



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Water levels decline again this week

01 August 2017

The steady gradual decline of the National Dam Levels continues amid fears that the downside will accelerate alarming proportions in the coming weeks.

The national water levels of South Africa's 211 dams stand at 69, 5% as measured on 31 July 2017 and compared to 52, 8% during the same time last year. A week ago the dam levels stood at 69, 9%. This week saw a drop of 0, 4%.

This downwards trend of the country's reservoirs is worrisome and the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) appeals to communities, including businesses, farmers and sundry, to use the resource with extra care.

The provincial water levels are as follows: Eastern Cape (down by 0, 4% to 56, 2%), Free State (down by 0, 5% to 81, 1%), Gauteng (down by 0, 1% to 88, 7%), KwaZulu-Natal (down by 1, 0% to 54, 1%), Limpopo (down by 0, 3% to 76, 5%), Mpumalanga (down by 0, 3% to 76, 6%), Northern Cape (up to 91, 3 from 87, 3%), North West (down by 0, 6% to 82, 2%), Western Cape - (slightly up by 0, 1% to 27, 3%).

The Algoa System, serving 5 dams around the Nelson Mandela Bay, decreased by 0, 7% to 32, 0% from 32, 7% last week. The System was at 72, 4% during the same time last year.

Amathole System with 6 dams serving Buffalo City decreased by 0, 9% to 62, 7%, last year was at 83, 4%.

The Bloemfontein System with 4 dams serving mainly Mangaung dropped by a point to 44, 8% compared with 34, 4% the same time last year.

The Cape Town System with 6 dams serving mainly City of Cape Town gained from 27, 0% to 27, 4%. The system was at 52, 7% during the same time last year.

The Crocodile West System with 6 dams serving mainly Tshwane, Madibeng and Rustenburg dropped by 0, 8% to 97, 4%. The System was recorded at 95, 6% during the same time last year.

The Integrated Vaal River System with 14 dams serving mainly Gauteng Sasol and Eskom has decreased by 0, 7% to 80, 2% compared with 54, 9% recorded during the same time last year.

The Umgeni Dam System with 5 dams serving mainly eThekweni and Mundus dropped from 60, 3% to 59, 7%. The System was at 48, 3% last year.

The Department of Water and Sanitation wish to remind water users that South Africa is a water scarce country, therefore all the available water must be used with due diligence to avoid running out of water.



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