Survey of State Procedures Related to Firearm Sales, 1996

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Background

This report is the second edition of the BJS document, *Survey of State Procedures Related to Firearm Sales*. The first edition, released in May 1996 (NCJ-160763), described procedures related to presale firearm background checks in each of the 50 States as of April 1996. This edition updates the earlier publication and describes the procedures and practices in effect at the end of 1996.

The document is prepared as part of the BJS Firearm Inquiry Statistics (FIST) project, a component of the BJS National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP). The FIST project was established in 1995 to collect data describing the impact of presale firearm checks required under Federal or state law. The currently applicable interim provisions of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (Brady Act), PL 103-159, prohibit sale of a handgun by a Federal firearm licensee for a period of 5 days or until the licensee has been advised that, based on a background check, a prospective purchaser is not prohibited from purchase under the Federal Gun Control Act or applicable State legislation. After November 1998, when the permanent provisions of the Brady Act are effective, instant background checks will be required prior to the sale of any firearm by a licensee.

The Federal Gun Control Act prohibits sales to one who —

- is a juvenile;
- is a fugitive from justice;
- is under indictment for, or has been convicted of, a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than 1 year;
- is an unlawful user of a controlled substance;
- has been adjudicated as a mental defective or committed to a mental institution;
- is an alien unlawfully in the United States;
- was discharged from the armed forces under dishonorable conditions;
- has renounced U.S. citizenship;
- is subject to a court order restraining him or her from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner or child; or
- is a person convicted of domestic violence.

Data collected under the FIST program are also included in BJS Bulletins. The first Bulletin, *Presale Firearm Checks*, NCJ-162787, was released in February 1997 and described inquiries and rejections related to all firearm sales between February 1994 (the effective date of the Brady Act requirements) and June 1996. A second BJS Bulletin, *Presale Handgun Checks 1996*, NCJ-165704, is being released simultaneously with this publication. The latter Bulletin focuses only on inquiries and rejections related to attempted handgun sales during 1996.

BJS anticipates that the procedural information presented in this report will be used together with the statistical information presented in the Bulletins to provide the user with a more complete understanding of the impact of presale firearm check requirements.

Data for this report were collected from agencies designated by their respective States as authorized to perform record checks for handgun purchasers and to determine if applications are acceptable under the Brady Act, or, particularly in the case of Brady-alternative States, under applicable State legislation. For purposes of this report, these agencies are referred to as CLEOs (Chief Law Enforcement Officers). Depending on the State, CLEOs may be either a single State agency servicing the entire State or one or more local agencies. The status of the reporting agency is described on the individual State summaries, and a list of State contacts is in Appendix A.

Descriptions of procedures, as reported in this report, and some statistical data presented in the Bulletins, were voluntarily provided on survey questionnaires. BJS also provided States with software for direct reporting of statistical information. The software, which was designed to minimize State burdens associated with data collection, was used at the option of the State. To ensure accuracy, a copy of each State's summary in this publication was forwarded to the State for review, and clarifying comments were used to refine the
Summary. The data were collected and collated by the Regional Justice Information Service (REJIS), the BJS grantee for the FIST Project.

Consistent with confidentiality and privacy protection procedures, no data were collected under the project in a form identifiable to any individual. Additionally, the software provided to assist States in submitting data contains a purging mechanism which destroys data in accordance with applicable Federal or State law.

The information provided for each State reflects data provided by the State and may include procedures required under State as well as Federal legislation. In some cases, for example, States have imposed requirements which go beyond the baseline requirements of the Federal Brady Act. With respect to the impact of State restoration of handgun privileges, States or users are urged to contact the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF).

As noted in the individual State summaries or the Appendix tables, the document describes procedures applicable to both handguns and other firearms.

Changes over time: Changes in the number of inquiries/denials and the rate of overall, or specific categories of, rejections may reflect a variety of factors. These include changes in State or Federal law, revisions in State policy, changes in State organization, and the status and availability of different categories of records. The regular release of updated information in these BJS documents is intended to highlight such changes.

The most significant change occurring during 1996 was the amendment to the Federal Gun Control Act which prohibited sales to persons convicted of any felony or misdemeanor involving domestic violence (the last item in the list of prohibitions noted on page v). This amendment, generally known as the "Lautenberg Amendment," was effective as of October 1996.

The individual summaries include references to any information provided by the State about the extent to which the State has been able to implement procedures to identify convictions for domestic violence. States vary, reflecting differences in how much relevant information can be readily identified in accessible databases. As noted in the summaries, some States were already conducting such checks pursuant to State legislation, requiring that no new procedures be adopted. In light of the recency of the change and the wide variety of difficulties associated with implementation, however, readers are cautioned against forming conclusions based on the limited information provided by the States in this area.

Other changes, reflecting, for example, a revision to definitions of domestic violence or the establishment of statewide CLEOs, are noted in the individual summaries.
Alabama
A Brady State: 4,040,587 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Alabama Bureau of Investigation and the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center. These agencies are not CLEOs as defined by the Brady Act. The CLEOs in the State of Alabama are the 67 county sheriffs.

Information on the Application. In addition to the standard information, the following is required: race, occupation, make, model, caliber and manufacturer’s number.

Inquiry Process. As a Brady State, CLEOs in Alabama have up to 5 days to perform the background check.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

State Data. Alabama makes the following data available to each CLEO via its automated statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, and probation and parole data.

Retention of Applications. The local CLEO keeps the approved applications on file for a maximum of 20 days. The retention period for rejected applications is determined by each CLEO.

Statistics Maintained. Alabama maintains statistics on the number of stolen handguns and the number of recovered handguns and has statistics on events which involve drugs, homicides, assaults, or the murder or assault of a police officer.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Alabama places the following additional restriction on the purchase of handguns besides those required in the Brady Act: a 48-hour waiting period before the sale of the handgun.

Limitations on Use. Alabama places limitations on carrying handguns, but does not place limitations on the use of long guns.

Permits. Alabama does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Neither handguns nor long guns are registered.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun are not covered by law.

Background Checks. Background checks on the purchase of handguns are done by the sheriff. The dealer requests a check from the sheriff by sending the application to the CLEO via registered or certified mail. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer.

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Alaska
A Brady State: 550,043 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Alaska Department of Public Safety. This agency is a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act. The Department and 34 local police agencies function as CLEOs within the State.

Information on the Application. Alaska uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. No information is available.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Alaska does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Alaska does not place limitations on handguns or long guns.

Permits. Alaska does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Alaska.

Scope of Sales Covered. Alaska covers sales in pawnshops, including pawnshop redemptions and sales occurring at gun shows.

Restoration of Rights. Alaska does not allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored.

Background Checks. Background checks on handgun purchases are performed by either the State or local police agency. The dealer requests a check from the State or local police office for its jurisdiction. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer.

State Data. Alaska makes the following data available to each CLEO via the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, and domestic violence. These files are fully automated.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the CLEO keeps approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.
Arizona
A Brady State: 3,665,228 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Arizona Department of Public Safety. This agency is the CLEO as defined by the Brady Act.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Arizona does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Arizona places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Permits. Arizona does not require a permit to purchase a handgun. Carrying a concealed handgun does require a permit.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. Arizona allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored. This procedure requires a court order signed by a judge. Prior to 1988, restoration of a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun was automatic and did not require a court order.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the CLEO. The dealer requests a check by using a 1-800 number, regular phone, mail, or fax. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer.

Information on the Application. Arizona uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 5 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 5 days.

Fees Charged. No fee is charged.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive and criminal history (including probation and parole information if part of the person’s criminal history). These files are fully automated and contain 100% of the data available at the State level. In addition they also have access to sex offender registration and department of corrections data.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the CLEOs.

Statistics Maintained. Arizona maintains statistics on events which involve homicides, assaults, and other specific activities.

Current Activity. In 1996 Arizona processed 72,715 applications; 2,203 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 3.0%.
Arkansas
A Brady State: 2,350,725 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Arkansas State Police. This agency is the CLEO as defined by the Brady Act.

Information on the Application. Arkansas uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. The CLEO does not reply unless it is to deny an application. Those requiring research normally take less than 5 days.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Arkansas does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges $15 for the background check and an additional $3 for the 1-900 number if it is used.

Arkansas provided by the Arkansas State Police. This uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. The CLEO does not reply unless it is to deny an application. Those requiring research normally take less than 5 days.

Limitations on Use. Arkansas places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining order, and some domestic violence information. These files are fully automated.

Permits. Arkansas does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Arkansas.

Retention of Applications. Approved applications are kept for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept indefinitely.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated in Arkansas are those covered by the Brady Act.

Statistics Maintained. Arkansas maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, assaults, and other specific activities.

Restoration of Rights. Arkansas allows a felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored in some cases. This occurs with some expungements and pardons; the governor can also restore these rights.

Current Activity. In 1996 Arkansas processed 25,742 application; 506 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 2.0%.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the CLEO. The dealer requests a check using a 1-900 number, certified mail, or in person. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer if the application is rejected. If it is not rejected, the 5-day waiting period is allowed to expire. Fingerprints are used if there is a question of identity.
California
A Brady-alternative State: 29,760,021 population

**Source of Information.** The information was provided by the California Department of Justice. This agency is the CLEO.

**Additional Restrictions on Purchase.**
California prevents purchase if the applicant is guilty of certain misdemeanors which threaten or harm another individual or involve the misuse of a firearm; same restrictions apply to the purchase of a long gun.

**Limitations on Use.** California places limitations on carrying handguns.

**Permits for Handguns.** California requires permits for concealed handguns, dangerous weapon permits, and certificates of eligibility.

**Handgun Registration.** Handguns are not registered in California, but the automated files maintain a record of handgun purchases and transfers. Long guns are registered.

**Scope of Sales Covered.** All sales by California Licensed Firearm Dealers are covered, as well as sales by pawnshops and sales from one individual to another. Redemptions from pawnshops are not covered nor are antiques and loans of less than 30 days.

**Restoration of Rights.** California allows restoration of a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun only if the court reduces the charge to a misdemeanor.

**Background Checks.** Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the CLEO. The dealer requests a check and the results are sent back via mail or phone. The CLEO has 15 days to do the check; the transfer cannot take place prior to that time.

**Special Note.** California has implemented a “paperless” process effective April 1, 1997.

**Information on the Application.** The following information is required: name, sex, home address, local address if traveling, height, weight, descent, hair color, eye color, date of application, make, model, type of weapon and serial number.

**Inquiry Process.** All applications require a 15-day waiting period.

**Fees Charged.** The CLEO charges $14 ($10 for subsequent purchases at the same time) for the check.

**State Data.** The CLEO has access to fugitive, criminal record, court restraining orders, probation and parole, juvenile, mental health, domestic abuse, and sex registration files. The files are fully automated (except for probation and parole).

**Retention of Applications.** All applications are kept on microfiche indefinitely.

**Statistics Maintained.** California maintains statistics on stolen and recovered handguns, handgun accidents, and on events which involve a handgun and drugs, homicides, and other specific activities.

**Current Activity.** In 1996 California processed 215,804 applications; 2,111 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 1.0%.
Source of Information. The information was provided by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. This agency is the CLEO.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process takes less than 1 minute. Those requiring research take less than 1 day.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Colorado will not authorize a gun purchase if the applicant is guilty of certain misdemeanors.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges $10 for the background check.

Limitations on Use. Colorado places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, probation and parole, juvenile and domestic abuse. These files are fully automated.

Permits. Colorado does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Retention of Applications. The CLEO purges approved applicant information within 24 hours; denied applicant information is purged after 2 years.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Colorado.

Statistics Maintained. Colorado maintains statistics on the number of approvals and denials, including offense denied on.

Scope of Sales Covered. All handgun sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as pawnshop redemptions.

Current Activity. In 1996 Colorado processed 51,450 applications; 3,518 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 6.8%.

Restoration of Rights. Convicted felons may possess a handgun 10 years after the date of release from supervision.

Special Note. In March 1997 pawnshop redemptions were excluded from background check requirements.

Information on the Application. Colorado’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, date of birth, Social Security number, date of request, and action taken.
Connecticut
A Brady-alternative State: 3,287,116 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Connecticut State Police. This agency is the CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Connecticut prevents handguns from being purchased if the applicant is guilty of any of eleven misdemeanors pertaining to firearms and dangerous weapons, or when suitability can be questioned when involved in public incidents.

Limitations on Use. Connecticut places limitations on carrying handguns but places no limitations on the use of long guns.

Permits. Connecticut requires a permit, which the applicant carries to the dealer to certify that he/she is authorized to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are registered in Connecticut.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees and individuals are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops and redemptions by the person who pawned the gun.

Restoration of Rights. Connecticut allows rights to be restored if the person goes to the Board of Pardons and has the conviction cleared from the record.

Background Checks. A dealer requests a check by using a 1-800 number, regular phone, mail, certified mail, fax, or in person to the CLEO. If not rejected and the 14-day waiting period expires, the person is allowed to purchase the handgun.

Information on the Application. Connecticut’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, date of birth, Social Security number, date of request, date action taken, action taken, reason for rejection, type, make, model and serial number of weapon.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 15 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 3 days.

Fees Charged. No fee is charged.

State Data. The following data are available to the CLEO from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, probation and parole (10%), and domestic abuse (25%). Court restraining orders are checked through the local police agency.

Retention of Applications. Connecticut keeps approved and rejected applications indefinitely. The gun dealer keeps approved applications for 5 years.

Statistics Maintained. Connecticut maintains statistics on confiscated handguns as well as statistics on events which involve gangs, homicides, and other specific activities.
Delaware
A Brady-alternative State: 666,168 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Delaware State Police. This agency is the CLEO.

Information on the Application. Delaware’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, date of birth, Social Security number, date of request, date action taken, and action taken; if the application is rejected, the type of weapon, make, model and serial number of weapon.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Delaware prevents handguns from being purchased if the applicant is guilty of any misdemeanors involving assault or drug violation within the last 5 years. It also places restrictions on those people who are not yet 25 and who as juveniles committed acts that would have been felonies if they were adults.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than six minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 14 minutes.

Limitations on Use. Delaware places limitations on carrying a concealed handgun and requires that long guns be unloaded while being carried in a motor vehicle.

Fees Charged. No fee is charged.

Permits. Delaware does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, probation and parole, juvenile, mental health, and domestic violence. These files are fully automated (except for mental health which is partially automated).

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Delaware.

Retention of Applications. Delaware keeps the approved applications for 60 days and the rejected applications indefinitely.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law. In addition, checks may be run on private sales. This is an option and not a requirement.

Statistics Maintained. Delaware maintains statistics on handgun accidents as well as statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, drugs, and other specific activities.

Restoration of Rights. A convicted felon’s right to own a handgun may be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Current Activity. In 1996 Delaware processed 11,826 applications; 639 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 5.4%.

Background Checks. Delaware has an instant check system. The dealer requests a check by using a 1-800 number. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer by phone.
Florida
A Brady-alternative State: 12,937,926 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. This agency is the CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. There is a three-day waiting period before the sale of a handgun.

Limitations on Use. Florida limits carrying concealed handguns to persons holding permits.

Permits. No permit is required to purchase a handgun; the concealed weapons permit can serve in place of a background check.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Florida.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun are not covered unless the person left the gun there for more than 90 days.

Restoration of Rights. Florida allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon and a pardon from the State where the felony conviction occurred.

Background Checks. Florida is an Instant Check State. The dealer requests a check using a 1-800 number or fax. If it is not rejected, the 3-day waiting period is allowed to expire, and the person has the right to purchase the handgun. Long gun purchasers must also be checked, but do not have a 3-day waiting period.

Information on the Application. Florida’s application contains the following information: current name, previous names, race, sex, date of birth, Social Security number (optional), date of request, date action taken, and action taken.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 3 minutes. Those requiring research take less than 3 days.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges $8 for the background check.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following statewide data: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, probation and parole, and some misdemeanor domestic violence (when noted in criminal history). These files are fully automated.

Retention of Applications. Approved applications are retained for less than 2 days and rejected applications indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Current Activity. In 1996 Florida processed 213,133 applications; 6,236 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 2.9%.
Georgia
A Brady-alternative State: 6,478,216 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation/Crime Information Center. This agency is the CLEO.

Information on the Application. Georgia’s application contains the following information: name, sex, race, and date of birth.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 5 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 1 day.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges $5 for the background check.

State Data. Georgia has access to databases for fugitive, criminal history, probation and parole, mental health, and domestic violence data. These files are fully automated.

Retention of Applications. The Georgia Consent Form is attached to ATF 4473 by the FFL and retained by the FFL. The State does not keep a record of approved sales. Rejected applications are kept on record for 90 days.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Current Activity. In 1996 Georgia processed 89,786 applications: 8,463 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 9.4%.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Georgia does not place additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Georgia places limitations on carrying handguns.

Permits. Georgia does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Georgia.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees (FFL) are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun are not covered unless the person left the gun for more than 1 year.

Restoration of Rights. Georgia allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored if granted a pardon and the Pardon and Parole Board specifically restores the right to possess a firearm.

Background Checks. Effective January 1, 1996, Georgia implemented an instant check system. The dealer requests a check using a 1-800 number. The results of the check are sent back to the dealer.
Hawaii
A Brady-alternative State: 1,108,229 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Hawaii Criminal Justice Information Center and the Honolulu Police Departments. The CLEOs in the State of Hawaii are the four local police departments.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. In addition to the Brady Act requirements, the State of Hawaii prevents handguns from being purchased if the applicant is guilty of any misdemeanor involving violent acts or domestic abuse, illegal sale of drugs, or has exhibited significant behavioral, emotional, or mental disorders.

Limitations on Use. Hawaii places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Permits. Hawaii requires a permit.

Handgun Registration. Handguns and long guns are registered in Hawaii.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, including sales by individuals. Handguns may not be pawned in Hawaii.

Restoration of Rights. The State of Hawaii does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the police departments.

Information on the Application. Hawaii’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, date of birth, Social Security number, phones, business address, hair and eye color, photograph, fingerprints, and mental health history. The following fields are optional: previous address, previous names, occupation, scars, marks, and tattoos.

Inquiry Process. Hawaii has a 14-day waiting period, and handguns must be picked up within 10 days from their date of issue.

Fees Charged. As of July 1, 1996, first time applicants are charged $24 to subsidize the FBI fingerprint check.

State Data. Hawaii checks the State control repository of criminal history records for criminal history and domestic violence data. Mental health data are also checked manually. Fugitive and court restraining order data are checked at the local level.

Retention of Applications. The local CLEO keeps the approved and rejected applications on file indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.
Idaho
A Brady-alternative State: 1,006,749 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Idaho Department of Law Enforcement. This agency is the CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. The State of Idaho does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. There are limitations on carrying concealed handguns and concealed long guns.

Permits. Permits are required for concealed weapons only. As of July 1, 1995, this permit may be used in lieu of a background check.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Idaho.

Scope of Sales Covered. Only dealers registered with the State of Idaho may access the instant check system to sell handguns. Sales between individuals and redemptions by pawnshops are not covered.

Restoration of Rights. The State of Idaho does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored automatically after completion of imprisonment (or probation and parole) except for certain felony offenses.

Background Checks. Idaho has an instant check system. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the CLEO. The dealer requests a check by using a 1-800 number or regular phone. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer.

Information on the Application. Idaho’s application contains the following information: name, sex, race and date of birth. The following fields are optional: address, height, weight, and Social Security number.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 3 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 1 hour.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges the dealer an annual $100 fee.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data on the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, and domestic violence, as well as a sex offender registry. These files are fully automated. The CLEO also has access to a State civil protective order file.

Retention of Applications. The CLEO keeps approved applications for less than 5 days and rejected applications for 6 months.

Statistics Maintained. Idaho maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, gangs, and other specific activities.

Current Activity. In 1996 Idaho processed 24,604 applications; 791 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 3.2%.
Illinois
A Brady-alternative State: 11,430,602 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Illinois State Police. This agency is the CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. The State of Illinois requires residents to possess a valid Firearm Owner’s Identification (FOID) card to purchase firearms or firearm ammunition. Limitations are placed on persons who are mentally retarded or have committed nonfelony violations as juveniles.

Inquiry Process. Transactions requiring no research are completed in less than 1 minute. Those requiring research are completed within 24-72 hours depending on the type of firearm.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges $2 for the inquiry at the time of purchase and $5 for the FOID card.

Limitations on Use. Illinois places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns. Carrying concealed firearms is not allowed in Illinois.

Permits. Illinois issues a FOID card, good for 5 years, to eligible residents.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered by the State, but some local governments have registration requirements.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales from or by pawnshops. Redemptions of handguns by their owner are treated as new sales. Sales between private individuals are not covered.

Restoration of Rights. A convicted felon’s right to own a firearm may be restored if he/she successfully completes an appeal process and is granted a pardon.

Background Checks. Illinois has an instant check system. Background checks are conducted on all persons applying for a FOID card and are also made when purchasing a firearm. The dealer requests a check from the CLEO using one of two 1-900 numbers.

Information on the FOID Application. The application requires: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, date of birth, eye color, hair color, and a picture. Applicants must also answer specific questions regarding eligibility factors and have their signature notarized.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: national, fugitive, criminal history, and conviction information. These files are automated and contain a portion of the data needed to process applications or purchase inquiries. Other files contain information on court restraining orders, mental health, and domestic violence.

Retention of Applications. The data from the approved and rejected FOID application are retained in the computer indefinitely in various forms. The approved applications from the 1-900 calls are kept for 1 year. Rejected applications are kept for 5 years.

Statistics Maintained. Illinois maintains statistics on stolen and recovered handguns. Illinois also maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, gangs, and other specific activities.

Current Activity. In 1996 Illinois processed 178,168 applications; 1,997 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 1.1%.
Indiana
A Brady-alternative State: 5,544,159 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Indiana State Police. This agency is the CLEO.

Information on the Application. Indiana’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, hair color, eye color, date of birth, fingerprints, occupation, scars, marks and tattoos.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. In addition to the restrictions under the Brady Act, Indiana does not allow the sale of a handgun to a person who is intoxicated.

Inquiry Process. Indiana has a 7-day waiting period.

Limitations on Use. Indiana places limitations on carrying handguns. The focus of these restrictions are on where a handgun can be carried.

Fees Charged. The CLEO does not charge a fee for the background check.

Permits. Indiana does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: criminal history data. This file is fully automated and contains 100% of the data available at the State level.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are voluntarily registered in Indiana.

Retention of Applications. The CLEO does not keep approved applications. It keeps rejected applications indefinitely.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops and sales from one individual to another. Redemptions of handguns by their owner are treated as new sales.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Current Activity. In 1996 Indiana processed 81,974 applications; 907 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 1.1%.

Restoration of Rights. Indiana allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the CLEO. The dealer or applicant requests a check by submitting an application through the mail. The results of that check are sent back via phone.
Iowa
A Brady-alternative State: 2,776,755 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Iowa Department of Public Safety. This agency is not a CLEO. The CLEOs in the State of Iowa are the 99 county sheriffs.

Information on the Application. Iowa’s application contains the following information: name, address, date of birth, Social Security number, date of request, date action taken, and action taken.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. In addition to the restrictions in the Brady Act, Iowa prohibits the sale of handguns to anyone who has been convicted of domestic abuse or other serious assault, has a history of repeated acts of violence, is addicted to alcohol or a controlled substance, or has been judged mentally incompetent.

Inquiry Process. Iowa has a minimum 3-day waiting period. Permits may not be issued without the check being completed.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Limitations on Use. Iowa places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

State Data. CLEOs have access to the following data on the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, and domestic abuse. These files are fully automated. The CLEOs also have access to some probation and parole and juvenile data, as well as access to manual files for mental health.

Permits. Iowa requires an annually renewed permit to purchase a handgun.

Retention of Applications. CLEOs keep the approved applications for 4 years and rejected applications for 3 years.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Iowa.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered, as well as sales from one individual to another and sales by pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun are not covered by State law.

Restoration of Rights. Iowa does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the county sheriffs. The sheriff then issues a permit to purchase that is valid for 1 year.
Kansas
A Brady State: 2,477,574 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. This agency is not a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act. The CLEOs in the State of Kansas are the 123 local sheriffs and police departments.

Information on the Application. Kansas uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. The process usually takes less than 1 day.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

State Data. Kansas receives record check requests from each CLEO via the statewide computer network. The central repository responds via the same network with a qualified/disqualified message for Brady Act responses. Complete criminal history records are disseminated to the CLEO and other authorized recipients via mail. Domestic violence data will be available in the future.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

Statistics Maintained. Kansas maintains statistics on stolen and recovered handguns, as well as statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, gangs, and other specific activities.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Kansas does not place additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Kansas places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Permits. Kansas does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Kansas.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law. However, pawnshop redemptions and private sales are not covered.

Restoration of Rights. Kansas allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored after 10 years (5 if it was a minor felony) unless the person was in possession of a firearm during the incident or it was a drug offense.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local CLEO. The dealer requests a check by sending the application to the CLEO via phone, mail, fax, certified mail, or in person.
Kentucky
A Brady State: 3,685,296 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Kentucky State Police. This agency is a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act. This agency and the sheriffs of Marshall, Ballard, Callaway, and Boyd counties function as CLEOs within the State.

Information on the Application. In addition to the data on the standard BATF form, Kentucky requires the social security number.

Inquiry Process. The check normally takes no longer than 3 days. Kentucky also has a mandatory 5-day waiting period.

Fees Charged. No fee is charged.

State Data. CLEOs have access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, and court restraining orders. These files are fully automated.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State the CLEOs keep the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are retained indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. Kentucky maintains statistics on stolen, recovered, handgun murders and assaults, as well as statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, drugs and other specific activities.

Current Activity. In 1996 Kentucky processed 67,830 applications; 1,600 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 2.4%.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Kentucky does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Kentucky places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Permits. Kentucky does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Kentucky.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated in Kentucky are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. Kentucky does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns in Marshall, Ballard, Callaway, and Boyd counties are performed by the county sheriff. Background checks throughout the rest of Kentucky are done by the State Police. The dealer requests a check by mail, fax, or certified mail. If the application is rejected, the denial is telephoned to the dealer with only the message number from the background check response. The applicant will receive a denial letter stating the charge, contributing agency, date of criminal history, and disposition, if available.

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Louisiana
A Brady State: 4,219,973 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Louisiana State Police. This agency is not a CLEO. The CLEOs are the 63 sheriffs and the New Orleans Police Department.

Information on the Application. Louisiana uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. No information is available.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Louisiana does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Louisiana is a compulsory issue concealed handgun permit State. Evidence of proper training plus no criminal record, along with completion of other administrative requirements entitles a citizen to receive a permit. Louisiana does not place any limitations on the use of long guns.

Permits. Louisiana does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Louisiana.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only handgun sales regulated in Louisiana are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. Louisiana does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and the New Orleans Police Department. The dealer requests a check by sending the application to the CLEO.

State Data. Louisiana makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: criminal history and fugitive. These files are fully automated.

Retention of Applications. The local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

Statistics Maintained. Statistics are not maintained in Louisiana.
Maine
A Brady State: 1,227,928 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Maine State Police. This agency and the 128 local police departments are CLEOs as defined by the Brady Act.

Information on the Application. Maine uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. When performed by the State police, the process for approved applications is normally completed within 24 hours. Processing applications which are not approved normally takes less than 72 hours.

Fees Charged. No fee is charged.

State Data. Maine makes the following data available to each CLEO: fugitive, criminal history, and Department of Motor Vehicle data. These files are maintained manually and are accessed via teletype. Local CLEOs check court restraining orders in their own local files.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State the local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Maine does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Maine places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns. The focus of these restrictions are on where a handgun can be carried.

Permits. Maine does not require a permit to purchase a handgun. A permit to carry a concealed weapon is required.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Maine.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated in Maine are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. Maine does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local police departments. The dealer requests a check from the local police department by sending the application to the CLEO. The State police provide this service in unincorporated areas.
Maryland
A Brady-alternative State: 4,781,468 population

Source of Information. This information was provided by the Maryland State Police, Licensing Division which is the CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. The applicant must be a resident for 1 month, must not be habitually intoxicated, a habitual user of any controlled dangerous substance, and not convicted of any felony or misdemeanor that carries more than a 2-year term of imprisonment.

Limitations on Use. A handgun permit issued by the Secretary of the Maryland State Police is required to carry a handgun.

Permits. Maryland does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Maryland maintains a permanent record of all completed sales of regulated firearms.

Scope of Sales Covered. Any dealer selling regulated firearms in Maryland must have, in addition to a Federal Firearms License, a State-issued regulated Firearms Dealers License. This includes sales by pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the regulated firearm is not considered a sale and is not regulated by the State. Effective October 1, 1996, private sales are regulated and require a background investigation on the applicant.

Restoration of Rights. Rights may be restored through a governor’s pardon, provided that more than 10 years have passed since the conviction, and no other criminal violations have occurred.

Background Checks. The dealer requests a background check for a handgun by submitting an application to purchase by certified mail or fax. Maryland requires a minimum 7-day waiting period.

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Information on the Application. The application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, hair color, eye color, date of birth, place of birth, Social Security number (optional), occupation, date of request, date action taken, action taken, type of handgun, make, model, and serial number of the handgun.

Inquiry Process. Applications requiring no additional research take approximately 5 days. Applications which require additional research normally take less than 1 month.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges a $10 application fee.

State Data. The CLEO has access to fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, domestic violence, and probation and parole data. The fugitive and criminal history files are fully automated.

Retention of Applications. A permanent record of all completed applications of regulated firearms is maintained. Rejected applications are maintained for 3 years.

Statistics Maintained. Maryland maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, robbery, and other specific activities.

Current Activity. In 1996 Maryland processed 31,362 applications; 344 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 1.1%.
Massachusetts
A Brady-alternative State: 6,016,425 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety. This agency is not a CLEO. The CLEOs in the State of Massachusetts are the 270 local police departments.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local police departments. The applicant contacts the local police department to obtain the permit. The CLEO has 40 days to process the application for the permit.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Applicants must be able to satisfy the local CLEO that they have both a proper purpose for purchasing the gun and are a suitable person. In addition, applicants must be U.S. citizens.

Information on the Application. The application contains the following information: name, address, phone, place of birth, business address, employer, occupation, build, complexion, eye color, hair color, height, weight, date of birth, Social Security number, mother’s maiden name, father’s name, applicant’s other names, fingerprints, photograph, and references.

Limitations on Use. Massachusetts places restrictions on carrying handguns and on carrying long guns.

Inquiry Process. No information is available.

Permits. Massachusetts requires a permit to purchase a handgun, a License to Carry (LTC).

Fees Charged. The CLEO is permitted to charge a maximum of $20.

Handgun Registration. Handguns and long guns which are purchased in the State are registered in Massachusetts. Persons moving into the State who own handguns must notify the State.

State Data. Massachusetts provides the following data on its statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, probation and parole, juvenile data, and court restraining orders. These files are fully automated. In addition, manual files are kept on mental health data.

Scope of Sales Covered. In addition to those sales covered by the Brady Act, Massachusetts regulates the transfer of handguns to anyone. Handguns cannot be pawned in Massachusetts.

Retention of Applications. CLEOs keep their copy of the applications indefinitely.

Restoration of Rights. A convicted felon’s right to own a handgun may be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Handgun Registration.
Handguns and long guns which are purchased in the State are registered in Massachusetts. Persons moving into the State who own handguns must notify the State.

Scope of Sales Covered. In addition to those sales covered by the Brady Act, Massachusetts regulates the transfer of handguns to anyone. Handguns cannot be pawned in Massachusetts.

Restoration of Rights. A convicted felon’s right to own a handgun may be restored through a governor’s pardon.
Michigan
A Brady-alternative State: 9,295,297 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Michigan State Police. The CLEOs in the State are the 595 local sheriffs and police departments.

Information on the Application. The application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, hair color, eye color, and date of birth. At the time of registration the make, caliber, type, model, and serial number of the weapon are collected.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. As of April 1, 1996, the following orders prohibit the purchasing and possession of firearms: conditional bond release; not guilty by reason of insanity; legal guardianship; involuntary hospitalization/treatment for mental illness; personal protection (includes domestic violence, stalking, and divorce injunctions). Also, the applicant must be a U.S. citizen or legal resident alien.

Inquiry Process. For applications not needing research, nonautomated agencies normally take less than 1 hour. Automated agencies take less than 5 minutes. Applications requiring research take less than 5 days.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO. Fees are not to exceed $5.

Limits on Use. Michigan limits carrying concealed handguns and carrying handguns in certain areas.

State Data. The following data are available to each CLEO: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, probation and parole, mental health, and juvenile (if reportable to the State). Files are fully automated. Some corrections data are also available. Domestic violence data are available through an automated pointer that requires manual research.

Permits. Michigan requires a permit to purchase a handgun.

Retention of Applications. Approved applications are kept on file for 6 years. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of local CLEO.

Scope of Sales Covered. Federal Firearm Licensees and private individuals are covered. Gifts and loans are treated as sales. Handguns cannot be pawned.

Statistics Maintained. Michigan maintains statistics on stolen, recovered, confiscated, and handgun accidents, as well as statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, gangs, and other specific activities.

Handgun Registration. Handgun registration is required in Michigan.

Restriction of Rights. Felons may have their rights restored 5 years after completion of sentences for violent offenses through review by the local county Concealed Weapons Licensing Board. Felons convicted of nonviolent offenses regain their rights 3 years after completion of their sentences.

Background Checks. The applicant applies in person to the CLEO. The larger agencies use an automated inquiry system. Other agencies use the statewide inquiry system.

Handgun Registration
State Data
Permits
Scope of Sales Covered
Restriction of Rights
Background Checks
Minnesota
A Brady-alternative State: 4,375,099 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. This agency is not a CLEO. The CLEOs in the State of Minnesota are the 568 local sheriffs and police departments.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local CLEOs. The individual requests a permit from the CLEO. If approved, a 1-year permit is issued, or the dealer contacts the CLEO for a per purchase approval.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Minnesota does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns besides those required in the Brady Act.

Information on the Application. The following information is required: name, address, phone number, height, weight, hair color and date of birth. Applicants must show an identification card with a color photo.

Limitations on Use. Minnesota requires a permit to carry a handgun and requires that long guns be unloaded while being carried.

Inquiry Process. The CLEO has 5 days to complete the background check. If the application is rejected, a letter is sent to the applicant explaining why.

Permits. Minnesota allows its citizens to either use a "permit to purchase" which is good for only a single purchase, or a "permit to acquire" which is good for 1 year and can be used to purchase as many handguns as they desire.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Minnesota.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law including pawnshop redemptions and sales between private individuals.

State Data. Minnesota makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: fugitive and criminal history. These files are fully automated. The local CLEOs can also check manual files that contain information on mental health and chemical dependency. Court restraining orders and domestic violence data will soon be available.

Retention of Applications. Approved and rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Restoration of Rights. A convicted felon’s right to own a handgun may be restored after 10 years have elapsed since the person’s civil rights have been restored (or the sentence or disposition has expired), and the person has not been convicted of any other crime of violence, or if the conviction has been expunged or he/she has been pardoned.

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Mississippi
A Brady State: 2,573,216 population

**Source of Information.** The information was provided by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety. This agency is not a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act. The CLEOs in the State are the 262 local sheriffs and police departments. The State Police is a CLEO for some of the unincorporated areas.

**Additional Restrictions on Purchase.** Mississippi does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

**Limitations on Use.** Mississippi places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

**Permits.** Mississippi does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

**Handgun Registration.** Handguns are not registered in Mississippi.

**Scope of Sales Covered.** The only sales of handguns regulated in Mississippi are those covered by the Brady Act.

**Restoration of Rights.** Mississippi does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

**Background Checks.** Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local CLEOs. The dealer requests a check by sending the application to the CLEO in person or via mail, fax, or certified mail. The results of the check are sent back to the dealer.

**Information on the Application.** Mississippi uses the standard BATF form.

**Inquiry Process.** The background check process normally takes less than 5 days.

**Fees Charged.** There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the CLEO.

**State Data.** Mississippi does not have any automated State files that are available to the local CLEOs. However, Mississippi does have an automated message switch that allows local CLEOs to access National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Interstate Identification Index (III).

**Retention of Applications.** As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

**Statistics Maintained.** No information is available.
Missouri
A Brady-alternative State: 5,117,073 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Missouri State Highway Patrol. This agency is not a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act. The CLEOs in the State of Missouri are the 114 local sheriffs and the St. Louis County Police Department.

Information on the Application. Missouri’s application contains the following information: name, address, height, hair color, eye color, date of birth, Social Security number, occupation, date of request, date action taken, reason for rejection, type of weapon, make, model, and serial number of weapon, reason for desiring, and date and manner of disposition of firearm.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. In addition to the Brady Act requirements, Missouri prevents handguns from being purchased if the applicant is guilty of a misdemeanor that involves explosives or firearms.

Inquiry Process. No information is available.

Limitations on Use. Missouri limits carrying handguns and long guns. It also limits their use in certain areas, such as churches and schools.

Fees Charged. Missouri charges $10 for a background check.

Permits. Missouri requires a permit to purchase a handgun.

State Data. Missouri makes the following data available to each CLEO via a statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, domestic violence, and probation and parole. These files are fully automated.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered by Missouri, but are registered by some counties and municipalities.

Retention of Applications. The local CLEO keeps the approved and rejected applications indefinitely.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops. Redemptions by the person who pawned the gun and sales from one individual to another are also covered.

Statistics Maintained. Missouri maintains statistics on stolen, recovered, and handgun accidents. Missouri also maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, drugs, and other specific activities.

Restoration of Rights. Missouri does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs’ departments and the St. Louis County Police Department. The applicant requests a permit by applying in person.
Montana
A Brady State: 799,065 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Montana Department of Justice. This agency is not a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act. The CLEOs in the State of Montana are the 56 local sheriffs and police departments.

Information on the Application. Montana uses the standard BATF form.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Montana does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Inquiry Process. No information is available.

Limitations on Use. Montana does not place limitations on carrying concealed handguns or long guns.

Fees Charged. There are no mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the CLEO.

Permits. Montana does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

State Data. Montana makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: fugitive and criminal history. These files are fully automated. Some domestic violence data are also available.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Montana.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated are those covered by the Brady Act.

Statistics Maintained. Montana maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides.

Restoration of Rights. Montana allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored automatically after completion of sentence except for certain offenses.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and police departments. The dealer requests a check by sending the application to the local CLEO. The results of the check are sent back to the dealer.
Nebraska
A Brady-alternative State: 1,578,385

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Nebraska State Patrol. This agency is not a CLEO. The CLEOs in Nebraska are the 93 sheriffs and the Lincoln and Omaha Police Departments.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Nebraska does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Nebraska does not place limitations on the use of handguns or long guns.

Permits. Nebraska requires a permit to purchase a handgun; permit is valid for up to 3 years.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Nebraska.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law. However, sales by pawnshops are not covered by State law.

Restoration of Rights. Nebraska does not allow a convicted felon's right to own a handgun to be restored.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and police departments. The dealer requests a check from the local CLEO by sending the application by mail, fax, or in person. The results of the check are sent back by mail or fax.

Information on the Application. Nebraska's application contains the following data: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, hair color, date of birth, Social Security number, date of request, date action taken, action taken, type of weapon, make, model, and serial number.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 1 day. Those requiring research normally take less than 2 days.

Fees Charged. Nebraska charges $5 for the background check.

State Data. Nebraska makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, and probation and parole. These files are automated and contain 75% of the data that are available at the State level.

Retention of Applications. Approved and rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

Statistics Maintained. Nebraska maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and drugs, homicides, assaults, or the murder or assault of a police officer.
Nevada
A Brady State: 1,201,833 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Nevada Highway Patrol. This agency is the CLEO as defined by the Brady Act.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the background check process normally takes less than 5 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 3 days.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Nevada does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges $15 for the background check.

Limitations on Use. Nevada places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Permits. Nevada does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, and domestic violence. These files are fully automated. Currently under development is a protective order registry.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Nevada except in Clark County (Las Vegas).

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept indefinitely.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated in the State are those covered by the Brady Act.

Statistics Maintained. Nevada maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, drugs, and other specific activities.

Restoration of Rights. Nevada allows a convicted felon’s right to own a firearm to be restored if honorably discharged from probation, and firearms rights are specifically restored by court order or a governor’s pardon.

Current Activity. In 1996 Nevada processed 28,253 applications; 574 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 2.0%.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the Nevada Highway Patrol. The dealer requests a check by using a 1-800 number or regular local phone number. A determination is rendered within 5 working days.

Information on the Application. Nevada’s application contains the following data: name, address, date of birth and previous names. The following fields are optional: Social Security number, sex, height, and weight.
New Hampshire
A Brady-alternative State: 1,109,252 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the New Hampshire State Police. This agency is the CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. New Hampshire prohibits sales to those people guilty of a felony against the person or the property of another, to certain drug violators, or to those who have an active warrant or protective order in effect.

Limitations on Use. New Hampshire places limitations on carrying concealed handguns.

Permits. New Hampshire does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in New Hampshire.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as are pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun are not covered by State law, nor are sales between private individuals.

Restoration of Rights. New Hampshire does not allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored.

Background Checks. New Hampshire has an instant check system. Background checks on handguns are done by the New Hampshire Department of Safety. The dealer requests a check by using a 1-900 number.

Information on the Application. New Hampshire’s application contains the following information: name, race, sex, date of birth, Social Security number and/or driver’s license, date of request, date action taken, and action taken.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process takes less than 5 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 4 hours.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges $7 for the background check.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, and court restraining orders.

Retention of Applications. The CLEO keeps the approved applications for 20 days and the rejected applications for 3 years.

Statistics Maintained. New Hampshire maintains statistics on stolen and recovered handguns, as well as statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, drugs, and other specific activities.

Current Activity. In 1996 New Hampshire processed 12,997 applications; 161 were rejected. This represents a rejection rate of 1.2%.
New Jersey
A Brady-alternative State: 7,730,188 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the New Jersey State Police. The CLEOs for New Jersey are the 482 local police departments and, for some unincorporated areas, the State Police.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. New Jersey places the following additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns: the person must not be habitually intoxicated. In addition, permits are not issued when the issuance would not be in the interest of public health, safety, or welfare.

Limitations on Use. New Jersey places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Permits. New Jersey requires a permit to purchase a handgun, which is valid for 90 days.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are registered in New Jersey at the time of purchase.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees and sales from one individual to another are covered by State law. Handguns cannot be pawned.

Restoration of Rights. New Jersey allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored if his/her criminal record is expunged.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by State Police and municipal police departments.

Information on the Application. The application contains the following: name, address, date of birth, place of birth, citizenship, Social Security number, sex, height, weight, race, hair color, complexion, eyes, distinguishing physical characteristics, occupation, name and address of employer, questions relating to
criminal and disorderly conduct convictions, whether firearms permits have been previously denied, alcohol/drug use questions, physical defects/sickness, mental psychiatric conditions or treatment, and court order information with reference to domestic violence. Also included are signature of the applicant, date of the application, and two referrals. First-time applicants are required to be fingerprinted.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the background check takes less than 1 month. Those requiring research normally take less than 6 months. New Jersey has a mandatory waiting period of 7 days.

Fees Charged. Fingerprint fees are $49. Fees for each permit to purchase a handgun are $2, with a $5 fee for a firearms purchaser identification card for rifles and shotguns.

State Data. New Jersey makes the following data available to each CLEO: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, probation and parole, mental health, and domestic violence. The mental health and domestic violence files are under development and only partial data are available.

Retention of Applications. CLEOs keep approved and rejected applications indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Current Activity. In 1996 New Jersey processed 24,672 applications; 280 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 1.1%.
Source of Information. The information was provided by the New Mexico Department of Public Safety. This agency is not a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act. The CLEOs in the State of New Mexico are the 112 local sheriffs and police departments and, for some unincorporated areas, the State Police.

Information on the Application. New Mexico uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 2 days. Those requiring research normally take less than 5 days.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO, varying from $0 to $20.

Limitations on Use. New Mexico places limitations on carrying handguns, as well as limitations on carrying a concealed long gun.

Permits. New Mexico does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in New Mexico.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. New Mexico allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored upon a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and police departments. The dealer requests a check from the local CLEO. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer.

Special Note. Domestic violence data became available in January 1997.
New York
A Brady-alternative State: 17,990,455 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. This agency is not a CLEO. The CLEOs in New York are the 58 local county judges. The applications are made to the county sheriffs and some local police departments.

Information on the Application. New York’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, hair color, eye color, date of birth, Social Security number, fingerprints, business address, previous address, occupation, character references, date of request, date action taken, action taken, reason for rejection, type of weapon, make, model, and serial number of weapon.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. New York places additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns; the applicant must be of good moral character and not guilty of committing a serious offense.

Limitations on Use. New York has restrictions on the use of handguns, at the discretion of the licensing judge.

Permits. New York requires a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are registered in New York.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops and redemptions by the person who pawned the gun.

Restoration of Rights. New York may authorize a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored. This procedure requires a court order.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and police departments. The applicant requests a permit by applying in person.

Inquiry Process. New York allows up to 6 months to process the application.

Fees Charged. New York’s fees vary by county but are at least $74.

State Data. Local CLEOs perform checks at the local level and then forward the application to the State. New York makes checks using the applicant’s fingerprints. The State data available includes criminal history, fugitive, court restraining orders, and mental health.

Retention of Applications. Approved and rejected applications are retained indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.
North Carolina
A Brady-alternative State: 6,628,637 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation. The CLEOs are the local 100 sheriffs.

Information on the Application. The exact fields that are on the application vary from county to county and are at the discretion of the county sheriff. Most CLEOs require an extensive list of information.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. The applicant must not be habitually intoxicated, lack good moral character, or be prohibited under the State Felony Firearms Act.

Inquiry Process. The applicant applies to the local CLEO for the permit. Once the CLEO has completed the check the permit is issued to the applicant who takes it to the dealer.

Limitations on Use. North Carolina places restrictions on carrying handguns, as well as restrictions on possessing or purchasing long guns in violation of the State Felony Firearms Act.


Permits. North Carolina requires a permit to purchase a handgun.

State Data. North Carolina makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, probation and parole, court restraining orders, motor vehicle, and domestic violence. These files are fully automated.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in North Carolina.

Retention of Applications. The local CLEOs retain the approved applications for 5 years and rejected applications indefinitely.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops and sales from one individual to another. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun are not covered by State law.

Statistics Maintained. North Carolina maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, suicides, and murder or assault of a police officer.

Restoration of Rights. North Carolina allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored automatically after 5 years.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs.
North Dakota
A Brady State: 638,000 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation. The CLEOs in the State are the 53 local sheriffs.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. In addition to the Brady Act requirements, North Dakota prevents handguns from being purchased if the applicant is guilty of a class A misdemeanor involving violence or intimidation, committed while using or possessing a firearm or dangerous weapon.

Limitations on Use. Limitations are placed on carrying handguns and long guns. Limitations include discharge of a firearm within a city, prohibition against a short-barreled rifle or shotgun, and a prohibition against machine guns and automatic rifles.

Permits. North Dakota does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in North Dakota.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearms Licensees are covered by State law as well as sales from one individual to another; however, pawnshop redemptions are not covered.

Restoration of Rights. North Dakota does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored after 5 or 10 years, depending on the type of felony offense.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs. The dealer requests a check from the CLEO by sending the application via regular mail, certified mail, or in person. The results are sent back to the dealer.

Information on the Application. North Dakota uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. No information is available.

Fees Charged. Local CLEOs are allowed to charge up to $10 for the background check.

State Data. North Dakota makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: fugitive (50% is automated) and criminal history (75% is automated). Court restraining orders are also available.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. North Dakota maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, drugs, and other specific activities.
Ohio
A Brady State: 10,847,115 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation. This agency is a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Ohio does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Ohio places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Permits. Ohio does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Ohio.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. Ohio does not allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation. The dealer requests a check by using a 1-900 number. The only time the dealer is notified of the results is if there is a disapproval. Otherwise, the dealer can release the handgun after the 5-day waiting period has expired.

Information on the Application. Ohio’s application contains the following information: name, previous name and date of birth. The following fields are optional: address, sex, height, weight, Social Security number, State ID or Operators License, business address, previous address, place of birth, occupation, race, hair color, eye color, and date of request.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 15 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 3 days.

Fees Charged. Ohio charges $15 for the background check.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, domestic violence, and probation and parole. These files are fully automated. Ohio is planning to install a BATF defined instant check system.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, Ohio keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days and the rejected applications indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Current Activity. In 1996 Ohio processed 60,037 applications; 330 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 0.5%.
Oklahoma
A Brady State: 3,145,585 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. The CLEOs are the 440 local sheriffs and police departments.

Information on the Application. Oklahoma uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. No information is available.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Oklahoma does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Limitations on Use. Oklahoma places limitations on carrying handguns.

State Data. Oklahoma makes only criminal history data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network. This file is fully automated.

Permits. Oklahoma does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Oklahoma.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns regulated are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. Oklahoma allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored if he/she was convicted of a non-violent offense and receives a complete pardon from the proper authority.

Background Checks. Background checks on the purchase of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and police departments. The dealer requests a check from the local CLEO. The results of the check are sent back to the dealer.
Oregon
A Brady-alternative State: 2,842,321 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Oregon State Police. The CLEO is the Superintendent of State Police.

Information on the Application. Oregon uses the Federal form and a thumbprint form generated by the Oregon State Police.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Oregon places additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns. It prevents applicants convicted during the past 4 years of any of the following misdemeanors from purchasing a handgun: assault IV, menacing, recklessly endangering, assaulting a public safety officer, and intimidation 2nd degree. Persons on probation are prohibited from purchasing a handgun unless an exception is made by the court. Persons with outstanding felony warrants are also prohibited from purchasing.

Inquiry Process. On July 1, 1996, Oregon implemented the Instant Check system. The dealer calls a 1-800 number and provides the required information. Background queries are processed on the purchaser and the handgun being sold; the dealer is given a transaction number if approved or informed that the applicant is denied.

Fees Charged. Oregon charges $10 per background check.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: criminal history, fugitive, stolen gun, restraining orders, and mental health files.

Limitations on Use. Oregon places limitations on carrying handguns.

Permits. Oregon does not require a permit to purchase a handgun, but does require one for a concealed handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Oregon.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns regulated are those covered by the Brady Act.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the Oregon State Police Firearms Unit. The dealer requests a check from the Firearms Unit through the instant check process.

Retention of Applications. The Oregon State Police Firearms Unit keeps a record of approved and rejected applications on file for 5 years.

Statistics Maintained. Oregon maintains statistics on the number of stolen handguns as well as statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, assaults, and murder or assault of a police officer.
Pennsylvania
A Brady State: 11,881,643 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Pennsylvania State Police. The CLEOs are the 66 county sheriffs and the Philadelphia Police Department.

Information on the Application. Pennsylvania’s record of sale contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, hair color, eye color, date of birth, Social Security number, occupation, date of request, make, model, serial number, caliber, and length of barrel.


Inquiry Process. Pennsylvania has a 48-hour waiting period during which the background check must take place.

Limitations on Use. Pennsylvania places limitations on carrying of all guns in a first class city, in vehicles, on school property, and in a court facility.

Fees Charged. There is a $3 State-mandated fee on retail gun sales for the creation and operation of the instant check system.

Permits. Pennsylvania does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

State Data. Pennsylvania makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: criminal history, fugitive, and probation and parole. These files are automated and contain more than 50% of the data available at the State level.

Handgun Registration. Record of sales are required to be sent to the Pennsylvania State Police on all sales of handguns except wholesales.

Retention of Applications. Approved applications are retained for 20 days per the Brady Act. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

Scope of Sales Covered. The sales of all handguns are regulated in Pennsylvania. Handguns cannot be pawned.

Statistics Maintained. Pennsylvania maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun used in a homicide, or all weapons involved in an assault, or the murder or assault of a police officer.

Handgun Registration. Record of sales are required to be sent to the Pennsylvania State Police on all sales of handguns except wholesales.

Restoration of Rights. Pennsylvania allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon or for some offenses it becomes automatic after 10 years without incarceration.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and the Philadelphia Police Department. The dealer requests a check from the local sheriff or police department by sending the Brady form to the CLEO.

Scope of Sales Covered. The sales of all handguns are regulated in Pennsylvania. Handguns cannot be pawned.

Retention of Applications. Approved applications are retained for 20 days per the Brady Act. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.
Rhode Island
A Brady State: 1,003,464 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Rhode Island Department of the Attorney General. This agency is not a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act; the CLEOs are the 39 local police departments.

Information on the Application. Rhode Island’s application contains the following information: name, address, sex, height, weight, date of birth, and Social Security number.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. The applicant must not be habitually intoxicated.

Inquiry Process. Most CLEOs in Rhode Island complete the background check within 5 days. There is a waiting period of 7 days.

Limitations on Use. Rhode Island places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Permits. Rhode Island does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

State Data. Rhode Island makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, probation and parole, court restraining orders, mental health, and domestic violence. These files are fully automated.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Rhode Island.

Retention of Applications. Approved and rejected applications are kept indefinitely.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, including pawnshop redemptions and sales between private individuals.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Restoration of Rights. Rhode Island allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local police departments. The dealer requests a check by sending the application to the CLEO. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer.
South Carolina
A Brady State: 3,486,703 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division. This agency is the CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. An applicant must not be habitually intoxicated, or indicted, arraigned, or convicted of a misdemeanor with over a 2-year sentence or felony with over a 1-year sentence.

Limitations on Use. South Carolina does place limitations on carrying handguns.

Permits. Permits are required for concealed handguns.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered.

Scope of Sales Covered. South Carolina licenses all handgun dealers. This covers all sales as well as sales by pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun and sales between private individuals are not covered.

Restoration of Rights. South Carolina allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored if the person receives a pardon or an expungement for the conviction with the exception of crimes of violence.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by South Carolina Law Enforcement Division. The dealer requests a check by using a 1-800 number.

Information on the Application. South Carolina’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, hair color, eye color, date of birth, Social Security number, fingerprints (optional), business address, place of birth, date of request, type of weapon, make, model, and serial number of weapon.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 5 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 15 minutes or up to 5 days.

Fees Charged. South Carolina charges $5.

State Data. The CLEO has the following data available via the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, domestic violence, and 30-day one handgun purchase. These files are fully automated.

Retention of Applications. South Carolina keeps approved applications for 20 days and rejected applications indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. South Carolina maintains statistics on handgun accidents (only if they result in death). South Carolina also maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, gangs and other specific activities.

Current Activity. In 1996 South Carolina processed 53,153 applications; 2,467 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 4.6%.


South Dakota
A Brady State: 696,004 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the South Dakota Attorney General’s Office. The CLEOs are the 66 local sheriffs.

Information on the Application. South Dakota uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. There is a 2-day mandatory waiting period.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

State Data. South Dakota makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, probation and parole, and protective orders. The Driver’s History file is also available to check for additional data. These files are fully automated. Some domestic violence data are available, and training is in process to distinguish those data from simple assault.

Retirement of Applications. As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. South Dakota does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. South Dakota places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Permits. South Dakota does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in South Dakota.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. South Dakota allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs. The dealer requests a check from the local CLEO. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer.

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Tennessee
A Brady-alternative State: 4,877,185 population

Source of Information. The information was
provided by the Tennessee Bureau of
Investigation. The CLEOs in the State of
Tennessee are the 95 local sheriffs and the
Nashville Metropolitan Police Department.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase.
Tennessee places restrictions on the purchase
of handguns beyond those required in the
Brady Act. It prevents people from buying a
gun who are addicted to or convicted of selling
alcoholic beverages, or convicted of violent
assaults.

Limitations on Use. Tennessee does place
limitations on carrying handguns and long
guns.

Permits. A permit is required.

Handgun Registration.
Handguns are not
registered in Tennessee.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by
Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by
State law, as well as sales by pawnshops,
redemptions, and sales from one person to
another.

Restoration of Rights. Tennessee does not
allow a convicted felon’s right to own a
handgun to be restored.

Background Checks. Background checks on
purchases of handguns are done by the local
sheriffs and the Nashville Metropolitan Police
Department. The dealer requests a check by
sending the application to the local CLEO via
mail, fax, or in person. Tennessee has a 15-
day waiting period.

Information on the Application.
Tennessee’s application contains the following
information: name, address, race, sex, height,
weight, eye color, hair color, date of birth,
Social Security number, thumbprint, previous
names, previous addresses, scars, marks and
tattoos, completed approved handgun safety
course, date of request, date action taken,
action taken, type of weapon, make, model,
and serial number of weapon.

Inquiry Process. For applications which
require no research, the process normally
takes less than 5 days. Those requiring
research normally take less than 2 weeks.

Fees Charged. There
are no State-
mandated fees. Any
fee charged is at the
discretion of the local
CLEO.

State Data.
Tennessee makes the following data available
to each CLEO through the State Law
Enforcement Communications Network:
criminal history, fugitive, some domestic abuse
information, and court restraining orders.

Retention of Applications. Local CLEOs
keep the approved and rejected applications
for 1 year.

Statistics Maintained. Tennessee does not
maintain statistics on handgun incidents.
Texas
A Brady State: 16,986,510 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Texas Department of Public Safety. The CLEOs in the State of Texas are the 991 local sheriffs and police departments.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Texas does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. Texas requires that any handgun which is carried must be concealed.

Permits. Texas does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Texas.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated in Texas are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. Texas does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored in some circumstances.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and police departments. The dealer requests a check by sending the application to the local CLEO. The results are sent back to the dealer.

Information on the Application. Texas uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. As a Brady State, CLEOs in Texas have up to 5 days in which to perform the background check.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

State Data. Texas makes the following data available to each CLEO via its statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, and probation and parole. These files are fully automated.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEOs.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.
Utah
A Brady-alternative State: 1,722,850 population

**Source of Information.** The information was provided by the Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification. This agency is the CLEO.

**Inquiry Process.** For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 5 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 5 days.

**Additional Restrictions on Purchase.** Utah does not place any restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

**Fees Charged.** The CLEO charges $5.

**Limitations on Use.** Utah places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns. It also places limitations on the use of dangerous weapons around a school, threatening or using in a fight or quarrel, or carrying in a vehicle.

**State Data.** The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, court restraining orders, domestic abuse, and motor vehicle. These files are fully automated.

**Permits.** Utah does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

**Retention of Applications.** The CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. The rejected applications are kept for 1 year.

**Handgun Registration.** Handguns are not registered in Utah.

**Statistics Maintained.** Utah maintains statistics on stolen and recovered handguns, as well as statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides, drugs, and other specific activities.

**Scope of Sales Covered.** All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops and redemptions.

**Current Activity.** In 1996 Utah processed 34,073 applications; 595 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 1.7%.

**Restoration of Rights.** Utah does not allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored.

**Retention of Applications.** The CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. The rejected applications are kept for 1 year.

**Background Checks.** Utah has an instant check system. The dealer requests a check by using a 1-800 number or regular phone. The results are sent back to the dealer. If it is not rejected, the 5-day waiting period is allowed to expire, and the handgun can be purchased.

**Information on the Application.** Utah’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, hair color, eye color, date of birth, Social Security number, date of request, and action taken.
Vermont
A Brady State: 562,758 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Vermont Department of Public Safety. The CLEOs are the 21 local sheriffs and police departments and, for some unincorporated areas, the Vermont State Police.

Background Checks. The dealer requests a background check for handguns from the local sheriffs and police departments by fax or certified mail. Vermont responds by fax, mail, or telephone.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Vermont does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Information on the Application. Vermont uses the standard BATF form.

Limitations on Use. Vermont does not place limitations on carrying handguns.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 2 days. Those requiring research normally take less than 4 days.

Permits. Vermont does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Fees Charged. No fee is charged.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Vermont.

State Data. CLEOs have access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, probation and parole, court restraining orders, domestic abuse, dishonorable discharges, and illegal alien. The fugitive and domestic abuse files are automated.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns regulated are those covered by the Brady Act.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are retained at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Restoration of Rights. Vermont allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.
Virginia
A Brady-alternative State: 6,187,358 population

**Source of Information.** The information was provided by the Virginia State Police. This agency is the CLEO.

**Information on the Application.** Virginia’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, date of birth, Social Security number, place of birth, and number of firearms per transaction.

**Additional Restrictions on Purchase.** An individual cannot purchase more than one handgun every 30 days unless authorized by the State Police.

**Inquiry Process.** For applications without disqualifiers or which require no research, the process takes less than 2 minutes. Illegal attempts to purchase firearms are investigated with prosecution pursued in every incident when evidence is sufficient for such prosecution.

**Limitations on Use.** Virginia requires a permit issued by a State circuit court to carry a concealed handgun.

**Permits.** Virginia does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

**Fees Charged.** A $2 fee is charged.

**Handgun Registration.** Handguns are not registered in Virginia.

**State Data.** The CLEO accesses the following data: criminal history, fugitive, capias, protective orders, 30-day State law gun limitation, mental health, and domestic violence. These files are fully automated.

**Scope of Sales Covered.** All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as are sales by pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun if redeemed within the bailment period are not covered by State law.

**Retention of Applications.** The CLEO keeps the approved applications for 30 days and the rejected applications for 2 years.

**Limitations on Use.** Virginia requires a permit issued by a State circuit court to carry a concealed handgun.

**Statistics Maintained.** Virginia maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides.

**Current Activity.** In 1996 Virginia processed 182,384 applications; 1,896 were rejected. This represents a rejection rate of 1.0%.

**Background Checks.** Virginia has an instant check system. The dealer requests a check by using a 1-800 number or by mail. In addition to the toll-free number, some high-volume dealers have direct access to the Firearms Transaction Program through a terminal. The results of the handgun check are sent back to the dealer.

**Retention of Applications.** The CLEO keeps the approved applications for 30 days and the rejected applications for 2 years.

**Statistics Maintained.** Virginia maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides.

**Current Activity.** In 1996 Virginia processed 182,384 applications; 1,896 were rejected. This represents a rejection rate of 1.0%.
Source of Information. The information was provided by the Washington State Patrol. The CLEOs are the 291 local sheriffs and police departments.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Washington places an additional restriction on the purchase of handguns. The applicant must not be guilty of crimes of harassment.

Limitations on Use. Washington places limitations on carrying handguns and long guns.

Permits. Washington does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Washington.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun and sales between private individuals are not covered by State law.

Restoration of Rights. Washington does allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored by petition of the court of record or governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and police departments. The dealer requests a check by sending the application to the CLEO via mail, fax, certified mail, or in person.

Information on the Application. Information on the application includes the following: name, address, sex, height, weight, hair color, eye color, date of birth, place of birth, drivers' license or ID number, date of request, Social Security number (optional), hair color (optional), type of weapon, make, model, and serial number of weapon.

Inquiry Process. There is a 5-business day waiting period or until approved by Chief of Police.

Fees Charged. No fee is charged.

State Data. The State makes the following data available to each CLEO via the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, and court restraining orders. These files are fully automated. Mental health data are available manually, and some domestic violence data are also available.

Retention of Applications. The local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are maintained for a minimum of 6 years.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.
West Virginia
A Brady State: 1,793,477 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the West Virginia State Police. This agency is the CLEO.

Information on the Application. West Virginia’s application contains the following information: name, date of birth, Social Security number, address, date of request, date action taken, action taken, type of weapon, make, model, and serial number of weapon.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. West Virginia does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Limitations on Use. West Virginia places limitations on carrying concealed handguns. It also places limitations on the carrying of a long gun.

Permits. West Virginia does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in West Virginia.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. West Virginia does not allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored.

Background Checks. The dealer requests a check for handguns from the regional center in West Virginia via fax. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer.

Inquiry Process. The background check process normally takes less than 5 days.

Fees Charged. No fee is charged.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, and court restraining orders. These files are fully automated. The State also has some domestic abuse data, which are kept manually.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, West Virginia keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. West Virginia maintains statistics on events which involve a handgun and homicides.

Current Activity. In 1996 West Virginia processed 20,538 applications; 224 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 1.1%.
Wisconsin
A Brady-alternative State: 4,891,769 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Wisconsin Department of Justice. This agency is the CLEO.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Wisconsin places restrictions on a person who committed a felony as a delinquent on or after April 21, 1994, that if committed by an adult in Wisconsin would be a felony. Wisconsin also places some limits on persons with developmental disabilities or those subject to injunction for harassment or domestic abuse.

Limitations on Use. Wisconsin places limitations on carrying handguns, storage, transportation, pointing at another person, endangering the safety of a person, and possession by a minor. It places similar limitations on long guns.

Permits. Wisconsin does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Wisconsin.

Scope of Sales Covered. All sales by Federal Firearm Licensees are covered by State law, as well as sales by pawnshops. However, redemptions by the person who pawned the gun are not covered by State law.

Restoration of Rights. Wisconsin requires a pardon from the governor, or restoration can be done under the Relief From Disabilities Act.

Background Checks. Wisconsin has an instant check system. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the Department of Safety. The dealer requests a check from it by using a 1-800 number. Wisconsin has a 48-hour waiting period.

Information on the Application. Wisconsin’s application contains the following information: name, address, race, sex, height, weight, date of birth, hair color, eye color, previous names, date of request, date action taken, and action taken.

Inquiry Process. For applications which require no research, the process normally takes less than 2 minutes. Those requiring research normally take less than 1 day.

Fees Charged. The CLEO charges 8.

State Data. The CLEO has access to the following data from the statewide computer network: fugitive, criminal history, juvenile, domestic violence, court restraining orders, and mental health. These files are fully automated. Probation and parole data are kept manually.

Retention of Applications. Wisconsin keeps the approved applications for 30 days and the rejected applications indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. Wisconsin maintains statistics on events which involve homicides, murder or assault of a police officer, and family violence.

Current Activity. In 1996 Wisconsin processed 32,628 applications; 188 were disapproved. This represents a rejection rate of 0.6%.
Wyoming
A Brady State: 453,588 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Wyoming Attorney General. The CLEOs are the 40 local sheriffs and police departments.

Information on the Application. Wyoming uses the standard BATF form.

Inquiry Process. No information is available.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Wyoming does not place any additional restrictions on the purchase of handguns.

Fees Charged. There are no State-mandated fees. Any fee charged is at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Limitations on Use. Wyoming places limitations on carrying concealed handguns. It does not place any limitations on the use of long guns.

State Data. Wyoming makes the following data available to each CLEO via the statewide computer network: fugitive (felony and misdemeanor) and criminal history. These files are fully automated.

Permits. Wyoming does not require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the local CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days. Rejected applications are kept at the discretion of the local CLEO.

Handgun Registration. Handguns are not registered in Wyoming.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Scope of Sales Covered. The only sales of handguns that are regulated in Wyoming are those covered by the Brady Act.

Restoration of Rights. Wyoming allows a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored through a governor’s pardon.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the local sheriffs and police departments. The dealer requests a check from the local CLEO. The results of that check are sent back to the dealer.
American Samoa
46,773 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the American Samoa Department of Public Safety. This agency is a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. The territory of American Samoa does not allow handguns on the island. Even local police officers do not carry handguns. A person’s baggage is checked when he/she arrives, but some handguns do escape detection. Shotguns and .22 caliber rifles are allowed.

Limitations on Use. See above.

Permits. No information is available.

Handgun Registration. No information is available.

Scope of Sales Covered. No information is available.

Restoration of Rights. No information is available.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of shotguns and .22 caliber rifles are performed by the police. After the weapon is purchased, the person must take the sales receipt and the weapon to the police. The police will run a background check and issue a permit. The background check includes checking with police departments on neighboring islands.
Guam
A Brady-alternative jurisdiction: 133,152 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Guam Police Department. This agency is a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. Guam places the following restrictions on the purchase of handguns. Any person, 18 years old and over, may obtain a Guam Firearm’s Identification Card, issued by the Guam Police Department. Handguns, if purchased through a licensed federal firearms dealer, can only be legally obtained by persons 21 years old and over. Shotguns and rifles can be purchased by a holder of a Guam Firearms Identification Card (18 years old and above).

Limitations on use. Guam does not place any limitations on where handguns can be carried or used.

Permits. Guam does require a permit to purchase a handgun. It is called the Firearm ID Card.

Handgun Registration. After purchasing a weapon, the receipt is taken to the Guam Police Department, and is first inspected by the duty armorer, then is registered by the department.

Scope of Sales Covered. The transfer of weapons between individuals as well as purchases from gun shops are covered by Guam’s laws. Redemptions from pawnshops are also covered.

Restoration of Rights. Guam does not allow a convicted felon’s right to own a handgun to be restored.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the Guam Police Department. The applicant requests a permit from the police department who then checks FBI’s data and their local files.

Information on the Application. Guam’s application contains the following information: name, address, previous address, place of birth, date of birth, home phone, duty phone, Social Security number, occupation, employer, race, sex, height, weight, eye color, and hair color.

Inquiry Process. The process can take as much as 6 to 10 weeks while the person’s background is being checked.

Fees Charged. First time applicants must submit a money order/bank draft, addressed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the amount of $24 for their (FBI) background information fee. Once the background check is cleared and the application is approved for issuance, the applicant is charged a fee of $15 for the Identification Card (renewable every 3 years). There is also a fee of $20 for the registration of each firearm.

State Data. Guam has access to the following data: fugitive, criminal history, and mental health data.

Retention of Applications. Guam keeps all applications indefinitely.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.
Puerto Rico
A Brady jurisdiction: 3,522,037 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Police of Puerto Rico. This agency is a CLEO as defined by the Brady Act.

Information on the Application. No information is available.

Inquiry Process. The background check process can take from 120 to 200 days.

Fees Charged. No fee is charged.

State Data. No information is available.

Retention of Applications. As a Brady State, the CLEO keeps the approved applications for a maximum of 20 days.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Permits. Puerto Rico does require a permit to purchase a handgun.

Handgun Registration. No information is available.

Scope of Sales Covered. No information is available.

Restoration of Rights. No information is available.

Background Checks. Background checks on purchases of handguns are done by the Police of Puerto Rico. The request is sent by certified mail or in person to the Police. The Police have an internal appeals process with written procedures and an external appeals process that involves the court system.
Virgin Islands
A Brady-alternative jurisdiction: 101,809 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Virgin Islands Police Department. This agency is the CLEO.

Information on the Application. Data required vary with the kind of application.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. No information is available.

Inquiry Process. No information is available.

Limitations on Use. No information is available.

Fees Charged. The Virgin Islands charges a $5 application fee, an $18 renewal fee and a $15 late registration fee. The license must be renewed every three years. New photographs are required with each renewal.

Permits. The applicant is issued a purchase coupon.

State Data. No information is available.

Handgun Registration. After purchase, the bill of sale and the weapon are brought to the police where all the information is recorded.

Retention of Applications. No information is available.

Scope of Sales Covered. No information is available.

Statistics Maintained. No information is available.

Restoration of Rights. No information is available.

Background Checks. The applicant fills out and returns a completed notarized application. The application is accompanied by four photographs and notarized statements from character references. If no problems are found during the background check, the application is forwarded to the Police Commissioner who approves or disapproves the application.
Washington, D.C.
606,900 population

Source of Information. The information was provided by the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, D.C.

Additional Restrictions on Purchase. The laws of Washington, D.C. do not allow the purchase or carrying of handguns except by police.

Limitations on Use. Limitations are listed above.

Permits. Not applicable.

Handgun Registration. Not applicable.

Scope of Sales Covered. Not applicable.

Restoration of Rights. Not applicable.

Background Checks. Not applicable.

Information on the Application. Not applicable.

Inquiry Process. Not applicable.

Fees Charged. Not applicable.

State Data. Not applicable.

Retention of Applications. Not applicable.

Statistics Maintained. Not applicable.
## Appendix A

### State FIST Contact

**Alabama**  
Isaac Kervin  
Criminal Justice Info. Center  
770 Washington Ave. Rm. 350  
Montgomery AL  36130  
(334) 242-4900

**Alaska**  
Carey Maple  
Department of Public Safety  
Division of Adm. Services  
5700 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage AK  99507  
(907) 269-5708

**Arizona**  
Teresa Fuentes  
Department of Public Safety  
Instant Check Unit  
P.O. Box 6638  
Phoenix AZ  85005  
(602) 223-2702

**Arkansas**  
Tom Craig  
Crime Information Center  
One Capitol Mall  
Little Rock AR  72201  
(501) 618-8500

**California**  
Mike Broderick  
Department of Justice  
Firearms Program  
4949 Broadway  
Sacramento CA  95820  
(916) 227-3268

**Colorado**  
Sean McNeill  
Bureau of Investigation  
Crime Information Center  
690 Kipling Street, Rm. 3000  
Denver CO  80215  
(303) 239-4641

**Connecticut**  
Paul A. Samuels  
Department of Public Safety  
License & Firearms Unit  
1111 Country Club Road  
Middletown CT  06457  
(860) 685-8160

**Delaware**  
Kenneth Castelline  
State Police, BOI  
Firearms Trans. Program  
P.O. Box 430  
Dover DE  19903  
(302) 739-2934

**Florida**  
Martha Wright  
Dept. of Law Enforcement  
Criminal Justice Info. Systems  
P.O. Box 1489  
Tallahassee FL  32302  
(904) 488-4931

**Georgia**  
Charles A. Severs  
Bureau of Investigation  
Crime Information Center  
P.O. Box 370748  
Decatur GA  30037  
(404) 244-2605

**Hawaii**  
Liane Moriyama  
Criminal Justice Data Center  
Kekuana’o Building  
465 South King St., Rm. 101  
Honolulu HI  96813  
(808) 587-3101

**Idaho**  
Bob Taylor  
Bur. of Criminal Identification  
Criminal History Unit  
700 South Stratford  
Meridian ID  83642  
(208) 884-7133

**Illinois**  
George Murphy  
State Police Div. of Adm.  
100 Iles Park Place  
Springfield IL  62708  
(217) 782-3310

**Indiana**  
Bruce Bryant  
State Police Firearms Division  
Indiana Govt. Center North  
100 N. Senate Ave, Rm. 312  
Indianapolis IN  46204  
(317) 232-8264

**Iowa**  
Carroll L. Bidles  
Office of Public Safety  
Div. of Criminal Investigation  
Wallace State Office Building  
Des Moines IA  50319  
(515) 281-8422

**Kansas**  
Charles Sexson  
Bureau of Investigation  
1620 Southwest Tyler  
Topeka KS  66612  
(913) 291-3029

**Kentucky**  
Dana R. Winkel  
State Police  
Information Services Center  
1250 Louisville Road  
Frankfort KY  40601  
(502) 227-8700

**Louisiana**  
Randy Johnson  
Office of State Police  
Bur. of Criminal Identification  
P.O. Box 66614  
Baton Rouge LA  70896  
(504) 925-6095
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Title/Division</th>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Jeffrey D.</td>
<td>Harmon</td>
<td>Support Services Division</td>
<td>36 Hospital Street</td>
<td>Augusta ME</td>
<td>04333</td>
<td>(207) 624-7062</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Walt</td>
<td>Joyce</td>
<td>Department of Justice</td>
<td>Scott Hart Building, Rm. 374</td>
<td>Helena MT</td>
<td>59620</td>
<td>(406) 444-2966</td>
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<td>Law Enforcement Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>David P.</td>
<td>Bryan</td>
<td>Bureau of Investigation</td>
<td>407 North Blount Street</td>
<td>Raleigh NC</td>
<td>27601</td>
<td>(919) 733-3171</td>
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<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>Robert J.</td>
<td>Helten</td>
<td>Bur. of Criminal Investigation</td>
<td>Information Services Division</td>
<td>Bismarck ND</td>
<td>58502</td>
<td>(701) 328-5500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>Bernard H.</td>
<td>Shaw</td>
<td>State Police</td>
<td>Firearms License Section</td>
<td>7751 Washington Boulevard</td>
<td>Jessup MD</td>
<td>20794</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Rhiana</td>
<td>Kohl</td>
<td>Exec. Office of Public Safety</td>
<td>100 Cambridge St., Rm. 2100</td>
<td>Boston MA</td>
<td>02202</td>
<td>(617) 660-4742</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Debbie Smith</td>
<td></td>
<td>Department of State Police</td>
<td>Central Records Division</td>
<td>7150 Harris Drive</td>
<td>Lansing MI</td>
<td>48913</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Karen R.</td>
<td>McDonald</td>
<td>Criminal Justice Info. System</td>
<td>Department of Public Safety</td>
<td>St. Paul MN</td>
<td>55104</td>
<td>(612) 642-0687</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>Judy M.</td>
<td>Tucker</td>
<td>Department of Public Safety</td>
<td>Records and Ident. Division</td>
<td>Jackson MS</td>
<td>39205</td>
<td>(601) 987-1592</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Robert E.</td>
<td>Gartner</td>
<td>State Highway Patrol</td>
<td>Criminal Records Division</td>
<td>Jefferson City MO</td>
<td>65102</td>
<td>(573) 526-6160</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
South Carolina  
Joseph Means  
Law Enforcement Division  
4400 Broad River Road  
Columbia SC  29221  
(803) 896-7005

South Dakota  
Thomas J. Del Grosso  
Div. of Criminal Investigations  
Administration Services  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre SD  57501  
(605) 773-3331

Tennessee  
Doug Woodlee  
Bureau of Investigation  
1148 Foster Avenue  
Nashville TN  37210  
(615)726-7809

Texas  
David Gavin  
Department of Public Safety  
Crime Records Division  
P.O. Box 4143  
Austin TX  78765  
(512) 424-2077

Utah  
Todd Peterson  
Bur. Criminal Identification  
4501 South 2700 West  
Salt Lake City UT  84119  
(801) 965-3810

Vermont  
Max Schleuter  
Criminal Information Center  
Department of Public Safety  
P.O. Box 189  
Waterbury VT  05676  
(802) 244-8788

Virginia  
R. Lewis Vass  
State Police Records  
Management Division  
P.O. Box 27472  
Richmond VA  23261  
(804) 674-2148

Washington  
Mary Neff  
State Highway Patrol  
Identification Section  
P.O. Box 42633  
Olympia WA  98504  
(360) 705-5117

West Virginia  
Thomas A. Barrick  
Department of State Police  
725 Jefferson Road  
South Charleston WV  25309  
(304) 746-2177

Wisconsin  
Mary Westra  
Department of Justice  
Criminal Records Section  
123 West Washington Avenue  
Madison WI  53702  
(608) 267-2776

Wyoming  
James M. Wilson  
Division of Criminal Investigation  
316 West 22nd Street  
Cheyenne WY  82002  
(307) 777-7523

American Samoa  
Jucinia Brown  
Department of Public Safety  
P.O. Box 4567  
Pago Pago AM  96799  
(684) 633-2827

Guam  
Ray Fernandez  
Police Department  
287 West Obrien Drive  
Agana GU  96910  
(671) 475-8439

Puerto Rico  
Julio L. Rosa  
Department of Justice  
Post Office Box 192  
San Juan PR  00693  
(787) 729-2465

Virgin Islands  
Susan M. McDonald  
Records Bureau  
V. I. Police Department  
Criminal Justice Complex  
St. Thomas VI  00802  
(809) 774-2211

Washington, D.C.  
Susie Schaeffer  
Pre-Trial Services Agency  
400 F. Street, N.W., Suite 310  
Washington DC  20001  
(202) 727-2911

Survey of State Procedures Related to Firearm Sales, 1996  59
Appendix B

State Summary Tables
## Appendix table 1. Applications for presale handgun checks processed by States, 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Received</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
<th>Rejection rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>3,665,228</td>
<td>72,715</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>2,350,725</td>
<td>25,742</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>29,760,021</td>
<td>215,804</td>
<td>2,111</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>3,294,394</td>
<td>51,450</td>
<td>3,518</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>666,168</td>
<td>11,826</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>12,937,926</td>
<td>213,133</td>
<td>6,236</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>6,478,216</td>
<td>89,786</td>
<td>8,463</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>1,006,749</td>
<td>24,604</td>
<td>791</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>11,430,602</td>
<td>178,168</td>
<td>1,997</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>5,544,159</td>
<td>81,974</td>
<td>907</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>3,685,296</td>
<td>67,830</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>4,781,468</td>
<td>31,362</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>1,201,833</td>
<td>28,253</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>1,109,252</td>
<td>12,997</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>7,730,188</td>
<td>24,672</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>10,847,115</td>
<td>60,037</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>3,486,703</td>
<td>53,153</td>
<td>2,467</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>1,722,850</td>
<td>34,073</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>6,187,358</td>
<td>182,384</td>
<td>1,896</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>1,793,477</td>
<td>20,538</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>4,891,769</td>
<td>32,628</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: This table includes only those States that provided actual counts of the total of applications processed in the State during 1996.
## Appendix table 2. Handgun presale check procedures, by State, 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>State status</th>
<th>Presale check procedures in Brady-alternative States(^a)</th>
<th>Waiting period before handgun can be delivered to purchaser(^b)</th>
<th>Additional purchase restrictions(^c)</th>
<th>Number of CLEOs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>03/94</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>15 days(^d)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>14 days</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>2,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>01/96</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3 days</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>14 days</td>
<td>2,4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>06/94</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3 days</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>7 days</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3 days</td>
<td>99</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>5 days</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>7 days</td>
<td>2,4</td>
</tr>
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<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
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<td>270</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>08/94</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>568</td>
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<td>263</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>56</td>
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<td>95</td>
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<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>01/95</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>7 days</td>
<td>1,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1,4</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
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<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>5 days</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>X(^*)</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>7 days</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1,2,4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>05/94</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>15 days</td>
<td>1,2,4</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>03/94</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>06/96</td>
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<td>5 days</td>
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<td>291</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>1,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>X(^*)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 23 27 11 20 5,367

---Not applicable.

\(^a\)States classified as the original Brady-alternative States by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF).

\(^b\)Dates reflect when States switched from Brady to Brady-alternative status.

\(^c\)BATF classified the States.

\(^d\)Where a waiting period is indicated for a Brady State, it represents additional requirements under State law.

\(^e\)General restrictions. 2-Purchaser must not be under indictment or arraignment or have been convicted of a misdemeanor (specific misdemeanors vary by State). 3-Purchaser must not have committed juvenile-related offenses. 4-Purchaser must not be habitually intoxicated.

\(^f\)The State reports that it maintains a central 1-800 or 1-900 telephone number that Federal firearms licensees may call to make an immediate background check.

\(^g\)California’s presale waiting period was reduced to 10 days as of April 1, 1997.
### Appendix table 3. Amount of fees for background checks and how long handgun purchase applications are kept, by State, 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Maximum fee charged for name check</th>
<th>Fingerprint accompanies application*</th>
<th>Approved</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>Yes (1)</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>60 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Not kept</td>
<td>90 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>24.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>5 days</td>
<td>6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Yes (1)</td>
<td>Not kept</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>Yes (1)</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>6 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>51.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>74.00</td>
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<td>Indefinitely</td>
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<td>5.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<td>Indefinitely</td>
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<td>Oklahoma</td>
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<td>5 years</td>
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<td>(3)</td>
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<td>20 days</td>
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<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
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<td>20 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>---</td>
<td>Yes (4)</td>
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<td>1 year</td>
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<td>20 days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
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<td>20 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<td>30 days</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>6 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>30 days</td>
<td>Indefinitely</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---Not applicable.

*Either the total or a portion of the cost for fingerprint processing is included in the name check cost.

Applications are retained at the discretion of the local CLEO.

1. Fingerprints are used only if identity is questioned.
2. Includes fee for FBI fingerprint check.
3. Fee is being used to fund a new statewide system.
4. Only the thumbprint is taken, but it is not used for the background check.
## Appendix table 4. Databases searched by CLEOs for background checks, 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Fugitive</th>
<th>Computerized criminal history (CCH)</th>
<th>Restraining orders</th>
<th>Mental health</th>
<th>Other*</th>
<th>Interstate Identification Index (III)</th>
<th>Federal: National Crime Information Center (NCIC)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>-</td>
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**Note:** Computerized Criminal History records contain at least felony arrests and dispositions and may also contain disposition or other data describing domestic violence or other misdemeanors. The Interstate Identification Index, a national system, *points to* State(s) having a criminal history record on an individual.

*No database search.

**“Other” includes data on such areas as probation and parole, juvenile, and motor vehicle.
## Appendix table 5. Information provided on applications, types of firearm purchases or transactions covered, and limitations on the use of handguns and long guns, 1996

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Note: Information describes requirements and procedures pursuant to both Federal and State law.

Data elements:

1. Name
2. Address
3. Race
4. Sex
5. Height
6. Weight
7. Hair color
8. Date of birth
9. Eye color
10. Social Security number
11. Fingerprints
12. Business address
13. Occupation
14. Previous names
15. Previous address
16. Scars, marks, tattoos
17. Place of birth
18. Other data

Standard fields on the BATF form are:

- Required=1,2,8
- Optional=4,5,6,10,17