

Tennessee

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 Tennessee in Calendar Year 2019



12,528

Firearm Types with a Tennessee Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Derringers	Machineguns	Other
8,723	1,454	1,326	797	89	61	78

* Other includes Unknown Types, Receivers/Frames, Combinations, an Any Other Weapon, a Destructive Device, a Flare Gun and a Silencer.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Tennessee Recovery



January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019



9mm	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	.22 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	12GA	.25 Cal	7.62mm	.357 Cal	5.56mm
4,063	1,657	1,218	1,050	720	690	550	275	266	261	249

NOTE: There were 1,297 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 232 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Tennessee Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Firearm Under Investigation	Weapon Offense	Possession of Weapon	Dangerous Drugs	Found Firearm	Simple Assault	Property Crimes	Aggravated Assault	Homicide	Robbery	Family Offense
3,478	2,000	1,596	1,404	1,054	795	435	398	333	204	164

NOTE: There were 667 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Tennessee Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Tennessee	Mississippi	Georgia	Alabama	Kentucky
6,635	632	404	252	247
Arkansas	Texas	Florida	Ohio	Virginia
162	157	155	80	77
Indiana	Louisiana	North Carolina	Illinois	Missouri
74	71	67	66	63

NOTE: An additional 35 states and Puerto Rico accounted for 468 other traces. The source state was identified in 9,610 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Tennessee 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
635	618	587	1,233	1,011	5,191

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Tennessee Average Time-to-Crime: **7.71 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Tennessee 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
393	1,127	823	1,590	1,825	1,051	808

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Tennessee Average Age of Possessor: **33 Years**

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

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a Tennessee Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Memphis	Nashville	Chattanooga	Knoxville	Jackson	Cleveland	Johnson City	Gallatin	Greeneville	Clarksville	Antioch
4,399	1,802	1,114	1,078	265	239	228	222	182	156	151

NOTE: There were 251 additional municipalities that accounted for 2,680 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for 12 traces.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

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

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

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