

Over 900 die in police custody in a year

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About 932 people died in police custody in South Africa in 2011-12, a report by the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (Ipid) has revealed.

According to the **Daily Dispatch** on Monday, the Ipid annual report states that KwaZulu-Natal had 268 deaths with Gauteng second at 217 deaths and the Eastern Cape third with 120 deaths.

The report also states that the number of deaths in police custody has substantially over the past decade.

Taxi driver incident

Meanwhile, eight police officers implicated in the death of an East Rand minibus taxi driver are expected to appear in the Daveyton Magistrate's Court on Monday.

The two warrant officers and six constables face a murder charge following the death of Mido Macia while in police custody.

The officers allegedly tied 27-year-old Macia to the back of a police van and dragged him along a street in Daveyton on Tuesday.

Macia, a taxi driver and Mozambican national, died at the local police station's cells several hours later. His body was found by a police officer on Tuesday night.

A post mortem revealed he died of head and internal injuries.

Ipid spokesperson Moses Dlamini said police reported that they had earlier found Macia wrongfully parked on a road and ordered him to move.

Macia's death caused a public outcry against police brutality.

The Dispatch reported that the Ipid was also investigating the death of a policeman who died in police custody at the Barkly East police station in January, a day after he was detained for allegedly being drunk.

- SAPA