ALBANIA
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS (SALW) SURVEY

FAST FACTS
2012 - 2016

THE PURPOSE OF SALW SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION OF TRENDS IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF SALW
The type, quantity, possession, distribution, legal/illega trade, production and movement of SALW

IDENTIFICATION OF IMPACT OF SALW ON CITIZENS
Firearm-related incidents and their characteristics

IDENTIFICATION OF PUBLIC PERCEPTION ON SALW
Public perception regarding firearms use, ownership, violence, and community safety

SALW POSITIVE TRENDS 2012-2016

5.9% DECREASE IN FIREARM CRIMINAL OFFENSES (1,356 TO 1,275)*

84.8% DECREASE IN BURGLARY WITH FIREARMS (99 TO 15)

36.8% DECREASE IN ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS (716 TO 452)

SALW NEGATIVE TRENDS 2012-2016

30.8% DECREASE IN CONFISCATED FIREARMS (853 TO 590)

30% INCREASE IN TRAFFICKING OFFENSES COMMITTED WITH FIREARMS (20 TO 26)

14% INCREASE IN UNLAWFUL MANUFACTURE, POSSESSION, CARRYING AND SALE OF FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES CASES (920 TO 1,049)

*This refers to criminal offenses for which data on the means used was available.
## SALW DISTRIBUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Number of Firearms Held by</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Trend 2012-2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institutions, Civilians, and Private Entities</td>
<td>121,940</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilians</td>
<td>98,425</td>
<td>80.7%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutions</td>
<td>20,268</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
<td>-18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Entities</td>
<td>3,247</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>-43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Trends 2012-2016

- Total number of firearms held by civilians: 98,425 (80.7%) increased by 6.7%.
- Total number of firearms held by institutions: 20,268 (16.6%) decreased by 18.1%.
- Total number of firearms held by private entities: 3,247 (2.7%) decreased by 43%.

## Key Facts

- 2,993 cases of illegal possession of firearms recorded
- 4,194 firearms confiscated
- 1,987 surplus SALW destroyed
- 56 cases of firearm trafficking recorded
- 25,036 firearm ammunition trafficked recorded
- 3,379 firearms seized

## Myth vs. Fact

- Myth: Majority of firearm licenses are held by men
  - Fact: Men held 98.9% of all firearm licenses
- Myth: Majority of firearms are held by private security companies
  - Fact: Self-defense is the most cited reason for holding firearms
- Myth: Firearms in possession of sales shops is 70.5% in 2016
  - Fact: 99.8% of individuals who held firearm licenses cited hunting as a reason

Source: [https://www.seesac.org/f/docs/SALW-surveys/WEB_ALBANIA-SALW-SURVEY_ENG.PDF](https://www.seesac.org/f/docs/SALW-surveys/WEB_ALBANIA-SALW-SURVEY_ENG.PDF)
### Impact of SALW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criminal Offense</th>
<th>Registered</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unlawful Manufacture, Possession, Carrying and Sale of Firearms and Explosives</td>
<td>5,163</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
<td>14% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted Murder</td>
<td>852</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>-40% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>-50% ↓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Trends 2012-2016

-5.9% ↓

### Key Facts

- **303** cases of burglary recorded
- Firearms caused **32** accidental deaths
- **115** cases of homicide committed by family members
- **62** cases of firearm related suicides recorded
- 15.5% cases of deaths caused by assault rifles and light machine guns
- 8.4% cases of deaths caused by revolvers and self-loading pistols

### Myth vs. Fact

- **MYTH**: Criminal offenses are usually committed with illegal firearms
  - **FACT**: 86.3% of firearm-related criminal offenses were committed with illegal firearms
- **MYTH**: Aggravated murders are the most frequent firearm-related criminal offenses
  - **MYTH**: Only 0.6% of all firearm-related criminal offenses were aggravated murders
- **MYTH**: Firearms are the most frequently used in suicide cases
  - **MYTH**: Firearms were used only in 5.6% of the suicide cases

**Source:** https://www.seesac.org/docs/salw-surveys/web_albania-salw-survey_eng.pdf
Online Public Survey on Perceptions on the Use, Ownership and Dangers of Firearms

15,163 respondents accessed the online perception survey.

- 49% women
- 51% men
- 41% urban
- 45% employed
- 19% rural

- 71% of the respondents reported they had never had an experience with a gun.
- 78% of the respondents stated that they would not own a gun.
- 31% of surveyed men had some form of direct personal experience with a gun.
- 30% of the respondents aged 16-24 were most likely to own a gun.
- 34% of surveyed men aged 16-24 were most likely to own a gun.
- 15% of surveyed women have experienced the use of a gun.

Key Facts:

- 50% of respondents who would own a gun cited “protection/safety” as a reason.
- 60% of respondents who had a gun directed at them would own a gun.
- 73% of those who said that having a gun at home would increase their safety would own a gun.
- 73% of respondents who had experienced gun violence within the past year would own a gun.
- 75% of surveyed women aged 55-64 would feel less safe with a gun at home.
- 19% of respondents reported hunting/sport as a reason to own a gun.

Community Safety:

- 86% of respondents reported they were aware of the penalties for illegal firearms possession.
- 45% of respondents reported that among the greatest factors that promote the use of guns are videos showing guns.
- 4% of respondents believed that “more people owning guns to protect themselves” would be most effective in making communities safer.
- 25% of respondents believed that “more police or authorities present” would be most effective to making their community safer.

### Gender, Age and SALW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>Of women murdered by family members were killed with a firearm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86.4%</td>
<td>Of victims of firearm-related incidents were men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98.8%</td>
<td>Of all firearm-related incidents were committed by men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87.5%</td>
<td>Of women were killed by their intimate partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70.5%</td>
<td>Of all women killed were killed by family members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.1%</td>
<td>Of all victims of firearm-related incidents were men aged 19-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>Of firearm-related incidents were committed by men aged 19-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57.6%</td>
<td>Of all firearm license holders were men aged 36-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Of the licenses held by women were for hunting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99.8%</td>
<td>Of the licenses held by men were for hunting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SALW and Domestic Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32.4%</td>
<td>Of family-related homicides were committed with firearms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>Family-related homicides out of total homicides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70.5%</td>
<td>Intimate partner homicide out of total homicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>Firearm-related homicides, by location such as home, apartment and yard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70.3%</td>
<td>70.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: [https://www.seesac.org/f/docs/SALW-surveys/Web_Alabania-SALW-survey_ENG.pdf](https://www.seesac.org/f/docs/SALW-surveys/Web_Alabania-SALW-survey_ENG.pdf)
UNDP SEESAC
- Technical Support
- Methodology and Data Collection Process
- Quality Assurance
- Analyses of data on distribution and impact

SALW SURVEY METHODOLOGY

SALW COMMISSION
- Coordinating Data Collection Process
- Collection and Quality Control of Data on Distribution and Impact

Online Random Domain Intercept Technology
- Data on public perceptions regarding the use, possession and dangers of firearms