

## **PROFILE ON HIJACKINGS – BIOGRAPHICAL DATA IN GAUTENG**

These figures and information is released towards the education of employees with regard to hijacking trends in Gauteng. This data was obtained during the interviewing of convicted hijackers. The figures mentioned are not accurate statistics but rather the perspective of the hijacker relative to his actions.

### **Demographics**

- 98% are male
- 57% are Zulu speaking (Correlate with census demographics)
- 23% are Sotho speaking (Correlate with census demographics)
- 90% black
- 7% white
- 3% coloured

### **Age**

- 33%            26 – 29 years
- 27%            22 – 25 years
- 20%            30 – 33 years

### **Criminal and Conviction history**

- 60% was already involved in crime before committing the hijacking without being convicted
- Averages 24 hijackings before being convicted

### **Reason for arrest**

- 30% as result of detective work
- 70% either caught during the act, random SAPS patrols, private security companies or traffic police random searches

### **Marriage Status**

- 78% of hijackers are unmarried (includes common law marriages)

## **Education**

- 67%            Grade 10 – 12
- 23%            Grade 7 – 9
- 7%              Grade 1 – 3
- 3%              Grade 4 – 6

## **Flight of criminal**

- 87% of hijackers returned to their personal homes after committing the crime

## **Profession**

47%	Unemployed
17%	Artisan
17%	Scholar
7%	Labourer
8%	Taxi driver
3%	Security Guard
3%	Public Servant
3%	Transporter

## **Military History**

- 73% no military training

## **Preference to other crimes**

- 76% prefer hijacking than any other crime because more lucrative, quick money and conviction rate much lower

## **Time frames**

### Months

More likely to be hijacked:            January, June, July, August

Less likely to be hijacked:            December

### Days

More likely: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursday, Fridays (double than any other day)

Less likely: Sundays

### Times

16% 10h00 – 20h00 most likely to occur

14% 08h00 – 10h00

20h00 – 04h00 less likely to occur

### **Areas hit by hijackings**

- 30% Previously exclusive black areas
- 26% Previously exclusive white areas
- 22% Rural
- 11% CBD
- 11% Rural town

### **Transport of hijacker**

- 59% will use a vehicle to get to the crime area
- 33% will get there on foot

### **Destination of hijacked vehicle**

- 26% Syndicate
- 22% Specific client
- 15% Client still to be found to sell to
- 15% Only robbed for cargo inside

- 11% Personal use
- 11% To commit another crime

### **Weapon of choice**

- 96% Handgun (the cocked sound intimidates the victim; concealment)
- 4% Single shot rifle

### **Percentage armed**

- 96% of all hijackers are armed

### **Choice of victim**

- 55% No distinction
- 30% Race
- 11% Easy target
- 4% Owner owes money

### **Number of victims per hijacking**

- 48% 1 occupant
- 22% 3 occupants
- 19% 2 occupants

### **Gender of victim**

- 89% no preference
- 11% rather men than women (women generally perceived to resist and scream)

### **Amount of attackers**

- Average 3 hijackers involved per incident

### **Places hijackings occur**

- 22% Driveway
- 11% T-junction
- 52% Stop street, intersection, shopping complex, parked in street
- 15% Driveway of business, office park or motorway (on mobile)

### **Planning of hijacking**

- 57% planned in which area crime is going to take place
- 43% not planned to take a specific vehicle, but planned the area
- 78% spent an hour in the area prior to hijacking
- 70% of hijackings take place outside the area where the criminal actually resides

### **Preferred escape routes**

- 52% Highway
- 15% Main Road
- 15% Suburban streets
- 7% Back streets

### **Disposal of vehicle**

- 36% Hand over to syndicate
- 28% Hand over to client
- 12% Sold out of hand
- 8% Abandoned

- 8%            Looking for buyer
- 4%            Kept for own use
- 4%            Use in another crime

### **Behaviour of criminal**

- 70% of all hijackers never become angry

### **Hijackers opinions on how victims should react**

**NB**

- 100% agree that you should submit immediately
- 96% say you should raise your hands
- 41% say it is a good sign if you plead for your life
- 96% of hijackers prefer to open the door themselves
- 90% of victims were shot because they became hysterical and screamed
- 40% of hijackers prefer for you not to make eye contact
- 85% would rather search victim outside vehicle
- 22% prefer that the victim unclip safety belt
- 100% of hijackers focus on their own safety first. Will act/shoot if there is even a remote chance that they could be harmed
- 78% prefer that you not unclip your safety belt yourself. They would rather that you slide out of the belt to the passenger side or an accomplice will unclip it from the passenger door
- 100% agree that the unclipping of the seat belt is the main reason that victims are shot. The “click” sound of the safety belt unnerves the attackers and sounds like a firearm.
- 78% of hijackers do not prefer that victims unclip their belts with the left hand
- 93% prefer that you stand still outside to be searched once you have climbed out
- 25% prefer that you lie on your stomach after exiting the vehicle
- 75% prefer that you run or walk away
- 93% say that they would rather shoot a victim than risk being caught or harmed.
- 85% of victims will be allowed to go unhurt if they cooperate

## **ONLY ACT ON INSTRUCTION**

### **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES UNCLIP YOUR SAFETY BELT WITHOUT PERMISSION**

#### **Fate of driver**

- 12% left behind
- 26% taken with
- 11% shot

#### **Method applied to driver to get control of vehicle**

- 93%            Pointed by firearm
- 7%             Killed in vehicle

#### **Reasons for the manner in which victim was treated (Above-mentioned)**

- 42%            To maintain/get control
- 26%            To intimidate
- 24%            Preventative measure for own safety
- 8%             Victim resisted

#### **Preventative measures by hijacker**

- 37%            Took preventative measures to be caught
- 63%            Took no measures

## **Role of drugs/alcohol**

- 78% do not use any prior to act of hijacking

## **Elapsed time from the actual hijacking until getting rid of vehicle**

- 27% 30 minutes and less
- 19% 30 minutes to 1 hour
- 4% 1hour to 1 hour 30 minutes
- 8% 1 hour 30 minutes to 2 hours
- 23% 4 to 9 hours
- 19% 12 hours to 1 month

## **Preferred make of vehicle in Gauteng and resale value in ZAR**

(In order of popularity)

- BMW 14 500
- Mercedes Benz (SLK most popular) 18 700
- Honda Ballade 4 750
- Toyota Corolla 900
- Golf 13 500
- Volvo 25 000
- 4 X 4 10 250
- Toyota Land Cruiser 8 500
- Nissan 1400 Bakkie 3000