



Editors: For Immediate Release, December 1, 2021

Contact: jbrauer@SmallArmsAnalytics.com

U.S. firearms sales November 2021: Third-highest November since 1998 but 21.6% year-over-year drop

(GREENVILLE, SC, USA & HALIFAX, NS, CANADA) – *Small Arms Analytics & Forecasting* (SAAF) estimates November 2021 U.S. firearms unit sales at 1.7 million units, the third-highest November number on record since 1998 but a year-over-year decrease of 22% relative to November 2020. The highest November number on record was 2.1 million in 2020, and the second-highest was 1.8 million in 2016.

Detailed data by firearms type and state are available for purchase at <https://SmallArmsAnalytics.com/shop/>.

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, in November the state of Illinois conducted over 260,000 firearms permit checks and rechecks alone whereas end-user unit sales likely amounted to about 45,000. SAAF thus makes certain adjustments to the FBI's raw data based on retailer reports and other information. Even so, SAAF-adjusted NICS numbers may still underestimate the actual unit sales level by some amount.

SAAF Chief Economist Jurgen Brauer comments that "despite the year-over-year drop in November 2021 unit sales, the U.S. firearms market continues to boom, if at a lower level than pandemic-driven 2020. By year's end, the industry is expected to have sold about 20 million units."

-30-

Follow us on [Twitter](#)

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.)