

“The number of crimes involving a knife or bladed weapon in SA in the last 3 years broken down into date, location and offence type”

The below figures were produced from a Business Objects report for occurrences reported between 01/01/2021 and 30/10/2024 that had “knife”, “Other bladed instrument” or “Axe/Tomahawk” listed in either the *Most Serious weapon* or *Offender Weapons Used* section. The accuracy of the figures is reliant on the submitting member entering the correct description of the weapons. The 2024 figure is comparing to the same period in 2023.

Table 1. Total reported crimes involving an edged weapon

Reported crimes involving a knife or bladed instrument	2021	2022	+/-		2023	+/-		2024 (up to 30/10/2024)	+/- (up to 30/10/2023)	
Total reports	4083	4476	+393	+9.6%	4706	+230	+5.1%	4384	+579	+15.2%

Table 2. Total reports broken down by months

Reported crimes involving a knife or bladed instrument	2021	2022	+/-		2023	+/-		2024 (up to 30/10/2024)	+/- (up to 30/10/2023)	
Jan	340	321	-19	-5.6%	314	-7	-2.2%	472	+158	+50.3%
Feb	293	333	+40	+13.7%	351	+18	+5.4%	455	+104	+29.6%
Mar	351	431	+80	+22.8%	370	-61	-14.2%	452	+82	+22.2%
Apr	278	309	+31	+11.2%	437	+128	+41.4%	407	-30	-6.9%
May	352	356	+4	+1.1%	411	+55	+15.4%	391	-20	-4.9%
Jun	315	400	+85	+27.0%	301	-99	-24.8%	390	+89	+29.6%
Jul	342	355	+13	+3.8%	422	+67	+18.9%	418	-4	-0.9%
Aug	421	353	-68	-16.2%	437	+84	+23.8%	525	+88	+20.1%
Sep	331	351	+20	+6.0%	364	+13	+3.7%	440	+76	+20.9%
Oct	308	401	+93	+30.2%	412	+11	+2.7%	434	+36	+9.0%
Nov	351	363	+12	+3.4%	409	+46	+12.7%	-	-	-
Dec	401	503	+102	+25.4%	478	-25	-5.0%	-	-	-

Table 3. Total reports broken down by offence location

Offence Locations	2021	2022	+/-		2023	+/-		2024 (Up to 30/10/2024)	+/- (up to 30/10/2023)	
Dwelling - private	1731	1866	+135	+7.8%	1875	+9	+0.5%	1786	+250	+16.3%
Street/footpath	1368	1532	+164	+12.0%	1611	+79	+5.2%	1560	+283	+22.2%
Retail n.e.c	189	207	+18	+9.5%	283	+76	+36.7%	278	+38	+15.8%
Car park	154	159	+5	+3.2%	154	-5	-3.1%	113	+57	+60.0%
Open space	138	128	-10	-7.2%	115	-13	-10.2%	152	-7	-5.8%
Service station	89	91	+2	+2.2%	134	+43	+47.3%	77	-40	-34.2%
Other location n.e.c	93	112	+19	+20.4%	77	-35	-31.3%	88	-1	-1.1%
Recreational	65	124	+59	+90.8%	94	-30	-24.2%	60	+30	+51.7%
Dwelling - non-private	58	79	+21	+36.2%	115	+36	+45.6%	87	-9	-13.0%
Educational	79	79	0	0.0%	88	+9	+11.4%	53	-16	-23.2%
Terminal	22	34	+12	+54.5%	54	+20	+58.8%	35	-10	-22.2%
Health	11	12	+1	+9.1%	29	+17	+141.7%	24	+3	+14.3%
Justice	23	3	-20	-87.0%	17	+14	+466.7%	12	-2	-14.3%
Outbuilding/residential land	23	11	-12	-52.2%	3	-8	-72.7%	12	-3	-27.3%
Conveyance in transit	14	10	-4	-28.6%	11	+1	+10.0%	8	+1	+11.1%
Administrative/professional	6	9	+3	+50.0%	11	+2	+22.2%	9	+1	+12.5%
Wholesale	6	10	+4	+66.7%	10	0	0.0%	5	+9	+300.0%
Warehouse/storage	7	4	-3	-42.9%	9	+5	+125.0%	10	-5	-50.0%
Chemistry/pharmacy	3	4	+1	+33.3%	0	-4	-100.0%	5	+5	+166.7%
Agriculture	0	0	0	-	3	+3	-	8	-5	-83.3%
Banking	3	0	-3	-100.0%	4	+4	-	0	0	-
Religious	1	2	+1	+100.0%	3	+1	+50.0%	1	-4	-100.0%
Manufacturing	0	0	0	-	6	+6	-	1	-1	-50.0%

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Table 4. Total reports broken down by offence categories

Crime categories	2021	2022	+/-		2023		2024		+/-	
							(up to 30/10/2024)		(up to 30/10/2023)	
Serious Assault not resulting in injury	849	877	+28	+3.3%	983	+106	+12.1%	897	+104	+13.1%
Regulated weapons/explosives	682	777	+95	+13.9%	801	+24	+3.1%	775	+121	+18.5%
Other property damage and environmental	324	383	+59	+18.2%	379	-4	-1.0%	337	+39	+13.1%
Serious Assault resulting in injury	288	343	+55	+19.1%	301	-42	-12.2%	277	+29	+11.7%
Prohibited weapons/explosives	210	195	-15	-7.1%	204	+9	+4.6%	222	+61	+37.9%
Aggravated robbery	132	170	+38	+28.8%	200	+30	+17.6%	137	-27	-16.5%
Breach of bail	106	155	+49	+46.2%	162	+7	+4.5%	149	+12	+8.8%
Possess/Use Drugs	106	120	+14	+13.2%	141	+21	+17.5%	133	+18	+15.7%
Riot and affray	102	97	-5	-4.9%	103	+6	+6.2%	126	+24	+25.3%
Threatening behaviour	95	98	+3	+3.2%	116	+18	+18.4%	119	+41	+48.2%
Other Justice Procedure offences	112	107	-5	-4.5%	115	+8	+7.5%	93	+4	+4.2%
SCT - Residence	110	96	-14	-12.7%	115	+19	+19.8%	99	+3	+3.3%
Breach of violence and non-violence restraining orders	81	86	+5	+6.2%	104	+18	+20.9%	91	+5	+5.8%
Receive or handle proceeds of crime	75	84	+9	+12.0%	92	+8	+9.5%	102	+34	+50.0%
Other theft	72	84	+12	+16.7%	92	+8	+9.5%	73	+46	+83.6%
Disorderly conduct, nec	76	63	-13	-17.1%	70	+7	+11.1%	101	-4	-5.2%
Common Assault	59	67	+8	+13.6%	88	+21	+31.3%	69	-6	-8.0%
Other Drug offences	69	61	-8	-11.6%	67	+6	+9.8%	71	-17	-23.9%
Theft from shop	53	60	+7	+13.2%	88	+28	+46.7%	54	+20	+39.2%
Other unlawful entry with intent	68	74	+6	+8.8%	53	-21	-28.4%	59	+12	+26.1%
Other Miscellaneous Offences	44	48	+4	+9.1%	55	+7	+14.6%	58	+24	+68.6%
Criminal intent	47	64	+17	+36.2%	43	-21	-32.8%	49	+16	+48.5%
Road Safety - Unlicensed	54	46	-8	-14.8%	47	+1	+2.2%	38	-3	-7.3%
Deal/Traffic/Sell Drugs	24	34	+10	+41.7%	44	+10	+29.4%	36	+2	-5.3%
Theft/Illegal Use of MV	18	32	+14	+77.8%	35	+3	+9.4%	32	7	+28.0%
Road Safety - Misuse	11	26	+15	+136.4%	29	+3	+11.5%	28	+7	+33.3%
Assault police	29	20	-9	-31.0%	26	+6	+30.0%	16	-5	-23.8%
Aggravated sexual assault	22	26	+4	+18.2%	20	-6	-23.1%	17	-2	-10.5%
SCT - Non Residence	20	27	+7	+35.0%	17	-10	-37.0%	17	+1	+6.3%
Road Safety - Other Misc	14	14	0	0.0%	13	-1	-7.1%	14	+3	+27.3%
Offensive conduct	12	13	+1	+8.3%	15	+2	+15.4%	8	-5	-38.5%
Abduction, harassment and other offences	17	8	-9	-52.9%	9	+1	+12.5%	11	+2	+22.2%
Theft from motor vehicle	13	12	-1	-7.7%	6	-6	-50.0%	6	-1	-10.0%
Dangerous or negligent acts	10	12	+2	+20.0%	8	-4	-33.3%	5	0	0.0%
Trespass	6	7	+1	+16.7%	12	+5	+71.4%	9	-1	-16.7%
Drug Driving	5	15	+10	+200.0%	9	-6	-40.0%	5	-1	-16.7%
Other homicide and related offences	11	7	-4	-36.4%	8	+1	+14.3%	5	+4	+133.3%
Drink Driving	3	12	+9	+300.0%	5	-7	-58.3%	5	0	0.0%
Graffiti	5	11	+6	+120.0%	2	-9	-81.8%	3	+1	+25.0%
Property damage by fire or explosion	6	8	+2	+33.3%	1	-7	-87.5%	6	+4	+200.0%
Non-aggravated robbery	3	4	+1	+33.3%	5	+1	+25.0%	7	+5	+500.0%
Other acts intended to cause injury	8	7	-1	-12.5%	2	-5	-71.4%	1	-1	-25.0%
Other Public Order offences	7	3	-4	-57.1%	4	+1	+33.3%	3	0	0.0%
Produce/Manufacture Drugs	5	4	-1	-20.0%	2	-2	-50.0%	6	+3	+300.0%
Obtain benefit by deception	3	6	+3	+100.0%	4	-2	-33.3%	3	0	0.0%
Murder	4	3	-1	-25.0%	3	0	0.0%	4	+2	+200.0%
Non-aggravated sexual assault	4	2	-2	-50.0%	3	+1	+50.0%	2	-3	-100.0%
Other fraud, deception and related offences	2	4	+2	+100.0%	0	-4	-100.0%	1	0	0.0%
Road Safety - Unregistered Uninsured	3	2	-1	-33.3%	0	-2	-100.0%	2	+2	-
Blackmail and extortion	3	1	-2	-66.7%	2	+1	+100.0%	1	+2	-
Road Safety - Speeding	1	1	0	0.0%	3	+2	+200.0%	0	0	0.0%

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Non-assaultive sexual offences	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	2	+1	-
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Table 5. Total reports broken down by Districts / Local Service Areas.

Police Districts / Local Service Areas	2021	2022	2022		2023	2023		2024		
			+/-	+/-		+/-	+/-	(up to 30/10/2024)	(up to 30/10/2023)	
WESTERN DISTRICT	806	863	+57	+7.1%	1025	+162	+18.8%	832	+6	+0.7%
NORTHERN DISTRICT	794	881	+87	+11.0%	926	+45	+5.1%	905	+162	+21.8%
EASTERN DISTRICT	781	925	+144	+18.4%	881	-44	-4.8%	849	+98	+13.0%
SOUTHERN DISTRICT	623	689	+66	+10.6%	619	-70	-10.2%	552	+80	+16.9%
FAR NORTH LSA	181	242	+61	+33.7%	282	+40	+16.5%	319	+88	+38.1%
EYRE WESTERN LSA	215	190	-25	-11.6%	292	+102	+53.7%	266	+33	+14.2%
MURRAY MALLEE LSA	268	232	-36	-13.4%	202	-30	-12.9%	189	+26	+16.0%
YORKE MID NORTH LSA	148	145	-3	-2.0%	191	+46	+31.7%	151	-12	-7.4%
LIMESTONE COAST LSA	93	99	+6	+6.5%	123	+24	+24.2%	142	+43	+43.4%
HILLS FLEURIEU LSA	92	133	+41	+44.6%	88	-45	-33.8%	91	+29	+46.8%
BAROSSA LSA	82	77	-5	-6.1%	77	0	0.0%	88	+26	+41.9%

Table 6. Top 10 Metro Operations Service (MOS) Suburbs

MOS Suburbs	2021	2022	2024		Total
			2023	(up to 30/10/2024)	
ADELAIDE	354	487	416	434	1691
SALISBURY	61	64	85	54	264
MORPHETT VALE	60	48	72	40	220
ELIZABETH	38	48	59	75	220
PARAFIELD GARDENS	37	52	62	61	212
CHRISTIE DOWNS	58	52	72	22	204
KILBURN	36	41	67	56	200
MODBURY	61	52	45	32	190
OAKLANDS PARK	52	49	38	41	180
PORT ADELAIDE	57	30	60	29	176

Table 7. Top 10 State Operations Service (SOS) Suburbs

SOS Suburbs	2021	2022	2024		Total
			2023	(up to 30/10/2024)	
PORT AUGUSTA	72	84	126	127	409
MURRAY BRIDGE	114	80	82	63	339
MOUNT GAMBIER	71	60	88	96	315
WHYALLA STUART	62	67	80	64	273
PORT LINCOLN	59	44	73	71	247
WHYALLA NORRIE	31	31	57	56	175
COOBER PEDY	16	29	58	48	151
PORT AUGUSTA WEST	36	36	27	39	138
MOUNT BARKER	32	28	21	35	116
BERRI	72	84	126	127	100