

**2023 FOURTH  
QUARTER  
CRIME  
STATISTICS  
REPORT**

A close-up of a yellow crime scene tape with the words 'CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS' printed in bold black letters. The tape is stretched across a dark, textured surface, possibly soil or asphalt.

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## **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

CJSS	Criminal Justice Statistics System
ICCS	International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes
NSS	National Statistical System
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
ZIMSTAT	Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency
ZRP	Zimbabwe Republic Police

The 2023 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Crime Statistics Report is produced by the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT).

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2023 Fourth Quarter Crime Statistics Report

## **Preface**

The Zimbabwean community has of late experienced more incidences of crime that include theft, robbery, sexual offences, drug-related crimes and murder. Such vices leave society entangled with emotional, psychological and physical damage. In addition, acts of crime may result in tensions within families, financial losses, expenditures on private deterrence, mental disorders and loss of life. At Government level, expenditures associated with law enforcement and criminal justice are incurred at the expense of social service delivery.

To this end, the production of crime statistics informs policy development and planning in the criminal justice system. Further, crime statistics expose crime trends in communities thereby enabling law enforcement arms to develop strategic interventions to curtail growth in crime rates.

The information contained in this publication is based on data collected from the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) Crime Report and Disposal System. The crime statistics herein are aggregated based on the United Nations International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS) adopted in 2016.

The ICCS provides a framework for the systematic production and comparison of statistical data across different criminal justice institutions and jurisdictions. We acknowledge that the information on crime presented in this publication is not exhaustive due to limitations on recorded data.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to our technical partners, the ZRP for the provision of data and to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for guidance in the use of the ICCS.

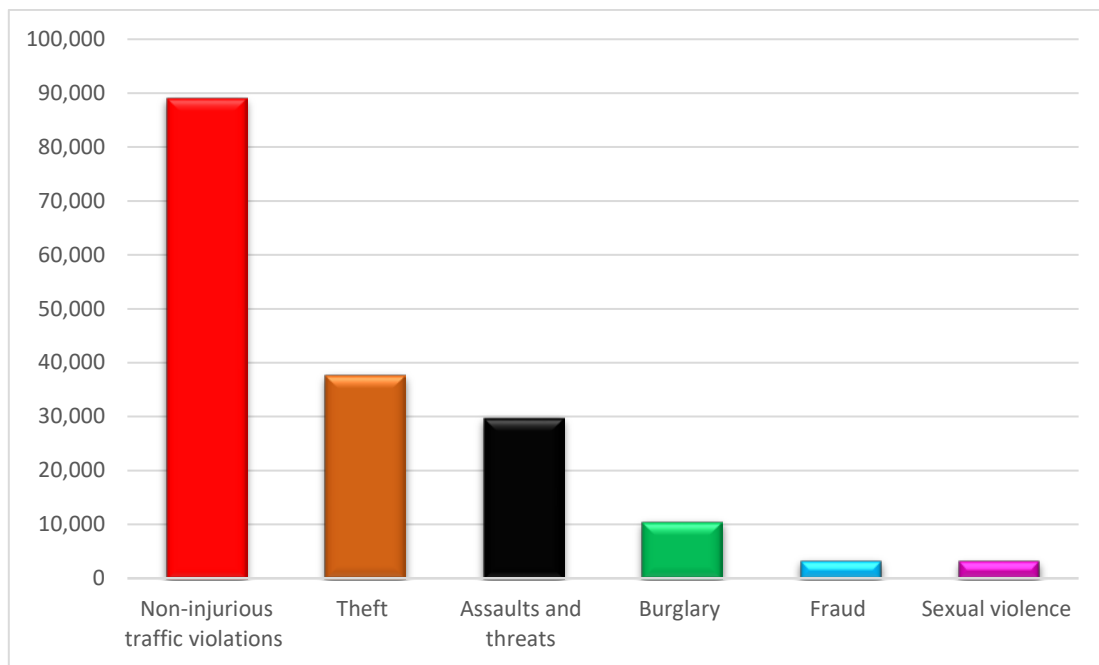
Mationesa Phiri  
**ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

## 1.0 Introduction

ZIMSTAT publishes statistics on levels and trends of crime in Zimbabwe based on police-recorded crime data, collected on a monthly basis. Recorded crime figures exclude crimes that have not been reported to the police or incidents that the police decide not to record as crimes.

### Highlights of Reported Crimes

*Figure 1* shows highlights of offences reported during the fourth quarter of 2023.

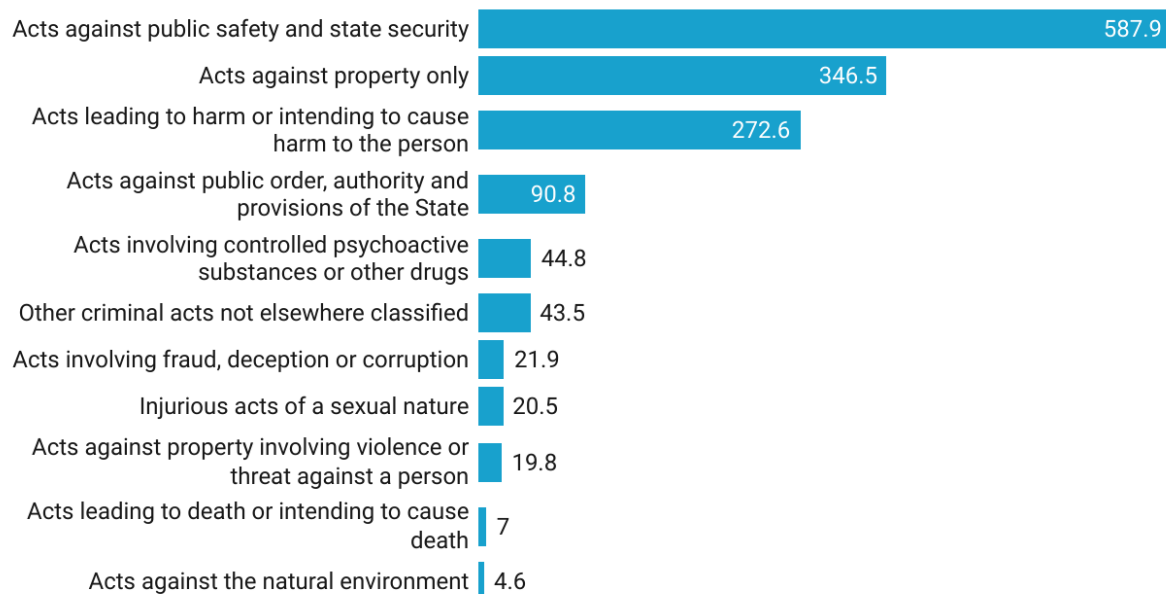


*Figure 1: Highlights of Offences Committed in the Fourth Quarter of 2023*

## 1.1 Trends in Police Recorded Crime

The police recorded 221,596 offences over the period from October to December 2023. This represents a 21.5 percent increase from 182,427 offences recorded in the third quarter.

The national crime rate was 1,459.9 crimes per 100,000 people, an uptick from 1,201.8 per 100,000 observed in the previous quarter. (*Table 1*). This implies that for every 100,000 people, 1,460 crimes were recorded. Further, *Figure 2.1* depicts the different crime rates per 100,000 population for the different offences. The crime rate for offences committed against public order and state security was 587.9 per 100,000 population, and this was an increase from 429.4 per 100,000 recorded in the third quarter of 2023.



*Figure 2.1: Crime Rates among the Different Types of Offences*

Vulnerability to crime varies by province as shown in *Table 2*. In Bulawayo, Harare and Midlands Provinces, vulnerability to crime was above the national



average. The crime rate in Bulawayo Province more than doubled the national crime rate, at 3,416.4 per 100,000 people against the national average of 1,459.9.

Of the 221,596 cases recorded in the fourth quarter of 2023, crimes against *public safety and state security* were the most common with 89,244 cases being recorded. The second most common type of crime recorded was *Acts against property only*, with 52,598 cases. *Acts leading to harm or intending to cause harm to the person* were 41,372.

The total number of persons charged by the police for all offences was 162,221, of which 88 percent were male, (*Table 3*). The rate for charged persons for all offences increased to 1,068.7 per 100,000 people from 826.4 in the previous quarter. The rate at which males were charged was 1,953.5 persons per 100,000 males, while it was 251.2 for females, using the same weight.

**Table 1: Police Recorded Crime by Type of Offence, Fourth Quarter 2023**

	Offences reported	
	Number	Rate ( per 100,000 population)
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2022	216,927	1,429.1
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023	206,300	1,359.1
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2023	178,031	1,172.9
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023	182,427	1,201.8
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023</b>	<b>221,596</b>	<b>1,459.9</b>
Acts leading to death or intending to cause death	1,061	7.0
Acts leading to harm or intending to cause harm to the person	41,372	272.6
Injurious acts of a sexual nature	3,112	20.5
Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person	2,998	19.8
Acts against property only	52,598	346.5
Acts involving controlled psychoactive substances or other drugs	6,802	44.8
Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption	3,330	21.9
Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State	13,777	90.8
Acts against public safety and state security	89,244	587.9
Acts against the natural environment	697	4.6
Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified	6,605	43.5

**Table 2: Police Recorded Crime by Province, Fourth Quarter 2023**

	Offences reported											Total	Rate (per 100,000 population)
	Acts leading to death or intending to cause death	Acts leading to harm or intending to cause harm to the person	Injurious acts of a sexual nature	Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person	Acts against property only	Acts involving controlled psychoactive substances or other drugs	Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption	Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State	Acts against public safety and state security	Acts against the natural environment	Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified		
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2022	1,072	39,732	3,177	2,722	50,439	6,697	3,050	10,399	89,775	724	9,140	216,927	1,429.1
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023	885	37,562	3,151	2,794	52,575	6,885	2,888	11,793	78,864	713	8,190	206,300	1,359.1
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2023	1,010	38,121	2,662	2,992	49,515	4,338	2,895	8,066	56,734	752	10,946	178,031	1,172.9
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023	1,098	36,863	2,737	2,902	49,539	3,820	3,237	8,721	65,173	669	7,668	182,427	1,201.8
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023</b>	1,061	41,372	3,112	2,998	52,598	6,802	3,330	13,777	89,244	697	6,605	221,596	1,459.9
Bulawayo	76	1,998	158	364	3,655	2,739	198	3,170	9,012	23	1,357	22,750	3,416.4
Manicaland	84	2,996	364	127	4,359	158	180	446	4,309	41	261	13,325	653.9
Mashonaland Central	73	2,417	285	151	2,872	158	110	403	10,129	120	165	16,883	1,219.1
Mashonaland East	101	2,469	363	175	3,248	153	167	450	8,820	53	274	16,273	940.0
Mashonaland West	129	3,881	387	337	5,423	189	241	549	12,636	167	254	24,193	1,277.7
Matabeleland North	74	1,282	181	92	1,248	402	68	545	2,841	30	236	6,999	845.7
Matabeleland South	102	1,155	157	206	1,632	726	48	985	4,635	76	568	10,290	1,353.3
Midlands	133	4,718	337	526	5,644	538	330	799	11,968	85	948	26,026	1,436.4
Masvingo	106	1,903	301	158	2,932	334	156	4,545	13,345	75	377	24,232	1,478.9
Harare	183	18,553	579	862	21,585	1,405	1,832	1,885	11,549	27	2,165	60,625	2,497.7

**Table 3: Police Recorded Crime by Persons Charged, Type of Offence and Sex, Fourth Quarter 2023**

	Persons Charged					
	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Rate ( per 100,000 population)	Number	Rate ( per 100,000 population)	Number	Rate ( per 100,000 population)
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2022	160,520	1,057.5	142,867	1,959.9	17,653	223.8
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023	147,526	971.9	131,230	1,800.3	16,296	206.6
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2023	121,742	802.1	107,967	1,481.2	13,775	174.6
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023	125,433	826.4	110,696	1,518.6	14,737	186.8
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023</b>	<b>162,221</b>	<b>1,068.7</b>	<b>142,400</b>	<b>1,953.5</b>	<b>19,821</b>	<b>251.2</b>
Acts leading to death or intending to cause death	858	5.7	803	11.0	55	0.7
Acts leading to harm or intending to cause harm to the person	26,547	174.9	23,205	318.3	3,342	42.4
Injurious acts of a sexual nature	2,147	14.1	2,113	29.0	34	0.4
Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person	695	4.6	679	9.3	16	0.2
Acts against property only	15,057	99.2	13,494	185.1	1,563	19.8
Acts involving controlled psychoactive substances or other drugs	6,922	45.6	6,066	83.2	856	10.8
Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption	1,619	10.7	1,361	18.7	258	3.3
Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State	13,882	91.5	9,527	130.7	4,355	55.2
Acts against public safety and state security	86,541	570.1	78,985	1,083.6	7,556	95.8
Acts against the natural environment	816	5.4	792	10.9	24	0.3
Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified	7,137	47.0	5,375	73.7	1,762	22.3

**Table 4: Detailed List of Police Recorded Crime by Type of Offence, Fourth Quarter 2023**

Type of Offence	Offences Reported	
	Number	Rate ( per 100,000 population)
<b>Acts leading to death or intending to cause death</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Intentional homicide	326	2.1
Attempted intentional homicide	324	2.1
Non-intentional homicide	385	2.5
Assisting or instigating suicide	0	0.0
Illegal feticide	26	0.2
Other acts leading to death or intending to cause death	0	0.0
<b>Acts causing harm or intending to cause harm to the person</b>	<b>41,372</b>	<b>272.6</b>
Assaults and threats	29,741	195.9
Acts against liberty	98	0.6
Trafficking in persons (TIP)	4	0.0
Coercion	116	0.8
Negligence	1,412	9.3
Dangerous acts	9,747	64.2
Acts intended to induce fear or emotional distress	12	0.1
Defamation or insult	232	1.5
Discrimination	1	0.0
Acts that trespass against the person	9	0.1
<b>Injurious acts of a sexual nature</b>	<b>3,112</b>	<b>20.5</b>
Sexual violence	3,091	20.4
Sexual exploitation	21	0.1
<b>Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person</b>	<b>2,998</b>	<b>19.8</b>
Robbery	2,998	19.8
<b>Acts against property only</b>	<b>52,598</b>	<b>346.5</b>
Burglary	10,431	68.7
Theft	37,602	247.7
Intellectual property offences	5	0.0
Property damage	4,082	26.9
Other acts against property only	478	3.1
<b>Acts involving controlled drugs or other psychoactive substances</b>	<b>6,802</b>	<b>44.8</b>
Unlawful acts involving controlled drugs or precursors	1,878	12.4
Unlawful acts involving alcohol, tobacco or other controlled substances	4,886	32.2
Other acts involving controlled drugs or other psychoactive substances	38	0.3

**Table 4: (Continued) Detailed List of Police Recorded Crime by Type of Offence, Fourth Quarter 2023**

Type of Offence	Offences Reported	
	Number	Rate ( per 100,000 population)
<b>Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption</b>	<b>3,330</b>	<b>21.9</b>
Fraud	3,235	21.3
Forgery/counterfeiting	39	0.3
Corruption	48	0.3
Acts involving the proceeds of crime	8	0.1
<b>Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State</b>	<b>13,777</b>	<b>90.8</b>
Acts against public order behavioural standards	3,335	22.0
Acts against public order sexual standards	41	0.3
Acts contrary to public revenue or regulatory provisions	1,623	10.7
Acts related to migration	270	1.8
Acts against the justice system	960	6.3
Acts contrary to labour law	0	0.0
Other acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State	7,548	49.7
<b>Acts against public safety and state security</b>	<b>89,244</b>	<b>587.9</b>
Acts involving weapons, explosives and other destructive materials	196	1.3
Acts against computer systems	70	0.5
Acts against state security	11	0.1
Terrorism	0	0.0
Non-injurious traffic violations	88,967	586.1
<b>Acts against the natural environment</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Trade or possession of protected or prohibited species of fauna and flora	239	1.6
Acts that result in the depletion or degradation of natural resources	458	3.0
<b>Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified</b>	<b>6,605</b>	<b>43.5</b>
Acts contrary to youth regulations and acts on minors	11	0.1
Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified	6,594	43.4

**Appendix 1: Correspondence Table between the United Nations International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS) and the National Crime Classification used by the Zimbabwe Republic Police**

International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes		ZRP Crime Code
<i>Section 01 Acts leading to death or intending to cause death</i>		
0101	Intentional homicide	402: 409-12
0102	Attempted intentional homicide	413-14
0103	Non-intentional homicide	403
0104	Assisting or instigating suicide	404
0105	Euthanasia	
0106	Illegal feticide	405-6
0107	Unlawful killing associated with armed conflict	
0109	Other acts leading to death or intending to cause death	
<i>Section 02 Acts causing harm or intending to cause harm to the person</i>		
0201	Assaults and threats	301-3:305-8:11701-11712:11103
0202	Acts against liberty	1014-1017:6806-6809:6803-6805:11101
0203	Slavery and exploitation	
0204	Trafficking in persons (TIP)	6901-6912
0205	Coercion	932,933
0206	Negligence	1001,1002:14004:407
0207	Dangerous acts	808-811:14003:14007:14005:14006
0208	Acts intended to induce fear or emotional distress	10528
0209	Defamation or insult	6810-6813
0210	Discrimination	10525
0211	Acts that trespass against the person	2401-02
0219	Other acts causing harm or intending to cause harm to the person	
<i>Section 03 Injurious acts of a sexual nature</i>		
0301	Sexual violence	501-504:601-604:701-711
0302	Sexual exploitation	902-907: 909-915:
0309	Other injurious acts of a sexual nature	
<i>Section 04 Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person</i>		

0401	Robbery	2201-2212
0409	Other acts against property involving violence	
<i>Section 05 Acts against property only</i>		
0501	Burglary	1413-17:1432-33
0502	Theft	1401-1412:1430-31: 1610-1617: 1434-37
0503	Intellectual property offences	4103
0504	Property damage	1418-20: 11102
0509	Other acts against property only	10530
<i>Section 06 Acts involving controlled drugs or other psychoactive substances</i>		
0601	Unlawful acts involving controlled drugs or precursors	6711-50
0602	Unlawful acts involving alcohol, tobacco or other controlled substances	4013: 4016-18
0609	Other acts involving controlled drugs or other psychoactive substances	4006
<i>Section 07 Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption</i>		
0701	Fraud	1201
0702	Forgery/counterfeiting	1202-3
0703	Corruption	12901-5
0704	Acts involving the proceeds of crime	1204-5
0709	Other acts involving fraud, deception or corruption	
<i>Section 08 Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State</i>		
0801	Acts against public order behavioural standards	10519-21:10524:10527:10529
0802	Acts against public order sexual standards	802-805:901,908, 2518
0803	Acts related to freedom of expression or control of expression	
0804	Acts contrary to public revenue or regulatory provisions	4004-5: 4015: 4007:4002: 4101: 4102
0805	Acts related to migration	4014
0806	Acts against the justice system	12801: 12082: 12083: 12804: 801: 10523
0807	Acts related to democratic elections	
0808	Acts contrary to labour law	
0809	Other acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State	10510-14: 4020:4019: 4029



<i>Section 09 Acts against public safety and state security</i>		
0901	Acts involving weapons, explosives and other destructive materials	4008-10: 2507-09: 10522: 10526:11104
0902	Acts against health and safety	
0903	Acts against computer systems	7601-7609
0904	Acts against state security	2501-2503:2512-16
0905	Acts related to an organized criminal group	
0906	Terrorism	2504-06 :2510: 2517
0907	Non-injurious traffic violations	13501-06:14001-02 :14006: 14008-23: 14501-11
0909	Other acts against public safety and state security	
<i>Section 10 Acts against the natural environment</i>		
1001	Acts that cause environmental pollution or degradation	
1002	Acts involving the movement or dumping of waste	
1003	Trade or possession of protected or prohibited species of fauna and flora	4021-24
1004	Acts that result in the depletion or degradation of natural resources	4011: 4026: 4028: 4025:4012
1009	Other acts against the natural environment	
<i>Section 11 Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified</i>		
1101	Acts under universal jurisdiction	
1102	Acts contrary to youth regulations and acts on minors	712-13:911- 13:1019-20:6804
1109	Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified	10536:4001:4003:4 030:15001:15002:1 5003:11105:11106