

10. PROGRAMME 3 DETECTIVE SERVICES

10.1 Purpose

Enable the investigative work of the South African Police Service, including support to investigators in terms of forensic evidence and the Criminal Record Centre.

10.2 Measurable objectives

Contribute to the successful prosecution of crime by investigating, gathering and analysing evidence and thereby preventing the priority crimes detection rate from decreasing.

The Detective Services programme delivers the services required to effectively investigate crimes, and facilitates the activities of detectives at all police stations.

There are four sub programmes:

- General Investigations accommodates detectives at police stations who investigate a broad range of crimes.
- Specialised Investigations funds the investigations which require specialised skills.
- Criminal Record Centre manages criminal records.
- Forensic Science Laboratory provides specialised technical support to investigators in relation to evidence.

10.3 Service delivery achievements

TABLE 15 *Actual performance against targets*

| SUB-PROGRAMMES | OUTPUT | OUTPUT PERFORMANCE MEASURES/SERVICE DELIVERY INDICATORS | ACTUAL PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGET | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | TARGET | ACTUAL |
| General Investigations | General crime investigation | Percentage of charges (cases) to court | 21% to court | 31,97% of target achieved |
| | | Priority crimes detection rate (proportion of cases concluded within the policing environment) | 33% detected | 42,39% of target achieved |

| SUB-PROGRAMMES | OUTPUT | OUTPUT PERFORMANCE MEASURES/SERVICE DELIVERY INDICATORS | ACTUAL PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGET | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | TARGET | ACTUAL |
| Specialised Investigations | Specialised crime investigation | Percentage of organised crime-related charges to court | 20% to court | 37,5% of target achieved |
| | | Detection rate of commercial crime | 34% detected | 38,8% of target achieved |
| | | Percentage of commercial crime charges to court | 22% to court | 24,8% of target achieved |
| | | Detection rate of sexual offences and assaults against children (under 18 years) | 40% detected | 62,4% of target achieved |
| | | Percentage of charges (cases) to court for sexual offences and assaults against children | 30% to court | 45,1% of target achieved |
| | | Detection rate of sexual offences and assaults against women (18 years and above) | 42% detected | 60,7% of target achieved |
| | | Percentage of charges (cases) to court for sexual offences and assaults against women | 40% to court | 44,8% of target achieved |
| Criminal Records Centre | Fingerprint identification | Time taken to generate reports of offenders' previous convictions | Within 30 days | 86,4% of target achieved |
| Forensic Science Laboratory | Forensic evidence | Percentage of exhibits analysed within 35 days | 92% analysed | 92% of target achieved |

10.4 Service delivery objectives and indicators

10.4.1 Subprogramme: General Investigations

10.4.1.1 Charges to court and detection rate

In evaluating the performance of the SAPS in solving crime, two different criteria are used. The first criterion is the number of charges/cases referred to court and the second is the detection rate (the ability to solve cases). Table 16 reflects the total number of charges referred to court and the detection rates achieved over the period April 2006 to March 2007 with respect to contact crimes, property crimes, and crimes dependent on police action for detection.

Charges carried over are the number of charges that were carried over from the previous year/s, which were not concluded at that time. The total charges of a specific crime that was investigated are established by adding the number of charges reported to the number of charges carried forward. The number of charges referred to court is divided by the number of charges which were investigated to determine the percentage of charges referred to court. To determine the detection rate, the total number of charges referred to court, the charges withdrawn before court and the charges closed as unfounded are divided by the total number of charges investigated. Charges withdrawn before court are charges which were sent to the Senior Public Prosecutor for a decision and a decision was made not to prosecute. The reason for this decision might be that there was not enough evidence or it is a civil case. Charges are closed as unfounded if it is established, during the investigations, that a crime has not actually been committed.

Charges referred to court and the detection rates differ in respect of the different categories of crime. Charges which rely on police action resulting in direct arrests usually have higher detection rates, because the perpetrators are arrested at the scene of the crime, for example, shoplifting and drug-related crimes. Charges where the suspects are unknown at the time of the crime tend to have lower rates of detection and referral to court.

Table 16 reflects the total number of charges referred to court and the detection rates achieved over the period April 2006 to March 2007 regarding contact crimes, property crimes and crimes dependent on police action for detection.

(a) Contact crimes (crimes against persons)

From table 16 it is evident that the total number of charges reported decreased by 25 207 (-3,39%) in comparison with the same period in 2005/2006. The largest decrease in reported charges was in respect of Assault Common 17 496 (-7,69%), while there was an increase of 6 832 (5,71%) reported charges in respect of Robbery with aggravating circumstances. With regard to charges referred to court, an increase of 3 095 cases was noted (3,14%), with Assault GBH as the crime indicating the highest increase, namely 4,68%. The highest increase in the detection rate was in respect of Assault GBH, with 2,68%.

(b) Property-related crimes

23 440 (-4,11%) fewer charges were reported to the police during the year in comparison with the previous year. The biggest decrease in reported charges was in respect of Theft out of/from motor vehicles, with 15 061 fewer charges (-10,83%). Overall there was a small increase of 0,36% in charges referred to court, with Theft out of/from motor vehicles showing the biggest increase, namely 0,03%.

(c) Crime dependent on police action

15 045 (10,58%) more charges were reported by the police during this financial year compared to the previous year. The biggest increase in reported charges was in respect of driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs, with 5 145 (15,54%) more charges reported. There was a 2,32% increase in the percentage of charges referred to court, with Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition showing the biggest increase of 7,02%, while this crime also showed the biggest increase in the detection rate (5,31%).

When these priority crimes are combined, the reported charges decreased by 43 286 (-2,00%), with property-related crimes showing the biggest decrease in reporting (-4,11%). Charges referred to court increased by 2,58% to 31,97%. A target of 21% for charges to court was set for the financial year 2006/2007. The detection rate increased by 1,80% to 42,39%. A target of 33% was set for detection rate for the financial year 2006/2007. The above analyses reveal that the SAPS met these targets.

The high detection rate can be attributed to the fact that a large number of dockets are being withdrawn before court for a number of reasons, including request for complainants, complainants who cannot be traced after they reported cases and juveniles referred to institutions, e.g. NICRO.

(d) Conviction rates

The Portfolio Committee on Safety and Security has requested the SAPS to include the measuring of conviction rates in future Annual Reports. As a result the SAPS met with the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) on several occasions to discuss this matter.

A factor complicating the inclusion of conviction rates in the Annual Reports of the SAPS is the fact that the SAPS, the NPA, the Department of Justice and the Department of Correctional Service all have different approaches to the way in which conviction rates are interpreted and measured. The SAPS focuses on the disposal of dockets in terms of the number of charges against an accused, the NPA and the Department of Justice track the way in which the case is dealt with in the courts, while the Department of Correctional Services focuses on the convicted individual.

It would therefore be difficult to attempt to standardise the approach adopted by the various departments to measuring the conviction rate at departmental level as these departments each have substantially different functions within the Criminal Justice System and therefore follow different processes. For example, the SAPS is responsible for the effective investigation of an alleged crime, the NPA and Department of Justice are focused on prosecuting the

alleged offender within the courts and the Department of Correctional Services manages the rehabilitation of the convicted offender. Therefore, it was decided to refer the matter to the Criminal Justice Review Task Team, which has since included it in its programme on performance measurement for the Criminal Justice System.

The SAPS measures the conviction rate by adding up the number of charges resulting in a guilty verdict and charges concluded by other means, except if the accused is found not guilty or the case is withdrawn in court, and divides it by the number of charges that were referred to court and the charges previously outstanding in court. The following factors affect the conviction rate:

- Charges that are withdrawn by the complainants in court.
- "De minimis lex non curat" (trifling cases thrown out of court).
- Charges withdrawn in court due to complainants/witnesses who cannot be traced.
- Charges being struck from the roll as a result of suspects absconding after having been granted bail.

The SAPS is at present changing its systems so that, when a docket is disposed of as closed on the system, reasons for withdrawing the case in court must also be given. This will enable the SAPS to ascertain the number of dockets that were withdrawn by complainants, witnesses that cannot be traced and suspects absconding - factors over which the SAPS and the Department of Justice have little control. However, the SAPS will include the conviction rate from the perspective of the SAPS in the Annual Report for 2007/2008.

Towards the end of 2006, a Hi-Tech Project Centre was established to meet the need for a better coordinated approach to crime information and the use of available skills and technology. The consequence of that approach was easy access by investigating officers to all relevant information which they used successfully to oppose bail, identify suspects, apprehend wanted persons, know the status of suspects (whether in custody or not) and link cases to one another.

The centre was used as a platform to test new technologies such as Layered Voice Analyses (a stress analysis of verbal communications similar to the traditional polygraph test) and a pilot project on facial recognition, where images of suspects and crime scenes were analysed with a view to positively identifying wanted persons.

The Centre coordinated information on organised aggravated robberies, including cash-in-transit heists, bank robberies, break-ins at financial institutions, Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) explosions, aggravated robberies at shopping malls, petroleum stations, casinos, pension pay-out points and the hijacking of trucks with freight.

TABLE 16 Performance of general investigations

| CRIME CATEGORY | NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS REPORTED | | | NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS INCOMPLETE | | | % CASES REFERRED TO COURT | | | % DETECTION RATE | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF | % DIFF | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF | % DIFF | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF |
| CONTACT CRIME (CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Murder | 18 528 | 19 202 | 674 | 3,64 | 29 868 | 27 326 | -2 542 | -8,51 | 11 262 (21,90%) | 11 631 (23,03%) | 1,13 | 26,66 | 27,73 | 1,07 |
| Attempted murder | 20 571 | 20 142 | -429 | -2,09 | 8 647 | 7 950 | -697 | -8,06 | 9 472 (31,04%) | 9 224 (31,59%) | 0,55 | 42,82 | 41,98 | -0,84 |
| Robbery with aggravating circumstances | 119 726 | 126 558 | 6 832 | 5,71 | 36 081 | 31 076 | -5 005 | -13,87 | 11 944 (10,47%) | 13 894 (10,43%) | -0,04 | 12,94 | 12,56 | -0,38 |
| Common robbery | 74 723 | 71 156 | -3 567 | -4,77 | 9 976 | 7 040 | -2 936 | -29,43 | 20 154 (22,91%) | 20 252 (24,38%) | 1,47 | 30,12 | 30,69 | 0,57 |
| Assault GBH | 226 942 | 218 030 | -8 912 | -3,93 | 31 627 | 25 921 | -5 706 | -18,04 | 141 509 (51,11%) | 143 022 (55,79%) | 4,68 | 69,28 | 71,96 | 2,68 |
| Common assault | 227 553 | 210 057 | -17 496 | -7,69 | 34 204 | 30 374 | -3 830 | -11,20 | 107 685 (41,40%) | 107 299 (42,40%) | 1,00 | 67,60 | 69,58 | 1,98 |
| Rape | 54 926 | 52 617 | -2 309 | -4,20 | 20 584 | 17 151 | -3 433 | -16,68 | 31 101 (43,63%) | 30 902 (42,27%) | -1,36 | 56,97 | 55,20 | -1,77 |
| TOTAL | 742 969 | 717 762 | -25 207 | -3,39 | 170 987 | 146 838 | -24 149 | -14,12 | 333 129 (36,44%) | 336 224 (39,58%) | 3,14 | 60,00 | 54,99 | -5,01 |
| CONTACT-RELATED CRIMES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arson | 7 622 | 7 858 | 236 | 3,10 | 1 729 | 1 754 | 25 | 1,45 | 1 931 (19,82%) | 2 146 (21,49%) | 1,67 | 35,01 | 36,97 | 1,96 |
| Malicious damage to property | 144 265 | 143 336 | -929 | -0,64 | 15 028 | 13 609 | -1 419 | -9,44 | 44 210 (26,28%) | 46 245 (28,45%) | 2,17 | 43,69 | 44,27 | 0,58 |
| TOTAL | 151 887 | 151 194 | -693 | -0,46 | 16 757 | 15 363 | -1 394 | -8,32 | 46 141 (27,36%) | 48 391 (30,05%) | 2,69 | 43,69 | 44,36 | 0,67 |
| PROPERTY-RELATED CRIMES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Burglary at residential premises | 262 535 | 249 665 | -12 870 | -4,90 | 40 400 | 24 301 | -16 099 | -39,85 | 43 394 (14,80%) | 43 120 (14,38%) | -0,42 | 19,77 | 18,76 | -1,01 |
| Burglary at non-residential premises | 54 367 | 58 438 | 4 071 | 7,49 | 8 987 | 5 069 | -3 918 | -43,60 | 9 026 (14,74%) | 9 155 (13,78%) | -0,96 | 18,37 | 16,93 | -1,44 |
| Theft of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 85 964 | 86 298 | 334 | 0,39 | 38 367 | 24 381 | -13 986 | -36,45 | 5 692 (4,98%) | 5 858 (4,84%) | -0,14 | 6,70 | 6,48 | -0,22 |
| Theft out of/from motor vehicles | 139 090 | 124 029 | -15 061 | -10,83 | 11 968 | 6 477 | -5 491 | -45,88 | 8 420 (5,86%) | 8 492 (5,89%) | 0,03 | 8,55 | 8,55 | 0,00 |
| Stock theft | 28 742 | 28 828 | 86 | 0,30 | 7 151 | 6 295 | -856 | -11,97 | 4 007 (12,04%) | 3 682 (10,62%) | -1,42 | 24,39 | 23,01 | -1,38 |
| TOTAL | 570 698 | 547 258 | -23 440 | -4,11 | 106 873 | 66 523 | -40 350 | -37,76 | 70 539 (10,68%) | 70 307 (11,04%) | 0,36 | 14,80 | 15,02 | 0,22 |
| CRIMES HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON POLICE ACTION FOR DETECTION | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition | 13 453 | 14 354 | 901 | 6,70 | 1 984 | 1 540 | -444 | -22,38 | 12 067 (74,35%) | 13 229 (81,37%) | 7,02 | 80,71 | 86,02 | 5,31 |
| Drug-related crime | 95 690 | 104 689 | 8 999 | 9,40 | 2 195 | 1 726 | -469 | -21,37 | 90 208 (91,35%) | 101 824 (95,32%) | 3,97 | 93,89 | 96,64 | 2,75 |
| Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs | 33 116 | 38 261 | 5 145 | 15,54 | 1 434 | 1 471 | 37 | 2,58 | 32 455 (92,53%) | 37 021 (93,31%) | 0,78 | 94,62 | 94,84 | 0,22 |
| TOTAL | 142 259 | 157 304 | 15 045 | 10,58 | 5 613 | 4 737 | -876 | -15,61 | 134 730 (91,11%) | 152 074 (93,43%) | 2,32 | 92,63 | 95,14 | 2,51 |

TABLE 16 Performance of general investigations

| CRIME CATEGORY | NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS REPORTED | | NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS INCOMPLETE | | % CASES REFERRED TO COURT | | % DETECTION RATE | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF | % DIFF | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF | % DIFF | | | | | | |
| OTHER SERIOUS CRIMES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All theft not mentioned elsewhere | 432 629 | 415 163 | -17 466 | -4,04 | 66 057 | 46 691 | -19 366 | -29,32 | 80 661 (15,50%) | 81 385 (16,31%) | 0,81 | 27,88 | 27,50 | -0,38 |
| Commercial crime | 54 214 | 61 690 | 7 476 | 13,79 | 30 470 | 30 708 | 238 | 0,78 | 17 524 (19,39%) | 21 509 (22,23%) | 2,84 | 37,47 | 37,99 | 0,52 |
| Shoplifting | 64 491 | 65 489 | 998 | 1,55 | 1 202 | 605 | -597 | -49,67 | 63 249 (94,14%) | 64 180 (95,85%) | 1,71 | 96,19 | 97,24 | 1,05 |
| TOTAL | 551 334 | 542 342 | -8 992 | -1,63 | 97 729 | 78 004 | -19 725 | -20,18 | 161 434 (24,44%) | 167 074 (26,30%) | 1,86 | 36,12 | 36,94 | 0,82 |
| SOME SUBCATEGORIES OF AGGRAVATED ROBBERY FORMING PART OF AGGRAVATED ROBBERY ABOVE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Car hijacking | 12 825 | 13 599 | 774 | 6,04 | 11 229 | 8 983 | -2 246 | -20,00 | 1 355 (6,09%) | 1 464 (5,94%) | -0,15 | 7,17 | 7,20 | 0,03 |
| Truck hijacking | 829 | 892 | 63 | 7,60 | 1 443 | 1 083 | -360 | -24,95 | 114 (5,06%) | 101 (4,72%) | -0,34 | 6,97 | 6,40 | -0,57 |
| Robbery: Cash in transit | 383 | 467 | 84 | 21,93 | 418 | 464 | 46 | 11,00 | 91 (14,17%) | 101 (12,66%) | -1,51 | 16,36 | 13,28 | -3,08 |
| Bank robberies | 59 | 129 | 70 | 118 | 143 | 130 | -13 | -9,09 | 21 (10,61%) | 25 (10,42%) | -0,19 | 13,64 | 14,17 | 0,53 |
| House robberies | 10 173 | 12 761 | 2 588 | 25,44 | 3 856 | 4 768 | 912 | 23,65 | 1 730 (13,85%) | 2 060 (12,72%) | -1,13 | 16,92 | 14,72 | -2,20 |
| Business robberies | 4 387 | 6 689 | 2 302 | 52,47 | 3 033 | 2 091 | -942 | -31,06 | 525 (9,78%) | 882 (11,52%) | 1,74 | 12,54 | 15,45 | 2,91 |
| TOTAL | 28 656 | 34 537 | 5 881 | 20,52 | 20 122 | 17 519 | -2 603 | -12,94 | 3 836 (8,88%) | 4 579 (8,57%) | -0,31 | 10,81 | 10,42 | 0,39 |
| ALL 20 SERIOUS CRIMES COMBINED | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Contact crime (crimes against the person) | 742 969 | 717 762 | -25 207 | -3,39 | 170 987 | 146 838 | -24 149 | -14,12 | 333 129 (36,44%) | 336 224 (39,58%) | 3,14 | 60,00 | 54,99 | -5,01 |
| Contact crime (crime against property) | 151 887 | 151 194 | -693 | -0,46 | 16 757 | 15 363 | -1 394 | -8,32 | 46 141 (27,36%) | 48 391 (30,05%) | 2,69 | 43,69 | 44,36 | 0,67 |
| Property-related crimes | 570 698 | 547 258 | -23 440 | -4,11 | 106 873 | 66 523 | -40 350 | -37,76 | 70 539 (10,68%) | 70 307 (11,04%) | 0,36 | 14,80 | 15,02 | 0,22 |
| Crimes heavily dependent on police action/detection | 142 259 | 157 304 | 15 045 | 10,58 | 5 613 | 4 737 | -876 | -15,61 | 134 730 (91,11%) | 152 074 (93,43%) | 2,32 | 92,63 | 95,14 | 2,51 |
| Other serious crime | 551 334 | 542 342 | -8 992 | -1,63 | 97 729 | 78 004 | -19 725 | -20,18 | 161 434 (24,44%) | 167 074 (26,30%) | 1,86 | 36,12 | 36,94 | 0,82 |
| TOTAL | 2 159 147 | 2 115 860 | -43 287 | -2,00 | 397 959 | 311 465 | -86 494 | -21,73 | 745 973 (29,39%) | 774 070 (31,97%) | 2,58 | 40,59 | 42,39 | 1,80 |

10.5.1 Subprogramme: Specialised Investigations

10.5.1.1 Organised crime-related charges

The Justice, Crime Prevention and Security (JCPS) cluster regards the neutralising of organised crime syndicates as a priority. According to the Organised Crime Project Investigation (OCPI), 192 organised crime groups (projects) are known to be operating in South Africa. Most of these criminal groups specialise in drug-related crime, motor vehicle theft, the hijacking of motor vehicles and trucks, fraud, corruption, trafficking in non-ferrous metals, precious metals and stones. Of the 192 projects that were investigated, 72 were successfully investigated, which led to 913 cases being taken to court. The 913 cases involved the arrest of 127 syndicate leaders and 704 syndicate members (runners). This means that 37,5 % of the organised crime projects that were under investigation for the period under review were taken to court. As a target of 20% had been set for the period under review, the SAPS achieved its target.

In establishing better coordination and developing mutually beneficial activities, systems and processes, the emphasis is placed on improving cooperation between SARPCCO countries in addressing cross-border crime. Firearms and illegal immigrants are examples of this kind of cooperation. Phase 1 of Operation Palanca Negra, which focused on stolen/hijacked vehicles and drugs, was carried out in South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland and Mozambique. Phase 2 took place in Angola, Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe and Phase 3 in Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia. 400 stolen/hijacked vehicles from South Africa were seized and 193 vehicles impounded during these operations in the various countries, 47 illegal firearms were seized, and 2 749 illegal immigrants were arrested. Large quantities of drugs were also seized. The Organised Crime Repatriation Unit successfully brought back 188 of the seized vehicles to South Africa. The latest intelligence indicates that there are currently only four major markets for stolen vehicles manufactured in the RSA, namely Mozambique, Lesotho, Zambia and, to a lesser extent, Malawi. Information at hand indicates that the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is also a growing market.

An analysis of threats from organised crime groups over the past decade identified drug threats as accounting for the largest proportion of the known threats. Drug smuggling as an organised crime usually ties in with other dimensions of organised crime, such as diamonds, gold, abalone and vehicle hijacking. Dependency on drugs can become so expensive that drug users have to commit crime to feed their habit (e.g. all kinds of theft, including motor vehicle theft and armed robbery). Furthermore, some drugs may lead to violent crime such as murder, attempted murder, rape and all kinds of assault. Drugs such as cannabis, Mandrax, cocaine, heroin, Ecstasy, CAT and Tik-Tik pose major threats to South Africa.

The chemical monitoring programme, responsible for monitoring precursor chemicals to prevent the diversion of chemicals for the manufacture of illicit drugs, dealt with 295 import notifications of precursor chemicals to South Africa. A further 1 468 export notifications of precursor chemicals were forwarded to the relevant foreign authorities. In the period under review, 30 clandestine narcotics laboratories were detected and dismantled. Illicit drugs to the value of R87 million, including cocaine, CAT and Tik-Tik were confiscated.

In 2006/2007, 934 persons were arrested for the illegal purchase, theft and possession or picking up of uncut diamonds and unwrought precious metals to the value of R8 363 301.

Five organised crime projects were investigated. The investigations focused on organised crime networks involved in the theft of copper wire. Three of these projects were terminated and 13 suspects were arrested. These suspects had been responsible for stealing Eskom and Telkom cables over a period of time. The Organised Crime component is an active member of the 26 Non-Ferrous Theft Combating Committees (NFTCC), established in South Africa as a joint effort between all interested parties engaged in addressing the theft of non-ferrous metals, specifically copper cable.

A total of 62 persons were arrested for illicit trafficking in endangered species, parts or products, including abalone, plants, rhino horn, elephant ivory, birds and animal products. The value of the commodities that were seized is estimated at R 26 345 783.

Several selective disruptive operations were held in support of the organised crime project investigations. These operations focused on a wide variety of criminal activities, ranging from illegal mining activities to the theft of non-ferrous metals such as copper and aluminium. During these operations 698 illegal miners were arrested and 306 cases opened; they ranged from trespassing to the possession of gold-bearing material and unwrought precious metals. 462 scrap metal dealers were visited and 360 tons of stolen material with a value of ± R12 million were recovered. 176 arrests were made for a variety of crimes and material to the value of R4,7 million was seized.

To create a more coordinated approach between the Organised Crime units and the Assets Forfeiture Unit (AFU), the Organised Crime component made members available to the AFU for the purpose of performing investigations to trace the assets of the organised crime networks. The Assets Forfeiture task teams reported the following successes: 146 restraining orders, 327 preservation orders and 262 forfeiture orders to the value of R36 726 939; the teams also investigated 2 623 new cases.

10.5.1.2 Charges relating to commercial crime

The Commercial Branch of the SAPS is responsible for investigating fraud, forgery and uttering, and theft (mostly theft of trust money or funds that were manipulated to the extent that the services of a chartered accountant are required). The Commercial Branch is also responsible for enforcing 54 Acts of Parliament, including the Companies Act, 1973 (Act No. 61 of 1973), the Close Corporations Act, 1984 (Act No. 69 of 1984), the Insolvency Act, 1936 (Act No. 24 of 1936), the Merchandise Marks Act, 1941 (Act No. 17 of 1941), the Counterfeit Goods Act, 1997 (Act No. 37 of 1997), the Banks Act, 1990 (Act No. 94 of 1990) and the South African Reserve Bank Act, 1989 (Act No. 90 of 1989), which deal with counterfeit currency and the investigation of corruption in State departments and the private sector.

The effective prevention of commercial crime, as well as law enforcement and deterrent action in respect of this kind of crime, is complicated by several challenges:

Commercial crime is more dynamic than ever. New fraud patterns emerge swiftly and can quickly transform and migrate. As soon as businesses take preventive measures against one kind of fraud, criminals adopt a less risky approach to that kind of fraud.

The **boundary-free nature of certain commercial crimes** makes it difficult to locate offenders. Investigations are often hampered by the cost of sending investigators abroad or securing witnesses from abroad to testify in criminal proceedings.

The **faceless nature of commercial crime** today complicates the evidentiary limitations of traditional enforcement and investigation. The traditional smoking gun, paper trail, eyewitness testimony and evidential aspects are less applicable today. Modern communication technology offers benefits but also heightens the pressure on the investigator, as evidence can disappear quickly.

As commercial crime requires specialised investigating skills, each Commercial Branch (excluding the Serious Economic Offences Unit) has operational groups (within its structures) that are responsible for investigating specific kinds of crime. The following groups operate within the unit:

The Banking-related Crime Group attends to offences relating to, among other things, cheques, cards, motor vehicle finance fraud, skimming and various scams.

The Intellectual Property Rights Group concentrates on matters relating to intellectual property rights, revenue, trade and industry and black dollars (counterfeit goods).

The Statutes and Fraud Group deals with matters relating to statutes, fraud (general), advance fee fraud (4-1-9 letter scams) and other fraud scams.

The Serious Cases, Financial Crimes and Corruption Group deals with matters relating to serious and high-profile cases, financial crimes, money laundering and corruption.

The Electronic Crime Group concentrates on matters relating to crimes that have been committed by electronic means (cybercrime – internet fraud cases). E-crime is dealt with by the Banking-related Crime Group.

The **Serious Economic Offences Unit** focuses primarily on the effective and efficient investigation of more serious economic offences that are large in scope and/or of national interest.

The **Proceeds of Crime Investigation Desk** was established for the purpose of investigating suspicious transaction reports which are received from the Financial Intelligence Centre in terms of the Financial Intelligence Centre Act, 2001 (Act No 38 of 2001). Reports received at the FIC are analysed and evaluated and the reports on suspicious activities that have been identified are sent, inter alia, to the Proceeds of Crime Investigation Desk for further investigation.

The Desk is also responsible for receiving, evaluating and disseminating reports on suspected corrupt activities which have to be reported by persons in certain positions to any police official in terms of section 34 of the Prevention of Corruption Activities Act, 2004 (Act No. 12 of 2004).

Commercial crimes are being addressed by means of the following:

- Partnerships (the South African Revenue Services (SARS), forensic auditors, the Financial Services Board, the Public Prosecutor, the office of the Auditor-General, the Money-laundering Forum (MLF), the South African Reserve Bank (SARB), the Banking Council, the Counterfeit Goods Imports Task Group, the Credit Card Forum (IACCI), and the National Prosecuting Authority)
- A National Priority Committee on Commercial Crime

- Preventive measures (such as awareness campaigns at targeted shopping centres)
- Specialised Commercial Crime courts

The Commercial Branch received 21 477 cases during the period under review (compared to 16 169 in 2005/2006) and 7 648 persons were arrested or made their first appearance in court, compared to 5 131 in 2005/2006. (The latter included cases carried over from previous years.) On average 24,8% of cases relating to commercial crime were referred to court. A detection rate of 38,8% was achieved. The following targets were set regarding commercial crime investigations for the 2006/2007 financial year: cases to court - 22% - and a detection rate of 34%. An analysis indicated that the Commercial Branch had achieved its targets.

Table 17 provides an overview and a breakdown of the kinds of commercial crime committed, as well as the investigative processes followed.



TABLE 17 Investigation of commercial crime cases

| CRIME DESCRIPTION | CASH RECEIVED | | | | ARRESTS/FIRST APPEARANCES | | | | CONCLUDED IN COURT | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | NUMBER OF CASES RECEIVED | VALUE (R) | | POTENTIAL | NUMBER | | POTENTIAL | CASES | COUNTS | ACCUSED | VALUE (R) | |
| | | ACTUAL | POTENTIAL | | SA CITIZENS | NON-SA CITIZENS | | | | | ACTUAL | POTENTIAL |
| Internet fraud | 1 447 | 178 860 153 | 28 551 630 | 28 551 630 | 91 | 8 | 551 281 | 28 | 160 | 30 | 5 088 438 | 83 690 |
| Counterfeit credit cards | 419 | 20 850 289 | 1 192 138 | 353 553 | 131 | 13 | 9 293 239 | 65 | 126 | 55 | 48 069 498 | 4 896 271 |
| Stolen credit cards | 607 | 25 641 287 | 10 488 209 | 834 680 | 210 | 24 | 13 295 433 | 132 | 191 | 75 | 4 164 775 | 683 230 |
| Other cards | 596 | 14 950 086 | 2 083 879 | 89 071 | 88 | 3 | 1 317 549 | 34 | 105 | 34 | 7 755 343 | 2 251 |
| Prevention of Counterfeiting of Currency Act, 1965 | 27 | 246 311 | 178 700 | 201 800 | 19 | 5 | 709 250 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 412 200 | 91 000 |
| SA Reserve Bank Act, 1989 | 52 | 7 278 736 | 4 568 370 | 581 750 | 26 | 1 | 61 300 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 4 200 | 594 400 |
| Stolen cheques | 2 067 | 131 612 308 | 548 252 551 | 12 605 053 | 261 | 38 | 50 629 562 | 165 | 454 | 163 | 28 085 567 | 1 575 718 |
| Cloned cheques | 969 | 74 948 228 | 9 243 265 | 7 240 308 | 99 | 8 | 5 061 436 | 73 | 81 | 79 | 14 680 156 | 727 064 |
| 419 scams (advance fee fraud) | 25 | 517 055 | 6 875 626 | 0 | 7 | 9 | 6 143 367 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Black dollar scams | 33 | 2 099 011 | 346 060 | 761 502 | 19 | 26 | 425 460 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 1 667 920 | 100 100 |
| Kite-flying | 5 | 13 130 065 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 107 000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other fraud | 9 743 | 2 882 461 517 | 429 817 720 | 49 084 991 | 4 690 | 42 | 670 137 213 | 2 690 | 7 081 | 2 448 | 438 404 419 | 18 679 703 |
| Theft | 1 172 | 320 389 677 | 62 584 854 | 36 934 557 | 397 | 8 | 73 887 149 | 199 | 1 993 | 184 | 55 405 503 | 2 160 909 |
| Forgery and uttering | 665 | 283 274 497 | 138 841 298 | 4 698 959 | 164 | 6 | 37 089 691 | 53 | 123 | 59 | 9 147 525 | 1 736 486 |
| Corruption Act, 1992 | 126 | 55 070 215 | 16 387 000 | 22 000 | 58 | 7 | 7 576 017 | 13 | 18 | 14 | 13 868 | 12 400 |
| Prevention of Organised Crime Act, 1998 | 10 | 2 596 000 | 10 000 000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 20 000 | 0 |
| Exchange Control Act, 1985 | 31 | 9 609 719 | 134 246 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 200 | 150 |
| Insolvency Act, 1936 | 18 | 12 106 719 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 105 000 | 0 |
| Companies Act, 1973 | 47 | 4 909 635 970 | 282 200 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 581 948 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 30 000 | 336 820 |
| Close Corporations Act, 1984 | 22 | 350 000 | 47 000 000 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 500 000 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 40 | 0 |
| Usury Act, 1968 | 9 | 69 957 | 29 130 | 29 130 | 21 | 0 | 500 444 | 12 | 252 | 11 | 115 617 | 0 |
| Magistrates' Court Act, 1944 | 6 | 253 050 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 60 000 | 0 |
| Merchandise Marks Act, 1941 | 10 | 19 920 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 845 | 0 |
| Counterfeit Goods Act, 1997 | 607 | 65 535 340 | 7 641 931 | 5 845 563 | 173 | 59 | 33 635 717 | 115 | 192 | 113 | 18 725 797 | 4 355 121 |
| Other | 2 764 | 256 593 413 | 11 963 183 | 11 503 753 | 862 | 29 | 859 712 947 | 1 216 | 4 474 | 423 | 63 539 092 | 16 488 290 |
| TOTAL | 21 477 | 9 268 099 523 | 1 336 461 990 | 131 337 951 | 7 362 | 286 | 1 843 850 162 | 4 826 | 15 284 | 3 724 | 695 500 003 | 52 523 603 |

10.5.1.3 Charges to court and detection rate for crimes against women and children

(a) Persons 18 years and older

Figures on some contact crimes (murder, attempted murder, rape, common assault, assault GBH, indecent assault) against women (18 years and older) and children (under the age of 18 years) which often occur in the domestic/family environment are provided in table 18.

It is clear from the table that, during the year under review, adult women were the victims of 57,00% of all reported rapes, 53,50% of all reported incidents of common assault and 39,00% of all reported assaults GBH. A further 17,87% and 14,80% of reported attempted murders and murders respectively were committed against women.

From the table it is evident that the total number of charges reported decreased by 11 723 (-4,71%) in comparison with the same period in 2005/2006. The biggest decrease in reported charges was in respect of common assault, namely 7 995 (-6,64%). However, murder showed an increase of 193 (7,29%).

The charges referred to court increased by 3,09% from 41,77% to 44,86%, with common assault and assault GBH indicating the biggest increase in charges referred to court with 5,07% and 4,66% respectively. A target of 40% had been set for the 2006/2007 financial year. The above analysis reveals that the SAPS met this target.

Detection rates of 78,53% and 75,13% were achieved for common assault and assault GBH respectively and the overall detection rate improved by 1,22% to 60,75%. A target of 42% was set for the detection rate. The SAPS therefore met this target.

(b) Persons younger than 18 years

From the table it is also clear that children were the victims of 42,99% of all incidents of reported rape, 11,19% of all reported incidents of common assault, and 9,37% of all reported incidents of assault GBH. Children were also the victims of 6,49% of all attempted murders and 5,99% of all murders.

From the table it is evident that the total number of charges reported decreased by 3 685 (-4,76%) in comparison with 2005/2006. The biggest decrease in

reported charges was in respect of common assault (9,31%), while murder increase by 77 charges (7,16%).

The charges referred to court increased by 3,95% from 41,16% to 45,11% with assault GBH and common assault indicating the largest increases, namely 6,15% and 5,80% respectively. A target of 30% had been set for charges to court for the 2006/2007 financial year. The above analysis reveals that the SAPS met this target.

Detection rates of 72,82% and 71,19% were achieved for assault GBH and common assault respectively. The overall detection rate improved by 1,09% to 62,44%. A target of 40% was set for the detection rate and the above analysis reveals that the SAPS met this target.



TABLE 18 Crimes against women and children

| CRIME CATEGORY | NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS REPORTED | | | NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS INCOMPLETE | | | % CASES REFERRED TO COURT | | | % DETECTION RATE | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF | % DIFF | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF | % DIFF | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF | 05/06 | 06/07 | DIFF |
| CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Murder | 1 075 | 1 152 | 77 | 7,16 | 5 032 | 4 037 | -995 | -19,77 | 1 252 (19,41%) | 1 178 (22,02%) | 2,61 | 24,60 | 28,14 | 3,54 |
| Attempted murder | 1 378 | 1 309 | -69 | -5,01 | 1 110 | 787 | -323 | -29,10 | 800 (33,11%) | 721 (34,39%) | 2,35 | 44,45 | 46,23 | 1,78 |
| Rape | 23 453 | 22 625 | -828 | -3,53 | 8 649 | 8 578 | -71 | -0,82 | 12 874 (40,10%) | 13 000 (42,19%) | 2,09 | 56,56 | 56,94 | 0,38 |
| Common assault | 25 941 | 23 526 | -2 415 | -9,31 | 6 088 | 4 272 | -1 816 | -29,83 | 11 923 (37,22%) | 12 091 (44,37%) | 5,80 | 67,87 | 71,19 | 3,32 |
| Assault GBH | 20 879 | 20 445 | -434 | -2,08 | 6 144 | 4 392 | -1 752 | -28,52 | 14 053 (50,91%) | 14 173 (57,06%) | 6,15 | 68,53 | 72,82 | 4,29 |
| Indecent assault | 4 726 | 4 710 | -16 | -0,34 | 1 513 | 1 420 | -93 | -6,15 | 2 731 (43,42%) | 2 715 (44,29%) | 0,87 | 67,41 | 67,23 | -0,18 |
| TOTAL | 77 452 | 73 767 | -3 685 | -4,76 | 28 536 | 23 486 | -5 050 | -17,70 | 43 633 (41,16%) | 43 878 (45,11%) | 3,95 | 61,53 | 62,44 | 1,09 |
| CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN: PERSONS 18 YEARS AND OLDER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Murder | 2 649 | 2 842 | 193 | 7,29 | 2 105 | 2 239 | 134 | 6,37 | 1 480 (33,34%) | 15 329 (32,65%) | -0,69 | 37,85 | 36,82 | -1,03 |
| Attempted murder | 3 744 | 3 601 | -143 | -3,82 | 1 077 | 1 075 | -2 | -0,19 | 1 700 (38,78%) | 1 657 (39,13%) | 0,35 | 49,19 | 48,81 | -0,38 |
| Rape | 31 473 | 29 992 | -1 481 | -4,71 | 7 296 | 7 758 | 462 | 6,33 | 12 749 (40,98%) | 12 927 (40,72%) | -0,06 | 54,27 | 54,25 | -0,02 |
| Common assault | 120 376 | 112 381 | -7 995 | -6,64 | 15 059 | 11 048 | -4 011 | -26,64 | 54 645 (46,01%) | 54 968 (51,08%) | 5,07 | 72,69 | 75,13 | 2,44 |
| Assault GBH | 87 146 | 85 032 | -2 114 | -2,43 | 8 905 | 6 625 | -2 280 | -25,60 | 46 305 (59,40%) | 46 861 (64,06%) | 4,66 | 75,83 | 78,53 | 2,70 |
| Indecent assault | 3 736 | 3 553 | -183 | -4,90 | 992 | 900 | -92 | -9,27 | 2 007 (42,00%) | 1 873 (42,06%) | 0,06 | 67,20 | 65,91 | -1,29 |
| TOTAL | 249 124 | 237 401 | -11 723 | -4,71 | 35 434 | 29 645 | -5 789 | -16,34 | 118 886 (41,77%) | 119 818 (44,86%) | 3,09 | 59,53 | 60,75 | 1,22 |

(c) Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS)

The Family Violence, Child Protection and Social Offences (FCS) units of the SAPS, together with other specialised units, were redeployed to station level to ensure crimes are being investigated where they occur.

The FCS units of the SAPS are responsible for investigating crimes such as assault with the intent to do grievous bodily harm, attempted murder, rape, incest, indecent assault, common assault, kidnapping, abduction, the sexual exploitation of children and adults in terms of the Sexual Offences Act, 1957 (Act No. 23 of 1957, as amended), relevant crimes in terms of the Prevention of Family Violence Act, 1993 (Act No. 133 of 1993), the Domestic Violence Act, 1998 (Act No. 116 of 1998) and the Films and Publications Act, 1996 (Act No. 65 of 1996, as amended), where these crimes require specialised investigative skills.

The role of the FCS units in preventing these crimes is limited, because they occur mostly within a specific social environment (such as the family) to which the police do not have ready access. However, the FCS units play an important role in educating the public. The FCS units use meetings, articles in the media and talks to create an awareness of this issue at schools, universities, youth and church organisations. Between April 2006 and March 2007, FCS members presented 1 683 lectures to children and adults to alert the community to the need for combating sexual and violent crimes.

Over the past financial year, 228 SAPS members from the FCS units and the Detective Service attended the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Investigators Course (3 weeks), while 436 members, as well as 29 prosecutors, attended the Policing of Child Pornography training workshop (2 days).

During the period under review, the FCS units dealt with 48 949 cases (comprising 3 589 enquiries and 45 360 dockets), which led to 25 942 arrests. Table 19 provides an overview of the cases that were concluded in court for the period 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007.

It must be noted that the FCS units investigate crimes of a sexual and violent nature pertaining to all adults and children (although these kinds of cases are also investigated by the general detectives). The investigative process regarding specific crimes relating to women and children has been described in paragraphs 10.5.1.3 (a) and (b).

TABLE 19 Outcome of family violence and sexual offence cases

| CONVICTION SENTENCES | CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (UNDER 18 YEARS) | | CRIMES AGAINST ADULTS (18 YEARS AND OLDER) | | TOTAL CHILDREN +ADULTS | |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| | 2005/2006 | 2006/2007 | 2005/2006 | 2006/2007 | 2005/2006 | 2006/2007 |
| Number of cases finalised in court | 2 599 | 1 954 | 1 449 | 1 305 | 4 048 | 3 259 |
| Years' imprisonment | 14 116 | 9 722 | 7 767.5 | 8 588 | 21 883.5 | 18 310 |
| Life imprisonment | 146 | 103 | 44 | 38 | 190 | 141 |
| Fines | R747 560 | R806 240 | R576 360 | R413 900 | R1 323 920 | R1 220 140 |
| Years' correctional supervision | 158.5 yrs 270 hours | 170 yrs | 68 | 66.5 yrs 16 hours | 226.5 yrs 270 hours | 236.5 yrs 16 hours |
| Declared as President's patient | 12 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 16 | 7 |
| Compensation to be paid | R18 500 to 5 victims | R23 000 to 3 victims R2 000 to Child Welfare | R2 000 to Childline | - | R18 500 to 5 victims R2 000 to Childline | R23 000 to 3 victims R2 000 to Child Welfare |
| Cases postponed for sentencing | 95 | 56 | 8 | 7 | 103 | 63 |
| Referred to reformatory school | 8 | 9 | - | 1 | 8 | 10 |
| Referred to diversion programmes | 68 | 33 | 5 | 14 | 73 | 47 |
| Cases: Warned and discharged | 34 | 26 | 10 | 14 | 34 | 40 |
| Community service | 2 240 hours/ 3 years | 690 hours | - | 300 hours | 2 240 hours/3 years | 990 hours |
| Cases converted to Children's Court proceedings | - | 3 | - | - | - | 3 |
| Periodical imprisonment | - | 1 500 hours | - | 350 hours | - | 1 850 hours |
| House arrest | 5 years | 4 years | - | - | 5 years | 4 years |

10.5.2 Subprogramme: Criminal Record Centre

10.5.2.1 Time taken to generate reports of offenders' previous convictions

The National Criminal Record Centre (CRC) is responsible for identifying and confirming any previous convictions of suspects in crimes being investigated by the South African Police Service.

During the 2006/2007 financial year 1 001 357 crime-related fingerprint enquiries were received, of which 478 430 (47,78%) were enquiries that led to positive identification.

Given that turnaround time is of extreme importance to the South African Police Service, as well as the general public, it was found that, on average, 86,48% of the total number of enquiries received for previous conviction reports were generated within 30 days.

During the period under review, a total of 912 710 enquiries not relating to crime were also received. These enquiries are made in order to determine whether or not persons applying for firearm licences, professional driver's permits and for work as security officers, etc have any criminal records. Of this amount, 17,86% (163 096 actual enquiries) resulted in positive identification as persons who were linked to previous convictions.

In addition to the above enquiries relating to criminal and non-criminal cases, a total of 339 145 cases were received for investigation. Of this number, 31,51% (106 867 actual cases) were found to have fingerprint-related evidence. As a result of this evidence, a total of 21 097 cases were positively identified.

10.5.3 Subprogramme: Forensic Science Laboratory

The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) renders a support service to investigating officers by analysing any physical evidence that is collected from various crime scenes.

10.5.3.1 Exhibits analysed

(a) Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS)

In the course of the 2006/2007 financial year, the FSL received 168 732 cases for analysis. Of these cases 8 515 projectiles, 70 694 cartridge cases and 48 449 firearms were placed on IBIS, and a total of 18 599 positive "hits" were made. A new server is soon to be installed in Pretoria which will enable the Ballistics Section to carry out national correla-

tion of all IBIS exhibits that each Ballistics Unit examines, regardless of the location of the IBIS laboratory. The new server will enhance service delivery by improving the number of “hits” that are made through IBIS. It was expected to become operational in June/July 2007.

(b) DNA analysis

During the period under review, the Biology Section received 52 486 items of biological material that needed to be examined. During the same period, 48 670 cases were concluded. Of the total number of cases received, 7 036 cases were submitted for the purpose of DNA analysis.

According to the DNA Criminal Intelligence Database (DCID), 35 inter-case¹⁰ “hits” and 1 248 intra-case¹¹ “hits” have been identified. It must be noted that it is possible for multiple samples to be linked to the same case.

In the second half of 2006, the Biology Section occupied its new laboratory facilities in Arcadia. This facility is comparable to the best in the world and is equipped with devices such as closed-circuit camera-monitoring systems and biometric access control devices at entrances and exits in order to ensure the safekeeping of exhibit material and case files. The laboratory layout also follows best practices as far as the use of space for the examination of exhibit material and the prevention of cross-contamination is concerned. The new, completed storage facility addresses the immediate, acute and short-term archiving needs for case files. The Electronic Management System was also implemented to manage the continuation of possession (chain-of-custody) of case files. This system replaced the outdated and inefficient system that used elaborate hand-written registers to perform the same function.

In the first half of 2007 an automated DNA analysis system (GSPS) was brought into operation. To date more than 6 500 casework samples have been submitted for analysis by this system. The system has now capacitated the Biology Section to such an extent that all DNA samples in the present case load of the Biology Section can be analysed.

10. Inter-case hits refer to hits made between the same kind of cases, e.g. murder and murder.

11. Intra-case hits refer to hits made between cases that are different in nature, e.g. murder and rape. These statistics may be high due to the large number of crime samples linked to the same case.

(c) Chemistry Section

- Drugs

The Chemistry Section of the Forensic Science Laboratory is responsible for the analysis of suspected illegal substances, as well as other substances that need to be analysed further. The analysis of illegal substances done by the Chemistry Section is listed in table 11. 23 304 cases were received for analysis from January 2006 to December 2006. 12 962 cases of these were concluded.

Between January 2006 and December 2006 44 clandestine laboratories were investigated.

- Toxicology

373 cases were received in 2006/2007, of which 7 have been concluded to date.

- Fire Investigation

704 cases were received during the period under review, of which 65 were concluded. 193 fire scenes were attended to nationally during the period under review.

(d) Questioned Documents Section

The Questioned Documents Section received 16 546 cases in the 2006/2007 financial year.

- Fraud cases

The total value of all the fraud cases received, which were subsequently examined, amounted to R114 168 022,38.

- Counterfeit Bank Notes

141 042 South African bank notes with a total face value of R13 262 360 were received for examination during the period under review.

4 595 USA bank notes with a total face value of \$41 040 were received for examination during the period under review.

In summary, the FSL carried over 65 019 cases from the 2005/2006 financial year into the 2006/2007 financial year. During the 2006/2007 financial year, an additional 202 733 cases were received by the FSL for analysis, bringing the total number of cases to be dealt with to 267 792.

During the 2006/2007 financial year, analysts concluded 214 821 cases. Of these 214 821 cases, 197 635 cases were concluded within 35 days which, when reduced to a percentage, translates into 92% of the cases that were concluded within 35 days.

During the 2006/2007 planning cycle, the FSL recruited 163 operational and 32 support personnel. Unfortunately, during the same period, 70 operational and 50 support personnel were lost.

In addition to the new personnel, the FSL also received various items of equipment to enhance chemical, scientific and ballistic analyses.

A new Exhibits Management System (EMS) was also introduced, adding significantly to the effectiveness and efficiency of support personnel as far as the management of exhibits within the FSL environment is concerned.

The Biology Section relocated to Arcadia as soon as the laboratory in the old Andrew McCollm Hospital in Arcadia had been completed. This resulted in more space and a better working environment becoming available, not only to the Biology Section, in the new Arcadia laboratory, but also in the Chemistry Section which is now using the laboratories that were vacated by the Biology Section at the Silverton Laboratory. As soon as the Arcadia laboratory was commissioned, the automated DNA analysis system referred to earlier could become fully functional.

The productivity of the FSL is increasing, which means that the FSL is able to start addressing the backlog that has accumulated over the years.