

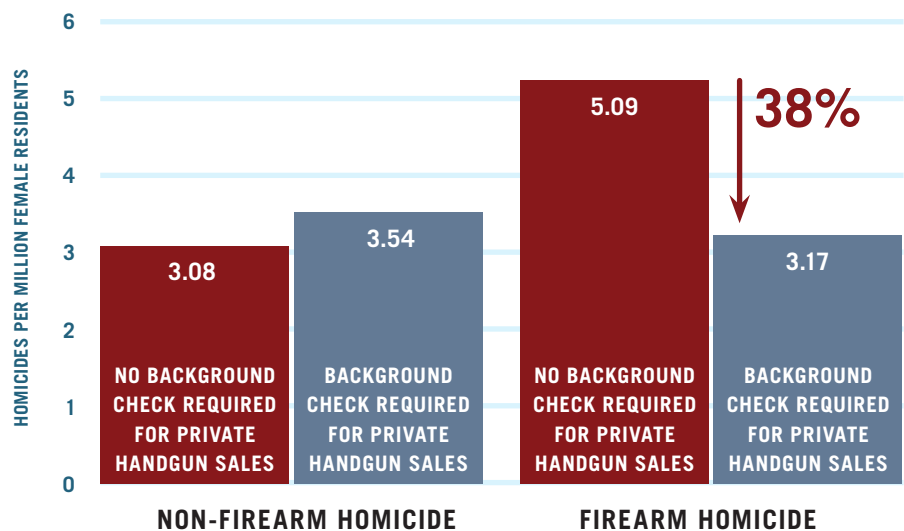
GUN BACKGROUND CHECKS REDUCE CRIME AND SAVE LIVES

Background checks are the only systematic way to keep guns out of the hands of criminals. But under current federal law, background checks are only required for gun sales at licensed dealers. An estimated 40 percent of gun transfers take place between “private” parties — often at gun shows or through anonymous online transactions — and are not subject to a federal background check. Last year, an estimated **6.6 million guns** were transferred this way — no checks, no records, no questions asked.

Fourteen states and Washington, DC, go beyond federal law by requiring a background check for private handgun sales: CA, CT, IA, HI, IL, MD, MA, MI, NE, NJ, NY, NC, PA, and RI. Evidence from these states shows that requiring a background check for private gun sales reduces crime and saves lives.

WOMEN MURDERED BY INTIMATE PARTNERS

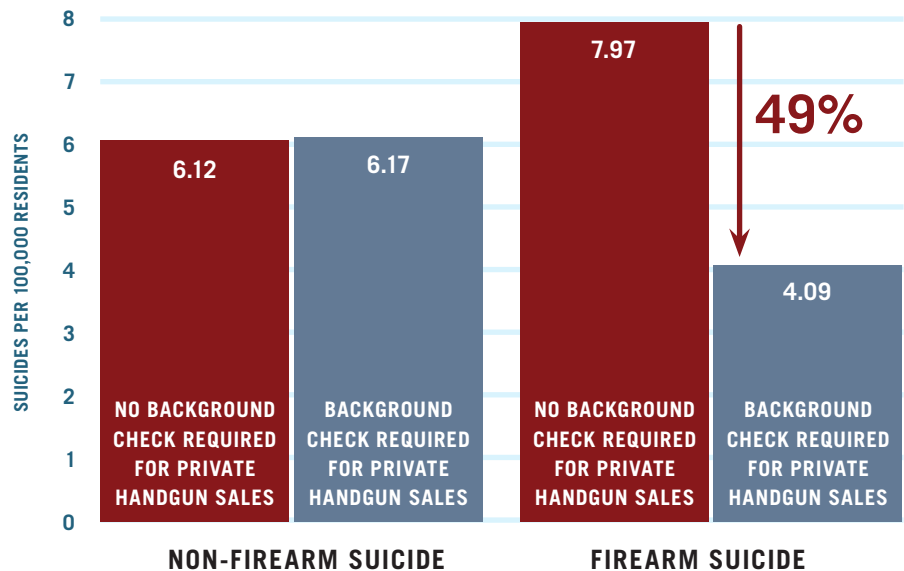
In states that require a background check for private handgun sales, 38 percent fewer women are shot to death by their intimate partners.



DATA: FBI SUPPLEMENTARY HOMICIDE REPORT AND FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, 2010. *NEW YORK EXCLUDED DUE TO INCOMPLETE DATA.

SUICIDE

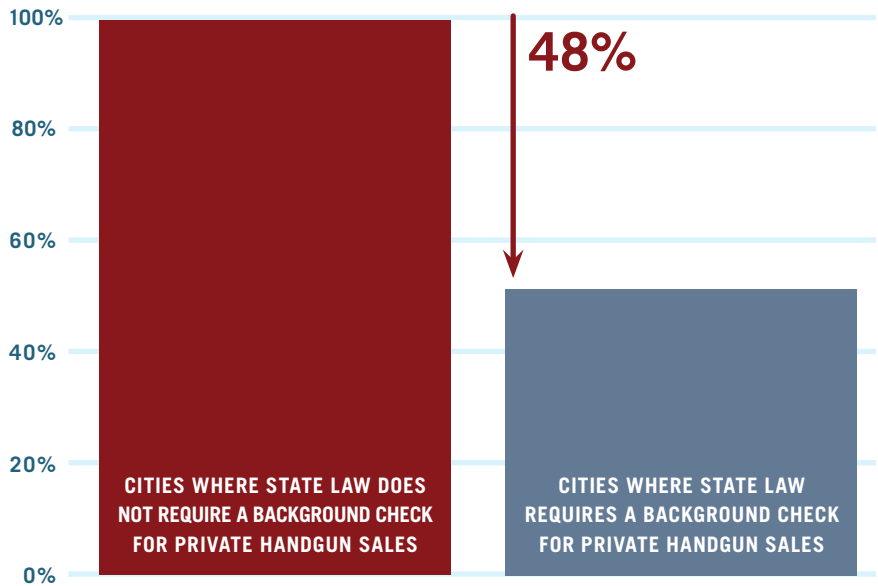
In states that require a background check for private handgun sales, there are 49 percent fewer firearm suicides, while the rates of suicide by other methods are nearly identical.



DATA: US CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC), 2010.

CRIME GUNS TRAFFICKED IN-STATE

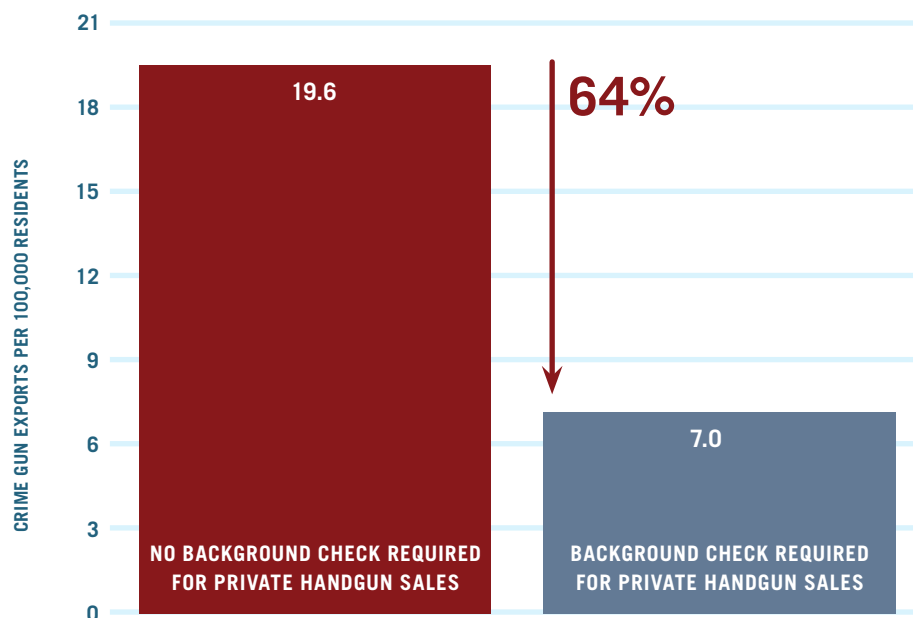
In cities where a background check is required for private handgun sales, there is 48 percent less intrastate gun trafficking, as measured by the share of guns recovered at crime scenes within two years of their original sale.



DATA: DANIEL WEBSTER, JON VERNICK, & MARIA BULZACCHELLI, "EFFECTS OF STATE-LEVEL FIREARM SELLER ACCOUNTABILITY POLICIES ON FIREARM TRAFFICKING," JOURNAL OF URBAN HEALTH, JULY 2009.

CRIME GUNS TRAFFICKED TO OTHER STATES

States that require a background check for private handgun sales 'exported' 64 percent fewer crime guns — guns originally sold in-state that were later recovered at crime scenes in other states.



DATA: BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES, 2009.