

Rape Cases Involving Police Officers

The Police & the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID): Fact Sheet
2025/26

THE NUMBERS

- 116 rape cases involving police officers were reported to IPID in 2025/26, up from 95 the year before. 72 involved officers on duty and 44 off duty.
- 6 rapes took place in police custody, up from 2. All six were reportedly committed by inmates or civilians, not police officers.
- 66 of these cases were referred to the National Prosecuting Authority.
- The report records 9 criminal convictions and 19 departmental convictions for rape by a police officer.
- Across all crime types IPID sent SAPS 827 disciplinary recommendations. 138 were still awaiting SAPS feedback and 88 were recorded as "No Steps".

WHAT THE LAW REQUIRES

SAPS must start disciplinary proceedings within 30 days of an IPID recommendation, and failing to do so is an offence. IPID must report to Parliament twice a year.

WHAT IS MISSING

The report counts cases at each stage but does not follow a case from complaint to outcome. NPA decisions are given for all crime types together, so the result for the 66 rape referrals cannot be read. The report does not define "No Steps".

WHAT WE ARE ASKING FOR

Rape-specific outcome tables, by year of complaint, in IPID's reports to Parliament

Sources: IPID Annual Report 2025/26, Tables 1(b), 9(a), 10, 22(e), 23, 27(a) and 28 · IPID Act 1 of 2011 as amended, ss 9(n), 30 and 33