CAPE TOWN GANGS LOCKDOWN TIMELINE

High levels of police and military presence. Fewer gang members on street corners due to movement restrictions.

Across the Eastern Cape, residents engaged in protests about food insecurity and perceived unequal distribution of food parcels.

Some gangs distribute food to residents in areas of high food insecurity.

Visible military and police presence decreases. Police precincts reportedly close due to COVID-19 outbreaks.

Gangs begin to tax businesses selling cigarettes illegally and consolidate their hold of the cigarette market, and they are now the distribution networks to many store owners.

Prices remain high and cigarettes reportedly become more difficult to obtain. Legal alcohol sales mean less alcohol is distributed by gangs, but illicit cigarette sales remain high.

Increase in raids of drug sale points and illegal alcohol sales.

High levels of community unrest due to food insecurity and looting of grocery shops and food trucks.

Prices remain high, shops selling cigarettes illegally are taxed and robbed.

Protests continue at high levels, including protests over land use in informal settlements.

Increase in gang recruitment as more young people on the streets due to easing restrictions, food insecurity and school closures.

Some faith leaders collaborate with gang members in a so-called 'truce' to help with food distributions in some areas.

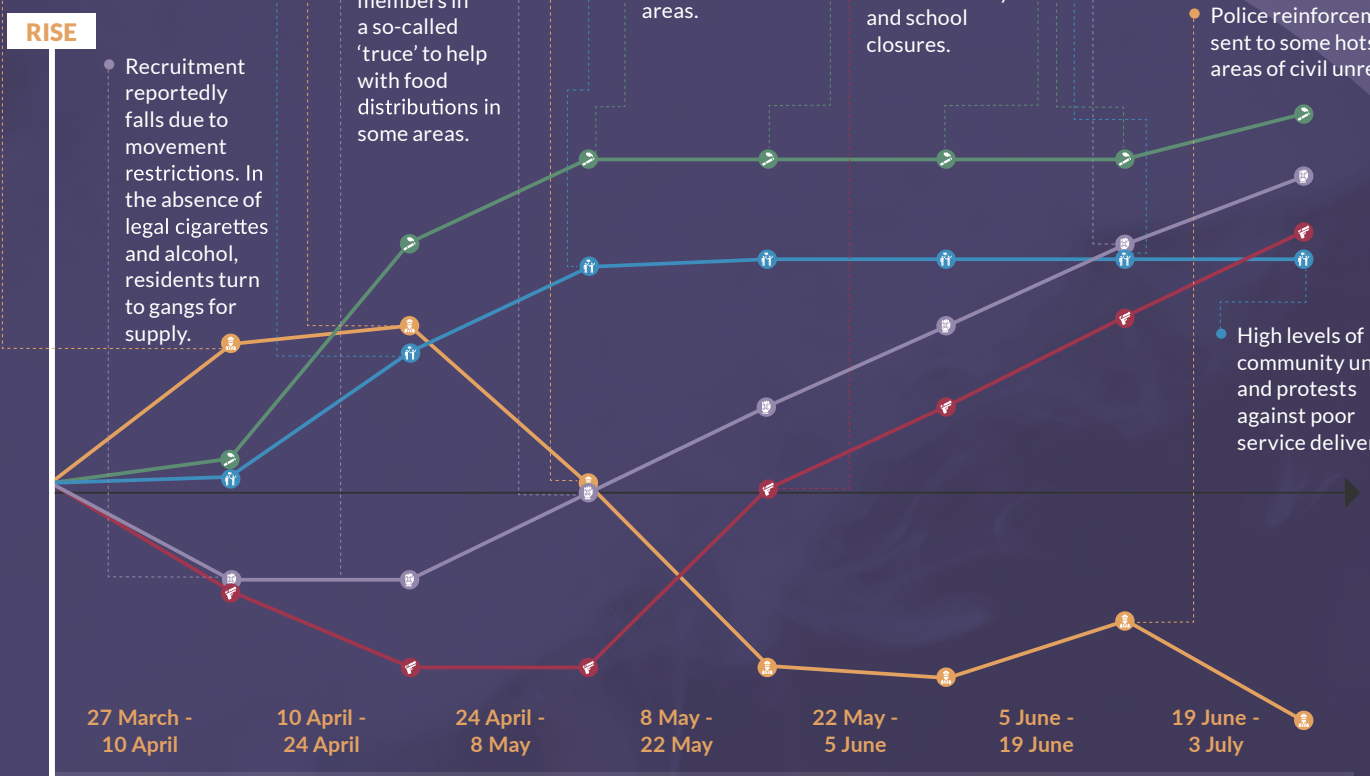
Gangs begin to take control of illicit cigarette sales in their areas.

Communities are in fear of escalating gang violence.

Police reinforcements sent to some hotspot areas of civil unrest.

Recruitment reportedly falls due to movement restrictions. In the absence of legal cigarettes and alcohol, residents turn to gangs for supply.

High levels of community unrest and protests against poor service delivery.



Illegal cigarettes and alcohol markets

Gang recruitment and community relations

Levels of gang violence

Civil unrest, looting and protesting

Police and military presence

GLOBAL INITIATIVE