

# BELIZE

## Analysis of the State of Homicides: Murder

January to December 2021

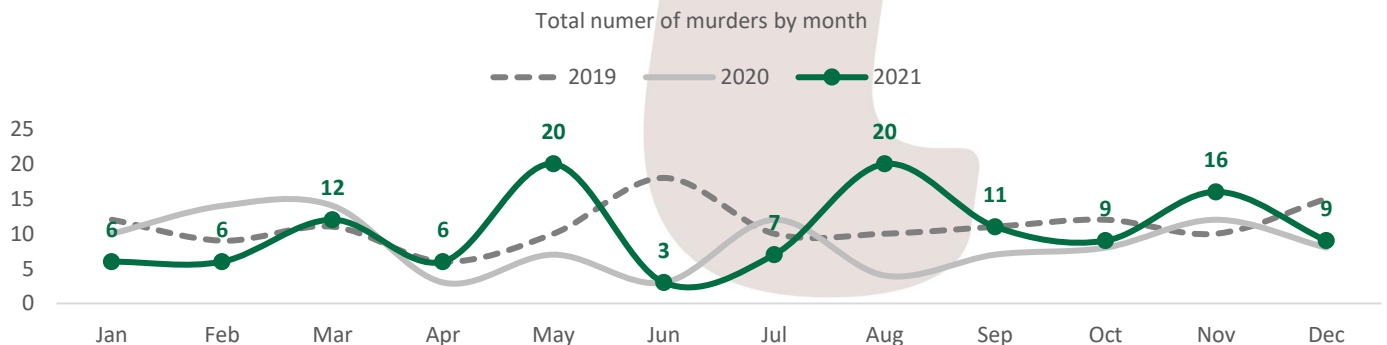
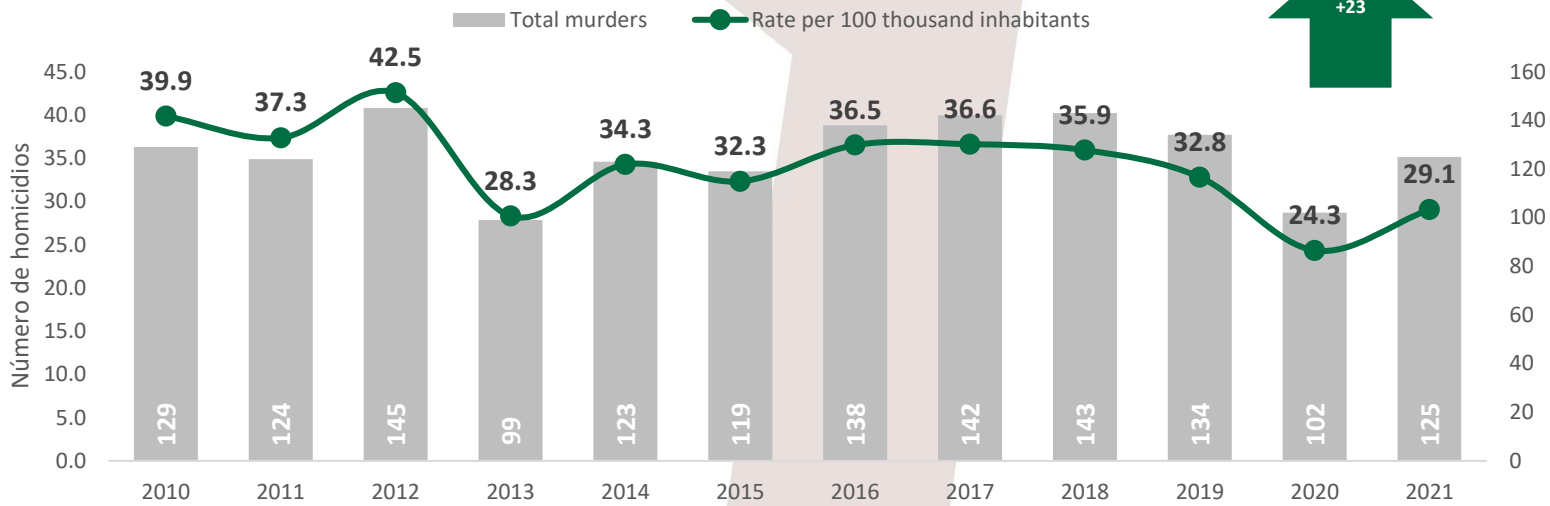


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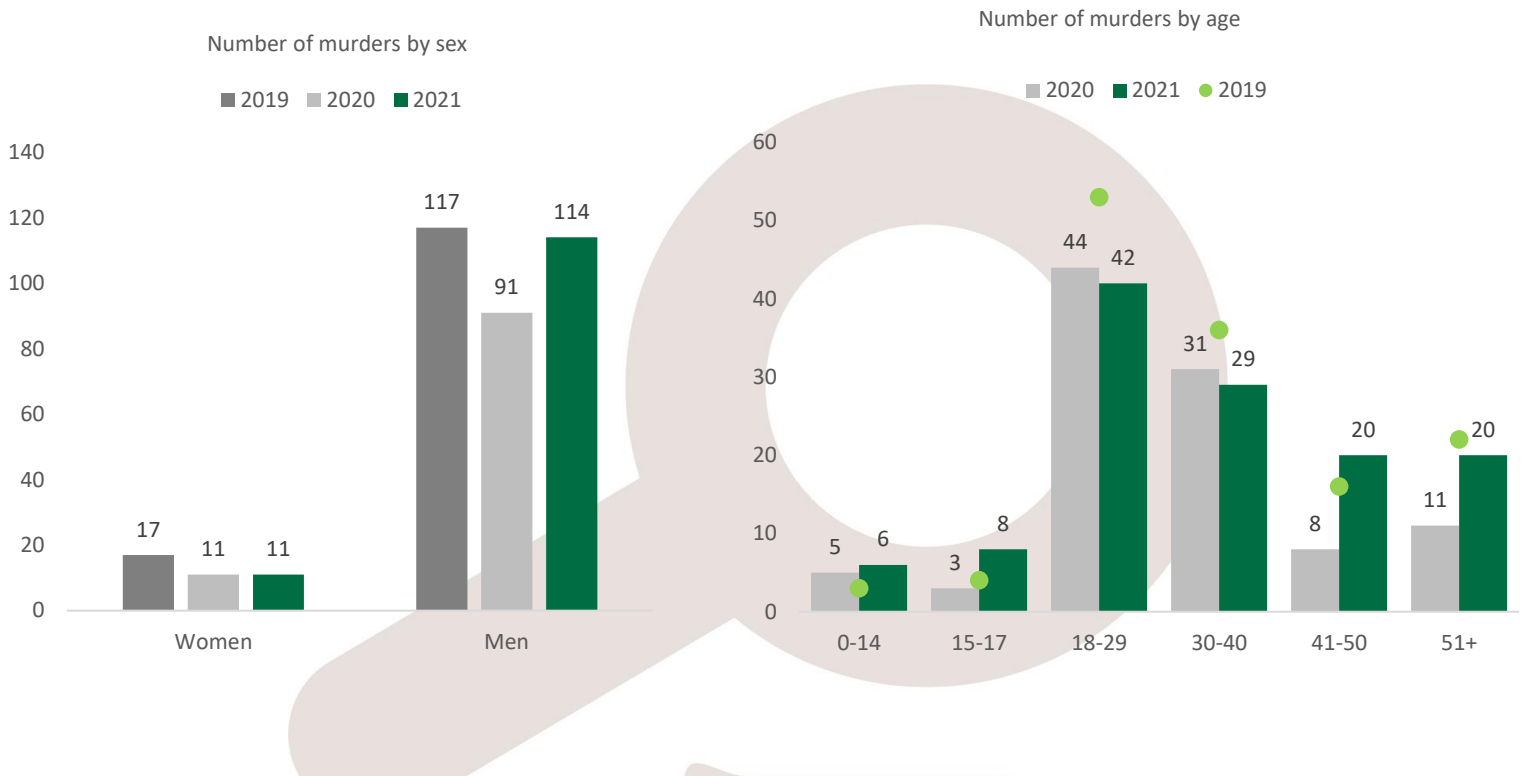
### Highlights

- 2021 closed with records showing 125 murders, a 22.5% rise over the previous year. Nevertheless, the number of murders remains 6.7% below (9 fewer victims) records for 2019, the year prior to the pandemic.
- The homicide rate closed at 29.1 per 100 thousand inhabitants. This is the lowest rate on record since 2013, barring 2020, which was an atypical year for criminal incidents due to curtailed mobility that resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A breakdown of the trend of murders by month shows two peaks, one in May, and a second in August. These months account for 32% of murders committed in 2021.
- The number of murders involving males recorded a percentage increase (+25.3%, 23 more victims), whereas the same number of murders of females was recorded (11 victims) both years.
- Homicides of young persons ages 18 to 30 continue to account for most murder victims (34%), followed by those 31 to 50 years of age (23%).
- In 4 out of 6 districts, a total rise in the number of murders was registered as compared to 2020.

### Evidence



The months of May and August show the highest numbers of murders. These are the highest numbers on record since 2019.



The districts of Cayo and Belize account for the steepest climb in total number of victims of murder with 19 more, and 8 more, respectively. These districts have the largest populations in the country.

