



Omission of disaggregated data on crimes against women and children in the fourth quarter crime statistics release for 2024/2025 financial year

SAPS routinely publishes quarterly and annual crime statistics, which include data on crimes against women and children, specifically murder, attempted murder, and assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm (GBH). These statistics are derived from case dockets and the Crime Administration System (CAS) and rely heavily on the accurate recording of age and sex variables, as well as the correct linking of victims to charges.

In preparation for the fourth quarter and preliminary annual crime statistics for the 2024/25 financial year, the SAPS Component Crime Registrar conducted a comprehensive review of the datasets used for reporting. This review revealed significant anomalies in the subset of data pertaining to crimes against women and children.

Specifically:

- Discrepancies were identified between the sum of quarterly data and the annual totals, which could not be reconciled.
- Duplication of crime counts was observed, resulting in inflated figures where the subset (women and children) exceeded the total population of victims.
- Data integrity issues were traced to inconsistencies in victim-linking and recording of demographic variables.

Given the seriousness of these findings, SAPS management made the decision to halt the release of the disaggregated statistics and to withdraw the previously published data from the SAPS website. This decision was taken to uphold the integrity of SAPS.

The National Commissioner has directed the relevant stakeholders to investigate and resolve the identified data challenges as a matter of urgency. This process is currently underway, and the statistics on crimes against women and children will be reinstated after the data has been corrected and validated. The revised statistics will be accompanied by a detailed explanation of the nature and implications of the revisions.