

Kentucky

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 Kentucky in Calendar Year 2018



5,847

Firearm Types with a Kentucky Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Derringers	Unknown Types	Machineguns	Receivers/ Frames	Other
3,917	859	584	336	64	53	20	10	4

* Other includes Any Other Weapons, a Silencer and a Tear Gas Launcher.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Kentucky Recovery



January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018



9mm	.40 Cal	.22 Cal	.380 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	12GA	.357 Cal	7.62mm	5.56mm
1,773	737	620	598	404	325	237	148	110	106

NOTE: There were 532 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 257 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Kentucky Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Firearm Under Investigation	Possession of Weapon	Dangerous Drugs	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Found Firearm	Property Crimes	Weapon Offense	Homicide	Robbery	Simple Assault
1,534	1,300	851	537	335	250	219	151	128	120

NOTE: There were 422 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Kentucky Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Kentucky	Indiana	Tennessee	Ohio	Florida
3,375	303	115	102	52
Georgia	Texas	Alabama	Virginia	West Virginia
40	36	29	28	26
Michigan	Mississippi	North Carolina	Louisiana	South Carolina
23	22	22	20	19

NOTE: An additional 28 states accounted for 182 other traces.
The source state was identified in 4,394 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Kentucky 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
412	301	316	632	446	2,223

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Kentucky Average Time-to-Crime: **7.34 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Kentucky 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
235	614	583	1,028	1,230	573	564

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Kentucky 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 a Kentucky Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Louisville	Lexington	Hopkinsville	Owensboro	Glasgow	Covington	Richmond	Muldraugh	Fort Campbell	Bowling Green
3,523	801	128	117	105	103	96	65	55	47

NOTE: There were 153 additional municipalities that accounted for 801 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for six traces.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

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

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

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