



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: Year-over-year sales rise again in October 2019

(GREENVILLE, SC, USA & HALIFAX, NS, CANADA) – *Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting* (SAAF) estimates October 2019 U.S. firearms sales at 1,159,277 units, a year-over-year increase of 10.8% from October 2018. Likely single handgun sales (570,370) increased year-over-year by 12.2% while single long-gun sales (498,117) increased year-over-year by 7.9%. All other likely background check-related sales (90,790) increased year-over-year by 19.7%. 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 October, some 2,327,252) 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 October the state of Kentucky conducted over 280,000 so-called permit checks and rechecks alone whereas end-user checks at firearms retailers likely amounted to about 21,300 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 “the industry has seen well-improved sales numbers over the past three months that jointly have brought the 2019 year-to-date total unit sales fully in line with last year's unit sales levels by this time of year (about 10.8 million units, January to October).”

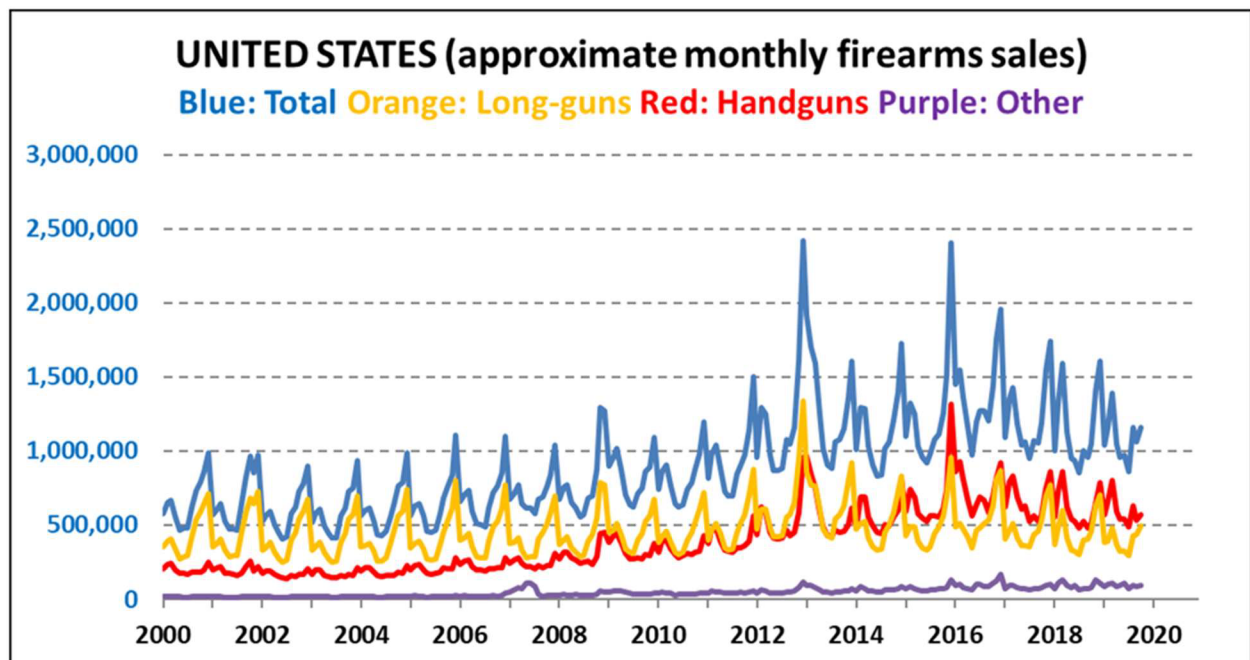
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Chart attached: Approximate United States Firearms Sales (January 1999 to October 2019).

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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