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Online knowledge platform by Project Insight

Key Data Gun Violence
Austria 2023 (1/2)

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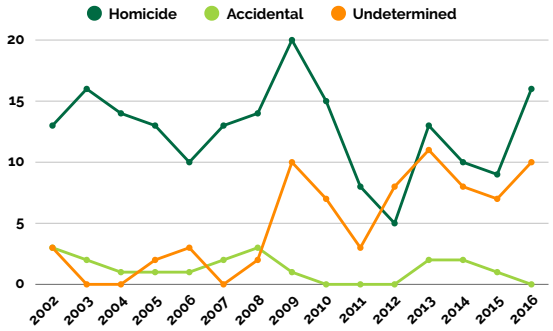
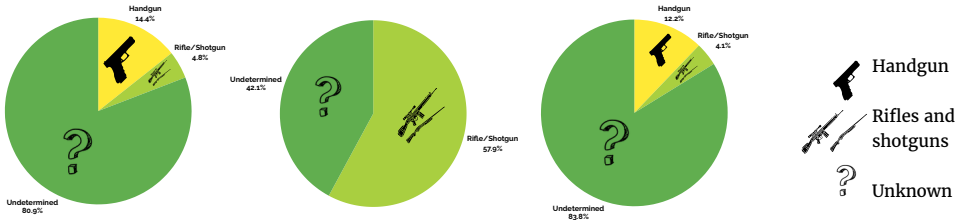
Evolution of homicides and accidents with firearms (2002-2016)[1]



Types of Firearms Used in Fatal Incidents 2002-2016



Homicides: total 188 | Accidental: total 19 | Undetermined: total 74

Mass Shootings since 2000[2]

Annaberg, September 2013 [3-4]

Mass Shooting
STG-77 semiautomatic rifle, Glock-17 pistol and Mauser shotgun
Perpetrator died at the scene

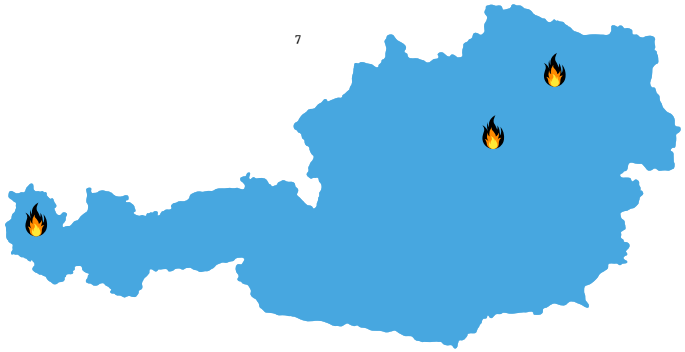
Nenzing, May 2016 [5]

Mass Shooting-suicide
Zastava M92 AK-type assault rifle
Perpetrator committed suicide

Vienna, November 2020 [6]

Jihadist terrorism
Zavasta M70, Zavasta M57
Perpetrator died at the scene

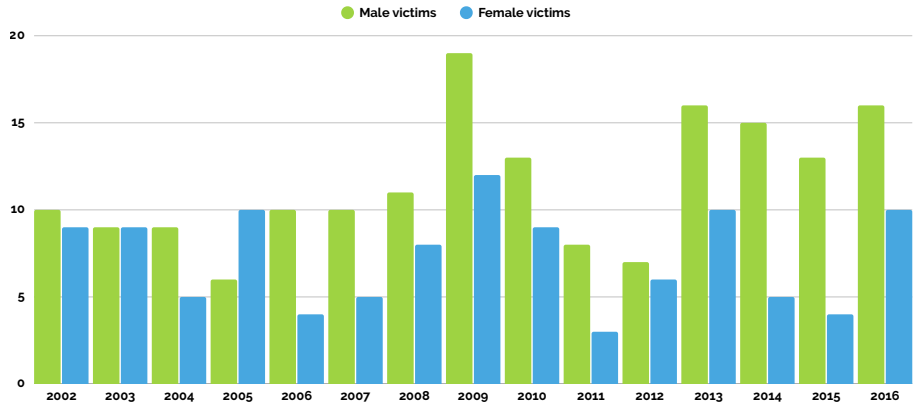
[7]



Homicide firearm victims: 2002-2016

based on medical data [7]

Lethal Gun Violence by Gender



Perpetrators of gun crime

Perpetrators of gun crime data unavailable

Published: December 2023

1. Data acquired from "World Health Organization Mortality Database", last accessed on 2 May 2020.
2. Literature offers no generally accepted definition of a "public mass shooting". For data collection purposes Sarah Watson's definition will be basis of categorisation for a mass shooting. However, the scope will be further widened to include multiple perpetrators, "shootings that occur in the public and/or semi-public space, perpetrated by one offender and resulting in three or more randomly selected victims, with at least one fatality. The term victim refers to those fatally shot and those injured; however, it does not include the perpetrator". Watson, S., (2022), Mass shootings, fatality thresholds and defining by numbers: Political and social consequences, Criminology & Criminal Justice' vol. 1 no, 19, pg. 4.
3. The Local, Poacher's suspected murder weapon found, (May 2014).
4. Duquet, N. , Public Mass Shootings in Europe: how did the weapons fall into the wrong hands?, pg. 4, (2019).
5. Kronenzeitung, Konzert-Amoklauf: Täter (27) war ein Neonazi,(May 2016).
6. BBC, Vienna murders: Four guilty of helping jihadist in terror attack, (February 2023).
7. Data acquired from "World Health Organization Mortality Database", last accessed on 2 May 2020.

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Seizures 2010-2015 [8]

>606

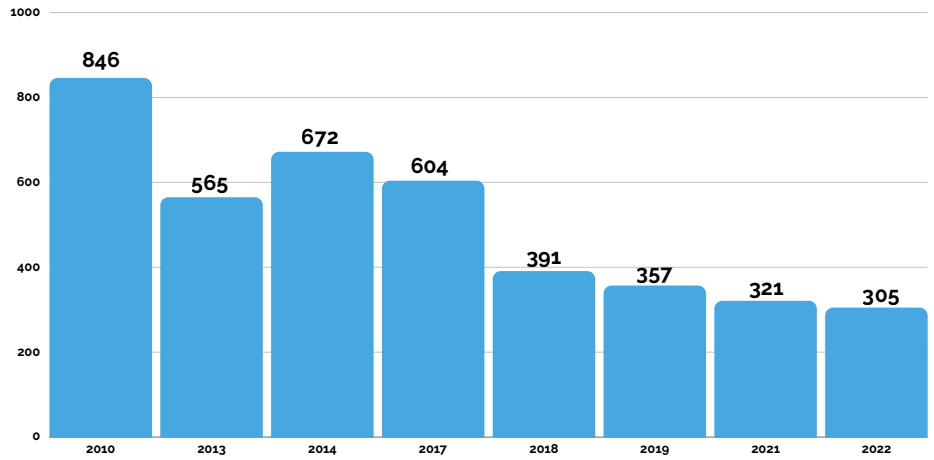
Firearms seized

Rounds of ammunition data not available

Parts and components data not available

Between 2010 and 2015 Austria was the country with the most firearm seizures in Western Europe (41.19% of firearms).

Number of criminal incidents where firearms were used [9-10]



Trafficking

Austria is chiefly a transit country for firearms trafficking, meaning that firearms do not usually remain in the country but rather transit through it. Since the trafficked firearms do not stay in Austria, trafficking is not considered to be a major domestic security issue.[11]

Austria has a focal role in firearms trafficking from the Western Balkans via Slovenia and the trafficking of deactivated or converted firearms from Slovakia. It is also an important transit point for land-trafficking towards Western Europe via either the eastern route or the southern route. [12]

The e-commerce of firearms and components is flourishing in Austria. After Germany, it is the second country with the most hits for illegal firearm purchases online. [13]

Possession

The Austrian law, the so-called Waffengesetz 1996, distinguishes three categories of firearms:

- Category A: war material and restricted weapons, whose acquisition and possession is forbidden;
- Category B: handguns, repeating shotguns, and semi-automatic rifles, whose acquisition and possession is possible only with official approval;
- Category C: repeating, revolving and break-action rifles, break-action shotguns and projectile firing electroshock weapons, whose acquisition and possession is generally possible from the age of 18. [14]

According to the Small Arms Survey, in 2017 in Austria, there were 837,000 registered firearms against 1,740,000 unregistered ones.[15]

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8. Data acquired from "FIRE - FIGHTING ILLICIT FIREARMS TRAFFICKING ROUTES AND ACTORS AT EUROPEAN LEVEL"
9.Bundesministerium für Inneres (BMI), Bundesministerium für Justiz (BMJ), Polizeiliche Kriminalstatistik 2019, Die Entwicklung der Kriminalität in Österreich, (2019), last accessed on 2 November 2023.
10. Bundesministerium für Inneres (BMI), Bundesministerium für Justiz (BMJ),Polizeiliche Kriminalstatistik 2022 Die Entwicklung der Kriminalität in Österreich, (2022), pg.82, last accessed on 2 November 2023.
11. Bundesministerium fuer Inneres, Verfassungsschutzbericht 2008, (2008), last accessed on 6 November 2023.
12. Duquet, N. & Vanden Auweele, D., Project TARGET: Targeting gun violence and trafficking in Europe, Brussels, Flemish Peace Institute, pg. 145-146, (2022).
13. Ibid.
14. Oesterreich.gv.at, Waffenrecht, last accessed on 6 November 2023.
15. Krap, A., Estimating Global Civilian-held Firearms Numbers (Annexe), Small Arms Survey, (2018); Karp, A., Estimating Global Civilian-held Firearms Numbers (Report), Small Arms Survey, (2018).

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