Responses to the UN-IAFQ (2018 data collection exercise on firearms) and other countries/territories with partial or supplementary data from other sources

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Dashed lines represent undetermined boundaries. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. The final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined. A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).
Total of 74 UN-IAFQs with quantitative data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic (question group)</th>
<th># countries with data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seizures, core questions by type of weapon</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seizures, disaggregation by secondary variables</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal context</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Found and surrendered (any quantitative data)</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammunition (seizures)</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracing outcome</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant seizures</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parts and components (seizures)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Routing (various questions)</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracing requests</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In addition, 6 countries provided only metadata or qualitative data*
Total of 74 UN-IAFQs with quantitative data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Union</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*a In addition, 6 countries provided only metadata or qualitative data

Supplementary sources

- UNODA: 4 countries
- Other national sources: 3 countries

Complementary source: Customs data (WCO)

59 countries
3,629 cases of firearms & related items
Including a total of 4,941 firearms seized in 1,567 cases

Consultation with MS through
- pre-publication draft
- focal points
Average distribution* of reported seized arms, by type, 2016-17

- **Firearms/SALWs, 72%**
- **Pistols, 39%**
- **Shotguns, 25%**
- **Rifles, 18%**
- **Revolvers, 14%**
- **Submachine guns, 3%**
- **Machine guns, 1%**
- **Other SALWs**
- **Other undistinguished weapons (unspecified/aggregate)**
- **Unclassified/unknown**
- **Weapons or related items other than firearms/SALWs, including:**

*Simple average based on data for 81 countries.
**Includes weapons reported under “Other” without sufficient information to allow further classification; some of these weapons may be firearms or SALWs.
***For some countries, the reported seizure data included weapons other than firearms/SALWs; however data on such weapons were not explicitly requested by the questionnaire. Hence the share of such weapons is subject to variations in the reporting practice across countries.
Regional variations in the types of seized arms

Average distributions* of seized firearms/SALWs by type, according to region, 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Pistols</th>
<th>Rifles</th>
<th>Revolvers</th>
<th>Unclassified/unknown</th>
<th>Other undistinguished weapons (unspecified/aggregate)**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa (18 countries)</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas (26 countries)</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia (10 countries)</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe (26 countries)</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania (1 country)</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average distribution* in Europe, 2016-17 (26 countries)

- Firearms/SALWs, 62%
- Pistols, 35%
- Revolvers, 11%
- Shotguns, 22%
- Weapons or related items other than firearms/SALWs, including:**
- Pneumatic, blank-firing and gas weapons***
- Other undistinguished weapons (unspecified/aggregate)**
- Unclassified/unknown
- Submachine guns, 3%
- Machine guns, 2%
- Other SALWs

Average distribution* in the Americas, 2016-17 (26 countries)

- Firearms/SALWs, 79%
- Pistols, 52%
- Revolvers, 14%
- Shotguns, 14%
- Other SALWs
- Other firearms, 1%
- Submachine guns, 1%
- Machine guns, 1%
- Other SALWs
- Other firearms, 1%

** Simple averages of distributions.
** Includes weapons reported under “Other” without sufficient information to allow further classification; some of these weapons may be firearms or SALWs.
*** For some countries, the reported seizure data included weapons other than firearms/SALWs; however data on such weapons were not explicitly requested by the questionnaire. Hence the share of such weapons is subject to variations in the reporting practice across countries.

Sources: UNODC IAFQ and other official sources.
Case by case information on customs seizures

Breakdowns of customs seizures, by size* of seizure case

* The size of a seizure case refers to the number of firearms seized in that particular instance.
  a A case is considered “small” if between 2 and 5 firearms were seized in that particular instance.
  b A case is considered “medium” if between 6 and 10 firearms were seized in that particular instance.
  c A case is considered “large” if between 11 and 17 firearms were seized in that particular instance.
  d A case is considered “exceptionally large” if at least 18 firearms were seized in that particular instance.

Source: World Customs Organization.
Average distribution* in a single country of seized arms, by legal justification, 2016-17

- Altered markings: 1%
- Illicit manufacture: 1%
- Illicit use: 8%
- Arms trafficking: 9%
- Other: 17%
- Illicit possession: 64%

Criminal context of seizures, measured by arms seized in context as average proportion* of arms seized in a single country, 2016-17

* Simple average of data 48 countries, adjusted for seizures whose legal justification was unknown or unclassified.

Source: UNODC IAFQ.
Legal justification and criminal context – regional perspective

Average national distributions* of seized arms by legal justification, according to region, 2016-17

- **Europe*** (16 countries): 76% Illicit possession, 8% Arms trafficking, 8% Illicit use, 7% Altered markings, 7% Illicit manufacture
- **Africa*** (9 countries): 67% Illicit possession, 7% Arms trafficking, 8% Illicit use, 15% Other
- **Latin America and the Caribbean*** (16 countries): 44% Illicit possession, 14% Arms trafficking, 9% Illicit use, 31% Other

Arms seized in the context (confirmed or suspected) of trafficking, as proportion* of overall seizures in a given country (averages by region), 2016-17

- **Latin America and the Caribbean*** (7 countries): 20% Proportion of seized arms (percentage)
- **Africa*** (7 countries): 35% Proportion of seized arms (percentage)
- **Europe*** (15 countries): 15% Proportion of seized arms (percentage)

* Based on data for 36 countries (simple averages).

Note: Error bars reflect uncertainty due to potential overlaps in recording of trafficking as a legal justification and as a criminal context.

Source: UNODC IAFQ.
Seizures of ammunition in relation to seizures of arms, by country, 2017

* 25th -75th percentile (interquartile range).
Note: Countries with less than 5 arms seized in 2017 are excluded.
Source: UNODC IAFQ.
Parts and components

Seizures of parts and components in relation to seizures of arms, by country, 2017

Association between seizures of parts and components and condition of seized arms, 2017

Sources: UNODC IAFQ.
Relative frequency of seizures of weapons and related items by customs, by type, 2016-17

Source: World Customs Organization.
Marking status

Average national distributions of seized arms by marking status, global and by region, 2016-17

Africa (9 countries)
- Uniquely marked, 82%
- No markings, 17%
- Altered markings, 1%

Europe (11 countries)
- Uniquely marked, 87%
- No markings, 7%
- Altered markings, 6%

Latin America and the Caribbean (12 countries)
- Uniquely marked, 94%
- No markings, 1%
- Altered markings, 5%

Global (38 countries)
- Uniquely marked, 85%
- No markings, 11%
- Altered markings, 4%

Notes: Simple averages of distributions. Adjusted for arms whose marking status was unknown or unclassified.
Source: UNODC IAFQ.
Main transnational firearms trafficking flows (as defined by routes of seized firearms), 2016-17

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Sources: UNODC elaboration of data from Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire and World Customs Organization.
Distribution of subregions identified as departure of incoming illicit flows (inner circle) and manufacture (external circle) for seizures made in South America, 2016-17

Country of provenance of arms seized on an incoming route, breakdown into country of manufacture versus third country, 2016-17

* This distribution is heavily impacted by two large seizures by the same country and from the same country of provenance. Excluding these two large cases, the distribution is: 22 per cent of weapons for which the country of provenance coincided with the country of manufacture, 78 per cent of weapons for which the country of provenance was another country.

Note: Based on reported significant cases of weapons seized on an incoming route for which the country of provenance (country from which the seized arms entered the country of seizure) and as the country of manufacture of the seized weapons were both available (7 countries).
Domestically diverted arms as proportion* of seized arms of illicit origin – ranges (based on uniquely marked arms only), 2016-17

*Simple averages
SDG 16.4.2: Proportion of seized, found and surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments.
Ratio of illicit to licit prices of firearms, by country, 2016-17

A ratio larger than 1 means that the price on the illicit market was higher than the corresponding price (for the same type of firearm) than the price on the licit market. A ratio smaller than 1 means that the price on the illicit market was lower.

For North Macedonia, the same model of rifle was not available in the licit market; the comparison is based on a similar model.

For Australia, Dominican Republic, North Macedonia, Saint Lucia and Tunisia the ratio is based on the midpoint of the reported price ranges.

Note: Only data where price was available for comparable models of firearms in both the licit and illicit markets are included.

Source: UNODC IAFQ.
Links to other forms of crime

Other forms of crime (not connected to firearms offences) emerging in the context of arms seizures, measured by arms seized as proportion of overall seizures in a given country (averages by region), 2016-17

Estimated breakdown of intentional homicide worldwide, by mechanism of perpetration, 2017

Source: UNODC Homicide Statistics 2019
Homicides and firearms

Estimated distributions* of homicides in the Netherlands by mechanism, according to situational context, 2007-2015

* UNODC estimates based on independent disaggregations of homicides by mechanism and by situational context and derived using a model which assumes that the distributions remain stable over time. Available data from the Netherlands did not include a cross-disaggregation of homicides by mechanism and situational context.

Other topics

- Case-based analysis (individual seizure cases)
- Trafficking modalities
- Sustainable Development Goal 16.4.2
- Tracing requests
- Condition of seized arms
- Ammunition
- Parts and components
- Ant trafficking
- Nexus crime – terrorism: weapons exchange
- Association with drug trafficking (ARQ data) and homicide (CTS data)
- Firearms homicides