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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

# UNODC work on crime stats and analysis at international level

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## Main functions of UNODC on crime statistics

1. To collate, disseminate and analyse country stats
2. To develop methods/standards on crime data
  - *Manuals on victimisation survey*
  - *Manual on indicators for juvenile justice*
  - *International classification of crimes*
  - *Methods to measure corruption, violence against women, organised crime, etc.*
3. To support countries to improve quality&availability of crime data
  - *Advisory and training activities on-demand*
  - *Capacity building projects (victimisation surveys, corruption surveys, etc.) in various regions of the world (on-going projects in Central America, Middle-East, Asia)*



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# Activities on data collection



## UN–Crime Trends Survey (UN-CTS)

- Started in 1977, following a resolution of the General Assembly (1972)
- Since 2009 conducted every year through questionnaire sent to all countries
- Response rate: approx. 85-90 countries per year



## UN-CTS, a major undertaking

- Police data on crimes:
  - Homicide, assault, sexual violence, rape, kidnapping, theft, vehicle theft, burglary, domestic burglary
- Data on criminal justice operations:
  - Police: persons arrested (*of which juveniles*)
  - Prosecutors: persons prosecuted
  - Courts: persons brought before criminal courts, persons convicted (*of which juveniles*)
  - Prisons: persons held in prisons (*of which juveniles*)



## UN-CTS 2012: additional module on juvenile justice

Possible topics of data collection:

- Juveniles in pre and post-sentence detention
- Juvenile in detention not separated from adults
- Juveniles sentenced with custodial detention
- Duration of sentenced detention (for children released)

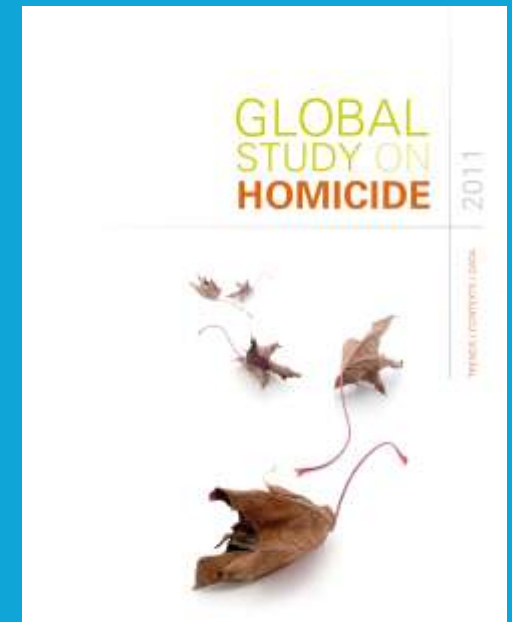


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# An example of analytical product

UNODC Global Study on  
Homicide (2011)

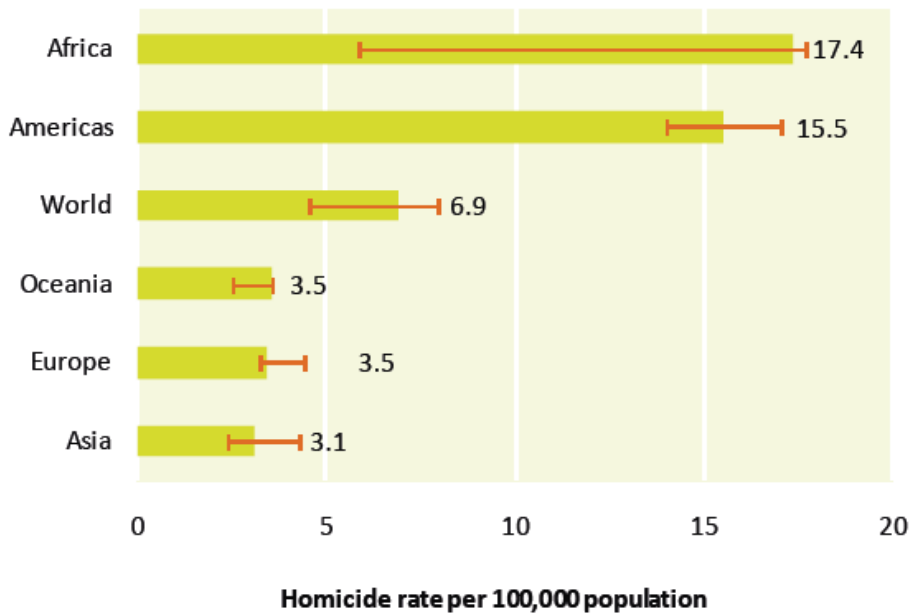


# Global and regional levels of homicide (2010)

468,000 homicides  
at global level in  
2010 (or latest  
available year)

Africa and the  
Americas have the  
highest level of  
homicide

**Fig. 1.3: Homicide rates by region (2010 or latest available year)**



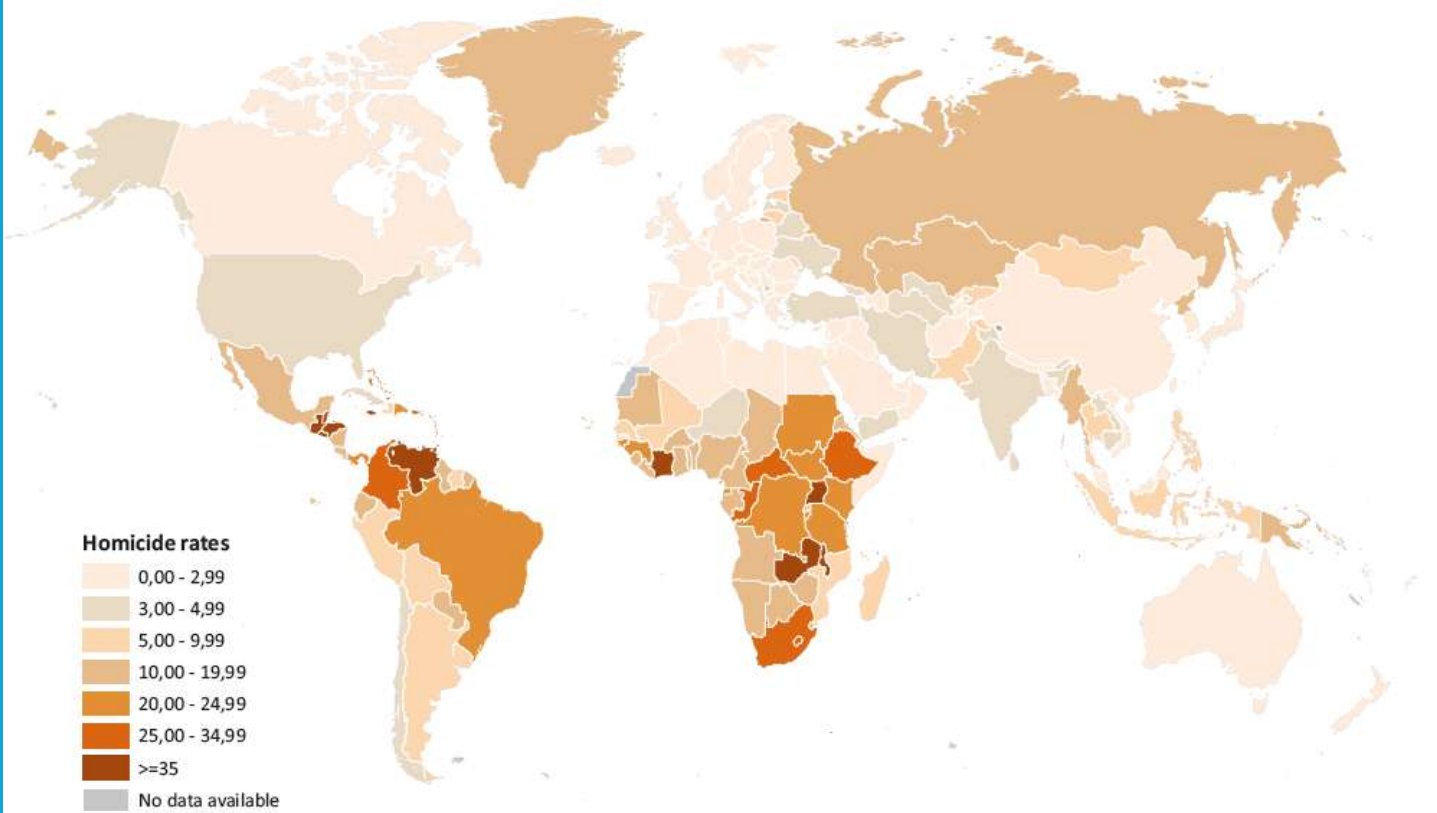
Source: UNODC Homicide Statistics (2011). Bars represent population weighted average homicide rate, with high and low estimates.





## Homicide rate by country (2010)

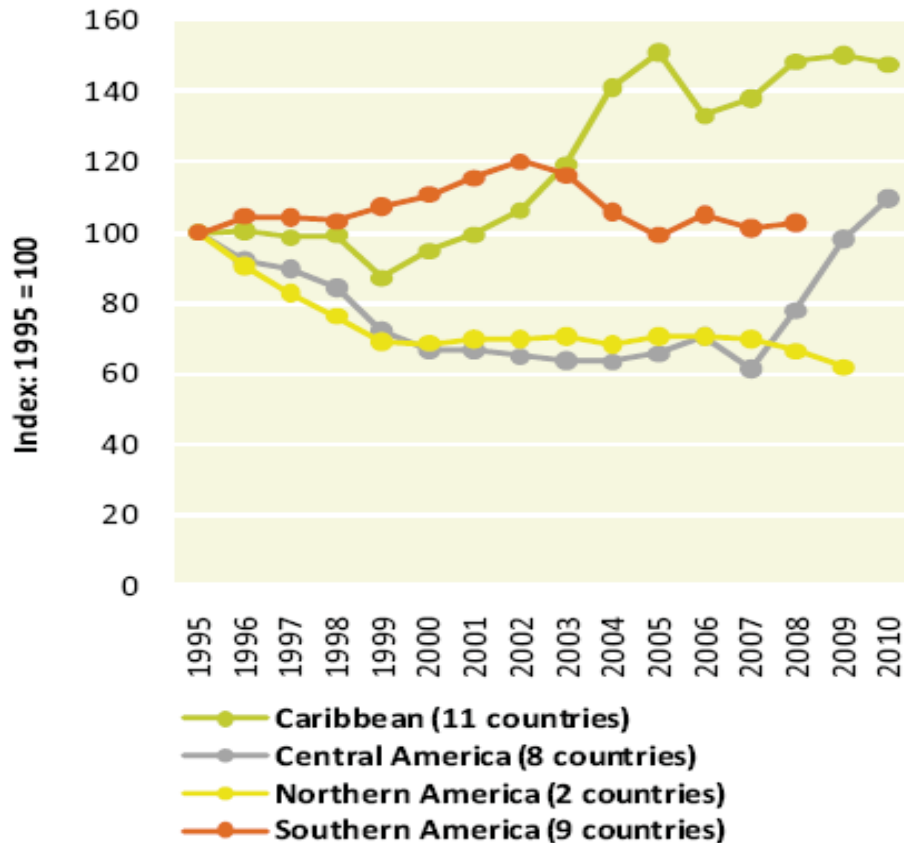
**Map 1.1:** Homicide rates by country (2010 or latest available year)



Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Source: UNODC Homicide Statistics (2011).

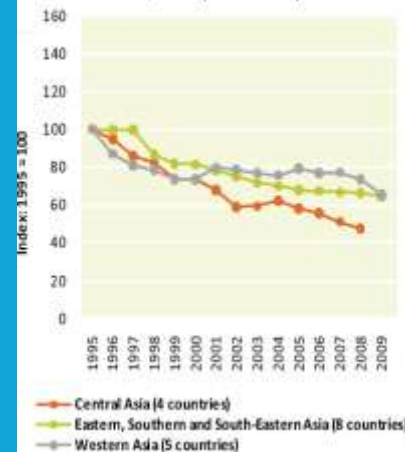
**Fig. 1.11: Subregional trends in homicide rates, the Americas (1995-2010)**



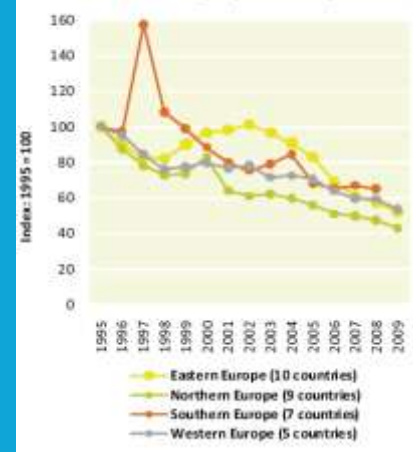
Source: UNODC Homicide Statistics (2011). Lines represent percentage change in population weighted homicide rate based on a starting point of 100 for 1995.

Sharp increase in Central America and Caribbean, decline in Asia and Europe

**Fig. 1.12: Subregional trends in homicide rates, Asia (1995-2009)**

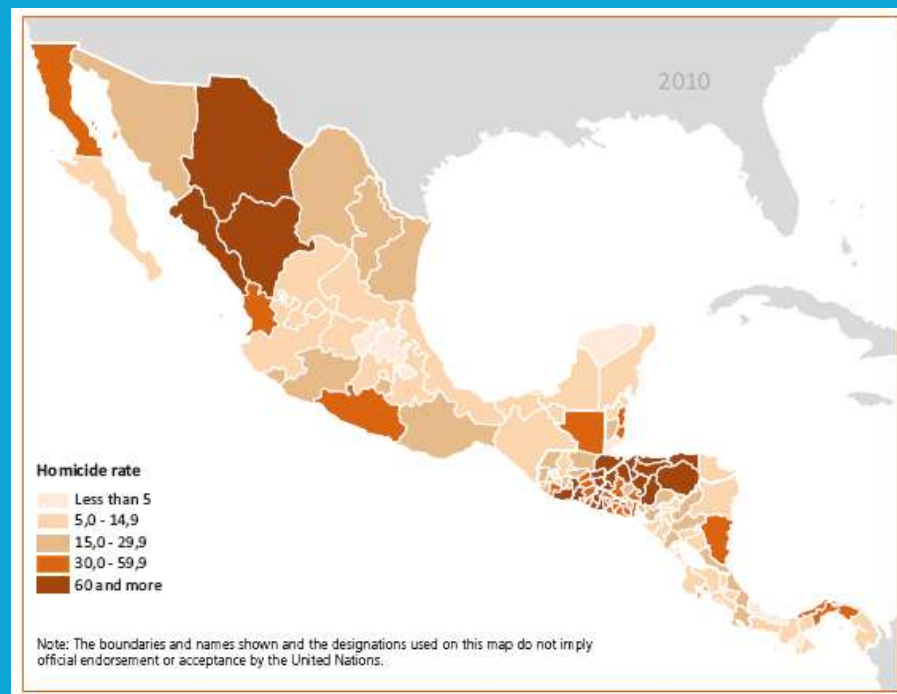
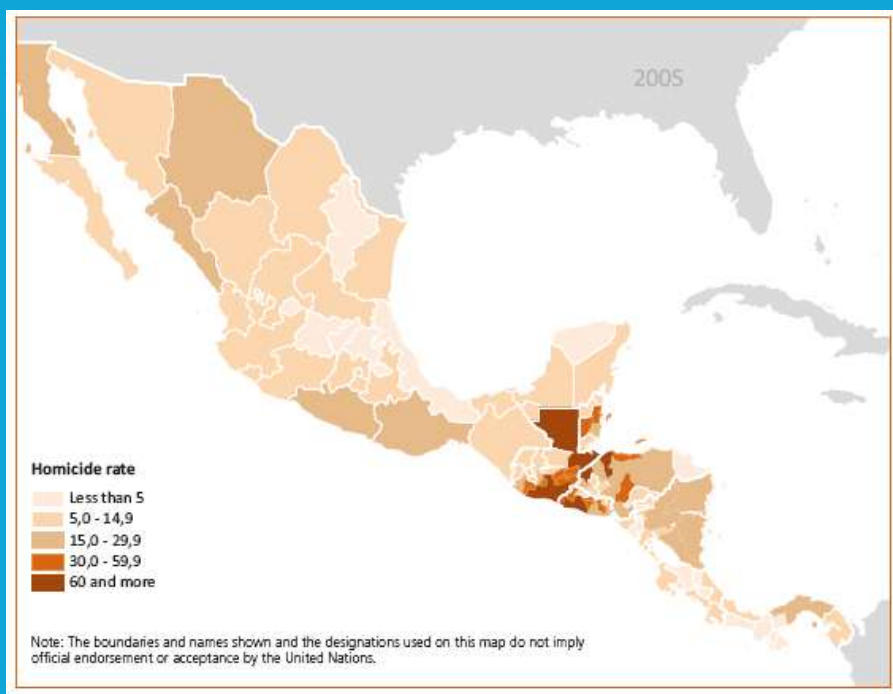


**Fig. 1.13: Subregional trends in homicide rates, Europe (1995-2009)**





## Strong increases in specific areas (2005 and 2010)



Source: National police, statistical offices and criminal justice institutions.



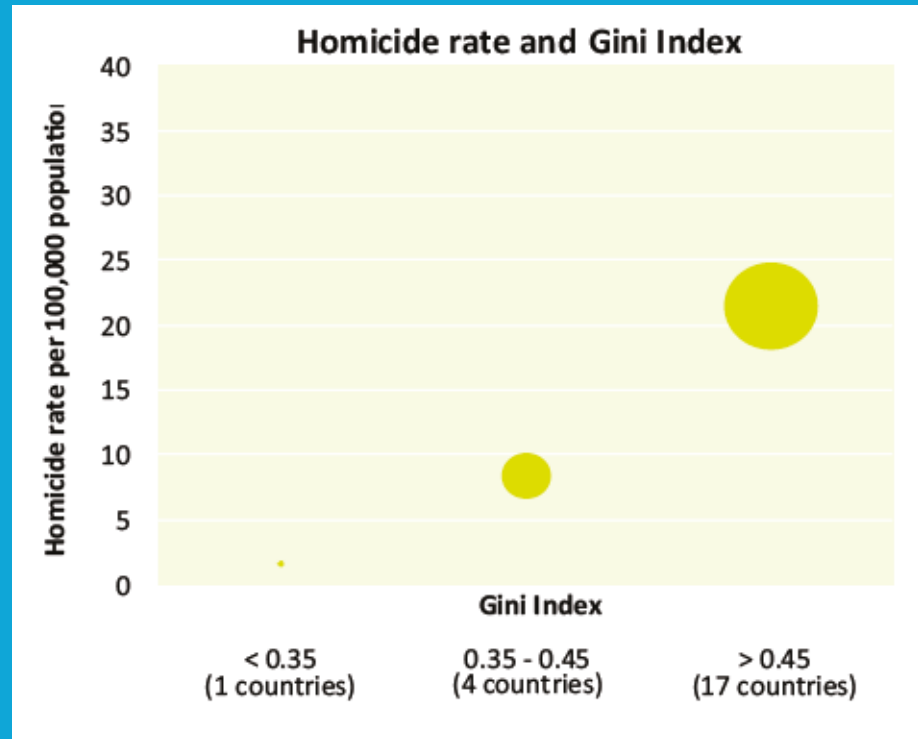
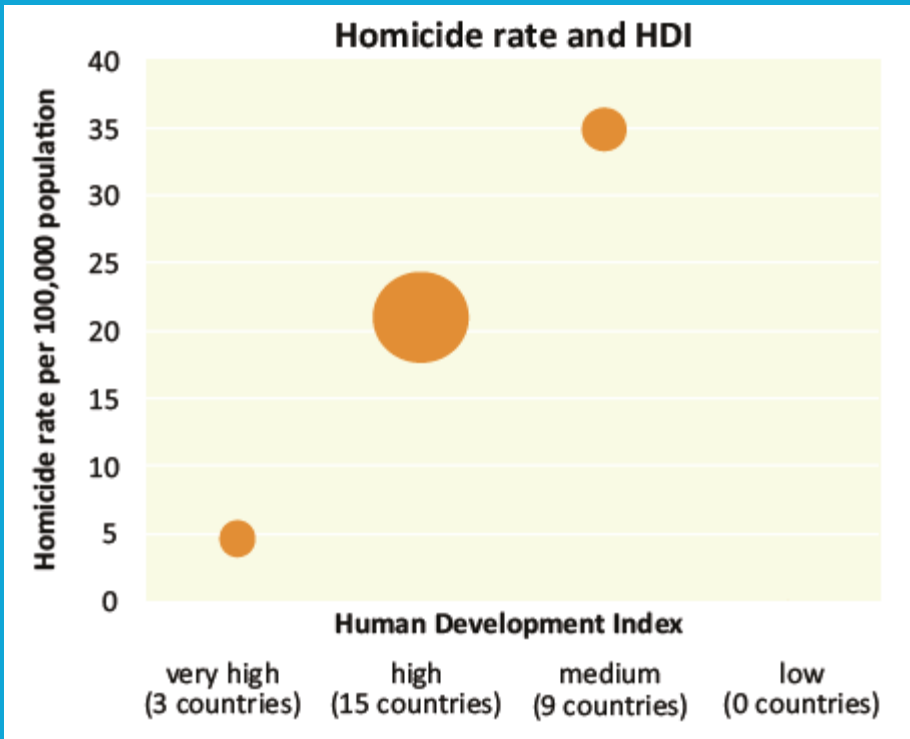
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# The drivers behind

Clear link between violent crime and human development, rule of law, firearms and organised crime

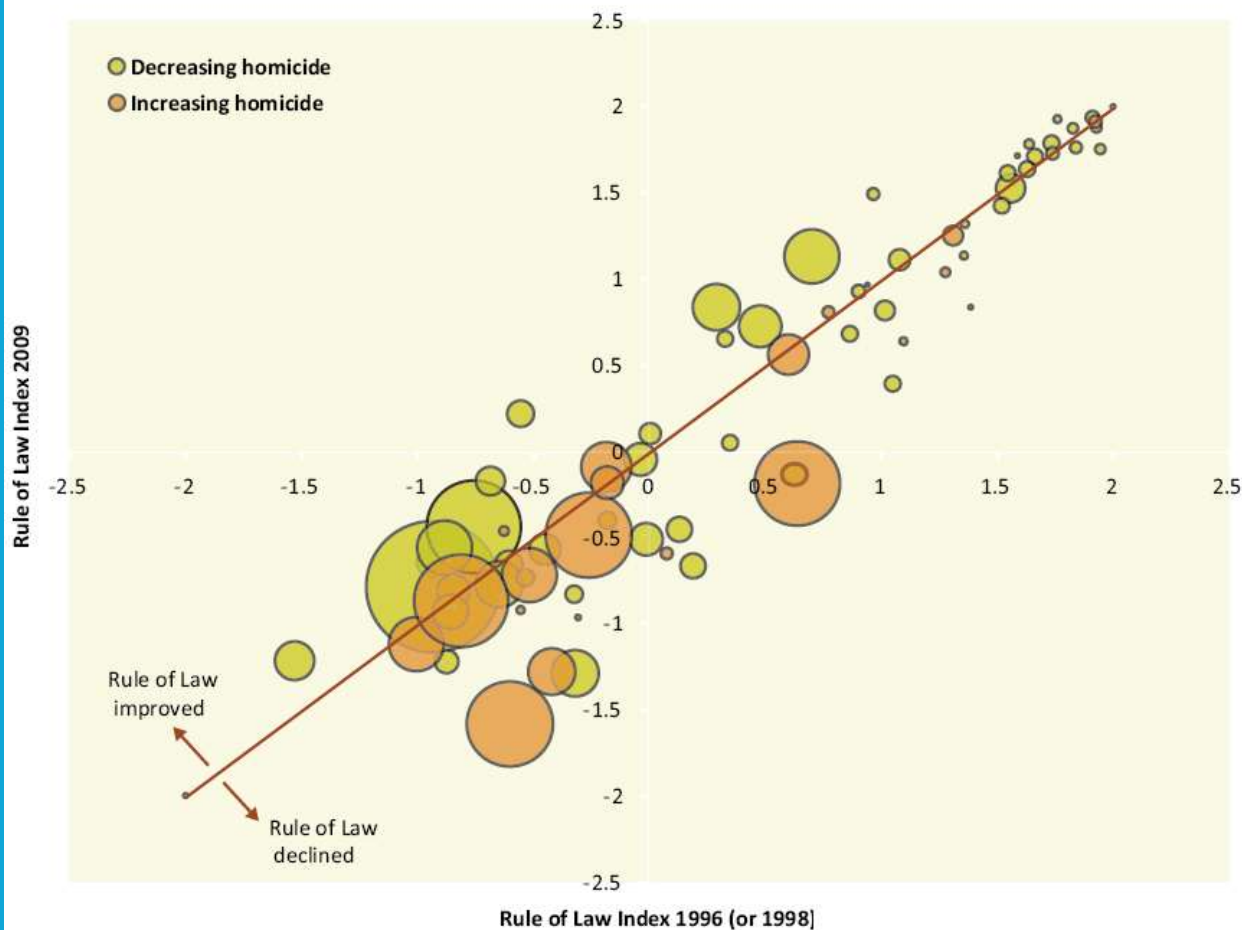
# Homicide levels and development, Americas (1995-2010)



Source: UNODC Homicide Statistics (2011), UNDP Human Development Index and World Bank Data Gini Index. Bubble size is proportional to the percentage of homicides in countries with HDI or Gini value.



**Fig. 2.6: Position of countries according to changes in Rule of Law Index and homicide rate, mid-1990s to 2009**



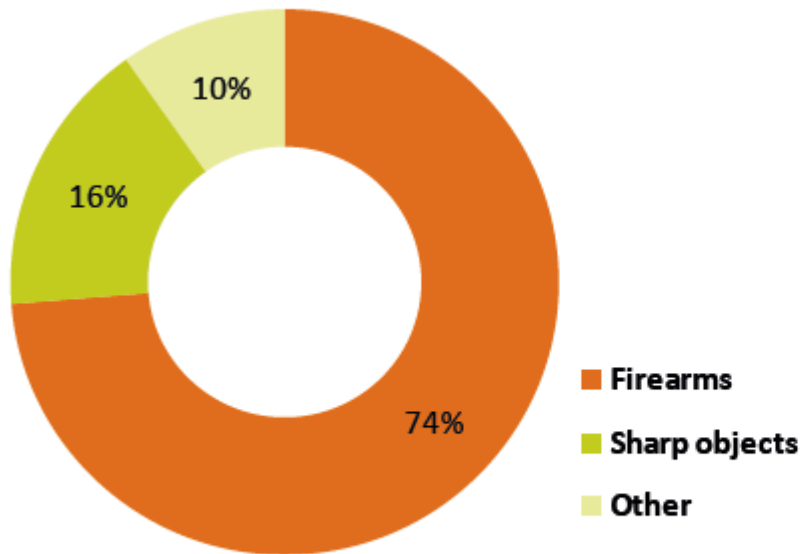
Source: World Bank Data Rule of Law Index (1996 and 2009) and UNODC Homicide Statistics (2011). Colour of dots represent trend in homicides (decreasing or increasing homicides from 1995 to 2009). Bubble size is proportional to the change in homicide rate (from 1995 to 2009).

Countries that strengthened their rule of law experienced a decline in homicide rate.

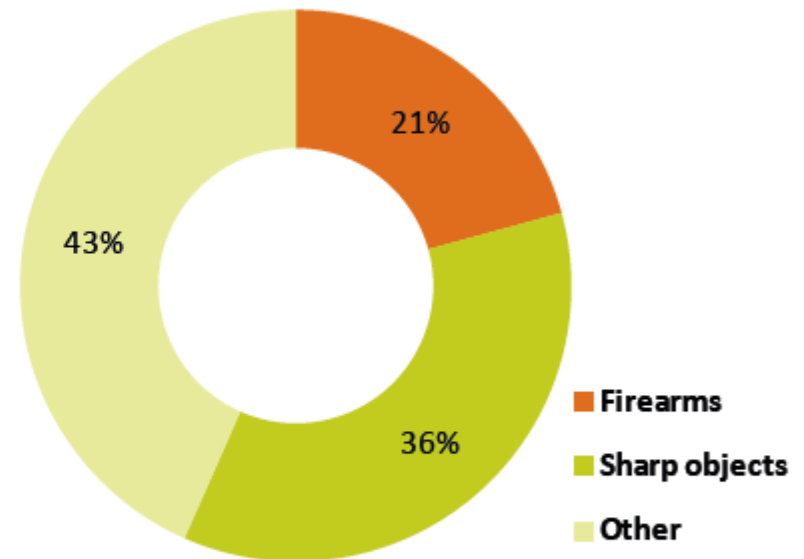
Conversely, countries with increasing homicide, also experienced weakened rule of law.

# Homicide mechanism, Americas and Europe (2008)

Homicide mechanism - Americas (30 countries)



Homicide mechanism - Europe (32 countries)



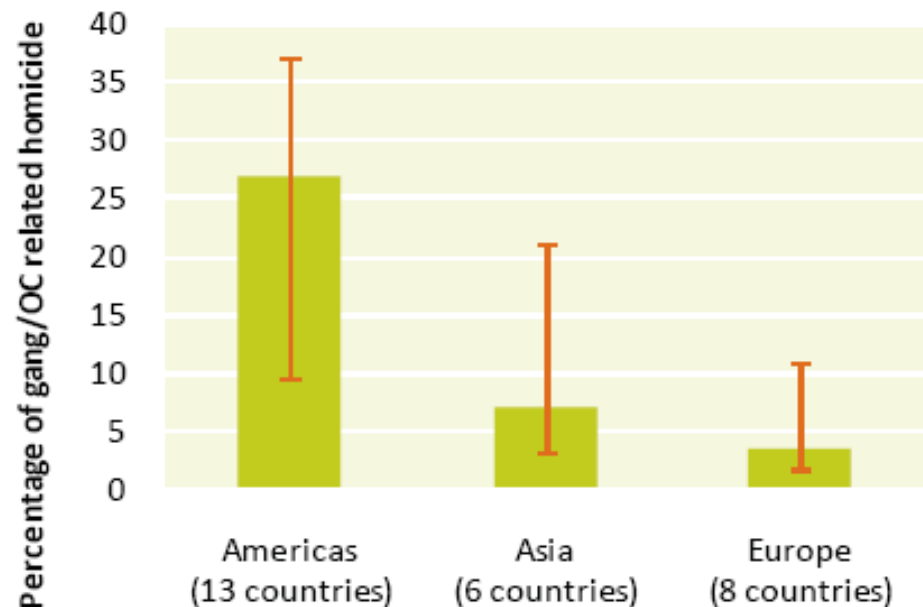
Source: Global Burden of Injuries, *Injury Mortality Data Collection* (2011).

Role of firearms as enablers of homicide in regions with high homicide levels, often linked to organised crime

# Homicide rates and gang/OC related homicides (2010)

Violent crime due to gang/organized crime highest in the Americas

**Fig. 3.9: Proportion of gang/organized crime-related homicides by region (2010 or latest available year)**



Source: UNODC elaboration of national police data. Bars represent median, 1st and 3rd quartiles of percentage of gang/organized crime-related homicides.





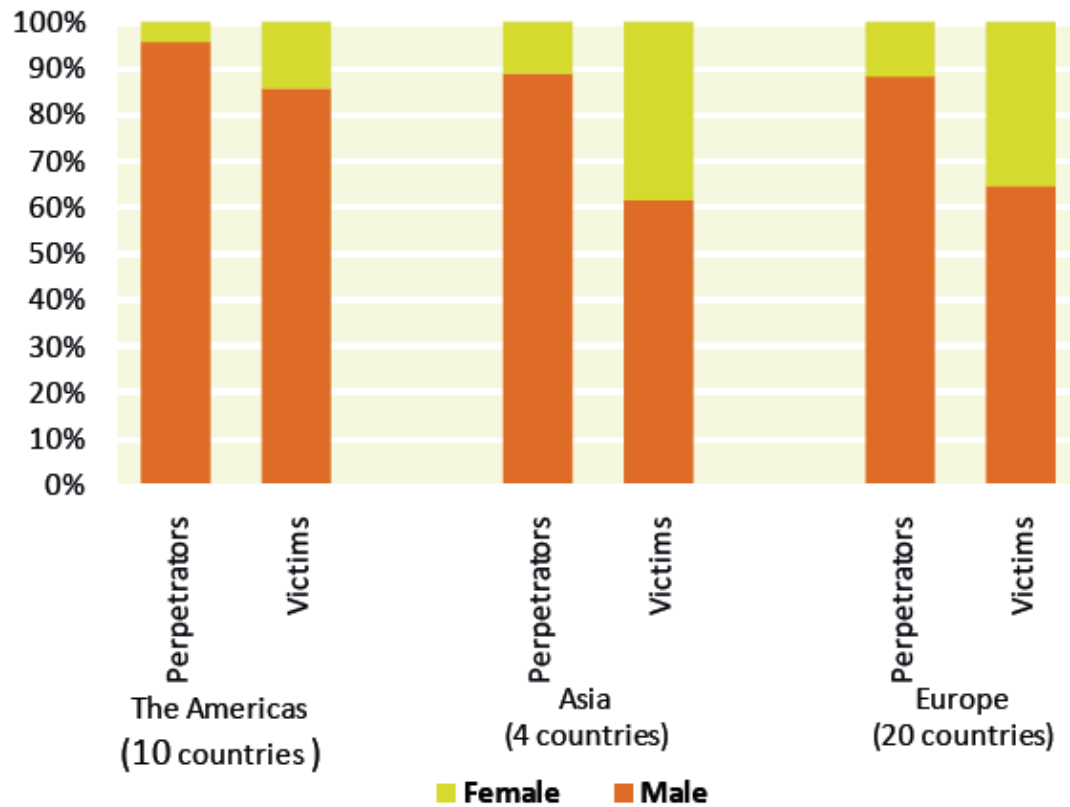
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# Homicide and demographics: who is at risk?

Men are those most often involved in homicide, accounting for some 80% of homicide victims and perpetrators. Men between 15-44 are the most at risk

**Fig. 5.13: Distribution of victims and perpetrators of homicide by sex and region (2009 or latest year available)**

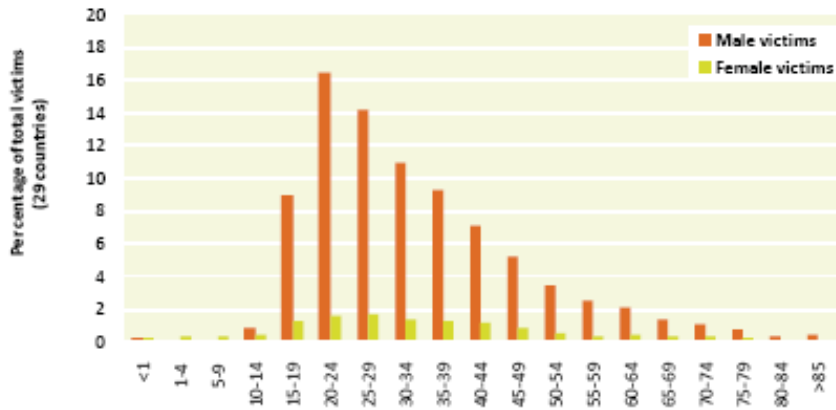


Source: UNODC elaboration of UN-CTS.

Victims and perpetrators by region

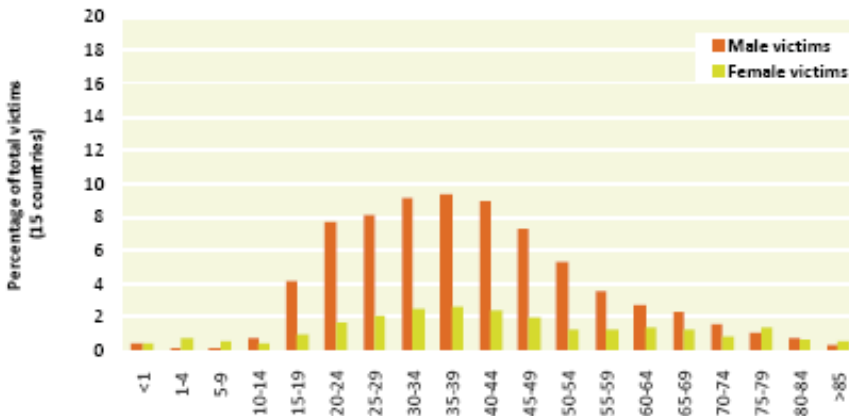
Homicide is often a male affair

**Fig. 5.6: Distribution of homicide victims by age and sex, the Americas (2000-2008)**



Source: Global Burden of Injuries, *Injury Mortality Data Collection* (2011).

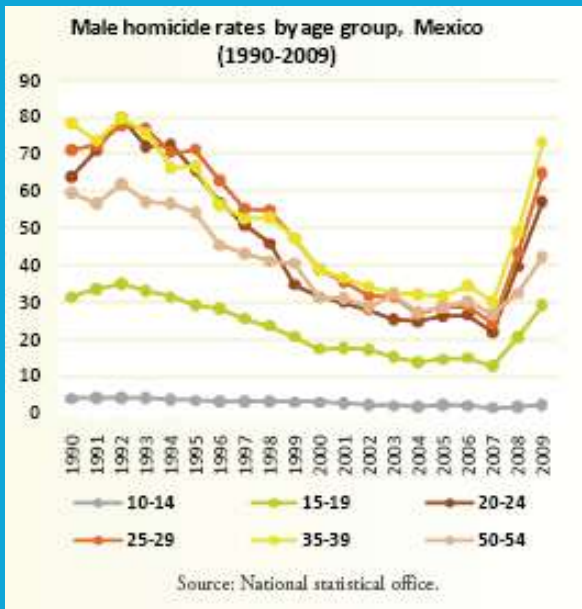
**Fig. 5.8: Distribution of homicide victims by age and sex, Asia (2000-2008)**



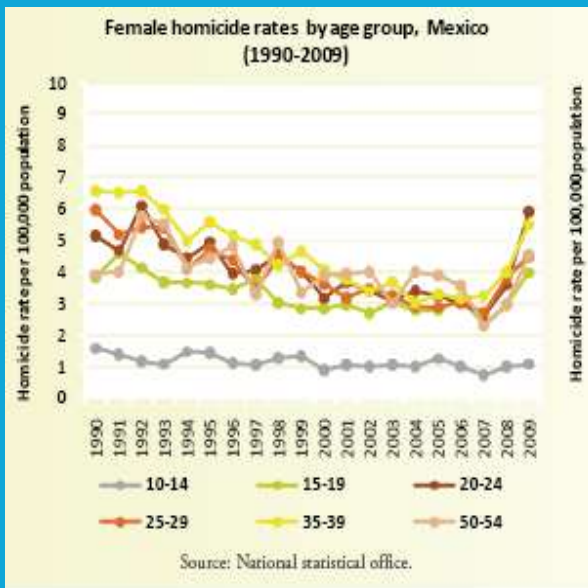
Source: Global Burden of Injuries, *Injury Mortality Data Collection* (2011).

Age and sex distribution of victims varies across regions.

In the Americas (high homicide rates), men at young ages most at risk. In Asia (low homicide rates), more balanced risk across age and sex groups

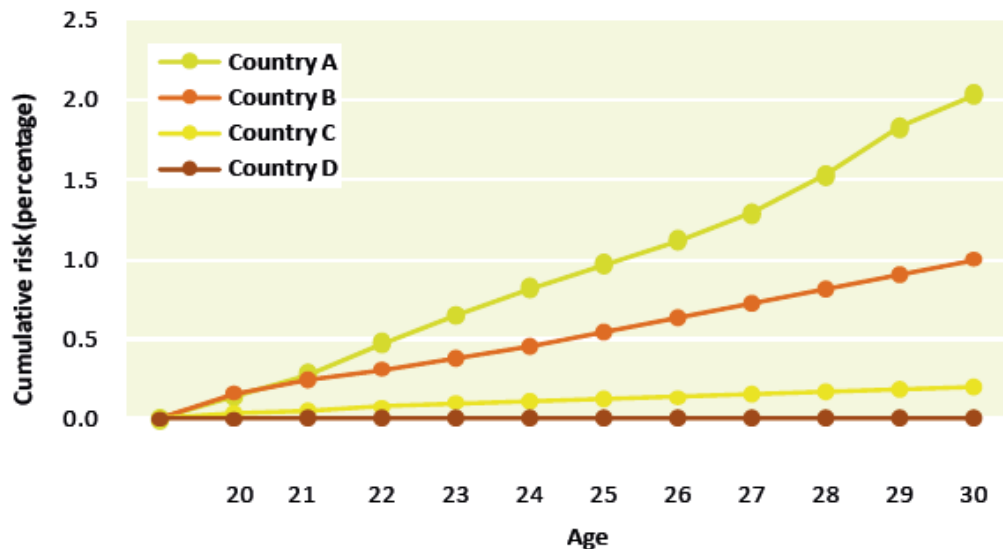


Mexico: the recent surge in homicide levels mostly affected men in age groups 35-39 and 25-29, but age group 15-19 was also clearly affected.



Women at various age groups (incl. 15-19) also experienced increase of homicide, though at lower levels than men

**Fig. 5.10: Cumulative homicide risk for males aged 20 in 1996, selected countries (1996-2006)**



**Country A:** high level of homicides, high percentage by firearm (e.g. Central America)

**Country B:** high level of homicide (parts of Africa)

**Country C:** low level of homicide (Europe)

**Country D:** very low level of homicide (Eastern Asia)

Risk of dying between the age of 20 and 30 was extremely high for 'Type A' countries: 1 out of 50 men aged 20 was killed before reaching age 31



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# Women and Intimate Partner/Family-related Homicide

Women are less frequently victim of homicide, they are often killed by family members

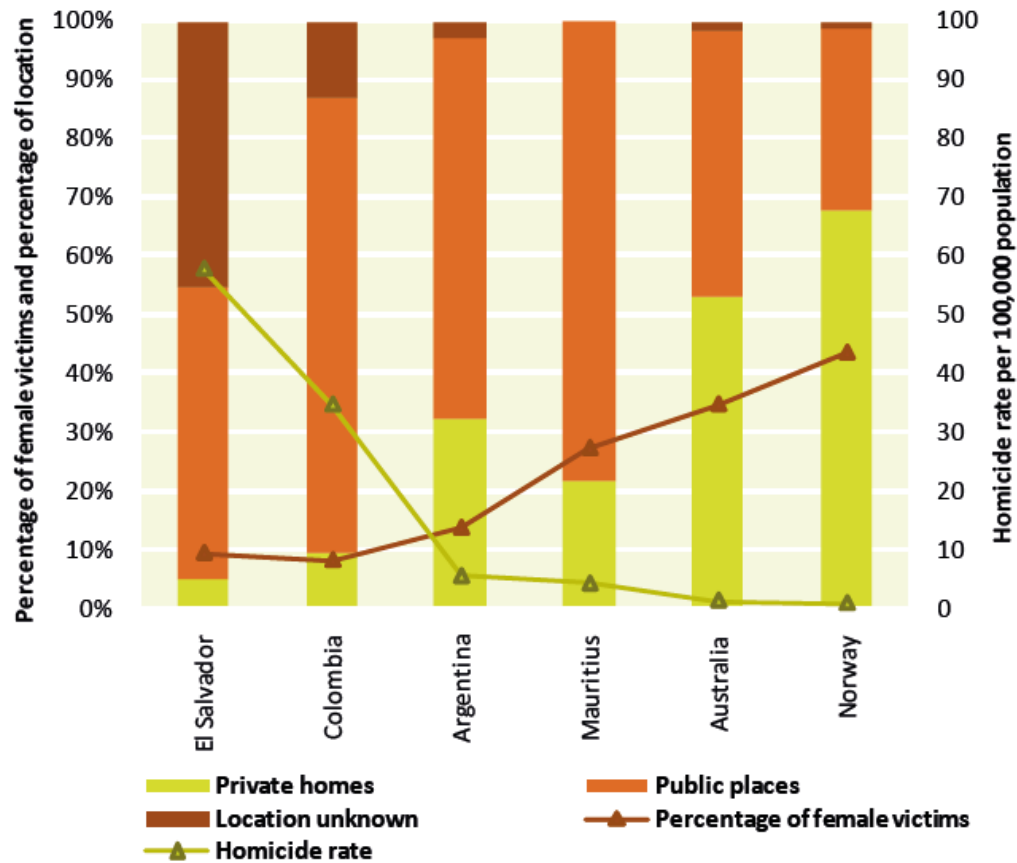
**Fig. 4.1:** Percentage distribution of homicide perpetrators by sex of victim, selected European countries (2008 or latest available year)



Source: UNECE Statistical Division Database.

Women are less frequently victim of homicide, but they are often killed by family members

**Fig. 4.4:** Percentage distribution of homicide locations and homicide rates, selected countries (2009 or latest available year)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national official sources.

Home is where women are most at risk of been killed, while men are more at risk in the street





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*Better data, deeper analysis,  
improved policies, less crime*

**Thank you for  
your attention.**



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