



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

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## ***U.S. firearms sales: Year-over-year sales barely budge in July 2019***

(GREENVILLE, SC, USA & HALIFAX, NS, CANADA) – *Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting* (SAAF) estimates July 2019 U.S. firearms sales at 858,342 units, a year-over-year increase of 0.2% from July 2018. Likely single handgun sales (490,483), however, increased year-over-year by 1.6% while single long-gun sales (295,656) decreased year-over-year by 3.4%. All other likely background check-related sales (72,203) increased year-over-year by 6.8%. 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 unlikely to be related to end-user firearms sales. For example, the FBI's raw numbers (for July, some 2,004,277) cannot be taken at face value, as very large numbers of background checks are unrelated to end-user sales. As a case in point, in July the state of Kentucky conducted over 300,000 so-called permit checks and rechecks alone whereas end-user checks at firearms retailers likely amounted to about 15,400 checks. SAAF makes certain other adjustments to the data based on retailer reports and other information; nonetheless, the estimates still likely understate the “true” number of unit sales.

SAAF Chief Economist Jurgen Brauer comments that “year-to-date sales run about 360,000 units below those of 2018 (7.43 million vs 7.79 million) suggesting that the so-called Trump Slump does continue in 2019. This is true even of handgun sales, which since 2014 have consistently exceeded long-gun sales.”

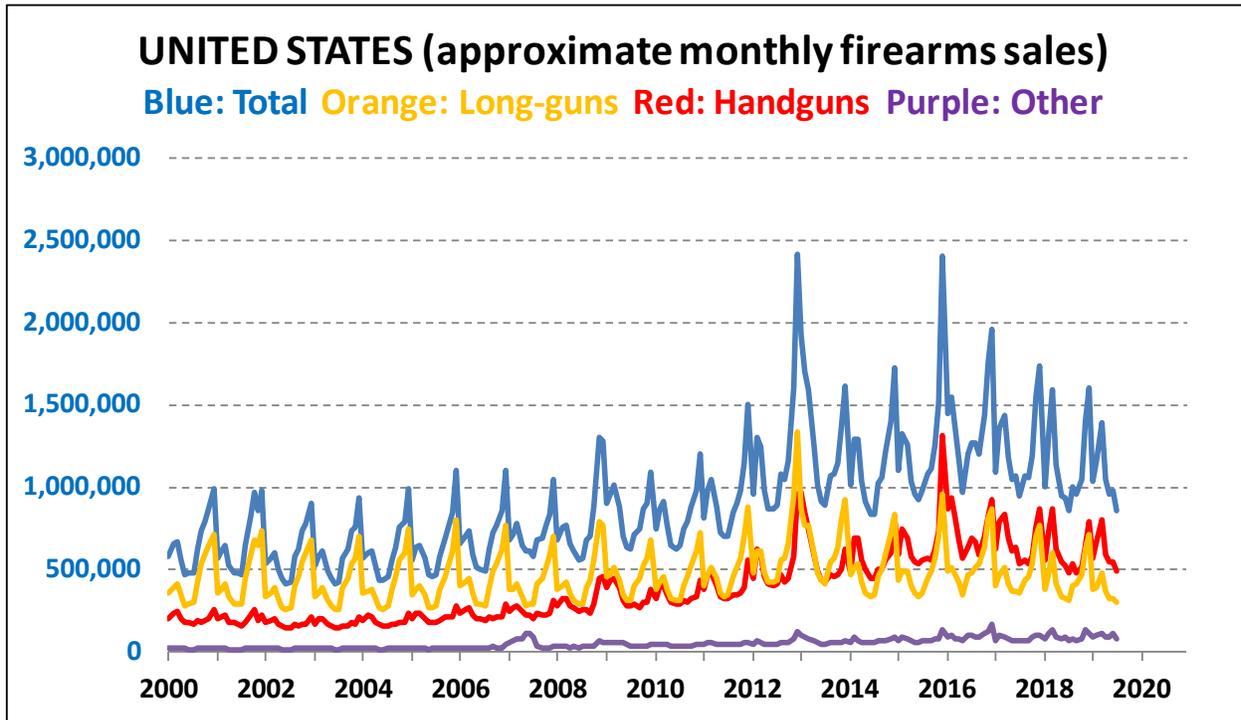
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Chart attached: Approximate United States Firearms Sales (January 1999 to July 2019).

### ***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 Analytics<sup>SM</sup> and Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting<sup>SM</sup> are legally protected Service Marks of Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting. (Contact [sales@SmallArmsAnalytics.com](mailto:sales@SmallArmsAnalytics.com) for sales and other information.)*



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