



**SALGA**  
South African Local Government Association

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Holiday Period Road Deaths

According to statistics for road deaths as announced by the Minister of Transport, Dipuo Peters, on 12 January, the number of road accident related deaths during the end of the year holiday period has increased. Road deaths increased by 14% during December 2015 and January 2016. The Western Cape [province](#) ~~Province~~ accounted for the majority of the fatalities at 33%, followed by the Eastern Cape where the increase was 22%. KwaZulu-Natal is the only province that registered a decline of 2%. Children aged between 0 and 4 years contributed to 10.4% of pedestrian deaths.

SALGA has always acknowledged that an urgent response is required to reduce the number of fatalities on our roads. Through its MoU signed with the Road Accident Fund (RAF), SALGA will be partnering on different programmes for the next five years, which will aim to increase road safety and awareness measures in local municipalities. Through SALGA, municipalities and the RAF will be cooperating with communities on awareness campaigns, legal child restraint requirements and fatigue management. This will include further collaboration with other relevant stakeholders on improving infrastructure in high accident spots and education (outreach) programmes in areas where there have been a high number of pedestrian fatalities. Municipalities and the RAF will also collaborate on RAF led programmes for defensive driving for public transport drivers as well as bikers.

We as SALGA, are hopeful that through our partnership with the RAF, we will begin noting a reduction in road fatalities in the provinces and municipalities. As we roll out programme activities, priority and support shall be given to municipalities in provinces which accounted to an increase in the 2015/16 statistics.

#end#

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