



Existing rates of: **Wasting: 7.1%** **Stunting: 23.1%** **Proportion of population underweight: 13.2%**

Source: Gov. of Namibia (DHS, 2013)

Strong Performance

- The National Nutrition Policy/Strategy identifies time bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism has been set up.
- Policymakers in Namibia benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2013.
- The Government of Namibia promotes complementary feeding practices.
- 91.7% of the population of Namibia in 2012 has access to an improved drinking water source.
- In Namibia 94.6% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2007.
- In Namibia, constitutional protection of the right to food and the right to social security is strong.

Areas for improvement

- Spending on agriculture (2.42% of public spending in 2013), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Namibia's spending in its health sector (13.9% of public spending in 2012) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union's Abuja Declaration (15% of public spending).
- In Namibia, the law gives women and men equal economic rights and equal legal access to agricultural land. However, these laws are not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- The Government of Namibia has not enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of Namibia has only achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 62% of children in 2013.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (32.2% in 2012) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.



Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending ¹	2.42%	2013	36th
Public spending on health as share of total public spending ¹	13.9%	2012	8th
Policies			
Access to land (security of tenure) ²	Moderate	2009	Joint 21st
Access to agricultural research and extension services ²	Moderate	2004	Joint 37th
Civil registration system — coverage of live births	78%	2011	Joint 13rd
Functioning of social protection systems ²	Moderate	2014	Joint 2nd
Laws			
Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ²	Strong	2007	Joint 1st
Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) ³	In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 1st
Equality of women's economic rights ³	In Law, not in Practice	2011	Joint 7th
Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)	Yes	2006	Joint 1st

¹ Possible scores are: ● <75% of agriculture (Maputo) and health (Abuja) spending pledges ● >=75 % and <100% ● >=100%

² Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong

³ Possible scores are: ● Not in Law ● In Law Not in Practice ● In Law & Practice

Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	NCI Rank of 45
Separate budget for nutrition (No/Sectoral only/Yes)	Sectoral only	2014	Joint 16th
Policies			
Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	62%	2013	Joint 33rd
Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	Yes	2011	Joint 1st
Population with access to an improved water source	91.7%	2012	8th
Population with access to improved sanitation	32.2%	2012	22nd
Health care visits for pregnant women	94.6%	2007	13rd
Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	Moderate	2001-2030	26th
National Nutrition Policy/Strategy (yes/no)	Yes	2011	Joint 1st
Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	Yes	2014	Joint 1st
Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	Yes	2011	Joint 1st
National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	Yes	2013	Joint 1st
Laws			
ICMBS [^] Enshrined in domestic law ²	Not Enshrined in Law	2014	Joint 35th

¹ Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).

² Possible scores are: ● Not Enshrined in Law ● Voluntary Adoption ● Fully enshrined.

[^] International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes