

24. SAFETY: REPORTED MURDERS

The number of murders per inhabitant is a main indicator of a region's safety level. Unlike other safety indicators, such as reported crime against property, the number of reported murders is less affected by the public propensity to report an offence. It is therefore more suitable for international comparison.

Mexico has the highest murder rate

According to the *UN Eight United Nations Survey on Crime Trends and the Operations of Criminal Justice Systems*, Mexico was the country with the highest murder rate (13) in 2002, followed by the United States (5.6) and Turkey (3.8). Japan, Austria, Greece and Luxembourg were the countries with the lowest (Figure 24.1).

The United States has the biggest variation across regions

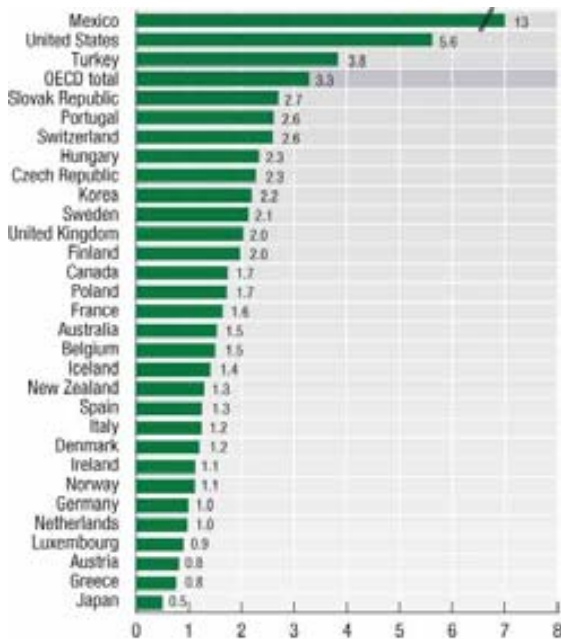
Murder rates in the United States and Canada show the greatest regional variation from the national

average (Figure 24.2). In both, the variation is due to an outlier region with a very high rate. In the United States, it is the District of Columbia with 7.9 times the national average, and in Canada it is the Northwest Territories (5.7). Australia, France and Italy also show large regional variations from the national average. In Australia, the Northern Territory has 3.6 times the national average and in France, Corsica has 3.3 times the national average. In Italy and the United States, Calabria (2.7) and Louisiana (2.3), respectively, register a murder rate more than double the national average.

The countries with the smallest regional variation in murder rates are the Netherlands, New Zealand and Sweden. Maine (United States) and Yucatan (Mexico), have values up to 80% lower than their country average.

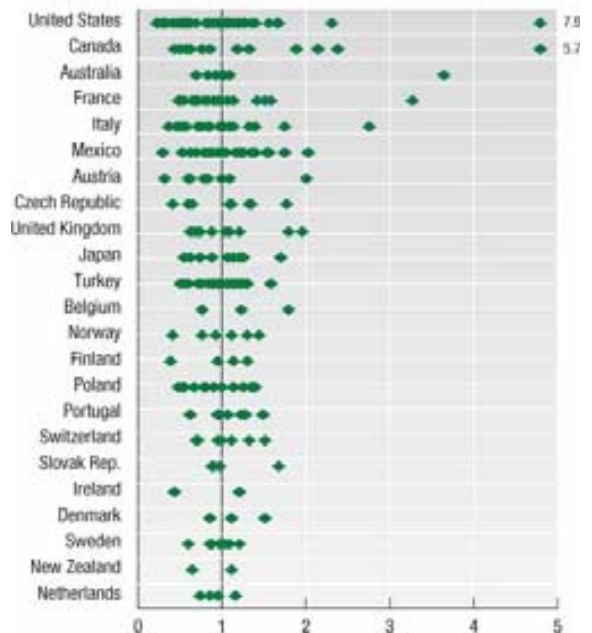
24.1. Mexico displays the highest number of reported murders per 100 000 population

Murder rates by country, 2003



24.2. The United States and Canada have the largest regional variation in their murder rates

Variation around the national average of the murder rate, 2003 (TL2)



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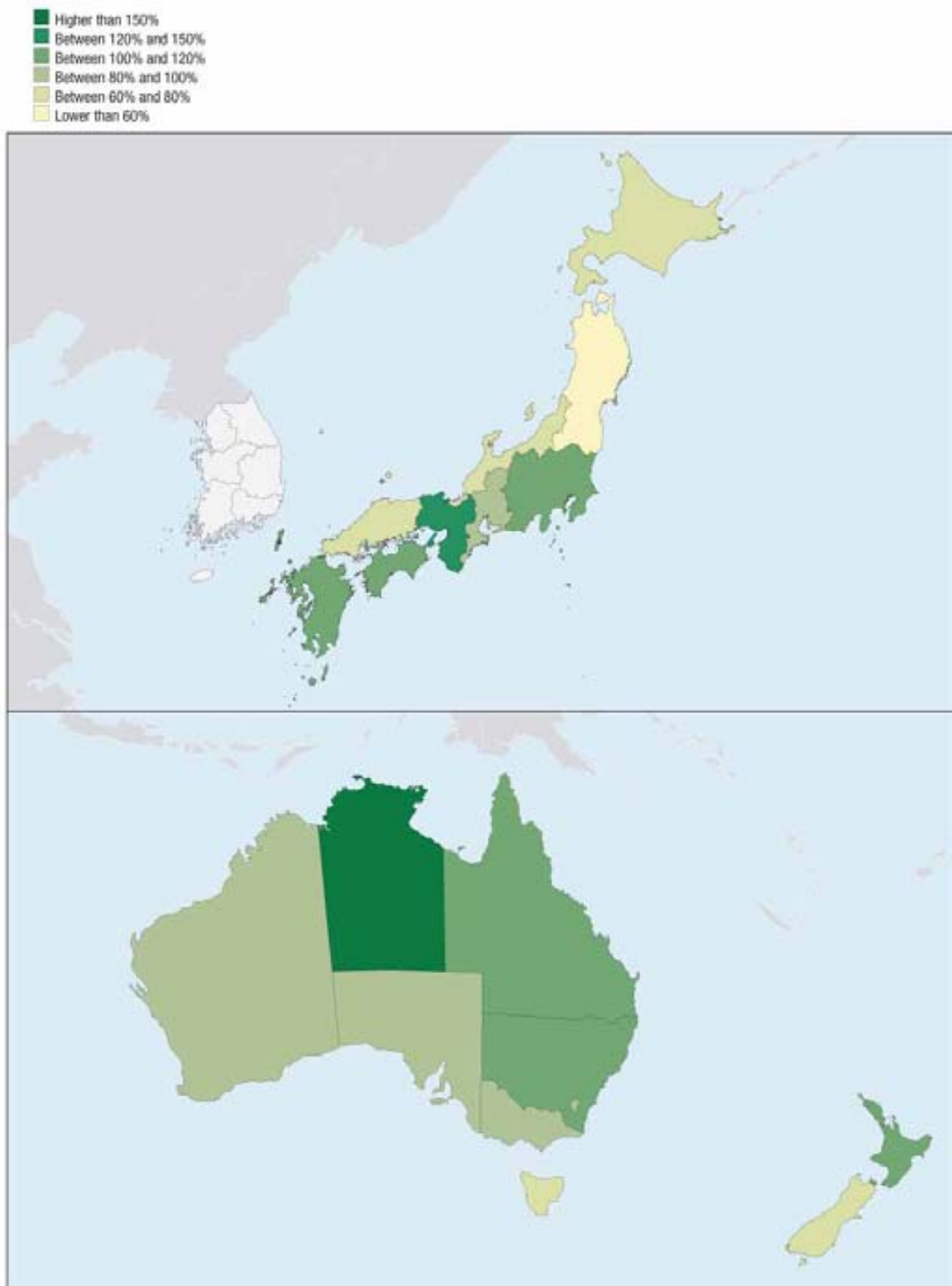
Definition

The rate of murders is the number of murders per 100 000 population.

Reported murders are the number of murders reported to the police. Murder is the unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought, more explicitly wilful murder.

24.3. Regional murders per inhabitant: Asia and Oceania

As a percentage of the national average, 2003

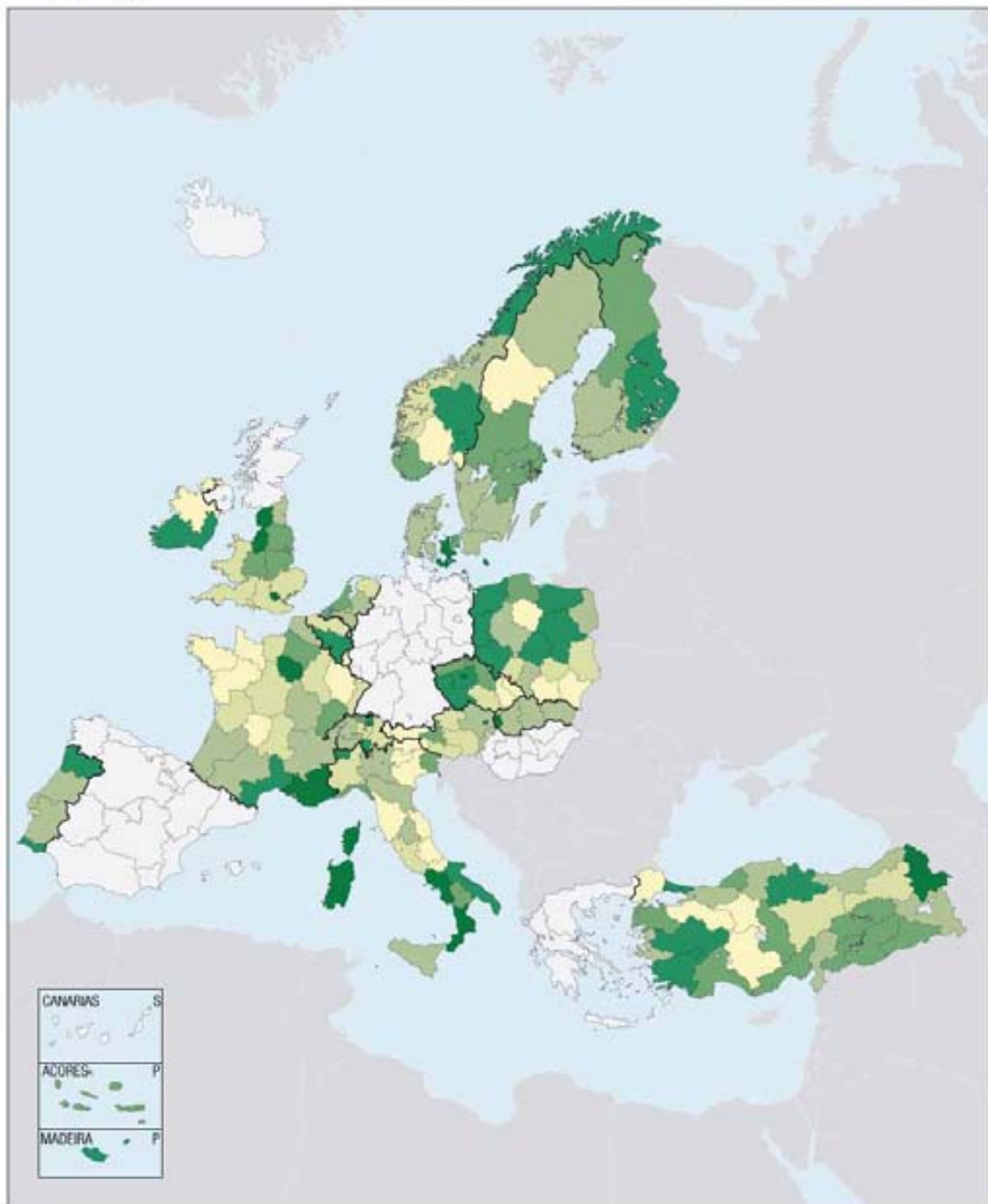



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24.4. Regional murders per inhabitant: Europe

As a percentage of the national average, 2003

- Higher than 150%
- Between 120% and 150%
- Between 100% and 120%
- Between 80% and 100%
- Between 60% and 80%
- Lower than 60%

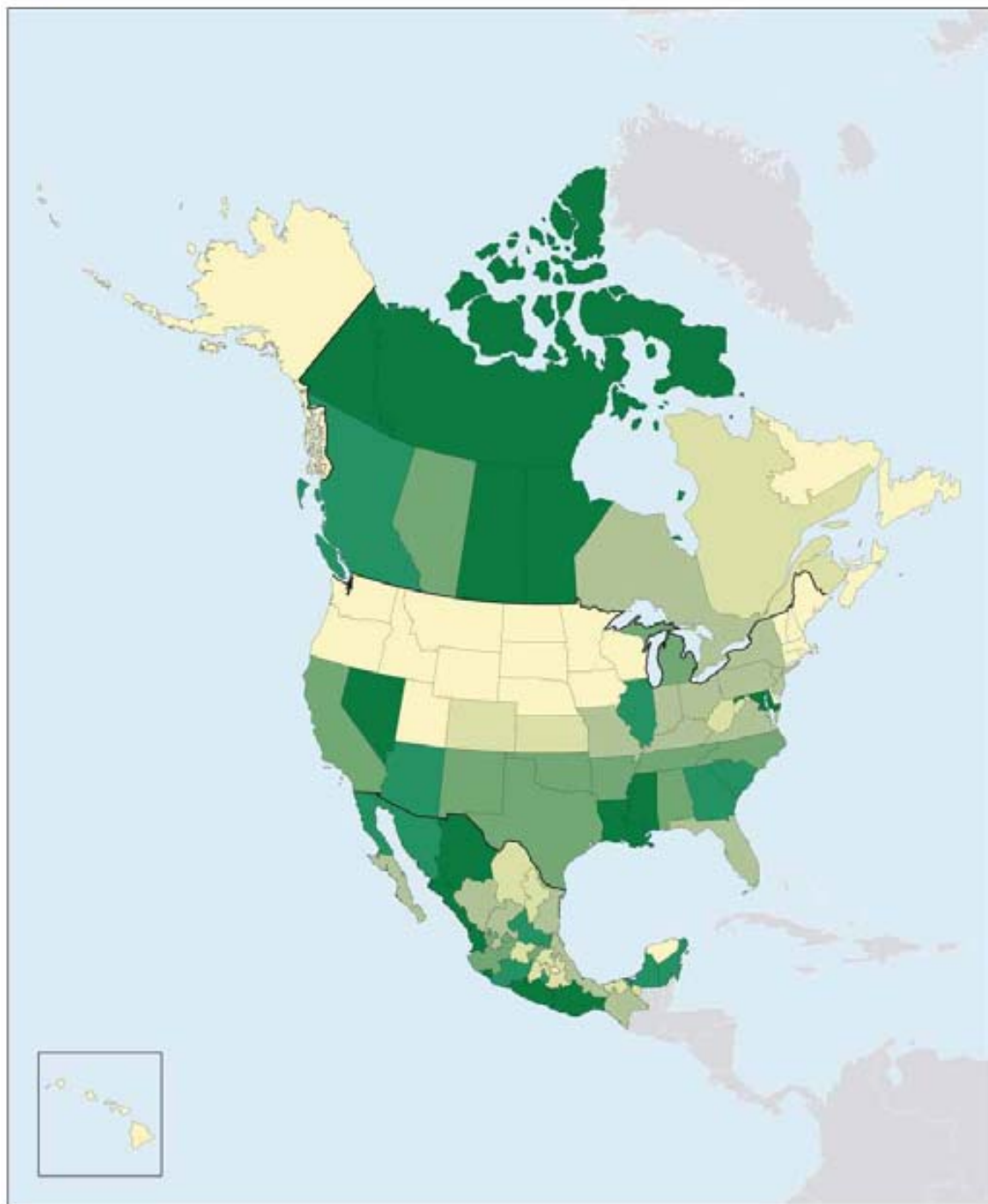



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24.5. Regional murders per inhabitant: North America

As a percentage of the national average, 2003

- Higher than 150%
- Between 120% and 150%
- Between 100% and 120%
- Between 80% and 100%
- Between 60% and 80%
- Lower than 60%



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/100216724512>

Symbols and Abbreviations

OECD (25) average	Unweighted average of 25 OECD countries.
OECD (25) total	Sum over all regions of 25 OECD countries.
OECD (25)	Range of variation over all regions of 25 OECD countries.
TL2	Territorial Level 2.
TL3	Territorial Level 3
NOG	Non Official Grid
*	Differences in the definition of data or regions. Please check the “Sources and Methodology” section.
PU	Predominantly Urban
IN	Intermediate
PR	Predominantly Rural
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
USD	United States Dollar





I. REGIONS AS ACTORS OF NATIONAL GROWTH

1. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF POPULATION
2. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF THE ELDERLY POPULATION
3. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF GDP
4. REGIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO GROWTH IN NATIONAL GDP
5. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF INDUSTRIES
6. REGIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT
7. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF PATENTS

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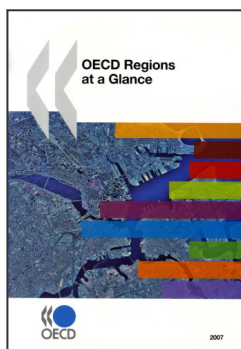
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