

2026 **FIRST** **QUARTER** **CRIME** **STATISTICS** **REPORT**



CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS -

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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 2026 1st Quarter Crime Statistics Report is produced by the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT).

Additional information about the report may be obtained from:

E-mail: pr@zimstat.co.zw;

Website: <http://www.zimstat.co.zw>;

twitter: @zimstat;

Telephone: (263) 242706681-8

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2026 First Quarter Crime Statistics Report

Preface

The Zimbabwean community often experience 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 security measures, mental disorders and loss of life. At the Government level, resources spent on law enforcement and criminal justice come at the expense of social service delivery.

To this end, the production of crime statistics plays a vital role in shaping policies and planning within the criminal justice system. Crime statistics reveal trends in criminal activities, enabling policymakers, law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders to develop evidence-based strategic interventions to curb the rise 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 want 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 their guidance in applying the ICCS framework.

Tafadzwa Bandama
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

1.0 Introduction

ZIMSTAT publishes statistics on levels and trends of crime in Zimbabwe based on police-recorded crime data, collected monthly. 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 first quarter of 2026.

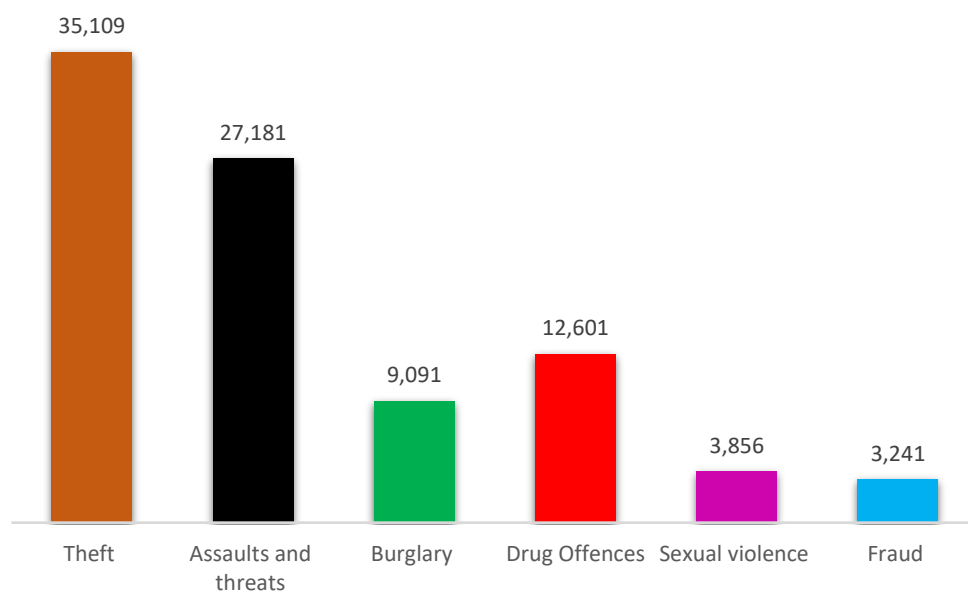


Figure 1: Highlights of Offences Recorded in the First Quarter of 2026

1.1 Trends in Police Recorded Crime

The police recorded 428,634 offences between January and March 2026, representing a marginal increase of 0.4% from the 426,946 offences recorded in the fourth quarter of 2025.

The national crime rate was 2,649.8 crimes per 100,000 people in the first quarter of 2026, down from 2,812.7 offences per 100,000 population recorded in the fourth quarter of 2025 (Table 1)¹. This implies that for every 100,000 people, about 2,650 crimes were recorded. Figure 2.1 presents crime rates by offence category. Offences against public order and state security recorded the highest crime rate at 1,782.1 offences per 100,000 population, compared with 1,849.1 per 100,000 population in the fourth quarter of 2025.

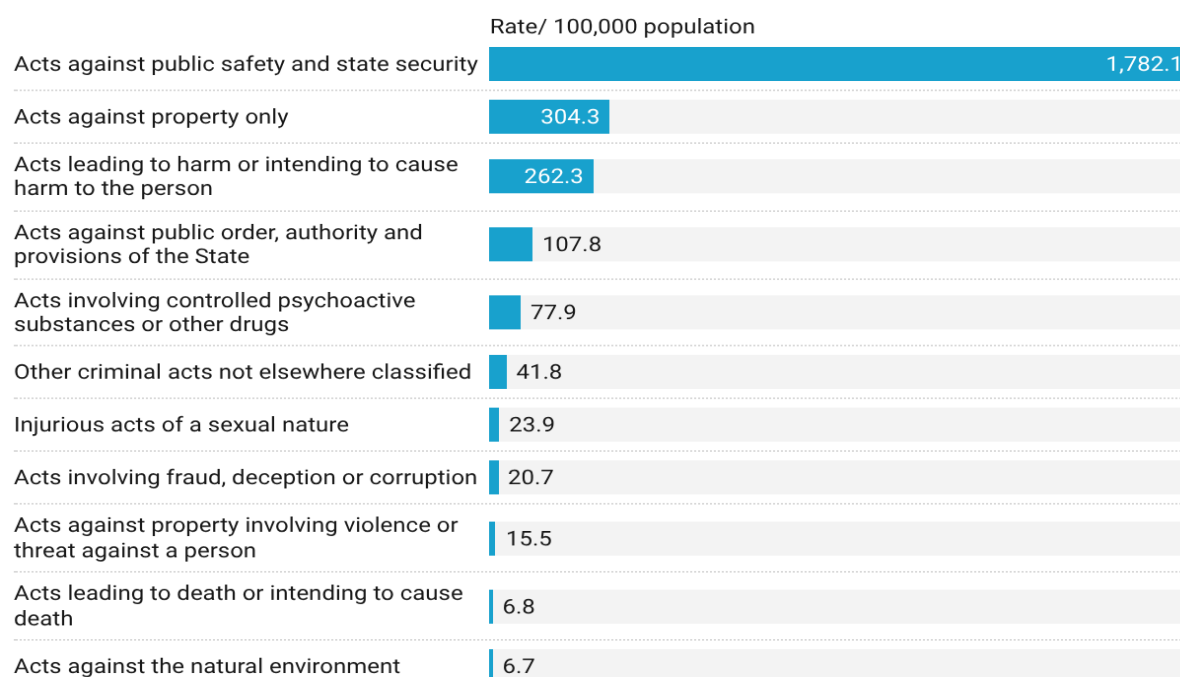


Figure 2.1: Crime Rates among the Different Types of Offences

¹ Crime rates use the official annual population projections and may not correspond directly to changes in the number of recorded offences.

Vulnerability to crime varies across provinces, as shown in *Table 2*. In Harare, Bulawayo, and Masvingo Policing Provinces, crime rates exceeded the national average. Harare recorded the highest crime rate, at 6,549.2 per 100,000 population, more than twice the national average of 2,649.8 per 100,000 population.

Of the 428,634 cases recorded in the first quarter, 288,279 were crimes against public safety and state security. The second most prevalent category was acts against property only, accounting for 49,220 cases, followed by acts leading to or intending to cause harm to persons, with 42,434 cases.

Table 3 shows the distribution of police-recorded crimes by type of offence, sex, and persons charged. A total of 365,591 persons were charged with criminal offences, with males comprising 88 percent of the total. The overall charge rate was 2,260.1 per 100,000 population, down from 2,421.5 per 100,000 in the fourth quarter of 2025. The charge rate was 4,136.7 per 100,000 male population, compared with 528.2 per 100,000 female population—nearly eight times higher among males than females.

Table 1: Police Recorded Crime by Type of Offence, First Quarter 2026

	Offences reported	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000 population)
1 st Quarter 2025	310,876	2,048.1
2 nd Quarter 2025	321,640	2,119.0
3 rd Quarter 2025	380,727	2,508.3
4 th Quarter 2025	426,946	2,812.7
1st Quarter 2026	428,634	2,649.8
Acts leading to death or intending to cause death	1,094	6.8
Acts leading to harm or intending to cause harm to the person	42,434	262.3
Injurious acts of a sexual nature	3,873	23.9
Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person	2,505	15.5
Acts against property only	49,220	304.3
Acts involving controlled psychoactive substances or other drugs	12,601	77.9
Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption	3,342	20.7
Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State	17,436	107.8
Acts against public safety and state security	288,279	1782.1
Acts against the natural environment	1,084	6.7
Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified	6,766	41.8

Table 2: Police Recorded Crime by Province, First Quarter 2026

	Offences reported												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	Total	
1 st Quarter 2025	1,027	39,696	3,753	2,937	51,599	7,254	2,865	13,343	177,909	976	9,517	310,876	2,048.1
2 nd Quarter 2025	1,038	39,569	3,251	2,930	49,691	7,825	2,790	11,889	192,562	1,300	8,795	321,640	2,119.0
3 rd Quarter 2025	1,074	41,609	3,667	2,700	49,885	9,660	2,970	15,436	242,981	1,422	9,323	380,727	2,508.3
4 th Quarter 2025	1,183	44,830	3,933	2,640	51,464	11,926	3,792	17,390	280,667	1,093	8,028	426,946	2,812.7
1st Quarter 2026	1,094	42,434	3,873	2,505	49,220	12,601	3,342	17,436	288,279	1,084	6,766	428,634	2,649.8
Bulawayo	69	2,081	200	316	2,608	1,105	314	1,354	17,734	16	515	26,312	3,942.8
Manicaland	102	3,036	464	169	4,144	795	189	1,211	11,689	106	896	22,801	1,015.3
Mashonaland Central	108	2,334	274	120	2,590	617	124	1,161	18,583	197	410	26,518	1,768.3
Mashonaland East	80	2,283	472	133	3,291	732	197	967	15,047	83	553	23,838	1,259.8
Mashonaland West	141	3,750	474	296	4,416	1,501	243	1,950	16,332	208	913	30,224	1,477.3
Matabeleland North	61	1,171	196	57	1,383	369	72	824	10,622	32	285	15,072	1,743.0
Matabeleland South	81	1,037	213	169	1,599	687	55	1,442	12,137	186	222	17,828	2,325.0
Midlands	157	4,168	434	416	4,498	1,078	312	1,721	34,089	164	667	47,704	2,460.6
Masvingo	100	1,896	402	196	3,258	1,296	230	3,871	42,421	51	598	54,319	3,104.4
Harare	195	20,678	744	633	21,433	4,421	1,606	2,935	109,625	41	1,707	164,018	6,549.2

Table 3: Police Recorded Crime by Persons Charged, Type of Offence and Sex, First Quarter 2026

	Persons Charged					
	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000 population)	Number	Rate (per 100,000 population)	Number	Rate (per 100,000 population)
1 st Quarter 2025	252,357	1,662.6	220,621	3,026.6	31,736	402.3
2 nd Quarter 2025	262,793	1,731.3	230,640	3,164.1	32,153	407.5
3 rd Quarter 2025	324,276	2,136.4	282,964	3,881.9	41,312	523.6
4 th Quarter 2025	367,557	2,421.5	323,549	4,438.7	44,008	557.8
1st Quarter 2026	365,591	2,260.1	321,160	4,136.7	44,431	528.2
Acts leading to death or intending to cause death	890	5.5	830	10.7	60	0.7
Acts leading to harm or intending to cause harm to the person	29,426	181.9	25,491	328.3	3,935	46.8
Injurious acts of a sexual nature	2,640	16.3	2,596	33.4	44	0.5
Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person	640	4.0	616	7.9	24	0.3
Acts against property only	14,933	92.3	13,327	171.7	1,606	19.1
Acts involving controlled psychoactive substances or other drugs	12,721	78.6	10,660	137.3	2,061	24.5
Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption	1,415	8.7	1,223	15.8	192	2.3
Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State	17,405	107.6	12,919	166.4	4,486	53.3
Acts against public safety and state security	277,956	1,718.3	247,317	3,185.6	30,639	364.2
Acts against the natural environment	1,235	7.6	1,177	15.2	58	0.7
Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified	6,330	39.1	5,004	64.5	1,326	15.8

Table 4: Detailed List of Police Recorded Crime by Type of Offence, First Quarter 2026

Type of Offence	Offences Reported	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000 population)
Acts leading to death or intending to cause death	1,094	6.8
Intentional homicide	306	1.9
Attempted intentional homicide	320	2.0
Non-intentional homicide	444	2.7
Assisting or instigating suicide	0	0.0
Illegal feticide	24	0.1
Other acts leading to death or intending to cause death	0	0.0
Acts causing harm or intending to cause harm to the person	42,434	262.3
Assaults and threats	27,181	168.0
Acts against liberty	115	0.7
Trafficking in persons (TIP)	16	0.1
Coercion	69	0.4
Negligence	1,669	10.3
Dangerous acts	13,192	81.6
Acts intended to induce fear or emotional distress	27	0.2
Defamation or insult	143	0.9
Discrimination	17	0.1
Acts that trespass against the person	5	0.0
Injurious acts of a sexual nature	3,873	23.9
Sexual violence	3,856	23.8
Sexual exploitation	17	0.1
Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person	2,505	15.5
Robbery	2,505	15.5
Acts against property only	49,220	304.3
Burglary	9,091	56.2
Theft	35,109	217.0
Intellectual property offences	123	0.8
Property damage	3,644	22.5
Other acts against property only	1,253	7.7
Acts involving controlled drugs or other psychoactive substances	12,601	77.9
Unlawful acts involving controlled drugs or precursors	3,336	20.6
Unlawful acts involving alcohol, tobacco or other controlled substances	8,975	55.5
Other acts involving controlled drugs or other psychoactive substances	290	1.8

Table 4: (Continued) Detailed List of Police Recorded Crime by Type of Offence, FirstQuarter 2025

Type of Offence	Offences Reported	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000 population)
Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption	3,342	20.7
Fraud	3,241	20.0
Forgery/counterfeiting	45	0.3
Corruption	47	0.3
Acts involving the proceeds of crime	9	0.1
Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State	17,436	107.8
Acts against public order behavioural standards	7,211	44.6
Acts against public order sexual standards	44	0.3
Acts contrary to public revenue or regulatory provisions	3,456	21.4
Acts related to migration	438	2.7
Acts against the justice system	976	6.0
Acts contrary to labour law	2	0.0
Other acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State	5,309	32.8
Acts against public safety and state security	288,279	1782.1
Acts involving weapons, explosives and other destructive materials	609	3.8
Acts against computer systems	163	1.0
Acts against state security	59	0.4
Terrorism	3	0.0
Non-injurious traffic violations	287,445	1777.0
Acts against the natural environment	1,084	6.7
Trade or possession of protected or prohibited species of fauna and flora	126	0.8
Acts that result in the depletion or degradation of natural resources	958	5.9
Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified	6,766	41.8
Acts contrary to youth regulations and acts on minors	9	0.1
Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified	6,757	41.8

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