Sporting Knives and Tools
Throughout the U.S. people use knives and edged tools daily:
- At work, from construction worker to florist
- During normal activities, from opening packages to cutting apples
- In recreational activities, from camping to fishing and hunting.
- In life-saving situations by EMTs, firefighters, law enforcement and the military.
They are an essential, fundamental tool for work and play in American lives.¹

U.S. Sporting Knife & Tool Industry - $5.722 Billion Economic Impact²
- 4,704 direct U.S. Employees at 81 Companies
- 23,520 Ancillary Support Jobs in Other Industries and Services
- $953.7 Million Gross Revenues at Manufacturer/Importer Level
- $5.722 Billion Total Economic Impact on U.S. Economy

Millions of Americans Use Knives Daily
- 34 Million hunters and anglers carry knives³
- 3.2 Million law enforcement officers, EMT’s, firefighters, security guards carry valuable tools every hour of the day⁴
- 2.2 Million active and reserve military forces carry knives⁵
- 5.2 Million construction workers rely on knives and multi-tools⁶
- Nearly 1 Million adult volunteers in local councils throughout the U.S. and its territories help Boy Scouts of America with 2.4 Million youth members to Be Prepared⁶
- Nearly half of all Americans - 48.4% - participated in at least one outdoor activity in 2014. This equates to 141.4 Million people involved in activities where knives are often carried and used.⁷

Majority of Knives Designed to Open Easily with One Hand⁸
- Knife users prefer easy to open, folding knives called pocket knives, one-hand opening or assisted opening and automatics, and multi-tools with one or more knife blades.
- The majority of activities using a knife require one hand free for holding something.
- Automatic knives currently are legal in approximately 34 states.
- Courts in California, Illinois and Michigan have expressly ruled that assisted-openers are not illegal switchblades.
- The Federal Switchblade Act (1958) was amended in 2009 to clarify that these knives which have a bias toward closure are not illegal switchblades in interstate commerce.

Billions of Dollars Benefit the U.S. Economy
- Hunters and anglers are a $76 Billion economic force annually.³
- Outdoor recreation including camping, backpacking, kayaking, climbing, etc. generates $646 billion in consumer spending.⁹

¹See http://www.akti.org/resources/people-use-knives for a partial list of knife users
²State of the Sporting Knife & Tool Industry, American Knife & Tool Institute (published 2015; data 2014)
³Hunting and Fishing: Bright Stars of the American Economy, Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation, 2013
⁵Wikipedia.org
⁶2014 BSA Report to the Nation
⁷Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report 2015, Outdoor Foundation
⁸State of the Sporting Knife & Tool Industry Survey, American Knife & Tool Institute, 2015
⁹Outdoor Industry Association.org/research

www.AKTI.org