



# ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C.

FY-08-10

For Immediate Release

Contacts:

[www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov)

Robert Browning/Joseph Wicks  
(202) 648-8500

May 22, 2008

## ATF RELEASES 2007 FIREARMS TRACE DATA

WASHINGTON – The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is releasing firearms trace data that include the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Island for calendar year 2007.

ATF's publication of state-by-state trace studies is intended to provide the public with insight into firearm recoveries within the United States and its territories. The data upon which these studies are based contain sensitive law enforcement investigative information; however, these particular studies have been tailored to prevent the compromise of criminal investigations and to preserve the safety of law enforcement officers. ATF will provide such studies on a yearly basis so that trends and other important information can be shared with the public.

The firearms trace data is listed by state or territory in the following categories:

- Total number of firearms;
- Firearm types;
- Top categories reported (types of crimes);
- Top source states;
- Time-to-crime rates;
- Top recovery cities.

This information is posted on the ATF public Web site at:

[http://www.atf.gov/firearms/trace\\_data/index2007.htm](http://www.atf.gov/firearms/trace_data/index2007.htm)

A key component of ATF's enforcement mission is tracing firearms recovered by law enforcement. Firearms tracing allows a recovered firearm to be traced back to the manufacturer or importer through the distribution chain (wholesaler/retailer) to the first retail purchaser. This information can assist law enforcement in ultimately pinpointing the individual(s) who use the gun to commit a crime.

-more-

ATF provides this important investigative tool to more than 17,000 federal, state, local and foreign law enforcement agencies. ATF has a proud tradition of supporting its law enforcement partners and continues to provide them with the critical investigative information they need to protect their communities.

More information on ATF and its programs can be found at [www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov).

###