



Virginia

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 Virginia in Calendar Year 2018



10,156

Firearm Types with a Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Derringers	Receivers/Frames	Machineguns	Other
7,166	1,139	1,116	630	55	20	19	11

* Other includes Silencers, Unknown Types and Destructive Devices.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Virginia Recovery



January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018



9mm	.40 Cal	.22 Cal	.380 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	12GA	.357 Cal	5.56mm	.25 Cal
3,484	1,408	924	823	761	493	473	275	177	175

NOTE: There were 1,069 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 94 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Weapon Offense	Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Found Firearm	Dangerous Drugs	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Homicide	Suicide	Family Offense	Property Crimes
2,555	1,544	1,516	894	820	728	305	262	206	193

NOTE: There were 1,133 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Virginia	North Carolina	Florida	Georgia	West Virginia
6,729	222	135	104	100
Texas	South Carolina	Pennsylvania	Tennessee	Maryland
84	78	75	74	59
Alabama	Ohio	Kentucky	California	New York
57	46	43	31	31

NOTE: An additional 34 states and the District of Columbia accounted for 329 other traces. The source state was identified in 8,197 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Virginia 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
872	743	704	1,161	785	3,837

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Virginia Average Time-to-Crime: **6.72 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Virginia 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
239	1,124	1,031	1,636	1,573	900	960

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Virginia 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 Virginia Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Richmond	Virginia Beach	Norfolk	Newport News	Roanoke	Hampton	Portsmouth	Chesapeake	Danville	Petersburg
1,450	755	684	619	469	353	302	298	246	196

NOTE: There were 398 additional municipalities that accounted for 4,775 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for nine 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 1/1/2018 – 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 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.