

# PART VI:

## Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, and Defendants

### Background

The characteristics of firearm traffickers, end users of trafficked firearms, and defendants in firearm trafficking investigations are important intelligence information. This intelligence is essential to strategic planning of enforcement efforts. The information presented in this Part regarding firearm traffickers and end users was generated by SA responses to the study survey tool. The information presented in this Part regarding defendants was obtained from ATF’s case management system. Regional analyses presented in this Part excludes cases associated with ATF Headquarters divisions, which represent less than 1% of all cases.

### Firearm Traffickers

For purposes of this study, a firearm trafficker is a person who directly or indirectly facilitates the movement of one or more firearms from lawful commerce to illegal possession or use. SAs identified suspected traffickers in each investigation based on an informed assessment of available information. SAs were sometimes not able to identify traffickers definitively due to insufficient evidence of unlawful behavior. Additionally, some trafficking investigations led SAs to clear allegations as unfounded when subjects were not considered to be a firearm trafficker. Identification of traffickers depends on a variety of factors, including, the identification of one or more firearm traffickers for further investigation, insufficient evidence to identify any suspect, and clearing of an allegation as unfounded whereby the suspect is not considered a firearm trafficker. As a result, not every investigation has an identified firearm trafficker while some investigations may have multiple firearm traffickers identified. Of the 9,708 cases in this study, 80% (7,762) identified at least one trafficker and a total of 12,416 traffickers were identified. Table CFT-01 identifies the number and percentage of firearm traffickers involved by cases. Cases involving one identified firearm trafficker accounted for more than 42% (5,277 of 12,416) of the total number of traffickers identified and 68% (5,277 of 7,762) of all cases.

*Table CFT-01: Number and Percentage of Firearm Traffickers and Cases by Total Traffickers Involved Per Case, 2017 – 2021*

Total Traffickers Involved Per Case	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers	Number of Cases	% Cases
1 Trafficker	5,277	42.5%	5,277	68.0%
2 Traffickers	2,982	24.0%	1,491	19.2%
3 Traffickers	1,629	13.1%	543	7.0%
4 Traffickers	876	7.1%	219	2.8%
5 Traffickers	550	4.4%	110	1.4%
6-10 Traffickers	695	5.6%	96	1.2%
More than 10 Traffickers	407	3.3%	26	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,416</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7,762</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table CFT-02a identifies the top five field divisions with the most traffickers identified during the study period. The top five field divisions accounted for more than 37% (4,631 of 12,416) of the total firearm traffickers identified and more than 38% (2,971 of 7,762) of the total cases in which firearm traffickers were identified. The average ratio of firearm traffickers per case was 1.6 with Houston field division having the highest ratio at 1.9.

**Table CFT-02a: Number, Percentage, and Ratio of Firearm Traffickers and Cases by Top Five ATF Field Divisions, 2017 – 2021**

ATF Field Division	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Total Firearm Traffickers	Number of Cases	% Total Cases	Number of Firearm Traffickers Per Case
Houston	1,249	10.1%	666	8.6%	1.9
Phoenix	1,202	9.7%	906	11.7%	1.3
Chicago	782	6.3%	552	7.1%	1.4
Dallas	742	6.0%	438	5.6%	1.7
Boston	656	5.3%	409	5.3%	1.6
All Other Divisions	7,785	62.7%	4,791	61.7%	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,416</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7,762</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.6</b>

See Table CFT-02 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants for a display of all firearm traffickers and cases across all ATF field divisions.

Table CFT-03 identifies the number and percentage of firearm traffickers involved in cases by geographic region. The Southwest region had the most cases (1,535 of 7,762) involving one firearm trafficker and the most cases (10 of 7,762) involving more than ten traffickers. Similar distributions of the number of traffickers per case were found across the regions.

**Table CFT-03: Number of Firearm Traffickers per Case by Geographic Region, 2017 – 2021**

Central (N=1,635)			Southwest (N=2,252)			Southeast (N=1,375)		
Total Traffickers Involved Per Case	Number of Cases	% Cases	Total Traffickers Involved Per Case	Number of Cases	% Cases	Total Traffickers Involved Per Case	Number of Cases	% Cases
1 Trafficker	1,134	69.4%	1 Trafficker	1,535	68.2%	1 Trafficker	844	61.4%
2 Traffickers	298	18.2%	2 Traffickers	434	19.3%	2 Traffickers	286	20.8%
3 Traffickers	113	6.9%	3 Traffickers	157	7.0%	3 Traffickers	127	9.2%
4 Traffickers	42	2.6%	4 Traffickers	59	2.6%	4 Traffickers	59	4.3%
5 Traffickers	24	1.5%	5 Traffickers	34	1.5%	5 Traffickers	31	2.3%
6-10 Traffickers	21	1.3%	6-10 Traffickers	23	1.0%	6-10 Traffickers	24	1.7%
More than 10 Traffickers	3	0.2%	More than 10 Traffickers	10	0.4%	More than 10 Traffickers	4	0.3%

Northeast (N=1,899)			Northwest (N=532)		
Total Traffickers Involved Per Case	Number of Cases	% Cases	Total Traffickers Involved Per Case	Number of Cases	% Cases
1 Trafficker	1,354	71.3%	1 Trafficker	356	66.9%
2 Traffickers	361	19.0%	2 Traffickers	104	19.5%
3 Traffickers	105	5.5%	3 Traffickers	37	7.0%
4 Traffickers	41	2.2%	4 Traffickers	18	3.4%
5 Traffickers	10	0.5%	5 Traffickers	9	1.7%
6-10 Traffickers	19	1.0%	6-10 Traffickers	8	1.5%
More than 10 Traffickers	9	0.5%	More than 10 Traffickers	0	0.0%

## Firearm Trafficker Characteristics

### *Trafficker Age*

Table CFT-04 identifies the number and percentage of firearm traffickers by age. Among the 7,762 cases with at least one identified trafficker, age of the trafficker was identified in 7,215 (93%) cases for 11,105 (89%) firearm traffickers. Traffickers identified as young adults (25-34) accounted for nearly 39% (4,334 of 11,105) of the total number of firearm traffickers.

**Table CFT-04: Firearm Traffickers by Age Category, 2017 – 2021** (N = 11,105)

Age Category	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers
Juvenile (17 & under)	529	4.8%
Youth (18 to 24)	3,127	28.2%
Young Adult (25 to 34)	4,334	39.0%
Adult (35 and over)	3,115	28.1%

*Note: Age categories for traffickers are mutually exclusive, while age categories for cases are not mutually exclusive.*

### *Trafficker Ages by Region*

Table CFT-05 identifies the age of the trafficker by geographic region. In all regions, young adults comprised the greatest percentage of traffickers. The Southeast region had the highest percentage of juvenile traffickers within its region at almost 10% (209 of 2,119). The Northwest region had the highest percentage of adult traffickers compared to all other regions at slightly more than 37% (280 of 755).

**Table CFT-05: Firearm Traffickers by Age Category and Region, 2017 – 2021**

Central (N=2,306)			Southwest (N=3,249)			Southeast (N=2,119)		
Age Category	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers	Age Category	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers	Age Category	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers
Juvenile (17 and under)	153	6.6%	Juvenile (17 and under)	79	2.4%	Juvenile (17 and under)	209	9.9%
Youth (18 to 24)	739	32.0%	Youth (18 to 24)	910	28.0%	Youth (18 to 24)	575	27.1%
Young Adult (25 to 34)	803	34.8%	Young Adult (25 to 34)	1,373	42.3%	Young Adult (25 to 34)	671	31.7%
Adult (35 and over)	611	26.5%	Adult (35 and over)	887	27.3%	Adult (35 and over)	664	31.3%

Northeast (N=2,621)			Northwest (N=755)		
Age Category	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers	Age Category	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers
Juvenile (17 and under)	54	2.1%	Juvenile (17 and under)	34	4.5%
Youth (18 to 24)	733	28.0%	Youth (18 to 24)	156	20.7%
Young Adult (25 to 34)	1,188	45.3%	Young Adult (25 to 34)	285	37.7%
Adult (35 and over)	646	24.6%	Adult (35 and over)	280	37.1%

### *Juvenile Traffickers by Field Division*

Table CFT-06a identifies the top five ATF field divisions with the most juvenile firearm traffickers. Firearm traffickers identified as a juvenile accounted for 5% (529 of 11,105) of all firearm traffickers. The top five ATF field divisions accounted for 48% (256 of 529) of the total juvenile traffickers. Firearm traffickers identified as juveniles comprised almost 20% of all firearm traffickers with an identified age in both the New Orleans and Detroit field divisions.

**Table CFT-06a: Juvenile Firearm Traffickers by Top Five ATF Field Divisions, 2017 – 2021**

ATF Field Division	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% of All Firearm Traffickers within ATF Field Division	% of All Juvenile Firearm Traffickers
New Orleans	64	19.8%	12.1%
Detroit	57	19.7%	10.8%
Houston	52	4.5%	9.8%
Nashville	44	10.9%	8.3%
Charlotte	39	12.0%	7.4%
All Other Divisions	273	-	51.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>529</b>		<b>100.0%</b>

See Table CFT-06 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants for all firearm traffickers identified by age across all ATF Field Divisions.

*Trafficking Channel by Trafficker Age Category*

Table CFT-07 identifies the number and percentage of firearm trafficking cases for the top five trafficking channels by trafficker age category. FFL theft was the top trafficking channel among juveniles (age 17 and under) accounting for 84% (226 or 269) of all cases involving juvenile traffickers. Straw purchaser was the top trafficking channel among youths (age 18 to 24) accounting for more than 48% (1,025 of 2,131) of cases involving youth traffickers as well as young adults (age 25 to 34) accounting for more than 47% (1,552 of 3,277) of all cases involving young adult traffickers. Unlicensed dealing was the top trafficking channel among adults (age 35 and over) accounting for 49% (1,203 of 2,454) of cases involving adult traffickers.

**Table CFT-07: Top Five Trafficking Channels by Trafficker Age Category, 2017 – 2021**

Juvenile (17 and under) <i>(N=269)</i>			Youth (18 to 24) <i>(N=2,131)</i>		
Trafficking Channel	Number of Cases	% Cases	Trafficking Channel	Number of Cases	% Cases
FFL Theft	226	84.0%	Straw Purchaser	1,025	48.1%
Unlicensed Dealing	29	10.8%	Unlicensed Dealing	725	34.0%
Straw Purchaser	18	6.7%	FFL Theft	384	18.0%
Private Person Theft	17	6.3%	Illegal Exporting	140	6.6%
Social Media	10	3.7%	Private Person Theft	131	6.2%

Young Adult (25 to 34) <i>(N=3,277)</i>			Adult (35 and over) <i>(N=2,454)</i>		
Trafficking Channel	Number of Cases	% Cases	Trafficking Channel	Number of Cases	% Cases
Straw Purchaser	1,552	47.4%	Unlicensed Dealing	1,203	49.0%
Unlicensed Dealing	1,335	40.7%	Straw Purchaser	848	34.6%
FFL Theft	298	9.1%	Illegal Exporting	248	10.1%
Illegal Exporting	249	7.6%	Private Person Theft	193	7.9%
Private Person Theft	232	7.1%	FFL Theft	157	6.4%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

**Gender<sup>1</sup>**

Table CFT-08 identifies the gender of firearm traffickers. Among the 7,762 cases in which at least one trafficker was identified, gender was reported for 11,625 firearm traffickers in 7,407 cases. Of these traffickers, male firearm traffickers accounted for 84% (9,773 of 11,625).

**Table CFT-08: Firearm Traffickers by Gender, 2017 – 2021** (N = 11,625)

Gender	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers
Male	9,773	84.1%
Female	1,841	15.8%
Non-Binary	11	0.1%

*Trafficker Gender by Region*

Table CFT-09 identifies the gender of the firearm traffickers by geographic region. The Central and Northeast regions had the highest percentage of female firearm traffickers accounting for just over 18% (C=454 of 2,418; NE=506 of 2,715) of all traffickers in those regions. The Southeast had the lowest percentage of female traffickers accounting for slightly more than 10% (230 of 2,221) of all traffickers in that region.

**Table CFT-09 Firearm Traffickers by Gender and Region, 2017 – 2021**

Region	Number of Female Firearm Traffickers	% Female Firearm Traffickers	Number of Male Firearm Traffickers	% Male Firearm Traffickers	Total Firearm Traffickers
Southwest	531	15.6%	2,867	84.3%	3,402
Northeast	506	18.6%	2,208	81.3%	2,715
Central	454	18.8%	1,961	81.1%	2,418
Southeast	230	10.4%	1,990	89.6%	2,221
Northwest	113	14.3%	676	85.5%	791
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,834</b>	<b>15.9%</b>	<b>9,702</b>	<b>84.0%</b>	<b>11,547</b>

*Trafficking Channel by Trafficker Gender*

Table CFT-10 identifies the number and percentage of firearm trafficking cases for the top five trafficking channels by trafficker gender. There were 1,654 firearms trafficking cases involving at least one female firearm trafficker in which the trafficking channel was known. In those cases, the top trafficking channel identified in those cases was straw purchaser, accounting for almost 70% (1,154) of cases. There were 6,536 firearm trafficking cases involving at least one male firearm trafficker in which the trafficking channel was known. In those cases, the top trafficking channel identified was unlicensed firearms dealing, accounting for almost 43% (2,778) of cases.

**Table CFT-10: Top Five Trafficking Channels by Trafficker Gender, 2017 – 2021**

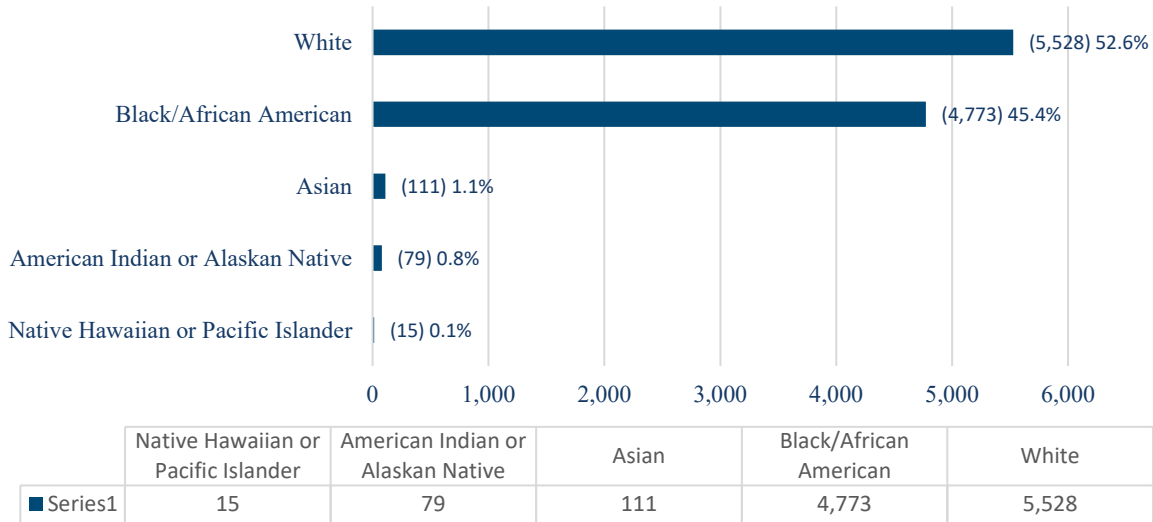
Male (N=6,536 cases)			Female (N=1,654)		
Trafficking Channel	Number of Cases	% Cases	Trafficking Channel	Number of Cases	% Cases
Unlicensed Dealer	2,778	42.5%	Straw Purchaser	1,154	69.8%
Straw Purchaser	2,416	37.0%	Unlicensed Dealer	488	29.5%
FFL Theft	909	13.9%	Illegal Exporting	126	7.6%
Illegal Exporting	515	7.9%	FFL Theft	86	5.2%
Private Person Theft	481	7.4%	Private Person Theft	73	4.4%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

### Race and Ethnicity

Figure CFT-01 identifies the number and percentage share of firearm traffickers by race and ethnicity. Among the 7,762 cases in which at least one trafficker was involved, race was identified for 10,506 firearm traffickers in 6,769 cases. By race only, white firearm traffickers were the largest group accounting for nearly 53% (5,528 of 10,506) of all firearm traffickers.

**Figure CFT-01: Firearm Traffickers by Race, 2017 – 2021**



*Note: Categories by race alone are not mutually exclusive.*

Among the 7,762 cases in which at least one trafficker was involved, ethnicity was identified for 10,528 firearm traffickers in 6,788 cases. Table CFT-11 identifies the number and percentage share of firearm traffickers by ethnicity. “Not Hispanic or Latino” was the largest group accounting for nearly 71% (7,479 of 10,528) of all firearm traffickers.

**Table CFT-11: Firearm Traffickers by Ethnicity, 2017 – 2021**

Ethnicity	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers
Hispanic/Latino	3,049	29.0%
Not Hispanic/Latino	7,479	71.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,528</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Employment Status

The survey completed by the SAs provided 13 options to select from to obtain the trafficker’s employment status, including an "other" category. After review, responses in the “other” category were grouped together resulting in the designation of four additional categories. There can be more than one employment status cited per trafficker. Employment status was identified for 5,180 firearm traffickers. SAs may have identified more than one form of employment for traffickers. As shown in Table CFT-12, unemployed firearm traffickers accounted for nearly 42% (2,154 of 5,180) of these traffickers.

**Table CFT-12: Firearm Traffickers by Employment Status, 2017 – 2021** (N = 5,180)

<b>Employment Status</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>
Unemployed	2,154	41.6%
Full-time	1,568	30.3%
Part-time	811	15.7%
Student	278	5.4%
Self-employed	251	4.8%
Retired	165	3.2%
U.S. Military	73	1.4%
Seasonal Employment	70	1.4%
Government Benefits/Relief Funds	24	0.5%
Traveling Job (i.e. Nurse, Truck Driver)	23	0.4%
Sworn Law Enforcement	22	0.4%
Funded by Criminal Activity	11	0.2%
Career/Vocational Training Program	7	0.1%
FFL Employees	6	0.1%
Former U.S. Military	5	0.1%
Trust or Personal Wealth	4	0.1%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

### **U.S. Citizenship Status**

Among the 7,762 cases in which at least one firearm trafficker was identified, U.S. citizenship status was reported for 10,773 firearm traffickers in 7,006 cases. As shown in Table CFT-13, U.S. citizens accounted for 95% (10,246) of these traffickers.

**Table CFT-13: Firearm Traffickers by Citizenship Status, 2017 – 2021** (N = 10,773)

<b>Citizenship Status</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>
U.S. Citizen	10,246	95.1%
Permanent Resident Alien	171	1.6%
Foreign National	167	1.6%
Person Unlawfully in the U.S.	125	1.2%
Non-Immigrant Alien	64	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,773</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### **Firearm Trafficker Background Characteristics**

The survey completed by the SAs provided 17 background descriptors from which to select, including an "other" category. After review, responses in the "other" category were grouped together resulting in the development of 13 additional categories. There could be more than one characteristic cited per trafficker. Among the 7,762 cases in which at least one firearm trafficker was identified, 13,471 background characteristics were reported for 9,221 firearm traffickers in 6,080 cases. Table CFT-14a identifies the top five background characteristics. Firearm traffickers with no known criminal activity account for more than 37% (3,443 of 9,221) of these traffickers.

**Table CFT-14a: Firearm Traffickers by Top Five Background Characteristics, 2017 – 2021** (N = 9,221)

<b>Background Characteristic</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>
No Known Criminal Activity	3,443	37.3%
Convicted Felon	2,486	27.0%
Drug User	1,810	19.6%
Known Gang Member or Associate	1,605	17.4%
Prior Arrest History, No Prohibiting Convictions	1,512	16.4%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

See Table CFT-14 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants for a display of all firearm trafficker background characteristics. See Table CFT-15 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants for a description of all firearm trafficker background characteristics.

## **Firearm Trafficker Roles**

A firearm trafficker’s role is determined by an assessment of both individual actions and interactions with other participants in the scheme. The survey completed by SA's was used to establish designation of trafficker roles. The survey was pre-populated with 13 role descriptions, including an "other" category. After review, responses in the "other" category were grouped together, resulting in the designation of an additional two categories. Depending on the facts of an investigation, a trafficker may have had more than one role identified. See Table CFT-16 for the descriptions of all firearm trafficker roles.

**Table CFT-16: Description of Types of Firearm Trafficker Roles**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Description</b>
Straw Purchaser	The trafficker is the straw purchaser acquiring firearms from an FFL. Appears as “Trafficker is the straw purchaser” in the survey.
Firearm Thief	The trafficker stole the firearms they are trafficking. Appears as “Trafficker stole firearms” in the survey.
Utilized Straw Purchaser	The trafficker enlisted a straw purchaser(s) to acquire firearms from an FFL. Appears as “Trafficker utilized straw purchaser” in the survey.
Middle Person	The trafficker is a middle person between the person(s) acquiring the firearm(s) and the end user. Appears as “Trafficker is the middle person between trafficker and end user” in the survey.
Stolen Firearm Broker	The trafficker acquired firearms from someone who stole the firearms. Appears as “Trafficker acquired stolen firearm” in the survey.
Financier of Trafficking	The trafficker provides the funding for the acquisition of the firearms being trafficked. Appears as “Trafficker is providing financial resources to facilitate trafficking” in the survey.
Trafficker Acquired from Multiple Sources	The trafficker acquired firearms from multiple sources. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
PMF Maker	The trafficker is making the firearms they are trafficking. Appears as “Trafficker is making PMFs” in the survey.
Trafficker is an Active FFL	The trafficker is currently licensed with ATF to engage in the business of dealing in firearms. Appears as “Trafficker is an FFL or a Responsible Person of an FFL or license holder” and “Trafficker is an employee of an FFL (not a responsible person)” in the survey.



PMF Trafficker	The trafficker is acquiring the privately made firearms they are trafficking. Appears as “Trafficker is obtaining PMFs from another person” in the survey.
Trafficker is a Former FFL	The trafficker was formerly licensed with ATF to engage in the business of dealing in firearms.
Trafficker is a Co-Conspirator	The trafficker is a co-conspirator in the trafficking scheme, whose role was otherwise not defined. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Trafficker is an End User	The trafficker was also the person who kept at least one trafficked firearm. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Other Trafficker	The trafficker is something other than the 13 listed role categories.

SAs identified 10,304 firearm traffickers with at least one role identified in 6,480 cases. CFT-17a identifies the number and percentage of firearm traffickers by the top five roles. The identified role “straw purchaser” accounted for 42% (4,333 of 10,304) of these traffickers.

**Table CFT-17a: Firearm Traffickers by Top Five Trafficker Roles, 2017 – 2021** (N = 10,304)

Trafficker Role	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers
Straw Purchaser	4,333	42.1%
Firearm Thief	2,455	23.8%
Utilized Straw Purchaser	1,588	15.4%
Middle Person	1,555	15.1%
Stolen Firearm Broker	1,048	10.2%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

See Table CFT-17 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants for cases by all firearm trafficker roles.

### *Firearm Trafficker Role by Region*

Table CFT-18 identifies the number and percentage of firearm traffickers for the top five trafficker roles and geographic regions. Trafficker as the straw purchaser was the leading role identified among firearm traffickers in the Southwest, Northeast, and Central regions, accounting for more than 40% of all traffickers in each of the regions. In the Southeast and Northwest regions, traffickers acting as the firearm thief was the leading role identified.

**Table CFT-18: Firearm Traffickers by Top Five Roles and Region, 2017 – 2021**

Central (N=2,176)			Southwest (N=3,077)			Southeast (N=2,040)		
Trafficker Role	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers	Trafficker Role	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers	Trafficker Role	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers
Straw Purchaser	908	41.7%	Straw Purchaser	1,560	50.7%	Firearm Thief	811	39.8%
Firearm Thief	670	30.8%	Middle Person	570	18.5%	Straw Purchaser	616	30.2%
Utilized Straw Purchaser	274	12.6%	Utilized Straw Purchaser	463	15.0%	Stolen Firearm Broker	300	14.7%
Stolen Firearm Broker	206	9.5%	Firearm Thief	423	13.7%	Utilized Straw Purchaser	256	12.5%
Middle Person	204	9.4%	Financier of Trafficking	222	7.2%	Middle Person	199	9.8%

Northeast (N=2,264)			Northwest (N=701)		
Trafficker Role	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers	Trafficker Role	Number of Firearm Traffickers	% Firearm Traffickers
Straw Purchaser	1039	45.9%	Firearm Thief	238	34.0%
Utilized Straw Purchaser	516	22.8%	Straw Purchaser	191	27.2%
Middle Person	441	19.5%	Middle Person	139	19.8%
Firearm Thief	313	13.8%	Stolen Firearm Broker	125	17.8%
Stolen Firearm Broker	217	9.6%	Utilized Straw Purchaser	64	9.1%

### *Firearm Trafficker Role by Gender*

Table CFT-19 identifies the number and percentage of firearm traffickers by role and gender. SAs identified 1,841 female firearm traffickers. The straw purchaser role accounted for almost 72% (1,322) for female firearm traffickers. SAs identified 9,773 male firearm traffickers. In contrast, the straw purchasing role only represented slightly more than 30% (2,971) for male firearm traffickers.

**Table CFT-19: Firearm Traffickers by Top Five Roles and Gender, 2017 – 2021**

<b>Male (N=9,773)</b>			<b>Female (N=1,841)</b>		
<b>Trafficker Role</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>Trafficker Role</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>
Straw Purchaser	2,971	30.4%	Straw Purchaser	1,322	71.8%
Firearms Thief	2,132	21.8%	Utilized Straw Purchaser	164	8.9%
Middle Person	1,389	14.2%	Middle Person	144	7.8%
Utilized Straw Purchaser	1,386	14.2%	Firearms Thief	108	5.9%
Stolen Firearm Broker	935	9.6%	Stolen Firearm Broker	79	4.3%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

### *Firearm Trafficker Role by Trafficker Age Category*

Table CFT-20 identifies the number and percentage of firearm traffickers by the top five most frequently identified roles by trafficker age category. The leading role identified for adults, young adults, and youths was straw purchaser whereas the leading role among juveniles was firearm thief, accounting for more than 87% of all roles identified among juveniles.

**Table CFT-20: Firearm Traffickers by Top 5 Roles by Trafficker Age Category, 2017 – 2021**

<b>Juvenile (17 and under) (N=529)</b>			<b>Youth (18-24) (N=3,127)</b>		
<b>Trafficker Role</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>Trafficker Role</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>
Firearm Thief	462	87.3%	Straw Purchaser	1,261	40.3%
Stolen Firearm Broker	78	14.7%	Firearm Thief	800	25.6%
Utilized Straw Purchaser	17	3.2%	Utilized Straw Purchaser	409	13.1%
Middle Person	10	1.9%	Middle Person	355	11.4%
Straw Purchaser	9	1.7%	Stolen Firearm Broker	303	9.7%

<b>Young Adult (25-34) (N=4,334)</b>			<b>Adult (35 and over) (N=3,115)</b>		
<b>Trafficker Role</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>Trafficker Role</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>
Straw Purchaser	1,863	43.0%	Straw Purchaser	1,121	36.0%
Utilized Straw Purchaser	686	15.8%	Middle Person	456	14.6%
Middle Person	657	15.2%	Utilized Straw Purchaser	364	11.7%
Firearm Thief	514	11.9%	Firearm Thief	290	9.3%
Stolen Firearm Broker	344	7.9%	Stolen Firearm Broker	252	8.1%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

### ***Firearm Trafficker Relationship to the Straw Purchaser***

SAs determined firearm trafficker relationships with straw purchasers by assessments of both individual actions and their interactions with other participants in the trafficking scheme. In instances where the SA indicated participation of a straw purchaser, the survey was pre-populated with 12 relationship descriptions including an "other" category. After review of responses in the "other" category, no new categories were designated. Depending on the facts of an investigation, a trafficker may have

more than one relationship to the straw purchaser. See Table CFT-21 for the descriptions of all relationships.

**Table CFT-21: Description of Types of Firearm Trafficker to Straw Purchaser Relationship**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Description</b>
Friend or Associate of Friend	The firearm trafficker is a friend, or associate of a friend with the straw purchaser.
Intimate Partner/Spouse	The firearm trafficker has an intimate relationship with the straw purchaser.
Other Criminal Associate	The firearm trafficker is a criminal associate of the straw purchaser.
Relative	The firearm trafficker is a relative of the straw purchaser.
Financial	The firearm trafficker provides financial payment to the straw purchaser for their services. Appears as “Financial (straw purchaser’s intent is to be compensated monetarily)” in the survey.
Drugs	The firearm trafficker provides drugs to the straw purchaser for their services. Appears as “Drugs (straw purchaser’s intent is to be compensated in drugs)” in the survey.
Fellow Gang Member	The firearm trafficker and straw purchaser are in the same gang together.
Current or Former Co-worker	The firearm trafficker and straw purchaser are employed somewhere as co-workers.
Roommate	The firearm trafficker and straw purchaser are roommates.
Threat of Violence	The firearm trafficker uses threats of violence to coerce the straw purchaser to acquire firearms. Appears as, “threat of violence (personal or familial harm)” in the survey.
Unknown	The firearm trafficker relationship with the straw purchaser is unknown.

Table CFT-22a identifies the number and percentage of firearm traffickers by the top five firearm trafficker to straw purchaser relationships. Among the 7,762 cases with at least one trafficker identified, 1,199 cases involved 1,588 firearm traffickers that utilized a straw purchaser. The relationship between the firearm trafficker and straw purchaser was known for 1,327 firearm traffickers. The friend or associate of a friend relationship type accounted for approximately 59% (785 of 1,327) of these traffickers.

**Table CFT-22a: Total and Percentage of Firearm Traffickers by Top Five Firearm Trafficker-to-Straw Purchaser Relationships, 2017 – 2021** <sup>(N=1,327)</sup>

<b>Firearm Trafficker-to-Straw Purchaser Relationship</b>	<b>Number of Firearm Traffickers</b>	<b>% Firearm Traffickers</b>
Friend or Associate of a Friend	785	59.2%
Intimate Partner/Spouse	326	24.6%
Other Criminal Associate	183	13.8%
Relative	148	11.2%
Financial	130	9.8%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

See Table CFT-22 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants for cases by all firearm trafficker to straw purchaser relationship types.

## **End Users**

End users are the recipients of the firearms that are trafficked. The information regarding end users was identified by SAs in the survey responses. An end user may also be the trafficker in certain situations,

such as in the theft of firearms where the thief keeps at least one of the stolen firearms; the end user may also be a defendant. Investigations may identify multiple end users, however, not every trafficking investigation has an identified end user. SAs may not be able to identify end users or may eventually determine no criminal violations occurred.

SAs identified at least one end user in 4,428<sup>2</sup> cases (45.6% of the 9,708 cases). In those cases, SAs identified a total of 9,578 end users. On average, there were 2.2 end users per case. Table CFT-23 identifies the number and percentage of trafficked firearm end users by case. Cases involving one identified end user accounted for 68% (3,022 of 4,428) of the total number of cases, however, these cases only accounted for 32% (3,022 of 9,578) of the total number of end users identified.

**Table CFT-23: Total Number of End Users by Case, 2017 – 2021**

<b>Total End Users</b>	<b>Number of End Users</b>	<b>% Total End Users</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>% Total Cases</b>
1 End user	3,022	31.6%	3,022	68.2%
2 End users	1,334	13.9%	667	15.1%
3 End users	885	9.2%	295	6.7%
4 End users	640	6.7%	160	3.6%
5 End users	455	4.8%	91	2.1%
6-10 End users	887	9.3%	121	2.7%
More Than 10 End users	2,355	24.6%	72	1.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,578</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4,428</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table CFT-24a identifies the number and percentage of end users and cases, as well as the ratio of end users to cases in the top five ATF field divisions. The top five ATF field divisions accounted for 62% (5,940 of 9,578) of the total end users and 64% (2,830 of 4,428) of the total cases. Baltimore field division, at 4.9 end users per case, had the highest number of identified end users per trafficking case.

**Table CFT-24a: Number and Percentage of End Users and Cases by Top 5 ATF Field Divisions, 2017 – 2021**

<b>ATF Field Division</b>	<b>Number of End Users</b>	<b>% Total End Users</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>% Total Cases</b>	<b>Number of End Users Per Case</b>
Baltimore	897	9.4%	184	4.2%	4.9
Chicago	880	9.2%	405	9.1%	2.2
Phoenix	709	7.4%	298	6.7%	2.4
New York	611	6.4%	435	9.8%	1.4
Houston	541	5.6%	276	6.2%	2.0
All Other Divisions	5,940	62.0%	2,830	64.0%	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,578</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4,428</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2.2</b>

See Table CFT-24 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants for total end users and cases across all ATF Field Divisions.

## **End User Characteristics**

Data on end user characteristics were captured at the case level. The survey completed by SAs was pre-populated with 17 background characteristics including an "other" category. After review, responses in the "other" category were grouped together, resulting in the designation of an additional 15 categories. An end user may have multiple characteristics identified.

SAs identified background characteristics for at least one end user in nearly 89% (3,936 of 4,428) of cases. Table CFT-25a provides the number and percentage of cases by the top five most frequently identified end user background characteristics. Convicted felon was the most frequently identified background characteristic having been associated with at least one end user in almost 60% (2,344) of cases.

**Table CFT-25a: Number and Percentage of Cases by Top Five End User Background Characteristics, 2017 – 2021 (N = 3,936)**

<b>Background Characteristic</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>% Cases</b>
Convicted Felon	2,344	59.6%
Known Gang Member or Associate	1,147	29.1%
Drug User	873	22.2%
Drug Trafficker	869	22.1%
Prior Arrest History, No Prohibiting Convictions	457	11.6%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

Table CFT-25b presents the number and percentage of cases where an end user was identified as being prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 USC § 922(g) and 18 USC § 922(n).

**Table CFT-25b: Number and Percentage of Cases Where at Least One End User Is a Prohibited Person, 2017 – 2021**

<b>Background Characteristic</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>% Cases</b>
Convicted Felon	2,344	59.6%
Unlawful Drug User or Addict	873	22.2%
Convicted of Misdemeanor Domestic Violence	105	2.7%
Unlawfully in the U.S.	73	1.9%
Under Indictment	10	0.3%
Under Protective or Restraining Order	7	0.2%
Adjudicated Mental Defective/Involuntarily Committed	5	0.1%
Fugitive	2	0.1%

*Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.*

See Table CFT-25 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants regarding all firearm trafficker background characteristics.

### ***End user Age***

Table CFT-26 presents the number of end users by age. The age of at least one end user was identified in nearly 94% (4,159 of 4,428) of cases. Cases involving at least one young adult (25 to 34) accounted for almost 48% (1,997 of 4,159) of all cases with the age known of at least one end user.

**Table CFT-26: Number and Percentage of Cases with at Least One End User in Age Category, 2017 – 2021**  
(N=4,159)

Age Category	Number of Cases	% Cases
Young Adult (25 to 34)	1,997	48.0%
Youth (18 to 24)	1,489	35.8%
Adult (35 and over)	1,302	31.3%
Juvenile (17 & under)	243	5.8%

Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.

Table CFT-27 presents year-over-year trends in the age categories of end users in trafficking cases. Between 2017 and 2021, youth (18 to 24) end users grew almost 10%, while adults (age 35 and over) dropped by almost 9%.

**Table CFT-27: Trends in Percentages of Cases with at Least One End User in Age Category, 2017 – 2021**

Age Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Difference 2017 - 2021
Juvenile (17 and under)	5.3%	4.9%	6.2%	5.0%	8.2%	2.8%
Youth (18 to 24)	31.9%	35.2%	35.6%	36.6%	41.5%	9.6%
Young Adult (25 to 34)	48.5%	47.8%	45.5%	48.8%	49.7%	1.1%
Adult (35 and over)	34.3%	33.2%	32.5%	29.4%	25.3%	-8.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>4,159</b>

Table CFT-28 presents the number of cases involving at least one end user in which age was known by geographic region. Between 2017 and 2021, young adults (age 25 to 34) were the largest known end user age category in each of the five geographic regions.

**Table CFT-28: Total Number and Percentage of Cases Involving at Least One End User with Known Age by Age Category and Region, 2017 – 2021**

Central (N=1,089)			Southwest (N=794)			Southeast (N=696)		
Age Category	Number of Cases	% Cases	Age Category	Number of Cases	% Cases	Age Category	Number of Cases	% Cases
Juvenile (17 and under)	70	6.4%	Juvenile (17 and under)	44	5.5%	Juvenile (17 and under)	57	8.2%
Youth (18 to 24)	455	41.8%	Youth (18 to 24)	234	29.5%	Youth (18 to 24)	241	34.6%
Young Adult (25 to 34)	523	48.0%	Young Adult (25 to 34)	401	50.5%	Young Adult (25 to 34)	330	47.4%
Adult (35 and over)	278	25.5%	Adult (35 and over)	306	38.5%	Adult (35 and over)	246	35.3%

Northeast (N=1,319)			Northwest (N=238)		
Age Category	Number of Cases	% Cases	Age Category	Number of Cases	% Cases
Juvenile (17 and under)	54	4.1%	Juvenile (17 and under)	17	7.1%
Youth (18 to 24)	481	36.5%	Youth (18 to 24)	71	29.8%
Young Adult (25 to 34)	616	46.7%	Young Adult (25 to 34)	119	50.0%
Adult (35 and over)	367	27.8%	Adult (35 and over)	95	39.9%

## Defendants

For purposes of this Part, a defendant includes both a person who has been charged by a federal or state prosecutor and those whom ATF has referred for prosecution.<sup>3</sup> The data regarding defendants was derived from ATF's case management system.

SAs identified suspected traffickers and end users in each investigation based on an informed assessment of available information. SAs were sometimes not able to identify traffickers and end users definitively due to insufficient evidence of unlawful behavior. Some trafficking investigations led SAs to clear

allegations as unfounded when subjects were not considered to be a firearm trafficker or end user. As a result, not every investigation has an identified firearm trafficker or end user while some investigations may have multiple firearm traffickers or end users identified. Hence, not every firearm trafficking investigation has a defendant, while some investigations may have multiple defendants.

The ATF case management system indicated 3,422 (35.2% of 9,708) cases involving at least one defendant, with a total of 5,826 defendants in those cases. Table CFT-29a identifies the total number of defendants per field division, percentage of all defendants, and the mean number of defendants per case for the top five ATF field divisions with the most defendants. The top five field divisions accounted for more than 37% (2,172) of all defendants and more than 37% (1,278) of all cases with defendants. The Houston field division had the highest volume of defendants accounting for nearly 10% (553) of all defendants and 9% (313) of all cases with defendants. The Boston field division had the highest number of defendants per case at a mean of 2.2 which is higher than the 1.7 mean for all defendants per case.

*Table CFT-29a: Total Number, Percentage, and Mean of Defendants and Cases for The Top Five ATF Field Divisions, 2017 – 2021*

<b>ATF Field Division</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Total Defendants</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>% Total Cases</b>	<b>Mean of Defendants Per Case</b>
Houston	553	9.5%	313	9.1%	1.8
Dallas	461	7.9%	273	8.0%	1.7
Boston	454	7.8%	207	6.0%	2.2
Chicago	388	6.7%	269	7.9%	1.4
Phoenix	316	5.4%	216	6.3%	1.5
All Other Divisions	3,654	62.7%	2,144	62.7%	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,826</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3,422</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.7</b>

See Table CFT-29 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants for all ATF field divisions.

## Defendant Characteristics

### *Defendant Age*

Age was identified for more than 97% (5,679 of 5,826) of defendants. Table CFT-30 presents the number and percentage of defendants by age group. Young adults (ages 25 to 34) accounted for more than 36% (2,080 of 5,679) of the defendants.

*Table CFT-30: Defendants by Age Group, 2017 – 2021*

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Total Defendants</b>
17 and younger	151	2.7%
18-21	809	14.2%
22-24	930	16.4%
25-34	2,080	36.6%
35-44	1,061	18.7%
45-54	418	7.4%
55-64	166	2.9%
65 and over	64	1.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,679</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Figure CFT-02 presents the number of defendants by age frequency. Age 24 was the most frequent age for firearm trafficking defendants accounting for nearly 6% (327) of the total defendants (5,679) across an age range from 13 to 80 years of age. The median age of defendants was 24 and the mean age was 31.

**Figure CFT-02: Defendants by Age Frequency, 2017 – 2021**

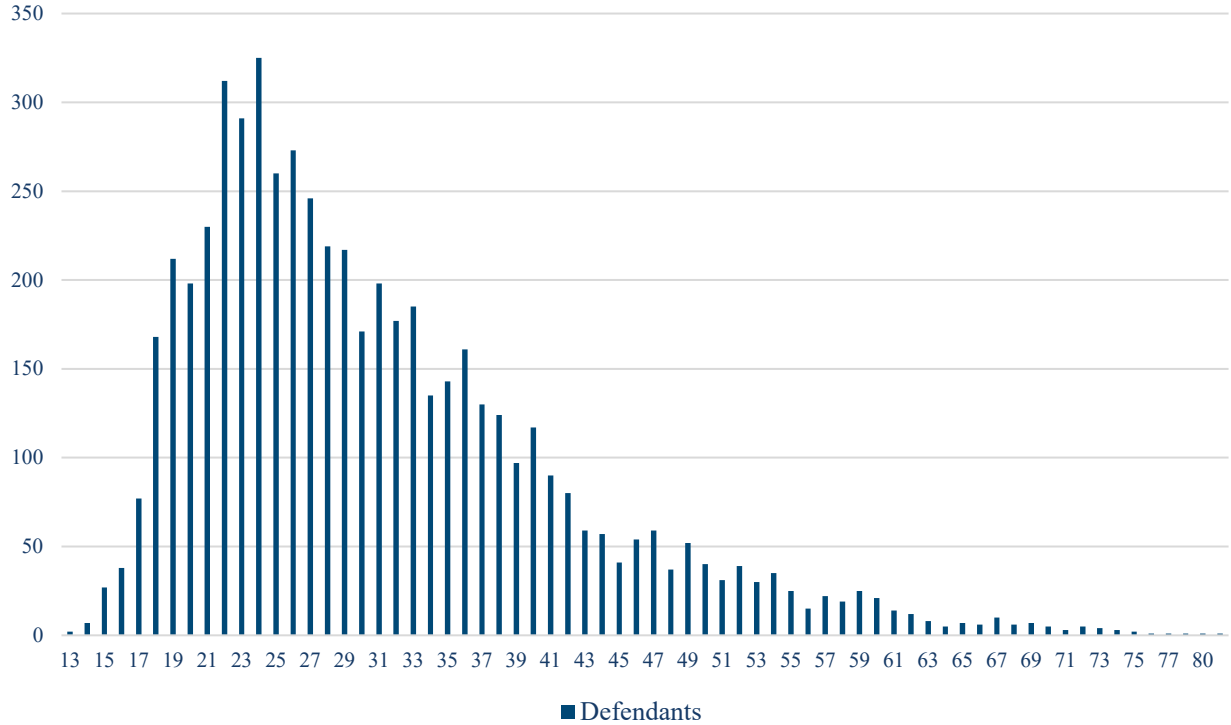


Table CFT-31 presents the number and percentage of defendants by age and geographic region. Young adults (age 25 to 34) accounted for the highest number and percentage of trafficking defendants in every region except in the Northwest.

**Table CFT-31: Defendants by Age Category and Region, 2017 – 2021**

Central (N=1,228)			Southwest (N=1,471)			Southeast (N=996)		
Age Category	Number of Defendants	% Defendants	Age Category	Number of Defendants	% Defendants	Age Category	Number of Defendants	% Defendants
Juvenile (17 and under)	50	4.1%	Juvenile (17 and under)	13	0.9%	Juvenile (17 and under)	41	4.1%
Youth (18 to 24)	400	32.6%	Youth (18 to 24)	487	33.1%	Youth (18 to 24)	313	31.4%
Young Adult (25 to 34)	421	34.3%	Young Adult (25 to 34)	557	37.9%	Young Adult (25 to 34)	332	33.3%
Adult (35 and over)	357	29.1%	Adult (35 and over)	414	28.1%	Adult (35 and over)	310	31.1%

Northeast (N=1,514)			Northwest (N=464)		
Age Category	Number of Defendants	% Defendants	Age Category	Number of Defendants	% Defendants
Juvenile (17 and under)	29	1.9%	Juvenile (17 and under)	18	3.9%
Youth (18 to 24)	424	28.0%	Youth (18 to 24)	113	24.4%
Young Adult (25 to 34)	601	39.7%	Young Adult (25 to 34)	166	35.8%
Adult (35 and over)	460	30.4%	Adult (35 and over)	167	36.0%



## Gender

Gender was identified for approximately 97% (5,658 of 5,826) of defendants. Table CFT-32 presents the number and percentage of defendants by gender and geographic region. Male defendants accounted for nearly 86% (4,854 of 5,658) of the total defendants. Female defendants accounted for just over 14% (804) of total defendants.

**Table CFT-32: Total Number and Percentage of Defendants by Gender and Region, 2017 – 2021**

Region	Number of Female Defendants	% Female Defendants	Number of Male Defendants	% Male Defendants	Total Defendants
Central	183	15.0%	1,035	85.0%	1,218
Southwest	240	16.3%	1,230	83.7%	1,470
Southeast	91	9.0%	919	91.0%	1,010
Northeast	220	14.6%	1,286	85.4%	1,506
Northwest	70	15.6%	378	84.4%	448
<b>Total</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>14.2%</b>	<b>4,854</b>	<b>85.8%</b>	<b>5,658</b>

## Race

Race<sup>4</sup> was identified for more than 97% (5,669 of 5,826) of defendants. Table CFT-33 presents the number and percentage of defendants by race. Black/African American defendants accounted for nearly 43% (2,425 of 5,669) of the total number of defendants. White and Hispanic defendants accounted for approximately 32% (1,839 of 5,669) and 22% (1,239 of 5,669) of total defendants respectively.

**Table CFT-33: Total Number and Percentage of Defendants by Race, 2017 – 2021**

Race	Number of Defendants	% Defendants
Black/African American	2,425	42.8%
White	1,839	32.4%
Hispanic	1,239	21.9%
American Indian/Native American	54	1.0%
Asian	52	0.9%
Middle Eastern	14	0.2%
Other	46	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,669</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Citizenship

Citizenship was identified for nearly 100% (5,805 of 5,826) of the defendants. Figure CFT-03a presents the number and percentage of defendants by their citizenship. U.S. citizen defendants accounted for more than 97% of all defendants. Among the 108 defendants that were citizens of Mexico, 87% (94) were involved in cases in the Southwest region.

**Figure CFT-03a: Defendants by Citizenship, 2017 – 2021**



See Table CFT-34 in Appendix CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, Defendants for a display of all defendants by their citizenship.

### ***Prior Arrest History***

Prior arrest history was identified for all 5,826 defendants. Table CFT-35 identifies the number and percentage of defendants by their prior arrest history. More than 70% (4,089) of all defendants had at least one prior arrest.

**Table CFT-35: Defendants by Prior Arrest History, 2017 – 2021**

<b>Prior Arrest History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Total Defendants</b>
No Prior Arrests	1,737	29.8%
1 Prior Arrest	546	9.4%
2 Prior Arrests	485	8.3%
3-5 Prior Arrests	901	15.5%
6-10 Prior Arrests	1,015	17.4%
11 or More Prior Arrests	1,142	19.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,826</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table CFT-36 presents the number and percentage of defendants by their prior arrest history by geographic region. The Southwest region had the most defendants with no prior arrest history, accounting for more than 41% (627 of 1,519) of the total defendants in that region.

**Table CFT-36: Defendants by Prior Arrest History and Region, 2017 – 2021**

<b>Central (N=1,259)</b>			<b>Southwest (N=1,519)</b>			<b>Southeast (N=1,025)</b>		
<b>Prior Arrest History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>	<b>Prior Arrest History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>	<b>Prior Arrest History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>
No Prior Arrests	326	25.9%	No Prior Arrests	627	41.3%	No Prior Arrests	291	28.4%
1 Prior Arrest	133	10.6%	1 Prior Arrest	139	9.2%	1 Prior Arrest	88	8.6%
2 Prior Arrests	109	8.7%	2 Prior Arrests	122	8.0%	2 Prior Arrests	78	7.6%
3-5 Prior Arrests	216	17.2%	3-5 Prior Arrests	199	13.1%	3-5 Prior Arrests	163	15.9%
6-10 Prior Arrests	235	18.7%	6-10 Prior Arrests	228	15.0%	6-10 Prior Arrests	180	17.6%
11 or More Prior Arrests	240	19.1%	11 or More Prior Arrests	204	13.4%	11 or More Prior Arrests	225	22.0%

<b>Northeast (N=1,544)</b>			<b>Northwest (N=473)</b>		
<b>Prior Arrest History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>	<b>Prior Arrest History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>
No Prior Arrests	393	25.5%	No Prior Arrests	100	21.1%
1 Prior Arrest	148	9.6%	1 Prior Arrest	37	7.8%
2 Prior Arrests	132	8.5%	2 Prior Arrests	42	8.9%
3-5 Prior Arrests	243	15.7%	3-5 Prior Arrests	78	16.5%
6-10 Prior Arrests	289	18.7%	6-10 Prior Arrests	83	17.5%
11 or More Prior Arrests	339	22.0%	11 or More Prior Arrests	133	28.1%

### ***Prior Felony Conviction History***

A prior felony conviction history was identified for all 5,826 defendants. Table CFT-37 presents the number and percentage of defendants by their prior felony conviction history. Of all defendants, 41% (2,391 of 5,826) had at least one prior felony conviction.

*Table CFT-37: Defendants by Prior Felony Conviction History, 2017 – 2021*

<b>Prior Felony Conviction History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Total Defendants</b>
No Prior Felony Convictions	3,435	59.0%
1 Prior Felony Conviction	653	11.2%
2 Prior Felony Convictions	590	10.1%
3-5 Prior Felony Convictions	672	11.5%
6-10 Prior Felony Convictions	346	5.9%
11 or More Prior Felony Convictions	130	2.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,826</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Figure CFT-38 presents the number and percentage of defendants by felony conviction history and geographic region. The Southwest region had the most defendants (1,047) and highest percentage of defendants (68.9%) with no prior felony convictions.

*Table CFT-38: Defendants by Prior Felony Conviction History and Region, 2017 – 2021*

<b>Central (N=1,259)</b>			<b>Southwest (N=1,519)</b>			<b>Southeast (N=1,025)</b>		
<b>Prior Felony Conviction History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>	<b>Prior Felony Conviction History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>	<b>Prior Felony Conviction History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>
No Prior Felony Convictions	691	54.9%	No Prior Felony Convictions	1,047	68.9%	No Prior Felony Convictions	595	58.0%
1 Felony Conviction	163	12.9%	1 Felony Conviction	138	9.1%	1 Felony Conviction	109	10.6%
2 Felony Convictions	154	12.2%	2 Felony Convictions	106	7.0%	2 Felony Convictions	97	9.5%
3-5 Felony Convictions	154	12.2%	3-5 Felony Convictions	126	8.3%	3-5 Felony Convictions	129	12.6%
6-10 Felony Convictions	79	6.3%	6-10 Felony Convictions	76	5.0%	6-10 Felony Convictions	65	6.3%
11+ Felony Convictions	18	1.4%	11+ Felony Convictions	26	1.7%	11+ Felony Convictions	30	2.9%

<b>Northeast (N=1,544)</b>			<b>Northwest (N=473)</b>		
<b>Prior Felony Conviction History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>	<b>Prior Felony Conviction History</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>	<b>% Defendants</b>
No Prior Felony Convictions	855	55.4%	No Prior Felony Convictions	245	51.8%
1 Felony Conviction	189	12.2%	1 Felony Conviction	52	11.0%
2 Felony Convictions	174	11.3%	2 Felony Convictions	58	12.3%
3-5 Felony Convictions	203	13.1%	3-5 Felony Convictions	59	12.5%
6-10 Felony Convictions	86	5.6%	6-10 Felony Convictions	40	8.5%
11+ Felony Convictions	37	2.4%	11+ Felony Convictions	19	4.0%

## Summary

There were 12,416 firearm traffickers identified across 80% (7,762 of 9,708) of the cases in the study period. The most frequently identified firearm trafficker characteristics include:

- 42% (5,277 of 12,416) operated alone.
- 42% (2,154 of 5,180) were unemployed.
- 95% (10,246 of 10,773) were U.S. citizens.
- 37% (3,443 of 9,221) had no known criminal activity.
- 27% (2,486 of 9,221) were previously convicted felons.
- 42% (4,333 of 10,304) were straw purchasers.
- 53% (5,528 of 10,506) were White (by race only).
- 39% (4,334 of 11,105) were young adults (age 25 to 34).
- Juvenile (17 and under) traffickers were most frequently involved with FFL theft cases.
- Youth (18 to 24) traffickers and young adult (25 to 34) traffickers were most frequently involved with straw purchasing cases.
- Adult (35 and over) traffickers were most frequently involved in unlicensed dealing cases.

- 84% (9,773 of 11,625) of traffickers were male.
- 43% (2,778 of 6,536) of male traffickers were involved with unlicensed dealing cases.
- 72% (1,322 of 1,841) of female traffickers were involved with straw purchasing cases.

SAs identified 9,578 end users in approximately 45% (4,428 of 9,708) of the cases in the study period. The most frequently identified end user characteristics include:

- 32% (3,022 of 9,578) of cases involved one end user.
- 60% (2,344 of 9,578) of end users were previously convicted felons.
- 48% (1,997 of 4,159) of end users were young adults (25 to 34).
- The annual percentage of youth (18 to 24) end users increased almost 10% between 2017 and 2021.

There were 5,826 defendants identified in approximately 35% (3,422 of 9,708) of the cases in the study period. The most frequently identified defendant characteristics include:

- 37% (2,080 of 5,679) were young adults.
- 86% (4,854 of 5,658) were male.
- 43% (2,425 of 5,669) were Black/African American.
- 98% (5,658 of 5,805) were U.S. citizens.
- 70% (4,089 of 5,826) have at least one prior arrest.
- 41% (2,391 of 5,826) have at least one prior felony conviction.

# APPENDIX CFT – Characteristics of Firearm Traffickers, End Users, and Defendants

*Table CFT-02: Total Number and Percentages of Firearm Traffickers and Cases by ATF Field Division, 2017 – 2021*

ATF Field Division	Number of Cases	% Total Cases	Number of Traffickers	% Total Traffickers	Number of Traffickers Per Case
Atlanta	215	2.8%	439	3.5%	2.0
Baltimore	265	3.4%	429	3.5%	1.6
Boston	409	5.3%	656	5.3%	1.6
Charlotte	177	2.3%	359	2.9%	2.0
Chicago	552	7.1%	782	6.3%	1.4
Columbus	313	4.0%	506	4.1%	1.6
Dallas	438	5.6%	742	6.0%	1.7
Denver	135	1.7%	257	2.1%	1.9
Detroit	172	2.2%	344	2.8%	2.0
Houston	666	8.6%	1,249	10.1%	1.9
International Affairs	63	0.8%	92	0.7%	1.5
Kansas City	274	3.5%	417	3.4%	1.5
Los Angeles	242	3.1%	400	3.2%	1.7
Louisville	194	2.5%	319	2.6%	1.6
Miami	237	3.1%	334	2.7%	1.4
Nashville	302	3.9%	483	3.9%	1.6
New Orleans	183	2.4%	352	2.8%	1.9
New York	471	6.1%	651	5.2%	1.4
Newark	99	1.3%	150	1.2%	1.5
Operational Intelligence	6	0.1%	6	0.0%	1.0
Philadelphia	366	4.7%	546	4.4%	1.5
Phoenix	906	11.7%	1,202	9.7%	1.3
San Francisco	288	3.7%	433	3.5%	1.5
Seattle	109	1.4%	162	1.3%	1.5
St Paul	130	1.7%	188	1.5%	1.4
Tampa	261	3.4%	450	3.6%	1.7
Washington	289	3.7%	468	3.8%	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,762</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>12,416</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.6</b>

**Table CFT-06: Total Number of Firearm Traffickers by Age Category and ATF Field Division, 2017 – 2021**

<b>ATF Field Division</b>	<b>Juvenile (17 and under)</b>	<b>Youth (18 to 24)</b>	<b>Young Adult (25 to 34)</b>	<b>Adult (35 and over)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Atlanta	32	96	145	98	371
Baltimore	14	131	134	78	357
Boston	1	144	277	185	607
Charlotte	39	135	96	55	325
Chicago	11	254	304	148	717
Columbus	38	148	144	134	464
Dallas	12	229	247	186	674
Denver	21	56	76	77	230
Detroit	57	97	83	52	289
Houston	52	288	453	351	1,144
International Affairs	0	13	12	26	51
Kansas City	24	130	111	98	363
Los Angeles	2	76	149	116	343
Louisville	12	52	107	125	296
Miami	4	45	108	146	303
Nashville	44	92	133	133	402
New Orleans	64	113	87	60	324
New York	8	115	295	166	584
Newark	1	30	75	32	138
Operational Intelligence	0	1	2	1	4
Philadelphia	11	169	223	99	502
Phoenix	13	317	524	234	1,088
San Francisco	10	76	159	140	385
Seattle	3	24	50	63	140
St. Paul	11	58	54	54	177
Tampa	26	94	102	172	394
Washington	19	144	184	86	433
<b>Total</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>3,127</b>	<b>4,334</b>	<b>3,115</b>	<b>11,105</b>

*Table CFT-14: Number of Firearm Traffickers by Background Characteristics, 2017 – 2021*

<b>Background Characteristic</b>	<b>Number of Traffickers</b>
No Known Criminal Activity	3,443
Convicted Felon	2,486
Drug User	1,810
Known Gang Member	1,605
Prior Arrest	1,512
Drug Trafficker	1,091
Drug Cartel	314
Transnational OC	226
Subject/Person in Another ATF Investigation	213
Under Supervision	189
Convicted MCDV	133
Unlawfully in U.S.	128
Juvenile	122
Previous Defendant	57
Foreign National or Country	28
Family Member/Spouse/Intimate Partner	20
Suspect in Prior Crime	18
Terrorist Group	16
Under Indictment	14
Adjudicated Mental Defective/Committed	9
Current or Former Military	7
Current or Former Law Enforcement	6
Non-prohibiting Mental Health Issue	5
Prior Arrest History with Possible Prohibiting Conditions	5
Under the Minimum Age to Acquire Firearm	4
Fugitive	3
Under Protective or Restraining Order	3
Dishonorable Discharge	2
Out of State Resident	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,471</b>

**Table CFT-15: Description of Firearm Trafficker Background Characteristics**

Term	Description
No Known Criminal Activity	Firearm trafficker has no known prior criminal history.
Convicted Felon	Firearm trafficker has a prior conviction for a crime where the sentence could have been 1 or more years in prison. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g.
Drug User	Firearm trafficker is an unlawful user of, or addicted to, drugs. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g.
Prior Arrest, No Prohibiting Convictions	Firearms trafficker has a known prior arrest record and criminal history. In survey appears as, "Prior arrest history, no prohibiting convictions".
Known Gang Member or Associate	Firearms trafficker is known to be a member of a gang.
Drug Trafficker	Firearm trafficker is known to also traffic in drugs.
Drug Cartel Associate	Firearm trafficker is known to be a member of a drug cartel.
Subject/Person in Previous ATF Investigation	Firearm trafficker is known to be a suspect or person in a separate ATF investigation.
Under Supervision	Firearm trafficker is known to be on Federal or State probation or parole and under supervision by that office. In survey appears as, "Under court supervision/parole/probation".
Transnational OC	Firearm trafficker is known to be a member of transnational organized crime. In survey appears as, "Member/Associate of a transnational organized crime".
Convicted MCDV	Firearm trafficker is known to have a prior misdemeanor crime of domestic violence conviction. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g. In survey appears as, "Convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence".
Unlawfully in U.S.	Firearm trafficker is known to be unlawfully in the US. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g.
Juvenile	Firearm trafficker age is known to be 17 or under. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Previous Defendant	Firearm trafficker is known to have been recommended for prosecution, indicted, or arrested in a prior ATF investigation.
Foreign National or Country	Firearm trafficker is known to be a foreign national from another country. This does not mean they are precluded from possessing firearms. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Family Member/Spouse/Intimate Partner	Firearm trafficker is known to be a family member, spouse, or intimate partner with other persons in the investigation. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Suspect in Prior Crime	Firearm trafficker is the suspect in prior criminal activity. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Under Indictment	Firearm trafficker is known to be under criminal indictment in Federal or state court. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922n. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Terrorist Group	Firearm trafficker is known to be a member of a terrorist group. In survey appears as, "Mmeber/Associate of a domestic or international group".
Adjudicated Mental Defective/Committed	Firearm trafficker is known to have been adjudicated mentally ill by a court or involuntarily committed to a mental institution. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Current or Former Military	Firearm trafficker is a current or former member of the U.S. Military. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Current or Former Law Enforcement	Firearm trafficker is a current or former member of the U.S. law enforcement agency or department. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Non-prohibiting Mental Health Issue	Firearm trafficker is known to have a history of mental health issues however they are not prohibiting for firearm possession. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Prior Arrest History with Possible Prohibiting Conditions	Firearm trafficker has a prior arrest record and criminal history that may prohibit them from possessing or acquiring firearms. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.



Under the Minimum Age to Acquire Firearm	Firearm trafficker is under the age of 21 and unable to acquire a handgun from an FFL or under the age of 18 and unable to acquire a long gun from an FFL. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Fugitive	Firearm trafficker is known to an outstanding warrant for their arrest. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Under Protective or Restraining Order	Firearm trafficker is known to have been placed under a domestic violence protection from abuse or restraining order issued by a court. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Dishonorable Discharge	Firearm trafficker is known to have been dishonorably discharged from the U.S. Military. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Out of State Resident	Firearm trafficker is known to reside in a state other than the one where their trafficking activity is taking place. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.

**Table CFT-17: Total Number and Percentage of Firearm Traffickers and Cases by Trafficker Role, 2017 – 2021**

Trafficker Role	Number of Cases	% Total Cases	Number of Traffickers	% Total Traffickers
Trafficker is the Straw Purchaser	3,629	56.0%	4,333	42.1%
Firearms Thief	1,316	20.3%	2,455	23.8%
Trafficker Utilized a Straw Purchaser	1,199	18.5%	1,588	15.4%
Middle Person	1,122	17.3%	1,555	15.1%
Acquired Stolen Firearms	631	9.7%	1,048	10.2%
Financier of Trafficking	356	5.5%	464	4.5%
Trafficker Acquired from Multiple Sources	245	3.8%	262	2.5%
PMF Maker	195	3.0%	227	2.2%
Trafficker is an Active FFL	135	2.1%	158	1.5%
PMF Trafficker	99	1.5%	133	1.3%
Other Trafficker	90	1.4%	97	0.9%
Trafficker is Former FFL	50	0.8%	53	0.5%
Trafficker is a Co-Conspirator	46	0.7%	55	0.5%
Trafficker is an End User	28	0.4%	32	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,480</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>10,304</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Table CFT-22: Total Number and Percentage of Firearm Traffickers and Cases by Trafficker to Straw Purchaser Relationship, 2017 – 2021**

Trafficker Relationship to Straw Purchaser	Number of Cases	% Total Cases	Number of Traffickers w/ Straw Relationship	% Traffickers w/ Straw Relationship
Friend or Associate of Friend	599	50.0%	785	59.2%
Intimate Partner/Spouse	288	24.0%	326	24.6%
Unknown	217	18.1%	261	19.7%
Other Criminal Associate	142	11.8%	183	13.8%
Relative	122	10.2%	148	11.2%
Financial	98	8.2%	130	9.8%
Drugs	89	7.4%	119	9.0%
Gang Member	70	5.8%	108	8.1%
Co-worker	29	2.4%	31	2.3%
Roommate	17	1.4%	20	1.5%
Threat of Violence	14	1.2%	16	1.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,127</b>	

**Table CFT-24: Total Number of End Users by End User Grouping and ATF Field Division, 2017 – 2021**

ATF Field Division	1 End User	2 End Users	3 End Users	4 End Users	5 End Users	6 - 10 End Users	10 or More End Users	Total
Atlanta	68	26	12	8	15	38	24	191
Baltimore	128	50	42	32	5	27	613	897
Boston	197	68	69	52	20	56	70	532
Charlotte	45	24	39	24	35	30	13	210
Chicago	280	118	60	60	40	119	203	880
Columbus	128	66	57	40	50	72	96	509
Dallas	152	48	27	12	30	47	114	430
Denver	48	28	27	4	0	33	0	140
Detroit	67	36	30	12	15	24	75	259
Houston	189	88	42	36	30	75	81	541
International Affairs Division	24	18	12	8	10	18	24	114
Kansas City	107	82	45	48	25	25	81	413
Los Angeles	68	38	21	16	15	23	91	272
Louisville	94	42	24	16	30	9	132	347
Miami	86	22	9	16	5	7	99	244
Nashville	137	40	45	36	25	33	72	388
National Investigative Division	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
New Orleans	53	34	45	28	10	38	13	221
New York	341	120	54	40	10	26	20	611
Newark	46	22	12	24	0	7	0	111
Philadelphia	167	88	36	16	10	31	0	348
Phoenix	203	100	60	44	5	56	241	709
San Francisco	77	28	12	8	5	12	105	247
Seattle	37	16	18	16	10	6	15	118
St. Paul	59	24	15	4	30	6	20	158
Tampa	101	38	30	24	5	21	130	349
Washington	118	70	42	16	20	48	23	337
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,022</b>	<b>1,334</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>2,355</b>	<b>9,578</b>

**Table CFT-25: Total Number and Percentage of Cases by End User Background Characteristics, 2017 – 2021**

<b>End User Characteristic</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>% Total Cases</b>
Convicted Felon	2,344	59.6%
Known Gang Member	1,147	29.1%
Drug User	873	22.2%
Drug Trafficker	869	22.1%
Prior Arrest History w/ No Prohibiting Convictions	457	11.6%
End User is Trafficker	438	11.1%
No Known Criminal Activity	411	10.4%
Drug Cartel	202	5.1%
Under Supervision	144	3.7%
Transnational OC	135	3.4%
Convicted MCDV	105	2.7%
Previous ATF Investigation	105	2.7%
Unlawfully in U.S.	73	1.9%
Previous Defendant	64	1.6%
Confidential Informant	39	1.0%
Foreign National or Country	35	0.9%
Juvenile	35	0.9%
Suspect in Prior Crime	18	0.5%
Undercover	16	0.4%
Terrorist Group	11	0.3%
Under Indictment	10	0.3%
FFL	9	0.2%
Under Protective or Restraining Order	7	0.2%
Under the Minimum Age to Acquire Firearm	6	0.2%
Adjudicated Mental Defective/Committed	5	0.1%
Non-prohibiting Mental Health Issue	4	0.1%
Not Applicable	3	0.1%
Out of State Resident	3	0.1%
Fugitive	2	0.1%
No End Users Identified	2	0.1%
Cooperating Defendant	1	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,936</b>	

*Table CFT-25c: Description of End User Background Characteristics, 2017 – 2021*

Term	Description
No Known Criminal Activity	Firearm end user has no known prior criminal history.
Convicted Felon	Firearm end user has a prior conviction for a crime where the sentence could have been 1 or more years in prison. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g.
End User was Trafficker	Firearm end user kept one or more the firearms they were trafficking. In the survey appears as, “End user was also a firearms trafficker”.
Drug User	Firearm end user is an unlawful user of, or addicted to, drugs. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g.
Prior Arrest, No Prohibiting Convictions	Firearms end user has a known prior arrest record and criminal history. In survey appears as, “Prior arrest history, no prohibiting convictions”.
Known Gang Member or Associate	Firearms end user is known to be a member of a gang.
Drug Trafficker	Firearm end user is known to also traffic in drugs.
Drug Cartel Associate	Firearm end user is known to be a member of a drug cartel.
Subject/Person in Previous ATF Investigation	Firearm end user is known to be a suspect or person in a separate ATF investigation.
Under Supervision	Firearm end user is known to be on Federal or State probation or parole and under supervision by that office. In survey appears as, “Under court supervision/parole/probation”.
Transnational OC	Firearm end user is known to be a member of transnational organized crime. In survey appears as, “Member/Associate of a transnational organized crime”.
Convicted MCDV	Firearm end user is known to have a prior misdemeanor crime of domestic violence conviction. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g. In survey appears as, “Convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence”.
Unlawfully in U.S.	Firearm end user is known to be unlawfully in the US. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g.
Juvenile	Firearm end user age is known to be 17 or under. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Previous Defendant	Firearm end user is known to have been recommended for prosecution, indicted, or arrested in a prior ATF investigation.
Foreign National or Country	Firearm end user is known to be a foreign national from another country. This does not mean they are precluded from possessing firearms. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Undercover	Firearm was transferred during an active investigation to an end user who was an undercover agent. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Suspect in Prior Crime	Firearm end user is the suspect in prior criminal activity. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Under Indictment	Firearm end user is known to be under criminal indictment in Federal or state court. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922n. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Terrorist Group	Firearm end user is known to be a member of a terrorist group. In survey appears as, “Mmeber/Associate of a domestic or international group”.
Adjudicated Mental Defective/Committed	Firearm end user is known to have been adjudicated mentally ill by a court or involuntarily committed to a mental institution. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
FFL	Firearm end user was an FFL or an employee of an FFL. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Cooperating Defendant	End user has charges pending against them and is cooperating with the government, in lieu of consideration in the outcome of their prosecution or sentencing. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.
Non-prohibiting Mental Health Issue	Firearm end user is known to have a history of mental health issues however they are not prohibiting for firearm possession. This category was derived from SA responses in the “other” category.

Not Applicable	SAs indicated that none of the descriptive categories applied to the end users in the case. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Under the Minimum Age to Acquire Firearm	Firearm end user is under the age of 21 and unable to acquire a handgun from an FFL or under the age of 18 and unable to acquire a long gun from an FFL. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Fugitive	Firearm user is known to an outstanding warrant for their arrest. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Under Protective or Restraining Order	Firearm user is known to have been placed under a domestic violence protection from abuse or restraining order issued by a court. This person would be prohibited from possessing firearms under Title 18 U.S.C. § 922g. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
No End User Characteristics Identified	SAs indicated that there were no known characteristics for the end users in the case. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.
Out of State Resident	Firearm trafficker is known to reside in a state other than the one where their trafficking activity is taking place. This category was derived from SA responses in the "other" category.

**Table CFT-29: Total Number of Cases and Defendants by ATF Field Division, 2017 - 2021**

<b>ATF Field Division</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>
Atlanta	95	174
Baltimore	134	235
Boston	207	454
Charlotte	77	161
Chicago	269	388
Columbus	82	127
Dallas	273	461
Denver	98	196
Detroit	100	176
Houston	313	553
Kansas City	156	242
Los Angeles	110	189
Louisville	110	194
Miami	94	133
Nashville	156	236
National Investigative Division	1	2
New Orleans	71	127
New York	189	294
Newark	34	49
Operational Intelligence Division	3	4
Philadelphia	154	232
Phoenix	216	316
San Francisco	100	174
Seattle	51	103
St. Paul	72	132
Tampa	116	194
Washington	141	280
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,422</b>	<b>5,826</b>

**Table CFT-34: Total Number of Cases and Defendants by Citizenship, 2017 – 2021**

<b>Country of Citizenship</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>Number of Defendants</b>
United States	3,357	5,658
Mexico	90	108
Unknown	20	21
El Salvador	6	6
Jamaica	3	3
Brazil	3	3
Honduras	3	3
Bahamas	2	2
Dominican Republic	2	3
China	2	2
Russia	1	1
Cuba	1	1
Trinidad and Tobago	1	2
Bolivia	1	1
Venezuela	1	1
Iraq	1	1
Suriname	1	1
Canada	1	1
Ukraine	1	1
Lebanon	1	1
France	1	2
Ecuador	1	2
Haiti	1	1
Micronesia	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,502</b>	<b>5,826</b>

# End Notes

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<sup>1</sup> Following the addition of non-binary as a gender option on Drivers Licenses by several states, ATF added non-binary as an option of the ATF Form 4473, Firearms Transaction Record as an option for self-identification by a firearms purchaser.

<sup>2</sup> The cases involving end users excludes the outlier case explained in Part V – Type and Volume of Firearms Trafficked.

<sup>3</sup>ATF’s legacy case management system, N-Force, designated individuals referred for prosecution as “defendants” for internal tracking. Consistent with the N-Force protocol, the analysis in this Part also categorizes both charged individuals and those referred by ATF for prosecution as “defendants.” Outside of the N-Force system, a person is generally not characterized to be a criminal “defendant” until a prosecuting office has filed a charging document, such as an indictment. In Part IX - Investigation Outcomes, the term “defendant” includes only those individuals whom a prosecuting office has charged. For purposes of Part IX, individuals whom ATF recommended for prosecution, but that were not charged by a prosecuting office, are designated to be “subjects referred for prosecution.” Parts X – National Illegal Firearm Recoveries and XI – Summary and Recommendations also use the designation “subjects referred for prosecution” when referencing the data presented in Part IX – Investigation Outcomes.

<sup>4</sup> Defendant race data was obtained from ATF’s case management system. This system includes the following options to select from: Black, White, Hispanic, American Indian, Asian, Middle Eastern, Other. Only one selection can be made per defendant. Based on this data it is not possible to analyze ethnicity relative to race.