

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.

24 February 2021

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. We announce eighty (80) new COVID-19 confirmed cases identified from five hundred and fifty-five (555) results received from the laboratories in the last twenty-four (24) hours, which represents 14% positivity rate. The gender distribution of the reported cases is forty (40) males and forty (40) females. The age range is from one (1) year to seventy-one (71) years. The new COVID-19 cases are geographically distributed as follows:

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases, 24 February 2021

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Khomas	35	Windhoek	35
Omusati	22	Oshikuku	21
		Outapi	1
Kavango East	9	Rundu	9
Karas	4	Lüderitz	2
		Karasburg	1
		Keetmanshoop	1
Oshana	4	Oshakati	4
Oshikoto	3	Onandjokwe	3
Otjozondjupa	3	Okahandja	3
Total	80		80

2. Thirty (30) of the positive cases are learners. Nineteen (19) are from Haudano Senior Secondary School (SSS) in Oshikuku district, three (3) from Dr Romanus SSS in Rundu district and the rest are from different schools. Seventeen (17) employees from the mining industry, four (4) health care workers and three (3) teachers from different schools are among the positive cases.
3. We have recorded three hundred and thirty-one (331) new recoveries. The recovery rate stands at 94%.

Table 2: Distribution of new recoveries by region, 24 February 2021

Region	Number
Oshikoto	232
Hardap	25
Erongo	24
Kavango East	17
Khomas	11
Ohangwena	8
Karas	7
Otjozondjupa	5
Omusati	2
Total	331

4. The total number of active cases currently stands at one thousand eight hundred and five (1 805). One hundred and forty-seven (147) are hospitalized, of which eighteen (18) are in ICUs.

Table 3: Distribution of hospitalization of confirmed cases 24 February 2021

Region	Hospitalized confirmed cases	Intensive Care Unit
Khomas	47	15
Erongo	21	1
Karas	18	0
Ohangwena	16	0
Omusati	12	0
Oshana	8	0
Hardap	7	0
Zambezi	5	0
Oshikoto	4	2
Kavango East	4	0
Omaheke	3	0
Kunene	2	0
Total	147	18

5. We announce two (2) deaths, from Walvis Bay and Outapi.

Table 4: Summary of deaths, 24 February 2021

District	Sex	Age	Comorbidities	Date of Death	Classification
Walvis Bay	Female	52	Yes	21.02.2021	COVID-19 Death
Outapi	Male	57	Yes	23.02.2021	COVID-19 Death

We extend sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

Table 5: Summary of the national update, 24 February 2021

Cumulative confirmed cases	37 976
Newly confirmed	80
Recoveries	35 750
Active cases	1 805
COVID-19 Deaths	326
COVID-19 Related Deaths	87
Total Deaths	413
Active contacts	3 652
Total samples tested	295 953
Cumulative number of people quarantined	35 036
Number of quarantined people discharged	33 252
Number of people in quarantines	1 784

6. Key messages

- You can help stop the pandemic by getting a COVID-19 vaccine when it is available to you.
- You will still need to wear a mask, wash your hands and socially distance after getting each shot of the vaccine.
- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines work very well at keeping you from getting COVID-19. Experts also think that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccines cannot give you COVID-19.
- After COVID-19 vaccination, you may have some side effects. These are normal signs that your body is building protection.
- COVID-19 vaccine will be free for you.

-END-