

# South Carolina

## 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 South Carolina in Calendar Year 2018*



7,017

# *Firearm Types with a South Carolina Recovery*

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Derringers	Other
4,802	926	735	487	44	23

\* Other includes Receivers/Frames, Machineguns, Silencers, Unknown Types, an Any Other Weapon and a Combination.

# *Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a South Carolina Recovery*



January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018



9mm	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	.22 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	12GA	.357 Cal	.25 Cal	.32 Cal
2,063	960	829	644	476	435	374	171	147	136

**NOTE:** There were 737 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 45 traces with an unknown caliber.

# *Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a South Carolina Recovery*

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Firearm Under Investigation	Weapon Offense	Possession of Weapon	Dangerous Drugs	Found Firearm	Family Offense	Traffic Offense	Homicide	Property Crimes	Suicide
1,418	1,009	964	881	852	246	182	178	178	159

**NOTE:** There were 950 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

# *Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a South Carolina Recovery*

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

South Carolina	North Carolina	Georgia	Florida	Virginia
4,321	281	257	112	69
Texas	Tennessee	Alabama	Ohio	Kentucky
58	55	48	47	36
Pennsylvania	West Virginia	Indiana	Missouri	Arizona
35	32	22	20	19
California	New York			
19	19			

**NOTE:** An additional 31 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico accounted for 196 other traces. The source state was identified in 5,646 total traces.



# *Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a South Carolina 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
426	390	392	790	636	2,946

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 South Carolina Average Time-to-Crime: **7.79 Years**

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



# *Age of Possessors for Firearms with a South Carolina 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
132	532	458	871	847	415	461

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 South Carolina Average Age of Possessor: **33 Years**

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

# *Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a South Carolina Recovery*

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Columbia	North Charleston	Spartanburg	Summerville	Charleston	Rock Hill	Lancaster	Aiken	Woodruff	Ridgeland
858	532	298	255	202	186	178	177	161	159

**NOTE:** There were 246 additional municipalities that accounted for 3,861 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for 150 traces.

# *Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics*

## **Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced**

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

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

## **Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a South Carolina 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 South Carolina 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 South Carolina 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 South Carolina 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 South Carolina 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.