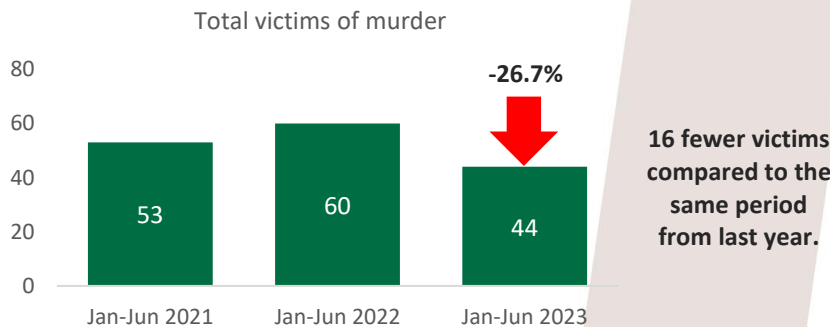


Highlights

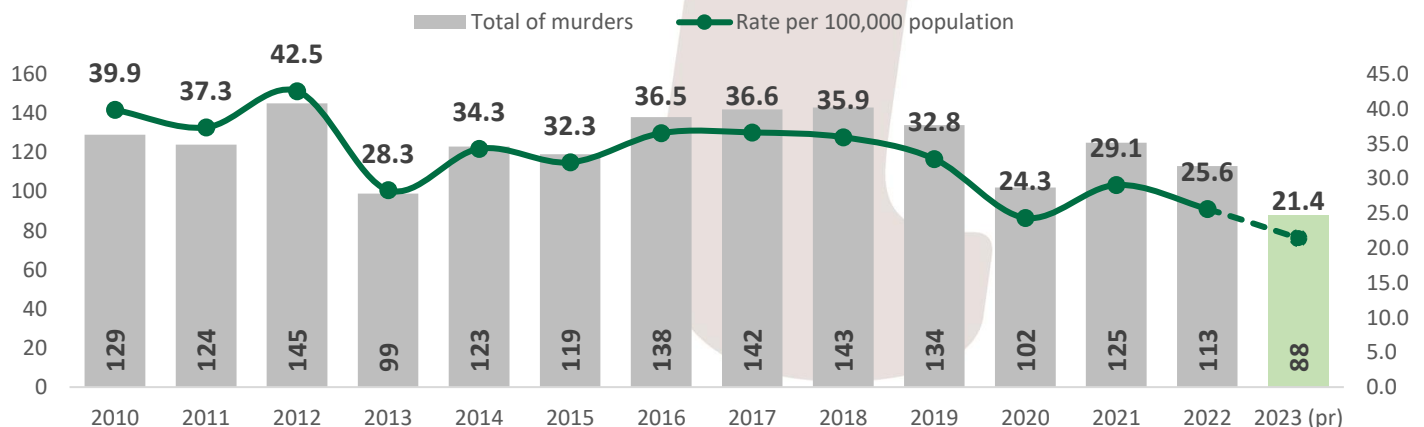
- During the first semester of 2023, there were 44 victims of murder registered. This represents 16 fewer victims than the same period in 2022.
- Using the data available for the first semester of 2023, estimates show this year closing with a rate of 21.4 murders per 100 thousand population.
- Between January and June 2023, an average of 7 persons were victims of murder, the Month of April recorded the highest number of murder victims accounting for 11 total.
- In the same period, 40 male and 4 female murder victims were reported in Belize.
- Young people ages 18 to 29 are still the primary victims of murder according to data from the first semester of 2023.
- Approximately, 8 in 10 murders were committed with firearms during January to June 2023.
- The Belize and Stann Creek districts accounted for 75.0 per cent of murders.

Evidence

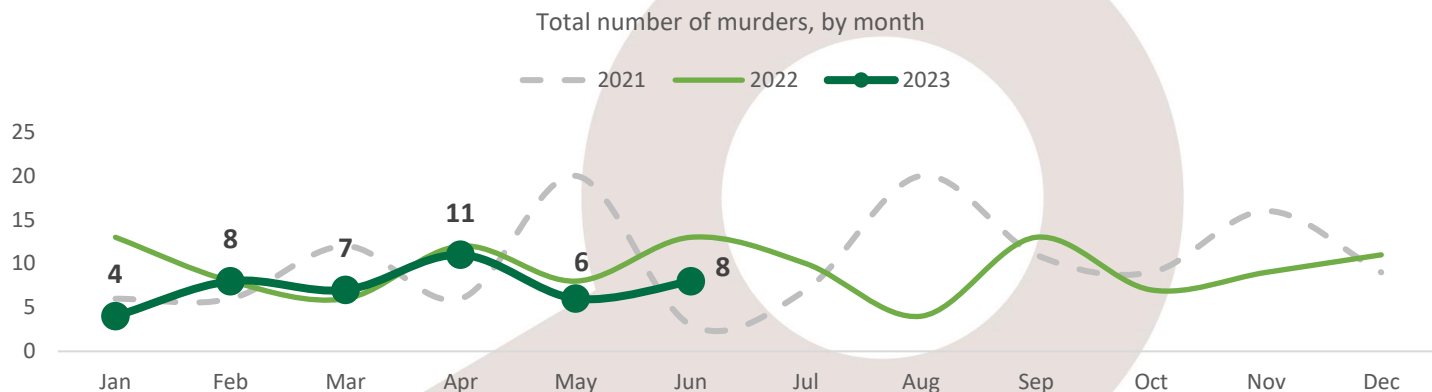
During the first half of 2023, there were 44 victims of murder registered, 16 fewer (-26.7%) than the same period in 2022. Based on this data, it is estimated that 2023 will close with a preliminary rate of 21.4 victims per 100 thousand population. This would represent a 4.2-point reduction compared to the rate in 2021 (29.1 per 100 thousand population).



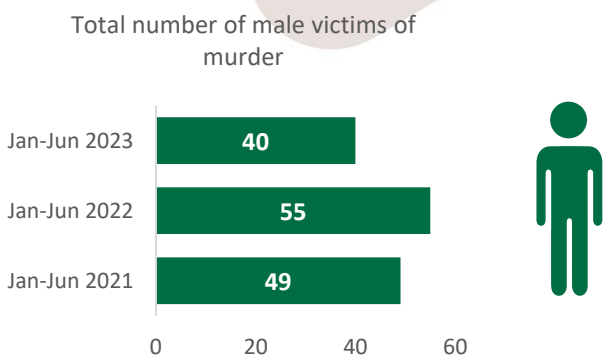
44 murder victims in the first semester of 2023



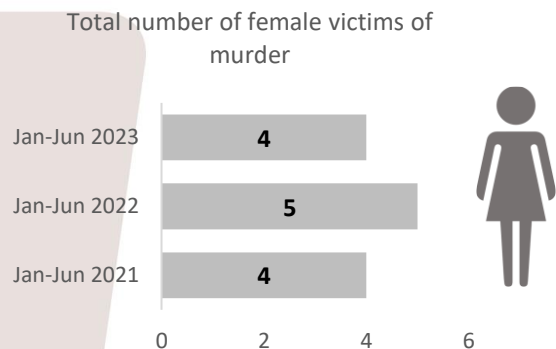
Approximately 7 murders per month occurred during the first semester of 2023. The month with the greatest number of murder victims in 2023 was April, with 11 victims. March was the only month (+1 victim) that reported a higher victim count when compared to 2022.



Around 9 in 10 murder victims were male; 1 in 10 was female. Between January and June 2023, approximately 9 males and 1 female were victims of murder every month.

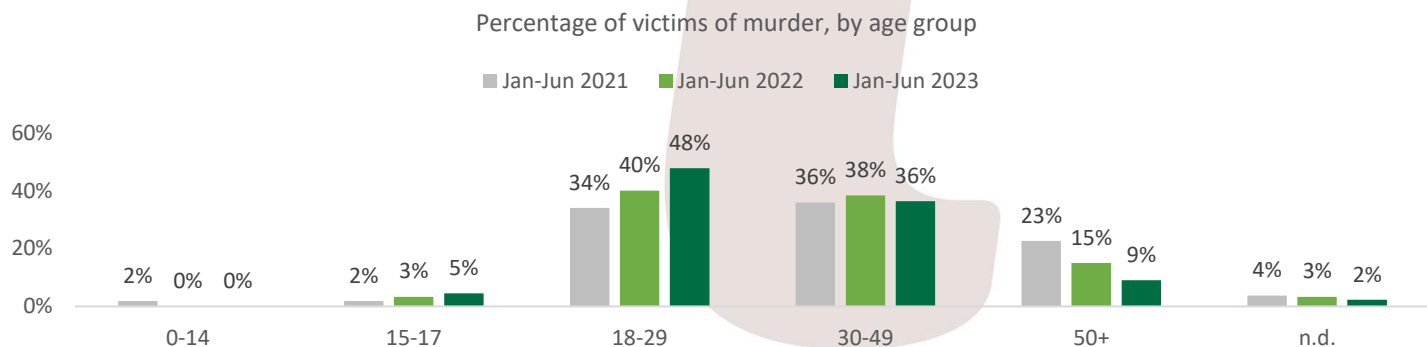


-6 victims compared to the same period from last year.



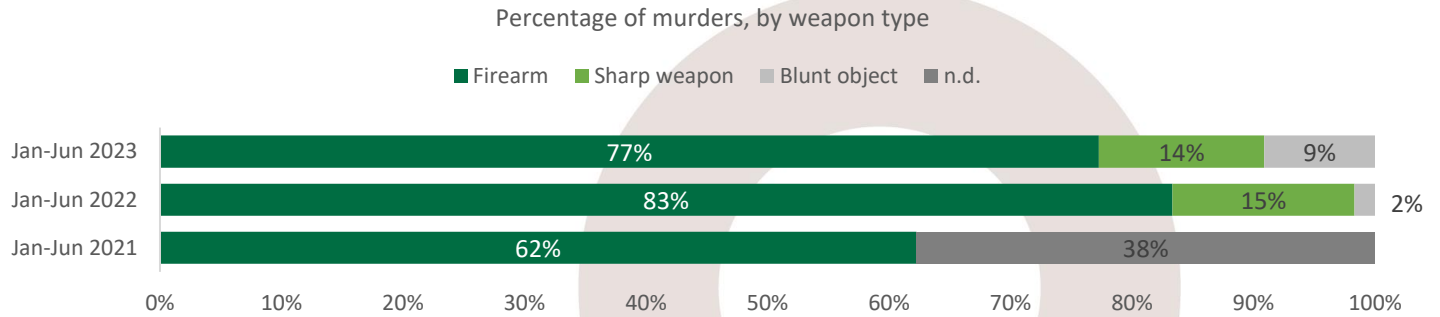
-1 victim compared to the same period from last year.

Between January and June 2023, almost half of the victims of murder were young people between 18 and 29 years of age. This is a marked increase (+8 percentage points) when compared to the first semester of 2022. The greatest decrease was registered in the group of 50 or more years of age (-6 percentage points).



*n.d.: no data

Firearms were used in 77% of all murders (used in 34 out of 44 cases). This is an decrease for the same period in 2022 (-6 percenateg points). The remainder were committed with sharp weapons and blunt objects.



*n.d.: no data

Three in four murders were registered in the Belize and Cayo districts. In four out of the six districts, there was a rise in the total number of victims of murder as compared to the first semester of 2022: Belize, Stann Creek, Corozal, and Orange Walk; while two districts reported reductions: Cayo and Toledo.

