



Note to Editors: *Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting's* Chief Economist Jurgen Brauer is available for interviews. Contact: jbrauer@SmallArmsAnalytics.com.

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Sharp drop in year-over-year March 2019 U.S. firearms sales

(GREENVILLE, SC, USA & HALIFAX, NS, CANADA) – *Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting* (SAAF) estimates March 2019 firearm sales at 1,394,018 units, a year-over-year decrease of 12.6% from March 2018. Likely single handgun sales (802,560) decreased year-over-year by 7.0% and single long-gun sales (481,355) decreased year-over-year by 19.5%. All other likely firearms sales (110,103) decreased year-over-year by 18.2%. This includes so-called “multiple” sales where the allocation between handguns and long-guns cannot be determined from the data record.

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 raw numbers (for March, some 2,604,927) cannot be taken at face value, as very large numbers of background checks are unrelated to end-user sales. For example, in March the state of Kentucky conducted just over 350,000 so-called permit checks alone whereas end-user checks at firearms retailers likely amounted to about 28,500 checks.

SAAF Chief Economist Jurgen Brauer comments that the “sales for the first quarter of 2019, at about 3.6 million, last were this low in the corresponding quarter of the year 2014. Relative to the first quarter of 2018, first quarter 2019 sales declined by about 200,000 units.”

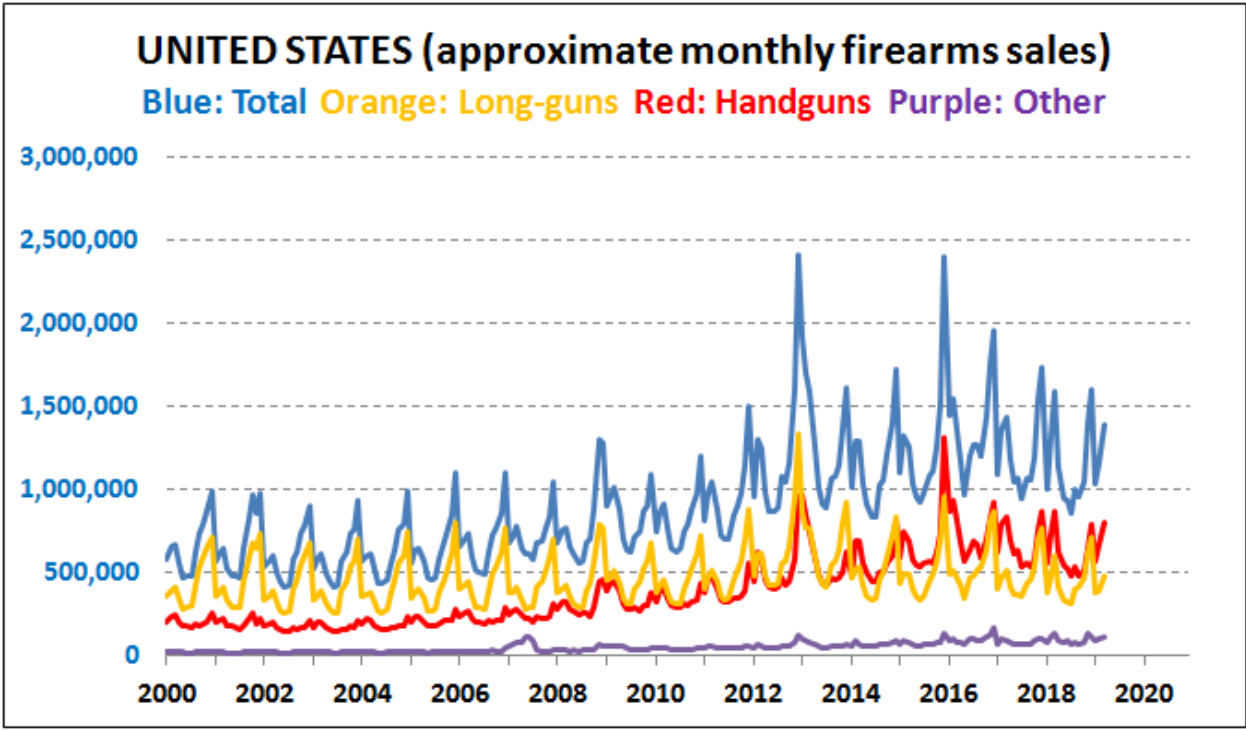
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Chart attached: Approximate United States Firearms Sales (January 1999 to March 2019).

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 are legally protected Service Marks of Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting. (Contact sales@SmallArmsAnalytics.com for sales and other information.)



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