



Ministry of Health and Social Services

Republic of Namibia

NAMIBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 66			
Outbreak Name	<i>COVID-19 outbreak</i>	Country affected	Namibia
Date & Time of this report	<i>23.05.2020 20:15 hrs</i>	Investigation start date	13 March 2020
Prepared by	<i>Surveillance Team</i>		

1. SITUATION UPDATE / HIGHLIGHTS

- One new confirmed case was reported (today) 23 May 2020.
- Cumulatively, 21 confirmed cases have been reported in the country, of which fourteen (14) have recovered.
- Supervised quarantine for all people arriving from abroad, for 14 days is ongoing.
- Stage 1 of the state of emergency ended on 4 May 2020, and stage 2 is ongoing from 5 May until 2 June 2020;
  - Wearing a mask in public is mandatory
  - All borders will remain closed except for essential/critical services and humanitarian support to the response.

2. BACKGROUND

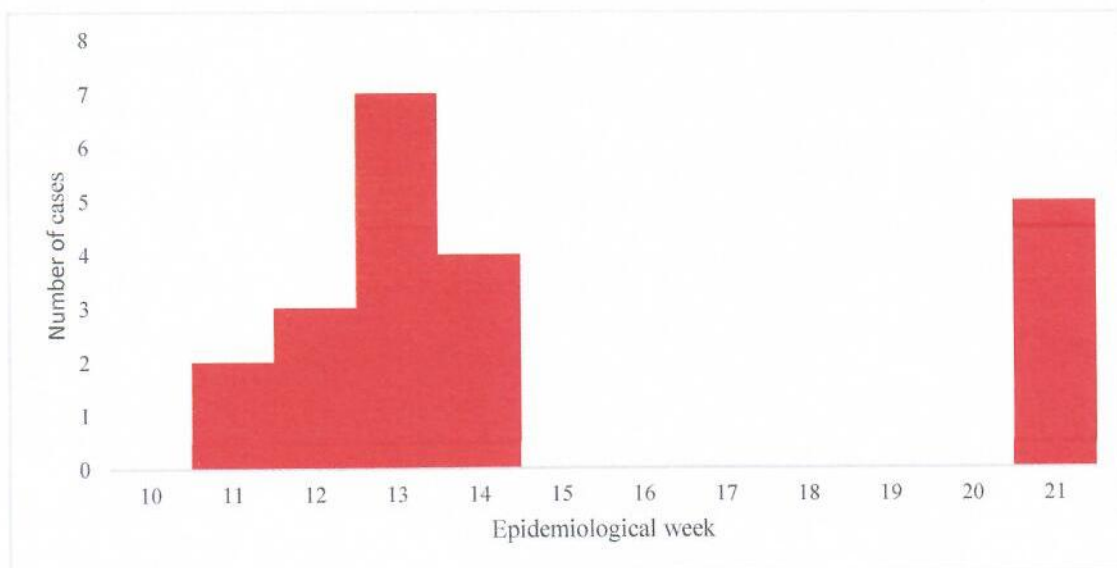
**Description of the cases**

- **Index cases:** Two confirmed cases of COVID-19 were reported in Windhoek district on 13 March 2020. The married couple; a 35-year-old male and a 25-year-old female, arrived from Madrid, Spain on 11 March 2020.
- The new confirmed case is a 47 years old Namibian male, truck driver, who returned from South Africa on 8 May 2020. He was swabbed on 20 May 2020 and the results came out positive today (23 May 2020)
- On 22 May 2020 a 35 years old Namibian male who returned from South Africa on 9 May 2020 was confirmed Hardap Region where he was quarantined.

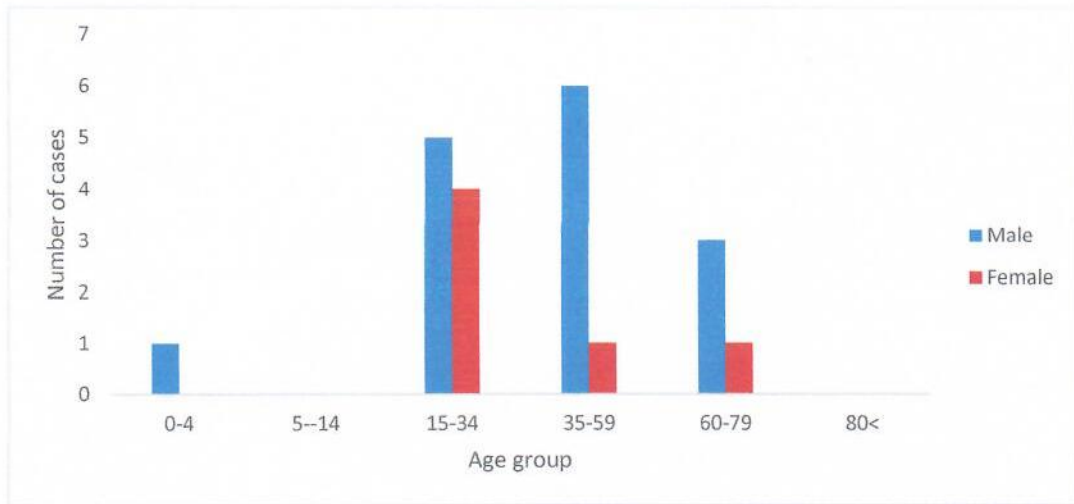
- On 21 May 2020 a 30 years old Namibian male who returned from South Africa on 9 May 2020 was confirmed positive. He has since been taken into isolation in Hardap Region and he is in stable condition.
- On 20 May 2020, two Namibian females who travelled from South Africa in different private vehicles were confirmed positive.
- Total number of imported cases currently stands at 18 while 3 cases are local transmissions.
- There is no evidence of community transmission in the country at the moment.

**Table 1: Confirmed cases by region as of 23 May 2020**

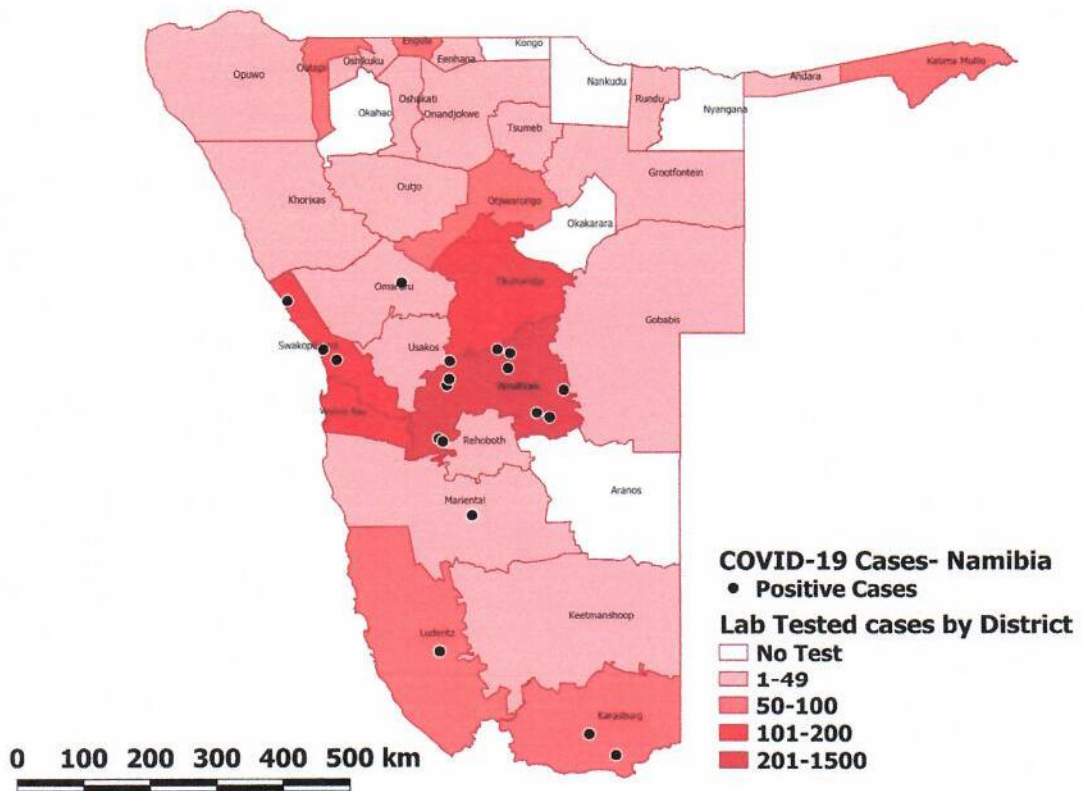
Reporting region	Total Cases	New cases	Active cases	Recovered	Death
Khomas	11	0	2	9	0
//Karas	3	0	2	1	0
Erongo	5	1	1	4	0
Hardap	2	0	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>



**Figure 1: Epi-curve for confirmed COVID-19 cases in Namibia as of 23 May 2020**



**Figure 2: Age and sex distribution for COVID-19 confirmed cases in Namibia as of 23 May 2020**



**Figure 3: Suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases in Namibia per District, 23 May 2020**

### 3. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION / RESPONSE INTERVENTIONS

#### EPIDEMIOLOGY & SURVEILLANCE

- **Case definitions as of 20 March 2020:**

**Suspect case:**

A. A patient with acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath), AND a history of travel to or residence in a location reporting community transmission of COVID-19 disease during the 14 days prior to symptom onset;

OR

B. A patient with any acute respiratory illness AND having been in contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case in the last 14 days prior to symptom onset;

OR

C. A patient with severe acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath; AND requiring hospitalization) AND in the absence of an alternative diagnosis that fully explains the clinical presentation.

**Probable case:** A suspect case for whom testing for COVID-19 is inconclusive. Inconclusive being the result of the test reported by the laboratory

**Confirmed case:** A person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms

- **Active surveillance working case definition as of 20 April 2020**

A patient diagnosed with Upper/Lower Respiratory Infection (Mild or Severe) presenting any of the following signs and symptoms: cough, sore throat, fever, chills, myalgia/body pains or shortness of breath in the past 7 days.

- ***Surveillance activities***

- Two rapid response teams will be sent from National level Plans to investigate the new cases and give technical support to //Karas and Hardap Region.
- Daily pillar and intra-pillar discussions are held to deliberate on daily progress, gaps and way forward;
- Call centre continue operations for 24 hours every day; 903 calls answered at the hotline today (22.05.2020).
- Data entry is ongoing, realtime data dashboard will be launched on 1 June 2020.

- Supporting COVID-19 intergrated online training in partnership with WHO.
- Active case search in all regions is ongoing.
- Weekly ZOOM sessions with regional teams is on going, last meeting held 17 May 2020; issues of truck driver screening and quarantine facilities discussed
- Contact tracing and monitoring is ongoing (see table 2);
- People under mandatory quarantine are being monitored daily (see table 3) and are being tested on day 12 before release on day 15 if they test negative.
- Plans are underway to conduct online Data management training early June; 48 participants (34 HIS officers and 14 Regional MIS officers) identified and training materials under development

### Contact tracing Summary

*Table 2: National contacts tracing summary for COVID-19 as of 23 May 2020*

<b>Variables</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Total</b>
Total Number of contacts listed for follow up (potential)	76	52	137	265
Total Number of contacts identified (cumulative)	76	52	121	249
Total number of Contacts never reached	0	0	16	16
© Total Number of contacts lost to follow up	0	2	5	7
Total Number of contacts that developed signs & symptoms (cumulative)	25	8	7	40
Total Number of contacts that tested positive (became cases)	3	1	0	4
*Total Number contacts without signs & symptoms TESTED	20	5	27	52
Number of active contacts monitored/followed in the last 24hrs	8	0	0	8
Total number of Contacts completed 14-days follow up (cumulative)	65	49	116	230

*\*Number of contacts without signs & symptoms that were tested. One tested positive.*

*© Seven contacts are lost to follow up, all are non-Namibians and have travelled back to their countries of origin.*

**Table 3: Number of people in mandatory quarantine facilities as of 23 May 2020**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Newly quarantined 24hrs</b>	<b>Cumulative number of people</b>	<b>Number of people discharged</b>	<b>Number of people in quarantine now</b>
Kunene	2	51	26	25
Omaheke	0	56	27	29
Kavango	0	13	4	9
Omusati	0	78	60	18
Oshana	0	12	6	6
Ohangwena	1	134	100	34
Hardap	0	102	72	30
Otjozondjupa	29	244	168	76
Khomas	84	406	231	175
Zambezi	0	247	134	113
//Karas	0	190	99	91
Erongo	0	61	46	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1594</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>621</b>

**Table 4. Distribution of truck drivers who came into Namibia from neighboring countries and their destined regions on 23 May 2020.**

<b>Destination</b>	<b>Country of departure</b>				<b>Total</b>
	<b>South Africa</b>	<b>Zambia</b>	<b>Botswana</b>	<b>Angola</b>	
Karas	50	0	0	0	<b>50</b>
Khomas	97	0	0	1	<b>98</b>
Oshana	4	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
Otjozondjupa	18	0	0	1	<b>19</b>
Kavango	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Ohangwena	11	0	0	1	<b>12</b>
Hardap	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Kunene	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Omaheke	2	0	0	1	<b>3</b>
Omusati	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Oshikoto	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
Zambezi	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Erongo	10	55	0	0	<b>65</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>256</b>

## LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS

- As of 23 May 2020, a total of 3029 COVID-19 specimens were tested in the two laboratories (NIP and Path Care) as per table 5 below:

**Table 5: COVID-19 specimens recorded at NIP and Path care Laboratories as of 23 May 2020**

Variables	Laboratory			Total
	NIP	Path care	South Africa	
Total sample received by the Laboratory	2319	776	-	3095
<b>Total sample tested</b>	<b>2125</b>	<b>745</b>	-	<b>2870</b>
Total sample re-tested	136	23	-	159
Total results positive	14	6	*1	21
Total results negative	2111	739	-	2850
Total sample discarded	58	8	-	66
Total results pending	0	0	-	0
Total results inconclusive/indeterminate	0	0	-	0
Total new suspected cases in last 24 hours	100	69	-	169

*\*1 Patient specimen collected and tested in South Africa, he travelled back before results came out*

## COORDINATION AND LEADERSHIP:

- Feedback meetings of pillar leads and Incident Manager (IM) are ongoing (3 times a week), to share accomplishments and to address key challenges.
- Integrated online training started on 6 May 2020 and are ongoing until 26 May 2020.

## CASE MANAGEMENT:

- Out of the 21 cumulative confirmed cases, 14 have recovered after testing negative twice for COVID-19 at 48 hours' interval.
- One of the remaining 7 active cases has mild symptoms while the other six are asymptomatic.

## INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL:

- IPC activities are on going as part of IPC preparedness plan;

## **LOGISTICS.**

- Facilitation of the allocation of quarantine facilities in the country and transportation for discharged people from quarantine facilities is ongoing.
- Provision of commodities` specifications and verification for procurement is being done regularly.
- Distribution of PPEs to the regions

## **POINTS OF ENTRY:**

- Screening and inspection of incoming travellers and trucks at points of entry and check points is ongoing
- Plans are underway to prepare the regions to collect and submit daily reports at the points of entry.
- SOP for management and monitoring of cross border road transport at designated Points of Entry and COVID-19 checkpoints finalised
- Checklist for assessment of quarantine facility at ground crossing drafted.

## **RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:**

- The COVID-19 Communication Centre continues to give updates on COVID-19 and clarify miscommunications on a daily basis.
- The RCCE continues to share messages on COVID-19 prevention measures through mass media.
- The Community Engagement toolkit has been printed and being distributed to all community health workers countrywide.

## **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES:**

- Continuous provision of health education, psychosocial support services, as well as food to people in need of shelter.

## **4. CHALLENGES:**

- Inadequate isolation units at health facilities in the regions.
- Insufficient PPE and swabs for sample collection from suspected cases identified through active case search in some districts.
- Inadequate nasal swab and appropriate transport media.



**5. RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAY FORWARD:**


- Establish fully equipped isolation units at health facilities in the regions.
- Logistics pillar to continue with the procurement and distribution of sufficient PPE to the regions to ensure that response is not interrupted.
- NIP to continue sourcing for swabs and appropriate transport media for all districts.

**Approved:**



Incident Manager

Date: 23 May 2020



Secretariat