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| **PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**  **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY** |

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO: 2764**

**DATE OF QUESTION: 14 SEPTEMBER 2018**

**DATE OF SUBMISSION: 28 SEPTEMBER 2018**

**Ms D Kohler (DA) to ask the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services:**

(a) What number of prisoners were released in each province over the past three years and (b) of these, how many had their DNA taken before they were released? NW3057E

**REPLY:**

1. The following number of offenders were released per financial year:

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| Financial year: 2015/2016 | | |
| **Province** | **Sentence Expiry** | **Parole** |
| EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE | 1590 | 1733 |
| FREE STATE PROVINCE | 1656 | 1751 |
| GAUTENG PROVINCE | 3992 | 4371 |
| KWAZULU/NATAL PROVINCE | 3328 | 3847 |
| LIMPOPO PROVINCE | 328 | 334 |
| MPUMALANGA PROVINCE | 1042 | 1124 |
| NORTH WEST PROVINCE | 1110 | 1227 |
| NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE | 553 | 564 |
| WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE | 7483 | 7840 |

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| Financial year: 2016/2017 | | |
| **Province** | **Sentence Expiry** | **Parole** |
| EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE | 2059 | 2215 |
| FREE STATE PROVINCE | 1851 | 1947 |
| GAUTENG PROVINCE | 5192 | 5648 |
| KWAZULU/NATAL PROVINCE | 4377 | 4886 |
| LIMPOPO PROVINCE | 355 | 358 |
| MPUMALANGA PROVINCE | 1520 | 1621 |
| NORTH WEST PROVINCE | 1488 | 1617 |
| NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE | 871 | 882 |
| WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE | 10844 | 11232 |

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| Financial year: 2017/2018 | | |
| **Province** | **Sentence Expiry** | **Parole** |
| EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE | 1863 | 1962 |
| FREE STATE PROVINCE | 1761 | 1850 |
| GAUTENG PROVINCE | 5733 | 6230 |
| KWAZULU/NATAL PROVINCE | 4613 | 5135 |
| LIMPOPO PROVINCE | 342 | 343 |
| MPUMALANGA PROVINCE | 1405 | 1505 |
| NORTH WEST PROVINCE | 1773 | 1930 |
| NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE | 896 | 899 |
| WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE | 9592 | 9992 |

1. As at the expiration of the two (2) year transitional arrangements period since promulgation of the Criminal Law (Forensic Procedures) Amendment Act 37 of 2013 in January 2017, of the 114 709 Schedule 8 offenders in correctional centres then, a total of 43 717 sample reference numbers of such offenders were captured in the Admission and Release System of the Department of Correctional Services (DCS).

It should be noted that taking of samples and reporting on DNA samples taken, is the obligation of the South African Police Service (SAPS) as they also keep the source documents of samples taken, for among others, audit purposes.

Capturing of the Buccal Kit Sample Reference numbers by the DCS is for purpose of reporting offenders due for release to SAPS in order for their samples to be taken prior to release and to avoid subjecting offenders to the same procedure twice.