



Fact Sheet - Facts and Figures for Fiscal Year 2021

August, 2022

Personnel

Special Agents	2,631
Industry Operations Investigators	790
Administrative/professional/technical	1,672
Total full-time employees	5,093

Cases and Defendants

Case and defendant data presents a snapshot in time of matters proceeding through the various phases of the judicial process. The typical ATF case recommended for prosecution remains open over a period of approximately 4 years.

Cases and defendants indicted, convicted, and sentenced are not subsets of cases and defendants recommended for prosecution in FY 2021. The snapshot presents actual judicial activity in the fiscal year regardless of the year the matter was recommended for prosecution. For example, "percentage indicted" should not be calculated based upon the presented data, as the case indicted may have been presented in a previous fiscal year.

Cases

Firearms cases initiated	37,003
Arson cases initiated	2,075
Explosives cases initiated	984
Cases recommended for prosecution	11,224
Indicted cases	7,532
Convicted cases	5,967

Defendants

Recommended for prosecution	16,497
Defendants indicted	11,083
Defendants convicted	7,901

The data show an average of **8.22 prior arrests** and **2.27 prior convictions per defendant recommended for prosecution**.

Firearms Licensees

As of FY21, there were **136,846 active federal firearms licensees (FFLs)**.

Type 01: Dealer	53,893
Type 02: Pawnbroker	6,986
Type 03: Collector	53,379
Type 06: Manufacturer of Ammunition	2,252
Type 07: Manufacturer of Firearms	17,599
Type 08: Importer	1,804
Type 09: Dealer of Destructive Devices	151
Type 10: Manufacturer of Destructive Devices	489
Type 11: Importer of Destructive Devices	293

Inspections

ATF conducted **6,639 firearm compliance inspections** in FY 2021.

Firearms compliance inspections resulted in the following recommendations:

No violations	4,232
Report of violations	985
Discontinued	789
Warning letter	454
Warning conference	149
Revocations/Denials	27
Other dispositions	3

Most Frequently Cited Violations

<u>27 CFR 478.21(a)</u>	Failure to complete forms as prescribed
<u>27 CFR 478.125(e)</u>	Failure to maintain an accurate/complete/timely acquisition and disposition (A&D) record of firearms
<u>27 CFR 478.123(a)</u>	Failure to maintain an accurate/complete/timely manufacture or acquisition record
<u>27 CFR 478.124(c)</u> (1)	Failure to obtain a completed ATF F 4473
<u>27 CFR 478.124(c)</u> (3)(iv)	Failure to record NICS contact information on an ATF F 4473
<u>27 CFR 478.123(b)</u>	Failure to maintain an accurate/complete/timely licensee disposition record
<u>27 CFR 478.124(c)</u> (5)	Failure by transferor to sign and/or date an ATF F 4473
<u>27 CFR 478.124(c)</u> (3)(i)	Failure to verify or record identification document on ATF F 4473
<u>27 CFR 478.126a</u>	Failure to report multiple sales or other dispositions of pistols and revolvers
<u>27 CFR 478.124(c)</u> (4)	Failure to record firearm information on an ATF F 4473

Firearms Application Inspections

ATF conducted **15,181 firearms application inspections**. Of those inspections, **10,545 were approved and 20 were denied**. The remaining **4,616 applications were abandoned or withdrawn**.

Explosives Licensees

As of FY21, there were **9,054 active federal explosives licenses and permits (FEL/FEPs)**.

Manufacturers	1,989
Importers	429
Dealers	804
Limited permits	55

Explosives Application Inspections

ATF conducted **923 explosives application inspections**. Of those inspections, **744 were approved and 2 were denied**. The remaining **177 applications were abandoned or withdrawn**.

ATF conducted **3,847 explosive compliance inspections** resulting in the following recommendations:

No Violations	2,973
ROV Only	126
Discontinued	455
Warning Letter	125
Warning Conference	32
Contemplated Revocation Notice Sent	3
Revocation	1

Top 10 Violations

<u>27 CFR 555.127</u>	Failure to timely/accurately enter all required explosive inventory identification and quantity information in a daily summary of magazine transaction (per magazine)	955
<u>27 CFR 555.122(b)</u>	Failure to timely record the acquisition/importation of explosive material(s) in a permanent record (Importer)	106
<u>27 CFR 555.121(a)(2)</u>	Failure to keep permanent records at business premises for five years	69
<u>27 CFR 555.106(a)</u>	Unlawful distribution of explosive materials to a nonlicensee/nonpermittee	36
<u>27 CFR 555.57(b)</u>	Failure to timely report change of responsible person/employee possessor (within 30 days of change)	32
<u>27 CFR 555.29</u>	Unlawful storage of explosive materials	31
<u>27 CFR 555.215</u>	Failure to keep explosive storage magazines clean, dry and free of grit, paper, empty packages/containers and rubbish	28
<u>27 CFR 555.123(b)(1)</u>	Failure to record the date of acquisition/manufacture of explosive material(s) in the permanent record (Manufacturer)	27
<u>27 CFR 555.210(a)(2)</u>	Failure to meet minimum construction requirements of an outdoor type IV magazine	27
<u>27 CFR 555.125(b)(4)</u>	Failure to timely create a separate record of information for distribution of surplus stocks of explosive material(s) to another licensee/permittee (User)	24

Imports and National Firearms Act (NFA)

NFA registration applications (and transfer applications)	689,822
NFA registrations processed (total weapons)	546,224 forms 2,731,716 weapons
NFA making and transfer tax collected	\$78,564,959.72
NFA special occupation tax collected	\$9,165,887.65
Permanent Import Form 6 permit applications (firearms, ammunition and defense articles)	12,290
Temporary Import Form 6 permit applications for non-immigrant aliens	2,801
Total import permit applications	14,334

Note: All taxes collected for NFA go to the general fund of the U.S. Treasury Department.

Tracing

ATF's National Tracing Center (NTC) is the only organization authorized to trace U.S. and foreign manufactured firearms for local, state, federal and international law enforcement agencies. NTC provides critical information that helps domestic and international law enforcement agencies solve firearms crimes, detect firearms trafficking, and track the intrastate, interstate, and international movement of crime guns.

NTC processed more than **548,186 trace requests** in FY 2021.

Certified Fire Investigators

ATF's Certified Fire Investigators (CFIs) provide support for fire and arson investigations throughout the entire United States, its territories and other countries.

National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)

NIBIN provides local, state and federal law enforcement, forensic science, and prosecutors with an automated ballistic imaging system that will aid their investigations by using digital images of shell casings to link violent crimes involving firearms and subsequently identify firearm users in violent crimes.

NIBIN evidence acquisitions	575,727
NIBIN leads & hits	153,711
NIBIN locations	266

Laboratories

In FY 2021, ATF's laboratories accomplished the following:

- Analyzed **1,241 forensic cases**
- Completed **1,400+ fire research activities**
- Performed **633 laboratory research and testing experiments**
- Performed **117 electro-mechanical evidence examinations**

Budget

The agency's FY 2021 enacted budget was approximately **\$1.4 billion**.



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