

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.**

18 December 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today, we are reporting a new record number of four hundred and thirty-four (434) new COVID-19 confirmed cases from two thousand and forty-three (2 043) results over the past 24 hours. This represents a 21% positivity ratio. The gender distribution of the reported cases is two hundred and thirty-one (231) females and two hundred and three (203) males. The age range is from three (3) days to ninety-three (93) years. The new COVID-19 cases are distributed as follows:

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Khomas	271	Windhoek	271
Erongo	40	Swakopmund	25
		Walvis Bay	12
		Usakos	3
Otjozondjupa	30	Okahandja	23
		Otjiwarongo	7
Oshikoto	24	Tsumeb	12
		Onandjokwe	10
		Omuthiya	2
//Karas	21	Lüderitz	20
		Karasburg	1
Oshana	19	Oshakati	19
Omusati	12	Okahao	7
		Oshikuku	4
		Outapi	1
Hardap	6	Rehoboth	5
		Mariental	1
Zambezi	4	Katima Mulilo	4
Kunene	4	Khorixas	3
		Outjo	1
Ohangwena	2	Engela	2
Kavango East	1	Rundu	1
Total	434		434

2. We record a 31% increase in the number of reported cases compared to those reported yesterday. Today 12 of the 14 (86%) regions in Namibia have recorded new COVID-19 positive cases. Khomas region alone has contributed 62% (271) to the total confirmed cases.
3. Among the positive cases are thirty-nine (39) health care workers, of which twenty-four (24) are from Windhoek district, four from (4) Oshakati, two (2) each from Swakopmund, Onandjokwe, Tsumeb, Okahandja districts and one each from Rehoboth, Khorixas and Otjiwarongo districts. Of the recorded cases, 26% are symptomatic and 57% are contacts of confirmed cases.

4. This situation calls for a complete mindshift towards Covid-19. Unfortunately, we still do not see a corresponding level of commitment towards control of the pandemic. We continue urging all citizens to adhere to the COVID-19 prevention measures. What else do we need to see in order to convince ourselves of the need to comply? We thank those responsible citizens who recognise the gravity of the situation and are complying with the preventive measures in place and call on everybody to follow this example.
5. Today we do record two hundred and fifty-three (253) new recoveries of which 58% of these are from Windhoek district.

Table 2: New recoveries per region

Region	Number
Khomas	147
Erongo	69
Karas	21
Kunene	15
Omusati	1
Total	253

6. The total number of active cases currently stands at 2 243. Today we are reporting one hundred and fifty-five (155) hospitalized confirmed cases and thirty (30) who are in intensive care units (ICUs). Khomas region has 54% and 90% 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	83	27	110
Erongo	26	2	28
Omusati	10	0	10
Hardap	8	0	8
Oshana	8	0	8
Ohangwena	7	0	7
Oshikoto	6	1	7
Kunene	5	0	5
Kavango East	1	0	1
Zambezi	1	0	1
Total	155	30	185

7. We announce five hospital (5) deaths; three from Oshakati and one each from Omuthiya and Khorixas.

Table 4: Summary of deaths

District	Sex	Age	Comorbidities	Date of death	Classification
Oshakati	Male	70	Yes	14.12.20	COVID-19 Related Death
Khorixas	Female	82	Yes	14.12.20	COVID-19 Death
Omuthiya	Male	69	Yes	16.12.20	COVID-19 Death
Oshakati	Male	49	Yes	16.12.20	COVID-19 Death
Oshakati	Male	42	No	17.12.20	COVID-19 Death

We express sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

8. *Table 4: Summary of the update*

Cumulative confirmed cases	18 041
Newly confirmed	434
Recoveries	15 626
Active cases	2 243
COVID-19 Death	127
COVID-19 Related Death	42
Total Deaths	169
Active contacts	4 400
Total samples tested	185 012
Cumulative number of people quarantined	22 186
Number of quarantined people discharged	21 168
Number of people in quarantines	1 018

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