

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

**STATEMENT BY DR. KALUMBI SHANGULA, MINISTER OF HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SERVICES DURING THE LAST BRIEFING ON COVID-19 IN NAMIBIA**

18-24 AUGUST 22

WINDHOEK
***Check against Delivery**

1. For the past week, 18–24 August 2022, we recorded twenty-eight (**28**) positive cases from one thousand three hundred and eight (**1 308**) tests conducted, representing a **2.1%** positivity ratio. This is a **50%** reduction compared to **56** cases reported during the preceding week of 11-17 August 2022. The sex distribution is seventeen (17) males and eleven (11) female. The age ranges from ten (10) years to eighty-six (86) years.

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases & reinfections, 18 – 24 August 2022

Region	New cases	Reinfections	Total
Khomas	6	2	8
Erongo	6	0	6
Omusati	4	0	4
Otjozondjupa	3	0	3
Ohangwena	2	1	3
Kavango East	2	0	2
Kunene	1	0	1
Oshana	1	0	1
Total	25	3	28

2. Five (5) regions, Hardap, Omaheke, Kavango West, Oshikoto and Zambezi, did not report a case during the period of two weeks.
3. We recorded one hundred and seventeen (117) recoveries from seven (7) regions during the reporting period.
4. As of 24 August 2022, the number of active cases is forty-three (43). Seven (7) cases are currently hospitalized in five (5) regions. One (1) of the hospitalized cases has received one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and one (1) case is fully vaccinated. We do not have ICU admission.
5. Two (2) COVID-related deaths were reported during the reporting period. A 34-years-old male, without comorbidities, from Opuwo district died at a health facility on 15 August 2022 and a 32-years-old male from Windhoek district with commodities died at a health facility on 16 August 2022. None of the deceased was vaccinated.

6. *Table 5: Summary of the national update, as of 18 – 24 August 2022*

Cumulative confirmed individuals excluding reinfections	166 645
Cumulative cases including reinfections	169 693
Recoveries	165 558
Recovery rate	97.5%
Cumulative COVID-19 vaccine 1 st dose	565 412
Cumulative COVID-19 vaccine 2 nd dose	285 562
Cumulative COVID-19 vaccine completed	488 102
COVID-19 Deaths	3 720
COVID-19 Related Deaths	357
Total Deaths	4 077
Total samples tested	1 075 494

7. **Key message**

- 7.1. During the 45th Covid-19 public briefing on the 15 July 2022, His Excellency the President announced that given the current epidemiological situation, it was decided to remove the COVID-19 restrictions gazetted under the Public and Environmental Health Act, 2015. It was however decided to retain the requirement for entry into Namibia of a vaccination license and a negative PCR test result. The current epidemiological situation no longer supports the retention of this requirement. Consequently, the entry requirement into Namibia by foreign travellers of vaccination license and a negative PCR test result have been scrapped.
- 7.2. It was also decided to cease daily updates of the Covid-19 in Namibia and replaced by weekly reports on Thursdays. The weekly Covid-19 updates will be discontinued forthwith. Today's update is the last one. However, the Ministry will continue to do surveillance as has always been the case. The vaccination against Covid-19 will continue until we achieve herd immunity level.
- 7.3. Having reached this milestone, I express profound gratitude and great appreciations to The President for exceptional leadership throughout the currency of the pandemic in Namibia. I thank the Right Honourable Prime Minister and my Cabinet colleagues. I express special thanks to the men and women in uniform, the healthcare workers who saved many lives that were destined to eternity. I thank every Namibian, who in one way or another contributed to this success.