

Colorado

Data Source: Firearms Tracing System

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

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 Colorado in Calendar Year 2018



5,414

Firearm Types with a Colorado Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Pistols	Rifles	Revolvers	Shotguns	Derringers	Machineguns	Other
3,412	834	631	449	30	25	33

* Other includes Receivers/Frames, Silencers, Unknown Types, Combinations, Flare Guns and an Any Other Weapon.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Colorado Recovery



January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018



9mm	.22 Cal	.40 Cal	.45 Cal	.380 Cal	12GA	.38 Cal	.357 Cal	5.56mm	7.62mm	.25 Cal
1,527	585	581	503	443	361	235	195	119	107	73

NOTE: There were 585 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 100 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Colorado Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Possession of Weapon	Weapon Offense	Found Firearm	Dangerous Drugs	Firearm Under Investigation	Suicide	Traffic Offense	Property Crimes	Homicide	Aggravated Assault	Simple Assault
1,187	648	582	517	420	261	224	202	187	169	111

NOTE: There were 906 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Colorado Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Colorado	Texas	California	Florida	New Mexico
3,033	201	80	77	72
Wyoming	Arizona	Kansas	Georgia	Missouri
72	71	63	50	42
Oklahoma	Nebraska	Utah	Montana	North Carolina
38	31	31	29	26

NOTE: An additional 34 states accounted for 444 other traces.
The source state was identified in 4,360 total traces.



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

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

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
380	291	286	536	442	2,394

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Colorado Average Time-to-Crime: **7.47 Years**

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 National Average Time-to-Crime: **8.80 Years**

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Colorado Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

17 & Under	18 to 21	22 to 24	25 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	Over 50
174	345	330	645	948	550	453

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Colorado Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 National Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a Colorado Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Denver	Colorado Springs	Lakewood	Aurora	Grand Junction	Pueblo	Greeley	Longmont	Littleton	Northglenn	Fort Collins
1,642	1,003	302	232	221	179	168	110	65	64	57

NOTE: There were 181 additional municipalities that accounted for 1,370 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 Colorado. Traces in which the recovery state was not provided were included when the requesting agency state was equal to Colorado.
- Includes Firearms Recovered and Traced between 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2018, or, if the recovery date was blank, the trace entry date was between 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2018.
- 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, 2019.
- All traces may not have been submitted or completed at the time of this study.

Firearm Types and Calibers with a Colorado Recovery

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

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Colorado 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 Colorado 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 Colorado 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 Colorado 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 Colorado 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.