

# TRADE UPDATE



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM

## PRESIDENT CYRIL RAMAPHOSA ADDRESS

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01 MARCH 2021

### SUMMARY OF PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

On Sunday 28 February 2021, President Cyril Ramaphosa addressed the nation to announce a significant easing of COVID-19 restrictions. March 5 will mark one year since the first COVID-19 case was recorded in the country. New hospital admissions, daily infections and deaths have decreased significantly and are declining steadily. The President said the nation can be proud of SA's medical response, which has been recognised globally.

President Ramaphosa indicated that South Africa had clearly emerged from the second wave of the pandemic because people observed protocols, stuck to tighter restrictions and benefitted from accumulating immunity. This has resulted in a steadily declining rate of infections:

- Just under 10 000 new infections were recorded in the last week of February
- In the last week of January, 40 000 new infections were recorded
- In the last week of December, 90 000 new infections were recorded

The country will now immediately move to ease restrictions on movement and activity, from adjusted Level 3 to Level 1.

This means that most of the existing restrictions on economic activity have been lifted, with a high consumption spending bolstered by the steady recovery in employment expected as a result, businesses are also expected to slowly start implementing plans that have been put on hold due to the pandemic.

Combined with the structural reforms announced in recent weeks, it is anticipated that "the green shoots" seen in the economy will begin to take hold.

The President said vaccines are the most decisive measures to combat COVID-19, but that the pandemic can only be overcome if the nation continues to practice all other prevention measures. He said defeating the pandemic and accelerating our economic recovery were linked to rigorous adherence to health protocols.

President Ramaphosa indicated that the vaccine campaign is progressing well, with all provinces having established vaccination sites, and these sites will be expanded from 17 to 49 next week, with 32 at public hospitals and 17 at private hospitals.

Once health care workers are vaccinated, it is planned that Phase 2 of the roll-out will start in late April /early May, targeting the elderly, essential workers, people with co-morbidities, and workers in institutional settings.

The President also announced further progress with vaccine acquisition:

- The Government has reached agreement with Johnson & Johnson for a further 11 million vaccines, 2,8m of which will arrive in Q2, with the rest to be delivered during the remainder of the year. A further 80 000 doses arrived from Johnson & Johnson on 27 February
- An agreement has been reached for 20 million vaccine doses from Pfizer to be delivered in Q2
- An agreement has been reached for 12m doses of the Covax vaccine, and Government is in the process of finalizing the dose allocation from the African Union

- Government is in constant contact with suppliers to ensure that the country has the necessary vaccines available

The delivery of the first batch of Johnson & Johnson vaccines arrived almost two weeks ago. Healthcare workers across the country have already been receiving the vaccine.

Some key highlights of the restrictions that have been eased include:

- The hours of the curfew will now be from 12am to 4am
- Gatherings are permitted, subject to limitations on size and social distancing, including religious, social, political and cultural gatherings with a maximum number of people of 100 for indoor and 250 for outdoor gatherings. If the venue is too small, no more than 50% of capacity of the venue may be used. Night vigils, before or after funerals are not permitted and nightclubs remain closed
- No alcohol to be sold during curfew hours
- Wearing of masks remains compulsory, failure to do so is a fineable offence






The closure of the 33 land ports of entry will remain in place. The other 20 border posts that have been open, will remain open. These land borders include, Beitbridge, Lebombo, Maseru, Oshoek, Kopfontein and Ficksburg.

The five major airports remain open for domestic and international travel - OR Tambo, Cape Town International, King Shaka, Kruger and Lanseria.

For the full speech by the President, click [here](#)

ENDS

# COVID-19 STATISTICS IN SOUTH AFRICA

				
<b>9 077 479</b>	<b>1 513 393</b>	<b>1 430 259</b>	<b>49 993</b>	<b>1 168</b>
TESTS CONDUCTED	POSITIVE CASES IDENTIFIED	TOTAL RECOVERIES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW CASES

**SUNDAY**  
**28**  
**FEBRUARY**  
**2021**

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[www.sacoronavirus.co.za](http://www.sacoronavirus.co.za)  
Covid-19 public hotline:  
**0800 029 999**  
WhatsApp 'HI' to  
**0600 123 456**



UNALLOCATED  
CONFIRMED CASES: 00

**DAILY DEATHS**  
**52**

**RECOVERY RATE**  
**94,5%**

 **VACCINES ADMINISTERED**  
**70 527**



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**health**

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**STAY SAFE**

PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE CORONAVIRUS

ALERT  
LEVEL  
**1**

DUE TO DECLINING INFECTIONS  
**SOUTH AFRICA  
HAS BEEN PLACED  
ON ALERT LEVEL 1**



## ALCOHOL:

- ALCOHOL SALES ARE PERMITTED AS NORMAL
- NO ALCOHOL MAY BE SOLD DURING CURFEW

WHATSAPP SUPPORT  
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SAFE**  
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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## MANDATORY MASK WEARING:

- WEARING A CLOTH MASK OR SIMILAR COVERING OVER THE NOSE AND MOUTH IS MANDATORY WHEN IN PUBLIC
- ANY PERSON WHO DOES NOT WEAR A MASK IN A PUBLIC PLACE WILL BE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE

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## GATHERINGS:

- GATHERINGS ARE PERMITTED
- INDOOR GATHERINGS MAY NOT EXCEED 50% OF VENUE CAPACITY UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 100 PEOPLE
- OUTDOOR GATHERINGS MAY NOT EXCEED 50% OF VENUE CAPACITY UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 250 PEOPLE
- HEALTH PROTOCOLS MUST BE OBSERVED AT GATHERINGS, INCLUDING MAINTAINING A DISTANCE OF AT LEAST 1.5 METERS BETWEEN PEOPLE

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## CURFEW:

- CURFEW IS FROM MIDNIGHT TO 4AM
- APART FROM PERMITTED WORKERS, NO PERSON MAY BE OUTSIDE THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE DURING CURFEW

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