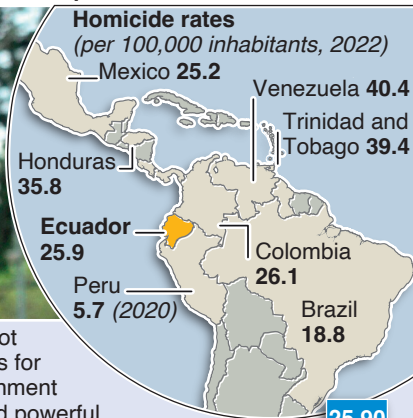


Ecuador's soaring homicide rates

Presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio, who was outspoken over links between organised crime and government officials, has been assassinated in the capital, Quito



■ **Aug 9: Fernando Villavicencio** shot dead. Journalist received death threats for exposing alleged links between government of former President **Rafael Correa** and powerful narco-trafficking industry

Ecuador's mounting homicide rates
(per 100,000 inhabitants)

■ **Jul 23: Mayor of Manta, Agustín Intriago**, gunned down amid rising drug-linked gang violence

