6. SUMMARY STATISTICS

6.1 Crimes Recorded\textsuperscript{66}

The expectation which many had in 1994 that crime – especially violent crime – would decrease has not fully materialized. Crime figures for 2000 indicate that the number of recorded crimes was at an all-time high, although the figures for a majority of crimes have decreased somewhat in the last period under observation: 2001/2002 (although still at higher levels than for the period 1994/95-1999/2000).

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>5,224.0</td>
<td>5,195.6</td>
<td>5,003.8</td>
<td>5,045.8</td>
<td>5,217.9</td>
<td>5,456.4</td>
<td>5,653.0</td>
<td>5,571.0</td>
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Thus, there was a certain decrease in the overall crime level through 1996/97 followed by a steady increase with peak high rates in 2000/2001. This upward trend was arrested in the last reporting period of 2001/2002.

\textsuperscript{66} 2000 was the last full calendar year for which official police crime statistics based on old methodology were released by the Crime Information Analysis Centre (CIAC) of the South African Police Service. A moratorium on police crime statistics was introduced in early 2000 in order to review the methods for gathering and presenting police statistics. New data were released in November 2001 covering the period between January and September 2001, but the new methodology was for the first time fully used in the 2001/2002 Annual Report. Pre-1994 data should not be considered to be reliable as the mechanism of collection and verification of the eleven police agencies operating in the country varied enormously in their composition and quality.

\textsuperscript{67} The total crimes recorded per year is based on the following crimes: murder, attempted murder, robbery with aggravating circumstances, other robbery, rape, serious assault (grievous bodily harm, GBH), common assault, housebreaking (business and residential premises), stock (livestock) theft, shoplifting, theft of motor vehicles, theft out of motor vehicles, other thefts, arson, malicious damage to property, all frauds, drug-related crime, driving under influence of alcohol or drugs, illegal possession of firearms or explosives, hijacking of cars or trucks, cash-in-transit robberies, and bank robberies.
Obviously the overall country crime rates provide only certain indications regarding general trends. However, there are significant variations in the geographical location of crime within the national territory as there are diverse patterns exhibited by different crime types or singular crimes (see also section 7).

Figure 18 depicts overall crime rates for each of the nine provinces in South Africa (2001/2002).  

![Figure 18: Overall crime rates per province, 2001/02](image)

The two provinces (Western Cape and Gauteng) with an overall crime rate higher than 8,000 crime incidents per 100,000 stand out. These are the most developed provinces of South Africa with a concentration of business, public administration and large urban areas (Cape Town, and Johannesburg and Pretoria). It is interesting to note that these two provinces have the highest rates of murder and aggravated robbery, and among the highest rates of serious assault (violent crime) as well as of residential and business break-ins (property crime) and commercial crime. The least crime-ridden province is that of Limpopo, while Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga and North West exhibit similar overall crime levels.

6.2. Further Case Processing

Of the nearly two and one half million recorded crimes in 2000, 1,455,895 went “undetected” (cases where (a) the suspect is unknown and where there is insufficient evidence to enable the police to identify a suspect, and (b) where the suspect is known and a warrant for arrest has been issued, but the suspect’s whereabouts are unknown and no charge has been laid). In addition, just under another half million cases were withdrawn. Of the 609,928 cases that were sent to court, 211,762 ended in a conviction of the accused (Schonteich 1999).

The Annual Report also provides data for 2000/2001 and an analysis of trends in the so called “more policeable crimes” (crimes such as aggravated robbery, housebreaking, theft of/from motor vehicles, and stock theft, which it is claimed can be deterred and prevented by an increase in conventional styles of policing). However, caution should be exercised in comparing only two consecutive yearly rates and focusing on the potential of different policing styles to influence trends in crime.
The number of cases that resulted in a conviction, as a proportion of the number of reported cases, was rather low. In 2000, it ranged from 49% for drug-related offences, 18% for murder, 8% for rape, and 2% for car jacking. This means that on average only one out of every five and one half reported murders end in the conviction of the perpetrator. For rape, the comparable ratio is one out of 11, and for car jacking one out of 53 (Schonteich 1999).

Once a case enters the prosecution service, the criminal justice system improves. On average, of all crimes that are prosecuted some three quarters result in a conviction of the accused (Schonteich 1999). This is a result which compares favorably internationally.

6.3 Budget and Financial Resources

Since 1994, there has been a constant increase of government expenditures on the safety and justice sectors. Still, only part of these expenditures went directly into crime prevention and control. Undergoing radical transformation, both the police and justice sectors have had to direct a significant portion of funds into the restructuring process itself, including the recruitment of new staff and balancing of the ethnic composition of the work force.

The 2001 national budget reflects the Government’s commitment to improving its services in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice. The Government’s awareness that raising capacity and improving the quality of service delivery in the justice system are critical to the quality of life of all its citizens led to additional budget allocations to the safety and security sector in 2001.

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<th>Table 10: Budget allocations 2001 in US$</th>
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<tr>
<td>Safety and Security (Police)</td>
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<td>Justice (Prosecution and courts)</td>
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<td>Correctional Services</td>
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