EL SALVADOR
Analysis of the State of the Violence and Citizen Security
First Semester 2020 (1S-2020)

Highlights

- The first semester of 2020 showed an aggregated reduction of 37.7% in crimes (11 categories), as compared to the same period the previous year.

- The 6 crimes that have exhibited the greatest reductions this half of the year 2020 are: robbery and theft of merchandise-carrying vehicles, vehicle robbery, vehicle theft, homicides, robbery, and extortion.

- Homicides showed a 62.8% decline during the first semester, as compared to the same period last year (991 fewer victims).

- If this trend continues, the homicide rate at the end of the year would be 17.3 per 100 thousand: the lowest in the last decade.

- At the territorial level, the reduction of homicides concentrated in 62% of the territories (162 municipalities), which also have higher population densities per km2, such as San Miguel, San Salvador, Santa Ana, Apopa, Mejicanos.

- In this first half of 2020, an increase of 127% was registered in 41 municipalities. This group of territories registered only 3% of the total homicides in the previous semester, but during 2020 it came to represent 20% of the total homicides in the country.

- There are indications that conflicts in homes has increased as a result of confinement measures due to the COVID19 pandemic. The PNC administrative records show an increase in notifications to the 911 call center and in arrests for family problems and domestic violence, injuries, threats, among others.

- In general, the reduction in the number of crime reports seems to also be reflected in a decrease in the number of arrests made by the National Civil Police (-20.2%).

Evidence

Graph 1. The percentage change in effective crimes during the first quarter 2019-2020

Source: UNDP by way of InfoSegura with data from PNC Advanced Analyzer.
Graph 2. Homicide Rate per 100,000 Inhabitants, 2010-2020

Source: UNDP by way of InfoSegura with data from PNC Advanced Analyzer.

Graph 3. Homicide and Feminicide Rates

Source: UNDP by way of InfoSegura with data from PNC Advanced Analyzer and FGR.

Map 1. Changes in the Number of Homicides per Municipality, January-June 2019 and 2020
Graph 4. Variance in the Number of Incidents During May 2020 as Compared to Pre-quarantine Figures.

Source: Prepared by the UNDP by way of InfoSegura based on CID-Gallup Poll.

Graph 5. Variance in the number of notifications to the call center of the National Civil Police during the period March 11 to April 27, 2019-2020.

Source: Prepared by the UNDP by way of InfoSegura based on PNC 911 call center.
Graph 6. Variance in the number of arrests made by the National Civil Police during the first half of 2020.

Source: UNDP by way of InfoSegura with data from PNC.

Graph 7. Variance in the number of police arrests, January-June 2019 and 2020

Source: UNDP by way of InfoSegura with data from PNC.