

# Briefing to the Portfolio Committee on Police

**16 February 2021**

Presentation: Firearm Amnesty Report



**ON A JOURNEY TO A SAFER SOUTH AFRICA**

Creating a safe and secure, crime free environment, that is conducive for social and economic stability, supporting a better life for all.

#PatrioticandSelflessService



# Presentation Overview

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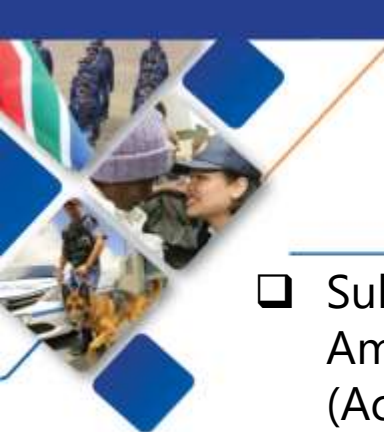
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# Purpose

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To brief the Portfolio Committee on Police, on the progress on the approved Firearm Amnesties for 2019/2020 and 2020/21 in terms of the section 139 of the Firearm Control Act, 2000 (Act No. 60 of 2000).



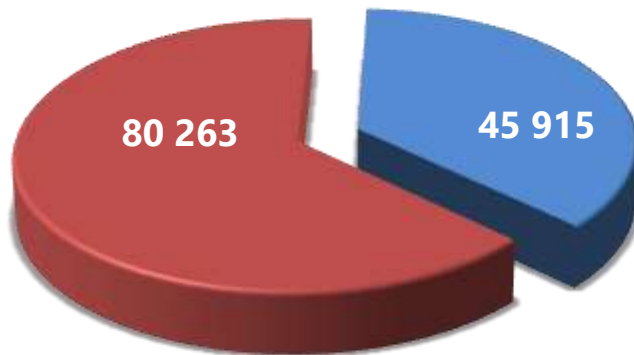
# Background

- ❑ Subsequent to the approval by Parliament, the Minister declared the Amnesties in terms of section 139(1) of the Firearm Control Act, 2000 (Act No. 60 of 2000).
- ❑ Both Amnesties were declared for a period of six (6) months and commenced from 01 December 2019 to 31 May 2020 and from 01 August 2020 to 31 January 2021 respectively.
- ❑ The amnesty was premised on the following five (5) objectives:
  - To reduce the number of illegally possessed firearms in circulation in South Africa.
  - To provide firearm owners with the opportunity to hand in unwanted firearms.
  - To prevent crime and violence and to promote safety.
  - To address the fundamental causes of crime in order to effectively protect our communities.
  - To ensure people living in South Africa feel and have no fear of crime.
- ❑ The Report includes the Firearm Amnesties for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.



# Firearms and Ammunition surrendered

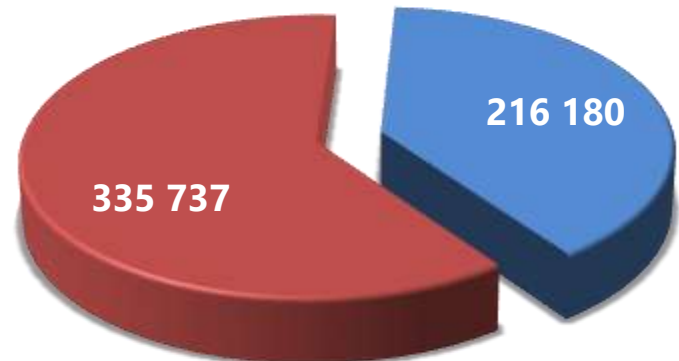
Surrendered Firearms (**126 173**)



■ 2019/2020

■ 2020/2021

Surrendered Ammunition (**551 917**)

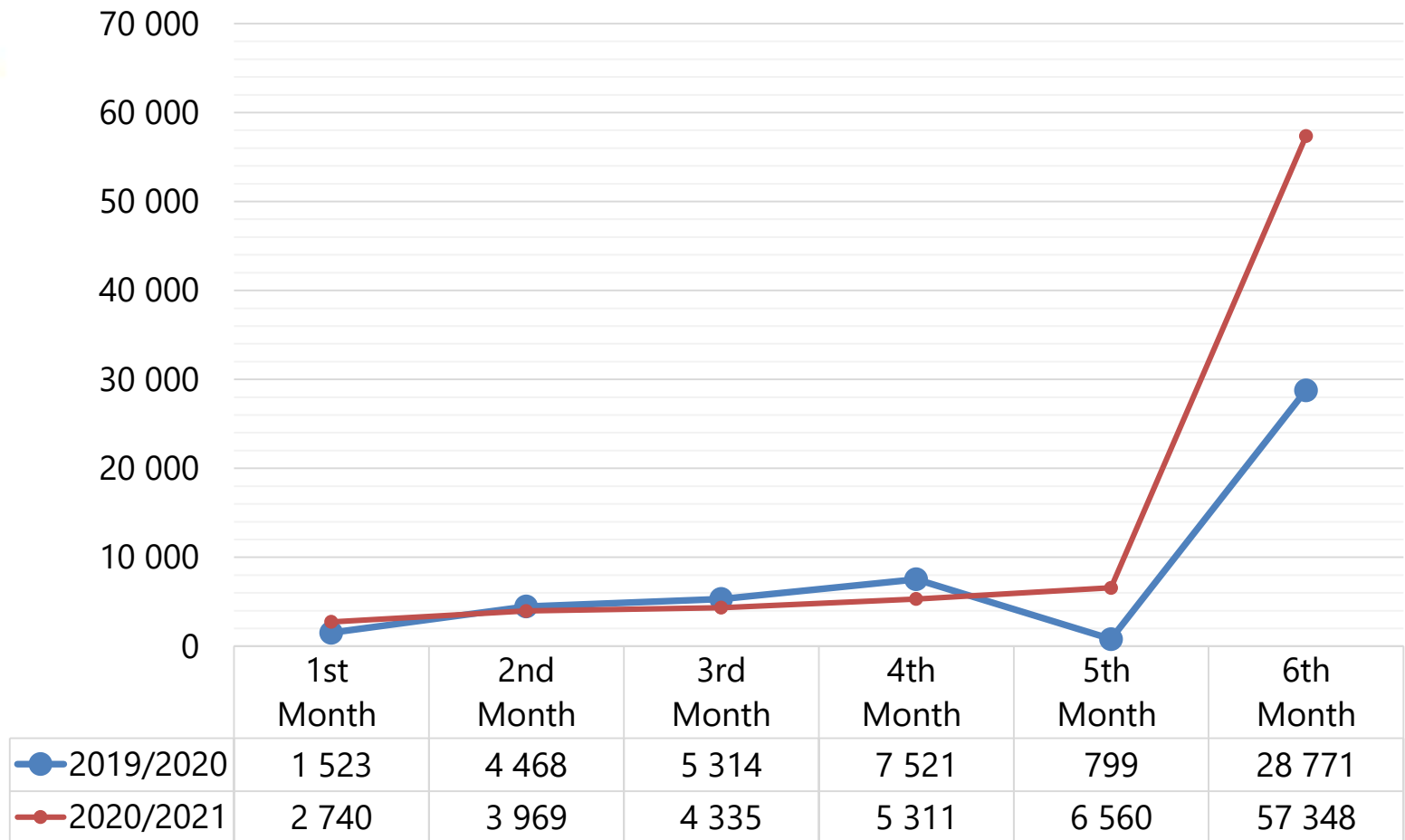


■ 2019/2020

■ 2020/2021



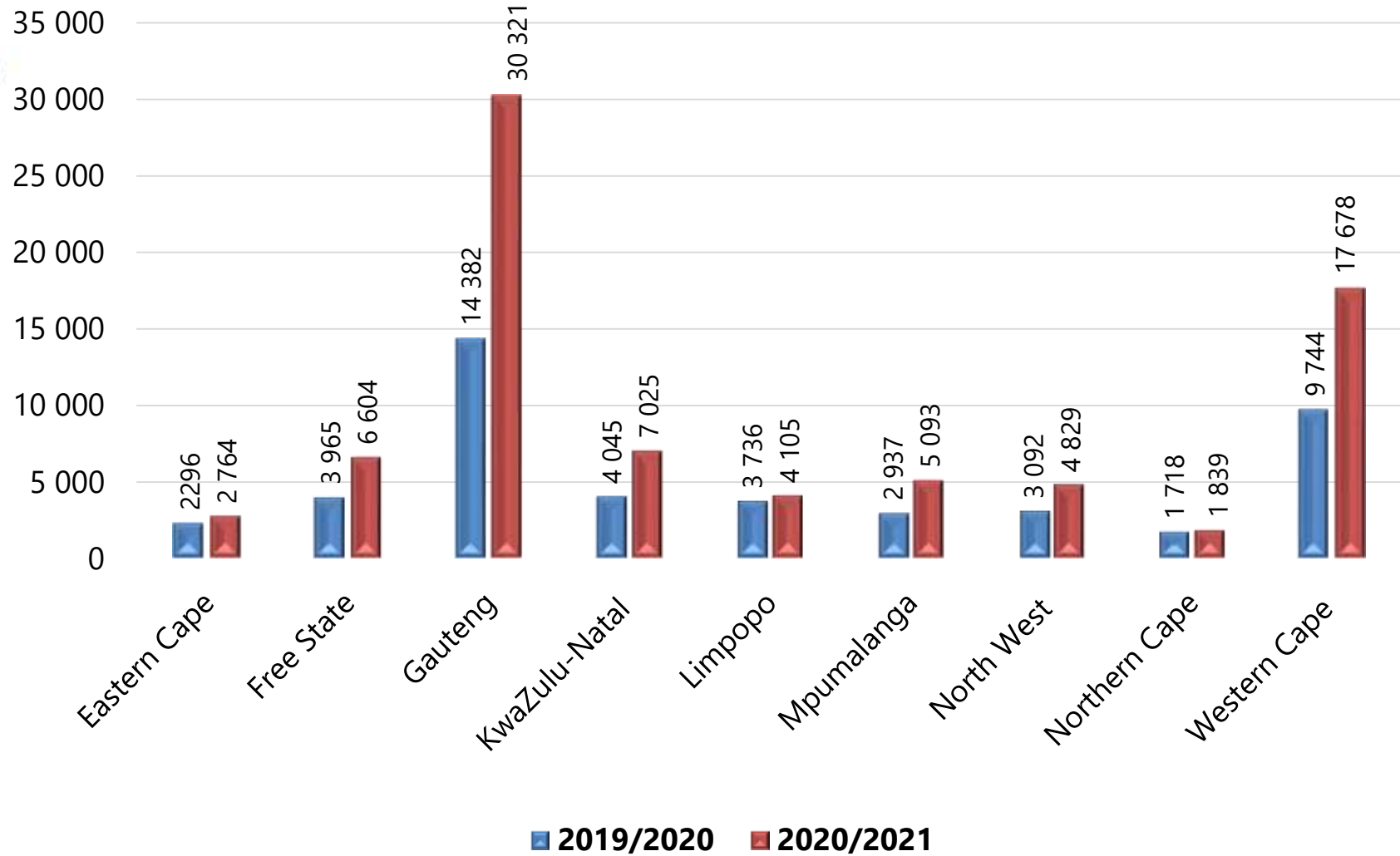
# Monthly Comparisons of surrendered Firearms



**Total Number of firearms surrendered 80 263 (as on 2021-02-05)**



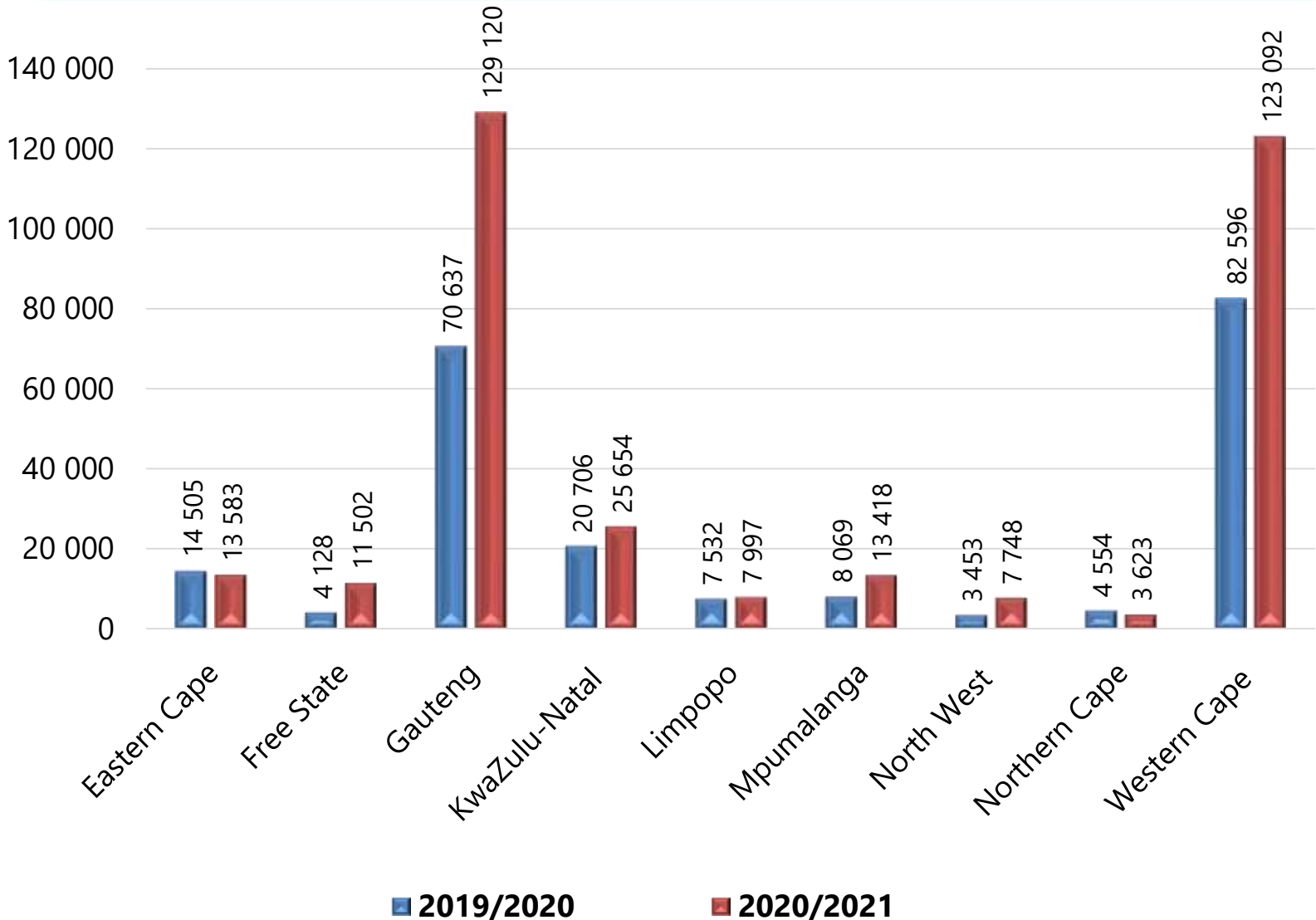
# Firearms surrendered per province







# Ammunition surrendered per province







# Automated Ballistic Identification System (ABIS) Testing of Amnesty Firearms



Provinces	Number of firing test conducted and sent to FSL for analysis	
	2019/2020	2020/2021
Eastern Cape	562	1 820
Free State	957	2 155
Gauteng	10 439	14 191
KwaZulu-Natal	454	159
Limpopo	1 973	2 875
Mpumalanga	705	2 581
North West	595	1 589
Northern Cape	157	1 335
Western Cape	762	886
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16 604</b>	<b>27 591</b>

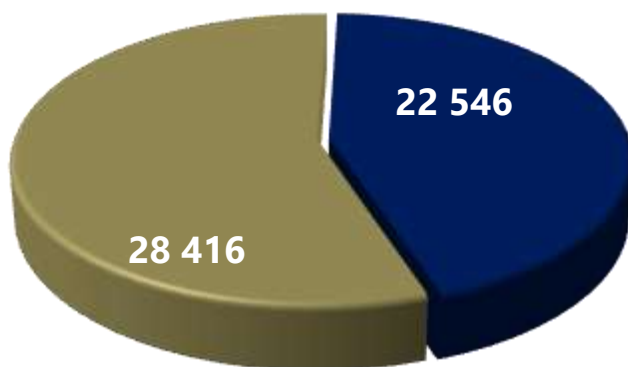
Total number of firing test samples received at Forensic Science Laboratory **44 195** and **30 463** captured on the ABIS system.



# Licence Applications for Surrendered Firearms

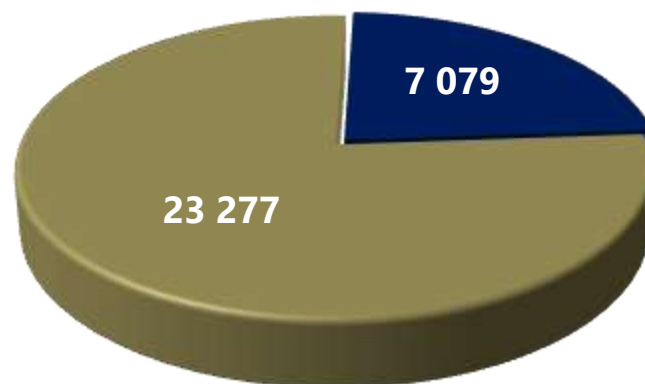


Firearms Applications  
Received 2019/2020 (**50 962**)



- Applications at National CFR (44,2%)
- Applications at Provinces (55.8%)

Firearms Applications Received  
2020/2021 (**30 356**)

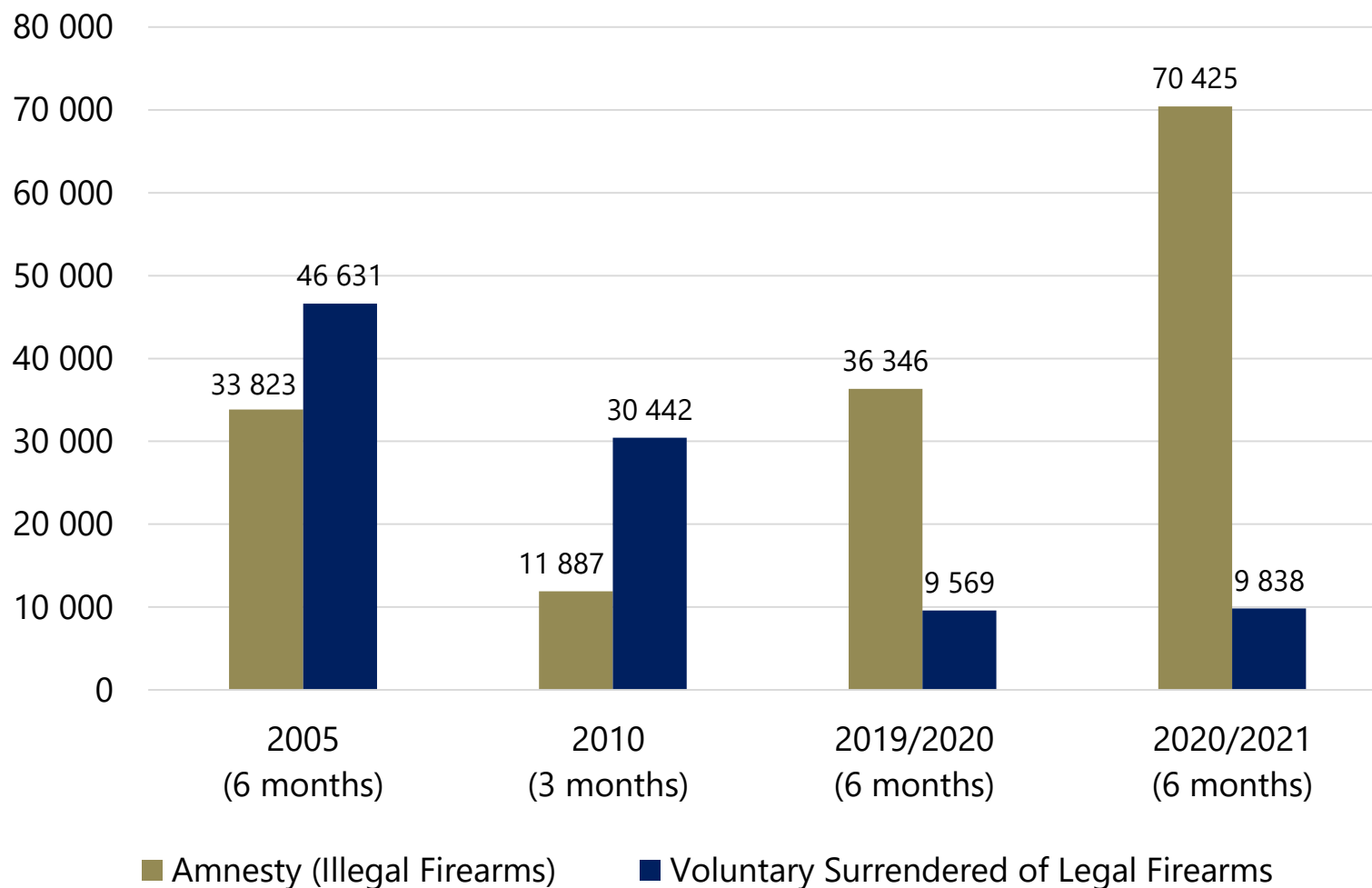


- Applications at National CFR (23,3%)
- Applications at Provinces (76,7%)

Total of **2 059** and **280** Firearm Amnesty applications were finalised for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 respectively.



# Comparison of Amnesties





# Marketing and Communication



Firearm Amnesties were communicated and marketed internally and externally as depicted below:

- Branding materials and pamphlets (in the various languages) was procured and distributed in all provinces;
- Messages on Social Media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram);
- Information including Frequently Asked Questions uploaded on the website;
- Media statements issued and awareness campaigns conducted at various platforms (radio and television);
- Guidelines and Process Flow communicated internally at all levels;
- Internal communication was intensified through: Screen saver, Web banner, Email Footer, Salary advices and daily messages through e-mails.



# Monitoring

A National Firearm Amnesty Task Team visited selected stations in all provinces to monitor compliance and the following interventions were implemented:

- Arrangements made for firearms at smaller and isolated stations to be moved to bigger stations daily under armed escort;
- Stations with full storage facilities were directed to move amnesty firearms to the provincial central storage facilities.
- Stations grouped together to enhance Automated Ballistic Identification System (ABIS) testing of firearms;
- Additional members activated on the Enhanced Firearm Register System (EFRS) to deal with amnesty firearm applications; and
- National and Provincial roving teams established to oversee and ensure a smooth Firearm Amnesty process.

Task Team consisting of Divisions: Finance Management and Administration, Technology Management Services and Visible Policing (Central Firearm Register) was established to address the linkage of payments and firearm applications.



# Conclusion

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Section 139 (4) depicts the purpose of Amnesty in terms of section 139 (1)(a) and (b).

The declared Firearm Amnesties afforded the communities an opportunity to surrender illegal/unwanted firearms, firearm parts and/or ammunition notwithstanding firearm owners with expired licences.

Most of firearms received were applied for re-licencing, as a result the volume of applications received increased.

# Thank You



**FIREARM AMNESTY 2020/2021**  
An opportunity not to be missed