

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.

07 March 2021

WINDHOEK
**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. We announce one hundred and fifty-three (153) new COVID-19 confirmed cases identified from one thousand three hundred and twenty-seven (1327) results received from the laboratories in the last twenty-four (24) hours, which represents 12% positivity rate. The gender distribution of the reported cases is eighty-three (83) females and seventy (70) males. The age range is from two (2) years to ninety-two (92) years. The new COVID-19 cases are geographically distributed as follows:

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases, 07 March 2021

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Otjozondjupa	28	Okahandja	19
		Otjiwarongo	6
		Okakarara	3
Khomas	25	Windhoek	25
Kavango East	24	Nyangana	16
		Rundu	8
Karas	18	Keetmanshoop	18
Oshana	12	Oshakati	12
Ohangwena	10	Okongo	5
		Engela	4
		Eenhana	1
Erongo	9	Walvis Bay	5
		Swakopmund	3
		Omaruru	1
Oshikoto	8	Tsumeb	4
		Onandjokwe	3
		Omuthiya	1
Omusati	7	Outapi	3
		Tsandi	3
		Oshikuku	1
Hardap	6	Rehoboth	5
		Mariental	1
Zambezi	4	Katima Mulilo	4
Kunene	1	Opuwo	1
Kavango West	1	Nankudu	1
Total	153		153

2. Among the confirmed cases are sixty-two (62) learners, of whom sixteen (16) are from Linus Shashipapo SSS in Nyangana district, thirteen (13) are from Okahandja SSS in Okahandja district, four (4) from Omafo SSS in Engela district and the rest are from different schools. Five teachers from different schools and ten (10) health care workers also tested positive for

COVID-19 infection.

3. Among the health care workers are five (5) cases are from Ons Tuiste old age home where seven (7) pensioners also tested positive to coronavirus infection.
4. We have recorded one hundred and fifty-four (154) new recoveries. The recovery rate stands at 94%.

Table 2: Distribution of new recoveries by region, 07 March 2021

Region	Number
Karas	90
Omaheke	49
Omusati	11
Hardap	4
Total	154

5. The total number of active cases currently stands at two thousand and sixty-five (2065). One hundred and forty-seven (147) are hospitalized, of which twenty-three (23) are in ICUs.

Table 3: Distribution of hospitalization of confirmed cases per region, 07 March 2021

Region	Hospitalized confirmed cases	Intensive Care Unit
Khomas	56	18
Erongo	17	2
Ohangwena	17	0
Zambezi	10	0
Kavango East	9	0
Karas	8	1
Omusati	8	0
Oshana	5	2
Otjozondjupa	5	0
Omaheke	4	0
Oshikoto	3	0
Kunene	3	0
Hardap	2	0
Total	147	23

6. We announce a COVID-19 death, a 91-year-old male from Oshakati district who passed on the 3rd of March 2021. We extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family.

Table 5: Summary of the national update, 07 March 2021

Cumulative confirmed cases	40 030
Newly confirmed	153
Recoveries	37 520
Active cases	2 064
COVID-19 Deaths	348
COVID-19 Related Deaths	90
Indeterminate deaths	0
Total Deaths	438
Total samples tested	312 263
Active contacts	4 301
Cumulative number of people quarantined	37 003
Number of quarantined people discharged	34 816
Number of people in quarantines	2 187

7. Key message

- It is critical to prioritize protection of the vulnerable populations (the elderly and adults with comorbidities), who are at high risk of developing severe COVID-19 outcomes such as hospitalization and death.
- The COVID-19 Ag-RDT and COVID-19 vaccine rollout is expected to be implemented soon in Namibia, which will enable tremendous progress in making rapid diagnosis of cases and preventing infection and spread of COVID-19 infection respectively.
- The elderly and adults with comorbidities are considered high priority groups for the vaccine inoculation and will be immunized in the initial phase of the program same as the frontline health care workers.

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