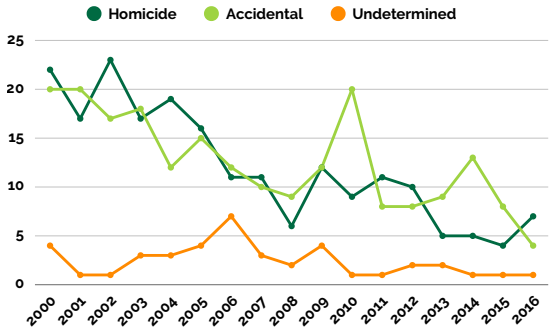
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Key Data Gun Violence Romania 2023 (1/2)

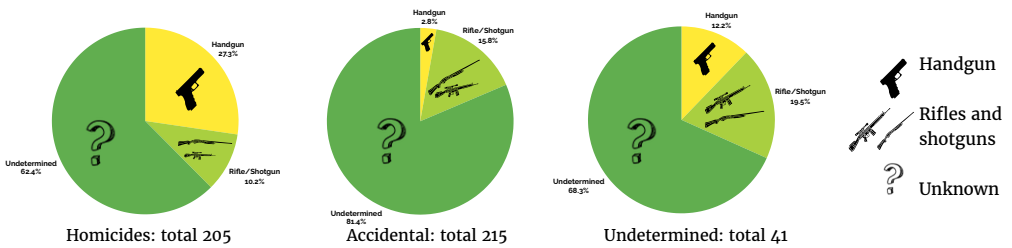
Project Insight is funded by the European Union's Internal Security Fund — Police and coordinated by the Flemish Peace Institute.

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Evolution of homicides and accidents with firearms (2000-2016)[1]



Types of Firearms Used in Fatal Incidents 2000-2016



Homicides: total 205 | Accidental: total 215 | Undetermined: total 41

Mass Shootings since 2000[2]

Bucharest, March 2012[3]



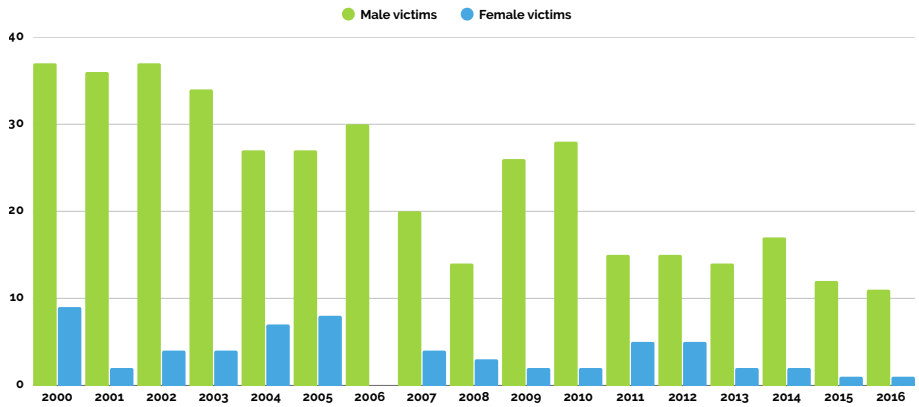
Domestic/ family dispute
9×19mm Glock semi-automatic pistol
Perpetrator arrested



Homicide firearm victims: 2000-2016

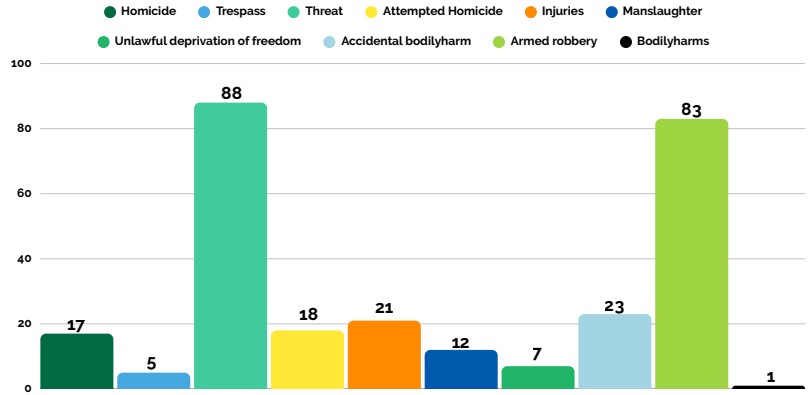
based on medical data[4]

Lethal Gun Violence by Gender



Criminal acts commited with the use of firearms (2018-2022)[5]

From 2018 until 2022 a total of 275 violent incidents commited with weapons were reported



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. Şirileprotv.ro, Gheorghe Vladan a fost arestat pentru 29 de zile. E acuzat de omor calificat si deosebit de grav, (March 2012).
4. Data acquired from "World Health Organization Mortality Database", last accessed on 2 May 2020.
5. Official data provided by the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police, Weapons, Explosives, and Hazardous Substances Directorate (January 2022).

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Romania 2023 (2/2)

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Seizures 2018-2022[6]

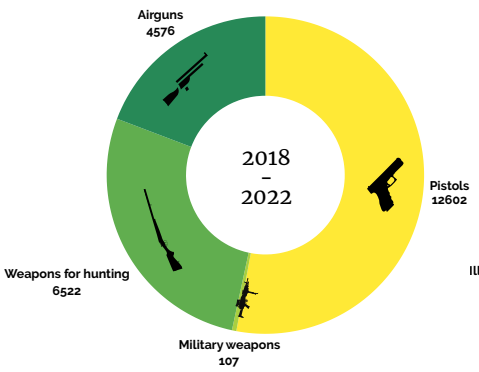
21,288
Firearms seized

755,164
Rounds of ammunition seized

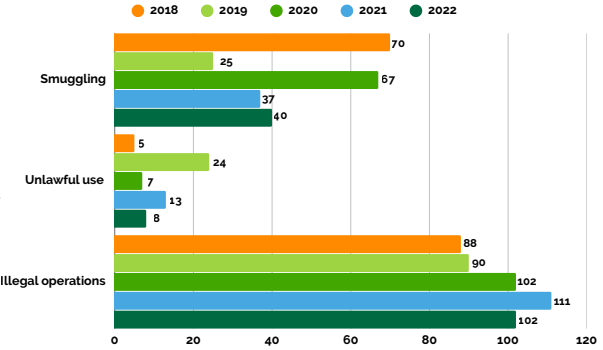
9,674
Parts and components seized

Seizures

Types of firearms seized [7]



Context of seizures 2018-2022[8]



Trafficking

Given its geographical position, Romania is an important transit point for illegal firearms. Illicit weapons from neighboring countries, mainly Bulgaria, are being smuggled into Romania and then trafficked to the South and East. Also, Western and Southern European countries, like France, Germany, Italy and Spain serve as important sources of illicit firearms trafficking in Romania. [9]

Non-lethal blank-firing firearms manufactured in Turkey, legally bought in Bulgaria and illegally smuggled in Romania, where they are been converted, are the number one readily available firearms in the Romanian black market. The routes of the Western and Southern European countries are used for the movement of long-barrelled rifles.[10]

The smuggling of weapons into Romania through Bulgaria is usually operated by individuals in small quantities with private means. In most cases individuals cross the border, buy a blank-firing pistol legally in Bulgaria and smuggle it into Romania by hiding it in their vehicles. The lower risk of being caught, when carrying a small number of firearms instead of a large shipment explains the trafficking tactic used in the area. [11]

Possession

Although the size of the illicit firearms' market in Romania has not been assessed, evidence indicates that is quite small. This can attributed to various reasons, including the strict national legal framework on gun possession, the high cost of illegally acquired firearms, and the low interest of criminal groups in firearms trafficking. [12]

Turkish blank-firing pistols have become attractive to organized crime groups in Romania because of their low cost and capacity to be easily converted. Although the local OCGs are not involved in firearms trafficking, as a non-highly profitable business, they use weapons illegally possessed through trafficking to support their criminals activities. [13]

Published: December 2023

6. Official data provided by the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police, Weapons, Explosives, and Hazardous Substances Directorate, (January 2022).
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid.
9. UNODC, Country Fact Sheets Summary Data from Country Responses on Firearms Seizures and Trafficking, pg.80, (2015), last accessed on 19 October 2023.
10. Ibid.
11. Albisteanu, R.,Dena, A., Lewis, M., Romania: Firearms and Security at the EU Eastern Border, in N Duquet (ed) Triggering Terror. Illicit Gun Markets and Firearms Acquisition of Terrorist Networks in Europe, Flemish Peace Institute, (2018).
12. Ibid.
13.UNODC, STUDY ON FIREARMS 2015, A study on the transnational nature of and routes and modus operandi used in trafficking in firearms, (2015), last accessed on 19 October 2023.

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