

**BRADY CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE
UNITED WITH THE MILLION MOM MARCH**

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**NEW HAMPSHIRE RECEIVES GRADE OF “D-”
ON LAWS SHIELDING FAMILIES FROM GUN VIOLENCE**

*State’s grade, released by the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence united with
the Million Mom March, unchanged from a year earlier.*

Announcements mark eighth year grades have been issued.

Washington, D.C. – In nationwide ratings released today, New Hampshire gun laws received a “D-”, but the state was awarded a “Sensible Safety Star” for blocking a gun lobby bill that would have further weakened the state’s concealed handgun laws by letting people carry hidden handguns in public without even obtaining a police permit. In 2002, the most recent year for which data is available, four children and teenagers in New Hampshire died from gunfire.

Gun violence in New Hampshire could increase in 2005 because Congress failed to renew the federal assault weapon ban, which expired last fall, and New Hampshire has no state law restricting assault weapons or rapid fire ammunition magazines. New Hampshire does not regulate possession of guns for kids, does not require child-safety locks to be sold with guns, has no safety standards for handguns and lets concealed handgun permit holders carry hidden handguns into schools. On a positive note, New Hampshire does hold adults responsible for leaving loaded guns around children.

“New Hampshire can improve its grade next year by banning assault weapons and rapid-fire ammunition magazines, requiring background checks at gun shows, requiring child-safety locks to be sold with guns and prohibiting hidden handguns in schools,” said Chad Ramsey from the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence united with the Million Mom March.

“Where I come from, a ‘D-’ means you should try harder. New Hampshire’s leaders should take better care of New Hampshire families and children,” said Sarah Brady, whose husband Jim was critically wounded in the 1981 assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan.

Nationwide, 31 states received grades of “D” or “F” in this year’s report card; only six states received an “A.” Not surprisingly, most poorly graded states have suffered child and teen firearm death rates that are significantly higher than those that received an “A” rating.

Since the Brady Campaign began grading state gun laws eight years ago, the number of young people killed by guns nationwide has dropped from an average of 16 per day to eight (based on the most recent available data). During the same period, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reported a 48 percent reduction in the firearms death rate per 100,000 children and teens. Despite these improvements the CDC reports that there are still, on average, more than 40 children and teens killed or injured by firearms in this country every single day.

**New Hampshire Report Card: 2005
Overall Grade: D-**

Does this state have a __?	Juvenile Possession Law	Juvenile Sale/ Transfer Law	Child Access Prevention Law	Gun Safety Locks and Safer Design Standards	Allow Cities To Regulate Guns (Non-Preempt)	Secondary "Private" Sales Background Checks	Carrying Concealed Weapons Law	OVERALL GRADE
New Hampshire	NONE F	YES, must be 18 for handguns, No restriction on other firearms B	YES, under 16 generally, many exemptions C	NONE F	NO F	NO F	No police discretion, training required D-	D-

DEMERIT: Prohibits local government lawsuits against gun industry.

SENSIBLE SAFETY STAR: * Defeated NRA attempt to let people carry concealed handguns without even a permit.

GRADING CRITERIA

Each state was carefully rated on seven types of legislation that protect children from gun violence, with extra credit or demerits awarded for additional relevant legislation.

- Juvenile Possession of Guns – Is it illegal for a child to possess a gun without supervision?
- Sale/Transfer of Guns to Juveniles – Is it illegal to sell a gun to a child?
- Safe Storage and Gun Owner Accountability – Are gun owners held responsible for leaving loaded guns easily accessible to children?
- Childproof Guns and Gun Design Safety – Are guns required to have child-safety locks, loaded-chamber indicators and other childproof designs? Are there restrictions on unsafe Saturday night specials?
- Preemption – Do cities and counties have authority to enact local gun laws?
- Secondary "Private" Gun Sale Background Checks – Are background checks required at gun shows and between "private" parties?
- Carrying Concealed Weapons (CCW) – Is it legal to carry concealed handguns in public?

For specific reports for all 50 states, please visit the Brady Campaign web site at www.bradiycampaign.org.

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