



MEDIA STATEMENT

Drop in Mpumalanga water levels continue with most dams still above 100%.

11 February 2026

The latest Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly State of Reservoirs report, released this week shows that water levels continue to drop in the Mpumalanga Province. Despite the dropping water levels in the province, most listed dams remain above 100%.

The report indicates a slight decline on average dam levels from 100.4% to 100.1% across the Mpumalanga Province. In the Water Management Areas (WMA), the Limpopo–Olifants WMA dropped from 99.3% to 99.1% and the Inkomati–Usuthu WMA dropped from 100.1% to 99.8%.

Water levels also dropped across all three districts of the province, with Ehlanzeni dropping from 101.3% to 100.8%, Gert Sibande from 99.9% to 99.7%, and Nkangala from 100.6% to 100.2%.

All the listed dams in the Lowveld and Ehlanzeni District recorded declines in water levels but most are still above 100% except for Da Gama Dam which dropped 100.3% to 99.8%.

The dams which recorded declines but still remain above 100% include Blyderivierpoort Dam from 101.8% to 101.3%, Buffelskloof Dam from 100.7% to 100.3%, Driekoppies Dam from 101.2% to 101.0%, Kwena Dam from 101.3% to 100.8%, Witklip Dam from 101.3% to 100.9%, Inyaka Dam from 101.4% to 100.4%, Primkop Dam from 103.0% to 101.9%, Longmere Dam from 101.3% to 100.4%, Klipkopjes Dam from 100.4% to 100.2%, and Ohrigstad Dam from 100.2% to 100.1%.

In the Gert Sibande District, only Nooitgedacht Dam recorded an increase in water levels moving from 99.6% to 100,3% while the rest of the other listed dams recorded declines in water levels.

Most of the listed dams which recorded declines in the district are still above 100% with the exception of Vygeboom and Westoe dams which recorded declines from 100.0% to 99.1% and from 85.8% to 85.7%, respectively. Above the 100% mark, Grootdraai Dam dropped from 101.1% to 101.0%, Jericho Dam from 101.0% to 100.1%, Morgenstond Dam from 100.7% to 100.0%, and Heyshope Dam from 100.5% to 100.4%.

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In the Nkangala District, only Middelburg Dam recorded an improvement, increasing from 98.6% to 99.3% whereas the other dams recorded declines.

On the decline in the district, Witbank Dam dropped from 97.9% to 97.7%, Loskop Dam from 101.1% to 100.6%, and Rhenosterkop Dam from 101.4% to 100.9%.

Despite water levels in the dams and water resources looking satisfactory, DWS reminds the public that South Africa remains a water-scarce country, making water conservation a priority to ensure sustainable and reliable supply and water security for the current and future generations.

Furthermore, the department encourages rainwater harvesting during rainy periods to help ease pressure on municipal water systems.

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