

Iowa

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 Iowa in Calendar Year 2018



2,577

Firearm Types with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Pistols	Rifles	Shotguns	Revolvers	Derringers	Receivers/Frames	Other
1,488	430	340	288	20	8	3

* Other includes Combinations and a Machinegun.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with an Iowa Recovery



January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018



9mm	.22 Cal	.380 Cal	12GA	.40 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	20GA	.357 Cal	7.62mm
642	395	250	233	196	194	104	64	62	47

NOTE: There were 343 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 47 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Dangerous Drugs	Found Firearm	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Family Offense	Weapon Offense	Aggravated Assault	Suicide	Health - Safety
1,029	252	226	190	153	122	87	76	62	48

NOTE: There were 332 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

*A homicide category was reported on 27 traces.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Iowa	Illinois	Missouri	South Dakota	Nebraska
1,337	65	53	34	29
Texas	Wisconsin	Minnesota	California	Florida
26	24	21	19	19
Mississippi	Arkansas	Arizona	Indiana	Louisiana
19	18	17	15	13

NOTE: An additional 27 states and Guam accounted for 136 other traces. The source state was identified in 1,845 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with an Iowa 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
96	98	110	207	199	1,120

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Iowa Average Time-to-Crime: **8.75 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with an Iowa 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
79	201	146	298	553	241	198

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Iowa Average Age of Possessor: **34 Years**

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

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Des Moines	Davenport	Ankeny	Waterloo	Doon	Sioux City	Cedar Rapids	Burlington	Webster City	Sanborn
622	257	168	150	149	140	120	75	73	56

NOTE: There were 137 additional municipalities that accounted for 765 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 Iowa. Traces in which the recovery state was not provided were included when the requesting agency state was equal to Iowa.
- 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 an Iowa Recovery

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

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Iowa 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 an Iowa 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 an Iowa 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 an Iowa 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 an Iowa 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.