

Laws on civilian ownership of handguns in 16 countries

Country	General restrictions				Reasons required				Checks before purchase					Total gun death rate per 100,000 people	
	Handguns banned for civilians	Presumption against handgun ownership?	Minimum age	Handgun details registered in central database?	Proof of good reason	'Good reason' excludes self defence	'Good reason' excludes handgun hunting	Shooting club must confirm suitability	Criminal record check	Medical / psych report	Reference from spouse, etc	Safety training	Storage must be at club		Minimum wait before possession
Japan	●	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1
UK	●	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.3
Germany		●	25		●	●	●	●	●	●		●		1-12 mths	1.2
Brazil			25	●	●		●		●	●		●		Up to 1 mth	18.0
Israel		●	22	●	●		●	●	●	●		●		up to 3mths	3.1
South Africa		●	21	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●		up to 3mths	32.0
Austria			21		●		●		●	●		●		3 days	2.5
Australia		●	18	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		28 days	1.7
Canada		●	18	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●		28 days	2.5
France		●	18	●	●		●	●	●	●		●		4-6 weeks	3.0
Belgium			18	●	●			●	●	●	●	●		3 weeks	3.7
Sweden			18	●	●			●	●		●			Weeks	1.6
USA - best		●	18	●					●			●		40 days	10.2
Switzerland			18	some					●					None	6.2
USA - worst			17						some					None	10.2
New Zealand		●	16	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●		Months	2.3
Finland			15*	●	●	●	●		●	●		●		One year	4.6

*Parental permission