



Note to Editors: *Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting's Chief Economist Jurgen Brauer is available for phone interviews. Contact: Phone +1-706-267-6072 or direct email to jbrauer@SmallArmsAnalytics.com. Additional charts and images are available on request.*

For Immediate Release, March 5, 2018

Despite Parkland, Fla., school shooting February 2018 U.S. firearms sales break no record

(GREENVILLE, SC, USA & HALIFAX, NS, CANADA) – *Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting (SAAF)* estimates February 2018 firearms sales at 1,320,734 units. This continues the year-over-year decline seen from February 2016 (1,545,402 units) and February 2017 (1,353,150 units).

SAAF's firearms unit sales estimates are based on raw data taken from the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), adjusted for checks likely to be unrelated to end-user firearms sales. The FBI's numbers cannot be taken at face-value as very large numbers of background checks are unrelated to end-user sales. For example, in February the state of Kentucky conducted almost 390,000 so-called permit checks whereas end-user checks at firearms retailers amounted to just over 28,000 checks.

SAAF Chief Economist Jurgen Brauer comments that "despite the renewed national debate on firearms regulation following the February 14 mass shooting at the Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., firearms unit sales do not appear to have been moved, leaving our annual firearms sales forecast of 14.5 million units unchanged for the time being."

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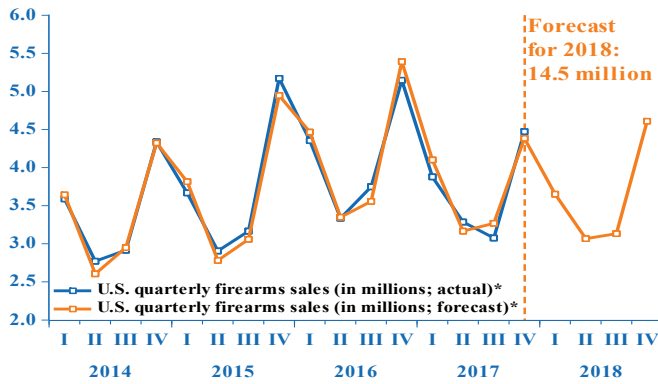
Chart attached: United States Firearms Annual Sales Forecast (2018, in millions).

ABOUT Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting:

Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting (SAAF) is a research consultancy focusing on the business & economics of the global small arms and ammunition markets. Politically unaffiliated, SAAF is an independent, evidenced-based resource for industry, advocacy, research, and policymaking alike, as well as for financial analysts and members of the media. Among other services, SAAF produces forecasts of U.S. civilian firearms unit sales, nationwide and for most states. Small Arms AnalyticsSM and Small Arms Analytics & ForecastingSM both are legally protected Service Marks of Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting. (Contact sales@SmallArmsAnalytics.com for sales and other information.)

United States

Firearms annual sales forecast (2018)*



*SAAF firearms sales and forecasts are based on raw data taken from the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), adjusted for checks unrelated to end-user firearms sales such as so-called permit checks.

Source: SAAF computation based on adjusted FBI/National Instant Criminal Background Check data.



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