

All reported Crime Trends in Cape Town 2005/6 – 2016/17 and Crime Rates by Police Precincts in Cape Town 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Information and trend analysis for all crime, and selected crime types, in Cape Town from 2005/6 to 2016/17 are presented in this factsheet. Crime rates for selected crime types for 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 and the distribution of actual numbers by selected crime types for 2016/17 by police precinct in Cape Town are included.

1. Introduction

The South African Police Service released the crime statistics for 2017 (crime statistics for 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017) on 24 October 2017, showing which crimes categories have increased and decreased in the past year. The crime statistics cover 21 crime categories: 17 crime categories are reported by the public, while four others are as a result of police activity – in effect, the 17 categories should decrease, and four categories should increase to show effective policing (Business Tech, 2017).

Crime data and trends for all reported crimes and selected crime types in Cape Town and South Africa from 2005/6 to 2016/17 as well as a comparison of all crime rates for Cape Town with four Metropolitan areas (and South Africa as a whole) from 2011/12 to 2016/17 are presented in this factsheet. Trends are more useful than data at just one point in time, as they can provide information and some measure of the effectiveness of implementation of policy or other interventions.

This factsheet also presents all reported crime, violent crime and property-related crimes crime rates for the 60¹ police precincts in Cape Town for 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Spatial analysis (GIS) indicating patterns and the “hotspot” police precincts have been used to analyse the spatial distribution of actual numbers of all reported crime, property-related crimes, drug-related crimes and driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the police precincts (61) in Cape Town for 2016/17.

2. Methodology

The South African Police Services (SAPS) crime statistics are used to develop the trends and rates by selected crime types in this factsheet (www.saps.gov.za). This official source of crime statistics provides a basis from which to measure and monitor changes in crime and spatially by police precinct. SAPS record 29 types of crime categories. The latest SAPS crime statistics were released in October 2017. The crime reporting year is from 1st April to end March every year. The current year, i.e. 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 is referred to as the 2017 crime statistics.

These crime statistics are made available per SAPS police precinct. There are 61 police precincts within Cape Town. The incidents of crime are grouped into the 61 police precincts. [Data sets for each individual police precinct by crime type from 2005/6 to 2016/17](#) are available from the Information and Knowledge Management Department and the Development Information Resource Centre (DIRC) website via the above link. All categories of crime type data for Cape Town are Included.

¹ For crime rate comparative purposes, crime data for Lentegeur and Mitchells Plain Police Precincts are combined, as Lentegeur was established from the Mitchells Plain Police Precinct in May 2013.

Crime rates, which show crime trends adjusted for population growth, are a better means of measuring progress than actual reported incidences. The crime rates per 100 000 population were calculated using the midyear population estimates² from 2005 to 2017, published by Statistics South Africa (SSA, 2018). For the population estimates for Cape Town and South Africa which were used in the calculation of the crime rates, see Table 1 below:

Table 1: Mid-year Population estimates for Cape Town and South Africa 2005 – 2016

Year	Cape Town	South Africa
2005	3 242 042	47 601 909
2006	3 314 935	48 204 889
2007	3 391 003	48 830 411
2008	3 469 947	49 479 270
2009	3 551 118	50 152 301
2010	3 634 685	50 850 383
2011	3 720 639	51 574 437
2012	3 797 020	52 325 433
2013	3 873 170	53 104 386
2014	3 948 697	53 912 366
2015	4 023 510	54 750 491
2016	4 097 987	55 619 940

Source: SSA 2018, compiled by the Organisational Policy and Planning Department, City of Cape Town, 2018

For comparative purposes, the 2011 to 2016 SSA mid-year population estimates² for the selected metros were used to calculate the all crime rates for the selected metropolitan areas (SSA, 2018).

In order to take into account increasing population, the level of crime activity is expressed as a rate per 100 000 population by police precinct in Cape Town. The 2011 Census population data by small area³ from SSA was grouped into the police precincts in Cape Town to develop 2011/12 crime rates (SSA, 2013). 2016 population estimates were used to develop 2016/17 crime rates by police precinct using 2011 Census small areas as base-data and estimating growth as below. Refer to Annexure 1 for the 2011 Census and 2014, 2015 and 2016 estimated population for police precincts in Cape Town.

Population Growth Methodology and Data Notes:

- i) **Formal Growth** - Using 2011 Census data from SSA and formal growth from the CCT Urban Growth Monitoring System (UGMS) as at December 2016; the number of formal residential units and estimated population growth were extracted from October 2011 (2011 Census was on 9/10 October) to end December 2016.
- ii) **Informal Growth** - Using the difference between the informal dwelling count data of roofs, captured from March 2011⁴ and December 2013 aerial photographs from Corporate GIS. The difference between the December 2013 and 2016 from Solid Waste informal door count point data was used to determine the additional informal growth. This was verified by the informal roof count using the aerial photography from Corporate GIS. The informal population growth was then estimated using an average of 2.5 persons per dwelling, which is the 2016 Community Survey average size for the population living in an informal settlement in Cape Town.

² The SSA 2017 mid-year estimates used have revised population estimates to those previously published. Crime rates in this document will thus not necessarily be the same as those in earlier publications

³ A census small area is the smallest geographical boundary at which the 2011 Census data was made available. There are 5 339 census small areas in Cape Town.

⁴ The March 2011 aerial photography was used as a proxy for October 2011 informal settlement areas (time of 2011 Census) as there were no informal counts done from the aerial photography imagery flown in December 2011.

- iii) **Informal Backyard Growth** - Using 2011 Census dwelling data from SSA, the growth of informal backyard dwellings was assumed and extrapolated at a 3% per annum from 2011 to 2016 for selected police precincts. The estimated informal backyard population growth was estimated using an average of 2.5 persons per dwelling, which is the 2016 Community Survey average household size for the population living in an informal backyard dwelling in Cape Town. In addition, the growth in number of informal backyards dwellings was estimated from reviewing the housing opportunities from 2010/11 to 2016/17⁵ obtained from the Transport and Urban Development Authority Directorate and verified using aerial photography flown in January 2017.

3. Limitation of SAPS Crime Statistics

There are a number of limitations when using SAPS official statistics and these should be borne in mind when using crime statistics and derived information and analysis.

- The official crime statistics measure only **reported** crimes. Not all offences are either reported or detected by police. According to a survey published by the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAAIR, 2012), 60% to 70% of crime in parts of Cape Town went unreported. Gould (2014) said rape was under-reported and that police policy needed to be shifted in order to encourage the reporting and recording of rape (Gould, 2014). The SAIRR survey found four main reasons for under-reporting:
 - Police issues – lack of faith in efficiency, behaviour and honesty.
 - Perpetrator issues – inability to identify perpetrator or fear of reprisal
 - Crime-related issues – perceptions the crime was not “serious” enough.
 - Self-blame issues – including fear of being blamed, belief that it was partially the victim's fault (SAAIR, 2012).
- On the day of their release, these statistics were already at least six months out of date. That means that the current crime situation, particularly at local level, may be very different to that described by these statistics and not reflect current crime patterns.
- Certain crimes, for example drunken driving and drug-related crimes, are dependent on police action for detection. An increase in crime rate with these types of crime maybe a result of improved reporting and law enforcement and are not necessarily a result of higher crime levels.
- Crime statistics may be subject to changing definitions of offences. For example, due to the implementation on 16 December 2007 of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 32 of 2007, the definitions of certain sexual offences changed.
- Certain categories of crime such as domestic violence, gang-related violence and violent public protests are absorbed into larger crime categories which may hide the real situation on the ground, e.g. domestic violence is subsumed under common assault and assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. This makes it difficult to determine the precise number of domestic violence incidents which occur (Barnard, 2012).

4. All reported crime trends 2005/6 to 2016/17

The latest crime statistics released by SAPS in October 2017, underlines the concern that crime is at a serious level with 2.172 million cases of crime recorded in South Africa in 2016/17, of which 324 982 cases were recorded in Cape Town during the same reporting period. This means that on average, 5 952 cases of crime were recorded on a daily basis in South Africa. In Cape Town, 890 cases of crime were reported on a daily basis during the 2016/17 reporting year. Overall, South Africa's crime situation has decreased over the past decade, although many violent crimes had decreased over the last reporting year.

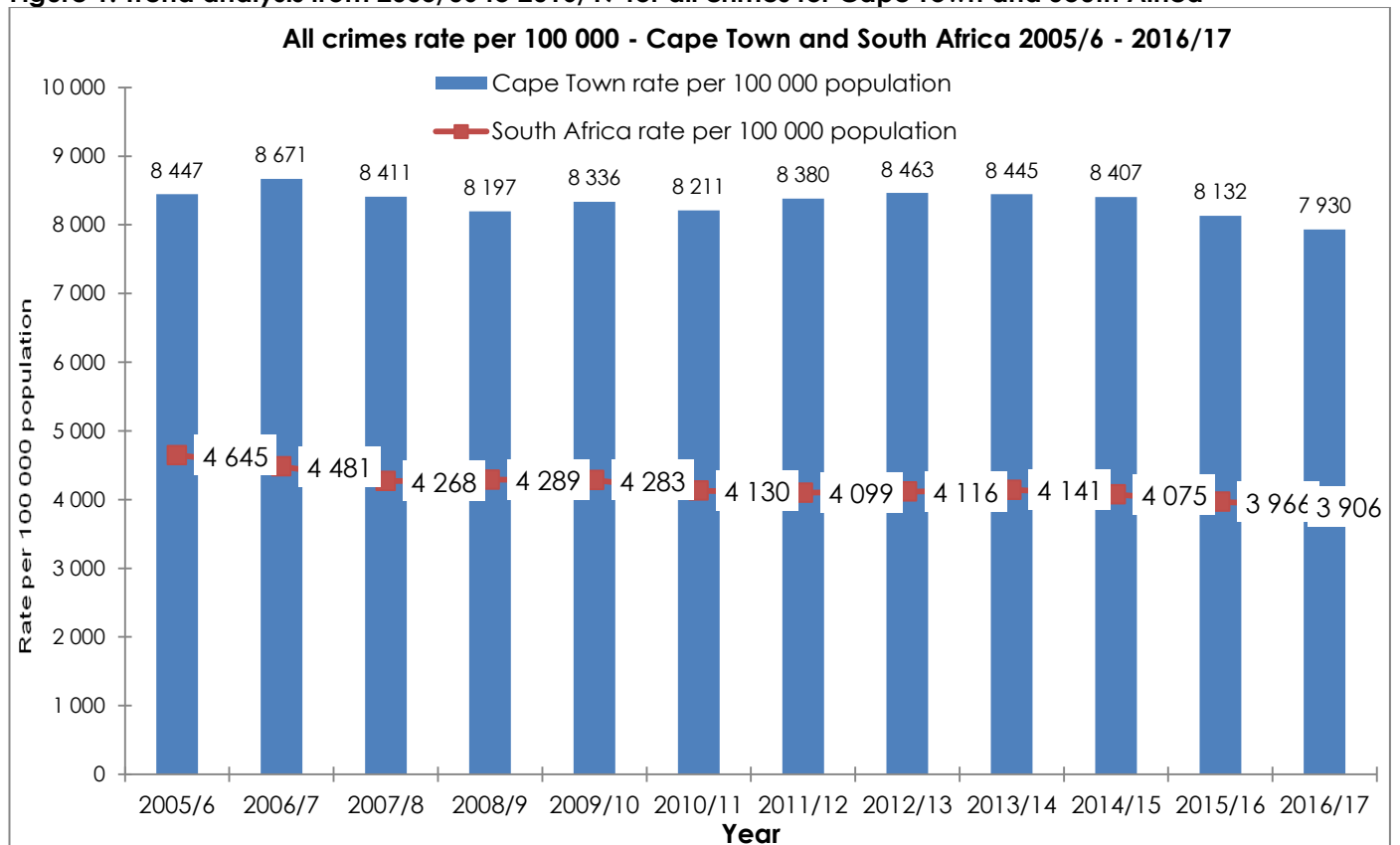
South Africa showed a decrease in the all crime rate in the latest reporting year from 3 966 (2015/16) to 3 906 (2016/17) per 100 000 population with 1.5% decrease. However, the actual

⁵ The number of housing opportunities from 2010/11 to 2016/17 was obtained from New Market Development, Transport & Urban Development Directorate.

number of reported all crimes has increased from 2.171 million to 2.172 million (0.03% increase). The decrease from 2016/17 to 2015/16 is less than both the decreases from previous reporting years from 2013/14 to 2014/15 and 2014/15 to 2015/16, viz. 1.6% and 2.7% respectively. However, the all crime rate decrease for the 11 year period is 16%, whereas previously it was showing a 15% decrease from 2005/6 to 2015/16.

Cape Town's all crime rate per 100 000 population showed that it is significantly higher than national crime rate, and has been more than double since 2011/12 reporting year. However, Cape Town showed lower decreasing trends in the all crime rate, than at national level, over the 11 year period from 2005/6 to 2016/17 of 6%, with a noticeable decrease of 2.5% in the last reporting year from 8 132 (2015/16) to 7 930 (2016/17) per 100 000 population. The actual number of reported crimes has decreased from 327 201 to 324 982 cases in the last reporting year (0.7% decrease).

Figure 1: Trend analysis from 2005/06 to 2016/17 for all crimes for Cape Town and South Africa



Source: SAPS, 2017. Crime Statistics 2005/6 – 2016/17, Cape Town and South Africa population estimates using Statistics South Africa 2016 mid-year estimates, (SSA,2018) compiled by the Organisational Policy and Planning Department, City of Cape Town.

Comparison of all reported crime rates with selected Metros in South Africa (2016/17)

Johannesburg, Tshwane, Ekurhuleni and eThekweni metros all reported crime rates have been compared to Cape Town as they are broadly similar in demographic size and form. It is important to consider Cape Town in context with other Metros in South Africa and South Africa as a whole, using the same definitions of crime and SAPS data. For comparative purposes, the 2017, mid-year population estimates⁶ were used to calculate the all crime rates for the selected metropolitan areas (SSA, 2018).

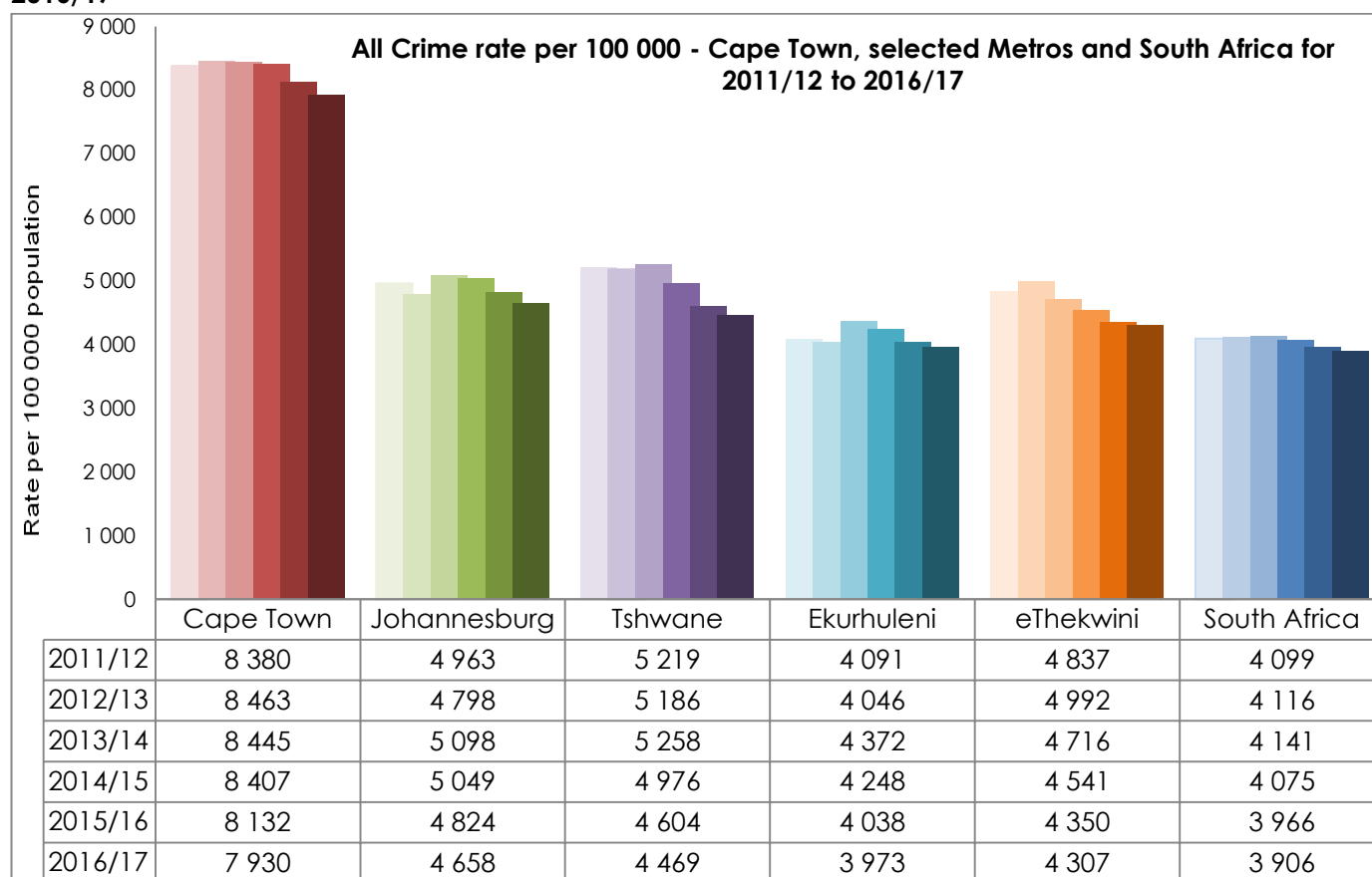
When comparing the all reported crime rates of the Metropolitan areas (and South Africa as a whole), Cape Town has the highest rate for the five year period, viz. 2011/12 (8 380 per 100 000); 2012/13 (8 463 per 100 000); 2013/14 (8 445 per 100 000); 2014/15 (8 407 per 100 000),

⁶ The SSA 2017 mid-year estimates used have revised population estimates to those previously published. Crime rates in this document will thus not necessarily be the same as those in earlier publications.

2015/16 (8 132) and 2016/17 (7 930 per 100 000), followed by Johannesburg at 4 658, Tshwane at 4 469 and then for eThekweni at 4 307 in 2016/17 reporting year (Refer to Figure 2).

All Metros and South Africa experienced a decrease in all reported crime rates in 2016/17 as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: All crime rate per 100 000 - Cape Town, selected Metros and South Africa from 2011/12 to 2016/17



Source: South African Police Services (SAPS), 2017. Crime Statistics 2011/12 to 2016/17 , Selected Metros and South Africa Population estimates (2011 to 2016), using Statistics South Africa 2017 mid-year estimates, (SSA, 2018) compiled by the Organisational Policy and Planning Department, City of Cape Town.

For further information refer to [Crime in Cape Town: Selected Crime Types – Comparison with other selected Metros from 2011/12 to 2016/17](#).

5. Type of crimes within Cape Town 2005/6 - 2016/17

While the all reported crime rate is a useful indication of a broad trend, it does not indicate which crimes are increasing and which are decreasing. Therefore there is a need to take a closer look at the different crime types and patterns to assist in informing crime prevention methods and policies (Gould et al, 2010).

In Cape Town violent, property-related, commercial, and drug related (including driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs) crime have been analysed showing trends from 2005/6 to 2016/17.

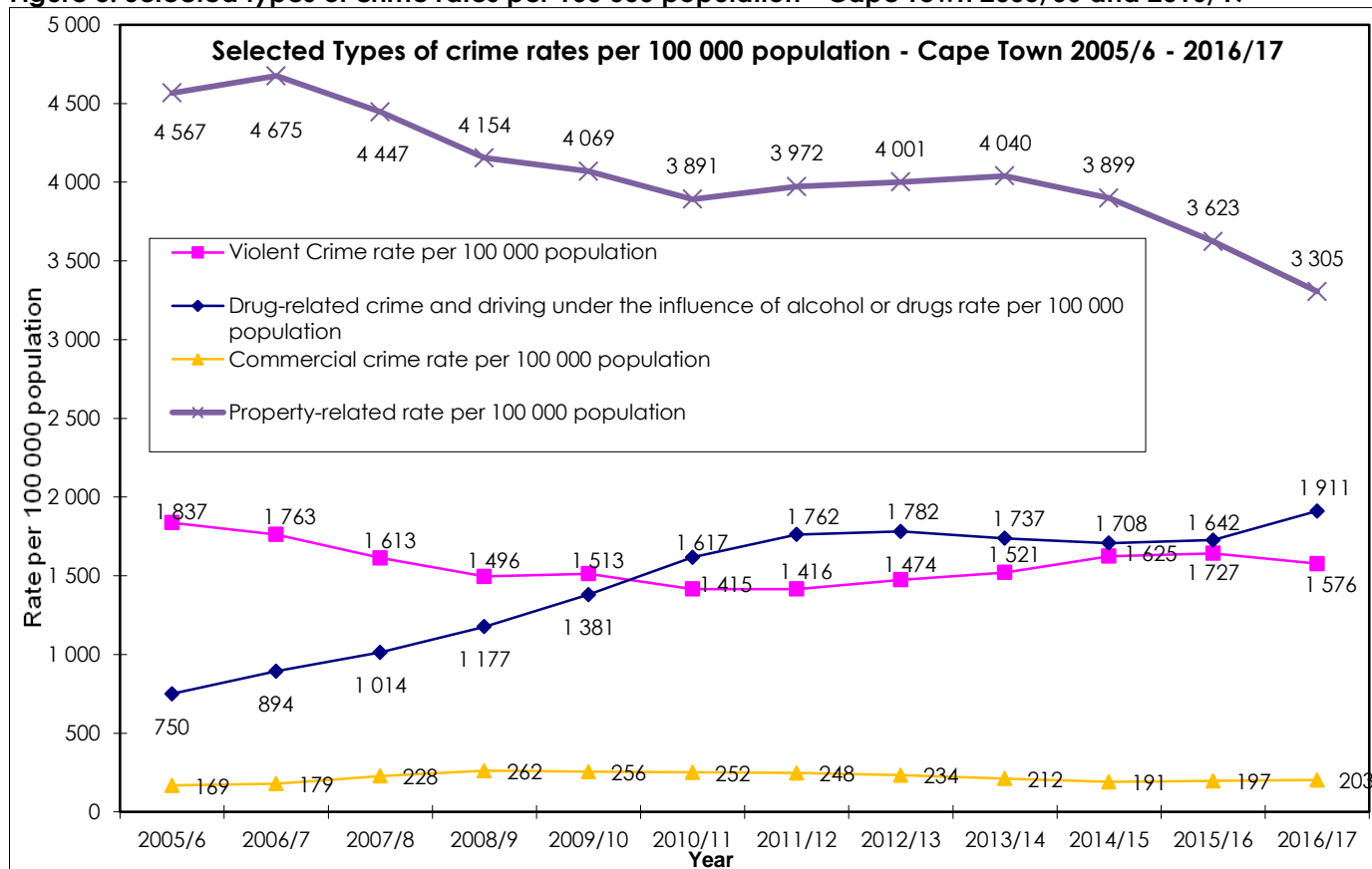
Figure 3 shows a decrease in the **violent crime**⁷ rate in Cape Town, a decrease of 14.2% over the 11 year period since 2005/6, with a noticeable decrease in the last reporting year of 8.7% from a

⁷ This category includes the following types of crime: murder, attempted murder, total sexual crimes, assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm (violent assault), common assault, robbery with aggravating circumstances (violent robbery) and public violence.

violent rate of 1 727 to 1 576 per 100 000 population. Cape Town remains one of the violent hotspots in the country.

Property-related crime⁸ rates in Cape Town are showing continual decreasing trends of 27.6% over the 11 year period. In the last three reporting years, the property-crime rate has decreased by 3.5%, 7.1% and 8.8% respectively from 4 040 (2013/2014) to 3 899 (2014/15) to 3 623 (2015/16) and to 3 305 (2016/17) per 100 000 population.

Figure 3: Selected types of crime rates per 100 000 population - Cape Town 2005/06 and 2016/17



Source: SAPS, 2017. Crime Statistics 2005/6 – 2016/17, Cape Town and South Africa population estimates using Statistics South Africa 2017 mid-year estimates, (SSA, 2018) compiled by the Organisational Policy and Planning Department, City of Cape Town, April 2018

In Cape Town, **Commercial crime rates** have increased from 169 in 2005/06 to 262 per 100 000 in 2008/09, and then decreased until 2014/15. However, in the last two reporting years, the commercial crime rate has increased again from a rate of 191 (2014/15) to 197 (2015/16) and then again to 203 (2016/17). Over the 11 year period from 2005/6 to 2016/17, there has been an increase of 20%.

Drug related crime rates⁹ in Cape Town have shown a noticeable increase from 1 642 (2015/16) to 1 911 (2016/17), 16% per 100 000 in the last year, compared to the previous reporting year which showed a decrease of 4% from a rate of 1 708 (2014/15) to 1 642 (2015/16). This is concerning, although it must be noted that these statistics are not “reported” crimes but rather cases opened by the police as a result of law enforcement action being taken. Stop and searches of suspects, drug raids and roadblocks are a few examples. These are crimes that would not have been reported otherwise, unless police had intervened or made an arrest. Over the 11 year period from 2005/6 to 2016/17, there has been an increase of over 155% increase in

⁸ This category includes burglary at non-residential premises, burglary at residential premises, common robbery, theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle, theft out of or from motor vehicle and motorcycle and all theft not mentioned elsewhere. In this crime category, “All theft not mentioned elsewhere”, is the highest individual crime category and could influence the totals for property-related crimes.

⁹ Drug-related crimes cover the use, possession and dealings in drugs, including driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

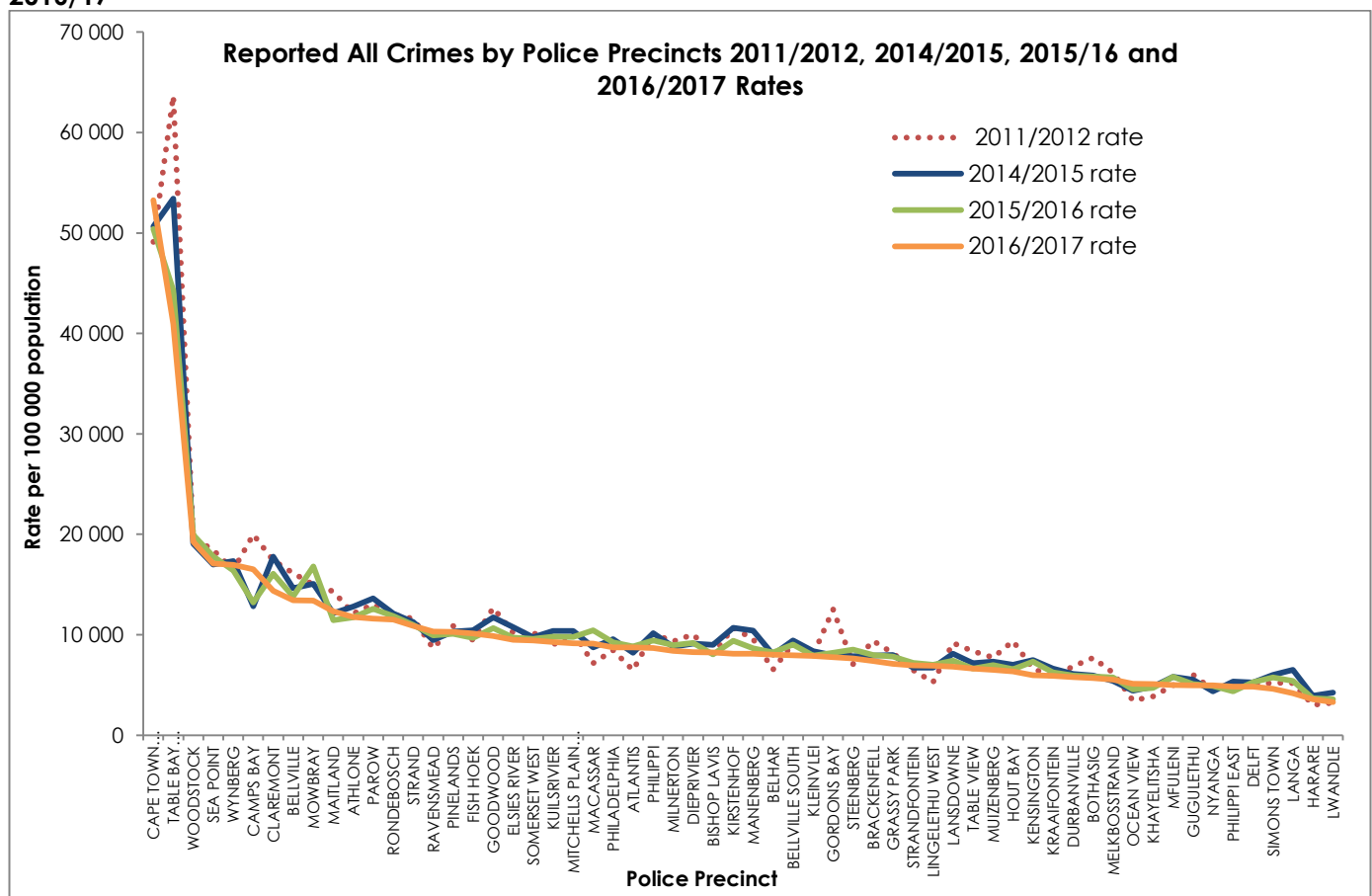
drug-related crime rate. There were large increases over the seven year period from 2005/6 to 2012/13 (an average of 19.6% increase per annum), followed by small decrease from 2012/13 to 2015/16 (an average of 2.6% decrease per annum).

6. Distribution of crime rates by police precinct in Cape Town for all crime, violent crime and property-related crime for 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17.

As 2014, 2015 and 2016 population estimates and 2011 Census population by police precinct have been developed, crime rates by police precinct and type of crime can now be analysed using the respective 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 crime statistics. Crime rates show a very different picture of crime, than looking at it by actual reported numbers.

All reported crime, violent crime and property-related crime rates for 60¹⁰ Cape Town police precincts have been analysed for 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17. Refer to Figure 4 for graph showing 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 all crime rates by police precinct for Cape Town.

Figure 4: Distribution of all crime rates in Cape Town by police precincts in 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17



Source: SAPS, 2017. Crime Statistics 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 using 2011 Census (SSA, 2018), 2014, 2015 and 2016 population estimates compiled by the Organisational Policy and Planning Department, City of Cape Town, May 2018

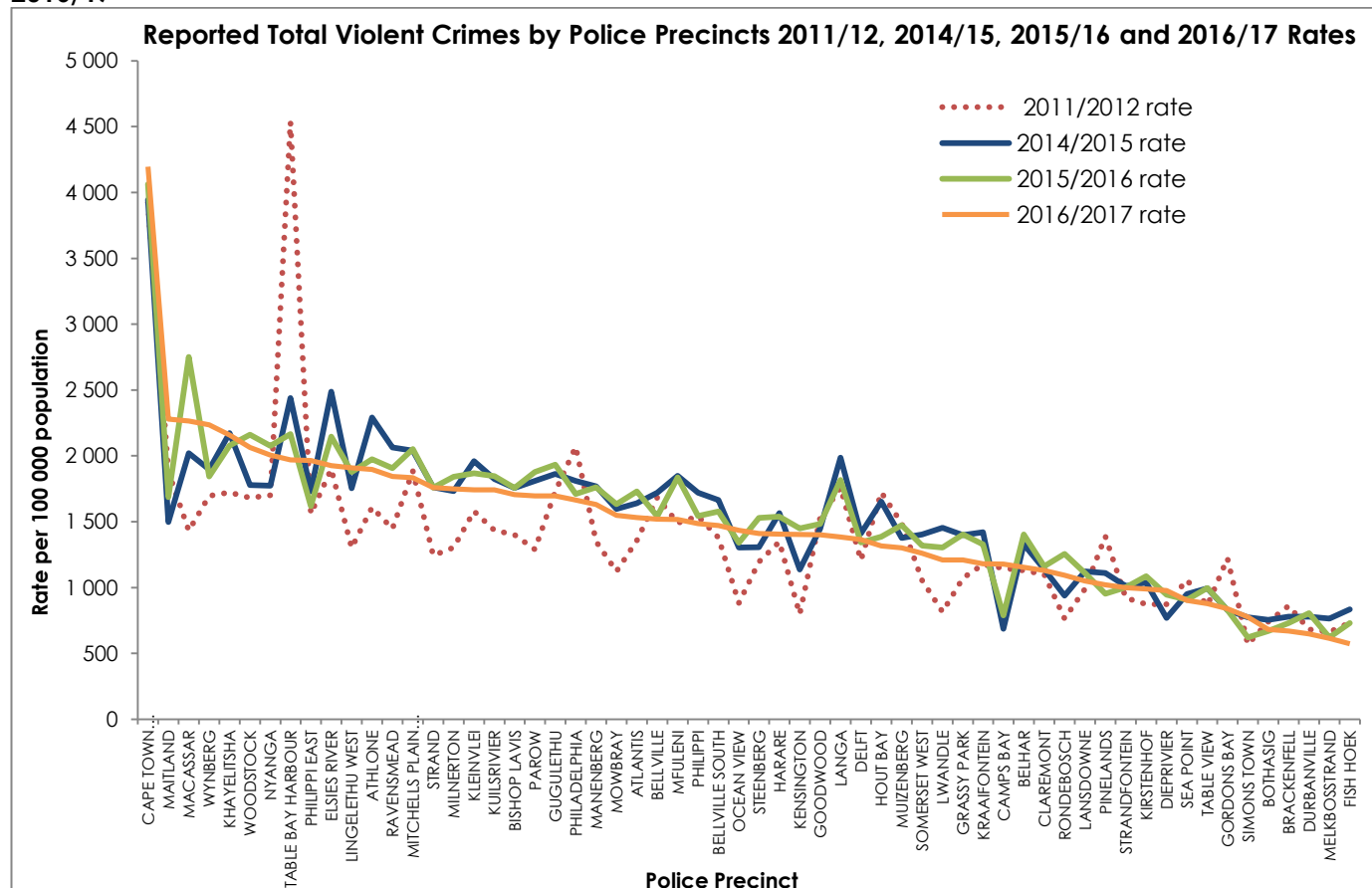
The all crime rates of all reported crimes for 60 police precincts (Lentegeur included with Mitchells Plain) in Cape Town were ranked from highest to lowest for 2016/17. For 2016/17, the top five police precincts for all crime rates were Cape Town Central (53 261 per 100 000 population), Table Bay Harbour (40 966 per 100 000 population), Woodstock (19 254 per 100 000 population), Sea Point (17 072 per 100 000 population) and Wynberg (16 956 per 100 000 population).

¹⁰ For crime rate comparative purposes, crime data for Lentegeur and Mitchells Plain Police Precincts are combined, as Lentegeur was established from Mitchells Plain Police Precinct in May 2013.

For all four years, viz. 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17, Cape Town Central, Table Bay Harbour and Woodstock police precincts were in the top five for highest all reported crime rate. Several crimes are reported in the Cape Town Central police precinct as it is a central police station and crimes possibly did not occur in the area. Table Bay Harbour has a small population residing in the police precinct, which could account for the high all crime rates. Woodstock police precinct is possibly a true reflection of a high all crime rate for all four reporting years.

Lwandle and Harare were the two Police Precincts with the lowest all crime rates in all four reporting years, with Lwandle increasing from 3 242 to 4 236 and then decreasing to 3 588 and again to 3 307 per 100 000 population in 2016/17 and Harare increasing from 3 025 to 3 940 and then decreased to 3 669 and again to 3 588 per 100 000 population in 2016/17.

Figure 5: Distribution of violent crime rates in Cape Town by police precincts 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17



Source: SAPS, 2017. Crime Statistics 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17, using 2011 Census (SSA, 2018), 2014, 2015 and 2016 population estimates compiled by the Organisational Policy and Planning Department, City of Cape Town, May 2018

The violent crime rates for 60 police precincts (Lentegeur included with Mitchells Plain) in Cape Town were ranked from highest to lowest for 2016/17. In 2016/17, the five police precincts with the highest violent crime rates were Cape Town Central (4 196 per 100 000 population), Maitland (2 279 per 100 000 population), Macassar (2 266 per 100 000 population), Wynberg (2 235 per 100 000 population) and Khayelitsha (2 159 per 100 000 population). Refer to Figure 5.

For all four reporting years, viz. 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17, only Cape Town Central police precinct was in all top five police precincts for highest violent crime rate. Cape Town Central had the highest violent crime rate for three reporting years, viz. 3 944 (2014/15), 4 062 (2015/16) and 4 196 per 100 000 population (2016/17), and the 2nd highest rate viz. 3 923 per 100 000 population in the 2011/12 reporting year.

Table Bay Harbour and Elsies River were in the top five in the 2011/12, 2014/15 and 2015/16 reporting years. Table Bay Harbour police precinct was the highest in the 2011/2012 reporting

year, peaking at a rate of 4 534 per 100 000 population and then showing a decrease to third rank in the 2014/15 and 2015/16 reporting year viz. 2 440 and 2 165 per 100 000 population respectively, with a decrease in its violent crime rate to 8th rank in 2016/17 (1 971 per 100 000 population). Table Bay Harbour police precinct had a population of only 2 448 in 2011/12, 2 418 in 2014/15 and 2 956 (2015/16), which could account for the high crime rates. Elsie's River police precinct shows an increasing trend from 2011/12 to 2014/15 of 1 900 (4th rank) to 2 488 (2nd rank) and then a decrease to 2 145 per 100 000 population (5th rank) in 2015/16. Table Bay, Woodstock and Elsie's River police precincts do not feature in the top five police precincts of the highest violent crime rates for 2016/17. They were replaced by Maitland on the second rank (2 279 per 100 000 population), Wynberg the third rank (2 266 per 100 000 population) and Khayelitsha in the fifth rank (2 159 per 10 000 population).

South Africans feel that violent and property crime is increasing to the extent that the majority of households don't feel safe to walk alone in parks or allow their children to play freely in their neighborhoods, according to Statistics South Africa's (Stats SA) Victims of Crime Survey (VOCS) (Lehohla, 2017a). Violent crimes are most feared by the public due to the impact they have in communities (ISS, 2013). When violent crime drops, communities start to feel safer.

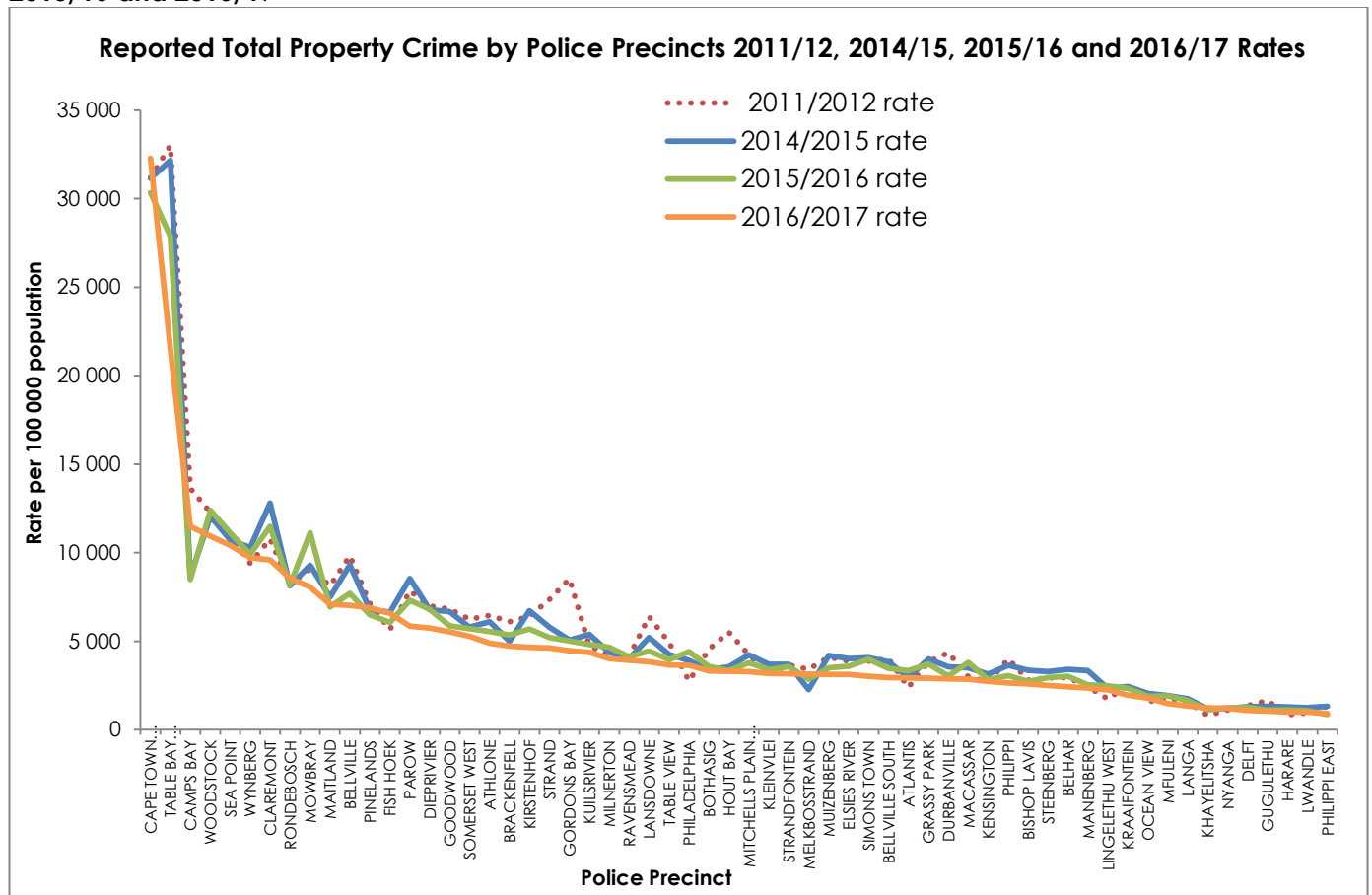
For further information see [Violent crime in Cape Town 2005/6 – 2015/17 and Violent crime Rates by Police Precincts in Cape Town 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17.](#)

Figure 6 presents an analysis of total property-related crime rates for 60 police precincts (Lentegeur included with Mitchells Plain) in Cape Town for 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17. The property-related crime rates for 60 police precincts were ranked from highest to lowest for 2016/17. In 2016/17, the top five police precincts with the highest property-related crime rates were Cape Town Central (32 285 per 100 000 population), Table Bay Harbour (21 499 per 100 000 population), Camps Bay (11 476 per 100 000 population), Woodstock (10 939 per 100 000 population) and Sea Point (10 416 per 100 000 population).

For all four years, viz. 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17, Cape Town Central, Table Bay Harbour and Woodstock police precincts were in the top five for highest property crime rate. These are the same three police precincts as all crime rates. This is because property crime forms 41.7% of all crime cases in Cape Town.

From 2011/12 to 2015/16, Cape Town Central police precinct shows a decrease from a rate of 31 192 (2011/12) to 30 340 (2015/16) and then an increase to 32 285 (2016/17) in property-related crime rates. Table Bay police precinct has shown a decrease from ranking the highest in 2011/12 and 2014/15 reporting year (33 007 and 32 169 per 100 000 population respectively) to 2nd highest in 2015/16 and 2016/17 reporting year (27 876 and 21 499 per 100 000 population). Woodstock police precinct has shown an increase in property crime rates in 2015/16 reporting year (12 401 per 100 000 population), relative to 2011/12 (12 265), 2014/15 (12 058) and 2016/17 reporting years (10 939).

Figure 6: Distribution of property-related crime rates in Cape Town by police precinct 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17



Source: SAPS, 2017. Crime Statistics 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17, using 2011 Census (SSA, 2018), 2014, 2015 and 2016 population estimates compiled by the Organisational Policy and Planning Department, City of Cape Town, May 2018

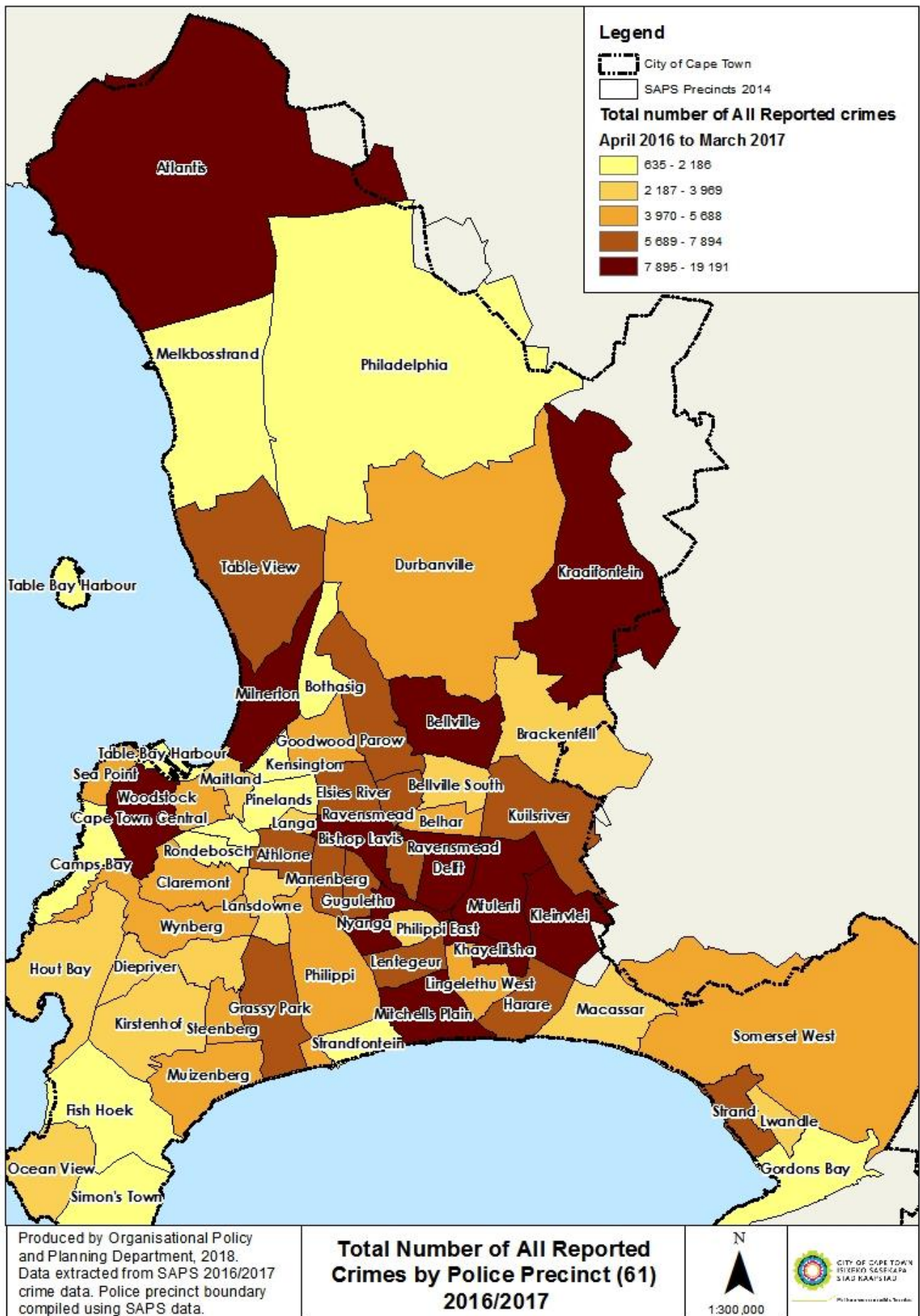
The police precincts which have the poorest and most dense population in Cape Town account for relatively less property-related crimes in contrast to violent crime. Cases of property-related crimes occur in the police precincts that have a population which has higher average income levels, viz. Camps Bay at 3rd highest in 2016/17 reporting year (11 476 per 100 000 population), Sea Point at 5th highest rank (10 416 per 100 00 population) and Claremont and Rondebosch at 7th and 8th rank respectively (9 585 and 8 553 per 100 000 population).

7. Spatial distribution of all crime, property-related, drug-related and driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol crime in Cape Town by police precincts in 2016/17

The total number of all crimes occurring in Cape Town and three categories of crime, viz. violent crime, drug-related and driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs crimes have been analysed spatially for 2016/17. These three crime categories account for 44% of the total number of incidents of all reported crimes in Cape Town in 2016/17.

Figure 7 shows the spatial distribution of the actual number of all crimes from SAPS for all police precincts in Cape Town which has been grouped into the 61 police precinct spatial boundaries for 2016/17. The analysis of the 2016/17 crime data grouped into all crime by police precincts in Cape Town indicates that crime continues to be largely concentrated in the poorer areas of the city, with a small number of police precincts accounting for a disproportionate number of crimes.

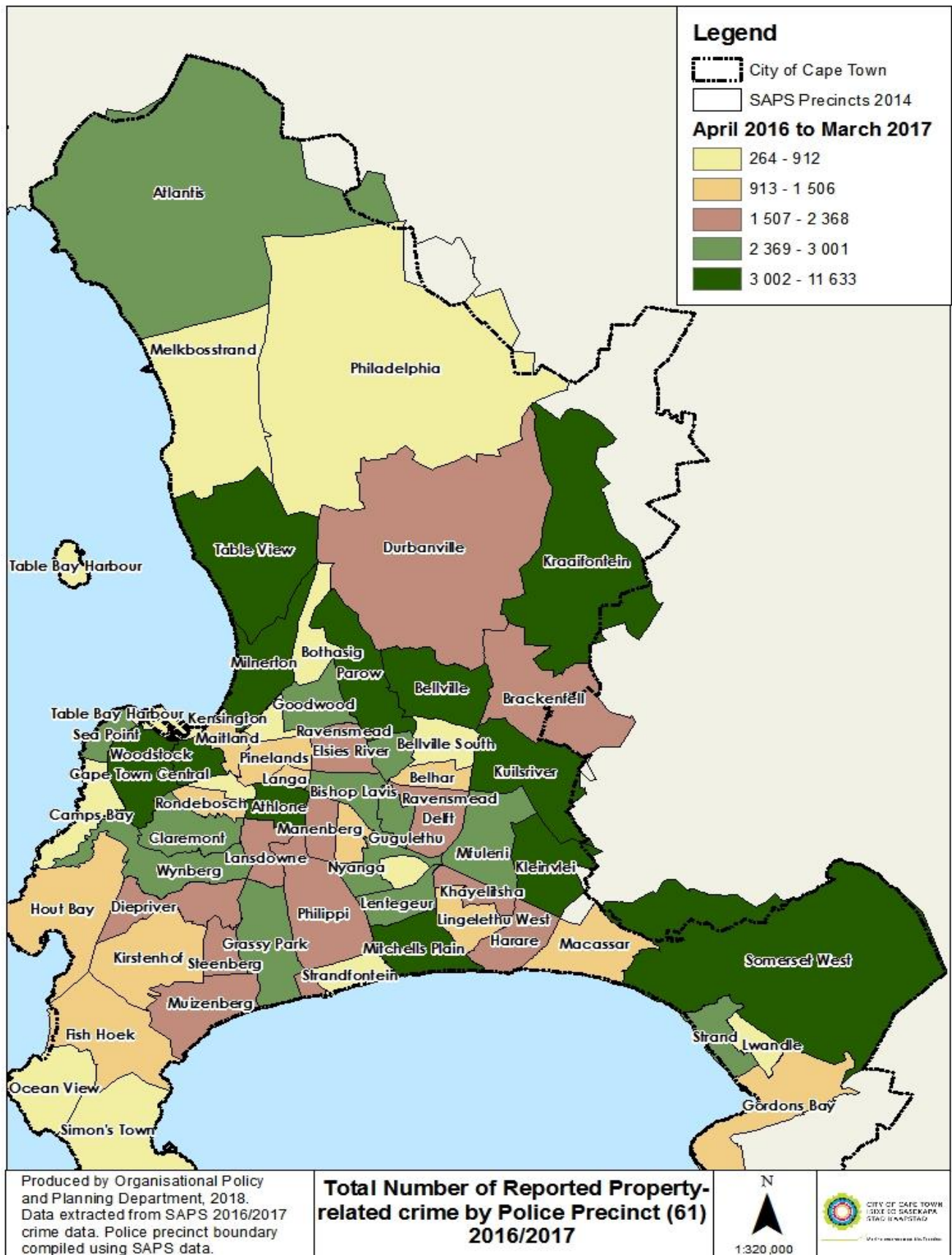
Figure 7: Spatial distribution of actual number of all reported crimes by police precincts in Cape Town in 2016/17 (61 Police Precincts included)



Source: Source: SAPS, 2017. Crime Statistics 2016/17

Cape Town Central (11 633), Mitchells Plain (6 688), Bellville (4 745), Kraaifontein (4 321) and Parow (3 806) were the five police precincts with the highest number of crime cases reported for **property-related crimes** in Cape Town in 2016/17. Refer to Figure 8.

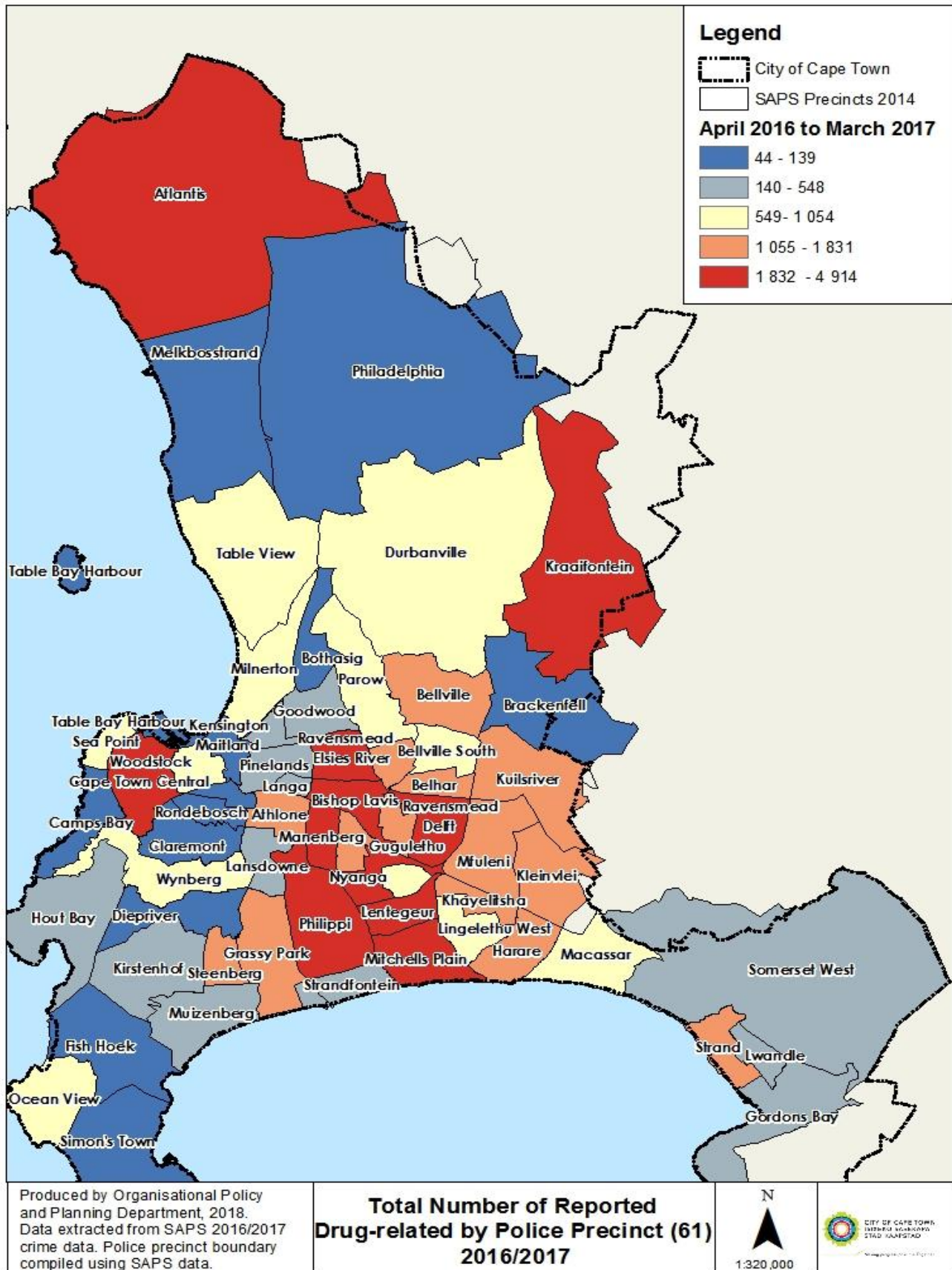
Figure 8: Spatial distribution of actual number of reported property-related crime by police precincts in Cape Town in 2016/17 (61 Police Precincts included).



Source: SAPS, 2017. Crime Statistics 2016/17

Mitchells Plain (4 914), Kraaifontein (4 502), Delft (2 926), Bishop Lavis (2 898) and Cape Town Central (2 796) were the five police precincts with the highest number of crime cases reported for **drug-related crimes** in Cape Town in 2016/17. Refer to Figure 9.

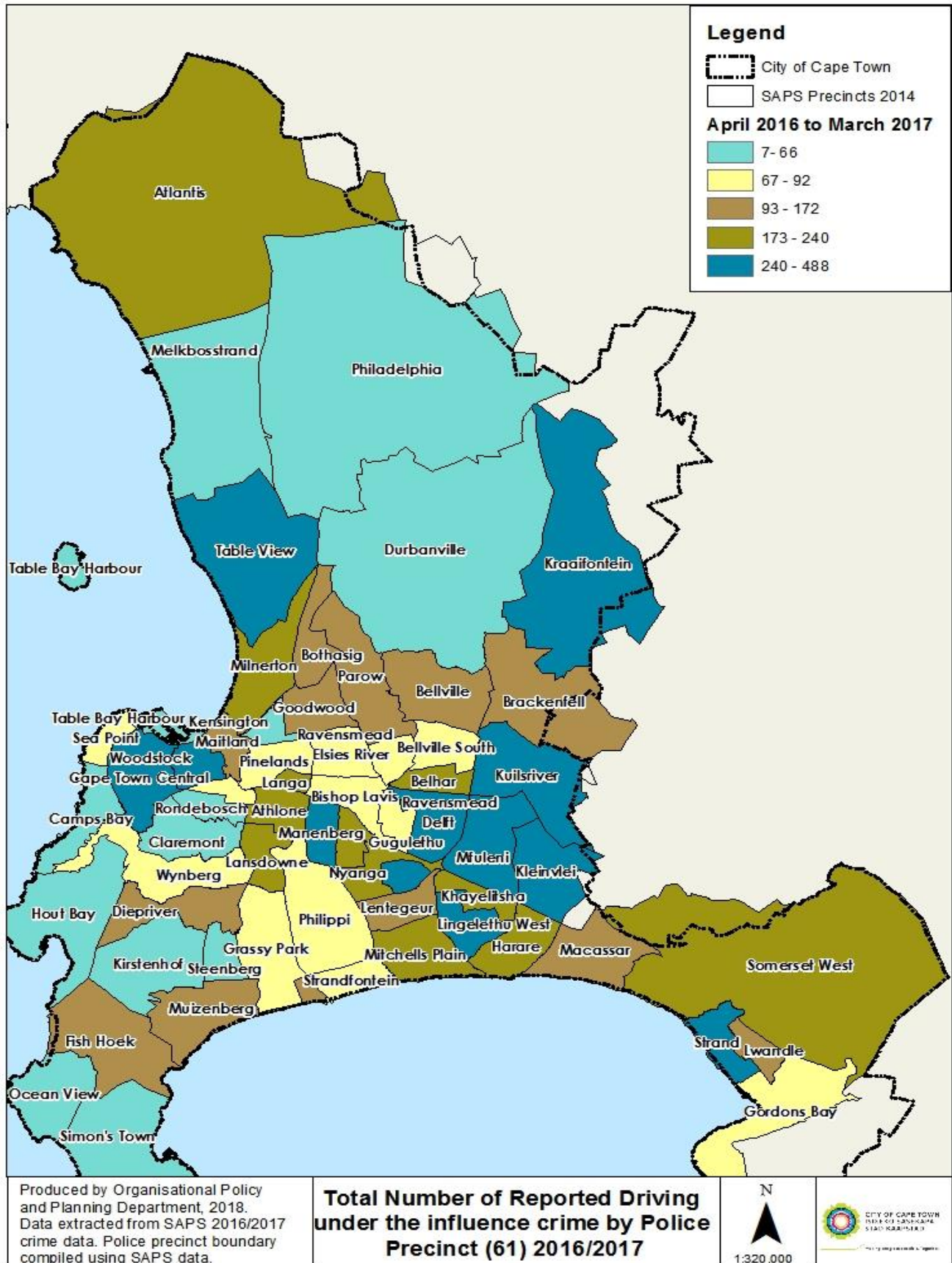
Figure 9: Spatial distribution of actual number of reported drug-related crime by police precincts in Cape Town in 2016/17 (61 Police Precincts included).



Source: Source: SAPS, 2017. Crime Statistics 2016/17

The five police precincts with the highest number of crime cases reported for **driving under the influence crimes** in Cape Town in 2016/17 were Lingelethu West (488), Mfuleni (354), Delft (350), Kleinvlei (316) and Kraaifontein (293). Refer to Figure 10.

Figure 10: Spatial distribution of actual number of reported driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs by police precincts in Cape Town in 2016/17 (61 Police Precincts included).



Source: Source: SAPS, 2017. Crime Statistics 2016/17

9. Review and Implications

SAPS statistics are vital to the police's plan and the government's policies and strategies on crime prevention (Lehohla, 2017b). The all reported crime rate in Cape Town has decreased from 8 132 (2015/16) to 7 930 (2016/17) per 100 000 population. At a national level, the reported all crime rate has also decreased from a rate of 3 966 to 3 906 population per 100 000 in the last reporting year. The actual number of total reported crimes in South Africa has increased from 2.171 million to 2.172 million (0.03% increase). The actual number of reported crimes in Cape Town decreased from 327 201 cases in 2015/16 to 324 982 in 2016/17, a decrease of 0.7%. When you compare the national crime rates over the same reporting period from 2011/12 to 2016/17, the all reported crime rate per 100 000 population in Cape Town is more than double that of South Africa.

For the five year period from 2011/12 to 2016/17, Cape Town has the highest all reported crime rate when compared to other Metropolitan areas (and South Africa as a whole) viz. 2011/12 (8 380 per 100 000); 2012/13 (8 463 per 100 000); 2013/14 (8 445 per 100 000); 2014/15 (8 407 per 100 000), 2015/16 (8 132) and 2016/17 (7 930 per 100 000), followed by Johannesburg at 4 658, Tshwane at 4 469, Ekurhuleni (3 973), eThekweni at 4 307 and South Africa (3 906) in 2016/17 reporting year.

Cape Town Central police precinct was the precinct that had the highest all reported crime rate (53 261 per 100 000), property-related crime rate (32 285 per 100 000), and violent crime rate (4 196 per 100 000 population) in 2016/17.

Table Bay Harbour had the second highest all reported (53 261) crime rate and property-related crime rates (21 499) and the eighth highest violent crime rate in 2016/17 (1 971 per 100 000 population). Woodstock had the third highest all reported crime rates (19 254 per 100 000), the fourth highest rate for property-related crime (10 939) and the sixth highest rate for violent crime rates (2 065 per 100 000) in 2016/17. Wynberg had the fourth highest violent crime rates (2 235 per 100 000), fifth highest reported all crime rates (16 956 per 100 000) and sixth highest total property crime rate (9 712) in 2016/17 reporting year. Other police precincts that were in the top five all reported, property-related and violent crime rates in 2016/17 reporting year were Sea Point, Camps Bay, Maitland, Macassar and Khayelitsha.

Academics and NGOs believe that the annual police crime stats released are compiled from broader crime data which could be used to compare annual trends, but was not very useful for developing local crime prevention strategies (Newham, 2017).

There are very good reasons to release the information more frequently and in more detail. It could help communities respond more quickly and effectively to developing crime situations. More importantly, it would encourage a sense of public ownership and faith in the figures. It would not be a matter of seeing a dump of thousands of figures once a year, but individuals would be able to go online and see whether their crime incident has made it properly onto the system within weeks (Kriegler, 2017).

Cape Town has a population that is growing more slowly than Johannesburg and Tshwane, and has the lowest level of poverty (as measured by the Human Development Index, HDI), the lowest income inequality, and the second lowest youth unemployment rate of all the cities. Yet Cape Town has extremely high levels of crime rates (The State of Urban Safety Report, 2017).

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For more crime data and information visit DIRC (Development Information Resource Centre):
Statistics and indicators: Statistics by Theme: Safety and Security
http://cityweb.capetown.gov.za/en/cdirc/Pages/StatisticsByTheme_AH.aspx

Annexure 1: 2011 Census and 2014, 2015 and 2016 Estimated Populations for Police Precincts in Cape Town

Police Precinct	2011 Census Population	2014 Estimated Population ¹¹	2015 Estimated Population ¹¹	2016 Estimated Population ¹¹
Athlone	61 466	61 954	62 362	62 873
Atlantis	79 073	81 803	84 326	90 464
Belhar	56 228	56 445	57 391	59 872
Bellville	66 324	67 856	68 289	67 623
Bellville South	29 299	29 653	29 738	29 822
Bishop Lavis	103 505	103 961	106 847	108 903
Bothasig	25 552	26 128	26 122	26 418
Brackenfell	45 947	49 842	49 977	50 148
Camps Bay	5 492	5 521	5 572	5 603
Cape Town Central	34 769	35 420	35 402	36 032
Claremont	30 678	31 124	31 175	31 308
Delft	153 882	168 006	175 693	184 841
Diepriver	38 200	38 818	39 012	39 137
Durbanville	71 543	74 273	75 009	75 541
Elsies River	70 964	72 217	72 670	73 609
Fish Hoek	20 704	21 320	21 469	21 590
Goodwood	43 471	43 675	43 824	43 871
Gordon's Bay	17 915	20 019	20 387	20 737
Grassy Park	89 591	94 133	96 554	101 566
Gugulethu	126 332	129 265	133 281	137 990
Harare	173 344	184 471	190 002	193 760
Hout Bay	33 426	34 544	35 246	35 534
Kensington	26 321	26 923	27 048	27 134
Khayelitsha	154 033	160 007	165 039	166 138
Kirstenhof	30 090	30 752	31 207	31 357
Kleinvlei	96 796	100 826	100 925	101 281
Kraaifontein	167 909	177 976	191 116	221 422
Kuilsriver	71 615	73 628	74 979	78 784
Langa	52 400	55 923	60 913	81 270
Lansdowne	48 873	49 318	49 249	49 750
Lentegeur	86 054	92 469	94 097	96 670
Lingeletu West	64 343	64 082	64 771	67 172
Lwandle	64 307	68 856	80 746	90 325
Macassar	35 116	35 777	36 505	39 148
Maitland	17 974	19 083	19 092	19 171
Manenberg	82 900	84 797	86 073	89 461
Melkbosstrand	11 590	12 419	12 684	13 315
Mfuleni	116 969	131 035	139 033	160 093
Milnerton	88 488	91 594	93 736	94 636
Mitchells Plain	195 965	197 083	197 591	198 470

¹¹ City of Cape Town April 2018. Compiled by Organisational Policy and Planning Department, using 2011 Census data from Statistics South Africa as base-data and population estimates for 2014, 2015 and 2016.

Police Precinct	2011 Census Population	2014 Estimated Population ¹¹	2015 Estimated Population ¹¹	2016 Estimated Population ¹¹
Mowbray	9 698	9 707	9 916	10 325
Muizenberg	58 408	60 748	62 108	62 711
Nyanga	200 917	206 594	212 218	225 539
Ocean View	40 169	43 093	44 703	46 224
Parow	62 278	64 522	65 265	65 155
Philadelphia	5 994	6 188	6 547	7 272
Philippi	52 862	60 194	59 925	59 742
Philippi East	56 279	59 146	78 961	81 743
Pinelands	20 362	20 717	20 682	20 684
Ravensmead	61 272	61 121	60 270	60 507
Rondebosch	15 311	15 752	15 832	15 830
Sea Point	25 037	25 427	25 556	25 778
Simon's Town	14 263	14 701	15 760	17 128
Somerset West	53 417	57 535	58 786	60 202
Steenberg	62 469	62 553	62 410	63 163
Strand	52 064	54 251	54 598	55 371
Strandfontein	28 437	28 753	28 825	28 913
Table Bay Harbour	2 448	2 418	2 956	3 349
Table View	75 434	87 000	88 466	88 518
Woodstock	27 582	28 263	28 233	28 239
Wynberg	24 804	25 047	25 273	25 278
City of Cape Town	3 738 953	3 896 726	4 012 441	4 174 510

For metadata, reference and source purposes, the following should be used:

Police Precincts Boundaries obtained from SAPS. Population base-data population estimates developed from 2011 Census data by small areas from Statistics South Africa. 2017 Population estimate for Cape Town obtained from SSA mid-year estimates, 2018 publication. Formal residential growth extracted from the Urban Growth Monitoring System (UGMS) as at December 2016; 2013 and 2016 solid waste count of doors of informal structures requiring waste services supplemented by GIS Corporate count data of roofs of dwellings in informal settlements, captured from March 2011, December 2013 and January 2017 aerial photography respectively. Backyard Informal growth estimated from number of Housing Opportunities from 2010/11 to 2016/17 obtained from New Market Development, Transport & Urban Development Directorate.

Disclaimer:

A reasonably accurate population estimate acknowledging that it is a best estimate by police precinct. Assumptions regarding fertility, mortality, migration and the prevalence patterns and future spread of HIV and AIDS cannot easily be concluded