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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Thursday, 13 August 2020

### **Statement on Health Care Workers that have Acquired COVID-19**

As indicated in my statement on Wednesday, 5 August we had requested provinces to provide us with a full breakdown of Health Care Workers who had acquired the Coronavirus. In addition the Hospital Association of South Africa (HASA) provided us with data from the private sector. We now share the data collated and verified as at 4 August 2020:

The total number of **27 360** health care workers were reported. Of those, 6027 (22%) were from the private sector and 21 333 (78%) were from the public sector.

The overall infection rate amongst health care workers as compared to the total number of cases identified nationally is 5% which is well below the global average of 10%

1 644 (6%) of these health care workers were doctors, 14 143 (52%) were nurses, 28 (less than 1%) were Port Health workers and 11 545 (42%) were from other categories of health workers.

Sadly, 240 of our health care workers have succumbed to COVID-19: 37 from the private sector and 203 from the public sector. We salute these fallen soldiers and pay tribute to them for their commitment to serving the people of South Africa right until the very end. We extend our condolences to all the family, friends and colleagues of these valuable members of society.

The mortality rate amongst health care workers is 0,9%

The number of health care workers reported to have recovered as at 4 August 2020 is 16 005, which translates to a 58% recovery rate amongst health care workers.

The Provincial Breakdown is as follows:

Province	Doctors	Nurses	Other Categories Combined	Mortality	Recoveries
Eastern Cape	182	2748	2234	85	3225
Free State	86	369	1350	21	784
Gauteng Province	483	4983	2702	43	4509
KwaZulu Natal	319	2257	1244	30	1376
Limpopo	47	302	248	0	464
Mpumalanga	64	392	309	3	329
Northern Cape	17	84	132	4	73
North West	109	654	1178	16	867
Western Cape	337	2354	2176	38	4378
<b>Total</b>	<b>1644</b>	<b>14143</b>	<b>11573</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>16005</b>

In addition, we have been provided with a snapshot of active cases amongst health care workers as at 7 August 2020. On this day we registered 7500 active cases of which 751 (10%) were being hospitalized, 6 557 (87%) were in self isolation and 192 (3%) were being isolated in a facility.

We wish all health care workers currently battling COVID-19 a speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming them back to the workforce when they are fully recovered.

Dr. Zwelini Mkhize  
Minister of Health

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