

Case Statistics for Firearms-Related Offenses (Dispositions)

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Issue

This report provides statistics on the disposition of firearms-related offenses for fiscal years 2013 to 2017. This report has been updated by OLR Report [2020-R-0088](#).

Summary

Using information provided by the Judicial Branch, we (1) identified about 50 firearms-related offenses and (2) compiled statistics on the disposition of these offenses for fiscal years (FY) 2013 to 2017. We did not include hunting offenses.

The offenses range from permitting violations to committing manslaughter with a firearm. The total disposition of these firearms-related offenses ranges from a high of 4,232 in FY 13 to a low of 3,829 in FY 14, and has averaged approximately 4,000 per year since then.

For individual offenses, the number of dispositions varies greatly over this five year period. There are very few charges for some offenses, such as failing to surrender a revoked permit to carry a pistol or revolver (one charge in FY 13). For some offenses, such as carrying a pistol without a permit, there are a large number of charges disposed of in each year. This offense saw a high of 500 charges disposed of in FY 17.

Background — Understanding the Statistics

The data shown in this report is the disposition of individual charges by the courts each fiscal year, not individual cases. An individual may (1) be charged with multiple offenses in the same case and (2) have multiple charges and cases during a given year. The data shows initial charges for crimes and does not include any substitute charges that prosecutors might add later in a case. The data does not show the total arrests made in each year. For each year it shows the total outcomes for charges, including those related to arrests from previous years.

Offenses can be disposed of in a number of ways. In some cases, an initial charge may be dismissed when a substitute charge is added. In many cases, an individual is charged with multiple offenses in the same case and some charges will be dismissed or nolle (the prosecutor declines to prosecute the charge) as part of an agreement to plead guilty to other charges. This report does not include data on individual cases and the impact plea bargaining has on charges. In addition, some charges may be dismissed when an offender satisfactorily completes a diversionary program. For example, an offender who is allowed to participate in accelerated rehabilitation and successfully completes the program can have his or her charges dismissed ([CGS § 54-56e](#)).

In this data, “dismissed” includes discharged charges and “not guilty” includes not guilty by mental disease or defect.

Statistics on Firearm-Related Offenses

Table 1 provides the number of firearm-related offenses and their disposition in fiscal years 2013 to 2017, listed in order by statutory citation. For each statute, the table only includes those fiscal years in which a charge was disposed of. Statutes for which there were no dispositions are excluded (e.g., [CGS §§ 29-36k](#), [-37b](#), [-37j\(b\)](#) & [53-202j](#)).

Table 1: Firearms-Related Offenses - Dispositions from FY 13 to FY 17

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Guilty</i>	<i>Not Guilty</i>	<i>Nolle</i>	<i>Total</i>
VIOLATING PISTOL OR REVOLVER PERMIT REQUIREMENTS (CGS § 29-28)					
2013	1	0	0	3	4
2014	1	0	0	2	3
2015	0	2	0	2	4
2016	2	0	0	3	5
2017	0	0	0	10	10
FAILING TO SURRENDER REVOKED PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER (CGS § 29-32)					
2013	1	0	0	0	1
ILLEGALLY TRANSFERRING A PISTOL OR REVOLVER (CGS § 29-33)					
2013	6	25	0	55	86
2014	21	18	0	27	66
2015	11	49	0	39	99
2016	9	3	0	45	57
2017	5	16	0	44	65
MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS RELATED TO A PISTOL OR REVOLVER TRANSFER (CGS § 29-34(a))					
2015	1	0	0	0	1
2017	0	0	0	2	2
TRANSFERRING A PISTOL OR REVOLVER TO SOMEONE UNDER AGE 21 (CGS § 29-34(b))					
2014	0	0	0	1	1
2015	0	1	0	0	1
2016	0	1	0	1	2
CARRYING A PISTOL OR REVOLVER WITHOUT A PERMIT (CGS § 29-35(a))					
2013	31	208	1	236	476
2014	34	204	5	171	414
2015	45	182	3	227	*458
2016	36	166	5	226	433
2017	32	211	5	252	500
*Includes one conviction vacated in 2015					
FAILING TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER PERMIT (CGS § 29-35(b))					
2013	0	0	0	5	5
2014	1	1	0	4	6
2015	4	4	0	3	11
2016	3	0	0	4	7
2017	2	1	0	6	9
ALTERING FIREARM IDENTIFICATION MARK, NUMBER, OR NAME (CGS § 29-36)					
2013	1	7	1	55	64
2014	5	9	0	41	55
2015	8	8	0	58	74

Fiscal Year	Dismissed	Guilty	Not Guilty	Nolle	Total
2016	2	13	0	53	68
2017	6	15	0	66	87
FAILURE TO SURRENDER REVOKED GUN PERMIT (CGS § 29-36i)					
2015	0	1	0	0	1
ILLEGAL SALE, DELIVERY, OR TRANSFER OF LONG GUNS (CGS § 29-37a)					
2013	0	0	0	1	1
2015	0	5	0	0	5
2016	0	2	0	2	4
2017	3	2	0	13	18
MAKING A FALSE STATEMENT RELATED TO TRANSFERRING A FIREARM OTHER THAN A PISTOL OR REVOLVER (CGS § 29-37e)					
2013	0	4	0	4	8
2014	0	2	0	2	4
2015	0	3	0	1	4
2016	4	1	0	1	6
2017	0	2	0	2	4
VIOLATING LOADED FIREARM SAFE STORAGE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO MINORS (CGS § 29-37i)					
2013	0	0	0	9	9
2014	1	0	0	10	11
2015	2	1	0	7	10
2016	3	0	0	4	7
2017	0	2	0	11	13
PURCHASING A FIREARM FOR TRANSFER TO A PROHIBITED PERSON (CGS § 29-37j(a))					
2015	0	0	0	1	1
2016	4	0	0	0	4
ILLEGAL SALE OF AMMUNITION OR AMMUNITION MAGAZINE (CGS § 29-38m)					
2016	0	0	0	1	1
USING A MACHINE GUN IN A VIOLENT CRIME (CGS § 53-202(b))					
2014	0	0	0	1	1
2015	0	0	0	1	1
2016	1	0	0	0	1
2017	0	0	0	2	2
USING A MACHINE GUN FOR AN AGGRESSIVE PURPOSE OR GIVING ONE TO SOMEONE UNDER AGE 16 (CGS § 53-202(c))					
2013	0	1	0	0	1
2014	1	0	0	5	6
2015	1	0	0	8	9
2016	0	0	0	1	1
2017	0	0	0	2	2
MANUFACTURER-FAILING TO KEEP MACHINE GUN REGISTER (CGS § 53-202(f))					
2013	1	0	0	0	1

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Guilty</i>	<i>Not Guilty</i>	<i>Nolle</i>	<i>Total</i>
2015	0	0	0	1	1
FAILING TO REGISTER MACHINE GUN ADAPTED TO USE PROJECTILES OF ANY CALIBER (CGS § 53-202(g))					
2016	1	0	0	0	1
ILLEGALLY TRANSFERRING AN ASSAULT WEAPON (CGS § 53-202b(a)(1))					
2013	0	1	0	2	3
2014	0	2	0	0	2
2015	0	10	0	8	18
2016	4	5	0	7	16
2017	0	1	0	1	2
ILLEGALLY TRANSFERRING, SELLING, OR GIVING AN ASSAULT WEAPON TO SOMEONE UNDER AGE 18 (CGS § 53-202b(a)(2))					
2014	1	0	0	0	1
ILLEGALLY POSSESSING AN ASSAULT WEAPON—1ST TIME VIOLATOR WHOSE POSSESSION WAS PREVIOUSLY LEGAL (CGS § 53-202c)					
2013	10	3	0	7	20
2014	1	7	0	8	16
2015	6	5	0	15	26
2016	7	8	0	43	58
2017	4	7	0	18	29
ILLEGALLY POSSESSING AN ASSAULT WEAPON (CGS § 53-202c)					
2013	2	7	0	2	11
2014	3	4	0	3	10
2015	1	9	0	13	23
2016	3	5	0	6	14
2017	1	7	0	5	13
ILLEGALLY TRANSPORTING AN ASSAULT WEAPON (CGS § 53-202f)					
2013	0	1	0	0	1
2015	0	0	0	2	2
2016	1	0	0	2	3
2017	0	3	0	4	7
FAILING TO REPORT A LOST OR STOLEN ASSAULT WEAPON (CGS § 53-202g) **					
2013	0	0	0	4	4
2014	0	0	0	4	4
2015	0	1	0	1	2
2016	2	0	0	1	3
2017	1	1	0	1	3
**First unintentional violation of this statute is an infraction.					
USING A FIREARM TO COMMIT A CLASS A, B, OR C FELONY (CGS § 53-202k)					
2013	0	8	1	11	20
2014	0	2	0	2	4
2015	1	0	0	0	1

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Guilty</i>	<i>Not Guilty</i>	<i>Nolle</i>	<i>Total</i>
2016	0	0	0	2	2
2017	1	6	0	3	10
TRANSFERRING AMOR PIERCING OR INCENDIARY AMMUNITION (CGS § 53-202i)					
2014	0	0	0	1	1
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINE (CGS § 53-202w)**					
2014	0	1	0	1	2
2015	2	9	0	31	42
2016	6	8	0	97	111
2017	7	12	0	86	105
**Possession on or after January 1, 2014 of a large capacity magazine obtained prior to April 5, 2013 is an infraction.					
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A DECLARED LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINE (CGS § 53-202x)					
2014	0	0	0	1	1
2015	1	0	0	5	6
2016	2	2	0	4	8
2017	7	6	0	42	55
TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS (CGS § 53-202aa)					
2013	0	3	0	10	13
2014	0	2	0	3	5
2015	1	12	0	4	17
2016	0	0	0	16	16
2017	0	3	0	6	9
ILLEGALLY DISCHARGING A FIREARM (CGS § 53-203)					
2013	33	27	0	78	138
2014	44	33	0	99	176
2015	43	19	0	79	141
2016	38	25	0	63	126
2017	39	26	0	84	149
HUNTING OR DISCHARGING A FIREARM FROM A PUBLIC HIGHWAY (CGS § 53-204)					
2013	2	0	0	2	4
2014	2	0	0	16	18
2015	5	1	0	4	10
2017	1	0	0	1	2
CARRYING A LOADED SHOTGUN, RIFLE, OR MUZZLELOADER IN A VEHICLE OR SNOWMOBILE (CGS § 53-205)					
2013	7	0	0	7	14
2014	1	1	0	5	7
2015	5	1	0	2	8
2016	1	1	0	3	5
2017	3	0	0	0	3
ILLEGAL TRAINING OF WEAPONS USE (CGS § 53-206b)					

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Guilty</i>	<i>Not Guilty</i>	<i>Nolle</i>	<i>Total</i>
2014	0	0	0	1	1
SELLING, CARRYING, BRANDISHING A FACSIMILE FIREARM (CGS § 53-206c)					
2013	9	17	0	48	74
2014	12	14	0	42	68
2015	13	14	0	35	62
2016	10	17	0	46	73
2017	13	17	0	32	62
CARRYING A LOADED FIREARM UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL (CGS § 53-206d(a))					
2013	38	6	0	45	89
2014	26	8	0	39	73
2015	38	9	0	41	88
2016	28	15	0	34	77
2017	34	14	0	39	87
1ST DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER WITH A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-55a)					
2013	1	10	0	2	13
2014	0	11	1	1	*14
2015	1	16	1	0	18
2016	0	14	6	2	22
2017	1	7	1	2	11
*Includes one conviction vacated in 2014					
2ND DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER WITH A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-56a)					
2013	1	1	0	0	2
2014	0	1	0	0	1
2017	0	1	0	0	1
1ST DEGREE ASSAULT - DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM (53a-59(a)(5))					
2013	0	37	6	26	69
2014	0	53	3	14	70
2015	8	37	4	23	72
2016	1	41	3	31	76
2017	0	46	8	27	*82
*Includes one conviction vacated in 2017					
2ND DEGREE ASSAULT – SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY WITH WEAPON (53a-60(a)(3))					
2013	1	9	0	2	12
2014	1	10	1	3	15
2015	3	8	0	5	16
2016	2	7	0	3	*15
2017	2	16	1	6	25
*Includes three convictions vacated in 2016					
2ND DEGREE ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-60a)					
2013	3	4	0	6	13
2014	0	2	0	3	5

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Guilty</i>	<i>Not Guilty</i>	<i>Nolle</i>	<i>Total</i>
2015	2	2	0	7	11
2016	2	4	0	5	11
2017	2	3	0	8	13
2ND DEGREE ASSAULT OF AN ELDERLY, BLIND, DISABLED, PREGNANT, OR INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED PERSON WITH A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-60c)					
2013	0	1	0	1	2
2017	0	0	0	1	1
3RD DEGREE ASSAULT – NEGLIGENCE/INJURY WITH A WEAPON (53a-61(a)(3))					
2013	0	4	0	4	8
2014	1	6	0	2	9
2015	1	3	0	3	7
2016	1	1	0	5	7
2017	1	5	0	2	8
3RD DEGREE SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-72b)					
2013	0	1	0	0	1
2017	0	2	0	0	2
1ST DEGREE KIDNAPPING WITH A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-92a)					
2013	0	6	4	14	24
2014	0	0	0	2	2
2015	0	1	0	7	8
2016	0	1	0	12	13
2017	1	0	3	0	4
2ND DEGREE KIDNAPPING WITH A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-94a)					
2014	2	3	0	1	6
2015	0	0	0	1	1
2016	0	1	0	0	1
2017	1	2	0	2	5
1ST DEGREE BURGLARY WITH A DEADLY WEAPON (53a-101(a)(1))					
2013	0	17	2	11	30
2014	1	10	0	5	*17
2015	4	12	3	5	24
2016	0	17	1	7	25
2017	0	15	0	8	23
*Includes one conviction vacated in 2014					
2ND DEGREE BURGLARY WITH A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-102a)					
2013	0	2	0	0	2
2014	0	4	0	1	5
2015	0	1	0	0	1
2016	0	2	0	0	2
2017	0	1	0	0	1
1ST DEGREE ROBBERY - DEADLY WEAPON (53a-134(a)(2))					

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Guilty</i>	<i>Not Guilty</i>	<i>Nolle</i>	<i>Total</i>
2013	2	53	5	56	116
2014	7	43	8	49	107
2015	10	50	5	33	*99
2016	1	49	1	37	88
2017	1	21	4	41	*69
*Includes vacated convictions: one in 2015 and two in 2017					
1ST DEGREE ROBBERY - FIREARM THREAT (53a-134(a)(4))					
2013	8	248	12	133	401
2014	3	173	7	88	271
2015	11	130	0	74	215
2016	1	164	4	66	235
2017	5	139	1	44	189
2ND DEGREE ROBBERY - DEADLY WEAPON OR DANGEROUS INSTRUMENT (53a-135(a)(1)(B))					
2013	0	7	0	0	7
2014	0	16	0	1	17
2015	0	32	0	2	34
2016	0	28	0	0	28
2017	0	46	0	0	46
POSSESSION OF WEAPON IN A CORRECTIONS INSTITUTION (53a-174a)					
2013	3	17	0	7	27
2014	6	31	0	9	46
2015	0	25	0	8	33
2016	1	24	0	16	41
2017	1	23	0	7	31
3RD DEGREE BURGLARY WITH A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-103a)					
2013	0	0	0	1	1
2014	0	0	0	4	4
2017	1	0	0	0	1
POSSESSING A SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN OR SILENCER (CGS § 53a-211)					
2013	9	10	1	17	37
2014	2	21	0	17	40
2015	6	6	0	12	24
2016	3	8	0	8	19
2017	2	8	0	12	22
STEALING A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-212)					
2013	7	65	0	187	259
2014	12	56	0	132	200
2015	37	83	1	231	352
2016	11	56	1	192	260
2017	14	52	0	169	235
CRIMINAL USE OF A FIREARM OR ELECTRONIC DEFENSE WEAPON (CGS § 53a-216)					

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Guilty</i>	<i>Not Guilty</i>	<i>Nolle</i>	<i>Total</i>
2013	1	0	0	30	31
2014	4	0	1	25	30
2015	4	0	0	23	27
2016	0	2	0	27	29
2017	3	0	0	20	23
CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM OR ELECTRONIC DEFENSE WEAPON (CGS § 53a-217)					
2013	45	198	5	182	430
2014	21	271	3	175	470
2015	13	207	0	238	458
2016	21	181	2	265	469
2017	14	210	3	258	485
CRIMINALLY NEGLIGENT STORAGE OF A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-217a)					
2013	0	0	0	14	14
2014	3	0	0	12	15
2015	2	1	0	1	4
2016	6	0	0	4	10
2017	2	1	0	1	4
CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A PISTOL OR REVOLVER (CGS § 53a-217c)					
2013	13	107	0	113	233
2014	4	117	0	96	217
2015	7	95	2	127	231
2016	9	108	1	114	232
2017	2	103	2	117	224
FAILURE TO REGISTER WHEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME WITH A DEADLY WEAPON (CGS § 54-280a)					
2015	1	4	0	2	7
2016	0	11	0	17	28
2017	1	14	0	14	29

Other statutes punish possessing or carrying a variety of weapons including metal knuckles, certain knives, and firearms. We include these offenses separately, in Table 2, because it is likely that some of these charges involve firearms but it is unclear how many.

**Table 2: Weapons-Related Offenses that May Include Firearms
Dispositions from FY 13 to FY 17**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Guilty</i>	<i>Not Guilty</i>	<i>Nolle</i>	<i>Total</i>
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF WEAPON IN A VEHICLE (CGS § 29-38)					
2013	152	141	1	437	731
2014	140	143	0	427	710
2015	165	132	4	414	715
2016	148	143	2	421	714
2017	147	156	1	487	791
CARRYING A DANGEROUS WEAPON (CGS § 53-206)					
2013	128	151	2	419	700
2014	125	113	0	357	595
2015	177	132	2	364	675
2016	114	145	2	325	586
2017	89	121	0	282	492
POSSESSING A FIREARM OR DEADLY WEAPON ON SCHOOL GROUNDS (CGS § 53a-217b)					
2013	10	1	0	11	22
2014	4	0	0	3	7
2015	3	2	0	6	11
2016	7	2	0	8	17
2017	5	1	0	7	13

MK:cmg/tjo