

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% of the population of Namibia in 2015 has access to an improved drinking water source.
- In Namibia 96.6% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2013.
- In Namibia, constitutional protection of the right to social security is strong.




Areas for improvement




- Spending on agriculture (4.95% of public spending in 2014), 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 2014) 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 (34.4% in 2015) 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	 4.95%	2014	22nd
 Public spending on health as share of total public spending ¹	 13.9%	2014	7th
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	 87.1%	2013	9th
 Functioning of social protection systems ²	 Moderate	2016	Joint 3rd
Laws			
 Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ²	 Moderate	2006	Joint 8th
 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
 Constitutional 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:  Very Weak/Weak  Moderate  Strong/Very 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 18th
Policies			
 Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	 62%	2013	Joint 30th
 Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	 Yes	2011	Joint 1st
 Population with access to an improved water source	 91%	2015	8th
 Population with access to improved sanitation	 34.4%	2015	22nd
 Health care visits for pregnant women	 96.6%	2013	9th
 Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	 Moderate	2012-2017	26th
 National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	 Yes	2011	Joint 1st
 Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	 Yes	2015	Joint 1st
 Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	 Yes	2015	Joint 1st
 National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	 Yes	2013	Joint 1st
Laws			
 ICMSB [^] Enshrined in domestic law ²	 Not Enshrined in Law	2016	Joint 33rd

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

² Possible scores are:  Not Enshrined in Law  Few/Many Aspects Enshrined  Fully enshrined.

[^] International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes