



dcstm

Department:
Community Safety and Transport Management
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY, 09 JUNE 2026

JOINT MEDIA BRIEFING BY MEC WESSELS MORWENG AND MAJOR GENERAL (Dr) RYNO NAIDOO

2025/2026 FOURTH QUARTER CRIME STATISTICS

MEC Boardroom

Tirelo Building

Mmabatho

10:00

Chairperson of Portfolio Committee Honourable Freddy Sonakile

Members of the Portfolio Committee here present

Acting Provincial Commissioner, Major General (Dr) Ryno Naidoo

Head of Department, Rre Molefi Morule

Chief Director for Provincial Secretariat for Police Services, Mme Mpho Rantona

Deputy Commissioners and District Commissioners

Members of the Media

Good morning

"Building the North West Province that works for All"



The Province has recorded a slight increase of zero-point five percent (0.5%) in community-reported crime during the Fourth Quarter of the 2025/26 financial year. These are the statistics collated from cases reported at all eighty-six (86) Police Stations and twenty-three (23) Mobile Police Stations in all the four Districts between January and March 2026. While some crime categories showed improvement, the increase in violent crimes remains a matter of serious concern.

The Province has for the period under review, recorded two hundred and seventy-one (271) murders, representing an increase of eighteen-point three percent (18.3%), while attempted murder increased by seventeen-point four percent (17.4%) from January to March 2026. There has been an increase of three percent (3%) on assault with intent to cause Grievous Bodily Harm. These figures remind us that violence continues to threaten the safety and wellbeing of our communities.

The statistics further, not startlingly confirm what we have always said – that alcohol abuse, domestic violence and substance abuse, are amongst the key drivers of violent crime. Added to that, illegal mining, vigilantism and the proliferation of illegal firearms remain among the causal effects amongst others, murder. Of particular concern are the one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six (1 936) domestic violence-related incidents recorded for the quarter. This also highlights an urgent need to strengthen prevention, protection and support mechanisms for the victims.

As the Department, we remain committed to strengthening civilian oversight and supporting interventions aimed at reducing crime and improving public confidence in policing. We will continue to strengthen our working relationship with SAPS and intensify oversight visits and monitoring programmes at Police Stations, particularly in high-crime areas.

We will continue monitoring compliance with the Domestic Violence Act and related regulations. The Department will assess the management of domestic violence cases, victim support services, record keeping and the overall treatment of victims at Police Stations. In addition, accountability sessions will be held with SAPS at Provincial, district and station levels.

This is to monitor the implementation of crime reduction interventions, assess progress made, identify challenges, and ensure that corrective measures are implemented where necessary. These statistics also highlight the significant role played by alcohol and substance abuse in violent and contact crimes.

The easy accessibility and proliferation of liquor outlets remain a concern that requires coordinated action. The Department will therefore intensify awareness campaigns and social crime prevention programmes aimed at addressing alcohol and substance abuse, particularly amongst the young people.

Recognising that crime cannot be addressed by law enforcement alone, the Department will continue to strengthen the implementation of the Integrated Crime and Violence Prevention Strategy (ICVPS) to drive a coordinated whole-of-government and whole-of-society response. Through this strategy, we will strengthen collaboration between Provincial Departments, municipalities, SAPS, civil society organisations, traditional leaders and the private sector to address the underlying causes of crime.

The Department will also strengthen intergovernmental relations to improve coordination and alignment of safety initiatives across provincial and local government. Working with municipalities, we will support the strengthening of Community Safety Forums as an important platform for integrated planning and localised crime prevention strategy.

We will continue to build the capacity of Community Policing Forums and Community Safety Forums, while intensifying school safety interventions and social crime prevention programmes across the Province.

While we welcome the positive performance in crimes detected as a result of police action, which increased by twelve-point three percent (12.3%), more work remains to be done to address violent crime and the proliferation of illegal firearms.

Crime prevention is a shared responsibility. Through strengthened partnerships, effective oversight, implementation of the Integrated Crime and Violence Prevention Strategy we believe we shall continue to decrease these figures. This is possible through active community participation, and regular accountability engagements with SAPS. As a Department, we remain committed to building safer communities throughout the Province.

Our focus remains ensuring we continue to intensify investigation of contact crime and all aspects of gender-based violence and femicide, GV&F. All these are in alignment to Government priorities of focussing on the reduction of contact crimes including crimes against women and children.

Our Traffic Management will continue to work together with SAPS in joint law enforcement operations. Such collaborations have for the period under review led to nineteen percent (19%) decrease in road fatalities. We will continue to intensify law enforcement presence in all our high-volume tourism and freight routes including N4, N12, N14 and N18.

As we have said and emphasised on many occasions previously, community safety including road safety is not just a mandate but an obligation. We aim to institutionalise continuous presence, enforce compliance with the law and build a culture of reporting wrongdoing to the law enforcement by our communities. The North West Department of Community Safety and Transport Management remains committed to protecting communities wherever they are including in their localities and on the roads.

Thank you.

Ends!!!

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**JOINTLY ISSUED BY THE NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND
TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE**