



Ministry of Health and Social Services  
Republic of Namibia

NAMIBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 91			
Outbreak Name	<i>COVID-19 outbreak</i>	Country affected	<i>Namibia</i>
Date & Time of this report	<i>17.06.2020 22:45 hrs</i>	Investigation start date	<i>13 March 2020</i>
Prepared by	<i>Surveillance Team</i>		

### 1. SITUATION UPDATE / HIGHLIGHTS

- Five (5) new confirmed cases were recorded today (17 June 2020)
- Cumulatively, **39** confirmed cases have been reported in the country.
- Of the **39** confirmed cases, nineteen **19 (48.7%)** have recovered.
  - One (1) case has recovered today (17 June 2020)
- Thirty **30 (77%)** of the confirmed cases are imported while **9 (23%)** are local transmissions.
- No death has been recorded, case fatality rate is **0%**
- On 08 June 2020, His Excellency, The President of the Republic of Namibia announced the extension of the Stage 1 restrictions imposed on the Walvis Bay Local Authority Area to the entire Erongo region;
  - Effective from midnight 08 June 2020 until midnight 22 June 2020.
- The other regions are still under Stage 3 of national lockdown which covers a period of 28 days (01 June 2020 – 29 June 2020).

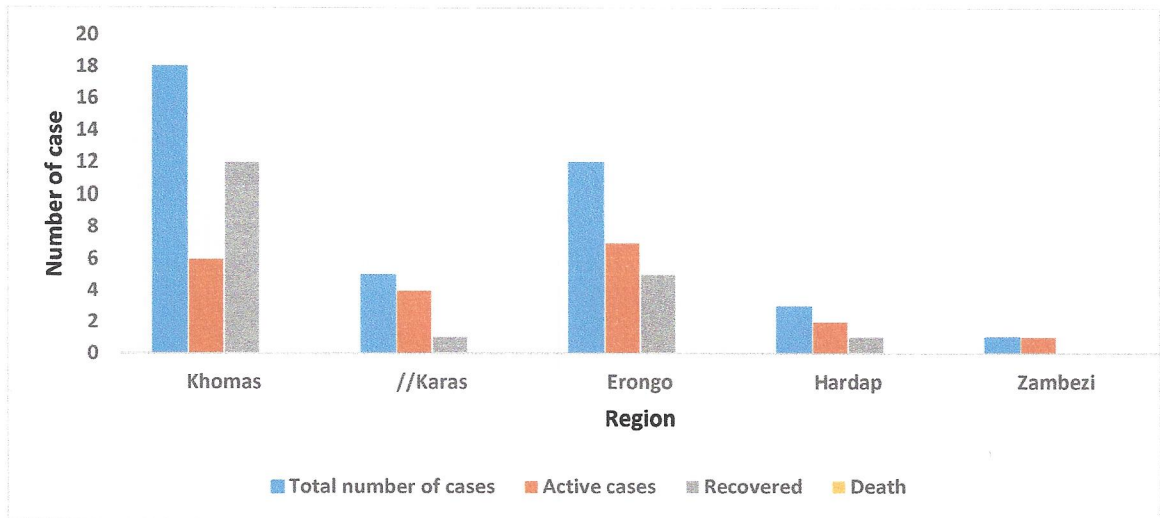
## 2. BACKGROUND

### 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-years-old male and a 25-years-old female, arrived from Madrid, Spain on 11 March 2020.
- On 17 June 2020, Namibia recorded five (5) new confirmed cases, bringing the total number of confirmed cases to 39.
  - Case 35 is a 26-years old Namibian male, from Walvis Bay, Erongo region. He does not have a travel history and no contact with a known confirmed case. An investigation to identify source of exposure has started.
  - Case 36 is a 44-years old male with Malawian citizenship. He entered Namibia on 05 June 2020 through Wenela Border Post and was put into supervised quarantine in Katima Mulilo, Zambezi region.
  - Case 37 is a 20-years old Namibian male, from Walvis Bay, Erongo region. He was placed into supervised quarantine on 15 June 2020 in Mariental, Hardap region.
  - Case 38 is a 22-years old Namibian female. She travelled from England on 04 June 2020 and was placed into supervised quarantine in Windhoek, Khomas region.
  - Case 39 is a 55-years old Namibian female from Swakopmund, Erongo region. She does not have a travel history and no contact with a known confirmed case. An investigation to identify source of exposure has commenced.

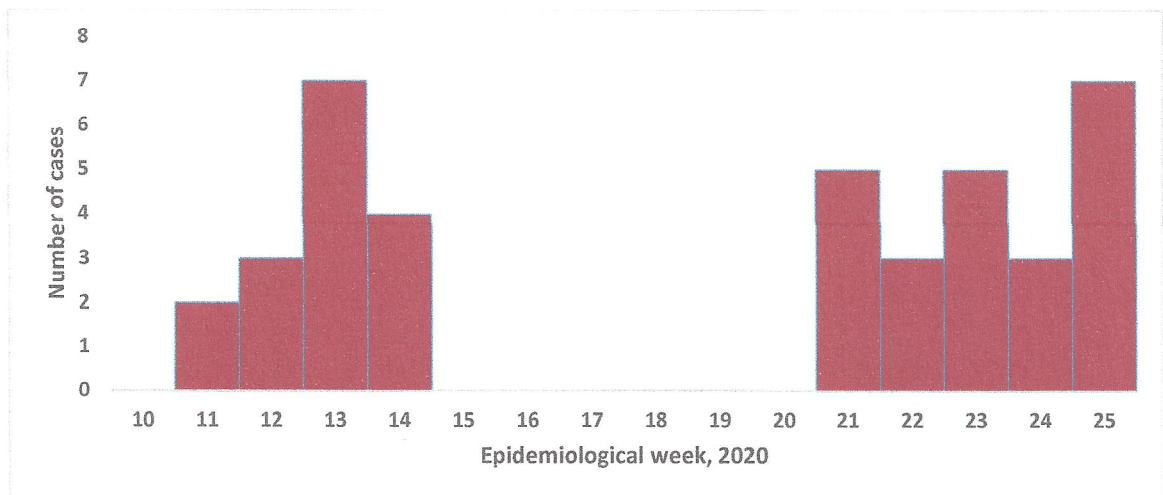
## 3. EPIDEMIOLOGY

Since 14 March, 2020 when the COVID-19 outbreak was declared in Namibia, a total of **39** cases have been confirmed. So far, five (5) regions have been affected, of which Khomas region recorded the highest number of cases; **18 (46.2%)**, while Zambezi region recorded the least; **1 (2.6%)**, as per **figure 1**, below



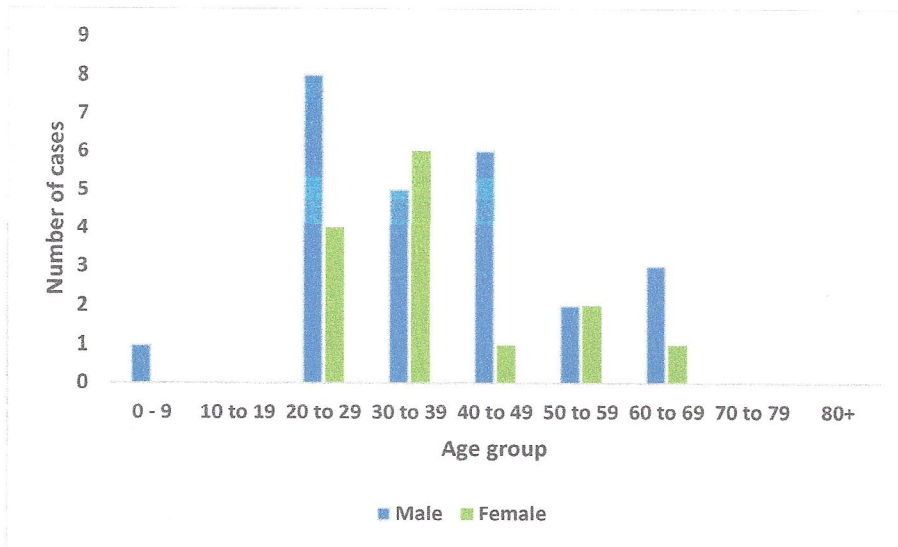
*Figure 1: Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 cases in Namibia, by region as of 17 June 2020*

Namibia recorded its cases of COVID-19 during the epidemiological weeks displayed in figure 2 below:

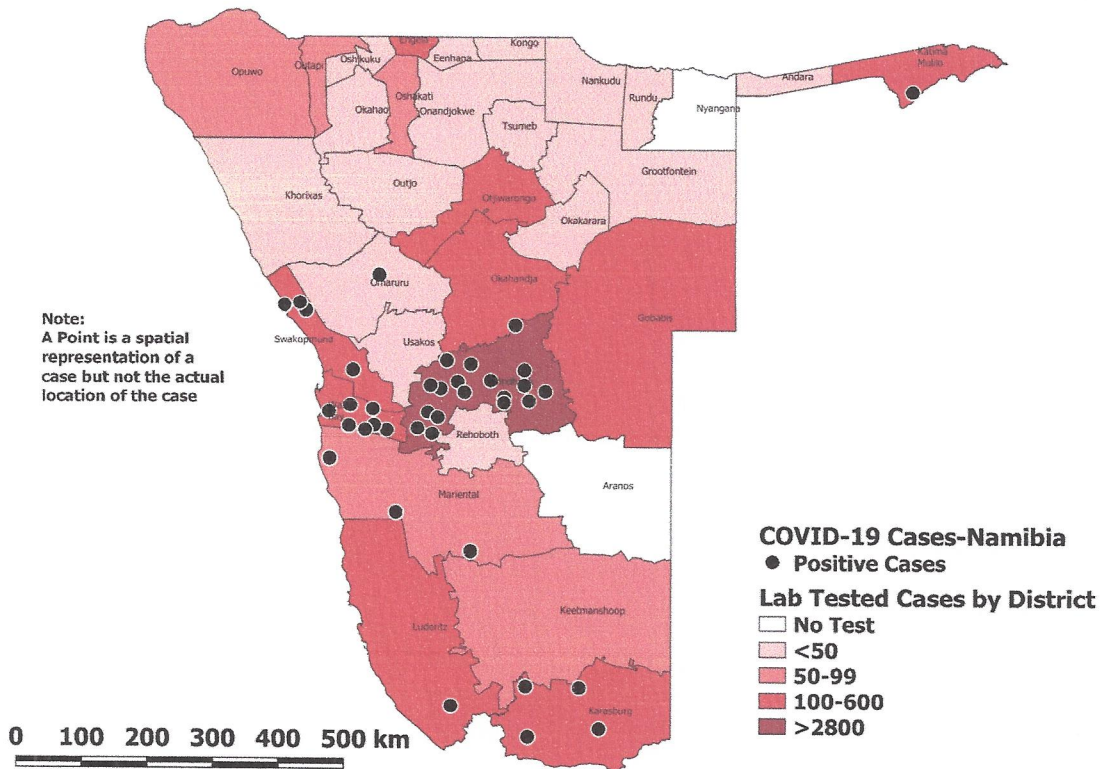


*Figure 2: Epi-curve for confirmed COVID-19 cases in Namibia as of 17 June 2020*

As presented in figure 3 below, more male cases are recorded; **25 (64.1%)** comparing to female cases; **14 (35.9%)**.



*Figure 3: Age and sex distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases in Namibia as of 17 June 2020*



*Figure 4: Distribution of suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases in Namibia by District, 17 June 2020*



#### 4. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION / RESPONSE INTERVENTIONS AND SURVEILLANCE

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

**Suspected 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**

- Call centre continue operations for 24 hours every day; **769** calls were answered at the hotline today (17.06.2020) and **9** alerts were investigated.
- Namibia COVID-19 dashboard accessible via a link on the MoHSS's website <http://www.mhss.gov.na/> or at <https://cutt.ly/Covid-19-situation-Namibia>
- Active case search in all regions is ongoing.
- Contact tracing and monitoring is ongoing (**see Table 1**).
- Mandatory supervised quarantine of all persons arriving from abroad is ongoing (**see Table 2**).

- All people are tested upon entry into mandatory quarantine for rapid detection of positive cases.
- All people in quarantine are monitored daily for 14 days and are being tested twice ( upon arrival and on day 12 before release on day 15 if they test negative).
- Keetmanshoop NIP is ready to test specimens from truck drivers.
- Stakeholders meeting with the Walvis Bay District and Correctional facility was conducted to discuss the current outbreak and recommendations on the situation at hand.

## CONTACT TRACING SUMMARY

*Table 1: National contacts tracing summary for COVID-19 as of 17 June 2020*

Variables	High	Medium	Low	Total
Total Number of contacts listed for follow up (potential)	138	88	268	494
Total Number of contacts identified (cumulative)	137	88	225	450
Total number of Contacts never reached	1	0	43	44
Total Number of contacts lost to follow up	0	2	5	7
Total Number of contacts that developed signs & symptoms	25	9	9	43
Total Number of contacts that tested positive (became cases)	4	1	0	5
Number of active contacts monitored/followed in the last 24hrs	46	26	69	141
Total number of Contacts completed 14-days follow up	87	61	149	297

As of 17 June 2020, a total of **450** contacts of confirmed cases have been identified. A total of **297** contacts have completed their 14 days of follow up, **141** are still active and being monitored daily for 14 days and all were monitored today. **(Table 1)**.

The National and Regional team is supporting the Walvis Bay district team in reviewing recent cases and contacts to rule out possible community transmission and to identify possible COVID-19 transmission hot spots for enhanced response:

- Kuisebmond area and prison identified as hot spots.
- Plans ongoing to test more people through targeting testing.

*Table 2: Number of people in mandatory quarantine facilities as of 17 June 2020*

<i>Region</i>	<i>Newly quarantined 24 hours</i>	<i>Cumulative number of people</i>	<i>Number people discharged</i>	<i>Number of people in quarantine now</i>
Kunene	0	53	53	0
Omaheke	1	95	63	32
Kavango	2	74	56	18
Omusati	3	105	87	18
Oshana	1	33	20	13
Ohangwena	10	213	167	46
Hardap	5	156	142	14
Otjozondjupa	9	340	328	12
Khomas	31	972	630	342
Zambezi	5	381	311	70
//Kharas	0	416	330	86
Erongo	0	146	114	32
Oshikoto	0	44	42	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>3028</b>	<b>2343</b>	<b>685</b>

As of 17 June 2020, a total of **3028** persons who came into the country have been placed into supervised quarantine facilities around the country. Of the 3028, **2343** have been discharged and **685** are currently quarantined (Table 2).

#### **LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS**

- Keetmanshoop NIP is ready to test specimens taken from truck drivers.
- As of 17 June 2020, a total of **6352** (including **646 re-tested**) COVID-19 specimens have been tested in the two laboratories (NIP and Path Care) as per Table 3 below:

*Table 3: COVID-19 specimens recorded at NIP and Path care Laboratories as of 17 June 2020*

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Laboratory</b>			<b>Total</b>
	<b>NIP</b>	<b>Path care</b>	<b>South Africa</b>	
Total sample received by the Laboratory	5231	1216	-	6447
<b>Total sample tested</b>	<b>4525</b>	<b>1180</b>	-	<b>5706</b>
Total sample re-tested	618	28	-	646
<b>Total positive results</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>39</b>
Total negative results	4495	1173	-	5668
Total sample discarded	68	8	-	76
Total pending results	19	0	-	19
Total new suspected cases in last 24 hours	67	28	-	95



## **COUNTRY COORDINATION, PLANNING AND MONITORING**

- Provision of support to the Walvis Bay and Swakopmund districts from the National and Erongo Regional team.
- Development of the draft-organogram lead by Deputy Executive Director, Regional Director, Chief Medical Officer and Senior Medical Officer.
- Two meetings held with the Walvis Bay District COVID-19 Emergency Management Team. Support is being provided to the district to carry out the revision of their emergency response plan and resource mobilization.
- Arrangements of an integrated support visits to other regions (Zambezi, Kavango, Ohangwena, Omusati, Kunene, and Oshana region) ongoing.

## **CASE MANAGEMENT:**

- Out of the 39 cumulative confirmed cases, 19 have recovered after testing negative twice for COVID-19 at 48 hours' interval.
- Of the 20 active cases, 1 is still in ICU but in a stable and improving condition. The other 19 are clinically stable.

## **INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL:**

- IPC activities are ongoing:
  - Distribution of PPE according to the Regional plans.
  - Monitoring of IPC in health facilities

## **LOGISTICS.**

- Facilitation of the allocation of quarantine facilities around the country and transportation of discharged people from quarantine facilities is ongoing.

## **POINTS OF ENTRY:**

- Ongoing screening and inspection of incoming travellers and trucks at points of entry and check points.



*Table 4. Distribution of truck drivers who came into Namibia from neighboring countries and destination regions on 17 June 2020*

Destination	Country of departure						Total
	RSA	Zambia	Botswana	DRC	Angola	Zimbabwe	
Karas	57	0	0	0	0	0	57
Khomas	74	2	18	0	0	0	94
Oshana	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Otjozondjupa	8	1	2	0	0	0	11
Kavango	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Ohangwena	5	0	0	0	1	0	6
Hardap	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
Kunene	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Omaheke	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Omusati	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oshikoto	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zambezi	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Erongo	8	42	11	2	0	0	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>247</b>

The majority **167 (67.6%)** of the truck drivers departed from South Africa to various regions. The largest number **94 (38.1%)** of truck drivers were headed to Khomas Region (**Table 4**).

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

- With the current status of the COVID-19 outbreak in Erongo region, the RCCE pillar has prioritised the training of the Community Health Workers to ensure intensified risk communication activities in the region.
- Street drive announcements of COVID-19 messages are being done in Walvis Bay district.
- The Communication center continues to engage other sectors on COVID-19 response. Distribution of IEC materials is ongoing. A total of 6000 copies of printed IEC have been given to Kavango East and West regions.

## PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES:

- Continous provision of health education, psychosocial support services to persons in need i.e;
  - Confirmed cases and their families
  - People in quarantine
  - Persons in need of shelter
  - Health Care Workers

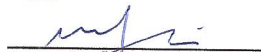
## 5. CHALLENGES:

- Inadequate isolation units at health facilities in the regions.
- Inadquate PPE
- Inadequate nasopharyngeal swabs and appropriate transport media.

## 6. 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.

Approved:



Incident Manager

Date: 17 June 2020



Secretariat

For enquiries, please contact

**Namibia Public Health Emergency Operations Centre;**

Email: [PHEOC@mhss.gov.na](mailto:PHEOC@mhss.gov.na)

Hotline Toll-free: [0800 100 100](tel:0800 100 100)

Hotline Whatsapp: [085 1100 100](tel:085 1100 100)