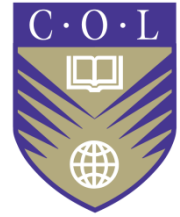


Gender Profile: Namibia



General

Total male population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 352,368
Total female population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 345,593

Total male population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 757,230
Total female population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 743,215

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births (2010) (CIA, 2015): 200
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 45.64

Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births (2012) (United Nations Gender Statistics, 2015): 42.5

Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births (2012) (United Nations Gender Statistics, 2015): 34.7

Births attended by a skilled health professional (2007) (WHO, 2014b): 81.4%

Prevalence of HIV among males aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013): source year 10.7%
Prevalence of HIV among females aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 16.2%

Life expectancy for women (2012) (WHO, 2014b): 69
Life expectancy for men (2012) (WHO, 2014b): 64

Education

Male youth literacy rate, ages 15–24 (2007) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 83.24%
Female youth literacy rate, ages 15–24 (2007) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 90.62%

Male adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2007) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 74.55%
Female adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2007) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 78.35%

Male adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 86.97%

Female adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 90.13%

Male gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2007) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 60.10%

Female gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2007) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 69.56%

Male gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 8.18%

Female gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 10.44%

Graduates from tertiary education who are female (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 58.4%

Students enrolled in engineering, construction and manufacturing tertiary education programs who are female (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 19.5%

Teachers in primary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 69.6%

Teachers in secondary education who are female (2005) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 49.8

Teachers in tertiary education who are female (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 41.2

Economic Activity

Males over 15 who are active in the labour force (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 58%

Females over 15 who are active in the labour force (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 49%

Men who have an account in a formal financial institution: NA

Women who have an account in a formal financial institution: NA

Decision-Making

Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (World Bank, 2014): 24%

Human Rights

Girls married before 15 (2013) (Girls Not Brides, 2015): 2%

Females married between 15 and 19 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 5%

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2012): 35.9%

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2012): 42.5%

* * *

Gender Gaps

Health

- The contraceptive prevalence rate rose from 23% in 1992 to 46.6% in 2006/7 but was projected to fall far short of the Millennium Development Goal of 100% by 2015 (UNDP, 2012a).
- The adolescent birth rate increased from 2% in 1992 to 15% in 2006/7 (UNDP, 2012a).

Education

- As of 2011, there were only 85.25 females enrolled in tertiary education for every 100 males (UNDP, 2012b).
- The University of Namibia's Faculty of Engineering and Technology noted in 2015 that "[t]he Engineering Council of Namibia . . . had a female ratio of 4% in 2003, which increased to 9.5% in 2009 and 10.3% in 2011." This represents an upward trend but nonetheless highlights Namibian women's very limited presence in this field.

Economic

- A report by the Government of Namibia in 2008 found that "[a]mong households headed by females, 30.4 percent are poor and 15.1 percent are severely poor. This is higher than for male-headed households where 25.8 and 12.9 percent are poor and severely poor, respectively" (Republic of Namibia, 2008, p. 7). The report defines "poor" households as "those that have monthly expenditures of less than N\$ 262.45 per adult equivalent" and "severely poor" households as "those with [monthly] expenditures of less than N\$ 184.56" (p. 6).

Decision-Making

- In July 2014, The Guardian newspaper reported that the ruling South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) "has not only committed to filling half of its seats in parliament with women but also committed to what they call a 'zebra system' whereby if a minister is a woman then the deputy minister will be a man and vice versa. Even more ambitiously, the implication is that the roles will be switched in successive elections." Hence, this "is being read by many decision makers as a Swapo commitment to appoint a woman to the presidency in 2019" (O'Riordan, 2014).

Human Rights

- The Namibian government's Demographic and Health Survey 2006–2007 (the most recent one available) indicated that gender based-violence is an ongoing concern in Namibia; 41% of male Namibians believe that wife-battering is justified in some circumstances, and a third of Namibian women agree (Ministry of Health and Social Services & Macro International, 2008, p. 244–245).
- The same report found that only 86% of women believed they were justified in refusing to have sex with their husband, or insisting he use a condom, if he had a sexually transmissible infection (p. 202).

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