

**INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES
PRESENTATION TO THE
PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON POLICE**

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Institute for Security Studies

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The Governance, Crime and Justice Division of the ISS works to inform and improve policy and public discourse on crime, corruption, its prevention and the functioning of the criminal justice system. We do this by conducting research, analysing policy, disseminating information and providing expertise as a contribution towards a safer and secure society.

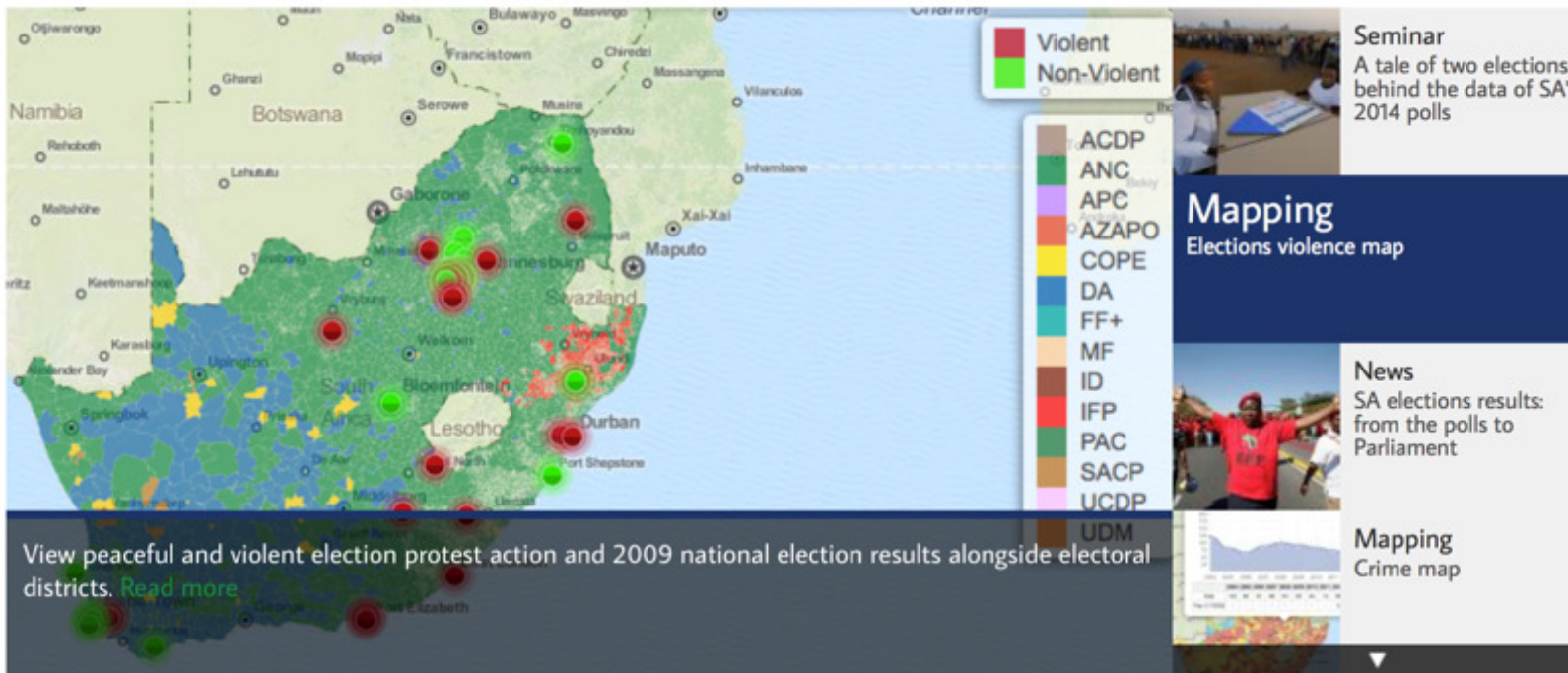
Our Vision: A safe and prosperous Africa for all its people.

CRIME HUB KEY FOCUS AREAS



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The CrimeHub is South Africa's most complete source for ready-to-use information, statistics and analysis on crime and safety. [Read more...](#)

CRIME STATS PRESENTED AS TOTALS & RATIOS

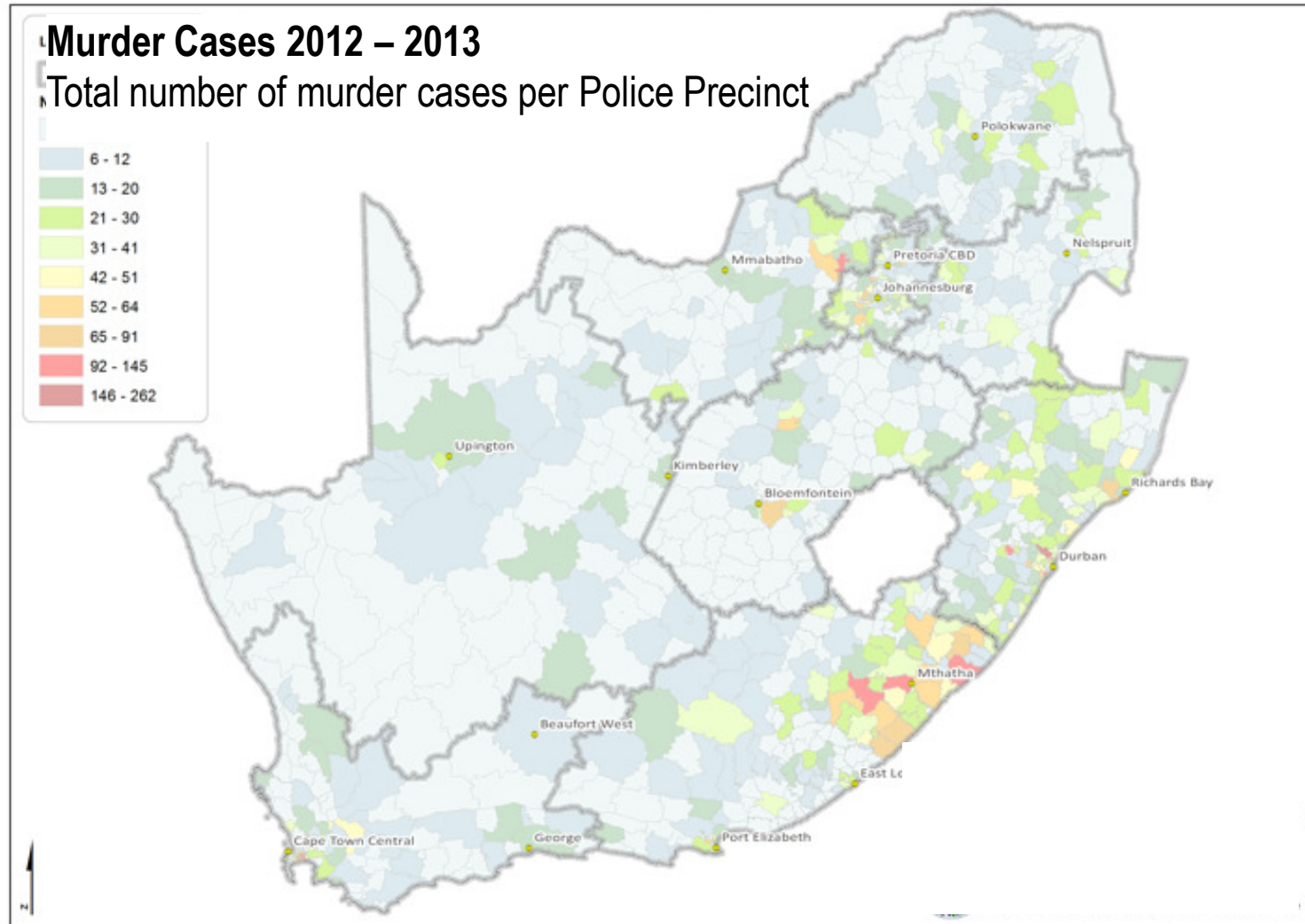
TOTALS
16 259 murders

| Calculation | 2012/2013 |
|--|------------------|
| Murders (M) | 16 259 |
| Population (P) | 52 300 000 |
| $M \div P \times 100\,000$ | 31.1 |

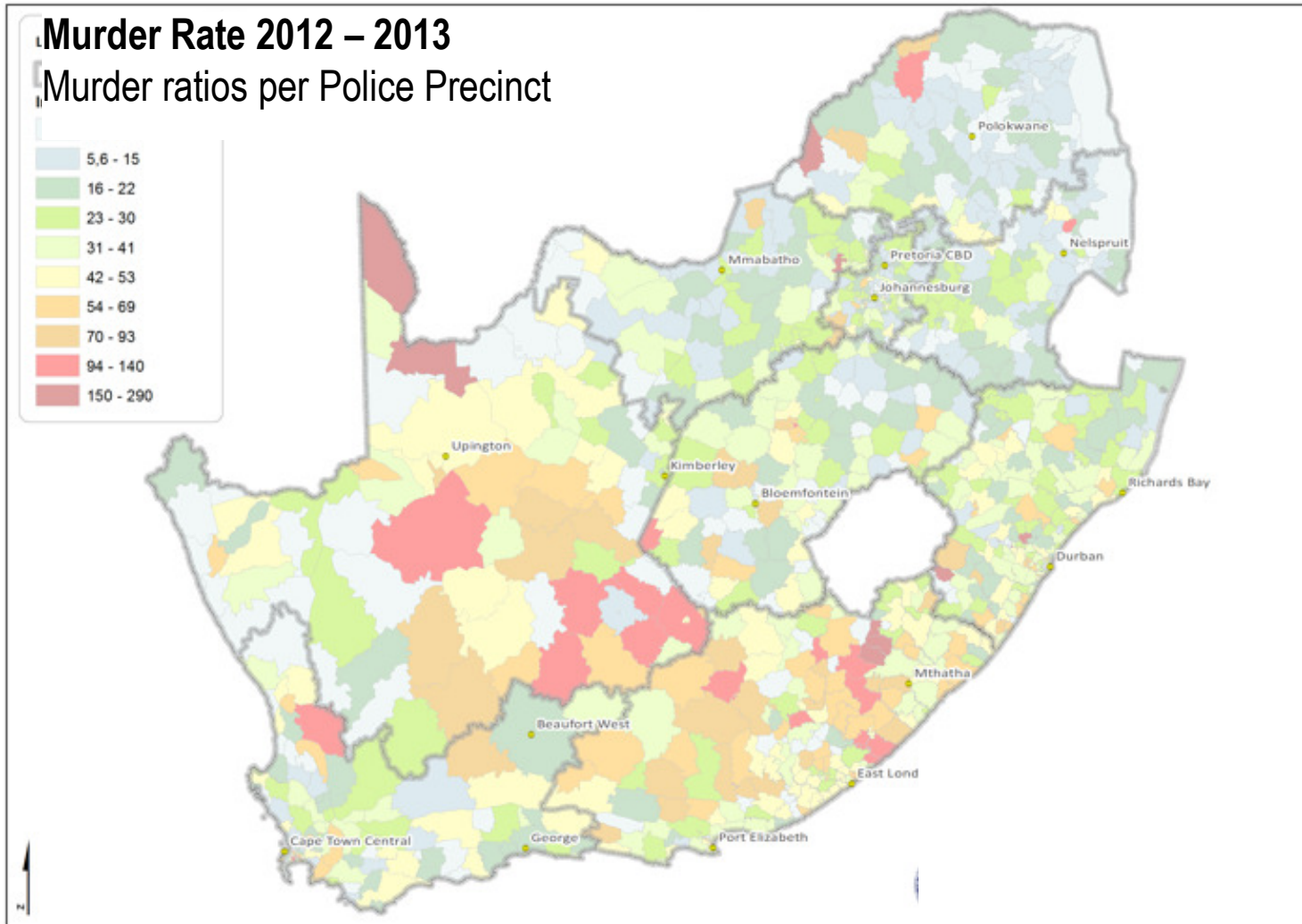
RATIOS
31.1 murders
per 100 000
people

- Provides the total incidents recorded
- An indicator of the workload facing the police at a particular area
- Crimes per 100 000 of the population
- Provides a better risk assessment across locations & time frames

SA MURDER CASES DISTRIBUTION



SA MURDER RATIOS DISTRIBUTION



CRIME STATISTICS COMPARISON TOOL

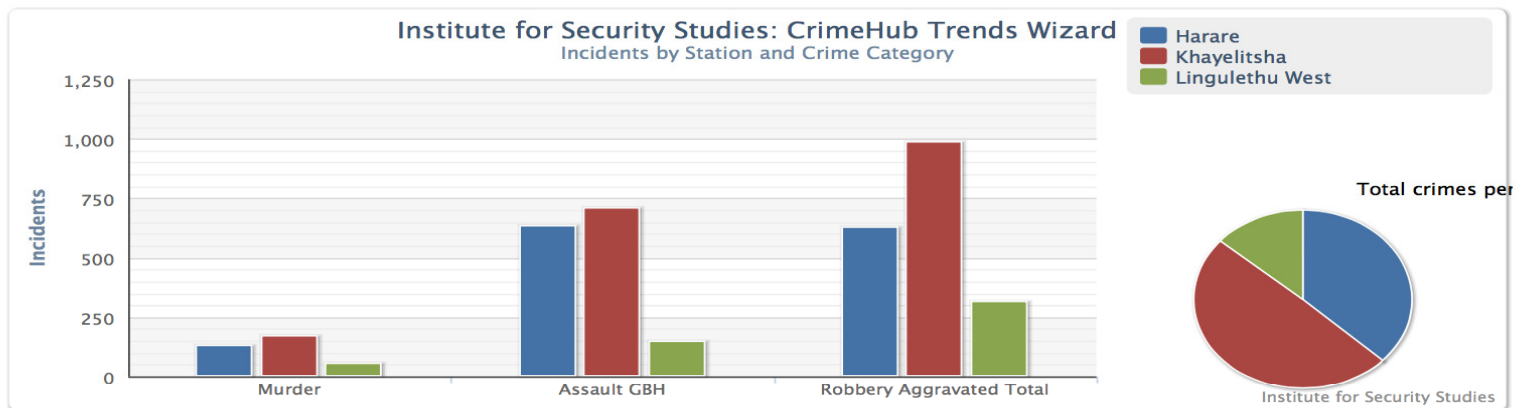
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SA Crime Stats

Crime statistics for each police precinct

Incidents by Station and Crime Category



| Harare | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Murder | 132 | Assault GBH | 634 |
| Robbery Aggravated Total | 627 | | |

| Khayelitsha | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Murder | 168 | Assault GBH | 707 |
| Robbery Aggravated Total | 989 | | |

| Lingulethu West | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Murder | 54 | Assault GBH | 145 |
| Robbery Aggravated Total | 316 | | |

CRIME STATISTICS MAP

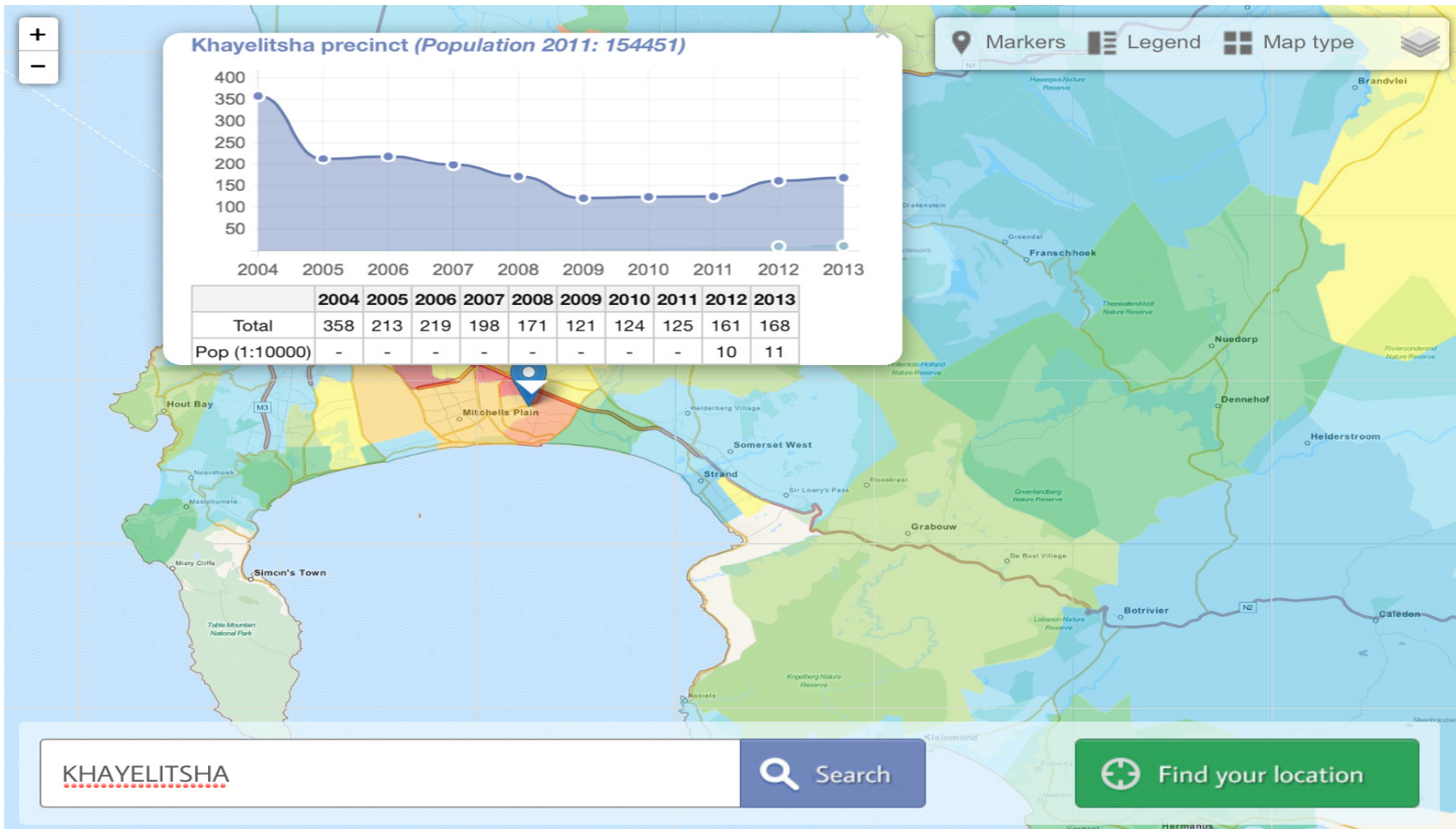
SA Crime Map

Crime statistics for each police precinct

Murder

2013

The SA Crime Map viewer displays police precincts with crime levels, the more intense the colour the higher the crime level. You can change the type of crime and year above. For more instructions please [click here](#)



PUBLIC VIOLENCE MONITORING AND MAPPING PROJECT

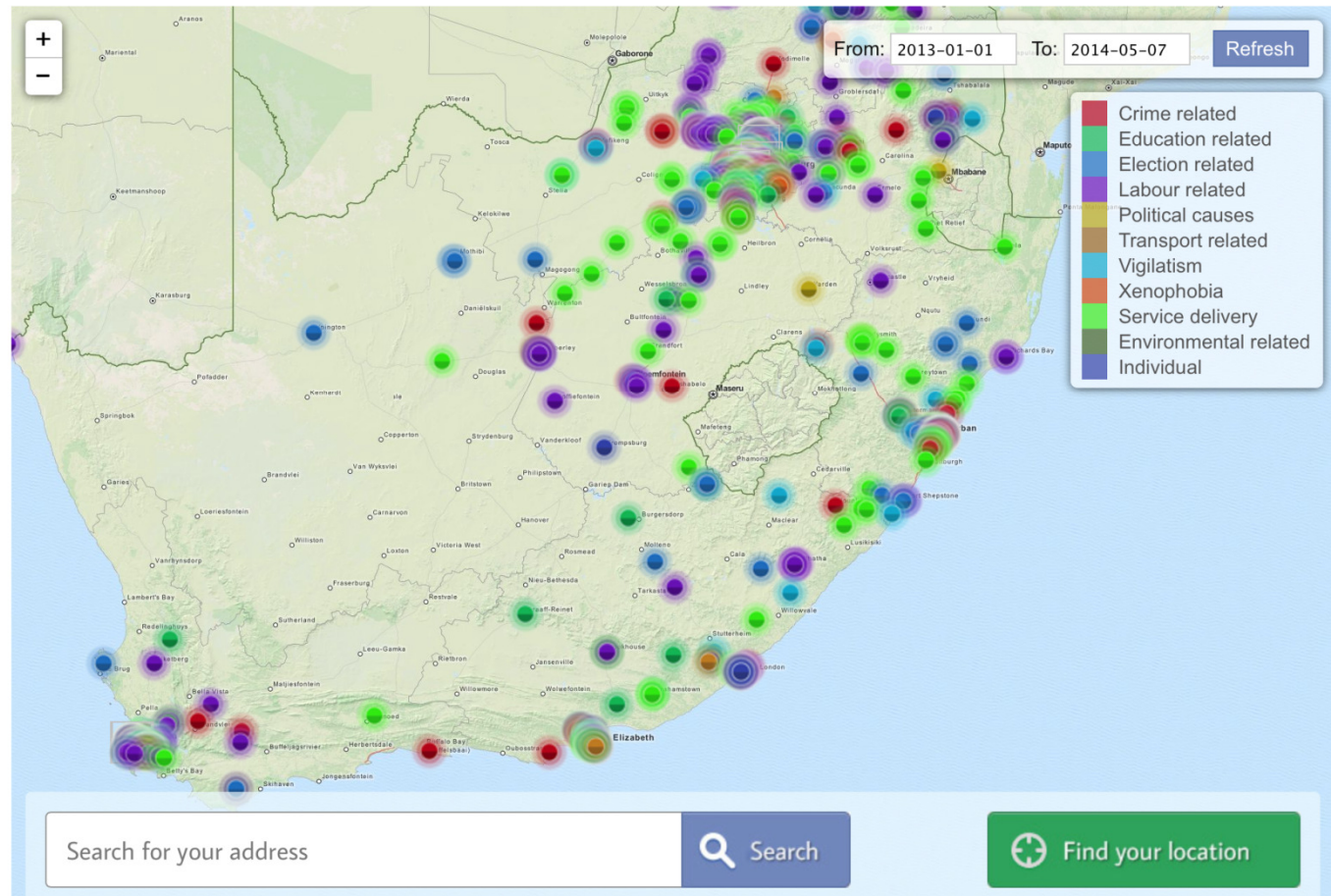
Mapping forms of protest/ strike actions and public violence since January 2013

Public protest and violence map

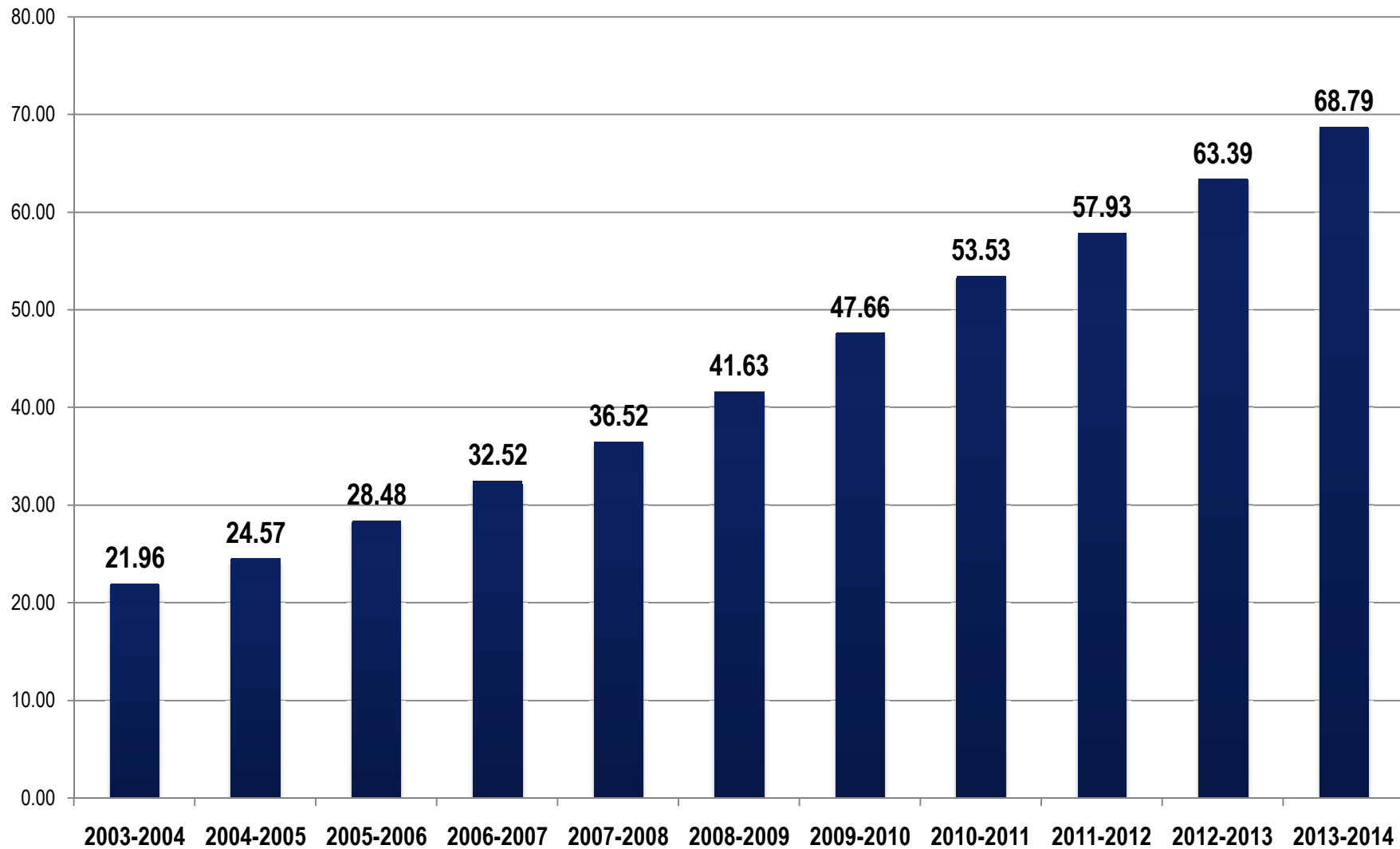
View peaceful and violent protest action online

All

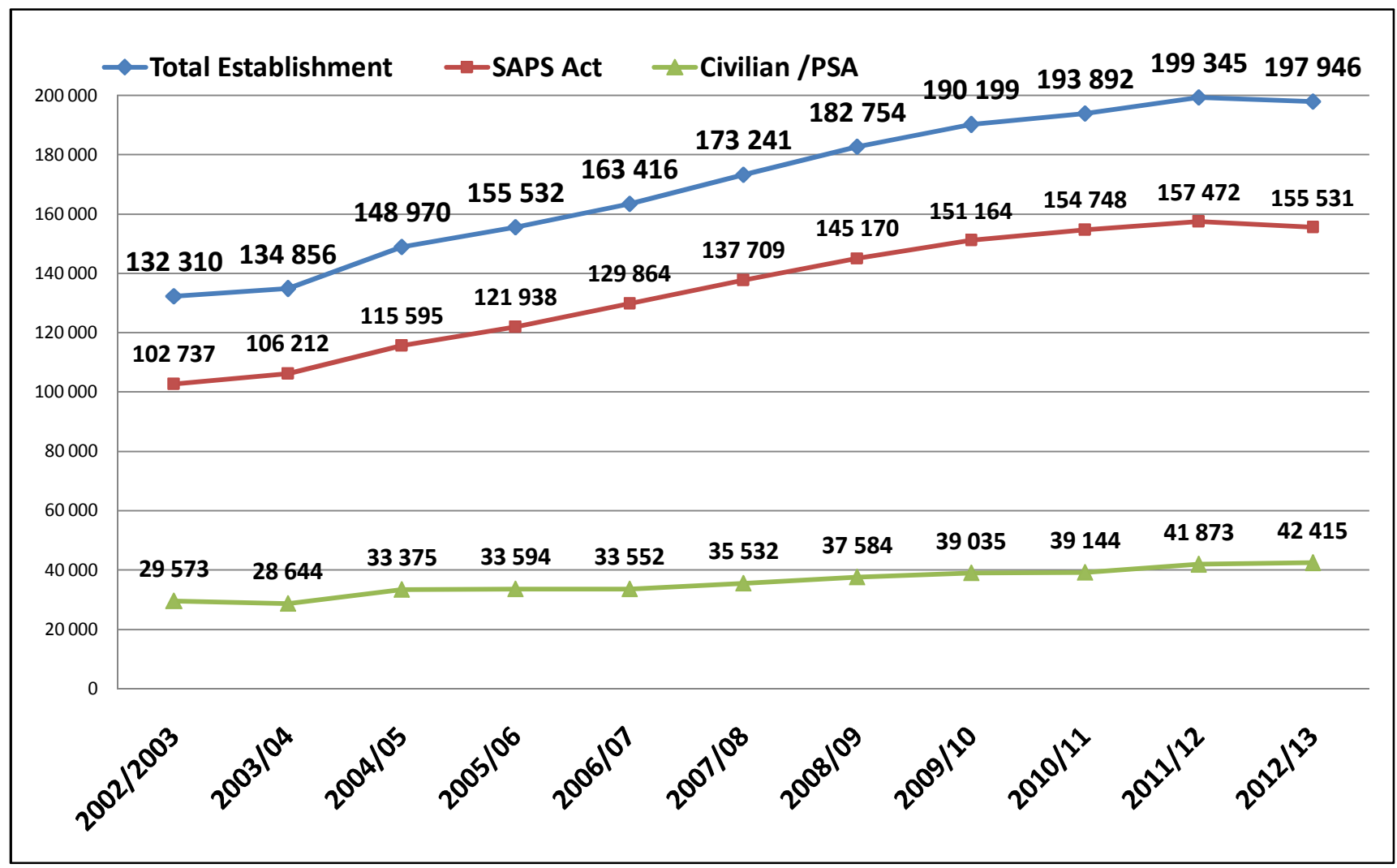
Report here



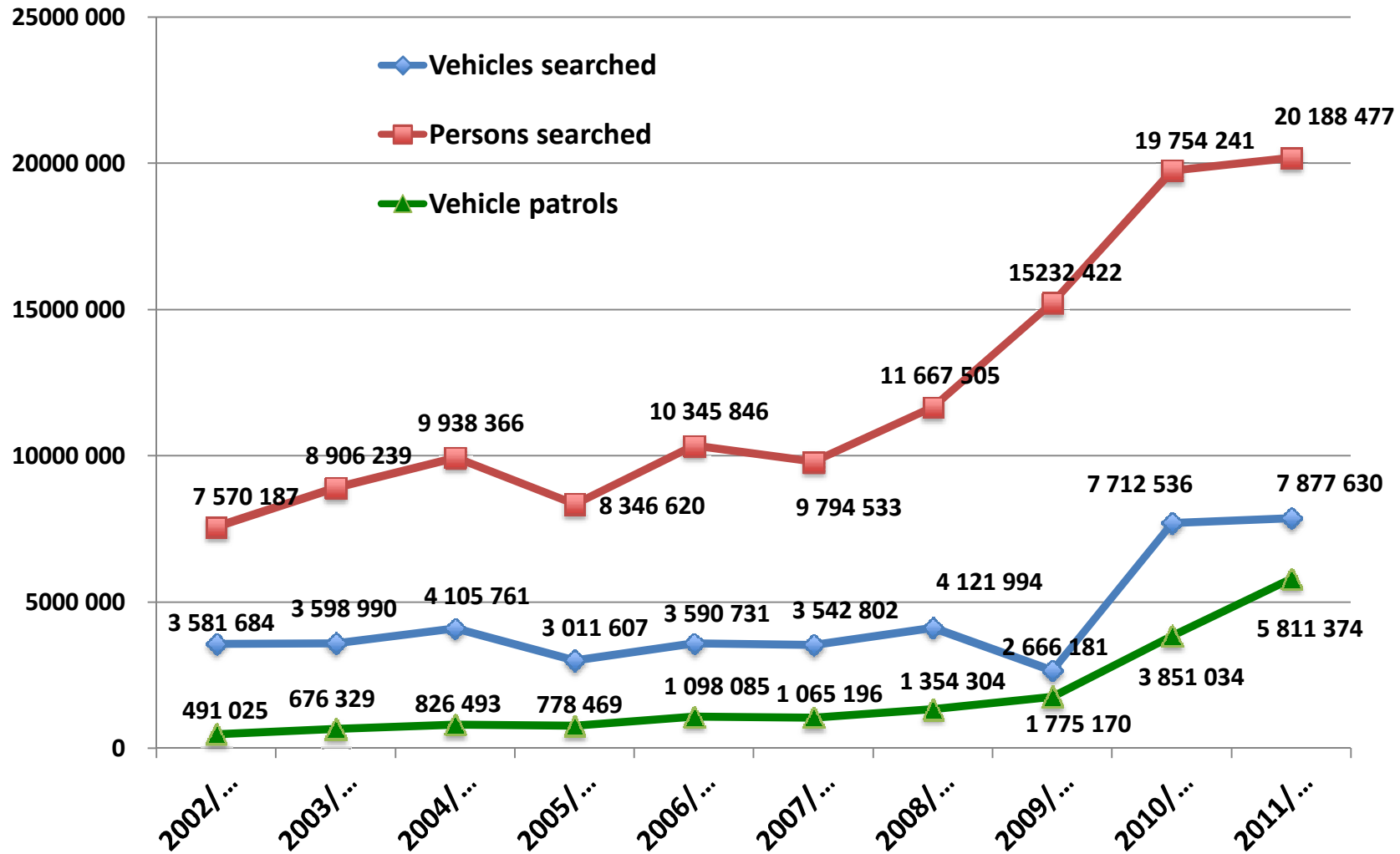
SAPS ANNUAL BUDGET 2002/03 TO 2012/13



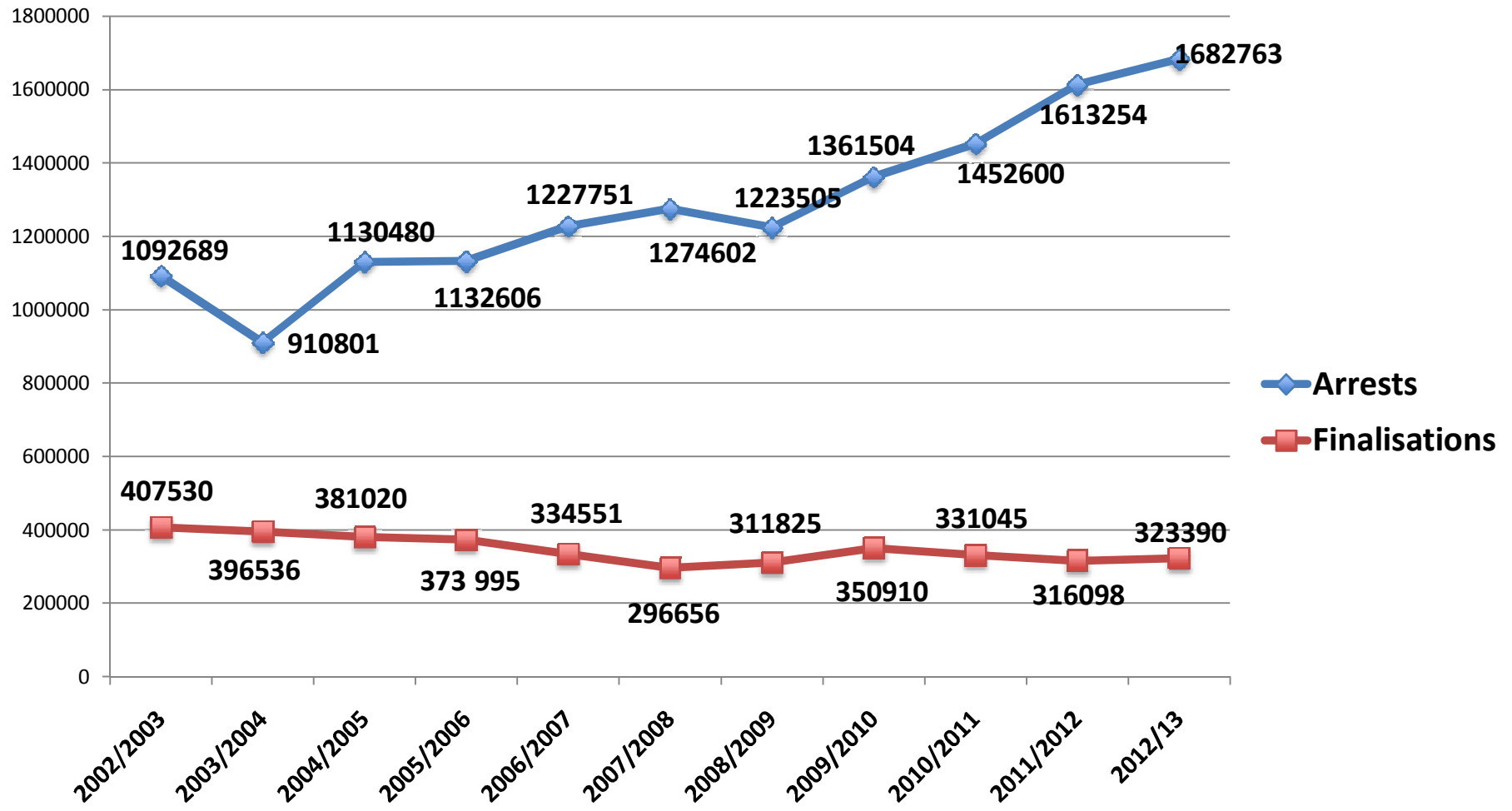
SAPS PERSONNEL TRENDS 2002/03 TO 2012/13



SAPS SEARCHES & PATROLS 2002/03 TO 2011/12



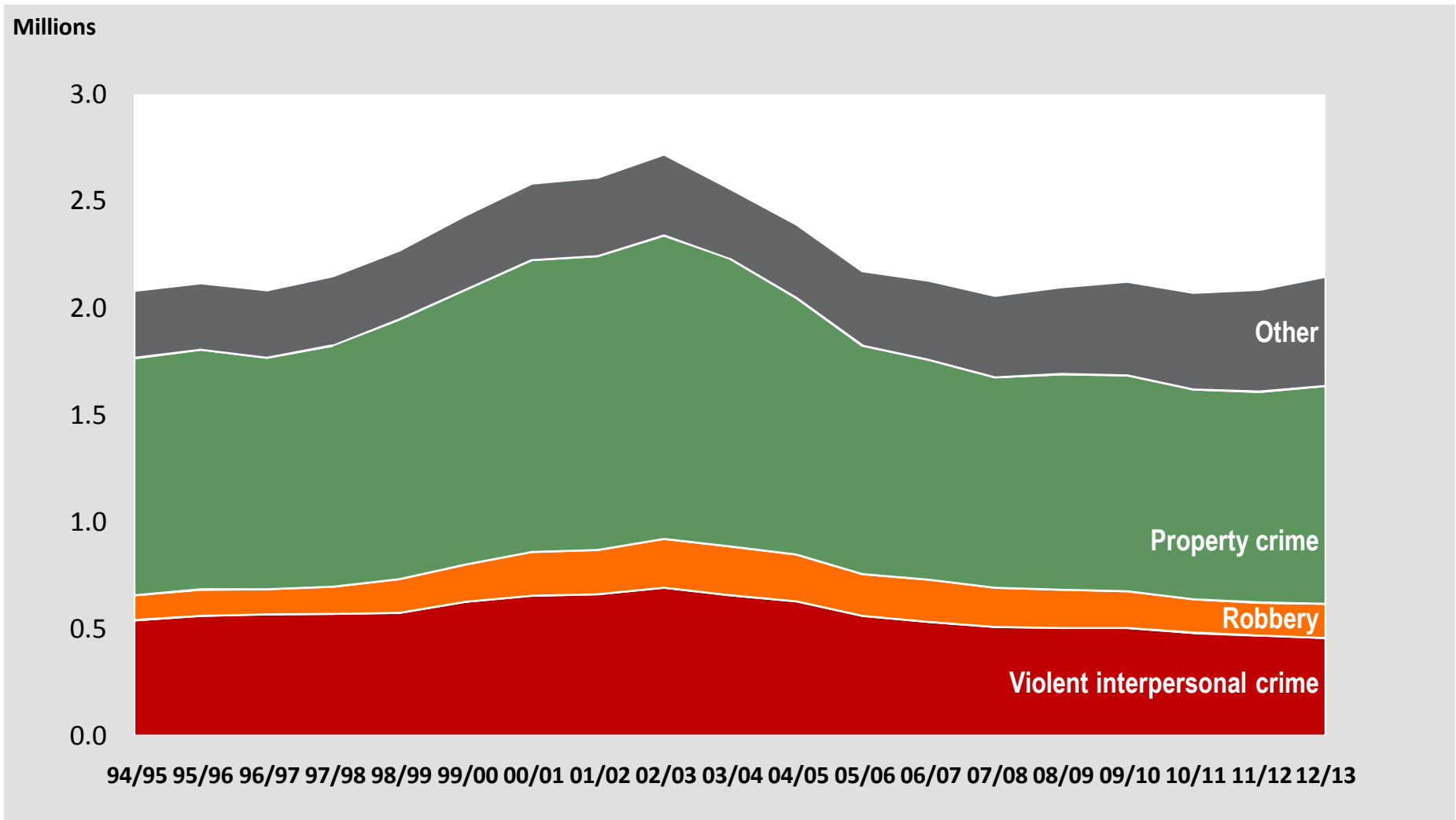
SAPS ARRESTS & NPA CASE FINALISATIONS



THE DANGER OF MASS ARRESTS

- In 2012/13 the police made **1 682 763 million** arrests.
- Increase of 35,3% or 459 000 more arrests compared to 2008/09
- Some international studies have found that large-scale arrests for petty crimes may decrease crime rates in the short term, but **increase** the crime rate in the long term.
- Most arrests for petty crime do not act as deterrent to individuals, especially if they are unemployed and feel marginalised.
- Rather, arrests compound alienation and can result in a breakdown of community relations with the police – resulting in further disorder and law breaking.
- It is clear that the strategy of mass arrests is limited to the police. Given the NPA case finalisation rate, this is not part of a comprehensive approach towards crime control.

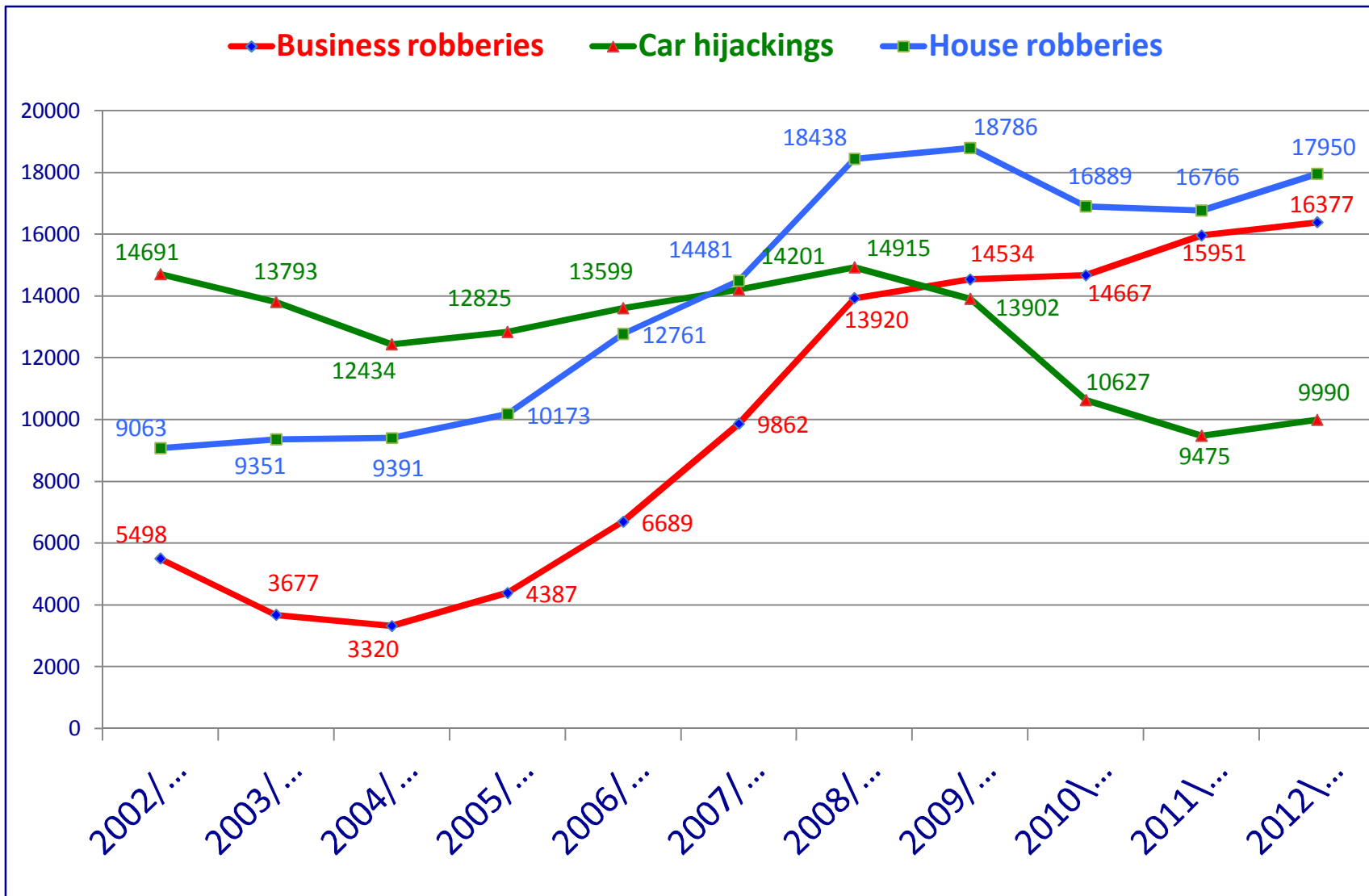
SA CRIME TREND 1994 TO 2013



CRIME CATEGORIES THAT INCREASED IN 2012/13

| Category | Number | No. Change | % Change | Ratio % |
|--|---------|------------|--------------|---------|
| Public violence | 1 783 | 631 | 54,8% | 52,7% |
| Truck hijacking | 943 | 122 | 14,9% | 13,3% |
| Kidnapping | 4 333 | 459 | 11,8% | 10,4% |
| Attempted murder | 16 363 | 1 504 | 10,1% | 8,7% |
| Robbery at residential premises | 17 950 | 1 184 | 7,1% | 5,6% |
| Theft out of or from motor vehicle | 139 658 | 9 183 | 7,0% | 5,6% |
| Burglary at residential premises | 262 113 | 16 582 | 6,8% | 5,3% |
| Carjacking | 9 990 | 515 | 5,4% | 4,0% |
| Burglary at non-residential premises | 73 630 | 3 589 | 5,1% | 3,7% |
| Robbery with aggravating circumstances | 105 888 | 4 685 | 4,6% | 3,2% |
| Murder | 16 259 | 650 | 4,2% | 2,6% |
| Commercial crime | 91 569 | 3 519 | 4,0% | 2,6% |
| Sexual crimes | 66 387 | 1 873 | 2,9% | 1,5% |
| Robbery at non-residential premises | 16 377 | 426 | 2,7% | 1,3% |
| Common robbery | 53 540 | 560 | 1,1% | -0,3% |

TRIO CRIME TRENDS 2002/03 TO 2012/13



INSURANCE INDUSTRY CLAIMS

| Crime types Red = increase Blue = decrease | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|----------|----------|----------|
| House robbery | 4 – 21% | 3 – 7% | 13 – 47% |
| Business robbery | 19 – 28% | 2 – 34% | 2 – 25% |
| Vehicle hijacking | 19 – 31% | 17 – 22% | 8 – 22% |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Vehicle theft | 8 – 17% | 3 – 22% | 2 – 9% |
| Business burglary | 5 – 9% | 2 – 13% | 2 – 19% |
| House burglary | 4 – 12% | 6 - 3% | 2 – 12% |

South African Insurance Crime Bureau (SAICB)

Grant Thornton International Business Report

Crime survey: 2007 - July 2013



CRIME CATEGORIES THAT DECREASED IN 2012/13

| Category | Number | No. Change | % Change | Ratio % |
|---------------------------------------|---------|------------|--------------|---------|
| Crimen injuria | 29 040 | -2 818 | -8,8% | -10,10% |
| Shoplifting | 71 309 | -539 | -8,0% | -2,10% |
| Neglect and ill-treatment of children | 2 758 | -191 | -6,5% | -7,70% |
| Arson | 6 064 | -354 | -5,5% | -6,80% |
| Common assault | 172 909 | -8 761 | -4,8% | -6,10% |
| All theft | 362 816 | -14 616 | -3,9% | -5,20% |
| Assault GBH | 185 893 | -6 758 | -3,5% | -4,80% |
| Stock-theft | 29 894 | -1 055 | -3,4% | -4,70% |
| Culpable homicide | 11 395 | -393 | -3,3% | -4,60% |
| Theft of mv & motorcycle | 58 370 | -727 | -1,2% | -2,50% |
| Malicious damage to property | 121 113 | -1 108 | -0,9% | -2,20% |

THE LINK BETWEEN POLICE PERFORMANCE & POLICE CONDUCT

Arguably, the ability of the police to control crime through using additional resources so as to increase policing activities appears to have reached a limit.

Modest but consistent scientific evidence supports the hypothesis that the less respectful police are towards suspects and citizens generally, the less people will comply with the law

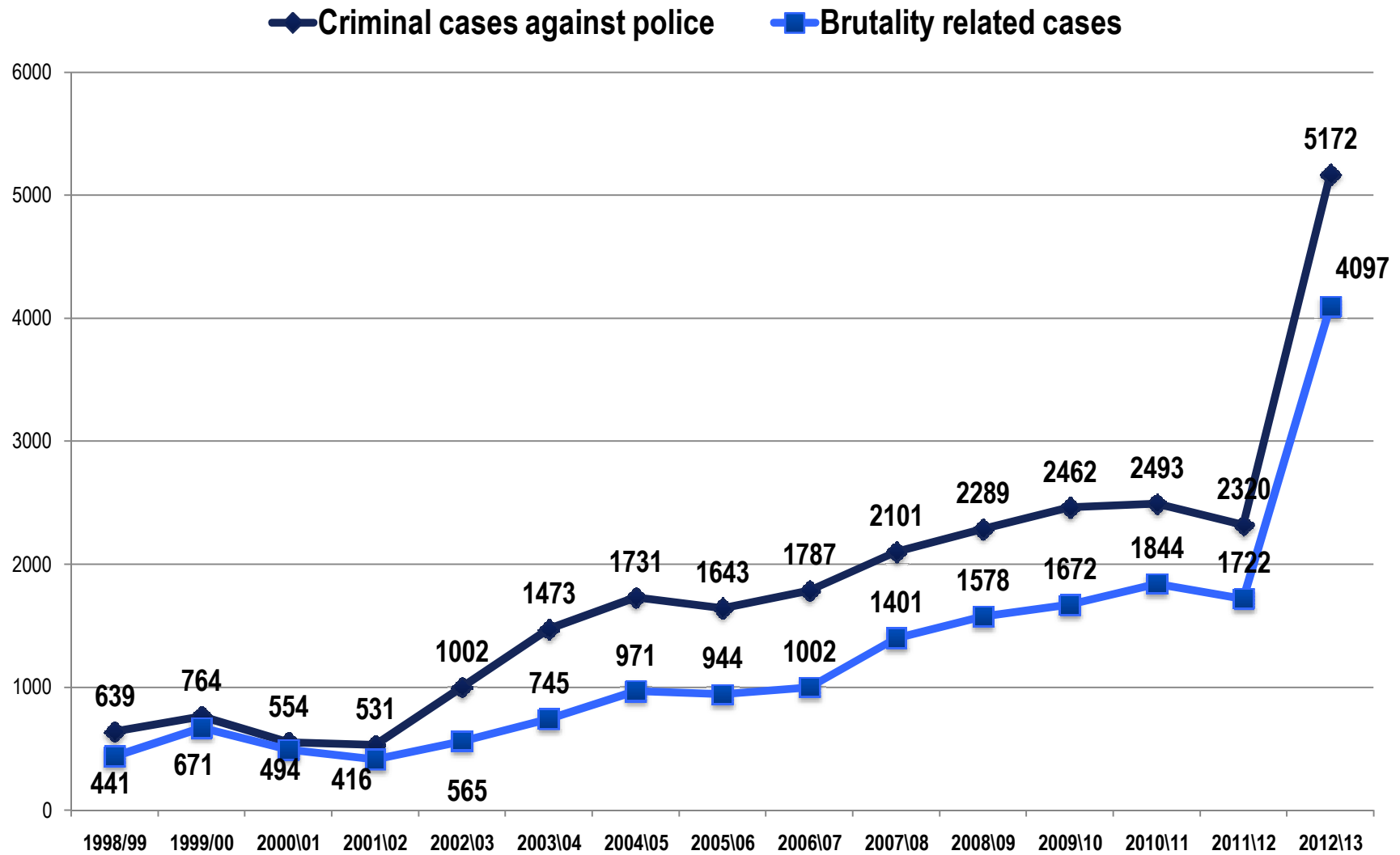
“Making both the style and substance of police practices more "legitimate" in the eyes of the public, particularly high-risk juveniles, may be one of the most effective long-term police strategies for crime prevention.” L W. Sherman, D

Gottfredson, D MacKenzie, J Eck, P Reuter, and S Bushway 1997. Preventing Crime: What Works, What Doesn't, What's Promising. *Report to the U.S. Congress. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Justice*, p. 655

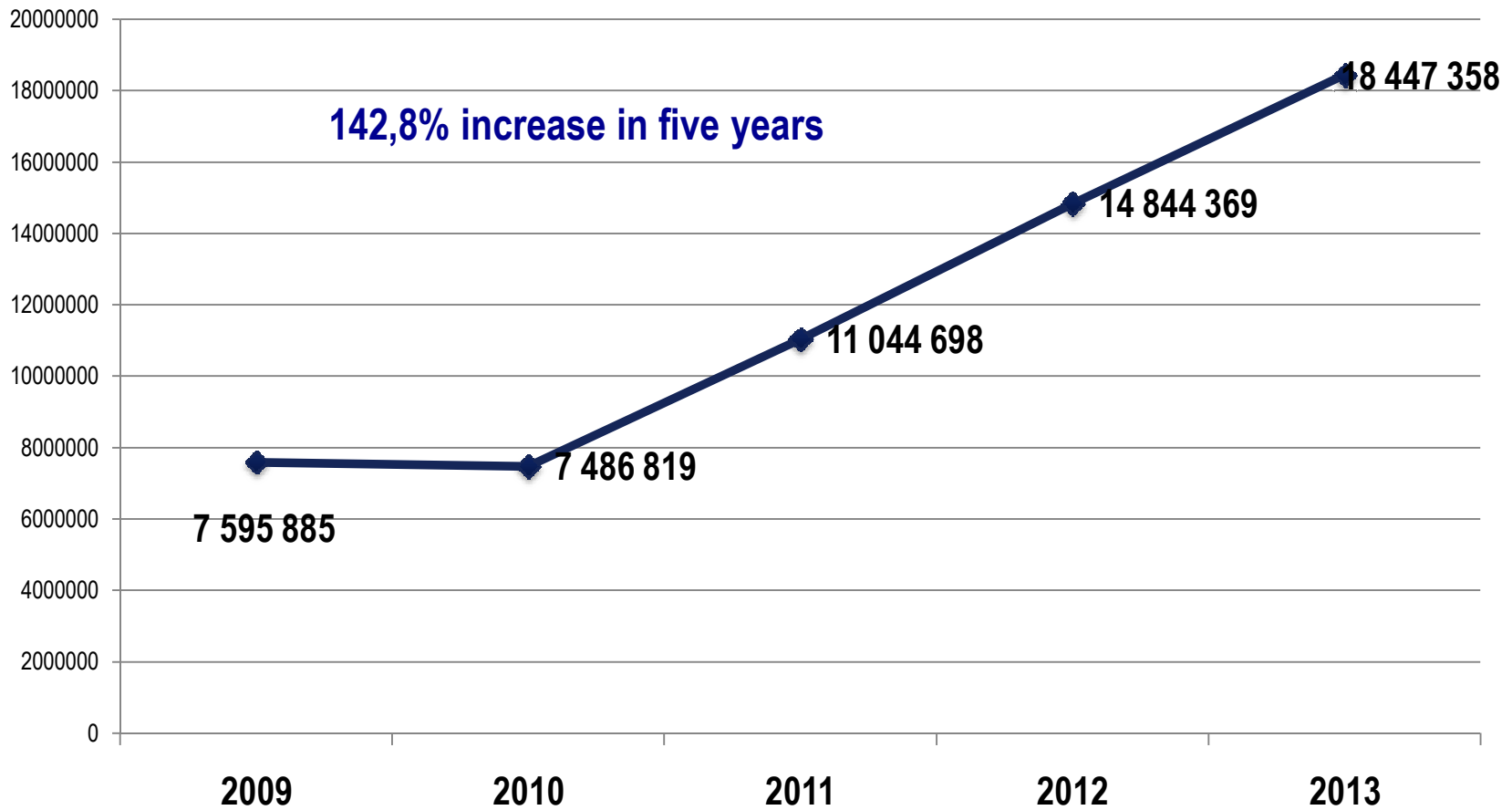
INDICATORS OF POLICE ABUSE OF POWER?

- Between 2001/02 and 2011/12 police brutality cases against police officers recorded by IPID increased by 313%
- In 2012/13 a total of 4 097 cases of assault & torture opened with the IPID – an average of 11 per day.
- Of the 720 deaths reported to the IPID in 2011/12, there was evidence of criminality on the part of police in 162 cases or one in five cases (22%).
- Household experience of police corruption increase from 18,6% in 2007 to 22,9% in 2011 (NVCS)
- 66% of the adult population think that corruption is a widespread problem in the police (HSRC)
- Less than half (41%) of population have any level of trust in the police (HSRC)
- 35% of South Africans interviewed for *futurefact* in 2012 said that they were “scared of the police”.

IPID CASES AGAINST THE POLICE



SAPS CIVIL CLAIMS 2009 - 2013



THE CHALLENGE OF POLICE IMPUNITY?

- Over five years ending 2011/12 – total of 11 880 criminal cases opened with IPID, 2 576 cases referred to NPA
- 129 of these cases ended in convictions – 5% of cases referred
- Proportion of disciplinary hearings ending in a dismissal decreased from 12.2% in 2009/10 to 8.4% in 2012/13
- Over a third (36.6 per cent) of the disciplinary hearings ends with no sanction.
- In 2012/13, out of the 5 861 hearings that were held, 2 137 cases were withdrawn or ended in a not guilty verdict
- The single biggest outcome of a disciplinary hearing in 2012/13 was a “not guilty verdict” (1 641 hearings).
- This happened in one out of every five hearings finalised.
- In the three years ending in 2012/13 “not guilty verdicts” increased substantially (139%)

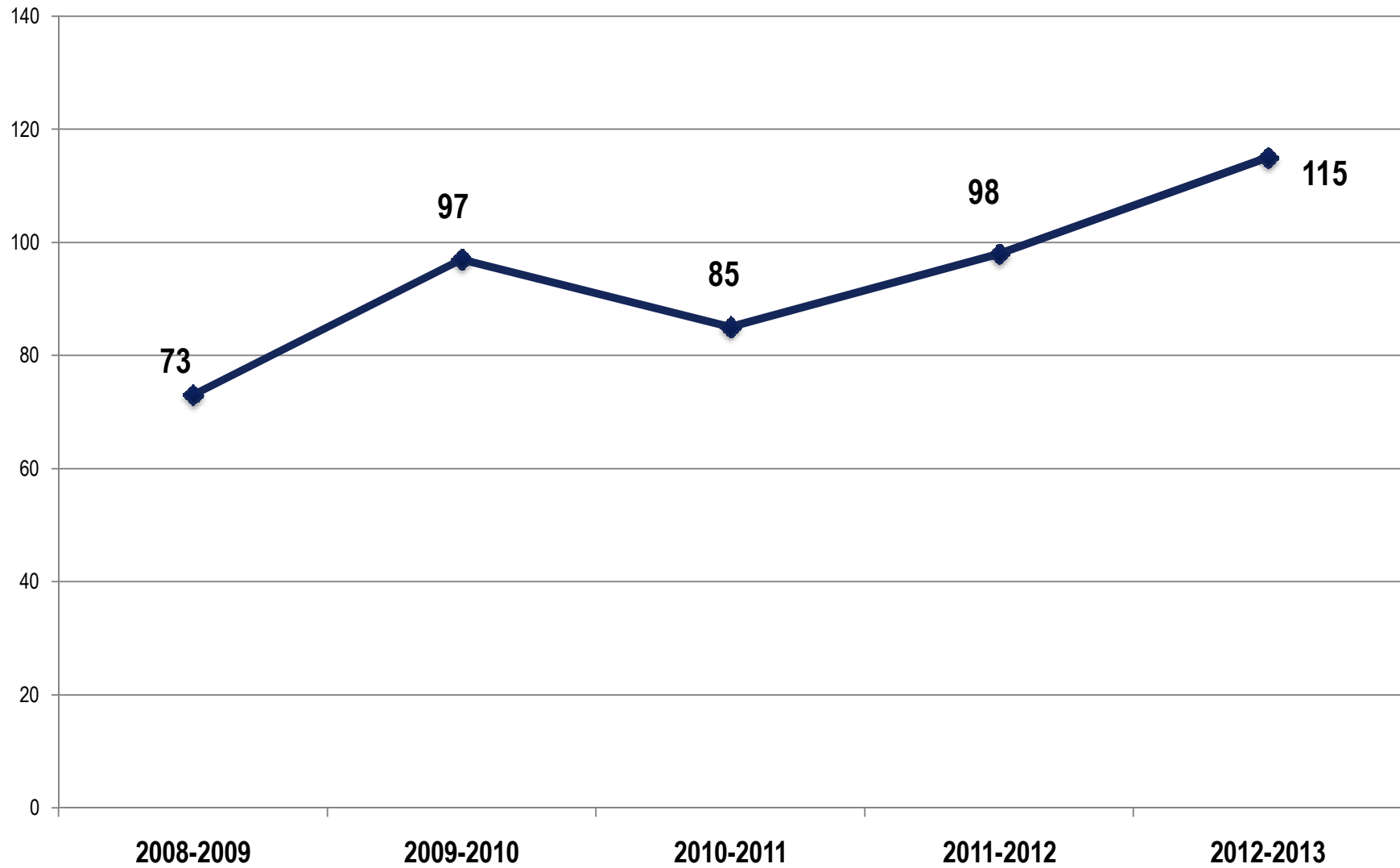
POLICE ABUSE & THE “BAD APPLE” FALLACY

- Internationally & historically blaming “bad apples” for police abuses has been common.
- Since the 1970’s – the “bad apples” theory of police abuse has been recognised as inadequate.
- There are no examples of successfully improving policing relying on simply removing “bad apples.”
- “Enhancing police integrity is an organisational and administrative responsibility that goes well beyond culling individual police officials.” (CB Klockers, SK Ivkovic, MR Haberfield (eds) 2004, *The Contours of Police Integrity*, thousand Oaks CA: Sage Publications, p. 7)
- Senior police management have to take full responsibility & be held directly accountable for changing the culture, behaviour and performance of the police.

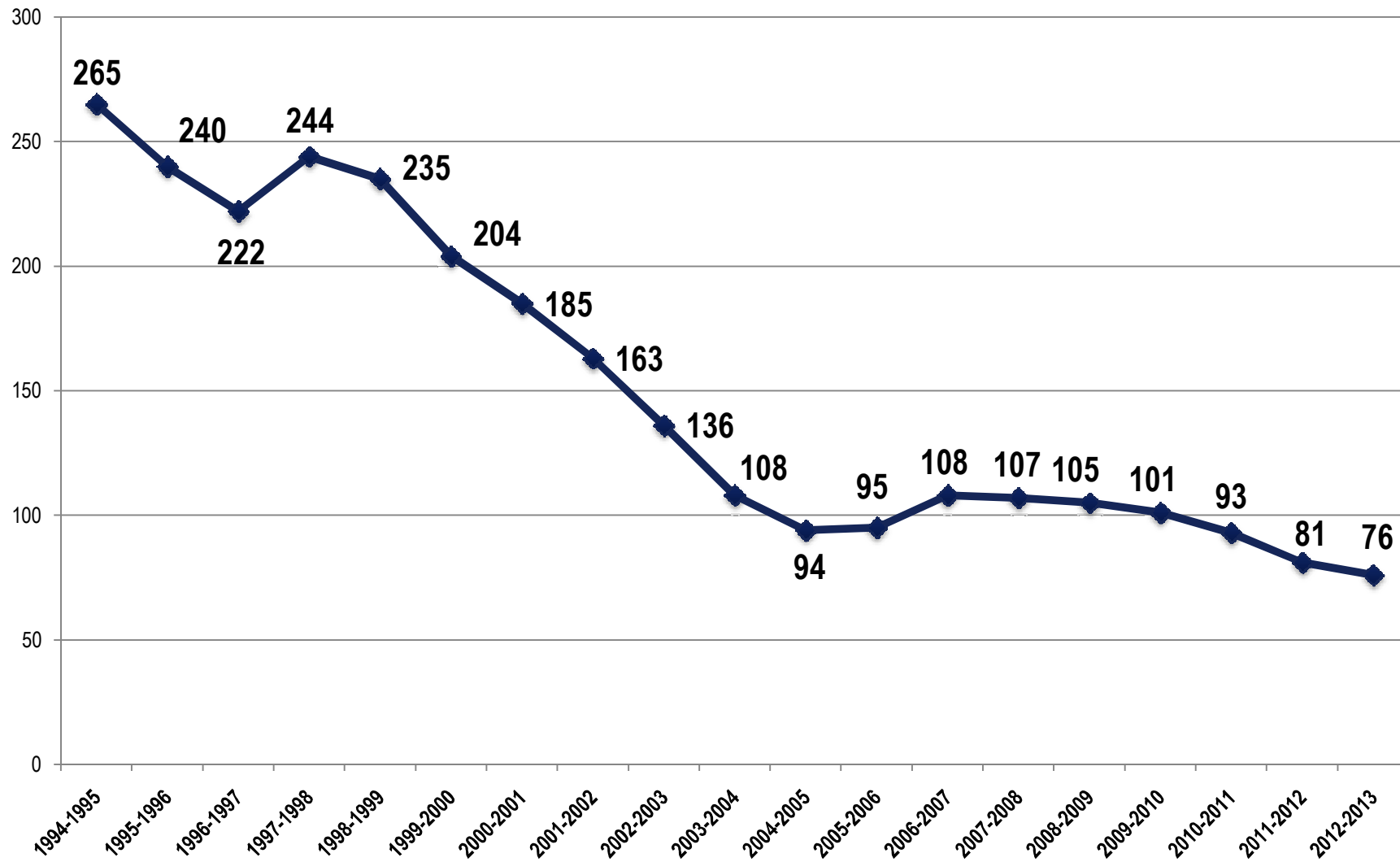
FACTORS AFFECTING SAPS ETHOS & CONDUCT

- “The serial crises of top management” – National Development Plan
- Action not taken against certain senior officials despite evidence of wrong doing – or action is inconsistent
- People are sometimes appointed into senior positions for reasons other than merit and integrity
- Creates the impression that political or personal loyalty is more important than hard work, honesty and qualifications to achieve senior positions in the SAPS
- Contributes to the organisational culture characterised by a ‘code of silence’ & lack of willingness to reflect openly & honestly on key challenges.
- Undermines police morale & willingness to improve
- Some of these issues have been raised by the Portfolio committee on Police over the years

SAPS SUICIDES TREND 2008/09 TO 2012/13

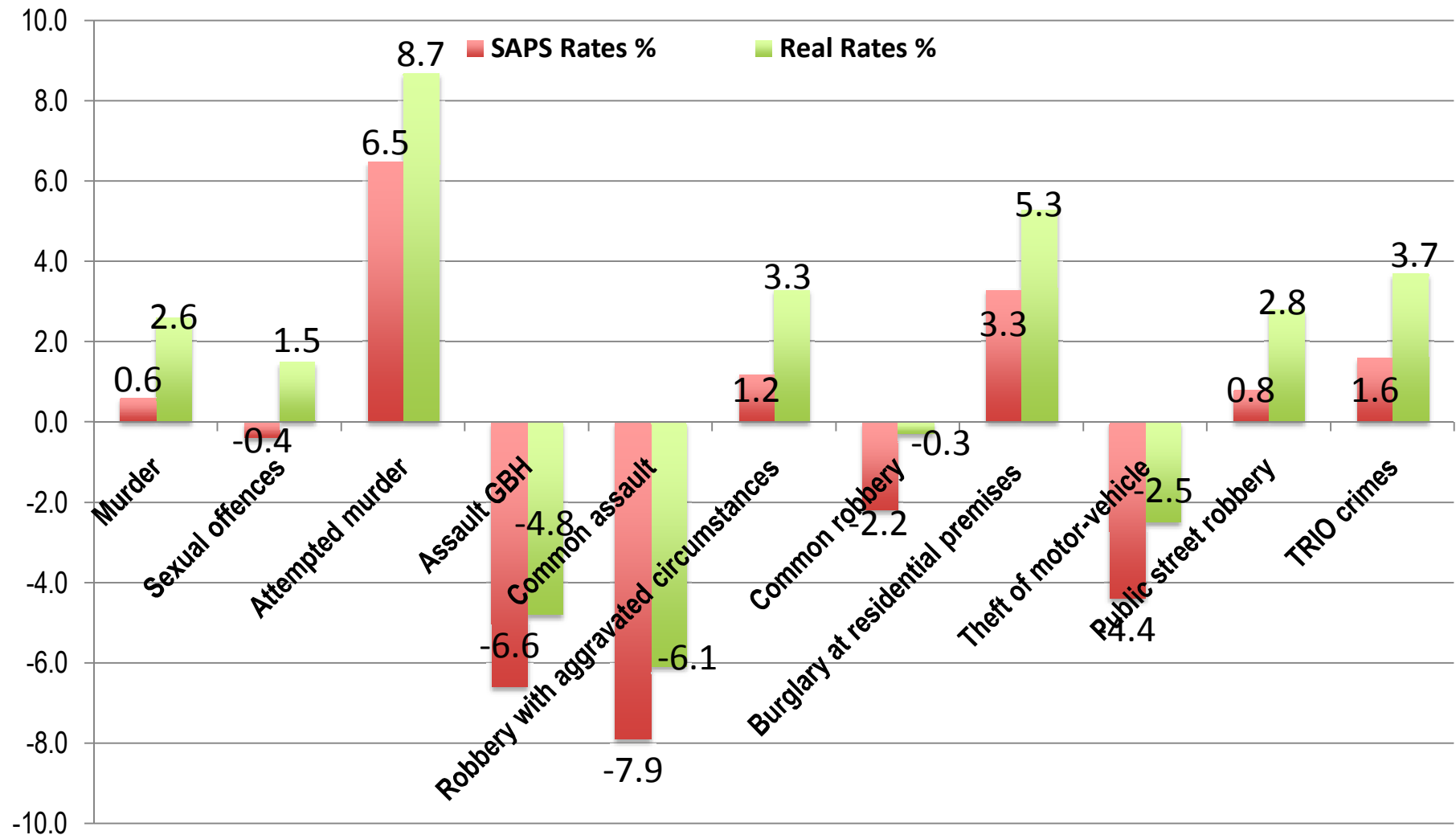


KILLINGS OF POLICE OFFICIALS

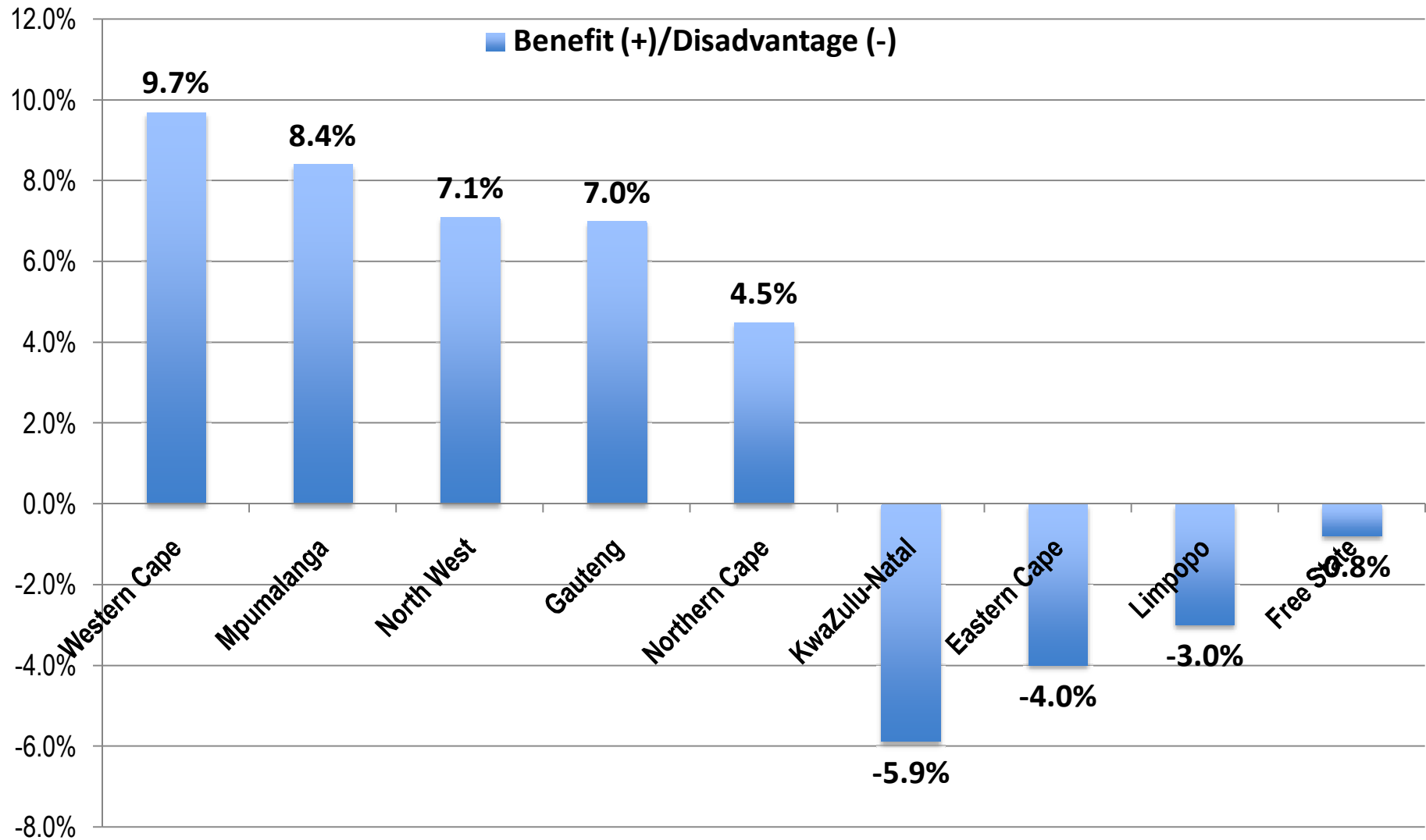


- The crime totals are not in dispute.
- **The changes in crime ratios are incorrect**
- 2011/12 crime ratios calculated on population estimates from 2001 census = 50,6 million
- Stats SA released new population estimates from 2011 census = 52,3 million
- SAPS should then have recalculated 2011/12 crime ratios on new data

CHANGES IN CRIME RATIOS: SAPS RATES AND CORRECTED RATES



EXTENT OF THE ERROR AT PROVINCIAL LEVEL



2012/13 WESTERN CAPE CRIME RATIOS

SAPS VS CORRECTED

| Category | SAPS Ratios | Correct Ratios |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Murder | +0,5% | +10,1% |
| Sexual offences | -14,2% | -5,9% |
| Attempted murder | +26,4% | +38,3% |
| Assault GBH | -11,1% | -2,7% |
| Common assault | -7,7% | +1,1% |
| Aggravated Robbery | +8,7% | +19,1% |
| Common robbery | +0,1% | +9,6% |
| Burglary residential | -0,4% | +9,1% |
| Theft of motor-vehicle | -4,9% | +4,2% |
| Public street robbery | +7,2% | +17,4% |
| TRIO crimes | +13,3% | +24,2% |

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- We support the recommendations of the National Development Plan
- Establish a National Police Board – assess existing police managers against objective criteria for the posts they hold & ensure correct placements
- All appointments must be done on merit & follow procedures
- This team of highly experienced, skilled and knowledgeable officers should be tasked with developing a clear plan of action with measureable outcomes for professionalising the police.
- Senior Officers should be held accountable for adherence to the code of conduct, & all rules and procedures.
- The implementation of this plan should be independently assessed by the National Police Board and reported to before parliament annually.
- Release crime statistics more regularly & establish formal national & provincial structures to engage with the research community
- Include other govt departments in the development of the SAPS Strategic & Annual Plans
- Over time the SAPS would see an increase in public trust and respect from communities to the benefit of all.

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