

10. Programme 3: Detective Services

10.1 Purpose

Enable the investigative work of the SAPS, 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 thus increasing the priority crimes detection rate.

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 and support to investigators in relation to evidence.



10.3 Service delivery achievements

Table 20: Actual performance against target

Subprogramme	Output	Measure/Indicator	Target	Actual performance against target	Deviation & Reason	
Crime investigations	Crimes investigated	Percentage of contact crime in respect of:				
		Charges (cases) to court	39%	39.94%	Target achieved.	
		Detection rate	53%	52.45%	Target not achieved, since the offences previously known as rape and indecent assault (which included attempts for both crimes) and which had always been indicated as separate crime categories when crime statistics were provided, basically became a single crime category namely sexual offences, with different subcategories (according to different sections of the law).	
		Conviction rate	19%	21.54%	Target achieved.	
		Undetected	To be benchmarked in 2008/2009.	185 057 cases undetected.		
		Percentage of contact-related crime in respect of:				
		Charges (cases) to court	29%	30.58%	Target achieved.	
		Detection rate	44%	45.09%	Target achieved.	
		Conviction rate	16%	24.76%	Target achieved.	
		Undetected	To be benchmarked in 2008/2009.	71 489 cases undetected.		
		Percentage of property-related crime in respect of:				
		Charges (cases) to court	11%	11.64%	Target achieved.	
		Detection rate	15%	15.41%	Target achieved.	
		Conviction rate	13%	22.65%	Target achieved.	
Undetected	To be benchmarked in 2008/2009.	464 011 cases undetected.				

Subprogramme	Output	Measure/Indicator	Target	Actual performance against target	Deviation & Reason	
Crime investigations	Crimes investigated	Percentage of crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection in respect of:				
		Charges (cases) to court	93%	96.04%	Target achieved.	
		Detection rate	94%	97.05%	Target achieved.	
		Conviction rate	17%	45.92%	Target achieved.	
		Percentage of other serious crime in respect of:				
		Charges (cases) to court	25%	31.30%	Target achieved.	
		Detection rate	36%	40.71%	Target achieved.	
		Conviction rate	26%	39.31%	Target achieved.	
		Undetected	To be benchmarked in 2008/2009.	310 491 cases undetected.		
		Percentage of all serious crimes combined in respect of:				
		Charges (cases) to court	32%	34.13%	Target achieved.	
		Detection rate	42%	42.82%	Target achieved.	
		Conviction rate	14%	30.81%	Target achieved.	
		Percentage of commercial crime charges in respect of:				
Charges (cases) to court	24%	26.68%	Target achieved.			
Detection rate	36%	38.69%	Target achieved.			
Conviction rate	To be benchmarked in 2008/2009.	45.95%				
Undetected	To be benchmarked in 2008/2009.	12 535 cases undetected.				

Subprogramme	Output	Measure/Indicator	Target	Actual performance against target	Deviation & Reason
Crime investigations	Crimes investigated	Percentage of organised crime-related cases to court.	25%	40%	An increase of 15% organised crime related cases to court is noted. This increase can be attributed to the fact that the organised crime mandate has been extended to include the investigation of violent organised crime cases.
		Percentage of charges (cases) to court for sexual offences and assaults against women (18 years and above). (Murder, attempted murder, rape, attempted rape, assault GBH, indecent assault, common assault, kidnapping and abduction.)	40%	52.35%	Target achieved.
		Detection rate of sexual offences and assaults against women (18 years and above). (Murder, attempted murder, rape, attempted rape, assault GBH, indecent assault, common assault, kidnapping and abduction).	42%	67.39%	Target achieved.
		Percentage of charges (cases) to court for sexual offences and assaults against children (under 18 years). (Murder, attempted murder, rape, attempted rape, assault GBH, indecent assault, common assault, kidnapping and abduction).	30%	58.10%	Target achieved.

Subprogramme	Output	Measure/Indicator	Target	Actual performance against target	Deviation & Reason
Crime investigations	Crimes investigated	Detection rate of sexual offences and assaults against children (under 18 years). (Murder, attempted murder, rape, attempted rape, assault GBH, indecent assault, common assault, kidnapping and abduction).	40%	75.79%	Target achieved.
		Detection rate regarding charges (cases) of corruption against police officials in terms of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 (Act No. 12 of 2004).	To be benchmarked in 2008/2009.	Total number of cases reported 990 Detection rate 95.15%	
Criminal Record Centre	Fingerprint identification	Conviction rate regarding charges (cases) of corruption against police officials in terms of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 (Act No. 12 of 2004).	To be benchmarked in 2008/2009.	Total number of cases reported 990 Guilty 50.06%	
		Percentage of offenders' previous conviction reports generated within 30 days.	85% within 30 days.	75.25% achieved.	The drop in the percentage of previous conviction reports that were generated within 35 days can be attributed to the lack of sufficient processing capability of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).
Forensic Science Laboratory	Forensic evidence	Percentage of exhibits analysed within 35 days.	92% analysed within 35 days.	92.2% achieved.	Target achieved.

10.4 Service delivery objectives and indicators

10.4.1 Subprogramme: Crime Investigations

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

- In evaluating the performance of the SAPS in solving crime, three 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 requested the SAPS to include conviction rates in future reports. Table 21 reflects the total number of charges referred to court, the detection rate and conviction rates achieved from 2008-04-01 to 2009-03-31 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 police stations in respect of the above crimes. These figures were drawn from the Crime Management Information System (CMIS), which is a live system that is continuously updated.
- The total number of charges of a specific crime that had been investigated was determined by the number of charges reported (new charges), as well as charges that were still pending from previous financial years (charges that were still being investigated). The number of charges referred to court was divided by the total number of charges which had been 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 were divided by the total number of charges investigated. Charges withdrawn before court are charges which had, for example, 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 had not been enough evidence or it was a civil case. Charges are closed as unfounded if it is established, in the course of the investigation, that a crime had 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 were 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 had failed to appear in court or the accused was declared a President's patient or diversions, e.g. 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 were arrested at the scene of the crime, for example, shoplifting and drug-related crimes. Charges involving suspects who were unknown at the time of the crime tend to have lower rates of detection and referral to court.

- Regarding undetected cases, a case docket is closed as undetected when the investigation process has been finalised and the suspect is unknown or there is no information about the identity of the suspect.

Contact crimes (crimes against persons)

- Table 21 indicates that the total number of charges reported decreased by 7 365 (-1,06%) in comparison with the same period in 2007/2008. The highest decrease in reported charges was in respect of common robbery with 5 753 charges (-8, 85%). Charges referred to court decreased by -1,68% to 39,94%. However, an increase of 3,28% was noted in sexual offences, 1,94% in common robbery and 1,69% in common assault. The detection rate decreased by -2, 09% to 52, 45% except in the case of common robbery which increased by 1,73%. The conviction rate for contact crimes increased by 2,27% to 21, 54%, with common assault showing the highest increase of 2,56%.
- The targets set for contact crimes for the 2008/2009 financial year were: 39% for cases to court 53% for detection rate and 19% for conviction rate. The analyses indicate that the SAPS met the set targets in respect of cases to court and the conviction rate, but not in the case of the detection rate. The decrease in the detection rate can be attributed to the fact that with the introduction of the Criminal Law, Sexual Offences and Related Matters Amendment Act, 2007 (Act No. 32 of 2007) which was implemented on 16 December 2007, the offences previously known as rape and indecent assault (which included attempts in both cases) and which had always been indicated as separate crime categories when crime statistics were provided, basically became a single crime category, namely sexual offences, with different subcategories (according to different sections of the Act).

Property-related crime

- 10 671 (2,05%) more charges were reported to the police in comparison with the same period in the 2007/2008 financial year. The highest increase in reported charges was for burglary non-residential with 7 014 more charges (11,13%). Marginally, there were small increases in all property-related crimes in respect of charges referred to court. Marginal increases overall were noted in the detection rate, except in the case of stock theft, which decreased by 0,26%. The conviction rate increased with 1,78% to 22,65% with theft out of motor vehicles indicating the highest increase of 1,25%.
- The targets set for property-related crimes for the 2008/2009 financial year were: cases to court 11%, detection rate 15% and conviction rate 13%. The analysis indicates that the SAPS met the set targets with regard to property-related crimes.

Crime dependent on police action

- 16 367 (9,57%) more charges were reported by the police in comparison with the same period in the previous financial year. The biggest increase in reported charges was in driving under the influence of alcohol with 7 760 more charges (16,03%). Driving under the influence of alcohol also indicates the biggest increase in charges to court with 0,35% to 95,76%, the detection rate by 0,35% to 96,73% and the conviction rate with 4.63% to 28,25%.

- The targets set for crime dependent on police action for detection for the 2008/2009 financial year was: cases to court 93%, detection rate 94% and conviction rate 17%. The analysis indicates that the SAPS met the set targets.

When these crimes are combined, the reported charges increased by 41 213 (2,00%) while charges referred to court increased by 0,25% to 34,13%. A target of 32% for charges to court had been set for the 2008/2009 financial year. The detection rate was 42,82%. A target of 42% had been set for the 2008/2009 financial year. The conviction rate increased by 5,04% to 30,81%. A target of 14% had been set for the 2008/2009 financial year. Analysis indicates that the SAPS met all these targets.

During the 2008/2009 financial year, 1 019 350 cases were closed as undetected for contact crimes, property-related crimes and other serious crimes. Of these 1 019 350 undetected cases, 10 862 warrant of arrest were issued (the suspect is known to the complainant but cannot be traced – after a year, if the suspect have not been traced, the docket is reopened and reinvestigated). In 135 678 cases, fingerprints were available (positive fingerprints of suspects were found on crime scenes, but the suspect is unknown – these cases are being monitored for at least five years). However, in 872 810 out of the total of 1 019 350 cases the suspect was unknown or there were no information on the identity of the suspect available.

The Hi-Tech Project Centre which was established in 1996, continued to provide professional support to investigating officers through court-directed operational, tactical, analytical and advisory assistance, which includes the optimal use of all available databases and technology. Investigators now have access to information which they can use to oppose bail, get assistance in the swift identification of suspects and in apprehending wanted suspects, as well as collated information on a suspect's status (e.g. in custody).

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 Criminal Justice Review has been tasked with the responsibility of developing a set of performance indicators which will measure the investigative and justice processes of cases.



Table 21: Performance of general investigations

Crime category	Total number of complaints reported		Total number of complaints incomplete		% Cases referred to court		% Detection rate		% Conviction rate								
	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	% diff	07/08	08/09	% diff							
Contact crime (crime against a person)																	
Murder	18487	18148	-339	-1.83	29424	29521	97	0.33	11779 (23.38%)	10883 (23.26%)	-0.12%	13852 (27.35%)	12710 (27.19%)	4534 (12.82%)	4818 (12.82%)	-0.16%	0.15%
Attempted murder	18795	18298	-497	-2.64	8182	8228	46	0.56	9081 (32.42%)	8426 (32.22%)	-0.20%	11646 (42.30%)	10956 (41.37%)	2194 (11.31%)	2471 (12.28%)	-0.93%	0.97%
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	118312	121392	3080	2.60	40223	41479	1256	3.12	15020 (10.73%)	15948 (11.65%)	0.92%	17759 (12.88%)	18816 (13.71%)	3072 (9.32%)	3548 (10.24%)	0.83%	0.92%
Common robbery	64985	59232	-5753	-8.85	8872	9562	690	7.78	21041 (26.61%)	19620 (28.55%)	1.94%	25339 (32.59%)	23706 (34.32%)	4962 (15.20%)	5720 (16.43%)	1.73%	1.23%
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	210104	203777	-6327	-3.01	26272	27249	977	3.72	144598 (59.53%)	137154 (60.37%)	0.84%	177179 (74.08%)	169780 (74.01%)	42908 (21.50%)	47837 (22.83%)	-0.07%	1.33%
Common assault	198049	192838	-5211	-2.63	28615	29174	559	1.95	110212 (46.50%)	105439 (48.19%)	1.69%	164744 (71.46%)	157207 (71.33%)	40682 (27.89%)	43857 (30.45%)	-0.13%	2.56%
Sexual offences	63818	71500	7682	12.04	18345	18336	-9	-0.05	43037 (47.60%)	41495 (50.88%)	3.28%	54466 (61.85%)	52027 (62.37%)	10932 (12.05%)	11019 (11.53%)	0.52%	-0.52%
Total	692550	685185	-7365	-1.06	159933	163549	3616	2.26	354768 (41.62%)	338965 (39.94%)	-1.68%	464985 (54.54%)	445202 (52.45%)	109284 (19.27%)	119270 (21.54%)	-2.09%	2.27%
Contact-related crime																	
Arson	7396	6846	-550	-7.44	1739	1862	123	7.07	2050 (22.33%)	1931 (21.84%)	-0.49%	3464 (37.10%)	3220 (36.47%)	447 (13.65%)	506 (14.49%)	-0.63%	0.84%
Malicious damage to property	136968	134261	-2707	-1.98	13930	14656	726	5.21	47558 (30.54%)	46266 (31.38%)	0.84%	69133 (45.28%)	67848 (45.55%)	14154 (21.77%)	16192 (23.63%)	0.27%	1.86%
Total	144364	141107	-3257	-2.26	15669	16518	849	5.42	49608 (31.00%)	48197 (30.58%)	-0.42%	72597 (45.36%)	71068 (45.09%)	14601 (21.27%)	16698 (24.76%)	-0.27%	3.49%
Property-related crime																	
Burglary at residential premises	237853	246616	8763	3.68	32937	35757	2820	8.56	43995 (15.42%)	43583 (15.76%)	0.34%	55654 (19.71%)	55121 (19.87%)	15619 (21.82%)	17105 (23.02%)	0.16%	1.20%
Burglary at non-residential premises	62995	70009	7014	11.13	8314	8997	683	8.22	10281 (13.91%)	11305 (14.52%)	0.61%	12444 (16.94%)	13598 (17.50%)	3828 (22.73%)	4438 (23.43%)	0.56%	0.70%
Theft of motor vehicles and motor cycles	80226	75968	-4258	-5.31	44623	46162	1539	3.45	6105 (4.64%)	6364 (5.13%)	0.49%	7973 (6.08%)	8465 (6.76%)	1713 (12.10%)	1926 (13.22%)	0.68%	1.12%



Crime category	Total number of complaints reported			Total number of complaints incomplete			% Cases referred to court			% Detection rate			% Conviction rate			
	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	% diff	
Property-related crime																
Theft out of or from motor vehicles	111661	109548	-2113	-1.89	9373	10133	760	8.11	8996 (6.98%)	8860 (7.36%)	0.38%	12600 (9.89%)	12606 (10.43%)	2774 (19.12%)	3048 (20.37%)	1.25%
Stock theft	28778	30043	1265	4.40	7364	7267	-97	-1.32	4317 (11.53%)	4462 (12.02%)	0.49%	8712 (24.07%)	8907 (23.81%)	1929 (25.08%)	1820 (24.16%)	-0.92%
Total	521513	532184	10671	2.05	102611	108316	5705	5.56	73694 (11.81%)	74574 (11.64%)	-0.17%	97383 (15.60%)	98697 (15.41%)	25863 (20.87%)	28337 (22.65%)	1.78%
Crime heavily dependent on police action for detection																
Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition	13476	14045	569	4.22	1340	1255	-85	-6.34	13032 (86.96%)	13356 (86.26%)	-0.70%	13580 (90.62%)	13818 (89.77%)	4446 (14.30%)	5059 (15.55%)	1.25%
Drug-related crime	109134	117172	8038	7.37	1649	1526	-123	-7.46	107541 (97.08%)	115381 (97.11%)	0.03%	108493 (97.94%)	116306 (97.92%)	67871 (47.81%)	74903 (49.42%)	1.61%
Driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs	48405	56165	7760	16.03	1529	1573	44	2.88	47654 (95.41%)	55402 (95.76%)	0.35%	48141 (96.38%)	55963 (96.73%)	19745 (23.62%)	46576 (28.25%)	4.63%
Total	171015	187382	16367	9.57	4518	4354	-164	-3.63	168227 (95.84%)	184139 (96.04%)	0.20%	170214 (96.97%)	186087 (97.05%)	92062 (35.87%)	126538 (45.92%)	10.05%
Other serious crime																
Theft other	395296	394124	-1172	-0.30	60443	63679	3236	5.35	88709 (17.84%)	94476 (19.95%)	2.11%	135615 (28.09%)	141464 (29.82%)	28572 (22.15%)	36385 (24.89%)	2.74%
Fraud	65286	77474	12188	18.67	35245	35169	-76	-0.22	24065 (23.36%)	29649 (26.42%)	3.06%	37543 (37.35%)	43487 (38.81%)	12121 (29.76%)	17707 (36.71%)	6.95%
Shoplifting	66992	80773	13781	20.57	623	585	-38	-6.10	66253 (96.97%)	79885 (97.99%)	1.02%	66758 (97.94%)	80417 (98.68%)	45283 (49.67%)	56855 (54.47%)	4.80%
Total	527574	552371	24797	4.70	96311	99433	3122	3.24	179027 (28.70%)	204010 (31.30%)	2.60%	239916 (38.46%)	265368 (40.71%)	85976 (33.66%)	110947 (39.31%)	5.65%

Crime category	Total number of complaints reported			Total number of complaints incomplete			% Cases referred to court			% Detection rate			% Conviction rate			
	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	% diff	
Some subcategories of aggravated robbery forming part of aggravated robbery above																
Carjacking	14201	14915	714	5.03	12531	12837	306	2.44	1678 (6.28%)	1967 (7.09%)	0.81%	2014 (7.53%)	2333 (8.41%)	338 (7.90%)	414 (8.99%)	1.09%
Truck hijacking	1245	1437	192	15.42	1504	1566	62	4.12	128 (4.66%)	138 (4.60%)	-0.06%	168 (6.11%)	172 (5.73%)	34 (9.47%)	32 (8.79%)	-0.68%
Robbery of cash-in-transit	395	386	-9	-2.28	423	412	-11	-2.60	109 (13.33%)	93 (11.65%)	-1.68%	117 (14.30%)	102 (12.78%)	26 (7.18%)	19 (5.52%)	-1.66%
Bank robbery	144	102	-42	-29.17	162	156	-6	-3.70	58 (18.95%)	47 (18.22%)	-0.73%	67 (21.90%)	48 (18.60%)	21 (11.67%)	10 (5.78%)	-5.89%
Robbery at residential premises	14481	18438	3957	27.33	6805	7062	257	3.78	3012 (14.15%)	4095 (16.06%)	1.91%	3365 (15.81%)	4578 (17.95%)	523 (8.40%)	774 (10.50%)	2.10%
Robbery at business premises	9862	13920	4058	41.15	3903	4075	172	4.41	1784 (12.96%)	2787 (15.49%)	2.53%	2018 (14.66%)	3124 (17.36%)	249 (6.96%)	320 (6.93%)	-0.03%
Total	40328	49198	8870	21.99	25328	26108	780	3.08	6769 (10.31%)	9127 (12.12%)	1.81%	7749 (11.80%)	10357 (13.75%)	1191 (7.95%)	1569 (8.98%)	1.03%
All 20 serious crimes combined																
Contact crimes (crime against the person)	692550	685185	-7365	-1.06	159933	163549	3616	2.26	354768 (41.62%)	338965 (39.94%)	-1.68%	464985 (54.54%)	445202 (52.45%)	109284 (19.27%)	119270 (21.54%)	2.27%
Contact-related crimes (crime against property)	144364	141107	-3257	-2.26	15669	16518	849	5.42	49608 (31.00%)	48197 (30.58%)	-0.42%	72597 (45.36%)	71068 (45.09%)	14601 (21.27%)	16698 (24.76%)	3.49%
Property-related crimes	521513	532184	10671	2.05	102611	108316	5705	5.56	73694 (11.81%)	74574 (11.64%)	-0.17%	97383 (15.60%)	98697 (15.41%)	25863 (20.87%)	28337 (22.65%)	1.78%
Crimes heavily dependent on police action for detection	171015	187382	16367	9.57	4518	4354	-164	-3.63	168227 (95.84%)	184139 (96.04%)	0.20%	170214 (96.97%)	186087 (97.05%)	92062 (35.87%)	126538 (45.92%)	10.05%
Other serious crime	527574	552371	24797	4.70	96311	99433	3122	3.24	179027 (28.70%)	204010 (31.30%)	2.60%	239916 (38.46%)	265368 (40.71%)	85976 (33.66%)	110947 (39.31%)	5.65%
Total	2057016	2098229	41213	2.00	379042	392170	13128	3.46	825324 (33.88%)	849885 (34.13%)	0.25%	1045095 (42.90%)	1066422 (42.82%)	327786 (25.77%)	401790 (30.81%)	5.04%

b) Organised crime-related charges

- Organised crime is any serious crime which is systematically and persistently committed on a continuous basis or for a determinate 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.
- In terms of the Organised Crime Project Investigation process (OCPI), 145 organised crime groups (projects) composed of 750 targets were identified and investigated of which 41 were successfully terminated, resulting in the arrest of 374 suspects. Organised crime follows the principle that a project investigation is only registered once the usual investigative methods had failed to address the organised criminal group and the threat it represents. This is done through the Organised Crime Secretariat. Most of these criminal groups specialise in drug-related crime; motor vehicle theft; hijacking motor vehicles and trucks; fraud; corruption; trafficking in non-ferrous metals; precious metals and stones.
- The above entails that 40% of the organised crime projects that were under investigation for the period under review were taken to court. A target of 25% had been set for the reporting period, which indicates that the SAPS achieved its target.
- The mandate of organised crime includes the investigation of specific violent crime that can, in the majority of instances, not be investigated by means of an OCPI. During the reporting period, 3 884 arrests were made and 343 convictions were secured for specific violent crimes such as carjacking, truck hijacking, cash-in-transit robberies, bank robberies, house and business robberies. The aggregate successes for project and non-projects investigations is 7 060 arrests and 868 convictions.

Drug-related crimes

- 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, as well as vehicle hijacking. Dependency on drugs can become so expensive that drug users must 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.
- During the reporting period a total of 20 clandestine drug laboratories manufacturing Methamphetamine (Tik/Crystal meth) were dismantled.

- In support of the clandestine laboratory investigations, the chemical monitoring programme responsible for monitoring precursor chemicals to prevent the diversion of the chemicals for the manufacture of illicit drugs, dealt with 327 import notifications of precursor chemicals to South Africa. A further 1 383 export notifications of precursor chemicals were forwarded to the relevant foreign authorities.
- The following quantities of narcotics were seized during the investigation of organised crime cases: 401.362 kg cocaine, 2814.404 kg crack cocaine, 17 330.806 kg cannabis, 3 700 Ecstasy tablets, 84 183.5 Mandrax tablets, 10 945.621 kg Tik , 2 988.65 kg heroin and 293.062 kg Methcathinone. The Narcotics Desk assisted with 147 international drug-related enquiries and 22 control deliveries.
- In terms of the Dagga Eradication Programme, three spray operations were conducted, resulting in the destruction of approximately 892 500 kg of crop, estimated at R892.5 million.

Precious Metals and Diamonds

- During the reporting period, 452 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 R367 725 390.
- Non-ferrous metals investigations are primarily focused on the theft of copper cables (electricity and rail cable) from fixed establishments. 117 arrests were made relating to the theft and possession of non-ferrous metals. A total of 23 convictions were secured.

Seizure of Assets

- To create a more coordinated approach between the Organised Crime Units and Assets Forfeiture Unit (AFU), the Organised Crime Component made members available to the AFU for conducting investigations to trace the assets of organised criminal groups. During the reporting period assets to the value of R70 613 724 were frozen in 71 AFU cases.

Prevention of Organised Crime Act, Act 121 of 1998

- An initiative between the Organised Crime Unit and the National Prosecuting Authority resulted in a significant increase of 104 prosecutions being instituted for the period under review (compared to 26 prosecutions in 2007/2008) for contravention of the Prevention of Organised Crime Act, 1998 (Act No. 121 of 1998), which deals with racketeering. A conviction for racketeering was obtained in six of these cases.

Cross-border crime operations

- In establishing better coordination and developing mutually beneficial activities, systems and processes, the emphasis was placed on improving cooperation between SARPCCO countries in addressing cross-border crime, including illegal firearms, illegal immigrants, drug smuggling and stolen/hijacked vehicles.
- The following operations in which South Africa participated were held within the

region: Operation Mosi involving Namibia, Botswana and Angola; Operation Black Rhino involving Zimbabwe; Operation Ntumba involving Lesotho, South Africa, Mozambique and Swaziland; Operation Cross-border; Operation Rachel 2008; and Operation Fall Back. 223 vehicles were impounded, 6817 firearms were seized, 173 illegal immigrants were arrested and 22 bags of cannabis were seized.

- The International Vehicle Crime Investigation Unit repatriated 499 stolen vehicles to South Africa. 33 stolen vehicles were expatriated from South Africa. 1 238 vehicle-related enquiries were received, which resulted in the seizure of 427 vehicles.
- During the reporting period, 27 members from the SAPS, including Organised Crime and the Special Task Force, participated in Operation Rachel 2008, a joint operation between South Africa and Mozambique. The aim of the operation is to benefit and help develop neighbouring countries and to prevent arms from crossing the border into South Africa. The following are some of the weaponry that were destroyed during Operation Rachel - 2008: 6 708 firearms, seven million rounds of ammunition, 852 hand grenades, 738 mortar bombs, 17 mortar launchers, 151 PG 7 rockets, 186 PG 7 boosters, 206 detonators, 27 air personnel mines, 19 anti-air bombs (HS17).

Disruptive Operations

- 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 abalone. During these operations 2 527 illegal immigrants were arrested, 11 vehicles, approximately 800 kg of copper (stolen wire) were recovered, 22 kg dagga and 658 kg abalone were seized.

c) Charges relating to commercial crime

The Commercial Branch uses the number of cases to calculate its performance indicators, and not the number of charges. Cases that are investigated by the Commercial Branch often result in multiple charges being added against the accused on the charge sheet, so it may then take months and sometimes years to determine the final number of charges. In the light of these factors and the time line of the cases, the Commercial Branch is therefore evaluated on the number of cases and not the number of charges.

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 fraud, forgery and uttering, and certain types of theft such as theft of trust money or funds that had been manipulated to the extent that the services of chartered accountants were 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 motor vehicle finance fraud.

- **The Intellectual Property Rights Groups** focuses on matters relating to intellectual property rights, revenue, trade and industry and black dollars (counterfeit goods).
- **The Statutes and Fraud Groups** deals with matters relating to statutes, fraud (general), and Advanced 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** focuses on matters relating to crimes that were committed by electronic means.

The Commercial Branch investigated the following crimes in 2008/2009:

Cyber/electronic Crime

- Cyber crime is highly prevalent in crimes that are investigated and combated by the Commercial Branch. Cyber-attacks can be malicious or accidental, it can involve attacks by other nations, organised groups, or individuals and can be motivated by monetary gain, ill-will, political interests, or curiosity. Perpetrators include disgruntled employees, teenagers, hackers and business rivals. Victims can include companies, employees, students, etc.
- Internet Fraud, which forms an integral part of cyber crime, includes all types of fraud committed on a personal computer or via the Internet. In 2008/2009, 1 426 internet-fraud cases were reported.

Cards

- Cards include all types of cards and include stolen cards and cloned cards and the crime committed with these types of cards. A significant growth in the credit card market and developments in electronic commerce resulted in more transactions being conducted electronically, while development and modernisation in the commerce environment contributed to easier access to and faster processing of transactions. The associated security features have proven to not be entirely fool proof.
- This led to the exploitation of credit card systems by criminals, which indicated a sharp increase of 7 718 cases (52%) in comparison to 3 686 cases in 2007/2008.

Intellectual property right (counterfeit goods)

- The violation of intellectual property rights is an international problem. As a result of the extent of the problem, several operations were held in the provinces. Large amounts of counterfeit goods were seized from flea markets, street vendors and shops during these operations.
- 769 cases were investigated and 543 arrests were made, resulting in 350 convictions. The value of counterfeit goods seized amounted to R45 202 717. When comparing the

number of cases reported in 2007/2008 to those reported in 2008/2009, an increase of 10.14% is evident. The value of counterfeit currency seized amounted to R2 282 640.

Advanced fee fraud (4-1-9 letter scams)

- Fraudulent letters relating to Advance Fee Fraud (4-1-9 scams) are reported to the SAPS daily. On average 90% of fraudulent letters are emailed to potential victims, inviting them to travel to South Africa to participate in alleged business deals that turn out to be fraudulent scams. Syndicates may revert to kidnapping their victims to demand ransom money from them or their families. During the reporting period 108 cases were registered and 159 cases were received from abroad for investigation. 32 arrests were made, which include citizens and non-citizens. The value involved in these cases amount to R32 871 782.

Road Accident Fund

- Task teams were established in Johannesburg and Durban to investigate cases involving the Road Accident Fund (these cases usually relate to fraud and/or theft). The task teams were working from the offices of the Road Accident Fund and they have dedicated prosecutors involved with the prosecution of these cases. During the period under review, 1 750 cases were received and 367 arrests were made, resulting in 342 convictions.

Money laundering

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is currently the most important international body which specialises solely in combating money laundering. The FATF was established by the 1989 G-7 Summit in Paris to combat money laundering. The FATF issued forty recommendations and later nine special recommendations for action against money laundering and the financing of terrorism. 179 new suspicious transaction reports had been received from the Financial Intelligence Centre and were disseminated to the provinces for investigation. If the financial investigation detects a criminal offence/crime, a criminal case docket is being registered. These case dockets are being registered as e.g. fraud or theft, depending on the type of crime that was detected.

Attorneys trust fund cases

- Cases that are reported in terms of the Attorney Trust Fund will either be theft of trust funds or fraud. During the reporting period 161 cases were received, which led to eight arrests and 15 convictions.

Corruption – Section 34 reports

- The Prevention and Combatting of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 (Act No.12 of 2004) came into operation on 27 April 2004. During the reporting period, 1 931 new reports were received, registered and processed. 112 reports were received from the National Anti-corruption Hotline: Public Service Commission. These reports relate to suspicions and are not criminal case dockets. If the investigation reveals that a crime was committed, a criminal case docket is registered.

- Table 22 reflects a summary of the investigation of commercial crime cases. From the table it is evident that the Commercial Branch received 28 683 cases (an increase of 17.6%) compared to 24 388 cases in 2007/2008. 11 668 persons were arrested or made their first appearance in court, compared to 10 115 in 2007/2008, indicating an increase of 15.4% in the number of arrests (the latter included cases carried over from previous years). The number of persons convicted increased by 24.3% from 6 484 recorded in 2007/2008 to 8 058 for the reporting period.
- On average 26.68% of cases relating to commercial crime were referred to court. A detection rate of 38.69% and conviction rate of 45.95% were achieved. The following targets were set regarding commercial crime investigation for the 2008/2009 financial year: cases to court at 24% and a detection rate of 36%. The above indicates that the Commercial Branch achieved its targets.
- 12 535 cases were undetected because commercial crimes are being committed in a highly technological environment which makes it difficult to link a suspect to a crime. Depending on the degree of specialisation and technical detail, court rolls, the workload of investigators and prosecutors, cases investigated by the Commercial Branch on average could take anything between twelve months and ten years. A shortage of experienced commercial crime analysts also exists.



2008/2009

Table 22: Investigation of cases involving commercial crime

Crime description	Breakdown per type of crime: Number of Cases Received, Arrests, Convictions and Values												
	Cases received				Arrests/ First Appearances			Convictions					
	Number	Value (R)		Potential	Number	SA Citizen	Non Citizen	Actual	Potential	Cases	Number	Accused	Actual
Internet Fraud	1 426	171 893 410	74 634 172	199	199	10	13 696 545	6 561 690	97	192	97	1 496 127	0
Fraud with Counterfeit Credit Cards	1 780	48 900 828	4 561 991	410	22	210	13 566 364	2 473 880	135	477	135	6 115 681	655 547
Fraud with Stolen Credit Cards	778	35 990 325	1 041 291	311	22	116	8 280 243	786 366	113	297	113	10 899 168	33 435
Fraud with Other Cards	5 160	77 485 475	820 867	313	4	75	3 887 799	179 814	75	234	75	1 750 514	4 522
Prevention of Counterfeiting of Currency Act, 1965	18	248 065	73 500	10	6	1	624 400	0	1	1	1	0	233 700
SA Reserve Bank Act, 1989	38	310 800	13 600	41	2	2	2 527 064	12 500	2	2	2	2 400	21 210
Fraud with Stolen Cheques	1 555	152 636 319	47 174 565	227	10	91	360 366 593	21 836 667	95	241	95	12 574 400	537 276
Fraud with Cloned Cheques	603	54 487 332	66 404 236	85	1	31	16 524 932	1 317 180	24	35	24	2 889 772	238 400
4-1-9 Scams (Advance Fee Fraud)	108	32 871 782	48 098 949	13	19	1	899 000	29 990	1	1	1	0	30 000
Black dollar Fraud Scams	29	1 863 300	183 200	15	14	15	724 900	118 200	8	15	8	762 230	55 000
Kiteflying	5	747 858	0	1	0	0	411 175	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fraud	12 185	3 725 500 183	347 191 932	6 549	54	5 080	671 897 946	41 681 462	5 062	11 807	5 062	487 856 277	58 103 890
Theft	1 216	342 940 698	69 707 499	573	10	409	87 402 865	50 374 689	359	5 691	359	148 747 883	20 067 101
Forgery and Uttering	588	153 382 268	33 626 505	222	9	100	55 730 389	1 628 262	102	258	102	12 847 427	589 184
Corruption Act, 1992/ Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004	89	74 863 323	3 855 000	65	0	2	37 000 395	11 050 000	2	2	2	15 600	0
Prevention of Organised Crime Act, 1998	1	0	153 000	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	496 000	0
Exchange Control Act, 2003	11	62 464 805	0	0	2	1	44 800	0	1	1	1	44 800	0
Insolvency Act, 1936	12	1 427 265	0	6	0	0	35 528 893	0	0	0	0	0	0

Crime description	Cases received						Arrests/ First Appearances						Convictions					
	Number	Value (R)		Number		Potential	SA Citizen	Non Citizen	Value (R)		Potential	Cases	Number		Accused	Value (R)		
		Actual	Potential	Actual	Potential				Actual	Potential			Counts	Actual		Potential	Actual	Potential
Companies Act, 1973	9	5 795 953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Close Corporation Act, 1984	3	300 000	0	0	1	0	0	300 000	0	0	1	1	1	1	18 091	0	0	
Usury Act, 1968	6	170 000	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	7	204	9	27 998	0	0	0	
Magistrates' Courts Act, 1944	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Merchandise Marks Act, 1941	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Counterfeit Goods Act, 1997	769	31 583 242	12 703 552	12 703 552	374	169	169	26 786 453	12 008 261	341	6 191	350	15 160 344	2 509 554	0	0	0	
Other crime	2 289	258 768 689	23 605 136	23 605 136	1 828	66	66	167 354 450	8 819 259	1 688	5 292	1 620	131 065 372	3 368 951	0	0	0	
Total	28 683	5 234 631 920	733 848 995	733 848 995	11 248	420	420	1 503 555 206	158 878 220	8 269	30 943	8 058	832 770 084	86 447 770	0	0	0	



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, sexual offences (rape, attempted rape and indecent assault), common assault and assault GBH) against women (18 years and older) and children (under 18 years) which often occur in the domestic/family environment are provided. Table 23 indicates that 42,13% of all reported sexual offences, 47,39% of all reported common assaults and 30,18% of all reported assault GBH were committed against adult women. A further 16,20% and 13,42% of all reported attempted murders and murders respectively were committed against women.
- Table 23 indicates that the total number of charges reported decreased by 6 833 (-3,50%) in comparison with the same period in 2007/2008. The biggest decrease in reported charges was in respect of murder with 108 (-4,25%) fewer charges. Charges referred to court decreased marginally with 0,27% to 52,35%, with the exception of sexual offences, which shows the biggest increase of 1,12%. The detection rate decreased marginally with 0,15% to 67,39%, except for sexual offences with an increase of 1,69%. The conviction rate increased with 2,71% to 25,77% with assault GBH indicating the biggest increase of 3,47%. Common assault also indicates an increase of 3,21%.
- The targets for crimes against persons 18 years and older for the 2008/2009 financial year were: cases to court 40% and detection rate 42%. The conviction rate was to be benchmarked. The analysis reveals that the SAPS met these targets.

Persons younger than 18 years

- Figures pertaining to some contact crimes indicated that 28,16% of all reported sexual offences, 7,54% of all reported common assault; and 6,09% of all reported assault GBH cases, had been committed against children during 2008/2009. A further 4,27% and 4,64% of reported attempted murders and murders respectively were committed against them.
- From table 23 it is evident that the total number of charges reported decreased by 4 975 (-9,26%) in comparison with the same period in 2007/2008. The biggest decrease in reported charges was in respect of murder with 172 (-16,95%) fewer charges reported. The charges referred to court increased marginally with 0,79% to 58,10% with murder indicating the highest increase of 2,63%. The detection rate increased by 1,23% to 75,79% with assault GBH indicating the biggest increase of 2,42%. The conviction rate increased by 1,38% to 20,24% with assault GBH indicating the biggest increase of 3,16%. Common assault also indicated an increase of 3,03%.
- The targets for crimes against persons younger than 18 years for the 2008/2009 financial year were: cases to court 30% and detection rate 40%. The conviction rate was to be benchmarked. The analysis revealed that the SAPS met these targets.

Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS)

- As part of the restructuring process of the SAPS, the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) units were relocated to station level, to strengthen police stations and improve service delivery to the public at local level. The long-term objective is to train each and every police official to assist victims of women and child abuse. Members of the former "FCS Units" now fall under the command and control of the Detective Commander of the local Detective Services, and no longer function as independent specialised units (excluding in the Western Cape).
- During the 2008/2009 financial year, 182 members completed the FCS investigators course.
- Officers from FCS Head Office and the United States of America presented 12 courses on Sexual Offences (including the legal aspects) nationally. The officers from FCS Head Office were involved in the development of the Sexual Offences Investigator's Course (SOIC) and the First Responder to Sexual Offences Course, which will be presented during 2009/2010.
- 1 883 multi-disciplinary meetings were attended and 1 900 lectures were presented to audiences (children and adults) to alert the community to the combating of sexual offences.
- During the period under review, the SAPS members involved in the investigation of FCS-related crimes dealt with 45 984 cases (comprising of 3 707 enquiries and 42 277 dockets), which led to 24 981 arrests.



Table 23: Investigation of crimes against women and children

Crimes Against Women and Children																				
Annual Report: RSA - April 2008 - March 2009																				
Crime category	Total number of complaints reported			Total number of complaints incomplete			% Cases referred to court			% Detection rate			% Conviction rate							
	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	diff	% diff	07/08	08/09	% diff					
Crimes against children under the age of 18 years																				
Murder	1015	843	-172	-16.95	3598	2652	-946	-26.29	1129 (24.47%)	947 (27.10%)	-182 (-16.13%)	-15.99%	1482 (32.13%)	1147 (32.82%)	-335 (-23.26%)	-22.42%	601 (12.95%)	524 (11.90%)	-77 (-12.65%)	-1.05%
Attempted murder	852	782	-70	-8.22	626	555	-71	-11.34	743 (50.27%)	636 (47.57%)	-107 (-14.40%)	-14.54%	922 (62.38%)	830 (62.08%)	-92 (-10.00%)	-11.19%	232 (12.60%)	231 (13.71%)	-1 (-0.43%)	1.11%
Common assault	16091	14544	-1547	-9.61	3807	3315	-492	-12.92	12282 (61.72%)	11119 (62.26%)	-1163 (-9.43%)	-7.66%	18584 (93.40%)	16774 (93.92%)	-1810 (-9.74%)	-9.20%	5427 (33.34%)	5512 (36.37%)	85 (1.57%)	3.03%
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	13625	12422	-1203	-8.83	3651	2961	-690	-18.90	14315 (82.86%)	12925 (84.02%)	-1390 (-9.71%)	-6.85%	17620 (101.99%)	16062 (104.41%)	-1558 (-8.84%)	-8.27%	5071 (23.76%)	5475 (26.92%)	404 (7.97%)	3.16%
Sexual offences	22124	20141	-1983	-8.96	12455	11504	-951	-7.64	16147 (46.70%)	14881 (47.02%)	-1266 (-7.84%)	-4.92%	19434 (56.20%)	18030 (56.98%)	-1404 (-7.22%)	-7.27%	4028 (10.79%)	3750 (10.73%)	-278 (-6.91%)	-0.06%
Total	53707	48732	-4975	-9.26	24137	20987	-3150	-13.05	44616 (57.31%)	40508 (58.10%)	-4108 (-9.21%)	-8.32%	58042 (74.56%)	52843 (75.79%)	-5199 (-8.97%)	-7.78%	15359 (18.86%)	15492 (20.24%)	133 (0.87%)	1.38%
Crimes against women 18 years and older																				
Murder	2544	2436	-108	-4.25	2709	2796	87	3.21	1656 (31.52%)	1592 (30.43%)	-64 (-3.87%)	-2.33%	1865 (35.50%)	1820 (34.79%)	-45 (-2.41%)	-1.29%	770 (17.05%)	794 (16.52%)	24 (3.12%)	-0.53%
Attempted murder	3016	2966	-50	-1.66	1134	1100	-34	-3.00	1627 (39.20%)	1469 (36.13%)	-158 (-9.71%)	-5.97%	1979 (47.69%)	1796 (44.17%)	-183 (-9.25%)	-4.67%	514 (15.46%)	529 (16.22%)	15 (2.92%)	0.76%
Common assault	94286	91390	-2896	-3.07	11157	9979	-1178	-10.56	56479 (53.56%)	54142 (53.41%)	-2337 (-4.14%)	-7.54%	78031 (74.00%)	74601 (73.59%)	-3430 (-4.45%)	-5.96%	20878 (28.86%)	22679 (32.07%)	1801 (8.34%)	3.21%
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	64084	61509	-2575	-4.02	6769	6098	-671	-9.91	45867 (64.74%)	42978 (63.57%)	-2889 (-6.30%)	-14.14%	54480 (76.89%)	51420 (76.06%)	-3060 (-5.62%)	-10.32%	15122 (23.68%)	16710 (27.15%)	1588 (10.50%)	3.47%
Sexual offences	31328	30124	-1204	-3.84	12105	10583	-1522	-12.57	14935 (34.39%)	14456 (35.51%)	-479 (-3.21%)	-2.14%	18403 (42.37%)	17936 (44.06%)	-467 (-2.56%)	-1.44%	3451 (10.59%)	3225 (10.70%)	-226 (-6.59%)	0.11%
Total	195258	188425	-6833	-3.50	33874	30556	-3318	-9.80	120564 (52.62%)	114637 (52.35%)	-5927 (-4.92%)	-4.05%	154758 (67.54%)	147573 (67.39%)	-7185 (-4.63%)	-4.63%	40735 (23.06%)	43937 (25.77%)	3202 (7.29%)	2.71%

10.4.2 Subprogramme: Criminal Record Centre (CRC)

a) 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 SAPS. During the 2008/2009 financial year, 1 138 649 crime-related fingerprint enquiries were received. Of these enquiries, 532 137 (46,74%) resulted in the identification of previous convictions.
- Given that the turn-around time for these reports is of extreme importance to the SAPS, as well as the community at large, it was found that, on average, 75,25% of the total number of enquiries received for previous conviction reports was generated within 30 days.
- During the period under review, a total of 1 012 911 enquiries not relating to crime were also received. These enquiries are made to determine whether or not persons applying for firearm licences, professional driver's licences and for work as security officers have any criminal records. Of this total, 203 359 (20,07%) resulted in the identification of applicants linked to previous convictions.
- 348 696 cases were received for investigation. Of this number, 124 768 (35,78%) were found to be linked to fingerprint-related evidence, which led to the positive identification of a total of 18 123 cases.

b) Photographs and plans

- 82 836 crime scenes and 278 152 sundry items were photographed during the period under review. In addition to the photographs that were taken, 76 scale plans, 20 219 sketch plans and 17 497 photo plans were completed. 9 051 video recordings and an additional 346 copies were made on request. A total of 7 298 facial compositions, 517 facial sketches and 73 facial comparisons were compiled and 7 753 entries for facial recognition expertise were required.

c) MorphoTouch

- 7 642 MorphoTouch operations were held for the 2008/2009 financial year during which the fingerprints of 245 569 persons were tested. This resulted in the identification of 11 345 wanted persons.

d) Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)

- 5 550 palm-print and 11 659 fingerprint identifications were performed. A total of 552 manual palm-print and 1 242 manual fingerprint identifications were performed by CRC personnel.

e) Local Criminal Record Centres

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

Exhibits processed	91 184
Cases processed	19 173
Positive cases processed	7 902
Number of Microviper investigations	1 969
Number of positive Microviper investigations	105
Number of shoe-print investigations	287
Number of positive shoe-print investigations	263
Objects etched	2 179
Positive etches	1 053

10.4.3 Subprogramme: Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL)**a) Exhibits analysed**

The Forensic Science Laboratory received a total of 244 248 cases for analysis, of which 175 467 entries were analysed. Of these 175 467 entries, 161 780 (92,20%) were analysed within 35 days.

b) Ballistics

- During the 2008/2009 financial year, a total of 19 504 entries were received. Of these entries, 3 418 projectiles, 17 833 cartridge cases and 10 292 firearms were placed on the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS). A total of 14 111 positive hits were made with IBIS during this period.
- During 2008/2009 the IBIS system was upgraded to a three-dimensional system which is backwards compatible with the older two-dimensional system. The new system can deliver 100% accuracy when it comes to the correlation of crime specimens, something which the older system could not do.

c) Biology

- During the period under review, the Biology Section received 54 568 items of biological material that needed to be examined. The examinations of 52 533 of these items were completed.
- According to the DNA Criminal Intelligence Database (DCID), 474 inter-case hits were identified. It must be noted that it is possible for multiple samples to be linked to the same case.
- The Forensic Amendment Bill was proposed during the 2008/2009 financial year. The Bill is aimed at focusing on real evidence namely fingerprints, DNA and other forensic exhibit material to improve the conviction rate in South African courts. The legislation would provide the legislative framework for building a National DNA Database in South

Africa. It would allow permits for speculative searches to link suspects to cases and the taking of a non-intimate sample by an authorised police official. A non-intimate sample is a sample of blood taken by means of a finger prick. The Forensic Amendment Bill will be phased in over a five-year period.

d) Scientific analysis

- The Scientific Analysis Section received 5 509 entries during the 2008/2009 financial year, 4 967 of which were analysed. The following kinds of entries were received:
 - Incidents of suicide: 786
 - Primer residue analysis: 8 252
 - Time-lapse (samples taken two-and-a-half hours after the incident occurred): 195
- The Scientific Analysis Section acquired Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (IRMS) technology, making the SAPS Forensic Science Laboratory one of the few forensic laboratories in the world with such technology. The IRMS analyses and profiles materials such as explosives.

e) Chemistry

- The Chemistry Section of the Forensic Science Laboratory is responsible for analysing suspected illegal substances, as well as other substances that need further analysis. For the period under review, the Chemistry Section received 33 119 entries and analysed 32 201 entries. The analyses of illegal substances done by the Chemistry Section are listed in table 12.
- 552 toxicology entries were received in 2008/2009, 49 of which were concluded.
- 555 cases for fire investigation were received during the reporting period, 119 of which were concluded.

f) Questioned documents

- The Questioned Documents Section received 14 018 cases during 2008/2009 and analysed 13 729 entries.
- The total value of all fraud cases received and examined amounted to R206 163 489.00.
- 356 583 South African banknotes with a total face value of R6 522 496.00 were received for examination during the 2008/2009 financial year.
- Sixteen cases involving counterfeit coinage and eight cases involving counterfeit foreign currency were received for examination during the reporting period.
- Seven 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.

- 33 entries of suspected fraudulent driver's licences were received for investigation during the period under review.
- 710 entries involving handwriting, cheques and identification documents/passports were received for investigation during the period under review.
- 11 106 entries emanating from assets-in-transit and banking companies were received for investigation during the period under review.

A new Forensic Science Laboratory is under construction in the Western Cape. The laboratory will use robotic storage and retrieval systems to archive exhibits, eliminating potential misplacement of exhibits. A mini-rail transport system of approximately one kilometre will convey larger exhibits and supplies to the various disciplines within the laboratory. A pneumatic tube system will transport smaller exhibits and related items between the various sections for analysis purposes. The laboratory will use solar heating and intelligent lighting to make the facility more energy efficient.

