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NOVEMBER 16, 2020

NSSF RELEASES MOST RECENT FIREARM PRODUCTION FIGURES

Nearly 20 million Modern Sporting Rifles in Circulation

NEWTOWN, Conn. — NSSF®, the firearm industry's trade association, released the 2020 edition of its Firearm Production Report to members. The report compiles the most up to date information based on data sourced from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' (ATF's) Annual Firearms Manufacturing and Export Reports (AFMER) as well as the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC). Key findings for public release showed:

- In 2018, **11.4 million** total firearms were produced or imported in the United States (less exported firearms).
- Approximately **one-half** (48%) of all rifles produced and imported (less exports) in 2018 were Modern Sporting Rifles.
- Since 1990, there are an estimated **19.8 million** Modern Sporting Rifles (MSRs) in circulation today.
- An interim 2019 estimate showed a total of **6 million** total firearms were produced in the United States. Of those, **3.6 million** were pistols and revolvers, **2 million** were rifles and **480,000** were shotguns. Those are interim figures that will be updated when complete reports become available from the ATF.
- In 2019, there were approximately **3.3 million** firearms imported into the United States which included **2.3 million** pistols and revolvers, **301,000** rifles and **678,000** shotguns.
- From 1991 to 2019, nearly **214 million** firearms have been made available to the U.S. market.
- According to reports such as: ATF Firearms Commerce in the United States, ATF AFMER and Congressional Research Service data, there are an estimated **434 million** firearms in civilian possession in the United States.
- There are approximately **71.2 million** pistol magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds, and **79.2 million** rifle magazines capable of holding 30 or more rounds in circulation.
- Firearm and ammunition manufacturing accounted for nearly **12,000** employees producing over **\$3.9 billion** in goods shipped in 2018. An estimated **8.7 billion** rounds of all calibers and gauges were produced in 2018 for the U.S. market.

"These figures, combined with the record-breaking 17.2 million NSSF-adjusted background checks for the sale or transfer of a firearm in the first ten months of 2020, demonstrates that Americans have a strong desire to continue purchasing firearms for lawful purposes," said Joe Bartozzi, NSSF's President and CEO. "The Modern Sporting Rifle continues to be the most popular rifle sold in America today, and with nearly 20 million in circulation, is clearly a commonly-owned firearm that is being used for lawful purposes every day in America. The continued popularity of handguns demonstrates a strong interest by Americans to protect themselves, their family and homes, as well as to participate in the recreational shooting sports."

Today's report also shows that as lawful firearm ownership in America continues to grow, criminal and unintentional misuse of firearms is falling. During the 28-year period covered by this report (1991–2018) the violent crime rate has decreased by 51.3 percent and unintentional firearm-related fatalities have declined by 68.2 percent.

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About NSSF

NSSF is the trade association for the firearm industry. Its mission is to promote, protect and preserve hunting and the shooting sports. Formed in 1961, NSSF has a membership of thousands of manufacturers, distributors, firearms retailers, shooting ranges, sportsmen's organizations

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