

Owning a Gun in America Is a Luxury

How much does it really cost to own a gun?

By [Jay Willis](#)

April 30, 2018

Two weeks after Parkland became the latest American city to watch its name become synonymous with the horrors of gun violence, the cottage industry of [Second Amendment commentary](#) that springs up after each one of these tragic episodes was in full swing. Among its more strident defenders, as usual, was Fox News personality Andrew Napolitano, who penned an [op-ed](#) outlining his preferred justification for the continued existence of this country's two-hundred-plus-year-old right to bear arms: It preserves the "natural right" of self-defense.

Natural rights, explains Napolitano, are not granted by government—they are "claims and privileges that are attached to humanity as God's gifts." Or, as he [put it](#) in the *Washington Times* after the Pulse nightclub shooting: "We know from reason, human nature and history that the right to defend yourself is a natural instinct that is an extension of the right to self-preservation, which is itself derived from the right to live."

This is not just a Fox News company line. It was [a pillar](#) of Justice Scalia's reasoning in [District of Columbia v. Heller](#), a Supreme Court case holding that the right to keep a handgun in one's home is not dependent on service in a "well regulated militia." (Napolitano says that when he asked the late justice why he sometimes used the term "pre-political" instead of "natural," he replied. "You and I know they mean the same thing, but 'natural' sounds too Catholic, and I am interpreting the Constitution, not Aquinas.") To these men, the Second Amendment is kind of a formality, enshrining in the law a common-sense truism as a matter of linguistic convenience.

An important implication of this argument, says Napolitano, is that more Americans would be safer if only more Americans were self-reliant gun owners. "We all need to face a painful fact of life: The police make mistakes like the rest of us and simply cannot be everywhere when we need them," he wrote after Parkland. "When government fails to recognize this and it disarms us in selected zones, we become helpless before our enemies." But if the underlying purpose of the Second Amendment is to enable people to take responsibility for their own safety, one complication is that it does nothing to finance the exercise of that right. And owning a gun is expensive.

The Price of Being a Responsible Gun Owner

A gun is a gun, no matter who holds it. NRA spokesperson Dana Loesch is fond of making this point, [arguing](#) that firearms act as the "great equalizer," even among historically marginalized groups. But these statements are aspirational, not descriptive. Gun ownership is [less common](#) among African-Americans and Hispanics than whites, and [more common](#) among wealthier Americans than poorer ones. The financial and bureaucratic barriers to gun ownership, explained one California police officer, tend to disadvantage the same people who would supposedly be most empowered by the availability of tools of self-defense. "People don't live in dangerous neighborhoods by choice—they often can't afford to live anywhere else," he said, noting that the task of obtaining a concealed carry permit, which most states require their proverbial Self-Reliant Good Guys with Guns to have, can be a cost-prohibitive one. "Citizens who want to do everything right can't afford to legally protect themselves." The cultural proliferation of guns has transformed the "right" of self-defense into a luxury available only to those who can afford it.

The process of buying a gun is like buying a car from a really good salesperson: After you make up your mind to buy a gun, you will do your research, consider your needs, pore through reviews, ask friends for advice, and go for some test drives. Eventually, you will walk into a showroom intending to purchase a specific bundle of goods for what you hope is a fixed price. You will leave with a gun, but also with lots of other stuff—some of it mandatory, some of it optional, and none of it included in the amount you thought you would spend in the first place.

Courtesy of gun owners, law enforcement personnel, and gun shop proprietors who generously agreed to help with this project, below are some rough estimates of what it might cost for a firearms novice to become a responsible, well-trained, law-abiding handgun owner. It is not exactly a task that everyone can afford to undertake.

A gun (\$500 to \$650)

While personal taste in handguns varies, most people with whom I spoke recommended that a first-time buyer opt for a 9-millimeter handgun, which tend to be lighter and easier to fire than their larger-caliber counterparts. One gun shop salesperson showed me four different entry-level models, each of which offered different magazine capacities, grip backstraps, and finishes. The most expensive was \$650; the least expensive was \$500, excluding tax.

As is the case when buying a car, you can save money by opting for a used model, or one from a down-market manufacturer. A gun shop owner in Texas told me that his wares start at just \$219.99. But most of what he sells, he says, costs a shade under \$500.

Ammunition (\$150 to \$200 to start)

You need two kinds: practice rounds for the range, and hollow-points—which expand in diameter upon contact—for self-defense. Popular online retailers will sell you 100 hollow-point rounds for around \$40, and 100 rounds of practice ammunition for around \$25. Again, opinions vary on how much ammunition is enough ammunition, but let's say your first buy as a newly-christened pistol owner runs around \$100.

Most handguns come with one or two magazines—the detachable contraption that stores ammunition and is inserted into the grip. (No, it's not a clip. Don't call it a clip.) At \$30 or \$40 apiece, one gun owner recommends grabbing extras to cut down on reloading time at the range. Spend \$15 and \$30 on a speed loader, too, to save yourself the achy-fingered tedium of manually loading rounds into empty magazines.

Accessories (\$200 to \$250)

Basic cleaning supplies run around \$20. A holster costs between \$20 and \$40, unless you're fond of leather. Keep the handgun in an entry-level, portable gun safe, which your favorite sporting goods outfitter sells for around \$40. Heavier-duty, in-home stationary safes—especially those that can store multiple firearms—can be much more expensive.

That's all before you get into attachable accessories. In a nighttime home intruder scenario, a high-lumen light mounted on a handgun's rail system will help you identify who you're pointing the gun at and temporarily blind them, buying additional precious seconds to decide what to do. Several gun owners listed this as a must-have accessory, and it is not cheap. A good one costs around \$150.

Lessons and range fees (\$300 to \$500, excluding ammunition)

Members of gun-owning families are in luck here, since they benefit from the wisdom of experienced relatives from whom they can learn for free. If you don't come from one of those, though, you'll need to learn yourself. A range near me offers an introductory class for about \$90, which covers topics like

vocabulary, storage, safety, marksmanship, and operation. Basic eye and ear protection comes bundled together for \$30.

An annual range membership, including daily usage fees, can run between \$275 and \$350, depending on the market and the frequency with which you visit. One gun owner recommended shooting at least once a month to ensure that your skills don't atrophy. Remember, that's a box or two of practice rounds every time.

Administrative fees (varies by state, but can be hundreds of dollars)

A gun is most useful for self-defense—the type that can stop mass shootings, at least—if you have the option of bringing it outside. Most states require gun owners to pay for this privilege, at the very least. To get a concealed pistol license in [Washington](#), I had to pay \$48 at the sheriff's office, which took my fingerprints and ran a background check. (In [New York City](#), the fee is \$340, which does not include fingerprinting costs.) There were no tests of my skills or questions about my motives for applying. A month later, I received a laminated, wallet-size card affirming my right to bring a handgun into the drugstore.

Other states impose more stringent prerequisites. Residents of [Florida](#) who want a concealed carry permit have to complete an approved firearms education course first. In [Illinois](#) and [Maryland](#), first-time applicants must undergo 16 hours of classroom training—that's two full workdays of instruction—and demonstrate proficiency in a range test, hitting the designated target at least 70 percent of the time.

In places that allow law enforcement to exercise discretion, getting a permit may be functionally impossible, even for those who can meet all the legal requirements. Between [state](#) and [local](#) fees, a California “carry concealed weapon” permit, or CCW, costs around \$300. But in 2014, the *San Francisco Chronicle* [reported](#) that in Alameda County—home to Oakland, Berkeley, and some 1.6 million Californians at the time—law enforcement officials had issued a total of 170 permits. San Francisco, a city of more than 850,000 people, famously evaluates CCW applications on a [strict “necessity” standard](#). As of 2014, there were fewer than 10 of them.

Grand total

One gun shop owner estimated that a prospective gun owner, at an absolute minimum, could buy a cheap pistol and a single box of defensive rounds for around \$250. But these are half-measures. Becoming a safe, responsible, well-trained gun owner—the kind of person who is ready to exercise their natural right to self-defense to the fullest, whether from an intruder in the home or a mass shooter at the mall—costs well over \$1,000. In more expensive markets, if you factor in the time and expense associated with necessary training, that figure could almost double.

Conversations about gun policy rarely consider how the sticker price of hardware might affect ownership patterns. But the nonpartisan Pew Research Center has found that NRA membership rates are [highest](#) among gun owners who report household incomes of greater than \$100,000. A 2014 [analysis](#) published by NORC, a nonpartisan research organization affiliated with the University of Chicago, found that 44 percent of respondents with incomes above \$90,000 had a gun in the home. For those making between \$25,000 and \$49,999, the rate fell to 32.1 percent. Below \$25,000, it was only 18.2 percent.

When the data is broken down into even smaller intervals, says Tom Smith, one of the NORC study's co-authors, the gradient starts to look “pretty steep.” The most recent three years of biannual data from the [General Social Survey](#), which is administered by NORC, show that the likelihood of finding a gun in the house correlates pretty strongly with whether the people who live in it manage to clear six figures.

Survey data cannot explain any individual's decision about gun ownership. (Plenty of people who can afford a gun choose not to do so.) But guns and gun accessories are expensive, notes the Giffords Law Center's Kelly Drane, which means that purchasing a firearm is likely easier for wealthy people. As Smith puts it, "Well-to-do families are more likely to have any particular commodity, from guns to cars to 60-inch TVs. Having more disposable income means you can make less restrictive choices." And for lower-income Americans who do not have comfortable reserves of disposable income, forgoing their Second Amendment right isn't really a choice. Even the barebones starter kit, noted one gun owner, is a lot of money for someone who doesn't have a lot of money. "That doesn't solve the problem," he said. "You can certainly buy your way into a more legitimate way to defend yourself if you've got the money."

It's easy to say that no price is too high for safety and security. Bumper sticker slogans are free, though, and guns are not. It is a basic problem of scarce resource allocation and perception of risk: If something terrible happens to you, failing to have a gun on you only *might* make you more safe. (The Las Vegas shooting happened in a city full of well-trained, gun-carrying professionals. It didn't matter.)

As a practical matter, maybe Napolitano would concede that fewer than 100 percent of people need to be armed in order to prevent mass shootings, especially in urban areas. But every admission like this one undermines the principle of self-reliance, and doubles as a tacit acknowledgement that having more guns in a confined space is an inherently dangerous thing. Besides, choosing the winners—deciding how many good gun owners counts as "enough," and who doesn't need to be able to protect *themselves* in order to be considered "safe"—is an inherently political process, and one that is unlikely to be more charitable to marginalized groups than the status quo.

Astute legal scholars will remind you that the Second Amendment is a negative right—that it protects the *right* to own guns, but that nothing obligates the government to make sure everyone exercises it equally. The Bill of Rights is full of [promises like this one](#), which sound noble and egalitarian in theory but are kinder to wealthier people in practice. Celebrating the virtues of equality while ignoring the consequences of inequity has always been the American way.

This is coherent as a legal argument, but it fails as a moral one. The Second Amendment is the only one that implicates possession of a tangible object, and the unstated reason people require *guns* to defend themselves is that other people—bad people—are assumed to have guns, too. The right to bear arms is a "necessity" borne of some 250 years of treating guns as part of the fabric of American society, not as the affirmative policy choice that it is. Today, the Second Amendment bestows its unique brand of freedom only on those who can afford a gun, paying a de facto tax to feel a little less vulnerable to the omnipresent threat of harm. If we justify the right to bear arms on self-defense grounds—if it is convenient shorthand for a natural right to protect ourselves—we also accept that for anyone who can't pay this tax, the right is a hollow one.

This rationale's most insidious implication is that it casts doubt on the idea that a greater social obligation exists to protect members from harm. "I'm not going to be a Gabby Giffords," explained GOP congressman Ralph Norman after [displaying his pistol](#) during a recent public appearance. In 2011, the Arizona legislator was shot in the head by a man who used his legally-obtained handgun to kill six people that morning. Norman's message is clear: If she had brought a pistol to that grocery store, perhaps things would have turned out differently. The availability of guns in the marketplace enables people to feel less responsible for doing the hard work of addressing gun violence, because it permits them to think of self-defense as a choice—even for those who may not actually have one.

I can't fault anyone who wants to do all that they can to protect themselves and their loved ones. I respect the decisions of responsible, thoughtful people who use their resources to learn how to use a gun for that purpose. But I am troubled by the fact that doing so is a privilege—another way in which America's culture of guns is most dangerous for the most vulnerable people who live in it.

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The Market for New Handguns: An Empirical Investigation

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The True Cost of Buying a Handgun

<https://www.thetruthaboutguns.com/true-cost-buying-handgun/>

(accessed May 7, 2020)

October 20, 2013

By Rob Aught

Sticker shock. Anyone who has ever shopped for a car knows what it is. I was somewhat surprised to find out it applies to firearm purchases as well. Fortunately, when I went to buy my first firearm someone was kind enough to warn me that just buying a gun is not the end of what you need. Buying a firearm by itself is like buying a computer without a keyboard, monitor, and mouse. Yes, you now have a computer, but it's worthless for anything more than an expensive paperweight . . .

Now, if you're an experienced shooter, this article may not be for you. You may have all the whizbangs and doo-dads you need and going into a store to buy a new firearm is all you have to do. This is largely for people who are new to guns and I'm going to provide a template for planning your purchase and give a specific example. I am going to focus on handguns because this is the most common weapon purchased for home defense and by far the most common firearm purchased for concealed carry. There is an ongoing and lively debate over whether a handgun, rifle, or shotgun makes for the "best" home defense weapon. This article is not advocating a stance. I am simply using a handgun as an example because it is the weapon most new shooters will buy.

Here come the disclaimers. State law can vary greatly and I am not looking at any additional costs for your area, including additional licensing, permits, or special taxes on firearms and ammunition. I live in Texas where the cost of a firearm is all you have to pay unless you're looking at getting a concealed handgun license. Please check your local laws and regulations before you make any purchases. Also, any shipping costs or FFL transfer fees are not included. If you're buying online it's best to be aware of these costs upfront. For this example, due to variance by area, I am also assuming a 7% sales tax. This may be more or less than what you would actually pay, but I don't want to leave it out of the discussion entirely since it can add a significant cost to the end total. Also not included are any fees for going to a gun range or joining a gun club to practice shooting. Too much variance for me to calculate. Furthermore, in all the following examples I will be presenting a range and then landing somewhere in the middle. Cost variances can occur and may be more or less than even the range I am presenting. The idea is to prepare you for a general idea of what you will need to spend. More than one person has set out to spend \$500 on a handgun and suddenly found themselves out \$100 to \$200 more than they expected.

Here are the absolute essentials you will need when you make your first firearm purchase –

- The firearm itself – Self explanatory
- A spare magazine – You should have a ready to go reload on hand whether you intend this for home defense or concealed carry.
- 200 rounds of practice ammunition – You need to put enough rounds through your new firearm to get comfortable and learn it's ins and outs
- A gun lock – Assuming you don't already have a safe, you need some kind of lock to secure the weapon.
- A full load and one reload of self defense ammunition – I am going to recommend JHP's, Jacketed Hollow Points, for any kind of defensive use
- Eye Protection – This is for practice. 99% of the time you don't need it, but if you've ever caught hot brass in the face you'll be glad you have it.
- Hearing Protection – Guns are loud! Like permanent hearing loss loud!
- Cleaning Solvent, Gun Oil, Cleaning Patches, and a Cleaning Kit – For standard maintenance

I'll break this down for you using a specific example, the Glock 19. I'm not a Glock lover, in fact I don't care for them personally. However, I do have experience with them and they are solid handguns. There is a good reason the Glock 19 is one of the best selling handguns in the United States. The Glock 19 is a double action only, autoloading, 9mm Luger handgun with a standard capacity of 15 rounds. With a reputation for reliability, it is also accurate, and is generally not picky about what kind of ammunition it will shoot.

Here's the breakdown:

Glock 19 Handgun – \$500 to \$550

For our purposes we're going to say its \$525. I can find them all day long at that price at a number of retailers. There are both cheaper and more expensive handguns, but as a default option the Glock 19 is essentially the Toyota Camry of handguns.

Spare Magazine – \$0

The Glock 19 comes with a spare magazine and a magazine loader. Depending on your particular gun it could be anywhere from \$15 to \$40 for spare magazines, maybe even more. However, most common handgun brands, certainly any brand I would recommend for home defense, already comes with a spare magazine.

200 rounds of 9mm Luger – \$13 to \$15 for a box of 50 rounds

In general you can probably expect to spend right at \$14 for a box of 50 rounds. This is the cost for using brass ammunition. This means the bullet casing is made out of brass. There is steel cased ammunition that is cheaper, but generally is dirtier and some handguns have issues with it. I recommend using brass cased bullets for new shooters simply so you don't have to worry about the idiosyncrasies of steel casings. Once you get used to your weapon's function and maintenance it may be worth looking at steel cased ammunition for shooting "on the cheap". Other than that, anything that is FMJ (Full metal jacket) is fine for range use.

40 rounds of 9mm Luger self defense ammunition – \$21 to \$24 for a box of 20 rounds

This will hurt a little because of the Glock 19's capacity. You'll need to buy two boxes so you can fully load both magazines. Don't just keep the extra 10 rounds, I would recommend shooting them at the range just to make sure the rounds you've purchased work without issue. The Glock will likely function just fine with any self defense ammunition but it's always worthwhile to fire a few rounds to make sure. Self defense ammunition is usually easy to identify in the store and there are many manufacturers, but what you're looking for is JHP (Jacketed hollow-point). These bullets are designed to expand when they hit a target, doing more internal damage, while also being less likely to penetrate the inner walls of your home should you miss your target. For the end total I'm going to assume about \$23 a box.

Gun Lock – \$0

Most handguns sold in the US come with a gun lock. For the most part you won't use it, but it's a good thing to have around. There may be situations where you need to secure your weapon and if you don't have a gun safe a gun lock is your next best option. While it won't prevent a theft it will at least prevent a negligent discharge. I don't recommend storing your weapon with the lock on as it will be difficult to deploy when you need it. However, there may be specific circumstances where it's better to lock it down. Just don't make that your default.

Eye Protection – \$10 to \$20

I'm going to go with \$10 even though it's the low end, simply because I can find decent shooting glasses at that price without a problem. There are some very pricey shooting glasses out there, but just for newbie shooters don't go crazy. However, do invest in some. I literally have been hit right between the eyes with hot brass. Not a common occurrence but had I been wearing eye protection it would have been no big deal.

Hearing Protection – \$15 to \$20 for earmuff style hearing protection

There are cheaper options like in-ear protection, but earmuffs are easy to use, difficult to put on incorrectly, and generally work just fine if you spring for something that is at least \$15. I have seen earmuff style

protection for north of \$100, but for a new shooter a basic set will do just fine. For our purposes let's assume \$20.

Cleaning Solvent – \$3

Buy some purpose made solvent for cleaning firearms. This doesn't need to be anything fancy but it should be designed to dissolve common residue and fouling that occurs when discharging a firearm. For \$3 you should be all set.

Gun Oil – \$2 to \$5

There is an average price of about \$3. I am thinking specifically of gun oil that has a squeeze applicator similar to a standard bottle of glue instead of the spray on kind. Having an applicator allows easier clean-up and purposeful lubrication of factory recommended lubrication points.

Cleaning Patches – \$4

Yes, buy cleaning patches. They're cheap and useful not only for cleaning the bore (barrel) of your weapon but general clean-up of any excess solvent or gun oil. Even if your cleaning kit comes with patches, buy more.

Cleaning Kit – \$0

Although not common for all firearms, the Glock 19 at least comes with a bore brush and cleaning rod. In general, to buy a separate cleaning kit you would expect to spend about \$10 per caliber and various kits may come with solvent and gun oil. However, if the Glock 19 is your first and only gun there is no need to buy a 9mm handgun cleaning kit.

So what is our grand total?

\$525 – Glock 19 Handgun, extra magazine, gun lock, cleaning kit

\$56 – 200 rounds of 9mm brass FMJ practice ammunition

\$46 – 40 rounds of 9mm JHP self defense ammunition

\$10 – Eye protection

\$20 – Hearing protection

\$10 – Cleaning supplies (Patches, oil, and solvent)

Subtotal – \$667

7% Sales Tax – \$47

Grand Total – \$714

As always, your mileage may vary. You may choose a cheaper handgun, or a more expensive one. There are plenty of other options and accessories that I am not covering, mostly because they are not essential to the initial purchase but might be good to have later, such as a holster if you're going to carry concealed or a range bag. The best thing to do is walk through this exercise before you buy, do some research, and be prepared. Yes, that first purchase can be expensive but once you've got all the basics you can add the rest a little at a time as your budget allows



FIREARM AND AMMUNITION INDUSTRY

ECONOMIC IMPACT

REPORT | 2020

NSSF[®]

*The Firearm Industry
Trade Association*

Who is the National Shooting Sports Foundation?

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (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 about 9,000 manufacturers, distributors, firearms retailers, shooting ranges, sportsmen's organizations and publishers.

For more than 200 years, America's firearm and ammunition industry has made products that have been part of our country's tradition of freedom, self-reliance and enjoyment of the outdoors.

NSSF has led the way in promoting responsible ownership of firearms.

NSSF concentrates its efforts on measurably advancing

NSSF[®]
The Firearm Industry
Trade Association

participation in and understanding of hunting and the shooting sports; reaffirming and strengthening our members' commitment to the safe and responsible use of their

products, and promoting a political climate supportive of America's traditional firearms rights.

NSSF's expanding government relations program responds to the ever-changing political environment that threatens the lawful commerce in our industry's products, the future of hunting, recreational shooting and our firearms freedoms. NSSF works on both state and federal issues, along with working with many state and federal regulatory agencies, to protect the firearm industry and make sure their business interests are appropriately represented.

The Firearm and Ammunition Industry Economic Impact Report

This report details the significant economic impact the firearm and ammunition industry has on the nation's and each state's economy. The economic growth America's firearm and ammunition industry has experienced in recent years has been nothing short

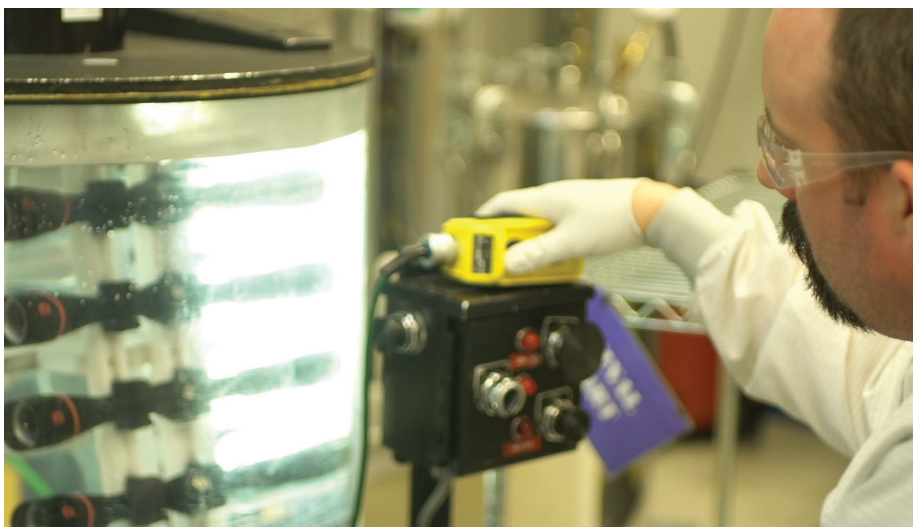
of remarkable. Over the past decade, the industry's growth has been driven by an unprecedented number of Americans choosing to exercise their fundamental right to keep and bear arms and purchase a firearm and ammunition.

NSSF, representing America's firearm and ammunition

manufacturers, takes great pride in supporting wildlife conservation efforts. Noted in the economic impact report is the significant taxes paid by our industry to federal and state governments and the Pittman-Robertson excise tax the industry pays on the products it sells – this tax is the major source of wildlife conservation funding in America.

Regardless of economic conditions across the country, our industry has grown and created over 149,000 new, well-paying jobs over the past decade. Our industry is proud to be one of the bright spots in this economy.

Take a look for yourself and see the impact we have nationally and on your home state.
(See center spread.)



THE FIREARM INDUSTRY CREATES JOBS IN AMERICA

The Firearm Industry Creates Jobs in America

United States companies that manufacture, distribute, and sell sporting firearms, ammunition, and supplies are an important part of the country's economy. Manufacturers of firearms, ammunition, and supplies, along with the companies that sell and distribute these products, provide well paying jobs in America and pay significant amounts in tax to the state and Federal governments.

The Economic Impact of the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Industry in the United States

	Direct	Supplier	Induced	Total
Jobs (FTE)	150,707	75,104	106,397	332,208
Wages	\$6,805,560,400	\$5,581,011,100	\$5,952,886,600	\$18,339,458,100
Economic Impact	\$24,054,489,700	\$17,093,112,500	\$18,867,531,000	\$60,015,133,200

The Firearm & Ammunition Industry is an Important Part of America's Economy

Companies in the United States that manufacture, distribute, and sell firearms, ammunition, and hunting equipment employ as many as 150,707 people in the country and generate an additional 181,501 jobs in supplier and ancillary industries. These include jobs in supplying goods and services to manufacturers, distributors, and retailers, and those that depend on sales to workers in the firearms and ammunition industry.¹

These are good jobs paying an average of \$55,200 in wages and benefits. And today, every job is important. The United States currently had an unemployment rate of 3.68 percent as of August 2019. This means that there were already 6,007,000 people trying to find jobs in the nation and collecting unemployment benefits.²

The Economic Benefit of the Industry Spreads Throughout the Country

Not only does the manufacture and sale of firearms and hunting supplies create good jobs in the United States, but the industry also contributes to the economy as a whole. In fact, in 2019 the firearm and ammunition industry was responsible for as much as \$60.02 billion in total economic activity in the country.

The broader economic impact flows throughout the economy, generating business for firms seemingly unrelated to firearms. Real people, with real jobs, working in industries as varied as banking, retail, accounting, metal working, even in printing, all depend on the firearm and ammunition industry for their livelihood.

The Country Also Benefits From the Taxes Paid By The Industry

Not only does the industry create jobs, it also generates sizeable tax revenues. In the United States, the industry and its employees pay over \$6.74 billion in taxes including property, income, and sales based levies.³

Taxes Generated in The United States		
Tax Impact	Business Taxes	Excise Taxes
Federal Taxes	\$3,939,182,100	\$586,582,300
State Taxes	\$2,801,074,200	
Total Taxes	\$6,740,256,300	\$586,582,300



¹ John Dunham & Associates, New York, December 2019. Direct impacts include those jobs in firearms and ammunition manufacturers, as well as companies that manufacture products such as ammunition holders and magazines, cases, decoys, game calls, holsters, hunting equipment, scopes, clay pigeons and targets. Direct impacts also include those resulting from the wholesale distribution and retailing of these products.

² The Bureau of Labor Statistics. Available online at: www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm. Data for August-19.

³ This is in addition to over \$586.58 million in federal excise taxes.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION INDUSTRIES, 2019

	Direct			Suppliers		
	Jobs	Wages	Output	Jobs	Wages	Output
Alabama	3,182	\$ 127,840,600	\$ 492,941,600	1,455	\$ 91,457,200	\$ 321,672,900
Alaska	721	\$ 19,917,900	\$ 45,752,900	168	\$ 9,355,200	\$ 27,174,500
Arizona	3,655	\$ 246,611,400	\$ 830,929,200	1,980	\$ 154,721,000	\$ 437,547,500
Arkansas	3,195	\$ 126,745,400	\$ 743,747,800	1,543	\$ 94,401,700	\$ 345,840,300
California	9,062	\$ 462,944,700	\$ 1,286,229,300	4,805	\$ 424,675,200	\$ 1,189,597,200
Colorado	2,683	\$ 119,783,100	\$ 358,534,300	1,362	\$ 100,050,300	\$ 273,353,000
Connecticut	2,253	\$ 194,006,800	\$ 708,440,100	1,303	\$ 138,490,500	\$ 357,899,700
Delaware	163	\$ 4,440,800	\$ 8,936,400	69	\$ 4,672,400	\$ 19,381,000
District of Columbia	3	\$ 206,300	\$ 322,800	9	\$ 1,247,100	\$ 3,627,700
Florida	7,411	\$ 322,505,200	\$ 1,206,457,600	4,136	\$ 272,869,300	\$ 826,702,700
Georgia	4,435	\$ 185,978,100	\$ 745,693,300	2,383	\$ 165,277,800	\$ 549,708,800
Hawaii	180	\$ 6,988,700	\$ 17,878,000	60	\$ 3,670,200	\$ 12,005,600
Idaho	3,637	\$ 155,296,500	\$ 647,499,400	1,603	\$ 97,875,700	\$ 313,956,600
Illinois	4,883	\$ 270,618,200	\$ 1,019,517,800	3,169	\$ 265,811,400	\$ 806,923,700
Indiana	3,142	\$ 90,896,400	\$ 263,318,200	1,440	\$ 96,927,400	\$ 374,766,200
Iowa	1,330	\$ 44,702,100	\$ 138,042,400	583	\$ 36,672,100	\$ 126,956,800
Kansas	2,818	\$ 129,143,900	\$ 416,997,900	880	\$ 59,053,500	\$ 180,062,200
Kentucky	2,064	\$ 66,871,400	\$ 202,889,200	866	\$ 52,141,300	\$ 200,379,100
Louisiana	2,479	\$ 71,342,600	\$ 252,043,900	967	\$ 55,088,400	\$ 237,327,300
Maine	1,387	\$ 47,894,700	\$ 166,561,400	527	\$ 29,919,200	\$ 88,831,000
Maryland	1,557	\$ 100,286,300	\$ 381,338,300	762	\$ 69,819,700	\$ 181,513,700
Massachusetts	3,130	\$ 228,609,700	\$ 1,208,563,400	1,987	\$ 212,744,200	\$ 574,103,100
Michigan	4,326	\$ 147,763,600	\$ 421,363,200	2,263	\$ 154,583,700	\$ 474,947,600
Minnesota	4,908	\$ 352,168,600	\$ 1,205,135,600	2,931	\$ 261,892,400	\$ 712,519,300
Mississippi	2,359	\$ 99,363,000	\$ 408,882,300	1,091	\$ 62,799,700	\$ 241,301,000
Missouri	5,659	\$ 195,605,200	\$ 580,495,800	2,228	\$ 138,474,700	\$ 411,152,100
Montana	1,411	\$ 44,975,500	\$ 181,708,200	530	\$ 27,918,900	\$ 91,821,600
Nebraska	1,868	\$ 71,588,700	\$ 293,709,800	752	\$ 49,318,900	\$ 163,553,300
Nevada	1,501	\$ 55,411,700	\$ 171,676,200	591	\$ 35,671,500	\$ 107,470,200
New Hampshire	2,530	\$ 209,615,800	\$ 926,013,400	1,505	\$ 145,739,900	\$ 372,861,800
New Jersey	1,160	\$ 87,964,000	\$ 266,564,700	807	\$ 79,466,500	\$ 222,464,300
New Mexico	729	\$ 17,879,100	\$ 55,668,300	227	\$ 10,505,500	\$ 41,539,500
New York	3,402	\$ 220,974,000	\$ 827,128,800	2,094	\$ 225,007,300	\$ 615,635,300
North Carolina	5,454	\$ 228,455,400	\$ 825,428,600	2,934	\$ 192,333,100	\$ 600,847,700
North Dakota	546	\$ 16,963,500	\$ 35,222,500	148	\$ 8,297,600	\$ 24,144,600
Ohio	6,523	\$ 224,965,800	\$ 591,804,900	2,840	\$ 184,287,500	\$ 631,772,200
Oklahoma	2,291	\$ 64,886,300	\$ 202,703,100	884	\$ 46,864,000	\$ 161,103,800
Oregon	2,756	\$ 179,316,500	\$ 635,921,800	1,949	\$ 164,044,700	\$ 442,435,300
Pennsylvania	6,079	\$ 258,597,900	\$ 801,654,300	3,013	\$ 240,033,900	\$ 708,921,100
Rhode Island	188	\$ 14,709,900	\$ 49,969,400	164	\$ 13,157,800	\$ 43,033,300
South Carolina	3,018	\$ 129,404,800	\$ 501,785,300	1,746	\$ 108,471,300	\$ 360,726,400
South Dakota	1,093	\$ 38,074,200	\$ 169,464,700	397	\$ 23,824,800	\$ 78,230,200
Tennessee	3,185	\$ 122,951,800	\$ 328,648,500	1,464	\$ 101,563,500	\$ 313,150,000
Texas	11,844	\$ 456,583,800	\$ 1,473,627,000	5,737	\$ 407,699,900	\$ 1,390,109,800
Utah	3,120	\$ 115,406,600	\$ 414,341,800	1,499	\$ 92,326,300	\$ 286,061,700
Vermont	394	\$ 22,050,600	\$ 76,723,800	181	\$ 13,286,300	\$ 38,351,900
Virginia	3,089	\$ 121,132,700	\$ 548,724,800	1,504	\$ 110,744,500	\$ 345,634,100
Washington	3,705	\$ 143,721,800	\$ 429,088,200	1,493	\$ 112,478,200	\$ 318,454,500
West Virginia	836	\$ 20,044,300	\$ 64,239,100	282	\$ 15,318,000	\$ 61,934,800
Wisconsin	2,681	\$ 99,537,300	\$ 333,596,600	1,580	\$ 106,499,900	\$ 342,117,900
Wyoming	682	\$ 21,817,200	\$ 90,563,800	213	\$ 11,460,000	\$ 41,486,600
United States	150,707	\$ 6,805,560,400	\$ 24,054,489,700	75,104	\$ 5,581,011,100	\$ 17,093,112,500

Source: John Dunham and Associates, Inc.
New York, New York 2019

STATE BY STATE ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT

Induced			Total			Average	Federal
Jobs	Wages	Output	Jobs	Wages	Output	Wages	Excise Tax
1,896	\$ 90,849,700	\$ 305,262,900	6,533	\$ 310,147,500	\$ 1,119,877,400	\$ 47,500	\$ 12,431,300
314	\$ 13,171,500	\$ 35,290,700	1,203	\$ 42,444,600	\$ 108,218,100	\$ 35,300	\$ 3,376,900
3,240	\$ 201,309,200	\$ 586,741,900	8,875	\$ 602,641,600	\$ 1,855,218,600	\$ 68,000	\$ 10,747,800
1,912	\$ 88,541,500	\$ 355,524,400	6,650	\$ 309,688,600	\$ 1,445,112,500	\$ 46,600	\$ 8,569,400
7,084	\$ 467,881,500	\$ 1,453,133,500	20,951	\$ 1,355,501,400	\$ 3,928,960,000	\$ 64,700	\$ 49,579,400
1,957	\$ 105,627,300	\$ 319,771,400	6,002	\$ 325,460,700	\$ 951,658,700	\$ 54,200	\$ 11,756,900
1,979	\$ 161,571,400	\$ 439,830,300	5,535	\$ 494,068,700	\$ 1,506,170,100	\$ 89,300	\$ 5,592,500
117	\$ 6,538,300	\$ 28,952,100	349	\$ 15,651,500	\$ 57,269,500	\$ 44,800	\$ 787,900
21	\$ 2,441,700	\$ 8,660,800	33	\$ 3,895,100	\$ 12,611,300	\$ 118,000	\$ 30,500
5,914	\$ 301,573,200	\$ 985,129,800	17,461	\$ 896,947,700	\$ 3,018,290,100	\$ 51,400	\$ 28,554,200
3,229	\$ 165,392,000	\$ 568,346,100	10,047	\$ 516,647,900	\$ 1,863,748,200	\$ 51,400	\$ 16,507,500
125	\$ 6,103,100	\$ 24,685,000	365	\$ 16,762,000	\$ 54,568,600	\$ 45,900	\$ 1,239,000
2,210	\$ 109,063,400	\$ 341,082,000	7,450	\$ 362,235,600	\$ 1,302,538,000	\$ 48,600	\$ 10,334,000
4,251	\$ 273,466,500	\$ 871,929,500	12,303	\$ 809,896,100	\$ 2,698,371,000	\$ 65,800	\$ 14,407,700
1,852	\$ 86,578,400	\$ 298,309,500	6,434	\$ 274,402,200	\$ 936,393,900	\$ 42,600	\$ 14,474,500
859	\$ 40,167,000	\$ 160,282,100	2,772	\$ 121,541,200	\$ 425,281,300	\$ 43,800	\$ 5,421,100
1,399	\$ 74,777,200	\$ 230,809,300	5,097	\$ 262,974,600	\$ 827,869,400	\$ 51,600	\$ 11,643,200
1,214	\$ 54,014,400	\$ 183,357,200	4,144	\$ 173,027,100	\$ 586,625,500	\$ 41,800	\$ 9,156,900
1,345	\$ 55,404,900	\$ 221,064,600	4,791	\$ 181,835,900	\$ 710,435,800	\$ 38,000	\$ 11,316,700
825	\$ 37,050,300	\$ 110,940,100	2,739	\$ 114,864,200	\$ 366,332,500	\$ 41,900	\$ 6,419,400
1,243	\$ 85,345,900	\$ 268,392,600	3,562	\$ 255,451,900	\$ 831,244,600	\$ 71,700	\$ 5,004,800
2,942	\$ 224,605,700	\$ 712,928,100	8,059	\$ 665,959,600	\$ 2,495,594,600	\$ 82,600	\$ 4,599,500
2,860	\$ 136,771,600	\$ 435,880,300	9,449	\$ 439,118,900	\$ 1,332,191,100	\$ 46,500	\$ 16,723,100
4,759	\$ 320,902,100	\$ 887,763,300	12,598	\$ 934,963,100	\$ 2,805,418,200	\$ 74,200	\$ 11,981,400
1,415	\$ 67,303,500	\$ 229,306,000	4,865	\$ 229,466,200	\$ 879,489,300	\$ 47,200	\$ 5,749,900
3,454	\$ 160,296,000	\$ 468,340,300	11,341	\$ 494,375,900	\$ 1,459,988,200	\$ 43,600	\$ 23,331,900
769	\$ 31,784,100	\$ 103,290,300	2,710	\$ 104,678,500	\$ 376,820,100	\$ 38,600	\$ 4,256,000
1,158	\$ 58,210,400	\$ 198,937,400	3,778	\$ 179,118,000	\$ 656,200,500	\$ 47,400	\$ 6,120,300
847	\$ 39,454,500	\$ 124,707,800	2,939	\$ 130,537,700	\$ 403,854,200	\$ 44,400	\$ 8,157,000
2,337	\$ 165,674,700	\$ 495,017,000	6,372	\$ 521,030,400	\$ 1,793,892,200	\$ 81,800	\$ 2,725,300
1,223	\$ 93,921,600	\$ 300,012,100	3,190	\$ 261,352,100	\$ 789,041,100	\$ 81,900	\$ 5,510,900
371	\$ 13,326,200	\$ 49,019,300	1,327	\$ 41,710,800	\$ 146,227,100	\$ 31,400	\$ 3,487,800
3,079	\$ 262,296,000	\$ 780,660,100	8,575	\$ 708,277,300	\$ 2,223,424,200	\$ 82,600	\$ 10,357,600
3,760	\$ 194,726,400	\$ 638,987,100	12,148	\$ 615,514,900	\$ 2,065,263,400	\$ 50,700	\$ 18,370,300
278	\$ 11,734,600	\$ 36,329,600	972	\$ 36,995,700	\$ 95,696,700	\$ 38,100	\$ 2,771,600
4,073	\$ 193,069,000	\$ 607,264,700	13,436	\$ 602,322,300	\$ 1,830,841,800	\$ 44,800	\$ 33,884,900
1,220	\$ 48,363,200	\$ 161,947,300	4,395	\$ 160,113,500	\$ 525,754,200	\$ 36,400	\$ 9,996,700
2,416	\$ 146,182,300	\$ 433,440,000	7,121	\$ 489,543,500	\$ 1,511,797,100	\$ 68,700	\$ 7,555,500
4,381	\$ 241,097,700	\$ 724,365,200	13,473	\$ 739,729,500	\$ 2,234,940,600	\$ 54,900	\$ 26,571,900
195	\$ 12,704,400	\$ 41,868,300	547	\$ 40,572,100	\$ 134,871,000	\$ 74,200	\$ 503,200
2,016	\$ 98,565,800	\$ 326,112,600	6,780	\$ 336,441,900	\$ 1,188,624,300	\$ 49,600	\$ 9,478,100
621	\$ 28,712,400	\$ 99,101,200	2,111	\$ 90,611,400	\$ 346,796,100	\$ 42,900	\$ 3,641,000
2,012	\$ 107,117,900	\$ 311,384,500	6,661	\$ 331,633,200	\$ 953,183,000	\$ 49,800	\$ 16,182,800
8,193	\$ 421,914,500	\$ 1,406,601,500	25,774	\$ 1,286,198,200	\$ 4,270,338,300	\$ 49,900	\$ 54,446,900
1,982	\$ 92,011,300	\$ 298,912,600	6,601	\$ 299,744,200	\$ 999,316,100	\$ 45,400	\$ 12,257,300
291	\$ 16,558,800	\$ 50,300,100	866	\$ 51,895,700	\$ 165,375,800	\$ 59,900	\$ 1,292,100
2,002	\$ 100,854,400	\$ 375,156,200	6,595	\$ 332,731,600	\$ 1,269,515,100	\$ 50,500	\$ 10,565,200
2,149	\$ 116,968,000	\$ 350,291,500	7,347	\$ 373,168,000	\$ 1,097,834,200	\$ 50,800	\$ 21,959,000
411	\$ 15,089,400	\$ 53,554,000	1,529	\$ 50,451,700	\$ 179,727,900	\$ 33,000	\$ 3,546,500
1,892	\$ 93,476,100	\$ 322,276,700	6,153	\$ 299,513,300	\$ 997,991,200	\$ 48,700	\$ 10,572,500
305	\$ 12,325,600	\$ 46,280,100	1,200	\$ 45,602,800	\$ 178,330,500	\$ 38,000	\$ 2,634,300
106,397	\$ 5,952,886,600	\$ 18,867,531,000	332,208	\$ 18,339,458,100	\$ 60,015,133,200	\$ 55,200	\$586,582,100

STATE RANKINGS - 2019



Economic Output: Top Ten States

Total Economic Output, dollars
Texas
California
Florida
Minnesota
Illinois
Massachusetts
Pennsylvania
New York
North Carolina
Georgia

Total Economic Output, per capita
New Hampshire
Idaho
Minnesota
Arkansas
Connecticut
South Dakota
Massachusetts
Oregon
Montana
Nebraska

Growth in Economic Output
Iowa
New Jersey
Virginia
Rhode Island
Vermont
Indiana
Hawaii
Arizona
Wisconsin
Alabama



Jobs: Top Ten States

Total Jobs, number
Texas
California
Florida
Pennsylvania
Ohio
Minnesota
Illinois
North Carolina
Missouri
Georgia

Total Jobs, per capita
New Hampshire
Idaho
Montana
South Dakota
Minnesota
Arkansas
Wyoming
Utah
Maine
Nebraska

Growth in Jobs
Iowa
Virginia
Vermont
Wisconsin
Indiana
Nevada
New Jersey
Colorado
North Carolina
Michigan



Excise Tax: Top Ten States

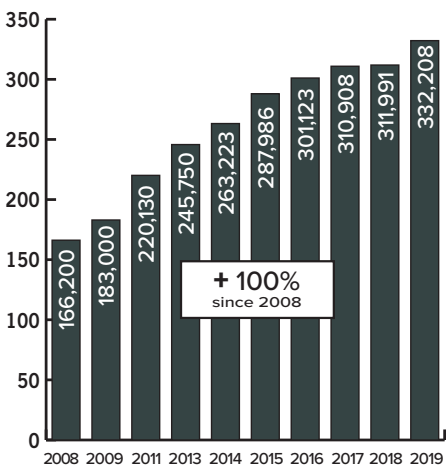
Federal Excise Taxes, number
Texas
California
Ohio
Florida
Pennsylvania
Missouri
Washington
North Carolina
Michigan
Georgia

Federal Excise Taxes, per capita
Idaho
Maine
Alaska
Wyoming
South Dakota
Kansas
Montana
Utah
Missouri
North Dakota

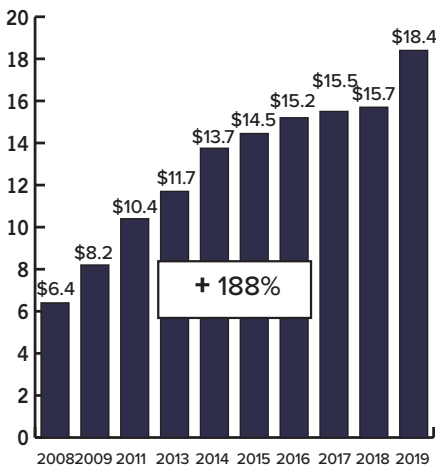
Growth in Excise Taxes
New Jersey
New York
Massachusetts
Nevada
Washington
Connecticut
Florida
North Carolina
Arizona
Colorado

WHAT A GROWING INDUSTRY LOOKS LIKE...

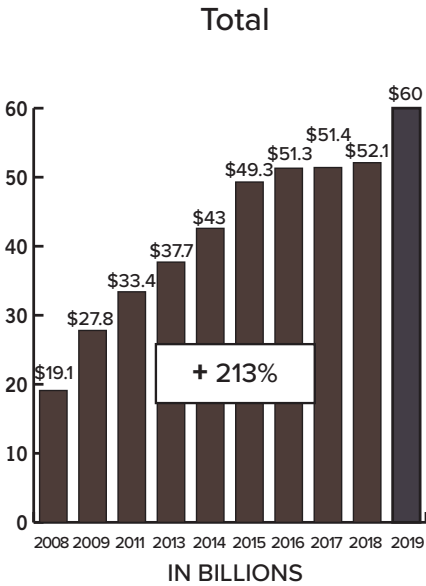
JOB



WAGES

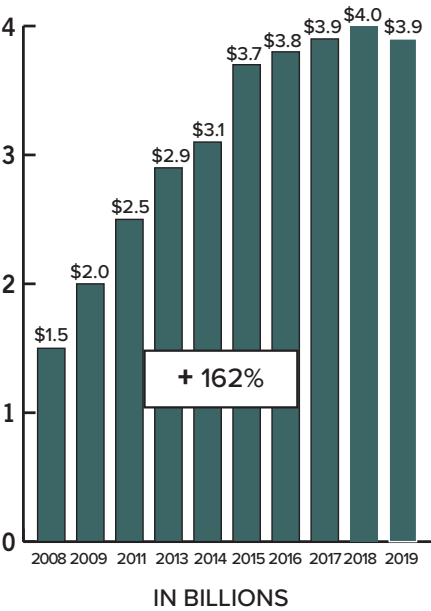


ECONOMIC IMPACT

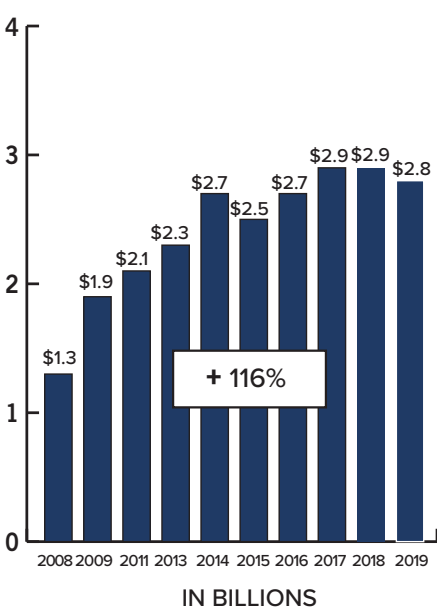


TAXES GENERATED

Business Taxes
Federal



Business Taxes
State



Excise Taxes

