



PRETORIA

Private Bag X828, PRETORIA, 0001, 28th Floor, Civitas Building, Cnr Thabo Sehume and Struben Street, PRETORIA, 0001

Tel: (012) 395 8086 Fax: (012) 395 9165

CAPE TOWN

Private Bag X9070, CAPE TOWN, 8000, Room 413, 120 Plein Street, CAPE TOWN, 8000 Tel: (021) 466 7262 Fax: (021) 465 1575

Media Statement

8 October 2020

As of today, the cumulative number of detected COVID-19 cases is **686 891** with 1 736 new cases identified since the last report.

Province	Total cases for 08 October 2020	Percentage total
Eastern Cape	90339	13,2
Free State	49683	7,2
Gauteng	222038	32,3
KwaZulu-Natal	120044	17,5
Limpopo	16054	2,3
Mpumalanga	27925	4,1
North West	30408	4,4
Northern Cape	18388	2,7
Western Cape	112012	16,3
Unknown	0	0,0
Total	686891	100,0

The cumulative number of tests conducted to date is **4 339 686** with 21 172 new tests conducted since the last report.

Sector	Total tested		New tested	
PRIVATE	2 472 926	57%	14 479	68%
PUBLIC	1 866 760	43%	6 693	32%
Total	4 339 686		21 172	

Total Deaths and Recoveries

Regrettably, we report **160** more COVID-19 related deaths: 18 from Eastern Cape, 6 from Free State, 105 from KwaZulu Natal, 13 from Gauteng, 6 from Limpopo, 4 from Mpumalanga, and 8 from Western Cape. This brings the total number of COVID-19 related deaths to **17 408**.

We extend our condolences to the loved ones of the departed and thank the health-care workers that treated the deceased patients.

There has been a noticeable increase in the number of deaths recently which caused us concern as we have received reports from the Medical Research Council that there have been no excess deaths for three weeks in a row. We therefore consulted the provinces to ascertain the reason for the increased numbers. We have received reports that the provinces are implementing the recommendations of the MRC to reconcile the data with Home Affairs deaths data. In addition provinces are auditing the deaths data either by mining data from the DATCOV surveillance reports and identifying unreported deaths or auditing the facilities on the ground. We welcome this robust refinement of data collation as it reassures us that, moving forward, we exercise precision in our epidemiological surveillance.

Our recoveries now stand at **618 771** which translates to a recovery rate of 90%

Province	Total Deaths	Total Recoveries	Active Cases
Eastern Cape	3163	85301	1875
Free State	1090	35271	13322
Gauteng	4386	198022	19630
KwaZulu-Natal	2925	111403	5716
Limpopo	421	14987	646
Mpumalanga	581	26554	790
North West	375	27272	2761
Northern Cape	228	15122	3038
Western Cape	4239	104839	2934
National	17408	618771	50712

Dr Zwelini Mkhize

Minister of Health

ENDS