

North Dakota

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 North Dakota in Calendar Year 2019



707

Firearm Types with a North Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Rifles	Revolvers	Shotguns	Receivers/Frames	Unknown Types	Other
366	158	92	76	4	4	7

* Other includes Machineguns, Derringers, a Combination and a Flare Gun.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a North Dakota Recovery



January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019



9mm	.22 Cal	12GA	.45 Cal	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	.38 Cal	.357 Cal	5.56mm	.223 Cal	7.62mm
167	96	60	53	51	43	23	17	16	13	13

NOTE: There were 133 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 22 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a North Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Possession of Weapon	Dangerous Drugs	Firearm Under Investigation	Found Firearm	Weapon Offense	Suicide	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Family Offense	Selling Weapon	Property Crimes	Firing Weapon
123	103	98	60	55	36	32	29	27	22	21

NOTE: There were 101 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

*A homicide category was reported on 13 traces.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a North Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

North Dakota	Minnesota	Montana	Texas	Idaho
349	36	27	20	14
South Dakota	Missouri	Arizona	Colorado	Iowa
12	11	8	7	7
Louisiana	Wyoming	California	Florida	Illinois
6	6	5	5	5
Oklahoma	Utah			
5	5			

NOTE: An additional 21 states accounted for 46 other traces.
The source state was identified in 574 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a North Dakota 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
39	31	39	66	58	315

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 North Dakota Average Time-to-Crime: **7.24 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a North Dakota 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
5	48	41	114	111	53	141

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 North Dakota Average Age of Possessor: **41 Years**

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

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a North Dakota Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Minot	Williston	Fargo	Watford City	Grand Forks	Dickinson	Bismarck	Jamestown	West Fargo	Belcourt	Alexander
140	131	77	61	58	51	36	27	12	11	9

NOTE: There were 49 additional municipalities that accounted for 89 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for five traces.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

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

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

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