

South African Police Service  Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie

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Reference : 36/1/4/1 (1409) OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
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The Head of Department
Department of Community Safety
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Dear Mr P Mbambo

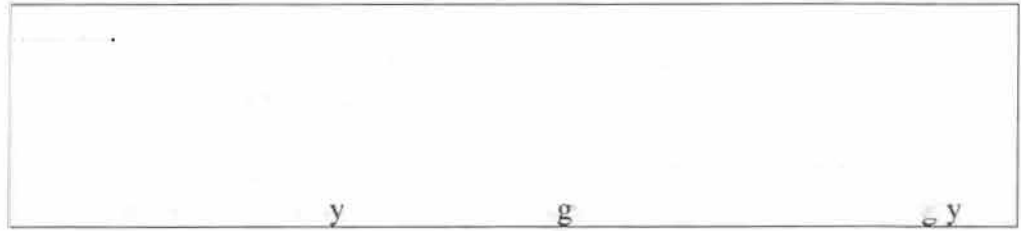
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY IN PARLIAMENT: QUESTION 10-2026
(295, 296, 297)

Enclosed herewith please find response to question in parliament from the South African Police Service.



**LIEUTENANT GENERAL
PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER: EASTERN CAPE
VV NCATA**

Date: 2026-04-23



296. Mr Y Cassim to ask the MEC responsible for Community Safety:

- (1) How many cases have been reported in relation to (a) child murder, (b) child abuse and (c) child rape in the province for the (i) 2024/25 and (ii) 2025/26 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

Crime Category	1 April 24 to 31 March 2025	1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026
Child Murder	155	175
Child abuse	159	160
Child Rape	2410	2103

- (2) with regard to (1) above, can he kindly provide a breakdown, per age group of (i) 1-5, (ii) 5-10, (iii) 10 -15 and (iv) 15 -18 respectively;

Reply:

Crime	Age 1 - 5		Age 5 -10		Age 10 -15		Age 15 - 18		Unspecified	
	24/25	25/26	24/25	25/26	24/25	25/26	24/25	25/26	24/25	25/26
Child Murder	19	21	10	8	10	21	116	119	Nil	6
Child Abuse	98	78	33	31	26	40	2	11	Nil	Nil
Child Rape	238	211	461	456	834	689	877	744	Nil	3

***Unspecified: The age of the minor was not specified.**

- (3) how many arrests have been made in regard to the cases mentioned in (1) above per the aforementioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:		
Crime Category	2024/2025	2025/2026
Child Murder	84	1905
Child Rape	1427	599
Child abuse	72	156

- (4) with reference to (1) above, how many of the reported cases remain (a) under investigation and (b) unsolved for the financial years mentioned above as at the latest specified date for which information is available and can he kindly provide the relevant information in this regard;

Reply:		
(a&b)	2024/2025	2025/2026
Child Murder	71	80
Child Rape	983	1214
Child abuse	87	65

- (5) of the arrests noted in (4) above, how many have resulted in (a) successful or (b) unsuccessful prosecutions, as per the above-mentioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available and can he kindly provide the relevant information in this regard;

Reply:			
		2024/2025	2025/2026
(a)	Child Murder	41	26
	Child Rape	355	271
	Child abuse	15	19
(b)	Child Murder	4	5
	Child Rape	86	54
	Child abuse	6	1

- (6) with regard to (5) above, can he kindly provide the reasons for the unsuccessful prosecutions;

Reply:	
•	Children cannot testify in court or give evidence
•	No witnesses
•	Late reporting (rape)

- (7) how his Department anticipates the successful prosecution rate can be improved upon in regard to these cases;

Reply:

- Conduct awareness campaigns
- To conduct prosecution guided investigation

- (8) what support services are made available to (i) child victims and their (ii) families in such cases and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- They are referred to Dept of Social Development; and internally to Forensic Social Workers as and when the need arises.

- (9) whether he can kindly advise with regard to the collaboration between the South African Police Service (SAPS), healthcare facilities and Social Workers when such cases are reported and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- The Thuthuzela Care Centres are ONE- Stop centres with Department of Health (DOH), Department of Social Development (DSD) in attendance and also on a referral basis

- (10) what plans has his Department and/or SAPS put in place towards reducing (a) child murder, (b) child abuse and (c) child rape in the province and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard?:

Reply:

(a) Child Murder

Conduct awareness campaigns in schools on bullying.
 School patrols before opening of schools and after closing time of schools
 School searches for weapons
 Visiting of liquor outlets in pursue of underage drinking
 Profiling of the transport drivers to ensure they are not perpetrators

(b) Child Abuse

Awareness campaigns at schools
 Community patrols to encourage community to report suspicion of child abuse
 Anti bullying campaigns in schools
 Visiting of the Centres to create awareness and year challenges

(c) Child Rape

Monitoring of Liquor outlets to pursue underage drinking
 Awareness campaigns in schools and the community
 Community patrols to encourage community to report suspicion of child abuse
 Stranger Danger Project
 Profiling of the transport drivers to ensure they are not perpetrators
 - Intensifying educational and awareness campaigns, and emphasising on the three (3) GBV amendments