

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.

15 January 2021

WINDHOEK

**Check against Delivery*

1. Good afternoon fellow Namibians. Today, we announce three hundred and nineteen (319) new COVID-19 confirmed cases identified from one thousand nine hundred and thirty-four (1 934) results received from the laboratories in the last twenty-four (24) hours. This represents a 16% positivity ratio. The gender distribution of the reported cases is one hundred and seventy-five (175) females and one hundred and forty-four (144) males. The age range is from eight (8) months to eighty-seven (87) years. The new COVID-19 cases are geographically distributed as follows:

Table 1: New COVID-19 positive cases, 15 January 2021

REGIONS	NEW CASES	DISTRICTS	NEW CASES
Khomas	117	Windhoek	117
Erongo	40	Walvis Bay	25
		Swakopmund	9
		Omaruru	6
Omaheke	31	Gobabis	31
Otjozondjupa	21	Okahandja	13
		Grootfontein	6
		Otjiwarongo	2
Kavango East	18	Rundu	18
Karas	19	Luderitz	14
		Karasburg	4
		Keetmanshoop	1
Oshana	17	Oshakati	17
Kunene	16	Opuwo	10
		Outjo	4
		Khorixas	2
Omusati	12	Tsandi	5
		Okahao	4
		Outapi	3
Hardap	10	Mariental	6
		Rehoboth	3
		Aranos	1
Ohangwena	7	Eenhana	5
		Engela	2
Zambezi	6	Katima Mulilo	6
Oshikoto	5	Onandjokwe	3
		Tsumeb	2
Total	319		319

2. Today we are reporting cases from 13 (93%) regions, with Khomas region making up 37% of all confirmed cases.
3. Among the cases are 13 health care workers from various districts, 9 inmates from Oluno Correctional Facility and 8 employees from the mining industry.

4. We continue reporting cases from all the regions, with Khomas still identified as the hotspot for COVID-19 infection. We urge all members of the public to practice COVID-19 infection control and prevention measures. For all the positive, suspected cases and contacts of confirmed cases, we strongly advise that the public observe all isolation and quarantine protocols and avoid mingling with other people until one has been cleared by the attending COVID-19 health care providers. We discourage all unnecessary movements and prohibit gatherings of more than 50 people per any given point in time.
5. Today we are reporting four hundred and nine (409) new recoveries, which brings the total number of recoveries to 26 254. Namibia recovery rate is 88%.

Table 2: Distribution of new recoveries by region, 15 January 2021

Region	Number of recoveries
Khomas	210
Karas	116
Omaheke	44
Otjzondjupa	18
Kunene	17
Zambezi	3
Kavango	1
Total	409

6. The total number of active cases currently stands at 3 350. Three hundred and eleven (311) are hospitalized, of who thirty (30) are in intensive care units (ICUs). Khomas region alone makes up 35% of the hospitalized confirmed cases.

Table 3: Distribution of hospitalization of confirmed cases per region, 15 January 2021

Region	Hospitalized confirmed cases	Intensive Care Unit
Khomas	108	26
Zambezi	45	1
Omusati	29	0
Karas	25	0
Erongo	23	2
Oshana	23	0
Kunene	22	0
Ohangwena	20	0
Hardap	8	0
Oshikoto	4	1
Kavango East	3	0
Otjzondjupa	1	0
Total	311	30

7. On a sad note, we announce three (3) Covid-19 deaths, and two (2) Covid-19 related deaths from Walvis Bay, Windhoek and Rundu districts. This brings the total number of deaths to 280 since the onset of the pandemic.

Table 4: Summary of deaths, 15 January 2021

District	Sex	Age	Comorbidities	Date of Death	Classification
Windhoek	Male	79	Yes	26.12.2021	COVID-19 death
Walvis Bay	Male	55	Yes	10.01.2021	COVID-19 related death
Walvis Bay	Female	82	Yes	10.01.2021	COVID-19 death
Walvis Bay	Female	71	Yes	13.01.2021	COVID-19 related death
Rundu	Female	62	No	14.01.2021	COVID-19 death

We extend sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

8. *Table 5: Summary of the national update, 15 January 2021*

Cumulative confirmed cases	29 889
Newly confirmed	319
Recoveries	26 254
Active cases	3 350
COVID-19 Death	230
COVID-19 Related Death	50
Total Deaths	280
Active contacts	6 757
Total samples tested	237 487
Cumulative number of people quarantined	28 902
Number of quarantined people discharged	26 820
Number of people in quarantines	2 082

9. **Key messages**

- It is with great concern, that we receive reports of fake COVID-19 laboratory results. Falsifying laboratory test results is a criminal act, and the long arm of the law will deal with persons caught issuing fake COVID-19 results to the public for whatever reason.
- Mechanisms have been put in place to quickly identify these fake results, and members of the public are strongly warned against using fake results particularly for whatever purposes.

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