ONE-THIRD OF LETHAL VIOLENCE GLOBALLY IS COMMITTED IN THE AMERICAS

In countries in the Americas MOST WOMEN are killed at a higher rate than the global average.

On average, 4.4 women per 100,000 female population die violently in the Americas every year, vs. 1.8 globally.

22 countries in the Americas have rates of lethal violence higher than the global average.

7 countries in the Americas have homicide rates over 30 per 100,000 population.

Honduras, El Salvador, Venezuela, and Jamaica are the most affected countries (rates over 50 per 100,000 pop.)

RATE OF LETHAL VIOLENCE per 100,000 population (2007–12)

- >30
- 20–30
- 10–20
- 3–10
- <3
- No Data
IN 11 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN THE AMERICAS, FIREARMS ARE USED IN OVER 65% of homicides

Puerto Rico  95.4%  Guatemala  83.1%  Honduras  81.2%  Panama  77.8%  Colombia  75.5%  Jamaica  74.9%  El Salvador  73.2%  Brazil  71.0%  Lesser Antilles*  68.7%  Dominican Republic  67.3%  Ecuador  66.0%

*The Lesser Antilles region includes Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago.

The use of HIGH-POWERED SMALL ARMS, such as assault rifles, and LIGHT WEAPONS, including machine guns and explosive projectile systems, by organised crime groups have the capacity to pose a serious threat to safety and stability in the region.

PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS are the most prevalent types of firearm used in lethal violence.

CRAFT GUNS are frequently used in homicides in Central America (accounting for 15% of homicides in Jamaica and 13% in Honduras).

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Lethal violence has decreased in 12 countries in the Americas, and increased in another 12.

South America has shown the greatest decrease in lethal violence. Central America has shown the greatest increase.

Chile  -57.3%  Ecuador  -39.9%  Suriname  -38.9%  Haiti  -31.4%  Paraguay  -22.7%  Guatemala  -16.6%  Argentina  -15.3%  Colombia  -14.4%  Cuba  -11.1%  Jamaica  -10.3%  United States of America  -8.8%  Guyana  -6.2%  Bermuda  58.2%  Honduras  51.1%  Panama  39.0%  Venezuela  32.2%  Mexico  29.4%  Bahamas  29.0%  Lesser Antilles  25.5%  Puerto Rico  22.8%  Bolivia  18.5%  Belize  17.6%  Costa Rica  16.3%  Uruguay  5.5%

South America  -10.7%  Caribbean  3.7%  Central America  21.1%  Northern America  -5.6%

Lethal violence – % change

Average 04-09 to average 07-12 by American sub-regions
(+/- 5% variation is considered stable)