

South Dakota

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 South Dakota in Calendar Year 2019



686

Firearm Types with a South Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Rifles	Shotguns	Revolvers	Machineguns	Other
342	187	75	63	6	13

* Other includes Unknown Types, Any Other Weapons, Derringers, a Combination and a Receiver/Frame.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a South Dakota Recovery



January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019



9mm	.22 Cal	12GA	.40 Cal	.45 Cal	.380 Cal	.38 Cal	5.56mm	20GA	7.62mm
156	109	51	50	46	38	28	20	17	15

NOTE: There were 134 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 22 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a South Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Dangerous Drugs	Burglary	Health - Safety	Found Firearm	Aggravated Assault	Suicide	Traffic Offense	Simple Assault	Property Crimes	Kidnapping
159	155	94	49	49	37	27	26	24	19	16	9

NOTE: There were 22 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

*A homicide category was reported on four traces.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a South Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

South Dakota	Minnesota	Wyoming	Colorado	North Dakota
326	16	16	14	14
Florida	New Mexico	Texas	Washington	Iowa
9	9	9	9	8
Montana	Nebraska	Arizona	California	Nevada
8	8	6	5	5
Oregon				
5				

NOTE: An additional 22 states accounted for 39 other traces.
The source state was identified in 506 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a South Dakota 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
39	26	21	44	44	267

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 South Dakota Average Time-to-Crime: **8.08 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a South Dakota 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
9	41	42	78	114	60	74

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 South Dakota Average Age of Possessor: **38 Years**

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

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a South Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Rapid City	Sioux Falls	Sturgis	Mission	Peever	Box Elder	Eagle Butte	Elkton
414	68	18	15	14	13	11	10

NOTE: There were 52 additional municipalities that accounted for 123 other traces.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

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

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

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a South Dakota 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 Dakota 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 Dakota 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 Dakota 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 Dakota 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.