

GENDER AND SMALL ARMS IN MONTENEGRO

:
**FAST
FACTS**

The South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC) is a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) aimed at strengthening national and regional capacities to control and reduce the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons, thus contributing to enhanced stability, security and development in South Eastern and Eastern Europe.

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Gender and Small Arms in Montenegro: Fast Facts

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FAST FACTS

About Fast Facts

The *Gender and Small Arms Fast Facts* series documents the multiple linkages between gender and small arms in South East Europe (SEE) and outlines the specific risks that women and men face with respect to firearm use and misuse.

Fast Facts provides an overview of sex-disaggregated data related to ownership, access, demand for firearms and their impact on women and men, including the misuse of firearms in the context of domestic violence and suicide.

Through improved access to sex-disaggregated data, *Fast Facts* strives to increase the knowledge and awareness of both professionals and the general audience about the highly gendered aspects of small arms. In addition, it provides policy makers in Montenegro with an easy-to-use tool for evidence-based policymaking and mainstreaming gender in small arms and light weapons control legislation and policies.

Data sources

Data used in Fast Facts is extracted from multiple sources:

1. Distribution and Impact Survey: In cooperation with governments in SEE, SEESAC collected and analyzed data in order to identify trends in the distribution of small arms (particularly in relation to the type, quantity, possession, distribution, legal/illegal trade, production and movement of small arms and light weapons) and the impact of their misuse on the citizens in the region, both on women and men. The data was collected for the period 2012-2016. Unless otherwise indicated, data presented in this publication refers to this source.

2. Perception Survey: In November and December 2017, SEESAC conducted an online public perception survey to obtain a better understanding of the public perception on safety and security, on the use and possession of firearms, and on the exposure to firearm violence in SEE. A total of 53,936 respondents participated in the online survey throughout the SEE. In Montenegro, 1,225 respondents completed the survey.

3. Armed Violence Monitoring Platform (AVMP): The AVMP monitors firearm-related incidents that have occurred in SEE since 2014. Data is collected daily using local media clippings, online search engines and, where available, the reports by public institutions of relevant firearm-related incidents. For the purpose of this report, 742 reports of incidents that occurred from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2018 were analyzed.

MAIN FINDINGS

■ 99.4% of all firearms are owned by men, while women own only 0.6% of firearms;

■ 38.6% of men and 19.1% of women would own a gun;

■ 59% of women and 44.4% of men feel that a gun at home makes them less safe;

■ 40.5% of men and 17.9% of women have had some form of direct personal experience with a gun;

■ Men account for 91.8% of the victims of firearm-related homicides, compared to 8.2% of women;

■ 72.7% of men and 45.4% of women killed in Montenegro were killed with a firearm;

■ 17% of people killed in Montenegro were killed by a family member;

■ 53.3% of people who were killed by a family member were killed with firearms;

■ 5 out of 10 women killed by their intimate partner were killed with firearms;

■ 45% of domestic violence incidents which involved firearms resulted in a lethal outcome;

■ Men committed 97.4% of all firearm-related criminal offenses, while women committed 2.6%;

■ 43 women and 139 men committed suicide using firearms from 2012 to 2016.

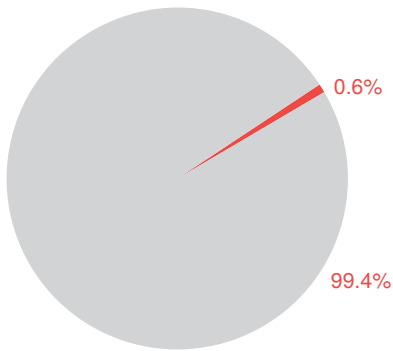
1 / OWNERSHIP, ACCESS AND DEMAND FOR FIREARMS

CIVILIAN POSSESSION

99.4% of all firearms are owned by men, while women own only 0.6% of firearms

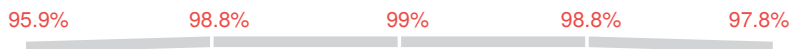
Men account for an overwhelming majority of firearm owners in Montenegro, while women own only a minor share of firearms.

In 2016, 65,485 men and 377 women held firearm licenses.



Firearm license holders, by sex, 2016

• Women • Men



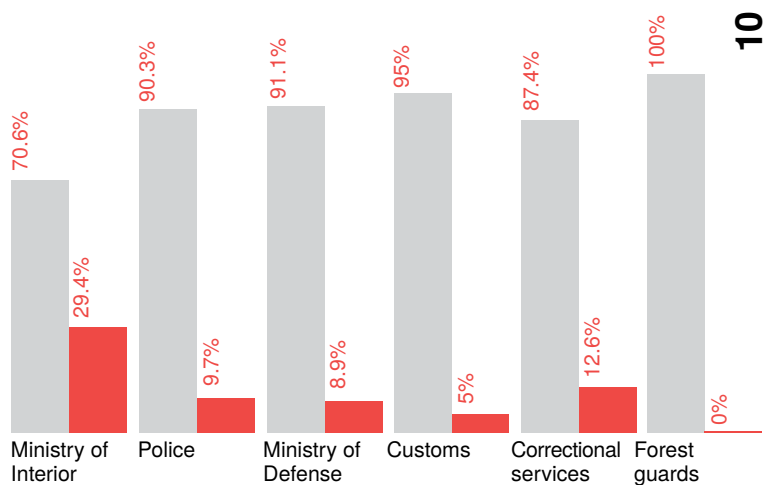
Between 2012 and 2016, men acquired 98.4% of all licenses, compared to 1.4% of women. In 2016 alone, 14,619 men and 323 women applied for new licenses.

Men aged 36 to 60 account for 47.3% of all applicants, closely followed by men aged 61 and older at 42.9%. Among women, those 36 to 60 make up 51.4% of all female applicants.

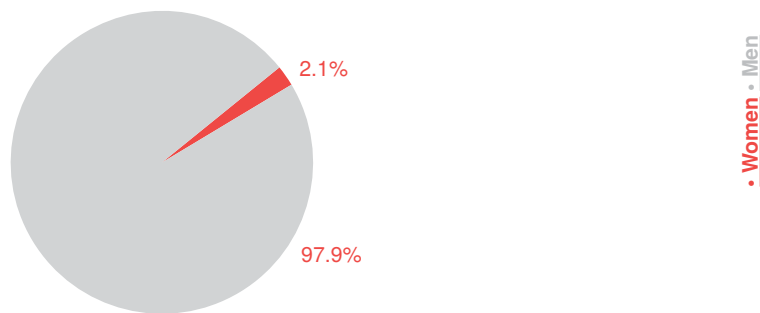


Applicants for new licenses, by sex and year

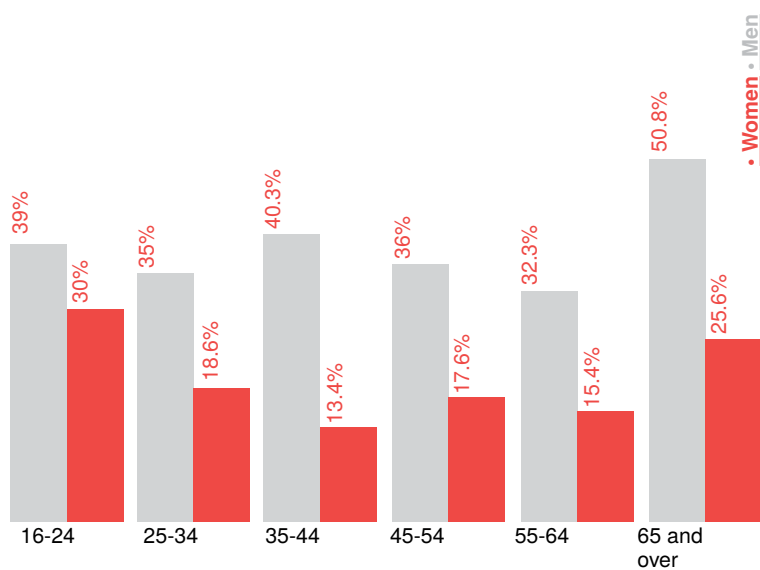
↑



Security sector personnel authorized to carry firearms, by sex, 2016 ↑



Personnel of private security companies authorized to carry firearms, by sex, 2016 ↗



Would you own a gun? - **Yes**; by sex and age, 2017 (Source: Perception survey) ↑

SECURITY SECTOR

Men make up the vast majority of personnel across the security sector authorized to carry firearms

In 2016, 3,663 men and 393 women in police forces, and 1,689 men and 164 women in the Ministry of Defense were authorized to carry firearms.

Private security companies

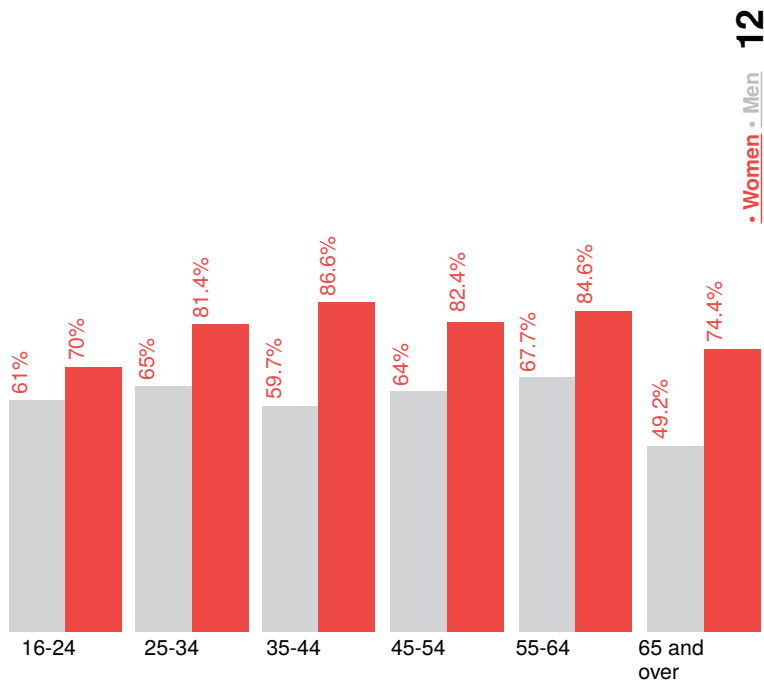
Men account for 97.9% of the personnel at private security companies authorized to carry firearms

In 2016, 3,004 men and 64 women hired by private security companies were authorized to carry firearms.

ATTITUDES AND DEMAND FOR FIREARMS

38.6% of men and 19.1% of women surveyed in 2017 would own a gun

The difference among women and men is the smallest among those aged 16 to 24, where 39% of male and 30% of female respondents would own a gun. Men aged 65 and older are the most likely to say they would own a gun.



• Women • Men **12**

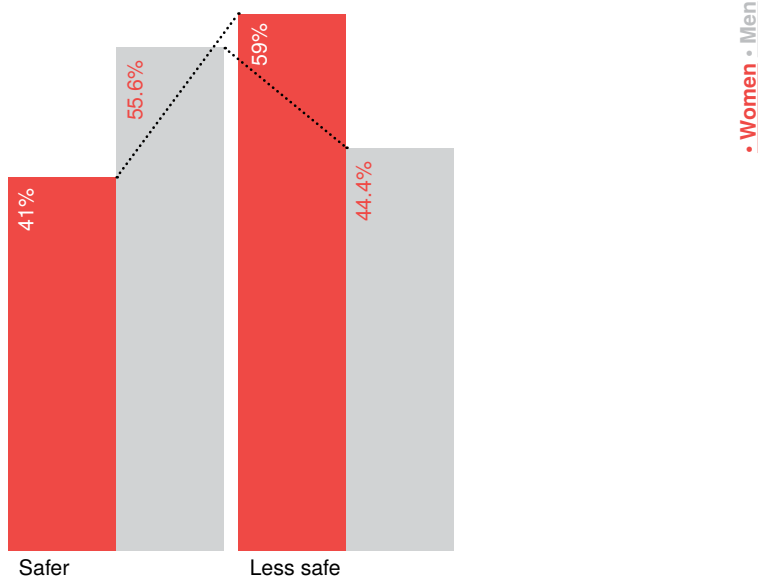
Would you own a gun? - **No**; by sex and age, 2017
(Source: Perception survey)



However, the majority of both women and men, **80.9%** and **61.4%** respectively, would not own a gun

Women aged 35 to 44 are the least likely to say they would own a gun.

Although **19.1%** of women said they would own a gun, they accounted for only **2.2%** of applicants for new licenses in 2016



• Women • Men

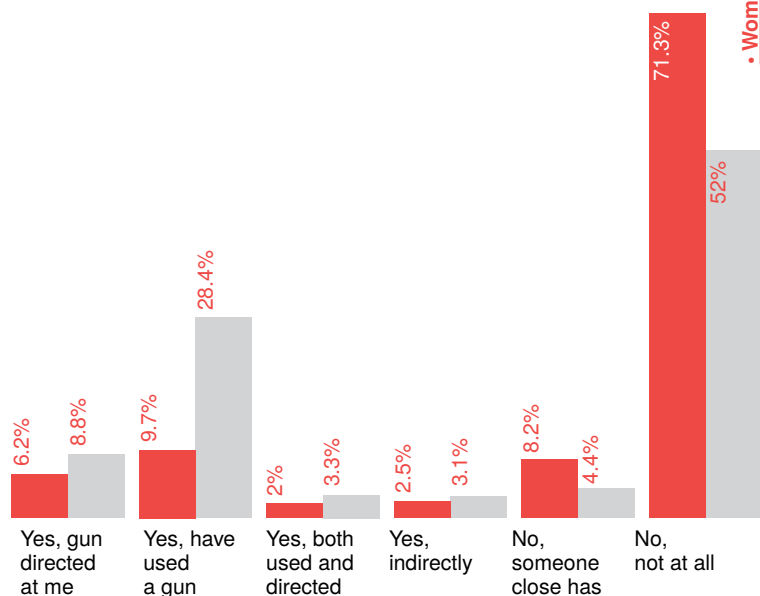
Would having a gun at home make you feel safer or less safe?
by sex, 2017 (Source: Perception survey)



59% of women and **44.4%** of men feel that a gun at home makes them less safe

Women are significantly more likely than men to feel that a gun at home makes them less safe, while men are split over this.

Men aged 16 to 24 are most likely to feel safer with a gun at home (65.6%), while women aged 35 to 44 are most likely to feel less safe with a gun at home (63.5%).



Have you ever experienced the use of a gun?, by sex, 2017
(Source: Perception survey)



2 / EXPERIENCE

40.5% of men and 17.9% of women have had some form of direct personal experience with a gun – either used a gun, had a gun directed at them, or both

While differences between men and women occur across gun experiences, they are particularly significant in terms of firearm usage. However, in terms of exposure to gun violence, women's and men's experiences converge, with 6.2% of women and 8.8% of men having had a gun directed at them.

3 / VICTIMS

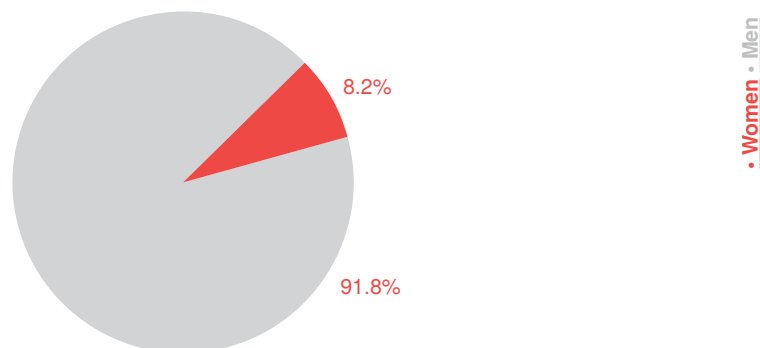


Firearm-related homicides out of total homicides, 2012-2016



69.3% of all homicides are committed with firearms

Firearms are the most prevalent weapon of choice when homicide is committed. 61 out of 88 people who were killed between 2012 and 2016 were killed with a firearm.



Firearm-related homicide victims, by sex, 2012-2016



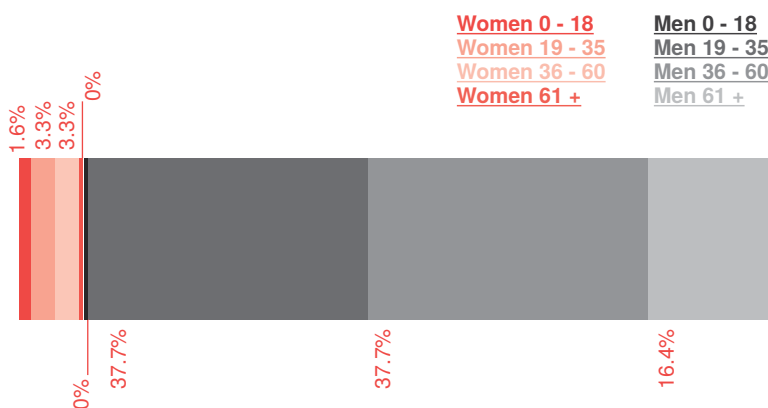
Men account for 91.8% of all firearm-related homicide victims, compared to 8.2% of women

Men are eleven times more likely to fall victim to firearm homicide than women. 56 men and 5 women were killed with firearms from 2012 to 2016.

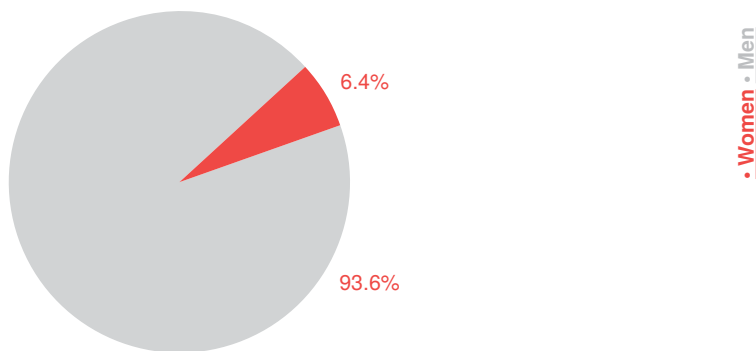
Even though men account for the vast majority of homicide victims, firearm-related deaths are frequent for both women and men.



Firearm-related homicide victims out of all homicide victims, by sex, 2012-2016



Firearm-related homicide victims, by sex and age, 2012-2016



Victims of firearm-related injuries, by sex, 2012-2016

72.7% of men and 45.4% of women killed in Montenegro were killed with a firearm

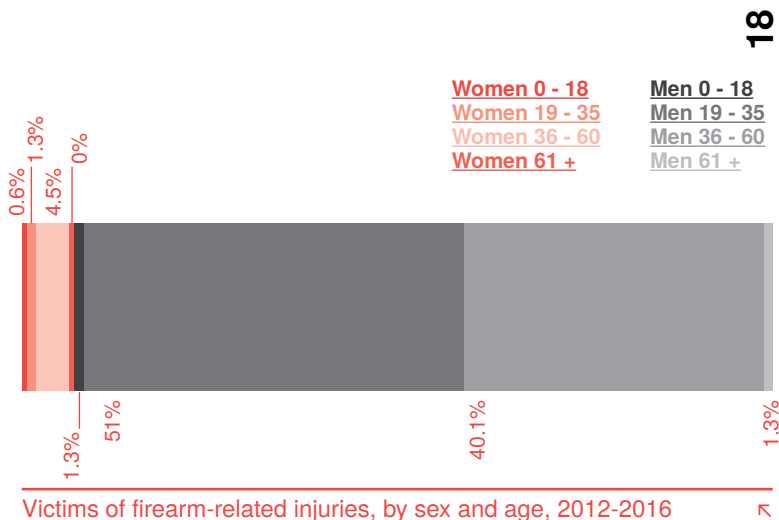
5 out of 11 women killed and 56 out of 77 men killed from 2012 to 2015 were killed with firearms.

Men aged 19 to 35 and 36 to 60 account for three quarters of all victims of firearm-related homicides. Among the age groups of women killed, the majority are 36 to 60 or 61 and older.

INJURIES

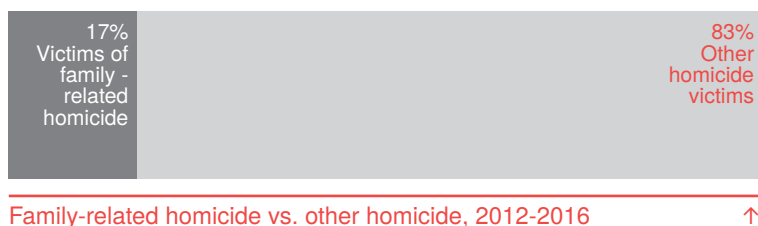
Men account for 93.6% and women for 6.4% of people who were injured by firearms

Men are significantly more likely to suffer injuries inflicted by firearms than are women. 10 women and 147 men were reported to be injured with firearms from 2012 to 2016.

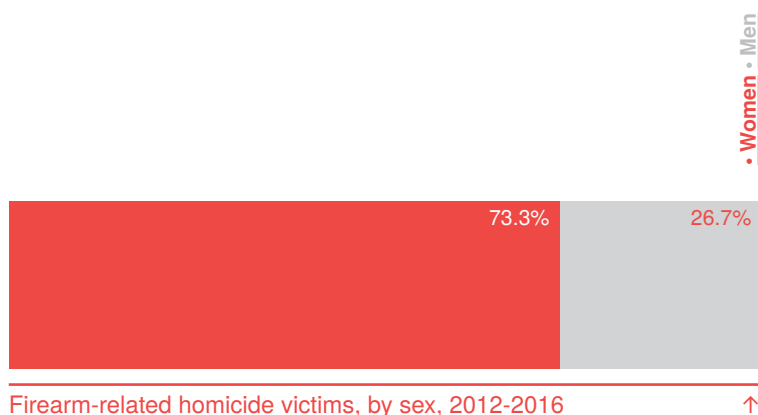


Men aged 19 to 35 account for 51% of all those injured by firearms, closely followed by men aged 36 to 60.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

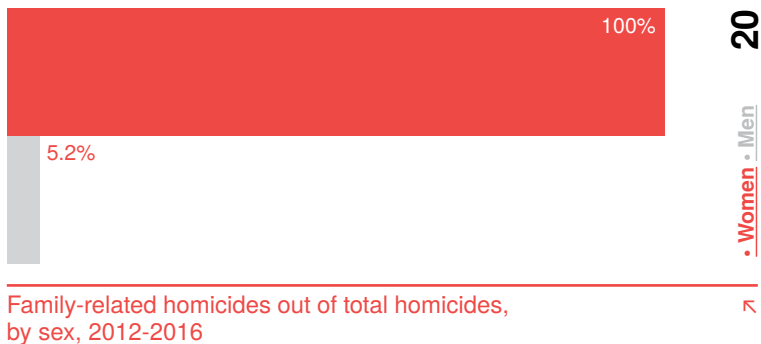


17% of people killed in Montenegro were killed by a family member



Domestic violence disproportionately affects women. Women account for 73.3% of all people killed by a family member, compared to 26.7% of men

Out of 88 people killed in Montenegro from 2012 to 2016, 15 - 11 women and 4 men, were killed by a family member, whether with a firearm or by other means.



20

• Women • Men

All women killed in Montenegro were killed in a domestic context by a family member

While all 11 women killed in Montenegro from 2012 to 2016 were killed by a family member, the same holds true for only 4 out of 77 killed men.

Intimate partners are the predominant perpetrators of family-related homicide.

73.3% of all family-related homicides were committed by intimate partners

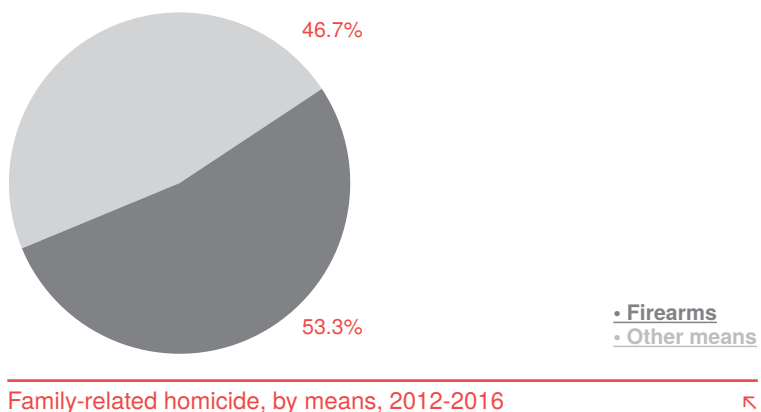
Intimate partner violence affects women even more disproportionately than domestic violence in general.



• Women • Men

90.9% of women killed in Montenegro were killed by an intimate partner. Intimate partner homicides account for only 1.3% of male homicides

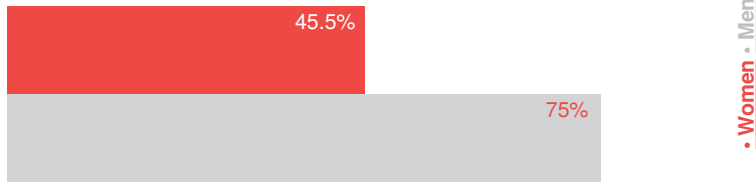
Whereas 10 out of 11 women murdered in Montenegro between 2012 and 2016 were killed by their intimate partners, only one out of 77 men killed in the same period was killed by his intimate partner.



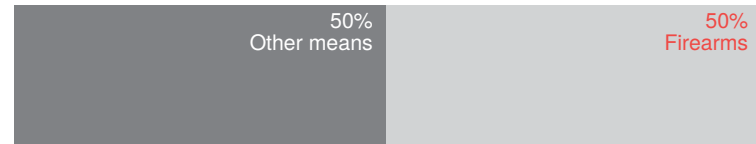
• Firearms
• Other means

Firearms are the most frequently used weapon when family-related homicide is committed. 53.3% of people who were killed by a family member were killed with firearms

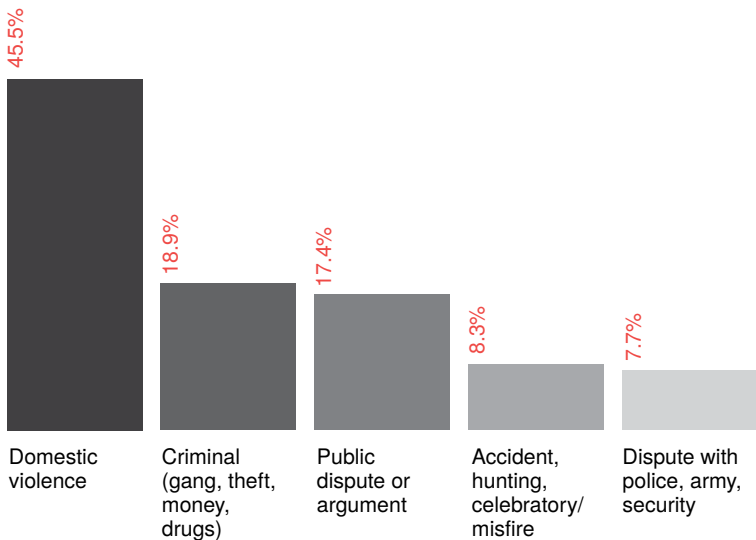
8 out of 15 people killed by a family member were killed with a firearm from 2012 to 2016. →



Family-related homicide committed with firearms out of total family-related homicides, by sex, 2012-2016



Women killed by intimate partner with firearms and other means, 2012-2016



Frequency of fatal outcome according to type of incident, 2014-2018 (Source: AVMP)

→ Although women account for the majority of victims of family-related homicides, men are proportionately more likely to be killed with firearms by a family member. 5 out of 11 women and 3 out of 4 men killed by a family member were killed with firearms.

5 out of 10 women killed by an intimate partner were killed with firearms

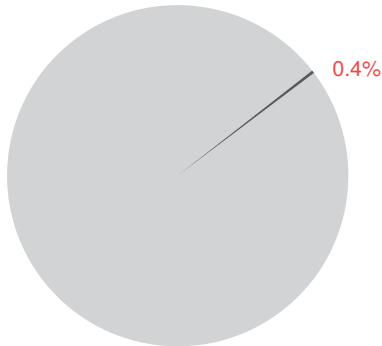
The misuse of firearms in domestic violence is more lethal than in any other type of incident

45.5% of incidents of domestic violence that involved firearms resulted in a lethal outcome

The likelihood of a fatal outcome was the highest in incidents of domestic violence and was 2.5 times higher than in criminal incidents.

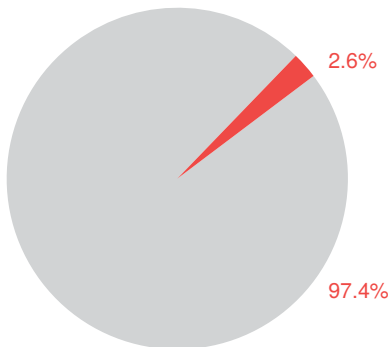


Rejected applicants for new licences, by the grounds for rejection, 2012-2016



- Reported cases of criminal offense
- Reported cases of criminal offense of domestic violence in which the misuse of firearms was reported

Reported misuse of firearms in cases of the criminal offense of domestic violence, 2012-2016



• Women • Men

Perpetrators of firearm-related criminal offences, by sex, 2012-2016

22.5% of all rejected applicants for licenses were rejected on the grounds of domestic violence

Out of 872 applicants whose application for new licenses were rejected from 2012 to 2016, 196 were rejected on the grounds of domestic violence.

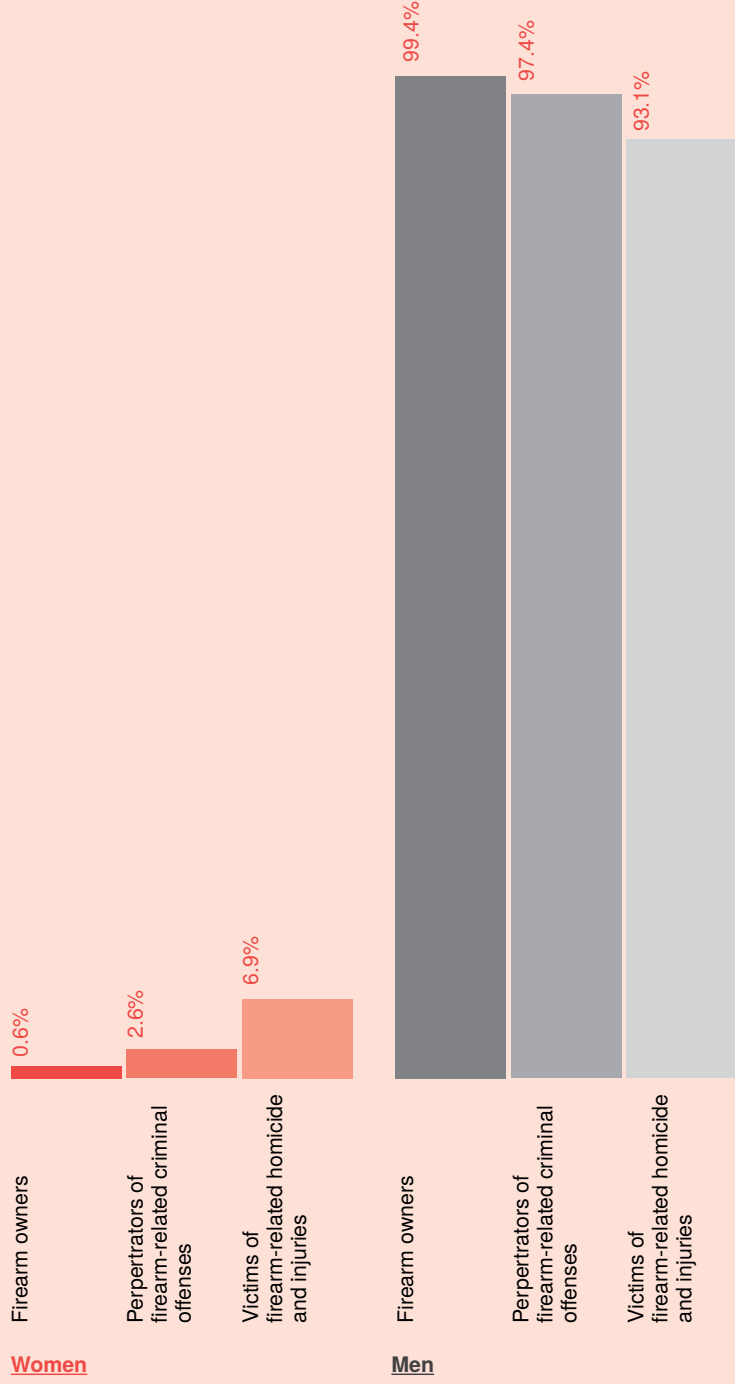
The misuse of firearms was reported in only 0.4% of registered criminal offenses of domestic violence

Out of 920 cases of domestic violence that were registered in the period 2012-2016, the misuse of firearms was reported in merely 4 cases.

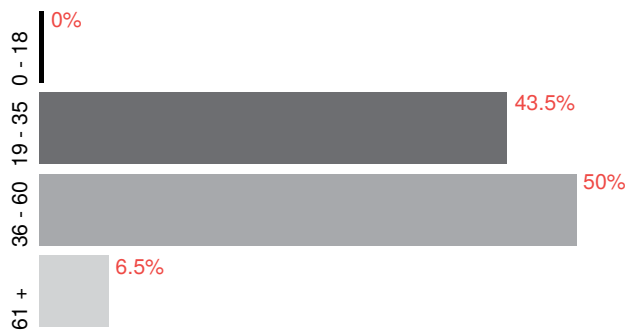
4 / PERPETRATORS

Men committed 97.4% of all firearm-related criminal offenses, while women committed only 2.6%

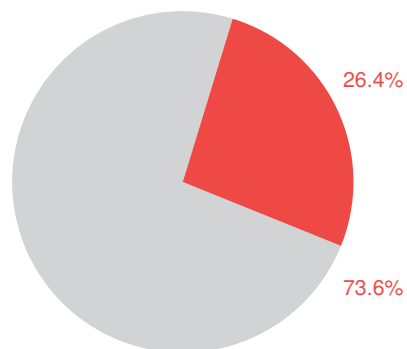
Firearms are predominantly misused by men. Out of 381 firearm-related criminal offenses committed within the period 2012-2016 where the sex of perpetrator was known, 371 were committed by men and only 10 by women.



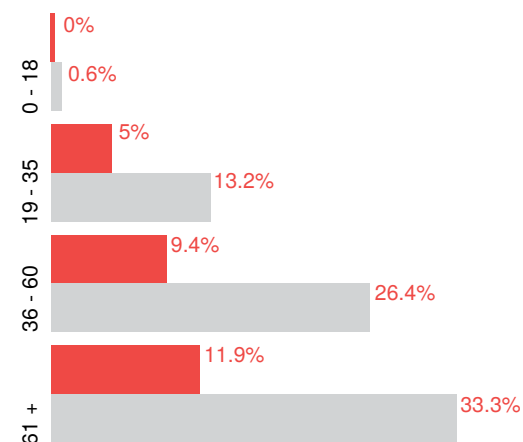
Men make up 99.4% of firearm owners and commit 97.4% of firearm-related criminal offenses. They also account for the majority of victims of firearm-related homicides and injuries (93.1%) but are proportionately more frequently the perpetrators than the victims of firearms misuse. Women, on the other hand, own only 0.6% of firearms, make up 2.6% of perpetrators of firearm-related criminal offenses and account for 6.9% of victims.



Male perpetrators of firearm-related homicide by age, 2012-2016



Firearm-related suicide victims, by sex, 2012-2016



Firearm-related suicide victims, by sex and age, 2012-2016

28

All firearm-related homicides were committed by men

Men committed all 46 firearm-related homicides from 2012 to 2016.

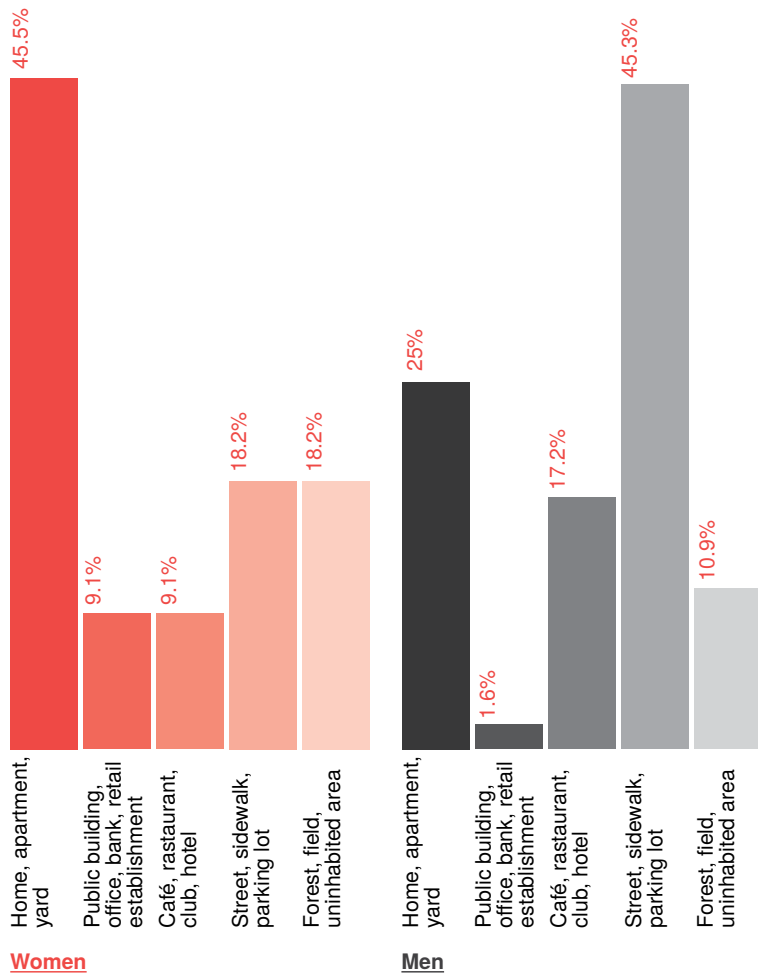
Every second male perpetrator of homicides is aged 36 to 60, followed by men in the 19 to 35 age group. These two age groups together account for an overwhelming majority of perpetrators of firearm homicides.

5 / SUICIDES

Men account for 73.6% of all firearm-related suicide victims and women for 26.4%

Suicides with firearms are highly gendered. Men represent slightly above three quarters (139) of people who committed suicides with firearms from 2012-2016, while women make up slightly less than one quarter (43). However, given that women account for only 0.6% of firearm owners, they are disproportionately represented among the victims.

Suicide is also age related. Both women and men aged 61 and older are significantly more likely to commit suicide than others, followed by the age group 36 to 60. 19 women and 63 men aged 61 and over and 15 women and 42 men aged 36 to 60 committed suicide using a firearm. Together these two age groups account for more than 81.1% of all firearm suicides.



Location of firearm-related homicide, by sex, 2012-2016



45.5% of women and 25% of men killed with firearms were killed in their homes, apartments or yards

Women are two times more likely than men to be killed in their private spaces.

45.3% of men and 18.2% killed with firearms were killed in the streets

Men are 2.5 times more likely to be killed in such settings than women.

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