

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.

23 February 2021

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. We announce one hundred and fifty-four (154) new COVID-19 confirmed cases identified from one thousand two hundred and six (1 206) results received from the laboratories in the last twenty-four (24) hours, which represents 13% positivity ratio. The gender distribution of the reported cases is seventy-eight (78) males and seventy-six (76) females. The age range is from six (6) months to seventy-nine (79) years. The new COVID-19 cases are geographically distributed as follows:

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases, 23 February 2021

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Omusati	44	Oshikuku	40
		Outapi	3
		Tsandi	1
Khomas	26	Windhoek	26
Hardap	22	Mariental	19
		Rehoboth	3
Kavango East	15	Rundu	15
Oshikoto	14	Onandjokwe	11
		Tsumeb	2
		Omuthiya	1
Zambezi	13	Katima Mulilo	13
Kunene	5	Opuwo	5
Erongo	4	Walvis Bay	3
		Swakopmund	1
Otjozondjupa	4	Okahandja	3
		Otjiwarongo	1
Oshana	3	Oshakati	3
Kharas	3	Luderitz	3
Ohangwena	1	Eenhana	1
Total	154		154

2. Sixty-nine (69) of the positive cases are learners. Twenty-four (24) are from Haudano Senior Secondary (SSS) in Oshikuku district, nineteen (19) from Mariental High School and the rest are from different schools. Oshikuku district cases include Fifteen (15) Inmates from Etayi Police Holding Cells. Four (4) health care workers, three (3) from Windhoek district and one (1) from Onandjokwe district, and three (3) teachers from different schools are among the positive cases.
3. We have recorded one hundred and forty-six (146) new recoveries. The recovery rate stands at 93%.

Table 2: Distribution of new recoveries by region, 23 February 2021

Region	Number
Otjozondjupa	55
Khomas	41
Kavango East	34
Ohangwena	16
Total	146

4. The total number of active cases currently stands at two thousand and fifty-eight (2058). One hundred and forty-six (146) are hospitalized, of which fifteen (15) are in ICUs.

Table 3: Distribution of hospitalization of confirmed cases 23 February 2021

Region	Hospitalized confirmed cases	Intensive Care Unit
Khomas	51	13
Erongo	23	1
Karas	18	0
Omusati	11	0
Ohangwena	11	0
Oshana	8	0
Hardap	7	0
Oshikoto	4	1
Kavango East	4	0
Zambezi	3	0
Kunene	3	0
Omaheke	2	0
Otjozondjupa	1	0
Total	146	15

5. We announce five (5) deaths from Walvis Bay, Windhoek, Grootfontein, Keetmanshoop and Okongo.

Table 4: Summary of deaths, 23 February 2021

District	Sex	Age	Comorbidities	Date of Death	Classification
Walvis Bay	Male	30	Yes	19.02.2021	COVID-19 related Death
Windhoek	Male	66	Yes	21.02.2021	COVID-19 related Death
Grootfontein	Female	16	Yes	21.02.2021	COVID-19 Death
Keetmanshoop	Male	59	Yes	20.02.2021	COVID-19 Death
Okongo	Male	100	Yes	21.02.2021	COVID-19 related Death

We extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family.

Table 5: Summary of the national update, 23 February 2021

Cumulative confirmed cases	37 896
Newly confirmed	154
Recoveries	35 419
Active cases	2 058
COVID-19 Deaths	324
COVID-19 Related Deaths	87
Total Deaths	411
Active contacts	3 858
Total samples tested	29 5402
Cumulative number of people quarantined	34 880
Number of quarantined people discharged	33 103
Number of people in quarantines	1 777

6. Key messages

- Regular routine cleaning and disinfecting of school facilities as per the COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control guidance must be implemented by all schools.
- Disruption of school activities due to the need to disinfect entire premises is not encouraged and tends to be counterproductive.
- If regular disinfecting is done, additional cleaning measures may not be necessary if there is a suspected or confirmed case identified at the schools.
- Children have the right to education and the right to health.
- If school authorities are unsure of what action to take in the face of COVID-19 infection or suspected infection, we encourage them to contact the nearest health authorities in their area or call the toll-free number 0800100100.

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