

Delaware

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 Delaware in Calendar Year 2019



1,224

Firearm Types with a Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Pistols	Rifles	Revolvers	Shotguns	Other
745	168	166	126	19

* Other includes Derringers, Receivers/Frames, Machineguns, Unknown Types, a Destructive Device, a Flare Gun and a Silencer.

Top Calibers Reported on Firearm Traces with a Delaware Recovery



January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019



9mm	.22 Cal	.40 Cal	.380 Cal	12GA	.38 Cal	.45 Cal	.357 Cal	.32 Cal	20GA
387	136	130	93	91	61	55	43	26	24

NOTE: There were 157 additional traces that were associated with other calibers. There were 21 traces with an unknown caliber.

Top Categories Reported on Firearm Traces with a Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Possession of Weapon	Firearm Under Investigation	Weapon Offense	Dangerous Drugs	Found Firearm	Suicide	Aggravated Assault	Carrying Concealed Weapon	Family Offense	Homicide
395	289	115	109	91	44	35	33	30	18

NOTE: There were 65 additional traces that were associated with other categories.

Top 15 Source States for Firearms with a Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Delaware	Pennsylvania	Maryland	Georgia	Florida
638	94	53	30	20
Virginia	North Carolina	South Carolina	West Virginia	Alabama
18	17	12	11	7
Texas	New Jersey	Arizona	Mississippi	Missouri
7	6	4	4	3
New York				
3				

NOTE: An additional 20 states accounted for 26 other traces.
The source state was identified in 953 total traces.



Time-To-Crime Rates for Firearms with a Delaware 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
71	45	59	121	101	522

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Delaware Average Time-to-Crime: **8.06 Years**

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

Age of Possessors for Firearms with a Delaware 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
50	117	91	215	224	126	140

1/1/2019-12/31/2019 Delaware 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 Delaware Recovery

January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Wilmington	Newark	Dover	New Castle	Seaford	Camden	Smyrna	Bear	Millsboro	Bridgeville	Laurel
385	141	126	91	51	49	41	38	25	23	23

NOTE: There were 31 additional municipalities that accounted for 231 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 1/1/2019 – 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 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.