



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

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U.S. firearms sales slump continues in April 2019

(GREENVILLE, SC, USA & HALIFAX, NS, CANADA) – *Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting* (SAAF) estimates April 2019 firearm sales at 1,049,397 units, a year-over-year decrease of 7.3% from April 2018. Likely single handgun sales (592,650) decreased year-over-year by 4.8% and single long-gun sales (369,377) decreased year-over-year by 11.2%. All other likely firearms sales (87,370) decreased year-over-year by 6.4%. 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 April, some 2,305,136, a “record” for April) cannot be taken at face value, as very large numbers of background checks are unrelated to end-user sales. For example, in April the state of Kentucky conducted just over 360,000 so-called permit checks alone whereas end-user checks at firearms retailers likely amounted to about 19,200 checks.

SAAF Chief Economist Jurgen Brauer comments that the “sales slump continues for the firearms industry. Relative to the first four months of 2016 (the presidential election year), sales in the first four month of 2019 have declined by about 880,000 units.”

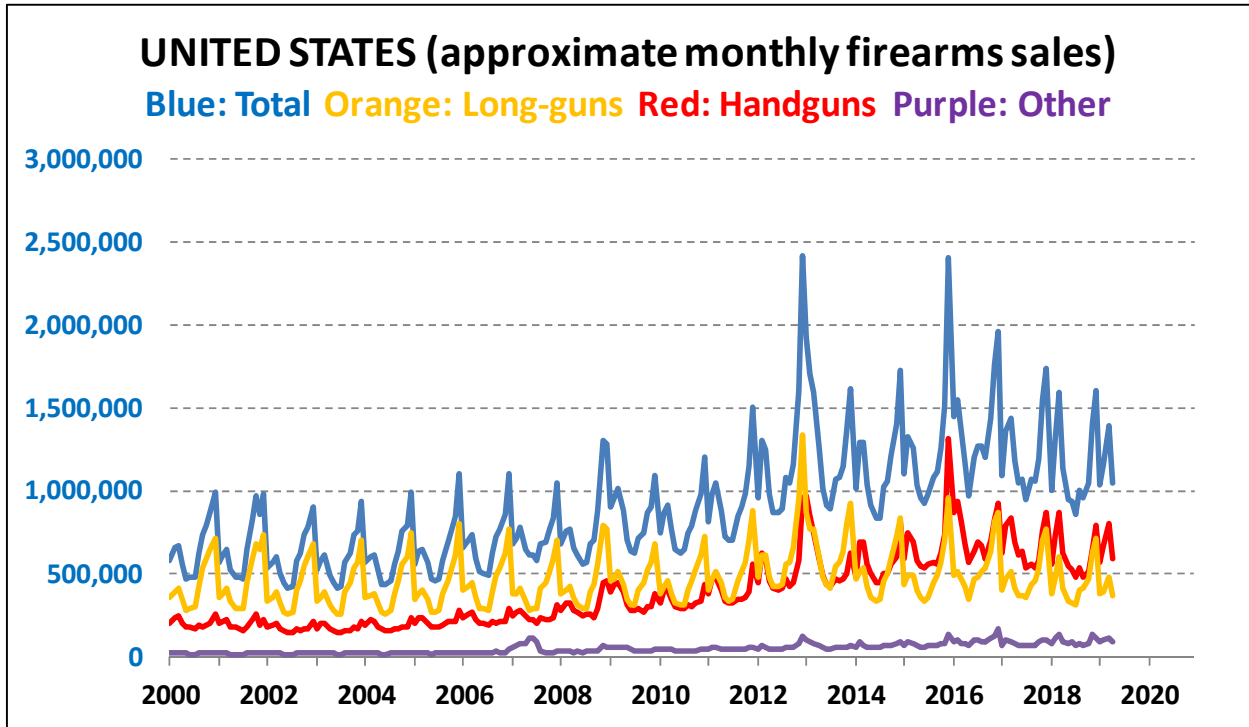
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Chart attached: Approximate United States Firearms Sales (January 1999 to April 2019).

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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