MONTHLY DASHBOARD FOR A WATER SECURE GAUTENG

31 May 2026

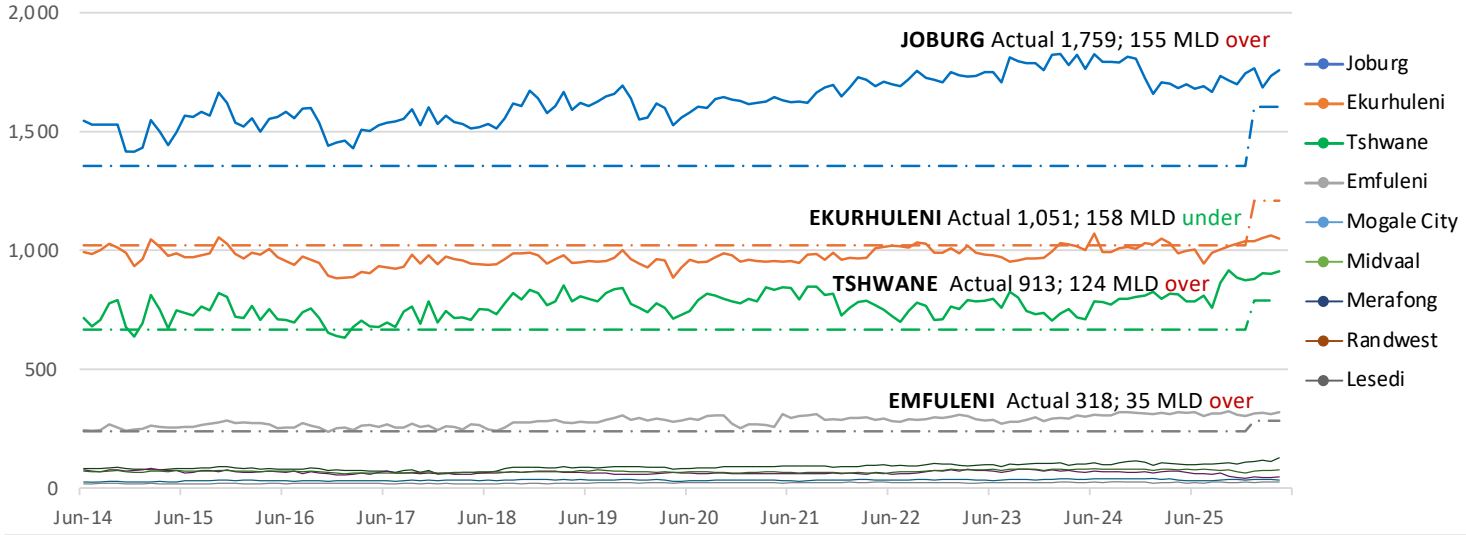
1. OVERALL WATER CONSUMPTION: Metros, Emfuleni, smaller municipalities **monthly metering data for April** shown below

	TOTAL RW	Joburg	Ekurhuleni	Tshwane	Emfuleni	Mogale City	Midvaal	Merafong	Rand West	Lesedi
Apr Ave Daily Use (MLD)	**4,351**	**1759**	**1051**	**913**	**318**	**127**	**34**	**48**	**77**	**24**
Mar Ave Daily Use (MLD)	4,254	1733	1064	910	312	112	35	43	75	24
Feb Ave Daily Use (MLD)	4,288	1684	1052	904	317	116	37	45	75	24
Revised WUE Target	***4,265***	***1604***	***1209***	***789***	***283***	***110***	***33***	***102***	***108***	***27***
WUE Target Use (MLD)	3,604	1,356	1,022	666	239	93	28	86	91	23
DIFFERENCE Revised WUE (MLD)	**86**	**155**	**158**	**124**	**35**	**17**	**1**	**54**	**31**	**3**
% From target use	**2%**	**10%**	**-13%**	**16%**	**12%**	**16%**	**3%**	**-53%**	**-28%**	**-10%**
Gross Per capita use (lcd)	308	289	258	277	440	311	420	337	296	201
Increase/Decrease from previous	↑	↑	↓	↑	↑	↑	↓	↑	↑	same

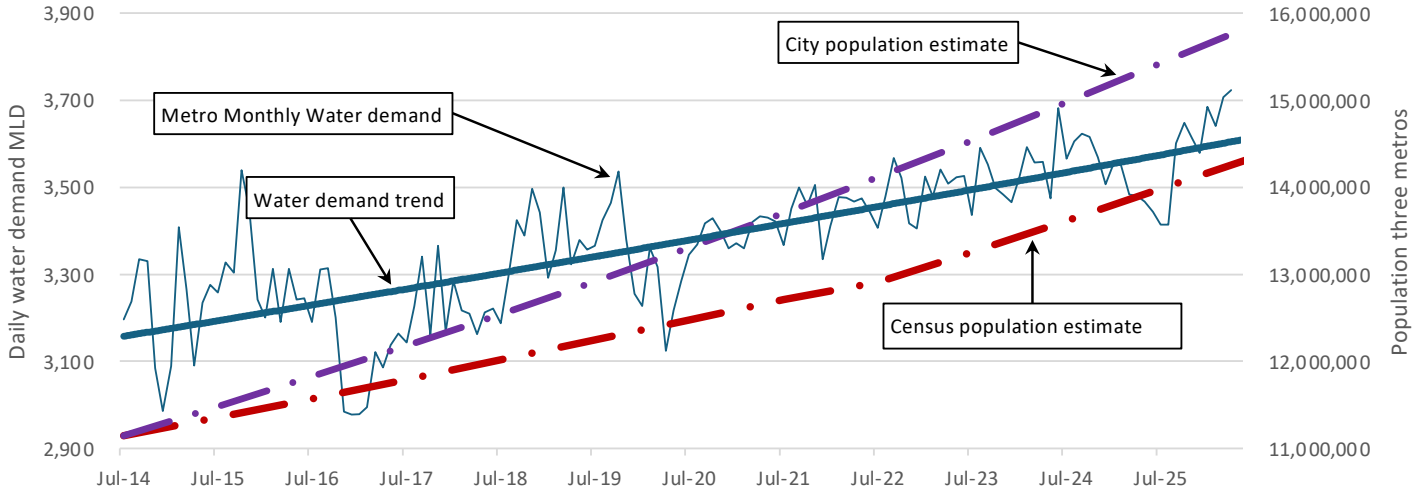
*↓ Decrease from last week, but above target ↑ Increase from last week, but in target ↓ Decrease, within target ↑ Increase

- The Minister of DWS authorised an additional 200 million m³ of water for abstraction until June 2026 which should aid recovery of the supply systems and restore water to the entire supply system. **The increase in WUE allocation is highlighted in blue.**
- Month on month, total water use increased in April, exceeding the revised water use efficiency (WUE) target by **86 MLD**

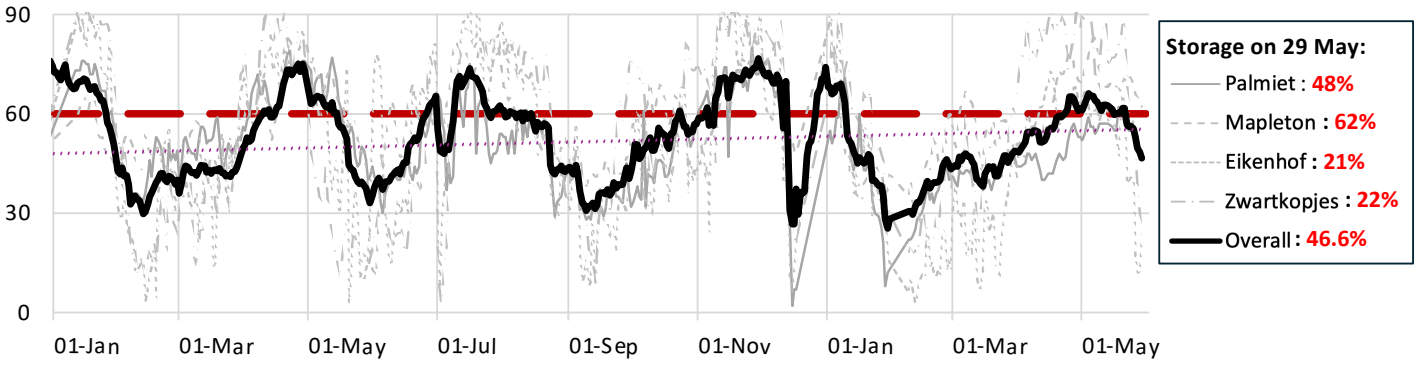
2. MONTHLY CONSUMPTION / WATER USED – 2014 to APR 2026 (million litres per day = MLD)



3. WATER DEMAND AND POPULATION GROWTH 2014 to Apr 2026: The graph below tracks water supplied by RW to the three metros since 2014, plotted against population. The StatsSA Census figures indicate an annual growth rate of 2.7% since 1996, while the metro's own data provides an annual growth rate of ±3%. This results in a combined population in 2025 of ±15.5 million as estimated by the Cities vs ±14 million as provided by StatSA. In contrast, water supplied has increased at a much lower growth rate, ±0.9% per year. Over the same period, NRW has increased at ±2.3% per year. This means that the gross per capita use has decreased since 2014, as the increase in population is larger than the increase in water use. Furthermore, the net per capita use has decreased more as NRW and losses have increased over the same period.



4. RESERVOIR STORAGE LEVELS: The first graph indicates the percentage of water storage in the four main strategic Rand Water reservoir systems feeding into Gauteng since January 2025. Palmiet comprises 59% of the total storage volume, Mapleton 23%, Eikenhof 11% and Zwartkopjes 7%. The overall target reservoir storage level is 60%, at which point the system has sufficient pressure. For nearly a month from 23 April to 21 May 2026, the average system storage exceeded 60% with stabilised water supply. Since planned maintenance commenced in the last week of May, system storage has again dropped to below 60%.



5. PLANNED MAINTENANCE: Rand Water typically undertakes planned maintenance in winter months when demand is historically lower, to minimize disruptions and reduce water outages. In a constrained system the impact of seasonal demand is less pronounced. The maintenance program for 2026 runs from 29 May to 17 July, coordinated with Eskom. The main activities programmed are:

- Eskom-related electrical maintenance at Zuikerbosch and Palmiet
- Installation and upgrading of motors at Zuikerbosch Raw Water Engine Room 4
- Replacement of critical valves and thrust bearings at Palmiet, Vereeniging and Foresthill systems
- M11 pipeline cross-connection within the Mapleton system.

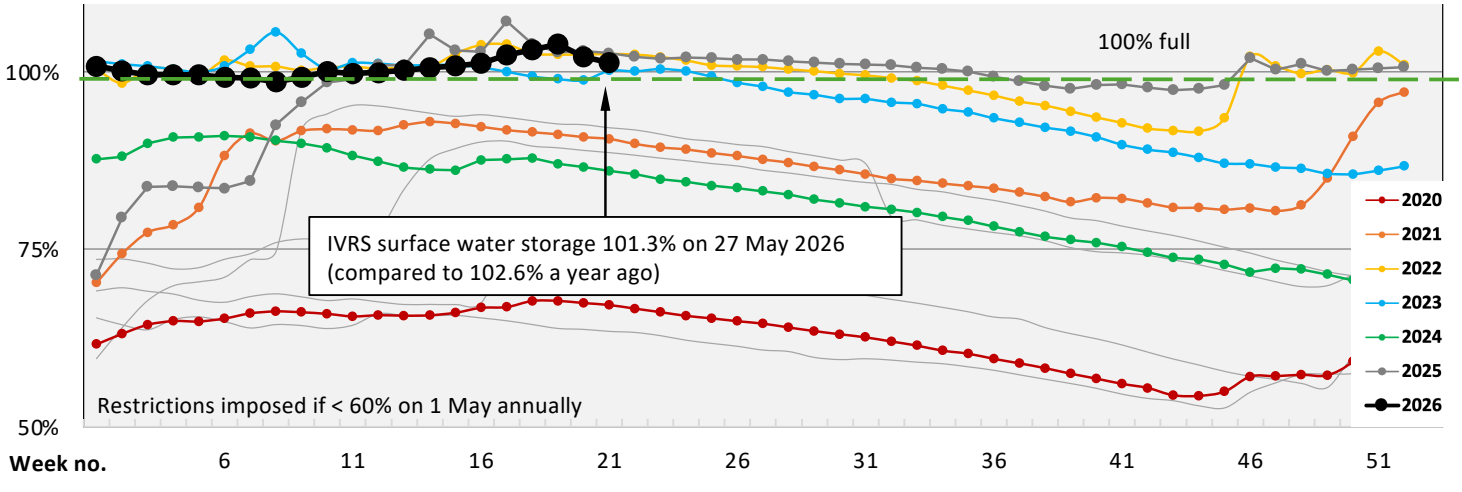
During this period, pumping capacity will be reduced affecting customers within the cities of Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni, and Tshwane as well as Mogale City, Rand West, Merafong, Rustenburg, Madibeng, Lesedi, Victor Khanye, Govan Mbeki, Thembisile Hani, Midvaal, Emfuleni, Metsimaholo, Ngwathe and Royal Bafokeng Administration. Such outages typically result in prolonged recovery periods and all users are advised to use water sparingly to ensure equitable distribution. Reduced demand helps reservoirs to fill more quickly so that everyone has access to sufficient water. Note that Rand Water is a bulk supplier, and each municipality has communication channels to advise on localised supply outages.

https://www.randwater.co.za/media/media_statements/Media%20Statement%20Planned%20Maintenance%20%20May%20July%202026%20%2015%20May.pdf

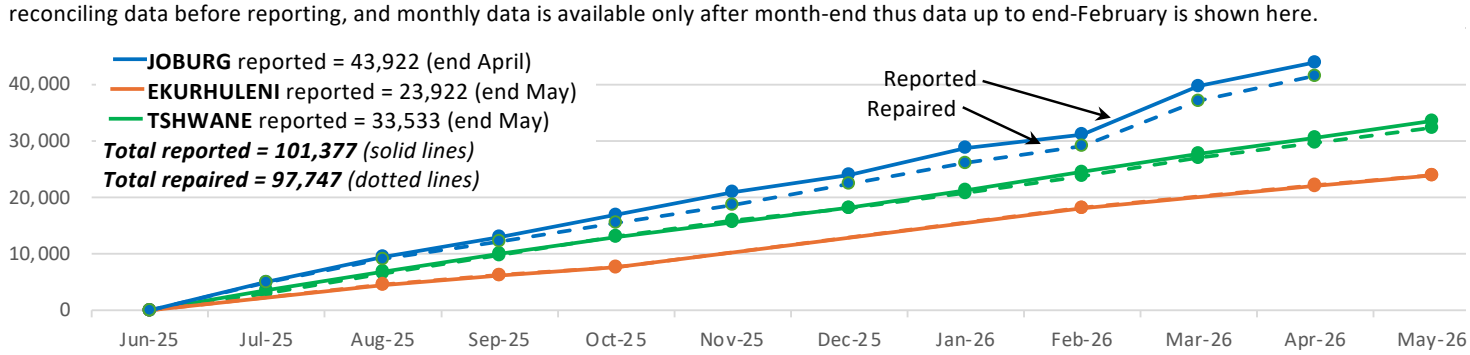
In response to the outages early in 2026, the Minister of DWS has authorised an additional 200 million m^3 of water for abstraction to June 2026 which should aid recovery of the supply systems and restore water to the entire supply system.
The additional allocation complements initiatives underway in the metros, which have been intensified to stabilise the system – these include:

- Controlled throttling (managing reservoir outlets to build storage levels overnight),
- Load shifting (moving water volumes between stable and critical systems) to balance the system. This results in reduced pressure in stable areas, but does not result in supply disruptions in stable areas,
- Accelerated repair of leaks in distribution systems, replacement of old leaking pipes, removal of illegal connections,
- Acceleration of capital works programs, including the construction of additional reservoir storage capacity and pumping capacity.

6. IVRS SYSTEM STATUS: The 10-year view of combined surface water storage shows that the system is close to capacity and above average for this time of year, having only briefly dropped just below 100%. The Vaal Dam increased to 107.3%. The targeted annual allocation was exceeded by 12.5%, or 200 million cubic meters (Mm^3) last year, and is on-track to exceed this by nearly 200 Mm^3 in the current year as well. *PLEASE CONTINUE TO USE WATER SPARINGLY.*

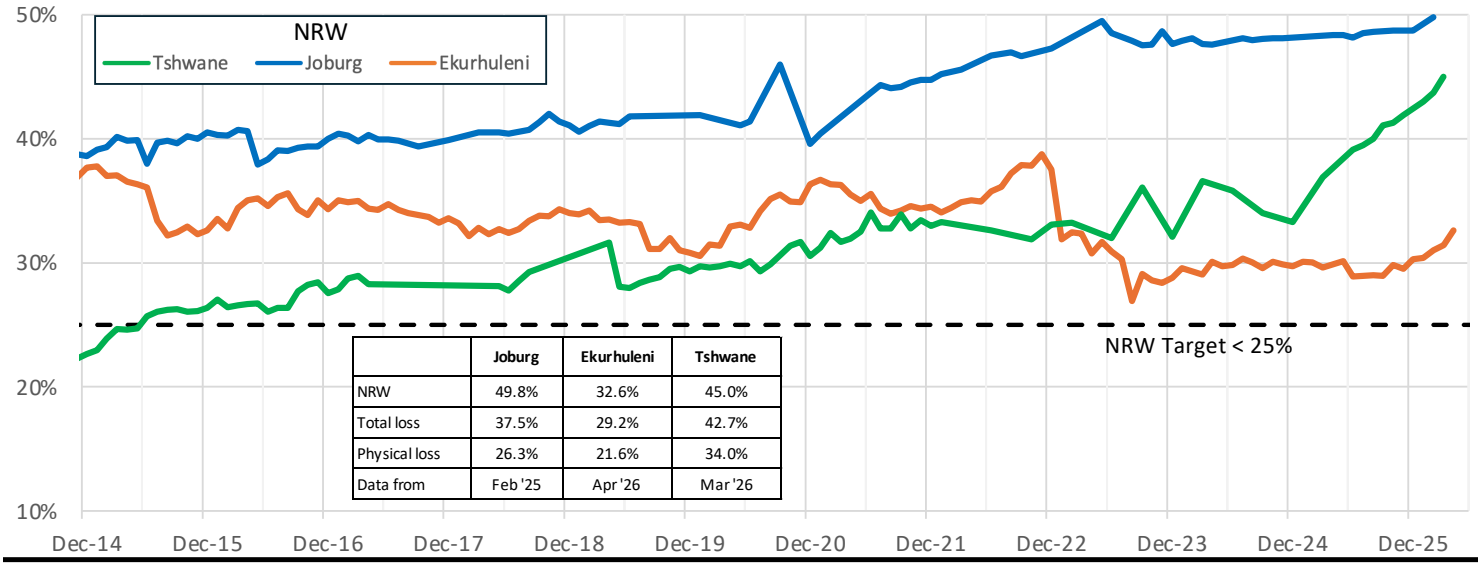


7. METRO FINANCIAL YEAR LEAK REPORTING: Leaks and bursts for the financial year starting on 1 July 2025 shown here. The metros are reconciling data before reporting, and monthly data is available only after month-end thus data up to end-February is shown here.



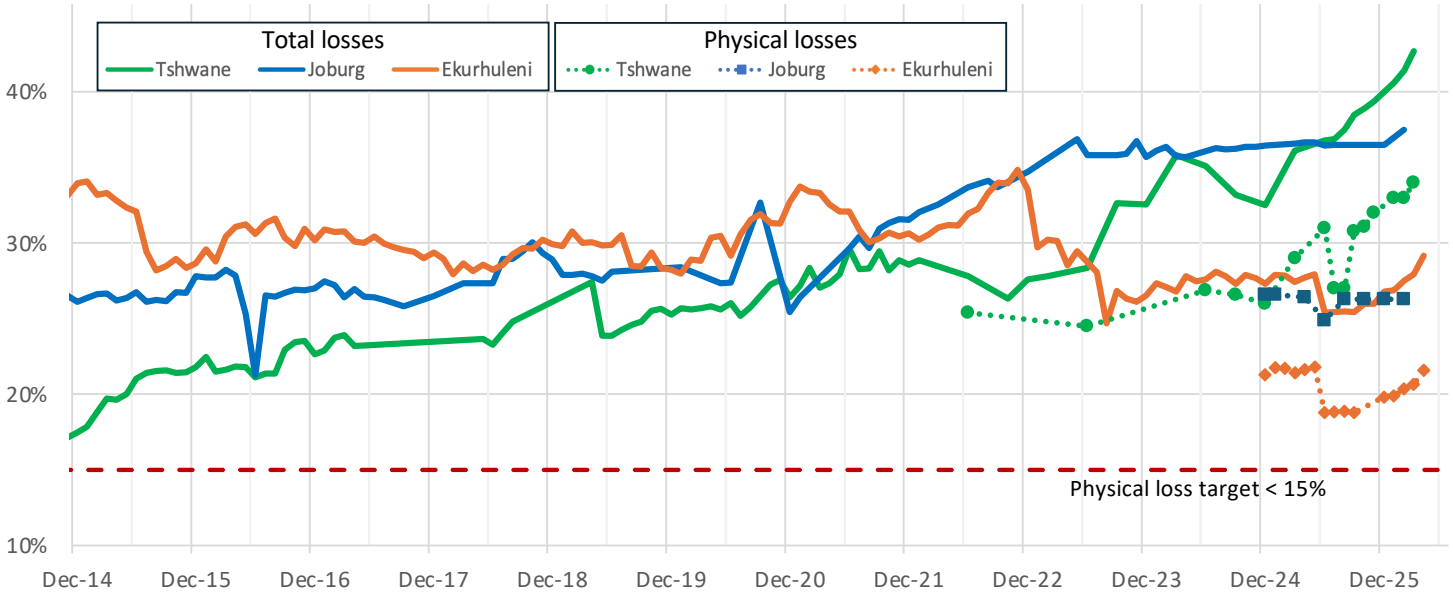
Each metro has a different system of logging, attending to, & closing notifications. Some leaks are reported repeatedly, and the admin process may take a while to update once repairs are complete. The size and complexity of the water reticulation systems also varies both between municipalities and suburbs. This can result in inaccuracies in the backlog reflected.

8. NON-REVENUE WATER (NRW) 10-year TREND: This is the volume of potable water distributed for which the municipality receives no income*. The target for municipalities in SA is <25% but the actual NRW is much higher. Ekurhuleni has made progress to achieve <30%. Latest data for Ekurhuleni and Tshwane is for January, and December for Joburg.



	Joburg	Ekurhuleni	Tshwane
NRW	49.8%	32.6%	45.0%
Total loss	37.5%	29.2%	42.7%
Physical loss	26.3%	21.6%	34.0%
Data from	Feb '25	Apr '26	Mar '26

9. WATER LOSSES 10-year TREND: This is the volume of water that runs to waste without any user using it, as well as water stolen or under-recorded by water meters. This includes leaks on mains, leaks and overflows on storage infrastructure, and on service connections *outside private property boundaries.* The losses shown on the graph include both physical losses and commercial / apparent losses. The target for physical losses is < 15%, and shown below in dotted lines for the last few reporting periods.



***NRW = WATER LOSSES + Unbilled authorised use**
Where:
WATER LOSSES = Real losses + Commercial losses

and **Unbilled authorised use**, includes:
- Unbilled metered (e.g. municipal use, communal taps in informal settlements)
- Unbilled, unmetered use (e.g. fire-fighting, flushing mains, sewers)

Real losses include:
- Leaks on mains
- Leaks and overflows on storage infrastructure
- Leaks on service connections outside the property boundary

Commercial losses include:
- Metering inaccuracies (old meters under-record actual consumption)
- Unauthorised consumption (illegal connections and theft)

EKURHULENI:

For information on water outages:
- *https://www.ekurhuleni.gov.za/eku24-7-news/*
- *On Twitter (X): @City_Ekurhuleni and @CoE_Call_Centre*
- *On Facebook: City of Ekurhuleni*

Utility bill information: https://siyakhokha.ekurhuleni.gov.za/
My CoE app : https://www.ekurhuleni.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/A3-Step-By-Step-Guide-To-Submitting-Your-Meter-Readings.pdf or https://www.ekurhuleni.gov.za/press-releases/utility-services/protect-your-water-meter-you-will-pay-for-negligent-damage-or-tampering/

Report leaks at:
- *0860 54 3000*
- *My COE App*
- *On Twitter (X): @CoE_Call_Centre*

Resources for how to use water sparingly:
- *https://www.ekurhuleni.gov.za/eku24-7-news/*
- *On Twitter (X): @City_Ekurhuleni*
- *On Facebook: City of Ekurhuleni*

JOBURG:

For information on water outages and to report leaks: https://www.johannesburgwater.co.za/emergencies/

Or call: 0860-JOBURG or find outage updates on X: https://x.com/JHBWater

Check for underground leaks by reading your meter regularly: https://joburg.org.za/services_/Pages/City%20Services/Water%20and%20Sanitation/Water%20and%20Sanitation%20Links/Reading-your-own-meter.aspx

Reading your utility bill and compare to water meter reading: https://joburg.org.za/services_/Documents/Customer%20Service%202020/How%20To%20Read%20Your%20Municipal%20Bill%20Explained.pdf

TSHWANE:

For information on water outages and to report leaks: https://www.tshwane.gov.za/?page_id=953

Or call: 080 111 1556 Or WhatsApp 087 153 1001
Or find outage updates on X: https://x.com/CityTshwane

Resources for how to use water sparingly:
- *https://waterwise.co.za/site/home.html*
- *https://www.dws.gov.za/campaigns/WaterUseEfficiency/ToolKit.aspx*
- *https://joburg.org.za/Campaigns/Pages/Campaigns/Savewater/Savewater.aspx*
- *https://www.tshwane.gov.za/?p=52404*

Seasonal weather forecast:
South Africa Weather Services publishes quarterly climate outlook report:
https://www.weathersa.co.za/Documents/SeasonalForecast/SCOLF202506_04072025134115.pdf

New Links to water outages & quality issues:
https://watercan.org.za/nowatermap/