

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.**

17 December 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today, three hundred and thirty-one (331) new COVID-19 confirmed cases were identified from two thousand one hundred and ninety (2 190) results received from the laboratories. This represents a 15% positivity ratio. The gender distribution of the reported cases is one hundred and seventy-nine (179) females and one hundred and fifty-two (152) males. The age range is from one (1) day to eighty-three (83) years. The new COVID-19 cases are distributed as follows:

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Khomas	163	Windhoek	163
Erongo	49	Swakopmund	31
		Walvis Bay	15
		Usakos	3
Karas	29	Lüderitz	17
		Keetmashoop	12
Otjozondjupa	26	Otjiwarongo	24
		Grootfontein	1
		Okahandja	1
Oshana	16	Oshakati	16
Omaheke	13	Gobabis	13
Omusati	13	Outapi	7
		Oshikuku	4
		Tsandi	1
		Okahao	1
Kunene	12	Opuwo	9
		Outjo	3
Hardap	8	Rehoboth	7
		Mariental	1
Zambezi	1	Katima Mulilo	1
Oshikoto	1	Tsumeb	1
Total	331		331

2. The Khomas region cases constitute 49% of the total reported cases nationwide. Among them are thirteen (13) students from various institutions of higher learning and three (3) are teachers from different schools. Another six (6) healthcare workers and six (6) inmates have also tested positive for COVID-19.
3. From other regions are thirteen (13) healthcare workers from different health facilities around the country with Swakopmund district recording five (5), Oshakati four (4), two (2) from Outapi district and one (1) each from Outjo and Mariental districts. In addition to this are five (5) learners from different schools. Among cases from Keetmanshoop district there are ten (10) cases from Keetmashoop police station, eight (8) are inmates and two (2) police officers. From the mining industry we are reporting twenty (20) cases of

whom ten (10) are employees of B2 Gold mine in Otjiwarongo district and the rest are from other districts. From the fishing industry there are four (4) employees from Lüderitz district. Of all the reported cases 53% are contacts of confirmed cases. Of these contacts 45% are symptomatic.

4. As we are clearly in the second wave of COVID-19 infection which we are foreseeing to be worse than the first wave if prevention measures are not fully implemented, we urge all citizens to adhere to the publicized infection containment strategies, washing of hands regularly with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub, social distancing and consistent wearing of masks.
5. Today we are reporting one hundred and seventy-seven (177) new recoveries, of which eighty-one (81) are from Windhoek district.

Table 2: New recoveries per region

Region	Number
Khomas	81
Karas	40
Erongo	27
Oshikoto	20
Kunene	7
Ohangwena	1
Omaheke	1
Total	177

6. The total number of active cases currently stands at 2050. Today we are reporting one hundred and fifty-seven (157) hospitalized confirmed cases and twenty-nine (29) who are in intensive care units (ICUs). Khomas region has 59.9% and 89.7% 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	94	26	120
Erongo	20	2	22
Omusati	12	0	12
Hardap	8	0	8
Oshana	8	0	8
Ohangwena	7	0	7
Oshikoto	6	1	7
Kavango East	1	0	1
Kunene	1	0	1
Total	157	29	186

7. *Table 4: Summary of the update*

Cumulative confirmed cases	17 607
Newly confirmed	331
Recoveries	15 373
Active cases	2 067
COVID-19 Death	123
COVID-19 Related Death	41
Total Deaths	164
Active contacts	4 149
Total samples tested	182 969
Cumulative number of people quarantined	22 076
Number of quarantined people discharged	21 084
Number of people in quarantines	992

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