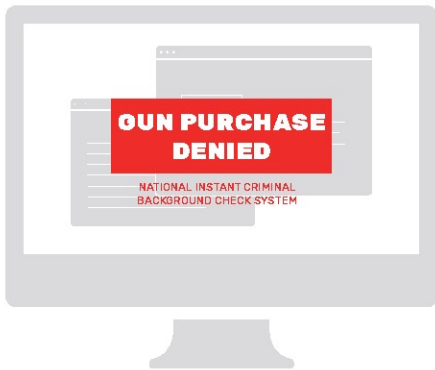


BACKGROUND CHECKS MATTER

Background checks keep guns out of the hands of people with dangerous histories and they are the foundation of any comprehensive gun violence prevention strategy. Currently, background checks are only required under federal law for sales conducted by licensed dealers. This gap in the law allows felons, domestic abusers, fugitives, and other prohibited purchasers to buy guns from unlicensed sellers without a background check, no questions asked.



BACKGROUND CHECKS HAVE BLOCKED MORE THAN 3 MILLION SALES TO PROHIBITED PURCHASERS SINCE 1994...¹

...BUT CRIMINALS EXPLOIT THE UNLICENSED SALES LOOPHOLE BY BUYING GUNS FROM STRANGERS ONLINE THROUGH SITES LIKE ARMSLIST.COM.²

In some states, as many as

1 IN 10

people seeking guns in unlicensed sales online have prohibiting criminal records.³

BACKGROUND CHECKS MATTER When Connecticut passed a law requiring background checks for all handgun sales, the state experienced:

40%
reduction in gun homicide rate⁴

15%
reduction in gun suicide rate⁵



BACKGROUND CHECKS ARE EASY AND CONVENIENT

Nearly 90% of NICS checks are determined immediately.⁶

97% OF AMERICAN VOTERS SUPPORT BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALL GUN SALES

A February 2018 Quinnipiac University poll found that 97% of Americans support requiring a background check on all gun buyers, including 99% of Democrats, 97% of Republicans, and 97% of gun owners.⁷

IN STATES THAT GO BEYOND FEDERAL LAW AND REQUIRE BACKGROUND CHECKS ON ALL HANDGUN SALES, THE RATE OF:

- Women shot to death by intimate partners is **47% lower**⁸
- Law enforcement officers shot and killed in the line of duty is **53% lower**⁹
- Firearm suicide is **47% lower**¹⁰
- Intrastate gun trafficking in cities is **48% lower**¹¹

Democratic Support **99%**

Republican Support **97%**

Gun owners **97%**