

# Business

## ATF Reports Gun Manufacturing, Export Statistics for 2005 Year

by Robert M. Hausman  
Contributing Editor

Year 2005 US firearms manufacturing and export statistics have been released by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF).

The total numbers break down as follows: Pistols: 815,475 were manufactured in the US during 2005; Revolvers: 275,323 were made during the year; Rifles: 1,142,472 manufactured, and Shotguns: 622,774. Miscellaneous firearms total manufactured during the year was 23,005.

The export totals are as follows: Pistols: 17,200; Revolvers: 30,060; Rifles: 67,484; Shotguns: 42,487, and Miscellaneous Firearms: 7,018.

Note: For purposes of this ATF report, "production is defined as: firearms, including separate frames or receivers, actions or barreled actions, manufactured and disposed of in commerce during the calendar year, according to data from reporting manufacturers.

The reported totals are for 79% of licensed manufacturers. Some 21% did not file reports on their production.

### Handgun Breakdown

Note: The caliber categories encompass broad listings in groups. Thus, pistols "to .22 caliber" includes .17 caliber as well as .22 cal., "to .50 cal." would include .45 cal., .44 cal. etc. In other words, all calibers larger than the next lower category (i.e. 9mm) and up to, and including, .50 caliber.

#### Pistols

- to .22	134,193
- to .25	7,460
- to .32	28,711
- to .380	87,115
- to 9mm	263,673
- to .50	294,323
Total	815,475

#### Revolvers

- to .22	63,656
- to .32	73,755
- to .357Mag.	31,240
- to .38 Spl.	43,944
- to .44 Mag.	26,205
- to .50	36,523
Total	275,323

### Top Producers

The top pistol producer during 2005 was Smith & Wesson (S&W) with a total of 148,912 units. S&W's production broke down as follows: to .22 cal. 23,327, to 9mm 69,555, to .50 cal. 56,030.

In second place during 2005 was Springfield Inc. with production of 126,188 units. Springfield's production broke down into just two caliber groups: pistols up to 9mm 32,482 units and those up to .50 caliber 93,706.

Sturm, Ruger was in third place with production of 125,057 pistols. Ruger's production was divided into: to .22 cal. 59,454 units; to 9mm 35,410, and to .50 cal. 30,193.

In a review of pistol production during 2005, it is noted that the inexpensive handgun business continues to do well for certain firms. For example, the Hi-Point product line, which is produced at three different locations in Ohio had a collective production of 98,800 units during 2005.

The Hi-Point manufacture breaks down into 70,300 pistols produced by Beemiller Inc. working out to 18,700 in up to .380 ACP and 51,600 in up to 9mm. Haskell Manufacturing produced 17,400 pistols in up to .50 caliber and Iberia Firearms made 11,100 in up to .50 caliber.

In the derringer and small pistol business, American Derringer Corp. of Waco, TX, which once had the dominant share of its market segment, has since been overshadowed by its competitors.

American Derringer produced just 130 units in 2005. Their production broke out to 5 units in up to .22 caliber, 3 in up to .25 cal., 2 in up to .32 cal., 40 in up to .380, 13 in up to 9mm, and 67 in up to .50 cal.

Bond Arms, run by former American Derringer plant manager, Greg Bond, did considerably better with 5,043 guns in 2005. Their production broke down into 9 units in up to .22 cal., 13 in up to .32 cal., 438 in up to 9mm, 438 in up to 9mm, and 4,583 in up to .50 caliber.

In the better quality derringer business, such as produced by American Derringer and Bond Arms, most of the consumer demand is for .45 Long Colt/.410 shotshell

over/under derringers as the production statistics demonstrate.

This is contrasted by the production numbers of lower-end derringer producer Cobra Enterprises of Utah Inc. The majority of Cobra's production in 2005 (14,140 units) was in the up to .380 category. Cobra produced 4,716 units in up to .22 cal., 459 in up to .25 cal., 3,701 in up to .32 cal., 2,339 in up to 9mm, and 453 in up to .50 cal. Cobra's total production in 2005 was 25,808 guns, far greater than its higher quality competitors.

### Revolver Production

Though not technically classified as a derringer, the tiny revolvers produced by North American Arms are often referred to as "derringers." North American made 20,944 revolvers in 2005, all of them in up to .22 caliber.

The top revolver producer during the year was Smith & Wesson with 161,290 guns. S&W made 5,523 revolvers in up to .22 caliber, 73,040 in up to .32 cal., 41,701 in up to .38 cal., 18,603 in up to .44 cal., and 22,423 in up to .50 caliber.

S&W's closest competitor in revolver production was Sturm, Ruger with 58,951 guns. Ruger's production broke down as follows: 10,301 in up to .22 caliber, 197 in up to .32 cal., 30,929 in up to .357 Mag., 161 in up to .38 cal., 6,290 in up to .44 cal., and 11,073 in up to .50 cal.

Heritage Manufacturing Inc., the producer of inexpensive single action revolvers, was in third place with 26,080 units. Heritage's production came out to 25,965 in up to .22 caliber, and 115 in up to .32 cal.

### Rifles and Shotguns

Remington Arms Co. was the top rifle producer in 2005 with 302,271 units. Sturm, Ruger produced 218,180 units, Savage Arms 118,353, and Henry Repeating Arms Co. 94,452 units. O.F. Mossberg produced 27,005.

Remington Arms Co. was the top shotgun producer with 309,112 units. O.F. Mossberg was in second place with 266,113 units, US Repeating Arms Co. came in third with 30,517 shotguns, and Sturm Ruger produced 11,467.

The top producer of miscellaneous firearms for the year was O.F. Mossberg with 18,801 units. Bushmaster Firearms came in second with 1,613 "miscellaneous" firearms (which are firearms that did not fit into any of the previous categories such as combination rifle/shotguns). Savage Arms produced 305 units, Armscorp USA Inc. made 403 units, while Ideal Products made 384 units.

### Exports

The total number of pistols exported from America in 2005 was 17,200. Smith & Wesson, a long time exhibitor at the IWA trade fair in Nuremberg, Germany each year, made good use of its contacts and exported a total of 10,043, far and away the largest pistol exporter.

Sturm, Ruger exported a total of 1,927 pistols while Beretta USA shipped out 1,442 and Kimber Manufacturing shipped 1,302 overseas.

Smith & Wesson also led revolver exportation, shipping 28,120 out of the total 30,060 revolvers exported from the U.S. that year. Finishing in second place was Sturm, Ruger with exports of 1,781 revolvers.

Remington was the number one rifle exporter in 2005 with shipment of 30,679. Sturm, Ruger was in second place with 16,285 exported. Savage Arms exported 9,672 rifles; US Repeating Arms sent out 4,115 rifles, and Henry Repeating Arms exported 4,111.

A total of 42,487 shotguns were exported during 2005 with Mossberg the top shotgun exporter shipping 22,793 units; while Remington exported 17,399, US Repeating Arms 2,058 and Sturm, Ruger 129.

With extreme sadness, the National Association of Sporting Goods Wholesalers reports the passing of NASGW Director and Secretary William "Bill" Foster, principal of Dixie Shooter's Supply Inc. and Jay Demott, Purchasing Manager, on Sunday, February 11, 2007 due to fatal injuries incurred in a motor vehicle accident in Blakely, GA.

Contact information for sending condolences can be found on the NASGW website at: [www.nasgw.org](http://www.nasgw.org)



## Savage Range Systems Product Included in "CSI" National Exhibit

The Forensic Buddy® ballistic bullet trap manufactured by Savage Range Systems Inc. is being featured at the "CSI" Experience Exhibit, as part of the CSI Museum Project based on the hit TV series.

"We are honored and excited to be part of this new interactive science exhibit, in collaboration with CBS' top rated television series "CSI, Crime Scene Investigation," said Eoin B. Stafford, VP and general manager of Savage Range Systems.

The Forensic Buddy portable ballistic bullet recovery trap is featured in several episodes of CSI programming. The same systems are installed at crime laboratories nationwide.

In the Forensic Buddy, a unique ballistic media absorbs the energy of a bullet while keeping that bullet's integrity intact, resulting in exceptional specimens for microscopic comparison. Whether used in the lab or as a portable unit, the Forensic Buddy carefully collects a specimen, resulting in a clean, accurate view of land and groove impressions.

The quality of the test specimens in calibers from .25ACP to .45 ACP not only helps close investigations but enhances the testimony of crime scene technicians at trial.

The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History is in partnership with the produc-

ers of the television show CSI: Crime Scene Investigation; CBS Consumer Products; and a collaborative of seven top science museums in the US to develop a groundbreaking, blockbuster museum exhibit highlighting the latest innovations in forensics, which includes the portable Forensic Buddy bullet trap manufactured by Savage Range Systems.

Funded by a \$2.4 million grant from the National Science Foundation, this project will uphold the highest standards of scientific and educational credibility. The American Academy of Forensic Sciences and Rice University are partnered with the museum to create exhibit content, an extensive educational kit, and an interactive website experience.

This prestigious exhibit will open at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago on May 25 before beginning a national tour of museums in Boston, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Portland, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Fort Worth, Columbus, and other cities. Over 3 million people are expected to attend the Exhibit during the first few years of its run.

To learn more about the Forensic Buddy® ballistic bullet trap visit [www.snailtraps.com](http://www.snailtraps.com). For additional details, visit the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago website at [http://www.msichicago.org/coming\\_soon/index.html](http://www.msichicago.org/coming_soon/index.html)