

## 10. Programme 3: Detective Services

### 10.1 Purpose

Enable the investigative work of the South African Police Service, including providing 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 comprises three subprogrammes:

- *Crime Investigations* accommodates detectives at police stations, who investigate crimes of a general nature, as well as serious crime and organised crime.
- *Criminal Record Centre* manages criminal records.
- *Forensic Science Laboratory* provides specialised technical analysis in support to investigators in respect of evidence.

It is important to note that the new crime investigations subprogramme includes the previous two subprogrammes, namely general and specialised investigations. This change of the financial programme structure was brought about as a result of functional purification.

10.3 Service delivery achievements

Table 16: Actual performance against targets

Sub-programme	Output	Measure/Indicator	Target	Actual performance against target	
Crime investigations	Crimes investigated	% of priority crimes charges (cases) to court.	22%	34,92% charges to court.	
		Priority crime detection rate.	34%	44,28% detection rate.	
		% of organised crime-related charges referred to court.	25%	According to the Organised Crime Projects Investigation (OCPI), 145 organised crime groups were identified and investigated. Most of these criminal groups specialise in drug-related crime, motor vehicle theft, the hijacking of motor vehicles and trucks, fraud, corruption, human trafficking and trafficking in non-ferrous metals, precious metals and stones. Of these organised crime groups, 37 have been successfully terminated. Investigations have led to the arrest of 131 syndicate leaders and 375 syndicate members (runners). This equates to a success rate of 27.41%.	
			Detection rate of commercial crime.	35%	40,40%.
			% of commercial crime charges to court.	23%	26,70%.
			Detection rate of sexual offences and assaults against children (Under 18 years).	40%	67,29%.
			% of charges (cases) to court for sexual offences and assaults against children. (Under 18 years).	30%	49,97%.
			Detection rate of sexual offences and assaults against women (18 years and above).	42%	72,54%.
			% of charges (cases to court) for sexual offences and assaults against women. (18 years and above).	40%	55,91%.
	Criminal Record Centre	Fingerprint identification	% of reports of offenders' previous conviction generated within 30 days.	85% within 30 days.	76,26% of the total number of enquiries received from previous conviction reports was generated within 30 days. Target not achieved due to unreliable power supply, which affected systems across the country that are used for processing these reports. They were unable to run at full capacity, particularly from January to March 2008.
Forensic Science Laboratory	Forensic evidence	% of exhibits analysed within 35 days.	92% analysed within 35 days.	91% exhibits analysed. Target not achieved due to loss of skilled personnel, as well as the extensive training that new forensic analysts have to undergo.	

## 10.4 Service delivery objectives and indicators

### 10.4.1 Subprogramme: Crime Investigations

#### (a) Charges to court and detection rate for contact crimes, property crimes and crimes dependent on police action

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). The Portfolio Committee on Safety and Security has requested the SAPS to include conviction rates in future Annual Reports. As a consequence, the SAPS decided to include the conviction rate in this Annual Report. Table 17 reflects the total number of charges referred to court, the detection rate and conviction rates achieved from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 regarding contact crimes, property crimes and crimes dependent on police action for detection.

The number of charges reported reflects the number of charges that were reported at the police stations in respect of the above crimes. These figures were drawn from the Crime Management Information System (CMIS), which is a live system continuously being updated. The charges carried over are the number of charges that were carried over from the previous year, which had not been concluded at that time.

The total number of charges of a specific crime that was investigated is established by adding the number of charges reported and 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, charges withdrawn before court and charges closed as unfounded are divided by the total number of charges investigated. Charges withdrawn before court are charges which had been 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, in the course of the investigation, that a crime has not actually been committed. To determine the conviction rate, the total number of charges in which the accused was found guilty and charges closed by other means are divided by the total number of charges referred to court and charges previously to court. Charges closed by other means are charges where the accused died during the trial, a warrant of arrest was issued for the accused after he or she failed to appear in court, the accused was declared a President's patient or diversions (juveniles).

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

#### *Contact crimes (crimes against persons)*

From table 17 it is evident that the total number of charges reported decreased by 39 527 (-5,61%) in comparison with the same period in 2006/2007. The largest decrease in reported charges was in respect of common robbery 6 171 (-8,67%). Charges referred to court recorded an increase of 3,21%, with common assault indicating the highest increase of 4,18%. The highest increase in the detection rate (2,78%) was in respect of common robbery. The conviction rate for contact crimes decreased marginally by -0,13%, with assault GBH indicating the highest decrease of -1,43%.

### *Property-related crimes*

25 745 (-4,70%) fewer charges were reported to the police during the reporting period compared to the previous financial year. The biggest decrease in reported charges was in respect of theft out of/from motor vehicles with 12 368 fewer charges (-9,97%). Overall there was an increase of 1 051 charges (1,30%) referred to court, with theft out of/from motor vehicles indicating the biggest increase of 1,24%, while the same crime also indicates the highest increase in respect of the detection rate, namely 1,59%. The conviction rate for property-related crimes increased marginally by 0,21%, with stock theft indicating the biggest increase of 0,86%.

### *Crime dependent on police action*

13 711 (8,72%) more charges were reported by the police during the reporting period compared to the previous financial year. The biggest increase in reported charges was in respect of driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs, with 10 144 (26,51%) more charges reported. There was an increase of 13 672 charges (0,36%) to court, but the detection rate decreased marginally by -0,15%. The conviction rate for crimes dependent on police action decreased by -0,47%, with drug-related crime indicating the biggest decrease, namely 1,29%.

**When these crimes are combined, the reported charges decreased by 73 141 (-3,48%), while charges referred to court increased by 3,14% to 34,92%. A target of 22% for charges to court had been set for the 2007/2008 financial year. The detection rate increased by 2,55% to 44,28%. A target of 34% for the detection rate had been set for the 2007/2008 financial year. 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 requests from complainants, complainants who cannot be traced after they reported cases and juveniles referred to institutions such as NICRO.**

### *Progress on discussions about conviction rates within the Criminal Justice System (CJS)*

The SAPS, the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) and the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development met to discuss and define matters relating to the differences between the departments when reporting on conviction rates. The essential difference is that the SAPS measures convictions based on charges - the number of charges concluded by guilty verdict and other means (excluding charges where the accused are found not guilty or charges are withdrawn in court) are added and are then divided by the total number of charges referred to court plus the charges previously outstanding in court to provide a conviction rate. On the other hand the NPA and the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development measure convictions based on the verdict of court cases - the number of cases where the accused was found guilty are divided by the total number of cases where the accused was found guilty plus those where the accused was found not guilty.

The rationale for these differences is sound, not only in terms of the differences in mandate, but in output. The essential focus should be to measure every department's output.

The SAPS investigates and resolves charges. Only charges referred to court are used as a basis for determining the conviction rate of the SAPS, although charges may be successfully resolved by other means.

The NPA's primary focus is to prosecute criminal cases. However, a large number of the matters referred to the NPA are resolved successfully without following a trial process through the courts. Diversion and other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms may be used: matters are withdrawn; admission of guilt fines are paid. The measure for conviction rates for the NPA and the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development therefore focuses on the outcome of cases resolved through the formal trial process in court, following a plea by the accused.

The differences in conviction rate are compounded by the different processes followed in the respective departments. A single charge reported to the SAPS may result in multiple court cases, and multiple charges reported to the SAPS may result in a single court case. Other variables may also play a role such as alternative charges, multiple accused, the separation of trials, accused who disappear, the withdrawal of charges, additional charges, etc.

In view of the different kinds of information recorded by the departments it is not possible to draw any correlation between the statistics at present. However, in conjunction with the various departments, the Integrated Justice System (IJS) Board has been tasked with the responsibility of developing a new integrated system which will track the individual throughout the system, thereby providing information on what has happened to the individual, as opposed to the charge or court case alone.

Towards the end of 2006, a Hi-Tech Project Centre was established to support detectives in the investigation of crime through the use of Hi-Tech equipment and systems. The Hi-Tech Project Centre allows for a coordinated approach to crime information through the use of technology. Investigators now have access to information which they use to oppose bail, assist in the swift identification of suspects and in apprehending wanted suspects, as well as to collate information on the suspects' status (e.g. in custody), link cases and enhance the solving of crime in general.

The centre has been used as a platform for testing new technology such as the Layered Voice Analysis (a stress analysis of verbal communications similar to the traditional polygraph test) and a pilot project on facial recognition, where the images of suspects are analysed with a view to identifying wanted persons positively.

The technology that is being tested at present includes video enhancement software which allows detectives to enhance photographs and thus make identifications.

The use of the Hi-Tech Project Centre has had a positive impact on organised, aggravated robberies, including cash-in-transit heists, bank robberies, break-ins at financial institutions, Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) explosions, armed robberies at shopping malls, fuel stations, casinos, pension pay-out points and the hijacking of trucks with freight, as well as house and business robberies and vehicle hijacking.

Table 17: Performance of general investigations

Crime category	Total number of complaints reported		Total number of complaints incomplete		% cases referred to court		% detection rate		% conviction rate								
	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	% diff						
<b>All 20 serious crimes combined</b>																	
<b>Contact Crimes (Crime against the person)</b>																	
Murder	19 202	18 487	-715	-3,72	30 139	27 343	-2 796	-9,28	11 790 (22,71%)	11 622 (23,88%)	1,17%	27,16%	28,01%	0,85%	4 606 (13,42%)	4 329 (12,60%)	-0,82%
Attempted murder	20 142	18 795	-1 347	-6,69	8 583	7 758	-825	-9,61	9 305 (31,55%)	8 887 (32,50%)	0,95%	41,83%	42,53%	0,70%	2 384 (11,90%)	2 108 (11,31%)	-0,59%
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	126 558	118 312	-8 246	-6,52	39 842	32 892	-6 950	-17,44	14 207 (10,25%)	14 718 (10,99%)	0,74%	12,32%	13,23%	0,91%	2 894 (9,88%)	2 881 (9,28%)	-0,62%
Common robbery	71 156	64 985	-6 171	-8,67	9 894	6 520	-3 374	-34,10	20 382 (24,15%)	20 860 (27,06%)	2,91%	30,39%	33,17%	2,78%	4 882 (15,60%)	4 885 (15,41%)	-0,19%
Assault GBH	218 030	210 104	-7 926	-3,64	28 694	24 321	-4 373	-15,24	144 249 (55,71%)	143 507 (59,64%)	3,93%	71,80%	74,26%	2,46%	44 099 (23,05%)	42 254 (21,62%)	-1,43%
Common assault	210 057	198 049	-12 008	-5,72	32 476	27 224	-5 252	-16,17	108 314 (42,39%)	109 392 (46,57%)	4,18%	69,48%	71,64%	2,16%	37 968 (27,93%)	40 196 (28,03%)	0,10%
Rape	39 304	36 190	-3 114	-7,92	18 445	12 779	-5 666	-30,72	31 754 (42,29%)	27 505 (44,22%)	1,93%	55,06%	57,50%	2,44%	5 908 (9%)	6 179 (8,93%)	-0,07%
<b>Total</b>	<b>704 449</b>	<b>664 922</b>	<b>-39 527</b>	<b>-5,61</b>	<b>168 073</b>	<b>138 837</b>	<b>-29 236</b>	<b>-17,39</b>	<b>340 001</b> <b>(39,91%)</b>	<b>336 491</b> <b>(43,12%)</b>	<b>3,21%</b>	<b>54,48%</b>	<b>56,85%</b>	<b>2,37%</b>	<b>102 742</b> <b>(19,13%)</b>	<b>102 832</b> <b>(19,00%)</b>	<b>-0,13%</b>
<b>Contact-related Crimes</b>																	
Arson	7 858	7 396	-462	-5,88	1 863	1 649	-214	-11,49	2 164 (21,47%)	2 028 (22,32%)	0,85%	36,86%	37,19%	0,33%	428 (13,45%)	440 (13,70%)	0,25%
Malicious damage to property	143 336	136 986	-6 350	-4,43	14 867	12 897	-1 970	-13,25	46 741 (28,44%)	47 118 (30,57%)	2,13%	44,21%	45,38%	1,17%	13 834 (22,95%)	14 109 (22,05%)	-0,90%
<b>Total</b>	<b>151 194</b>	<b>144 382</b>	<b>-6 812</b>	<b>-4,51</b>	<b>16 730</b>	<b>14 546</b>	<b>-2 184</b>	<b>-13,05</b>	<b>48 905</b> <b>(29,13%)</b>	<b>49 146</b> <b>(30,92%)</b>	<b>1,79%</b>	<b>44,39%</b>	<b>45,46%</b>	<b>1,07%</b>	<b>14 262</b> <b>(21,16%)</b>	<b>14 549</b> <b>(21,46%)</b>	<b>0,30%</b>

Crime category	Total number of complaints reported			Total number of complaints incomplete			% cases referred to court			% detection rate			% conviction rate			
	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	% diff	
	<b>All 20 serious crimes combined</b>															
Burglary – residences	249 665	237 853	-11 812	-4,73	37 926	22 420	-15 506	-40,88	43 689 (15,68%)	43 550 (15,68%)	0,00%	18,51%	20,07%	15 438 (23,63%)	15 426 (22,20%)	-1,43%
Burglary - non residential	58 438	62 995	4 557	7,80	8 933	5 594	-3 339	-37,38	9 292 (13,56%)	10 158 (14,16%)	0,60%	16,62%	17,27%	3 668 (25,88%)	3 789 (23,36%)	-2,52%
Theft: motor vehicles & motorcycles	86 298	80 226	-6 072	-7,04	41 277	30 865	-10 412	-25,22	6 061 (4,68%)	5 820 (4,86%)	0,18%	6,23%	6,40%	1 624 (13,26%)	1 670 (12,69%)	-0,57%
Theft out of/from motor vehicles	124 029	111 661	-12 368	-9,97	11 118	5 767	-5 351	-48,13	8 592 (5,84%)	8 934 (7,08%)	1,24%	8,46%	10,05%	2 776 (22,34%)	2 807 (19,81%)	-2,53%
Stock theft	28 828	28 778	-50	-0,17	6 755	6 899	144	2,13	3 894 (10,72%)	4 117 (11,38%)	0,66%	23,06%	24,04%	1 687 (24,18%)	1 834 (25,04%)	0,86%
<b>Total</b>	<b>547 258</b>	<b>521 513</b>	<b>-25 745</b>	<b>-4,70</b>	<b>106 009</b>	<b>71 545</b>	<b>-34 464</b>	<b>-32,51</b>	<b>71 528 (11,18%)</b>	<b>72 579 (12,48%)</b>	<b>1,30%</b>	<b>15,10%</b>	<b>16,05%</b>	<b>25 193 (20,87%)</b>	<b>25 526 (21,08%)</b>	<b>0,21%</b>

<b>Crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection</b>																
Crime category	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	% diff	
	Illegal possession: firearms and Ammunition	14 354	13 476	-878	-6,12	1 641	1 388	-253	-15,42	13 568 (84,57%)	12 657 (85,03%)	0,46%	89,19%	88,77%	4 652 (15,12%)	4 310 (14,12%)
Drug-related crime	104 689	109 134	4 445	4,25	1 674	1 736	62	3,70	102 291 (96,18%)	107 154 (96,64%)	0,46%	97,49%	97,22%	65 948 (49,55%)	67 434 (48,26%)	-1,29%
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	38 261	48 405	10 144	26,51	1 371	1 624	253	18,45	37 509 (94,64%)	47 229 (94,37%)	-0,27%	96,08%	95,42%	14 425 (21,86%)	19 299 (21,46%)	-0,40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>157 304</b>	<b>171 015</b>	<b>13 711</b>	<b>8,72</b>	<b>4 686</b>	<b>4 748</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>1,32</b>	<b>153 368 (94,65%)</b>	<b>167 040 (95,01%)</b>	<b>0,36%</b>	<b>96,32%</b>	<b>96,17%</b>	<b>85 025 (36,99%)</b>	<b>91 043 (36,52%)</b>	<b>-0,47%</b>

Crime category	Total number of complaints reported			Total number of complaints incomplete			% cases referred to court			% detection rate			% conviction rate				
	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	% diff		
<b>All 20 serious crimes combined</b>																	
Theft (Other)	415 163	395 296	-19 867	-4,79	66 049	43 064	-22 985	-34,80	82 186 (16,14%)	88 018 (18,20%)	2,06%	27,16%	28,72%	1,56%	26 100 (22,84%)	28 496 (22,62%)	-0,22%
Fraud	61 690	65 286	3 596	5,83	32 675	30 627	-2 048	-6,27	22 252 (22,31%)	23 192 (24,03%)	1,72%	37,85%	38,61%	0,31%	11 133 (29,49%)	11 463 (29,92%)	0,46%
Shoplifting	65 489	66 992	1 503	2,30	785	543	-242	-30,83	64 444 (95,78%)	66 048 (97,06%)	1,28%	97,18%	98,05%	0,87%	44 154 (48,20%)	45 463 (51,36%)	3,16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>542 342</b>	<b>527 574</b>	<b>-14 768</b>	<b>-2,72</b>	<b>99 509</b>	<b>74 234</b>	<b>-25 275</b>	<b>-25,40</b>	<b>168 882</b> <b>(26,39%)</b>	<b>177 258</b> <b>(29,54%)</b>	<b>3,15%</b>	<b>36,87%</b>	<b>39,76%</b>	<b>2,89%</b>	<b>81 387</b> <b>(33,87%)</b>	<b>85 366</b> <b>(34,34%)</b>	<b>0,47%</b>
<b>Some subcategories of aggravated robbery forming part of aggravated robbery above</b>																	
Car hijacking	13 599	14 201	602	4,43	11 975	10 028	-1 947	-16,26	1 516 (5,92%)	1 596 (6,58%)	0,66%	7,09%	8,01%	0,92%	376 (9,65%)	311 (7,29%)	-2,36%
Truck hijacking	892	1 245	353	39,57	1 412	1 274	-138	-9,77	106 (4,58%)	124 (4,91%)	0,33%	5,36%	6,62%	1,26%	32 (9,63%)	27 (7,43%)	-2,20%
Robbery: Cash in transit	467	297	-170	-36,40	508	400	-108	-21,26	120 (13,04%)	88 (12,34%)	-0,70%	13,47%	13,60%	0,13%	14 (3,97%)	21 (6,14%)	2,17%
Bank robberies	129	109	-20	-15,50	170	134	-36	-21,18	31 (10,76%)	51 (20,40%)	10,73%	13,88%	24,00%	10,12%	11 (7,58%)	17 (9,71%)	2,13%
House robberies	12 761	14 481	1 720	13,48	5 650	6 137	487	8,62	2 195 (12,06%)	2 931 (14,48%)	2,42%	13,86%	16,26%	2,40%	423 (9,39%)	476 (7,67%)	-1,72%
Business robberies	6 689	9 862	3 173	47,44	2 926	3 463	537	18,35	982 (10,07%)	1 719 (13,15%)	3,08%	13,11%	14,97%	1,86%	187 (8,81%)	226 (6,47%)	-2,34%
<b>Total</b>	<b>34 537</b>	<b>40 195</b>	<b>5 658</b>	<b>16,38</b>	<b>22 641</b>	<b>21 436</b>	<b>-1 205</b>	<b>-5,32</b>	<b>4 950</b> <b>(8,67%)</b>	<b>6 509</b> <b>(10,66%)</b>	<b>1,99%</b>	<b>10,37%</b>	<b>12,31%</b>	<b>1,94%</b>	<b>1 043</b> <b>(9,18%)</b>	<b>1 078</b> <b>(7,26%)</b>	<b>-1,92%</b>



Crime category	Total number of complaints reported			Total number of complaints incomplete			% cases referred to court			% detection rate			% conviction rate				
	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	Diff	% diff	06/07	07/08	% diff		
<b>All 20 serious crimes combined</b>																	
Contact crime (crimes against the person)	704 449	664 922	-39 527	-5,61	168 073	138 837	-29 236	-17,39	340 001 (39,91%)	336 491 (43,12%)	3,21%	54,48%	56,85%	2,37%	102 742 (19,13%)	102 832 (19,00%)	-0,13%
Contact crime (crimes against property)	151 194	144 382	-6 812	-4,51	16 730	14 546	-2 184	-13,05	48 905 (29,13%)	49 146 (30,92%)	1,79%	44,39%	45,46%	1,07%	14 262 (21,16%)	14 549 (21,46%)	0,30%
Property-related crimes	547 258	521 513	-25 745	-4,70	106 009	71 545	-34 464	-32,51	71 528 (11,18%)	72 579 (12,48%)	1,30%	15,10%	16,05%	0,95%	25 193 (20,87%)	25 526 (21,08%)	0,21%
Crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection	157 304	171 015	13 711	8,72	4 686	4 748	62	1,32	153 368 (94,65%)	167 040 (95,01%)	0,36%	96,32%	96,17%	-0,15%	85 025 (36,99%)	91 043 (36,52%)	-0,47%
Other serious crime	542 342	527 574	-14 768	-2,72	99 509	74 234	-25 275	-25,40	168 882 (26,39%)	177 258 (29,54%)	3,15%	36,87%	39,76%	2,89%	81 384 (33,87%)	85 366 (34,34%)	0,47%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 102 547</b>	<b>2 029 406</b>	<b>-73 141</b>	<b>-3,48</b>	<b>395 007</b>	<b>303 910</b>	<b>-91 097</b>	<b>-23,06</b>	<b>782 684 (31,33%)</b>	<b>802 514 (34,94%)</b>	<b>3,14%</b>	<b>41,12%</b>	<b>44,28%</b>	<b>2,55%</b>	<b>308 609 (25,82%)</b>	<b>319 316 (26,00%)</b>	<b>0,25%</b>

**(b) Organised crime-related charges**

In terms of the Government's Programme of Action the neutralising of organised crime syndicates is a priority. **Organised crime is any serious crime which is systematically and persistently committed on a continuous basis or a determined period by a consciously, concerted, organised criminal group of two or more persons or a criminal enterprise, in pursuit of an undue financial or other material benefit.**

Organised crime spans a wide area: illegal drugs and substances; smuggling and trading in counterfeit goods; the plundering of mineral and marine resources; smuggling firearms; human and child trafficking; car and truck hijacking; aggravated robberies; cable theft; money laundering and fraud, to mention a few examples.

In terms of the Organised Crime Project Investigation (OCPI), 145 organised crime groups (projects) were identified and investigated. (Organised crime follows the principle that a project investigation is only registered once the usual investigative methods have failed to address the organised crime network and the threat it represents.) Most of these criminal groups specialise in drug-related crime, motor vehicle theft, the hijacking of motor vehicles and trucks, fraud, corruption, the trafficking in non-ferrous metals, precious metals and stones. Of the 145 projects that were investigated, 37 were terminated successfully, which implies that at least one of the identified organised crime network members was arrested. 131 syndicate leaders and 375 syndicate members (runners) were arrested. **This means that 27.41% of the organised crime projects that were under investigation for the period under review were taken to court. As a target of 25% had been set for the period under review, the SAPS achieved its target.** Overall, the organised crime component made 4 873 arrests. Convictions were secured on 1 214 accused.

During the 2006/2007 financial year the mandate of organised crime was extended to include the investigation of specific violent crime. The number of investigations increased substantially during the 2007/2008 financial year on the closure of the remaining Serious Violent Crime units. It is important to realise that specific violent crime investigations can in the majority of instances not be investigated by means of an OCPI. However, the extent of the crime and the investigative activities required are just as complex as those of the OCPI. 2 467 violent crime-related cases were investigated by the Organised Crime component of the SAPS during the 2007/2008 financial year.

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. Illegal firearms, illegal immigrants, drug smuggling and stolen/hijacked vehicles are examples of the crimes dealt with in terms of this kind of cooperation. The following operations were held within the region: Operation Maluti, involving Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique and South Africa; Operation Thabana Ntlenyana, involving Angola, Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe; and Operation Singqu, involving Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi and Mauritius. 357 vehicles were impounded, 17 firearms were seized, 173 illegal immigrants were arrested and 22 bags of cannabis were seized.

The International Vehicle Crime Investigation Unit repatriated 271 stolen vehicles to South Africa. 12 stolen vehicles were expatriated from South Africa. 1 072 vehicle-related enquiries were received, which resulted in 29 arrests and the seizure of 108 vehicles.

An analysis of the threats emanating from organised crime groups over the past decade identified drug threats as accounting for the largest proportion of known threats. Drug smuggling as an organised crime usually ties in with other dimensions of organised crime, such as diamond, gold and abalone smuggling 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 255 import notifications of precursor chemicals to South Africa. A further 1 682 export notifications of precursor chemicals were forwarded to the relevant foreign authorities. During the period under review, 15 clandestine narcotics laboratories were detected and dismantled. The following narcotics were seized while investigating organised crime: 209 kg CAT, 5 143 kg cocaine, 317 768 kg dagga, 27 844 kg Ecstasy tablets, 5 557 kg Mandrax tablets, 22 616 kg Tik and 356 kg heroin.

In 2007/2008 586 persons were arrested for the illegal purchase, theft and possession of uncut diamonds and unwrought precious metals. The total value of diamonds, gold, other precious metals and cash seized was R11 984 468.

Several selective disruptive operations were held in support of investigations into organised crime. These operations focused on a wide variety of criminal activities ranging from illegal immigrants, narcotics and traffic offences. During these operations 40 illegal immigrants were arrested, 20 vehicles were impounded, 48 traffic offences were detected and 6 kg of narcotics were 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 conducting investigations to trace the assets of organised crime networks. During the reporting period assets to the value of R23 371 200 were frozen in 106 AFU cases and assets to the value of R49 005 057 were forfeited in 94 AFU cases as a result of investigations performed by the SAPS.

A total of 26 prosecutions have been instituted in terms of Chapter 2 of the Prevention of Organised Crime Act, 1998 (Act No. 121 of 1998), which deals with racketeering.

### (c) Charges relating to commercial crime

The Commercial Branch of the SAPS is responsible for policing 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 Commercial Branch is also responsible for the investigation of fraud, forgery and uttering, and certain types of theft such as theft of trust money or funds that were manipulated to the extent that the services of a chartered accountant are required.

Given the mandate described above, the Commercial Branch has the following five operational groups:

**The Banking-related Crime Group** attends to offences relating to, among other things, cheques, cards, and asset-based fraud.

**The Intellectual Property Rights Group** focuses 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, and 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** focuses on matters relating to crimes which have been committed by electronic means.

The Commercial Branch investigated the following crimes in 2007/2008:

### *Credit cards*

Fraudulent credit card transactions take place through the use of either completely counterfeit credit cards or altered (by re-embossing and re-encoding) or genuine credit cards that were lost or stolen. The legitimate details are used to either forge a credit card or perpetrate fraud. South Africa has a fast-growing credit card market and developments in electronic commerce also result in a higher proportion of transactions that are carried out electronically. More and more losses are being sustained through credit card fraud. The Banking Group of the Commercial Branch identified and prosecuted several syndicates who are involved in duplicate cheques, altered cheques and washed cheques. Cheque fraud is the second highest prominent category of commercial crime reported during the financial year. Compared to the 2006/2007 financial year there was an increase in 1 649 cases involving stolen credit cards/other cards for the 2007/2008 financial year.

### *Skimming devices*

Criminals may use a skimming device to copy encoded information on the magnetic strip of a legitimate card for fraudulent purposes. The device has the ability to read the information on the card that is being swiped through it. 80 persons were arrested for skimming devices/counterfeit cards fraud and 90 skimming devices were seized during the reporting period.

### *Foreign counterfeit passport/credit card cash advance scam*

Criminals use foreign counterfeit passports and counterfeit international credit cards to make cash withdrawals at banks. Information was obtained from arrested persons, which led to other suspects who were linked to other crimes such as vehicle hijacking and armed robberies.

### *Deposit slip/Refund scam*

These scams involve several modi operandi. They include a refund scam, in terms of which the suspect requests and obtains a refund after more funds have been paid into an account by means of a stolen cheque, and a deposit scam, where the suspect orders goods and deposits a stolen cheque or a lesser amount and faxes a falsified or changed deposit slip to the retailer; the goods are then delivered and the retailer sustains a loss.

### *Cyber/electronic crime*

In 2007/2008 there was a sharp increase in fraud by electronic means. The increase is due to the fact that crimes were committed by means of the Internet and the abuse of Internet banking. Internet fraud increased by 198 cases for the period under review compared to the previous financial year.

### **False application fraud**

Main banking products were targeted for this kind of fraud such as vehicle asset finance, loan accounts and savings accounts. During the 2007/2008 financial year 1 645 Internet fraud cases were reported to the Commercial Branch. 108 South African citizens and 2 non-citizens were arrested. The losses sustained due to this kind of crime amounted to R132 957 848.

### **Advance fee fraud (4-1-9 letter scams)**

Fraudulent letters relating to Advance Fee Fraud (4-1-9 scams) are reported daily to the SAPS. On average, 90% of the fraudulent letters are sent to the recipients via the Internet, inviting them to travel to South Africa to participate in fraudulent scams. Syndicates may revert to kidnapping their victims as a means of obtaining payment from them or their families.

### **Intellectual property rights (Counterfeit goods)**

The Commercial Branch of the SAPS has been mandated to investigate violations of intellectual property rights in South Africa in terms of the Counterfeit Goods Act, 1997 (Act No. 37 of 1997). In view of the extent of this problem, several operations were conducted which resulted in the seizure of large amounts of counterfeit goods from flea markets, street vendors and shops. 691 cases were opened/reported and 266 arrests were made in terms of the Counterfeit Goods Act.

### **Road Accident Fund**

A task team was established in Johannesburg and Durban to investigate cases involving the Road Accident Fund. Dedicated prosecutors are prosecuting these cases.

### **Money laundering**

51 new suspect transaction reports were received from the Financial Intelligence Centre and were disseminated to the Serious Economic Offences Unit, the Organised Crime Unit and the Proceeds of Crime Desk for investigation.

### **Corruption – Section 34 reports**

The Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 (Act No. 12 of 2004) came into operation on 27 April 2004. From April 2006 to March 2007, 2 073 new reports were received, registered and processed.

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), cellphone service providers, TELKOM, 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 24 388 cases during the period under review (compared to 21 477 in 2006/2007) and 10 115 persons were arrested or made their first appearance in court, compared to 7 648 in 2006/2007. (The latter included cases carried over from previous years.) The number of persons convicted increased from 3 724 accused persons on 14 284 counts during the 2006/2007 financial year to 6 484 accused on 19 625 counts in 2007/2008.

**On average 26,7% of cases relating to commercial crime were referred to court. A detection rate of 40,4% was achieved. The following targets were set regarding commercial crime investigations for the 2007/2008 financial year: cases to court: 23% and a detection rate of 35%. An analysis indicates that the Commercial Branch achieved its targets.**

Table 18 provides an overview and a breakdown of the kinds of commercial crime committed, as well as the investigative processes followed.



Table 18: Investigation of cases involving commercial crime

1 Crime description	Breakdown per kind of crime: Number of cases received, arrests, convictions and values											
	2 Cases received				3 Arrests/First appearances				4 Convictions			
	2.1 Number	2.2 Value (R)		2.2.2 Potential	3.1 Number		3.2 Value (R)		4.1 Number		4.2 Value (R)	
		2.2.1 Actual	2.2.2 Potential		3.1.1 SA citizen	3.1.2 Non-citizen	3.2.1 Actual	3.2.2 Potential	4.1.1 Cases	4.1.2 Counts	4.1.3 Accused	4.2.1 Actual
Internet fraud	1 645	132 957 848	7 657 718	108	2	15 184 449	83 639	73	64	34	4 867 133	11 109
Fraud with counterfeit credit cards	835	22 744 433	672 300	151	19	14 263 850	70 530	64	145	56	4 615 452	303 451
Fraud with stolen credit cards	828	29 196 367	2 795 083	274	20	3 055 572	428 486	112	196	104	6 664 140	509 687
Fraud with other cards	2 023	29 421 005	3 434 775	182	5	2 566 545	21 200	50	66	46	1 564 932	0
Prevention of counterfeiting of Currency Act, 1965	19	3 158 739	358 600	13	5	401 990	252 200	4	5	5	2 250	57 500
SA Reserve Bank Act, 1989	43	1 700 234	1 158 290	31	5	2 104 500	586 630	8	8	10	6 182 900	2 116 600
Fraud with stolen cheques	2 411	199 707 633	22 994 364	220	9	15 360 995	7 908 153	136	350	127	22 806 418	4 494 328
Fraud with cloned cheques	922	77 720 584	8 572 117	97	6	8 116 965	876 935	75	87	66	14 080 342	2 893 381
419 scams (advance fee fraud)	48	2 218 183	2 223 512	5	1	63 200	0	11	11	6	1 184 585	0
Black dollar fraud scams	24	1 188 570	4 490 250	4	21	688 200	15 250	8	8	12	2 210 000	6 000
Kite-flying	7	1 645 750	20 958	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other fraud	10 643	4 841 187 253	467 340 909	6 451	64	467 067 657	68 164 863	4 489	9 285	4 337	502 667 298	44 235 989
Theft	1 137	280 396 753	15 907 476	368	11	56 068 047	1 479 466	250	1 607	272	43 543 410	1 515 719
Forgery and uttering	735	172 335 111	32 757 531	158	11	12 811 023	30 165 686	87	106	68	8 015 112	353 050
Corruption Act, 1992/Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004	124	72 311 952	1 158 785	131	2	20 375 433	99 312 595	7	10	8	88 681	0
Prevention of Organised Crime Act, 1998	1	200 000	0	8	0	795 000	92 000	0	0	0	0	0
Exchange Control Act, 1985	18	23 288 015	154 906	7	4	130 305	74 100	5	5	6	134 230	71 600
Insolvency Act, 1936	10	1 445 101	0	2	0	367 000	0	1	3	1	2 800 000	0

Breakdown per kind of crime: Number of cases received, arrests, convictions and values													
1 Crime description	2 Cases received					3 Arrests/First appearances					4 Convictions		
	2.1 Number	2.2 Value (R)		3.2 Value (R)		4.1 Number			4.2 Value (R)				
		2.2.1 Actual	2.2.2 Potential	3.1.1 SA citizen	3.1.2 Non-citizen	3.2.1 Actual	3.2.2 Potential	4.1.1 Cases	4.1.2 Counts	4.1.3 Accused	4.2.1 Actual	4.2.2 Potential	
													19
Companies Act, 1973	19	21 808 928	15 000 000	2	0	10 000	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
Close Corporation Act, 1984	5	943 773	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	120 000	0	0
Usury Act, 1968 and National Credit Act, 2005	20	1 271 440	0	7	0	58 680	0	11	2 369	10	45 527	0	0
Magistrates' Court Act, 1944	5	898 985	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Merchandise Marks Act, 1941	3	36 650	0	2	0	26 650	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Counterfeit Goods Act, 1997	691	52 895 061	32 458 748	207	59	33 969 107	19 858 940	186	233	172	28 281 894	4 350 209	0
Other crime	2 172	528 485 923	4 578 099	1 382	61	78 503 098	4 080 459	1 145	5 065	1 142	132 186 055	5 013 693	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>24 388</b>	<b>6 499 164 291</b>	<b>623 734 421</b>	<b>9 810</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>731 988 266</b>	<b>233 471 132</b>	<b>6 724</b>	<b>19 625</b>	<b>6 484</b>	<b>782 060 359</b>	<b>65 932 316</b>	<b>0</b>

Note: Not all the cases in column 2.1 (cases received) have been concluded. The figures in columns 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 (arrests/ first appearances) and columns 4.1.1 to 4.1.3 (convictions) can therefore not be compared with column 2.1



**(d) Charges to court and detection rate for crimes against women and children*****Persons 18 years and older***

Figures pertaining to some contact crimes (murder, attempted murder, rape, common assault, assault GBH, indecent assault) against women (18 years and older) and children (under 18 years) which often occur in the domestic/family environment are provided in table 19. It is clear from the table that, during the year under review, adult women were the victims of 56.04% of all reported rapes, 46.21% of all reported incidents of common assault and 29.68% of all reported assaults GBH. A further 14.12% and 16.95% 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 45 355 (-19.90%) in comparison with the same period in 2006/2007. The biggest decrease in reported charges was in respect of Assault GBH, namely 22 664 (-26.65%). However, murder showed an increase of 258 (22.40%).

**The charges referred to court increased by 9.30% from 46.61% to 55.91%, with common assault and assault GBH indicating the biggest increase in charges referred to court with 10.35% and 15.05% respectively. A target of 40% had been set for the 2007/2008 financial year. The above analysis reveals that the SAPS met this target.**

**Detection rates of 10.68% and 14.10% were achieved for common assault and assault GBH respectively and the overall detection rate improved by 9.64% to 72.54%. A target of 42% was set for the detection rate. The SAPS therefore met this target.**

The conviction rate improved marginally by 0.09% from 39 387 (22.98%) to 39 754 (23.07%) with common assault indicating the biggest increase of 4.33% during 2007/2008.

***Persons younger than 18 years***

From table 19 it is also clear that children were the victims of 44.45% of all incidents of reported rape, 10.97% of all reported incidents of common assault, and 9.37% of all reported incidents of assault GBH. Children were also the victims of 7.91% of all attempted murders and 7.62% of all murders.

From the table it is evident that the total number of charges reported decreased by 4 277 (-6.27%) in comparison with 2006/2007. The biggest decrease in reported charges was in respect of indecent assault (-22.05%), whilst murder indicates an increase of 22.40%.

**The charges referred to court increased by 2.09% from 47.91% to 49.97% with common assault and indecent assault indicating the largest increases, by 4.42% and 4.13% respectively. A target of 30% had been set for charges to court for the 2007/2008 financial year. The above analysis reveals that the SAPS met this target.**

**Detection rates of 75.34% and 73.72% were achieved for assault GBH and indecent assault respectively and the overall detection rate improved by 1.32% to 67.29%. A target of 40% was set for the detection rate and the above analysis reveals that the SAPS met this target.**

The conviction rate improved by 3.17% from 14 468 (17.90%) to 14 665 (21.07%) with rape indicating the biggest increase of 5.24% during 2007/2008.

Table 19: Investigation of crimes against women and children

Crime Category	Total Number of Complaints Reported			Total Number of Complaints Incomplete			% Cases Referred to Court			% Detection Rate			% Conviction Rate		
	06/07	07/08	% diff	06/07	07/08	DIFF	06/07	07/08	DIFF	06/07	07/08	DIFF	06/07	07/08	% diff
<b>Crimes against children under age of 18 years</b>															
Murder	1 152	1 410	22.40	4 442	3 257	-1 185	1 218 (21.77%)	1 081 (23.16%)	1.39%	27.36%	30.79%	3.43%	593 (12.48%)	583 (12.79%)	0.31%
Attempted Murder	1 309	1 488	13.67	818	602	-216	732 (34.41%)	715 (34.21%)	-0.20%	44.52%	42.87%	-1.65%	228 (12.13%)	229 (12.72%)	0.59%
Rape	17 224	16 068	-6.71	8 973	7 756	-1 217	13 351 (50.96%)	11 423 (47.94%)	-3.02%	65.14%	61.40%	-3.74%	2 633 (8.38%)	2825 (13.62%)	5.24%
Assault Common	23 526	21 736	-7.61	4 428	3 720	-708	12 171 (43.53%)	12 207 (47.95%)	4.42%	69.59%	71.89%	2.30%	5 033 (31.49%)	5 388 (33.34%)	1.85%
Assault GBH	20 445	19 687	-3.71	4 631	3 471	-1 160	14 294 (57.00%)	14 133 (61.02%)	4.02%	72.55%	75.34%	2.79%	5 159 (24.32%)	5 003 (23.79%)	-0.53%
Indecent Assault	4 581	3 571	-22.05	1 435	1 376	-59	2 782 (46.24%)	2 492 (50.37%)	4.13%	68.81%	73.72%	4.91%	822 (14.72%)	637 (12.01%)	-2.71%
<b>Total</b>	<b>68 237</b>	<b>63 960</b>	<b>-6.27</b>	<b>24 727</b>	<b>20 182</b>	<b>-4 545</b>	<b>44 548</b> <b>(47.91%)</b>	<b>4 2051</b> <b>(49.97%)</b>	<b>2.09%</b>	<b>65.97%</b>	<b>67.29%</b>	<b>1.32%</b>	<b>14 468</b> <b>(17.90%)</b>	<b>14 665</b> <b>(21.07%)</b>	<b>3.17%</b>

<b>Crimes against women: persons 18 years &amp; older</b>															
Murder	2 842	2 611	-8.13	2 334	2 589	255	1 575 (30.42%)	1 598 (30.73%)	0.31%	34.13%	34.92%	0.79%	719 (17.69%)	741 (16.74%)	-0.95%
Attempted Murder	3 601	3 187	-11.50	1 108	1 098	-10	1 691 (35.90%)	1 569 (36.61%)	0.71%	44.44%	45.01%	0.57%	675 (20.73%)	501 (15.40%)	-5.33%
Rape	21 314	20 282	-4.84	8 159	7 136	-1 023	13 237 (44.87%)	11 587 (42.26%)	-2.61%	59.29%	54.65%	-4.64%	1 963 (7.39%)	2 187 (8.26%)	0.87%
Assault Common	112 381	91 534	-18.55	11 563	10 847	-716	55 224 (44.55%)	56 211 (54.90%)	10.35%	65.36%	76.04%	10.68%	19 697 (24.63%)	20 825 (28.96%)	4.33%
Assault GBH	85 032	62 368	-26.65	7 065	6 431	-634	47 143 (51.18%)	45 572 (66.23%)	15.05%	64.71%	78.81%	14.10%	15 869 (24.85%)	15 035 (23.76%)	-1.09%
Indecent Assault	2 773	2 606	-6.02	923	899	-24	1 920 (40.77%)	1 774 (50.58%)	9.81%	80.97%	76.48%	-4.49%	464 (13.86%)	485 (15.07%)	1.21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>227 943</b>	<b>182 588</b>	<b>-19.90</b>	<b>31 152</b>	<b>29 000</b>	<b>-2 152</b>	<b>120 790</b> <b>(46.61%)</b>	<b>118 311</b> <b>(55.91%)</b>	<b>9.30%</b>	<b>62.90%</b>	<b>72.54%</b>	<b>9.64%</b>	<b>39 387</b> <b>(22.98%)</b>	<b>39 754</b> <b>(23.07%)</b>	<b>0.09%</b>

### *Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS)*

The Family Violence, Child Protection and Social Offences (FCS) units of the SAPS were redeployed to station level to ensure crimes are being investigated where they occur. This means that members of the former FCS units fall under the command and control of the Detective Commander of the local detective service, and that this function is no longer performed in terms of independent, specialised units (except in the Western Cape).

In the past financial year, 776 of the 1 121 FCS members attended the Detective Course and 800 of the 1 121 FCS members attended the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Investigators' Course.

During the period under review, the SAPS members involved in the investigation of "FCS-related" crimes dealt with 47 574 cases (comprising 3 598 enquiries and 43 976 dockets), which led to 26 565 arrests. These figures exclude cases in Mpumalanga (former FCS members have been redeployed to police stations and the majority are no longer investigating FCS-related crimes exclusively), as well as instances where a number of members have been redeployed to police stations and no longer serve all the stations in a cluster.

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 paragraph (d) above.

#### *10.4.2 Subprogramme: Criminal Record Centre*

##### **(a) Time taken to generate reports of offenders' previous convictions**

The National Criminal Records 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 1 061 455 crime-related fingerprint enquiries were received, of which 513 786 (48,40%) were enquiries that led to previous convictions being identified.

**Given that turnaround time is of extreme importance to the SAPS, as well as the community at large, it was found that, on average, 76,26% of the total number of enquiries received for previous conviction reports were generated within 30 days.**

During the period under review a total of 985 302 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 licences and for work as security officers, etc have any criminal records. Of this total, 19,15% (188 641 actual enquiries) resulted in the identification of persons linked to previous convictions.

A total of 340 824 cases were received for investigation. Of this number, 32,30% (110 083 actual cases) were found to be linked to fingerprint-related evidence. This evidence led to a total of 18 358 cases being positively identified.

#### *Photographs and plans*

76 003 crime scenes and 189 342 sundry items were photographed in the course of the past year. In addition to the photographs that were taken, 16 561 crime scene plans were compiled. 17 068 photo plans were

completed and 10 881 video recordings were made. A total of 6 332 facial compositions were compiled and 17 896 exhibits were dispatched to the Forensic Science Laboratory for further investigation.

### **MorphoTouch**

327 938 persons were tested using the MorphoTouch equipment, of whom 12 820 were identified as being 'wanted'.

### **Local Criminal Record Centres**

The following provides information on the work performed by the fingerprint laboratories of the Local Criminal Record centres situated throughout the Republic:

Exhibits processed	69 239
Cases processed	15 216
Positive cases processed	6 078
Number of Microviper investigations	190
Number of positive Microviper investigations	75
Number of shoe-print investigations	147
Number of positive shoe-print investigations	74
Objects etched	3 413
Positive etches	1 559

### **Improvement of technology at the Criminal Record Centre**

- 60 Local Criminal Record Centre fingerprint laboratories were upgraded to international specifications. This upgrade increases the capability of the Criminal Record Centre to provide relevant scientific support in the investigation of crime.
- A Sicar 6 Tread Mate and Shoe-print System was registered and implemented to assist with the investigation of crime.
- Two new fully equipped crime scene vehicles were acquired for Cape Town and Durban.
- 22 vehicle investigation booths were rolled out to the Local Criminal Records centres.
- 100 RapID devices have been purchased and are being prepared for implementation once their administrators have been trained.
- A "scene-of-crime" terminal has been acquired and will be implemented as a pilot project. Its successful

implementation will provide the Local Criminal Records Centre personnel with the option of searching latent fingerprints obtained at a crime scene against the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) database.

In addition to the above, the Criminal Records Centre, in conjunction with the South African Qualifications Authority, is developing a 3-year qualification in the field of Forensic Science. The qualification, once in place, will contribute to the international accreditation process for the Criminal Record Centre.

### 10.4.3 Subprogramme: Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL)

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

#### (a) Exhibits analysed

##### *Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS)*

During the 2007/2008 financial year the FSL received 57 065 entries for analysis. Of these entries 5 195 projectiles, 19 225 cartridge cases and 42 892 firearms were placed on IBIS. A total of 20 432 positive "hits" were made during this period by using IBIS.

A new server was installed in Pretoria, which now enables the Ballistics Section to correlate all IBIS exhibits examined by each Ballistics Unit nationally, regardless of the location of the IBIS laboratory. The new server enhances service delivery by increasing the number of "hits" on IBIS. The new server's extensive capacity enables it to handle a national database and is proving itself by contributing to the turnaround time and examination quality of the cases dealt with by the Ballistics Section.

In addition to the national IBIS database, a three-dimensional correlation system which, as part of IBIS, aims to improve the accuracy of identification of firearms from approximately 85% to 100%.

##### *DNA analysis*

During the period under review, the Biology Section received 53 536 items of biological material that needed to be examined. During the same period, 58 629 entries were completed. Of the total number of entries received, 7 557 cases were submitted for the purpose of DNA analysis.

According to the DNA Criminal Intelligence Database (DCID), 104 inter-case<sup>13</sup> "hits" have been identified. It must be noted that it is possible for multiple samples to be linked to the same case.

In the first half of 2007 an automated DNA analysis system was brought into operation. More than 6 500 casework samples were submitted for analysis by the system.

##### *Primer residue analysis*

The Scientific Analysis Section received 2 578 entries during the 2007/2008 financial year. 674 of the total entries received concerned incidents of suicide. 8 174 samples were submitted for purposes of primer residue analysis. 275 of these were time-lapse entries, involving samples taken after two and a half hours of the

<sup>13</sup> Inter-case hits refer to hits made between some types of cases (e.g. murder and murder).

incident having occurred.

The Scientific Analysis Section has also been implementing and validating a new methodology in profiling precious metals handed in as exhibits in criminal cases.

This methodology enables an analyst to distinguish legally produced gold from illegally produced gold. In most cases where illegally produced precious metals are identified, the process allows the analyst to go even further and identify the mine from which the precious metal originated.

## **Chemistry**

### ● *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 12.

25 clandestine laboratories were investigated in 2007/2008.

### ● *Toxicology*

407 entries were received in 2007/2008, of which 46 have been concluded to date.

### ● *Fire investigation*

768 cases were received during the period under review, of which 114 were concluded.

During the period under review, additional Liquid Chromatograph Mass Spectrometry (LCMS) equipment was procured. This will be used for analysing medicine-related samples.

The Explosives Section procured, among other items, two new robots that will assist explosives experts in the analysis and disarming of explosive devices.

## **Questioned documents**

The Questioned Documents Section received 11 343 cases during the 2007/2008 financial year.

### ● *Fraud entries*

The total value of all the fraud cases received, which were subsequently examined, amounted to R50 632 446,46.

### ● *Counterfeit bank notes*

39 781 South African bank notes with a total face value of R3 384 249 were received for examination during the period under review.

7 cases involving counterfeit foreign currency were received for examination during the period under

review.

12 entries concerning 'black' dollars were received for examination during the period under review. A 'black dollar' is used in a scam where the con-man attempts to deceive a victim into believing that it is possible to make original US dollars out of similarly sized black-coated paper.

19 entries of suspected fraudulent driver's licences were received for investigation during the period under review.

2 entries involving suspected counterfeit coins were received for investigation during the period under review.

790 entries involving handwriting, cheques and identification documents/passports were received for investigation during the period under review.

1 803 entries emanating from assets-in-transit and banking companies were received for investigation during the period under review.

The Questioned Documents Section has also established a chemistry subsection which will have as its main aim the analysis of ink and paper used in disputed documents.

The FSL carried over 52 592 cases from the 2006/2007 financial year into the 2007/2008 financial year. During the 2007/2008 financial year, an additional 210 026 cases were received by the FSL for analysis, bringing the total number of cases to be dealt with to 262 618.

**During the 2007/2008 financial year, analysts concluded 197 475 cases. Of these 197 475 cases, 179 702 cases were finalised within 35 days which, when reduced to a percentage, translates into 91% of the cases being concluded within 35 days.**

**During the 2007/2008 planning cycle, the FSL recruited 103 operational and 24 support personnel. Unfortunately, during the same period, the FSL lost 56 operational and 48 support personnel.**

