



Malawi Police Service

Annual Report

2023



Malawi Police Service
National Police Headquarters
Private Bag 305
Capital City
Lilongwe 3.

February 2024



Tel: (+265) 01797824, Fax: 01797824, E-mail: inspectorgeneral@police.gov.mw

MALAWI POLICE SERVICE MANDATE, VISION, MISSION



MANDATE

The Malawi Police Service shall be an independent organ of the executive which shall be there to provide for the protection of public safety and the rights of persons in Malawi according to the prescriptions of the Malawi Constitution and any other law.



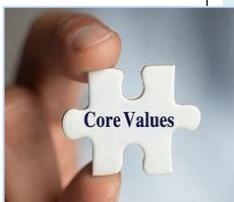
VISION

A professional police service for a safe and secure Malawi.



MISSION

To provide quality policing services in partnership with the community and stakeholders.



VALUES

Independence, Professionalism, Responsiveness, Integrity.

Foreword



It is with great pleasure and a sense of duty that I present to you the Malawi Police Service (MPS) 2023 Annual Report at the time when we are in the fourth year of the 2019 to 2024 Strategic Development Plan. This Report reflects the efforts, challenges, successes, and future plans of the MPS commitment to ensuring public safety and upholding the rule of law.

The main purpose of this report is therefore to present a picture of how we have fared on our core mandate as well as other supporting activities. In the year 2023, we witnessed an increase in recorded crime, with a total of 45,490 cases compared to 42,793 cases in 2022, representing an increase of 6%. While this may pose a challenge and instill a sense of fear of crime in people, it is also crucial to recognize the proactive measures taken by the Malawi Police Service. For instance, this year alone, the organization have identified and apprehended about 984 notorious criminals involved in serious offenses. These efforts not only highlight the dedication of our officers but also demonstrate our commitment to bringing perpetrators to justice and ensuring the safety of the public.

The Malawi Police Service have also recovered stolen items, including motor vehicles, motorcycles, bags of cement, firearms, and ammunition, showcases the effectiveness of our law enforcement strategies. Additionally, we have successfully prosecuted 24,548 cases out of the total 37,794 cases that were receive and handled by the Prosecution; this is commendable. Notwithstanding, the Service also managed to secure conviction rate of 77% underscoring our commitment to justice, while acquittals, withdrawals, and discharges indicate a fair and transparent legal process.

In a related development, Road Traffic Accidents decreased by 10% with 4,977 accidents recorded in 2023 compared to 5,553 accidents occurred in 2022. Out of 4,977 accidents, 389 were fatal, 271 serious, 2,131 minor, and 1,727 damages. From the statistical figures it shows that Road Traffic Accidents remain a major concern in Malawi. MPS will therefore continue with its efforts to enhance road safety in order to protect the lives of people in Malawi.

In the period under review, our focus has been on improving the quality of services we offer to the public in terms of enhanced law and order, engagement of communities through community policing programmes, capacity building, and developing the initial phase of digitalizing our processes for purposes of easing detection, reporting, tracking, supervision and analysis of crime trends. The management of the Malawi Police Service has also focused on improving the welfare of personnel especially in terms of accommodation by rehabilitating the old infrastructures and constructing new ones to enhance performance of Police Officers.

I would like to reiterate here that while the challenges persist, the Malawi Police Service remains resolute in its commitment to safeguarding the citizens of Malawi. The successes outlined in this report are a testament to the dedication, professionalism, and resilience of our officers. Looking ahead to 2024, the MPS is poised to build upon these achievements, address challenges, and continue to evolve in its mission which is to provide quality policing services in partnership with the communities and stakeholders.



Mrs. Merlyne N. Yolamu, PPM
Inspector General of Malawi Police



Roll of Honour

S/N	RANK	NAME	S/N	RANK	NAME
01	ACP	Davis Freeman Kabambe	38	S/Insp	Ireen Chipala
02	ACP	Mwale	39	S/Insp	Getrude Twabi
03	ACP	Loveness Idi	40	S/Insp.	Charity Luhanga
04	Supt	James Chitonde	41	S/Insp	Evelyn Dafter
05	Supt.	Len Banda Nee Jenya	42	S/Insp.	Martha Chikwiri
06	Supt	Ellen Lupasa	43	B4185 Sgt	Mussa Kuseka
07	A/Supt	Bridget Mkandawire	44	B5074 Sgt	Chinsinsi Mtalika
08	Insp	Alick Moyo	45	B5797 Sgt	Johns Kampezeni
09	S/Insp	Salifu Jussa	46	B5893 Sgt	Sawali
10	S/Insp	Peter Chirwa	47	B4227 Sgt	Paul Chidyera
11	S/Insp	David Chiutsa	48	B6295 Sgt	Lenford Ng'omba
12	S/Insp	Jonathan Mddidi	49	B6524 Sgt	Kelvin Sandram
13	S/Insp	Rodrick Tulisha	50	B5445 Sgt	Petros Chunga
14	S/Insp	Wickford Jordan	51	B2273 Sgt	Moses Msumba
15	S/Insp	Peter Moyo	52	B3879 Sgt	James Soko
16	S/Insp	Dickson Bwanaiso	53	B3798 Sgt	Harison Fisha
17	S/Insp	Amos Tione	54	B2854 Sgt	Benjamin Tito
18	S/Insp	Patrick Tsoka	55	B0897 Sgt	Anthony Sangala
19	S/Insp	George Chidothi	56	B3753 Sgt.	Dereck Njirazafa
20	S/Insp	Alberto Karonga	57	B5648 Sgt	Josephy Malumbe
21	S/Insp	Emanuel Aisa	58	926 Sgt	Hana Sinduwa Nee Kabwazi
22	S/Insp	Maclenard Mpasaleya	59	3906 Sgt	Edson Dyison
23	S/Insp	Andrew Lufeyo	60	4405 Sgt	Pemphero Makutumwimaniwa
24	S/Insp	Moses Thipa	61	A9015 Const	Wilson
25	S/Insp	Mark Chimombo	62	B6951 Const	Isaac Tito
26	S/Insp	Boniface Kumundayayi	63	B7146 Const.	Davie Maseya
27	S/Insp.	Steven Chawinga	64	B7252 Const.	Charles Namahara
28	S/Insp	Jackson Jacob Banda	65	B7634 Const	Timothy Nkhosa
29	S/Insp	Michael Tweya	66	18/604 R/C	Darlington Nahache
30	S/Insp	Martius Tsoka	67	33/604 R/C	Bridget Chimkoka
31	S/Insp.	Bernad Pathungo	68	43/616 R/C	Felix Ephraim
32	S/Insp	Silver Mwalwanda	69	-	Jeofrey Phiri
33	S/Insp	Steven Chawinga	70	-	Micheal J. Bwanali

34	S/Insp	Cosmas Beseni	71	-	Limbani Chauza
35	S/Insp	Gift Lenox	72	-	Malinja
36	S/Insp	C. Mtenje	73	-	Luwiza Matengu
37	S/Insp	Nkhata	-	-	-

The Inspector General of Police and the entire Malawi Police Service acknowledge the selfless service the officers rendered to the Malawi Nation and offer sincere condolences to their families.

May their Souls rest in eternal Peace!



Executive Summary

The Malawi Police Service (MPS) presents its Annual Report for the year 2023, highlighting key achievements, challenges, and strategic initiatives in its mission to ensure public safety, uphold justice, and combat crime.

In 2023, a total of **45,490** cases were recorded as compared to **42,793** cases recorded in 2022 representing an increase of **6%**. The recorded crime in 2023, represent a crime rate of 217 cases per 100,000 population. The organization successfully identified and apprehended 984 criminals involved in serious offenses, showcasing its commitment to maintaining public safety and bringing perpetrators to justice. The recovery of stolen items, including motor vehicles, motorcycles, and firearms, further underscores the MPS's dedication to combating crime. The MPS handled 37,794 cases in 2023, with 24,548 cases taken to court and completed. Convictions amounted to 18,806 cases, while 1,362 cases resulted in acquittals. The report also outlines the withdrawal and discharge of certain cases, providing a comprehensive overview of the judicial outcomes achieved during the year.

On Road Traffic Accidents, a total of 4,977 road accidents occurred in 2023, resulting in 1,001 fatalities. While this marks a 6% decrease from 2022, the report details the demographics of road users affected, emphasizing the need for continued efforts to enhance road safety.

Regarding Community Policing, the MPS actively engaged in community policing activities, focusing on crime prevention, child protection, victim support, and youth outreach. Despite facing challenges, including financial constraints, the MPS remains committed to fostering positive relationships with communities and addressing specific issues such as cases involving persons with albinism.

Acknowledging concerns surrounding public events, the MPS took a strategic approach through the Mobile Police Service to enhance its capabilities in public order management. Activities aimed at addressing challenges, improving command and control, and refining responses to public demonstrations were implemented to ensure a professional and effective approach.

Under Human Resource Management and Development, the MPS is currently operating with a manpower ratio of 1: 1,262 against the UN recommended ratio of 1:500, the MPS conducted a successful recruitment exercise in 2023. Additionally, training programs were implemented to enhance the skills of officers and align them with modern policing methods.

To enhance International Relations and recognizing the global nature of organized crime, the MPS actively participates in international and regional policing organizations, including International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and African Union Police Mechanism (AFRIPOL). The MPS also enhance collaboration with sister organizations in neighboring countries underscoring the MPS's commitment to fighting transnational crime through cooperative efforts. The report also highlights the presence of MPS officers at international levels, reflecting the professionalism and competence of the force.

Table of Contents

Foreword.....	i
Executive Summary	v
Introduction.....	1
PART 1: CRIME MANAGEMENT.....	2
1.0 Crime Overview	2
1.1 Crime Rate in Malawi (2021 – 2023).....	3
1.2 Crime according to Policing Regions and Districts.	4
1.3 District Crime Rate.....	5
1.4 Serious Crimes.....	7
1.4.1 Murder.....	8
1.4.2 Robberies	9
1.4.3 Breakings	10
1.4.4 Sexual Offences	11
1.4.4.1 Rape	12
1.4.4.2 Defilement.....	12
1.4.5 Theft of Motor Vehicle	13
1.4.6 Theft of Motorcycles.....	14
1.4.7 Theft of Cattle	15
1.4.8 Theft of Bicycle.....	16
1.4.9 General Theft.....	17
1.5 Criminal Cases recorded by Stations	18
1.6 Crime Statistics in 2023 per month.....	20
1.7 Major Observations and Recommendations on Crime Management.....	21
1.8 Intervention by MPS to improve Crime Management System.....	24
1.9 Detection and Arrests.....	24
1.10 Recoveries.....	25
PART 2: PROSECUTION MANAGEMENT.....	26

2.0 Overview of Prosecution.....	26
2.1 Key achievements and recommendations under Prosecution.....	26
PART 3: TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT.....	27
3.0 Road Traffic Accidents overview.....	27
3.1 Road Traffic Accidents by Type.....	28
3.1.1 Fatal Road Accidents.....	29
3.1.2 Serious Road Accidents.....	29
3.1.3 Minor Road Accidents.....	29
3.1.4 Damages Only Road Accidents.....	30
3.1.5 Accidents Involving Animals.....	30
3.2 Observations and recommendations.....	40
PART 4: COMMUNITY POLICING.....	41
4.0 Overview of Community Policing.....	41
PART 5: PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT.....	46
5.0 Overview of Public Order Management.....	46
5.1 Key Areas of improving Public Order Management Approaches.....	46
5.2 2024 Plans under Public Order Management.....	46
PART 6: HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT.....	48
6.0 Overview of Human Resources Management and Development.....	48
6.1 Attrition.....	51
6.2 Human Resource Development (Training and Development).....	51
6.3 Discipline.....	52
6.4 HRM General Challenge and Recommendation.....	53
PART 7: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.....	54
7.0 Overview of MPS International Relations.....	54
8.0 Conclusion.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

List of Figures

Figure 1: Recorded crime from 2021 to 2023	2
Figure 2: Crime Rate in Malawi - 2021 to 2023	3
Figure 3: Crime rates at Regional Level	5
Figure 4: Category of Crime Cases Recorded in 2023	7
Figure 5: Recorded Murder cases from 2021 to 2023	9
Figure 6: Robberies recorded from 2021 to 2023	10
Figure 7: Breaking cases recorded from 2021 to 2023	11
Figure 8: Rape cases recorded from 2021 to 2023	12
Figure 9: Recorded defilement cases from 2021 to 2023	13
Figure 10: Recorded Theft of Motor Vehicle cases from 2021 to 2023	14
Figure 11: Recorded Theft of Motor Cycle cases from 2021 to 2023	15
Figure 12: Recorded Theft of Cattle cases from 2021 to 2023	16
Figure 13: Recorded Theft of Bicycle cases from 2021 to 2023	17
Figure 14: Recorded General Theft cases from 2021 to 2023	18
Figure 15: Trend of Road Traffic Accidents for three years	27
Figure 16: Road Traffic Accidents According to Type	29
Figure 17: Accidents and Victims comparison of Annual Reports between 2023 and 2022	30
Figure 18: Road Accidents contribution by Region	31
Figure 19: Victims by Gender for 2023 and 2022	33
Figure 20: Road Traffic Accidents Victims by Gender	34
Figure 21: People killed by Age Group between 2023 and 2022	35
Figure 22: Category of road users killed.....	36
Figure 23: Type of vehicles involved in Road Traffic Accidents.....	37
Figure 24: Occurrence of Road Traffic Accidents by week-end days.....	39
Figure 25: Public Order Management Officers	47
Figure 26: Composition of Police Officers by Gender	49
Figure 27: Composition of Senior Officers by Gender.....	50
Figure 28: Composition of Junior Officers by Gender.....	50

List of Tables

Table 1: Regional Crime rate for three years	4
Table 2: Crime and Crime rate registered at district level	6
Table 3: Number of cases with crime rates over a three years period	8
Table 4: Number of Criminal Cases Recorded by Stations in 2023	20
Table 5: Crime Registered in 2023 on month to month basis.....	21
Table 6: Recovered items.....	25
Table 7: road traffic accidents overview of three years of 2021, 2022 and 2023	27
Table 8: 2023 and 2022 distribution and comparison of Accidents according to Regions	31
Table 9: Road Accidents Statistics by Station	32
Table 10: 2023 and 2022 Victims by Gender	33
Table 11: Victims by age group.....	34
Table 12: Victims by road user category	35
Table 13: Vehicles involved in Road Traffic Accidents.....	37
Table 14: Driver behavior.....	38
Table 15: Road Traffic Accidents according to weekend days	39
Table 16: Crime Prevention and Partnership Activities	41
Table 17: Community Policing Structures 2023.....	42
Table 18: Cases involving Persons With Albinism	42
Table 19: Status of Rural Police Units.....	43
Table 20: Affordable Input Program Activities	43
Table 21: Child in Conflict with the Law	43
Table 22: Cases handled by Victim Support Unit	44
Table 23: Establishment of the Malawi Police Service as of December 2023	48
Table 24: Attrition 2022 and 2023.....	51
Table 25: Disciplinary Charges handled in 2023.....	52
Table 26: Outcomes of the Disciplinary Charges.....	52

Introduction

The Malawi Police Service (MPS) is an independent organ of the executive mandated to provide for the protection of public safety and the rights of persons in Malawi according to the prescriptions of the Malawi Constitution and any other law. MPS produces periodic crime and traffic accidents reports as a way of measuring its performance and in order to be accountable to the peoples of Malawi it serve.

The annual report has been divided into eight distinct parts. Part one discusses crime management. Part two presents prosecution cases and how they were handled. Part three explains road traffic management while part four presents community policing. Part five outlines public order management and part six presents human resources management and development in terms of current workforce and capacity building. Finally, part seven presents international relations of MPS with other organizations.

PART 1: CRIME MANAGEMENT

1.0 Crime Overview

In 2023, a total of **45,490** cases were recorded as compared to **42,793** cases recorded in 2022 representing an increase of **6%**. In 2022, recorded crime decreased from a total of **44,281** cases recorded in 2021 to a total of **42,793** recorded in 2022 representing a decrease of **3%**. Figure 1 shows recorded crime cases over a Three years' period.

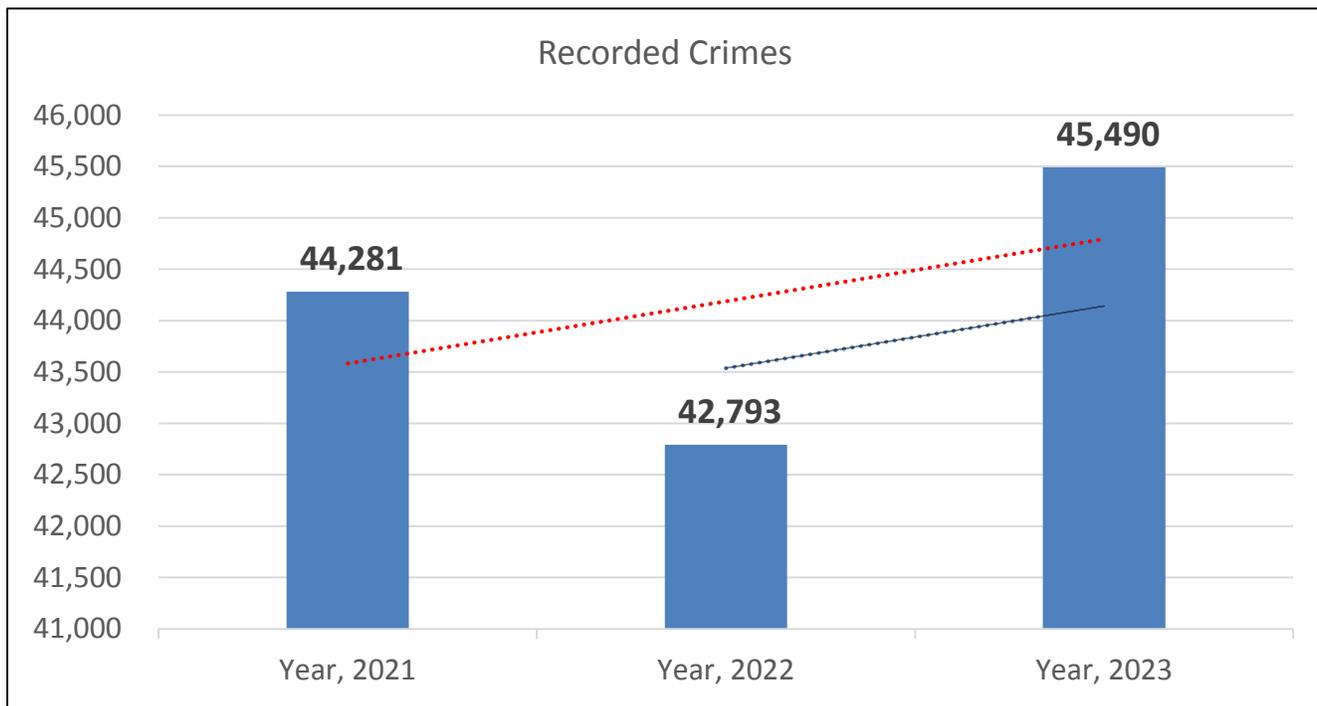


Figure 1: Recorded crime from 2021 to 2023

The average of recorded crime over the three years' period was **44,188** indicating that crime recorded in 2023 was above the average as can be seen on average trend line on Figure 2.

1.1 Crime Rate in Malawi (2021 – 2023)

On a positive note, the increase in number of criminal cases recorded in 2023 did not affect crime rate (number of criminal incidents per 100,000 population)¹ which continued a downward trend as depicted on Figure 2.

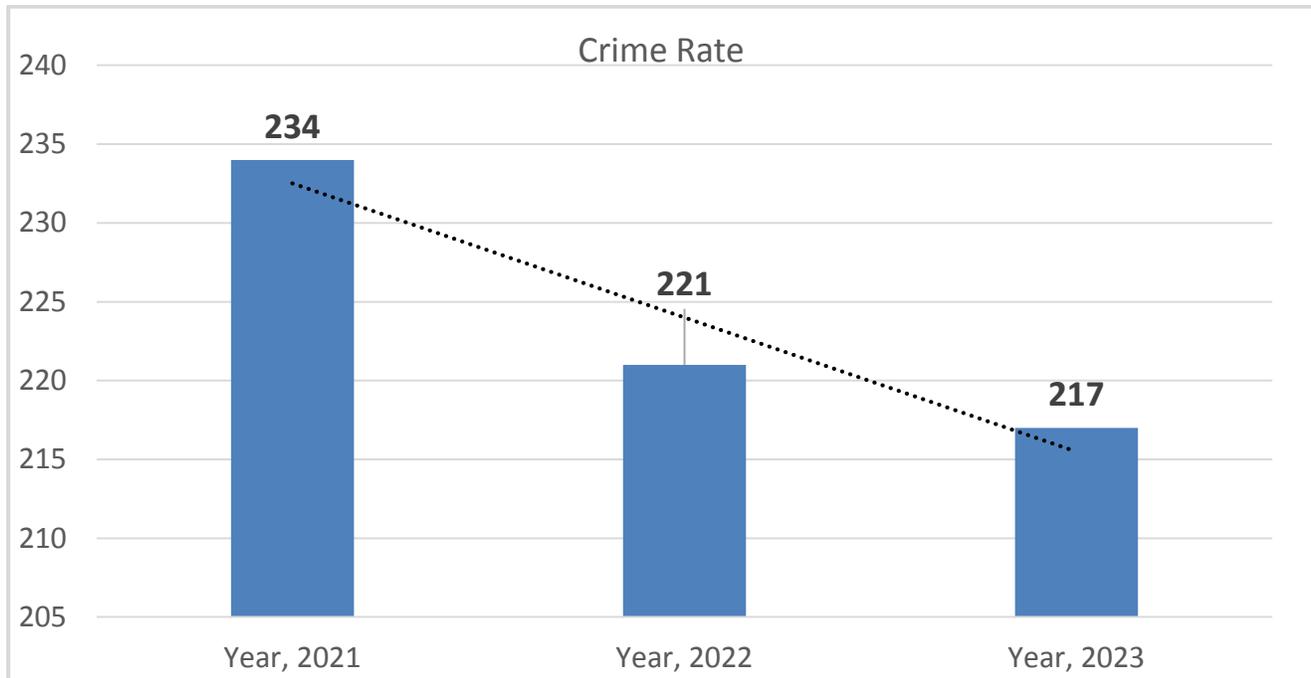


Figure 2: Crime Rate in Malawi - 2021 to 2023

A total of 44,490 cases recorded in 2023 represents a crime rate of 217 while a total of 42,793 cases recorded in 2022 represents a crime rate of 221 and a total of 44,281 cases recorded in 2021 represents a crime rate of 234. Crime occurrence in an area or a country including Malawi is not uniform. As such each policing region and/or district has its own unique pattern of crime trend. The next section is therefore presenting crimes at regional and district levels.

¹ Crime rate is generally expressed as the number of crimes per 100,000 residents in the population. The population used was collected from the Malawi National Statistics Office population Census reports (2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census).

1.2 Crime according to Policing Regions and Districts.

Crime rate of a district is calculated by collecting crime data from all Police formations under one district in relation to population projections of such a district, as provided by the National Statistics Office (NSO) per 100,000 population. Therefore, to facilitate calculation of crime rate of certain districts where NSO does not provide the population for specific Stations, such as Kawale, Lingadzi, Kasiya, Kanengo and Lumbadzi Police Stations, these have their crime statistics incorporated into Lilongwe Police Station. Similarly, crime statistics from Limbe, Ndirande, Chileka and Soche have also been incorporated into Blantyre Police Station. Mzuzu, Jenda and Kafukule Police Stations into Mzimba Police Station, Luchenza and Masambanjati into Thyolo Police, Monkey-Bay and Makanjira into Mangochi Police Station, Liwonde into Machinga Police Station, Nkhunga into Nkhotakota Police Station and Mponela into Dowa Police Station.

Table 1 shows crime rate and average crime rate for three years at Regional level.

S/N	Description	Crime Rate 2021	Crime Rate 2022	Crime Rate 2023	Average Crime Rate 2021-2023
1	South West	405	338	344	363
2	Northern	249	297	211	252
3	Central West	258	239	240	246
4	South East	204	206	242	217
5	Eastern	187	184	184	185
6	Central East	177	126	122	142

Table 1: Regional Crime rate for three years

For the past three years, South West Region was the highest with average crime rate of 363 followed by Northern Region at 252, Central West Region at 246, South East Region at 217, Eastern Region at 185 and finally Central East Region at 142.

The high crime rates for South West and Northern regions can be attributed to a number of factors including social and economic issues such as poverty, unemployment, lack of education opportunities, distance to Police facilities, cultural beliefs and income inequality all of which contribute to desperation and criminal behavior. Lack of

community investment and development is also another factor as investing in infrastructure, community programs, and social services as a deterrent measure to crime occurrence is scarce in these regions.

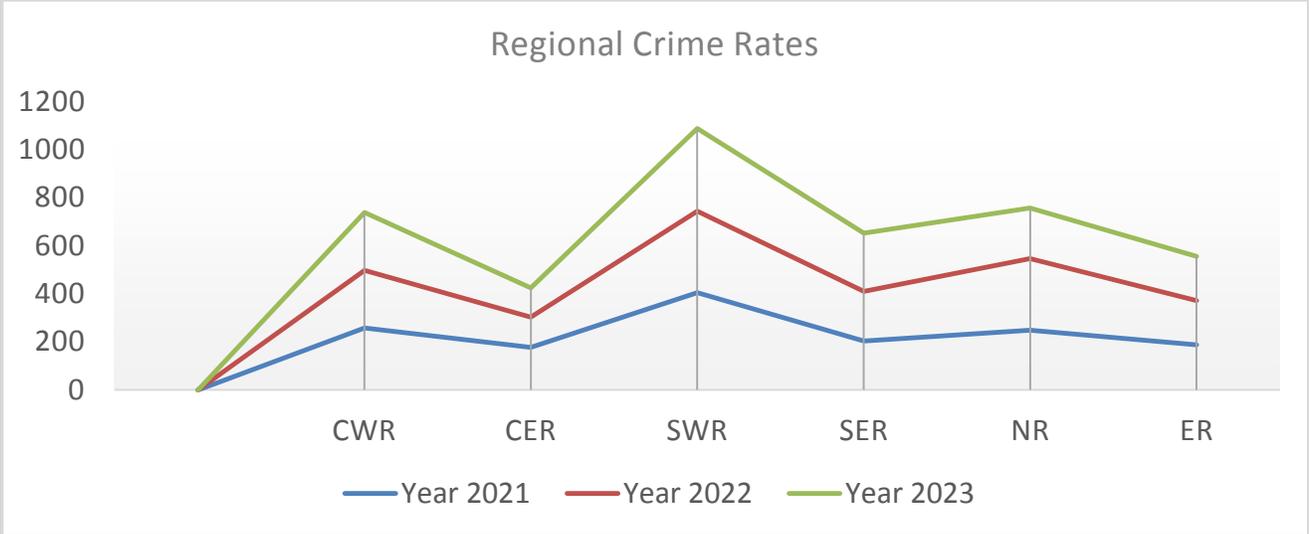


Figure 3: Crime rates at Regional Level

1.3 District Crime Rate

At district levels in 2023, MPS recorded the highest crime rate in Blantyre at 356 and the lowest was Kasungu at 92. In 2022 the highest was Mzimba at 515 while the lowest was Kasungu at 99. **Table 2** shows recorded crime and crime rate for Stations according to their regions for the past three years.

S/N	Region	Recorded Crime Year 2021	Crime Rate per 100,000 people, Year 2021	Recorded Crime Year 2022	Crime Rate per 100,000 people, Year 2022	Recorded Crime Year 2023	Crime Rate per 100,000 people, Year 2023
	CWR	13,167	258	13,285	239	13,751	240
1	Lilongwe	9,614	338	9,829	303	10,400	309
3	Ntcheu	1,399	195	1,162	169	1,262	179
2	Mchinji	958	149	1,146	152	986	126
4	Dedza	1,196	135	1,148	133	1,103	124
	CER	5,368	177	4,329	126	4,361	122
7	Nkhotakota	1,120	267	917	194	921	188
9	Dowa	1,539	184	1,157	114	1,346	128
8	Ntchisi	567	164	438	122	456	122
6	Salima	974	187	751	146	609	115
5	Kasungu	1,168	129	1,066	99	1,029	92
	SWR	6,570	405	6,577	338	6,914	344
11	Mwanza	374	260	409	355	432	370
10	Blantyre	5,809	437	5,776	356	5,967	356
12	Neno	387	263	392	189	515	239
	SER	6,631	204	6,504	206	7,826	242
14	Chikwawa	1,881	312	1,882	286	2,304	340
13	Thyolo	1,545	203	1,442	197	2,058	275
16	Nsanje	651	206	803	238	888	257
15	Mulanje	1,390	190	1,281	203	1,457	228
17	Chiradzulu	675	179	598	171	533	150
18	Phalombe	489	105	498	110	586	126
	NR	6,054	249	5,606	297	5,946	211
24	Likoma	82	533	40	379	52	492
21	Rumphi	534	219	499	192	599	234
19	Mzimba	3,384	274	3,110	515	3,376	224
23	Chitipa	424	171	458	176	523	196
20	Karonga	798	205	805	192	832	193
22	Nkhatabay	832	278	694	206	564	163
	ER	6,491	187	6,492	184	6,692	184
25	Zomba	2,595	285	2,803	292	3,208	326
27	Machinga	1,159	142	1,246	164	1,138	145
26	Mangochi	2,179	172	1,852	142	1,716	127
28	Balaka	558	117	591	119	630	122
	Grand Total	44,281	234	42,793	219	45,490	217

Table 2: Crime and Crime rate registered at district level

1.4 Serious Crimes

Various criminal activities exert diverse effects on individuals' lives. Crimes can inflict physical, psychological, or emotional harm on victims and communities. Crimes that carry a heightened psychological and physical impact, such as murder, sexual offenses, robberies, and breakings, are classified as the most severe.

In the year 2023, incidents involving Robberies, Rape, Defilement, Theft of Motor Vehicles, Theft of Motorcycles, and Theft of Bicycles witnessed a decline. However, the overall crime rate experienced a 6% increase, primarily attributed to the rise were General Theft, Murders, Breakings and Theft of Cattle, cases as shown in the Figure 4.

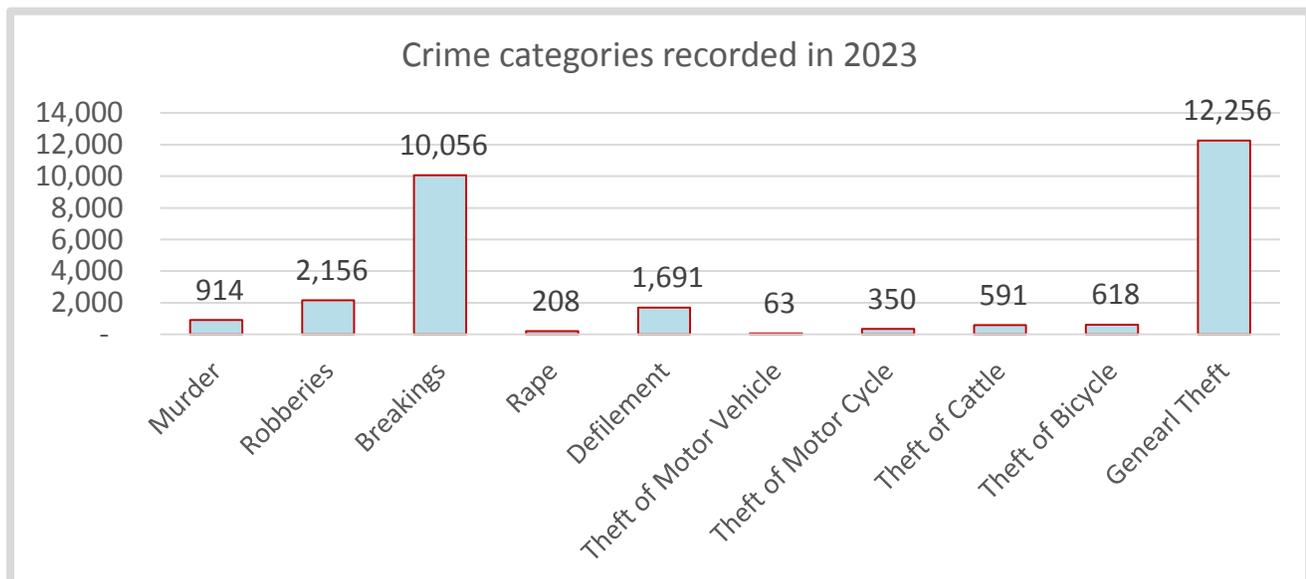


Figure 4: Category of Crime Cases Recorded in 2023

General Theft was the most prevalent crime in 2023, registering a total of **12,256** cases representing 26.9% of total reported cases followed by Breakings with **10,056** cases representing 22.1%. Robberies **2,156** cases representing 4.7% while Defilement **1,691** cases were recorded representing 3.7% and Murder with **914** cases recorded representing 2.0%. The least reported cases were Rape and Theft of Motor Vehicles registering **208** cases representing 0.5% and **63** cases representing 0.1% respectively.

Offence	2021		2022		2023	
	Number of Cases	Crime Rate	Number of Cases	Crime Rate	Number of Cases	Crime Rate
Murder	758	4	794	4	914	4
Robberies	2,212	12	2,074	11	2,156	10
Breakings	9,363	50	9,000	47	10,056	48
Rape	247	1	223	1	208	1
Defilement	2,387	13	1,836	9	1,691	8
Theft of M/Vehicle	1 03	1	81	<1	63	<1
Theft of M/Cycle	312	2	375	2	350	2
Theft of Cattle	527	3	555	3	591	3
Theft of Bicycle	740	4	696	4	618	3
General Theft	9,282	49	10,213	53	12,256	58
Other Cases	18,350	97	16,946	88	16,587	79
Total	44,281	234	42,793	221	45,490	217

Table 3: Number of cases with crime rates over a three years period

1.4.1 Murder

Over the past three years, there has been a noticeable rise in murder cases. In 2023, MPS recorded 914 cases of murder compared to 794 cases recorded in 2022 representing an increase of 15%. Similarly, cases of murder increased 5% with 758 cases recorded in 2021. This upsurge is attributed to the prevalence of mob justice cases throughout the review period, ongoing motorcycle-related robberies, marital disputes and conflict over land resources and collapse of social fabric within communities. **Figure 5** shows recorded murder cases over a three years' period.

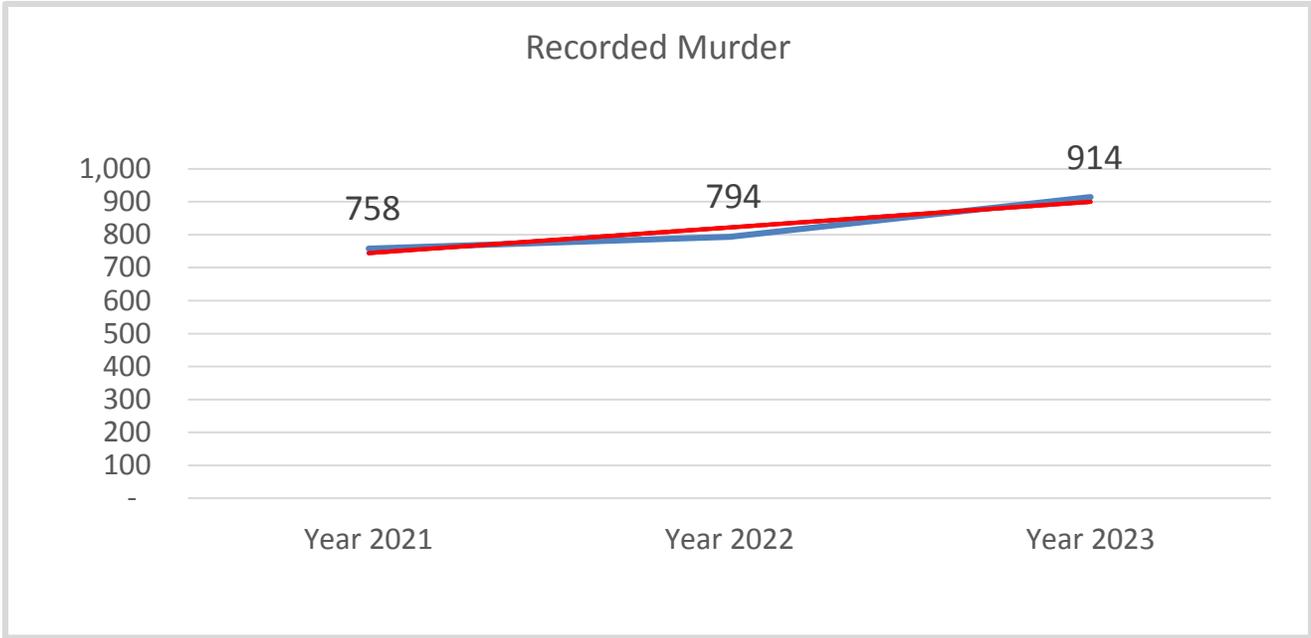


Figure 5: Recorded Murder cases from 2021 to 2023

1.4.2 Robberies

The trend in Robbery incidents over the past three years has exhibited a fluctuating pattern. In 2023, a total of 2,156 cases were recorded as compared to 2,074 cases recorded in the year 2022, representing an increase of 4%. Subsequently in 2021, a total of 2,212 cases were recorded compared to the previous year representing a decrease of 6%.

Despite the rise in Robberies in 2023, it is noteworthy that the overall numbers did not surpass those reported in 2021. This suggests that the overall trend remained on a downward trajectory. The credit for this continued decline is attributed to the strategic deployment of intelligence-led foot and vehicle patrols in both rural and urban areas by MPS. The increased engagement of Community Policing neighborhood watch committees and other crime prevention measures by communities. **Figure 6** shows recorded robbery cases and trend.

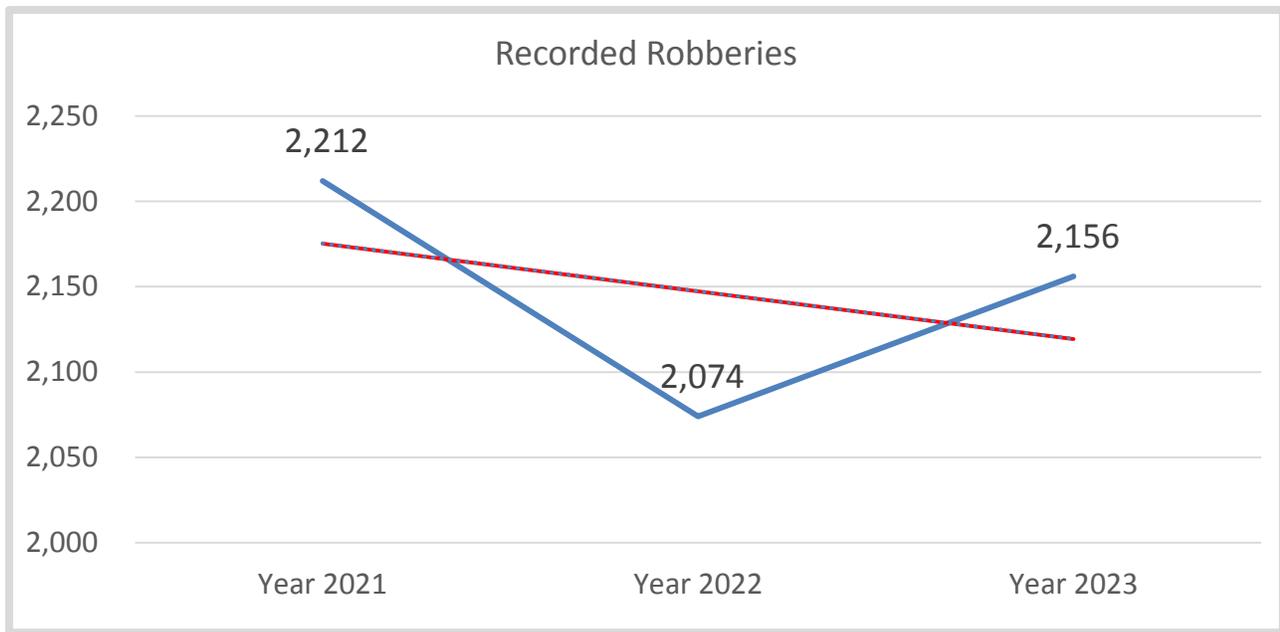


Figure 6: Robberies recorded from 2021 to 2023

Situation reports revealed that urban Robberies predominantly involved youth and street-connected children in cities. Furthermore, a correlation was observed between the lack of surveillance and decreased detection rates as many Robberies occur in unmanned secluded areas, contributing to an increased attractiveness for criminal activities.

To address this, the MPS has taken proactive measures to enhance surveillance. This includes augmenting the number of officers patrolling the streets and strategically installing Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) systems in crime-prone areas.

1.4.3 Breakings

In 2023, MPS experienced a notable increase in Breaking cases from 9,000 cases recorded in 2022 to 10,056 cases in 2023 representing an increase of 12%. However, a contrasting trend was observed in 2022 as Breaking cases dropped from 9,363 cases recorded in 2021 representing a decrease of 4%.

The majority of Breaking cases were concentrated in urban areas, particularly in Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba, and Mzuzu with 1,865; 1,162; 991 and 700 cases respectively. Examining the temporal aspect, a significant portion of these incidents occurred during the night, specifically from midnight to 04:00 am. Figure 7 provides a visual representation of the recorded Breaking cases illustrating the fluctuating nature of these incidents over the specified period.

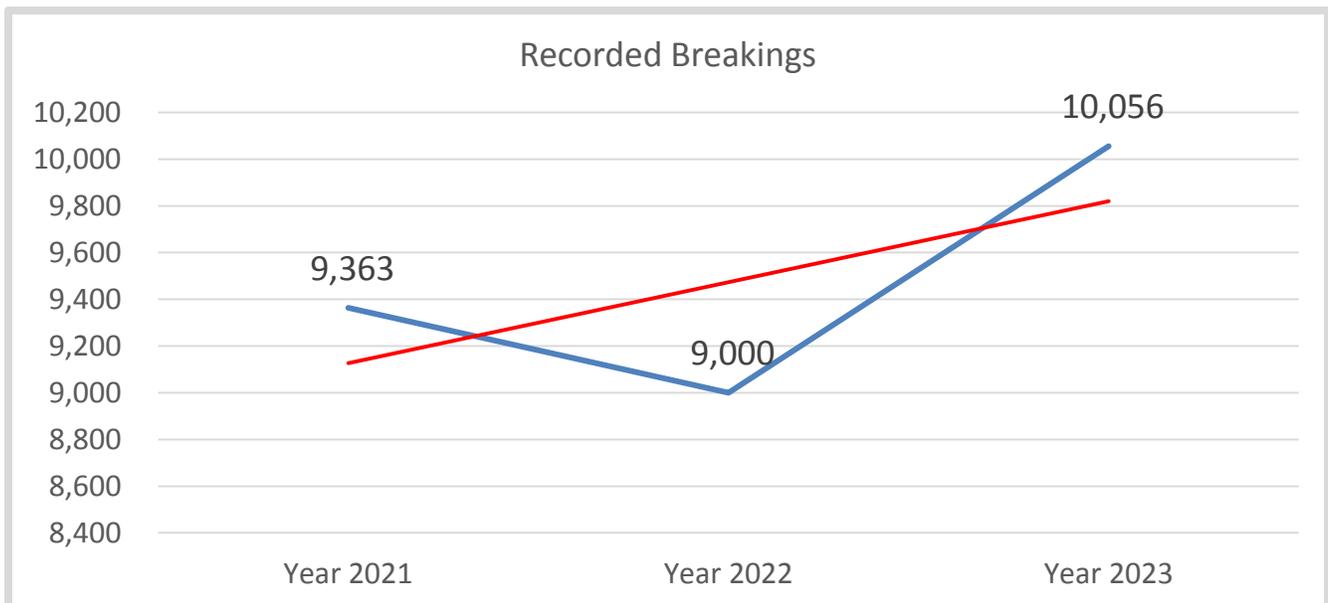


Figure 7: Breaking cases recorded from 2021 to 2023

1.4.4 Sexual Offences

Sexual violence against women is a global issue prevalent in both developed and developing countries, Malawi is not an exception. However, of late, Sexual offences have been decreasing and this is attributed to increased awareness to the victims of the modus operandi of the crime and Civil Society Organizations in partnering the MPS to promote mass awareness to vulnerable communities coupled with the stiff punishments being imposed on offenders by the courts.

1.4.4.1 Rape

In 2023, MPS recorded 208 cases of Rape as compared to 223 cases recorded in 2022 representing a decrease of 7%. Further, a decrease of 10% was observed in 2022 with 223 cases recorded from 247 cases recorded in 2021. This is illustrated in the Figure 8.

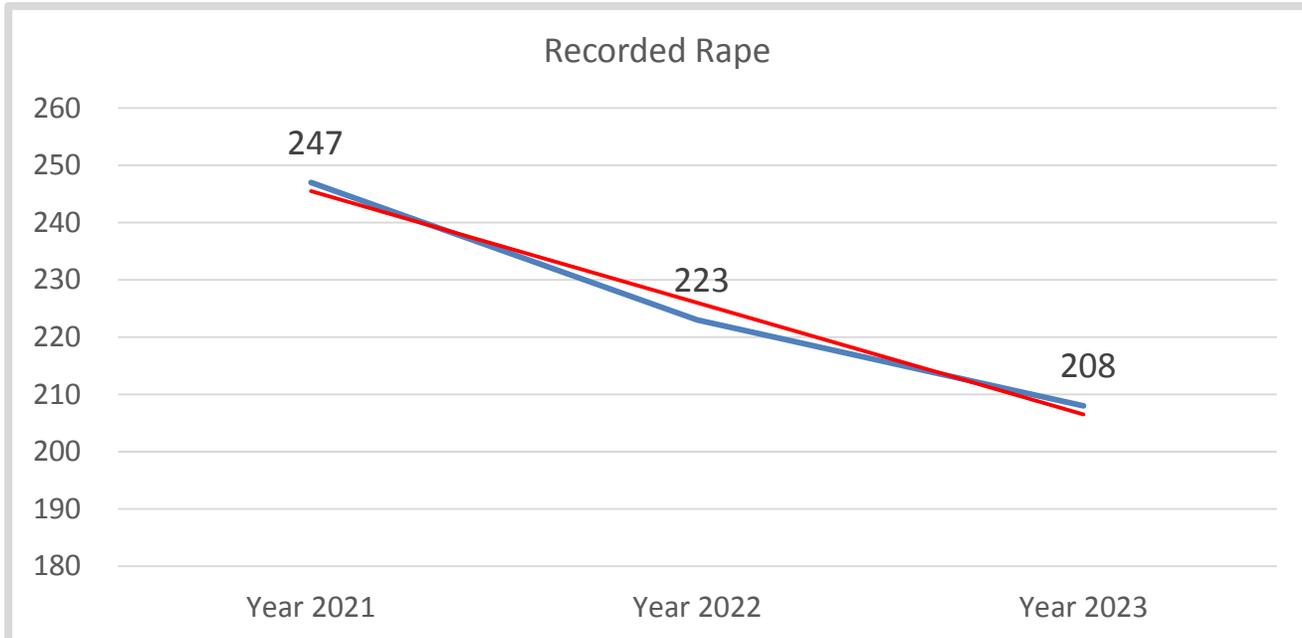


Figure 8: Rape cases recorded from 2021 to 2023

1.4.4.2 Defilement

The trend for Defilement cases over the past three years has been decreasing. During the period under review, MPS in 2023 recorded **1,691** Defilement cases as compared to **1,836** cases recorded in 2022 representing a decrease of 8%. In 2022, Defilement cases decreased by 23% as **1,836** were recorded compared to **2,387** cases were recorded in 2021. Figure 9 shows recorded Defilement cases over the three years' period.

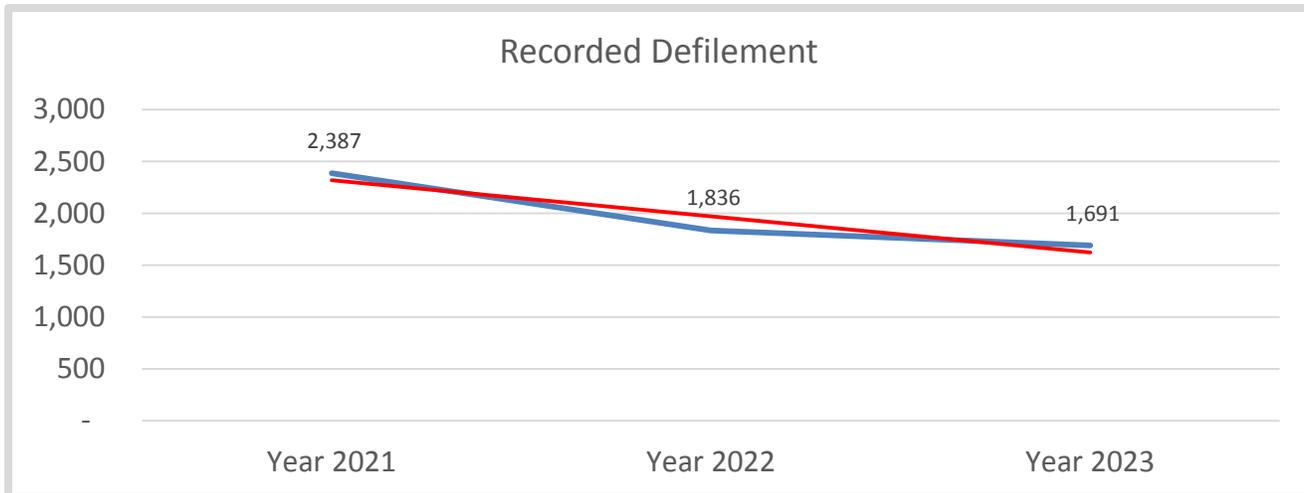


Figure 9: Recorded defilement cases from 2021 to 2023

In addition to the rigorous penalties being imposed on offenders, the decline in defilement cases is also credited to awareness campaigns on the vice as well as the vigilant efforts of organizations advocating for the "Protection of a Girl Child which MPS will continue to intensify. Furthermore, the efforts will also be towards strengthening prosecution through enhanced investigative and legal skills as well as incorporating Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) methodology. This approach is aimed at diminishing the likelihood of offenders escaping justice, particularly when relying solely on circumstantial evidence and to enhance victims evidence.

1.4.5 Theft of Motor Vehicle

Theft of Motor Vehicle involves the unauthorized taking or attempting to take a motor vehicle. Recent trends in car thefts indicate that perpetrators often employ breaking implements to manipulate and steal vehicles. In some instances, when the targeted driver is present, the culprits feign a need for transportation. During the journey, they may administer poison and/or assault the driver, subsequently abandoning them and escaping with the vehicle.

In 2023, MPS recorded a total of 63 cases of Theft of Motor Vehicles compared to 81 cases recorded in 2022 representing a decrease of 21%. Similarly, Theft of Motor Vehicle cases

decreased in 2022 from **103** cases were recorded in 2021. The decline in Theft of Motor Vehicles can be attributed to effective intelligence gathering, leading to breakthroughs in numerous reported cases. Additionally, the strong collaborative relationship between the Anti-Motor Vehicle Theft Unit and international security agencies, such as INTERPOL has played a crucial role in addressing this issue. Figure 10 shows recorded Theft of Motor Vehicle cases over the three years' period.

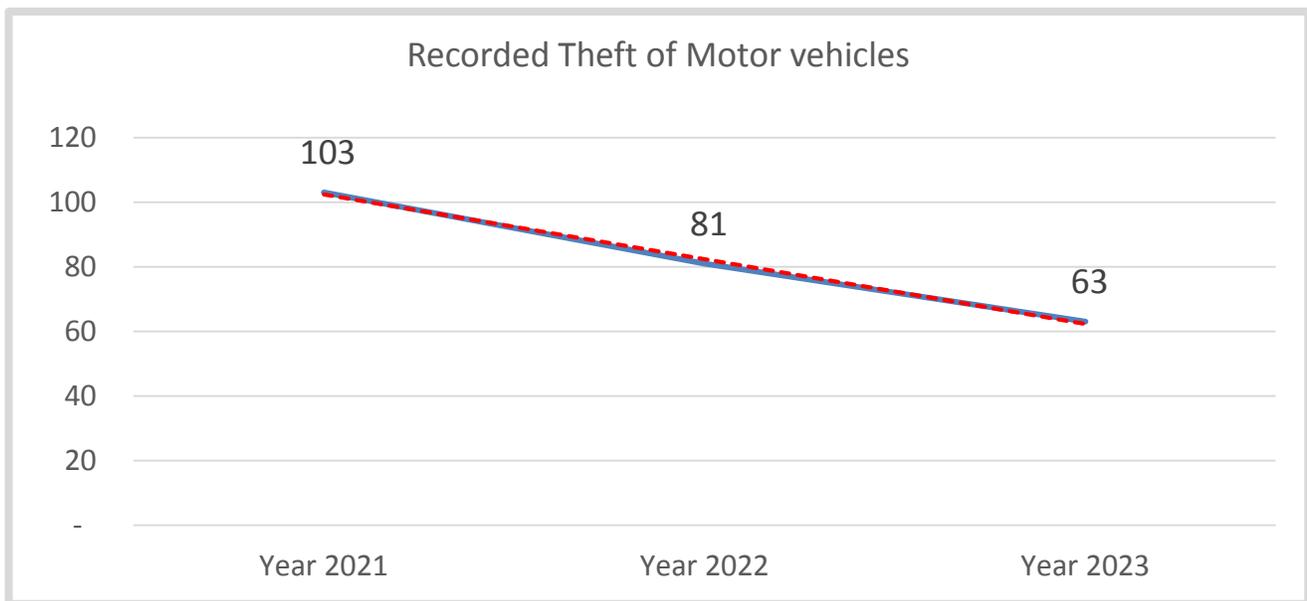


Figure 10: Recorded Theft of Motor Vehicle cases from 2021 to 2023

1.4.6 Theft of Motorcycles

Theft Motorcycle is on the rise in recent years and is driven by several factors. One contributing factor is the proliferation of unregistered motorcycles Taxis in urban areas, being utilized for transportation services to passengers and goods. Criminals take advantage of the riders as there is a ready market, and unregistered motorcycles are challenging to trace. Buyers can easily disassemble and reassemble spare parts from different motorcycles, creating a disguise. Unfortunately, Theft of Motorcycle cases have also been associated with Murders, as some victims have been fatally attacked in the process.

In 2023, there was a slight decrease of 8% in Theft of Motorcycle cases with the total cases dropping from 375 cases recorded in 2022 to 350 cases in 2023. In 2022, Theft of Motorcycle cases increased from 312 cases recorded in 2021 to 375 cases representing an increase of 20%. Despite the decline in 2023, the overall trend suggests that Motorcycle Thefts continues to be a growing concern. **Figure 11** shows recorded theft of motor cycle cases over the three years' period.

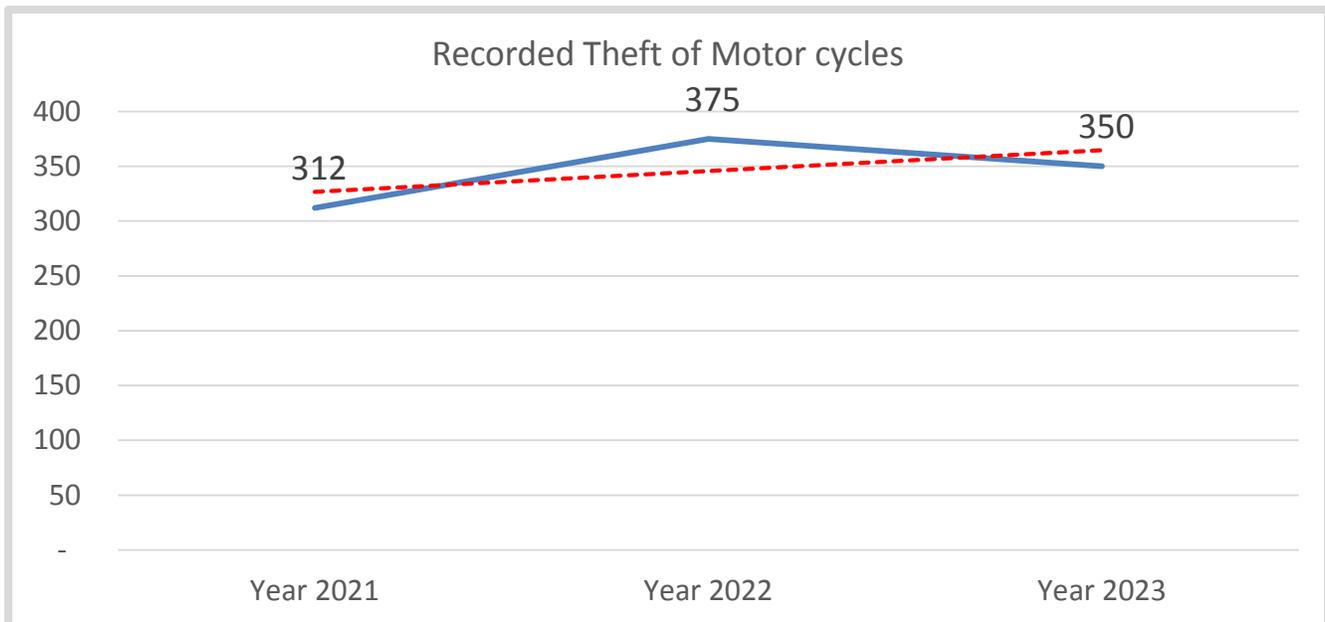


Figure 11: Recorded Theft of Motor Cycle cases from 2021 to 2023

1.4.7 Theft of Cattle

Theft of Cattle, commonly known as Cattle Rustling, refers to the illegal act of stealing or taking possession of livestock, specifically cattle, without the owner's consent. This age-old crime has historical roots, often associated with rural or frontier regions where cattle farming is prevalent. Cattle theft can have significant economic consequences for farmers as the stolen livestock represent a valuable asset and a primary source of livelihood. In addition to the economic impact, this crime can lead to disputes, violence, and strained community relations. Over time, efforts have been made to combat Theft of Cattle through law enforcement, technological advancements, and community initiatives to protect the agricultural industry from such illicit activities.

In 2023, a total of **591** Theft of Cattle cases were recorded compared to **555** cases recorded in 2022 representing an increase of 7%. Similarly, in 2022, Theft of Cattle increased by 5% as a total of **527** cases were recorded in 2021. As can be observed on trend line on **figure 12** below that these cases have been on the increase for the past three years.

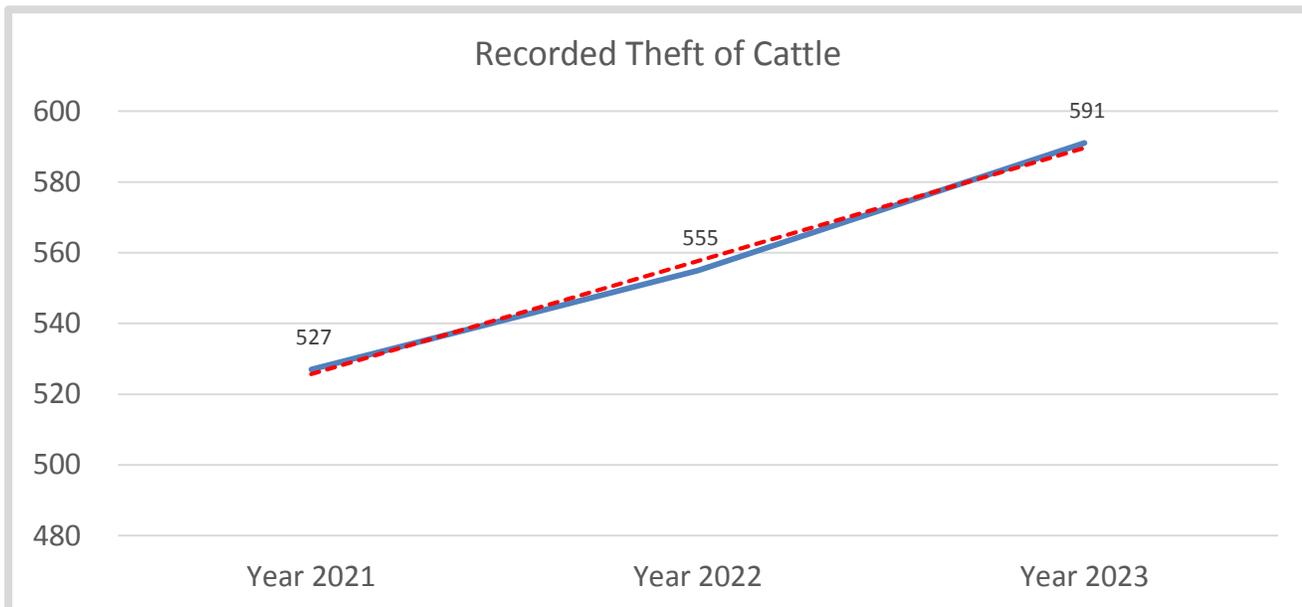


Figure 12: Recorded Theft of Cattle cases from 2021 to 2023

1.4.8 Theft of Bicycle

Theft of Bicycle refers to the unlawful act of stealing a bicycle which is a human-powered vehicle with pedals for propulsion. Bicycle theft is a prevalent urban crime, often driven by the relatively easy accessibility and resale value of bicycles. Perpetrators typically target parked bicycles, whether secured or not, and may use various methods to overcome locks or security measures. Theft of pedal bicycles can have personal and financial consequences for the owners, impacting their mobility and daily routines. Efforts to prevent bicycle theft include the use of secure locks, designated parking areas, and public awareness campaigns to discourage potential thieves. Law enforcement and community initiatives also play a role in addressing and reducing the occurrence of this common property crime.

In 2023, Theft of Bicycle cases decreased by 11% from a total of **696** cases recorded in 2022 to a

total of **618** cases recorded in 2023. In 2022, Theft of bicycle cases also decreased by 6% as a total of **740** cases were recorded in 2021. As can be observed on trend line in figure 13, these cases have been decreasing for the past three years.

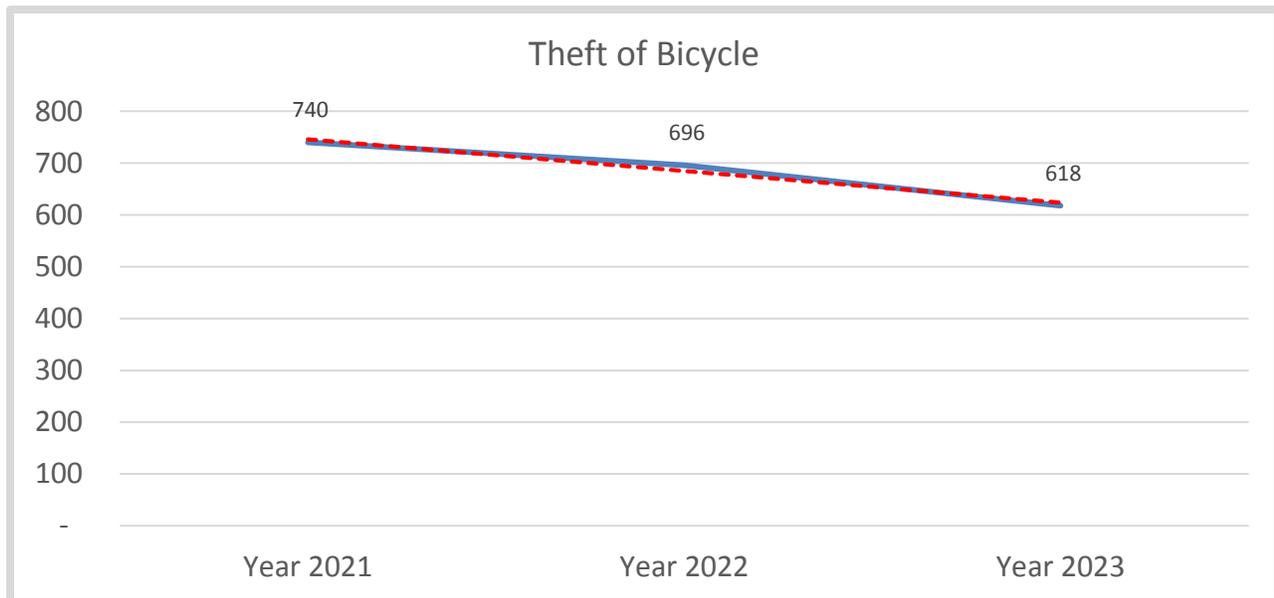


Figure 13: Recorded Theft of Bicycle cases from 2021 to 2023

1.4.9 General Theft

General theft encompasses the unlawful acquisition of another person's property with the intent to permanently deprive them of it. This category of theft is not specific to a particular type of item or commodity but encompasses a range of valuables, goods, or assets. Examples of general theft include shoplifting, where individuals steal items from retail stores, and pickpocketing, which involves secretly taking someone's wallet or valuables in crowded places. Other instances of general theft can include stealing personal belongings such as electronics, jewelry, or farm produce.

In 2023, General Theft constituted 27% of all reported crimes, establishing itself as the most prevalent criminal activity. Addressing this issue necessitates stringent measures, with initiatives such as law enforcement, enhanced security measures such as target hardening, and public awareness campaigns as key components. Data comparison for the period under review, indicates

that a total of **12,256** cases were recorded in 2023 compared to **10,213** cases recorded in 2022 representing an increase of 20%. In 2022, General Theft cases increased by 10% as **9,282** cases were recorded in 2021. Figure 14 shows recorded general theft cases over the three years' period.

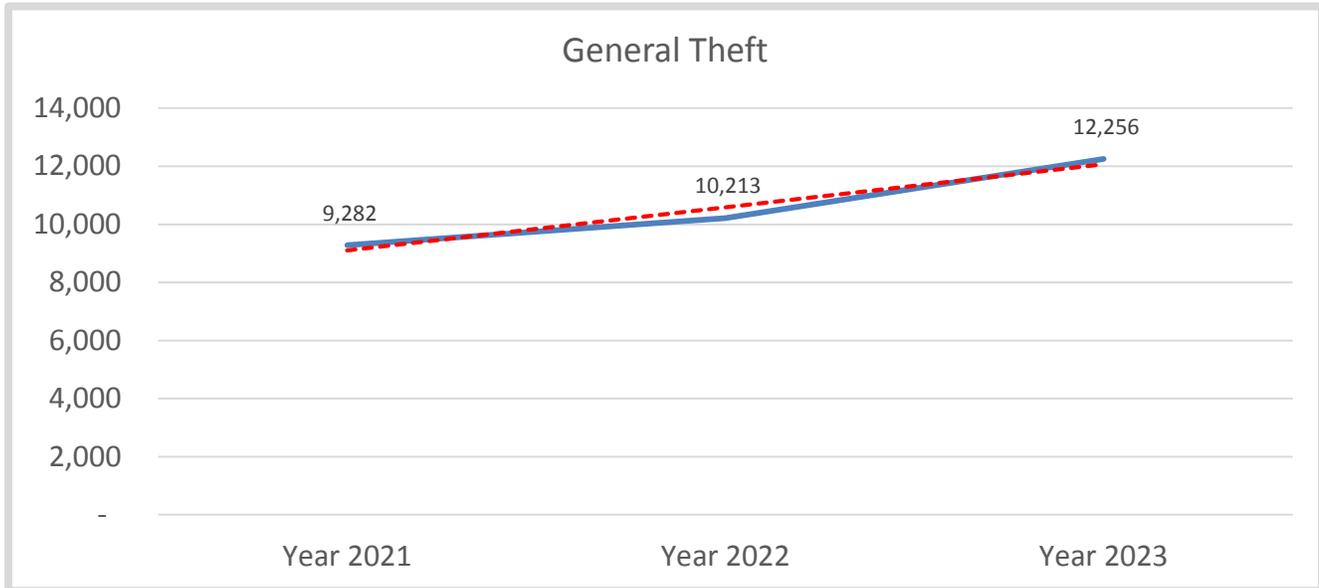


Figure 14: Recorded General Theft cases from 2021 to 2023

1.5 Criminal Cases recorded by Stations

In 2023, Lilongwe Police Station reported the highest number of criminal cases with **4,435** representing 10% of the total reported crime seconded by Zomba Police Station which recorded **3,208** criminal cases representing 7%. On the third place was Limbe Police Station with **2,420** cases representing 5.3% followed by Kanengo Police Station with **2,348** cases representing 5.2% and Chikwawa Police Station with **2,304** cases representing 5.1%.

Conversely, the Police Stations with the lowest reported crime statistics were Masambanjati Police Station which recorded **180** cases representing 0.4% of total reported crime followed by Makanjira Police Station with **88** cases representing 0.2% and Likoma Police Station with **52** cases representing 0.1%. These stations are situated in remote areas of Thyolo, Mangochi and Likoma districts. **Table 4** depicts detailed statistics on how each of the forty-Seven (47) Police Stations recorded crime in 2023.

S/N	Offence	Murder	Robberies	Breakings	Rape	Defilement	Theft of M/v	Theft of M/cycle	Theft of Cattle	Theft of Bicycle	General Theft	Other Cases	Total
	Station												
1	Lilongwe	96	332	664	15	80	8	10	30	51	1,594	1,555	4,435
2	Kanengo	44	161	526	9	85	-	9	1	2	820	691	2,348
3	Kawale	27	81	265	-	33	1	4	1	3	325	306	1,046
4	Lingadzi	14	119	230	10	24	1	3	-	8	731	470	1,610
5	Mchinji	34	31	193	1	51	-	5	24	25	205	417	986
6	Lumbadzi	22	22	132	3	13	1	1	5	5	168	224	596
7	Ntcheu	39	30	316	11	67	-	12	30	10	234	513	1,262
8	Dedza	20	37	245	8	39	-	22	12	8	258	454	1,103
9	Kasiya	12	5	48	4	20	-	-	8	3	95	170	365
10	Kasungu	19	75	202	4	50	1	7	7	16	262	386	1,029
11	Salima	20	15	121	2	36	1	15	12	16	134	237	609
12	Nkhotakota	7	8	118	2	17	-	2	3	7	86	163	413
13	Nkhunga	7	8	80	4	27	1	1	-	15	174	191	508
14	Ntchisi	13	8	83	3	18	-	4	10	1	81	235	456
15	Dowa	12	13	126	3	30	2	11	7	1	150	268	623
16	Mponela	19	19	127	4	36	-	17	24	15	177	285	723
17	Blantyre	16	155	313	3	47	11	7	-	1	519	729	1,801
18	Limbe	40	188	489	9	65	1	12	7	5	765	839	2,420
19	Ndirande	12	34	145	2	56	-	7	-	2	221	321	800
20	Chileka	17	45	154	4	29	1	-	-	4	129	170	553
21	Mwanza	5	15	107	3	32	8	2	1	7	116	136	432
22	Neno	7	10	198	3	25	-	6	5	-	110	151	515
23	Soche	7	41	61	2	5	3	-	-	1	125	148	393
24	Thyolo	34	27	204	2	32	-	5	4	7	557	423	1,295
25	Chikwawa	35	70	441	21	55	1	15	85	97	428	1,056	2,304
26	Mulanje	42	70	356	7	29	2	11	5	20	350	565	1,457
27	Nsanje	20	14	216	4	15	-	5	54	4	135	421	888
28	Chiradzulu	10	24	190	5	20	-	9	2	2	141	130	533
29	Luchenza	9	21	106	6	8	-	4	3	18	183	225	583
30	Phalombe	18	30	165	3	40	-	7	14	17	70	222	586
31	Masambanjati	3	4	43	1	10	-	-	-	-	45	74	180
32	Mzuzu	15	79	310	8	66	8	10	6	17	415	523	1,457
33	Mzimba	24	23	196	4	50	2	7	42	4	180	415	947
34	Karonga	16	28	167	3	40	2	8	53	22	172	321	832
35	Rumphu	16	12	125	3	61	-	9	29	4	108	232	599
36	Nkhatabay	8	20	127	1	36	-	4	1	2	101	264	564
37	Chitipa	14	32	107	2	25	-	9	40	19	110	165	523
38	Jenda	17	20	162	4	44	1	8	23	20	143	222	664
39	Likoma	1	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	22	52
40	Kafukule	9	6	32	2	27	-	8	12	-	60	152	308

S/N	Offence	Murder	Robberies	Breakings	Rape	Defilement	Theft of M/v	Theft of M/cycle	Theft of Cattle	Theft of Bicycle	General Theft	Other Cases	Total
	Station												
41	Zomba	49	126	991	8	94	3	38	6	49	972	872	3,208
42	Mangochi	23	26	486	7	49	1	21	14	42	198	448	1,315
43	Machinga	8	27	221	3	44	-	9	4	22	91	301	730
44	Balaka	10	31	177	4	20	1	2	1	20	158	206	630
45	Liwonde	19	9	191	-	14	1	2	-	15	87	70	408
46	Monk eBay	2	5	65	-	20	1	2	6	9	49	154	313
47	Makanjira	3	-	23	1	7	-	-	-	2	7	45	88
	Total	914	2,156	10,056	208	1,691	63	350	591	618	12,256	16,587	45,490

Table 4: Number of Criminal Cases Recorded by Stations in 2023

1.6 Crime Statistics in 2023 per month

The recorded crime statistics in 2023 reveal a fluctuating pattern throughout the year. Understanding and analyzing of the trends provides insights into the potential factors influencing crime rates in Malawi. Data in **Table 5** presents the monthly crime that can aid in exploring the possible reasons behind the observed trends. Trends indicates that crime was relatively high in January to March. The data also shows that criminal cases was the lowest during the month of June. Some of the possible factors could be economic pressures and social unrest experienced during that period and the lowest could be attributed to seasonal variations, effective law enforcement efforts, and community initiatives among others.

Serial Number	Month	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
	Offence													
1	Murder	71	72	77	73	89	71	80	73	91	75	70	72	914
2	Robberies	180	171	204	187	182	160	197	208	164	179	174	150	2,156
3	Breakings	962	1,056	1,008	704	710	692	778	847	784	827	813	875	10,056
4	Rape	15	31	24	13	16	11	14	19	15	16	17	17	208
5	Defilement	124	120	127	145	168	149	138	133	115	166	150	156	1,691
6	T/M/Vehicle	5	8	5	5	7	1	7	5	6	5	7	2	63
7	T/M/Cycle	24	35	26	21	30	33	30	33	27	34	35	22	350
8	T/Cattle	47	38	41	60	35	41	57	46	57	46	45	78	591
9	T/Bicycle	68	81	50	31	65	31	51	51	44	53	40	53	618
10	G/Theft	1,170	1,078	1,282	1,120	1,041	888	927	967	878	974	924	1,007	12,256
11	Other	1,433	1,357	1,265	1,209	1,421	1,456	1,288	1,472	1,426	1,536	1,403	1,321	16,587
	Total	4,099	4,047	4,109	3,568	3,764	3,533	3,567	3,854	3,607	3,911	3,678	3,753	45,490

Table 5: Crime Registered in 2023 on month to month basis

1.7 Major Observations and Recommendations on Crime Management

1.7.1 Murder cases

Analysis indicates that the majority of murder cases in 2023 were attributed to mob justice, with some related to the Robbery of motorcycles targeting Kabaza operators. The rise in mob justice can be linked to slow response to incidences of crime by Police which leads to instant justice by communities and loss of trust and confidence in the criminal justice system, while the increase in motorcycle theft is influenced by high demand and an influx of unregistered motorcycles from neighboring countries, making them difficult to trace when stolen. In response to these challenges, the Malawi Police Service (MPS) outlines several strategies:

- Continued public sensitization on the criminal justice system, including Police and court bail procedures, and Presidential pardons.
- Ongoing awareness campaigns against accusations of witchcraft, land disputes which fuel mob justice.
- Efforts to restore public trust in the Police through various initiatives.
- Training programs for Police officers on customer care and integrity.
- Strengthening partnerships between the Police and the public.
- Lobbying for additional motor vehicles to enhance rapid response and reduce mob justice.
- Advocating for a curfew for Kabaza operators from 20:00 to 04:00.

1.7.2 Sexual Offences:

Concerns about victimization of girls and young women through defilement and sexual assaults persist, often involving individuals close to the victims. Beliefs in healing through sexual intercourse with minors contribute to this issue. The MPS outlines the following strategies:

- Engaging partners and communities in behavior and mindset change.
- Building investigative and prosecutorial capacity, including DNA investigation.
- Advocating for stiffer punishments for sexual offences.
- Collaborating with traditional leaders and the public to eliminate harmful cultural practices.
- Encouraging the reporting of sexual offences.
- Establishing Victim Support Units for the rehabilitation of survivors.

1.7.3 Robberies:

Robberies remain a significant concern in urban areas, particularly Lilongwe and Blantyre, The MPS strategies include:

- Collaboration with the Ministry of Gender to address street-connected children.
- Enhancing intelligence gathering on organized crime, particularly Robberies.

- Deploying resources based on intelligence for effective Policing.
- Working with City and District Assemblies to enhance street lighting in crime hotspots and locations.

1.7.4 Breakings:

Breakings, targeting both residential and business premises, are the second recurring crime. The MPS plans to address this through:

- Lobbying for real-time technologies like CCTV cameras in hotspot areas.
- Awareness programs on target hardening and strengthening neighborhood watch schemes.
- Promoting non-cash transactions to reduce the amount of cash in shops or homes.
- Lobbying for more motor vehicles to revive rapid response reaction teams.

1.7.5 Theft of Motor Vehicle:

While these cases decreased, the MPS continues to focus on preventing Theft of Motor Vehicle by:

- Encouraging vehicle owners to install vehicle tracking systems.
- Ensuring the Anti-Motor Vehicle Theft Unit is well-equipped.
- Strengthening border policing.

1.7.6 General Theft:

The most recurrent crime in 2023, theft accounts for 27% of total cases. To manage theft cases, the MPS plans to:

- Conduct sensitization campaigns on target hardening.
- Encourage electronic payment systems.
- Establish community policing structures for crime prevention.

1.8 Intervention by MPS to improve Crime Management System

MPS is in the process of developing Crime Record Management System to automate all criminal cases from the point a case is reported to its conclusion. The project started in the year 2022 in the 6 spotlight districts, with much work done on the Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Information Management System (IMS). In the year 2023, the project was escalated to three more districts of Mwanza, Lilongwe, and Karonga. However, the target is to reach all the Police formations in order to improve data credibility and avoid discrepancies. This will also enable formations to be able to receive information in real time. The project is currently being supported by UNDP.

1.9 Detection and Arrests

In the pursuit of upholding law and order, the Malawi Police Service (MPS) fulfilled its mandate in 2023 by identifying and apprehending **984** notorious criminals involved in serious offenses, including but not limited to Murder, Robberies, Breakings and Theft of Motor Vehicles. This reflects the commitment of the MPS to diligently carry out its responsibilities in ensuring public safety and bringing perpetrators to justice.

1.10 Recoveries

In 2023, the Malawi Police Service also recovered a variety of stolen items, including motor vehicles, motor cycles, bags of cement, firearms and ammunitions and various other belongings. **Table 6** shows recovered items.

Description	Quantity	Amount of Cash (Mk)
Firearms	22	-
Live Ammunition	81	-
Motor Vehicles	3	-
Motor Cycles	32	-
Pedal Bicycles	11	-
Cash	-	Mk 47,969,200.00
Many other items such ESCOM Transformers and Wires, Water Board Meters, Bags of Farm Produce such as Maize, Bags of Fertilizer, Bags of Cement, Desktop Computers and Laptops, Printers and Cameras, Plasmas and Monitors, Solar Panels, Iron Sheets, Home Theatres, iPhone and Smart Phones and many more items.	-	-

Table 6: Recovered items

PART 2: PROSECUTION MANAGEMENT

2.0 Overview of Prosecution

The prosecution of offenders is one of the central mandates of the Malawi Police Service. A total of 9,471 cases were carried forward from 2021 and in 2022, the Prosecution Branch received 22,651 cases, making a total of 32,122 cases. Out of 32,122 cases, 20,684 cases were taken to court and completed, convictions were 14,904 cases, 1,447 cases were acquittals, 2,171 cases were withdrawn, 2,155 cases were discharged and 11,438 were carried forward to 2023.

In the year under review, a total of 11,438 cases were brought forward from 2022, and in 2023, the prosecution received 26,356 cases, making a total of 37,794 cases. Out of 37,794 cases, 24,548 cases were taken to court and completed, convictions were 18,806 cases, 1,362 cases were acquittals, 2,282 cases were withdrawn, 2,071 cases were discharged and 13,246 were carried forward to 2024.

2.1 Key achievements and recommendations under Prosecution

- MPS during the period under review managed to increase the number completed cases before the court of Law and convictions sustained during the period as compared to same period in 2022 as indicated above. This is an indication that the branch has done well during the year under review.
- The Prosecution branch has tremendously reduced backlog of all criminal cases with emphasis on reducing congestion of remandees in prisons and reformatory institutions.
- MPS has managed to train 41 Aid Prosecutors in Prosecution Basic Training Course at Zomba Police College. However, there is a need to train more Prosecutors since the Branch is remaining with a large number of untrained Aid Prosecutors. In addition, more qualified Prosecutors need to undergo specialized trainings in the areas of Financial crimes, and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

PART 3: TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

3.0 Road Traffic Accidents overview

MPS is mandated under section 40 (1) of the Police Act to regulate and control traffic. This section, therefore, presents statistics of Road Traffic Accidents as a measure of the performance of MPS in fulfilling its mandate of regulating and controlling traffic on the roads of Malawi as Road Traffic Accidents have long been considered a critical social problem in country.

In the year 2023, MPS recorded 4,977 Road Traffic Accidents as compared to **5,553** Road Traffic Accidents recorded in 2022 representing decrease of 10%. Similarly, Road Traffic Accidents decreased by 41% in 2022 as **9416** Road Traffic Accidents were recorded in 2021. This shows that since 2021 road accidents have been on the decreasing trend.

Year	Number of Accidents
2023	4,977
2022	5,553
2021	9,416

Table 7: road traffic accidents overview of three years of 2021, 2022 and 2023

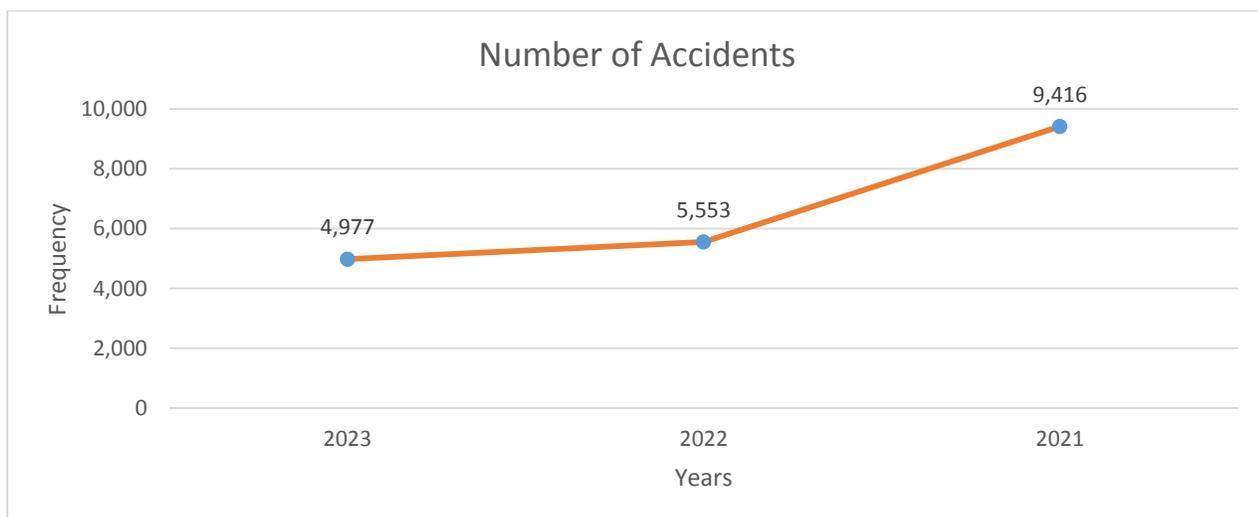


Figure 15: Trend of Road Traffic Accidents for three years

Out of a total of **4,977** Road Traffic Accidents that were recorded from January to December 2023, **389** were fatal, **271** serious, **2,131** minor, and **1,727** damages. Unprotected animals caused **9** accidents. The total accidents resulted in the deaths of **1,001** people in 2023 as compared to **1,068** people who were killed in 2022 registering a decrease of **6%**. Out of 1,001 road users killed, **450** were pedestrians constituting **45%**, **254** passengers, **119** bicyclists, **95** motorcyclists **82** drivers, and **1** animal driver. A total of **150** hit-and-run road accidents were registered. Out of which **67** were fatal accidents.

At Regional classification, the Central West Region recorded the highest number of road accidents with **1,839** of which **212** were fatal road accidents. Second was South West Region with **1,627** road accidents out of which **126** were fatal.

At Station level, Lilongwe Police Station was the highest having recorded **967** Road Accidents. Out of which **60** were fatal accidents. Blantyre Police Station registered 803 Road Accidents which is second highest but registered few fatalities, **21** in number. Kasungu had **97** road accidents but registered **52** fatalities coming second to Lilongwe in terms of fatalities.

In terms of vehicles involved in Road Accidents, saloon vehicles were highly involved in road accidents followed by motorcycles, pickups and minibuses. Most road accidents occurred as a result of excessive speed seconded by keeping too close behind other vehicles, failing to give way or ignoring traffic signs. Careless overtaking came fourth on the list of causes of accidents during the period under review.

3.1 Road Traffic Accidents by Type

In the year 2023, Road Traffic Accidents in the country claimed about 1,001 lives and left more than 512 people seriously injured. In this section, the accidents are distributed according to Regions and Police Stations. It gives detailed data on fatalities by age group, gender, and road user category. It also presents an insight into the type of vehicles involved, the causes of the Road Accidents, and the surroundings in which Accidents took

place. Figure shows percentage of Road Traffic Accidents according to type for the year 2023.

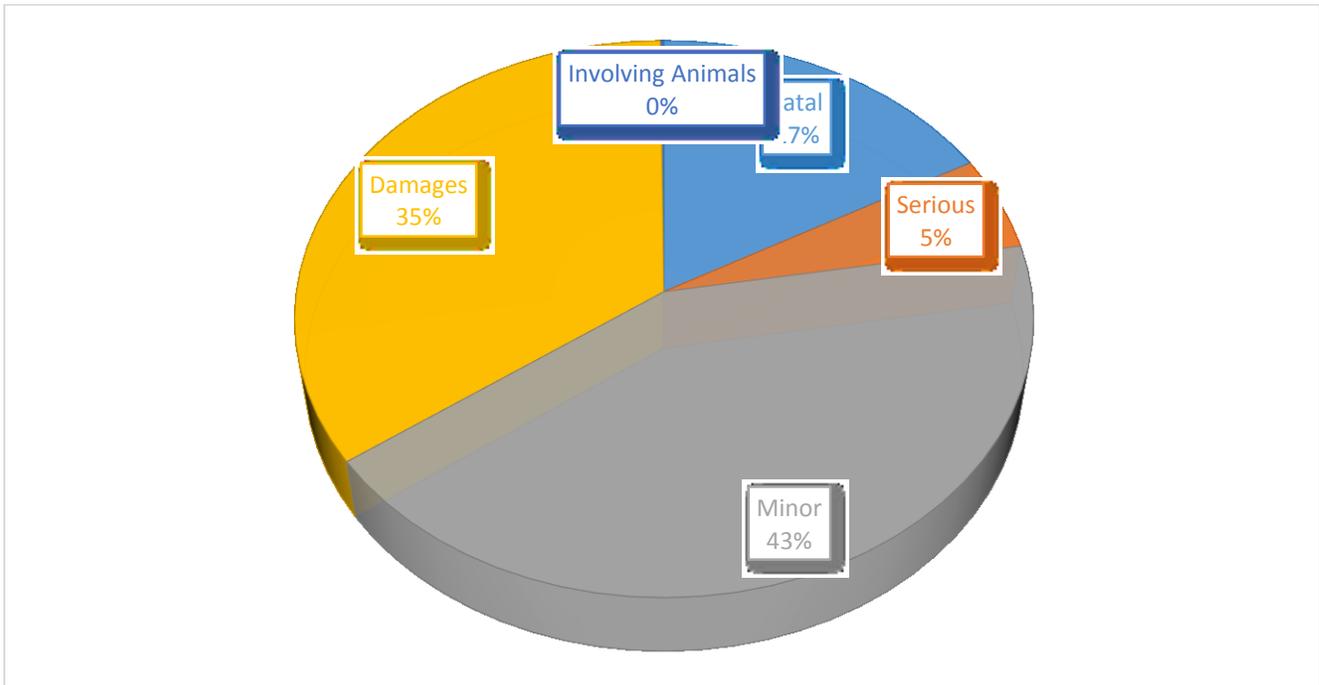


Figure 16: Road Traffic Accidents According to Type

3.1.1 Fatal Road Accidents

In terms of fatal road accidents, a total of **839** accidents were reported in 2023 and **1,001** people lost their lives compared to **919** fatal road accidents reported in 2022 where **1,226** people died representing 9% and 18% reduction respectively.

3.1.2 Serious Road Accidents

A total of **271** serious road accidents were reported in 2023 and **512** people suffered serious injuries whilst in 2022, **353** serious road accidents were registered where **573** people suffered serious injuries representing a decrease of 23% and 11% reduction for people who suffered various degrees of serious injuries.

3.1.3 Minor Road Accidents

On the other hand, a total of **2,131** Minor Road Accidents were reported in 2023 injuring **4,001** people whilst in 2022, **2,351** minor road accidents were reported where **4,179**

people sustained slight injuries representing a decrease of 9% in total number of road accidents and 4% decrease for people who suffered various degrees of minor injuries.

3.1.4 Damages Only Road Accidents

A total of 1,727 Damages Road Accidents were reported in the year 2023 whilst in 2022 same period 1,915 road accidents of the same nature were reported representing a decrease of 10%.

3.1.5 Accidents Involving Animals

Lastly, a total of 9 accidents involving animals were reported in 2023 against 15 reported in 2022 during the same period representing a decrease of 40%.

Comparison on *Graph 1* below shows that from January to December, 2023 there is a reduction in road accidents and a total number of deaths as compared to the same period of the year, 2022.

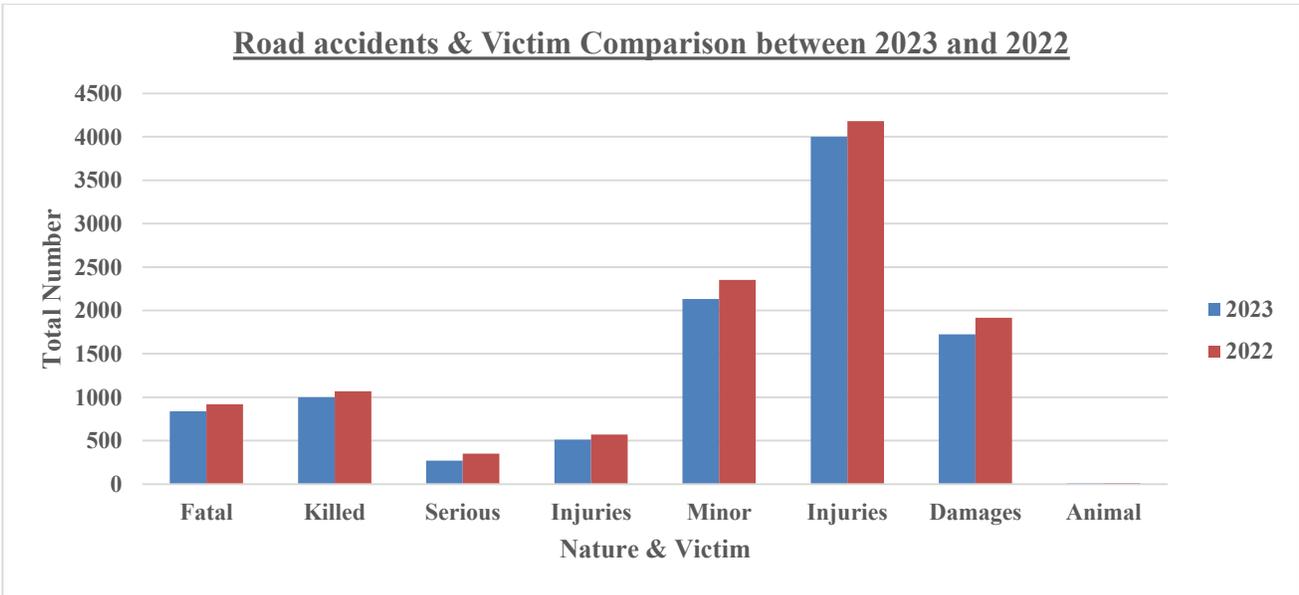


Figure 17: Accidents and Victims comparison of Annual Reports between 2023 and 2022

REGION	FATAL		SERIOUS		MINOR		DAMAGES		ANIMAL		TOTAL	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
CWR	212	270	38	73	765	978	822	904	2	10	1839	2235
SWR	126	123	42	86	739	800	718	842	0	0	1625	1851
NR	167	166	47	39	259	204	124	109	2	0	599	518
ER	123	140	60	93	180	143	24	33	0	4	387	413
CER	161	155	66	48	134	152	30	18	4	1	395	374
SER	50	65	18	14	54	74	9	9	1	0	132	162
TOTAL	839	919	271	353	2131	2351	1727	1915	9	15	4977	5553

Table 8: 2023 and 2022 distribution and comparison of Accidents according to Regions

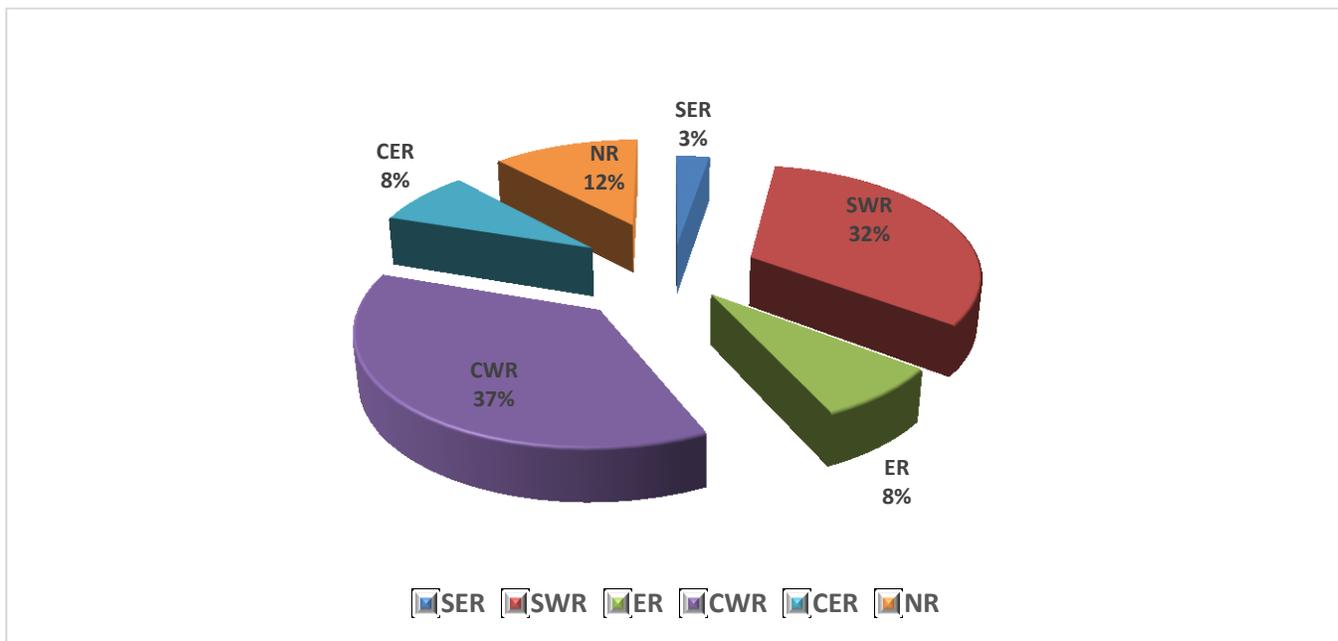


Figure 18: Road Accidents contribution by Region

Reference to **Table 8** and the **Figure 18**, in the year under review Central West Region registered the highest number of Road Accidents. It recorded **1,839** accidents, contributing **39%** of all accidents. South West Region came second with **1,625** Road Accidents, representing **35%**. Third on the order is the Northern Region with **599** Road Accidents making **12%** while fourth and fifth on the chart is the Central East and Eastern Regions with **395** and **387** Accidents contributing **8%** respectively. South East Region came last having registered **132** Road Accidents representing **3%**.

2023 ANNUAL STATION BREAKDOWN						
STATION	FATAL	SERIOUS	MINOR	DAMAGES	ANIMAL	TOTAL
CENTRAL WEST POLICE REGION						
LILONGWE	60	16	400	490	1	967
NTCHEU	37	5	45	4	0	91
DEDZA	27	1	8	3	1	40
MCHINJI	28	6	11	1	0	46
KANENGO	21	3	35	39	0	98
LUMBADZI	7	2	21	9	0	39
LINGADZI	15	0	183	233	0	431
KASIYA	10	2	1	0	0	13
KAWALE	7	3	58	43	0	111
KIA	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	212	38	762	822	2	1836
SOUTH WEST POLICE REGION						
BLANTYRE	21	14	360	408	0	803
LIMBE	34	8	212	224	0	478
NDIRANDE	19	5	55	31	0	110
CHILEKA	33	9	65	23	0	130
SOCHE	1	1	14	16	0	32
MWANZA	8	4	11	10	0	33
NENO	10	1	23	6	1	41
TOTAL	126	42	740	718	1	1627
NORTHERN POLICE REGION						
MZUZU	41	13	126	98	0	278
KARONGA	34	1	24	0	1	60
MZIMBA	19	10	29	10	0	68
RUMPHI	17	3	17	5	0	42
NKHATABAY	27	10	10	5	0	52
CHITIPA	10	2	16	3	0	31
JENDA	18	6	35	2	1	62
LIKOMA	1	2	4	1	0	8
TOTAL	167	47	261	124	2	601
EASTERN POLICE REGION						
ZOMBA	34	18	49	2	0	103
MANGOCHI	33	14	60	6	0	113
BALAKA	15	6	11	4	0	36
MACHINGA	11	4	5	0	0	20
LIWONDE	22	11	40	9	0	82
MONKEBAY	8	7	15	3	0	33
TOTAL	123	60	180	24	0	387
CENTRAL EAST POLICE REGION						
KASUNGU	52	9	26	9	0	96
NKHOTAKOTA	12	6	2	0	0	20
NKHUNGA	10	9	16	3	0	38
NTCHISI	7	8	3	0	0	18
SALIMA	34	14	51	13	3	115
DOWA	27	8	10	3	0	48
MPONELA	19	12	26	2	1	60
TOTAL	161	66	134	30	4	395
SOUTH EAST POLICE REGION						
MULANJE	8	0	22	4	0	34
PHALOMBE	4	1	1	0	0	6
CHIRADZULU	9	8	0	0	0	17
NAMADZI	4	3	16	2	0	25
THYOLO	4	1	1	1	0	7
NSANJE	8	0	8	1	0	17
LUNCHENZA	0	2	3	0	0	5
CHIKWAWA	13	3	3	1	0	20
TOTAL	50	18	54	9	0	131
TOTAL	839	271	2131	1727	9	4977

Table 9: Road Accidents Statistics by Station

According to the Road Traffic Accident Statistics in **Table 9**, Lilongwe Police Station recorded the highest number of accidents with **967** Road Accidents and out of these accidents **60** were fatal. Blantyre Police Station registered **803** Road Accidents which is second highest but registered few fatalities, **21** in number. Kasungu had **97** Road Accidents but registered **52** fatalities coming second to Lilongwe in terms of fatalities.

SEX	KILLED		SERIOUSLY INJURED		SLIGHTLY INJURED	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
MALE	849	898	383	442	3163	3343
FEMALE	148	170	129	131	837	836
TOTAL	1001	1068	512	573	4001	4179

Table 10: 2023 and 2022 Victims by Gender

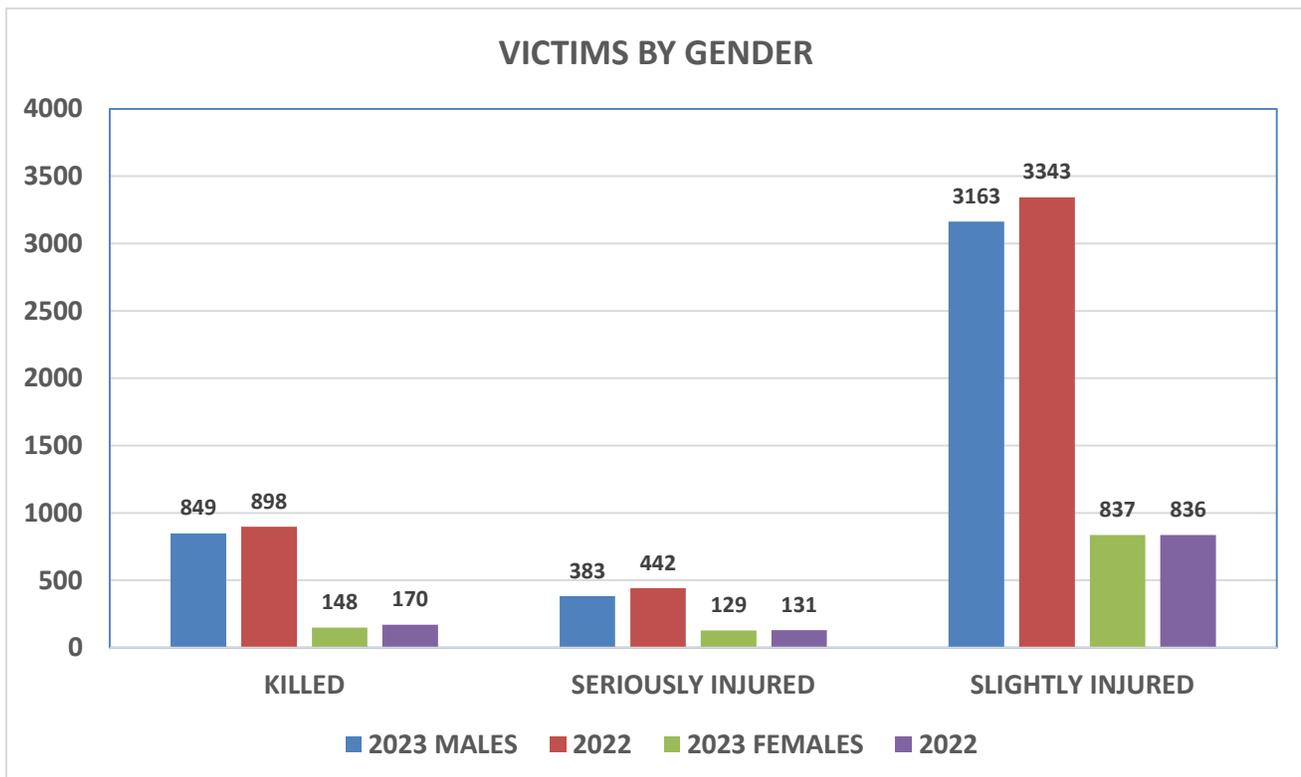


Figure 19: Victims by Gender for 2023 and 20.

Figure 20: Road Traffic Accidents Victims by Gender.

Table 10 and **Figure 20** show that males continue to be the major victims of Road Accidents. This trend is also observed across different age groups although the magnitude of disparity may vary. For instance, overall **4,395** male persons lost their lives, sustained serious or minor injuries, representing **80%**. From **1,001** people killed in fatal accidents, **849** males were killed, while the remaining **148** were females.

AGE GROUP	KILLED		SERIOUSLY INJURED		SLIGHTLY INJURED	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
1-10 YEARS	99	124	49	45	208	184
11-17 YEARS	62	56	34	35	180	162
18-24 YEARS	137	131	87	85	680	742
25-44 YEARS	486	517	265	321	2456	2544
45-64 YEARS	170	192	67	76	430	495
65-ABOVE	47	48	10	11	47	52
TOTAL	1001	1068	512	573	4001	4179

Table 11: Victims by age group

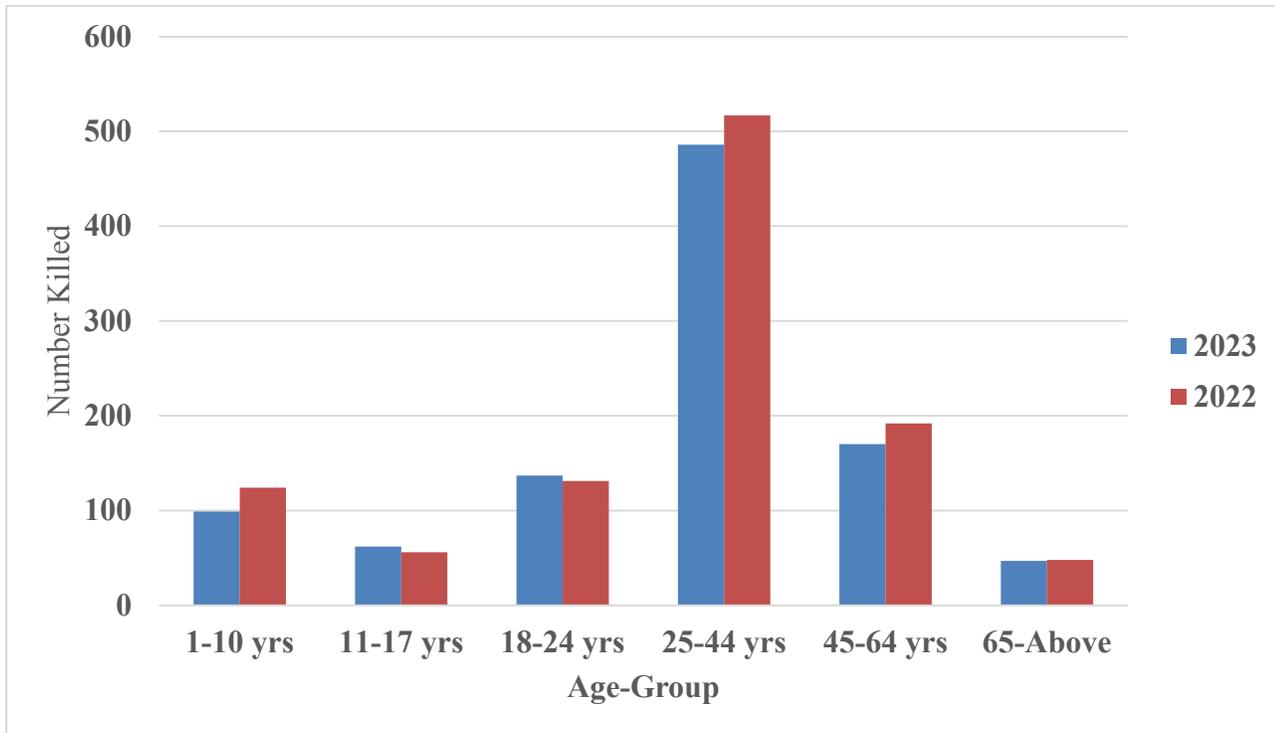


Figure 21: People killed by Age Group between 2023 and 2022

Statistics in **Table 11** and **Figure 21** indicates that the number of people killed in the age group of 25-44 years is high as compared to other age groups. This is the most productive group of people. **486** people in the age-group were killed representing **49%** of all road users killed in Road Traffic Accidents. **17%** of people killed were road users in the age group of 45-64 years while **16%** were school going children aged up to 17 years.

ROAD USER	KILLED	SERIOUSLY INJURED	SLIGHTLY INJURED
PEDESTRIAN	450	68	613
PASSENGER	254	198	1510
PEDAL CYCLIST	119	145	969
DRIVER	82	40	380
MOTOR CYCLIST	95	60	525
ANIMAL DRIVER	1	1	4
TOTAL	1001	512	4001

Table 12: Victims by road user category

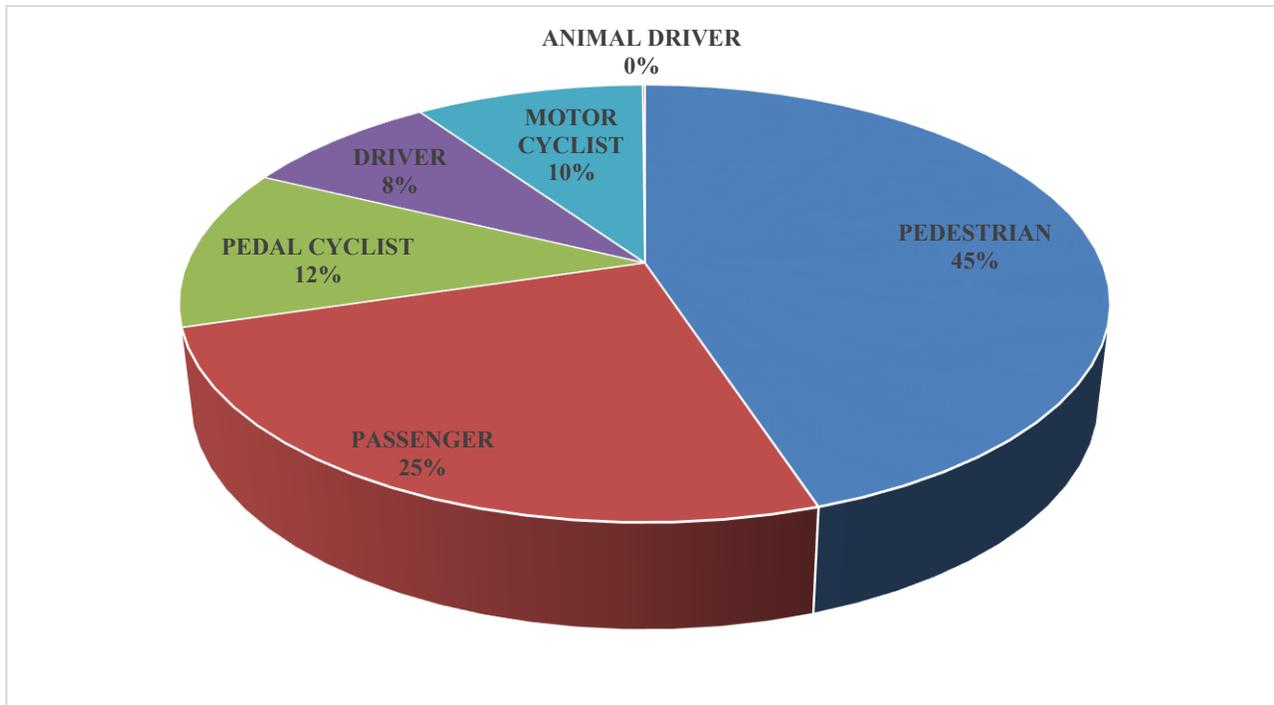


Figure 22: Category of road users killed

Table 12 and **Figure 22** show number of people and their categories who were involved in Fatal Road Traffic Accidents. Pedestrians constituted **45%** of the total number of road users who were killed in Road Accidents. Second on list are passengers with **25%**, pedal cyclists with **12%**, motorcyclists with **12%**, and drivers with **9%**.

VEHICLE TYPE	NUMBER OF VEHICLES	
	2023	2022
CAR, SALOON	3471	4183
MOTORCYCLE	898	769
PICKUP	808	811
MINIBUS	760	912
4WD	591	643
HEAVY LORRY >4T	526	521
BICYCLE	469	494
LIGHT LORRY <4T	447	415
BUS	105	104
OTHER	101	10
FARM TRACTOR	13	10
ANIMAL CARRIAGE	14	6
TOTAL	8203	8878

Table 13: Vehicles involved in Road Traffic Accidents

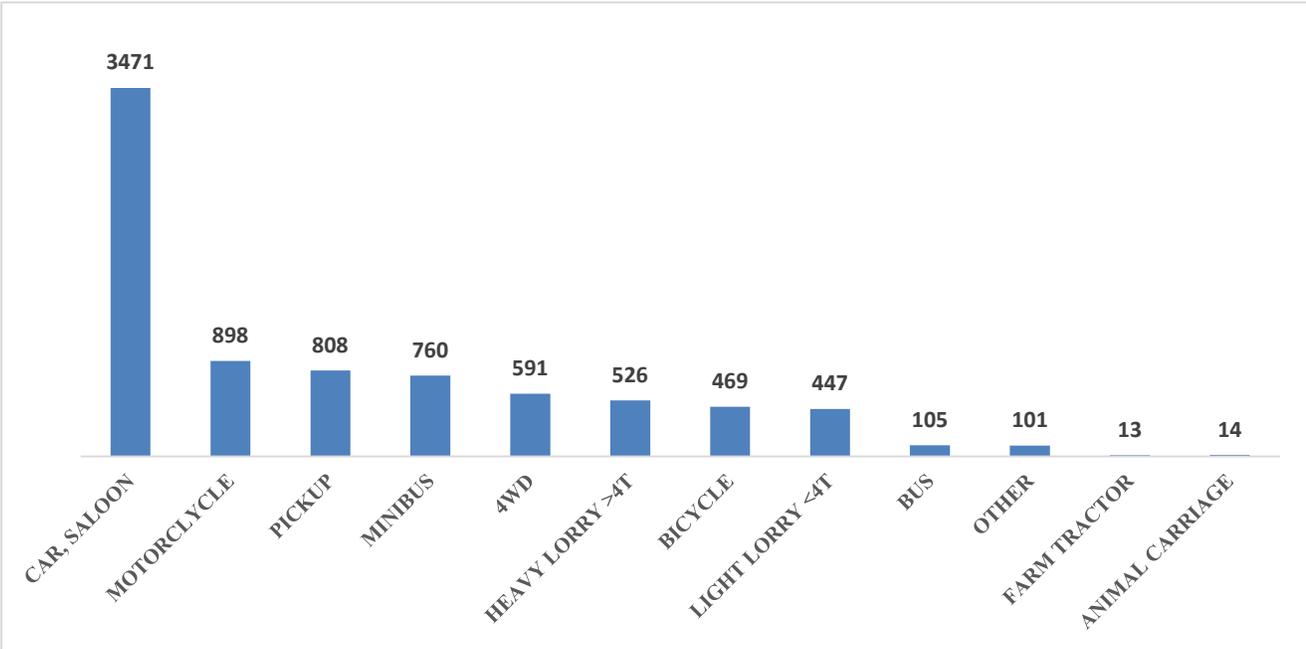


Figure 23: Type of vehicles involved in Road Traffic Accidents

Table 13 and Figure 23 show that Saloon type of vehicles are mostly involved in road traffic accidents. A total of 3,471 saloon vehicles were involved in Road Traffic Accidents representing 42% of total vehicles. Motorcycles came second with 898 representing 11% while 808 were pickups represented by 10%. Minibuses are fourth on the list with 760 representing 9%.

DRIVER BEHAVIOUR	NUMBER OF CAUSES	
	2023	2022
Over speeding	1878	1910
Tail-gating, Keeping too close	512	544
Did not give way/Ignore traffic sign	528	631
Careless overtaking	433	439
Did not keep to nearside	335	371
Reversing negligently	215	249
Careless turning, cutting in	264	302
Others	202	292
Sudden change of direction	131	168
Careless oncoming	108	124
Did not stop for red light or stop	28	54
Sudden deceleration	51	64
Incorrect stopping/parking	49	41
Driving under the influence	33	35
Blinded by sun/oncoming vehicle	15	17
Fatigued, sleepy, ill	27	15
Grand Total	4782	5256

Table 14: Driver behavior

Table 14 illustrates that over speeding remains the major driver's behavior that contributes to a lot of Road Accidents as **37%** of Road Traffic Accidents occurred during the period under review were due to over speeding. Failure to give way is another behavior that also contributed to a lot of accidents with **528** representing **11%**.

WEEKEND DAYS	FATAL	SERIOUS	MINOR	DAMAGES	ANIMAL	TOTAL
SUNDAY	135	45	369	263		812
MONDAY	152	34	252	132		570
TUESDAY	110	34	293	272	3	712
WEDNESDAY	107	53	303	237	1	701
THURSDAY	83	36	274	236	2	631
FRIDAY	124	27	296	269	2	718
SATURDAY	128	42	344	318	1	833
TOTAL	839	271	2131	1727	9	4977

Table 15: Road Traffic Accidents according to weekend days

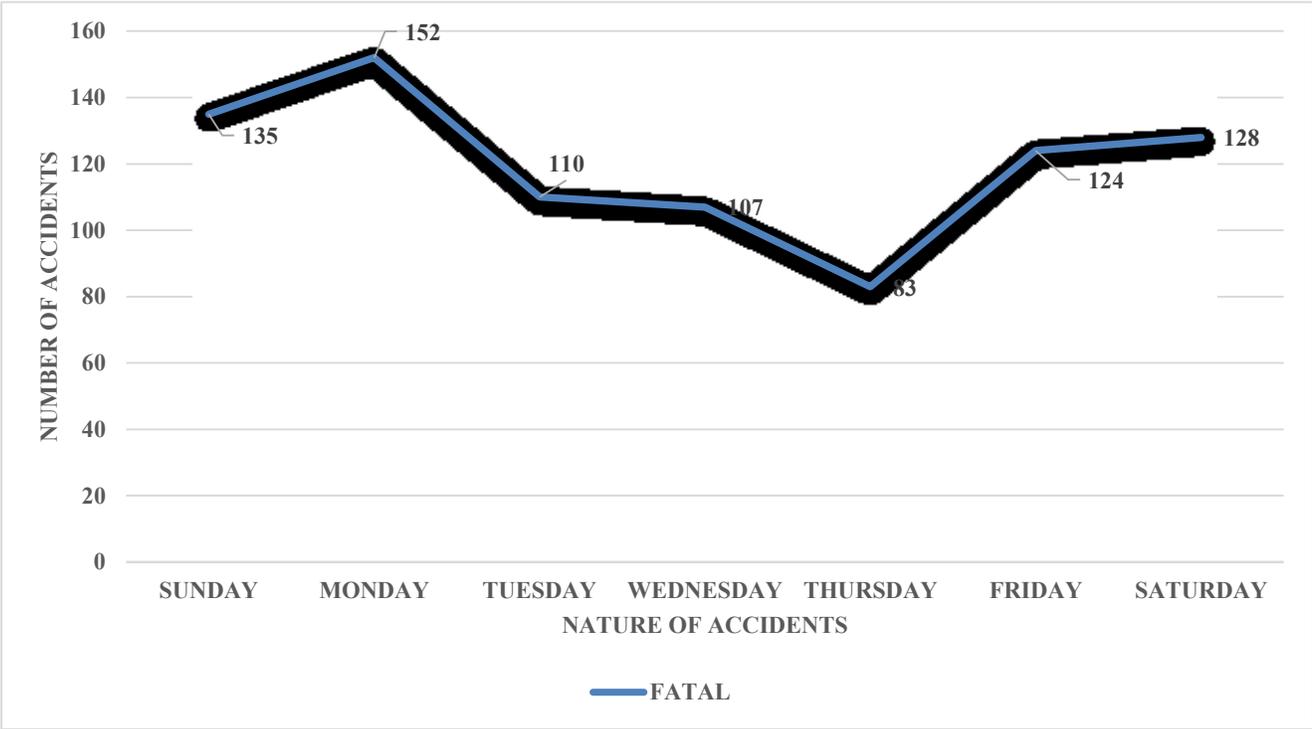


Figure 24: Occurrence of Road Traffic Accidents by week-end days

From **Table 15** and **Figure 24**, we can draw conclusions that most accidents occur during weekends. This is evidenced by recording the highest number of Road Traffic Accidents from Saturday, Sunday and Monday with **128**, **135** and **152** respectively. This could be attributed to less traffic moving in our roads during the specified periods where drivers and riders find the opportunity to drive at high speed. This could also be attributed to few

traffic officers deployed in our roads during weekends. MPS should therefore consider increasing the number of traffic Police Officers deployed over the weekend in addition to usual foot and vehicle patrols conducted.

3.2 Observations and recommendations

- Overall, there has been a reduction in number of accidents in the period under review by **10%** as compared to the year 2022 during the same period. This reduction is attributed to intensified traffic checks, day and night patrols, and frequent sensitizations on how to use the roads. Despite the aforesaid achievement, road traffic accidents in the country continue to be a public health concern, causing substantial human suffering.
- The data reveal that males are the major victims. For instance, a total of **849** males lost their lives as compared to **148** females in 2022. This trend is also observed across different age groups and in most cases, male victims are pedestrians and passengers. The most productive population of between **25** and **44** years, particularly males, are mostly affected by road accidents.
- The data also reveal that most of the fatalities occurred during nighttime and weekends. This gives us a hint of the need to intensify traffic patrols and checks during weekends and nighttime as an intervention for speeding and drunk drivers.
- There is a need for collaborated efforts among all relevant stakeholders in traffic law enforcement to bring sanity to our roads.

PART 4: COMMUNITY POLICING

4.0 Overview of Community Policing

In 2023, MPS conducted key activities under Community Policing which focused on crime prevention, child protection, victim support, and youth/school outreach.

Notably, the Victim Support Unit addressed Gender-Based Violence and other violations, with Central West Region recording the highest cases (**7636**) and Northern Region the lowest (**2707**). The report also details interventions for children in conflict with the law, revealing Central West Region's higher incidence (**2463 cases**), of which **1726** were diverted, **486** went to court, and **298** were released on Police bail. In contrast, Southern Eastern Region recorded the lowest cases (**854**), with **501** diversions, **238** releases on Police bail, and **171** court cases. Table 22 highlights activities conducted under Crime Prevention and Partnership in 2023.

ACTIVITY	SER	SWR	CWR	CER	ER	NR	TOTAL
Community safety and security meetings	1178	7568	3315	2486	867	2135	17549
Established and revamped structures	449	1742	685	570	370	158	3974
Joint initiatives with partners	649	5039	665	-	814	165	7332
Trainings /workshops	52	75	149	479	30	120	905
School outreach	261	484	617	466	21	20	1869
Hospital outreach	32	258	87	29	34	0	440
Church outreach	68	347	87	138	14	34	688
Mobile awareness	178	6841	57	281	09	56	7422
Monitoring	135	250	35	-	-	52	472

Table 16: Crime Prevention and Partnership Activities

4.1 Strengthening of Community Policing Structures in 2023

During the period under review, the MPS had a total of 57,195, active Community policing structures in the country: 446 CPFs, 18,202 CPPs and 38,547 CPCs. The available CP structures increased the access of policing services in the communities, which enhanced the MPS geographical footprint. The CP structures were kept active through orientations and provision of essential working equipment.

CP Structures	NR	CER	CWR	ER	SER	SWR	TOTAL
CPF	88	84	70	81	74	49	446
CPP	770	3532	11965	957	685	293	18202
CPC	3728	10813	12384	5834	4279	1509	38547

Table 17: Community Policing Structures 2023

4.2 Trend of Cases of Attacks on Persons with Albinism

With several interventions that were put in place during the year under review, Community Policing teams were on the ground with home audits, awareness meetings and patrols to deal with resurfacing of cases involving Persons with Albinism. **Table 18** show cases involving Persons with Albinism.

YEAR	SER	SWR	CWR	CER	ER	NR	TOTAL
2022	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
2023	1	2	2	0	0	0	5

Table 18: Cases involving Persons With Albinism

4.3 Rural Police Units

In the year 2023, MPS had a total of 307 Police Units that are operational and out of the total, 42 were newly established Police Units. Five (5) Police Units have been vandalized during the period under review. **Table 19** show status of Rural Police Units.

DESCRIPTION	SER	SWR	CWR	CER	ER	NR	TOTAL
Number of operational police units	53	39	86	45	47	37	307
Number of Established police units	6	12	18	0	3	4	42
Number of vandalized	2	0	0	1	1	1	5

Table 19: Status of Rural Police Units

4.4 Affordable Input Program (AIP)

During the period under review, MPS through Community Policing branch registered various cases under AIP initiative. It also conducted 767 meetings and visited 625 AIP selling points across the country. Table 20 show Affordable Input Program Activities

Description	SER	SWR	CWR	CER	ER	NR	TOTAL
Number of meetings conducted	182	121	147	133	115	69	767
Number of selling points visited	143	135	122	128	51	46	625
Number of cases registered	4	4	0	132	-	-	140

Table 20: Affordable Input Program Activities

4.5 Child Protection

This area presents a national perspective on how MPS has implemented Child Protection programmes in the six regions in the country in terms of abuse especially to girls and children in conflict with the law. Table 21 shows statistics of Children in conflict with the law.

DESCRIPTION		SWR	SER	CWR	CER	ER	NR	TOTAL
Number of Children arrested	Boys	1802	499	2249	778	983	977	7288
	Girls	274	155	214	356	108	57	1164
Diverted at police level	Boys	963	410	1537	518	491	547	4466
	Girl	197	51	189	347	63	41	888
Granted bail	Boys	419	214	277	472	332	189	1903
	Girl	45	24	21	339	38	08	475
Taken to court	Boys	420	151	482	452	160	04	1669
	Girl	32	20	04	336	07	00	399

Table 21: Child in Conflict with the Law

4.6 Victim Support Unit

In 2023, a total of **12,527** cases were handled in the Victim Support Units across the country, compared to **17,152** cases handled in 2022 as shown in the Table 22.

YEAR	SER	SWR	CWR	CER	ER	NR	TOTAL
2022	2,956	3,398	7,636	-	-	3,162	17,152
2023	1,579	5,160	-	-	3,087	2,701	12,527

Table 22: Cases handled by Victim Support Unit

Under **Pillar 4: Quality Services** of phase two of the Spotlight Initiative Program being implemented by United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), MPS received 52 motorcycles that were distributed in Police formations in the 6 Spotlight Districts. Motorcycles were distributed to easy mobility in conducting activities of Ending Violence against Women and Girls (EVAWG) and responding to cases of Violence against Women and Girls.

4.7 Best Practices under Community Policing

The following are some of best practices under the Community Policing Branch

- Implementation of “Apolisi Ndife Program” on Malawi Broadcasting Cooperation (MBC) - This is being initiated by South West Region Police Headquarters in partnership with Applied Development Communication and Training Services (ADECOS) where by various Policing activities are being broadcasted on MBC TV.
- Installation of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras- Limbe town is now being monitored by CCTV cameras for easy tracking down of criminal activities happening within the town and soon Blantyre will do likewise.
- 990 Initiative- implementation of my zone my phone Rapid Response where by 10 households one chairperson is being implemented in most of the townships within Limbe and Blantyre.

- Joint Police Patrols with neighborhood watches- This is done by all Stations in the region to reduce the fear of crime whereby it enhances Police visibility in town ships, busy trading centers and rural areas.
- Reviving of traffic wardens- This was created to bring sanity on our roads within Blantyre and some busy trading centers.
- Introduction of Drones- As a matter of ensuring maximum security within the city of Blantyre. The South West Region in partnership with the Malawi Communication Regulatory Authority (MACRA) introduced the use on drones to monitor security within the city.
- Radio and Television programs- South West Region is working in partnership with broadcasting urgencies where Stations disseminate various crime and road safety messages.
- Sensitizing Bar and Rest House owners, Village heads, Community policing members on child protection.
- Regularly Visiting to Community Policing Structures and persons with Albinism.

4.8 Key Challenges and Recommendations under Community Policing

- There is a great demand for capacity building for both Police officers and members of community policing structures.
- There is a need to procure essential working equipment for community policing structures, such as whistles, torches, reflective jackets and bicycles.
- Lack of conducive infrastructures, including Victim Support Unit (VSU) offices and proper furniture, poses challenges for accommodating stranded victims. MPS should therefore continue to lobby for construction of new and additional VSUs.

PART 5: PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT

5.0 Overview of Public Order Management

In the year 2023, the Malawi Police Service (MPS), through the Mobile Police Service (PMS), embarked on a comprehensive and strategic approach to enhance its capabilities in the critical domain of Public Order Management. Recognizing the need for a refined and professional response to public events, the MPS directed its focus towards addressing challenges, implementing effective strategies, and building capacities its officers among others. The initiative was set against a background of negative feedback surrounding the management of public demonstrations in Malawi, specifically highlighting concerns such as a perceived trigger-happy mentality, lack of command and control, and issues to do with the use of tear gas. In response to these challenges, the MPS formulated a series of planned activities aimed at improving various aspects of its operations.

5.1 Key Areas of improving Public Order Management Approaches

Key areas of emphasis included skill-based training, weapon handling proficiency, and the development of both mental and physical standards among officers. The year 2023 marked a period of reflection and strategic planning for the MPS, with a keen focus on rectifying deficiencies, strengthening discipline, and ensuring optimal performance during public demonstrations.

5.2 2024 Plans under Public Order Management

In the unfolding year of 2024, the Malawi Police Service (MPS) has outlined a robust and forward-thinking agenda in the realm of Public Order Management. Building upon the lessons learned and successes achieved in the preceding year, the MPS envisions a proactive and strategic approach to address the challenges associated with public demonstrations and maintain a high standard of professionalism. The planned activities for 2024 encompass a multifaceted strategy, with a focus on continuous training, enhanced coordination, and bolstered operational capacities.

Among the key initiatives, the MPS is set to intensify patrols and vigilantism during

presidential functions, aiming to secure public events with efficiency and professionalism. Furthermore, the emphasis on the enhancement of lectures across all Divisions, and Stations specifically on discipline and performance and the utilization of public order equipment, underscores the commitment to raising the standards of its officers. The year 2024 also heralds a renewed focus on supervision and monitoring of planned activities, ensuring the implementation of effective strategies such as patrols in urban and border areas, management of demonstrations, and comprehensive training programs. Additionally, the MPS is poised to reinforce joint command-level training within regions, fostering better coordination during demonstrations, and facilitating the development of well-trained commanders and subordinates to efficiently handle dynamic situations. The call for additional manpower through recruitment, coupled with requests for necessary equipment and resources, reflects the MPS's dedication to overcoming challenges and ensuring a resilient and professional response to the complex demands of public order management in the year ahead. **Figure 25** shows Public Order Management Officers ready for action.



Figure 25: Public Order Management Officers

PART 6: HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

6.0 Overview of Human Resources Management and Development

The cornerstone of any organization is its human resources, a principle particularly pronounced in the Malawi Police Service (MPS) where automation is limited and the primary asset resides in its human workforce. Ensuring the effectiveness of this workforce is paramount, underscoring the need for continual training and meeting other essential requirements. This segment outlines the existing status of human resources within the MPS as of 2023, encompassing aspects such as establishment, working strength, and vacancies.

Rank	Grade	Total Establishment	Working Strength			Vacancies
			Male	Female	Total	
Inspector General	B	1	-	1	1	-
Deputy IG	C	2	2	-	2	-
Commissioner	D	11	7	4	11	-
Deputy Commissioner	E	23	14	5	19	4
Senior ACP	E	-	10	4	14	-14
Assistant Commissioner	E	57	48	26	74	-17
Senior Superintendent	F	144	103	35	138	6
Superintendent	G	289	283	85	368	-79
Assistant Superintendent	H	492	296	146	442	50
Inspector	I	1,796	898	333	1231	565
Sub-Inspector	J	3,398	4,154	1,421	5575	-2177
Sergeant	K	7,383	3,808	1,534	5342	2041
Constable	L	17,644	1,757	1,238	2995	14649
Total		31,240	11,380	4,832	16,212	15,028

Table 23: Establishment of the Malawi Police Service as of December 2023

Table 23 details the established strength, actual working strength, and existing vacancies within the MPS as of December 31, 2023. The MPS had a total working strength of 16,212 Police Officers showing a shortfall 15,028 personnel against the approved established strength of 31,240.

Police Population Ratio

Looking at the working strength which is at 16,212 against the estimated population of 20,457,539, the Police Population ratio is at **1: 1,262**. This, significantly, surpasses the United Nations' recommended ratio of 1:500. Figure 26 shows the composition of Police Officers by Gender

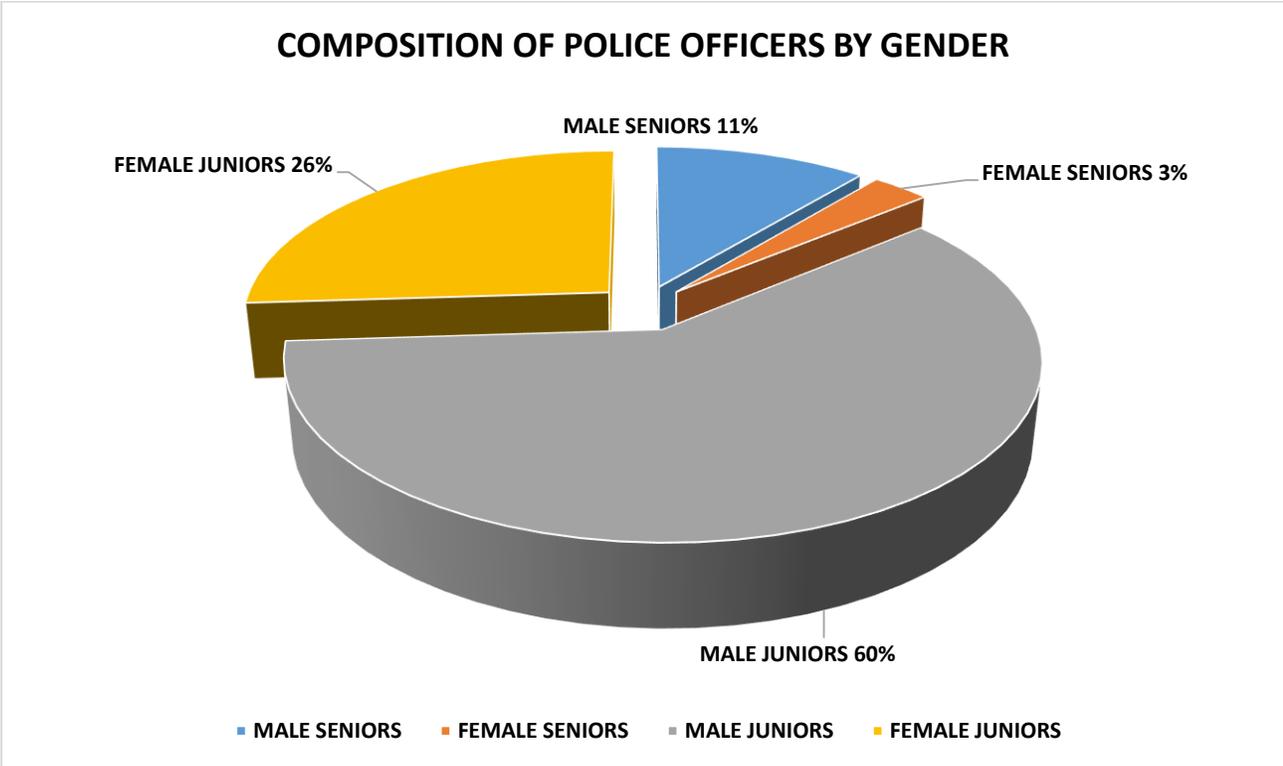


Figure 26: Composition of Police Officers by Gender

The statistics in Figure 26, indicates that out of the total of 16,212 work force, 26% were junior female officers and 3% were senior female officers while 11% represented senior male officers and 60% male junior officers. This means that the population of male junior officers is more than the rest of the categories.

The composition of Senior Officers by Gender

The population of senior officers in 2023 was that 28% were females while 72% were males. Figure 27 show composition of Senior Officers by Gender.

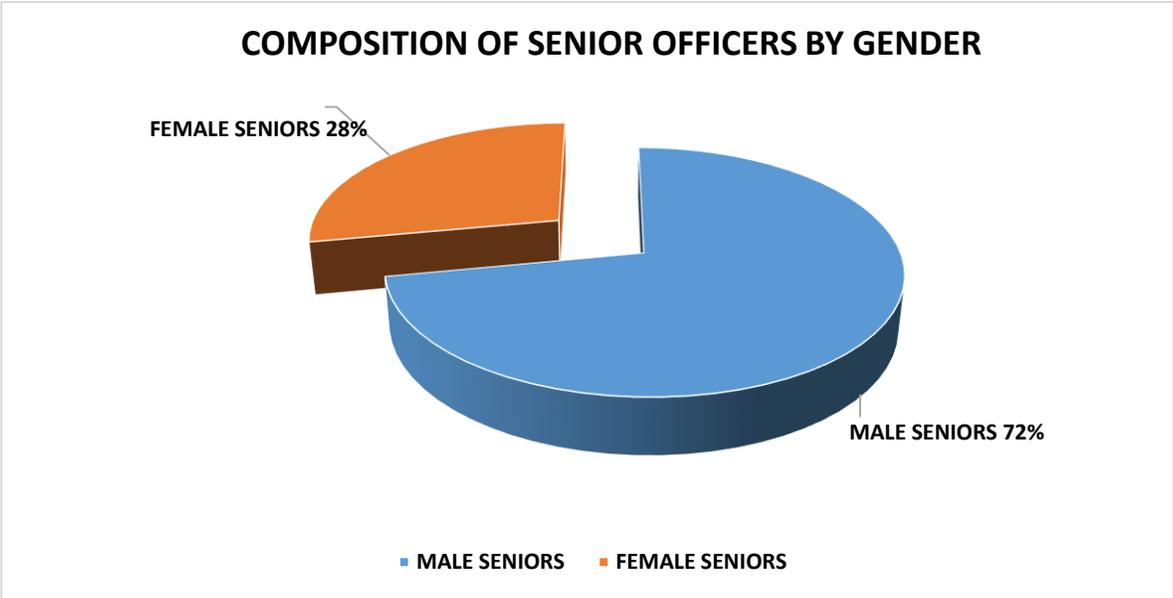


Figure 27: Composition of Senior Officers by Gender.

The composition of Junior Officers by Gender

The population of junior officers in the year under review was that 30.2% were females while 69.8% were males. Figure 28 show composition of Junior Officers by Gender.

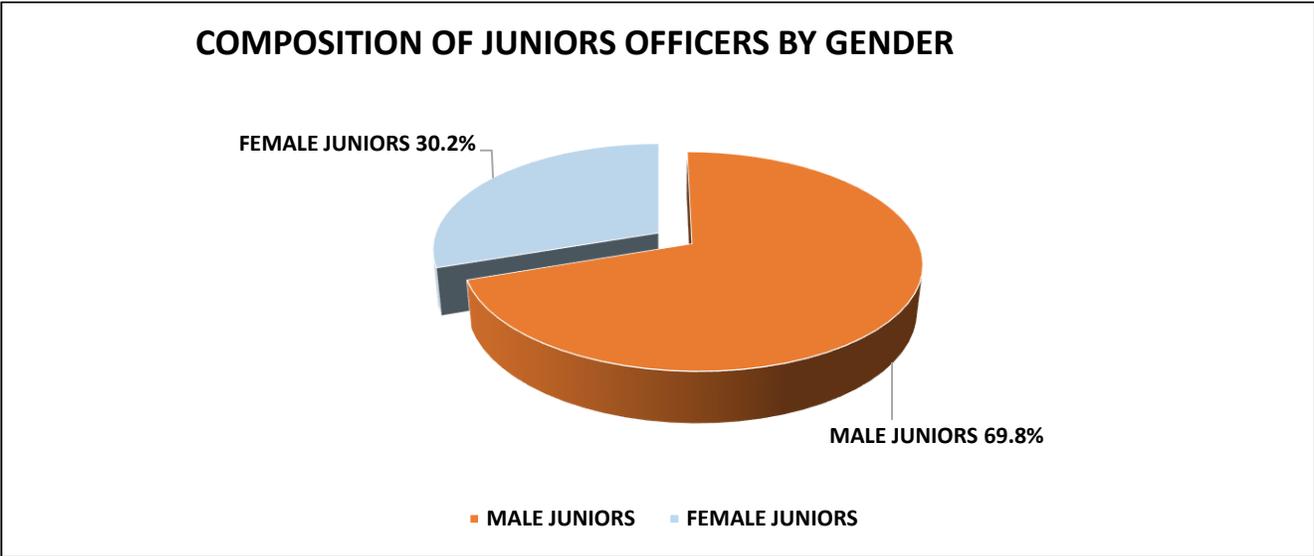


Figure 28: Composition of Junior Officers by Gender.

6.1 Attrition

The attrition levels had increased in 2023 as compared to the same period in 2022 as shown in the Table 24. In 2022 total attrition was at 231 while in the same period in 2023 total attrition increased to 233. This was attributed to increases in deaths, dismissals and resignations in 2023.

S/N	Description	Jan – Dec 2023			Jan – Dec 2022		
		Senior	Junior	Total	Senior	Junior	Total
1	Retirement	69	47	116	92	56	148
2	Death	11	59	70	10	48	58
3	Dismissal	0	26	26	0	3	3
4	Resignation	1	20	21	4	11	15
5	Discharge (UBE)	-	-	-	-	7	7
	Total	81	152	233	106	125	231

Table 24: Attrition 2022 and 2023.

Activities undertaken during the year

In 2023, the Malawi Police Service (MPS) executed a successful recruitment exercise, strategically bolstering its workforce. Recognizing the importance of maintaining an adequate and capable manpower pool, the MPS has articulated plans to further increase its ranks in 2024. This forward-looking initiative reflects the organization's commitment to addressing manpower shortages and ensuring it is well-equipped to meet the evolving demands of its duties and responsibilities.

6.2 Human Resource Development (Training and Development)

The Service Training Office conducted several trainings in the year 2023. These trainings were aimed at improving employees' skills to enhance productivity and to aligning them with modern style of policing. In 2023, MPS conducted Six (6) training programs which included Basic Financial Investigation Course, Corruption Risk Assessment Course, Ant-Weapon Trafficking Course, Aviation Security Training Course, Sub Inspectors Responsibility Course and Prosecution Intake Course.

6.3 Discipline

The National Disciplinary Committee of the MPS had meetings held at Makokola Police Cottage on 5th September and 13th December 2023. It also had another meeting held at National Police Headquarters Senior Officers Mess from 22nd March 2023. A total of 166 disciplinary charge sheets were submitted from various police formations. The Table 25 provide a summary of the outcomes after review:

S/N	Offence	Number of Charge Sheets
1	Absenting himself without leave	94
2	Conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline	31
3	Leaving the post without authority	12
4	Allowing a prisoner to escape	7
5	Drinking intoxicating liquor whilst on duty	7
6	Disrespectful in words to her superior in rank	3
7	Breaking out of or leaves without any lawful excuse any Police camp or quarters	2
8	Failing to appear on parade without proper cause	2
9	Willfully disobeys lawful order given to him by superior in rank	2
10	Sleeping on duty	1
11	Escaping from confinement	1
12	Bullying an inferior in rank	1
	Total	163

Table 25: Disciplinary Charges handled in 2023.

From Table 25, “Absenting without leave” was the most prevalent breach of discipline in 2023 with a total of 94 cases of the total followed by “Conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline” with 31 cases.

Outcomes of the Disciplinary Charges

S/N	Description	Total
1	Enhancement	56
2	Reduction in rank	28
3	Dismissal	25
4	Others	43
	Total	152

Table 26: Outcomes of the Disciplinary Charges

From Table 26, a total of Fifty-Six (56) punishments imposed on the defaulters were enhanced from Three (3) days' pay to Seven (7) days' pay while a total of Twenty-Eight (28) were enhanced to reduction in rank from Sub Inspector to Sergeant and from Sergeant to Constable. On the other hand, a total of Twenty-Five (25) Police Officers were recommended to the Police Service Commission for dismissal.

Most of these reduction in rank cases and dismissal were as a result of absenting themselves without leave, conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline and leaving the post without authority which on Table 6 were on the higher side.

6.4 HRM General Challenge and Recommendation

- The reliance on manual methods for managing personnel data poses challenges in consistency and maintenance. Digitalizing the Human Resource Management (HRM) database using dedicated software or platforms can enhance data accuracy, streamline processes, and provide a more efficient way to analyze and manage personnel information.

PART 7: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

7.0 Overview of MPS International Relations

MPS realizes that the fight against transnational and organized crime cannot be won in isolation. It is for this reason that MPS is a member of both international and regional policing organizations. By the end of 2023, the MPS had a current strength of 44 officers of which 27 were males while 17 were females who are still serving in different capacities at international levels, both at the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNIMIS) and at the United Nations Police Division in New York. This attests to the professionalism that the MPS officers possess both locally and at international level.

7.1 Membership with INTERPOL

MPS is a member of International Criminal Police Organization (**INTERPOL**) with whom it cooperates in the fight against transnational organized crimes. Through the National Central Bureau (**NCB**), Lilongwe, Malawi utilizes INTERPOL tools and services to facilitate international relations and cooperation with law enforcement agencies in other INTERPOL member countries, to facilitate international Police cooperation, and to assist Police in preventing and combating local, cross-border, and transnational organised crime are all part of the mission of the National Crime Bureau in Lilongwe.

Through INTERPOL, MPS recorded a number of accomplishments in 2023 as part of its efforts to fulfil its mission. These accomplishments include, among other things; cross-border investigations, the tracking, rescue, and repatriation of victims of human trafficking, the facilitation of the recovery and repatriation of stolen property, and providing law enforcement officials with access to the INTERPOL database.

Sharing of intelligence

NCB Lilongwe was able to provide investigation support in a number of cases involving transnational organised crime and cross-border organised crime, in which the detectives were required to conduct their investigations across international borders.

Participation in Global and Regional Operations

In the year 2023, INTERPOL Lilongwe has achieved a great deal of success in a variety of high-profile operations. As an illustration, it took part in the following operations; - Coordinating Training and capacity building Programs for Law Enforcement Officer INTERPOL Lilongwe was responsible for coordinating the training and capacity building of MPS officers through the participation in a variety of training programs not available by INTERPOL and its collaborating partners.

7.2 Membership with AFRIPOL

MPS is also a member of African Union Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL). Through AFRIPOL, MPS participated in capacity building programs in the area of forensic science. Malawi is participating in AFRIPOL'S network of excellence in forensics (NEF) project which aims at developing capacities of national police services in Digital Forensics, DNA, Document Analysis, Facial Recognition, Ballistics and Fingerprints.

7.3 Joint Permanent Commission on Defense and Security (JPCDS) and Joint Permanent Commission of Cooperation (JPCC).

MPS has Joint Permanent Commissions on Defence and Security (JPCDS) with Zambia and Mozambique and other Bilateral Cooperation with countries like Tanzania. The 15th Session of the Malawi/Mozambique Joint Permanent Commission on Defence and Security (JPCDS) met in Blantyre, from 28th – 29th June 2023, where areas of mutual interest were discussed. The 18th Session of the Malawi-Zambia Joint Permanent Commission on Defence and Security (JPCDS) held its meeting at the Sunbird Nkopola Lodge in Mangochi from 11th - 12th December, 2023.

8.0 Conclusion

The Malawi Police Service's Annual Report for 2023 summarizes a year marked by both challenges and significant achievements. The increase in total recorded crime, prompts a deeper examination of societal factors contributing to this trend. The MPS, in the face of challenges, has demonstrated resilience, dedication, and adaptability. The initiatives undertaken in 2023 lays the groundwork for continued improvements, emphasizing the MPS's commitment to ensuring public safety, upholding justice, and collaborating with the global community in the fight against all forms of crime.