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Illinois

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 Illinois in Calendar Year 2019



15,486



Firearm Types with an Illinois Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Revolvers	Rifles	Shotguns	Machineguns	Receivers/Frames	Derringers	Other		
11,175	1,782	1,057	829	440	75	69	59		

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



Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traceswith an Illinois RecoveryJanuary 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

9mm	.40 Cal	.22 Cal	.45 Cal	.380 Cal	.38 Cal	12GA	.357 Cal	.25 Cal	.32 Cal
5,790	1,945	1,292	1,181	1,164	817	578	377	320	268

NOTE: There were 1,141 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 613 traces with an unknown caliber.



Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Illinois Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Weapon Offense	Found Firearm	Dangerous Drugs	Family Offense	Aggravated Assault	Homicide	Suicide	Robbery
5,057	3,742	2,481	1,423	728	347	318	190	145	133

NOTE: There were 922 additional traces that were associated with other categories.



Top 15 Source States for Firearms with an Illinois Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Illinois	Indiana	Missouri	Wisconsin	Mississippi
5,782	1,882	485	460	302
Kentucky	Tennessee	Ohio	Georgia	Texas
278	235	233	220	216
Alabama	Iowa	Florida	Arkansas	Michigan
185	172	130	125	109

NOTE: An additional 35 states and Puerto Rico accounted for 760 other traces. The source state was identified in 11,574 total traces.

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

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Under 3 Months	Under 3 Months to Under 7 Months		1 Year to Under 2 years	2 Years to Under 3 Years	3 Years and Over	
689 681		718	1,549	1,251	6,505	

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Illinois Average Time-to-Crime: **8.05 Years** 1/1/2019-12/31/2019 National Average Time-to-Crime: **8.29 Years**



Age of Possessors for Firearms with an Illinois 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
667	1,724	1,412	2,407	2,199	1,007	1,075

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Illinois Average Age of Possessor: **32 Years** 1/1/2019-12/31/2019 National Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**



Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with an Illinois Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Chicago	Rockford	Peoria	Joliet	Springfield	Aurora	East Saint Louis	Champaign	Decatur	Rock Island
8,203	406	348	341	238	188	188	147	109	108

NOTE: There were 509 additional municipalities that accounted for 5,172 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for 38 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 1/1/2019 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 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.