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Media Release

23 April 2020

Testing Data

A total of **143 570** COVID-19 tests has been conducted as per table below:

Sector	Total tested		New tested	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Private	89 501	62%	3 612	37%
Public	54 069	38%	6 184	63%
Grand Total	143 570		9 796	

Case Data

There are **318** new confirmed COVID-19 cases, with the total number of confirmed cases at **3 953**.

Province	Total cases for 22 April 2020	New cases on 23 April 2020	Total cases for 23 April 2020	Percentage total
Eastern Cape	377	40	417	10,5
Free State	106	0	106	2,7
Gauteng	1224	28	1252	31,7
KwaZulu-Natal	758	49	807	20,4
Limpopo	27	0	27	0,7
Mpumalanga	23	0	23	0,6
North West	24	1	25	0,6
Northern Cape	16	0	16	0,4
Western Cape	1079	200	1279	32,4
Unknown	1	0	1	0,0
Total	3635	318	3953	100

Notes:

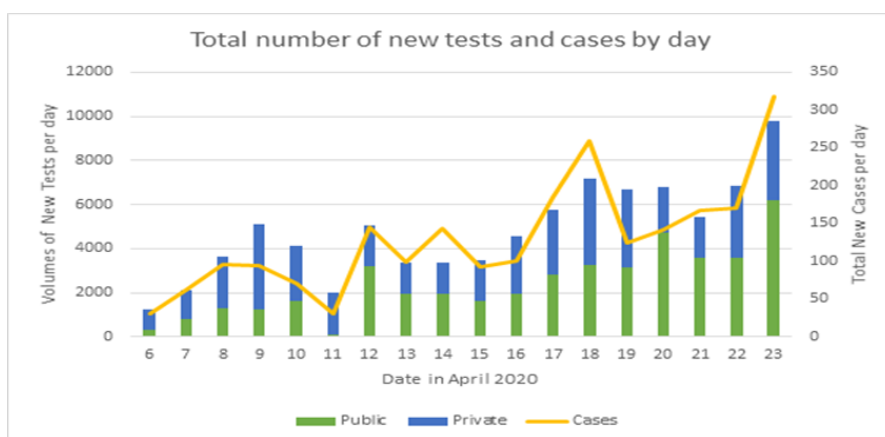
We are observing a steady increase in the number of positive cases. While this concerns us, we are also pleased that the intensified community screening and testing campaign is assisting in finding more COVID-19 positive patients. This allows us to take the necessary actions such as isolation, quarantine or hospitalisation if required. The epidemiologists also continue to analyse these trends to in order for the country to better understand the impact of the outbreak as it unfolds.

We commend all the health workers and tracers for their hard work in different parts of our country. We also thank members of the community for heeding government's call to participate in the mass screening and testing. This is well reflected in the increasing numbers of people who have been screened to date, which is 3 633 037. Of the individuals screened, 24 174 have been referred for testing.

It is also notable that today the Western Cape has surpassed Gauteng's confirmed cases and now has the highest number of COVID-19 positive cases in the country. A further analysis is being done as we are observing outbreak clusters in the Western Cape. This means that a large number of people who operate and interact in the same area (eg. factories, shopping centres) are testing positive.

Today, the Northern Cape, Limpopo and Free State do not have any new cases. Furthermore, we have seen the number of these province's confirmed cases not increasing. This also illustrates the effectiveness of their positive patients' treatment and management.

Total number of new tests and cases: Daily Trend



Deaths and Recoveries

Today we regrettably report 10 new deaths. This brings the total to 75. We convey our condolences to the families of the deceased and thank our health workers who treated the deceased patients.

The new deaths are from the following provinces:

Western Cape: 6

KZN: 2

Gauteng: 1

Eastern Cape: 1

Total Deaths and Recoveries Per Province:

PROVINCE	DEATHS	RECOVERIES
Western Cape	28	236
KwaZulu-Natal	27	241
Gauteng	8	843
Eastern Cape	6	19
Free State	5	76
Limpopo	1	24
Mpumalanga	0	15
North West	0	13
Northern Cape	0	6
TOTAL	75	1473

WHO COVID-19 INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

Today, the Director General of the World Health Organisation held an information sharing session with Health Ministers from across the globe. South Africa was given an opportunity to share its experiences in its management and response to COVID-19. We appreciate the leadership provided by His Excellency, President MC Ramaphosa in fighting this COVID-19 pandemic. The country's response thus far has even laid an opportunity for lessons to be learnt by other countries. Whilst we are pleased with this, we remain fully aware that we still have a long way ahead of us and face a tough battle to fight together as a country.

The WHO's guidance for us as a country and the rest of the world remains invaluable and we express confidence in its leadership under Dr Tedros.

Dr Zwelini Mkhize
Minister of Health

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