

# Background Checks Save Lives!

Following the Aurora Theater and Sandy Hook Massacres, the 2013 Colorado legislature enacted Universal Background Checks. This means that every gun transfer, whether at a gun store, a gun show, over the internet, through a classified ad, or a personal exchange must be preceded by a background check to verify that the buyer is not in a prohibited category.

The law became effective July 1, 2013. From that date through December 2018, here's how the checks have been working:

Total Background Checks performed: 1,930,956

Total Denials: 39,090 (about 2% of checks)

Some of the Reasons for Denial:

Restraining Order:	2,054
Homicide:	152
Kidnapping:	74
Sexual Assault:	693
Robbery:	457
Assault:	7,137
Burglary:	2,798

Additionally, there have been 1,308 persons who were fugitives from justice and were arrested subsequent to their attempt to buy a firearm.