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GPSJS 2021/22

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IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS

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Abbreviations/acronyms

EC	Eastern Cape
FS	Free State
GP	Gauteng
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
LP	Limpopo
MP	Mpumalanga
NC	Northern Cape
NW	North West
RSA	Republic of South Africa
WC	Western Cape
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews
CATI	Computer-Assisted Telephonic Interviews
CV	Coefficient of variance
DU	Dwelling unit
EA	Enumerator area
GPSJS	Governance, Public Safety, and Justice Survey
MS	Master sample
NDP	National Development Plan
PPS	Probability proportional to size
PSU	Primary sampling unit
SAPS	South African Police Service
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
VOCS	Victims of Crime Survey

Summary of key findings

Household crime levels in South Africa

In 2021/22, an estimated 1,4 million incidences of housebreaking occurred, affecting 983 000 households in South Africa. The number of affected households represents 5,4% of all households in the country. Almost 60% (59,2%) of households that experienced housebreaking reported some or all incidences to the police.

An estimated 205 000 incidences of home robberies occurred, affecting 155 000 households in 2021/22. The number of affected households represents 0,9% of all households in the country. About 66% of households that experienced home robbery reported some or all incidences to the police.

In 2021/22, 42 000 households experienced the theft of motor vehicles in a total of 42 000 incidences. Less than 1% (0,2%) of all households in the country experienced theft of motor vehicles. About 57% (57,2%) of households that experienced theft of motor vehicles reported some or all incidences to the police, which is a 33,8 percentage point decrease compared to the previous year.

Individual crime levels in South Africa

An estimated 1 331 000 incidences of theft of personal property occurred in 2021/22, affecting 1 105 000 individuals aged 16 years and older. The number of affected individuals represents 2,6% of the population. About 31% (30,8%) of individuals who experienced theft of personal property reported some or all incidences to the police.

A total of 246 000 (0,6% of adults aged 16 and older) individuals experienced street robbery in a total of 295 000 incidences. About 34% (33,7%) of the victims reported some or all incidences to the police, which is a 21,2 percentage point decrease compared to the previous year.

A total of 376 000 (0,9% of adults aged 16 and older) individuals experienced consumer fraud in a total of 844 000 incidences. Results show that 44,2% of the victims reported some or all incidences to the police, which is a 2,9 percentage point increase compared to the previous year.

The number individuals that experienced hijacking increased from 64 000 in 2020/21 to 134 000 in 2021/22. An estimated 137 000 hijackings occurred in 2021/22, affecting 134 000 (0,3%) persons aged 16 years and older. About 63% (62,9%) of the victims reported some or all incidences to the police.

Feelings of safety

About 81% (81,3%) of the population felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day while 36,0% felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the night. Both figures decreased from 2020/21. Females in general felt safer walking alone in their neighbourhood than males during the day. Similarly, rural residents had a greater feeling of safety walking alone in their areas when it is dark than residents in urban areas. About 48% (47,7%) indicated that they have done something to protect themselves. About 30,4% of the population indicated that they only walk during safer hours and 28,8% indicated they have taken physical protection measures for their home as the main thing they have done to protect themselves against crime. Only 3,8% indicated they carry a weapon (gun, knife, screwdriver, or blade) as the main thing they have done to protect themselves against crime.

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Statistician-General

Note to data users

The low response rates reported in GPSJS 2020/21 and other Stats SA household surveys due to the introduction of Computer-Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) have been a point of concern for many users. Although the response rate increased slightly from 38,6% in 2020/21 to 43,5% in 2021/22, it still remains low. A series of quality checks were done to ensure that high quality data is released.

The coefficient of variation (CV) was used to make a determination of which estimates to publish. Estimates with CVs not exceeding 30% were published and data users were advised to use such estimates with caution.

Stats SA re-introduced face-to-face interviews in 2022 and we trust that the response rates will return to pre-COVID-19 levels for GPSJS 2022/23.

1.   Introduction

This statistical release presents a selection of key findings from the Governance, Public Safety, and Justice Survey (GPSJS) 2021/22, conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) from April 2021 to March 2022.

1.1 Background

The GPSJS is a countrywide household-based survey that aims to bridge the statistical information gaps in the field of governance statistics by conducting interviews with households and individuals, and collecting the data items needed for planning and monitoring. The GPSJS was conducted for the first time in South Africa in 2018/19 as an updated version of the long-running Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) to include themes on governance. The re-engineered GPSJS retained many items from the Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS), while new content was added. There is, therefore, a break of series in the estimates of crime from VOCS to GPSJS. However, there is no break of series for questions that remained the same; for example, questions on experience of crime. In particular, there is also no break to the five-year crime series arising from the question "In the past 5 years have you or any member of the household experienced any of the following crimes?" because no change was made to this question. Therefore, it is possible to determine whether crime increased or decreased between 2017/18 and 2021/22 using the five-year series, while the twelve-month series will be used to determine whether crime increased or decreased between 2020/21 and 2021/22 data collection periods.

Victims of crime statistics are population estimates of the level of crime in South Africa derived from GPSJS data and previous VOCS data. These estimates complement crime statistics provided by the South African Police Service (SAPS). GPSJS is able to provide estimates of the prevalence and incidence of crime, while SAPS statistics provide the total number of reported cases. Moreover, GPSJS statistics also report on feelings of safety, perceptions of crime, and satisfaction with the police, courts, and correctional services. Such information is indispensable in the monitoring of development goals.

1.2 Objectives of the survey

The GPSJS is a countrywide household-based survey and the objectives of the survey are to provide information on:
- Perceptions about citizen interaction/community cohesion.
- Trust in government/public institutions.
- Government's performance and effectiveness.
- Experience of corruption.
- General individual perceptions.
- Household and individual perceptions and experience of crime.

1.3 Purpose

The Victims of Crime report focused on people's perceptions of safety and experiences of crime. The survey profiled different aspects that are inherent in the different types of crime, such as the timing of the different crimes, the nature and extent of the violence that takes place and the reporting of crime. The GPSJS 2021/22 is comparable to the previous versions of VOCS in cases where the questions remained largely unchanged.

While the GPSJS cannot replace police statistics, it can be a rich source of information that will assist in the planning of crime prevention as well as provide a more holistic picture of crime in South Africa. The data can be used for the development of policies and strategies, as well as for crime prevention and public education programmes. Data collection is from April of the current year to March of the following year, and the reference period is the 12 months preceding the interview date. The focus of this report is to outline the experience of a type of crime at household and individual levels, as well as individual feelings of safety.

This report has three main objectives, namely:
- To provide an overview of the level and trend of crime experienced by households and individuals in South Africa – produce estimates of the prevalence and incidence of crime.
- To explore public perceptions on issues of safety.
- To provide complementary data on the level of crime within South Africa in addition to the statistics published annually by the SAPS.

1.4 Survey scope

The target population of the survey consists of all private households in all nine provinces of South Africa and residents in workers' hostels. The survey does not cover other collective living quarters such as students' hostels, old-age homes, hospitals, prisons, and military barracks, and is therefore only representative of non-institutionalised and non-military persons or households in South Africa.

1.5 A note on the collection of GPSJS 2021/22

Stats SA suspended face-to-face data collection for all its surveys on 19 March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and restricted movement. This was to ensure that the field staff and respondents were not exposed to the risk of contracting the coronavirus and to contain its spread. It was, however, important that Stats SA continues to provide statistics in the country. In this regard, Stats SA changed the mode of data collection for GPSJS from Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) to Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI). Data collection for GSPJS CATI 2021/22 started in April 2021 and ended in March 2022.

To facilitate the CATI data collection, telephone numbers for households were sourced by visiting dwelling units before data collection started. This process also assisted in identifying/verifying the status of the dwelling units. A technical report of how sampling and weighting of the data was done is provided in this report. This will also show the level of responses, non-responses and out-of-scope dwelling units.

2. Basic population statistics

2.1 Distribution of individuals by selected demographic characteristics

Table 1: Number and percentage of individuals by selected demographic characteristics

Demographic characteristic	Number (000s)	Percentage
Sex		
Male	20 284	48,3
Female	21 692	51,7
Population		
Black African	33 301	79,3
Coloured	3 763	9
Indian/Asian	1 212	2,9
White	3 699	8,8
Age group		
16-34 (Youth)	19 764	47,1
35-49 (Young adults)	8 783	20,9
50-64 (Adults)	9 819	23,4
65+ (Senior citizens)	3 610	8,6
Marital status		
Married	12 705	30,3
Living together like husband and wife	6 449	15,4
Divorced	746	1,8
Separated but still legally married	271	0,6
Widowed	3 849	9,2
Single	17 915	42,7
Highest level of education		
No schooling	1 445	3,5
Some primary	3 111	7,6
Completed primary	1 758	4,3
Some secondary	15 006	36,7
Completed secondary	13 289	32,5
Post school	6 324	15,5
Province		
Western Cape	5 155	12,3
Eastern Cape	4 199	10,0
Northern Cape	876	2,1
Free State	2 088	5
KwaZulu-Natal	7 890	18,8
North West	2 841	6,8
Gauteng	11 886	28,3
Mpumalanga	3 201	7,6
Limpopo	3 839	9,1
Urban/rural		
Rural	12 805	30,5
Urban	29 170	69,5
Metro status		
Metro	19 168	45,7
Non-metro	22 808	54,3

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 1 shows the number and percentage distribution of the population aged 16 years and older by selected demographic characteristics. The distribution by population aged 16 years and older by sex shows that 51,7% were female, and 48,3% were male. The table also shows that almost four in five (79,3%) of the population

aged 16 and older is black African, while coloureds (9,0%) and whites (8,8%) are almost of the same proportion and the Indian/Asian population is 2,9% of the total population aged 16 and older.

The age pattern of individuals aged 16 years and older indicates that they typically comprised a youthful population with the highest percentage (47,1%) aged 16–34 years, while adults (50–64) are 23,4%, young adults aged 35–49 are 20,9% and 8,6% are senior citizens.

In terms of marital status, 42,7% of the population aged 16 years and older were single, whilst 30,3% were married. About 15,4% lived together like husband, while almost 9,2% were widowed. Furthermore, the results show that 1,8% of the population aged 16 years and older are divorced, and less than one per cent are separated while still legally married (0,6%).

About 36,7% of the population 16 years and older had attained some secondary school education, 32,5% completed secondary, 15,5% attained some post-school qualification, 7,6% attained some primary, and 4,3% completed primary.

Gauteng had the largest proportion of the population aged 16 years and older (28,3%), followed by KwaZulu-Natal with 18,8%, Western Cape (12,3%) and Eastern Cape (10,0%). Northern Cape had the smallest proportion amongst all the provinces at 2,1%. About 69,5% of the population aged 16 and older lived in urban areas, while 54,3% lived in non-metro areas.

2.2 Distribution of households by selected household characteristics

Table 2: Distribution of households by selected household characteristics

Demographic characteristic of household head	Number (000s)	Percentage
Sex		
Male	10 516	57,6
Female	7 738	42,4
Population		
Black African	14 922	81,8
Coloured	1 289	7,1
Indian/Asian	444	2,4
White	1 597	8,7
Age group		
15-34 (Youth)	4 666	25,6
35-49 (Young adults)	6 755	37,0
50-64 (Adults)	4 317	23,7
65+ (Senior citizens)	2 501	13,7
Marital status		
Married	5 569	30,6
Living together like husband and wife	2 187	12,0
Separated but still legally married	504	2,8
Divorced	170	0,9
Widowed	2 263	12,4
Single	7 521	41,3
Highest level of education		
No schooling	856	4,8
Some primary	1 690	9,5
Completed primary	838	4,7
Some secondary	6 244	35,1
Completed secondary	5 328	29,9
Post school	2 845	16,0
Province		
Western Cape	2 012	11,0
Eastern Cape	1 721	9,4
Northern Cape	358	2,0
Free State	984	5,4
KwaZulu-Natal	3 237	17,7
North West	1 317	7,2
Gauteng	5 502	30,1
Mpumalanga	1 420	7,8
Limpopo	1 701	9,3
Urban/rural		
Rural	5 541	30,4
Urban	12 711	69,6
Metro status		
Metro	8 389	46,0
Non-metro	9 863	54,0

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 2 shows the number and percentage distribution of the households by selected household characteristics. The table shows that most (57,6%) households were male-headed. It further shows that urban and non-metro areas accounted for most households at 69,6% and 54,0%, respectively.

Gauteng had the largest proportion of the households (30,1%), followed by KwaZulu-Natal with 17,7%, Western Cape (11,0%) and Eastern Cape (9,4%). Northern Cape and Free State had the smallest proportion of households amongst all the provinces at 2,0% and 5,4%.

3. Crime levels in South Africa

3.1 Trends for household crimes

The section presents trends of household crimes for the period 2017/18 to 2021/22. The data used to calculate these estimates come from the question, "Have you or your household experienced (housebreaking) during the past 5 years". The reference period is five years.

Table 3: Number and percentage of households that experienced a specific type of crime in 5 years preceding the survey, 2017/18–2021/22

Indicator	Statistics (Numbers in thousands)	Year				
		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Housebreaking	Number	2 171	2 214	2 270	1935	2 199
	Percent	13,0	13,0	13,5	10,9	12,0
Home robbery	Number	459	449	415	312	394
	Percent	2,8	2,7	2,5	1,8	2,2
Theft of motor vehicle	Number	233	256	277	212	163
	Percent	1,4	1,5	1,7	1,2	0,9
Deliberate damage to property	Number	98	160	182	**	**
	Percent	0,6	1,0	1,1	**	**
Murder	Number	43	53	53	43	40
	Percent	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,2	0,2
Assault	Number	*	*	117	125	213
	Percent	*	*	0,9	0,7	1,1
Sexual offence	Number	*	*	39	25	32
	Percent	*	*	0,3	0,1	0,2

* Unweighted number of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the 2021/22 round.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 3 shows that housebreaking/burglary has consistently been the most common crime experienced by households in South Africa. The number of households that experienced this crime increased from 2017/18 to 2019/20, then dropped in 2020/21 before increasing again in 2021/22. The second most common crime experienced by households in the five years prior to the survey is home robbery. Over the years, home robbery has declined from 459 000 in 2017/18 to 394 000 in 2021/22. However, there is an increase observed in the experience of home robbery between 2020/21 (312 000) and 2021/22 (394 000).

The trends will be analysed with the assistance of the charts below. The 95% confidence intervals will be used to determine whether the changes over time were statistically significant or otherwise.

Figure 1: Trends in housebreaking/burglary, 2017/18–2021/22
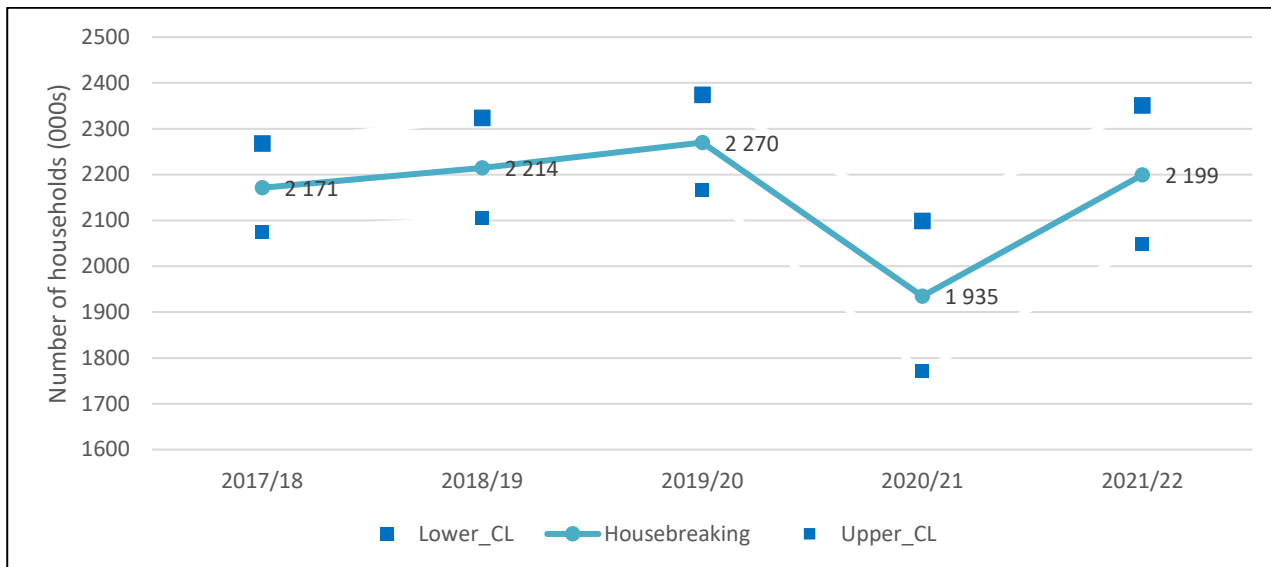
Figure 1 shows housebreaking increased between 2017/18 (2 171 000) and 2019/20 (2 270 000). It then declined to 1 935 000 in 2020/21 before increasing again to almost 2017/18 levels (2 199 000). The increase between 2020/21 and 2021/22 was not statistically significant. The figure shows a steady increase between 2017/18 and 2019/20, which was not statistically significant. The figure further shows that housebreaking/burglary levels are almost similar in 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2021/22 periods.

Figure 2: Trends in home robbery, 2017/18–2021/22
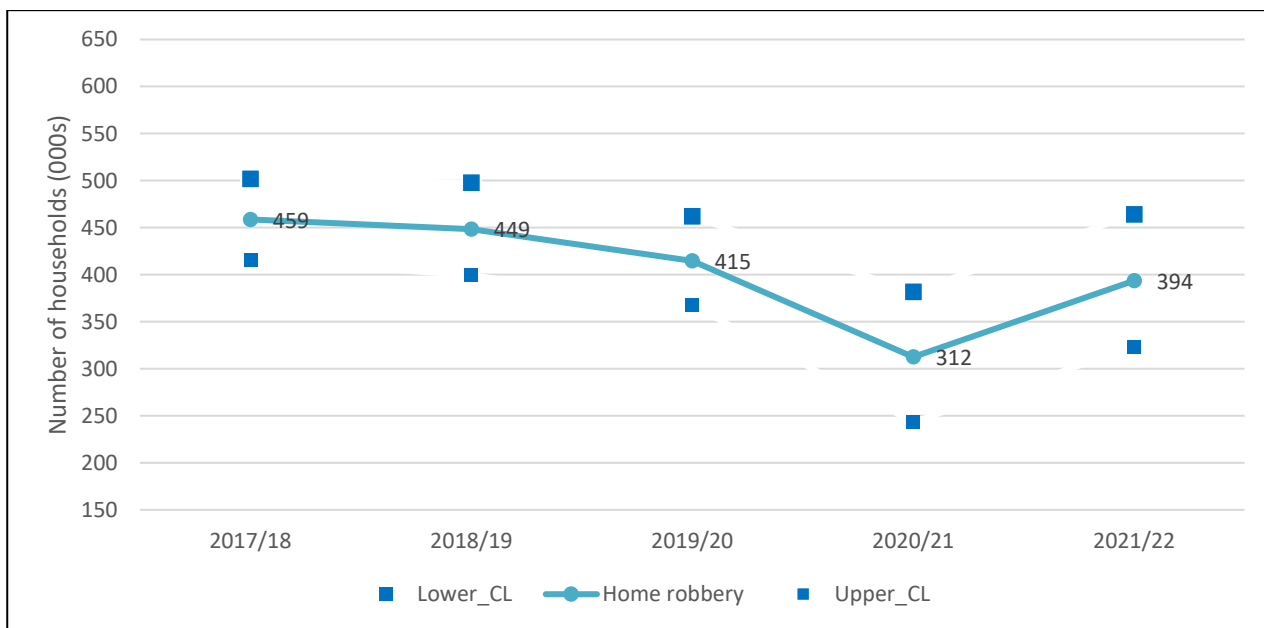
Figure 2 shows a general decrease in home robberies between 2017/18 and 2020/21, which is statistically significant. However, between these periods there was a steady decrease between 2017/18 and 2018/19, and a further decrease between 2018/19 and 2019/20. The decreases between the survey periods were not statistically significant. However, there is a sharp decrease between 2019/20 and 2020/21, which turned in 2021/22 with an increase that is not statistically significant.

Figure 3: Trends in theft of a motor vehicle, 2017/18–2021/22
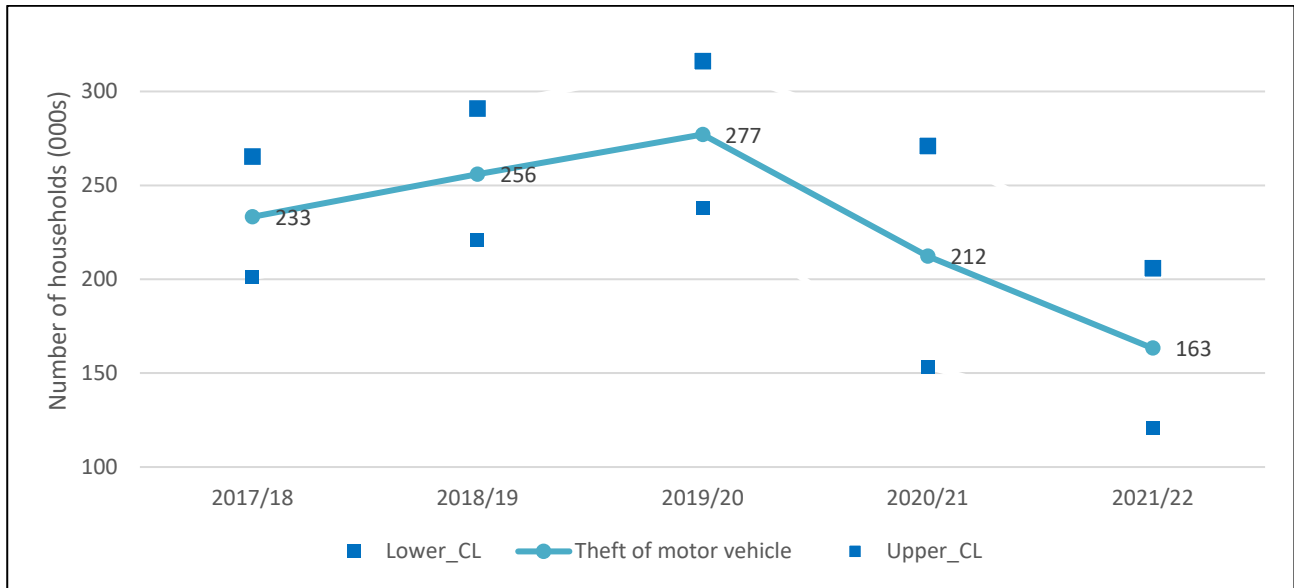
Figure 3 shows an increase in motor vehicle theft between 2017/18 and 2019/20 before it decreased in 2020/21 and further in 2021/22. The figure further shows that in 2021/22 theft of motor vehicles has declined below 2017/18, and the drop is not statistically significant.

Figure 4: Trends in murder, 2017/18–2021/22
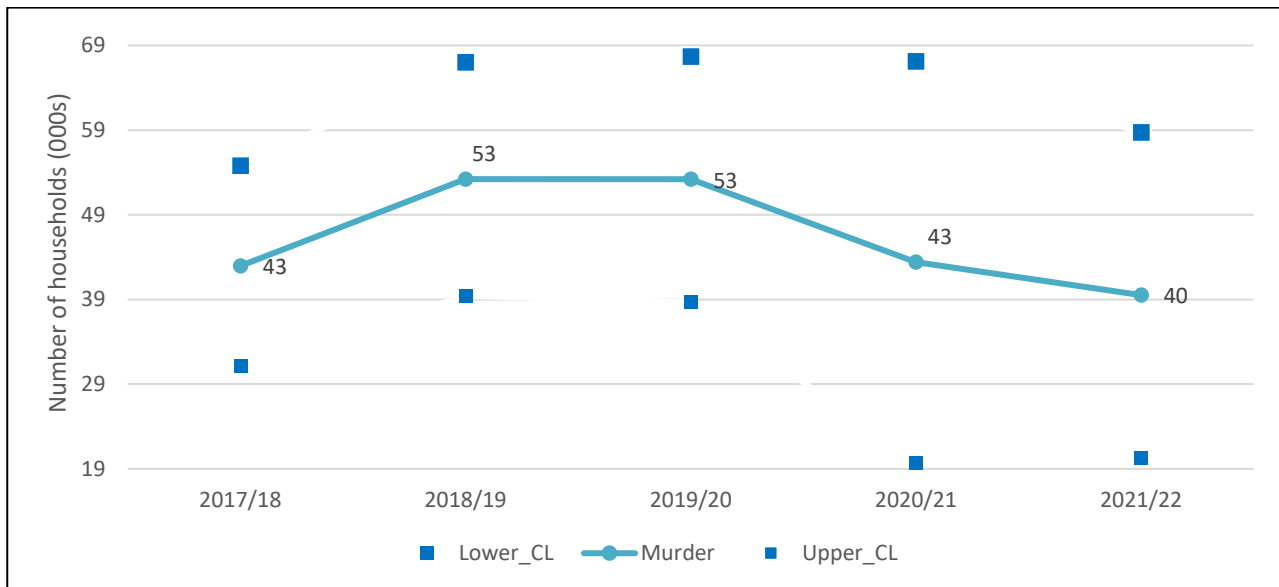
Figure 4 shows that the differences in the number of murders between 2017/18 and 2020/21 are not statistically significant. There was an increase in murder occurrences between 2017/18 and 2018/19 before it flattened in 2019/20. The figure further shows that the number of murders decreased between 2019/20 and 2020/21, although the difference is not statistically significant. The 2021/22 levels of murder have dropped to below 2017/18 levels, although the difference is not statistically significant.

Figure 5: Trends in sexual offence, 2017/18–2021/22
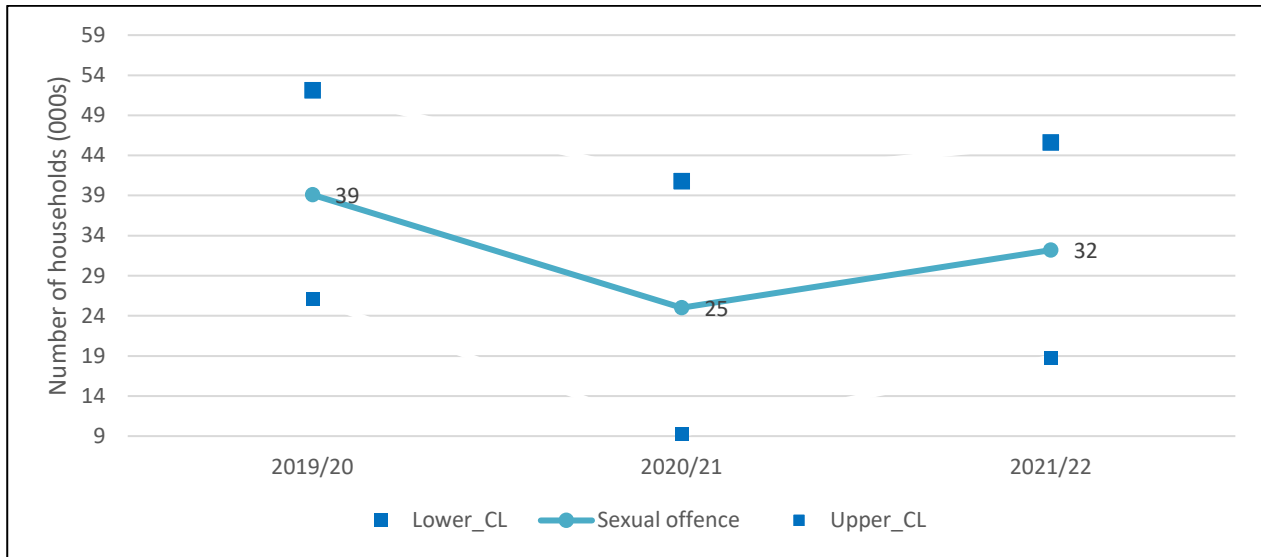
Figure 5 shows the trends in sexual offences in only three comparable periods. The figure shows that sexual offences decreased between 2019/20 (39 000) and 2020/21 (25 000) before increasing again in 2021/22 (32 000). However, the confidence intervals show an overlap in all three periods meaning the difference is not statistically significant in the three periods.

Figure 6: Trends in assault, 2017/18–2021/22
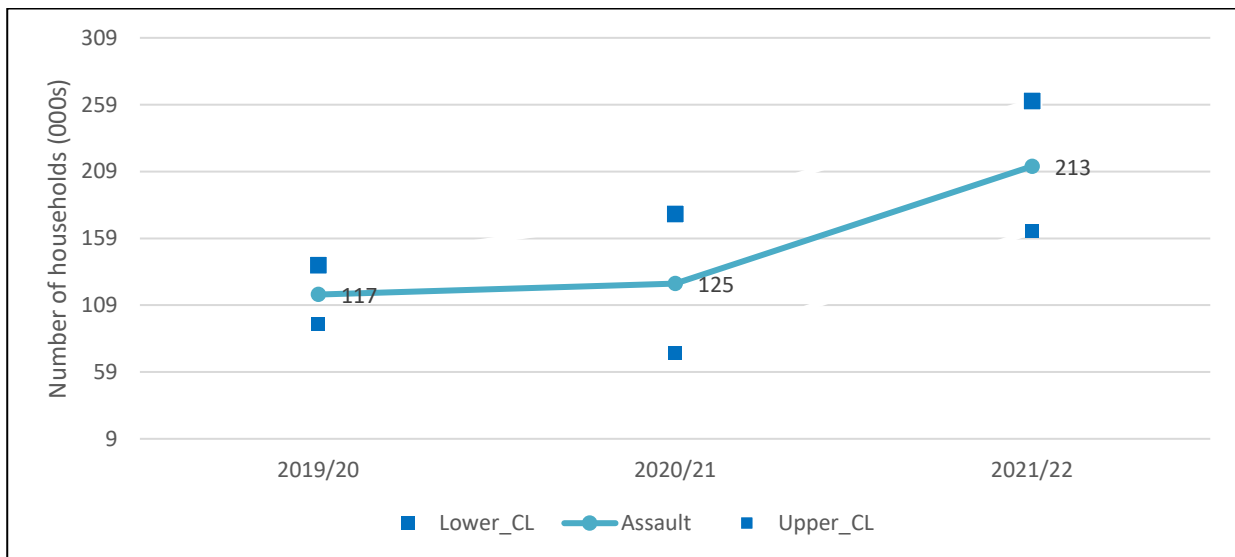
Figure 6 shows the trends in assault in three comparable periods 2019/20, 2020/21, and 2021/22. The figure shows that the households that experienced assault have been increasing over the years. It increased from 2019/20 (117 000) to 2020/21 (125 000), and a further sharper increase is observed again in 2021/22 (213 000). There is a statistically significant increase between 2019/20 and 2021/22.

3.2 Trends for individual crimes

This section focuses on crimes committed against members of households who were 16 years or older during the survey. The GPSJS does not capture type of crimes committed against children under 16 because they require special resources to comply with regulations concerning child welfare. Trends for six crimes on individuals are reported in the table below in the GPSJS 2021/22.

Table 4: Number and percentage of individuals that experienced a specific type of crime 5 years preceding the survey, 2017/18–2021/22

Indicator	Statistics (Number in thousands)	Year				
		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Theft of personal property	Number	1 844	2 344	2 400	2 070	2 919
	Percent	4,8	5,9	6,0	5,0	7,0
Street robbery	Number	735	1 126	1 109	832	799
	Percent	1,9	2,8	2,8	2,0	1,9
Assault excluding sexual assault	Number	600	599	495	**	**
	Percent	1,6	1,5	1,2	**	**
Consumer fraud	Number	147	173	670	583	1 017
	Percent	0,4	0,4	1,7	1,4	2,4
Hijacking	Number	152	198	265	151	330
	Percent	0,4	0,5	0,7	0,4	0,8
Sexual offences	Number	126	98	113	**	**
	Percent	0,3	0,3	0,3	**	**

* Unweighted number of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the 2021/22 round.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 4 shows that theft of personal property remains the most common crime experienced by individuals in South Africa. The individuals who experienced this crime increased from 1,8 million in 2017/18 to 2,4 million in 2019/20 before it decreased to 2,1 million in 2020/21. Theft of personal property increased to 2,9 million in 2021/22. The second most common crime experienced by individuals during the five-year period is consumer fraud. Consumer fraud sharply rose between 2018/19 (173 000) and 2019/20 (670 000), then decreased in the 2020/21 period to 583 000 before increasing sharply to 1,0 million in 2021/22. Street robbery increased from 735 000 in 2017/18 to 1,1 million in both 2018/19 and 2019/20, respectively. The levels then dropped to 832 000 in 2020/21 and further declined to 799 000 in 2021/22. Hijacking, which has been increasing since 2017/18, decreased in the 2020/21 period and rose sharply to 330 000 in 2021/22.

The trends will be analysed with the assistance of the charts below. The 95% confidence intervals will be used to determine whether the changes over time were statistically significant or otherwise.

**Figure 7: Trends in theft of personal property, 2017/18–2021/22**
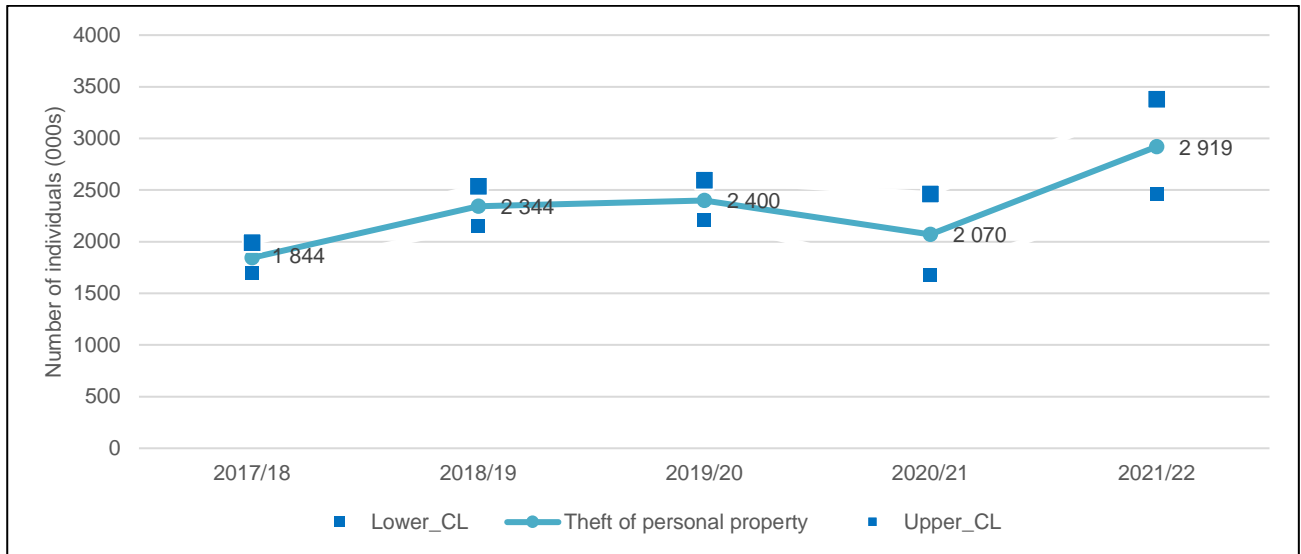
Figure 7 shows that theft of personal property increased between 2017/18 (1,8 million) and 2019/20 (2,4 million) before decreasing in 2020/21 (2,1 million). Theft of personal property then increased in 2021/22 (2,9 million). The figure also shows a statistically significant increase between 2017/18 and 2021/22. There was a slight increase between 2018/19 and 2019/20, which is not statistically significant. Theft of personal property decreased from 2,4 million in 2019/20 to 2,1 million in 2020/21.

Figure 8: Trends in street robbery, 2017/18–2021/22
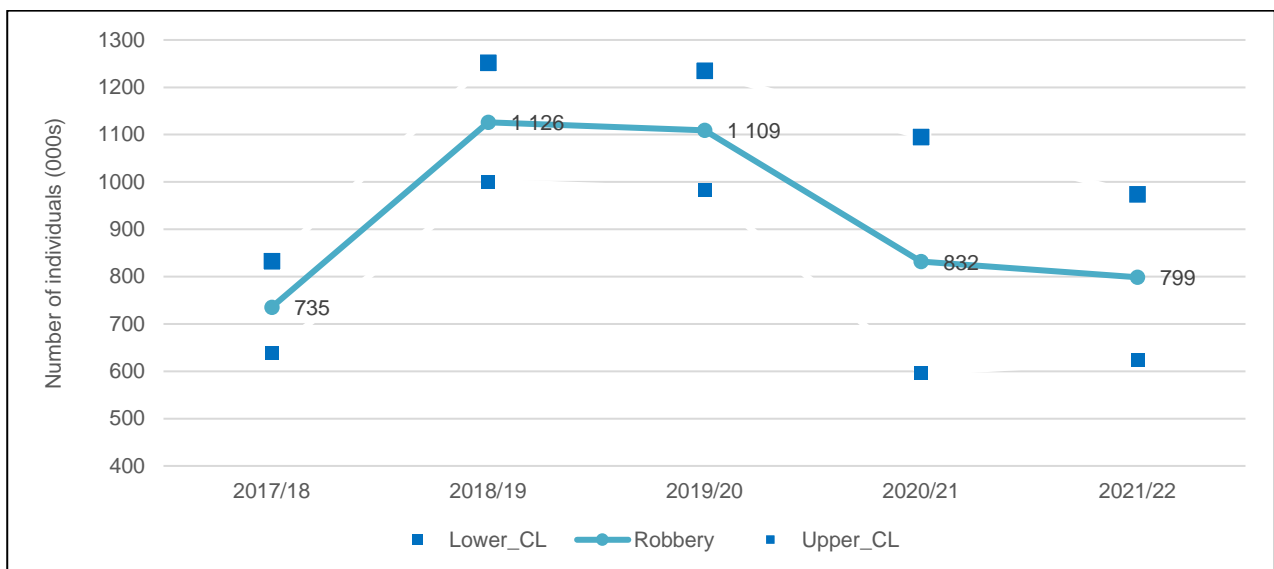
Figure 8 shows that despite a statistically significant increase between 2017/18 (735 000) and 2018/19 (1,1 million), there has been a constant decline in street robbery between 2018/19 (1,1 million) and 2021/22 (799 000). There is no significant change observed in street robbery during the period 2017/18 and 2021/22 The figure shows a decline between 2018/19 (1,1 million) and 2019/20 (1,1 million), which was not statistically significant. There was a decrease between 2019/20 and 2020/21.

Figure 9: Trends in consumer fraud, 2017/18–2021/22
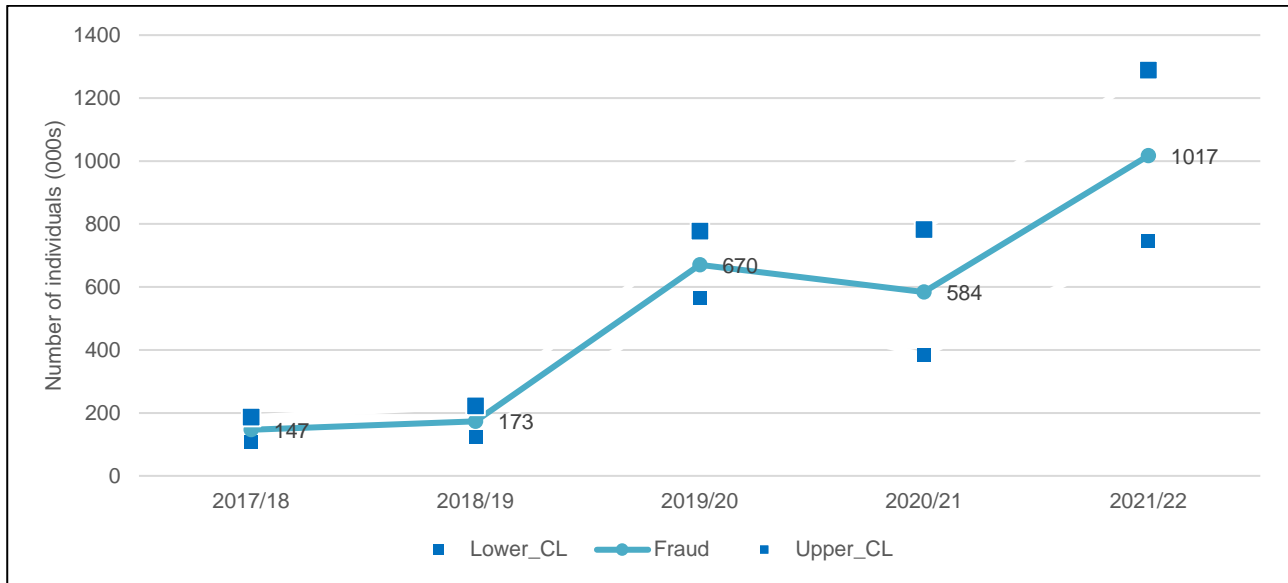
Figure 9 shows an upward trend in the number of victims of consumer fraud, which increased from 2017/18 (147 000) to 1,0 million in 2021/22. The number of victims of consumer fraud started to increase in 2017/18, and there has been a statistically significant increase observed between 2018/19 and 2019/20. There was a slight decrease in consumer fraud between 2019/20 and 2020/21; however, the decrease is not statistically significant. There was a statistically significant increase in the levels of consumer fraud which almost doubled between 2020/21 (584 000) and 2021/22 (1,0 million).

Figure 10: Trends in hijacking, 2017/18–2021/22
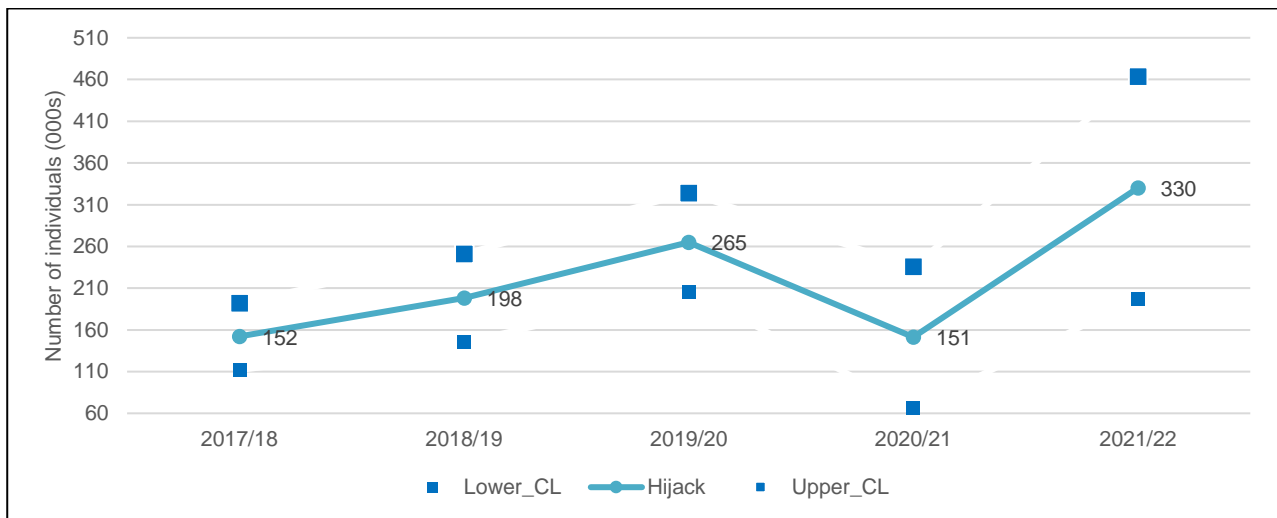
Figure 10 shows a general upward trend in the number of victims of hijacking between 2017/18 and 2021/22. The number of victims of hijacking almost doubled from 152 000 in 2017/18 to 330 000 in 2021/22. However, a drop in the number of victims of hijacking can be observed between 2019/20 (265 000) and 2020/21 (151 000), although the decrease is not statistically significant. The figure also shows an increase in the number of hijackings between 2018/19 and 2019/20, which is not statistically significant.

3.3 Summary

The experience of crime by households between the 2020/21 and 2021/22 periods show an upward trend in four out of six types of crime. Housebreaking/burglary has consistently been the most common crime experienced by households in South Africa. The number of households that experienced this crime increased from 2017/18 to 2019/20, and then it dropped in 2020/21 before increasing again in 2021/22. The second most common crime experienced by households during the five-year period is home robbery. Home robbery has constantly declined between 2017/18 (459 000) and 2021/22 (394 000). However, there is an increase observed in the experience of home robbery between 2020/21 (312 000) and 2021/22 (394 000).

The experience of crime by individuals between the 2020/21 and 2021/22 periods shows an upward trend in three out of four types of crime. Theft of personal property has been the most common crime experienced by individuals in South Africa. The number of individuals who experienced this crime has increased from 1,8 million in 2017/18 to 2,4 million in 2019/20 before it decreased to 2,1 million in 2020/21. Theft of personal property increased to 2,9 million in 2021/22. The second most common crime experienced by individuals during the five-year period is consumer fraud. Consumer fraud sharply rose between 2018/19 (173 000) and 2019/20 (670 000), then decreased in the 2020/21 period to 583 000 before increasing sharply to 1,0 million in 2021/22.

Street robbery increased from 735 000 in 2017/18 to 1,1 million in 2018/19 and 2019/20, respectively. The levels then dropped to 832 000 in 2020/21 and further declined to 799 000 in 2021/22. There is a sharp increase between 2020/21 and 2021/22 for consumer fraud and hijacking types of crimes. Hijacking, which has been increasing since 2017/18, decreased in the 2020/21 period and rose sharply to 330 000 in 2021/22.

4. Household experience of crime

4.1 Introduction

In this section, we focus on household crime experienced during the past 12 months from the 2021/22 GPSJS. The reference period was April 2020 to March 2021. Six types of crime were surveyed. The number was reduced to accommodate the methodological changes implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic period. Some in-depth questions on each of the specific crimes were also dropped for the same reason.

4.2 Overview of household crime level

Table 5 below presents a summary of the number of victims of various types of crime and the percentage of the population that the number represents. The table also presents the data from year 1(2018/19) of the GPSJS. The data used to calculate these estimates come from the question, "Have you or your household experienced (housebreaking) during the past 12 months". The reference period is 12 months.

Table 5: Number and percentage of households that experienced a specific type of crime in the 12 months preceding the survey, 2020/21 and 2021/22

Indicator	Statistics (Number in thousands)	Year			
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Housebreaking/burglary	Number	970	891	809	983
	Percent	5,8	5,3	4,6	5,4
Home robbery	Number	184	139	112	155
	Percent	1,1	0,8	0,6	0,9
Assault	Number	103	42	51	99
	Percent	0,6	0,3	0,3	0,5
Theft of motor vehicle	Number	68	82	81	42
	Percent	0,4	0,5	0,5	0,2
Deliberate damaging of property	Number	54	52	**	**
	Percent	0,3	0,3	**	**
Sexual offences	Number	15	13	*	12*
	Percent	0,1	0,1	*	0,1
Murder	Number	12	15	11	20
	Percent	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1

 * Unweighted number of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the 2021/22 round.
*** Note: Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 5 shows that 983 000 households in South Africa experienced housebreaking in the 2021/22 reference period. Approximately 155 000 households experienced home robbery, 42 000 experienced theft of a motor vehicle, and 99 000 experienced assault. Housebreaking and home robbery decreased between 2018/19 to 2020/21 and increased in 2021/22. However, the pattern changes for households that experienced assault. Assault levels decreased between 2018/19 and 2019/20 then increased in 2020/21 before increasing further in 2021/22. Theft of motor vehicle increased between 2018/19 and 2019/20, then slightly decreased in 2020/21 before decreasing further in 2021/22, with 42 000 households experiencing this type of crime. Murder levels have remained almost the same in the four periods, although they increased between 2020/21 (11 000) and 2021/22 (20 000).

It is important to note that the sexual offences count in the sample was small, therefore it was not possible to calculate disaggregated estimates of acceptable quality.

Table 6: Victimisation rates – household crime

Type of crime	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Housebreaking/burglary	5,8	5,3	4,6	5,4
Home robbery	1,1	0,8	0,6	0,9
Assault	0,6	0,3	0,3	0,5
Theft of motor vehicle	0,4	0,5	0,5	0,2
Deliberate damaging of property	0,3	0,3	**	**
Sexual offences	0,1	0,1	*	0,1
Murder	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1

Figure 11: Percentage distribution of type of crimes experienced by households in the 12 months preceding the survey, 2021/22
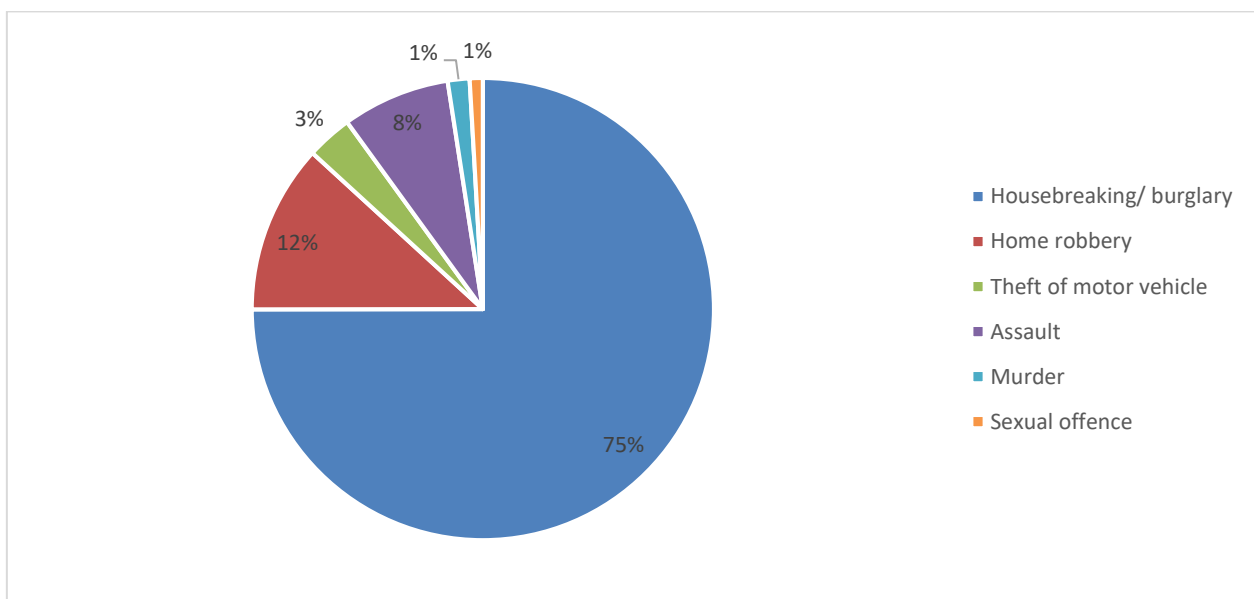
Figure 11 shows the percentage distribution of the type of crimes experienced by households. Housebreaking accounts for about three-quarters (75%) of the household crimes, followed by home robbery (12%), assault (8%), theft of motor vehicle (3%), sexual offence (1%), and murder (1%).

4.3 Profile of selected household crime types

4.3.1 Housebreaking or burglary

Respondents were asked whether they experienced housebreaking during the past 12 months, how many times these occurred, during which months, and whether they reported any incidences to the police.

Table 7: Number and percentage of households that experienced housebreaking by demographic characteristics of head of household, settlement type and province, 2021/22

Characteristic	Number of incidences (000s)	Number of households (000s)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	815	562	5,3
Female	624	421	5,4
Population			
Black African	1 097	778	5,2
Coloured	127	72	5,6
Indian/Asian	33	17	3,8
White	183	117	7,4
Age group			
15-34 (Youth)	358	269	5,8
35-49 (Young adults)	505	332	4,9
50-64 (Adults)	374	252	5,8
65+ (Senior citizens)	203	130	5,2
Marital status			
Married	461	304	5,5
Living together like husband and wife	113	88	4,0
Separated but still legally married	55	31	6,1
Divorced	12	9	5,3
Widowed	163	119	5,3
Single	635	433	5,8
Highest level of education			
No schooling	37	29	3,4
Some primary	117	81	4,8
Completed primary	60	41	4,9
Some secondary	463	334	5,4
Completed secondary	456	288	5,4
Post school	286	192	6,8
Province			
Western Cape	179	116	5,8
Eastern Cape	140	105	6,1
Northern Cape	32	21	6,0
Free State	46	44	4,5
KwaZulu-Natal	473	255	7,9
North West	133	102	7,8
Gauteng	256	204	3,7
Mpumalanga	97	72	5,1
Limpopo	83	64	3,8
Urban/rural			
Rural	417	302	5,5
Urban	1 022	681	5,4
Metro status			
Metro	657	429	5,1
Non-metro	782	554	5,6

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 7 shows that female-headed households were slightly more likely to experience housebreaking than male-headed households (5,4% vs 5,3%). Households headed by whites are more likely to experience

housebreaking (7,4%) compared to coloureds (5,6%), black Africans (5,2%), and Indians/Asians (3,8%). Households in KwaZulu-Natal are most likely to experience housebreaking (7,9%), followed by North West (7,8%), and the least likely province is Limpopo (3,8%). Rural areas were slightly more likely to experience housebreaking (5,5% vs 5,4% for urban), while 5,6% of households in the non-metro areas experienced housebreaking.

Figure 12: Number of households that experienced housebreaking by month, 2018/19–2021/22

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018/19	76	77	92	91	74	127	90	95	90	89	108	113
2019/20	72	79	84	86	94	128	80	60	96	66	97	118
2020/21	36	74	66	61	68	110	98	143	89	67	58	65
2021/22	90	115	124	119	80	147	109	103	105	66	75	146
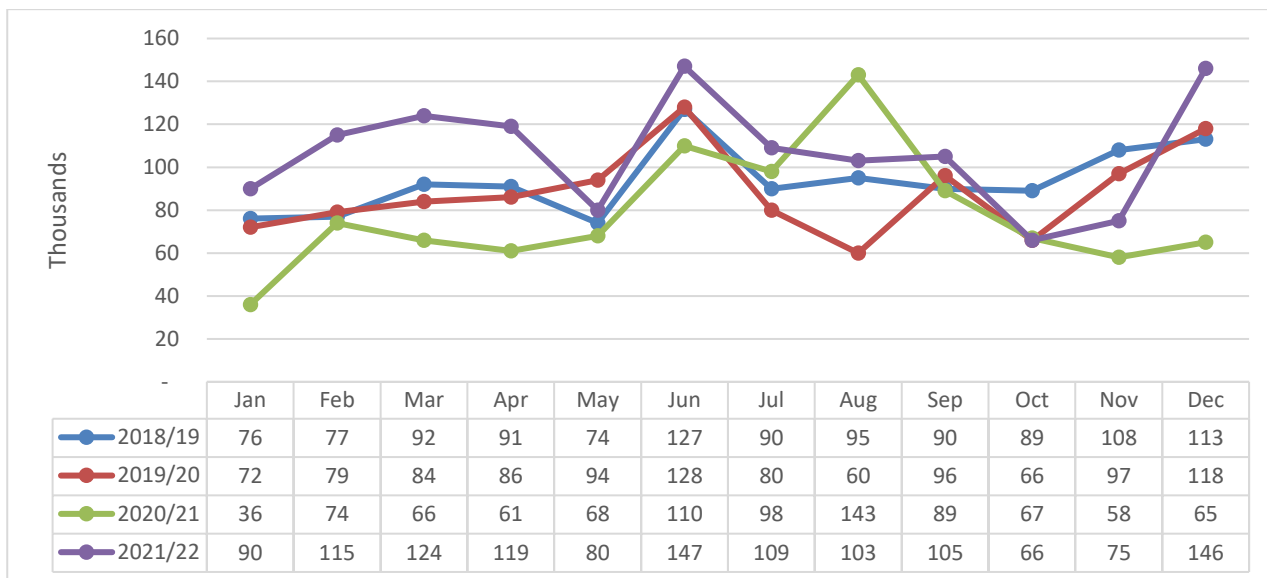
Figure 12 shows that the highest number of housebreaking incidences occurred in June (147 000) and December (146 000). The trend is the same in all periods where June is the modal month for incidences of housebreaking, except for 2020/21. Unlike other reporting periods, the highest number of housebreaking incidents is observed in August for the 2020/21 period.

Figure 13: Percentage of households that reported housebreaking to the police, 2018/19–2021/22
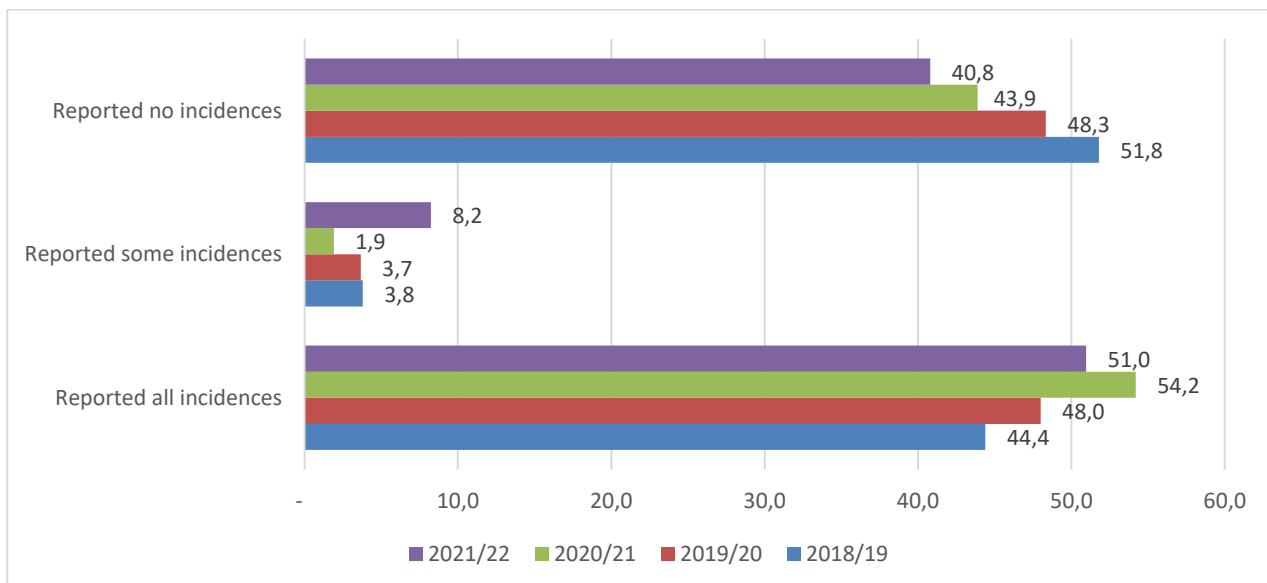
Figure 13 shows that more than half the households (59,2%) either reported all incidences (51,0%) or reported some of the incidences (8,2%) in 2021/22. The reporting of housebreaking incidences increased by 3,1 percentage points in 2021/22 (59,2%) from 2020/21 (56,1%).

Table 8: Summary of statistics on housebreaking, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidences ('000)	1 345	1 164	1 015	1 439
Number of households that experienced housebreaking ('000)	970	891	809	983
Number of households that reported all or some incidences of housebreaking to the police	468	460	454	582
Percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of housebreaking to the police	48,2	51,7	56,1	59,2

Table 8 shows that the number of incidences of housebreaking decreased in the between three reporting periods 2018/19 to 2020/21, then increased to 1,4 million in 2021/22. Similarly, the number of households that experienced housebreaking decreased from 970 000 in 2018/19 to 891 000 in 2019/20 and to 809 000 in 2020/21 and increased to 983 000 in 2021/22. The percentage of households that reported the incidences to the police increased from 56,1% in 2019/20 to 59,2% in 2021/22.

4.3.2 Home robbery

The GPSJS 2021/22 had only four standard questions on home robbery. The number of questions were reduced due to methodological changes. Questions on whether any weapons were used, the type of weapons used, whether anyone died during the home robbery, the number of people who died, and whether any of the dead were members of the household, were dropped in the GPSJS 2021/22 round.

Table 9: Number and percentage of households that experienced home robbery by demographic characteristics of head of household, settlement type and province, 2021/22

Characteristic	Number of incidences (000s)	Number of households (000s)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	145	105	1,0
Female	60	50	0,6
Age group			
15-34 (Youth)	58	48	1,0
35-49 (Young adults)	92	62	0,9
50-64 (Adults)	37	29	0,7
65+ (Senior citizens)	18	17	0,7
Highest level of education			
No schooling	5	3	0,3
Some primary	8	8	0,5
Completed primary	7	3	0,4
Some secondary	95	71	1,1
Completed secondary	60	44	0,8
Post school	27	23	0,8
Province			
Western Cape	26	20	1,0
Eastern Cape	13	13	0,7
Northern Cape	6	4	1,1
Free State	9	5	0,5
KwaZulu-Natal	34	15	0,5
North West	10	10	0,8
Gauteng	77	66	1,2
Mpumalanga	16	13	0,9
Limpopo	14	10	0,6
Urban/rural			
Rural	54	34	0,6
Urban	151	121	1,0
Metro status			
Metro	88	72	0,9
Non-metro	117	83	0,8

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 9 shows that male-headed households were more likely to experience home robbery than female-headed households (1,0% vs 0,6%). The result further shows that households headed by youth (15-34) are the most likely to experience home robbery, followed by the young adults at 0,9%; those headed by adults and senior citizens are least likely (both at 0,7%). Households in urban areas were more likely to experience home robbery (1,0%) compared to households in rural areas (0,6%).

Figure 14: Percentage of households that reported home robbery to the police, 2018/19–2021/22
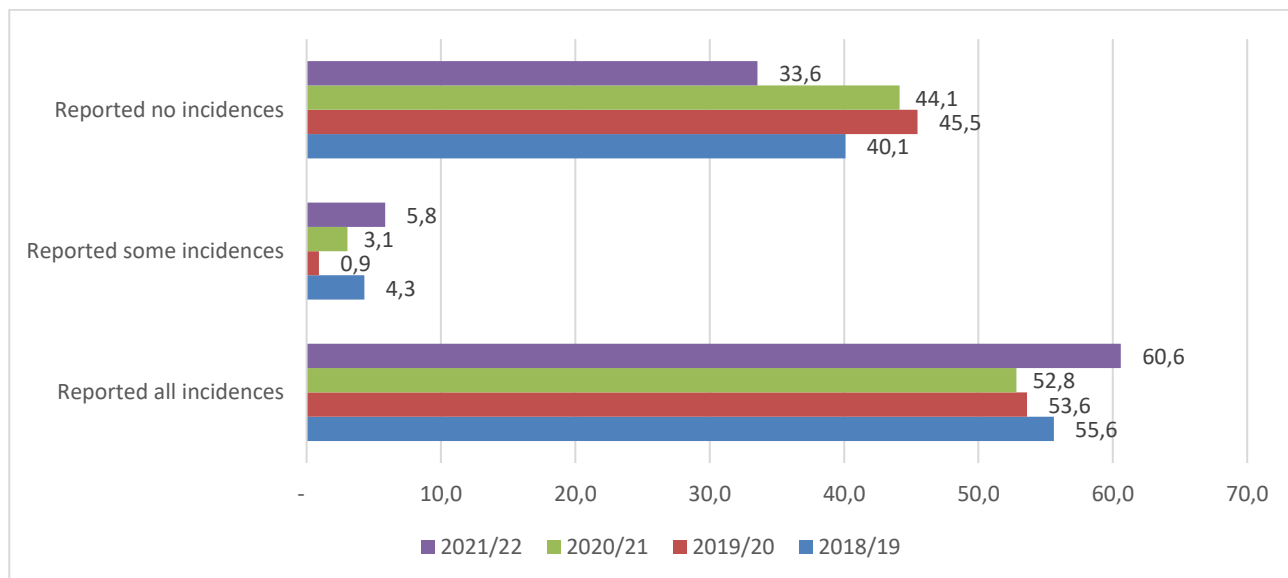
Figure 14 shows that the proportion of households who reported all or some incidences of housebreaking increased from 55,9% in 2020/21 to 66,4% in 2021/22.

Table 10: Summary statistics on home robbery, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidences ('000)	264	169	141	205
Number of households that experienced home robbery ('000)	184	139	112	155
Number of households that reported some or all incidences of home robbery to the police ('000)	99	76	63	103
Percentage of households that reported some or all incidences of home robbery to the police	59,9	54,5	55,9	66,4

Table 10 shows that the number of incidences of home robbery decreased from 264 000 in 2018/19 to 169 000 in 2019/20, decreased further to 141 000 in 2020/21 and increased to 205 000 in 2021/22. The same pattern is observed for the number of households that experienced housebreaking, which declined from 184 000 in 2018/19 to 139 000 in 2019/20, and further decreased to 112 000 in 2020/21 before increasing to 155 000 in 2021/22. The percentage of households that reported the incidences to the police decreased from 59,9% in 2018/19 to 54,5% in 2019/20 and increased slightly to 55,9% in 2020/21, and increased further to 66,4% in 2021/22.

4.3.3 Assault

The GPSJS 2021/22 had only four standard questions on assault. The number of questions were reduced due to methodological changes. Questions on whether any weapons were used, the type of weapons used, whether anyone died during the assault, the number of people who died, and whether any of the dead were members of the household and the perpetrator were dropped in the GPSJS 2021/22 round.

Table 11: Number and percentage of households that experienced assault by demographic characteristics of head of household, settlement type and province, 2021/22

Characteristic	Number of incidences (000s)	Number of households (000s)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	56	52	0,5
Female	61	47	0,6
Age group			
15-34 (Youth)	36	36	0,8
35-49 (Young adults)	29	29	0,4
50-64 (Adults)	37	25	0,6
65+ (Senior citizens)	14	8	0,3
Marital status			
Married	20	15	0,3
Living together like husband and wife	8	10	0,4
Separated but still legally married	1	1	0,2
Divorced	11	4	2,4
Widowed	17	13	0,6
Single	60	57	0,8
Province			
Western Cape	38	25	1,2
Eastern Cape	12	9	0,5
Northern Cape	9	8	2,3
Free State	7	7	0,7
KwaZulu-Natal	13	13	0,4
North West	5	5	0,4
Gauteng	21	21	0,4
Mpumalanga	9	9	0,6
Limpopo	3	3	0,1
Metro status			
Metro	40	35	0,4
Non-metro	77	64	0,7

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 11 shows almost equal proportions between male-headed households (0,5%) and female-headed households (0,6%) that experienced assault. The table also shows that youth-headed households have the largest proportion of households that experienced assault compared to adult-headed households (0,8%), adults (0,6%), young adults (0,4%) and senior citizens (0,3%). Northern Cape has the highest proportion of households that experienced assault (2,3%), while Limpopo has the smallest proportion (0,1%). Non-metro has almost double the proportion of households (0,7%) that experienced assault, compared to the proportion of households in metros (0,4%).

Table 12: Summary statistics on assault, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidences ('000)	133	48	56	117
Number of households that experienced assault ('000)	103	42	51	99
Number of households that reported some or all incidences of assault to the police ('000)	72	25	25	73
Percentage of households that reported some or all incidences of assault to the police	69,0	60,0	50,6	73,7

Table 12 shows that both the number of incidences of assault and the number of households that experienced assault decreased between 2018/19 and 2019/20, increased in 2020/21, and further increased in 2021/22. However, the number of households that reported at least one incidence of assault to the police declined between 2018/19 and 2020/21 before increasing in 2021/22. The percentage of households that reported at least some of the incidences to the police increased by almost 23,1 percentage points from 50,6% in 2020/21 to 73,7% in 2021/22.

4.3.4 Theft of a motor vehicle

Respondents were asked whether they experienced theft of a motor vehicle during the past 12 months, how many times, during which months, and whether they reported any incidences to the police.

Table 13: Number and percentage of households that experienced theft of motor vehicle by demographic characteristics of head of household and settlement type, 2021/22

Characteristic	Number of incidences (000s)	Number of households (000s)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	28	28	0,3
Female	14	14	0,2
Metro status			
Metro	24	24	0,3
Non-metro	18	18	0,2

Table 13 shows almost equal proportions between male-headed households (0,3%) and female-headed households (0,2%) of households that experienced theft of motor vehicles. The table further shows that 0,3% of households in metro areas experienced theft of motor vehicles compared to 0,2% of households in non-metro areas.

Table 14: Summary statistics on theft of motor vehicle, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidences ('000)	83	88	83	42
Number of households that experienced theft of motor vehicle ('000)	68	82	81	42
Number of households that reported all or some incidences of theft of motor vehicle to the police ('000)	59	65	74	24
Percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of theft of motor vehicle to the police	86,3	78,7	91,0	57,2

Table 14 shows that the number of incidences of car theft increased from 83 000 in 2018/19 to 88 000 in 2019/20, decreased to 83 000 in 2020/21 and further declined to 42 000 in 2021/22. The number of households that experienced car theft increased from 68 000 in 2018/19 to 82 000 in 2019/20, and decreased slightly in 2020/21 to 81 000 before dropping to 42 000 in 2021/22. The percentage of households that reported the incidences to the police decreased from 86,3% in 2018/19 to 78,7% in 2019/20, increased to 91,0% in 2020/21, then dropped to 57,2% in 2021/22.

4.3.5 Murder

The term "murder" in the GPSJS includes what SAPS refers to as "culpable homicide or unintentional killing of a human being". Stats SA understands the importance of distinguishing between murder and culpable homicide, but it is not feasible to collect such information from household surveys where respondents may not understand the difference between the two. It may be a challenge even at police stations for an officer to determine whether the case being reported is murder or homicide.

Since the murder count in the sample was small, it was not possible to calculate disaggregated estimates of acceptable quality.

Table 15: Summary statistics on murder, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidences (000s)	12	16*	11	20
Number of households that experienced murder ('000)	12	15	11	20
Number of households that reported all or some incidences of murder to the police ('000)	12	15	11	19
Percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of murder to the police	100,0	100,0	100,0	95

*It includes incidences that occurred during a home robbery.

Table 15 above shows the summary of statistics on murder between 2018/19 and 2021/22. It shows the percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of murder has decreased between 2020/21 (100,0%) to 2021/22 (95,0%). The number of incidences of murder has increased from 11 000 in 2020/21 to 20 000 in 2021/22. A similar pattern is observed with the number of households that experienced incidences of murder.

4.3.6 Sexual offences

Given the sensitive nature of sexual offences and the context of household-based interviews, sexual offences are thought to be underreported in the GPSJS. It is likely that most of those individuals who have already reported sexual offences to the police will proceed to also report it to the survey officer who is collecting the data. It is important to note that as the sexual offences count in the sample was small, it was not possible to calculate disaggregated estimates of acceptable quality.

Table 16: Summary statistics on sexual offences, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidences (000s)	17	13*	8*	12*
Number of households that experienced sexual offences (000s)	15	13*	6*	12*
Number of households that reported all or some incidences of sexual offences to the police ('000)	10	8*	5*	11*
Percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of sexual offences to the police	69,0	59,9	88,7	90,0

* Sample is too small and CVs are too high to make meaningful inferences.

Table 16 above shows the percentage of households that reported all or some incidences of sexual offences to the police. The percentage dropped from 69,0% in 2018/19 to 59,9% in 2019/20 before increasing to 88,7% in 2020/21, and increased to 90,0% in 2021/22.

4.4 Summary

Housebreaking is the most common crime experienced by households in South Africa. A total of 983 000 households have experienced housebreaking incidences in 2021/22 period. The second most common type of crime experienced by households is home robbery, followed by assault incidences. Data shows that the experience of crime by households has increased for housebreaking, home robbery, assault and murder types of crime. The experience of theft of vehicles by households declined from 81 000 in 2020/21 to 42 000 in 2021/22.

Furthermore, it can be seen that housebreaking was mostly experienced by female-headed households and households in rural areas. Housebreaking peaked in June, with 147 000 households experiencing this crime. There is an increase observed in the number of households that reported at least one incidence of housebreaking. A total of 99 000 households experienced assault in 2021/22; this is almost double the 2020/21 figures. Assault was most likely to be experienced by female-headed households and households in non-metro areas.

5. Individual experience of crime

5.1 Introduction

This section focuses on crimes experienced by individual members of households aged 16 years and older. As mentioned earlier in the report, the survey of children under 16 requires more resources due to legislation on child welfare and the legislative restrictions on dealing with young children. Therefore, the respondent should be a randomly selected member of a sampled household aged 16 years or older at the time of the interview.

Table 17: Number and percentage of individuals that experienced a specific type of crime in the 12 months preceding the survey, 2020/21 and 2021/22

Indicator	Number in thousands	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Theft of personal property	Number	1 015	902	732	1 105
	Percent	2,5	2,2	1,8	2,6
Robbery	Number	452	451	304	246
	Percent	1,1	1,1	0,7	0,6
Assault	Number	281	224	**	**
	Percent	0,7	0,6	**	**
Consumer fraud	Number	81	384	321	376
	Percent	0,2	1,0	0,8	0,9
Hijacking of motor vehicle	Number	32	85	64	134
	Percent	0,1	0,2	0,2	0,3
Sexual offence	Number	26	31	**	**
	Percent	0,1	0,1	**	**

* Unweighted number of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the 2021/22 round.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 17 shows that in 2021/22, most (1,1 million) South Africans aged 16 years and older experienced theft of personal property, followed by those who experienced consumer fraud (376 000) and robbery (246 000). However, theft of personal property has been decreasing from 2018/19 (1,1 million) to 2020/21 (732 000), then increased in 2021/22 to the levels of 2018/19. There is an increase observed in all individual types of crimes between 2020/21 and 2021/22 except robbery, which decreased from 304 000 to 246 000. Hijacking of motor vehicles increased sharply from 2020/21 (64 000) to 2021/22 (134 000).

Table 18: Victimisation rates – individual experience of crime, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Theft of personal property	2,5	2,2	1,8	2,6
Robbery	1,1	1,1	0,7	0,6
Assault	0,7	0,6	**	**
Consumer fraud	0,2	1	0,8	0,9
Hijacking of motor vehicle	0,1	0,2	0,2	0,3
Sexual offence	0,1	0,1	**	**

Figure 15: Percentage distribution of type of crimes experienced by individuals in the 12 months preceding the survey, 2021/22
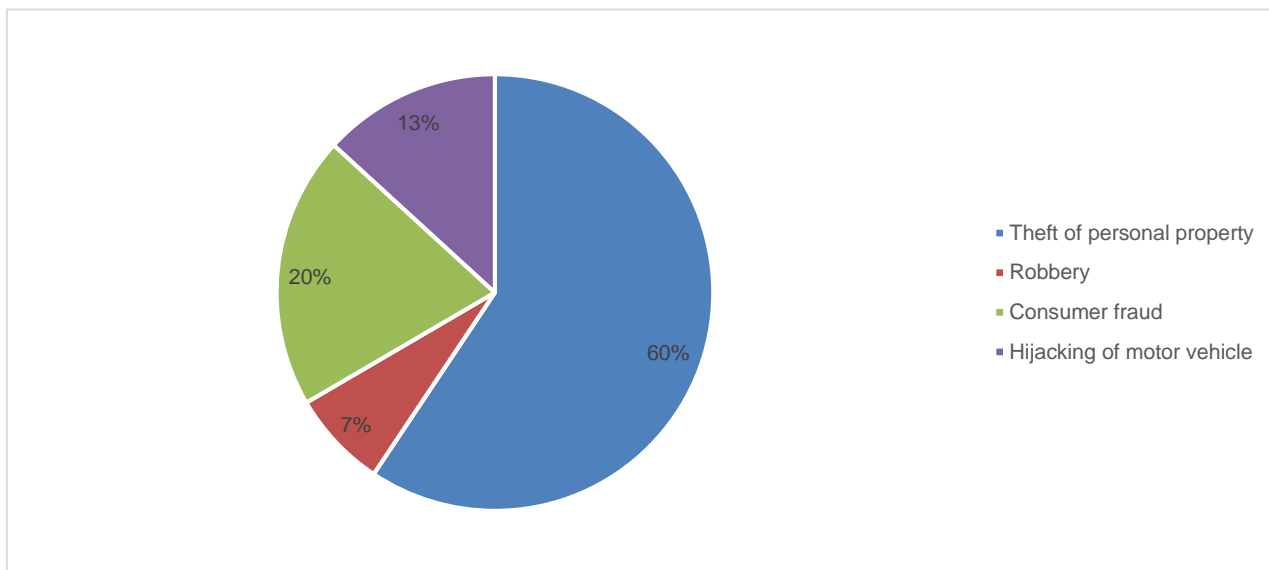
Figure 15 shows that theft of personal property is the most common type of crime experienced by individuals. Almost two-thirds (60,0%) of the crimes committed against individuals involve the theft of personal property, followed by consumer fraud (20%), hijacking (13%), and common robbery (7%).

5.2 Profile of selected individual crime types

5.2.1 Theft of personal property

Table 19: Number and percentage of individuals that experienced theft of personal property by demographic characteristics of individuals, province and settlement type, 2021/22

Characteristic	Number of incidences (000s)	Number of individuals (000s)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	665	530	2,6
Female	667	575	2,7
Population			
Black African	1 029	885	2,7
Coloured	109	81	2,2
Indian/Asian	64	23	1,9
White	129	116	3,1
Age group			
16-34 (Youth)	753	623	3,2
35-49 (Young adults)	274	216	2,5
50-64 (Adults)	253	215	2,2
65+ (Senior citizens)	52	50	1,4
Marital status			
Married	432	360	2,8
Living together like husband and wife	206	189	2,9
Divorced	12	7	1,0
Separated but still legally married	11	8	2,8
Widowed	95	74	1,9
Single	576	467	2,6
Province			
Western Cape	329	259	5,0
Eastern Cape	92	63	1,5
Northern Cape	11	11	1,3
Free State	46	39	1,9
KwaZulu-Natal	206	161	2,0
North West	48	48	1,7
Gauteng	489	414	3,5
Mpumalanga	44	42	1,3
Limpopo	68	68	1,8
Urban/rural			
Rural	184	152	1,2
Urban	1 148	953	3,3
Metro status			
Metro	903	729	3,8
Non-metro	429	376	1,7

* Unweighted number of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the 2021/22 round.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 19 shows that females were more likely to experience theft of personal property than males in 2021/22. It further shows that white people had the highest proportion of individuals that have experienced theft of personal property. Persons living in the urban and metro areas were most likely to experience theft of personal property. Persons aged 16–34 were most likely to experience theft of personal property (3,2%). The elderly aged 65 and older have the least likelihood of experiencing theft of personal property. Western Cape has the highest proportion of individuals who experienced theft of personal property (5,0%), followed by Gauteng (3,5%), and KwaZulu-Natal (2,0%).

Figure 16: Percentage of victims of theft of personal property in different age groups, 2021/22
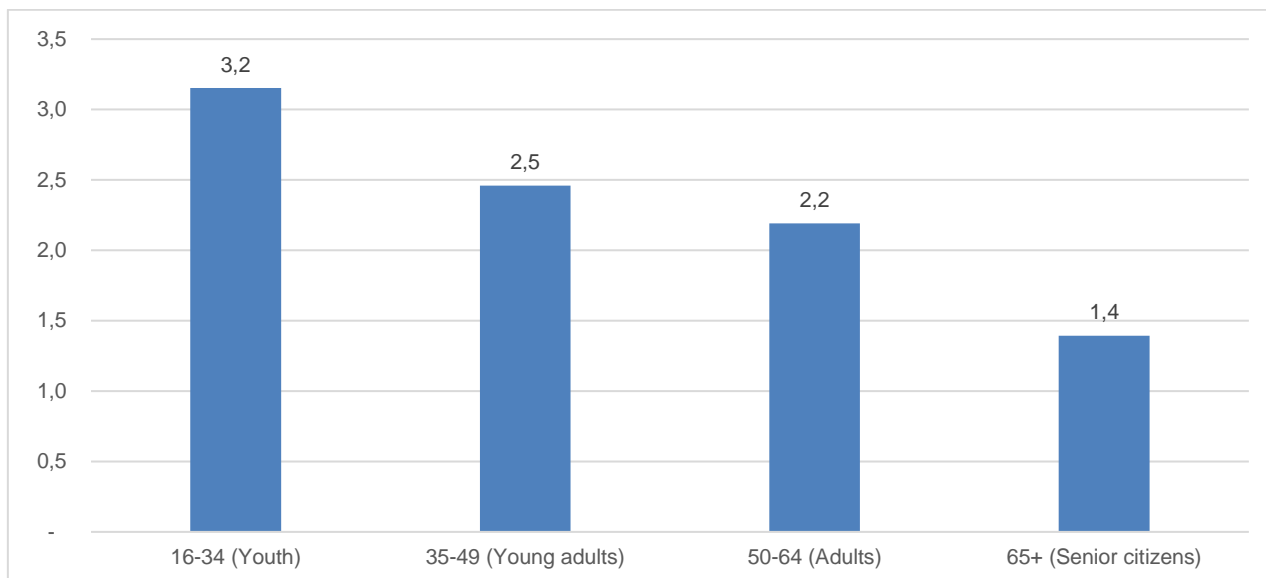
Figure 16 shows the relationship between age and vulnerability to theft of personal property. The youth are most likely to lose personal property to theft compared to all the other age groups, the elderly is least likely to experience theft of personal property, while those aged 35–49 and 50–64 is almost equally vulnerable to theft of personal property.

Figure 17: Number of individuals who experienced theft of personal property by month, 2018/19–2021/22

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018/19	73	60	92	86	77	98	83	108	126	114	75	137
2019/20	62	44	136	83	92	152	69	72	55	65	90	93
2020/21	23	73	54	64	18	150	59	101	46	57	75	67
2021/22	140	119	145	117	57	228	57	74	50	67	73	118
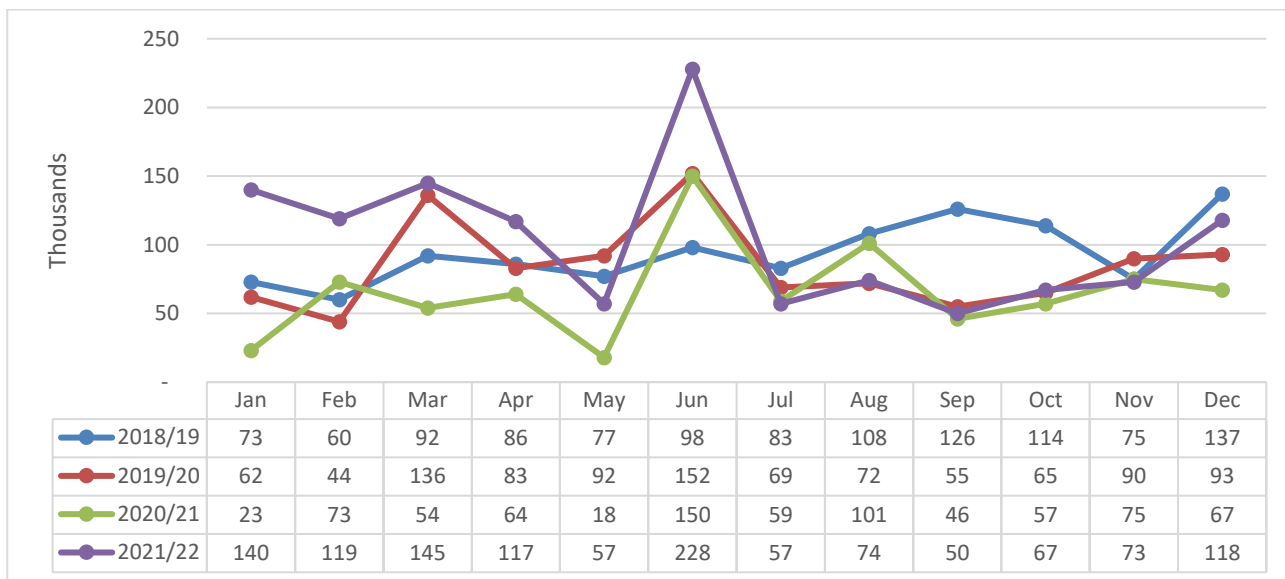
Figure 17 shows that although the patterns for each year are different, there is a common peak in the month of June for all four periods.

Figure 18: Percentage of victims that reported the theft of personal property to the police, 2018/19–2021/22
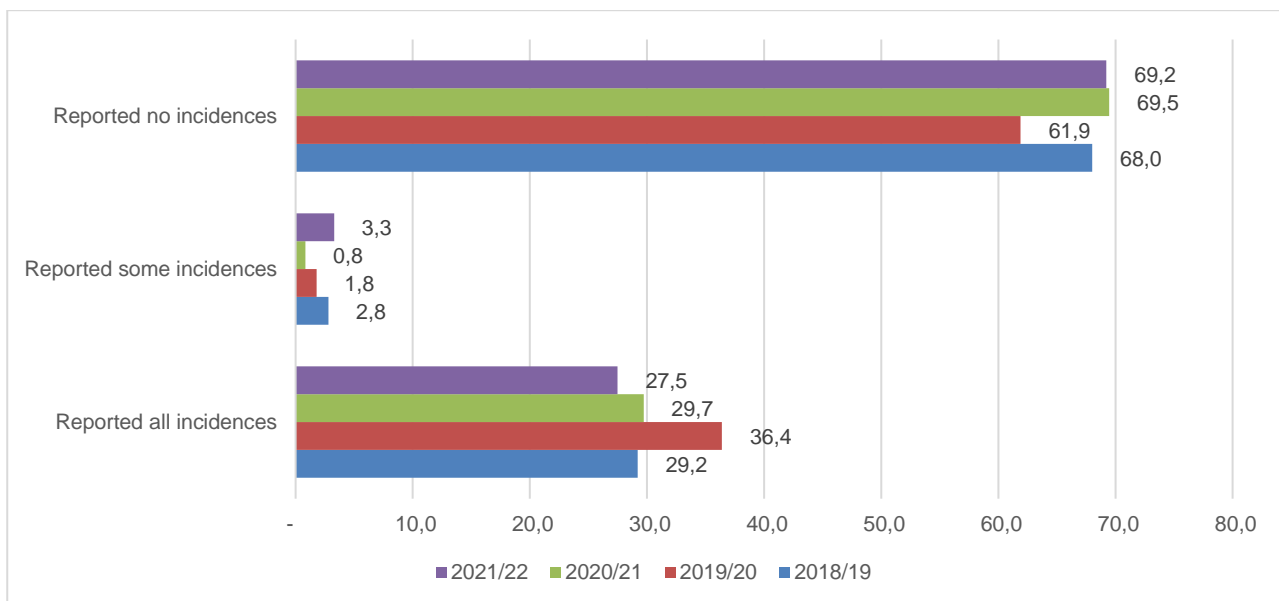
Figure 18 shows that 69,2% of victims of theft of personal property did not report the incidences in 2021/22 compared to 69,5% in 2020/21. The percentage of individuals who reported some or all of the incidences was the same between 2020/21 (30,5%) and 2021/22 (30,8%).

Table 20: Summary of statistics on theft of personal property, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidents ('000)	1 241	1 108	844	1 331
Number of victims ('000)	1 015	902	732	1 105
Number of victims who reported at least one incidence ('000)	325	344	223	340
Percentage of victims who reported at least one incidence	32,0	38,2	30,5	30,8

Table 20 shows that the number of incidences of theft of personal property decreased from 1,2 million in 2018/19 to 1,1 million in 2019/20, and 844 000 in 2020/21, and then increased to 1,3 million in 2021/22. The number of individuals who experienced theft of personal property decreased from 1,0 million in 2018/19 to 902 000 in 2019/20, and to 732 000 in 2020/21 and increased to 1,1 million in 2021/22. The percentage of individuals that reported the incidences to the police increased from 32,0% in 2018/19 to 38,2% in 2019/20, dropped to 30,2% in 2020/21, and slightly increased to 30,8% in 2021/22.

5.2.2 Street robbery

Street robbery or simply robbery is when there is contact between the perpetrator or perpetrators and the victim away from home. It excludes home robbery and car or truck hijacking.

Table 21: Number and percentage of individuals that experienced street robbery by demographic characteristics of individuals, province and settlement type, 2021/22

| Characteristic	Number of incidences (000s)	Number of individuals (000s)	Percentage
Sex			
Male	132	93	0,5
Female	163	152	0,7
Age group			
16-34 (Youth)	168	156	0,8
35-49 (Young adults)	60	34	0,4
50-64 (Adults)	56	47	0,5
65+ (Senior citizens)	10	9	0,2
Province			
Western Cape	39	27	0,5
Eastern Cape	51	51	1,2
Northern Cape	5	5	0,6
Free State	6	4	0,2
KwaZulu-Natal	27	7	0,1
North West	29	29	1,0
Gauteng	72	72	0,6
Mpumalanga	4	15	0,5
Limpopo	45	35	0,9
Metro status			
Metro	132	124	0,6
No-metro	162	122	0,5

* Unweighted number of 3 and below per cell are too small to provide accurate estimates.
** Not collected in the 2021/22 round.
Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Table 21 shows that females (0,7%) were more likely to be victims of street robbery than males (0,5%). The youth (16–34) were also more likely to experience street robbery than adults (0,5%), young adults (0,4%) and senior citizens (0,2%). Those living in metro areas were slightly more likely to be victims of robbery (0,6%) than those in non-metro areas (0,5%).

Figure 19: Number of street robberies for individuals aged 16 and older by month, 2018/19–2021/22

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018/19	18	56	47	38	22	41	24	46	59	40	64	66
2019/20	40	31	45	49	52	62	22	43	46	33	35	67
2020/21	10	13	61	18	33	25	4	11	36	13	44	73
2021/22	17	32	9	27	58	23	12	22	35	6	19	18
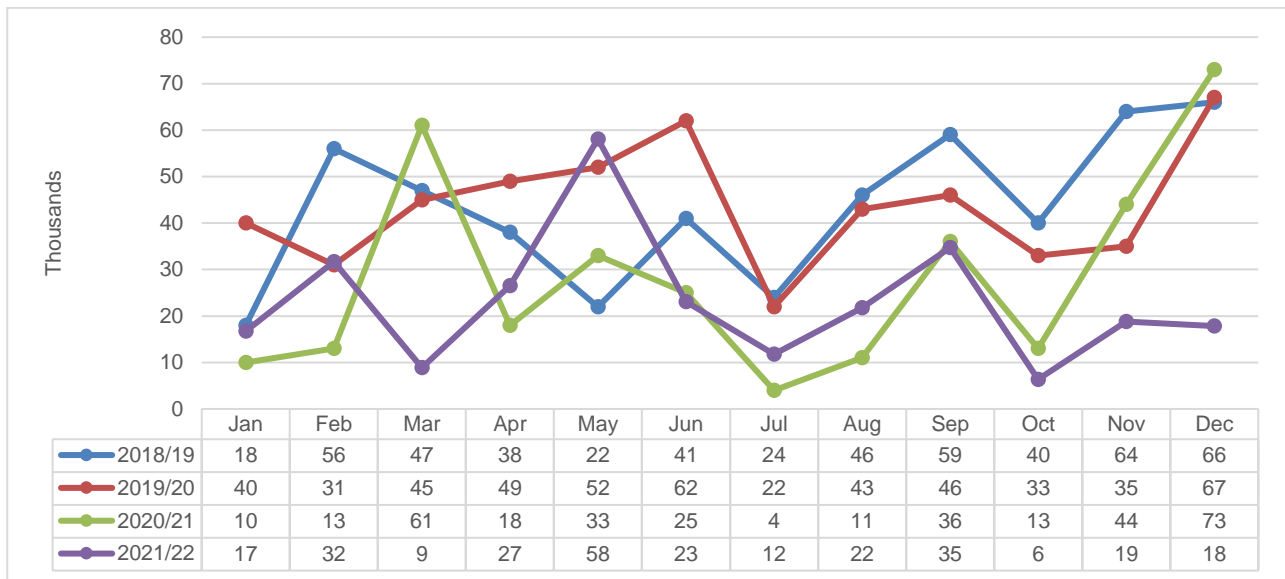
Figure 19 shows that there is no real pattern in the occurrence of street robberies over the years. However, a peak can be observed in September for all four reporting periods. In 2021/22, there was a peak in May and September.

Figure 20: Percentage of victims that reported street robbery to the police, 2018/19–2021/22
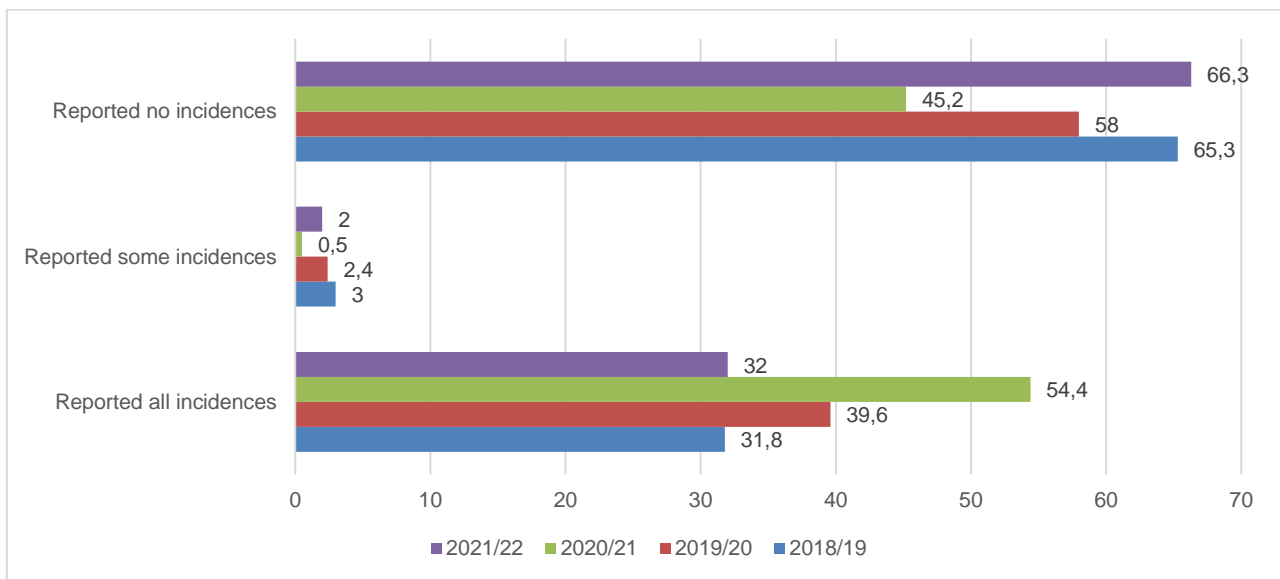
Figure 20 shows that the percentage of victims of street robbery who reported some or all the incidences to the police increased from 34,8% in 2018/19, 42,0% in 2019/20 and 54,9% in 2020/21, then dropped to 34,0% in 2021/22.

Table 22: Summary of statistics on street robbery, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidents ('000)	581	567	346	295
Number of victims of street robbery ('000)	451	451	304	246
Number of victims of street robbery who reported at least one incidence ('000)	172	189	167	83
Percentage of victims of street robbery who reported at least one incidence	34,8	42,0	54,9	33,7

Table 22 shows that the number of incidences of street robbery decreased from 581 000 in 2018/19 to 567 000 in 2019/20, to 346 000 in 2020/21, and further down to 295 000 in 2021/22. The number of individuals who experienced street robbery remained the same at 451 000 in both 2018/19 and 2019/20, and dropped to 304 000 in 2020/21. It further dropped to 246 000 in 2021/22. However, the percentage of individuals who reported the incidences to the police increased from 34,8% in 2018/19 to 42,0% in 2019/20, and 54,9% in 2020/21 before it dropped down to 33,7% in 2021/22.

5.2.3 Consumer fraud

Consumer fraud happens when someone provides services or goods and cheats on quality or quantity. It includes advance-fee fraud (e.g., the R99 debit/credit card scam, 419 scams, online shopping). Adults aged 16 and older were asked whether they were victims of consumer fraud 12 months prior to the survey date.

Table 23: Number and percentage of individuals that experienced consumer fraud by demographic characteristics of individuals, province and settlement type, 2021/22

Characteristic	Number of incidences (000s)	Number of individuals(000s)	%
Sex			
Male	393	162	0,8
Female	451	214	1,0
Age group			
16-34 (Youth)	376	151	0,8
35-49 (Young adults)	202	107	1,2
50-64 (Adults)	233	95	1,0
65+ (Senior citizens)	32	23	0,6
Urban/rural			
Rural	152	73	0,6
Urban	692	303	1,0
Metro status			
Metro	628	256	1,3
Non-metro	216	120	0,5

Table 23 shows that females (1,0%) were more likely to be victims of consumer fraud compared to males (0,8%). Young adults (1,2%) were more likely to be victims of consumer fraud than any other age groups. People in urban areas had almost double the chance of falling victim to consumer fraud than people living in rural areas (1,0% vs 0,6%). People in the metro areas (1,3%) were also more likely to be victims than people living in non-metros (0,5%).

Table 24: Summary of statistics on consumer fraud, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidents ('000)	497	1 377	493	844
Number of victims of consumer fraud ('000)	81	384	321	376
Number of victims of consumer fraud who reported at least one incidence ('000)	38	102	132	166
Percentage of victims of consumer fraud who reported at least one incidence	47	26	41,3	44,2

Table 24 shows that the number of incidences of consumer fraud increased from 497 000 in 2018/19 to 1,4 million in 2019/20, decreased to 493 000 in 2020/21, and then increased to 844 000 in 2021/22. The number of individuals who experienced consumer fraud increased from 81 000 in 2018/19 to 384 000 in 2019/20, and decreased to 321 000 in 2020/21. The percentage of individuals that reported the incidences to the police decreased from 47,0% in 2018/19 to 26,0% in 2019/20, and increased to 41,3% in 2020/21. In 2021/22, 44,2% of the population indicated that they reported at least one consumer fraud incidence.

5.2.4 Hijacking of a motor vehicle

Hijacking of motor vehicles is a type of crime committed against an individual while driving their vehicles or vehicles belonging to another person or institution. The question of ownership was not relevant when respondents were asked whether they had experienced incidents of hijacking in the 12 months preceding the survey. The type of vehicle the victim was driving or riding in as a passenger is also not relevant. The number of hijacking incidents in the sample were so small that any disaggregation of data would produce poor statistics.

Table 25: Summary of statistics on hijacking of motor vehicle, 2018/19–2021/22

Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of incidents ('000)	32	99	64	137
Number of victims ('000)	32	85	64	134
Hijacking victims as a percentage of the population (16+)	0,1	0,2	0,2	0,3
Number of victims who reported at least one incidence ('000)	28	66	40	84
Percentage of victims who reported at least one incidence	85	78	62,7	62,9

Table 25 shows that the number of incidences of hijacking experienced by individuals increased from 32 000 in 2018/19 to 99 000 in 2019/20, dropped to 64 000 in 2020/21, and doubled to 137 000 in 2021/22. The percentage of individuals that reported the incidences to the police decreased from 85,0% in 2018/19 to 78,0% in 2019/20, then dropped to 62,7% in 2020/21, and slightly increased to 62,9% in 2021/22.

5.3 Summary

Theft of personal property is the most common crime experienced by individuals aged 16 years and older in South Africa. The results indicate that in 2021/22, a total of 1,1 million individuals experienced theft of personal property, followed by those who experienced consumer fraud (376 000) and robbery (246 000). The number of individuals that experienced hijacking of motor vehicle doubled from 2020/21 (64 000) to 2021/22 (134 000).

Females and persons living in urban areas were most likely to experience theft of personal property. Furthermore, persons aged 16–34 years are vulnerable to theft of personal property. The results show that, generally, most of the victims (69,2%) of theft of personal property did not report the incidences to the police.

The survey further shows that the number of incidences of consumer fraud increased from 493 000 in 2020/21 to 844 000 in 2021/22. Females and persons living in urban areas were most likely to experience consumer fraud. The percentage of individuals who reported some or all incidences to the police increased from 41,3% in 2020/21 to 44,2% in 2021/22.

6. Feelings of safety

6.1 Introduction

To feel safe at home and in one's neighbourhood is one of the National Development Plan (NDP) Goals. Perceptions of safety is considered a subjective wellbeing SDG 16.1.4 indicator. It affects how a human being interacts with its surroundings, its health, and as a consequence, its quality of life. Perceptions of safety from crime are different across different demographic groups.

Respondents were asked how safe they felt walking in their neighbourhoods alone during the day and when it was dark. In Figures 21 onwards the safety categories "Very safe" and "Fairly safe" were collapsed into a new category "Safe", while "A bit unsafe" and "Very unsafe" were collapsed into a new category "Unsafe".

Figure 21: Percentage distribution of individuals who felt safe walking alone in their areas during the day, 2017/18–2021/22

Figure 21 shows that the percentage of adults aged 16 years and older who felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhoods during the day increased from 79,1% in 2017/18 to 82,8% in 2018/19 and peaked in 2019/20 (86,6%). It started decreasing, reaching 84,8% in 2020/21 and decreased further to 81,3% in 2021/22. The decrease between 2019/20 and 2020/21 is not statistically significant, while the decrease between 2020/21 and 2021/22 is statistically significant.

Figure 22: Percentage distribution of individuals who felt safe walking alone in their areas when it was dark, 2017/18–2021/22

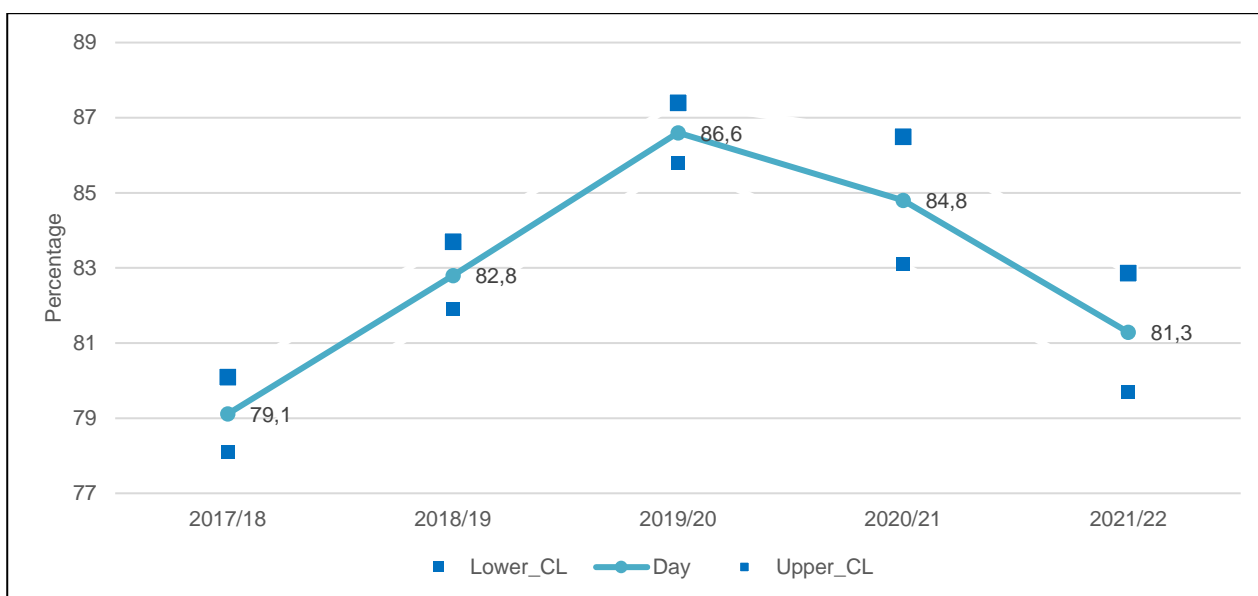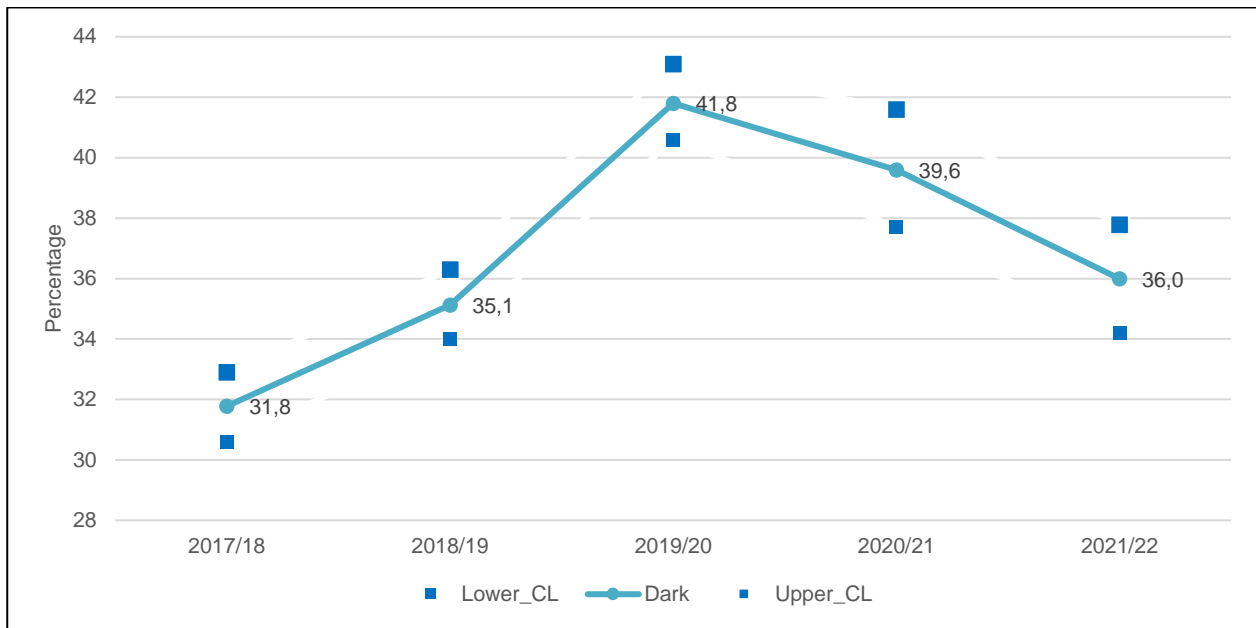Figure 22 shows that there has been a statistically significant increase in the percentage of individuals aged 16 and older who felt safe walking alone when it is dark, from 31,8% in 2017/18 to 35,1% in 2018/19, and 41,8% in 2019/20 before it dropped to 39,6% in 2020/21, further declining to 36,0% in 2021/22.

Figure 23: Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence during the day, 2018/19–2021/22

	Very safe	Fairly safe	A bit unsafe	Very unsafe
2018/19	49,7	33,1	11,3	5,6
2019/20	51,8	34,8	8,6	4,8
2020/21	50,2	34,7	9,1	6,1
2021/22	44,1	37,2	12,2	6,5

Figure 23 shows that the proportion of those who feel very safe walking alone during the day slightly increased between 2018/19 (49,7%) and 2019/20 (51,8%), and dropped in 2020/21 (50,2%). The proportion further dropped to 44,1% in 2021/22. The proportion of those who felt fairly safe did not change between 2019/20 and 2020/21, but slightly increased in 2021/22 to 37,2%.

Figure 24: Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it is dark, 2018/19–2021/22

	Very safe	Fairly safe	A bit unsafe	Very unsafe
2018/19	11,9	23,3	21,3	43,3
2019/20	14,6	27,3	19,7	38,5
2020/21	12,2	27,5	22,3	38,1
2021/22	12,8	23,2	20,1	43,9
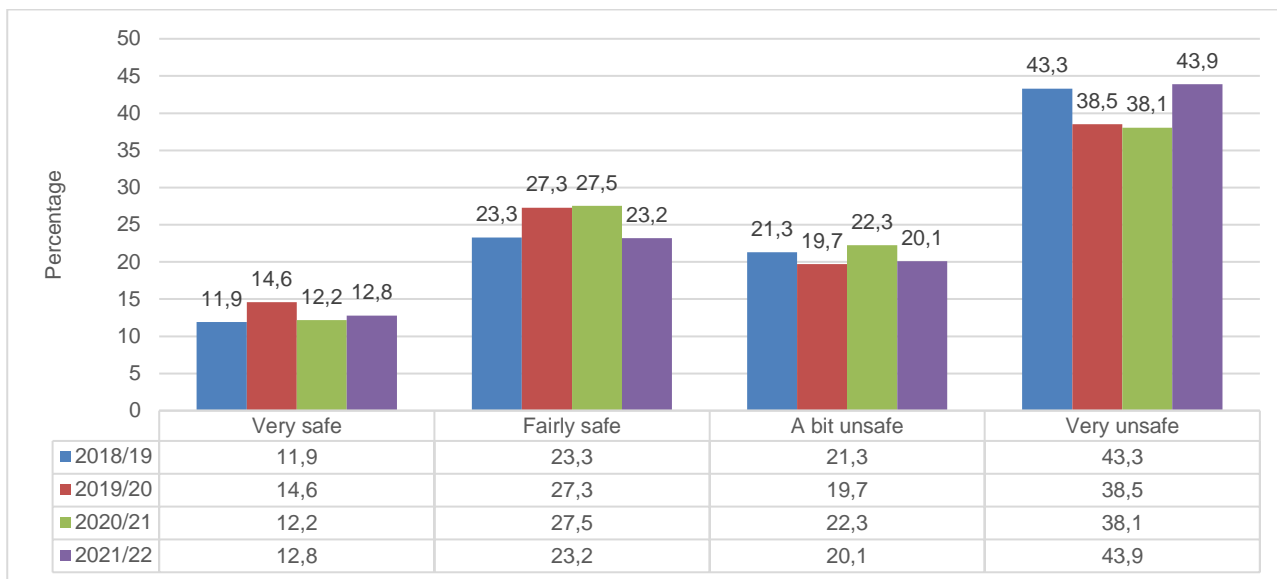
Figure 24 shows that people felt unsafe when walking alone in their areas of residence when it is dark. The proportion of people who felt very unsafe decreased from 43,3% in 2018/19 to 38,1% in 2020/21, then increased to 43,9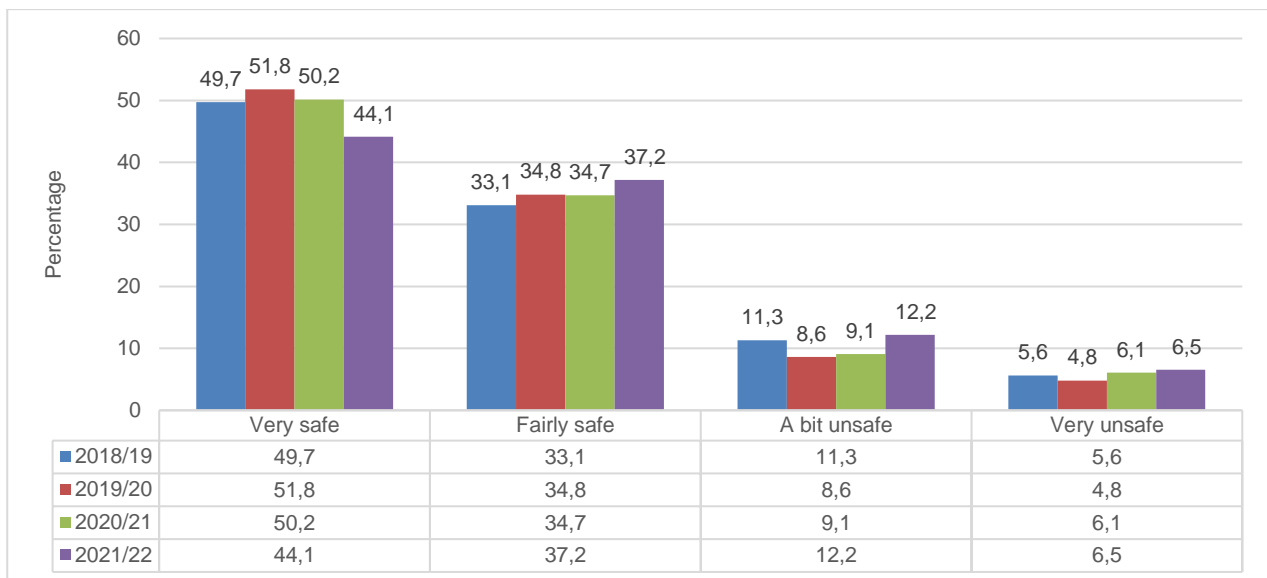% in 2021/22. The proportion of those who felt fairly safe has slightly increased from 27,3% in 2019/20 to 27,5% in 2020/21, and decreased to 23,2% in 2021/22.

Figure 25: Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence during daytime by gender, 2020/21–2021/22

Figure 25 shows that in 2020/21 almost equal proportions of males (50,3%) and females (50,0%) felt very safe walking alone in their areas during the day. In 2021/22, these proportions dropped for males (43,6%) and females (44,6%). In 2020/21, the proportion of people who felt fairly safe is slightly higher for females (35,1%) compared to males (34,3%). In 2021/22, the proportions increased for both sexes.

Figure 26: Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it is dark by gender, 2020/21–2021/22
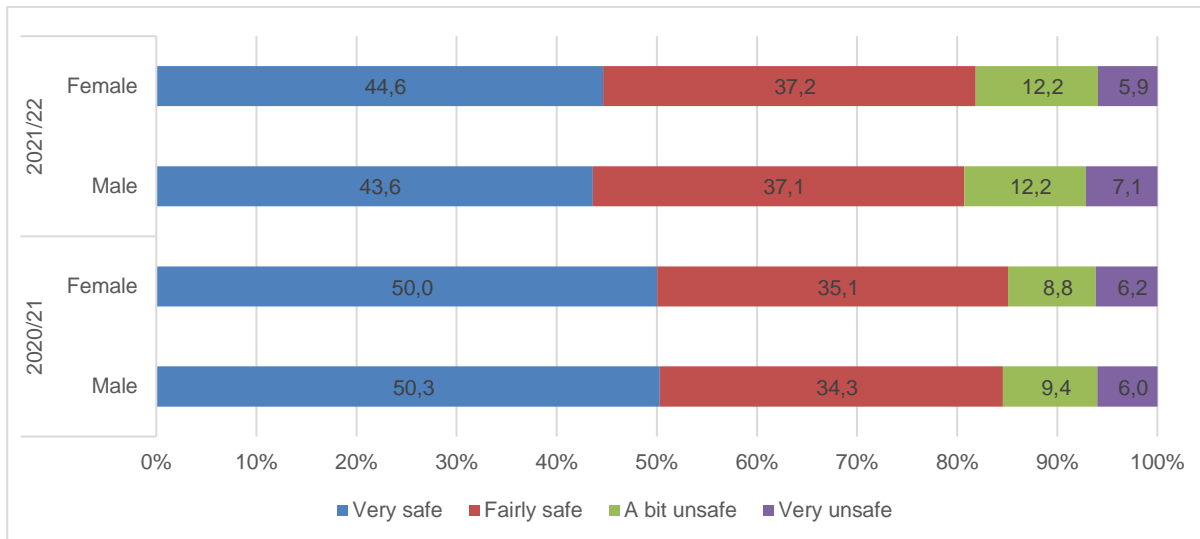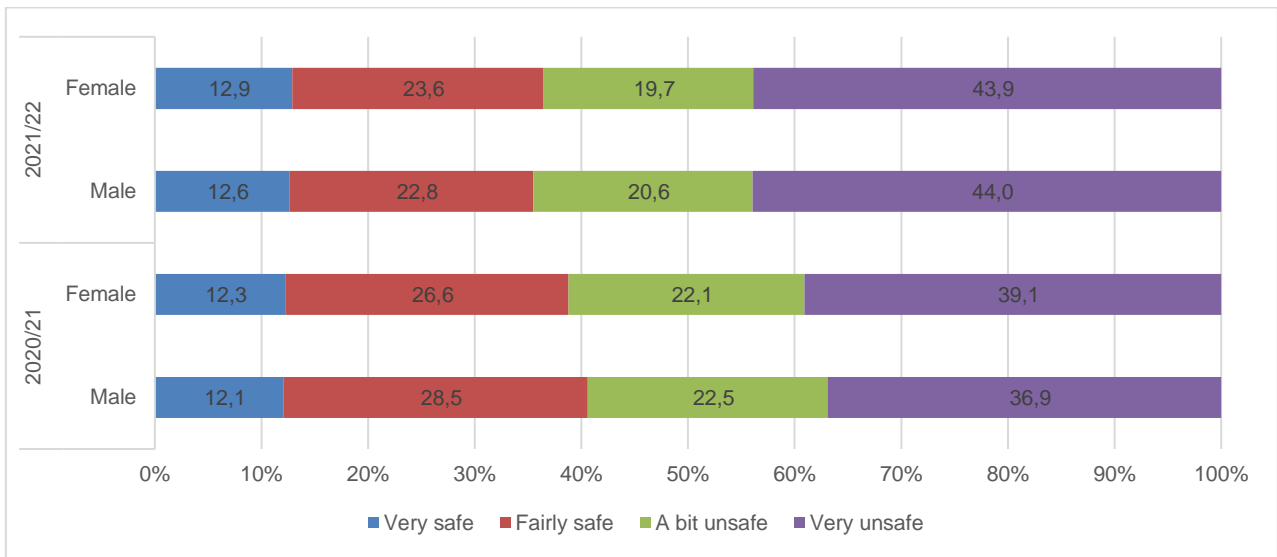

Figure 26 shows almost the same proportion for both sexes across both 2020/21 and 2021/22 for those who felt very safe walking alone during the night. In 2020/21, the proportion of females (39,1%) who felt very unsafe walking alone when it is dark is more than that of males (36,9%). This pattern changes in 2021/22 when the proportion of males (44,0%) is almost equal to the proportion of females (43,9%) who felt very unsafe when walking alone in their areas when it is dark.

Figure 27: Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it is daytime by geographical location, 2020/21–2021/22
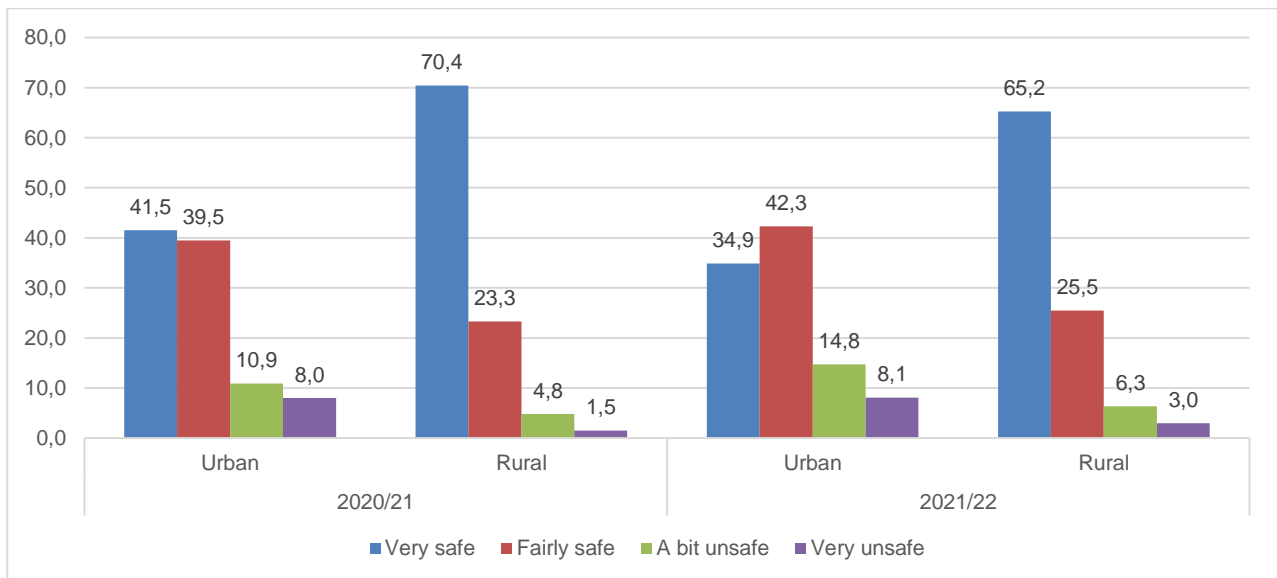
Figure 27 shows that in both 2020/21 and 2021/22 people in rural areas had a greater feeling of safety walking alone in their areas during the day than people in urban areas. In 2020/21, 41,5% of people in urban areas felt very safe, while 70,4% of those in rural areas felt very safe. The same pattern is observed in 2021/22 where 34,9% of those living in urban areas felt very safe, and 65,2% of those living in rural areas felt very safe.

Figure 28: Feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence when it is dark by geographical location, 2020/21–2021/22
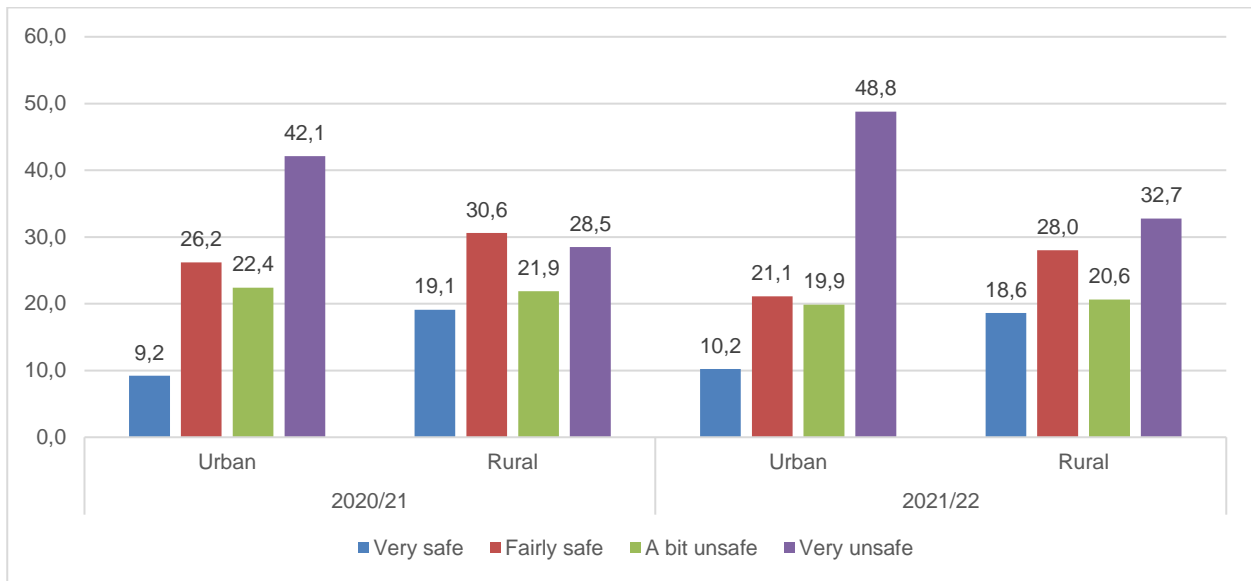
Figure 28 shows that in both 2020/21 and 2021/22 people in urban areas feel very unsafe compared to those living in rural areas. In 2020/21, 42,1% of people in urban areas felt very unsafe while 28,5% of those in rural areas felt very unsafe. The same pattern is observed in 2021/22 where 48,8% of those living in urban areas felt very unsafe, and 32,7% of those living in rural areas felt very unsafe.

Figure 29: Percentage of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime, 2020/21–2021/22

	Yes	No
2020/21	30,3	69,7
2021/22	47,7	52,3
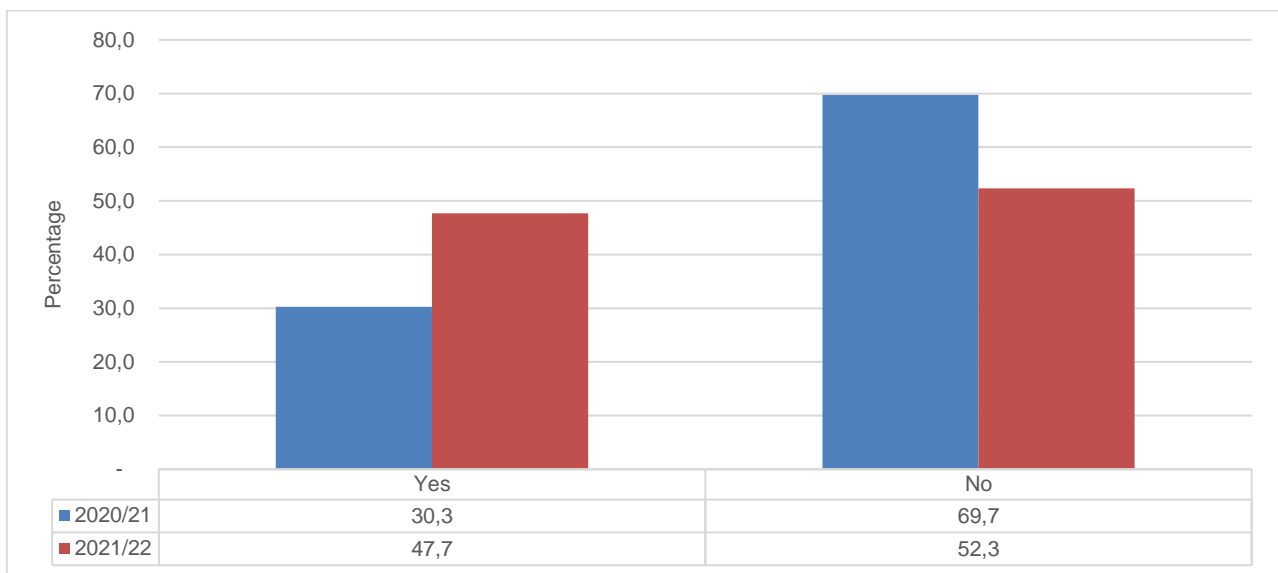
Figure 29 shows that the proportion of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime has increased from 30,3% in 2020/21 to 47,7% in 2021/22.

Figure 30: Percentage of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime by gender, 2020/21–2021/22

	Male	Female
■ 2020/21	49,3	50,7
■ 2021/22	49,5	50,5
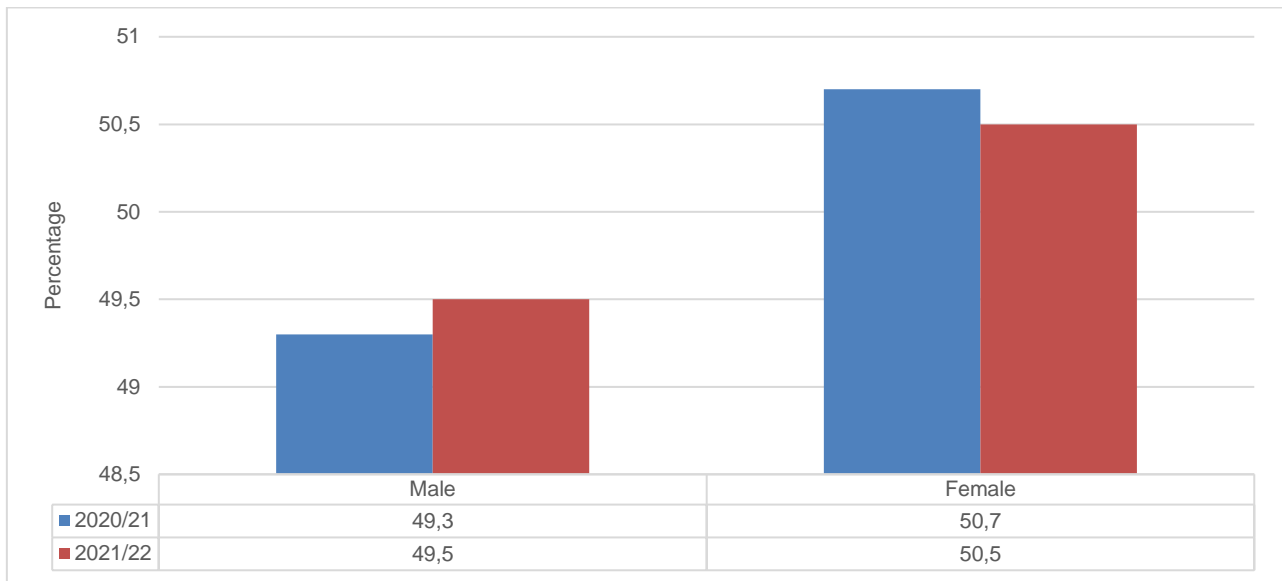
Figure 30 shows that the proportion of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime remains unchanged for both sexes across the two reporting periods.

Figure 31: Percentage of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime by population group, 2020/21–2021/22

	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White
■ 2020/21	25,7	30,4	62,3	60,5
■ 2021/22	42,1	53,9	70,0	83,5
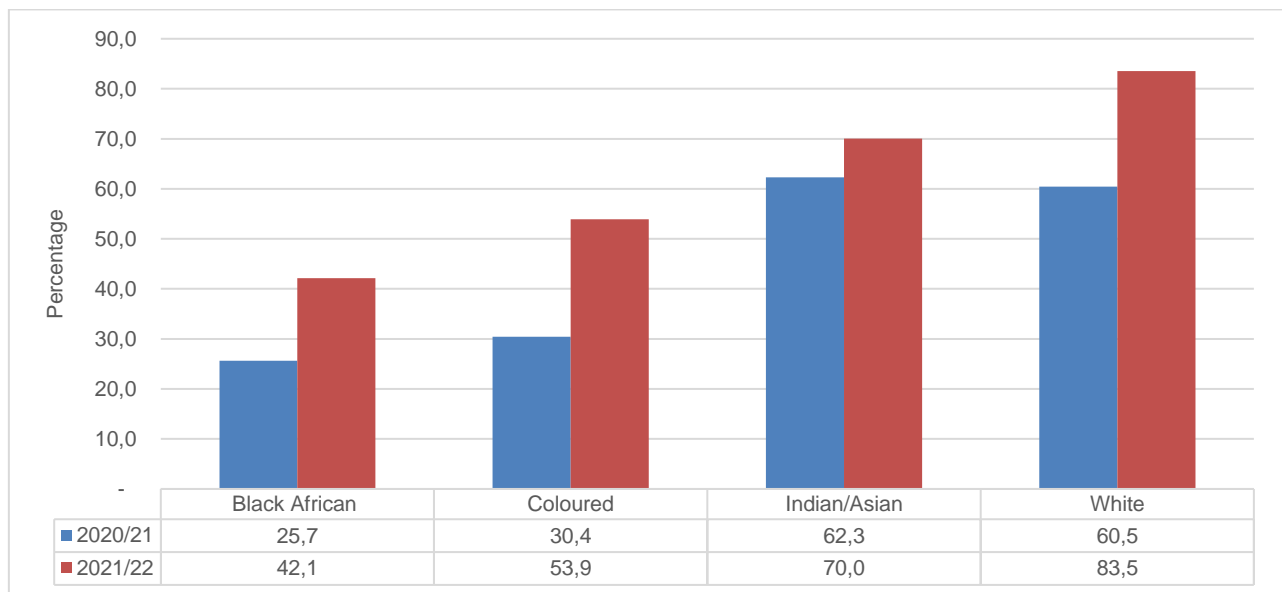
Figure 31 shows that the proportion of people who have done something to protect themselves against crime has increased across all population groups.

Figure 32: Distribution of persons by reason why they did not do anything to protect themselves, 2021/22
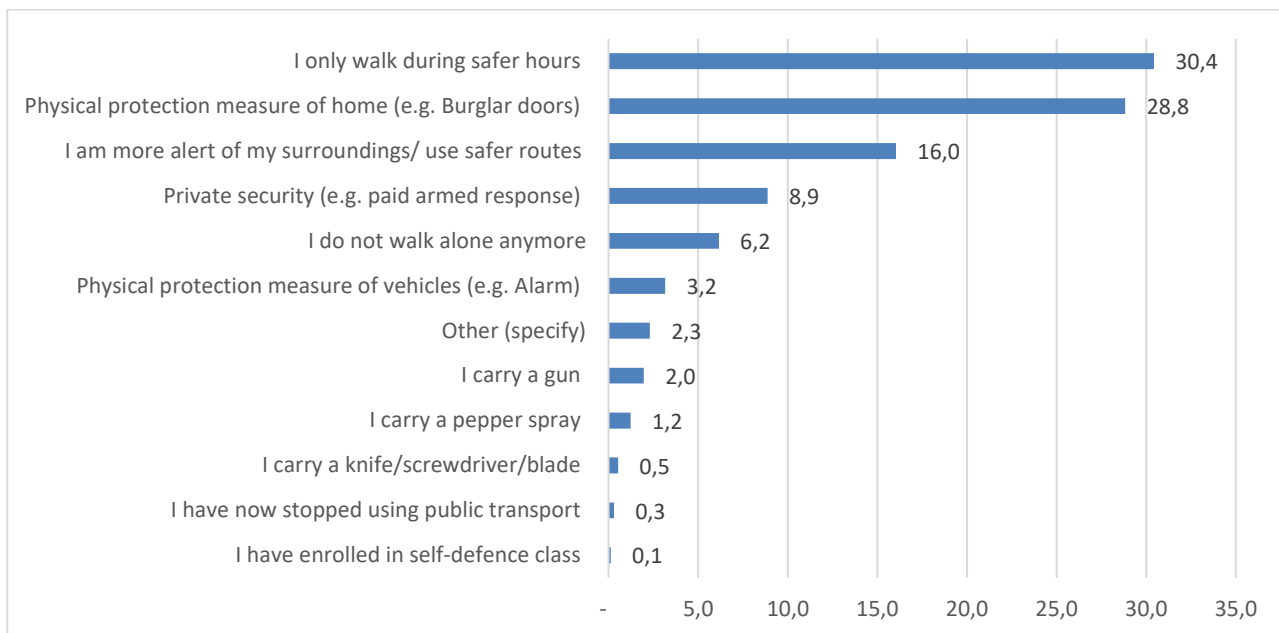
Figure 32 shows that 30,4% of persons aged 16 and older have resorted to walking during safer hours in order to protect themselves from crime. About 28,8% have installed physical protection measures like burglar doors on their homes in order to protect themselves against crime. About 16,0% are now more alert to their surroundings or use safer routes in order to protect themselves against crime.

Figure 33: Percentage of people and why they did not do anything to protect themselves against crime, 2021/22
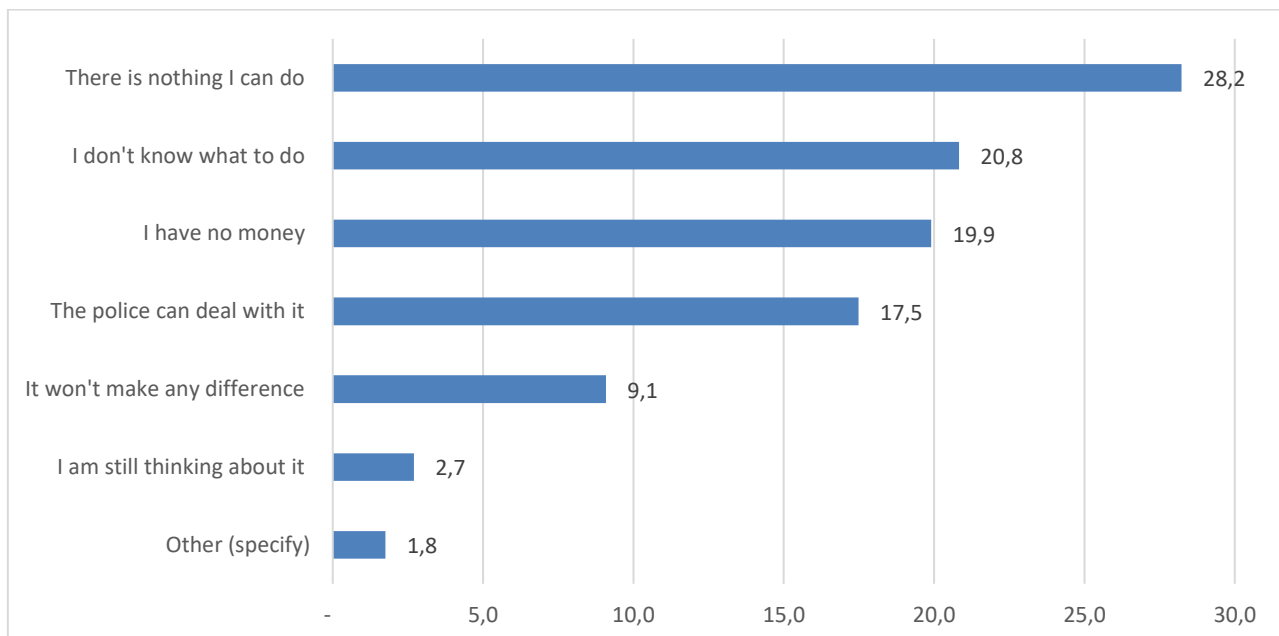
Figure 33 shows that 28,2% of the people aged 16 and older are of the opinion that there is nothing that they can do in order to protect themselves against crime. About one-fifth (20,8%) do not know what to do, while 19,9% say they do not have any money to do something in order to protect themselves against crime. About 17,5% say that the police can do something about it.

Figure 34: Percentage of people by the first thing they would do if they see a person committing a crime, 2021/22
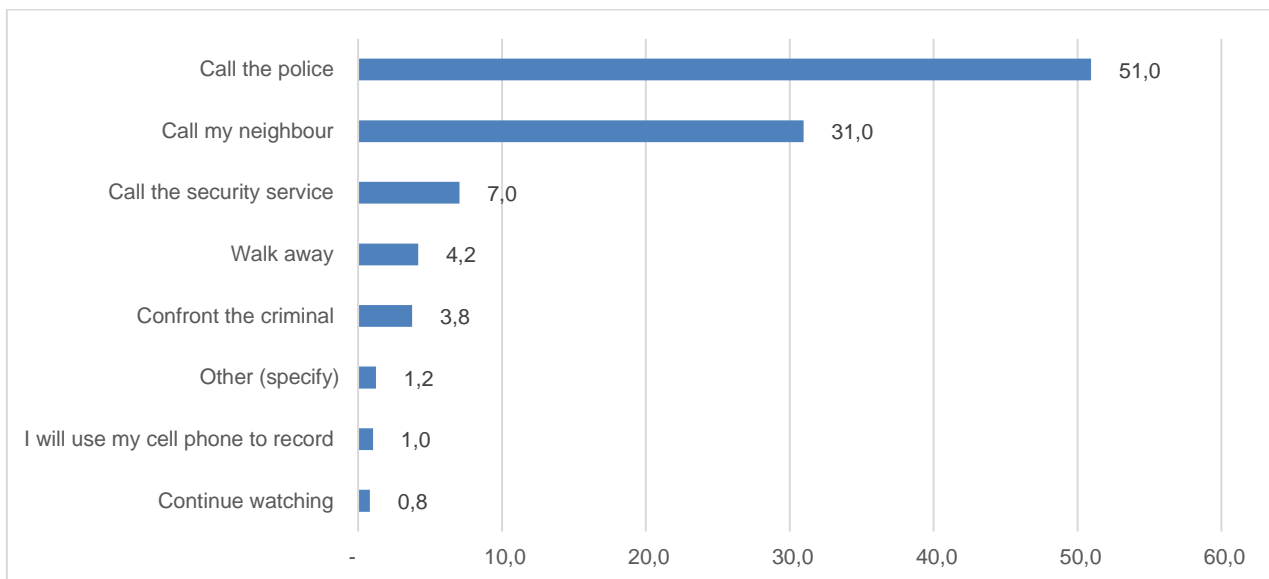
Figure 34 shows that more than 9 in 10 persons of the population aged 16 and older will call someone as the first thing they would do if they see a person committing a crime. About half (51,0%) will call the police, a third (31,0%) will call a neighbour, while 7,0% will call a security service. About 6% will not interfere as they will either walk away (4,2%), use a cell phone to record (1,0%), or continue watching (0,8%).

6.2 Summary

Generally, the feelings of safety have been declining since 2019/20. The percentage of adults aged 16 years and older who felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhoods during the day decreased from 84,8% in 2020/21 to 81,3% in 2021/22.

The results show that most individuals felt safer walking alone in their area during the day than when it is dark. Females felt more unsafe than males walking alone when it is dark. On the other hand, people in rural areas had a greater feeling of safety walking alone in their areas when it is dark than people in urban areas. The feeling of safety during the day in rural areas has declined from 70,4% to 65,2% in 2021/22.

7. Technical notes

7.1 Survey requirements and design

The questionnaire design, testing of the questionnaire, sampling techniques, data collection, computer programming, and weighting constituted the research methodology used in this survey, as discussed below.

7.2 Sample design

The Governance, Public Safety, and Justice Survey (GPSJS) 2021/22 uses the Master Sample (MS) sampling frame which has been developed as a general-purpose household survey frame that can be used by all other Stats SA household-based surveys that have design requirements that are reasonably compatible with GPSJS. The GPSJS 2021/22 collection was drawn from the 2013 Master Sample. This master sample is based on information collected during Census 2011. In preparation for Census 2011, the country was divided into 103 576 enumeration areas (EAs). The Census EAs, together with the auxiliary information for the EAs, were used as the frame units or building blocks for the formation of primary sampling units (PSUs) for the master sample, since they covered the entire country and had other information that is crucial for stratification and creation of PSUs.

There are 3 324 primary sampling units (PSUs) in the master sample with an expected sample of approximately 33 000 dwelling units (DUs). The number of PSUs in the current master sample (3 324) reflect an 8,0% increase in the size of the master sample compared to the previous (2008) master sample (which had 3 080 PSUs). The larger master sample of PSUs was selected to improve the precision (smaller coefficients of variation, known as CVs) of the GPSJS estimates.

The Master Sample is designed to be representative at provincial level and within provinces at metro/non-metro levels. Within the metros, the sample is further distributed by geographical type. The three geography types are Urban, Tribal and Farms. This implies, for example, that within a metropolitan area, the sample is representative of the different geography types that may exist within that metro. The sample for the GPSJS is based on a stratified two-stage design with probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling of PSUs in the first stage, and sampling of dwelling units (DUs) with systematic sampling in the second stage.

7.3 Data collection

The GPSJS was conducted for the first time in South Africa in 2018/19. GPSJS is an updated version of the previous long-running Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) designed to include themes on governance. The rule of law and control of corruption were the only themes or sub-themes covered by VOCS prior to 2018. To achieve a reasonable balance between questionnaire length and depth of questions, a three-year rotation regime was adopted where the five themes are spread over a three-year period. Once in three years, GPSJS will measure in detail the general experience of household and individual crime in the country.

Stats SA conducted the second annual GPSJS and data collection took place from April 2018 to March 2019, with a moving reference period of 12 months. This is different from the 2011 and 2012 collections, which were done from January to March and had a fixed reference period from January to December of the previous year. The sample has been distributed evenly over the whole collection period in the form of quarterly allocations. This will provide a guarantee against possible seasonal effects in the survey estimates. It will, in future, provide an opportunity for the production of rolling estimates relating to any desired time period. It has been noted that the change of data collection methodology may cause concerns over the survey estimates, particularly upon comparisons of years before and after the change.

Victimisation questions referred to the 12 calendar months ending with the month before the interview. Statistics South Africa is committed to meeting the highest ethical standards in its data collection processes. In addition to being bound to the Statistics Act (Act No. 6 of 1999), the GPSJS, due to its sensitive nature, required additional measures to ensure that the integrity and well-being of the households are protected.

7.4 Questionnaire

Table 26 summarises the details of the questions included in the GPSJS 2021/22 questionnaire. The questions are covered in 9 sections, each focusing on a particular aspect. Depending on the need for additional information, the questionnaire is adapted on an annual basis. New sections may be introduced on a specific topic for which information is needed, or additional questions may be added to existing sections. Likewise, questions that are no longer necessary may be removed.

Table 26: The structure of the GPSJS 2021/22 questionnaire

Section	Number of questions 2019/20	Details of each section
Cover page		Household information, response details, field staff information, result codes, etc.
Person information	15	Demographic information (name, sex, age, population group, etc.)
Part 01: Household Information		
Section 1	44	Experience of Household Crime
Part 02: Individual Respondent		
Section 2	8	Legitimacy, Voice and Equity
Section 3	23	Experience of Disputes/ Problems
Section 4	9	Individual Perceptions on Crime
Section 5	32	Individual Experience of Crime
Survey Officer Questions	5	Survey officer to answer questions
All sections	136	

7.5 Response rates

Table 27: Response rates per province, GPSJS 2021/22

Province / metropolitan area	Response rates
National	43,49
Western Cape	40,83
Non-metro	56,31
City of Cape Town	33,77
Eastern Cape	57,93
Non-metro	59,45
Buffalo City	58,64
Nelson Mandela Bay	51,00
Northern Cape	46,40
Free State	41,37
Non-metro	49,75
Mangaung	22,95
KwaZulu-Natal	64,38
Non-metro	66,00
eThekwini	61,24
North West	43,98
Gauteng	23,74
Non-metro	45,65
Ekurhuleni	32,05
City of Johannesburg	12,17
City of Tshwane	21,53
Mpumalanga	53,05
Limpopo	52,37

7.6 Editing and imputation

Data editing is concerned with the identification, and if possible, the correction of erroneous or highly suspect survey data. Data was checked for valid range, internal logic, and consistency. The focus of the editing process was on clearing up skip violations and ensuring that each variable only contains valid values. Very few limits to valid values were set and data were largely released as they were received from the field. When dealing with internal inconsistencies, logical imputation was used, i.e. information from other questions was compared with the inconsistent information. If other evidence was found to back up either of the two inconsistent viewpoints, the inconsistency was resolved accordingly. If the internal inconsistency remained, the question subsequent to the filter question was dealt with by either setting it to missing and imputing its value or printing a message of edit failure for further investigation, decision-making and manual editing. Hot-deck imputation was used to impute for missing age.

7.7 Construction of sample weights

7.7.1 Person level weights

The population estimates used for the calibration of the trimmed adjusted base weights in constructing the person level sample weights for GPSJS 2021/22 were based on the End-September population estimate for 2021 based on the 2018 mid-year series. The population estimates were used in benchmarking the survey estimates to two sets of control totals:

- National level totals were defined by the cross-classification of age, race, and gender. Age represents the 16 five-year age groups of 0–4, 5–9, 10–14, 15–19, 20–24, 25–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40–44, 45–49, 50–54, 55–59, 60–64, 65–69, 70–74 and 75+. Race represents the four groups of African/black, coloured, Indian/Asian, and white. Gender represents the two groups of male and female. The cross-classification resulted in 128 calibration cells at the national level.

- Individual metropolitan and non-metropolitan area level totals were defined within the provinces by age. The country has 8 metropolitan areas: 1 in Western Cape; 2 in Eastern Cape; 1 in Free State; 1 in KwaZulu-Natal; and 3 in Gauteng. The remainder of the provinces are non-metropolitan areas. Since each province has a non-metropolitan area, the partition resulted into 17 areas (i.e. 9 non-metropolitan and 8 metropolitan areas). Age represents the four age groups of 0–14, 15–34, 35–64, and 65+. The cross-classification of the areas with age resulted in 68 calibration cells.

7.7.2 Household level weights

The household estimates used for the calibration of the trimmed adjusted base weights in constructing the household level sample weights were based on the End-September population estimate for 2021 (based on the 2018 mid-year series). The household estimates were used in benchmarking the survey estimates to two sets of control totals:

- National level totals were defined by the cross-classification of the 'head of household' age, race, and gender. Age represents the four age groups of 10–34, 35–49, 50–64, and 65+. Race represents the four groups of African/black, coloured, Indian/Asian, and white. Gender represents the two groups of male and female. The cross-classification resulted in 32 calibration cells at the national level.

- Individual metropolitan and non-metropolitan area level totals were defined within the provinces by age. The country has 8 metropolitan areas: 1 in Western Cape; 2 in Eastern Cape; 1 in Free State; 1 in KwaZulu-Natal; and 3 in Gauteng. The remainder of the provinces are non-metropolitan areas. Since each province has a non-metropolitan area, the partition resulted into 17 areas (i.e. 9 non-metropolitan and 8 metropolitan areas). Age represents the four age groups of 10–34, 35–49, 50–64, and 65+. The cross-classification of the areas with age resulted in 68 calibration cells.

7.7.3 Individual level weights

The population estimates used for the calibration of the trimmed adjusted base weights in constructing the individual level sample weights for GPSJS 2021/22 were the End-September population estimate for 2021 based on the 2018 mid-year series. The population estimates were used in benchmarking the survey estimates to two sets of control totals:

- National level totals were defined by the cross-classification of the individual age, race, and gender. Age represents the three age groups of 16–34, 35–64, and 65+. Race represents the four groups of African/black, coloured, Indian/Asian, and white. Gender represents the two groups of male and female. The cross-classification resulted in 24 calibration cells at the national level.

- Individual metropolitan and non-metropolitan area level totals were defined within the provinces by age. The country has 8 metropolitan areas: 1 in Western Cape; 2 in Eastern Cape; 1 in Free State; 1 in KwaZulu-Natal; and 3 in Gauteng. The remainder of the provinces are non-metropolitan areas. Since each province has a non-metropolitan area, the partition resulted into 17 areas (i.e. 9 non-metropolitan and 8 metropolitan areas). Age represents the three age groups of 16–34, 35–64, and 65+. The cross-classification of the areas with age resulted in 51 calibration cells.

7.8 Estimation

The final survey weights were used to obtain the estimates for various domains of interest at a household level, for example, victimisation level in South Africa, households' perceptions of crime levels in the country, etc.

7.9 Sampling and the interpretation of the data

Caution must be exercised when interpreting the results of the GPSJS at low levels of disaggregation. The sample and reporting are based on the provincial boundaries as defined in 2011. These new boundaries resulted in minor changes to the boundaries of some provinces, especially Gauteng, North West, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Eastern Cape, and Western Cape. In previous reports the sample was based on the provincial boundaries as defined in 2006, and there will therefore be slight comparative differences in terms of provincial boundary definitions.

7.10 Measures of precision for selected variables of the GPSJS

This section provides an overview of the standard error, confidence interval, coefficient of variation (CV), and the design effect (Deff) for a number of selected person and household variables. Estimates were computed based on a complex multi-stage survey design with stratification, clustering, and unequal weighting. The standard error is the estimated measure of variability in the sampling distribution of a statistic. The design effect for an estimate is the ratio of the actual variance (estimated based on the sample design) to the variance of a simple random sample with the same number of observations (Lohr, 1999; Kish, 1965). Coefficient of variation (CV) is a measure of the relative size of error defined as 100 X (standard error / estimated value).

Figure 35: Coefficient of variation thresholds

Alphabetic	CV	Interpretation
A.	0.0% - 0.5%	
B.	0.6% - 1.0%	
C.	1.1% - 2.5%	Reliable enough for most purposes
D.	2.6% - 5.0%	
E.	5.1% - 10.0%	
F.	10.1% - 16.5%	
G.	16.6% - 25.0%	Use With Caution
H.	25.1% - 33.4%	
I.	33.5% +	Data Not Published

Table 28: Measures of precision for household income in the past 5 years

1.1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced theft of motor vehicle?				
Q11fiveyears__1	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	163 274	13,30%	0,90	13,19%
No	18 014 408	1,34%	99,10	0,12%
Total	**18 177 683**	**1,34%**	**100,00**	

1.1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced housebreaking/burglary?				
Q11fiveyears__2	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	2 199 178	3,52%	12,10	3,37%
No	15 974 715	1,45%	87,90	0,46%
Total	**18 173 893**	**1,34%**	**100,00**	

1.1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced home robbery?				
Q11fiveyears__3	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	393 680	9,13%	2,17	9,00%
No	17 780 213	1,35%	97,83	0,20%
Total	**18 173 893**	**1,34%**	**100,00**	

1.1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced murder?				
Q11fiveyears__4	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	39 514	24,78%	0,22	24,82%
No	18 134 379	1,34%	99,78	0,05%
Total	**18 173 893**	**1,34%**	**100,00**	

1.1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced sexual offence?				
Q11fiveyears__5	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	32 184	21,25%	0,18	21,23%
No	18 141 709	1,34%	99,82	0,04%
Total	**18 173 893**	**1,34%**	**100,00**	

1.1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced assault?				
Q11fiveyears__6	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	212 853	11,67%	1,17	11,60%
No	17 961 040	1,35%	98,83	0,14%
Total	**18 173 893**	**1,34%**	**100,00**	

1.1 In the past 5 years, have you or any member of your household experienced other type of crime?				
Q11fiveyears__7	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	194 753	10,07%	1,07	10,10%
No	17 979 140	1,35%	98,93	0,11%
Total	**18 173 893**	**1,34%**	**100,00**	

Table 29: Measures of precision for household crime in the past 12 months

1.2A.1Have you or any member of your household experienced theft of motor vehicle in the past 12 months?				
Q12A1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	41 829	6,63%	25,62	6,39%
No	121 445	3,17%	74,38	2,20%
Total	163 274	2,16%	100,00	
1.2B.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced housebreaking or burglary in the past 12 months?				
Q12B1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	983 468	4,15%	44,72	3,74%
No	1 215 710	3,79%	55,28	3,03%
Total	2 199 178	2,08%	100,00	
1.2C.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced home robbery in the past 12 months?				
Q12C1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	155 316	8,42%	39,45	7,35%
No	238 364	5,17%	60,55	4,79%
Total	393 680	3,00%	100,00	
1.2D.1 Have you lost any member of your household through murder in the past 12 months?				
Q12D1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	19 947	16,58%	50,48	14,89%
No	19 567	13,97%	49,52	15,18%
Total	39 514	3,07%	100,00	
1.2E.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced sexual offence in the past 12 months?				
Q12E1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	12 276	18,95%	38,14	15,60%
No	19 908	6,49%	61,86	9,62%
Total	32 184	3,61%	100,00	
1.2F.1 Have you or any member of your household experienced assault in the past 12 months?				
Q12F1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage (%)	CV
Yes	99 204	8,05%	46,61	6,69%
No	113 649	5,84%	53,39	5,84%
Total	212 853	3,04%	100,00	

Table 30: Measures of precision for individual experience of crime in past 5 years

5.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced theft of personal property?				
Q51past5yrs__1	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Yes	2 919 282	8,0%	7,0	7,6%
No	38 968 744	1,7%	93,0	0,6%
Total	**41 888 026**	**1,7%**	**100,0**	
3.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced hijacking of motor vehicle?				
Q51past5yrs__2	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Yes	330 101	20,6%	0,8	20,4%
No	41 557 925	1,7%	99,2	0,2%
Total	**41 888 026**	**1,7%**	**100,0**	
3.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced robbery?				
Q51past5yrs__3	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Yes	798 684	11,2%	1,9	11,2%
No	41 089 342	1,7%	98,1	0,2%
Total	**41 888 026**	**1,7%**	**100,0**	
3.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced consumer fraud?				
Q51past5yrs__4	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Yes	1 016 742	13,6%	2,4	13,4%
No	40 871 284	1,7%	97,6	0,3%
Total	**41 888 026**	**1,7%**	**100,0**	
3.1 In the past 5 years have you experienced other crime?				
Q51past5yrs__5	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Yes	35 097	32,3%	0,1	32,3%
No	41 852 929	1,7%	99,9	0,0%
Total	**41 888 026**	**1,7%**	**100,0**	

Table 31: Measures of precision for individual experience of crime in past 12 months

3.1A.1 Have you experienced theft of personal property in the past 12 months?				
Q51A1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Yes	1 104 842	10,4%	37,8	8,9%
No	1 814 439	8,1%	62,2	5,4%
Total	**2 919 282**	**5,7%**	**100,0**	
3.1B.1 Have you been hijacked while travelling in a motor vehicle during the past 12 months?				
Q51B1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage%	CV
Yes	134 281	14,3%	40,7	20,1%
No	195 819	23,7%	59,3	13,8%
Total	**330 101**	**11,8%**	**100,0**	
3.1C.1 Have you been robbed anywhere other than at home during the past 12 months?				
Q51C1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Yes	245 732	9,5%	30,8	9,2%
No	552 951	7,7%	69,2	4,1%
Total	**798 684**	**5,5%**	**100,0**	
3.1D.1 Have you personally experienced consumer fraud in the past 12 months?				
Q51D1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Yes	376 048	11,4%	37,0	10,3%
No	640 694	11,1%	63,0	6,0%
Total	**1 016 742**	**8,0%**	**100,0**	
3.1E.2 Have you personally experienced other crime in the past 12 months?				
Q51E1Exp	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Yes	24 759	0,0%	70,5	8,7%
No	10 338	29,5%	29,5	20,8%
Total	**35 097**	**8,7%**	**100,0**	

Table 32: Measures of precision of feelings of safety

4.2 How safe do you feel walking alone in your areas during the day?				
Q42WalkAloneDay	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Very safe	18 486 864	2,6%	44,1	2,2%
Fairly safe	15 564 804	3,0%	37,2	2,5%
A bit unsafe	5 105 749	5,6%	12,2	5,1%
Very unsafe	2 733 664	8,4%	6,5	8,2%
Total	**41 891 081**	**1,7%**	**100,0**	
4.1 4.2 How safe do you feel walking alone in their areas when it is dark?				
Q41WalkAloneDark	Frequency	CV	Percentage %	CV
Very safe	5 349 833	5,2%	12,8	4,9%
Fairly safe	9 727 398	3,6%	23,2	3,3%
A bit unsafe	8 418 275	3,9%	20,1	3,6%
Very unsafe	18 395 575	2,9%	43,9	2,2%
Total	**41 891 081**	**1,7%**	**100,0**	