

2017

Firearms

Used in the Commission of Crimes

This report is available online at
<http://oag.ca.gov/publications#crime>

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Homicides (Figure 4)

The 35 firearms that were submitted to DOJ laboratories in homicide cases included 29 handguns (82.9 percent), four rifles (11.4 percent) and two shotguns (5.7 percent). There were no fully automatic firearms linked to homicides.

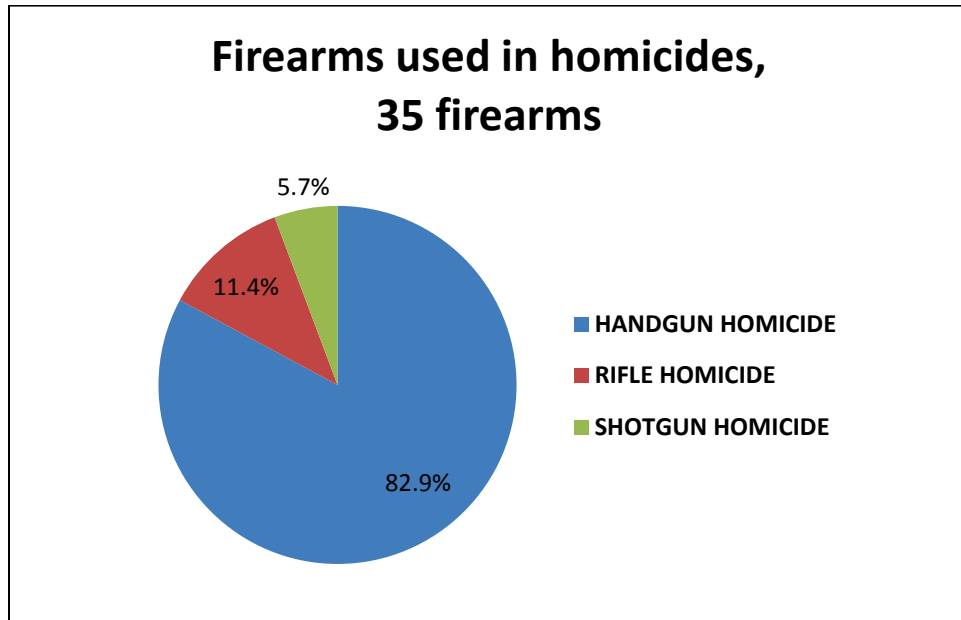


Figure 4

Street Gang Crimes

No submitted firearms were identified as being related to street gang crimes.

Drug Trafficking Crimes

One handgun and one shotgun (approximately 1.9 percent of the total) were identified as being used in drug trafficking crimes.

Trends and Special Cases

California Assault Weapons

None of the firearms examined in 2017 were identified as California Assault Weapons (as defined in Pen. Code §§ 30510 and 30515) (see Figure 5).

Stolen Firearms

One of the firearms examined was confirmed to have been reported stolen. Ownership status was not determined for many of the firearms examined.

Serial Numbers Removed

One firearm was submitted with the serial number removed.

Fully Automatic Firearms (Machine Guns, Submachine Guns or Fully Automatic Conversions)

No qualifying firearms exhibiting fully automatic fire were examined this year.

Short Barreled Shotguns or Rifles

One of the examined firearms was classified as a short-barreled or short overall-length shotgun or rifle.

Officer-Involved Shooting Incidents

The six firearms identified as being related to officer-involved shooting incidents were five handguns and one rifle.

Suppressors

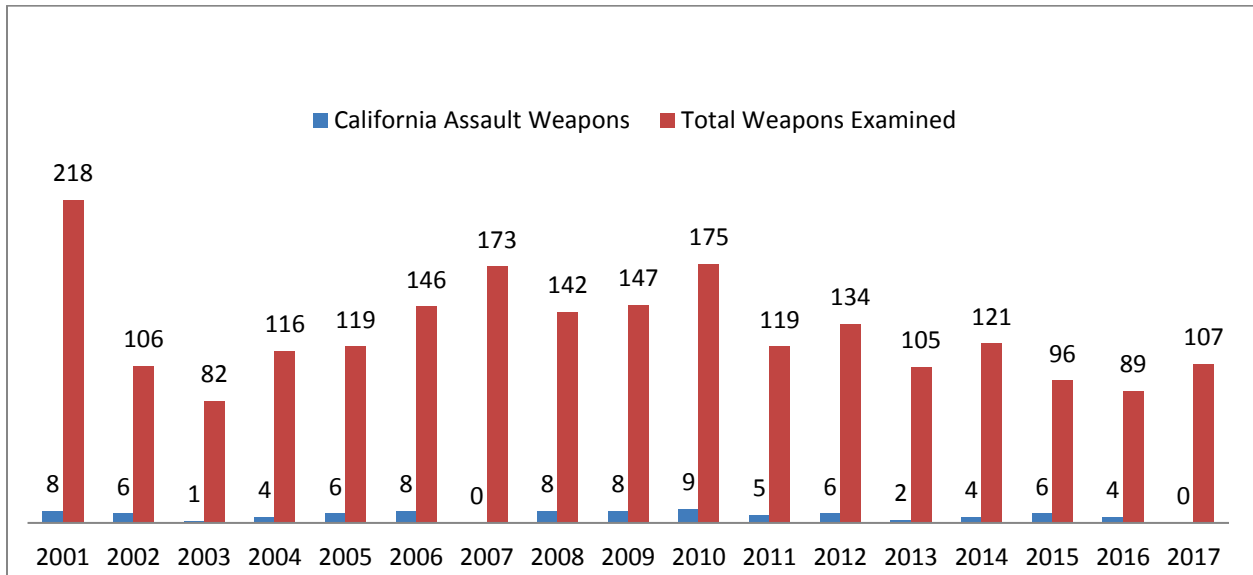
No firearms equipped with suppressors (silencers) were examined this year.

Unusual ammunition

There were no reported examinations of armor piercing, exploding, frangible, Glazer-type, incendiary or tracer ammunition.

California Assault Weapons by Year (Figure 5)

California assault weapon use has remained at a relatively low proportion of total firearm use since this annual report commenced in 1998. In 2017, for the first time since 2007, none of the firearms that qualified for inclusion in this report were California assault weapons.



Note: The reported number of California Assault Weapons is based on a defined list for each year. That list has been expanded a number of times since 1998; therefore, subsequent years may include firearms that were not counted previously.

Figure 5