

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Analysis of the State of Violence and Citizen Security January to December 2023



infoSEGURA

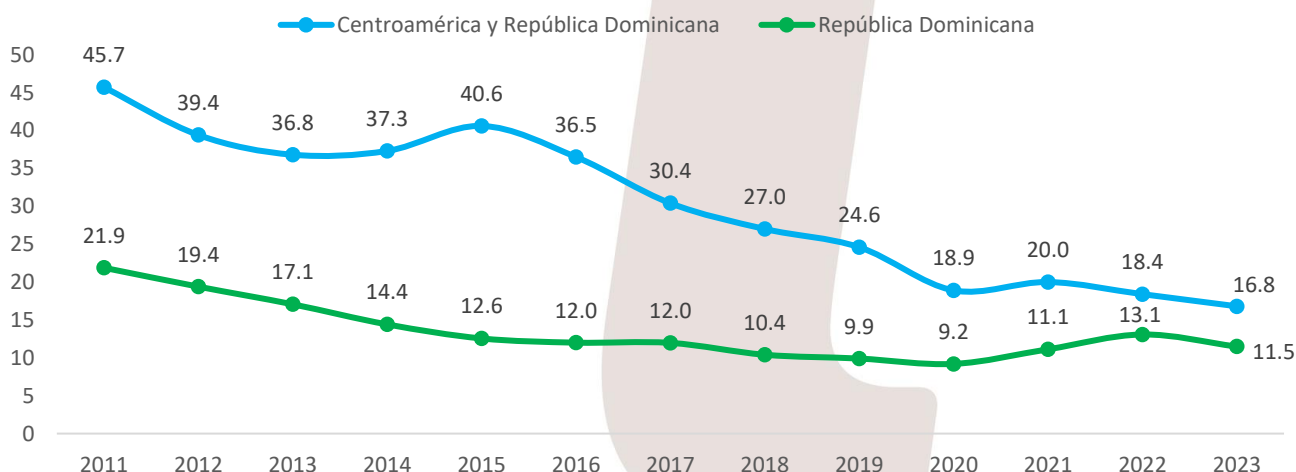
Overview

- In 2023, 1,237 cases of homicide were recorded. This represents a reduction of 152 individual victims in comparison with 2022.
- The homicide rate per 100,000 population in 2023 was 11.5, which is a 1.6-point reduction as compared to 2022.
- In 2023, there were approximately three male-victims of homicide every day, while one woman became a victim every three days.
- In 2023, there was a 12.4 per cent decrease in the number of female victims of homicide as compared to 2022. There was also a 10.8 per cent reduction in the number of male victims of homicide.
- In 2023, as in 2022, half of the victims of homicide were between the ages of 18 and 35, both male and female.
- Firearms remained the primary instrument employed in homicides, representing 54 per cent of the cases in 2023. It should be noted that this is the highest percentage registered in the last five years.
- Almost half of all homicides in 2023 had to do with disputes or arguments, representing 46.7 per cent of the total.
- Sundays registered a significant proportion of homicides in 2023, representing one out of every 4 cases. Similarly, one third of all homicides took place between 6 p.m. and midnight.
- Around 50 per cent of homicides were in the Provinces of Distrito Nacional, Santiago and Santo Domingo, which concentrate 45 per cent of the population nationwide.

Evidence

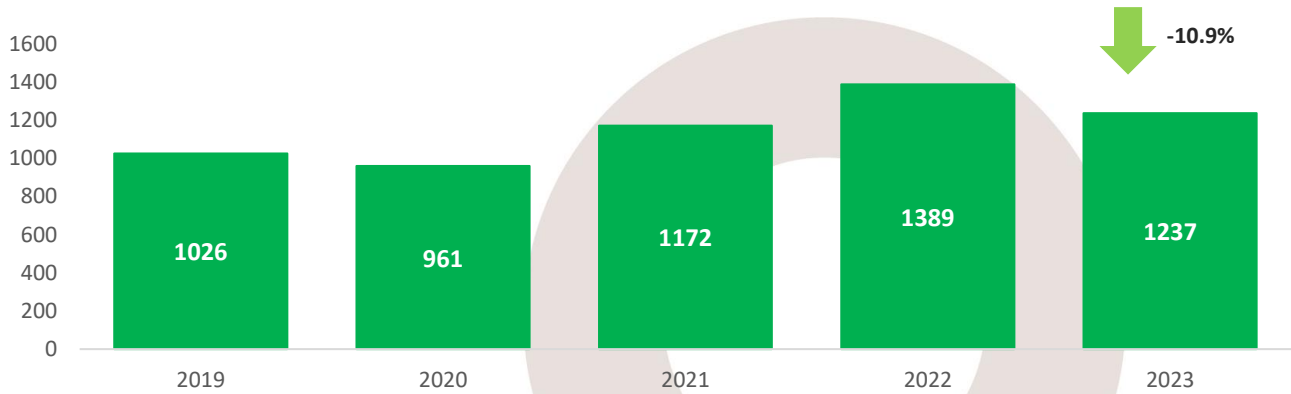
- Reductions in the homicide rate per 100,000 population can be seen in both the Dominican Republic and the subregion in 2023. It should be noted that in both cases the reduction in the homicide rate is 1.6 points.
- In the last 13 years, the homicide rate in the Dominican Republic has remained lower than the subregion, and it is clear that this gap has been gradually closing. Particularly, the differences in 2022 and 2023—5.3 and 5.8 respectively—are the narrowest gaps observed in this period.
- Although the 2023 homicide rate declined in the Dominican Republic, it should be noted that it was the second highest rate in the last 6 years.

Homicide rate Central America and the Dominican Republic —100,000 population



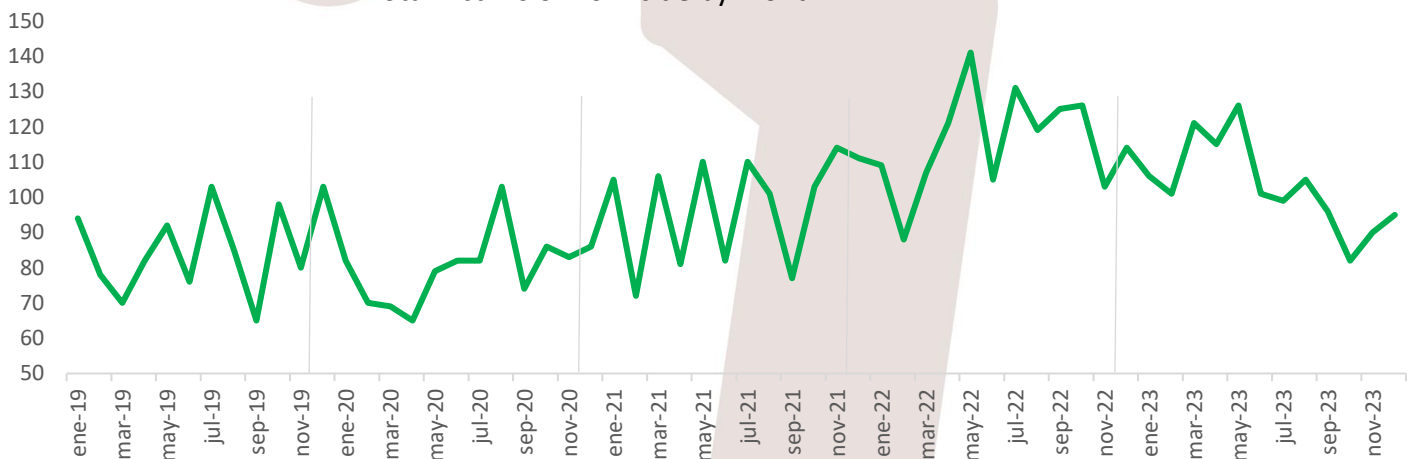
During 2023, there were 1,237 victims of homicide on record, some 152 fewer cases than in 2022, which represents a 10.9 per cent reduction.

Homicide victim total 2023



Following the rising trend that started in 2019 and was interrupted only during the lockdown in 2020, the number of homicide victims reached its highpoint in 2022. Nevertheless, in 2023, there were significant reductions as compared to the previous year. Over the course of ten months in 2023, the number of homicide victims registered a decline, except except for atypical behavior in February and March, registering the highest figures on record in the last five years. This increase may be attributed to an increase in the number of cases of disputes, intrafamily violence and drug-related crime during those months. Of special note are the reductions in October and July 2023, when there were 44 and 32 fewer victims respectively, in comparison with the same period in 2022.

Total victims of homicide by month



In 2023, there was an observable decrease in the total number of homicide victims, both male and female, as compared to 2022. Although the reduction in the proportion of women (-12.4%) was sharper than in men (-10.8%), male victims of homicide are still significantly more numerous than women, so that the absolute decrease was 133 men and 19 women. Consequently, 2023 was the second year with the lowest number of female victims of homicide in the last 5 years, only outdone by the year of the lockdown due to COVID-19. Meanwhile, the number of male homicide victims is the second highest in the last 5 years.



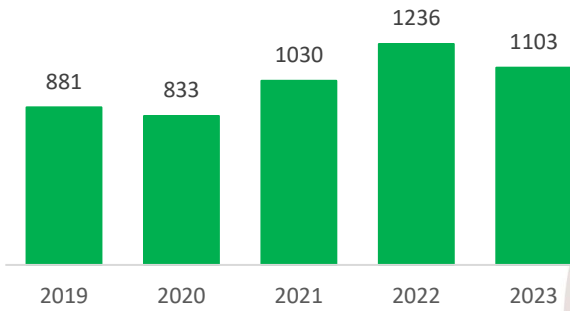
133 fewer male victims



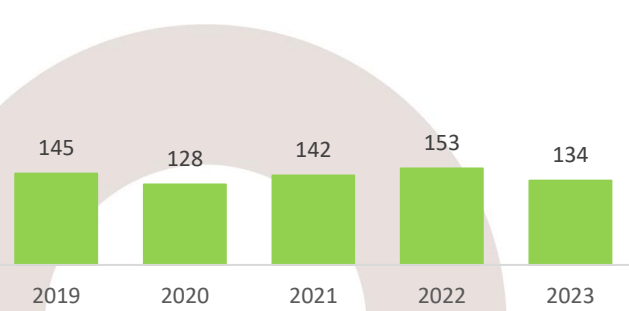
19 fewer female victims



Total male homicide victims

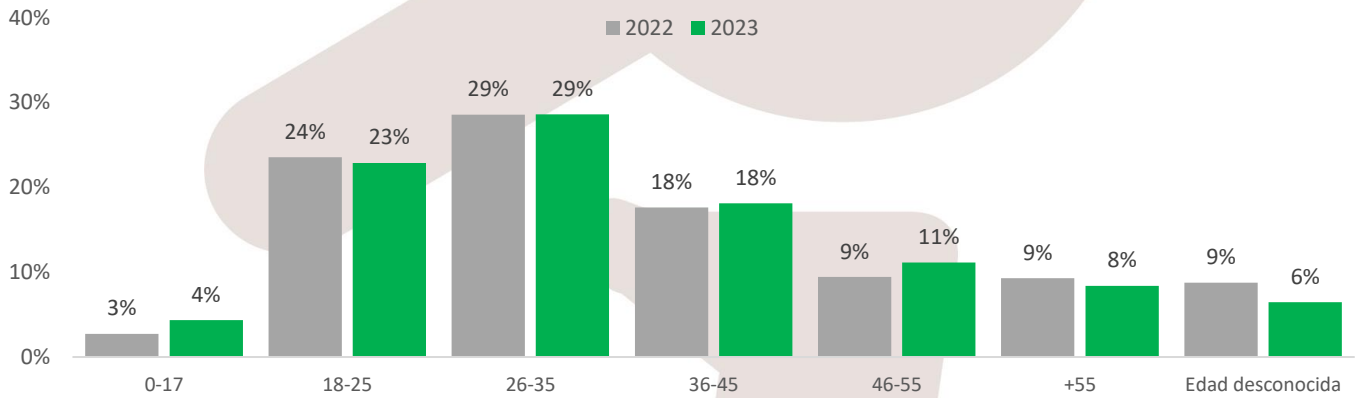


Total female homicide victims



In 2023, as in 2022, the age bracket between 18 and 35 represented approximately half of the victims of homicide (51%). Besides, there are no significant differences in age in general; variations between 2022 and 2023 are within a margin of one to two percentage points.

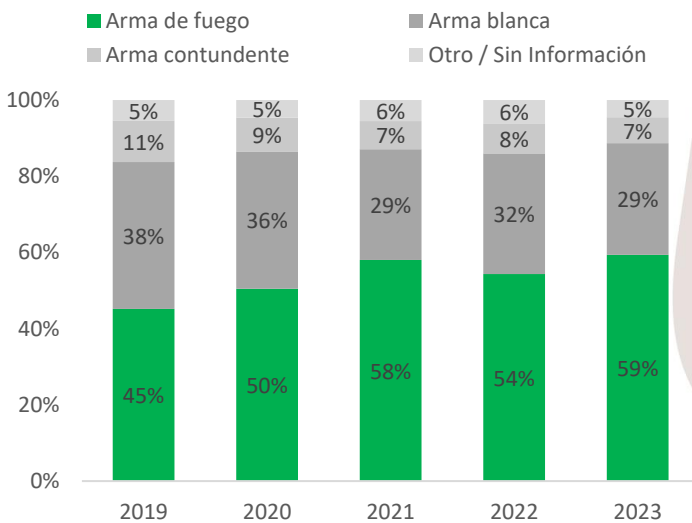
Percentage of victims of homicide by age.



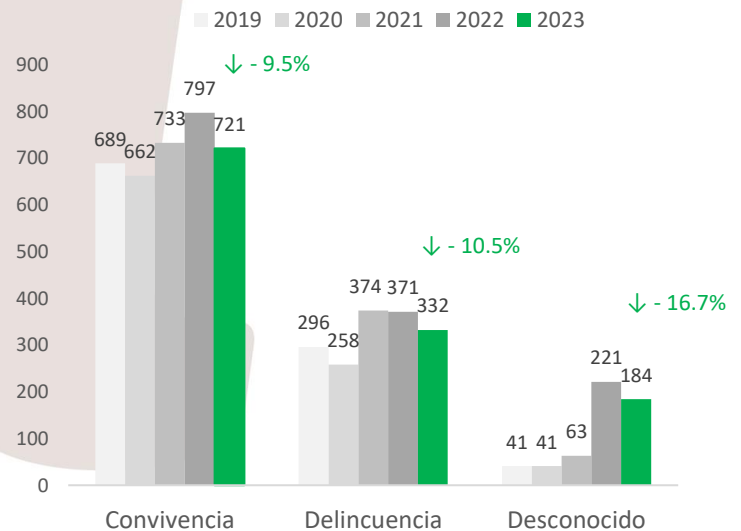
In 2023, six in 10 homicides were perpetrated with a firearm, which is the predominant instrument for this type of crime. This year set the record for homicides committed with a firearm (59%). Sharp weapons came in second, representing 29 per cent of cases.

Almost six in 10 homicides was reported as relating to coexistence-related conflicts (58%). Stronger reductions were observed in coexistence-related incidents, with 84 fewer cases of homicide due to disputes. Also, in terms of crime, homicides related to robbery or armed robbery registered 50 fewer cases and there were 15 fewer drug-related cases.

Percentage of homicides by type of weapon



Number of homicides by circumstance



Disaggregation of **cohabitation** homicides

Coexistence	
Quarrels	80%
Intrafamily Violence	20%

In 2023, eight in ten homicides related to **cohabitation** were the result of disputes, while the rest of cases were attributed to intrafamily violence.

Approximately two-thirds of homicides related to **crime** were the result of robbery or attempted robbery. The rest of the crime-related homicides had to do with drug issues.

Disaggregation of crime-related homicide

Crime	
Armed Robbery	41%
Substance Abuse	27%
Attempted Robbery	26%

Territorial Analysis of Homicidal Violence

Although, in comparing 2023 to 2022, the most notable reductions in homicides were in the Provinces of Distrito Nacional, Santiago and Santo Domingo, in a territorial analysis of homicidal violence, these provinces show up with the highest number of homicides. Specifically, almost half (47.2%) of all violent deaths occurred in those provinces, where 45% of the country's population lives.

- The Province of Santo Domingo reported more than one fourth of all cases of homicide in the country, representing 28.5% of the total. This was followed by Distrito Nacional with 10.2% and Santiago with 8.5%.
- The provinces that account for the greatest number of homicide victims are highly urban and densely populated, key economic and trade centers in the country. They are also crucial hubs for transportation and mobility across the country and internationally.
- The three provinces that had the greatest increase in the number of homicides in 2023 were: Espaillat (+11), Hato Mayor (+8) and Independencia (+6)
- In 2023, 18 in 32 provinces experienced a reduction in the number of victims of homicide compared to 2022.
- The Province of Pedernales is notable for having reported no cases of homicide in 2023, in comparison with six cases reported in 2022.

