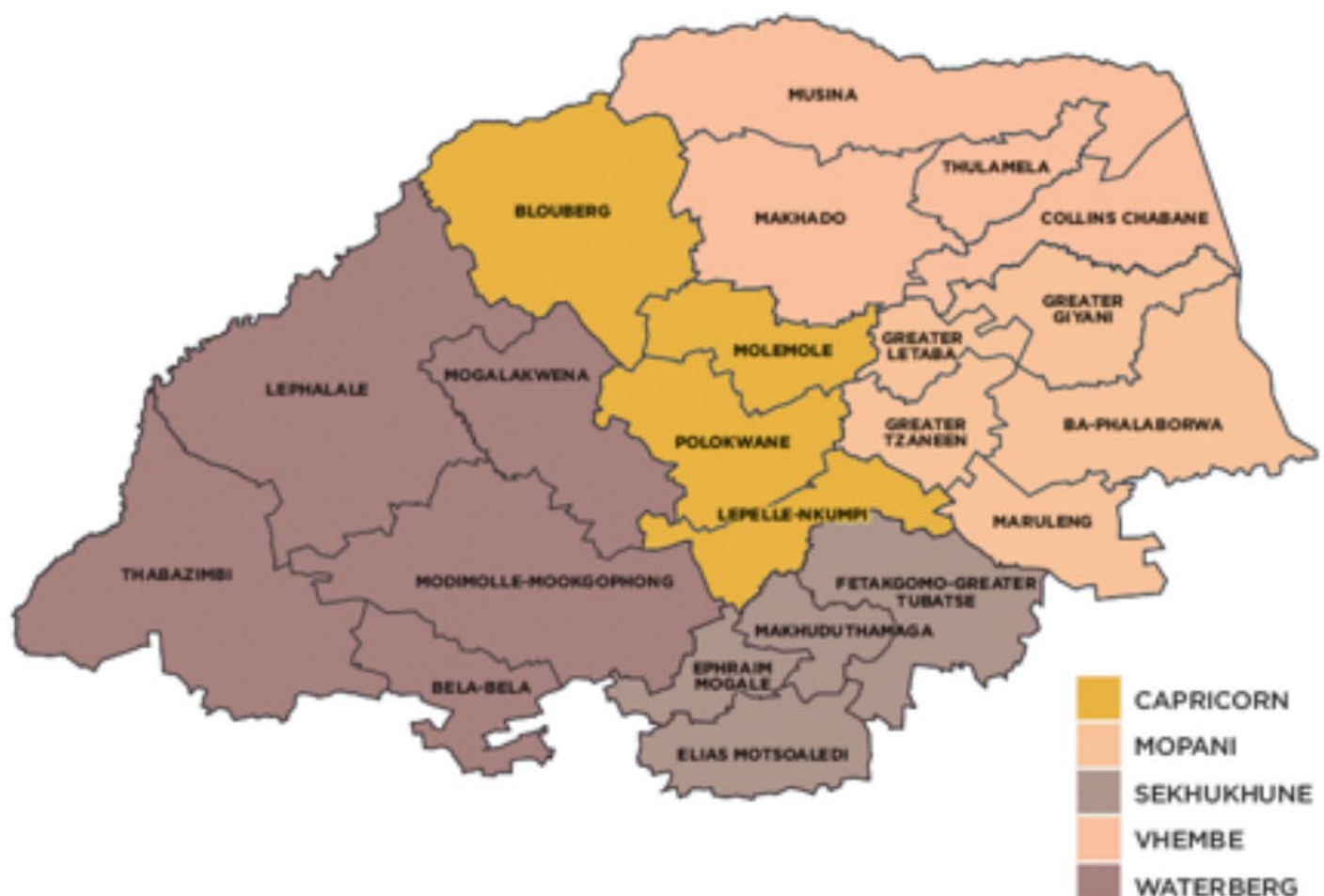


WATER RIGHTS TRACKER

WATER SERVICES AUTHORITY

MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



OCTOBER 2026

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Map

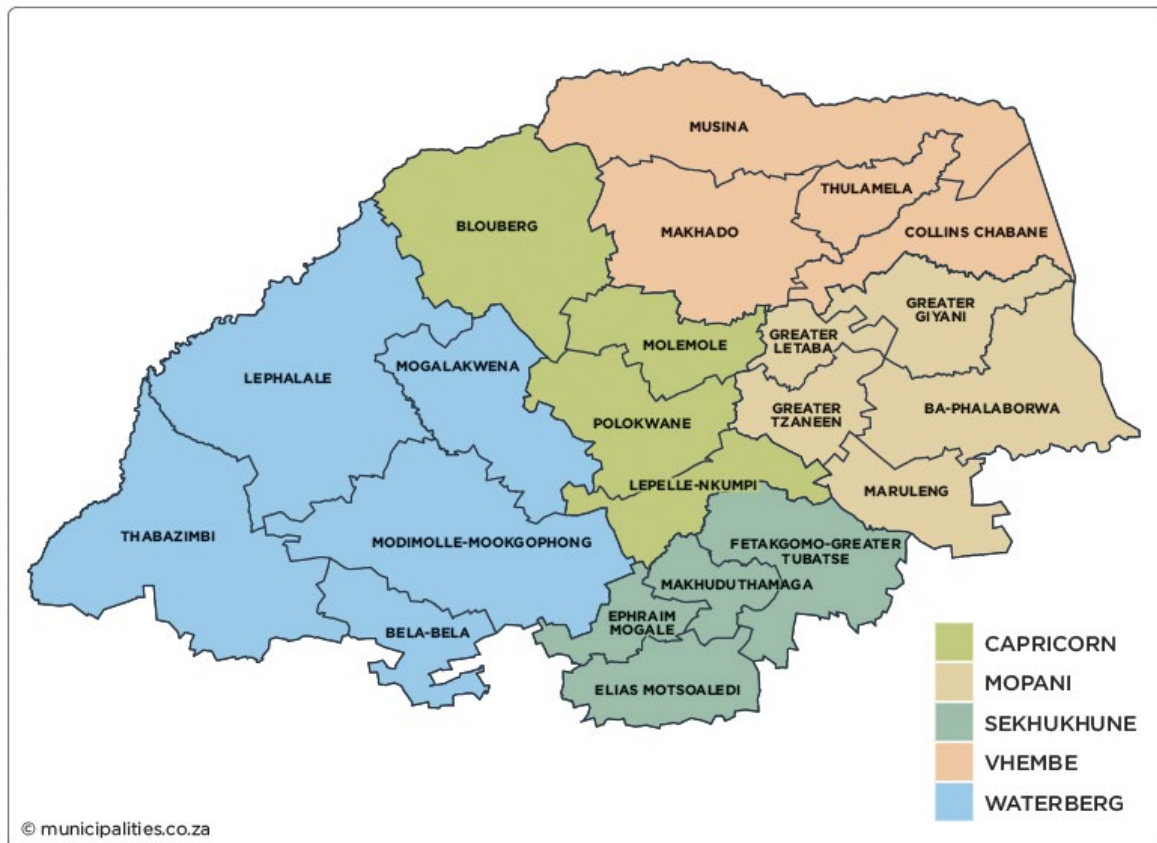


Figure 1: Geographical location of Mopani District Municipality (source Municipalities of South Africa, <https://municipalities.co.za/Provinces/view/5/limpopo>)

The Mopani District Municipality is situated in North Limpopo.

Assessment: Progressive realization of the right to water in Mopani District Municipality (MDM)

RIGHTS HOLDERS		
Demographics	Current Population: Ranges from 781,372 (<i>Blue Drop</i>) to 1,372,873 (2022 Census) Population growth rate: 2.22% Sex Ratio: Moderate female majority Dependency: 33.2% under 15; dependency ratio 65.6	
Unemployment	39%	
KEY IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS		
Availability	River water, dam, groundwater 64% of capacity is used	
Physical Access	No communal source	0
	Communal source +200m	9.9%
	Communal source – 200m	38.45%
	Water source in yard	51.7%
	Piped water in house	27.6%
	Service delivery point/household coverage ratio	0.83
Economic Access	Tariff variation: Domestic, business, water tankers Tariff structure: Increasing block tariff (3 blocks, R6.59-R19.80) FBW: Indigent only Indigency: 12.6% of service delivery points, even trend	
Adequacy	No official information, media reports on supply to schools	
Quality	Microbiological compliance	99.2%
	Chemical (acute) compliance	94.4%
	Chemical (chronic) compliance	97.2%
Efficiency	WUE Score: 275 l/p/d (Poor) Non-revenue water: 17.1%	
REASONABLE MEASURES		
Policy Efforts	By-law, Indigent Policy, outdated WSDP	
Financial Resources (2024/25)	Budget sufficiency: 96% Revenue coverage: 124% Renewal spending: 0% Revenue collection rate: 95% Maintenance spending rate: 5%	
Human Resources	<i>Blue Drop</i> shortfall: 16 Process Controllers, 0 Supervisors, 0 Technicians, 2 Qualified scientists	
SYSTEMIC DRIVERS OF HUMAN RIGHTS NON-COMPLIANCE		
Leadership issues	Political instability	
Water planning issues	-Unreliable statistics	

	- Poor audit opinion due to unavailability of records
Funding model	-High levels of unemployment - Insufficient/ poor revenue collection
Infrastructure issues	-Aging infrastructure -Poor road conditions
Electricity issues	-Load-shedding
Ecological drivers	-Water scarcity -Climate change
Consumer issues	Not mentioned
Water services intermediaries	Not mentioned
Third-party interference	-Vandalism of completed infrastructures and crime
Intergovernmental coordination	-Delays in ESKOM connections leading to stalled projects
Scale	20,012km ² 18 WTWs, 39 pump stations, 835 km of bulk water supply lines, 4,774 km of reticulation pipelines and 292 reservoirs
UNIQUE DRIVERS OF HUMAN RIGHTS NON-COMPLIANCE	
Overlapping governance structures	Not mentioned
Low literacy and education levels	No Schooling: 18.9%, higher Education: 8.2%
Infrastructure backlogs	Not mentioned
Limited yellow fleet	Poor maintenance of vehicle and equipment
High vacancy rate	Not mentioned
Procurement	Delays in procurement of contractors leading to poor grants performances

Narrative

RIGHTS HOLDERS

Population estimates for the Mopani District Municipality range from 781 372 (Blue Drop) to 1 372 873 (Census 2022). The population growth rate of 2.22% is higher than the national average of 1.3%. There is a moderate female majority and 33.2% of the population are under the age of 15. The dependency ratio of 65.6 is higher than the reported national 2024 average of 48.4 and the global average of 58.4.¹ There is a high rate of unemployment (expanded definition) at 39%.

KEY IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS

The Mopani District Municipality is authorised to provide water services and does so by operating 18 water treatment works. Raw water is abstracted from, amongst others the Mohlabetsi, Hudson Ntsanwisi, Groot Letaba, Middel-Letaba Dam, Molotosi, Olifants River, Semarela River, Thabina, Thapane River and groundwater from various collieries.

In terms of physical access, 51.7% of consumers reportedly have a water connection in their yard, and 27.6% enjoy water piped into their dwellings. Another 38.45% of the population have access to a communal source within 200m of their dwellings, and 9.9% rely on communal sources further than 200m away. The service delivery point/household coverage ratio is 0.83 meaning that the current service delivery points cover 83% of the households counted in the 2022 Census.

The Mopani District Municipality does not provide a universal Free Basic Water Allowance, although in terms of law a municipality is not required to have one. Despite some unemployment, only about 12.6% of service delivery points are covered by the indigency policy. Since 2017, the number of households benefiting from the indigency policy has decreased. The tariff structure (2021/22) shows an increasing block tariff structure (least expensive block is R6.59, most expensive is R19.80). The municipality has 3 tariff categories.

There were some media reports on water services interruptions in schools. However, there is minor concern with water quality, with the Mogalakwena Local Municipality reporting microbiological compliance at 99.2% and chemical acute compliance at 94.40% and chronic at 97.20%.

Water use efficiency is poor. The *Blue Drop* score of >275 l/p/d is poor. According to the 2021/22 Auditor-General report, 17.1% of all water produced is non-revenue water.

REASONABLE MEASURES

The Mopani District Municipality has a water services by-law, and Indigent Policy and an outdated WSDP.

The Mopani District Municipality's financial indicators between 2021/22 and 2024/25 show that the municipality's own revenue is just not enough (96%) to cover its operational

expenditure budget. The municipality's total income, which includes intergovernmental transfers, is enough (124%) to cover capital and operational expenditure. The capital budget allocated to renewal of assets ranged from 0% to 5% maintenance spend ranged from 5% to 9%. The revenue collection rate has fluctuated between 62% and 95% according to MFMA Schedule C datasets.

There are 39 staff employed in water treatment, and no information on the number of people working for the water and sanitation department. According to the latest *Blue Drop* report, there is a staff shortfall of 16 process controllers and 2 qualified scientists.

SYSTEMIC DRIVERS OF RIGHTS NON-COMPLIANCE

The key systemic drivers of rights non-compliance in the Mopan District Municipality are:

- **Leadership issues:** Political instability.
- **Water planning issues:** This municipality has a number of water planning issues that include unreliable statistics and had a poor audit opinion due to the unavailability of records.
- **Funding model:** The municipality has a high level of unemployment and there is insufficient revenue collection.
- **Electricity issues:** There are challenges associated with loadshedding.
- **Infrastructure issues:** There are delays in Eskom connections that halts water related projects.
- **Ecological drivers:** Challenges associated with water scarcity and climate change.
- **Consumer issues:** None mentioned.
- **Third-party interference:** Vandalism and crime.
- **Scale:** Water services in the Mopani District Municipality are spread out over 20 012 km².

OVERSIGHT

1. Based on its 2021 Inquiry into Access to Water and the Efficacy of Water Services Authorities within Limpopo Province, the SAHRC made specific findings and issued directives against the Bela-Bela Local Municipality (see Table: Oversight).
2. The Department of Water and Sanitation. The Regulator notes the dire state of management and drinking water quality in the Drakensig water supply system. The WSI is placed under regulatory surveillance and the Municipal Manager is required to submit a detailed corrective action plan within 20 days of publishing of this report. The plan must map the activities, responsible persons, timelines, and expected improvement as outlined in the Regulatory Comment
3. The Public Protector: In 2021 Investigation into allegations that the Previous Minister of Water and Sanitation, Ms. Nomvula Mokonyane, was involved in irregularities in the awarding of tenders at the DWS in respect of R 4 mil water infrastructure project (see Table under Oversight for further details).

Expanded Table

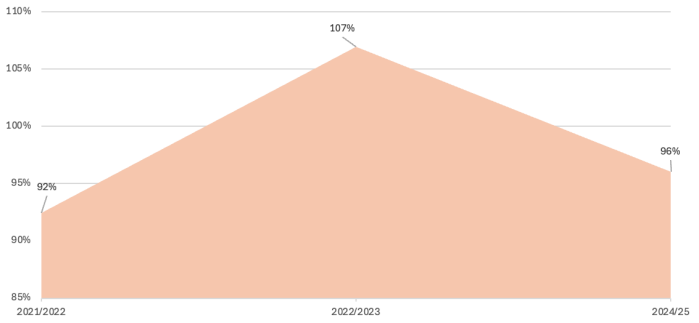
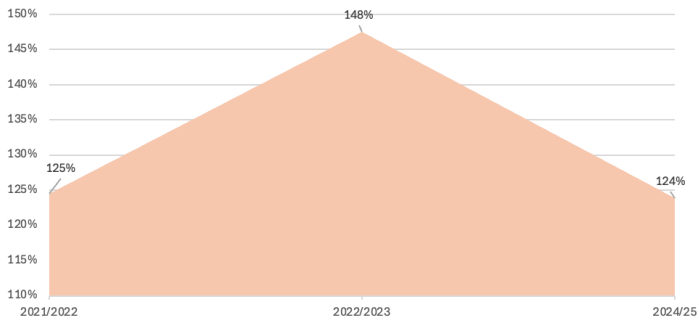
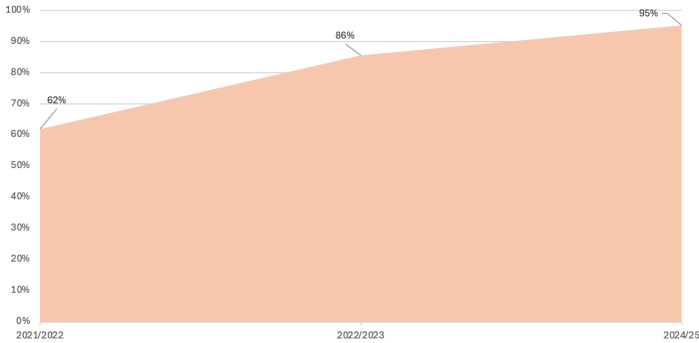
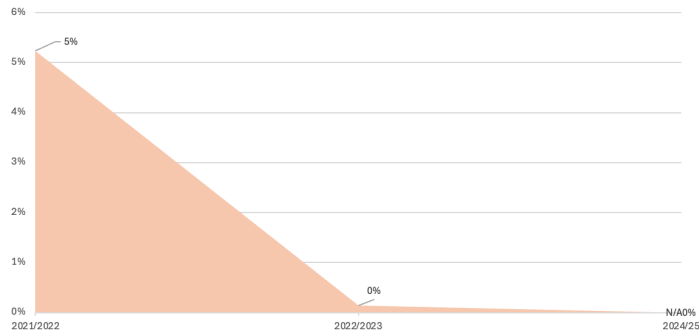
Indicator	Measurement	Sources
Name of the WSA		
Geographical information about the WSA.	Located within the north-eastern quadrant of the Limpopo Province.	
Spatial extent	20,012km ²	https://municipalities.co.za/overview/128/mopani-district-municipality
Municipal wards	129	IDP 2023/24, p. 25
Traditional Authorities	36	IDP 2023/24, p. 89
Is the WSA authorized to provide water services?	yes	IDP 2023/24, p. 74
Is the WSA currently providing water services?	no	
Method of service provision	WSP agreements in place with all local municipalities within area of jurisdiction (Greater Tzaneen, Greater Giyani, Greater Letaba, Ba-Phalaborwa, Maruleng)	IDP 2023/24, p 28, 74
Context indicators		
Details of any water related stresses experienced within the past five years.	Floods and the impacts of cyclone Freddy in Oct 2022 and March 2023 caused damages estimated at R 340,5 million. https://www.citizen.co.za/news/disaster-relief-provided-limpopo-following-floods-may-2023/ Extensive drought in 2016 led to the declaration of a provincial disaster. This was the worst drought recorded for the area since 1983. https://health-e.org.za/2016/09/07/limpopo-water-shortage-worsens-drought-conditions-continue/	
Demographics		
Population	781,372 (<i>Blue Drop</i>) 1,372,873 (2022 Census) 1,092,507 (IDP)	2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 262-263; https://municipalities.co.za/demographic/128/mopani-district-municipality IDP 2023/24, p. 28
Number of households (Census 2022)	358,153	https://municipalities.co.za/demographic/128/mopani-district-municipality
Number of domestic household service delivery points (2021/2022)	296,320	https://municipalities.co.za/services/128/mopani-district-municipality

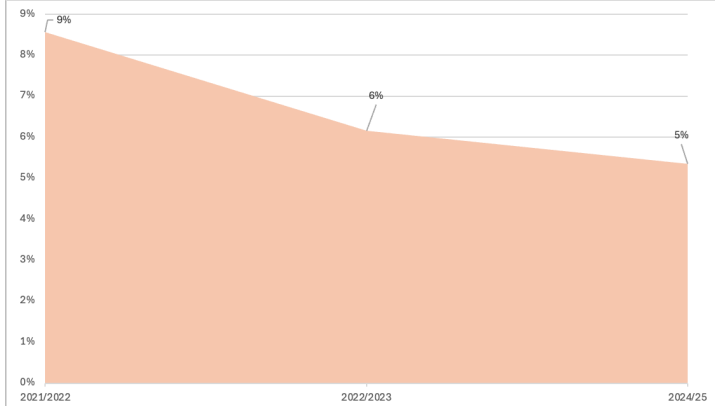
(Non-Financial Census of Municipalities)		
Ratio service delivery points / households	0.83	
Number of non-domestic consumers	0	https://municipalities.co.za/services/128/mopani-district-municipality
Males per 100 females	85.9	https://municipalities.co.za/demographic/128/mopani-district-municipality
Gender Split	46.2% Male 53.8% Female	
Population growth rate per annum	2.22%	https://municipalities.co.za/demographic/128/mopani-district-municipality
Education	No Schooling: 18.9% Higher Education: 8.2%	https://municipalities.co.za/demographic/128/mopani-district-municipality
Financial capacity		
Economically active population (15-64)	60.4%	https://municipalities.co.za/demographic/128/mopani-district-municipality
Unemployment rate	39%	IDP 2023/24, p. 35
Dependency rate	65.6	https://municipalities.co.za/demographic/128/mopani-district-municipality
Population under 15	33.2%	https://municipalities.co.za/demographic/128/mopani-district-municipality
Universal FBW Allowance	no	IDP 2023/24 p. 76
Number of service delivery points receiving FBW: 2021/22	37,447	https://municipalities.co.za/services/128/mopani-district-municipality
Percentage of FBW service delivery points	12.6%	

Increase/decrease of FBW 2017/2018 – 2021/2022	37,447 to 37,447 Same		https://municipalities.co.za/services/128/mopani-district-municipality
Is the WSA currently experiencing financial problems? (As at 2022/23 Third Quarter)	S 140: 2 triggers and s 138: 2 triggers		NT Municipalities Meeting Criteria, item 143
Details of the triggers present.	Failure to make payments as and when due for longer than 90 days that amount to more than R 1 million.	☒	
	Operating at a deficit of more than 5% of the total direct revenue.	☒	
	Negative OR outstanding audit.	☒	
	Negative cash position for two or more consecutive years.	☐	
	Failure to make any payment to Eskom when due that amounts to more than 2% of the operating expenditure.	☒	
	Failure to make any payment to the Water Board when due that amounts to more than 2% of the operating expenditure.	☐	
	Failure to make any payment to any other creditor when due that amounts to more than 2% of the operating expenditure.	☐	
	Failure to make any payment to Eskom when due that amounts to more than 40% of the operating expenditure.	☐	
	Failure to make any payment to the Water Board when due that amounts to more than 40% of the operating expenditure.	☐	
Failure to make any payment to any other creditor when due that amounts to more than 40% of the operating expenditure.	☒		
Is municipality considered to be in financial distress?	yes		NT Municipalities Meeting Criteria, item 143
Is the municipality currently subject to a provincial intervention?	no		AGSA Website Based Report 2021/22
Water management			
Is the rainfall within the WSA area (July 2022 to January 2023) above or below the average rainfall (464mm) for South Africa?	300mm – 500mm		WeatherSA, Historical Rain map
Water abstraction authorized?	Yes		2023 Blue Drop Report p. 261

Volume of authorized/(unauthorized) water abstraction?	6,849 kl/d		2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> p. 261
How many water treatment plants are in the WSA's water services network?	Mopani WSA manages 18 WSSs, 39 pump stations, 835 km of bulk water supply lines, 4,774 km of reticulation pipelines and 292 reservoirs. Total design capacity is 190.0 MI per day. 190.0 MI of capacity is available. Average production: 121.8 MI per day 64% of capacity is used 2023 <i>Blue Drop</i> critical risk: 0		2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p.250, 259-260, p. 282-284
How many biophysical water sources does this WSA have access to?	River ☒ Dam ☒ Saltwater ☐ Groundwater ☒		2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 282-284
Names of rivers and dams	Mohlalatsi, Hudson Ntsanwisi, Groot Letaba, Middel-Letaba Dam, Molotosi, Olifants River, Semarela River, Thabina, Thapane River, Tours		2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 282-284
How many infrastructure water sources does this WSA have?	Water reclamation ☐ Desalination ☐ From natural source ☒		IDP 2023/24, p. 101-102
Political Stability			
Is there a coalition government?	No ANC 16, EFF 3, CIVIC WARRIORS 1, DA 1 (40% PR Seats)		https://municipalities.co.za/management/128/mopani-district-municipality
Has there been mayoral instability in the last 5 years?	Yes, Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale resigned in 2019.		https://www.citizen.co.za/letaba-herald/news-headlines/2019/06/01/executive-mayor-exits-municipality-style/
MM/CFO Vacancy Snapshot	AGSA Website Based Report 2022/23 Is the council established? Yes Council instability the previous year? No MM vacancy at the end of the year? No Number of months the MM has been in position. 1 CFO vacancy at the end of the year? Yes Number of months the CFO has been in position. n/a		

Policy Efforts			
Water By-law			
Is there a water by-law?	yes		By-law
Citation of by-law	Limpopo Provincial Gazette vol 28 no 3182 dated 09 July 2021		By-law
Mark with “yes” if the by-law makes provision for the following:	Matters incidental to providing water services to residents,	yes	By-law
	including communal sources	yes	
	Protecting water supply systems.	yes	
	Prohibiting wasting water	yes	
	Prohibiting illegal connections	yes	
	Sets out standards for water installations and maintaining water infrastructure	yes	
	The installation and upkeep of fire extinguishing systems	yes	
	How service charges are calculated and levied	yes	
	Measures to ensure the quality of potable water	no	
	Preventing water pollution	yes	
	Anything else?		
Water Services Development Plan			
Is there a water services development plan?	Yes, mentioned in IDP		IDP 2023/24, p 11
The validity duration of the plan (which years)	Unknown, but they have appointed EVN Africa Consulting Services (Pty) Ltd. to review its previous WSDP		IDP 2023/24, p 11
General Policy Framework			
Is there an Indigent Policy?	yes		Indigent Policy
IDP			
Water services issues identified in the IDP	Ageing infrastructure Poor road conditions Delays in procurement of contractors leading to poor grants performances Poor maintenance of vehicle and equipment Insufficient/ poor revenue collection Vandalism of completed infrastructures and crime Water scarcity Poor audit opinion due to unavailability of records Climate change		IDP 2023/24, p 122

	Delays in ESKOM connections leading to stalled projects Communicable and non – communicable diseases prevalence Load-shedding									
Resource Efforts										
Financial Resources										
Budget sufficiency (Total Budget revenue/total budgeted expenditure)	 <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Period</th><th>Budget Sufficiency (%)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2021/2022</td><td>92%</td></tr><tr><td>2022/2023</td><td>107%</td></tr><tr><td>2024/25</td><td>96%</td></tr></tbody></table>	Period	Budget Sufficiency (%)	2021/2022	92%	2022/2023	107%	2024/25	96%	MFMA Section 71 Schedule C 2021 to 2025 Reports-with 2023/24 data missing
Period	Budget Sufficiency (%)									
2021/2022	92%									
2022/2023	107%									
2024/25	96%									
Revenue Coverage % (Total Budgeted Revenue/Total budgeted CAPEX+OPEXx100)	 <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Period</th><th>Revenue Coverage %</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2021/2022</td><td>125%</td></tr><tr><td>2022/2023</td><td>148%</td></tr><tr><td>2024/25</td><td>124%</td></tr></tbody></table>	Period	Revenue Coverage %	2021/2022	125%	2022/2023	148%	2024/25	124%	MFMA Section 71 Schedule C 2021 to 2025 Reports- with 2023/24 data missing
Period	Revenue Coverage %									
2021/2022	125%									
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2024/25	124%									
Revenue Collection Rate % (Actual revenue collected/budgeted revenue x 100)	 <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Period</th><th>Revenue Collection Rate %</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2021/2022</td><td>62%</td></tr><tr><td>2022/2023</td><td>86%</td></tr><tr><td>2024/25</td><td>95%</td></tr></tbody></table>	Period	Revenue Collection Rate %	2021/2022	62%	2022/2023	86%	2024/25	95%	MFMA Section 71 Schedule C 2021 to 2025 Reports-with 2023/24 data missing
Period	Revenue Collection Rate %									
2021/2022	62%									
2022/2023	86%									
2024/25	95%									
Capital budget allocated to renewal of existing assets (amount allocated to renewable/total capital budget)	 <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Period</th><th>Capital Budget Allocation (%)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2021/2022</td><td>5%</td></tr><tr><td>2022/2023</td><td>0%</td></tr><tr><td>2024/25</td><td>N/A 0%</td></tr></tbody></table>	Period	Capital Budget Allocation (%)	2021/2022	5%	2022/2023	0%	2024/25	N/A 0%	MFMA Section 71 Schedule C 2021 to 2025 Reports-with 2023/24 data missing
Period	Capital Budget Allocation (%)									
2021/2022	5%									
2022/2023	0%									
2024/25	N/A 0%									

Maintenance spending rate % (Total maintenance expenditure/total revenue collected) x100					MFMA Section 71 Schedule C 2021 to 2025 Reports-with 2023/24 data missing
Infrastructure Resources					
Current infrastructure value	None recorded				Budget, Sheet A9, Item 138, Adjusted Budget 20/21
Human and Skills Resources					
Total number of staff employed in the water services provision department.	No information				
Total number of staff employed in water treatment	39 (35 supervisory, 4 technical)				2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> ; p. 257
Supervisor Staff/WTW Ratio	3.4				2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 255
Technical Staff/WTW Ratio	0.2				2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 257
Staff Shortfall	16 Process Controllers 0 Supervisor 0 Technicians 2 Qualified scientists				2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 255, 257
Vacancies as a percentage of the total staff (municipality-wide)	No information				
Implementation					
Physical Access					
Physical access to water, number of consumers, and percentage of total consumers. [households]	Communal source +200m	29 264	9.9%	Mopani District Municipality - Services	
	Communal source – 200m	113 850	38.45		
	Water source in yard	153 206	51.7%		
Piped water inside dwelling	27.6%				Mopani District Municipality - Demographic
Economic Access					
Economic access to water.	Free basic water for all	☐		Tariff Policy 2023/24, p 2	
	Free basic water for Indigent	☒			
	Cross subsidy	☐			
	Prepaid	☐			
Step tariff for households in rand excl VAT. For 2023/24	0 < 6kl	R 6.59			Final Tariffs 2023/24
	7kl < 10kl	R 6.33			

	<table><tr><td>11kl < 25kl</td><td>R 7.20</td></tr><tr><td>26kl < 35kl</td><td>R 7.90</td></tr><tr><td>36kl < 50kl</td><td>R 8.25</td></tr><tr><td>51kl < 70kl</td><td>R 13.20</td></tr><tr><td>71kl < 100kl</td><td>R 15.50</td></tr><tr><td>101kl <</td><td>R 19.80</td></tr></table>	11kl < 25kl	R 7.20	26kl < 35kl	R 7.90	36kl < 50kl	R 8.25	51kl < 70kl	R 13.20	71kl < 100kl	R 15.50	101kl <	R 19.80			
11kl < 25kl	R 7.20															
26kl < 35kl	R 7.90															
36kl < 50kl	R 8.25															
51kl < 70kl	R 13.20															
71kl < 100kl	R 15.50															
101kl <	R 19.80															
Categories of water use:	- Domestic use - Business, Church, School, farms or plots - Trucks and water tankers (R 50.00 p/kl)	Final Tariffs 2023/24														
Tariffs for schools.	<table><tr><td>0 < 50kl</td><td>R 8.71</td></tr><tr><td>51kl < 100kl</td><td>R 9.17</td></tr><tr><td>101kl < 150kl</td><td>R 9.80</td></tr><tr><td>151kl < 200kl</td><td>R 10.50</td></tr><tr><td>201kl < 250kl</td><td>R 11.10</td></tr><tr><td>251kl < 400kl</td><td>R 11.90</td></tr><tr><td>401kl <</td><td>R 12.30</td></tr></table>	0 < 50kl	R 8.71	51kl < 100kl	R 9.17	101kl < 150kl	R 9.80	151kl < 200kl	R 10.50	201kl < 250kl	R 11.10	251kl < 400kl	R 11.90	401kl <	R 12.30	Final Tariffs 2023/24
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401kl <	R 12.30															
Notes.	Schools and businesses have the same tariff, but it is significantly less than the domestic use tariff.	Final Tariffs 2023/24														
Tariffs for clinics	<table><tr><td>0 < 50kl</td><td>R 8.71</td></tr><tr><td>51kl < 100kl</td><td>R 9.17</td></tr><tr><td>101kl < 150kl</td><td>R 9.80</td></tr><tr><td>151kl < 200kl</td><td>R 10.50</td></tr><tr><td>201kl < 250kl</td><td>R 11.10</td></tr><tr><td>251kl < 400kl</td><td>R 11.90</td></tr><tr><td>401kl <</td><td>R 12.30</td></tr></table>	0 < 50kl	R 8.71	51kl < 100kl	R 9.17	101kl < 150kl	R 9.80	151kl < 200kl	R 10.50	201kl < 250kl	R 11.10	251kl < 400kl	R 11.90	401kl <	R 12.30	Final Tariffs 2023/24
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201kl < 250kl	R 11.10															
251kl < 400kl	R 11.90															
401kl <	R 12.30															
Notes.	Assuming that health facilities fall within the businesses, churches and school's category.	Final Tariffs 2023/24														
Do schools and clinics have access to water on their premises.	- 68 Education facilities with no access to water. - 35 Education facilities with inadequate access to water. - 13 Health facilities with no access to water. - 284 Health facilities with inadequate access to water.	DWS Website, WSDP Audit, Service Delivery Overview, Service Levels Profile, 2.1.1 Education Plan and 2.1.2 Health Plan.														
Adequacy																
Number of planned interruptions in 2023.	No information															
Number of unplanned interruptions in 2022/2023	<table><tr><td>Sudden breakdowns</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Average duration</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Emergencies, not due to poor maintenance</td><td></td></tr></table>	Sudden breakdowns		Average duration		Emergencies, not due to poor maintenance										
Sudden breakdowns																
Average duration																
Emergencies, not due to poor maintenance																
Media reports on outages:	Mopani District Municipality failed to pay a construction company a service fee of nearly R3 million for the construction of a reservoir and a pipeline: - https://www.citizen.co.za/news/limpopo-municipality-fails-pay-construction-company/ Mopani district has identified 114 schools and also committed to deliver water:															

	- https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-06-02-limpopo-council-unable-to-supply-water-to-dozens-of-local-schools/	
Quality		
What is the WSA's blue drop score?	2023: 56.1% 2011: 63.9%	2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 282
Blue Drop Score Improved/Deteriorated (2011-2023)	Deteriorated	
Blue Drop microbiological compliance score	99.2% (16 Excellent WTWs; 1 Unacceptable WTW)	2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 264
Blue Drop chemical (acute) compliance score	94.4% (16 Excellent WTWs; 2 Unacceptable WTWs)	2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 265
Blue Drop chemical (chronic health) compliance score	97.2% (17 Excellent WTWs; 1 Unacceptable WTW)	2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 265
Does the WSA have a contract with the lab to test water samples?	No information.	
<i>Green Drop</i> Risk Rating	High Risk	2023 <i>Green Drop Report</i> , p. 298
Efficiency		
Blue Drop Water Use Efficiency Score	275 l/p/d (Poor)	2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 262-263
No Drop Score 2021/22	0%	2023 <i>No Drop Report</i> , p. 179
Amount of non-revenue water in liters and in rands value.	R328,819 Equivalent to 17.1% of all water flowing through municipal pipelines	https://mfma-2024.agsareports.co.za/municipality/5-mopani-district
Main reasons for water losses.	None recorded	2023 <i>No Drop Report</i> , p. 179
Oversight		
Department of Water and Sanitation		
<i>Blue Drop</i> actions	The Regulator notes the dire state of management and drinking water quality in the Drakensig water supply system. The WSI is placed under regulatory surveillance and the Municipal Manager is required to submit a detailed corrective action plan within 20 days of publishing of this report. The plan must map the activities, responsible persons, timelines, and expected improvement as outlined in the Regulatory Comment.	2023 <i>Blue Drop Report</i> , p. 284
<i>Green Drop</i> actions	None	2023 <i>Green Drop Report</i> , p. 298
Judicial Oversight		
Were any judgements delivered that involved water services delivery?	yes	

Full citation of judgement.	Mazibuko and Others v City of Johannesburg and Others [2009] ZACC 28	
Summary of judgement and the impact for future water services delivery.	The state has a duty not to interfere with the enjoyment of socio-economic rights. The state does not have a duty to immediately realise the right to water for everyone; instead, the state must take reasonable legislative and other measures to progressively realise the right within available state resources. It is not the place of the court to determine or quantify what is sufficient water. To assess the reasonableness of the legislative and policy measures used: State must be able to show what information it considered and the process it followed to determine its policy. If the process followed is flawed or the information gathered is inadequate or incomplete, appropriate relief may be sought. The Court's evaluation of the City's Free Basic Water Policy: (1) it has different levels of water provision; (2) the city uses pre-paid and credit meters; (3) provision to register as an indigent; (4) it is reasonable to afford basic water to all, rich and poor; (5) it is acceptable to afford basic water on a per household basis and not per person; (6) water policy was revised regularly; (7) communities too have duties, one such duty is to apply to be registered as an indigent if they wish to claim these benefits. Moving from a deemed consumption system to a pre-paid metered system with a free allocation of basic water is not a retrogressive step. Discontinuation of water for not reloading the meter with credits is not a discontinuation of service as per the Water Services Act and the municipality do not need to follow the giving notice and other related procedures.	Paras 47, 48, 50, 71, 78-102, 142
Full citation of judgement.	Government of the Republic of South Africa v Grootboom [2000] ZACC 19	
Summary of judgement and the impact for future water services delivery.	Access to a right, in this case the water right, would include removing barriers to access the right, empowerment measures, and special measures for vulnerable groups. Measures must ensure access over time to a greater number of people that must be guided by targets. This requires legislation, policies, programmes and plans that ensure the implementation of legislation. All vulnerable groups must at least have access to basic service delivery.	
Full citation of the judgement.	Capricorn District Municipality v SANCO [2014] ZASCA 39	
Summary of judgement and the impact for future water services delivery.	Appeal from the High Court, Limpopo Division. Legal Question: Is the interdict given by the HC a competent order? The interdict mandated Capricorn District to repair and replace all leaking pipes and all defective meters within 12 months. In addition, the HC ordered that the WSA may only recover a flat rate of about R 70 for water services delivered from affected households. Judgement: The appeal succeeded. The SCA found that the HC cannot order the WSA to replace and repair the leaky pipes because water leakages do not	Paras 25 and 21

	adversely affect consumers. This is because water leakages are not captured by any water meter reflecting what is payable to any consumer. (Bear in mind that the community alleged they were liable to pay for the wasted water.) A court may also not determine the rates as which water services are charged as this is in contravention of the separation of powers.	
SAHRC Reports		
Where any reports received and investigated on the right to water by the SAHRC?	yes	
Reference details of the report.	Inquiry into Access to Water and the Efficacy of Water Services Authorities within Limpopo Province (SAHRC Oct 2021)	
Summary of the report and the impact for future water services delivery.	Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs <i>Finding:</i> • The Commission finds that the Limpopo Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) is not effectively playing its role as an oversight body in terms of ensuring that access to water is a reality within the Limpopo Province. <i>Recommendation:</i> • The Commission recommends that the CoGHSTA identifies municipalities that (i) apply for grants and fail to spend such grants, (ii) do not apply for grants at all; and (iii) receive the grants and use them inappropriately. The CoGHSTA should come up with an action plan on how this will be mitigated. This action plan is to be submitted to the Commission within three (3) months after the receipt of this report. Department of Water and Sanitation <i>Findings:</i> • The Commission finds that the Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is failing to play its oversight role. • The DWS does not assist or intervene when the Municipalities fail to provide sufficient water to their communities in terms of sections 62 and 63 of the Water Services Act, respectively. • The DWS has failed to take action when a municipality has failed or is unable to apply/ access municipality grants while communities are not provided with water.	

	Recommendations: • The Commission recommends that the DWS must submit to the Commission, a detailed plan, with timeframes on how it will provide support to the municipalities in order to resolve the water crisis in Limpopo. • The DWS must submit to the Commission a list of municipalities that applied for water grant/s, the list must also provide the outcome of the grant/s or progress made in processing the grant/s. • If the application had been declined, the DWS must provide the reason/s as to why the application was declined. • The DWS must also provide details of the assistance provided to the municipality after declining the application. • The above requested information must be submitted to the Commission within three (3) months after the receipt of this report. Office of the Premier of Limpopo Province Findings: • The Commission has found that it is not clear as to how the Office of the Premier for the Limpopo Province plays its oversight role over municipalities that are failing to provide water. • The Office of the Premier for the Limpopo Province is therefore failing to monitor the provision of water by the municipalities in Limpopo. Recommendation: • The Commission recommends that the Office of the Premier for the Limpopo Province must conduct an assessment and evaluation of the provision of water in the Limpopo Province, develop and submit measures to effectively support the municipalities to ensure adherence to the Water Services Act and Compulsory Standards. This information must be submitted to the Commission within three (3) months of the receipt of this report.	
Specific findings for the WSA	Findings: Mopani District Municipality acknowledged that: • It has challenges and is not providing water to communities within its jurisdiction. • It has also indicated that it has alternative measures in place such as water tankering, however, communities under its jurisdiction are still without water.	Inquiry into Access to Water and the Efficacy of Water Services Authorities within Limpopo Province (SAHRC Oct 2021)

	• The Mayor acknowledged that Maruleng local municipality has 3 villages without any access to water. <i>The Commission has found that the Municipality does not comply with the Water Services Act and Compulsory Standards, which relate to the norms and standards with the provision of clean drinking water. The Commission therefore finds that the Municipality is in violation of section 27 of the Constitution which provides for the right to have access to sufficient water.</i> Recommendations: • The Commission recommends that the Municipality must forthwith comply with regulation 3 of the Compulsory Standards by - installing a sufficient number of water user connections to supply a minimum quantity of potable water of 25 litres per person per day or 6 kiloliters per household per month to the residents of the municipality; at a minimum flow rate of not less than 10 litres per minute; within 200 meters of each of the residents' households; and effectively such that the residents are not without a water supply for more than seven full days in any year. • The Municipality must provide the Commission with a detailed plan with timeframes within three (3) months after the receipt of this report, on how the Municipality will provide water to every resident within its jurisdiction in line with the Water Services Act and Compulsory Standards.	
Legislature Oversight		
Any oversight actions taken in the duration of the current (5 th) administration.		
Other Oversight Institutions		
Public Protector Annual Report for 2021, p 43	Investigation into allegations that the Previous Minister of Water and Sanitation, Ms. Nomvula Mokonyane, was involved in irregularities in the awarding of tenders at the DWS in respect of R 4 mil water infrastructure project. The investigation uncovered evidence of the improper awarding of a project that did not follow the proper procurement processes and the maladministration in respect of the failure by the WSA to ensure that the contract for the bulk pipeline project was properly managed, allegations against the Minister were all unsubstantiated. The Minister of DWS, the Water Board, the DG of DWS and the Head of the Hawks were instructed to: • appoint engineers to advise on actual work done on previous service providers versus payments made. • take action against officials involved in the appointment of the contractor. • review departmental policies in respect of implementing agents.	This raises an interesting question. Does this mean that DWS get to award certain tenders and then the WSA is responsible to ensure that they are implemented. In other words, that the contract management etc. is done by the WSA?

	• consider registering an enquiry to investigate acts of possible corrupt activities regarding the appointment of the contractor.	
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Sources:

- Auditor-General of South Africa MFMA Report for 2022/23 <https://mfma-2022.aqsareports.co.za/province/limpopo>
- Department Water and Sanitation Water Services Development Planning Website Tool <https://ws.dws.gov.za/wsdp/Index.aspx#>
- Department Water and Sanitation Municipal Strategic Self-Assessment for year ended in 2022
- Department Water and Sanitation Blue Drop Progress Report 2022
- Municipal Demarcation Board Municipal Powers and Functions Capacity Assessment 2018: Sectoral Report for Water and Sanitation
- Independent Electoral Commission Local Government Elections Dashboard accessed at <https://results.elections.org.za/dashboards/lge/>
- Municipalities of South Africa <https://municipalities.co.za/provinces/view/5/limpopo>
- National Treasury Municipalities Meeting Criteria for Determining Serious Financial problems in Terms of Sections 138 and 140 of the MFMA for the fourth quarter of 2022/23
- South African Human Rights Commission Inquiry into Access to Water and the Efficacy of Water Services Authorities within Limpopo Province (SAHRC Oct 2021)
- WeatherSA Historical Rainmap for July 2022- January 2023 accessed at <https://www.weathersa.co.za/home/historicalrain>
- World Health Organisation Statistics accessed at <https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/number-of-diarrhoea-deaths-from-inadequate-water-sanitation-and-hygiene>

Municipal Documentation

- Local Municipality Annual Budget 2020/21
- Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan 2023/24
- Local Municipality Water Services By-Law
- Local Municipality Indigent Policy
- Local Municipality Final Tariff 2023/24