

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.

3 September 2020

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today, a total number of **1 630** results were received from the laboratories. Of these, **238** samples tested positive for COVID-19. One hundred and twenty-six (126) are males and hundred and twelve (112) are females. The youngest is **two months** old and the oldest is **sixty-five** years old.
2. The confirmed cases are distributed as follows:

Table 1: New Covid-19 positive cases

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Khomas	145	Windhoek	145
Erongo	17	Walvis Bay	9
		Swakopmund	4
		Usakos	4
Oshikoto	13	Tsumeb	7
		Onandjokwe	6
Otjozondjupa	11	Otjiwarongo	6
		Okahandja	5
Karas	9	Keetmanshoop	6
		Karasburg	3
Hardap	9	Rehoboth	6
		Mariental	3
Kavango East	9	Rundu	9
Oshana	8	Oshakati	8
Ohangwena	7	Eenhana	5
		Engela	1
		Okongo	1
Zambezi	7	Katima Mulilo	7
Omaheke	3	Gobabis	3
TOTAL	238		238

3. Cumulatively, we have now **8,082** confirmed cases.
4. Today we are reporting 29 new recoveries. This brings the total recoveries to **3, 483**.

Table 2: New recoveries per region

Region	Number
Khomas	21
Omaheke	8
Total	29

5. The total number of active cases are now stands at **4 513**. Of the active cases, twenty-one (21) cases are in severe to critically sick conditions.

Table 3: Distribution of Severity of cases per region

Region	Severe	Critical	Total
Erongo	0	5	5
Khomas	9	7	16
Total	9	12	21

6. On a sad note, today we are announcing **four (4)** more deaths, **two (2)** from **Windhoek**, **one (1)** from **Oshakati** and **one (1)** from **Walvis bay**

Table 4: Distribution of deaths per district

District	Age	Sex	Date of death	Place of death	Comorbidities	Classification
Windhoek (2)	64	Male	30/08/2020	Health facility	Yes	COVID-19 Death
	41	Male	31/08/2020	Health facility	Yes	COVID-19 related Death
Oshakati (1)	49	Male	31/08/2020	Health Facility	None	COVID-19 Death
Walvis Bay (1)	32	Female	01/09/2020	Home	Yes	COVID-19 related Death
Total (4)	3 Males, 1 Female					

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

8. **Table 5: Summary**

Cumulative confirmed cases	8 082
Newly confirmed	238
Recoveries	3 483
Active cases	4 513
Deaths	86
Total samples tested	65 899
Active contacts	8 762
Cumulative number of people quarantined	10 456
Number of quarantined people discharged	8 934
Number of people in quarantines	1 522

9. I would like to clarify one issue. I have mentioned few days ago that Namibia has bought and took delivery of the medicine called Remdevisir for the treatment of patients with Covid-19 related symptoms. This information has generated excitement in the public discourse. I would like to clarify that this medicine is neither a cure for Covid-19 nor a vaccine against Covid-19. This medicine helps with early recovery of patients with Covid-19 symptoms. It is prescribed by doctors to patients where it is indicated, but not given to people in order to prevent them from contracting Covid-19 or being infected with Covid-19.
10. There is currently no vaccine against Covid-19, although there are promising candidate vaccines under development. The only “vaccine” currently available is a combination of social distancing, wearing of masks in public places, frequent hand washing and sanitizing, avoiding public gatherings and limiting unnecessary travel. We can make this “vaccine” efficacious if we observe these protocols.

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