

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY**QUESTION 123**

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 16 FEBRUARY 2024
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 2-2024)

123. Dr P J Groenewald (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Police:

- (1) What was the total (a) number and (b) percentage of (i) contact crime and contact-related crime, (ii) sexual offences and (iii) property-related crime in respect of (aa) detection rate, cases to court and/or charges withdrawn before court, (bb) conviction rate and (cc) closed undetected and/or unfounded cases in the past four financial years;
- (2) what total number of warrants of arrest were issued with regard to undetected cases;
- (3) (a) on what grounds and (b) what length of time are cases closed as undetected?

NW128E

REPLY:

- (1)(a)(b)(c)(i)(ii)(iii)(aa)(bb)(cc) The relevant data is reflected below in the tables below.

Categories	2020/2021											
	(aa) Detection Rate		(aa) Cases to Court		(aa) Charges withdrawn before court		(bb) Conviction Rate		(cc) Closed Undetected		(cc) Unfounded cases	
	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %
(i) Contact Crimes	322 663	47,43%	281 610	33,79%	90 801		25 028	83,44%	204 455	27,08%	2 426	
(i) Contact-Related Crimes	61 991	51,83%	30 205	35,63%	18 055		3 430	88,13%	41 210	34,04%	936	
(ii) Sexual Offences	Please refer to the NB below											
Rape	29 763	57,03%	20 944	40,13%	8 088		2 958	74,34%	9 885	18,94%	731	
Sexual Assault	6 437	68,31%	4 257	45,18%	1 999		545	78,08%	945	10,03%	181	
(iii) Property Related Crimes	79 172	16,25%	49 690	8,11%	32 387		10 194	92,72%	354 637	67,05%	3 692	
	Data not available on the SAPS Efficiency Index System (EIS)											
	Not available on the EIS											

NB:

- The following information was obtained from the Annual Reports: Detection rate totals and % Cases to court and % Conviction Rate. The remaining totals were obtained from the Efficiency Index System (EIS) on 16 February 2024.
- Information on Sexual Offences, as a category of offences, is not separately available on the EIS, as individual crimes in this category are tracked. This category is, however, included in contact crimes.
- The % cases withdrawn before court and % cases closed as unfounded, are also not available on the EIS and cannot be obtained.

2021/2022

Categories	(aa) Detection Rate		(aa) Cases to Court		(aa) Charges withdrawn before court		(bb) Conviction Rate		(cc) Closed Undetected		(cc) Unfounded cases	
	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %
(i) Contact Crimes	302 324	46,36%	302 324	33,16%	97 091		31 880	81,20%	215 079	25,76%	2 437	
(i) Contact Related Crimes	64 886	50,31%	25 871	36,36%	19 995		4 727	87,20%	44 738	32,65%	812	
(ii) Sexual Offences	Please refer to the NB below											
Rape	30 997	53,83%	22 022	38,24%	8 235		3 672	72,27%	10 295	17,88%	740	
Sexual Assault	6 570	65,06%	4 409	43,66%	1 993		677	76,24%	1 113	11,04%	168	
(iii) Property Related Crimes	92 459	15,67%	48 052	7,68%	29 109		10 148	90,10%	327 244	64,92%	3 435	
												Not available on the EIS

NB:

- The following information was obtained from the Annual Reports: Detection rate totals and % Cases to court and % Conviction Rate. The remaining totals were obtained from the Efficiency Index System (EIS) on 16 February 2024.
- Information on Sexual Offences, as a category of offences, is not separately available on the EIS, as individual crimes in this category are tracked. This category is, however, included in contact crimes.
- The % cases withdrawn before court and % cases closed as unfounded, are also not available on the EIS and cannot be obtained.

2022/2023

Categories	(aa) Detection Rate		(ab) Cases to Court		(ac) Charges withdrawn before court		(ad) Conviction Rate		(ae) Closed Undetected		(af) Unfounded cases	
	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %	(a) Total charges	(b) %
(i) Contact Crimes	415 091	46.28%	297 157	33.07%	115 283	Data not available on the EIS	32 768	81.97%	269 572	30.00%	2 742	Not available on the EIS
(i) Contact Related Crimes	73 786	52.48%	47 830	36.63%	21 478	Data not available on the EIS	5 159	86.77%	47 830	33.97%	794	Not available on the EIS
(ii) Sexual Offences	Please refer to the NB below											
Rape	33 789	56.78%	23 349	39.24%	9 504	Data not available on the EIS	3 396	73.41%	14 747	24.78%	936	Not available on the EIS
Sexual Assault	6 901	68.87%	4 453	44.44%	2 227	Data not available on the EIS	678	78.27%	1 275	12.72%	221	Not available on the EIS
(iii) Property Related Crimes	76 752	16.35%	43 079	8.90%	32 573	Data not available on the EIS	10 104	90.12%	343 129	70.93%	3 115	Not available on the EIS

NB:

- The following information was obtained from the Annual Reports: Detection rate totals and % Cases to court and % Conviction Rate. The remaining totals were obtained from the Efficiency Index System (EIS) on 16 February 2024.
- Information on Sexual Offences, as a category of offences, is not separately available on the EIS, as individual crimes in this category are tracked. This category is, however, included in contact crimes.
- The % cases withdrawn before court and % cases closed as unfounded, are also not available on the EIS and cannot be obtained.


- (2) The information requested is provided in the table below.

Total Number of Warrants of Arrest issued with Regard to Undetected cases			
	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Contact Crimes	36 744	30 196	31 759
Contact Related Crimes	2 955	2 232	2 247
Sexual Offences	Included in Contact Crimes		
Property Related Crimes	188 680	149 276	153 287

* Information for the 2023/2024 financial year is not yet available

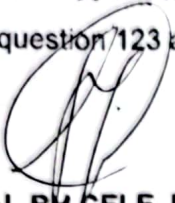
- (3)(a) When a case docket is closed as "undetected," it means that the investigation has not yielded enough evidence to positively identify the suspect or suspects involved. All available information and leads were exhausted during their investigation in an attempt to gather evidence and identify those responsible for a crime. However, if after thorough investigation, there is still insufficient evidence to pinpoint a suspect, the case may be closed as "undetected." It's important to note that closing a case as "undetected" doesn't necessarily mean that the investigation is considered complete or that efforts to solve the case cease entirely. It simply means that, at that point in time, the available information and leads have been followed up without leading to a conclusive identification of the perpetrator(s). The decision to close a case as "undetected" is not bound by a specific timeline. Instead, it relies on the judgment of investigators based on the thoroughness of their investigation and the absence of sufficient evidence to identify the suspect(s).
- (3)(b) Cases will remain undetected until new information is received that may assist in identifying and tracing the suspect. Case dockets closed as "undetected – warrant" are reopened annually for further investigation.

Reply to question 123 recommended/~~not recommended~~


GENERAL
NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
SF MASEMOLA (SOEG)

Date: 2024/04/26

Reply to question 123 approved/~~not approved~~


GENERAL BH CELE, MP
MINISTER OF POLICE

Date: 26/04/24