



Road Traffic
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The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC)
is an Agency of The Department of Transport and a
Member of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration

MEDIA STATEMENT

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ATTENTION: NEWS REPORTERS / TRANSPORT REPORTERS / NEWSWIRES

RTMC CALLS ON FESTIVE SEASON TRAVELLERS TO AVOID NIGHTTIME TRAVEL AND EXERCISE CAUTION IN HIGH CRASH ZONES

GAUTENG: With four days to the start of the festive season peak travel, the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) is calling on motorists to plan their trips carefully and avoid travelling at night.

An analysis of fatal crashes over the past festive seasons show that the number of collisions increase between the hours between 16H00 and 23H00 on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. This could be attributable to factors such as poor visibility, fatigue, and impaired driving. The early hours of the morning before dawn are also a dangerous period in which to drive.

This comes as 11 people have died and three were injured when a truck collided with a minibus on the N1 between Winburg and Verkeerdevlei in the Free State.



Board of Directors: Ms N Mufamadi (Chairperson), Prof. M Mphahlele, Ms T Thankge CD(SA), Dr E Thebe, Adv. X Stemela, Ms L Magalo, Prof C Twala, Mr NJ Kudzingana, Adv. J Makgatho*
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The crash happened at approximately 3:15 in the morning and the vehicles collided head on.

Pedestrian collisions and single vehicle overturning are the most common contributors to fatal crashes at this time of the year, and this calls for high levels of vigilance when travelling in build up areas and for motorists to take enough time to rest.

Driving conditions are likely to be complicated by predictions of severe thunderstorms and heavy downpours in many parts of the country during this period. Motorists should reduce speed when driving in rainy conditions and be extremely cautious when crossing low lying bridges.

The RTMC has identified 24 zones or hotspots where 15 or more crashes have taken place over the past five years.

The hotspots are the **R573** Moloto Road in KwaMhlanga in Mpumalanga, the **R71** Mankweng in Limpopo, the **N2** near Idutywa in the Eastern Cape, the **N2** near Mount Ayliff in the Eastern Cape, the **N1** near Naboomspruit in Limpopo, the **R61** near Mbizana in the Eastern Cape, the **N1** near Mokopane in Limpopo, the **R30** between Stilfontein and Ventersdorp in the North West, the **R61** near Umthatha in the Eastern Cape, the **N2** near Pongola in KwaZulu Natal, **R61** near Mzamba in the Eastern Cape, the **N1** near Musina in Limpopo, the **N2** near Mount Frere in Eastern Cape, the **N4** near Middelburg in Mpumalanga, the **N1** near Laingsburg in Western Cape, the **N2** near Port Shepstone in KwaZulu Natal, the **N1** near Makhado in Limpopo, the **N2** near Libode in the Eastern Cape, the **R61** near Libode in Eastern Cape, the **N4** near Nelspruit, **France van Zyl drive** near Parow in Western Cape, the **N3** near Harrismith in the Free State, the **M35** near Folweni in KwaZulu Natal and the **N2** near Umthatha in Eastern Cape.

Motorists are further advised to note the following telephone numbers for assistance in case of emergency. On the N3 the emergency number is **0800 63 4357**, on the N4 the number is **0800 87 2264**, the N1 **0800 029 999** and the Sanral emergency number is **0800 0800 487**.

ENDS.

ISSUED BY: THE ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (RTMC)

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