

Table 3.177

## Results of airline passenger screening

United States, 1977-2000

	Persons screened (in millions)	Weapons detected				Other dangerous articles <sup>a</sup>	Explosive/incendiary devices <sup>b</sup>	Persons arrested	
		Total	Handguns	Long guns	Other <sup>a</sup>			For carrying	For giving
								firearms/explosives	false information
1977	508.8	2,034	1,730	64	240	NA	5	810	44
1978	579.7	2,058	1,827	67	164	NA	3	896	64
1979	592.5	2,161	1,962	55	144	NA	3	1,060	47
1980	585.0	2,022	1,878	36	108	NA	8	1,031	32
1981	598.5	2,255	2,124	44	87	NA	11	1,187	49
1982	630.2	2,676	2,559	57	60	NA	1	1,314	27
1983	709.1	2,784	2,634	67	83	NA	4	1,282	34
1984	775.6	2,957	2,766	100	91	NA	6	1,285	27
1985	992.9	2,987	2,823	90	74	NA	12	1,310	42
1986	1,055.3	3,241	2,981	146	114	NA	11	1,415	89
1987	1,095.6	3,252	3,012	99	141	NA	14	1,581	81
1988	1,054.9	2,773	2,591	74	108	NA	11	1,493	222
1989	1,113.3	2,879	2,397	92	390	NA	26	1,436	83
1990	1,145.1	2,853	2,490	59	304	NA	15	1,336	18
1991	1,015.1	1,919	1,597	47	275	NA	94	893	28
1992	1,110.8	2,608	2,503	105	NA	2,341	167	1,282	13
1993	1,150.0	2,798	2,707	91	NA	3,867	251	1,354	31
1994	1,261.3	2,994	2,860	134	NA	6,051	505	1,433	35
1995	1,263.0	2,390	2,230	160	NA	4,414	631	1,194	68
1996	1,496.9	2,155	1,999	156	NA	NA	NA	999	131
1997	1,659.7	2,067	1,905	162	NA	NA	NA	924	72
1998	1,666.5	1,515	1,401	114	NA	NA	NA	660	86
1999	1,767.0	1,552	1,421	131	NA	NA	NA	633	58
2000	1,812.0	1,937	1,643	294	NA	NA	NA	600	61

Note: Screening consists of "the systematic examination of persons and property using weapons-detecting procedures or facilities (electronic or physical search) for the purpose of detecting weapons and dangerous articles and to prevent their unauthorized introduction into sterile areas or aboard aircraft." (Source, 1993, p. 42.) Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK.

<sup>a</sup>Prior to 1992, the weapons category "other" included items such as starter pistols, flare pistols, and BB guns. Beginning in 1992, this category was expanded to include stunning devices, chemical agents, martial arts equipment, knives, bludgeons, and certain other designated items, and renamed "other dangerous articles." Reporting of this category was discontinued by the Source in 1996 due to inconsistent reporting.

<sup>b</sup>From 1992 to 1994, the method of counting "explosive/incendiary devices" was revised. Individual items were counted rather than packages (i.e., one box of firecrackers counted as 20 firecrackers; one box of ammunition counted as 50 cartridges). Reporting of this category was discontinued by the Source in 1996 due to inconsistent reporting.

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, *Semiannual Report to Congress on the Effectiveness of the Civil Aviation Security Program, July 1 to December 31, 1978*, Exhibit 10; *July 1 to December 31, 1982*, Exhibit 10; *July 1 to December 31, 1984*, Exhibit 7; *July 1 to December 31, 1989*, p. 11 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Transportation); U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, *Annual Report to Congress on Civil Aviation Security, January 1, 1993-December 31, 1993*, p. 9; *January 1, 1995-December 31, 1995*, p. 11 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Transportation); and data provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration and Bureau of Transportation Statistics [Online]. Available: [http://www.bts.gov/publications/national\\_transportation\\_statistics/2003/html/table\\_02\\_16.html](http://www.bts.gov/publications/national_transportation_statistics/2003/html/table_02_16.html) [May 24, 2004]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.