

Statistics on Firearms-Related Arrests

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September 7, 2018 | 2018-R-0222

Issue

This report provides statistics on firearms-related arrests for fiscal years 2013 to 2017.

Summary

Using information provided by the judicial branch, we identified about 50 firearms-related offenses and compiled statistics on the number of arrests made in relation to these offenses in FYs 2013 to 2017. We excluded hunting-related offenses.

The offenses range from permit-related violations to manslaughter with a firearm. There were 24,527 arrests for these offenses during this five-year period, ranging from a low of 4,387 in FY 15 to a high of 5,308 in FY 17.

For individual offenses, the number of arrests varies greatly over this time period. There were no arrests for some offenses in certain years (e.g., illegal distribution of armor piercing ammunition had no arrests in FY 17). For others there were very few arrests, such as failing to surrender a revoked permit to carry a pistol or revolver which had 7 arrests in FY 16. For some offenses, such as the illegal possession of a weapon in a motor vehicle, there were a significant number of arrests in each year. There were 1,051 arrests for this offense in FY 17 alone.

Background — Understanding the Statistics

The data analyzed in this report are the number of arrests for each fiscal year, not individual cases. An individual may (1) be charged with multiple offenses in the same case and (2) have multiple arrests, charges, and cases during a given year. The data shows initial charges for crimes and does not include any subsequent charges that prosecutors might add later in a case.

Statistics on Firearm-Related Arrests

Tables 1 and 2 provide the number of arrests for firearm-related offenses in FYs 2013 to 2017, listed in order by statutory citation. Table 1 shows the offenses with the top 10 total arrests for the five-year period. Statutes for which there were no arrests are not included (e.g., [CGS § 29-37b](#) – failure to equip pistols and revolvers with gun locking device and provide written warning at time of sale).

Table 1: Top 10 Total Arrests for Firearm-Related Offenses in Fiscal Years 2013 to 2017

Charge	Statute CGS §	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	Total
ILLEGAL TRANSFER/PURCHASE OF PISTOL/REVOLVER	29-33	77	98	84	114	128	501
CARRYING PISTOL WITHOUT A PERMIT	29-35(a)	590	558	508	553	682	2891
ILLEGAL ALTERATION OF FIREARM IDENTIFICATIONS	29-36	108	87	89	106	106	496
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF WEAPON IN MOTOR VEHICLE	29-38	945	822	791	987	1051	4596
ILLEGAL DISCHARGE OF FIREARM	53-203	288	247	213	234	284	1266
CARRYING A DANGEROUS WEAPON	53-206	824	719	668	618	643	3472
ILLEGAL CARRY OF FIREARM WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL	53-206d(a)	97	94	94	107	113	505
STEALING A FIREARM	53a-212	430	427	271	330	297	1755
CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM OR ELECTRONIC DEFENSE WEAPON	53a-217	722	518	562	564	652	3018
CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A PISTOL OR REVOLVER	53a-217c	347	331	293	333	369	1673

Table 2: Arrests for Other Firearm-Related Offenses in Fiscal Years 2013 to 2017

Charge	Statute CGS §	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	Total
VIOLATING PISTOL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS	29-28	3	3	4	11	19	40
VIOLATING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS - UNAUTHORIZED PREMISES	29-28(e)	0	1	0	0	0	1
FAILURE TO DISPLAY GUN SALES PERMIT	29-31	0	0	0	1	1	2
ILLEGAL TRANSFER OF STOLEN PISTOL/REVOLVER	29-33	3	5	0	4	2	14
FALSE STATEMENT OR INFORMATION WITH TRANSFER OF PISTOL OR REVOLVER	29-34(a)	1	1	0	2	1	5
ILLEGAL TRANSFER OF PISTOL TO PERSON UNDER 21	29-34(b)	3	4	1	0	1	9
FAILURE TO CARRY PISTOL PERMIT	29-35(b)	17	14	18	7	11	67
FAILURE TO TRANSFER OR SURRENDER FIREARM	29-36k	1	1	0	5	0	7
ILLEGAL SALE, DELIVERY, OR TRANSFER OF PROHIBITED FIREARM	29-37a	1	0	0	0	0	1
ILLEGAL SALE, DELIVERY, OR TRANSFER OF LONG GUN	29-37a(e)	0	0	4	8	20	32
ILLEGAL SALE, DELIVERY, OR TRANSFER OF PROHIBITED FIREARM (D FELONY)	29-37a(j)	0	50	3	4	3	60

Table 2 (continued)

Charge	Statute CGS §	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	Total
ILLEGAL SALE, DELIVERY, OR TRANSFER OF A STOLEN LONG GUN (B FELONY)	29-37a(j)	0	0	0	0	1	1
FALSE STATEMENT WITH TRANSFER OF FIREARM	29-37e	9	2	14	1	1	27
VIOLATING LOADED FIREARM SAFE STORAGE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO MINORS	29-37i	9	24	9	22	21	85
PURCHASE FIREARM FOR ILLEGAL TRANSFER	29-37(j)(a)	0	1	4	0	1	6
ILLEGAL SALE OF AMMUNITION OR AMMUNITION MAGAZINE	29-38m	0	0	1	1	0	2
USING A MACHINE GUN IN A VIOLENT CRIME	53-202(b)	1	4	5	2	1	13
USING A MACHINE GUN FOR AN AGGRESSIVE PURPOSE OR GIVING ONE TO SOMEONE UNDER AGE 16	53-202(c)	3	9	3	8	3	26
FAILURE TO KEEP MACHINE GUN REGISTERED	53-202(f)	0	1	0	0	0	1
FAILURE TO REGISTER MACHINE GUN	53-202(g)	0	1	0	0	0	1
TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS	53-202aa	18	24	15	4	15	76
TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS (>5 FIREARMS)	53-202aa	0	0	1	0	1	2
ILLEGAL SALE OF ASSAULT WEAPON	53-202b(a)(1)	9	32	18	4	1	64
ILLEGAL SALE OF ASSAULT WEAPON TO MINOR	53-202b(a)(2)	1	0	0	0	0	1
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF ASSAULT WEAPON (EXCEPTION)	53-202c	51	37	42	30	43	203
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF ASSAULT WEAPON	53-202c	17	21	11	18	13	80
ILLEGAL TRANSPORT OF ASSAULT WEAPON	53-202f	0	3	5	1	6	15
FAILURE TO REPORT LOST ASSAULT WEAPON OR FIREARM	53-202g	7	3	1	1	3	15
FAILURE TO REPORT LOST FIREARM (INTENTIONAL)	53-202g	0	2	0	2	0	4
USE OF AN ASSAULT WEAPON TO COMMIT CLASS A, B, C FELONY	53-202j	0	2	0	0	0	2
USE OF FIREARM FOR A,B,C FELONY	53-202k	6	6	6	4	9	31
ILLEGAL DISTRIBUTION OF ARMOR PIERCING AMMUNITION	53-202l	0	1	0	0	0	1
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF LARGE MAGAZINE OBTAINED BEFORE 4/5/2013	53-202w(c)	0	32	89	99	83	303
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINE OBTAINED ON OR AFTER 4/5/2013	53-202w(c)	0	0	56	138	149	343
VIOLATION OF LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINE REQUIREMENT	53-202x	0	18	19	12	31	80
DISCHARGE OF FIREARM ON PUBLIC HIGHWAY	53-204	42	3	3	0	3	51
LOADED GUN IN MOTOR VEHICLE/SNOWMOBILE	53-205	10	11	6	4	12	43
ILLEGAL TRAINING OF WEAPONS USE	53-206b	2	0	1	0	0	3
SALE OF FACSIMILE FIREARM	53-206c(b)	7	0	3	0	0	10
ILLEGAL USE OF FACSIMILE FIREARM	53-206c(c)	77	73	102	87	56	395
USE OF FACSIMILE FIREARM NEAR EMERGENCY PERSONNEL	53-206c(d)	2	3	4	0	2	11
1ST DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER WITH A FIREARM	53a-55a	4	6	4	2	2	18
2ND DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER WITH A FIREARM	53a-56a	0	0	1	0	0	1
1ST DEGREE ASSAULT - DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM	53a-59(a)(5)	34	41	18	21	35	149

Table 2 (continued)

Charge	Statute CGS §	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	Total
1ST DEGREE ASSAULT - DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM – VICTIM UNDER AGE 10	53a-59(a)(5)	0	0	1	0	0	1
2ND DEGREE ASSAULT - SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY WITH WEAPON	53a-60(a)(3)	8	10	6	12	20	56
2ND DEGREE ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM	53a-60a	15	23	19	34	33	124
2ND DEGREE ASSAULT OF AN ELDERLY, BLIND, DISABLED, PREGNANT, OR INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED PERSON WITH A FIREARM	53a-60c	3	3	1	2	3	12
3RD DEGREE ASSAULT - NEGLIGENCE/INJURY WITH A WEAPON	53a-61(a)(3)	13	3	6	8	10	40
3RD DEGREE SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM	53a-72b	0	2	0	2	1	5
3RD DEGREE SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM - VICTIM UNDER AGE 16	53a-72b	1	0	0	0	0	1
1ST DEGREE KIDNAPPING WITH A FIREARM	53a-92a	33	42	20	16	31	142
2ND DEGREE KIDNAPPING WITH A FIREARM	53a-94a	7	3	1	4	1	16
1ST DEGREE BURGLARY WITH A DEADLY WEAPON	53a-101(a)(1)	6	6	16	20	7	55
2ND DEGREE BURGLARY WITH A FIREARM	53a-102a	3	4	4	2	1	14
3RD DEGREE BURGLARY WITH A FIREARM	53a-103a	3	2	0	2	8	15
1ST DEGREE ROBBERY - DEADLY WEAPON	53a-134(a)(2)	45	37	36	59	38	215
1ST DEGREE ROBBERY - FIREARM THREAT	53a-134(a)(4)	107	39	71	59	48	324
2ND DEGREE ROBBERY - DEADLY WEAPON OR DANGEROUS INSTRUMENT	53a-135(a)(1)(B)	1	3	1	2	4	11
POSSESSION OF WEAPON IN A CORRECTIONS INSTITUTION	53a-174a	30	52	34	38	39	193
POSSESSING A SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN OR SILENCER	53a-211	53	25	23	27	44	172
CRIMINAL USE OF A FIREARM OR ELECTRONIC DEFENSE WEAPON	53a-216	97	82	72	83	89	423
NEGLIGENT STORAGE OF A FIREARM	53a-217a	23	11	3	21	12	70
POSSESSION OF WEAPON ON SCHOOL GROUNDS	53a-217b	16	18	17	22	13	86
FAILURE TO REGISTER WHEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME WITH A DEADLY WEAPON	54-280a	0	1	12	34	31	78

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