



**Western Cape  
Government**

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Department of Community Safety  
Sub-programme: Policy and Research

# **Western Cape Crime Trends**

2021/22

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# Executive summary

The Western Cape crime analysis report is an annual publication issued by the Department of Community Safety. It is primarily based on the South African Police Service (SAPS) crime statistics for the previous financial year which is normally published in September. The annual statistics for 2020/21 were released in December 2021. The report provides crime trends, crime changes and identifies top contributing police stations per selected crime category for the 2020/21 financial year. Furthermore, it determines the Western Cape proportion of crime in relation to the country's reported crimes.

Encouragingly, the 2020/21 crime statistics show significant decreases in the major crime categories namely, contact crime (17.06%), property related crimes (25%), contact related crime (10.5%) and other serious crimes (22.19%). Overall, the 17 community-reported serious crimes and total crime detected as a result of police action decreased by 20.14% and 34.76% respectively when compared with the previous year. The decrease in crime should be understood in the context of Covid-19. Contact crime decreased during lockdown levels 5 to 3 and increased steadily as lockdown levels were eased. The detection of all categories of crime has been negatively affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, due to restricted movements and the ban of alcohol that were imposed during lockdown.

With the estimated population of 7 005 741 in the Western Cape and 3 848 reported murder cases, the murder rate is 54.5/100 000. There are 151 police precincts in the province of which just 10 (7%) accounted for 46.65% of murders and 38.64% of attempted murders. Murders decreased by 3.19% (127 counts) from 3 975 in 2019/20 to 3 848 in 2020/21 in the Western Cape.

The spatial distribution of murder in the province suggests that police precincts with the highest concentration of reported murder are located within the City of Cape Town. Most of these police precincts are in close proximity to one another and are mainly in the Cape Flats.

The 2020/21 financial year crime statistics shows that Khayelitsha, with 265 murders, recorded the highest number of murders for the year. Delft police precinct follows with 224 murders.

The province contributed 36.8% (44 621) of all drug-related crime in the country (121 359) despite the 28.8% (18 087 counts) decrease from 62 708 recorded in 2019/20.

The Western Cape Provincial Safety Plan of 2019 establishes the aim to reduce murder in the Province by 50% over a 10 year period. This report monitors trends as part of this process.

# 1. INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXTUAL BACKGROUND

The South African Police Service (SAPS) annually releases reported and recorded crime statistics for the financial year (April – March). This includes crime reported to and recorded by the SAPS. Over the past decade these crime statistics have been released in September – six months after the end of the financial year. The crime statistics for the 2020/21 financial year were released in December 2021. During the year, the quarterly crime statistics were also released.

Overall, a total of 308 370 crimes were recorded by the SAPS for the Western Cape in the 2020/21 financial year. These figures include the 17 community-reported serious crimes and total crime detected as a result of police action. The 17 community-reported serious crimes accounted for 83.5% (257 372 counts) and the total crime detected as a result of police action accounted for 16.5% (50 998 counts). Overall, crimes recorded by the SAPS decreased by 22.9% (92 077) in the Western Cape from 400 447 recorded in 2019/20. This is a positive decrease, but it should be noted that this occurred within the context of the Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions.

The SAPS reports on crime categories and subcategories which comprise 17 community-reported serious crimes and four crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection.<sup>1</sup> The 17 community-reported serious crimes include contact crime,<sup>2</sup> contact related crimes<sup>3</sup> and property crime.<sup>4</sup> Crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection include, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, drug-related crime, illegal possession of firearms and ammunition and sexual offences detected as a result of police action. The SAPS also report on the trio crimes<sup>5</sup> and the sub-categories of robbery with aggravated circumstances.<sup>6</sup> Sexual offences are now disaggregated into rape, sexual assault, attempted sexual offences and contact sexual offences.

The current report presents an analysis of the 2020/21 crime statistics released by the SAPS. The analysis focuses on the Western Cape crime landscape and presents crime patterns and trends, percentage changes (increases and decreases) and a comparative analysis amongst these crime categories. It outlines the limitations of the crime statistics, the methodological approach used in analysing the statistics and a summary of the sub-categories of crimes. It further highlights the Western Cape's contribution to selected crimes in relation to the other provinces and outlines the reported crime for the highest 10 crime precincts in the province. Finally, it presents an analysis of selected crimes in the 16 Area Based Team (ABT) police precincts in the province.

## 1.1. Limitations of crime statistics

Quarterly crime statistics were released at the end of each quarter of the year. When the annual statistics were released in December 2021, these quarterly statistics had been audited and updated. This report uses the annual statistics rather than those released quarterly.

Although an analysis of crime statistics published by the SAPS is useful, Schnetler and Lancaster (2018) propose that crime statistics should be used as a management information tool to serve as a basis for strategic and operational planning purposes and to inform the public about crime trends

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<sup>1</sup> Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, drug-related crime, illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, sexual offences as result of police action.

<sup>2</sup> Murder, attempted murder, assault GBH, common assault, common robbery, robbery aggravated, sexual offences.

<sup>3</sup> Arson and malicious damage to property.

<sup>4</sup> Burglary at non-residential premises, burglary at residential premises, stock theft, theft of and theft out of motor vehicle.

<sup>5</sup> Trio crimes forms part of robbery aggravated and include carjacking, house robbery and business robbery.

<sup>6</sup> Bank robbery, carjacking, robbery at non-residential and robbery at residential premises, robbery of cash in transit, truck hijacking.

and tendencies in the province. The limitations of crime statistics should be understood as being dependent on the willingness of the public and victims to report crime to the police and their associated reasons, which include having a case number for insurance claims, confidence that justice will be served, and the perpetrator will be caught and an appropriate penalty be meted upon him/her.<sup>7</sup>

Attempts have been made to present contact crime in relation to the population. Presenting crime rates (which represent crimes per 100 000 of the population) makes for a better comparative analysis between different geographical areas, as it allows for an accurate measure of how crime rates affect and impact individuals in different geographical areas with different population sizes. Kriegler and Shaw,<sup>8</sup> in support of Newham, maintained that presenting crime per 100 000 of the population is an internationally acceptable standard.<sup>9</sup> It allows for a fair comparison in terms of the risk of crime to different stakeholders, and provides a comparison over time in different areas.

Under-reporting poses another challenge to an accurate determination of crime statistics. With the exception of murder and crimes detected as a result of police action, a crime will only be recorded if a victim comes forward or if police detect the crime. Schnetler and Lancaster, (2018) argue that if the public have trust and confidence in the police, and in the criminal justice system, the likely outcome is that more people will report crimes, and this is likely to increase the number of reported crimes.<sup>10</sup> The national Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) attributes under-reporting to the reluctance of victims to disclose information and incidents that are sensitive in nature.<sup>11</sup>

## 2. METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

The 2020/21 crime statistics used in this report was published in the SAPS website. SAPS no longer publishes the rate of crimes per population. The methodological approach adopted in the report includes the calculation of crime trends for the Western Cape. The mid-July 2020 population statistics was used to determine the contact crime rate for the 2020/21 financial year. Furthermore, the proportion of crime generated by the Western Cape was determined. Such analysis provides a rich insight into how the province has been doing over the period of time. The top 10 police precincts per selected crime categories were identified based on reported crime per financial year. In the main Microsoft Excel was the analytical tools used to do the crime analysis. In addition, a Geographic Information System (GIS) was used to map the geography of murder in the province, with the assistance of the Provincial Data Office, Department of the Premier.

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<sup>7</sup>Schnetler J. and Lancaster, L. (2018). *Should the police performance be assessed using crime statistics?* Available online at <https://issafrica.org/research/policy-brief/should-the-police-be-assessed-using-crime-statistics>. Accessed in November 2020.

<sup>8</sup> Kriegler, A. and Shaw, M. (2016). *A citizen's guide to crime trends in South Africa*. Jonathan Ball Publishers, Cape Town.

<sup>9</sup> Newham, G. (2013). *The police serious crime stats bungle-iss*. Available on line at <http://www.politicsweb.co.za/party/the-policies-serious-crime-stats-bungle-iss>. Accessed in June 2015.

<sup>10</sup> Schnetler J. and Lancaster, L. (2018). *Should the police performance be assessed using crime statistics?* Available online at <https://issafrica.org/research/policy-brief/should-the-police-be-assessed-using-crime-statistics>. Accessed in November 2020

<sup>11</sup> Statistics South Africa. (2019). *Victims of crime survey, 2018/19*. Available online at <http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P0341/P03412018.pdf>. Access on 4 December 2019: p. 1.

### 3. WESTERN CAPE AND REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Overall, recorded crime decreased by 22.9% in the province from 400 447 in 2019/20 to 308 370 in 2020/21, compared to a 19.8% decrease nationally (Table 1).
- The 17 community-reported serious contact crimes decreased by 20.14% in the Western Cape and 16.42% nationally.
- Reported contact crime decreased by 17.06% in the Western Cape and by 13.8% nationally.
- Property-related crime decreased by 25% in the province and by 21.2% nationally.
- Crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection decreased by 34.8% provincially, and 38.9% nationally.
- The murder rate in the Western Cape is 54.5 per 100 000 of the population, which is higher than the national rate of 33.3 per 100 000. Murders decreased by 3.19% in the Western Cape in 2020/21, and by 6.3% nationally.
- Khayelitsha police precinct, recorded 265 murders accounting for 14.76% of the murders in the top 10 police stations.
- The Western Cape drug-related crime decreased by 28.8% (18 087) from 62 708 in 2019/20 to 44 621 in 2020/21. Still, the province contributed (36.8%) to the national drug-related crime in the 2020/21 financial year.

**TABLE 1: Comparative Crime Analysis for RSA and Western Cape Province, 2018/19 - 2020/21**

CRIME CATEGORY	REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA							WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE						
	2018/19	2019/2020	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ
Murder	21,022	21,325	303	1.40%	19,972	-1,353	-6.34%	3,974	3,975	1	0.00%	3,848	-127	-3.19%
Sexual offences	52,420	53,293	873	1.70%	46,214	-7,079	-13.28%	7,043	7,303	260	3.70%	6,437	-866	-11.86%
Attempted murder	18,980	18,635	-345	-1.80%	18,707	72	0.39%	3,860	3,555	-305	-7.90%	4,143	588	16.54%
Assault GBH	170,979	166,720	-4,259	-2.50%	143,393	-23,327	-13.99%	24,488	23,753	-735	-3.00%	19,452	-4,301	-18.11%
Common assault	162,012	165,494	3,482	2.10%	149,442	-16,052	-9.70%	39,202	38,992	-210	-0.50%	33,857	-5,135	-13.17%
Common robbery	51,765	51,825	60	0.10%	37,648	-14,177	-27.36%	11,355	11,381	26	0.20%	7,354	-4,027	-35.38%
Robbery aggravated	140,032	143,990	3,958	2.80%	119,841	-24,149	-16.77%	24,065	24,549	484	2.00%	19,050	-5,499	-22.40%
<b>TOTAL CONTACT CRIME</b>	<b>617,210</b>	<b>621,282</b>	<b>4,072</b>	<b>0.70%</b>	<b>535,217</b>	<b>-86,065</b>	<b>-13.85%</b>	<b>113,987</b>	<b>113,508</b>	<b>-479</b>	<b>-0.40%</b>	<b>94,141</b>	<b>-19,367</b>	<b>-17.06%</b>
CRIME CATEGORY	REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA							WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE						
	2018/19	2019/2020	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ
Rape	41,583	42,289	706	1.70%	36,330	-5,959	-14.09%	4,649	4,877	228	4.90%	4,442	-435	-8.92%
Sexual Assault	7,437	7,749	312	4.20%	7,025	-724	-9.34%	1,757	1,910	153	8.70%	1,440	-470	-24.61%
Attempted sexual offences	2,146	2,076	-70	-3.30%	1,800	-276	-13.29%	341	274	-67	-19.60%	321	47	17.15%
Contact Sexual offences	1,254	1,179	-75	-6.00%	1,059	-120	-10.18%	296	242	-54	-18.20%	234	-8	-3.31%
<b>TOTAL SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>52,420</b>	<b>53,293</b>	<b>873</b>	<b>1.70%</b>	<b>46,214</b>	<b>-7,079</b>	<b>-13.28%</b>	<b>7,043</b>	<b>7,303</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>3.70%</b>	<b>6,437</b>	<b>-866</b>	<b>-11.86%</b>
CRIME CATEGORY	REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA							WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE						
	2018/19	2019/2020	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ
Arson	4,083	3,783	-300	-7.30%	3,238	-545	-14.41%	842	749	-93	-11.00%	674	-75	-10.01%
Malicious damage to property	113,089	108,461	-4,628	-4.10%	99,031	-9,430	-8.69%	28,514	27,088	-1,426	-5.00%	24,218	-2,870	-10.60%
<b>TOTAL CONTACT RELATED CRIME</b>	<b>117,172</b>	<b>112,244</b>	<b>-4,928</b>	<b>-4.20%</b>	<b>102,269</b>	<b>-9,975</b>	<b>-8.89%</b>	<b>29,356</b>	<b>27,837</b>	<b>-1,519</b>	<b>-5.20%</b>	<b>24,892</b>	<b>-2,945</b>	<b>-10.58%</b>

CRIME CATEGORY	REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA							WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE						
	2018/19	2019/2020	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ
Burglary at non-residential premises	71,224	69,713	-1,511	-2.10%	65,508	-4,205	-6.03%	10,711	10,440	-271	-2.50%	9,612	-828	-7.93%
Burglary at residential premises	220,865	205,959	-14,906	-6.70%	159,721	-46,238	-22.45%	39,418	36,056	-3,362	-8.50%	27,265	-8,791	-24.38%
Stock-theft	29,672	28,418	-1,254	-4.20%	26,310	-2108	-7.42%	975	1,011	36	3.70%	925	-86	-8.51%
Theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle	48,324	46,921	-1,403	-2.90%	35,023	-11,898	-25.36%	6,791	6,359	-432	-6.40%	4,511	-1,848	-29.06%
Theft out of or from motor vehicle	125,076	118,213	-6,863	-5.50%	83,183	-35,030	-29.63%	34,120	32,471	-1,649	-4.80%	22,426	-10,045	-30.94%
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY RELATED CRIME</b>	<b>495,161</b>	<b>469,224</b>	<b>-25,937</b>	<b>-5.20%</b>	<b>369,745</b>	<b>-99,479</b>	<b>-21.20%</b>	<b>92,015</b>	<b>86,337</b>	<b>-5,678</b>	<b>-6.20%</b>	<b>64,739</b>	<b>-21,598</b>	<b>-25.02%</b>
CRIME CATEGORY	REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA							WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE						
	2018/19	2019/2020	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF	% Δ	2020/21	DIFF	% Δ
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	82,912	94,273	11,361	13.70%	35,860	-58,413	-61.96%	12,561	12,340	-221	-1.80%	3,760	-8,580	-69.53%
Drug-related crime	232,657	170,510	-62,147	-26.70%	121,359	-49,151	-28.83%	81,344	62,708	-18,636	-22.90%	44,621	-18,087	-28.84%
Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition	15,736	15,779	43	0.30%	12,930	-2,849	-18.06%	3,149	2,961	-188	-6.00%	2,518	-443	-14.96%
Sexual offences as result of police action	7,976	9,614	1,638	20.50%	6,946	-2,668	-27.75%	169	165	-4	-2.40%	99	-66	-40.00%



<b>TOTAL CRIMES HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON POLICE ACTION FOR DETECTION</b>	<b>339,281</b>	<b>290,176</b>	-49,105	<b>-14.50%</b>	<b>177,095</b>	-113,081	<b>-38.97%</b>	<b>97,223</b>	<b>78,174</b>	<b>-19,049</b>	<b>-19.60%</b>	<b>50,998</b>	<b>-27,176</b>	<b>-34.76%</b>
<b>CRIME CATEGORY</b>	<b>REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA</b>							<b>WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE</b>						
	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/2020</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>
Bank robbery	4	0	-4	<b>-100.00%</b>	2	2	<b>2 counts higher</b>	0	0	0	<b>0.00%</b>	0	0	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Carjacking</b>	16,026	18,162	2,136	<b>13.30%</b>	16,731	-1,431	<b>-7.88%</b>	2,294	2,760	466	<b>20.30%</b>	2,630	-130	<b>-4.71%</b>
<b>Robbery at non-residential premises</b>	19,991	20,651	660	<b>3.30%</b>	18,231	-2,420	<b>-11.72%</b>	1,689	1,879	190	<b>11.20%</b>	1,567	-312	<b>-16.60%</b>
<b>Robbery at residential premises</b>	22,431	21,130	-1,301	<b>-5.80%</b>	20,870	-260	<b>-1.23%</b>	2,749	2,414	-335	<b>-12.20%</b>	2,742	328	<b>13.59%</b>
Robbery of cash in transit	183	164	-19	<b>-10.40%</b>	195	31	<b>18.90%</b>	15	12	-3	<b>-20.00%</b>	17	5	<b>41.67%</b>
Truck hijacking	1,182	1,202	20	<b>1.70%</b>	1,397	195	<b>16.22%</b>	117	129	12	<b>10.30%</b>	173	44	<b>34.11%</b>
<b>SUBCATEGORIES OF AGGRAVATED ROBBERY</b>	<b>59,817</b>	<b>61,309</b>	<b>1,492</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>57,426</b>	<b>-3,883</b>	<b>-6.33%</b>	<b>6,864</b>	<b>7,194</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>4.80%</b>	<b>7,129</b>	<b>-65</b>	<b>-0.90%</b>
<b>CRIME CATEGORY</b>	<b>REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA</b>							<b>WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE</b>						
	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/2020</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>
<b>TRIO CRIMES</b>	58,448	59,943	1,495	<b>2.60%</b>	55,832	-4,111	<b>-6.86%</b>	6,732	7,053	321	<b>4.80%</b>	6,939	-114	<b>-1.62%</b>
<b>CRIME CATEGORY</b>	<b>REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA</b>							<b>WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE</b>						
	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/2020</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>% Δ</b>
All theft not mentioned elsewhere	300,457	282,817	-17,640	<b>-5.90%</b>	224,345	-58,472		77,465	67,827	-9,638	<b>-12.40%</b>	49,928	-17,899	<b>-26.39%</b>
Commercial crime	83,823	83,869	46	<b>0.10%</b>	82,890	-979	<b>-1.17%</b>	13,451	13,599	148	<b>1.10%</b>	13,294	-305	<b>-2.24%</b>
Shoplifting	60,167	59,883	-284	<b>-0.50%</b>	47,331	-12,552	<b>-20.96%</b>	12,931	13,165	234	<b>1.80%</b>	10,378	-2,787	<b>-21.17%</b>
<b>OTHER SERIOUS CRIMES</b>	<b>444,447</b>	<b>426,569</b>	<b>-17,878</b>	<b>-4.00%</b>	<b>354,566</b>	<b>-72,003</b>	<b>-16.88%</b>	<b>103,847</b>	<b>94,591</b>	<b>-9,256</b>	<b>-8.90%</b>	<b>73,600</b>	<b>-20,991</b>	<b>-22.19%</b>

17 COMMUNITY- REPORTED SERIOUS CRIMES	1,673,990	1,629,319	-44,671	-2.70%	1,361,797	-267,522	-16.42%	339,205	322,273	-16,932	-5.00%	257,372	-64,901	-20.14%
TOTAL CRIMES HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON POLICE ACTION FOR DETECTION	339,281	290,176	-49,105	-14.50%	177,095	-113,081	-38.97%	97,223	78,174	-19,049	-19.60%	50,998	-27,176	-34.76%
OVERALL TOTAL	2,013,271	1,919,495	-93,776	-4.70%	1,538,892	-380,603	-19.83%	436,428	400,447	-35,981	-8.24%	308,370	-92,077	-22.99%

## 4. TOTAL REPORTED AND RECORDED CRIME IN THE PROVINCE

### 4.1. Western Cape Crime Landscape

Overall, 308 370 crimes were recorded by the SAPS in the 2020/21 financial year. The 17 community-reported serious crimes accounted for 83.5% (257 372 counts) and crime detected as a result of police action accounted for 16.5% (50 998 counts) of the total crime in the province. Overall, crime decreased by 22.9% (92 077) in the Western Cape from 400 447 recorded in 2019/20 (Table 1). The decrease should be understood in the context of Covid-19 with its restrictions and adjustments over the reporting period. The SAPS indicated that the incidence of contact crime decreased notably during lockdown levels 5 to 3 and increased steadily as lockdown levels were eased. Similarly, the detection of all categories of crime was negatively affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, chiefly due to restricted movement of goods and persons that were imposed during lockdown.<sup>12</sup> In addition, Covid-19 had direct and indirect impact on SAPS members. Some members were infected and affected by the virus which impacted on their availability to render their mandated functions. In addition, the functions of SAPS were at times extended by the Disaster Management Regulations.<sup>13</sup>

A 3-year analysis suggests a decrease in overall reported and recorded crime in the province and nationally (Table 1). This is encouraging notwithstanding underreporting. The decrease provides an opportunity to improve a trust relationship between communities and the police which is needed to foster community cohesion and promote safety. Contact crime in the country decreased by 13.9% compared to the previous year. Yet, the crime level is still high in the country resulting in people living in fear and feeling unsafe. The most affected group being women and children.<sup>14</sup>

Over a 5-year period in the province, crimes detected by police decreased by 28.84%. Crime detected as a result of police action constituted 22.3% of the total crime recorded (Table 2). The 58.7% decrease over the 5-year period is largely driven by a decrease in drug related offences, suggesting a significant impact of the Constitutional Court ruling in 2018 which legitimized the growing and use of cannabis for personal use.

The period under review coincided with Covid-19 with its restrictive regulations which contributed to the decrease in some crime categories, mainly contact crime.<sup>15</sup> The restrictions included the ban or restriction on the sale of alcohol, curfews and a restriction on numbers of people at social gatherings. Covid-19 arguably forced people to adopt certain behavioural changes to avoid being infected. These include avoiding crowded places and unnecessary gatherings.

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<sup>12</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Annual Report 2020/21*. Available online at <https://www.saps.gov.za/about/stratframework/annualreports.php>. Accessed on 13 December 2021.

<sup>13</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Annual Report 2020/21*. Available online at <https://www.saps.gov.za/about/stratframework/annualreports.php>. Accessed on 13 December 2021.

<sup>14</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Annual Report 2020/21*. Available online at <https://www.saps.gov.za/about/stratframework/annualreports.php>. Accessed 18 December 2021.

<sup>15</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Annual Report 2020/21*. Available online at <https://www.saps.gov.za/about/stratframework/annualreports.php>. Access 18 December 2021

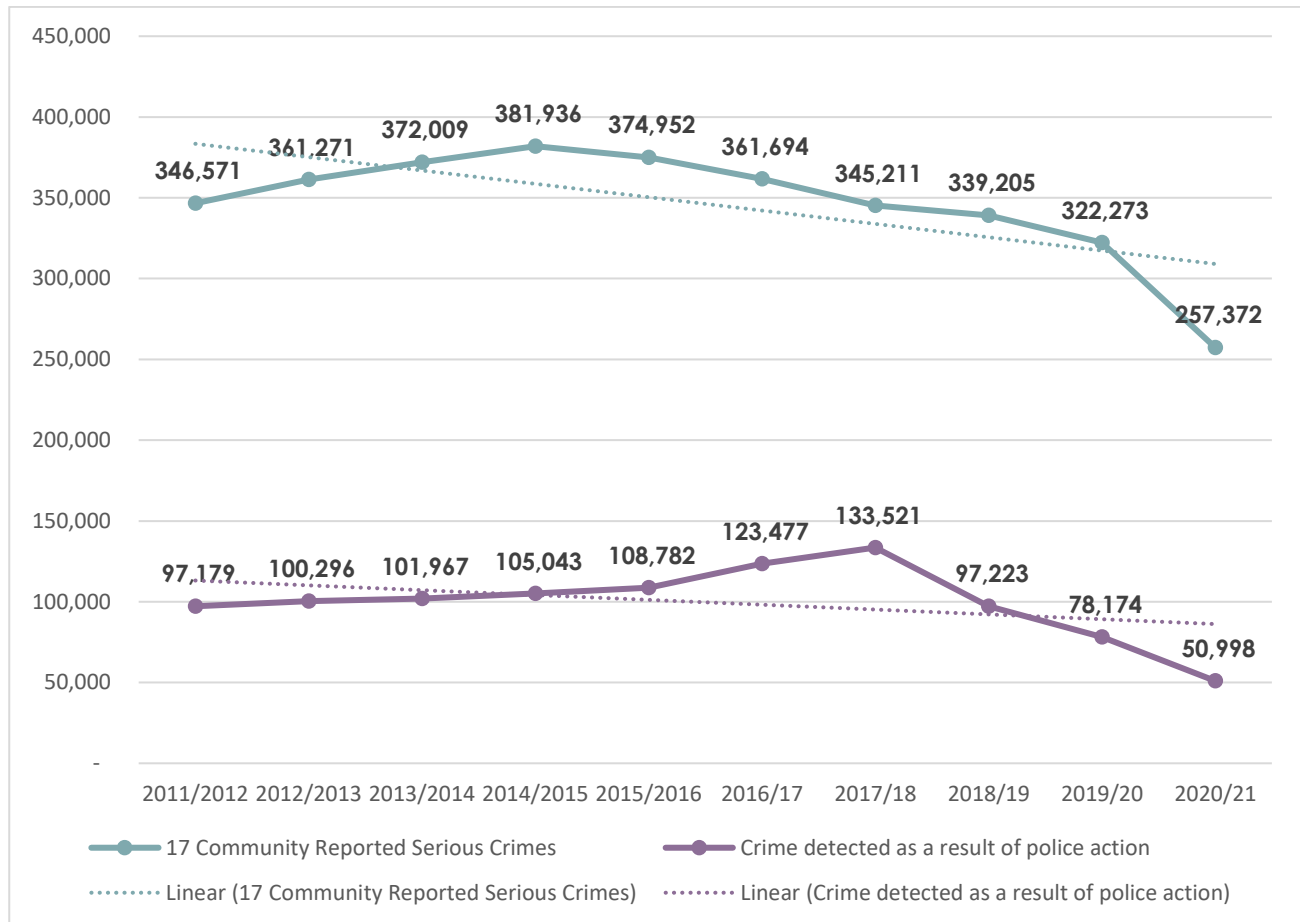
**TABLE 2:** Total reported and recorded crime in the province, 2016/17 - 2020/21

BROAD CRIME CATEGORY	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	DIFF 2016/17-2020/21	% DIFF 2016/17-2020/21	DIFF 2019/20-2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20-2020/21
17 Community Reported Serious Crimes	361,694	345,211	339,205	322,273	257,372	-104,322	-28.84%	-64,901	-20.14%
Crime detected as a result of police action	123,477	133,521	97,223	78,174	50,998	-72,477	-58.70%	-27,176	-34.76%
Total Western Cape recorded crimes	485,171	478,732	436,428	400,447	308,370	-176,231	-36.32%	-92,077	-22.99%
Proportion of the 17- Community Reported Serious Crimes to the total crime in the province	74.50%	72.10%	77.70%	80.50%	83.46%	Five-year average = 77%			
Proportion of the Crime detected as a result of police action to the total crime in the province	25.50%	27.90%	22.30%	19.50%	16.54%	Five-year average = 23%			

## 4.2. 17 community reported serious crimes and crime detected as a result of police action

Overall, 10-year crime trends suggest that both total 17 community reported serious crimes and total crime detected as a result of police action are decreasing (Figure 1). There are 89 199 fewer counts of 17 community reported serious crime in the province in the 2020/21 financial year (257 372) compared to 346 571 reported in 2011/12 marking a 25.7% decrease. After a peak in 2014/15, the 17 community reported serious crimes decreased for the sixth consecutive time in the province in 2020/21. Similarly, crime detected as a result of police action in 2020/21 decreased by 46 181 or 47.5% over the same period. These crimes reached a peak of 133 521 in 2017/18 (Figure 1).

**FIGURE 1:** The 10-year trend: 17 community reported serious crimes and crime detected as a result of police action, 2011/12-2020/21

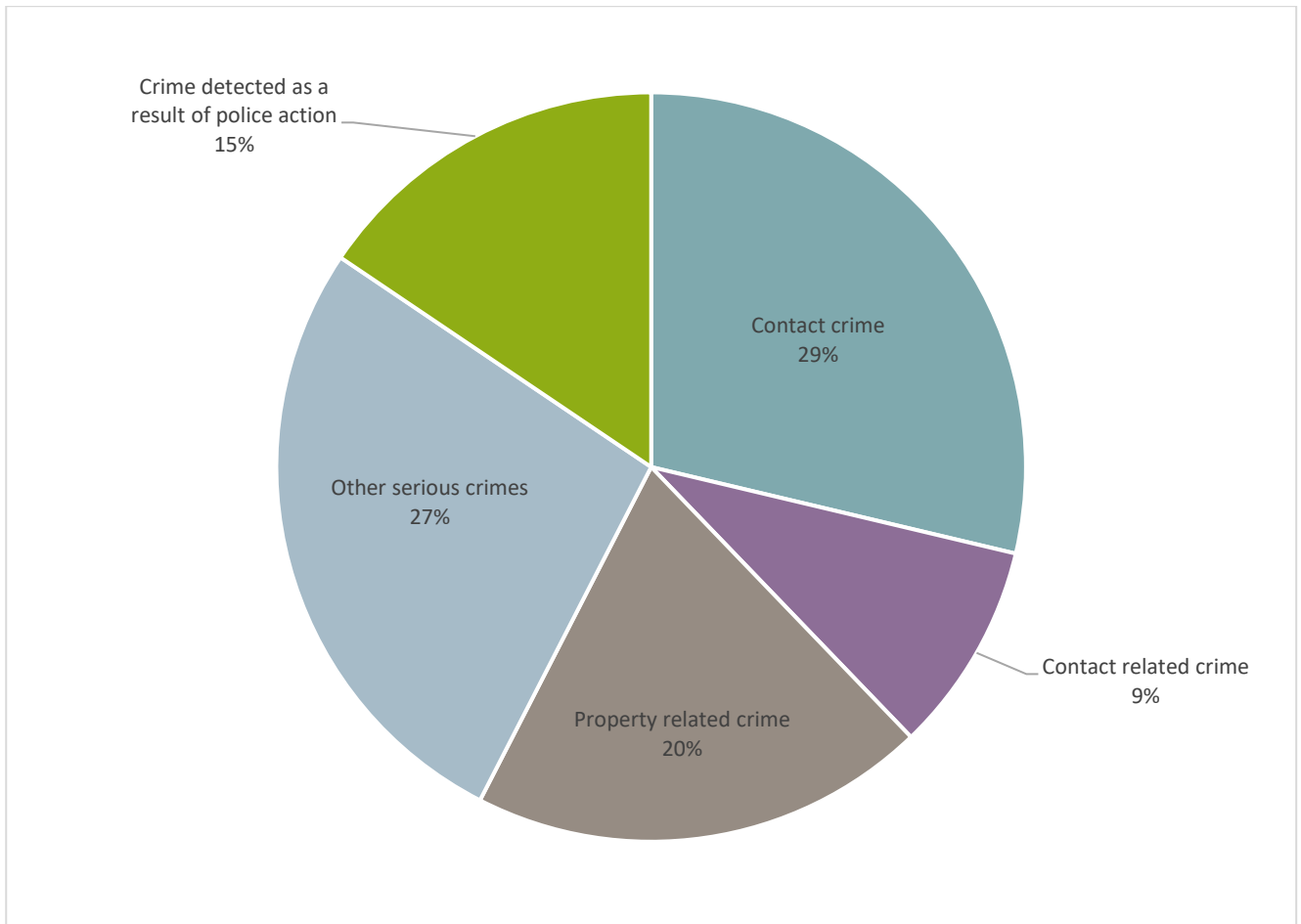


### 4.3. Proportional contribution of the broad categories of crime

Of the total recorded crime for the 2020/21 financial year, contact crime accounted for 29% and contact related crime accounted to 9% (Figure 2). Property related crimes accounted for 20% of crimes and Other Serious Crimes accounted for 27%. Crime heavily dependent on police action for detection accounted for 15% of the total crimes in the province. The analysis suggests that interpersonal violence remains a challenge in the province. The Western Cape Provincial Safety Plan should address this challenge via evidence-based violence interventions particularly in the 16 Safety priority areas<sup>16</sup> which continue to account for almost half of murder in the province.

<sup>16</sup> Atlantis, Bishop Lavis, Delft, Gugulethu, Harare, Khayelitsha, Kraaifontein, Mfuleni, Mitchells Plain, Nyanga, Philippi, and in the Districts: Ceres, Thembalethu, Beaufort West, Grabouw, and Malmesbury police precinct.

**FIGURE 2:** Proportional contribution of crime categories in the Western Cape, 2020/21

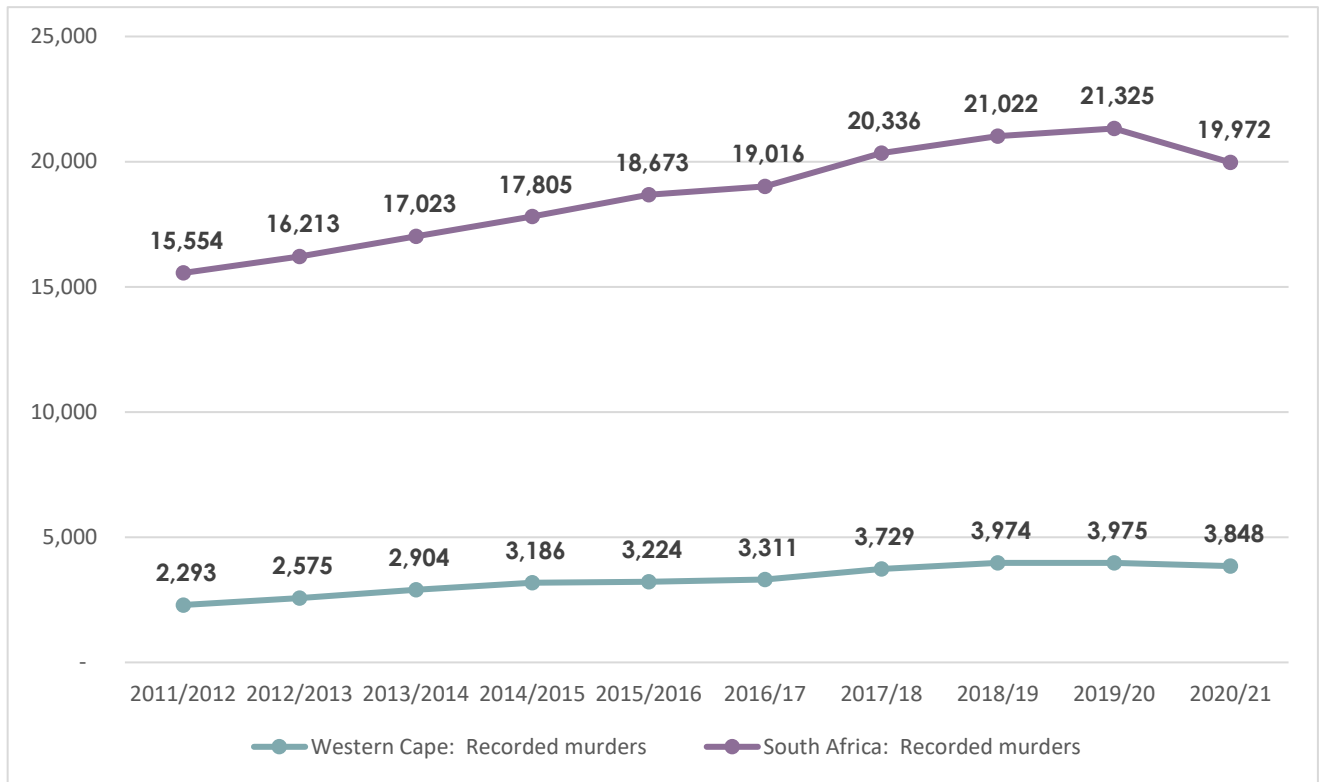


## 5. CONTACT CRIME ANALYSIS

### 5.1. Murder

Reported murders in the Western Cape decreased by 3.2% (127 counts) from 3 975 reported in 2019/20 to 3 848 recorded in 2020/21 financial year (Figure 3). Nationally, there were 19 972 murders in the last year, 1 353 (6.3%) fewer murders in 2020/21 compared to 21 325 reported in 2019/20. The Western Cape's contribution towards the country murder cases ranges between 16% -19% per year. Over the 10-year period, murder shows an upward trend in the province and the country (Figure 3). There is a decrease in murder for both the province and the country in the 2020/21 financial year.

**FIGURE 3: RSA and Western Cape: 10-year murder trends: 2010/11-2020/21 financial year**



### 5.1.1. RSA and Western Cape Province murder rate, 2010/11-2020/21

In the 2020/21 financial year, the national murder rate was 33.3 per 100 000 of the population and this compares unfavourably with the estimated global murder rate of 5.3 per 100 000 of the population as of 2015.<sup>17</sup> With a national population of 59 622 350<sup>18</sup> and 19 846 murders reported in 2020/21, the country's murder rate is almost six times higher than the global rate.

According to Stats-SA 2020, the Western Cape mid-year population estimate was 7 005 741.<sup>19</sup> Furthermore Stats-SA noted that the Western Cape is one of the two provinces, which had the largest inflow of migrants (468 568) for the period 2016 and 2021.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>17</sup> UN Office on Drugs and Crime's International Homicide Statistics database. (2018). *Intentional homicides (per 100,000 people)*. Available online at <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/VC.IHR.PSRC.P5?end=2016&start=2004>. Accessed on 19 December 2018. Institute for Security Studies. (2015). 'Murder by numbers'. Available online at <https://www.ISS.Crimehubmurderbynumbers> accessed on 4 August 2016. See also UNODC. (2014). *Global Study on Homicide 2013: Trends, Contexts, Data*. UNODC, Vienna, p. 12.

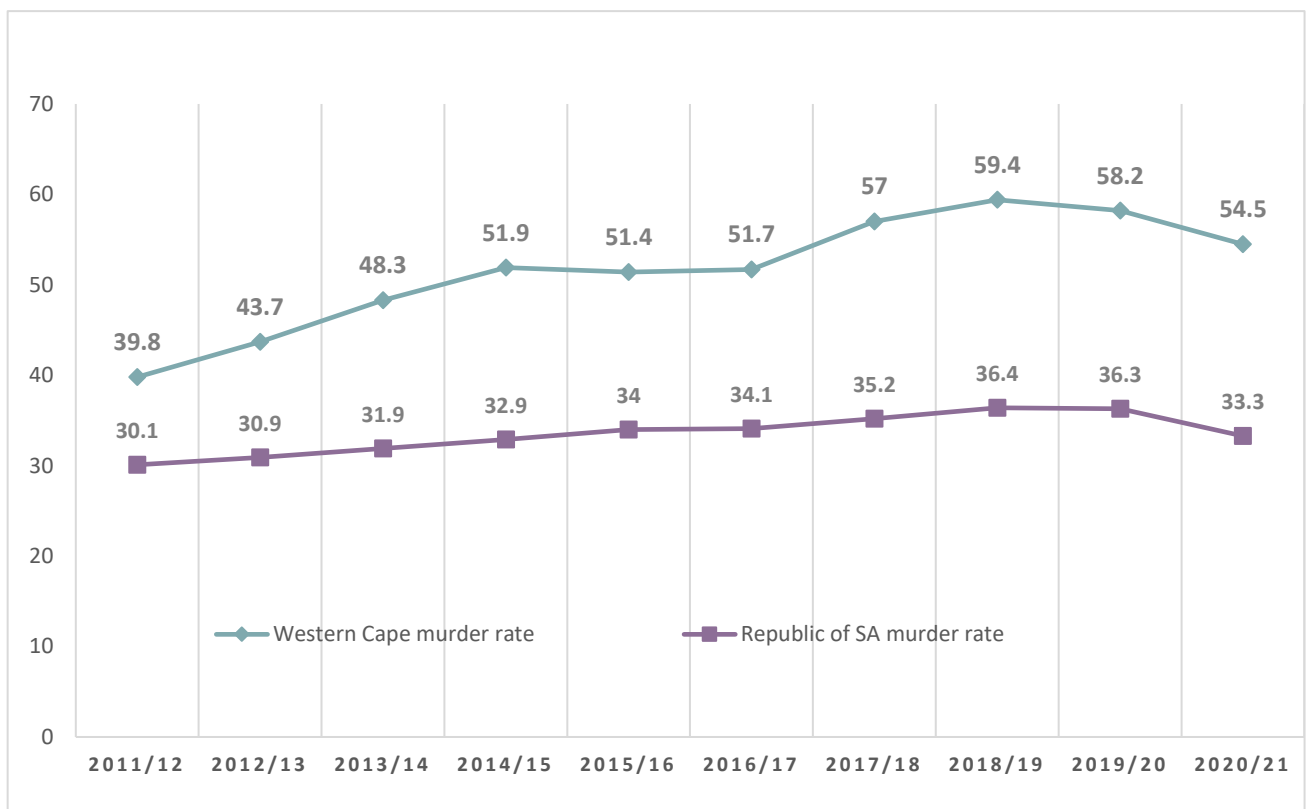
<sup>18</sup> Statistics South Africa, 2020. *Mid-year population estimates for 2020*. Available online at <http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P0302/P03022020.pdf> Access on 11 December 2021.

<sup>19</sup> Statistics South Africa, 2020. *Mid-year population estimates for 2020*. Available online at <http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P0302/P03022020.pdf> Access on 11 December 2021.

<sup>20</sup> Stats SA. (2020). *The 2020 Mid-year population estimates*. Gauteng had the largest in-migration followed by the Western Cape. Available online at [http://www.statssa.gov.za/?p=13453&aclid=CjwKCAjAtdGNBhAmEiwAWxGcUioL0lUE5wp0r0oIODdMrAn9QdAeTaph7\\_bPTtdlKaCMnimX26nRYxoCOWOQAVd\\_BwE](http://www.statssa.gov.za/?p=13453&aclid=CjwKCAjAtdGNBhAmEiwAWxGcUioL0lUE5wp0r0oIODdMrAn9QdAeTaph7_bPTtdlKaCMnimX26nRYxoCOWOQAVd_BwE). Accessed on

The Western Cape murder rate has decreased from a high of 59.4/100 000 in 2018/19 to 54.5 in 2020/21 (Figure 4). Although a significant decrease, it is still ten times more than the global rate (Figure 4). Kriegler and Shaw noted that a murder rate that is above 20 per 100 000 is categorised as high and very high when it is above 30/100 000.<sup>21</sup> According to this standard, the murder rate for the province and the country is very high. The murder rate in both the county and the province decreased from the peak in the 2018/19 financial year.

**FIGURE 4:** RSA and Western Cape: 10-year murder trends, 2011/12-2020/21



### 5.1.2. Top 10 Western Cape police stations with the highest counts of murder in 2020/21

Table 3 shows the top 10 Western Cape police stations that are included in the country's top 30 police stations with highest count of murder. Khayelitsha police precinct is the police station with highest number of murders (265) accounting for 14.9% of the murders in the top 10 police stations in 2020/21. These 10 police stations combined accounted for 42.7% and 46.6% of murder in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial year respectively. This demonstrates how violent crime, and murder particularly, is more concentrated in a small number of areas.

<sup>21</sup> Kriegler, A. and Shaw, M. (2106). *A citizen's guide to crime trends in South Africa*. Jonathan Ball Publishers, Cape Town.



**TABLE 3: Top 10 Western Cape police stations with the highest counts of murder, 2018/19 - 2020/21**

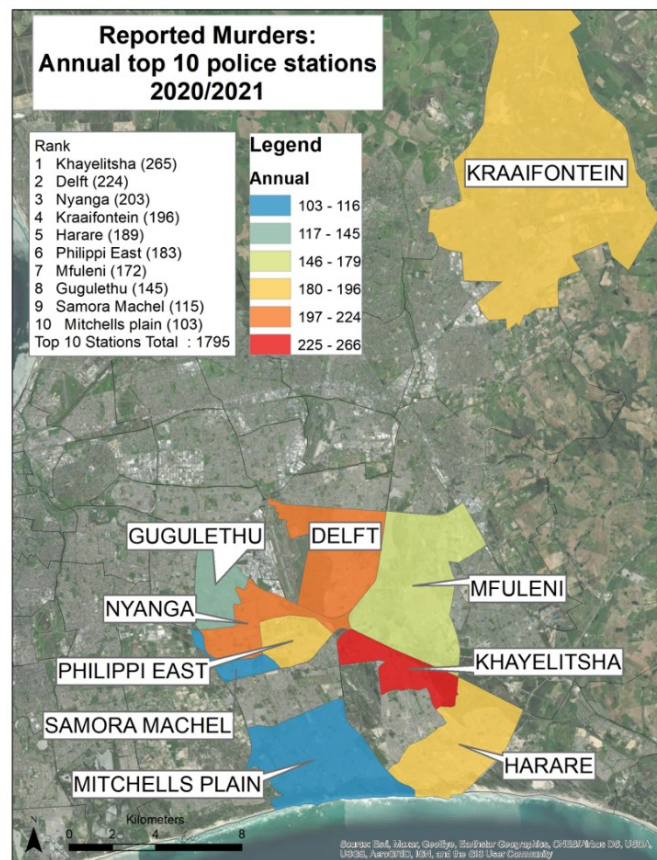
POLICE STATION	2018/19	% CONTRIBUTION	2019/20	% CONTRIBUTION	DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	% DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	2020/21	% CONTRIBUTION	DIFF 2019/20-2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20-2020/21
Khayelitsha	221	12.70%	251	14.80%	30	13.60%	265	14.76%	14	5.58%
Delft	247	14.10%	265	15.60%	18	7.30%	224	12.48%	-41	-15.47%
Nyanga	289	16.60%	185	10.90%	-104	-36.00%	203	11.31%	18	9.73%
Kraaifontein	151	8.60%	137	8.10%	-14	-9.30%	196	10.92%	59	43.07%
Harare	166	9.50%	162	9.50%	-4	-2.40%	189	10.53%	27	16.67%
Philippi East	185	10.60%	156	9.20%	-29	-15.70%	183	10.19%	27	17.31%
Mfuleni	154	8.80%	165	9.70%	11	7.10%	172	9.58%	7	4.24%
Gugulethu	155	8.90%	157	9.20%	2	1.30%	145	8.08%	-12	-7.64%
Samora Machel	30	1.70%	106	6.20%	76	253.30%	115	6.41%	9	8.49%
Mitchells Plain	148	8.50%	115	6.80%	-33	-22.30%	103	5.74%	-12	-10.43%
2020/21 Top 10 precincts total	1 746	43.94%	1,699	42.74%	-47	-2.70%	1,795	46.65%	96	5.65%
Provincial Murder Total	3,974		3,975		1	0.03%	3,848		-127	-3.19%
The top 10 police station murder proportion to the province	43.90%	In 2018/19, the top 10 precincts accounted for 43.9% murders.	42.70%	In 2019/20, the top 10 police precincts accounted for 42.7% of the total provincial murders		In 2020/21, the top 10 police precincts accounted for 46.6% of the provincial murders				

Khayelitsha has surpassed Nyanga and Delft in becoming the precinct with the highest number of murders. However, in 2018, Samora Machel was established, taking over some of Nyanga's cases. Nyanga (203) and Samora Machel (115) collectively account for 318 murders in 2020/21.

### 5.1.3. The geography of murder in the City of Cape Town

The map below shows the spatial distribution of the top 10 police precincts in terms of reported murder cases within the City of Cape Town (CoCT). Evidently, the police precincts with the highest number of murder cases are located within the CoCT. Most of these police precincts are in close proximity to one another and are mainly in the Cape Flats. All these police precincts are characterised by high levels of socio-economic inequality and increasing unemployment. The 10 police precincts accounted for 46.6% (1 795) of murder cases in the province in 2020/21.

**MAP 1:** The reported murders for the top 10 police precincts, 2020/21



**Source:** Department of the Premier: Provincial Spatial Information, 2022

#### 5.1.4. Factors contributing to murder in the province

The high murder rate in the province is associated with the proliferation of weapons, primarily firearms, gang violence, drugs, alcohol and interpersonal violence. Evidence also suggests a positive correlation between the murders reported and the use of alcohol. In 2016, for instance, a Provincial Injury Mortality Surveillance Study conducted in the Western Cape found that 50% of homicide victims who were tested were under the influence of alcohol at the time of death.<sup>22</sup>

A comparison of the Western Cape SAPS annual reports over the past five years illustrates the factors associated with the reported murders in the province (Table 4). Gang related murders constitute the majority of murders in the Western Cape. Gang-related factors accounted for between 19% and 23% of murders in the province over the five year period, and accounted for 19.1% or 736 counts in 2020/21.

According to the SAPS, the drug trade, prostitution, organised crime (illegal harvesting and sale of abalone and expansion of territory), competition in drug prices, personal vendettas, elimination of witnesses and extortion drive gang violence. Gang murders were recorded at 43 police stations during the year.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Department of Community Safety. (2018). *Safer Western Cape Conference: Parallel session: Injury Mortality Burden. Western Cape 2010-2016*. Available online at [https://www.westerncape.gov.za/assets/safer\\_western\\_cape\\_report\\_-\\_november\\_2018\\_-\\_pdf](https://www.westerncape.gov.za/assets/safer_western_cape_report_-_november_2018_-_pdf). Accessed on 6 June 2019.

<sup>23</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21* p. 24.

Arguments or misunderstanding accounted for 11.8% of murders in 2020/21, and retaliation or revenge, accounted for 10.10%. Taxi related violence accounted for 3.1% or 121 murders. Like gang murders, taxi related murders often result in multiple murder victims, with 17 incidents resulting in 43 victims. Factors such as route invasions, leadership conflict and ineffective enforcement and regulation of the industry contribute to taxi violence.<sup>24</sup>

Firearms continue to be the weapon of choice for committing murders in the province. Firearms were used in 53.9% of all murders in the province, with pistols or revolvers being used in 97.4% of those cases in 2020/21. According to SAPS, firearms were used in 685 (93.1%) of the reported gang murders. Knives were used in 19.2% of the province's murders and 3.1% in gang stations. Firearms were used in 100% of taxi related murders.<sup>25</sup>

Domestic violence accounted for 5.2% or 198 incidents of murder. Perpetrators were mainly boyfriends or girlfriends (36.6%), family members (23.4%) or spouses or life partners (20%). Parents or guardians accounted for 3.9% of domestic violence related murders. Knives (60%), and sharp instruments (14.6%) are the main instruments used in domestic violence, though firearms were used in 6.3% of cases.<sup>26</sup>

**TABLE 4:** Factors that drive murder in the Western Cape, 2016/17-2020/21<sup>27</sup>

FINANCIAL YEAR	PERCENTAGES AND NUMBERS	GANG-RELATED	ARGUMENTS/MISUNDERSTANDING	ROBBERY	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	COMMUNITY RETALIATION/VIGILANTISM	RETALIATION/REVENGE	TAXI RELATED
2020/21	%	19.10%	11.80%	7.60%	5.30%	5.20%	10.10%	3.1%
	Actual Numbers	736	453	294	205	198	387	121
2019/20	%	20.70%	11.10%	5.70%	5.00%	4.40%	3.30%	
	Actual Numbers	821	441	226	198	175	132	
2018/19	%	23.70%	9.00%	5.60%	5.70%	3.80%	2.90%	
	Actual Numbers	938	358	223	228	151	114	
2017/18	%	22.00%	13.20%	8.10%	5.60%	4.70%	3.80%	
	Actual Numbers	808	484	297	208	173	141	
2016/17	%	19.10%	17.60%	7.60%	3.80%	3.50%	2.20%	
	Actual Numbers	632	583	252	126	116	73	

Despite the 2019/20 and 2020/21 crime statistics showing that the number of illegal possession of firearms and ammunition cases decreased by 6% and 15% for both 2019/20 and 2020/21 respectively, firearm related crimes remain a challenge, as will be discussed below.

<sup>24</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21 p, 24 – 28.

<sup>25</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21 p, 24 - 28.

<sup>26</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21 p, 24-26.

<sup>27</sup> South African Police Service. Western Cape Annual Reports from 2016/17 to 2020/21.

## 5.2. Attempted murder

A total of 4 143 attempted murders were recorded in the province – this constitutes 588 (16.5%) more cases than the 3 555 reported in 2019/20. The Western Cape contributed 22.14% to the national total. The attempted murder rate of the Western Cape Province is 56.3/100 000.

### 5.2.1. Attempted murder – top ten stations in the province

Ten of the 151 police precincts in the province accounted for 38.6% (1 601) of the total reported attempted murders (4 143) for the 2020/21 financial year. Unlike murder which decreased, attempted murder increased in the province from 3 555 in 2019/20. Attempted murder also increased at the top 10 precincts by 18.33% from 1 353 in 2019/20 to 1 601 in 2020/21 (Table 5). Elsie River recorded the highest number of attempted murders (207) for the financial year marking a 51.09% (70 counts) increase from 137 recorded in 2019/20. The largest increase (111.4%) at the top 10 police stations was with Kraaifontein which had 100 more cases this year compared to 88 reported in 2019/20. Elsie River, Nyanga followed with increases of 51.1% and 34.78% respectively (Table 5). Decreases were noted in Delft (15.2%) and Mitchells Plain (28.71%).

**TABLE 5: Attempted murder for the top ten police precincts in the province, 2018/19 – 2020/21**

POLICE PRECINCT	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	% DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	2020/21	DIFF 2019/20-2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20-2020/21
Elsies River	175	137	-38	-21.70%	207	70	51.09%
Kraaifontein	116	88	-28	-24.10%	188	100	113.64%
Delft	194	204	10	5.20%	173	-31	-15.20%
Khayelitsha	153	146	-7	-4.60%	173	27	18.49%
Manenberg	111	121	10	9.00%	159	38	31.40%
Nyanga	164	115	-49	-29.90%	155	40	34.78%
Philippi East	97	129	32	33.00%	145	16	12.40%
Mitchells Plain	213	202	-11	-5.20%	144	-58	-28.71%
Mfuleni	123	112	-11	-8.90%	141	29	25.89%
Kleinvelei	76	99	23	30.30%	116	17	17.17%
<b>2020/21 attempted murder top 10 police stations</b>	<b>1,422</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>-69</b>	<b>-4.90%</b>	<b>1,601</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>18.33%</b>
<b>Provincial attempted murder Total</b>	<b>3,860</b>	<b>3,555</b>	<b>-305</b>	<b>-7.90%</b>	<b>4,143</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>16.54%</b>
<b>The top 10 attempted murder police stations proportion to the province</b>	<b>36.80%</b>	<b>38.10%</b>	<b>In 2018/19 and 2019/20 attempted murder at the top 10 stations accounted for 36.8% and 38.1%.</b>		<b>38.64%</b>	<b>In 2020/21 attempted murder at the top 10 stations accounted for 38.6%</b>	

## 5.2.2. Factors contributing to attempted murder in the province

The main factors that contribute to attempted murder are highlighted in table 6 below. A 5-year comparison shows that gang violence is the leading cause of attempted murder in the province. It accounted for more than a third of attempted murder over the previous years, i.e., 34% in 2016/17<sup>28</sup>, 38% in 2017/18<sup>29</sup>, 39% in 2018/19,<sup>30</sup> and 33.4% in 2019/20.<sup>31</sup> In 2020/21, 25.9% of attempted murder was gang related. There were 140 gang related incidents where there were multiple charges that resulted in 344 charges of attempted murder. The top contributing stations for attempted murder were Elsies River and Manenberg. Firearms were used in 97.6% (1 046 counts) of gang violence.<sup>32</sup>

Robbery accounted for 14.5% of attempted murders and domestic violence for 6.9%.

Table 6: Factors contributing to attempted murder in the province, 2016/17 – 2020/21<sup>33</sup>

FINANCIAL YEAR	GANG-RELATED	ROBBERY	ARGUMENTS	ATTACK OF ENFORCEMENT	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	RETIALIATION/REVENGE	VIGILANTISM	TAXI RELATED
2020/21	25.90%	14.50%	6.60%	5.00%	6.90%	11.50%	1.40%	1.70%
	1,072	602	273	207	284	477	57	69
2019/20	33.40%	12.80%	4.10%	4.50%	3.80%	4.30%	1.20%	
	1,186	456	147	160	136	136	4.2	
2018/19	39.10%	10.60%	4.70%	0	3.70%	4.2	1.00%	
	1,511	409	181	0	144	161	38	
2017/18	38.70%	14.60%	6.10%	5.70%	4.10%	3.90%	1.50%	
2016/17	34.00%	14.70%	9.80%	3.60%	3.10%	1.90%	1.00%	

## 5.3. Total Sexual Offences

There were 6 437 sexual offences reported in the 2020/21 financial year, a decrease of 866 or 11.9% from the previous year. Sexual offences decreased by 13.3% nationally where 46 214 were reported in 2020/21. Sexual offences in the Western Cape contribute 13.92% to the national total. The rate of sexual offences in the province is 92.2/100 000.

A decrease in sexual offences could be an indication of a lack of reporting by complainants, though the VOCS 2018/19 estimates that 88% of their sample reported the sexual offence to the police.<sup>34</sup> SAPS attribute the overall decrease in sexual offences in the country to intensified awareness campaigns on crimes against women aimed at informing the community on the protection of women, as well as a continuation of police visibility to enforce the containment and

<sup>28</sup> South African Police Service. (2017). *Western Cape SAPS 2016/17 Annual Report*. South African Police Service, p 33.

<sup>29</sup> South African Police Service. (2018). *SAPS Annual Report 2017/18 Western Cape*, p 22.

<sup>30</sup> South African Police Service. (2020). *South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2019/20*, p. 43.

<sup>31</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21*.

<sup>32</sup> South African Police Service. (2020). *South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2019/20*, p. 30, 31.

<sup>33</sup> South African Police Services, Western Cape annual reports for 2016/17 to 2020/21.

<sup>34</sup> Statistics South Africa. (2019). *Victim of Crime Survey, 2018/19: Statistical Release P0341*. Governance, Public Safety and Justice Survey 2018/19. Pretoria, p. 53.

management of Covid-19 throughout levels 1 to 5. The ban on the sale of liquor mainly over weekends during lockdown might also have played a role.<sup>35</sup>

Sexual offences have been disaggregated into rape, sexual assault, attempted sexual offences and contact sexual offences (Table 7). For the past three years (2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21) rape alone accounted for two thirds of sexual offences reported in the province (Table 7). The number of rape charges has also decreased over the years.

Of a sample of 3 144 reported rape cases, children between the ages of 0 and 17 years were victims in 35.9% of cases (1 129). Of the 2 015 adults, 92.7% (1 868) were females and 7.3% (147) were males.<sup>36</sup>

**TABLE 7:** Sexual offences sub-categories: Contribution per sub-category, 2018/19-2020/21

SUBCATEGORIES OF SEXUAL OFFENCES	2018/19	2018/19 CONTRIBUTION	2019/20	2019/20 CONTRIBUTION	2020/21	2020/21 & CONTRIBUTION	DIFF 2019/20-2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20-2020/21
Rape	4,649	66.00%	4,877	66.80%	4,442	<b>69.01%</b>	-435	-8.92%
Sexual Assault	1,757	24.90%	1,910	26.20%	1,440	<b>22.37%</b>	-470	-24.61%
Attempted sexual offences	341	4.80%	274	3.80%	321	<b>4.99%</b>	47	<b>17.15%</b>
Contact Sexual offences	296	4.20%	242	3.30%	234	<b>3.64%</b>	-8	-3.31%
<b>TOTAL SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>7,043</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>7,303</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>6,437</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>-866</b>	<b>-11.86%</b>

### 5.3.1. Total sexual offences – top ten stations in the province

The top ten police precincts for sexual offences in the province accounted for 28.52% (1 836) of the total reported sexual offences (6 437) for the 2020/21 financial year (Table 8). Overall, sexual offences at these 10 precincts decreased by 6.9%. A notable increase was observed in the Harare police precinct (26.18%). Delft police precinct had highest number of reported sexual offences (273) for 2020/21. Harare and Kraaifontein police precincts followed with 241 and 207 respectively (Table 8).

<sup>35</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Annual Report 2020/21*. Available online at <https://www.saps.gov.za/about/stratframework/annualreports.php>. Accessed on 18 December 2021.

<sup>36</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21*, p. 59.



**TABLE 8:** Top ten police precinct the province: Sexual Offences, 2018/19 – 2020/21

POLICE PRECINCT	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF 2018/19- 2019/20	% DIFF 2018/19- 2019/20	2020/21	DIFF 2019/20- 2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20- 2020/21
Delft	278	291	13	4.70%	273	-18	-6.19%
Harare	187	191	4	2.10%	241	50	26.18%
Nyanga	294	242	-52	-17.70%	195	-47	-19.42%
Kraaifontein	220	216	-4	-1.80%	207	-9	-4.17%
Mfuleni	244	228	-16	-6.60%	198	-30	-13.16%
Khayelitsha	149	161	12	8.10%	165	4	2.48%
Mitchells Plain	173	212	39	22.50%	167	-45	-21.23%
Gugulethu	195	208	13	6.70%	176	-32	-15.38%
Kleinvlei	119	126	7	5.90%	110	-16	-12.70%
Lwandle	69	99	30	43.50%	104	5	5.05%
<b>2020/21 sexual offences top 10 stations</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>1,974</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>2.40%</b>	<b>1,836</b>	<b>-138</b>	<b>-6.99%</b>
<b>Provincial sexual offences Total</b>	<b>7,043</b>	<b>7,303</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>3.70%</b>	<b>6,437</b>	<b>-866</b>	<b>-11.86%</b>
<b>The top 10 police station sexual offences proportion to the province.</b>	<b>27.40%</b>	<b>27.00%</b>	<b>In 2018/19 and 2019/20 sexual offences at the top 10 stations accounted for 27.4 and 27%.</b>		<b>28.52%</b>	<b>In 2020/21 sexual offences at the top 10 stations accounted for 28.5%.</b>	

## 5.4. Assault with intent to commit Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH)

There were 19 452 cases of assault with intent to commit grievous bodily harm (assault GBH) reported in the Western Cape in 2020/21, a decrease of 18.1% (4 301 counts) from the previous year. Assault GBH decreased by 14% nationally with 143 393 cases reported. The Western Cape contributed 13.5% towards the national total. The rate of reported assault GBH in the Western Cape was 278.6/100 000 of the population for the 2020/21 financial year.

### 5.4.1. Top ten police precincts the province: Reported Assault GBH

Reported assault GBH cases decreased by 15.69% at the top ten precincts in the 2020/21 financial year (Table 9). The decrease was consistent with the national (14%) and provincial (18.1%) decrease (Table 1). All the top 10 police precincts experienced a decrease in assault GBH in 2020/21 financial year with the biggest percentage decrease being in Worcester (20.29%), Gugulethu (19.84%), Oudtshoorn (19.93%) and Nyanga (19.73%) police precincts. The highest number of assault GBH cases was reported at Delft (607 cases). Four of the top 10 police precincts are located outside the Metro. The top ten precincts contributed 24.25% to the provincial total.

**TABLE 9: Assault GBH – top ten stations: Reported Assault GBH, 2018/19 – 2020/21**

POLICE PRECINCT	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	% DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	2020/21	DIFF 2019/20-2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20-2020/21
Delft	687	690	3	0.40%	607	-83	-12.03%
Mfuleni	604	662	58	9.60%	570	-92	-13.90%
Worcester	587	631	44	7.50%	503	-128	-20.29%
Oudtshoorn	570	592	22	3.90%	474	-118	-19.93%
Nyanga	804	593	-211	-26.20%	476	-117	-19.73%
Paarl East	499	523	24	4.80%	451	-72	-13.77%
Knysna	553	466	-87	-15.70%	444	-22	-4.72%
Harare	495	497	2	0.40%	406	-91	-18.31%
Kraaifontein	490	453	-37	-7.60%	395	-58	-12.80%
Gugulethu	511	489	-22	-4.30%	392	-97	-19.84%
<b>2020/21 assault GBH top 10 stations</b>	<b>5,800</b>	<b>5,596</b>	<b>-204</b>	<b>-3.50%</b>	<b>4,718</b>	<b>-878</b>	<b>-15.69%</b>
<b>Assault GBH Total</b>	<b>24,488</b>	<b>23,753</b>	<b>-735</b>	<b>-3.00%</b>	<b>19,452</b>	<b>-4301</b>	<b>-18.11%</b>
<b>The top 10 police station assault GBH proportion to the province.</b>	<b>23.70%</b>	<b>23.60%</b>	<b>In 2018/19 and 2019/20 assault GBH at the top 10 stations accounted for 23.7% and 23.6%.</b>		<b>24.25%</b>	<b>In 2020/21 assault GBH at the top 10 stations accounted for 24.25%</b>	

## 5.5. Common assault

Reported common assault in the Western Cape decreased by 13.2% from 38 992 in 2019/20 to 33 857 in 2020/21. Likewise, common assault decreased by 9.7% nationally from 165 494 in 2019/20 to 149 442 in 2020/21. The province contributed 22.6% to the national total. In the 2020/21 financial year, there were 485 assault cases per 100 000 of the population in the Western Cape. Common assault is a crime that is particularly impacted by the reporting rate – which is influenced by trust in the police.

### 5.5.1. Common assault – top ten police precincts in the province

The top 10 police precincts in the province accounted for a quarter (24.74%) of the provincial common assault cases in 2020/21. These 10 stations recorded a 18.31% decrease in common assault from 10 254 in 2020/21 to 8 376 in 2020/21 financial year (Table 10). Worcester and Paarl East feature as non-metro areas. Interestingly, common assault decreased at all top 10 police precincts with Mfuleni recording the highest percentage decrease at 47.75% (521 counts).



**TABLE 10:** Common assault – top ten police precincts in the province, 2018/19 – 2020/21

POLICE PRECINCT	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF 2018/19- 2019/20	%DIFF 2018/19- 2019/20	2020/21	DIFF 2019/20- 2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20- 2020/21
Mitchells Plain	1,661	1,770	109	6.60%	1,186	-584	-32.99%
Delft	1,039	1,163	124	11.90%	1,091	-72	-6.19%
Mfuleni	1,020	1,091	71	7.00%	570	-521	-47.75%
Worcester	1,158	1,109	-49	-4.20%	947	-162	-14.61%
Kraaifontein	1,113	1,057	-56	-5.00%	909	-148	-14.00%
Khayelitsha	918	942	24	2.60%	859	-83	-8.81%
Kleinvele	818	897	79	9.70%	807	-90	-10.03%
Harare	747	738	-9	-1.20%	689	-49	-6.64%
Paarl East	670	756	86	12.80%	674	-82	-10.85%
Atlantis	780	731	-49	-6.30%	644	-87	-11.90%
<b>2020/21 common assault top 10 stations</b>	<b>9,924</b>	<b>10,254</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>3.30%</b>	<b>8,376</b>	<b>-1,878</b>	<b>-18.31%</b>
<b>Provincial common assault Total</b>	<b>39,202</b>	<b>38,992</b>	<b>-210</b>	<b>-0.50%</b>	<b>33,857</b>	<b>-5,135</b>	<b>-13.17%</b>
<b>The top 10 police station common assault proportion to the province.</b>	<b>25.30%</b>	<b>26.30%</b>	<b>In 2018/19 and 2019/20 common assault at the top 10 stations accounted for 25.3% and 26.3%.</b>		<b>24.74%</b>	<b>In 2020/21 common assault at the top 10 stations accounted for 24.74%</b>	

## 5.6. Common robbery

Reported common robbery in the province decreased by 35.4% (4 027) from 11 381 in 2019/20 to 7 354 in the 2020/21 financial year. This is a continuation of the decreasing trend from the 2014/15 year. Nationally, it decreased by 27.4%. The 2020/21 rate of common robberies reported in the Western Cape was 105.4 per 100 000 of the population. The Western Cape accounted for 19.53% of the national reported cases (37 648).

### 5.6.1. Common robbery top ten police precincts

Common robbery decreased by 41.2% in 2020/21 at the top 10 police precincts (Table 11). Thirty one percent of common robbery cases were reported at the top 10 police precincts in 2020/21. Cape Town Central police precinct experienced the highest decrease in 2020/21 (66.81%). Elsie's River (47.67%) and then Goodwood (41.67%) followed. Of the 2 286 common robbery cases reported at the 10 police precincts in 2020/21, 393 came from Cape Town Central. Nyanga and the Mitchells Plain precinct followed with 369 and 351 respectively (Table 11).

**TABLE 11:** Western Cape top 10 reported common robberies police precincts, 2018/19 – 2020/21

POLICE PRECINCT	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	% DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	2020/21	DIFF 2019/20-2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20-2020/21
Cape Town Central	1070	1184	114	10.70%	393	-791	-66.81%
Nyanga	378	384	6	1.60%	369	-15	-3.91%
Mitchells Plain	627	555	-72	-11.50%	351	-204	-36.76%
Parow	393	372	-21	-5.30%	236	-136	-36.56%
Bellville	353	323	-30	-8.50%	201	-122	-37.77%
Elsies River	275	279	4	1.50%	146	-133	-47.67%
Lentegeur	221	209	-12	-5.40%	170	-39	-18.66%
Goodwood	171	228	57	33.30%	133	-95	-41.67%
Kleinvei	174	187	13	7.50%	153	-34	-18.18%
Paarl East	150	167	17	11.30%	134	-33	-19.76%
<b>2020/21 common robbery top 10 stations</b>	<b>3,812</b>	<b>3,888</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>2.00%</b>	<b>2,286</b>	<b>-1602</b>	<b>-41.20%</b>
<b>Provincial common robbery total</b>	<b>11,355</b>	<b>11,381</b>	<b>11,355</b>	<b>37.20%</b>	<b>7,354</b>	<b>-4027</b>	<b>-35.38%</b>
<b>The top 10 police station common robbery proportion to the province</b>	<b>33.60%</b>	<b>34.20%</b>	<b>In 2018/19 and 2019/20 common robbery at the top 10 stations accounted for 33.6% and 3.4.2%.</b>		<b>31.09%</b>	<b>In 2020/21, the top 10 police precincts accounted for 31% of the common robbery</b>	

## 5.7. Robbery with aggravating circumstances

In the Western Cape, the number of robberies with aggravating circumstances decreased by 22.4% from 24 549 in 2019/20 to 19 050 in 2020/21, while it decreased by 16.8% nationally. Aggravated robbery is a type of crime that involves the use of weapons, such as firearms and knives. The rate of aggravated robbery in the Western Cape was 271/100 000 of the population. The province accounted for 15.9% of the national total.

The majority of aggravated robbery is street robbery (63% or 11 921), committed with a firearm and other weapons. According to SAPS, street robberies decreased by 31.3% from the previous year.<sup>37</sup> Firearms were used in 45.9% of aggravated street robberies.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>37</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21*. p. 45.

<sup>38</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21*. p. 47.

### 5.7.1. Robbery with aggravating circumstances – top ten police precincts

In the 2020/21 financial year, the Western Cape recorded 19 050 cases of robbery with aggravating circumstances. The top ten police precincts accounted for 40% of these robberies (Table 12). Of the 7 633 robberies reported at these 10 police precincts, a total of 1 618 (21.1%) came from Nyanga and 1 213 (15.94%) came from Khayelitsha police precinct. Notable increases were observed in Samora Machel (60.51%) and Nyanga police precincts (18.27%). Overall robbery aggravated at these 10 stations decreased by 5.68% from 8 093 in 2019/20 to 7 633 in the 2020/21 financial year.

**TABLE 12:** Robbery with aggravating circumstances – top ten police precincts, 2018/19-2020/21

POLICE PRECINCT	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	% DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	2020/21	DIFF 2019/20-2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20-2020/21
Nyanga	1548	1368	-180	-11.60%	1618	250	<b>18.27%</b>
Khayelitsha	1419	1335	-84	-5.90%	1213	-122	-9.14%
Kraaifontein	714	661	-53	-7.40%	618	-43	-6.51%
Mfuleni	812	854	42	<b>5.20%</b>	628	-226	-26.46%
Delft	873	810	-63	-7.20%	685	-125	-15.43%
Philippi East	654	805	151	<b>23.10%</b>	825	20	<b>2.48%</b>
Harare	663	725	62	<b>9.40%</b>	607	-118	-16.28%
Gugulethu	576	671	95	<b>16.50%</b>	591	-80	-11.92%
Milnerton	600	588	-12	-2.00%	405	-183	-31.12%
Samora Machel	125	276	151	<b>120.80%</b>	443	167	<b>60.51%</b>
<b>2020/21 robbery aggravated top 10 stations</b>	<b>7,984</b>	<b>8,093</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>1.40%</b>	<b>7,633</b>	<b>-460</b>	<b>-5.68%</b>
<b>Provincial robbery aggravated total</b>	<b>24,065</b>	<b>24,549</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>2.00%</b>	<b>19,050</b>	<b>-5499</b>	<b>-22.40%</b>
<b>The top 10 police station robbery aggravated proportion to the province</b>	<b>33.20%</b>	<b>33.00%</b>	<b>In 2018/19 and 2019/20 robbery aggravated at the top 10 stations accounted for 33.2% and 33%.</b>		<b>40.07%</b>	<b>In 2020/21, the top 10 police precincts accounted for 40% of the robbery aggravated</b>	

### 5.7.2. TRIO Crimes

Trio crimes are a sub-category of aggravated robbery in the contact crime category. They include carjacking and robbery at residential and non-residential premises. Overall, trio crimes decreased by 50.45% in the last financial year. While carjacking decreased by 4.71% and robbery at non-residential premises decreased by 16.6%, robbery at residential premises increased by 13.59% (Table 13).

Carjackings constitute 36.9% of trio crimes. Carjackings are highest in the high crime areas, with Nyanga contributing 21.1% to the provincial total, followed by Harare (7.5%), Philippi East (7.4%) and Delft (7%). Hijackings also increased in Nyanga by 171 counts compared with the previous year.

Firearms were used in 81.4% of carjackings. Taxis were targeted in 16.2% of the carjackings, with e-hailing or meter taxis contributing 72.7% of the incidents. Minibus taxis were hijacked in 15.3% of cases. Staff vehicles were targeted in 3.3% of cases.<sup>39</sup>

**TABLE 13:** Western Cape percentage change in trio crime, 2018/19 - 2020/21

CRIME CATEGORY	WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE				
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	DIFF 2019/20 - 2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20 - 2020/21
Carjacking	2,294	2,760	2,630	-130	-4.71%
Robbery at non-residential premises	1,689	1,879	1,567	-312	-16.60%
Robbery at residential premises	2,749	2,414	2,742	328	<b>13.59%</b>
<b>Total TRIO crimes</b>	<b>13,728</b>	<b>14,388</b>	<b>7,129</b>	<b>-7,259</b>	<b>-50.45%</b>

## 6. CRIME DETECTED AS A RESULT OF POLICE ACTION

The Western Cape crimes dependent on police action for detection (50 998) in 2020/21 accounted for more than a quarter (28.8%) of the 177 095 national crimes recorded in this category. Notably crime dependent on police action for detection decreased by 34.8% in the province, and 39% nationally. These crimes have seen a decrease since a small peak in 2017/18. The decrease has largely been driven by the Constitutional Court case in September 2018 which decriminalized the use and cultivation of cannabis for personal use.<sup>40</sup> The decrease should also be understood within the context of Covid-19 which restrictions prevented routine movement of people and cars and alcohol was banned.<sup>41</sup>

The biggest decrease in this sub-category was in driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs which decreased by 69.5% (8 580). Sexual offences as result of police action, and drug related crime followed with a decrease of 40% (66 counts) and 28.8% (18 087 counts) respectively.

<sup>39</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21*. pp, 49-51.

<sup>40</sup> Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development and Others v Prince; National Director of Public Prosecutions and Others v Rubin; National Director of Public Prosecutions and Others v Acton and Others (CCT 108/17). The Constitutional Court ruled on 18 September 2018 that section 4(b) of the Drugs and Drug Trafficking Act 140 of 1992 and section 22A(9)(a)(i) of the Medicines and Related Substances Control Act 101 of 1965 "are inconsistent with the right to privacy entrenched in section 14 of the Constitution and, therefore, invalid to the extent that they make the use or possession of cannabis in private by an adult person for his or her own consumption in private a criminal offence."

<sup>41</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). *South African Police Service, Annual report 2020/21*. Available online at <https://www.saps.gov.za/about/stratframework/annualreports.php>. Access 19 December 2021.

The Western Cape province contributed 36.8% (44 621) to the national drug related crime (121 359). Over the past decade the Western has contributed more than a third to the national drug related crime. Furthermore, the province contributed 19.5% of the illegal possession of firearms and ammunition to the national figures in the 2020/21 financial year.

## 6.1. Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition

There were 443 (15%) fewer cases of possession of illegal firearms and ammunition recorded in the Western Cape in 2020/21 compared with the previous year. These crimes are usually detected by police during the course of investigation or during searches. As has been referred to elsewhere in this report, firearms are the weapon of choice in most of the serious crimes. Firearms were used in 53.9% of murders – in 93.1% of gang related murders and 100% of taxi related murders. Firearms were used in 74.4% of attempted murders, 45.9% of aggravated robberies, 81.4% of carjackings, 80% of truck hijackings, 77.1% of robberies at non-residential premises and 56.3% of robberies at residential premises.<sup>42</sup>

Given the high incidence of firearm related violence, the recovery of firearms and ammunition is of the utmost importance. In the last financial year, the SAPS Western Cape reported that of the 2 518 charges, firearms were only recovered in 1 040 counts.<sup>43</sup> The top contributing stations were Mitchells Plain, Delft, Kraaifontein, Bishop Lavis, Manenberg, Elsie's River and Steenberg.

### 6.1.1. Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition at the top ten police precincts

The top ten police precincts in the province in this crime category accounted for 45% (1 140) of the total reported cases (2 518). Overall, possession of illegal firearms and ammunition at these ten police precincts decreased by 7.32%, from 1 230 in 2020/21 (Table 14).

The Mitchells Plain (193), Delft (182) and Kraaifontein (147) police precincts recorded the highest number of illegal firearms and ammunition cases for the financial year. Notably, all top 10 police stations, except for Kraaifontein and Kleinvlei, recorded a decrease in illegal possession of firearms and ammunition. Both Kraaifontein and Kleinvlei police precinct recorded an increase of 31.25% and 14.9% respectively (Table 14), with similar increases in the previous year as well.

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<sup>42</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21.

<sup>43</sup> South African Police Service. (2021). South African Police Service, Western Cape Annual Report 2020/21, p. 81.

**TABLE 14: Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, 2018/19 – 2020/21**

POLICE PRECINCT	2018/19	2019/20	DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	%DIFF 2018/19-2019/20	2020/21	DIFF 2019/20-2020/21	% DIFF 2019/20-2020/21
Mitchells Plain	243	195	-48	-19.80%	193	-2	-1.03%
Delft	225	215	-10	-4.40%	182	-33	-15.35%
Kraaifontein	88	112	24	<b>27.30%</b>	147	35	<b>31.25%</b>
Bishop Lavis	214	132	-82	-38.30%	108	-24	-18.18%
Manenberg	108	101	-7	-6.50%	99	-2	-1.98%
Steenberg	100	99	-1	-1.00%	94	-5	-5.05%
Khayelitsha	125	117	-8	-6.40%	82	-35	-29.91%
Elsies River	100	89	-11	-11.00%	82	-7	-7.87%
Kleinvlei	65	67	2	<b>3.10%</b>	77	10	<b>14.93%</b>
Nyanga	144	103	-41	-28.50%	76	-27	-26.21%
<b>2020/21 illegal possession of firearms &amp; ammunition top 10 stations</b>	<b>1,412</b>	<b>1,230</b>	<b>-182</b>	<b>-12.90%</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>-90</b>	<b>-7.32%</b>
<b>Provincial Total</b>	<b>3,149</b>	<b>2,961</b>	<b>-188</b>	<b>-6.00%</b>	<b>2,517</b>	<b>-444</b>	<b>-14.99%</b>
<b>The top 10 police station illegal possession of firearms and ammunition proportion to the province.</b>	<b>44.80%</b>	<b>41.50%</b>	<b>In 2018/19 and 2019/20 illegal possession of firearms and ammunition at the top 10 stations accounted for 44.84 and 41.5%.</b>		<b>45.20%</b>	<b>In 2020/21 illegal possession of firearm and ammunition at the top 10 stations accounted for 45%.</b>	

## 7. CRIME OVERVIEW OF THE 16 ABT POLICE PRECINCTS

The Western Cape Government identified 16 Area Based Teams (ABTs) police precincts to be targeted for focused and strategic interventions as part of the strategy to improve safety and halve murder in the province by 2029. In order to track progress in this regard, table 15 provides a comparative analysis of selected crime categories for 2019/20 and 2020/21 and shows changes at these stations. Decreases at these 16 priority stations were observed in all contact crime subcategories except murder and attempted murder. Murder increased in the ABT areas by 4% while it decreased in the province by 3.2%. Attempted murder increased 16.5% provincially and 15.7% in the ABT police precincts (Table 15).

**TABLE 15: Crime analysis for selected crime categories: percentage changes in the 16 ABT police precincts, 2019/20-2020/21**

CRIME CATEGORY	POLICE STATION	ATLANTIS	BISHOP LAVIS	DELFT	GUGULETHU	HARARE	KHAYELITSHA	KRAAIFONTEIN	MFULENI	MITCHELLS PLAIN	PHILIPPI	GRABOUW	THEMBALETHU	CERES	MALMESBURY	BEAUFORT WEST	16 ABT TOTAL	PROVINCIAL TOTAL
Murder	2019/20	62	77	265	157	162	251	137	165	115	78	52	35	22	21	17	642	3,975
	2020/21	52	74	224	145	189	265	196	172	103	67	41	32	27	19	11	668	3,848
	Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-10	-3	-41	-12	27	14	59	7	-12	-11	-11	-3	5	-2	-6	26	-127
	% Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-16.1%	-3.9%	-15.5%	-7.6%	16.7%	5.6%	43.1%	4.2%	-10.4%	-14.1%	-21.2%	-8.6%	22.7%	-9.5%	-35.3%	4.0%	-3.2%
Attempted murder	2019/20	50	98	204	75	93	146	88	112	202	74	14	14	5	16	10	1,201	3,555
	2020/21	72	83	173	75	83	173	188	141	144	98	21	67	30	14	28	1,390	4,143
	Diff 2019/20-2020/21	22	-15	-31	0	-10	27	100	29	-58	24	7	53	25	-2	18	189	588
	% Diff 2019/20-2020/21	44.0%	-15.3%	-15.2%	0.0%	-10.8%	18.5%	113.6%	25.9%	-28.7%	32.4%	50.0%	378.6%	500.0%	-12.5%	180.0%	15.7%	16.5%
Common assault	2019/20	731	568	1163	472	738	942	1057	1091	1770	319	307	306	270	501	455	10,690	38,992
	2020/21	644	473	1091	458	689	859	909	977	1186	255	243	252	266	271	395	8,968	33,857
	Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-87	-95	-72	-14	-49	-83	-148	-114	-584	-64	-64	-54	-4	-230	-60	-1722	-5135
	% Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-11.9%	-16.7%	-6.2%	-3.0%	-6.6%	-8.8%	-14.0%	-10.4%	-33.0%	-20.1%	-20.8%	-17.6%	-1.5%	-45.9%	-13.2%	-16.1%	-13.2%
Common robbery	2019/20	159	195	180	110	105	193	222	164	555	105	50	89	36	48	63	2,274	11,381
	2020/21	99	164	93	94	85	140	148	129	351	64	28	61	26	28	56	1,566	7,354
	Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-60	-31	-87	-16	-20	-53	-74	-35	-204	-41	-22	-28	-10	-20	-7	-708	-4027
	% Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-37.7%	-15.9%	-48.3%	-14.5%	-19.0%	-27.5%	-33.3%	-21.3%	-36.8%	-39.0%	-44.0%	-31.5%	-27.8%	-41.7%	-11.1%	-31.1%	-35.4%
Robbery aggravated	2019/20	171	363	810	671	725	1335	661	854	875	237	161	146	47	84	73	7,213	24,549
	2020/21	91	221	685	591	607	1213	618	628	406	216	110	150	46	60	63	5,705	19,050
	Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-80	-142	-125	-80	-118	-122	-43	-226	-469	-21	-51	4	-1	-24	-10	-1508	-5499
	% Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-46.8%	-39.1%	-15.4%	-11.9%	-16.3%	-9.1%	-6.5%	-26.5%	-53.6%	-8.9%	-31.7%	2.7%	-2.1%	-28.6%	-13.7%	-20.9%	-22.4%

CRIME CATEGORY	POLICE STATION	ATLANTIS	BISHOP LAVIS	DELFT	GUGULETHU	HARARE	KHAYELITSHA	KRAAIFONTEIN	MFULENI	MITCHELLS PLAIN	PHILIPPI	GRABOUW	THEMBALETHU	CERES	MALMESBURY	BEAUFORT WEST	16 ABT TOTAL	PROVINCIAL TOTAL
Sexual offences	2019/20	76	94	291	208	191	161	216	228	212	67	67	130	45	86	40	2,112	7,303
	2020/21	70	80	273	176	241	165	207	198	167	83	55	103	34	63	37	1,952	6,437
	Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-6	-14	-18	-32	50	4	-9	-30	-45	16	-12	-27	-11	-23	-3	-160	-866
	% Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-7.9%	-14.9%	-6.2%	-15.4%	26.2%	2.5%	-4.2%	-13.2%	-21.2%	23.9%	-17.9%	-20.8%	-24.4%	-26.7%	-7.5%	-7.6%	-11.9%
Assault GBH	2019/20	266	341	690	489	497	496	453	662	502	127	177	434	255	220	326	5,935	23,753
	2020/21	204	304	607	392	406	368	395	570	356	124	148	324	228	205	276	4,907	19,452
	Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-62	-37	-83	-97	-91	-128	-58	-92	-146	-3	-29	-110	-27	-15	-50	-1028	-4301
	% Diff 2019/20-2020/21	-23.3%	-10.9%	-12.0%	-19.8%	-18.3%	-25.8%	-12.8%	-13.9%	-29.1%	-2.4%	-16.4%	-25.3%	-10.6%	-6.8%	-15.3%	-17.3%	-18.1%



## 8. CONCLUSION

The report presents an overview of the Western Cape crime landscape using the 2020/21 annual crime statistics. Based on the 2020/21 statistics, crime decreased in the Western Cape compared with the previous year. All the major crime categories decreased. Contact crime decreased by 17.06% and property related crimes decreased by 25%. Similarly, both contact related crime and other serious crimes decreased by 10.6% and 22.19% respectively. What is concerning though is the increase in attempted murder (16.5%), attempted sexual offences (17.2%), robbery at residential premises (13.6%) and robbery cash in transit (41.7%) and truck jacking which increased by 34.1%.

The decrease in crime should be understood in the context of Covid-19 with its restrictions and adjustments over the reporting period. Contact crime decreased during lockdown levels 5 to 3 and increased steadily as lockdown levels were eased. The detection of all categories of crime has been negatively affected by the Covid -19 pandemic, chiefly due to restricted movement of goods and persons, the ban of alcohol and curfews that were imposed during lockdown.

The Western Cape accounted for 36.8% of drug-related crimes to the country, despite the decrease in this category for the three consecutive years. There is a continued trend in which the top ten police precincts, representing 7% of the precincts in the province (151), account for most of the crime in the province. In the 2020/21 financial year, the top 10 police precincts accounted 46.65% of murders, 38.6% of attempted murders, 24.2% of assault GBH and 45.2% of illegally possessed firearms and ammunition. The top 10 stations accounted for 29% of reported sexual offences.

The spatial distribution of violent crime as measured by murder, confirms that a few areas in the Cape Flats, which are in a close proximity to one another, contribute the most to crime in the province. These are the areas which the Western Cape Provincial Safety Plan's and the Area Based Team (ABTs) team's interventions should strategically target to reduce crime and halve murder by 2029.

The success in addressing safety and security challenges in the province depend by and large on an integrated and multi-stakeholder approach premised on enhancing and optimizing existing initiatives from national, provincial and local government while embracing the contribution from civil societies and communities.

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