

Crime Gun Trace Reports (2000) Houston^{TX}



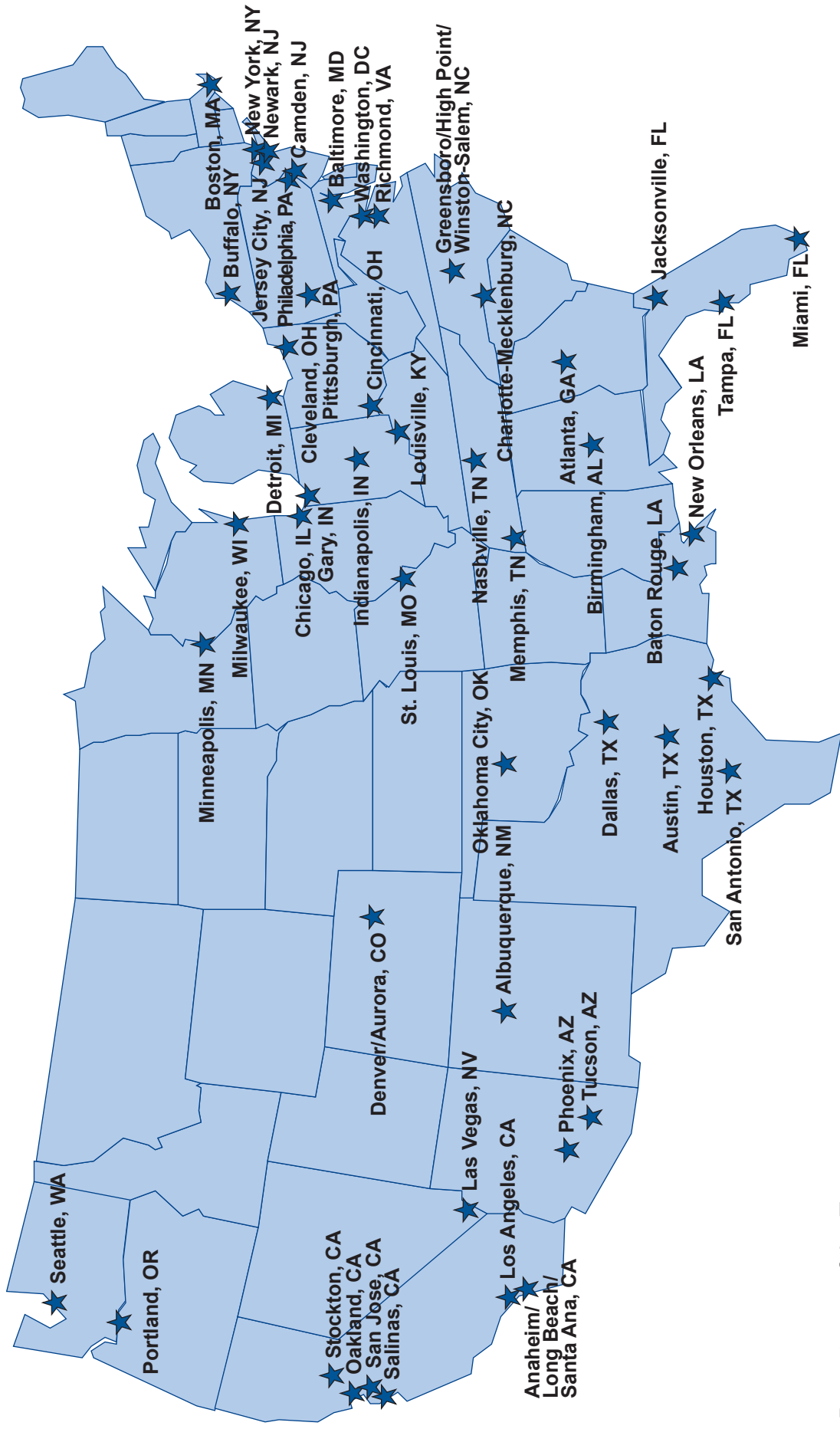
The Youth Crime Gun
Interdiction Initiative

July 2002

Department of the Treasury
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms



Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative 2001 Cities



Department of the Treasury
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
National Tracing Center Division
Crime Gun Analysis Branch

Foreword by the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

This publication of crime gun data for calendar year 2000 marks the fourth annual compilation of firearms trace analyses since the inception of the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGII) in 1996. As the number of communities involved has increased from the original 17 to 55, so has the value of this information as a relevant tool for law enforcement. With this knowledge, communities have formulated sound gun enforcement strategies for proactive use in firearms investigations. This is a direct result of the strong partnerships our agents have forged with every participating agency. Any level of success is impossible without this valued cooperation.

This report analyzing calendar year 2000 gun traces was delayed as a result of our redirection of a portion of our law enforcement resources after the tragic events of September 11, 2001. ATF agents, inspectors, and support staff joined thousands of other Federal, State and local law enforcement personnel across the country to pursue every available lead. At our National Tracing Center, a majority of the staff was dedicated to reviewing and analyzing massive amounts of related information.

The information in this report clearly demonstrates our commitment to this program, to our partnerships, and to the protection of our citizens. The enforcement approach embodied in YCGII provides each community the opportunity and ability to customize their efforts to address their own gun problems, trends, sources, and investigations. As we have seen, violence against Americans can take many forms. With strong partnerships, continued vigilance, and the use of the information at hand, we can continue to challenge those who would criminally use an illegally obtained firearm.



Bradley A. Buckles

Crime Gun Trace Reports (2000) Houston^{TX}



**The Youth Crime Gun
Interdiction Initiative**

July 2002
Department of the Treasury
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms



CRIME GUN TRACE REPORTS (2000)

Houston, Texas

Table of Contents

Foreword by the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.....	i
Introduction.....	1
Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative Cities.....	2
The Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative.....	3
Following the Gun to Successful Firearms Enforcement.....	4
Highlights of the Houston Report.....	5
List of Tables and Figures	
Table A: Crime Gun Trace Requests: Age of Possessor and Relationship to Purchaser.....	8
Table B: Crime Gun Trace Requests: Crime Type by Age of Possessor.....	9
Table C: Crime Gun Trace Requests: Type of Firearm by Age of Possessor.....	10
Table D: Most Frequent Crime Gun Trace Requests: Manufacturer, Caliber, and Type by Age of Possessor.....	11
Table E: Time-to-Crime for Most Frequently Traced Crime Guns by Manufacturer, Caliber, and Type.....	13
Table F: Most Frequent Source States for Crime Guns Traced to a Firearms Dealer.....	15
Table G: Dealer Trace Frequency and Distance to Recovery.....	17
Table H: Crime Guns with Obliterated Serial Numbers.....	18
Table I: Results of Crime Gun Traces: Age of Possessor.....	19
Table J: Results of Crime Gun Traces: Detailed Analyses.....	20
Appendices	
A. Glossary.....	A-1
B. Technical Notes.....	B-1
C. Trace Request Form.....	C-1

Acknowledgements

Introduction

This is the fourth year of ATF's publication of the National Tracing Center (NTC) *Crime Gun Trace Reports*. The reports provide extensive analyses of crime gun traces submitted in calendar year 2000 by law enforcement officials in selected cities throughout the country participating in ATF's Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative. The analysis of a large number of individual traces from many similar jurisdictions helps identify consistent crime gun patterns that may not be apparent from information in a single trace or traces from a single jurisdiction or State. With information about patterns and trends, more violent criminals can be arrested more efficiently, more focused regulatory enforcement can be undertaken, and more gun crime and violence can be prevented.

Two Report Formats. Crime gun tracing as a law enforcement tool has grown sufficiently to provide the 2000 Crime Gun Trace Reports in two formats:

- The *National Report* provides national analysis based on findings from crime gun traces in 41 communities including 44 of 67 cities in the U.S. with populations of 250,000 or more. These cities comprise 80 percent of the population of cities of this size.
- The 47 separate *City Reports* provide detailed information on the trace results in the 39 large communities and eight communities with populations between 100,000 and 250,000.

Information for Law Enforcement, the Firearms Industry, and the Public. The *Crime Gun Trace Reports* have three audiences. They provide crime gun information to the *Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies* that submit trace requests, boosting their information resources for arresting gun criminals, responding to gun violence, and establishing a benchmark for crime gun measurements. They inform *federally licensed firearms dealers* of crime gun patterns, allowing them to build sounder and safer businesses. They inform the *public, Congress, and State and local authorities*, building cooperation by communicating what ATF agents, inspectors, and State and local law enforcement investigating violent criminals see in their everyday enforcement operations.

Reinforcing Law Enforcement Collaboration. As a result of the collaboration of thousands of law enforcement and regulatory personnel and the FFLs that routinely respond to the National Tracing Center's inquiries, the *Crime Gun Trace Reports*

provide an overview of crime guns throughout the country in significantly greater detail than previously available. ATF's primary operational focus is on the Federal offender. By reporting trace information in standardized form, ATF intends to enable State and local law enforcement officials to evaluate the information independently and to gain perspective on their local circumstances in order to adjust enforcement and preventive strategies accordingly.

How Law Enforcement Can Use this Report. Local law enforcement executives and Federal, State, and local prosecutors and investigators can make many uses of these reports. They furnish information relating to the following questions, among others:

1. *How many crime guns are being recovered from different age groups of offenders?*
2. *What kinds of guns are being recovered in my area?*
3. *What types of crimes are associated with these recovered crime guns?*
4. *Are the source areas in the county or State, or from out of State?*
5. *What types of guns are moving the fastest from the retail seller to recovery in crime?*
6. *Which guns may pose a special hazard to law enforcement officers?*

Using this information, law enforcement managers can decide what aspects of the firearms market deserve priority focus, by age group, by source area, or by type of crime, or any combination of these. Once these priorities are determined, information about specific crime guns and offenders can be obtained using all available investigative resources, including debriefing of arrestees, undercover and confidential informant operatives; Online LEAD;

Brady background check denial information; stolen firearms information; and special analyses by the Crime Gun Analysis Branch and equivalent analytic services in local police departments.

The combination of strategic information such as provided in these reports and investigative information will allow Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers to make the best use of available resources. Based on these factors, ATF and local law enforcement may decide to undertake criminal prosecution against traffickers, including felons, straw purchasers, firearms thieves, and unlicensed dealers, or regulatory actions against Federal firearms licensees.

Contents of the Reports. The National and City Reports include information about:

- **Highlights:** The National and City Reports each contain sections with highlights of the findings in the reports, focused on crime gun information relevant to law enforcement officials;
- **Possessors:** the age group and crimes of the crime gun possessors;

- **Crime guns:** the types, manufacturers, calibers, and, in some cities, models of the most frequently traced crime guns, including the most frequently traced crime guns for each city;
- **Gun trafficking indicators:** the time-to-crime and geographic sources of crime guns, multiple sales information, and percentage of crime guns with obliterated serial numbers;
- **Enforcement information:** successful Federal, State, and local investigations of the illegal diversion of firearms;
- **Information for law enforcement executives:** information and responses to frequently asked questions about crime gun tracing and related enforcement operations;
- **Crime gun tracing information:** number of traces submitted, degree of completeness of information provided, disposition of traces, and current and future developments in crime gun tracing; and
- **Technical information:** back-up information about the analysis, figures, and tables in the reports.

Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative Cities

Albuquerque*.....	New Mexico	Indianapolis*.....	Indiana
Anaheim, Long Beach, Santa Anna*....	California	Jacksonville*.....	Florida
Atlanta.....	Georgia	Jersey City.....	New Jersey
Austin*.....	Texas	Las Vegas.....	Nevada
Baltimore.....	Maryland	Los Angeles.....	California
Baton Rouge*.....	Louisiana	Louisville.....	Kentucky
Birmingham.....	Alabama	Memphis.....	Tennessee
Boston.....	Massachusetts	Miami.....	Florida
Buffalo*.....	New York	Milwaukee.....	Wisconsin
Camden.....	New Jersey	Minneapolis.....	Minnesota
Charlotte-Mecklenburg.....	North Carolina	Nashville*.....	Tennessee
Chicago.....	Illinois	New Orleans.....	Louisiana
Cincinnati.....	Ohio	New York.....	New York
Cleveland.....	Ohio	Newark.....	New Jersey
Dallas.....	Texas	Oakland.....	California
Denver-Aurora.....	Colorado	Oklahoma City*.....	Oklahoma
Detroit.....	Michigan	Philadelphia.....	Pennsylvania
Gary.....	Indiana	Phoenix.....	Arizona
Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Highpoint*..	North Carolina	Pittsburgh*.....	Pennsylvania
Houston.....	Texas	Portland.....	Oregon

Richmond.....	Virginia	St. Louis.....	Missouri
Salinas.....	California	Stockton*.....	California
San Jose.....	California	Tampa.....	Florida
San Antonio.....	Texas	Tucson.....	Arizona
Seattle.....	Washington	Washington.....	District of Columbia

* City became a partner in the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative in 2000

The Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative

The annual *Crime Gun Trace Reports* began in 1997 as part of ATF's Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGII), a youth-focused firearms enforcement program that is a component of ATF's overall firearms enforcement program, the Integrated Violence Reduction Strategy. For this reason, YCGII is referred to throughout this report.

Participating jurisdictions. While many law enforcement agencies trace some crime guns, agencies participating in YCGII commit to instituting comprehensive tracing of all crime guns, providing the maximum investigative leads for law enforcement officials, and permitting optimal strategic analysis. These cities received special support from ATF. ALL cities with *City Reports* participate in YCGII. As more law enforcement agencies acquire crime gun tracing as an investigative tool, or implement State comprehensive crime gun tracing laws, ATF expects to include trace information from these jurisdictions in the annual *Crime Gun Trace Reports*.

National Tracing Center and Crime Gun Analysis Branch: field support. The National Tracing Division staff conducts traces, analyzes the results, provides case leads, crime gun mapping, and jurisdictional analysis for ATF agents and inspectors and for other law enforcement agencies, and prepares the *Crime Gun Trace Reports*. The YCGII staff at the National Tracing Center provides trace support for all ATF firearms enforcement programs and locally based gun enforcement initiatives. A national update on crime gun tracing is included in the *National Report*, and city information in each *City Report*.

In the field: investigation, inspections, trace support, and training. In the field, YCGII is an enforcement collaboration among Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies, and ATF agents and inspectors. The primary role of the YCGII field staff is to conduct criminal investigations and regulatory inspections. YCGII also provides joint training in tracing, serial number restoration, and gun enforcement investigative methods to ATF agents and their State and local partners. YCGII staff also assists local law enforcement agencies to establish crime gun tracing, with technical support and training.

YCGII's special focus on juvenile and youth gun crime. As the *National Report* shows, juveniles (ages 17 and under) accounted for 8 percent of traced crime guns, and youth (ages 18-24) accounted for 33 percent of traced crime guns. ATF agents and inspectors participating in YCGII have a special responsibility for developing investigative information and carrying out enforcement actions involving juveniles and youth. Because juveniles are prohibited from acquiring and possessing handguns without parental involvement, some form of illegal diversion is almost always implicated in an investigation involving a juvenile's possession of a handgun, making crime handgun tracing especially critical. The *Crime Gun Trace Reports*, therefore, focus throughout on the variations in the crime guns and sources of illegal supply to juveniles, youth, and adults.

Following the Gun to Successful Firearms Enforcement

Crime gun tracing. Crime gun tracing is a law enforcement tool developed by ATF to investigate violations of the Nation's firearms laws. A crime gun trace identifies the Federal firearms licensee (FFL) who is the original retail seller of the firearm and the firearm's retail purchaser by tracking the manufacturer, caliber, and serial number on transfer documentation from the manufacturer or importer through the wholesaler to the retail seller and first purchaser. *A crime gun trace alone does not mean that an FFL or firearm purchaser has committed an unlawful act. Crime gun trace information is used in combination with other investigative facts in regulatory and criminal enforcement.* Crime gun tracing has three primary purposes:

- **Identifying individual armed criminals for prosecution.** Like a fingerprint or other identifying evidence, a crime gun trace is used in individual cases to link a firearm offender to his or her weapon, or identify the illegal supplier of a firearm to the criminal, juvenile, or other person prohibited from possessing a firearm. Such investigative work is conducted by local officials and by ATF.
- **Proactive local investigative and strategic analysis to target armed violent criminals and gun traffickers for prosecution.** When officials in a jurisdiction trace all recovered crime guns, law enforcement officials are able to detect patterns in the buying and selling of crime guns in their areas (pattern and trend analysis). This information combined with other indicators leads to the arrest of additional traffickers and armed felons and to regulatory enforcement actions against Federal firearms licensees violating the firearms laws and trafficking illegally. Analysis and mapping of local crime gun patterns is done by ATF at the Crime Gun Analysis Branch and in the field and by State and local law enforcement officials with access to ATF's Online LEAD crime gun information system, or using State firearms information systems.
- **Crime Gun Trace Reports to assist law enforcement officials in placing local crime guns in a regional and national strategic enforcement context.** Analysis of all available comprehensive trace information, locally and nationally, informs Federal, State, and local authorities of the source and market areas for crime guns, and other regional patterns. This information enables ATF to target criminal and regulatory resources, and assist Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials to develop national, regional, and local strategic responses to gun crime. ATF is uniquely qualified to conduct such analysis because it is the repository for crime gun traces and related information from all jurisdictions that trace crime guns.

Ballistics identification in relation to crime gun tracing. Many agencies are now using both crime gun tracing and ballistics identification to support firearm investigations. An expended cartridge or bullet may be recovered in addition to or in the absence of a crime gun. Once entered in an imaging database, the recovered cartridge or bullet can be matched to previously entered ballistics images to identify repeat uses of the same firearm. Currently, ballistics images also can provide the basis for a crime gun trace only if the firearm with which they are associated has been previously traced and a cartridge or bullet from that firearm entered into a local database of the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network. Ballistics Imaging technology does not automatically submit the crime gun to be traced through the National Tracing Center. In the future, expansion of the crime gun tracing system to include trace information derived from ballistics images as well as recovered firearms will allow additional firearms crimes to be solved and a more complete understanding of how violent offenders and prohibited persons illegally obtain firearms.

Highlights of the HOUSTON City Report

These findings summarize the trace information for 3,909 crime guns recovered and traced in the City of Houston by law enforcement agencies, including the Houston Police Department and ATF, during 2000. Based on a survey conducted, Houston, Texas was determined to be tracing comprehensively in 2000.

Crime Gun Possessors (Table A)The Crime Gun Possessors

Juveniles (Ages 17 & Younger) were associated with 8 percent of recovered crime guns.

Youth (Ages 18 - 24) were associated with 37 percent of recovered crime guns.

Adults (Ages 25 & Older) accounted for 54 percent of recovered crime guns in Houston.

Crime Guns and Illegal Diversion

Few Crime Gun Possessors Bought Their Guns Directly From Federally Licensed Gun Dealers. (Table A)

91 percent of Houston crime guns changed hands at least once before reaching the crime gun possessor, and could have been legally transferred, straw purchased, otherwise trafficked, stolen, or a combination. Trafficking investigations can determine how guns were obtained by the crime gun possessor.

Many Crime Guns Had Short Time-to-Crime. Notwithstanding that most crime guns were bought from an FFL by someone other than the criminal possessor. Many crime guns were recovered soon after the initial purchase. The time from retail sale to firearm recovery in a crime is known as time-to-crime. A short time-to-crime is an indicator of illegal diversion or criminal intent associated with the sale. The presence of short time-to-crime guns also shows that many firearm offenses, including violent offenses with firearms, involve new guns.

The median time-to-crime for guns traced from Houston, where time-to-crime could be determined was 7.1 years, as compared to the national median of 6.1 years. Older guns may represent an investigative challenge as they may have changed hands several times before acquisition by the criminal possessor. Many crime guns, however, moved more quickly from retail sale to recovery by law enforcement.

- 26 percent of crime guns (452) had a time-to-crime of less than three years.
- 13 percent of crime guns (232) had a time-to-crime of a year or less.

A Small Number of Federally Licensed Dealers Generate a Large Number of Crime Gun Traces. In any jurisdiction, a small number of Federally licensed gun dealers is associated with a large number of crime gun traces from that jurisdiction. The concentration of crime gun traces among a few licensed dealers partly reflects the high concentration of legal firearms sales among dealers and does not necessarily mean that a particular dealer is engaged in illegal business practices. However, the concentration of crime gun traces among a small number of licensed dealers provides an important opportunity for law enforcement agencies to focus limited investigative and regulatory resources on identifying potential illegal gun traffickers.

- In Houston, 32 percent of traced crime guns were first purchased at only 13 Federally licensed gun dealers that also generated 10 or more crime gun traces from Houston.

Types of Crime Guns (Table C)

Handguns accounted for more than 73 percent of Houston’s traced crime guns.

Semiautomatic pistols consisted of 46 percent of crime guns.

- Semiautomatic pistols dominate among recovered crime guns, especially among youth (55 percent) and juveniles (55 percent), as well as among adults (47 percent).

Revolvers made up 27 percent of crime guns, juveniles associated with 23 percent, youth 22 percent and adults 26 percent.

Long guns accounted for 26 percent of crime guns recovered in Houston. By age group, adults were associated with the highest percent (26 percent), followed by youth (21 percent) and juveniles (18 percent).

Most Frequently Traced Crime Guns by Manufacturer and Caliber (Table D)

Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun
1. Raven Arms	.25	Semiautomatic Pistol
2. Smith & Wesson	.38	Revolver
3. Ruger	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol
4. Mossberg	12 GA	Shotgun
5. Lorcin Engineering	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol
6. Davis Industries	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol
7. Marlin	.22	Rifle
8. Smith & Wesson	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol
9. Rossi	.38	Revolver

Most Frequently Traced Fast Time-to-Crime Guns (Table E)

The following frequently traced firearms were recovered in crime within three years or less of having been purchased as new guns from a Federal firearms licensee for more than 50 percent of recoveries where a time-to-crime could be calculated.

Youth		
Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun
Mossberg	12 GA	Shotgun

Adult		
Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun
Mossberg	12 GA	Shotgun

Geographic Sources (Table F)

In-State. Texas Federal firearms licensees (FFLs) were the source of 82 percent of all traceable crime guns recovered in Houston.

- **In-County.** FFLs located in Harris County were the source of 72 percent of crime guns first purchased in Texas and recovered in Houston.

Regional. Another 4 percent of Houston’s traceable crime guns were first purchased in the nearby State of Louisiana.

Distance. Nearly 60 percent of crime guns recovered in Houston were first purchased at FFLs located 25 miles or less from Houston.

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

Table A: Crime Gun Trace Requests: Age of Possessor and Relationship to Purchaser

This table provides information about the possessors of the crime guns for which trace requests were submitted from this community to the National Tracing Center. Since not all recovered firearms are found in an individual's possession, not all crime guns can be associated with a possessor when a trace request is made. Identifying cases where the purchaser is not the same individual as the possessor allows the law enforcement agency to focus on firearms that change hands before they are recovered as crime guns. Interim transfers can involve legal or illegal activity, including (but not limited to) gift exchange, straw purchase, resale of the firearm by licensed or unlicensed sellers, theft, or a combination of these.

	Number of Requests	Percent of Requests
Trace Requests	3,909	100.0
Trace Requests for which Possessor's Age Can Be Determined	2,415	61.8
Crime Gun Trace Requests With:		
Juvenile Possessor (Ages 17 & Younger)	203	8.4
Youth Possessor (Ages 18 - 24)	901	37.3
Adult Possessor (Ages 25 & Older)	1,311	54.3
Trace Requests for Which a Possessor Can Be Identified	2,513	64.3
Trace Requests Identify Possessor's Date of Birth*	2,415	61.8
Trace Requests Identify Possessor's Place of Birth	306	7.8
Trace Results Identify Purchaser	1,774	45.4
Trace Identifies Both Purchaser and Possessor	1,283	32.8
Possessor Is Not the Same Individual as the Purchaser	1,168	91.0**

* Possessor age is sometimes provided instead of possessor DOB.

** The denominator used to calculate this result is the total number of trace requests where both a purchaser and possessor have been identified.

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

Table B: Crime Gun Trace Requests: Crime Type by Age of Possessor

This table depicts the crimes most frequently associated with crime gun trace requests submitted from this community by age. This information can be useful in developing an enforcement or intervention strategy that focuses on particular types of crimes. The general term “Firearm Offenses” can include any offense or crime in which a firearm was involved. It is also commonly used by local law enforcement agencies and the National Tracing Center when more detailed crime information is not available at the time the trace request is submitted to the National Tracing Center.

Crime Type	Total	Juvenile (ages 17 & younger)	Youth (ages 18-24)	Adult (ages 25 & older)	Age Unknown
Number of Trace Requests					
Firearm Offenses	2,052	101	415	596	940
Homicide	99	3	13	11	72
Kidnapping	2	0	0	1	1
Robbery	185	24	46	22	93
Sex Crimes	7	0	1	5	1
Assaults/Threats	458	24	116	280	38
Burglary/Theft/Fraud	269	20	49	33	167
Vice Crimes	2	1	0	0	1
Narcotics	493	7	183	270	33
Other Crime Types*	342	23	78	93	148
Total	3,909	203	901	1,311	1,494

Crime Type	Total	Juvenile (ages 17 & younger)	Youth (ages 18-24)	Adult (ages 25 & older)	Age Unknown
Number of Trace Requests					
Firearm Offenses	52.5	49.8	46.1	45.5	62.9
Homicide	2.5	1.5	1.4	0.8	4.8
Kidnapping	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Robbery	4.7	11.8	5.1	1.7	6.2
Sex Crimes	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.1
Assaults/Threats	11.7	11.8	12.9	21.4	2.5
Burglary/Theft/Fraud	6.9	9.9	5.4	2.5	11.2
Vice Crimes	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.1
Narcotics	12.6	3.4	20.3	20.6	2.2
Other Crime Types*	8.7	11.3	8.7	7.1	9.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Other crime types include, but are not limited to, the following violations: public peace, property crimes, family offenses, traffic offenses, and public order crimes.

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

Table C: Crime Gun Trace Requests: Type of Firearm by Age of Possessor

This table depicts the number of crime gun trace requests from this community by firearm type. Recoveries are identified as having been from adults, youth, juveniles, age unknown, and from all groups combined. This information can be useful in developing an enforcement strategy that focuses on the kinds of crime guns used by particular age groups.

Crime Type	Total	Juvenile	Youth	Adult	Age Unknown
	(ages 17 & younger) (ages 18-24) (ages 25 & older)				
Number of Trace Requests					
Semiautomatic Pistol	1,785	111	498	612	564
Revolver	1,053	47	199	334	473
Rifle	435	21	62	141	211
Shotgun	565	16	129	197	223
Derringer	30	2	7	9	12
Combination Gun*	1	0	0	1	0
Destructive Device**	2	0	0	1	1
Machine Gun	8	0	0	6	2
Unknown Gun Type	29	6	6	9	8
Total	3,908	203	901	1,310	1,494

Crime Type	Total	Juvenile	Youth	Adult	Age Unknown
	(ages 17 & younger) (ages 18-24) (ages 25 & older)				
Number of Trace Requests					
Semiautomatic Pistol	45.7	54.7	55.3	46.7	37.8
Revolver	26.9	23.2	22.1	25.5	31.7
Rifle	11.1	10.3	6.9	10.8	14.1
Shotgun	14.5	7.9	14.3	15.0	14.9
Derringer	0.8	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.8
Combination Gun*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Destructive Device**	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Machine Gun	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1
Unknown Gun Type	0.7	3.0	0.7	0.7	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* A combination gun is a multi-barreled firearm designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired some combination from the shoulder having two or more different caliber barrels. Such firearms generally exhibit of rifled barrels and smoothbore shotgun barrels.

** A destructive device is any type of weapon by whatever name known which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter.

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

**Table D: Most Frequent Crime Gun Trace Requests:
Manufacturer, Caliber, and Type by Age of Possessor**

This table depicts the most frequently recovered and traced crime guns by firearm type, manufacturer, and caliber in this community. This report does not distinguish among models of firearms of the same manufacturer, caliber, and type. For instance, all .38 caliber revolvers manufactured by Smith & Wesson are considered as a group. Recovered crime guns are often concentrated among relatively few kinds of firearms.

Juvenile (ages 17 & younger)	Number of Kinds of Crime Guns	Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns
Total	118	203	100.0
Most Frequent Kinds of Crime Guns	7	43	21.2
All Other Kinds of Crime Guns	111	160	78.8

Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun	Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns
Raven Arms	.25	Semiautomatic Pistol	14	6.9
Lorcin Engineering	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	7	3.4
Davis Industries	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	5	2.5
RG Industries	.22	Revolver	5	2.5
Charter Arms	.38	Revolver	4	2.0
Rohm	.22	Revolver	4	2.0
Stallard/Maverick	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	4	2.0

Youth (ages 18-24)	Number of Kinds of Crime Guns	Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns
Total	241	901	100.0
Most Frequent Kinds of Crime Guns	10	231	25.6
All Other Kinds of Crime Guns	231	670	74.4

Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun	Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns
Ruger	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	34	3.8
Raven Arms	.25	Semiautomatic Pistol	31	3.4
Mossberg	12 GA	Shotgun	29	3.2
Lorcin Engineering	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	24	2.7
Smith & Wesson	.38	Revolver	23	2.6
Davis Industries	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	19	2.1
Smith & Wesson	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	19	2.1
Colt	.45	Semiautomatic Pistol	18	2.0
Rossi	.38	Revolver	17	1.9
Winchester	12 GA	Shotgun	17	1.9

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Adult (ages 25 & older)			Number of Kinds of Crime Guns	Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns
Total			312	1,311	100.0
Most Frequent Kinds of Crime Guns			9	265	20.2
All Other Kinds of Crime Guns			303	1,046	79.8
Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun	Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns	
Smith & Wesson	.38	Revolver	40	3.1	
Ruger	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	37	2.8	
Smith & Wesson	.357	Revolver	31	2.4	
Raven Arms	.25	Semiautomatic Pistol	28	2.1	
Smith & Wesson	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	28	2.1	
Davis Industries	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	26	2.0	
Mossberg	12 GA	Shotgun	26	2.0	
Winchester	12 GA	Shotgun	25	1.9	
Colt	.45	Semiautomatic Pistol	24	1.8	

All Crime Guns in this Jurisdiction*			Number of Kinds of Crime Guns	Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns
Total			555	3,909	100.0
Most Frequent Kinds of Crime Guns			9	724	18.5
All Other Kinds of Crime Guns			546	3,185	81.5
Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun	Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns	
Raven Arms	.25	Semiautomatic Pistol	145	3.7	
Smith & Wesson	.38	Revolver	93	2.4	
Ruger	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	89	2.3	
Mossberg	12 GA	Shotgun	74	1.9	
Lorcin Engineering	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	72	1.8	
Davis Industries	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	69	1.8	
Marlin	.22	Rifle	63	1.6	
Smith & Wesson	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	62	1.6	
Rossi	.38	Revolver	57	1.5	

* This section reports the most frequent guns traced for all age groups and an additional 1,494 trace requests where the possessor's age is unknown.

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

Table E: Time-to-Crime for Most Frequently Traced Crime Guns by Manufacturer, Caliber, and Type

This table depicts time-to-crime for those crime guns most frequently requested for tracing in this community as depicted in table D; in this table the guns are ranked by median time-to-crime. Time-to-crime is the period of time between the retail sale of a firearm by a Federal firearms licensee and the date the firearm is recovered by enforcement officials or requested for tracing. A short time-to-crime can be an indicator of illegal firearms trafficking. In the tables below, the proportion of traceable firearms showing a time-to-crime of three years or less is shown; experienced trafficking investigators view a time-to-crime of three years or less as an especially useful trafficking indicator. Time-to-crime information can be useful in developing an enforcement strategy that identifies and investigates the specific sources of these firearms.

Juvenile (ages 17 & younger)

Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun	Number of Crime Guns		Median Time-to-Crime in Years	Time-to-Crime of 3 Years or less		Fastest Case (in days)***
			All	With Time-to-Crime*		Number	Percent**	
Raven Arms	.25	Semiautomatic Pistol	14	10	11.4	0	0.0	2,812
Lorcin Engineering	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	7	7	6.8	3	42.9	80
Davis Industries	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	5	5	7.4	0	0.0	2,400
RG Industries	.22	Revolver	5	2	21.1	0	0.0	6,801
Charter Arms	.38	Revolver	4	3	13.9	0	0.0	4,916
Rohm	.22	Revolver	4	0		0		
Stallard/Maverick	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	4	3	10.0	0	0.0	1,774

Youth (ages 18-24)

Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun	Number of Crime Guns		Median Time-to-Crime in Years	Time-to-Crime of 3 Years or less		Fastest Case (in days)***
			All	With Time-to-Crime*		Number	Percent**	
Ruger	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	34	27	4.3	11	40.7	18
Raven Arms	.25	Semiautomatic Pistol	31	25	13.1	4	16.0	265
Mossberg	12 GA	Shotgun	29	21	1.0	14	66.7	3
Lorcin Engineering	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	24	19	6.0	6	31.6	40
Smith & Wesson	.38	Revolver	23	8	17.6	0	0.0	2,934
Davis Industries	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	19	16	7.1	3	18.8	178
Smith & Wesson	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	19	14	3.7	6	42.9	264
Colt	.45	Semiautomatic Pistol	18	8	4.6	3	37.5	235
Rossi	.38	Revolver	17	11	6.9	1	9.1	983
Winchester	12 GA	Shotgun	17	11	7.0	2	18.2	27

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Adult (ages 25 & older)

Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun	Number of Crime Guns		Median Time-to-Crime in Years	Time-to-Crime of 3 Years or less		Fastest Case (in days)***
			All	With Time-to-Crime*		Number	Percent**	
Smith & Wesson	.38	Revolver	40	20	15.8	3	15.0	283
Ruger	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	37	31	5.5	7	22.6	87
Smith & Wesson	.357	Revolver	31	18	8.4	3	16.7	35
Raven Arms	.25	Semiautomatic Pistol	28	20	10.5	0	0.0	1,283
Smith & Wesson	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	28	22	5.3	8	36.4	27
Davis Industries	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	26	24	7.7	1	4.2	1,091
Mossberg	12 GA	Shotgun	26	23	2.8	12	52.2	3
Winchester	12 GA	Shotgun	25	14	6.5	4	28.6	42
Colt	.45	Semiautomatic Pistol	24	9	8.6	1	11.1	155

All Crime Guns in this Jurisdiction****

Manufacturer	Caliber	Type of Crime Gun	Number of Crime Guns		Median Time-to-Crime in Years	Time-to-Crime of 3 Years or less		Fastest Case (in days)***
			All	With Time-to-Crime*		Number	Percent**	
Raven Arms	.25	Semiautomatic Pistol	145	115	12.5	8	7.0	265
Smith & Wesson	.38	Revolver	93	37	16.5	6	16.2	218
Ruger	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	89	72	4.6	24	33.3	18
Mossberg	12 GA	Shotgun	74	58	4.3	27	46.6	3
Lorcin Engineering	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	72	57	5.8	18	31.6	27
Davis Industries	.380	Semiautomatic Pistol	69	57	7.4	7	12.3	178
Marlin	.22	Rifle	63	25	13.6	5	20.0	7
Smith & Wesson	9mm	Semiautomatic Pistol	62	51	4.8	17	33.3	27
Rossi	.38	Revolver	57	40	11.1	1	2.5	983

* Time-to-crime can only be calculated when a trace is completed and a recovery date is submitted. Table J provides further explanation as to why a trace cannot be completed, such that a time-to-crime cannot be established.

** The denominator used to calculate this result is the total number of trace requests where a time-to-crime was established.

*** A time-to-crime of 0 days indicates the recovery of a firearm during or immediately following a sale from a Federal firearms licensee.

**** This table is based on crime guns associated with adults, youth, juveniles, and individuals whose ages are unknown.

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

Table F: Most Frequent Source States for Crime Guns Traced to a Firearms Dealer

This table depicts the most frequent source States for crime guns recovered in this community and traced to a firearms dealer. This information can be useful in developing an enforcement strategy that identifies and investigates the specific illegal sources of crime guns from those areas. A further breakdown shows how many crime guns were recovered within this community's county, within an adjacent county, and from other counties within the State.

Juvenile (ages 17 & younger)

Crime Gun Source State		Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns*	Total	
				Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns**
Texas	<i>Same County</i>	54	78.3		
	<i>Adjacent County</i>	6	8.7		
	<i>Other Counties in State</i>	9	13.0		
	<i>Total in State</i>	69	100.0	69	83.1
California				3	3.6
Georgia				2	2.4
Louisiana				2	2.4
Total for the Top Source States				76	91.6
Total for the Other Source States***				7	8.4
Total of All Crime Guns with a Source State Identified				83	100.0

Youth (ages 18-24)

Crime Gun Source State		Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns*	Total	
				Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns**
Texas	<i>Same County</i>	307	73.4		
	<i>Adjacent County</i>	24	5.7		
	<i>Other Counties in State</i>	87	20.8		
	<i>Total in State</i>	418	100.0	418	84.1
Louisiana				17	3.4
Mississippi				8	1.6
Florida				7	1.4
Georgia				5	1.0
Alabama				4	0.8
California				4	0.8
Arkansas				3	0.6
Total for the Top Source States				466	93.8
Total for the Other Source States***				31	6.2
Total of All Crime Guns with a Source State Identified				497	100.0

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Adult (ages 25 & older)

Crime Gun Source State		Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns*	Total	
				Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns**
Texas	<i>Same County</i>	393	73.0		
	<i>Adjacent County</i>	42	7.8		
	<i>Other Counties in State</i>	103	19.1		
	<i>Total in State</i>	538	100.0	538	82.6
Louisiana				22	3.4
California				10	1.5
Florida				10	1.5
Arkansas				7	1.1
Oklahoma				6	0.9
Georgia				5	0.8
Indiana				5	0.8
South Carolina				5	0.8
Total for the Top Source States				608	93.4
Total for the Other Source States***				43	6.6
Total of All Crime Guns with a Source State Identified				651	100.0

All Crime Guns in this Jurisdiction****

Crime Gun Source State		Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns*	Total	
				Number of Crime Guns	Percent of Crime Guns**
Texas	<i>Same County</i>	1,052	72.0		
	<i>Adjacent County</i>	112	7.7		
	<i>Other Counties in State</i>	297	20.3		
	<i>Total in State</i>	1,461	100.0	1,461	82.4
Louisiana				64	3.6
California				26	1.5
Florida				24	1.4
Oklahoma				19	1.1
Georgia				17	1.0
Mississippi				17	1.0
Alabama				14	0.8
Arkansas				12	0.7
Total for the Top Source States				1,654	93.2
Total for the Other Source States***				120	6.8
Total of All Crime Guns with a Source State Identified				1,774	100.0

* The denominator used to calculate this result is the total of all crime guns recovered in the State in which this community is located.

** The denominator used to calculate this result is the total of all crime guns where a source State is identified.

*** Other source States may include Guam, Puerto Rico, and/or the Virgin Islands.

**** This table is based on crime guns associated with adults, youth, juveniles, and individuals whose ages are unknown.

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

Table G: Dealer Trace Frequency and Distance to Recovery

This table depicts the number of firearms dealers associated with crime gun traces. The second part of this table depicts the distance to crime gun recovery location as defined by the number of miles between the business location of the federally licensed firearms dealer and the number of crime guns recovered by law enforcement within distance ranges. This information may be useful for establishing an enforcement strategy that focuses on the number of expected crimes gun recoveries relative to firearm dealer locations.

Dealer Trace Frequency

City	Number of Traces to a Dealer	Traces		Dealer	
		Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Houston	1 or more	100.0	1,007	100.0	420
	2 or more	70.6	711	29.5	124
	5 or more	49.7	500	9.3	39
	10 or more	32.4	326	3.1	13
	25 or more	16.7	168	0.7	3

Distance from Dealer to Recovery Crosstabulation

	Distance from Dealer to Recovery							Total
	0-5	6-10	11-25	26-50	51-100	101-250	250+	
Count	154	152	257	79	33	122	149	946
Percent Within City	16.3	16.1	27.2	8.4	3.5	12.9	15.8	100.0

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

Table H: Crime Guns with Obliterated Serial Numbers*

Crime guns can have partially or completely obliterated serial numbers. This report reflects an undercount of obliterated and restored serial numbers because, among other reasons, trace requests from local law enforcement agencies may not indicate when obliterated serial numbers have already been restored prior to their submission to the National Tracing Center.

Type of Firearm	All Crime Guns	Crime Guns with Obliterated Serial Numbers	
	Number	Number Obliterated	Percent Obliterated**
Juvenile (ages 17 & younger)			
Semiautomatic Pistol	111	0	0.0
Revolver	47	0	0.0
Derringer	2	0	0.0
Total	160	0	0.0
Youth (ages 18-24)			
Semiautomatic Pistol	498	0	0.0
Revolver	199	0	0.0
Derringer	7	0	0.0
Total	704	0	0.0
Adult (ages 25 & older)			
Semiautomatic Pistol	612	2	0.3
Revolver	334	1	0.3
Derringer	9	0	0.0
Total	955	3	0.3
All Ages in this Jurisdiction			
Semiautomatic Pistol	1,785	4	0.2
Revolver	1,053	1	0.1
Derringer	30	0	0.0
Total	2,868	5	0.2

* Figures on obliterated serial numbers include handguns only. It is not always possible to determine from trace information whether the serial number of a long gun has been obliterated.

** Based on the trace requests for which the possessor's age can be determined.

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

Table I: Results of Crime Gun Traces: Age of Possessor

This table depicts the number of crime gun trace requests received by the National Tracing Center from this community, the number and percentage of crime gun traces that were initiated, and the extent to which the trace progressed. Where a trace identifies a Federal firearms licensee, the National Tracing Center can generally determine the source State of the firearm and the date on which it was first sold at retail. Further information from the Federal firearms licensee is required to identify first purchasers.

	Number of Crime Gun Trace Requests	Percent of Crime Gun Trace Requests	Percent of Crime Gun Traces Initiated
Juvenile (ages 17 & younger)			
Crime Gun Trace Requests	203	100.0	
Traces Initiated*	185	91.1	100.0
Traced to FFL**	106	52.2	57.3
Purchaser Identified***	83	40.9	44.9
Youth (ages 18-24)			
Crime Gun Trace Requests	901	100.0	
Traces Initiated*	853	94.7	100.0
Traced to FFL**	605	67.1	70.9
Purchaser Identified***	497	55.2	58.3
Adult (ages 25 & older)			
Crime Gun Trace Requests	1,311	100.0	
Traces Initiated*	1,207	92.1	100.0
Traced to FFL**	804	61.3	66.6
Purchaser Identified***	651	49.7	53.9
All Crime Guns in this Jurisdiction****			
Crime Gun Trace Requests	3,909	100.0	
Traces Initiated*	3,594	91.9	100.0
Traced to FFL**	2,235	57.2	62.2
Purchaser Identified***	1,774	45.4	49.4

* Crime gun trace requests may not be initiated for various reasons, such as: Federal law did not require dealers to maintain records prior to 1969; the firearm is classified as a military weapon; the weapon described is not a firearm as defined in Federal law; the weapon described is subject to the National Firearms Act (NFA), and/or the weapon described is a blackpowder firearm. Firearms predating the enactment of the 1968 Gun Control Act are generally untraceable.

** Reasons that crime guns may not be traced to a Federal firearms licensee include: manufacturer or wholesaler records were incomplete, destroyed, missing, not properly maintained, illegible, seized by law enforcement officials, or were not received by the NTC Out-of-Business records section when one of those entities went out of business.

*** Reasons crime guns may not be traceable to a first purchaser include: retailer records were incomplete, destroyed, missing, not properly maintained, illegible, seized by law enforcement officials, or were not received by the NTC Out-of-Business section when the FFL went out of business.

**** This table is based on crime guns associated with adults, youth, juveniles, and individuals whose ages are unknown.

ATF CRIME GUN TRACE REPORT

Houston, Texas

Report Period : January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

Table J: Results of Crime Gun Traces: Detailed Analyses

	Number of Crime Gun	Percent of Crime Gun
Crime Gun Trace Requests	3,909	100.0
Crime Gun Trace Not Initiated	315	8.1
Reasons Trace Not Initiated*		
Firearm Manufactured Before 1969 and Not Traceable		
Through Out-of-Business Records	258	6.6
Trace Request Submitted for Informational Purposes Only	16	0.4
Other Reasons	41	1.0
Crime Gun Trace Initiated	3,594	91.9
Trace Initiated: Purchaser Identified	1,774	45.4
Trace Initiated: Purchaser Not Identified	1,820	46.6
Reasons Purchaser Not Identified		
Trace Terminated at Manufacturer/Importer Stage		
	1,314	33.6
Problem with Manufacturer Name	394	10.1
Problem with Importer Name	283	7.2
Problem with Crime Gun Serial Number**	614	15.7
Insufficient Information (unspecified)	1	0.0
Crime Gun Previously Reported Stolen***	22	0.6
Trace Terminated at Wholesaler/Retail Dealer Stage		
	461	11.8
No Response	13	0.3
Records Not Available	65	1.7
Records on This Crime Gun Not Available	267	6.8
20 Year Record Retention Requirement Expired	106	2.7
Crime Gun Reported Stolen During Inquiry	10	0.3
Other Dispositions		
	45	1.2
Terminated by Law Enforcement	17	0.4
Special Conditions	28	0.7

* Crime gun trace requests may not be initiated for various reasons, such as: the NTC received incorrect information or insufficient information to complete a firearm's trace request, improper nomenclature of a firearm, or misidentification of a firearm or the firearm's importer. Firearms predating the enactment of the 1968 Gun Control Act are generally untraceable.

** This category includes misread, obliterated, and obscured serial numbers. The number submitted may also be wrongly identified as a serial number or may not match records of guns manufactured. See Table G: Crime Guns with Obliterated Serial Numbers.

*** These are commercial thefts reported by manufacturers, retailers, or interstate carriers. Reporting is mandatory for manufacturers and retailers and voluntary for interstate carriers. Thefts from private individuals are not included in this category.

Appendix A

Glossary

ASSOCIATE

Any person or persons who can be linked to the possessor of the crime gun at the time of its recovery by law enforcement.

ATF FORM 3310.4, MULTIPLE SALES REPORT

A form completed by all Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLs) whenever they transfer two or more handguns within 5 consecutive business days to the same individual. The completed form contains full identifying information concerning the purchaser, the firearms, the date of transfer, and the FFL. FFLs are required by Federal law to forward this form to the National Tracing Center either by fax or mail by the close of business on the day on which the sale occurs. 18 U.S.C., Chapter 44, Sec 923 (g)(3).

ATF NATIONAL TRACING CENTER DIVISION (NTC)

The Division includes the National Tracing Branch (NTB) and the Crime Gun Analysis Branch (CGAB). The NTB works with law enforcement entities and the firearms industry to trace the origin and initial sale history of a firearm recovered by law enforcement officials in the United States or abroad. In some instances, the NTB traces crime guns that are sold as used guns by FFLs. The NTB is also the repository for all FFL out-of-business records and multiple sales records. The CGAB provides investigative leads to ATF field personnel, houses the FFL lost and stolen firearms reports, supports the worldwide law enforcement community by identifying firearms traffickers who supply firearms to criminals and juveniles, and prepares maps, trends, and pattern analyses, including the annual Crime Gun Trace Reports.

CALIBER

The diameter of a projectile intended to be expelled from a firearm or the dimension of the bore of a given firearm.

COLLECTOR

Any person who acquires, holds, or disposes of firearms as curios or relics.

COMPREHENSIVE TRACING

The tracing by law enforcement of all recovered crime guns in a geographic area (e.g., town, county, metropolitan area, or State). Trace information is used to maximize investigative leads for use in identifying illegal firearms traffickers and violent criminals, and to analyze crime gun trends and patterns.

CRIME GUN

A crime gun is any firearm that is illegally possessed, used in a crime, or suspected to have been used in a crime. An abandoned firearm may also be categorized as a crime gun if it is suspected it was used in a crime or illegally possessed.

DEALER

Any person engaged in the business of selling firearms at wholesale or retail, or any person engaged in the business of repairing firearms or of making or fitting special barrels, stocks, or trigger mechanisms to firearms, or any licensee who is a pawnbroker.

ELECTRONIC TRACE SUBMISSION SYSTEM (ETSS)

ETSS can be a stand-alone or part of a networked, multi-user system that enables ATF Field Offices and other law enforcement organizations to capture firearm trace related data. This data is exported from ETSS and the batch file is then electronically sent for processing to the National Tracing Center (NTC).

ENGAGED IN THE BUSINESS

A person is engaged in the business as a dealer in firearms if he or she devotes time, attention, and labor to dealing in firearms as a regular course of trade or business with the principal objective of livelihood and profit through the repetitive purchase and resale of firearms. The term does not include a person who makes occasional sales, exchanges, or purchases of firearms for the enhancement of a personal collection or for a hobby, or who sells all or part of his or her personal collection of firearms.

FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEE (FFL)

Any persons, including a partnership, corporation, or business entity, holding a valid license issued by ATF that allows them or their employees to engage in the business of dealing, manufacturing, importing, repairing or pawnbrokering firearms. By law, all FFLs must keep records of their firearms transactions and forward all their records to ATF upon going out of business.

FIREARM SERIAL NUMBER

The Gun Control Act of 1968 requires that an individual serial number be affixed to firearms manufactured or imported into the United States. This unique serial number is one of several key elements used in accurately identifying a firearm and tracing it to the FFL who first sold it to an unlicensed purchaser.

FIREARM TRACE

The systematic process of tracking a recovered crime gun's history from its source (manufacturer/importer) through the chain of distribution (wholesaler/retailer) to the individual who first purchases the firearm.

FIREARM TRACE REQUEST

Information submitted to the NTB by the law enforcement community to solve individual crimes and acquire illegal trafficking information. Requests may be submitted by telephone (high priority/urgent), facsimile, mail, or as an electronic file through several different formats. ATF trace request forms require specific information to include, but not limited to, a description of the firearm, the individuals possessing or associated with the firearm, the recovery location, and the underlying offense that brought the crime gun to the attention of law enforcement.

FIREARM TYPE

The NTC categorizes firearms into a number of types that include, but are not limited to, pistols, revolvers, derringers, shotguns, rifles, combination firearms, machine guns, destructive devices, and unknown gun type. Firearms are generally described by identifying the firearm type, manufacturer, and caliber. This information, together with additional data such as the serial number and model, are used to accurately trace a firearm.

SEMIAUTOMATIC PISTOL

Any repeating pistol which utilizes a portion of the energy of a firing cartridge to extract the fired cartridge case and chamber the next round, and which requires a separate pull of the trigger to fire each cartridge.

PISTOL

A weapon originally designed, made, and intended to fire a projectile (bullet) from one or more barrels when held in one hand, and having (a) a chamber(s) as an integral part(s) of, or permanently aligned with, the bore(s); and (b) a short stock designed to be gripped by one hand and at an angle to and extending below the line of the bore(s).

REVOLVER

A projectile weapon of the pistol type, having a breechloading chambered cylinder so arranged that the cocking of the hammer or movement of the trigger rotates it and brings the next cartridge in line with the barrel for firing.

DERRINGER

The term "derringer" has no legal definition, but for the purposes of this report it is interpreted as any one of a variety of small pocket or palm size pistols having one or more barrels.

RIFLE

A weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder, and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger.

SHOTGUN

A weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder, and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger.

COMBINATION GUN

A multi-barreled firearm designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder having two or more different caliber barrels. Such firearms generally exhibit some combination of rifled barrels and smoothbore shotgun barrels.

MACHINEGUN

This term includes, in part, any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon.

DESTRUCTIVE DEVICE

This term includes, in part, any type of weapon by whatever name known which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter.

IMPORTER

Any person engaged in the business of importing or bringing firearms or ammunition into the United States for purposes of sale or distribution. The term shall include any person who engages in such business on a part-time basis.

INVESTIGATIVE TRACE

Investigative traces are traces that go beyond the first retail purchaser through the chain of possession until the crime gun reaches the crime gun possessor. After its initial retail purchase, a crime gun may be transferred repeatedly before being used in a crime. Further information regarding the crime gun's trail is obtained by ATF field personnel and/or other members of the law enforcement community.

MANUFACTURER

Any person engaged in the business of manufacturing firearms or ammunition for purposes of sale or distribution. The term shall include any person who engages in such business on a part-time basis.

MARKET AREA

An area where firearms acquired in one or more source areas are possessed by individuals from whom they are later recovered.

OBLITERATED SERIAL NUMBER

Some individuals obliterate or attempt to obliterate the firearm serial number to make it more difficult to trace. ATF and local law enforcement agencies can restore the serial numbers of many of these crime guns. Obliteration of a serial number is a felony under Federal law, as is the possession of a firearm with an obliterated serial number.

PAWNBROKER

Any person whose business or occupation includes the taking or receiving, by way of pledge or pawn, of any firearm as security for the payment or repayment of money.

POSSESSOR

The individual in possession of a crime gun at the time of its recovery by law enforcement.

ONLINE LEAD

ATF's information system designed to produce investigative leads concerning illegal firearms trafficking. The system compiles trace information in order to identify recurring trends and patterns that may indicate illegal trafficking. Online LEAD is an investigative tool provided to ATF field offices for use by local and State task forces.

PURCHASER

The individual who purchases a firearm from an FFL. A firearm trace seeks to identify the FFL who first sold the crime gun and the first individual who purchased the firearm. This information can assist law enforcement officials in investigations and in understanding the sources of illegal trafficking in firearms.

SOURCE AREA

A geographic area where illegal firearms traffickers obtain firearms that they acquire and transport to other locations for unlawful resale and/or transfer.

SOURCE STATE

The State in which the FFL that first sold the crime gun at retail is located. The source State can only be determined if a trace identifies the FFL who sold the firearm.

STRAW PURCHASE

The acquisition of a firearm(s) from a Federally licensed firearms dealer by an individual (the straw purchaser) for the purpose of concealing the identity of the true intended receiver of the firearm(s).

STRAW PURCHASER

A person illegally purchasing a firearm from a Federally licensed firearms dealer for another person, including for unlicensed sellers, criminal users, juveniles, and other prohibited possessors. Straw purchasers may be friends, associates, relatives, or members of the same gang.

TIME-TO-CRIME

The period of time between a firearm's acquisition by an unlicensed person from a retail licensee and law enforcement's recovery of that firearm during use, or suspected use, in a crime. A short time-to-crime suggests the firearm will be easier to trace. This measure can be an important indicator of illegal firearms trafficking. In those instances where the date of recovery is not provided, the date of the trace request is utilized to calculate time-to-crime.

Appendix B

Technical Notes

1. Interpreting Information in National Tracing Center Records from Participating Jurisdictions

This note discusses limitations in using this information to compare one participating jurisdiction with another and to track the same jurisdiction from 1 year to the next.

The Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGII) began in 1996. It is an emerging collaboration among Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials, ATF field offices, the ATF National Tracing Center, and ATF contractors from the academic community to improve enforcement of the Federal firearms laws, especially those relating to illegal firearms transfers to youth offenders, felons, juveniles, and other prohibited persons.

This is the fourth report published by ATF that uses information from trace requests submitted from YCGII jurisdictions to describe crime guns recovered by law enforcement agencies in those jurisdictions. This information improves the knowledge base for the enforcement of Federal and State firearm laws and regulations. It is, however, subject to several limitations. These arise out of three basic factors:

First, the program is undergoing constant change. Over the first 4 years of the YCGII program's operation, for United States cities with populations over 250,000 inhabitants, the percent of the population covered by participating YCGII jurisdictions increased from 28.5 percent to 80.4 percent (see Table B1). Over this period, the number of cities in the over 250,000-population group also increased from 11 to 44 cities (or from 16.7 to 66.7 percent of this group). These improvements in program coverage are important because achieving comprehensive tracing in cities with populations of over 250,000 inhabitants has been a primary objective of the YCGII program. However, because of YCGII's rapid increases in program coverage, year-to-comparisons for aggregate population group of cities over 250,000 are inappropriate.

Second, the extent of program implementation varies from one jurisdiction to another based on each one's size, extent of agency computerization, information intake procedures, firearms-focused law enforcement

activity, and the nature of its crime gun problem. At this stage of development, it is not appropriate to attempt to impose a single standard on all participating jurisdictions.

Third, the program is still developing. ATF and local law enforcement agencies are still learning from each other how to best implement this program and to utilize the information obtained. This report and others to be produced by the Crime Gun Analysis Branch (CGAB) of the National Tracing Center are part of that developing process.

These factors result in data limitations, among them changing law enforcement procedures to obtain all crime guns from all agencies does not happen immediately or consistently throughout a particular agency. In such jurisdictions, the lag in reporting recovered firearms to ATF will generate data on fewer firearms than law enforcement agencies actually recovered.

The data reported here also reflects the behavior of law enforcement agencies whose policies and practices, including when and how firearms are recovered and how those recoveries are recorded, are changing in response to local attention to firearms crimes. These changes could increase or decrease the number of firearms trace requests made to the National Tracing Center.

Crime rates are changing. Changes in the number of trace requests could reflect changes in the number of crime guns that come to the attention of law enforcement agencies.

While the 50 participating jurisdictions represent a wide spectrum of American life, they do not represent a national sample of law enforcement agencies or crime guns recovered by law enforcement agencies. Participation in this program is voluntary, and jurisdictions included were not selected to be representative of the nation as a whole, rather they were included primarily because of a focus on youth gun crime. In 2000, however, 44 of the 50 jurisdictions had a population over 250,000. The population of these 44 jurisdictions represents more than four-fifths of the population of all U.S. cities combined with

populations of 250,000 or more. This made it appropriate to generate summary data for these large cities as a group.

For these and other reasons, the available data from the participating jurisdictions does not yet constitute a fully developed statistical series from which reliable comparisons can be made from one reporting period to the next or from one participating jurisdiction to another. The data is used in this report as descriptive of the trace requests of particular jurisdictions during the past year. The nature of these limitations is

similar to those initially encountered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports program (UCR). Begun in the 1930's as a voluntary program by a few large jurisdictions, the UCR program has been developed over the past 70 years to include consistent definitions and standards, detailed reporting procedures, and nearly uniform participation by law enforcement agencies. The purpose of YCGII is to assist law enforcement by providing a detailed description of crime guns recovered in a given jurisdiction during the past year, and that is the most appropriate use of the data in this report.

Table B1: Percent of Cities and Percent of Population of Cities over 250,000 Inhabitants Participating in the YCGII Program by Year

	YCGII Program Year			
	1997	1998	1999	2000
Percent of Cities over 250,000 in YCGII Program	16.7	30.3	45.5	66.7
Percent of Population in Cities in YCGII Program	28.5	54.1	67.2	80.4

2. National Analysis Based on 80.4 Percent of the Population of Cities with 250,000 or More Inhabitants

This percentage is sufficient for this report to constitute a national report on crime guns in cities of this size. ATF is providing the analysis on a population basis in order to permit use of crime gun trace information in conjunction with the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports, which publish the crime statistics submitted by law enforcement agencies by size of the jurisdiction's population.

3. Classification of Traces Based on Time and Geography

In order to include all crime guns traced from each city during the calendar year period of this report, the Crime Gun Analysis Branch employed the following criteria. If the recovery date on the trace fell within 2000, the trace was included. If no recovery date was given, but the trace was received by the National Tracing Center during 2000, the trace was also included. A careful analysis of recovery State, recovery city, tracing agency ORI Code, tracing agency name, local ATF office codes, and tracing agency city was conducted to determine which traces were from recoveries in each of the 50 cities. The ORI code is used to identify law enforcement agencies in the Firearms Tracing System database. If the recovery city and State fields included either a known city name or the name of a known sub-unit of a YCGII city (for example Bronx, NY), the trace was included in the analysis. If no recovery city was given, but the tracing agency was identified as the YCGII city's main police department or an agency whose jurisdiction was only within the city, the trace was also included.

4. Calculation of Percentages

The tables and figures in this report were prepared using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) or Microsoft Excel software. We have chosen to report all percentages as these programs calculated them. It is occasionally possible, using a calculator or different software, to produce percentages that differ by as much as 0.1 percent from the reported percentages.

5. Possessor's Age

Table B2: Age of Possessor from Figure 1

Age	Frequency	Age	Frequency
10	13	46	464
11	35	47	604
12	54	48	431
13	141	49	600
14	331	50	203
15	569	51	263
16	1,147	52	277
17	1,706	53	272
18	2,569	54	200
19	2,744	55	211
20	2,751	56	182
21	2,930	57	123
22	2,553	58	137
23	2,420	59	137
24	2,118	60	120
25	1,942	61	107
26	1,768	62	105
27	1,651	63	111
28	1,620	64	54
29	1,339	65	77
30	1,321	66	77
31	1,174	67	65
32	1,041	68	73
33	1,019	69	50
34	1,067	70	73
35	976	71	42
36	932	72	48
37	1,044	73	54
38	1,040	74	38
39	831	75	43
40	1,017	76	464
41	878	77	604
42	845	78	431
43	746	79	600
44	699	80	203
45	699		

6. Distance to Recovery Location

Distance to crime gun recovery location is defined as distance in miles between the business location of the Federally licensed firearms dealer that sold a crime gun recovered by a law enforcement agency and the recovery location of the firearm. Distance-to-Recovery is calculated as the distance between the centroids of the zip code of the Federally licensed firearms dealer that sold the crime gun and the zip code of the location where the gun was recovered by a law enforcement agency. Distance-to-recovery is calculated for crime guns, 1) that were traced to a first time retail purchaser, 2) where a zip code is available for the business location of the FFL that sold the gun or where a zip code could be derived from the business address of the FFL, and 3) where there is a zip code for the location where the crime gun was recovered or where the a zip code could be derived from the street address of the recovery location.

7. Time-to-Crime Estimation

In previous reports to estimate the percentage of crime guns rapidly diverted from retail sale at Federally licensed firearms dealers, ATF produced high and low estimates of the proportion of guns rapidly diverted to crime gun status. These estimates were derived because resource limitations did not allow the National Tracing Center to trace many older crime guns. Since 1999, however, additional resources

have enabled the National Tracing Center to initiate traces on all recovered crime guns without respect to the age of the gun. The only exception to this standard is for crime guns that were manufactured prior to 1969 or crime guns that were sold by a manufacturer, wholesaler, or retail gun dealer more than 20 years prior to the gun's recovery by a law enforcement agency. (FFLs are not required to maintain firearm sale and purchase records beyond 20 years.) However, firearms in these latter two categories are still traced by ATF if records of their sale and purchase can be located in ATF's FFL out-of-business records files.

These changes in ATF's tracing procedures have greatly reduced or eliminated the utility of ATF's high and low estimates of time-to-crime, because the percentage of firearms traces not initiated due to the age of the firearm has dropped to approximately ten percent of all trace requests from approximately 30 percent of all trace requests in 1997 and 22 percent in 1998. In addition, there are other categories of crime guns trace requests for which traces are not initiated (e.g., crime guns with obliterated serial numbers) which if they could be traced would yield lower not higher estimates of time-to-crime.

Appendix C

OMB No. 1512-0541

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS
NATIONAL TRACING CENTER TRACE REQUEST**

FOR NTC DATA ENTRY ONLY

Phone: 1-800-788-7133

Falling Waters, WV 25419

FAX: 1-800-578-7223

NOTE: * - REQUIRED ENTRY FIELD (Must be completed for trace processing) ** - REQUIRED ENTRY WITH LISTED DATA RESPONSE (See back for codes and options)

PART I - TRACE INITIATION INFORMATION

1a. DATE OF REQUEST 1b. PRIORITY** ROUTINE URGENT (Justification required) FOR NTC INFORMATION ONLY
JUSTIFICATION

1c. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

PART II - CRIME CODE INFORMATION

2a. GANG INVOLVED? GANG NAME: _____ JUVENILE INVOLVED? YOUTH CRIME GUN ENTERED IN NIBIN? NIBIN No.: _____ 2b. PROJECT CODE** 2c. NCIC CRIME CODE**

PART III - ATF AGENT REQUESTING TRACE

3a. ORGANIZATION CODE* 3b. PHONE NUMBER: FAX NUMBER: 3c. ATF SPECIAL AGENT'S NAME (Last, first, middle)
3d. BADGE NUMBER 3e. ATF CASE NUMBER 3f. FIELD OFFICE

PART IV - OTHER AGENCY REQUESTING TRACE

4a. ORI NUMBER* 4b. PHONE NUMBER: FAX NUMBER: 4c. OTHER AGENCY OFFICER'S NAME (Last, first, middle)
4d. BADGE NUMBER 4e. OTHER AGENCY CASE NUMBER 4f. DEPARTMENT/UNIT
4g. MAILING ADDRESS

PART V - FIREARMS INFORMATION

5a. SERIAL NUMBER* OBLITERATED ATTEMPT TO RAISE 5b. FIREARMS MANUFACTURER*
5c. TYPE** 5d. CALIBER* 5e. MODEL* 5f. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN* (Importer required if other than U.S.)
5g. IMPORTER* 5h. ADDITIONAL MARKINGS*

PART VI - POSSESSOR INFORMATION

6a. NAME (Last) (First) (Middle) (Suffix) CRIMINAL HISTORY
ALIAS (AKA) (Last) (First) (Middle) (Suffix) AKA DATE OF BIRTH
6b. HEIGHT 6c. WEIGHT 6d. SEX 6e. RACE 6f. ADDRESS - ROUTE NUMBER
6g. APT. NUMBER 6h. STREET No. 6i. DIRECTION 6j. STREET NAME 6k. CITY
6l. COUNTY 6m. STATE 6n. ZIP CODE - 6o. COUNTRY
6p. DATE OF BIRTH 6q. PLACE OF BIRTH 6r. POSSESSOR'S ID NUMBER ID TYPE/STATE

PART VII - ASSOCIATE INFORMATION

7a. NAME (Last) (First) (Middle) (Suffix) CRIMINAL HISTORY
ALIAS (AKA) (Last) (First) (Middle) (Suffix) AKA DATE OF BIRTH
7b. HEIGHT 7c. WEIGHT 7d. SEX 7e. RACE 7f. ADDRESS - ROUTE NUMBER
7g. APT. NUMBER 7h. STREET No. 7i. DIRECTION 7j. STREET NAME 7k. CITY
7l. COUNTY 7m. STATE 7n. ZIP CODE - 7o. COUNTRY
7p. DATE OF BIRTH 7q. PLACE OF BIRTH 7r. ASSOCIATE'S ID NUMBER 7s. ID TYPE/STATE

PART VIII - FIREARM RECOVERY INFORMATION

8a. RECOVERY DATE* 8b. ROUTE NUMBER 8c. APT. NUMBER 8d. STREET No. 8e. DIRECTION 8f. STREET NAME
8g. CITY* 8h. STATE* 8i. ZIP CODE
8j. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ATF F 3312.1 (3-2000) PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING ATF F 3312.1 - REQUEST FOR A FIREARMS TRACE

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS - *Required Data Entry Fields And **Available Options/Codes Listed For Reference

The information requested on this form is needed to initiate a trace request. All fields marked with an asterisk (*) indicate required entry data fields. All areas so marked must be completed in order to effectively and expeditiously execute the trace request. Fields marked with a double asterisk (**) indicate areas of required data entry with available options and codes listed for reference (refer to lists below to determine the appropriate entry and correct nomenclature).

REQUIRED ENTRY FIELDS INCLUDE:

- Question 1b** - (Justify Urgent Trace)** See Priorities listed below
- Question 2b** & 2c** - Include Project Code and list NCIC Code**
- Question 3a* - Office Organizational Code** *For Use by ATF Requestor Only*
- Question 4a* - ORI - NCIC Originating Requestor Identifier**
- Question 5a*, 5b*, 5c**, 5d*, 5e*, 5f*, 5g* & 5h*** - Verify data
- Question 8a*, 8g* & 8h*** - Confirm Recovery data to be submitted

QUESTION 1B - TRACE PRIORITY (Entered Numbered Qualifier to Justify Urgent Trace Request)

NOTE: An urgent trace is deemed necessary when the violation are significant and circumstances warrant or require that the firearm be traced without undue delay. Examples of this are: to hold a suspect, provide probable cause, officer and public safety, etc. The following are examples of significant violations.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1 - Assault | 3 - Kidnapping | 5 - Rape/Sex | 7 - Terrorist Threat |
| 2 - Bank Robbery | 4 - Murder/Suicide | 6 - Terrorist Act | 8 - Other (specify circumstance) |

QUESTION 2B - PROJECT CODES (Enter all codes that apply)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| AIS - Adult in School | OBL - Obligated Serial Number | MUN - Murder and Narcotics (Ages 25 & older) |
| GNG - Gang Related | ORG - Organized Crime | MIL - Militia Related Project |
| JSS - Juvenile & School (Ages 17 & under) | SCH - School Involvement (No Possessor) | YCG - Youth Crime Gun |
| JVV - Juvenile & Violence (Ages 17 & under) | SEN - Sensitive/Significant | YIS - Juvenile and School (Ages 18 - 24) |

QUESTION 2C - NCIC CRIME CODES (Enter one code only. For complete listing refer to NCIC Manual)

- | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 0199 Sovereignty | 1311 Aggravated Assault (Police) | 2999 Damage Property | 5399 Public Peace |
| 0299 Military | 1399 Assault | 3599 Dangerous Drugs | 5499 Traffic Offense |
| 0399 Immigration | 1499 Abortion | 3699 Sex Offense | 5599 Health - Safekeeping |
| 0907 Homicide (Police) | 1602 Threat (Terroristic) | 3799 Obscenity | 5699 Civil Rights |
| 0911 Homicide (Suicide) | 1702 Material Witness (Federal) | 3802 Cruelty Toward Child | 5799 Invasiveness |
| 0999 Homicide (Street) | 2099 Arson | 3803 Cruelty Toward Spouse | 5899 Smuggling (Customs) |
| 1099 Kidnapping | 2199 Extortion | 3999 Gambling | 5999 Election Laws |
| 1101 Rape | 2299 Burglary | 4099 Commercial Sex | 6099 Antitrust |
| 1199 Sexual Assault | 2399 Larceny | 4199 Liquor | 6199 Tax Revenue |
| 1201 Robbery (Business) | 2411 Unauthorized Use of Auto | 4899 Obstruction Police | 6299 Conservation |
| 1204 Robbery (Street) | 2499 Stolen Vehicle | 4999 Flight - Escape | 7099 Crimes Against Person |
| 1211 Bank Robbery | 2599 Counterfeiting | 5099 Obstruct | 7199 Property Crimes |
| 1212 Car Jacking | 2699 Fraud | 5199 Bribery | 7299 Morals |
| 1299 Robbery | 2799 Embezzlement | 5211 Explosives | 7399 Public Order Crimes |
| 1301 Aggravated Assault (Family) | 2899 Stolen Property | 5212 Possession of Weapon | 8100 Escape (Juvenile) |

QUESTION 5C - TYPE OF FIREARM

- C = Combination** - A weapon designed to be fired from the shoulder which is fitted with both a rifled barrel 16" or greater in length and a smooth-bore barrel 18" or greater in length with an overall length of 26" or more.
- M = Machine Gun** - A weapon of handgun, rifle or shotgun configuration designed to automatically fire more than one shot, without manually reloading, by a single function of the trigger.
- P = Pistol** - A weapon which includes single shot and both single or double-action semiautomatic handguns fitted with a barrel(s) with an integral chamber design or having a chamber(s) permanently aligned with the barrel.
- PR = Pistol/Revolver** - A weapon which includes both single and double-action handguns having a breechloading chambered cylinder designed with a repetitive function based on rotation.
- PD = Pistol/Derringer** - A weapon which includes single barrel, superposed (over/under) and multi-barrel configuration handguns based on a hinged or pivoting barrel small frame pistol design.
- R = Rifle** - A weapon designed to be fired from the shoulder which discharges a single projectile through one or more rifled barrels 16" or greater in length with an overall length of 26" or more.
- S = Shotgun** - A weapon designed to be fired from the shoulder which discharge a single or multiple projectiles through one or more smooth-bore barrels 18" or greater in length with an overall length of 26" or more.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

This request is in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection is used by Federal, State and local law enforcement officials to request that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms trace firearms used or suspected to have been used in crimes.

The estimated average burden associated with this collection of information is 6 minutes per respondent or recordkeeper, depending on individual circumstances. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and suggestions for reducing this burden should be addressed to Reports Management Officer, Document Services Branch, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Washington, DC 20226.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

ATF F 3312.1 (3-2000)

Acknowledgements

The development of a new uniform reporting system to present crime gun trace information from cities across the United States is a great challenge and an exceptional amount of hard work. It can only be accomplished through the commitment and dedication of the people who collect, research, analyze, and publish the data contained in this report. ATF would like to acknowledge the assistance of those who have made pivotal contributions in furthering the expertise and effectiveness of law enforcement and expanding the scope of public knowledge in the unique area of firearms enforcement.

The cornerstone of this effort is the wealth of information on firearms and the crimes in which they are misused. This comes solely from the ATF special agents and their police department counterparts who together have ensured that crime gun traces were submitted timely and accurately. Many worked to improve the comprehensiveness of the information systems and developed new investigative uses for trace information.

Many officials and associates of other agencies and organizations have continued to offer encouragement, practical advice, and outstanding support for this effort in the first 4 years, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Department of Justice, in particular the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the National Institute of Justice.

A number of individuals at ATF provided key support and guidance, especially those employees from the offices of Terrence Austin, Chief, National Tracing Center Division and Michael Bouchard, Director

Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative. A special thanks to Robin Shoemaker, Program Manager, Firearms Programs Division.

The heart of this project is a unique partnership between ATF and members of academic institutions. Together, this team is responsible for the insight that this information provides. In addition to those already mentioned, our joint team has included Gary Orchowski, ATF, Chief, Crime Gun Analysis Branch, and from that staff: Dr. John Freeman, Jeff Heckel, Michelle Bennett Darden, Neil Troppman, Robert Burrows, Hilda Guy, Robbi Santore, and Christine Kimes Raposa.

Our academic partners who have contributed immeasurably to this report are: Dr. Glenn Pierce, College of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University; Dr. Anthony Braga, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University; Dr. Joel Garner, Joint Centers for Justice Studies, Shepherdstown, West Virginia; and Dr. Garen Wintemute, University of California, Davis.

Finally, thanks to Teresa Gayhart, Scott Robertson, LaTyce Watkins, Heather DeHaven, Daniel Pinckney and Carol Beebe of Milvets Systems Technology, Inc. for providing the necessary support and assistance to the Crime Gun Analysis Branch.

