

1. INTRODUCTION

This report deals with the national serious crime figures and ratios for the 2007/2008 financial year (that is the period 1 April 2007 - 31 March 2008). These are compared to the figures recorded during the preceding financial years since 2002/2003. The provincial crime figures are also analysed in more detail and explanatory analysis of a number of contact crimes is provided. More detailed crime figures are provided on the saps website www.saps.gov.za.

2. THE NATIONAL CRIME SITUATION

An analysis of the national crime situation is facilitated by grouping the 21 serious crime tendencies discussed in this report into the following broad categories:

- Contact crimes (crimes against the person), which include seven high profile subcategories of robbery with aggravating circumstances.
- Contact-related crimes.
- Property-related crimes.
- Crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection (also representing phenomena serving as generators of crime).
- Other serious crime.

3. CONTACT CRIME

3.1 Targets

Eight categories of serious crime are grouped together as contact crime or violent crime against the person of victims. These crimes are murder, attempted murder, rape, assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm (assault GBH), common assault, indecent assault, aggravated robbery and other robbery. The crimes in

question account for **33,0%** of South Africa's recorded serious crime. These crimes involve physical contact between the victims and perpetrators and such contact is usually of a violent nature. Contact crime frequently impacts on victims in one or a combination of the following ways:

- Death as an immediate or delayed result of the degree of violence employed (some deaths even occurring years after the original crime had been committed).
- Injuries of various degrees, including permanent, disabling injuries.
- Psychological trauma, which is in many cases also of a permanent nature.
- Loss of and/or damage to property, which could under certain circumstances have serious repercussions for (particularly poorer) victims.

The serious consequences of contact crime and the fact that South Africa experiences exceptionally high levels of these crimes are generally acknowledged. The Government consequently decided in January 2004 that each of the contact crimes should be reduced by **7 – 10%** per annum, starting with the 2004/2005 financial year. The present reporting period, namely the 2007/2008 financial year, is the fourth financial year since the determination of this **7 – 10%** reduction target. The target was established on the basis of broad comparisons with the crime ratios recorded by other **INTERPOL** member countries during the late nineties (i.e. the figures reported by those countries which did indeed submit their statistics to **INTERPOL**) and the increasing/decreasing trends observed locally since 1994.

Very broad and rough international comparisons indicated that South Africa in the late nineties experienced unfavourable contact crime ratios compared to other **INTERPOL** member countries and that these had to be reduced by between **7 - 10%** per annum over a ten-year period to approach "acceptable" levels similar to those recorded by the majority of **INTERPOL** member countries. On the basis of crime reduction trends observed between 1994 and 2003 it was also accepted that a **7 - 10%**

annual reduction in contact crime was a realistic target. A higher target also poses a psychological and motivational challenge.

3.2 Social contact crime and robberies

A number of the contact crimes are social or domestic in nature and occur in social environments (e.g. the privacy of residences) which are usually outside the reach of conventional policing. These crimes usually occur between people who know each other (e.g. friends, acquaintances and relatives). Docket analysis indicates that 89,0% of both assault GBH and common assault cases, 82,0% of murders and 76,0% of rapes covered by the sample studied, involved people known to one another. In addition, 59,0% of the attempted murders occurred under similar circumstances (see Annual Report of the South African Police Service for 2006/2007, p 248).

When reference is made to socially-motivated (or social fabric-related) contact crime, this includes rape, assault (whether GBH, common or indecent), murder and attempted murder. If the figures for these crimes are added together, the result will provide an idea of the extent and distribution of socially-motivated contact crime. However, it should be noted that not all the cases of what is broadly described as socially-motivated crime (particularly not all the attempted murders and murders) are social in nature. This notwithstanding, social contact crime accounts for at least two thirds of all contact crime. Aggravated robbery and intra or intergroup conflict (e.g. gang fights, taxi-related violence and conflict among clans) make a noteworthy contribution to the incidence of murder and attempted murder.

Aggravated robbery is the second-largest generator of contact crimes, particularly attempted murder and murder, because victims are often killed and/or seriously injured during such robberies. The vast majority of house robberies, carjackings, business robberies, cash-in-transit (CIT) and bank robberies are committed with firearms and shots are frequently fired at victims. The latter in many cases return fire in self-defense. A number of attempted murders in particular can consequently be generated during a single case of such robbery. The fact is that a shot or shots fired at a person/s indicate intention to kill or at least seriously injure, and thus constitutes attempted murder.

Robbery with aggravating circumstances includes the following subcategories of robbery:

- Carjacking;
- truck hijacking;
- robbery at residential premises (house robbery);
- robbery at non-residential premises (business robbery);
- cash-in-transit (CIT) robbery;
- bank robbery; and
- other aggravated robberies not mentioned elsewhere in this list, which are mainly aggravated robberies occurring on the streets and in other public open spaces and are categorised as “street robberies” in this report.

The Minister for Safety and Security and Members of the Executive Committees (MECs) in the provinces have since July 2006 repeatedly referred to violent organized crime. This has bearing on most of the cases registered under the first six subcategories of robbery listed before (carjacking, truck hijacking, robbery at residential or business premises, CIT robbery and bank robbery). To measure the extent of violent organized crime, figures for these six subtendencies of aggravated robbery have to be added together.

It can be accepted that some aggravated robberies are highly organized in nature (e.g. most CIT and bank robberies, as well as truck and carjackings); while some are committed by groups which may not be organized criminal syndicates in the strict sense of the word (e.g. most house and business robberies); and still others are committed by one to three or four loosely associated or opportunistic individuals (e.g. most street robberies). Those robberies (particularly aggravated robberies) which involve more people (additional expertise) than only the group of criminals who perform the actual robbery (hit), will be much more organized than those in which only the direct perpetrators are involved. The following serves as an example: Three men force a lady out of her car as she arrives at her home, then take her into the house and force her to open the safe. They take an amount of money, jewellery and a firearm, drive away in her car and abandon it along the road five blocks away. They sell the jewellery to a jeweller and spend all the money on liquor, drugs, girlfriends

and flashy cars over the next week. This is clearly the lowest form of organization, since it involves nobody else and there is not much of a job specialization. When the very same group takes the car and simply sells it to somebody for a few thousand rand, it will still remain a case of the lowest form of organization.

However, the group could also hijack this specific vehicle at the request of a so-called middle or finger man (the money and jewellery being a bonus). They supply the car to the person who ordered it and the vehicle is then changed (e.g. spray-painted another colour) or cloned into another vehicle (which involves the changing of engine and chassis numbers in cooperation with police and licensing officials) before being sold for a profit. The buyer could either be aware of the fact that it is a stolen vehicle (because of the price), or the transaction is done in such a way that the buyer remains unaware of its real origins. Such a case then clearly involves other people than only the gang of three directly involved in the robbery.

Highly organized crime will *inter alia* subscribe to the following important criteria:

- It involves several people linked by a businesslike structure and with a clear profit motive.
- Each of the above members will fulfil specialized functions (a high degree of division of labour).
- Corruption/blackmail is used to procure the cooperation of people in positions of authority or able to facilitate matters for the criminals involved.
- Money laundering (usually through the acquisition of expensive vehicles, fixed property and jewellery) is involved.

Partially organized crime may meet some of the above criteria, while a few individuals acting together for criminal purposes may not subscribe to any of these.

TABLE 1

Serious crime during the 2002/2003 to 2007/2008 financial years and the percentage increases/decreases in crime between 2006/2007 and 2007/2008

Crime category	Incidence of crime per 100 000 of the population							Raw figures/frequencies						
	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	Increase/ decrease 06/07 vs 07/08	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	Increase/ decrease 06/07 vs 07/08
Contact crimes														
Murder	47.4	42.7	40.3	39.5	40.5	38.6	-4,7%	21 553	19 824	18 793	18 528	19 202	18 487	-3,7%
Rape* (April - December)	85.6	84.1	88.0	88.2	82.9	75.6	-8,8%	38 896	39 007	41 006	41 343	39 304	36 190	-7,9%
Attempted murder	78.9	64.8	52.6	43.9	42.5	39.3	-7,5%	35 861	30 076	24 516	20 571	20 142	18 795	-6,7%
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	585.9	560.7	535.3	484.0	460.1	439.1	-4,6%	266 321	260 082	249 369	226 942	218 030	210 104	-3,6%
Common assault	621.6	605.7	575.0	485.3	443.2	413.9	-6,6%	282 526	280 942	267 857	227 553	210 057	198 049	-5,7%
Indecent assault* (April - December)	14.1	14.5	16.1	15.5	14.4	14.1	-2,1%	6 425	6 721	7 501	7 264	6 812	6 763	-0,7%
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	279.2	288.1	272.2	255.3	267.1	247.3	-7,4%	126 905	133 658	126 789	119 726	126 558	118 312	-6,5%
Common robbery	223.4	206.0	195.0	159.4	150.1	135.8	-9,5%	101 537	95 551	90 825	74 723	71 156	64 985	-8,7%
Contact-related crimes														
Arson	20.2	19.0	17.6	16.3	16.6	15.5	-6,6%	9 186	8 806	8 184	7 622	7 858	7 396	-5,9%
Malicious damage to property	345.6	341.2	323.7	307.7	302.5	286.2	-5,4%	157 070	158 247	150 785	144 265	143 336	136 968	-4,4%
Property-related crimes														
Burglary at residential premises	704.0	645.2	592.8	559.9	526.8	497.1	-5,6%	319 984	299 290	276 164	262 535	249 665	237 853	-4,7%
Burglary at non-residential premises	162.8	139.3	120.3	116.0	123.3	131.7	6,8%	73 975	64 629	56 048	54 367	58 438	62 995	7,8%
Theft of motor vehicles and motorcycles	204.9	190.0	180.0	183.3	182.1	167.7	-7,9%	93 133	88 144	83 857	85 964	86 298	80 226	-7,0%
Theft out of or from motor vehicles	431.0	370.8	318.8	296.6	261.7	233.4	-10,8%	195 896	171 982	148 512	139 090	124 029	111 661	-10,0%
Stock-theft	102.7	89.0	70.1	61.3	60.8	60.1	-1,2%	46 680	41 273	32 675	28 742	28 828	28 778	-0,2%

Crime category	Incidence of crime per 100 000 of the population							Raw figures/frequencies						
	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	Increase/ decrease 06/07 vs 07/08	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	Increase/ decrease 06/07 vs 07/08
Crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection														
Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition	34.8	36.3	33.3	28.7	30.3	28.2	-6,9%	15 839	16 839	15 497	13 453	14 354	13 476	-6,1%
Drug-related crime	118.4	135.1	180.3	204.1	220.9	228.1	3,3%	53 810	62 689	84 001	95 690	104 689	109 134	4,2%
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	48.7	53.7	64.2	70.6	80.7	101.2	25,4%	22 144	24 886	29 927	33 116	38 261	48 405	26,5%
Other serious crimes														
All theft not mentioned elsewhere	1 364.6	1 307.4	1 151.1	922.7	876.0	826.1	-5,7%	620 240	606 460	536 281	432 629	415 163	395 296	-4,8%
Commercial crime	123.7	120.4	115.8	115.6	130.2	136.4	4,8%	56 232	55 869	53 931	54 214	61 690	65 286	5,8%
Shoplifting	151.8	155.0	142.8	137.5	138.2	140.0	1,3%	69 005	71 888	66 525	64 491	65 489	66 992	2,3%
Some subcategories of aggravated robbery already accounted for under aggravated robbery above#														
Carjacking	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14 691	13 793	12 434	12 825	13 599	14 201	4,4%
Truck hijacking	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	986	901	930	829	892	1 245	39,6%
Robbery of cash in transit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	374	192	220	383	467	395	-15,4%
Bank robbery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	127	54	58	59	129	144	11,6%
Robbery at residential premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9 063	9 351	9 391	10 173	12 761	14 481	13,5%
Robbery at business premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 498	3 677	3 320	4 387	6 689	9 862	47,4%

*The implementation of the Criminal Law (Sexual offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, Act 32 of 2007 on 16 December 2007 resulted in changes to the definitions of certain sexual offences (*inter alia* providing for male rape, which was previously recorded under indecent assault). This has an impact on the statistics pertaining to sexual offences. The statistics reflected in the table above with regard to rape and indecent assault thus only have bearing on the period April to December of the different financial years under review to allow for some sort of comparison.

#The ratios for the subcategories of aggravated robbery in this table are too low to calculate meaningful percentage increases or decreases.

3.3 Contact crime trends

Tables 1 and 2 indicate that the ratios of all **eight** contact crimes were decreasing during the 2007/2008 financial year (1 April 2007 - 31 March 2008).

TABLE 2

A comparison of the increases or decreases in the ratios of recorded serious crime between 2006/2007 and 2007/2008

Crime Category	Financial year 2006/2007	Financial year 2007/2008
Contact crime (crimes against the person)		
Murder	2,4%	-4,7%
Rape (1 April - 31 December)*	-6,0%	-8,8%
Indecent assault (1 April - 31 December)*	-7,1%	-2,1%
Attempted murder	-3,0%	-7,5%
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	-4,9%	-4,6%
Common assault	-8,7%	-6,6%
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	4,6%	-7,4%
Common robbery	-5,8%	-9,5%
Contact-related crime		
Arson	2,0%	-6,6%
Malicious damage to property	-1,7%	-5,4%
Property-related crime		
Burglary at residential premises	-5,9%	-5,6%
Burglary at non-residential premises	6,3%	6,8%
Theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle	-0,7%	-7,9%
Theft out of or from motor vehicle	-11,8%	-10,8%
Stock-theft	-0,8%	-1,2%
Crime heavily dependent on police action for detection		
Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition	5,6%	-6,9%
Drug-related crime	8,2%	3,3%
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	14,3%	25,4%
Other serious crime		
All theft not mentioned elsewhere	-5,1%	-5,7%
Commercial crime	12,6%	4,8%
Shoplifting	0,5%	1,3%

Crime Category	Financial year 2006/2007	Financial year 2007/2008
Subcategories of aggravated robbery forming part of aggravated robbery above#		
Carjacking	6,0%	4,4%
Truck hijacking	7,6%	39,6%
Robbery of cash in transit	21,9%	-15,4%
Bank robbery	118,6%	11,6%
Robbery at residential premises	25,4%	13,5%
Robbery at non-residential premises	52,5%	47,4%

*The implementation of the Criminal Law (Sexual offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, Act 32 of 2007 on 16 December 2007 resulted in changes to the definitions of certain sexual offences (*inter alia* providing for male rape, which was previously recorded under indecent assault). This has an impact on the statistics pertaining to sexual offences. The statistics reflected in the table above with regard to rape and indecent assault thus only have bearing on the period April to December of the different financial years under review to allow for some sort of comparison.

#The percentage increases or decreases in respect of these crimes are based on raw figures.

It has to be emphasized that the rape and indecent assault ratios and reported figures do not cover the whole 2007/2008 financial year. These only have bearing on a nine-month period (1 April - 31 December) of all the financial years featuring in **table 1**. The reason for this is that legislation concerning these crimes changed at midnight on 16 December 2007. The Criminal Law (Sexual offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, Act 32 of 2007 was implemented on this date. The sexual assaults covered by this new act and mentioned under different subarticles cannot be compared to the phenomena previously covered by the definition of rape and indecent assault (which also provided for attempted rape and indecent assault). The new act for example recognises that males can also be raped and includes the sexual penetration of a whole range of body orifices in its definition of rape. Phenomena such as human trafficking, pornography and prostitution (e.g. *inter alia* also providing for charges against clients of sex workers) all feature in this new act. A decision was therefore taken to only compare the incidence of these crimes during the first nine months of the 2007/2008 financial year with figures for the corresponding period during previous financial years. Comparisons accommodating the prescriptions of the new act will only be possible from January 2009.

Murder decreased by **-4,7%** during 2007/2008, against an increase of **2,4%** recorded in 2006/2007. The murder figure is now at its lowest level since 1994/1995.

Common robbery, rape, attempted murder, robbery with aggravating circumstances and common assault were all decreasing within or almost within the **7 - 10%** target reduction range during 2007/2008. The decreases in question are indicated below.

Crime	% decrease
Common Robbery	-9,5%
Rape	-8,8%
Attempted murder	-7,5%
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	-7,4%
Common assault	-6,6%

Specifically these decreases during 2007/2008 represent a major improvement on the situation recorded during the 2006/2007 financial year (see **table 2**). In that financial year, aggravated robbery increased by **4,6%**, while common robbery, rape and attempted murder decreased at approximately half the rate presently observed and consequently failed to meet the **7 - 10%** reduction target.

The welcome decrease of **-7,4%** in robbery with aggravating circumstances and the possibly (at least partially) resultant **-7,5%** and **-4,7%** decreases in attempted murder and murder respectively are marred by increases of **47,4%** in robbery at non-residential (mainly business) premises and **13,5%** in robbery at residential premises, as well as a **4,4%** increase in carjacking. The decrease in aggravated robbery is clearly not reflected by the incidence of the TRIO subtrends of house and business robbery and carjacking, despite the numerous initiatives launched since July 2006 and again since March 2007 to combat specifically these crimes. Possible explanations for the increases in the TRIO crimes despite all the initiatives taken against these are discussed elsewhere in this report.

It has been argued that the **7 - 10%** reduction target is valid for each separate category of contact crime and should not be applied to the entire group of crimes collectively. However, the decrease from **711 261** cases to **671 685** cases recorded between the 2006/2007 financial year and the 2007/2008 financial year depicts a reduction of **39 576** in the overall number of reported contact crimes. This translates into a decrease of **-5,6%**, which goes more than halfway towards achieving the **-7%** lower limit of the **7 - 10%** reduction target. It should be emphasized that it is quite an

achievement to record a **-5,6%** decrease in real figures (with a corresponding **-6,4%** reduction in ratios) of contact crime against the backdrop of increasing urbanization; the growing population among the younger age groups (**15 - 29 years**) which exhibit a greater inclination towards committing crime; and high levels of unemployment. It further provides a more solid indication that the **7 - 10%** reduction target determined during 2004 is as valid and realistic today (in 2008) as it was then. From 2004/2005 (the first of the ten years affected by the **7 - 10%** reduction target) to the current reporting year the overall incidence of contact crime was reduced by **154 971** cases, from **826 656** to **671 685** reported cases - that is by **-18,7%** (or **-6,2%** on average per year and in terms of ratios by **-7,0%** per year).

3.4 The subtrends of aggravated robbery

As indicated before, aggravated robbery can be disaggregated into different subcategories. **Table 3** and **figures 1** and **2** depict the following: The number of cases relating to each subtrend recorded during the 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 financial years; the percentage contribution of each subtrend to the total aggravated robbery figure during 2007/2008, ordered from the most important contributor (street/public robbery) to the least (bank robbery); the increase or decrease in the number of cases recorded for each subtrend; and the percentage increase or decrease this represents for each of those subtrends.

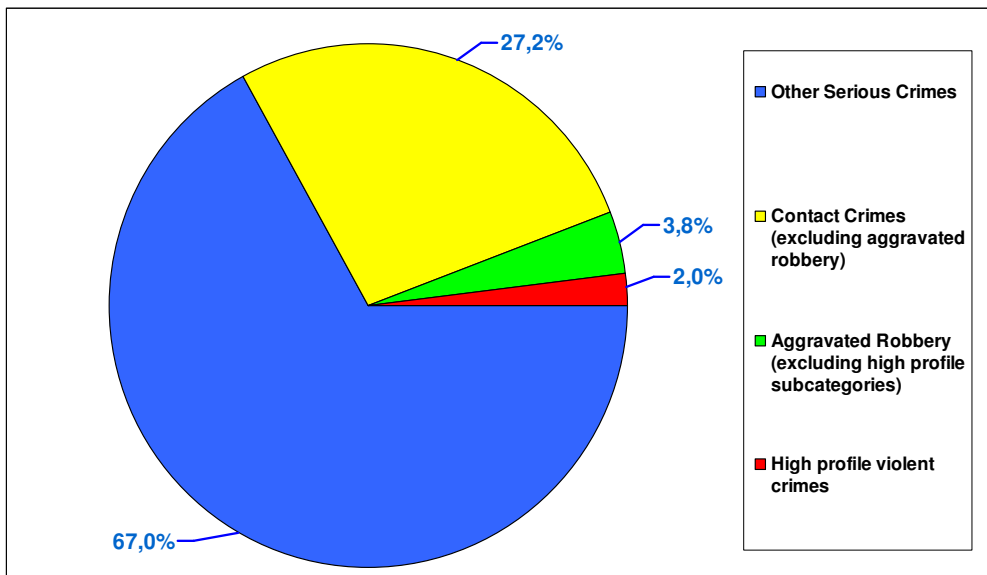
TABLE 3

Robbery with aggravating circumstances disaggregated according to the percentage contribution of each subtrend in terms of raw figures

Subcategory	Cases reported		Distribution per subcategory	Real case increase / decrease	Increase / decrease
	2006/2007	2007/2008			
Street/public robbery	92 021	77 984	66,0%	-14 037	-15,3%
Robbery at residential premises	12 761	14 481	12,2%	1 720	13,5%
Carjacking	13 599	14 201	12,0%	602	4,4%
Robbery at business premises	6 689	9 862	8,3%	3 173	47,4%
Truck hijacking	892	1 245	1,1%	353	39,6%
CIT robbery	467	395	0,3%	-72	-15,4%
Bank robbery	129	144	0,1%	15	11,6%
TOTAL	126 558	118 312	100,0%	-8 246	-6,5%

Figure 1

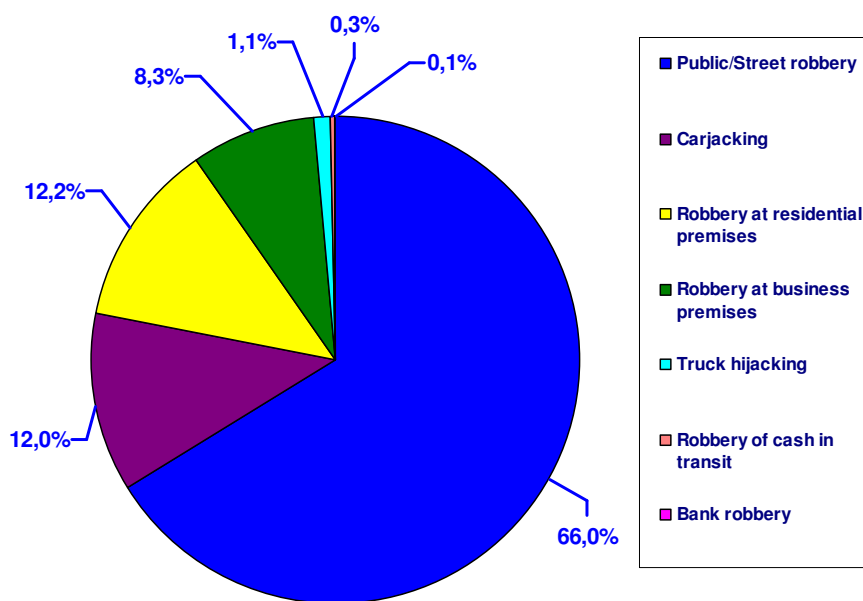
Serious crime during the 2007/2008 financial year



1

Figure 2

Different subcategories of aggravated robbery during the 2007/2008 financial year



2

Figures 1 and 2 indicate that aggravated robbery accounted for **5,8%** (**3,8%** + **2,0%**) of South Africa's serious crime and **17,6%** of its violent crime during the past financial year. These further indicate that street robbery, which decreased by **-15,3%** during 2007/2008, accounted for the majority (**66,0%**) of all aggravated robberies during the present reporting period. The five subcategories of aggravated robbery which increased significantly, accounted for **2,0%** of all serious crime and **33,7%** of aggravated robberies.

The main concerns emerging from the 2007/2008 crime statistics are the following:

- Robbery at non-residential (mainly business) premises increased by **47,4%** or **3 173** cases (from **6 689** to **9 862** cases).
- Robbery at residential premises increased by **13,5%** or **1 720** cases (from **12 761** to **14 481** cases).
- Carjacking increased by **4,4%** or **602** cases (from **13 599** to **14 201** cases).
- Truck hijacking increased by **39,6%** or **353** cases (from **892** to **1 245** cases).

3.4.1 General observations

In addition to the fact that the aforementioned four subcategories of aggravated robbery increased significantly and did not meet the **7 - 10%** reduction target for contact crime, they are also of specific concern for the following reasons:

- These very crimes - and house robbery in particular - touch the essence of human security. When people are awoken in their beds to face the barrel of a gun, this actually sends a message that “no-one is safe”. This has a massive impact on perceptions of security/insecurity among South Africans and makes people blind for all the other gains against crime. It is for example noteworthy that during 2007/2008, murder, attempted murder, rape, aggravated robbery and serious assault decreased by **21 348** cases, while the TRIO crimes increased by **5 495** cases (that is four times lower). Still, according to surveys conducted during the reporting period, the public of South Africa continued to

respond that they feel more and more insecure "because crime is on the increase". This is in all probability because of the way in which crime is reported in the media and by word of mouth. The carjackings, house robberies and business robberies which result in fatalities, serious injuries or rapes tend to be prominently reported, particularly if a well-known member of the community is affected. (Roughly calculated, approximately one to two murders, five attempted murders, four rapes and twelve assaults are committed during the ± 106 cases of TRIO crimes recorded every day.) These extremely tragic incidents are perceived as representative of all robberies. Although less than 500 murders recorded during 2007/2008 could be linked to the trio crimes, the more brutal cases enjoying the most publicity become associated with all 18 487 murders reported in 2007/2008. These crimes also reverberate around the world in no time (e.g. the case of Lucky Dube). The result is that these **2,0%** of serious crimes in South Africa are associated with the rest of the **27,0%** of violent contact crimes recorded among the country's crime figures. This not only scares off potential investors and tourists, but raises fear levels inside the country as well and thereby creates a snowball of perceptions, fears and monotonously recurring reports of new incidents of violence feeding upon one another in a vicious circle of self-fulfilling prophecies. Seen in this light, the criminals committing these crimes deserve the harshest possible punishment. They play an active part in sabotaging the development prospects of South Africa. Notwithstanding what was said above, the media play a vital role in exposing this and sounding a clarion call to action against this scourge.

- The trio crimes (house robbery, carjacking, business robbery), have consistently increased since 2004/2005 (i.e. over the past three years), despite various focused initiatives to counter them during 2006 and 2007.
- Daily crime pattern and linkage analysis of the trio crimes at station level as well as various docket analyses at national level were done by the Crime Information Management component of the South African Police Service (SAPS) during the past year (2007/2008). This threw some light on the dynamics of these crimes. However, it should be said that all of these alone will not provide complete answers to all questions regarding these crimes. What can be said, is the following:

- Forty percent of carjackings, house robberies and business robberies occurred in **3,7%**, **3,7%** and **3,6%** of South Africa's police precincts respectively (that is recorded at **41**, **41** and **40** among the **1 115** police stations in the country respectively). The occurrence of the crimes is extremely concentrated. Although such crimes may happen in all kinds of precincts, there is a likelihood for carjackings and particularly house robberies to occur in the more affluent suburbs and for business robberies and street robberies to occur in CBD areas or the areas on the periphery of CBD areas. **Table 4** depicts the top 20 stations as far as the incidence of street robbery, business robbery, carjacking and house robbery respectively is concerned.

TABLE 4

Different subcategories of aggravated robbery with the 20 police precincts recording the highest incidence of each during 2007/2008

SUBCATEGORIES OF AGGRAVATED ROBBERY			
Street robbery	House robbery	Carjacking	Business Robbery
Durban Central (KZN)	Sandton (GP)	Booyens (GP)	Jhb Central (GP)
Jhb Central (GP)	Honeydew (GP)	Pinetown (KZN)	Durban Central (KZN)
Hillbrow (GP)	Tembisa (GP)	Umlazi (KZN)	Pinetown (KZN)
Mitchells Plain (WC)	KwaMashu (KZN)	Phoenix (KZN)	Booyens (GP)
Pretoria Central (GP)	Midrand (GP)	Sandton (GP)	Rustenburg (NW)
Khayelitsha (WC)	Umlazi (KZN)	Mondeor (GP)	Sandton (GP)
Booyens (GP)	Ivory Park (GP)	Chatsworth (KZN)	Honeydew (GP)
Umlazi (KZN)	Wierdabrug (GP)	Midrand (GP)	Boksburg North (GP)
Parkweg (FS)	Rustenburg (NW)	Bramley (GP)	Benoni (GP)
KwaMashu (KZN)	Booyens (GP)	Moroka (GP)	Germiston (GP)
Nyanga (WC)	Douglasdale (GP)	Jhb Central (GP)	Phoenix (KZN)
Pinetown (KZN)	Roodepoort (GP)	Cleveland (GP)	Pietermaritzburg (KZN)
Rustenburg (NW)	Brooklyn (GP)	Durban Central (KZN)	Alberton (GP)
Cape Town Central (WC)	Parkview (GP)	Boksburg (GP)	Randburg (GP)
Thabong (FS)	Garsfontein (GP)	Brackendowns (GP)	Bramley (GP)
Kwazakele (EC)	Kwadukuza (KZN)	Isipingo (KZN)	Greenwood Park (KZN)
Galeshewe (NC)	Esikhawini (KZN)	Jeppe (GP)	Jeppe (GP)
Sunnyside (GP)	Kanyamazane (MP)	Newlands East (KZN)	Florida (GP)
Dobsonville (GP)	Inanda (KZN)	Springs ((GP)	Kempton Park (GP)
Phoenix (KZN)	Randburg (GP)	Edenvale (GP)	Springs (GP)

More than **75,0%** of these crimes occur in two provinces with major metropolitan developments, namely Gauteng (**50%+**) and KwaZulu-Natal (**25%+**).

- The trio crimes analyzed were mainly committed by small groups of two – three perpetrators (**+70,0%** of cases), although in the case of business robberies a correlation seems to exist between the size of the criminal groups involved and the size of the businesses targeted. This means that a group involved in a supermarket robbery will tend to be much larger than a group involved in robbing a small business in a residential area. It further seems that those who rob small businesses in residential areas are in most cases also involved in house robbery.

3.4.1.1 Robberies at residential premises

House robbers usually strike at night when they know people would tend to be at home. The time distribution of incidents emerging from analysis is as follows:

- 18:00 - 20:59 - **15,9%**;
- 21:00 - 23:59 - **23,0%**;
- 00:00 - 02:59 - **32,0%**; and
- 03:00 - 05:59 - **15,5%**.

- The first contact between the perpetrators and victims mainly occurred inside the victims' residences (**87,5%** of cases) after the criminals had gained forced entry to the premises (**67,5%** of cases). In the majority of cases the perpetrators did not employ any type of disguise, while in a few cases it was found that the perpetrators had instructed their victims to hide underneath blankets or had shone torches in their faces to prevent the victims from identifying them.

From the research findings and operational data available, the following can be concluded:

- Most house robberies are committed by small groups of unemployed youths with the main purpose to obtain cash to spend on their expensive lifestyles (which in all probability include drugs, alcohol, flashy cars and girlfriends). These perpetrators (a) sometimes operate on their own and take cash and smaller items which they know where to sell, or (b) act on the instructions of receivers who order specific items (e.g. a criminal who was arrested after

ordering watches from specific addresses). Although they play a vital role in organised crime, the runners or actual perpetrators in both cases are, strictly speaking, not on the level of organized criminals. Organized crime comes into play at the level of the receivers of illegally obtained or cultivated goods and the trade in these.

3.4.1.2 Carjacking

Carjackers usually strike at the following times:

- 18:00 - 20:59 - **43,7%**;
- 21:00 - 23:59 - **9,8%**;
- 00:01 - 04:59 - **9,4%**; and
- 05:00 - 08:59 - **9,9%**.

At least **70,0%** of all carjackings occurred at the gates to or on the driveways of residences and these are in a number of instances closely associated with robberies at residential premises.

Carjacking (like theft of motor vehicles) is a more organized and sophisticated endeavour. Because of all the identification and security systems built into modern motor vehicles, these cannot be freely used by the perpetrators of carjacking and car theft for months and years after the crime, as that would involve a risk of being arrested. Hijacked and stolen vehicles will therefore probably be used unaltered only for the following purposes:

- To serve as getaway vehicles from scenes of crime (e.g. the **9,3%** of cases in which a vehicle was taken during house robberies).
- For joyriding, i.e. using the vehicle for a few hours to e.g. go around and impress their peers and girlfriends or potential girlfriends.
- To use over a brief period for a specific purpose (e.g. to travel from one locality to another).

- To serve as ramming or getaway vehicles in the commission of other crimes (e.g. CIT heists, narcotics smuggling, etc).

It can in view of the above be assumed that the majority of hijacked vehicles are disposed of in the following ways:

- They are chopped up for spare parts or scrap metal.
- They are smuggled across South Africa's national borders to neighbouring countries, and possibly from there to countries even further afield.
- They are "cloned" to enable the vehicles to again enter the registration system and are then sold.

Particularly in the case of cloning, but also when vehicles are "exported", the syndicates involved are more sophisticated and structured. Such cases also involve corrupt officials (e.g. SAPS members, vehicle registration officers, border control officials, etc). To curb such crimes it is essential to address corruption and target the bosses of the syndicates involved.

3.4.1.3 Robbery at non-residential premises

- Business robberies can be less or more organized in nature. The less organized robberies are committed on the same basis as house robberies (by small groups of criminals looking for money and easily disposable items for which a market exists). These robberies, and particularly those in the suburbs and townships, are probably committed by the same criminals who are involved in house robberies. The larger business robberies (e.g. at supermarkets and fast food outlets) are committed by larger and probably better organized groups. These groups, or some members of these groups, may also be involved in bank and CIT robberies - and even ATM blasts (also see paragraph 3.1.4.5).

3.4.1.4 Truck hijacking

Truck hijacking, which mainly focuses on the freight, involves a high level of organization and a whole range of specialized skills (division of labour). Some of the levels occupied by the criminals involved, are the following:

- Runners, who physically hijack the trucks.
- Drivers to replace the legal drivers.
- “Technicians” who disconnect the satellite tracking devices while the vehicles are in movement.
- People who arrange warehouses and handling of the freight.
- Sellers who arrange the disposal of the goods.
- Distributors who ship the goods from warehouses to the buyers.

A group of truck hijackers (syndicate) will regularly commit this crime and that will generate numerous cases, which will push up the percentages dramatically. When they are apprehended and successfully prosecuted, this may have a dramatic downward influence on the figures of this crime.

3.4.1.5 Developing trends

The nature of crime, and particularly the more organized and violent varieties of organized crime, usually changes according to circumstances. Criminals and organized criminals in particular are influenced by possible rewards and sanctions. They perform a more or less sophisticated risk analysis before they strike. When the police start implementing a new strategy, criminals will endeavour to adapt to the new circumstances. Criminals are also copy-cats. A new type of crime or modus operandi will start on a small scale and then quickly grow, honed to ever more perfection, until

effective action is taken against it - which will force the criminals to either adapt their *modus operandi* or select some other crime or target.

One of the latest developments involves attacks or bombings aimed at automatic teller machines (ATMs). During 2005 only 12 such incidents were recorded, which escalated to 54 incidents during 2006, 386 incidents during 2007 and a projected total of 538 for 2008. The increase between 2005 and 2007 alone stands at 374 cases, namely from 12 to 386 incidents.

During the past three to four months, since the successful strikes against CIT robberies, the nature of ATM bombings has also changed. The criminals involved shifted their attention in the following ways:

- From ATMs on the periphery of the metropolitan areas into the metropolitan areas themselves.
- From less populated areas to more populated areas (with much more risk involved to e.g. innocent bystanders).
- From poorer areas to richer areas.
- From single ATM blasts to double ATM blasts.
- From less successful strikes in terms of monetary gain to more successful ones delivering more loot.
- From small (two - three member) perpetrator groups to gangs of 10 - 14 heavily armed men arriving in two or three cars and taking precautionary steps to counter police reaction (which is already impacting on police casualties).

3.5 Social Contact Crime

A detailed analysis and contextualization of social contact crime was provided in the *Annual report of the South African Police Service for 2006/2007* (pp 239 - 259). The explanations offered in that report remain valid and even the trends are very similar to those previously observed. The only significant new development in this regard is a

marked increase in the murder of children. The number of children murdered, increased by **22,4%** and the number of those falling victim to attempted murder increased by **13,7%** (see **table 5**). However, it should be emphasized that these increases are based on low numerical values. The remainder of the contact crimes against children and all the social contact crimes against women experienced decreases.

TABLE 5**Crimes against children under the age of 18 years**

Crime Category	2006/2007	2007/2008	Difference	Increase/ Decrease
Murder	1 152	1 410	258	22,4%
Attempted murder	1 309	1 488	179	13,7%
Rape (April - December)	17 224	16 068	-1 156	-6,7%
Common assault	23 526	21 736	-1 790	-7,6%
Assault GBH	20 445	19 687	-758	-3,7%
Indecent assault (April - December)	4 581	3 517	-1 064	-23,2%
TOTAL	68 237	63 906	-	-

TABLE 6**Crimes against women: persons 18 years and older**

Crime Category	2006/2007	2007/2008	Difference	Increase/ Decrease
Murder	2 842	2 611	-231	-8,1%
Attempted murder	3 601	3 187	-414	-11,5%
Rape (April - December)	21 314	20 282	-1 032	-4,8%
Common assault	112 381	91 534	-20 847	-18,6%
Assault GBH	85 032	62 368	-22 664	-26,7%
Indecent assault (April - December)	2 773	2 606	-167	-6,0%
TOTAL	227 943	182 588	-	-

The twenty stations recording the highest incidence of murder, attempted murder, rape and assault GBH respectively are indicated in **table 7**.

TABLE 7

A selection of some of the most prominent categories of social contact crime with the 20 police precincts recording the highest incidence of each during 2007/2008

CATEGORIES OF SOCIAL CONTACT CRIME			
Murder	Attempted murder	Rape	Assault GBH
Nyanga (WC)	Umlazi (KZN)	KwaMashu (KZN)	Hillbrow (GP)
KwaMashu (KZN)	KwaMashu (KZN)	Inanda (KZN)	Galeshewe (NC)
Umlazi (KZN)	Nyanga (WC)	Umlazi (KZN)	Umlazi (KZN)
Inanda (KZN)	Tembisa (GP)	Tembisa (GP)	KwaMashu (KZN)
Harare (WC)	Empangeni (KZN)	Temba (GP)	Moroka (GP)
Khayelitsha (WC)	Kwadukuza (KZN)	Katlehong (GP)	Kwanobuhle (EC)
Guguletu (WC)	Bethelsdorp (EC)	Nyanga (WC)	Atteridgeville (GP)
Mthatha (EC)	Mamelodi East (GP)	Kwazakele (EC)	Rietgat (GP)
Tembisa (GP)	Delft (WC)	Mamelodi East (GP)	Tohoyandou (LIM)
Plessislaer (KZN)	Phoenix (KZN)	Plessislaer (KZN)	Temba (GP)
Delft (WC)	Mitchells Plain (WC)	Tohoyandou (LIM)	Jhb Central (GP)
Kraaifontein (WC)	Kwamsane (KZN)	Mankweng (LIM)	Vosman (MP)
Katlehong (GP)	Honeydew (GP)	Moroka (GP)	Ikageng (NW)
Mfuleni (WC)	Jhb Central (GP)	Harare (WC)	Nyanga (WC)
Kwazakele (EC)	Moroka (GP)	Mitchells Plain (WC)	Inanda (KZN)
Alexandra (GP)	Hillbrow (GP)	Khayelitsha (WC)	Kanyamazane (MP)
Duncan Village (EC)	Temba (GP)	Rustenburg (NW)	Empangeni (KZN)
New Brighton (EC)	Rustenburg (NW)	Orange Farms (GP)	Dobsonville (GP)
Kwamakhutha (KZN)	Alexandra (GP)	Empangeni (KZN)	Meadowlands (GP)
Kwadabeka (KZN)	Esikhawini (KZN)	Jouberton (NW)	Worcester (WC)

4. CONTACT-RELATED CRIMES

Contact-related crimes cover arson and malicious damage to property. These crimes are closely associated with all kinds of assault and intergroup (or even intragroup) violent conflict, e.g. taxi-related violence and clan feuds. An example of this is a bar fight during which the furniture, liquor bottles and glasses are broken and customers' clothes torn and damaged. As a result, various assault and damage to property complaints may be laid, possibly even at various police stations serving the areas in which the different customers involved reside.

According to **tables 1** and **2**, the incidence of arson decreased by **-6,6%**, while malicious damaged to property decreased by **-5,4%**. It should also be noted that the numerous malicious damage to property cases exceed arson cases by more than **18** times in number.

5. PROPERTY-RELATED CRIMES

South Africa experiences relatively lower levels of property-related crime than many other **INTERPOL** member countries. It was and is still accepted that levels of these crimes should simply not increase. Tables **1**, **2** and **8** indicate that the recorded incidence of three of the five property-related crimes decreased substantially, namely theft out of or from motor vehicle by a significant **-10,8%**; theft of motor vehicles and motorcycles by **-7,9%**; and burglary at residential premises by **-5,6%**. The decrease in vehicle theft represents a major improvement on the figures for the 2006/2007 financial year.

TABLE 8

Decreases in property-related crime

Crimes	Change in raw figures	Decrease in ratios
Theft out of or from motor vehicle	-10,0%	-10,8%
Theft of motor vehicles and motorcycles	-7,0%	-7,9%
Burglary at residential premises	-4,7%	-5,6%
Stock-theft	-0,2%	-1,2%

The ratio of stock-theft decreased marginally by **-1,2%**.

Burglary at business (or non-residential) premises increased by **6,8%** during 2007/2008, which is of a similar order than the **6,3%** increase in 2006/2007. It is a matter of concern that burglary at business premises is increasing for a second consecutive year.

6. OTHER SERIOUS CRIME

Other serious crimes, which account for **25,2%** of South Africa's total serious crime, include all theft not mentioned elsewhere, commercial crime and shoplifting. All theft not mentioned elsewhere (also called "other theft") basically refers to all theft excluding theft of motor vehicles and motorcycles, theft out of or from motor vehicles, housebreaking at both residential and non-residential premises and stock-theft (i.e. the crimes discussed as property-related crime). With **395 296** registered

cases during 2007/2008, this is the single largest category of crime among the **27** categories featuring on the SAPS website at www.saps.gov.za. (This means that this category of theft accounts for **18,9%** of all South Africa's recorded serious crime.)

6.1 Other theft

The fact that other theft accounts for so much of South Africa's serious crime is not unique to South Africa. The 1999 Interpol Report e.g. mentions *inter alia* that other theft accounted for the following percentages of all crime recorded in different countries: South Africa (**25,7%**); Denmark (**54,8%**); Australia (**45,9%**); France (**41,3%**); Germany (**30,3%**); Finland (**29,8%**); Canada (**28,3%**); and Norway (**25,3%**). Other theft covers anything from stealing kilometres of copper cable or e.g. aircraft engines worth millions; to taking a pen, ashtray, beer glass and/or towel from a hotel/resort as a souvenir. (The seriousness of this crime is illustrated by copper cable theft. The cables cost millions of rand to replace and theft of these sometimes have extremely serious consequences, such as an electrical substation of \pm R30 million going up in flames and causing prolonged power failures over large areas - with a resultant loss of many millions more to the economy, not to mention the consequences for the individuals, small businesses and companies affected). However, various docket analyses done in the past indicated that the items most frequently taken during cases of other theft are the following:

- Cellular telephones;
- money;
- jewellery; and
- tools (particularly garden tools).

The figures for other theft are probably as high as they are for the following reasons:

- It covers the stealing of virtually everything not mentioned under the five property-related crimes discussed in **section 5** of this report.
- People can very easily put aside, store, mislay, lose or leave items - such as cellular telephones, money, jewellery and tools - somewhere and then later believe such items to have been stolen; or report the loss as due to theft in order to claim from insurance.

- Organised syndicates commit some types of other theft at a high frequency. This can generate literally hundreds and even thousands of dockets over a very short period of time. An example of the latter is the stealing of brass water (reading) meters or electric gate openers almost every few minutes during the night at different addresses in the same neighbourhood. By the next morning the culprits may have stolen a considerable number of water meters or gate openers at different addresses, causing the home-owners affected to all lay complaints at the same or different police stations and resulting in numerous other theft cases being added to the crime statistics. The same applies to small-scale cable theft, which most of the times involves an unemployed/homeless person cutting out pieces (say of 1 metre) of copper wire to sell for next-to-nothing to a scrap metal dealer. The crime may possibly be committed with the aim to obtain food, but can have serious economic consequences.

6.2 Commercial crime

Commercial crime covers all kinds of fraud, forgery and uttering, misappropriations and embezzlement. Universally, the modern trend in commercial crime is for it to be handled “internally” as far as possible (i.e. within the company or industry affected) and to only hand cases over to the police for prosecution - if these are reported to the police at all. Many companies, particularly those in the financial sector which are entrusted with safeguarding the financial interests of their clients, do not want it to become publicly known if they have a number of rotten apples in their own baskets. They will consequently investigate cases internally and even deal with culprits in their own ways (e.g. by way of dismissal, forcing them to pay back defrauded sums and transfers).

6.3 Shoplifting

Shoplifting is defined as consisting of stealing articles offered for sale by self-service shops during the shopping hours of such shops. It is necessary for the perpetrator to remove an article from the shelf, move past the cashier without paying for it and have the intention to steal such items. It is therefore actually logical that the majority of shoplifting cases are identified by the security staff and surveillance systems of such

shops, sometimes with the assistance of customers. In most cases a perpetrator is arrested by the security staff and handed over to the police, who then open a case docket (and thus add a case of shoplifting to the statistics). As in the case of commercial crime, the police are in the vast majority of cases only involved in the prosecution part of the case.

6.4 Trends related to other serious crime

According to **tables 1, 2 and 9**, other theft decreased by **-5,7%** and shoplifting increased by a marginal **1,3%**, as can also be seen in **table 9**. Commercial crime increased by **4,8%**, after having increased by **12,6%** in 2006/2007.

TABLE 9

Fluctuations in the incidence of other serious crime

Crimes	Decrease/increase based on raw figures	Decrease/increase based on ratios
All theft not mentioned elsewhere	-4,8%	-5,7%
Commercial crime	5,8%	4,8%
Shoplifting	2,3%	1,3%

7. CRIMES HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON POLICE ACTION FOR DETECTION

The crimes fitting this category are the following:

- Illegal possession of firearms.
- Drug-related crimes (these cover both the use, possession of and dealing in drugs).
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The above crimes are usually not reported to the police by members of the public. These crimes come to attention primarily as a result of police actions like road-blocks and searches. An increase in these crimes may actually indicate that the police are more active, whereas a decrease may indicate reduced police activity. Other

explanations may also exist for decreases and increases observed in relation to these crimes. Decreases may e.g. result from a change in strategy among gunrunners and drug peddlers (e.g. to avoid road-blocks), a real decrease in these phenomena, or the impact of previous actions like “arrive alive” campaigns on people’s drinking and driving behaviour.

Crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection are also indicators of the availability or presence of some of the generators of crime (particularly socially-motivated contact crimes). Research and docket analysis, as well as time and spatial analysis over the past decade, clearly indicate a link between alcohol and drugs on the one hand and crime on the other in South Africa. People under the influence of drugs and alcohol may become aggressive and/or start arguments, which could turn into physical confrontations resulting in assault, rape, attempted murder or murder. Drugs and even alcohol can further be quite expensive. For addicted people, it may become a very expensive habit. Addicts may consequently be driven to property-related crime and even robbery to get hold of the money needed to buy drugs. Drugs are also the primary substance fuelling organised crime and causing turf wars among gangs. However, an increase in illegal possession of firearms and drug-related crime cases might not necessarily indicate an increase in the volumes of illegal firearms or drugs available in society. Similarly, a decrease does not necessarily indicate shrinking quantities of such firearms and drugs. To determine the true extent (volume) of drugs and illegal firearms floating around in any country will be extremely difficult, if not impossible.

Illegal possession of firearms decreased by **-6,9%**, while drug-related crime increased by **3,3%**. In the past few years more significant increases were achieved in both these crimes, which make increases more difficult to achieve at present (2007/2008).

The **25,4%** increase in the ratio of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs is probably a result of much more stringent law enforcement by both Metro Police services and the SAPS during 2007/2008. An analysis reveals that stringent law enforcement was applied right through the period in question and not only during the holiday period from November - January. *Arrive Alive* and particularly its focus on driving under the influence has now been extended throughout the whole year.

8. THE PROVINCIAL CRIME SITUATION

The provincial serious crime ratios for the 21 serious crimes under consideration during 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 financial years, as well as the percentage decreases and increases calculated on the basis of these ratios, are reflected in **table 10**.

Table 10 and the raw figures or frequencies in **tables 11 - 18** as well as on the South African Police Service website (www.saps.gov.za) are self-explanatory. Only a few comments are therefore made in this section on increases and decreases in the incidence of crime. The focus is on the most serious contact crimes and some subrends.

Seven of the eight contact crimes and three of the high profile subcategories of aggravated robbery are analysed per province in **tables 11 - 18**. In each of these tables the provinces are ranked from the one with the highest decrease in the incidence of the specific crime featured in that particular table to the one with the highest increase. The degree to which the nine provinces achieved (or failed to achieve) their contact crime reduction targets is briefly discussed on the following pages.

TABLE 10

Fluctuations in the ratios of serious crime trends between the 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 financial years per province

Crime category	Eastern Cape			Free State			Gauteng		
	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/ decrease	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/ decrease	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/ decrease
Contact crime (Crimes against the person)									
Murder	52.5	50.9	-3,0%	32.2	29.7	-7,8%	40.1	37.9	-5,5%
Rape (April - December)	84.2	79.6	-5,5%	90.9	88.8	-2,3%	93.8	83.3	-11,2%
Indecent assault (April - December)	10.3	11.1	7,8%	14.5	14.4	-0,7%	15.0	15.5	3,3%
Attempted murder	31.1	31.3	0,6%	33.7	31.7	-5,9%	59.6	54.3	-8,9%
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	513.3	499.2	-2,7%	540.1	568.9	5,3%	513.6	485.1	-5,5%
Common assault	306.0	287.8	-5,9%	672.0	672.1	0,0%	607.9	589.9	-3,0%
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	134.0	129.4	-3,4%	144.8	152.1	5,0%	578.1	526.1	-9,0%
Common robbery	111.3	102.6	-7,8%	142.0	141.7	-0,2%	260.4	228.7	-12,2%
Contact-related crime									
Arson	18.4	17.9	-2,7%	15.8	14.6	-7,7%	21.4	18.8	-12,0%
Malicious damage to property	227.9	215.1	-5,6%	324.7	326.1	0,4%	452.6	432.1	-4,5%
Property-related crime									
Burglary at residential premises	457.6	427.3	-6,6%	544.6	530.8	-2,5%	699.8	647.2	-7,5%
Burglary at business premises	77.0	86.1	11,8%	138.9	149.3	7,5%	152.8	156.0	2,1%
Theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle	82.1	68.5	-16,6%	96.9	95.7	-1,2%	438.9	412.5	-6,0%
Theft out of or from motor vehicle	171.9	146.1	-15,0%	193.1	162.5	-15,8%	414.4	374.1	-9,7%
Stock-theft	99.0	101.3	2,3%	158.8	149.7	-5,7%	6.1	6.3	3,3%
Crime heavily dependent on police action for detection									
Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition	20.9	20.8	-0,4%	11.5	10.5	-8,8%	40.8	35.7	-12,4%
Drug-related crime	104.1	114.8	10,2%	184.6	152.9	-17,2%	128.7	127.5	-0,9%
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	68.3	87.3	27,9%	42.2	48.9	15,9%	77.5	100.2	29,3%
Other serious crime									
All theft not mentioned elsewhere	551.5	518.5	-6,0%	816.8	816.7	0,0%	1 355.8	1 258.7	-7,2%
Commercial crime	82.5	76.8	-6,9%	78.1	90.5	15,8%	280.1	276.8	-1,2%
Shoplifting	95.7	94.4	-1,3%	104.3	99.2	-5,0%	195.4	208.1	6,5%

TABLE 10 (continued)

Fluctuations in the ratios of serious crime trends between the 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 financial years per province

Crime category	KwaZulu-Natal			Limpopo			Mpumalanga		
	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/ decrease	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/ decrease	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/ decrease
Contact crime (Crimes against the person)									
Murder	50.5	47.1	-6,7%	13.9	12.9	-7,2%	24.8	23.6	-4,8%
Rape (April - December)	72.0	64.9	-9,9%	60.0	52.1	-13,2%	86.9	74.5	-14,3%
Indecent assault (April - December)	11.5	12.0	4,3%	4.0	4.0	0,0%	6.3	7.1	12,7%
Attempted murder	52.9	49.4	-6,6%	15.5	13.4	-13,5%	37.2	35.9	-3,5%
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	311.4	305.6	-1,9%	293.6	253.0	-13,8%	513.3	476.5	-7,2%
Common assault	321.2	293.7	-8,6%	245.6	204.0	-16,9%	385.5	345.0	-10,5%
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	264.3	242.5	-8,2%	59.9	45.3	-24,4%	190.1	167.0	-12,2%
Common robbery	107.5	92.5	-14,0%	84.2	69.6	-17,3%	147.6	134.4	-8,9%
Contact-related crime									
Arson	12.9	13.2	2,3%	13.0	10.6	-18,6%	19.1	16.6	-13,1%
Malicious damage to property	184.6	169.9	-7,9%	141.8	127.4	-10,1%	247.6	233.0	-5,9%
Property-related crime									
Burglary at residential premises	401.1	371.5	-7,4%	231.6	219.5	-5,2%	556.0	533.2	-4,1%
Burglary at business premises	96.0	102.4	6,7%	88.8	100.0	12,6%	99.5	120.8	21,5%
Theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle	142.0	121.9	-14,2%	29.2	22.5	-23,0%	90.7	83.6	-7,9%
Theft out of or from motor vehicle	157.7	128.0	-18,9%	75.7	60.6	-20,0%	164.0	149.5	-8,9%
Stock-theft	75.9	76.4	0,7%	32.3	24.8	-23,2%	72.4	83.4	15,3%
Crime heavily dependent on police action for detection									
Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition	46.5	43.2	-7,1%	7.9	8.8	11,3%	16.7	14.8	-11,1%
Drug-related crime	264.8	241.4	-8,8%	40.6	59.2	45,8%	59.0	50.1	-15,1%
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	98.8	126.0	27,4%	20.8	22.3	7,1%	38.0	56.2	47,8%
Other serious crime									
All theft not mentioned elsewhere	516.8	474.4	-8,2%	376.3	358.4	-4,8%	759.7	692.9	-8,8%
Commercial crime	107.3	108.4	1,0%	43.2	43.8	1,5%	81.5	106.8	31,0%
Shoplifting	107.3	107.9	0,5%	69.6	64.8	-6,9%	106.2	100.4	-5,4%

TABLE 10 (continued)

Fluctuations in the ratios of serious crime trends between the 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 financial years per province

Crime category	Northern Cape			North West			Western Cape		
	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/ decrease	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/ decrease	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/ decrease
Contact crime (Crimes against the person)									
Murder	38.1	38.3	0,5%	26.4	27.0	2,3%	60.7	58.6	-3,5%
Rape (April - December)	101.8	92.5	-9,1%	92.5	88.9	-3,9%	88.8	82.6	-7,0%
Indecent assault (April - December)	25.6	19.3	-24,6%	10.0	10.2	2,0%	43.3	38.2	-11,8%
Attempted murder	92.4	70.3	-23,9%	26.1	26.0	0,4%	43.1	38.1	-11,6%
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	993.7	898.0	-9,6%	482.1	467.3	-3,1%	545.5	514.8	-5,6%
Common assault	576.6	492.7	-14,6%	332.0	306.6	-7,7%	738.8	674.9	-8,6%
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	100.1	106.4	6,3%	163.8	162.9	-0,5%	320.6	300.7	-6,2%
Common robbery	139.1	121.3	-12,8%	115.3	113.8	-1,3%	183.2	177.2	-3,3%
Contact-related crime									
Arson	19.6	15.3	-21,9%	17.4	18.4	5,7%	13.2	13.0	-1,5%
Malicious damage to property	318.9	310.1	-2,7%	224.4	227.9	1,6%	615.5	564.1	-8,4%
Property-related crime									
Burglary at residential premises	503.1	446.7	-11,2%	443.2	433.7	-2,1%	908.5	875.6	-3,6%
Burglary at business premises	189.6	177.5	-6,4%	132.9	146.9	10,6%	213.1	219.8	3,2%
Theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle	27.3	23.6	-13,7%	98.1	91.8	-6,5%	284.5	267.7	-5,9%
Theft out of or from motor vehicle	242.1	199.1	-17,7%	155.6	152.2	-2,1%	708.1	656.6	-7,3%
Stock-theft	138.1	133.6	-3,3%	77.9	74.5	-4,4%	16.4	16.4	0,0%
Crimes heavily dependent on police action for detention									
Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition	6.9	8.2	18,8%	13.7	14.9	8,8%	53.2	48.5	-8,9%
Drug-related crime	193.1	199.7	3,4%	180.3	206.4	14,4%	864.8	950.1	9,9%
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	93.0	130.1	39,9%	61.1	69.7	14,2%	201.8	240.0	18,9%
Other serious crime									
All theft not mentioned elsewhere	725.2	679.0	-6,4%	724.1	694.1	-4,1%	1 965.1	1 879.5	-4,4%
Commercial crime	77.1	86.1	11,7%	74.6	84.9	13,8%	164.7	199.6	21,2%
Shoplifting	193.8	172.7	-10,9%	89.1	81.5	-8,5%	293.8	306.8	4,4%

- **Murder (table 11):** The Free State (-7,8%) and Limpopo (-7,2%) achieved the 7 - 10% reduction target, while five other provinces recorded reductions between -6,7% (KwaZulu-Natal) and -3,0% (Eastern Cape). The Northern Cape (0,5%) and North West (2,3%) experienced marginal increases.
- **Rape (table 12):** All the provinces recorded decreases. Six provinces recorded decreases exceeding or within the 7 - 10% target range. The Eastern Cape (-5,5%), North West (-3,9%) and the Free State (-2,3%) did not achieve the targeted 7 - 10% decrease.
- **Attempted murder (table 13):** The Northern Cape (-23,9%), Limpopo (-13,5%) and the Western Cape (-11,6%) exceeded the 7 - 10% reduction target, while Gauteng (-8,9%) met the target. KwaZulu-Natal, the Free State, Mpumalanga and North West all recorded reductions below the target. The only province with a marginal increase of 0,6% is the Eastern Cape.
- **Assault GBH (table 14):** Limpopo (-13,8%), achieved a decrease that exceeded the reduction target, while the Northern Cape (-9,6%) and Mpumalanga (-7,2%) met the target. The remaining six provinces experienced either decreases or an increase.
- **Common assault (table 15):** Six provinces achieved decreases above or within the 7 - 10 % reduction target range. The Eastern Cape and Gauteng recorded decreases below the target and the Free State experienced no change in this regard.
- **Robbery with aggravating circumstances (table 16):** Limpopo (-24,4%), Mpumalanga (-12,2%), Gauteng (-9,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (-8,2%) all achieved or exceeded the 7 - 10% reduction target. The Western Cape and Eastern Cape also recorded decreases, while North West (-0,5%) recorded a marginal decrease and the Free State (5,0%) and Northern Cape (6,5%) recorded noteworthy increases.
- **Common robbery (table 17):** Six of the nine provinces either achieved or exceeded the 7 - 10% reduction target. Limpopo with a -17,3% decrease

recorded the highest reduction. The Western Cape, North West and the Free State recorded reductions below the target range.

The percentage increases/decreases in the incidence of three high profile subcategories of aggravated robbery featuring in this section (figures for which are already included in the overall aggravated robbery figures) are also provided in order from the highest decrease to the highest increase in **tables 18 - 20**. Robbery at residential premises (house robbery), business premises (business robbery) and carjacking form the focus of many special initiatives against armed robbery launched over the past two years. If **tables 18, 19 and 20** are scrutinized, the following seem evident:

- **80,0%** of all carjackings recorded during 2007/2008 occurred in Gauteng (**52,6%**) and KwaZulu-Natal (**27,4%**). These two provinces recorded a **2,1%** and **9,1%** increase in carjackings respectively.
- **74,5%** of robberies at residential premises registered during 2007/2008 also occurred in Gauteng (**50,5%**) and KwaZulu-Natal (**24,0%**), with these provinces respectively recording a **-5,4%** decrease and a **30,5%** increase in the incidence of this particular subcategory of crime. The fact that a **-5,4%** decrease in house robbery was recorded in Gauteng (which is not far below the **7 - 10%** reduction target) indicates that Operation TRIO is achieving some results in this province.
- **71,2%** of robberies at business premises during 2007/2008 occurred in Gauteng (**51,7%**) and KwaZulu-Natal (**19,5%**) as well, with these provinces recording a **13,5%** and **92,9%** increase in such robberies respectively.

TABLE 11
Murder sorted from highest decreases to highest increases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/Decrease
RSA	40.5	38.6	-4,7%
Free State	32.2	29.7	-7,8%
Limpopo	13.9	12.9	-7,2%
KwaZulu-Natal	50.5	47.1	-6,7%
Gauteng	40.1	37.9	-5,5%
Mpumalanga	24.8	23.6	-4,8%
Western Cape	60.7	58.6	-3,5%
Eastern Cape	52.5	50.9	-3,0%
Northern Cape	38.1	38.3	0,5%
North West	26.4	27.0	2,3%

TABLE 12
Rape sorted from highest to lowest decreases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/Decrease
RSA	82.9	75.6	-8,8%
Mpumalanga	86.9	74.5	-14,3%
Limpopo	60.0	52.1	-13,2%
Gauteng	93.8	83.3	-11,2%
KwaZulu-Natal	72.0	64.9	-9,9%
Northern Cape	101.8	92.5	-9,1%
Western Cape	88.8	82.6	-7,0%
Eastern Cape	84.2	79.6	-5,5%
North West	92.5	88.9	-3,9%
Free State	90.9	88.8	-2,3%

TABLE 13
Attempted murder sorted from highest decreases to highest increases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/Decrease
RSA	42.5	39.3	-7,5%
Northern Cape	92.4	70.3	-23,9%
Limpopo	15.5	13.4	-13,5%
Western Cape	43.1	38.1	-11,6%
Gauteng	59.6	54.3	-8,9%
KwaZulu-Natal	52.9	49.4	-6,6%
Free State	33.7	31.7	-5,9%
Mpumalanga	37.2	35.9	-3,5%
North West	26.1	26.0	-0,4%
Eastern Cape	31.1	31.3	0,6%

TABLE 14

Assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm sorted from highest decreases to highest increases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/Decrease
RSA	460.1	439.1	-4,6%
Limpopo	293.6	253.0	-13,8%
Northern Cape	993.7	898.0	-9,6%
Mpumalanga	513.3	476.5	-7,2%
Western Cape	545.5	514.8	-5,6%
Gauteng	513.6	485.1	-5,5%
North West	482.1	467.3	-3,1%
Eastern Cape	513.3	499.2	-2,7%
KwaZulu-Natal	311.4	305.6	-1,9%
Free State	540.1	568.9	5,3%

TABLE 15

Common assault sorted from highest to lowest decreases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/Decrease
RSA	443.2	413.9	-6,6%
Limpopo	245.6	204.0	-16,9%
Northern Cape	576.6	492.7	-14,6%
Mpumalanga	385.5	345.0	-10,5%
Western Cape	738.8	674.9	-8,6%
KwaZulu-Natal	321.2	293.7	-8,6%
North West	332.0	306.6	-7,7%
Eastern Cape	306.0	287.8	-5,9%
Gauteng	607.9	589.9	-3,0%
Free State	672.0	672.1	0,0%

TABLE 16

Robbery with aggravating circumstances sorted from highest decreases to highest increases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increases/Decrease
RSA	267.1	247.3	-7,4%
Limpopo	59.9	45.3	-24,4%
Mpumalanga	190.1	167.0	-12,2%
Gauteng	578.1	526.1	-9,0%
KwaZulu-Natal	264.3	242.5	-8,2%
Western Cape	320.6	300.7	-6,2%
Eastern Cape	134.0	129.4	-3,4%
North West	163.8	162.9	-0,5%
Free State	144.8	152.1	5,0%
Northern Cape	100.1	106.4	6,3%

TABLE 17

Common robbery sorted from highest to lowest decreases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/Decrease
RSA	150.1	135.8	-9,5%
Limpopo	84.2	69.6	-17,3%
KwaZulu-Natal	107.5	92.5	-14,0%
Northern Cape	139.1	121.3	-12,8%
Gauteng	260.4	228.7	-12,2%
Mpumalanga	147.6	134.4	-8,9%
Eastern Cape	111.3	102.6	-7,8%
Western Cape	183.2	177.2	-3,3%
North West	115.3	113.8	-1,3%
Free State	142.0	141.7	-0,2%

TABLE 18

Carjacking sorted from highest decreases to highest increases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008*

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/Decrease
RSA	13 599	14 201	4,4%
Eastern Cape	607	604	-0,5%
Western Cape	911	923	1,3%
Gauteng	7 314	7 466	2,1%
North West	284	291	2,5%
Limpopo	196	203	3,6%
KwaZulu-Natal	3 563	3 889	9,1%
Mpumalanga	597	664	11,2%
Northern Cape	4	5	25,0%
Free State	123	156	26,8%

* Raw figures

TABLE 19

Robbery at residential premises sorted from highest decreases to highest increases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008*

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/Decrease
RSA	12 761	14 481	13,50%
Gauteng	7 732	7 314	-5,4%
Northern Cape	10	12	20,0%
Western Cape	658	796	21,0%
KwaZulu-Natal	2 667	3 480	30,5%
North West	584	821	40,6%
Mpumalanga	540	862	59,6%
Eastern Cape	344	662	92,4%
Limpopo	162	319	96,9%
Free State	64	215	236,0%

* Raw figures

TABLE 20

Robbery at non-residential premises ranked from the lowest to the highest increases between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008*

Province	2006/2007	2007/2008	Increase/decrease
RSA	6 689	9 862	47,4%
Gauteng	4 492	5 098	13,5%
Mpumalanga	195	305	56,4%
North West	406	747	84,0%
KwaZulu-Natal	997	1 923	92,9%
Eastern Cape	241	488	102,5%
Western Cape	197	635	222,3%
Northern Cape	16	54	237,5%
Limpopo	83	314	278,3%
Free State	62	298	380,6%

* Raw figures