

Delaware

Data Source: Firearms Tracing System

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

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 Delaware in Calendar Year 2018



1,097

Firearm Types with a Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Pistols	Shotguns	Revolvers	Rifles	Other
694	134	132	126	11

* Other includes Derringers, Machineguns, Receivers/Frames, an Any Other Weapon and an Unknown Type.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Delaware Recovery



January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018



9mm	.22 Cal	12GA	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	.45 Cal	.38 Cal	.25 Cal	.357 Cal	.32 Cal
356	130	109	93	79	79	43	33	27	23

NOTE: There were 117 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were eight traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Family Offense	Found Firearm	Dangerous Drugs	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Aggravated Assault	Suicide	Weapon Offense	Robbery
467	134	84	82	77	67	46	34	32	18

NOTE: There were 56 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

*A homicide category was reported on 16 traces.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Delaware	Pennsylvania	Maryland	Virginia	Florida
562	83	46	23	20
Georgia	North Carolina	West Virginia	Kentucky	Texas
13	13	11	9	9
California	South Carolina	Alabama	Tennessee	Connecticut
8	8	7	4	3
Louisiana	New York	Vermont		
3	3	3		

NOTE: An additional 19 states accounted for 29 other traces.
The source state was identified in 857 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

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
52	51	43	122	99	483

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Delaware Average Time-to-Crime: **8.57 Years**

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 National Average Time-to-Crime: **8.80 Years**

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

17 & Under	18 to 21	22 to 24	25 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	Over 50
38	102	103	265	211	117	71

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 Delaware Average Age of Possessor: **33 Years**

1/1/2018-12/31/2018 National Average Age of Possessor: **35 Years**

Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with a Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Wilmington	Dover	Harrington	Newark	New Castle	Millsboro	Seaford	Milford	Middletown	Claymont	Georgetown
330	133	111	107	83	41	24	21	19	16	16

NOTE: There were 36 additional municipalities that accounted for 196 other traces.

Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced

- Includes traces with a recovery state of Delaware. Traces in which the recovery state was not provided were included when the requesting agency state was equal to Delaware.
- Includes Firearms Recovered and Traced between 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2018 or, if the recovery date was blank, the trace entry date was between 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2018.
- 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 11, 2019.
- All traces may not have been submitted or completed at the time of this study.

Firearm Types and Calibers with a Delaware Recovery

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

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