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GUATEMALA

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE LIFE CYCLE, 2022

- **Preliminary considerations**

 - **The continuum of violence:**
 - **Violence against women**
 - **Violent deaths of women/femicide**
 - **Rape or aggravated rape**
 - **Women reported missing**
 - **Human trafficking**
-



CONTINUUM OF VIOLENCE

This refers to a momentum and continuity of violence throughout women's lives, where the norm and the constant is violence directed against them, always and everywhere.

Source: UNDP and USAID, 2016.

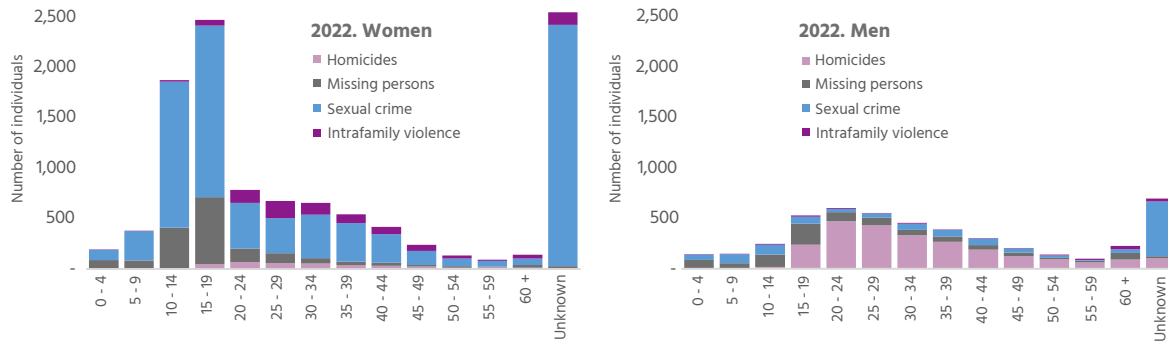
The Continuum of Violence Against Women: a citizen security and human rights issue



▶ The continuum of violence affects women differently than men.

Women and girls were primarily the victims of sexual crime and disappearances, whereas men were the main victims of homicidal violence.

Sexual violence tends to be recurring and has long-term effects on the survivors.



Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS.



In 2022, approximately one in 100 women and girls became a victim who reported any of the types of violence against women and other related crimes.

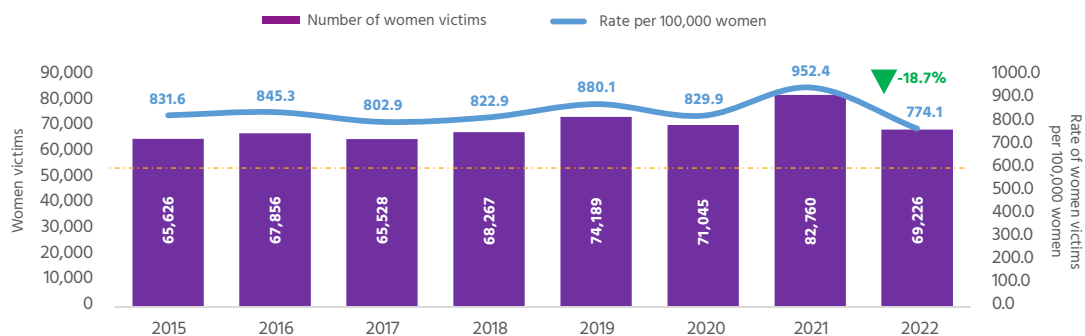
Per 100,000 women:

- 692** Women and girls who are victims of violence against women
- 77** Women and girls who are victims of rape/aggravated rape
- 5** Women and girls who are victims of homicide
- 3** Women and girls who are victims of human trafficking
- 1** Women and girls who are casualties of femicide*

*Includes homicide

Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS. Note: Reported figures have been rounded.

▶ In 2022, there was a noticeable downturn in the number of reports of women, in contrast with 2021 when there was a rise that may have been the result of the greater number of reports of incidents that had gone unreported in 2020 due to the COVID-19 related lockdown measures that had been in place.



This includes cases of women and girls victims of violence against women, rape, aggravated rape, human trafficking and femicide.

Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS.

The number of women who reported some form of violence against women and other related offenses was lower in 2022, possibly as a result of the efforts underway in this country with the implementation of programs for the prevention of- and attention to violence against women, as well as other prevention and awareness-raising campaigns. These outcomes may have had an impact or are reflected in 2022. However, it is important to keep other factors in mind that could have an influence on the reduction, because the available information is limited to filed reports, which do not provide a full picture of the situation.

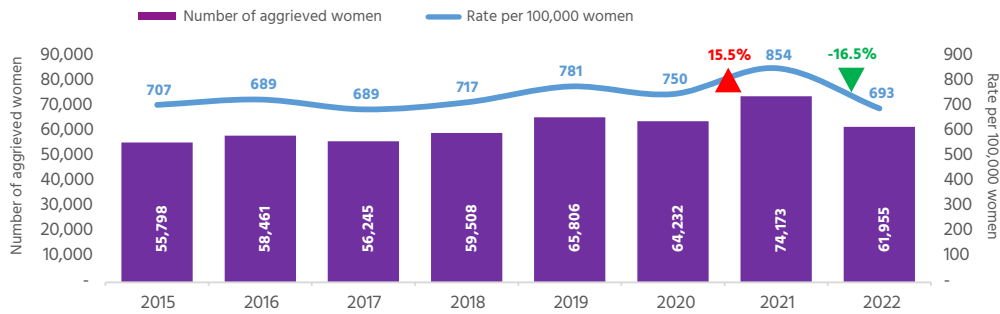
Violence against Women

Violence against women is "any gender-based act or behavior, which leads to the death or physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, whether in the public or the private sphere."

Source: Law against Femicide and Other Forms of Violence Against women, 2008.

► Every day in 2022, it is estimated that 170 women and girls were victims of violence against women.

By the end of 2022, reports of women and girls who were victims of violence against women dropped 16.5 per cent in relation to the previous year, a significant reduction compared to 2021. During the COVID-19 pandemic, women and girls had been exposed to greater levels of violence; however these reports could have been filed in later months, even in 2021, which could explain the rise in cases reported this year.

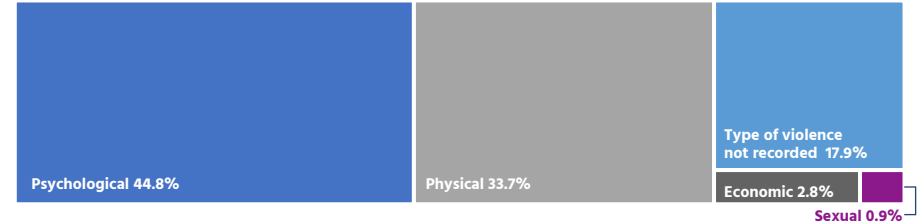


Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS.

► In 2022, all records show reductions in different types of violence, except for economic violence.

Available information on the variable – **Types of violence against women** –, four in 10 victims were subjected to psychological violence and approximately three to physical violence.

Percentage aggrieved women by type of violence against women (2022)

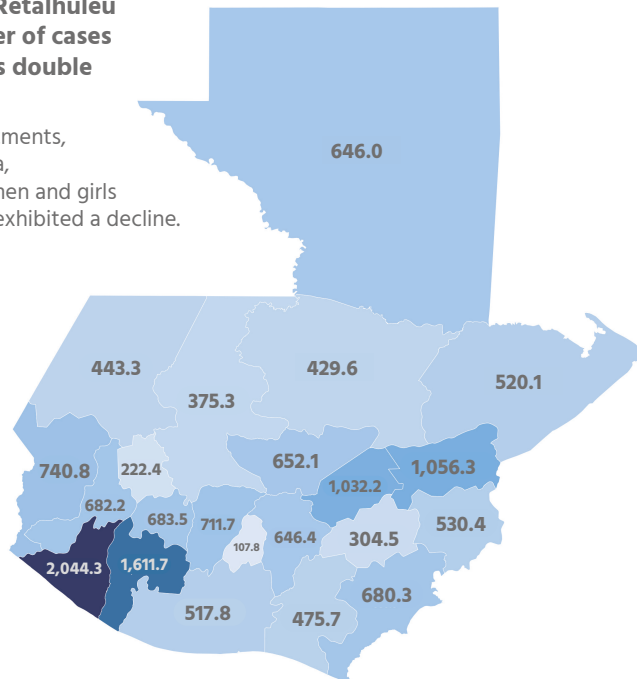
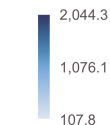


Types of Violence	Var 2022/2021
Psychological	▼ -18.7%
Physical	▼ -7.7%
Type of Violence not recorded	▼ -26.7%
Sexual	▼ -8.8%
Economic	▲ +0.4%

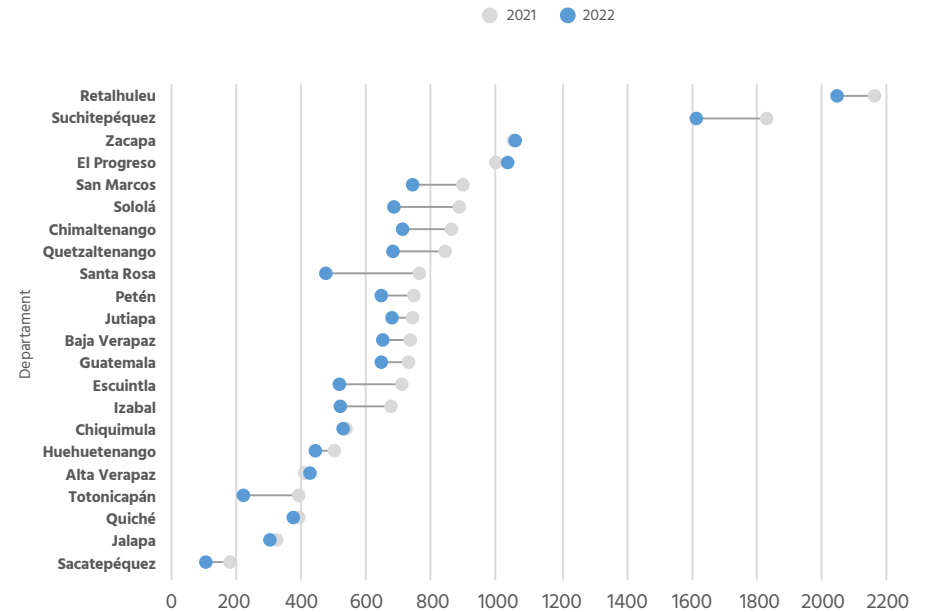
► In 2022, in the departments of Retalhuleu and Suchitepéquez, the number of cases of violence against women was double the national average.

Only three of the country's 22 departments, El Progreso, Alta Verapaz and Zacapa, experienced a rise in the rate of women and girls compared to 2021, while all the rest exhibited a decline.

Rate of victims of violence against women 2022



Rate of victims of violence against women (per 100,000 women)

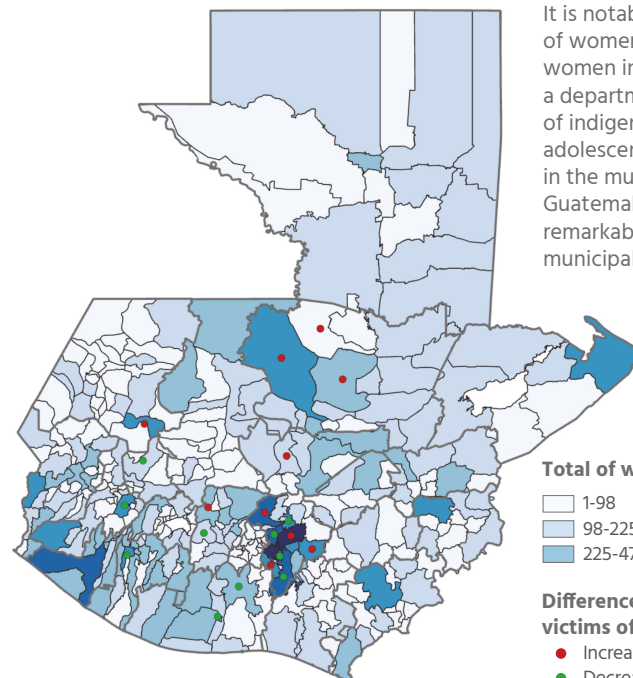


Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS.

► **Most victims in cases of violence against women are in municipalities in the department of Guatemala, in the southwest and the north-central part of the country.**

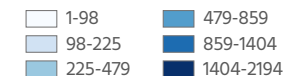
Municipalities with the greatest increase and reduction in the rate of women and girls who were victims of violence against women (2022)

Municipality, Department	Number of women victims (2022)	Dif 2022-2021
Guatemala, Guatemala	2,194	483
Guatemala, San Juan Sacatepéquez	1,132	475
Huehuetenango, Huehuetenango	605	171
Alta Verapaz, San Pedro Carchá	313	136
Guatemala, San José Pinula	608	125
Alta Verapaz, Cobán	649	123
Baja Verapaz, Rabinal	118	113
Alta Verapaz, Chisec	96	94
Guatemala, Amatitlán	859	88
Chimaltenango, Tecpán	479	87
Quetzaltenango, Quetzaltenango	771	- 222
Escuintla, Escuintla	245	- 244
Chimaltenango, Patzún	179	- 247
Suchitepéquez, Mazatenango	834	- 247
Totonicapán, Momostenango	148	- 260
Escuintla, La Democracia	140	- 264
Guatemala, Mixco	1,251	- 383
Guatemala, Chinautla	596	- 561
Guatemala, San Miguel Petapa	724	- 795
Guatemala, Villa Canales	974	- 825



It is notable to see the increase in the number of women who experienced violence against women in the municipality of Alta Verapaz, a department with a significant proportion of indigenous women and a high number of adolescent pregnancies. On the other hand, in the municipalities of the department of Guatemala, there was a reduction, which is remarkable because these are very urban municipalities.

Total of women victims of VAW (2022)



Difference in total of women victims of VAW (2022-2021)



Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS.

National Civil Police records of violent deaths of women and girls

Homicides registered by the National Civil Police, these cases are pending being classified as femicide, homicide, etc. according to legal typification.

► **In 2022, at least one woman or girl died violently every day in Guatemala.**

The rate of violent deaths of women and girls was 4.9 per 100,000 women in 2022, higher in relation to 2021 and 2020; however, this is still lower than rates registered prior to the pandemic.

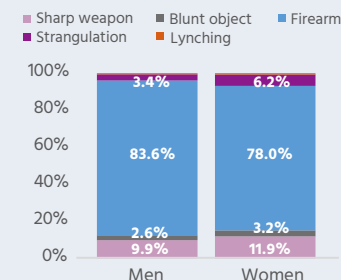


Source: Guatemala 2010-2021 National Statistics Institute. National Civil Police 2022 data in process of validation by the INE. Demographic projections based on the 2018 CENSUS

► **There is more cruelty involved in homicides of women than men. In 2022, proportionately, use of sharp weapons and blunt objects against women was greater, and strangulation is almost double compared to men.**

Firearms were used in almost eight out of 10 homicides of women in 2022.

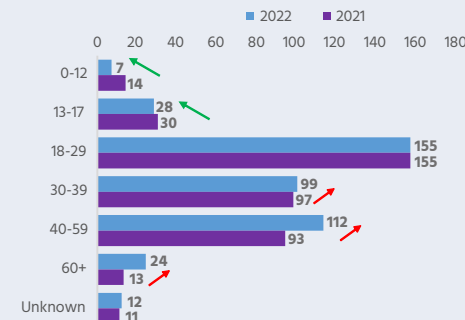
Homicides by type of weapon and sex 2022



► **Young women ages 18 to 29 were the primary victims of lethal violence.**

In 2022, the greatest increase in homicides of women was among those ages 40 to 59. Conversely, a steep decline in homicides of women under the age of 17 was registered.

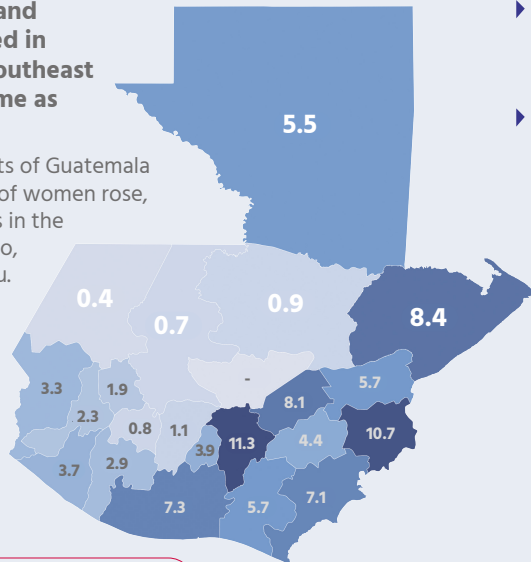
Number of homicides of Women



► **Homicides of women and girls were concentrated in the center, east and southeast of the country, the same as homicides of men.**

In 10 out of 22 departments of Guatemala the number of homicides of women rose, with the biggest increases in the departments of El Progreso, Chiquimula and Retalhuleu.

Homicide rate (per 100,000 women)



Retalhuleu registered a significant increase in the number of cases of violence against women as well.

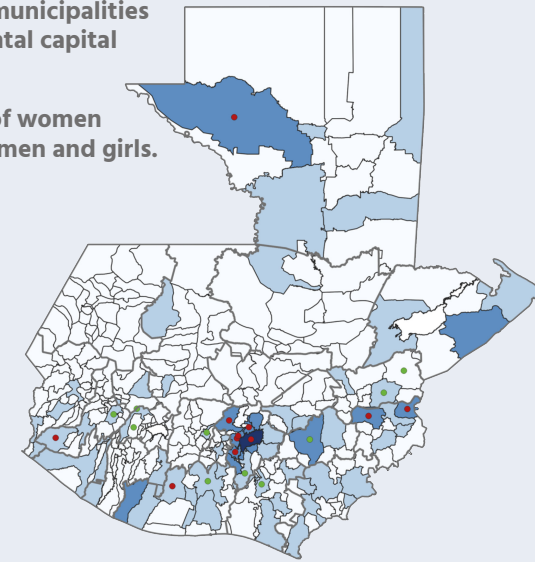
► **Homicides of women and girls were mainly perpetrated in municipalities in the department of Guatemala and in the main departmental capital cities.**

► **10 municipalities made up almost half of all violent deaths of women and girls in 2022 (48.3%), equivalent to 211 homicides of women and girls.**

Ten municipalities with the greatest rise in the number of homicides of women and girls (2022-2021)

Municipality, Department	Female Homicides 2021	Female Homicides 2022	Difference 2022-2021
Guatemala, Guatemala	74	95	21
Guatemala, San Juan Sacatepéquez	0	8	8
Chiquimula, Camotán	2	8	6
Quetzaltenango, Coatepeque	0	5	5
Petén, La Libertad	1	6	5
Chiquimula, Chiquimula	4	9	5
Guatemala, Chiantula	4	8	4
Guatemala, Mixco	17	21	4
Guatemala, Villa Nueva	30	34	4
Escuintla, Santa Lucía Cotzumalguapa	0	4	4

Out of 10 municipalities with the biggest increase in the number of homicides, five are in the department of Guatemala, these are very urban municipalities.



Rate of female homicide (2022)
 0-1 (lightest blue), 1-5 (light blue), 5-34 (medium blue), 34-95 (darkest blue)

Difference in the rate of female homicide (2022)
 Increase (red dot), Decrease (green dot)

Source: Guatemala 2010–2021 National Statistics Institute. National Civil Police 2022 data in process of validation by the INE. Demographic projections based on the 2018 CENSUS

Femicide

"Violent death of a woman, caused by unequal relationship of power between men and women in exerting gender power against women."

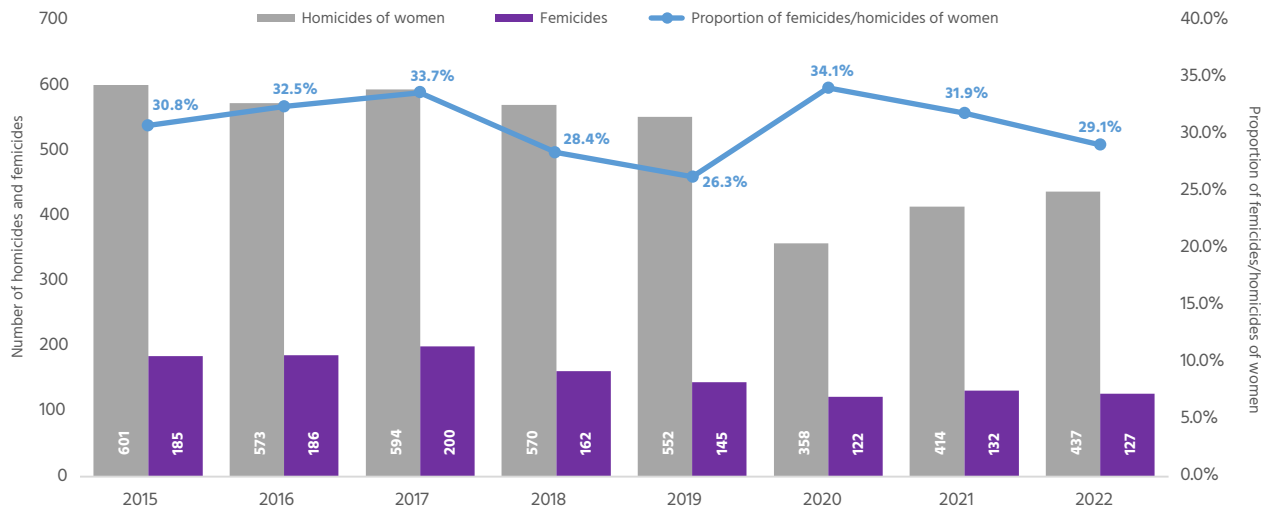
Source: Law against Femicide and Other Forms of Violence Against women, 2008.

► **In 2022, the Ocatepeque Public Ministry incidents typified a smaller proportion of incidents as femicides compared to the homicides of women registered by the police (29.1%), compared to the last two years.**

The enactment of the Law Against Femicide and Other Forms of Violence Against Women (2008) has led to the recognition of femicides as a legal category.

However, investigating whether hate is the motive behind this type of crime remains a challenge in Guatemala, since only 29.1% of these homicides were typified as femicide in 2022.

The rise in cases under investigation (number of homicides of women) could have to do with the reduction in efficiency in case investigation.



Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS.

Rape

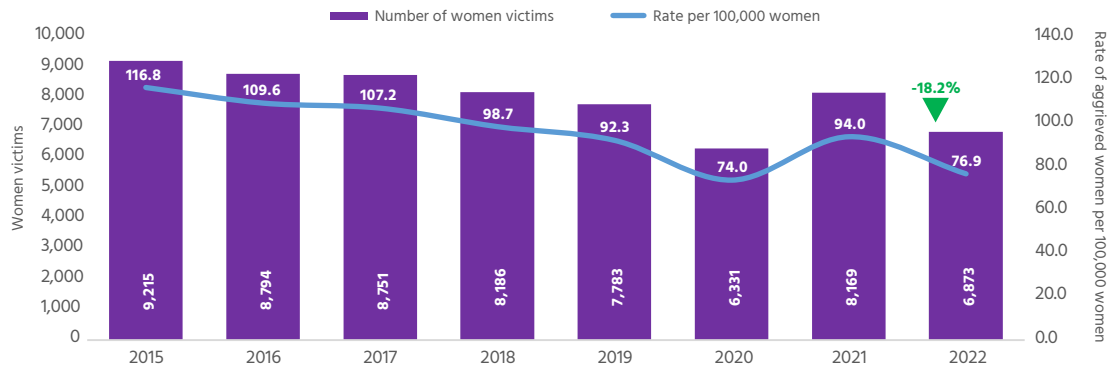
Offenses in this section are as established as such in the reform to Criminal Code article 173, Decree 17-73 of the Congress of the Republic.

Source: Law against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and Human Trafficking, Decree 09-2009

In Guatemala, on average, 19 rapes of women and girls were reported daily in 2022.

In 2022, there was an 18.2 per cent decline in reports of women victims of rape in relation to 2021, lower than pre-pandemic figures.

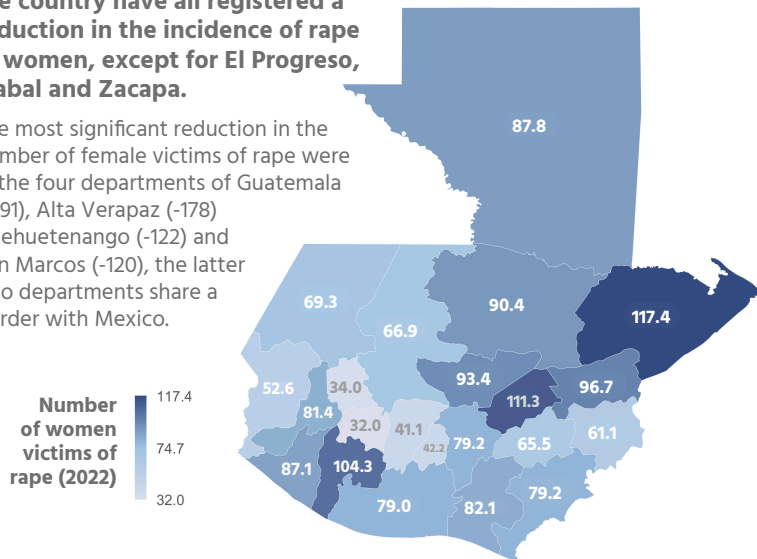
In 2020, rape registered 16.6 per cent lower than the previous year, possibly due to the restrictive measures imposed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, in 2021, it registers a significant increase (+27.1%) possibly due to incidents that occurred in 2020.



Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS.

In general, the departments in the country have all registered a reduction in the incidence of rape of women, except for El Progreso, Izabal and Zacapa.

The most significant reduction in the number of female victims of rape were in the four departments of Guatemala (-391), Alta Verapaz (-178) Huehuetenango (-122) and San Marcos (-120), the latter two departments share a border with Mexico.



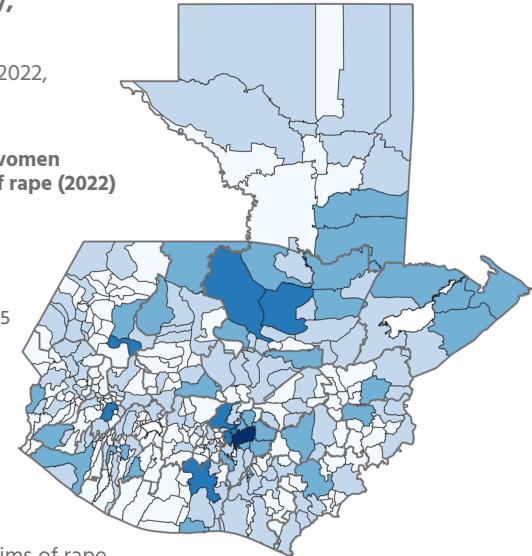
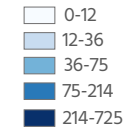
The municipalities with the most reported cases of rape of women and girls are in the north-central area of the country, some of them are primarily rural.

Ten municipalities accounted for 27.7 per cent of all records of rape in 2022, equivalent to 1,809 women and girls who were victims of rape.

Ten municipalities with the greatest number of rapes of women and girls (2022)

Municipality, Department	Number of aggrieved women of rape
Guatemala, Guatemala	725
Mixco, Guatemala	214
Escuintla, Escuintla	135
Huehuetenango, Huehuetenango	127
Quetzaltenango, Quetzaltenango	126
Cobán, Alta Verapaz	124
San Pedro Carchá, Alta Verapaz	106
San Juan Sacatepéquez, Guatemala	103
Mazatenango, Suchitepéquez	75
Morales, Izabal	74

Total of women victims of rape (2022)

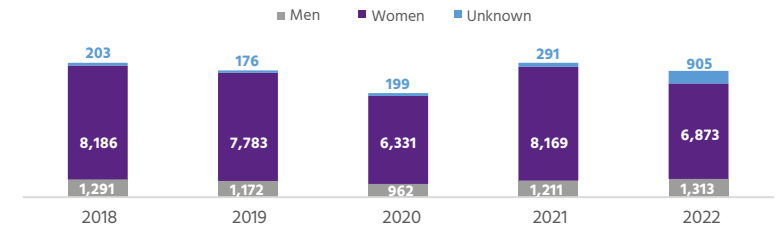


In the top 10 municipalities with the largest number of women victims of rape in 2022, six of them were department capitals.

Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS.

Approximately eight in 10 victims of rape were women and girls.

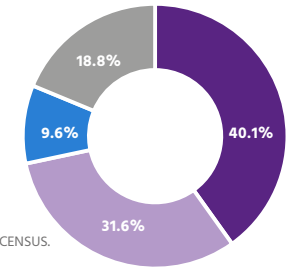
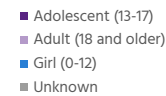
Number of individual victims of rape



Since in 2022, the Public Ministry has been including an Intersex category in the sex category, with one incident of rape during this year.

In 2022, approximately four in 10 women victims of rape were between 13 and 17 years of age.

Women and girls victims of rape 2022

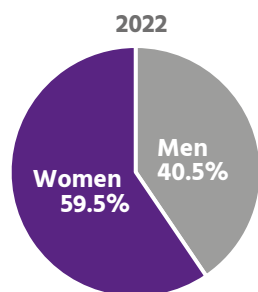
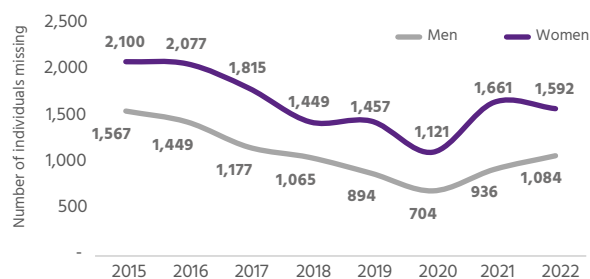


Missing women and girls

"A missing person is one whose whereabouts are unknown to his/her relatives and/or who, on the basis of reliable information, has been reported missing in accordance with national legislation in connection with an armed conflict, other situations of violence, a natural disaster or any other situation that may require the intervention of a competent State authority." Source: ICRC, 2012.

► In 2022 the police received at least four daily reports of missing women and girls.

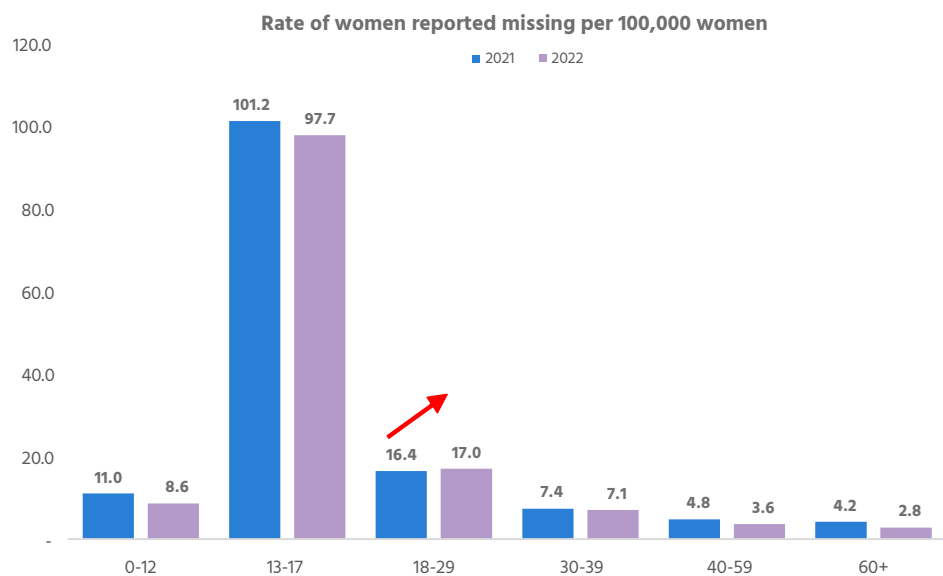
In 2022, there was a 4.2 per cent reduction in the number of women and girls reported missing. Out of every ten people reported missing by the National Civil Police, six were women and girls.



Source: Guatemala 2010–2021 National Statistics Institute. National Civil Police 2022 data in process of validation by the INE. Demographic projections based on the 2018 CENSUS

► Approximately one in every one thousand adolescent females ages 13 to 17 was reported missing during 2022.

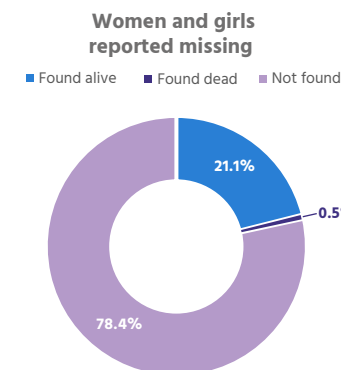
As of 2022, in all age groups, except women ages 18 to 29, the rate of women and girls reported missing was lower as compared to 2021.



Source: Guatemala 2010–2021 National Statistics Institute. National Civil Police 2022 data in process of validation by the INE. Demographic projections based on the 2018 CENSUS

► In 2022, out of 1,592 women and girls the National Civil Police registered as missing, eight women and girls were found dead.

Of the total number of women and girls registered as missing in 2022, the proportion who were located dead was 0.5 per cent, whereas 21.1 per cent were located alive.



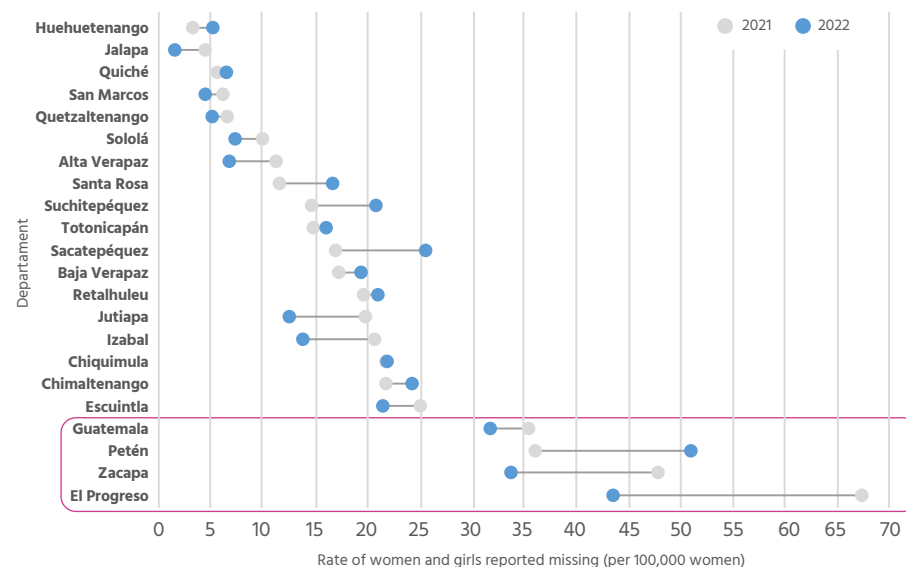
There are several possible reasons for the significant number of women reported missing with no record of having been found; for instance, they may, in fact, still be missing, or a failure to report once they were located, or these may be Alba-Keneth Warnings that cannot be deactivated until the judicial proceedings have concluded. This data quality issue requires further work.

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

► The departments of Petén, El Progreso, Zacapa and Guatemala registered the highest rates for women and girls reported missing during 2022.

Half of the country's 22 departments exhibit an increase in the missing person reports, whereas there was a decline in the rest.

Petén, Sacatepéquez and Suchitepéquez registered the largest increases, while El Progreso and Zacapa the most significant reductions.



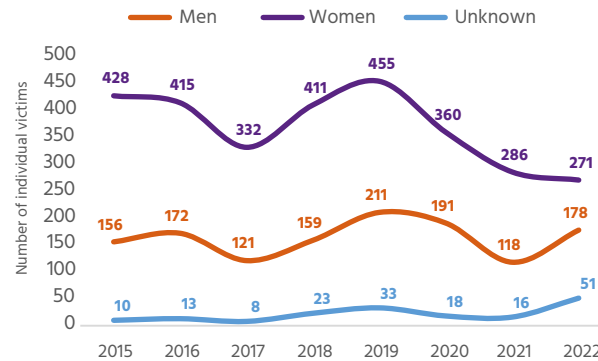
Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is "[...] the recruitment, transport, transfer, harboring or, receipt of persons by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs." Source: UNODC, 2007.

► In 2022, 15 fewer cases of trafficking in women and girls were reported with regard to the previous year.

In 2022, Guatemala registered a total 500 cases of Human Trafficking, 54.2 per cent of them involved women and girls.

Despite the noticeable drop in the number of cases trafficking in women compared to 2019, this reductions in 2020 and 2021 may have primarily been due to the curtailment of mobility because of restrictions to combat and contain the COVID-19 pandemic.

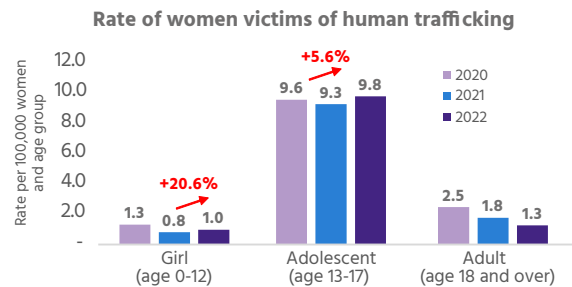


► Victims of human trafficking tend to be adolescent females, 13 to 17 years of age.

During 2022, in 33.9 per cent of cases, the age of victims was not recorded. It should be noted that, when receiving reports, all variables need to be collected, making it possible to conduct full analysis.

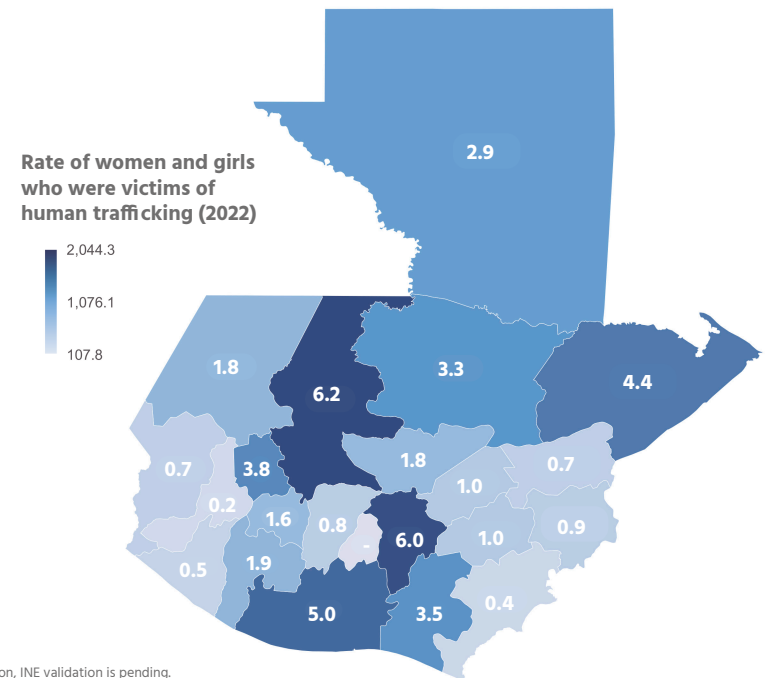
Available information on reported cases reveals that 40 per cent of women victims of human trafficking were under the age of 17.

The total number of women victims of trafficking registered a decline; however, there was a rise in trafficking of adolescent women and girls.



► The departments of Alta Verapaz, Guatemala and Escuintla registered the highest rates of women and girls who were victims of human trafficking during 2022.

Compared to 2021, the mostly-indigenous departments of Alta Verapaz (+182%), Quiché (+81.2%), Totonicapán (+40.8%) and San Marcos (+31.4%) registered a significant increase in the rate of women and girls who were victims of human trafficking.



Source: Data generated by the Fiscal and Technical Information System Department (SIFT Spanish acronym) on 14 March 2023, INE validation is pending. National Civil Police (PNC)-Statistics Section, INE validation is pending. Demographic projections as per the 2018 CENSUS.

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