

Alabama

Data Source: Firearms Tracing System

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

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 Alabama in Calendar Year 2018



6,512

Firearm Types with an Alabama Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Derringers	Other
4,559	761	688	422	51	31

* Other includes Machineguns, Receivers/Frames, Silencers, Any Other Weapons, Combinations, a Flare Gun and an Unknown Type.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with an Alabama Recovery



January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018



9mm	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	.22 Cal	.38 Cal	.45 Cal	12GA	7.62mm	.25 Cal	5.56mm	.32 Cal
2,022	926	692	635	388	368	316	161	160	134	99

NOTE: There were 562 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 49 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Alabama Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Dangerous Drugs	Found Firearm	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Property Crimes	Health - Safety	Family Offense	Homicide	Weapon Offense
1,445	1,165	879	593	465	298	240	188	149	142

NOTE: There were 948 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with an Alabama Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Alabama	Georgia	Florida	Mississippi	Tennessee
4,444	224	119	114	86
Texas	Louisiana	Kentucky	North Carolina	South Carolina
52	44	28	27	22
Ohio	Virginia	Indiana	California	Michigan
21	21	17	12	12
Missouri				
12				

NOTE: An additional 29 states accounted for 130 other traces.
The source state was identified in 5,385 total traces.



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

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

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
465	348	395	768	550	2,658

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Alabama Average Time-to-Crime: **7.91 Years**

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 National Average Time-to-Crime: **8.80 Years**

Age of Possessors for Firearms with an Alabama Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

17 & Under	18 to 21	22 to 24	25 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	Over 50
166	600	546	937	955	446	317

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Alabama Average Age of Possessor: **32 Years**

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 National Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with an Alabama Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Huntsville	Birmingham	Mobile	Montgomery	Bessemer	Tuscaloosa	Selma	Gadsden	Phenix City	Opelika	Anniston
934	713	689	320	313	245	158	149	148	142	106

NOTE: There were 272 additional municipalities that accounted for 2,571 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for 24 traces.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

- Includes traces with a recovery state of Alabama. Traces in which the recovery state was not provided were included when the requesting agency state was equal to Alabama.
- Includes Firearms Recovered and Traced between 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2018, or, if the recovery date was blank, the trace entry date was between 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2018.
- 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, 2019.
- All traces may not have been submitted or completed at the time of this study.

Firearm Types and Calibers with an Alabama Recovery

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

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Alabama 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 Alabama 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 Alabama 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 Alabama 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 Alabama 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.