



PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 78 | Monday, 20 July 2020



**HAPPY
PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAYS**

Day 109

CHILDREN TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

Presidential Covid-19 Task Force Scientific Advisor Dr Mogomotsi Matshaba shared sobering news about the cases of Coronavirus in children who have tested positive for covid-19 since Botswana commenced testing.

When briefing members of the media, Dr Matshaba said Botswana has recorded some minor cases among 522 positive cases from the 57,966 tests conducted. He said among those is a 6-month old baby

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

14,379,446

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 19/07/20

CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

15/07/2020

Lab Tests Performed & resulted	56 541
Negative Cases	55 975
Total Positive Cases	522
Local Positive Cases	96
Total Deaths	1
Recoveries	48
Active Cases	47
Transferred Out	326

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw

The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.

CHILDREN TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

From Page 1

who had traveled with parents to seek medical attention in South Africa and tested positive upon return.

Dr Matshaba said another case is of a 7-month infant who stayed with a parent in South Africa. They were quarantined and tested positive for Covid-19. The Scientific Advisor added that there is also an 8-year-old pupil of Thebe Primary School.

The pupil's parent is an essential service goods transporter who frequently crosses the border. He said they have conducted contact tracing for the latter and some contacts have tested negative. He said all those who were not called are not

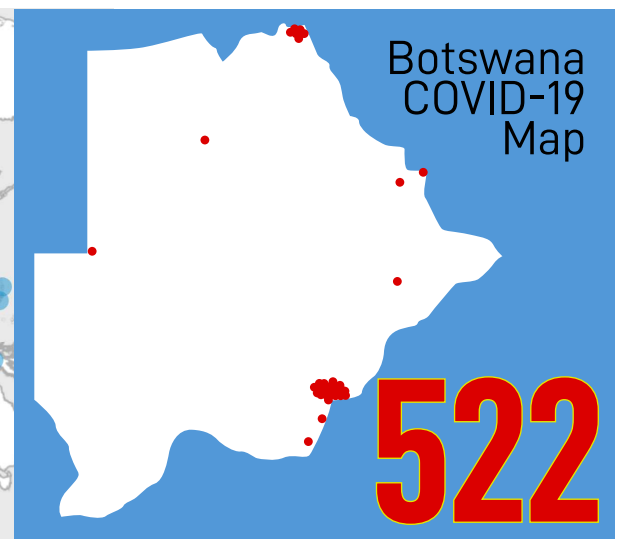
contacts and should remain vigilant. The Scientific Advisor said there is a case of a child who was born from a Covid-19 positive mother but remained negative for Covid-19. His comforting words to the nation was that the disease seems to be much milder in babies and children.

Dr Matshaba said in general children do not show symptoms, adding that children are exposed to the risk by parents therefore urging caretakers to make sure that children comply to the protocols especially washing hands with clean water and soap frequently. The Doctor further said the cut of mask requirement is 2yrs. He said any child below 2yrs should not go to public space.

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 19/07/20

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 3,748,705	Egypt - 87,172	Eswatini - 1,793
South Africa - 364,328	China - 85,314	Mozambique - 1,491
UK - 296,358	Ethiopia - 9,503	Zimbabwe - 1,478
Spain - 260,255	Madagascar - 7,049	Namibia - 1,247
Italy - 244,434	Zambia - 2,980	Angola - 687
France - 211,943	Malawi - 2,907	Lesotho - 359



THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw
The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.

Inter-Zonal Permits

-A Strategic Measure on Contact Tracing

On the 21st of May 2020 the Presidential (COVID-19) Task Force Team introduced Inter-zonal permits as part of management and containment of the spread of coronavirus and as a strategic measure to track the movement of people and also improve efficacy of contact tracing.

Briefing the Media on Botswana Television, Presidential (COVID-19) Task Force National Coordinator Dr Kereng Masupu said since the current phase of State Of Emergency commenced, the Task Force received 924, 767 permit applications and 922, 989 were approved while 1778 were declined.

"Permits that were declined were not filled in correctly, or there were no zone boundaries to be crossed and not because there was intention to deny people such permits", explained the National Director.

He said there are no restrictions to the amount of times one may apply for inter-zonal permit as the system allows an applicant to apply as many times as possible to access multiple zones as may be needed for one to reach their destination.

Meanwhile the Inter-Zonal Permit system is experiencing technical challenges and the Presidential Task Force advises that those who had applied for the permit are authorised to undertake their travel and the travels is authorised for the duration of the President's Holidays.

The public is therefore urged to register at all service points and continue to vigilantly observe COVID-19 Protocols as it travels across the country to facilitate contact tracing should the need arise.

Info! To move between Zones apply for inter zonal permit

INTER ZONAL If you are traveling from one zone to another

Applied Before?

New Application

Permit Status

INTER ZONAL (COMPANIES) HealthCare,Banking,Government Services,etc.

WHO Director-General pays tribute to Spain's sacrifices and leadership to confront COVID-19

World Health Organization Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus recently joined the leadership of Spain, paying homage to those who have lost their lives in the country due to COVID-19, saluting the heroic efforts of health workers and praising the government's resolute and robust response to reverse the virus's transmission.

"It is with great respect that I join the King of Spain, the Prime Minister and the entire government of the country to pay tribute to the people who have fallen victim to COVID-19," said Dr Tedros. "I extend my deepest condolences to the families of all people who have lost their lives due to this virus in Spain, and around the world."

At one point, Spain was among the countries impacted most by COVID-19. At the outbreak's peak, close to 10,000 new cases were reported in a single day in Spain. Since then, intensive efforts, led by robust surveillance, testing, contact tracing, treatment and isolation, have managed to suppress transmission.

Dr Tedros said this shift was due to the leadership shown by Spain and the strong resolve shown by the Spanish public to adhere to strict restrictions, including lockdowns, physical distancing and other critical measures to contain transmission. These efforts, combined, have successfully changed the course of the country's outbreak.

"Spain has shown that with political leadership and action, backed by community support, that COVID-19 can be controlled, no matter at what stage virus transmission is at in a country. From being greatly challenged, Spain has reversed the trajectory of the outbreak," Dr Tedros added. "While we have witnessed the suppression of the virus across Spain, I support the commitment by Spanish authorities to remain vigilant in the face of the persistent threat that COVID-19 poses."

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw
The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.



Republic of Botswana

COVID-19 ZONAL MAP



KNOW YOUR ZONES

Extreme Social Distancing ended on 20th May 2020 signaling the end of the three phases which were introduced to curb the spread of the virus in the country. The Presidential Task Force has developed a surveillance plan to monitor the disease. This resulted in the different zones to create cohorts for easier monitoring, easier tracing of contacts of positive cases and to avoid uncontrollable spread across the country.

The Inter-Zonal permit is therefore a requirement for people to travel from one zone to the other. Thirteen law enforcement check points have been designated across the country to monitor movements of people.

The nine (9) COVID -19 Zones are as follows;

1. Greater Gaborone zone
2. Greater Palapye zone
3. Greater Selibe Phikwe Zone
4. Greater Francistown
5. Boteti zone
6. Chobe zone
7. Maun zone
8. Gantsi zone
9. Kgalagadi zone

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Treasure Mothobi

Content Producers: Lorato Okaile | Donnell Kutlape | Chandapiwa Baputaki | Fortune Ketlhaetse



Republic of Botswana

**CORONAVIRUS IS STILL
A SERIOUS THREAT!**

FROM "I" TO "US"...

**Team building means marching
in step. Let US all:**

- Sanitise.
- Maintain social distancing.
- Wear masks.
- Remember to bSafe. Use the app.

Own your space. Own your health!