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

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
920	741	645	1,223	881	4,345

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Virginia Average Time-to-Crime: **7.11 Years**

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 National Average Time-to-Crime: **8.29 Years**

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

17 & Under	18 to 21	22 to 24	25 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	Over 50
235	1,110	930	1,642	1,755	1,005	1,126

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Virginia Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**
 1/1/2019-12/31/2019 National Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Richmond	Norfolk	Newport News	Virginia Beach	Roanoke	Chesapeake	Henrico	Hampton	Portsmouth	Woodbridge
1,332	810	795	671	460	416	416	321	273	212

NOTE: There were 411 additional municipalities that accounted for 5,416 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for two traces.

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 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2019, or, if the recovery date was blank, the trace entry date was between 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2019.
- 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 10, 2020.
- 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.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics (continued)

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.