

# North Carolina

## 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 North Carolina in Calendar Year 2019*



16,830

# *Firearm Types with a North Carolina Recovery*

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Rifles	Revolvers	Shotguns	Unknown Types	Derringers	Other
10,717	2,287	2,004	1,496	126	113	87

\* Other includes Machineguns, Receivers/Frames, Any Other Weapons, Tear Gas Launchers, a Combination, a Flare Gun and a Silencer.

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



January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019



9mm	.40 Cal	.22 Cal	.380 Cal	.45 Cal	12GA	.38 Cal	7.62mm	.357 Cal	5.56mm
5,152	1,827	1,791	1,515	1,083	1,047	824	412	387	344

**NOTE:** There were 2,062 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 386 traces with an unknown caliber.

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

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Found Firearm	Dangerous Drugs	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Property Crimes	Family Offense	Homicide	Aggravated Assault	Weapon Offense
5,731	1,990	1,739	1,527	859	714	647	544	518	494

**NOTE:** There were 2,067 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

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

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

North Carolina	South Carolina	Virginia	Georgia	Florida
9,828	831	488	305	266
Texas	Tennessee	Ohio	Pennsylvania	Alabama
142	128	103	92	90
West Virginia	Kentucky	New York	Indiana	California
74	64	56	55	44

**NOTE:** An additional 34 states and the District of Columbia accounted for 583 other traces.

The source state was identified in 13,149 total traces.



# *Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a North Carolina 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
1,002	800	847	1,634	1,317	7,294

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 North Carolina Average Time-to-Crime: **8.11 Years**

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



# *Age of Possessors for Firearms with a North Carolina 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
407	1,528	1,361	2,428	2,400	1,142	1,736

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

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

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

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Charlotte	Greensboro	Winston-Salem	Raleigh	Durham	High Point	Jacksonville	Wilmington	Greenville	Rocky Mount
2,739	1,111	1,053	1,033	660	415	401	397	358	351

**NOTE:** There were 428 additional municipalities that accounted for 8,239 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for 73 traces.

# *Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics*

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

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

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

## **Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a North 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 North 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 North 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 North 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 North 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.