

Cape Town's dam levels higher than this time last year

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Big Six at 24% compared to 19.8% in the same week in 2017

By GroundUp Staff



Theewaterskloof Dam during a severe drought in the Western Cape on 24 April 2018. Photo: Ashraf Hendricks

In the last couple of weeks the amount of water in the dams supplying Cape Town has overtaken the 2017 levels.

The City of Cape Town's [Water Dashboard](#) [2] shows that as of 28 May the dam levels are at 24% versus 19.8% in the same week in 2017. Also, the dam levels rose nearly three percentage points from last week's 21.1%. This is a consequence of the recent rain and Capetonians using much less water. Last week the city used a mere 505 million litres of water per day. Compare this to last year, when on 29 May the City [said](#) [3], "Disappointingly, consumption remains at 666 million litres [daily], which is above the consumption target of 600 million litres."

The dam levels on 28 May 2018 versus the same week in 2017 are:

- Berg River: 43.3% vs 31%

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- Steenbras Lower: 33.7% vs 23.8%
- Steenbras Upper: 60% vs 56.7%
- Theewaterskloof: 14.9% vs 13.8%
- Voëlvllei: 16.9% vs 14.6%
- Wemmershoek: 50.6% vs 36.1%

It is of course vital that Capetonians continue to use water frugally so that the dams can fill up and the risk of Day Zero can be avoided for at least a couple of years.

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