

Title:	US the world's biggest importer and exporter of weapons
First Broadcast:	22.05.2015
Source:	ABC's The World Today
Minutes:	5:58
Audio & Script:	http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2016/s4481323.htm
Summary:	New figures from the Small Arms Survey, which tracks the global trade in weapons, show the United States is the world's biggest importer and exporter of weapons.
Interviewee(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Philip Alpers, a public health researcher at the University of Sydney and the founding director of the GunPolicy.org website
Related Story:	A reading worksheet based on an article written by Philip Alpers is available for download at www.grabaword.com/theconversation

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Orlando massacre: On June 12, 2016, Omar Mateen, a 29-year-old security guard, killed 49 people and wounded 53 others in a terrorist attack—also considered a hate crime—inside a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida, United States.

Port Arthur massacre: On 28–29 April 1996, 28 year old Martin Bryant went on a killing spree in which 35 people were killed and 23 wounded at the historic Port Arthur, a former prison colony and popular tourist site in south-eastern Tasmania, Australia.

KEY WORDS

Below is a list of words which appear in the report - which ones don't you know or you are unsure what they mean?

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> track (v) | <input type="checkbox"/> disposable income (n) | <input type="checkbox"/> per capita |
| <input type="checkbox"/> derivative (n) | <input type="checkbox"/> robust (adj) | <input type="checkbox"/> resurging industry (adj) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> very high figures emerged (v) | <input type="checkbox"/> legitimate uses (adj) | <input type="checkbox"/> innovative ways (adj) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> indicator (n) | <input type="checkbox"/> subside (v) | <input type="checkbox"/> fill a niche (n) |

DEFINITION MATCH

Can you match the words with their correct definition? Use a dictionary to help you if you aren't sure.

a specialized segment of the market for a particular kind of product or service	
amount of money that households have available for spending and saving after taxes	
appear, become known	
decrease, become less intense	
each person	
follow the movements or development of something	
lawful, legal	
measure	
original and creative	
rising again	
something which is based on or copied from another source	
strong and healthy	

track (v)
derivative (n)
very high figures emerged (v)
indicator (n)
disposable income (n)
robust (adj)
legitimate uses (adj)
subside (v)
per capita
resurging industry (adj)
innovative ways (adj)
fill a niche (n)

SUMMARY

New figures from the Small Arms Survey, which tracks the global trade in weapons, show the United States is the world's biggest importer and exporter of weapons.

FOCUS QUESTIONS

- Why is the United States the world's biggest importer and exporter of weapons?
- Why does Australia import a lot of weapons? What are the guns mainly used for?
- The gun of choice in many mass shootings in the United States is the AR15 semi-automatic weapon which is based on the M16 military weapon. What is a semi-automatic weapon?
- In the US, there has been a big increase in the sales of AR15s over the past eight years. Why do you think that has occurred? What has the increase got to do with Barack Obama?
- Why is the sale of AR15 semi-automatic weapons a big issue? Do you think all semi-automatic weapons should be banned?



PRE-LISTENING

Try to complete the following exercise before you listen to the report

- Where do you think Australia ranks globally as an importer of weapons?
 - A. Among the top 10 countries
 - B. Among the top 20 countries
 - C. Among the top 30 countries
- The AR15 semi-automatic weapon is not available for sale in Australia. **True / False**
- What is the estimated number of US households which own one or more AR15s?
 - A. Around 40 thousand
 - B. Around 400 thousand
 - C. Around 4 million
- Most of the weapons being imported into Australia are for law enforcement purposes. **True / False**

Listen to the report and check your answers

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

After listening to the report, try to answer the following questions

1. Included in the figures from the Small Arms Survey are ...
a. weapons only. b. weapons and ammunition.

2. Most mass murderers in the United States use an AR15 semi-automatic. **True / False**

3. The AR15 is based on the M16 military weapon which was produced for which war?
a. Vietnam b. Second World War c. Iraqi War

4. In the US, why has there been a big increase in the sales of AR15s over the past eight years?
.....

5. After a massacre like the Orlando one, what does Philip Alpers say is normally the reaction in America?
To pray, then to blame somebody else and then to

6. Why is Australia considered a “high use of fire-arms” country? (Note down at least one reason mentioned)

7. Taking into account population growth, the number of guns per capita in Australia has fallen since Port Arthur 20 years ago. **True / False**

A reading worksheet based on an article written by Philip Alpers is available for download at:

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CLOZE

Use the words to complete the sentences

The form of the word may need to be changed

track	derivative	emerged	indicator
disposable income	robust	legitimate	subside
per capita	resurging	innovative	niche

1. After each gun massacre in the United States, there is normally ain calls for stricter gun controls. But normally very little is ever done by law makers to restrict gun sales.
2. Around 45% of all words in English arefrom the French language.
3. Crime rates are often used as anof a city's safety.
4. Ferrari is aluxury car maker which only builds around 7000 cars a year.
5. Many gun ownership supporters in America believe they have aright to bear arms under the constitution and to use them to protect themselves if they feel threatened.
6. Many retail companies these days use membership details and special software tothe spending habits of their clients.
7. Mercedes is known for its continuous, especially when it comes to safety design features. It was the first car manufacturer, for example, to introduce driver airbags.
8. Over the last 20 years, Australia has enjoyed aeconomy thanks mainly to the mining boom.
9. Police say new evidence hadsuggesting the gunman responsible for the massacre was not acting alone.
10. The family had a very high and could afford regular expensive holidays and other luxuries like owning a Ferrari.
11. The man experienced terrible pain after being shot accidentally in the leg. But once he had been given painkillers at the hospital, the pain eventually began to
12. With around 112 guns per 100 residents, the United States has the highest number of guns in the world.

ANSWERS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among the top 10 • T • around 4 million • F - fewer than 5 per cent 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. weapons and ammunition 2. T 3. Vietnam 4. the gun lobby in America has built up this fear that Barack Obama is going to take them away from everybody 5. buy more guns 6. it's an agricultural society, has a high disposable income, there are a lot of sporting shooters 7. True, a quarter fewer
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a specialized segment of the market for a particular kind of product or service	niche
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appear, become known	emerged
decrease, become less intense	subside
each person	per capita
follow the movements or development of something	track
lawful, legal	legitimate
measure	indicator
original and creative	innovative
rising again	resurging
something which is based on or copied from another source	derivative
strong and healthy	robust

1. After each gun massacre in the United States, there is normally a resurgence in calls for stricter gun controls. But normally very little is ever done by law makers to **restrict** gun sales.
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5. Many gun ownership supporters in America believe they have a **legitimate** right to bear arms under the constitution and to use them to protect themselves if they feel threatened.
6. Many retail companies these days use membership details and special software to **track** the spending habits of their clients.
7. Mercedes is known for its continuous **innovation**, especially when it comes to safety design features. It was the first car manufacturer, for example, to introduce driver airbags.
8. Over the last 20 years, Australia has enjoyed a **robust** economy thanks mainly to the mining boom.
9. Police say new evidence had **emerged** suggesting the gunman responsible for the massacre was not acting alone.
10. The family had a very high **disposable income** and could afford regular expensive holidays and other luxuries like owning a Ferrari.
11. The man experienced terrible pain after being shot accidentally in the leg. But once he had been given painkillers at the hospital, the pain eventually began to **subside**.
12. With around 112 guns per 100 residents, the United States has the highest number of guns **per capita** in the world.