## **PART II:**

# Firearm Thefts and Losses Updates and New Analysis

## Federal Firearms Licensee (FFL) Inventory Losses

As indicated in NFCTA Volume I, FFL inventory losses occur more frequently than all reported thefts (burglaries, robberies, and larcenies) from FFLs. The term "loss" refers to firearms in which the licensee has a record of acquiring the firearm into its inventory but later cannot account for the disposition of the firearm. There were 6,052 FFL inventory loss incidents involving 45,346 firearms from 2016 to 2020. From 2021 to 2023, there were an additional 3,412 loss incidents involving 27,450 firearms (Table FTL-01). The total number of loss incidents remained relatively stable over this eight-year period. However, the total number of firearms lost was notably lower from 2019 to 2021 before returning to higher levels from 2022 to 2023. Loss incidents dropped to their lowest levels in 2020 (956) and 2021 (1,092), coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic and a decrease in compliance inspections during this same period<sup>2</sup>. Loss incidents are less likely to be reported in the absence of these inspections.

Table FTL-01: Reported Number of Loss Incidents and Firearms Involved by Year

			Rate of Loss Incidents (per	Firearms	Average Firearms per
Year	FFL Population	Loss Incidents	1,000 FFLs)	Involved	Incident
2016	158,178	1,274	8.1	9,290	7.3
2017	154,439	1,277	8.3	12,452	9.8
2018	150,906	1,191	7.9	11,181	9.4
2019	147,728	1,354	9.2	7,091	5.2
2020	146,586	956	6.5	5,332	5.6
2021	153,879	1,092	7.1	6,237	5.7
2022	152,543	1,193	7.8	11,734	9.8
2023	149,761	1,127	7.5	9,479	8.4

As reflected in Table FTL-02, Type 01 (Dealer), 02 (Pawnbroker), and 07 (Manufacturer) FFLs accounted for the majority of loss incidents. From 2016 to 2023, the share of loss incidents reported by Type 02 FFLs decreased by nearly seven percentage points, which represents a nearly 31% decrease in population share. During this same period, the share of loss incidents reported by Type 07 FFLs increased by nearly nine percentage points, representing a nearly 44% increase in population share.

Table FTL-02: Percent of Reported Loss Incidents by FFL Type and Year

FFL Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
01	52.0%	52.2%	52.3%	52.4%	51.6%	53.1%	52.8%	52.1%
02	22.5%	21.4%	23.3%	19.1%	16.9%	15.5%	16.1%	15.6%
07	19.9%	21.0%	19.9%	23.4%	23.6%	23.5%	26.7%	28.6%
Other FFL Types	5.7%	5.4%	4.5%	5.1%	7.8%	7.9%	4.4%	3.7%
<b>Total Incidents</b>	1,274	1,277	1,191	1,354	956	1,092	1,193	1,127

Table FTL-03 presents the average rate of loss incidents per 1,000 FFLs by Type 01, 02, and 07 FFLs. Although a smaller proportion of loss incidents are attributed to Type 02 FFLs relative to Type 01 or Type 07 FFLs, Type 02 FFLs had the highest rate of loss incidents by FFL population in both 2016 to 2020 (27.5) and 2021 to 2023 (23.1).

Table FTL-03: Average Rate of Loss Incidents by FFL Type

		2016-20	20	2021-2023			
FFL Type	Avg. FFL Population	Number of Loss Incidents	Avg. Rate of Loss Incidents per 1,000 FFLs per year	Avg. FFL Population	Number of Loss Incidents	Avg. Rate of Loss Incidents per 1,000 FFLs per year	
01	64,269	3,154	9.8	59,234	1,797	10.1	
02	9,154	1,259	27.5	7,735	537	23.1	
07	14,900	1.301	17.5	20,952	897	14.3	

As reported in NFCTA Volume I, rifles and pistols accounted for 62% of missing firearms reported lost between 2016 to 2020.<sup>3</sup> From 2021 to 2023, the share of pistols among lost firearms increased by approximately five percentage points while the share of rifles decreased by nearly seven percentage points (Table FTL-04).

Table FTL-04: Total Reported Missing Firearms by Weapon Type

	2016	-2020	2021-2023		
	Firearms		Firearms		
Weapon Type	Involved	% Total	Involved	% Total	
Pistol	13,818	30.5%	9,785	35.6%	
Rifle	14,171	31.3%	6,727	24.5%	
Revolver	4,393	9.7%	2,307	8.4%	
Receiver/Frame	5500	12.1%	4,066	14.8%	
Shotgun	5,910	13.0%	3,691	13.4%	
Silencer	677	1.5%	534	1.9%	
All Others	877	1.9%	340	1.2%	
Total	45,346	100.0%	27,450	100.0%	

#### Recoveries of Firearms Reported Missing by FFLs

Of the FFL loss incidents that occurred between 2022 to 2023 there were 546 firearms recovered by December 31, 2023, and traced before July 1, 2024. Of the recovered firearms, about 73% (397) were pistols and almost 13% (68) were rifles (Table FTL-05).

 $Table\ FTL-05: Firearm\ Recoveries\ Associated\ with\ a\ Reported\ FFLLoss\ Incident\ by\ Weapon\ Type, 2022-2023$ 

	Number of	
Weapon Type	Firearms	% Total
Pistol	397	72.7%
Rifle	68	12.5%
Revolver	39	7.1%
Shotgun	29	5.3%
Derringer	7	1.3%
Receiver/Frame	5	0.9%
Machinegun	1	0.2%
Total	546	100.0%

Of these 546 recovered firearms, 346 possessors were identified. More than 40% (139) of the possessors were ages 35 and older, and more than 32% (112) were ages 25 to 34 (Table FTL-06).

Table FTL-06: Age Group of Possessors of Firearms Recovered from Reported FFL Losses, 2022 – 2023

Possessor Age	Number of	
Category	Possessors	% Total
17 and below	17	4.9%
18-24	78	22.5%
25-34	112	32.4%
35 and older	139	40.2%
Total	346	100.0%

### **FFL Thefts**

As reported in NFCTA Volume II, Part V, there were 5,395 FFL theft incidents involving 34,339 firearms stolen between 2017 and 2021.<sup>4</sup> From 2022 to 2023, an additional 1,745 theft incidents occurred involving 11,733 firearms stolen (Table FTL-07). The total number of firearms stolen in FFL theft incidents fell to the lowest level in the study period in 2021 (4,187). In contrast, the number of firearms stolen from FFLs increased 43% in 2022 (5,978) and decreased only 4% (5,755) in 2023. Still, FFL thefts were relatively rare events. For example, only 5.6 theft incidents occurred for every 1,000 FFLs in 2023.

Table FTL-07: Number of Theft Incidents and Firearms Involved by Year

Year	FFL Population	Theft Incidents	Theft Incident Rate (per 1,000 FFLs)	Firearms Involved	Average Firearms per Incident
2017	154,439	1,312	8.5	9,567	7.3
2018	150,906	1,140	7.6	7,534	6.6
2019	147,728	939	6.4	5,719	6.1
2020	146,586	1,106	7.6	7,332	6.6
2021	153,879	898	5.8	4,187	4.7
2022	152,543	904	5.9	5,978	6.6
2023	149,761	841	5.6	5,755	6.8

Type 01 FFLs accounted for the majority of theft incidents, but the number of theft incidents occurring among Type 07 FFLs increased over the study period (Table FTL-08). While theft incidents among Type 07 FFLs in 2017 was only 9%, by 2023 that percent had risen to nearly 19 percent. This represents a 100% increase in population share. Conversely, about 31% of theft incidents occurred among Type 02 FFLs in 2017, but nearly 23% of theft incidents occurred among Type 02 FFLs in 2023.

Table FTL-08: Percent of Theft Incidents by FFL Type and Year

FFL Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
01	57.9%	57.0%	61.9%	61.8%	60.5%	61.0%	57.7%
02	31.0%	30.6%	26.1%	23.8%	22.7%	21.6%	22.6%
07	9.4%	10.4%	10.0%	13.2%	15.5%	16.8%	18.8%
Other FFL Types	1.8%	2.1%	2.1%	1.3%	1.1%	0.6%	1.0%
<b>Total Incidents</b>	1,312	1,140	939	1,106	898	904	841

Table FTL-09 presents the average rate of theft incidents per 1,000 FFLs for Type 01, 02, and 07 FFLs. Although Type 01 FFLs experienced the greatest number of theft incidents, Type 02 FFLs had the highest rate of loss incidents by FFL population in both 2017 to 2021 (33.3) and 2022 to 2023 (25.7).

Table FTL-09: Average Rate of Theft Incidents by FFL Type

	2017-2021			2022-2023			
	Avg. FFL	Number of Theft	Avg. Rate of Theft Incidents per 1,000	Avg. FFL	Number of Theft	Avg. Rate of Theft Incidents per 1,000	
FFL Type	Population	Incidents	FFLs per Year	Population	Incidents	FFLs per Year	
01	63,285	3,216	10.2	58,208	1039	8.9	
02	8,815	1,468	33.3	7,529	387	25.7	
07	16,101	620	7.7	21,813	311	7.1	

FFL thefts include three types of offenses: burglaries, larcenies, and robberies.<sup>5</sup> Since 2021, burglaries increased 16% to 327 in 2023, and robberies increased 86% to 39 in 2023 (Table FTL-10). Larcenies decreased 20% to 475 through 2023.

Table FTL-10: Number of FFL Theft Incidents Reported by Theft Type and Year

Theft Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Burglaries	590	437	347	498	282	319	327
Larcenies	689	667	566	586	595	563	475
Robberies	33	36	26	22	21	22	39
Total	1,312	1,140	939	1,106	898	904	841

As reflected in FTL-10 and FTL-11, from 2021 to 2023 burglary incidents increased 16%, while the number of firearms involved increased 61 percent. An average of 10.5 firearms were involved in each burglary incident in 2021 but rose to 14.6 firearms in 2023. Robbery incidents increased 86% from 21 in 2021 to 39 in 2023, but the number of firearms involved increased 207% from 82 firearms stolen in 2021 (average 3.9 per incident) to 252 firearms stolen in 2023 (average 6.5 per incident). In contrast, the number of firearms involved in larcenies decreased 37% from 1,138 firearms stolen in 2021 (average 1.9 per incident) to 722 firearms in 2023 (average 1.5 per incident).

Table FTL-11: Number of Firearms Involved by Theft Type and Year

Theft Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Burglaries	7,869	5,636	4,512	6,058	2,967	4,553	4,781
Larcenies	1,413	1,569	1,005	964	1,138	1,297	722
Robberies	285	329	202	310	82	128	252
Total	9.567	7.534	5.719	7.332	4.187	5.978	5,755

When compared to 2017 to 2021,<sup>6</sup> the proportion of weapon types stolen in FFL thefts remained relatively stable from 2022 to 2023. Nearly 66% of firearms involved in theft incidents were pistols, 16% were rifles, and 7% were revolvers (Table FTL-12).

Table FTL-12: Weapon Type of Firearms Stolen in FFL Thefts, 2022 – 2023

	Firearms	
Weapon Type	Involved	% Total
Pistol	7,720	65.8%
Rifle	1,879	16.0%
Revolver	783	6.7%
Shotgun	676	5.8%
Receiver/Frame	428	3.6%
Silencer	164	1.4%
All Others	83	0.7%
Total	11,733	100.0%

#### Recoveries of Firearms Stolen in FFL Thefts

Of the FFL theft incidents that occurred between 2022 and 2023, there were 4,091 firearms recovered by December 31, 2023, and traced before July 1, 2024. Nearly 77% (3,146) were pistols and nearly 13% (516) were rifles (Table FTL-13).

Table FTL-13: Weapon Type of Firearms Recovered from FFL Thefts, 2022 – 2023

	Number of	
Weapon Type	Firearms	% Total
Pistol	3,146	76.9%
Rifle	516	12.6%
Revolver	251	6.1%
Shotgun	145	3.5%
Receiver/Frame	15	0.4%
All Others	18	0.4%
Total	4,091	100.0%

Of these 4,091 recovered firearms, 2,782 possessors were identified. Nearly 33% (915) were ages 25 to 34 and nearly 32% (875) were ages 18 to 24 (Table FTL-14). Relative to 2017 to 2021, possessors from 2022 to 2023 were older. The share of possessors ages 25 to 34 increased by 2.9 percentage points from 30% (3,643 of 12,153) in 2017 to 2021 to nearly 33% (915 of 2,782) in 2022 to 2023. The share of possessors in the ages 35 and older category increased 6.1 percentage points from nearly 21% (3,643 of 12,153) in 2017 to 2021 to nearly 27% (740 of 2,782) in 2022 to 2023.

Table FTL-14: Age Groupings of Possessors of Firearms Recovered from FFL Thefts

	2017-2021		2022-2	2023
Possessor Age	Number of		Number of	_
Category	Possessors	% Total	Possessors	% Total
17 and below	1,469	12.1%	252	9.1%
18-24	4,547	37.4%	875	31.5%
25-34	3,643	30.0%	915	32.9%
35 and older	2,494	20.5%	740	26.6%
Total	12,153	100.0%	2,782	100.0%

## **Reported Interstate Thefts and Losses**

As reported in Part I – Firearm Commerce Updates and New Analysis, an average of 10.8 million firearms were produced by licensed firearm manufacturers each year and 5.9 million firearms were imported from 2017 to 2023. Generally, after a firearm is manufactured or imported, it is shipped to a licensed wholesaler, then on to a licensed retailer prior to first retail sale. These exchanges result in multiple interstate shipments for each firearm. Despite this volume of interstate transport, interstate thefts or losses are rare events. From 2017 to 2023, an average of 3,370 firearms were reported lost or stolen in interstate shipments annually. These losses represented only 0.02% of the volume of newly manufactured or imported firearms entering commerce each year.

As documented in NFCTA Volume II, Part V, there were 6,008 interstate theft/loss incidents reported between 2017 and 2021; these incidents involved 13,145 firearms<sup>7</sup>. From 2022 to 2023, an additional 4,268 interstate theft/loss incidents were reported involving 10,443 firearms (Table FTL-15). Over the 2017 to 2021 study period, reported interstate theft/loss incidents were highest in 2021 with 2,587 incidents involving 5,378 firearms. Reported interstate theft/loss incidents involved 6,053 firearms in 2022 and decreased to 4,390 firearms in 2023.

Table FTL-15: Number of Reported Interstate Theft or Loss Incidents and Firearms Involved

	Theft	Firearms	Average Firearms
Year	Incidents	Involved	per Incident
2017	574	1,839	3.2
2018	701	1,714	2.5
2019	644	1,400	2.7
2020	1,502	2,814	1.9
2021	2,587	5,378	2.1
2022	2,459	6,053	2.5
2023	1,809	4,390	2.4

From 2022 to 2023, pistols accounted for 50% (5,223) of firearms lost or stolen in interstate shipments (Table FTL-16). Rifles represented nearly 17% (1,737) and revolvers accounted for nearly 11% (1,136). The weapon types were similar when compared to interstate shipment thefts from 2017 to 2021,8 these patterns mirror weapon type trends in general firearm commerce.

Table FTL-16: Percentage of Firearms Stolen or Lost by Weapon Type, 2022 – 2023

	Number of	
Weapon Type	Firearms	% Total
Pistol	5,223	50.0%
Rifle	1,737	16.6%
Revolver	1,136	10.9%
Shotgun	961	9.2%
Receiver/Frame	925	8.9%
Silencer	396	3.8%
All Others	65	0.6%
Total	10,443	100.0%

## Recoveries of Firearms Stolen or Lost in Interstate Thefts

Of the interstate theft incidents that occurred between 2022 and 2023, there were 1,143 firearms recovered by December 31, 2023, and traced before July 1, Of the firearms recovered, more than 71% (1,028) were pistols, 13% (187) were rifles, and more than 10% (149) were revolvers (Table FTL-17).

Table FTL-17: Weapon Type of Firearms Recovered from Interstate Thefts/Losses, 2022 – 2023

	Number of	
Weapon Type	Firearms	% Total
Pistol	1,028	71.2%
Rifle	187	13.0%
Revolver	149	10.3%
Shotgun	64	4.4%
All Others	15	1.0%
Total	1,143	100.0%

Of these 1,143 recovered firearms, 904 possessors were identified. Nearly 49% (440) were ages 25 to 34 and 29% (262) were ages 35 and older (Table FTL-18). Relative to 2017 to 2021, possessors from 2022 to 2023 were older. The share of possessors in the 25 to 34 age category increased by 20.9 percentage points from about 28% (388 of 1,397) in 2017 to 2021 to nearly 49% (440 of 904) in 2022 to 2023. The share of possessors in the 18 to 24 age category decreased by 22.4 percentage points from more than 42% (591 of 1,397) in 2017 to 2021 to nearly 20% (180 of 904) in 2022 to 2023.

Table FTL-18: Age Group of Possessors of Firearms Recovered from Interstate Thefts/Losses

	2017-2021		2022-2	2023
Possessor Age	Number of		Number of	
Category	Possessors	% Total	Possessors	% Total
17 and below	25	1.8%	22	2.4%
18-24	591	42.3%	180	19.9%
25-34	388	27.8%	440	48.7%
35 and older	393	28.1%	262	29.0%
Total	1,397	100.0%	904	100.0%

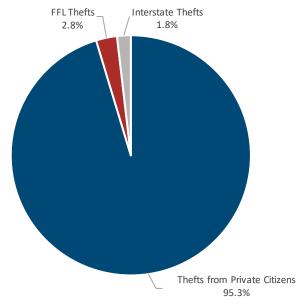
#### **Firearm Thefts from Private Citizens**

#### Private Firearm Theft Data

Thefts of firearms from private citizens are reported to state, local, territorial, and tribal LEAs, who are then responsible for entering those reports into the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Crime Information Center (NCIC). Neither ATF nor any other federal LEA will directly process reports of firearm theft from private citizens. Data on firearm thefts from private citizens analyzed in this section were derived from NCIC gun records from 2019 to 2023.

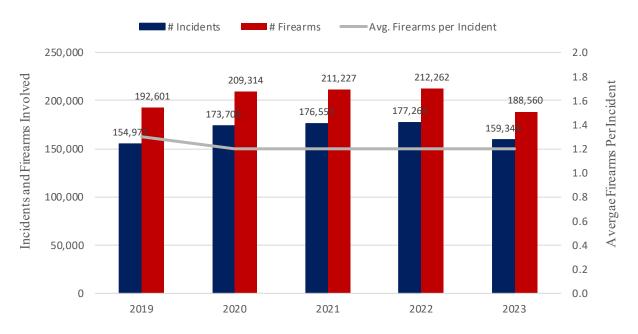
Firearm thefts from private citizens greatly outnumber firearms stolen from FFLs. As reflected in Figure FTL-01, firearms stolen from private citizens accounted for the great majority of stolen crime guns known to LEAs. From 2019 to 2023, there were 1,062,970 firearms reported stolen. About 3% (28,971) were stolen in FFL thefts, almost 2% (20,035) were stolen in interstate shipments, and 95% (1,013,964) were stolen in thefts from private citizens.

Figure FTL-01: Firearm Thefts by Type, 2019 – 2023



From 2019 to 2023, LEAs reported 841,843 private theft incidents involving 1,013,964 firearms (Figure FTL-02). The number of reported private firearm theft incidents did not change significantly during the study period. Most of these private theft incidents involved a single firearm.

Figure FTL-02: Number of Reported Private Theft Incidents and Firearms Involved



### Characteristics of Private Firearm Thefts

Most private theft incidents occurred in the South (61%; 515,043); followed by the Midwest (18%; 151,103) (Figure FTL-03).<sup>11</sup> The regional patterns of private thefts remained largely unchanged over the

study period. See Table FTL-19 in Appendix FTL – Firearm Thefts and Losses for a detailed list of private theft incidents by region between 2019 and 2023.

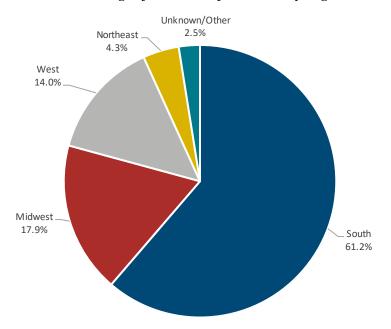


Figure FTL-03: Percentage of Private Theft Incidents by Region, 2019 – 2023

Rates of the average number of firearms reported stolen per year per 100,000 population<sup>12</sup> were calculated for the states with the largest number of firearms reported stolen from private citizens (Table FTL-20a). Mississippi had the highest rate of firearms reported stolen from private citizens. Louisiana and South Carolina had the second and third highest rates, respectively. Notably, nine of the top ten highest rates were in the Southern region of the U.S.

Table FTL-20a: Firearms Stolen from Private Citizens by Theft State (Top Ten Rates), 2019 - 2023

	Average # of Firearms Stolen in Private Thefts	Annual Rate per 100,000
State	per Year	Population
Mississippi	5,323	179.8
Louisiana	7,223	155.1
South Carolina	7,735	151.1
Alabama	7,276	144.8
Georgia	14,511	135.5
Arkansas	3,700	122.9
Tennessee	7,890	114.2
Missouri	6,845	111.2
Oklahoma	4,189	105.8
North Carolina	10,876	104.2

Table FTL-20 in Appendix FTL – Firearm Thefts and Losses contains a listing of all states and annual rates of firearms stolen during the study period.

#### Characteristics of Firearms Stolen

#### Weapon Type

Pistols accounted for 75% (762,863) of firearms reported stolen from private citizens between 2019 and 2023 (Figure FTL-04). The next most frequently stolen weapon types were rifles (10%; 101,527), revolvers (8%; 79,704), and shotguns (4%; 44,592). Together, these four weapon types accounted for almost 98% (988,686 of 1,013,964) of all firearms reported stolen from private citizens.

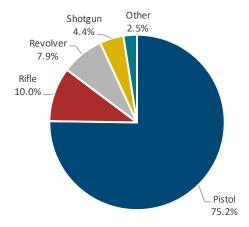


Figure FTL-04: Firearms Involved in Private Thefts by Weapon Type, 2019 – 2023

#### Caliber

Among firearms stolen from private citizens, 9mm was the most prevalent caliber reported (46%; 469,190) (Figure FTL-05). The next most frequent calibers were .40 (9%; 91,646), .380 (9%; 86,905), .22 (7%; 72,869), and .45 (7%; 71,320). These five calibers comprised 78% (791,930 of 1,013,964) of firearms stolen from private citizens from 2019 to 2023.

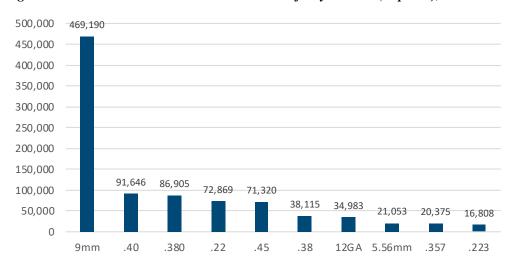


Figure FTL-05: Firearms Involved in Private Thefts by Caliber (Top Ten), 2019 – 2023

As reflected in Table FTL-21, the proportion of 9mm firearms stolen in thefts from private citizens steadily increased from 2019 to 2023 while the proportions of .40, .380, .22, and .45 caliber firearms decreased.

Table FTL-21: Percentage of Firearms Involved in Private Thefts by Caliber (Top Five)

Caliber	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
9mm	36.9%	42.5%	47.9%	50.8%	53.1%
.40	10.7%	10.1%	8.8%	8.0%	7.6%
.380	10.3%	9.3%	8.3%	7.7%	7.3%
.22	8.3%	7.7%	7.1%	6.6%	6.4%
.45	8.2%	7.6%	6.8%	6.4%	6.1%

#### Recoveries of Firearms Stolen from Private Citizens

Of the firearms reported stolen between 2019 and 2023, LEAs recovered 307,470 firearms. About 92% (280,416) of stolen firearms were recovered in the same state from which they were stolen (Figure FTL-06). Of the states with the most recovered stolen firearms, the majority were recovered within the same state as the theft (Table FTL-22a).

Figure FTL-06: Recovery Location of Firearms Recovered from Private Thefts, 2019 – 2023

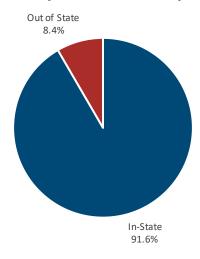


Table FTL-22a: Top 10 States of Recovered Stolen Firearms and Percent Recovered In-State, 2019 – 2023

	Total Recovered	% Recovered
Theft State	Firearms	In-State
Texas	35,995	95.9%
Georgia	22,723	87.5%
Florida	22,544	95.1%
North Carolina	18,469	90.9%
South Carolina	12,773	86.3%
Tennessee	12,455	88.3%
Louisiana	12,233	92.7%
Alabama	11,937	91.4%
Missouri	11,129	88.9%
Michigan	10,095	96.3%

Table FTL-22 in Appendix FTL – Firearm Thefts and Losses contains thefts and intrastate recoveries for all states.

## **Summary**

Thefts from private citizens accounted for nearly 95% of all firearms reported stolen from 2019 to 2023. About 3% were stolen in FFL thefts and approximately 2% were stolen in interstate shipments. Pistols and rifles were most frequently reported in all categories of thefts and losses. As reflected in Part I – Firearm Commerce Updates and New Analysis, pistols are the dominant type of GCA firearm manufactured in the U.S. and accounted for 39% of GCA firearms manufactured domestically in 2023. Among pistol calibers manufactured in 2023, the 9mm PARA caliber pistol constituted almost 64% of pistols manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce.

There were 6,052 FFL inventory loss incidents involving 45,346 firearms from 2016 to 2020. From 2021 to 2023, there were an additional 3,412 loss incidents involving 27,450 firearms. The total number of loss incidents remained relatively stable over this eight-year period. However, the total number of firearms lost was notably lower from 2019 to 2021 before returning to higher levels from 2022 to 2023. From 2016 to 2023, the share of Type 02 FFLs decreased by nearly seven percentage points, which represents a nearly 31% decrease in population share. During this same period, the share of Type 07 FFLs increased by nearly nine percentage points, representing a nearly 44% increase in population share.

FFL thefts occur infrequently. In 2023, only 5.6 theft incidents occurred for every 1,000 FFLs. While most theft incidents occur among Type 01 FFLs, the number of theft incidents occurring among Type 07 FFLs increased over the study period. About 9% of theft incidents occurred among Type 07 FFLs in 2017, but nearly 19% of theft incidents occurred among Type 07 FFLs in 2023. This represents a 100% increase in population share. Since 2022, burglaries have increased 16%, robberies increased 86%, and larcenies decreased 20 percent.

Between 2019 and 2023, 61% of private theft incidents occurred in the South. Southern states were also more likely to have higher rates of private thefts per 100,000 population. The great majority of stolen firearms were recovered in the same state in which they were stolen.

# APPENDIX FTL – FIREARM THEFTS AND LOSSES

Table FTL-19: Number and Percentage of Private Theft Incidents by Region

	20	19	202	20	202	21	202	22	202	23
Region	Incidents	% Total								
South	94,400	60.9%	106,689	61.4%	108,093	61.2%	108,632	61.3%	97,229	61.0%
Midwest	27,530	17.8%	32,092	18.5%	32,073	18.2%	31,028	17.5%	28,380	17.8%
West	22,172	14.3%	24,092	13.9%	24,684	14.0%	25,154	14.2%	22,005	13.8%
Northeast	6,685	4.3%	6,741	3.9%	7,403	4.2%	8,038	4.5%	7,432	4.7%
Unknown/Other	4,186	2.7%	4,095	2.4%	4,300	2.4%	4,412	2.5%	4,298	2.7%
Total	154,973	100.0%	173,709	100.0%	176,553	100.0%	177,264	100.0%	159,344	100.0%

Table FTL-20: Firearms Stolen from Private Citizens by Theft State and Population, 2019 – 2023

	Average Annual # of	Annual Rate per
State	Firearms Stolen	100,000 Population
AK	733	99.9
AL	7,276	144.8
AR	3,700	122.9
AZ	4,919	68.8
CA	8,011	20.3
CO	3,512	60.8
CT	796	22.1
DC	318	46.1
DE	367	37.1
FL	13,496	62.7
GA	14,511	135.5
HI	166	11.4
IA	1,130	35.4
ID	901	49.0
IL	4,487	35.0
IN	5,281	77.8
KS	1,999	68.0
KY	4,256	94.5
LA	7,223	155.1
MA	339	4.8
MD	1,135	18.4
ME	251	18.4
MI	6,858	68.1
MN	1,622	28.4
MO	6,845	111.2
MS	5,323	179.8
MT	962	88.7
NC	10,876	104.2
ND	268	34.4
NE	666	34.0
NH	351	25.5
NJ	586	6.3
NM	2,187	103.3
NV	2,613	84.2
NY	1,650	8.2
OH	6,521	55.3
OK	4,189	105.8
OR	2,459	58.0
PA	5,959	45.8
RI	114	10.4
SC	7,735	151.1
SD	525	59.2
TN	7,890	114.2
TX	26,674	91.5
UT	1,289	39.4
VA	5,587	64.7
VT	291	45.3
WA	4,127	53.6
WI	1,226	20.8
WV	1,304	72.7
WY	481	83.4
	101	

Table FTL-22: Theft State and In-State Recovery Location, 2019 – 2023

		Number	Percent
	<b>Total Firearms</b>	Recovered	Recovered
Theft State	Recovered	In-State	In-State
AK	1,374	1,342	97.7%
AL	11,937	10,911	91.4%
AR	6,703	6,262	93.4%
AZ	8,005	7,159	89.4%
CA	6,404	6,247	97.5%
CO	4,755	4,433	93.2%
CT	884	835	94.5%
DC	180	124	68.9%
DE	571	517	90.5%
FL	22,544	21,436	95.1%
GA	22,723	19,884	87.5%
HI	162	160	98.8%
IA	1,972	1,685	85.4%
ID	1,669	1,467	87.9%
IL	6,060	5,692	93.9%
IN	8,690	7,315	84.2%
KS	3,140	2,729	86.9%
KY	8,814	7,867	89.3%
LA	12,233	11,342	92.7%
MA	430	389	90.5%
MD		1,304	86.5%
	1,507		
ME	422	371	87.9%
MI	10,095	9,718	96.3%
MN	2,545	2,443	96.0%
MO	11,129	9,890	88.9%
MS	7,860	6,744	85.8%
MT	1,683	1,489	88.5%
NC	18,469	16,792	90.9%
ND	524	472	90.1%
NE	1,293	1,195	92.4%
NH	638	551	86.4%
NJ	895	860	96.1%
NM	3,081	2,788	90.5%
NV	4,275	3,336	78.0%
NY	1,362	1,326	97.4%
OH	9,769	9,372	95.9%
OK	6,455	5,987	92.7%
OR	3,751	3,285	87.6%
PA	8,971	8,503	94.8%
RI	174	144	82.8%
SC	12,773	11,025	86.3%
SD	965	870	90.2%
TN	12,455	11,002	88.3%
TX	35,995	34,522	95.9%
UT	2,313	2,142	92.6%
VA	8,956	7,633	85.2%
VT	364	288	79.1%
WA	6,842	6,313	92.3%
WI	40	9	22.5%
WV	1,646	1,369	83.2%
WY	657	561	85.4%
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## **ENDNOTES**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See NFCTA Volume I Part VIII, Table IL-01

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See NFCTA Volume IV, Part I, Figure C-17 and NFCTA Volume I Part X, Figure IR-06

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See NFCTA Volume I, Part VIII, Table IL-07a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The starting date of FFL theft data is 2017. In contrast, the starting date for FFL loss data is 2016. The differing starting dates for these data sets corresponds to the original publication study periods from Volume I loss data and Volume II theft data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> FFL theft incidents include robberies, burglaries, or larcenies. FFL robberies refer to all reported thefts involving the taking of property from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence. FFL burglaries refer to all reported incidents involving the unlawful entry of a structure with the intent to commit a felony or theft. FFL larcenies are reported theft incidents involving the unlawful taking or carrying away of a firearm from the FFL's inventory.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See NFCTA Volume II, Part V, Table BRL-05a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See NFCTA Volume II, Part V, Figure IT-01 and Figure IT-03

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See NFCTA Volume II, Part V, Figure IT-07

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Federal laws and most states do not require private individuals to report the theft of a firearm. As of 2022, only fifteen states -- California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Virginia 1 – require private citizens to report when a firearm is stolen. As a result, while the reported number of firearms stolen annually from individuals is substantial, there is significant underreporting; a 2016 survey by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics indicated that only about 75% of private gun thefts are reported to law enforcement. 2 In addition, no uniform methodology applies to law enforcement reporting when a firearm used in a separate crime is identified as having been stolen from a private citizen..

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> For NCIC purposes: a) Gun records include those entered, modified, located, or cleared. b) a gun is defined as any weapon, including a starter gun, which is designed to or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by air, carbon dioxide, or the action of an explosive. Included in this definition are antique guns; cannons; machine guns; rifles; shotguns; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; destructive devices such as grenades, mines, missiles, and rockets; and disguised guns such as knife guns, pen guns, belt buckles, and cane guns. BB guns are excluded. This definition is different than the related firearm definitions in 27 C.F.R. §§478.11 and 479.11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Each region is comprised of the following states. South: AL, AR, DC, DE, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV. Midwest: IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI. West: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY. Northeast: CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

<sup>12</sup> State Population Totals: 2020-2021 (census.gov)