

# Colorado

## 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 Colorado in Calendar Year 2019*



**5,637**

# *Firearm Types with a Colorado Recovery*

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Rifles	Revolvers	Shotguns	Machineguns	Derringers	Other
3,642	805	636	452	33	26	43

\* Other includes Unknown Types, Receivers/Frames, Silencers, Destructive Devices, an Any Other Weapon and a Combination.

# *Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Colorado Recovery*



January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019



9mm	.40 Cal	.22 Cal	.45 Cal	.380 Cal	12GA	.38 Cal	.357 Cal	5.56mm	7.62mm	.223 Cal
1,772	630	602	494	452	348	206	175	110	107	92

**NOTE:** There were 545 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 104 traces with an unknown caliber.

# *Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Colorado Recovery*

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Weapon Offense	Found Firearm	Dangerous Drugs	Suicide	Homicide	Traffic Offense	Property Crimes	Aggravated Assault
1,206	679	667	582	402	248	234	216	195	182

**NOTE:** There were 1,026 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

# *Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Colorado Recovery*

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Colorado	Texas	Wyoming	New Mexico	Arizona
3,140	190	93	85	75
California	Florida	Oklahoma	Kansas	Nebraska
62	61	54	53	51
Utah	Missouri	Georgia	Virginia	Louisiana
46	44	41	31	28
Montana				
28				

**NOTE:** An additional 32 states accounted for 416 other traces.  
The source state was identified in 4,498 total traces.



# *Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Colorado 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
330	300	250	563	460	2,542

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Colorado Average Time-to-Crime: **7.69 Years**

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



# *Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Colorado 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
181	386	294	736	956	502	613

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Colorado Average Age of Possessor: **36 Years**

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

# *Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a Colorado Recovery*

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Denver	Colorado Springs	Lakewood	Grand Junction	Aurora	Pueblo	Greeley	Fort Collins	Loveland	Durango	Northglenn
1,507	1,090	359	269	227	187	117	103	89	85	77

**NOTE:** There were 179 additional municipalities that accounted for 1,459 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for 68 traces.

# *Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics*

## **Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced**

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

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

## **Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Colorado 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 Colorado 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 Colorado 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 Colorado 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 Colorado 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.