

infoSEGURA



Analysis of Citizen Security in 2022

# GUATEMALA



## Crime incidence as registered by the National Civil Police

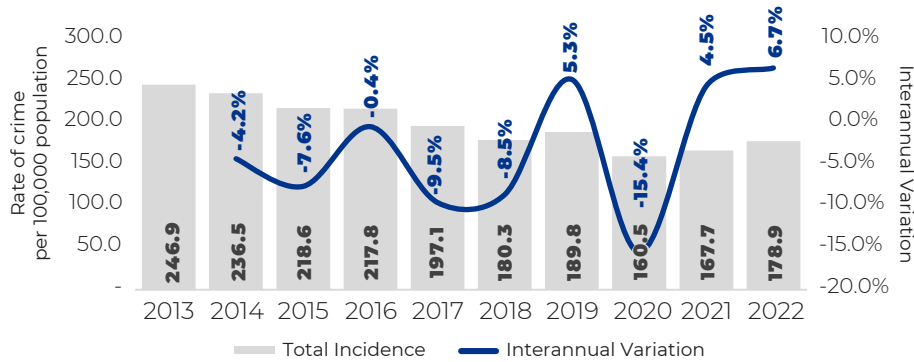
- Overall crime incidence
- Homicide
- Disappearances\*
- Injuries
- Property crime\*

Note: \***Disappearance** is not an offense, and is therefore not added into the crime incidence figure; however, it is included because it is a social issue. \***Property crime**, Extortion, robbery and theft.

## Overall crime incidence

In 2022, overall crime incidence rate registered a 6.7 percent increase with regard to 2021. **This is the most significant interannual increment registered in the last nine years.**

In 2022, the crime incidence rate failed to go higher than pre-pandemic figures.

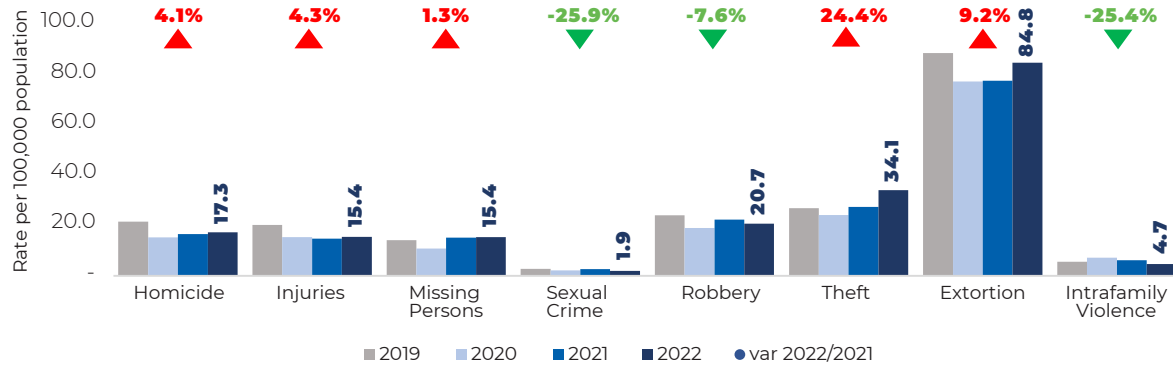


At least **85 persons** daily were victims of some incident of crime reported by the National Civil Police.

Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police in process of validation by INE. Crime Incidence: Homicides, injury, extortion, robbery, theft, rape and intrafamily violence; missing persons not included.

Acts of crime registered by the National Civil Police increased with respect to the year 2021, with the exception of intrafamily violence, robbery and sexual crimes.

As of 2022, reports of thefts and missing persons were the only events that exceeded pre-pandemic (2019) levels, the rest still reported lower levels.



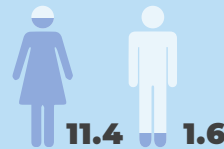
Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police in process of validation by INE.

## In 2022, the highest crime incidence in both sexes was for property crimes, extortion and theft.

This notwithstanding, women make up a greater proportion of victims of sexual crime, intrafamily violence and missing persons, while men make up the greater proportion than women of victims of crimes against life.

### Rate of Intrafamily Violence and Sexual Crime per 100,000 population (2022)

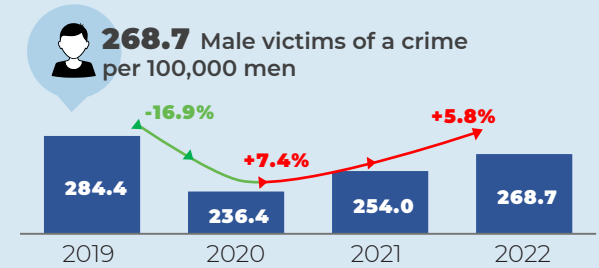
Women are **seven times** more likely than men to become victims of crimes such as sexual offenses and intrafamily violence.



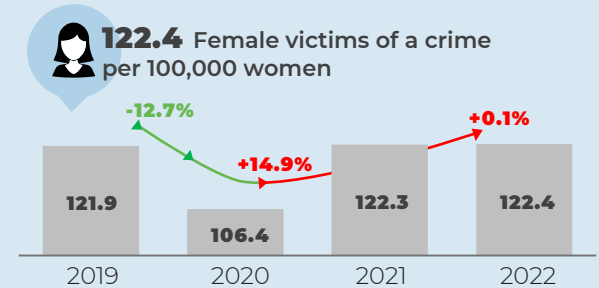
Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police in process of validation by INE.

## By 2022, the crime incidence rate for women had already surpassed pre-pandemic levels since 2021 and continues to trend upward after the rebound effect registered in 2021.

The incidence of crime against men increased by 5.8 percent in 2022, primarily due to a rise in homicides, injuries, theft and extortion. As of 2022, the incidence of crime against men recorded by the PNC was below pre-pandemic levels (2019).

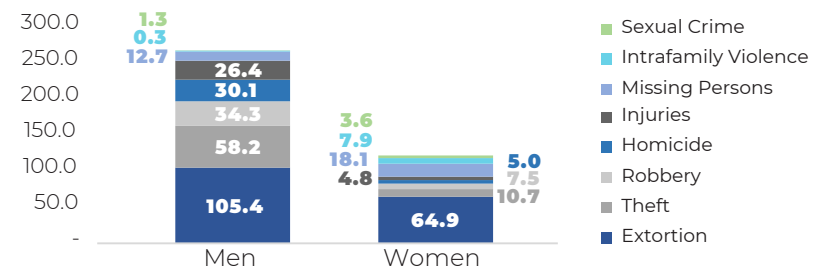


In 2022, there was a slowdown in the upward trend in crime incidence against women, mainly because there was an overall reduction in offenses that had had higher rates among women (intrafamily violence and sexual crime). Nevertheless, it is important to cross-check these records with the reports filed at the Public Ministry.



Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police in process of validation by INE.

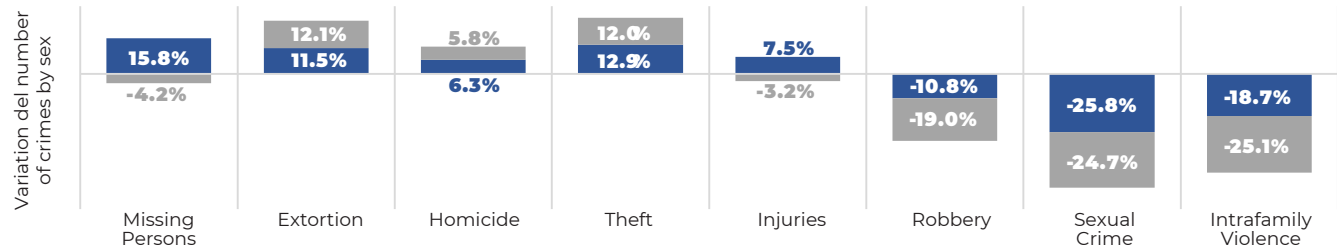
### Crime Rate per 100,000 population 2022



In 2022, extortion, homicide and theft were highest in both men and women in relation to 2021. Conversely, robberies, sexual offenses and domestic violence were lower for both sexes compared to 2021.

In the cases of persons reported missing and persons with crime-related injuries, there was an increase in the number of men, while there was a decrease in women.

Variation in the number of crimes 2022/2021

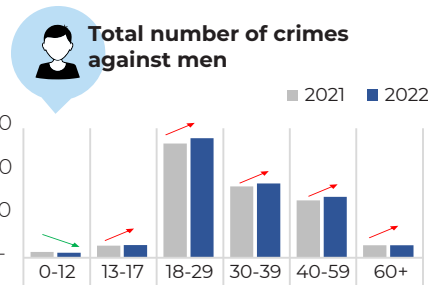


Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police in process of validation by INE.

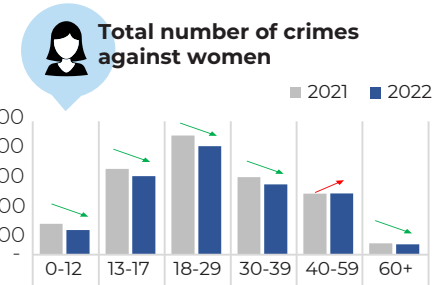
## In 2022, young men registered a higher victimization rate, while women, aged 40 to 59 years old, were the main victims of theft and injuries.

In 2022, in all age groups, men exhibited a rise in incidents of crime, excepting boys ages 0 to 12.

The greatest surge was among young 18- to 29-year-old males, primarily in terms of theft, missing person reports and injuries.



In 2022, only women ages 40 to 59 exhibited a rise in victimization, primarily in categories of theft, homicide and injuries.



The Figure does not include extortion as the information has not been disaggregated by age. - Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police in process of validation by INE.

## Homicides

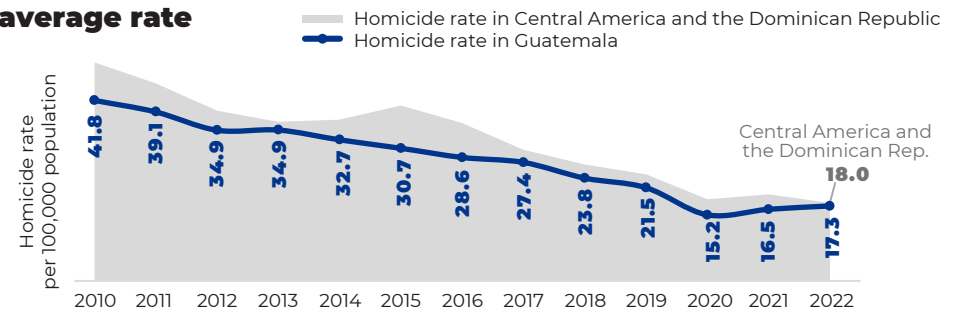
Every life counts  
**3,004** victims of homicide

**8** people per day

### Guatemala registered a lower homicide rate than the average rate in Central American and the Dominican Republic.

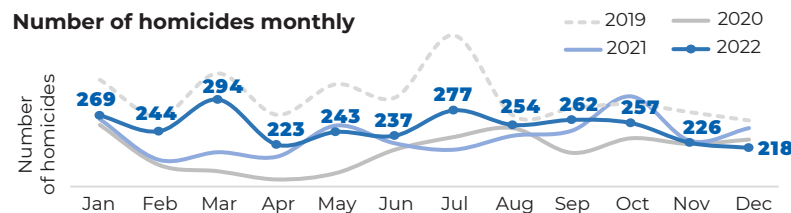
The homicide rate in Guatemala in 2022, closed at 17.3 homicides per 100,000 population, that is 0.7 points lower than the rate in Central America and the Dominican Republic (18.0).

In 2022 records show there is less of a difference between rates in recent years, this due to the significant decline in the homicide rate in certain Central American countries. However, Guatemala reported a higher rate in comparison with 2021.



InfoSegura calculations based on preliminary data from institutions in each country on the internet: <https://infosegura.org/2023/01/12/tres-datos-positivos-para-comenzar-el-ano>  
Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police in process of validation by INE.

The reduction in homicides in the last quarter of the year, offset to some extent the rising trend registered during the first half of 2022.



**Plan 30-2022 PNC.** The decline in homicide during the last quarter might be attributed to actions implemented in the National Civil Police 30-2022 Plan. The Plan consisted of setting up checkpoints and conducting searches in strategic places, patrolling, perimeter inspections, and others, and was supported by the Army of Guatemala. This was done at the national level, with priority in the departments of Guatemala and Escuintla.

Plan 30-2022 on the internet: <https://mingob.gob.gt/plan-30-2022-enfocado-en-reducir-criminalidad-a-nivel-nacional/> - Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police in process of validation by INE.

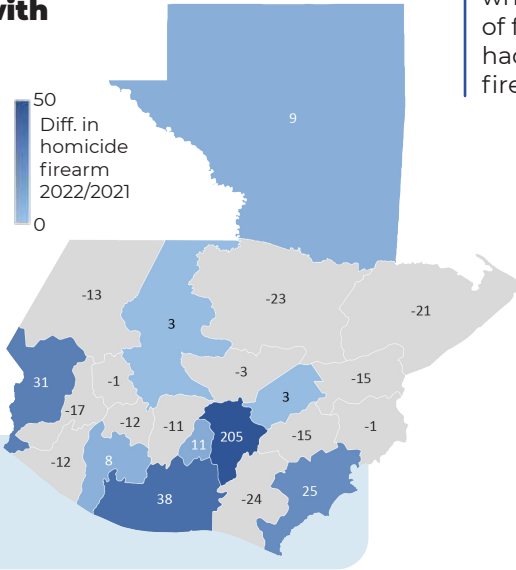
**In 2022, eight in ten homicides were carried out with a firearm, with records showing a +7.1 percent surge in the use of firearms with regard to 2021.**

**Variation in the number of homicides involving firearms, 2022**

**+14.0%** Rise in the number of homicides of women involving firearms

**+6.1%** Rise in the number of homicides of men involving firearms

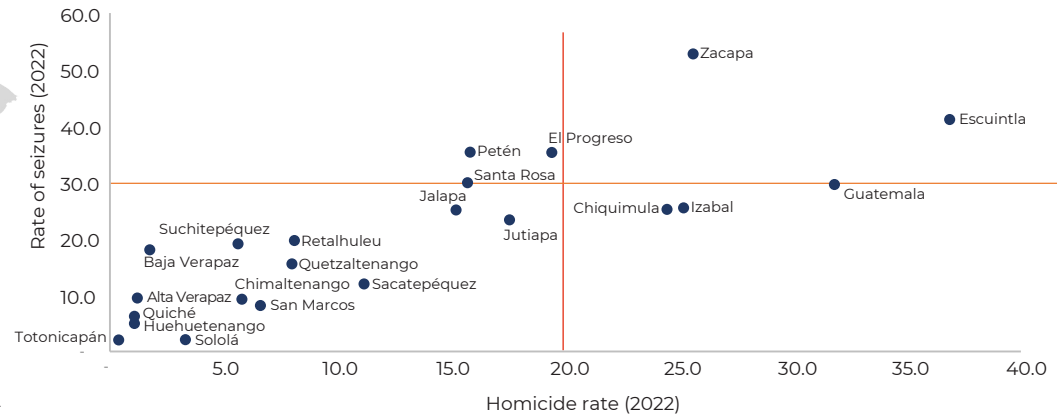
In 2022, the departments of Guatemala, Escuintla, San Marcos and Jutiapa exhibited the greatest rise in homicides involving firearms.



During 2022, the departments where the greatest number of firearms were seized, also had the highest rates of firearm-related homicides.

In 2022, the National Civil Police seized 3,332 firearms. Seizures in the departments of Izabal and Chiquimula register low in relation to the elevated homicide rates reported during 2022.

**Seizure rate and Homicide rate per 100,000 population 2022**



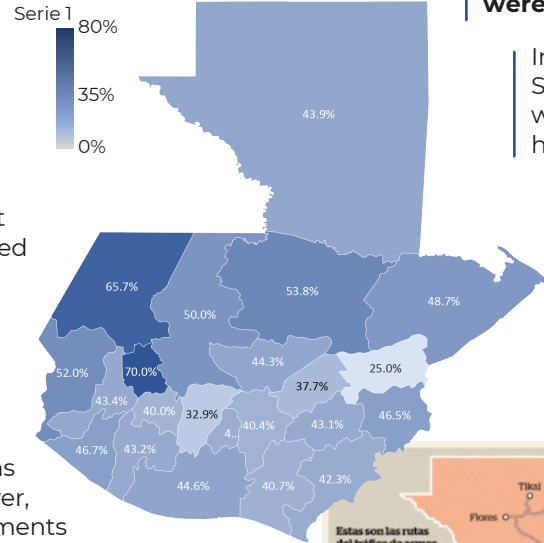
Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police, INE validation pending.

The departments of Huehuetenango, Tonicapán, Alta Verapaz, Baja Verapaz and San Marcos registered a high proportion of unregistered firearms seized, possibly tied to illegal weapons trade.

The departments on the illegal weapons trade route—according to the National Civil Police—report a greater proportion of unregistered firearms seized, namely the departments of Huehuetenango, San Marcos, Alta Verapaz, Izabal and Petén.

The proportion of unregistered firearms in eastern departments is lower, with one in three weapons seized being unregistered. However, rates of homicide in these departments are high. The departments in the east have a strong culture of firearm possession.

**Proportion of unregistered weapons seized**

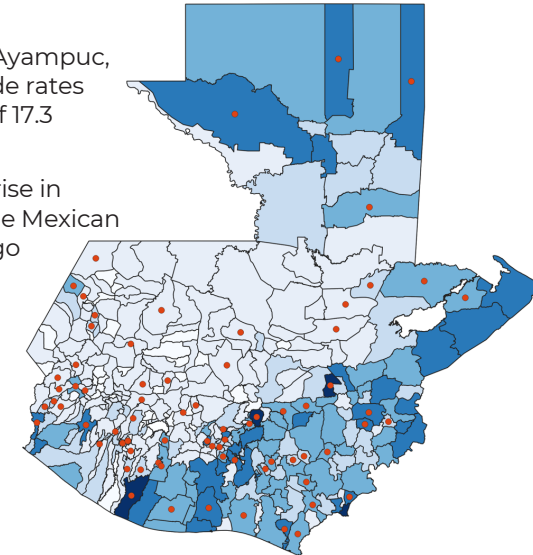


**In 45.6 percent of municipalities (155/340) the homicide rates in 2022 were lower than the pre-pandemic levels (2019); however, a significant percentage (28.2%) were higher.**

In the municipalities of Tiquisate, San Pedro Ayampuc, San Cristobal Aguascalán and Jeréz, homicide rates were 4 times greater than the national rate of 17.3 homicides per 100,000 population.

Compared to 2019 and 2021, there was a rise in homicides in more municipalities near the Mexican border in San Marcos and Huehuetenango departments, and municipalities in the southwest showed an increase in the number of homicides as well.

The municipalities of Guatemala, Villa Nueva and Mixco accounted for 31.8 percent of all homicides in the country in 2022.



Major homicide 2021 and 2019

● Major

Homicide rate 2022

□ 0 - 6.6   □ 6.6 - 18.2   □ 18.2 - 32.9   □ 32.9 - 60   □ 60 - 100

Source: On the internet: Guatemala arms trafficking routes mirror drug trafficking hot spots <https://insightcrime.org/news/brief/guatemala-arms-trafficking-routes-mirrors-drug-trafficking-hot-spots/> 2022 National Civil Police.

Note: In calculating the total number of seized firearms, the following categories were omitted: illegal carrying of weapons, carrying weapons under the influence of alcohol, illegal transportation of weapons. Source: 2022 National Civil Police in process of validation by INE.



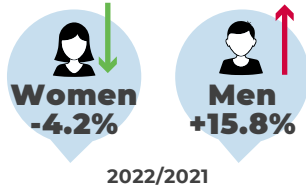
The municipalities of San Cristobal Aguascalán in Progreso, and Jeréz in Jutiapa homicide intensity is high (high rate) in relation to the population. Both municipalities registered populations of less than 8 thousand people in 2022, according to 2018 CENSUS Projections.

Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police, INE validation pending.

# Persons reported missing

**At least four women were reported missing every day during 2022.**

**6 in 10** Persons Reported Missing were Women

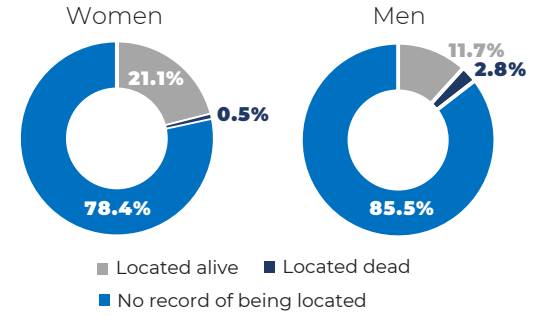


Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police, INE validation pending.

In 2022, out of 2,497 persons reported missing on record with the National Civil Police, **36 were found dead.**

Of the total number of persons reported missing in 2022, the proportion found dead was greater in males (2.8%) than females (0.5%).

For their part, PNC records show that two in ten women reported missing were found alive. Conversely, in men only one man was found alive for every ten missing.

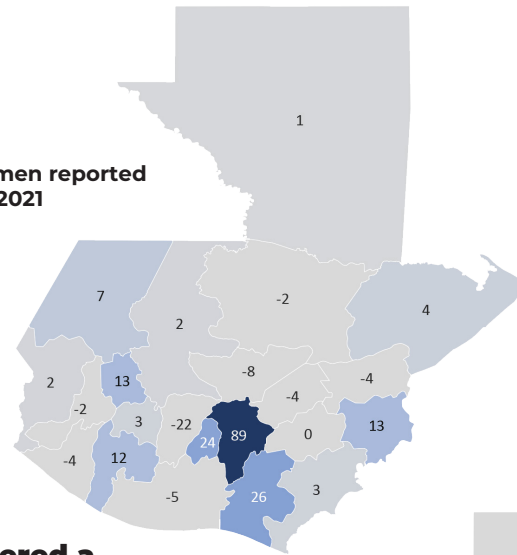
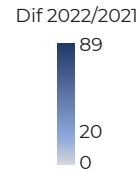


Source: 2013-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022. National Civil Police, INE validation pending.

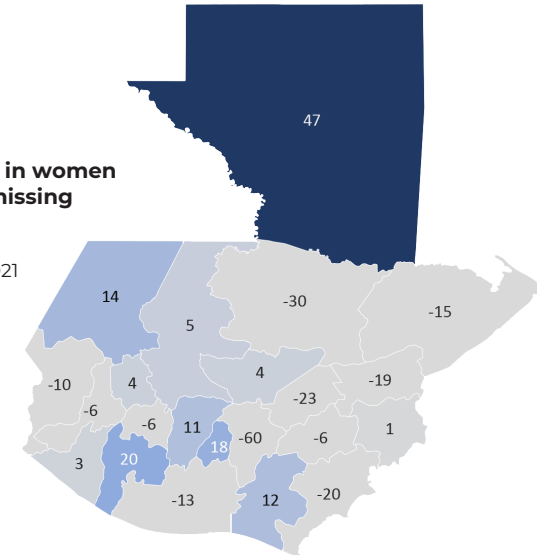
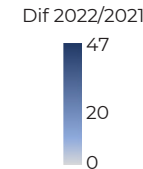
**Reports of missing persons on record with the National Civil Police varied by department and sex.**

The number of men rose, mainly in the departments of Guatemala and Santa Rosa. Notwithstanding the overall reduction in the number of women reported missing, in the departments of Petén and Retalhuleu, there was a significant increase.

**Difference in men reported missing 2022-2021**



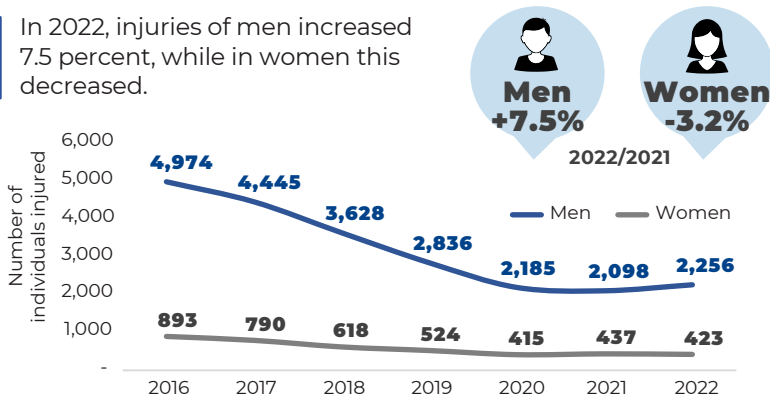
**Difference in women reported missing 2022-2021**



# Crime-related injuries

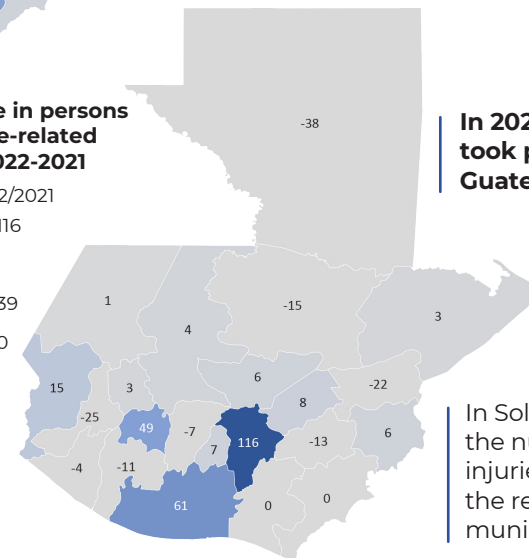
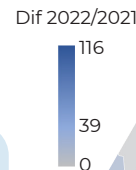
**Compared to 2019, the National Civil Police registered a lower number of persons with crime-related injuries in 2022, falling short of pre-pandemic figures.**

In 2022, injuries of men increased 7.5 percent, while in women this decreased.



In 2022, there was a rise in the number of men and women injured with a firearm.

**Difference in persons with crime-related injuries 2022-2021**



**In 2022, five in ten crime-related injuries took place in the department of Guatemala.**

Guatemala and Escuintla, the departments with the greatest number of crime-related injuries, also registered the highest number of homicides in 2022.

In Sololá, records show a significant hike in the number of persons with crime-related injuries. Some 75 percent of injuries were the result of social conflict between the municipality of Nahuála and Ixtahuacán.

Source: 2016-2020 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2021. National Civil Police, INE validation pending.

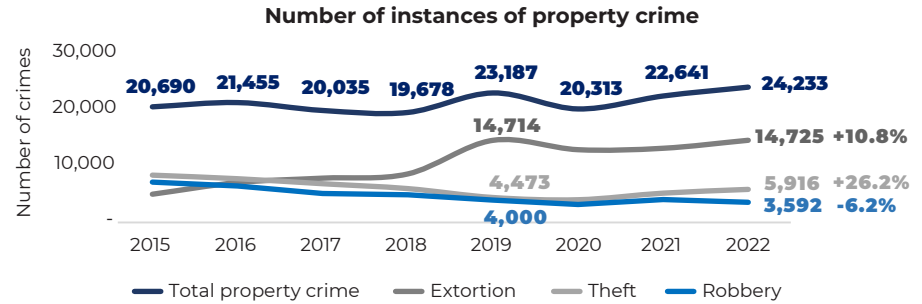
Source: 2021 INE with data provided by the National Civil Police, 2022 National Civil Police pending INE validation.

# Property Crimes

Police records show that—every day in 2022—there were 66 incidents against property which received the assistance of the National Civil Police.

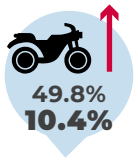
139.6 Victims of extortion, robbery and theft per 100,000 population, during 2022.

Incidents against property were 11.1 percent higher than in 2021, and are already greater than pre-pandemic levels, primarily in the case of extortion and theft.

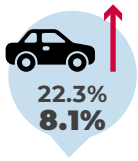


Source: 2015-2021 INE with data provided by National Civil Police, 2022 National Civil Police, INE validation pending.

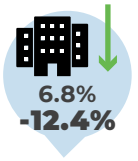
## Compared to 2021:



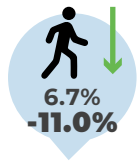
Motorcycles



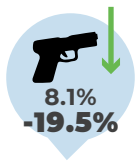
Vehicles



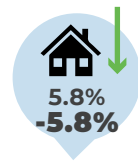
Businesses



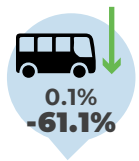
Pedestrians



Firearms



Households



Transportation

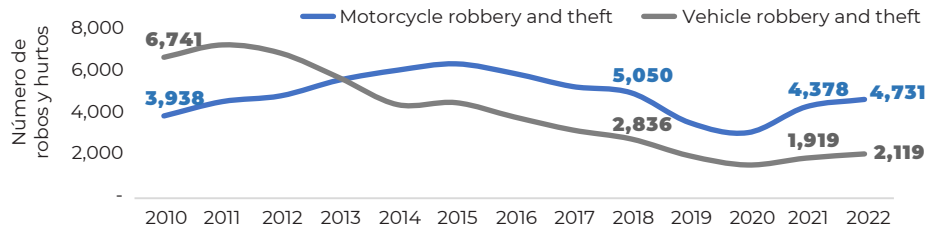
In 2022, out of all robberies and thefts on record with the National Civil Police, only those of motorcycles and vehicles exhibited an increase.

In 2022, 5 out of 10 robberies and thefts PNC responded to were motorcycle robbery or theft.

Source: 2021 INE with data provided by the National Civil Police, 2022 National Civil Police pending INE validation.

In 2022, vehicle and motorcycle robbery and theft grew 8.8 percent, making them the most reported crimes in the National Perception of Security and Victimization Survey of 2018.

These two indicators are the thermometer for property crime incidence, possibly reflecting a rise in victimization, exceeding pre-pandemic levels.



Percentage of crimes reported to any authority (ENPEVI-2018)



In 2022, there were more instances of robbery and theft of vehicles involving women drivers (+17.5%) than men (+8.9%).

Source: 2021 INE with data provided by the National Civil Police, 2022 National Civil Police pending INE validation. National Survey on Perception of Security and Victimization ENPEVI-2018, MINGOB-INE.

In 2022, seven in ten robberies and thefts took place in the departments of Guatemala and Escuintla, with both departments registering higher case numbers in relation to 2021, and already exceeding pre-pandemic figures (2019).

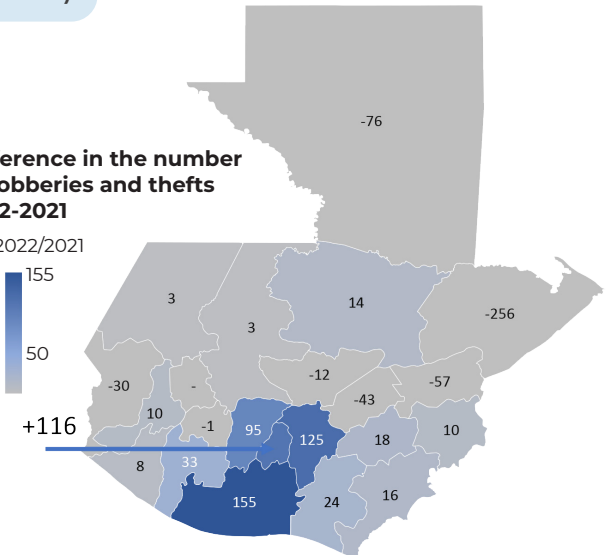
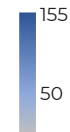
There has been a noticeable overall downturn in the robbery and theft of motorcycles in all municipalities in the department of Izabal. This may possibly have to do with the greater presence of the National Civil Police involved in different operational plans in the territory.

A significant increase took place in Sacatepéquez, primarily in the municipalities of Antigua Guatemala, Ciudad Vieja, Sumpango y Santa Lucia Milpas Altas. The first two are important tourist spots. Primarily this involves the robbery and theft of motorcycles, automobiles and residential burglary.

Source: 2021 INE with data provided by the National Civil Police, 2022 National Civil Police pending INE validation.

Difference in the number of robberies and thefts 2022-2021

Dif 2022/2021

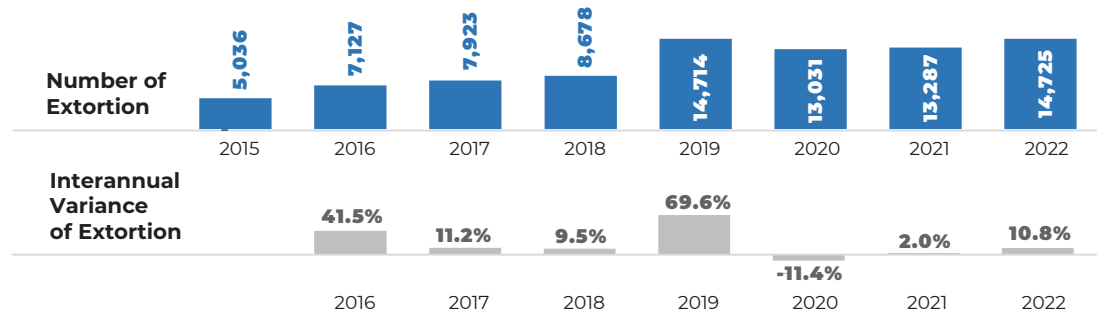


## Citizens reported more instances of extortion in 2022

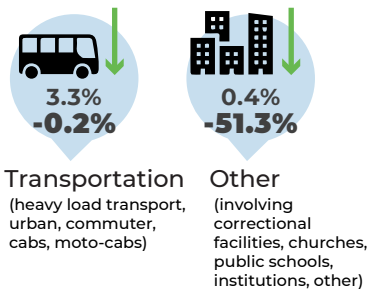
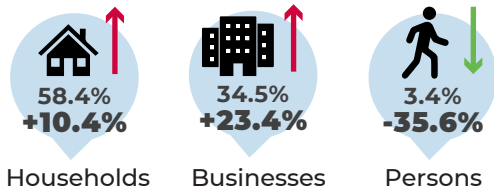
In 2022, the number of cases of extortion exceeded the high pre-pandemic figures (2019).

Extortion has exhibited no significant decline in relation to the lockdown measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, registering an average of 13 thousand reports per year since 2019.

Source: 2021 INE with data provided by the National Civil Police, 2022 National Civil Police pending INE validation.



### Extortion in 2021:



In 2022, approximately six in ten cases of extortion targeted households, with 8,600 reported instances, the greatest number of reports registered in the last nine years.

Source: 2021 INE with data provided by the National Civil Police, 2022 National Civil Police pending INE validation.

## Credits

Guatemala: National Civil Police of Guatemala (PNC), Ministry of Governance, National Statistics Institute (INE). Processed by InfoSegura Guatemala.

[www.infosegura.org](http://www.infosegura.org)

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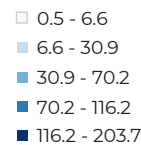
The departments of Guatemala, Sacatepéquez, Baja Verapaz, El Progreso and Santa Rosa registered greatest increase in reports of extortion of households and businesses in relation to 2021, exceeding pre-pandemic levels (2019).

The rise in extortion of households and businesses is concentrated in departments in the center of the country, which share a border with the department of Guatemala.

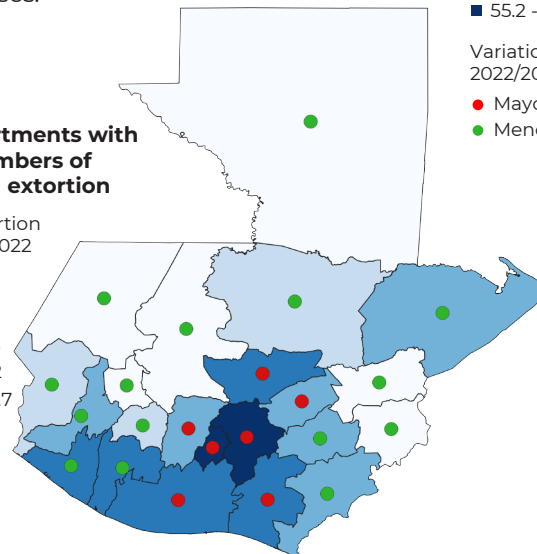
In 2022, in the department of Guatemala alone, six in ten businesses reported extortion, and five in ten households. Concentrated in the department with the largest urban population and number of businesses.

### 7/22 departments with higher numbers of household extortion

Rate of extortion (business), 2022

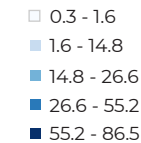


Variation 2022/2021



### 9/22 departments with higher numbers of business extortion

Rate of extortion (business), 2022



Variation 2022/2021

