

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.**

22 August 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Today, a total number of **1 686** results were received from the laboratories. Of these, **311** samples tested positive for COVID-19. One hundred and sixty-five (165) are females while one hundred and forty-six (146) are males. The youngest is three weeks and the oldest 95 years old.
2. The cases are spread as follows:

Table 1: New Covid-19 positive cases

REGIONS	DISTRICTS	New cases
Khomas (171)	Windhoek	171
Erongo (86)	Walvis Bay	67
	Swakopmund	19
Oshikoto (14)	Tsumeb	4
	Onandjokwe	9
	Omuthiya	1
Ohangwena(10)	Engela	9
	Eenhana	1
Otjozondjupa (8)	Grootfontein	4
	Okahandja	2
	Otjiwarongo	1
	Okakarara	1
Karas (6)	Keetmanshoop	6
Kavango East (5)	Rundu	5
Oshana (4)	Oshakati	4
Hardap(3)	Mariental	2
	Rehoboth	1
Omusati (2)	Oshikuku	2
Omaheke (1)	Gobabis	1
Zambezi (1)	Katima mulilo	1
TOTAL		311

3. The COVID-19 pandemic is not getting any better, not only in Windhoek but the situation is really worrisome in most part of the country.
4. Of the cases we report today, nineteen (19) are health care workers- Of these, sixteen (16) are from Khomas region. It remains the responsibility of the employer to protect the work force both in the public and in the private sectors. Let us ensure that all staff members are having appropriate Personal Protective Equipments.
5. The cases from **Erongo Region** today, almost double the figure we had yesterday, from 46 to 86. This is why we did not want to relax when we reported fewer cases from Erongo a few days back.
6. The cases from **Oshikoto** doubled from 4 to 8 and those from **Otjozondjupa** doubled from 4 to 8 cases over a period of two days.

7. From **Oshikoto Region**, more cases are reported from Onandjokwe district, while in Otjozondjupa region, Okahandja and Grootfontein record more cases.
8. **Ohangwena** cases increased from 2 cases reported yesterday to 10 cases reported today. Most of the cases reported from Ohangwena Region are from Engela district.
9. The cases in **//Karas** remain constant, although we had a high number of 26 cases yesterday.
10. We have noted with concern the rapid increase in the number of cases reported from **Kavango East**, specifically from Rundu district. Sixteen cases were reported in the last three days. The first case reported in this region was on the 30th July 2020.
11. So far 45 cases were reported in **Hardap**. Thirty-seven (37) of these cases were recorded during the last three weeks since beginning of August 2020. These cases are coming from Mariental and Rehoboth districts.
12. **Omusati** has recorded 15 cases from all four districts. Thirteen cases were recorded from the 7th of August 2020. The region is registering one case on a daily basis. Oshikuku district has recorded more cases than other districts.
13. Cases are rapidly increasing in **Omaheke**, with 23 cases recorded in the space of nine days.
14. The total number of cases reported from **Zambezi** thus far are 19. Twelve of these cases were reported during this week.
15. About 50% (2 686) of cases were recorded in the last two weeks countrywide.
16. Again, it is being reported that number of cases are coming from social gatherings like funerals, weddings and religious events. Therefore, measures against these cannot be overemphasized. It should remain the responsibility of all of us to ensure that we are striving to bring the number of cases down.
17. Eleven cases are in severely sick conditions while four are in critical conditions. They are distributed as follows:

Table 2: Distribution of Severe of cases per region

Region	Severe	Critical	Total
Erongo	4	1	5
Khomas	7	3	10
Total	11	4	15

18. Three (3) cases from **Katima Mulilo, Zambezi Region** have recovered.

19. With sadness, I inform the nation that we have lost four more lives due to COVID-19. One from **Eenhana district, Ohangwena Region**, one from **Swakopmund**, and two from **Walvis Bay, Erongo Region**.

19.1. The one from **Eenhana** is a 49 years old female, initially seen at a private health facility in Eenhana on the 18 August 2020 with symptoms consistent with COVID19. She was in contact with a confirmed case. She was then referred to a public health facility in Eenhana on the 19 August 2020. She did not have pre-existing conditions. Her condition deteriorated and she died in the early hours of the 20 August 2020. She was tested and the result for COVID-19 came out positive on the 20 August 2020.

19.2. The one from **Swakopmund** is a 60-year old female, known with multiple comorbidities. She presented to a local health facility on the 17th of August 2020 with symptoms consistent with COVID-19. She was tested and referred to Windhoek the same day, as her condition was critical. The patient however deteriorated and succumbed upon arrival in Windhoek. Her results came out as positive on the 19th of August 2020.

19.3. A 74-year old female, from Walvis Bay known to have multiple comorbidities presented at a local health facility on the 18th of August 2020 in a very sick condition. She was admitted at the local facility and her condition deteriorated and died on the 19th of August 2020. Patient was swabbed posthumous and the results returned as positive.

19.4. A 37-year old male from Walvis Bay, known with a comorbidity presented at a local health facility on the 26th July 2020 with symptoms consistent with COVID-19. He was swabbed and admitted to the local health facility. His results returned as positive on the 27th July 2020. The patient was in a severe condition and referred to a health facility in Windhoek. He further deteriorated and passed away on the 21st of August 2020.

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

21. **Table 3: Summary**

Cumulative confirmed cases	5,538
Newly confirmed	311
Recoveries	2,460
Active cases	3,032
Deaths	46
Total samples tested	48,808
Active contacts	5,750
Cumulative number of people quarantined	9,022
Number of quarantined people discharged	7,755
Number of people in quarantines	1,267

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