

Iowa

Data Source: Firearms Tracing System

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

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 2019



2,518

Firearm Types with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Rifles	Shotguns	Revolvers	Machineguns	Derringers	Other
1,424	447	331	270	15	13	18

* Other includes Combinations, Receivers/Frames, Unknown Types and Silencers.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with an Iowa Recovery



January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019



9mm	.22 Cal	12GA	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	7.62mm	.357 Cal
667	345	240	212	204	177	91	78	66

NOTE: There were 382 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 56 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Dangerous Drugs	Found Firearm	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Family Offense	Weapon Offense	Health - Safety	Suicide	Aggravated Assault
772	431	333	197	166	109	97	57	56	44

NOTE: There were 256 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

*A homicide category was reported on 20 traces.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Iowa	Illinois	Nebraska	Missouri	Texas
1,404	92	49	44	42
Wisconsin	Arizona	Minnesota	Florida	Colorado
33	20	18	17	16
Georgia	Indiana	South Dakota	Kentucky	Mississippi
15	15	15	14	13

NOTE: An additional 30 states accounted for 148 other traces.
The source state was identified in 1,955 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

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
132	106	98	226	220	1,161

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Iowa Average Time-to-Crime: **7.99 Years**

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 National Average Time-to-Crime: **8.29 Years**

Age of Possessors for Firearms with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

17 & Under	18 to 21	22 to 24	25 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	Over 50
81	249	179	331	452	305	148

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Iowa Average Age of Possessor: **34 Years**

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 National Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with an Iowa Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Des Moines	Davenport	Waterloo	Cedar Rapids	Sioux City	Dubuque	Burlington	Clinton	Fort Dodge	Council Bluffs
627	338	195	179	158	76	61	60	49	48

NOTE: There were 151 additional municipalities that accounted for 726 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 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 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2019, or, if the recovery date was blank, the trace entry date was between 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2019.
- 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 10, 2020.
- 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.