

21 less Easter fatalities on NW roads

North West – There were 21 less road fatalities recorded in the North West province during the Easter holidays this year, when compared to 2018 – according to a preliminary report released by transport minister doctor Blade Nzimande. The report, which covers the period between Thursday 18 April and Monday 22 April, shows that the total number of fatalities recorded on the country's roads decreased by 48% when compared to last year's statistics.

There were 162 deaths recorded on the

roads in 2019, compared to the 309 that were recorded in 2018 - a reduction of 147 fatalities.

This year, the North West recorded 13 deaths, which was a significant improvement from the 34 fatalities recorded in 2018. Kwa-Zulu Natal had the highest number of fatalities (37), followed by Limpopo (32), Eastern Cape (22) and Western Cape (18). The report also shows that there were 128 crashes, which is a 46% decrease, compared to the 238 crashes recorded in 2018.

The decrease in the number of fatalities and

crashes has been attributed to the increased operations and visibility of law enforcement officers during the Easter holiday. During the operations, 161,784 vehicles were stopped while a total of 1,343 arrests were made. A total of 807 drivers were arrested for drunk driving. "We are encouraged by the behaviour of the majority of motorists and all road users, who showed a willingness to obey the rules of the road," said doctor Nzimande. "However, government is still concerned even by a single loss of life on our roads," he added.

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TWO LEARNERS DIE IN BUS ACCIDENT

Groot Marico – The North West Education and Sport Development MEC, Sello Lehari, conveyed his message of condolences to the families of two learners who died in a bus accident which occurred on Tuesday, 14 May, in Groot Marico.

About 20 learners sustained minor injuries. They were transported to the local hospital

for medical treatment and only one is still hospitalised, while 19 learners were discharged on the same day.

The two deceased learners, boys aged 14 and 18, attended Thutokemaatl Secondary School.

We extend our sincerest condolences to the families and friends of the two boys.



Six-year old sexually assaulted in public bathroom

Mooinooi – Social media flared up as a video of a minor boy, who allegedly sexually assaulted a six-year old girl on Wednesday 8 May in the bathroom of a well-known restaurant in Mooinooi, was circulated.

According to reports, the girl's mother caught the boy in the act and sounded alarm. Police spokesperson brigadier Sabata Mokgwabone confirmed that a case has been opened for investigation by the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit (FCS).

Police have warned that circulating a video of such actions, is child pornography and illegal.



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