

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Analysis of the State of homicidal Violence

January-September 2022

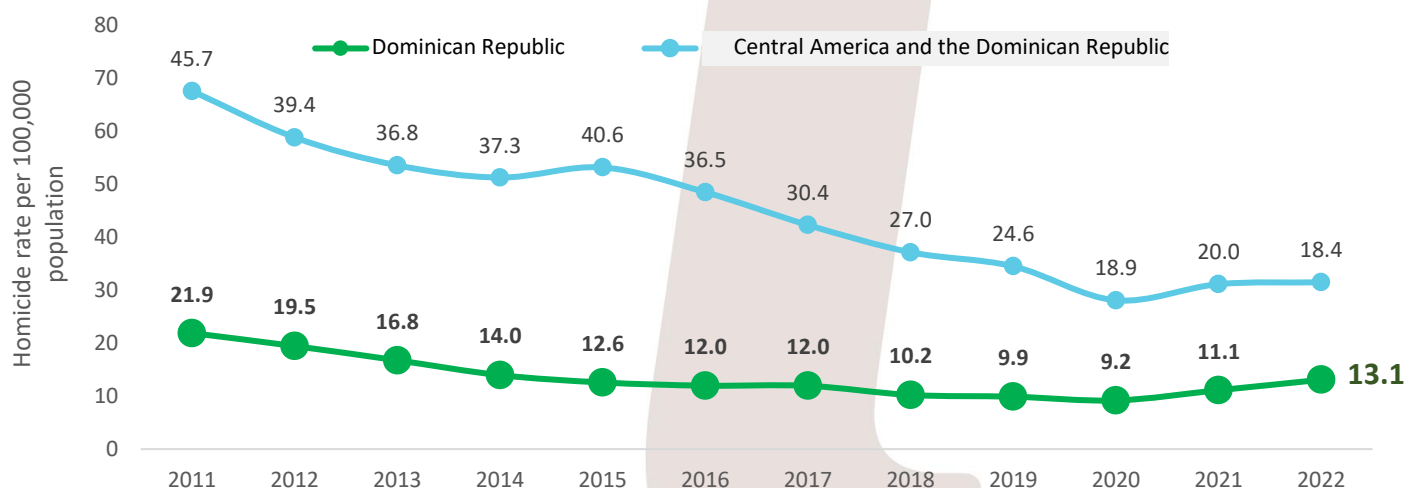
Highlights

- In all, 1,043 people lost their lives to homicide from January to September 2022. That is 199 more people than during the same period in 2021.
- Estimates show that, at the end of 2022, the rate was approximately 13 homicides per 100,000 population. This is the highest rate in that last eight years.
- January to September 2022, victims of homicide amounted to about four men per day, and one woman every two days.
- Male homicides increased by 25.7% with regard to the period from January to September 2021. This is three times greater than the increase recorded for women in the same period (+8.5%).
- Just as in 2021, one in two homicide victims were young people (between 18 and 35 years of age).
- Firearms were still the most commonly used instrument used in homicide in 2022 (54%), followed by sharp weapons (32%).
- One in two homicides was due to issues related to cohabitation (quarrels or arguments) in 2022.
- One in two homicides took place in the provinces of Santo Domingo, Distrito Nacional and Santiago.
- The provinces that account for the majority of homicide victims are mainly on the south and central coasts, and, to a lesser extent, on the north coast. These are densely populated areas, and the sites of important points of departure, such as sea ports and airports.

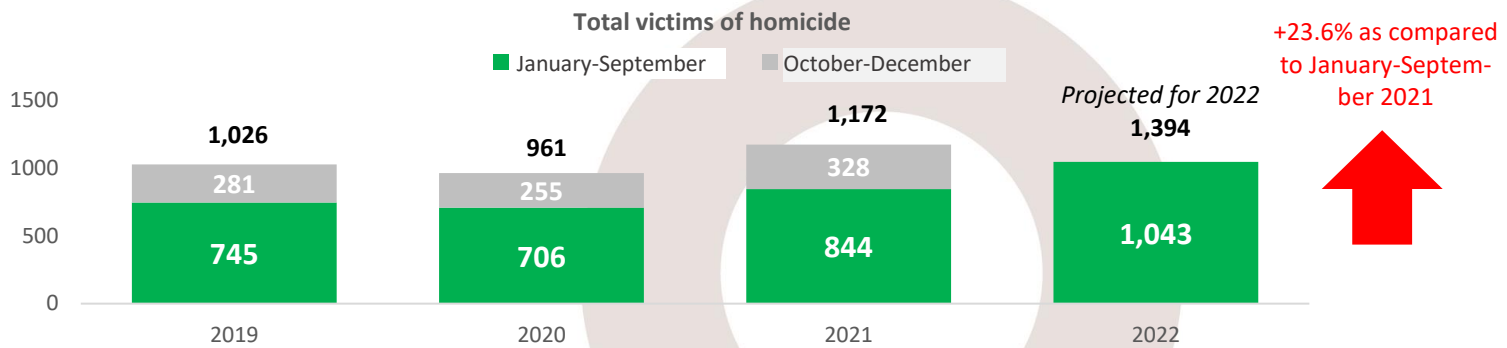
Evidence

The homicide rate in the Dominican Republic is projected to be 13.1 per 100,000 population, 2.0 points higher than the previous year.

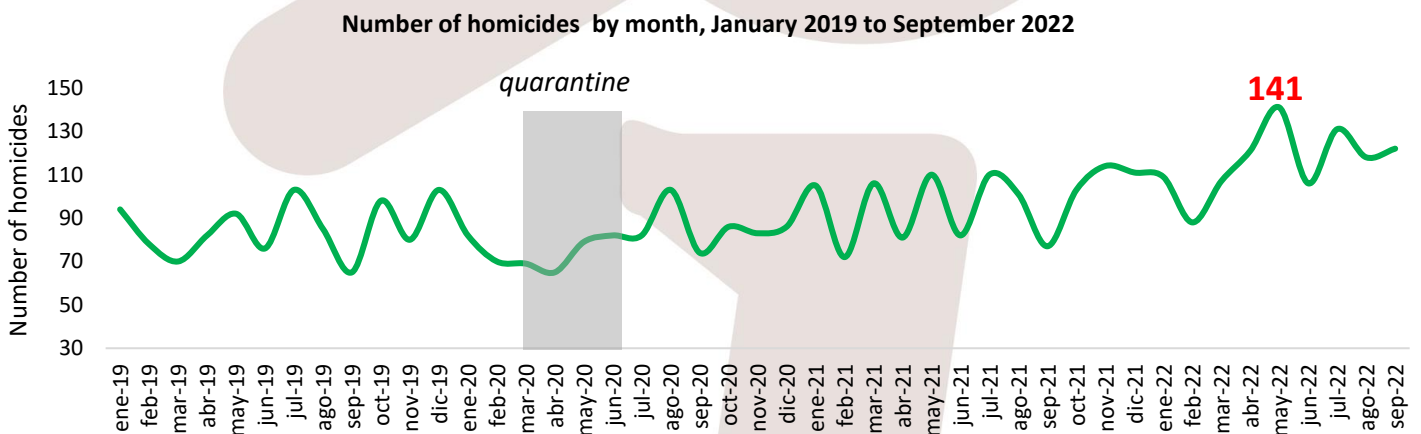
- In 2022, the homicide rate per 100,000 population in the Dominican Republic (13.1) is projected to be lower than the rate for Central America and the Dominican Republic (18.4).
- In the last 12 years, the homicide rate in the Dominican Republic has been lower than the subregion.
- The rate in 2022 is the highest registered in the last eight years.



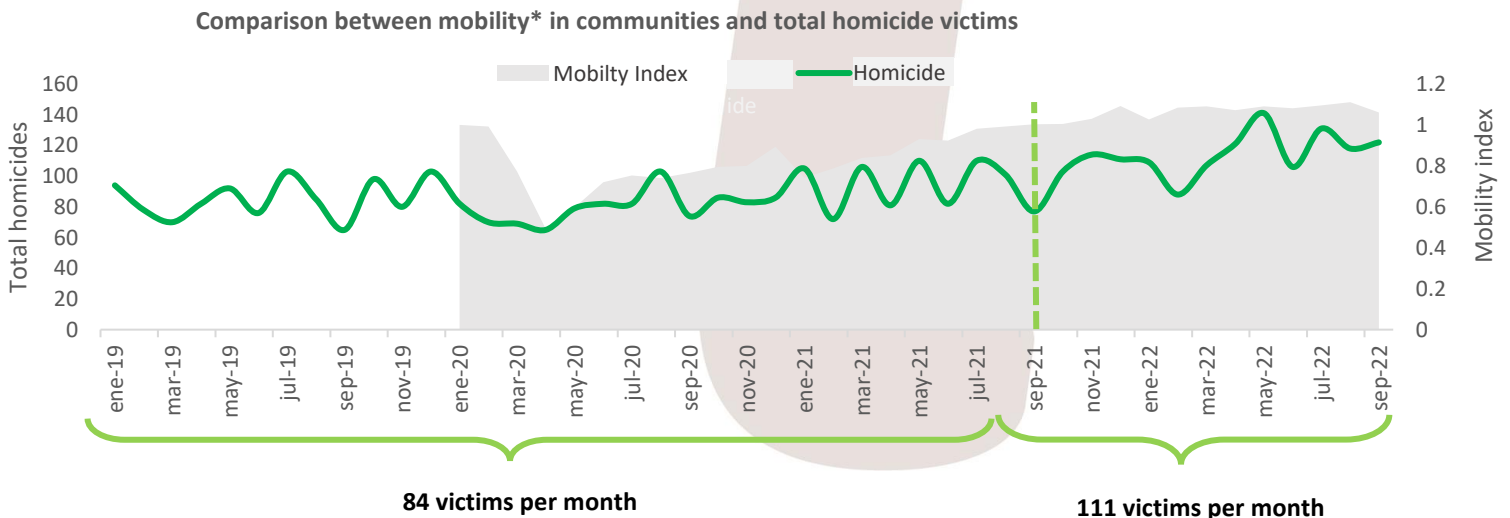
Every day, four people lost their lives to violence between January and September 2022. This adds up to 1,043 who lost their lives as victims of homicide from January to September 2022. That is 199 more people than during the same period in 2021. This is a 23.6% increase.



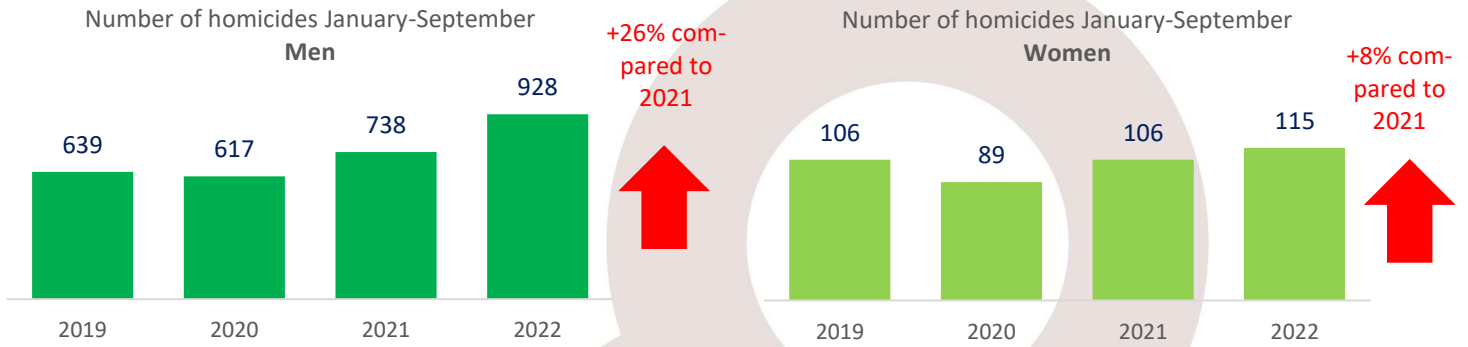
Homicides have been rising steadily since 2019. Barring the lockdown period during 2020, there has been a steady rise in the number of homicides per month in the Dominican Republic. The highpoint was in May 2022 with 141 victims. This is almost 50 victims more than the monthly average in the last three years (93 victims per month). It is mainly due to a rise in the number of cases of armed robbery and attempted robbery, and quarrels.



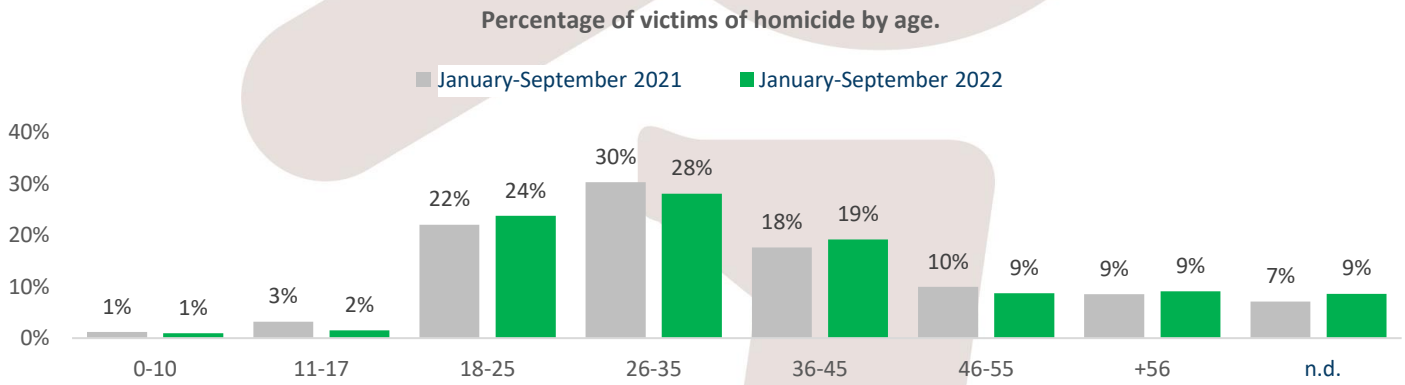
Once levels of mobility reached normal in September 2021, there is also record of a rise in the total number of homicide victims. Starting in September 2021, mobility returned to pre-pandemic levels (January and February 2022). On average homicides increased by 27 more victims per month (111 victims) starting in September 2021 (mobility returned to normal levels).



Records show a rise in the total number of male and female victims between January and September 2022 with regard to the same period the previous year. The percentage increase in the total of male homicides is four times greater than that of women. The total increase in homicides can be attributed to an increase in the total number of male victims. The total number of female victims is similar over the last four years, except for 2020 due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

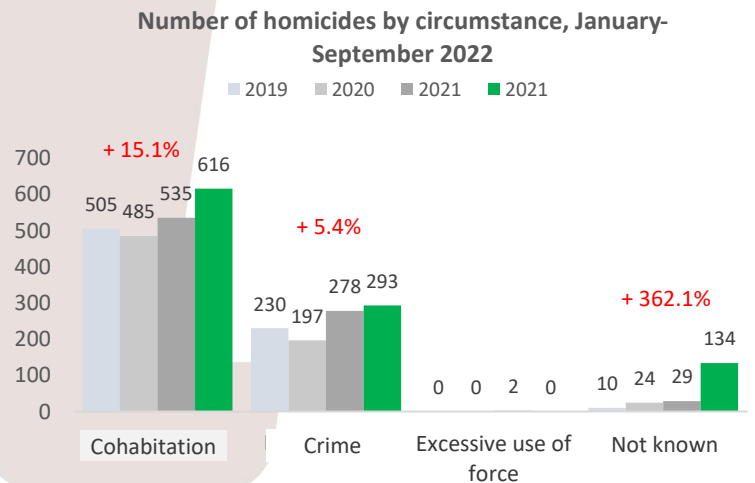
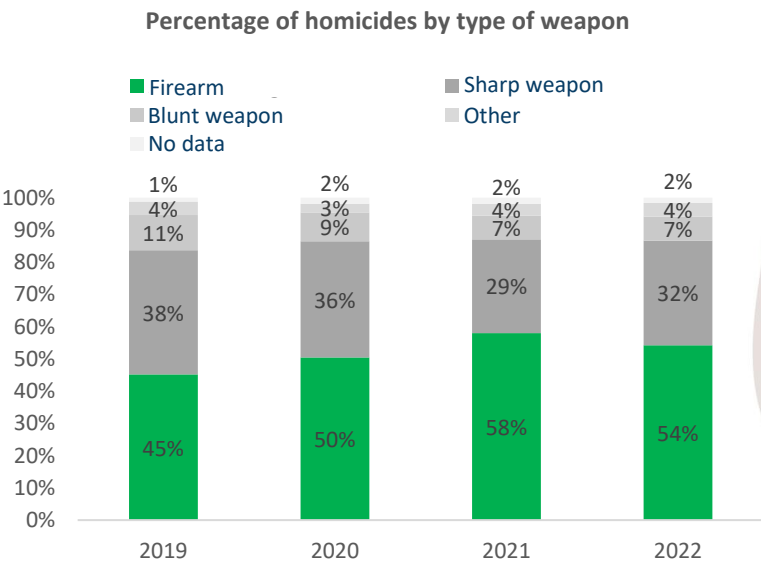


One in two victims of homicide were between 18 and 35 years of age. There was a noticeably high percentage of records without age. Efforts are needed in order to further improve the quality of data. The behavior is similar in both male and female victims.



Firearms were still the most commonly used instrument used in homicide in 2022 (54%), followed by sharp weapons (32%).

Six in ten homicides happened for reasons associated with cohabitation (59%). Data quality needs to be worked on, to ensure information is adequately classified. There has been an almost fourfold increase in cases where details of the circumstances of the homicide were lacking.



Disaggregation of cohabitation homicides

Jan-Sep 2022	
Quarrels	83%
Intrafamily Violence	16%

Eight in ten cohabitation homicides were the result of quarrels. The rest were caused by intrafamily violence.

Disaggregation of crime-related homicide

Jan-Sep 2022	
Armed Robbery	49%
Substance Abuse	31%
Attempted Robbery	16%

About two out of every three crime-related homicides were the result of armed robbery or attempted robbery. The rest were caused by substance abuse.

Territorial Analysis of Homicidal Violence

Territorial Analysis of homicidal violence identifies pockets of homicides concentrated in the provinces of Santo Domingo, Distrito Nacional, and Santo Domingo: One in two homicides took place in these provinces.

- Six in ten provinces registered increases in the homicide victim total with regard to the same period the previous year.
- The provinces that exhibited a reduction in the homicide total were Duarte, Hato Mayor, La Altagracia, Monte Plata, Santiago, Elías Piña and San Juan. Independencia, Bahoruco and San Cristóbal recorded the same number of victims as the year before.
- Records show greater increases in the number of victims for Santo Domingo, Distrito Nacional and Puerto Plata.
- The provinces that account for the majority of homicide victims are located mainly on the south and central coasts, and, to a lesser extent, on the north coast. These areas are densely populated, and the site of important points of departure, such as sea ports and airports.

