

Alabama

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 Alabama in Calendar Year 2019



7,674

Firearm Types with an Alabama Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Unknown Types	Derringers	Other
5,210	900	854	522	76	56	56

* Other includes Machineguns, Combinations, Receivers/Frames, Silencers and a Destructive Device.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with an Alabama Recovery



January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019



9mm	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	.22 Cal	.38 Cal	.45 Cal	12GA	5.56mm	7.62mm	.357 Cal
2,467	1,008	769	722	451	388	369	163	155	151

NOTE: There were 884 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 147 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Alabama Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Firearm Under Investigation	Possession of Weapon	Found Firearm	Dangerous Drugs	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Health - Safety	Property Crimes	Homicide	Family Offense	Weapon Offense	Robbery
2,029	1,427	865	841	562	390	340	191	174	116	91

NOTE: There were 648 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with an Alabama Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Alabama	Georgia	Mississippi	Florida	Tennessee
5,187	235	144	119	109
Louisiana	Texas	Ohio	North Carolina	California
48	48	24	22	20
Kentucky	South Carolina	Oklahoma	Arkansas	Indiana
20	19	18	17	15
Virginia				
15				

NOTE: An additional 29 states and Guam accounted for 155 other traces. The source state was identified in 6,215 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with an Alabama 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
522	443	401	802	655	3,219

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Alabama Average Time-to-Crime: **7.56 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with an Alabama 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
165	716	621	1,023	1,143	539	709

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Alabama Average Age of Possessor: **34 Years**

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

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with an Alabama Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Mobile	Huntsville	Birmingham	Tuscaloosa	Montgomery	Bessemer	Florence	Opelika	Troy	Selma	Anniston
1,387	1,109	600	427	305	259	165	149	141	131	124

NOTE: There were 291 additional municipalities that accounted for 2,868 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for nine 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 1/1/2019 – 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 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.