PART VI:
Price of Small Arms and Small Arms Ammunition

As part of the Producer Price Index (PPI), the Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles the selling prices received by domestic producers of "small arms" at the wholesale level, along with prices of ammunition[56]. The PPI represents the best available price data for domestic manufactures. Retail prices paid by consumers may follow a somewhat different trajectory than prices received by producers. The retail prices for small arms are not reported separately in the CPI.[57]

Figure SA-01 displays the trajectories of producer prices for small arms, small arms ammunition, and all consumer goods (excluding food and energy) between 2000 and 2020. Each point on the small arms line represents the amount charged by producers for merchandise that would have cost $100 in the year 2000; a similar interpretation applies to the other two lines for small arms ammunition and for all consumer goods. As can be seen, producer prices of consumer goods rose substantially over this period, some 52% by 2020. Prices for small arms rose by 31% during this period, whereas ammunition increased by 145%. Much of the extraordinary increase in ammunition prices occurred during the period 2004 to 2011, during which time prices doubled.

Figure SA-01: Producer Prices for Small Arms, Small Arms Ammunition, and Consumer Goods[58]

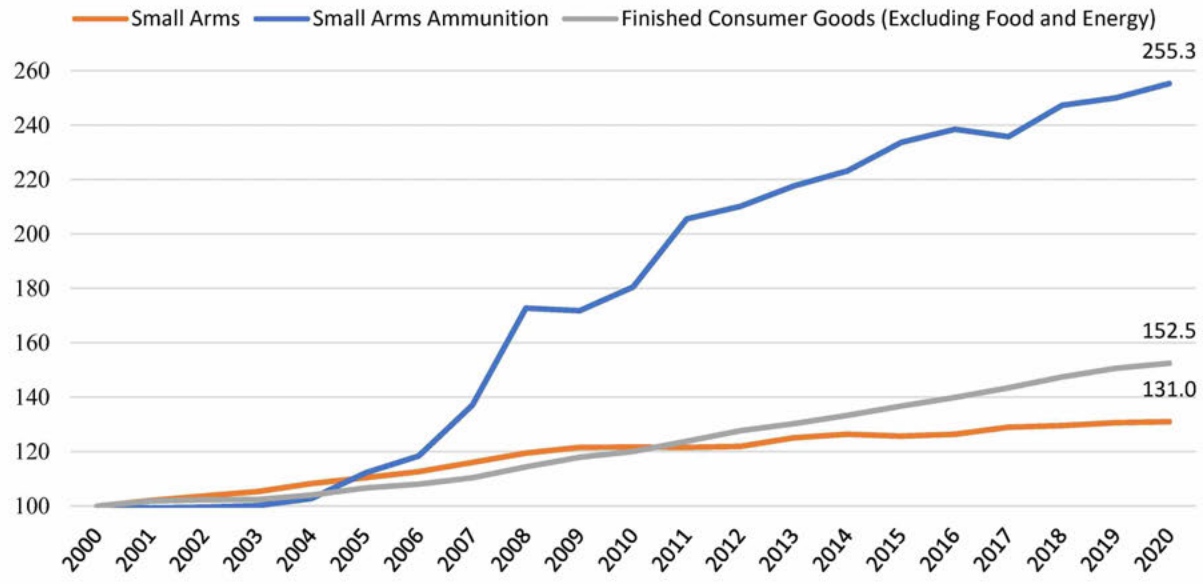
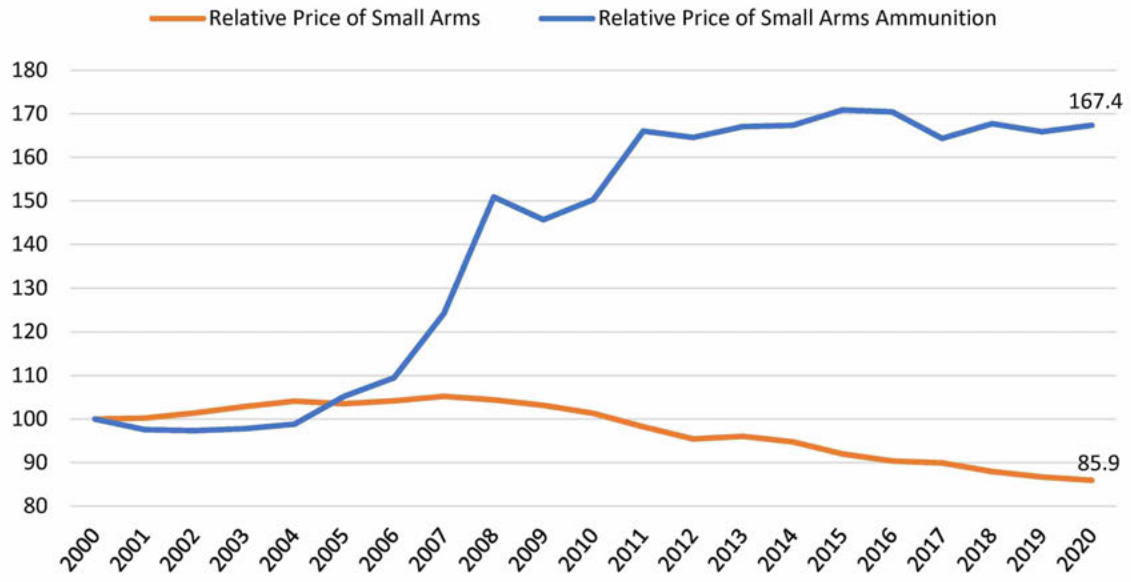


Figure SA-02 displays producer prices for small arms and small arms ammunition relative to prices for all consumer goods between 2000 and 2020. This graph illustrates that after 2004, small arms became less expensive relative to producer prices for other consumer goods, while ammunition became much more expensive.

Figure SA-02: Relative Price of Small Arms and Small Arms Ammunition[59]



See Table SA-01 in Appendix SA – Small Arms and Ammunition for a detailed listing of PPI values, adjusted PPI values, and relative price of small arms, small arms ammunition, and consumer goods from 2000 to 2020.