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Background Checks on U.S. Firearms Buyers Hit Record High Font Size A A A

April 26, 2011 2:41 AM
 By [Roberta Seldon](#)

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The FBI conducted 1.25 million background checks per month on American firearms buyers over a 12-month period. The increase in background checks indicates a boom in the weapons industry, but could spell trouble for the broader economy.

According to a 2009 ABC News report, Ilya Shapiro, senior fellow in constitutional studies at the Cato Institute, said an increase in firearms purchases signals tough economic times. People purchase more firearms during these times because of fears of a potential breakdown in the country's social order. People feel like they may have to "scavenge for goods" if that happens, she added.

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