

### Namibia

#### General

	MALES	FEMALES	YEAR
Total population under 15	460,016	451,058	2017
Total population over 15	729,970	795,425	2017

\* ALL DATA FROM CIA, 2017

#### Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live birth	265	2015 est.	CIA, 2017
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	36.4	2016 est.	CIA, 2017
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (males)	38.7	2016 est.	CIA, 2017
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (females)	34.1	2016 est.	CIA, 2017
Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births	49.4	2015	UN Statistics, 2017
Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births	41.2	2015	UN Statistics, 2017
Births attended by a skilled health professional	88	2014	WHO, 2016
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged 15–49	13.3	2015	WHO, 2017
Life expectancy for men	62.1	2016 est.	CIA, 2017
Life expectancy for women	65.1	2016 est.	CIA, 2017

#### Education

	MALES	FEMALES	YEAR
Youth literacy rate, ages 15-24	93.87%	95.89%	2015
Adult literacy rate, ages 15+	91.01%	90.65%	2015
Net enrolment rate in primary education	89.74%	91%	2013
Gross enrolment ratio in secondary education	60.10%	69.55%	2007
Gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education	8.18%	10.44%	2008

\* ALL DATA FROM UNESCO INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS, 2017

- Female graduates from tertiary education (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 58.4%
- Female students enrolled in engineering, construction and manufacturing tertiary education programs (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 19.5%
- Female teachers in primary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 69.6%
- Female teachers in secondary education (2005) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 49.8
- Female teachers in tertiary education (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 41.2

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### Economic Activity

- Males over 15 who are active in the labour force (2014) (UN Data, 2017): 62.9%
- Females over 15 who are active in the labour force (2014) (UN Data, 2017): 55.4%
- Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution, or with a money mobile service provider (2014) (UN Statistics, 2017): 69.39

### Decision-Making

- Proportion of seats held by women in National Parliament (2016) (World Bank, 2017): 41%

### Human Rights

- Girls married before the age of 15 (2016) (UNICEF, 2016): 2%
- Females married before the age of 18 (2016) (UNICEF, 2016): 7%
- Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2014): Insufficient data
- Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner in the last 12 months (UN Women, 2014): Insufficient data

## Gender and Development Trends in Namibia

### Health

Despite good healthcare and reliable birth attendance, maternal mortality remains problematic in Namibia; statistics from a Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group report, indicate that the proportion of maternal deaths amongst deaths of female reproductive age, decreased from 15.7 to 11.1 (“Maternal Mortality in 1990-2015” n.d.).

A 2016 HIV Sentinel Survey indicates that HIV prevalence amongst pregnant women receiving antenatal care was 17.2% (Republic of Namibia Ministry of Health and Social Services, 2016).

### Education

A 2013 UNICEF report notes that Namibia is close to achieve universal primary education, with over 98% net enrolment rate, with gender parity at primary and secondary levels (UNICEF, 2013). However, the same report notes significant challenges in delivering quality learning outcomes at all levels including “high repetition (on average 20% at grades 1, 5 and 8) and dropout rates, resulting in only 57% net enrolment rate at the secondary level (UNICEF, 2013).

### Economy

A 2014 report by Namibian Statistics Agency found that the number of men in the Namibian workforce employment outnumber women nationally, and particularly in urban areas

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where employment opportunities are more available than in rural areas. In rural areas, the report found no significance difference in the population employed between men and women (“The Namibia Labour Force Survey 2014 Report”).

### Governance

There has been an increase in the presence of women in the Namibian government – the proportion of women in the National Assembly rose to 46% in 2015 (UN Women, n.d.). This is echoed at the local level, where women make up 43% of local councils and/or municipal assemblies (UNDP, 2016).

### Human Rights

Between January and August 2015, police in Namibia reported 39 gender-based violence (GBV) cases resulting in death (U.S. Department of State, 2016). Both the President and a number of Ministers have condemned the rates of GBV in the country (UNAIDS, 2014). The Ministries of Justice, Health and Social Services, and Gender Equality and Child Welfare, along with national and international NGOs, have collaborated to provide training to 15 Gender-based Violence Protection Units, which are staffed with police officers, social workers, legal advisors, and medical personnel and are trained to assist victims of sexual assault (U.S. Department of State, 2016).

A number of government agencies have collaborated to reduce GBV and to promote the economic and social rights of women. The government has also adopted a ‘National Gender Policy 2010-2020’ to promote gender equality and the advancement of women (Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, 2010).

## Namibia SDG Progress Profile

- Namibia is currently ranked 108<sup>th</sup> for overall performance under the SDGs, with a median rank of 125<sup>th</sup>.
- Namibia ranked 125<sup>th</sup> in the UN’s 2015 Gender Inequality Index (GII) (UNDP, 2015).

### SDG 4: Achieve universal access to affordable and quality education at all levels. (Data retrieved from SDG indicator profiles, 2016)

- Expected years of schooling (years): 11.3 (significant challenges remain)
- Literacy rate of 15-24 years old (%): 87.1 (significant challenges remain)
- Net primary school enrolment rate (%): 87.7 (major challenges must be overcome)

Two major issues in ensuring sustained school attendance are, high dropout and high repetition rates. These issues disproportionately affect girls (World Bank, 2015). The Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture in Namibia currently administers a school feeding programme to approximately 330,000 pre-primary and primary school learners throughout

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the country (WFP, 2016). The Ministry is also planning to expand this programme nationwide in 2016/17, with assistance from the World Food Programme.

### **SDG 5: Achieve gender equality, protect and empower women, the youth and persons in vulnerable situations.**

(Data retrieved from SDG indicator profiles, 2016)

- Women in National Parliaments (%): 41.3 (SDG threshold met)
- Female years of schooling (% male): 103.3 (SDG threshold met)
- Female labor force participation (% male): 98.4 (SDG threshold met)
- Unmet demand for contraceptives (%): 23.8 (significant challenges remain)

Although contraception use amongst Namibian women is rising, socioeconomic circumstances affect the extent to which women are able to access modern contraceptive measures. A 2011 World Bank report found that modern contraceptive use was 54% amongst women in the wealthiest quintile and only 29% amongst those in the poorest.

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