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Media Release

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As at today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa is **6336**.

The total number of tests conducted to date is **230 686**, of which **13 164** were done in the last 24 hours. This is the highest number of tests done in a 24 hour cycle to date.

The Provincial Breakdown is as follows:

Province	Cases
Eastern Cape	732
Free State	121
Gauteng	1598
KwaZulu Natal	1051
Limpopo	36
Mpumalanga	40
North West	35
Northen Cape	23
Western Cape	2700
Total	6336

Reported Deaths, Recoveries and Comments:

Regrettably, we are saddened to report a further **7** COVID-19 related deaths from the Western Cape and Free State. This brings the total number of deaths to **123**

We wish to express our condolences to the families of the deceased and salute the health care workers who treated the deceased patients.

We are however pleased to report that the number of recoveries now stands at 2549

Below is the Provincial Breakdown of Deaths and Recoveries

Province	Deaths	Recoveries
Eastern Cape	13	275
Free State	6	96
Gauteng	12	948
KwaZulu Natal	34	375
Limpopo	2	25
Mpumalanga	0	18
North West	0	20
Northen Cape	0	13
Western Cape	56	779
Total	123	2549

We have also begun to study the deaths to begin to elucidate patterns and areas of high risk. We have observed the following:

Distribution of Deaths by Gender:

Male (%)	Female (%)	Total
71 (58%)	52 (42%)	123

Distribution of Deaths by Age:

Age	Deaths (%)
0-9	0 (0%)
10-19	0 (0%)
20-29	1 (0.8%)
30-39	6 (4.9%)
40-49	19 (15.5%)
50-59	23 (18.7%)
60-69	30 (24.4%)
70-79	28 (22.7%)
80-89	14 (11.4%)
90-99	2 (1.6%)
	123 (100)

The median age of patients who died was 64 .

Co-morbidities

We have looked at the data for patients who have been hospitalized and found that, consistent with evidence emerging worldwide, hypertension, diabetes and cardiac disease are the three most common co-morbidities associated with serious illness from COVID-19.

Other co-morbidities that were seen amongst COVID-19 admitted patients were chronic pulmonary disease, asthma, chronic renal disease, malignancy, HIV, active and past tuberculosis.

I would therefore like to urge our millions of South Africans who are over 63 years of age and those who live with these conditions to take extra precaution as we ease the lockdown.

I would also like to urge all South Africans to continue to stay at home as far as possible, only venturing out to perform essential tasks as we move through the stages of the gradual lifting of lockdown.

Dr Zwelini Mkhize

Minister of Health

ENDS...