

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.**

14 August 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check Against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today, a total number of **946** results were received from NIP, UNAM, NAMDEB and Pathcare. Of these, **182** samples tested positive for COVID-19.
2. Ninety-seven (97) are females and eighty-five (85) are males. The youngest is 1 year old, while the oldest is 85 years. The cases are spread as follows:

Table 1: New Covid-19 positive cases

Region	Town	Number
Erongo	Walvis Bay	58
	Swakopmund	16
Khomas	Windhoek	91
Omaheke	Gobabis	5
Otjozondjupa	Okahandja	2
	Okakakarara	1
	Otjiwarongo	1
Oshana	Oshakati	3
//Kharas	Ludertz	3
Kavango East	Rundu	1
Zambezi	Katima Mulilo	1
Total		182

3. One case reported from **Windhoek** is that of a 47 years old female, a resident of Rehoboth who works in Windhoek. Rehoboth district team is informed to initiate contact tracing.
4. The number of case from Windhoek that was announced yesterday, fourteen of them are health care workers.
5. We have noticed that there had been cases coming from Arandis, but because our reporting system is based on a district, these cases are reported under Swakopmund. Today among the cases reported from **Swakopmund District**, two are from Arandis.
6. Two cases reported from **Okahandja** are both from Oropoko where more than 30 cases had been reported before. They are aged 25 and 26 years respectively and both are males. They were both tested on the 7th August 2020, as they presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.
7. The case reported from **Okakarara** District is that of a 28 years old male from Okamatapati who is a contact to a confirmed case. He was tested on the 7th August 2020 as he presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.

8. The case reported from **Otjiwarongo** is that of a 60 years old male with no known contact to a confirmed case. He was tested on the 7th August as he presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.
9. The cases reported from **Gobabis District** are as follows:
 - 9.1. A 37 years old female from Epukiro, with no known contact to a confirmed case. She was tested on the 5th of August 2020, prior to a referral to Windhoek for medical attention. She did not have COVID-19 related symptoms.
 - 9.2. A 24 years old male from Gobabis, with no known contact to a confirmed case. He was tested on the 9th of August 2020, as he presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.
 - 9.3. A 53 years old male and a contact to a confirmed case in Windhoek, was tested on the 10th August 2020. He did have COVID-19 related symptoms but has been in quarantine.
 - 9.4. A 28 years female old and a contact to a confirmed case in Windhoek, was tested on the 10th August 2020. She did have COVID-19 related symptoms but has been in quarantine.
 - 9.5. A 27-year old male with no known contact to a confirmed case. He was tested on the 10th August 2020 as he presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.
10. A case reported from **Katima Mulilo** is a 20 years old female, a Zambian national studying in Namibia. She returned back from Zambia on the 2nd August 2020 and had been in quarantine. She was tested on the 7th August 2020.
11. A case reported from **Rundu district** is that of a 27 years old male and a contact to a confirmed case. He traveled from Walvis Bay on the 1st August 2020. He did not have COVID-19 related symptoms.
12. Three cases reported from **Oshakati District** are as follow:
 - 12.1. A 28 years old years old female, with no known contact to a confirmed case. She was tested on the 11th of August 2020 as she presented with COVID-19 symptoms.
 - 12.2. Two cases from Oshakati are residents of Ongwediva, aged 25 and 56 years, a male and a female respectively. They are both contacts to known cases and both did not have COVID-19 related symptoms.
13. The three cases reported from **Luderitz District** had travelled from South Africa and all had been in quarantine. More information is expected from the region.
14. Today I am announcing a record number of **1 494** recoveries. They are from different localities around the country.

Table 2: Number of recoveries

Region	Number Recovered
Erongo	1 458
Karas	16
Khomas	13
Ohangwena	5
Zambezi	2
Total	1 494

15. Of the active cases, four cases are critically sick, 1 from Walvis Bay and three from Windhoek. Fourteen (14) active cases are in severely sick conditions. One is from Walvis Bay and thirteen are from Windhoek.
16. It is with sadness that I am reporting five more deaths; one from Swakopmund and three Windhoek. Their details are as follow:
 - 16.1. A 48-year old male from **Windhoek** who presented at a local health facility on the 4th August 2020 with symptoms suggestive of COVID-19. He was tested on the same day and result came out as positive. Patient is known to have multiple comorbidities, was admitted in a severe state, and died on the 13th August 2020.
 - 16.2. A 83 years old female with known co-morbidities, was admitted on the 10th August 2020 at a local hospital in **Windhoek** after she presented with respiratory symptoms. She was tested on the same day. On the 14th August 2020, her clinical condition deteriorated suddenly and she passed away. Her result for COVID-19 was confirmed to be positive.
 - 16.3. A 68-year old female from **Windhoek** who presented to a local health care facility on the 6th August 2020 with a surgical complaint and was admitted. She is known to have multiple comorbidities. She later developed symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and was tested on the 11th August 2020 and results came out positive. She died on the 14th August 2020.
 - 16.4. A 45-year old male from **Swakopmund** who presented to a local facility on the 6th August 2020 with symptoms consistent with COVID-19. The patient was tested on the same day and admitted to a local health facility. The patient died on the 14th August 2020. The COVID-19 test was confirmed to be positive.
 - 16.5. We have an unusual situation whereby a 9- year old female from **Walvis Bay** who was confirmed with COVID-19 positive died tragically after she fell from height on the 12th August 2020. The matter is being investigated to rule out or confirm suicide. She is not counted as a COVID-19 related death as deaths due to accident is not classified as death due to Covid-19 as per WHO classification and in line with our protocols.

17. **Table 2: Summary**

Cumulative confirmed cases	3 726
Newly confirmed	182
Recoveries	2 342
Active cases	1 353
Deaths	31
Total samples tested	38 743
Active contacts	4 344
Cumulative number of people quarantined	7 830
Number of quarantined people discharged	6 352
Number of people in quarantines	1 478

18. We have recorded high mortalities due to Covid-19 within this week in fact 12 deaths within the last three days. These deaths once more underscore the fact that we are dealing with a serious disease, which calls for seriousness on our part as citizens. The major responsibility lies with the public to comply with the measures put in place in order to prevent more deaths.
19. We are disturbed and disappointed by reports that some Namibians are leaving the restricted areas through illegal exit routes to other parts of the country which are not under lockdown. The reason for imposing restrictions on Khomas and Erongo regions is to contain the infection to those regions. Movements of people from the restricted areas has the potential to introduce the infections in those regions that are currently having few cases of Covid-19. I should also remind the public that leaving the restricted areas without permission is a punishable offence. The law enforcement agencies are on the lookout to arrest the offenders. I call on the public to report those who are running away from the restricted areas to the Police as some have done so already.

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