

Table 2. Number of applications and denials, by type of agency and type of check, 1999–2009

Type of checks conducted	2009			1999-2009 ^a		
	Applications	Denials	Percent denied	Applications	Denials	Percent denied
National total (FIST and FBI)	10,764,237	150,013	1.4 %	95,104,599	1,613,953	1.7 %
FBI total	6,083,428	67,324	1.1	54,242,433	748,229	1.4
State and local total (FIST) ^b	4,680,809	82,689	1.8	40,862,166	865,724	2.1
State agencies						
Total	4,067,155	65,662	1.6 %	35,042,085	733,884	2.1 %
Instant checks ^c	2,610,548	43,053	1.6	24,131,328	547,867	2.3
Purchase permits ^d	439,023	11,025	2.5	3,641,934	86,961	2.4
Exempt carry permits ^e	479,370	5,712	1.2	2,578,132	49,138	1.9
Other approvals ^f	538,214	5,872	1.1	4,690,691	49,918	1.1
Local agencies^g						
Total	920,304	17,027	1.9 %	7,128,269	131,840	1.8 %
Purchase permits ^d	508,060	10,313	2.0	4,332,109	91,749	2.1
Exempt carry permits ^e	344,615	6,296	1.8	2,210,132	35,433	1.6
Other approvals ^f	67,629	418	0.6	586,028	4,658	0.8

^aTotals for the 10-year period include December 1998.

^bAgencies that conduct exempt carry permit checks in Arizona, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Dakota, South Carolina, Texas, and Wyoming request an FBI background check, but the state agency makes the decision to approve or deny an applicant. Applications in these states are included in FBI checks but denials are included in state and local checks, causing a reduction of FIST total applications by 306,650 in 2009 and by 1,308,188 for 1999 to 2009.

^cInstant check requires a seller to transmit a buyer's application to a checking agency by telephone or computer; the agency is required to respond immediately or as soon as possible.

^dPurchase permit systems require a buyer to obtain, after a background check, a government-issued document such as a permit, license, or identification card that must be presented to a seller in order to receive a firearm.

^eExempt carry permit is a state concealed weapons permit, issued after a background check, that exempts the holder from a new check at the time of purchase under an ATF ruling or state law.

^fOther approval systems require a seller to transmit an application to a checking agency, with transfers delayed until a waiting period expires or the agency completes a check.

^gTotals were estimated. See *Methodology* for more detail.