

REGIONAL

Analysis of the State of homicidal Violence

January to March 2022



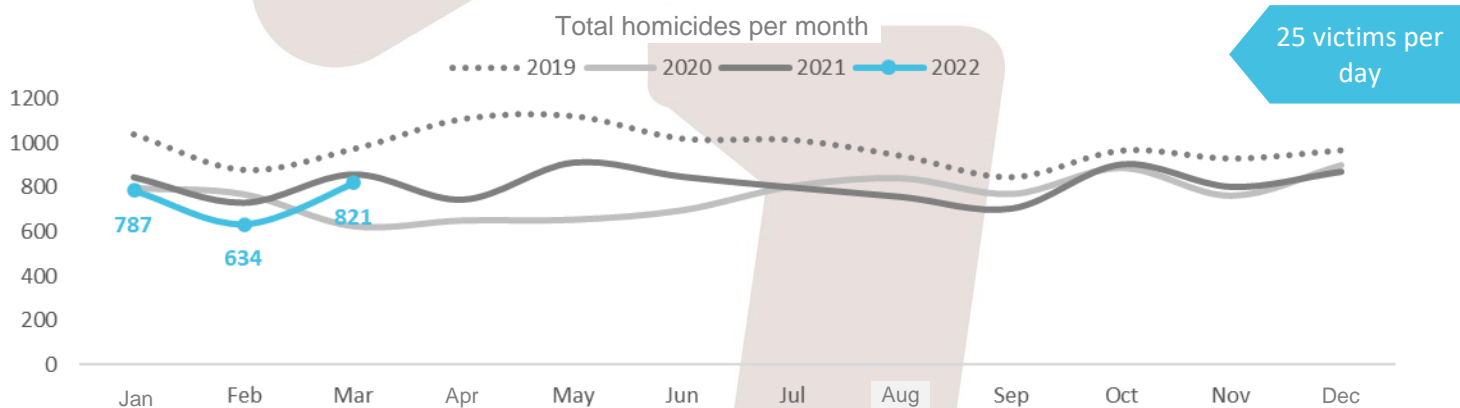
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Highlights

- Between January and March, there were 2,242 individual victims of homicide, 194 fewer victims than during the same period the previous year.
- Records show that 237 victims of homicides were female, and 2,005 were male.
- The main victims of homicide were individuals 30 to 49 years old.
- Firearms were involved in the vast majority of homicides: Behavior was not homogeneous among countries: Belize, Guatemala and El Salvador registered increments in the total number of homicide victims, while Honduras and Costa Rica registered decreases.

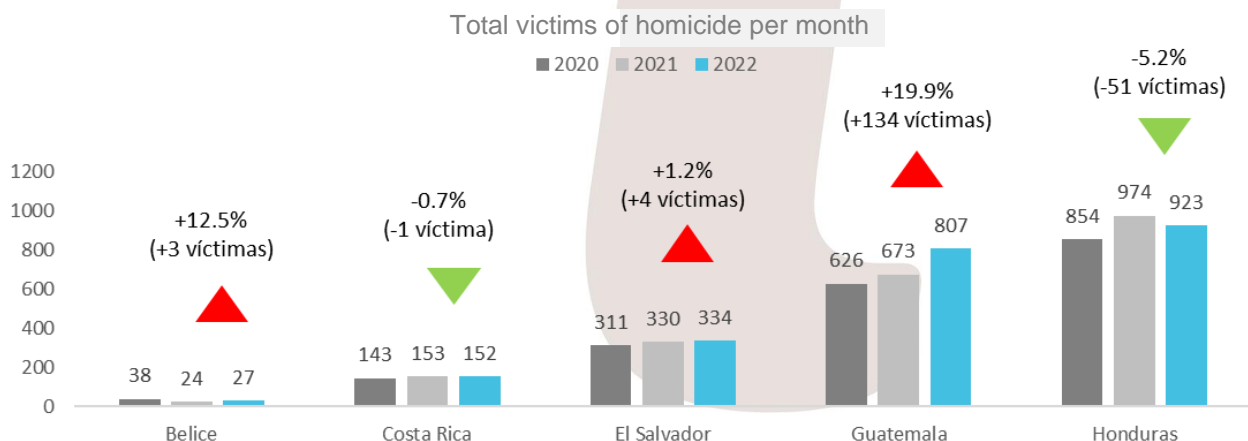
Evidence

In the first three months of 2022, records show 2,242 victims of homicidal violence in the Central American region, 194 fewer than the same period in 2021. This is the equivalent of some 25 victims per day.



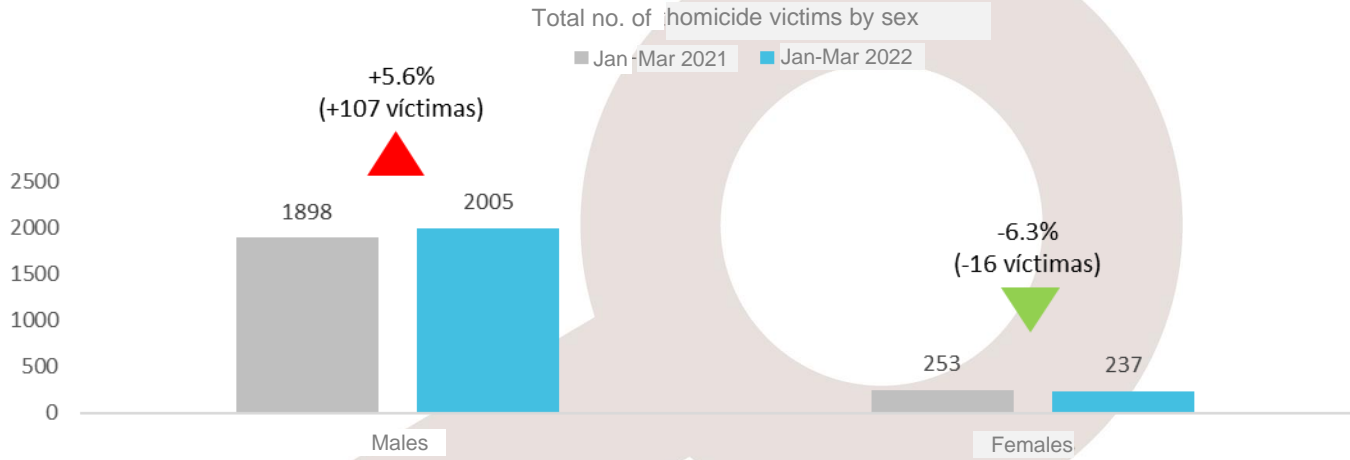
This includes data from Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Behavior was not homogeneous among countries: Increases in the total number of homicide victims were registered in Belize (+3 victims), Guatemala (+134 victims) El Salvador (+4 victims), while Honduras (-51 victims) and Costa Rica (-1 victim) registered decreases.



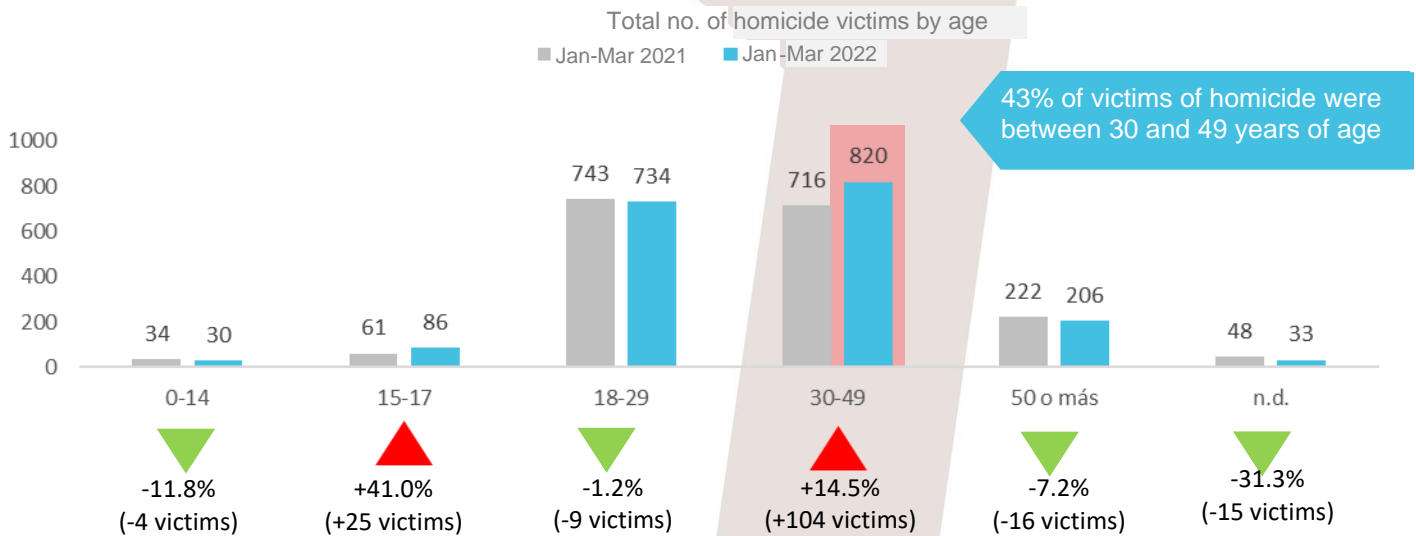
Note: In the case of Costa Rica, the figures are in reference to the total number of intentional homicides. This applies throughout the analysis.

Between January and March 2022, an estimated 22 men and 3 women died each day as a result of murder-related violence in the region. Homicide of males rose by 5.6%, (107 victims) compared to the same period in 2021, whereas homicides of females registered a 6.3% drop (-16 victims).

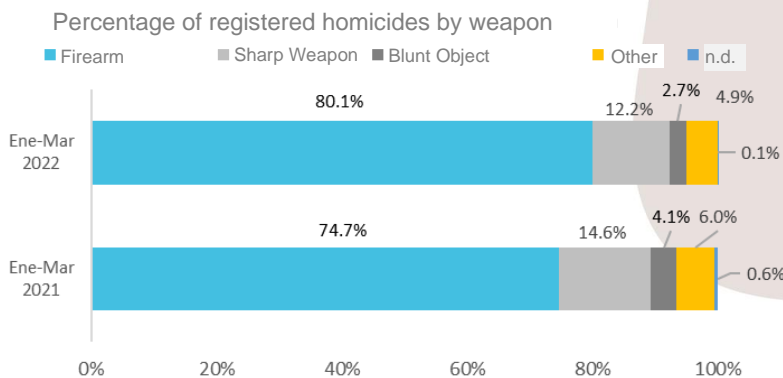


This includes data from Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Between January and March 2022, 43.0% of recorded victims were 30 to 49 years of age. This is a change in recent observations, where the primary victims of homicidal violence were young men between 18 and 29 years of age. This change at the regional level is due to a particular rise in Costa Rica and in Honduras in the total number of victims between the ages of 30 and 49, and a drop in Honduras in the 18-to-29 age bracket.



This includes data provided by Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras.



Firearms were involved in 4 out of every 5 homicides during the first quarter in 2022. This represents a 12.2% in rise as compared to the same period the previous year.

This includes data provided by Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras.

Most territories (52.2%) show a rise in the total number of victims of violence-related murder during the first quarter of 2022, as compared to the same period in 2021.

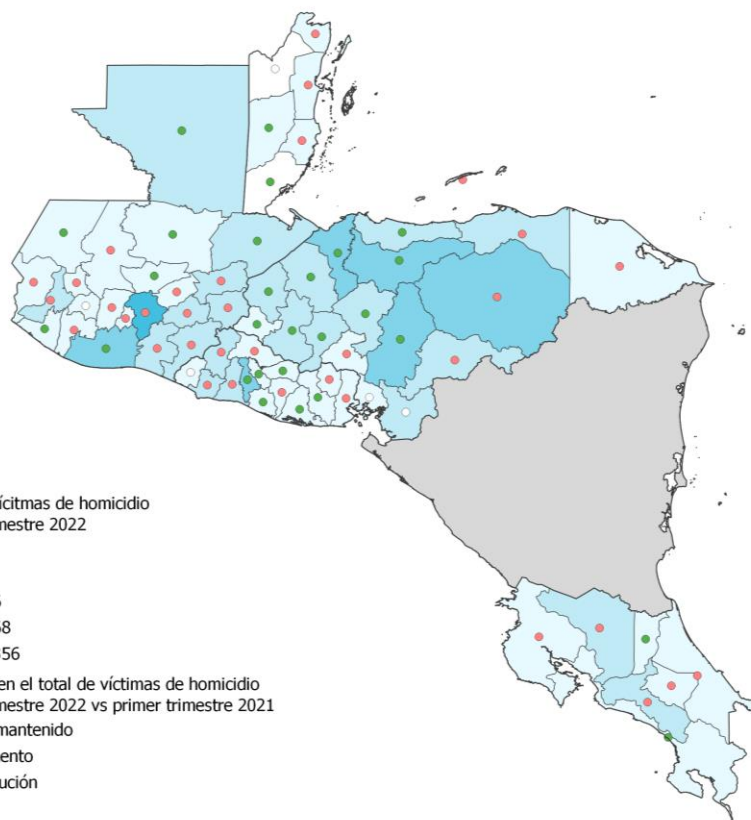
In Belize, the districts of Belize and Stan Creek account for 85% of murders. During the same period in 2021, these districts also accounted for 63% of homicides.

In Guatemala, homicides concentrated in the department of Guatemala, where approximately four in ten homicides took place.

In the case of Honduras, 10 of the 18 departments registered a drop in the total number of homicide victims, while 2 showed no changes: Choluteca (27 homicides) and Valle (10 homicides).

In El Salvador, four in ten department registered a rise in the total number of victims of homicide, while three in ten reported a drop.

In Costa Rica, five of the seven provinces registered increases as compared to 2021. Only Heredia and Puntarenas registered a decrease.



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Source: Prepared by UNDP InfoSegura with information from Belize, data from Belize Police Department (BPD) provided by the Belize Crime Observatory (BCO); Costa Rica, Judicial Investigation Department (OIJ); El Salvador, Working Group on Homicide Facts and Figures and Prosecutor General of the Republic (FGR); Guatemala, National Civil Police (PNC Statistics Section, INE validation of data pending); Honduras, preliminary data from the Working Group on Violent Deaths: National Police, Public Ministry/Forensic Medicine Administration, National Registry of Persons, Citizen Coexistence and Security Observatories, National Statistics Institute, IUDPAS/UNAH, Technical Inter-Institutional Coordination Unit (UTECI)/Sub-Secretary for Inter-Institutional Affairs.

This analysis is based on data available on the following dates:

- Belize: July 19, 2022
- Guatemala: April 07, 2022
- El Salvador: June 09, 2022
- Honduras: June 2022
- Costa Rica: June 2022