

Illinois

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 Illinois in Calendar Year 2018



14,062

Firearm Types with an Illinois Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Derringers	Receivers/Frames	Machineguns	Other
10,243	1,885	1,065	704	92	20	19	34

* Other includes Unknown Types, Any Other Weapons, Combinations, Destructive Devices and a Silencer.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with an Illinois Recovery



January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018



9mm	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	.22 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	12GA	.357 Cal	.25 Cal	.32 Cal
4,812	1,854	1,467	1,311	1,085	826	506	406	305	265

NOTE: There were 1,102 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 123 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Illinois Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Found Firearm	Weapon Offense	Dangerous Drugs	Aggravated Assault	Family Offense	Suicide	Homicide	Robbery
5,160	3,641	1,262	833	816	387	318	263	247	158

NOTE: There were 977 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with an Illinois Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Illinois	Indiana	Missouri	Wisconsin	Kentucky
5,337	1,548	453	419	265
Tennessee	Mississippi	Texas	Ohio	Georgia
227	219	206	191	189
Iowa	Alabama	Florida	Arkansas	Michigan
174	133	123	122	106

NOTE: An additional 34 states accounted for 792 other traces.
The source state was identified in 10,504 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with an Illinois 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
588	697	699	1,433	1,094	5,822

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Illinois Average Time-to-Crime: **8.59 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with an Illinois 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
568	1,424	1,586	2,071	1,867	811	989

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Illinois 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 Illinois Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Chicago	Rockford	Midlothian	Springfield	Joliet	Peoria	East Saint Louis	Aurora	Champaign	Cicero
6,781	451	363	312	283	276	222	213	109	104

NOTE: There were 499 additional municipalities that accounted for 4,935 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for 13 traces.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

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

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

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