

GFSA Newsletter

November 2024

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More people shot dead than die on SA's roads

Despite a decline in murder in July to September, guns remain the leading weapon driving violent crime in SA according to the [latest national crime statistics](#).

These show that:

- 45% of murders and 60% of attempted murders were gun-related
- 2,976 people were shot dead between July and September 2024, an average of 32 people per day
- 46 people were wounded daily in gun-related attempted murders
- There was an 8.6% increase in murders of women (see [365 Days of Activism to protect women and children](#)) and a 7.5% increase in child murders

We call on our government to make tackling SA's gun violence crisis a top priority. To this end, GFSA has been engaging the Minister of Police to adopt a multi-pronged approach. This focuses on fundamental reforms that go beyond reactive policing to proactively addressing the weaknesses in SA's firearms control regime that increase the availability of firearms, which enable our high levels of gun violence.

Read more [here](#).

**18 people, including
15 women, shot dead
in Lusikisiki**

POLICE CRIME SCENE - DO NOT ENTER

28 September 2024

Gun Free South Africa

Keeping South Africa safe by reducing gun violence



365 Days of Activism to protect women and children

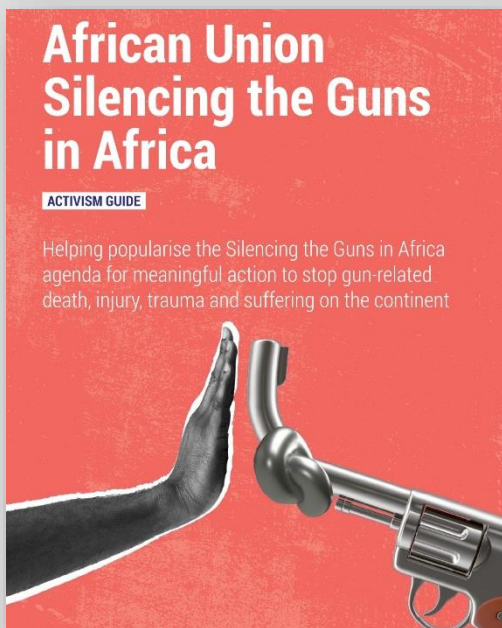
SA's latest crime statistics reveal a deeply troubling surge in murders of women and children. While the stats don't specify weapon types, other sources show the deadly role of guns:

- GFSA's [violence map](#) shows an alarming increase in women and children killed by gunshot
- The Medical Research Council's recent national [femicide study](#) confirms guns are the primary weapon used to murder women and girls
- The [Western Cape Health Department](#) reports 79 children died from stab or gunshot wounds between 1 September and 20 November

Mapping gun violence in SA

- 5 killed, 5 wounded in mass shooting as friends return from beach
- Tavern owner kills 7, including 3-year-old in mass shooting
- 4 suspected taxi hitmen killed in police shootout
- Man killed and his gun stolen by stranded motorist he stopped for
- 3 suspected hijackers armed with knife killed in shootout with armed motorist and armed criminals in second car
- Man shoots and kills his girlfriend, then self
- Security guard shot during cash-in-transit robbery, service gun stolen

These devastating figures expose the hollow promise of the 16 Days of Activism campaign currently being marked in SA. They demand urgent, year-round action that includes reducing gun availability to save lives.



Launch: Silencing the Guns in Africa Activism Guide

Join GFSA on 3 December for the launch of our Activism Guide titled *The African Union Silencing the Guns in Africa*, which was developed in partnership with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), under the Mobilising Men for Feminist Peace project. The guide is aimed at activists working to end gun-related death, injury, trauma and suffering on the continent.

Register [here](#) for the webinar.

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GFSA's 2022-2023 annual report now available



Highlights include:

- Prinsloo Guns class action
- Call to strengthen SA's Central Firearms Registry
- Using storytelling to stop gun violence
- Shifting public perception of GFSA

Download GFSA's 2022-23 annual report [here](#).



Functional Central Firearms Registry helps stop gun crime

With gun violence in SA reaching levels last seen in the 1990's, GFSA's latest Firearms Briefing answers the question 'How many guns are in SA?'

Using parliamentary replies and responses to Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA) requests, it shows that SA's Central Firearms Registry gives contradictory numbers for how many guns are legally owned by the state and civilians. This creates

confusion and opens loopholes allowing the

leakage of guns into criminal hands. In compliance with SA's legal and political obligations under various firearms protocols, firearm-related record-keeping must be treated as a crime-fighting tool, not an administrative function.

Download Briefing *Record-keeping is a crime fighting tool* [here](#).

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