Department of Justice
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Data Source: Firearms Tracing System


#094880
(1) 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.

(2) 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.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced in Alabama by Calendar Year

5,991

2008

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Firearm Types with an Alabama Recovery

- Pistols: 3,309
- Revolvers: 1,181
- Rifles: 908
- Shotguns: 513
- Derringers: 64
- Unknown Types: 6
- Combinations: 5
- Machineguns: 4
- Destructive Device: 1

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Alabama Recovery

- Possession of Weapon: 1,171
- Weapon Under Investigation: 719
- Dangerous Drugs: 676
- Found Firearm: 602
- None Provided: 553
- Carrying Concealed Weapon: 451
- Homicide: 246
- None Provided: 216

NOTE: There were 1,357 additional traces that were associated with other categories.
Top 15 Source States for Firearms with an Alabama Recovery

NOTE: An additional 28 states accounted for 92 other traces. The source state was identified in 3,732 total traces.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information
### Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with an Alabama Recovery
**January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time-to-Crime</th>
<th>No. of Firearms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 3 Months</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Months to Under 7 Months</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Months to Under 1 Year</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Year to Under 2 Years</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Years to Under 3 Years</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Years and Over</td>
<td>2,348</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1/1/2008-12/31/2008 Alabama Average Time-to-Crime: **9.24 Years**

1/1/2008-12/31/2008 National Average Time-to-Crime: **10.39 Years**

_Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information_
Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with an Alabama Recovery

Selma
128
Anniston
114
Troy
99
Montgomery
91
Tuscaloosa
404
Opelika
141
Birmingham
2,313
Mobile
615
Huntsville
490
Phenix City
169

NOTE: There were 236 additional municipalities that accounted for 1,395 other traces. The recovery city could not be determined for 32 traces.
Analytical Criteria Used to Compile the Enclosed Statistics

- **Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced**
  - Includes traces with a recovery state of Alabama. Traces in which the recovery state was not provided were included when the requesting agency state was equal to Alabama.
  - Includes Firearms Recovered and Traced between 1/1/2008 – 12/31/2008, or, if the recovery date was blank, the trace entry date was between 1/1/2008 – 12/31/2008.
  - 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 May 19, 2009.

- **Firearm Types with an Alabama Recovery**
  - Includes same criteria as Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced.

- **Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with an Alabama Recovery**
  - Includes same criteria as Total Number of Firearms Recovered and Traced.

- **Top Source States for Firearms with an Alabama 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 Alabama 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.

- **Top Recovery Cities for Firearms with an Alabama 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.

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