

**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.**

**17 August 2020**

**WINDHOEK**

*\*Check Against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today, a total number **721** of results were received from NIP, Pathcare and UNAM laboratories. Of these, **190** samples tested positive for COVID-19. Ninety-eight (98) are males and ninety-two (92) are females. The youngest is 1 year old, while the oldest is 73 years. The cases are spread as follows:

*Table 1: New Covid-19 positive cases*

Region	Town	Number
Khomas (152)	Windhoek	152
Erongo (26)	Walvis Bay	17
	Swakopmund	8
	Omaruru	1
Hardap (4)	Rehoboth	3
	Mariental	1
Otjozondjupa (4)	Okahandja	1
	Otjiwarongo	2
	Grootfontein	1
//Karas (2)	Luderitz	2
Ohangwena (1)	Eenhana	1
Kavango East (1)	Rundu	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>190</b>

2. The Windhoek cases continue to increase exponentially. In the last two weeks alone, cases reported on daily basis shifted rapidly from thirteen cases to the highest we are reporting today, 152. This is about a 10-fold increase.
3. You may have noticed that positive cases reported from Erongo region including Walvis Bay started declining. We are yet to understand if we are really experiencing the downward-trend after reaching the peak in Walvis Bay.
4. Of the four cases reported from **Hardap**, three are from Rehoboth district and one from Mariental district.
  - 4.1. The three cases from Rehoboth are aged 30, 32 and 58 years old respectively. Two are females and one is a male. One works in Windhoek. All presented with COVID-19 related symptoms. One is admitted at the local hospital.
  - 4.2. The case reported from Mariental is that of a 37 years old female, with no known contact to a confirmed case. She presented with COVID-19 related symptoms.
5. Of the four cases reported from **Otjozondjupa region**, two are 27years old, one is 31 years while the other one is a 50-years old. Two are males and two are females. Three are contacts of confirmed cases and one has no known contact. Two presented with COVID-19 related symptoms while two had no symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
6. The two cases reported from **//Karas**, are both from Luderitz District, aged 37 and 39 years respectively, both males. One is from Rosh Pinah and one is a Luderitz resident.

One has traveled from Walvis Bay, while the other one visited Windhoek and was in contact with a confirmed case in Windhoek.

7. A case reported from **Ohangwena**, Eenhana district is that of a 24 years old male, identified during the active case search on the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020 as he presented with COVID-19 related symptoms. He traveled to Windhoek on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020 and returned back to Eenhana on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020.
8. The case reported from **Kavango East**, Rundu District, is that of a 47 years old male, who travelled to Windhoek, and back on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020. He presented with COVID-19 related symptoms on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and was admitted the same day.
9. Of the active cases, ten are in severely sick condition (8 in Khomas region and 2 in Erongo region) and 4 are critically sick (3 in Khomas region and 1 in Erongo region).
10. It is with sadness that we announce one more COVID-19 related deaths from **Windhoek, Khomas** region. This is a 69 years old female from who presented to a local health facility on the 11th of August 2020 with symptoms consistent with COVID-19. She was admitted but her condition deteriorated and passed away on the 12 August 2020. She tested positive for Covid-19. She was known with a chronic illness.

**11. Table 2: Summary**

Cumulative confirmed cases	4 344
Newly confirmed	190
Recoveries	2 379
Active cases	1 929
Deaths	36
Total samples tested	41 867
Active contacts	4 605
Cumulative number of people quarantined	8 065
Number of quarantined people discharged	6 509
Number of people in quarantines	1 556

12. On the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020 during a press conference at State House which was hosted by His Excellency The President, I was asked by a journalist whether I have been tested for Covid-19 and what the result was. I responded that the Ministerial Head Office registered a Covid-19 positive case of an employee who attended a wedding. I further revealed that the building will be disinfected and the staff be tested including myself. I and my household members took Covid-19 tests on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020. I can now reveal that all our results came out negative. We will continue to observe public health measures against Covid-19, which include amongst others, social distancing, wearing of masks in public places washing of hands and sanitizing.

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