

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.**

21st September 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today, we have received a total of 1 145 results from the laboratories. Of these, 149 samples tested positive for COVID-19. One hundred and four (104) are males and forty-five (45) are females. The youngest is five (5) months and the oldest is eighty-four (84) years old. The confirmed cases are distributed as follows:

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Khomas	75	Windhoek	75
Erongo	25	Swakopmund	10
		Usakos	9
		Walvis Bay	5
		Omaruru	1
Ohangwena	20	Eenhana	20
Oshikoto	12	Onandjokwe	10
		Tsumeb	2
Otjozondjupa	8	Otjiwarongo	7
		Okahandja	1
Oshana	3	Oshakati	3
Kavango East	3	Rundu	3
Omaheke	1	Gobabis	1
Zambezi	1	Katima Mulilo	1
Kunene	1	Opuwo	1
Total	149		149

2. Yesterday we announced 10 learners and one support staff who tested positive at one school. Initially, one learner tested positive from that school. Today we are announcing a further ten learners who tested positive at the same school. Subsequently, classes were suspended to allow the school premises to be disinfected. Psychosocial support was given to the learners and the staff. The positive cases have been placed in Isolation and the contacts have been placed in quarantine for further observation. The classes will resume once all public health measures have been completed. We wish to assure the nation that the situation at that particular school does not warrant alarm.
3. Today we are reporting **79** new recoveries. This brings the total recoveries to **8 112**.

Table 2: New recoveries per region

Region	Number
Karas	71
Hardap	6
Omusati	2
Total	79

4. The total number of active cases now stands at **2 301**. Of the active cases, thirteen (13) are in severe or critically conditions.

Table 3: Distribution of severity of cases per region

Region	Severe	Critical	Total
Erongo	0	4	4
Khomas	4	5	9
Total	4	9	13

5. Regrettably, today we are announcing one (1) COVID-19 **death**, from **Windhoek district**. A 69-years-old female, with known multiple comorbidities presented to a local health facility on the 26th of August 2020 with symptoms consistent with COVID-19. The patient was admitted in a severe condition and swabbed for COVID-19. Her condition deteriorated and she passed away on the 19th of September 2020. We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

6. *Table 4: Summary of the update*

Cumulative confirmed cases	10 526
Newly confirmed	149
Recoveries	8 112
Active cases	2 301
Total COVID-19 deaths	87
Total COVID-19 related deaths	25
Total indeterminate deaths	1
Total deaths	113
Active contacts	9 830
Total samples tested	89 831
Cumulative number of people quarantined	13 166
Number of quarantined people discharged	12 326
Number of people in quarantines	840

7. I am disappointed to observe that, after the State of Emergency has lapsed, the public started to behave as if Covid-19 is no more. The Covid-19 in Namibia is currently being controlled and managed under the Public and Environmental Health Act of 2015. The Act makes provision for severe sanctions for non compliance with public health measures against an infectious disease. This Act is already operational. We will however continue to urge the public to voluntarily comply with the stipulated public health measures in the interest of the broader Namibian public.

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