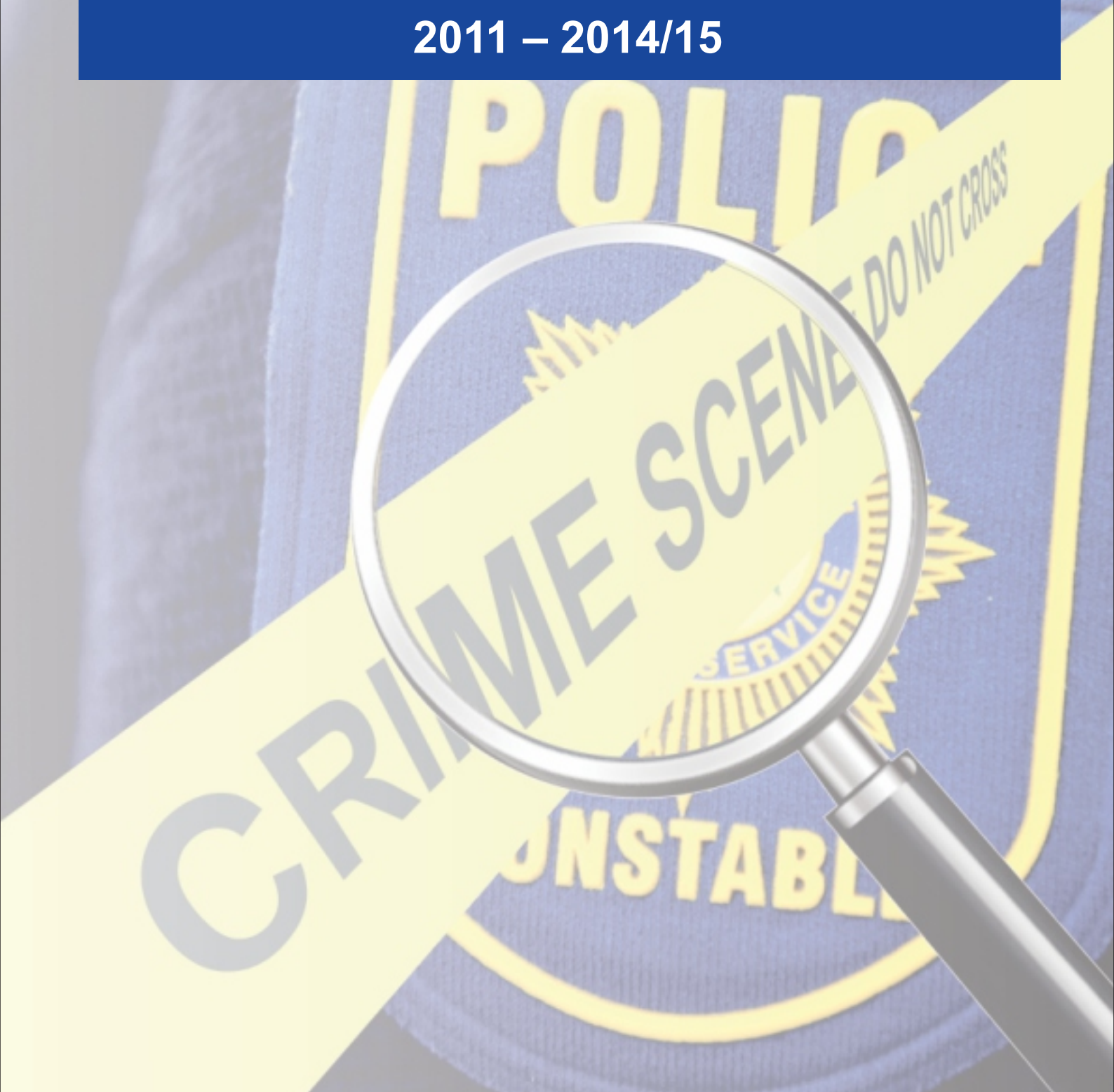


# Crime Statistics Series Volume III

## Exploration of selected contact crimes in South Africa

In-depth analysis of Victims of Crime Survey data

2011 – 2014/15



**Statistics  
South Africa**



The South Africa I know, the home I understand

**Crime Statistics Series Volume III**  
**Exploration of selected contact crimes in South Africa**  
**In-depth analysis of the Victims of Crime Survey data**  
**2011–2014/15**

Report No. 03-40-01

Statistics South Africa

Pali Lehohla  
Statistician-General

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## Foreword

Safety, freedom and security of the person are fundamental Human Rights. As such, The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) is emphatic on the need to protect all people living in the country from both *public* and *private* sources that may subvert this right (The Constitution of RSA, Act No. 108 of 1996). This report is the third in a series of Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) thematic reports produced annually by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). It provides an in-depth analysis of the circumstances surrounding contact crime and the effect that these crimes have on the victims and, in the case of murder, their relatives.

Three specific contact crimes are discussed in this report, these are: assault, sexual offences and murder. The Victims of Crime Survey (2014/15), in conjunction with South African Police Service (SAPS) statistics, Stats SA's mid-year population estimates (2014/15) and Census 2011 data were used in order to provide a holistic view of contact crime in the country. The demographic and socio-economic characteristics of victims, as well as the circumstances surrounding these crimes were analysed.

The history of South Africa, which was characterised by a violent regime of Apartheid, has left an unfortunate legacy. Thus, combatting contact crime is crucial as violence in post-democratic South Africa demonstrably cuts across social status and the safety of individuals is threatened not only in public spaces, but also in domestic settings. This is distressing as its outcomes impact directly on the quality of life of individuals, the health and wellbeing of the family, community and social cohesion and ultimately, functioning of the country.

Assault is the most common contact crime and often acts as the precursor to other forms of crime, including property-related crimes and more 'serious crimes' such as sexual offences and murder. Nonetheless, VOCS 2014/15 results indicate that assault was one of the most under-reported crimes. Most of the reasons cited by the victims for not reporting this crime include that they solved it themselves or did not view it as serious enough for the police to intervene. This is worrying as it indicates that the methods used to 'solve' these crimes were deemed appropriate by the victim and/or their family or community and as a result, may end up perpetuating the cycle of violence. Furthermore, the fact that most assaults affecting female victims were perpetrated by known people, and in private spaces, further complicates the role of the police. VOCS 2014/15 findings demonstrate that males were more likely to be assaulted in the street, entertainment area/bar or tavern and that both the victim and offender were under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. This has dire implications not only for policing in public spaces, but it also has economic and public health consequences.

Sexual offence is a difficult crime to study as it encompasses many aspects that are commonly viewed by some communities as 'harmless' such as communicating with and touching one in an inappropriate way, to 'serious' offences such as rape. The results show that more females than males fell victim to sexual offences and known people were the main perpetrators. A further concerning fact is that results show that a significant portion of women experienced sexual offences in the workplace or place of business. This, without a doubt, impacts negatively on economic participation and may ultimately lead to forced withdrawal from the workplace. Murder is the most extreme form of violence against an individual and is complex as it is intertwined with all the other forms of contact crime. Furthermore, in the context of the Victims of Crime Survey, murder is considered as a household crime, that is, a crime that affects not only the victim, but the entire household that they come from. This inevitably affects the socio-economic and health outcomes of those that remain behind.



Space and place are important determinants of crime as it not only affects the types of crime, the way in which they occur and their severity, but also the mechanisms that are available to fight these crimes. Where in urban areas police stations and community policing forums would be the main port of call, in rural or traditional areas, traditional authorities are the main place where crimes were reported. Weapons used in urban areas differed from those used in rural areas, as guns were common in urban metros and knives were most likely to be used in other urban areas as well as rural areas.

Various policies have been implemented in an attempt to combat violence in the country, including the National Crime Prevention Strategy (1996), and more recently the National Development Plan: Vision 2030. Contact crime occurs across all socio-economic groups and often takes place in the home and/or amongst people known to one another. This makes it more difficult to develop effective strategies to combat these crimes and makes a one size fits all approach inappropriate. While there is a need to prioritise safety and security in public spaces, for example in open spaces, parks and entertainment areas, an even more pressing issue is the mechanisms that need to be implemented in order to ensure safety in so-called 'safe spaces' such as private residences. This is a particularly poignant issue as these places, where individuals are meant to feel safe, are the very spaces where they are vulnerable to known predators. Although empowering vulnerable groups is a reasonable place to start combatting contact crime, it is imperative to ensure that the law works, that Justice is seen for victims and that those who do not report are encouraged to do so, not only by the laws and policies that have been promulgated but by a well-functioning Criminal Justice System. There is also a need to continually strive to improve our ability to accurately measure both the incidence and circumstances surrounding sexual offence in support of evidence-based decision making.



**Pali Lehohla**  
**Statistician-General**

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## Glossary of abbreviations/acronyms

CJS	Criminal Justice System
CSV	Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation
DCS	Department of Correctional Services
DoJ & CD	Department of Justice and Constitutional Development
DPME	Department of Monitoring and Evaluation
DSD	Department of Social Development
DTS	Domestic Tourism Survey
DU	Dwelling unit
EA	Enumeration area
EC	Eastern Cape
FS	Free State
GBH	Grievous Bodily Harm
GCIS	Government Communications
GHS	General Household Survey
GP	Gauteng
ICVS	International Crime Victim Survey
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
ISS	Institute for Security Studies
JCPS	Justice and Crime Prevention and Security
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
LP	Limpopo
LSM	Living Standard Measure
MP	Mpumalanga
MS	Master Sample
MTSF	Medium Term Strategic Framework
NC	Northern Cape
NCPS	National Crime Prevention Strategy
NDP	National Development Plan
NPC	National Planning Commission
NW	North West
PCA	Principal Component Analysis
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
RSA	Republic of South Africa
SAPS	South African Police Service
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
VOCS	Victims of Crime Survey
WC	Western Cape



## Concepts and definitions

**Absolute measure of the extent of crime (Incidence)** – the number of crime events occurring during a given time period (i.e. a year) within a specified population, for example, number of home robberies.

**Assault** – Intentional or reckless application of physical force inflicted upon the body of a person.

**Assault Grievous Bodily Harm/Serious Assault** - Intentional or reckless application of physical force inflicted upon the body of a person that may result in serious bodily injury: Inflicting grievous bodily harm; wounding; aggravated assault; inflicting bodily harm under aggravating circumstances; battery; acid attacks; female genital mutilation; poisoning; assault with a weapon; forced sterilization; taking human blood, organs or tissues by use of violence

**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 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.

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

**Living Standard Measure** – A Living Standard Measure (LSM) groups people and households into ten distinct groups based on criteria such as their level of urbanisation, and ownership of vehicles and major electrical appliances. The measurement is classified from LSM 1 to LSM 10. For the purposes of this report, these categories are combined as follows:

Low LSM: comprising LSM 1 to LSM 4

Intermediate LSM: comprising LSM 5 to LSM 7

High LSM: comprising LSM 8 to LSM 10.

**Multiple victimisation** – refers to when a household or individual experiences more than one incident of different crime types within a specified reference period.

**Murder** – unlawful and intentional killing of another human being.

**Perpetrator** – person (s) who committed the crime.

**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.

**Prevalence** – the percentage or proportion of the specified population (of persons or households) experiencing crime during a given time period.

**Repeat victimisation** – refers to when a household or individual experiences more than one incident of the same crime within a specified reference period.

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

**Sexual Violence:** Unwanted sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, or contact or communication with unwanted sexual attention without valid consent or with consent as a result of intimidation, force, fraud, coercion, threat, deception, use of drugs or alcohol, or abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability.

**Violent crime** – crime where a person was threatened, injured, or killed.

**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.

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

More than twenty years since the dawn of democracy in the Republic of South Africa (RSA), the country continues to face seemingly insurmountable challenges relating to violent crime. Although violence is a global concern that knows no boundaries, it is important to acknowledge that the dynamics surrounding violent crime in South Africa are convoluted and unique. This is primarily due to the legacy of Apartheid, which has inevitably affected the way in which the population navigates its demographic, socio-economic and geographical plateaus. Furthermore, there exist forms of violence that are distinguishable and characteristic of the transition to democracy; the most notable of these include violent service delivery protests and xenophobic attacks.

Violence, as a concept is multifaceted and subjective; as a result, it may never have a single, universally accepted definition. It has been defined as ‘applications, or threats, of physical force against a person, which can give rise to criminal or civil liability. Such violence may be associated with intimate violations of the person or the potential to cause serious physical pain, injury or death’ (Bruce, 2006). A distinction is made in the literature between different categories of intentional violence:

‘Collective violence’ refers to violence perpetrated by groups such as political violence; ‘Self-directed violence’ refers to self-injury; ‘Interpersonal violence’ which often relates to intra-family or domestic violence; ‘Institutional violence’ which takes place in institutional settings, for example at work; ‘Sexual violence’ which has been singled out as a category of inter-personal violence because of its particularly offensive nature and because of the differences between sexual and other violent offenders (Bruce, 2006, Gould 2010, APCOF, 2015).

In the South African context, social fabric crime or contact crime, as classified by the South African Police Service (SAPS) comprises murder, sexual offences and assault. It is expected that examination of these crimes together will yield more meaningful and robust information as they are interrelated and often occur in succession. The devastating effects that these crimes have on family life, community cohesion, efficient functioning and stability of the economy and public health outcomes, make understanding and combatting them imperative – especially since it has been established that violent offenders are inclined to be versatile and thus commit a wide range of offences. In addition to this, they have been found to exhibit other destructive habits such as heavy drinking, drug use, unstable employment record, and sexual promiscuity (Gould, 2010).

Despite the measures put in place to combat violent crime, SAPS crime statistics as well as the Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) 2014/15 results indicate that levels of violent crime are rising. This is particularly alarming as it contributes towards an increasing climate of fear among people and is further exacerbated by the fact that certain forms of violence typically take place in intimate, domestic settings or private spaces. This poses a particular challenge as police may be able to respond to the outcome, but are less equipped to predict or prevent its occurrence (Gould, 2010).

The availability of data is central to the prevention of and the response to violence. The sensitive nature of social fabric crimes makes relaying accurate information on it difficult. Data collected by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) should be used in conjunction with those provided within the Justice Crime Prevention and Security cluster as these form the foundation of all decision making as well as monitoring and evaluating the impact of services to respond and to prevent violence.

This report is an exploration of the nature of selected contact crimes in South Africa. Safety is an essential human right and the Constitution of South Africa (1996) is emphatic about maintaining the “Freedom and security of the person”. As such, the state is constitutionally obliged to respect, protect, promote and fulfil the rights of the population (DOJ & CD, 2015). Consequently, the National Development Plan (NDP) puts forth a vision of ensuring the absolute safety of all people in South Africa, which makes the reduction of contact crimes one of the key priorities of the criminal justice system.

## 1.2 Legislative framework

The three cornerstones that inform the way in which contact crime is dealt with in the country are: The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (1996); The National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS) (1996); and The National Development Plan (2011).

The South African Government has promulgated one of the most progressive constitutions in the world. In it, the rights of all individuals to be protected from all forms of violence are stipulated (The Constitution of RSA, Act No. 108 of 1996). Accordingly, Section 12 of the Bill of Rights, under the chapter "Freedom and security of the person", stipulates that:

"Everyone has the right to freedom and security of the person, which encompasses, amongst others, the right— to be free from all forms of violence from either public or private sources.

In practice, there have been a number of acts addressing violence and particularly gender based violence, in the country. These include:

- I. The Domestic Violence Act (Act No. 116, 1998);
- II. Firearms Control Act (Act No. 60, 2000);
- III. The Criminal Law Sexual Offences and Related Matters Amendment Act (Act No. 32, 2007);
- IV. National Policy Guidelines on Victim Empowerment;
- V. National Instructions on Domestic Violence;
- VI. National Policy Framework on the Management of Sexual Offences;
- VII. National Instructions on Sexual Offences; and
- VIII. National Directives and Instruction on Conducting a Forensic Examination on Survivors of Sexual Offences in terms of the Criminal Law Sexual Offences and Related Matters Amendment Act (Act No. 32, 2007), (APCOF, 2015).

### The National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS)

The National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS), which was launched in 1996, is mainly intended to create a paradigm shift, where a proactive approach was promoted in which crime was viewed as something to be prevented and not controlled after it has occurred (David Bruce, 2006). In order to achieve this, collaborative efforts amongst various government departments were encouraged (David Bruce, 2006).

### The National Development Plan: Vision 2013

More recently, the National Development Plan has emphasized the importance of building safer communities (Chapter 12). Five key priorities to be focused on in order to achieve a crime free society are:

1. Strengthening the criminal justice system
2. Making the police service more professional
3. Demilitarising the police
4. Building safety using an integrated approach
5. Building community participation in community safety

Outcome three of the Medium-Term Strategic Framework also outlines the importance of ensuring that all people in South Africa 'are' and feel 'safe'. In order to achieve that, the main priority is to ensure a reduction in the overall levels of serious crimes, in particular contact and trio crimes (MTSF: 2014-2016).

The Constitution, which governs all other legislation in the country, is clear on the overarching aim to protect the populace. In spite of this and the subsequent laws, plans and policies that have been enacted which detail how this is to be achieved in practice, it has proven difficult to combat and prevent social fabric-related crime. This is a matter of concern as contact crime essentially restricts people, threatens their quality of life and undermines

their ability to live freely without the fear of being victimised. What is even more disturbing is the fact that the intimate nature of assault, sexual offences and murder not only makes people vulnerable to strangers, but also to people who are known to them.

### **1.3 Objectives**

This report is the third in a series of Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) thematic reports aimed at providing an in-depth understanding of victimisation phenomena. The main objective of the study is the exploration of the factors which increase or decrease the risk of social fabric-related or selected contact crimes within South African communities. More specific questions that were discussed include:

1. Are there specific characteristics that can explain why individuals were victimised?
2. Do different forms of violence overlap and intercept?
3. Does the occurrence of crime differ per space and place?
4. What are the weapons that are used when committing violent crimes and what is the impact on the victim?

### **1.4 Organisation and presentation of the report**

This report is comprised of four main sections. The first section provides an introduction and contextual background to the report, as well as a general overview of the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster, its legislative framework and the objectives of the report. Section two outlines the methodology and data analysis techniques used and points out some of its limitations. A detailed discussion of the findings of the report is provided in section three to five, whilst the conclusion and recommendations can be found in the final section.

## 2. Methodology and data sources

### 2.1 Methodology

The Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) (2011–2014/15) data were analysed in conjunction with the South African Police Service (SAPS) crime statistics (2014/15) using quantitative methods. The VOCS, which is the primary data source used in this report, measures victimisation experiences from the perspective of household and individual victims of crime; and public perceptions about the overall level of crime and the services provided by police, courts and correctional services. The SAPS crime statistics are based on administrative records. VOCS includes questions designed to measure levels of inter-personal violence (assault, sexual offences including murder). The findings reported using VOCS data provide the most reliable national-level picture of the extent and nature of social fabric crimes in South Africa.

The VOCS questionnaire is divided into two main sections, household crime and individual crime. Sexual offences and assault are considered as individual crimes, whereas murder is considered a household crime. The birthday selection method is used to randomly select someone to interview for the individual section of the VOCS questionnaire. This method ensures that a household member who is 16 years or older, whose birthday comes first after the survey month, is selected. This is a random procedure that will ensure that everyone has a chance to get into the sample without any systematic bias.

Administrative data collected by the SAPS remains one of the main sources of crime statistics in the country at precinct level. While VOCS covers individuals 16 years and above, SAPS crimes statistics include all individuals who experienced and reported crimes. Police data generally relies on the extent to which the reporting of crime takes place. Those incidents which are not reported by victims remain largely unknown and unrecorded. Police and court records allow for the monitoring of policing and of the criminal justice system. However, they do not necessarily give enough detail about crime from the point of view of the victims. Administrative systems typically do not provide sufficient information to obtain a comprehensive overview of the scope, trends and patterns of crime in society within the context of demographic, social and economic realities.

Data from administrative sources and victimisation surveys are recognised as a tool to assist government and the public to understand the dynamics of crime. These statistics can enhance the evidence base related to how crime occurs, identify crime hot spots, identify the root causes of crime, etc. It can also be used for the development of policies and strategies, as well as for crime prevention and public education programmes.

### 2.2 Data analysis

The statistical analysis software SAS Enterprise Guide 7.1 was used for statistical analysis and ArcMap 10 was used for spatial data analysis. As part of data preparation and cleaning, missing and unknown values were excluded from the data, particularly totals used as denominators for the calculation of percentages, unless otherwise specified. Frequency values have been rounded off to the nearest thousand.

In addition to the use of basic descriptive statistics, bivariate Pearson Chi-Square, multivariate techniques including Factor analysis and multinomial logistic analysis were applied. These methods were used to predict the relationships between independent and dependent variables. The initial set of analyses examined the bivariate relationships between each of the contact crimes (assault, sexual offences and murder) and all selected variables. Chi-square analysis was used to assess violence, while cluster analysis was used to assess internalising indicators.



The VOCS did not include questions on income, households' tenure status and other variables in order to measure living standards. However, other household surveys e.g. Domestic Tourism Survey (DTS) conducted within Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) do measure such indicators. The DTS and VOCS were designed from the same master sample. DTS has independent samples which in some instances match at the primary sample unit (PSU) level. More than ninety per cent of the PSUs of the VOCS 2014/15 and DTS 2014 overlapped out of a total of 3 017 PSUs that were surveyed. Nearest neighbourhood characteristic methodologies were used for the spatial matching process in cases where there were no exact matches. This implies that the nearest PSUs included in the VOCS sample were given the Living Standard Measure (LSM) characteristic as measured by the DTS.

The LSM was used as a proxy for living standards. Although the DTS did not measure income, this variable was derived from the LSM. The LSM is segmented into 10 groups with an LSM of 10 (highest) and 1 (lowest). These are quite often grouped together into subgroups that roughly represent the low-income group (LSM 1–4), middle-income group (LSM 5–7) and high-income group (8–10).

### **2.2.1 Spatial analysis**

Scholars have argued that routine activities that bring together potential offenders and criminal prospects are especially effective in explaining the role of place in encouraging or preventing crime (Anselin L, Cohen J, Cook D, Gorr W; and Tita G, 2000). The relationship between observed crime hot spots and attributes of its occurrence provides a distinctive spatial or locational feature of crime – an effective strategy to fight crime from the onset. It is against this background that the decision was made to spatially merge the VOCS and SAPS data in order to analyse crime by police station boundaries and view the victimisation data within the context of policing areas. The SAPS boundaries were further merged with Census 2011 data in order to superimpose the administrative records of reported crimes onto the Census 2011 data frame. This assisted in determining crime hot spots and thereafter conducting spatial regression analysis.

Thematic maps of crime in each province were created so as to see the general patterns of crime in the country. A spatial autocorrelation (Moran I), was performed to establish if a relationship exists in the data, as well as to investigate the possibility of clustering. Spatial autocorrelation determines whether or not further analysis needs to be done. Without evidence of clustering it is fruitless to do any additional analyses which are based on the clusters, such as hot spot analysis. In cases where the spatial autocorrelation confirmed clustering within the area under study, a hot spot analysis (Getis-Ord GI\*) was conducted. The purpose of the hot spot analysis was to show in which areas the clusters of crime were found and whether the clusters were high value clusters (hot spots) or low value clusters (cold spots). Following this, a cluster and outlier analysis (Anselin Local Moran's I) were executed in order to identify statistically significant hot spots, cold spots and spatial outliers. These three processes were done provincially as well as at metropolitan level to get a more in-depth understanding of the patterns of crime.

### **2.2.2 Variable operationalisation**

Incidents of social fabric crime emerge from the interaction of different factors, such as family history, social context, environmental factors and/or economic factors (CSV, 2007). In order to fight crime effectively, comprehensive statistics on patterns of crime and victimisation should be available. It is important to be able to investigate risk factors that are associated with social fabric crime in South Africa.

Marital Status was selected in order to determine the structure of the household in terms of interpersonal and intimate relationships; it is envisaged that crime affects households and individuals differently depending on their marital status. This variable has 5 categories. Age group is a variable that was categorised into eleven categories that are four years apart, starting at age 16 as the VOCS methodology only selects individuals 16 years and above for experience of crime. The three main demographic processes of fertility, mortality and migration occur in varying degrees depending on which age group an individual falls into; as such, it is expected that the circumstances around and effects of crime will vary depending on which age group an individual falls into.

The socio-economic status of the individuals and households affected by social fabric crimes was investigated using level of education and work status as proxy variables. These two variables each have five categories and it can be argued that they are connected as an individual's level of education is one of the main determinants of, and in most cases, determines their work status. It is assumed that the level of education and work status that an individual or the household as a collective have, determine how they perceive and react to crime as well as the extent to which they are able to take measures to protect themselves.

### **2.2.3 Limitations of the data**

It should be noted that the data from VOCS 2011 and 2012 were collected between January and March. Since 2013, Stats SA changed its data collection methodology to Continuous Data Collection. Data is collected from April of the current year to March of the following year with a revolving reference period of 12 months within the preceding year. Survey data is based on respondent recall, while the police records covered incidents reported to the police.

Victimisation surveys are likely to produce higher crime estimates than police-recorded administrative data. This is due to the fact that many crimes are not reported to the police. Victim surveys deal with incidents which may not necessarily match the legal definitions of crime. Although data from crime victim surveys are likely to elicit better disclosure of criminal incidents than data from police records, they can also be subject to undercounting, as some victims may be reluctant to disclose information, particularly for incidents of a sensitive nature, such as sexual assault. Thus the incidences of sexual assault identified by the VOCS and discussed in this report primarily speak to those cases that were already reported to the police or other entities and therefore make a limited contribution towards a better understanding of the large number of non-reported cases. Assault includes a wide array of infringements and even though the VOCS identifies more of these cases than the SAPS administrative data system, it may still be underreported due to a lack of uniformity in applying the definition during fieldwork.

The accuracy of statistics in victimisation surveys is also influenced by the ability of people to recall past victimisations. The longer the elapsed time period, the less likely it is that an incident will be recalled accurately. Surveys are also subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.

Comparisons between the SAPS administrative data and the VOCS data deal with slightly different reference periods and this should be taken into consideration when drawing conclusions.

### 3. Findings

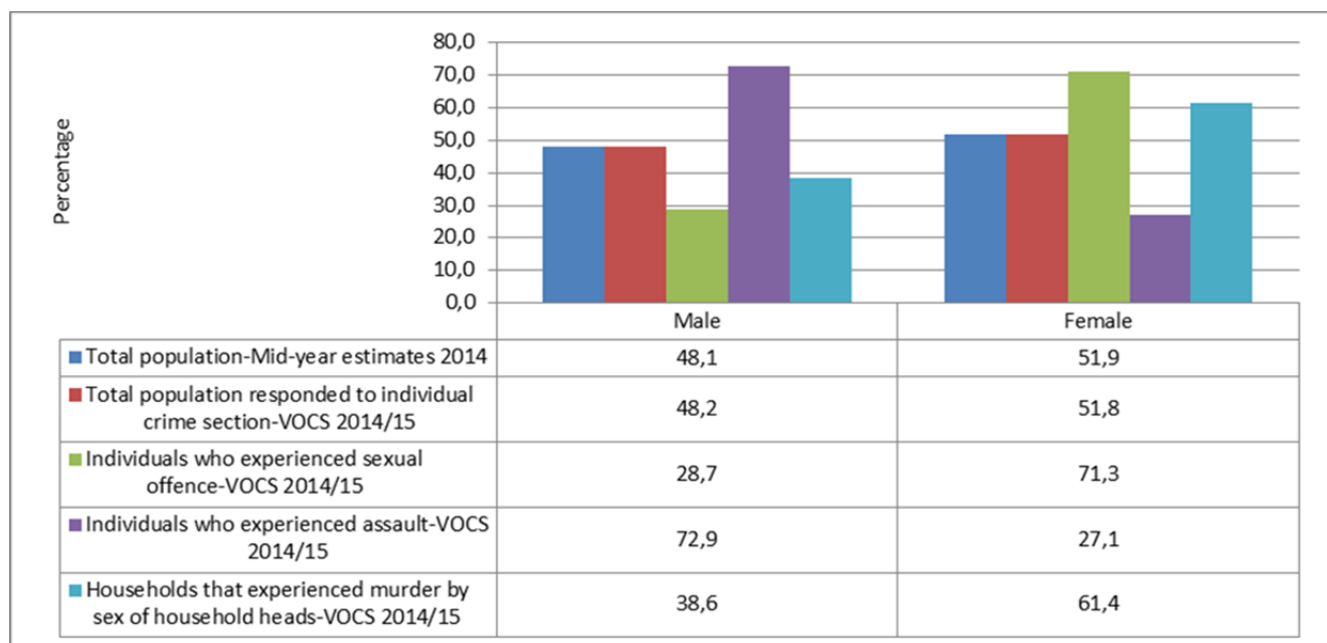
#### 3.1 Overview of Social fabric crimes

Selected contact crimes, especially murder and sexual offences are considered crimes that are relatively rare. The difficult to measure and sensitive nature of sexual offences has created a statistical information gap around these incidents which is certainly of grave concern to the country. Sexual offences are also generally under-reported, which is primarily due to the sensitive nature of these assaults as well as social stigma. Due to the fact that murder is a statistically rare event it resulted in relatively few cases in the database and submitting these for detailed analysis may also provide unreliable results. However, given that murder is considered as a crime against the state and therefore rarely goes unreported or undetected, statistics on murder are considered some of the most reliable statistics from both administrative sources and the VOCS. Regardless of these limitations, there is a wealth of information in the Victims of Crime Survey about the circumstances surrounding these crimes which could be used to improve policy and strategy formulation.

To examine the extent of the patterns observed in the victimisation survey for the sub-sampled individuals (aged 16 years and above) who reported contact crimes; we have compared the distributions of population estimates given by the VOCS with Mid-year population estimates conducted by Stats SA. The results for 2014/15 are shown in Figure 1. The results show similar distributions amongst sex categories across VOCS 2014/15 and Mid-year population estimates (2014/15).

The in-depth analysis on the findings will start by examining the hypothesis that there exists a highly victimised group of people in certain areas, who are under-represented in the VOCS to the extent that there is a significant bias in overall estimated levels of victimisation. In order to identify the scale of any potential bias, this section examines response rates by sex, population group and age group within different types of crime and correspondingly, estimates the extent to which victimisation is more prevalent within those categories.

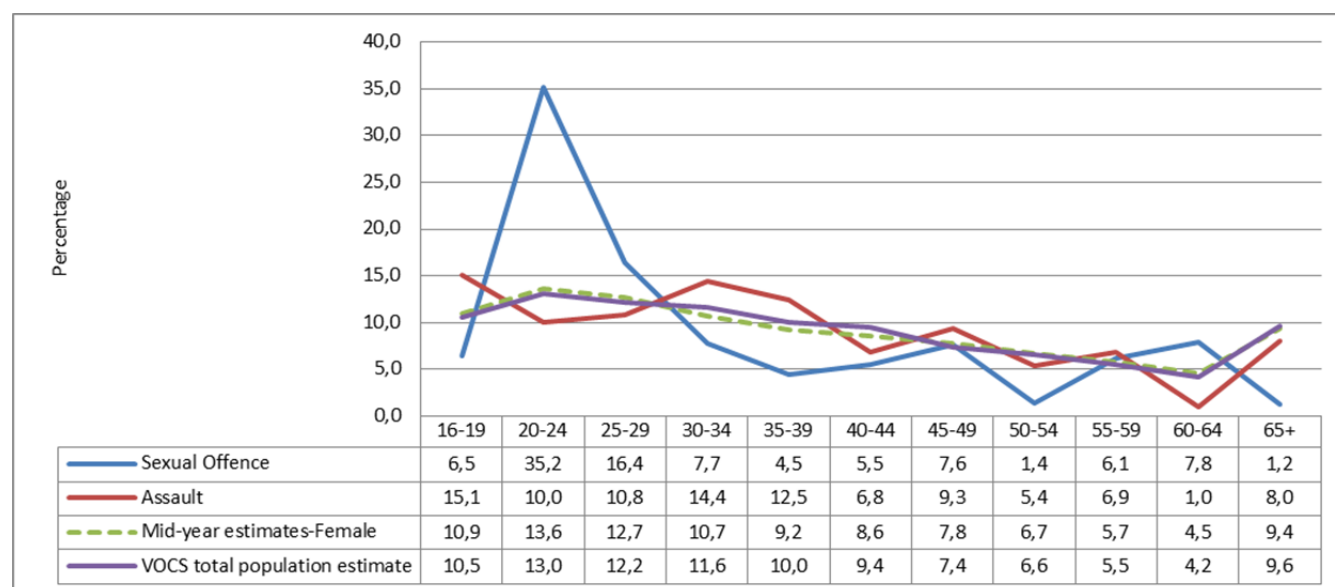
**Figure 1 : Percentage distribution of population estimates by sex in 2014/15**



The results show similar distributions between male (48,1%) and female (51,9%) population estimates across the different data sources. We can conclude that there is no significant difference between the male and female distribution of the individuals sampled to respond to the individual section of the VOCS and this sub-sample of individuals therefore provides a good reflection of the population of South Africa. Figure 1 indicates that more females 16 years and above experienced sexual offence (71,3%) than their male counterparts (28,7%). A reverse

scenario can be observed amongst individuals 16 years and above who have been assaulted. About 72,9% of males were assaulted compared to only 27,1% of females. Households were asked if they had experienced murder in the month prior to data collection. Incidents of murder were more prevalent to households headed by a female (61,4%) and only 38,6% of male-headed households. The results imply that male individuals were more likely to be victims of assault, while females are likely to experience sexual offence. It was also indicated that households who are headed by females were more likely to experience murder when compared to male-headed households.

**Figure 2 : Percentage distribution of female assault and sexual offence incidents by age group, VOCS 2014/15**



The individual section in the VOCS covers individuals aged 16 years and above. Whilst personal crime is highly concentrated amongst young people, individuals (more particularly females) between 20 and 24 years old are mostly affected by incidents of sexual offences and those aged 16–19 and 30–34 years old by assault as indicated in Figure 2. The dashed line shows the overall Mid-year population estimates for the same period. The distribution of assault amongst women resembles the population trend. It is important to note that women 65 years and older are more likely than males of the same age group (Figure 3) to be assaulted. These findings call for policy considerations aimed at protecting the elderly population who are physically vulnerable. They too should live in a secure environment, without fear of any forms of crime.

**Figure 3 : Percentage distribution of male assault and sexual offence incidents by age group, VOCS 2014/15**

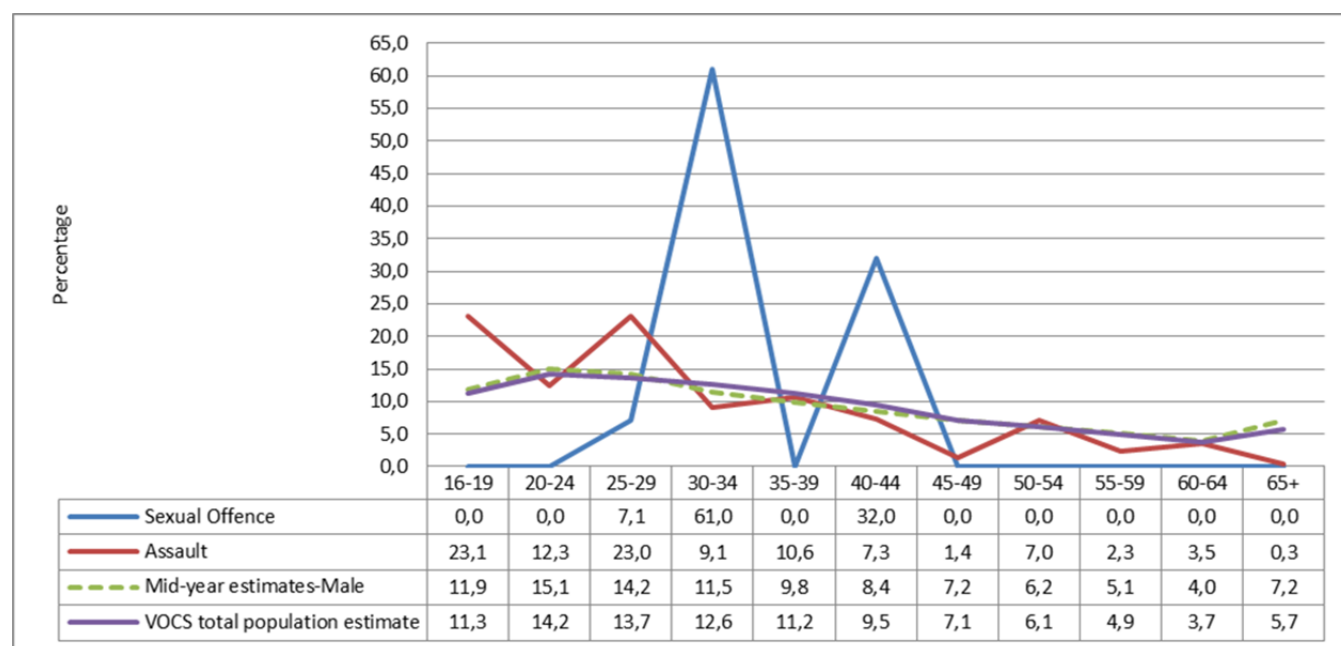
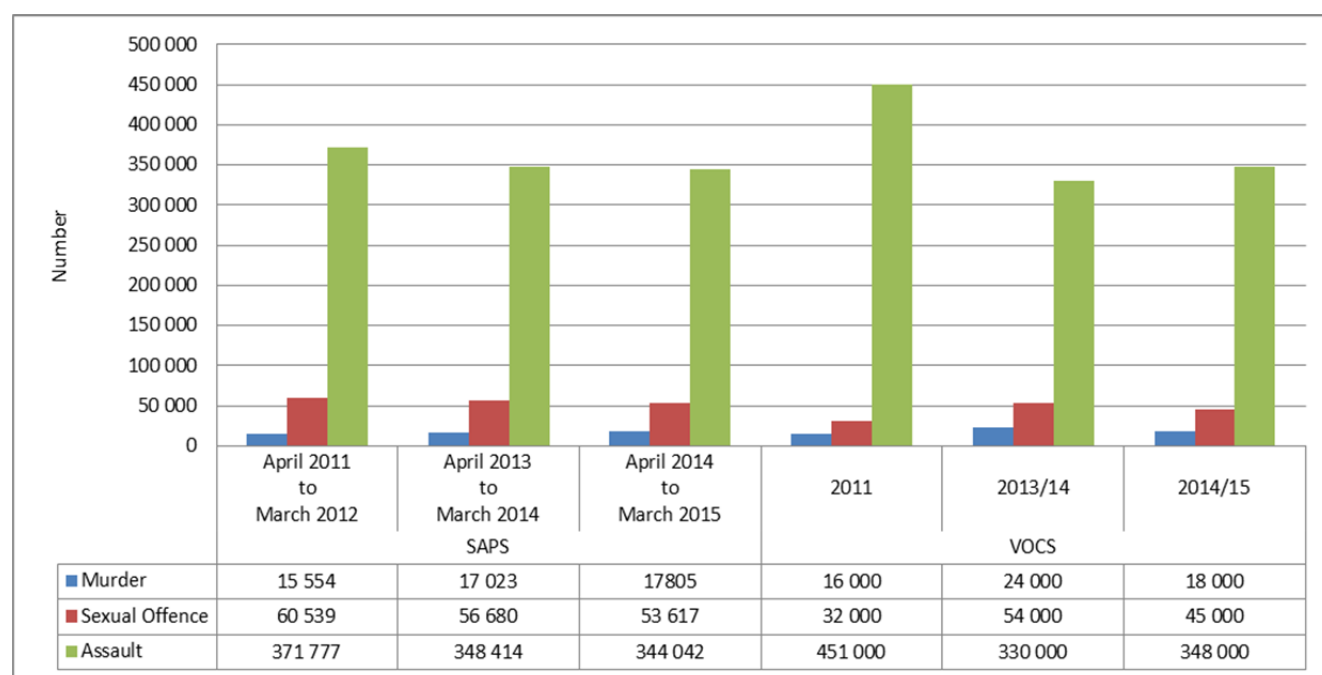


Figure 3 shows the percentage distribution of incidents of male assault and sexual offence by age group. The results show that age groups 30–34 and 40–44 years were mostly affected by sexual offence, while age groups 16–19 and 25–39 were mostly affected by assault.

### 3.1.1 Incidence of victimisation

A time series comparison of sexual offences, assault and murder incidents reported to the South African Police Service (SAPS) and collected in the Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) for the period 2011 to 2014/15 is shown in Figure 4.

**Figure 4 : Comparison of sexual offence, assault and murder incidents (number in thousands), VOCS 2012 and SAPS 2011/2012**



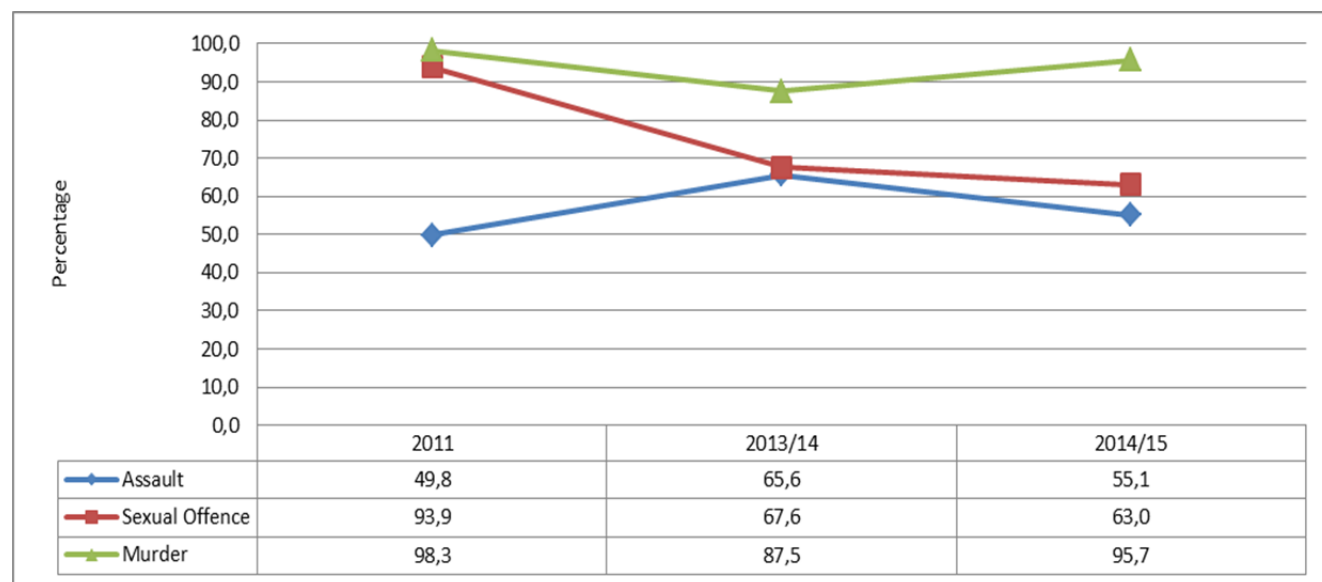
It is important to note that there was a change in the methodology of VOCS in 2013/2014 where data were collected using a Continuous Data Collection (CDC) methodology. The data for VOCS 2013/14 were collected from April 2013 to March 2014 with a moving reference period of 12 months, whereas data collection from previous VOCS were collected between January and March with a fixed reference period from January to December of the preceding year. Additionally, the SAPS data are based on administrative records from cases reported in that particular financial year. VOCS covers individuals 16 years and above, while SAPS included all individuals who experienced and reported these crimes. This implies that SAPS figures will include children less than 16 years old who have been victimised, a group currently excluded from VOCS. Marginal differences between the two data sources can therefore be accounted for by differences in coverage of the target population and reporting rate.

When comparing statistics for both data sources, it is advisable to look at the trend that the crime takes as opposed to the actual numbers. Generally, the trend will provide an indication of changes in the incidence of that particular crime in the country regardless of data source. The robustness of the data is seen by whether the two data sets show similar trends. In instances where SAPS and VOCS contradict each other this may be accounted for by methodological and in some cases definitional differences.

### 3.1.2 Reporting of assault, sexual offence and murder to the Police

The characteristics of assault and sexual offence typically leave them open to different interpretations, given the cultural context within which they occur. These crimes often have elements of and/or may consist of a combination of impolite behaviour, touching or grabbing someone without consent, rape or a potential threat to human life. The extent of these and the socio-cultural context, in which they occur, will influence whether an assault or sexual offence incident is reported to the police. Conversely victims of murder primarily experience the threat to human life, which is also regarded as a crime against the state and is dealt with differently in the criminal justice system. Most murder cases are therefore also reported to the police or detected by the police.

**Figure 5 : Percentage distribution of contact crime incidents reported to the police, VOCS 2011-2014/15**



The reporting rates of selected contact crimes are shown in Figure 5. In 2014/15, murder (95,7%) was most reported to the police followed by an estimated 63% of sexual offences. However, it is worth noting that incidents such as sexual offences are of a sensitive nature and may potentially be undercounted and underreported to a greater extent.

A comparison with police administrative data suggests that the Victims of Crime Survey data primarily identifies sexual offences that have already been reported to the SAPS.



**Table 1: Number and percentage distribution of crime experiences and reporting rates, 2014/15**

Types of crimes	Total crime experienced in (April 2013–Feb 2015)	Total number of households who have experienced a particular crime (April 2013–Feb 2015)		Crime reported to the police in (April 2013–Feb 2015)		Crime under-reporting rates in (April 2013–Feb 2015)
	Number '000	Number '000	Per cent	Number '000	Per cent	Per cent difference
Murder	18	18	0,1	17	95,7	4,3
Assault	343	304	0,1	181	55,1	44,9
Sexual offence	43	42	0,8	27	63,0	37,0

According to VOCS 2014/15, assault was one of the most under-reported crimes (44,9%) among murder and sexual offence (Table 1). When investigating the main reasons why victims of assault did not report the incident to the police, most victims cited 'my family will resolve it', 'police won't do anything', 'I solved it myself' and 'not serious enough' as reasons why they did not report. Victims of sexual offences also indicated that they did not report the incident to the police as they deemed it as not being 'serious enough', 'police could do nothing' and 'inappropriate for police.'

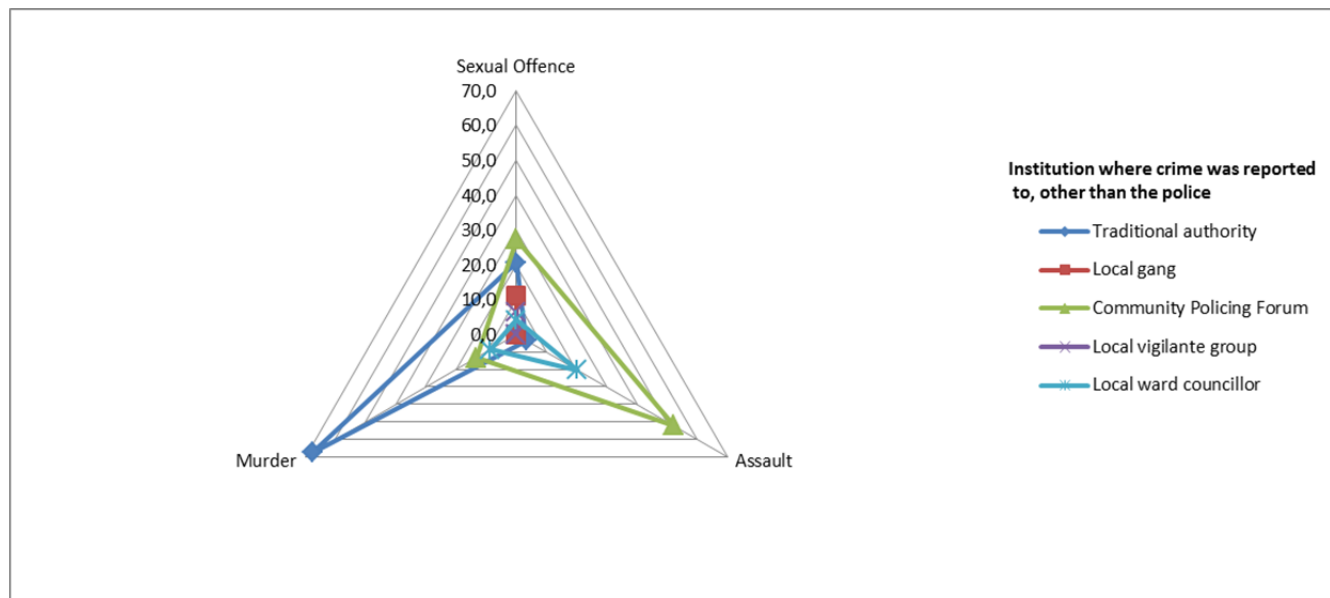
**Figure 6 : Percentage distribution of crimes reported to other authorities (excluding police), VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 6 depicts the distribution of where murder, sexual offences and assault were mostly reported to, other than the police. Incidents of sexual offence (27,2%) and assault (52,3%) were mostly reported to community policing forum, while murder was reported to traditional authority (67,6%). When investigating the main reasons why victims of assault did not report the incident to the police, most victims cited 'my family will resolve it', 'police won't do anything', 'I solved it myself' and 'not serious enough' as reasons why they did not report. Victims of sexual offence also indicated that they did not report the incident to the police as they deemed it as not being 'serious enough', 'police could do nothing' and 'inappropriate for police.'

There is a need for strategies that will improve the public's trust in the criminal justice system, thus encouraging them to report victimisation experiences. These strategies should seek to educate and empower the public about their rights in relation to seemingly 'minor' offences of harassment such as grabbing and touching in an inappropriate way. Such behaviour may lead to more 'serious' offences, such as assault with Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH) and even rape, if it is ignored.

## 3.2 Incidents of Assault in South Africa

### 3.2.1 Introduction

This section of the report discusses the circumstances surrounding the assault-related victimisation experiences of individuals aged 16 years and above. Circumstances under which assault took place are discussed, that is, where the crime occurred, the identity of the perpetrator and victim-offender relationship, the type of weapons used by the perpetrator and the extent of the injuries sustained by the victims as a result of this, whether the victim accessed any medical assistance relating to injuries incurred as well as their demographic and socio-economic characteristics.

The South African Police Service (SAPS) define common assault as “the unlawful and intentional direct or indirect application of force to the body of another person, or threat of application of immediate personal violence to another, in circumstances in which the threatened person is prevailed upon to believe that the person who is threatening him has the intention and power to carry out his threat” (SAPS, 2012). The act may consist of the direct or indirect application of force or threats of force. However, to administer noxious substances (such as poison) to someone (without the intention to kill the victim) also amounts to an indirect application of force. Therefore the violence need not be of a serious nature. Even the application of limited force may constitute assault, provided that the force applied is not trivial in nature. The threat of violence must be directed at the person of the victim; and must be a threat of immediate violence — thus to threaten someone with violence to be applied in a few days' time is not sufficient cause. Even a conditional threat of violence may constitute assault; whether the suspect was able to execute his/her threats is of little importance. The real issue is whether the victim honestly believed that the perpetrator was able to do so and feared that he/she would (SAPS, 2012).

### 3.2.2 Place where incidents of assault occurred

Figure 7 : Time-series analysis of the place where assault occurred (per cent), VOCS 2011-2014/15

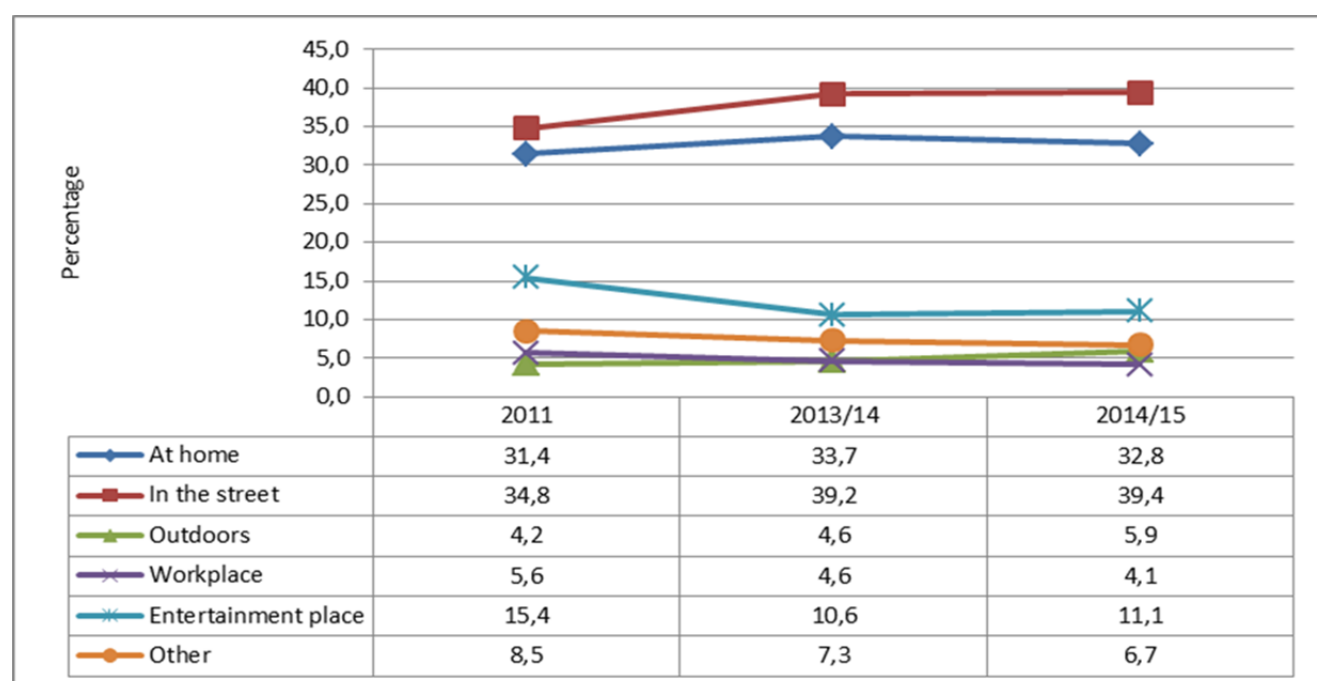


Figure 7 represents time-series analysis of the place where assault took place over the period 2011 to 2014/15. The results indicate that the most common place of occurrence of assault was in the street (either outside offices/shops or in a residential area) followed closely by incidents that occurred at home.

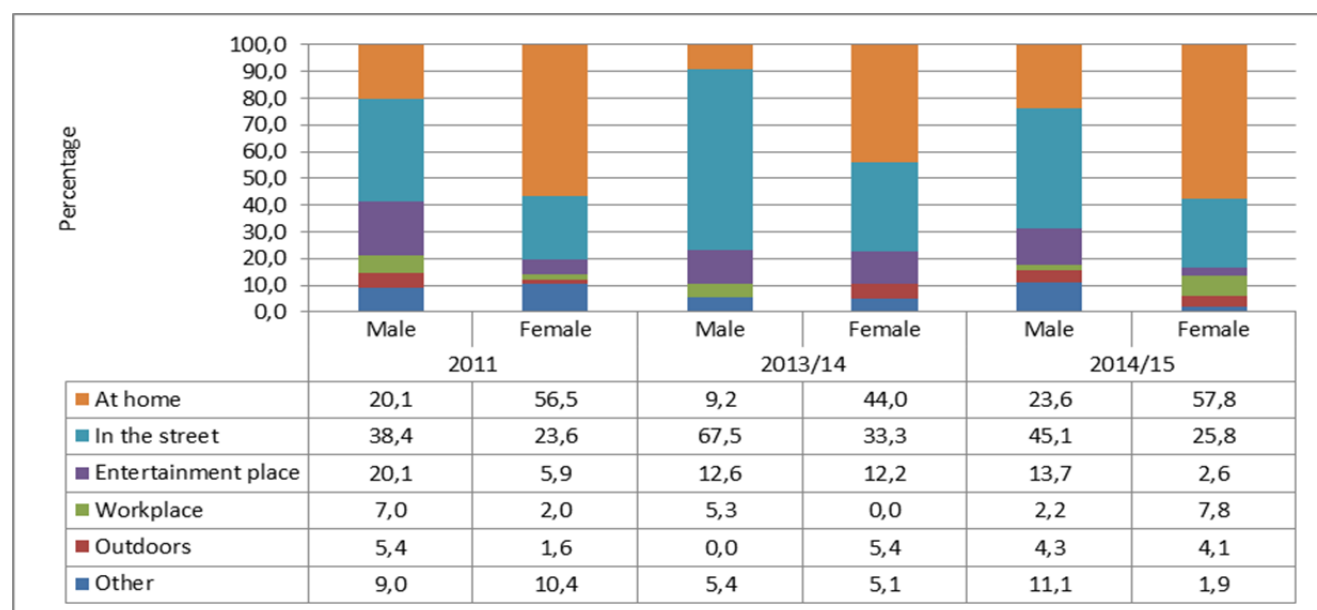
**Figure 8 : Time-series analysis of places where assault occurred by sex (per cent), VOCS 2011-2014/15**

Figure 8 depicts the percentage distribution of males and females aged 16 years and above, who were victims of assault. According to Mucchielli (2004) the contrast between crimes committed by men and women can be accounted for by different modes of interaction and lifestyles that include, amongst other things, the frequenting of public places, bars, and an active night life, some of which men are more likely to engage in than women. The results from the victimisation survey indicated that females are mostly assaulted either at home or in someone else's home. About 57,8% of females were assaulted at home in 2014/15. The results show that male individuals are more likely to be assaulted in the street. Other areas where males are likely to be assaulted include entertainment places (bar or tavern).

The place of occurrence of the assault, especially for females, can be viewed as being correlated to the victim-offender relationship, because in many cases, females are victims of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). Furthermore, one could argue that this is probably one of the reasons why assault is often unreported. Victims may decide that it is a family issue. Thus, the VOCS findings also show that victims give the following reasons for not reporting: 'victim's family solved it', 'solved it myself' and lastly due to 'police won't do anything about it' (VOCS, 2014/15). Entertainment area/bar or tavern and parks are other areas where females are likely to be assaulted. The place of occurrence of the assault for males reveals a lot about the victim's offender relationship because the major perpetrators of assault that occurs in the street and at entertainment areas are known persons and unknown persons in nearly equal proportions; there is also a relationship between the motive for the assault considering that the major motive for assault that occurred at an entertainment area, were both the victim and offender were under the influence of drugs or/and alcohol.

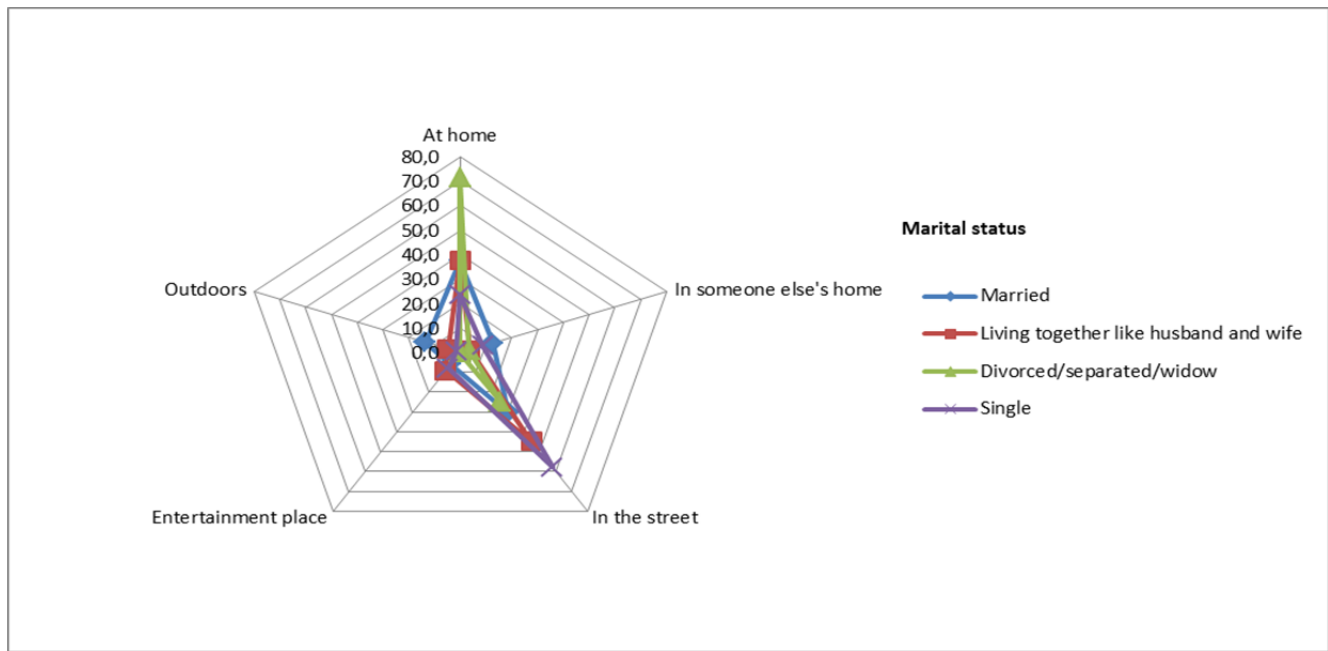
**Figure 9 : Percentage distribution of place where individuals experienced assault by their marital status, VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 9 indicates the percentages of individuals who were assaulted, by marital status. Married individuals were most likely to be assaulted at home (37,5%) and in the street (30,4%), while individuals who were living together with someone like a husband and wife, were more likely to be assaulted in the street (44,9%) than at home (37,5%). Seven in every ten individuals (71,6%) who were divorced/separated/widowed were assaulted at home. The majority of individuals who were single and never married before, experienced assault in the street (57,9%) rather than at home (23,7%).

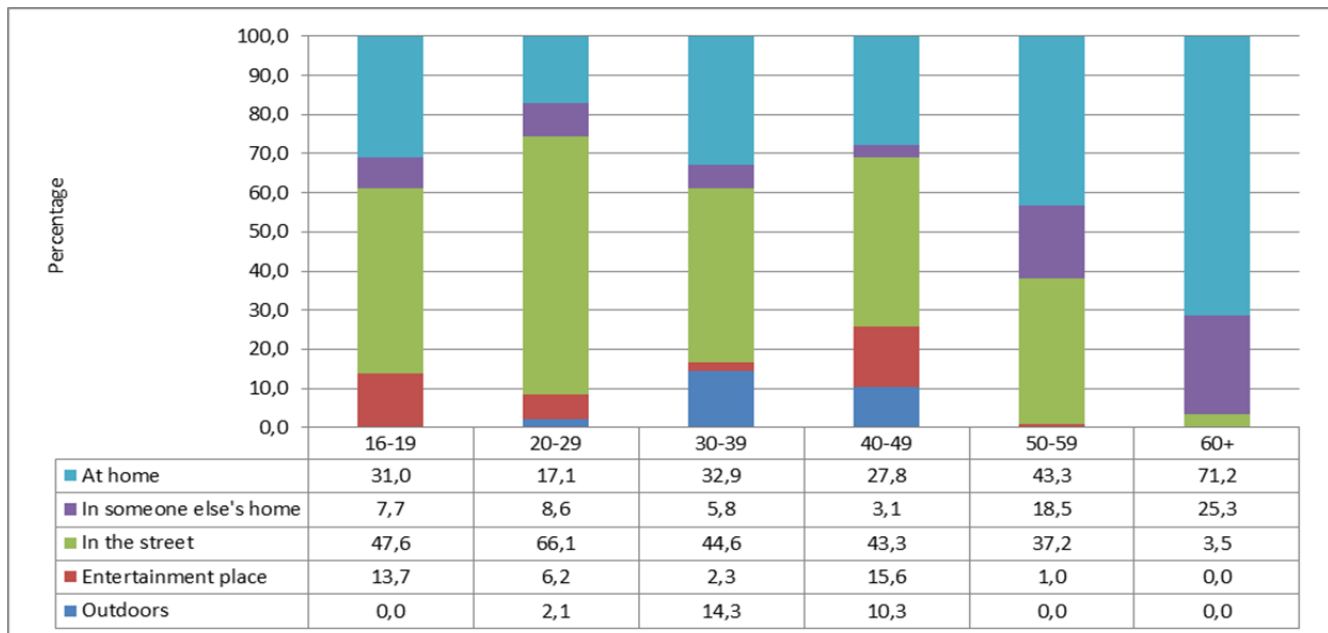
**Figure 10 : Place where individuals were assaulted by age group (per cent), VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 10 shows a percentage distribution of the places where individuals experienced assault by age group. Generally, assault incidents mainly occurred in the street as well as at home, across all age groups. Individuals in the age groups 20 to 29 (66,1%), 16–19 (47,6%) and 30–39 (44,6%) were mostly victimised in the street. The victims of incidents of assault that occurred at home were individuals aged 60 years and above (71,2%), 50–59 (43,3%) and 30–39 (32,9%).

### 3.2.3 Identity of the perpetrators of assault

Figure 11 : Time-series analysis of perpetrators of assault (per cent), VOCS 2011-2014/15

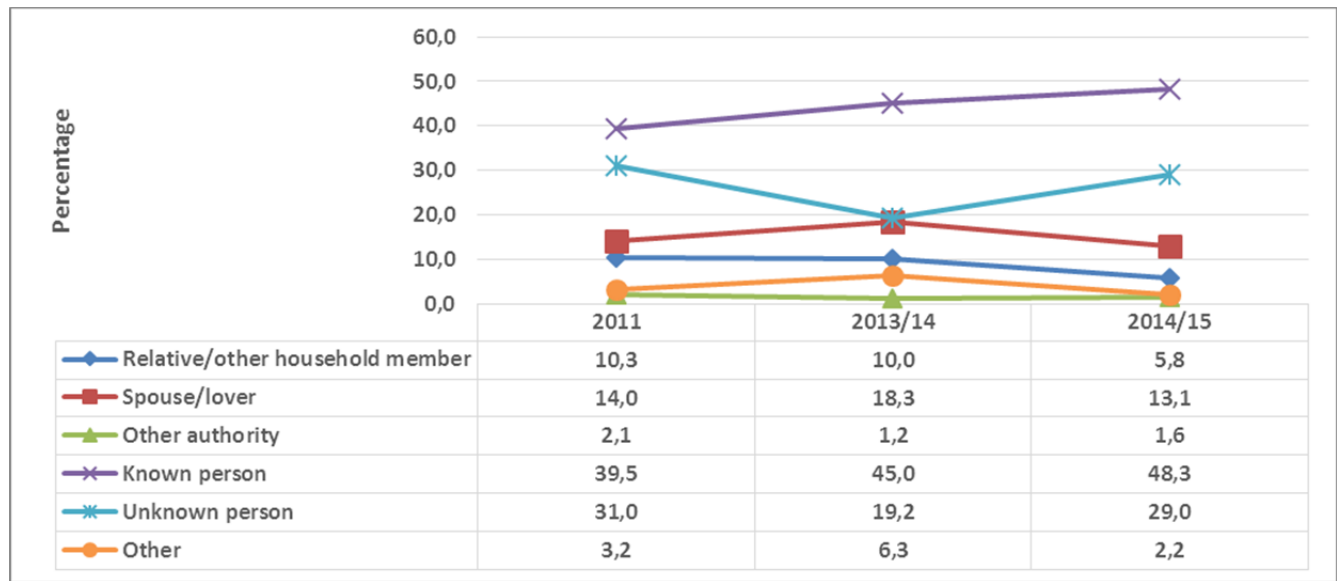
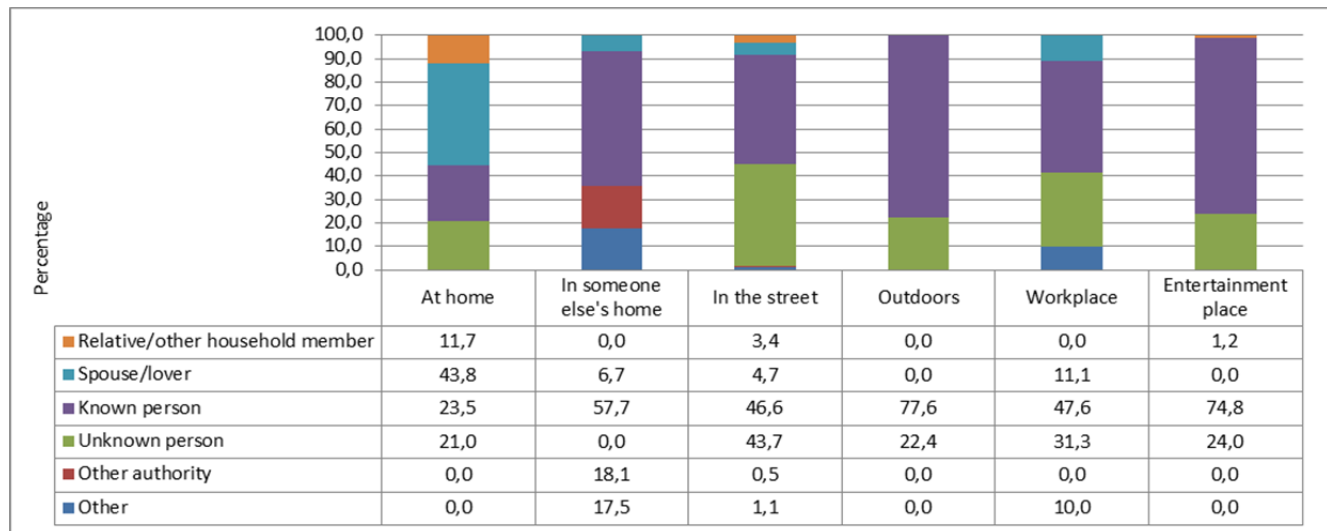


Figure 11 illustrates perpetrators of assault in a time series analysis. Assaults were mostly perpetrated by known people in the years 2011 to 2014/15 with the highest percentage 48,3% in 2014/15, followed by unknown person(s)/perpetrator(s) with 31% in 2011 declining to 29% in 2014/15. Other authority had the least number of perpetrators.

Figure 12 : Places where assault occurred by relationship to the perpetrators (per cent), VOCS 2014/15



The percentage distribution of places where assault took place by different groups of perpetrators in South Africa as recorded by VOCS 2014/15 is shown in Figure 12. The results show that spouse/lovers were the major perpetrators of assault that occurred at home (43,8%), whilst known persons were the main perpetrators of assault that occurred in outdoor areas (77,6%). Unknown persons were the main perpetrators of assault that occurred in the street (43,7%). These findings indicate that there is a higher probability of being assaulted by a known person, relative and spouse than being assaulted by an unknown person. According to VOCS 2014/15 assault was one of the poorly reported crimes with an estimated 55,1% cases reported to the police. There is a correlation between reporting assault and the victim–offender relationship as Odds Ratio (OR) analysis indicates that Individuals who were victimised by known people (relative/other household member (0,19 OR), spouse/lover

(0,40 OR), other authority (0,14 OR) and known community members (0,81 OR)) were less likely to report. These results are significant at the 5% level.

**Figure 13 : Time-series analysis of the age of assault perpetrator(s), VOCS 2011-2014/15**

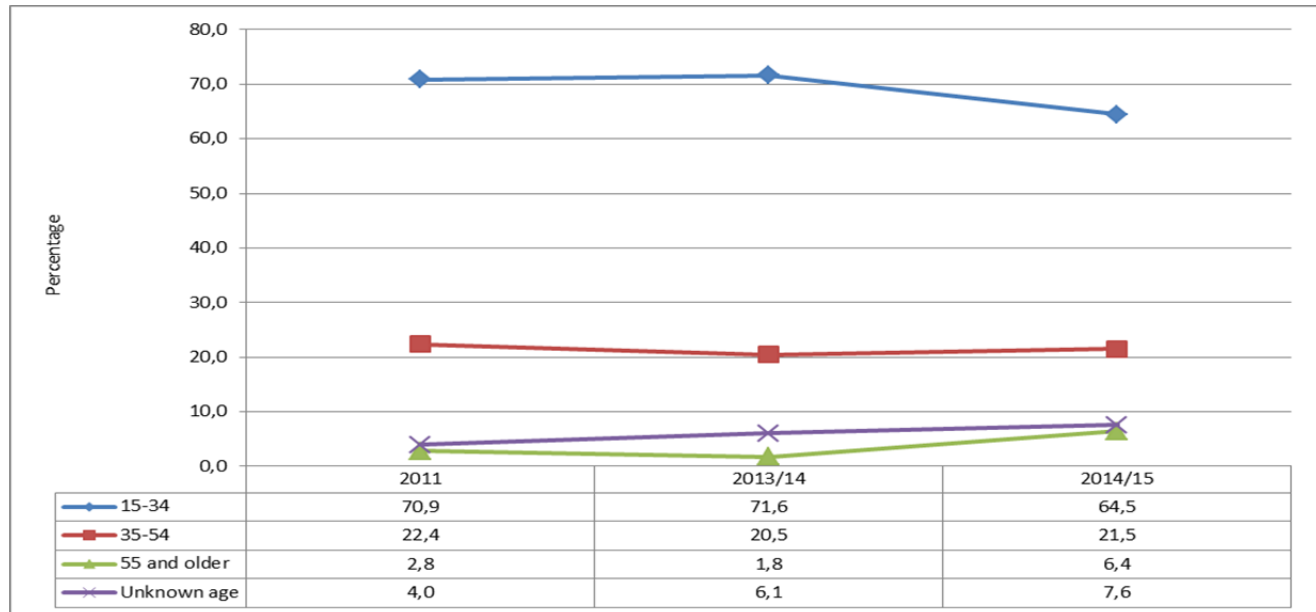
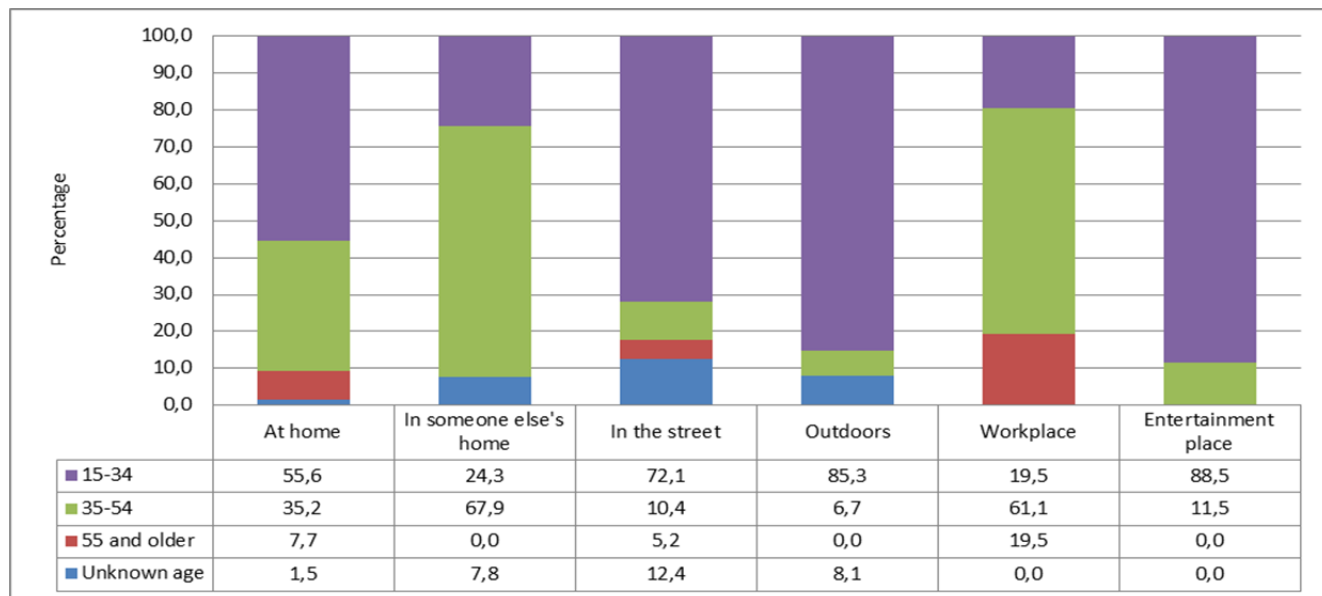


Figure 13 depicts an analysis of the age of assault perpetrators over the years. Although the percentages fluctuated over the years, people aged 15–34 years contributed the highest percentage of assault perpetrators. More than twenty percent of assault perpetrators were aged 35–54 years across time.

**Figure 14 : Age of the perpetrator by place where assault occurred, VOCS 2014/15**

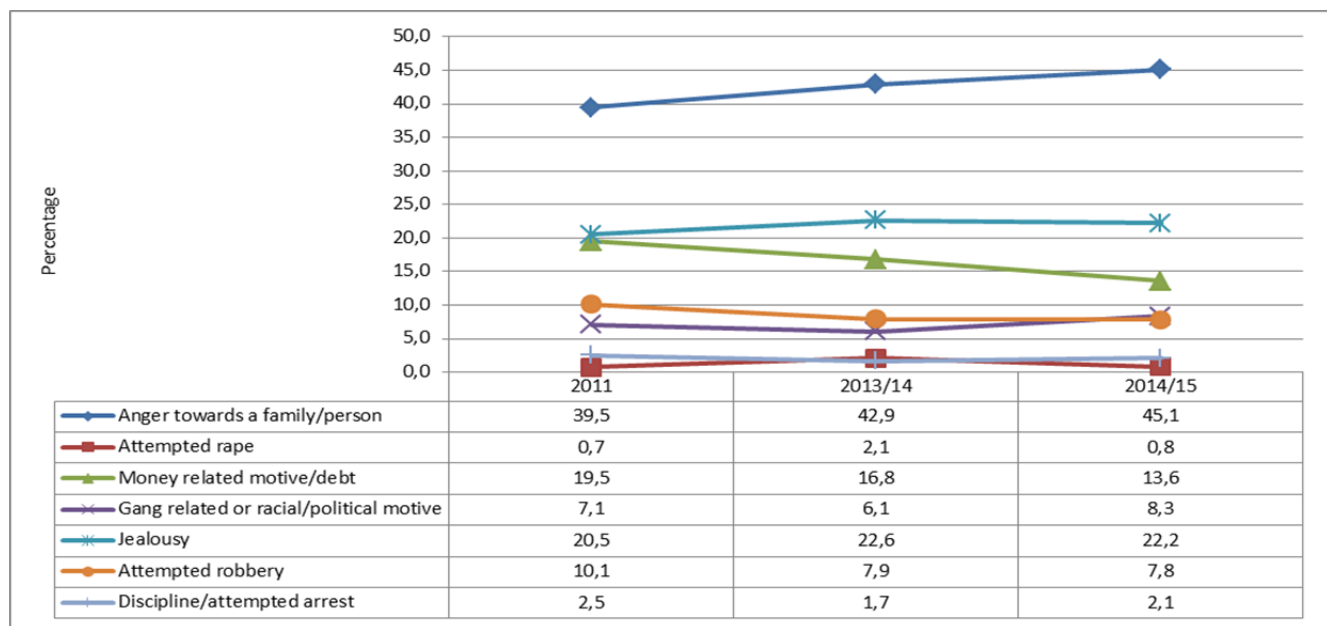


The results in Figure 14 show that assault perpetrators were primarily within the age group 15 to 34 years. Individuals in the age group 15–34 years were the major perpetrators of assault that occurred at an entertainment area (88,5%) and outdoor areas (85,3%). More than half of assault incidents that occurred at home were mainly perpetrated by people aged 15–34 years (55,6%) followed by those aged 35–54 years (35,2%). Perpetrators in the latter age group were also responsible for the majority of assaults that occurred in someone else's home (67,9%). While less than a quarter of assault incidents occurring in someone else's home were perpetrated by those aged 15–34 years, perpetrators in this age group committed about 72,1% of assaults that occurred in the street. Over two thirds of assaults that occurred in the workplace were perpetrated by people



aged 35–54 years whereas those aged 15–34 and 55 years and older had an equal percentage of perpetrators in the workplace (19,5% respectively).

**Figure 15 : Time-series analysis of motives behind assault (percent), VOCS 2011-2014/15**



A time series analysis of the motives behind assault is depicted in Figure 15. Anger towards a family/person was most frequently cited motive of assault with percentages ranging from 39,5% in 2011 up to 45,1% in 2014/15; followed by jealousy with percentages of 20,5% in 2011 up to 22,2% in 2014/15. Attempted rape and discipline/attempted arrest had the least percentages cited as motives for assault between 2011 and 2014/15.

**Figure 16 : Percentage distribution of places where assault took place by the motive behind assault, VOCS 2014/15**

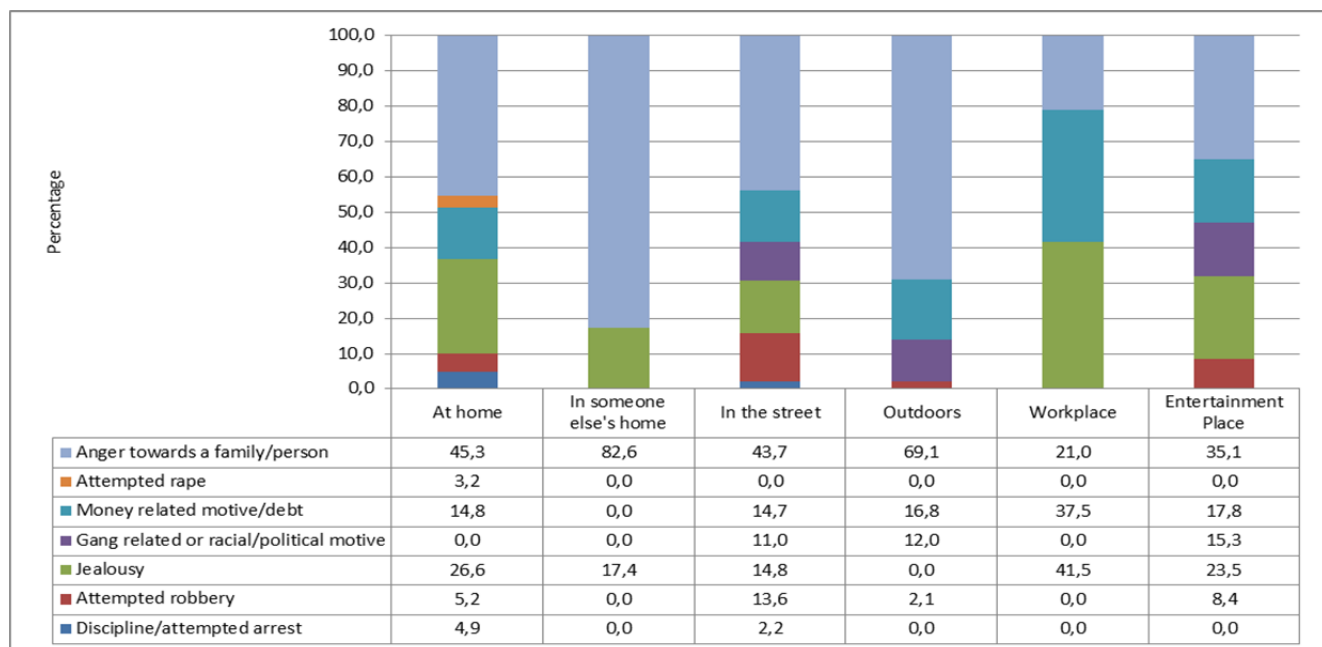


Figure 16 indicates the percentage distribution of places where assault took place by motive. The results show that anger towards a family member or person was the main motive for assault that occurred at home (45,3%) and outdoor areas (69,1%), while the main motive for assault that occurred at the workplace (41,5%) was jealousy. It implies that the most likely motive for assault perpetrated by a relative or spouse is anger towards a family member/person, whilst the most likely motive for assault that occurred at the work place was jealousy. An

interrelationship between incidents of assault and sexual offences is shown by 3,2% of individuals who were assaulted at home as a result of attempted rape. About 13,6% of incidents of assault happened in the street while the perpetrator(s) tried to rob them.

**Figure 17 : Percentage distribution of places where assault took place through alcohol/drug influence, VOCS 2014/15**

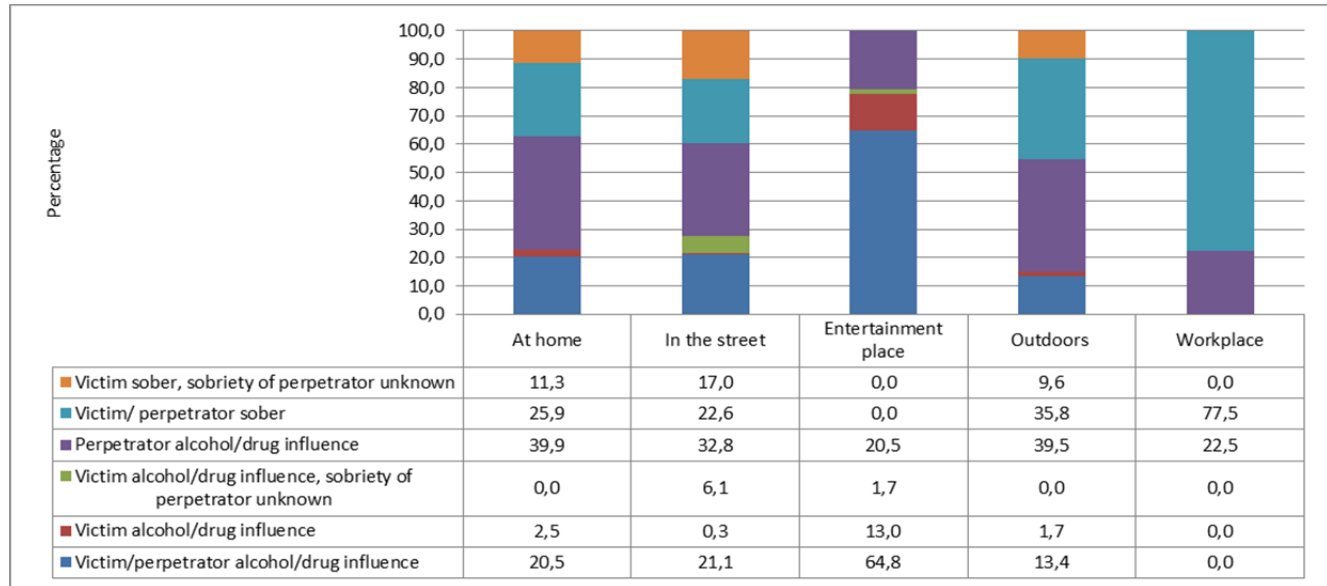


Figure 17 shows that the perpetrators of assault that occurred at home (39,9%), in the street (32,8%) and outdoor areas (39,5%) were more likely to be influenced by alcohol and/or drugs. Whereas assaults incidents that occurred at an entertainment spaces (64,8%) both the victim and the perpetrator were more likely to be influenced by alcohol and/or drugs. The results further indicate that both the victim and the perpetrator were sober in about 77,5% of incidents that occurred at work place.

### 3.2.4 Weapons used

**Figure 18 : Time-series analysis of the weapons used during assault, VOCS 2011–2014/15**

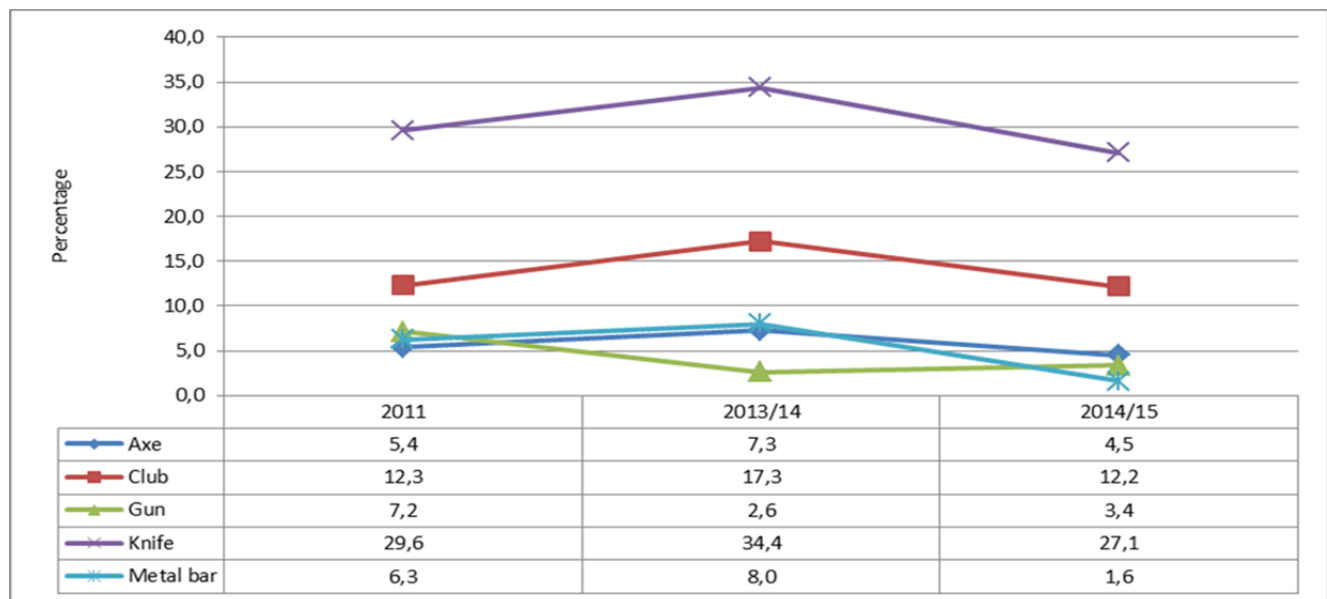


Figure 18 depicts the percentage distribution of the weapons used during assault during the period 2011 to 2014/15. The most commonly used weapon during assault is a knife, followed by a club.

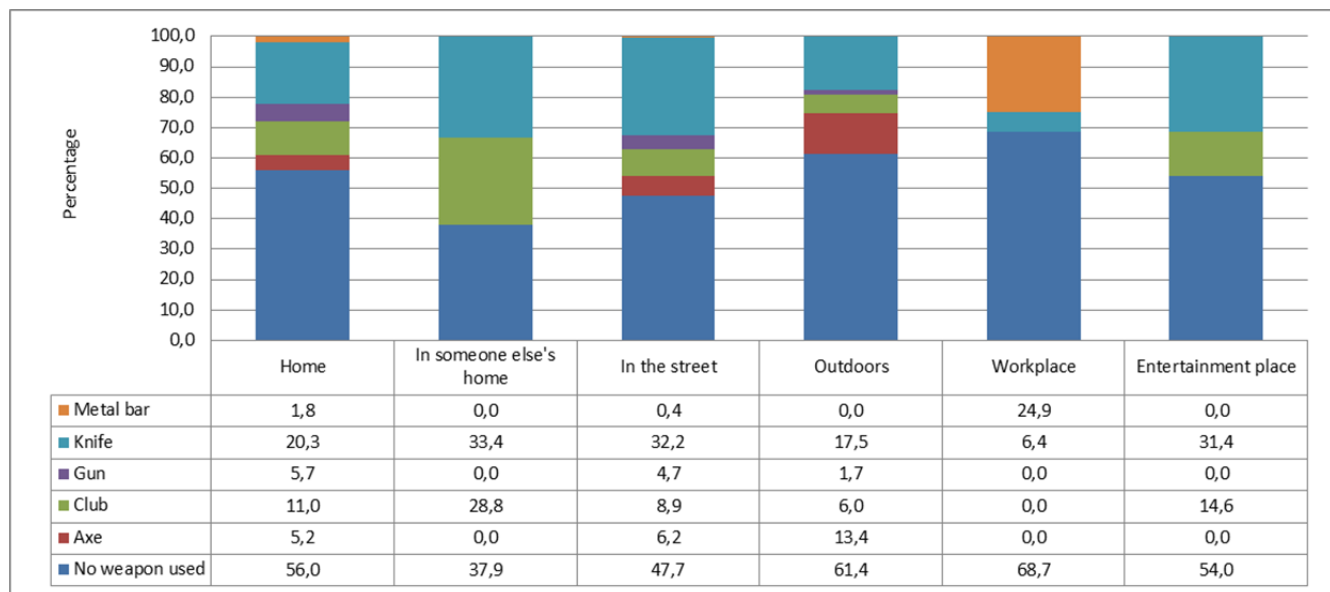
**Figure 19 : Percentage distribution of weapons used in assault by place of occurrence, VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 19 summarises the percentage distribution of weapons used for assault by place of occurrence. The results show that weapons are not necessarily used in assault incidents irrespective of place of occurrence. In cases where weapons were used, knives were the most frequently used weapon in assault that occurred at home (20,3%), in the street (32,2%) and at entertainment areas (31,4%).

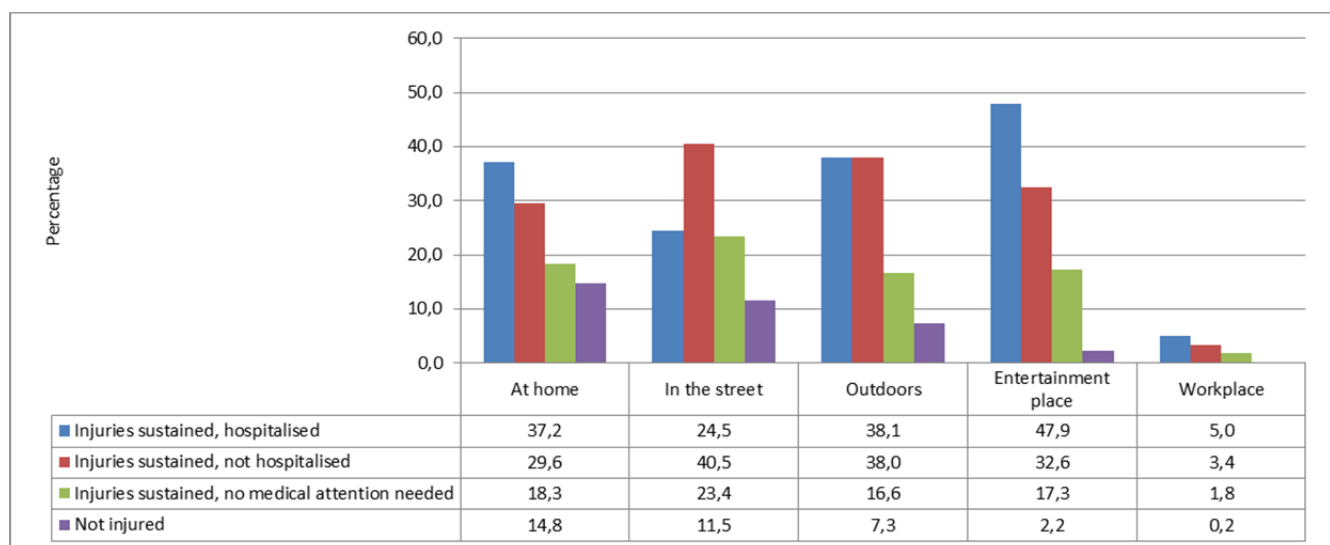
**Figure 20 : Percentage distribution of victims of assault who sustained injuries as a result of the assault, VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 20 shows the percentage distribution of victims of assault who sustained injuries as a result of assault. The results show that most assault incidents resulted in injuries to the victims. Victims of assault that occurred at entertainment spaces (47,9%), followed by those that occurred in outdoor areas (38,1%) and at home (37,2%) had the highest probability of sustaining injuries that needed the victims to be admitted to hospital. Assault with the intent to cause Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH) is defined as “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 (SAPS, 2012). Assault with the intent to cause GBH does not require that serious injuries be sustained by the victim if a weapon was used. The nature of the weapon or instrument used by the perpetrator [is considered]. If no weapon was used the conduct will only constitute assault GBH if serious injuries were caused” (SAPS, 2012).

The results from the Victims of Crime Survey shows that in about 86,3% of incidents of assault, a weapon was used and/or resulted in injury to the victim. Such incidents may have resulted in attempted murder or even murder. The Mortality and Causes of death results released by Stats SA indicate a substantial proportion of deaths due to assault related incidents in the period 2013–2014.

**Table 2 : Number and percentage of assault deaths per 100 000 population, Mortality and Causes of Death 2013–2014**

Age group	Number of assault deaths											
	2013						2014					
	Male		Female		Total		Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
0-14	28	0,6	29	4,8	57	1,1	45	1,0	27	4,5	72	1,4
15-19	518	11,4	57	9,4	575	11,2	516	11,1	49	8,2	565	10,8
20-24	1 090	24,1	89	14,7	1 179	23,0	1 060	22,8	94	15,7	1 154	22,0
25-29	1 020	22,5	89	14,7	1 109	21,6	1 065	22,9	95	15,9	1 160	22,1
30-34	624	13,8	95	15,7	719	14,0	719	15,5	82	13,7	801	15,3
35-39	416	9,2	50	8,3	466	9,1	449	9,7	51	8,5	500	9,5
40-44	286	6,3	51	8,4	337	6,6	266	5,7	46	7,7	312	5,9
45-49	191	4,2	32	5,3	223	4,3	202	4,3	25	4,2	227	4,3
50-54	128	2,8	26	4,3	154	3,0	139	3,0	32	5,3	171	3,3
55-59	89	2,0	19	3,1	108	2,1	75	1,6	21	3,5	96	1,8
60-64	62	1,4	15	2,5	77	1,5	46	1,0	13	2,2	59	1,1
65+	80	1,8	53	8,7	133	2,6	68	1,5	64	10,7	132	2,5
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 532</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5 137</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4650</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5249</b>	<b>100,0</b>

\*NB: Number of deaths excludes deaths with unspecified age and sex

Source: Mortality and Causes of deaths (Stats SA)

Table 2 shows the number of assault related deaths per 100 000 population, disaggregated by age group and sex in the years 2013 and 2014. Overall, higher numbers of deaths were recorded for males as compared to females. The numbers of deaths as a result of assault were highest in age groups 20–34, progressively decreasing from age group 35–39.

These results are consistent with findings from VOCS (2013/14 and 2014/15) as there were generally more males aged 16 years and above who experienced assault, with a particular emphasis on those in the younger age groups.

### 3.2.5 Characteristics of individuals who experienced assault

One of the objectives of this report is to study variations of crime rates in order to find possible high-risk population subgroups to target when developing crime protection programmes. This section analyses a number of risk factors for assault, as well as factors that tended to protect against violence during the victimisation incident. Certain demographic and socio-economic determinants of the target population and behavioural characteristics of household members were used as predictor variables.

**Table 3 : Characteristics of the victims of assault, VOCS 2014/15**

Variable	Descriptor	Incidence	Per cent	95% Confidence Limits for per cent	
Marital status	Married	81 512	23,4	16,2	30,6
	Living together like husband and wife	32 011	9,2	5,3	13,1
	Divorced/Separated/widowed	13 858	2,7	0,8	4,6
	Single	221 224	63,5	55,5	71,4
Population group	Black African	266 285	0,7	0,6	0,8
	Coloured	57 853	0,2	0,1	0,2
	Indian/Asian	5 152	0,0	0,0	0,0
	White	19 316	0,1	0,0	0,1
Age group	16–19	73 029	20,9	13,3	28,6
	20–24	40 807	11,7	6,1	17,3
	25–29	68 760	19,7	12,9	26,5
	30–34	36 572	10,5	5,8	15,1
	35–39	38 814	11,1	6,3	15,9
	40–44	24 974	7,2	3,1	11,2
	45–49	12 224	3,5	0,9	6,1
	50–54	22 929	6,6	1,9	11,3
	55–59	12 445	3,6	0,9	6,2
	60–64	9 916	2,8	0,1	5,6
	65+	8 136	2,3	0,0	5,1
Level of education	No education	12 242	3,5	1,0	6,0
	Some primary	54 124	15,5	9,2	21,8
	Completed primary	17 869	5,1	1,3	8,9
	Some secondary	172 766	49,6	41,0	58,1
	Completed secondary	72 713	20,9	13,9	27,8
	Post-School	15 699	4,5	1,8	7,2
	Other	3 192	0,9	0,0	2,7
Run a business	Run a business	27 237	8,0	3,8	12,1
	Do not run a business	315 271	92,0	87,9	96,2
Work for a salary of wages	Work for a salary or wages	117 309	34,3	26,3	42,2
	Do not work for a salary or wages	225 199	65,7	57,8	73,7
Household size	1–2	88 733	32,8	24,8	40,7
	3–4	90 316	33,3	24,9	41,8
	5–9	61 932	22,9	14,5	31,2
	10 and more	29 869	11,0	3,7	18,4
Living Standard Measure	Low	83 675	24,0	16,2	31,8
	Intermediate	224 134	64,3	56,0	72,6
	High	40 796	11,7	6,6	16,8

Table 3 shows the results of a bivariate analysis of selected demographic and socio-economic variables against assault. Individuals who were single were more likely to experience assault (63,5%), followed by those who were married (23,4%) and living together like husband and wife (9,2%). These results are significant at a 95 percent confidence level. Furthermore, individuals who fell into what can be described as the younger age groups (16–19 until 35–39) were more likely to experience assault. Notably, the age group 50–54 saw an increase in the percentage of individuals who were likely to fall victim to assault. In terms of level of education, more people who had some secondary education (49,6%) experienced assault followed by those who had completed secondary education but without post-school qualifications (20,9%).

Individuals who were not employed (65,7%) were the most likely to experience assault. Incidents of assault were most common amongst individuals in the intermediate Living Standard Measure (LSM), (64,3%) followed by low LSM (24%).

**Table 4 : Factor analysis on assault, VOCS 2014/15**

Rotated Factor Pattern			
	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3
Province	-0,47	-0,31	0,04
Work for salary or wages	0,04	-0,86	0,14
Running a business	-0,17	0,90	-0,16
Nature of work	-0,61	0,17	0,17
Marital status	-0,37	0,08	0,78
Household size	0,25	0,01	-0,54
Home robbery	0,41	0,31	0,50
Living Standard Measure	0,64	-0,03	0,36
Age	0,22	-0,11	-0,57
Population group	0,71	-0,18	-0,06

Factor analysis was used as an unsupervised multivariate technique to determine in essence which variables “act” like each other. This is the process in which the correlation structure of variables are analysed in order to summarise the data in fewer dimensions. The first three factors depicted in Table 4 summarises the variables that can be used to explain the model. Factor 1 consists of province, nature of work, Living Standards Measure (LSM) and population group. It should be noted that the larger the absolute size of the factor loading for a variable, the more important the variable is in interpreting the factor, thus factor 1 can be called the socio-economic factor. Factor 2 has variables which relate to economic status, such as work for salary or wages and running a business and having higher levels of correlation. Four variables related to socio-demographic status have high factor loadings for factor 3. These are the variables: marital status, household size, home robbery and age.

**Table 5 : Parameter estimates from the logistic regression model to predict incidents of assault, VOCS 2014/15**

Parameter	Reference category	Response category	Odds ratio	50% Confidence Limits	
				Lower	Upper
Sex	Male	Female	0,73*	-0,41	-0,23
Population group	Black African	Coloured	1,37	0,09	0,54
		Indian/Asian	1,06	-0,41	0,54
		White	1,52	0,15	0,69
Nature of work	Permanent employment	Fixed period contract	1,33	0,07	0,51
		Temporary	1,01	-0,25	0,26
		Casual	0,66	-0,99	0,15
		Seasonal	1,04	-0,07	0,16
Living standard measure	Low	Intermediate	0,71	-0,51	-0,17
		High	1,62	0,25	0,72
Province	Gauteng	Western Cape	0,98	-0,26	0,21
		Eastern Cape	1,31	-0,04	0,58
		Northern Cape	1,64	0,25	0,74
		Free State	1,02	-0,19	0,22
		KwaZulu-Natal	2,47	0,68	1,13
		North West	0,83*	-0,45	0,08
		Mpumalanga	0,76	-0,64	0,09
		Limpopo	1,05	-0,25	0,35
Run a business	Run a business	Do not run a business	1,43	0,07	0,64
Work for a salary	Work for a salary	Do not work for a salary	0,69	-0,70	-0,05
Age group	16-19	20-24	1,64	0,28	0,71
		25-29	1,33	0,06	0,51
		30-34	1,79	0,39	0,78
		35-39	0,98*	-0,29	0,25
		40-44	0,32	-1,51	-0,77
		45-49	1,97*	0,38	0,97
		50-54	1,49	0,05	0,75
		55-59	1,41	-0,27	0,95
		60-64	0,12	-2,79	-1,51
		65+	1,18*	-0,03	0,36
Marital status	Married	Living together like husband and wife	0,56	-0,82	-0,34
		Divorced/Separated/widowed	1,28	0,09	0,40
		Single	17,95	2,77	3,01
Household size	10 or more	1-2	22,04*	2,96	3,22
		3-4	0,00*	-8,95	-8,71
		5-9	0,00*	-8,95	-8,71
Settlement type	Urban metro	Other urban	0,93	-0,20	0,06
		Rural	1,17	-0,01	0,32

\*Indicates that  $P > |t|$ 

Table 5 shows the odds of being a victim of assault for selected socio-demographic variables. The results show no significant difference within the categories of population group, nature of work, living standard measures, marital status and settlement type. Females aged 16 years and above were 0, 73 times less likely to be victims of assault than males, while those within the age group 45-49 are 1,97 times more likely to be victims of assault than people in the age group 16-19. This implies that assault experiences differ per age group. Individuals living in the households consisted of 10 or more people are likely to be assaulted than those with few members. The results show no significant difference on the experiences of assault by individuals within urban metro, other urban and

rural settlements. Individuals in North West were less likely to experience assault (0,83) times compared to Gauteng. There is no significant difference on the experiences of assault in other provinces compared to Gauteng.

**Table 6 : Percentage distribution of incidents of assault by province, VOCS 2014/15**

Victimisation experience	Number	Per cent	95% Confidence Limits	
			Lower	Upper
WC	59 965	0,16	0,09	0,22
EC	51 958	0,14	0,08	0,20
NC	16 460	0,04	0,02	0,06
FS	28 214	0,07	0,05	0,10
KZN	70 808	0,19	0,10	0,27
NW	48 993	0,13	0,07	0,18
GP	37 808	0,10	0,04	0,16
MP	12 550	0,03	0,01	0,05
LP	21 850	0,06	0,02	0,10

The percentage distribution of incidents of assault by province can be found in Table 6. The results show assault was most prevalent in KwaZulu-Natal (0,19%), Western Cape (0,16%) and Eastern Cape (0,14%). Mpumalanga and Northern Cape were the least provinces to experience assault.

**Table 7 : Percentage distribution of incidents of assault by province, VOCS 2014/15**

Settlement type	Victimisation experience	Number	Per cent	95% Confidence Limits	
				Lower	Upper
City of Cape Town	Not assaulted	3 095 968	20,4	19,4	21,4
	Assaulted	38 780	0,3	0,1	0,4
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>3 134 748</b>	<b>20,7</b>	<b>19,7</b>	<b>21,7</b>
Ekurhuleni	Not assaulted	2 731 908	18,0	16,9	19,2
	Assaulted	13 196	0,1	0,0	0,2
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2 745 104</b>	<b>18,1</b>	<b>17,0</b>	<b>19,3</b>
eThekweni	Not assaulted	2 593 974	17,1	16,1	18,1
	Assaulted	20 852	0,1	0,0	0,3
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2 614 826</b>	<b>17,3</b>	<b>16,2</b>	<b>18,3</b>
City of Johannesburg	Not assaulted	3 593 545	23,7	22,4	25,0
	Assaulted	14 729	0,1	0,0	0,2
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>3 608 274</b>	<b>23,8</b>	<b>22,5</b>	<b>25,1</b>
Nelson Mandela Bay	Not assaulted	804 511	5,3	4,7	5,9
	Assaulted	6 376	0,0	0,0	0,1
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>810 887</b>	<b>5,3</b>	<b>4,8</b>	<b>5,9</b>
City of Tshwane	Not assaulted	2 237 776	14,8	13,7	15,8
	Assaulted	6 400	0,0	0,0	0,1
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2 244 176</b>	<b>14,8</b>	<b>13,7</b>	<b>15,9</b>

An analysis of victims of assault by metropolitan areas was also done (Table 7). The hypothesis that was tested was whether assault affects people differently based on where they live. The City of Cape Town had the highest prevalence of assault (0,3%) compared to other metropolitan areas.



**Table 8 : Victims of assault by settlement type, VOCS 2014/15**

Settlement type	Victimisation experience	Number	Per cent	95% Confidence Limits	
				Lower	Upper
Urban metro	Not assaulted	14 663 783	38,7	37,9	39,5
	Assaulted	100 335	0,3	0,2	0,4
	Sub-total	14 764 118	39,0	38,2	39,8
Other urban	Not assaulted	10 286 850	27,2	26,5	27,9
	Assaulted	122 764	0,3	0,2	0,4
	Sub-total	10 409 614	27,5	26,8	28,2
Rural	Not assaulted	12 568 262	33,2	32,4	33,9
	Assaulted	125 505	0,3	0,2	0,4
	Sub-total	12 693 767	33,5	32,8	34,3
RSA	Not assaulted	37 518 895	99,1	98,9	99,2
	Assaulted	348 605	0,9	0,8	1,1

The findings depicted in Table 8 indicate that there was no significant difference in the likelihood of experiencing assault by settlement type. The next section will provide a more detailed analysis of assault incidents at municipal level as reported to the South African Police Service in 2014/15.

### 3.2.6 Cluster and outlier analysis for assault

This section provides a summary of the findings based on the cluster and hot spot analysis of individuals aged 16 years and above who experienced assault as recorded by the South African Police Service (SAPS). The analysis was done at the municipal level.

Zhang et al. (2010) indicated that crime mapping is a very effective method of detecting high-crime-density areas known as hot spots. A crime hot spot is an area where the number of criminal or disorderly events is larger than that of any other place, or an area where people have a higher risk of victimisation. Other studies such as the one conducted by Eck et al. (2005) indicated that researchers look for concentrations of individual events that might indicate a series of related crimes. They also look at small areas that have a great deal of crime or disorder, even though there may be no common offender. Analysts also observe neighbourhoods and neighbourhood clusters with high crime and disorder levels and try to link these to underlying social conditions. This is the same approach that will be used in this study where concentration of incidents of assault, sexual offence and murder will be analysed across all the nine provinces of South Africa. The results of these analyses will enable us to better detect areas where these crimes are concentrated and likely to occur.

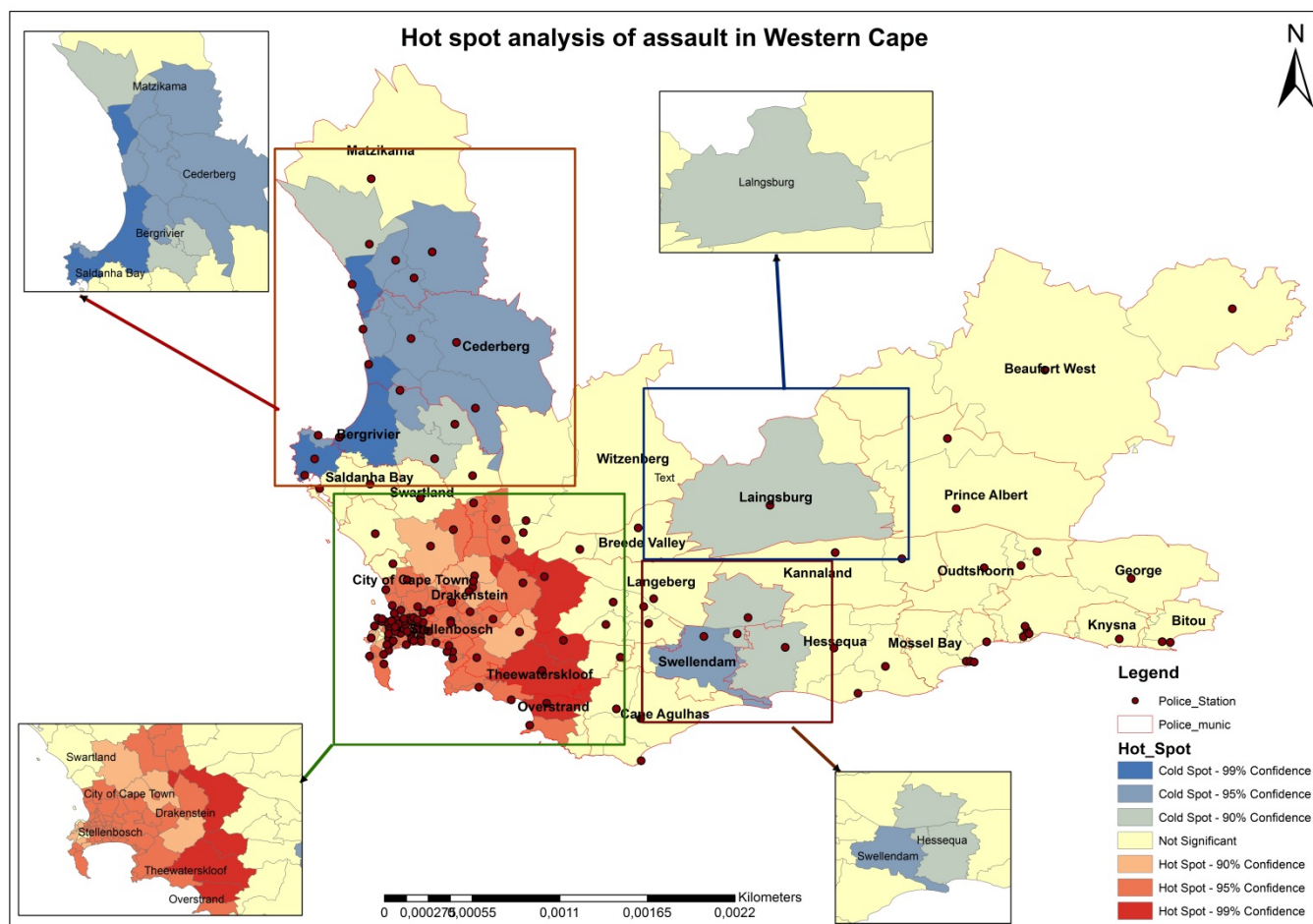
**Table 9 : Selected main hot spots municipalities which experienced assault by 2011 population census indicators, Census 2011**

Province	Hot spot municipality	Population Census 2011 results					
		Population size	Annual population growth	Male per 100 female	Unemployment rate	Youth unemployment of those 15 -34 years	Average household size
WC	City of Cape Town	3 740 026	2,52%	95,9	23,9%	31,9%	3,5
EC	Nelson Mandela Bay	1 152 115	1,36%	92,3	36,6%	47,3%	3,6
NC	Sol Plaatjie	248 041	2,04%	94,0	31,9%	41,7%	4,1
FS	Mangaung	747 431	1,47%	94,0	27,7%	37,2%	3,2
KZN	eThekweni	3 442 361	1,08%	95,6	30,2%	39,0%	3,6
NW	Lekwa-Teemane	53 248	2,15%	99,8	30,5%	39,3%	3,6
GP	Westonaria	111 767	0,18%	120,8	29,5%	39,3%	2,8
MP	Mbombela	588 794	2,11%	94,3	28,1%	37,6%	3,6
LP	Polokwane	628 999	2,13%	92,5	32,4%	42,0%	3,5

The analysis begins with an overview of hot spots for assault in each province as shown in Table 9 above and thereafter discusses each province separately. Hot spot analysis from SAPS 2014/15 crime statistics shows that most assault hot spots in South Africa were found to be located in the metropolitan areas; these include City of Cape Town, Nelson Mandela Bay and eThekweni municipalities. In non-metropolitan municipalities, hot spot areas were found to be clustered around the urban areas (Mangaung, Mbombela, Lekwa-Teemane, Polokwane, Sol Plaatje and Westonaria). Westonaria and Lekwa-Teemane had a higher male per 100 female ratio as compared to other hot spots because of their economic activities such as mining and agriculture. The average household size in these hot spot areas were about 3 members per households, with the exception of Westonaria where household sizes were about 2,8 with annual growth of 0,18% and higher male per 100 female ratio of 120,8 due to its mining activities. The finding implies, among other, that assault is most common in densely populated areas.

## Western Cape

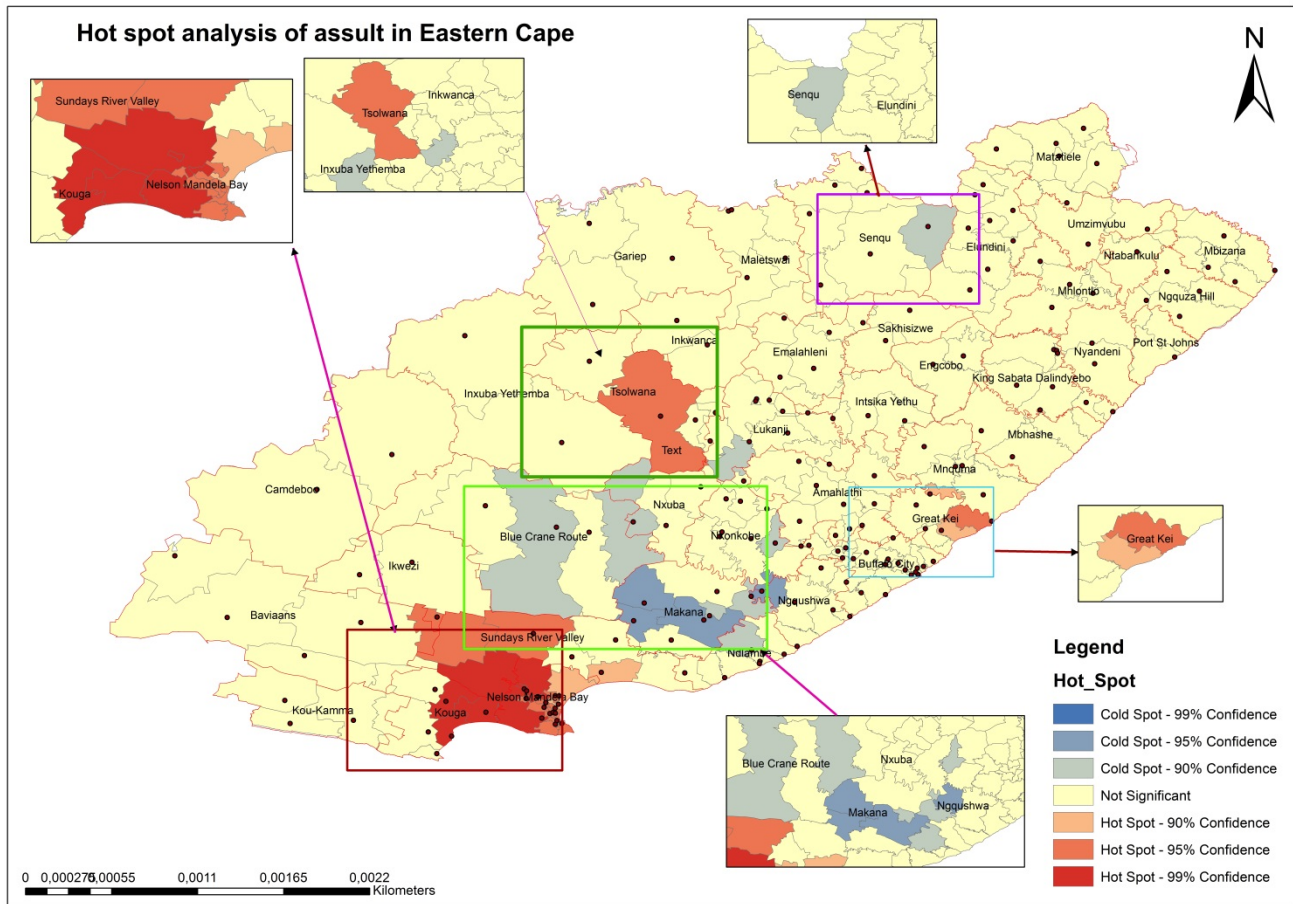
**Map 1 : Hot spot analysis of incidents of assault in Western Cape, SAPS 2014/15**



In Western Cape, incidents of assault were observed around the metropolitan area and more specifically City of Cape Town, Overstrand, Theewaterskloof, Stellenbosch and Drakenstein municipalities. Low crime zones surrounded by low crime areas were observed in the Bergrivier, Swellendam, Laingsburg and Cederberg (Map 1). Map 1 also shows the concentration of police stations within the province indicated by dots. The majority of them are clustered around identified crime hot spot areas.

## Eastern Cape

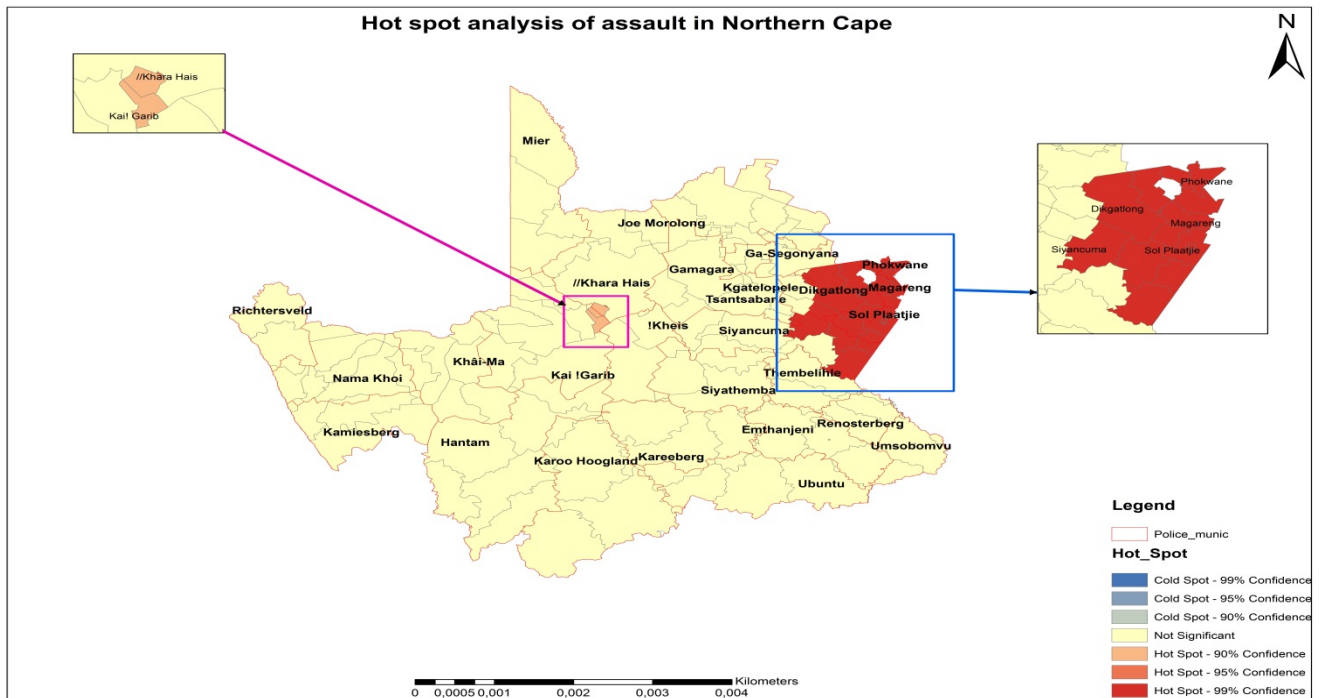
Map 2: Hot spot analysis of incidents of assault in Eastern Cape, SAPS 2014/15



Map 2 shows the clustering of assault incidents within Eastern Cape municipalities. The incidents of assaults were clustered around Nelson Mandela Metro and Sundays River Valley municipality. Other municipalities such as Amahlathi, Intsika, Ngqushwa and Makana also had high incidents of assault surrounded by low incidence areas. Nelson Mandela Municipality, Sunday River Valley, Tsoelike and Groot Kei were identified as assault hot spot areas in Eastern Cape.

## Northern Cape

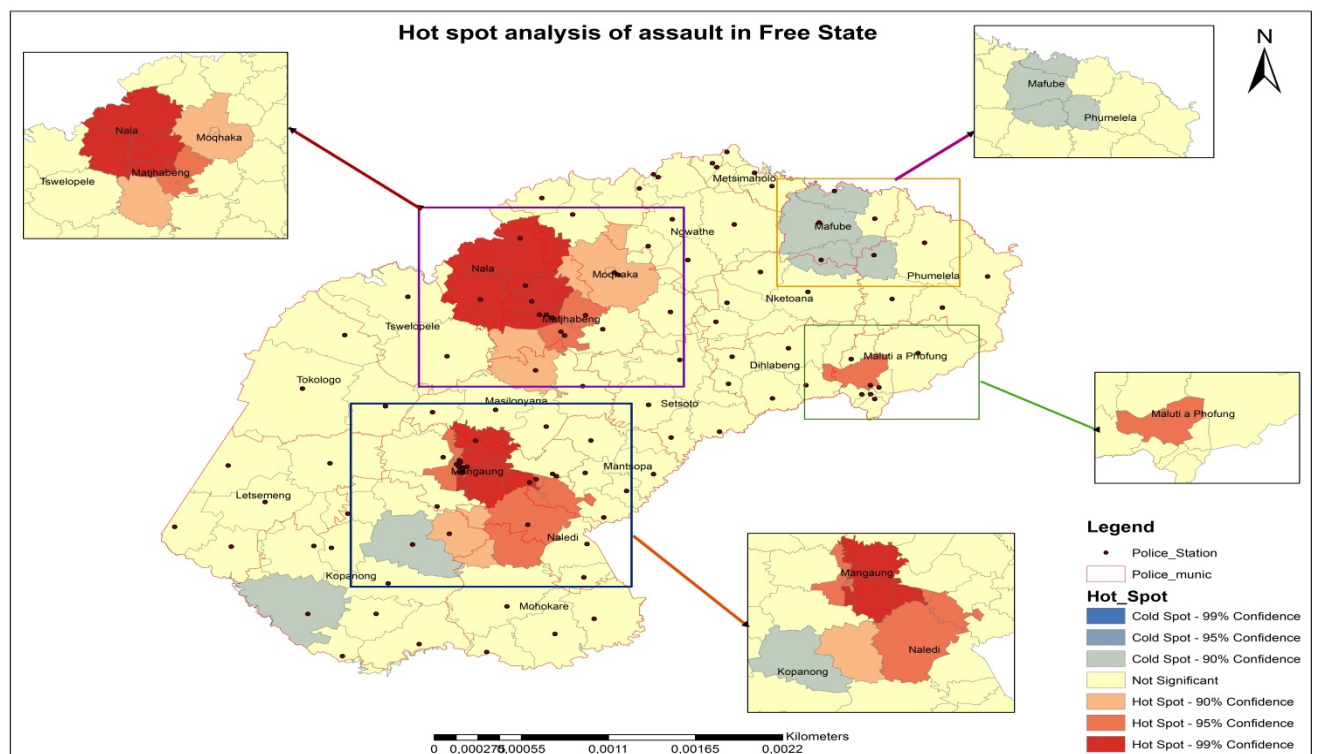
Map 3: Hot spot analysis of incidents of assault in Northern Cape, SAPS 2014/15



Map 3 shows that incidents of assaults were clustered in Khara Hais, Phokwane and Sol Plaatje municipalities all with a high number of incidents. Sol Plaatje, Magareng, and Phokwane and Dikgatlong municipalities were identified as hot spot areas for assault.

## Free State

Map 4: Hot spot analysis of incidents of assault in Free State, SAPS 2014/15

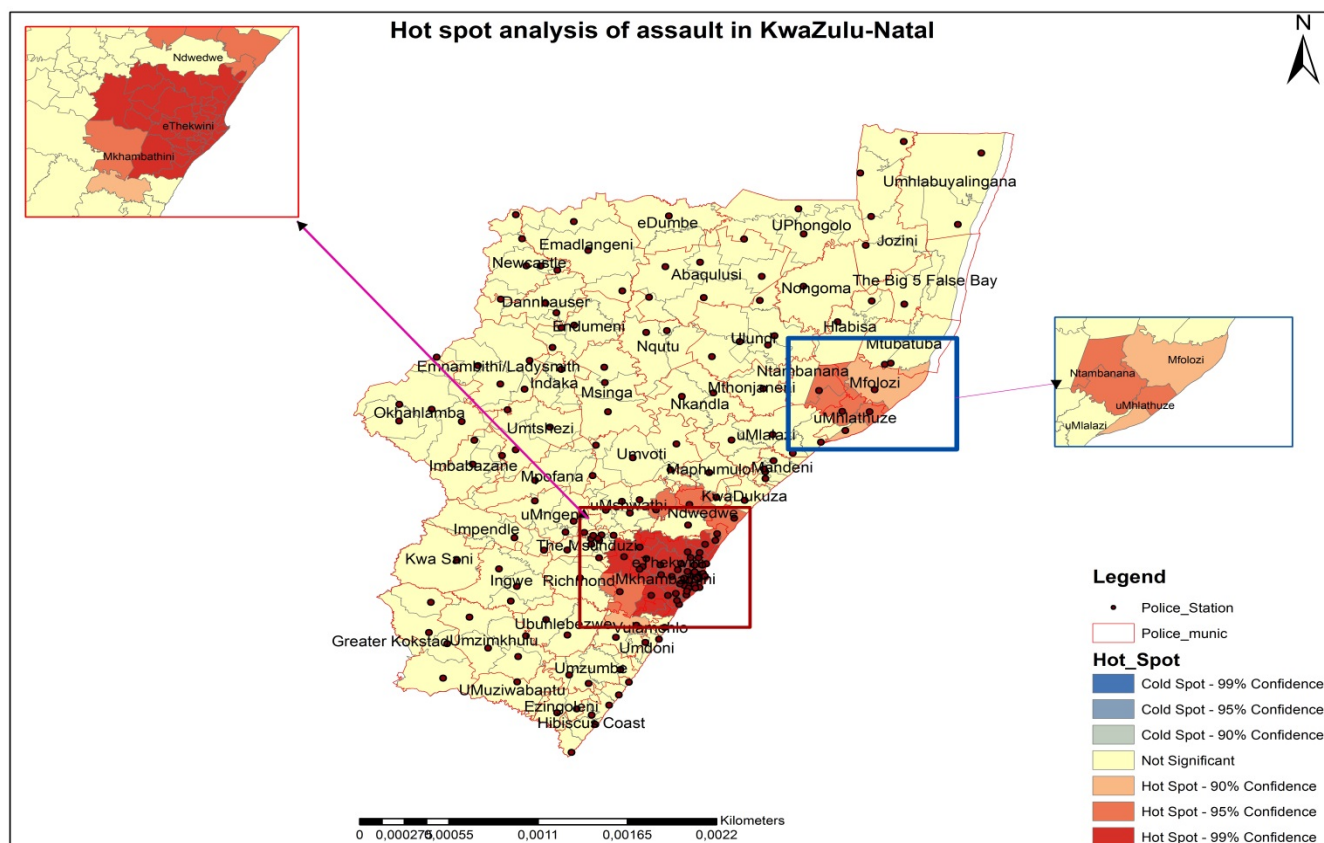




According to Map 4, the municipalities within the Free State where assault is clustered were around Mophaka, Matjhabeng, Maluti a Phofung and Mangaung metropolitan municipalities. Metsimaholo municipality had high incidents of assault, but was surrounded by low crime zones. It further shows the areas which were hot spot for assaults in Free State; these were the Nala and Mangaung municipalities; other municipalities such as Matjhabeng, Maluti a Phofung and Naledi also experienced high incidents of assault.

## KwaZulu-Natal

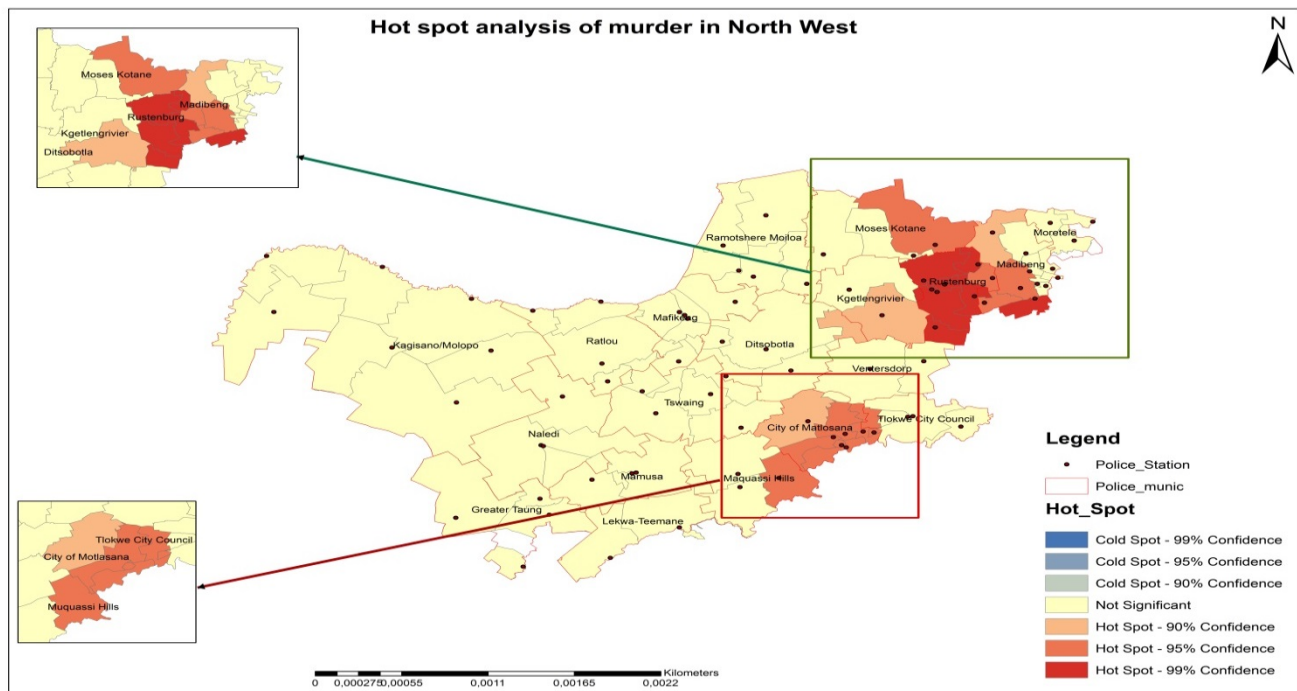
**Map 5 : Hot spot analysis of incidents of assault in KwaZulu-Natal, SAPS 2014/15**



Map 5 shows the spatial distribution of assault in KwaZulu-Natal. High crime zones surrounded by high crime areas (clustering) were observed in uMhlathuze, Ndwedwe and eThekweni. On the periphery parts of eThekweni municipality were areas with incidents of assault that were surrounded by areas with low crime. Some low crime zones surrounded by high crime areas were observed in Mkhambathini and eThekweni. The Msunduzi areas had high assault rates, but were surrounded by areas with low incidents. Map 5 further indicates that eThekweni and Mkhambathini had assault hot spots as well as a few other municipalities such as Ntambanana, uMhlathuze, Mfolozi and Ndwedwe. eThekweni also had a number of police stations clustered around it. This pattern is similar to other metropolitan municipalities within South Africa.

## North West

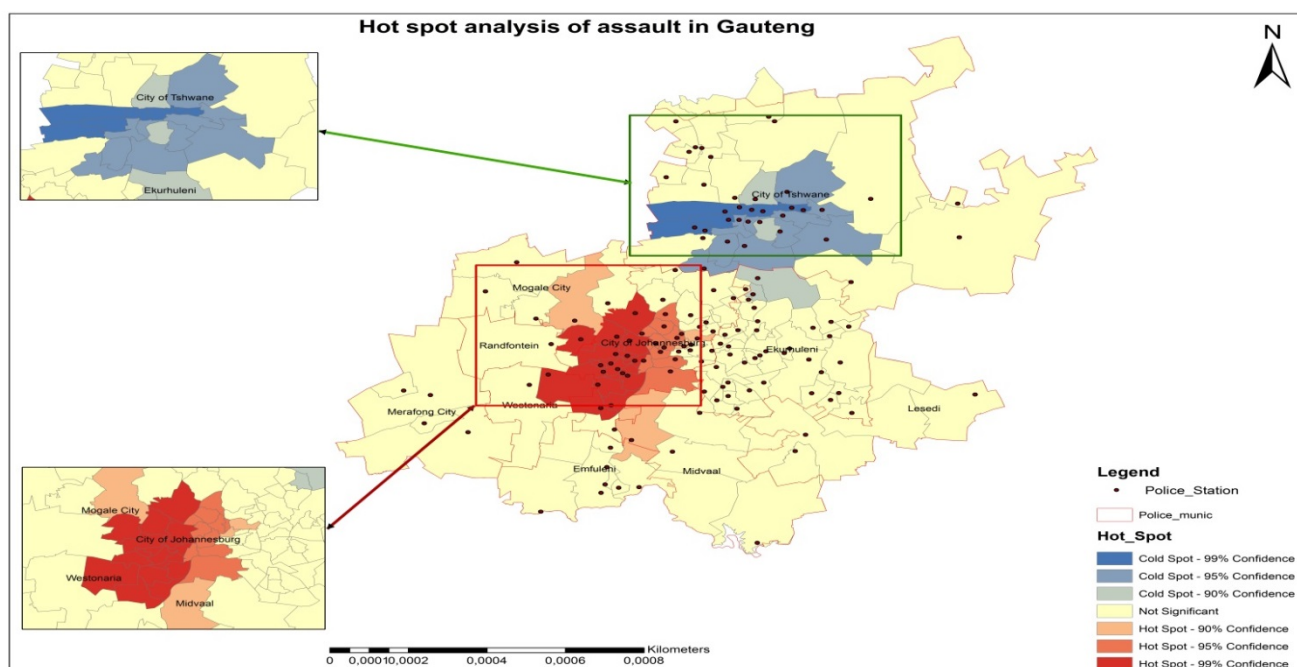
Map 6 : Hot spot analysis of incidents of assault in North West, SAPS 2014/15



Map 6 shows the spatial distribution of assault in North West and how it was clustered. Most municipalities in North West had few cases of assault when compared to Greater Taung and Lekwa-Teemane municipalities. The latter two municipalities had 3 zones with high levels of assault which were also surrounded by areas with high levels of these incidents. The hot spot analysis shows that municipalities such as Greater Taung, Mamusa, Tlokwe and the City of Matlosana were identified as crime hot spots for incidents of assault.

## Gauteng

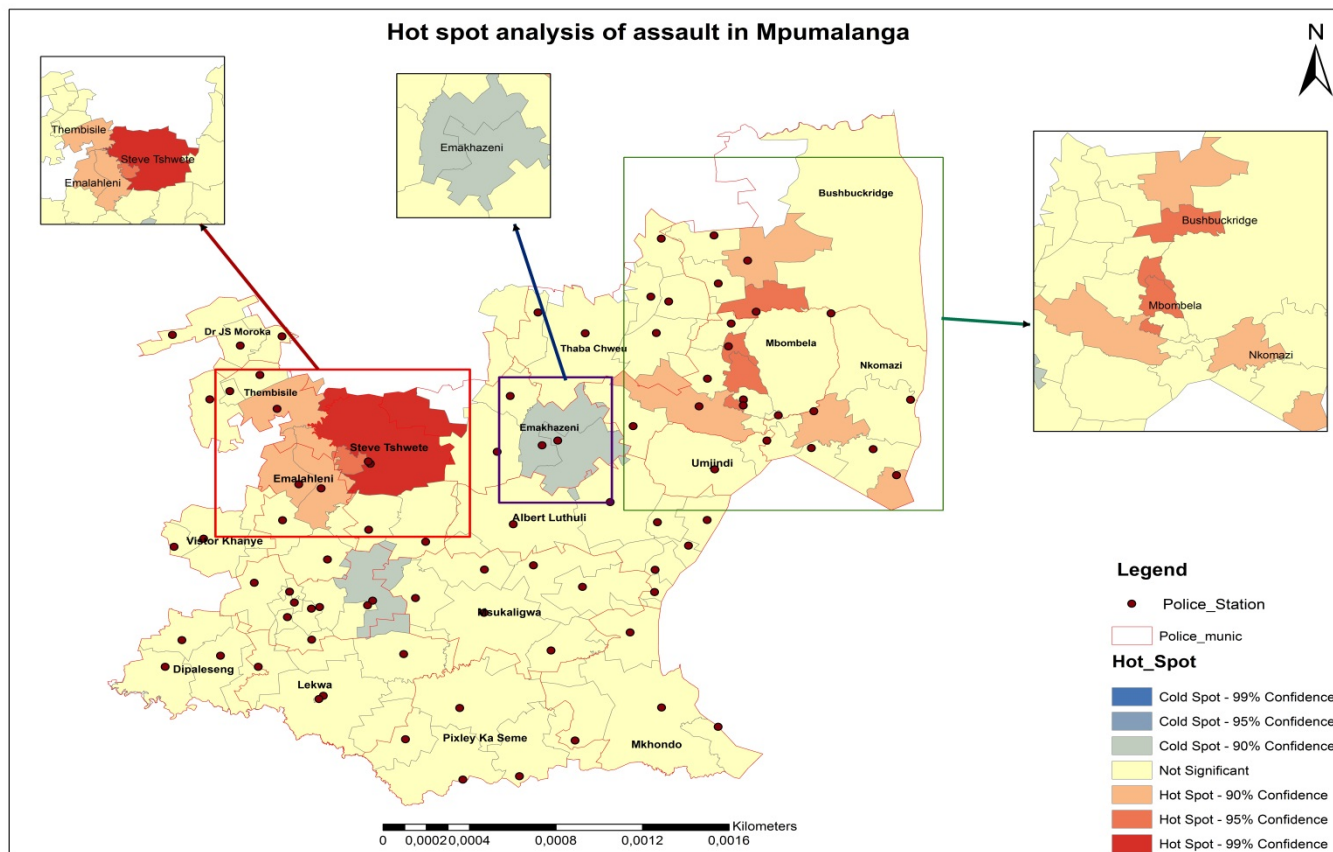
Map 7 : Hot spot analysis of incidents of assault in Gauteng, SAPS 2014/15



Map 7 shows the spatial distribution of assault in Gauteng. High crime zones surrounded by high crime areas were observed in the City of Johannesburg, Emfuleni and Westonaria, although there were areas within the borders of City of Johannesburg with low incidents of assault which were surrounded by areas with high crime. City of Johannesburg and surrounding municipalities such as Mogale City, Westonaria and Midvaal were the crime Hot spots for assault. The areas identified as hot spots are historical mining towns such as Westonaria and Randfontein. The assault cases were clustered more around these areas when compared to City of Tshwane. It is important to observe the number of police stations around crime hot spot areas which are clustered together, the same pattern of police stations can be observed in City of Tshwane, even though it is a cold spot area for assault.

## Mpumalanga

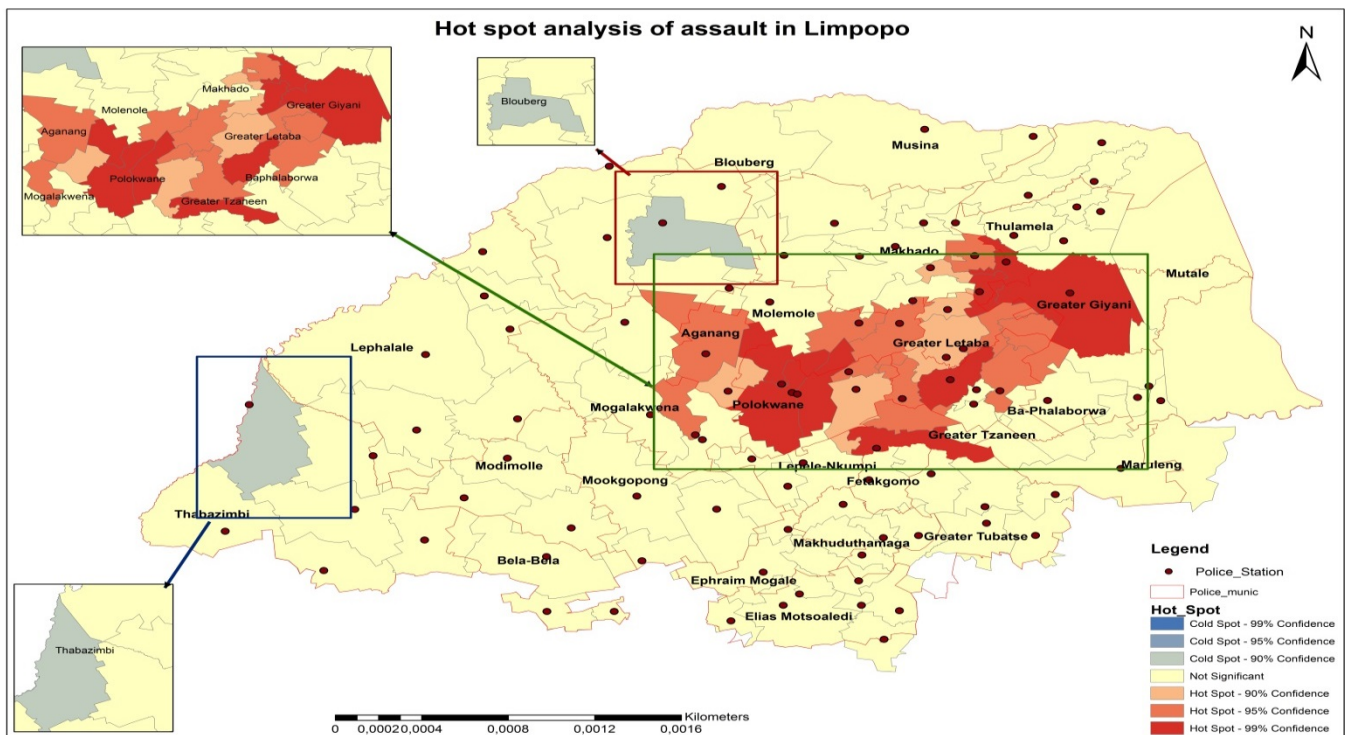
**Map 8 : Hot spot analysis of incidents of assault in Mpumalanga, SAPS 2014/15**



Map 8 shows cluster and outlier analysis of assault in Mpumalanga. High crime zones surrounded by high crime areas in Mpumalanga were observed in Steve Tshwete, Emakhazeni and Bushbuckridge municipalities. Parts of Govan Mbeki and Msukaligwa had high assault zones surrounded by areas with low incidence of assault. A high concentration of assault was observed in Steve Tshwete municipality, followed by parts of Mbombela and Bushbuckridge. Other municipalities in Mpumalanga that experienced high incidents of assault that were also surrounded by areas with high incidents of assault were Emalahleni, part of Thembisile and Nkomazi.

## Limpopo

Map 9 : Hot spot analysis of incidents of assault in Limpopo, SAPS 2014/15



The incidents of assault in Limpopo are concentrated in areas such as Greater Letaba, Greater Tzaneen, Molemole, Aganang and Mogalakwena municipalities (Map 9). These areas were classified as high crime zones surrounded by high crime areas. There were some areas in Greater Tzaneen with low incidents of assault which were surrounded by areas with high crime as indicated on the map. It further shows that hot spots for assaults were in Greater Giyani, Greater Letaba, Greater Tzaneen and Polokwane municipalities. Other surrounding municipalities such as Makhado, Ba Phalaborwa, Lepele-Nkumpi, Aganang and Mogalakwena were also identified as hot spots.

### 3.3 Incidents of Sexual offences in South Africa

#### 3.3.1 Introduction

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa makes provision for the protection of women, children and those that are disabled. The NDP furthermore states that by 2030, people living in South Africa should feel safe at home, at school and at work, and enjoy a community life free of fear. Women should be able to walk freely in the street and children should be able to play safely outside. The term 'sexual offence' refers to an unwanted sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, or contact or communication with unwanted sexual attention without valid consent or with consent as a result of intimidation, force, fraud, coercion, threat, deception, use of drugs or alcohol, or abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability. Sexual offences are regarded as a contact crime in South Africa and also include grabbing, touching someone's private parts, or sexually assaulting or raping someone. More often grabbing someone's private parts is not considered an offence by certain parts of the community. The most considered aspect of this offence is rape; and it is also the most commonly reported crime of this type. The survey asked respondents questions about any incident of sexual offence they may have experienced in the past 12 months prior to the data collection period.

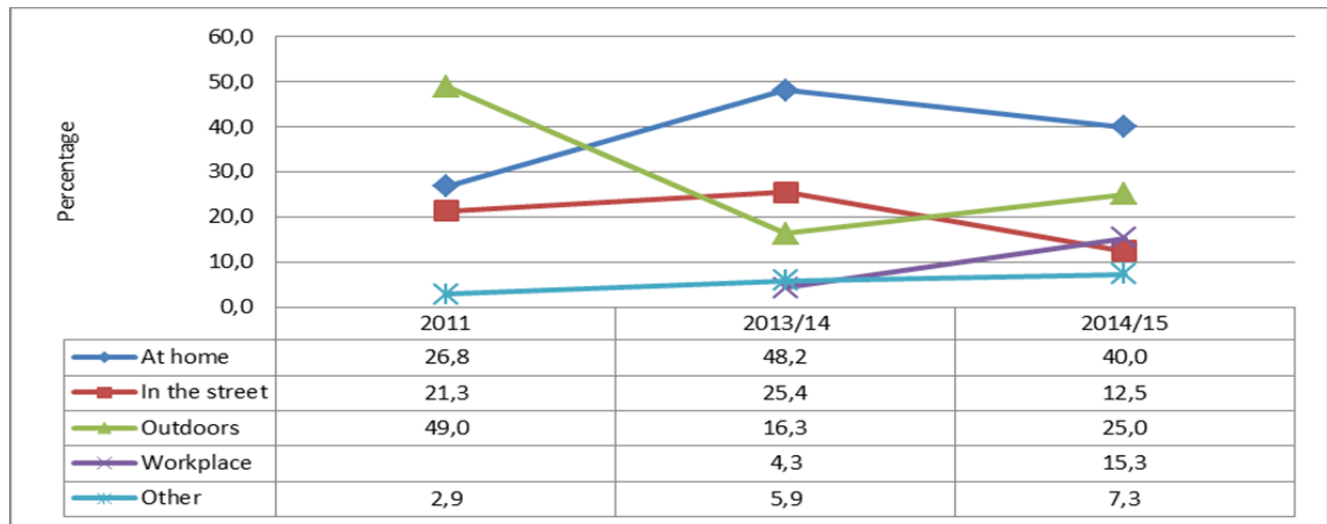
This section discusses the circumstances around sexual offence, specifically the place where it occurred, the victim-offender relationship, the influence of alcohol on the perpetrator and victim, the nature of weapons used and the injuries sustained.



### 3.3.2 Place where incidents of sexual offence occurred

It is important to know where sexual offence incidents occur most often as this has implications for the manner in which interventions dealing with this crime should be structured. Offences that happen in private spaces will most often need different interventions from those that occur in public spaces.

Figure 21 : Time-series analysis of places where sexual offence occurred (per cent), VOCS 2011-2014/15



\*Note: Empty spaces indicate few or no responses in that category

Figure 21 depicts a time-series analysis of places where sexual offence occurred in the period 2011 to 2014/15. Although the places where sexual offence occurred varied over the years, most incidents of sexual offence happened at home between 2013/14 and 2014/15. Almost half of all incidents of sexual offence that occurred in 2011 took place outdoors (49%). About 48,2% of sexual offence incidents that occurred in 2013/14 were at home and just over a quarter were in the street (25,4%). Four in ten sexual offences that occurred in 2014/15 were at home (40%), while 25% happened outdoors.

Figure 22 : Percentage distribution of places where sexual offence occurred by sex, VOCS 2014/15

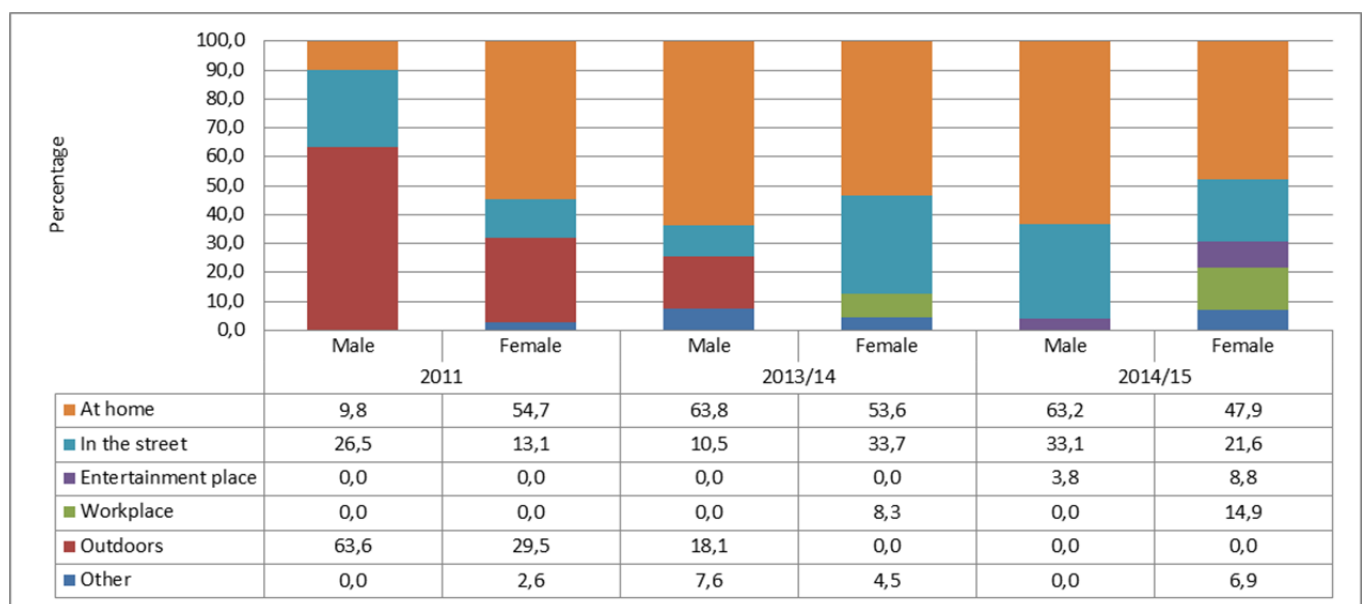


Figure 22 depicts a time series analysis of places where incidents of sexual offence occurred by sex of victims. Overall, sexual offence incidents took place at home throughout the years with the exception of male victims in

2012, who mostly experienced sexual offence outdoors (63,6%). Of the 28,7% male individuals aged 16 years and above who experienced sexual offences in 2014/15 (illustrated in Figure 1 above), about 63,2% of the incidents happened at home and 33,1% in the street. More than seven of every ten victims of sexual offence were females (71,3%). Most female victimisation occurred at home (47,9%), in the street (21,6%) and at the work place or place of business (14,9%). Violence against men and women in the street can influence freedom of movement and the potential contribution of men and women to the economy. Likewise sexual offences at work impact negatively on economic participation and may lead, especially in the case of women to voluntary or forced withdrawal from the workplace.

**Figure 23: Place where individuals experienced sexual offence by their marital status, VOCS 2014/15**

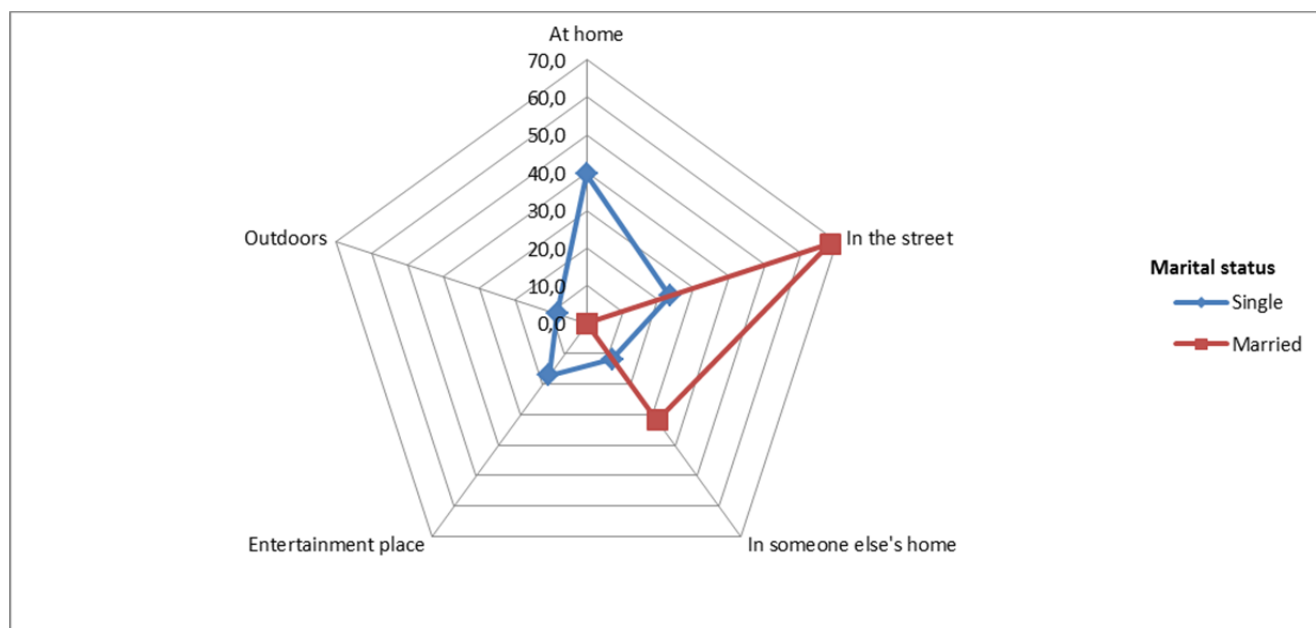
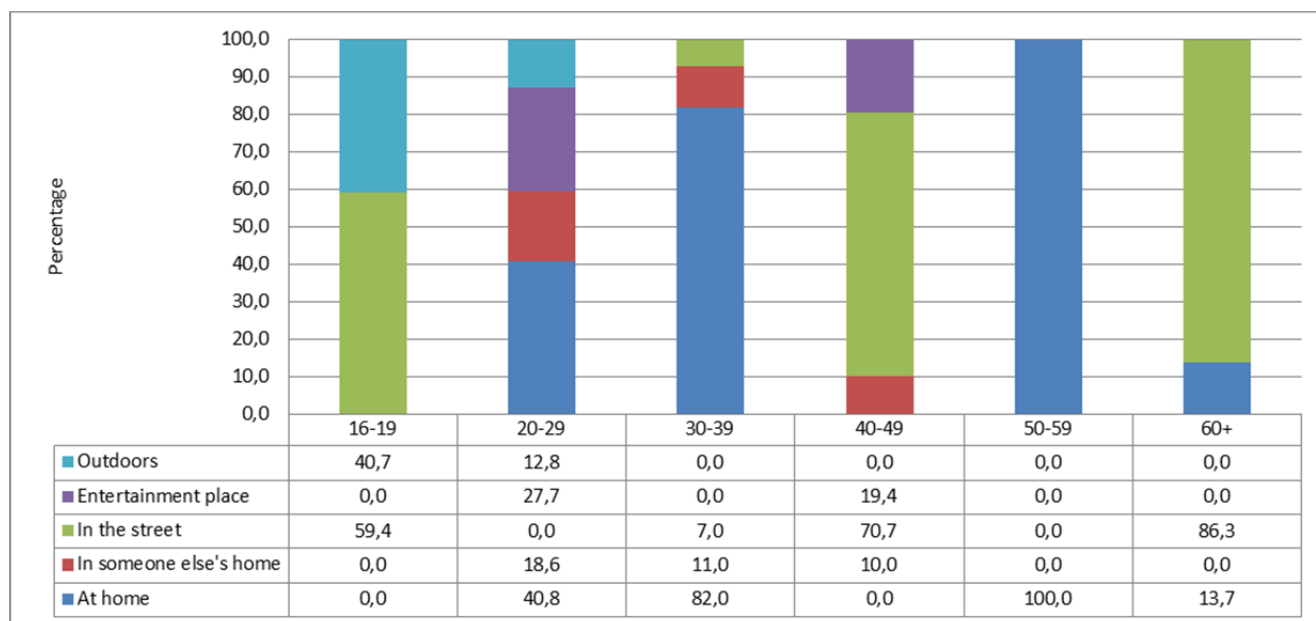


Figure 23 shows that the majority of individuals who were single and/or never married, were victimised at home (39,6%), in the street (23,3%) and at an entertainment area (17,2%). Married people on the other hand were mostly sexually victimised in the street (68,1%) and in someone's else home. This implies that individuals who are single and never married are mostly victimised by the people they know.

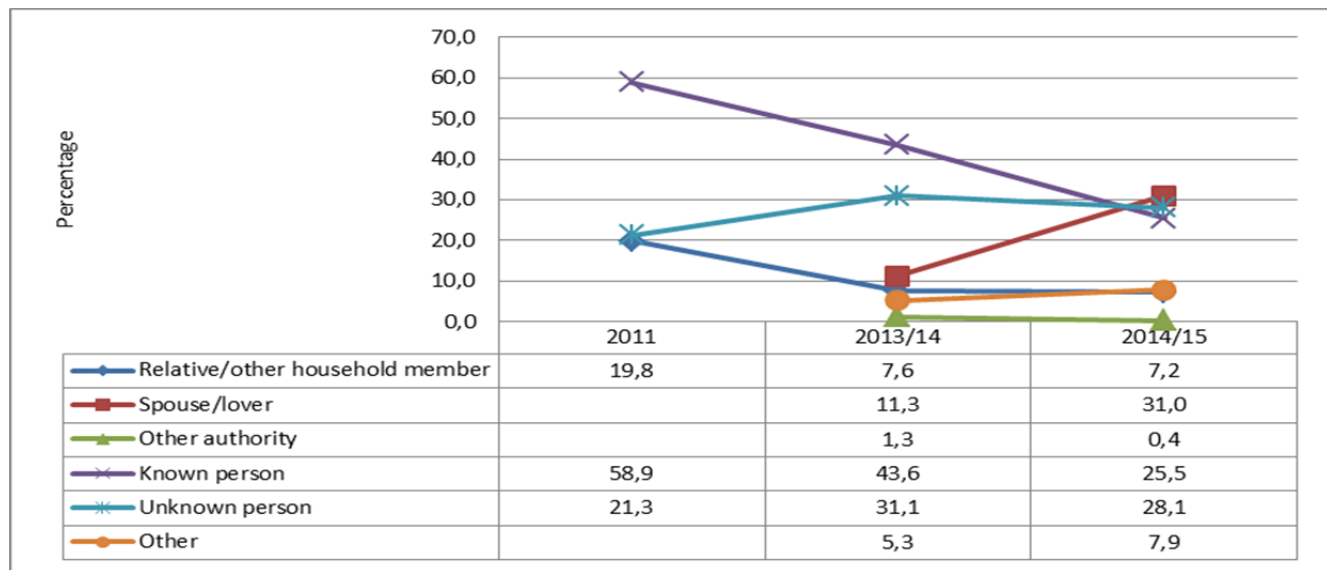
**Figure 24 : Place where individuals experienced sexual offence by age group, VOCS 2014/15**



An analysis of the place where individuals were sexually assaulted by age group is illustrated in Figure 24. Most people in the age group 16–19 experienced sexual harassment in the street (59,4%) and outdoors (40,7%). This age group represents teenagers who are keen to go to entertainment areas, parks and moving across the street and they appear to be targeted in these areas. Individuals from the age group 20–39 were mostly targeted and sexually harassed in their homes (40,8%). Crimes that occur at home have a potential to violate basic human needs for physical security and comfort. Victimization at home can be traumatic for those affected and those related to individuals. The age group 20–29 years was mostly victimised at entertainment areas (27,7%) and parks or any open fields (12,8%). The results from the victimisation survey further indicated that people in the age group 40–49 and 60 and above were most likely to experience sexual offence in the street.

### 3.3.3 Victim-Offender relationships for incidents of sexual offence

Figure 25 : Time-series analysis of perpetrators of sexual offence (per cent), VOCS 2011-2014/15



\*Note: Empty spaces indicate few or no responses in that category

Figure 25 shows that sexual offence incidents are committed by known individuals. This was most evident in 2011 and 2013/14 (58,9% and 43,6% respectively). Although slightly above a quarter of victims were perpetrated by known person; there is an increasing pattern of spouse/lover being the main offender (11,3% in 2013/14 to 31,0% in 2014/15). Individuals were also victimised by unknown community member or unknown people from outside their community.

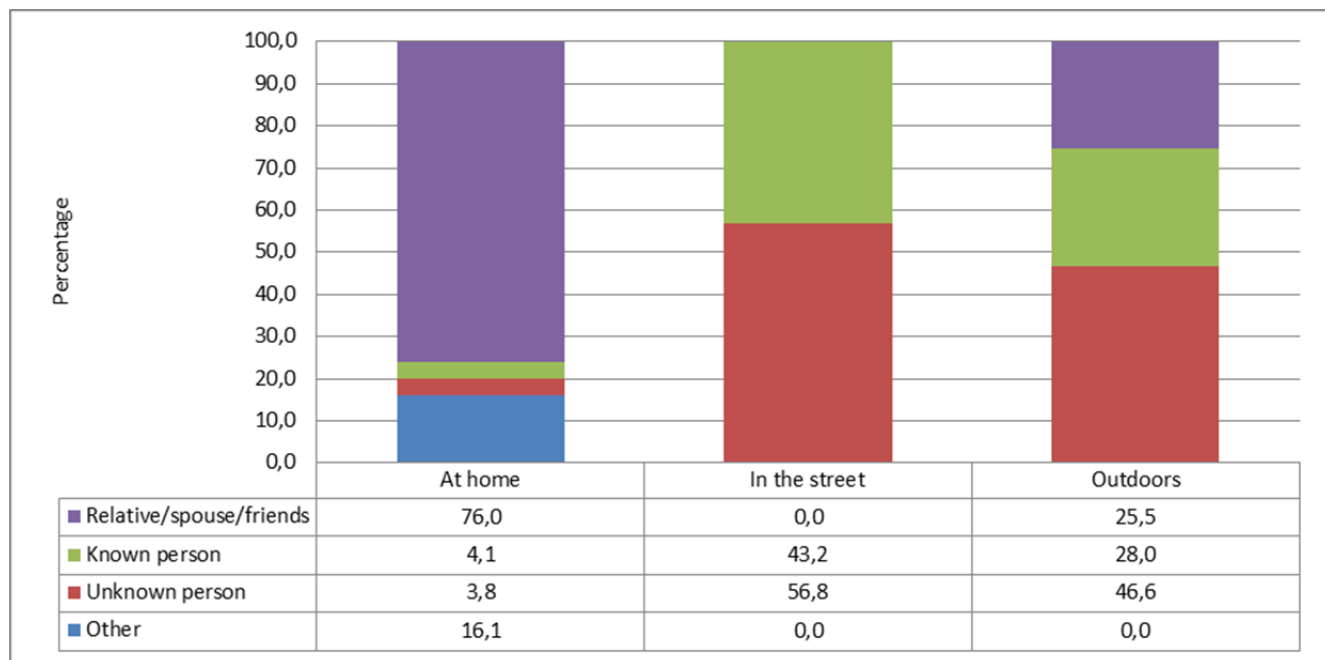
**Figure 26 : Percentage distribution of the victim-offender relationship by the place where sexual offence occurred, VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 26 depicts the percentage distribution of places where sexual offence occurred by various categories of perpetrators in South Africa as recorded by VOCS 2014/15. The results show that relatives/spouse/friends were the main perpetrators of sexual offence (76%) that occurred at home whilst four in ten (43,2%) of the assailants in the street were known and almost six out of ten (56,8%) were unknown. In outdoor areas, 46,6% of the offenders were unknown, 28,0% known and 25,5% relative/spouse/friend.

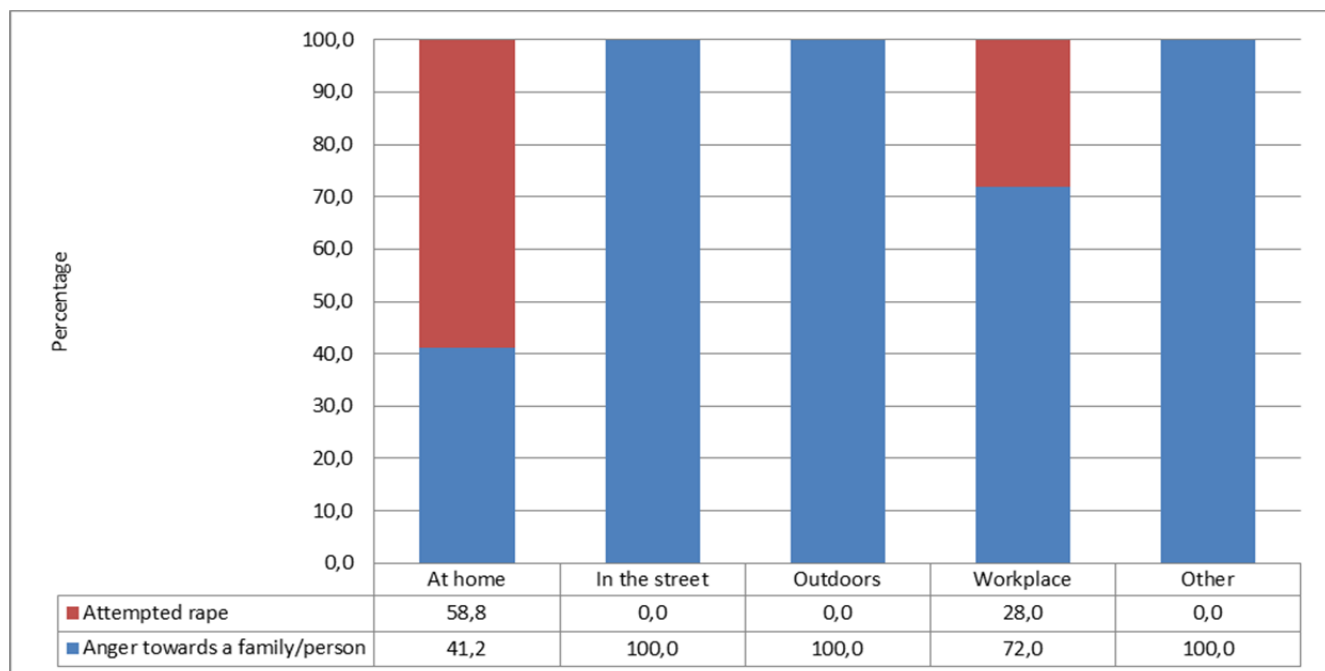
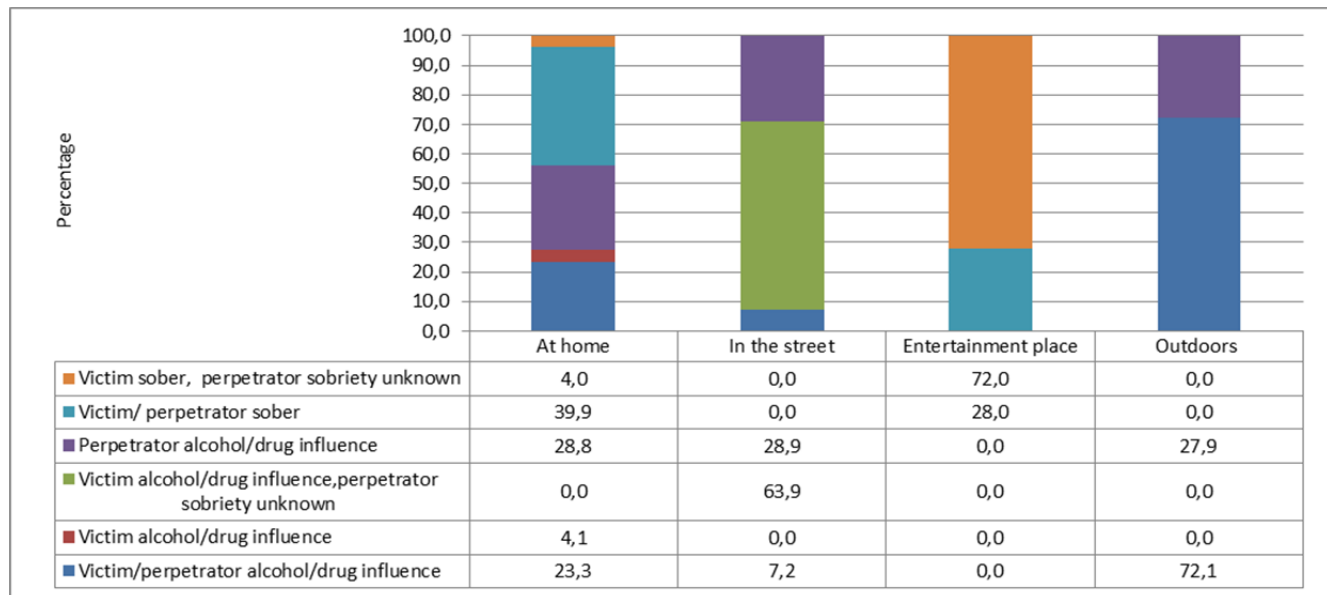
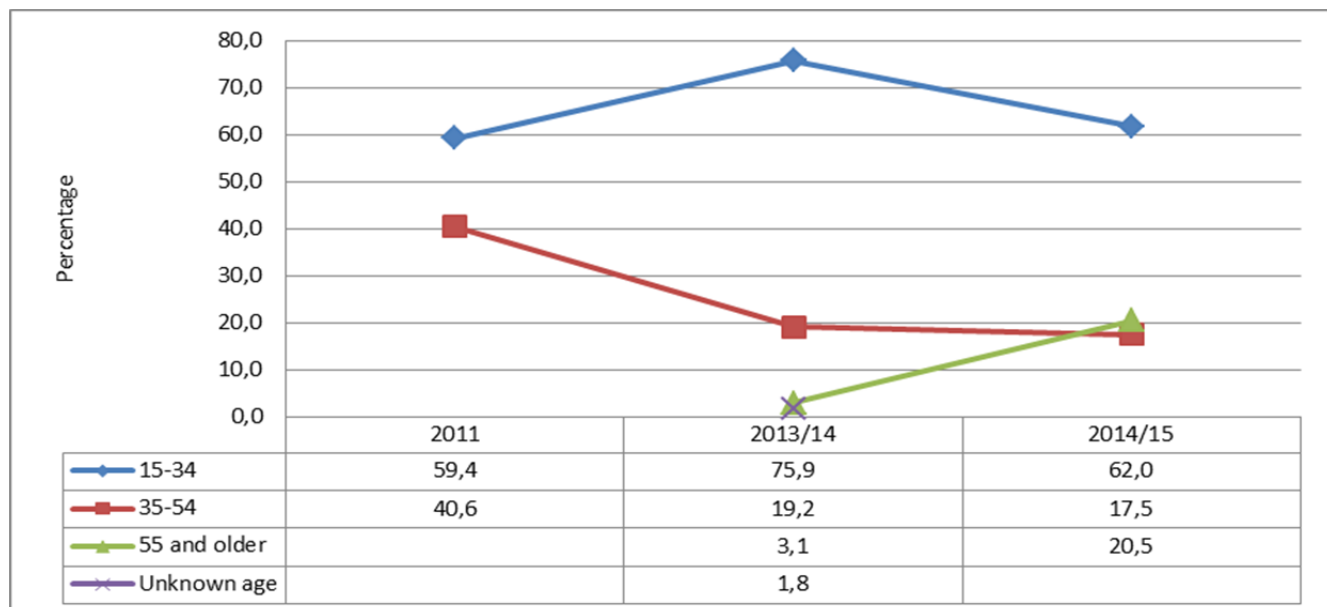
**Figure 27 : Percentage distribution of the motive behind sexual offence by the places where they occurred, VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 27 shows a percentage distribution of the motive behind sexual offence by the place where it occurred. It is alarming that almost sixty percent of victims of sexual offence incidents that took place at home (58,8%) and nearly a third of those that occurred in the workplace (28%) reported that the motive was attempted rape. The main motive cited for most sexual offence incidents that occurred in the streets and outdoors was anger towards the victim and/or their family.

**Figure 28 : Percentage distribution of places where sexual offence took place by alcohol and/or drug influence, VOCS 2014/15**

In an overview of sexual violence in South Africa, it is reported that sexual violence does not occur in isolation, one of the individual risk factors include using and abusing alcohol and drugs (Sigsworth: 2009). Figure 28 depicts the percentage distribution of sexual offence by sobriety and place of occurrence in South Africa as recorded by VOCS 2014/15. The results show that victims under the influence of alcohol or drugs played a role in most of the incidences of sexual offence that occurred in the street (63,9%). Furthermore, in 72% of the cases of sexual offence that occurred in an entertainment area, the victim was under the influence and the sobriety of the perpetrator was unknown. About 72,1% of incidents of sexual offence that occurred when the victim was outdoors were influenced by alcohol or drugs for both victim and perpetrator. It is important to note that 23,3% of sexual offence cases at home were influenced by alcohol or drugs intake by both victims and offenders.

**Figure 29 : Time-series analysis of the age of sexual offence perpetrator(s) (percent), VOCS 2011-2014/15**

\*Note: Empty spaces indicate few or no responses in that category

The results in Figure 29 show a higher percentage amongst individuals aged 15–34 years as main offender of sexual offence. The percentage of perpetrators aged 55 and above spiked during the year 2011 and 2014/15.

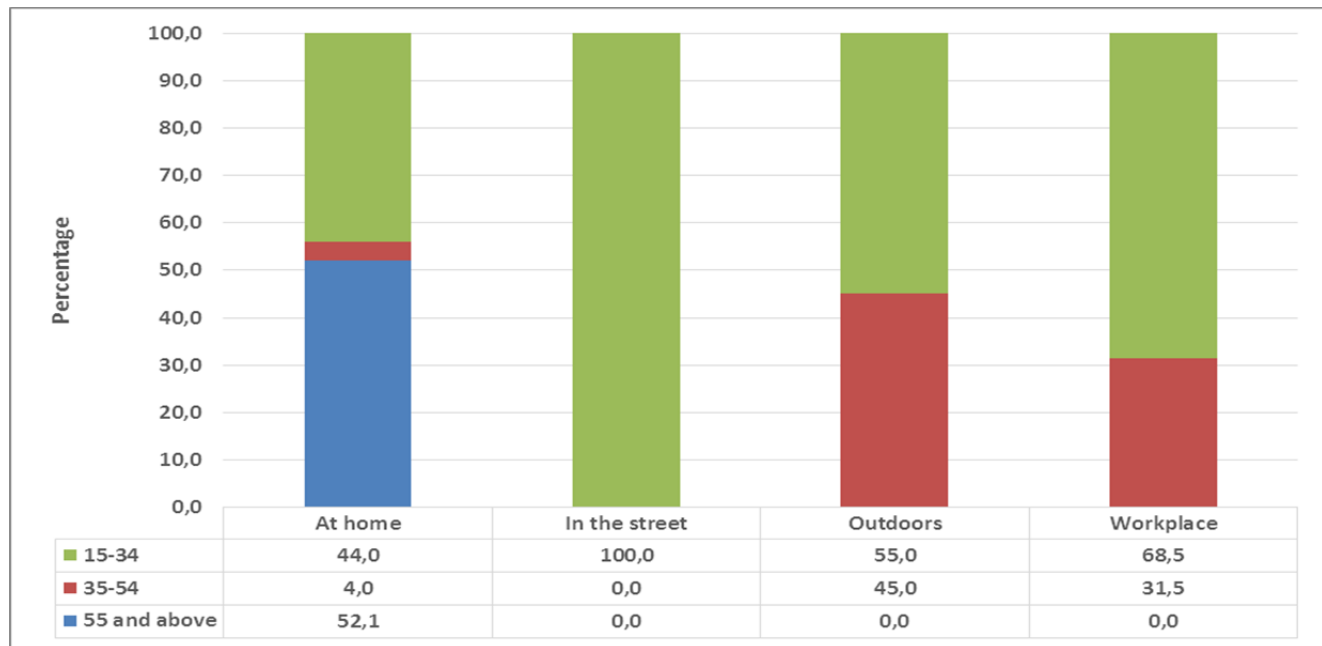
**Figure 30 : Percentage distribution of age group of the perpetrator by the place where sexual offence occurred, VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 30 shows the percentage distribution of the victim's age by the place where sexual offence occurred. More incidents of sexual offence that occurred at home were perpetrated by individuals aged 55 years and older (52,1%) followed by those in the age group 15–34, (44%). Assault incidents that occurred in the street were committed by perpetrators aged 15–34 years, while 68,5% of incidents that occurred in the workplace were perpetrated by individuals in the same age group.

### 3.3.4 The nature of weapons used in the incidents of sexual offence

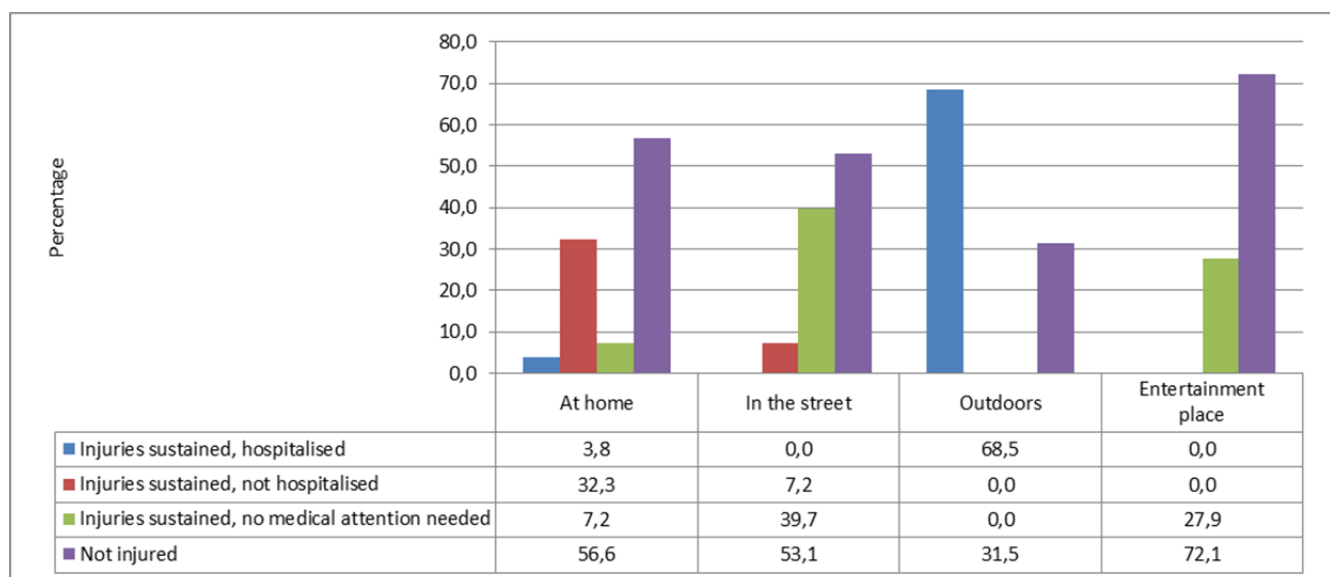
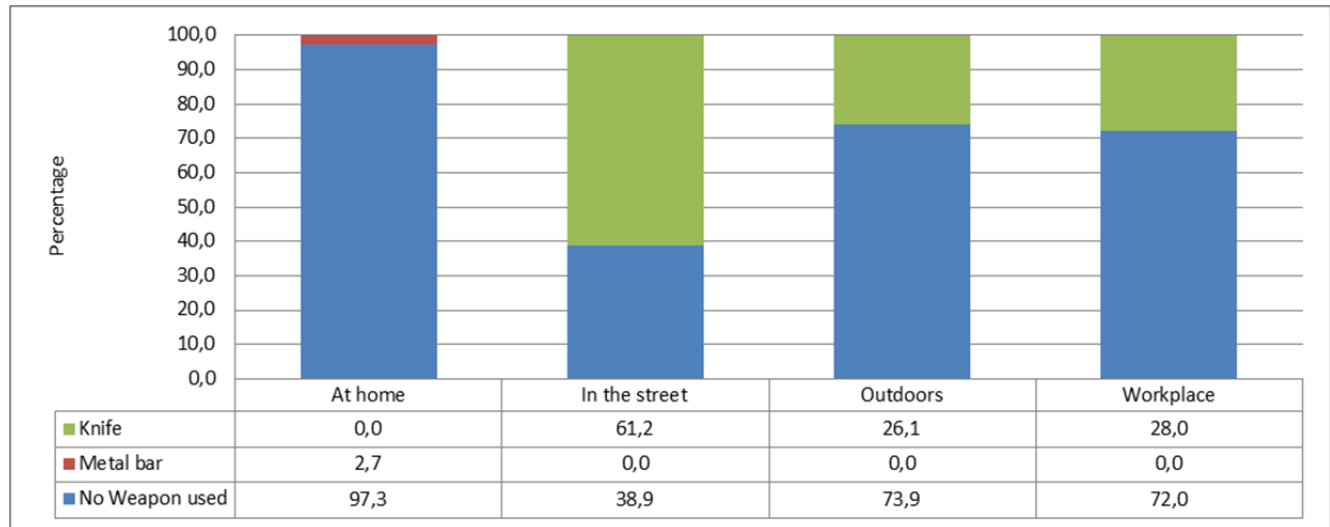
**Figure 31 : Percentage distribution of victims who sustained injuries as a result of sexual offence, VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 31 shows the percentage distribution of victims of sexual offence who sustained injuries as a result of these incidents. The results show that victims were injured irrespective of where the incident occurred. The majority of victims of sexual offence that occurred in outdoor areas had to be admitted to hospital (68,5%), whilst the majority of victims of sexual offence that occurred at home were not injured (56,6%). About 53,1% of victims

of sexual offence that occurred in the street were not injured, but 39,7% sustained injuries that required no medical attention.

**Figure 32: Percentage distribution of the weapons used during sexual offence by the place where it occurred, VOCS 2014/15**



A percentage distribution of the weapons used during sexual offence by the place where it occurred is shown in Figure 32. Sexual offence incidents that occurred in the street (61,2%), in a workplace (28,0%) and outdoors (26,1%) mostly involved the use of a knife. No weapon was used in the majority of sexual offence incidents that occurred at home (97,3%). This suggests that there may have been other forms of coercion that were used against the victim when committing this crime such as blackmail or threatening them.

**Figure 33: Distribution of victims of sexual offence who were aware of help they could access after the incident, VOCS 2011-2014/15**

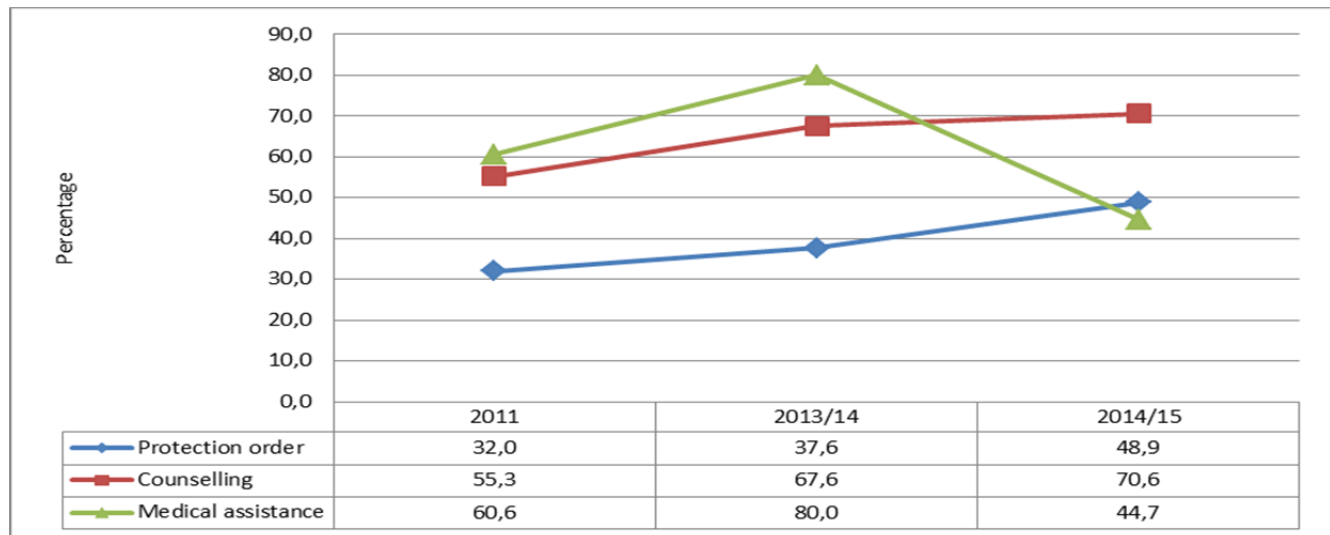


Figure 33 shows that more than 60,0% of individuals aged 16 years and above who were victims of sexual offence were aware of medical assistance (including anti-retrovirals) that they could access after the incident in 2011, this percentage increased to 80% in 2013/14. In 2014/15 a higher percentage of victims of sexual offence indicated that they knew where to access counselling services (70,6%). In addition to this, the results show a positive trend in the period 2011 to 2014/15, of victims who were aware of where to access protection orders after being sexually victimised.

### 3.3.5 Characteristics of individuals who experienced sexual offences

One of the objectives of this report is to identify possible high-risk population subgroups to target when developing crime prevention programmes. This section analyses a number of risk factors for sexual offence, as well as factors that tend to protect against violence, under the circumstances. Certain demographic and socio-economic determinants of the target population and behavioural characteristics of individuals are used as predictor variables.

**Table 10 : Characteristics of the victims of sexual offence, VOCS 2014/15**

Variable	Descriptor	Per cent	95% Confidence Limits for per cent	
Marital status	Married	10,2	0,0	23,0
	Living together like husband and wife	5,2	0,0	12,1
	Divorced/Separated	0,6	0,0	2,0
	Widowed	0,9	0,0	2,8
	Single	83,1	67,9	98,3
Population group	Black African	0,10	0,10	0,04
	Coloured	0,01	0,01	0,00
	Indian/Asian	*	*	*
	White	0,12	0,01	0,00
Age group	16–19	4,6	0,0	11,7
	20–24	25,1	1,8	48,5
	25–29	13,7	0,0	29,7
	30–34	23,0	0,0	53,1
	35–39	3,2	0,0	7,6
	40–44	13,1	0,0	32,4
	45–49	5,4	0,0	14,0
	50–54	1,0	0,0	3,2
	55–59	4,4	0,0	13,4
	60–64	5,6	0,0	17,0
	65+	0,9	0,0	2,8
Level of education	No education	6,8	0,0	18,9
	Some primary	20,8	0,0	43,9
	Completed primary	7,2	0,0	17,4
	Some secondary	20,0	3,5	36,4
	Completed secondary	29,8	0,0	60,6
	Post-School	15,4	0,0	37,8
Run a business	Run a business	1,1	0,0	3,5
	Do not run a business	98,9	96,5	100,0
Work for a salary of wages	Work for a salary or wages	22,9	0,5	45,3
	Do not work for a salary or wages	77,1	54,7	99,5
LSM	Low	10,1	0,0	28,2
	Intermediate	73,7	42,3	99,3
	High	16,1	0,0	37,3
Household size	1–2	8,7	0,0	17,6
	3–4	29,5	8,9	50,1
	5–9	44,3	16,5	72,1
	10 and more	17,5	0,0	48,4

\*Note: Sexual offence is a relatively rare and sensitive event and the Indian/Asian population group has the fewest amount of people in the country therefore reliable estimates on this crime cannot be provided.



Table 10 shows the results of a bivariate analysis of selected demographic and socio-economic variables against sexual offence. People who were single or never married were more likely to experience sexual offence (83,1%); this result was significant, followed by those who were married (10,2%). The age group 20–24 years was significantly more likely to experience sexual offence (25,1%) followed by age groups 30–34 (23%). In terms of level of education, individuals who had completed secondary education (29,8%) and some primary (20,8%) experienced sexual offence. More of those who did not work for a salary or wages experienced sexual offence (77,1%).

**Table 11 : Factor Analysis for Sexual offence, VOCS 2014/15**

Rotated Factor Pattern			
	Factor1	Factor2	Factor3
Province	0,11	0,71	0,36
Level of education	0,06	0,03	0,96
Work for salary or wages	0,94	-0,04	0,10
Running a business	-0,94	0,04	-0,10
Nature of work	0,88	-0,05	-0,30
Marital status	0,23	0,90	-0,09
Income source	0,94	-0,04	0,10
Household size	-0,38	0,51	0,67
Assault	0,40	-0,82	0,09
Living standard size	-0,32	0,73	0,30
Derived age	-0,13	-0,97	0,14
Sex	-0,88	0,05	0,30
Population	-0,27	0,80	0,35

Table 11 shows the results of factor analysis for sexual offence. Five variables namely working for salary or wages, running businesses, nature of work, income source and sex were loaded in factor 1. These variables relate to socio-economic status and are correlated with each other. Seven variables were loaded for factor 2 and are related to socio-economic status. These variables include province, marital status, household size, assault, living standard measure, age, and population group and all have high factor loadings in factor 2. Two items were loaded in factor 3 and both relate to socio-economic status. The variables education level and household size have high factor loadings in factor 3 and are correlated with each other.

**Table 12 : Predictor model for sexual offence VOCS 2014/15**

Parameter	Reference category	Response category	Odds ratio	50% Confidence Limits	
				Lower	Upper
Sex	Male	Female	14,62*	2,24	95,36
Population group	Black African	Coloured	6,37*	1,44	28,14
		Indian/Asian	0,00*	<0,001	0,02
		White	24,32*	0,92	644,62
Nature of work	Permanent employment	Fixed period contract	<0,001*	<0,001	<0,001
		Temporary	0,77*	0,16	3,69
		Casual	<0,001*	<0,001	<0,001
		Seasonal	<0,001*	<0,001	<0,001
Living standard measure	Low	Intermediate	3,68	0,44	30,48
		High	5,01	0,50	49,82
Province	Gauteng	Western Cape	0,18*	0,04	0,88
		Eastern Cape	0,90*	0,13	6,19
		Northern Cape	0,35*	0,04	3,06
		Free State	0,23*	0,02	2,32
		KwaZulu-Natal	<0,001*	<0,001	<0,001
		North West	<0,001*	<0,001	<0,001
		Mpumalanga	0,13*	0,02	1,06
		Limpopo	<0,001*	<0,001	<0,001
Marital status	Married	Living together like husband and wife	2,77	0,17	45,81
		Divorced/Separated/widowed	0,82	0,05	14,27
		Single	11,78*	0,66	208,97
Household size	10 or more	1–2	2,03*	0,45	9,10
		3–4	4,76*	0,18	126,27
		5–9	<0,001*	<0,001	0,00
Settlement type	Urban metro	Other urban	0,97*	0,34	2,76
		Rural	18,94*	5,58	64,33

\*Indicates that  $P < |t|$ 

Table 12 shows a predictor model for being a victim of sexual offence by selected socio-economic and demographic variables. The results show that females are 14,6 times more likely to experience sexual offence compared to males. The likelihood of people to be sexually victimised differ according to population group. Whites are 24,3 more times likely to experience sexual offence compared to black Africans. The results further indicate that people who are single and never married are 11,7 likely to experience sexual offence compared to married individuals. Sexual offence is more likely to be experienced in the rural areas than urban areas.

**Table 13: Percentage distribution of incidents of sexual offence by province, VOCS 2014/15**

Province	Number	Per cent	95% Confidence Limits	
			Lower	Upper
WC	5 493	0,01	0,00	0,03
EC	7 548	0,02	0,00	0,04
NC	5 694	0,02	0,00	0,03
FS	1 171	0,00	0,00	0,01
KZN	5 258	0,01	0,00	0,04
NW	1 714	0,00	0,00	0,01
GP	16 107	0,04	0,00	0,09
MP	2 074	0,01	0,00	0,01
LP	5 493	0,01	0,00	0,03

Table 13 depicts the percentage distribution of incidents of sexual offence by province. The results show that Gauteng (0,04%) had a higher percentage of sexual offence, followed by Eastern Cape (0,02%) and Northern Cape (0,02%). Gauteng is the economic hub of the country. VOCS 2014/15 results showed that slightly above 80% of households in South Africa were of the opinion that perpetrators in Gauteng and Eastern Cape engaged in trafficking in persons in order to sexually exploit their victims.

### 3.3.6 Cluster and outlier analysis for sexual offence

This section provides a summary of the findings based on the cluster and hot spot analysis of individuals who had experienced sexual offence as recorded by the South African Police Service (SAPS). The analysis was done at municipal level and the section will give an overview of hot spots for sexual offence in each province and thereafter discuss each province separately.

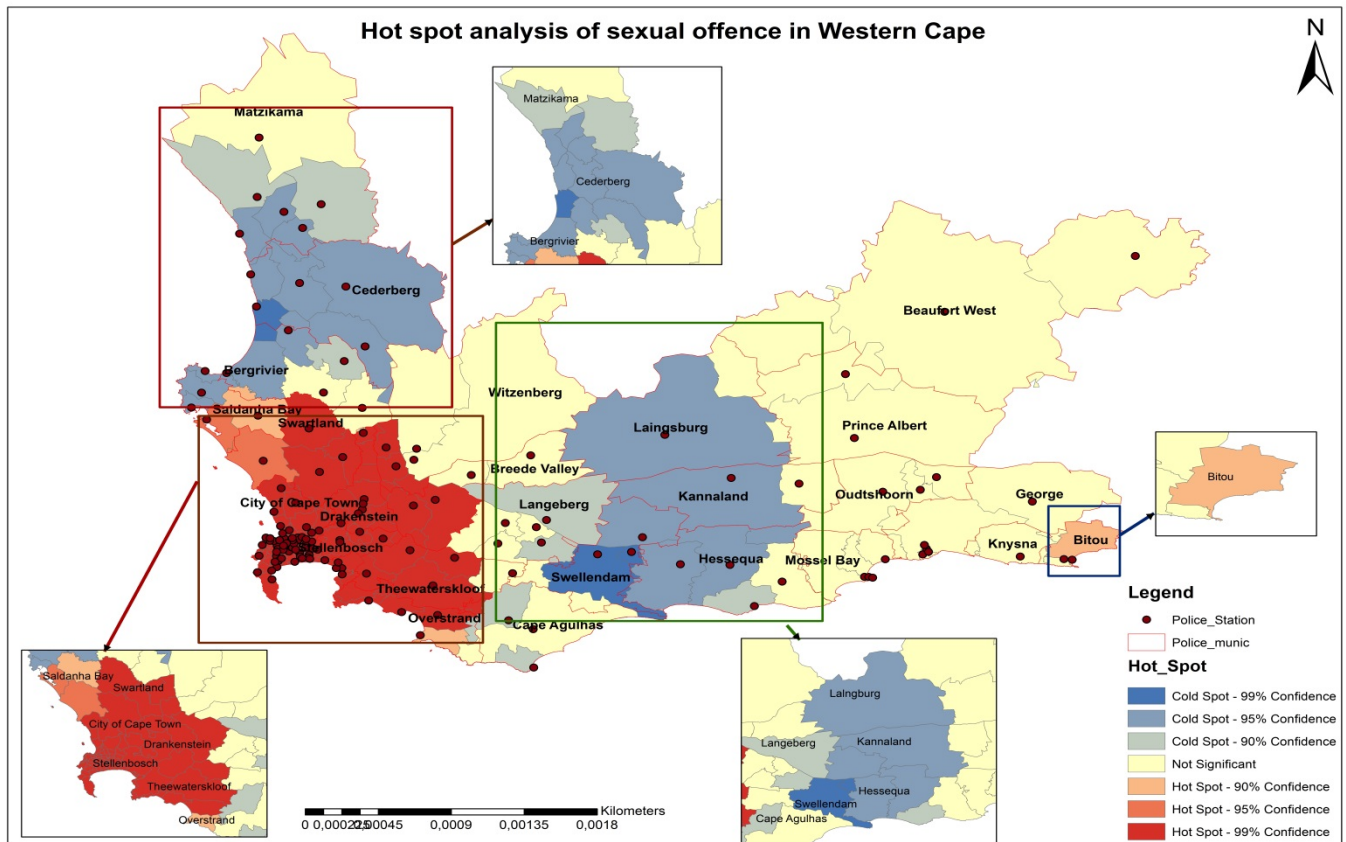
**Table 14 : Selected main hot spot municipalities which experienced sexual offence by demographic factors, Census 2011**

Province	Hot spot municipality	Population Census 2011 results					
		Population size	Annual population growth	Male per 100 female	Unemployment rate	Youth unemployment of those 15 -34 years	Average household size
WC	Theewaterskloof	108 790	1,54%	104,0	14,9%	19,8%	3,6
EC	Nelson Mandela Bay	1 152 115	1,36%	92,3	36,6%	47,3%	3,6
NC	Sol Plaatjie	248 041	2,04%	94,0	31,9%	41,7%	4,1
FS	Nala	81 220	-1,90%	91,8	35,9%	47,6%	3,7
KZN	eThekweni	3 442 361	1,08%	95,6	30,2%	39,0%	3,6
NW	City of Matlosana	398 676	1,04%	100,0	32,7%	43,1%	3,1
GP	Mogale City	362 422	2,04%	104,2	24,6%	32,3%	3,1
MP	Mbombela	588 794	2,11%	94,3	28,1%	37,6%	3,6
LP	Polokwane	628 999	2,13%	92,5	32,4%	42,0%	3,5

Table 14 shows the main hot spots for sexual offence per province. Nelson Mandela Bay, eThekweni, City of Matlosana, Polokwane, Nala, Theewaterskloof, Mogale City and Mbombela municipalities were identified as hot spots for sexual offence. There was no relationship between population size and determination of hot spot; Nala had the lowest population size with a declining growth rate, but remains a hot spot for sexual offence. The average household size in these hot spot municipalities was more than three members per household. More than 40% of youth aged 15 and 34 years in the sexual offence hot spots in Eastern Cape, Free State, North West and Limpopo were unemployed.

## Western Cape

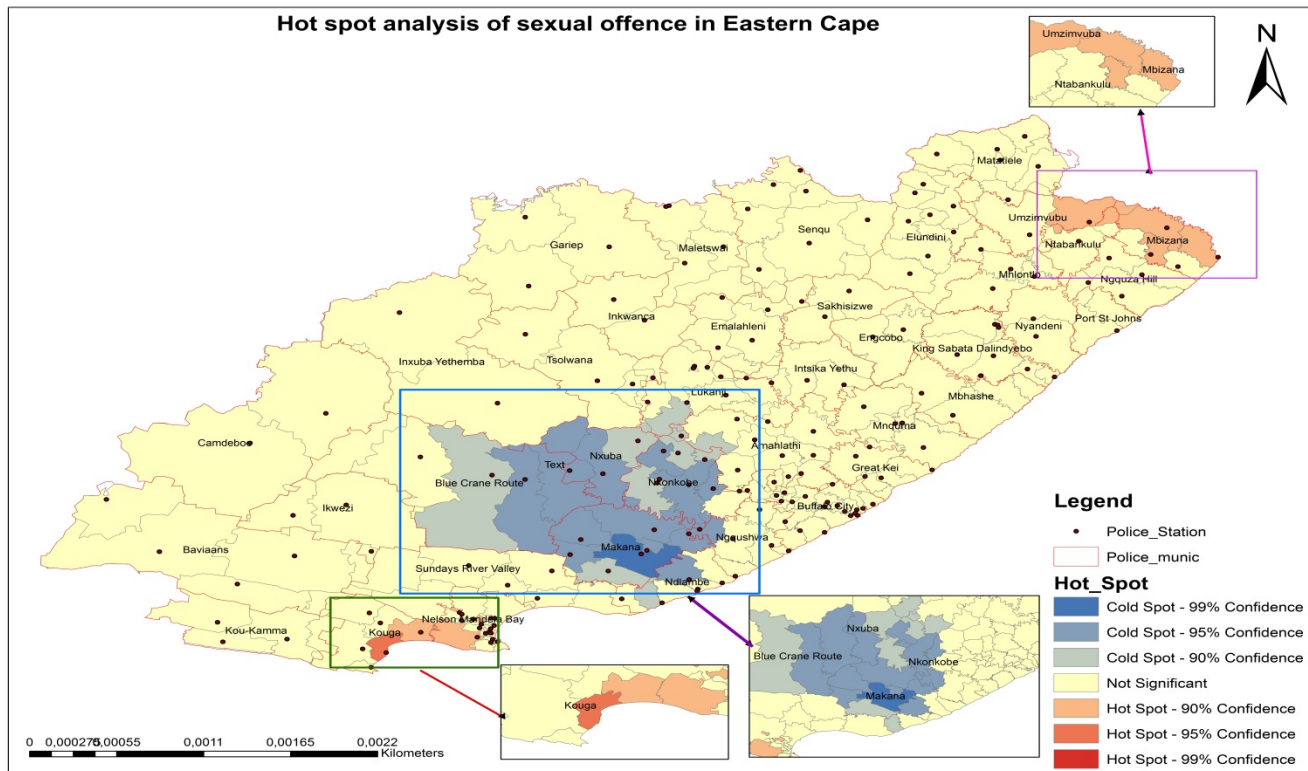
Map 10 : Hot spot analysis of incidents of sexual offence in Western Cape, SAPS 2014/15



Map 10 shows the spatial distribution of sexual offences in Western Cape. High crime zones surrounded by high crime areas were observed in Overstrand, Theewaterskloof, Stellenbosch, Drakenstein, Swartland and City of Cape Town. Low crime zones surrounded by low crime areas were observed in the Bergrivier, Swellendam, Kannaland, Laingsburg and Cederberg. The results show that Theewaterskloof, Overstrand, City of Cape Town, Stellenbosch and Drakenstein were the hot spots for sexual offence.

## Eastern Cape

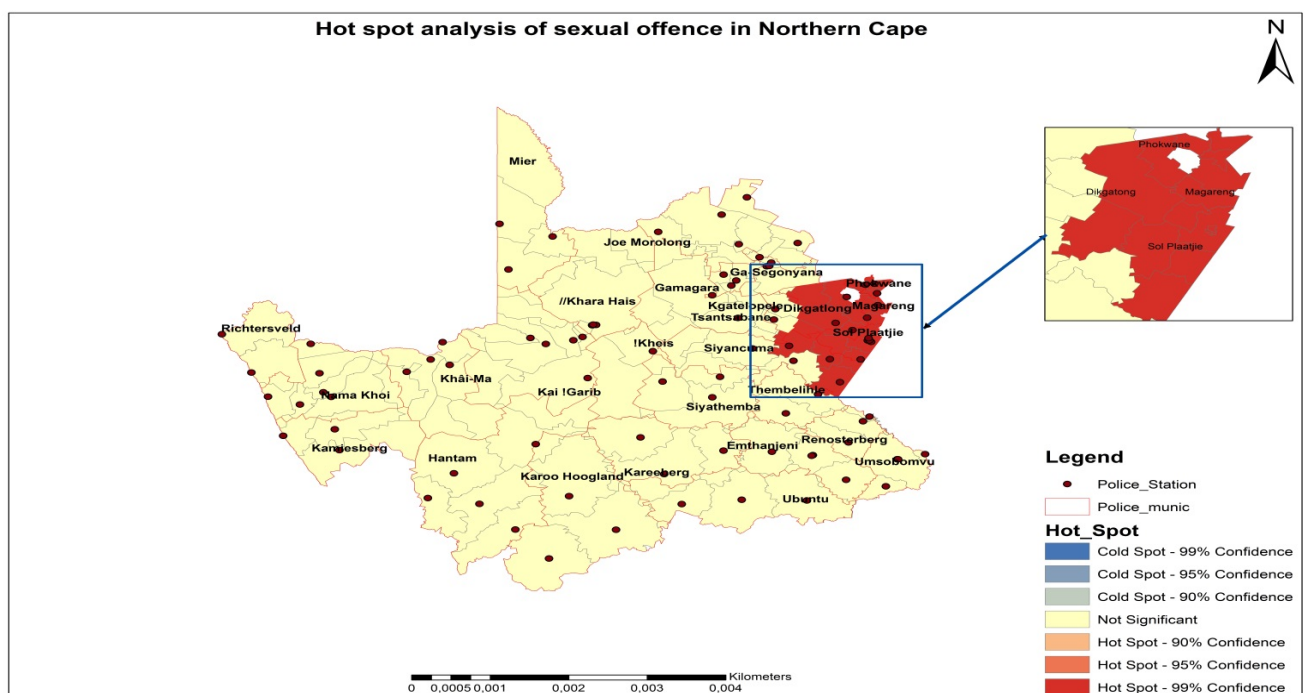
Map 11: Hot spot analysis of incidents of sexual offence in Eastern Cape, SAPS 2014/15



Map 11 shows that sexual offence cases were clustered in Nelson Mandela Bay Metro Municipality. On the borders of Emalahleni municipality were high crime zones surrounded by areas of low crime activity, as well as some areas near the Amahlathi municipality. Kouga municipality was identified as a hot spot, followed by the Nelson Mandela Metro, Umzimvubu and Mbizana municipalities.

## Northern Cape

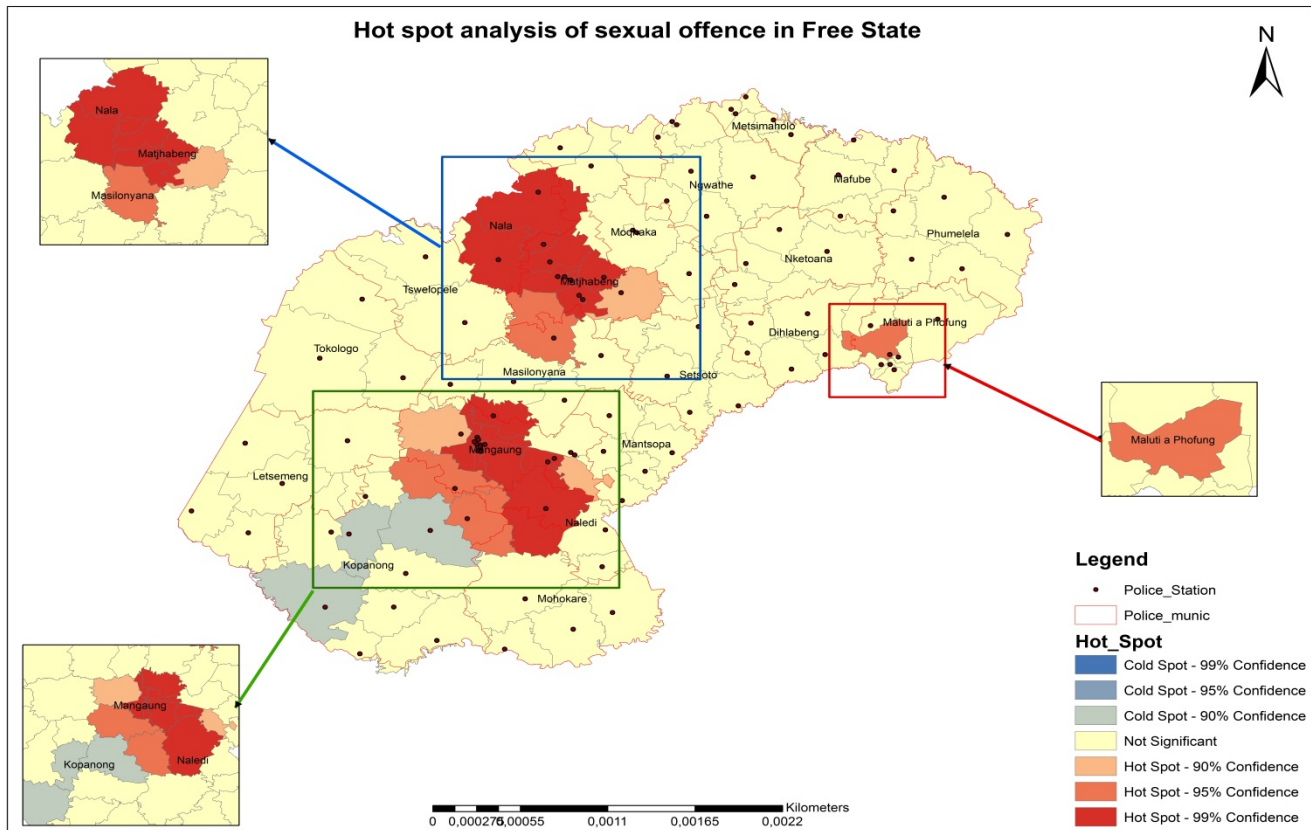
Map 12: Hot spot analysis of incidents of sexual offence in Northern Cape, SAPS 2014/15



Phokwane and Sol Plaatjie were areas with a high clustering of incidents of sexual offence in Northern Cape (Map 12). Municipalities such as Sol Plaatjie, Phokwane, Dikgatlong and Magareng were identified as hot spots for sexual offence.

## Free State

**Map 13: Hot spot analysis of incidents of sexual offence in Free State, SAPS 2014/15**

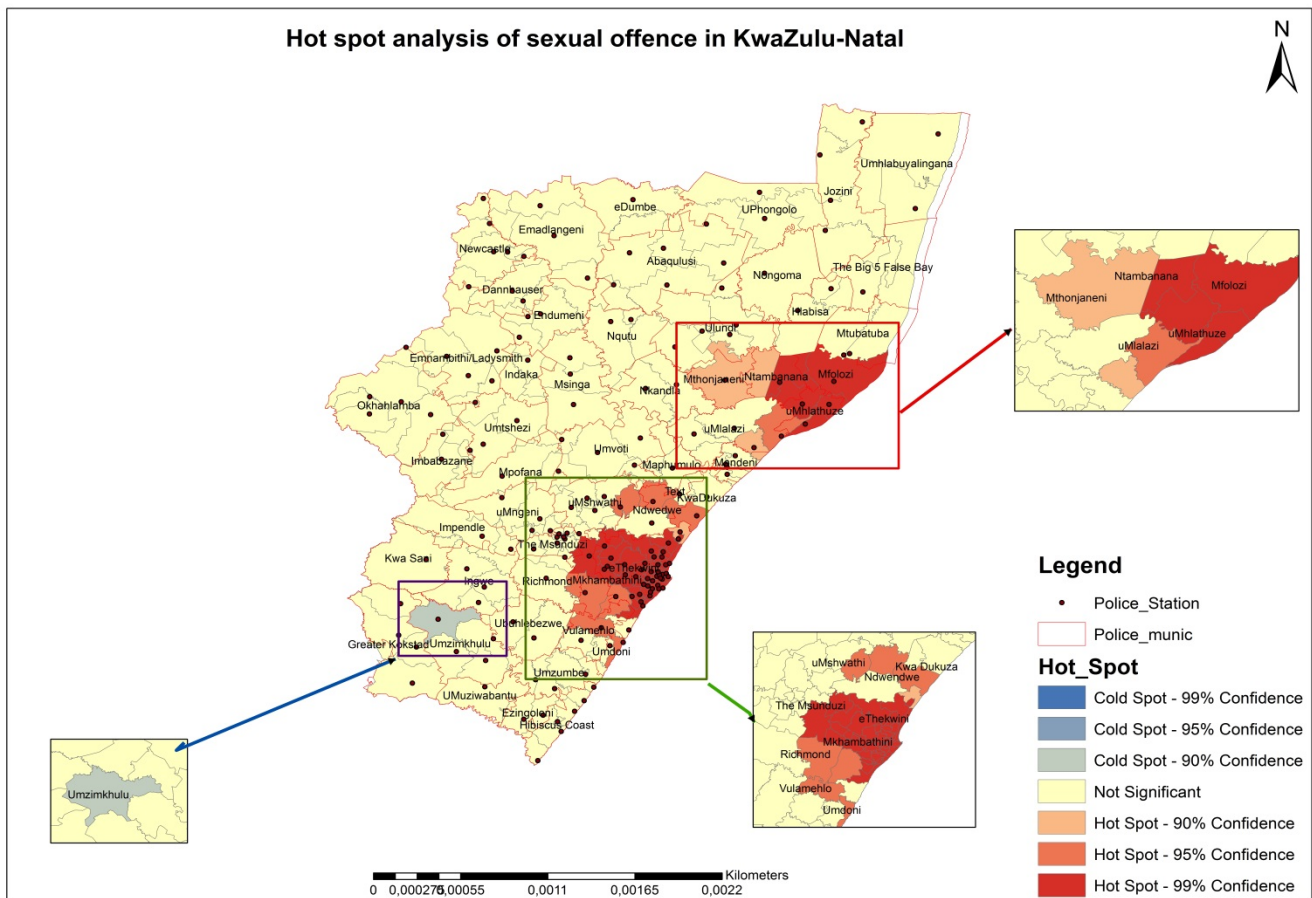


Map 13 shows the areas within Free State that were having high incidents of sexual offence (Mangaung, Nala, Maluti, Phofung and Matjhabeng municipalities). Dihlabeng and Metsimaholo municipalities also had high crime zones surrounded by low crime areas around them. Nala, Matjhabeng, Naledi and Masilonyana municipalities were identified as sexual offence hot spot areas. Mangaung, Masilonyana, Maluti a Phofung and Letsemeng were also identified as high risk zones for sexual offence.



## KwaZulu-Natal

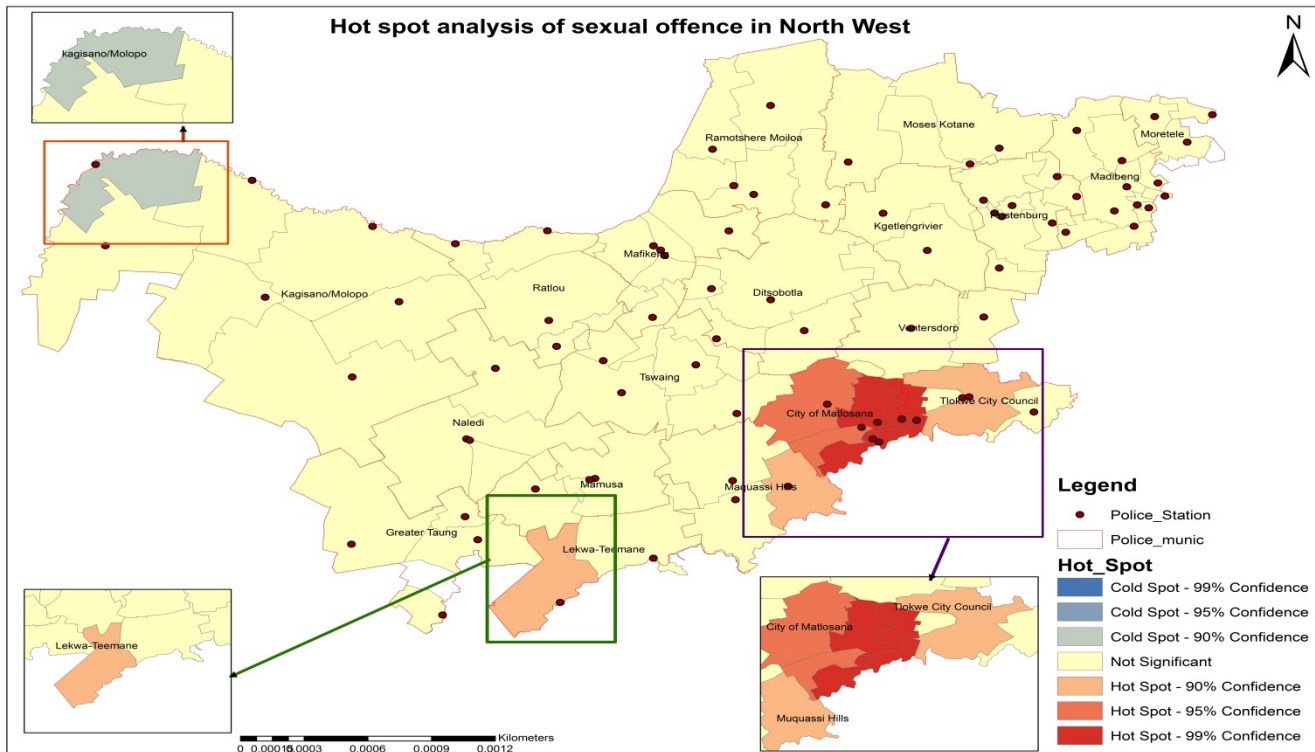
Map 14: Hot spot analysis of incidents of sexual offence in KwaZulu-Natal, SAPS 2014/15



Map 14 shows the spatial distribution of sexual offence in KwaZulu-Natal. High crime zones surrounded by high crime areas were observed in the following areas: Mkhambathini, Ndwendwe, eThekweni, uMlalazi, uMhlathuze and Mfolozi. There were also areas within the borders of eThekweni and Mkhambathini with high incidents of sexual offence which were surrounded by areas with low crime. Incidents of sexual offence were common in eThekweni, Ndwendwe and uMhlathuze. Furthermore, some high crime areas such as Msunduzi were surrounded by low crime areas.

## North West

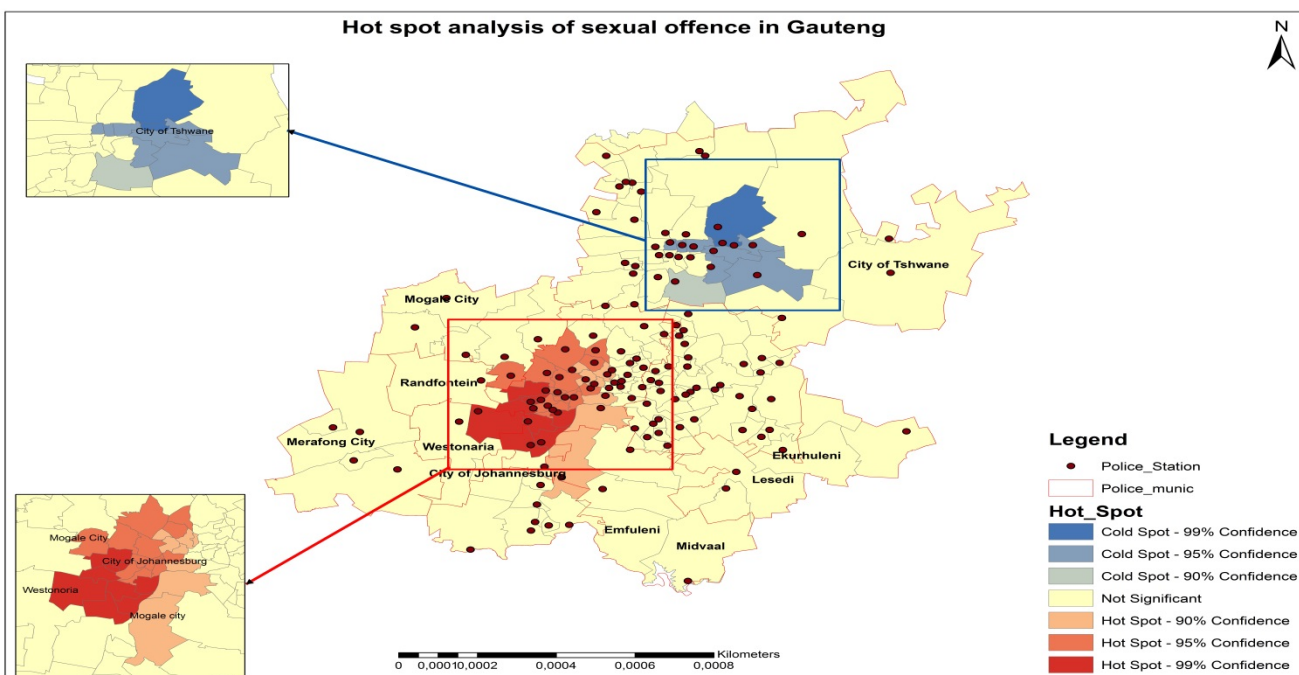
Map 15: Hot spot analysis of incidents of sexual offence in North West, SAPS 2014/15



Map 15 depicts the spatial distribution of sexual offence in North West. High incident zones of sexual offence were observed in the City of Matlosana. City of Matlosana and Tlokwe City Council were the hot spot areas of sexual offence. Parts of Maquassi Hills and Lekwa-Teemane had high incident zones of sexual offence which was also surrounded by areas with high incident.

## Gauteng

Map 16 : Hot spot analysis of incidents of sexual offence in Gauteng, SAPS 2014/15

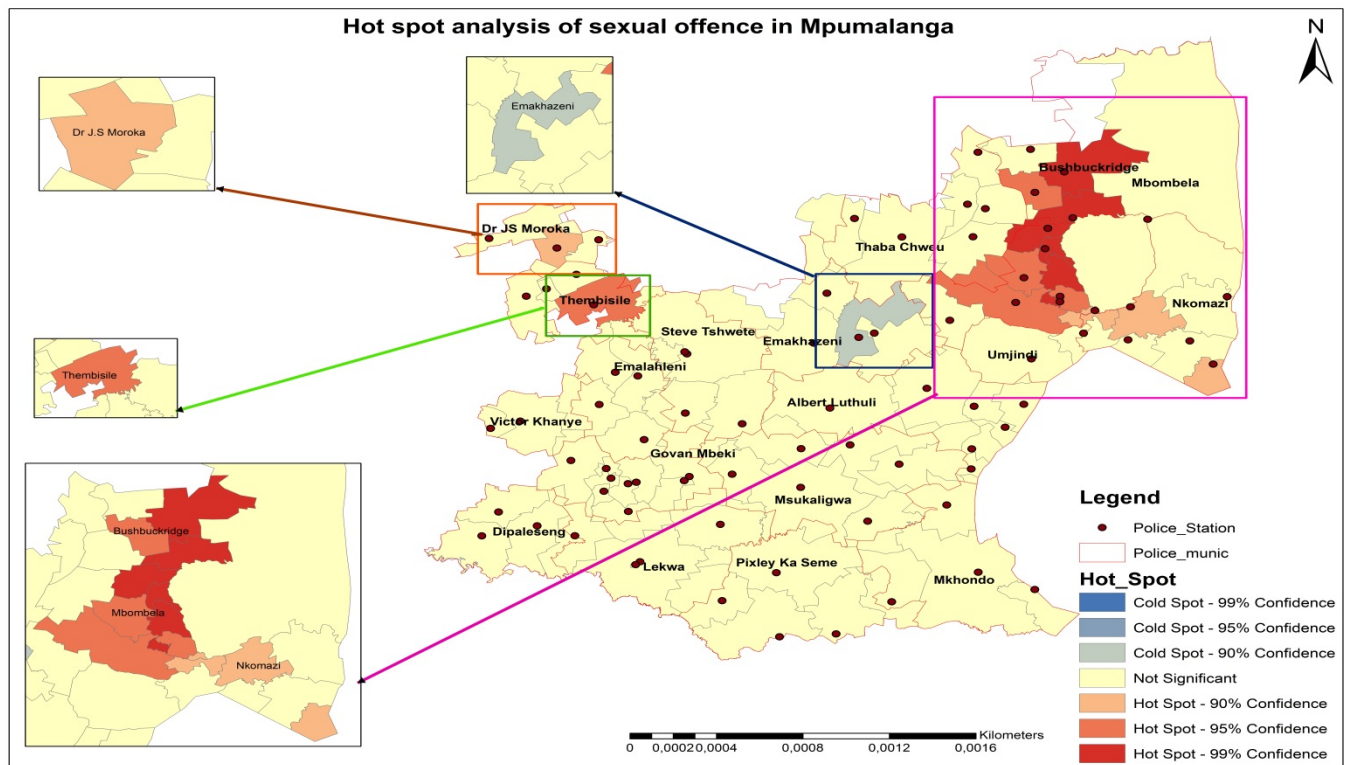




The results in Map 16 indicate that areas in Gauteng with high incidents of sexual offence were found in City of Johannesburg, Westonaria and Mogale City municipalities in 2014/2015. Parts of Westonaria and City of Johannesburg were sexual offence hot spots. Mogale City was also identified as a hot spot for sexual offence and it was also surrounded by other areas with high incidents of sexual offence, such as Westonaria and City of Johannesburg.

## Mpumalanga

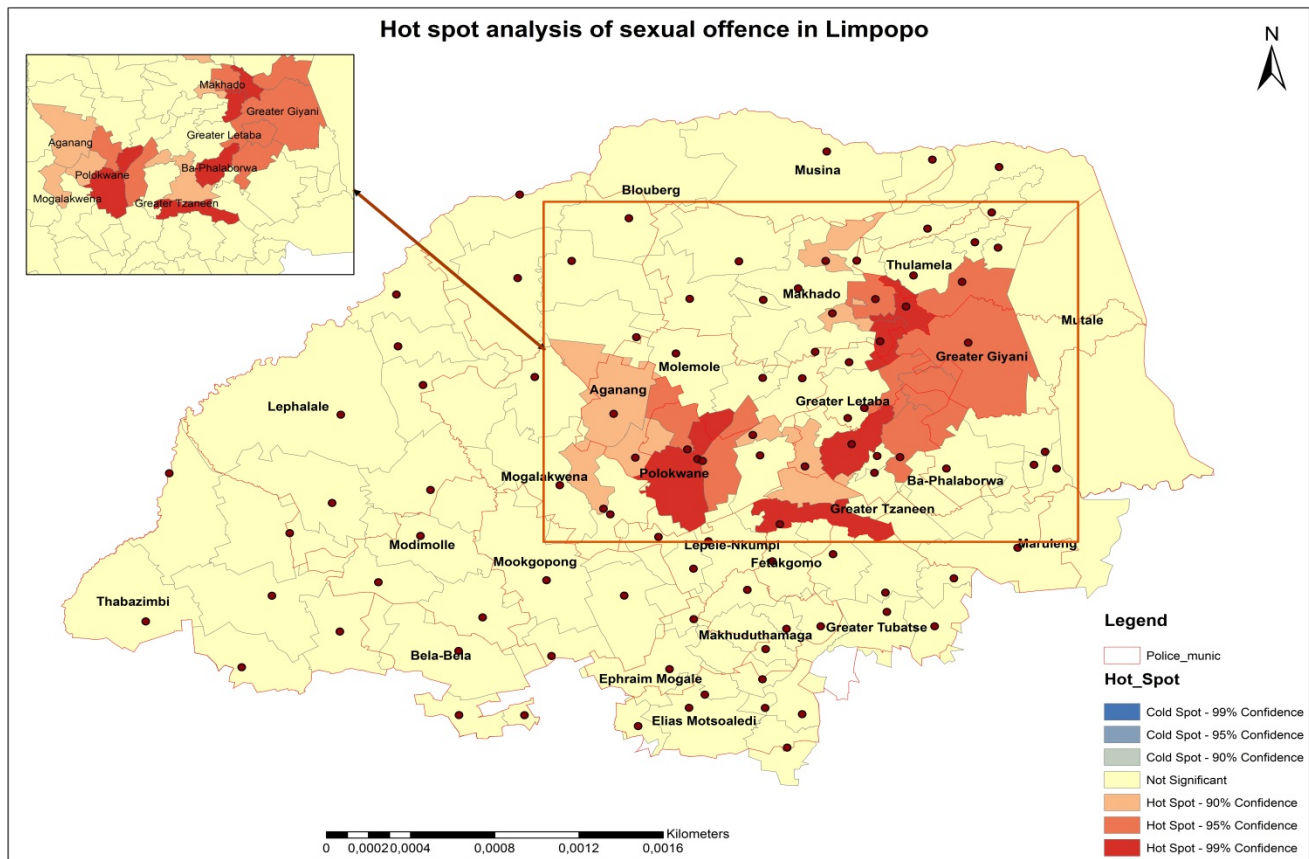
Map 17: Hot spot analysis of incidents of sexual offence in Mpumalanga, SAPS 2014/15



Bushbuckridge and Mbombela municipalities had high incidents of sexual offence in the year 2014/15. Nkomazi and Govan Mbeki municipalities have been identified as high sexual offence zones surrounded by low crime areas (Map 17). Mbombela and Bushbuckridge were the main hot spot areas for sexual offence in Mpumalanga.

## Limpopo

Map 18: Hot spot analysis of incidents of sexual offence in Limpopo, SAPS 2014/15



Map 18 shows the hot spot analysis for sexual offence in Limpopo. Mogalakwena, Aganang, Greater Letaba and Mutale had high incidents of sexual offence. Other areas within Limpopo such as Musina, Blouberg, Lephalale and Modimolle had low incidents of sexual offence. Polokwane, Greater Tzaneen, Ba-Phalaborwa, Greater Letaba and Makhado were identified as sexual offence hot spot areas in Limpopo.

## 3.4 Incidents of Murder in South Africa

### 3.4.1 Introduction

This section discusses circumstances around deliberately inflicted death to another person (legally known as murder), which could have happened during housebreaking, hijacking or assault (including domestic violence, rape or in any other situation). Assault with the intent to cause grievous bodily harm does not require that serious injuries be sustained by the victim. The focus is on the intention of the perpetrator, and it is sufficient if the perpetrator foresaw the possibility that his victim might sustain serious injuries. The difference between attempted murder and assault with the intent to cause grievous bodily harm lies with the intention with which the suspect performed the act. Murder consists of the unlawful and intentional killing of another human being. The difference between murder and culpable homicide lies in the fault with which the act was performed. For murder intention is required, while negligence is required in the case of culpable homicide. In the case of death resulting from a motor vehicle accident, the charge should be culpable homicide unless there is clear evidence to suggest that the driver of the car intended to kill the victim, in which case the charge should be murder.

The survey is limited in that the survey officers and respondents may not clearly understand the differences between murder and culpable homicide. The survey questionnaire classifies murder as a household crime, since the individual to whom it happened cannot report its occurrence. The finding will further give the estimated number of people who had died as a result of this incident.

**Figure 34: Distribution of victims of murder by settlement type and the nature of weapons used, VOCS 2014/15**

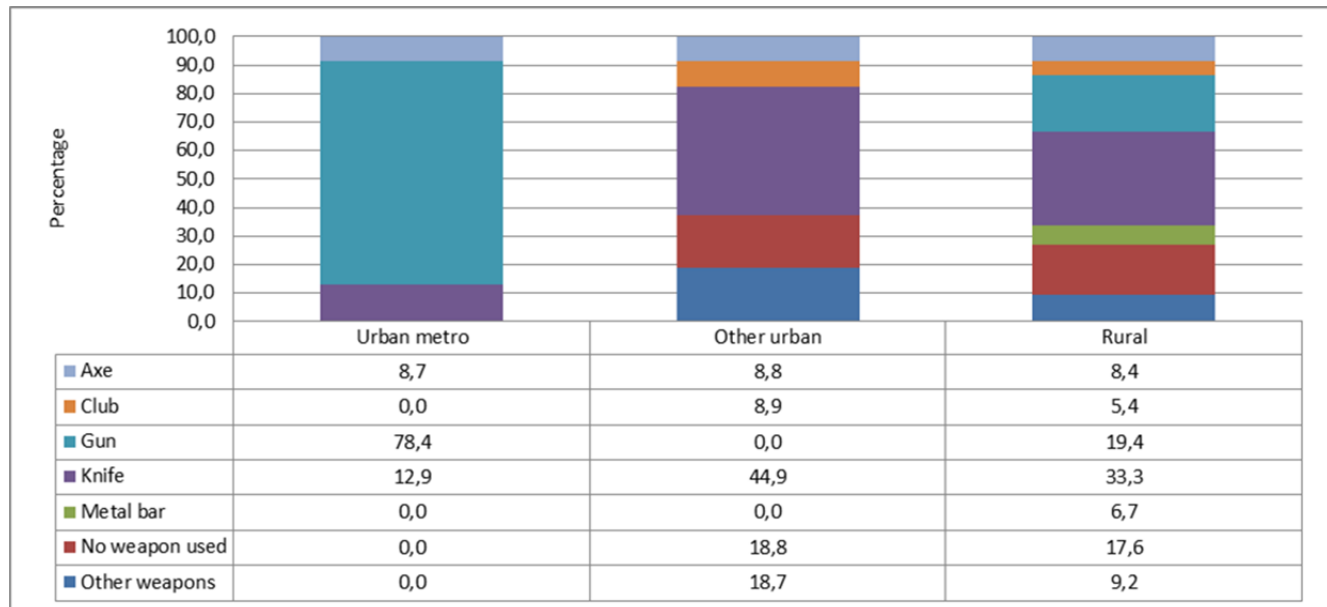


Figure 34 depicts the distribution of victims of murder by settlement type and nature of weapons used. The results show that in urban metros guns (78,4%) were the most commonly used weapon to commit murder, followed by a knife (12,9%). In other urban areas (44,9%) and rural settlements (33,3%) knives were the most commonly used weapons to commit murder.

**Figure 35: Source of households' knowledge about the perpetrator by settlement type, VOCS 2014/15**



Figure 35 depicts the percentage distribution of the source of the households' knowledge about the perpetrator. In nearly 50% of the cases that affected households living in urban metros and other urban areas, the police report was the main source of information about the perpetrator. In approximately 28,7% of murder cases in metropolitan areas and 33,7% in other urban areas, the offender was unknown. In rural areas the picture looked

very different with much lower percentages of cases where a police report was the main source (18,2%), but there were also substantial percentages of cases where general community knowledge (14,6%) and murderer confessed to other person(s) (11,8%) were sources of knowledge within the victims' family about the perpetrator.

**Figure 36: Percentage distribution of the number of murder perpetrators, VOCS 2014/15**

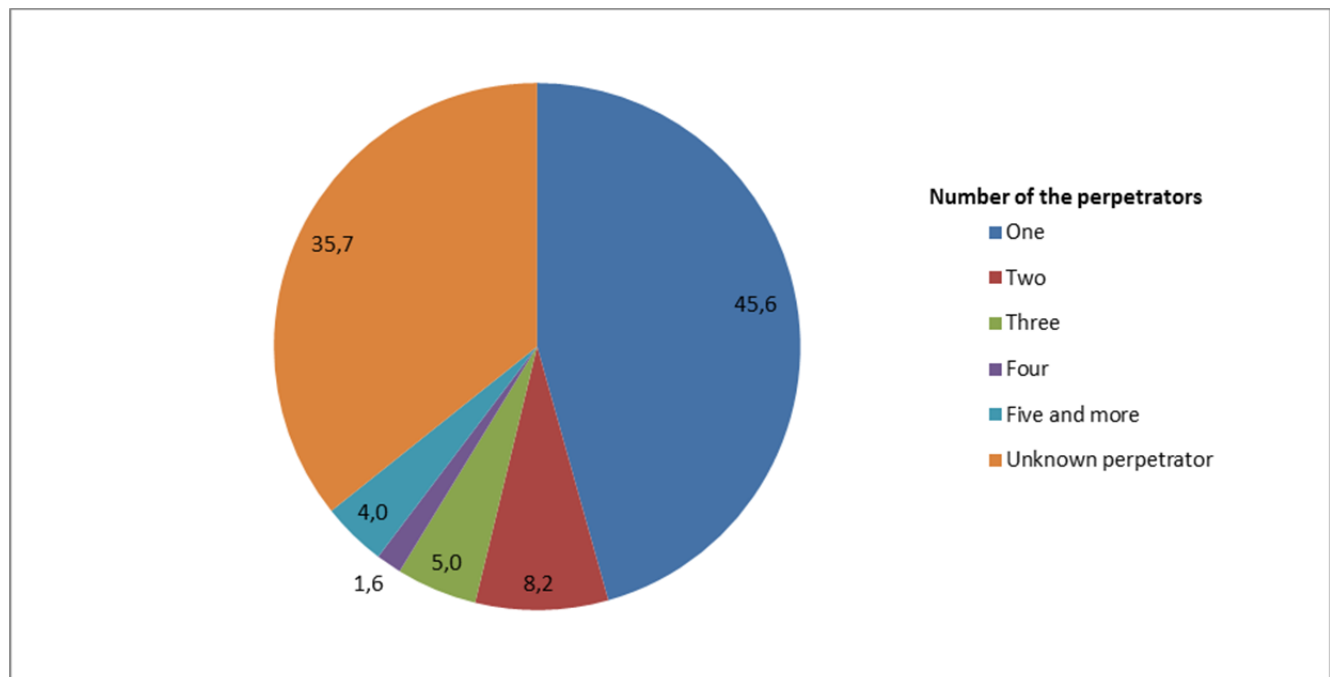


Figure 36 illustrates the number of perpetrators who committed murder. The results show that in most cases, perpetrators of murder acted alone (45,6%), while about 8,2% of murder incidents involved two perpetrators and three perpetrators were involved in about 5% of murder incidents.

**Figure 37: Perceived age group of the murder perpetrators by settlement type, VOCS 2014/15**

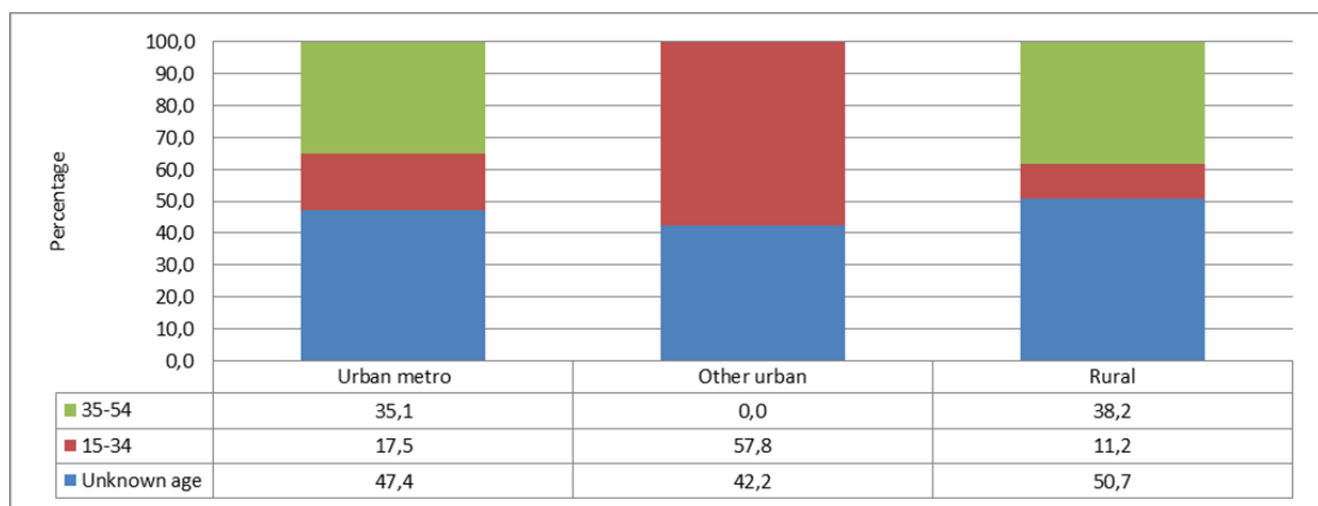
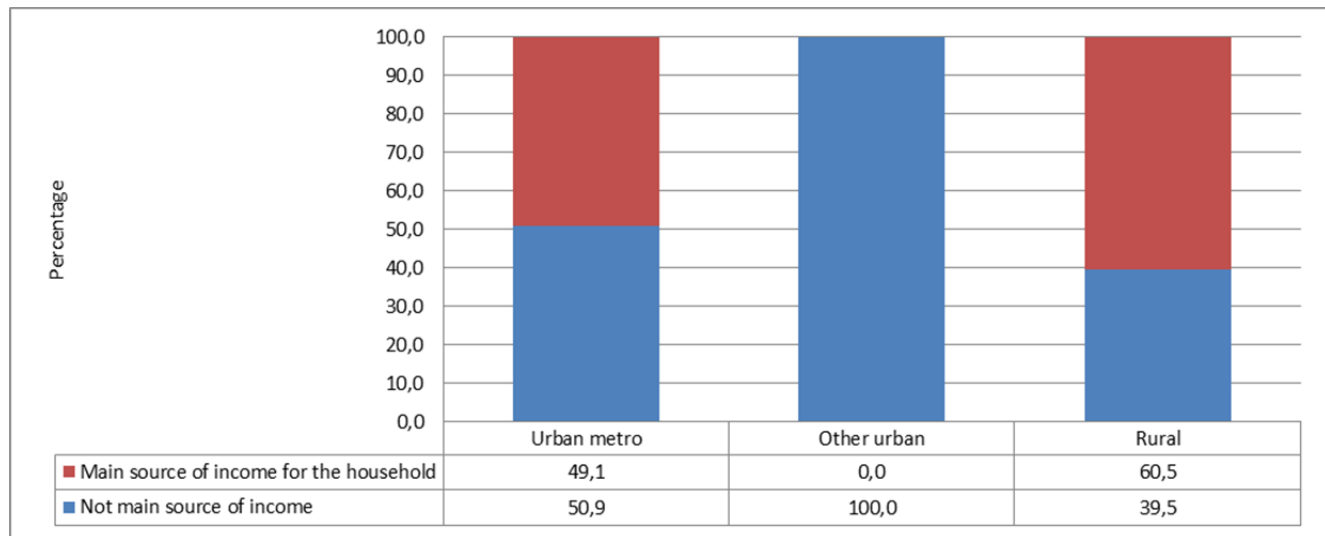


Figure 37 depicts the distribution of the perceived age group of the perpetrator by settlement type. The survey findings indicate that in approximately half of the murder cases affecting households in metro and rural areas, the age of the offender was not known. About 35,1% of incidents in urban metro and 38,2% in rural areas were perpetrated by people aged 35–54 years. Most of the offenders in other urban settlement (57,8%) can be classified as youth (15–34 years).

**Figure 38 : Percentage distribution of the deceased by their main source of income status in the household, VOCS 2014/15**

The survey questionnaire includes questions asking if the deceased was the person earning an income that was used by the household. In other words, the question focused on whether the household used to fully or partially depend on the income from the deceased. Figure 38 shows that almost half (49,1%) of the murder victims in metro areas were the main source of income for their households. About six out of ten rural victims were the main source of income of their families.

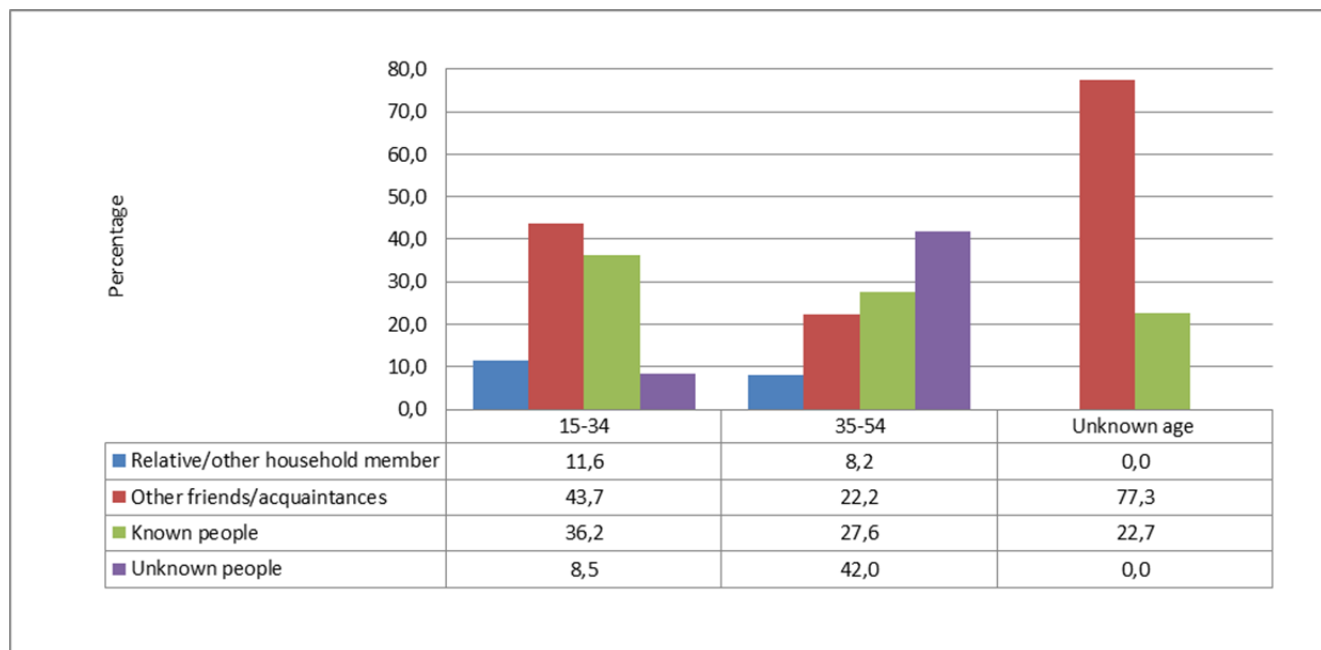
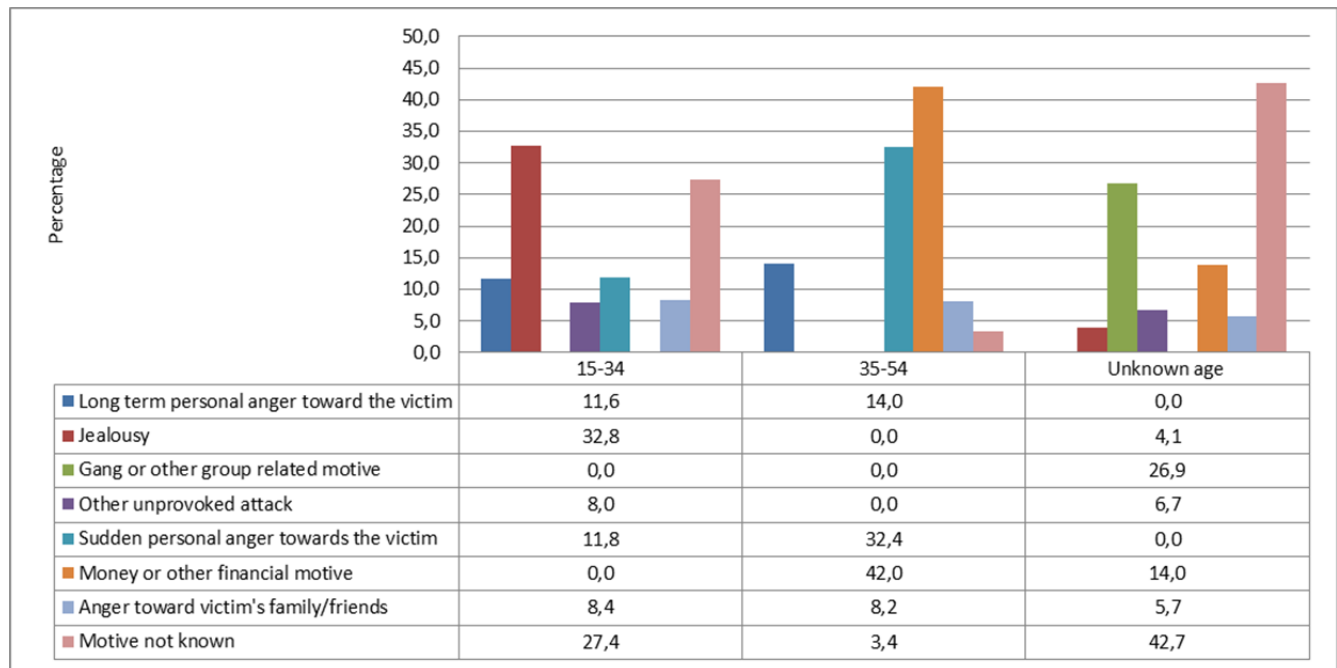
**Figure 39: Age group of the perpetrators of murder by their relationship to the victim(s), VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 39 shows the age group of the perpetrator by their relationship to the victim(s). The results indicate that the majority of perpetrators in the age group 15–34 were other friends/acquaintances (43,7%) to the victims, followed by 36,2% of known perpetrators. In the age group 35–54, four out of ten perpetrators of murder were unknown people (42,0%) followed by about 27,6% of perpetrators who were known to the victims. The majority of perpetrators of murder in the unknown age group were other friends/acquaintances (77,3%).

**Figure 40 : Motive behind murder by age group of the perpetrator(s), VOCS 2014/15**

The motive behind murder by age group of the perpetrator(s) is summarised in Figure 40. Households were asked about whether they have any idea of what the motive was behind the murder. For the age category of 15–34 jealousy (32,8%) was perceived to be one of the main reasons why the victims were murdered, followed by 27,4% who responded that the motive was not known to them. For perpetrators aged 35–54 years, about 42,0% of respondents thought that perpetrators committed murder for money or other financial motives. This was followed by those who thought the murder took place because of sudden personal anger towards the victim. More than 40,0% of those who responded that they have no idea of what the motive was, were found in the category whereby the age was not known.

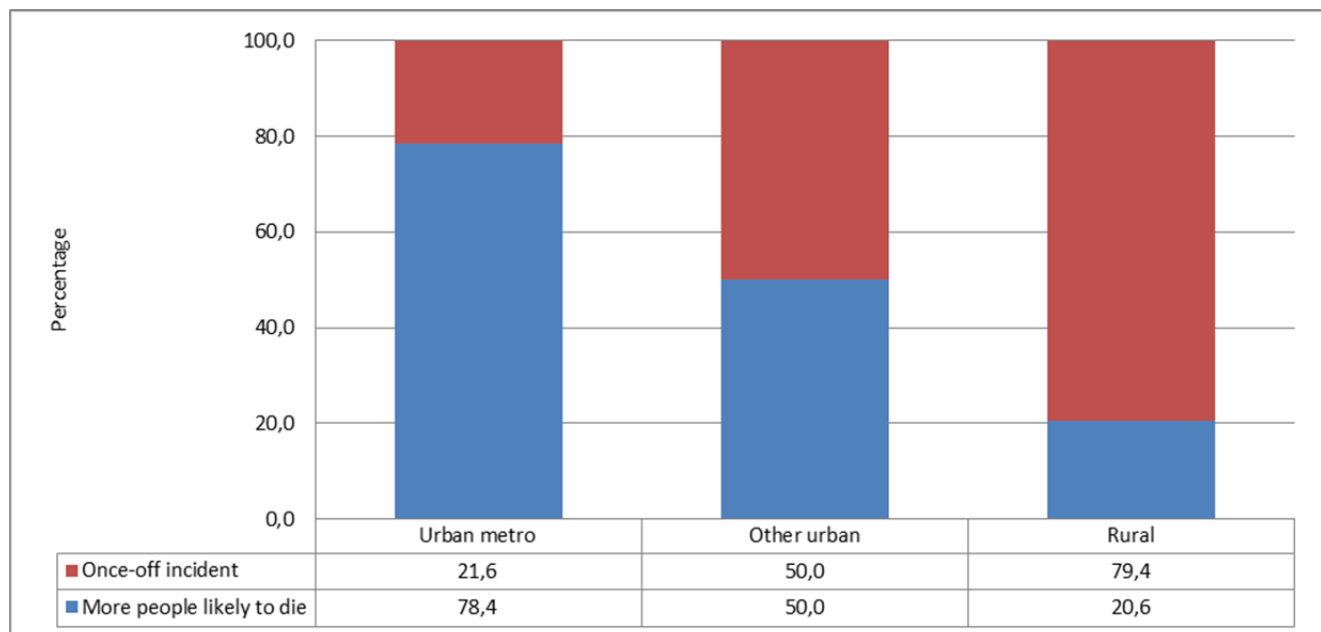
**Figure 41: Perceived indication of an on-going problem in which more people are likely to die by settlement type, VOCS 2014/15**

Figure 41 depicts the perceived indication of whether the murder is part of an on-going problem in which more people are likely to die by settlement type. The results show that the majority of people living in urban metro areas (78, 4%) felt that more people were likely to die. Five out of ten people living in other urban areas (50%) felt

the same way. In the rural settlement type about 20,6% felt more people are likely to die. In rural areas the majority of murder cases were identified as a once-off-incident (79,4%), followed by murder cases in other urban areas (50%) and 21,6% in urban metros.

**Figure 42: Alcohol/drugs as a motive behind murder by settlement type, VOCS 2014/15**

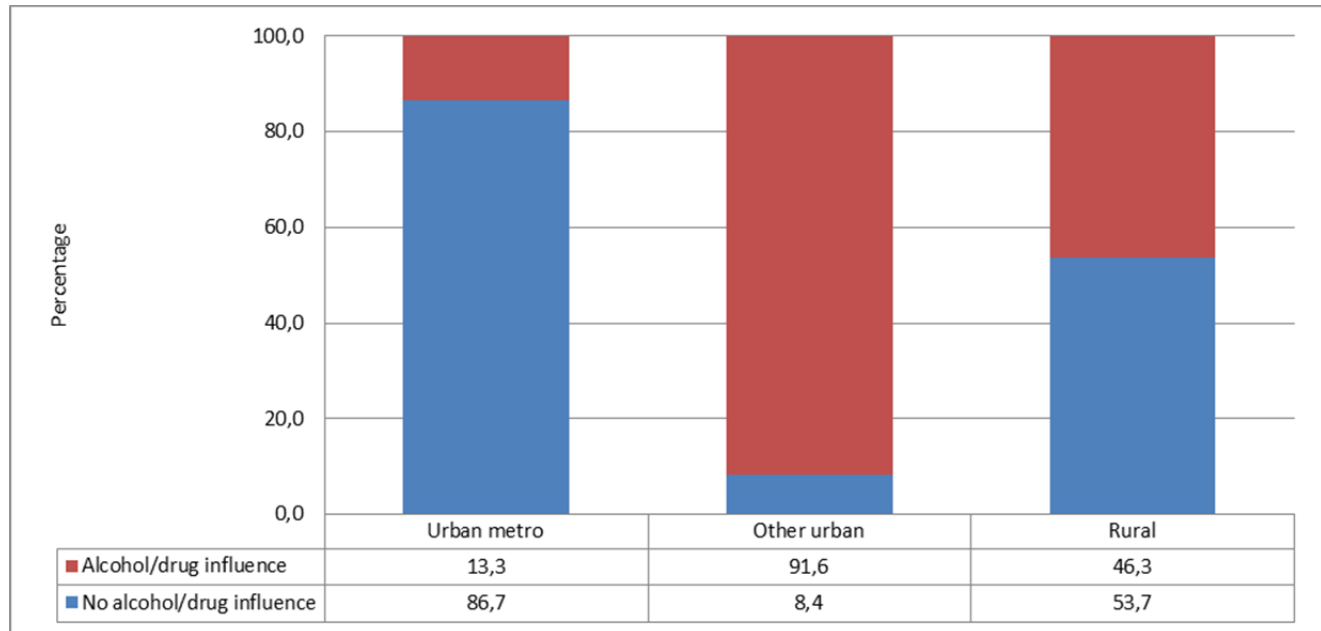
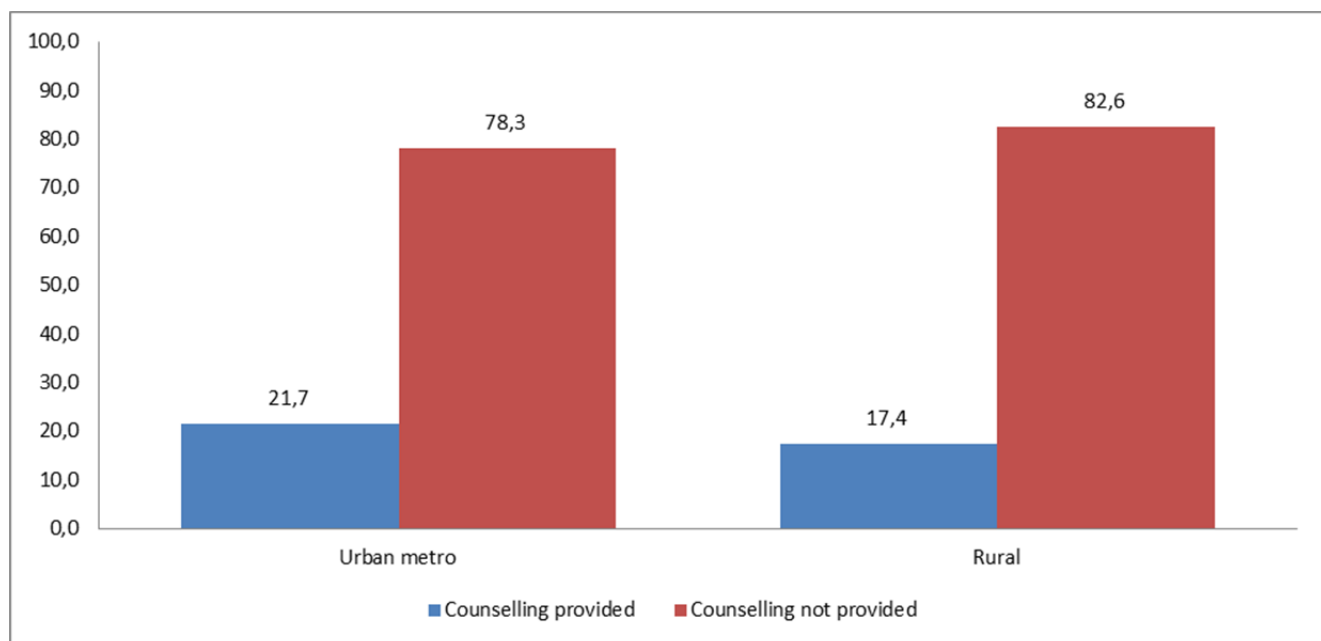


Figure 42 shows the distribution of alcohol and /or drugs as a motive behind murder by settlement type. Alcohol and/or drugs were not the major influence of murder incidents that occurred in urban metros (86,7%). About 91,6% of murder incidents that occurred in other urban areas were influenced by alcohol and/or drugs. In rural areas, there were minimal differences amongst murder incidents that involved alcohol and/or drugs and those that did not.

**Figure 43: Provision of counselling to members of the household after the incidents by settlement type, VOCS 2014/15**





The percentage distribution of the provision of counselling to members of the household after incidents of murder by settlement type is summarised in Figure 43. The results show that the majority of households in South Africa, irrespective of their settlement types, were not provided with counselling following incidents of murder. In the rural areas about 82,6% of households were not provided with counselling following incidents of murder, followed by about 78,3% of households in urban metro settlement that were not provided with counselling following incidents of murder.

### 3.4.2 Cluster and outlier analysis for Murder

This section provides a summary of the findings based on the cluster and hot spot analysis of individuals who have experienced murder as recorded by the South African Police Service (SAPS). The section will give an overview of hot spots for murder in each province and thereafter discuss each province separately.

**Table 15 : Selected main hot spot municipalities which experienced murder by economic and demographic factors, Census 2011**

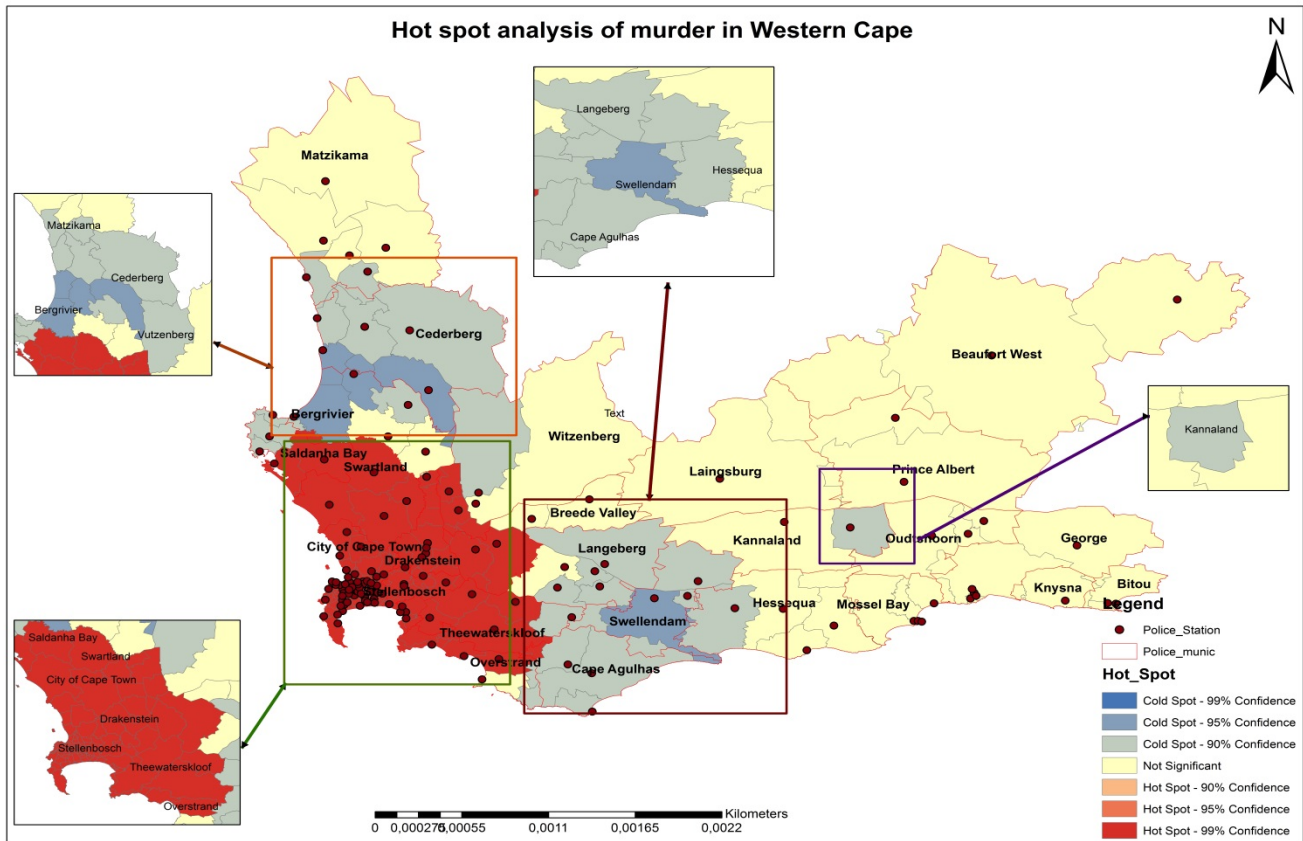
Province	Hot spot municipality	Population Census 2011 results					
		Population size	Annual population growth	Male per 100 female	Unemployment rate	Youth unemployment of those 15 -34 years	Average household size
WC	City of Cape Town	3 740 026	2,52%	95,9	23,9%	31,9%	3,5
EC	Mnquma	252 390	-1,17%	87,6	44,2%	55,7%	3,6
NC	Sol Plaatjie	248 041	2,04%	94,0	31,9%	41,7%	4,1
FS	Nala	81 220	-1,90%	91,8	35,9%	47,6%	3,7
KZN	eThekwini	3 442 361	1,08%	95,6	30,2%	39,0%	3,6
NW	City of Matlosana	398 676	1,04%	100,0	32,7%	43,1%	3,1
GP	Westonaria	111 767	0,18%	120,8	29,5%	39,3%	2,8
MP	Emalahleni	395 466	3,58%	111,8	27,3%	36,0%	3,3
LP	Polokwane	628 999	2,13%	92,5	32,4%	42,0%	3,5

Table 15 shows the municipalities that were identified as hot spots for murder across all provinces of South Africa. Most murder hot spots were located in City of Cape Town, eThekwini, Polokwane, Emalahleni, Mnquma, Sol Plaatjie, Westonaria and Nala. Main hot spots were clustered around urban areas with the exception of Mnquma and Nala. These municipalities are known to be traditional area municipalities, with a declining annual population and with youth unemployment of those between ages 15 and 34 years being at 55,7% and 47,6% respectively, and average household size of about 3,6 members per household.



## Western Cape

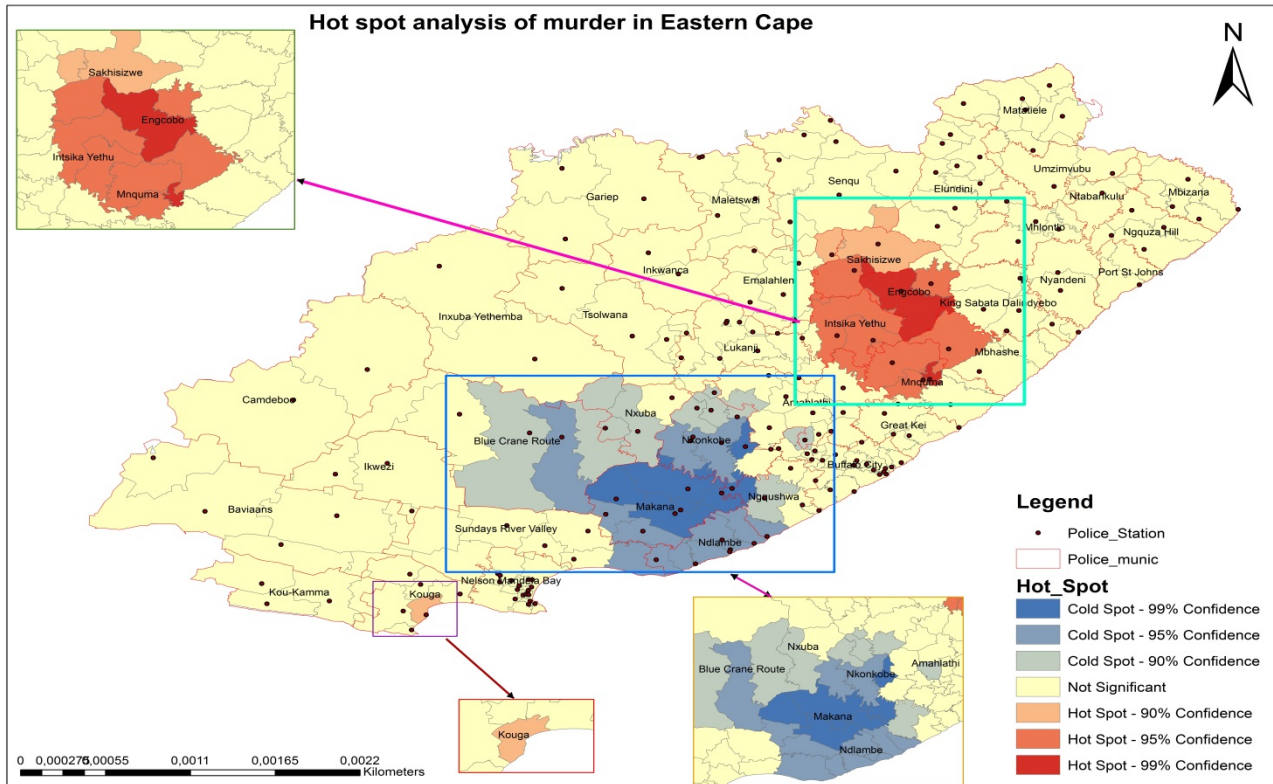
Map 19: Hot spot analysis of incidents of murder in Western Cape, SAPS 2014/15



Map 19 shows the spatial distribution of murder in Western Cape. High crime zones surrounded by high crime areas were observed in Overstrand, Theewaterskloof, Stellenbosch, Drakenstein, Saldanha Bay and City of Cape Town. Low crime zones surrounded by low crime areas were found in the Bergrivier, Swellendam, Cape Agulhas, Langeberg and Cederberg. The City of Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Theewaterskloof, Overstrand and Saldanha Bay municipalities were identified as the hot spots for murder in Western Cape.

## Eastern Cape

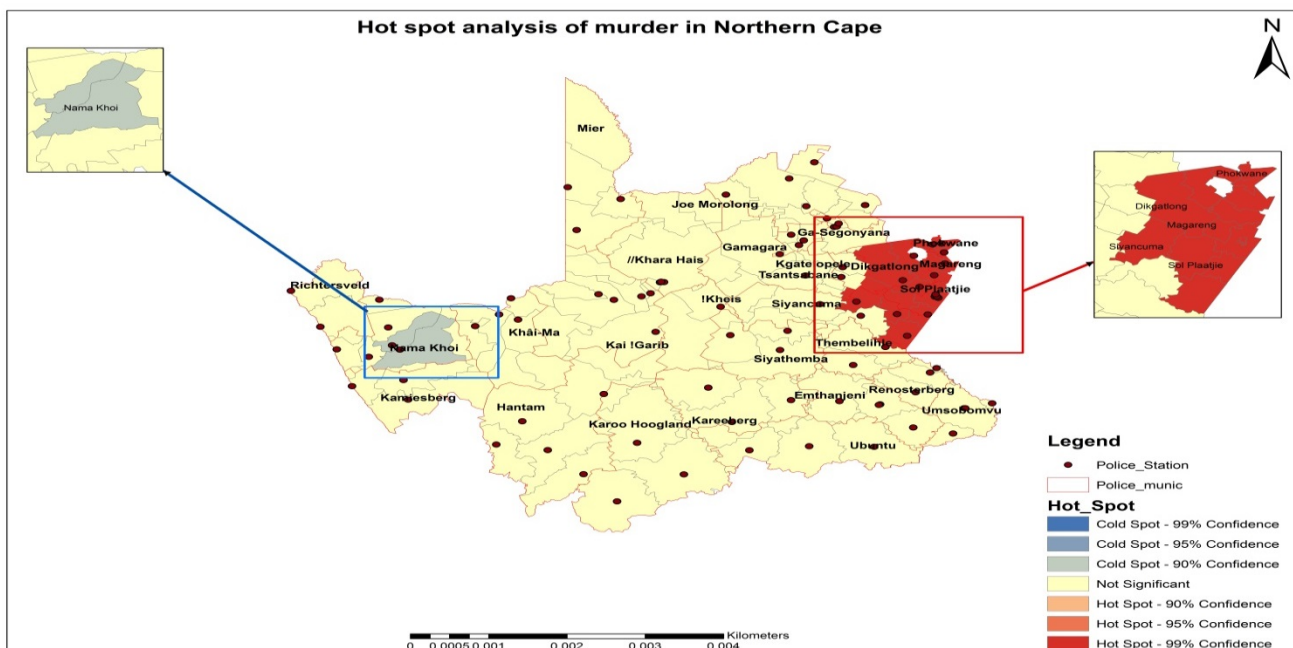
Map 20: Hot spot analysis of incidents of murder in Eastern Cape, SAPS 2014/15



Map 20 shows the municipalities within Eastern Cape where murder incidents were spatially clustered. Engcobo, Intsika Yethu, Mquma and King Sabata Dalindyebo had high incidents of murder clustered in them and were identified as high murder zones. Engcobo and King Sabata Dalindyebo were identified as hot spots for murder.

## Northern Cape

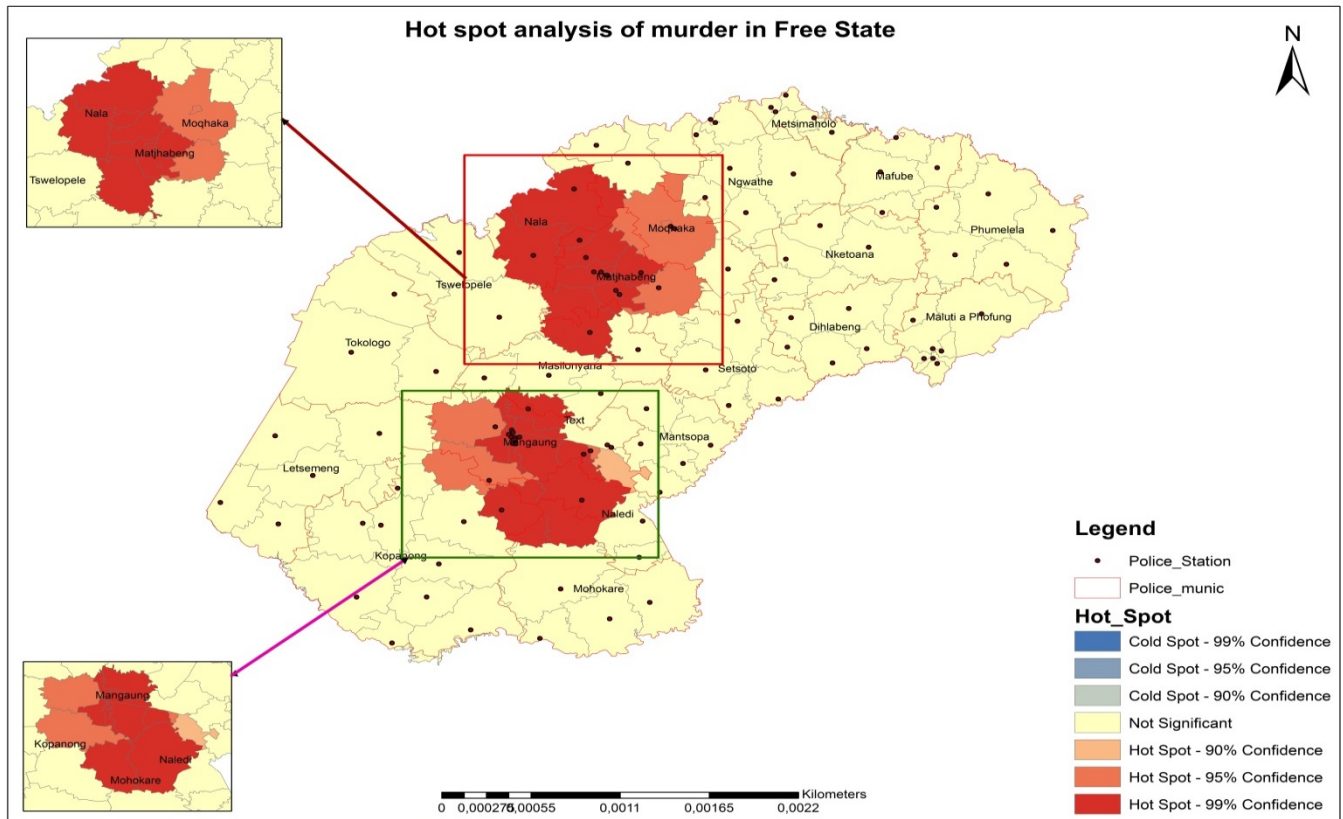
Map 21: Hot spot analysis of incidents of murder in Northern Cape, SAPS 2014/15



Map 21 shows that incidents of murder were clustered in high crime zones such as Khara Hais, Phokwane and Sol Plaatjie municipalities. Hot spot areas for murder in Northern Cape were identified in the Sol Plaatjie, Magareng, and Phokwane and Dikgatlong municipalities.

## Free State

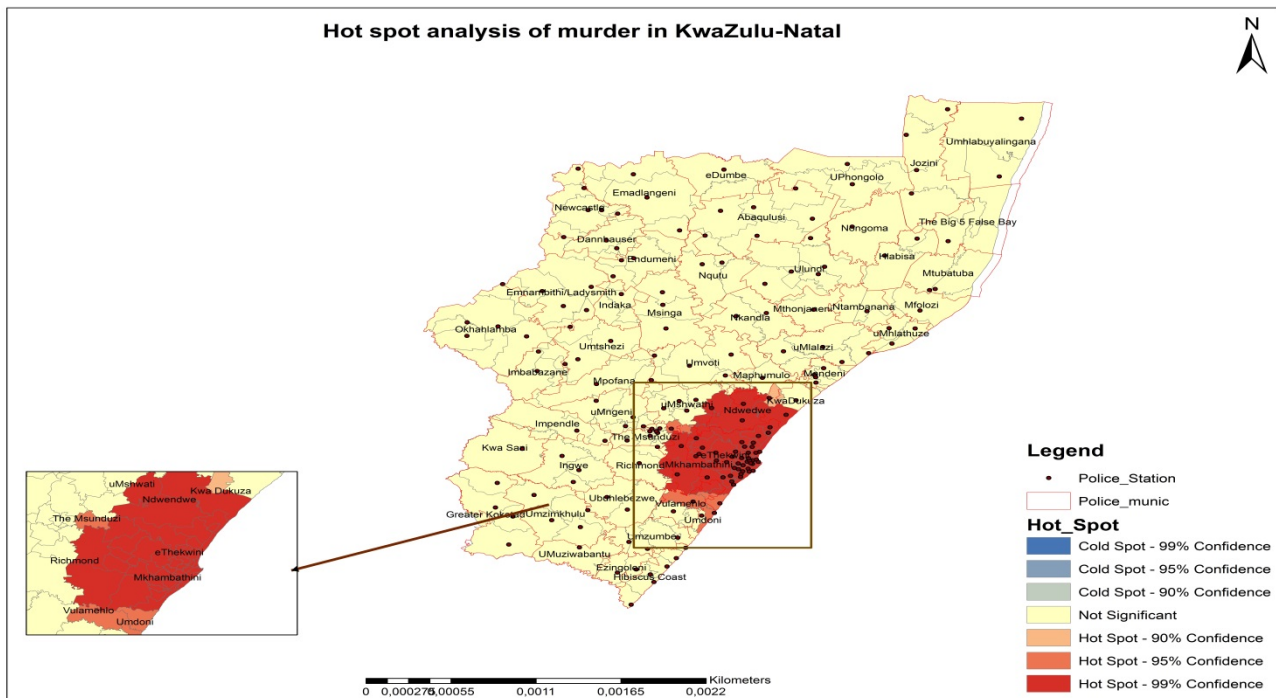
**Map 22: Hot spot analysis of incidents of murder in Free State, SAPS 2014/15**



Map 22 shows the areas where murder incidents were clustered within Free State. Matjhabeng and Mangaung municipality had high incidents of murder clustered around it. Nala, Matjhabeng, Masilonyana, Naledi and Mangaung were classified as murder hot spots within Free State.

## KwaZulu-Natal

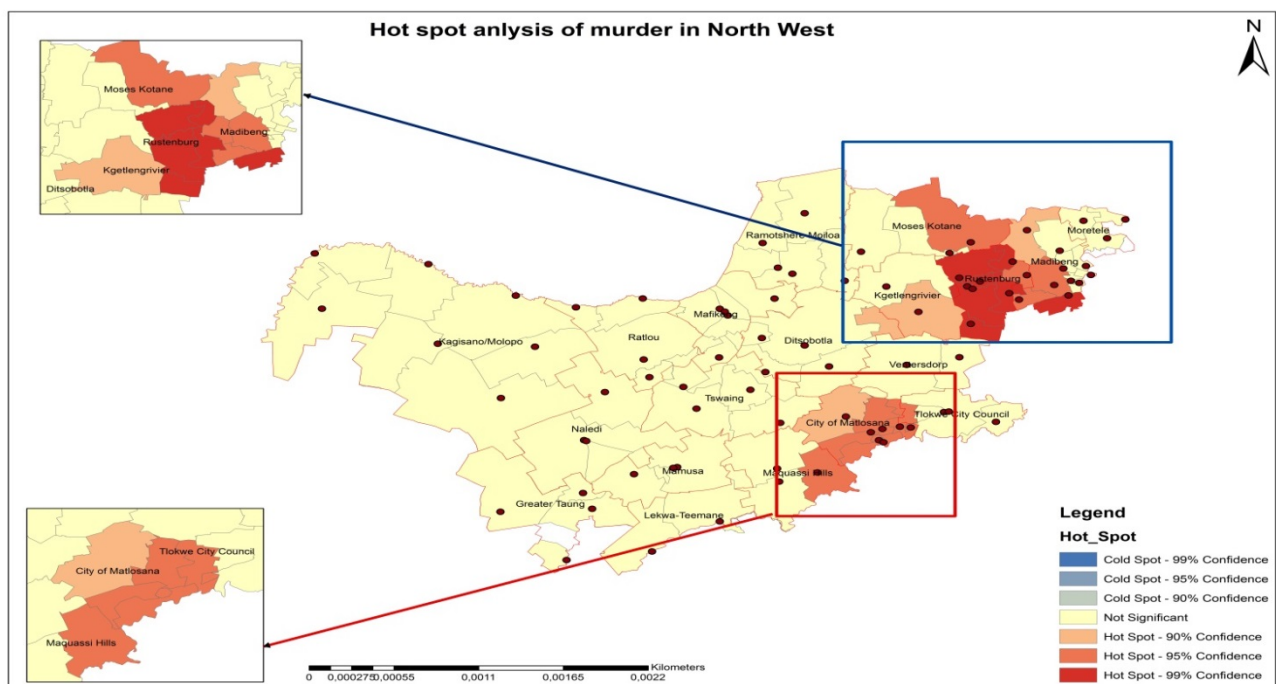
Map 23: Hot spot analysis of incidents of murder in KwaZulu-Natal, SAPS 2014/15



Map 23 shows the spatial distribution of murder in KwaZulu-Natal. High murder zones surrounded by high crime areas were observed in Mkhambathini, Ndwedwe and eThekweni. Some high crime areas are surrounded by areas with low murder incidents such as Msunduzi. Mkhambathini, Ndwedwe, eThekweni and Richmond were identified as murder hot spot in KwaZulu-Natal.

## North West

Map 24: Hot spot analysis of incidents of murder in North West, SAPS 2014/15

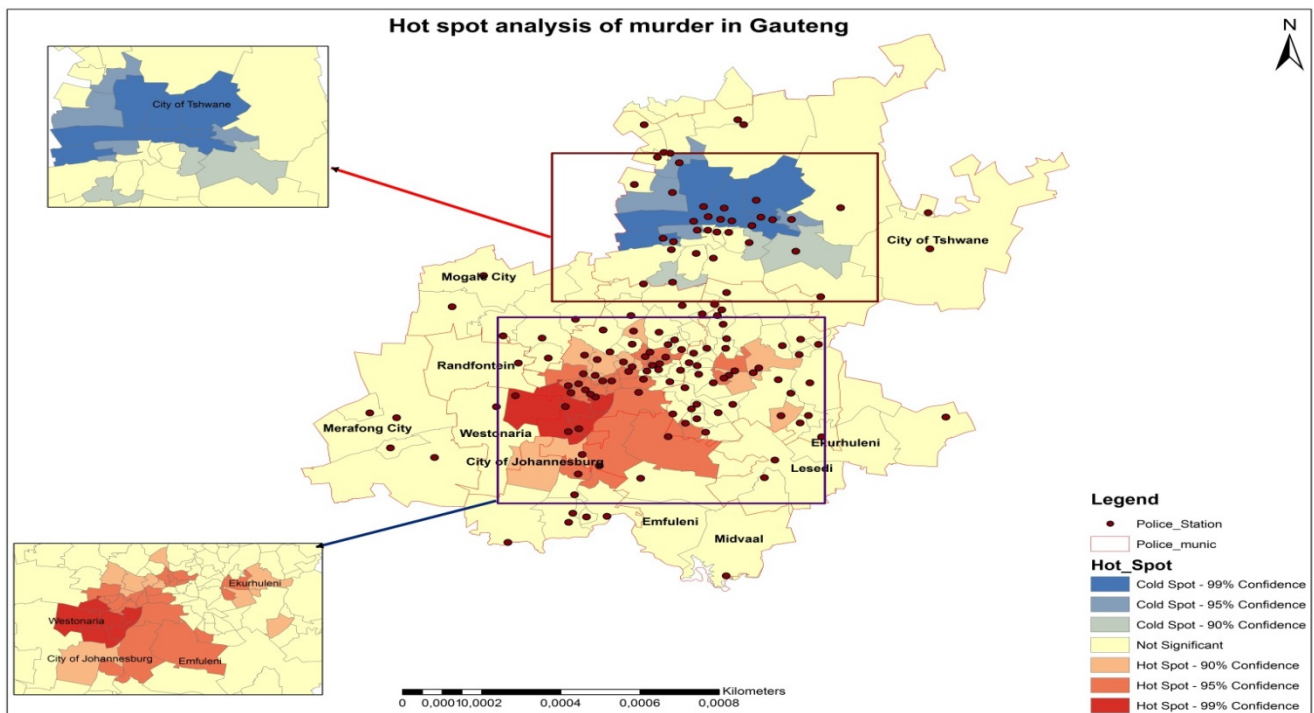




Map 24 shows the cluster and outlier analysis of murder in North West. Murder incidents were clustered around Rustenburg, Madibeng and City of Matlosana. The illustration of hot spot analysis shows that Rustenburg and parts of Madibeng municipalities had high incidents of murder in the year 2014/15, and Rustenburg was identified as the hot spot in the province. Areas that had high incident zones surrounded by areas with murder rates were found in Madibeng, City of Matlosana, parts of Maquassi Hills, and Moses Kotane.

## Gauteng

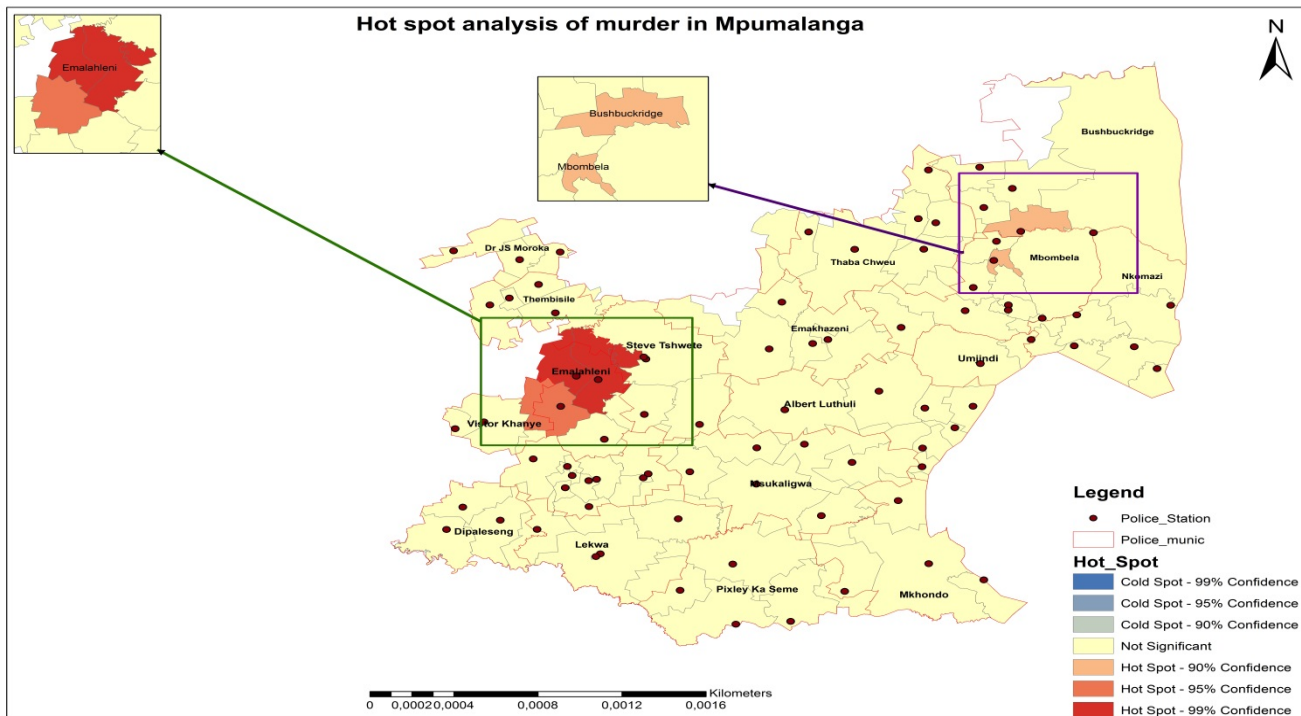
**Map 25: Hot spot analysis of incidents of murder in Gauteng, SAPS 2014/15**



Areas in City of Johannesburg, Mogale City, Westonaria and Emfuleni experienced high murder incidents surrounded by areas with low incidences. Some parts of Ekurhuleni and City of Tshwane had high incidents of murder surrounded by areas with low incidents of murder (Map 25). Gauteng had four murder hot spots namely: City of Johannesburg, Westonaria, Randfontein and Ekurhuleni.

## Mpumalanga

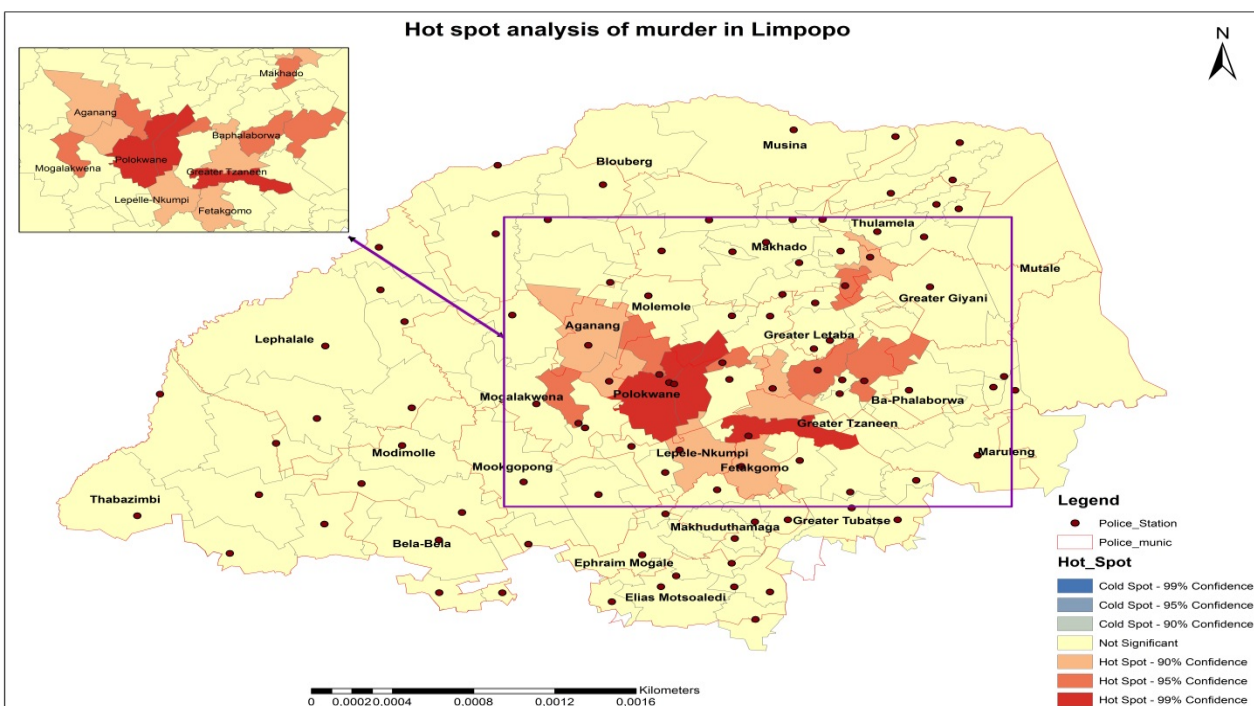
Map 26: Hot spot analysis of incidents of murder in Mpumalanga, SAPS 2014/15



High incident zones surrounded by high crime areas were found in Emalahleni and some southern parts of Thembisile municipalities. Msukaligwa municipality had high incidents of murder surrounded by areas with low incidents. In Mpumalanga, Emalahleni was observed as the hot spot area for murder. The other areas that had high incidents of murder were found in Bushbuckridge municipality (Map 26).

## Limpopo

Map 27: Hot spot analysis of incidents of murder in Limpopo, SAPS 2014/15



In Limpopo, high murder zones surrounded by high crime zones were found in Aganang, Lepele-Nkumpi, Fetakgomo and Mogalakwena municipalities. The results in Map 27 show that Thulamela had high incidents of murder surrounded by low incident zones. Polokwane, Greater Tzaneen were identified as murder hot spots in Limpopo.



## 6. Conclusions and recommendations

### 6.1 Conclusion

South Africa is a country where a substantial portion of the male population historically bonded in a violent and highly militarised context. For example, during the Apartheid years white men were conscripted into military service and black men into the liberation struggle. In many cases it is also culturally acceptable to use violence to resolve conflicts and tough, aggressive, brutal and competitive masculinity is promoted and weakness regarded, with contempt, as 'feminine'. Through this process many South Africans, especially men, live out a 'culture of violence', or at least accepts violence as inevitable under certain circumstances (Cafferty 2003, Sigsworth 2009, Rape crises 2015). Contact or social fabric crimes are by nature crimes that mostly occur as a result of values held by communities, families and individuals in relation to the use of physical violence to settle disputes and of domestic violence as a means of asserting authority and sexual assault amongst others.

This report is the third in a series of Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) thematic reports aimed at providing an in-depth understanding of victimisation phenomena. The main objective of the study was to explore the nature and risks associated with social fabric or contact crimes. More specific questions that were discussed include: whether there are specific characteristics that can explain why individuals were victimised, looking at potential overlaps between different forms of violence, investigating kinds of weapons used and the impact on the victim.

Overall findings of the study indicate that more females experienced sexual offence than their male counterparts; while more males experienced assault than females. Households who are headed by females were more likely to experience murder when compared to male-headed households.

The study found that most of these crimes are likely to occur either in the home or amongst people who know each other and with the presence of either alcohol or drugs. This implies that regardless of whatever crime strategies the police adopt, many of these crimes will continue to occur unless behaviour and value change takes place in society. The key findings of the study indicate that victims of assault are most likely to be single; within the younger age groups (16-34 years); have some or completed secondary education; within the intermediate living standard measure.

The results indicate that the most common place of occurrence of assault was in the street, followed by home, these findings are consistent over the years. The results further indicate that males were more likely to experience assault in the street and females at home. Assaults were mostly perpetrated by known people. Individuals aged 15-34 years contributed the highest percentage of assault offenders. The motive most cited for assault was 'anger towards a person and/or their family, followed by jealousy. Findings further indicate that alcohol and/or drugs influenced assault, regardless of where they occurred. The results from the Victims of Crime Survey show that in over 85% of incidents of assault, a weapon was used and/or resulted in injury to the victim. A knife is the most commonly used weapon during assault incidents, followed by a club. Similarly, when comparing these findings with those of Mortality and causes of death, assault was one of the main causes of unnatural death, particularly amongst young men.

It is important to note that the VOCS, due to its general nature and sensitivities surrounding sexual offence, primarily includes information on individuals who have already reported their victimisation to the police or other entities. Victims of sexual offence are most likely to be single, young people (aged 20-34 years); in the intermediate Living Standard Measure. Results indicate that more females experienced sexual offence as compared to males. Most incidents of sexual offence occurred at home. Known people were the main perpetrators of sexual offence, where the majority of incidents were committed by a spouse/lover.

While individuals who experienced sexual offence mostly indicated that the motive behind victimisation was anger towards them and/or their families, a worrying factor is that those that occurred at home were due to attempted rape. The main offender of sexual offence was individuals aged 15-34 years.

A knife was used during most sexual offences that occurred outside the home environment, an indication that other forms of coercion or persuasion, possibly of a psychological and physical nature, were used against the victim in the home. A discussion on post-victimisation care indicated that individuals were generally aware of medical, counselling and safety services that they could access.

About half of the victims of murder in urban metros were main sources of income for the households (49,1%) while more than half of the victims of murder in rural settlements were the main sources of income for their households (60,5%). About 35,1% of incidents in urban metros and 38,2% in rural areas were perpetrated by people aged 35–54 years. Jealousy was perceived as the main motive for murder committed by people aged 15–34, while the main motive for murder committed by people aged 35–54 years was perceived to be money and other financial motives.

Findings further indicate that the police were generally able to detect murder incidents as about half of people in urban areas, who had a murder in their household, knew the perpetrator from a police report. In rural areas, people generally were not aware of who had committed murder, however, it is important to note that general community knowledge also facilitated knowledge of the perpetrator. This may serve as an indicator of a higher level of social cohesion in rural areas, when compared to urban areas. In the urban metro (s), a gun was the most commonly used weapon to commit murder and a knife was the most used in other urban areas and rural areas. Households living in urban metro(s) indicated that murder(s) that took place were part of an on-going problem in which more people were likely to die, this could be attributed to gang-related violence. Majority of those residing in rural area(s) perceived murder as a once-off incident.

The findings indicate that there was no significant difference in the likelihood of experiencing assault by settlement type. Furthermore, the province where assault was most prevalent was KwaZulu-Natal, Western Cape and Eastern Cape. Most assault hot spots in South Africa were located in the metropolitan areas; these include City of Cape Town, Nelson Mandela Bay and eThekweni. In non-metropolitan municipalities, hot spot areas were found to be clustered around the urban areas (Mangaung, Polokwane and Sol Plaatje). Hot spot analysis shows that most murder hot spots in South Africa were located in City of Cape Town, eThekweni, Mngoma, Sol Plaatje, Nala City of Matlosana, Polokwane, Emalahleni and Westonaria.

Gauteng had the highest percentages of sexual offence followed by Eastern Cape and Northern Cape. The main hot spots for sexual offence were in Mogale City, Nelson Mandela Bay, Sol Plaatje, eThekweni, City of Matlosana, Polokwane, Nala, Theewaterskloof, and Mbombela.

## 6.2 Recommendations

Crime poses a threat to the ideal that we all hope for-a better life for all and a safe environment where everyone is and feels safe. There is a need for information that forms the basis of crime prevention measures that operate in the political, environmental and individual spheres (Davies and MacPherson, 2011). Furthermore, crime should also be addressed at its root causes.

One of the key findings of this report is that women are most likely to be victims of sexual offences at work. The study therefore recommends that employers have a plan to protect female employees and effectively address any incidents of sexual violence as well as other forms of violence. Avenues should also be created to enable women to report sexual offences without the fear of discrimination and job losses.

The study also recommends that media and advocacy campaigns be established in schools, workplaces and communities to raise awareness about existing legislation and also to create an environment where children and victims could easily recognise and report abuse that they may witness at home. A substantial proportion of women also experienced abuse, whether it be assault or sexual offences at home and at work, whereas one would expect these places to be viewed as safe havens. More attention should be paid to this problem through appropriate social work and civil education programmes. The study also found that the majority of males are assaulted in the street, and it is therefore recommended that greater attention should be paid to assault in public

spaces as part of policing and other crime-prevention strategies. Having life skills and school-based education programmes could positively influence the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of young people in communities and schools. This could deter young people from engaging in criminal offences and also serve to educate them about behaviours that could increase the risk of becoming a victim of crime.

The study also recommends that legal frameworks be established to strengthen women's civil rights related to divorce, child support and custody as the results show that individuals who were single were more likely to experience assault, followed by those who were married and lastly those living like husband and wife. This would assist women who fear reporting spousal abuse because of the possibility of losing financial support from their husbands.

Coalitions of government and civil society institutions should ideally be established, as this would enable problems to be confronted at grass roots level. Since assault and sexual offences which occur in the home are mostly treated as domestic matters, they often have relatively low reporting rates and are difficult to combat since they happen in private spaces within which police interventions are restricted. As a result of this, limited inroads are being made in preventing these crimes and encouraging more victims to report them.

It is also recommended that institutions be transformed in every sector of society, using a gender perspective to integrate attention to violence against women and children. Men and boys should be engaged to promote non-violence and gender equality. Early-intervention services to at risk families must be provided. These could include home visits by social workers/civil society to educate and help to reduce violent behaviour, which is often associated with intimate partner violence.

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## Annexure

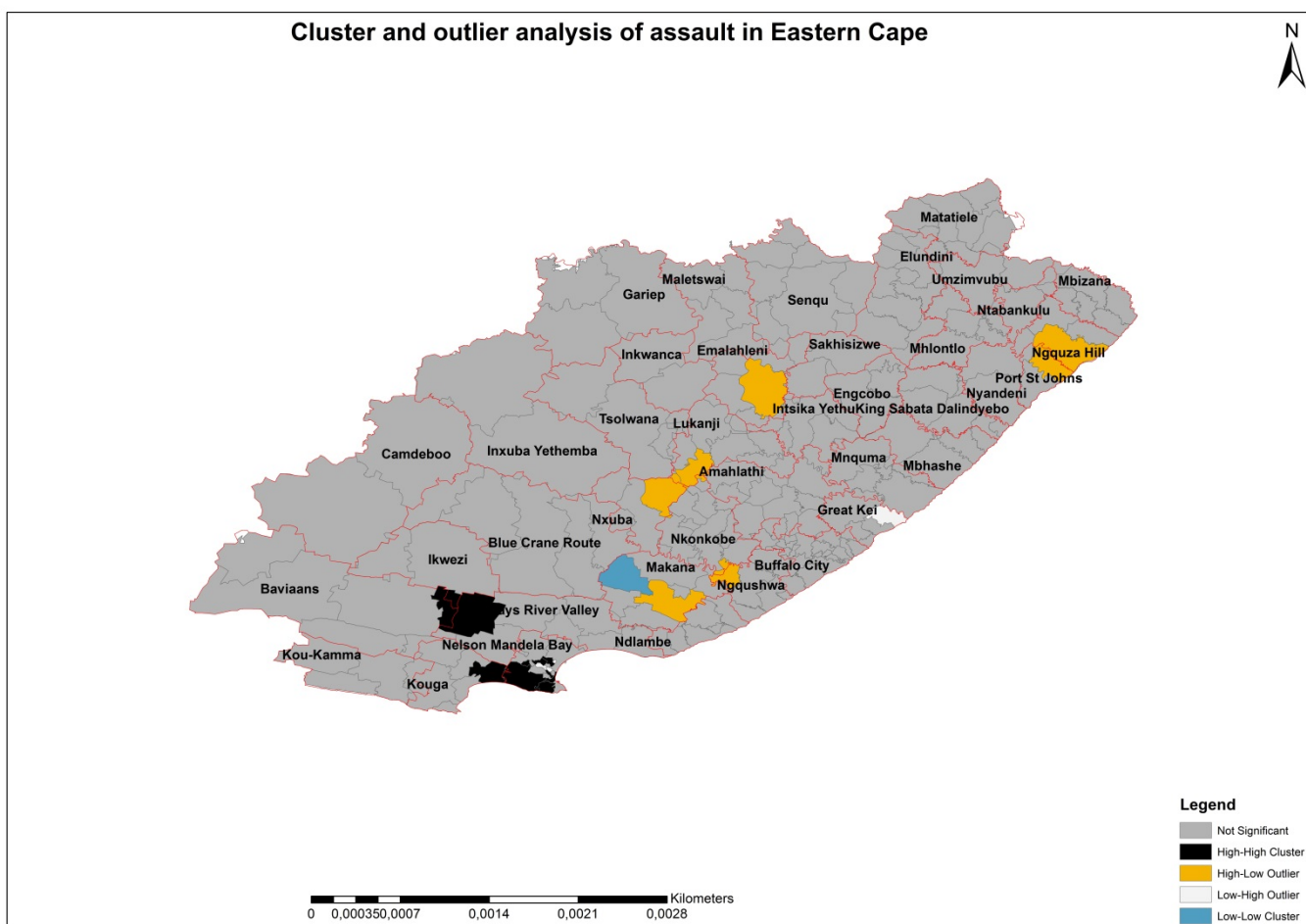
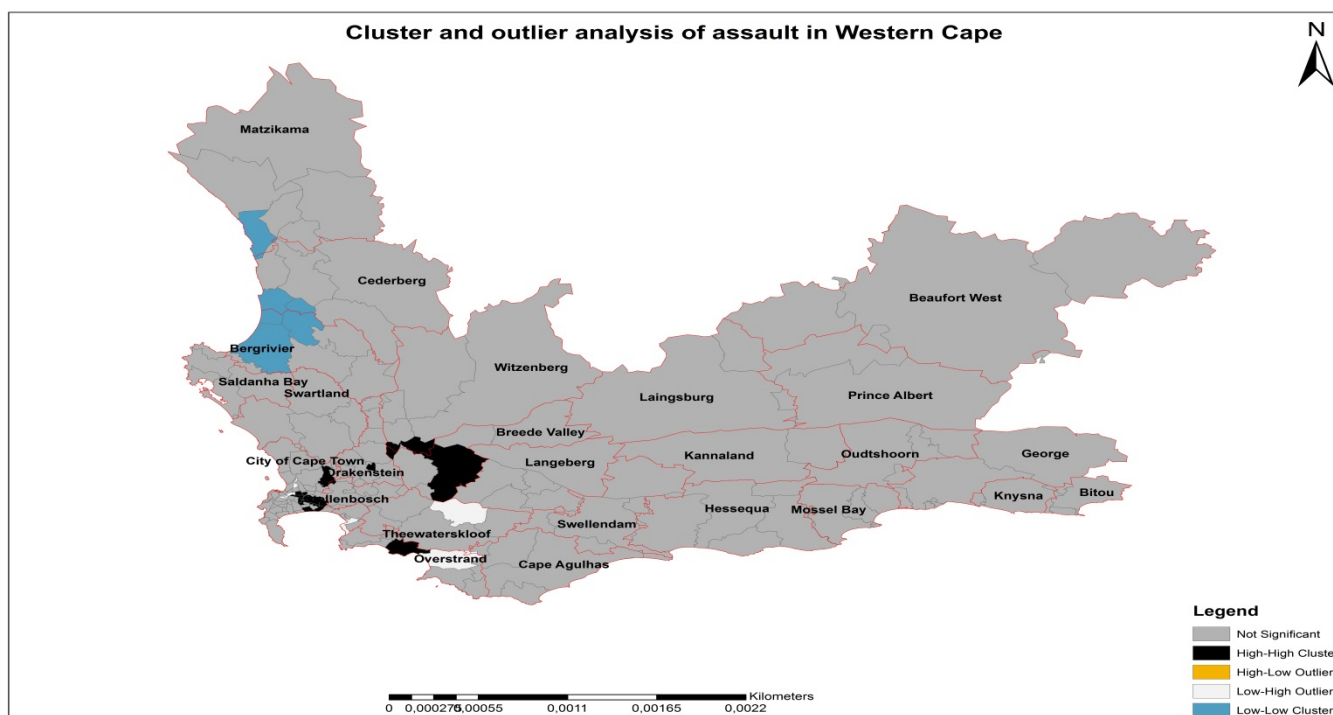
## Annexure 1: List of variables

Variable	Crime Type							
	Assault				Sexual offence			
	Number ( <sup>'000</sup> )	Per cent (%)	95% Confidence Limits		Number	Per cent	95% Confidence Limits	
			Lower	Upper			Lower	Upper
<b>Place where incident occurred</b>								
At home	110 136	32,8	24,7	41,0	16 635	40,0	8,0	72,0
In the street	132 270	39,4	31,1	47,7	5 200	12,5	0,0	29,6
Outdoors	19 761	5,9	1,9	9,9	10 401	25,0	0,6	49,4
Workplace	13 811	4,1	0,8	7,5	6 349	15,3	0,0	31,8
Entertainment place	37 222	11,1	6,5	15,7				
Other	22 535	6,7	1,9	11,5	3 023	7,3	0,0	17,5
<b>Victim-offender relationship</b>								
Relative/other household member	18 866	5,8	1,8	9,7	2 908	7,2	0,0	17,3
Spouse/lover	42 970	13,1	7,4	18,8	12 551	31,0	0,0	66,2
Other authority	5 268	1,6	0,0	3,8	146	0,4	0,0	1,2
Known person	158 273	48,3	39,7	56,9	10 324	25,5	4,4	46,6
Unknown person	95 092	29,0	21,0	37,0	11 368	28,1	2,8	53,4
Other	7 229	2,2	0,0	4,6	3 180	7,9	0,0	23,9
<b>Age of the perpetrator</b>								
15-34	233 849	64,5	56,0	73,0	23 795	62,0	26,8	97,2
35-54	77 891	21,5	14,5	28,5	6 725	17,5	0,0	41,2
55 and older	23 371	6,4	1,4	11,5	7 872	20,5	0,0	56,8
Unknown age	27 402	7,6	2,3	12,8				
<b>Motive behind the incident</b>								
Anger towards a family/person	127 912	45,1	35,6	54,6	29 872	69,9	38,5	100,0
Attempted rape	2 326	0,8	0,0	2,4	12 854	30,1	0,0	61,5
Money related motive/debt	38 715	13,6	7,3	20,0				
Gang related or racial/political motive	23 541	8,3	3,3	13,3				
Jealousy	63 035	22,2	14,9	29,6				
Attempted robbery	22 157	7,8	3,5	12,1				
Discipline/attempted arrest	6 001	2,1	0,0	4,6				
<b>Alcohol/drug influence</b>								
Victim/perpetrator alcohol/drug influence	90 719	24,0	17,2	30,8	7 756	18,2	0,0	36,9
Victim alcohol/drug influence	8 807	2,3	0,4	4,3	850	2,0	0,0	5,6
Victim alcohol/drug influence, sobriety of perpetrator unknown	15 868	4,2	1,0	7,4	6 641	15,5	0,0	37,3
Perpetrator alcohol/drug influence	116 347	30,8	23,4	38,3	10 096	23,6	0,1	47,2
Victim/ perpetrator sober	103 684	27,5	19,9	35,1	12 003	28,1	0,0	59,8
Victim sober, sobriety of perpetrator unknown	41 998	11,1	5,5	16,8	5 378	12,6	0,0	26,6
<b>Weapon</b>								
Axe	15 172	4,5	1,3	7,6				
Club	41 475	12,2	6,8	17,6				
Gun	11 402	3,4	0,5	6,2				
Knife	92 166	27,1	19,2	35,0	7 470	19,0	0,0	41,4
Metal bar	5 516	1,6	0,0	3,7	405	1,0	0,0	3,3
No weapon used	174 202	51,2	42,7	59,8	31 462	80,0	57,4	100,0
<b>Injury</b>								
Injuries sustained, hospitalised	112 000	30,1	22,6	37,7	5 183	12,5	0,0	26,5
Injuries sustained, not hospitalised	115 720	31,1	23,4	38,9	7 812	18,8	0,0	41,6
Injuries sustained, no medical attention needed	73 829	19,9	13,4	26,3	6 543	15,7	0,0	36,4
Not injured	70 081	18,9	12,3	25,4	22 070	53,0	23,4	82,7

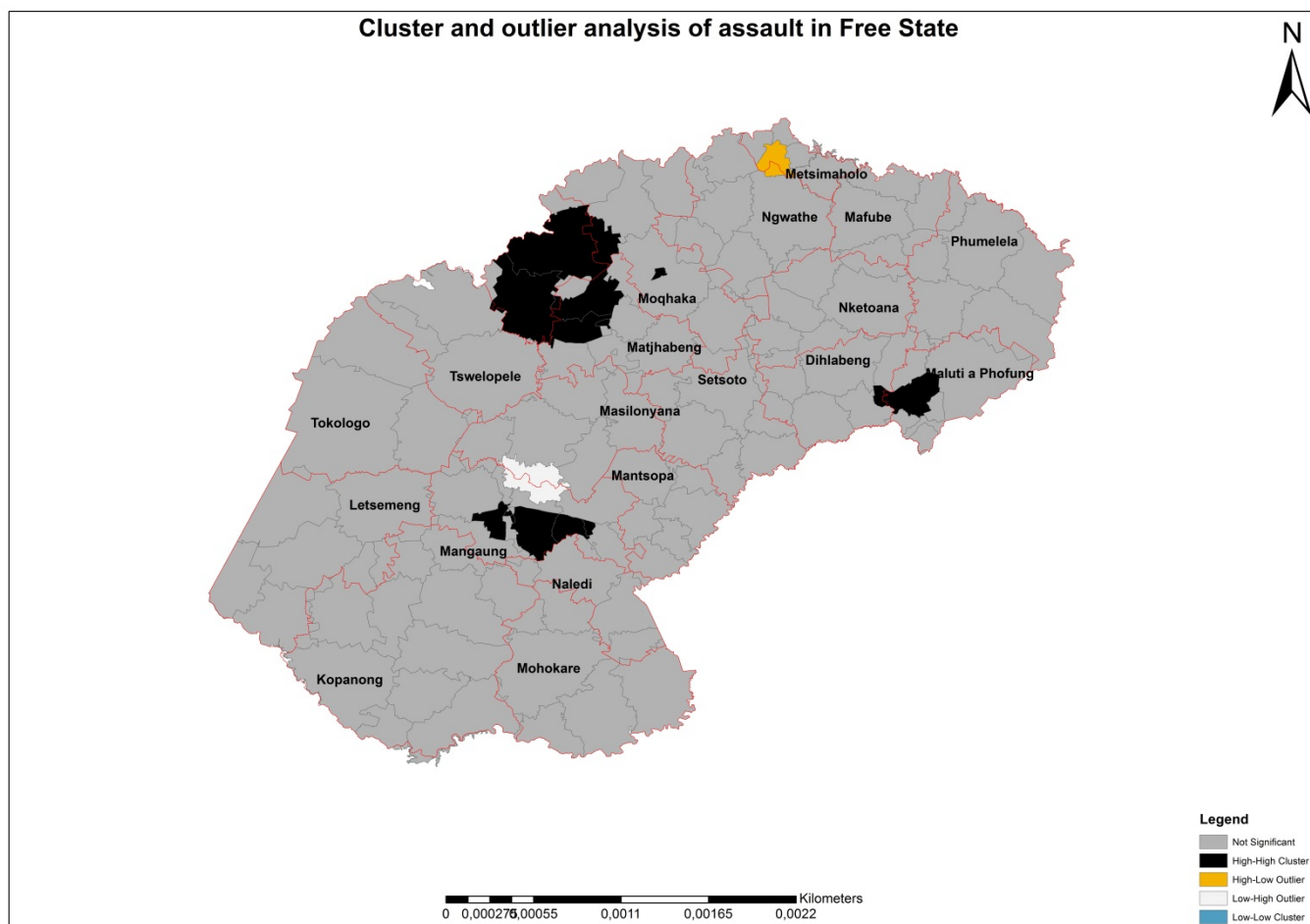
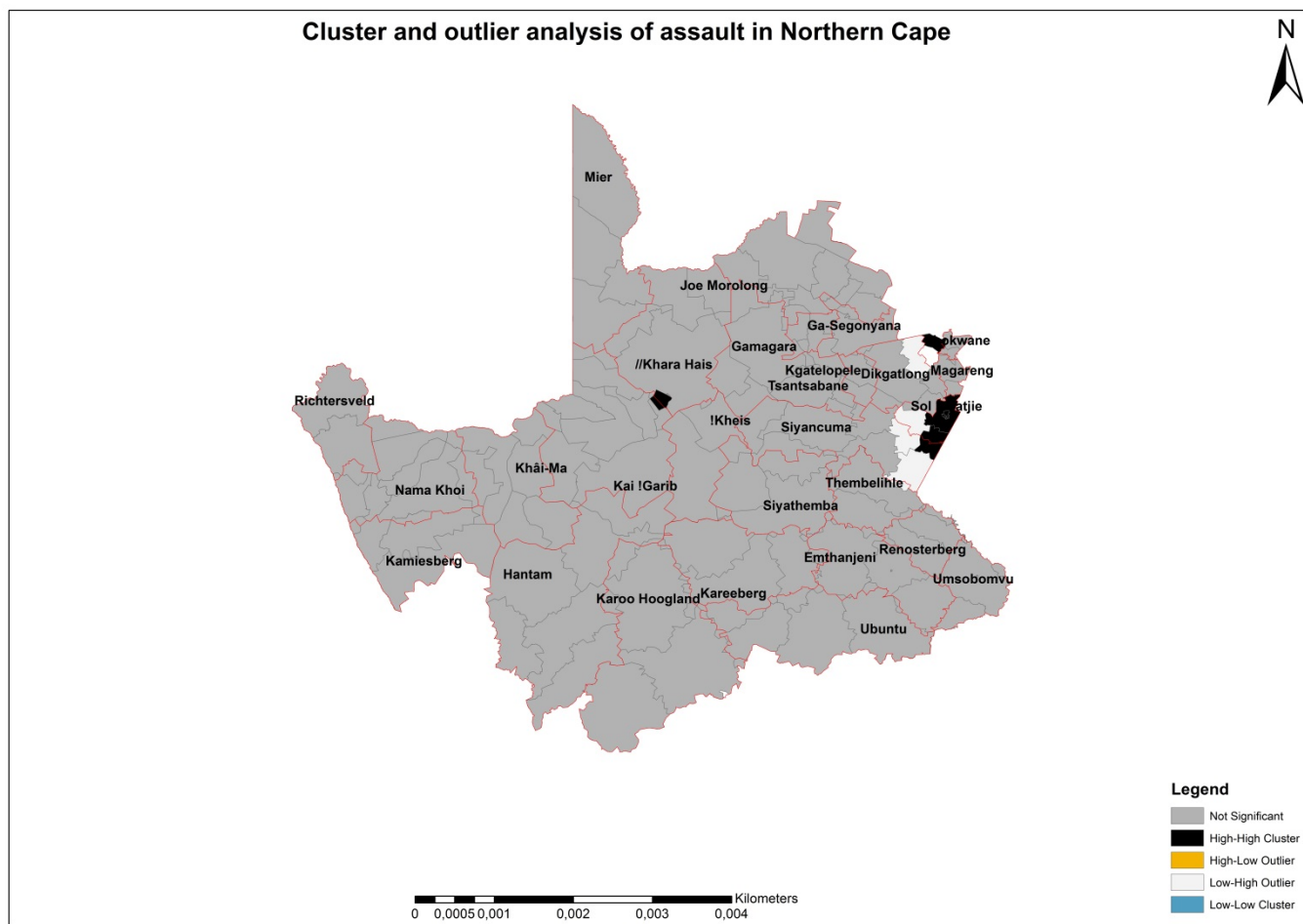
Variable	Crime Type			
	Murder			
	Number (’000)	Per cent (%)	95% Confidence Limits	
			Lower	Upper
<b>Weapon</b>				
Axe	1 555	8,6	0,0	18,9
Club	791	4,4	0,0	10,8
Gun	6 341	35,0	12,7	57,3
Knife	5 257	29,0	10,5	47,5
Metal bar	526	2,9	0,0	8,9
Other weapons	1 494	8,2	0,0	19,8
No weapon used	2 158	11,9	0,0	24,2
<b>Knowledge about perpetrator</b>				
Perpetrator confessed to other	1 210	6,7	0,0	14,8
Other	6 410	35,4	12,8	57,9
Police report	732	4,0	0,0	10,0
Witnessed murder	1 144	6,3	0,0	18,8
General community knowledge	2 155	11,9	0,0	24,0
Do not know who committed crime	6 472	35,7	16,6	54,9
<b>Number of perpetrators</b>				
One	8 271	71,0	47,3	94,7
Two	1 477	12,7	0,0	28,6
Three	898	7,7	0,0	19,7
Four	284	2,4	0,0	7,8
Five and more	720	6,2	0,0	19,2
<b>Age of the perpetrator</b>				
15-34	5 846	32,3	13,9	50,7
35-54	5 804	32,0	8,8	55,2
Unknown age	6 472	35,7	16,6	54,9
<b>Victim-offender relationship</b>				
Relative/other household member	926	8,4	0,0	21,3
Other friends/acquaintances	4 238	38,4	9,1	67,7
Known person	3 344	30,3	4,8	55,8
Unknown person	2 530	22,9	0,0	57,8
<b>Motive behind murder</b>				
Long term personal anger toward the victim	1 225	6,8	0,0	16,5
Jealousy	1 777	9,8	0,0	20,6
Gang or other group related motive	2 317	12,8	0,0	25,8
Other unprovoked attack	924	5,1	0,0	12,7
Sudden personal anger towards the victim	2 184	12,1	0,0	26,6
Money or other financial motive	3 365	18,6	0,0	40,7
Anger toward victim's family/friends	1 275	7,0	0,0	15,5
Motive not known	5 056	27,9	10,3	45,5
<b>Perceived indication of on-going problem</b>				
More people likely to die	7 940	46,7	24,1	69,3
Once-off incident	9 056	53,3	30,7	75,9
<b>Alcohol/drug influence</b>				
Alcohol/drug influence	8 236	45,4	24,5	66,4
No alcohol/drug influence	9 887	54,6	33,6	75,5
<b>Settlement type</b>				
Urban metro	14 764 118	39,0	38,2	39,8
Other urban	10 409 614	27,5	26,8	28,2
Rural	12 693 767	33,5	32,8	34,3

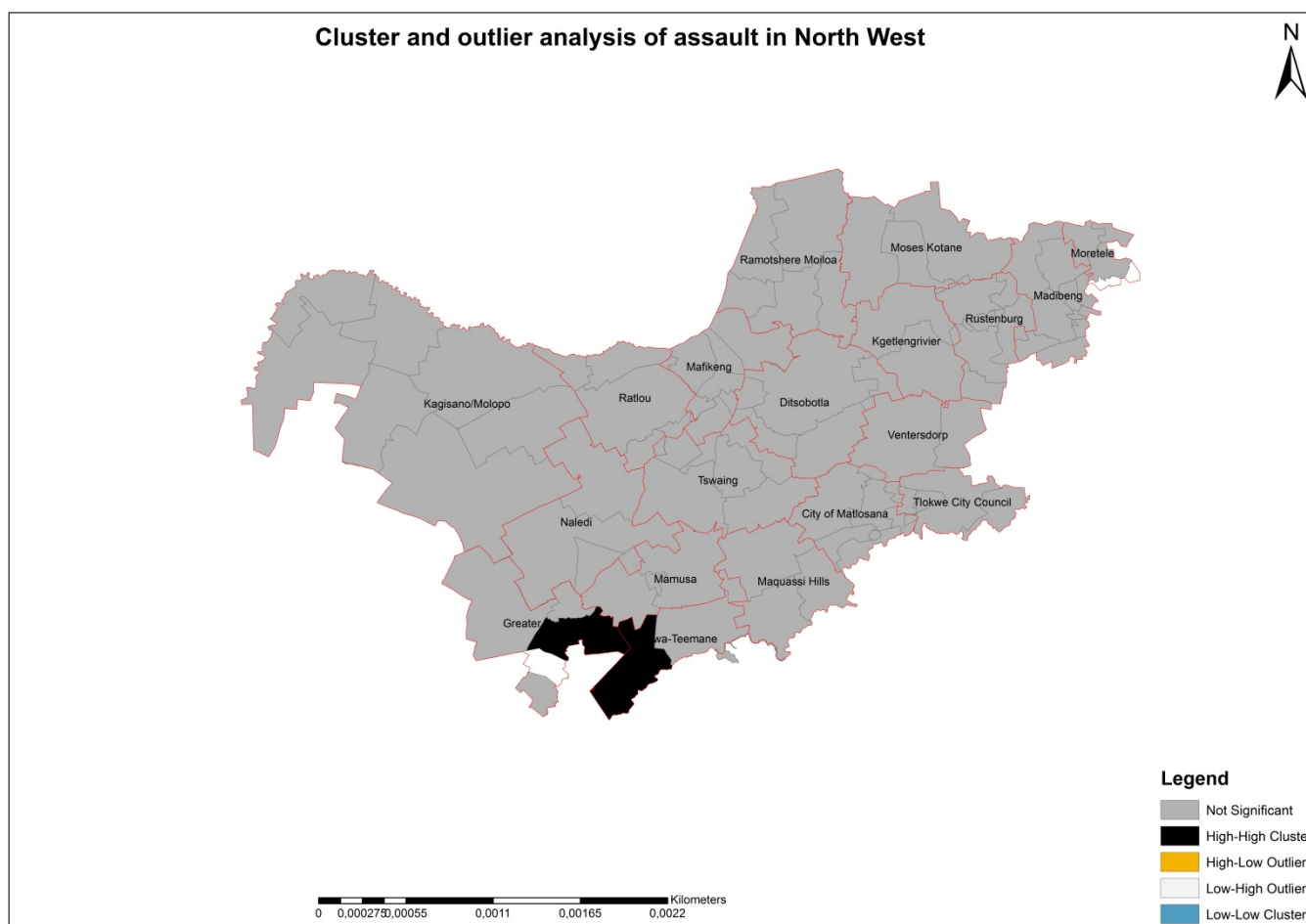
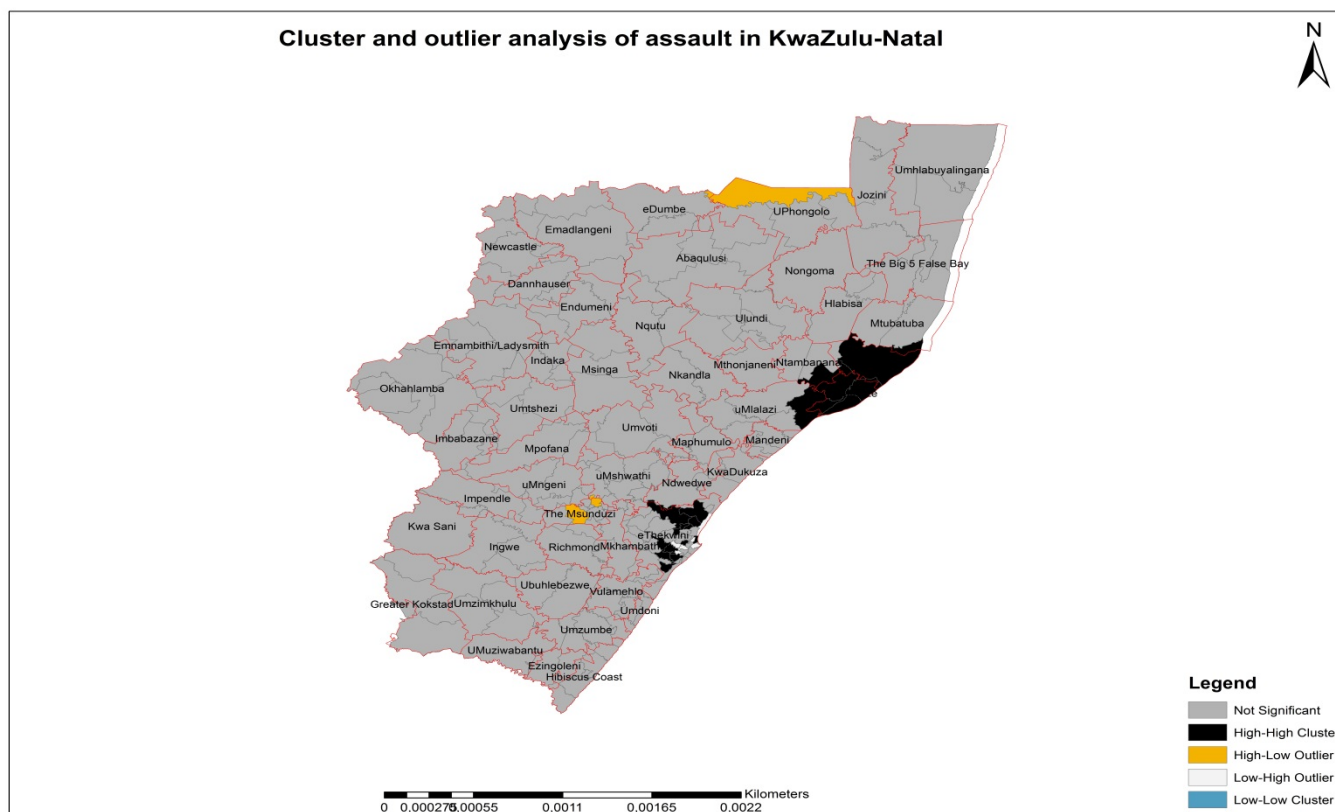


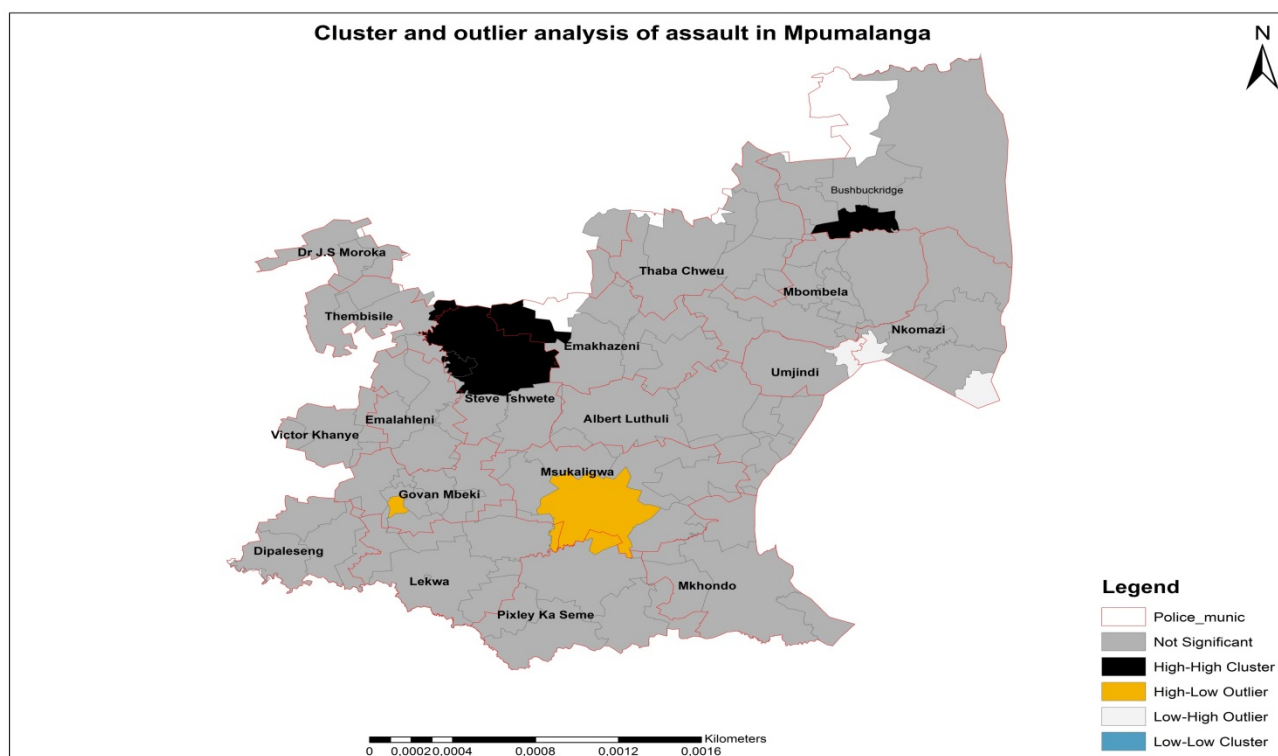
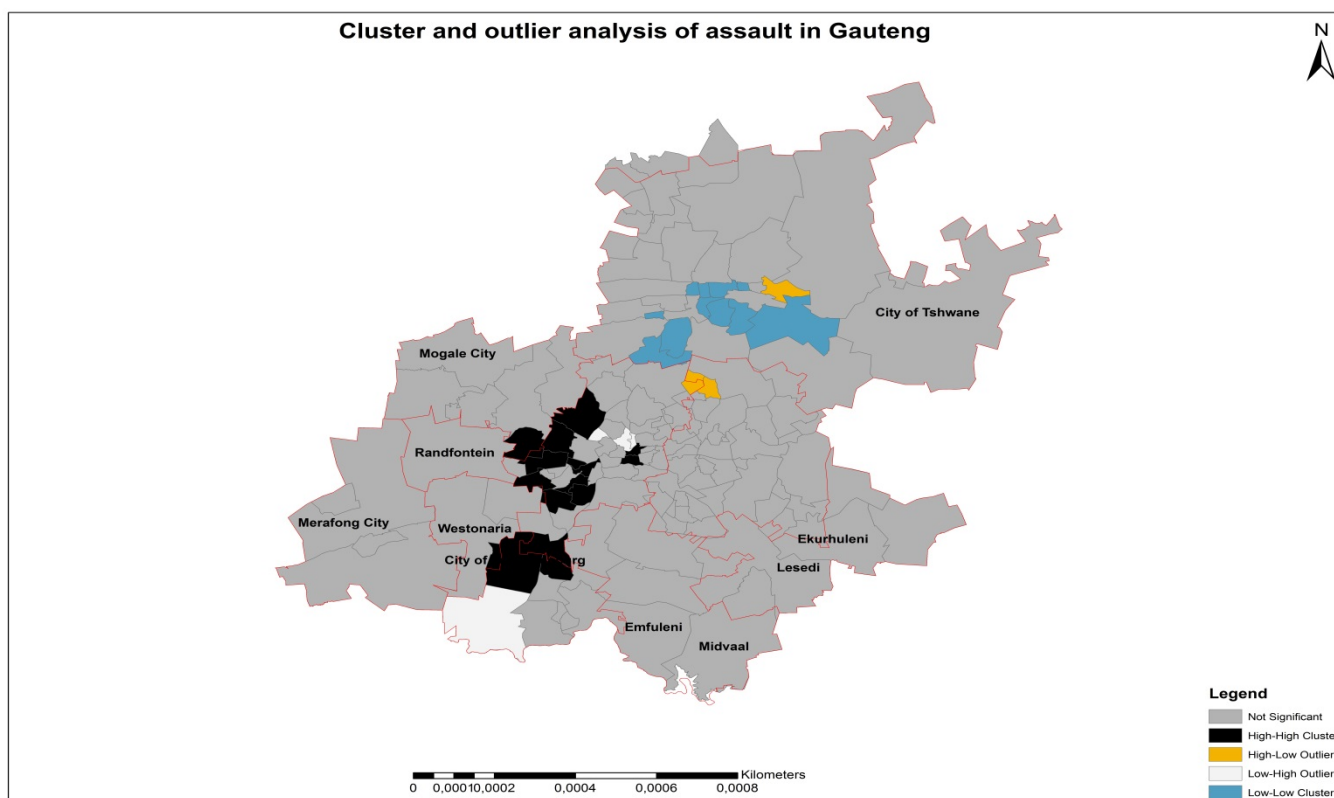
## Annexure 2: Provincial cluster and outlier analysis of assault, sexual offence and murder

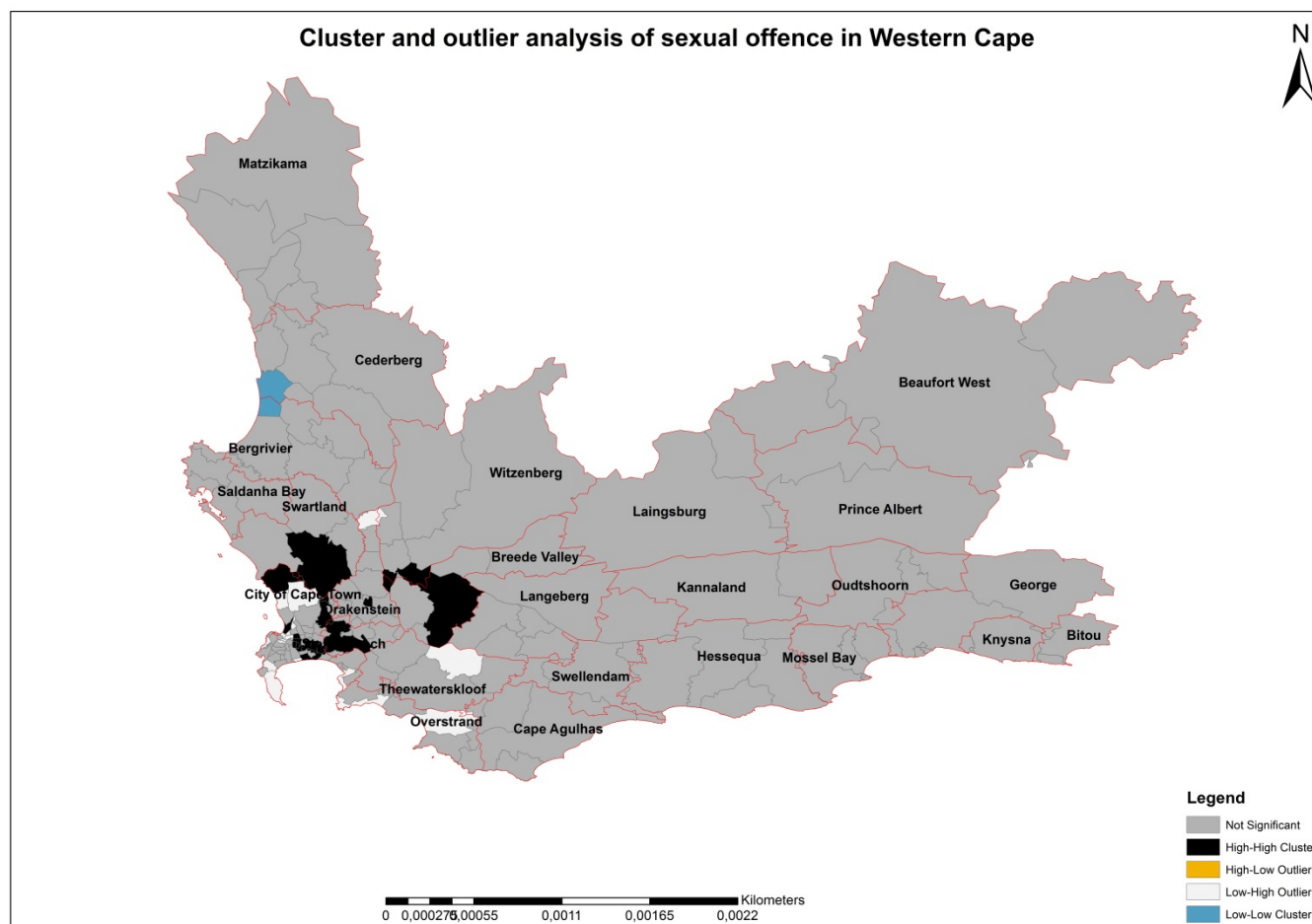
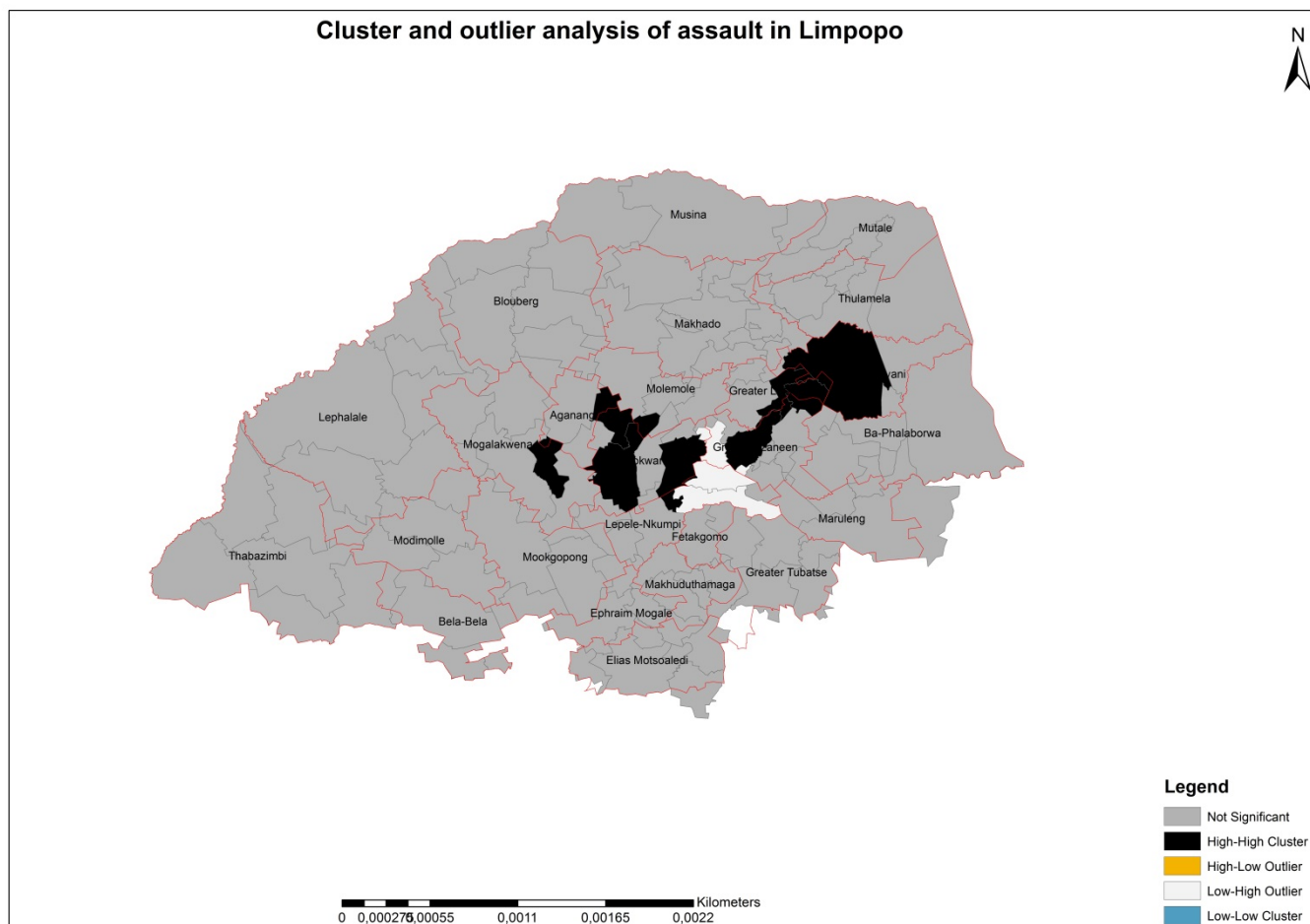




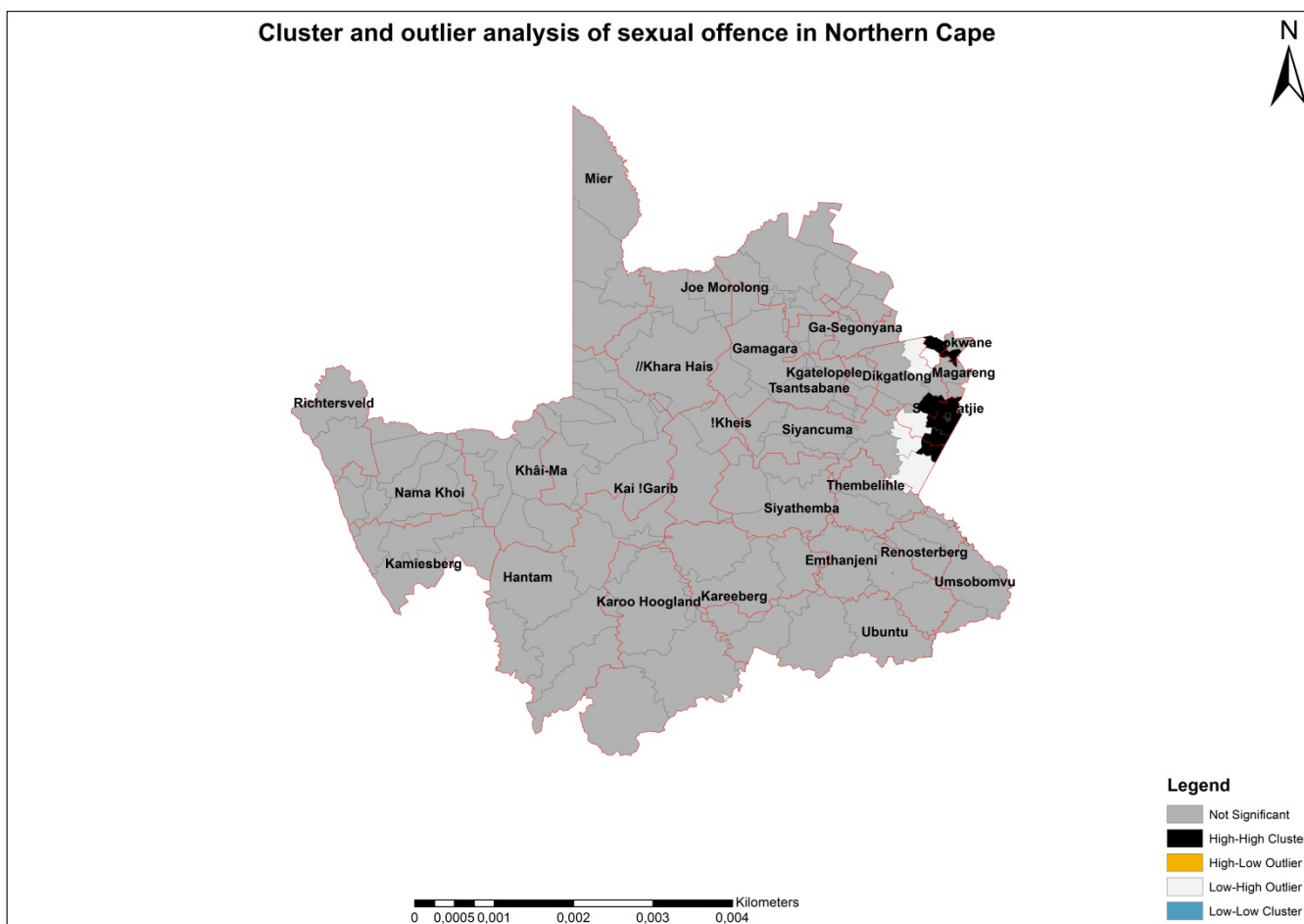
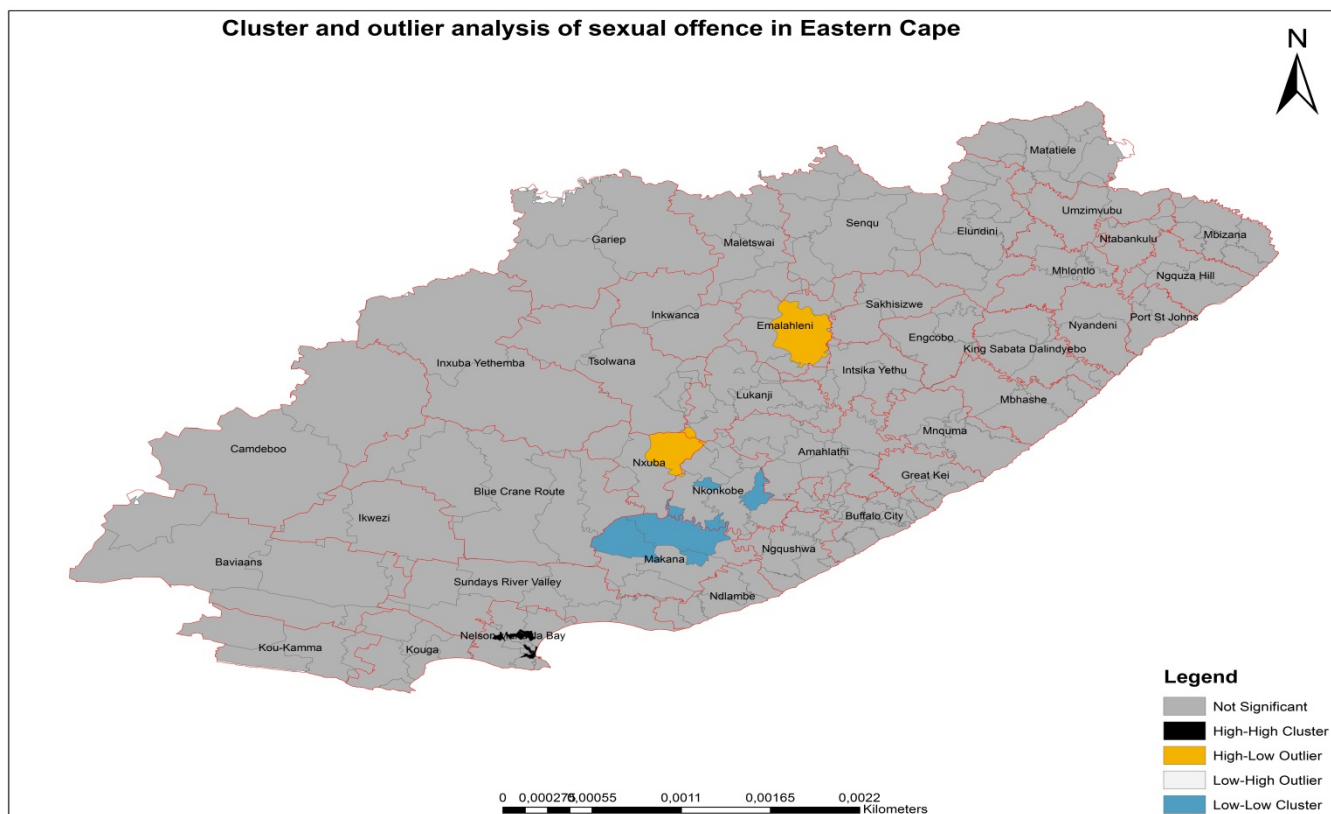


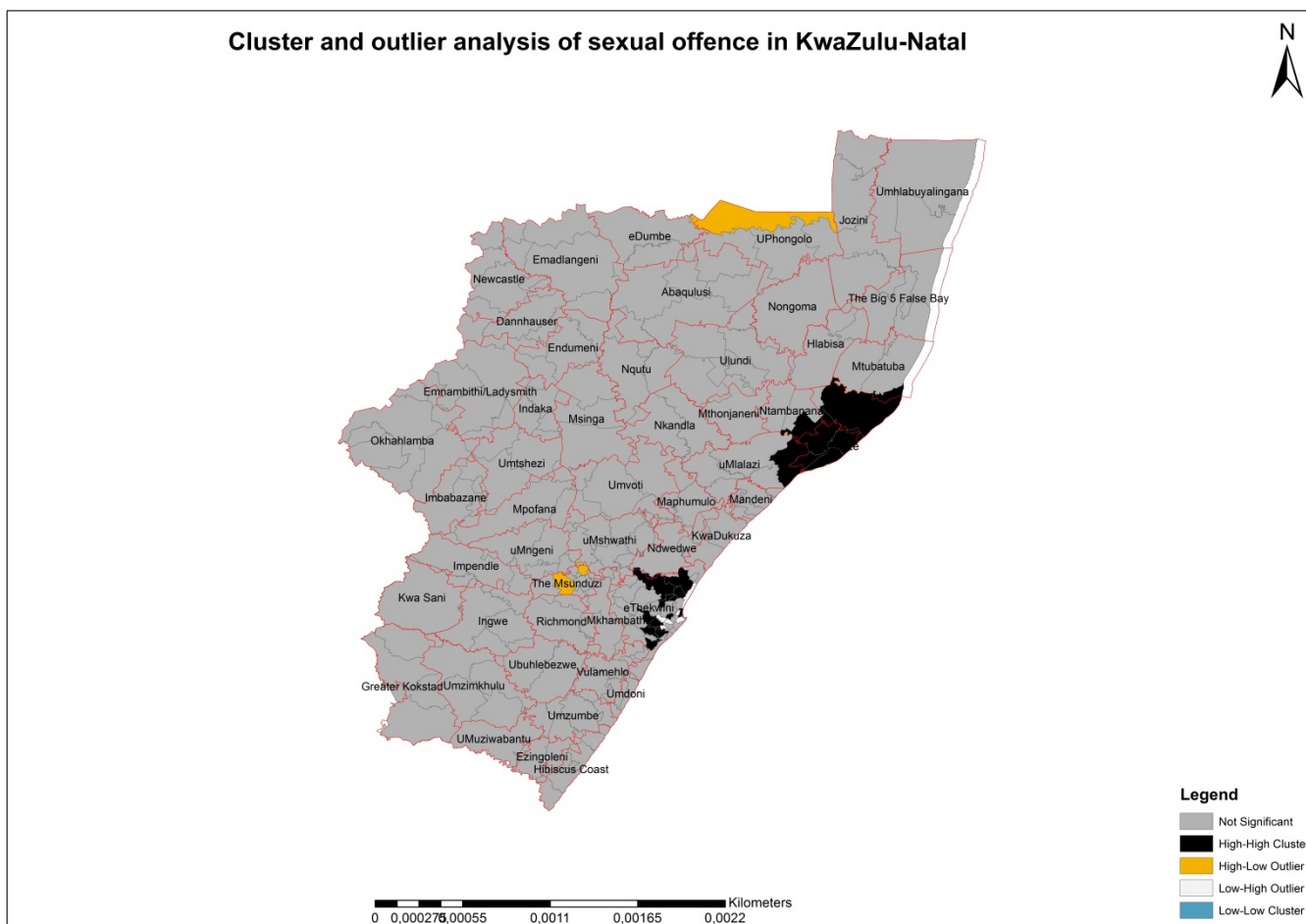
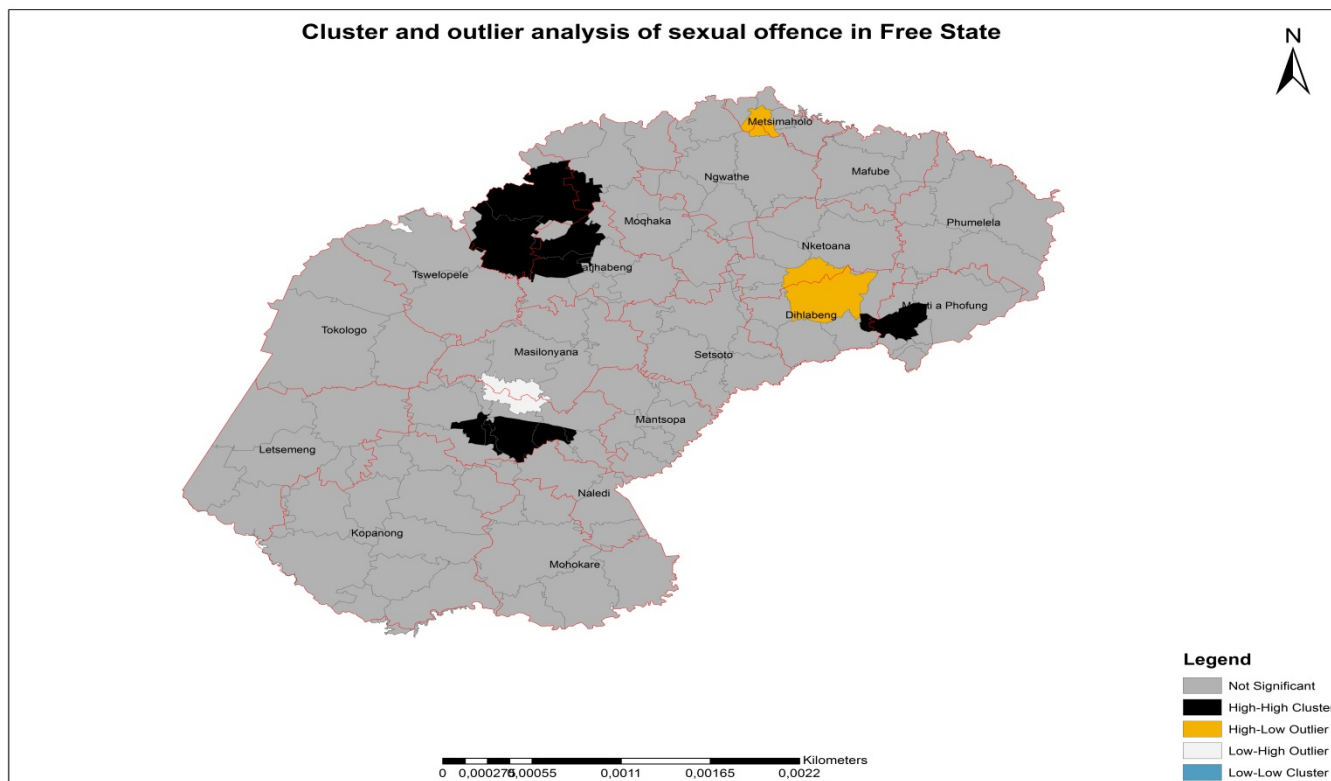


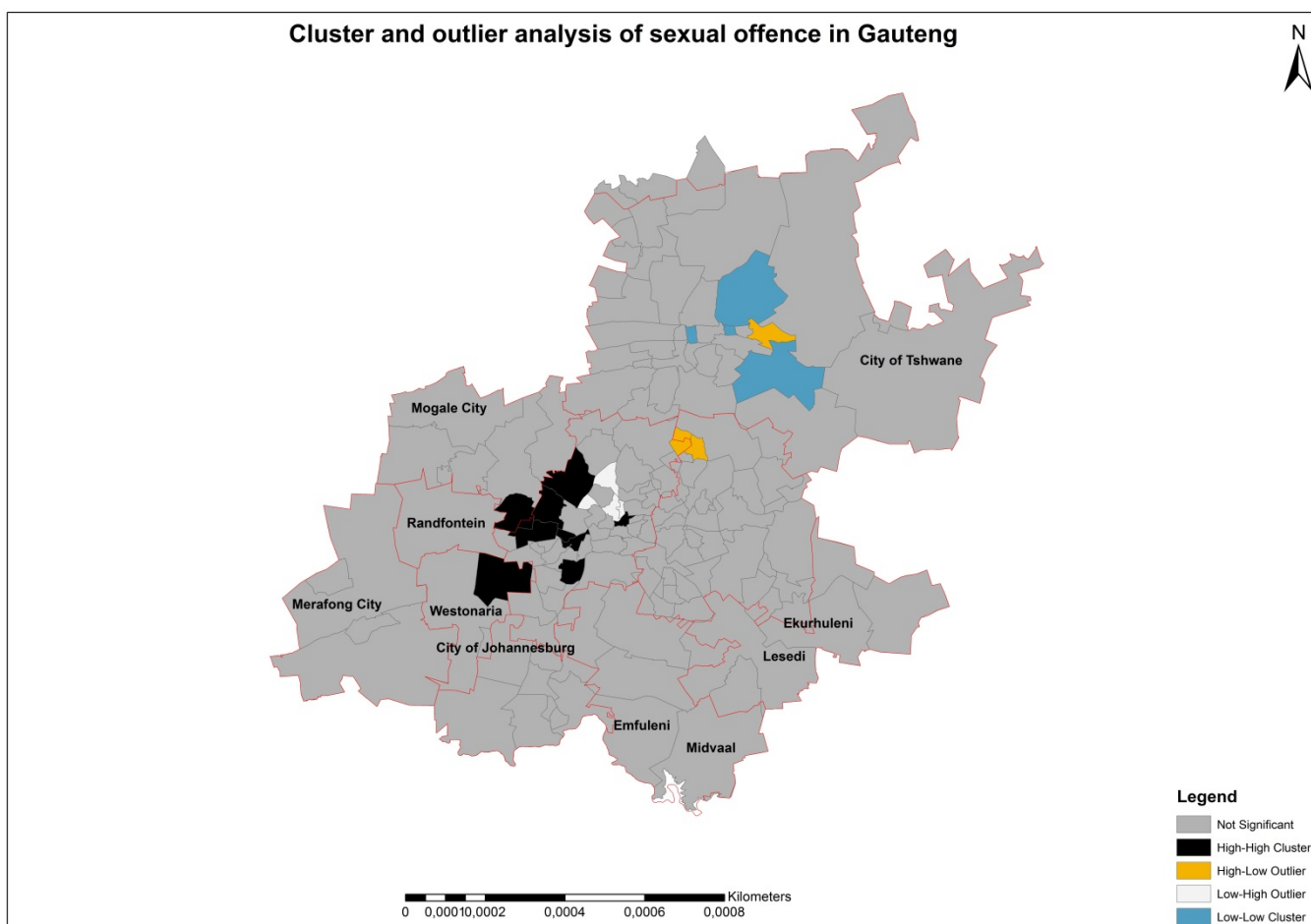
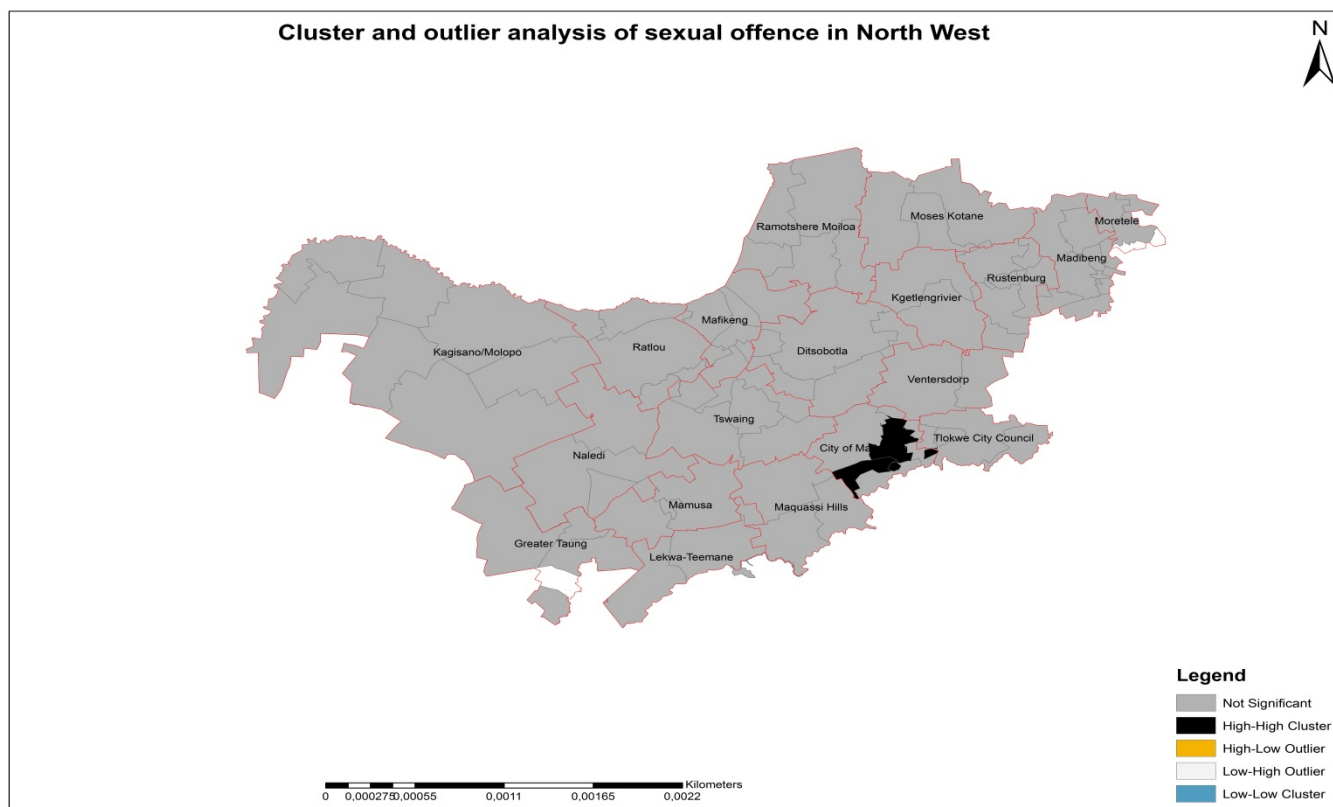




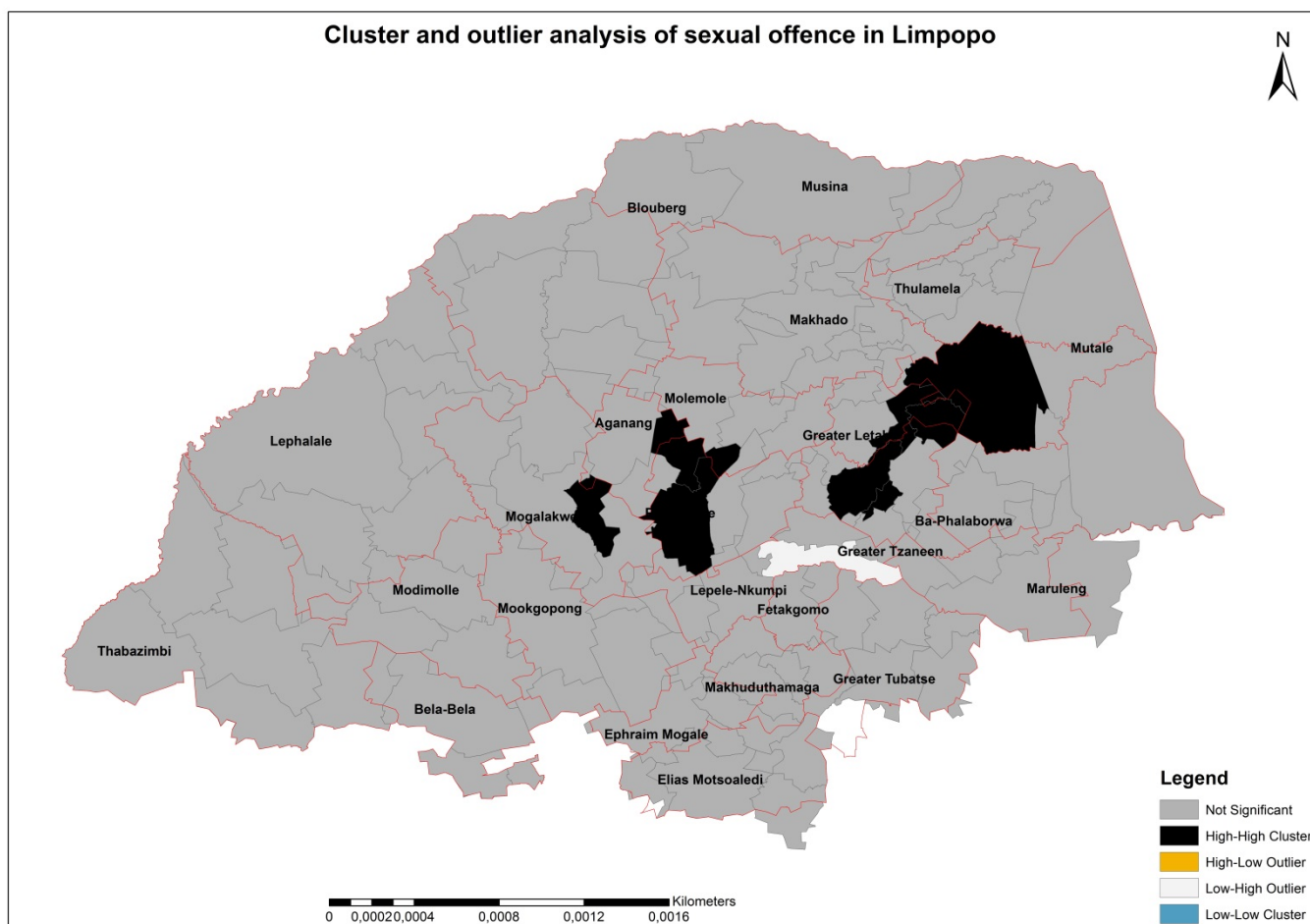
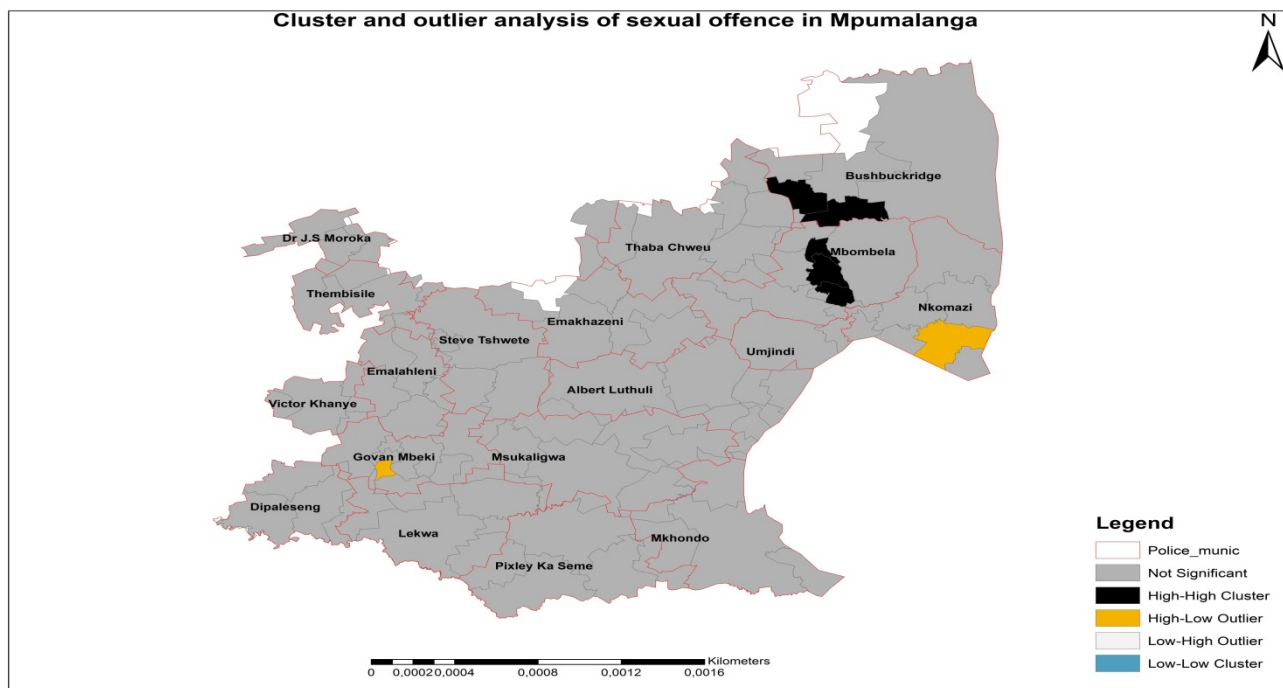


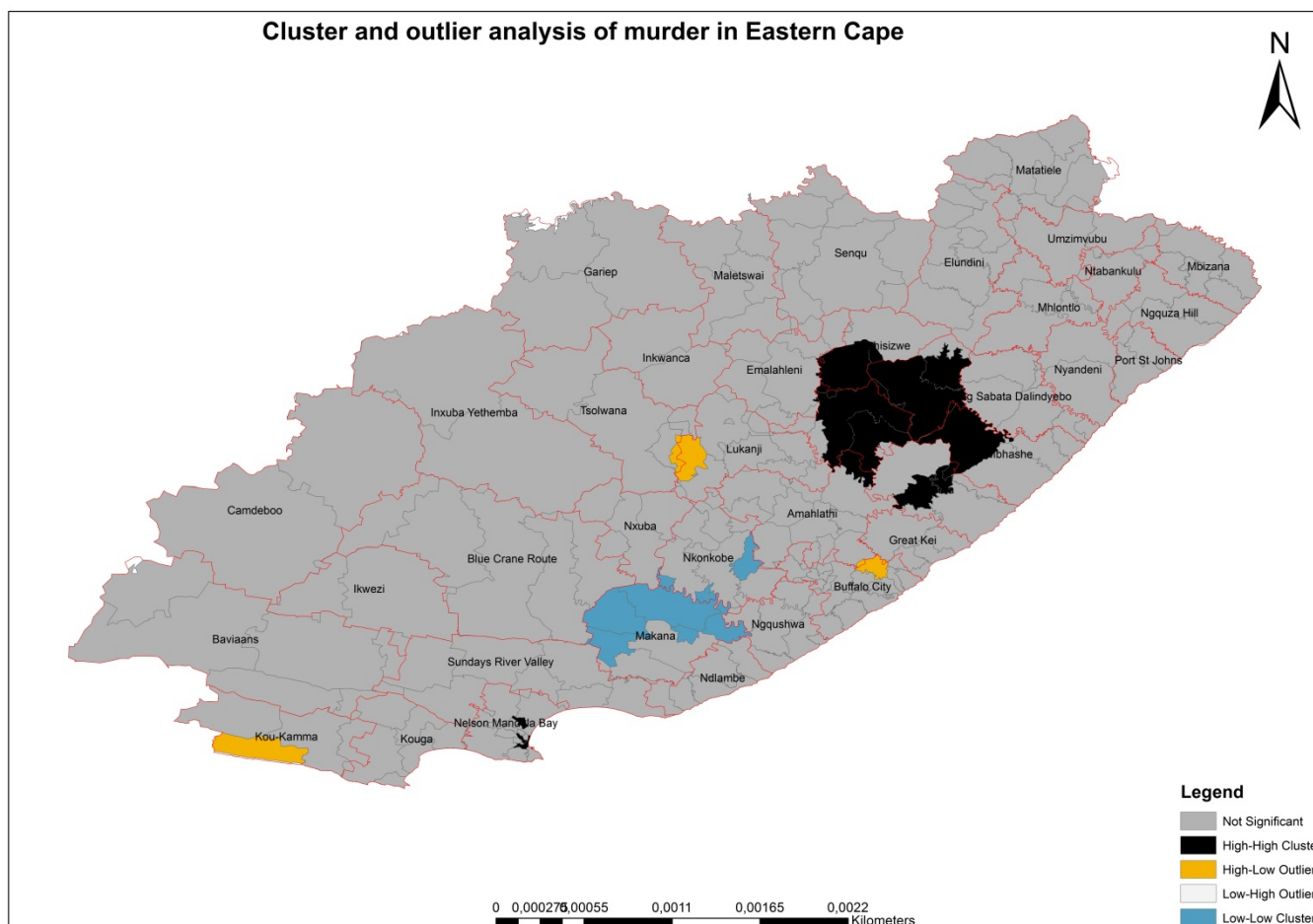
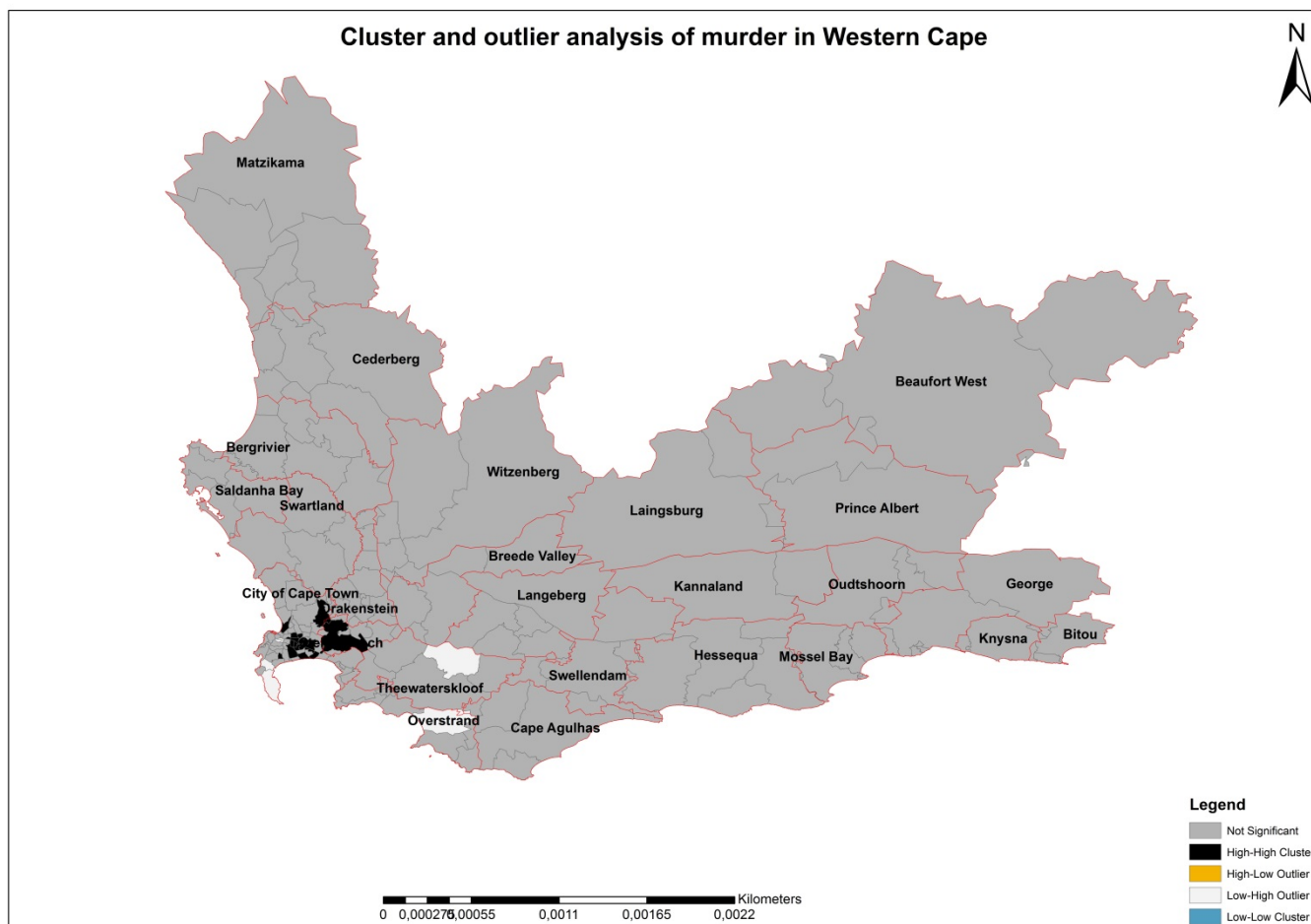


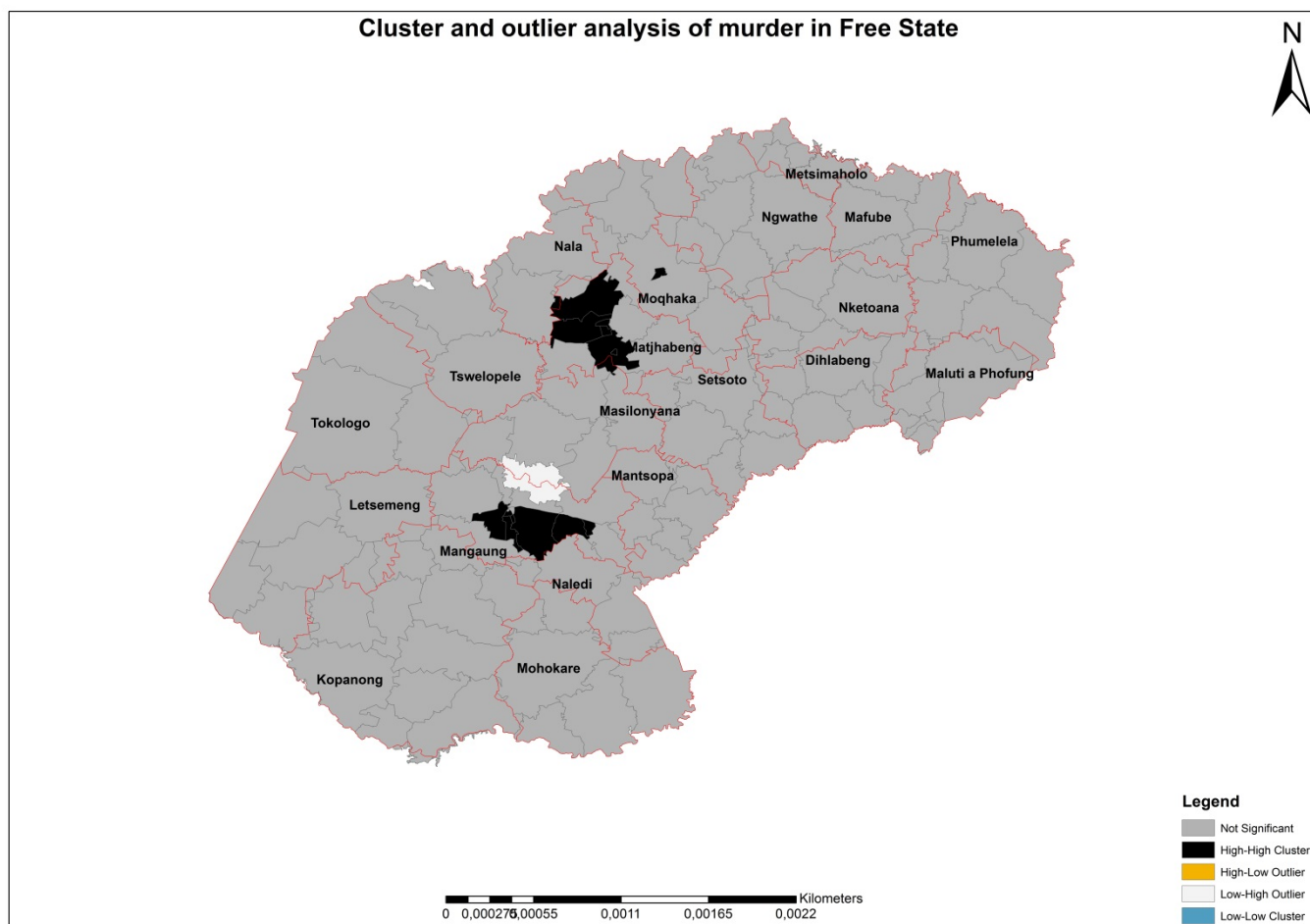
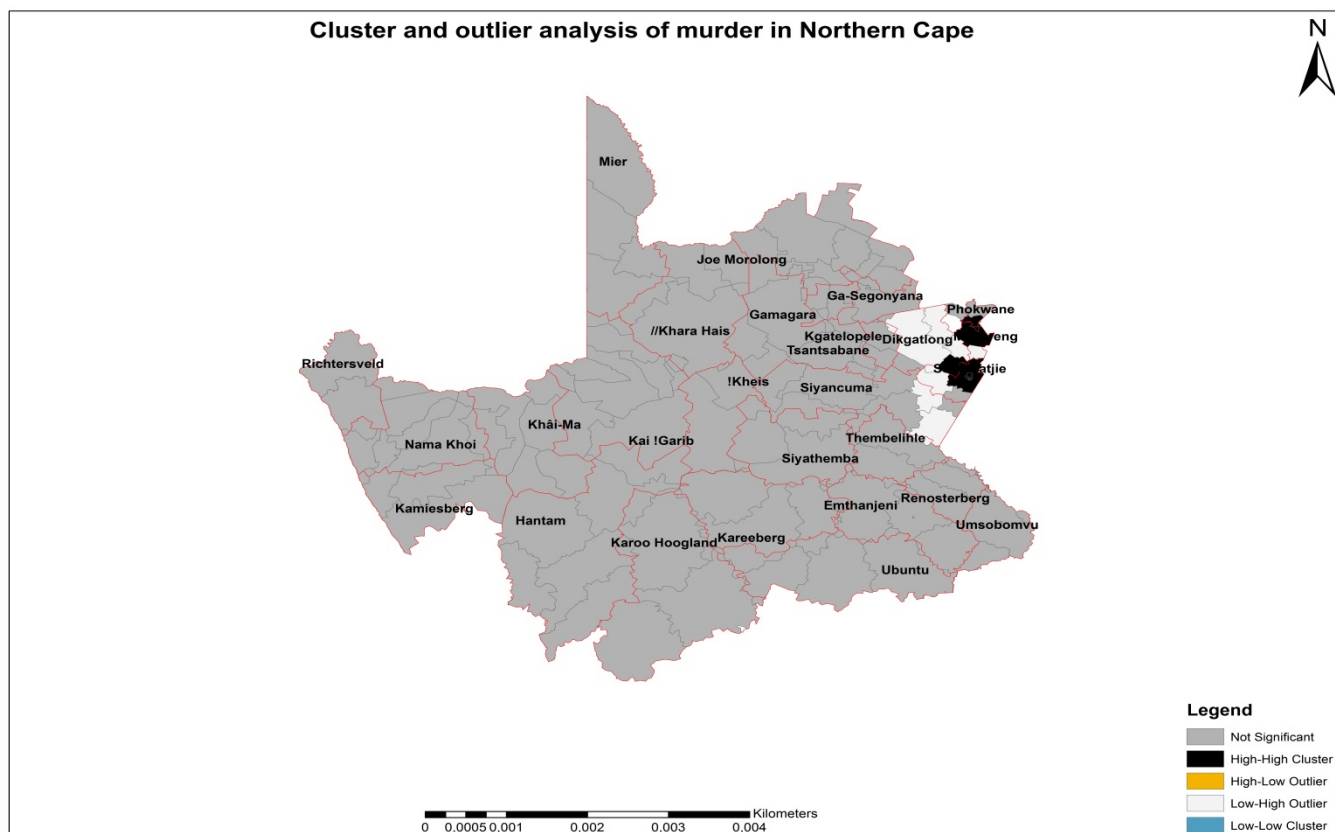


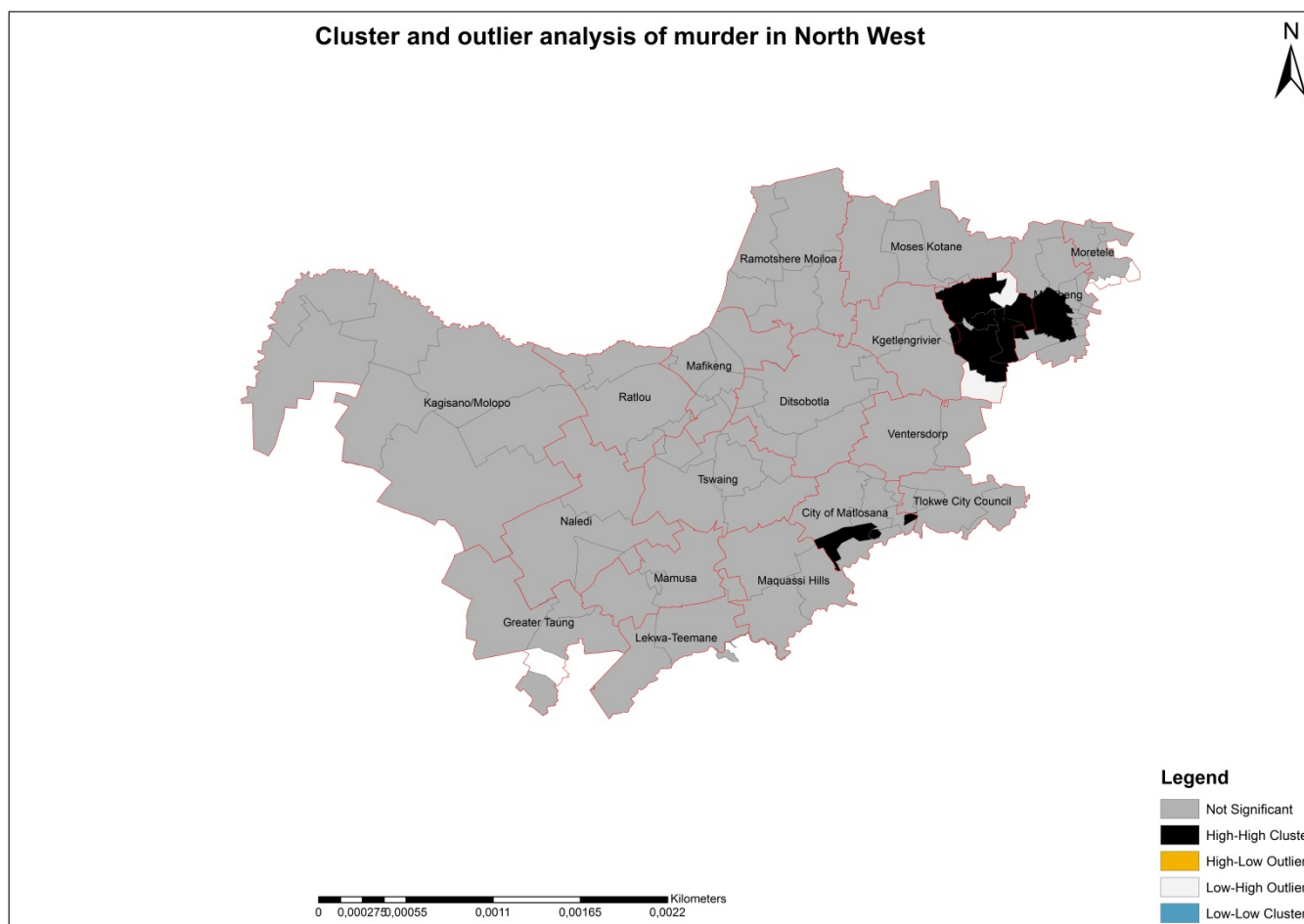
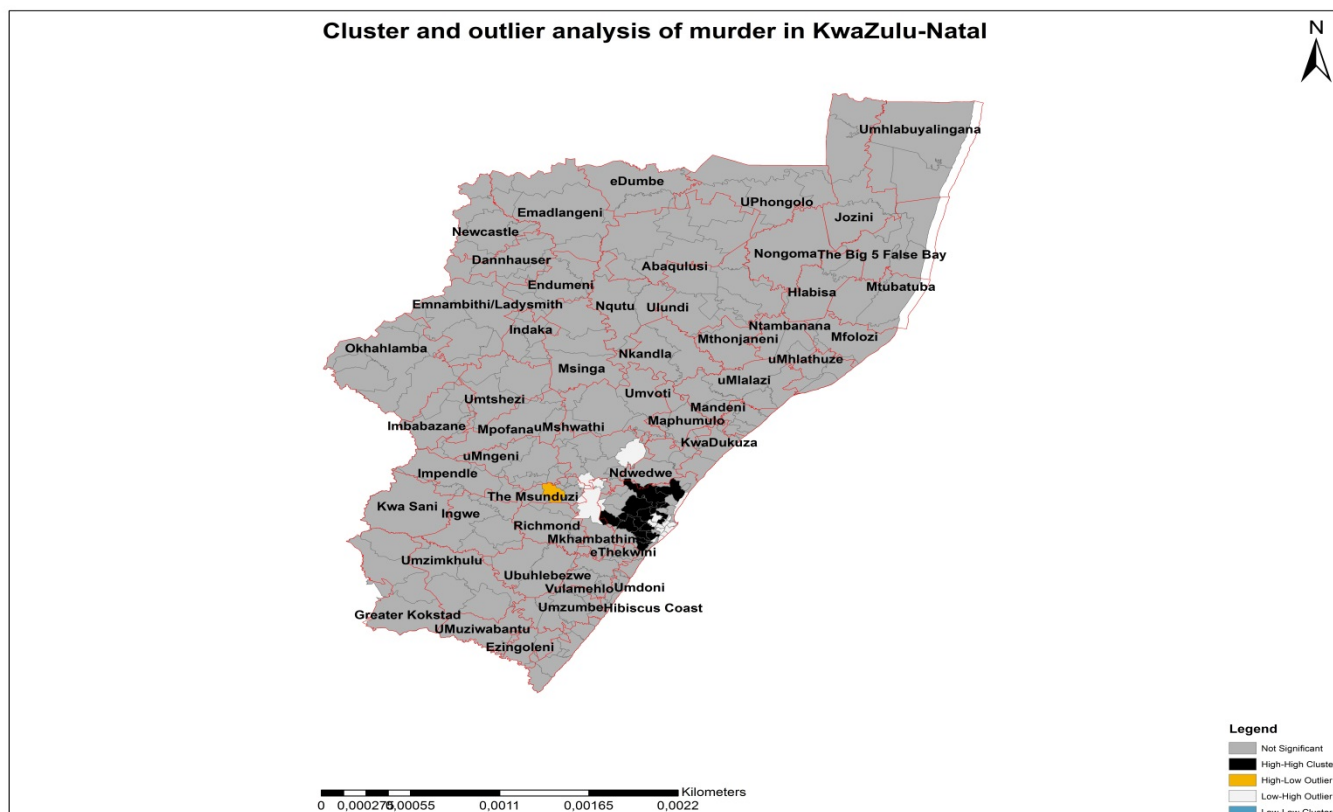




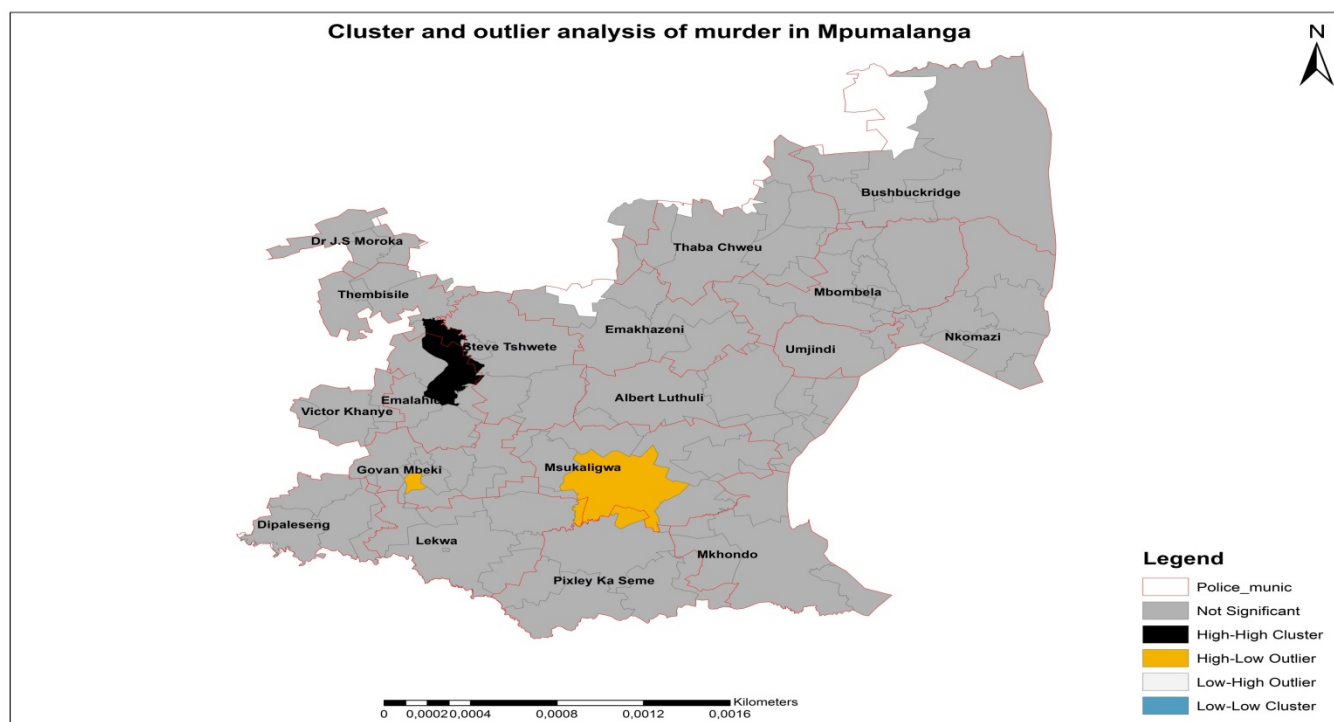
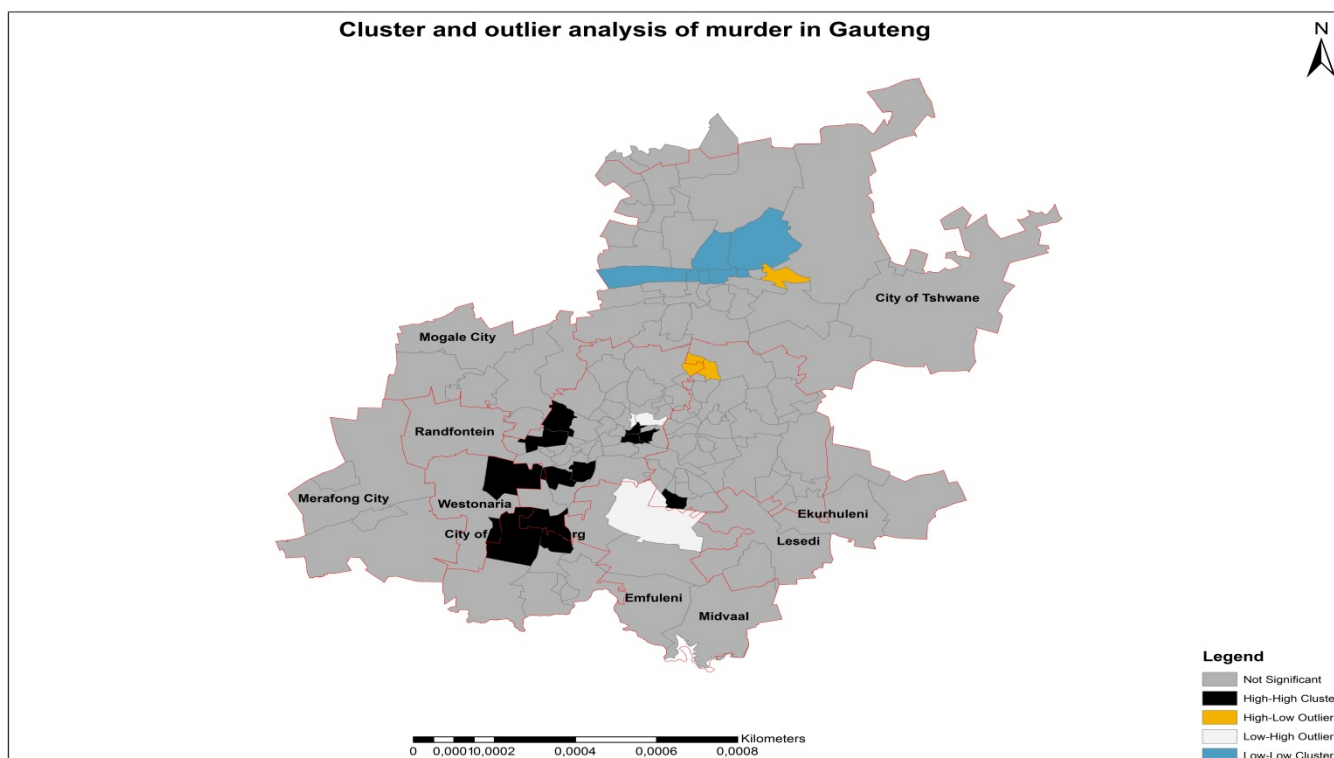


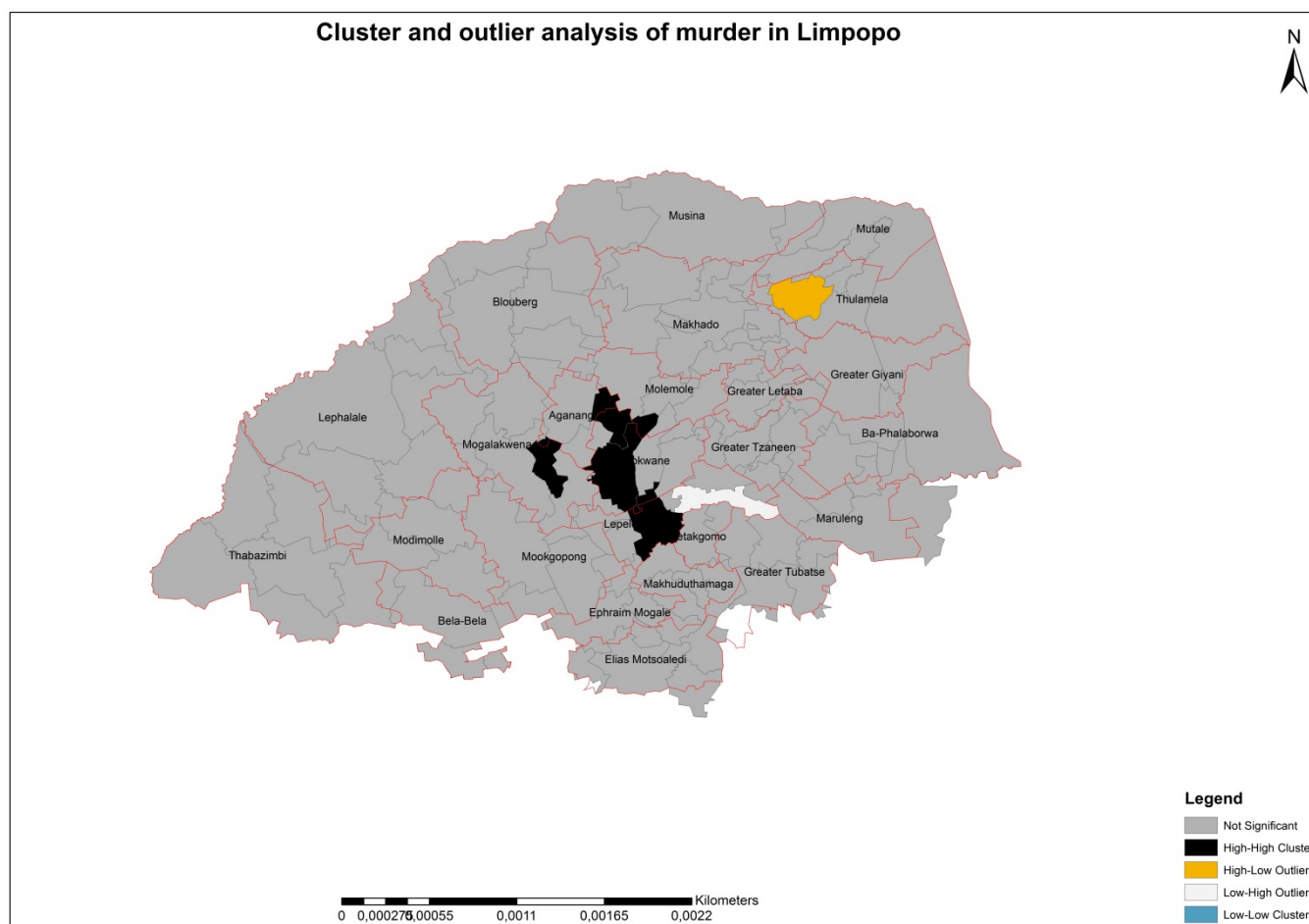












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