The State of Crime and Safety in SA Cities

REPORT

2020

"Supporting the role of local governments in building cities and human settlements where all people are safe and enjoy equal rights, opportunities and fundamental freedoms"

– UN SYSTEM-WIDE GUIDELINES ON SAFER CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (2019)

urban safety reference group

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Contents

Acknowledgements
List of Figures ii
List of Tables ii
Acronyms iii

THE STATE OF CRIME AND SAFETY IN SOUTH AFRICAN CITIES 2

Interpreting Crime Statistics 3
National Crime Trends 8
Latest city trends in key crime categories 11
The indicators database 19
Rapid Diagnostic 23
Police Precinct Population 2018/19 Calculation Methodology 26

Annexure A
INDIVIDUAL CITY CRIME SITUATIONS 27

City of Johannesburg 28
City of Cape Town 30
eThekwini 32
Ekurhuleni 34
City of Tshwane 36
Nelson Mandela Bay 38
Mangaung 40
Buffalo City 42
Msunduzi 44

Annexure B
USRG MEMBERS 46

References 47

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1 Crimes for which official figures are released for public use by the SAPS **3**
FIGURE 2 Steps of the methodology used **5**
FIGURE 3 Absolute number of murders compared to murder rates per 100 000 (2018/19) **7**
FIGURE 4 South Africa's murder rate per 100 000 (1994/95–2018/19) **10**
FIGURE 5 Murders per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19) **11**
FIGURE 6 Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19) **12**
FIGURE 7 Sexual offences per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19) **13**
FIGURE 8 Robbery at non-residential premises per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19) **14**
FIGURE 9 Robbery at residential premises per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19) **15**
FIGURE 10 Burglary at residential premises per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19) **16**
FIGURE 11 Recorded vehicle and motorcycle theft rates per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19) **17**
FIGURE 12 Carjacking per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19) **18**
FIGURE 13 Total crime detected through police action per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19) **19**
FIGURE 14 The 21 indicators of crime and safety **20**
FIGURE 15 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Johannesburg (2005/06–2018/19) **29**
FIGURE 16 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Cape Town (2005/06–2018/19) **31**
FIGURE 17 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in eThekwini (2005/06–2018/19) **33**
FIGURE 18 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Ekurhuleni (2005/06–2018/19) **35**
FIGURE 19 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Tshwane (2005/06–2018/19) **37**
FIGURE 20 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Nelson Mandela Bay (2005/06–2018/19) **39**
FIGURE 21 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Mangaung (2005/06–2018/19) **41**
FIGURE 22 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Buffalo City (2005/06–2018/19) **43**
FIGURE 23 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Msunduzi (2005/06–2018/19 ..... **45**

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1 Population estimates per city according to Statistics South Africa's 2019 mid-year population estimates (2011–2018) **6**
TABLE 2 Non-violent property crime rates **8**
TABLE 3 Violent property crime rates **8**
TABLE 4 Interpersonal violent crime rates **9**
TABLE 5 Comparison of cities across the 21 indicators (2018/19) **24**

ACRONYMS

BCM	Buffalo City Municipality
BMZ	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
CAS	Crime Administration System
COGTA	Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
CPF	Community Policing Forum
CPT	Cape Town
CPTED	Crime Prevention through Environmental Design
EKU	Ekurhuleni
ETH	eThekwini
GBH	Grievous bodily harm
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
HDI	Human Development Index
ICDMS	Investigation Case Docket Management System
ISS	Institute for Security Studies
JHB	Johannesburg
MAN	Manguang
MSU	Msunduzi
NMB	Nelson Mandela Bay
RSA	Republic of South Africa
SACN	South African Cities Network
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SAPS	South African Police Service
SCODA	South African Cities Open Data Almanac
STATS SA	Statistics South Africa
TSH	Tshwane
USRG	Urban Safety Reference Group
VCP	Violence and Crime Prevention

THE STATE OF CRIME AND SAFETY IN SOUTH AFRICAN CITIES

This report presents an analysis on the state of crime and violence in nine of South Africa's major cities: Johannesburg, Cape Town, eThekwini, Ekurhuleni, Tshwane, Nelson Mandela Bay, Mangaung, Buffalo City and Msunduzi. The data upon which the analysis is based comes from the annual crime statistics released by the South African Police Service (SAPS) for the financial year from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. While the data is released at national, provincial and police precinct levels, it was aggregated to city level to give a more accurate representation of how crime is distributed, and the types of interventions needed. The continuous time series of city-level crime statistics spans 14 years, from 2005/06 to 2018/19, providing longitudinal trends of selected types of crime in these cities.

INTERPRETING CRIME STATISTICS

The SAPS annually collects and disseminates statistics on crimes recorded at the 1 149 police stations within the borders of South Africa. The crimes recorded by the SAPS include those reported by victims, witnesses or third parties, as well as those detected by police officials. The data collection process begins with an incident of an alleged crime being assessed for its unlawfulness and it is then classified. The incident is recorded in a case docket, which is entered into the SAPS's Investigation Case Docket Management System (ICDMS and into the Crime Administration System (CAS)). Crime types are grouped into the various broad categories listed in Figure 1. These are the categories of crimes for which official figures are currently released for public use; this is not an exhaustive list of all crimes recorded by the police.

FIGURE 1 Crimes for which official figures are released for public use by the SAPS

It is important to note that police statistics are not a scientific or objective measure of all the crimes that occurred in the given location and time period. Rather, they represent a data-collection process designed to assist a law-enforcement organisation in the practical execution and evaluation of its duties. Therefore, SAPS crime statistics should always be qualified as 'crime statistics as reported by the police'.

The SAPS crime statistics do not accurately represent a measure of crime, but rather a measure of crimes reported to and recorded by the police. Whether a crime is reported to the police is influenced by a range of factors, for example:

- victims' and witnesses' understanding of what kind of incident is appropriate for police attention versus those more appropriate for interpersonal, family or community resolution;
- victims' and witnesses' interpretation of the various parties' legal rights and responsibilities;
- victims' and witnesses' incentives to make the effort to initiate an official legal process following what may already have been a traumatic incident;
- victims' and witnesses' ability to access police services and produce an accurate written record of the event; and so on.

Generally, individuals with relatively high levels of wealth and education, who have an expectation of personal safety, possess insurance policies on their goods, and a sense of trust of the police, have a strong likelihood of reporting a criminal incident of which they were a victim or a witness. This profile of victim or witness is far more likely to have crime incidents reflected in the official police statistics. The crimes experienced by poor and vulnerable individuals are far less likely to be reported or recorded by the police.

As a result, the factors presented above have a direct impact on the extent to which any crime category can be considered a reliable or valid indicator of actual crime levels. For example, surveys suggest that a vast majority (about 86%) of motor vehicle thefts in South Africa are reported to the police. The reason for this is that victims need an official case number to be able to claim insurance on a stolen vehicle. However, less than half (about 48%) of residential burglaries are reported to the police as many victims believe that the police will not or cannot do anything to help them.[1] Such differences can result in crime statistics that produce a highly distorted impression of crime prevalence, distribution or trends.

Crime statistics should always be interpreted in the context of independent survey data on crime experiences and reporting, such as that provided by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) in its annual national Victims of Crime Survey.

An additional difficulty in meaningfully analysing crime statistics is that crime is far from evenly distributed across any country, city, neighbourhood, or even household. For example, knowing what the number of murders is says nothing about the victims, perpetrators, locality or causal factors driving murder. It is thus important to conduct analyses of the levels and drivers of crime at the smallest geographical scale possible. As discussed at length in previous reports, this is very difficult in the South African context. For one thing, despite recording a disproportionate share of many major crime types, South African cities do not have access to the crime statistics that would allow them to properly quantify and respond to their unique crime situations. Generating the necessary city-level crime statistics requires a particular kind of technical work, as described in the following section.

Methodology

The methodology used in this report for compiling the crime statistics at city level are unchanged from the previous report. It consists of four steps:

FIGURE 2 Steps of the methodology used

STEP 1

Determine which police station areas fall within the relevant municipal boundaries

This step is necessary because the geographical boundaries of SAPS police precincts do not correspond with municipal boundaries or the boundaries of any other source of governance-relevant data, making it difficult to track and compare data at city level.

Geographic information system (GIS) technology was used to overlay the spatial boundaries of the police station areas (provided by the SAPS) with the spatial boundaries of the municipalities (provided by Stats SA in the census of 2011). In 2019, the precinct boundaries were overlaid with the 2016 municipal boundaries, as updated by the Municipal Demarcation Board. Police stations with 50% or more of their areas falling within the relevant municipal boundaries are included in each city's list of stations. Three new police station areas were included for Mangaung and one for eThekwini as both these cities' boundaries were expanded during the 2016 demarcation process. The area included under Mangaung increased substantially towards the south and now includes the police station precincts of Dewetsdorp, Van Stadensrus and Wepener. eThekwini's area was also extended towards the southwest to include the Umbumbulu police precinct.

STEP 2

Sum the relevant stations' crime figures for each of the 20+ crime types, for the last 14 years, for each city

The crime figures recorded at all the police stations on each municipality's list were added up, to give the total number of each crime recorded in each municipality in each of the last 14 years. This spans all the crime figures recorded between 1 April 2005 and 31 March 2019. Quarterly releases have not been included, as they were irregularly released and cannot be compared over previous years.

STEP 3

Determine an appropriate population estimate to use for each city for each of the last 14 years

This step is necessary because cities vary in population size and many have changed significantly over the last 14 years. Stats SA releases certain annual population estimates on the basis of the census and other data, using the 'cohort-component method'.[2] This method uses a model – including what has been determined from censuses about each area's demographics (such as age and sex), and levels of fertility, mortality and international migration – to produce an estimate of the population in June of each year. These population projections are provided for the country, each of the provinces, and each of the country's metropolitan and district council areas.

The latest 2019 mid-year estimates include updated estimates for 2018 and all previous years. These estimates were used unaltered for eight of the nine cities discussed in this report. However, Msunduzi is a local, rather than metropolitan municipality. Its population estimates for each year have been derived from its count as in the census of 2011, as adjusted by the annual percentage growth projected for its district – uMgungundlovu District Municipality. By far the largest local municipality in this district, with two-thirds of its population, it is reasonable to assume that projected growth in Msunduzi local municipality is in line with that in the larger district. The population figures for the years 2011 to 2018, based on the 2019 mid-year estimates released by Stats SA, can be seen in Table 1.

TABLE 1 Population estimates per city according to Statistics South Africa's 2019 mid-year population estimates (2011–2018)

CITY	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
BCM	792 004	793 860	795 680	797 181	798 459	799 563	800 379	800 435
CPT	3 769 188	3 858 894	3 949 296	4 039 386	4 129 923	4 221 419	4 311 386	4 400 240
JHB	4 455 853	4 607 669	4 762 399	4 919 086	5 078 690	5 241 877	5 405 081	5 571 092
TSH	2 938 904	3 022 775	3 108 333	3 194 938	3 283 322	3 374 037	3 464 102	3 556 116
EKU	3 200 189	3 287 155	3 373 463	3 458 630	3 543 626	3 629 218	3 715 805	3 802 653
ETH	3 489 545	3 535 751	3 582 581	3 629 078	3 675 765	3 723 000	3 776 388	3 832 468
MAN	784 623	793 086	802 147	811 541	821 352	831 638	841 357	850 351
NMB	1 153 346	1 160 079	1 167 299	1 174 561	1 181 995	1 189 638	1 196 874	1 202 605
MSU	618 536	626 442	634 653	642 971	651 457	660 162	668 617	677 243
RSA	52 129 117	52 930 356	53 751 096	54 574 401	55 406 634	56 252 336	57 097 857	57 939 226

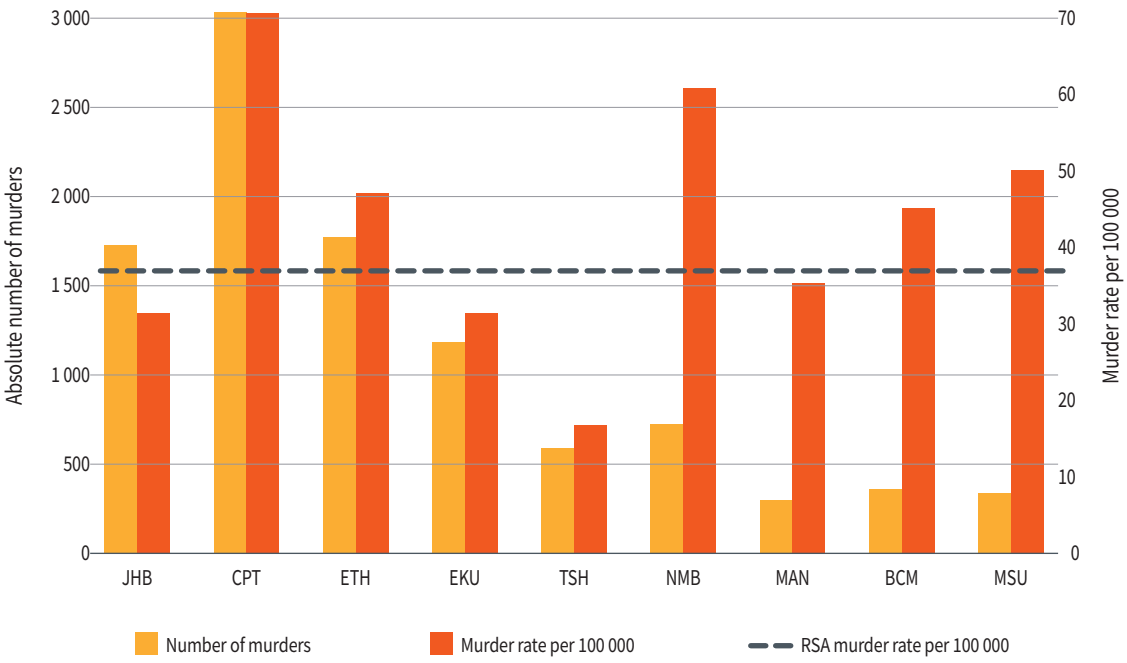
STEP 4

Divide the relevant crime figures by the relevant population estimate for each of the 20+ crime types, for the last 14 years, for each city

This step is necessary because trends and differences in city populations must be taken into account when comparing their crime statistics. Dividing the raw number of crime figures recorded by the appropriate population makes it possible to generate a rate per 100 000. On this basis, one can compare what official statistics say about the level of reported criminal victimisation experienced by the people in those populations.

The importance of accounting for the cities' population in this way is illustrated by the following example. Mangaung has seen a count of 309 murders recorded in the 2018/19 year, slightly over half the 609 recorded during the same period in Tshwane. This might lead one to conclude that Tshwane's residents face a higher risk of murder than those in Mangaung. However, once one has accounted for the fact that Tshwane has over four times the population, it becomes clear that the average resident of Mangaung is more than twice as likely to be murdered as the average resident of Tshwane.

FIGURE 3 Absolute number of murders compared to murder rates per 100 000 (2018/19)



NATIONAL CRIME TRENDS

Property Crimes

Non-violent property crimes, constituting the largest proportion of all crimes recorded, have seen substantial and fairly steady declines over the long term. For example, the recorded rates of residential burglaries and the theft of motor vehicles and motorcycles are lower than they have been for over two decades. All have declined by 30% or more since 1994. These long-term trends are confirmed by the results of surveys conducted with victims of crime, which are an important source of corroboration.[3] These trends have continued in the recent past, with year-on-year decreases recorded in burglaries at residential premises (↓6%), burglaries at non-residential premises (↓3%), theft of motor vehicles and motorcycles (↓7%), and theft out of or from motor vehicles (↓6%) between 2017/18 and 2018/19.[4]

TABLE 2 Non-violent property crime rates

PROPERTY CRIME	RATE 2017/2018	RATE 2018/2019	PER CAPITA CHANGE 1 YEAR 2017/18–2018/19	PER CAPITA CHANGE 7 YEARS 2011/12–2018/19
Burglary at non-residential premises	127	123	↓3%	↓8%
Burglary at residential premises	405	381	↓6%	↓19%
Theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle	90	83	↓7%	↓26%
Theft out of or from motor vehicle	230	216	↓6%	↓13%

On the other hand, violent property-related crime rates have risen notably. The rate of total robbery with aggravating circumstances has risen by about 25% since 2011/12. During this period, the subcategory of robbery at residential premises has risen by 20%, while that of robbery at non-residential premises has risen by 13%. Carjacking has seen a substantial 53% increase since 2011/12. Interestingly, these crimes have shown slight improvements in the last year, as illustrated in Table 3, namely, carjacking (↓5%), residential robbery (↓2%), non-residential robbery (↓3%) as well as aggravated robbery overall (↓2%).

TABLE 3 Violent property crime rates

VIOLENT PROPERTY CRIME	RATE 2017/2018	RATE 2018/2019	PER CAPITA CHANGE 1 YEAR 2017/18–2018/19	PER CAPITA CHANGE 7 YEARS 2011/12–2018/19
Carjacking	29	28	↓5%	↑53%
Robbery at residential premises	40	39	↓2%	↑20%
Robbery at non-residential premises	36	35	↓3%	↑13%
Aggravated robbery	246	242	↓2%	↑25%

Violent property crimes occur relatively infrequently compared to non-violent property crimes. Contributing factors that may influence changes in incidents of violent property crimes involving direct contact between perpetrators and victims include:

- **changes in security systems and technology:** Improved security systems or products (for example, burglar bars, alarm systems, cameras and immobilisers) can make it more difficult and riskier for criminals to gain access to houses, businesses and vehicles without a victim present. Increased barriers to entry may be driving increasing numbers of perpetrators to use violent measures to gain access to desired items. For example, obtaining goods secured in a safe in a building with burglar bars and electric fencing is easier and quicker with victim cooperation to facilitate access. The possible displacement effect from non-violent to violent property crimes requires further research in the South African context; and
- **failures of policing:** Inadequate crime intelligence capability results in the police failing to adequately identify and dismantle organised criminal networks that specialise in particular crime categories (for example, vehicle or truck hijacking). In addition, an inadequately trained and resourced detective service is unable to identify and support the conviction of perpetrators. This not only fails to prevent further criminal activity by perpetrators but also weakens the deterrent effect of police, thereby facilitating increasing numbers of individuals who are willing to risk being involved in crime to make a living. There appears to be a growing backlog of cases that ultimately undermines the chances of successful conviction. Investigative backlogs should be more closely observed and studied by those involved in law enforcement oversight.

Interpersonal violent crimes

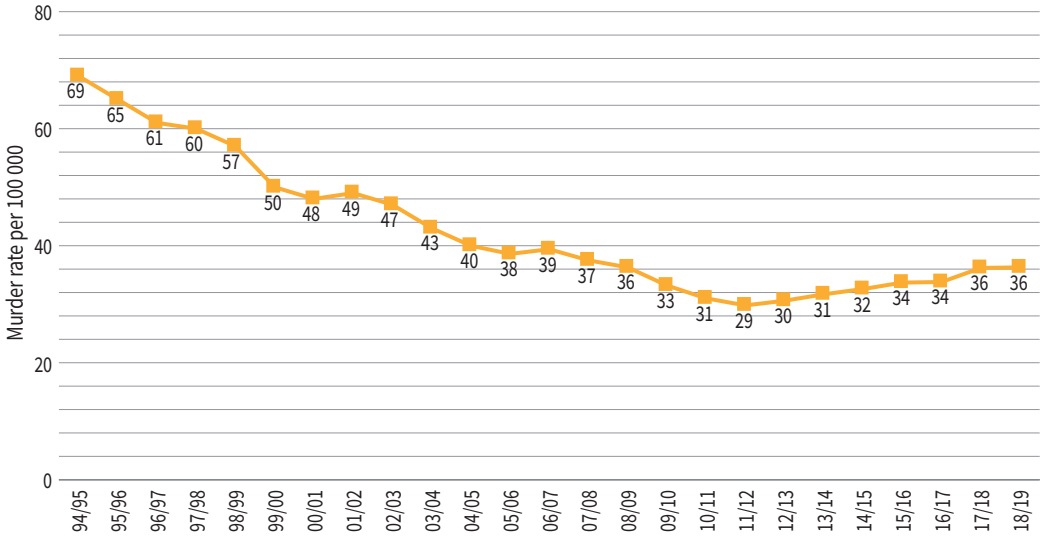
National trends in recorded interpersonal violent crimes have shown major improvement over the long term, with mixed results over the last few years. Rates of murder, attempted murder, assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm (GBH), and common assault have all declined by roughly 50% since 1994, a trend corroborated by independent survey results.

TABLE 4 Interpersonal violent crime rates

INTERPERSONAL VIOLENT CRIME	RATE 2017/2018	RATE 2018/2019	PER CAPITA CHANGE 1 YEAR 2017/18–2018/19	PER CAPITA CHANGE 7 YEARS 2011/12–2018/19
Murder	36	36	↑0,4%	↑22%
Total sexual crimes	89	90	↑2%	↓22%
Attempted murder	32	33	↑1%	↑16%
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	298	295	↓1%	↓20%
Common assault	278	280	↑1%	↓19%

Rates of murder are considered a generally robust comparative measure of violence internationally. This is because murder incidents are considered one of the most reliable crime statistics. Unfortunately, South Africa has among the highest levels of fatal criminal violence in the world, around six times higher than the international average. Since the advent of democracy, murder and attempted murder mostly declined. However, this changed in 2011/12, after which these crime types recorded a notable upward trend. In the year from 2016/17 to 2017/18, South Africa recorded the largest per capita annual murder rate increase since 1994 of nearly 7%. The per capita rate increased by 0,4% from 2017/18 to 2018/19, even though 686 more murders took place during this period. The national murder rate of 36 per 100 000 in 2018/19 equates to almost 58 murders per day on average.

FIGURE 4 South Africa's murder rate per 100 000 (1994/95–2018/19)



The national murder rate more than halved between 1994/95 and 2011/12. However, at 30 murders per 100 000 people, it remained five times higher than the 2013 international rate of 6,2 per 100 000 people.[5] More troubling still, the rate has increased by 22% since then. There is no single agreed-upon explanation for the notable increase in murders since 2011/12. However, the increases are arguably the consequence of socio-economic deterioration, increased inequality, deteriorating police performance, increased political corruption, resulting in declines in public trust in the government, an influx of firearms into high-risk areas and increasing levels of inter-group conflict such as gang and taxi violence. Similarly, the stabilisation in the murder rate in 2018/19 may be the result of an improvement in some of these factors in hotspots. Hopefully the next set of crime statistics, set for release in September 2020, will confirm a stabilisation or even a decrease in the murder rate.

Global evidence consistently shows that crime is far from evenly distributed within any country, city, neighbourhood, or even household. It is likely that different factors are driving the increases in murders in different geographical localities (for example, residential robbery or hijacking in wealthier areas, or increased gang activity in poorer areas). It is therefore important to identify exactly what factors are at play in murder hotspots and why. As recommended in previous reports, crime-prevention resources can be effective when they are very narrowly targeted to specific localities, populations and crime factors. The hotspots research of the Urban Safety Reference Group (USRG) in 2017 was an attempt to encourage precisely this kind of highly localised problem-solving.[6]

A longer time perspective shows that South African murder levels nationally have not been below 30 per 100 000 since at least the 1970s. This is considered very high by global standards, as only a handful of countries record murder rates at this level. Comparative international research shows that a very strong predictor of a country's level of crime and violence is its level of inequality, as measured by its Gini coefficient. South Africa is now the most unequal country in the world. Addressing inequality must no longer be considered an abstract and long-term ideal. Arguably, it has become a matter of life or violent death.

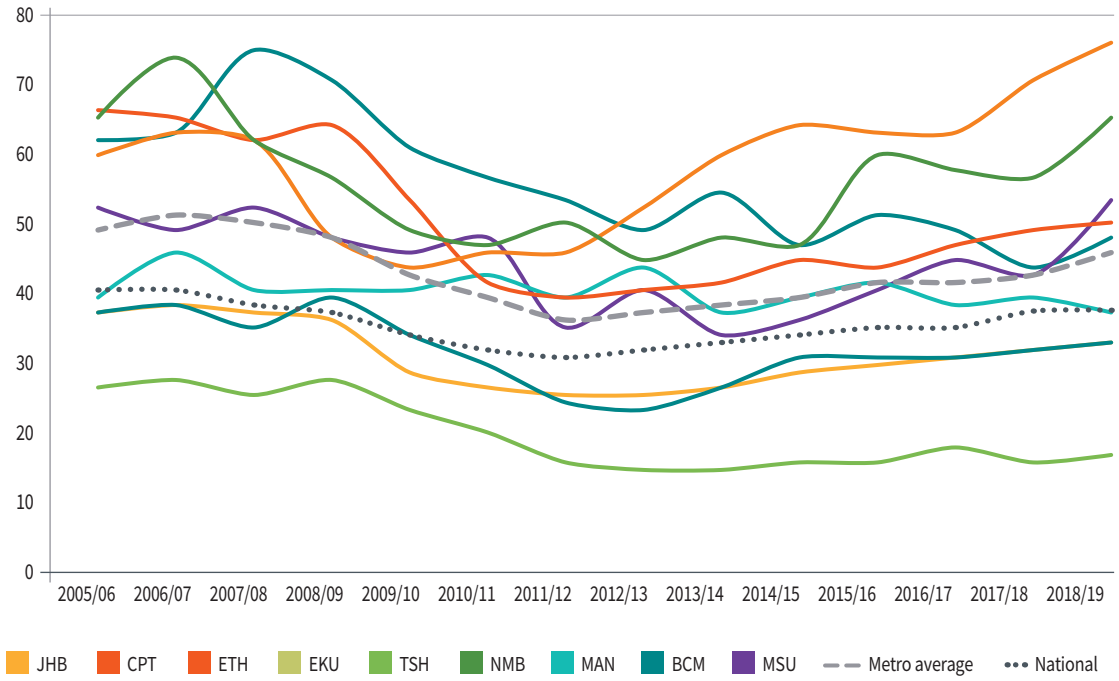
Making sense of the broader national trends requires that analyses narrow in on the key similarities and differences among the nine cities in this report. Comparing the cities' trends in specific crime types to one another, to the average of the nine, and to the national levels is revealing about the unique challenges that each city needs to face. It is to this we turn in the next section.

LATEST CITY TRENDS IN KEY CRIME CATEGORIES

This section looks at the main crime types over the last 14 years and compares the nine cities to national and average metro trends. It is not an exhaustive account of the crime trends in these cities but points to some important features and trends observed in the crime statistics.

Murder rates

FIGURE 5 Murders per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19)



Most of the cities (including Nelson Mandela Bay, eThekwini, Msunduzi, Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni, and Tshwane) have shown a broadly similar trend to that seen nationally – namely, an overall decline over the long-term period, with subsequent increase from around 2011/12. These patterns are seen at very different levels.

These six cities have seen overall decreases in their murder rates over the 14-year period. The most notable decreases have been noted for Tshwane (↓35%), eThekwini (↓23%) and Buffalo City (↓22%). However, the average recorded murder rate has increased over this period for Cape Town (26%), Nelson Mandela Bay (1%) and Msunduzi (2%).

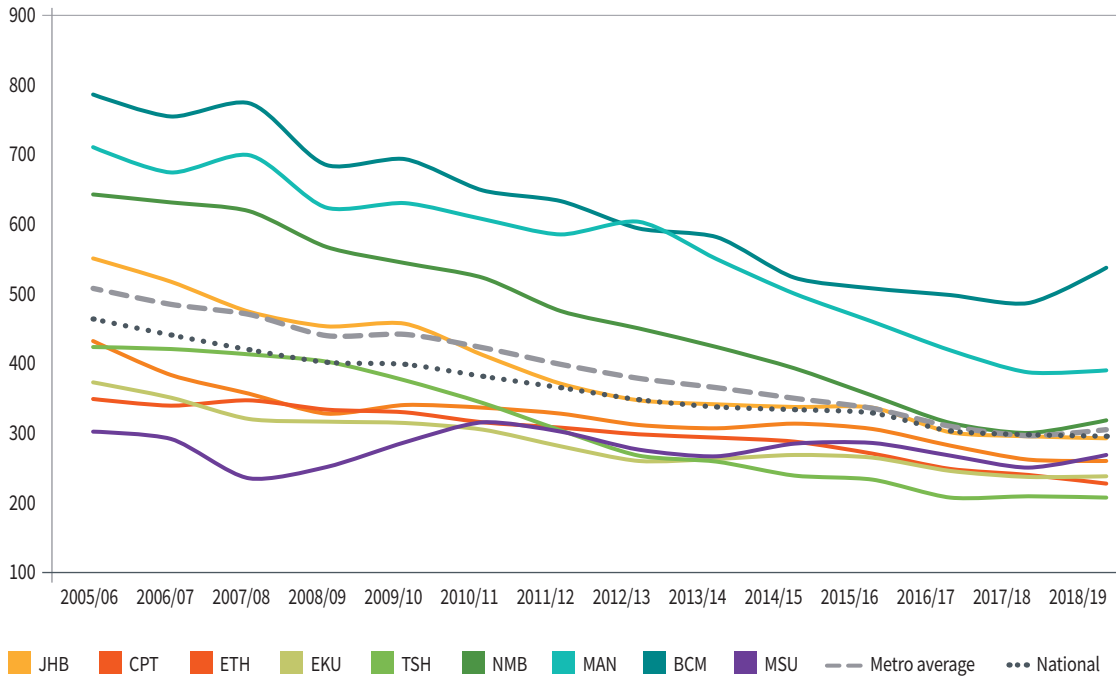
Over the past seven years since 2011/12, the cities have recorded notable average increase of 25%, which is above the national increase of 22%. Only three cities recorded an average increase that was below the national increase for murder. Cape Town has seen a 64% increase, followed by Msunduzi (50%), Ekurhuleni (35%), Johannesburg (31%), Nelson Mandela Bay (28%) and eThekwini (26%). These figures are concerning. Each city should investigate the drivers of these substantial increases, focusing on hotspots. Tshwane has experienced a 5% increase while Mangaung and Buffalo City (despite a 9% increase in the last year) have seen decreases of 5% and 10% respectively.

In the last year, Msunduzi has seen a 26% increase in the murder rate, followed by Nelson Mandela Bay (14%), Buffalo City (9%) and Cape Town (7%). The murder rate in Tshwane, for example, has throughout been half or a third of that recorded in Nelson Mandela Bay. Cape Town's murder rate increase began earlier and has been far larger than those in any other city, suggesting that it is facing a far larger challenge when compared to the other cities. The 2019 Western Cape Safety Plan aims to address some of the drivers of violence in its hotspots through data-led and evidence-based policing.[7] Cities and hotspots differ considerably in the various drivers of murder (for example, gang-related violence is not a driver everywhere). However, they also share common factors such as gender-based violence or other forms of interpersonal violence (for example, assaults resulting from arguments). Understanding this uniqueness should be essential in planning a response for each city.

Assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm (GBH)

Interestingly, while murder rates have increased substantially, the trends for recorded rates of assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm (GBH) have shown notable declines. GBH assaults recorded by the police have declined steadily over the past 14 years in all cities. Tshwane has seen the greatest decline in assault rates (↓53%), followed by Nelson Mandela Bay (↓51%) and Johannesburg ↓48%). Mangaung and Cape Town have also seen a substantial decline (↓46% and ↓41% respectively). Despite the overall declines, Buffalo City, Mangaung and Nelson Mandela Bay have assault rates well above the national rate in 2018/19.

FIGURE 6 Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19)

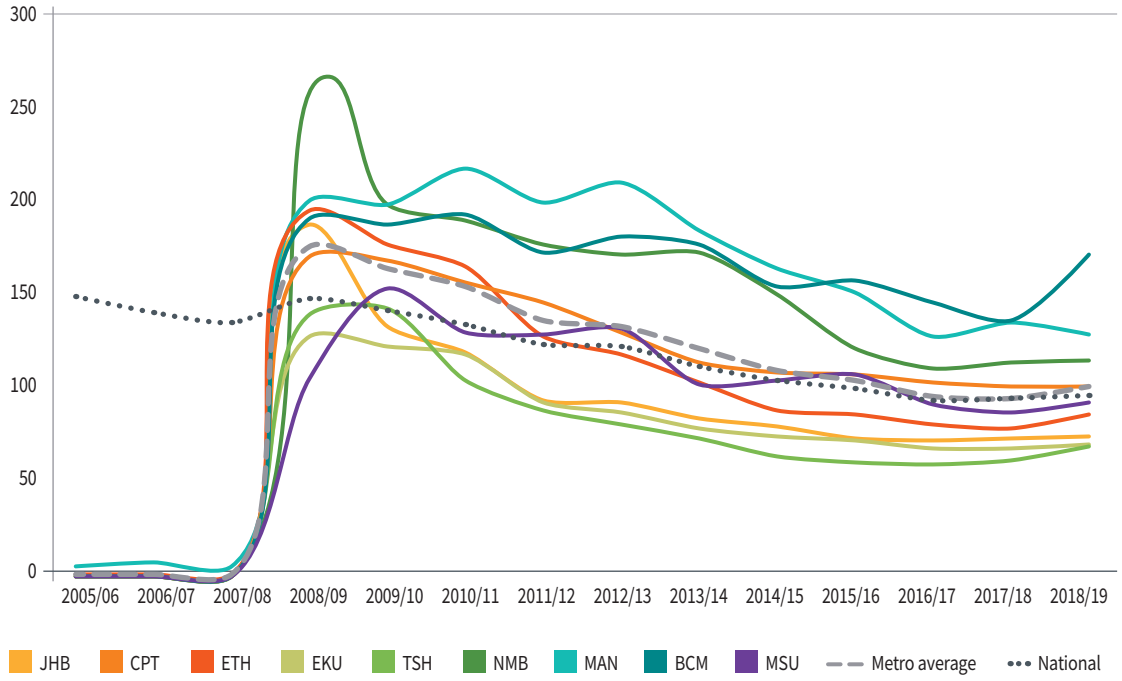


There may be a recent shift, as five cities recorded increases in 2018/19. Buffalo City experienced the sharpest rise with an 11% increase in GBH assaults, followed by Msunduzi (8%) and Nelson Mandela Bay (7%). Mangaung and Ekurhuleni recorded slight increases of 1% each. It is important to keep in mind that half of assaults are not reported to the police according to the 2018/19 Victims of Crime Survey.[8] Therefore, changes in police statistics may reflect crime reporting trends, rather than actual crime trends.

Sexual offences

The sexual offence statistics released by the SAPS are the most problematic. Most victims and survivors of this crime do not report the offence because of a lack of trust in the police, or concerns of stigmatisation of themselves or their families. In addition, the definition changed in 2008/09 with the introduction of the Sexual Offences Act 32 of 2007, which replaced common-law crimes with statutory crimes for various sexual offences.[9] Therefore sexual offence statistics prior to this change are incompatible with current figures. Since 2011/12, the SAPS has reported sexual offences detected as a result of police action (for example, offences associated with sex work or public indecency) as a separate category.

FIGURE 7 Sexual offences per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19)

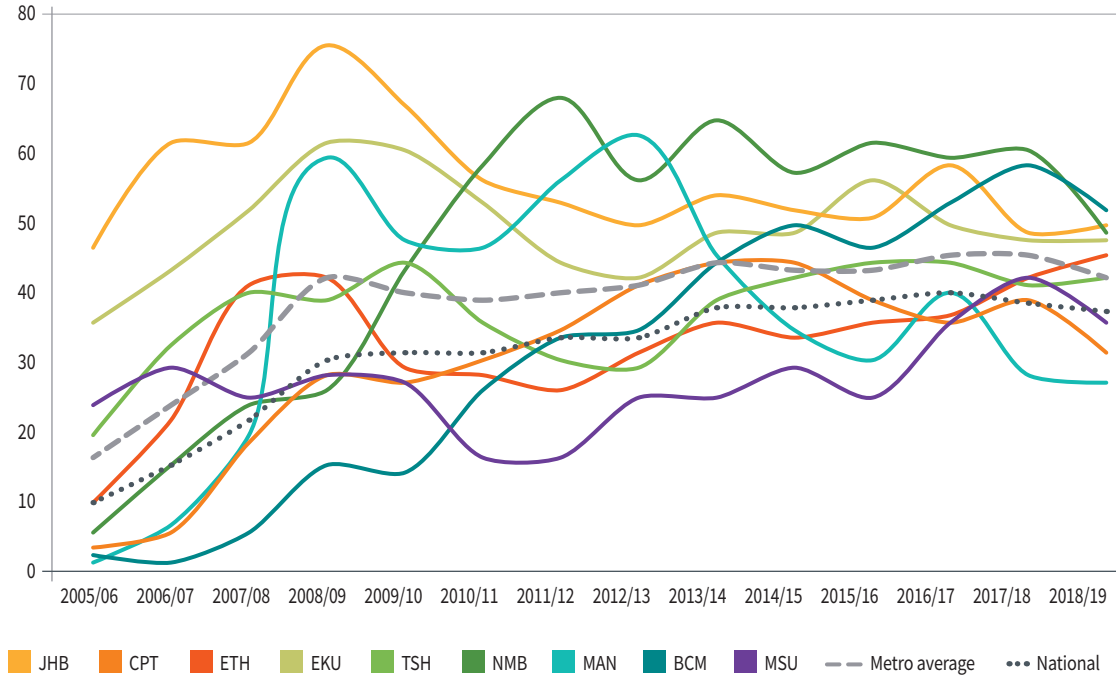


Over the past decade since 2008/09, most cities have seen a steady decline with the most dramatic being in Johannesburg (↓60%), Nelson Mandela Bay (↓57%), eThekwini (↓56%) and Tshwane (↓51%). While not a halving of the rate, other cities have experienced decreases of between 10% and 45%. However, over the past year, Buffalo City and Tshwane have recorded marked increases in the sexual offence rate with 25% and 12% respectively. It is difficult to ascertain from the statistics alone whether the actual prevalence increased, reporting rates decreased or a combination of both. It would be useful if Stats SA release reporting rates at a district level for the larger cities. Supplementary specialised city-level victim surveys by expert organisations and academic institutions should be funded by the cities to better understand victimisation rates.

Robbery at non-residential premises

All nine cities experienced steep increases in recorded rates of non-residential robbery in the first half of the 14-year period. The second half, from about 2011/2012, has seen a stabilisation or slight decline of this rate in five cities but the rate is still notably high.

FIGURE 8 Robbery at non-residential premises per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19)



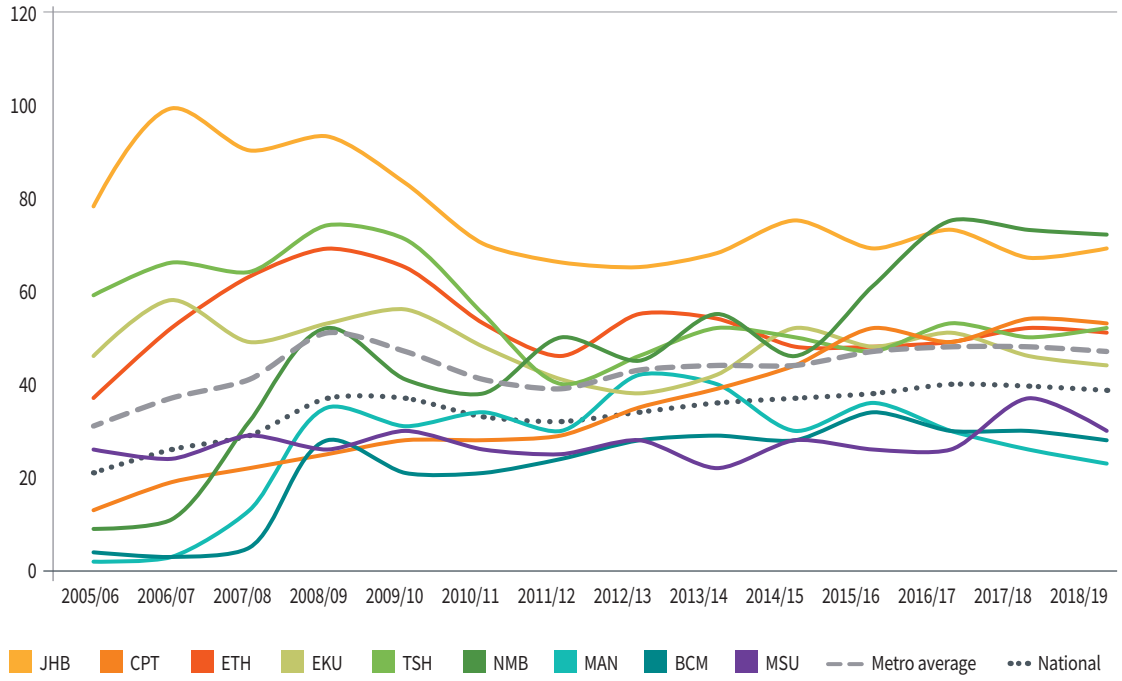
Of concern is the 120% increase recorded in Msunduzi over the past seven years, followed by a 74% increase in nearby eThekwini, a 54% increase in Buffalo City and a 37% increase in Tshwane. Buffalo City, Nelson Mandela Bay, Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni and eThekwini have also seen rates well above the national average.

The increases in robbery crimes in the smaller cities requires urgent attention. It seems that the police have not been able to address this crime despite its being classified as a priority crime as one of the subcategories of the so-called trio crimes.

Robbery at residential premises

Robbery at residential premises is also a police priority crime and a subcategory of the so-called trio crimes. Over the past 14 years, Johannesburg's residential robbery rate has consistently been well above the national average.

FIGURE 9 Robbery at residential premises per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19)

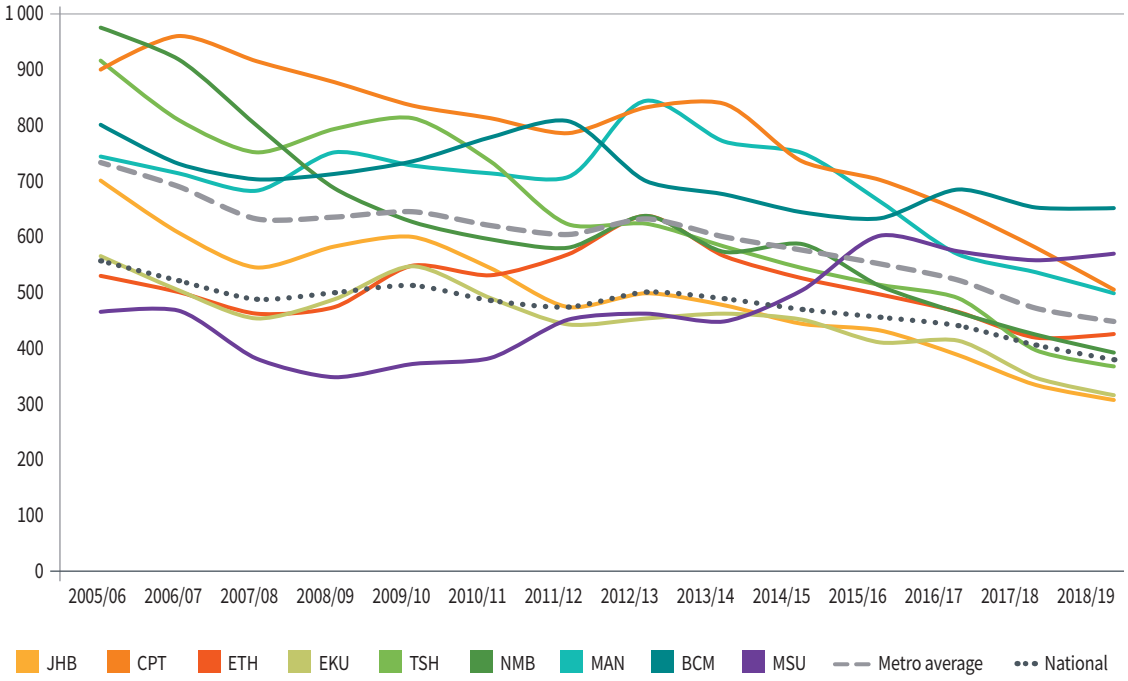


Rates for Nelson Mandela Bay have increased sharply in the past three years and Cape Town has experienced an 82% increase over the past seven years, suggesting cause for major concern in these two cities. An interesting anomaly is seen in Mangaung's significant reduction in residential robbery since 2012/13, following a very rapid earlier increase. It may be worth investigating how this decrease was achieved.

Burglary at residential premises

The picture of burglary at residential premises (non-violent property crime) is very different from that of robbery at residential premises (violent, contact crime). It suggests there has been a displacement effect from non-violent to violent property crimes.

FIGURE 10 Burglary at residential premises per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19)

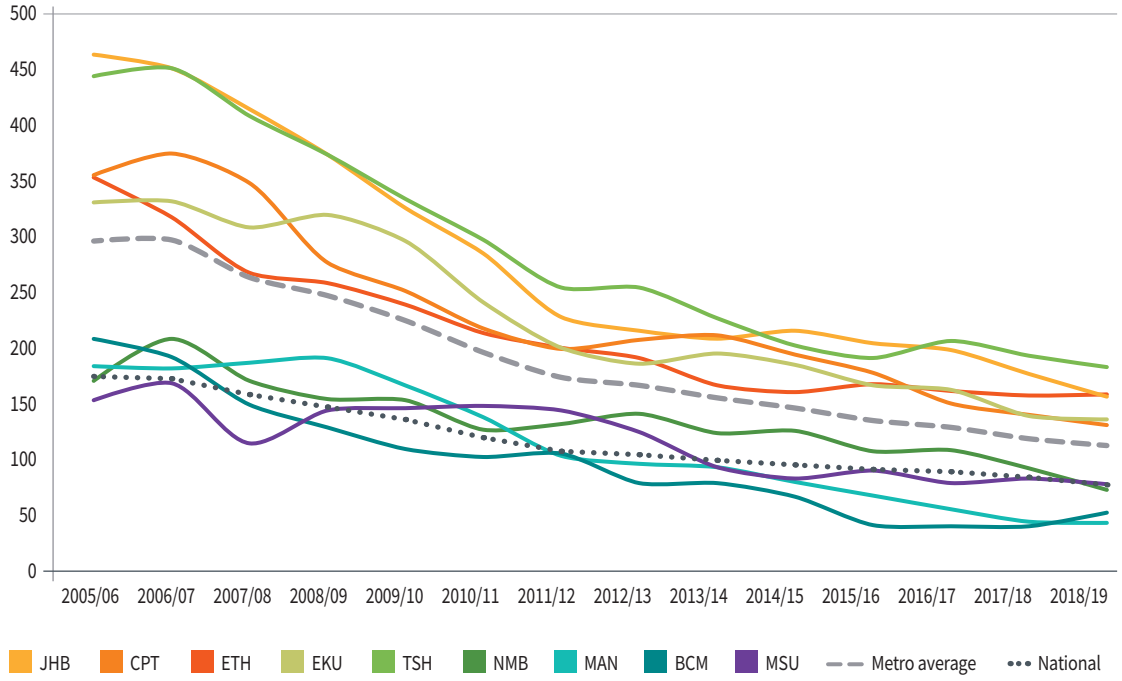


Overall, residential burglaries have been steadily decreasing in all cities, except in Msunduzi, which has recorded an increase of 25% since 2011/12 and now has rates well above the national average. This is surpassed only by Buffalo City despite a 19% decrease in the burglary rate for the corresponding period. Since 2012/13, residential burglary rates have dropped by more than a third for Mangaung (▼39%), Tshwane (▼39%), Cape Town (▼38%), Nelson Mandela Bay (▼37%), and Johannesburg (▼36%). However, as indicated, cities such as Nelson Mandela Bay and Cape Town experienced substantial increases in residential robbery. This might be the result of the displacement effect from non-violent to violent property crimes, as suggested earlier.

Theft of vehicles and motorcycles

The theft of vehicles and motorcycles is a particularly urban problem and more prevalent in the larger cities. This is illustrated by how much higher the metro average is than the national level and the fact that five of the larger cities have stayed above the metro average for the past 14 years.

FIGURE 11 Recorded vehicle and motorcycle theft rates per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19)

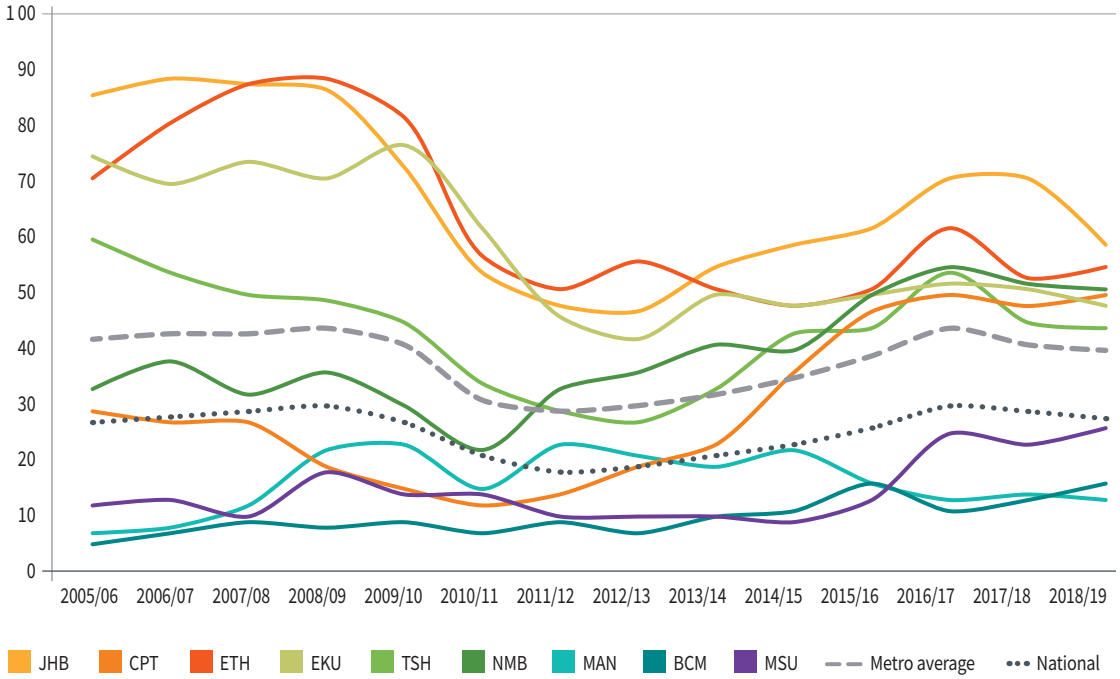


Rates of vehicle theft show a general downward trend in all cities by between 47% and 73% in the 14 years. Unfortunately, Buffalo City has seen a 25% increase in the past year while all the other cities recorded decreases or an unchanged rate, as was the case in eThekwini.

Carjacking

Carjacking is also a priority crime for the SAPS as a subcategory of the so-called trio crimes. A quarter of all car hijackings take place in metro areas, resulting in the metro average being substantially higher than the national average.

FIGURE 12 Carjacking per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19)

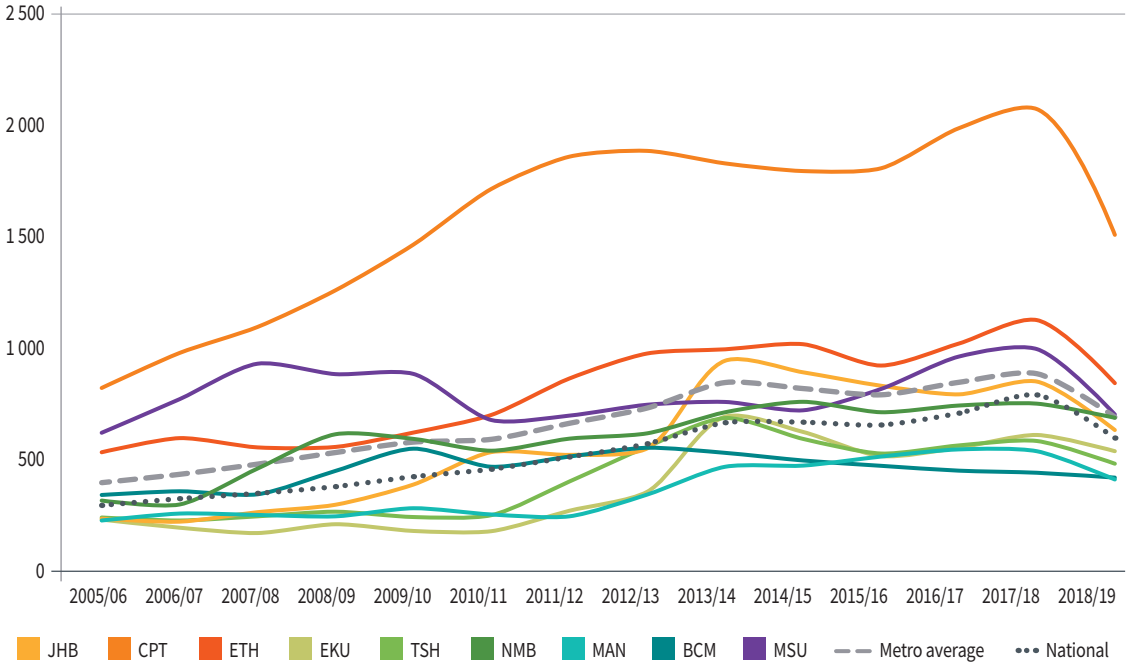


Over the past 14 years, Johannesburg's carjacking rate has consistently been well above the national average, as have the carjacking rates in Ekurhuleni and eThekwini. As with other robberies, most cities have experienced declining rates for in the first half of the 14-year period, whereafter most have experienced dramatic increases. However, Buffalo City and Msunduzi have experienced exponential triple digit growth in the 14 years. Rates for Nelson Mandela Bay and Cape Town have increased sharply in the past eight years since 2010/11, suggesting a cause for major concern in these two cities. Over the past year, Johannesburg has seen a 17% reduction. However, more than a fifth of all car hijackings occur in Johannesburg.

Crimes detected as a result of police action

For the past 14 years, Cape Town has had the highest rate of crime detected as a result of police action. These figures are determined by police action and are not at all a measure of the actual incident of the crime presented in the statistics. The largest contribution of crimes detected as a result of police action is made up of drug-related crimes. This is because many police operations target those selling and purchasing drugs. However, the actual levels of use and distribution of drugs is generally understood not to be affected by police action. So changes in these figures should not be used as an indicator of this crime type or other crime statistics generated as a result of police action.

FIGURE 13 Total crime detected through police action per 100 000 people (2005/06–2018/19)



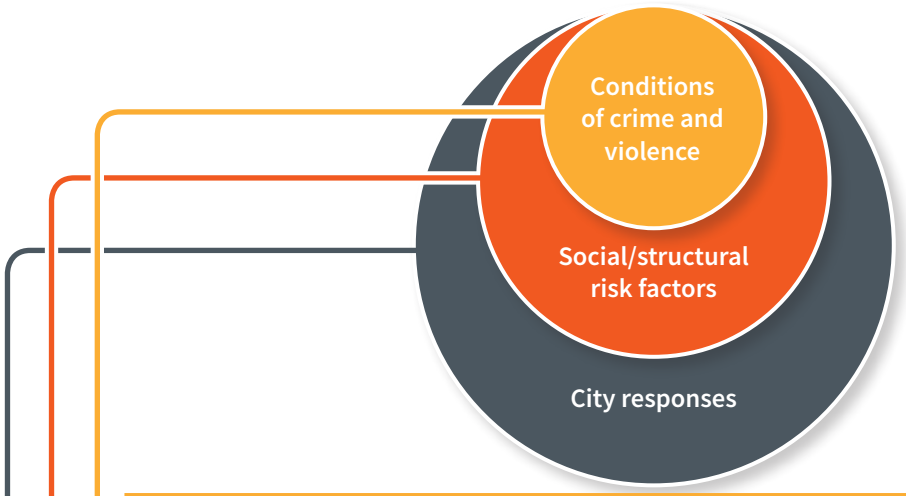
Despite a steep decline in the rate of drug-related crimes for Cape Town in the last two years, the city still contributes one-fifth of the total national figures. eThekwini has seen a significant rise of 109% between 2006/07 and 2018/19, primarily as a result of increases in drug-related crimes. However, the rate dropped by a quarter in 2018/19. A similar decrease was seen in all cities over the past year, probably because of a shift in policing operational strategy.

THE INDICATORS DATABASE

A database of 21 indicators (listed below) has been identified and described in previous annual reports as a means to undertake a comparative assessment for safety for the nine major cities in South Africa.

These indicators were developed from an extensive literature review and first used in the 2016 report. The aim is to standardise the measurement and assessment of the state of safety across South African cities, thereby assisting city governments to identify the key determinants and mitigating factors of crime and violence, to enable them to develop appropriate crime-prevention policies and strategies. The many factors that contribute to urban crime and safety are conceptualised as consisting of three interlinked layers, as shown in Figure 13. These layers take the form of an 'onion' – three interlinked layers of crime and violence indicators on the inner layer, social/structural risk factor indicators in the middle and strategy types in the outer layer.

FIGURE 14 The 21 indicators of crime and safety



CRIME AND VIOLENCE INDICATORS

Objective factors

Indicator 1: Murder rates
Indicator 2: Assault rates
Indicator 3: Robbery rates
Indicator 4: Property-related crime rates
Indicator 5: Sexual offences rates
Indicator 6: Public/collective violence rates
Indicator 7: Police activity

Subjective factors

Indicator 8: Experience of crime/violence
Indicator 9: Feelings of safety/fear of crime
Indicator 10: Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement/ police

SOCIAL/STRUCTURAL RISK FACTOR INDICATORS

Urbanisation factors

Indicator 11: Rapid population growth
Indicator 12: Population density
Indicator 13: Social incoherence/ family disruption

Marginalisation factors

Indicator 14: Poverty
Indicator 15: Income inequality
Indicator 16: (Youth) unemployment
Indicator 17: Deprivation of services

Social and physical environment factors

Indicator 18: Informal housing
Indicator 19: Infrastructure
Indicator 20: School conditions and violence
Indicator 21: Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms

STRATEGY TYPES

Policing and situational strategies

- Innovative police activity
- Collaboration between state and non-state policing (like CPFs)
- Prevention through environmental design (CPTED) – situational crime prevention and target hardening*

Social and situational strategies

- Social strategies such as victim support and counselling, programmes aimed at children/ youth/schools, reducing alcohol/drugs access.
- CPTED: upgrading, transport etc.

* The measure of strengthening the security by increasing the required effort to commit crimes to or at an object. http://securipedia.eu/mediawiki/index.php/Measure:_Target_hardening

INDICATOR 1 The **murder rate** is considered a good indicator of and a proxy for general levels of violence, as it is readily measured and relatively well reported. It can be supplemented by data from mortuary reports should there be accuracy concerns. The rate is measured by calculating the number of incidents per 100 000 people in the residential population.

INDICATOR 2 This is the **rate of assault with intent to inflict GBH**. Victim surveys suggest that only about half of the assaults in South Africa are ever reported to the police and no city-level data is available on the proportion of crimes reported, so this indicator should be interpreted with some caution.[10] The rate is measured by calculating the number of incidents per 100 000 people in the residential population.

INDICATOR 3 This is the **aggravated robbery rate** involving a weapon such as a firearm or a knife. Not all robberies are reported to the police, and so this indicator should also be interpreted with care. The robbery of insured articles (such as a vehicle during a carjacking) is more likely to be reported to the police. The rate is measured by calculating the number of incidents per 100 000 people in the residential population.

INDICATOR 4 **Property-related crime** includes burglaries and thefts of, for example, motor vehicles or stock. Again, reporting of this crime varies considerably, depending on whether or not the household is insured. The rate is measured by calculating the number of incidents per 100 000 people in the residential population.

INDICATOR 5 The **rate of sexual offences** is particularly poorly reflected in official police statistics. Data remains limited, although there has been some improvement, through differentiating the types of sexual offences. To make sense of the officially recorded rates of sexual offences, large-scale specialised surveys are needed. Patterns and trends in recorded rates of sexual offences should therefore be interpreted with extreme care. The rate is measured by calculating the number of incidents per 100 000 people in the residential population.

INDICATOR 6 This is the **rate of public violence**. Comprehensive data for this indicator was made available by the SAPS at national, provincial and station level. The incidents of public violence reflect the number of cases opened, rather than the actual number of violent protests. The nature of public or collective violence is also context sensitive, and so further research is necessary at city level. The rate is measured by calculating the number of incidents per 100 000 people in the residential population.

INDICATOR 7 **Police-detected crimes** include the illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, drug-related crime and driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Here, the indicator covers driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs per 100 000 people in the residential population. Police activity rates are related to police capacity and motivation, and unlike the other objective indicators of crime, lower numbers signal that police are failing to get out on the streets and prioritise these crimes. Nevertheless, this indicator is not a perfect measure of police activity levels, as it does not reflect, for example, the quality of investigations and station-level performance. This indicator overlaps somewhat with Indicator 21 (access to alcohol, drugs and firearms), which also reflects the extent to which people are driving under the influence.

INDICATOR 8 Residents' **experience of crime/violence**, as measured by the proportion of those sampled in the 2016 Community Survey who reported having been a victim of any crime in the past 12 months.

INDICATOR 9 This is an indication of **feelings of safety**, as measured by the proportion of respondents in each municipality who said that they would feel either 'a bit unsafe' or 'very unsafe' walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day or at night. The data is from the 2016 Community Survey.

INDICATOR 10 Residents' **perception of or satisfaction** with law enforcement, as measured by the proportion of those sampled in Stats SA's Victims of Crime Survey who answered 'yes' to the question of whether they were satisfied with the police services in their area. From 2015/16, Stats SA opted to provide its Victims of Crime Survey data at the district level, which was an important improvement in terms of city-level data on subjective experiences of crime and safety. This improvement can be attributed to the persistent USRG advocacy on this matter to Stats SA. However, it is not possible to determine from the data whether respondents were referring to SAPS, the Metro Police, or both.

INDICATOR 11 This is the projected **annual population growth** rate based on the 2019 Stats SA Mid-year Population Estimates for 2018, contained in the 2019 Stats SA district council tables, expressed as a percentage of the base population, and is an average for the period 2013–2018.[11]

INDICATOR 12 The **population density** is the average number of people per square kilometre living in the city, as recorded in the 2019 Stats SA Mid-year Population Estimates for 2018, contained in the 2019 Stats SA district council tables and the square kilometres of the cities updated for the new 2016 boundaries by the Municipal Demarcation Board.[12]

INDICATOR 13 **Social incoherence/family disruption** is a composite of four variables from Census 2011:

(i) the percentage of households in the municipality who had moved to their current address within the last five years;
(ii) the percentage of households who rent, rather than own or are paying off, their property;
(iii) the percentage of respondents who do not know whether their father is alive; and
(iv) the percentage of women-headed households.

INDICATOR 14 **Poverty** is measured by each city's Human Development Index (HDI), which is a composite of life expectancy, literacy and gross value added per capita (data from 2013). No newer city-level information is available.

INDICATOR 15 **Income inequality** is measured by each city's Gini coefficient (as contained in the South African Cities Open Data Almanac (SCODA)). It is reflected as a value between 0 and 1, where 0 is perfectly equal and 1 is perfectly unequal. No newer city-level information is available.

INDICATOR 16 This is the **youth unemployment rate** for each city from Census 2011. The recent Quarterly Labour Force Surveys do not provide for city-level or youth-specific data.

INDICATOR 17 **Deprivation of services** is measured by the average percentage of city residents without piped water inside their dwelling, a flush toilet in their house or yard, or access to electricity, from the 2016 Community Survey.

INDICATOR 18 **Informal housing** is measured by the proportion of city residents who are not living in formal dwellings, from the Stats SA's General Household Survey 2018.

INDICATOR 19 **Infrastructure** includes adequate lighting and accessible roads. However, no comparable city-level data is currently available.

INDICATOR 20 **School conditions and violence** are a good indication of the level of urban violence. However, no comparable city-level data on this indicator is currently available.

INDICATOR 21 As there is no comparable city-level data available to measure **access to alcohol, drugs and firearms**, a rough proxy is proposed in the form of SAPS category 'police-detected crimes', such as drug-related crimes, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and illegal possession of firearms and ammunition. SAPS now also includes sexual offences detected as a result of police action in the category, but these offences are not included in the calculation of the indicator. The Urban Safety Indicators Expert Workshop in Cape Town on 24 July 2018 recommended that this indicator be split into its three components in future reports. This was done, however, using driving under the influence as a sub-proxy, which now directly contradicts indicator 7, which uses the same as a measurement of police activity.

RAPID DIAGNOSTIC

Table 5 shows the 21 indicators for the nine cities, grouped into objective, subjective and social/structural indicators. It should be noted that indicators 1 to 7 and 21 have been updated with new data from SAPS (2018/19), indicators 8 to 10 and 13 to 17 remain unchanged, indicators 11, 12 and 18 have been updated as per the description above.

Colour coding is used to show how each city compares to the other cities. The colour comparisons are not an assessment of the significance of the indicator in driving crime in each city. Therefore, just because a city has a good showing compared to the other cities does not mean that the indicator is at an acceptable level. For instance, all cities have high Gini coefficients (Indicator 15: income inequality), and so the fact that a city is doing relatively well compared to the other cities for Indicator 15 does not mean that the measure is at an acceptable level. Instead this diagnostic is aimed at providing some guidance on the specific challenges that each city should focus on.

LEGEND

City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities	City is doing about average compared to the other cities	City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

TABLE 5 Comparison of cities across the 21 indicators (2018/19)

THE OBJECTIVE INDICATORS OF CRIME									
	Indicator	JHB	CPT	ETH	EKU	TSH	NMB	MAN	BUF	MSU
1	Murder rate	32	72	48	32	17	62	36	46	51
2	Assault rate	292	258	224	235	203	319	394	548	267
3	Robbery rate	427	456	335	273	308	428	222	313	245
4	Property-related crime rate	850	1 305	930	776	1 023	963	1 022	1 275	996
5	Sexual offences rate	70	95	81	66	65	108	121	161	87
6	Public/collective violence rate	3	11	5	4	3	2	8	4	3
7	Police activity	238	192	268	215	103	179	87	174	70

THE SUBJECTIVE INDICATORS OF CRIME									
	Indicator	JHB	CPT	ETH	EKU	TSH	NMB	MAN	BUF	MSU
8	Experience of crime/violence	10%	11%	6%	8%	9%	8%	6%	8%	8%
9	Feelings of safety/fear of crime	24%	28%	23%	22%	19%	26%	21%	27%	23%
10	Perception/satisfaction with law enforcement	58%	49%	56%	66%	50%	59%	62%	44%	61%

THE SOCIAL/STRUCTURAL INDICATORS OF CRIME									
	Indicator	JHB	CPT	ETH	EKU	TSH	NMB	MAN	BUF	MSU
11	Rapid population growth	3,4%	2,3%	1,4%	2,5%	2,9%	0,6%	1,2%	0,1%	1,3%
12	Population density	3 387	1 799	1 499	1 925	565	615	86	291	976
13	Social incoherence/family disruption	26%	22%	21%	23%	24%	19%	19%	21%	21%
14	Poverty	0,72	0,73	0,63	0,70	0,72	0,67	0,65	0,65	0,62
15	Income inequality	0,652	0,613	0,628	0,651	0,631	0,625	0,622	0,642	0,636
16	(Youth) unemployment	32%	32%	39%	37%	33%	47%	37%	45%	43%
17	Deprivation of services	18%	12%	17%	21%	16%	9%	23%	27%	21%
18	Informal housing	22%	19%	13%	20%	17%	6%	12%	23%	8%
19	Infrastructure	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
20	School conditions and violence	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
21	Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	615	1 458	789	526	471	667	382	414	642
	Access to alcohol	238	192	268	215	103	179	87	174	70
	Access to drugs	348	1 204	492	282	352	437	280	214	535
	Access to firearms	29	62	29	29	16	51	15	26	34

Johannesburg's position in terms of the 21 indicators looks much the same as described in the 2018 report. The objective indicators 1 through 5 suggest that its key crime problem, relative to the other cities, is robbery, followed by assault. Indicator 7 suggests that Johannesburg experiences high levels of police activity. In terms of its subjective indicators, Johannesburg's rankings are poor to middling. Its rankings in terms of the social/structural indicators suggest that urbanisation factors are key drivers of its safety

challenges – it ranks highest among the cities in measures of rapid population growth, population density, and social incoherence. Comparatively, it also has the highest levels of income inequality. Nonetheless, poverty and youth unemployment are lower than in most of the other cities.

Cape Town shows a generalised crime problem: it has the highest rankings of all the nine cities in terms of its recorded rates of murder, robbery, and property-related crime. It also has the highest public violence rate (measured in terms of number of cases per 100 000 population). Therefore, understandably, Cape Town residents reported feeling more unsafe and the most unsatisfied with policing compared to residents in the other eight cities. Although to a slightly lesser degree than Johannesburg, Cape Town's social/structural indicators also point to challenges with urbanisation. As discussed in the 2017 and 2018 report, however, the clear outlier in Cape Town is the significant access to alcohol, drugs, and firearms, which are the likely primary catalysts for the high levels of insecurity and violent crime in this city. The city experiences high levels of gang violence, which drives a significant portion of violent crime. Its levels of poverty, income inequality, deprivation of services and youth unemployment are lower than in most of the other cities.

eThekwini's key violent crime challenges are murder, robbery and public violence, although it has significantly lower rankings in terms of other violent crimes. Its subjective indicators suggest a middling to good ranking compared to the other eight cities. Its main safety challenges include poverty, youth unemployment, and access to alcohol, drugs, and firearms.

Ekurhuleni's objective and subjective indicators of crime both suggest a fairly good position relative to the other cities. Its risk factors point to urbanisation similar to Johannesburg (especially population growth, population density, and social incoherence), marginalisation factors (especially income inequality), and the social/physical environment (it ranks a fairly distant second in terms of levels of informal housing). In addition to these, it also faces violence associated with rivalry in competing illicit mining groups as well as taxi violence.

Tshwane shows relatively good rankings in recorded rates of most crime categories, but middling to high levels of property-related crimes. Its levels of fear of crime are relatively low (the lowest comparatively among the cities), which corresponds with satisfaction with policing. The population density of Tshwane remains comparatively low, but this city has experienced rapid urbanisation and high levels of social incoherence or family disruption.

The indicators for **Nelson Mandela Bay** are mostly the inverse of the indicators for Tshwane. It records middling to high levels of most violent crime types. Unlike Tshwane, its measure of fear of crime is high, even though its residents are somewhat more satisfied with policing compared to most other cities. Its key outlier in terms of social/structural indicators is youth unemployment (in which it ranks the highest). Some of the city's crime hotspots have a substantial gang presence.

Mangaung's objective indicators of concern are assault, sexual offences and public violence. Perhaps because of the context of many such incidents, which often occur in 'private' spaces, its subjective indicators and feelings about crime and policing are more optimistic compared to other cities. Mangaung's main social/structural challenges are poverty and deprivation of services.

Both the objective and subjective indicators for **Buffalo City** compare unfavourably to most of the other cities, particularly in terms of assault and sexual offences, levels of fear of crime and perceptions of policing. Buffalo City's social/structural indicators point overwhelmingly to marginalisation factors, with very poor rankings in terms of deprivation of services, youth unemployment, poverty, as well as informal housing.

Msunduzi's rankings in the objective and subjective indicators are largely middling to favourable. This city's social/structural indicators point to various challenges of marginalisation, especially poverty and youth unemployment.

More detailed analysis of each city's position in terms of the 21 indicators is provided in Annexure A.

POLICE PRECINCT POPULATION 2018/19 CALCULATION METHODOLOGY

STEP 1

Population distribution

The first step in the process is to determine the population distribution in all SAPS precincts in South Africa. Two data sources are used for the purpose. The first is the Statistics South Africa Dwelling Framework (2017),[13] which gives a detailed description of all dwellings in the country on house location level. In the cases where the Dwelling Framework was outdated, the second data layer, the South African Land Cover Report (2018) was used to make an estimate of new dwellings in greenfield areas of the country.[14] The result is a dwelling count per precinct that represents the situation in 2018 as accurately as possible.

STEP 2

Latest mid-year population estimate per local authority

The latest mid-year population estimate per local authority available is the 2019 data, which also reflects the 2018 estimates after corrections were made for the 2019 estimation. The total population for each local municipality is then assigned to a SAPS precinct in the next step.

STEP 3

Data partitioning

The data partitioning exercise assigns the local municipality population to SAPS precincts based on a weighting system. Traditionally the size of the area of one layer (for example, precincts) intersecting the other layer (for example, population per local authority) will be used to assign a proportion of the population from one layer to another. In this case, the population distribution within different precincts is used as a weight to disaggregate the local municipality data to the SAPS precincts.

Comments and conclusion

It is important to note that the following two factors influence the accuracy of the results:

1. Police precincts do not 'nest' into the local municipal boundaries; and
2. The Dwelling Frame basically represent households and not individuals. For this exercise we use the Dwelling Frame only for the purpose of establishing the broad population distribution for the whole country.

Annexure A

INDIVIDUAL CITY CRIME SITUATIONS

The comparative sets of recorded crime rates and of the 21 indicators of crime and violence are discussed in this report in the previous pages. In this annexure, each city's data is briefly described individually for those readers with a particular interest in just one city. The goal is to point to the key crime concerns and drivers that should form part of each city's crime and safety planning. However, it is important to bear in mind that the legend (colour coding) is relative to the other cities under discussion. For example, a city's positive ranking (and thus dark green colour) in terms of Indicator 15 does not mean that its income inequality is low or insignificant in driving crime and violence in that city; it means only that the other cities record higher levels of this indicator, and that this is less likely to be the key factor driving this city's crime challenges.

As previously described, Indicators 1 to 7 and Indicator 21 have been updated with new data from the South African Police Service (SAPS). Also note that Indicator 6 has been populated for the first time. Indicators 8 to 20 have not been updated, as there is no new data available, with the exception of Indicators 11, 12 and 18.

For each city, there is a graph indicating the city trend in selected crime types (that is, murder, assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm, robbery with aggravating circumstances, sexual offences, property-related crime, and driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs) in recorded rates per 100 000 from 2005/06 to 2018/19. The graph shows how the recorded rates of these crime types have progressed within each city over this period. Populations are adjusted for each year. Note that recorded rates of murder and sexual offences are much less numerous than those of the other selected crimes, so in order to depict them on the same graphs, two different scales of vertical axis have been used.

Differences in recorded crime rates (both between cities and within a city over time) are a product of both real differences in crime prevalence and differences in crime reporting and recording behaviour on the part of victims and the police. For example, declining recorded levels of sexual offences may indicate that these crimes are indeed becoming less prevalent but may also suggest that victims are becoming less inclined to report them to the police, or that the police are becoming less inclined to record the crimes reported to them. The significance of these factors may be indicated by low and declining levels of resident satisfaction with law enforcement.

CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

CATEGORY		INDICATOR	JHB
Objective indicators		1 Murder rate	32
		2 Assault rate	292
		3 Robbery rate	427
		4 Property-related crime rate	850
		5 Sexual offences rate	70
		6 Public/collective violence rate	3
		7 Police activity	238
Subjective indicators		8 Experience of crime/violence	10%
		9 Feelings of safety/fear of crime	24%
		10 Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement	58%
Social/structural indicators	Urbanisation	11 Rapid population growth	3,4%
		12 Population density	3 387
		13 Social incoherence/family disruption	26%
	Marginalisation	14 Poverty	0,72
		15 Income inequality	0,652
		16 (Youth) unemployment	32%
		17 Deprivation of services	18%
	Social/physical environment	18 Informal housing	22%
		19 Infrastructure	
		20 School conditions and violence	
		21 Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	615

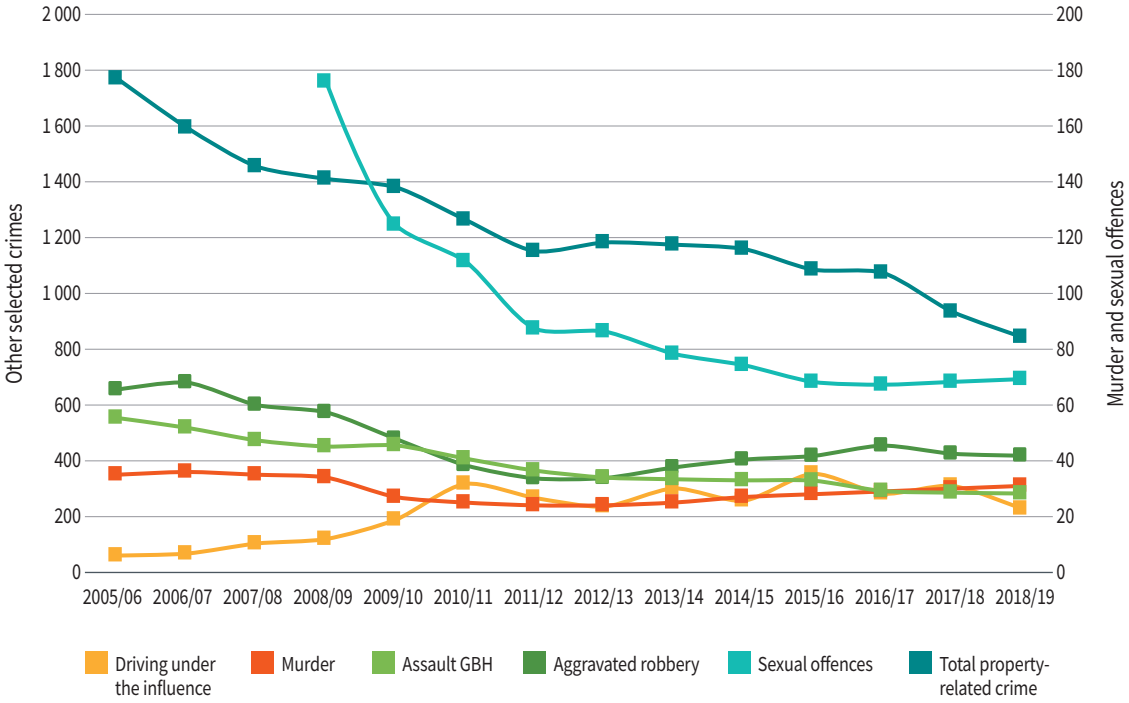
City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities	City is doing about average compared to the other cities	City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

Johannesburg's relative rankings in terms of the 21 indicators have changed only slightly from the previous report. Compared to the other cities, the crime rate in Johannesburg remains low to moderate, except for the assault and robbery rate. It has the second lowest recorded rate of murder, after the City of Tshwane, and has shown a significant decline in the number of reported property-related crimes, ranking second best after Ekurhuleni. Its recorded public and collective violence rate is relatively good compared to the other cities, boasting the second lowest rate after Nelson Mandela Bay. While Johannesburg has recorded one of the highest levels of police activity (as measured through driving under the influence of alcohol) there was a substantial 26% decrease compared to the previous report. This may point to fewer roadblocks, rather than a decrease in the number of people driving while under the influence of alcohol.

Unfortunately, as mentioned earlier, there is no new data available for Johannesburg with regard to the subjective indicators on perceptions and experiences of crime and violence. The above statistics are still reflective of the data collected from the Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) 2016 Community Survey on perceptions and experiences of victimisation and the 2015/16 Victims of Crime Survey results on district-level perceptions and satisfaction with police.

Urbanisation factors are the key drivers of Johannesburg's crime and safety challenges – the city ranks first in measures of rapid population growth and population density. It also ranks a close second after Buffalo City where informal housing is concerned. This suggests that the city's safety planning would do well to focus on ameliorating the challenges around urbanisation and inequality.

FIGURE 15 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Johannesburg (2005/06–2018/19)



All the cities have seen long-term declines in the recorded rates of assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm (GBH) and sexual offences. In Johannesburg, recorded rates of assault with the intent to inflict GBH have decreased by 22% over the last seven years, while sexual offences have decreased by 21% during the same period. While this could signify a lower prevalence of these crimes, it could also indicate a lower inclination to report such crimes to the police. Recorded rates of non-violent property-related crimes have also been declining fairly steadily, down 26% over the last seven years, with a significant decrease by 10% in the last year. On the other hand, the murder rate has seen a 31% increase in the last seven years, making it the fourth-largest increase among the cities in the last year. After a 34% increase in the aggravated robbery rate between 2011/12 and 2016/17, aggravated robbery has seen a slight decrease for two consecutive years of 8%. Recorded rates of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs have fluctuated over the last seven years but show a significant decrease of 26% since 2019, possibly suggesting that police have significantly reprioritised police activities away from roadblocks.

CITY OF CAPE TOWN

CATEGORY		INDICATOR	CPT
Objective indicators		1 Murder rate	72
		2 Assault rate	258
		3 Robbery rate	456
		4 Property-related crime rate	1 305
		5 Sexual offences rate	95
		6 Public/collective violence rate	11
		7 Police activity	192
Subjective indicators		8 Experience of crime/violence	11%
		9 Feelings of safety/fear of crime	28%
		10 Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement	49%
Social/structural indicators	Urbanisation	11 Rapid population growth	2,3%
		12 Population density	1 799
		13 Social incoherence/family disruption	22%
	Marginalisation	14 Poverty	0,73
		15 Income inequality	0,613
		16 (Youth) unemployment	32%
		17 Deprivation of services	12%
	Social/physical environment	18 Informal housing	19%
		19 Infrastructure	
		20 School conditions and violence	
		21 Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	1 458

City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities

City is doing about average compared to the other cities

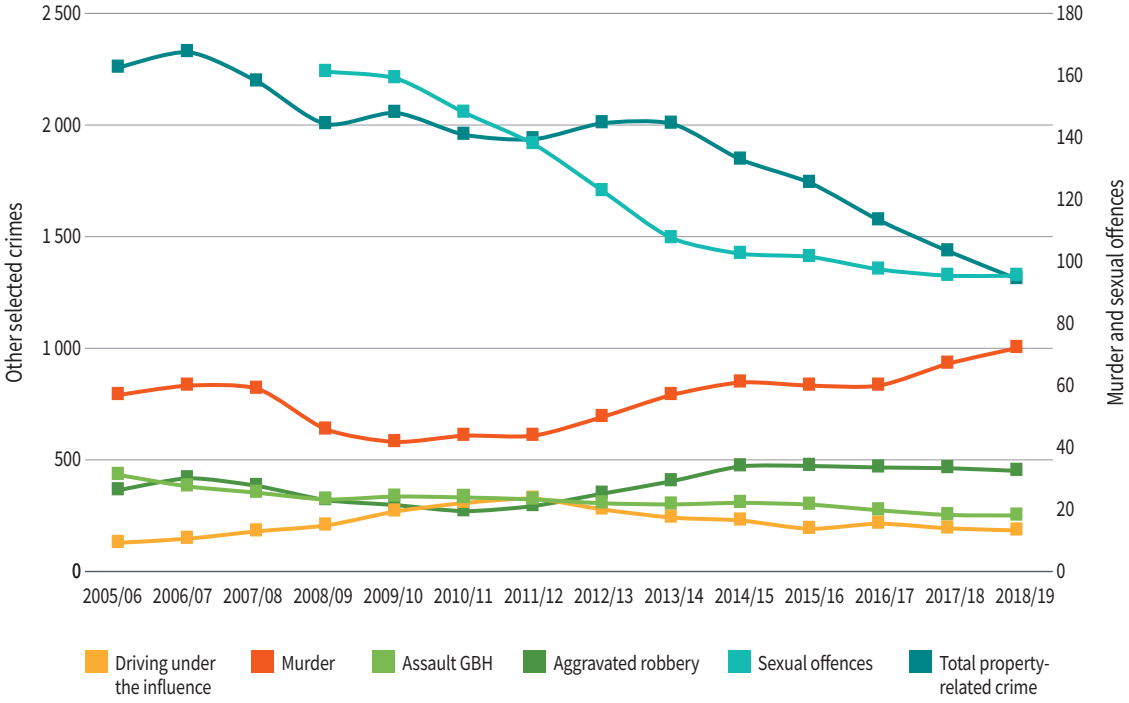
City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

Cape Town continues to have very high rates of almost all crime types, with the highest recorded rates of murder, robbery, property-related crimes and public violence. The city has, however, moved from being ranked third highest in the previous report to fourth where sexual offences are concerned and is now slightly above average at sixth place for reported cases of serious assault. The city's relatively high level of police activity (as measured by recorded rates of driving while under the influence) may be a positive indicator of proactive policing efforts.

Unfortunately, there is no new data available for Cape Town with regard to the subjective indicators on perceptions and experiences of crime and violence. The above statistics are still reflective of the data collected from the Stats SA 2016 Community Survey on perceptions and experiences of victimisation and the 2015/16 Victims of Crime Survey on perceptions and satisfaction with police.

The city's social and structural risk factors for crime suggest relatively low marginalisation factors when compared to other cities but still at concerningly high levels. Urbanisation factors are likely to play a significant role, given that the city shows relatively high levels of rapid population growth, population density and social incoherence. The causal outlier for the Cape Town, however, appears to be access to drugs, firearms and to a lesser extent alcohol, as per Indicator 21, recording the highest rate of all the cities. This possibly highlights the high levels of police activity and other crime reduction efforts in the city, rather than actual access to drugs, firearms and alcohol.

FIGURE 16 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Cape Town (2005/06–2018/19)



Cape Town has the highest murder rate of all the cities, which is cause for concern, particularly given that it has increased by 7% in the last year alone, with an increased rate of 64% over the last seven years. However, as with all the other cities, Cape Town continues to see long-term declines in recorded rates of sexual offences, which have decreased by 31% in the last seven years and assault with intent to inflict GBH, which decreased by 22% in the last seven years. Similar to Johannesburg, Cape Town has also shown reductions in the recorded rates of non-violent property-related crimes, by 32% over the last seven years and 9% in the last year. This may be an indication of stabilisation of this crime since there has been no significant change for the past two years. However, the city has experienced a 59% increase in aggravated robbery between 2011/12 and 2015/16, followed by a 4% decline over the past three years. The recorded rate of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs has seen a downward trajectory, decreasing by 43% in the last seven years and 5% in the last year. This may indicate that the police have lowered the priority of their roadblock operations.

eTHEKWINI

CATEGORY		INDICATOR	ETH
Objective indicators		1 Murder rate	48
		2 Assault rate	224
		3 Robbery rate	335
		4 Property-related crime rate	930
		5 Sexual offences rate	81
		6 Public/collective violence rate	5
		7 Police activity	268
Subjective indicators		8 Experience of crime/violence	6%
		9 Feelings of safety/fear of crime	23%
		10 Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement	56%
Social/structural indicators	Urbanisation	11 Rapid population growth	1,4%
		12 Population density	1 499
		13 Social incoherence/family disruption	21%
	Marginalisation	14 Poverty	0,63
		15 Income inequality	0,628
		16 (Youth) unemployment	39%
		17 Deprivation of services	17%
	Social/physical environment	18 Informal housing	13%
		19 Infrastructure	
		20 School conditions and violence	
		21 Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	789

City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities

City is doing about average compared to the other cities

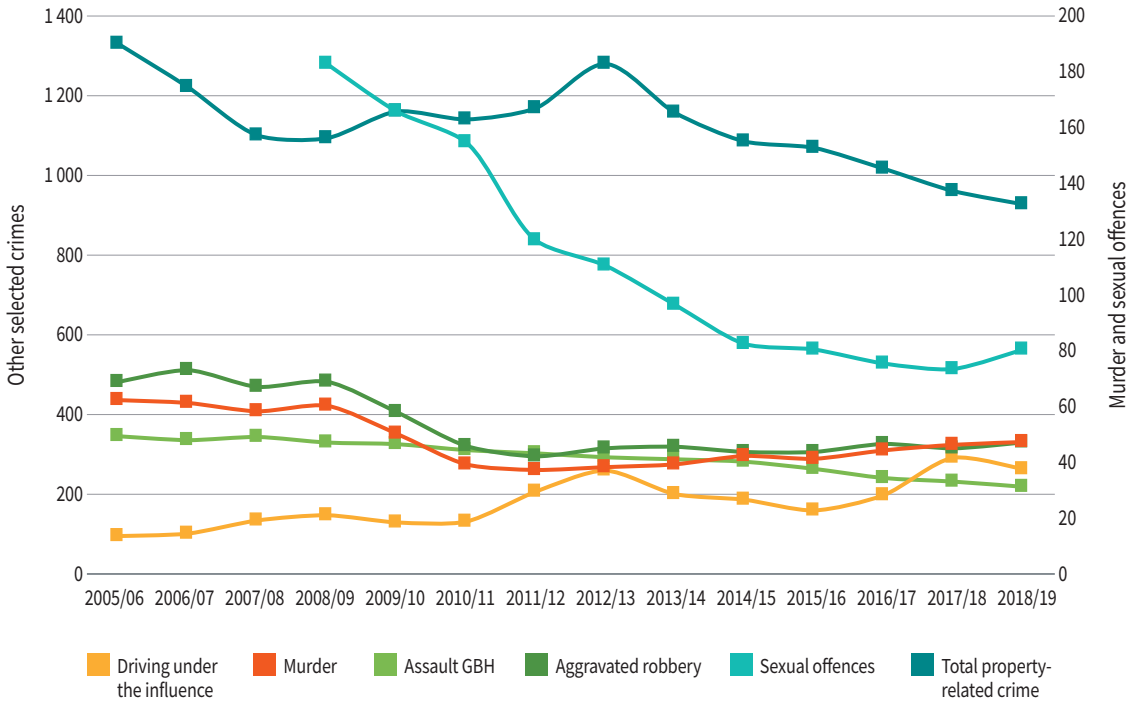
City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

eThekwini's key crime challenges lie in public violence, murder and robbery. The city is ranked third highest of the nine cities for public violence and fourth for murder (down from third in 2016/17) and robbery. Compared to the other cities, eThekwini has the second lowest rates of assault and third lowest rates of non-violent property-related crime (down slightly from the previous report). It also records middle to relatively low rates of sexual offences. eThekwini has moved to first place where police activity is concerned. Seemingly, the police have stepped up their levels of activity for recorded rates of driving under the influence of alcohol. However, the city has been ranked second for Indicator 21, which shows that it has one of the highest levels of people driving under the influence, and for activity aimed at addressing access to drugs and firearms.

As with all the other cities, there is no new data available for eThekwini with regard to the subjective indicators on perceptions and experiences of crime and violence. The above statistics are still reflective of the data collected from the Stats SA 2016 Community Survey on perceptions and experiences of victimisation and the 2015/16 Victims of Crime Survey on perceptions and satisfaction with police.

eThekwini's social/structural indicators suggest a broader mix of causal drivers, including aspects of urbanisation, marginalisation, and the social/physical environment. The city ranks second to worst in terms of access to alcohol, drugs and firearms confiscated during police activities.

FIGURE 17 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in eThekwini (2005/06–2018/19)



eThekwini has shown long-term declines in its recorded rates of assault with intent to inflict GBH, which declined 27% over the last seven years and 5% in the last year. Sexual offences also decreased by 33% over the last seven years. There was, however, an increase of 9% in the last year. As with all other cities, eThekwini has seen a decline in non-violent property-related crimes, which decreased by 20% over the last seven years and 3% in the last year. Concerningly, aggravated robbery rates have seen an increase of 12% in the last seven years and 4% in the last year. Furthermore, the murder rate has seen a steady increase of 12% over the last seven years and 4% in the last year. Like Johannesburg, recorded rates of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs have increased over the last seven years by 26% but this decreased by 10% over the last year.

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EKURHULENI

CATEGORY		INDICATOR	ETH
Objective indicators		1 Murder rate	32
		2 Assault rate	235
		3 Robbery rate	273
		4 Property-related crime rate	776
		5 Sexual offences rate	66
		6 Public/collective violence rate	4
		7 Police activity	215
Subjective indicators		8 Experience of crime/violence	8%
		9 Feelings of safety/fear of crime	22%
		10 Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement	66%
Social/structural indicators	Urbanisation	11 Rapid population growth	2,5%
		12 Population density	1 925
		13 Social incoherence/family disruption	23%
	Marginalisation	14 Poverty	0,70
		15 Income inequality	0,651
		16 (Youth) unemployment	37%
		17 Deprivation of services	21%
	Social/physical environment	18 Informal housing	20%
		19 Infrastructure	
		20 School conditions and violence	
		21 Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	526

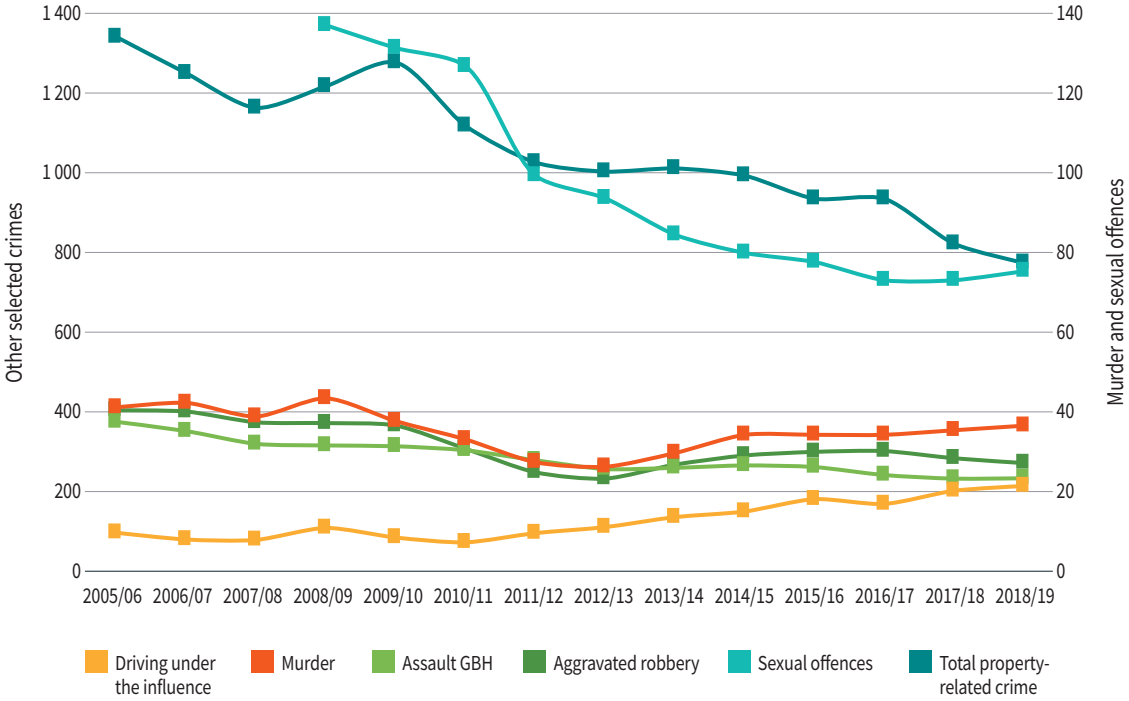
City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities	City is doing about average compared to the other cities	City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

Ekurhuleni continues to show relatively low recorded rates of most crime types. Of the nine cities, it has the lowest rate of non-violent property-related crimes and sexual offences (although it must be remembered that this may be a poor reflection of the real extent of sexual offences) and the third lowest rates of murder, assault and robbery. Its recorded robbery rate is low for a city of its size (only Mangaung and Msunduzi recorded lower rates in the last year). The city ranks average compared to other cities where rates of public violence are concerned. Its police activity indicator (as measured by recorded rates of driving while under the influence) continues to see some improvement, and it still ranks third, after Johannesburg and eThekwini.

As with all the other cities, there is no new data available for Ekurhuleni with regard to the subjective indicators on perceptions and experiences of crime and violence. The above statistics are still reflective of the data collected from the Stats SA 2016 Community Survey on perceptions and experiences of victimisation and the 2015/16 Victims of Crime Survey on perceptions and satisfaction with police.

Ekurhuleni's social/structural indicators point to relatively large challenges, with a wide range of urbanisation, marginalisation and social and physical factors. The city is ranked second for income inequality and population density and third for informal housing.

FIGURE 18 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Ekurhuleni (2005/06–2018/19)



Like all the cities, Ekurhuleni has seen long-term decreases in recorded rates of assault with the intent to inflict GBH, down 16% over the last seven years with a slight 1% increase in the last year. Despite a decrease of 24% over the last seven years for sexual offences, the last year saw a 3% increase. Non-violent property-related crime has also declined by 24% over the last seven years and 6% in the last year. Ekurhuleni's recorded rate of aggravated robbery has seen a 9% increase over the last seven years but a 4% increase in the last year. As in Johannesburg, the city's murder rate has seen a significant increase of 35% in the last seven years and 5% in the last year. Ekurhuleni continues to show major increases in recorded rates of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs (up 122% over the last seven years and 6% in the last year). This may suggest that roadblock activities continue to be a growing policing priority.

GilloolysInterchange

CITY OF TSHWANE

CATEGORY		INDICATOR	TSH
Objective indicators		1 Murder rate	17
		2 Assault rate	203
		3 Robbery rate	308
		4 Property-related crime rate	1 023
		5 Sexual offences rate	65
		6 Public/collective violence rate	3
		7 Police activity	103
Subjective indicators		8 Experience of crime/violence	9%
		9 Feelings of safety/fear of crime	19%
		10 Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement	50%
Social/structural indicators	Urbanisation	11 Rapid population growth	2,9%
		12 Population density	565
		13 Social incoherence/family disruption	24%
	Marginalisation	14 Poverty	0,72
		15 Income inequality	0,631
		16 (Youth) unemployment	33%
		17 Deprivation of services	16%
	Social/physical environment	18 Informal housing	17%
		19 Infrastructure	
		20 School conditions and violence	
		21 Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	471

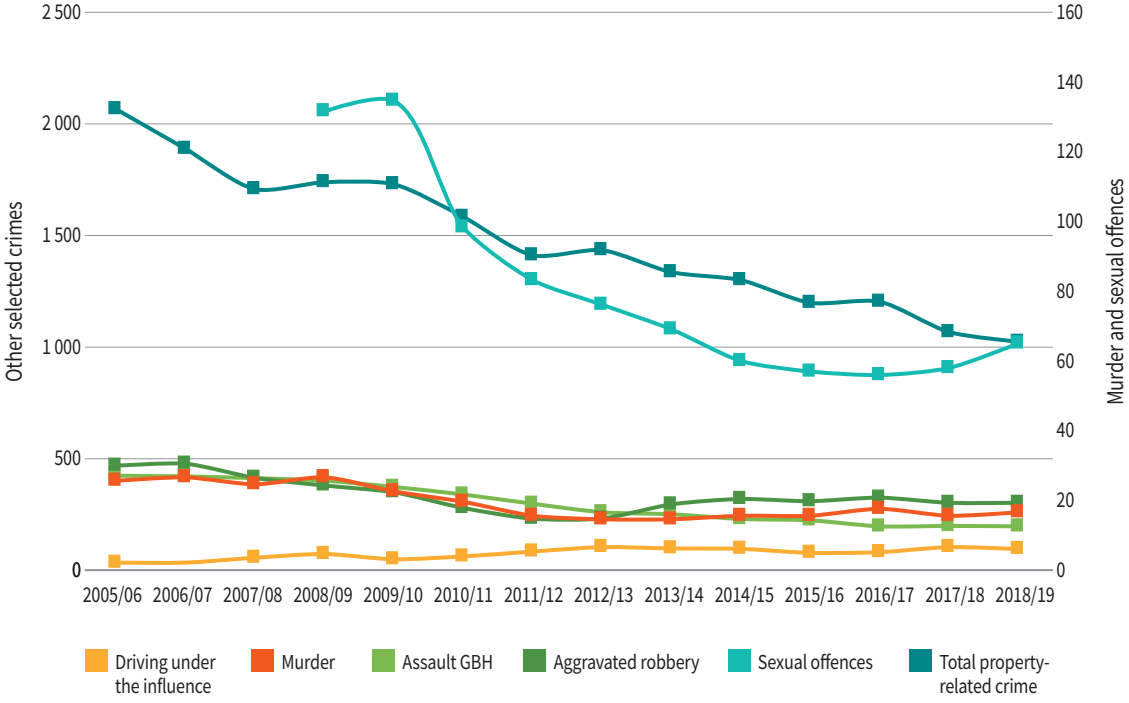
City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities	City is doing about average compared to the other cities	City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

Tshwane enjoys relatively low recorded rates of interpersonal violent crimes. It records the lowest rates of murder and assault of all nine cities and the third lowest rate of sexual offences, after Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni. Its murder rate is almost half those in neighbouring Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni. The city also has one of the lowest rates of robbery after Mangaung, Msunduzi and Ekurhuleni. However, non-violent property-related crimes are fairly high – third only to Cape Town and Buffalo City. Its indicator of police activity (as measured by recorded rates of driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs) suggests little police proactivity in this regard.

Unfortunately, there is no new data available for Tshwane with regards to the subjective indicators on perceptions and experiences of crime and violence. The above statistics are still reflective of the data collected from the Stats SA 2016 Community Survey on perceptions and experiences of victimisation and the 2015/16 Victims of Crime Survey on perceptions and satisfaction with police.

Tshwane's social and structural indicators point to some urbanisation challenges in terms of rapid population growth and social incoherence (for both of which it ranks second to worst), although its city-level population density remains relatively low. There is a need for more research to explore on a more granular level the drivers behind these trends.

FIGURE 19 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Tshwane (2005/06–2018/19)



Tshwane has shown long-term declines from an already low base. However, there has been an increase over the last year by 12% in the recorded rates of sexual offences (down 22% over the last seven years). The murder rate has increased by 4% in the last year and 5% over the last seven years (it must be noted that Tshwane's murder rate is still the lowest of all the cities). Like the other cities, its medium-term increase in aggravated robbery appears to be abating – while this increased 30% over the last seven years, no change has been recorded in the last year. Tshwane continues to have a fairly constant decline in recorded non-violent property crimes (down 27% over the last seven years and 4% in the last year). Its trend in the recorded rate of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs has fluctuated generally upwards to 12% over the last seven years but saw a decrease of 8% in the last year, possibly suggesting that roadblock operations were occupying a significantly lower police priority in the last year.

NELSON MANDELA BAY

CATEGORY		INDICATOR	NMB
Objective indicators		1 Murder rate	62
		2 Assault rate	319
		3 Robbery rate	428
		4 Property-related crime rate	963
		5 Sexual offences rate	108
		6 Public/collective violence rate	2
		7 Police activity	179
Subjective indicators		8 Experience of crime/violence	8%
		9 Feelings of safety/fear of crime	26%
		10 Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement	59%
Social/structural indicators	Urbanisation	11 Rapid population growth	0,6%
		12 Population density	615
		13 Social incoherence/family disruption	19%
	Marginalisation	14 Poverty	0,67
		15 Income inequality	0,625
		16 (Youth) unemployment	47%
		17 Deprivation of services	9%
	Social/physical environment	18 Informal housing	6%
		19 Infrastructure	
		20 School conditions and violence	
		21 Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	667

City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities	City is doing about average compared to the other cities	City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

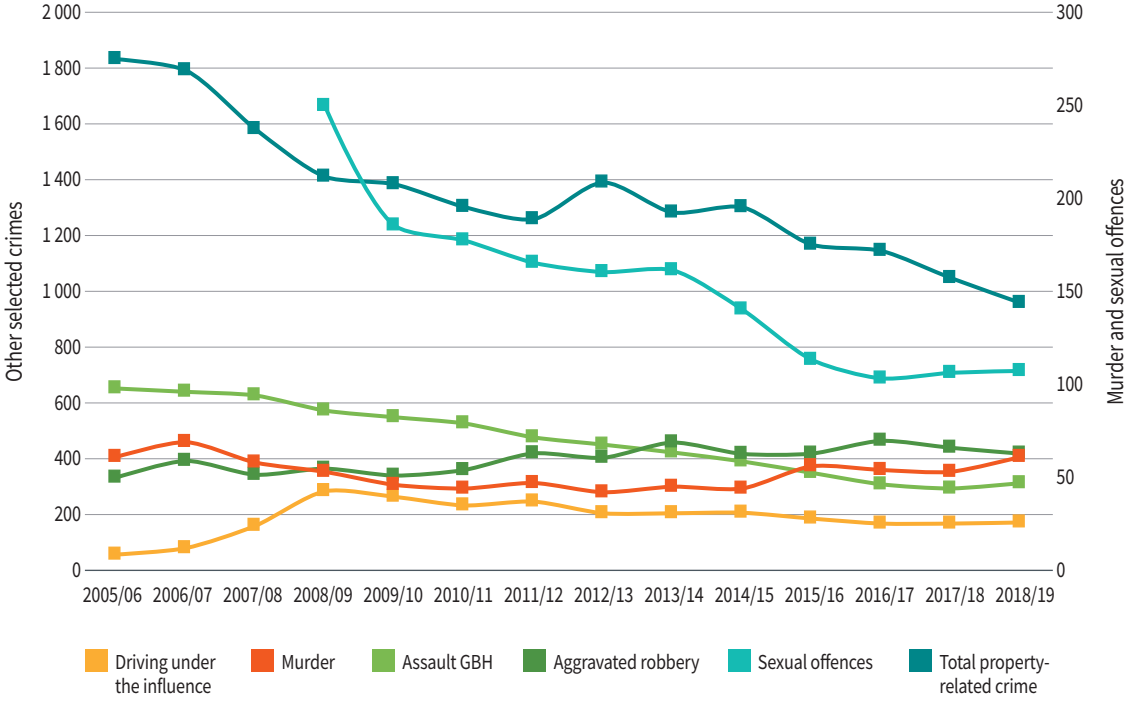
Although it records middling to low levels of non-violent property-related crimes and public violence, Nelson Mandela Bay has the second highest murder and robbery rate and the third highest sexual offences and assault rates of all the cities. Its indicator of police activity (as measured by recorded rates of driving while under the influence) suggests middling to low levels of police proactivity in this regard.

Nelson Mandela Bay's crime profile is relatively dominated by (less frequent but more fear-inducing) violent crimes, rather than (more frequent but less fear-inducing) property crimes.

Unfortunately, as with all the other cities, there is no new data available for Nelson Mandela Bay with regard to the subjective indicators on perceptions and experiences of crime and violence. The above statistics are still reflective of the data collected from the Stats SA 2016 Community Survey on perceptions and experiences of victimisation and the 2015/16 Victims of Crime Survey on perceptions and satisfaction with police.

The city's social and structural rankings are good relative to most other cities, as it scores the highest in terms of social coherence, records the lowest percentage of service deprivation and the lowest percentage of informal housing. However, in terms of marginalisation factors, Nelson Mandela Bay scored has the highest youth unemployment rate of 47%.

FIGURE 20 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Nelson Mandela Bay (2005/06–2018/19)



As in all the other cities, Nelson Mandela Bay saw long-term decreases in its recorded rates of assault with the intent to inflict GBH and sexual offences, down 34% and 35% respectively, over the last seven years. However, these long-term declines may be reversing, as both rates saw increases in the last year – assault with the intent to inflict GBH went up 7% and sexual offences increased by 1% in the same period. The recorded rates of non-violent property-related crimes have seen decreases of 24% over the last seven years and 8% in the last year. Aggravated robbery rates have remained stable over the past seven years and improved in the past year by 5%. Of concern is the increase in the murder rate by 28% in the last seven years and 14% in the last year. Roadblock activities have seemingly taken an increasingly low policing priority, as shown in the recorded rate of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, which has decreased by 29% over the past seven years but has seen an increase of 3% over the last year.

MANGAUNG

CATEGORY		INDICATOR	MAN
Objective indicators		1 Murder rate	36
		2 Assault rate	394
		3 Robbery rate	222
		4 Property-related crime rate	1 022
		5 Sexual offences rate	121
		6 Public/collective violence rate	8
		7 Police activity	87
Subjective indicators		8 Experience of crime/violence	6%
		9 Feelings of safety/fear of crime	21%
		10 Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement	62%
Social/structural indicators	Urbanisation	11 Rapid population growth	1,2%
		12 Population density	86
		13 Social incoherence/family disruption	19%
	Marginalisation	14 Poverty	0,65
		15 Income inequality	0,622
		16 (Youth) unemployment	37%
		17 Deprivation of services	23%
	Social/physical environment	18 Informal housing	12%
		19 Infrastructure	
		20 School conditions and violence	
		21 Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	382

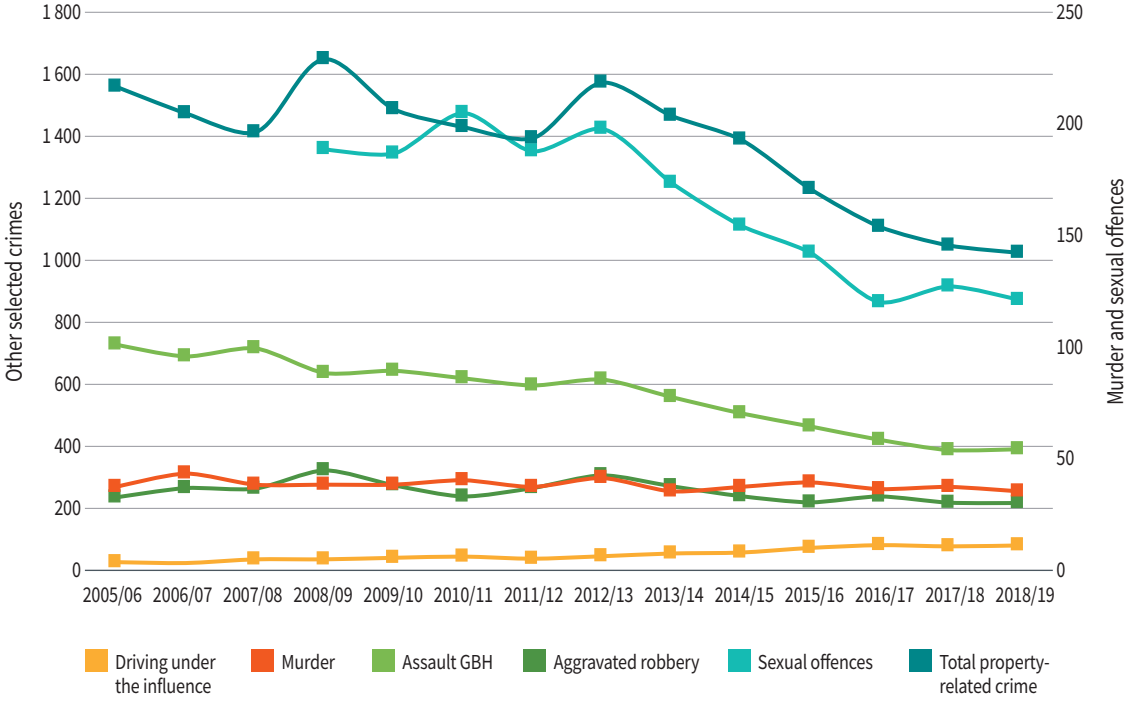
City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities	City is doing about average compared to the other cities	City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

Mangaung's relative crime profile is strongly dominated by violent interpersonal crimes. It ranks second in recorded rates of assault, sexual offences and public violence. However, it records the lowest rate of robbery when compared to the other cities. Mangaung's murder and non-violent property-related crime rates are middling. Its police activity, as measured by recorded rates of driving while under the influence, is low, suggesting little police proactivity.

Unfortunately, there is no new data available for Mangaung with regard to the subjective indicators on perceptions and experiences of crime and violence. The above statistics are still reflective of the data collected from the Stats SA 2016 Community Survey on perceptions and experiences of victimisation and the 2015/16 Victims of Crime Survey on perceptions and satisfaction with police.

Mangaung's social and structural indicators suggest that urbanisation factors are less likely than in most other cities to be key relative drivers of crime, as population density and social incoherence are relatively low. Instead, there are indications from the previous year that marginalisation factors could be key drivers of crime. The city has the second highest percentage of deprivation of services at 23%.

FIGURE 21 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Mangaung (2005/06–2018/19)



Mangaung has shown long-term decreases in its recorded rates of assault with the intent to inflict GBH (down 43% over the last seven years and 1% in the last year). Its reversal of the downward trend in recorded sexual offences is the largest among the cities (down 36% over the last seven years and 5% in the last year). Its downward trend in non-violent property-related crime has been steady (down 26% over the last seven years and 2% in the last year). Unlike most of the cities, Mangaung's murder rate has not changed significantly over the last seven years. However, following a slight increase in 2017/18, it is down 3% in the last year. Its recorded rates of aggravated robbery have fluctuated mostly downwards, decreasing by 18% in the last seven years, with no change in the last year. The city's recorded rate of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs has increased by 98% over the last seven years but decreased by 4% in the last year.

BUFFALO CITY

CATEGORY		INDICATOR	BUF
Objective indicators		1 Murder rate	46
		2 Assault rate	548
		3 Robbery rate	313
		4 Property-related crime rate	1 275
		5 Sexual offences rate	161
		6 Public/collective violence rate	4
		7 Police activity	174
Subjective indicators		8 Experience of crime/violence	8%
		9 Feelings of safety/fear of crime	27%
		10 Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement	44%
Social/structural indicators	Urbanisation	11 Rapid population growth	0,1%
		12 Population density	291
		13 Social incoherence/family disruption	21%
	Marginalisation	14 Poverty	0,65
		15 Income inequality	0,642
		16 (Youth) unemployment	45%
		17 Deprivation of services	27%
	Social/physical environment	18 Informal housing	23%
		19 Infrastructure	
		20 School conditions and violence	
		21 Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	414

City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities

City is doing about average compared to the other cities

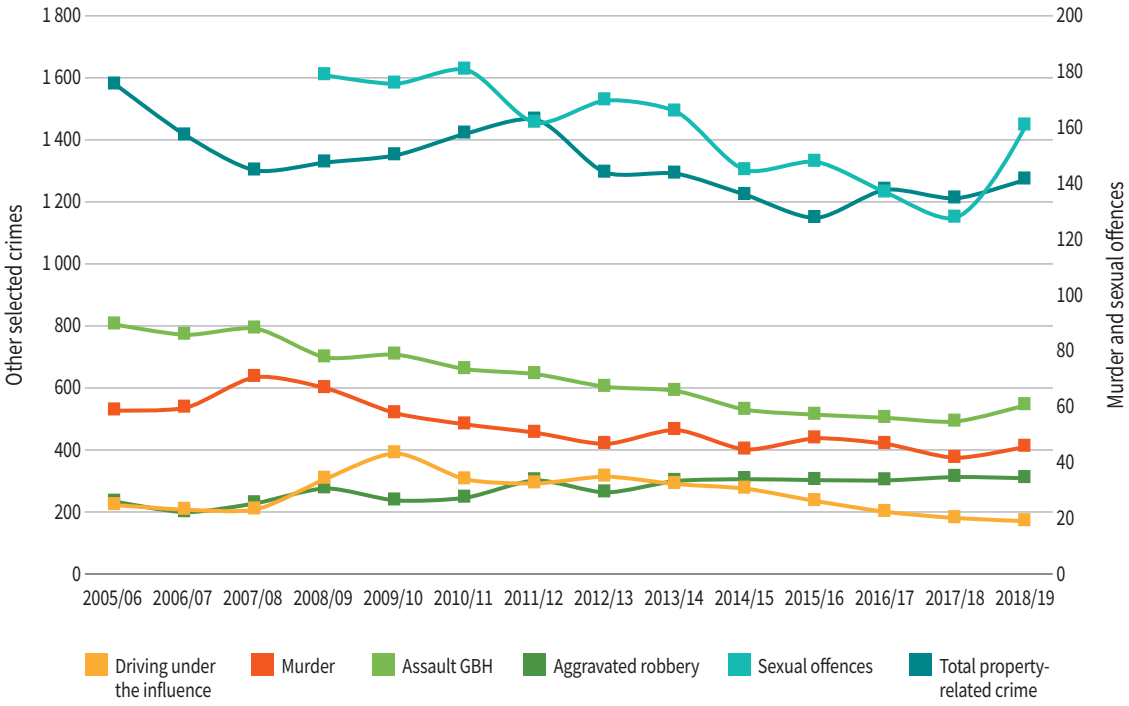
City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

Buffalo City has high levels of violent interpersonal crime, ranking worst among the cities in recorded rates of both assault and sexual offences, and average in its rate of murder. The city records fairly high levels of non-violent property-related crime, ranking second only to Cape Town. Its indicator of robbery, public violence and police activity (as measured by recorded rates of driving while under the influence) suggests a middling level for the city.

As with all the other cities, there is no new data available for Buffalo City with regard to the subjective indicators on perceptions and experiences of crime and violence. The above statistics are still reflective of the data collected from the Stats SA 2016 Community Survey on perceptions and experiences of victimisation and the 2015/16 Victims of Crime Survey on perceptions and satisfaction with police.

In 2017/18, Buffalo City's social and structural indicators pointed overwhelmingly to marginalisation factors such as deprivation of services, youth unemployment, income inequality and poverty as its major challenges. In 2018/19, the city ranked worst in terms of levels of informal housing. Its crime reduction planning should aim to ameliorate these conditions. Its indicator of access to alcohol, drugs, and firearms (as measured by the average of its recorded rates of drug-related crime, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and illegal possession of firearms and ammunition) is the second lowest among the cities, after Mangaung. This may indicate that Buffalo City is faring relatively well in terms of these possible drivers of crime and violence but may equally suggest that police are placing a very low priority on the roadblock operations that might detect these crimes.

FIGURE 22 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Buffalo City (2005/06–2018/19)



Compared to other cities, Buffalo City has shown sustained decreases over the last seven years. However, in the last year the city has seen concerning increases in its murder rate (down 10% in the last seven years and up 9% in the last year), assault with intent to inflict GBH (down 15% in the last seven years and up 11% in the last year) and a significant increase in sexual offences (down 1% in the last seven years and up 25% in the last year). Its recorded rate of non-violent property crimes, which has generally declined more unsteadily and slowly than most other cities (down 13% over the last seven years), saw an increase of 5% in the last year. In contrast to the previous report, the city saw a 1% decrease in aggravated robbery. Its recorded rates of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs have also been trending downward for almost a decade (down 41% over the last seven years and 5% in the last year) possibly suggesting that police have increasingly deprioritised roadblock activities.

MSUNDUZI

CATEGORY		INDICATOR	MSU
Objective indicators		1 Murder rate	51
		2 Assault rate	267
		3 Robbery rate	245
		4 Property-related crime rate	996
		5 Sexual offences rate	87
		6 Public/collective violence rate	3
		7 Police activity	70
Subjective indicators		8 Experience of crime/violence	8%
		9 Feelings of safety/fear of crime	23%
		10 Perception of/satisfaction with law enforcement	61%
Social/structural indicators	Urbanisation	11 Rapid population growth	1,3%
		12 Population density	976
		13 Social incoherence/family disruption	21%
	Marginalisation	14 Poverty	0,62
		15 Income inequality	0,636
		16 (Youth) unemployment	43%
		17 Deprivation of services	21%
	Social/physical environment	18 Informal housing	8%
		19 Infrastructure	
		20 School conditions and violence	
		21 Access to alcohol, drugs, firearms	642

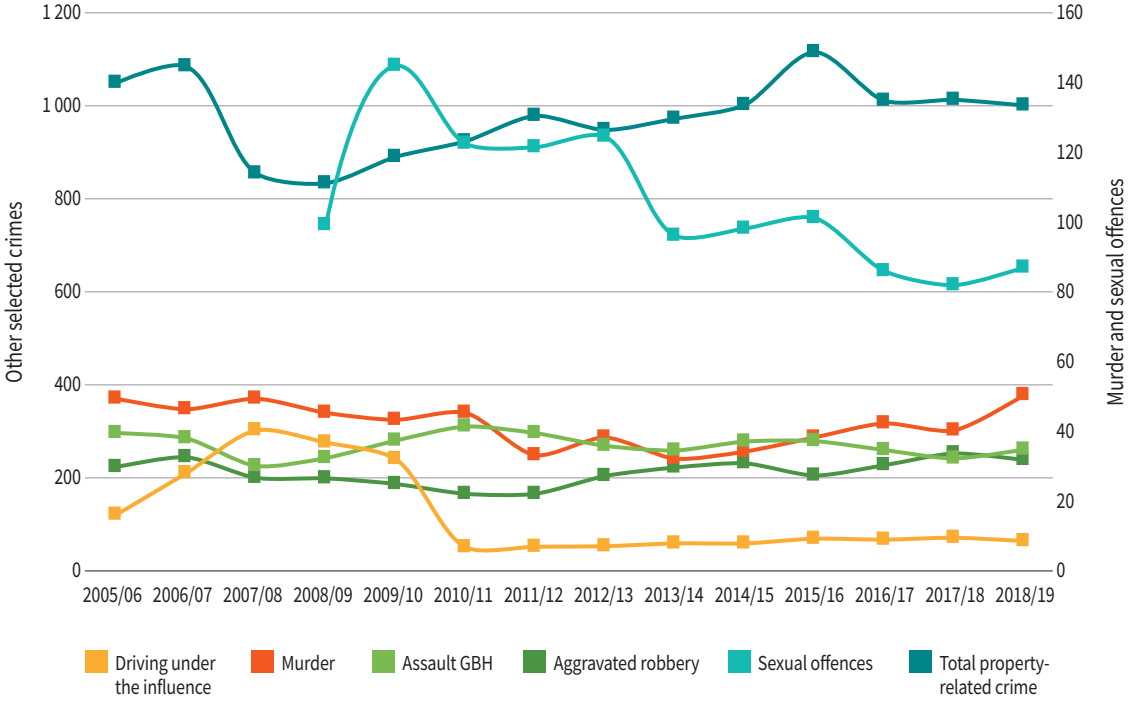
City is doing relatively well compared to the other cities	City is doing about average compared to the other cities	City is doing relatively poorly compared to the other cities

Msunduzi continues to display middling to low recorded rates of most crime types. It has the second to lowest rates of robbery, after Mangaung, and the third lowest recorded rate of murder and public and collective violence, after Johannesburg. The city also has fairly middling to low rates of non-violent property-related crimes. There is, however, still a need for the city to focus on addressing its pattern of interpersonal violence crimes, such as sexual offences. It ranks fourth worst among the cities in terms of its indicator of police activity (as measured by recorded rates of driving while under the influence), suggesting that police are placing a very low priority on roadblock operations.

As with all the other cities, there is no new data available for Msunduzi with regard to the subjective indicators on perceptions and experiences of crime and violence. The above statistics are still reflective of the data collected from the Stats SA 2016 Community Survey on perceptions and experiences of victimisation and the 2015/16 Victims of Crime Survey on perceptions and satisfaction with police.

As with Buffalo City, in 2017/18, Msunduzi's social and structural indicators pointed very clearly to challenges with marginalisation, particularly in the areas of poverty, youth unemployment and deprivation of services. Unfortunately, there is no new data available for Msunduzi during the 2018/19 period to assess whether these particular challenges were addressed.

FIGURE 23 Long-term trends in selected crimes recorded per 100 000 people in Msunduzi (2005/06–2018/19



Msunduzi continues to show some unique crime trends, being the smallest of the cities (and the only non-metro). The city's non-violent property-related crime trend has stabilised in the last seven years, with a slight 2% increase followed by a decrease in the last year of 1%. Its long-term trend in assault with the intent to inflict GBH has decreased by 12% over the last seven years, although it increased by 8% in the last year. Similarly, its recorded rates of sexual offences have declined by 28% over the last seven years but increased by 6% in the last year.

Of concern is a 50% increase in the murder rate in the past seven years, with a 26% increase in the last year alone. The aggravated robbery rate has increased by 41% in seven years, although a slight decline of 5% has occurred in the last year. Its recorded rates of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs are up 20% over the last seven years but decreased by 8% in the last year, perhaps suggesting that the police have lowered the priority of their roadblock operations.

Annexure B

USRG MEMBERS

MEMBER CITIES	TITLE	NAME	SURNAME	DESIGNATION
Buffalo City	Dr	Ntobeko	Stemele	Commander: Law Enforcement
	Mr	Quintin	Chetty	Commander: Traffic Services
City of Ekurhuleni	Mr	Goodman	Mzolo	Deputy Chief of Police: Ekurhuleni Metro Police Dept (EMPD)
	Mr	Julius Doctor	Mkhwanazi	Snr. Superintendent: Ekurhuleni Metro Police Dept (EMPD)
City of Joburg	Ms	Nazira	Cachalia	Deputy Director: Joburg City Safety Programme
	Mr	Stefan	Van Niekerk	Strategic Urban Designer: City Transformation & Development Planning
	Ms	Joy Lynn	Jacobs	Project Specialist: City Safety Programme
	Ms	Ayanda	Roji	General Manager: City Parks & Zoo
City of Tshwane	Ms	Charmaine	Sutil	Functional Head: Specialised Policing
eThekwini	Mr	Martin	Xaba	Head: Safer Cities
	Ms	Nomusa Priscilla	Shembe	Senior Manager: Safer Cities Unit
	Mr	Bongumusa	Zondo	Senior Manager: Long-Term Development Planning
	Mr	Mahlomola	Lengolo	Research and Policy Advise
Mangaung	Mr	Mzingisi	Nkungwana	HOD: Social Services
Msunduzi	Mr	Chandrallal	Parbhoo	Superintendent: Public Safety Enforcement & Disaster Management
Nelson Mandela Bay	Mr	Shane Michael	Brown	Head: Disaster Management
	Mr	Thandile	Matshikwe	Coordinator: Community Safety Forums
GIZ-VCP	Mr	Terence	Smith	Programme Manager: VCP
	Mr	Thomas	Hellmann	Technical Advisor: VCP
	Mr	Thulani	Mahlangu	Senior Technical Advisor
SA Cities Network	Ms	Nomfundo	Dlamini	Programme Manager: Productive Cities
	Ms	Siphelele	Ngobese	Researcher: Inclusive Cities
	Ms	Sadhna	Bhana	Programmes Coordinator
	Ms	Tlholohelo	Mokgere	Research Intern
Civilian Secretariat for Police Service	Ms	Martha	Molepo	Director: Research, Policy Development Unit
	Ms	Lilian	Mashele	Deputy Director: Policy Development
SALGA	Mr	Favourite	Khanye	Community Development Specialist
National Treasury	Mr	Ndimphiwe	Jamile	Projects Manager: Neighbourhood Development Programme
	Ms	Samantha	Govender-Hlahatsi	Director: Knowledge and Communications
National Department of Human Settlements	Ms	Hayley	McKuur	Deputy Director: Macro Policy
COGTA	Ms	Nomkita	Fani	Director: Intermediate Cities & Spatial Planning
	Ms	Stefanie	Chetty	Director: Urban Policy Development and Management
Office of the Public Service Commission	Ms	Bertha	Mboniswa	Director: Programme Evaluation

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urban safety reference group

The Urban Safety Reference Group

The **State of Crime and Safety in South African Cities Report 2020** is an interim update on city-level crime statistics. The interim report is to enable continuity in evidence-based planning and implementation by city administrations and other actors with a role in the promotion of safer cities. It is a precursor to the fully-fledged State of Urban Safety in South Africa Report, planned for 2021.

These are flagship products of the Urban Safety Reference Group (USRG). The USRG constitutes the first institutionalised forum in South Africa that enables practice-based learning on the theme of urban safety and violence prevention to inform urban policy, planning and management. It has proven to be a valuable platform for peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing amongst practitioners from the South African Cities Network (SACN) member cities as well as other key government role-players on urban safety and violence prevention.

The USRG was established in 2014. It is convened by the SACN with the support of the Inclusive Violence and Crime Prevention (VCP) Programme. The VCP Programme is a joint South African-German intervention steered by the South African Department of Cooperative Governance and various other departments, and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

For more information on urban safety and related topics, please visit:

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