

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

MEDIA STATEMENT

Thursday, 12 December 2024

HEAVY TRAFFIC EXPECTED ON LIMPOPO ROADS: MOTORISTS URGED TO PLAN AHEAD

As the festive season is now in full swing, with schools and most organisations closed for the holidays, the Department of Transport and Community Safety is alerting road users to expect increased traffic volumes on roads leading to and within Limpopo over the next few days, ahead of the Christmas holiday. This joyful period will see a surge in traffic on major routes. Critical roads in each district include:

Capricorn: N1, R101, R71, R81, R37, R518, R567, R521, and D19

Mopani: R71, R36, D548, R81, R578, D3854, R40, and R529

Sekhukhune: R579, R37, R25, D4100, N11, R36, R555, and R573

Vhembe: N1, R524, P98/1, D3712, P278/1, P277/1, and D3689

Waterberg: N1, R101, R510, N11, R518, R33, R511, D1235, and R516

Road fatalities and serious injuries have a devastating impact on South African society, often resulting in the loss of breadwinners and important contributors to the economy. To address this, the Department is implementing a robust festive season road safety and traffic law enforcement plan. This plan aims to reduce offences leading to crashes and promote safe road user behaviour through voluntary compliance with traffic regulations.

The Department has already made significant strides in promoting road safety and combating traffic infringements through this plan. From 1 December 2024, our law enforcement officers stopped and checked 89,420 vehicles, arrested 54 drivers for drunken driving, and weighed 21,688 vehicles. We've also charged 2,490 drivers for overspeeding, with one driver arrested for travelling at an alarming 188km/h in a



120km/h zone on the N1 in the Waterberg District. Furthermore, 738 drivers were charged for overloading passengers and goods. These statistics demonstrate our zero-tolerance approach to traffic infringements and serve as a warning to those planning to travel in the coming days.

Motorists are advised to plan their trips, allowing for regular breaks to avoid fatigue. All vehicle occupants must wear seatbelts. Drivers are urged to be patient and avoid reckless and negligent behaviour, such as speeding, overtaking unsafely, drinking and driving, overloading passengers and goods, and using a handheld mobile device while driving. Ultimately, the safety of all passengers in a vehicle relies heavily on the responsible behaviour of the driver, making it crucial for drivers to prioritize road safety and adhere to traffic regulations.

The Department urges all road users to always obey the rules of the road in support of **#projectEDWARD**, which stands for **E**very **D**ay **W**ithout **A** Road **D**eath. Let us work together to ensure a safe and enjoyable festive season for all.

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