

---

# Performance Goals and Results

**B**ecause the ATF was a bureau under the Department of the Treasury during fiscal year 2002, performance data for that period will not be presented with the Department of Justice information in this report. Performance data for fiscal year 2003 are presented on an annualized basis as ATF was a reporting entity under the Department of the Treasury from October 2002 until January 23, 2003.

One hundred percent of ATF's Net Costs support the Department of Justice's strategic goal of enforcing Federal criminal laws.

## **ATF's Strategic Objective: Reduce Violent Crime**

***Annual Goal: Effectively contribute to a safer America by reducing violent crime and terrorist-related crimes involving firearms.***

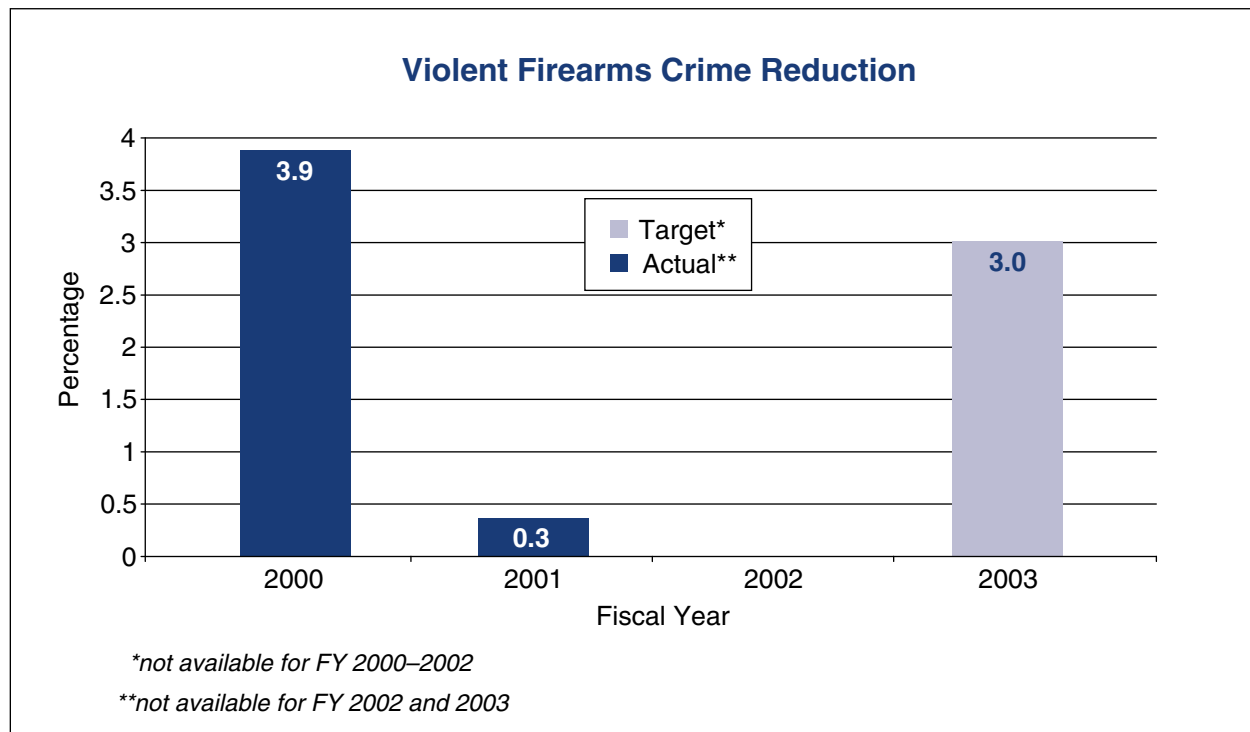
### ***Background/Program Objectives:***

ATF enforces the Federal firearms laws and regulations, as well as provides support to Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials in their fight against crime and violence. The issue of firearms-related violent crime is not a simple problem to combat: It is fueled by a variety of causes that vary from region to region. Common elements, however, do exist. Chief among these is the close relationship between firearms violence and the unlawful diversion of firearms out of commerce into the hands of prohibited individuals. To break this link, ATF employs IVRS, a comprehensive and integrated set of programs involving the vigorous enforcement of the

firearms laws, regulation of the firearms industry, and outreach and prevention efforts. Key elements of the IVRS strategy are as follows:

- Partnering with domestic and international law enforcement agencies and prosecutors at all levels to develop comprehensive enforcement plans. These plans focus on the arrest and prosecution of violent offenders, prohibited possessors of firearms, firearms traffickers, and others who illegally attempt to acquire firearms.
- Providing leadership to the law enforcement community by making specialized resources and training available to help solve violent crimes and identify firearms trafficking trends (e.g., training in advanced firearms investigative techniques, use of firearms tracing, and automated ballistics comparison).
- Ensuring that only qualified applicants enter the regulated firearm industry by employing appropriate screening procedures prior to licensing.
- Ensuring industry compliance with the Gun Control Act, the National Firearms Act, and the Arms Export Control Act.
- Partnering with schools, law enforcement, community organizations, the firearms industry, and others to facilitate educational efforts aimed at reducing firearms violence.
- Educating the public and the firearms industry about ATF policies and regulations, product safety, and security using the Internet, trade publications, seminars, and industry meetings.

## Performance Information



### Performance Measure: Violent Firearms Crime Reduction

#### Data Collection, Validation, and Verification:

Data are obtained from customized reports generated by the FBI Uniform Crime Report database, captured by the FBI from police departments nationwide. Data are verified by the FBI when the Uniform Crime Reports are published. Data will not be available for fiscal year 2003 until fiscal year 2005.

**Data Limitations:** The change in violent firearms crime in designated metropolitan areas is compared to areas without substantial ATF presence that are similar in population, occurrence of violent crime, and geography. Data reported reflect actual data for two years prior due to the time lag in the publication of the Uniform Crime Report. Substantial presence is defined as the existence of multiple ATF programs in the metropolitan area that have greater levels of activity than in the comparable areas (e.g., greater use of investigative services such as NIBIN and comprehensive firearms tracing associated with the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative, higher numbers of

defendants and years sentenced, greater numbers of children trained in the Gang Resistance Education and Training Program).

The following data support the measurements listed above and reflect the success in reducing violent firearms crime in pilot areas where ATF has a substantial presence. The crime reductions in these areas are compared to other metropolitan areas that have similar violent crime rates, populations, and general geography where the same levels of ATF activity or services are not in place.

#### Discussion of FY 2003 Accomplishments:

ATF, by virtue of the laws it enforces, investigates and brings to justice some of the most violent members of society. IVRS encompasses investigations into the movement of firearms from legal to illegal commerce, domestic and international firearms trafficking, and possession and use of firearms by prohibited people and violent criminals. During FY 2003, ATF's IVRS efforts resulted in the initiation of 29,619 firearms investigations. Among the criminals investigated by ATF in FY 2003 were street

## Violent Firearms Crime Reduction in Areas with a Substantial ATF Presence

Metropolitan Area	1998	1999	2000	2001	% Change Over Prior Year	% Change Since 1998
<b>Birmingham, AL</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>(6.4)</b>	<b>(29.4)</b>
Comp. El Paso, TX <sup>1</sup>	648	599	539	511	(5.2)	(21.1)
<b>Atlanta, GA</b>	<b>8,950</b>	<b>7,575</b>	<b>8,124</b>	<b>7,561</b>	<b>(6.9)</b>	<b>(15.5)</b>
Comp. Dallas, TX	7,748	7,723	8,464	9,734	15.0	25.6
<b>Indianapolis, IN</b>	<b>3,058</b>	<b>2,512</b>	<b>2,267</b>	<b>2,548</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>(16.7)</b>
Comp. Oklahoma City, OK	1,664	1,330	1,276	1,420	11.3	(14.7)
<b>Boston, MA</b>	<b>1,529</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>1,592</b>	<b>1,750</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>14.5</b>
Comp. Pittsburgh, PA	1,484	1,587	1,702	1,523	(10.5)	2.6
<b>Detroit, MI</b>	<b>12,114</b>	<b>11,204</b>	<b>11,118</b>	<b>10,881</b>	<b>(2.1)</b>	<b>(10.2)</b>
Comp. Newark, NJ	3,545	3,514	3,501	3,399	(2.9)	(4.1)
<b>Houston, TX</b>	<b>9,368</b>	<b>9,886</b>	<b>9,545</b>	<b>10,831</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>15.6</b>
Comp. Dallas, TX	7,748	7,723	8,464	9,734	15.0	25.6
<b>Average Change in Areas with Substantial ATF Presence</b>					<b>3.4</b>	<b>(7.0)</b>
Average Change in Comparable Areas					3.7	2.3
<b>Net Difference</b>					<b>(0.3)</b>	<b>(9.3)</b>

<sup>1</sup>Metropolitan areas used for comparison are those that most closely match the metropolitan areas listed above in terms of population, crime rates, and—wherever possible—geography.

gangs, outlaw motorcycle gangs, members of white supremacist organizations, and firearms and narcotics traffickers. The following are synopses of significant investigations that culminated in prosecution in FY 2003:

**Tampa and Orlando, Florida.** ATF initiated an investigation in August 1998 upon learning of an individual and his associates who were reportedly interested in purchasing large quantities of AK-47 type rifles and illegally exporting them to South America. The individuals purchased more than 600 of the weapons over a four-month period from gun shows in the Tampa area, and 28 weapons have since been recovered in Colombia, some in the hands of terrorist groups. On January 3, 1999, ATF and U.S. Customs agents seized 78 such weapons purchased by the suspects, approximately 9,000 rounds of ammunition, and an airplane that was headed toward Haiti. In November

2002, the suspects were indicted on charges of conspiracy, false statements to a Federal firearms dealer, money laundering, and violations of the AECA. The primary defendant was convicted on all charges and sentenced to 41 months' imprisonment in August 2003.

**Joplin, Missouri.** ATF initiated an investigation in November 1999 of an individual who was dealing in firearms at flea markets without a license. After several undercover contacts with the suspect, ATF learned that he had been selling firearms at flea markets for 12 years. He said that he purchased firearms on a regular basis from a friend with a Federal firearms license, and he talked about transferring firearms to individuals who were taking them to Mexico to sell for a profit. He also admitted to having purchased over \$1 million in merchandise from his "supplier." The defendant, who was suspected of having traf-

ficked at least 500 firearms, was sentenced in June 2003 to 37 months in prison for dealing in firearms without a license.

**Melville, New York.** In February 2002, ATF, the FBI, the Nassau County Police, and the Suffolk County Police investigated the Pagans Outlaw Motorcycle Club after an armed assault at a Hell's Angels-sponsored event in Plainview, NY. One gang member was killed during the attack, and 73 Pagans were held on State charges of riot and gang assault. ATF recovered and traced 14 firearms, and assisted with the prosecution of the gang members. All but one of the defendants were charged with conspiracy to commit an assault and were sentenced in the first quarter to terms of imprisonment ranging from 27 to 60 months. One defendant was sentenced to 36 months in prison on charges of aiding and abetting.

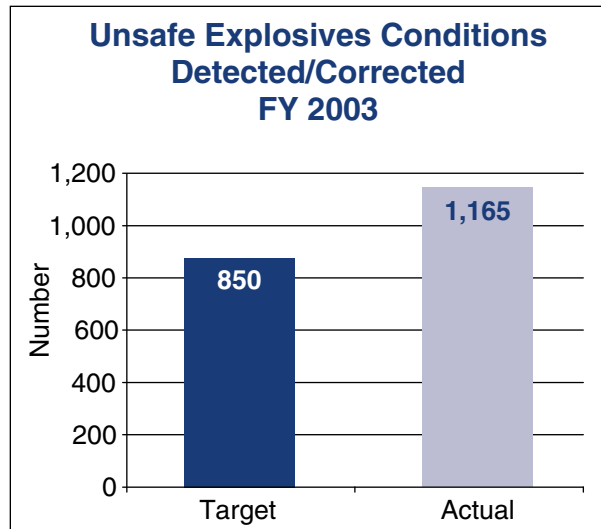
### **Annual Goal: Protect the public by inspecting regulated entities.**

ATF complements reducing violent crime with training and prevention strategies through law enforcement, industry regulation, industry partnerships, technology, and reducing public safety risk and consumer deception on regulated commodities.

Ensuring compliance with laws and regulations through education, inspection, and investigation is an integral part of protecting the public. With existing resources, ATF will continue to inspect at least 50 percent of the explosives industry annually. Based on experience at this inspection level, ATF expects to respond to and ensure corrective actions are carried out for 850 unsafe explosives storage conditions.

### **Performance Measure: Unsafe Explosives Conditions Discovered and Resolved by Inspections**

**Data Collection, Validation, and Verification:** Data are collected via ATF's regulatory management information system and are obtained through inspection reports from ATF field divisions on the results of explosives inspections.



Data are verified through ATF's ongoing quality assurance and internal inspection efforts.

#### **Discussion of FY 2003 Accomplishments:**

- Implemented the SEA, which requires all persons who wish to receive explosive materials to acquire a Federal license or permit. The Act enhances ATF's current mission of regulating the explosives industry and protecting the public from explosives incidents and is intended to eliminate the availability of explosives to felons, other prohibited persons, and terrorists.
- Continued to emphasize that industry compliance with Federal laws and regulations remains an important element for securing the safety of the public. ATF works with industry, State governments, and others to achieve a balanced regulation that is less burdensome yet sufficient to ensure public safety. ATF trains, informs, and assists these industry members and government agencies, as well as the public, with the goal of protecting the public and preventing consumer deception. Specifically, continued liaison efforts with explosives industry members, explosives licensees/permittees, and public safety agencies have become extremely important to mitigate the possibility of terrorists obtaining explosives through the legal explosives industry.
- Inspected 66 percent of the explosives licensee/permittees in FY 2003. The target percentage for inspection was 50 percent.