

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.**

9 December 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow citizens. Today, one hundred and seventy-four (174) new COVID-19 confirmed cases were identified from one thousand four hundred and forty-four (1 444) results received from the laboratories. This represents a positivity ratio of 12%. The gender distribution of the reported cases is eighty-seven (87) males and eighty-seven (87) females. The age range is from one (1) year to seventy-nine (79) years. The new COVID-19 cases are distributed as follows:

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Khomas	115	Windhoek	115
Karas	14	Lüderitz	12
		Karasburg	2
Otjozondjupa	13	Otjiwarongo	13
Erongo	13	Swakopmund	7
		Walvis Bay	5
		Usakos	1
Oshana	6	Oshakati	6
Kunene	4	Opuwo	3
		Outjo	1
Hardap	3	Rehoboth	3
Omaheke	2	Gobabis	2
Omusati	2	Outapi	2
Kavango East	1	Rundu	1
Oshikoto	1	Tsumeb	1
Total	174		174

2. Among the 174 positive cases identified, one hundred and fifteen (115) cases are from Windhoek district. This represents 66% of the total number of confirmed cases. This is a serious development which calls for additional measures to combat the further spread of the disease.
3. Today we are reporting one hundred and ninety-one (191) new recoveries. Forty-five percent (45%) of the total recoveries are from Hardap region. This brings the total number of recoveries to 14 195.

Table 2: New recoveries per region

Region	Number
Hardap	86
Erongo	40
Karas	35
Khomas	30
Total	191

4. The total number of active cases currently stands at 1 119. Ten (10) active cases are in severe to critical condition of whom nine (9) are in Khomas region and one (1) is in Erongo region. Five (5) of the Khomas cases are in critical care.

Table 3: Distribution of severity of cases per region

Region	Severe	Critical	Total
Khomas	4	5	9
Erongo	0	1	1
Total	4	6	10

5. We announce two deaths, one from Swakopmund district and the other one from Windhoek.

Table 4: Summary of deaths

District	Sex	Age	Comorbidities	Place of Death	Date of Death	Classification
Swakopmund	Female	26	Yes	Hospital	08.12.2020	COVID-19 Related Death
Windhoek	Male	38	Yes	Home	07.12.2020	COVID-19 Death

We convey sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

6. *Table 5: Summary of the update*

Cumulative confirmed cases	15 472
Newly confirmed	174
Recoveries	14195
Active cases	1119
COVID-19 Death	118
COVID-19 Related Death	37
Total Deaths	155
Active contacts	3 208
Total samples tested	168 805
Cumulative number of people quarantined	21 076
Number of quarantined people discharged	20 439
Number of people in quarantines	637

7. Since the beginning of this month we have seen a significant increase in the number of new Covid-19 positive cases. This development is a result of the following factors:
- Participating in mass gatherings beyond the allowable 200 persons;
 - Total disregard for the social distancing in public places;
 - Individuals are no longer wearing masks in public places even those who use to wear them previously; and

- General laxity by the public towards Covid-19.
7. I wish to remind the public that wearing of masks, observing the numbers of people with regard to public gatherings and social distancing are mandatory. Non compliance with these provisions of the law attracts penalties. We call on the consciousness of the public to voluntarily comply with these measures. The government will not allow this situation to continue and may be compelled to consider imposing stricter measures in order to contain the spread of infection. This is not route we would like to go. We came a long way and made substantive progress in the containment of Covid-19. The government will not allow these successes to be eroded. Let us all work towards the same goal of preventing Covid-19 to become entrenched in Namibia.

-END-