

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

**UPDATE BY DR. KALUMBI SHANGULA, MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL
SERVICES ON COVID-19 IN NAMIBIA.**

16 December 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today, a record three hundred and sixty-three (363) new COVID-19 confirmed cases were identified from one thousand eight hundred and forty-four (1 844) results received from the laboratories. This represents a 20% positivity ratio. The gender distribution of the reported cases is one hundred and ninety-nine (199) females and one hundred and sixty-four (164) males. The age range is from two (2) years to eighty (80) years. The new COVID-19 cases are distributed as follows:

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Khomas	218	Windhoek	218
Karas	50	Lüderitz	24
		Keetmanshoop	15
		Karasburg	11
Hardap	27	Rehoboth	27
Otjozondjupa	19	Okahandja	10
		Otjiwarongo	9
Erongo	18	Usakos	6
		Walvis Bay	5
		Swakopmund	4
		Omaruru	3
Oshana	16	Oshakati	16
Kavango East	7	Andara	7
Oshikoto	5	Tsumeb	5
Kunene	2	Khorixas	2
Omaheke	1	Gobabis	1
Total	363		363

2. Today we record the highest number of confirmed cases ever since the two index cases for COVID-19 were reported on 13th March 2020. The Windhoek district cases constitute 60% of the total reported cases nationwide. Among the reported cases are eighteen (18) learners, ten (10) teachers from different schools and fifteen (15) students from various institutions of higher learning. Ten (10) health care workers have tested positive for COVID-19 in Windhoek district.

3. From other regions, fifteen (15) healthcare workers are among confirmed cases comprising of eleven (11) UNAM medical students in Oshakati district and one each from Lüderitz, Khorixas, Walvis Bay and Keetmanshoop districts. Among the cases from Keetmanshoop, there are seven (7) inmates from Keetmanshoop police holding cells. The Karasburg district cases include six (6) employees from grape farm in Ausinkeer. We have recorded a total of sixteen (16) employees from different mining industries from different districts and four (4) employees from fishing industries in Lüderitz.
4. We urge fellow citizen to adhere to Health and Hygiene Protocols recommended for our protection including the new regulations announced this morning by His Excellency, The President of the Republic of Namibia. As we are at the edge of the COVID-19 pandemic precipice, it is everyone's responsibility to make sure that our families, friends, relatives, neighbors, workmates, communities and our country is safe.
5. Today we are reporting two hundred and fifteen (215) new recoveries, of which one hundred and five (105) are from Khomas region. This brings the total number of recoveries to 15 196.

Table 2: New recoveries per region

Region	Number
Khomas	105
Erongo	69
Karas	32
Kunene	3
Ohangwena	3
Oshana	2
Omusati	1
Total	215

6. The total number of active cases currently stands at 1,913. Today we are reporting one hundred and fifty-two (152) hospitalized confirmed cases and twenty-six (26) who are in intensive care units (ICUs). Khomas region has 57.9% and 84.6% of hospitalized confirmed cases and ICU cases respectively.

Table 3: Distribution of hospitalization of confirmed cases per region

Region	Hospitalized confirmed cases	Intensive Care Unit	Total
Khomas	88	22	110
Erongo	29	3	32
Hardap	8	0	8
Oshana	8	0	8
Ohangwena	6	0	6
Oshikoto	6	1	7
Omusati	5	0	5
Kavango East	1	0	1
Kunene	1	0	1
Total	152	26	178

7. Table 4: Summary of the update

Cumulative confirmed cases	17 276
Newly confirmed	363
Recoveries	15 196
Active cases	1 913
COVID-19 Death	123
COVID-19 Related Death	41
Total Deaths	164
Active contacts	3 756
Total samples tested	180 521
Cumulative number of people quarantined	21 842
Number of quarantined people discharged	20 954
Number of people in quarantines	888

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