



Firearms Transaction Center

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History and Purpose

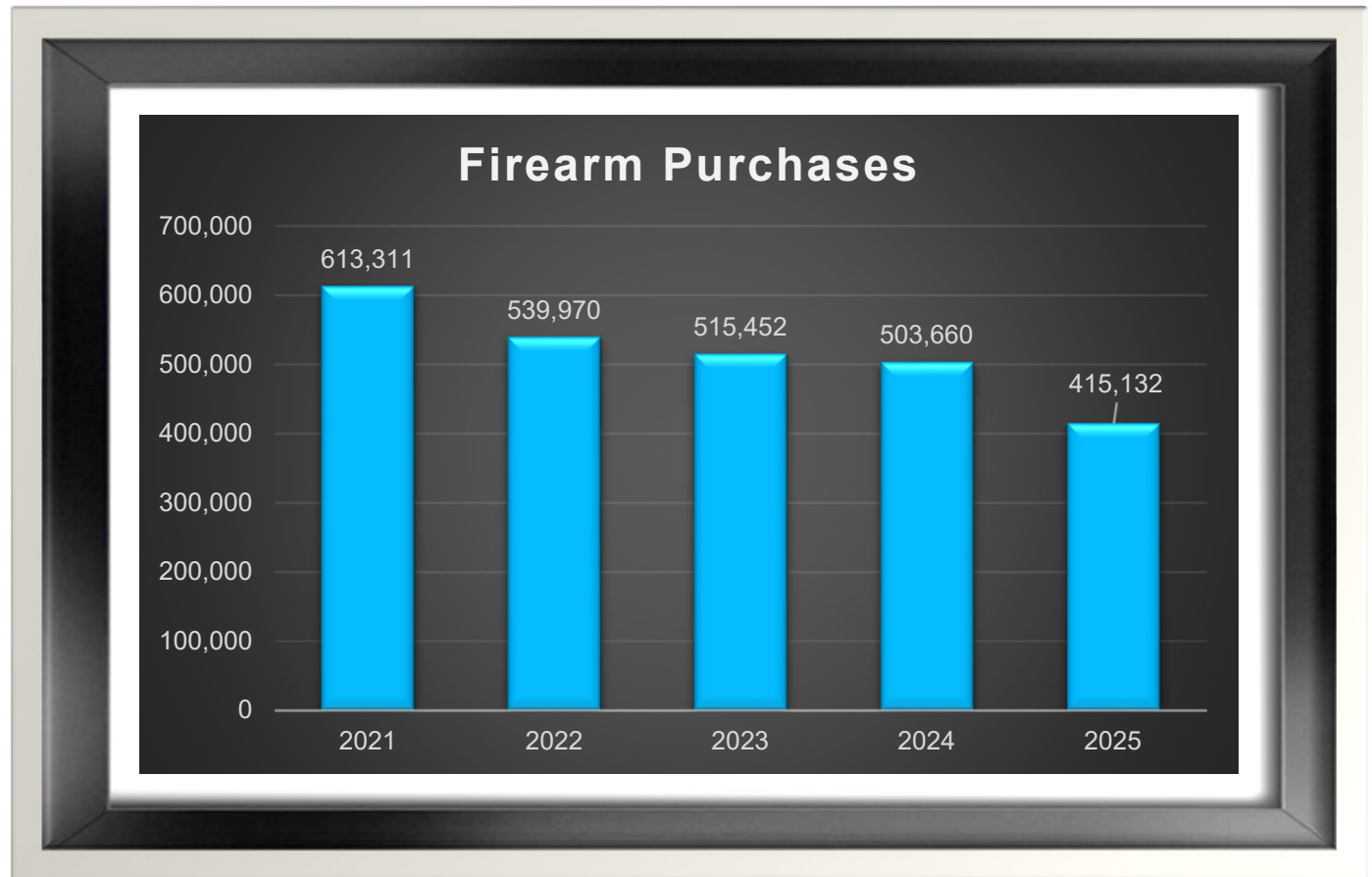
The Firearms Transaction Program became operational on November 1, 1989, and provides for a timely, point of sale, approval or disapproval decision regarding the sale or transfer of firearms based on the result of criminal history record information (CHRI) check concerning the prospective purchaser. This was the first of its type in the nation. The Firearms Transaction Program is provided to all of Virginia's firearm dealers via the internet or through a 1-800 phone number. VCheck must be available to licensed firearm dealers between the hours of 8am to 10 pm seven days a week, except for Christmas day.



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FIREARM TRANSACTIONS 2021 - 2025



*** As of November 15, 2025 ***

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Denied vs. Closed Arrest



*** As of November 15, 2025 ***

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Barrier Crimes

- Barrier crimes are Virginia and Federal crimes that would prohibit an individual from purchasing, possessing or transporting a firearm in Virginia
- A person must be able to pass both Federal and Virginia standards in order to purchase, possess or transport a firearm in Virginia (§18.2-308.2:2)





State Prohibitors

VA §18.2-308.2 (A) Felonies

It shall be unlawful for (i) any person who has been convicted of a felony; (ii) any person adjudicated delinquent as a juvenile 14 years of age or older at the time of the offense of murder in violation of § [18.2-31](#) or [18.2-32](#), kidnapping in violation of § [18.2-47](#), robbery by the threat or presentation of firearms in violation of § [18.2-58](#), or rape in violation of § [18.2-61](#); or (iii) any person under the age of 29 who was adjudicated delinquent as a juvenile 14 years of age or older at the time of the offense of a delinquent act which would be a felony if committed by an adult, other than those felonies set forth in clause

(JUVENILE AND ADULT FELONIES)

Federal Prohibitors

Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (g)(1)

It shall be unlawful for any person—

(1) who has been convicted in any court of, a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year;

(ADULT FELONIES ONLY)



State Prohibitors

VA § 18.2-308.1:1 & 18.2-308.1:2 Mental Health

It shall be unlawful for any person who has been adjudicated (i) legally incompetent pursuant to former § 37.1-128.02 or former § 37.1-134, (ii) mentally incapacitated pursuant to former § 37.1-128.1 or former § 37.1-132, or (iii) incapacitated pursuant to Chapter 20 (§ [64.2-2000](#) et seq.) of Title 64.2 to purchase, possess, or transport any firearm.

**(VOLUNTARY & INVOLUNTARY
SUBJECT TO TDO)**

Federal Prohibitors

Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (g)(8)

It shall be unlawful for any person who has been adjudicated as a mental defective or who has been committed to a mental institution; to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce any firearm or ammunition or receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

**(INVOLUNTARY ONLY,
SUBJECT TO TDO)**



State Prohibitors

VA § 18.2-308.1:4 Protection Orders

It is unlawful for any person who is subject to (i) a protective order entered pursuant to § [16.1-253.1](#), [16.1-253.4](#), [16.1-278.2](#), [16.1-279.1](#), [19.2-152.8](#), [19.2-152.9](#), or [19.2-152.10](#); (ii) an order issued pursuant to subsection B of § [20-103](#); (iii) an order entered pursuant to subsection D of § [18.2-60.3](#); (iv) a preliminary protective order entered pursuant to subsection F of § 16.1-253 where a petition alleging abuse or neglect has been filed; or (v) an order issued by a tribunal of another state, the United States or any of its territories, possessions, or commonwealths, or the District of Columbia pursuant to a statute that is substantially similar to those cited in clauses (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) to purchase or transport any firearm while the order is in effect.

Federal Prohibitors

Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (g)(8)

Who is subject to a court order that—

(A) was issued after a hearing of which such person received actual notice, and at which such person had an opportunity to participate;

(B) restrains such person from harassing, stalking, or threatening an [intimate partner](#) of such person or child of such [intimate partner](#) or person or engaging in other conduct that would place an [intimate partner](#) in reasonable fear of bodily injury to the partner or child.

State Prohibitors

VA § 18.2-308.1:5 (2 within 3 rule)

Any person who, within a 36-consecutive-month period, has been convicted of two misdemeanor offenses under Chapter 11 (§ 4.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 4.1, subsection B of former § 18.2-248.1:1, or § 18.2-250 shall be ineligible to purchase or transport a handgun. However, upon expiration of a period of five years from the date of the second conviction and provided the person has not been convicted of any such offense within that period, the ineligibility shall be removed.

(HANDGUNS ONLY)

Federal Prohibitors

Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (g)(3)

It shall be unlawful for any person who is an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce any firearm or ammunition or receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce

(HANDGUNS AND LONG GUNS)



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State Prohibitors

VA § 18.2-308.1:7 (VOLUNTARY DO NOT SELL)

It is unlawful for any person enrolled into the Voluntary Do Not Sell Firearms List pursuant to Chapter 12 (§ 52-50 et seq.) of Title 52 to purchase, possess, or transport a firearm.

Federal Prohibitors

(NO EQUIVALENT CODE SECTION)



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State Prohibitors

VA § 18.2-308.1:8 (MISD A & B Fam Member)

- Following a misdemeanor conviction for an offense that occurred on or after July 1, 2021, for (i) the offense of assault and battery of a family or household member or (ii) an offense substantially similar to clause (i) under the laws of any other state or of the United States
- For the purposes of this section, "family or household member" means (i) the person's spouse, whether or not he resides in the same home with the person; (ii) the person's former spouse, whether or not he resides in the same home with the person; or (iii) any individual who has a child in common with the person, whether or not the person and that individual have been married or have resided together at any time.



Federal Prohibitors

Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (g)(9)

- It shall be unlawful for any person who has been convicted in any court of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce, or possess in or affecting commerce, any firearm or ammunition; or to receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

BSCA Public Law No: 117-159 (Section 12005)

- Conviction occurred after June 25, 2022
- 'Dating Relationship' means a relationship between individuals who have or have recently had a continuing serious relationship of a romantic or intimate nature.

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State Prohibitors

(NO EQUIVALENT CODE SECTION)



Federal Prohibitors

Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (n) – Indictment

It shall be unlawful for any person who is under indictment for a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce any firearm or ammunition or receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

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State Prohibitors

(NO EQUIVALENT CODE SECTION)



Federal Prohibitors

Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (g)(2) – Fugitive from Justice

Any person who has fled from any State to avoid prosecution for a felony or a misdemeanor; or any person who leaves the State to avoid giving testimony in any criminal proceeding. The term also includes any person who knows that misdemeanor or felony charges are pending against such person who leaves the State of prosecution to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce any firearm or ammunition or receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

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State Prohibitors

(NO EQUIVALENT CODE SECTION)

Federal Prohibitors

**Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (g)(6) –
Dishonorable Discharge**

It shall be unlawful for any person who has been discharged from the Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions; to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce any firearm or ammunition or receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

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State Prohibitors

(NO EQUIVALENT CODE SECTION)

Federal Prohibitors

Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (g)(6) – Renounced Citizenship

It shall be unlawful for any person who, having been a citizen of the United States, has renounced his citizenship; to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce, or possess in or affecting commerce, any firearm or ammunition; or to receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

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State Prohibitors

VA § 18.2-308.2:01 (Possess or transport by certain persons)

It shall be unlawful for any person who is not a citizen of the United States **and** who is not lawfully present in the United States to knowingly and intentionally possess or transport any firearm or to knowingly and intentionally carry about his person, hidden from common observation, any firearm.

(SIMILAR, BUT DOES NOT COVER THE ACTUAL PURCHASE OF A FIREARM)

Federal Prohibitors

Title 18 U.S.C. Code 922 (g)(5) – Illegal Alien

It shall be unlawful for any person who, being an alien—

(A) is illegally or unlawfully in the United States; or

(B) except as provided in subsection (y)(2), has been admitted to the United States under a nonimmigrant visa (as that term is defined in section 101(a)(26) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(26)); to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce, or possess in or affecting commerce, any firearm or ammunition; or to receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.



Additional Services Provided by the Firearms Transaction Center

Disposition of Firearm Check (SP-326)

- A DOF is requested when a law enforcement agency wishes to return a firearm to a subject that had their firearm confiscated by or is in the possession of said law enforcement agency.
- Upon receipt of the request, the Firearms Transaction Center (FTC) will perform a criminal record check to include a query against the NICS Index to see if the subject is able to have their firearm returned to them under Virginia and Federal Law.
- Agency will be notified upon completion of check. This will be done by fax or email, generally by fax.



Additional Services Provided by the Firearms Transaction Center

NICS Indices Submission (SP-329)

- The NICS Indices Submission (SP-329) provides a way for LEO to notify VSP that an individual was detained/summonsed/arrested in possession of or admitted use of an illegal substance so they can be flagged in the NICS denied persons file for one year from date of incident.
- Title 18 USC § 922 (g)(3) states that it is illegal for someone who is an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance from purchasing, possessing or transporting a firearm.
- **IMPORTANT:** There has to be an actual admission of use, admission that substance seized during the incident is an illegal drug, or a field/lab test performed. An individual cannot be submitted for entry into the NICS denied persons file based on smell, training or experience.



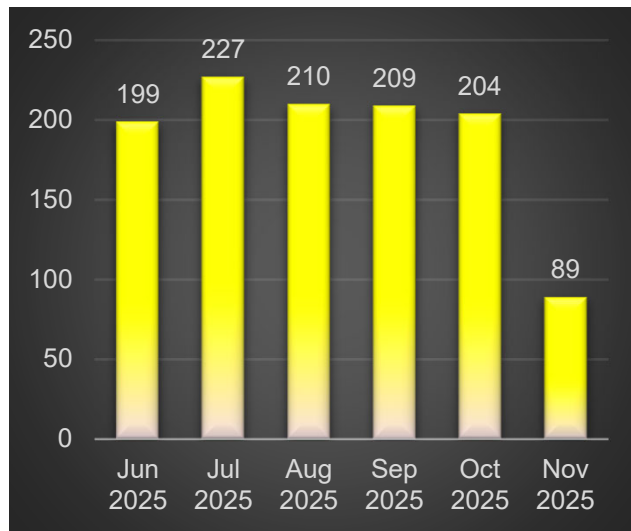
Additional Services Provided by the Firearms Transaction Center

Query of Lost and Stolen Firearms (SP-315)

- A dealer who is receiving by sale, transfer, or trade a firearm from a person who is not a dealer may choose to obtain a verification check from the State Police to determine if the firearm has been reported to a law-enforcement agency as lost or stolen.
- The dealer shall maintain the consent form for a period of 12 months from the date of the transaction if the firearm is determined to be lost or stolen.

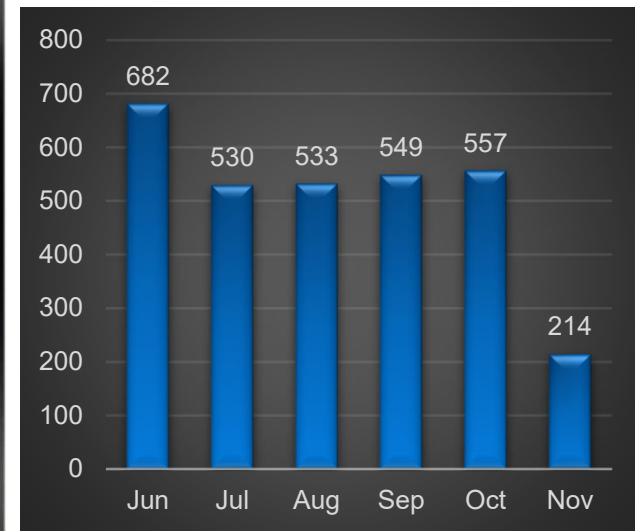


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Disposition of Firearms (SP-326)

*** As of November 15, 2025 ***



Query of Lost and Stolen Firearms (SP-315)

*** As of November 15, 2025 ***

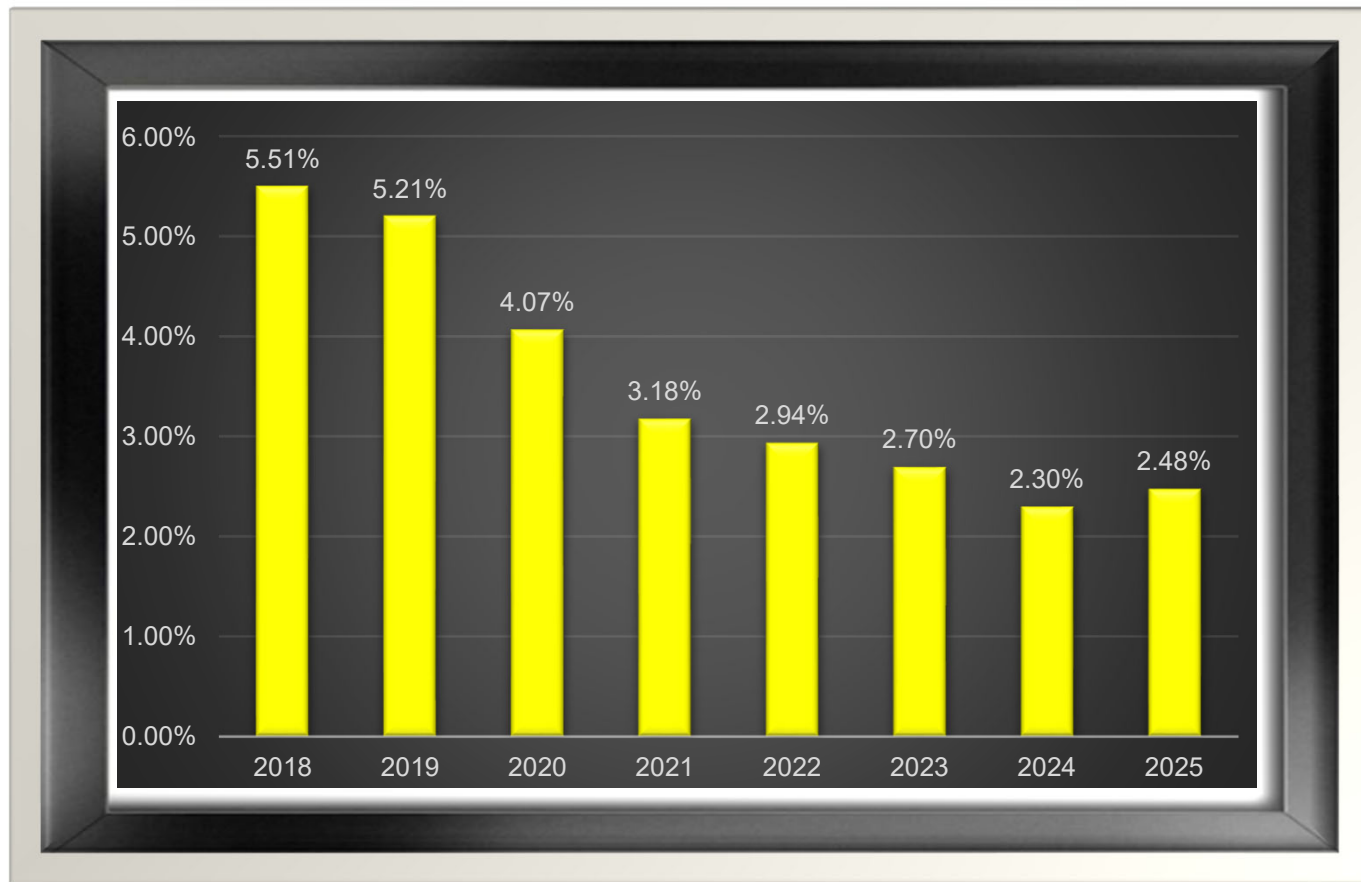
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Called in by Dealer

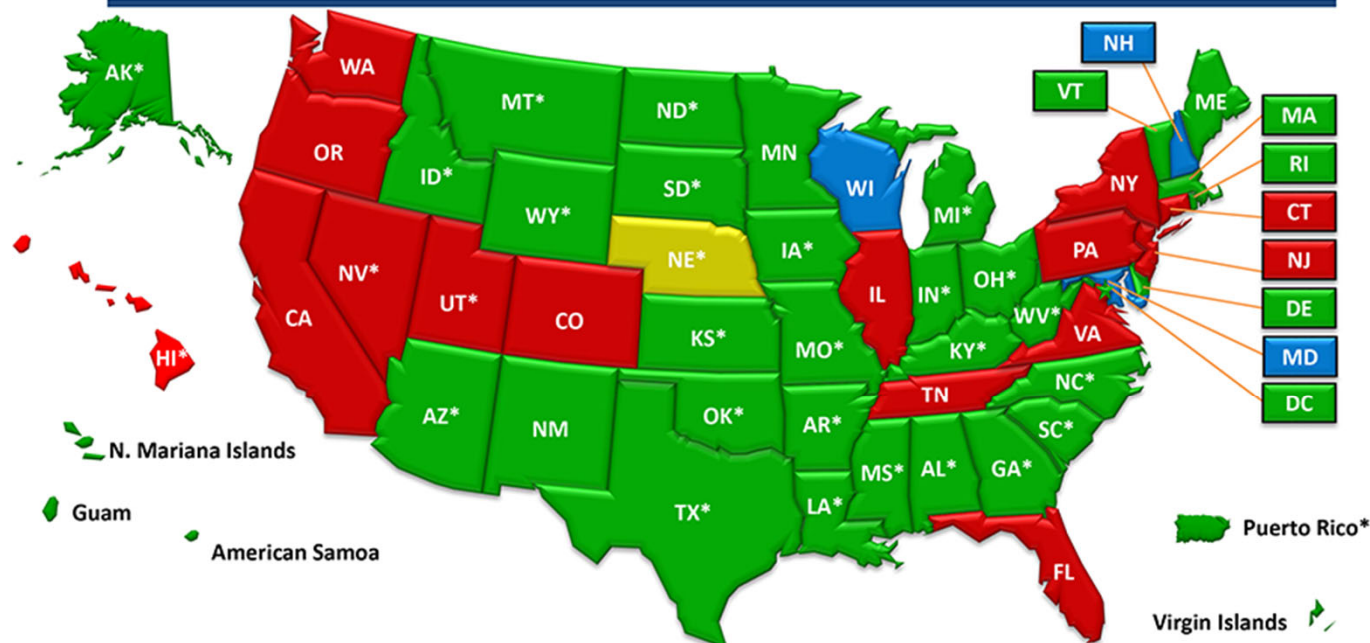


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NICS Participation Map



37 Non-Point-of-Contact (POC) States

Federal firearms licensees (FFL) contact FBI for all firearm background checks

15 Full-POC States

FFLs contact state for all firearm background checks

3 Partial-POC States

FFLs contact state for handguns, and contact FBI for long gun background checks

1 Partial-POC State

State-issued handgun permit is used for handguns, and FFLs contact FBI for long gun background checks

*29 States/Territories with at least one qualified NICS-alternate permit issued by state or local agencies

Please refer to the latest Permanent Brady Permit Chart for specific permit details.

www.atf.gov/rules-and-regulations/permanent-brady-permit-chart

06/18/2025

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Databases Accessed for a Firearms Background Check

(ALL SYSTEMS MUST BE IN FULL SERVICE OR ALL TRANSACTIONS ARE PLACED IN ABEYANCE UNTIL FULL SERVICE IS RETURNED)

Background Check authorized for Firearms purchase

Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN)

- Wanted, Missing Person File, and Protection Orders
- Criminal History record files (CCH)
- Virginia Mental Health commitments (CCO)

National Crime Information Center (NCIC)

- Wanted and Protection Orders
- Federal Criminal History records

Interstate Identification Index (III)

National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS Index)

Background Check authorized for Permit Card check

Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN)

- Wanted, Missing Person File, and Protection Orders
- Criminal History record files (CCH)
- Virginia Mental Health commitments (CCO)

National Crime Information Center (NCIC)

- Wanted and Protection Orders
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Interstate Identification Index (III)

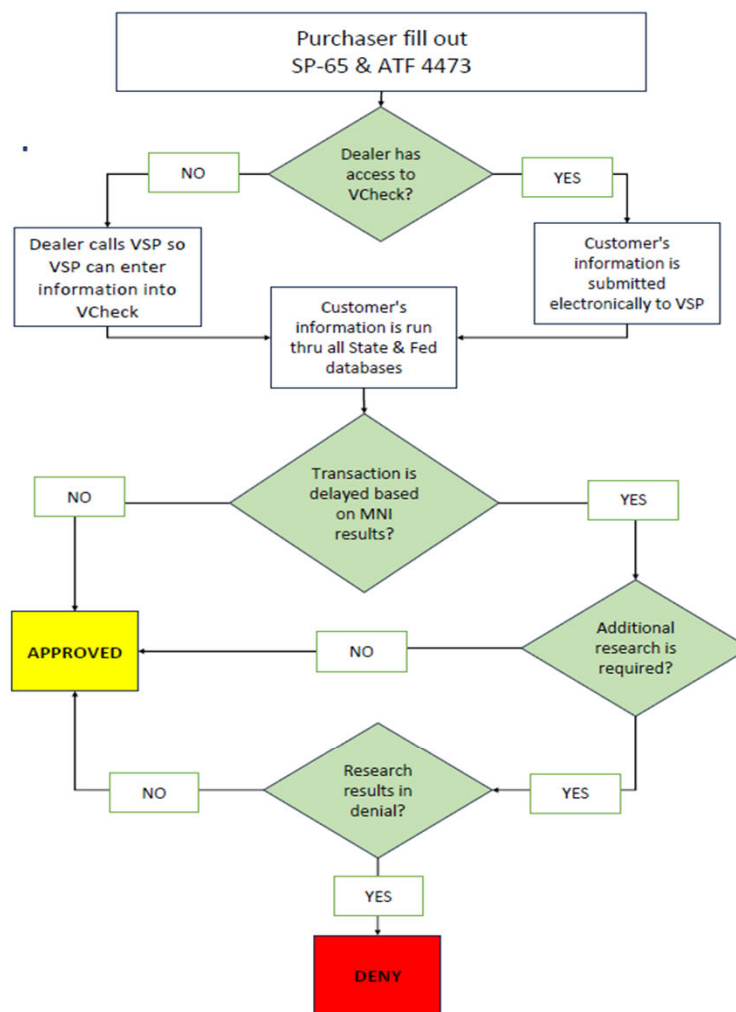
NICS Index check is NOT allowed for Permit Checks



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FTC Transaction Flow Chart



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MNI vs Fingerprint based Criminal Records Check

MNI based Records Check (Pros)

MNI (Master Name Index) searches use a Soundex algorithm to compare Name/DOB/Sex/Race/SSN combination across all criminal records

Mental Health Records, Fugitive of Justice Warrants, Protection Orders, NICS Records, Orphan Disposition Files (ODF), and Immigration queries are NOT fingerprint based and would result in a NOT HIT, if MNI were not used.

Fingerprint based Records Check (Pros)

Fingerprint based criminal records search is effective when an applicant has a legal name change, or is listed as an alias on a companion criminal record.

Often, applicants have a legal name change after marriage or by court order. Using fingerprints to locate criminal records increases the ability to find a match if a criminal record is found.

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Virginia Firearm Transaction Records Retention based on Administrative Code (6VAC20-130-90)

Approved Transactions

- “Thirty days after the department has notified the dealer of an approved transfer, the department shall destroy the VFTR form still in its possession and all identifiable information collected pertaining to a prospective purchaser.”

Denied Transactions

- “Requests that lead to disapprovals shall be maintained by the department on a log for a period of two years from the date the request was accepted by the department for processing.”

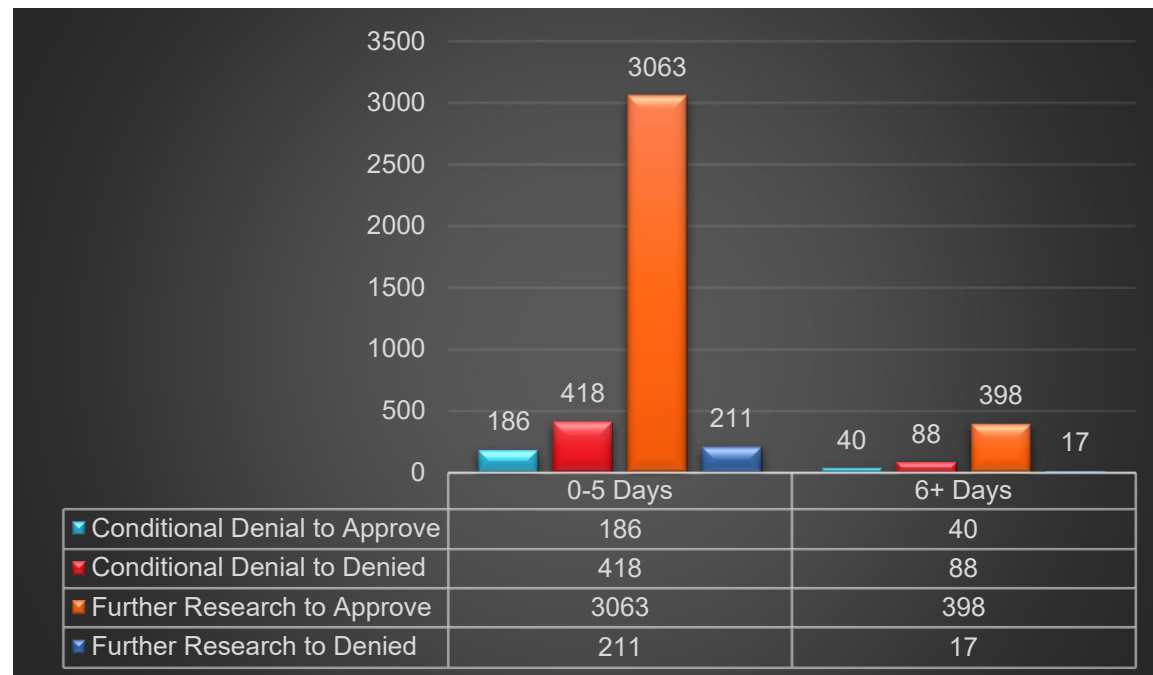
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Jan 1, 2025
to
Nov 17, 2025

Time required to complete in-depth research

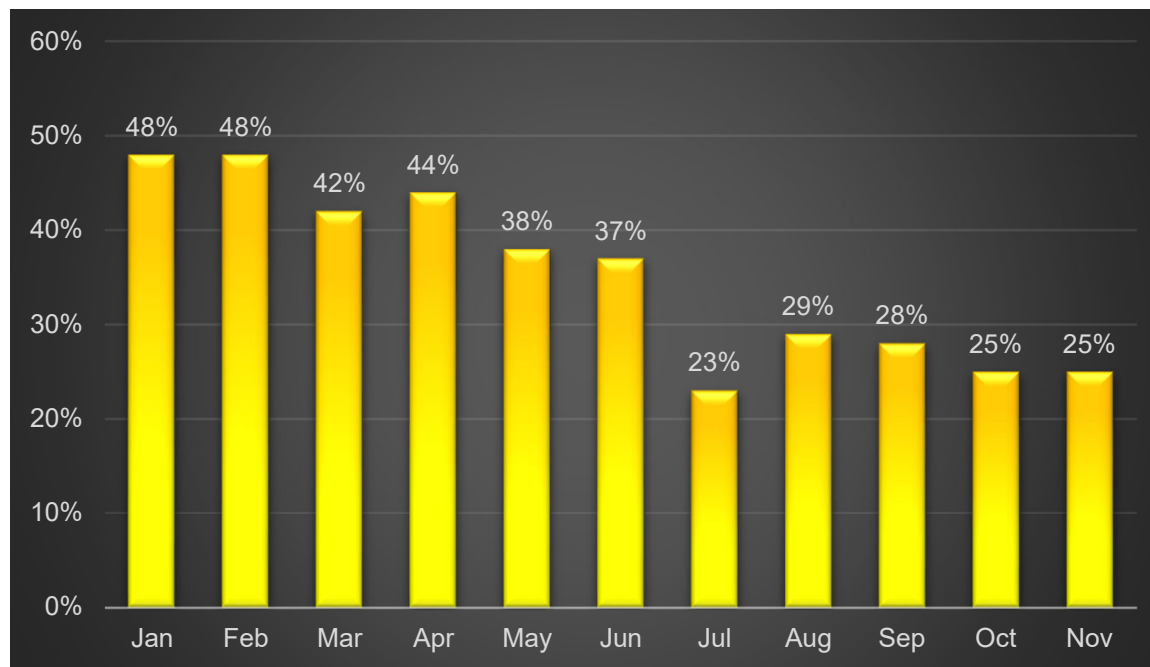


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Staffing Levels (Vacancies - 2025)



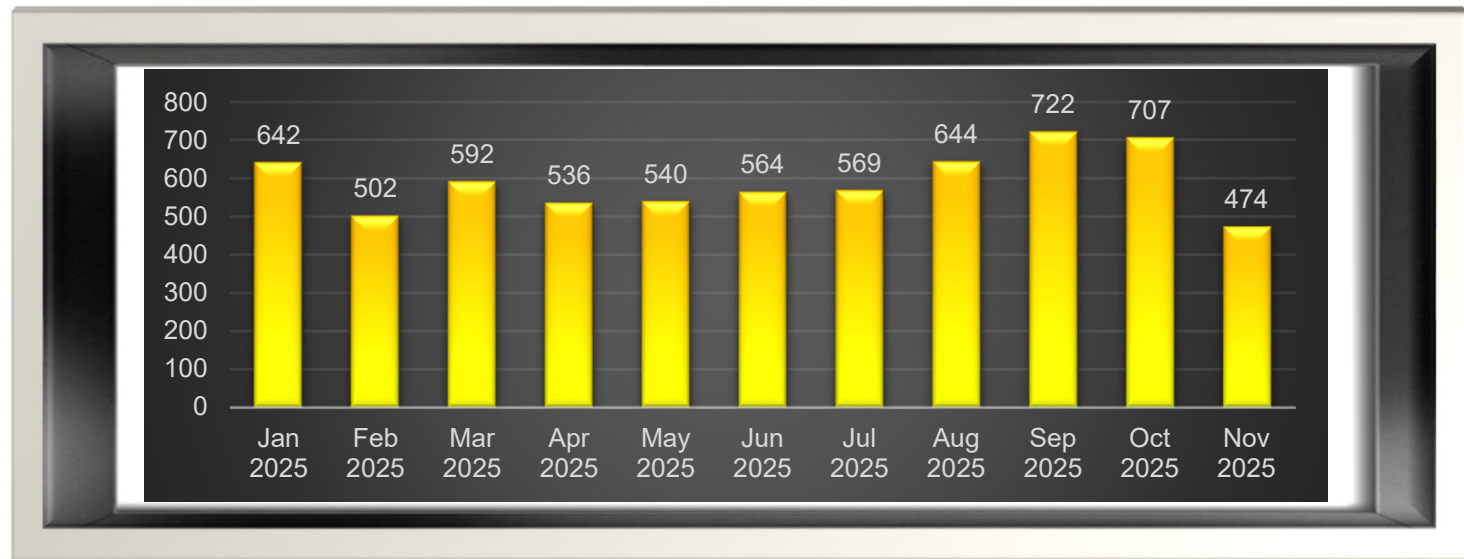
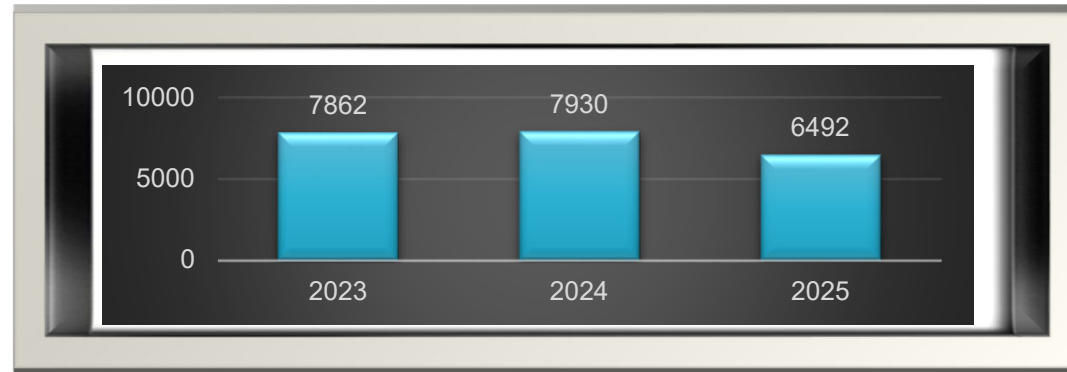
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Under 21 Research



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Private Sales

On Oct 29, 2025, the Circuit Court for the City of Lynchburg entered a final orderⁱ and injunction prohibiting the “Virginia Department of State Police, and all law enforcement divisions, agencies, and officers within the Commonwealth, to include their successors or replacements in office...from administering; enforcing, or otherwise imposing upon any person the requirements of” those provision of the Code dealing with background checks for the private sale of firearms, Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:5.

The effect of this order is that background checks for the private sale of firearms are currently not required under Virginia law. Virginia State Police may not conduct, or assist in conducting, private sale background checks. In addition, VSP personnel will not conduct or assist in the conduct of any investigation into the alleged failure to obtain a background check related to the private sale of firearms.

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Questions

Resources Material:

- **FTC Monthly Report 2025**
- **FTC Yearly Summary Report 2025**
- **FIS 2024 – HB 1424 and SB 1109**

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Thank you!

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