STATISTICAL RELEASE
P0341 Victims of Crime

GOVERNANCE, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND JUSTICE SURVEY
GPSJS 2024/25

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Abbreviations/acronyms

EC	Eastern Cape
FS	Free State
GP	Gauteng
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
LP	Limpopo
MP	Mpumalanga
NC	Northern Cape
NW	North West
RSA	Republic of South Africa
WC	Western Cape
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews
CATI	Computer-Assisted Telephonic Interviews
CV	Coefficient of variation
DU	Dwelling unit
EA	Enumerator area
GPSJS	Governance, Public Safety, and Justice Survey
MS	Master sample
NDP	National Development Plan
PPS	Probability proportional to size
PSU	Primary sampling unit
SAPS	South African Police Service
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
VOCS	Victims of Crime Survey

Summary of key findings

Household crime levels in South Africa

In 2024/25, an estimated 1,5 million incidences of housebreaking occurred, affecting 1,1 million households in South Africa. The number of affected households represents 5,7% of all households in the country. About 43% (43,4%) of households that experienced housebreaking reported some or all incidences to the police.

An estimated 259 000 incidences of home robberies occurred, affecting 213 000 households in 2024/25. The number of affected households represents 1,1% of all households in the country. About 51% (51,3%) of households that experienced home robbery reported some or all incidences to the police.

Individual crime levels in South Africa

Theft of personal property is the most common crime experienced by individuals aged 16 years and older in South Africa. An estimated 1,3 million incidences of theft of personal property occurred in 2024/25, affecting 1,2 million individuals aged 16 years and older. The number of affected individuals represents 2,6% of those 16 years and older. About 31% of individuals who experienced theft of personal property reported some or all incidences to the police. The second most experienced crime by individuals was consumer fraud. A total of 566 000 individuals experienced consumer fraud with an estimated 811 000 incidences. About 35% (34,9%) of the individuals reported some or all incidences to the police.

In 2024/25, 337 000 individuals experienced psychological violence, which was less than 1% (0,8%) of all individuals aged 16 years and older in the country. Only 14,6% of the individuals indicated they experienced psychological violence daily, while the majority (62,0%) indicated they experienced it once in a while. More females (49,2%) than males (24,4%) reported that the incidences of psychological violence occurred in a private home/dwelling. About 27% (26,6%) of individuals who experienced psychological violence reported some or all incidences to the police.

Feelings of safety

About 81% of those aged 16 years and older felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day while 36,1% felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood when it is dark. Females felt very unsafe walking alone when it is dark compared to males. The proportion of individuals who have done something to protect themselves against crime increased from 39,9% in 2023/24 to 43,3% in 2024/25. Only 30% (29,9%) of the population indicated that they only walk during safer hours as the main thing they have done to protect themselves against crime. Of those who have done something to protect themselves, 79,9% felt safer after taking measures. The majority of individuals (39,6%) indicated they will call the police when they see a crime being committed.

Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

1. Introduction

This statistical release presents a selection of key findings from the Governance, Public Safety, and Justice Survey (GPSJS) 2024/25, conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) from April 2024 to March 2025.

1.1 Background

The GPSJS is a countrywide household-based survey that aims to bridge the statistical information gap in the field of governance statistics by conducting interviews with households and individuals and collecting the data items needed for planning and monitoring. The GPSJS was conducted for the first time in South Africa in 2018/19 as an updated version of the long-running Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) to include themes on governance. The re-engineered GPSJS retained many items from the VOCS, while new content was added. There is, consequently, a break of series in the estimates of crime from VOCS to GPSJS. However, there is no break of series for questions that remained the same, for example, questions on experience of crime. There is also no break to the five-year crime series arising from the question "In the past five years have you or any member of the household experienced any of the following crimes?" because no change was made to this question. Therefore, it is possible to determine whether crime increased or decreased between 2020/21 and 2024/25 using the five-year series.

Victims of crime statistics are population estimates of the level of crime in South Africa derived from GPSJS data and VOCS data. These estimates complement crime statistics provided by the South African Police Service (SAPS). GPSJS can provide estimates of the prevalence and incidence of crime, while SAPS statistics provide the total number of reported cases. Moreover, GPSJS statistics also report on feelings of safety, perceptions of crime, and satisfaction with the police, courts, and correctional services. Such information is indispensable in the monitoring of development goals.

1.2 Objectives of the survey

The GPSJS is a countrywide household-based survey, and the objectives of the survey are to provide information on:
• Household and individual perceptions and experiences of crime.
• Perception of safety.
• Perceptions about citizen interaction/community cohesion.
• Trust in government/public institutions.
• Government's performance and effectiveness.
• Experience of corruption.
• General individual perceptions.

1.3 Purpose

The Victims of Crime report focused on people's perceptions of safety and experiences of crime. The survey profiles different aspects that are inherent in the different types of crime, such as the timing of the different crimes, the nature and extent of the violence that takes place and the reporting of crime. The GPSJS 2024/25 is comparable to the previous versions of VOCS in cases where the questions remained largely unchanged.

While the GPSJS cannot replace police statistics, it can be a rich source of information that will assist in the planning of crime prevention as well as provide a more holistic picture of crime in South Africa. The data can be used for the development of policies and strategies, as well as for crime prevention and public education programmes. Data collection is from April of the current year to March of the following year, and the reference period is the 12 months preceding the interview date. The focus of this report is to outline the experience of a type of crime at the household and individual levels, as well as individual feelings of safety.

This report has three main objectives, namely:
- To provide an overview of the level and trend of crime experienced by households and individuals in South Africa – produce estimates of the prevalence and incidence of crime.
- To explore public perceptions on issues of safety.
- To provide complementary data on the level of crime within South Africa in addition to the statistics published annually by the SAPS.

1.4 Survey scope

The target population of the survey consists of all private households in all nine provinces of South Africa and residents in workers' hostels. The survey does not cover other collective living quarters such as students' hostels, old-age homes, hospitals, prisons, and military barracks, and is therefore only representative of non-institutionalised and non-military persons or households in South Africa.

2. Basic population statistics

2.1 Distribution of individuals aged 16 years and older by selected demographic characteristics.

The GPSJS ask questions of persons aged 16 years and older who are randomly selected from participating households.

Table 1 – Number and percentage of individuals aged 16 years and older by selected demographic characteristics, 2024/25

Demographic characteristic	Number of individuals ('000)	Percentage
Sex		
Male	21 446	48,4
Female	22 892	51,6
Population		
Black African	35 487	80,0
Coloured	3 917	8,8
Indian/Asian	1 272	2,9
White	3 662	8,3
Age group		
16–34	20 019	45,2
35–49	12 107	27,3
50–64	8 176	18,4
65+	4 036	9,1
Marital status		
Married	11 284	25,5
Living together like husband and wife	4 344	9,8
Divorced	904	2,0
Separated but still legally married	266	0,6
Widowed	2 789	6,3
Single	24 749	55,8
Highest level of education		
No schooling	1 183	2,7
Some primary	2 646	6,1
Completed primary	1 565	3,6
Some secondary	16 683	38,4
Completed secondary	15 125	34,8
Post school	6 269	14,4
Province		
Western Cape	5 524	12,5
Eastern Cape	4 283	9,7
Northern Cape	918	2,1
Free State	2 146	4,8
KwaZulu-Natal	8 221	18,5
North West	3 017	6,8
Gauteng	12 847	29,0
Mpumalanga	3 396	7,7
Limpopo	3 985	9,0
Metro status		
Metro	20 609	46,5
Non-metro	23 728	53,5

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 1 shows the number and percentage distribution of the population aged 16 years and older by selected demographic characteristics in the 2024/25 period. The distribution of the population aged 16 years and older by sex shows that 51,6% were female, and 48,4% were male. The table also shows that four in five (80,0%) of the population aged 16 and older is black African, while coloureds (8,8%) and whites (8,3%) are almost of the same proportion, and the Indian/Asian population is 2,9% of the total population aged 16 years and older.

2.2 Distribution of households by selected household characteristics

Table 2 – Distribution of households by selected head of household characteristics, 2024/25

Demographic characteristic	Number of households ('000)	Percentage
Sex		
Male	11 318	57,2
Female	8 471	42,8
Population		
Black African	16 397	82,9
Coloured	1 349	6,8
Indian/Asian	470	2,4
White	1 573	7,9
Age group		
15–34	4 712	23,8
35–49	7 554	38,2
50–64	4 679	23,6
65+	2 843	14,4
Marital status		
Married	5 863	29,6
Living together like husband and wife	2 267	11,5
Separated but still legally married	690	3,5
Divorced	217	1,1
Widowed	2 359	11,9
Single	8 382	42,4
Highest level of education		
No schooling	801	4,2
Some primary	1 710	8,9
Completed primary	817	4,2
Some secondary	6 667	34,6
Completed secondary	6 017	31,2
Post school	3 243	16,8
Province		
Western Cape	2 177	11,0
Eastern Cape	1 791	9,0
Northern Cape	383	1,9
Free State	1 045	5,3
KwaZulu-Natal	3 478	17,6
North West	1 443	7,3
Gauteng	6 084	30,7
Mpumalanga	1 558	7,9
Limpopo	1 830	9,2
Metro status		
Metro	9 209	46,5
Non-metro	10 579	53,5

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 2 shows the number and percentage distribution of the households by selected head of the household characteristics. The table shows that most (57,2%) households were male-headed. It further shows that non-metro areas accounted for most households (53,5%).

Gauteng had the largest proportion of the households (30,7%), followed by KwaZulu-Natal (17,6%), Western Cape (11,0%) and Limpopo (9,2%). Northern Cape and Free State had the smallest proportion of households amongst all the provinces at 1,9% and 5,3% respectively.

3. Crime levels in South Africa

3.1 Trends for household crimes

The section presents trends of household crimes for the period 2020/21 to 2024/25. The data used to calculate these estimates comes from the question, "Have you or your household experienced (type of crime) during the past five years". The reference period is five years.

Table 3 – Number and percentage of households that experienced a specific type of crime in the five years preceding the survey, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	Statistics (Numbers in '000)	Year				
		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Housebreaking/burglary	Number	1 935	2 199	2 338	2 609	2 605
	Percent	10,9	12,0	12,5	13,5	13,2
Home robbery	Number	312	394	465	459	514
	Percent	1,8	2,2	2,5	2,4	2,6
Assault	Number	125	213	219	257	268
	Percent	0,7	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,4
Theft of motor vehicle	Number	212	163	209	222	216
	Percent	1,2	0,9	1,1	1,2	1,1
Deliberate damaging of dwellings	Number	**	**	152	219	195
	Percent	**	**	0,8	1,1	1,0
Murder	Number	43	40	57	67	59
	Percent	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,3
Sexual offence	Number	25	32	49	47	73
	Percent	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,2	0,4
Theft of livestock/ poultry and other animals	Number	**	**	**	**	316
	Percent	**	**	**	**	1,6

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the specified collection period.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 3 shows that housebreaking/burglary has consistently been the most common crime experienced by households in South Africa. The number of households that experienced this crime increased from 10,9% in 2020/21 to 13,5% in 2023/24, then slightly declined to 13,2% in 2024/25. The second most common crime experienced by households in the five years prior to the survey is home robbery. Over the years, home robbery has increased from 1,8% in 2020/21 to 2,2% in 2022/23, slightly declined to 2,4% in 2023/24, then increased to 2,6% in 2024/25.

The trends will be analysed with the assistance of the charts below. The 95% confidence intervals will be used to determine whether the changes over time were statistically significant or otherwise.

Figure 1 – Trends in housebreaking/burglary, 2020/21–2024/25
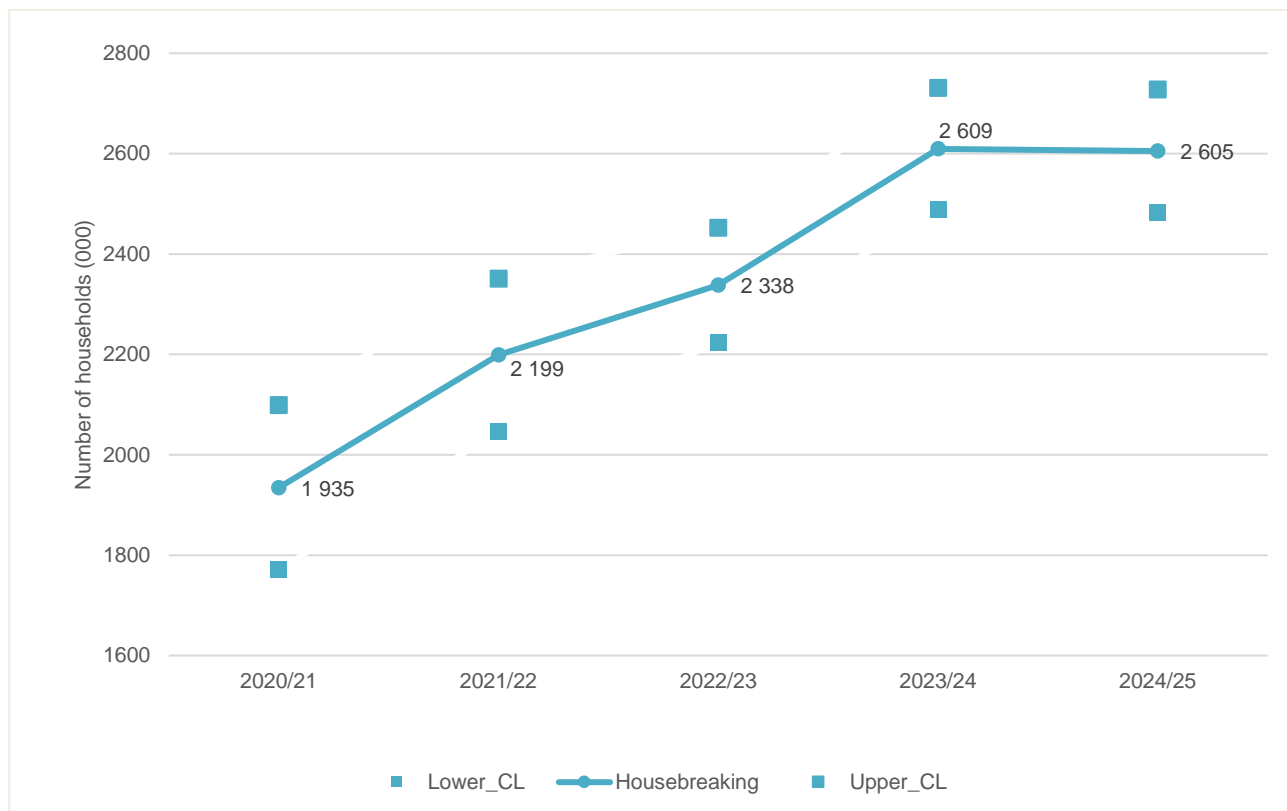
Figure 1 shows housebreaking/burglary steadily increased from 1 935 000 in 2020/21 to 2 609 000 in 2023/24. It then slightly decreased to 2 605 000 in 2024/25. The decrease was not statistically significant.

Figure 2 – Trends in home robbery, 2020/21–2024/25
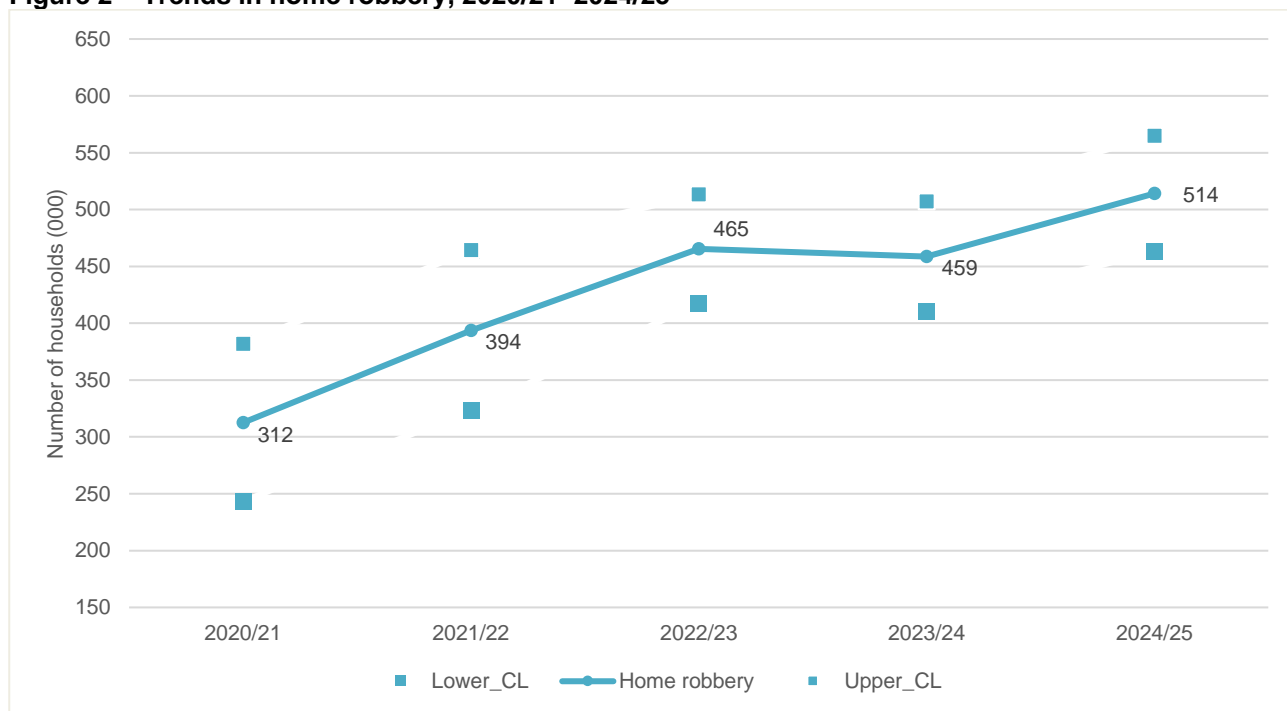
Figure 2 shows an increase in the experience of home robberies between 2020/21 to 2022/23. The increase between the survey periods was not statistically significant. There was a slight decrease between 2022/23 and 2023/24. However, there is an increase between 2023/24 and 2024/25. The increase is not statistically significant.

Figure 3 – Trends in theft of a motor vehicle, 2020/21–2024/25
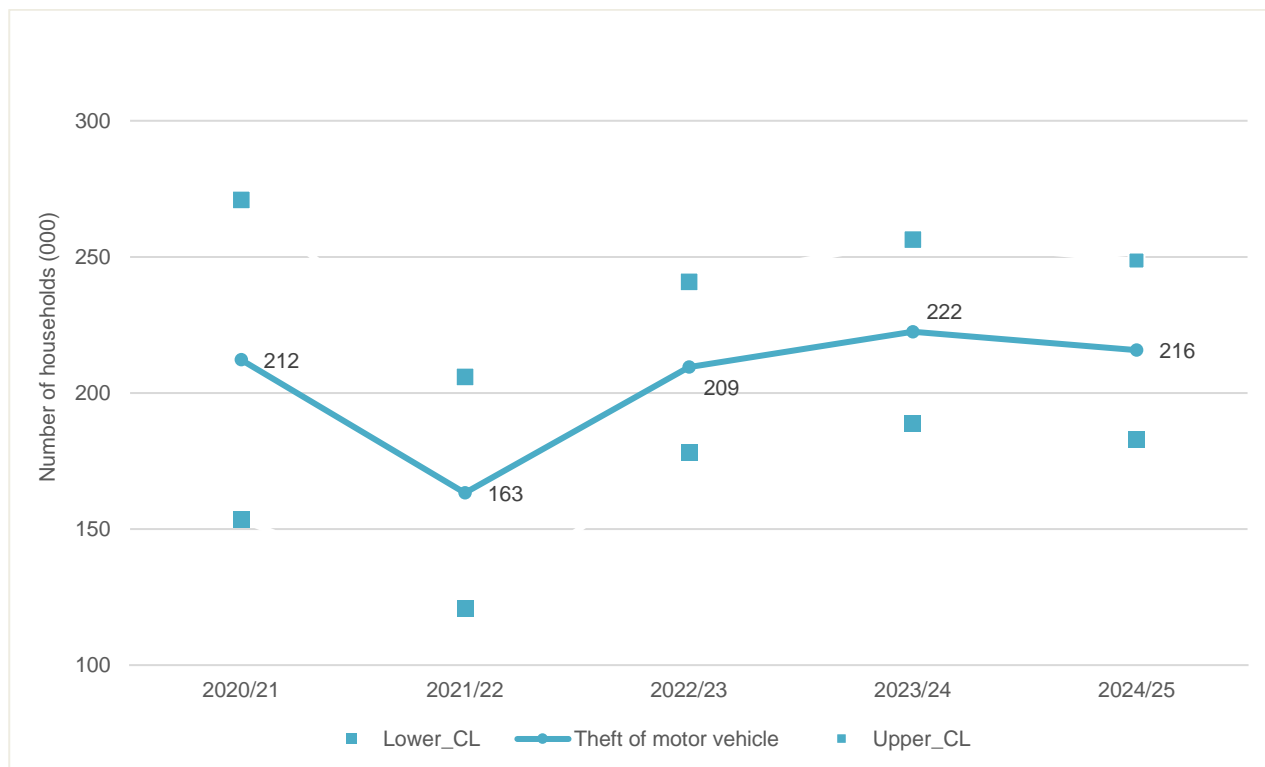
Figure 3 shows a decrease in the experience of theft of motor vehicle between 2020/21 and 2021/22, which then increased in 2022/23 and further increased in 2023/24, then decreased slightly in 2024/25. The decrease observed between 2023/24 and 2024/25 is not statistically significant.

Figure 4 – Trends in assault, 2020/21–2024/25
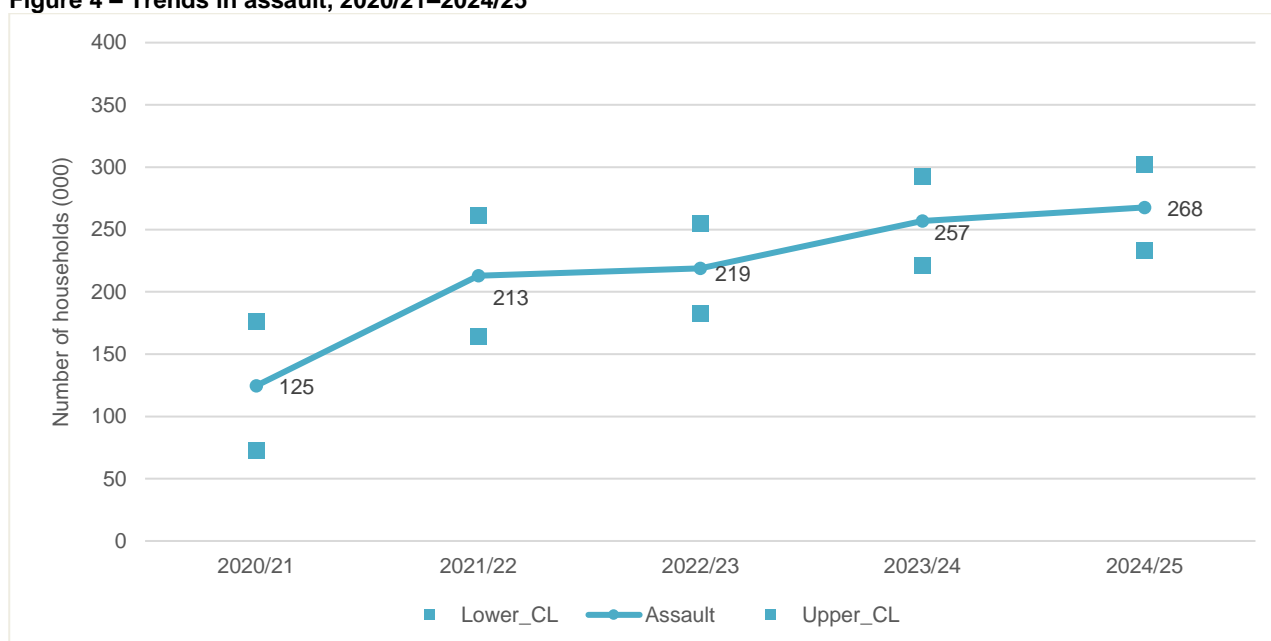
Figure 4 shows the trends in assault between 2020/21 and 2024/25. The figure shows that the households that experienced assault have been increasing over the years. The number increased from 2020/21 (125 000) to 2024/25 (268 000). There is a statistically significant increase between 2020/21 (125 000) and 2021/22 (213 000); the increase between 2023/24 and 2024/25 is not statistically significant.

Figure 5 – Trends in murder, 2020/21–2024/25
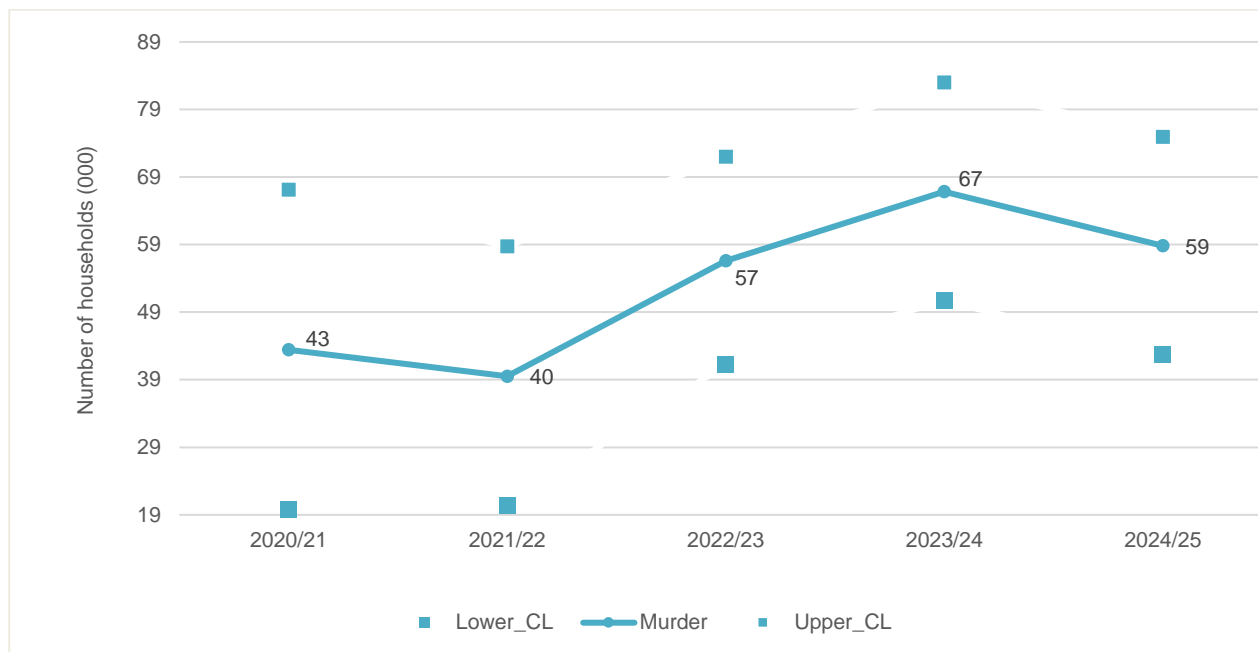
Figure 5 shows the trends in murder decreased between 2020/21 and 2021/22 before steadily increasing until 2023/24. There is a decrease observed between 2023/24 and 2024/25, which is not statistically significant.

Figure 6 – Trends in sexual offences, 2020/21–2024/25
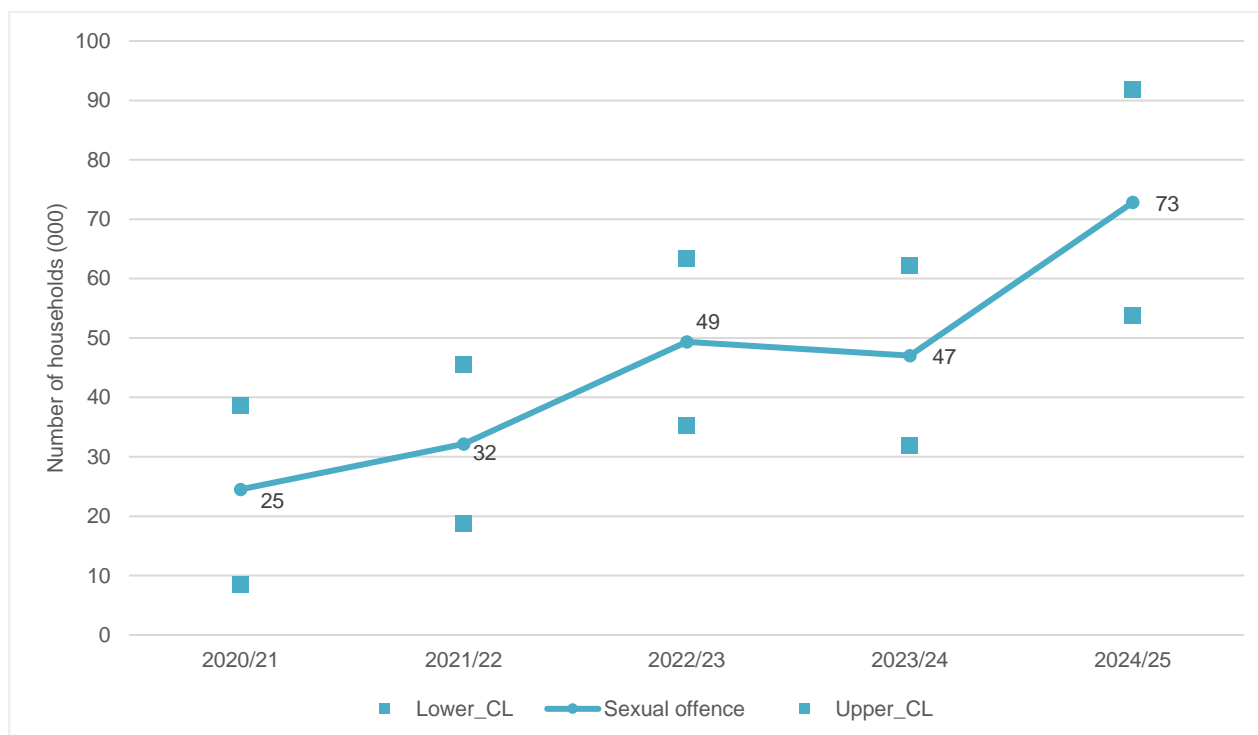
Figure 6 shows that trends in sexual offences increased between 2020/21 (25 000) and 2022/23 (49 000) before declining to 47 000 in 2023/24. There is an increase between 2023/24 (47 000) and 2024/25 (73 000). However, the confidence intervals show an overlap in all three periods, meaning the difference is not statistically significant in the three periods.

Figure 7 – Trends in deliberate damaging/burning/destruction of dwellings, 2022/23–2024/25
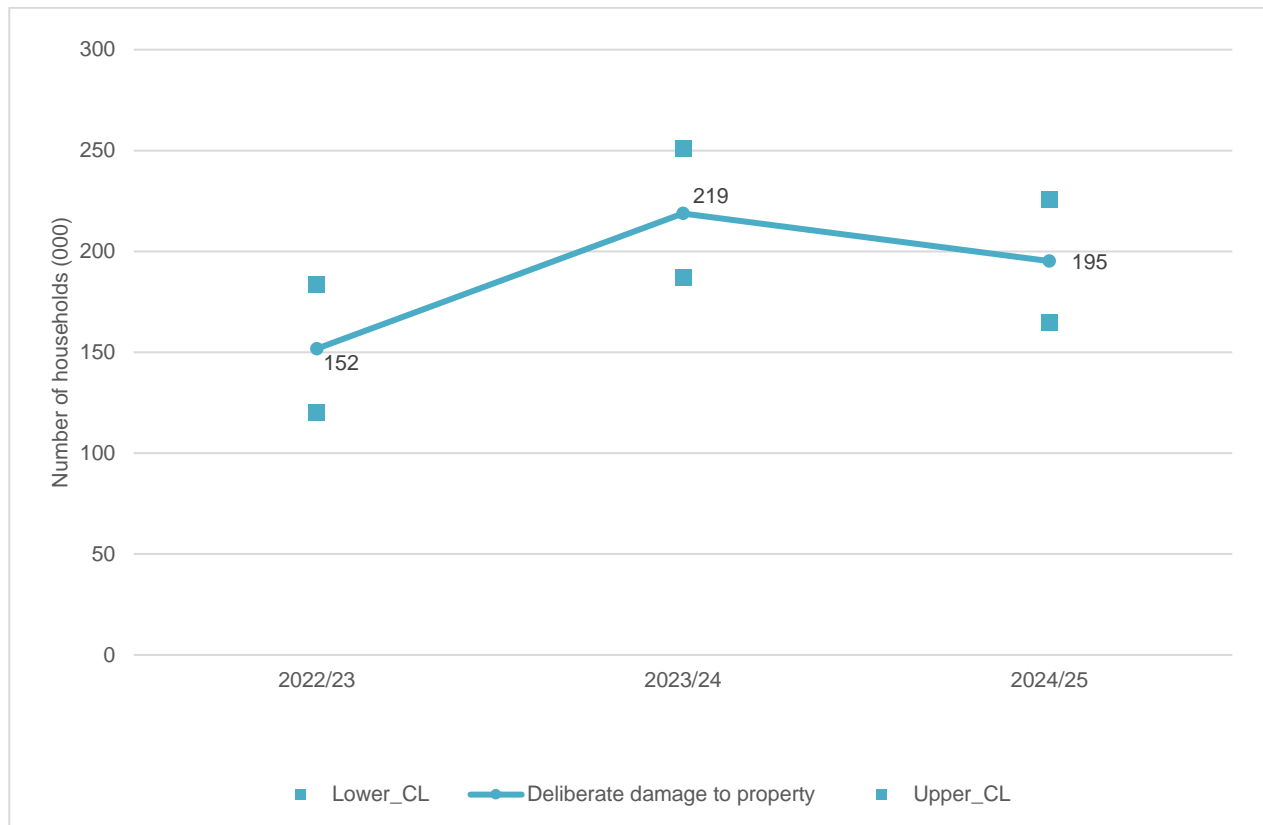
Figure 7 shows the trends in deliberate damaging of dwellings between 2022/23 and 2024/25 has been fluctuating. The figure shows that experience of deliberate damaging of dwellings increased between 2022/23 (152 000) and 2023/24 (219 000) before decreasing in 2024/25 (195 000). The decrease between 2023/24 and 2024/25 was not statistically significant.

3.2 Trends for individual crimes

This section focuses on crimes committed against randomly selected members of households who were 16 years or older during the survey. The GPSJS does not capture the type of crimes committed against children under 16 because they require special resources to comply with regulations concerning child welfare. Trends for seven crimes against individuals are reported in Table 4, between the GPSJS of 2020/21 to 2024/25.

Table 4 – Number and percentage of individuals that experienced a specific type of crime five years preceding the survey, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	Statistics (Number '000)	Year				
		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Theft of personal property	Number	2 070	2 919	2 790	2 785	3 129
	Percent	5,0	7,0	6,5	6,4	7,1
Street robbery	Number	832	799	1 019	1 093	1 120
	Percent	2,0	1,9	2,4	2,5	2,5
Consumer fraud	Number	583	1 017	639	739	1 019
	Percent	1,4	2,4	1,5	1,7	2,3
Assault, excluding sexual assault	Number	**	**	515	650	736
	Percent	**	**	1,2	1,5	1,7
Psychological violence	Number	**	**	379	491	582
	Percent	**	**	0,9	1,1	1,3
Hijacking	Number	151	330	280	287	340
	Percent	0,4	0,8	0,7	0,7	0,8
Sexual offences	Number	**	**	112	116	132
	Percent	**	**	0,3	0,3	0,3

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the specified collection period.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 4 shows that theft of personal property remains the most common crime experienced by individuals in South Africa, with variations throughout the years. The individuals who experienced this crime increased from 2,1 million in 2020/21 to 2,9 million in 2021/22. Theft of personal property decreased to 2,8 million in 2022/23, and a slight decrease was observed between 2022/23 and 2023/24. In 2024/25, there was an increase from 2,8 million in 2023/24 to 3,1 million. The second most common crime experienced by individuals during the five-year period is street robbery. Street robbery decreased from 832 000 in 2020/21 to 799 000 in 2021/22, then there was an increase observed from 2021/22 to 2023/24 and relatively similar from 2023/24 to 2024/25. Hijacking has increased slightly from 287 000 in 2023/24 to 340 000 in 2024/25.

Psychological violence was measured for the first time in the GPSJS 2022/23. A total of 379 000 individuals experienced psychological violence in 2022/23, this increased to 491 000 in 2023/24 and further increased to 582 000 in 2024/25.

The trends will be analysed with the assistance of the charts below. The 95% confidence intervals will be used to determine whether the changes over time were statistically significant or otherwise.

Figure 8 – Trends in theft of personal property, 2020/21–2024/25
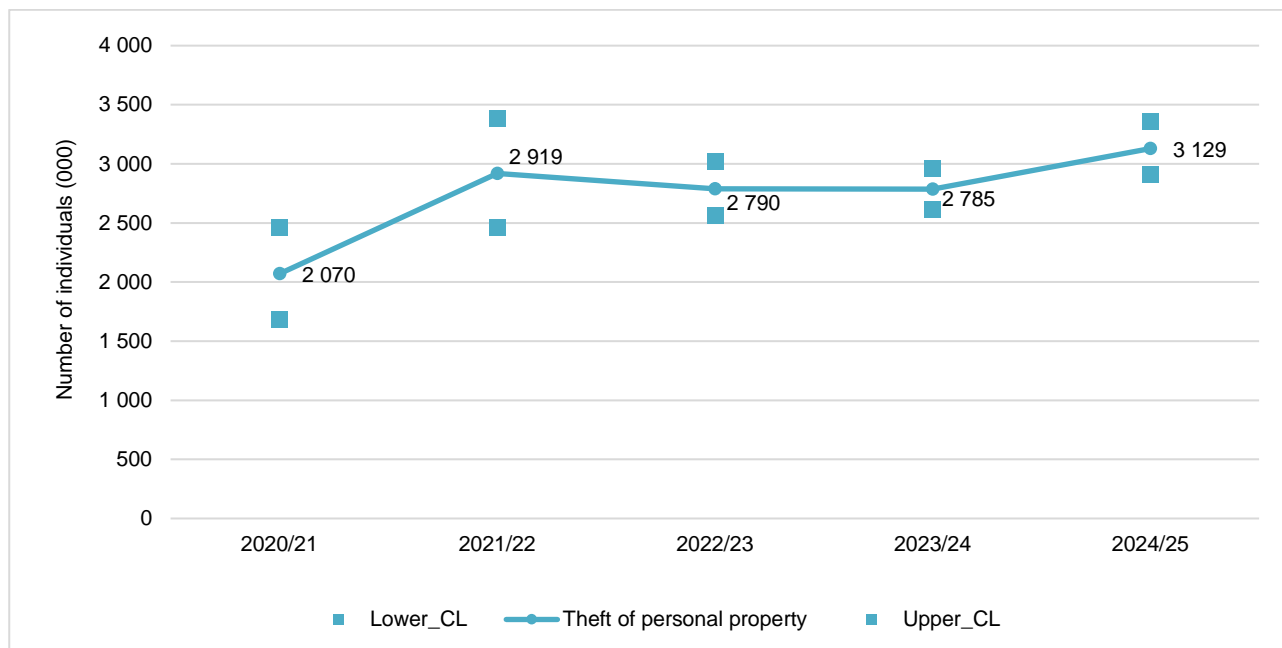
Figure 8 shows that theft of personal property increased from 2,1 million in 2020/21 to 2,9 million in 2021/22. There was a decrease in theft of personal property between 2021/22 (2,9 million) and 2023/24 (2,8 million); the decrease between 2022/23 and 2023/24 was not statistically significant. There was an increase from 2,8 million in 2023/24 to 3,1 million in 2024/25; this increase was not statistically significant.

Figure 9 – Trends in street robbery, 2020/21–2024/25
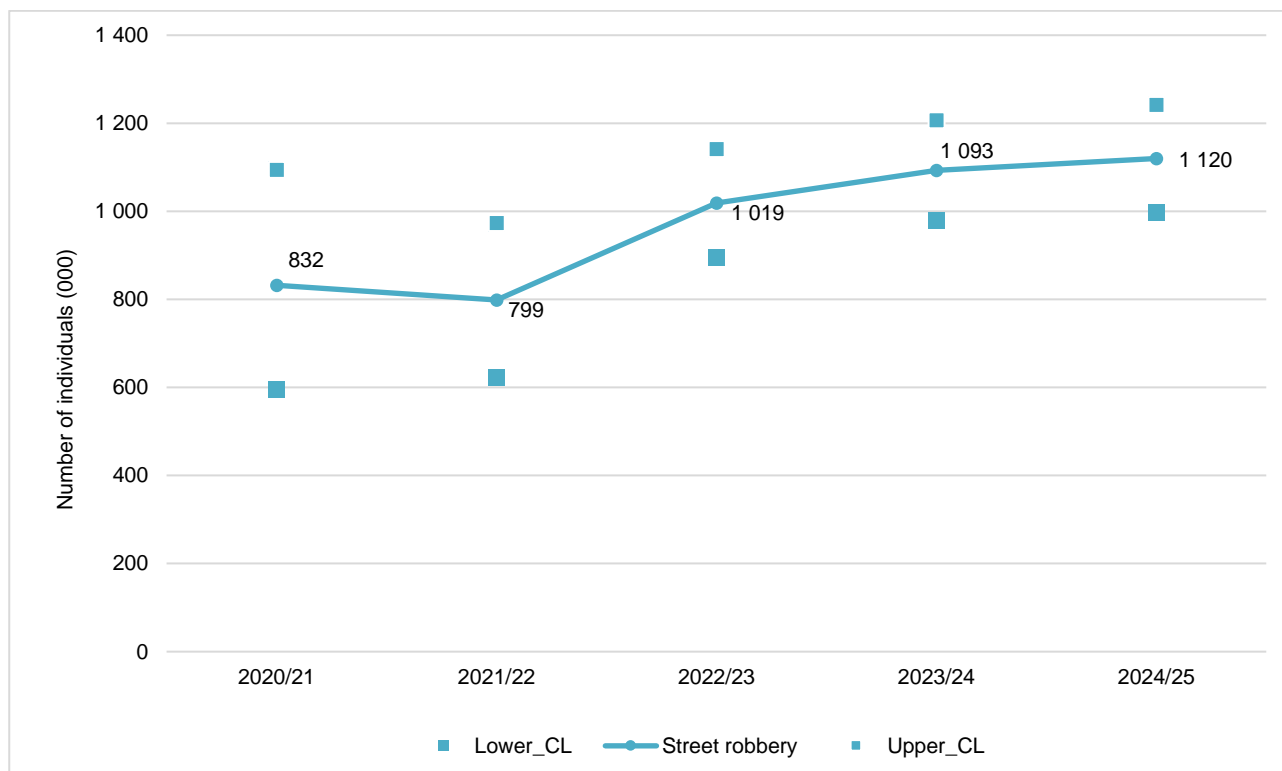
Figure 9 shows that there was a decline in street robbery between 2020/21 (832 000) and 2021/22 (799 000). The figure shows a sharp increase between 2021/22 and 2023/24, and a further increase in 2024/25 (1,1 million) is observed. The increase is not statistically significant.

Figure 10 – Trends in consumer fraud, 2020/21–2024/25
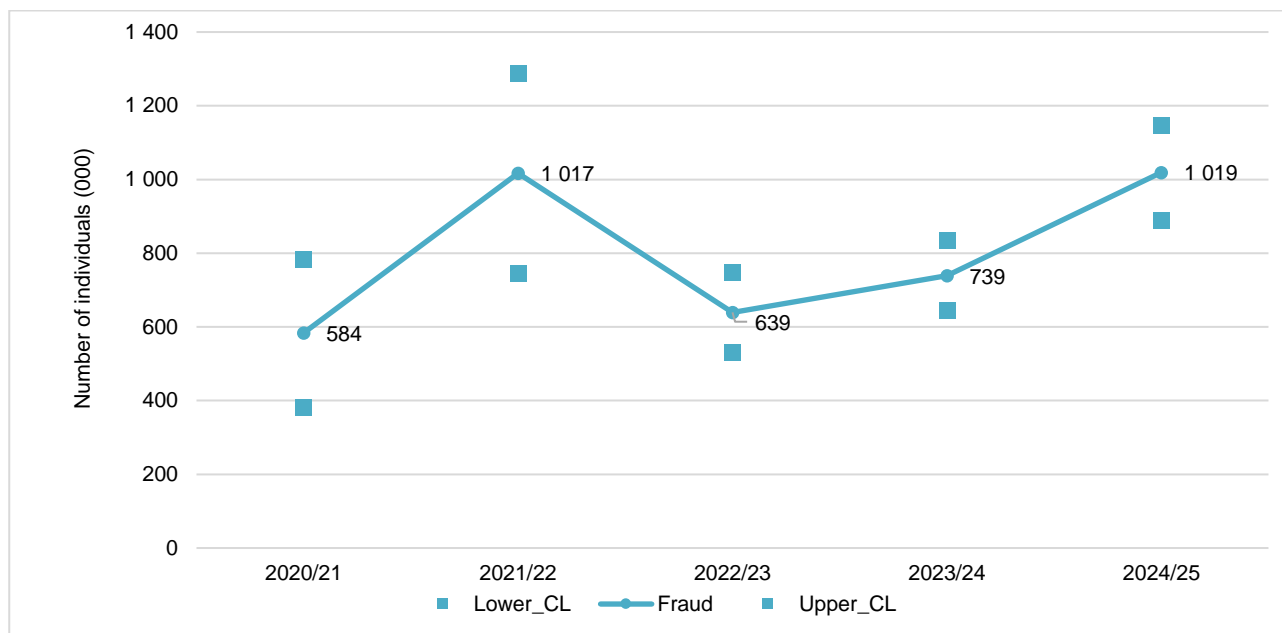
Figure 10 shows a fluctuating trend in the number of victims of consumer fraud in the five-year period between 2020/21 and 2024/25. The number of victims of consumer fraud increased between 2020/21 (584 000) and 2021/22 (1,0 million); this increase was statistically significant. A sharp decrease was observed in the experience of consumer fraud between 2021/22 (1,0 million) and 2022/23 (639 000). In 2023/24, there was an increase in the number of consumer fraud victims at 739 000, and a further increase was observed in 2024/25; this increase was statistically significant.

Figure 11 – Trends in assault, 2022/23–2024/25
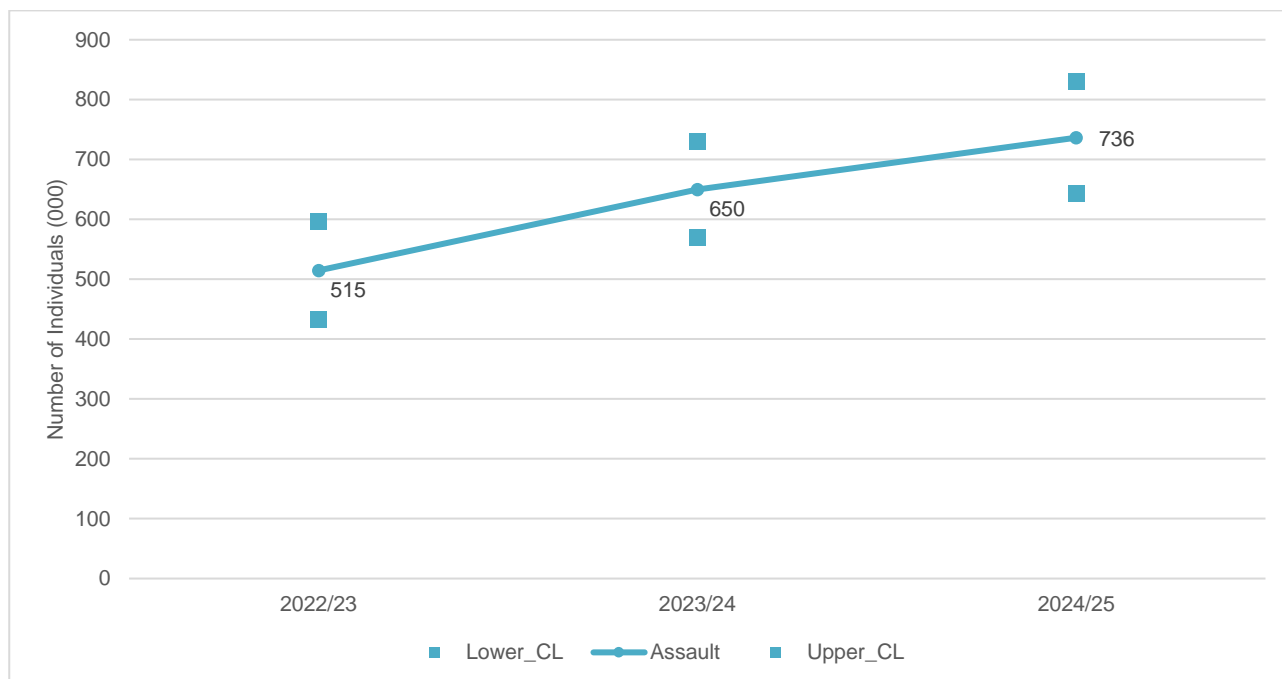
Figure 11 shows trends in the experience of assault for individuals aged 16 and older from 2022/23 to 2024/25. The figure shows that experience of assault slightly increased from 515 000 in 2022/23 to 650 000 in 2023/24, it then further increased to 736 000 in 2024/25. The increase in 2024/25 is not statistically significant.

Figure 12 – Trends in hijacking, 2020/21–2024/25
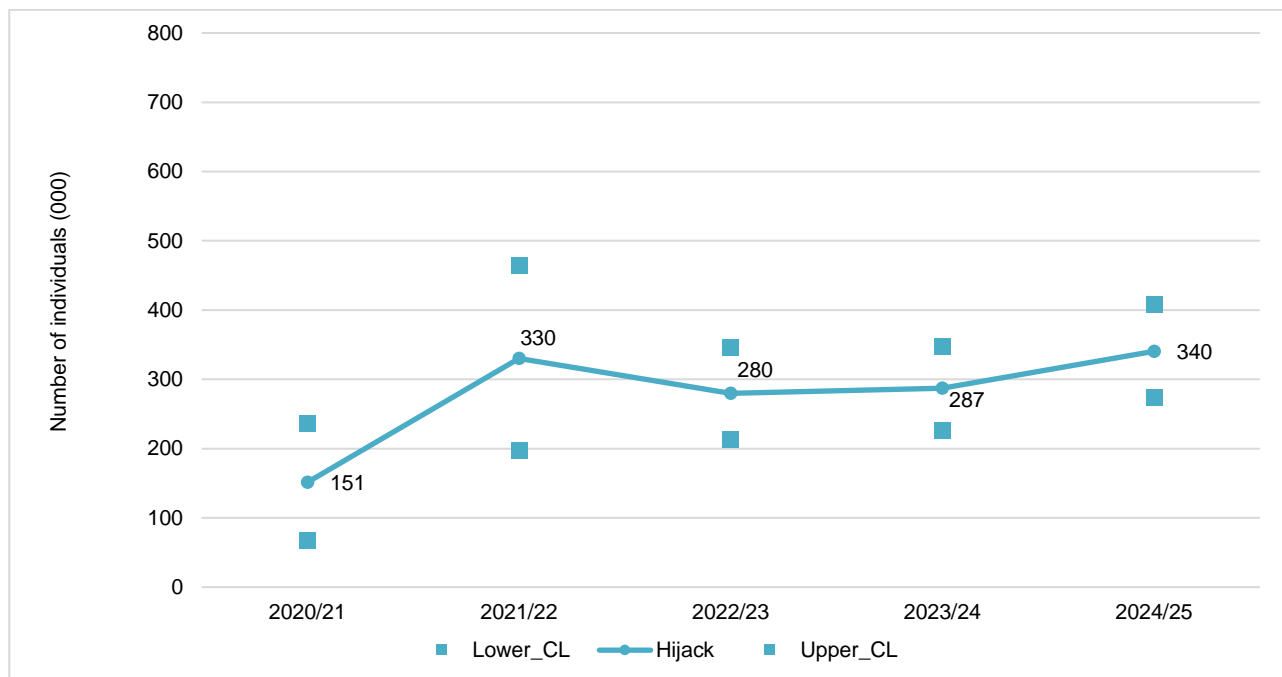
Figure 12 shows that the number of victims of hijacking sharply increased between 2020/21 (151 000) and 2021/22 (330 000). The figure also shows a decrease in the number of hijackings between 2021/22 (330 000) and 2022/23 (280 000), which is not statistically significant. There was a slight increase in the number of victims of hijacking from 2022/23 (280 000) to 2023/24 (287 000), and a further increase is observed in 2024/25 (340 000). The increase in 2024/25 is not statistically significant.

Figure 13 – Trends in sexual offence, 2022/23–2024/25
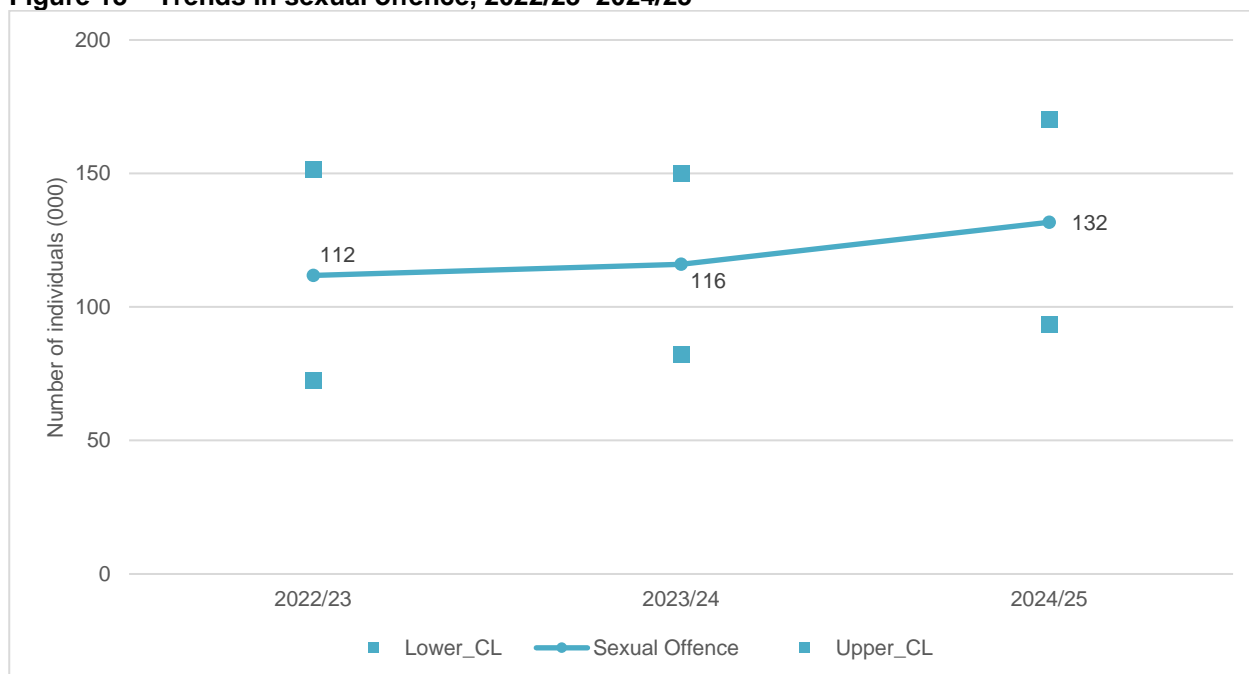
Figure 13 shows trends in sexual offence for individuals aged 16 and above from 2022/23 to 2024/25. The figure shows that experience of sexual offence slightly increased from 112 000 in 2022/23 to 116 000 in 2023/24, and a further increase is observed in 2024/25 (132 000). The increase in 2024/25 was not statistically significant.

Figure 14 – Trends in psychological violence, 2022/23–2024/25
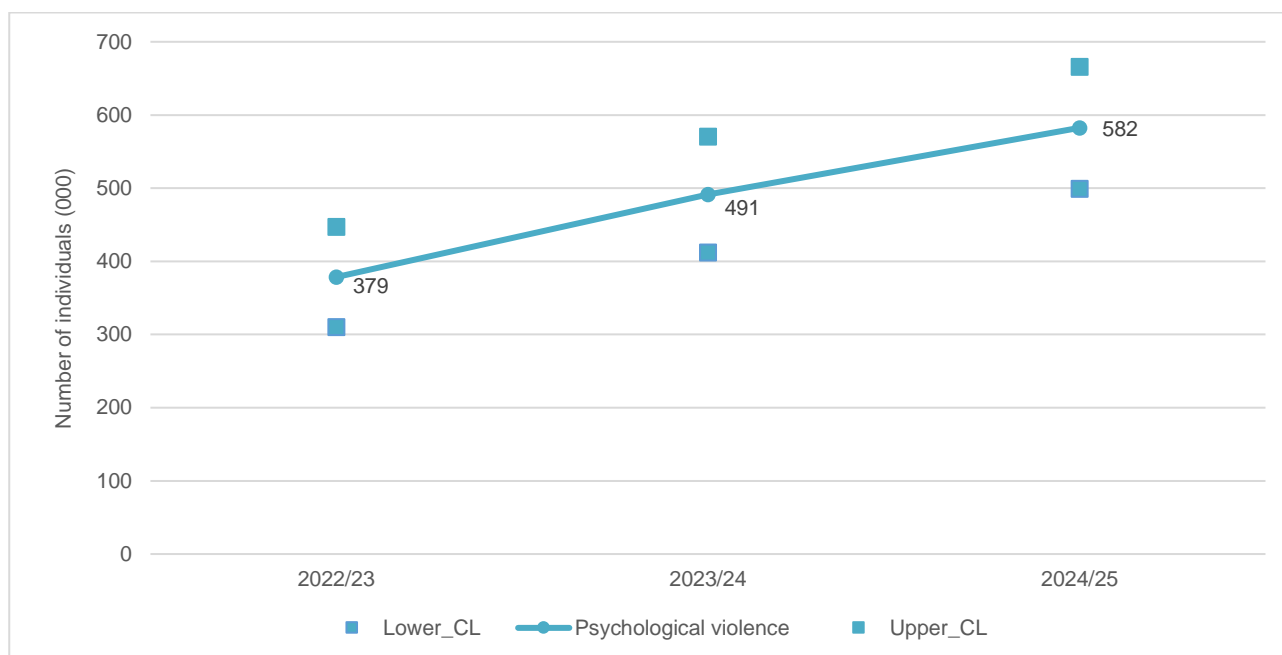
Figure 14 shows trends in psychological violence for individuals aged 16 and older from the 2022/23 period to 2024/25. The figure shows that experiences of psychological violence have been on an increasing trajectory from 379 000 in 2022/23 to 491 000 in 2023/24 and 582 000 in 2024/25. The increase in 2024/25 was statistically significant.

3.3 Summary

The experience of crime by households between the 2023/24 and 2024/25 periods shows an upward trend in five types of crime. Housebreaking/burglary has consistently been the most common crime experienced by households in South Africa. The number of households that experienced this crime constantly increased from 2020/21 to 2023/24, then slightly declined in 2024/25. The second most common crime experienced by households during the five-year period is home robbery. Home robbery has been increasing between 2020/21 (312 000) and 2022/23 (465 000). However, it slightly declined in 2023/24 (459 000) before increasing in 2024/25 (514 000).

Theft of personal property has been the most common crime experienced by individuals in South Africa. The number of individuals who experienced this crime increased from 2,1 million in 2020/21 to 2,9 million in 2021/22. Theft of personal property slightly decreased to 2,8 million in 2022/23, then remained constant in 2023/24. In 2024/25, there was an increase in theft of personal property. The second most common crime experienced by individuals during the five-year period was street robbery. Consumer fraud doubled from 2020/21 (583 000) to a million in 2021/22, before decreasing sharply to 639 000 in 2022/23, then increased slightly between 2022/23 and 2023/24 and further increased to 1,0 million in 2024/25.

4. Household experience of crime

4.1 Introduction

In this section, we focus on household crime experienced during the previous 12 months from the GPSJS 2024/25. The reference period was April 2024 to March 2025. Eight types of crime were surveyed.

4.2 Overview of household crime level

Table 5 below presents a summary of the number of households that are victims of various types of crime and the percentage of the population that the number represents. The data also represents data from year four (2024/25) of the GPSJS. The data used to calculate these estimates comes from the question, "Have you or your household experienced a specific type of crime during the past 12 months?". The reference period is 12 months.

Table 5 – Number and percentage of households that experienced a specific type of crime in the 12 months preceding the survey, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	Statistics (Number in '000)	Year				
		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Housebreaking/burglary	Number	809	983	1 078	1 134	1 123
	Percent	4,6	5,4	5,7	5,9	5,7
Home robbery	Number	112	155	195	209	213
	Percent	0,6	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,1
Assault	Number	51	99	68	129	123
	Percent	0,3	0,5	0,4	0,7	0,6
Deliberate damaging of dwellings	Number	**	**	65	113	99
	Percent	**	**	0,3	0,6	0,5
Theft of motor vehicle	Number	81	42	73	87	62
	Percent	0,5	0,2	0,4	0,5	0,3
Sexual offences	Number	*	12*	11*	22	35
	Percent	*	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,2
Murder	Number	11	20	16	22	14
	Percent	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
Theft of livestock/ poultry and other animals	Number	**	**	**	**	154
	Percent	**	**	**	**	0,8

 * Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the specified collection period.
Note: Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 5 shows approximately 1,1 million households in South Africa experienced housebreaking in the 2024/25 reference period. Approximately 213 000 households experienced home robbery, 62 000 experienced theft of a motor vehicle, and 123 000 experienced assault. Experience of housebreaking and home robbery increased between 2021/22 and 2023/24. However, the pattern changes for households that experienced assault and murder. Both assault and murder crime levels increased between 2020/21 and 2021/22, then decreased in 2022/23 and increased again in 2023/24. Theft of motor vehicle decreased in 2021/22 and increased in 2022/23 and experienced a further increase in 2023/24, before declining in 2024/25. Sexual offence levels increased between 2023/24 (22 000) and 2024/25 (35 000).

Table 6 – Victimisation rates, household crime, 2020/21–2024/25

Type of crime	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Housebreaking/burglary	4,6	5,4	5,7	5,9	5,7
Home robbery	0,6	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,1
Assault	0,3	0,5	0,4	0,7	0,6
Deliberate damaging of dwellings	**	**	0,3	0,6	0,5
Theft of motor vehicle	0,5	0,2	0,4	0,5	0,3
Sexual offence	*	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,2
Murder	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
Theft of livestock/ poultry and other animals	**	**	**	**	0,8

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the specified collection period.

Table 6 shows the victimisation rates during the past 12 months, from 2020/21 to 2024/25. Housebreaking/burglary has consistently been the most experienced crime by households. In 2024/25, 5,7% of the households in South Africa experienced housebreaking, followed by home robbery and assault. The proportion of households that experienced housebreaking/burglary had a steady increase between 2020/21 and 2023/24, from 2020/21 (4,6%), 2021/22 (5,4%), 2022/23 (5,7%) and 2023/24 (5,9%), then declined in 2024/25 (5,7%) by 0,2 percentage points. The proportion of households that experienced sexual offence and murder has stayed the same between 2021/22 and 2023/24, then sexual offence increased in 2024/25 by 0,1 percentage point while murder remained the same.

Figure 15 – Percentage distribution of type of crimes experienced by households in the 12 months preceding the survey, 2024/25
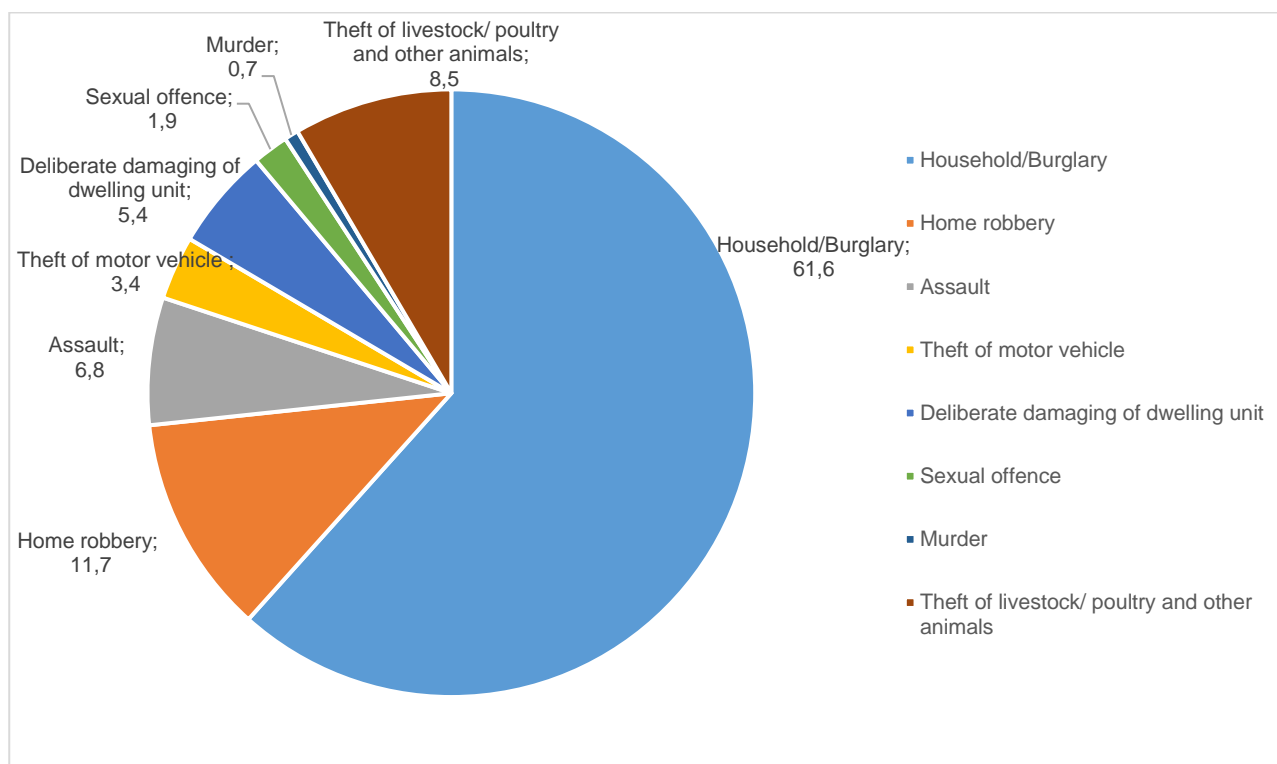
Figure 15 shows the percentage distribution of the type of crimes experienced by households. Housebreaking accounts for almost three-quarters (61,6%) of the household crimes, followed by home robbery (11,7%), theft of livestock (8,5%), assault (6,8%), deliberate damage of dwellings (5,4%), theft of motor vehicle (3,4%), sexual offences (1,9%), and murder (0,7%).

Figure 16 – Trends in housebreaking/burglary, 2020/21–2024/25
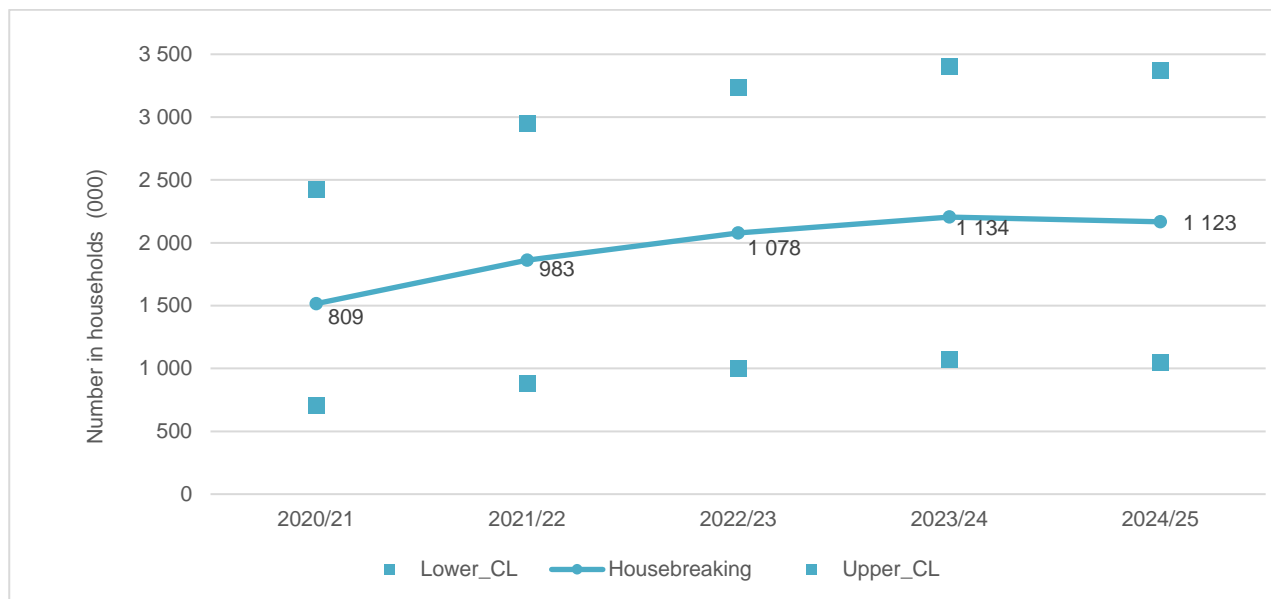
Figure 16 shows that the number of households that experienced housebreaking had steadily increased between 2020/21 (809 000) and 2023/24 (1 134 000) then decreased in 2024/25 (1 123 000). The figure shows an increase between 2020/21 and 2023/24 and then a decreased in 2024/25. The decrease was not statistically significant.

Figure 17 – Trends in home robbery, 2020/21–2024/25
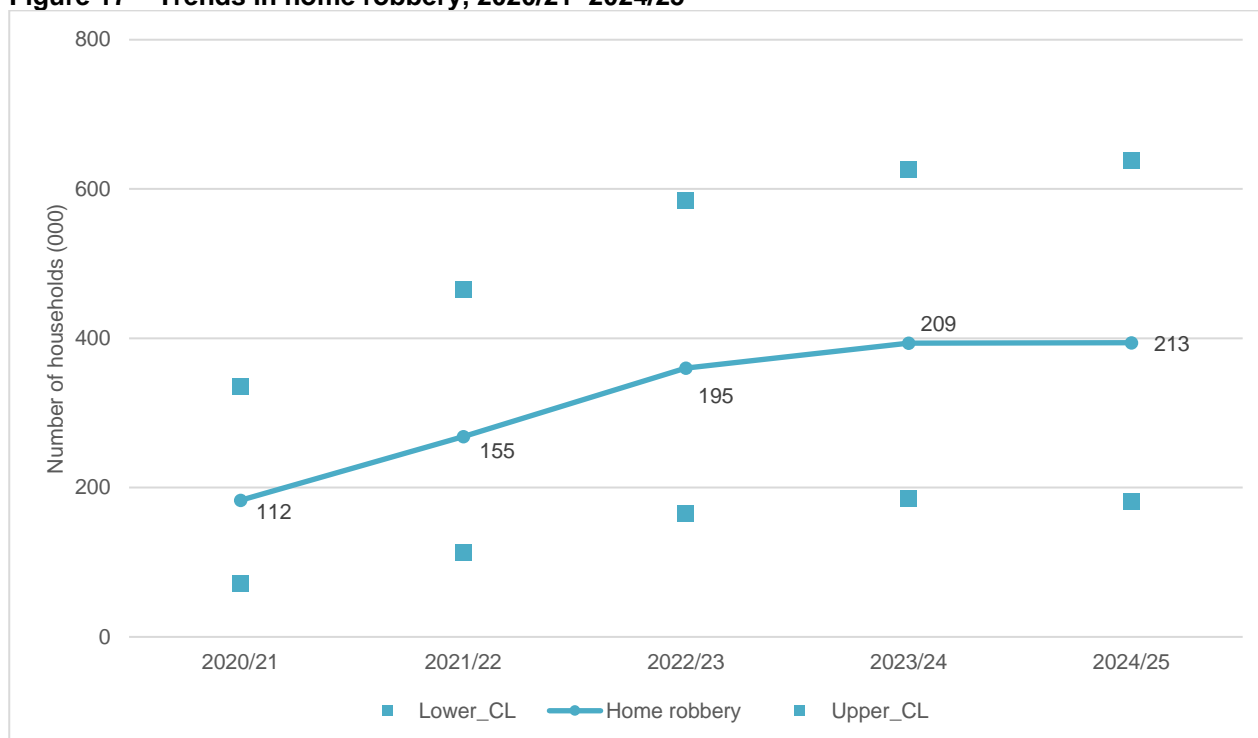
Figure 17 shows the trend in home robberies between 2020/21 and 2024/25. A steady increase was observed between 2020/21 (112 000) and 2023/24 (209 000), which is not statistically significant. However, there is a decrease between 2023/24 (209 000) and 2024/25 (213 000). The increase is not statistically significant.

Figure 18 – Trends in theft of motor vehicle, 2020/21–2024/25
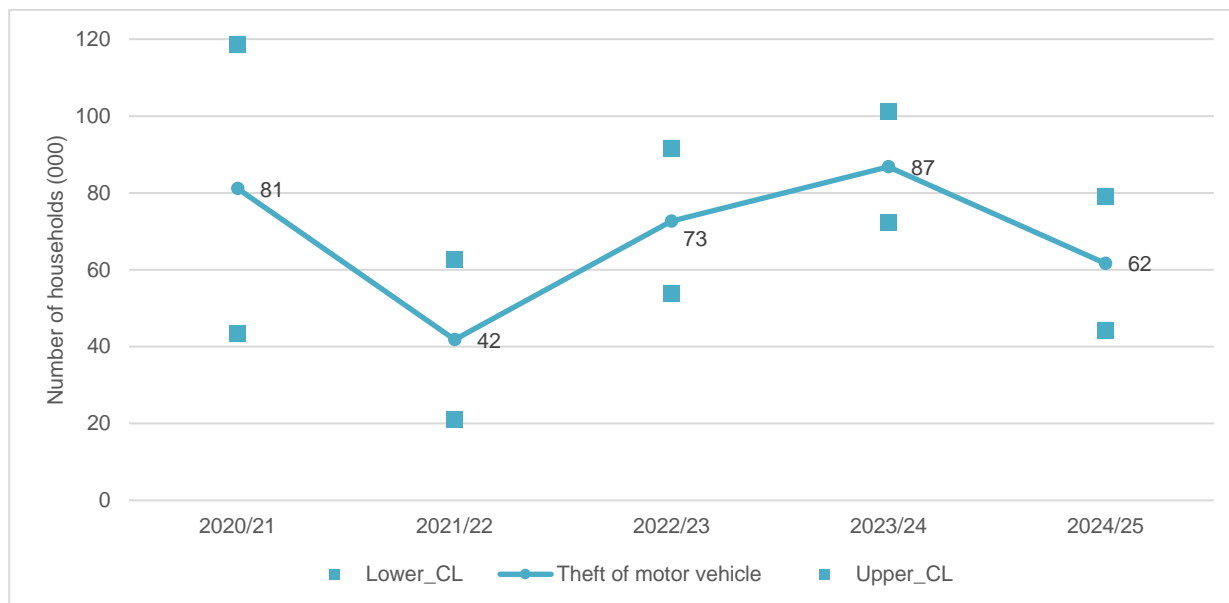
Figure 18 shows there was a sharp decrease in theft of motor vehicle between 2020/21 (81 000) to 2021/22 (42 000), before a sharp increase from 2021/22 (42 000) to 2022/23 (73 000) and further increase to 2023/24 (87 000). The increase between 2021/22 and 2023/24 was statistically significant. The figure further shows there was a decrease in theft of motor vehicle between 2023/24 and 2024/25. The decrease is statistically significant.

Figure 19 – Trends in murder, 2020/21–2024/25
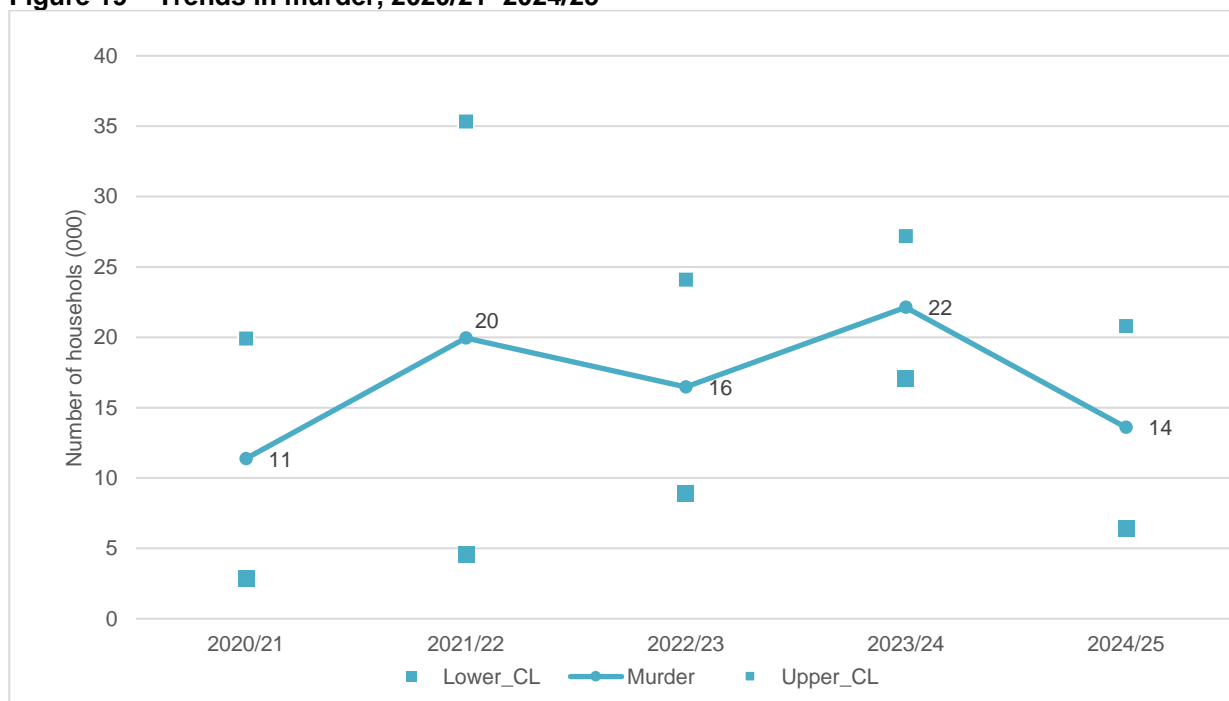
Figure 19 shows that there was a fluctuation in the number of households that experienced murder throughout the five years. There was an increase between 2020/21 and 2021/22. The increase is not statistically significant. Furthermore, there was a decrease between 2021/22 and 2022/23 before an increase again in 2023/24 and a decrease in 2024/25. The decrease between 2023/24 and 2024/25 is not statistically significant.

Figure 20 – Trends in sexual offence, 2020/21–2024/25
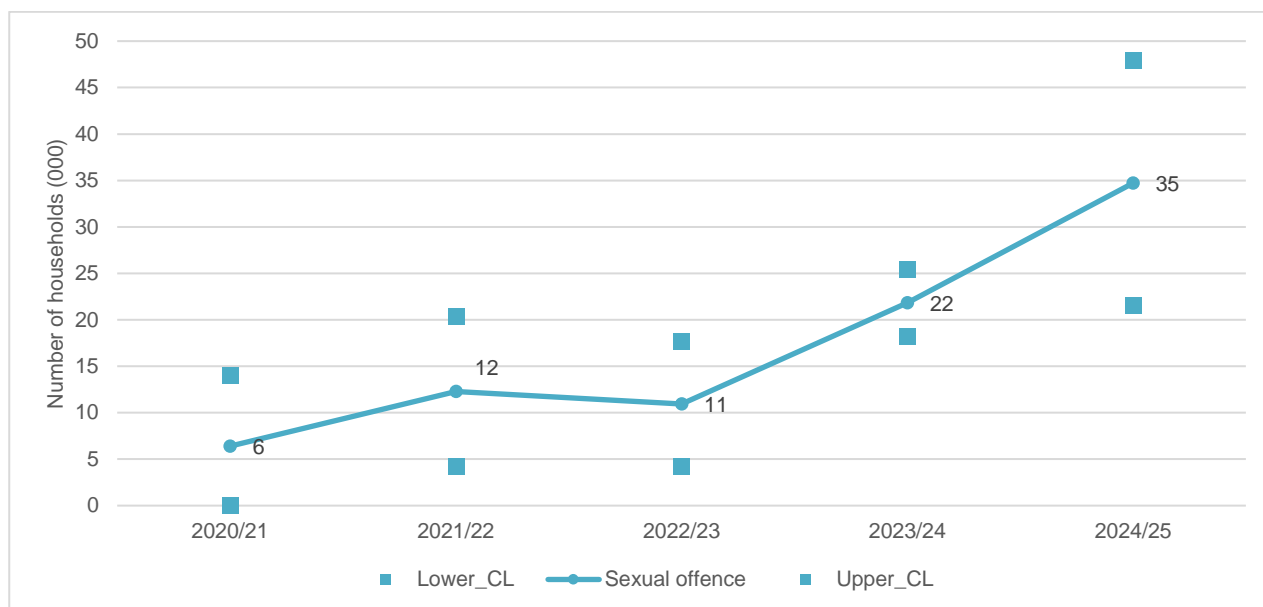
Figure 20 shows that there was a fluctuation in the number of households that experienced sexual offence for a three-year period. The figure shows an increase in the experience of sexual offences between 2020/21 (6 000) and 2021/22 (12 000) then slightly decreased in 2022/23 (11 000). The experience of sexual offences increased in 2023/24 (22 000) then further increased in 2024/25 (35 000). The increase is not statistically significant.

Figure 21 – Trends in assault, 2020/21–2024/25
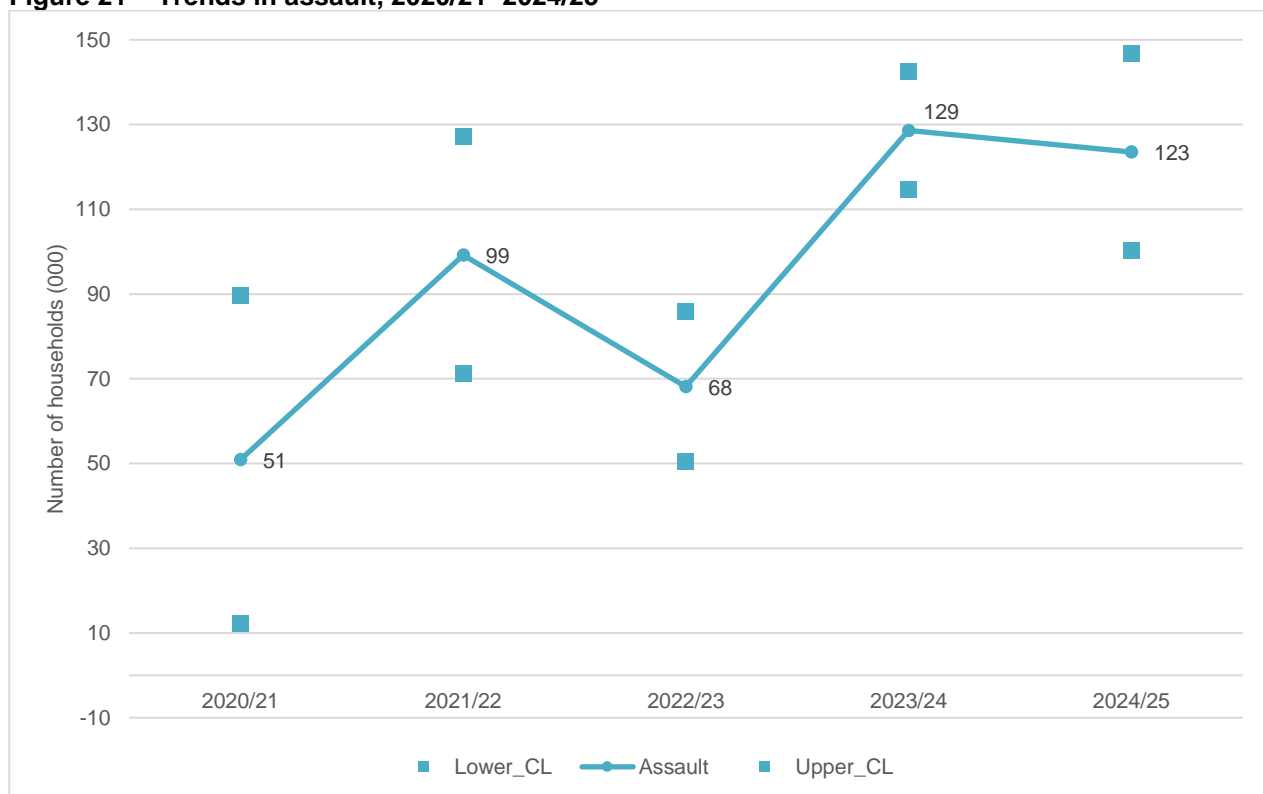
Figure 21 shows that assaults increased sharply between 2020/21 (51 000) and 2021/22 (99 000); the increase is statistically significant. However, there was a decline between 2021/22 (99 000) and 2022/23 (68 000). The decrease between 2023/24 and 2024/25 is not statistically significant.

4.3 Profile of selected household crime types

4.3.1 Housebreaking or burglary

Respondents were asked whether they experienced housebreaking during the past 12 months, how many times these occurred, during which months, and whether they reported any incidences to the police.

Table 7 – Number and percentage of households that experienced housebreaking by demographic characteristics of head of household, settlement type and province, 2024/25

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of households ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	930	708	6,3
Female	563	415	4,9
Population			
Black African	1 139	890	5,4
Coloured	123	84	6,2
Indian/Asian	61	48	10,3
White	169	100	6,4
Age group			
15–34	291	239	5,1
35–49	590	446	5,9
50–64	408	296	6,3
65+	204	142	5,0
Marital status			
Married	471	350	6,0
Living together like husband and wife	148	115	5,1
Separated but still legally married	87	56	8,0
Divorced	20	17	7,8
Widowed	159	111	4,7
Single	608	474	5,7
Highest level of education			
No schooling	35	27	3,4
Some primary	99	82	4,8
Completed primary	49	40	4,9
Some secondary	470	356	5,3
Completed secondary	474	366	6,1
Post school	337	224	6,9
Province			
Western Cape	162	123	5,7
Eastern Cape	174	122	6,8
Northern Cape	52	24	6,4
Free State	33	28	2,7
KwaZulu-Natal	349	266	7,6
North West	144	92	6,4
Gauteng	370	296	4,9
Mpumalanga	123	93	6,0
Limpopo	86	78	4,3
Metro status			
Metro	649	520	5,6
Non-metro	844	603	5,7

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 7 shows that male-headed households were more likely to experience housebreaking than female-headed households (6,3% vs 4,9%). Households in KwaZulu-Natal were more likely to experience housebreaking (7,6%), followed by Eastern Cape (6,8%), and the province least likely to experience housebreaking is Free State (2,7%). Households in non-metro areas were more likely to experience housebreaking than those in metro areas (5,7% vs 5,6%).

Figure 22 – Number of households that experienced housebreaking by month, 2020/21–2024/25

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020/21	36	74	66	61	68	110	98	143	89	67	58	65
2021/22	90	115	124	119	80	147	109	103	105	66	75	146
2022/23	88	92	97	120	126	191	154	99	84	89	111	152
2023/24	88	101	111	102	105	162	110	93	132	101	116	120
2024/25	105	91	115	126	128	164	93	108	106	96	110	126
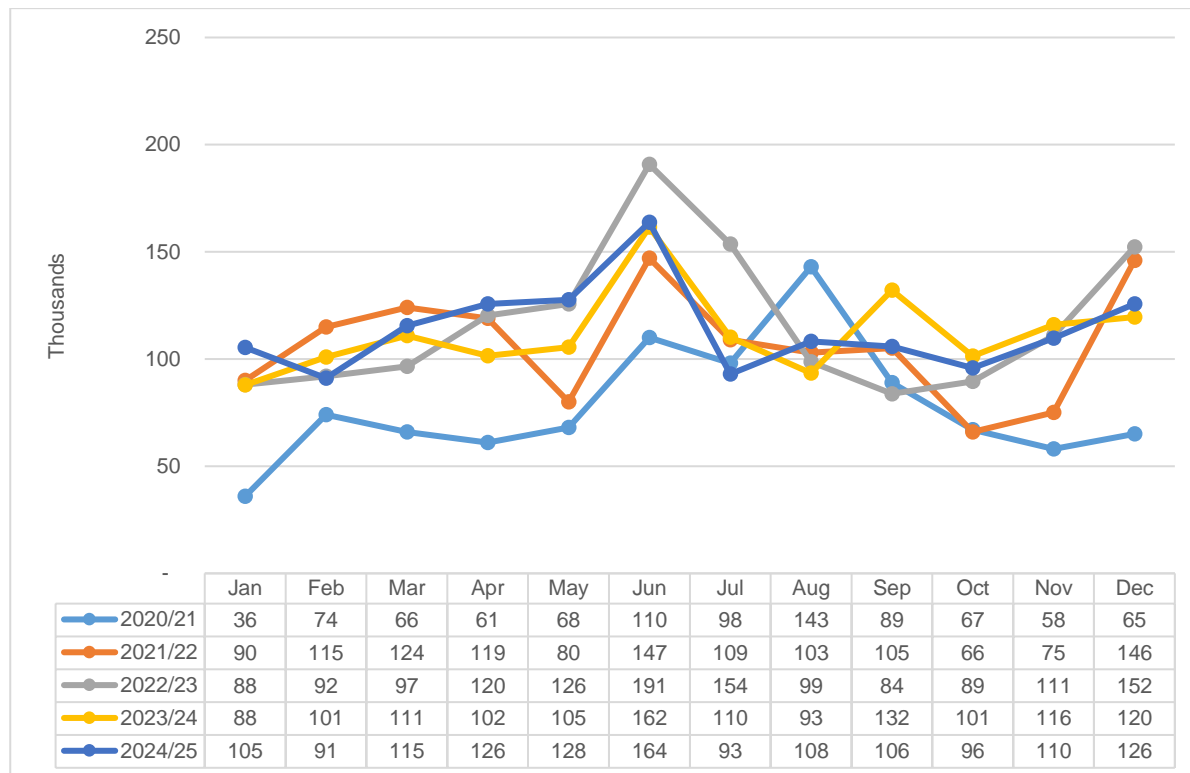
Figure 22 shows that the highest number of housebreaking incidences occurred in June (164 000), May (128 000) and December and April (126 000) in 2024/25. The trend is similar in all periods, where June is the modal month for incidences of housebreaking, except for 2020/21.

Figure 23 – Percentage of households that reported housebreaking to the police, 2020/21–2024/25

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Reported no incidences	43,9	40,8	48,6	55,9	56,6
Reported some incidences	1,9	8,2	9,5	2,2	3,3
Reported all incidences	54,2	51,0	41,9	41,9	40,1
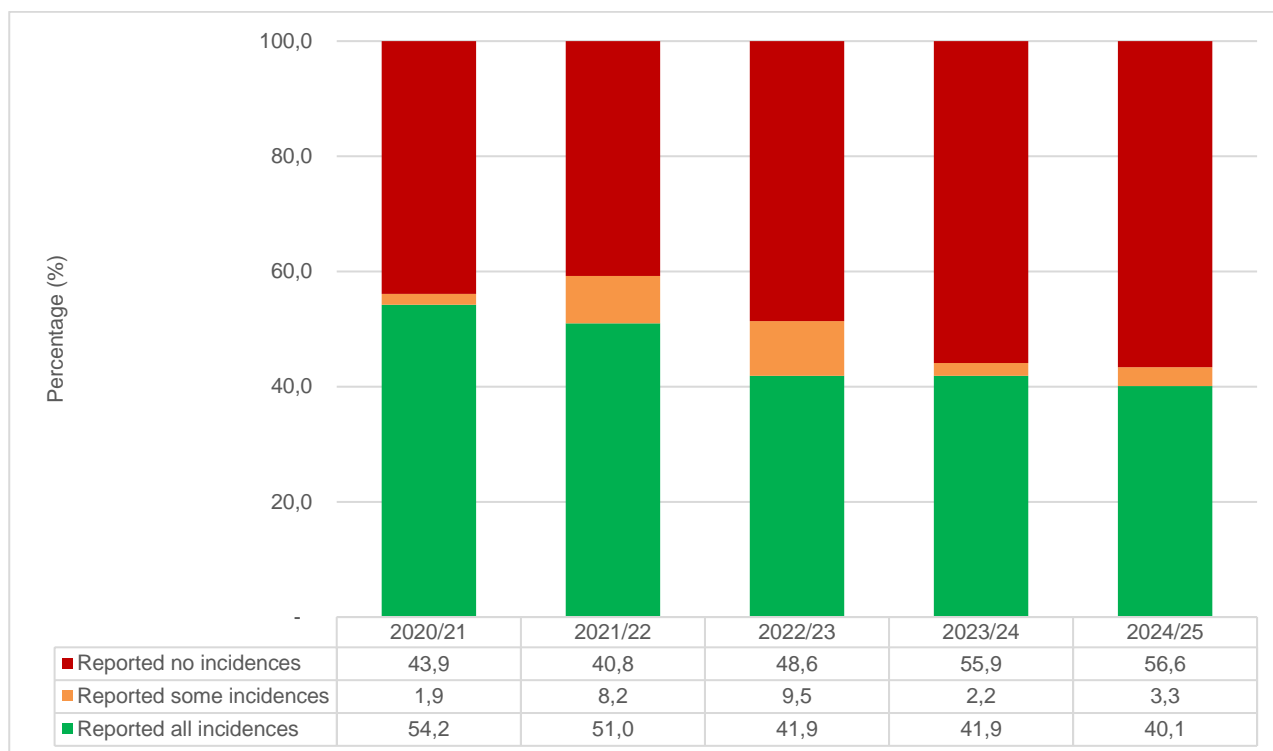
Figure 23 shows that in 2024/25, more than half of the households (56,6%) did not report any incidence to the police, about 40,1% reported all incidences to the police and only 3,3% reported some incidents to the police. The proportion of households that did not report any crime to the police increased.

Figure 24 – Percentage distribution of reasons why households did not report housebreaking to the police, 2023/24 and 2024/25
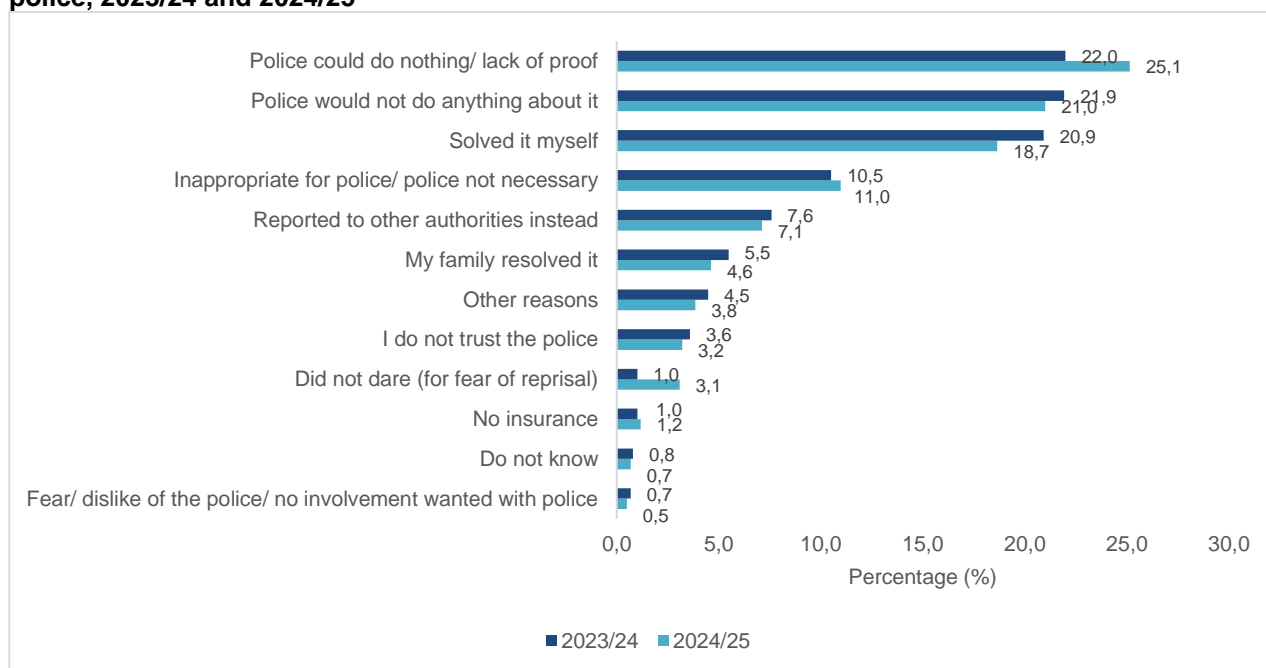
Figure 24 shows that most households (25,1%) indicated the reason they did not report housebreaking incidences to the police was 'Police could do nothing/lack of proof' which showed an increase in 2024/25, followed by "police would not do anything about it". Only 1,2% of the households indicated the reason they did not report the incidences to the police was "No insurance".

Table 8 – Summary of statistics for housebreaking, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	1 015	1 439	1 556	1 484	1 493
Number of households that experienced housebreaking ('000)	809	983	1 078	1 134	1 123
Number of households that reported all or some incidences of housebreaking to the police	454	582	555	500	487
Percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of housebreaking to the police	56,1	59,2	51,4	44,1	43,4

Table 8 shows that the number of incidences of housebreaking increased from 1,0 million in 2020/21 to 1,6 million in 2022/23 before it slightly decreased to 1,5 million in both 2023/24 and 2024/25. Similarly, the number of households that experienced housebreaking increased from 809 000 in 2020/21 to 983 000 in 2021/22 and further increased to 1,1 million in 2023/24 and 2024/25. The percentage of households that reported some or all incidences to the police decreased from 59,2% in 2021/22 to 51,4% in 2022/23 and further decreased to 43,4% in 2024/25.

4.3.2 Home robbery

The GPSJS 2024/25 had seven questions on home robbery. Households were asked whether they experienced home robbery during the preceding 12 months and the number of incidences. Questions on whether any weapons were used, the type of weapons used and if households reported any incidences to the police were included in the GPSJS 2024/25.

Table 9 – Number and percentage of households that experienced home robbery by demographic characteristics of head of household, settlement type and province, 2024/25

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of households ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	142	124	1,0
Female	117	89	1,1
Population Group			
Black African	220	176	1,1
Coloured	9	8	0,6
Indian/Asian	9	9	1,8
White	20	20	1,3
Age group			
15–34	66	51	1,1
35–49	202	85	1,1
50–64	65	54	1,2
65+	26	23	0,8
Highest level of education			
No schooling	4	4	0,4
Some primary	13	12	0,7
Completed primary	9	6	0,7
Some secondary	93	79	1,2
Completed secondary	93	75	1,2
Post school	37	30	0,9
Province			
Western Cape	37	27	1,3
Eastern Cape	17	14	0,8
Northern Cape	6	4	1,2
Free State	2	2	0,2
KwaZulu-Natal	58	48	1,4

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of households ('000)	Percentage
North West	11	8	0,5
Gauteng	99	85	1,4
Mpumalanga	37	27	1,3
Limpopo	9	8	0,4
Metro status			
Non-metro	142	112	1,2
Metro	116	101	1,0

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
 Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
 Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 9 shows that female-headed households were slightly more likely to experience home robbery than male-headed households (1,1% vs 1,0%). The results further show that households headed by those aged 65 and older are less likely to experience home robbery. Households in non-metro areas were more likely to experience home robbery (1,2%) compared to households in metro areas (1,0%).

Figure 25 – Number of households in thousands that experienced home robbery by month, 2020/21–2024/25

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020/21	3	3	23	17	18	15	9	14	12	6		11
2021/22	5	42	18	16	7	30	11	16	9	13	17	11
2022/23	16	13	18	13	19	24	15	11	19	18	20	31
2023/24	13	21	17	24	23	33	14	16	22	17	14	22
2024/25	15	13	22	26	21	30	23	12	22	20	17	19
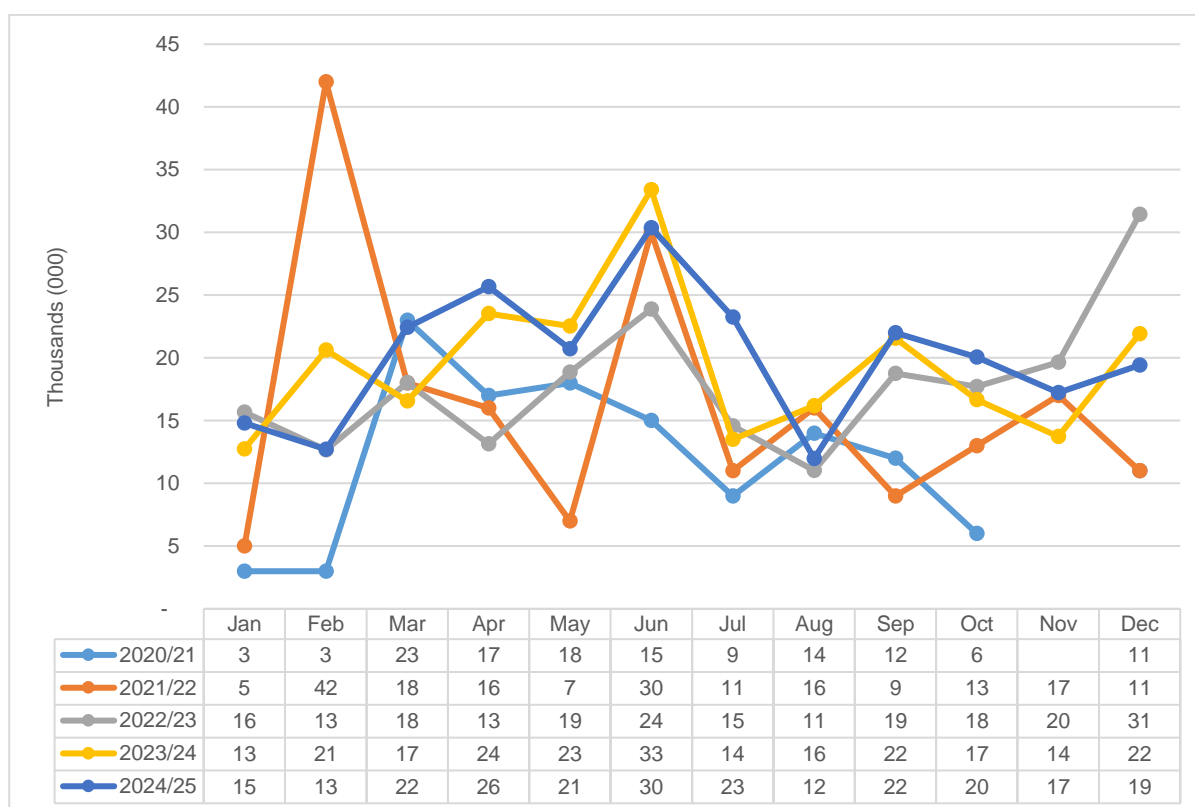
Figure 25 shows that in 2024/25, the highest number of home robbery incidences occurred in June (30 000), followed by April (26 000). June has been the peak month for incidences of home robbery for three-year periods (2021/22,2023/24 and 2024/25).

Figure 26 – Use and type of weapons during a home robbery, 2024/25
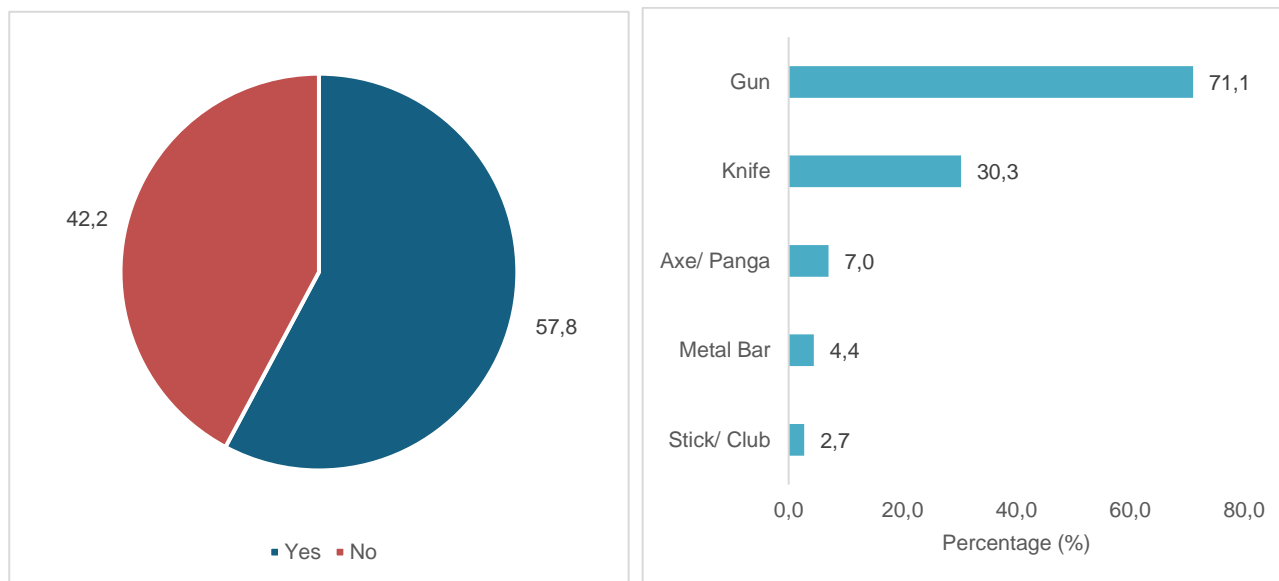
Figure 26 shows that weapons were used in 57,8% of the incidences of home robbery in 2024/25. Guns were mainly used as weapons in home robberies (71,1%), followed by knives (30,3%), axe/panga (7,0%) and metal bars (4,4%). Stick/club (2,7%) were the least used weapons during home robberies in 2024/25.

Figure 27 – Percentage of households that reported home robbery to the police, 2020/21–2024/25

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Reported no incidences	44,1	33,6	43,2	42,4	48,7
Reported some incidences	3,1	5,8	1,7	2,0	2,6
Reported all incidences	52,8	60,6	55,1	55,6	48,7
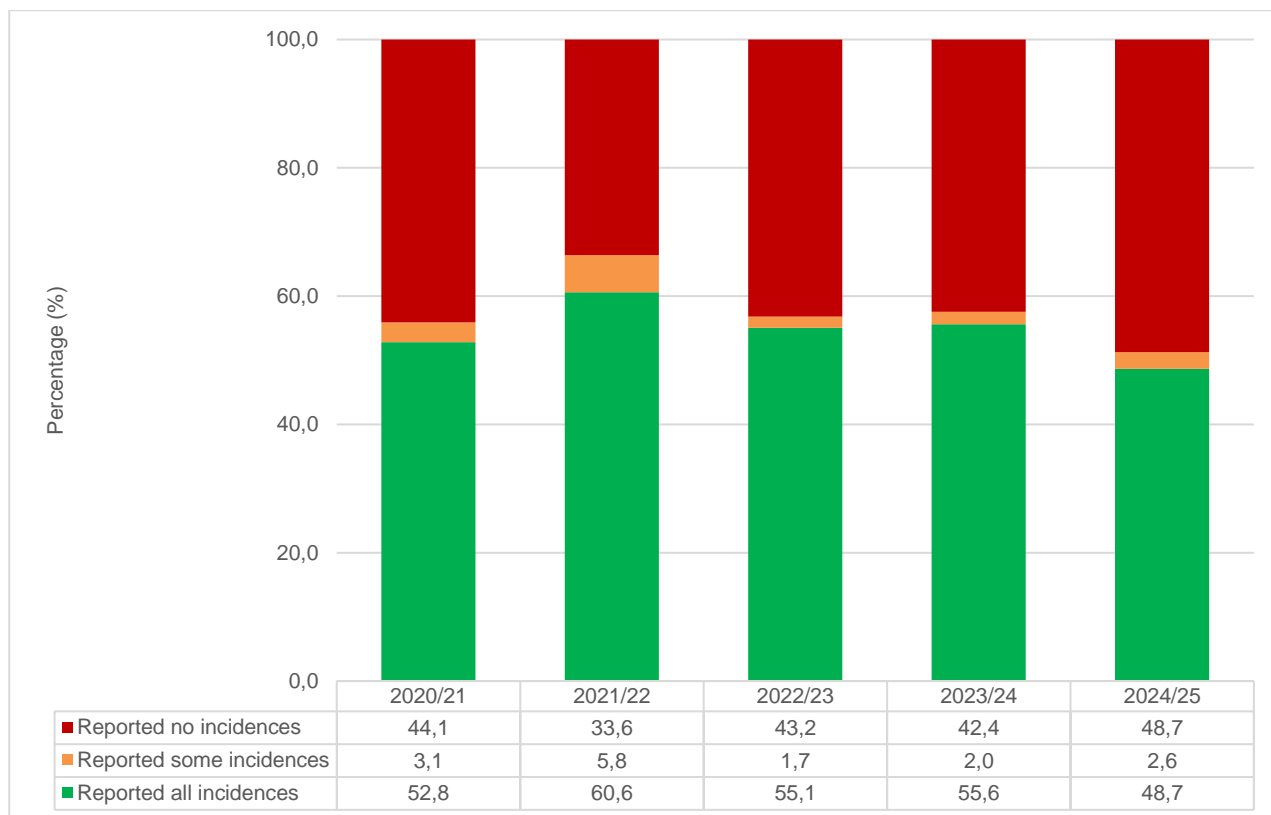
Figure 27 shows that in 2024/25, less than half of the households (48,7%) did not report any incidence of home robbery to the police, about 48,7% reported all incidences to the police, and only 2,6% reported some incidents to the police. The proportion of households that did not report any crime to the police increased by 6,3 percentage points.

Table 10 – Summary of statistics for home robbery, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	141	205	238	263	259
Number of households that experienced home robbery ('000)	112	155	195	209	213
Number of households that reported some or all incidences of home robbery to the police ('000)	63	103	111	120	109
Percentage of households that reported some or all incidences of home robbery to the police	55,9	66,4	56,8	57,6	51,3

Table 10 shows that the number of incidences of home robbery increased from 141 000 in 2020/21 to 205 000 in 2021/22, continued to increase to 238 000 in 2022/23, further increased to 263 000 in 2023/24, then decreased to 259 000 in 2024/25. The same pattern is observed for the number of households that experienced home robbery, which is 112 000 in 2020/21, that increased to 155 000 in 2021/22, continued to increase to 195 000 in 2022/23 and increased to 213 000 in 2024/25. The percentage of households that reported at least one incidence to the police decreased from 57,6% in 2023/24 to 51,3% in 2024/25.

4.3.3 Assault

The GPSJS 2024/25 asked eight questions on assault. Questions on whether any weapons were used, the type of weapons used, when the incident occurred and who the perpetrators were.

Table 11 – Number and percentage of households that experienced assault by demographic characteristics of head of household, settlement type and province, 2024/25

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of households ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	76	65	0,6
Female	82	58	0,7
Age group			
15–34	47	36	0,8
35–49	48	44	0,6
50–64	42	33	0,7
65+	16	10	0,3
Marital Status			
Married	26	21	0,4
Living together like husband and wife	25	15	0,6
Separated but still legally married	1	1	0,2
Divorced	5	5	2,1
Widowed	15	9	0,4
Single	87	73	0,9
Highest level of education			
No schooling	6	5	0,6
Some primary	11	8	0,4
Completed primary	5	5	0,7
Some secondary	70	57	0,9
Completed secondary	49	33	0,6
Post school	15	13	0,4
Province			
Western Cape	30	20	0,9
Eastern Cape	25	16	0,9
Northern Cape	10	7	1,8
Free State	4	4	0,4
KwaZulu-Natal	18	18	0,5

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of households ('000)	Percentage
North West	17	10	0,7
Gauteng	39	34	0,6
Mpumalanga	14	13	0,9
Limpopo	1	1	0,1
Metro status			
Metro	68	51	0,6
Non-metro	90	72	0,7

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 11 shows that a proportion of female-headed households (0,7%) were a touch more likely to experience assault compared to male-headed households (0,6%). Those aged 15–34 years had the highest proportions with 0,8% compared to other age groups. The households in non-metros (0,7%) were most likely to experience incidences of assault compared to metros (0,6%).

Figure 28 – Number of households that experienced assault by month, 2020/21–2024/25

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2022/23	5	13	10	14	16	9	4	13	8	11	8	11
2023/24	11	13	14	11	16	12	12	21	14	13	13	21
2024/25	8	16	10	20	7	18	13	10	11	13	6	19
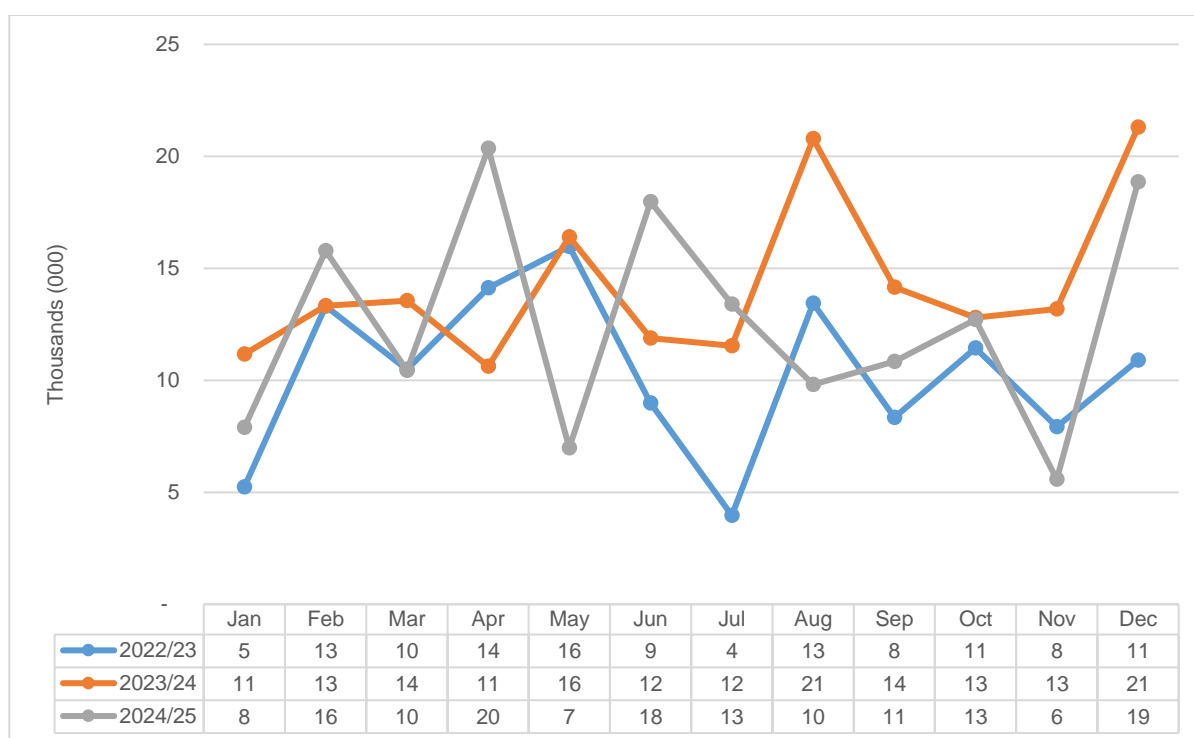
Figure 28 shows that in 2024/25, the highest number of assault incidences occurred in April (20 000), followed by December (19 000), then June (18 000).

Figure 29 – Percentage distribution of use and type of weapons during an incidence of assault, 2023/24 and 2024/25
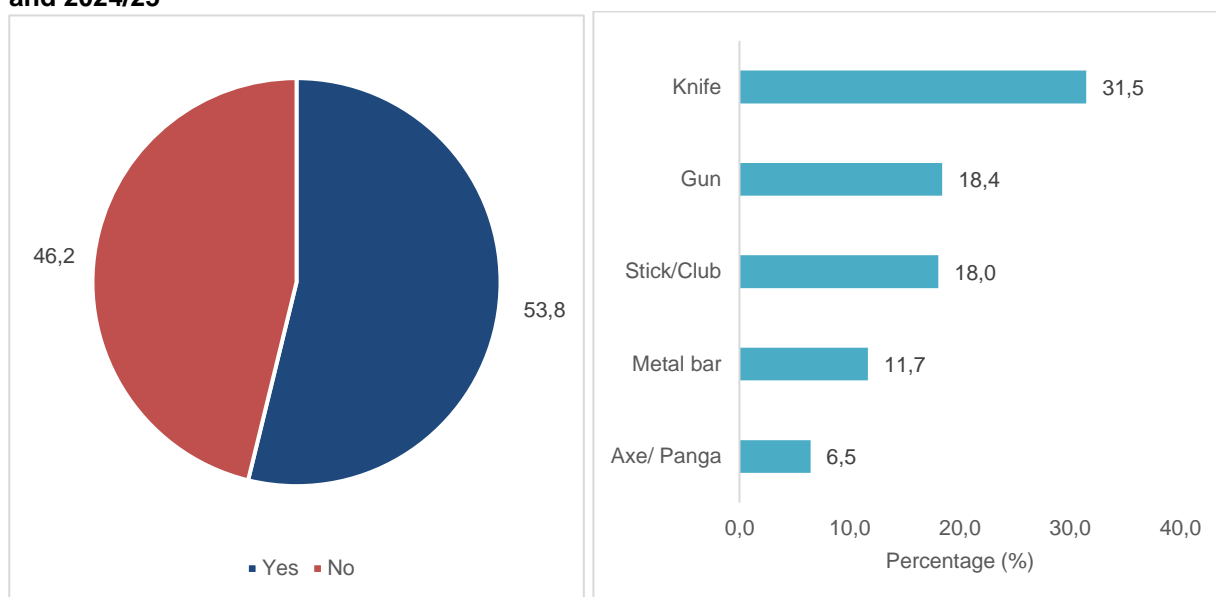
Figure 29 shows that weapons were used in 53,8% of the incidences of assault in 2024/25. The use of a knife was the most common type of weapon used during assault incidents in 2024/25 (31,5%), followed by gun (18,4%) and stick/club (18,0%).

Figure 30 – Percentage of incidences of assault committed by a specified perpetrator, 2023/24–2024/25
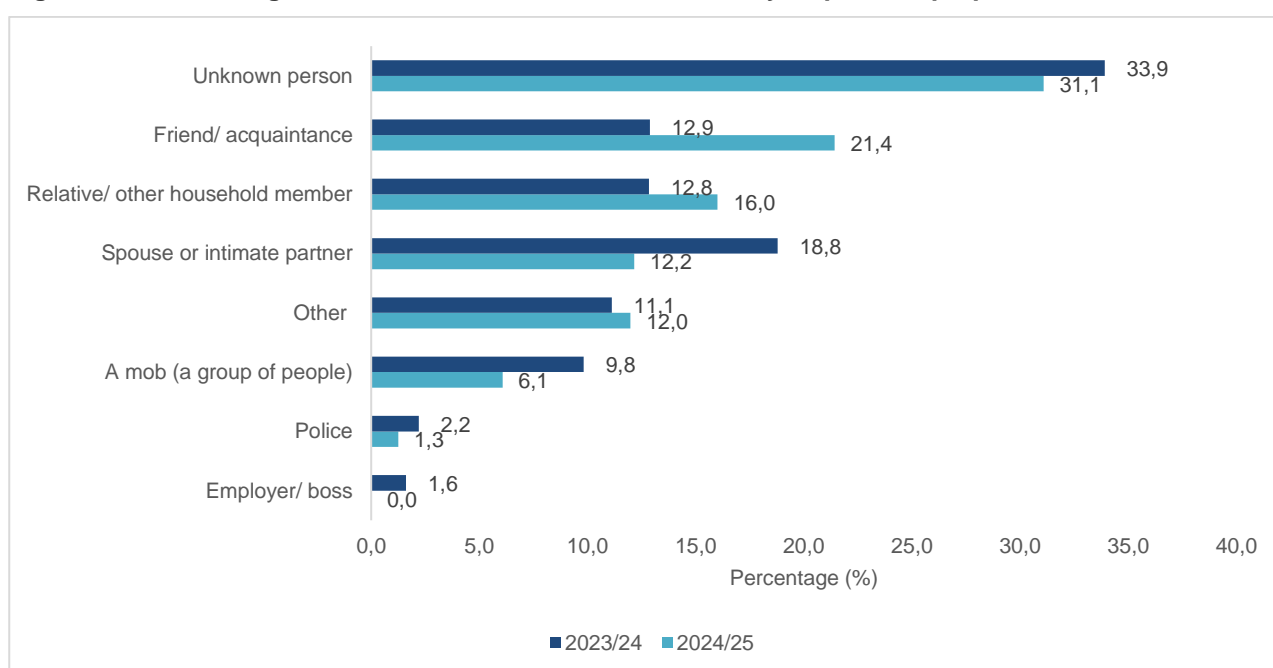
Figure 30 shows a decrease between 2023/24 and 2024/25 in incidences of assault that were committed by someone unknown to the victim (33,9% vs 31,1%), a spouse or intimate partner (18,8% vs 12,2%) and a mob (9,8% vs 6,1%). An increase was observed between 2023/24 and 2024/25 in incidences where the perpetrator was a relative or other household member (12,8% vs 16,0%), and a friend or acquaintance (12,9% vs 21,4%). There is a decrease in the number of incidences of assault committed by Police from 2,2% in 2023/24 to 1,3% in 2024/25.

Figure 31 – Percentage of households that reported assault to the police, 2020/21–2024/25

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
■ Reported no incidences	49,6	26,3	46,3	32,5	33,0
■ Reported some incidences	0,0	3,3	2,1	0,6	0,9
■ Reported all incidences	50,4	70,4	51,6	66,9	66,1
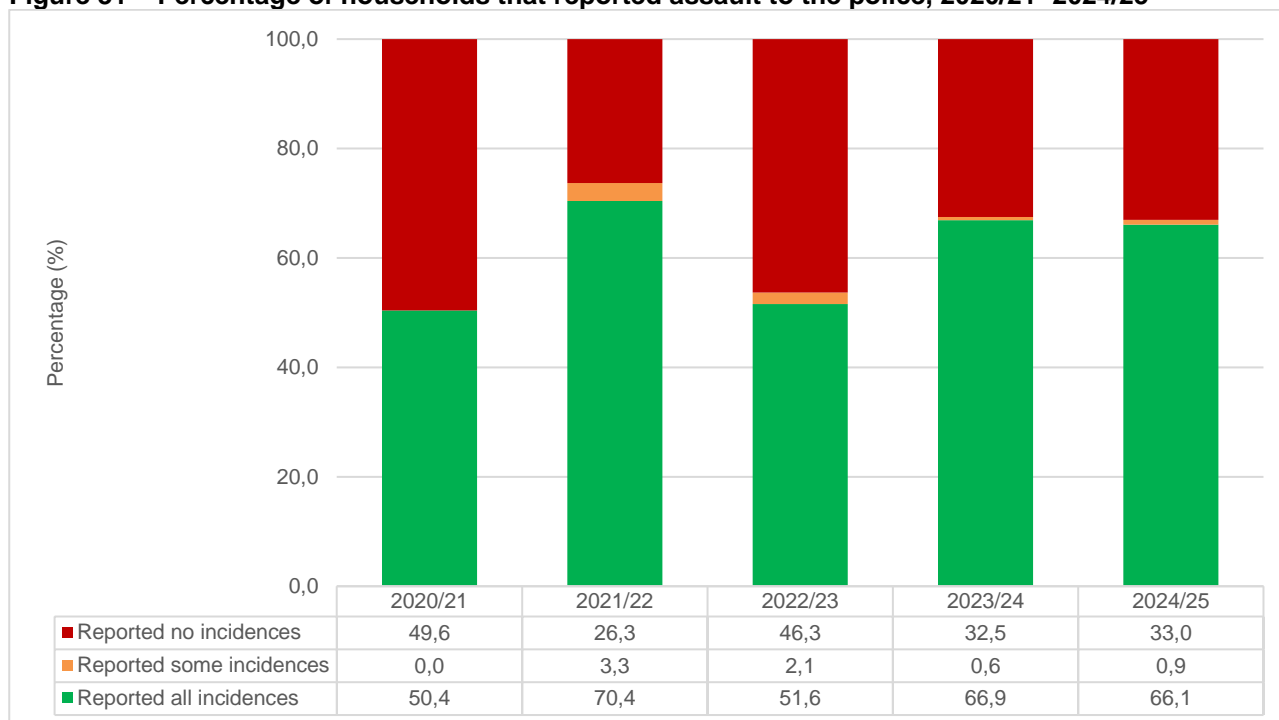
Figure 31 shows that in 2024/25, more than half of the households (66,1%) reported all incidences of home robbery to the police, about 33,0% did not report any incidences to the police, and only 0,9% reported some incidents to the police.

Table 12 – Summary of statistics for assault, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	56	117	85	167	158
Number of households that experienced assault ('000)	51	99	68	129	123
Number of households that reported some or all incidences of assault to the police ('000)	25	73	36	87	83
Percentage of households that reported some or all incidences of assault to the police	50,6	73,7	53,7	67,5	67,0

Table 12 shows that the number of incidences of assault and the number of households that experienced assault increased between 2020/21 and 2021/22, then decreased in 2022/23, then almost doubled in 2023/24 before it slightly decreased in 2024/25. The percentage of households that reported at least one incidence to the police decreased by 0,5 percentage points from 67,5% in 2023/24 to 67,0% in 2024/25.

4.3.4 Theft of a motor vehicle

Respondents were asked whether they experienced theft of a motor vehicle during the past 12 months, how many times, during which months, and whether they reported any incidences to the police.

Table 13 – Number and percentage of households that experienced theft of motor vehicle by demographic characteristics of head of household and settlement type, 2024/25

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of households ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	59	48	0,4
Female	18	14	0,2
Age group			
15–34	12	9	0,2
35–49	35	28	0,4
50–64	22	19	0,4
65+	8	5	0,2
Marital Status			
Married	33	29	0,5
Living together like husband and wife	9	7	0,3
Separated but still legally married	2	2*	0,3
Widowed	10	6	2,8
Single	24	17	0,7
Highest level of education			
Some primary	4	2*	0,1
Completed primary	1	1*	0,2
Some secondary	18	15	0,2
Completed secondary	32	22	0,4
Post school	18	17	0,5
Metro status			
Metro	50	41	0,4
Non-metro	27	21	0,2

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 13 shows a higher proportion of male-headed households compared to female-headed households that experienced theft of motor vehicles. The table further shows that 0,4% of households in metro areas experienced theft of motor vehicles compared to 0,2% of households in non-metro areas.

Figure 32 – Percentage of households that reported theft of motor vehicle to the police, 2020/21–2024/25

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
■ Reported no incidences	9,4	42,8	23,6	14,2	17,5
■ Reported some incidences	7,5	0,0	2,9	0,0	6,0
■ Reported all incidences	83,1	57,2	73,5	85,8	76,5
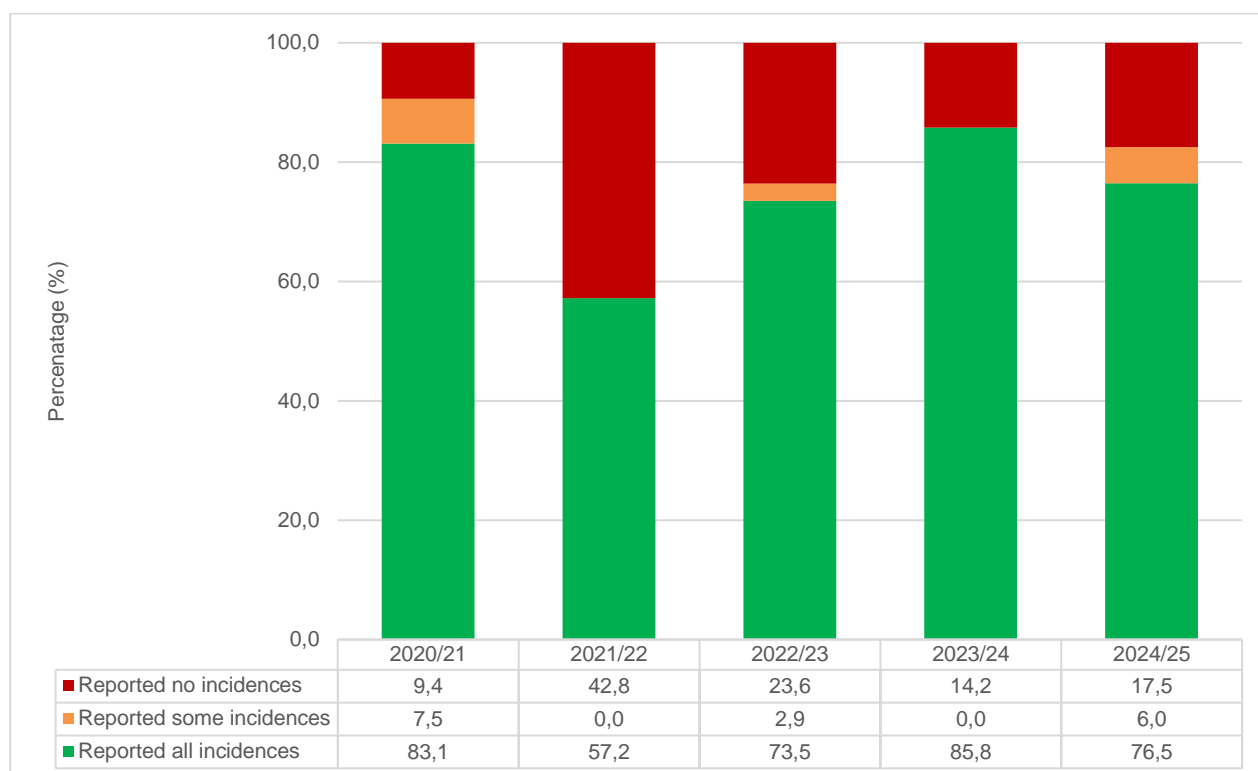
Figure 32 shows that about 76,5% of the households reported all incidence of theft of a motor vehicle in 2024/25. The reporting of all theft of motor vehicle incidences decreased by 9,3 percentage points between 2023/24 (85,8%) and 2024/25 (76,5%).

Table 14 – Summary of statistics for theft of motor vehicle, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	83	42	98	96	77
Number of households that experienced theft of motor vehicle ('000)	81	42	73	87	62
Number of households that reported all or some incidences of theft of motor vehicle to the police ('000)	74	24	56	74	51
Percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of theft of motor vehicle to the police	91,0	57,2	76,4	85,8	82,5

Table 14 shows that the number of incidences of theft of motor vehicles decreased from 83 000 in 2020/21 to 42 000 in 2021/22, then increased to 98 000 in 2022/23 before it slightly decreased to 96 000 in 2023/24, then further declined to 77 000 in 2024/25. The number of households that experienced theft of motor vehicle followed the same trend, where incidences slightly decreased from 81 000 in 2020/21 to 42 000 in 2021/22 before increasing to 73 000 in 2022/23. There is an increase observed in the number of households that experienced this crime in 2022/23 (73 000) and increased further to 87 000 in 2023/24 before it declined to 62 000 in 2024/25. The percentage of households that reported the incidences to the police decreased from 85,8% in 2023/24 to 82,5% in 2024/25.

4.3.5 Deliberate damaging of dwellings

The GPSJS 2024/25 had only four standard questions on deliberate damaging of dwellings. Respondents were asked whether they experienced this type of crime during the past 12 months, how many times these occurred, during which months, and whether they reported any incidences to the police.

Table 15 – Number and percentage of households that experienced deliberate damaging of dwellings by demographic characteristics of head of household, settlement type and province, 2024/25

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of households ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	66	57	0,5
Female	57	41	0,5
Age group			
15–34	29	24	0,5
35–49	40	33	0,4
50–64	32	27	0,6
65+	23	15	0,5
Marital Status			
Married	34	29	0,5
Living together like husband and wife	7	7	0,3
Separated but still legally married	13	7	1,1
Divorced	2	2	0,8
Widowed	18	12	0,5
Single	49	42	0,5
Highest level of education			
No schooling	4	4	0,5
Some primary	8	4	0,2
Completed primary	5	3	0,4
Some secondary	3	31	0,5
Completed secondary	33	28	0,5
Post school	34	24	0,8
Province			
Western Cape	32	20	0,9
Eastern Cape	16	11	0,6
Northern Cape	10	8	2,1
Free State	9	5	0,5
KwaZulu-Natal	18	16	0,5
North West	5	5	0,3
Gauteng	25	25	0,4
Mpumalanga	7	7	0,5
Limpopo	2	2	0,1
Metro status			
Metro	70	55	0,5
Non-metro	53	44	0,5

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 15 shows equal proportions between male-headed households and female-headed households (0,5%) that experienced deliberate damaging of dwellings in the past 12 months. The table also shows that households in Northern Cape, followed by Western Cape, had the highest proportion of households that experienced deliberate damaging of dwellings compared to the other provinces.

Figure 33 – Percentage of households that reported deliberate damaging to dwellings to the police, 2022/23–2024/25

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
■ Reported no incidences	43,7	46,2	46,7
■ Reported some incidences	4,3	3,4	6,2
■ Reported all incidences	52,0	50,4	47,1
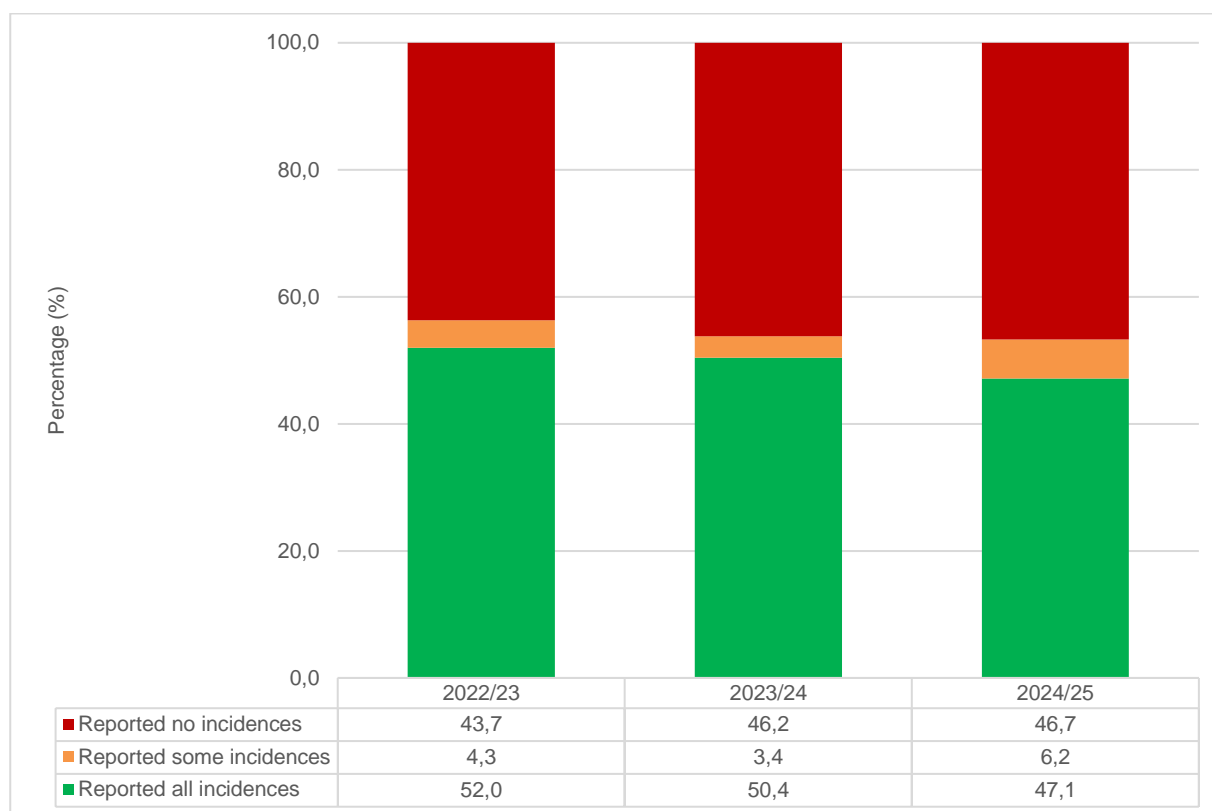
Figure 33 shows that more than half of the households (53,3%) either reported all incidences (47,1%) or reported some of the incidences (6,2%) in 2024/25. The reporting of all deliberate damage to dwellings incidences decreased by 3,3 percentage points between 2023/24 and 2024/25.

Table 16 – Summary of statistics for deliberate damage to dwellings, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	**	**	85	146	123
Number of households that experienced deliberate damage to dwellings ('000)	**	**	65	113	99
Number of households that reported some or all incidences of deliberate damage to dwellings to the police ('000)	**	**	36	61	53
Percentage of households that reported some or all incidences of deliberate damage to dwellings to the police	**	**	56,3	53,8	53,3

 * Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the specified collection period.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 16 shows the number of incidences increased between 2022/23, 2023/24, then slightly decreased in 2024/25. The data on deliberate damage to dwellings was not collected for 2020/21 and 2021/22. There was a sharp increase with more than a quarter in incidences observed between 2022/23 (85 000) and 2023/24 (146 000), and then decreased in 2024/25 (123 000). The results further show that the reporting levels continued to decrease from 56,3% in 2022/23 to 53,3% in 2024/25.

4.3.6 Murder

The term "murder" in the GPSJS includes what SAPS refers to as "culpable homicide or unintentional killing of a human being". Stats SA understands the importance of distinguishing between murder and culpable homicide, but it is not feasible to collect such information from household surveys where respondents may not understand the difference between the two. It may be a challenge even at police stations for an officer to determine whether the case being reported is murder or homicide.

Since the murder count in the sample was small, it was not possible to calculate disaggregated estimates of acceptable quality.

Table 17 – Summary of statistics for murder, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	11	20	16	22	14
Number of households that experienced murder ('000)	11	20	16	22	14
Number of households that reported all or some incidences of murder to the police ('000)	11	19	15	22	14
Percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of murder to the police	100,0	95,0	93,8	100,0	100,0

*It includes incidences that occurred during a home robbery.

Table 17 above shows the summary of statistics of murder between 2020/21 and 2024/25. It further shows the percentage of households that reported all, or some incidences of murder decreased in 2020/21 (100,0%) to 2021/22 (95,0%). The reporting of murder incidences further declined to 93,8% in 2022/23, then increased back to 100% in both 2023/24 and 2024/25 periods.

4.3.7 Sexual offences

Given the sensitive nature of sexual offences and the context of household-based interviews, sexual offences are thought to be underreported in the GPSJS. It is likely that most of those individuals who have already reported sexual offences to the police will proceed to also report it to the survey officer who is collecting the data. It is important to note that as the sexual offences count in the sample was small, it was not possible to calculate disaggregated estimates of acceptable quality.

Table 18 – Summary of statistics for sexual offences, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	8*	12*	12*	25	50
Number of households that experienced sexual offences ('000)	6*	12*	11*	22	34
Number of households that reported all or some incidences of sexual offences to the police ('000)	5*	11*	10*	17	17
Percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of sexual offences to the police	88,7	90,0	92,3	78,4	47,6

* Sample is too small, and CVs are too high to make meaningful inferences.

Table 18 above shows the percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of sexual offences to the police. The percentage increased from 88,7% in 2020/21 to 90,0% in 2021/22 and further increased up to 92,3% in 2022/23 before it declined in 2023/24 (78,4%) and 2024/25 (47,6%).

4.3.8 Theft of livestock/poultry and other animals

Collecting data on livestock theft is essential for multiple critical purposes. It plays a key role in supporting law enforcement efforts by aiding in the investigation and successful prosecution of theft cases. Accurate and timely data helps authorities identify recurring patterns, hotspots, and methods used by perpetrators, enabling more effective policing strategies.

Furthermore, comprehensive data collection enhances security planning by allowing stakeholders such as farmers, communities, and government agencies to implement targeted preventative measures. It also enables better resource allocation by identifying regions most affected by livestock crime, ensuring that interventions are both timely and impactful.

In addition, tracking livestock theft trends over time contributes to a deeper understanding of underlying causes, such as socio-economic factors or gaps in border security. This, in turn, supports the development of informed policies and community-based solutions aimed at reducing incidents and protecting rural livelihoods.

Table 19 – Number and percentage of households that experienced theft of livestock/poultry and other animals by demographic characteristics of head of household, settlement type and province, 2024/25

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of households ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	151	90	0,8
Female	97	64	0,8
Age group			
15–34	25	18	0,4
35–49	65	36	0,5
50–64	71	49	1,1
65+	87	51	1,8
Marital Status			
Married	94	56	0,9
Living together like husband and wife	23	9	0,4
Separated but still legally married	2	2*	0,3
Divorced	5	3	1,3
Widowed	61	39	1,6
Single	63	45	0,5
Highest level of education			
No schooling	30	19	2,3
Some primary	48	31	1,8
Completed primary	7	6	0,8
Some secondary	85	48	0,7
Completed secondary	29	22	0,4
Post school	43	22	0,7
Province			
Western Cape	3	3	0,1
Eastern Cape	61	35	1,9
Northern Cape	8	3	0,8
Free State	19	11	1,0
KwaZulu-Natal	81	43	1,2
North West	24	18	1,3
Gauteng	11	9	0,1
Mpumalanga	21	15	1,0
Limpopo	21	17	0,9
Metro status			
Metro	43	21	0,2
Non-metro	205	133	1,3

Table 19 shows equal proportions between male-headed households and female-headed households (0,8%) that experienced theft of livestock/poultry and other animals in the past 12 months. The table also shows that households headed by those aged 65 years and above have the largest proportion of households that experienced theft of livestock/ poultry and other animals (1,8 %) compared to the other age groups. Eastern Cape (1,9%) has more households that experienced this crime, followed by North-West (1,3%) and KwaZulu-Natal (1,2%). The table further shows many households in non-metro areas experienced theft of livestock/ poultry and other animals about 1,3% compared to 0,2% of households in metro areas.

Figure 34 – Number of households that experienced theft of livestock/poultry and other animals by month, 2024/25

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2024/25	8	8	19	25	16	28	20	18	13	12	17	15
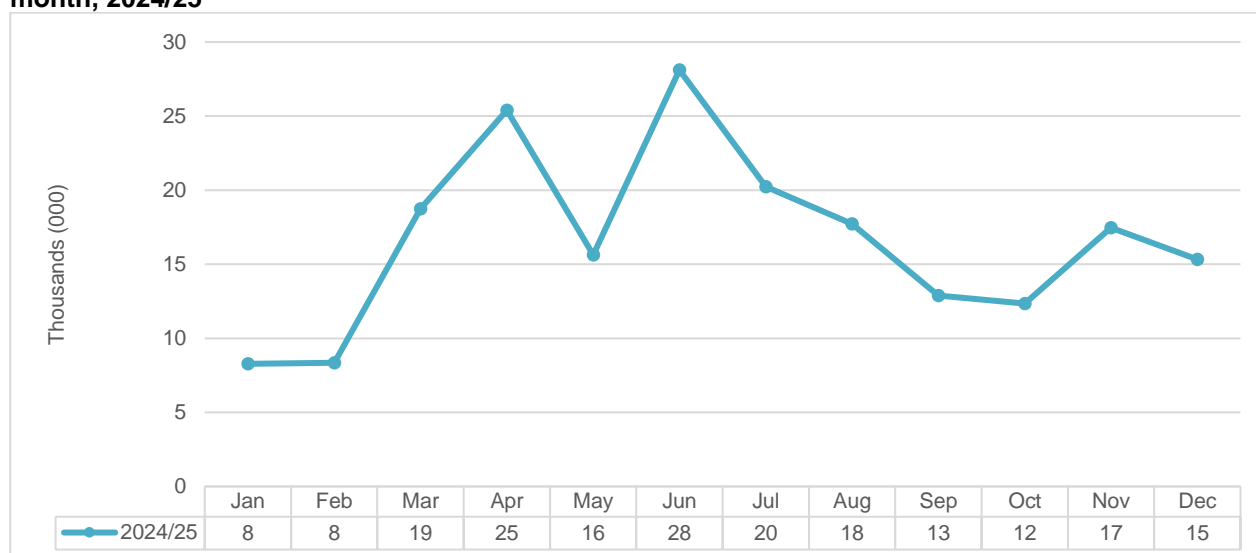
Figure 34 shows that in 2024/25, the highest number of theft of livestock/poultry and other animals' incidences occurred in June (28 000) followed by April (25 000).

Figure 35 – Percentage distribution of location where incidences of theft of livestock occurred and type, 2024/25
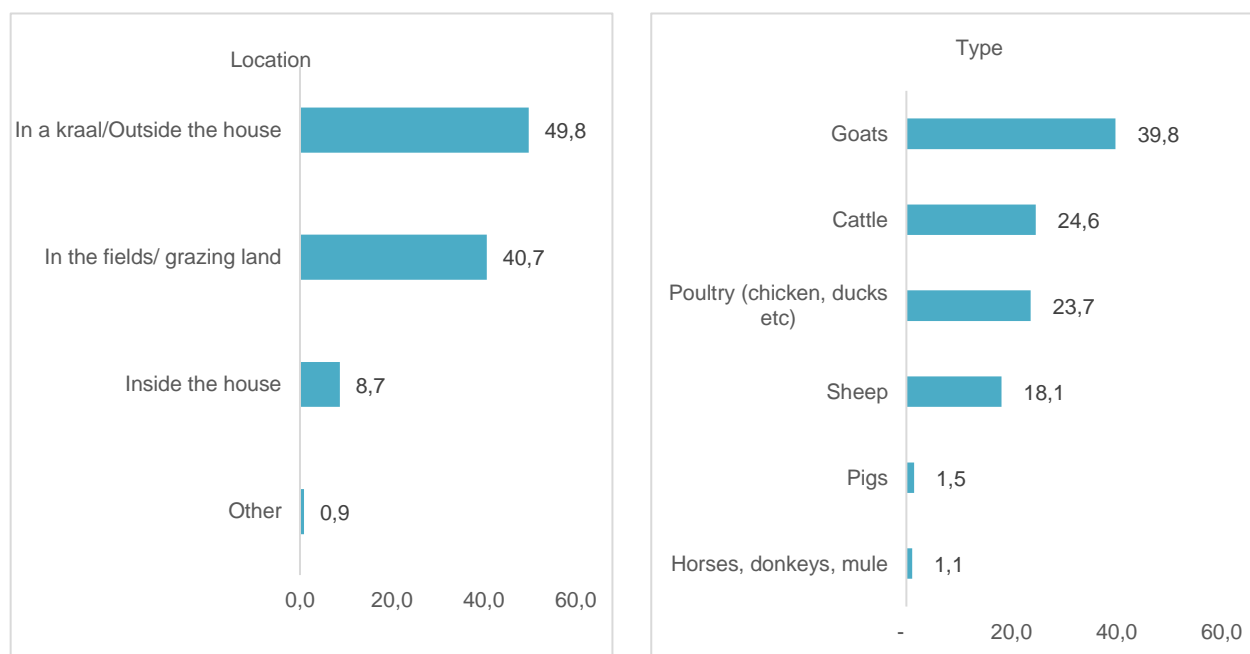
Figure 35 shows the distribution of locations where theft of livestock occurred and the type of livestock that was stolen in 2024/25. Most (49,8%) incidences occurred in a kraal/outside the house, followed by when livestock is in the fields/grazing land (40,7%). Goats (39,8%) were the most common livestock that was stolen as indicated in the figure above, followed by cattle (24,6%) in 2024/25. Horses, donkeys, mules were the least common at 1,1%.

Table 20 – Type and number of livestock stolen, 2024/25

Type of livestock stolen	Number of types of livestock stolen ('000)	Number of livestock stolen				
		1	2	3	4	5+
Cattle	37 947	6 972	9 665	1 887	1 060	18 363
Pigs	2 281	695		1015	571	
Sheep	27 852	5 678	2 831	2 600	2 102	14 641
Goats	61 352	10 163	11 434	2 916	3 370	33 469
Poultry (chicken, ducks, etc)	36 486	2 558	2 623	4 254	6 532	20 519
Dogs (excl. Pets)	995	995				
Horses, donkeys, mules	1 690	685	379	626		

Table 20 shows the types and number of livestock stolen in 2024/25. In at least one or more incidences experienced by households, there are over 61 000 goats stolen, followed by cattle (37 947), then poultry (36 486) in the past 12 months.

Figure 36 – Percentage of households that reported theft of livestock/poultry and other animals to the police, 2024/25
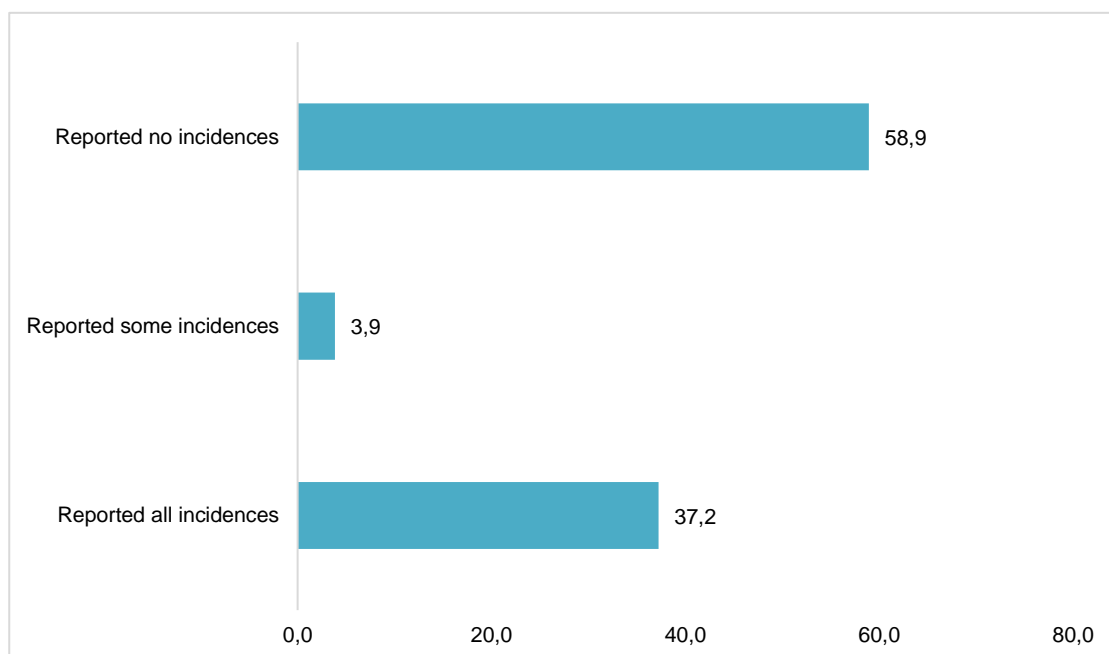
Figure 36 shows the reporting of theft of livestock/poultry and other animals incidences in the 2024/25 period. The figure shows that less than half (41,1%) of the incidences were reported to the authorities i.e. 37,2% of all incidents were reported and 3,9% reported some of the incidents.

Figure 37 – Percentage distribution of reasons why households did not report theft of livestock/poultry and other animals to the police, 2024/25
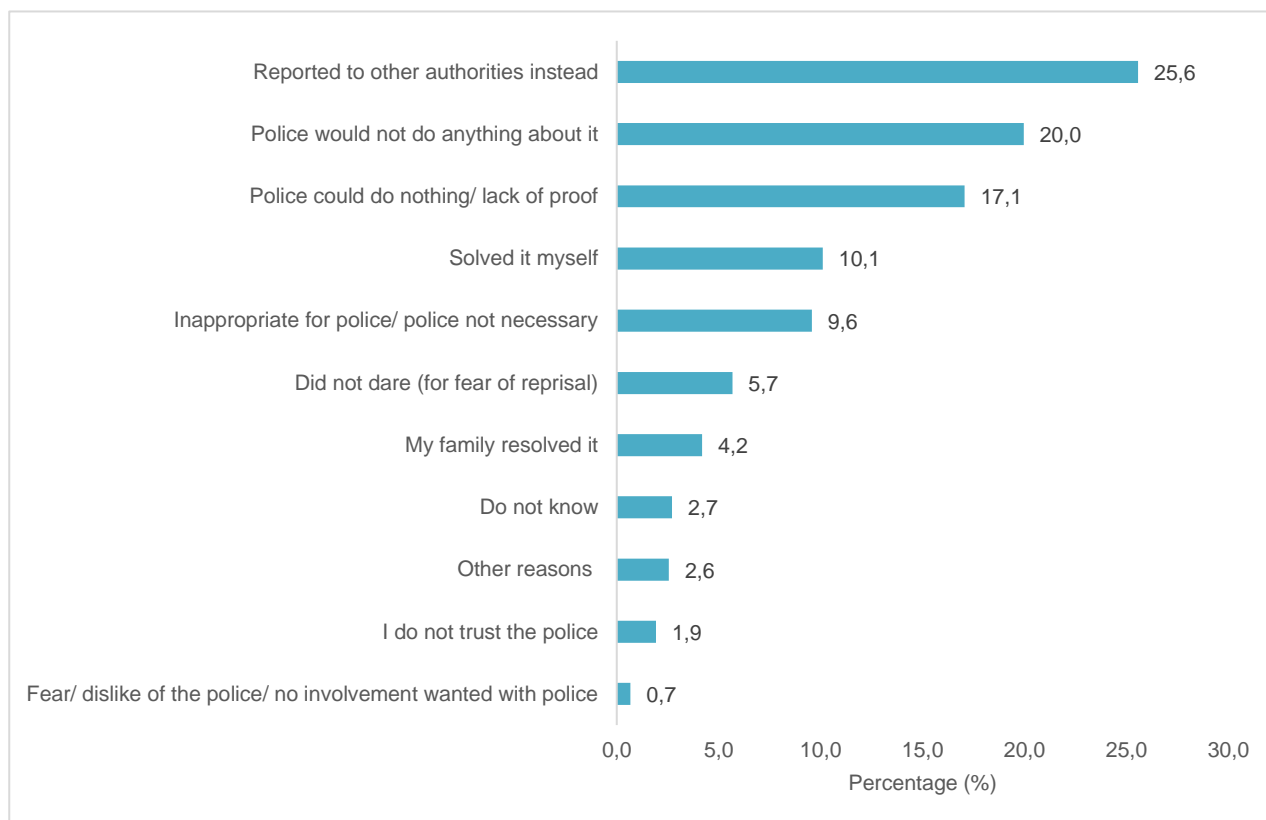
Figure 37 shows the distribution of reasons why households did not report theft of livestock/poultry and other animals to the police. Most households indicated that they reported to other authorities instead (25,6%), followed by those that felt that police would not do anything about it (20,0%), and those who said police could do nothing/lack of proof (17,1%).

Table 21 – Summary of statistics for theft of livestock, 2024/25

Indicator	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	248
Number of households that experienced theft of livestock ('000)	154
Number of households that reported some or all incidences of theft of livestock to the police ('000)	62
Percentage of households that reported some or all incidences of theft of livestock to the police	41,1

Table 21 above shows summary statistics for theft of livestock crime at the household level. The table shows that a total of 154 000 households experienced this type of crime, with a total of 248 000 incidents. The total number of households that reported this crime to the police was 62 000, which was about 41,1% of households that experienced this crime in the 2024/25 period.

4.4 Summary

Housebreaking is the most common crime experienced by households in South Africa. A total of 1,1 million households have experienced housebreaking incidences in the 2024/25 period. The second most common type of crime experienced by households is home robbery, followed by assault. Data show that the experience of crime by households decreased for five types of type of crimes in the past 12 months.

Furthermore, housebreaking was mostly experienced by male-headed households. Housebreaking peaked in June, with 164 000 households experiencing this crime. There is a decrease observed in the number of households that reported at least one incidence of housebreaking. A total of 123 000 households experienced assault in 2024/25, which is a slight drop from 2023/24. Assault was most likely to be experienced by female-headed households and households in non-metro areas. Out of the households that experienced assault, 53,8% reported that weapons were used. The households reported that the weapon that was mainly used during the incidences of assault was a knife. An estimated 31,5% unknown to the members of the household were reported as perpetrators of assault.

5. Individual experience of crime

5.1 Introduction

This section focuses on crimes experienced by individual members of households aged 16 years and older. As mentioned earlier in the report, the survey of children under 16 requires more resources due to legislation on child welfare and the legislative restrictions on dealing with young children. Therefore, the respondent should be a randomly selected member of a sampled household aged 16 years or older at the time of the interview.

Table 22 – Number and percentage of individuals that experienced a specific type of crime in the 12 months preceding the survey, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	Number in ('000)	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Theft of personal property	Number	732	1 105	1 228	1 324	1 160
	Percent	1,8	2,6	2,9	3,0	2,6
Street Robbery	Number	304	246	483	443	470
	Percent	0,7	0,6	1,1	1,0	1,1
Consumer fraud	Number	321	376	314	367	566
	Percent	0,8	0,9	0,7	0,8	1,3
Psychological Violence	Number	**	**	265	315	337
	Percent	**	**	0,6	0,7	0,8
Assault	Number	**	**	263	295	363
	Percent	**	**	0,6	0,7	0,8
Hijacking of motor vehicle	Number	64	134	114	81	102
	Percent	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,2	0,2
Sexual offences	Number	**	**	30	52	44
	Percent	**	**	0,1	0,1	0,1

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the specified collection period.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 22 shows that in 2024/25 (1,2 million) South Africans aged 16 years and older experienced theft of personal property, followed by those who experienced consumer fraud (566 000) and street robbery (470 000). Theft of personal property increased from 2020/21 (732 000) to 2023/24 (1,3 million). There is an increase observed in the levels of individual types of crimes between 2023/24 and 2024/25, except for theft of personal property and sexual offences, which decreased from 1,3 million to 1,2 million and 52 000 to 44 000, respectively. About 315 000 individuals experienced psychological violence in 2023/24, which increased to 337 000 in 2024/25.

The trends will be analysed with the assistance of the charts below. The 95% confidence interval will be used to determine whether the changes over time were statistically significant or otherwise.

Table 23 – Victimisation rates – individual experience of crime, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Theft of personal property	1,8	2,6	2,9	3,0	2,6
Consumer fraud	0,8	0,9	0,7	0,8	1,3
Street Robbery	0,7	0,6	1,1	1,0	1,1
Psychological Violence	**	**	0,6	0,7	0,8
Assault	**	**	0,6	0,7	0,8
Hijacking of motor vehicle	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,2	0,2
Sexual offences	**	**	0,1	0,1	0,1

Table 23 shows the victimisation rates during the past five years, from 2020/21 to 2024/25. Theft of personal property has consistently been the most experienced crime by individuals 16 years and above. In 2024/25, 2,6% of the individuals in South Africa experienced theft of personal property, followed by consumer fraud and street robbery. The proportion of individuals who experienced theft of personal property increased between 2020/21 (1,8%) and 2021/22 (2,6%) and further increased to 3,0% in 2023/24. In 2022/23, 0,6% of the individuals experienced psychological violence, which increased to (0,8%) in 2024/25.

Figure 38 – Percentage distribution of type of crimes experienced by individuals in the 12 months preceding the survey, 2024/25
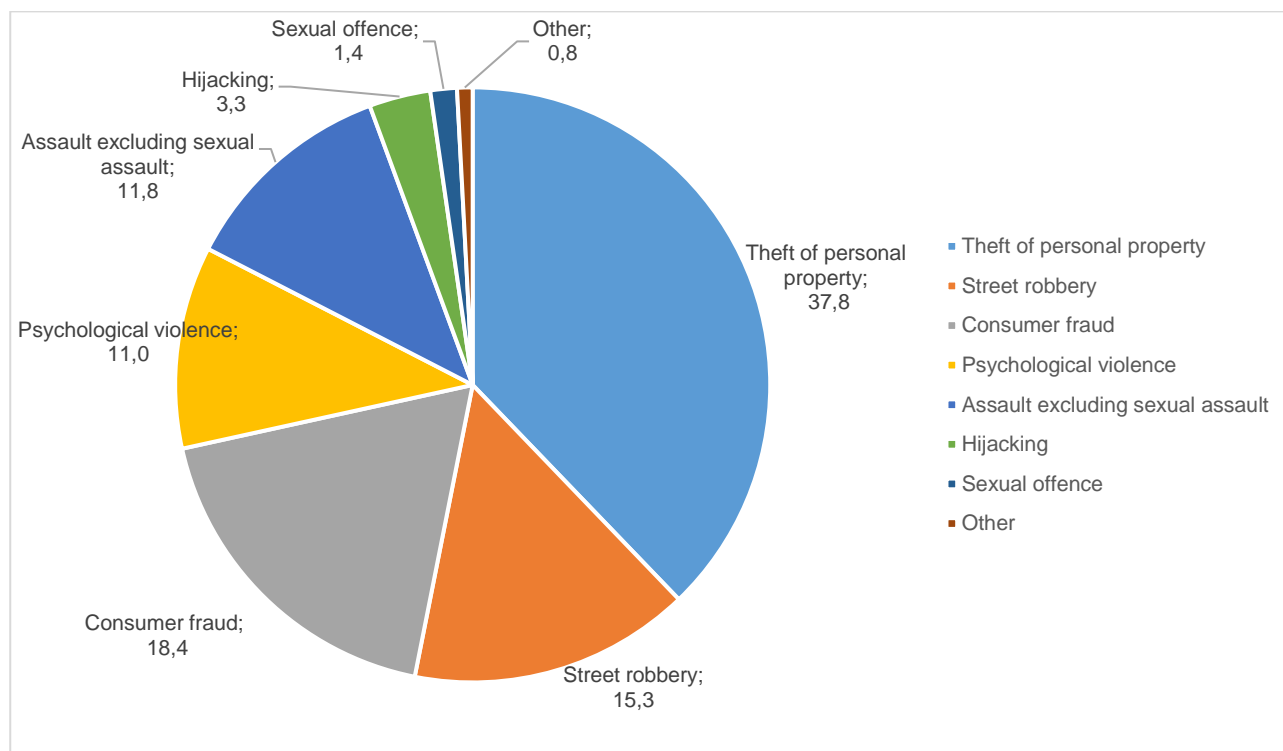
Figure 38 shows that theft of personal property is the most common type of crime experienced by individuals. Almost half (37,8%) of the crimes committed against individuals involve the theft of personal property, followed by consumer fraud (18,4%) and street robbery (15,3%), psychological violence (11,0%), assault (11,8%), hijacking (3,3%), and sexual offence (1,4%).

Figure 39 – Trends in theft of personal property, 2020/21–2024/25
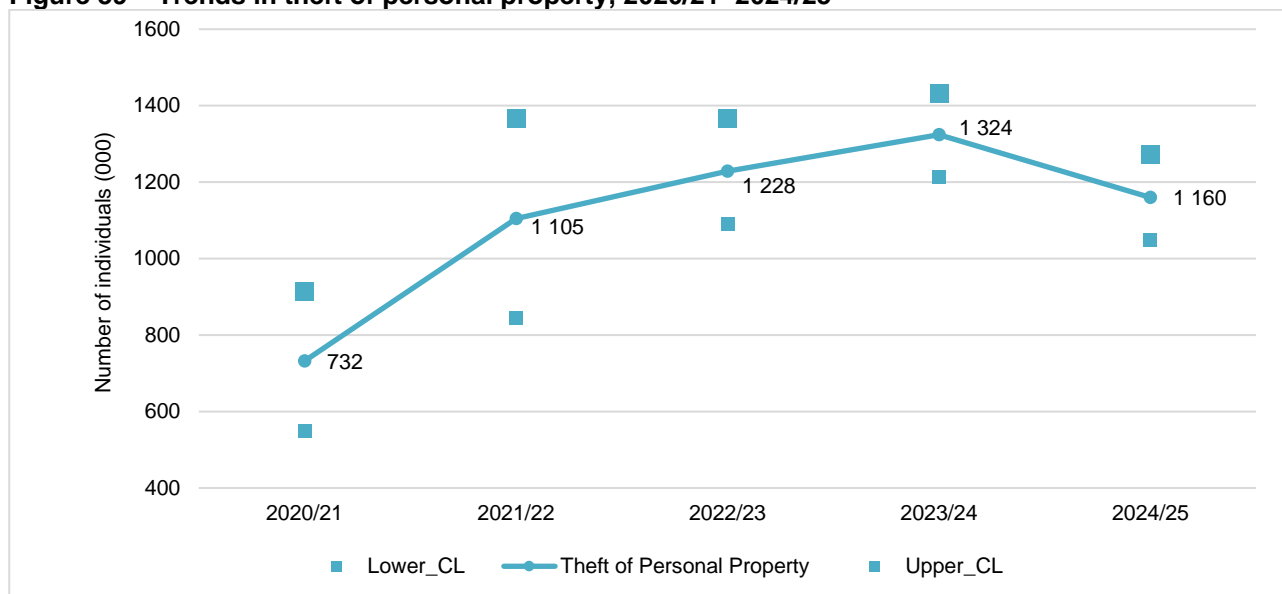
Figure 39 shows that theft of personal property increased between 2020/21 (732 000) and 2024/25 (1,2 million). An upward trend has been observed from 2020/21 (732 000) to 2023/24 (1,3 million), the increase is statistically significant. In 2024/25, a decrease is observed for individuals who experienced theft of personal property from 1,3 million in 2023/24 to 1,2 million in 2024/25; this decrease is not statistically significant

Figure 40 – Trends in street robbery, 2020/21–2024/25
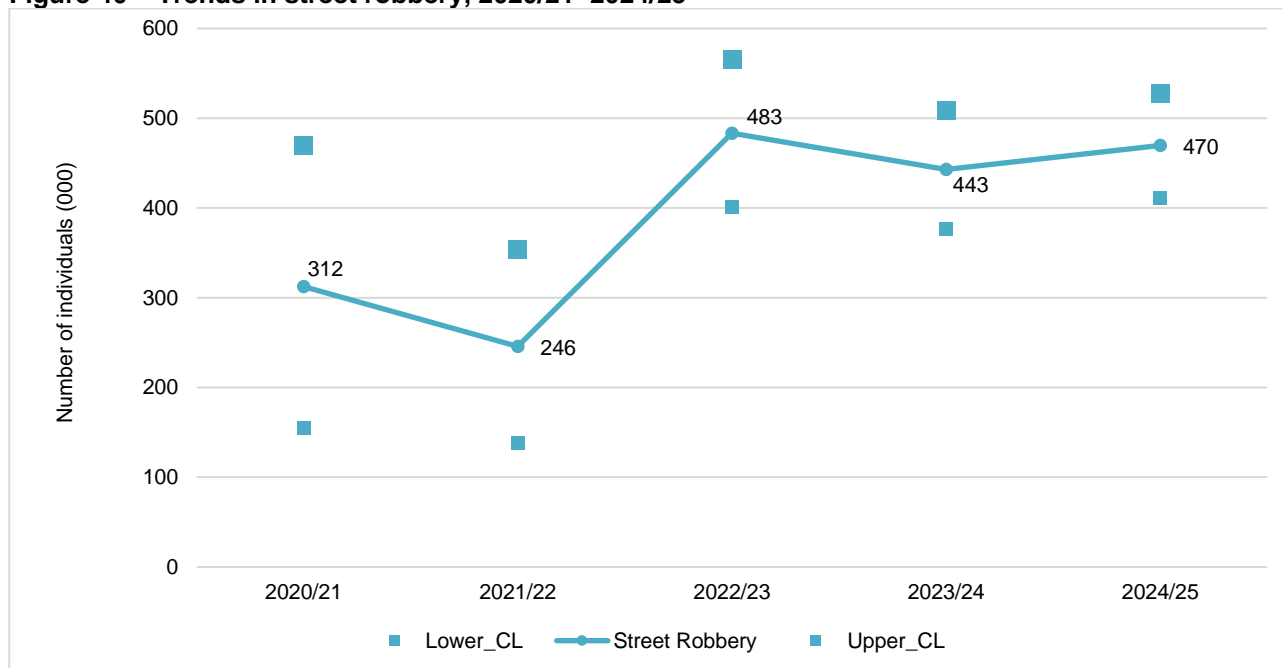
Figure 40 shows that there was a constant decline in street robbery between 2020/21 (312 000) and 2021/22 (246 000). The figure further shows a statistically significant increase between 2021/22 (246 000) and 2022/23 (483 000). In 2023/24 (443 000), a decrease has been observed for the number of individuals who experienced street robbery from 2022/23 (483 000), and it is not statistically significant; then, a slight increase is observed in 2024/25 (470 000) which is not statistically significant.

Figure 41 – Trends in consumer fraud, 2020/21–2024/25
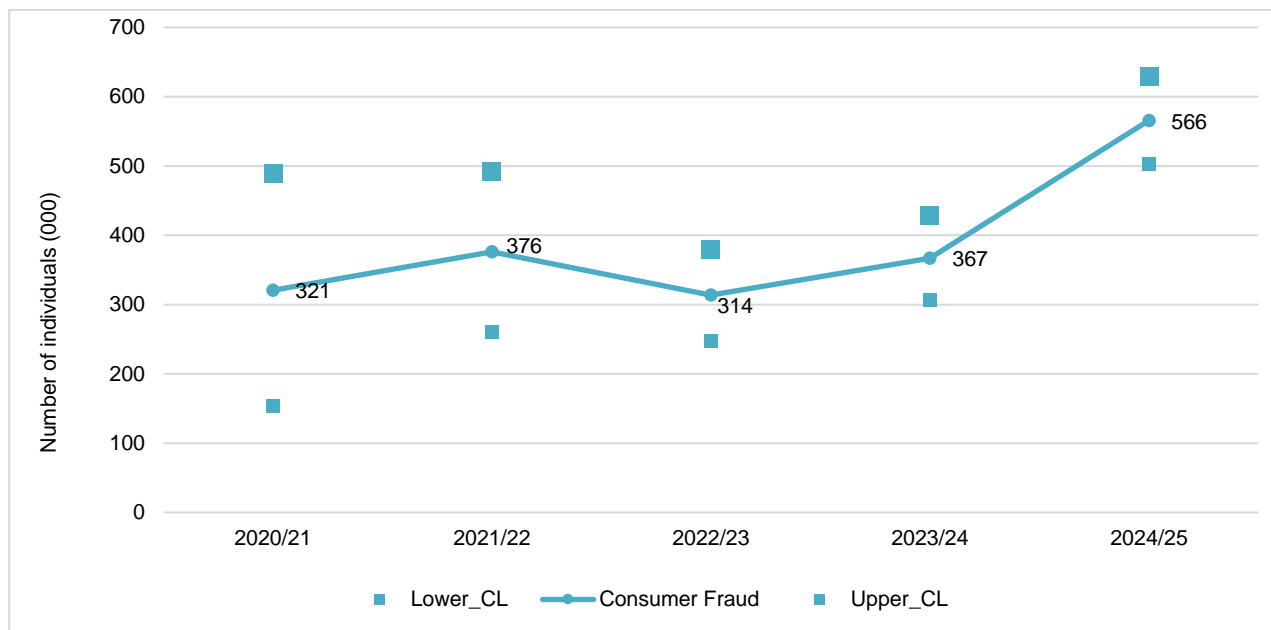
Figure 41 shows there was an increase observed in the levels of consumer fraud between 2020/21 (321 000) and 2021/22 (376 000), then there was a decrease in 2022/23 (314 000). The difference between 2020/21 and 2023/24 is not statistically significant. In 2024/25, there was a sharp increase in levels of consumer fraud from 367 000 in 2023/24 to 566 000 in 2024/25, this increase is statistically significant.

Figure 42 – Trends in assault, 2022/23–2024/25
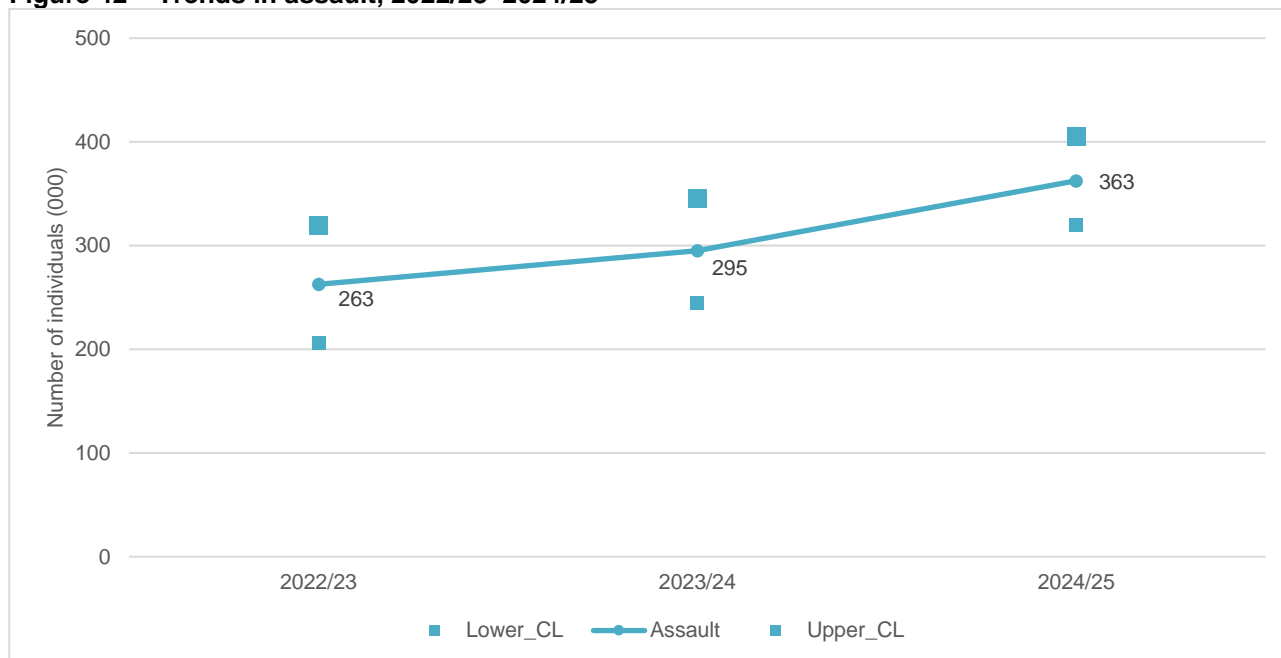
Figure 42 shows there was a steady incline in the number of assault victims for individuals aged 16 years and older from the 2022/23 period to 2024/25. Experience of assault increased from 263 000 in 2022/23 to 295 000 in 2023/24, it then further increased in 2024/25 (363 000), the increase in 2024/25 is not statistically significant. This type of crime was not collected in 2020/21 and 2021/22 periods.

Figure 43 – Trends in hijacking, 2020/21–2024/25
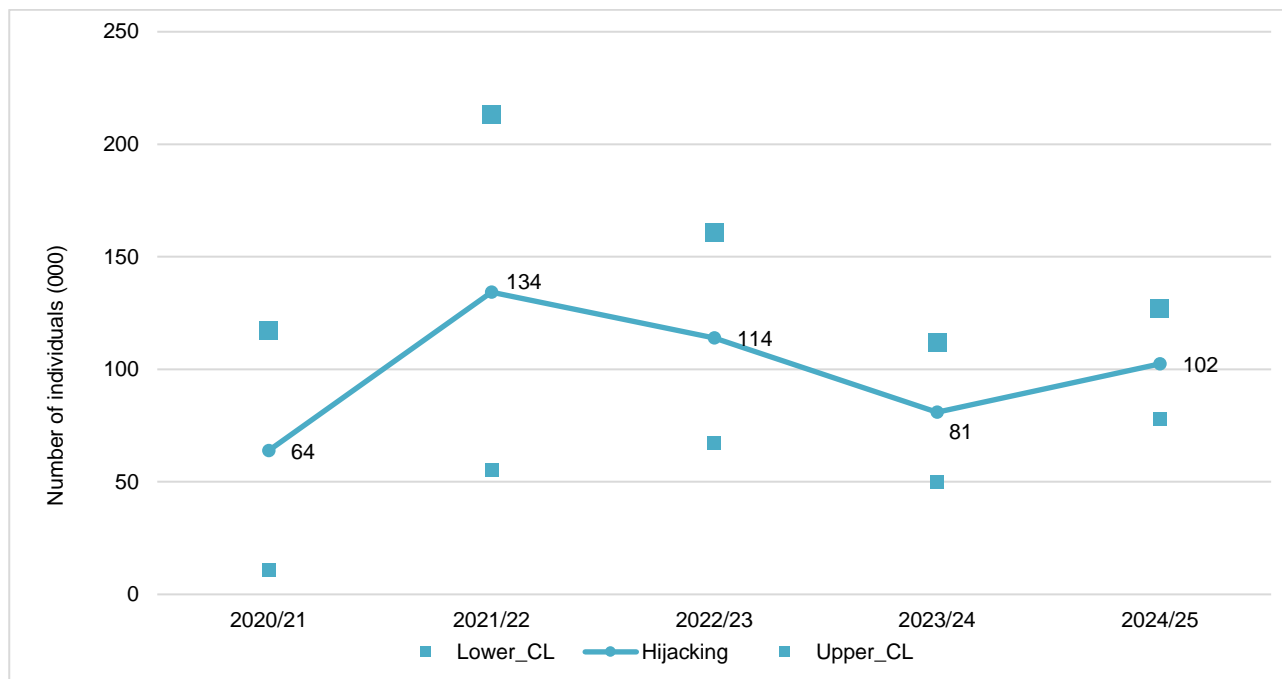
Figure 43 shows a fluctuating trend in the number of victims of hijacking between 2020/21 and 2024/25. The number of victims of hijacking sharply increased between 2020/21 (64 000) and 2021/22 (134 000). The figure also shows a decrease in the number of hijackings between 2021/22 (134 000), 2022/23 (114 000) and (81 000) 2023/24. An increase is observed in 2024/25 (102 000); this increase is not statistically significant.

Figure 44 – Trends in sexual offence, 2022/23–2024/25
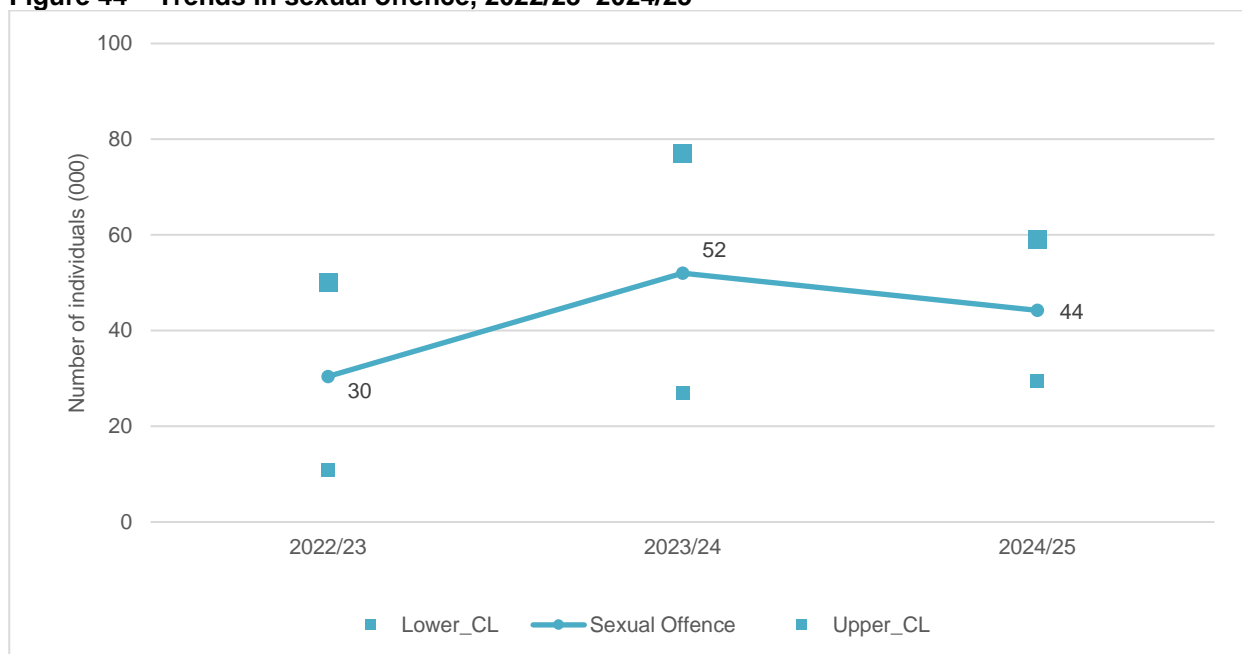
Figure 44 shows a fluctuating trend in the number of victims of sexual offence between 2022/23 and 2024/25. This type of crime was not collected in the 2020/21 and 2021/22 periods. The figure shows an increase in the number of victims of sexual offence from 30 000 in 2022/23 to 52 000 in 2023/24. However, there is an observed decline in 2024/25 (44 000), this decline is not statistically significant.

Figure 45 – Trends in psychological violence, 2022/23–2024/25
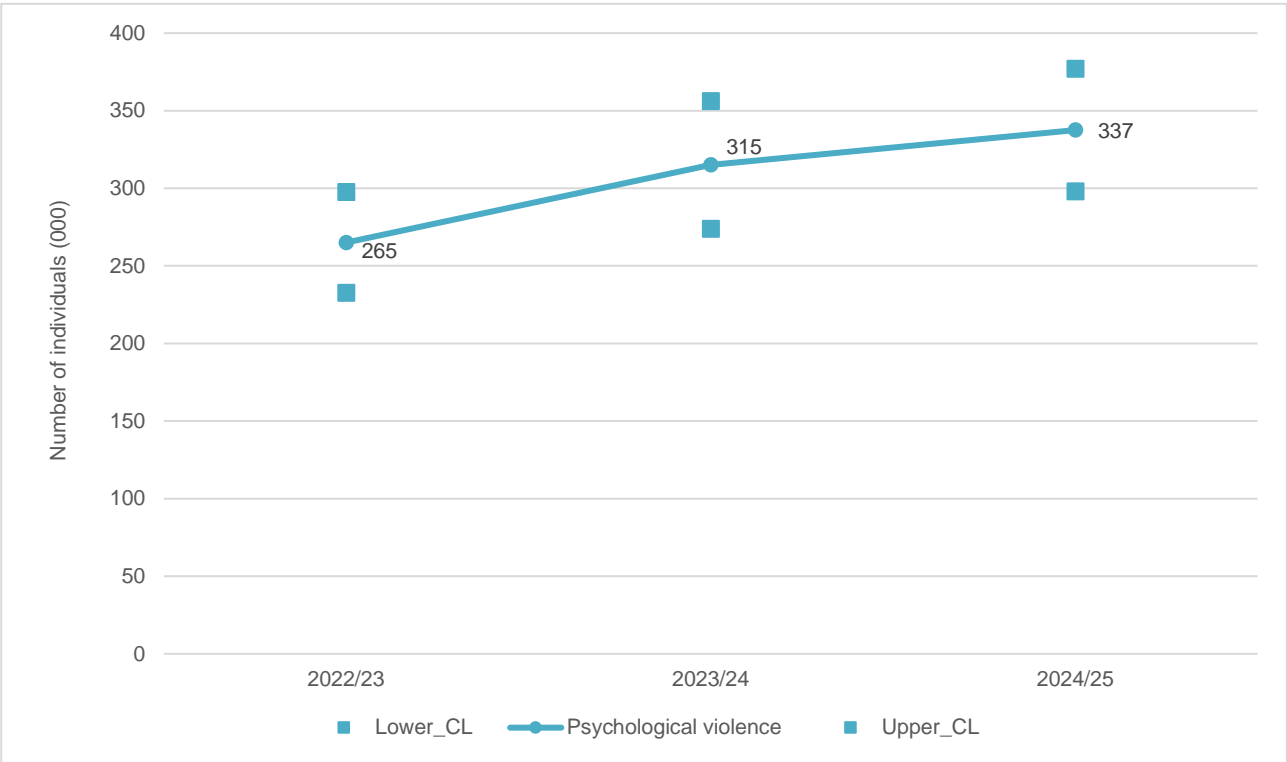
Figure 45 shows trends in the experience of psychological violence for individuals aged 16 years and older from the 2022/23 period to 2024/25. The figure shows an increase in the number of victims of psychological violence from 265 000 in 2022/23 to 315 000 in 2023/24 to a further increase of 337 000 in 2024/25. The increase in 2024/25 was not statistically significant.

5.2 Profile of selected individual crime types

5.2.1 Theft of personal property

Respondents were asked whether they experienced theft of personal property during the past 12 months, how many times, during which months, and whether they reported any incidences to the police.

Table 24 – Number and percentage of individuals that experienced theft of personal property by demographic characteristics of individuals, province and settlement type, 2024/25

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of individuals ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	768	647	3,0
Female	556	513	2,2
Population			
Black African	1 073	938	2,6
Coloured	139	118	3,0
Indian/Asian	12	12	0,9
White	100	92	2,5
Age group			
16–34	708	621	3,1
35–49	409	366	3,0
50–64	157	134	1,6
65+	49	38	1,0
Marital status			
Married	278	262	2,3
Living together like husband and wife	149	115	2,6
Divorced	35	24	2,6
Separated but still legally married	4	4	1,5
Widowed	53	47	1,7
Single	804	708	2,9
Highest level of education			
No schooling	7	5	0,4
Some primary	54	51	1,9
Completed primary	44	32	2,1
Some secondary	488	437	2,6
Completed secondary	483	412	2,7
Post school	231	206	3,3
Province			
Western Cape	215	187	3,4
Eastern Cape	104	91	2,1
Northern Cape	27	23	2,5
Free State	87	59	2,8
KwaZulu-Natal	193	167	2,0
North West	58	52	1,7
Gauteng	506	462	3,6
Mpumalanga	85	73	2,1
Limpopo	47	47	1,2
Metro status			
Metro	799	723	3,5
Non-metro	525	437	1,8

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
 Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
 Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 24 shows that males were more likely to experience theft of personal property than females in 2024/25. Persons aged 16–34 were most likely to experience this type of crime (3,1%). Individuals aged 65+ and older had the least likelihood of experiencing theft of personal property. Gauteng has the highest proportion of individuals who experienced theft of personal property (3,6%), closely followed by Western Cape (3,4%), and Free State (2,8%). Persons living in metro areas (3,5%) were more likely to experience theft of personal property compared to those in non-metro areas (1,8%).

Figure 46 – Number of individuals who experienced theft of personal property by month, 2020/21– 2024/25

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020/21	23	73	54	64	18	150	59	101	46	57	75	73
2021/22	140	119	145	117	57	228	57	74	50	67	73	118
2022/23	69	109	100	118	132	226	158	78	143	79	112	98
2023/24	104	125	133	139	95	128	134	63	120	92	103	140
2024/25	66	95	98	87	89	150	100	104	122	113	90	144
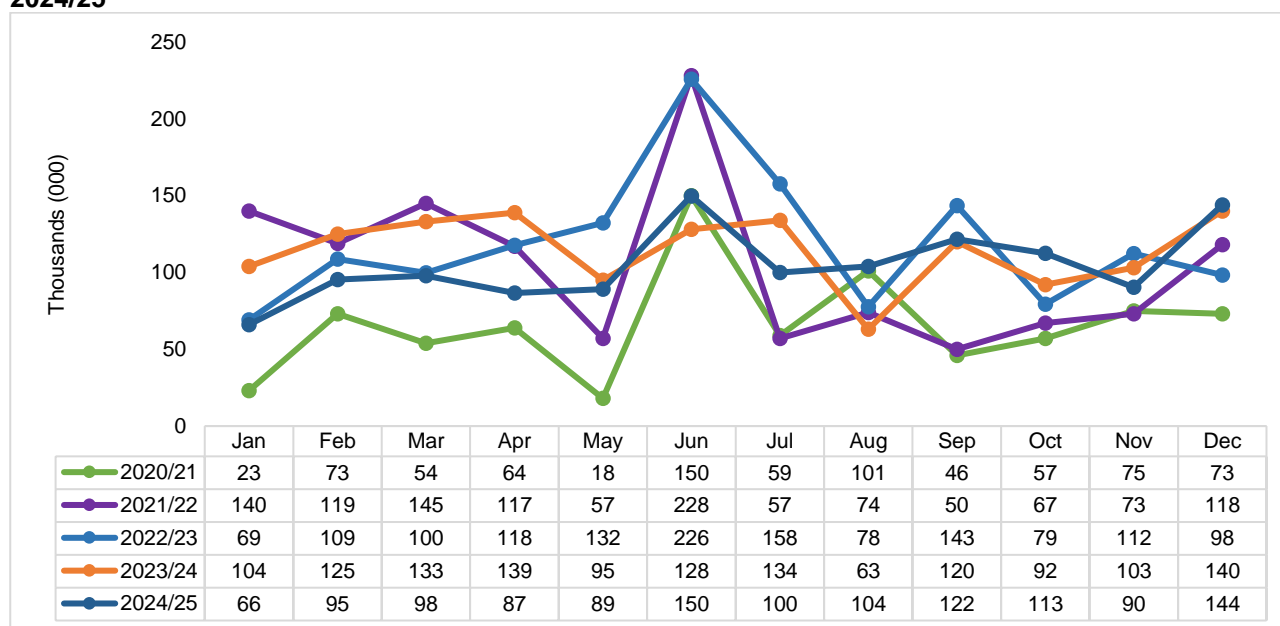
Figure 46 shows that although the patterns for each year are different, there is a common peak in the month of June for all four periods 2020/21 to 2022/23. In 2023/24 a peak is observed in April, July and December, while 2024/25 follows the same patterns as that in 2020/21 to 2022/23 periods.

Figure 47 – Percentage of victims that reported theft of personal property to the police, 2020/21–2024/25

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
■ Reported no incidences	69,5	69,2	58,6	71,5	69,0
■ Reported some incidences	0,8	3,3	7,8	1,2	2,6
■ Reported all incidences	29,7	27,5	33,5	27,3	28,4
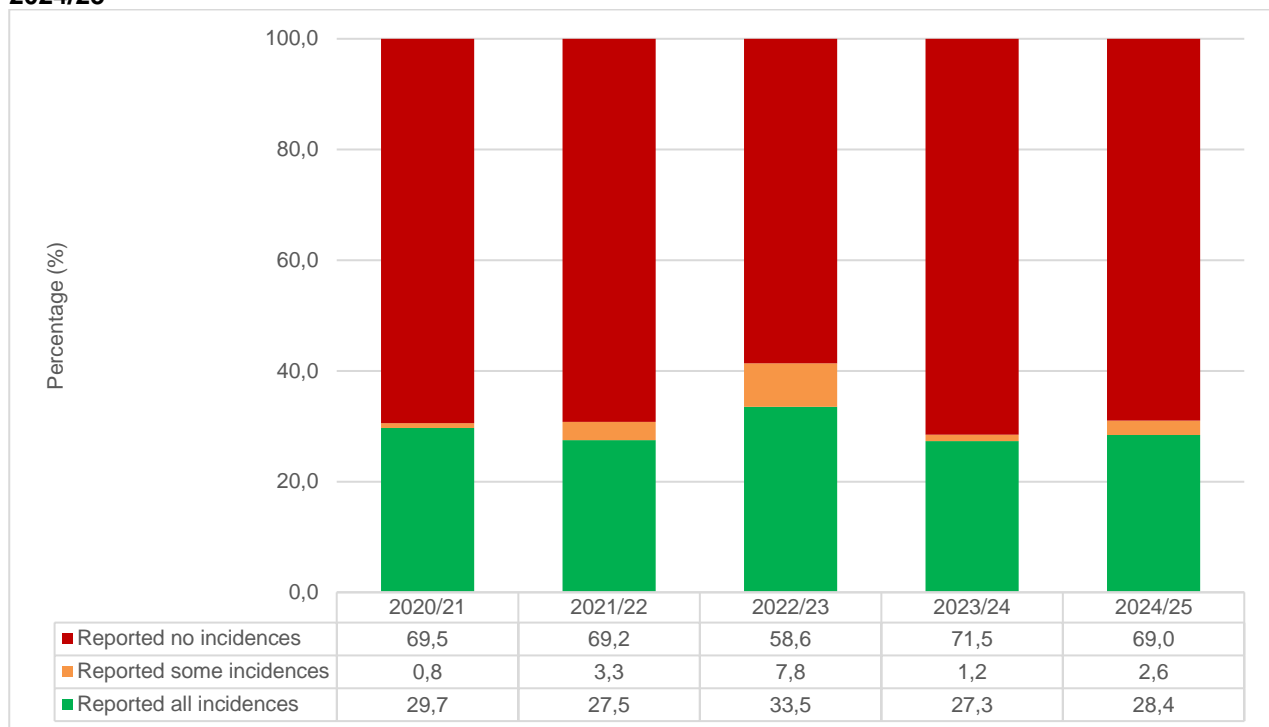
Figure 47 shows that 69,0% of victims of theft of personal property did not report the incidences in 2024/25 compared to 71,5% in 2023/24. The percentage of individuals who reported all incidences slightly increased from 27,3% in 2023/24 to 28,4% in 2024/25.

Figure 48 – Percentage distribution of reasons why victims did not report theft of personal property to the police, 2023/24 and 2024/25
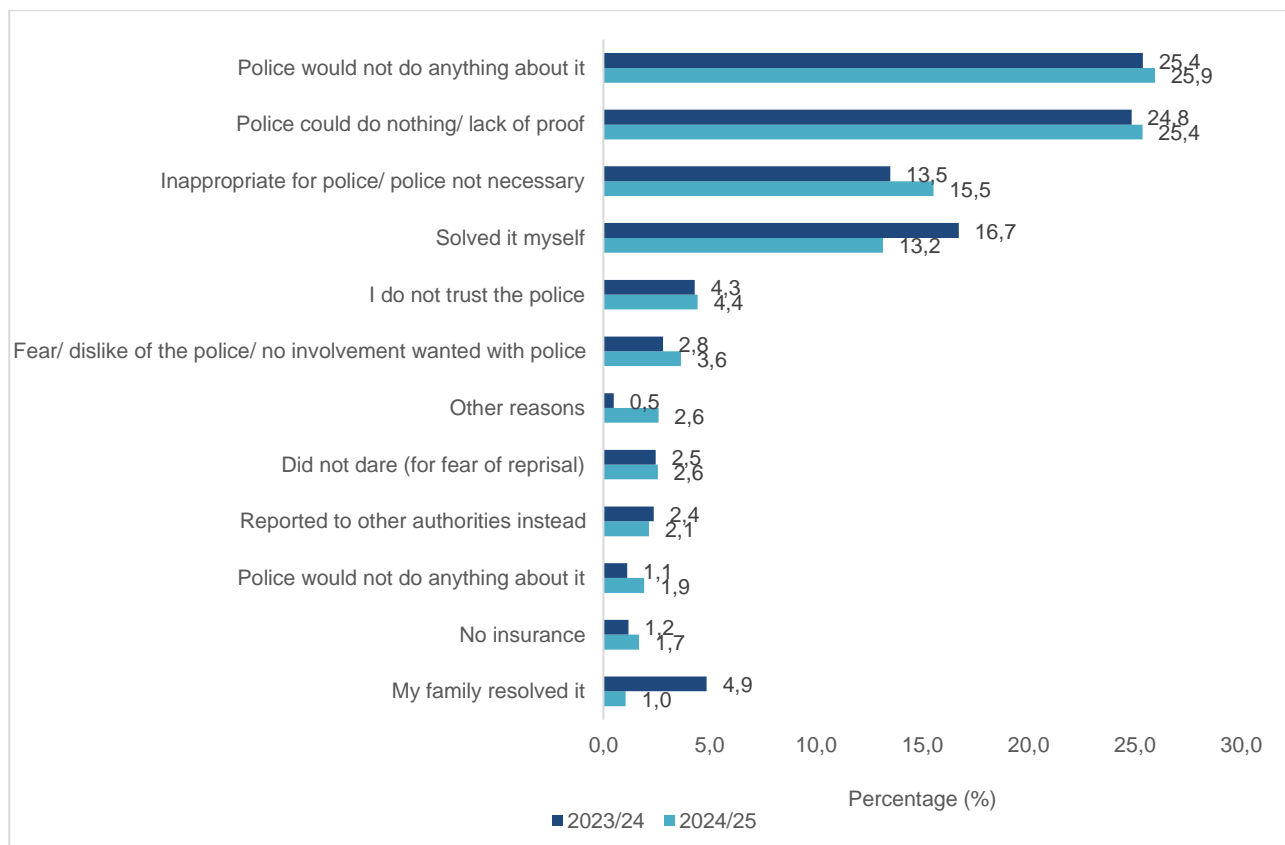
Figure 48 shows reasons why victims did not report theft of personal property to the police for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 periods. In both years, it was indicated that "police would not do anything" and "police could not do anything/lack of proof" were the two top reasons why people did not report theft of personal property to the police. The third common reason in 2024/25 is that it is "inappropriate for the police/ police not necessary" at 15,5%.

Table 25 – Summary of statistics for theft of personal property, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	844	1 331	1 520	1 409	1 323
Number of victims ('000)	732	1 105	1 228	1 324	1 160
Number of victims of theft of personal property who reported at least one incidence ('000)	223	340	508	377	360
Percentage of victims who reported at least one incidence of theft of personal property	30,5	30,8	41,4	28,5	31,0

Table 25 shows that the number of incidences of theft of personal property increased from 844 000 in 2020/21 to 1,3 million in 2021/22, then increased to 1,5 million in 2022/23. There was a slight decrease observed in 2023/24. The number of individuals who experienced theft of personal property further decreased to 1,3 million in 2024/25. The percentage of individuals who reported the incidences to the police slightly increased from 30,5% in 2020/21 to 30,8% in 2021/22, then increased in 2022/23 to 41,4%. Reporting of theft of personal property incidences increased by a 2,5 percentage points from 28,5% in 2023/24 to 31,0% in 2024/25.

5.2.2 Street Robbery

Street robbery, or simply robbery, is when there is contact between the perpetrator or perpetrators and the victim away from home. It excludes home robbery and car or truck hijacking.

Table 26 – Number and percentage of individuals that experienced street robbery by demographic characteristics of individuals, province and settlement type, 2024/25

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of individuals ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	332	312	1,5
Female	197	157	0,7
Population			
Black African	429	372	1,0
Coloured	61	58	1,5
Indian/Asian	9	9	0,7
White	31	31	0,9
Age group			
16–34	708	252	1,3
35–49	409	129	1,1
50–64	157	72	0,9
65+	49	16	0,4
Marital status			
Married	140	105	0,9
Living together like husband and wife	55	55	1,3
Divorced	4	4	0,4
Widowed	13	11	0,4
Single	316	294	1,2
Highest Level of Education			
No schooling	10	10	0,8
Some primary	50	21	0,8
Completed primary	13	13	0,8
Some secondary	186	177	1,1
Completed secondary	192	181	1,2
Post school	66	63	1,0
Province			
Western Cape	95	91	1,7
Eastern Cape	59	56	1,3
Northern Cape	9	8	0,9
Free State	14	14	0,6
KwaZulu-Natal	66	62	0,8
North West	60	34	1,1
Gauteng	193	171	1,3
Mpumalanga	19	19	0,6
Limpopo	14	14	0,4
Metro status			
Metro	354	324	1,6
Non-metro	175	146	0,6

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
 Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
 Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 26 above shows that males (1,5%) were more likely to experience robbery than females (0,7%) in 2024/25. Individuals aged 16–34 were most likely to experience street robbery (1,3%). Persons aged 65 years and older have the least likelihood of experiencing robbery at 0,4%. Western Cape has the highest proportion of individuals who experienced street robbery (1,7%), followed by Gauteng and Eastern Cape, both at 1,3%.

Persons living in metro areas were more likely to experience theft of personal property compared to those in non-metro areas.

Figure 49 – Number of individuals who experienced street robbery by month, 2020/21–2024/25

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020/21	10	13	61	18	33	25	4	11	36	13	44	74
2021/22	17	32	9	27	58	23	12	22	35	6	19	18
2023/24	22	47	37	35	39	70	41	23	21	36	43	55
2024/25	34	36	29	14	29	61	39	36	49	46	48	69
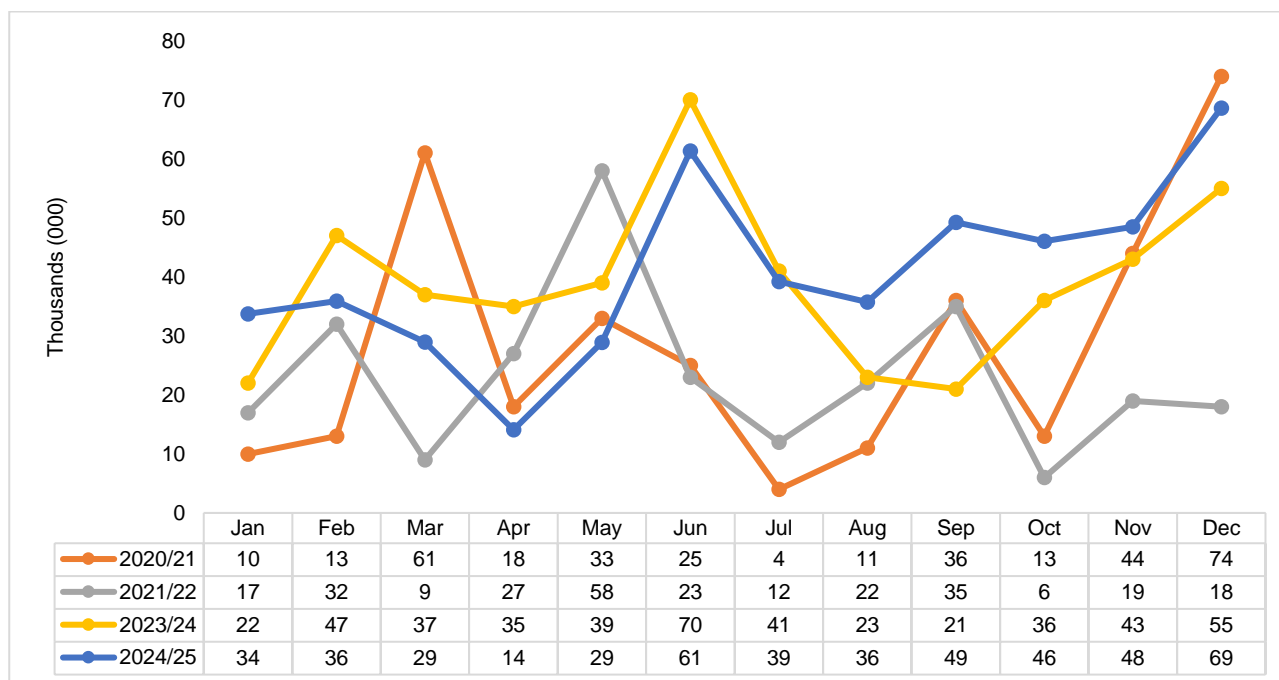
Figure 49 shows that although the patterns for each year are different, there is a common peak in the month of June for 2023/24 and 2024/25. In 2024/25, a high number of individuals aged 16 years and older were more likely to experience robbery incidences in December (69 000) and June (61 000).

Figure 50 – Percentage distribution of use and type of weapons during street robbery, 2024/25
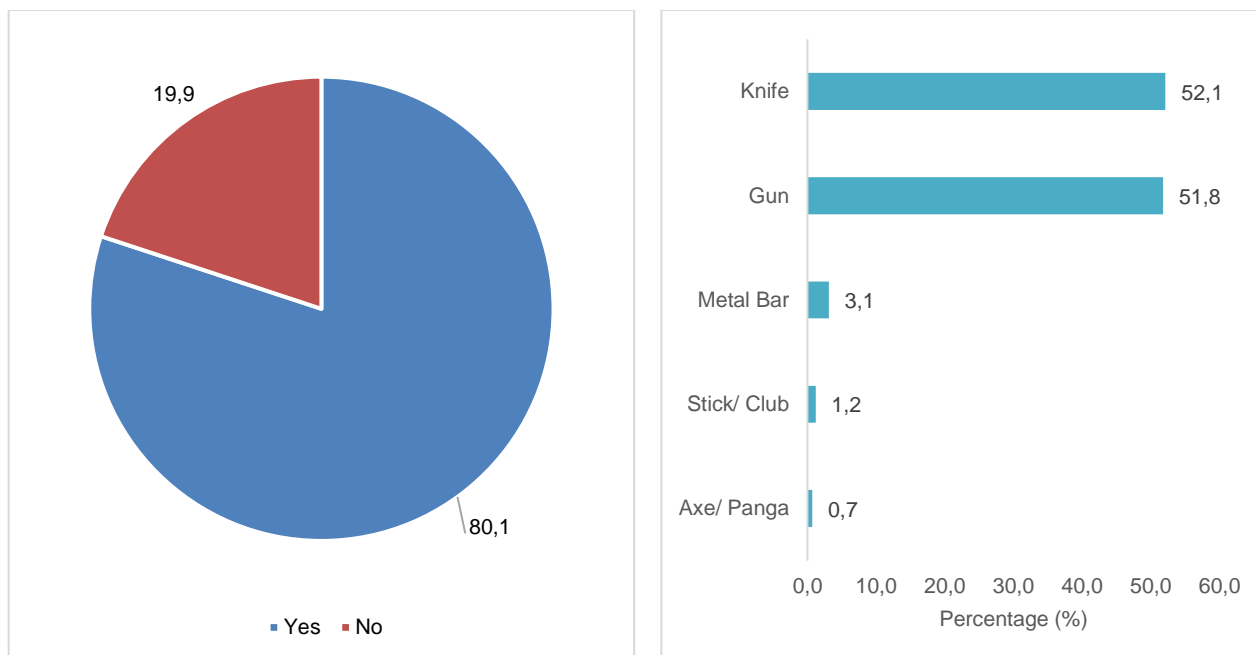
Figure 50 shows that weapons were used in 80,1% of robbery incidences in 2024/25. A knife (52,1%) was the most used weapon in robbery incidences in the 2024/25 period, followed by the use of a gun (51,8%), then a metal bar (3,1%). Axe/panga was the least used weapon at 0,7%.

Figure 51 – Percentage of victims that reported robbery to the police, 2023/24 and 2024/25

	2023/24	2024/25
Reported no incidence	55,8	63,6
Reported some incidents	0,0	0,9
Reported all incidents	44,2	35,4
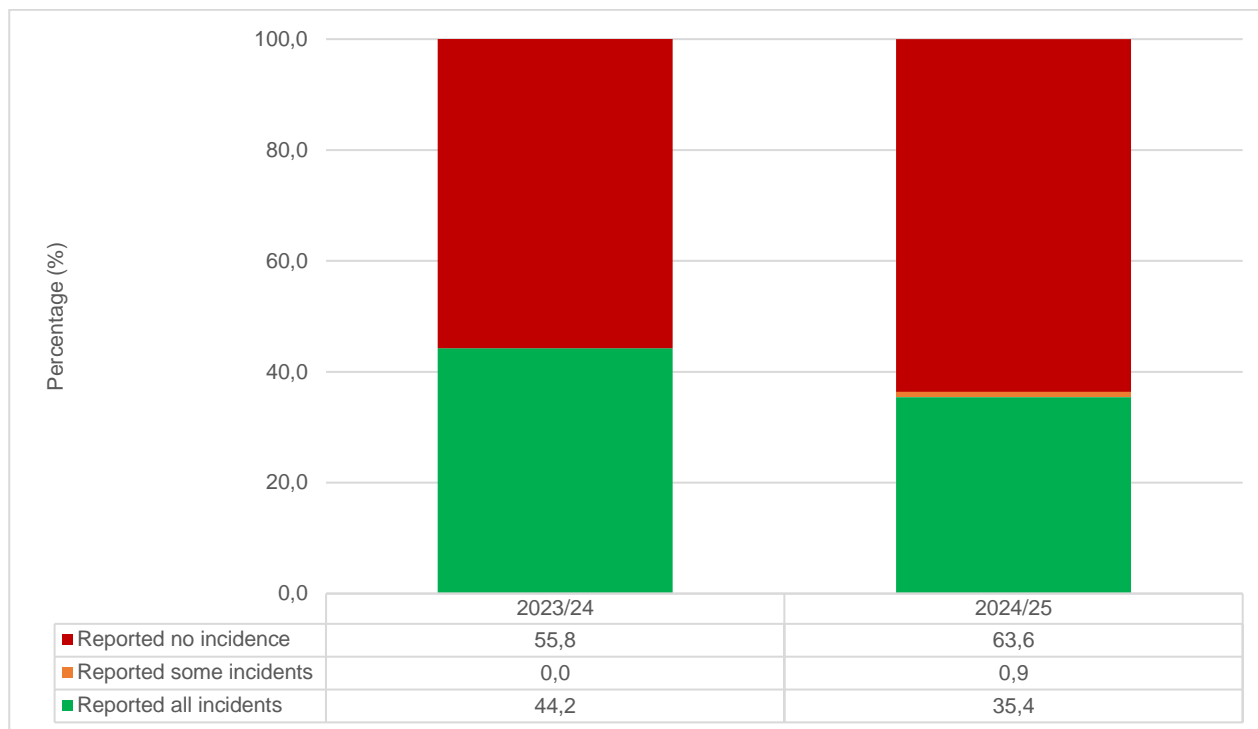
Figure 51 above shows that in 2024/25, a higher proportion (63,6%) of persons who experienced robbery did not report the incidences to the police, compared to 55,8% in 2023/24. About 35,4% of street robbery victims reported all the incidences to the police.

Figure 52 – Percentage distribution of reasons why individuals did not report robbery incidents to the police, 2023/24 and 2024/25
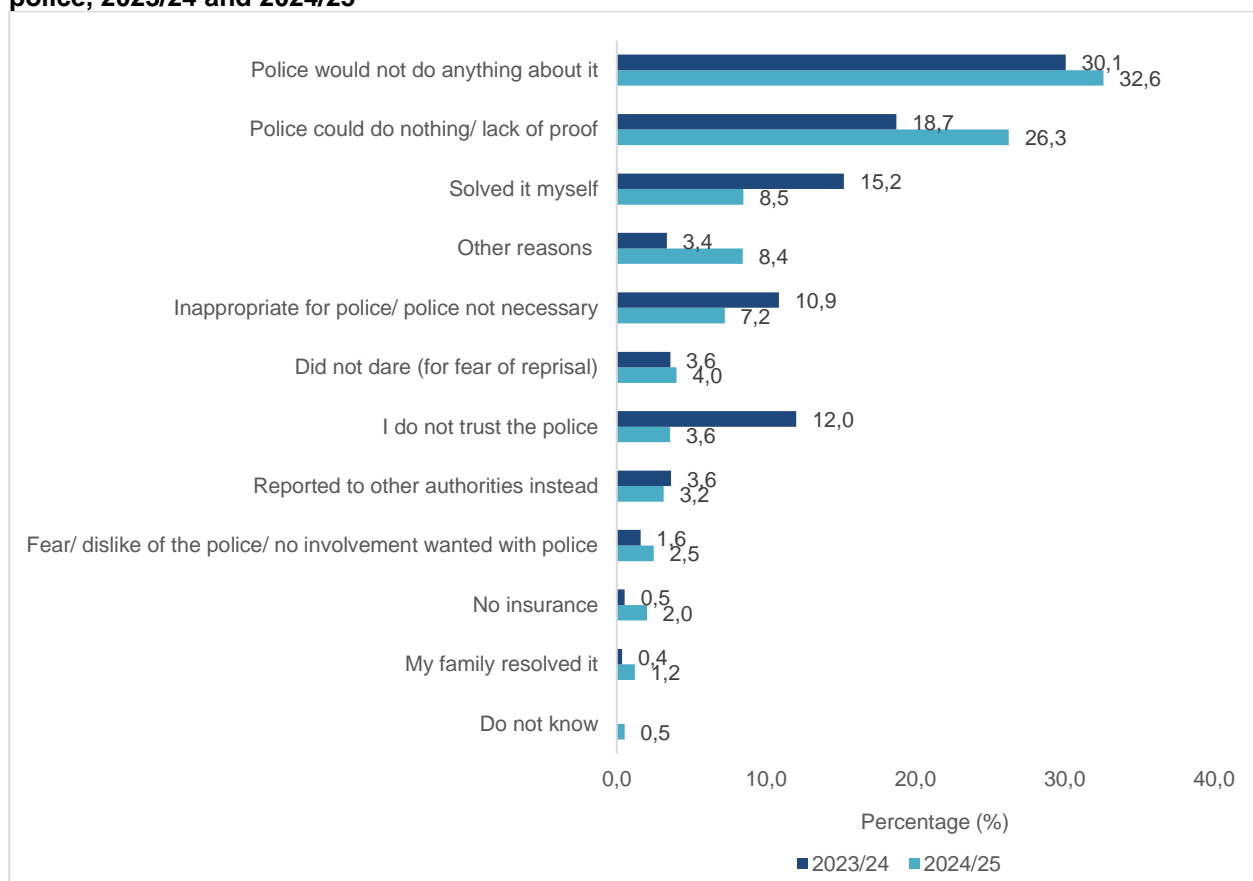
Figure 52 shows reasons why victims did not report street robbery to the police in 2023/24 and 2024/25. In both years, "police would not do anything about it" and "police could do nothing/lack of proof" were the two top reasons why people did not report robbery to the police, both increased from 30,1% and 18,7% in 2023/24 period to 32,6% and 26,3% in 2024/25 period respectively.

Table 27 – Summary of statistics for street robbery, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	346	295	497	529
Number of individuals who experienced street robbery ('000)	304	246	443	470
Number of individuals who reported at least one incidence ('000) of street robbery to the police	167	83	196	171
Percentage of individuals who reported at least one incidences of street robbery to the police	54,9	33,7	44,2	36,4

Table 27 above shows that 470 000 individuals experienced street robbery with 529 000 incidences in 2024/25, and 171 000 individuals reported at least one incidence of robbery to the police. The number of people who experienced this crime increased from 443 000 in 2023/24 to 470 000 in 2024/25. Reporting of street robbery has decreased from 44,2% in 2023/24 to 36,4% in 2024/25.

5.2.3 Psychological Violence

Psychological violence involves non-physical harassment, somebody making offensive or threatening or humiliating comments to another person, such as insulting or calling the other person names. Indicator 16.1.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) measures the proportion of the population subjected to physical, psychological, and sexual violence in the previous 12 months. Psychological violence has never been measured in the GPSJS prior to the 2022/23 period. Respondents were asked whether they experienced psychological violence during the past 12 months, how many times, during which months, and whether they reported any incidences to the police.

Table 28 – Number and percentage of individuals that experienced psychological violence by demographic characteristics, province, and settlement type, 2024/25

Demographic Characteristic	Number of Individuals ('000)	Percentage
Sex		
Male	131	0,6
Female	207	0,9
Age Group		
16–34	152	0,8
35–49	104	0,9
50–64	66	0,8
65+	16	0,4
Marital status		
Married	74	0,7
Living together like husband and wife	30	0,7
Divorced	8	0,9
Separated but still legally married	4	1,7
Widowed	19	0,7
Single	202	4,9
Highest Level of Education		
No schooling	6	0,5
Some primary	21	0,8
Completed primary	28	1,8
Some secondary	130	0,8
Completed secondary	83	0,6
Post-school	68	1,1
Province		
Western Cape	18	0,3
Eastern Cape	52	1,2
Northern Cape	20	2,2
Free State	33	1,5
KwaZulu-Natal	34	0,4
North-West	48	1,6
Gauteng	71	0,6
Mpumalanga	42	1,2
Limpopo	20	0,5
Metro status		
Metro	91	0,4
Non-metro	246	1,0

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 28 shows that females (0,9%) were more likely to experience psychological violence than males (0,6%) in 2024/25. Those in the age group 35–49 (0,9%) were more likely to experience psychological violence compared to the other age groups. The table also shows that individuals who were single (4,9%) were more likely to experience psychological violence, followed by those who are separated but still legally married (1,7%), compared to those with other marital statuses. Northern Cape (2,2%) has the highest proportion of individuals who experienced psychological violence, followed by North West (1,6%) and Free State (1,5%). Persons living in non-metro areas were most likely to experience psychological violence.

Figure 53 – Percentage distribution of frequency of occurrence for psychological violence by sex, 2024/25
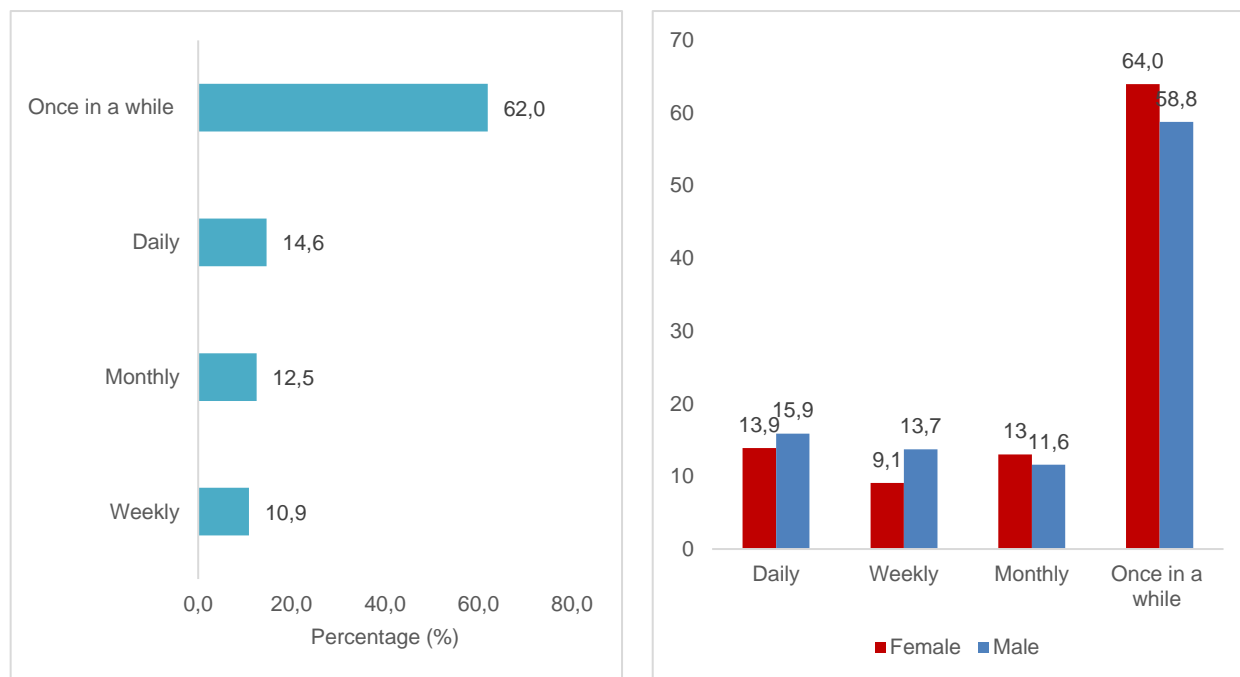
Figure 53 presents the frequency of psychological violence experienced by the victims in 2024/25 by sex. Almost two-thirds of the victims (62,0%) reported that they experienced psychological violence "once in a while", followed by those who were experiencing it daily at 14,6%. Looking at this by sex, the figure shows that males (15,9%) were more likely to experience this type of crime daily. Females experienced this crime once in a while at 64,0%.

Table 29 – Percentage distribution of frequency of occurrence for psychological violence by demographic variables, 2024/25

Demographic Characteristic	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Once in a while
Sex				
Male	15,9	13,7	11,6	58,8
Female	13,9	9,1	13,0	64,0
Age Group				
16–34	17,6	13,8	10,9	57,6
35–49	11,1	9,6	6,8	72,5
50–64	16,8	8,9	14,6	59,8
65+			56,9	43,1
Marital status				
Married	18,7	15,1	6,0	60,2
Living together like husband and wife	8,8	2,0	18,7	70,6
Divorced	13,1	5,1	55,7	26,1
Separated but still legally married			18,4	81,6
Widowed	15,7	0,0	19,0	65,3
Single	14,3	12,2	11,6	61,9
Province				
Western Cape	5,4	16,2	0,0	78,5
Eastern Cape	15,4	2,8	1,0	80,8
Northern Cape	4,1	21,2	36,2	38,5
Free State	14,9	2,7	4,3	78,1
KwaZulu-Natal	20,3	0,0	2,2	77,5
North-West	7,3	21,2	26,7	44,8
Gauteng	24,4	22,5	21,9	31,2
Mpumalanga	9,8	2,1	7,6	80,4
Limpopo	14,4	3,5	3,8	78,3
Metro status				
Metro	24,7	18,5	7,3	49,4
Non-metro	10,9	8,1	14,4	66,6

Table 29 shows among those who experience psychological violence males (15,9%) were more likely to experience psychological violence daily than females (13,9%). Those in the age group 16–34 were more likely to experience psychological violence daily (17,6%) compared to other age groups. Those who reside in Gauteng province were most likely to experience daily psychological violence followed by those in KwaZulu-Natal at 20,3%. Similarly, those in metro areas were more likely to experience it daily compared to those in non-metro areas.

Figure 54 – Percentage distribution of where psychological violence incidences occurred by sex, 2024/25
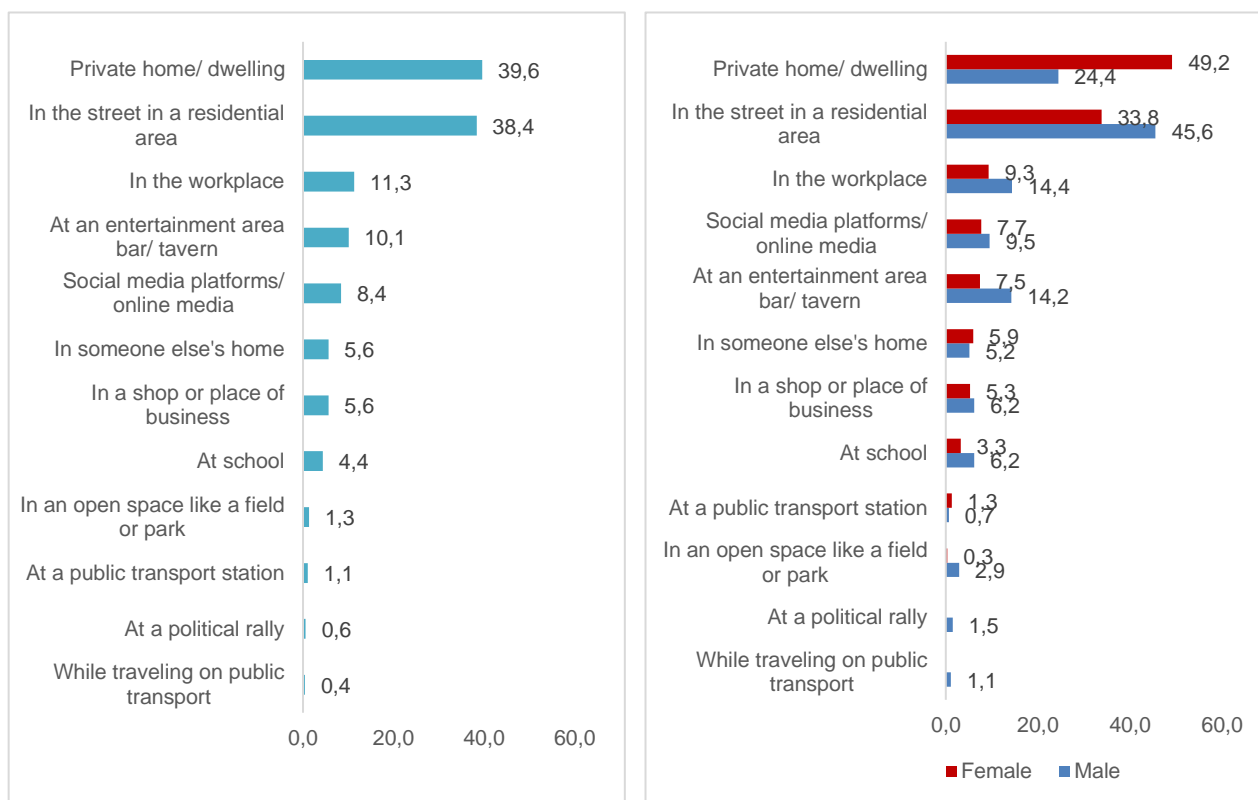
Figure 54 shows the percentage distribution of where psychological violence occurred in 2024/25. The figure shows that most of the psychological violence incidents occurred in a private home/dwelling (39,6%), closely followed by those occurring in the street in a residential area (38,4%) and in the work place (11,3%). While travelling on public transport was the least common place for psychological violence occurrences at 0,4%. The figure also shows that females were more likely to experience this crime in a private home/dwelling at 49,2% compared to males at 24,4%. On the other hand, males were more likely to experience these incidences in the street in a residential area at 45,6% than females at 33,8%.

Figure 55 – Number of individuals who experienced psychological violence by month, 2022/23 and 2024/25

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2022/23	49	74	50	69	64	48	53	52	44	50	45	63
2023/24	58	81	71	81	82	76	63	54	68	73	63	60
2024/25	71	73	90	84	77	71	76	75	92	72	73	72
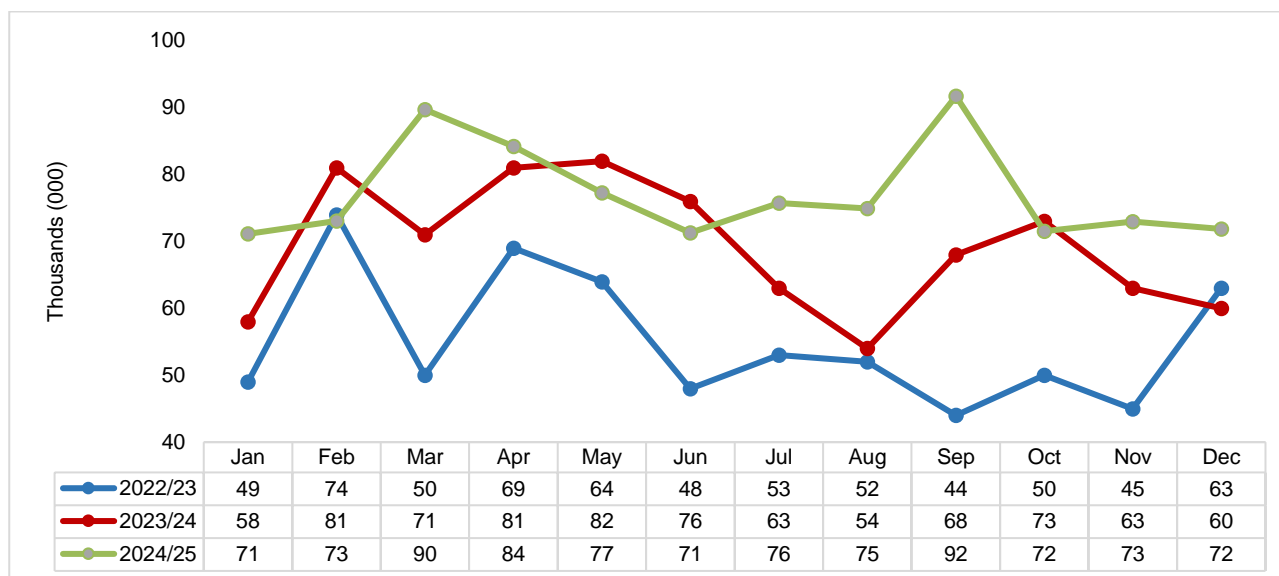
Figure 55 shows that the number of individuals 16 years and older who were victims of psychological violence was consistently higher in 2023/24 compared to 2022/23, except in December (63 000) in 2022/23 and in 2023/24 (60 000). In both periods, individuals were more likely to experience incidences of psychological violence in February (74 000) in 2022/23 and (81 000) in 2023/24. However, in 2024/25 individuals were more likely to experience psychological violence in September (92 000) and March (90 000).

Figure 56 – Percentage distribution of the type of psychological violence incidences experienced in 2024/25

Type	Percentage (%)
Insulting you or calling you names	80,4
Through gestures that demean, insult/ humiliate you	26,0
Somebody followed you against your will physically	8,9
Through messages, e-mails / calls	8,6
Somebody posted photos/ videos of you online	6,8
Being followed online against your will in a way that made you feel uncomfortable	3,6
Catfishing/ impersonating somebody online by using his/her photos or and videos	2,8

Figure 56 shows that the most common type of psychological violence experienced by individuals in 2024/25 was "insulting you or calling you names" at 80,4%, followed by "through gestures that demean, insult/ humiliate you" (26,0%).

Figure 57 – Percentage distribution of the type of psychological violence incidences that were experienced by sex, 2024/25
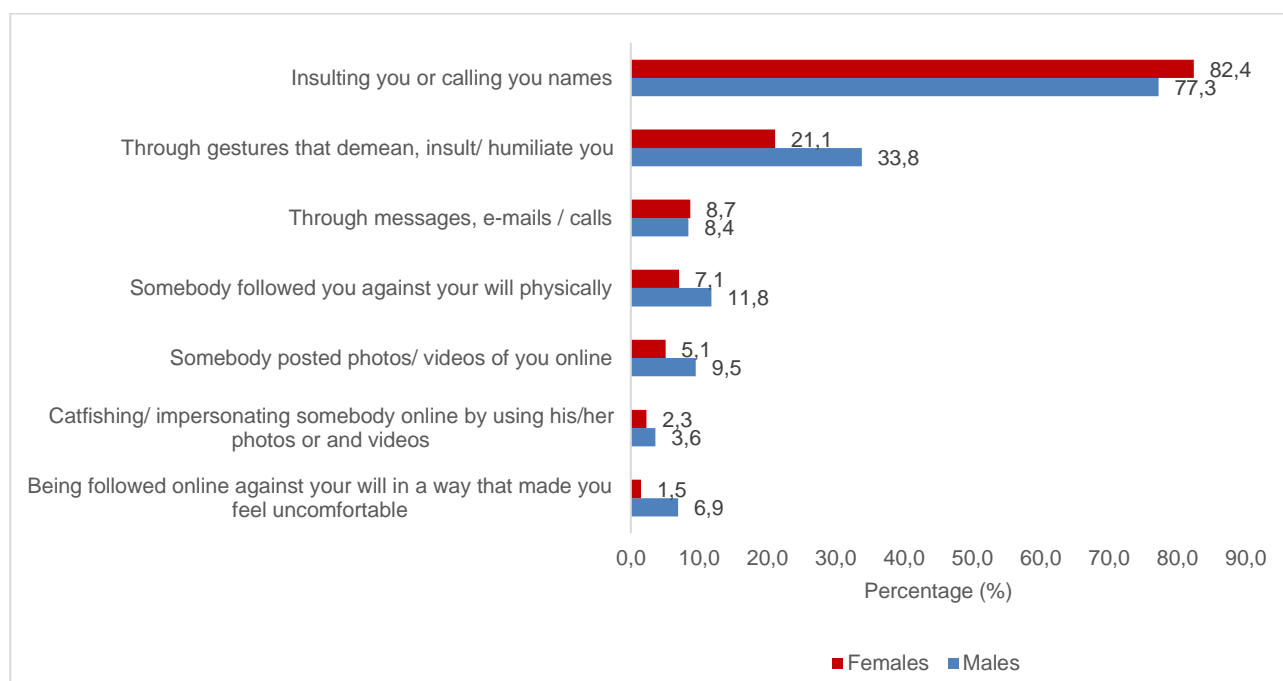
Figure 57 shows the most common type of psychological violence experienced by sex in 2024/25. Females were more likely to experience "insulting you or calling you names" type of psychological violence at 82,4% compared to males at 77,3%. Males were more likely to experience psychological violence "through gestures that demean, insult/ humiliate you" at 33,8% compared to females at 21,1%.

Figure 58 – Percentage distribution of perpetrators of incidences of psychological violence committed, 2024/25
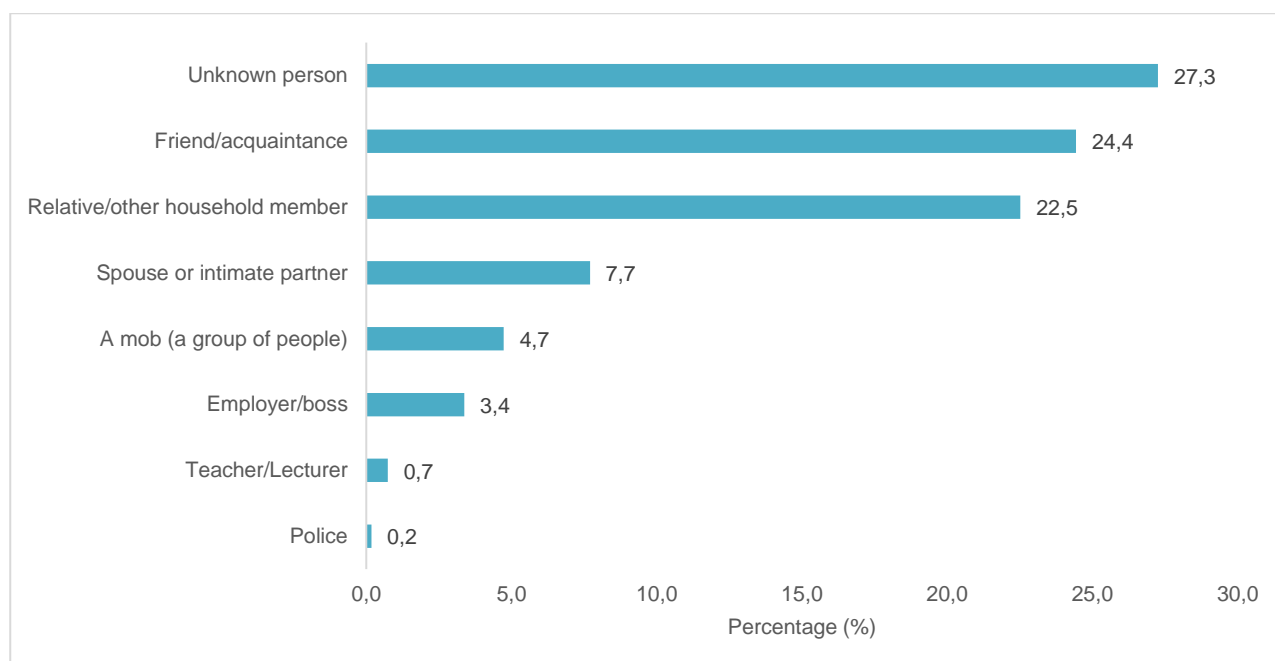
Figure 58 shows that the common perpetrator of psychological violence in 2024/25 was an unknown person at 27,3%, followed by a friend/acquaintance at 24,4% and a relative/other household member at 22,5%. Police were the least common perpetrators of psychological violence at 0,2%.

Figure 59 – Percentage distribution of perpetrators of incidences of psychological violence committed by sex, 2024/25
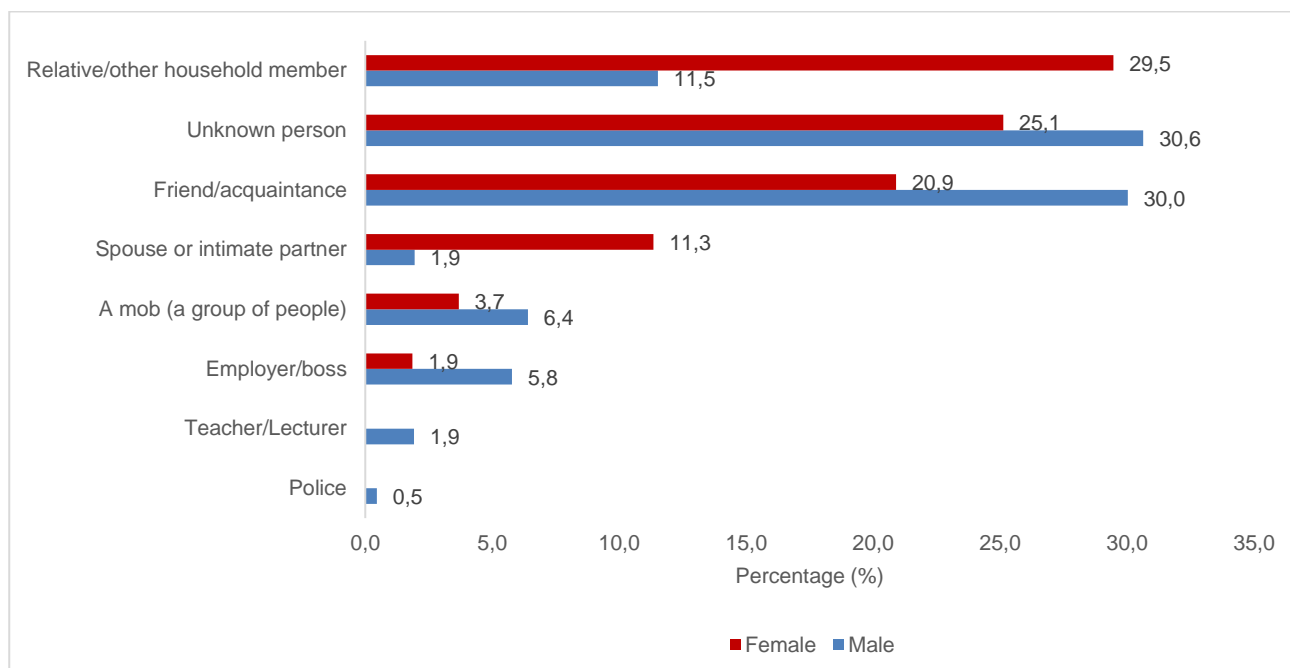
Figure 59 presents the common perpetrators of psychological violence in 2024/25 for both males and females. Females were more likely to experience psychological violence from a relative/other household member (29,5%), while males were more likely to experience it from an unknown person (30,6%). Females aged 16 years and older experienced psychological violence from a spouse or intimate partner (11,3%) more than males (1,9%).

Figure 60 – Percentage of victims that reported psychological violence to the police, 2022/23–2024/25

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Reported no incidences	69,0	61,1	73,5
Reported some incidences	8,2	11,2	3,1
Reported all incidences	22,9	27,8	23,5
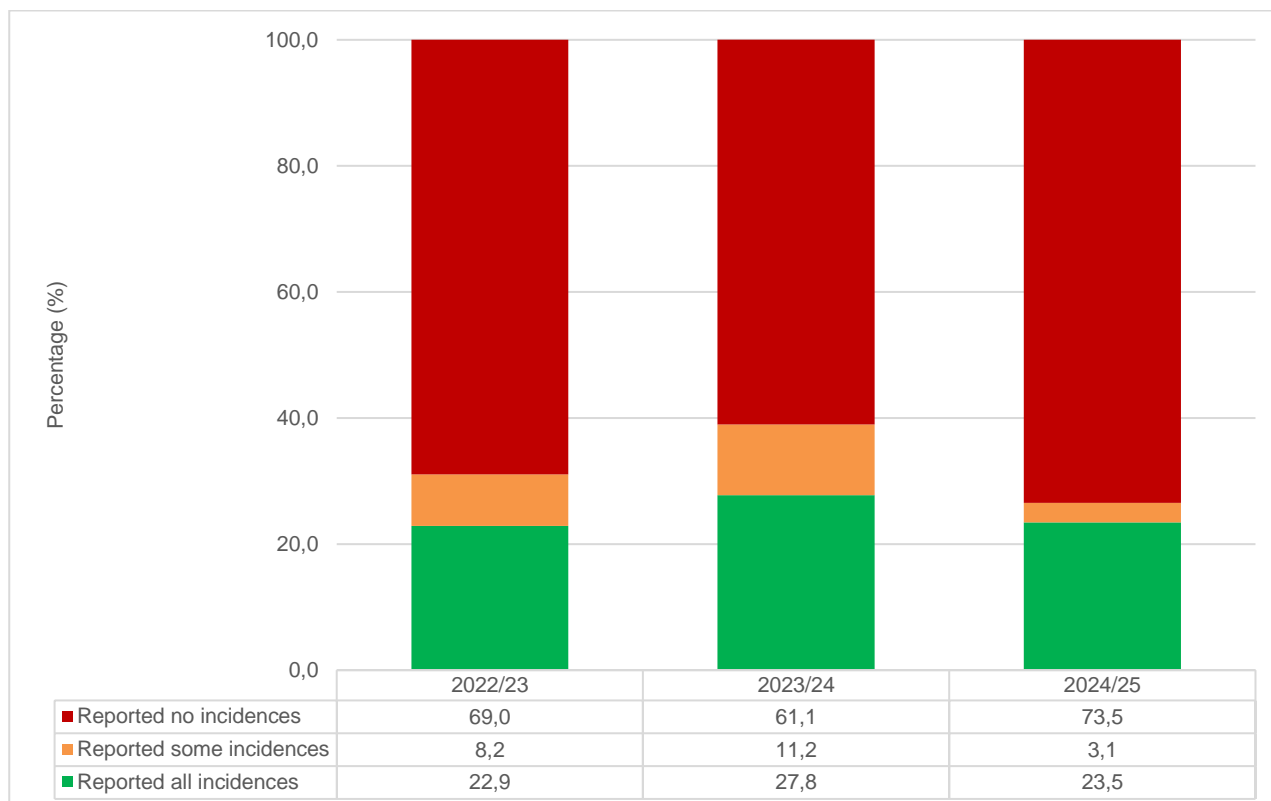
Figure 60 shows that 69,0% of victims of psychological violence did not report any of the incidences in 2022/23, and a decrease was observed in 2023/24 (61,1%). There was an increase observed in 2024/25 at 73,5% for those that did not report any incidents to the police. Proportions of those who reported all incidences to the police decreased from 27,8% in 2023/24 to 23,5% in 2024/25.

Figure 61 – Percentage distribution of reasons why individuals did not report psychological violence incidents to the police, 2023/24 and 2024/25
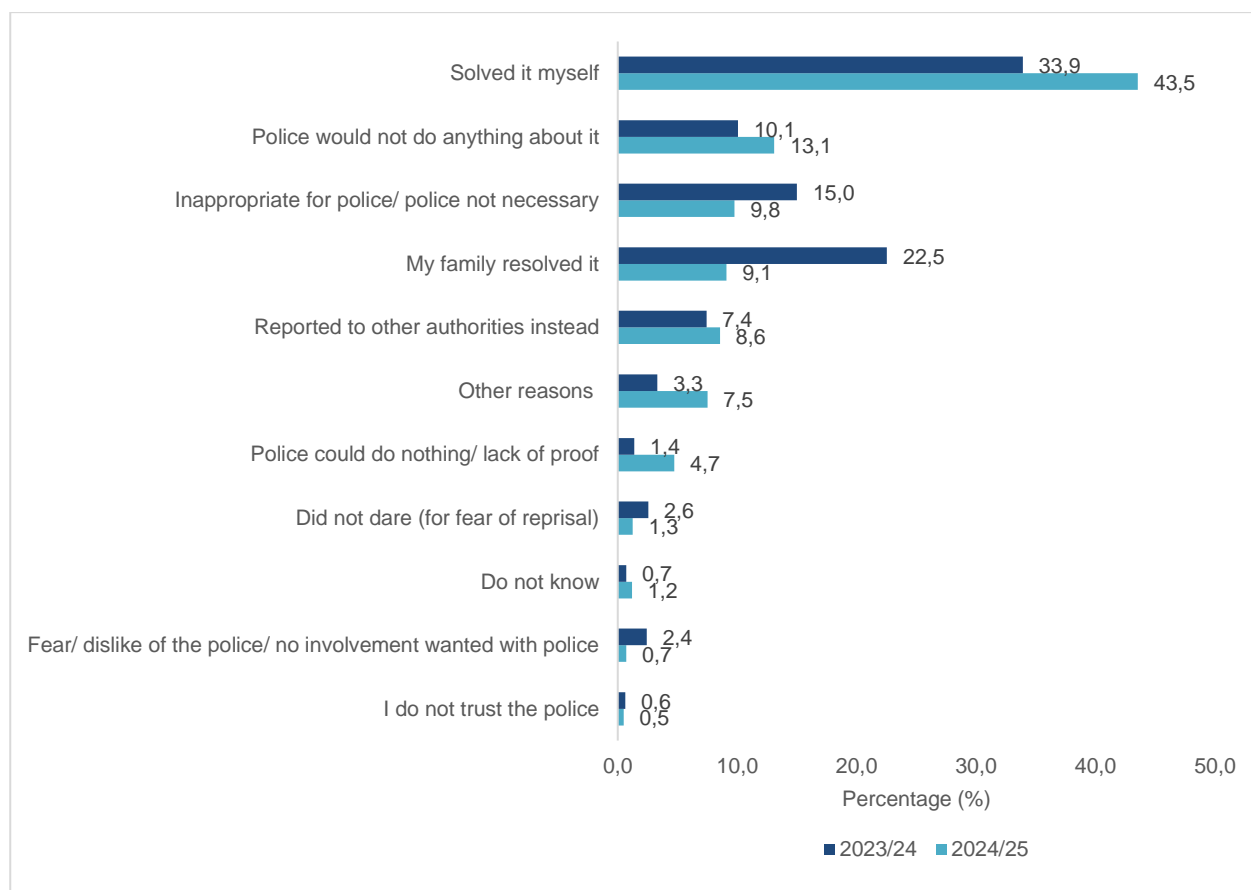
Figure 61 shows reasons why victims did not report psychological violence to the police in 2023/24 and 2024/25. In both years, "solved it myself" was the top reason why people did not report this crime to the police; this reason increased from 33,9% in 2023/24 to 43,5% in 2024/25.

Table 30 – Summary of statistics for psychological violence, 2022/23–2024/25

Indicator	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	1 257	1 142	***
Number of individuals who experienced psychological violence ('000)	265	315	337
Number of individuals who reported at least one incidence ('000) of psychological violence to the police	82	122	90
Percentage of individuals who reported at least one incidence of psychological violence to the police	31,1	39,0	26,6

***Methodology for calculating incidents changed in the 2024/25 period.

Table 30 shows that 265 000 individuals experienced 1,3 million incidences of psychological violence in 2022/23, and decreased in 2023/24 to 1,1 million incidences. A total of 82 000 individuals reported at least one incidence of psychological violence, which was 31,1% of the individuals that experienced psychological violence in 2022/23. In 2023/24, the number of people who reported at least one incidence increased to 122 000, which is 39,0% of the individuals who experienced psychological violence. In 2024/25, the number went down to 90 000 for those who reported at least one incident (26,6%).

5.2.4 Consumer fraud

Consumer fraud happens when someone provides services or goods and cheats on the quality or quantity. It includes advance-fee fraud (e.g., the R99 debit/credit card scam, 419 scams, online shopping). Adults aged 16 years and older were asked whether they were victims of consumer fraud 12 months prior to the survey date.

Table 31 – Number and percentage of individuals that experienced consumer fraud by demographic characteristics of individuals, province and settlement type, 2024/25

Demographic Characteristic	Number of Incidences ('000)	Number of Individuals ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	389	262	1,2
Female	422	303	1,3
Population Group			
Black African	549	352	1,0
Coloured	40	36	0,9
Indian/Asian	28	22	1,7
White	193	156	4,2
Age Group			
16–34	214	165	0,8
35–49	258	180	1,5
50–64	242	142	1,7
65+	96	78	1,9
Marital Status			
Married	377	262	2,3
Living together like husband and wife	76	58	1,3
Divorced	24	16	1,8
Separated but still legally married	1	1	0,2
Widowed	45	25	0,9
Single	288	203	0,8
Highest Level of Education			
No schooling	3	3	0,3
Some primary	10	8	0,3
Completed primary	7	5	0,3
Some secondary	144	101	0,6
Completed secondary	278	177	1,2
Post-school	370	271	4,3
Province			
Western Cape	69	47	0,9
Eastern Cape	54	37	0,9
Northern Cape	12	11	1,2
Free State	24	20	1,0
KwaZulu-Natal	133	103	1,3
North West	93	43	1,4
Gauteng	359	260	2,0
Mpumalanga	54	35	1,0
Limpopo	13	9	0,2
Metro status			
Metro	504	361	1,8
Non-metro	306	205	0,9

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 31 shows that females (1,3%) were more likely to be victims of consumer fraud than males (1,2%). Those with post-school highest level of education were more likely to experience consumer fraud (4,3%) followed by those who completed secondary schooling (1,2%). People in metro areas (1,8%) were also more likely to be victims than people living in non-metro (0,9%) areas.

Figure 62 – Percentage of victims that reported consumer fraud to the police, 2020/21–2024/25

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
■ Reported no incidences	58,7	55,8	61,9	69,2	65,1
■ Reported some incidences	2,1	6,7	2,6	3,5	1,3
■ Reported all incidences	39,1	37,5	35,5	27,2	33,7
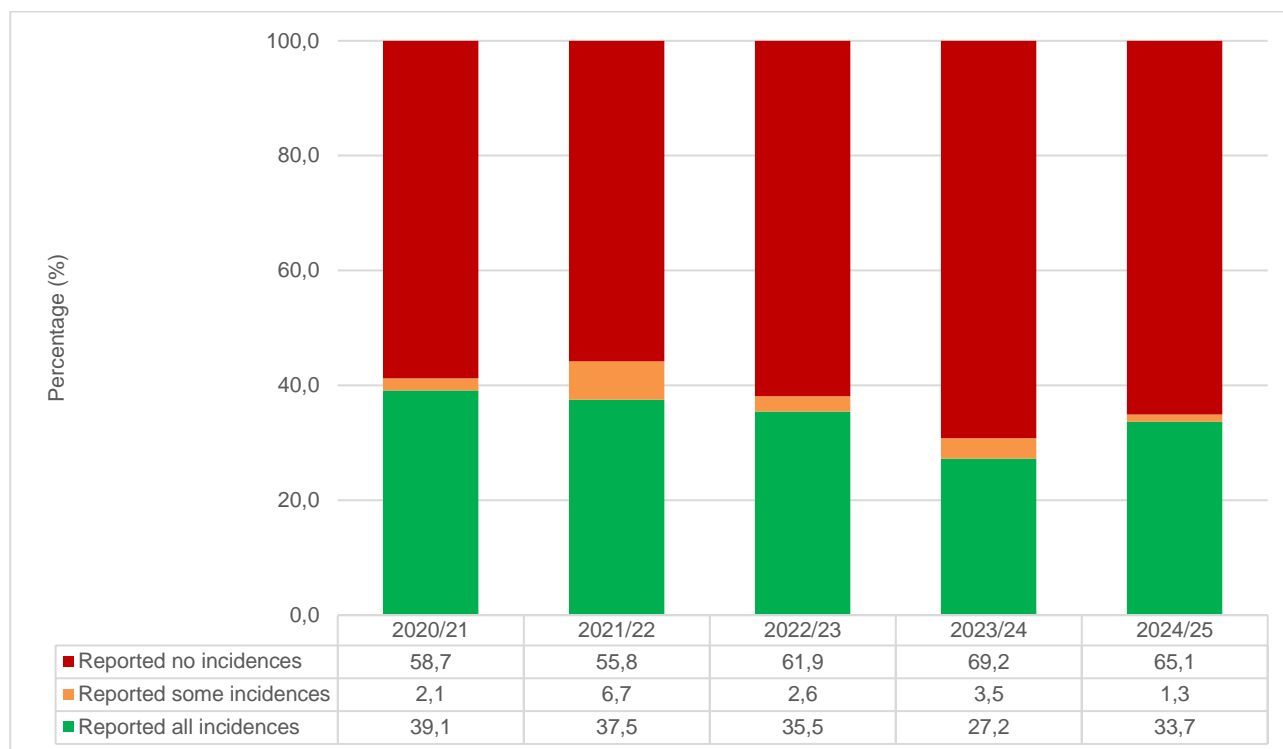
Figure 62 shows the reporting of consumer fraud from 2020/21 to 2024/25. A decrease is observed from 69,2% in 2023/24 to 65,1% in 2024/25 for victims of consumer fraud that did not report any incidences to the police. The percentage of individuals who reported all the incidences increased by 6,5 percentage points from 27,2% in 2023/24 to 33,7% in 2024/25.

Table 32 – Summary of statistics for consumer fraud, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	493	844	487	552	811
Number of victims of consumer fraud ('000)	321	376	314	367	566
Number of victims of consumer fraud who reported at least one incidence ('000)	132	166	120	113	198
Percentage of victims of consumer fraud who reported at least one incidence	41,2	44,2	38,1	30,7	34,9

Table 32 shows that the number of incidences of consumer fraud increased from 493 000 in 2020/21 to 844 000 in 2021/22, then decreased to 487 000 in 2022/23. In 2023/24 the number of incidences of consumer fraud increased to 552 000 and a further increase is observed in 2024/25 (811 000). The number of individuals who experienced consumer fraud decreased from 321 000 in 2020/21 to 376 000 in 2021/22.There was an increase observed between 2022/23 and 2023/24 periods and a further increase is observed in 2024/25. The percentage of individuals who reported the incidences to the police increased from 41,2% in 2020/21 to 44,2% in 2021/22. The reporting of consumer fraud decreased by 6,1 percentage point from 44,2% in 2021/22 to 38,1% in 2022/23 and further decreased to 30,7% in 2023/24. In 2024/25, the reporting increased by 4,2 percentage points.

5.2.5 Assault

Twelve questions were asked concerning the individual experience of assault in the 12 months preceding the survey, including the number of times the respondent had been assaulted, the month the incidences took place, and whether they reported the incidences to the police.

Table 33 – Number and percentage of individuals that experienced assault by demographic characteristics of individuals, province and settlement type, 2024/25

Demographic Characteristic	Number of Incidences ('000)	Number of Individuals ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	273	217	1,0
Female	288	145	0,6
Age Group			
16–34	373	234	1,2
35–49	160	103	0,9
50–64	21	20	0,2
65+	7	5	0,1
Highest Level of Education			
No schooling	2	1	0,1
Some primary	21	9	0,3
Completed primary	20	20	1,3
Some secondary	299	164	1,0
Completed secondary	129	101	0,7
Post-school	43	36	0,6
Province			
Western Cape	99	86	1,6
Eastern Cape	121	38	0,9
Northern Cape	22	22	2,4
Free State	75	27	1,3
KwaZulu-Natal	25	25	0,3
North West	54	42	1,4
Gauteng	94	77	0,6
Mpumalanga	47	28	0,8
Limpopo	24	18	0,4
Metro status			
Metro	156	131	0,6
Non-metro	405	232	1,0

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 33 shows that males (1,0%) were more likely to experience assault than females (0,6%). Northern Cape had the highest proportion of individuals who experienced assault (2,4%), while KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo had the smallest proportion at 0,3% and 0,4% respectively. Individuals in non-metros almost had double the proportion of individuals (1,0%) that experienced assault, compared to the proportion of individuals in metros (0,6%).

Figure 63 – Percentage of incidences of assault committed by a specified perpetrator, 2023/24 and 2024/25
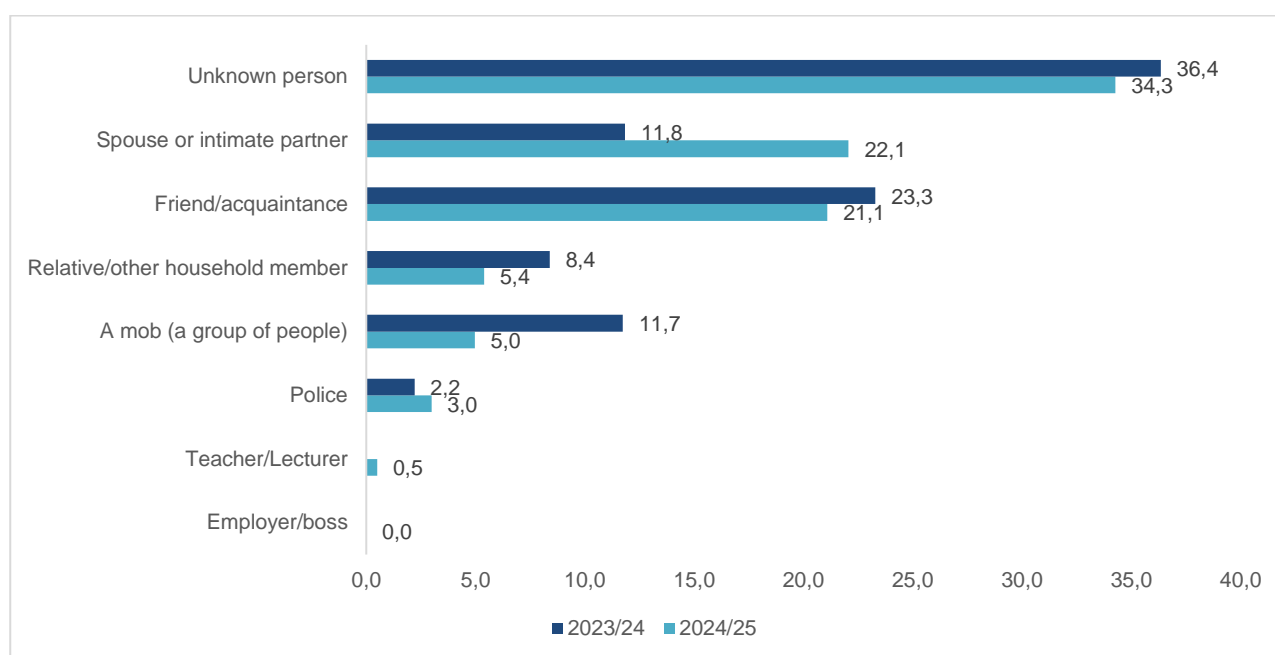
Figure 63 shows that a higher proportion of incidences of assault in 2023/24 and 2024/25 were committed by an unknown person (36,4%) and (34,3%) respectively. Close to a half (49,0%) of assault incidences were committed by a person known to the victim, these included a friend/acquaintance (21,1%), spouse or intimate partner (22,1%) and relative/other household member (5,4%) in 2024/25.

Figure 64 – Percentage of incidences of assault committed by a specified perpetrator by sex, 2024/25
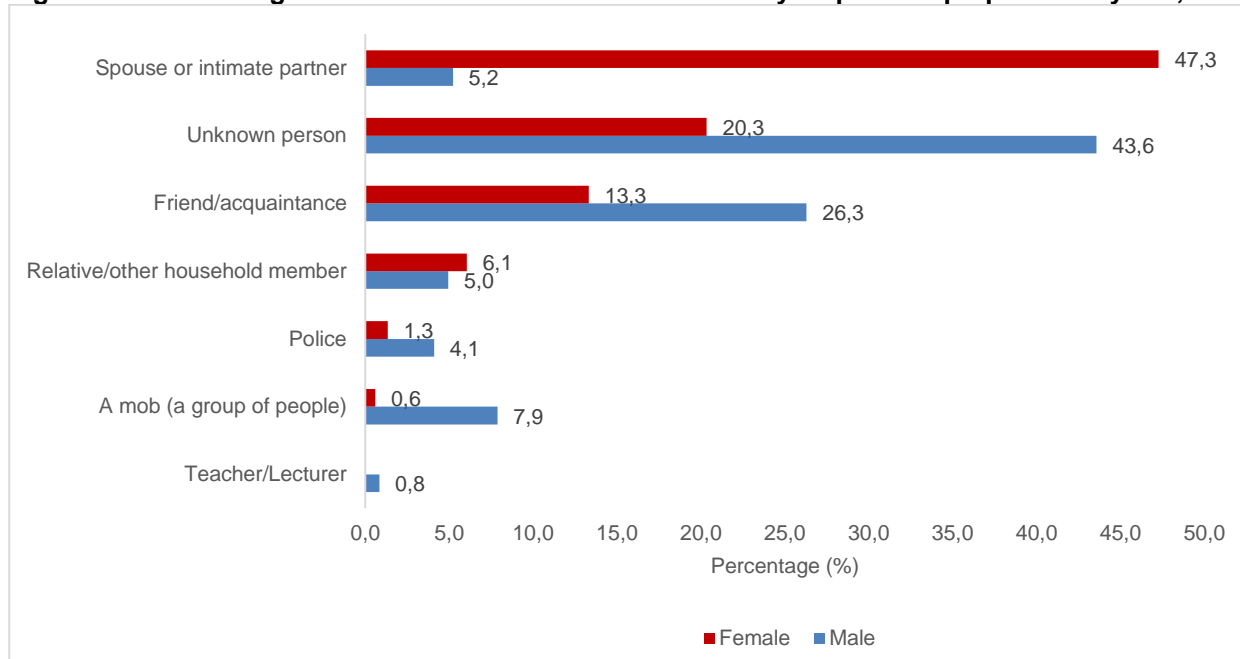
Figure 64 presents percentage distributions of assault perpetrators by sex in 2024/25. The figure shows that perpetrators of assault for females were more likely to be a spouse/intimate partner (47,3%) compared to males (5,2%). On the other hand, perpetrators for males were more likely to be an unknown person (43,6%) compared to females (20,3%). Furthermore, males were more likely to be assaulted by a friend/acquaintance than females.

Figure 65 – Percentage distribution of use and type weapons during incidences of assault, 2024/25

Figure 65 shows that weapons were used in 49,1% of the incidences of assault. A knife (36,3%) was the main weapon used in assault incidences in 2024/25, followed by a stick/club (21,5%), gun (17,5%) and metal bar (12,6%). Axe/panga was the least used weapon in 2024/25.

Figure 66 – Percentage of individuals that reported assault to the police, 2020/21–2024/25

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
■ Reported no incidences	38,6	46,4	45,6
■ Reported some incidences	12,1	0,7	2,7
■ Reported all incidences	49,3	53,2	51,7
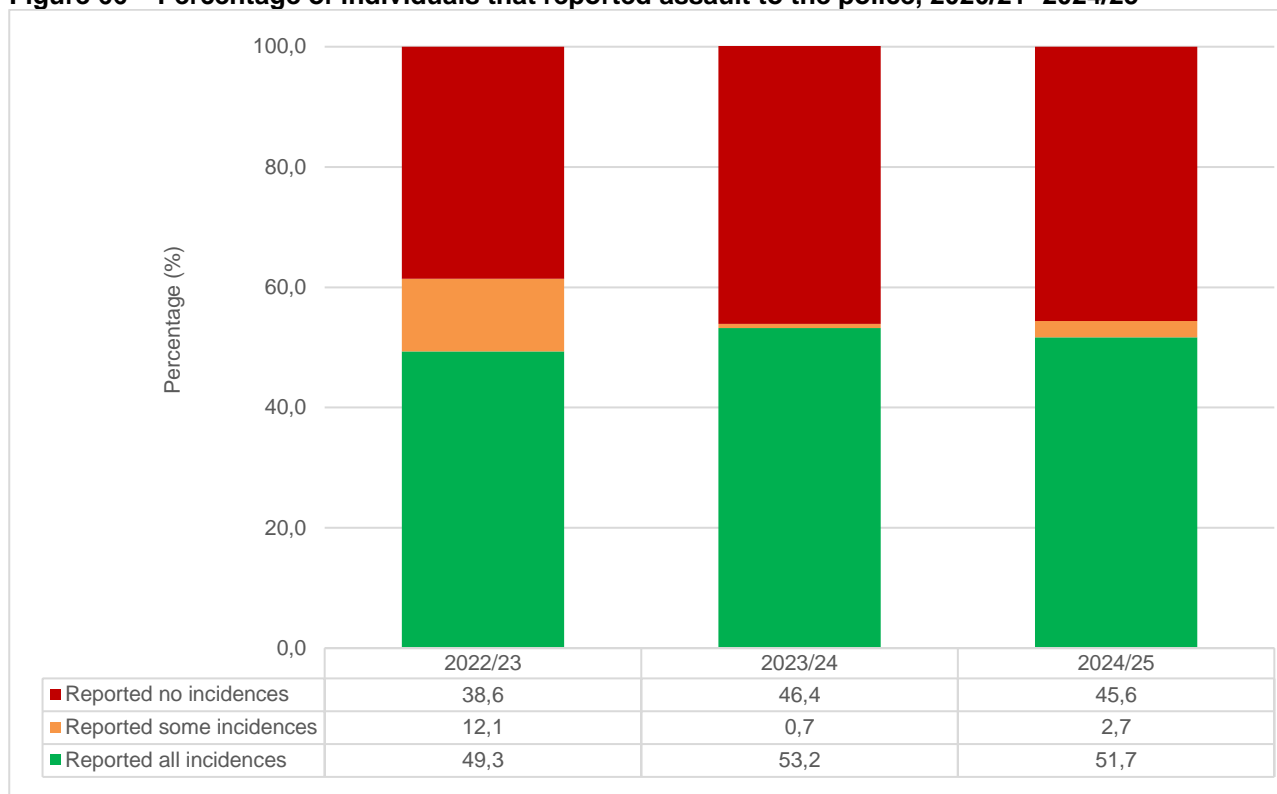
Figure 66 shows that almost half of the incidences (45,6%) did not report any of the incidences of assault to the police in 2024/25, this is a slight decrease from 46,4% in 2023/24. The reporting of all incidences also decreased by 1,5 percentage points from (53,2%) in 2023/24 to (51,7%) in 2024/25.

Table 34 – Summary of statistics for assault, 2020/21–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	**	**	388	506	561
Number of individuals that experienced assault ('000)	**	**	263	295	363
Number of individuals that reported some or all incidences of assault to the police ('000)	**	**	161	158	197
Percentage of individuals who reported some or all incidences of assault to the police	**	**	61,4	53,9	54,4

 **Not collected in the specified collection period.

Table 34 shows summary statistics for assault. This type of crime was not collected at an individual level in two periods, 2020/21 and 2021/22. In 2022/23, the number of incidents for assault was 388 000, it increased in 2023/24 to 506 000 and further increased in 2024/25 to 561 000. However, the number of individuals who reported at least one incident of assault to the police declined between 2022/23 and 2023/24. The percentage of individuals who reported at least one or all incidences to the police slightly increased in 2024/25 (54,4%) from 2023/24 (53,9%).

5.2.6 Hijacking of a motor vehicle

Hijacking of motor vehicles is a type of crime committed against an individual while driving their vehicle or vehicles belonging to another person or institution. The question of ownership was not relevant when respondents were asked whether they had experienced incidences of hijacking in the 12 months preceding the survey. The type of vehicle the victim was driving or riding in as a passenger is also not relevant. The number of hijacking incidences in the sample were so small that any disaggregation of data would produce poor statistics.

Table 35 – Number and percentage of individuals that experienced hijacking by demographic characteristics of individuals, province and settlement type, 2024/25

Characteristic	Number of incidences ('000)	Number of individuals ('000)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	99	83	0,4
Female	21	19	0,1
Population			
Black African	81	73	0,2
Coloured	15	11	0,3
Indian/Asian	1	1*	0,1
White	22	16	0,5
Age group			
16–34	37	26	0,1
35–49	69	65	0,5
50–64	7	7	0,1
65+	6	4	0,1
Province			
Western Cape	29	20	0,4
Eastern Cape	2	2	0,0
Northern Cape	1	1*	0,1
KwaZulu-Natal	13	13	0,2
North West	3	3	0,1
Gauteng	64	55	0,4
Mpumalanga	8	8	0,2
Limpopo	1	1*	0,0
Metro status			
Metro	99	82	0,4
Non-metro	20	20	0,1

* Unweighted numbers of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 35 shows that males were more likely to experience hijacking at 0,4% compared to females at 0,1%. Those in metro areas (0,4%) and those in Western Cape and Gauteng provinces were more likely to experience hijacking, both at 0,4%.

Figure 67 – Percentage distribution of use and type of weapons during hijacking, 2024/25
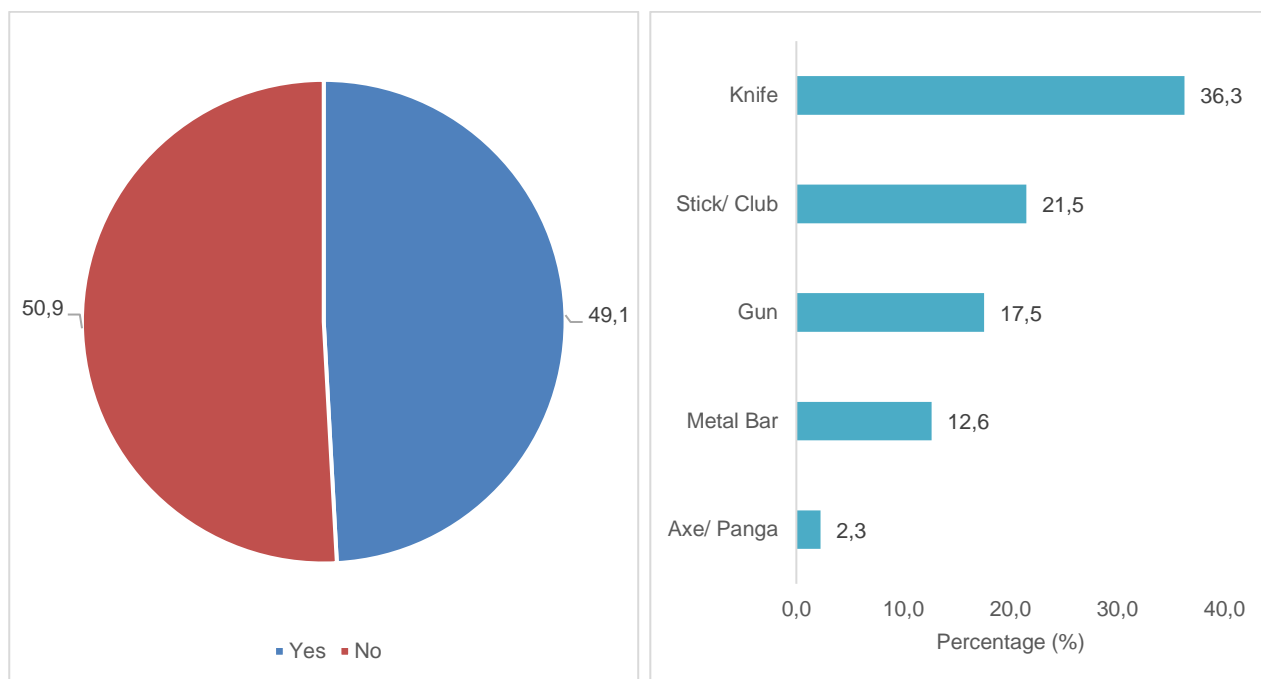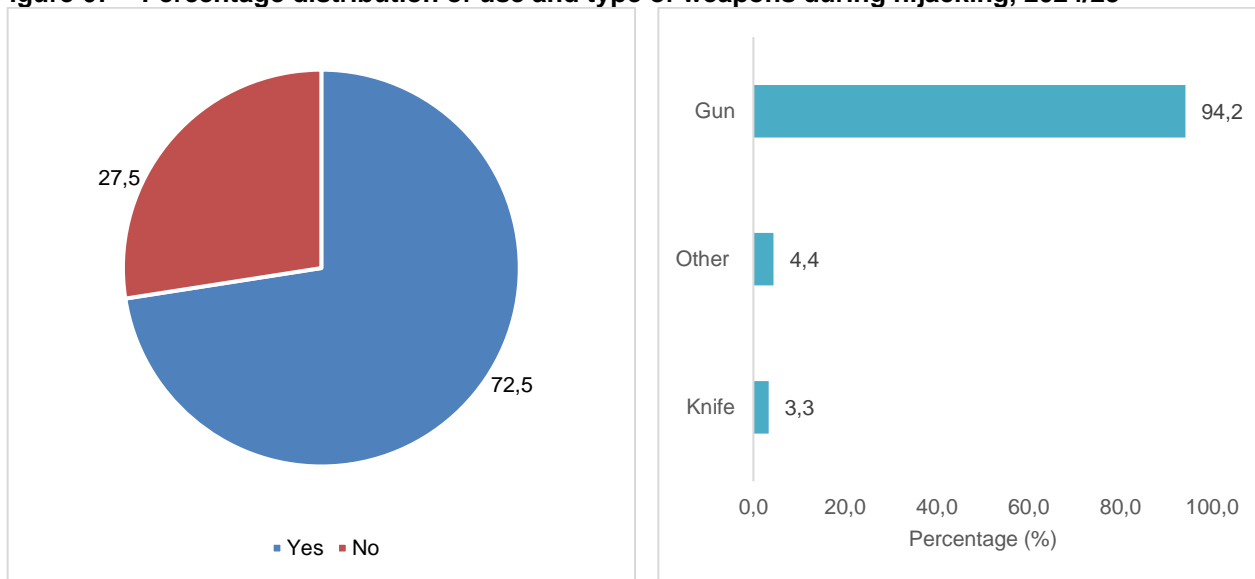

Figure 67 shows that weapons were used in 72,5% of the incidences of motor vehicle hijacking. A gun (94,2%) was the most used weapon in hijacking incidences in 2024/25.

Figure 68 – Percentage of victims who reported hijacking to the police, 2023/24 and 2024/25

	2023/24	2024/25
Reported no incidences	34,6	23,2
Reported all incidences	65,4	76,8
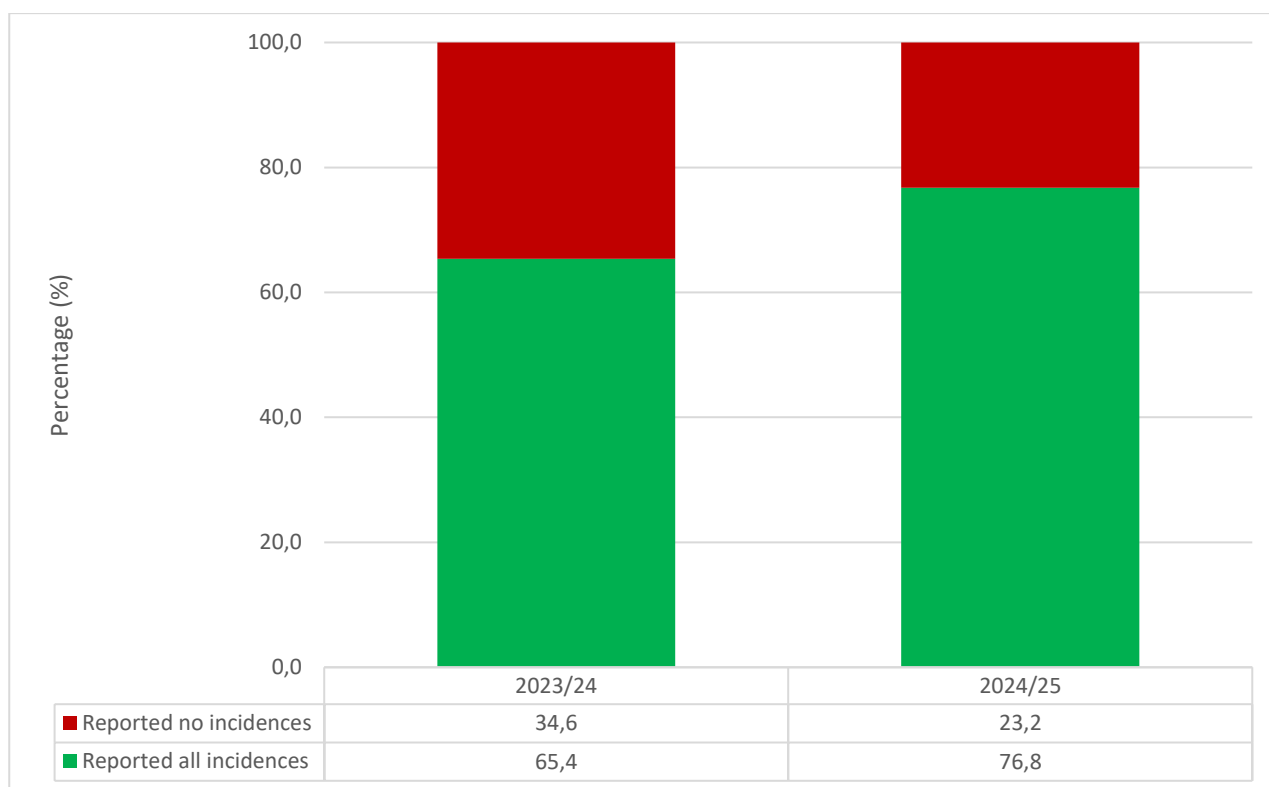
Figure 68 shows that more than two-thirds (76,8%) reported all of the incidences of hijacking to the police in 2024/25, this was an increase from 65,4% in 2023/24. About 35,0% (34,6%) in 2023/24 reported no incidences to the police, which decreased in 2024/25 to 23,2%.

Table 36 – Summary of statistics for hijacking of motor vehicle, 2019/20–2024/25

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	64	137	128	85	119
Number of victims ('000)	64	134	114	81	102
Number of victims who reported at least one incidence ('000)	40	84	102	53	79
Percentage of victims who reported at least one incidence	62,7	62,9	89,6	65,4	76,8

Table 36 shows that the number of incidences of hijacking experienced by individuals increased from 64 000 in 2020/21 to 137 000 in 2021/22, it then slightly decreased to 128 000 in 2022/23. In 2023/24, the number of incidences decreased to 85 000, then increased in 2024/25 to 119 000. The percentage of individuals that reported at least one incidence to the police slightly increased from 62,7% in 2020/21 to 62,9% in 2021/22. The reporting of this crime increased in 2022/23, then decreased in 2023/24 before increasing again in 2024/25 to 76,8%.

5.2.7 Sexual offences

Given the sensitive nature of sexual offences and the context of household-based interviews, sexual offences are thought to be underreported in the GPSJS. It is likely that most of those individuals who have already reported sexual offences to the police will proceed to also report them to the survey officer who is collecting the data. It is important to note that, as the sexual offences count in the sample was small, it was not possible to calculate disaggregated estimates of acceptable quality.

Figure 69 – Percentage distribution of use and type of weapons during sexual offence, 2024/25
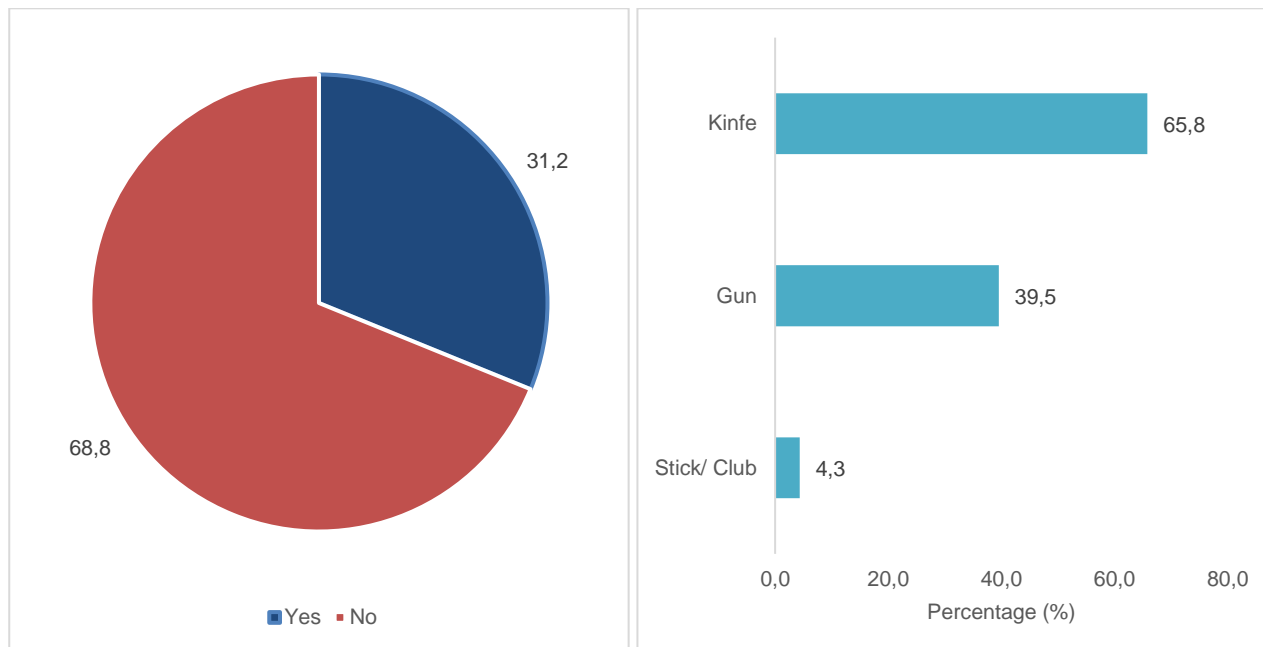
Figure 69 shows that weapons were used in (31,2%) of incidences for sexual offence. In 2024/25, A knife (65,8%) was the main weapon used in sexual offence incidences, followed by a gun (39,5%) and a stick/club (4,3%).

Figure 70 – Percentage of incidences of sexual offence committed by a specified perpetrator, 2023/24 and 2024/25
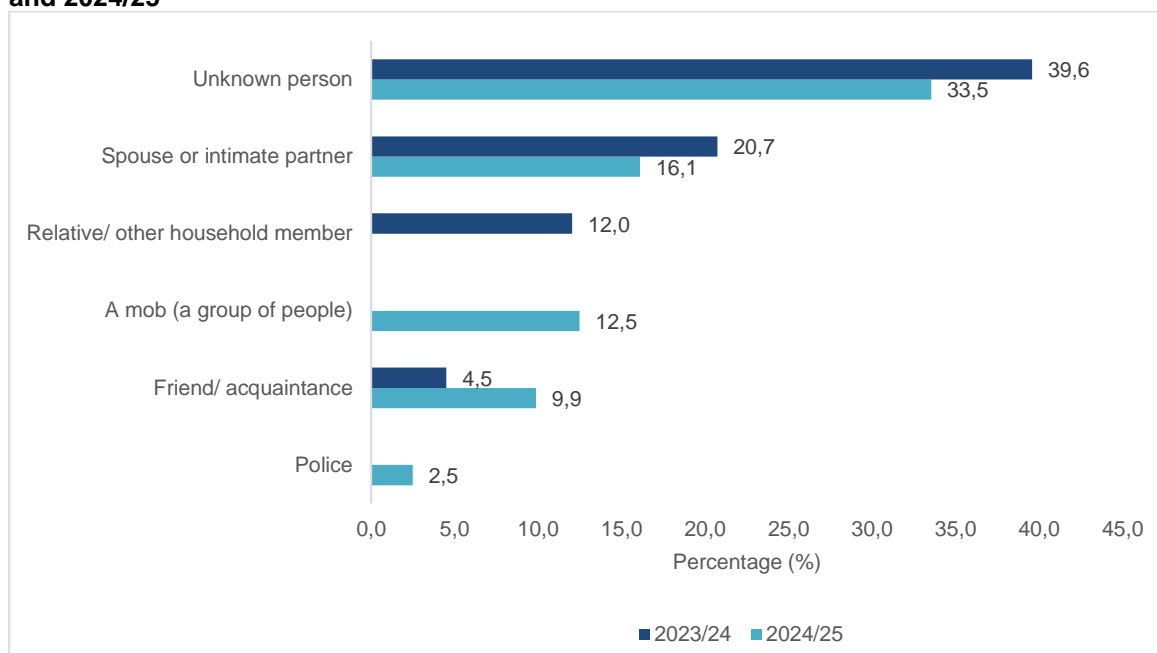
Figure 70 shows the percentage distribution of perpetrators of sexual offence for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 periods. In both 2023/24 and 2024/25, perpetrators of sexual offence were more likely to be an unknown person (39,6% vs 33,5%), followed by a spouse or intimate partner at 20,7% and 16,1% respectively.

Table 37 – Summary of statistics for sexual offences, 2020/21–2023/24

Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of incidences ('000)	**	**	36*	83	60
Number of victims ('000)	**	**	30*	52	44
Number of individuals that reported all or some incidences of sexual offences to the police ('000)	**	**	17	35	25
Percentage of individuals who reported all or some incidences of sexual offences to the police	**	**	56,0	67,5	56,3

* Sample is too small, and CVs are too high to make meaningful inferences

** Not collected in the specified period

Table 37 shows that the number of incidences of sexual offence experienced by individuals doubled from 36 000 in 2022/23 to 83 000 in 2023/24, then decreased to 60 000 in 2024/25. The percentage of individuals who reported at least one incidence to the police increased from 56,0% in 2022/23 to 67,5% in 2023/24, then decreased by 11,2 percentage points to 56,3% in 2024/25.

5.3 Summary

Theft of personal property is the most common crime experienced by individuals aged 16 years and older in South Africa. The results indicate that in 2024/25, a total of 1,1 million individuals experienced theft of personal property, followed by those who experienced consumer fraud (566 000) and robbery (470 000). The number of individuals who experienced hijacking of a motor vehicle increased from 2023/24 (81 000) to 2024/25 (102 000).
Males and persons living in metro areas were most likely to experience theft of personal property. Furthermore, persons aged 16-34 are vulnerable to theft of personal property. Less than half of the victims reported the crime, and most of the victims (69,0%) did not report it. The survey further shows that the number of incidences of consumer fraud increased from 552 000 in 2023/24 to 811 000 in 2024/25. The percentage of individuals who reported some or all incidences to the police increased from 30,8% in 2023/24 to 34,9% in 2024/25.

A total of 337 000 individuals experienced psychological violence in 2024/25. Northern Cape has the highest proportion of individuals who experienced psychological violence (2,2%) followed by North west (1,6%) and Free State (1,5%). Persons living in non-metro areas were most likely to experience psychological violence.

6. Feelings of safety

6.1 Introduction

To feel safe at home and in one's neighbourhood is one of the National Development Plan (NDP) Goals. Perceptions of safety is considered a subjective well-being indicator, under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicator 16.1.4. It affects how human beings interact with their surroundings, their health, and consequently, their quality of life.

Respondents were asked how safe they felt walking in their neighbourhoods alone during the day and when it was dark. The safety categories "Very safe" and "Fairly safe" were combined into a new category "Safe", while "A bit unsafe" and "Very unsafe" were combined into a new category "Unsafe".

Figure 71 – Percentage distribution of individuals who felt safe walking alone in their areas during the day, 2020/21–2024/25
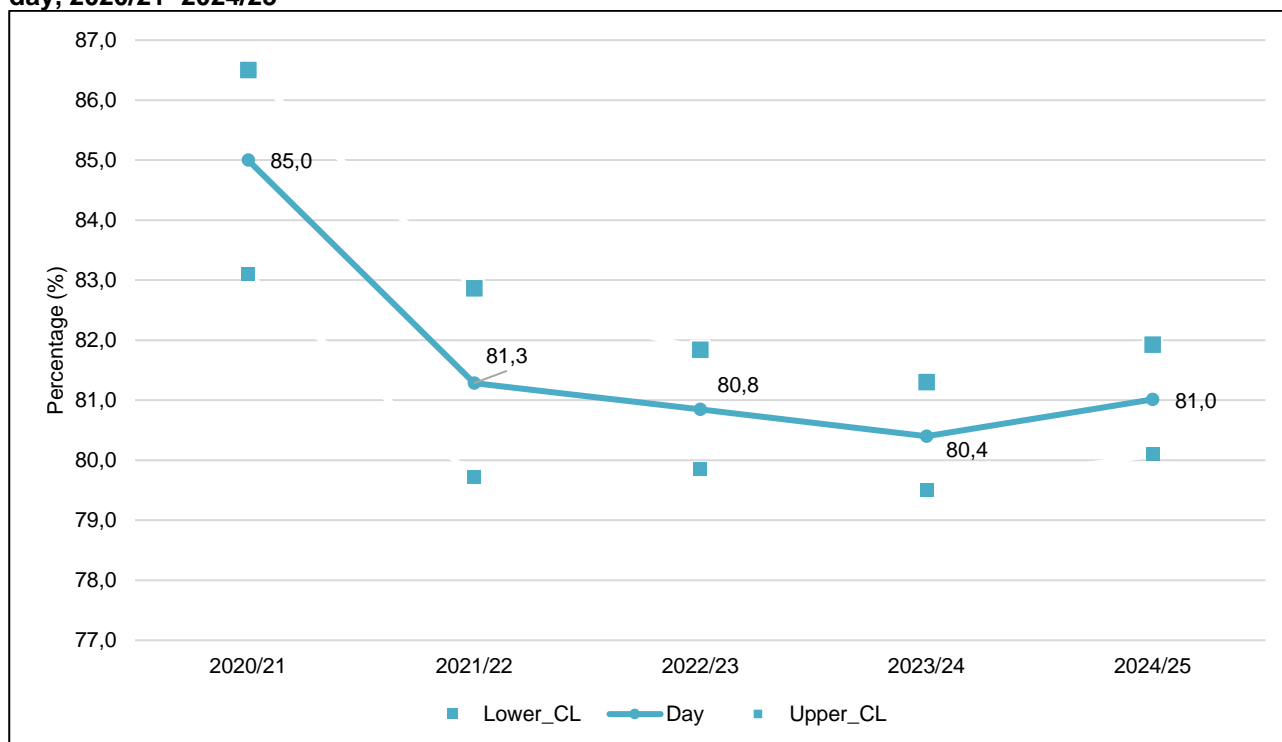
* Safety categories "Very safe" and "Fairly safe" were combined into a new category "Safe", while "A bit unsafe" and "Very unsafe" were combined into a new category "Unsafe".

Figure 71 shows that the percentage of individuals aged 16 years and older who felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhoods during the day decreased from 85,0% in 2020/21 to 81,3% in 2021/22. It further decreased to 80,8% in 2022/23. The feeling of safety during the day declined to 80,4% in 2023/24 and there was a slight increase of 0,6 percentage points from 2023/24 (80,4%) to 2024/25 (81,0%).

Figure 72 – Percentage distribution of individuals who felt safe walking alone in their areas when it was dark, 2020/21–2024/25
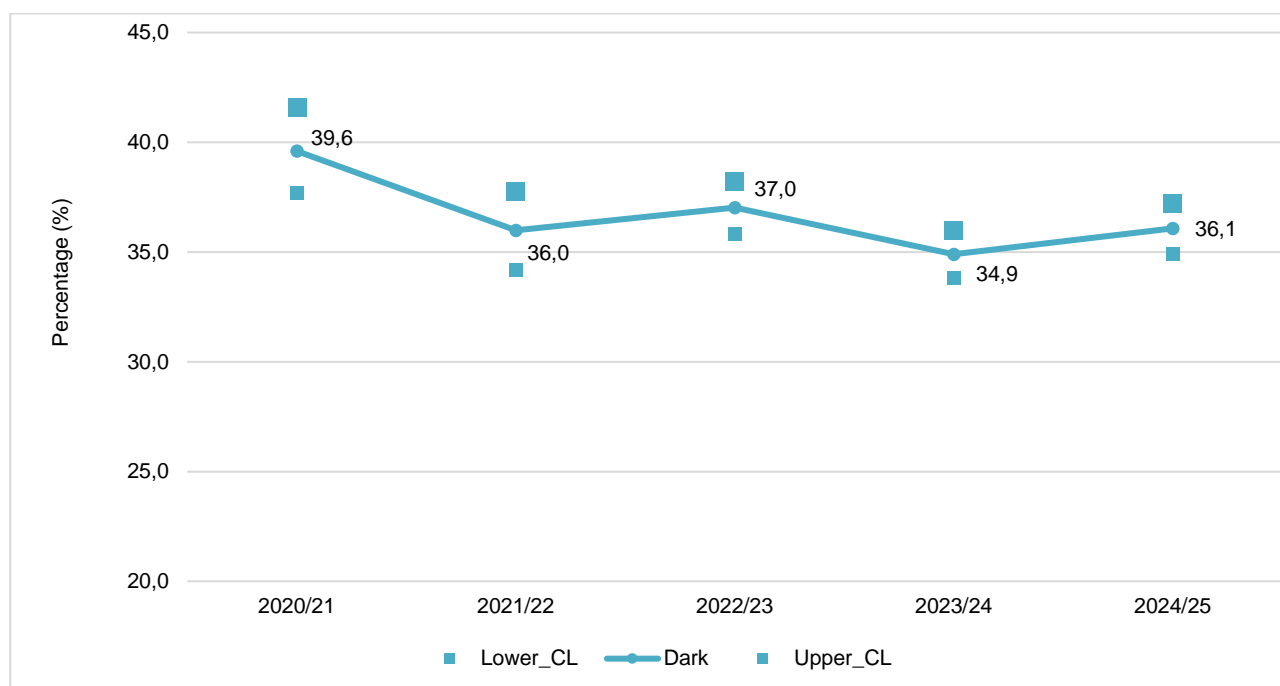
* Safety categories "Very safe" and "Fairly safe" were combined into a new category "Safe", while "A bit unsafe" and "Very unsafe" were combined into a new category "Unsafe".

Figure 72 shows that there was a statistically significant decrease in the percentage of individuals aged 16 years and older who felt safe walking alone when it was dark, from 39,6% in 2020/21 to 36,0% in 2021/22 and increased to 37,0% in 2022/23. It then decreased to 34,9% in 2023/24 and there was a slight increase of 1,2 percentage points in 2024/25 (36,1%).

Figure 73 – Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence during the day, 2020/21–2024/25

	Very safe	Fairly safe	A bit unsafe	Very unsafe
2020/21	50,2	34,7	9,1	6,1
2021/22	44,1	37,2	12,2	6,5
2022/23	44,0	36,9	12,6	6,6
2023/24	42,5	37,9	13,9	5,7
2024/25	43,9	37,1	13,0	6,0
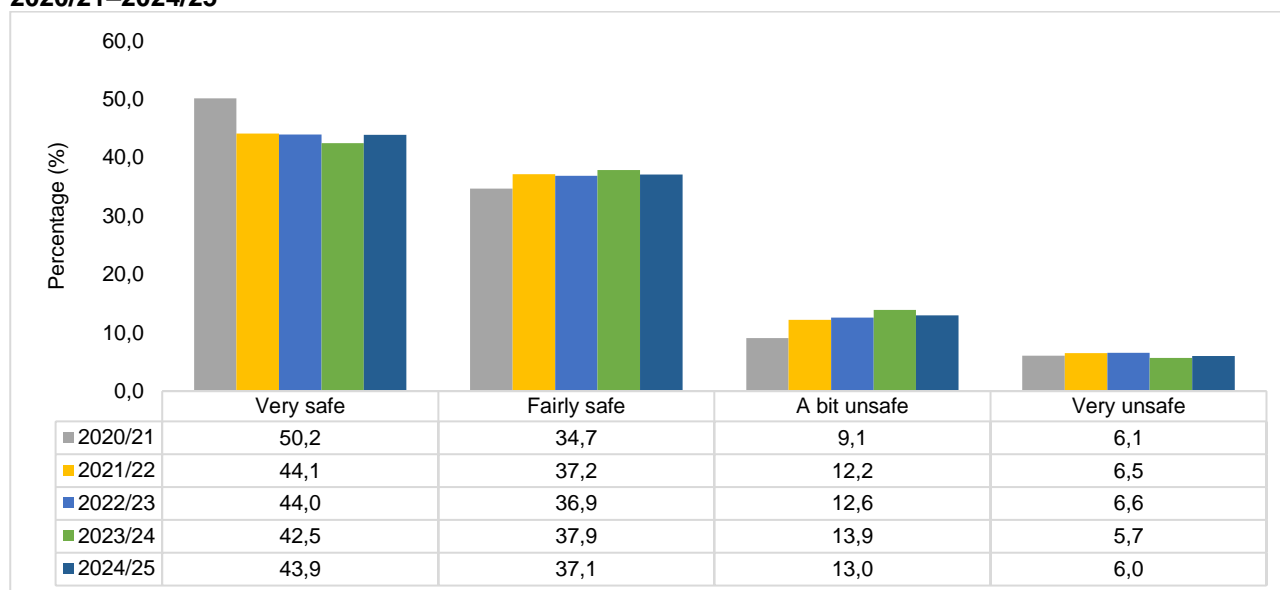
Figure 73 shows that the proportion of those who feel very safe walking alone during the day has marginally decreased from 50,2% in 2020/21 to 44,1% in 2021/22 and further declining to 44,0% in 2022/23 before decreasing to 42,5 in 2023/24. There was a slight increase of 1,4 percentage points from 42,5% in 2023/24 to 43,9% in 2024/25.

Figure 74 – Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it was dark, 2020/21–2024/25

	Very safe	Fairly safe	A bit unsafe	Very unsafe
■ 2020/21	12,2	27,5	22,3	38,1
■ 2021/22	12,8	23,2	20,1	43,9
■ 2022/23	11,9	25,1	23,2	39,8
■ 2023/24	10,9	24,0	22,3	42,8
■ 2024/25	12,4	23,6	21,6	42,3
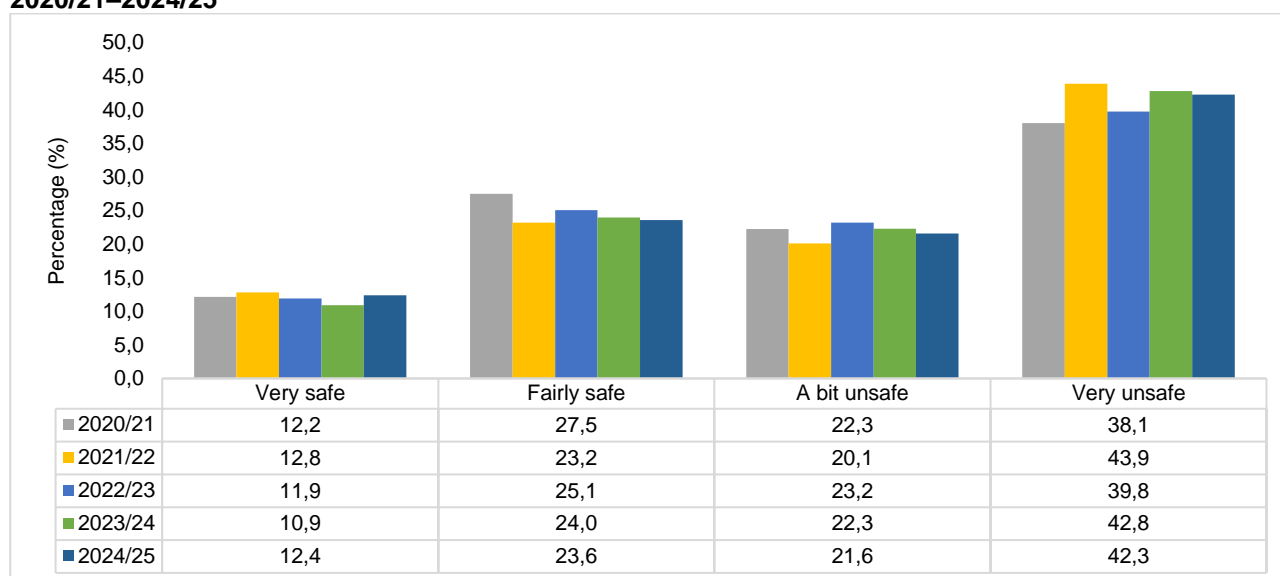
Figure 74 shows that people felt unsafe when walking alone in their areas of residence when it was dark. The proportion of people who felt very unsafe increased from 38,1% in 2020/21 to 43,9% in 2021/22, then decreased to 39,8 % in 2022/23. There was a 3 percentage points decrease for those who felt very unsafe between 2022/23 (39,8%) and 2023/24 (42,8%), and a slight decrease in 2024/25 (42,3%). The proportion of those who felt very safe increased from 10,9% in 2023/24 to 12,4% in 2024/25.

Figure 75 – Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it was daytime by sex, 2023/24 and 2024/25
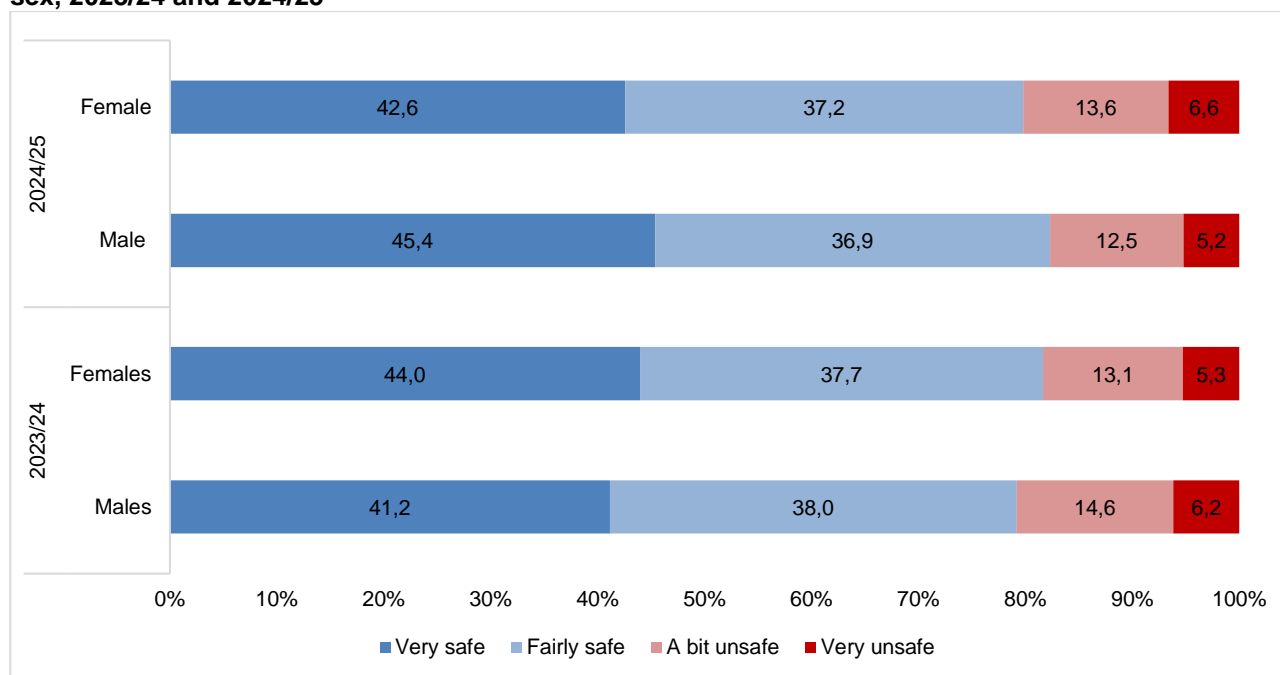
Figure 75 shows that in 2023/24, a higher proportion of females (44,0%) felt very safe walking alone in their areas during the day than males (41,2%). In 2024/25, proportions of those who felt very safe increased for males (45,4%) and decreased for females (42,6%).

Figure 76 – Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it was dark by sex, 2023/24 and 2024/25
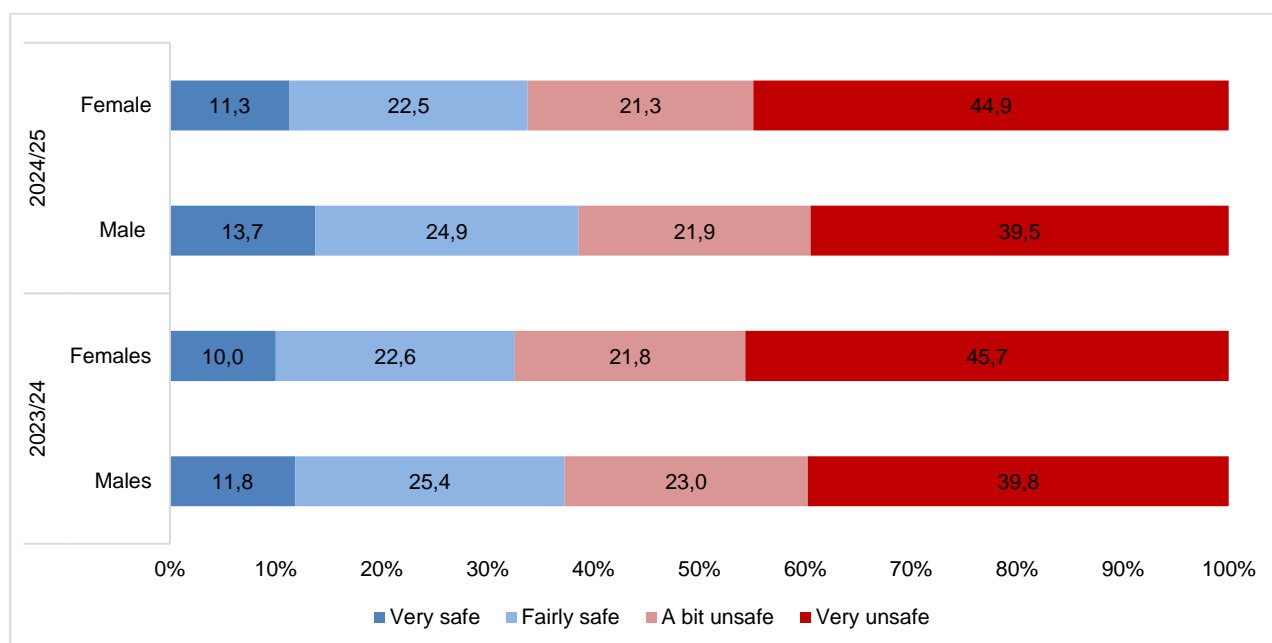
Figure 76 shows that the proportion of females who felt very unsafe walking alone when it was dark in their area of residence decreased from 45,7% in 2023/24 to 44,9% in 2024/25. The same trend was observed with the proportion of males who felt very unsafe, slightly decreasing from 39,8% in 2023/24 to 39,5% in 2024/25.

Figure 77 – Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it was daytime by geographical location, 2024/25

	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	Kwazulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
Unsafe	31,4	17,1	9,8	11,5	18,2	9,9	25,0	14,6	2,8
Safe	68,6	82,9	90,2	88,5	81,8	90,1	75,0	85,4	97,2
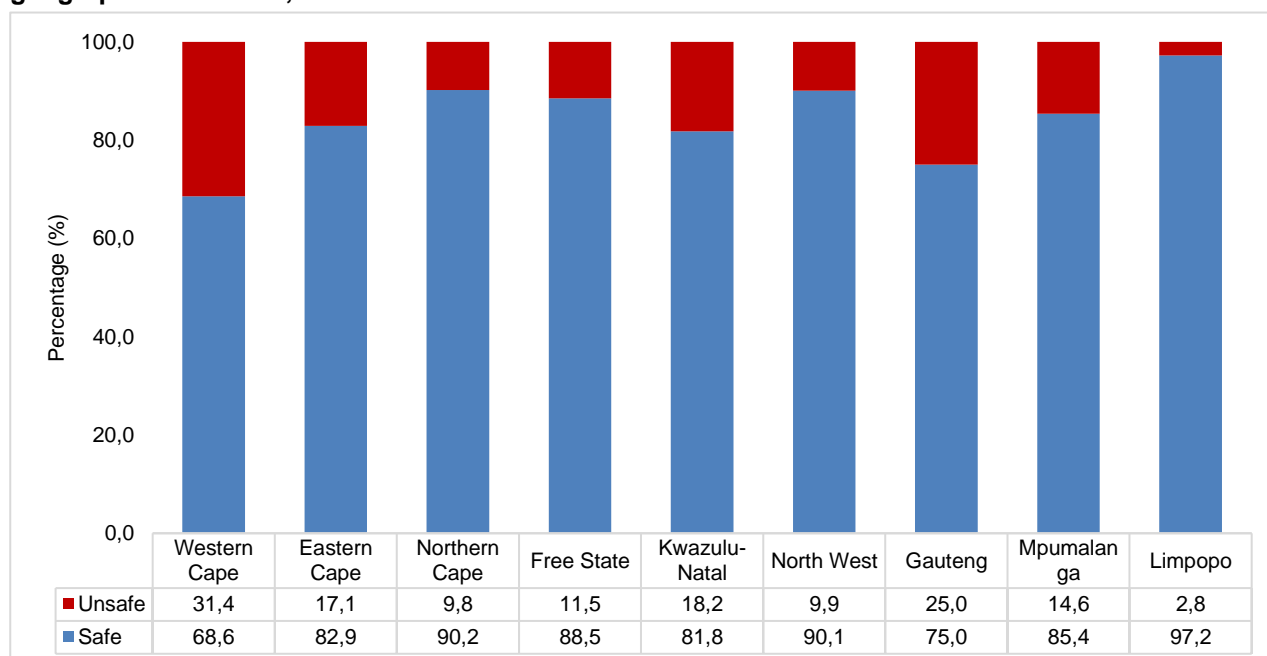
* Safety categories "Very safe" and "Fairly safe" were combined into a new category "Safe", while "A bit unsafe" and "Very unsafe" were combined into a new category "Unsafe".

Figure 77 shows that Limpopo (97,2%) recorded the highest proportion of individuals who felt safe walking alone during the day, followed by Northern Cape (90,2%) and North West (90,1%). Western Cape (31,4%) recorded the highest proportion of individuals who felt unsafe walking alone during the day, followed by Gauteng (25,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (18,2%) provinces.

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Figure 78 – Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it was daytime by geographical location, 2023/24 and 2024/25
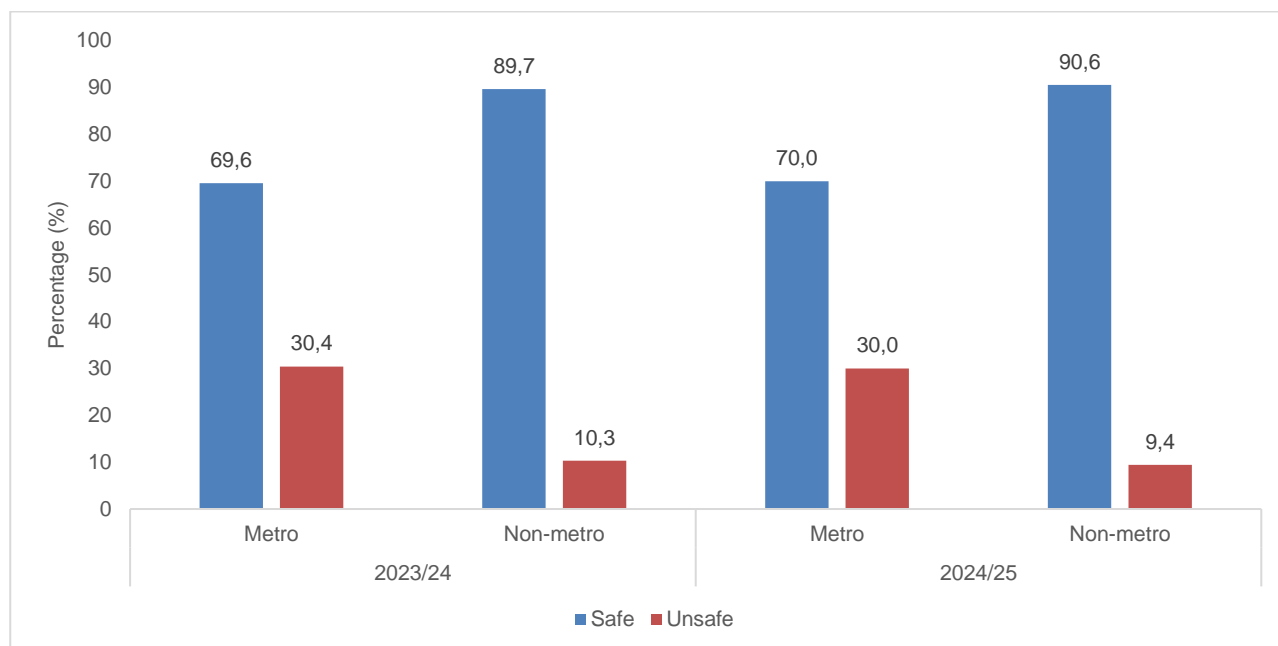
* Safety categories "Very safe" and "Fairly safe" were combined into a new category "Safe", while "A bit unsafe" and "Very unsafe" were combined into a new category "Unsafe".

Figure 78 shows that in both 2023/24 and 2024/25, people in non-metro areas had a greater feeling of safety walking alone in their areas during the day than people in metro areas.

Figure 79 – Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it was dark by geographical location, 2024/25

	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	Kwazulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
Unsafe	61,4	64,8	68,4	63,5	64,6	61,1	71,0	73,0	35,8
Safe	38,6	35,2	31,6	36,5	35,4	38,9	29,0	27,0	64,2
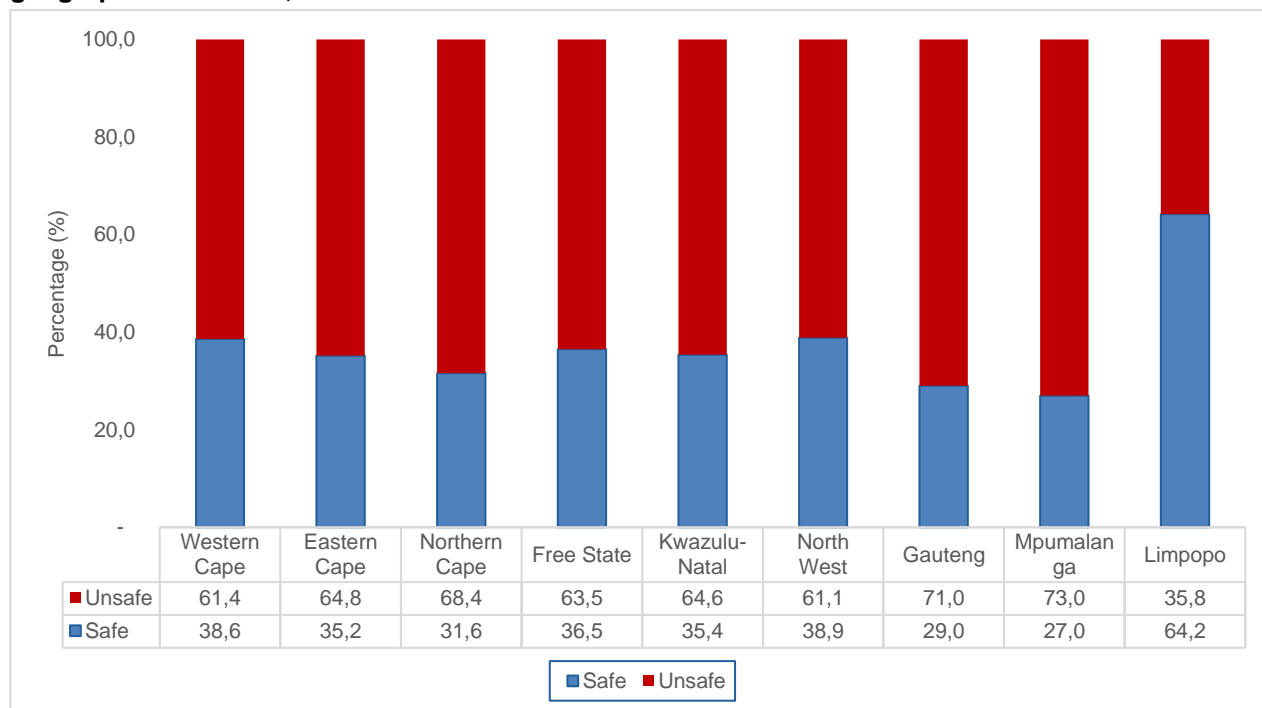
* Safety categories "Very safe" and "Fairly safe" were combined into a new category "Safe", while "A bit unsafe" and "Very unsafe" were combined into a new category "Unsafe".

Figure 79 shows that Mpumalanga (73,0%) recorded the highest proportion of individuals who felt unsafe walking alone when it is dark, followed by Gauteng (71,0%), Northern Cape (68,4%) and Eastern Cape (64,8%). Limpopo (64,2%) had the highest proportion of individuals who felt safe, followed by North West (38,9%) and Western Cape (38,6%) provinces.

Figure 80 – Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it was dark by geographical location, 2023/24 and 2024/25
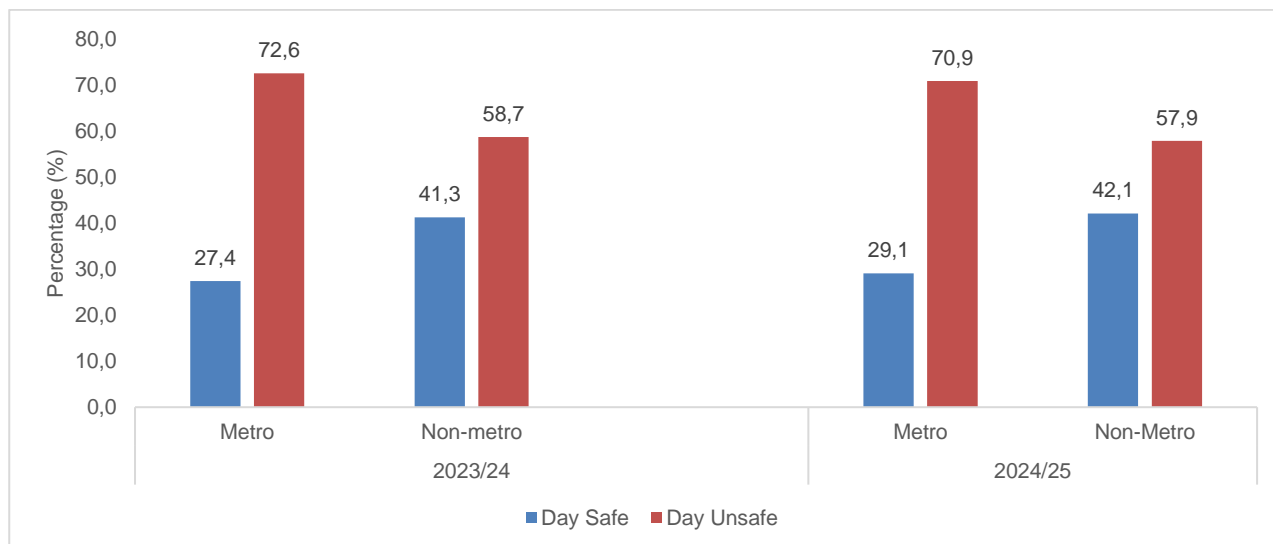
* Safety categories "Very safe" and "Fairly safe" were combined into a new category "Safe", while "A bit unsafe" and "Very unsafe" were combined into a new category "Unsafe".

Figure 80 shows that in 2023/24, there were higher proportions of people who felt unsafe walking alone when it is dark for both metro (72,6%) and non-metro areas (58,7%). In 2024/25, people in metro areas felt more unsafe (70,9%) compared to those living in non-metro areas who felt unsafe (57,9%).

Figure 81 – Percentage of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime, 2023/24 and 2024/25

	Yes	No
2023/24	39,9	60,1
2024/25	43,3	56,7

Figure 81 shows that the proportion of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime increased from 39,9% in 2023/24 to 43,3% in 2024/25.

Figure 82 – Percentage of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime by sex, 2023/24 and 2024/25
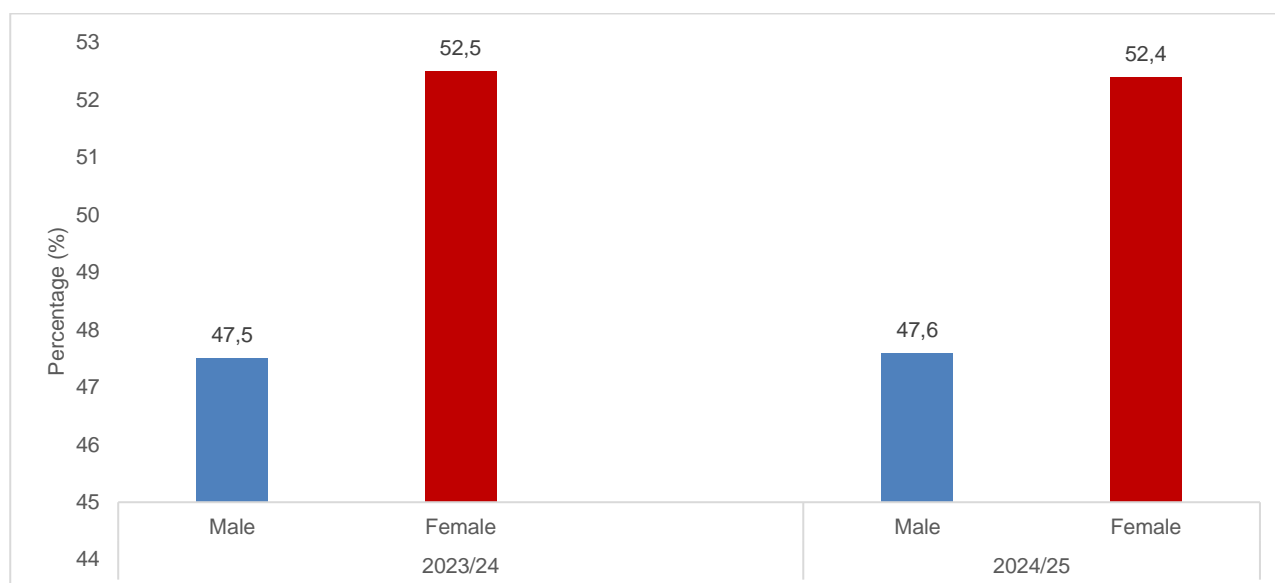
Figure 82 shows that females are more likely to do something to protect themselves against crime than males in both periods. The proportion of females who have done something to protect themselves against crime slightly decreased from 52,5% in 2023/24 to 52,4% in 2024/25. The opposite is observed for males, there is a slight increase in proportions from 47,5% in 2023/24 to 47,6% in 2024/25.

Figure 83 – Percentage of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime by age group, 2023/24 and 2024/25
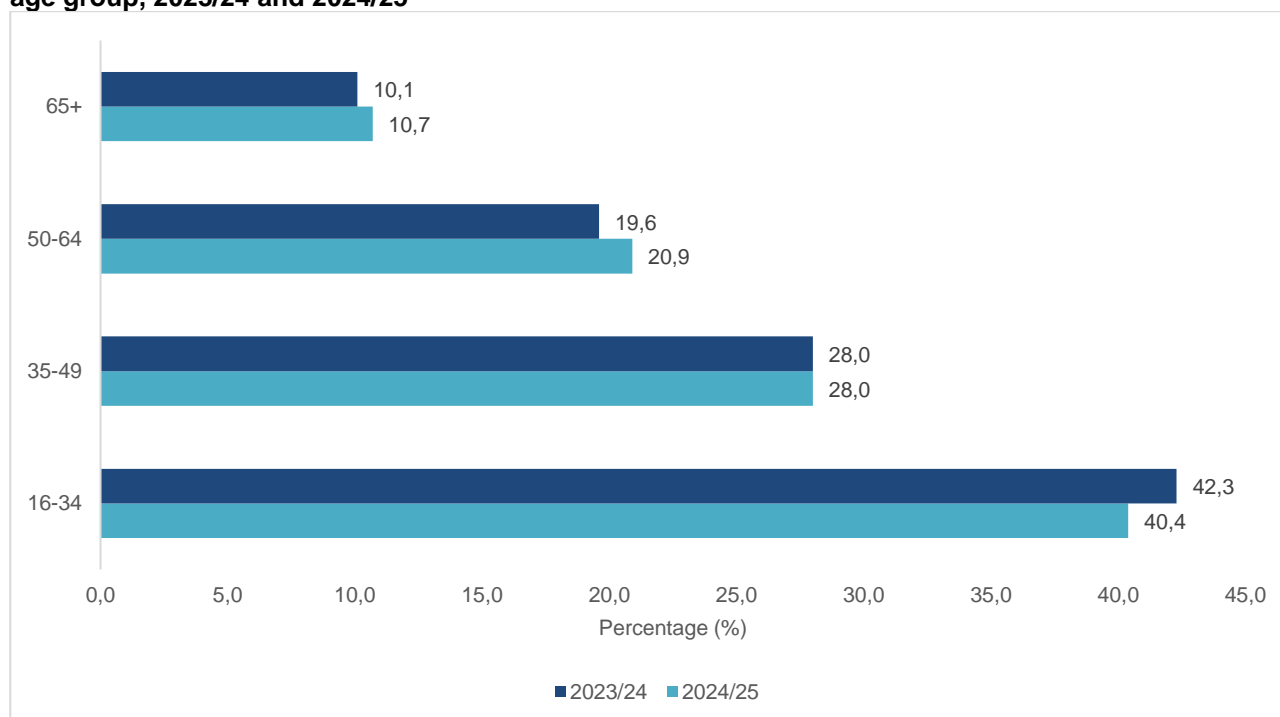
Figure 83 shows that those in the younger age group 16–34 are more likely to do something to protect themselves from crime than the older age groups. The proportions of those aged 16–34 who did something to protect themselves decreased from 42,3% in 2023/24 to 40,4% in 2024/25. However, the proportion of those in the age group 50–64 increased slightly from 19,6% in 2023/24 to 20,9% in 2024/25.

Figure 84 – Distribution of persons by main thing they did to protect themselves, 2023/24 and 2024/25
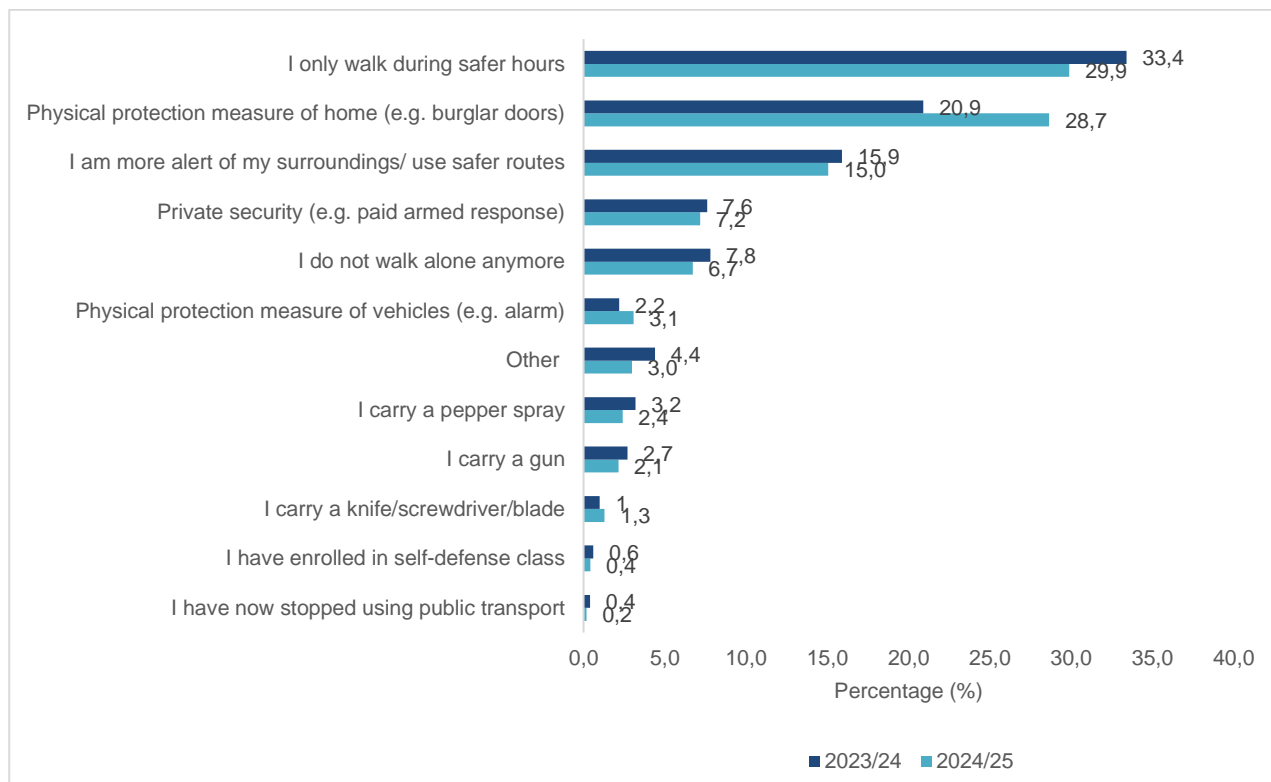
Figure 84 shows that 29,9% of individuals aged 16 years and older have resorted to walking during safer hours to protect themselves from crime in 2024/25, this percentage decreased from 33,4% in 2023/24. About 28,7% have installed physical protection measures like burglar doors on their homes to protect themselves against crime, the percentage of people who took this measure to protect themselves increased by 7,8 percentage points from 2023/24.

Figure 85 – Percentage of individuals who feel safer after doing something to protect themselves, 2024/25
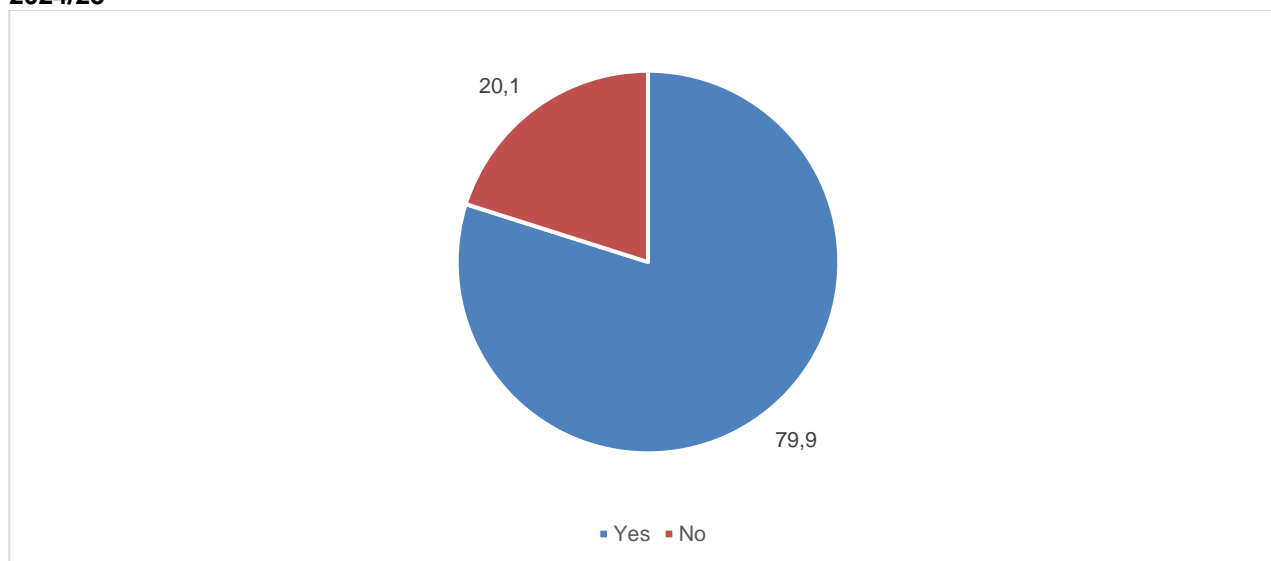
Figure 85 shows that most individuals feel safer after doing something to protect themselves from crime. The proportion of 79,9% felt safer after taking some measures to protect themselves.

Figure 86 – Percentage distribution of reasons why persons did not do anything to protect themselves from crime, 2023/24 and 2024/25
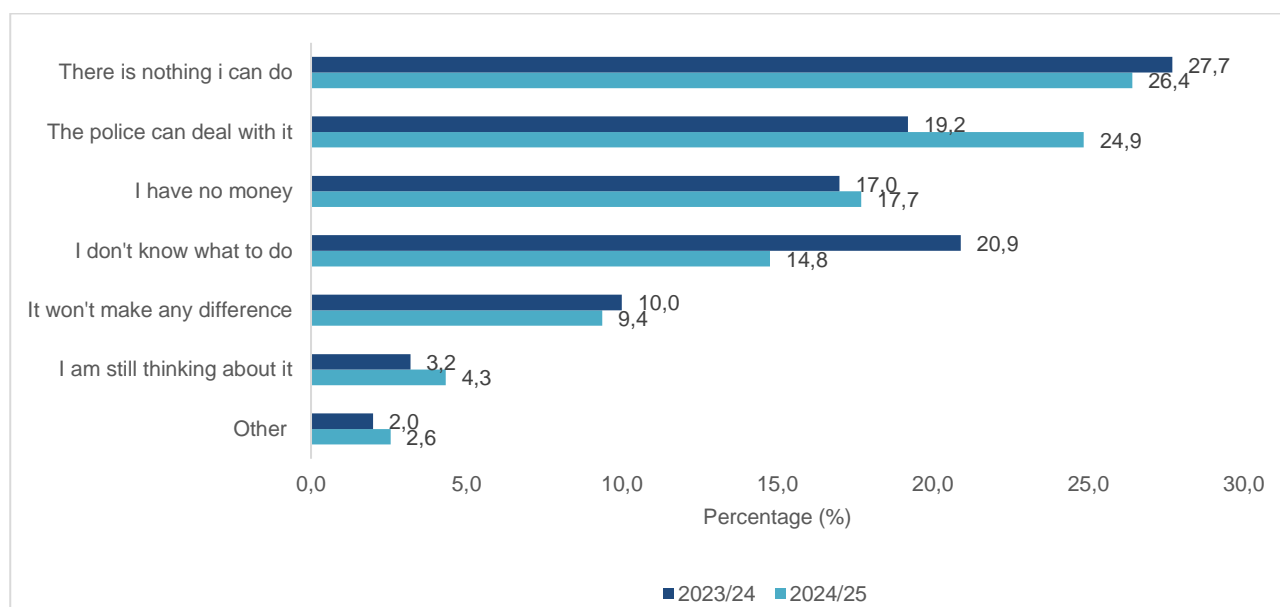
Figure 86 presents reasons why individuals did not do anything to protect themselves from crime in the 2023/24 and 2024/25 periods. A slight decrease is observed from 27,7% in 2023/24 to 26,4% in 2024/25 of people aged 16 years and older saying there is nothing they can do to protect themselves from crime, while there was a 5,7 percentage point increase in people saying the police can deal with it, and there is also an increase for those who have no money from 17,0% in 2023/24 to 17,7% in 2024/25.

Figure 87 – Percentage distribution of what would people do when they see a crime being committed, 2023/24 or and 2024/25
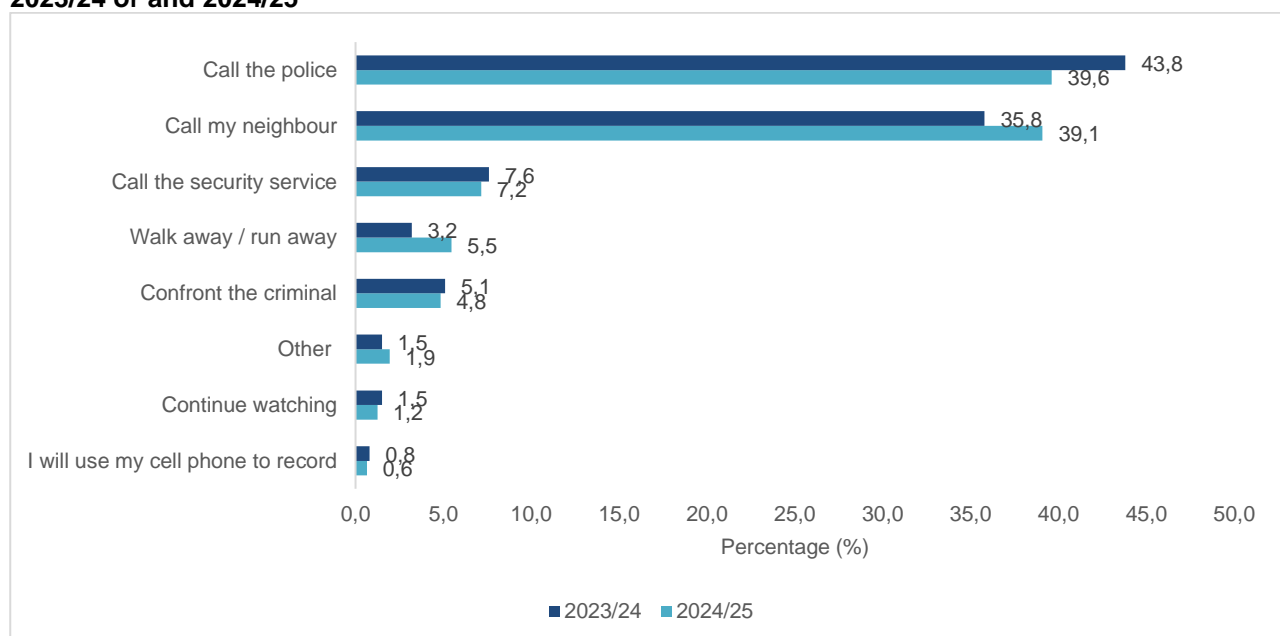
Figure 87 shows a higher percentage (39,6%) of individuals said they would call the police as the first thing they would do if they were to witness a crime being committed in 2024/25; this percentage decreased from 43,8% in the 2023/24 period. They are closely followed by those who said they would call their neighbour (39,1%). Less than one per cent (0,6%) of individuals said they would take out their phone and start to record as the crime is being committed in both the 2023/24 and 2024/25 periods.

6.2 Summary

Feelings of safety have been declining since 2020/21. The percentage of adults aged 16 years and older who felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhoods during the day slightly increased from 80,4% in 2023/24 to 81,0% in 2024/25. The results show that most individuals felt safer walking alone in their area during the day than when it was dark. Males felt more unsafe than females walking alone when it was dark in 2024/25.

The percentage of adults aged 16 years and older who felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhoods when it was dark slightly increased from 34,9% in 2023/24 to 36,1% in 2024/25. Limpopo recorded the highest proportion of individuals who felt very safe walking alone during the day and when it was dark. Western Cape (31,4%) recorded the highest proportion of individuals who felt unsafe walking alone during the day, and Mpumalanga (73,0%) recorded the highest proportion of individuals who felt unsafe walking alone at night.
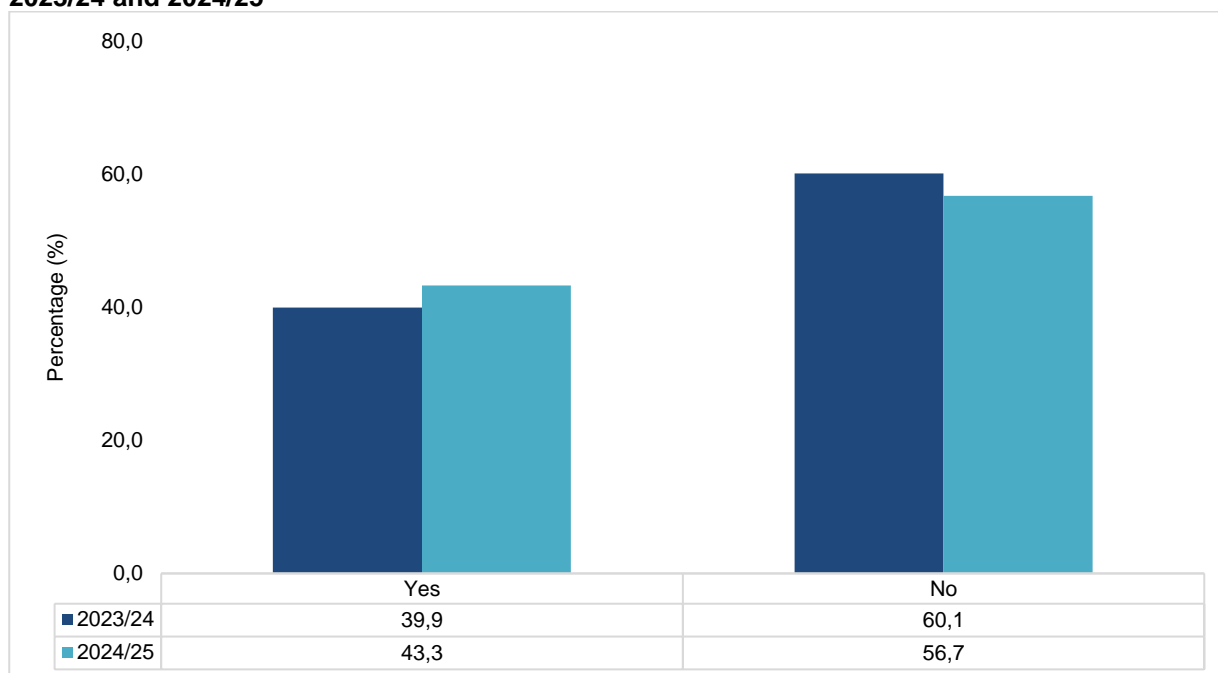
The proportion of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime increased from 39,9% in 2023/24 to 43,3% in 2024/25. About 29,9% of individuals aged 16 and older have resorted to walking during safer hours to protect themselves from crime. About 28,7% have installed physical protection measures like burglar doors on their homes to protect themselves against crime. The majority (79,9%) of people felt safer after doing something to protect themselves from crime.

7. Technical notes

7.1 Survey requirements and design

The questionnaire design, testing of the questionnaire, sampling techniques, data collection, computer programming, and weighting that constituted the research methodology used in this survey are discussed below.

7.2 Sample design

The Governance, Public Safety, and Justice Survey (GPSJS) 2024/25 uses the Master Sample (MS) sampling frame that has been developed as a general-purpose household survey frame that can be used by all other Stats SA household-based surveys that have design requirements that are reasonably compatible with GPSJS. The GPSJS 2024/25 collection was drawn from the 2013 Master Sample. This master sample is based on information collected during Census 2011. In preparation for Census 2011, the country was divided into 103 576 enumeration areas (EAs). The Census EAs, together with the auxiliary information for the EAs, were used as the frame units or building blocks for the formation of primary sampling units (PSUs) for the master sample, since they covered the entire country and had other information that is crucial for stratification and creation of PSUs.

There are 3 324 primary sampling units (PSUs) in the master sample with an expected sample of approximately 33 000 dwelling units (DUs). The number of PSUs in the current master sample (3 324) reflect an 8,0% increase in the size of the master sample compared to the previous (2008) master sample (which had 3 080 PSUs). The larger master sample of PSUs was selected to improve the precision (smaller coefficients of variation, known as CVs) of the GPSJS estimates.

The Master Sample is designed to be representative at the provincial level and within provinces at metro/non-metro levels. Within the metros, the sample is further distributed by geographical type. The three geography types are Urban, Tribal and Farms. This implies, for example, that within a metropolitan area, the sample is representative of the different geography types that may exist within that metro. The sample for the GPSJS is based on a stratified two-stage design with probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling of PSUs in the first stage, and sampling of dwelling units (DUs) with systematic sampling in the second stage.

7.3 Data collection

The GPSJS was conducted for the first time in South Africa in 2018/19. GPSJS is an updated version of the previous long-running Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) and is designed to include themes on governance. The rule of law and control of corruption were the only themes or sub-themes covered by VOCS prior to 2018. To achieve a reasonable balance between questionnaire length and depth of questions, a three-year rotation regime was adopted where the five themes are spread over a three-year period. Once in three years, GPSJS will measure in detail the general experience of household and individual crime in the country.

Stats SA conducted the second annual GPSJS and data collection took place from April 2018 to March 2019, with a moving reference period of 12 months. This is different from the 2011 and 2012 collections, which were done from January to March and had a fixed reference period from January to December of the previous year. The sample has been distributed evenly over the whole collection period in the form of quarterly allocations. This will provide a guarantee against possible seasonal effects in the survey estimates. It will, in future, provide an opportunity to produce rolling estimates relating to any desired time period. It has been noted that the change of data collection methodology may cause concerns over the survey estimates, particularly upon comparisons of years before and after the change.

Victimisation questions referred to the 12 calendar months ending with the month before the interview. Statistics South Africa is committed to meeting the highest ethical standards in its data collection processes. In addition to being bound to the Statistics Act (Act No. 6 of 1999), the GPSJS, due to its sensitive nature, required additional measures to ensure that the integrity and well-being of the households are protected.

7.4 Questionnaire

Table 34 summarises the details of the questions included in the GPSJS 2024/25 questionnaire. The questions are covered in 6 sections, each focusing on a particular aspect. Depending on the need for additional information, the questionnaire is adapted on an annual basis. New sections may be introduced on a specific topic for which information is needed, or additional questions may be added to existing sections. Likewise, questions that are no longer necessary may be removed.

Table 38: The structure of the GPSJS 2024/25 questionnaire

Section	Number of questions	Details of each section
Cover page		Household information, response details, field staff information, result codes, etc.
Person information	16	Demographic information (name, sex, age, population group, etc.)
Part 01: Household Information		
Section 1	55	Experience of Household Crime
Section 2	10	Court
Section 3	13	Correctional Services
Part 02: Individual Respondent		
Section 4	8	General Health and Functioning
Section 5	49	Individual experience of crime
Section 6	15	Individual experience of court
Section 7	7	Individual perceptions of crime
Survey Officer Questions	5	Survey officer to answer questions
All sections	178	

7.5 Response rates

The response rate has been defined as the proportion of eligible households which completed a questionnaire with usable information to the total number of eligible households. While on the other hand, the non-response rate has been defined as the proportion of eligible households for which a questionnaire could not be completed to the total number of eligible households. There are many different reasons for household non-response; for example, householders refused to complete the interview, householders could not be contacted, householders did not provide usable information, household was temporarily away during the data collection period, etc.

Let n_g be the number of eligible households in the dwelling sample from the geographic area g and n_g^r the corresponding number of respondent households. Where eligible households include both respondent and non-respondent households but exclude out-of-scope households. The response rate is then given by:

$$Response\ Rate_g = \frac{n_g^r}{n_g} \times 100 \tag{1}$$

Response rates were computed at the national, provincial, and metropolitan area levels for the GPSJS 2024/25. The National response rate for GPSJS 2024/25 is 87.83%, with Gauteng province having the lowest response rate at 79.24%. Overall, there were 4 geographic areas with response rates below the 80% minimum acceptable level prescribed by the statistical standard on "Measuring and reporting response rates, Stats SA 019:2017, V2.00". According to the standard, for cases where the acceptable level is not met, it is recommended that the survey area provides explanatory notes in the clearance document.

Table 39: Response rates per province, GPSJS 2024/25

Province / Metropolitan Area	Response Rates
National	**87,83**
Western Cape	83,35
Non Metro	92,13
City of Cape Town	79,37
Eastern Cape	95,30
Non Metro	97,46
Buffalo City	94,24
Nelson Mandela Bay	88,13
Northern Cape	89,07
Free State	91,33
Non Metro	90,45
Mangaung	93,35
KwaZulu-Natal	90,42
Non Metro	94,89
eThekwini	82,59
North West	90,59
Gauteng	79,24
Non Metro	86,61
Ekurhuleni	87,95
City of Johannesburg	74,10
City of Tshwane	73,34
Mpumalanga	93,29
Limpopo	97,04

7.6 Editing and imputation

Data editing is concerned with the identification, and if possible, the correction of erroneous or highly suspect survey data. Data was checked for valid range, internal logic, and consistency. The focus of the editing process was on clearing up skip violations and ensuring that each variable only contains valid values. Very few limits to valid values were set and data were largely released as they were received from the field. When dealing with internal inconsistencies, logical imputation was used, i.e., information from other questions was compared with the inconsistent information. If other evidence was found to back up either of the two inconsistent viewpoints, the inconsistency was resolved accordingly. If the internal inconsistency remained, the question subsequent to the filter question was dealt with by either setting it to missing and imputing its value or printing a message of edit failure for further investigation, decision-making and manual editing. Hot-deck imputation was used to impute for missing age.

7.7 Construction of sample weights

The respective sample weights, person, household, and individual level weights, for the GPSJS 2024/25 were constructed in such a manner that the responses from the responding persons, households, and individuals could be properly expanded to represent the respective population and households. The sample weights therefore are the result of calculations involving several factors, including the original selection probabilities, adjustments for PSUs that were sub-sampled or segmented, excluded population from the sampling frame, non-response, weight trimming and benchmarking respectively to known population of person and household estimates.

7.7.1 Person level weights

The population estimates used for the calibration of the trimmed adjusted base weights in constructing the person level sample weights for GPSJS 2024/25 were the end-September population estimate for 2024 based on the 2018 mid-year series. The population estimates were used in benchmarking the survey estimates to two sets of control totals:

- National level totals were defined by the cross-classification of age, race, and gender. Age represents the 16 five-year age groups of 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74 and 75+. Race represents the four groups of African/Black, Coloured, Indian/Asian, and White. Gender represents the two groups of male and female. The cross-classification resulted in 128 calibration cells at the national level (Appendix 8).

Individual metropolitan and non-metropolitan area level totals were defined within the provinces by age. The country has 8 metropolitan areas; 1 in Western Cape, 2 in Eastern Cape, 1 in Free State, 1 in KwaZulu-Natal and 3 in Gauteng. The remainder of the provinces are non-metropolitan areas. Since each province has a non-metropolitan area, the partition resulted in 17 areas (i.e. 9 non-metropolitan and 8 metropolitan areas). Age represents the 4 age groups of 0-14, 15-34, 35-64, and 65+. The cross-classification of the areas with age resulted in 68 calibration cells

7.7.2 Household level weights

The household estimates used for the calibration of the trimmed adjusted base weights in constructing the household level sample weights were for GPSJS 2024/25 based on the end-September population estimate for 2024 (based on the 2018 mid-year series). The household estimates were used in benchmarking the survey estimates to two sets of control totals:

- National level totals were defined by the cross-classification of the 'head of household' age, race, and gender. Age represents the 4 age groups of 10-34, 35-49, 50-64, and 65+. Race represents the four groups of African/Black, Coloured, Indian/Asian, and White. Gender represents the two groups of male and female. The cross-classification resulted in 32 calibration cells at the national level (Appendix 10).

- Individual metropolitan and non-metropolitan area level totals were defined within the provinces by age. The country has 8 metropolitan areas; 1 in Western Cape, 2 in Eastern Cape, 1 in Free State, 1 in KwaZulu-Natal and 3 in Gauteng. The remainder of the provinces are non-metropolitan areas. Since each province has a non-metropolitan area, the partition resulted in 17 areas (i.e. 9 non-metropolitan and 8 metropolitan areas). Age represents the 4 age groups of 10-34, 35-49, 50-64, and 65+. The cross-classification of the areas with age resulted in 68 calibration cells.

7.7.3 Individual level weights

The population estimates used for the calibration of the trimmed adjusted base weights in constructing the individual level sample weights for GPSJS 2024/25 were the end-September population estimate for 2024 based on the 2018 mid-year series. The population estimates were used in benchmarking the survey estimates to two sets of control totals:

- National level totals were defined by the cross-classification of the individual age, race, and gender. Age represents the three age groups of 16-34, 35-64, and 65+. Race represents the four groups of African/Black, Coloured, Indian/Asian, and White. Gender represents the two groups of male and female. The cross-classification resulted in 24 calibration cells at the national level (Appendix 12).

Individual metropolitan and non-metropolitan area level totals were defined within the provinces by age. The country has 8 metropolitan areas; 1 in Western Cape, 2 in Eastern Cape, 1 in Free State, 1 in KwaZulu-Natal and 3 in Gauteng. The remainder of the provinces are non-metropolitan areas. Since each province has a non-metropolitan area, the partition resulted in 17 areas (i.e. 9 non-metropolitan and 8 metropolitan areas). Age represents the three age groups of 16-34, 35-64, and 65+. The cross-classification of the areas with age resulted in 51 calibration cells.

7.8 Estimation

The final survey weights were used to obtain the estimates for various domains of interest at a household level, for example, victimisation level in South Africa, households' perceptions of crime levels in the country, etc.

7.9 Sampling and the interpretation of the data

Caution must be exercised when interpreting the results of the GPSJS at low levels of disaggregation. The sample and reporting are based on the provincial boundaries as defined in 2011. These new boundaries resulted in minor changes to the boundaries of some provinces, especially Gauteng, North West, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Eastern Cape, and Western Cape. In previous reports the sample was based on the provincial boundaries as defined in 2006, and there will therefore be slight comparative differences in terms of provincial boundary definitions.

7.10 Measures of precision for selected variables of the GPSJS

This section provides an overview of the standard error, confidence interval, coefficient of variation (CV), and the design effect (Deff) for a number of selected person and household variables. Estimates were computed based on a complex multi-stage survey design with stratification, clustering, and unequal weighting. The standard error is the estimated measure of variability in the sampling distribution of a statistic. The design effect for an estimate is the ratio of the actual variance (estimated based on the sample design) to the variance of a simple random sample with the same number of observations (Lohr, 1999; Kish, 1965). Coefficient of variation (CV) is a measure of the relative size of error defined as 100 X (standard error / estimated value).

Figure 86 – Coefficient of variation thresholds.

Alphabetic	CV	Interpretation
A.	0.0% – 0.5%	
B.	0.6% – 1.0%	
C.	1.1% – 2.5%	Reliable enough for most purposes
D.	2.6% – 5.0%	
E.	5.1% – 10.0%	
F.	10.1% – 16.5%	
G.	16.6% – 25.0%	Use With Caution
H.	25.1% – 33.4%	
I.	33.5% +	Data Not Published

Table 40 – Measures of precision for experience of household crime in the past 5 years

1,1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced theft of motor vehicle?				
HH5years__1	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	216	8%	1,1	8%
No	19 551	1%	98,9	0%
Total	19 767	1%	100,0	

1,1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced housebreaking/burglary?				
HH5years__2	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	2 605	2%	13,2	2%
No	17 161	1%	86,8	0%
Total	19 766	1%	100,0	

1,1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced home robbery?				
HH5years__3	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	514	5%	2,6	5%
No	19 252	1%	97,4	0%
Total	19 766	1%	100,0	

1,1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced murder?				
HH5years__4	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	59	14%	0,4	14%
No	14 620	1%	99,6	1%
Total	14 679	1%	100,0	

1,1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced sexual offence?				
HH5years__5	Frequency('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	73	13%	0,4	13%
No	19 691	1%	99,6	0%
Total	19 764	1%	100,0	

1,1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced assault?				
HH5years__6	Frequency('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	268	7%	1,4	7%
No	19 496	1%	98,6	0%
Total	19 764	1%	100,0	

1,1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced deliberate damage to dwellings?				
HH5years__7	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	195	8%	1,0	8%
No	19 571	1%	99,0	0%
Total	19 766	1%	100,0	

1,1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced other type of crime?				
HH5years__8	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	316	6%	1,6	6%
No	19 450	1%	98,4	0%
Total	19 766	1%	100,0	

Table 41 – Measures of precision for household crime in the past 12 months

1.2A.1Have you or any member of your household experienced theft of motor vehicle in the past 12 months?				
MVH_EXP	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	62	14%	28,6	14%
No	154	9%	71,4	9%
Total	216	1%	100,0	

1.2B.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced housebreaking or burglary in the past 12 months?				
HSB_EXP	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	1 123	4%	43,1	3%
No	1 482	3%	56,9	3%
Total	2 605	1%	100,0	

1.2C.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced home robbery in the past 12 months?				
HR_EXP	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	213	7%	41,4	7%
No	301	6%	58,6	6%
Total	514	1%	100,0	

1.2D.1 Have you lost any member of your household through murder in the past 12 months?				
MD_EXP	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	14	27%	23,1	27%
No	45	16%	76,9	16%
Total	59	1%	100,0	

1.2E.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced sexual offence in the past 12 months?				
SO_EXP	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	35	19%	47,7	19%
No	38	18%	52,3	18%
Total	73	1%	100,0	

1.2F.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced assault in the past 12 months?				
ASL_EXP	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	123	10%	46,1	10%
No	144	9%	53,9	9%
Total	268	1%	100,0	

1.2F.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced deliberate damage of dwellings in the past 12 months?				
DEL_EXP	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	99	11%	50,5	11%
No	97	11%	49,5	11%
Total	195	1%	100,0	

1.2F.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced theft of a livestock in the past 12 months?				
STOCK_EXP	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	154	9%	48,7	9%
No	162	8%	51,3	8%
Total	316	1%	100,0	

Table 42 – Measures of precision for individual experience of crime in past 5 years

5.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced theft of personal property?				
Past5yrs__1	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	3 129	4%	7,1	4%
No	41 208	1%	92,9	0%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	

5.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced hijacking of motor vehicle?				
Past5yrs__2	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	340	10%	0,8	10%
No	43 997	1%	99,2	0%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	

5.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced street robbery?				
Past5yrs__3	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	1 120	6%	2,5	5%
No	43 218	1%	97,5	0%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	

5.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced consumer fraud?				
Past5yrs__4	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	1 019	6%	2,3	6%
No	43 319	1%	97,7	0%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	

5.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced sexual offence?				
Past5yrs__5	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	132	15%	0,3	15%
No	44 206	1%	99,7	0%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	

5.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced assault?				
Past5yrs__6	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	736	6%	1,7	6%
No	43 602	1%	98,3	0%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	

5.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced psychological violence?				
Past5yrs__7	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	582	7%	1,3	7%
No	43 755	1%	98,7	0%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	

5.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced other crime?				
Past5yrs__8	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	50	25%	0,1	25%
No	44 288	1%	99,9	0%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	

Table 43 – Measures of precision for individual experience of crime in past 12 months

5.1A.1 Have you experienced theft of personal property in the past 12 months?				
EXP_THEFT	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	1 160	5%	37,1	4%
No	1 969	3%	62,9	2%
Total	3 129	2%	100,0	

5.1B.1 Have you been hijacked while travelling in a motor vehicle during the past 12 months?				
EXP_HIJACK	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	102	12%	30,1	12%
No	238	6%	69,9	5%
Total	340	4%	100,0	

5.1C.1 Have you been robbed anywhere other than at home during the past 12 months?				
EXP_ROBB	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	470	6%	41,9	6%
No	651	5%	58,1	4%
Total	1 120	3%	100,0	

5.1D.1 Have you personally experienced consumer fraud in the past 12 months?				
EXP_CONS	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	566	6%	55,5	5%
No	453	7%	44,5	6%
Total	1 019	4%	100,0	

5.1E.2 Have you personally experienced sexual offence in the past 12 months?				
EXP_SEX	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	44	15%	33,6	12%
No	88	5%	66,4	6%
Total	132	4%	100,0	

5.1E.2 Have you personally experienced assault in the past 12 months?				
EXP_ASSAULT	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	363	6%	49,2	5%
No	374	6%	50,8	5%
Total	736	3%	100,0	

5.1E.2 Have you personally experienced psychological violence in the past 12 months?				
EXP_PSV	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Yes	337	6%	57,9	5%
No	245	7%	42,1	6%
Total	582	4%	100,0	

Table 44 – Measures of precision of feelings of safety

7.1 How safe do you feel walking alone in your areas when it is dark?				
WalkAloneDark	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Very safe	5 517	3%	12,4	3%
Fairly safe	10 477	2%	23,6	2%
A bit unsafe	9 578	2%	21,6	2%
Very unsafe	18 766	2%	42,3	1%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	
7.2 How safe do you feel walking alone in your areas during the day?				
WalkAloneDay	Frequency ('000)	CV for frequency	Percentage %	CV for percentage
Very safe	19 482	2%	43,9	1%
Fairly safe	16 437	2%	37,1	2%
A bit unsafe	5 774	3%	13,0	3%
Very unsafe	2 645	4%	6,0	4%
Total	44 338	1%	100,0	

8. Basic terms and definitions

Assault – Direct or indirect application of force to the body of another person/ being attacked, physically beaten or threatened by a perpetrator in a frightening way.

Consumer fraud – deceptive practices that result in financial losses for consumers during seemingly legitimate business transactions. Also includes cases where someone provides misleading information and tricks a person into buying something or signing documents.

Deliberate damage of dwellings – unlawful and intentional damaging of dwellings.

Hijacking of motor vehicle – unlawful and intentional forceful removal and appropriation of a motor vehicle from the occupant(s).

Household – a group of persons who live together and provide themselves jointly with food and/or other essentials for living, or a single person who lives alone.
Note: The persons basically occupy a common dwelling unit (or part of it) for at least four nights in a week on average during the past four weeks prior to the survey interview, sharing resources as a unit. Other explanatory phrases can be 'eating from the same pot' and 'cook and eat together'.

Household head – the main decision-maker, or the person who owns or rents the dwelling, or the person who is the main breadwinner.

Housebreaking/burglary – unlawful and intentional breaking into a building or similar structure, used for human habitation, and entering or penetrating it with part of the body or with an instrument, with the intention to control something on the premises, intending to commit a crime on the premises, where there is no contact between the victim(s) and the perpetrator(s).

Home robbery – unlawful and intentional forceful removal and appropriation of tangible property from residential premises of another person while there is contact between the victim(s) and perpetrator(s).

Individual crime – crime affecting a single person rather than an entire household.

Murder – unlawful and intentional killing of another human being.

Perpetrator – person(s) who committed the crime.

Personal property – asset(s) belonging to an individual rather than a group of persons.

Pets - a domestic or tamed animal kept for companionship or pleasure

Physical force – bodily power, strength, energy or might.

Note: In the context of this survey, physical force includes actions where the human body is used to compel/force someone to do something or to hurt or kill someone. It can include actions such as pushing, pressing, shoving, hitting, kicking, throttling, etc.

Psychological violence (PSV) - This involves non-physical harassment. Somebody made offensive, threatening or humiliating comments to you, such as insulting you or calling you names.

Robbery involving force – unlawfully obtaining property with use of force or threat of force against a person with intent to permanently or temporarily to withhold it form a person.

Sexual offences (including sexual assault, rape and domestic sexual abuse) – refers to grabbing, touching someone's private parts or sexually assaulting or raping someone.

Note: In terms of the Sexual Offences Act (Act No. 32 of 2007), section 5, (1) A person ('A') who unlawfully and intentionally sexually violates a complainant ('B'), without the consent of B, is guilty of the offence of sexual assault. (2) A person ('A') who unlawfully and intentionally inspires the belief in a complainant ('B') that B will be sexually violated is guilty of the offence of sexual assault.

Stick/club – a long bar or stick made of wood, plastic or other material and used as a weapon.

Theft – unlawful taking or obtaining of property with the intent to permanently deprive it from a person or organisation without consent and without the use of force, threat of force or violence, coercion or deception.

Theft of motor vehicles (excluding hijacking) – unlawful taking or obtaining of vehicles with an engine, including cars, buses, lorries, construction and agricultural vehicles (excluding motorcycles) with the intent to permanently deprive it from a person or organization without consent and without the use of force, threat of force or violence, coercion or deception.

Weapon – an instrument used to cause harm or death to human beings or other living creatures. *Note:* Includes knives, guns, pangas and knobkerries, metal or wooden bars/rods, broken glass, rocks, bricks, etc.

ANNEXURE B: SAPS AND VOCS DEFINITIONS OF CRIME

SAPS	VOCS
Murder Murder consists in the unlawful and intentional killing of another human being.	**Murder** Unlawful and intentional killing of another human being.
Sexual offences Rape, compelled rate, sexual assault, compelled sexual assault, compelled self-sexual assault, incest, bestiality, sexual act with corpse, acts of consensual sexual penetration with certain children (statutory rape), acts of consensual sexual violation with certain children (statutory sexual assault).	**Sexual offences** Refers to grabbing, touching someone's private parts or sexually assaulting or raping someone. Note: In terms of the Sexual Offences Act No 32 of 2007 section 5, (1) A person ('A') who unlawfully and intentionally sexually violates a complainant ('B'), without the consent of B, is guilty of the offence of sexual assault. (2) A person ('A') who unlawfully and intentionally inspires the belief in a complainant ('B') that B will be sexually violated is guilty of the offence of sexual assault.
Assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm Assault with the intent to cause grievous bodily harm is the unlawful and intentional direct or indirect application of force to the body of another person with the intention of causing grievous bodily harm to that person.	**Assault (excludes sexual assault)** Unlawful and intentional damaging of an immovable structure which is suitable for human occupation or the storing of goods and which belongs to another, by setting fire to it with the intention to prejudice the owner
Robbery with aggravating circumstances Robbery with aggravating circumstances is the unlawful and intentional forceful removal and appropriation in aggravating circumstances of movable tangible property belonging to another.	**Robbery (excludes home robbery and car/truck hijackings)** Unlawfully obtaining property with use of force or threat of force against a person with intent to permanently or temporarily to withhold it form a person.
Hijacking Robbery of a motor vehicle is the unlawful and intentional forceful removal and appropriation of a motor vehicle (excluding a truck) belonging to another.	**Hijacking of motor vehicle** Unlawful and intentional forceful removal and appropriation of a motor vehicle from the occupant(s).
Robbery at residential premises House robbery is the unlawful and intentional forceful removal and appropriation of property from the residential premises of another person.	**Home robbery** Unlawful and intentional forceful removal and appropriation of tangible property from residential premises of another person while there is contact between the victim(s) and perpetrator(s).

SAPS	VOCS
Burglary at residential premises Housebreaking (residential premises) is committed by a person who unlawfully and intentionally breaks into a building or similar structure, used for human habitation, and enters or penetrates it with part of his or her body or with an instrument with which he or she intends to control something on the premises, with the intention to commit a crime on the premises.	**House breaking** Unlawful and intentional breaking into a building or similar structure, used for human habitation, and entering or penetrating it with part of the body or with an instrument, with the intention to control something on the premises, intending to commit a crime on the premises, where there is no contact between the victim(s) and the perpetrator(s).
Theft of motor vehicle & motorcycle Theft of a motor vehicle consists of the stealing of a motor vehicle belonging to another person.	**Theft of motor vehicle** Unlawful taking or obtaining of vehicles with an engine, including cars, buses, lorries, construction and agricultural vehicles (excluding motorcycles) with the intent to permanently deprive it from a person or organisation without consent and without the use of force, threat of force or violence, coercion or deception
Theft out of or from motor vehicle Theft out of a motor vehicle consists of the unlawful and intentional removal of articles in or on the vehicle from the vehicle, with the intention of permanently depriving the owner thereof of control over such articles taken from the vehicle.	**Theft out of motor vehicle** Theft out of a motor vehicle occurs when a person gains access to the interior of a motor vehicle, by force or otherwise, when the owner is not present and takes valuable items.
Stock theft Stock theft consists of the stealing of stock or produce belonging to another person	**Theft of livestock/poultry and other animals**
Malicious damage of residential premises Malicious injury to property consists in the unlawful and intentional damaging of property belonging to another or one's own insured property, with the intention to claim the value of the property from the insurer.	**Deliberate damage/burning/destruction of dwellings** Unlawful and intentional damaging of dwellings.
	Consumer fraud Deceptive practices that result in financial losses for consumers during seemingly legitimate business transactions. Also includes cases where someone provides misleading information and tricks a person into buying something or signing documents.