

# PART I:

## Licensed Manufacturing of Firearms and Ammunition in the United States

### Overview of Licensing and Reporting Requirements

The Gun Control Act (GCA) of 1968 as amended requires that any individual or entity engaged in the business of manufacturing<sup>1</sup> firearms or ammunition must obtain a federal firearms license (FFL).

The type and cost for the nine available types of FFLs are:

- Type 01 - *Dealer in Firearms Other Than Destructive Devices*. The cost of a new license is \$200. The license is active for 3 years. To renew the license, the cost is \$90.
- Type 02 - *Pawnbroker in Firearms Other Than Destructive Devices*. The cost of a new license is \$200. The license is active for 3 years. To renew the license, the cost is \$90.
- Type 03 - *Collector of Curios and Relics*. The cost of a new license is \$30. The license is active for 3 years. To renew the license, the cost is \$30.
- Type 06 - *Manufacturer of Ammunition for Firearms Other Than Ammunition for Destructive Devices or Armor Piercing Ammunition*. The cost of a new license is \$30. The license is active for 3 years. To renew the license, the cost is \$30.
- Type 07 - *Manufacturer of Firearms Other Than Destructive Devices*. The cost of a new license is \$150. The license is active for three years. To renew the license, the cost is \$150.
- Type 08 - *Importer of Firearms Other Than Destructive Devices or Ammunition for Firearms Other Than Destructive Devices, or Ammunition Other Than Armor Piercing Ammunition*. The cost of a new license is \$150. The license is active for three years. To renew the license, the cost is \$150.
- Type 09 - *Dealer in Destructive Devices*. The cost of a new license is \$3000. The license is active for three years. To renew the license, the cost is \$3000.
- Type 10 - *Manufacturer of Destructive Devices, Ammunition for Destructive Devices or Armor Piercing Ammunition*. The cost of a new license is \$3000. The license is active for three years. To renew the license, the cost is \$3000.
- Type 11 - *Importer of Destructive Devices, Ammunition for Destructive Devices or Armor Piercing Ammunition*. The cost of a new license is \$3000. The license is active for three years. To renew the license, the cost is \$3000.

Current license fees were established in November 1993. If adjusted to current values using the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the fees would have increased nearly 99%, increasing the cost of the Type 01 and 02 from \$200 to approximately \$400 and the Types 07 and 08 from \$150 to almost \$300.

The GCA, at Title 18, United States Code (U.S.C.), § 923(i), and the National Firearms Act (NFA), at Title 26, U.S.C., § 5842(a), require all licensed importers and manufacturers to identify each firearm imported or manufactured by means of a serial number engraved or cast on the frame or receiver of the weapon, in such manner as the Attorney General shall by regulations prescribe. Federal regulations at 27 CFR §§478.92(a) and 479.102(a) prescribe the requirements for serialization and other marks of identification that must be placed on firearms. Firearms markings include the model, if such designation has been made; the caliber or gauge; the name (or recognized abbreviation) of manufacturer or importer;

in the case of a domestically made firearm, the city and state (or recognized abbreviation thereof) where the firearm was made; and in the case of an imported firearm, the name of the country in which it was manufactured and the city and state (or recognized abbreviation thereof) where the importers business is located.

The unique marks of identification of firearms serve several purposes. First, the marks are used by FFLs to effectively track their firearm inventories and maintain all required records. Second, the marks enable law enforcement officers to trace specific firearms used in crimes from the manufacturer or importer to individual purchasers, and to identify firearms that have been lost or stolen. Further, firearm markings assist in establishing an interstate nexus in federal criminal proceedings involving firearms.

The GCA further requires that all licensed manufacturers complete and submit to ATF, on an annual basis, an ATF Form 5300.11, Annual Firearms Manufacturing and Exportation Report (AFMER). See, 18 U.S.C. § 923. The AFMER is intended for use by manufacturers to report only the number of firearms distributed into commerce or exported during the reported calendar year regardless of when they were manufactured; not the total number of firearms manufactured. Data from these reports are available by specific types of firearms and are set forth in Table M-02 and Table M-06 within Appendix M – Manufacturing.

AFMER provides for certain reporting exclusions from these manufacturers' reports. These include firearms temporarily distributed to another licensed manufacturer for further manufacturing and the production and export of firearms produced solely for the official use of the U.S. Government (e.g., Armed Forces of the U.S.). Firearms manufactured and delivered to domestic law enforcement agencies are required to be reported. Other production exclusions are set forth in the "Definitions" section of ATF Form 5300.11.

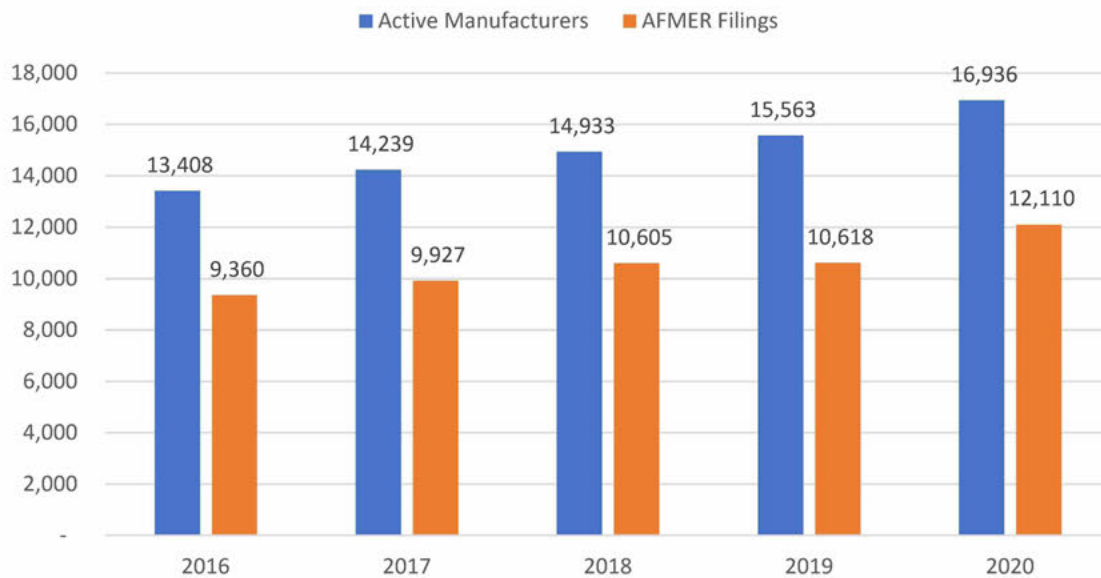
In addition to collecting information regarding the type of firearm distributed into commerce or exported, AFMER reports also request information on the caliber of ammunition for those reported pistols or revolvers distributed into commerce. Manufacturers are not required to report the caliber of ammunition for pistols or revolvers exported out of the U.S.

With respect to pistol caliber designations, the AFMER reporting is divided into six caliber groupings. These are: up to .22 caliber; above .22 and up to .25 caliber; above .25 and up to .32 caliber; above .32 and up to .380 caliber; above .380 and up to 9mm PARA. caliber; and above 9mm PARA. and up to .50 caliber. The AFMER reporting for revolvers is also divided into six caliber groupings. These are: up to .22 caliber; above .22 and up to .32 caliber; above .32 and up to .38 SPEC. caliber; above .38 SPEC. and up to .357 MAG. caliber; above .357 MAG. and up to .44 MAG. caliber; and above .44 MAG. and up to .50 caliber. Manufacturers must report all other types of firearms in mass (excluding destructive devices<sup>2</sup>), rather than into separate caliber groupings.

Not all manufacturers annually file AFMER reports, even though required to do so by regulation. A review indicates that those manufacturers who do not file reports are limited to smaller manufacturers that account for a relatively small percentage of overall production.

Figure M-01 and Table M-01a reflect a comparison of all active licensed manufacturers against those who filed an AFMER report by year between 2016 and 2020. On average, 30% of licensed manufacturers failed to report an AFMER during this time. However, FFLs who are responsible for manufacturing most firearms in the U.S. have consistently submitted the required AFMER. Therefore, the percentage of non-AFMER filers does not necessarily equate to the volume of firearms entered in commerce.

**Figure M-01: Count of Active Licensed Manufacturers Compared to Annual AFMER Report Filings, 2016 – 2020**



**Table M-01a: Count of Active Licensed Manufacturers Compared to Annual AFMER Report Filings, 2016 – 2020**

Year	# of Active Manufacturers	# of AFMER Filings	% Underreporting
2016	13,408	9,360	30.2%
2017	14,239	9,927	30.3%
2018	14,933	10,605	29.0%
2019	15,563	10,618	31.8%
2020	16,936	12,110	28.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>75,079</b>	<b>52,620</b>	<b>29.9%</b>

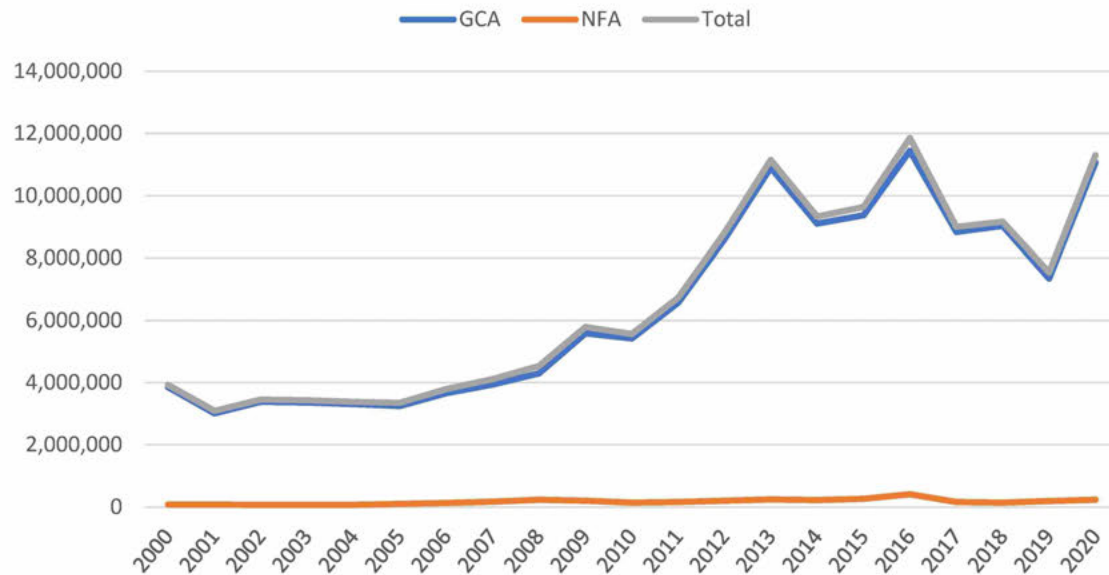
See Table M-01 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a detailed listing of the total number of active licensed manufacturers and AFMER reporting between 2000 and 2020.

### **Licensed GCA Firearm<sup>3</sup> and NFA Weapon Manufacturing**

As reflected in Figure M-02 and Table M-02a, licensed domestic GCA firearm and NFA weapon manufacturing increased by 187% between 2000 and 2020. Between 2010 and 2020, the number of firearms domestically manufactured on an annual basis increased 103%. At no point since 2011 has there been a year where less than 6,731,958 firearms were manufactured for domestic consumption.



**Figure M-02: Total Licensed Domestic GCA Firearm and NFA Weapon Manufacturing, 2000 – 2020**



**Table M-02a: Total Licensed Domestic GCA Firearm and NFA Weapon Manufacturing - 2000, 2010, 2020**

Year	# of GCA Firearms	GCA % Total	# of NFA Weapons	NFA % Total	Total
2000	3,852,872	98.0%	79,862	2.0%	3,932,734
2010	5,420,769	97.5%	139,002	2.5%	5,559,771
2020	11,063,910	97.9%	238,917	2.1%	11,302,827

See Table M-02 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a complete listing of licensed domestic GCA firearm and NFA weapon manufacturing totals between 2000 and 2020.

## Population Growth and Licensed Firearm Manufacturing

To examine the relationship of population growth related to annual domestic firearm manufacturing, Table M-03 presents net domestic firearm manufacturing along with U.S. Census population data to determine the number of domestically manufactured firearms on an annual basis per 100,000 persons in the U.S. The U.S. population increased 18% between 2000 and 2020. The number of domestically manufactured firearms per 100,000 persons in the U.S. increased 187% during that same time and has increased 89% since 2010.

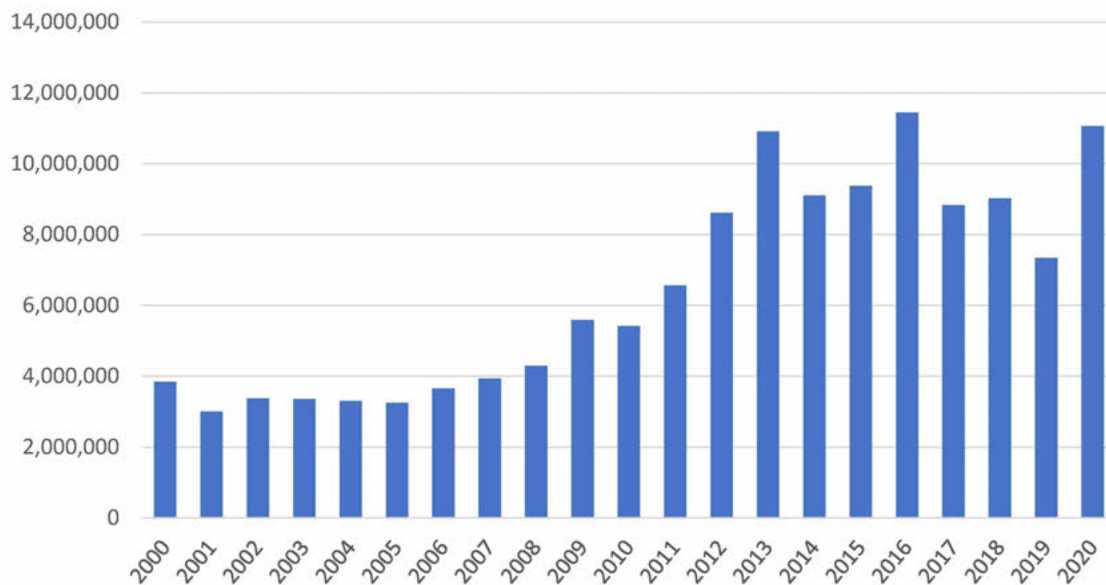
**Table M-03: Total Firearms Manufactured Domestically and Per 100,000 Persons in 2000, 2010, 2020**

Year	Total Firearms	U.S. Population <sup>4</sup>	Firearms Manufactured Per 100,000 Persons
2000	3,932,734	281,421,906	1,397
2010	5,559,771	308,745,538	1,801
2020	11,302,827	331,449,281	3,410

## Licensed GCA Firearm Manufacturing

As shown in Figure M-03 and Table M-02 in Appendix M - Manufacturing, much of the increase in annual domestic manufacturing has been with GCA firearms. Like overall domestic firearm manufacturing, data reveals a 187% increase in the number of domestically manufactured GCA firearms on an annual basis between 2000 and 2020 and a 104% increase between 2010 and 2020. Historically, GCA firearms comprise most firearms manufactured annually. In 2020, GCA annual domestic firearm manufacturing constituted 98% of all domestic firearm manufacturing.

**Figure M-03: Licensed Domestic GCA Firearm Manufacturing, 2000 – 2020**



As reflected in Table M-04, Smith and Wesson, Sturm Ruger, and Sig Sauer parent entities<sup>5</sup> collectively manufactured and entered commerce 42% (20,045,276) of all domestically manufactured GCA firearms (47,716,521) between 2016 and 2020. Moreover, 57 parent entities in total reported producing GCA firearms. Of these licensed manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 70% (33,274,640) of all domestically manufactured GCA firearms that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.

**Table M-04: Top Ten Parent Entities – Licensed GCA Manufacturers, 2016 – 2020**

Manufacturer Parent Entity	# of Firearms	% Total
Smith & Wesson Corp	8,218,199	17.2%
Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc	8,166,448	17.1%
Sig Sauer Inc	3,660,629	7.7%
Freedom Group	3,045,427	6.4%
O F Mossberg & Sons Inc	2,223,241	4.7%
Taurus International Manufacturing / Diamondback / Rossi / Heritage / Braztech	1,996,121	4.2%
WM C Anderson Inc	1,816,625	3.8%
Glock Inc	1,510,437	3.2%
Henry RAC Holding Corp	1,378,544	2.9%
JIE Capital Holdings / JIE Enterprises	1,258,969	2.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,274,640</b>	<b>69.7%</b>

See Table M-05 in Appendix M – Manufacturing for a full list of manufacturing parent entities and the licensees they represent.

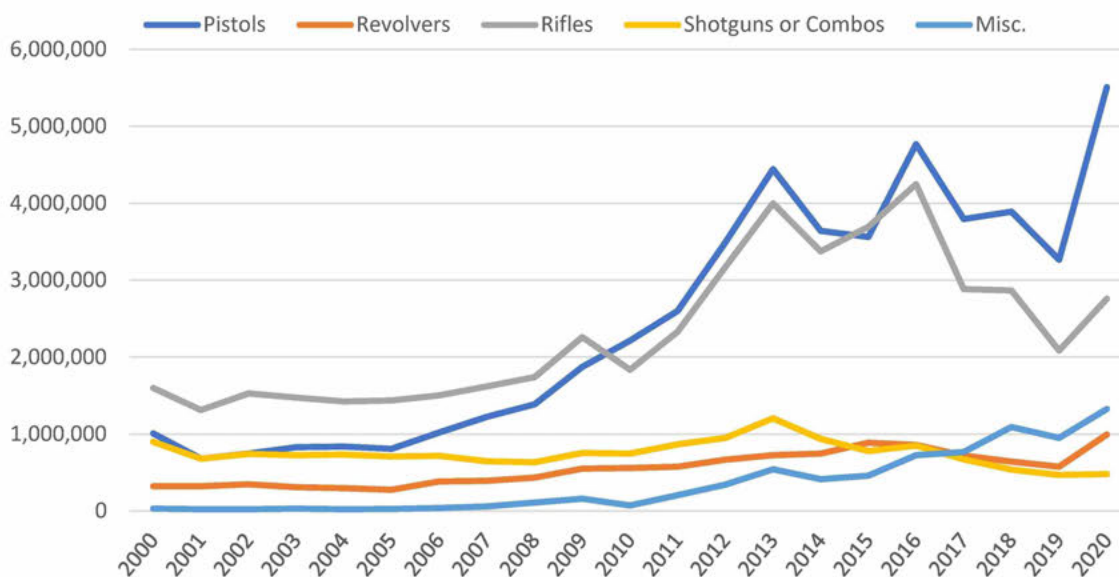
### ***Licensed Pistol Manufacturing Dominance***



As reflected in Figure M-04, the dominant firearm type manufactured in the U.S. between 2000 and 2009 was rifles; however, in 2010, pistols became the dominant firearm type manufactured in the U.S. [Pistol](#) manufacturing dominance has continued every year since 2010, with the exception of 2015 when rifles outpaced pistols by slightly more than 1%.

In 2000, the total rifles<sup>6</sup> manufactured (1,599,890) was 59% more than pistols<sup>7</sup> (1,005,198). By 2020, the number of pistols manufactured (5,509,151) was 100% more than rifles manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce (2,760,263). In 2000, pistols manufactured<sup>8</sup> (1,005,198) constituted 26% of all GCA firearms manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce (3,852,872) annually. By 2020, pistols manufactured (5,509,151) constituted 50% of all GCA firearms manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce (11,063,910) annually.

***Figure M-04: Licensed Domestic GCA Firearm Manufacturing by Weapon Type, 2000 – 2020***



See Table M-06 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a detailed listing of total domestic firearms manufacturing with percentage totals by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

As reflected in Table M-07, Smith and Wesson, Sturm Ruger, and Sig Sauer parent entities collectively reported manufacturing 60% (12,806,696) of all domestically manufactured pistols (21,229,067) between 2016 and 2020. In total, 52 parent entities reported producing pistols. Of these licensed pistol manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 85% (18,029,529) of all domestically manufactured pistols that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.



**Table M-07: Top Ten Parent Entities – Licensed Pistol Manufacturers, 2016 – 2020**

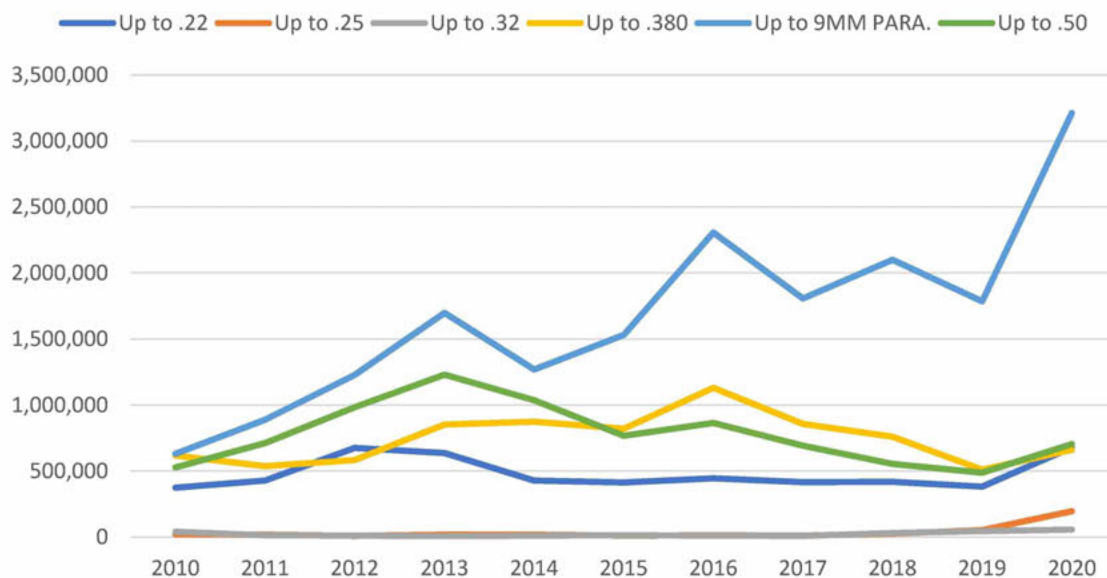
Manufacturer Parent Entity	# of Pistols	% Total
Smith & Wesson Corp	5,516,685	26.0%
Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc	3,825,886	18.0%
Sig Sauer Inc	3,464,125	16.3%
Glock Inc	1,510,437	7.1%
Kimber MFG Inc	969,136	4.6%
SCCY Industries LLC	741,352	3.5%
Springfield, Inc	690,180	3.3%
Taurus International Manufacturing / Diamondback / Rossi / Heritage / Braztech	616,550	2.9%
Hi-Point (Strassell's Machine) / Iberia / Haskell / Stallard	366,789	1.7%
Beretta USA Corp	328,389	1.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,029,529</b>	<b>84.9%</b>

See Table M-06 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a detailed listing of total domestic firearms manufacturing with percentage totals by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

### ***Licensed Pistol Manufacturing Dominance by Up to 9mm<sup>9</sup> PARA Caliber***

Between 2000 and 2010, no single pistol caliber range was dominant over all the other pistol caliber ranges reported through AFMER (see Table M-09 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a detailed listing of the total number of pistols manufactured domestically by caliber between 2000 to 2020). However, that began to change in 2011 when 9mm PARA caliber pistol manufacturing began to show dominance. As reflected in Figure M-05, in 2010, 9mm PARA caliber pistols constituted 29% (631,210) of the total number of pistols manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce (2,212,164). By 2020, 9mm PARA caliber pistols constituted 58% (3,211,768) of the total number of pistols manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce (5,509,151).

**Figure M-05: Licensed Pistol Manufacturing by AFMER Caliber Range, 2010 – 2020**



As reflected in Table M-10, Smith and Wesson, Sig Sauer, and Sturm Ruger parent entities collectively reported manufacturing 66% (7,375,036) of all domestically manufactured up to 9mm PARA caliber

pistols (11,210,966) between 2016 and 2020. In total, 41 parent entities reported producing pistols of up to 9mm PARA caliber. Of these licensed pistol manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 91% (10,293,250) of all domestically manufactured up to 9mm PARA caliber pistols that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.

**Table M-10: Top Ten Parent Entities – Licensed Pistol Manufacturers Up to 9mm PARA. Caliber, 2016 – 2020**

Manufacturer Parent Entity	# of Pistols	% Total
Smith & Wesson Corp	3,168,483	28.1%
Sig Sauer Inc	2,795,333	24.8%
Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc	1,411,220	12.5%
Glock Inc	966,639	8.6%
SCCY Industries LLC	726,417	6.5%
Kimber MFG Inc	465,920	4.1%
FNH USA LLC	215,744	1.9%
Beretta USA Corp	210,735	1.9%
Hi-Point (Strassell's Machine) / Iberia / Haskell / Stallard	178,389	1.6%
Springfield, Inc	154,370	1.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,293,250</b>	<b>91.4%</b>

See Table M-06 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a detailed listing of total domestic firearms manufacturing with percentage totals by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

### ***Licensed Revolver Manufacturing and Dominance by Up to .22<sup>10</sup> Caliber***

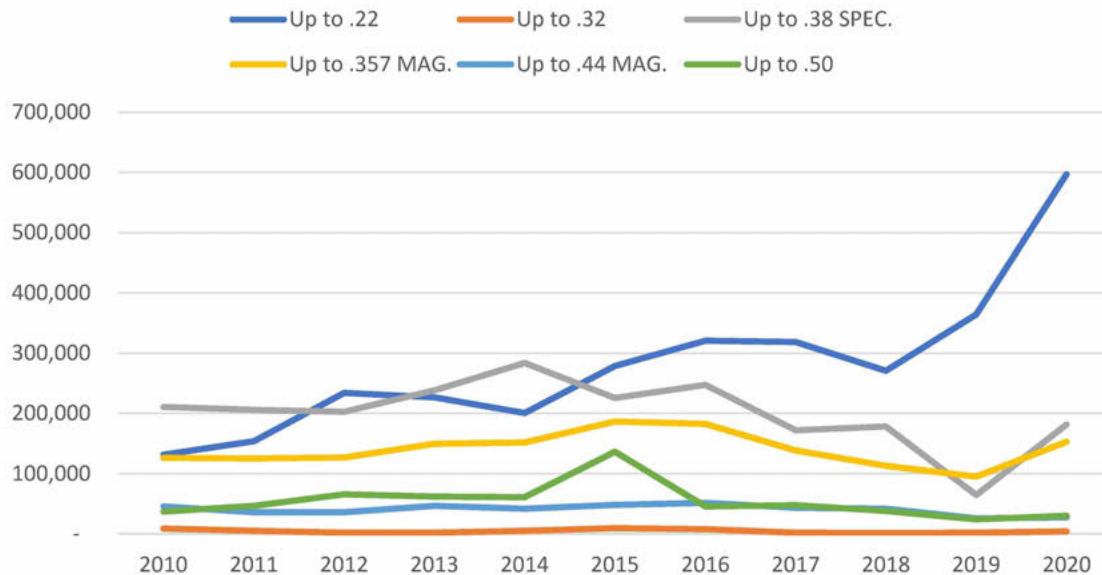


While the number of [revolvers](#) manufactured in 2020 (993,077) constitute only 9% of all GCA firearms manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce (11,063,910), there is a notable trend regarding revolver caliber range dominance. As reflected in Figure M-06, the manufacture of revolvers in calibers of up to .22 caliber began to show dominance in 2012. In 2010, the number of .22 caliber revolvers manufactured (131,545) constituted 24% of all revolvers manufactured (559,674). In 2020, the number of up to .22 caliber revolvers

manufactured (597,014) constituted 60% of all revolvers manufactured (993,077). The growing dominance of up to .22 caliber revolvers over this 10-year period results from a 354% increase in the annual number of up to .22 caliber revolvers manufactured while there was a simultaneous downward trend of more than 7% in the annual manufacturing of revolvers in all other caliber ranges.



**Figure M-06: Licensed Revolver Manufacturing by AFMER Caliber Range, 2010 – 2020**



See Table M-11 in Appendix M – Manufacturing for a breakout of the total revolvers manufactured domestically by caliber 2000 to 2020.

As reflected in Table M-12, Taurus, Smith and Wesson, and Sturm Ruger parent entities collectively reported manufacturing 85% (3,229,142) of all domestically manufactured revolvers (3,789,000) between 2016 and 2020. In total, only 12 parent entities reported producing revolvers. Of these licensed revolver manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 99% (3,672,745) of all domestically manufactured revolvers that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.

**Table M-12: Top Ten Parent Entities – Licensed Revolver Manufacturers, 2016 – 2020**

Manufacturer Parent Entity	# of Revolvers	% Total
Taurus International Manufacturing / Diamondback / Rossi / Heritage / Braztech	1,131,927	29.9%
Smith & Wesson Corp	1,077,621	28.4%
Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc	1,019,594	26.9%
North American Arms Inc	251,292	6.6%
Charter Arms Corporation	139,413	3.7%
CZ / Colt / Dan Wesson	81,209	2.1%
Kimber MFG Inc	55,597	1.5%
Magnum Research Inc / IMI / IWI	6,076	0.2%
Cobra Enterprises of Utah, Inc / Cobra / Bearman Industries / Kodiak Firearms	12	0.0%
Daniel Defense	4	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,762,745</b>	<b>99.3%</b>

See Table M-06 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a detailed listing of total domestic firearms manufacturing with percentage totals by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

### *Licensed Rifle Manufacturing*



There was a 165% increase in the annual number of rifles manufactured<sup>11</sup> between 2000 (1,599,890) and 2016 (4,247,386). Annual rifle manufacturing peaked in 2016 and there has been a 35% decrease in the annual number of rifles manufactured between 2016 and 2020 (2,760,263).

As reflected in Table M-13, Sturm Ruger, Freedom Group, and Smith and Wesson parent entities collectively reported manufacturing 45% (6,644,054) of all domestically manufactured rifles (14,845,781) between 2016 and 2020. In total, 48 parent entities reported producing rifles. Of these licensed rifle manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 75% (11,082,358) of all domestically manufactured rifles that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.

**Table M-13: Top Ten Parent Entities – Licensed Rifle Manufacturers, 2016 – 2020**

Manufacturer Parent Entity	# of Rifles	% Total
Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc	3,263,701	22.0%
Freedom Group	1,783,458	12.0%
Smith & Wesson Corp	1,596,895	10.8%
Henry RAC Holding Corp	1,303,769	8.8%
Savage Arms, Inc	1,046,888	7.1%
Springfield, Inc	543,566	3.7%
WM C Anderson Inc	495,248	3.3%
O F Mossberg & Sons Inc	465,082	3.1%
Kel-Tec	337,313	2.3%
Taurus International Manufacturing / Diamondback / Rossi / Heritage / Braztech	246,438	1.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,082,358</b>	<b>74.6%</b>

See Table M-06 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a detailed listing of total domestic firearms manufacturing with percentage totals by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

### *Licensed Shotgun and Combination Gun Manufacturing*



There was a 34% increase in the annual number of [shotguns](#)<sup>12</sup> manufactured between 2000 (898,586)<sup>13</sup> and 2013 (1,203,008). Annual shotgun manufacturing peaked in 2013 and there has been a 60% decrease in the annual number of shotguns manufactured between 2013 and 2020 (476,682).

As reflected in Table M-14, Mossberg and Freedom Group parent entities collectively reported manufacturing 79% (2,357,453) of all domestically manufactured shotguns (2,997,855) between 2016 and 2020. In total, 22 parent entities reported producing shotguns. Of these licensed shotgun manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 97% (2,906,078) of all domestically manufactured shotguns that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.

**Table M-14: Top Ten Parent Entities – Licensed Shotgun Manufacturers, 2016 – 2020**

<b>Manufacturer Parent Entity</b>	<b># of Shotguns</b>	<b>% Total</b>
O F Mossberg & Sons Inc	1,357,000	45.3%
Freedom Group	1,000,453	33.4%
Kel-Tec	138,390	4.6%
Legacy Sports International LLC	108,265	3.6%
Beretta USA Corp	104,338	3.5%
Outdoor Colors LLC	68,510	2.3%
Henry RAC Holding Corp	59,407	2.0%
Savage Arms, Inc	47,296	1.6%
Magnum Research Inc / IMI / IWI	12,122	0.4%
Weatherby Inc	10,297	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,906,078</b>	<b>96.9%</b>

See Table M-06 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a detailed listing of total domestic firearms manufacturing with percentage totals by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

### ***Licensed Miscellaneous Firearm Manufacturing***



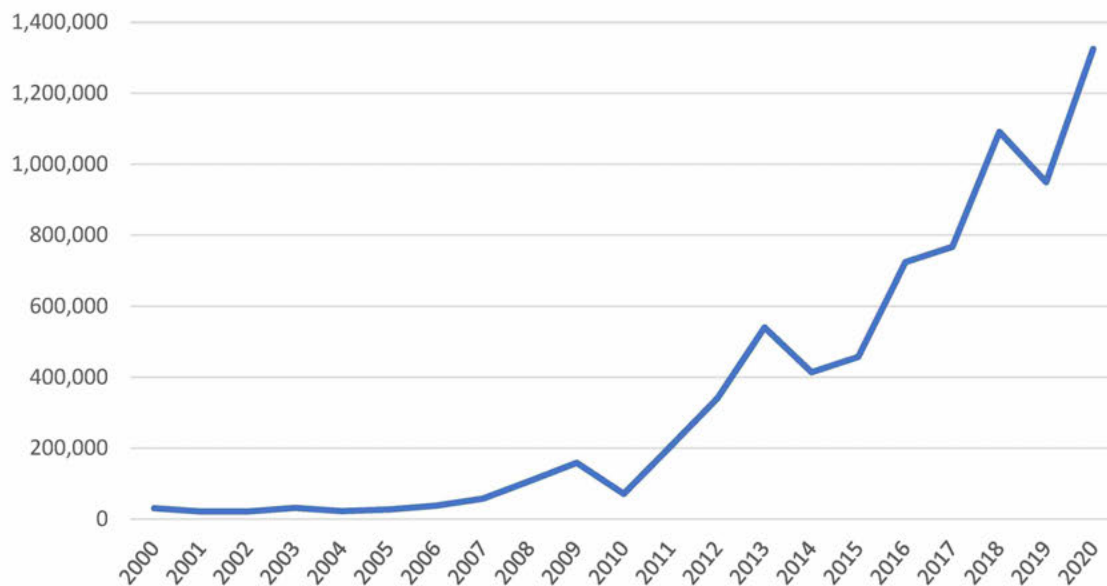
As reflected in Figure M-07, there was a 4,281% increase in the annual number of miscellaneous firearms manufactured between 2000 (30,238) and 2020 (1,324,737) with the bulk of this growth taking place in the last 10 years.

Miscellaneous firearms are predominantly firearm frames and receivers that are sold before being assembled with other components that would allow categorization in another AFMER weapon type category (pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, machinegun, any other weapon, short-barreled rifle, short-barreled shotgun, silencer). For example, an AR-type receiver manufactured and sold as only a

receiver would be categorized as a miscellaneous firearm for purposes of AFMER reporting. The categorization of an AR receiver, rifle, pistol, or other is dependent on the ultimate configuration by the end user.



**Figure M-07: Licensed Miscellaneous Firearm Manufacturing, 2000 – 2020**



See Table M-06 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a complete listing of the total number of miscellaneous firearms manufactured by year from 2000 to 2020.

As reflected in Table M-15, WM C Anderson and JIE Capital Holdings parent entities collectively reported manufacturing 49% (2,361,435) of all domestically manufactured miscellaneous firearms (4,854,818) between 2016 and 2020. In total, 26 parent entities reported producing miscellaneous firearms. Of these licensed miscellaneous firearm manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 71% (3,463,501) of all domestically manufactured miscellaneous firearms that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.

**Table M-15: Top Ten Parent Entities – Miscellaneous Firearm Manufacturers, 2016 – 2020**

Manufacturer Parent Entity	# of Misc. Firearms	% Total
WM C Anderson Inc	1,315,758	27.1%
JIE Capital Holdings / JIE Enterprises	1,045,677	21.5%
Aero Precision LLC	424,833	8.8%
O F Mossberg & Sons Inc	357,587	7.4%
Century Arms Inc	138,915	2.9%
Freedom Group	61,167	1.3%
Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc	57,040	1.2%
Smith & Wesson Corp	26,263	0.5%
CZ / Colt / Dan Wesson	20,753	0.4%
Stag Arms LLC	15,508	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,463,501</b>	<b>71.3%</b>

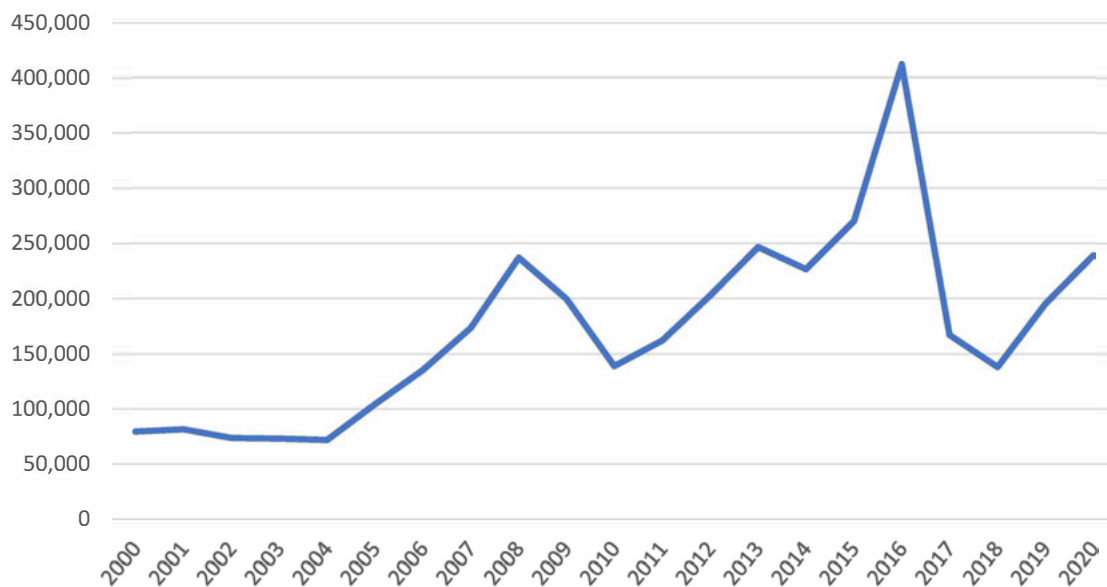
See Table M-06 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a detailed listing of total domestic firearms manufacturing with percentage totals by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

## Licensed NFA Weapon Manufacturing

For purposes of this section, the names of NFA manufacturers as it relates to their production number is associated with tax information and is prohibited from disclosure.

As reflected in Figure M-08 and Table M-02 in Appendix M – Manufacturing, domestic manufacturing of NFA weapons increased 199% between 2000 (79,862) and 2020 (238,917). Compared to GCA firearms, NFA weapons have historically comprised a small fraction of all firearms manufactured annually. In 2020, NFA annual domestic firearms manufacturing constituted just 2% of all firearms manufactured domestically.

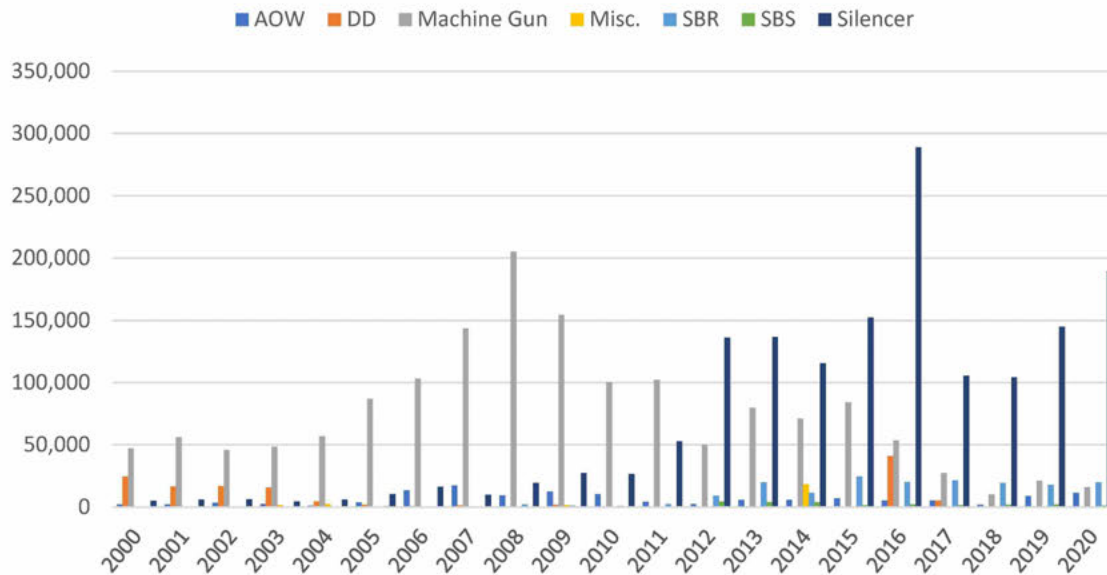
**Figure M-08: Licensed Domestic NFA Weapon Manufacturing (All Types), 2000 – 2020**



See Table M-02 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for a complete listing of licensed domestic GCA firearm and NFA weapon manufacturing totals between 2000 and 2020.

Factors contributing to the spike in NFA weapon manufacturing in 2016 are discussed later in this report in Part XI – Firearm Laws, Regulations, and Policy. In addition to the increase in annual NFA weapon manufacturing over the past 20 years, there are other notable trends among the different NFA weapon types and their annual manufacturing volumes. As reflected in Figure M-09, beginning in 2012, a shift from machinegun manufacturing dominance to silencer manufacturing dominance occurs.

**Figure M-09: Licensed Domestic NFA Weapon Manufacturing by Weapon Type, 2000 – 2020**



See Table M-16 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for the total NFA weapons manufactured domestically by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

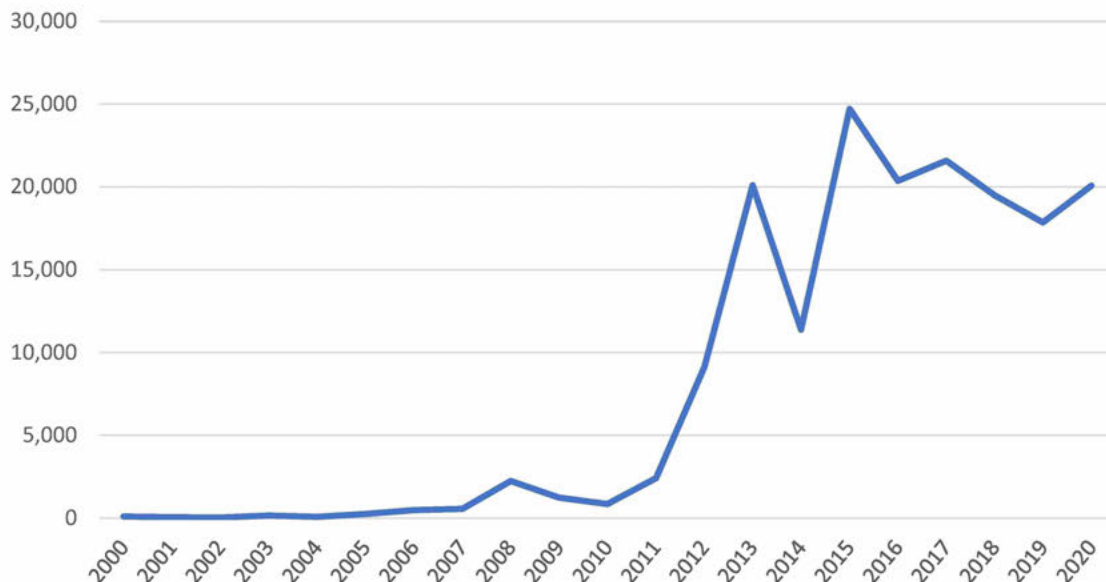
### ***Licensed Short-Barreled Rifle Manufacturing***



As reflected in Figure M-10 and Table M-16 in Appendix M - Manufacturing, annual short-barreled rifle (SBR) manufacturing volume increased 24,080% between 2000 (83) and 2020 (20,069) with the bulk of this growth taking place since 2011. In 2000, the 83 SBRs manufactured constituted less than one percent of the total 79,862 NFA weapons manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce that year. In 2020, the 20,069 SBRs manufactured constituted more than 8% of the total 238,917 NFA weapons manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce that year.



**Figure M-10: Licensed SBR Manufacturing, 2000 – 2020**



The top three SBR parent entities collectively reported manufacturing 44% (43,287) of all domestically manufactured SBRs (99,346) between 2016 and 2020. In total, 34 parent entities reported producing SBRs. Of these licensed SBR manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 65% (64,072) of all domestically manufactured SBRs that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.

See Table M-16 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for the total NFA weapons manufactured domestically by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

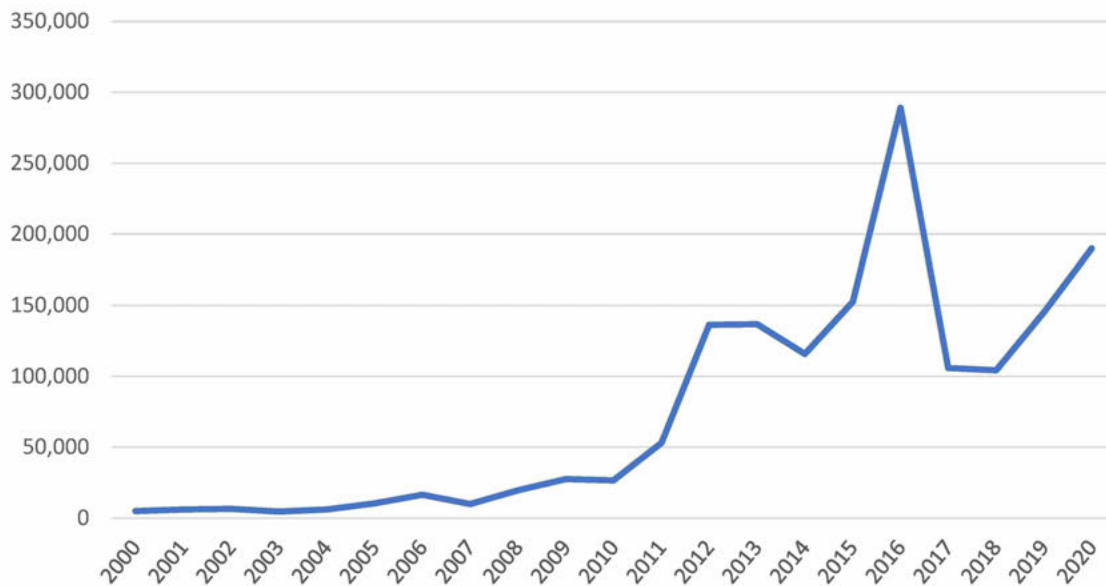
### ***Licensed Silencer Manufacturing***



As reflected in Figure M-11 and Table M-16 in Appendix M - Manufacturing, annual silencer manufacturing volume increased 3,699% between 2000 (5,001) and 2020 (189,987) with the bulk of this growth taking place after 2010. In 2000, the 5,001 silencers manufactured

constituted 6% of the total 79,862 NFA weapons manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce that year. In 2020, the 189,987 silencers manufactured constitutes 80% of the total 238,917 NFA weapons manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce that year.

**Figure M-11: Licensed Silencer Manufacturing, 2000 – 2020**



The top silencer parent entity reported manufacturing 31% (258,790) of all domestically manufactured silencers (834,137) between 2016 and 2020. In total, 24 parent entities reported producing silencers. Of these licensed silencer manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 59% (64,072) of all domestically manufactured silencers that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.

See Table M-16 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for the total NFA weapons manufactured domestically by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

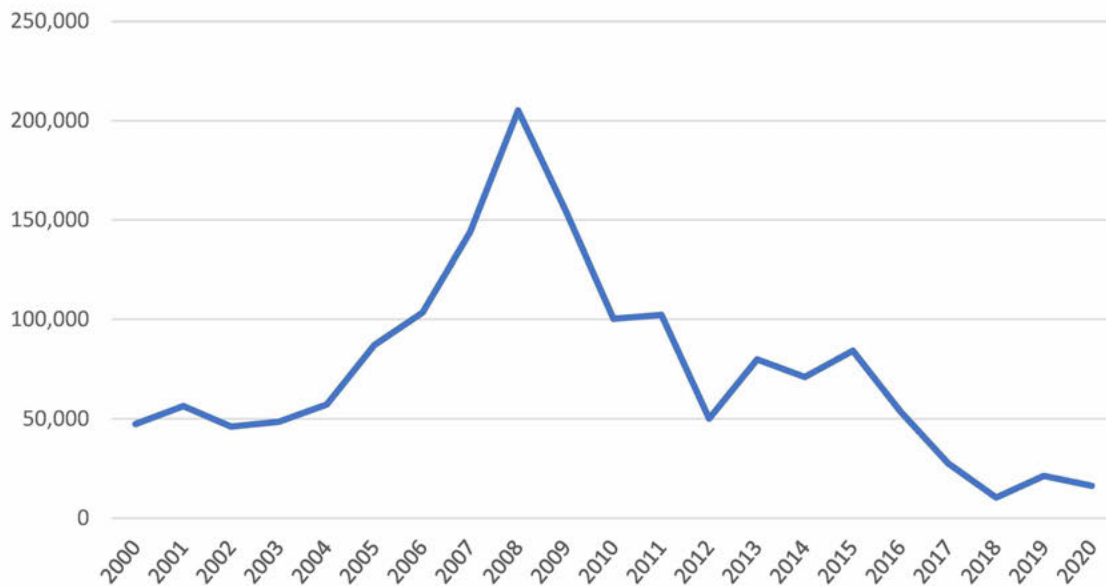
### ***Licensed Machinegun Manufacturing***



As reflected in Figure M-12 and Table M-16 in Appendix M - Manufacturing, annual [machinegun](#) manufacturing volume increased 333% between 2000 (47,361) and 2008 (205,121). This growth is then followed by a 92% decrease in annual machinegun

manufacturing between 2008 (205,121) and 2020 (16,161). In 2000, the 47,361 machineguns manufactured constitute 59% of the total 79,862 NFA weapons manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce that year. In 2020, the 16,161 machineguns manufactured only constitutes 7% of the total 238,917 NFA weapons manufactured and distributed into commerce that year.

**Figure M-12: Licensed Machinegun Manufacturing, 2000 – 2020**



The top three machinegun parent entities collectively reported manufacturing 50% (63,701) of all domestically manufactured machineguns (128,779) between 2016 and 2020. In total, 23 parent entities reported producing machineguns. Of these licensed machinegun manufacturers, the top ten parent entities reported manufacturing 59% (76,586) of all domestically manufactured machineguns that were distributed into domestic commerce during that time.

See Table M-16 in Appendix M - Manufacturing for the total NFA weapons manufactured domestically by weapon type between 2000 and 2020.

## Licensed Ammunition Manufacturing



The GCA requires any person engaged in the business of manufacturing or importing ammunition to be licensed as a manufacturer of ammunition, Type 06 FFL (18 U.S.C. § 923(a)). A Type 06 FFL only permits the manufacture of ammunition, not firearms. A Type 06 FFL is not required for persons who only intend to deal in ammunition. Title 27 CFR § 478.11 defines ammunition as cartridge cases, primers, bullets, or propellant powder designed for use in any firearm other than an antique firearm.



Type 06 FFLs who manufacture ammunition are required to pay [Firearms/Ammunition Excise Tax](#) (FAET). Reloaders of ammunition are required to pay FAET on ammunition sold to customers where the customer has no ownership of the ammunition prior to being reloaded. However, if a customer re-sells the ammunition, the customer is responsible for FAET.



The GCA requires manufacturers of armor piercing ammunition (APA) to maintain records of acquisition and disposition (A&D). Title 27 CFR §478.11 defines APA as: “(i) a projectile or projectile core which may be used in a handgun and which is constructed entirely (excluding the presence of traces of other substances) from one or a combination of tungsten alloys, steel, iron, brass, bronze, beryllium copper, or depleted uranium; or (ii) a full jacketed projectile larger than .22 caliber designed and intended for use in a handgun and whose jacket has a weight of more than 25 percent of the total weight of the projectile”.

[Title 27 CFR § 478.123\(b\)](#) requires Type 06 FFLs to record the manufacturer, caliber or gauge, and quantity as well as to whom the APA was transferred and the date of the transfer in their A & D records. Additional information regarding APA exemptions can be found on ATF’s webpage at: [Armor Piercing Ammunition Exemption Framework | Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives \(atf.gov\)](#).

In addition to a Type 06 FFL, some ammunition manufacturers may be required to hold a Federal Explosives License (FEL) if they import or manufacture explosive materials used in primers and smokeless propellant (e.g., lead styphnate, nitroglycerin). See [27 CFR Part 555](#).

Federal law does not require individuals who make or reload ammunition for their own personal use be licensed.

While persons engaged in the business of manufacturing or importing ammunition must be licensed as a Type 06 FFL, federal laws and regulations do not require Type 06 FFLs to record or report to ATF any information on the quantity or type of ammunition (other than APA) they manufacture or sell. Consequently, ATF cannot provide data or trend analysis regarding the quantity or type of ammunition manufactured from year to year.

## Summary

Between 2000 and 2020, approximately 24% of licensed firearm manufacturers failed to submit the required AFMER report. Between 2016 and 2020, this average increased to 30%. However, the FFLs responsible for most firearms manufactured annually, as indicated by the parent entities throughout the report, have consistently submitted the required AFMER. The percentage of non-AFMER filers does not equate to the volume of firearms entering commerce.

Between 2000 and 2020, the number of domestically manufactured firearms produced on an annual basis per 100,000 persons in the U.S. increased 187%. During that same time, the U.S. population only increased 18%. At no point since 2011 has there been a year where less than 6,731,958 firearms were manufactured for domestic consumption.

Between 2016 and 2020, Smith and Wesson, Sturm Ruger, and Sig Sauer parent entities collectively manufactured and entered commerce 42% (20,045,276) of all domestically manufactured GCA firearms (47,716,521) between 2016 and 2020.

Between 2000 and 2009, the dominant firearm type manufactured in the U.S. was rifles. This changed in 2010 when pistols became the dominant firearm type manufactured in the U.S. Pistol dominance continued from 2010 to 2014, until it was slightly overtaken by rifles in 2015, and then reemerged as the dominant firearm from 2016 through 2020. Among pistol calibers manufactured in 2020, the 9mm PARA caliber pistol constituted 58% (3,211,768) of the total 5,509,151 pistols manufactured and distributed into domestic commerce.

Between 2000 and 2020, annual SBR manufacturing volume increased 24,080% with the bulk of this growth taking place since 2011.

Between 2000 and 2020, annual silencer manufacturing volume increased 3,699% with the bulk of this growth taking place after 2010.

Between 2000 and 2020, annual miscellaneous firearms manufacturing increased 4,281% with the bulk of this growth taking place in the last 10 years. Miscellaneous firearms are predominantly firearm frames and receivers that are manufactured and sold before being assembled into a complete firearm. This growth reflects the growing trend in private individuals making their own customized firearms from serialized parts.