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**MINISTRY**

**JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN**

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO: 1186**

**DATE OF QUESTION: 31 MARCH 2023**

**DATE OF SUBMISSION: 15 MAY 2023**

**Mrs Y N Yako (EFF) to ask the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services:**

What (a) number of inmates have gone missing at correctional services centres in the past 10 years and (b) are the relevant details of the processes that are followed to account for missing prisoners from the premises of the correctional services centres?

**NW1327E**

**REPLY:**

1. No incidents of inmates that have gone missing were reported in the past 10 years. The following number of inmates escaped from lawful custody:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Region | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
| Limpopo, Mpumalanga & North West  | 01 | 06 | 07 | 05 |
| Free State & Northern Cape  | 09 | 11 | 03 | 03 |
| KwaZulu-Natal  | 05 | 03 | 06 | 02 |
| Western Cape  | 04 | 75 | 03 | 05 |
| Gauteng  | 10 | 12 | 02 | 02 |
| Eastern Cape  | 05 | 10 | 01 | 10 |
| TOTAL  | **34**  | **117** | **22** | **27** |

Below is information in relation to inmates who remain at large after escaping from lawful custody:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Region | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
| Limpopo, Mpumalanga & North West  | 00 | 03 | 06 | 05 |
| Free State & Northern Cape  | 01 | 02 | 00 | 00 |
| KwaZulu-Natal  | 01 | 01 | 01 | 00 |
| Western Cape  | 01 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| Gauteng  | 04 | 10 | 00 | 01 |
| Eastern Cape  | 00 | 00 | 00 | 05 |
| TOTAL  | **07**  | **16** | **07** | **06** |

1. Not applicable, however in the event that an escapes from a correctional centre the incident is reported to the South African Police Services (SAPS) for further investigation and other related action.

**END**