

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 2021

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. We announce one thousand two hundred and fifty-seven (**1 257**) new positive cases from three thousand eight hundred and five (**3 805**) results in the last twenty-four (24) hours reporting cycle, which represents **33.0%** positivity ratio. The sex distribution is six hundred and ninety-seven (**697**) females and five hundred and sixty (**560**) males. The age ranges from two (**2**) months to eighty-nine (**89**) years.

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases &Reinfections, 16 December 2021

Regions	New cases	Districts	New cases	New re-infections	Total
Khomas	495	Windhoek	495	48	543
Erongo	226	Walvis Bay	102	11	113
		Swakopmund	93	7	100
		Omaruru	20	2	22
		Usakos	11	3	14
Otjozondjupa	218	Otjiwarongo	148	7	155
		Okahandja	44	3	47
		Okakarara	14	0	14
		Grootfontein	12	3	15
Kharas	76	Luderitz	55	10	65
		Karasburg	19	4	23
		Keetmanshoop	2	0	2
Kunene	64	Khorixas	31	1	32
		Outjo	17	2	19
		Opuwo	16	1	17
Oshikoto	45	Tsumeb	27	2	29
		Onandjokwe	14	0	14
		Omuthiya	4	0	4
Hardap	40	Rehoboth	24	2	26
		Mariental	16	2	18
Omusati	30	Oshikuku	12	0	12
		Outapi	9	0	9
		Tsandi	5	1	6
		Okahao	4	0	4
Oshakati	18	Oshakati	18	2	20
Zambezi	24	Katima Mulilo	24	4	28
Kavango East	15	Rundu	15	3	18
Ohangwena	4	Eenhana	3	1	4
		Okongo	1	0	1
Omaheke	2	Gobabis	2	0	2
Total	1 257		1 257	119	1 376

2. We are reporting cases from all fourteen (14) regions with Khomas region reporting the high number of new cases, totalling four hundred and ninety-four (495), making up 39.4% of the total confirmed cases, followed by Erongo with two hundred and twenty six (226), constituting 18% and Otjozondjupa with two hundred and eighteen (218), making up 17.4%. We are also reporting one hundred and nineteen (119) new reinfections with Khomas reporting the highest number of forty-eight cases.

3. Among the confirmed cases are eighty-two (82) learners, twenty-six (26) health care workers, fifteen (15) students, and nine (9) teachers. Twenty-seven (27) cases have received one (1) dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and sixty-seven (67) cases are fully vaccinated. A total number of 1 163 new cases or 92.5% are unvaccinated.
4. We are reporting forty-one (**41**) new recoveries from six (6) regions.

Table 2: Distribution of new recoveries by region, 16 December 2021

Region	Number
Oshana	13
Erongo	9
Ohangwena	8
Hardap	7
Kharas	2
Khomas	2
Total	41

5. The number of active cases are now six thousand one hundred and eighty-nine (**6 189**). Hospitalized cases continue to increase as there are now one hundred and seventy-five (**175**) across eleven (11) regions, of which fifteen (15) are in Intensive Care Unit (ICU). Two (2) of the hospitalized cases have received one (1) dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and two (2) of the hospitalized cases are fully vaccinated. All cases in ICU are not vaccinated.

Table 3: Distribution of hospitalization of confirmed cases per region, 16 December 2021

Region	Hospitalized cases		Vaccinated		ICU		Vaccinated	
	Current	Previous	1 st dose	2 nd dose	Current	Previous	1 st dose	2 nd dose
Khomas	78	69	1	1	13	11	0	0
Erongo	20	29	0	0	0	1	0	0
Kunene	17	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
Otjozondjupa	15	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zambezi	11	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Omusati	10	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kharas	10	6	1	1	0	0	0	0
Kavango East	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oshana	3	3	0	0	2	1	0	0
Ohangwena	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oshikoto	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Omaheke	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	175	152	2	2	15	13	0	0

6. By 15 December 2021, a total of **394 940** people have received one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, representing **26.3%** of the target population including eight hundred (**800**) children aged 12-17 years. A total of **98 389** have received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, which is administered as one dose, while **234 176** adults had received two doses of other vaccines. Therefore, **332 565** have completed the vaccination, translating to **22.2%** of the target population. One thousand and twenty-seven (**1 027**) people have

received 3rd dose of Sinopharm as a booster dose. Details of vaccinations are presented in tables 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 below:

Table 4: Summary of administered COVID-19 vaccine 1st dose, 16 December 2021

Region	Sinopharm		AstraZeneca		Sputnik V		Pfizer		J&J		Grand total 1st dose
	New	All	New	All	New	All	New	All	New	All	
Erongo	11	15 750	5	13 148	0	3	23	819	152	8 620	38 340
Hardap	27	12 371	6	5 584	0	0	30	74	121	5 635	23 664
Kharas	18	10 167	4	4 588	0	0	6	125	98	5 169	20 049
Kavango East	82	10 181	1	7 035	0	0	96	612	187	8 292	26 120
Kavango West	110	5 506	0	4 508	0	0	67	436	80	8 735	19 185
Khomas	0	41 496	0	29 426	0	94	0	3329	0	18 233	92 578
Kunene	10	11 546	2	5 427	0	0	0	30	40	7 188	24 191
Ohangwena	22	15 657	6	5 285	0	2	14	85	75	5 532	26 561
Omaheke	23	8 256	0	5 004	0	0	23	108	233	4 973	18 341
Omusati	75	13 268	7	7 213	0	0	6	197	185	5 066	25 744
Oshana	23	12 285	3	4 779	0	29	5	107	66	4 116	21 316
Oshikoto	27	12 007	0	3 712	0	0	6	22	83	5 301	21 042
Otjozondjupa	2	12 302	4	8 451	0	0	5	133	130	8 794	29 680
Zambezi	2	3 607	0	937	0	0	1	50	47	2 735	7 329
Total	432	184 399	38	105 097	0	128	282	6 127	1 497	98 389	394 140

Table 5: Summary of administered COVID-19 vaccines 2nd dose, 16 December 2021

Region	Sinopharm		AstraZeneca		Sputnik V		Pfizer		Grand total 2nd dose
	New 2nd dose	All 2nd dose	New 2nd dose	All 2nd dose	New 2nd dose	All 2nd doses	New 2nd dose	All 2nd dose	
Erongo	17	13 515	16	11 303	0	5	4	178	25 001
Hardap	11	10 425	39	4 200	0	0	0	6	14 631
Kharas	16	8 134	1	3 162	0	0	0	45	11 341
Kavango East	45	6 836	12	3 568	0	0	12	64	10 468
Kavango West	28	4 242	0	2 965	0	0	0	21	7 228
Khomas	0	35 122	0	24 342	0	63	0	1 638	61 165
Kunene	35	8 477	8	3 974	0	0	0	0	12 451
Ohangwena	42	12 750	11	4 093	0	0	0	0	16 843
Omaheke	18	5 883	0	3 031	0	0	2	35	8 949
Omusati	60	11 346	8	5 827	0	0	0	4	17 177
Oshana	19	10 762	1	3 842	0	8	2	21	14 633
Oshikoto	24	10 288	7	3 053	0	0	0	0	13 341
Otjozondjupa	16	10 650	6	6 421	0	0	2	27	17 098
Zambezi	5	3 102	1	732	0	0	1	10	3 844
Total	336	151 532	110	80 513	0	76	23	2 049	234 170

Table 6: Summary of administered COVID-19 vaccines 3rd dose, 16 December 2021

	Sinopharm		AstraZeneca		Sputnik V		Pfizer		Grand
Region	New 3 rd dose	All 3 rd dose	New 3 rd dose	All 3 rd dose	New 3 rd dose	All 3 rd doses	New 3 rd dose	All 3 rd dose	total 3 rd dose
Erongo	24	181	0	0	0	0	0	0	181
Hardap	8	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	39
Kharas	9	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	80
Kavango East	21	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	67
Kavango West	12	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
Khomas	0	194	0	0	0	0	0	0	194
Kunene	2	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Ohangwena	11	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
Omaheke	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Omusati	19	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	42
Oshana	8	123	0	0	0	0	0	0	123
Oshikoto	11	104	0	0	0	0	0	0	104
Otjozondjupa	11	112	0	0	0	0	0	0	112
Zambezi	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Total	140	1 027	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 027

Table 7: Summary of administered COVID-19 vaccines(12-17) Years, 1st dose, 16 December 2021

PFIZER FOR CHILDREN 1 st DOSE (12-17) Years					
Region	New (12-13 yrs)	All 1 st dose (12-13 yrs)	New (14-17 yrs)	All 1 st dose (14-17 yrs)	GRAND TOTAL 1 st DOSES (12-17 yrs)
Erongo	5	57	4	98	155
Hardap	11	22	11	20	42
Kharas	0	6	4	9	15
Kavango East	21	43	42	89	132
Kavango West	8	38	43	101	139
Khomas	0	7	0	12	19
Kunene	0	0	0	0	0
Ohangwena	14	36	0	36	72
Omaheke	12	12	6	6	18
Omusati	0	63	2	32	95
Oshana	1	21	2	30	51
Oshikoto	0	2	2	3	5
Otjozondjupa	0	29	3	27	56
Zambezi	0	0	1	1	1
Total	72	336	120	464	800

Table 8: Summary of administered COVID-19 vaccines(12-17) Years, 2nd dose, 16 December 2021

PFIZER FOR CHILDREN 2 nd DOSE (12-17) Years					
Region	New (12-13 yrs)	All 2 nd dose (12-13 yrs)	New (14-17 yrs)	All 2 nd Dose (14-17 yrs)	GRAND TOTAL 2 nd DOSE (12-17) Years
Erongo	0	0	0	0	0
Hardap	0	0	0	0	0
Kharas	0	0	0	0	0
Kavango East	0	0	0	0	0
Kavango West	0	0	0	0	0
Khomas	0	0	0	0	0
Kunene	0	0	0	0	0
Ohangwena	0	0	0	0	0
Omaheke	0	0	0	0	0
Omusati	0	0	0	0	0
Oshana	0	0	0	0	0
Oshikoto	0	0	0	0	0
Otjozondjupa	0	0	0	0	0
Zambezi	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

7. Table 9: Summary of the national update, 16 December 2021

Cumulative confirmed individuals	135 951
Newly confirmed individuals	1 257
Total Re-infections (from 08/12/2021)	558
New Re-infections	119
Recoveries	126 288
Recovery rate	92.9%
Active cases	6 189
Cumulative COVID-19 vaccine 1 st doses	394 940
Cumulative COVID-19 vaccine 2 nd doses	234 176
Cumulative COVID-19 vaccine completed	332 565
COVID-19 Deaths	3 279
COVID-19 Related Deaths	301
Total Deaths	3 580
Total samples tested	828 465
Active contacts	1 975
Cumulative number of people quarantined	83 639
Number of quarantined people discharged	83 249
Number of people in quarantines	390

8. Key message

- The number of new cases has exceeded a one thousand mark within the last reporting cycle. This is a meteoric increase within a short period of time. The same happened with the number of admissions which is gradually approaching two hundreds. These cases are

putting pressure on the hospitals at the time when most of our healthcare workers are supposed to take a well deserved rest with their families.

- Of great concern is the fact that out of 175 admissions, only two (2) are fully vaccinated leaving a total of 173 unprotected against Covid-19 infections. Even of greater concern is that all fifteen (15) admissions in Intensive Care Unit are not vaccinated. Most of these admissions in ICU could have been avoided had the individuals concerned been vaccinated.
- I once again appeal to the public to make serious efforts to stem the tide of infection. Avoid large gatherings as far as possible. Reduce traveling to a minimum. Wear your face mask correctly and consistently. Maintain personal hygiene and maintain a safe distance from the next person close to you.
- Remember the magic bullet-vaccination. It protects you from infection. It prevents you from ending up in Intensive Care Unit in the event you get infected. **REMEMBER THE OLD AXIOM THAT PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE.**

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