

Pennsylvania

Data Source: Firearms Tracing System

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

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 Pennsylvania in Calendar Year 2017



10,774

Firearm Types with a Pennsylvania Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Derringers	Receivers/Frames	Other
6,692	1,736	1,330	872	74	25	45

* Other includes Machineguns, Unknown Types, Combinations, Any Other Weapons, a Destructive Device, a Flare Gun and a Silencer.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Pennsylvania Recovery



January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017



9mm	.40 Cal	.22 Cal	.380 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	12GA	.357 Cal	.32 Cal	.25 Cal	7.62mm
2,891	1,227	1,148	925	766	763	653	365	313	250	165

NOTE: There were 1,145 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 163 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Pennsylvania Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Dangerous Drugs	None Provided	Found Firearm	Aggravated Assault	Suicide	Weapon Offense	Homicide	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Robbery
2,586	1,326	1,150	967	657	578	392	373	313	275	254

NOTE: There were 1,903 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Pennsylvania Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Pennsylvania	Ohio	Virginia	Georgia	Florida
6,145	163	160	154	128
West Virginia	North Carolina	South Carolina	Texas	Delaware
109	101	75	73	71
New Jersey	Maryland	New York	Kentucky	California
63	62	53	45	42

NOTE: An additional 35 states and Puerto Rico accounted for 372 other traces. The source state was identified in 7,816 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Pennsylvania Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

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
515	478	524	890	564	4,590

1/1/2017-12/31/2017 Pennsylvania Average Time-to-Crime: **9.81 Years**

1/1/2017-12/31/2017 National Average Time-to-Crime: **9.30 Years**

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Pennsylvania Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

17 & Under	18 to 21	22 to 24	25 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	Over 50
184	720	691	1,185	1,192	765	964

1/1/2017-12/31/2017 Pennsylvania Average Age of Possessor: **36 Years**

1/1/2017-12/31/2017 National Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a Pennsylvania Recovery

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	Bensalem	Harrisburg	Reading	Lancaster	Allentown	Chester	Stroudsburg	York	Chambersburg
3,762	1,187	425	302	162	149	134	129	129	107	87

NOTE: There were 864 additional municipalities that accounted for 4,179 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for 22 traces.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

- Includes traces with a recovery state of Pennsylvania. Traces in which the recovery state was not provided were included when the requesting agency state was equal to Pennsylvania.
- Includes Firearms Recovered and Traced between 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2017, or, if the recovery date was blank, the trace entry date was between 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2017.
- 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, 2018.
- All traces may not have been submitted or completed at the time of this study.

Firearm Types and Calibers with a Pennsylvania Recovery

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

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