

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.

19 August 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check Against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today, a total number of **1 045** results were received from the laboratories. Of these, **201** samples tested positive for COVID-19. Hundred and nine (109) are females and ninety-two (92) are males. Ages range from one to ninety-two.
2. The cases are spread as follows:

Table 1: New Covid-19 positive cases

Region	Town	Number
Khomas (158)	Windhoek	158
Erongo (28)	Walvis Bay	17
	Swakopmund	11
Oshana (7)	Oshakati	7
Otjozondjupa (4)	Otjiwarongo	2
	Okakarara	1
	Okahandja	1
Hardap (2)	Rehoboth	2
Zambezi (2)	Katima Mulilo	2
Total		201

3. It is no doubt that **Windhoek** has taken over Walvis Bay in number of confirmed cases and it is now the epi-centre of COVID-19 in Namibia. Today we record the highest number of cases in Windhoek, 158. We should re-double our efforts in observing preventive measures. “*Stay Home*” should not just be a message but we should really observe that as much as possible. The virus does not travel, it is people who move and spread it. Therefore, restriction of our movements also means cutting the transmission from further spread.
4. **Oshana region** is among the six regions with high population density. It is really worrisome that cases in that regions have started to pick up with a high speed. We should not wait for the cases to become overwhelming for us to up our interventions in this area. Today we record **seven cases** from Oshana and a total of **54 cases** in the last two weeks with an average of **four** cases per day.
5. Four cases reported from **Otjozondjupa** region are as follows:
 - 5.1. Two cases from **Otjiwarongo district** are both males aged 48 and 56 years old. One is a contact to a confirmed case while the other one was tested as he presented with COVID-19 related symptoms. Although the one with symptoms indicated no contact with a known case, he is a health care worker and we know health care workers are at high risk of contracting the virus, being the front-line workers.
 - 5.2. The case reported from **Okakarara district** is that of a 33 years old female and a contact to a confirmed case. She travelled from Windhoek on the 6th August 2020.

- 5.3. The case reported from **Okahandja district** is that of 34 years old male, with no known contact to a confirmed case. He was tested on the 14 August as he presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.
6. Two cases reported from **Hardap region**, are both from Rehoboth district. They are both males aged 50 and 53 years respectively. They are both contacts of confirmed cases and both presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.
7. Two cases reported from **Zambezi Region** are as follows:
- 7.1. A 42-years-old Namibian male from Katima Mulilo with no travel history outside the region and no contact with a known positive case. He presented with fCOVID-19 related symptoms and was tested on 12 August 2020.
- 7.2. A 44-years-old Zimbabwean female who travelled from Zimbabwe for medical reasons) on the 8th August 2020 and arrived in Namibia on the 9th August 2020. She was placed under mandatory quarantine in Katima Mulilo. A COVID-19 specimen was collected on 14 August 2020. She does not have COVID-19 related symptoms.
8. Of the active cases, four-teen (14) cases are in severely sick while four are in critically sick conditions, they are as follows:

Table 2: Severity of confirmed case per region:

Region	Severe	Critical	Total
Erongo	6	1	7
Khomas	8	3	11
Total	14	4	18

9. I am pleased to announce that nineteen (19) cases from Khomas have recovered.
10. Today, we are announcing two COVID-19 related deaths, one from **Gobabis, Omaheke Region** and one from **Windhoek, Khomas Region**.
- 10.1. The one from **Omaheke**, is the case we announced yesterday. Actually she had passed away on the 16 August 2020. That is an 84-year old female who has been in Windhoek before she traveled to her Home village in Aminuis. While in Windhoek, she had been in contact with relative who tested positive for COVID-19. She presented to a local health facility on the 13th August 2020 with symptoms consistent with COVID-19. She was admitted and tested for COVID-19 on the same day. The deceased is known to have multiple medical conditions. Her condition deteriorated and she died on 16 August 2020.
- 10.2. The one from **Khomas** is a 73-year old male from Windhoek. He presented to a local health facility on the 12th August 2020 with symptoms consistent with COVID-19. He was admitted to a local health facility on the same day and was tested for COVID-19. He is known to have underlying medical conditions. His condition deteriorated and he passed away on the 18th August 2020.

11. We express our sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

12. **Table 3: Summary**

Cumulative confirmed cases	4 665
Newly confirmed	201
Recoveries	2 426
Active cases	2 200
Deaths	39
Total samples tested	43 990
Active contacts	4 806
Cumulative number of people quarantined	8 383
Number of quarantined people discharged	6 770
Number of people in quarantines	1 613

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