

Starbucks' response

2 January 2020

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited Starbucks to respond to the following items:

- [Business Must Act: Gun Safety Scorecard](#). Guns Down America, Dec 2019
- ["29 stores including Walmart and Nike were graded on their gun-safety policies – and more than half of them failed."](#) Business Insider, 4 Dec 2019
- ["Gun safety advocates grade stores. Walmart got an A; Home Depot got an F,"](#) CNN Business, 4 Dec 2019
- ["McDonalds, Nike, Barnes & Noble among companies handed 'F-rating' for gun safety grade,"](#) New York Daily News, 5 Dec 2019

Starbucks sent the following response:

"More information on this can be found in a 2013 letter from Howard Schultz, [here](#).

Specifically from the letter: Our company's longstanding approach to "open carry" has been to follow local laws: we permit it in states where allowed and we prohibit it in states where these laws don't exist. We have chosen this approach because we believe our store partners should not be put in the uncomfortable position of requiring customers to disarm or leave our stores. We believe that gun policy should be addressed by government and law enforcement—not by Starbucks and our store partners."