

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 November 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today we are reporting forty-seven (47) new COVID-19 confirmed cases identified from six hundred and seventy-four (674) tests performed at the various laboratories. This translates in 6.9% positivity ratio, which is within the range observed during the post State of Emergency period. The gender distribution of the cases is twenty-seven (27) females and twenty (20) males. The age range is from six (6) years 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
Hardap	18	Rehoboth	18
Khomas	13	Windhoek	13
Kavango east	8	Rundu	8
Erongo	3	Swakopmund	3
Ohangwena	2	Engela	2
Kunene	1	Opuwo	1
Omaheke	1	Gobabis	1
Karas	1	Keetmanshoop	1
Total	47		47

2. Among the cases from Rehoboth district, 78% (14/18) are contact to confirmed cases. Of 13 cases reported from Windhoek, 5 are learners; 2 from Montessori kindergarten, 1 each from Rocky Crest High School, Delta high school and Gammams Primary School. All 8 cases from Rundu district are inmates in Rundu Police holding cells.
3. Today we are reporting one hundred and sixty-three (163) new recoveries as follow.

Table 2: New recoveries per region

Region	Number
Khomas	161
Erongo	1
Omusati	1
Total	162

4. The total number of active cases currently stands at 572. Of the active cases, five (5) are in severe to critical conditions.

Table 3: Distribution of severity of cases per region

Region	Severe	Critical	Total
Khomas	1	2	3
Oshana	1	0	1
Oshikoto	0	1	1
Total	2	3	5

5. *Table 4: Summary of the update*

Cumulative confirmed cases	13 555
Newly confirmed	47
Recoveries	12 843
Active cases	572
COVID-19 Death	107
COVID-19 Related Death	31
Total Deaths	138
Active contacts	2 550
Total samples tested	142 091
Cumulative number of people quarantined	19 553
Number of quarantined people discharged	19 141
Number of people in quarantine	412

6. Before I conclude, I wish to correct a misinformation that appeared in the public. It was reported in the media yesterday that Namibia was wrong to declare Covid-19 a pandemic because only 140 people have died. A pandemic is an epidemic occurring worldwide, crossing international boundaries and affecting a large number of people. First, Namibia has recorded 138 deaths due to or related to Covid-19 and not 140 as alleged. Second, a pandemic does not depend on the number of people killed. There may not even be a single death, but it can still be declared a pandemic. And last, a pandemic is declared by a specialised agency of the United Nations Organisation, the World Health Organisation and not by any individual country. Covid-19 is indeed a pandemic as declared by the World Health Organisation as it has spread to all continents and to all countries.

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