

**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.**

**26 May 2021**

**WINDHOEK**

*\*Check against Delivery*

1. We announce one hundred and seventy-one (171) new COVID-19 confirmed cases from seven hundred and twenty-three (723) results in the last twenty-four (24) hours, which represents 24% positivity ratio. The gender distribution is ninety-three (93) males and seventy-eight (78) females. The age range is from one (1) year to eighty (80) years. The new COVID-19 cases are geographically distributed as follows:

*Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases, 26 May 2021*

| REGIONS      | NEW CASES  | DISTRICTS    | NEW CASES  |
|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Khomas       | 105        | Windhoek     | 105        |
| Omaheke      | 18         | Gobabis      | 18         |
| Erongo       | 17         | Walvis Bay   | 7          |
|              |            | Swakopmund   | 6          |
|              |            | Usakos       | 3          |
|              |            | Omaruru      | 1          |
| Kharas       | 14         | Keetmanshoop | 11         |
|              |            | Lüderitz     | 2          |
|              |            | Karasburg    | 1          |
| Oshana       | 7          | Oshakati     | 7          |
| Otjozondjupa | 6          | Otjiwarongo  | 4          |
|              |            | Okahandja    | 1          |
|              |            | Grootfontein | 1          |
| Hardap       | 2          | Rehoboth     | 2          |
| Oshikoto     | 2          | Tsumeb       | 2          |
|              | <b>171</b> |              | <b>171</b> |

2. Today we are reporting cases from eight (8) regions. Among the reported cases are twenty (20) learners, three (3) teachers, five (5) students and ten (10) health care workers.
3. We have recorded forty-six (46) new recoveries.

*Table 2: Distribution of new recoveries by region, 26 May 2021*

| Region       | Number    |
|--------------|-----------|
| Khomas       | 29        |
| Hardap       | 13        |
| Kharas       | 2         |
| Kunene       | 1         |
| Omaheke      | 1         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>46</b> |

4. We now have three thousand two hundred and seven (3 207) active cases. Two hundred and forty-two (242) are hospitalized, of which fifty-one (51) are in ICU/ High Care.

*Table 3: Distribution of hospitalization of confirmed cases per region, 26 May 2021*

| <b>Region</b> | <b>Hospitalized confirmed cases</b> | <b>Intensive Care Unit/ High Care</b> |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Khomas        | 102                                 | 35                                    |
| Oshana        | 31                                  | 9                                     |
| Erongo        | 27                                  | 5                                     |
| Karas         | 22                                  | 1                                     |
| Hardap        | 11                                  | 0                                     |
| Kunene        | 9                                   | 0                                     |
| Omaheke       | 9                                   | 0                                     |
| Ohangwena     | 8                                   | 0                                     |
| Oshikoto      | 6                                   | 0                                     |
| Otjozondjupa  | 6                                   | 0                                     |
| Omusati       | 6                                   | 0                                     |
| Zambezi       | 3                                   | 0                                     |
| Kavango East  | 2                                   | 1                                     |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>242</b>                          | <b>51</b>                             |

5. We announce ten (10) deaths, from Windhoek, Mariental, Rehoboth and Swakopmund districts.

*Table 4: Summary of deaths, 26 May 2021*

| <b>District</b> | <b>Sex</b> | <b>Age</b> | <b>Comorbidities</b> | <b>Date of Death</b> | <b>Classification</b> |
|-----------------|------------|------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Windhoek        | Male       | 55         | Yes                  | 24.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |
|                 | Female     | 68         | No                   | 26.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |
|                 | Male       | 48         | Yes                  | 19.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |
|                 | Female     | 58         | Yes                  | 25.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |
|                 | Male       | 45         | Yes                  | 25.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |
|                 | Female     | 57         | Yes                  | 24.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |
| Mariental       | Male       | 80         | Yes                  | 19.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |
|                 | Female     | 69         | No                   | 20.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |
| Rehoboth        | Female     | 70         | No                   | 20.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |
| Swakopmund      | Male       | 71         | Yes                  | 26.05.2021           | COVID-19 Death        |

6. Tables 5 and 6 below show the number of people vaccinated with Sinopharm and AstraZeneca vaccines.

*Table 5: Summary of COVID-19 1<sup>st</sup> vaccines administered, as of 26 May 2021*

| <b>Region</b> | <b>#New persons vaccinated with 1<sup>st</sup> dose of Sinopharm</b> | <b>Total persons who received 1<sup>st</sup> dose of Sinopharm</b> | <b>#New persons vaccinated with 1<sup>st</sup> dose of AstraZeneca (AZ)</b> | <b>Total persons vaccinated with 1<sup>st</sup> dose of AZ</b> | <b>Total persons vaccinated with 1<sup>st</sup> doses of Sinopharm and AZ</b> |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Erongo        | 0                                                                    | 2 591                                                              | 0                                                                           | 4 078                                                          | 6 669                                                                         |
| Hardap        | 0                                                                    | 1 259                                                              | 0                                                                           | 1 660                                                          | 2 919                                                                         |
| Karas         | 0                                                                    | 1 213                                                              | 0                                                                           | 1 314                                                          | 2 527                                                                         |
| Kavango East  | 21                                                                   | 2 086                                                              | 45                                                                          | 2 431                                                          | 4 517                                                                         |
| Kavango West  | 0                                                                    | 826                                                                | 0                                                                           | 1 142                                                          | 1 968                                                                         |
| Khomas        | 0                                                                    | 7 231                                                              | 0                                                                           | 14 081                                                         | 21 312                                                                        |
| Kunene        | 3                                                                    | 1 799                                                              | 50                                                                          | 1 202                                                          | 3 001                                                                         |
| Ohangwena     | 43                                                                   | 1 647                                                              | 22                                                                          | 1 712                                                          | 3 359                                                                         |
| Omaheke       | 0                                                                    | 1 409                                                              | 0                                                                           | 1 670                                                          | 3 079                                                                         |
| Omusati       | 19                                                                   | 1 111                                                              | 33                                                                          | 2 203                                                          | 3 314                                                                         |
| Oshana        | 0                                                                    | 1 425                                                              | 0                                                                           | 1 632                                                          | 3 057                                                                         |
| Oshikoto      | 0                                                                    | 604                                                                | 0                                                                           | 877                                                            | 1 481                                                                         |
| Otjozondjupa  | 0                                                                    | 2 019                                                              | 0                                                                           | 3 038                                                          | 5 057                                                                         |
| Zambezi       | 18                                                                   | 541                                                                | 18                                                                          | 508                                                            | 1 049                                                                         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>104</b>                                                           | <b>25 761</b>                                                      | <b>168</b>                                                                  | <b>37 548</b>                                                  | <b>63 309</b>                                                                 |

*Table 6: Number of 2nd doses administered as of 26 May 2021*

| <b>Region</b> | <b># of new persons who received 2<sup>nd</sup> doses of Sinopharm</b> | <b># of New persons who received 2<sup>nd</sup> doses of AstraZeneca</b> | <b>Total 2<sup>nd</sup> doses of Sinopharm and AstraZeneca</b> |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Erongo        | 0                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 781                                                            |
| Hardap        | 0                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 258                                                            |
| Karas         | 3                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 197                                                            |
| Kavango East  | 93                                                                     | 1                                                                        | 432                                                            |
| Kavango West  | 0                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 88                                                             |
| Khomas        | 0                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 2 415                                                          |
| Kunene        | 61                                                                     | 0                                                                        | 287                                                            |
| Ohangwena     | 58                                                                     | 0                                                                        | 359                                                            |
| Omaheke       | 0                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 184                                                            |
| Omusati       | 1                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 170                                                            |
| Oshana        | 0                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 474                                                            |
| Oshikoto      | 0                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 257                                                            |
| Otjozondjupa  | 0                                                                      | 0                                                                        | 439                                                            |
| Zambezi       | 17                                                                     | 0                                                                        | 115                                                            |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>233</b>                                                             | <b>1</b>                                                                 | <b>6 456</b>                                                   |

7. *Table 7: Summary of the national update, 26 May 2021*

|                                                                |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Cumulative confirmed cases                                     | 53 603  |
| Newly confirmed                                                | 171     |
| Recoveries                                                     | 49 596  |
| Recovery rate                                                  | 93%     |
| Active cases                                                   | 3 207   |
| Cumulative COVID-19 vaccine 1 <sup>st</sup> doses administered | 63 309  |
| Cumulative COVID-19 vaccine 2 <sup>nd</sup> doses administered | 6 456   |
| COVID-19 Deaths                                                | 655     |
| COVID-19 Related Deaths                                        | 134     |
| Total Deaths                                                   | 789     |
| Total samples tested                                           | 424 743 |
| Active contacts                                                | 2 943   |
| Cumulative number of people quarantined                        | 48 934  |
| Number of quarantined people discharged                        | 47 278  |
| Number of people in quarantines                                | 1 656   |

8. **Key Messages**

- As schools across the country open for face-to-face learning today, we urge parents and guardians to keep all children who are ill or experiencing signs and symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection at home until they have recovered. This will help to control exposure to other learners and school staff.
- We continue calling upon all learners to strictly follow the COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures at all times. Wear your masks correctly and consistently, frequently wash your hands with soap and clean water or sanitize with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer and maintain social distancing of at least 1m apart. Avoid hugging and shaking hands and cover coughs with the elbow. We believe that learners can do a lot to keep themselves and others safe.
- As we are currently experiencing high numbers of COVID-19 cases from active community transmission and increased deaths of our loved ones, it is imperative for everyone to take upon themselves the responsibility of caring for their neighbor by following the national COVID-19 regulations. Avoid by all means public gatherings and unnecessary travel.
- If you are isolating or quarantining at home, we encourage you to comply with the isolation and quarantine guidelines and stay at home. Seek urgent medical attention when you start experiencing these COVID-19 infection signs: difficulty with breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, inability to wake or stay awake and new confusion.
- Vaccines strengthen your immune response to the SARS-CoV-2 virus infection, and reduce your chances of getting hospitalized or dying once infected by the virus. Visit your nearest vaccination center to receive your COVID-19 vaccine shot. Vaccination saves lives.

**-END-**