

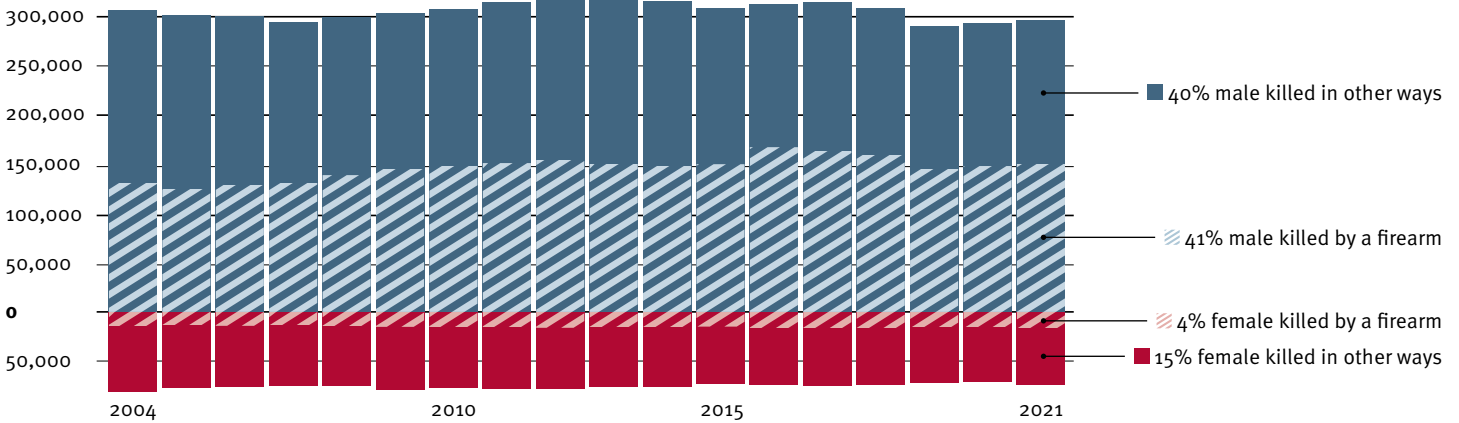
# How are sex, firearms, and homicidal violence linked?



Data for 2021, as of December 2023

There are more male victims of intentional homicide than female victims. Of the 370,000 victims in 2021, 296,000 (81%) were males and 74,000 (19%) were females, and 45% of the total were killed using a firearm.

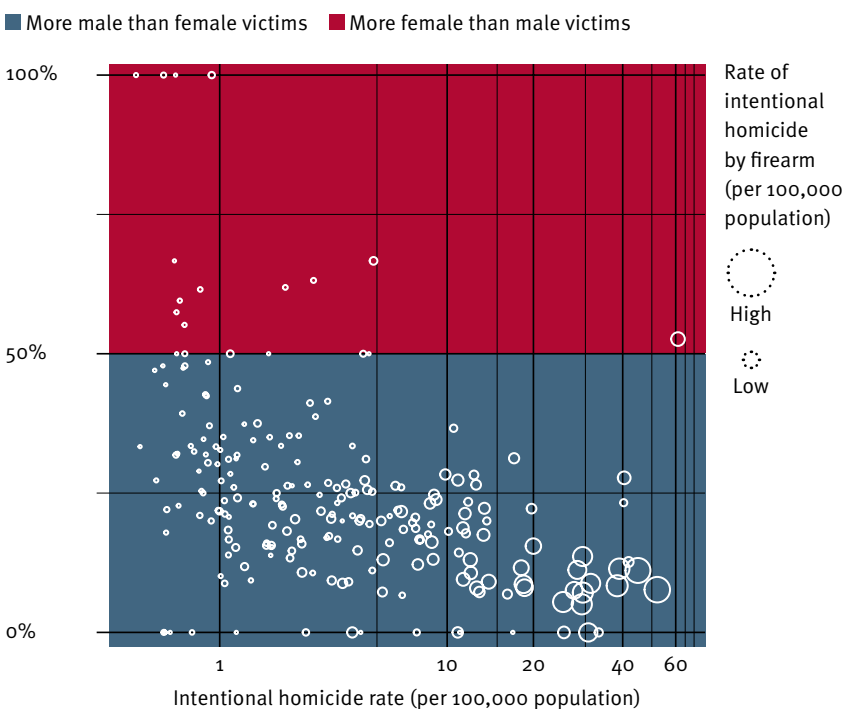
Intentional homicide victims, by sex and perpetration mechanism



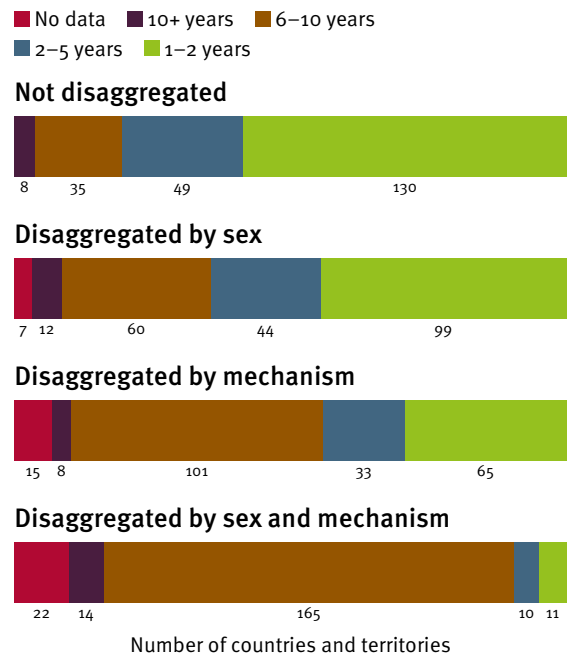
55% of all female homicides are committed by family members or intimate partners; 12% of male homicides are perpetrated in the home. While data on **non-lethal gender-based violence** is scarce, evidence shows that low overall rates of lethal violence should not be taken as an indicator that rates of non-lethal gender-based violence are low.\*

Where rates of intentional homicide are low, the proportion of female victims of intentional homicide is usually high.

Intentional homicide rate and proportion of female victims, per country or territory

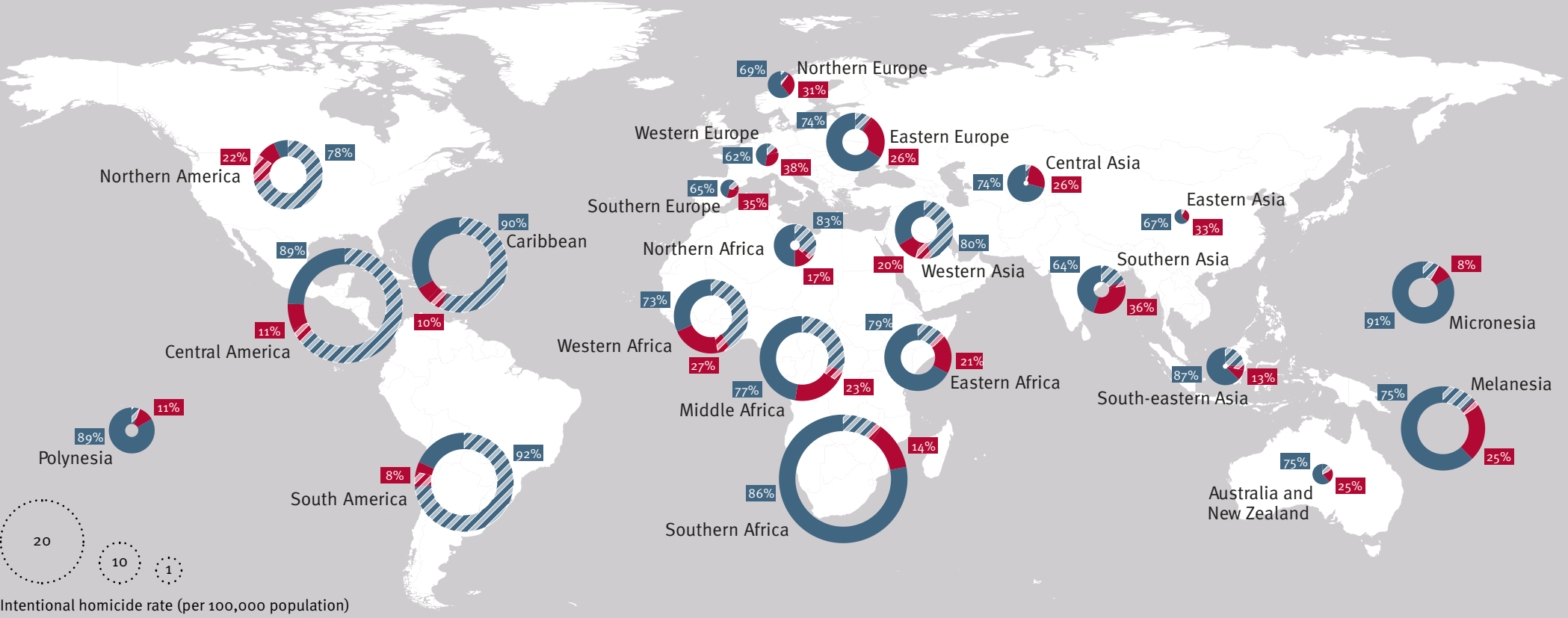


On average, intentional homicide data is less than two years old. But the majority of data disaggregated by sex and killing mechanism (i.e. the use of a firearm) is more than six years old.



The use of firearms follows regional patterns, with the highest proportions in the Americas: low rates of intentional homicide are linked to higher proportions of female victims. Conversely, higher rates of intentional homicide are linked to higher proportions of male victims.

- Rate of male victims of homicide by firearm
- Rate of male victims of homicide (other method)
- Rate of female victims of homicide by firearm
- Rate of female victims of homicide (other method)



Across 222 countries and territories 195 had more male victims of intentional homicide, 13 had more female victims, and seven had no victims in 2021.



Note: Data on intentional homicides was retrieved from the Global Violent Deaths database. \* Data for 2022, retrieved from UNODC-UN Women (2023) and dataUNODC.