

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

UPDATE BY DR. ESTHER MUINJANGUE, DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SERVICES ON COVID-19 IN NAMIBIA.

21 August 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check Against Delivery*

1. Today, a total record number of **1 378** results were received from the laboratories. Of these, a record of **315** samples tested positive for COVID-19. This is the highest figure of cases confirmed reported in the same day since the outbreak. Two hundred (200) are males and hundred and fifteen (115) are females. The youngest is 1 year and the oldest 83 years old.
2. As per global statistics, Namibia is now topping the African countries in the number of confirmed cases reported daily, with average of 8 cases per 100 000 population each day. South Africa is reported to be at 7 cases per 100 000 population.
3. The cases are spread as follows:

Table 1: New Covid-19 positive cases

REGIONS	DISTRICTS	Number
Khomas (223)	Windhoek	223
Erongo (46)	Walvis Bay	43
	Usakos	2
	Swakopmund	1
	Keetmanshoop	25
Karas (26)	Karasburg	1
	Mariental	4
Hardap (8)	Rehoboth	4
	Okahandja	3
Otjozondjupa(4)	Otjiwarongo	1
	Katima mulilo	2
Zambezi (2)	Rundu	2
Kavango East (2)	Engela	2
Ohangwena(2)	Okahao	1
Omusati (1)		

Oshikoto (1)	Onandjokwe	1
TOTAL		315

4. **The Windhoek** situation continues unabated with cases increasingly reported in health facilities, secluded places and in different institutions and offices. I would like to inform the public that it is the mandate of the Ministry of Health and Social Services, to recommend for closure of any work place, institution and or offices when public health is at risk. Therefore, we should not be surprised when this is being applied.
5. Of the 223 cases reported from Windhoek, 68% (151) are males and 32% (72) are females. Ages range from 1 to 79 years old. Seven cases are health care workers.
6. It is recommendable that at this juncture all people working at old age homes should be accommodated at the facilities wherever possible so that they don't mingle with others, this is to avoid putting the elderly population at more risk as they are highly vulnerable.
7. Residents of elderly homes should also strictly not be allowed to go out, till the situation normalizes. This is merely a health advice.
8. It is important to note that the number of cases from Erongo has plateaued. Two cases reported from Usakos are aged 2 and 26 years old, both female. The minor is a contact to a confirmed case, while the other case presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.
9. Of the 25 cases from //Karas region, many are cross border truck

drivers. This is a known fact that cross border drivers are amongst the drivers of the pandemic globally.

10. Of 8 cases reported from the Hardap Region, three are health workers. This is a very concerning trend as the frontlines are supposed to take care of known cases.
11. Cases reported from Otjozondjupa were all tested as part of the active case search following the number of cases reported in that area. Only one presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.
12. Two cases reported from Zambezi region, one is a contact to a known case, aged 27 and 33 years old, both are females.
13. Two cases reported from Kavango East, one is a health care worker and the second one is his son, aged 52 and 19 year, who indicated no known contact with a known case.
14. A case reported from Omusati is also a health care worker, age 35 years, male.
15. Two cases reported from Engela are both males aged 27 and 31 years old. One is a bus driver while the one is a truck driver.
16. Eleven cases are in severely sick condition while five are in critically sick condition. They are distributed as follows:

Table 2: Distribution of Severity of cases per region

Region	Severe	Critical	Total
Erongo	4	2	6

Khomas	7	3	10
Total	11	5	16

17. Fifteen (15) cases from Windhoek, Khomas Region have recovered.

18. It is with sadness that I inform the nation that one case from **Windhoek** passed away.

This is a 44 year old male from Windhoek, known with multiple comorbidities. He presented to a local health care facility on the 13th of August 2020 with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and was swabbed for COVID-19 and discharged home. On the 16th of August 2020, he experienced severe symptoms and brought to a local health facility, where he died shortly thereafter. His results for COVID-19 came back as positive on the 17th of August 2020.

19. We extend our sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

20. Table 3: Summary

Cumulative confirmed cases	5 227
Newly confirmed	315
Recoveries	2 442
Active cases	2 457
Deaths	42
Total samples tested	47 122
Active contacts	5 570
Cumulative number of people quarantined	8 857
Number of quarantined people discharged	7 708
Number of people in quarantines	1 149

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