

South Dakota

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 South Dakota in Calendar Year 2018



739

Firearm Types with a South Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Pistols	Rifles	Shotguns	Revolvers	Derringers	Other
341	220	108	62	4	4

* Other includes Machineguns, a Destructive Device and a Receiver/Frame.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a South Dakota Recovery



January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018



9mm	.22 Cal	12GA	.40 Cal	.45 Cal	.380 Cal	20GA	.357 Cal	7.62mm	.223 Cal
145	138	76	63	50	33	21	20	18	15

NOTE: There were 156 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were four traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a South Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Dangerous Drugs	Health - Safety	Found Firearm	Aggravated Assault	Suicide	Family Offense	Weapon Offense	Burglary	Homicide	Traffic Offense
202	132	91	72	42	26	23	22	22	17	15	15

NOTE: There were 60 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a South Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

South Dakota	Nebraska	Colorado	Iowa	Minnesota
344	17	13	12	12
Montana	North Dakota	Wyoming	Oklahoma	Tennessee
12	12	12	8	7
Indiana	Oregon	Washington	Kansas	New Mexico
6	6	6	5	5

NOTE: An additional 26 states accounted for 57 other traces.
The source state was identified in 534 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a South Dakota 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
38	32	24	57	60	268

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 South Dakota 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 a South Dakota 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
10	49	39	91	126	86	124

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 South Dakota Average Age of Possessor: **39 Years**

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

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a South Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Rapid City	Sioux Falls	Hartford	Box Elder	Brandon	Brookings	Pine Ridge	Keystone	Gettysburg	Lower Brule	Yankton
323	83	46	25	19	19	16	14	12	12	10

NOTE: There were 56 additional municipalities that accounted for 157 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for three 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 1/1/2018 – 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 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.