

# Victims of Crime Survey 2014/15



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South Africa**



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# Statistical release

## P0341

# Victims of Crime Survey

**2014/15**

**Embargoed until:  
01 December 2015  
09:00**

**Enquiries:**

User Information Services  
Tel.: (012) 310 8600/4892/8390

**Forthcoming issue:**

VOCS 2015/16

**Expected release date**

September 2016

Published by Statistics South Africa, Private Bag X44, Pretoria 0001

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## Contents

List of tables in the key findings.....	v
List of figures in the key findings.....	vi
List of maps.....	ix
List of tables in addendum.....	x
Victims of crime survey: 2014/15.....	1
1. Introduction.....	1
2. Survey methodology.....	1
3. Summary of the key findings.....	2
4. Households' perceptions of crime and safety.....	3
5. Households' perceptions of victim support services.....	25
6. Households' perceptions of law enforcement.....	33
6.1 Households' perceptions about the police.....	33
6.2 Households' perceptions about courts.....	43
7. Trafficking in persons.....	50
8. Perceptions of Correctional Services.....	54
9. Households' perceptions about corruption in the public sector.....	56
10. Crime levels and reporting of crimes in South Africa.....	60
10.1 Victimization rates.....	60
10.2 Reporting crimes to the police.....	64
10.3 Reasons for not reporting crime.....	67
11. Overview of selected crime types.....	71
11.1 Vehicle related crimes.....	71
11.2 Housebreaking/burglary and other theft.....	73
11.3 Robbery and theft of personal property.....	75
11.4 Assault and sexual offences.....	76
11.5 Murder.....	80
11.6 Consumer fraud.....	81
11.7 Use of weapons in criminal activity.....	82
12. Technical notes.....	83
12.1 Response details.....	83
12.2 Survey requirements and design.....	83
12.3 Questionnaire design.....	83
12.4 Sample design.....	84
12.5 Data collection.....	85
12.6 Editing and imputation.....	85
12.7 Weighting.....	85
12.8 Non-response adjustment.....	86
12.9 Construction of Household Sample Weights.....	86
12.10 Individual sample weights.....	86
12.11 Estimation.....	87
12.12 Reliability of the survey estimates.....	87

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12.13	Comparability with previous surveys .....	87
12.14	Limitations of crime victimisation surveys.....	87
12.15	Differences between victim surveys and police-reported data .....	87
13.	Definition of terms.....	88

## List of tables in the key findings

Table 1: Crimes perceived by households to be the most common and feared in South Africa, April 2014–March 2015.....	8
Table 2: Number and percentage of households who were prevented from engaging in daily activities when alone, as a result of crime in their area by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	14
Table 3: Number and percentage of households who were prevented from engaging in daily activities when alone as a result of crime in their area by population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015.....	15
Table 4: Number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access medical services by type of institution and province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	27
Table 5: Number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access medical services by type of institution and population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015 .....	28
Table 6: Number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access counselling services by type of institution and province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	29
Table 7: Number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access counselling services by type of institution and population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015.....	30
Table 8: Number and percentage distribution of the reasons for being dissatisfied with the way the police dealt with crime by province, April 2014–March 2015.....	41
Table 9: Number and percentage distribution of the reasons for being satisfied with the way the police dealt with crime by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	42
Table 10: Percentage distribution of services for which bribes were solicited from households, April 2014–March 2015.....	59
Table 11: Number and percentage distribution of crime experiences and reporting rates, 2014/15 .....	62
Table 12: Extent of repeat victimisation amongst households and individuals aged 16 years and older who had experienced a particular crime (per cent), 2014/15.....	63
Table 13: Response rates by province, VOCS 2014/15 .....	83
Table 14: Contents of the VOCS 2014/15 questionnaire .....	84

## List of figures in the key findings

Figure 1: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions about violent crime levels in their areas of residence over three- year intervals prior to the survey, 2011–2014/15 .....	3
Figure 2: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions about violent crime levels in their area of residence in the three years prior to the survey, by province, 2011–2014/15.....	4
Figure 3: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions about property crime levels in their area of residence over three year intervals prior to the survey, 2011–2014/15 .....	5
Figure 4: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions about property crime levels in their area of residence in three years prior to the survey, by province, 2011–2014/15.....	6
Figure 5: Crimes perceived by households to be the most common in South Africa, 2011–2014/15 .....	7
Figure 6: Percentage distribution of households' feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence during the day and when it is dark, April 2014–March 2015.....	10
Figure 7: Percentage distribution of households who felt safe walking alone in their areas of residence during the day and when it is dark, 2011–2014/15 .....	11
Figure 8: Percentage distribution of households who were prevented from engaging in daily activities when alone, as a result of crime in their area, 2011–2014/15 .....	12
Figure 9: Percentage distribution of households' perception on the most likely perpetrators of property crime, by province, 2011–2014/15 .....	16
Figure 10: Percentage distribution of households' perception on the most likely perpetrators of property crime, by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	16
Figure 11: Percentage distribution of households' perception on the most likely perpetrators of violent crime, 2011–2014/15 .....	17
Figure 12: Percentage distribution of households' perception on the most likely perpetrators of violent crime, by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	17
Figure 13: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of why perpetrators commit property crime, 2011–2014/15 .....	18
Figure 14: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of why perpetrators commit property crime by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	20
Figure 15: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of why perpetrators commit property crime by population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015.....	21
Figure 16: Percentage distribution of households' who took measures to protect themselves from crime, 2011–2014/15 .....	22
Figure 17: Percentage distribution of households who took measures to protect themselves from crime by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	23
Figure 18: Percentage distribution of households' suggestions on where government should spend money in order to reduce crime, 2011–2014/15.....	24
Figure 19: Percentage distribution of entities contacted first to come to the household's rescue in the event of being victimised by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	24
Figure 20: Percentage distribution of households who knew where to take victims of crime to access selected services, 2011–2014/15.....	25
Figure 21: Percentage distribution of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access selected services by province, April 2014–March 2015.....	26
Figure 22: Percentage distribution of households who knew of a place of safety/shelter where they could take a victim of domestic violence by type of institution and province, April 2014–March 2015.....	31
Figure 23: Percentage distribution of households who knew of a place of safety/shelter where they could take a victim of domestic violence by type of institution and population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015.....	32
Figure 24: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of the average length of time it takes to reach the nearest police station using their usual mode of transport, by province, 2011–2014/15 .....	33

Figure 25: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of the average length of time it takes to reach the nearest police station using their usual mode of transport by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	34
Figure 26: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions on the average length of time it takes the police to respond to an emergency call by province, April 2014–March 2015.....	35
Figure 27: Percentage distribution of households who saw the police, in uniform and on duty, in their area of residence, 2011–2014/15 .....	36
Figure 28: Percentage distribution of households who saw the police, in uniform and on duty, in their area of residence by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	37
Figure 29: Percentage distribution of households who saw the police, in uniform and on duty, in their area of residence by population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015 .....	38
Figure 30: Percentage distribution of households who were satisfied with the police in their area by province, 2011–2014/15 .....	39
Figure 31: Percentage distribution of households who were satisfied with the police in their area by population group of the household head, 2011–2014/15.....	40
Figure 32: Percentage distribution of households who knew the location of their nearest magistrate court by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	43
Figure 33: Percentage distribution of households' satisfaction with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by province, 2011–2015.....	44
Figure 34: Percentage distribution of reasons for households being satisfied with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	46
Figure 35: Percentage distribution of reasons for household satisfaction with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by population group of the household head, April 2011–March 2015 .....	46
Figure 36: Percentage distribution of reasons for being dissatisfied with the way in which courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	47
Figure 37: Percentage distribution of reasons for being dissatisfied with the way in which courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by population group of the household head, April 2011–March 2015 .....	48
Figure 38: Percentage of households who thought that sentencing of violent crime was long enough to discourage people from committing these crimes, April 2014–March 2015.....	49
Figure 39: Percentage distribution of households who heard of trafficking in persons, by mode of communication and province, April 2014–March 2015.....	50
Figure 40: Percentage distribution of households' views on why perpetrators engage in trafficking in persons, April 2014–March 2015.....	51
Figure 41: Percentage distribution of households' views on how perpetrators of trafficking in persons recruit their victims, April 2014–March 2015.....	51
Figure 42: Percentage distribution of households' views on who is likely to be a victim of trafficking in persons, April 2014–March 2015.....	52
Figure 43: Percentage distribution of households who knew a place of safety/shelter for victims of trafficking in persons, by institution and province, April 2014–March 2015.....	52
Figure 44: Percentage distribution of the extent to which households knew of the law on trafficking in persons by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	53
Figure 45: Percentage distribution of the perceptions about services provided by Correctional Services, April 2014–March 2015 .....	54
Figure 46: Percentage distribution of households who were willing to welcome a former prisoner back in their community, April 2014–March 2015 .....	55
Figure 47: Percentage distribution of household willing to provide employment to a former prisoner by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	55
Figure 48: Percentage distribution of perceptions of the level of corruption in the last three calendar years, 2011–2014 .....	56
Figure 49: Percentage distribution of perceptions about why people are engaging in corruption, April 2014–March 2015.....	57



Figure 50: Percentage distribution of perceptions about why people are paying bribes, April 2014–March 2015....	58
Figure 51: Percentage distribution of households who experienced at least one incident of crime by type of crime, VOCS 2010–2014/15.....	60
Figure 52: Percentage distribution of the selected individuals aged 16 years and above who experienced at least one incident of crime by type of crime, VOCS 2011–2014/15.....	61
Figure 53: Percentage distribution of incidents of crime reported by the households to the police, 2014/15 .....	64
Figure 54: Percentage distribution of incidents of crime reported by the selected individuals, aged 16 years and older to the police, 2014/15 .....	66
Figure 55: Percentage distribution of households' reasons for not reporting incidents of crime to the police per crime, 2014/15 .....	67
Figure 56: Percentage distribution of individuals' reasons for not reporting incidents of crime to the police per crime, 2014/15 .....	68
Figure 57: Percentage distribution of household crimes that were reported to anyone else (other than the police), by institution reported to, 2014/15.....	69
Figure 58: Percentage distribution of individual crimes that were reported to anyone else (other than the police) by institution reported to, 2014/15.....	70
Figure 59: Percentage distribution of households who experienced crime by type of crime and place of occurrence, 2014/15 .....	71
Figure 60: Percentage distribution of time of the day when selected household crimes occurred, 2014/15 .....	71
Figure 61: Percentage distribution of the period of the week when household crimes occurred, 2014/15 .....	72
Figure 62: Percentage distribution of the time of the day that the housebreaking/burglary took place, by province 2014/15 .....	73
Figure 63: Percentage distribution of the manner in which the burglar gained entry into the house, by province, 2014/15.....	74
Figure 64: Place where robbery or theft of personal property occurred by province (per cent), 2014/15 .....	75
Figure 65: Percentage of selected individuals who knew the perpetrator, and their relationship, if any, to the perpetrator by type of crime, 2014/15.....	76
Figure 66: Place where assault and sexual offence occurred by type of crime , 2014/15 .....	78
Figure 67: Percentage distribution of the motivation behind the assault, 2014/15.....	79
Figure 68: Percentage distribution of the motivation behind the murder, 2014/15.....	80
Figure 69: Percentage distribution on how consumer fraud took place, 2014/15.....	81
Figure 70: Percentage distribution of the weapons used by perpetrators when committing violent crimes, 2014/15.....	82

## List of maps

Map 1: Number of households per 10 000 households, who felt unsafe walking alone when it is dark by province, 2011–2014/15 .....	9
Map 2: Number of households per 10 000 households, who were prevented from going to parks/open spaces due to fear of crime, April 2014–March 2015.....	13
Map 3: Number of households per 10 000 households, who perceived property crime to be motivated by drug-related needs by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	19
Map 4: Number of households per 10 000 households, who saw the police officers on duty at least once a day by province, April 2014–March 2015 .....	37
Map 5: Number of households per 10 000 households, who were satisfied with police by province, April 2011–March 2015 .....	39
Map 6: Number of households per 10 000 households, who were satisfied with courts by province, April 2011–March 2015 .....	45
Map 7: Number of households per 10 000 households, who reported incidents of housebreaking/burglary by province, 2014/15 .....	65
Map 8: Number of individuals per 10 000 population, who reported assault to the police by province 2014/15 .....	77

## List of tables in addendum

<b>1. Household crime experienced.....</b>	<b>91</b>
1.1 Number of households who experienced at least one household crime by province and type of crime, 2014/15 .....	91
1.2 Number of households who experienced at least one household crime by population group of the household head, 2014/15 .....	92
<b>2. Individual crime experienced.....</b>	<b>93</b>
2.1 Number of people aged 16 years and older who experienced at least one individual crime by province, 2014/15 .....	93
2.2 Number of people aged 16 years and older who experienced at least one individual crime by population group of the household head, 2014/15 .....	94
<b>3. Public perceptions of crime and safety.....</b>	<b>95</b>
3.1 Distribution of households' feelings of safety when walking alone in their area of residence when it is dark by province, 2014/15.....	95
3.2 Distribution of households' feelings of safety when walking alone in their area of residence during the day by province, 2014/15.....	96
3.3 Household perceptions about the origin of the perpetrators of violent crime in their neighbourhood by province, 2014/15.....	97
3.4 Household perceptions about the origin of the perpetrators of property crime in their neighbourhood by province, 2014/15.....	98
3.5 Household perceptions of what motivates people to commit property crime by province, 2014/15.....	99
<b>4. Individual and community response to crime .....</b>	<b>100</b>
4.1 Total number of measures taken by households to protect themselves against crime by province, 2014/15 ..	100
4.2 Household views on where government should spend money to reduce crime by province, 2014/15.....	101
4.3 Household views on whom to contact first when they suspect that they may become victims of crime by province, 2014/15.....	102
<b>5. Perceptions of victim support services and citizen interaction/community cohesion .....</b>	<b>103</b>
5.1 Household knowledge of their next-door neighbours' name by province, 2014/15.....	103
5.2 Household involvement in community-based initiatives by province, 2014/15.....	104
<b>6. Public perceptions of law enforcement.....</b>	<b>105</b>
6.1 Distribution of households' perceptions of correctional services by province, 2014/15.....	105
6.2 Distribution of households views about policing after having official contact with the police by province, 2014/15 .....	106
6.3 Total number of household perceptions on police response time to an emergency call by province, 2014/15 .....	107
6.4 Distribution of household reasons for being satisfied with the police by province, 2014/15.....	108
6.5 Distribution of households reasons for being dissatisfied with the police by province, 2014/15 .....	109
6.6 Distribution of households' knowledge about the location of the nearest magistrate court by province, 2014/15 .....	110
6.7 Distribution of household reasons for satisfaction with the courts by province, 2014/15 .....	111
6.8 Distribution of household reasons for dissatisfaction with the courts by province, 2014/15.....	112

## Victims of crime survey: 2014/15

This statistical release presents a selection of key findings from the Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) 2014/15, which was conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) from April 2014 to March 2015.

### 1. Introduction

During the past two decades a number of surveys related to crime, crime victims and users of services provided by the safety and security cluster departments have been conducted by various service providers in South Africa. Statistics South Africa conducted its first Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) in 1998, followed by the surveys in 2003 and 2007 which were conducted by the Institute for Security Studies (ISS). The government regards crime prevention and safety as a high priority, the results from VOCS aim to assist the government to measure the extent and levels of crime.

Stats SA started conducting the annual collection of the VOCS as from 2011. Data collections for VOCS 2011 and VOCS 2012 were conducted from January to March of that year and referred to incidents of crime experienced during the previous year (i.e. from January to December). Since 2013, Stats SA has changed the data collection methodology to continuous data collection. Data is collected from April of the current year to March of the proceeding year.

The Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) series is a countrywide household-based survey and has three main objectives:

- Provide information about the dynamics of crime from the perspective of households and the victims of crime.
- Explore public perceptions of the activities of the police, prosecutors, courts and correctional services in the prevention of crime and victimisation.
- Provide complementary data on the level of crime within South Africa (SA) in addition to the statistics published annually by the South African Police Service (SAPS).

The VOCS focuses on people's perceptions and experiences of crime, as well as their views regarding their access to, and effectiveness of the police service and the criminal justice system. Households are also asked about community responses to crime. The survey profiled different aspects that are inherent in the different types of crime, such as the location and timing of the different crimes, the use of weapons and the nature and extent of the violence that takes place. The VOCS 2014/15 is comparable to the previous versions in cases where the questions remained largely unchanged.

While the VOCS cannot replace police statistics, it can be a rich source of information which will assist in the planning of crime prevention as well as providing 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. The VOCS 2014/15 will also be used to pilot the possibility of integrating the crime statistics obtained from administrative data with those of a sample survey in order to maximise our understanding of the extent of crime and the under-reporting of crime. The reference period for the experience of crime estimates is April 2013 to February 2015, while questions on perceptions referred to the collection period (i.e. April 2014 to March 2015).

### 2. Survey methodology

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.

The VOCS 2014/15 sample was calibrated using the Population Estimates of Mid May 2014 (based on the 2014 series). As a result, the previous instances (2011 to 2013/14), were also re-weighted and benchmarked to the National Household estimates to enhance comparability between the three sets of weights. More details about the methodology, the response rates and limitations to the study can be found in Section 12.

### 3. Summary of the key findings

The perceptions about crime and safety of households in South Africa differ according to several factors, and are affected in different ways; as a result their perceptions about crime are not the same. Most of the households were of the opinion that the levels for both violent and non-violent crimes had increased in their areas of residence during the period of 2011 to 2014, while 27,6% thought that crime was still the same. Housebreaking/burglary (65,9%) was perceived to be one of the most common types of crime followed by home robbery (42,7%), both of these crime types were also perceived as the most feared amongst households. The Victims of Crime Survey 2014/15 showed that housebreaking/burglary (5,1%) was also the most prevalent household crime, followed by home robbery (1,2%) and theft from car (1,1%). The analysis indicates that theft of personal property (1,9%) was the most prevalent crime experienced by individuals from the age of 16 years.

The prevalence and under-reporting of crime incidents to SAPS remain a major concern in the country. It is important to measure the extent of crime and gain insights about its dynamics in order to better understand how it manifests itself in communities. This will enable better formulation, implementation and monitoring of strategies for crime prevention and management. Crime categories that were more likely to be reported to the police were murder (95,7%), car theft (88,9%), car hijacking (85,8%) and sexual offences (63,0%). In general, property related crimes, such as housebreaking/burglary (51,8%), theft of personal property (34,2%) and theft of livestock (32,3%) were less likely to be reported to the police as compared to contact-related crimes. Most households who decided not to report crime, mentioned 'police could do nothing' and 'police won't do anything about it' as the reasons why they did not report the crime.

Crime instils fear amongst households and it may hinder their ability to engage in their day-to-day activities. About 85,4% of households felt safe walking alone in their area during the day, while 68,9% felt unsafe when it is dark. A noticeable declining trend of a percentage of households who felt safe when it is dark was observed from 2011 to 2014/15. More than a third of households (36,9%) were prevented from going to open spaces or parks when alone because of fear of crime, while 18,4% of households could not allow their children to walk to school unaccompanied by an adult. Because of fear of crime, households in the country took measures to protect themselves. About 51,6% of households took physical protection measures for their homes, while more than 29,0% of households took physical protection measures for their vehicles.

When asked about what they perceived to be the motive of perpetrators when committing property crimes, the majority of households said that property crime was committed because of drug-related needs (77,0%). Households which attributed the prevalence of property crime to drug-related needs were predominantly found in Western Cape (85,7%), Eastern Cape (84,6%) and Gauteng (81,5%).

Factors impacting on negative and positive perceptions about the Criminal Justice System (CJS) were also explored. About 57,0% of households were satisfied with the police in their area and 54,4% were satisfied with how the courts were performing. Those who were satisfied with the courts thought that courts passed sentences that were appropriate to the crimes committed, and those who were satisfied with the police were of the opinion that the police do come to the scene of the crime and they were committed. Households' satisfaction with the way the police and courts dealt with the criminal matters decreased between 2011 and 2014/15. Most people in North West, Western Cape and Northern Cape were more likely to be dissatisfied with police, while households from Western Cape, Gauteng and North West rated the performance of the courts low.

Households were also asked several questions about their knowledge of trafficking in persons. The vast majority of households (94,9%) indicated that they heard of trafficking in persons through media, while 19,5% learnt about trafficking in persons through family and friends. Most households thought that the perpetrators engaged themselves in this deed in order to sexually exploit their victims, and this was evident in KwaZulu-Natal (81,6%), Gauteng (81,2%) and Eastern Cape (80,7%). About 52,3% of households in the country were of the opinion that perpetrators of trafficking in persons were doing this to extract their victims' body parts.

Households were even asked about their views on how perpetrators of trafficking in persons recruit their victims. Most households (81,0%) in the country were of the view that victims were attracted by offering them job opportunities. About 89,8% of households felt that both young boys and girls were in danger of falling victim to trafficking in persons, and 67,7% indicated that they knew nothing about any law relating to trafficking in persons.



**Mr Pali Lehohla**  
Statistician-General

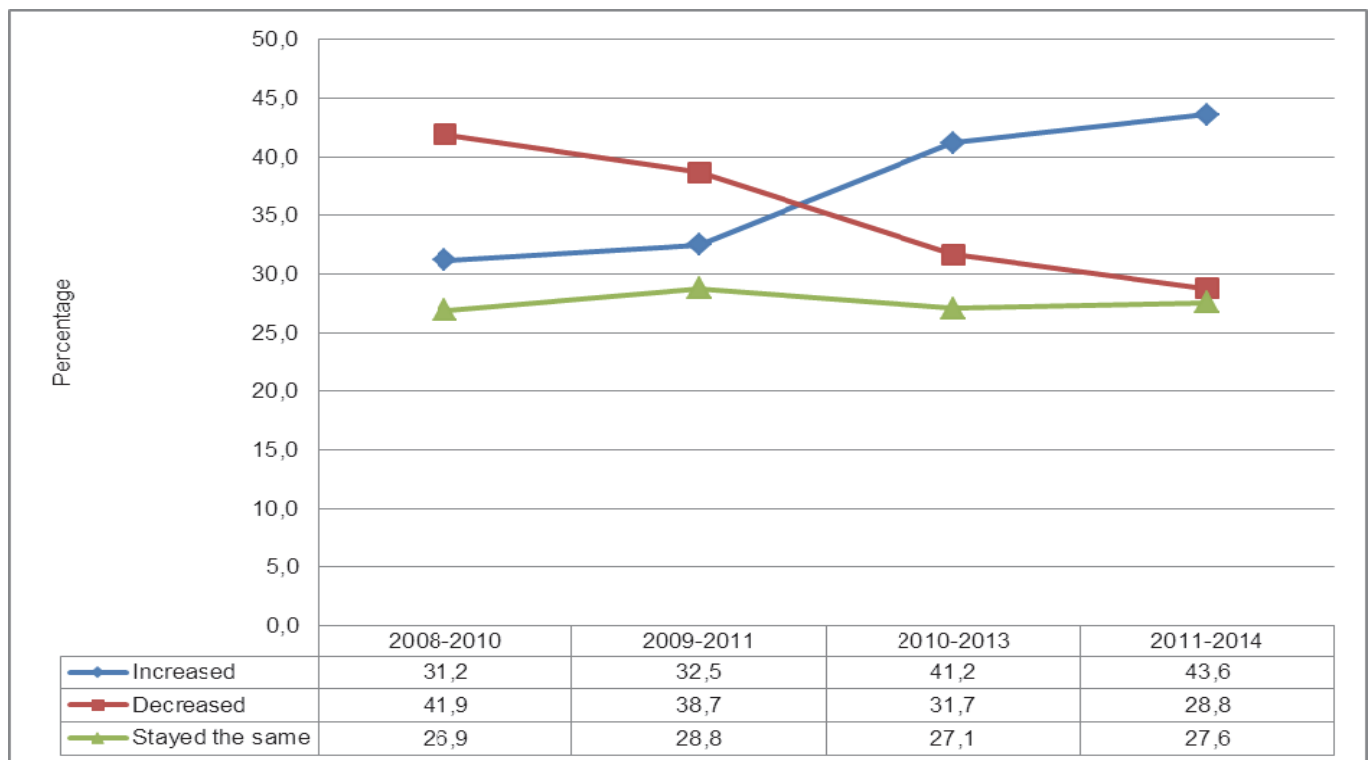
## 4. Households' perceptions of crime and safety

This section addresses the extent to which people in South Africa 'are and feel safe' as outlined in the Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) for the period 2014–2019. Households' views about crime, types of crime that are perceived to be common and feared as well as the ir feeling of safety when alone in their areas are discussed. The impact of crime on households' daily activities, their view about perpetrators of crime as well as their response to crime are also discussed.

### 4.1 Views about violent and non-violent crime levels

The VOCS asked households about their perceptions of how the levels of violent crime have changed in the three years prior to the survey.

**Figure 1: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions about violent crime levels in their areas of residence over three- year intervals prior to the survey, 2011–2014/15**



Households' perceptions about violent crime levels between 2008 and 2014 are depicted in Figure 1. Most households (43,6%) were of the view that violent crime in their area had increased in the period 2011–2014 as compared to 31,2% for the period 2008–2010. Overall, the percentage of households who felt that violent crime levels had increased, steadily rose over the years (2008–2014).

**Figure 2: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions about violent crime levels in their area of residence in the three years prior to the survey, by province, 2011–2014/15**

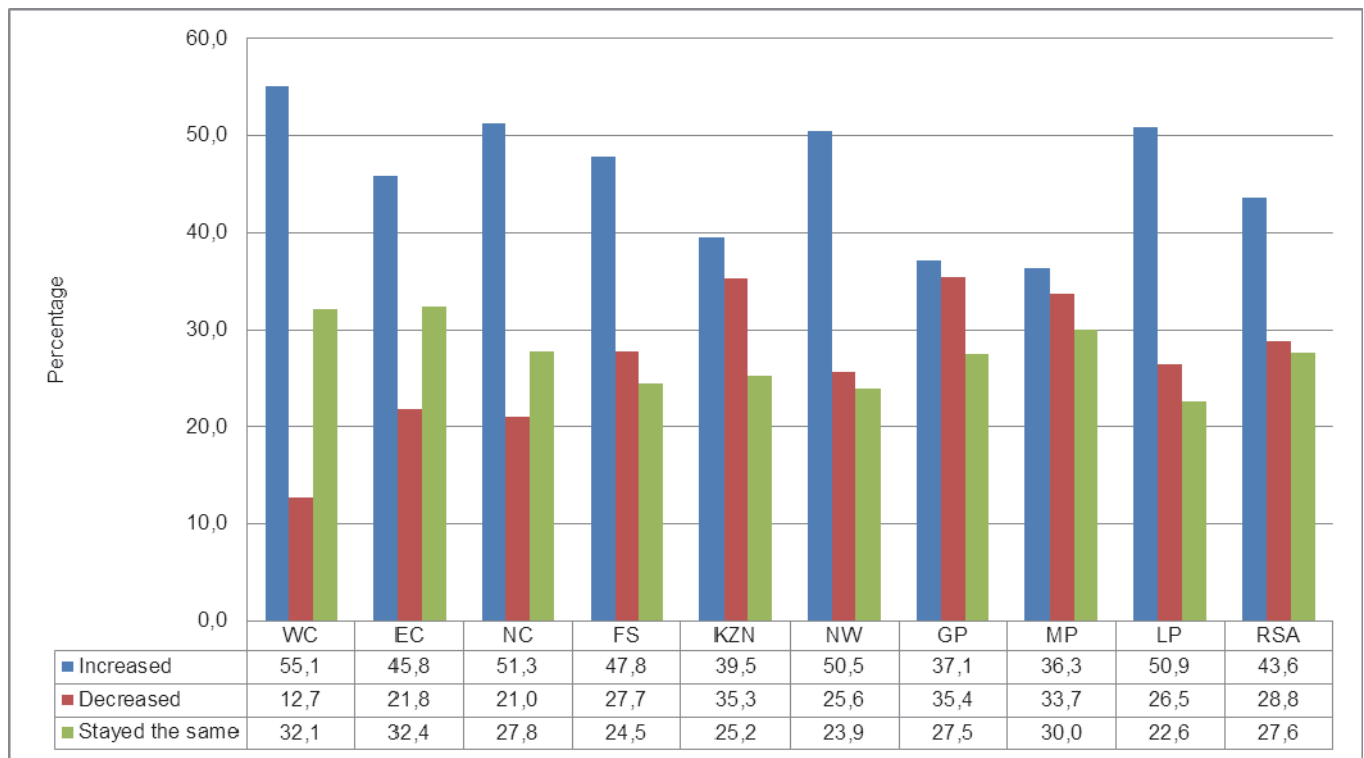
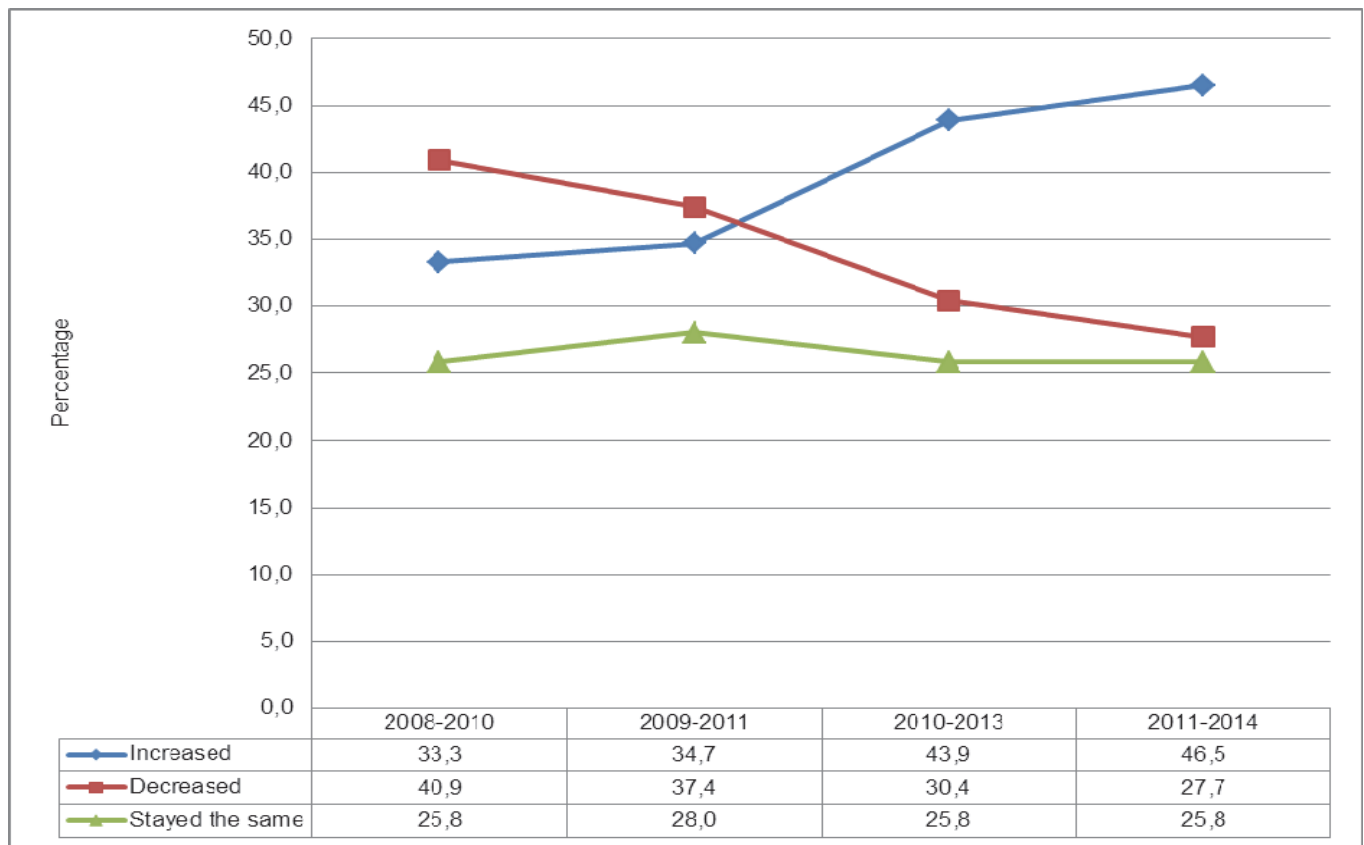


Figure 2 depicts a provincial distribution of households' perceptions of the levels of violent crime in their areas of residence between 2011 and 2014. Western Cape had the highest proportion of households who said that crime increased (55,1%), followed by Northern Cape (51,3%) and Limpopo (50,9%). Gauteng (35,4%) and KwaZulu-Natal (35,3%) had the highest percentage of households who felt that violent crime decreased during this time period.

**Figure 3: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions about property crime levels in their area of residence over three year intervals prior to the survey, 2011–2014/15**



Households' perceptions about property crimes levels between 2008 and 2014 are shown in Figure 3. The figure depicts a noticeable increase in the percentage of households who felt that the level of property crime increased. Over the same period, slightly above a quarter of households thought that the rate of property crime remained unchanged.



**Figure 4: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions about property crime levels in their area of residence in three years prior to the survey, by province, 2011–2014/15**

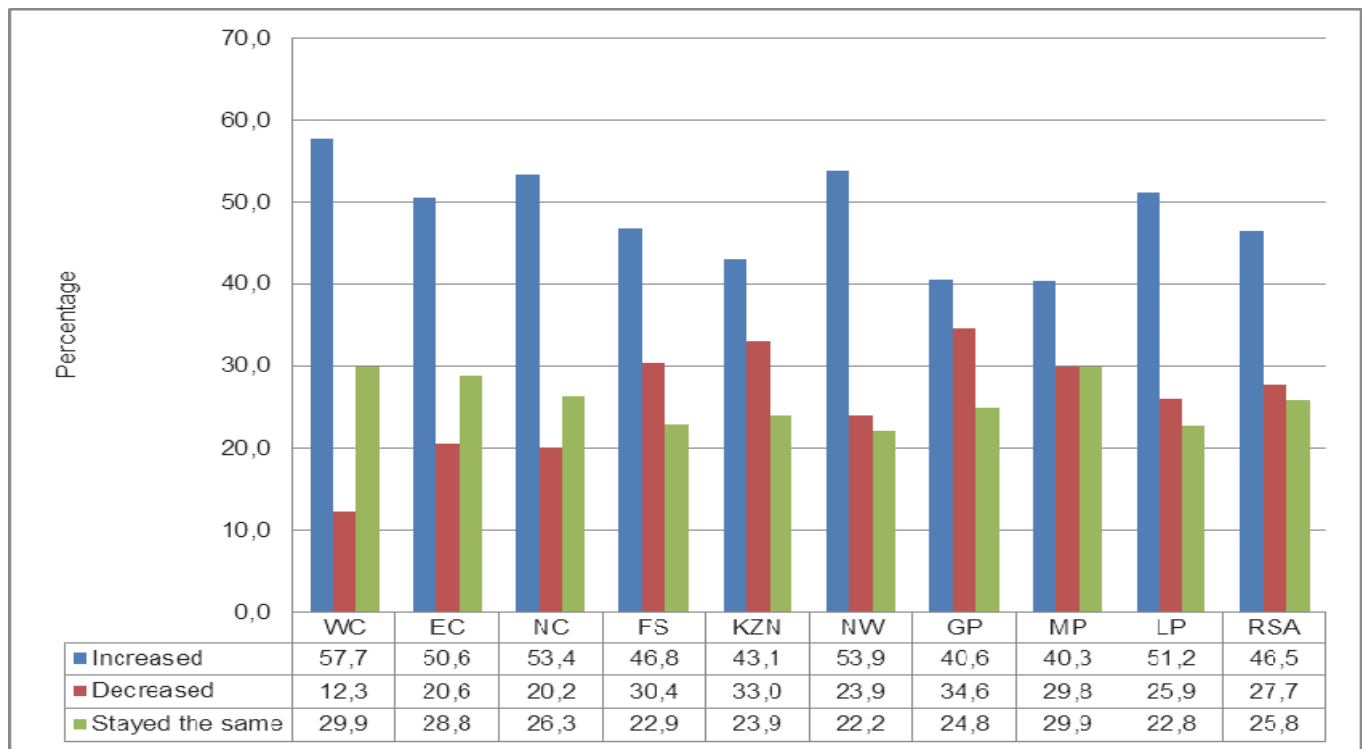
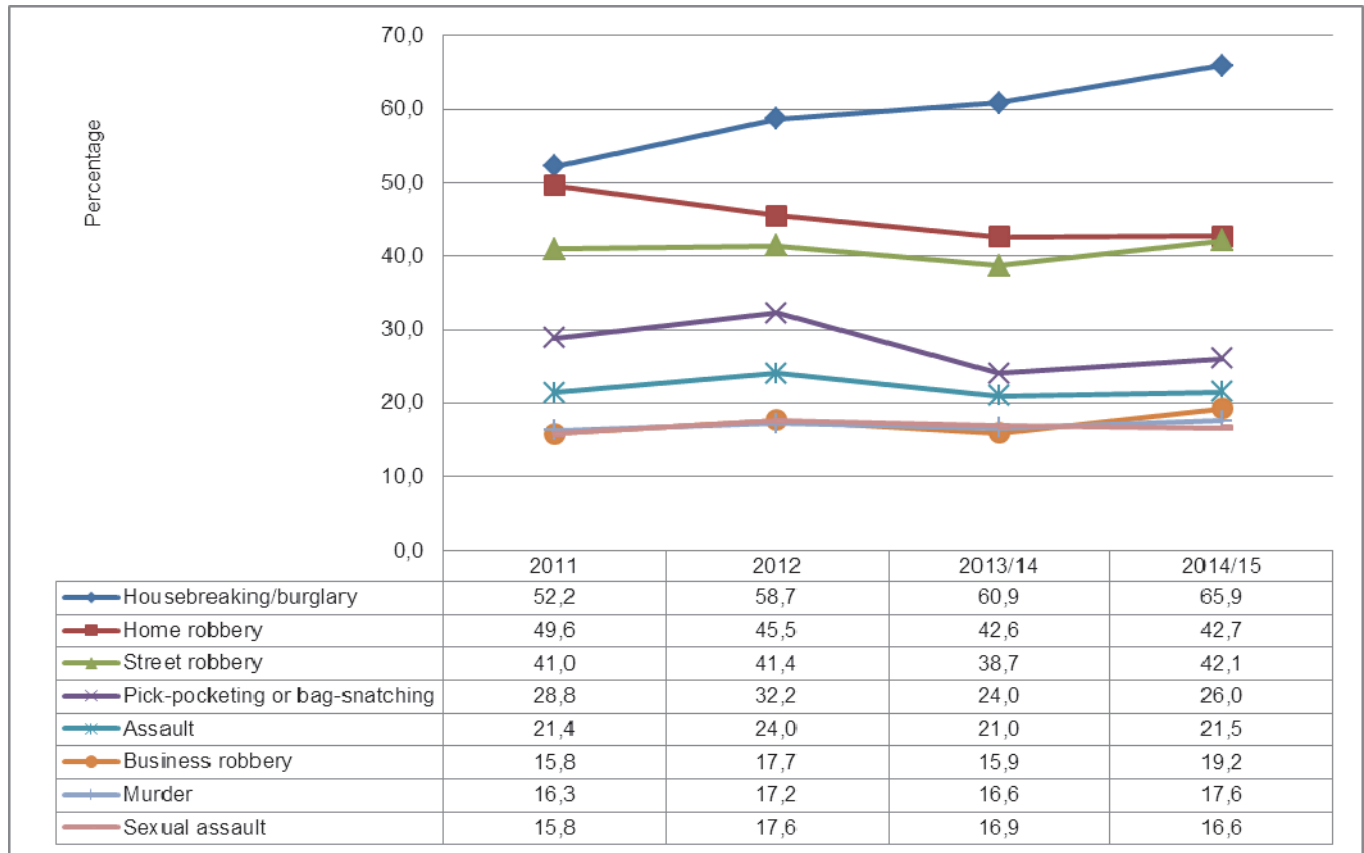


Figure 4 depicts a provincial distribution of households' perceptions of the levels of property crime in their areas of residence in the period 2011–2014/15. The majority of households in South Africa indicated that property crime increased (46,5%). Western Cape had the highest proportion of households who said that property crime increased (57,7%), followed by North West (53,9%) and Northern Cape (53,4%). The proportion of households that thought crime had decreased were higher in Gauteng (34,6%), KwaZulu-Natal (33,0%) and Free State (30,4%), as compared to other provinces.

## 4.2 Crimes perceived to be the most common and most feared

Figure 5: Crimes perceived by households to be the most common in South Africa, 2011–2014/15



A time series analysis of crime types perceived to be the most common by households in their area of residence between 2011 and 2014/15 is shown in Figure 5. The majority of households perceived housebreaking/burglary as the most common crime type followed by home robbery, street robbery and pick-pocketing or bag snatching. The percentage of households who thought that housebreaking was the most common crime increased steadily from 52,2% in 2011 to 65,9% in 2014/15.

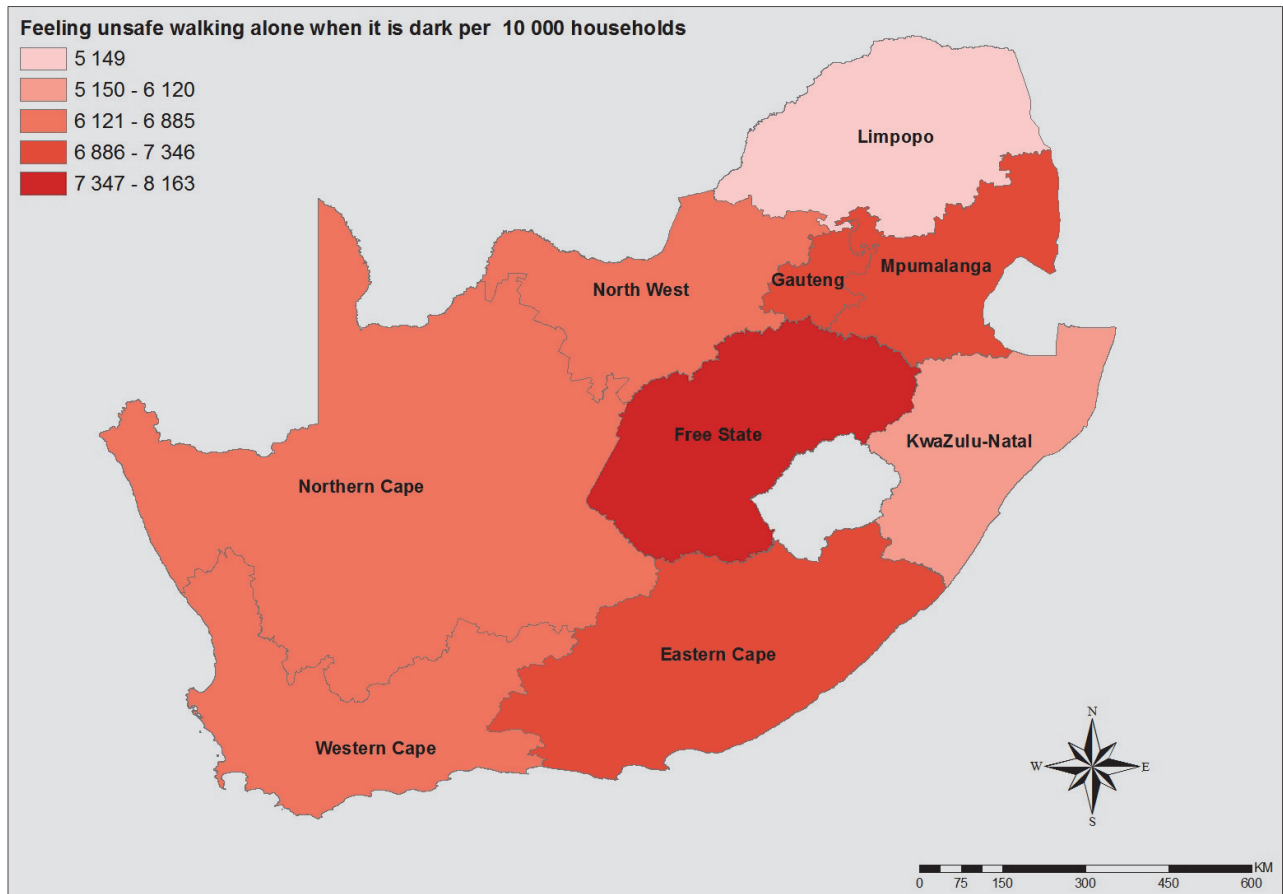
**Table 1: Crimes perceived by households to be the most common and feared in South Africa, April 2014–March 2015**

Crime type	Crime perceived to be most common		Crime feared most	
	Number '000	Per cent	Number '000	Per cent
Housebreaking/burglary	10 025	65,9	9 657	63,6
Home robbery	6 496	42,7	7 563	49,8
Street robbery	6 406	42,1	6 564	43,2
Pick-pocketing or bag-snatching	3 950	26,0	4 003	26,4
Assault	3 276	21,5	3 789	25,0
Business robbery	2 916	19,2	2 663	17,5
Murder	2 681	17,6	5 714	37,6
Sexual assault	2 529	16,6	4 659	30,7
Livestock/poultry theft	2 427	15,9	2 501	16,5
Car theft or any type of vehicle	1 908	12,6	1 675	11,0
Vehicle hijacking	1 707	11,2	2 552	16,8
Corruption in public service	938	6,2	1 273	8,4
Child abuse	830	5,5	1 914	12,6
Bicycle theft	722	4,7	885	5,8
Mob justice/vigilante group	684	4,5	1 334	8,8
Other property crimes	587	3,9	321	2,1
Crop theft	496	3,3	1 041	6,9
Fraud	459	3,0	816	5,4
Political violence	354	2,3	1 132	7,5
Identity document theft	345	2,3	1 230	8,1
White-collar crime	316	2,1	750	4,9
Other	200	1,3	210	1,4

Table 1 shows crimes that were perceived to be the most common and feared by households. More than six in every ten households perceived the most common crime to be housebreaking/burglary (65,9%), followed by home robbery (42,7%), street robbery (42,1%) and pick-pocketing or bag-snatching (26,0%). Housebreaking/burglary (63,6%) and home robbery (49,8%) were perceived to be the most feared crimes, followed by street robbery (43,2%) and murder (37,6%).

### 4.3 Households' feelings of safety

**Map 1: Number of households per 10 000 households, who felt unsafe walking alone when it is dark by province, 2011–2014/15**



Map 1 depicts the extent to which households felt unsafe to walk alone in their areas of residence when it is dark per 10 000 households. Feelings of insecurity were the highest in Free State, while households in Limpopo and KwaZulu-Natal were most likely to feel safe.

**Figure 6: Percentage distribution of households' feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence during the day and when it is dark, April 2014–March 2015**

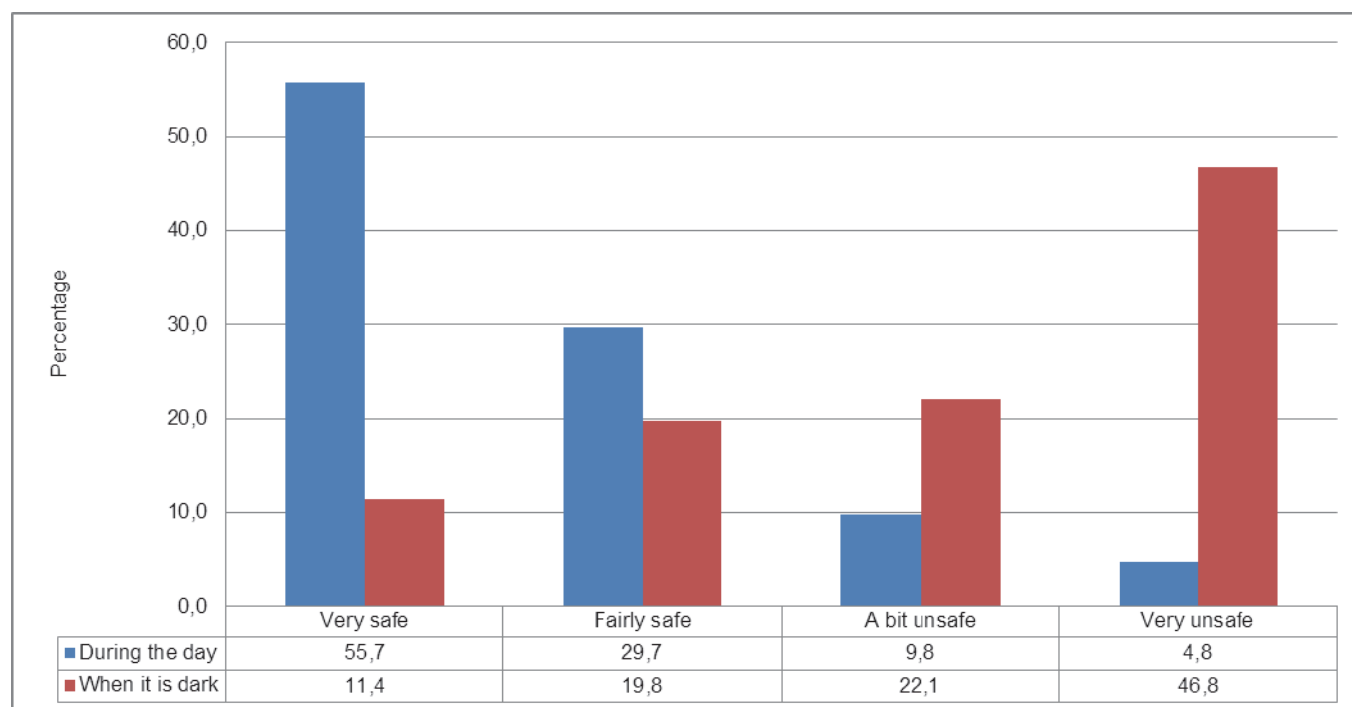
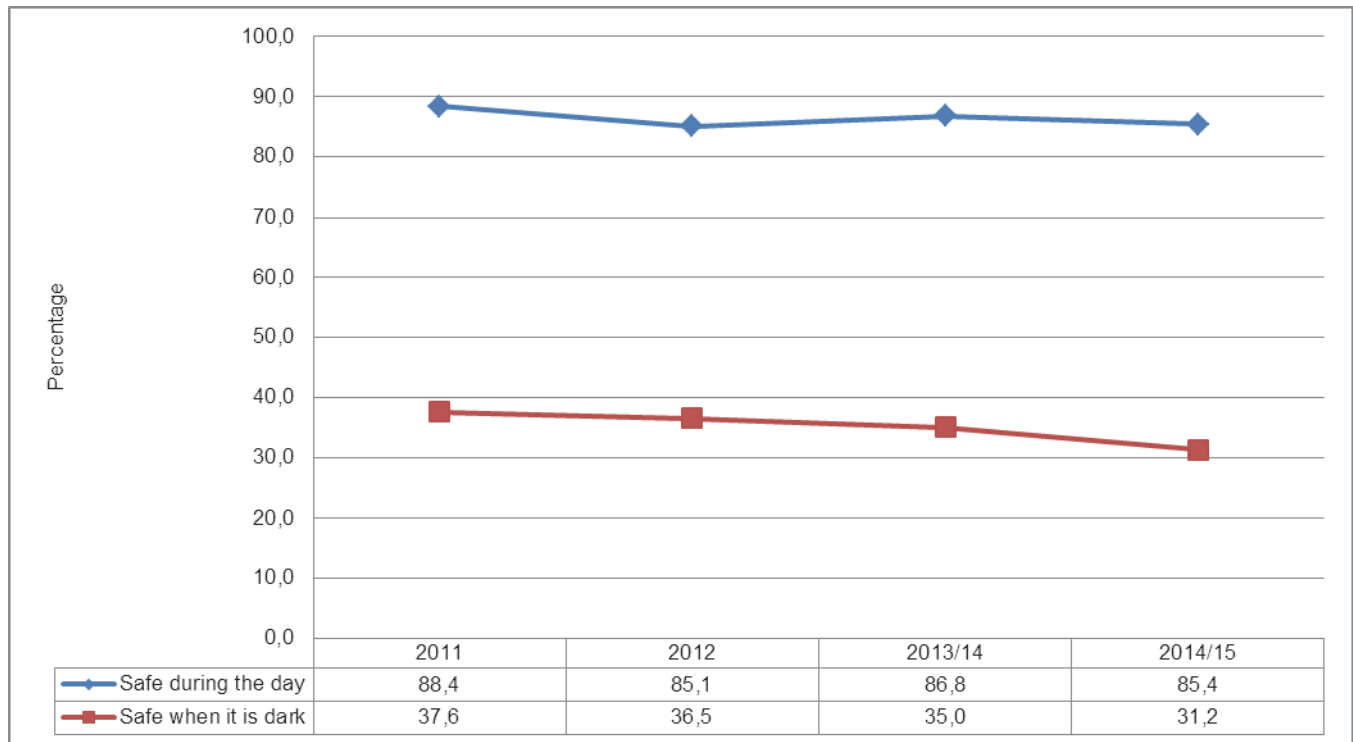


Figure 6 shows the percentage distribution of households' feelings of safety when walking alone in their areas of residence during the day and when it is dark. About 85,4% of households felt safe in their area during the day (55,7% very safe and 29,7% fairly safe), while 68,9% felt unsafe when it is dark (22,1% a bit unsafe and 46,8% very unsafe).

**Figure 7: Percentage distribution of households who felt safe walking alone in their areas of residence during the day and when it is dark, 2011–2014/15**



The percentage of households who felt safe walking alone in their areas of residence during the day and when it is dark from 2011 to 2014/15 is shown in Figure 7. More than 85% of households in South Africa felt safe walking alone in their area during the day across the years. A noticeable declining trend of the percentage of households who felt safe when it is dark was observed from 2011 (37,6%) to 2014/15 (31,2%).

#### 4.4 Impact of crime

**Figure 8: Percentage distribution of households who were prevented from engaging in daily activities when alone, as a result of crime in their area, 2011–2014/15**

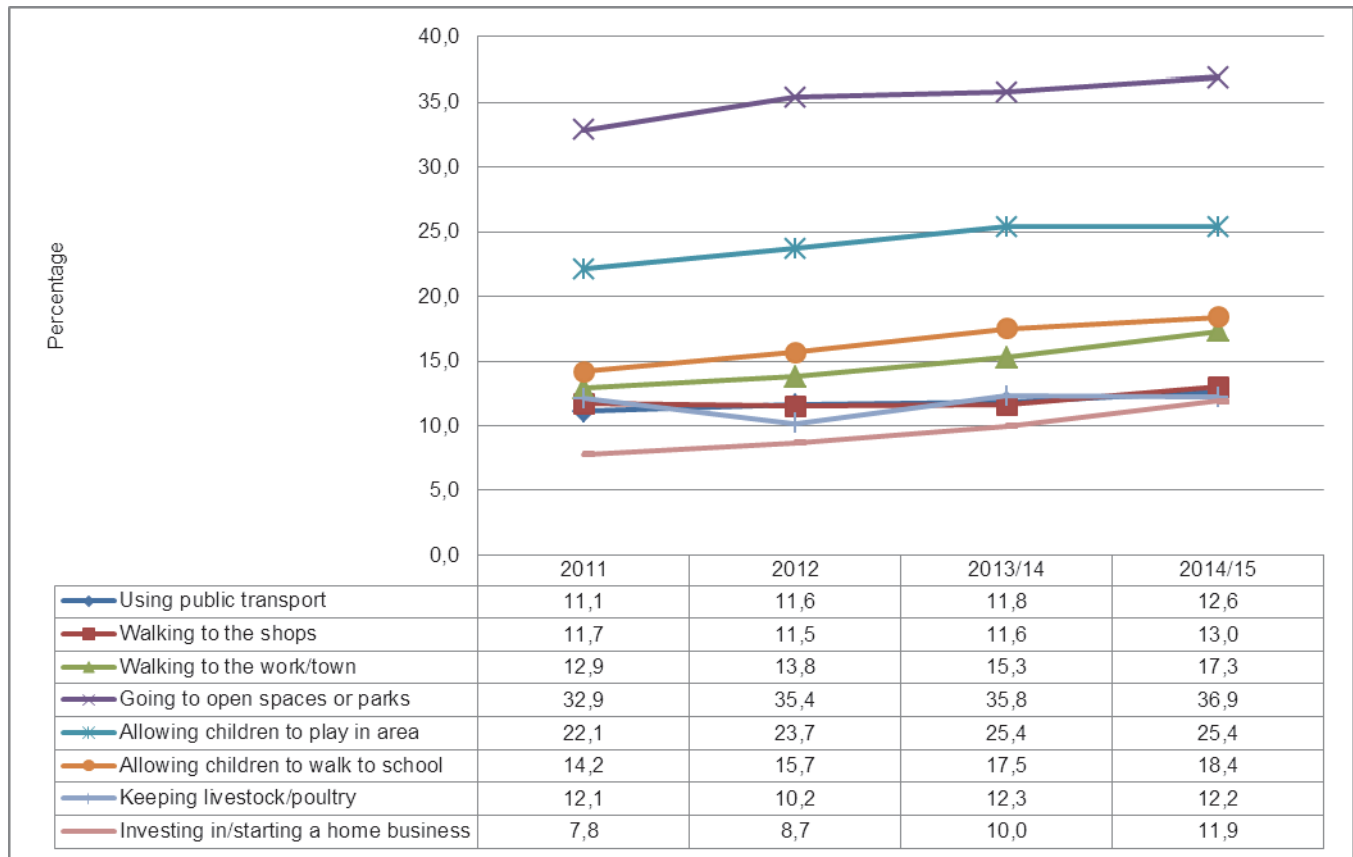
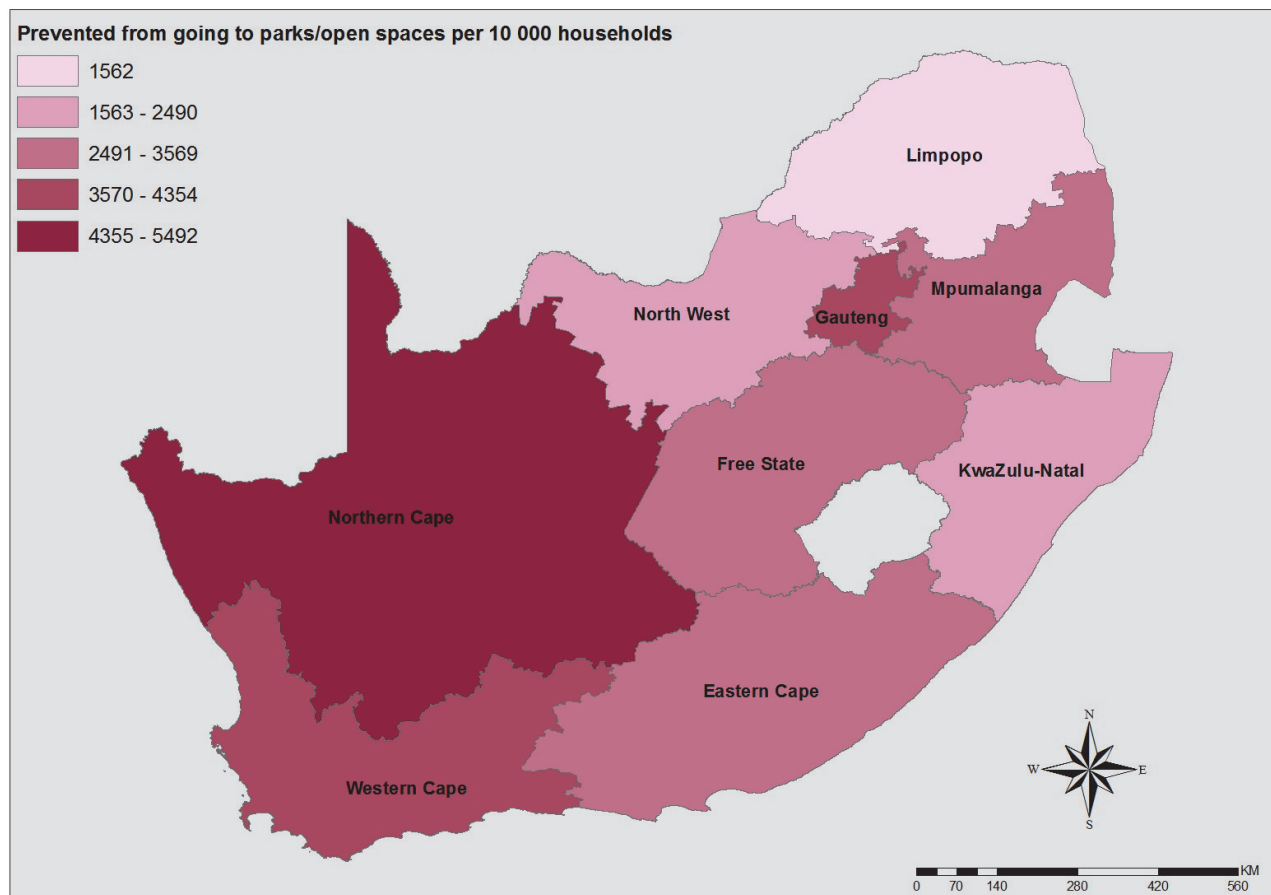


Figure 8 shows a time series analysis of the percentage of households who were prevented from engaging in daily activities as a result of crime in their area of residence. Generally, there was a slight percentage increase amongst households who were prevented from doing their daily activities alone in their areas of residence between 2011–2014/15. More than a third of households were prevented from going to open spaces or parks, while more than a quarter did not allow children to play outside as a result of the prevalence of crime in their areas.

**Map 2: Number of households per 10 000 households, who were prevented from going to parks/open spaces due to fear of crime, April 2014–March 2015**



Map 2 shows households who were prevented from going to parks/open spaces due to the fear of crime per 10 000 households. Households in Northern Cape were more likely to prevent going to parks/open spaces while Limpopo residents were the least likely to avoid parks/open spaces due to the fear of crime.



**Table 2: Number and percentage of households who were prevented from engaging in daily activities when alone, as a result of crime in their area by province, April 2014–March 2015**

Activity	Province										RSA
	Statistics	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	
Using public transport	Number '000	377	101	52	112	443	23	556	127	42	1 833
	Per cent	25,4	6,3	6,0	13,5	17,4	6,2	13,1	11,4	2,9	12,6
Walking to the shops	Number '000	416	162	80	103	398	27	573	118	68	1 945
	Per cent	25,7	10,0	8,5	12,0	15,5	7,4	13,1	10,4	4,6	13,0
Walking to work/town	Number '000	276	252	236	129	347	39	701	192	76	2 248
	Per cent	20,9	18,3	28,0	15,6	15,1	12,4	17,9	20,1	6,8	17,3
Going to open spaces or parks	Number '000	748	584	527	284	646	92	1 898	378	230	5 388
	Per cent	46,7	36,1	56,5	33,5	26,3	26,3	44,3	34,3	16,5	36,9
Allowing children to play in area	Number '000	473	199	225	171	513	21	1 237	166	76	3 083
	Per cent	44,9	16,6	28,8	24,2	23,2	6,5	34,9	16,8	5,9	25,4
Allowing children to walk to school	Number '000	371	135	144	114	358	12	918	87	19	2 160
	Per cent	38,1	11,4	19,2	16,6	16,7	3,9	26,9	8,9	1,5	18,4
Keeping livestock/poultry	Number '000	*	206	82	90	242	28	78	82	53	869
	Per cent	*	19,7	14,7	17,4	15,6	11,7	5,7	12,3	5,2	12,2
Investing in/starting a home business	Number '000	175	236	72	77	221	33	423	180	80	1 497
	Per cent	14,4	16,2	7,8	11,4	10,3	9,1	12,6	17,1	5,7	11,9
Walking to fetch wood/water	Number '000	21	75	28	40	61	*	29	160	85	505
	Per cent	11,7	6,2	4,4	8,5	3,6	*	1,6	17,6	5,9	5,8

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

Table 2 depicts a provincial distribution of households who were prevented from engaging in their daily activities in their area of residence as a result of crime. More than a third of the households (36,9%) were prevented from going to open spaces or parks when alone because of fear of crime. The fear of crime also prevented more than a quarter of households to allow their children to play in their area, while 18,4% of households could not allow their children to walk to school without being accompanied by an adult because of the fear of crime. An estimated 12,6% of households did not use public transport in 2014/15 due to the fear of crime in their area of residence.

Provincially, Western Cape (25,4%), KwaZulu-Natal (17,4%) and Free State (13,5%) had the highest percentage of households who were prevented from using public transport because of crime. The fear of falling victim to crime prevented more than a quarter of households in Western Cape (25,7%), approximately 15,5% in KwaZulu-Natal and 13,1% in Gauteng from walking to the shops. About 56,5% of households in Northern Cape, 46,7% in Western Cape and 44,3% in Gauteng could not go to open spaces and parks due to the fear of crime. Western Cape (44,9%) had the highest percentage of households who did not allow children to play in the area outside followed by Gauteng (34,9%).

**Table 3: Number and percentage of households who were prevented from engaging in daily activities when alone as a result of crime in their area by population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015**

Activity	Population Group					RSA
	Statistics	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	
Using public transport	Number '000	1 200	162	123	349	1 833
	Per cent	10,0	16,0	38,4	29,7	12,6
Walking to the shops	Number '000	1 288	185	110	362	1 945
	Per cent	10,7	17,3	31,7	25,0	13,0
Walking to work/town	Number '000	1 564	190	103	391	2 248
	Per cent	15,0	20,8	32,5	29,8	17,3
Going to open spaces or parks	Number '000	4 078	424	166	720	5 388
	Per cent	34,8	41,1	49,2	48,2	36,9
Allowing children to play in area	Number '000	2 214	296	129	444	3 083
	Per cent	22,2	33,9	43,8	46,3	25,4
Allowing children to walk to school	Number '000	1 434	234	103	390	2 160
	Per cent	14,7	28,1	37,0	44,4	18,4
Keeping livestock/poultry	Number '000	794	30	*	42	869
	Per cent	12,6	9,2	*	11,7	12,2
Investing in/starting a home business	Number '000	1 196	110	38	153	1 497
	Per cent	11,7	13,4	13,9	12,2	11,9
Walking to fetch wood/water	Number '000	475	15	*	12	505
	Per cent	6,1	4,1	*	3,1	5,8

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

Table 3 summarises the number and percentage of households who were prevented from engaging in daily activities because of fear of crime, by population group of the household head. Generally, most of the households in South Africa indicated that they were prevented from going to open spaces or parks due to fear of crime. Households headed by Indian/Asian (49,2%) population groups were most likely to be in this position, followed by the white headed households (48,2%) and coloured household heads (41,1%). Due to fear of crime, the same trend was also observed whereby they would not allow children to play freely in the area or to walk to school. Indian/Asian headed households had the highest percentage of people who were prevented from investing in or starting a home business (13,9%), while households headed by people from the black African population group were mostly prevented from going to open spaces or parks.

## 4.5 Households' views about perpetrators of crime

**Figure 9: Percentage distribution of households' perception on the most likely perpetrators of property crime, by province, 2011–2014/15**

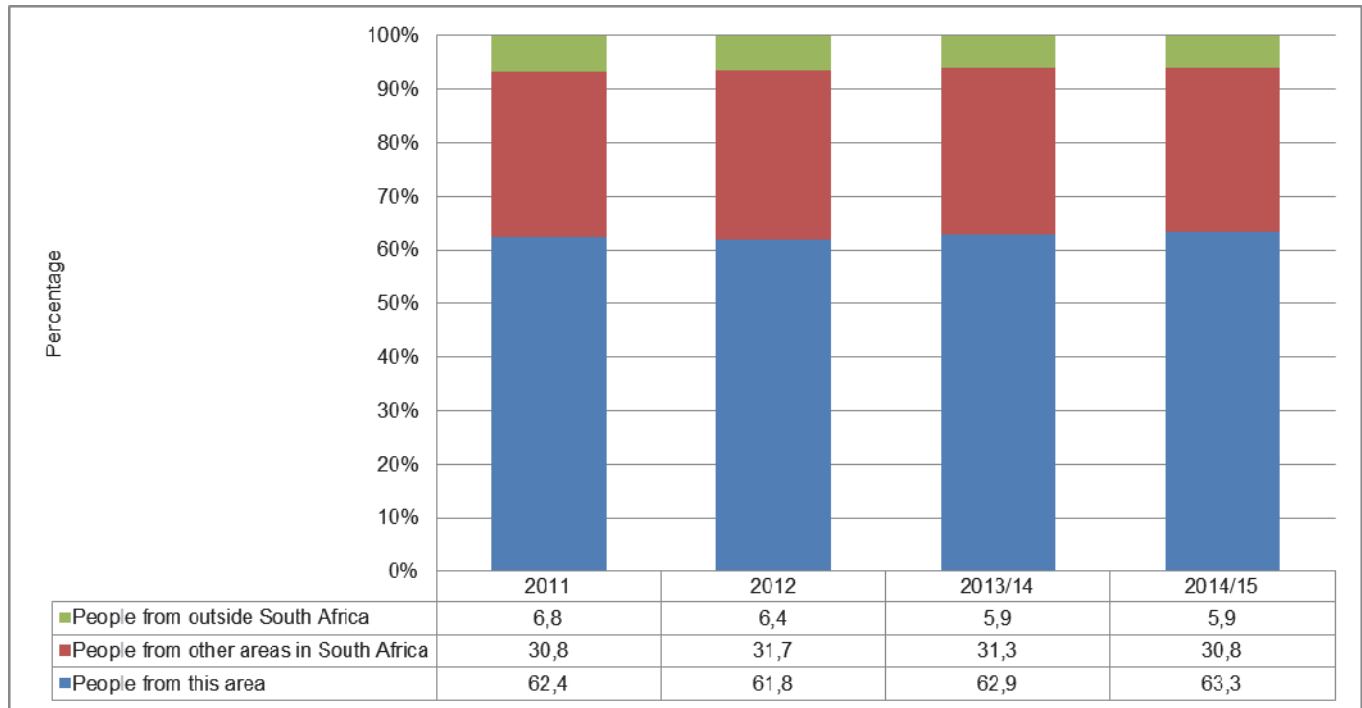


Figure 9 shows households' perceptions about people who were most likely to be perpetrators of property crimes over the years. In the period under review, most households thought that property crimes were committed by people from their area, while the least percentage indicated that perpetrators of property crime were people from outside South Africa.

**Figure 10: Percentage distribution of households' perception on the most likely perpetrators of property crime, by province, April 2014–March 2015**

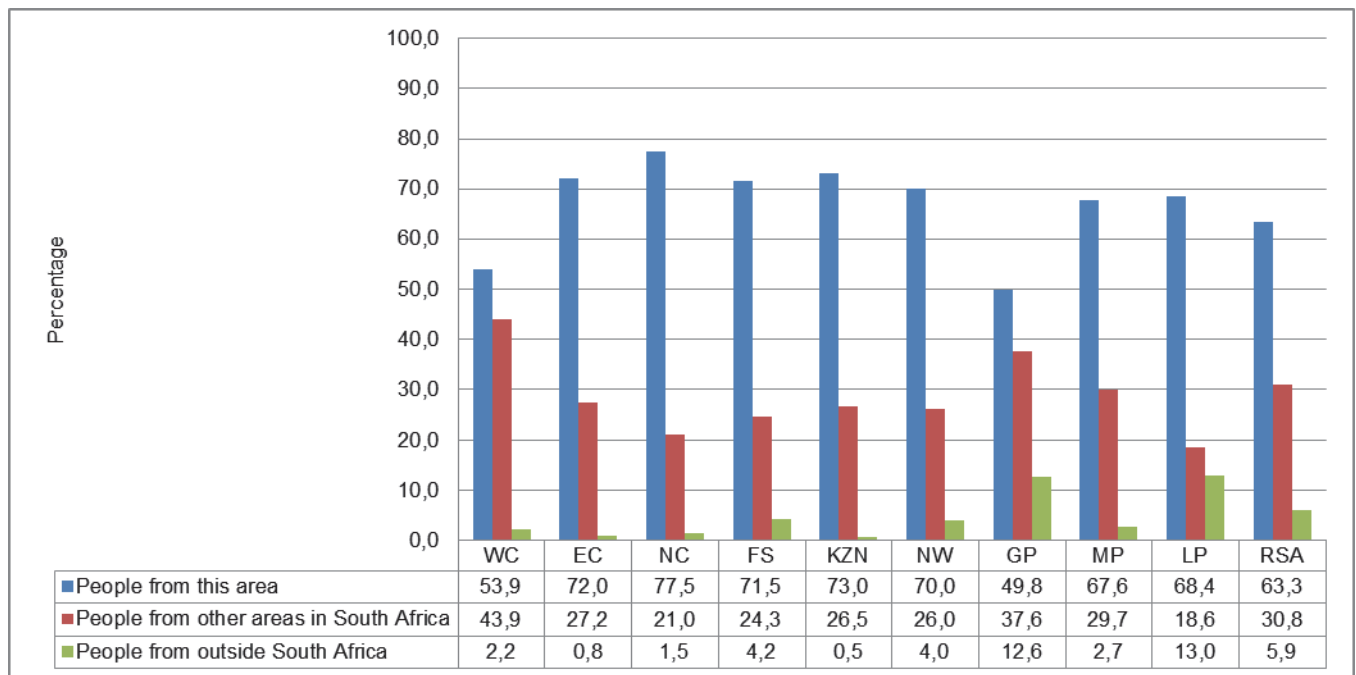


Figure 10 depicts the provincial distribution of households' perception on the most likely perpetrators of property crime. In Northern Cape, more than three quarters of households thought that perpetrators of property crime were people from their area, followed by about 73,0% of households in KwaZulu-Natal. About 43,9% of households in Western Cape, followed by an estimated 37,6% of households in Gauteng indicated that property crime was perpetrated by people from other areas in South Africa. About 6% of households in the country held the view that perpetrators of property crime were people from outside South Africa. This view was more dominant in Limpopo (13,0%) and Gauteng (12,6%) than in the rest of the country.

**Figure 11: Percentage distribution of households' perception on the most likely perpetrators of violent crime, 2011–2014/15**

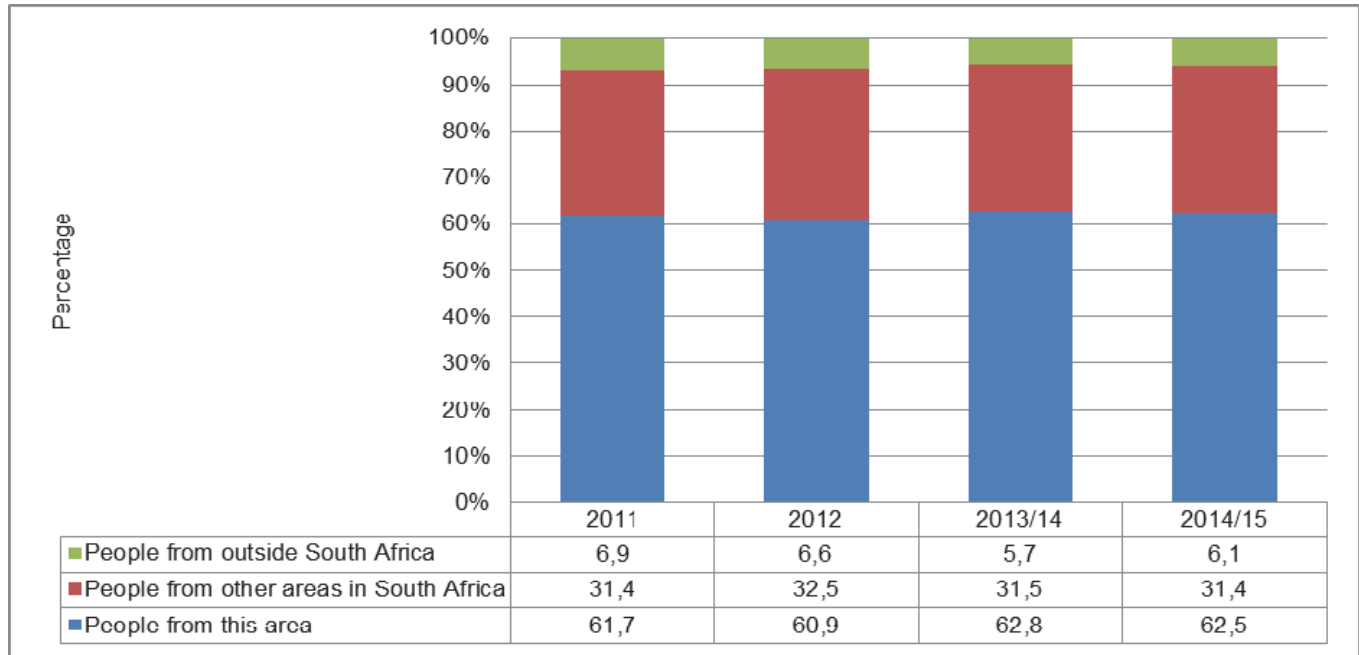


Figure 11 depicts a time series analysis of households' perceptions about the most likely perpetrators of violent crime. Over the years reviewed, most households in South Africa perceived that those who committed violent crimes were people from their area (62,5%). Overall, opinions that violent crimes were committed by people from other areas in the country remained largely the same over time.

**Figure 12: Percentage distribution of households' perception on the most likely perpetrators of violent crime, by province, April 2014–March 2015**

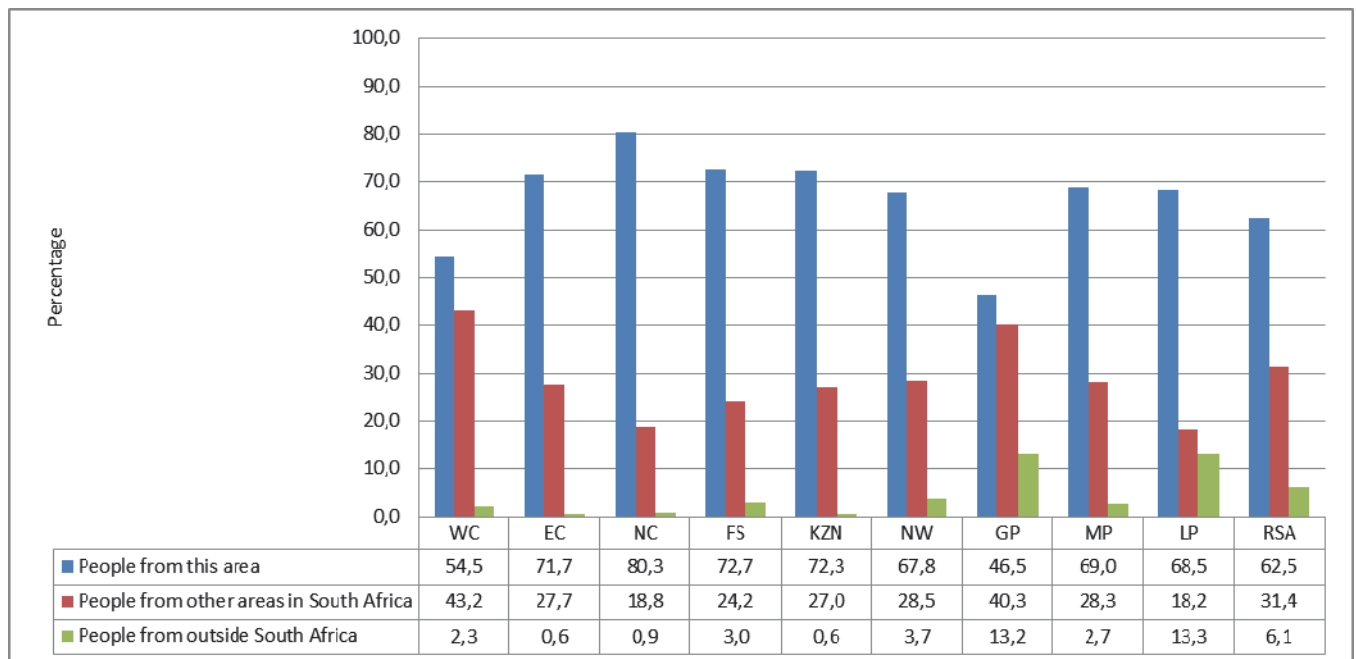
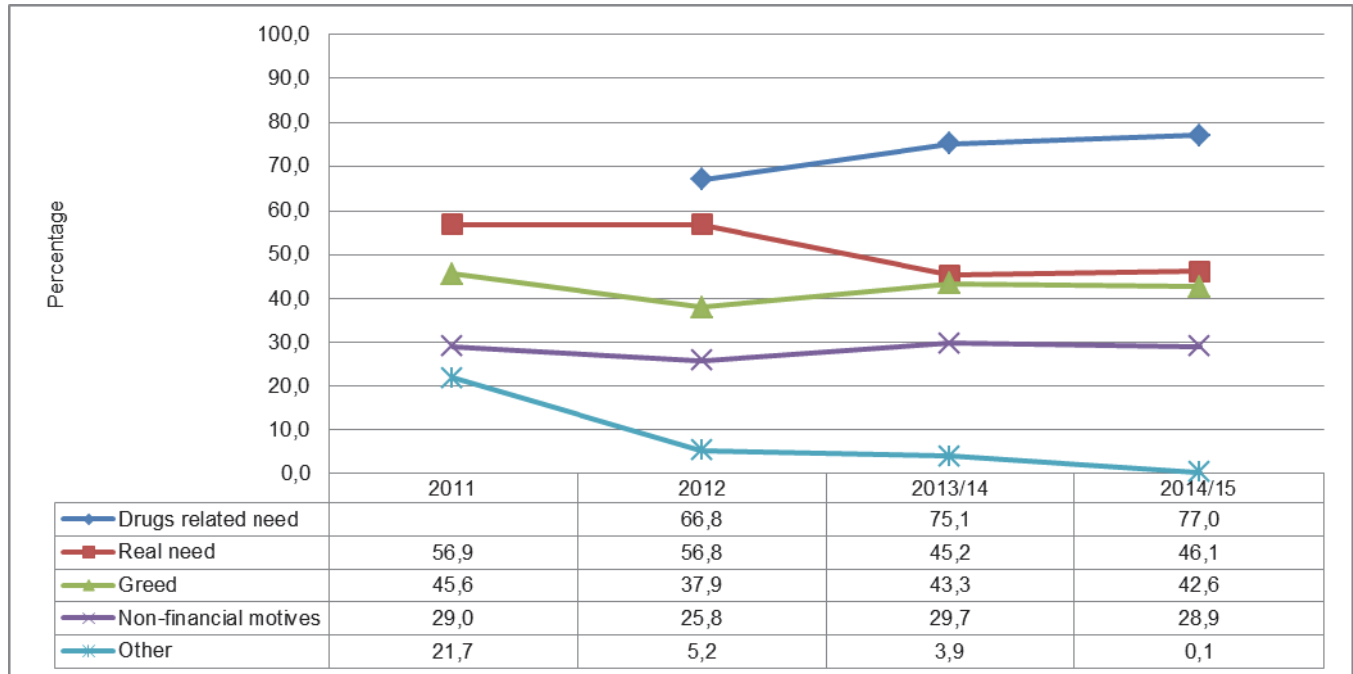


Figure 12 shows the provincial distribution of households' perceptions about perpetrators of violent crime. Approximately 80% of households in Northern Cape thought that perpetrators of violent crime were people from their area, followed by an estimated 73% of households in Free State. About 43,2% of households in Western Cape, followed by 40,3% of households in Gauteng indicated that property crime was perpetrated by people from other areas in South Africa.

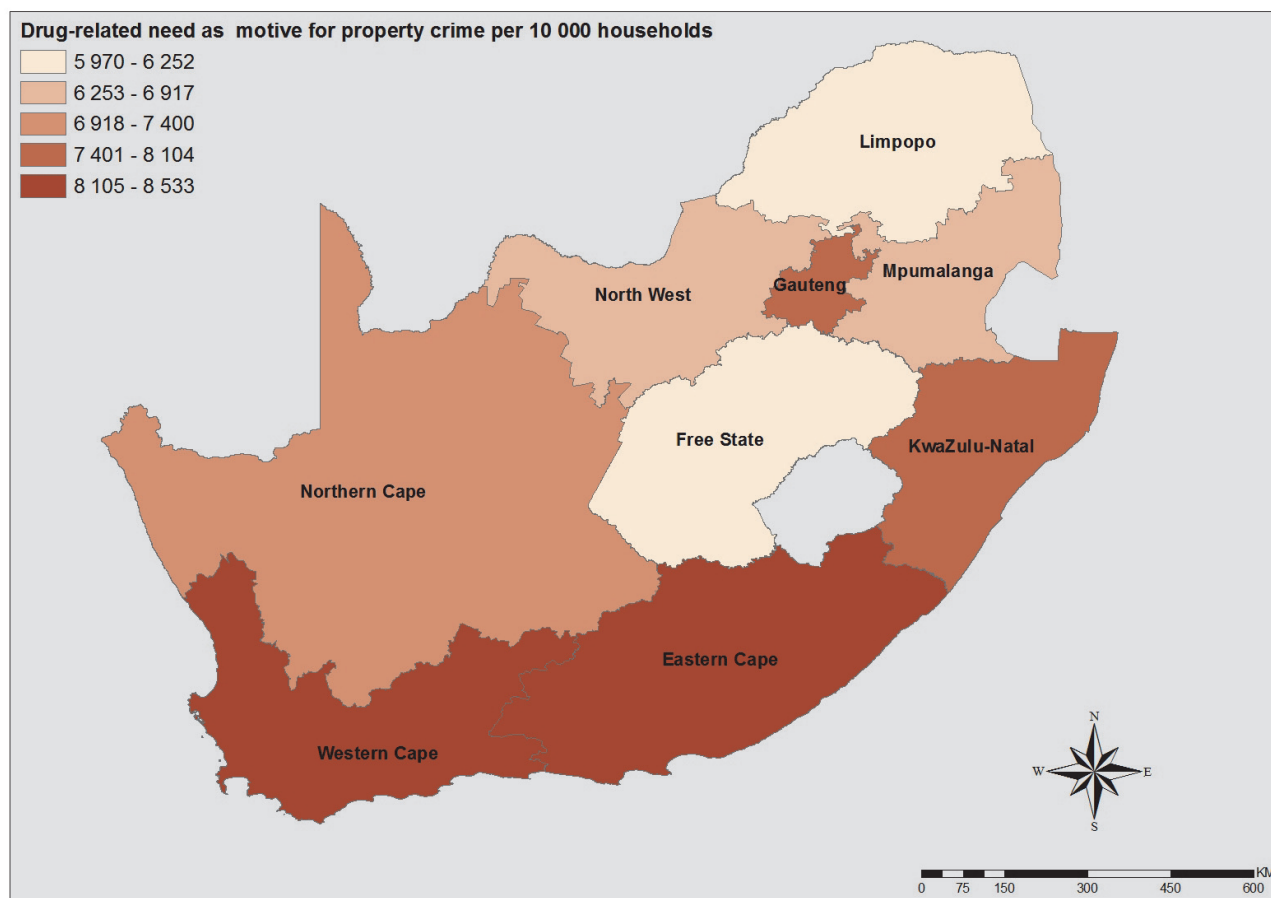
**Figure 13: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of why perpetrators commit property crime, 2011–2014/15**



Note: Drug- related need was not measured in 2011.

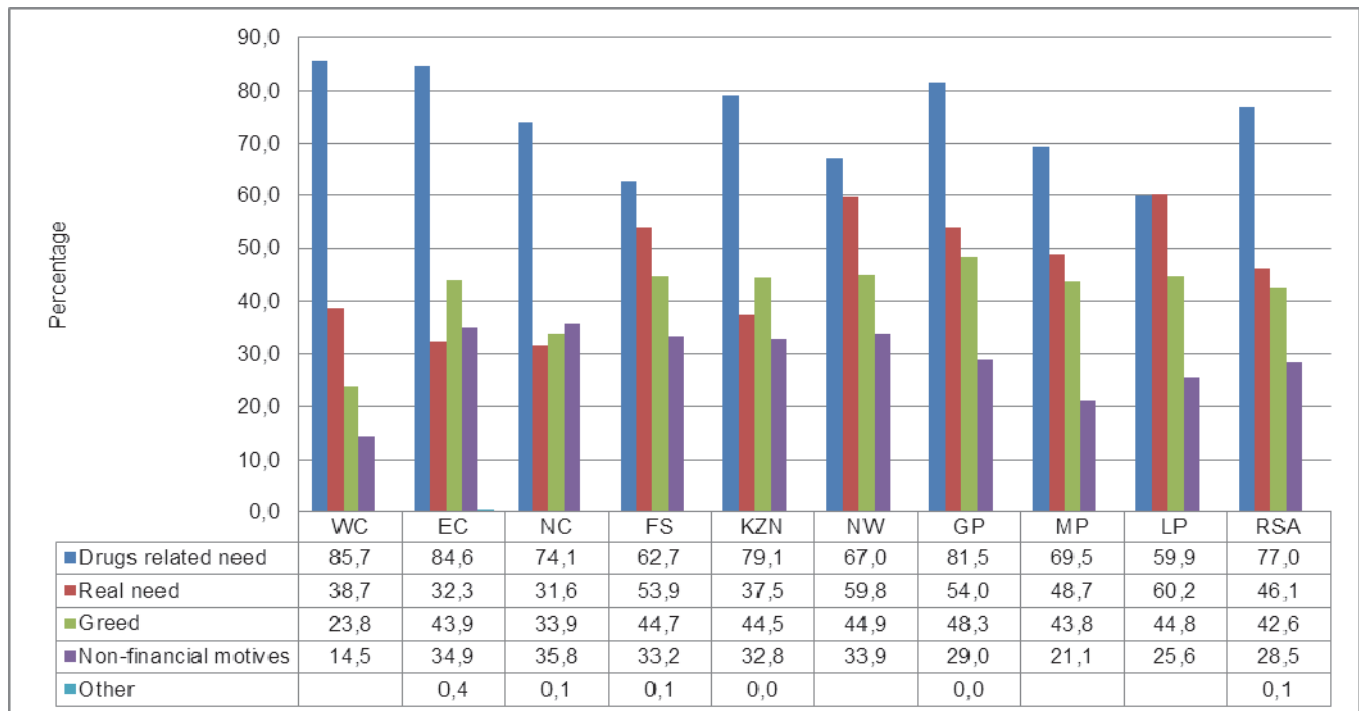
Figure 13 shows a time series analysis of households' perceptions on reasons why perpetrators commit property crime. Between 2013/14 and 2014/15, about three quarters of households thought that the perpetrators committed property crime because of drug-related needs. In 2014/15, an estimated 46,1% of households thought that crimes were committed because of real need, a 0,9 percentage point increase from 2013/14. In 2014/15, approximately 42,6% of households thought that the perpetrators committed property crime because of greed.

**Map 3: Number of households per 10 000 households, who perceived property crime to be motivated by drug-related needs by province, April 2014–March 2015**



Map 3 shows the number of households per 10 000 households who thought that property crimes were committed for drug-related needs. Western Cape and Eastern Cape had the highest number of households who thought that property crime was motivated by drug-related needs.

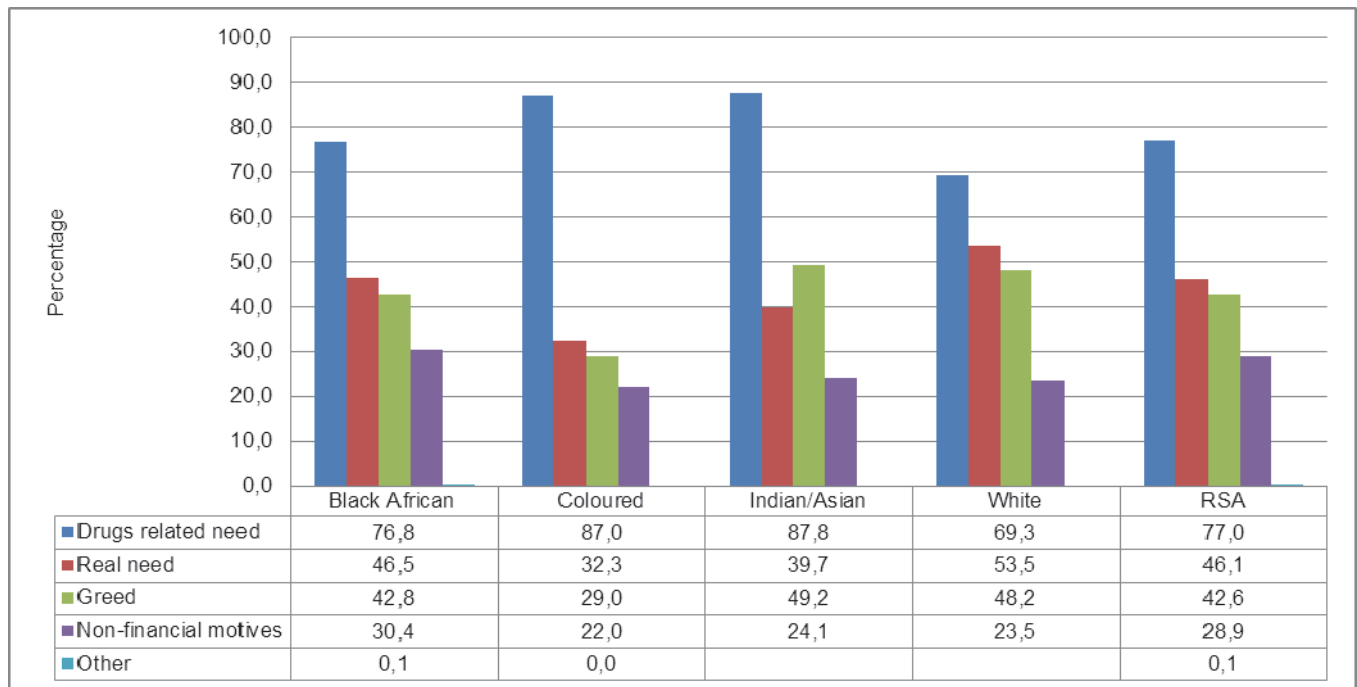
**Figure 14: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of why perpetrators commit property crime by province, April 2014–March 2015**



Note: Empty cells indicate that options/categories were not selected

Households' perceptions on why perpetrators commit property crime by province are shown in Figure 14. Western Cape had the highest percentage of households who thought that crime was committed because of drug-related needs (85,7%), followed by Eastern Cape (84,6%) and Gauteng (81,5%). Limpopo (60,2%), North West (59,8%) and Gauteng (54,0%) had the highest percentage of households who perceived that perpetrators commit crime because of real need. Most households who reported that perpetrators commit crimes because of greed were in Gauteng (48,3%). With regard to households who said that perpetrators commit crimes for non-financial motives, Northern Cape had the highest percentage (35,8%).

**Figure 15: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of why perpetrators commit property crime by population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015**



Note: Empty cells indicate that options/categories were not selected

Figure 15 depicts households' perceptions on why perpetrators commit property crime by population group of the household head. Households headed by people from the Indian/Asian (87,8%) and Coloured (87%) population groups had the highest percentages of people who thought that crime was perpetrated because of drug-related needs. Households headed by people from the black African population group were most likely to feel that non-financial motives were the reason why people perpetrated property crimes (30,4%).



## 4.6 Households' response to crime

**Figure 16: Percentage distribution of households' who took measures to protect themselves from crime, 2011–2014/15**

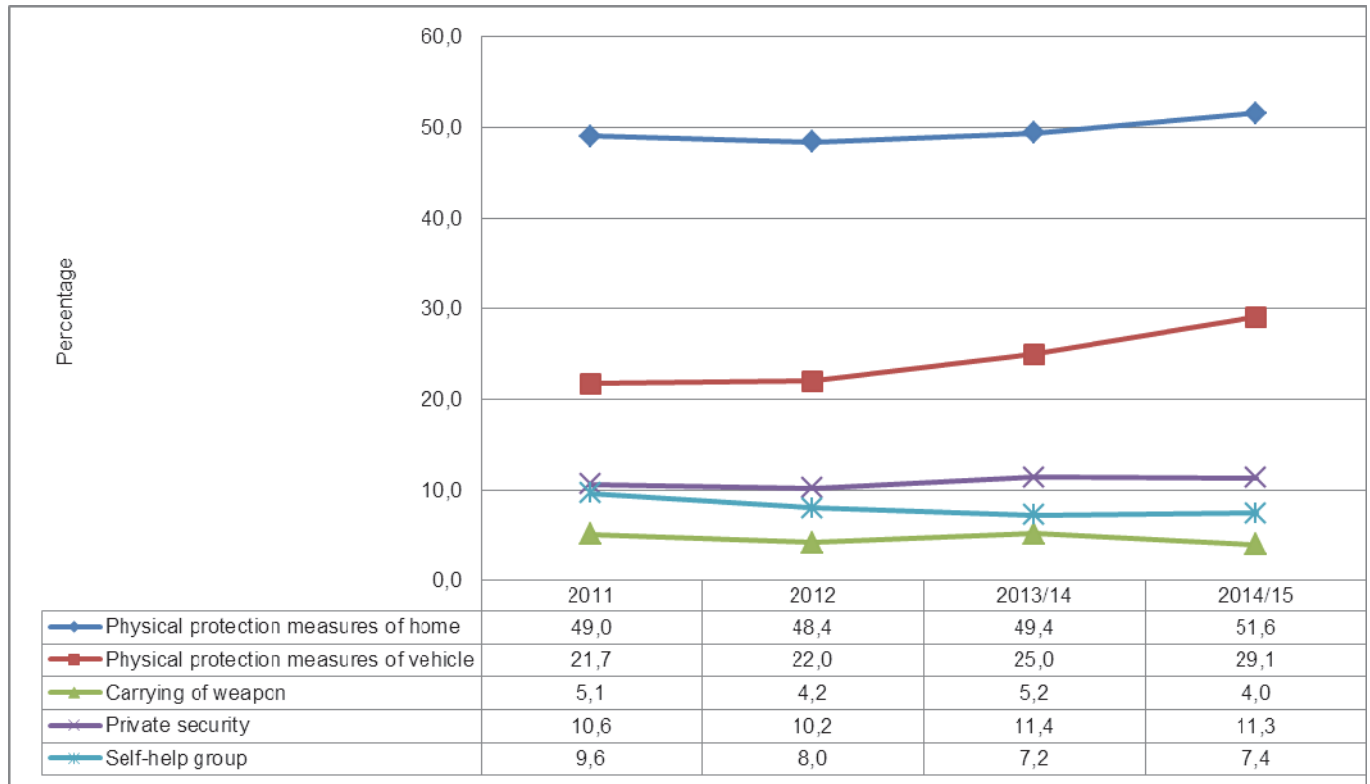


Figure 16 shows percentage distribution of households who took measures to protect themselves from crime between 2011 and 2014/15. Between 2013/14 and 2014/15, about half of the households took physical protection measures of home to protect themselves from crime. There was an increase of about 4,1 percentage points in the same period among those households who indicated that they took physical protection measures of vehicle. About 11,4% of households opted to acquire private security services to protect themselves from crime while the number of households who contacted self-help groups declined from 9,6% in 2011 to 7,4% in 2014/15.

**Figure 17: Percentage distribution of households who took measures to protect themselves from crime by province, April 2014–March 2015**

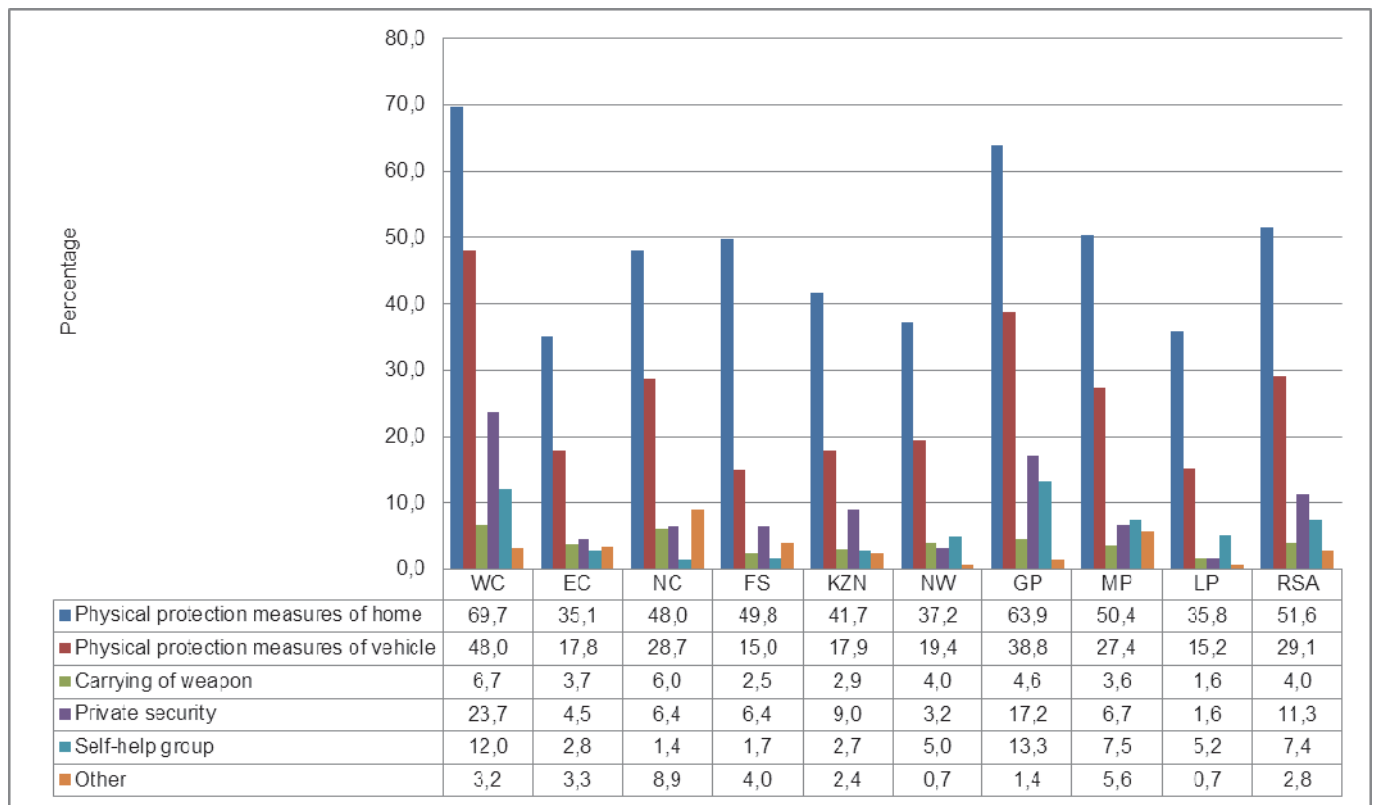
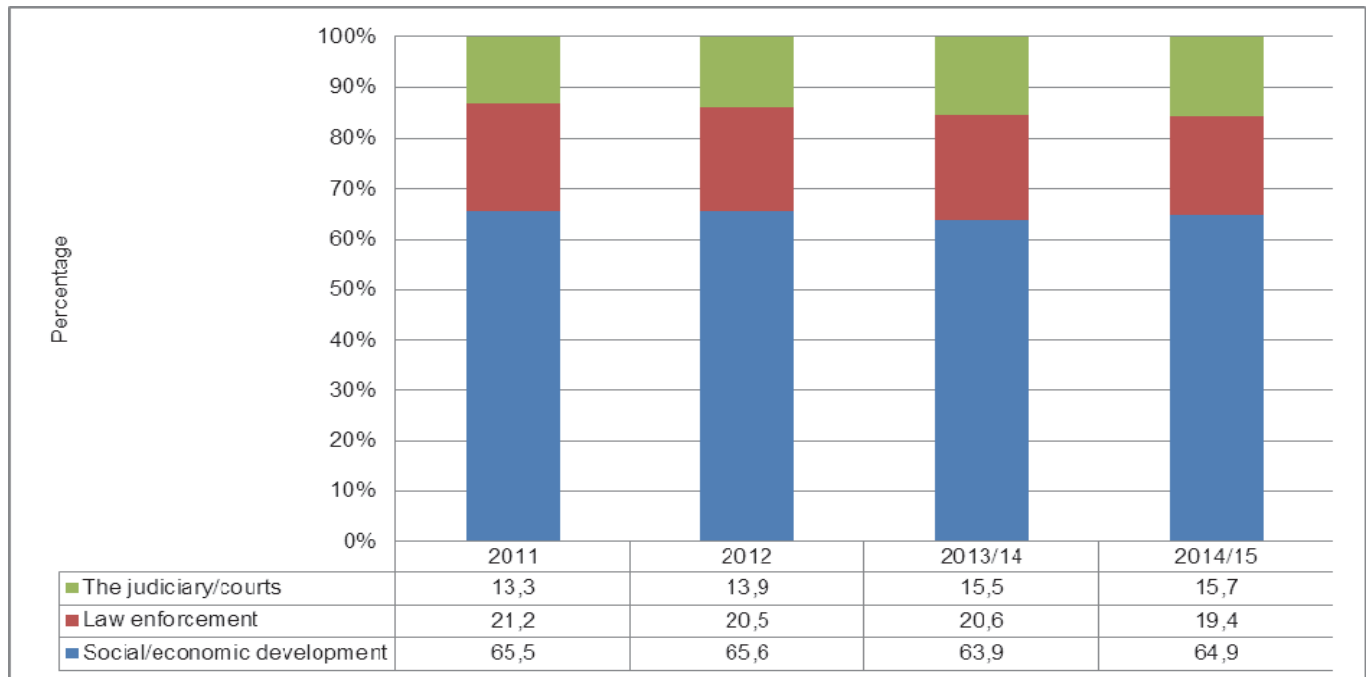


Figure 17 shows the distribution of households who took measures to protect themselves from crime in 2014/15. Most households in the country took physical protection measures for their homes (51,6%), the highest percentage amongst these being in Western Cape (69,7%), followed by Gauteng (63,9%) and Mpumalanga (50,4%). Physical protection measures of vehicles were mostly taken in Western Cape (48,0%) and Gauteng (38,8%). Households in Western Cape (23,7%) and Gauteng (17,2%) also had the highest percentage of those who hired private security. Western Cape had the highest percentage of households who carried weapons as a protection measure (6,7%), followed by Northern Cape (6,0%).

**Figure 18: Percentage distribution of households' suggestions on where government should spend money in order to reduce crime, 2011–2014/15**



Households' suggestions on where government should spend money in order to reduce crime are summarised in Figure 18. The majority of households in the country stated that government should spend money on social and/or economic development in order to reduce crime, as compared to law enforcement and the judiciary/courts.

**Figure 19: Percentage distribution of entities contacted first to come to the household's rescue in the event of being victimised by province, April 2014–March 2015**

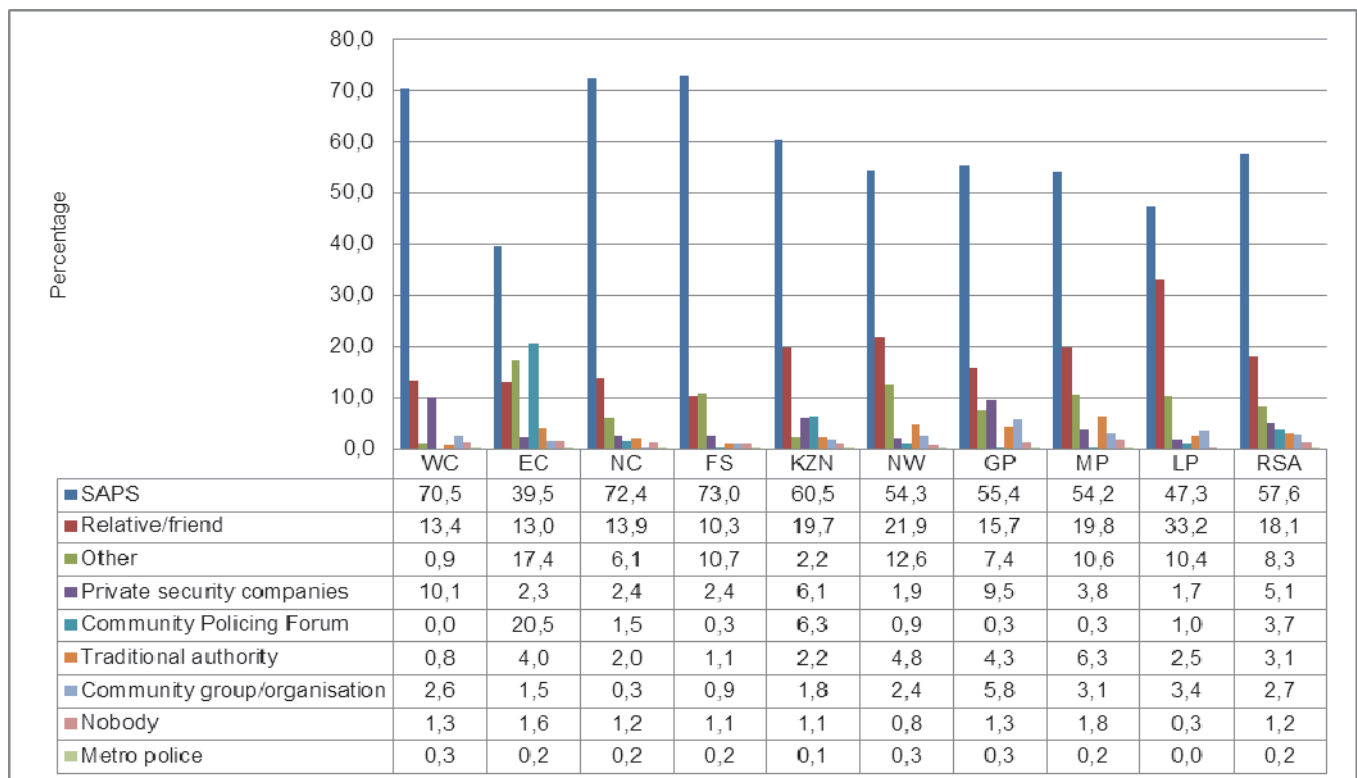
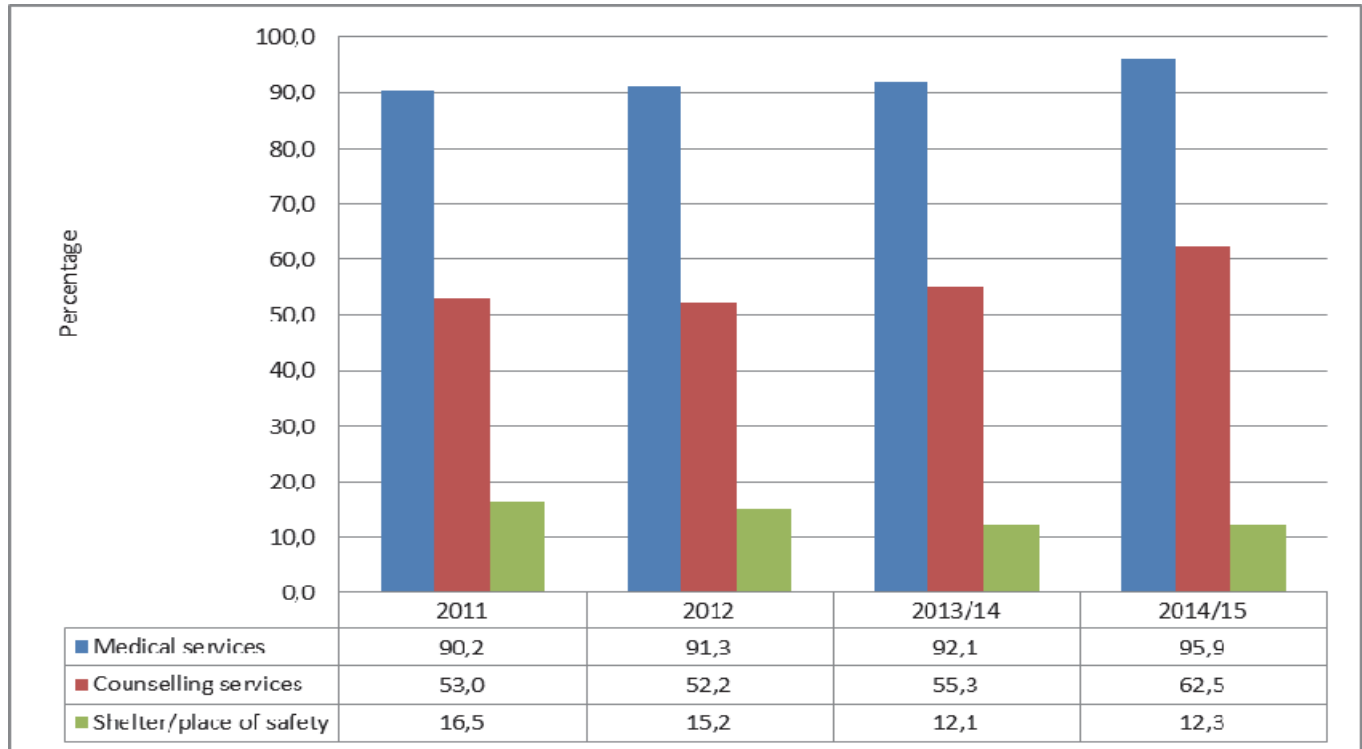


Figure 19 shows the entities that households would contact first to come to their rescue in the event of victimisation, depicted by province. Most households (57,6%) would call the South African Police Service (SAPS), the highest percentage amongst these being from Free State (73%), Northern Cape (72,4%), and Western Cape (70,5%). Nationally, relatives or friends were frequently contacted when households were victimised (18,1%).

## 5. Households' perceptions of victim support services

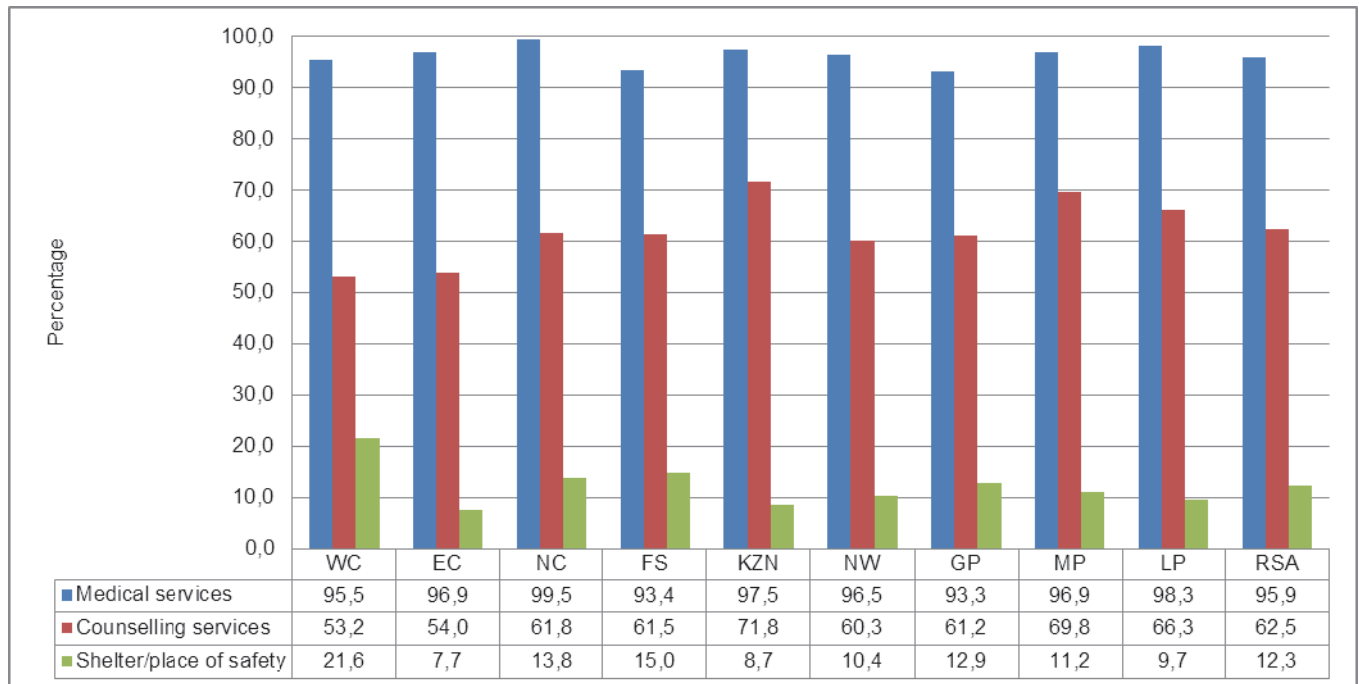
This section presents an analysis of the entities contacted first to come to the household's rescue in the event of being victimised, households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access medical and counselling services, as well as a place of safety/shelter that households knew of that they could take victims of domestic violence, disaggregated by province and population group.

**Figure 20: Percentage distribution of households who knew where to take victims of crime to access selected services, 2011–2014/15**



More than 90% of households between 2011 and 2014/15 knew where to take a victim of crime to access medical services; this trend has been increasing over the same period (Figure 20). About 63% of households in 2014/15 knew where to take a victim of crime to access counselling services compared to 53% in 2011. Over the period 2011 to 2014/15 more than 12% of households knew where to take a victim of crime to access shelter services.

**Figure 21: Percentage distribution of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access selected services by province, April 2014–March 2015**



A provincial distribution of the percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access selected services is depicted in Figure 21. Overall, most households indicated that they knew where to take victims to access medical services (95,9%); this trend was evident across all provinces. About six in ten households (62,5%) knew where to take a victim of crime to access counselling services. Residents of KwaZulu-Natal (71,8%) and Mpumalanga (69,8%) were the most likely to know this. Nationally a much lower percentage of households in the country responded that they knew a shelter or place of safety where they could take a victim of crime (12,3%); residents of Western Cape (21,6%) and Gauteng (12,9%) had the highest likelihood of knowing.

**Table 4: Number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access medical services by type of institution and province, April 2014–March 2015**

Institutions	Province										
	Statistics	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Police	Number '000	460	513	403	377	909	98	1 011	409	241	4 420
	Per cent	28,1	32,4	42,3	46,7	36,0	26,6	24,4	36,5	16,6	30,3
Hospital or trauma unit	Number '000	1 465	1 377	783	650	1 776	254	3 326	784	1 024	11 440
	Per cent	89,4	87,2	82,2	80,7	70,3	69,0	80,4	69,9	70,8	78,5
Local clinic	Number '000	858	1 058	498	539	2 149	341	3 363	899	1 379	11 084
	Per cent	52,3	67,0	52,2	66,7	85,0	92,8	81,3	80,2	95,4	76,0
Private doctor	Number '000	554	501	255	304	642	111	1 932	323	518	5 140
	Per cent	33,8	31,7	26,8	37,6	25,4	30,2	46,7	28,8	35,8	35,3
NGO volunteer group	Number '000	22	23	21	44	86	*	187	13	66	466
	Per cent	1,4	1,4	2,2	5,4	3,4	*	4,5	1,1	4,5	3,2
Victim empowerment centres/Thuthuzela centre	Number '000	27	22	18	16	65	*	102	*	40	300
	Per cent	1,6	1,4	1,8	2,0	2,6	*	2,5	*	2,8	2,1
Traditional leader/authority	Number '000	48	192	16	19	111	*	185	36	101	713
	Per cent	2,9	12,1	1,7	2,4	4,4	*	4,5	3,2	7,0	4,9
Courts	Number '000	32	18	10	94	118	*	185	51	12	522
	Per cent	1,9	1,1	1,1	11,6	4,7	*	4,5	4,5	0,8	3,6
Other	Number '000	14	*	*	78	13	*	44	54	*	211
	Per cent	0,9	*	*	9,7	0,5	*	1,1	4,8	*	1,4

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

Table 4 presents the number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access medical services by type of institution and province. Over three quarters of households responded that they could take victims to a hospital or trauma unit (78,5%) and a local clinic (76%). More than three in ten households said that they would take victims to a private doctor (35,3%) and police (30,3%) respectively. Less than 10% of households respondent that they would take victims to access medical services from a traditional leader/authority, Courts, NGO volunteer group and victim empowerment centres/Thuthuzela centres.

**Table 5: Number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access medical services by type of institution and population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015**

Institutions	Population Group					RSA
	Statistics	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	
Police	Number '000	3 600	374	78	369	4 420
	Per cent	30,9	35,6	22,7	23,9	30,3
Hospital or trauma unit	Number '000	8 834	883	311	1 412	11 440
	Per cent	75,9	84,1	90,4	91,6	78,5
Local clinic	Number '000	9 490	602	234	759	11 084
	Per cent	81,5	57,4	67,9	·	76,0
Private doctor	Number '000	3 892	335	183	730	5 140
	Per cent	33,4	32,0	53,1	47,3	35,3
NGO volunteer group	Number '000	377	27	21	41	466
	Per cent	3,2	2,6	6,1	2,7	3,2
Victim empowerment centres/Thuthuzela centre	Number '000	246	20	11	23	300
	Per cent	2,1	1,9	3,1	1,5	2,1
Traditional leader/authority	Number '000	630	24	17	43	713
	Per cent	5,4	2,3	4,9	2,8	4,9
Courts	Number '000	418	23	18	62	522
	Per cent	3,6	2,2	5,3	4,0	3,6
Other	Number '000	194	11	*	*	211
	Per cent	1,7	1,1	*	*	1,4

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

An analysis of the number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access medical services, disaggregated by population group is shown in Table 5. Amongst those who said that they would take the victim to a hospital or trauma unit, a higher percentage was white (91,6%) and Indian/Asian (90,4%) household heads. A higher percentage of black African household heads said that they would take the victim to a local clinic (81,5%), while Indian/Asian (53,1%) and white (47,3%) household heads were more likely to take the victim to a private doctor. More household heads in the coloured (35,6%) and black African (30,9%) population reported that they would take a victim of crime to a police station in order for them access medical services.

**Table 6: Number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access counselling services by type of institution and province, April 2014–March 2015**

Institutions	Province										RSA
	Statistics	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	
Police	Number '000	506	241	196	297	709	64	889	321	147	3 370
	Per cent	55,5	27,3	33,2	55,9	38,1	27,9	33,0	39,2	15,1	35,5
Hospital or trauma unit	Number '000	501	713	337	345	1 231	169	1 909	501	665	6 370
	Per cent	54,9	80,8	57,2	65,0	66,1	73,3	70,9	61,2	68,1	67,1
Local clinic	Number '000	382	547	250	309	1 448	199	2 067	529	855	6 585
	Per cent	41,9	61,9	42,4	58,2	77,7	86,7	76,8	64,6	87,7	69,4
Private doctor	Number '000	222	266	84	205	426	73	1 068	130	258	2 731
	Per cent	24,3	30,2	14,3	38,6	22,9	31,8	39,9	16,1	26,5	28,9
NGO/volunteer group	Number '000	106	114	44	50	78	10	254	43	79	778
	Per cent	11,6	12,9	7,4	9,4	4,2	4,2	9,4	5,3	8,1	8,2
Victim empowerment centres/Thuthuzela centre	Number '000	87	120	138	52	120	12	276	87	89	980
	Per cent	9,5	13,6	23,3	9,9	6,4	5,0	10,3	10,8	9,2	10,4
Traditional leader/authority	Number '000	84	83	28	59	73	21	349	63	148	908
	Per cent	9,2	9,4	4,7	11,2	3,9	9,0	13,0	7,8	15,2	9,6
Courts	Number '000	37	68	30	119	57	14	206	89	16	636
	Per cent	4,0	7,7	5,1	22,3	3,0	6,2	7,6	10,9	1,7	6,7
Other	Number '000	34	143	41	88	24	*	32	27	*	398
	Per cent	3,7	16,2	6,9	16,5	1,3	*	1,2	3,3	*	4,2

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

The number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access counselling services are depicted in Table 6. Almost seven in every ten households in the country would take a victim of crime to a local clinic to access counselling services (69,4%), while about 67,1% of households would take them to a hospital or trauma unit. Police (35,5%) and private doctor (28,9%) were also considered as places where victims of crime could access counselling services. Less than 10% of household cited NGO/volunteer group, Traditional leader/authority and Courts as places where they could take victims to access counselling services.

Of those households who would take a victim to a local clinic, Limpopo had the highest percentage (87,7%), followed by North West (86,7%). Those who cited a hospital or trauma unit as the favoured place to take a victim were mostly in Eastern Cape (80,8%) and North West (73,3%). Police were mainly preferred as a place to take a victim of crime to access counselling services by households in Free State (55,9%) and Western Cape (55,5%).



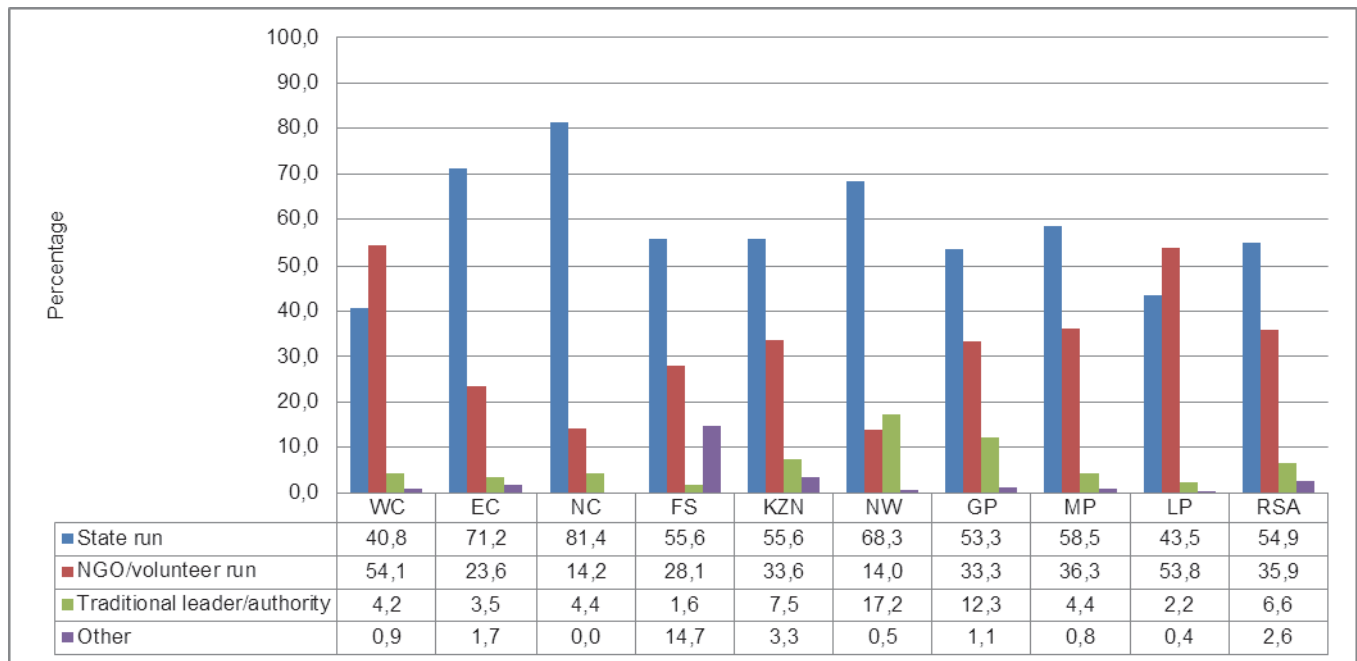
**Table 7: Number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access counselling services by type of institution and population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015**

Institutions	Population Group					RSA
	Statistics	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	
Police	Number '000	2 538	352	73	408	3 370
	Per cent	33,7	50,2	34,8	38,5	35,5
Hospital or trauma unit	Number '000	5 042	438	158	732	6 370
	Per cent	67,0	62,6	75,5	69,1	67,1
Local clinic	Number '000	5 662	357	106	460	6 585
	Per cent	75,3	51,0	50,6	43,4	69,4
Private doctor	Number '000	1 958	178	96	500	2 731
	Per cent	26,1	25,4	45,8	47,3	28,9
NGO/volunteer group	Number '000	571	66	31	110	778
	Per cent	7,6	9,4	14,8	10,4	8,2
Victim empowerment centres/Thuthuzela centres	Number '000	804	55	34	89	980
	Per cent	10,7	7,8	16,1	8,4	10,4
Traditional leader/authority	Number '000	709	45	23	131	908
	Per cent	9,4	6,5	11,1	12,4	9,6
Courts	Number '000	518	26	*	86	636
	Per cent	6,9	3,7	*	8,1	6,7
Other	Number '000	341	25	*	33	398
	Per cent	4,5	3,5	*	3,1	4,2

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk

Table 7 shows the number and percentage of households who knew where to take a victim of crime to access counselling services by type of institution and population group of the household head. Amongst those household heads who said that they would take victims to access counselling services at the local clinic, a little over three quarters were black African whereas less than half of white household heads chose a local clinic as the preferred facility (43,4%). Hospital or trauma unit was mainly cited by Indian/Asian (75,5%) and white household heads (69,1%). Over half of coloured household heads said that they would take a victim to the police (50,2%) and about four in ten of white household heads (38,5%).

**Figure 22: Percentage distribution of households who knew of a place of safety/shelter where they could take a victim of domestic violence by type of institution and province, April 2014–March 2015**



The percentage distribution of households' who knew of a place of safety/shelter where they could take a victim of domestic violence by institution and province is shown in Figure 22. Over half of households in South Africa identified a state-run facility (54,9%) where they could take victims of domestic violence. Households in Northern Cape had the highest percentage of households (81,4%) who indicated that State-run facilities is the place they would take a victim of domestic violence. Non-governmental organisation or volunteer run facilities were the second most cited by households as places to take victims of domestic violence. Only households living in the Western Cape (54,1%) and Limpopo (53,8%) were more likely to take victims to NGO/Volunteer-run places.

**Figure 23: Percentage distribution of households who knew of a place of safety/shelter where they could take a victim of domestic violence by type of institution and population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015**

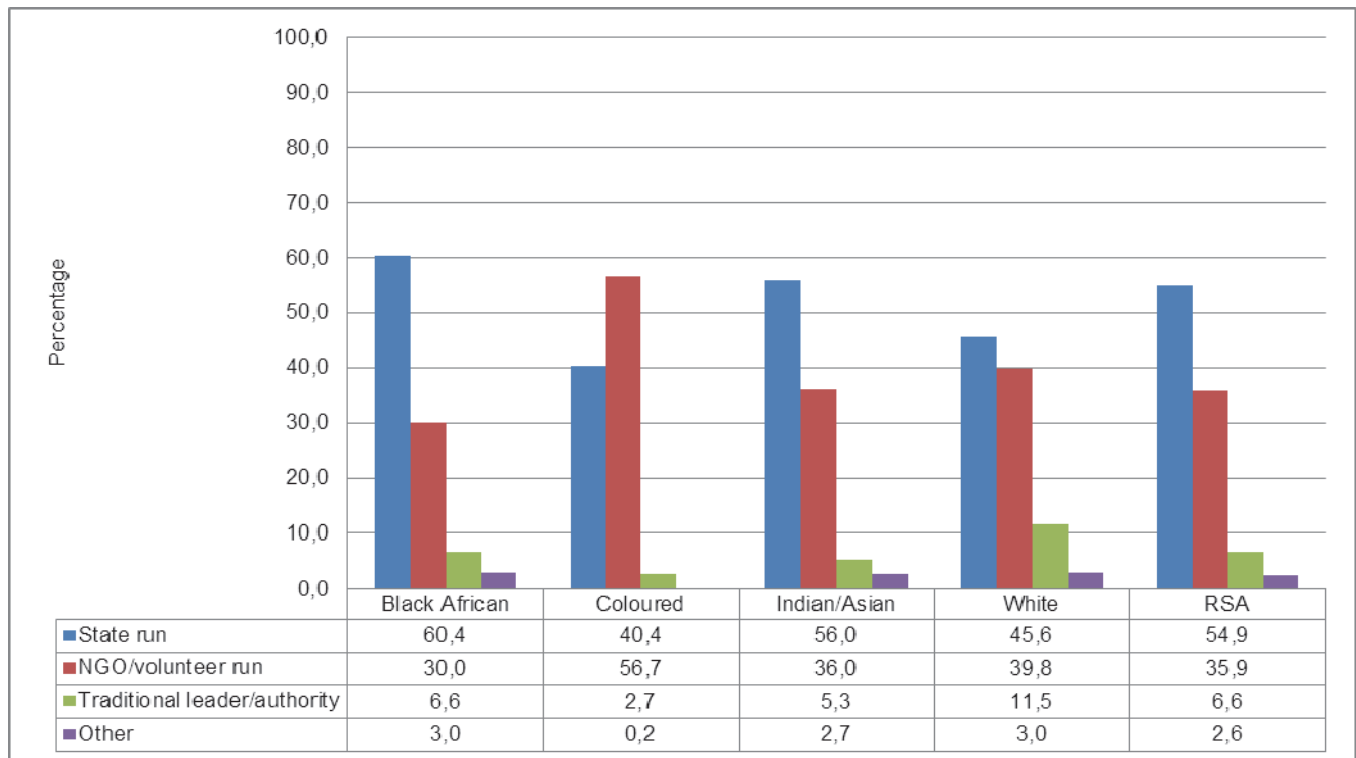


Figure 23 shows the percentage distribution of households who knew of a place of safety/shelter where they could take a victim of domestic violence by institution and population group of the household head. Black African household heads had the highest percentage of household heads who said that they would take a victim of domestic violence to state-run facility. Coloured household heads were more likely to take a victim of domestic violence to a non-governmental organisation or volunteer-run institution (56,7%).

## 6. Households' perceptions of law enforcement

As part of an assessment of the efficiency of the law enforcement agencies in the country, the Victims of Crime Survey asked households about their general perceptions about the services provided by the police and courts.

### 6.1 Households' perceptions about the police

An analysis of average length of time it takes households to reach their nearest police station and the police to respond to emergency calls, police visibility, as well as households levels of satisfaction with police services, by selected demographic variables is shown below.

**Figure 24: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of the average length of time it takes to reach the nearest police station using their usual mode of transport, by province, 2011–2014/15**

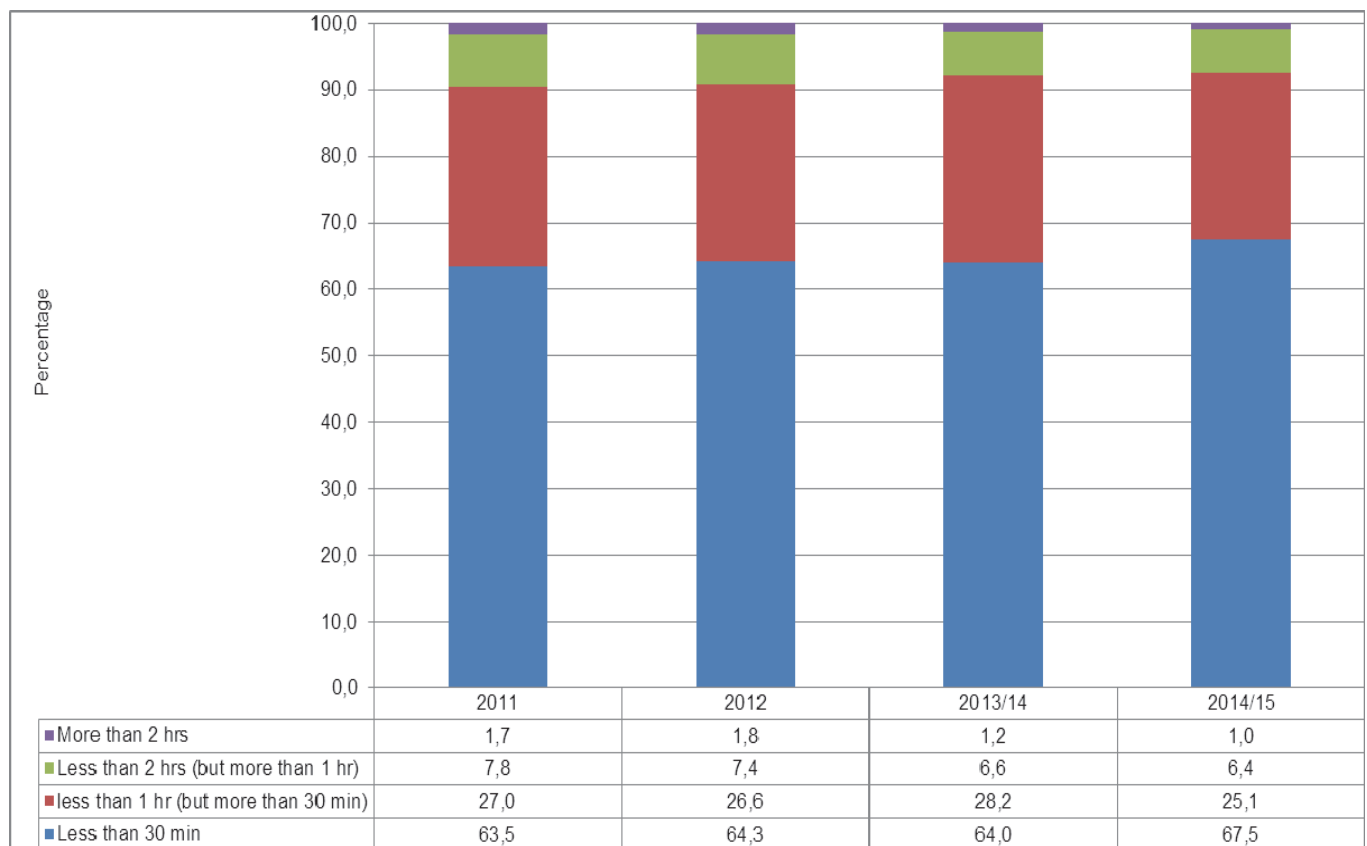


Figure 24 shows households' perceptions on the average length of time it would take to reach their nearest police station when using their usual mode of transport between 2011 and 2014/15. Nationally, more than six in every ten households indicated that they travelled less than 30 minutes to get to the nearest police station across the years.

**Figure 25: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions of the average length of time it takes to reach the nearest police station using their usual mode of transport by province, April 2014–March 2015**

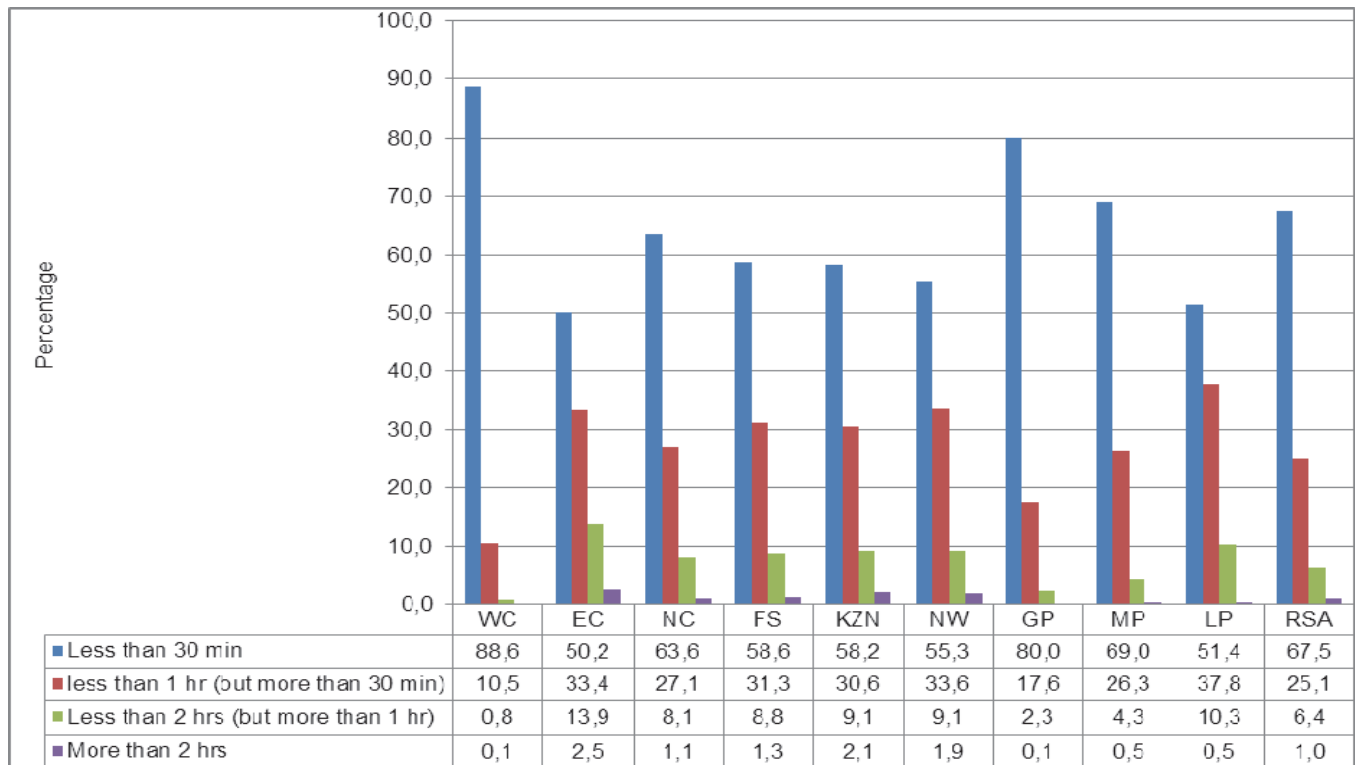
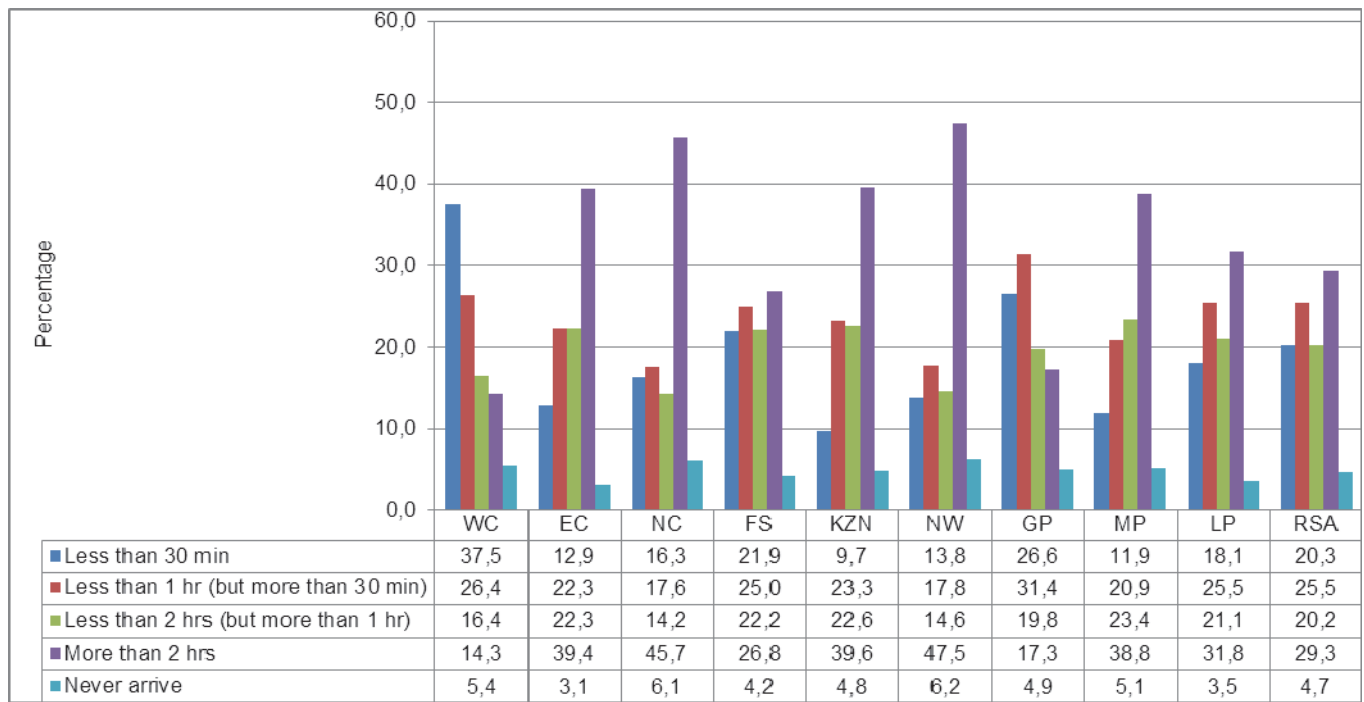


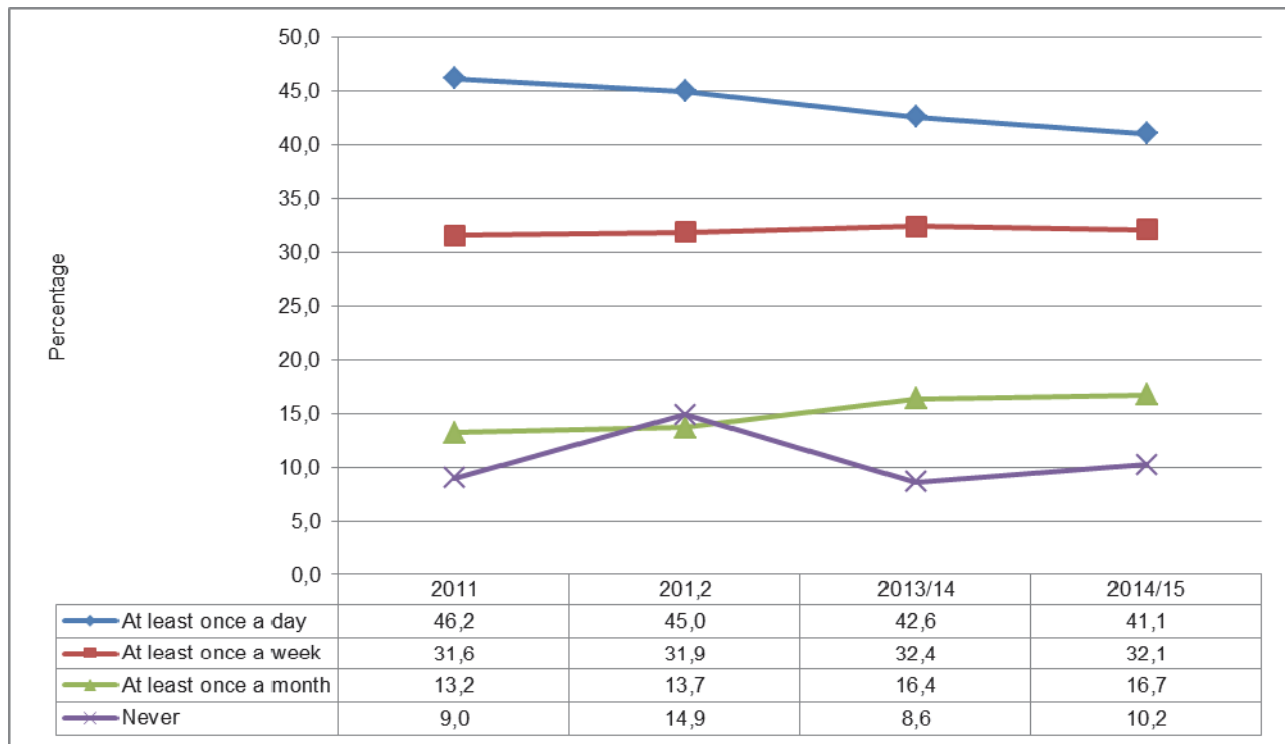
Figure 25 indicates that the majority of households travelled less than 30 minutes when using their usual mode of transport, to get to the nearest police station (67,5%). Provincially, Western Cape (88,6%) recorded the highest percentage of households who travelled less than 30 minutes to the nearest police station, followed by Gauteng (80,0%). Limpopo (37,8%) was leading in percentage for households who travelled more than 30 minutes but less than an hour, followed by North West (33,6%) and Eastern Cape (33,4%).

**Figure 26: Percentage distribution of households' perceptions on the average length of time it takes the police to respond to an emergency call by province, April 2014–March 2015**



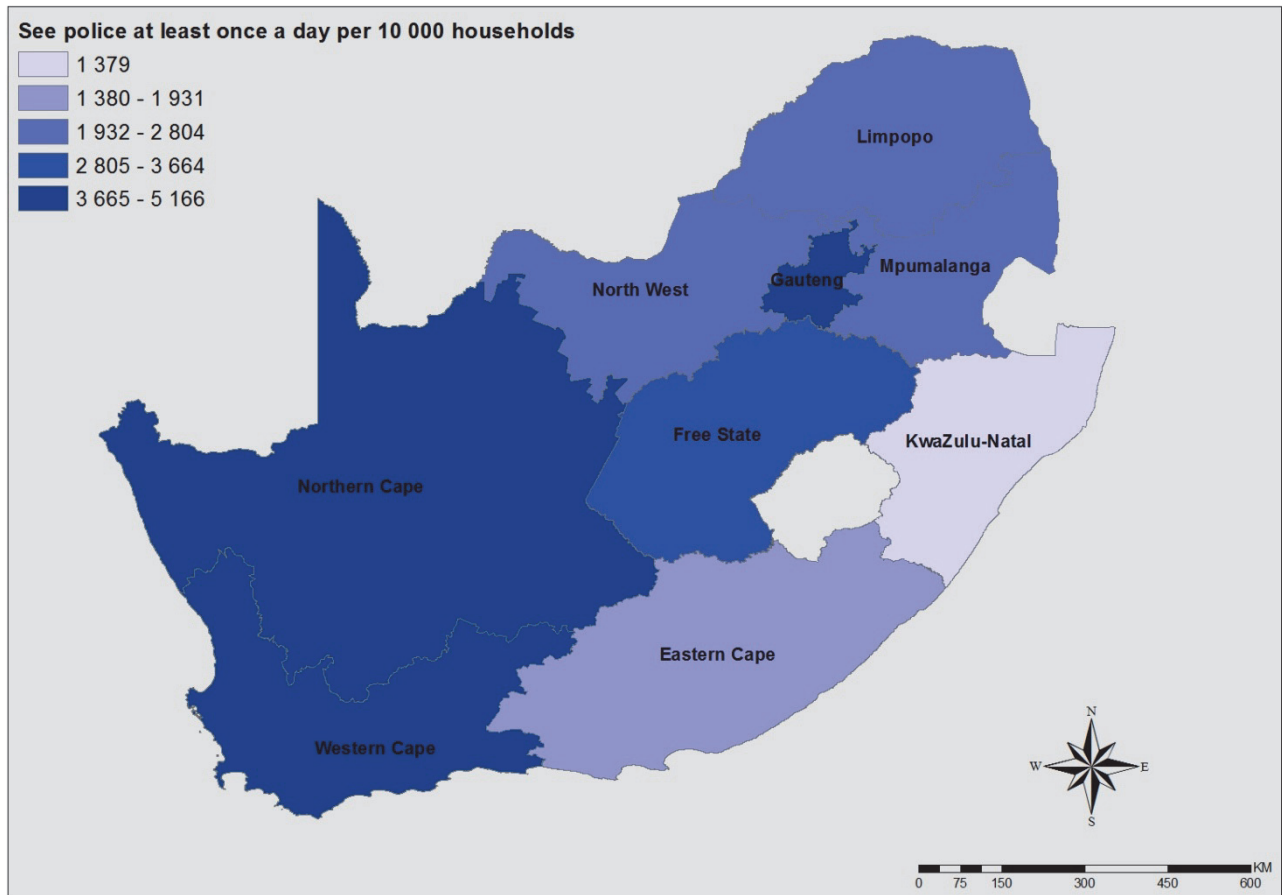
Almost three in very ten households (29,3%) were of the view that it takes more than two hours for the police to respond to an emergency call. North West (47,5%) recorded the highest percentage of households who felt that the police take more than two hours to response to an emergency call, followed by Northern Cape (45,7%) and Eastern Cape (39,4%) (Figure 26).

**Figure 27: Percentage distribution of households who saw the police, in uniform and on duty, in their area of residence, 2011–2014/15**



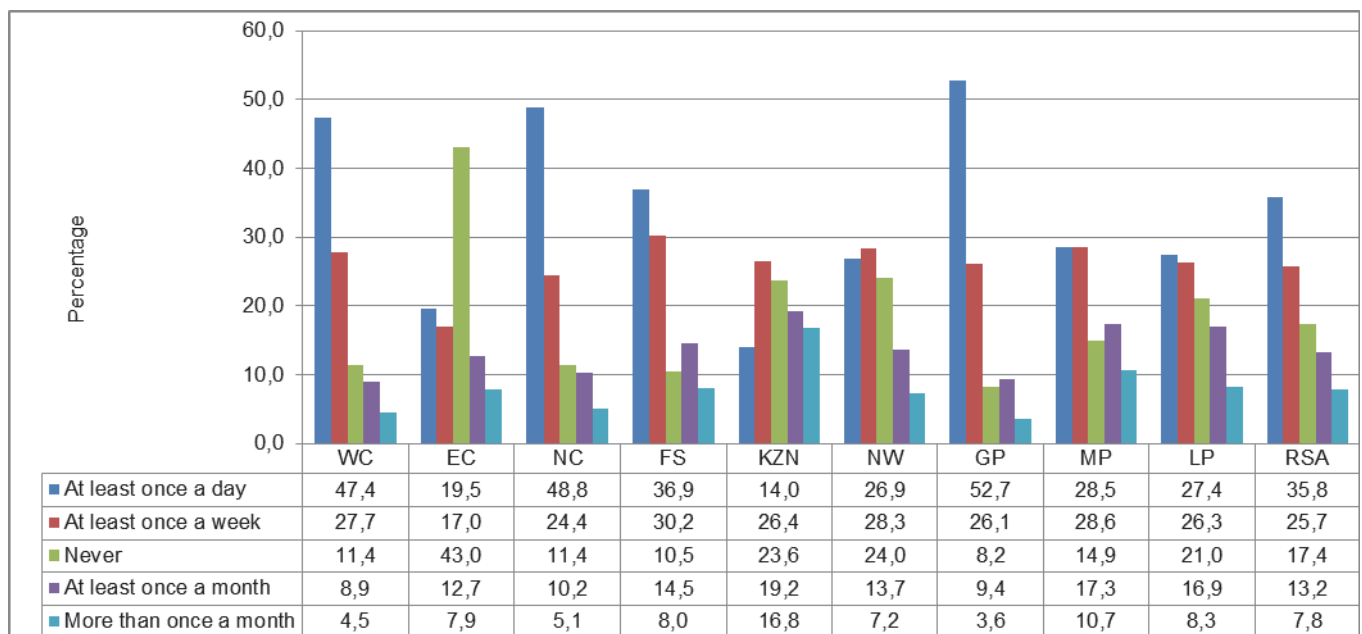
The households' perceptions on police visibility generally decreased over the years, this is shown in Figure 27. The percentage of households who reported to have seen the police in uniform or on duty at least once a day decreased from 46,2% in 2011 to 41,1% in 2014/15. The percentage of those who said that they had never seen police increased between 2013/14 and 2014/15 by 1.6 percentage points.

**Map 4: Number of households per 10 000 households, who saw the police officers on duty at least once a day by province, April 2014–March 2015**



Map 4 depicts the provincial distribution of households who see police officers on duty and in uniform at least once a day. Households in Northern Cape, Western Cape and Gauteng were most likely to see police officers on duty at least once a day. Residents of KwaZulu-Natal had the least number of households who saw police at least once a day.

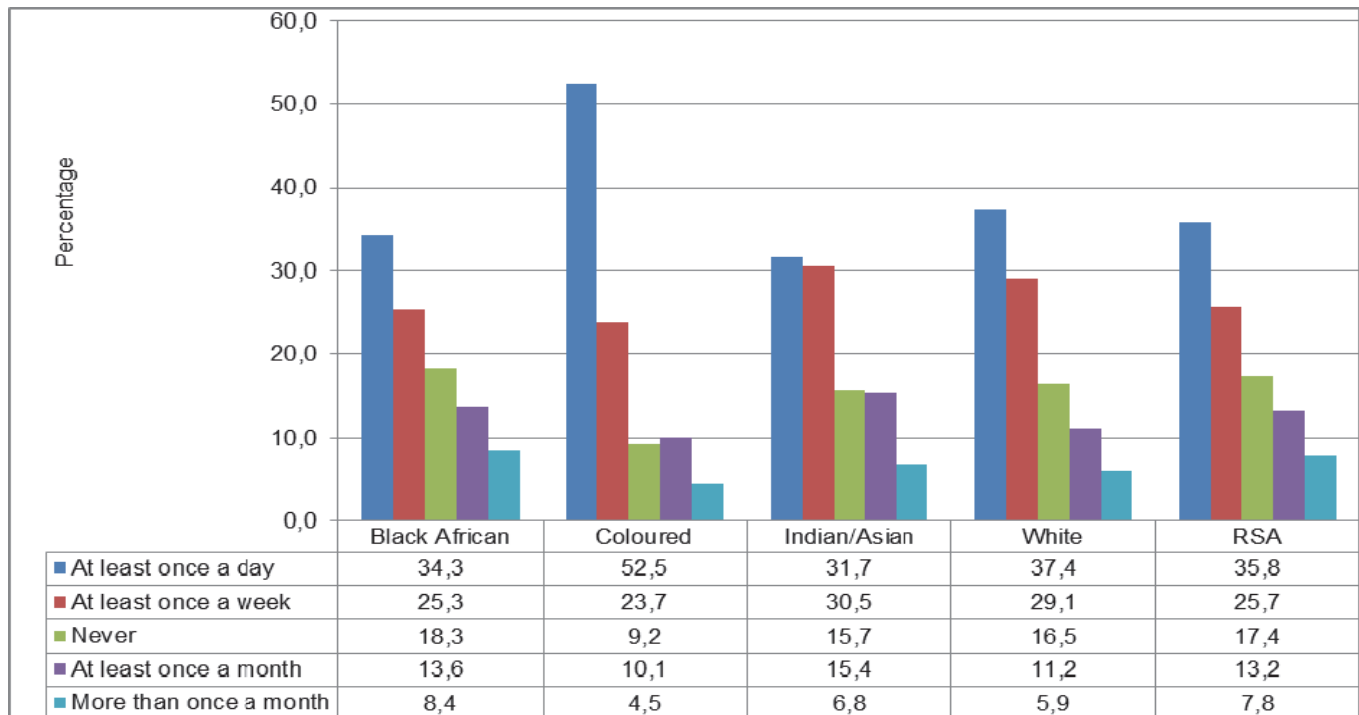
**Figure 28: Percentage distribution of households who saw the police, in uniform and on duty, in their area of residence by province, April 2014–March 2015**





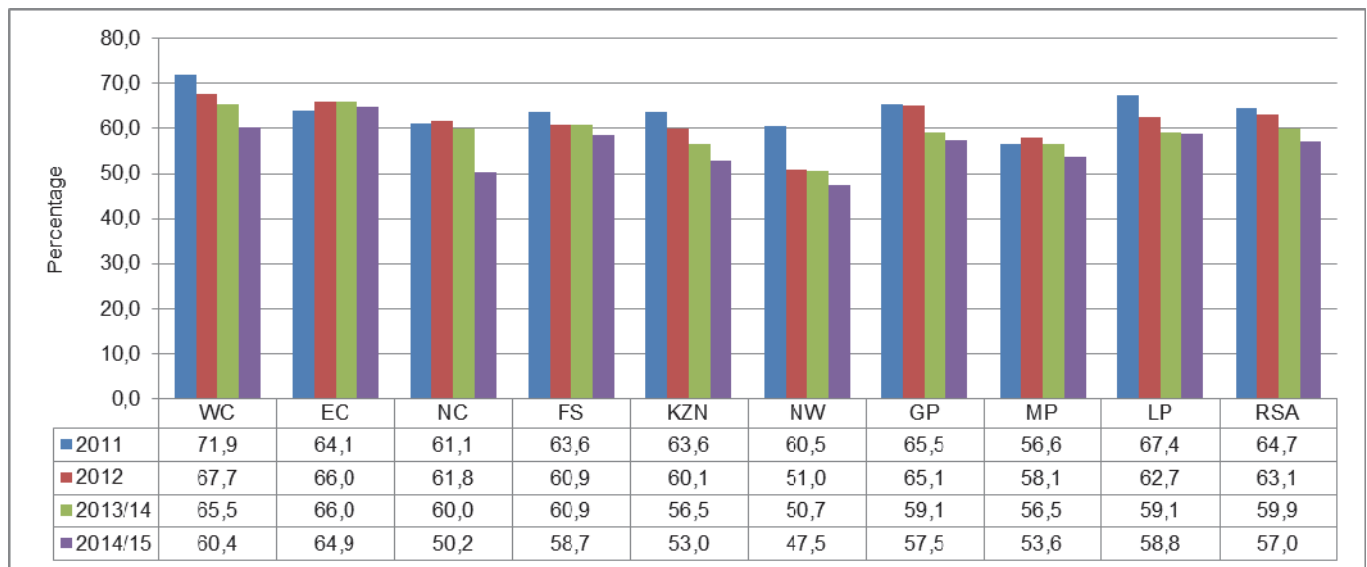
Households were asked about how often they saw police in uniform and on duty in their area of residence. Gauteng (52,7%) had the highest percentage of households who reported to have seen police patrolling in their area at least once a day, followed by Northern Cape (48,8%) and Western Cape (47,4%). The highest percentage of households where a police officer was seen at least once a week was found in Free State (30,2%) and Mpumalanga (28,6%). More than four in ten households in Eastern Cape reported that they have never seen a police officer on duty at all in their area of residence (43,0%), followed by nearly a quarter in North West (24,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (23,6%) (Figure 28).

**Figure 29: Percentage distribution of households who saw the police, in uniform and on duty, in their area of residence by population group of the household head, April 2014–March 2015**



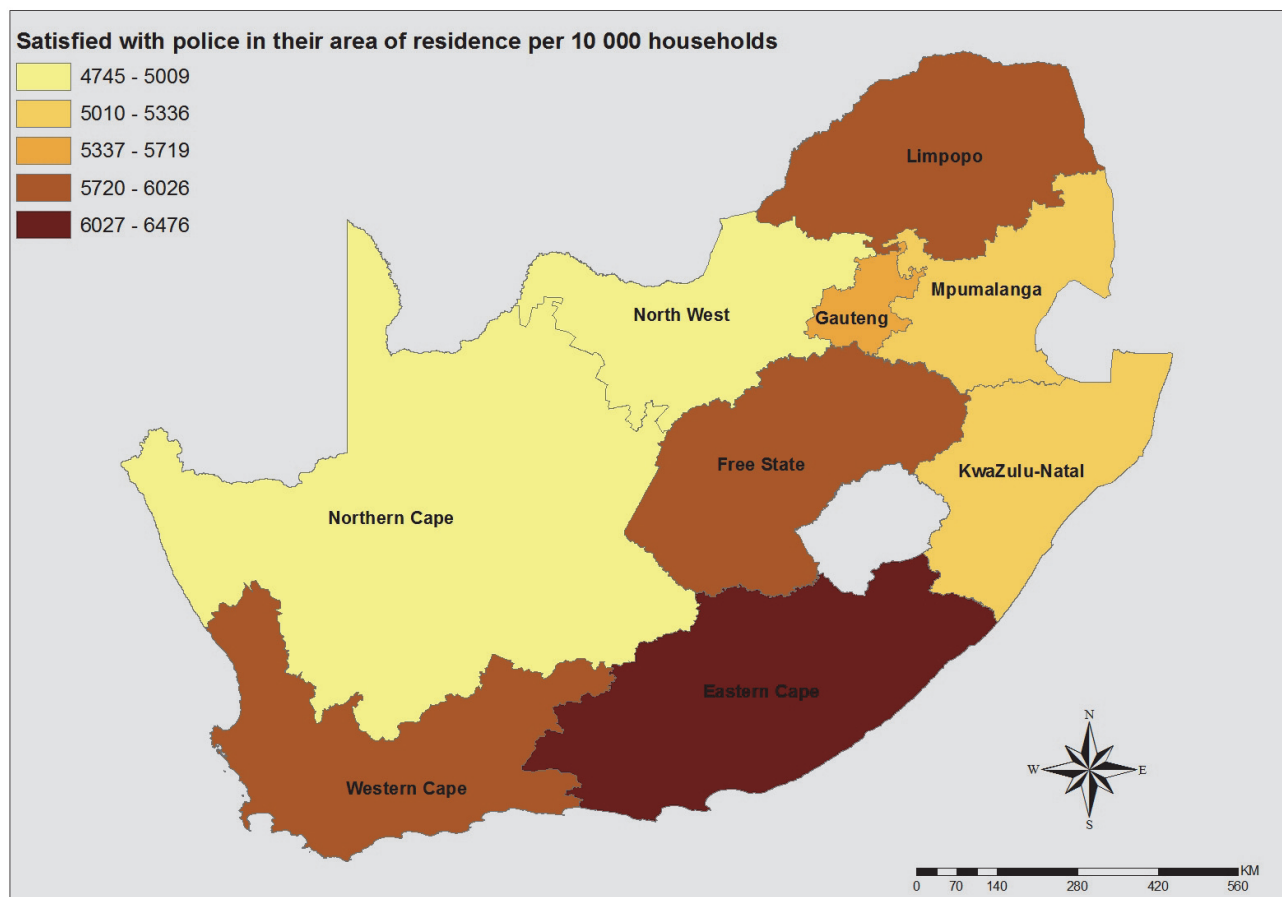
The police visibility in the area of residence was also measured by the population group of the household head, where (52,5%) of coloured headed households saw police on duty at least once a day, followed by white headed households (37,4%). Indian/Asian headed households (30,5%) were most likely to report seeing a policeman on duty at least once a week. Never seeing police on duty was most common amongst households headed by black Africans (18,3%) (Figure 29).

**Figure 30: Percentage distribution of households who were satisfied with the police in their area by province, 2011–2014/15**



Households' satisfaction with the way the police dealt with the matter decreased between 2011 and 2014/15 by 7,7 percentage points. The highest percentage point decrease over this time period was observed in North West (13%), Western Cape (11,5%) and Northern Cape (10,9%) (Figure 30).

**Map 5: Number of households per 10 000 households, who were satisfied with police by province, April 2011–March 2015**



Map 5 shows the number of individuals per 10 000 population who were satisfied with police. Eastern Cape had the highest number of households who were satisfied with the police, while Northern Cape and North West had the least number of households who were satisfied with police.

**Figure 31: Percentage distribution of households who were satisfied with the police in their area by population group of the household head, 2011–2014/15**

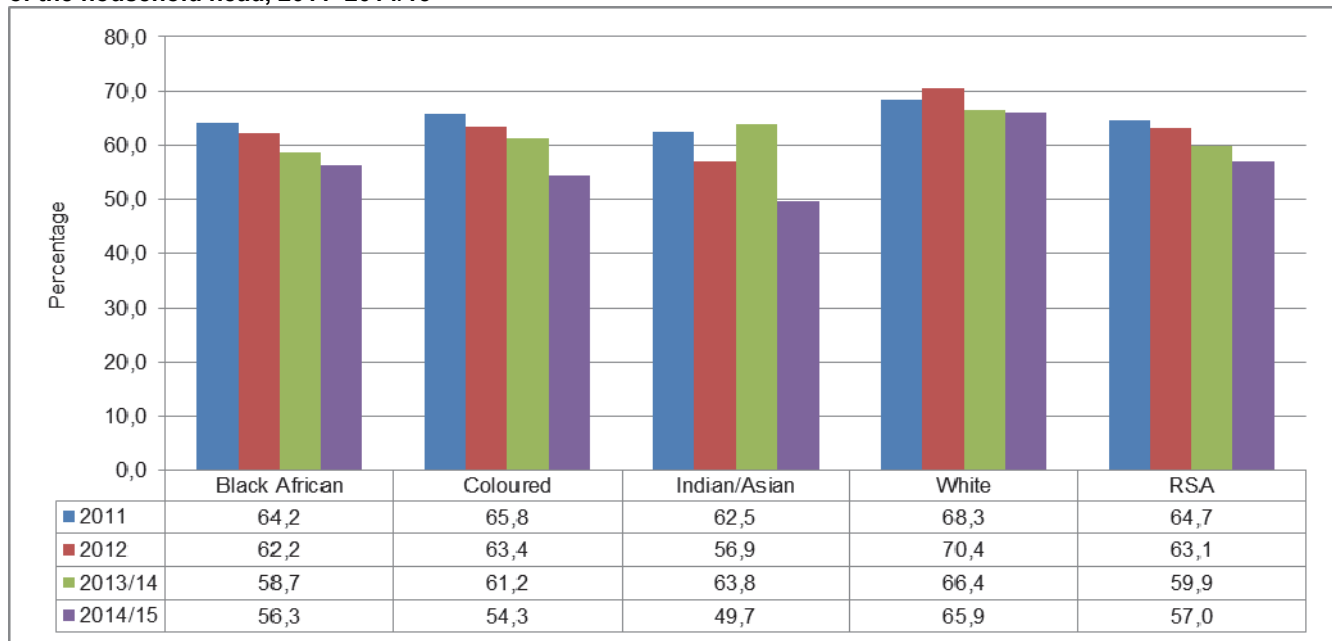


Figure 31 shows the changes in the levels of satisfaction with the police between 2011 and 2014/15, depicting a noticeable declining trend over the years. In 2014/15, households headed by the white population group (65,9%) had the highest level of satisfaction, followed by black African headed households (56,3%).

**Table 8: Number and percentage distribution of the reasons for being dissatisfied with the way the police dealt with crime by province, April 2014–March 2015**

Reasons	Province										RSA
	Statistics	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	
Not enough resource	Number '000	257	241	208	143	357	96	612	137	143	2 194
	Per cent	37,9	42,2	43,5	39,9	29,3	48,0	32,4	25,5	23,5	33,6
Lazy	Number '000	332	390	298	165	801	87	1 176	184	397	3 831
	Per cent	48,8	68,2	62,5	46,3	65,8	43,5	62,3	34,2	65,5	58,6
Corrupt	Number '000	290	181	249	137	575	81	1 119	176	325	3 133
	Per cent	42,6	31,6	52,1	38,5	47,2	40,4	59,3	32,9	53,6	48,0
Do not come to the area	Number '000	292	276	223	126	673	83	779	182	314	2 948
	Per cent	42,9	48,2	46,8	35,3	55,3	41,2	41,3	34,0	51,9	45,1
Release criminals early	Number '000	234	280	254	125	534	86	1 050	193	324	3 079
	Per cent	34,4	48,9	53,2	34,9	43,8	42,9	55,7	35,9	53,5	47,1
Cooperate with criminals	Number '000	198	118	243	112	417	64	989	166	246	2 553
	Per cent	29,1	20,7	51,0	31,4	34,3	32,1	52,4	31,0	40,5	39,1
Harsh towards victims	Number '000	180	230	140	92	407	61	738	99	168	2 116
	Per cent	26,5	40,2	29,4	25,8	33,5	30,4	39,1	18,5	27,8	32,4
Never recover goods	Number '000	276	290	248	161	681	100	1 050	194	333	3 334
	Per cent	40,7	50,7	52,0	45,1	55,9	49,9	55,6	36,2	55,0	51,0
Do not respond on time	Number '000	474	484	430	288	1 003	180	1 401	435	514	5 210
	Per cent	69,8	84,6	90,1	80,9	82,4	90,0	74,3	81,7	84,9	79,8
Other	Number '000	30	16	23	23	20	*	100	18	*	239
	Per cent	4,4	2,8	4,7	6,4	1,7	*	5,3	3,3	*	3,7

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk

Table 8 indicates the reasons why households were not satisfied with the way police dealt with crime by province. The most frequently cited reason for dissatisfaction with the police was police do not respond on time (79,8%). Northern Cape (90,1%) had the highest percentage of households who held that view, followed by North West (90,0%). Most households in Eastern Cape (68,2%), KwaZulu-Natal (65,8%) and Limpopo (65,5%) reported police laziness as one of the reasons why they are not satisfied. Gauteng (59,3%), Limpopo (53,6%) and Northern Cape (52,1%) had the highest percentage of households who attributed corruption to their dissatisfaction with the police. Police never recovering stolen goods (51,0%) featured mostly in KwaZulu-Natal (55,9%), Gauteng (55,6%) and Limpopo (55,0%).

**Table 9: Number and percentage distribution of the reasons for being satisfied with the way the police dealt with crime by province, April 2014–March 2015**

Reasons	Province										RSA
	Statistics	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	
Committed	Number '000	845	847	356	372	955	140	2 013	331	663	6 524
	Per cent	81,8	79,9	74,2	73,5	69,6	77,4	78,8	53,4	76,5	75,2
Trustworthy	Number '000	725	954	296	352	910	121	1 688	282	656	5 985
	Per cent	70,2	90,0	61,7	69,4	66,3	66,8	66,0	45,5	75,7	69,0
Respond on time	Number '000	662	516	188	286	794	107	1 486	209	627	4 876
	Per cent	64,0	48,7	39,2	56,6	57,8	59,0	58,1	33,7	72,4	56,2
Come to the scene of the crime	Number '000	769	863	397	352	1 054	150	2 101	455	727	6 867
	Per cent	74,3	81,4	82,6	69,5	76,8	82,7	82,2	73,4	83,8	79,2
Arrest criminals	Number '000	665	783	300	355	925	125	1 638	339	686	5 817
	Per cent	64,4	73,9	62,6	70,2	67,4	68,8	64,1	54,8	79,1	67,1
Recover stolen property	Number '000	420	407	167	216	507	63	809	104	446	3 139
	Per cent	40,6	38,4	34,8	42,6	36,9	34,7	31,7	16,7	51,4	36,2
Other	Number '000	35	21	13	24	35	*	58	14	26	232
	Per cent	3,4	1,9	2,7	4,8	2,6	*	2,3	2,2	3,0	2,7

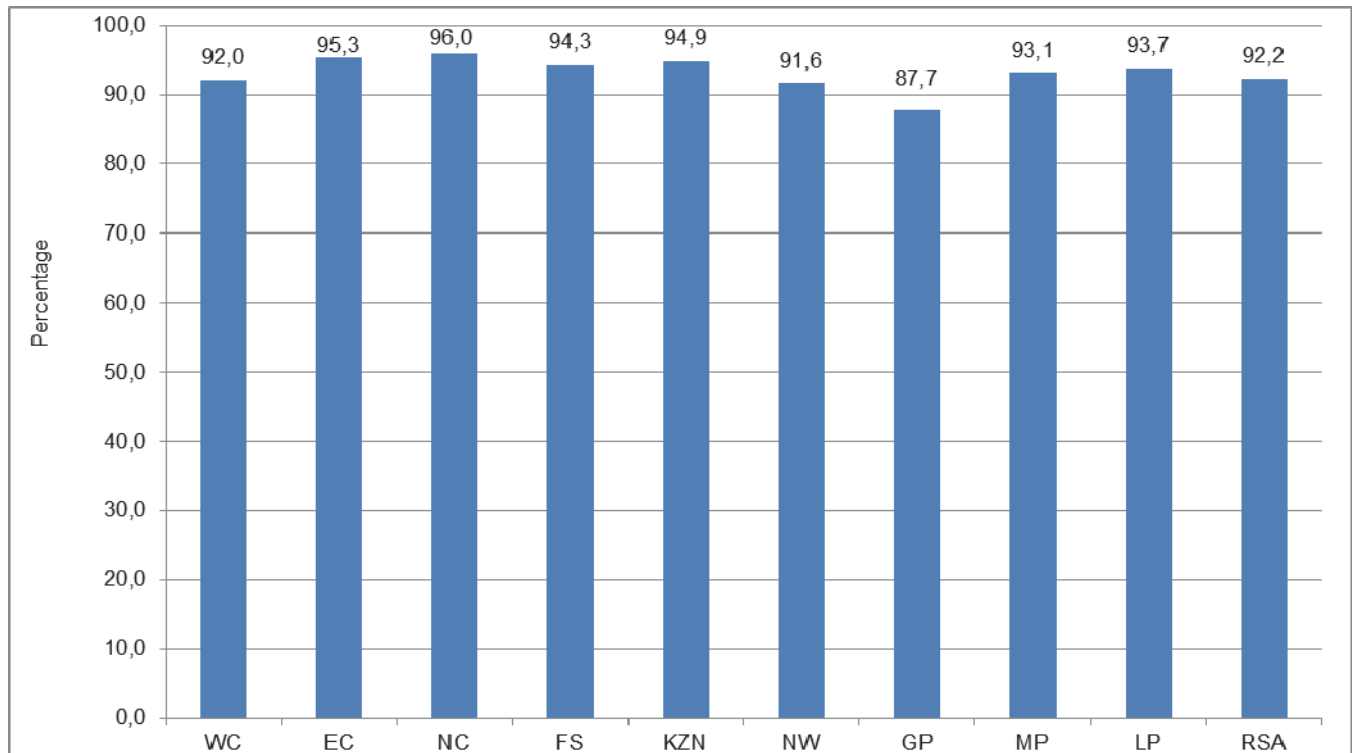
\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

The majority of households (79,2%) were satisfied with the way the police dealt with crime because they come to the scene of the crime. Limpopo (83,8%), North West (82,7%) and Northern Cape (82,6%) had the highest percentage of households who cited this reason. About 75,2% of households indicated that they were satisfied with the police because the police were committed, especially in Western Cape (81,8%), Eastern Cape (79,9%) and Gauteng (78,8%) (Table 9).

## 6.2 Households' perceptions about courts

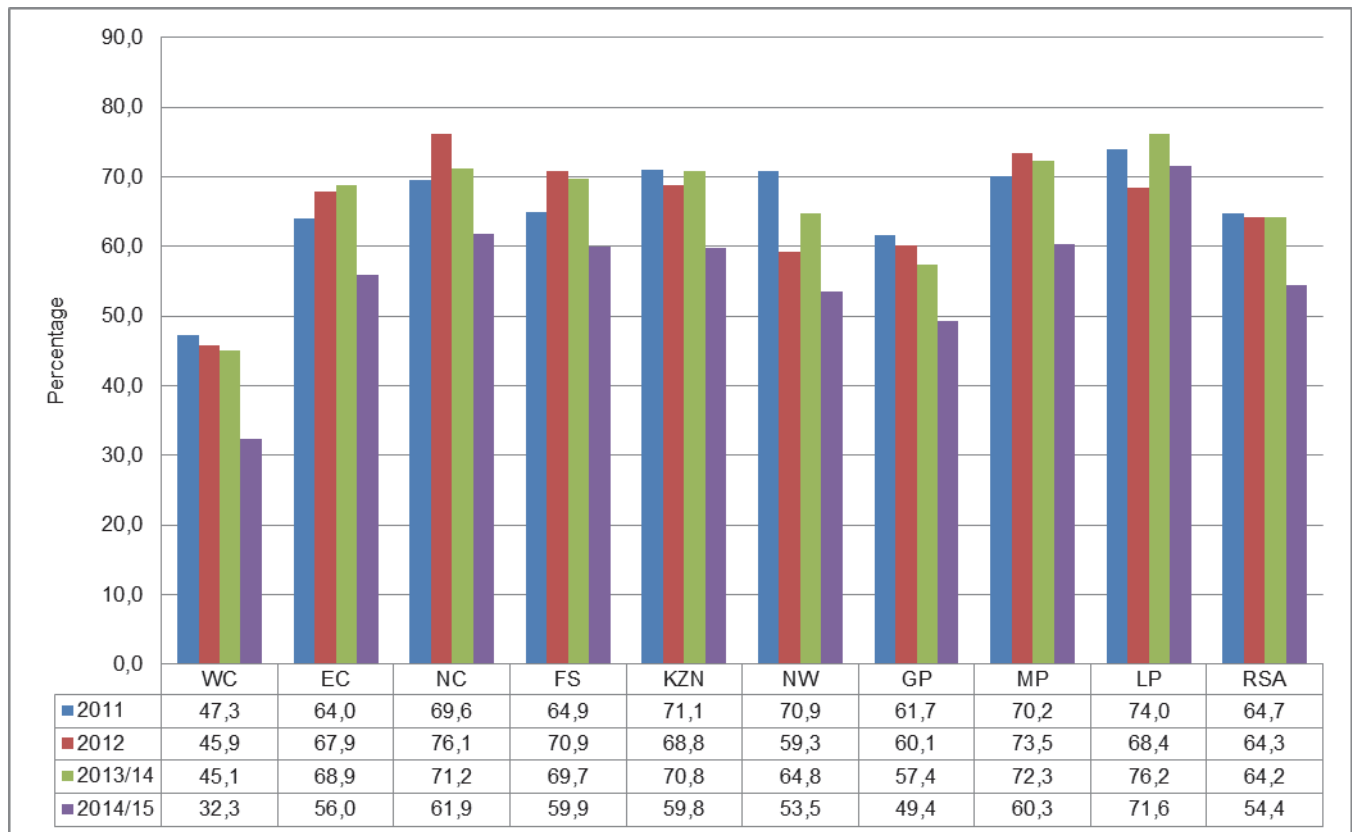
Households were asked about their knowledge of the location of the nearest Magistrates Courts, their satisfaction with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators, reasons for being satisfied, reasons for being dissatisfied and their feelings about the appropriateness of sentences imposed on perpetrators of violent crime.

**Figure 32: Percentage distribution of households who knew the location of their nearest magistrate court by province, April 2014–March 2015**



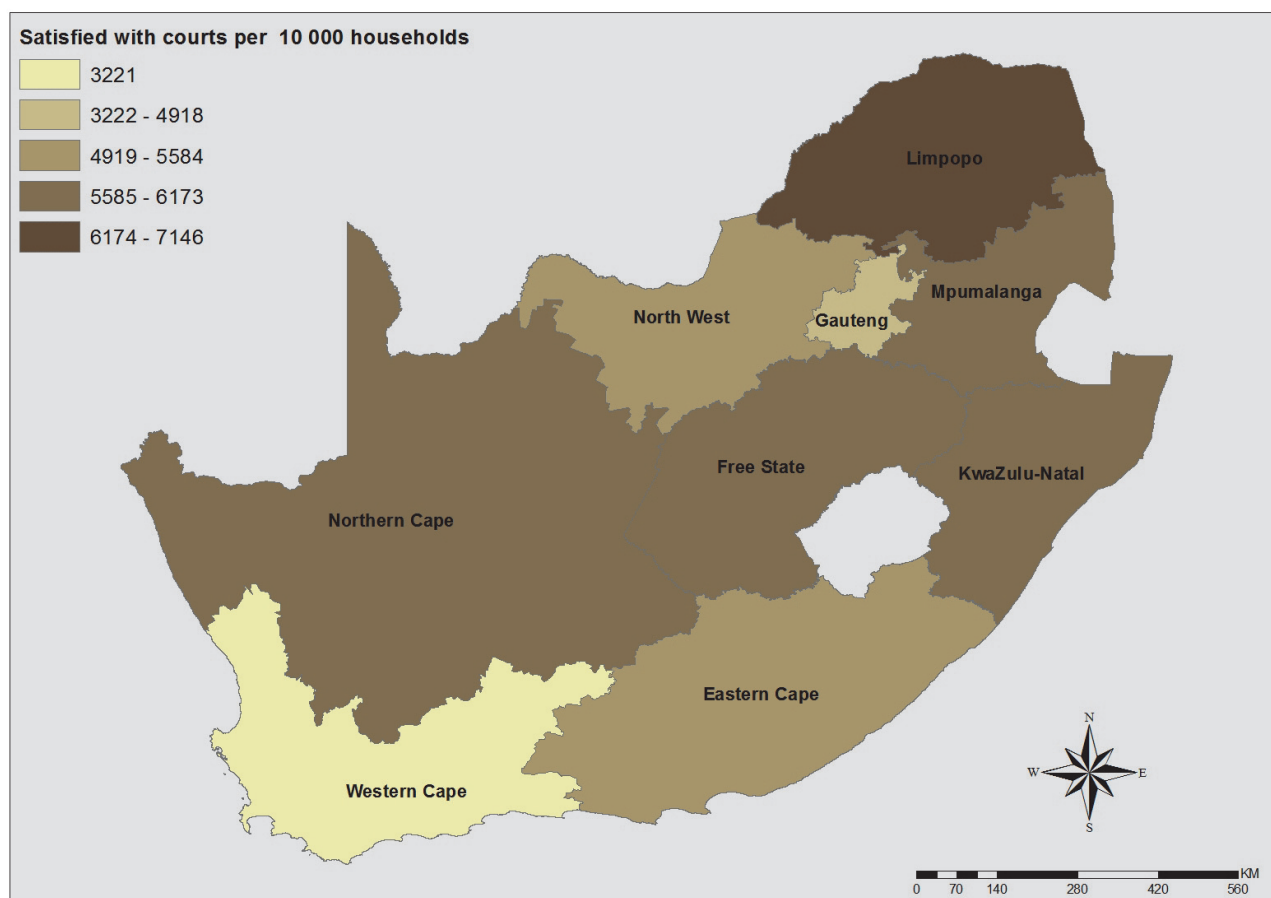
About 92,2% of households in South Africa had an idea of where their nearest Magistrate's Court was; of these households, Northern Cape (96,0%) had the highest percentage. The lowest percentage of households who knew the location of their Magistrate's Courts were found in Gauteng (87,7%) (Figure 32).

**Figure 33 : Percentage distribution of households' satisfaction with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by province, 2011–2015**



The Victims of Crime Survey also measured households' satisfaction with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime. Figure 33 shows the percentage of households who felt that the courts were generally performing their duties. In 2014/15, an estimated 54,4% of households were satisfied with the courts' performance when dealing with perpetrators, compared to approximately 64,7% in 2011. The highest levels of satisfaction with the courts was observed in Limpopo in 2014/15 (71,6%), followed by Northern Cape (61,9%) and Mpumalanga (60,3%). During the periods under review, Western Cape displayed the lowest levels of satisfaction with the courts (32,3%).

**Map 6: Number of households per 10 000 households, who were satisfied with courts by province, April 2011–March 2015**



Map 6 shows the provincial distribution of individuals per 10 000 households who were satisfied with courts. Limpopo had the highest number of household who were satisfied with courts. Western Cape had the least number of households who were satisfied with courts.



**Figure 34: Percentage distribution of reasons for households being satisfied with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by province, April 2014–March 2015**

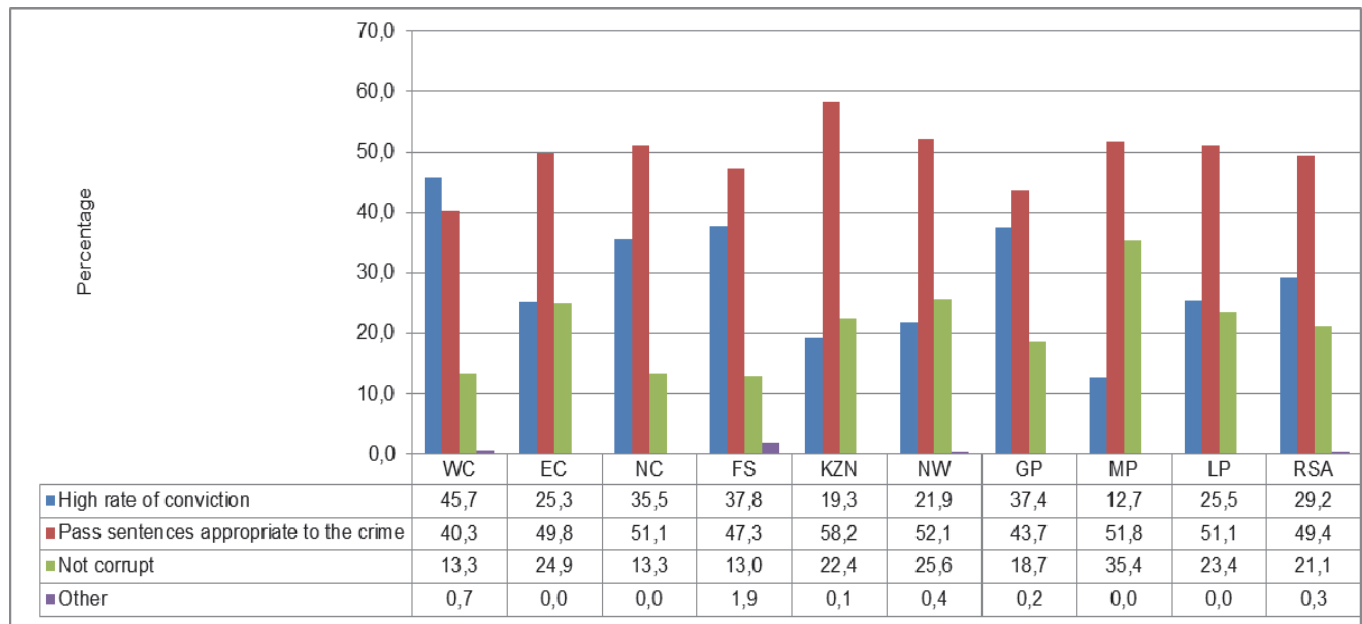


Figure 34 shows the reasons why households were satisfied with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime. About five in ten (49,4%) who were satisfied with the courts, thought that the courts passed sentences that were appropriate to the crimes committed, while 29,2% stated that courts had a high rate of conviction and 21,1% were of the opinion that courts were not corrupt. KwaZulu-Natal (58,2%) had the highest percentage of households who were satisfied with the passing of appropriate sentences, while only 40,3% in Western Cape and 43,7% in Gauteng shared the same view. Western Cape (45,7%) had the highest percentage of households who thought that there was a high rate of conviction.

**Figure 35 : Percentage distribution of reasons for household satisfaction with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by population group of the household head, April 2011–March 2015**

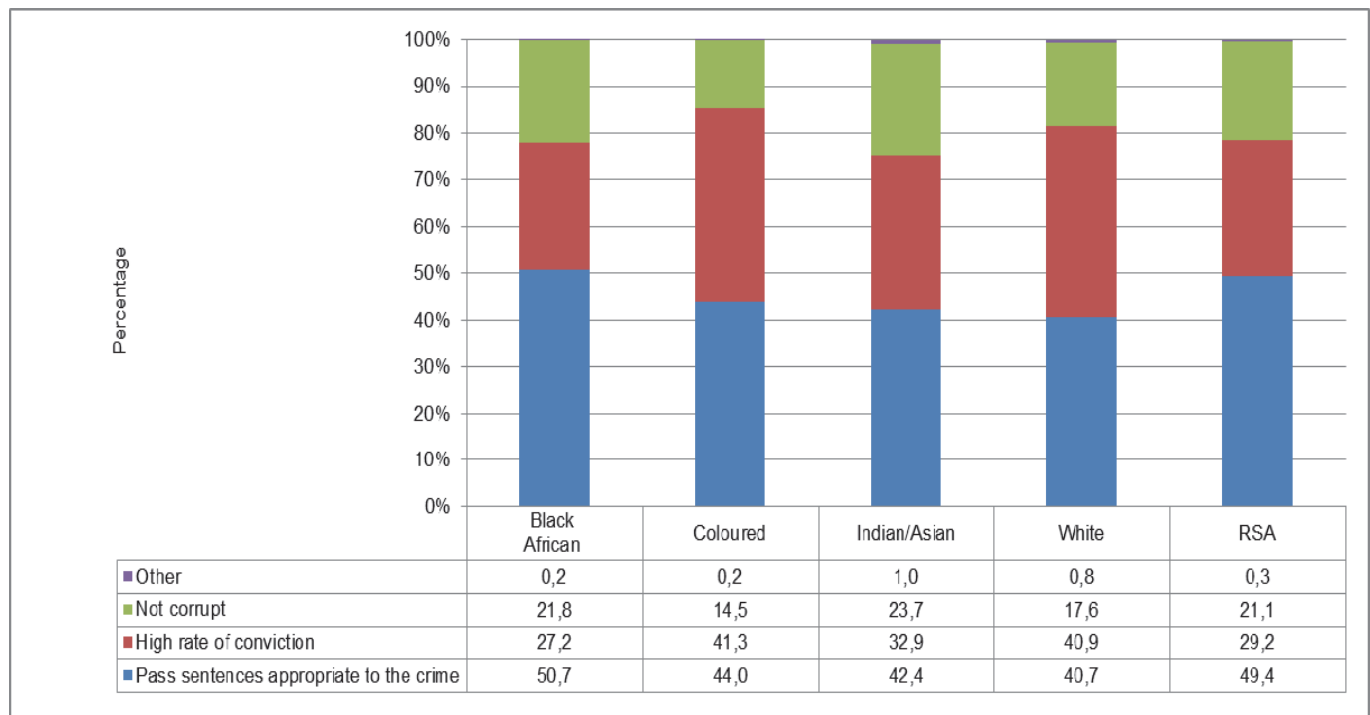
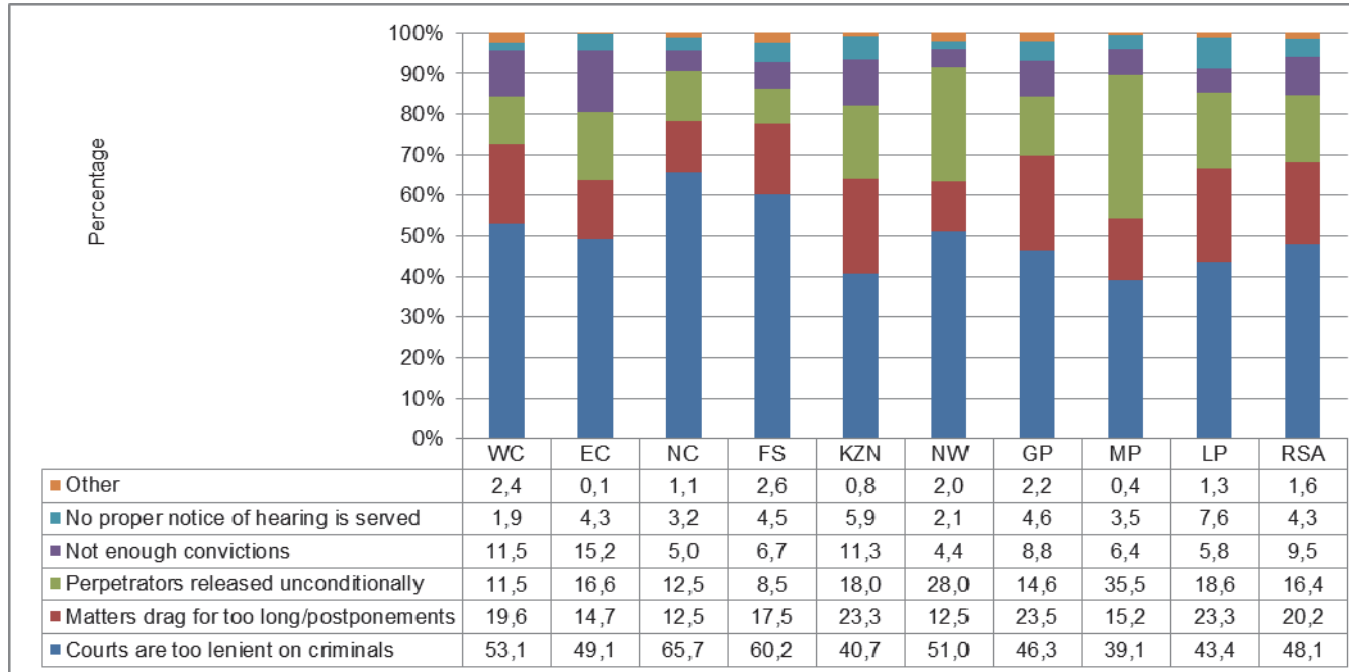


Figure 35 indicates the percentage distribution of reasons for households' satisfaction with the way courts generally deal with the perpetrators of crime by population group of the household head. The most common reason given by all the population groups was that the courts pass sentences appropriate to the crime, which was followed by the high rate of conviction. Slightly above half of households headed by black Africans (50,7%) were more satisfied with the appropriateness of the passing of sentences as compared to other population groups.

**Figure 36 : Percentage distribution of reasons for being dissatisfied with the way in which courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by province, April 2014–March 2015**



Households were also asked to give reasons why they were not satisfied with the performance of courts. About 48,1% of households cited that the courts were too lenient on criminals when passing the judgements, followed by those who indicated that matters dragged for too long (20,2%). A high percentage amongst households who felt that courts were too lenient on criminals was observed in Northern Cape (65,7%) and Free State (60,2%) (Figure 36).

**Figure 37: Percentage distribution of reasons for being dissatisfied with the way in which courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by population group of the household head, April 2011–March 2015**

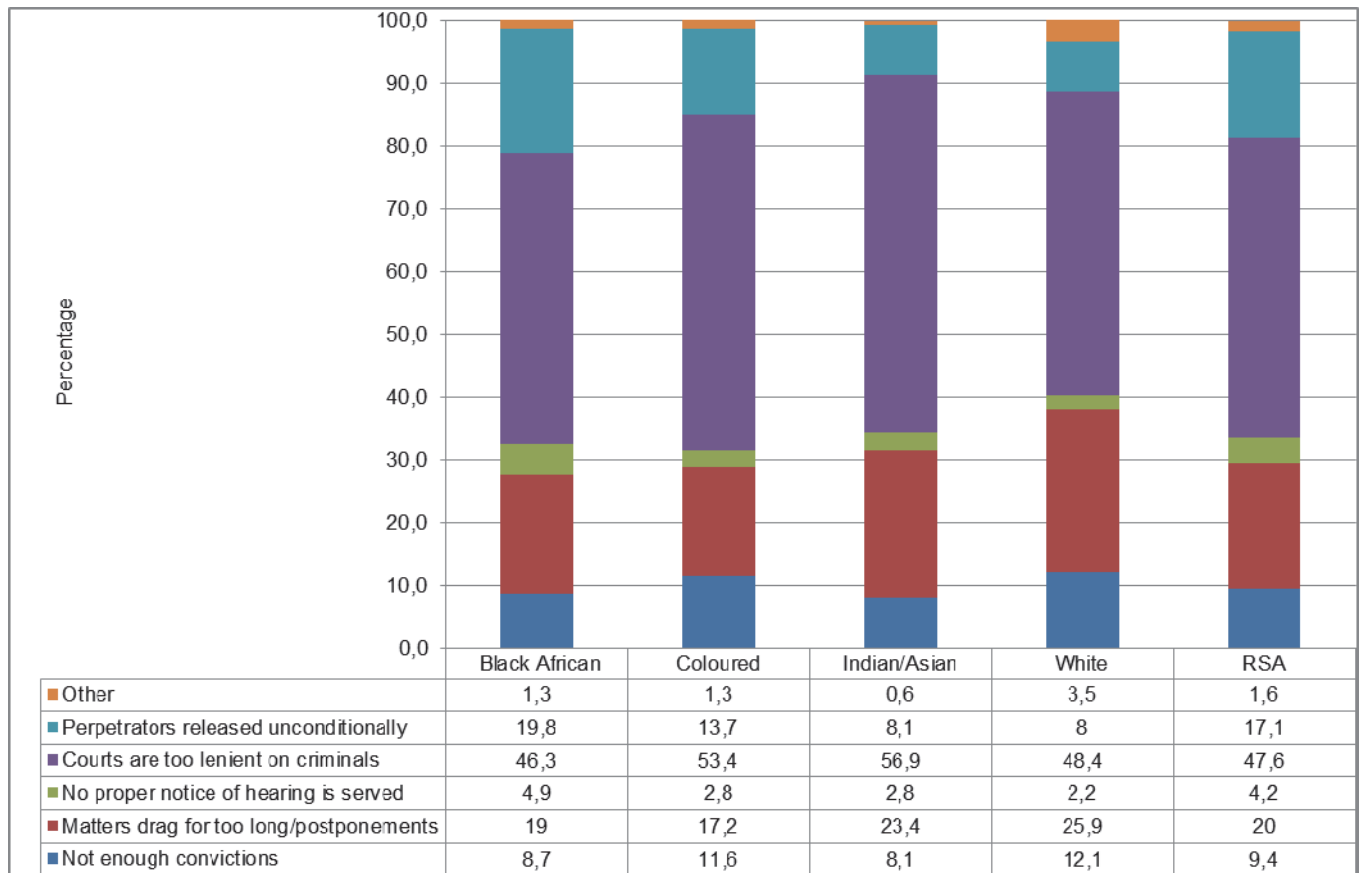


Figure 37 shows reasons for dissatisfaction with the way in which courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime by population group of the household head. Most households who reported dissatisfaction with courts said that the courts were too lenient on criminals (47,6%), this was evident in Indian/Asian headed households (56,9%) and coloured headed households (53,4%).

**Figure 38: Percentage of households who thought that sentencing of violent crime was long enough to discourage people from committing these crimes, April 2014–March 2015**

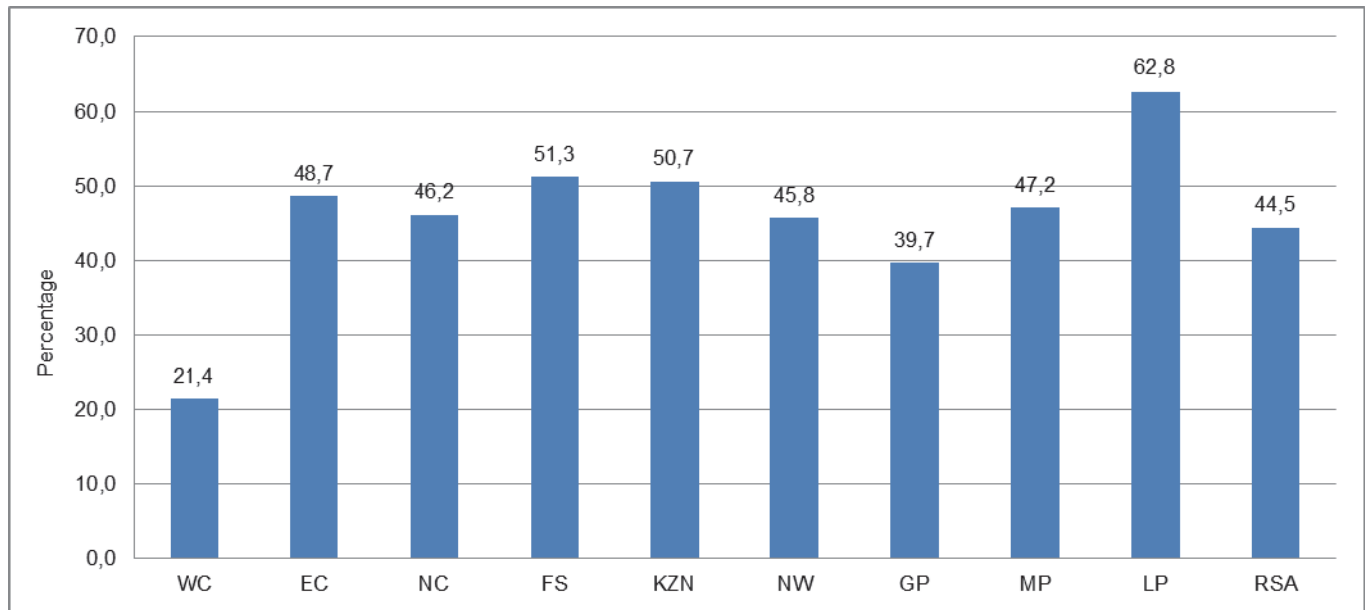


Figure 38 shows the percentage of households who perceived the sentencing of violent crimes was long enough to discourage people from committing the crimes. The results show that most households who thought that the sentencing was long enough were likely to be found in Limpopo (62,8%), followed by Free State (51,3%) and KwaZulu-Natal (50,7%). Western Cape (21,4%) and Gauteng (39,7%) had the lowest percentage of households who thought that sentencing of violent crimes was long enough to discourage people from committing the crimes.

## 7. Trafficking in persons

Trafficking in Persons refers to the recruitment and transportation of a person(s) from one place to another by using deception or force, for the purpose of exploitation. A new section was introduced in the VOCS 2014/15 on Trafficking in Persons.

This section provides information on the modes of communication through which households heard of trafficking in persons. Households' views on why perpetrators engage in trafficking in persons, how perpetrators recruit their victims and who is likely to be a victim of trafficking in persons, as well as whether households knew of a place of safety/shelter for victims and their knowledge of the law on trafficking in persons.

**Figure 39: Percentage distribution of households who heard of trafficking in persons, by mode of communication and province, April 2014–March 2015**

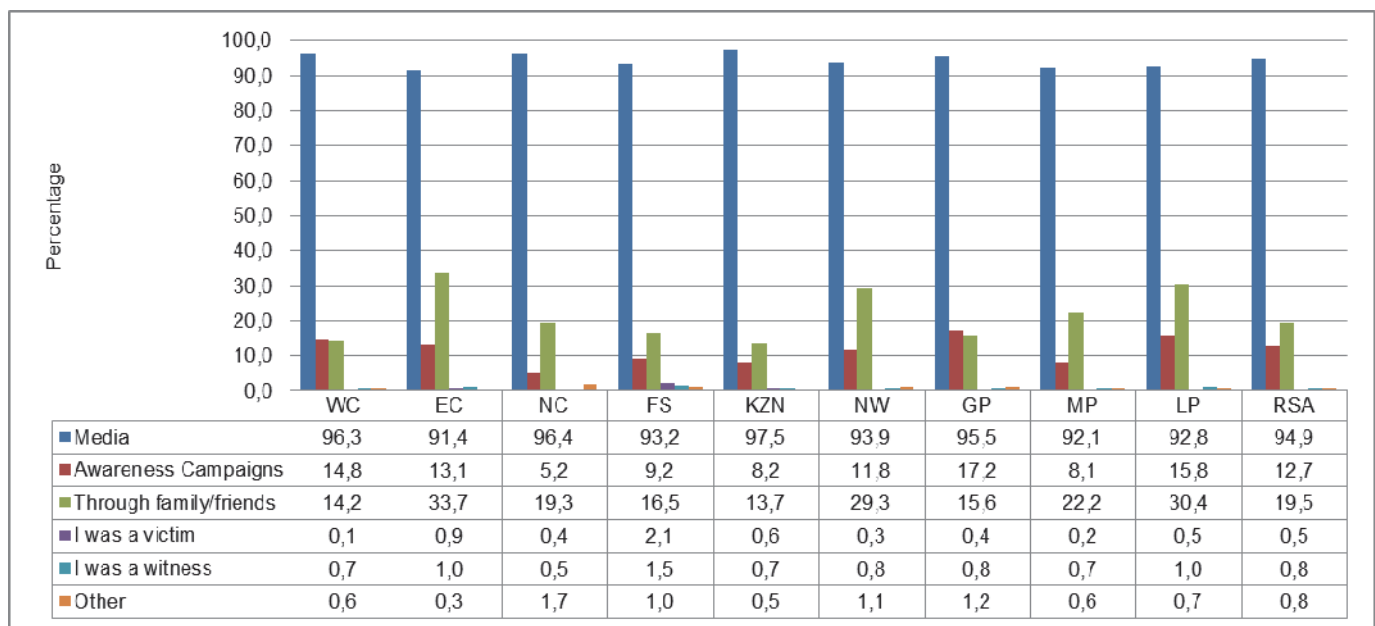


Figure 39 depicts a provincial percentage distribution of households who heard of trafficking in persons by mode of communication. More than 90% of households across provinces learnt about trafficking in persons through the media. Almost 20% learnt about trafficking in persons through family and friends. The percentage of households who learnt about trafficking in persons from friends and family was highest in Eastern Cape (33,7%), followed by Limpopo (30,4%) and North West (29,3%).

**Figure 40: Percentage distribution of households' views on why perpetrators engage in trafficking in persons, April 2014–March 2015**

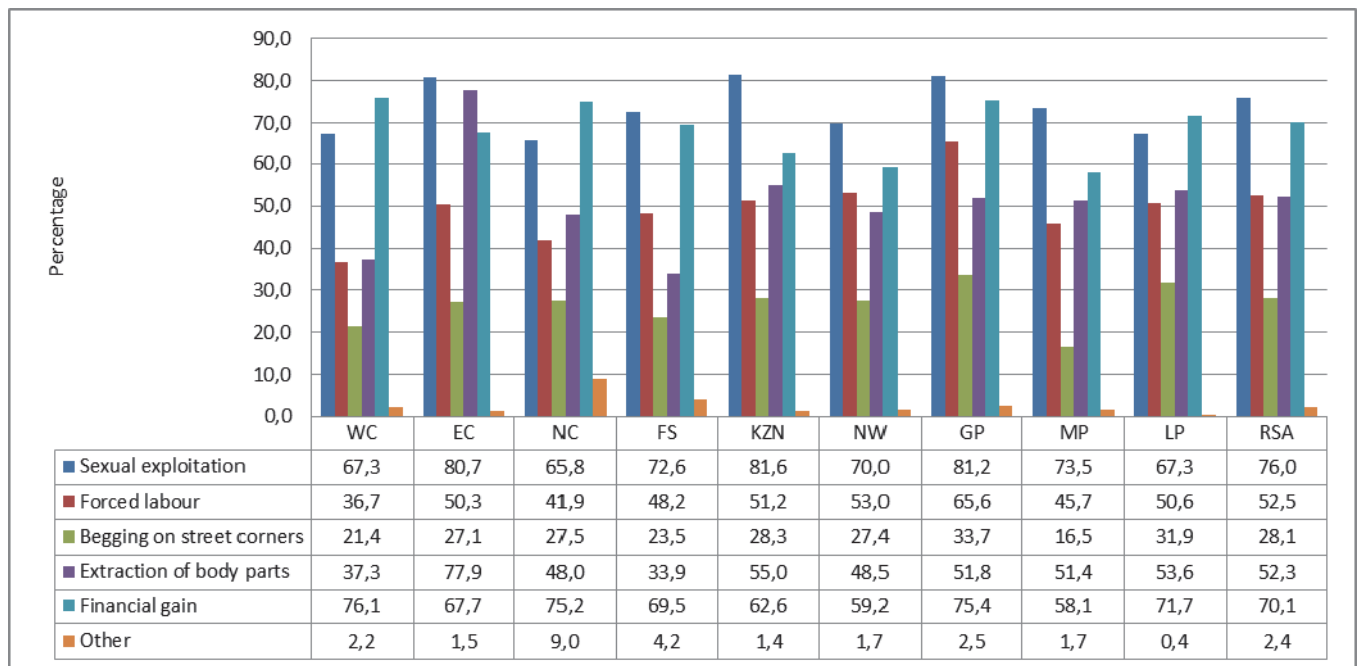
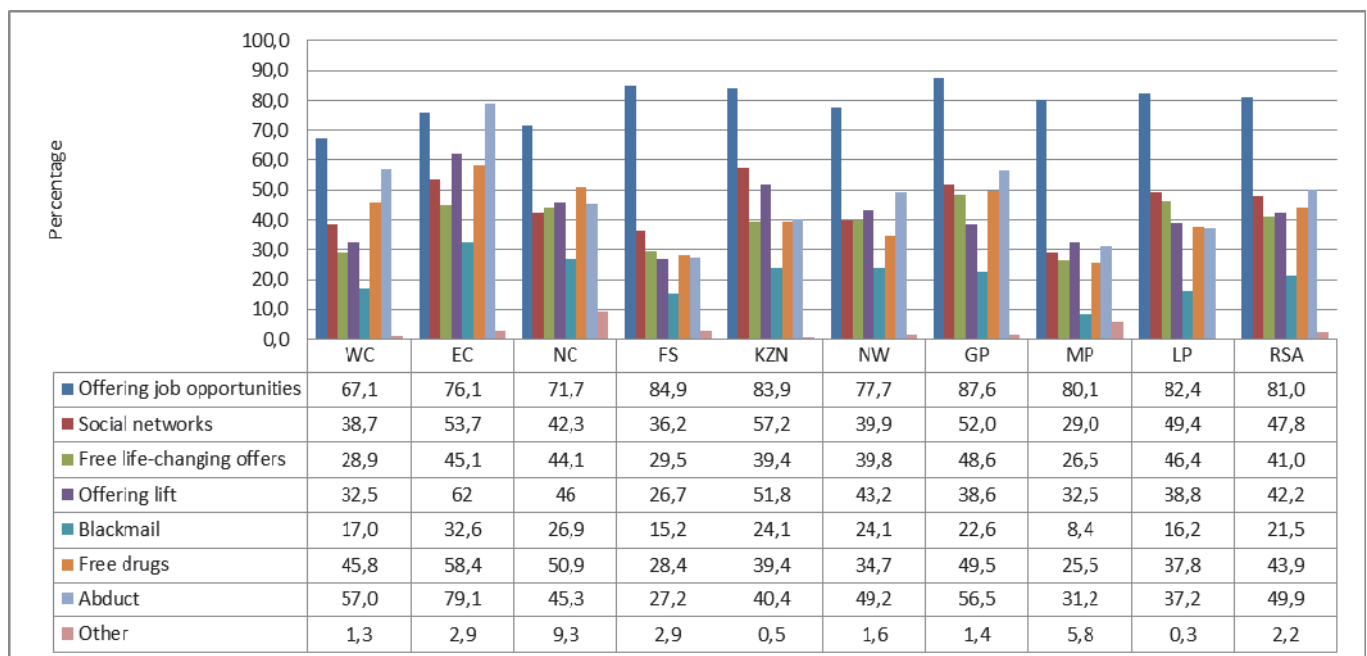


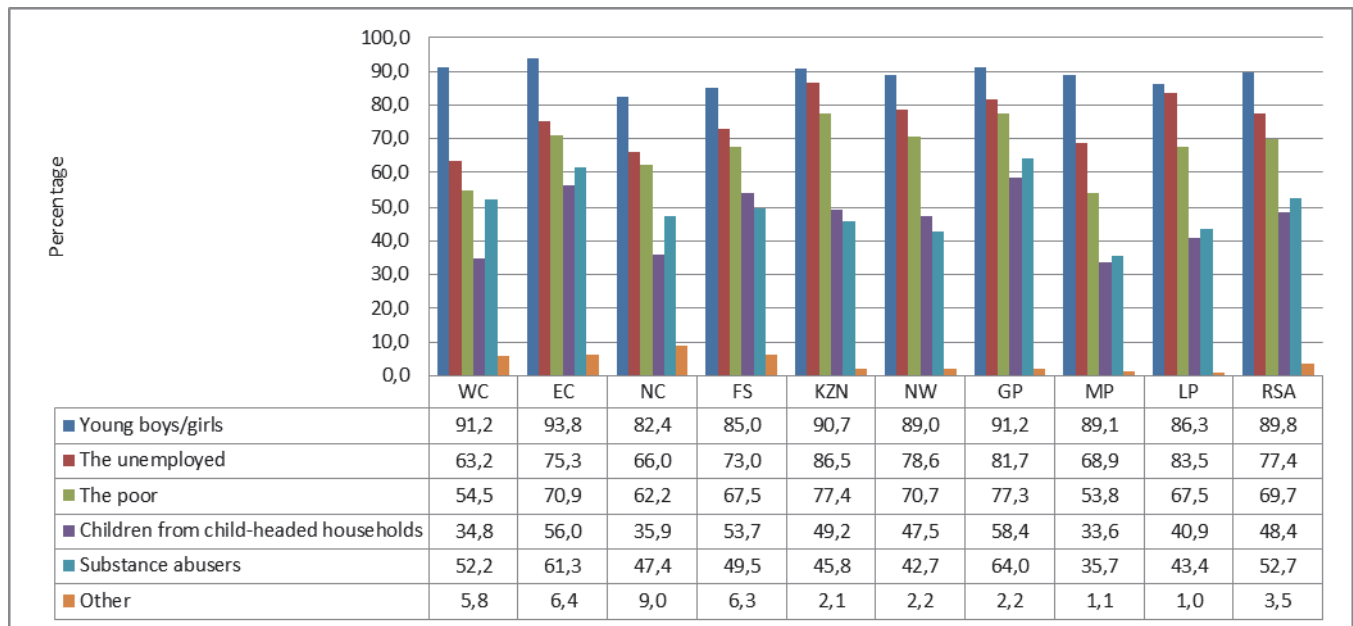
Figure 40 depicts households' views on why perpetrators engage in trafficking in persons. More than three quarters (76,0%) of households thought that perpetrators engaged in trafficking in persons in order to sexually exploit their victims and this view was highest among households in KwaZulu-Natal (81,6%), Gauteng (81,2%) and Eastern Cape (80,7%). More than half of households in South Africa were of the view that perpetrators of trafficking in persons were doing this to acquire victims for forced labour (52,5%) and to extract their victims' body parts (52,3%).

**Figure 41: Percentage distribution of households' views on how perpetrators of trafficking in persons recruit their victims, April 2014–March 2015**



The recruitment of victims is an important part of the trafficking process. According to the respondents to the survey recruitment can happen in different ways, but it mainly involves deception. Figure 41 shows that the majority (81,0%) of households thought that the victims were lured by offering them job opportunities. The highest percentage of households who thought that perpetrators lured victims by offering them job opportunities was in Gauteng (87,6%), followed by Free State (84,9%) and KwaZulu-Natal (83,9%). Almost five in every ten (49,9%) households indicated that victims of trafficking in persons were abducted. This view was predominantly in Eastern Cape (79,1%), as compared to the rest of the country.

**Figure 42: Percentage distribution of households' views on who is likely to be a victim of trafficking in persons, April 2014–March 2015**



Households' views on who is likely to fall victim to trafficking in persons is depicted in Figure 42. About one in nine (89,8%) households felt young boys and girls were more vulnerable to fall victim to trafficking in persons. More than three quarters (77,4%) of households indicated that the unemployed may be susceptible to becoming victims of trafficking in persons.

**Figure 43: Percentage distribution of households who knew a place of safety/shelter for victims of trafficking in persons, by institution and province, April 2014–March 2015**

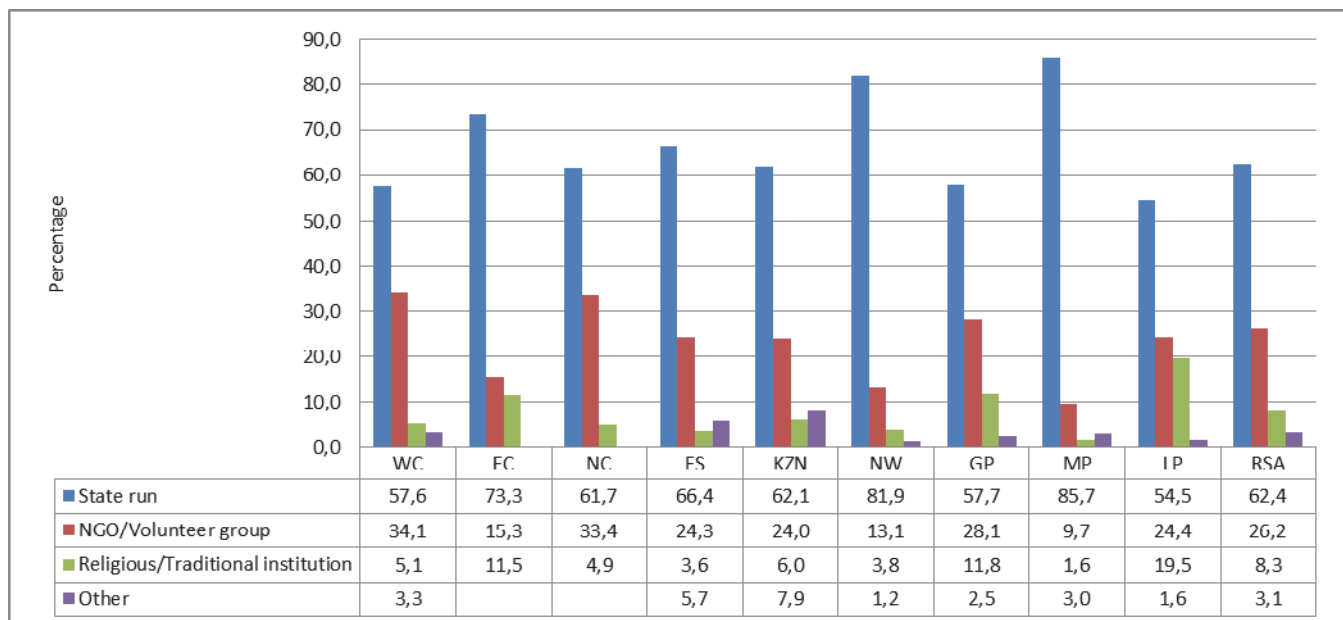
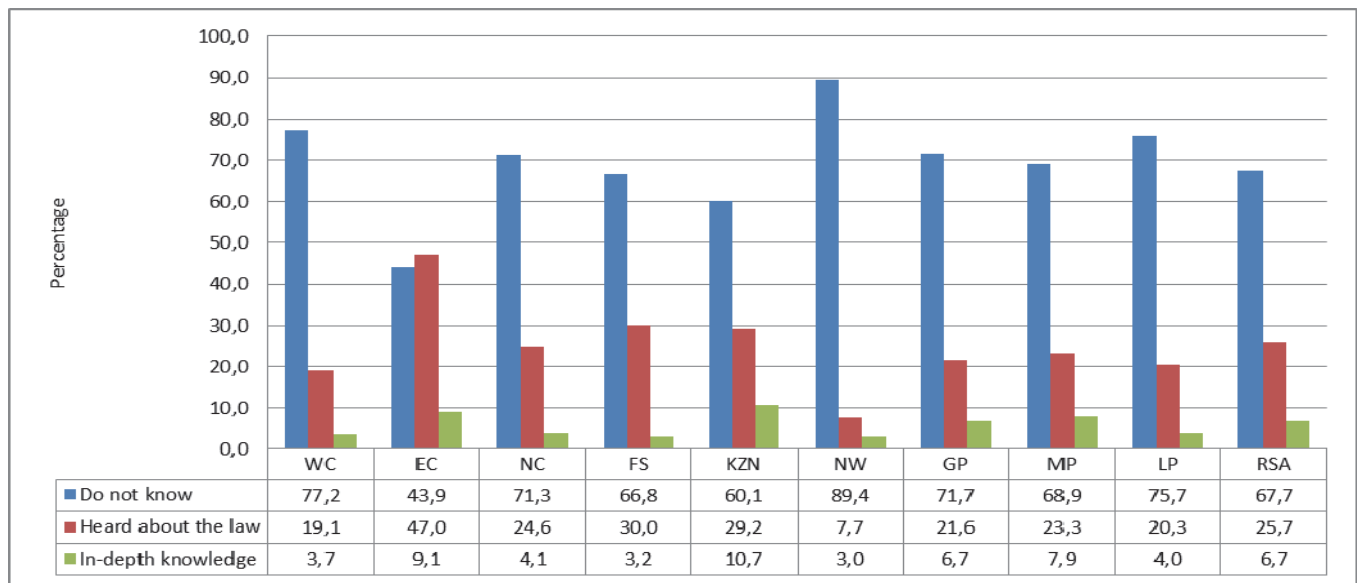


Figure 43 shows a provincial distribution of households who knew of a place of safety/shelter where they could take victims of trafficking in persons. The majority (62,4%) of households indicated that they would take victims of trafficking in persons to a state-run organisation, while approximately a quarter (26,2%) said that they would take victims to a non-governmental or volunteer organisation. About 8,3% said that they would take victims to a religious institution.

**Figure 44: Percentage distribution of the extent to which households knew of the law on trafficking in persons by province, April 2014–March 2015**



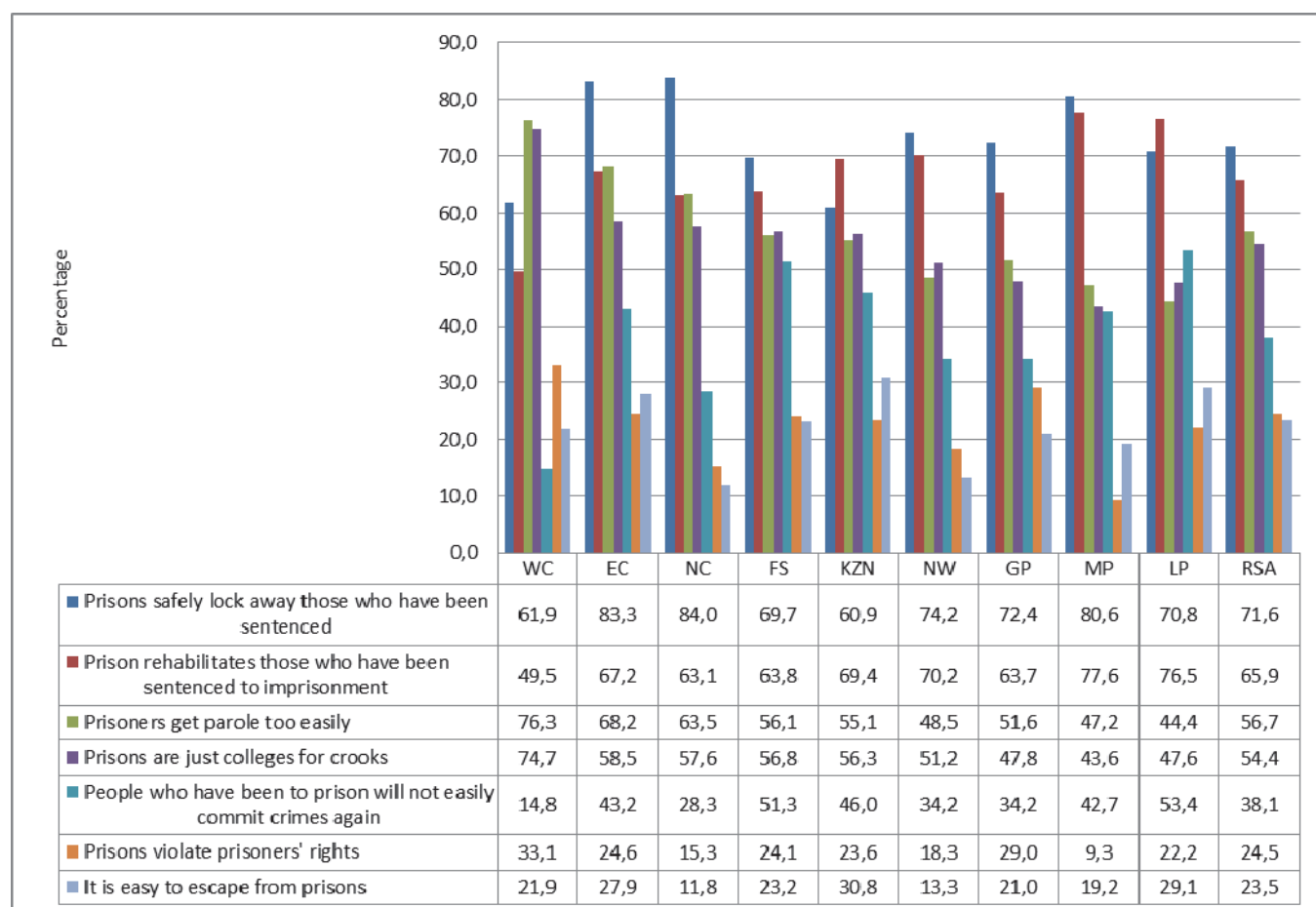
The extent to which households knew of the law on trafficking in persons is presented in Figure 44. More than two thirds (67,7%) of households indicated that they did not know any law relating to trafficking in persons, while a little over a quarter (25,7%) had heard about the law.



## 8. Perceptions of Correctional Services

This section presents findings on households' perceptions about the services provided by Correctional Services, households willingness to welcome a former prisoner back in their community and their willingness to provide employment to a former prisoner.

**Figure 45: Percentage distribution of the perceptions about services provided by Correctional Services, April 2014–March 2015**



Households in South Africa were asked whether or not they agree with certain statements about the services that are provided by Correctional Services. The majority (71,6%) of households in the country were of the opinion that prisons safely lock away those who have been sentenced, while 23,5% agreed with the statement that it is easy to escape from prisons. About two-thirds of the population indicated that prison rehabilitates those who have been sentenced to imprisonment, the majority being in Mpumalanga (77,6%), Limpopo (76,5%) and North West (70,2%). More than 50% of households indicated that prisoners get parole too easily and the highest percentage observed was in Western Cape (76,3%) (Figure 45).

**Figure 46: Percentage distribution of households who were willing to welcome a former prisoner back in their community, April 2014–March 2015**

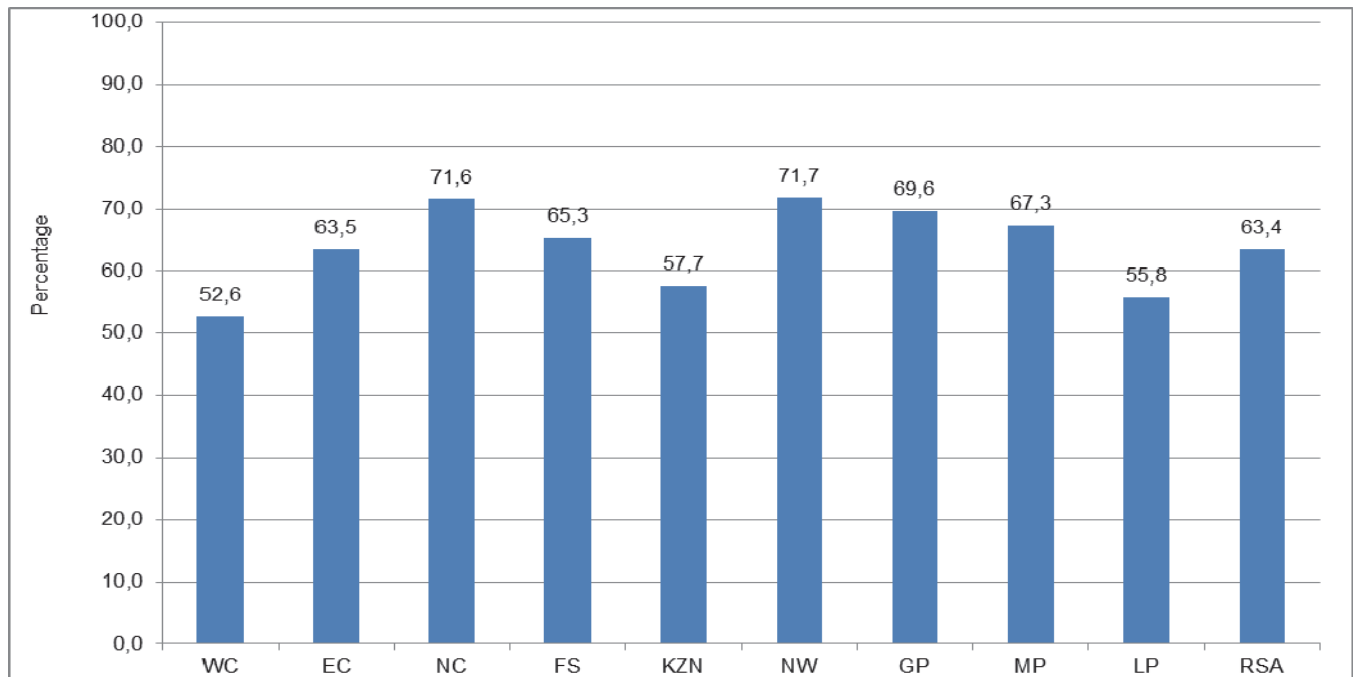
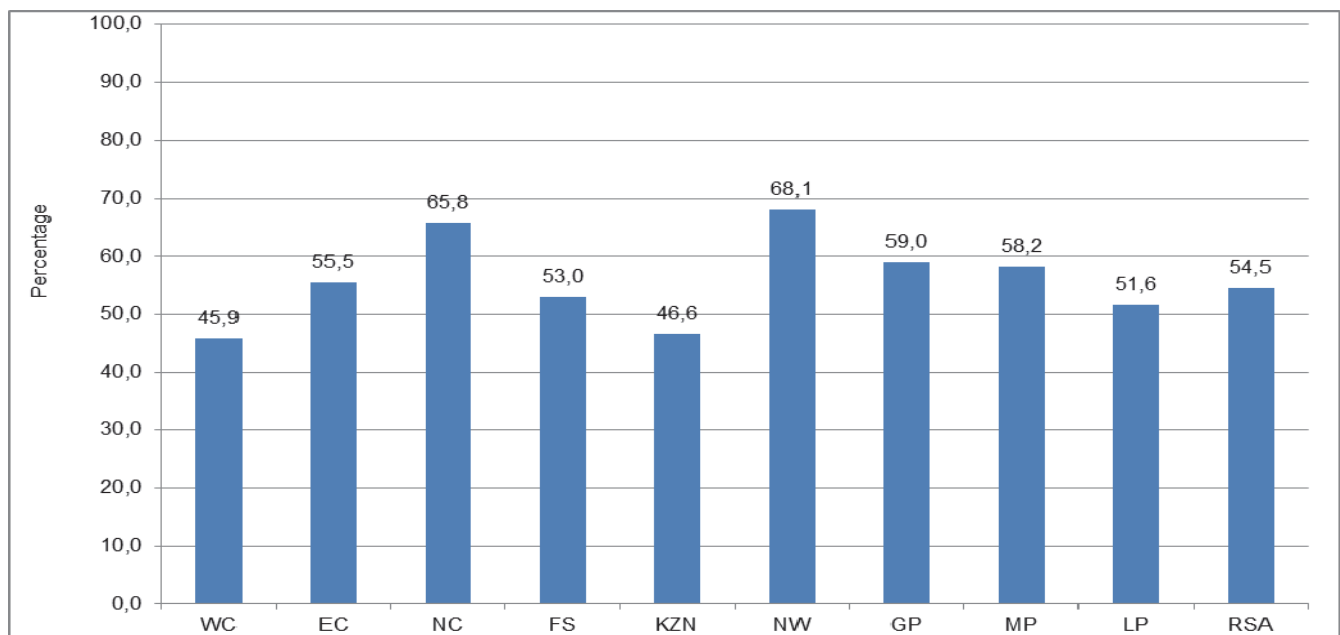


Figure 46 depicts the percentage distribution of households who were willing to welcome a former prisoner back into their community. About 63,4% of households in South Africa were willing to welcome back a former prisoner back in their community. North West (71,7%) had the highest percentage of households who were willing to welcome back former prisoners, followed by Northern Cape (71,6%) and Gauteng (69,6%).

**Figure 47: Percentage distribution of household willing to provide employment to a former prisoner by province, April 2014–March 2015**



More than half of households in South Africa (54,5%) indicated that they were willing to provide employment to a former prisoner. North West (68,1%) had the highest percentage of households who were willing to do this, followed by Northern Cape (65,8) and Gauteng (59,0%) (Figure 47).

## 9. Households' perceptions about corruption in the public sector

Various questions were asked about the perceived levels of corruption in the last three years. This included questions on the reasons why people are engaging in corruption and the main reasons why people are paying bribes. Households were also asked what their perceptions were about which government officials were most likely to be involved in corruption. An analysis on these by province is shown below.

**Figure 48: Percentage distribution of perceptions of the level of corruption in the last three calendar years, 2011–2014**

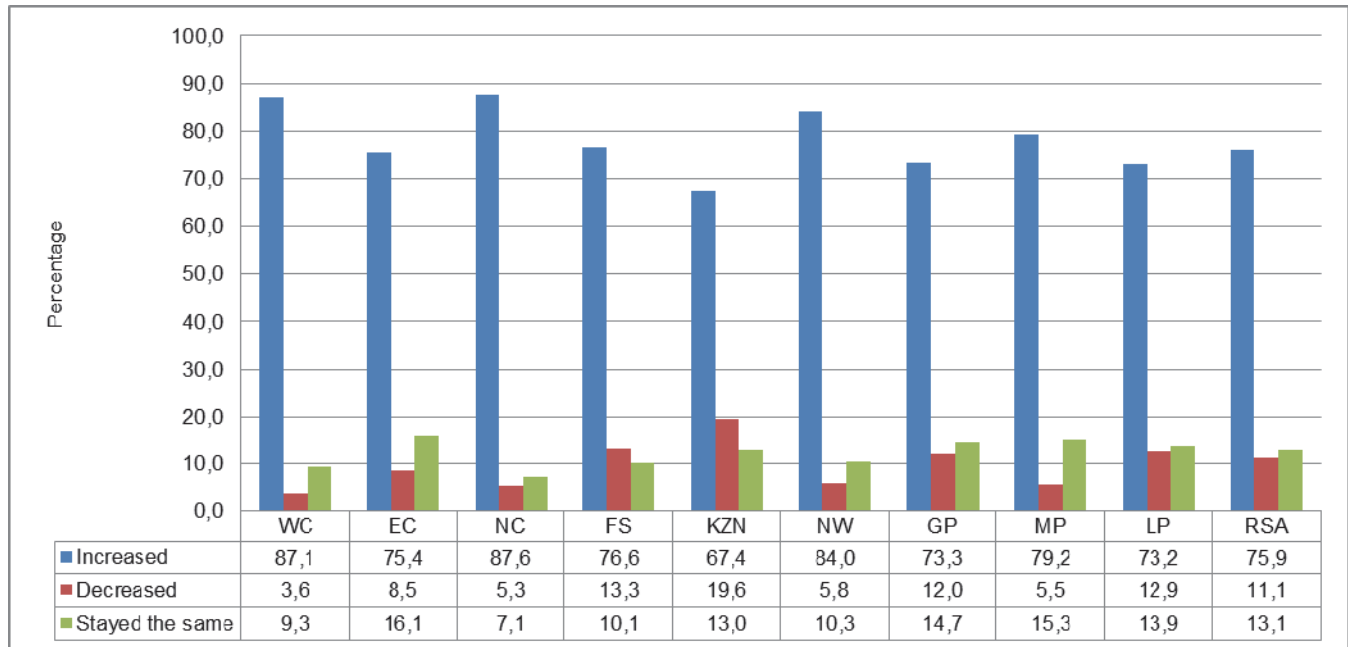
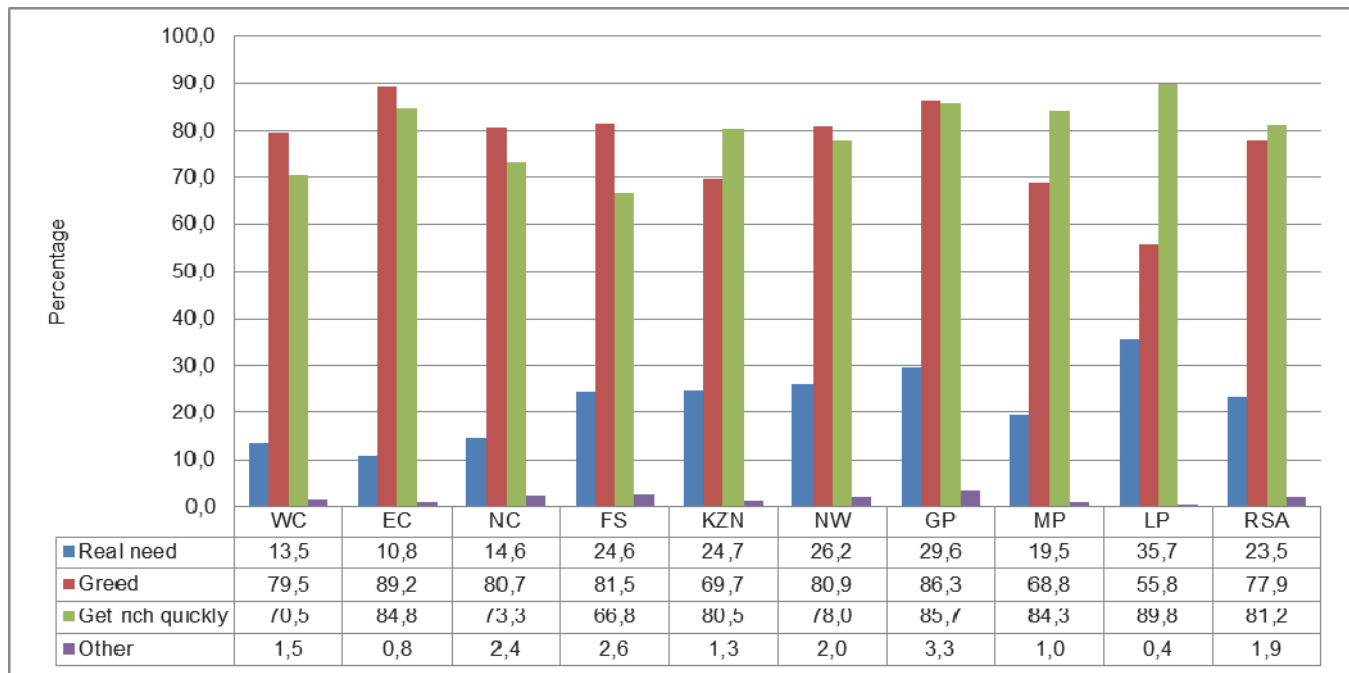


Figure 48 shows how households perceived the levels of corruption in the last three years prior to the survey. About 75,9% of households believed that corruption had increased. Only 13,1% of households believed that the levels of corruption had remained unchanged during this period, whilst 11,1% said that corruption had decreased. Northern Cape (87,6%), Western Cape (87,1%) and North West (84,0%) had the highest percentage of households who perceived corruption to have increased.

**Figure 49: Percentage distribution of perceptions about why people are engaging in corruption, April 2014–March 2015**

Households were asked about their perceptions about why people are engaging in corruption. The options households could choose from included: real need or greed, get rich quickly or other reasons. Figure 49 indicates that most households believe that get rich quickly (81,2%) and greed (77,9%) were the most motivating reasons for individuals to be involved in corruption. Limpopo (89,8%), Gauteng (85,7%) and Eastern Cape (84,8%) had the highest proportion of households who believed that people engage in corruption because they want to get rich quickly. Households who believe that people engage themselves in corruption for real need were in Limpopo (35,7%), Gauteng (29,6%) and North West (26,2%).

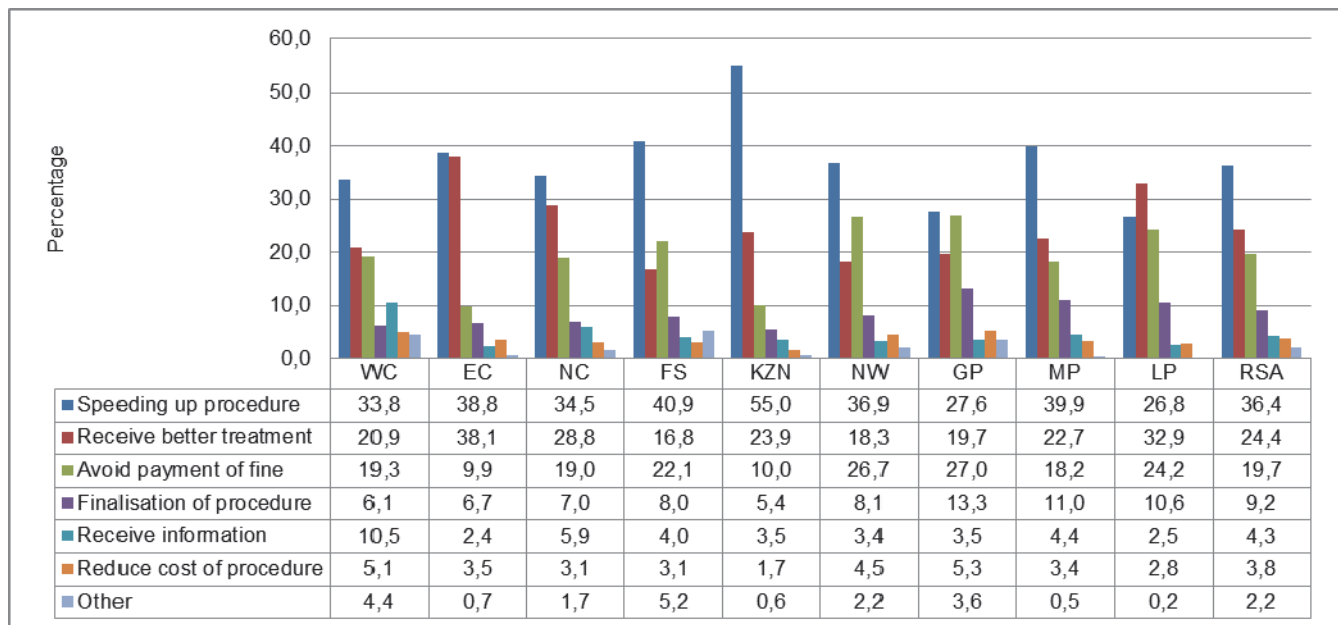
**Figure 50: Percentage distribution of perceptions about why people are paying bribes, April 2014–March 2015**

Figure 50 indicates that the majority of households thought that people were paying bribes to speed up procedures (36,4%), followed by receiving better treatment (24,4%) and to avoid payment of fines (19,7%). At provincial level, KwaZulu-Natal (55,0%), Free State (40,9%) and Mpumalanga (39,9%) had the highest proportion of households who thought that people are paying bribes for speeding up procedures. A small proportion of households in South Africa (3,8%) thought that people pay bribes in order to reduce cost of procedure.

**Table 10: Percentage distribution of services for which bribes were solicited from households, April 2014–March 2015**

Government services	Statistic	Province									RSA
		WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	
Social welfare grant	Number '000	253	460	89	103	774	22	300	72	70	2 143
	Per cent	14,8	28,2	9,3	12,0	30,0	5,9	6,8	6,2	4,8	14,2
Water or electricity	Number '000	38	18	83	33	39	*	107	35	59	420
	Per cent	2,2	1,1	8,7	3,9	1,5	*	2,4	3,0	4,0	2,8
Housing	Number '000	322	118	168	72	319	37	674	98	160	1 968
	Per cent	18,8	7,2	17,5	8,4	12,4	9,7	15,3	8,5	10,9	13,0
Medical care	Number '000	18	24	12	16	32	*	51	11	21	187
	Per cent	1,0	1,5	1,2	1,9	1,2	*	1,2	0,9	1,4	1,2
Policing	Number '000	266	92	110	128	220	84	861	140	97	1 997
	Per cent	15,5	5,6	11,5	14,9	8,5	22,0	19,6	12,2	6,6	13,2
Court-related services	Number '000	57	44	*	17	56	*	243	15	40	487
	Per cent	3,3	2,7	*	2,0	2,2	*	5,5	1,3	2,8	3,2
Education/schooling	Number '000	16	20	*	12	31	*	32	*	27	152
	Per cent	0,9	1,2	*	1,4	1,2	*	0,7	*	1,8	1,0
ID documents/passports	Number '000	72	86	34	47	141	14	423	155	74	1 045
	Per cent	4,2	5,3	3,6	5,5	5,4	3,6	9,6	13,4	5,0	6,9
Driver's licenses	Number '000	85	119	77	108	210	49	367	153	110	1 279
	Per cent	5,0	7,3	8,0	12,6	8,1	12,9	8,4	13,2	7,5	8,4
Traffic fines	Number '000	121	221	101	125	247	74	609	206	323	2 026
	Per cent	7,1	13,6	10,5	14,5	9,5	19,5	13,9	17,8	22,0	13,4
Employment/jobs	Number '000	170	380	150	130	472	63	273	235	475	2 348
	Per cent	10,0	23,3	15,7	15,1	18,3	16,5	6,2	20,4	32,3	15,5
When visiting a prison	Number '000	26	*	*	*	*	*	12	*	*	68
	Per cent	1,5	*	*	*	*	*	0,3	*	*	0,5
Revenue services/customs	Number '000	16	*	*	*	*	*	40	10	*	95
	Per cent	0,9	0,1	0,6	1,0	0,2	0,7	0,9	0,9	*	0,6
Other	Number '000	251	41	104	54	31	15	402	15	*	918
	Per cent	14,7	2,5	10,9	6,3	1,2	4,1	9,1	1,3	*	6,1

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

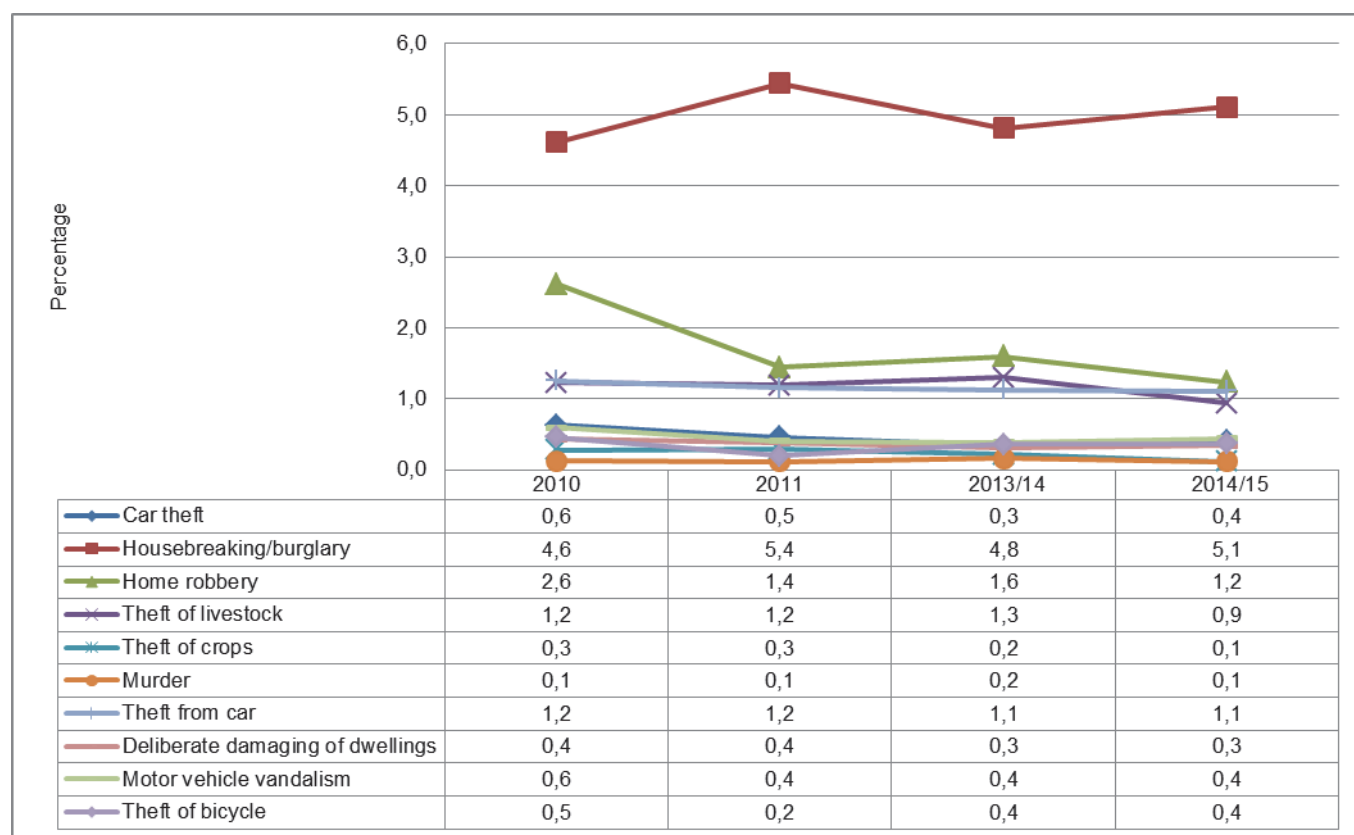
Table 10 depicts government services mostly targeted for corruption. The results show that the officials who were likely to be involved in the act of corruption were those working with employment/jobs (15,5%), followed by the provision of Social welfare grants (14,2%) and paying a bribe to the traffic police to avoid traffic fines (13,4%).

## 10. Crime levels and reporting of crimes in South Africa

This section presents the crime victimisation and reporting rates in South Africa as reported by households and individuals aged 16 years and older in the selected dwellings. Households were visited between April 2014 and March 2015. Respondents were asked if they experienced any crime in the 12 months prior to the survey. Those who experienced crime in that period were asked additional questions, for example, whether the crime had been reported to the police, their levels of satisfaction with police and other related questions. This section provides more insight on the dynamics of crime in South Africa.

### 10.1 Victimisation rates

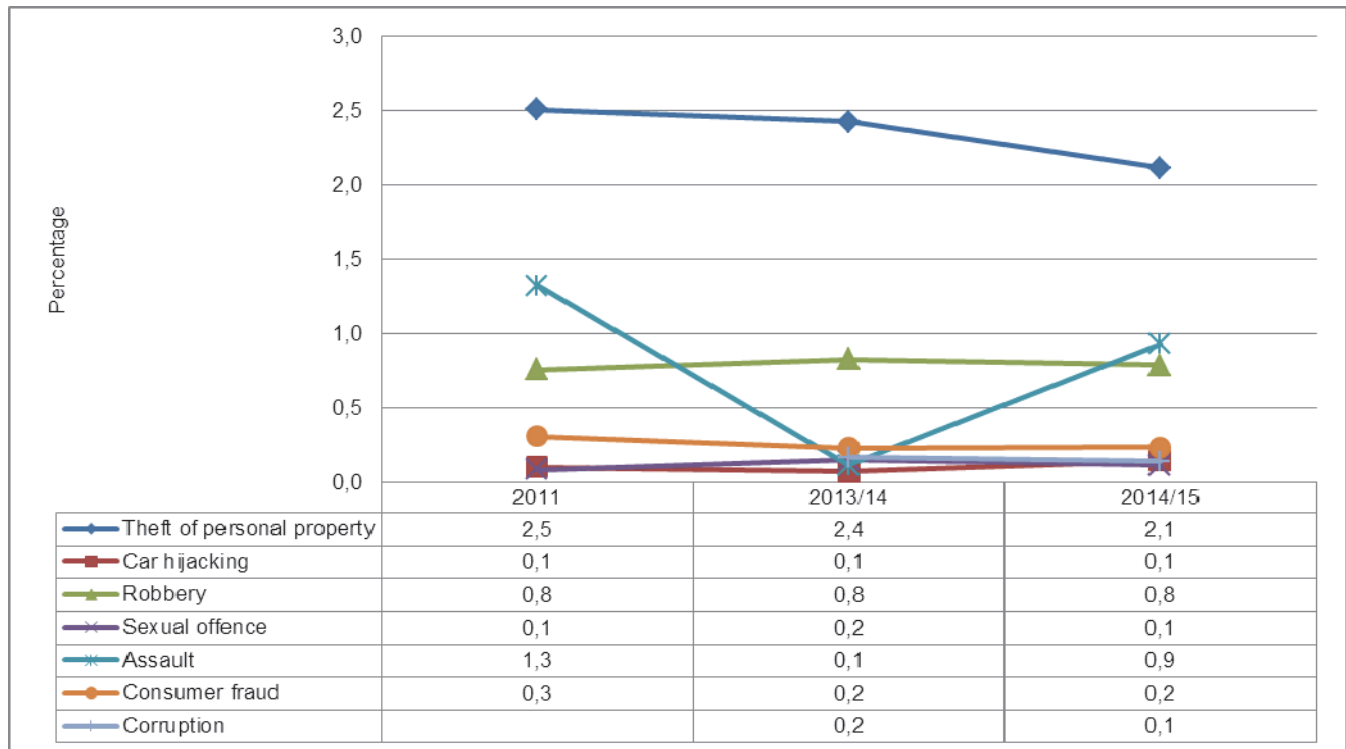
**Figure 51: Percentage distribution of households who experienced at least one incident of crime by type of crime, VOCS 2010–2014/15**



\*This crime category was not measured in the year under review

A time series analysis of households who experienced at least one incident of crime between 2010 and 2014/15 is shown in Figure 51. The results show that housebreaking/burglary was the most prevalent household crime across the years, although it decreased by 0,5 percentage points between 2011 and 2014/15. Home robbery also decreased from 2,6 per cent in 2010 to 1,2 per cent in 2014/15. Between 2013/14 and 2014/15 murder incidents decreased by 0,1 percentage point.

**Figure 52 : Percentage distribution of the selected individuals aged 16 years and above who experienced at least one incident of crime by type of crime, VOCS 2011–2014/15**



Note: Blank spaces indicate that category was not measured in the year under review

Figure 52 summarises the victimisation rates among selected individuals aged 16 years and above, between 2011 and 2014/15. Theft of personal property was the most prevalent individual crime across the years under review, even though it was decreasing. The prevalence of sexual offences decreased from 0,2% in 2013/14 to 0,1% in 2014/15 while robbery remained the same, across the years.



**Table 11: Number and percentage distribution of crime experiences and reporting rates, 2014/15**

Types of crimes	Total crime experienced in (April 2013–Feb 2015)	Total number of households who have experienced a particular crime (April 2013–Feb 2015)		Crime reported to the police in (April 2013–Feb 2015)		Crime under-reporting rates in (April 2013–Feb 2015)
	Number '000	Number '000	Per cent	Number '000	Per cent	Per cent difference
<b>Household crimes</b> ( <i>Denominator for household crime is the total number of households</i> )						
Car theft	63	59	0,4	54	88,9	11,1
Housebreaking/burglary	780	707	5,1	400	51,8	48,2
Home robbery	188	175	1,2	113	60,4	39,6
Theft of livestock	142	129	0,9	45	32,3	67,7
Theft of crops	17	16	0,1	*	24,8	75,2
Murder	18	18	0,1	17	95,7	4,3
Theft from car	169	152	1,1	91	54,2	45,8
Deliberate damaging of dwellings	53	48	0,3	23	45,1	54,9
Motor vehicle vandalism	67	62	0,4	32	49,7	50,3
Bicycle theft	56	53	0,4	25	46,1	53,9
<b>Individual crimes</b> ( <i>Denominator for individual crime is the total number of individuals aged 16 and above</i> )						
Theft of personal property	777	712	1,9	261	34,2	65,8
Car hijacking	54	54	0,1	44	85,8	14,2
Robbery (excl. home/carjacking)	290	270	0,7	110	38,3	61,7
Assault	343	304	0,1	181	55,1	44,9
Sexual offence	43	42	0,8	27	63,0	37,0
Consumer fraud	88	87	0,2	23	26,8	73,2
Corruption	52	47	0,1	**	**	**

Note: Unspecified cases were not included in the calculation of reporting rates.

\* Due to the relatively low number of car hijackings, the percentage was too low to display

\*\* Question on reporting was not presented in the same way as other individual crimes

The experiences of crime and reporting rates of households and individuals aged 16 years and above in South Africa are reported in Table 11. Household crimes that were mostly reported to the police were murder (95,7%) and car theft (88,9%). Theft of crops (24,8%) and Deliberate damaging of dwellings (45,1%) were the least reported household crimes. In terms of individual crime, about 85,8% of incidents of car hijacking were reported to the police. An estimated 63% incidents of sexual offence were also reported to the police, however it is worth noting that incidents such as sexual offences are of a sensitive nature and may potentially be undercounted.

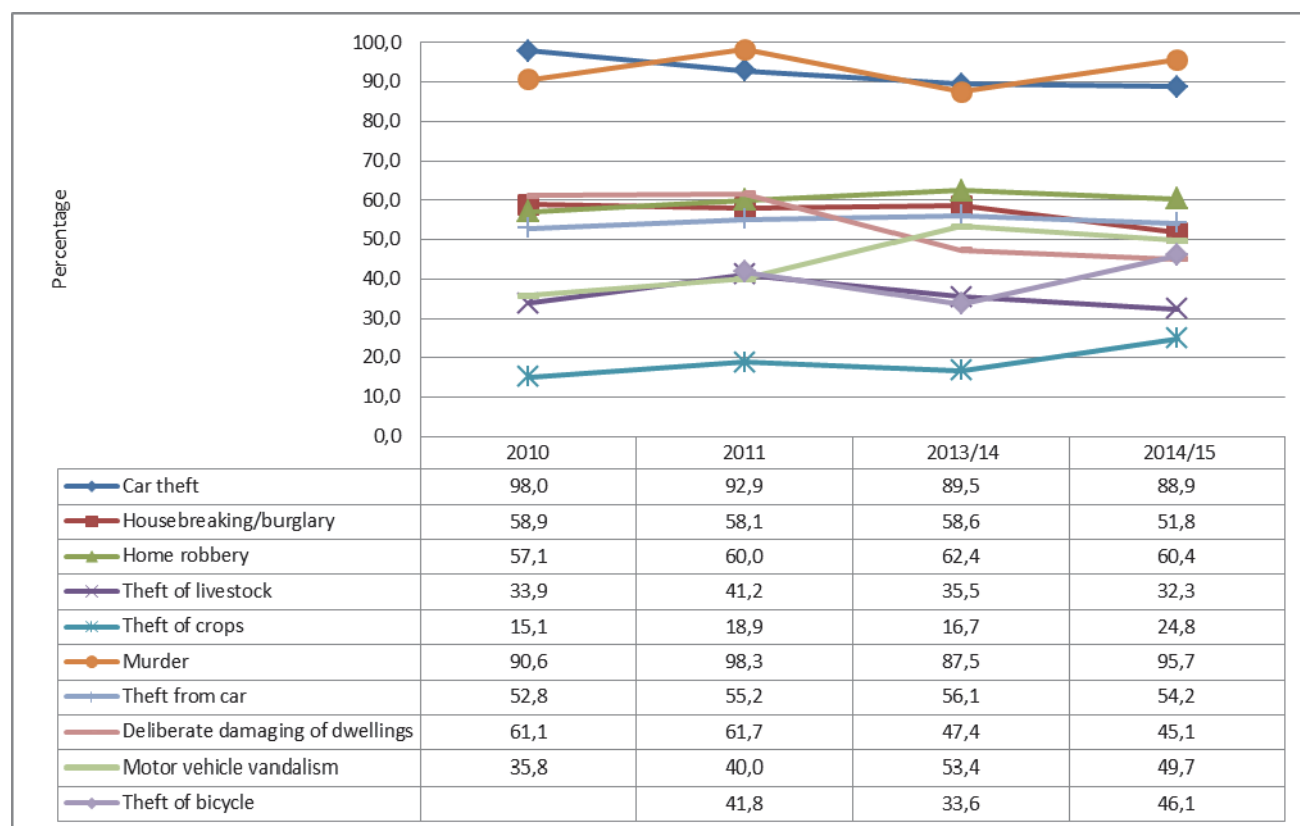
**Table 12: Extent of repeat victimisation amongst households and individuals aged 16 years and older who had experienced a particular crime (per cent), 2014/15**

Household crime	Once	Twice or more	Total
Car theft	93,7	6,3	100,0
Housebreaking/burglary	90,6	9,4	100,0
Home robbery	93,1	6,9	100,0
Livestock theft	90,3	9,7	100,0
Theft of crops	92,8	7,2	100,0
Theft from car	90,1	9,9	100,0
Deliberate damaging of dwellings	91,3	8,7	100,0
Motor vehicle vandalism	92,7	7,3	100,0
Bicycle theft	94,6	5,4	100,0
<b>Individual crime</b>			
Theft of personal property	91,6	8,4	100,0
Carjacking	100	-	100,0
Robbery excl. home/carjacking	93,1	6,9	100,0
Assault	88,7	11,3	100,0
Sexual offence	98,3	1,7	100,0
Consumer fraud	99,6	0,4	100,0
Corruption	89,5	10,5	100,0

Table 12 shows the extent of repeat victimisation amongst households and individuals aged 16 years and older that had experienced a particular crime. Repeat victimisation was the most likely to occur for victims of theft from car (9,9%), livestock theft (9,7%) and housebreaking/burglary (9,4%). Individuals age 16 years and older were more likely to experienced assault (11,3%), involved in the act of corruption (10,5%) and theft of their personal property more than once.

## 10.2 Reporting crimes to the police

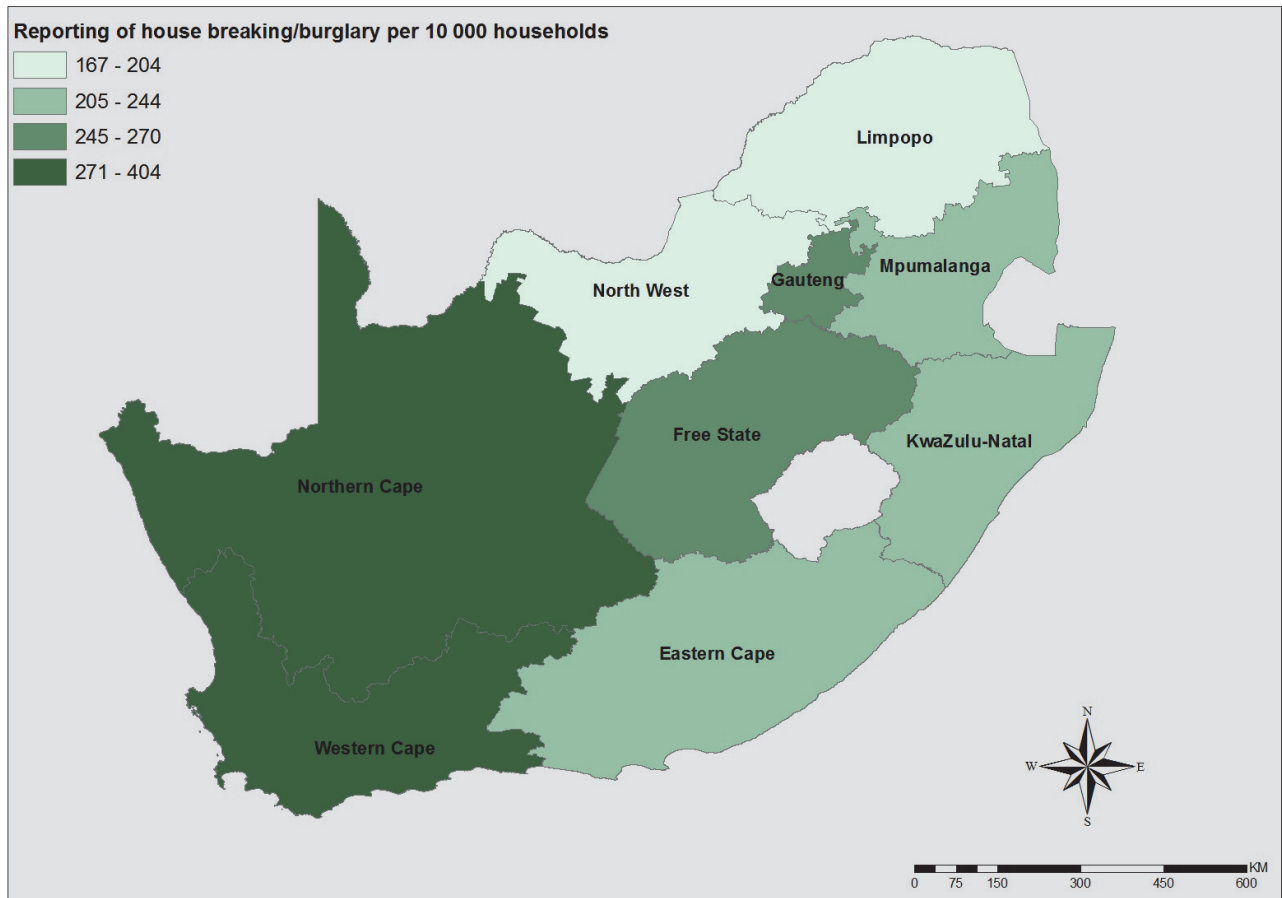
Figure 53: Percentage distribution of incidents of crime reported by the households to the police, 2014/15



Note: Theft of bicycle was not measured in 2010

The percentage of distribution of crime reported by households to the police between 2010 and 2014/15 is shown in Figure 53. Incidents of murder were largely reported to the police in the period under review, with a noticeable increase from 87, 5% in 2013/14 to 95,7% in 2014/15. About 60% of home robbery incidents were reported to the police.

**Map 7: Number of households per 10 000 households, who reported incidents of housebreaking/burglary by province, 2014/15**



Map 7 shows the distribution of households who reported incidents of housebreaking/burglary to police. Households in Western Cape were most likely to report incidents of housebreaking/burglary to police. Households in North West and Limpopo were least likely to report incidents of housebreaking/burglary to police.

**Figure 54: Percentage distribution of incidents of crime reported by the selected individuals, aged 16 years and older to the police, 2014/15**

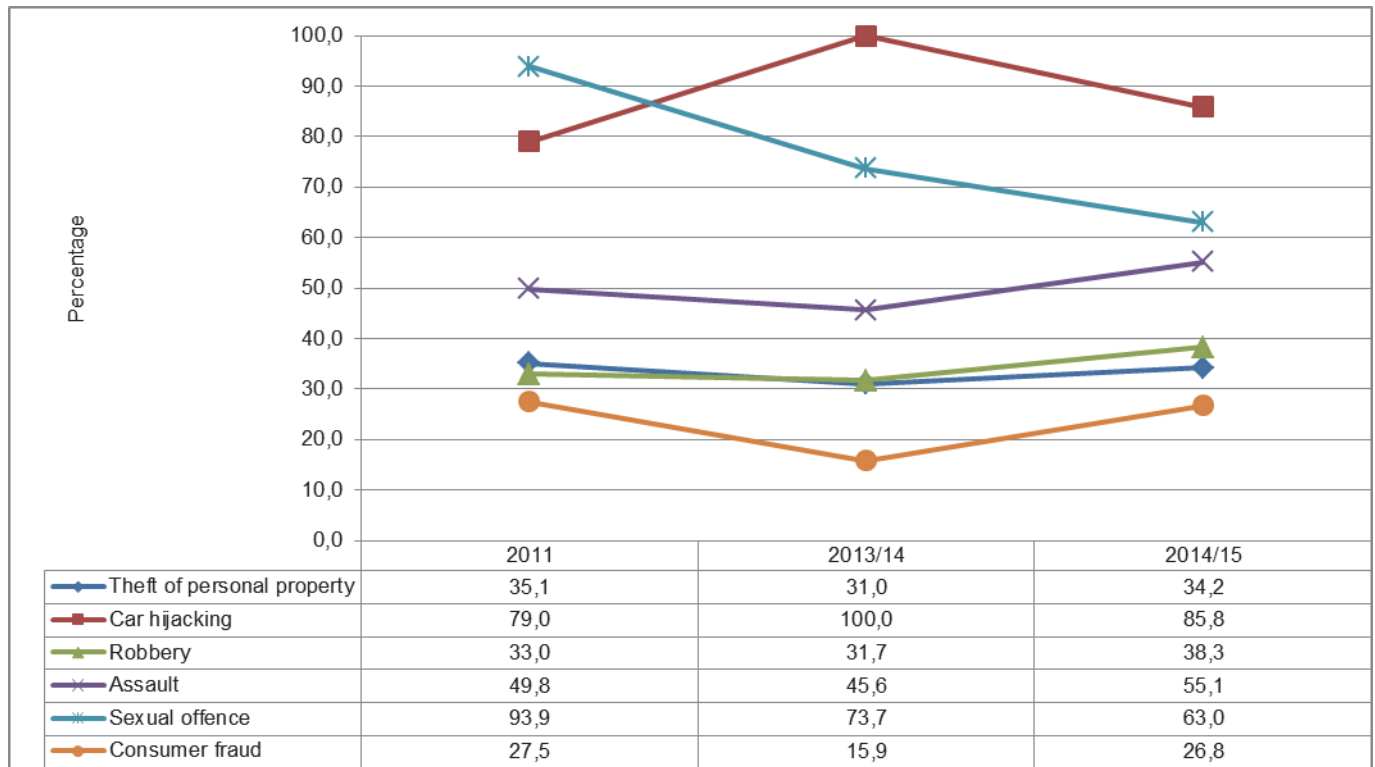


Figure 54 shows the percentage distribution of crime reported to the police by individuals, aged 16 years and older. Individual crime tended to be less frequently reported to the police than household crime. Car hijacking was the most reported individual crime, where an estimated 85,8% of incidents were said to have been reported to the police in 2014/15. There was a decline in number of sexual offence incidents reported to the police from 2011 to 2014/15 by 10,7 percentage point.

### 10.3 Reasons for not reporting crime

**Figure 55: Percentage distribution of households' reasons for not reporting incidents of crime to the police per crime, 2014/15**

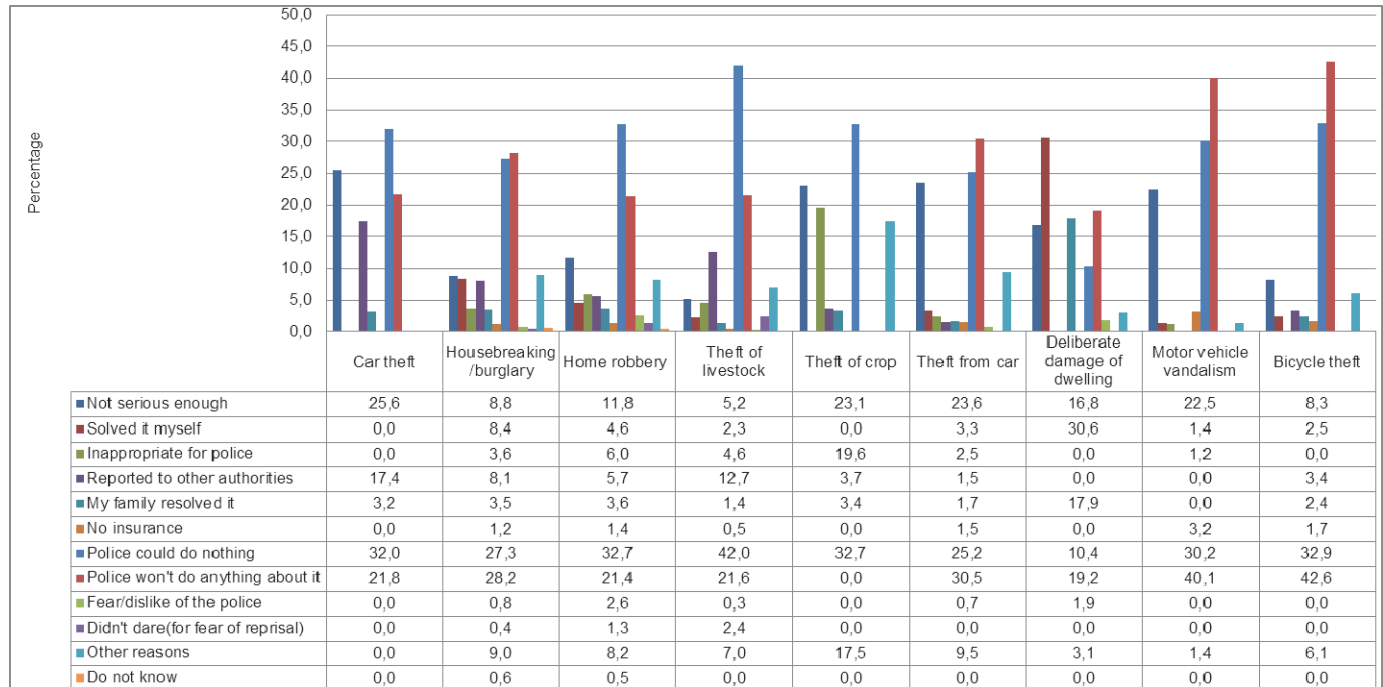
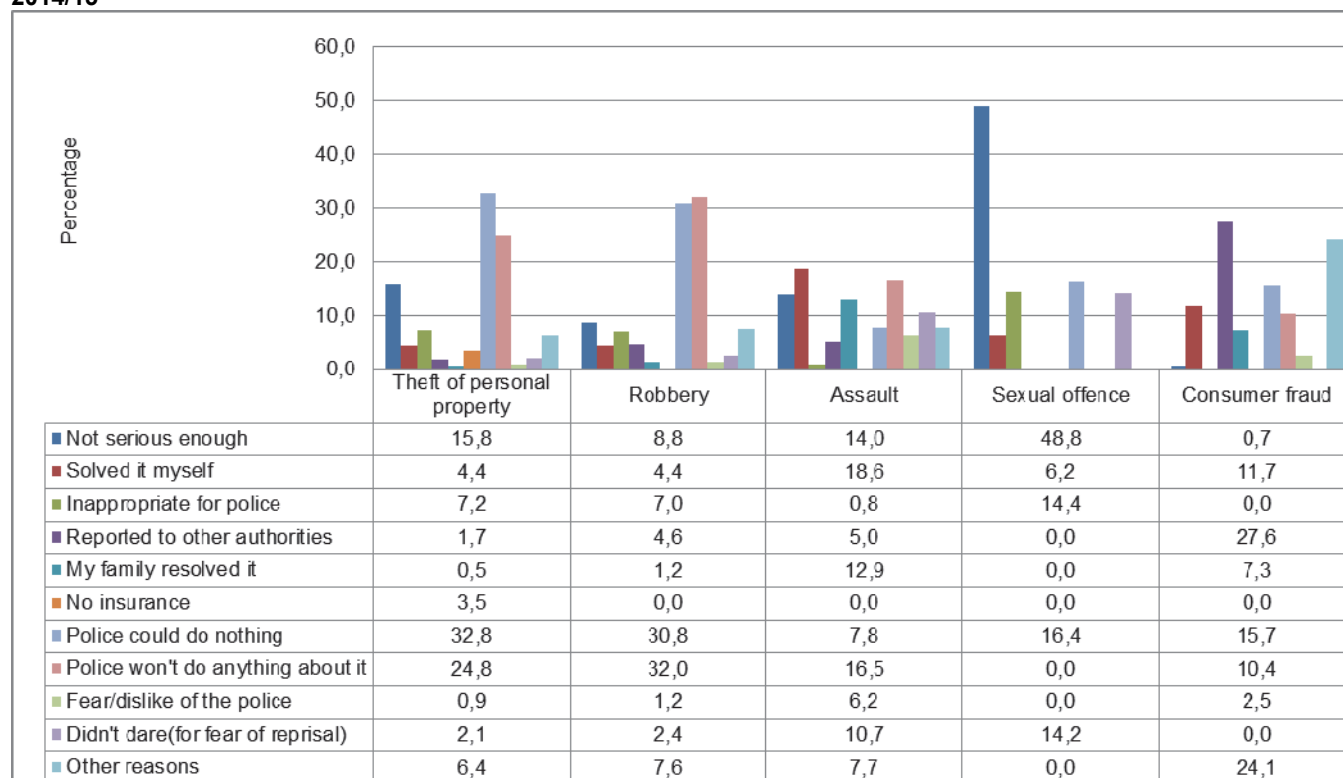


Figure 55 shows the reasons for not reporting incidents of household crime to the police for each crime. It should be taken into consideration that these proportions represent only the views of a subset of the victim population; that is, those victims who did not report the incident to the police. More than forty per cent of those that did not report incidents of bicycle theft felt that 'police won't do anything about it' (42,6%).

The majority of victims across all crimes cited 'police could do nothing' and 'police won't do anything about it' as the reasons why they did not report incidents of crime. For those who did not report car theft, their reasons for not reporting include police could do nothing (32,0%), the incident was not serious enough (25,6%) and police won't do anything about it (21,8%).

**Figure 56: Percentage distribution of individuals' reasons for not reporting incidents of crime to the police per crime, 2014/15**

The reasons why individual crimes were not reported varied according to different types of crime, however the most cited reasons for not reporting individual crime to the police were that either police could do nothing or police wouldn't do anything about it (Figure 56). These reasons jointly accounted for an estimated 67,6% for theft of personal property, 62,8% for robbery, 22,3% for assault and 16,4% of those who experienced sexual offences. Most of the victims of sexual offence (48,8%) indicated that it was not serious enough.

**Figure 57: Percentage distribution of household crimes that were reported to anyone else (other than the police), by institution reported to, 2014/15**

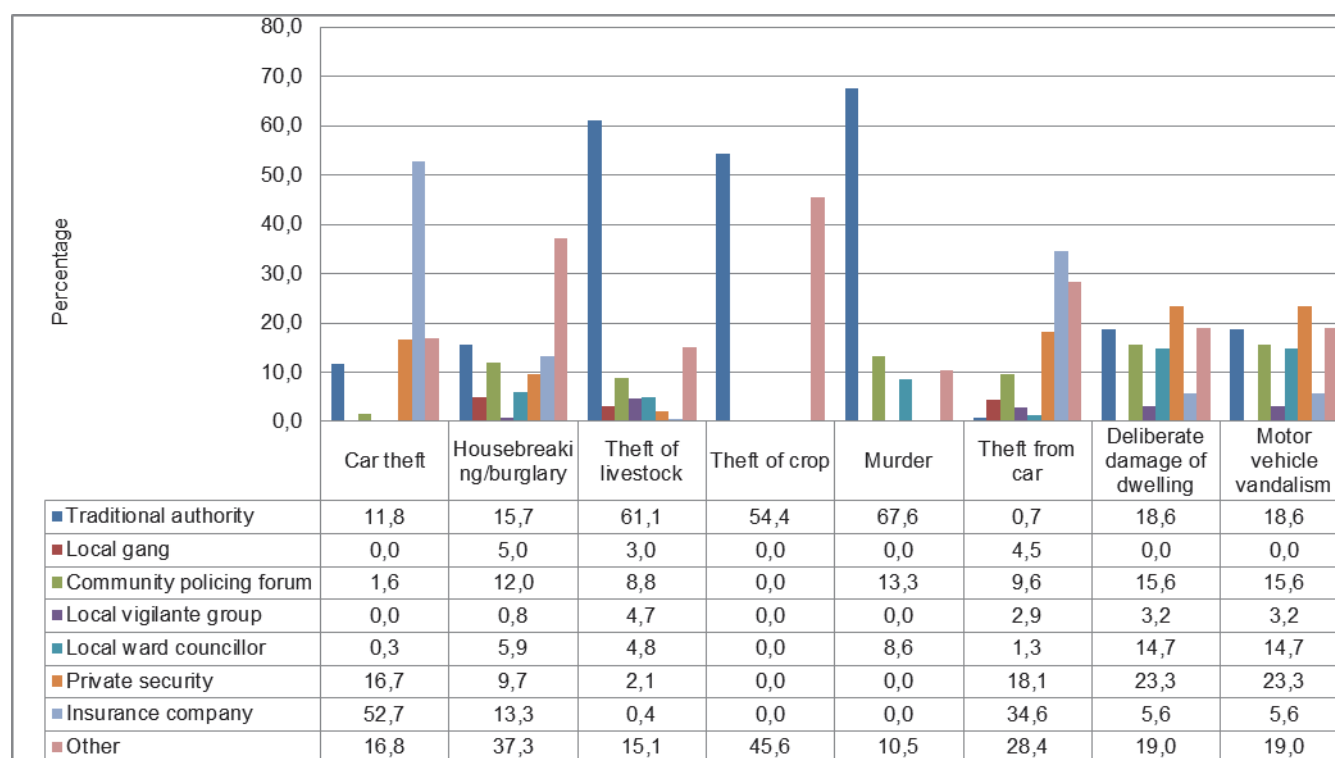
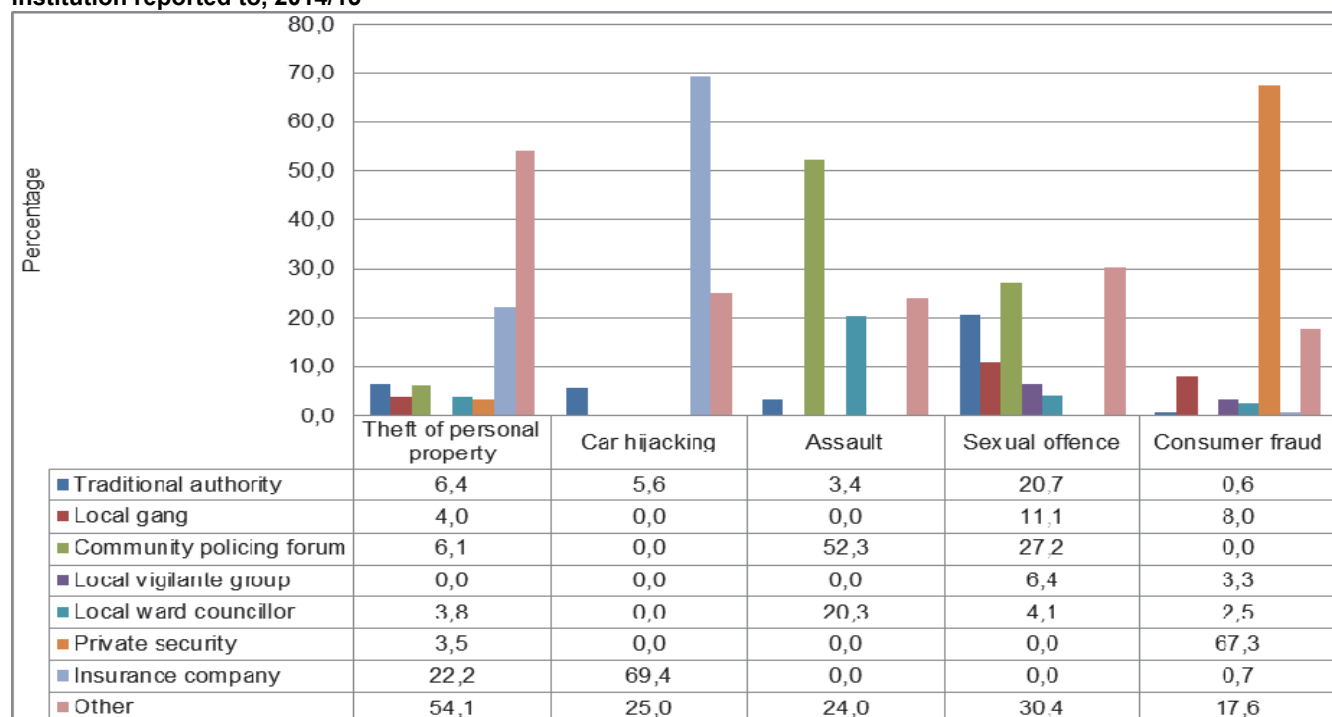


Figure 57 shows the percentage distribution of household crimes that were reported to institutions other than the police. Most car theft incidents were reported to insurance companies (52,7%) as well as private security (16,7%). Households mostly reported incidents of housebreaking/burglary to other authorities (37,3%) and community policing forums (12,0%). The majority of incidents of livestock theft were reported to traditional authorities (61,1%). Incidents of crops theft were mainly reported to traditional authorities (54,4%) and other authorities (45,6%). Murder was mostly reported to traditional authorities (67,6%) and community policing forums (13,3%). Theft from cars were mostly reported to insurance companies (34,6%).



**Figure 58: Percentage distribution of individual crimes that were reported to anyone else (other than the police) by institution reported to, 2014/15**



The percentage distribution of individual crimes that were reported to someone else other than the police is shown in Figure 58. Car hijacking (69,4%) and theft of personal property were mostly reported to insurance company, while incidents of sexual offence (27,2%) and assault (52,3%) were mostly reported to community policing forum. Incidents of consumer fraud (67,3%) were mostly reported to private security.

## 11. Overview of selected crime types

### 11.1 Vehicle related crimes

**Figure 59: Percentage distribution of households who experienced crime by type of crime and place of occurrence, 2014/15**

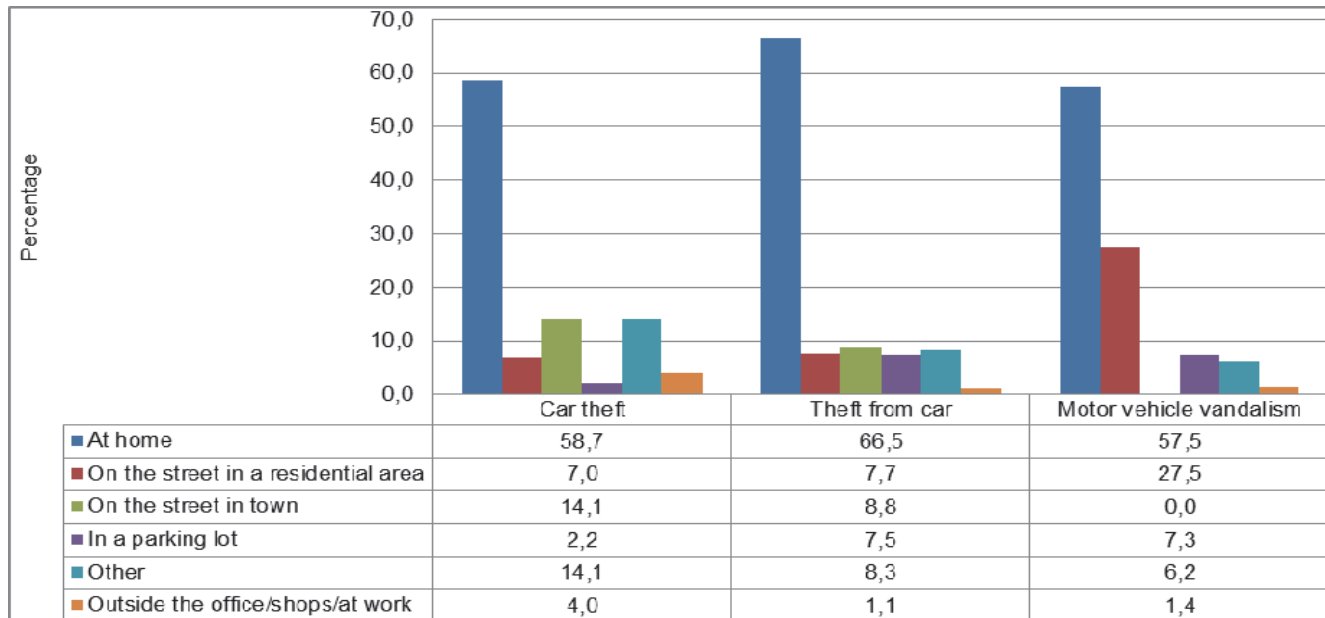


Figure 59 shows that most vehicle-related crimes occurred when vehicles were parked at home. The majority of households reported that incidents of car theft occurred at home (58,7%), while 14,1% reported that it happened on the streets in town. Approximately 66,5% of incidents of theft from cars occurred at their homes, while 8,8% on the street in town. About 57,5% of incidents of motor vehicle vandalism occurred at home, while 27,5% occurred on the street in a residential area.

**Figure 60: Percentage distribution of time of the day when selected household crimes occurred, 2014/15**

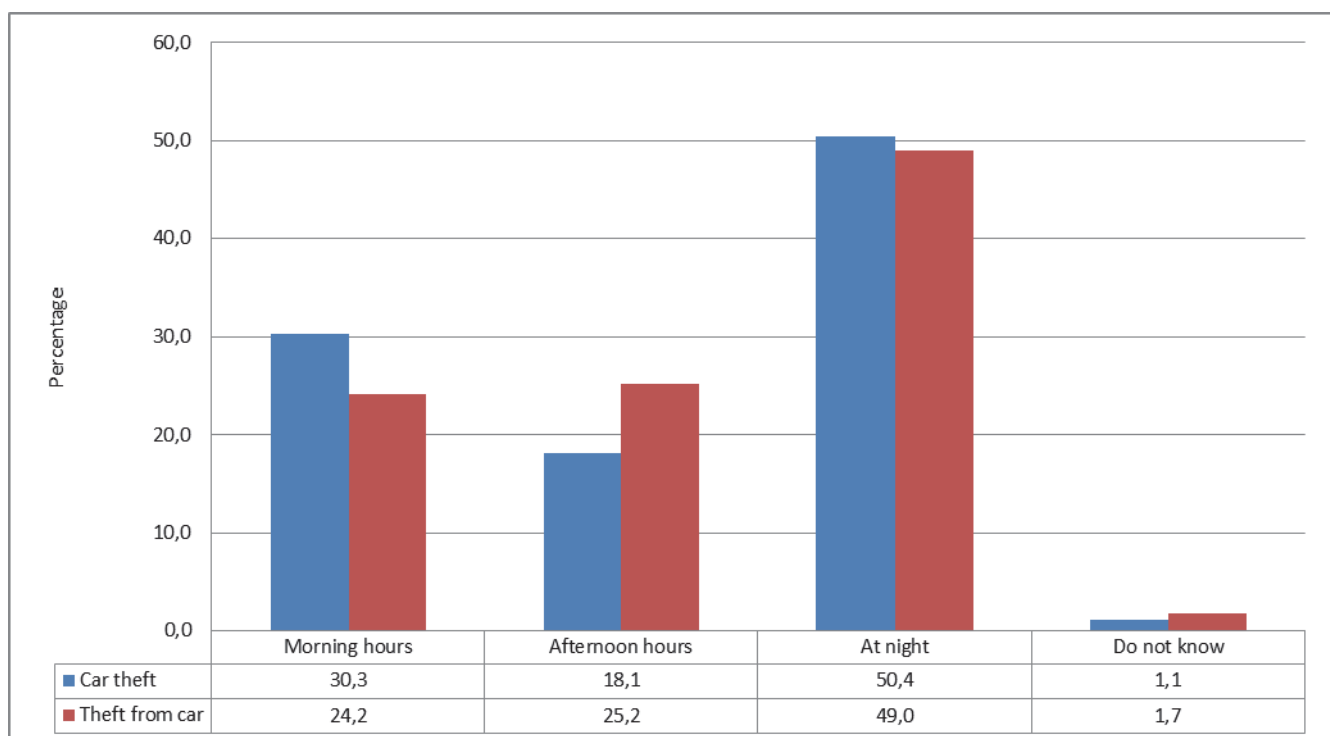


Figure 60 shows that car theft was most likely to occur at night (50,4%), while 30,3% reported that it occurred in the morning hours and 18,1% indicated that it was committed in the afternoon hours. It was also reported that theft from cars mostly occurred at night (49,0%), whereas 25,2% took place in the afternoon hours. Only 24,2% of households reported that theft from car happened in the morning hours.

**Figure 61: Percentage distribution of the period of the week when household crimes occurred, 2014/15**

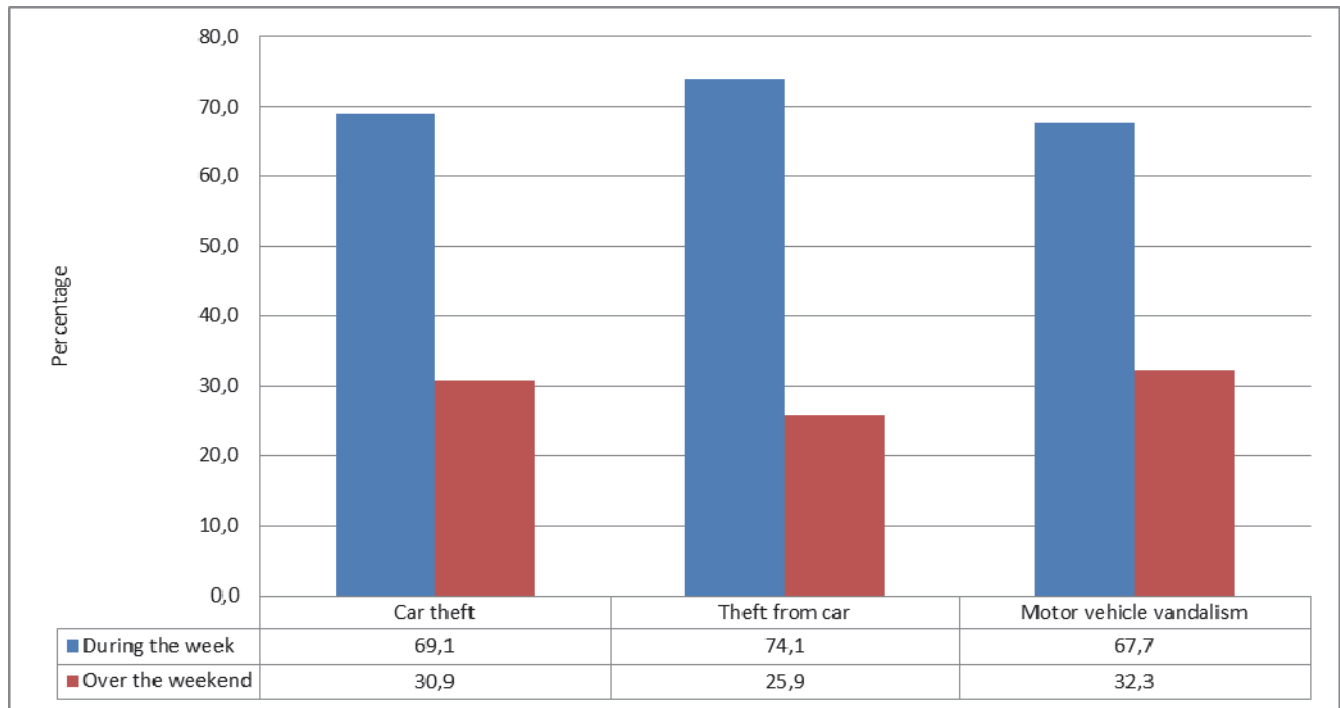


Figure 61 gives the distribution of the period of the week when car related crimes occurred. All these crimes were most likely to occur during the week, with theft from cars having the highest percentage (74,1%). Crimes most likely to happen over the weekend, were car theft (30,9%) and motor vehicle vandalism (32,3%).

## 11.2 Housebreaking/burglary and other theft

**Figure 62: Percentage distribution of the time of the day that the housebreaking/burglary took place, by province 2014/15**

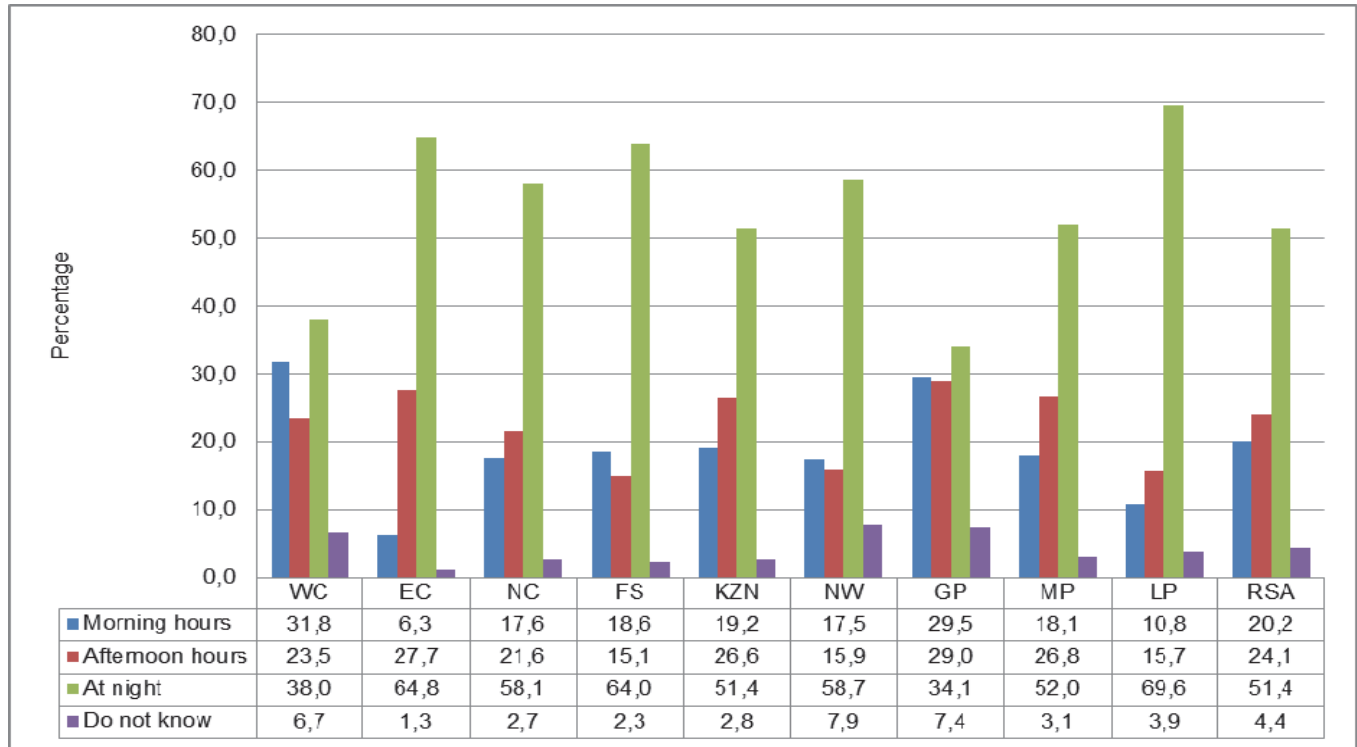
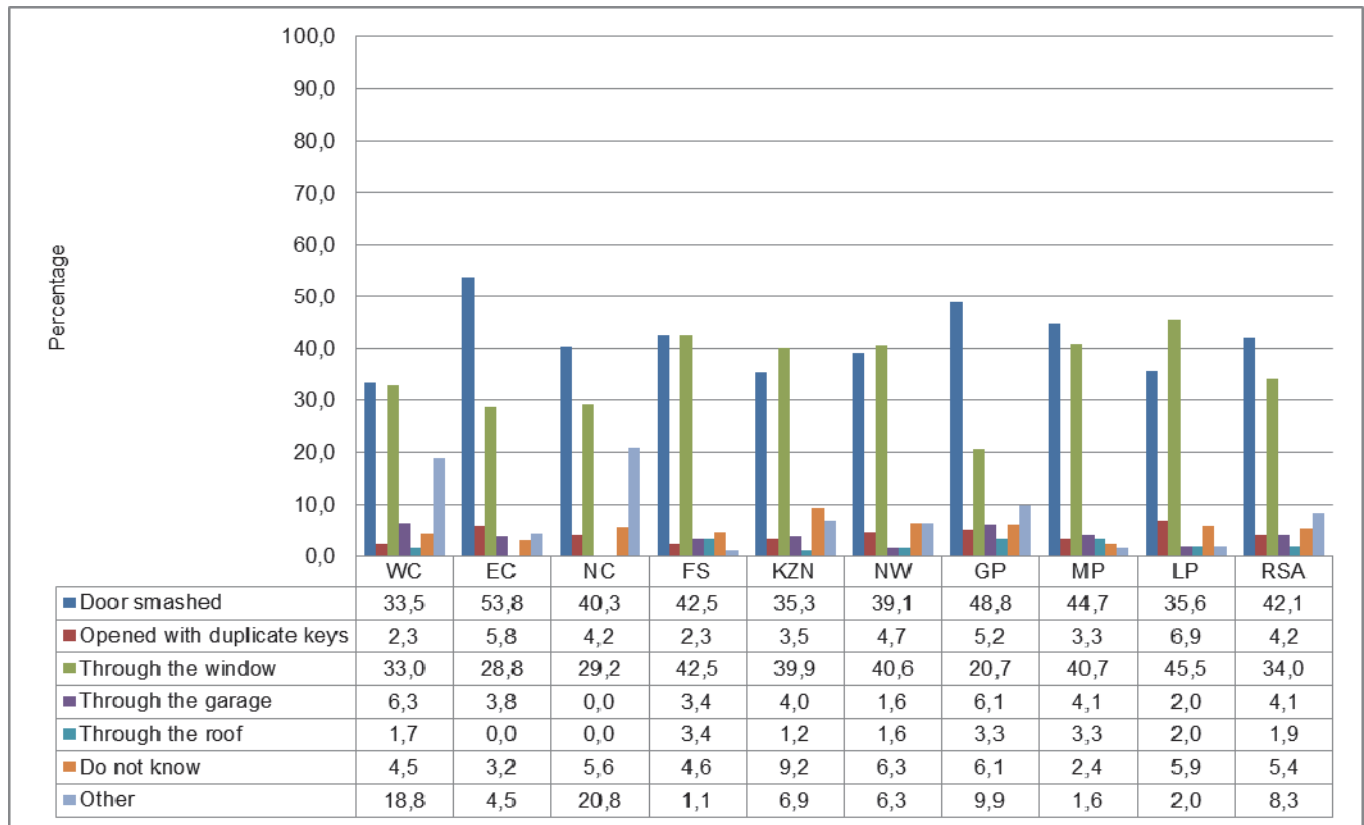


Figure 62 shows the percentage distribution of households who experienced housebreaking/burglary in 2014/15 by the time of day it took place. Most households who experienced housebreaking/burglary at night (51,4%), while less than half of households in the country experienced it during the day,(afternoon hours (24,1%) and morning hours (20,2%).

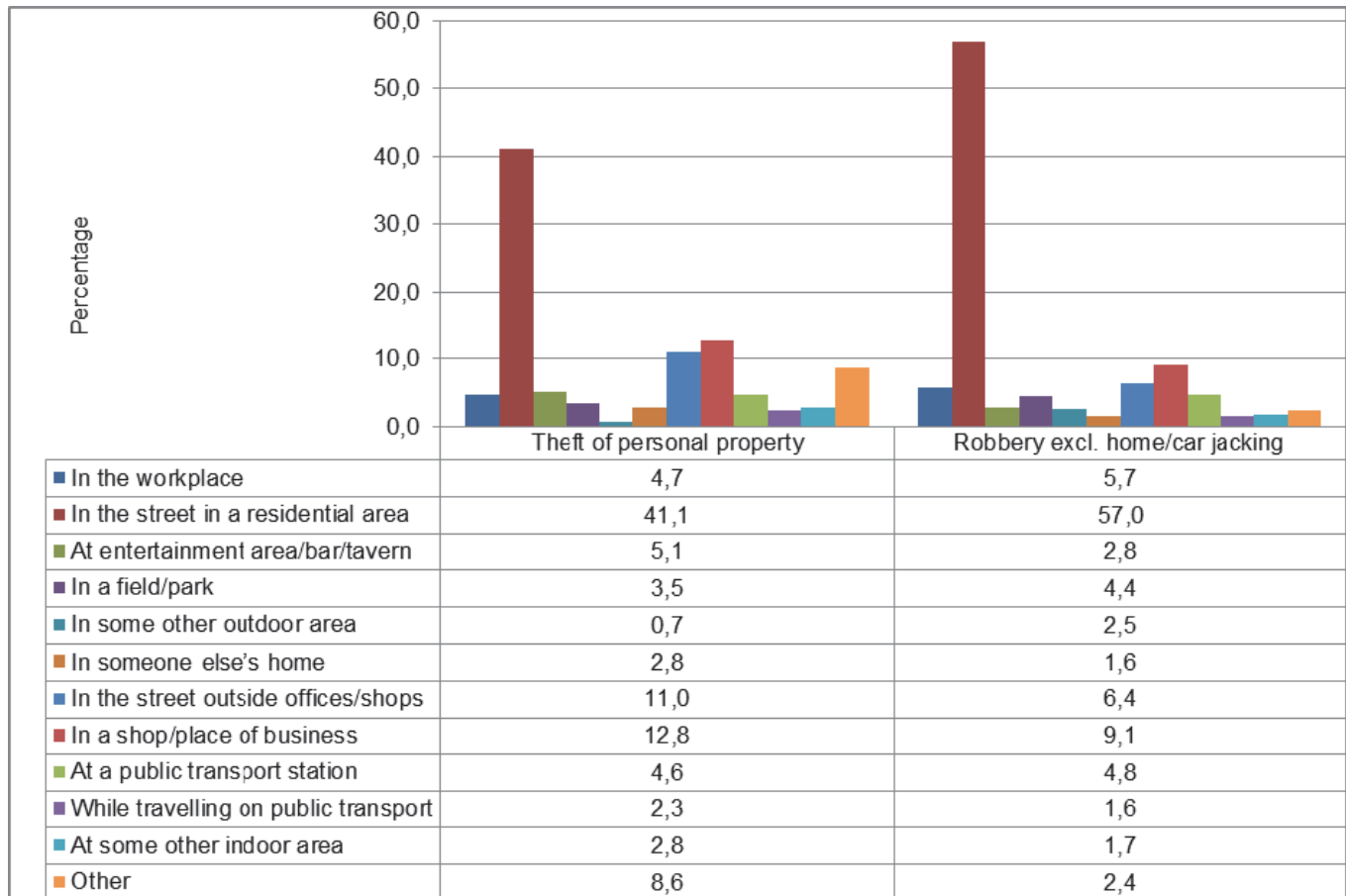
**Figure 63: Percentage distribution of the manner in which the burglar gained entry into the house, by province, 2014/15**



The percentage distribution of the manner in which the burglar gained entry into the house by province is shown in Figure 63. More households responded that the door was smashed (42,1%) as a way of entry into their house than any other reason, while a little over one in three households said that burglars managed to gain entry to their houses through the window (34,0%). Entry through the roof (1,9%) was the least mentioned entry method.

### 11.3 Robbery and theft of personal property

Figure 64: Place where robbery or theft of personal property occurred by province (per cent), 2014/15



Individuals who experienced theft of personal property and robbery were asked the location in which this crime occurred. Figure 64 illustrates that almost 6 in 10 individuals said that they were robbed in the street in a residential area (57%), similarly, most incidents of theft of personal property occurred in a street in a residential area (41,1%). Those who experienced theft of personal property also responded that it occurred in a shop/place of business (12,8%) and in the street outside offices/shops (11,0%). A similar trend was seen amongst those who experienced robbery (9,1%) and (6,4%) respectively.

## 11.4 Assault and sexual offences

**Figure 65: Percentage of selected individuals who knew the perpetrator, and their relationship, if any, to the perpetrator by type of crime, 2014/15**

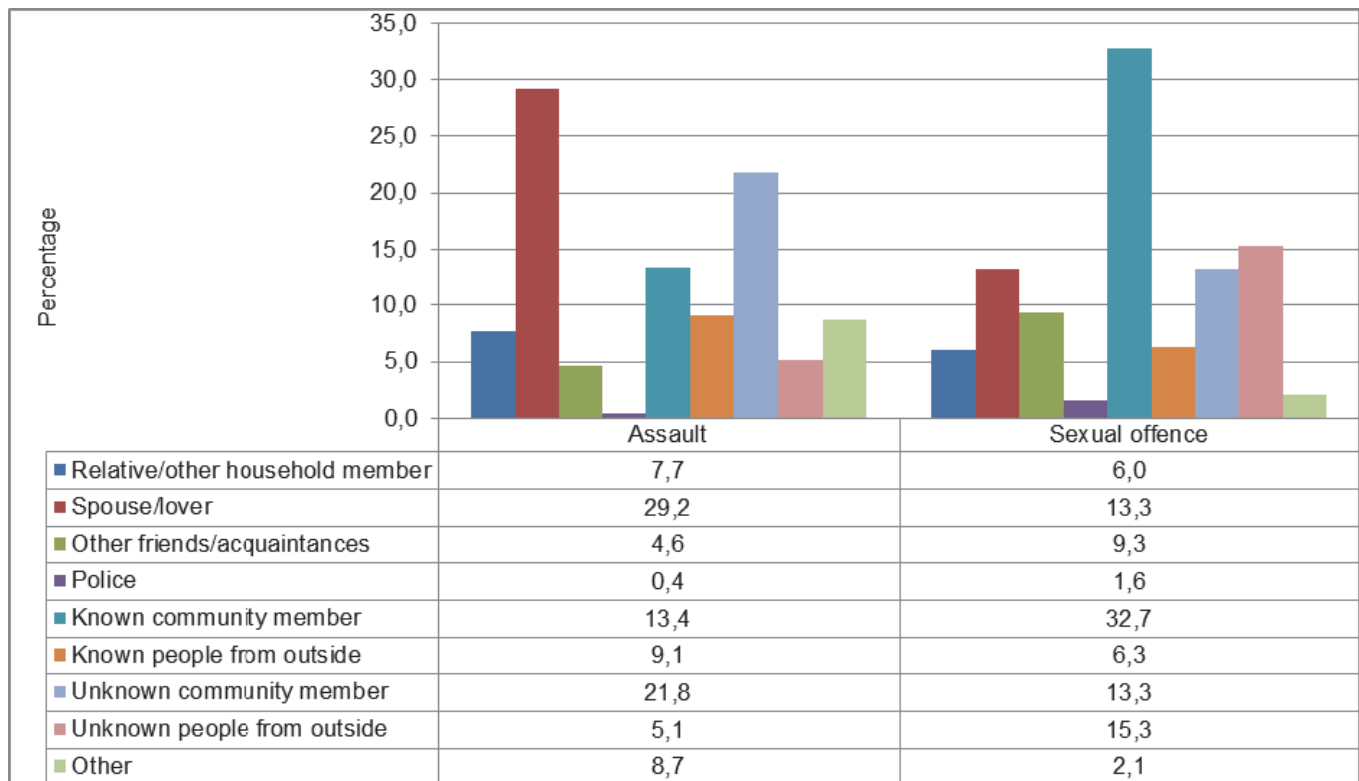
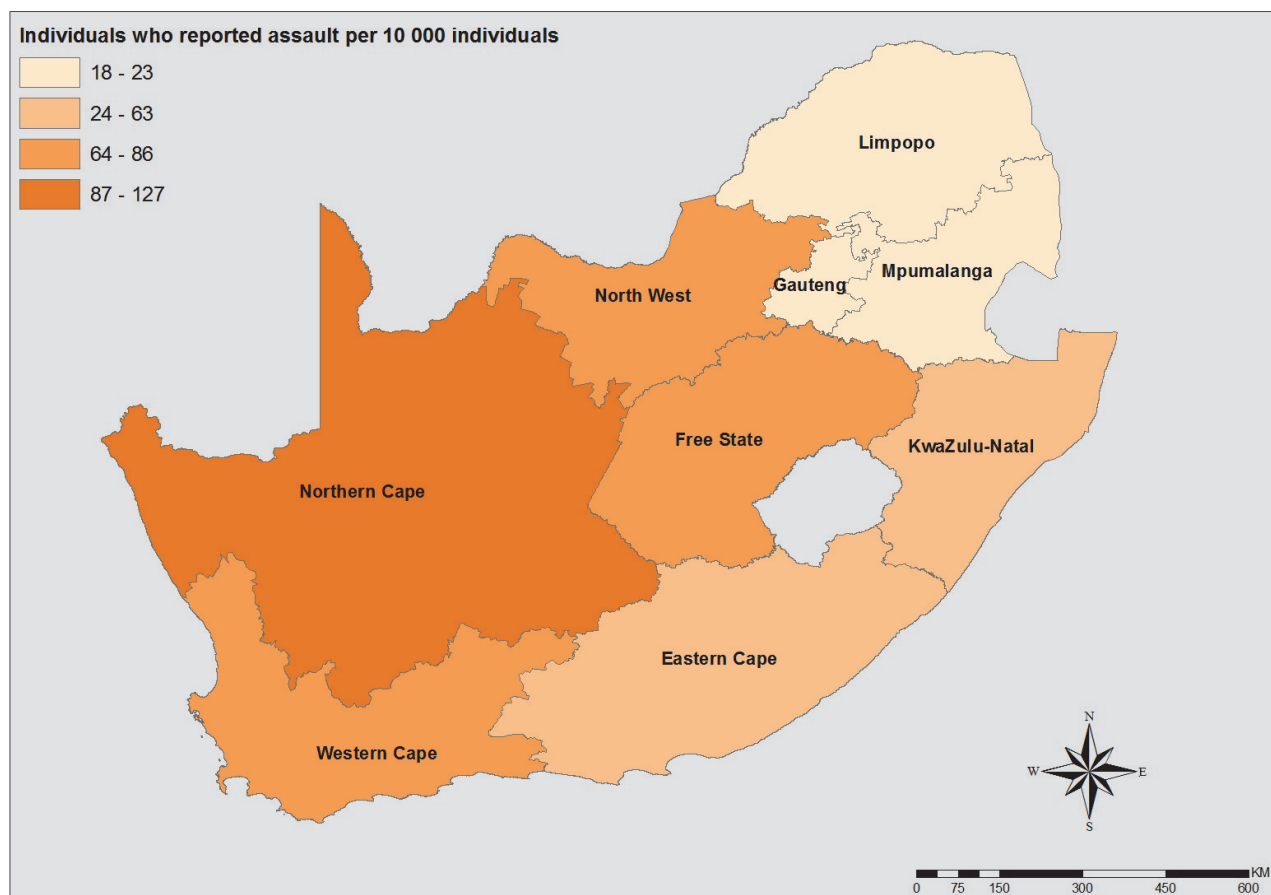
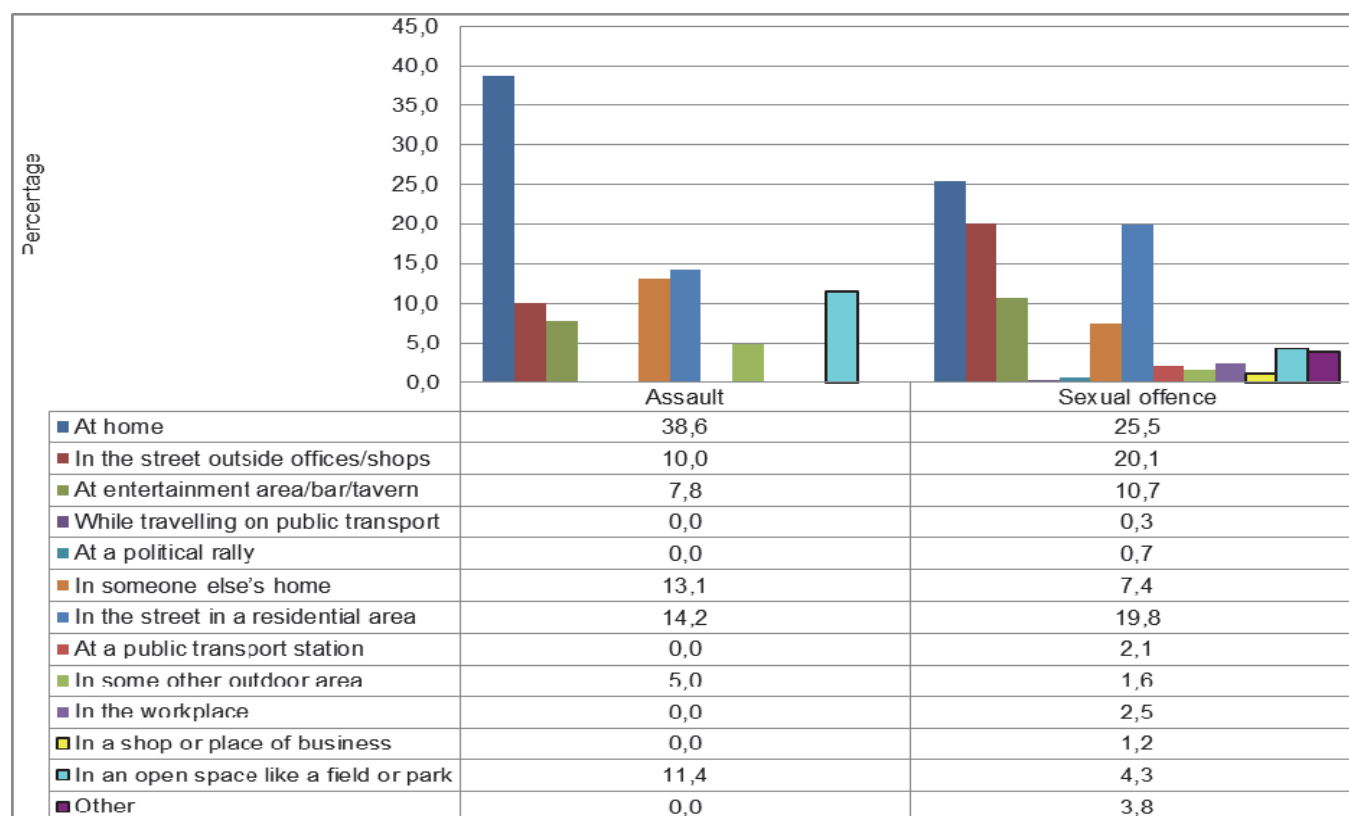


Figure 65 shows the percentage of selected individuals who experienced sexual offence and assault by a known perpetrator. Over one in three individuals who experienced sexual offence were victimised by known a community member (32,7%) followed by unknown people from outside (15,3%). Assault victims were mostly victimised by their spouse or lover (29,2%) followed by an unknown community member (21,8%). Individuals who experienced sexual offence (1,6%) and assault (0,4%) were least likely to name the police as perpetrators.

**Map 8: Number of individuals per 10 000 population, who reported assault to the police by province 2014/15**

Map 8 shows the provincial distribution of individuals per 10 000 population who reported assault to the police. More individuals in Northern Cape reported the crime to the police, whereas Gauteng, Limpopo and Mpumalanga had less individuals who reported incidents of assault.



**Figure 66: Place where assault and sexual offence occurred by type of crime , 2014/15**

The places where assault and sexual offence took place is depicted in a percentage distribution by Figure 66. The majority of the assault incidents took place at home (38,6%), in the street in a residential area (14,2%) and in someone else's home (13,1%). Similarly, sexual offences mainly occurred at home (25,5%), followed by in the street outside offices or shops (20,1%) and in the street in a residential area (19,8%).

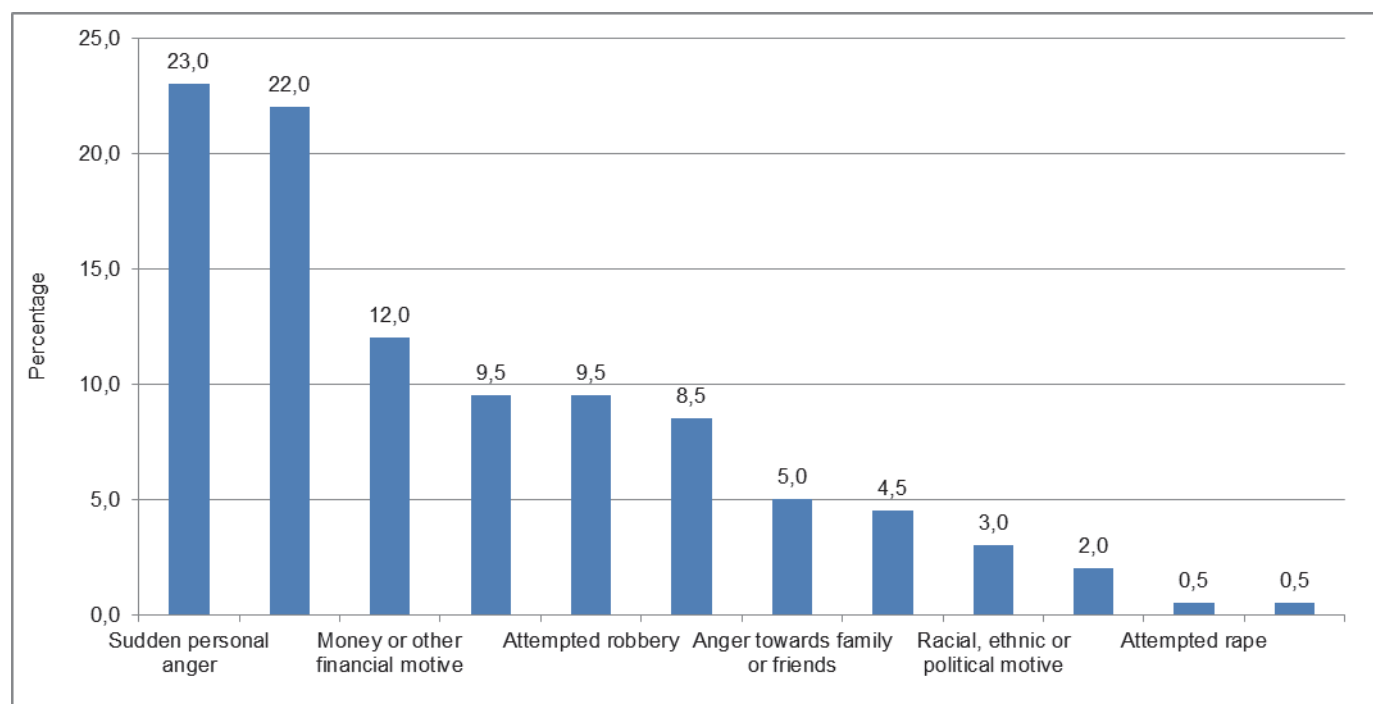
**Figure 67: Percentage distribution of the motivation behind the assault, 2014/15**

Figure 67 portrays the percentage distribution of victim's perceived motivation behind the assault that they experienced between April 2014 and March 2015. Reasons that were mostly cited were sudden personal anger (23,0%) and (22,0%). Other main reasons included money or other financial motive (12,0%), long term personal anger (9,5%) and attempted robbery (9,5%).

## 11.5 Murder

Figure 68: Percentage distribution of the motivation behind the murder, 2014/15

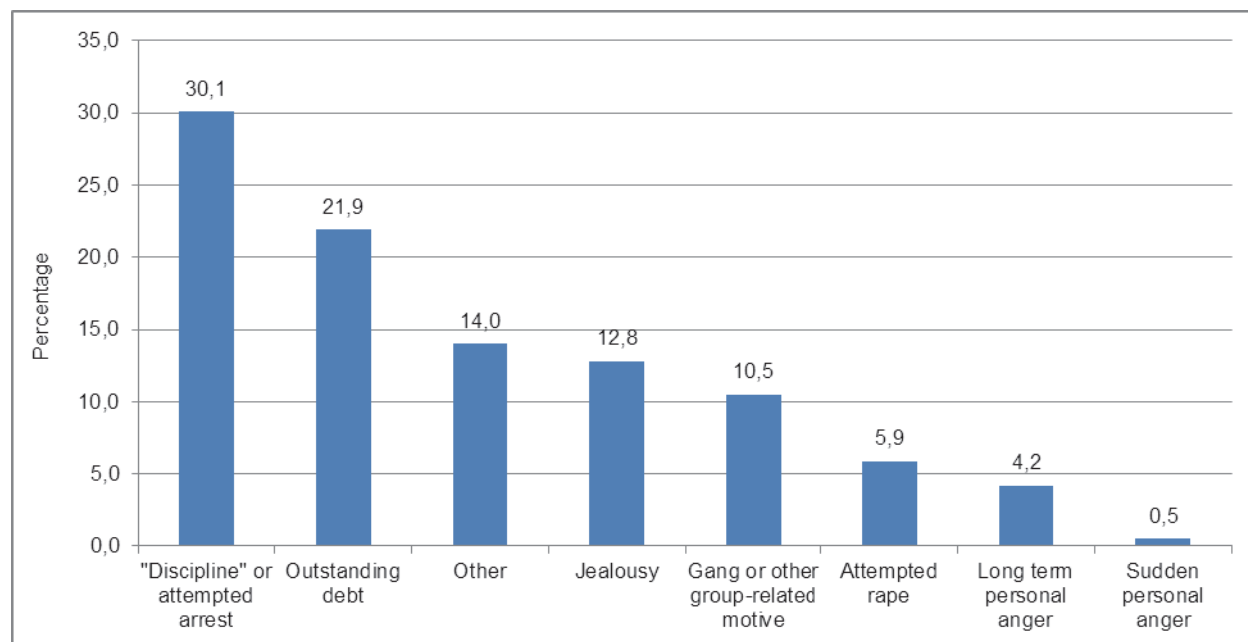
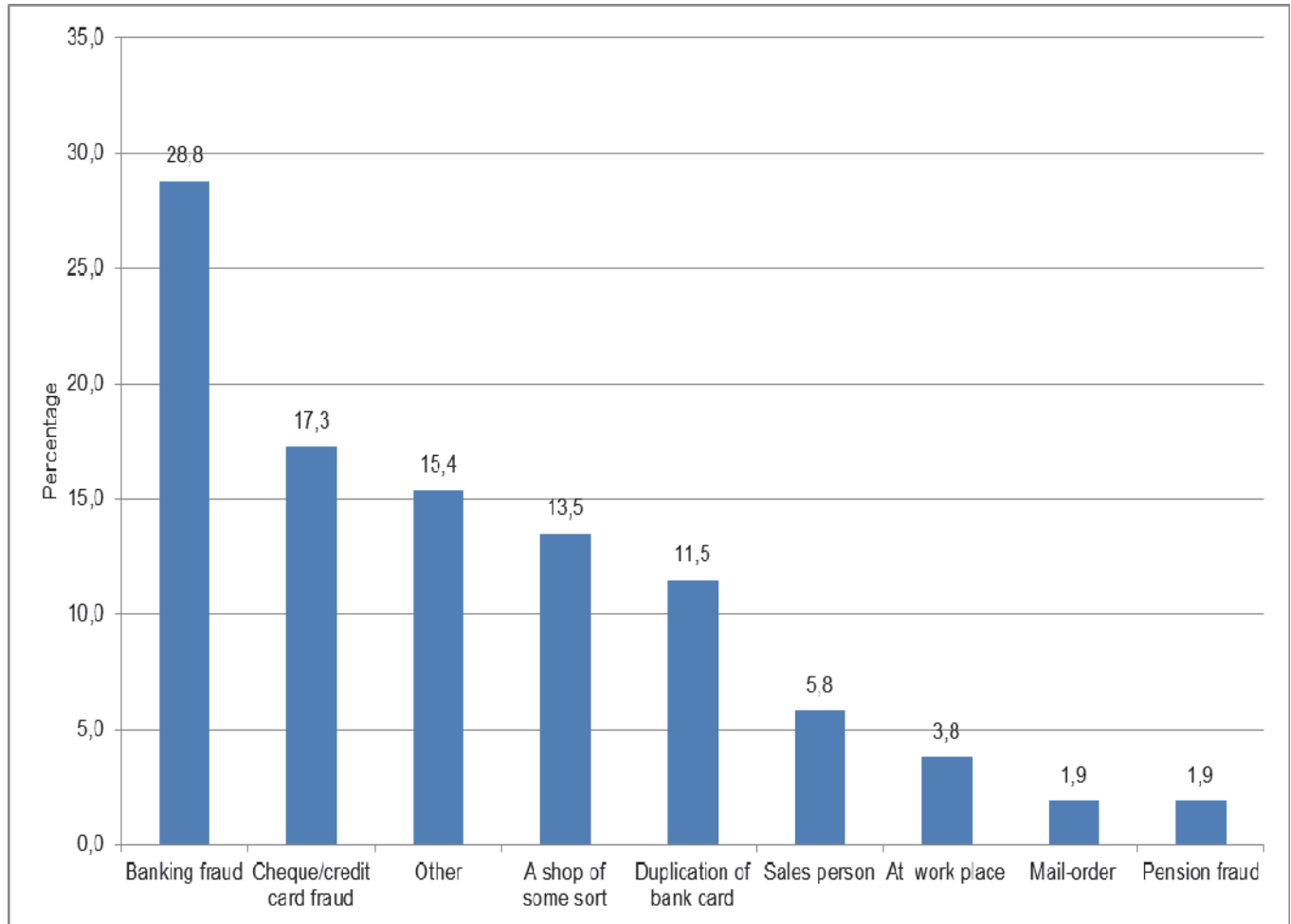


Figure 68 shows percentage distribution of the households' perception on motives behind the murder of their household members. Over a third of households thought that victims were murdered in an attempt to discipline or arrest them (30,1%). Attempted rape, outstanding debts and jealousy were also popularly cited by households as motives for murder.

## 11.6 Consumer fraud

Figure 69: Percentage distribution on how consumer fraud took place, 2014/15



The percentage distribution on how consumer fraud took place is shown in Figure 68. Individuals who experienced consumer fraud mainly said that it mostly happened through internet or cellphone banking (28,8%) while others fell victim of cheque or credit card fraud (17,3%) or at a shop of some sort (13,5%).

## 11.7 Use of weapons in criminal activity

**Figure 70: Percentage distribution of the weapons used by perpetrators when committing violent crimes, 2014/15**

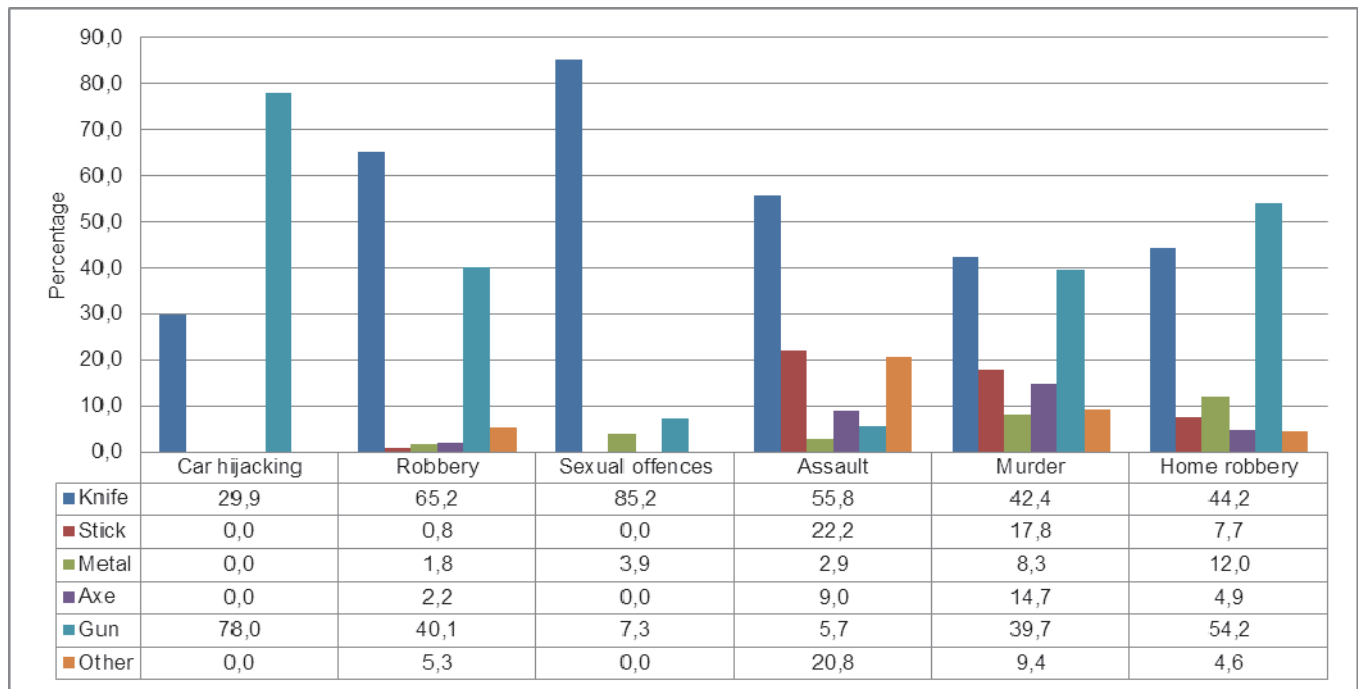


Figure 69 shows the percentage distribution of the weapons used by perpetrators when committing violent crimes. Overall, knives and guns were the most commonly used weapons. Knives were frequently used by perpetrators of sexual offences (85,2%), robbery (65,2%) and assault (55,8%) Whereas guns were mainly used by perpetrators of car hijacking (78,0%) and home robbery (54,2%). Other weapons used were sticks or clubs, metal bars, axes or pangas. These weapons were mostly used to commit sexual offences, murder, home robbery and robbery

## 12. Technical notes

### 12.1 Response details

**Table 13: Response rates by province, VOCS 2014/15**

Province	Per cent
Western Cape	94,9
Eastern Cape	97,8
Northern Cape	95,9
Free State	97,7
KwaZulu-Natal	98,4
North West	97,9
Gauteng	84,0
Mpumalanga	97,1
Limpopo	99,1
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>94,9</b>

### 12.2 Survey requirements and design

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

### 12.3 Questionnaire design

Stats SA has committed itself to the highest international standards of data collection. In this regard, without compromising South African values and concepts, the VOCS 2014/15 strives to bring the questionnaire content to international standards, so that comparative analyses with other countries can be undertaken. The VOCS 2014/15 questionnaire was developed based on the questions used in the International Crime Victim Survey (ICVS), previous VOCSs (both conducted by ISS and Stats SA) with modifications in some instances. The Stats SA questionnaire design standard for household surveys was also used as a normative reference. In order to minimise fieldworker and capturing errors, the questionnaire was largely pre-coded. Some minor changes and additions were made to the questionnaire for VOCS 2014/15.

Sections 10 to 20 of the questionnaire represent household crimes for which a proxy respondent (preferably head of the household or acting head of household) answered on behalf of the household. All analysis done in this report that included demographic variables was done using the demographic characteristics of the household head or proxy.

Section 21 to 28 of this questionnaire required that an individual be selected using the birthday section method to respond to questions classified as individual crimes. This methodology selects an individual who is 16 years or older, whose birthday was first to follow the survey date.

Table 16 summarises the details of the questions included in the VOCS questionnaire. The questions are covered in 28 sections, each focusing on a particular aspect.

**Table 14: Contents of the VOCS 2014/15 questionnaire**

Section	Number of questions	Details of each section
Cover page		Household information, response details, field staff information, result codes, etc.
Flap	10	Demographic information (name, sex, age, population group, etc.)
Section 1	10	Household-specific characteristics (education, economic activities and household income sources)
Section 2	13	General thinking / beliefs on crime
Section 3	6	Individual and community response to crime
Section 4	7	Victim support and other interventions
Section 5	4	Citizen interaction or community cohesion
Section 6	16	Perception of the police service
Section 7a	9	Perception of the courts
Section 7b	11	Perception of Trafficking in Persons
Section 8	4	Perception of correctional services
Section 9	4	Corruption experienced by the household
Section 10	4	Experience of household crime (screening table)
Section 11	21	Theft of car experienced by a household member(s) in the past 12 months
Section 12	23	Housebreaking or burglary when no one was at home in the past 12 months
Section 13	28	Home robbery (including robbery often around or inside the household's dwelling) experienced by a household member(s) in the past 12 months
Section 14	20	Theft of livestock, poultry and other animals in the past 12 months
Section 15	19	Theft of crops planted by the household in the past 12 months
Section 16	23	Murder experienced by a household member(s) in the past 12 months
Section 17	21	Theft out of the motor vehicle experienced by a household member(s) in the past 12 months
Section 18	20	Deliberate damaging/burning or destruction of dwelling experienced by a household member(s) in the past 12 months
Section 19	20	Motor vehicle vandalism or deliberate damage of a motor vehicle experienced by a household member(s) in the past 12 months
Section 20	17	Theft of bicycle experienced in the past 12 months
Section 21	7	Experience of individual crimes (screening table) in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months
Section 22	19	Theft of personal property experienced in the past 12 months
Section 23	30	Hijacking of motor vehicle (including attempted hijacking) experienced in the past 12 months
Section 24	27	Robbery (including street robberies and other non-residential robberies, excluding car or truck hijackings, and home robberies) experienced in the past 12 months
Section 25	28	Sexual offences (including rape) experienced in the past 12 months
Section 26	27	Assault experienced in the past 12 months
Section 27	18	Consumer fraud experienced by the individual experienced in the past 12 months
Section 28	7	Corruption (when someone is in a position of authority fails to do something he/she is required to do and solicits a bribe)
Section 29	3	Survey officer to answer questions

## 12.4 Sample design

The sample design for the VOCS 2014/15 used a Master Sample (MS) originally designed for the Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) as a sampling frame. The MS is based on information collected during the 2001 Population Census conducted by Stats SA. The MS has been developed as a general-purpose household survey frame that can be used by all household-based surveys irrespective of the sample size requirements of the survey. The VOCS 2014/15, like all other household-based surveys, uses an MS of Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) which comprise census Enumeration Areas (EAs) that are drawn from across the country.

The sample for the VOCS 2014/15 used 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. The sample was designed to be representative at provincial level. A self-weighting design at provincial level was used and MS stratification was divided into two levels. Primary stratification was defined by metropolitan and non-metropolitan geographic area type. During secondary stratification, the Census 2001 data were summarised at PSU level. The following variables were used for secondary stratification: household size, education, occupancy status, gender, industry and income. The Master Sample is based on 3 080 PSUs.

A PPS systematic sample of PSUs was drawn in each stratum, with the measure of size being the number of households in the PSU. The sample size for the VOCS 2014/15 had 31 390 dwelling units from 3 052 PSUs. In each selected PSU, a systematic sample of dwelling units was drawn. The number of DUs selected per PSU varies from PSU to PSU and depends on the Inverse Sampling Ratios (ISR) of each PSU and the number of dwelling units in that PSU.

## 12.5 Data collection

Stats SA conducted the fifth annual Victims of Crime Survey in close collaboration with other role players in the Safety and Security cluster in April 2014–March 2015. Since 2013 the Victims of Crime Survey, the Domestic Tourism Survey(DTS) and the General Household Survey(GHS) have adopted the Continuous Data Collection(CDC) methodology. The Victims of Crime Survey conducts data collection from April to March. In the long run, this methodology will enable data collection to coincide with the financial year and the reporting cycle of administrative data related to crime.

Data collection took place from April 2014 to March 2015 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. Victimization questions referred to the twelve 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, the Victims of Crime Survey, due to its sensitive nature, required additional measures to ensure that the integrity and well-being of the households are protected.

## 12.6 Editing and imputation

All questionnaires were scanned, and the data were sent to the post-capture process for editing and imputation. At each stage of checking, data were edited to ensure consistency. 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 consistency 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.

## 12.7 Weighting

The weighting process for the Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) series, 2011 to 2014/15, was expanded by including the construction of calibrated household level sample weights and not only the calibrated person and individual level sample weights as previously done. The household weights were obtained by benchmarking the adjusted household weights to the national household estimates based on the 2014 Mid-year Population Estimate series produced by the Demography Division. This process informed that the previous years in the series, 2011 to 2013/14, also be weighted and benchmarked to the National Household estimates to enhance comparability between the three sets of weights.



## 12.8 Non-response adjustment

In general, editing (i.e. invalid or inconsistent responses) and imputation (i.e. blanks within the questionnaire) was used for item non-response. The eligible households in the sampled dwellings can be divided into two response categories: households and non-households; and weight adjustment is applied to account for the non-respondent household (e.g. refusal, non-contact).

## 12.9 Construction of Household Sample Weights

The household sample weights for VOCS 2011 to 2014/15 were constructed in such a manner that the responses from the respondent households could be properly expanded to represent the household population. The sample weights therefore are a product of several factors, including the original selection probabilities (design weights), adjustments for PSUs that were sub-sampled or segmented, excluded population from the sampling frame, non-response, weight trimming and benchmarking to known household estimates.

The base weights for the household weighting process are the same as those for the person weighting process. The adjustments applied to the base weights to obtain the adjusted base weights for household weighting. In the final step of constructing the household sample weights, the adjusted base weights were calibrated such that the aggregate totals match with the independently derived (by Stats SA Demography Division) household estimates by the head of households age, population group and gender at national and provincial level. The calibrated weights are constructed with a lower bound on the calibrated weights of 50 within the StatMx software from Statistics Canada.

The household estimates used in the calibration of the adjusted base weights for VOCS 2011 to 2014/15 were the Mid-November 2010, Mid-November 2011, Mid-May 2013 and Mid-May 2014 population estimate, respectively, based on the 2014 mid-year series. The household estimates were used in benchmarking to two sets of control totals:

- National level totals that were defined by the cross-classification of age, population group and gender of the head of the household. Age represents the four age groups of 0-34, 35-49, 50-64 and 65+. Population group represents the four groups of black African, 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.
- Provincial level totals were defined within the provinces by age of head of household. The country has 9 provinces; Age represents the four age groups of 0-34, 35-49, 50-64 and 65+. The cross-classification of the areas with age resulted in 36 calibration cells.

## 12.10 Individual sample weights

The final survey weights were constructed by calibrating the non-response-adjusted design weights to the known population estimates as control totals using the 'Integrated Household Weighting' method.

The VOCS 2014/15 sample was calibrated using the Population Estimates of Mid May 2014 (based on the 2014 series). The final weights were benchmarked to the known population estimates of 5-year age groups by population groups by gender at national level, and broad age groups at province level. The 5-year age groups are: 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 and older. The provincial level age groups are 0-14, 15-34, 35-64; and 65 years and older. The calibrated weights are constructed such that all persons in a household would have the same final weight.

The VOCS 2014/15 had an extra level of selection where one person, 16 years or older, was selected per household to complete sections 21 to 28 of the questionnaire. The individual weights were benchmarked to an estimated national population of age 16 and older in Mid-May 2014. Records for which the age, population group or gender had item non-response could not be weighted and were therefore excluded from the dataset. No additional imputation was done to retain these records.

## 12.11 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.

## 12.12 Reliability of the survey estimates

The survey estimates for questions related to perceptions of crime and the criminal justice system are reliable and provide good estimates at provincial level. However, statistics related to specific crimes should be analysed and used with caution. Crimes that are relatively rare – such as murder – resulted in very few cases in the database and submitting these to a too detailed analysis, will provide unreliable results. The general rule of thumb is that if the number of weighted cases in a cell is less than 10 000, the estimates should rather not be used. Alternatively, less than 5 un-weighted cases per cell should also be regarded as too small to provide reliable estimates.

Specific categories of crime, such as sexual offences (including rape), were generally under-reported in this survey and it should not be regarded as an accurate source of sexual offences data. This is primarily due to the sensitive nature of these offences as well as in some cases the possible presence of the perpetrator in the household being interviewed.

## 12.13 Comparability with previous surveys

The VOCS 2014/15 is comparable to the previous VOC surveys in that several questions have remained unchanged over time. Where comparisons were possible, it was indicated in the report. The current survey can provide for more accurate estimates at provincial level. Caution should be exercised when running cross tabulation of different crimes by provinces and other variables. For several crimes the reported experienced cases were too few to allow for extensive analysis. This is due to the survey being the first in the series of continuous data collection methodology which was applied.

## 12.14 Limitations of crime victimisation surveys

Victimisation surveys are likely to produce higher crime estimates than police-recorded administrative data. This is due to the fact that many crimes are not reported to the police. Victim surveys deal with incidents which may not necessarily match the legal definition of crime. Although data from crime victim surveys are likely to elicit better disclosure of criminal incidents than data from police records, they can also be subject to undercounting, as some victims may be reluctant to disclose information, particularly for incidents of a sensitive nature, such as sexual offences.

The accuracy of statistics is influenced by the ability of people to recall past victimisations. The longer the elapsed time period, the less likely it is that an incident will be recalled accurately. Surveys are also subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. The survey is also limited by not involving a monthly cycle of field work, and the sample of each month being a random subset of the annual sample. Currently, the survey sample is randomly distributed per quarter.

## 12.15 Differences between victim surveys and police-reported data

The most basic difference between the two types of crime measurement is the method of data collection. Police-reported statistics obtain data from police administrative records. In contrast, victim surveys collect both household and personal information about their victimisation experiences, through face-to-face interviews. The survey covers victims' experiences of crime at microdata level, including the impact of crime on victims.

Police-reported statistics normally collate information on all incidents reported to a variety of police stations. Victim surveys ask a sample of the population about their experiences and, if well designed, this sample should be representative of the population as a whole. Although police statistics and victim surveys normally cover comparable geographic areas, if appropriately nationally representative, victim surveys may exclude some categories of victims, such as very young children or persons residing in institutions such as a prisons, hospital, care centres or military barracks. The reference period for the police-recorded statistics is April 2014 to March 2015, whereas the reference period of the VOCS 2014/15 estimates is April 2013 to February 2015.

### 13. Definition of terms

**Acting household head** – any member of the household acting on behalf of the head of the household.

**Arson** – unlawful and intentional damaging of an immovable structure which is suitable for human occupation or the storing of goods and which belongs to another, by setting fire to it with the intention to prejudice the owner.

**Assault** – direct or indirect application of force to the body of another person.

*Note:* Includes domestic violence

**College for crooks** – a place where people learn how to become crooks/criminals or how to become even better crooks/criminals.

**Consumer fraud** – deceptive practices that result in financial losses for consumers during seemingly legitimate business transactions. Also includes cases where someone provides misleading information and tricks a person into buying something or signing documents.

**Court** - an official public forum established by lawful authority to adjudicate disputes and dispense civil, labour, administrative and criminal justice under law.

**Hijacking of motor vehicle** – unlawful and intentional forceful removal and appropriation of a motor vehicle from the occupant(s).

**Household** – a group of persons who live together and provide themselves jointly with food and/or other essentials for living, or a single person who lives alone.

*Note:* The persons basically occupy a common dwelling unit (or part of it) for at least four nights in a week on average during the past four weeks prior to the survey interview, sharing resources as a unit. Other explanatory phrases can be 'eating from the same pot' and 'cook and eat together'.

**Household head** – the main decision-maker, or the person who owns or rents the dwelling, or the person who is the main breadwinner.

**Housebreaking/burglary** – unlawful and intentional breaking into a building or similar structure, used for human habitation, and entering or penetrating it with part of the body or with an instrument, with the intention to control something on the premises, intending to commit a crime on the premises, where there is no contact between the victim(s) and the perpetrator(s).

**Home robbery** – unlawful and intentional forceful removal and appropriation of tangible property from residential premises of another person while there is contact between the victim(s) and perpetrator(s).

**Imputation** – a procedure for entering a value for a specific data item where the response is missing or unusable.

**Individual crime** – crime affecting a single person rather than an entire household.

**Deliberate damage of dwellings** – unlawful and intentional damaging of dwellings

**Motor vehicle vandalism** - unlawful and intentional to a vehicle or parts of a vehicle

**Murder** – unlawful and intentional killing of another human being.

**Multiple households** – occurs when two or more households live in the same dwelling unit.

*Note:* If there are two or more households in the selected dwelling unit and they do not share resources, all households are to be interviewed. The whole dwelling unit has been given one chance of selection and all households located there were interviewed using separate questionnaires.

**Panga** – a large cutting knife with a broad blade.

**Parole** – early release of a prisoner who is then subject to continued monitoring as well as compliance with certain terms and conditions for a specified period.

**Perpetrator** – person(s) who committed the crime.

**Personal property** – asset(s) belonging to an individual rather than a group of persons.

**Physical force** – bodily power, strength, energy or might.

*Note:* In the context of this survey, physical force includes actions where the human body is used to compel/force someone to do something or to hurt or kill someone. It can include actions such as pushing, pressing, shoving, hitting, kicking, throttling, etc.

**Police station** – building or converted shipping container from which the police force operates and police officers do their duties.

**Prison** – a building in which a person is legally held as a punishment for crime he/she has committed or while awaiting trial.

**Property crime** – unlawful and intentional threatening or damaging or appropriation of threatening property belonging to other(s).

**Prosecutor/state advocate** – legal specialist (lawyer/advocate) whose job it is to make a case on behalf of the State against someone accused of criminal behaviour.

**Robbery involving force** – unlawfully obtaining property with use of force or threat of force against a person with intent to permanently or temporarily to withhold it from a person.

**Sexual offences (including sexual assault, rape and domestic sexual abuse)** – refers to grabbing, touching someone's private parts or sexually assaulting or raping someone.

*Note:* In terms of the Sexual Offences Act No 32 of 2007 section 5, (1) A person ('A') who unlawfully and intentionally sexually violates a complainant ('B'), without the consent of B, is guilty of the offence of sexual assault. (2) A person ('A') who unlawfully and intentionally inspires the belief in a complainant ('B') that B will be sexually violated is guilty of the offence of sexual assault.

**Stick/club** – a long bar or stick made of wood, plastic or other material and used as a weapon.

**Theft** – unlawful taking or obtaining of property with the intent to permanently deprive it from a person or organization without consent and without the use of force, threat of force or violence, coercion or deception.

**Theft of motor vehicles (excluding hijacking)** – unlawful taking or obtaining of vehicles with an engine, including cars, buses, lorries, construction and agricultural vehicles (excluding motorcycles) with the intent to permanently deprive it from a person or organization without consent and without the use of force, threat of force or violence, coercion or deception.

**Threat** – an intentional behaviour that causes fear of injury or harm.

**Vandalism** – deliberate damage to property belonging to someone else.

**Violent crime** – crime where a person was threatened, injured, or killed.

**Weapon** – an instrument used to cause harm or death to human beings or other living creatures.

*Note:* Includes knives, guns, pangas and knobkerries, metal or wooden bars/rods, broken glass, rocks, bricks, etc.

## 14. Glossary of abbreviations/acronyms

CJS	Criminal Justice System
DCS	Department of Correctional Services
DoJ & CD	Department of Justice and Constitutional Development
DPME	Department of Monitoring and Evaluation
DSD	Department of Social Development
DTS	Domestic Tourism Survey
DU	Dwelling unit
EA	Enumeration area
EC	Eastern Cape
FS	Free State
GCIS	Government Communications
GHS	General Household Survey
GP	Gauteng
ICVS	International Crime Victim Survey
ISS	Institute for Security Studies
JCPS	Justice and Crime Prevention and Security
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
LP	Limpopo
MP	Mpumalanga
MS	Master sample
MTSF	Medium Term Strategic Framework
NC	Northern Cape
NDP	National Development Plan
NHTS	National Household Travel Survey
NPC	National Planning Commission
NW	North West
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
SA	South Africa
SAPS	South African Police Service
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
VOCS	Victims of Crime Survey
WC	Western Cape

## 1. Household crime experienced

### 1.1 Number of households who experienced at least one household crime by province and type of crime, 2014/15

Type of crime	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Theft of car	15	*	*	*	12	*	24	*	*	63
Housebreaking/burglary	105	100	55	33	120	12	232	60	62	780
Home robbery	21	20	10	*	31	*	76	17	*	188
Theft of livestock/poultry and other animals	*	51	11	11	43	*	*	*	*	142
Theft of crops planted by the household	*	*	*	*	*	.	*	*	*	17
Murder	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	18
Theft out of motor vehicle	67	12	11	*	*	*	53	*	*	169
Deliberate damage of dwellings/burning/destruction of dwellings	17	*	*	*	*	*	13	*	*	53
Motor vehicle vandalism/deliberate damage of vehicle	20	*	*	*	*	*	32	*	*	67
Theft of bicycle	15	*	*	*	*	*	18	*	*	56
Other( <i>specify</i> )	*	*	*	*	17	*	27	11	*	78

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

## 1.2 Number of households who experienced at least one household crime by population group of the household head, 2014/15

Type of crime	Province				
	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	South Africa
<b>Total number of households</b>	12 212	1 089	358	1 601	15 261
Theft of car	35	*	*	17	63
Housebreaking/burglary	608	54	16	102	780
Home robbery	140	11	*	32	188
Theft of livestock/poultry and other animals	130	*	*	*	142
Theft of crops planted by the household	14	*	*	*	17
Murder	16	*	*	*	18
Theft out of motor vehicle	59	39	*	61	169
Deliberate damage of dwellings/burning/destruction of dwellings	33	*	*	12	53
Motor vehicle vandalism/deliberate damage of vehicle	33	14	*	20	67
Theft of bicycle	30	*	*	16	56
Other	71	*	*	*	78

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

## 2. Individual crime experienced

### 2.1 Number of people aged 16 years and older who experienced at least one individual crime by province, 2014/15

Type of crime	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
Total number of individuals	4 536	4 381	816	1 971	7 029	2 547	9 991	2 855	3 742	37 867
Theft of personal property(including pick pocketing and bag snatching)	115	84	17	40	99	37	318	40	48	798
Hijacking of car (including. Attempted hijacking)	*	*	*	*	15	.	24	*	*	55
Robbery(excl. home robbery and car/truck hijackings)	121	31	*	19	15	15	62	31	*	301
Sexual Offence (including. Rape)	*	*	*	*	*	*	16	*	*	45
Assault	60	52	16	28	71	49	38	13	22	349
Consumer	25	*	*	.	13	*	30	11	*	91
Corruption	*	*	*	*	*	*	26	*	*	54
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	12

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.



## 2.2 Number of people aged 16 years and older who experienced at least one individual crime by population group of the household head, 2014/15

Type of crime	Province				
	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	South Africa
<b>Total number of individuals</b>	29 631	3 481	1 054	3 702	37 867
Theft of personal property( <i>including pick pocketing and bag snatching</i> )	613	66	17	102	798
Hijacking of car ( <i>including. Attempted hijacking</i> )	20	*	*	22	55
Robbery( <i>excl. home robbery and car/truck hijackings</i> )	212	55	*	34	301
Sexual Offence ( <i>including. Rape</i> )	36	*	*	*	45
Assault	266	58	*	19	349
Consumer	43	11	*	37	91
Corruption	33	*	*	18	54
Other	11	*	*	*	12

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

### 3. Public perceptions of crime and safety

#### 3.1 Distribution of households' feelings of safety when walking alone in their area of residence when it is dark by province, 2014/15

Time period	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
Total number of households	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
When it is dark	285	103	148	56	431	50	260	93	293	1 719
Very safe										
Fairly safe	256	323	167	98	558	65	916	197	412	2 992
A bit unsafe	356	474	151	112	594	54	1 157	269	172	3 339
Very unsafe	813	726	491	595	995	209	2 088	582	588	7 087
Unspecified	*	11	*	*	18	*	47	17	11	125

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

### 3.2 Distribution of households' feelings of safety when walking alone in their area of residence during the day by province, 2014/15

Time period	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
Total number of households	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
During the day										
Very safe	685	961	563	611	1 299	255	2 098	799	1 158	8 430
Fairly safe	545	518	300	167	844	97	1 525	258	241	4 494
A bit unsafe	267	118	61	50	276	19	611	49	39	1 490
Very unsafe	217	31	28	34	159	*	189	31	26	724
Unspecified	*	10	*	*	17	*	44	22	11	122

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

### 3.3 Household perceptions about the origin of the perpetrators of violent crime in their neighbourhood by province, 2014/15

Type of crime and origin of perpetrator	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
<b>Violent crime</b>	932	1 171	767	626	1 867	256	2 035	792	1 004	9 450
People from this area										
People from other areas in South Africa	737	452	179	209	699	107	1 768	325	266	4 742
People from outside South Africa	39	10	*	26	16	14	576	31	195	917
Unspecified	10	*	*	*	14	*	89	11	10	152

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

### 3.4 Household perceptions about the origin of the perpetrators of property crime in their neighbourhood by province, 2014/15

Type of crime and origin of perpetrator	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
<b>Property crime</b>	921	1 175	740	615	1 885	265	2 187	774	1 002	9 564
People from this area										
People from other areas in South Africa	750	443	201	208	683	98	1 650	340	272	4 646
People from outside South Africa	37	13	14	36	13	15	549	31	191	899
Unspecified	10	*	*	*	14	*	82	14	10	152

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

### 3.5 Household perceptions of what motivates people to commit property crime by province, 2014/15

Motive	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
Total number of households	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Real need	663	527	302	465	972	228	2 400	561	885	7 003
Greed	408	717	325	386	1 154	171	2 147	506	659	6 471
Non-financial motive	259	580	344	289	865	129	1 295	248	388	4 397
Drug-related need	1 466	1 381	710	541	2 051	255	3 621	802	881	11 708
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

## 4. Individual and community response to crime

### 4.1 Total number of measures taken by households to protect themselves against crime by province, 2014/15

Protection measure	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Physical measures of home	1 193	572	458	424	1 067	141	2 800	578	491	7 723
Physical protection measures of vehicles	666	202	174	110	346	49	1 312	169	111	3 139
Carrying of weapons	109	59	57	21	70	15	194	38	22	585
Private security	376	68	61	54	198	12	725	69	21	1 582
Self-help groups	201	44	14	15	68	19	573	80	71	1 084
Other	55	53	84	34	61	*	61	59	10	419

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

#### 4.2 Household views on where government should spend money to reduce crime by province, 2014/15

Government spending focus	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Law enforcement	365	240	158	157	364	89	1 083	196	286	2 938
The judiciary/courts	430	221	225	129	258	34	754	169	167	2 388
Social and/or economic development	918	1 173	573	577	1 963	256	2 589	777	1 012	9 840
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	11	*	42	16	*	95

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.



### 4.3 Household views on whom to contact first when they suspect that they may become victims of crime by province, 2014/15

Organisation/person	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Nobody	19	25	11	10	31	*	57	18	*	183
Relative/friend	232	227	146	89	532	83	713	231	456	2 708
Private security companies	227	37	22	26	149	*	482	46	38	1 031
Community group/organisation	61	33	*	*	52	11	262	37	42	506
Traditional authority	*	308	14	*	150	*	13	*	13	508
SAPS	1 138	625	683	606	1 549	204	2 380	629	727	8 542
Metro police	*	*	*	*	*	*	14	*	*	33
Community policing forum	16	76	18	11	60	21	185	71	33	491
Other	13	294	56	109	55	51	330	121	156	1 184
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	16	*	31	*	*	74

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

## 5.1 Household knowledge of their next-door neighbours' name by province, 2014/15

Knowledge of neighbour	Province								South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
Total number of households	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Know the neighbour	1 601	1 593	917	828	2 502	4 094	1 101	1 431	14 431
Do not know the neighbour	110	42	40	35	82	14	38	39	735
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	12	*	20	*	94

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

## 5.2 Household involvement in community-based initiatives by province, 2014/15

Organisation	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Religious Group	508	1 224	602	342	1 513	100	2 433	640	1 128	8 490
Stokvel/savings group	103	400	65	139	492	43	846	193	440	2 720
Burial society	190	909	240	251	484	78	1 669	399	1 122	5 342
Sports group	114	177	94	44	158	18	368	138	149	1 260
Any other group	82	30	10	*	40	*	61	20	23	280

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

## 6. Public perceptions of law enforcement

### 6.1 Distribution of households' perceptions of correctional services by province, 2014/15

Perception	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
Total number of households	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Rehabilitates	765	1 054	571	542	1 697	249	2 685	863	1 050	9 477
Safely lock	920	1 297	773	579	1 481	268	2 931	879	967	10 095
Prisons are just colleges for crooks	1 207	917	514	481	1 320	188	1 977	465	667	7 736
Prisoners get parole too easily	1 200	1 035	569	452	1 305	166	2 128	495	599	7 950
Prisons violate prisoner rights	489	325	125	189	538	54	1 099	94	281	3 194
It is easy to escape from prison	309	427	106	183	721	44	867	206	396	3 260
People who have been to prison will not	235	694	264	433	1 127	122	1 445	452	716	5 488

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

## 6.2 Distribution of households views about policing after having official contact with the police by province, 2014/15

Perception change	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Made it better	267	196	119	175	469	23	646	233	273	2 401
Made it worse	141	37	81	45	101	14	246	37	25	727
Not applicable	1 300	1 390	748	636	2 000	341	3 519	863	1 162	11 960
Unspecified	10	14	12	10	26	*	57	26	15	173

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

### 6.3 Total number of household perceptions on police response time to an emergency call by province, 2014/15

Police response time	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Less than 30 minutes	642	211	156	189	251	53	1 177	136	266	3 079
Less than 1 hour (but more than 30 minutes)	452	364	167	215	603	68	1 386	239	375	3 869
Less than 2 hours (but more than an hour)	282	364	136	191	585	56	874	267	310	3 064
More than 2 hours	244	643	436	230	1 026	181	765	444	466	4 435
Never arrive	93	51	58	36	124	24	217	58	52	713
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	50	16	*	100

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

#### 6.4 Distribution of household reasons for being satisfied with the police by province, 2014/15

Police response time	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
They are committed	845	847	356	372	955	140	2 013	331	663	6 524
They are trustworthy	725	954	296	352	910	121	1 688	282	656	5 985
They respond on time	662	516	188	286	794	107	1 486	209	627	4 876
They come to the scene of crime	769	863	397	352	1 054	150	2 101	455	727	6 867
They arrest criminals	665	783	300	355	925	125	1 638	339	686	5 817
They recover stolen goods	420	407	167	216	507	63	809	104	446	3 139
Other	35	21	13	24	35	*	58	14	26	232

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

## 6.5 Distribution of households reasons for being dissatisfied with the police by province, 2014/15

Reason for dissatisfaction	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
They don't have enough resources	257	241	208	143	357	96	612	137	143	2 194
They are lazy	332	390	298	165	801	87	1 176	184	397	3 831
They are corrupt	290	181	249	137	575	81	1 119	176	325	3 133
They don't come to the area	292	276	223	126	673	83	779	182	314	2 948
They release criminals easily	234	280	254	125	534	86	1 050	193	324	3 079
They cooperate with thieves/criminals	198	118	243	112	417	64	989	166	246	2 553
They are harsh towards victims	180	230	140	92	407	61	738	99	168	2 116
They never recover goods	276	290	248	161	681	100	1 050	194	333	3 334
They don't respond on time	474	484	430	288	1 003	180	1 401	435	514	5 210
Other	30	16	23	23	20	*	100	18	*	239

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.



## 6.6 Distribution of households' knowledge about the location of the nearest magistrate court by province, 2014/15

Knowledge about courts	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
Total number of households	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
Know where court is	1 576	1 557	919	813	2 455	348	3 868	1 066	1 372	13 975
Do not know where court is	136	76	38	49	132	32	544	79	92	1 177
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	56	14	12	109

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.



### 6.8 Distribution of household reasons for dissatisfaction with the courts by province, 2014/15

Reason for dissatisfaction	Province									South Africa
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	
<b>Total number of households</b>	1 718	1 637	960	866	2 596	382	4 468	1 159	1 475	15 261
They do not have enough convictions	132	109	18	23	118	*	197	29	24	658
Matters drag for too long/ postponements	226	105	46	61	242	22	525	69	97	1 393
No proper notice of hearing is served	22	31	12	16	62	*	102	16	32	296
Courts are too lenient on criminals	612	352	240	208	423	90	1 036	178	181	3 320
They release perpetrators unconditionally	133	119	46	29	187	50	327	162	77	1 130
Other	28	*	*	*	*	*	49	*	*	109
Not applicable	553	914	592	518	1 550	204	2 198	698	1 054	8 282
Unspecified	10	*	*	*	*	*	34	*	*	73

\*Numbers below 10 000 are too small to provide accurate estimates. Sensitive cells are indicated by an asterisk.

\*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

