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# Chapter 1

## 167

### 1.1 167.guide

Texified version of data for Namibia.

Texified using wfact from

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Namibia

### 1.2 167.guide/Namibia

Namibia

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Geography (Namibia)

People (Namibia)

Government (Namibia)

Government (Namibia 2. usage)

Economy (Namibia)

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Economy (Namibia 2. usage)

Communications (Namibia)

Defense Forces (Namibia)

### 1.3 167.guide/Geography (Namibia)

Geography (Namibia)

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Location:

Southern Africa, bordering the South Atlantic Ocean between Angola and South Africa ↔

Map references:

Africa, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area: total area:

824,290 km<sup>2</sup>

land area:

823,290 km<sup>2</sup>

comparative area:

slightly more than half the size of Alaska

Land boundaries:

total 3,935 km, Angola 1,376 km, Botswana 1,360 km, South Africa 966 km, Zambia 233 km

Coastline:

1,489 km

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone:

24 nm

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

short section of boundary with Botswana is indefinite; disputed island with Botswana in the Chobe River; quadripoint with Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe ↔

is in disagreement; claim by Namibia to Walvis Bay and 12 offshore islands administered by South Africa; Namibia and South Africa have agreed to jointly administer the area for an interim period; the terms and dates to be ↔

covered by joint administration arrangements have not been established at this time, and Namibia will continue to maintain a claim to sovereignty over ↔

the entire area; recent dispute with Botswana over uninhabited Kasikili (Sidudu) Island in the Linyanti River

Climate:

desert; hot, dry; rainfall sparse and erratic

Terrain:

mostly high plateau; Namib Desert along coast; Kalahari Desert in east

## Natural resources:

diamonds, copper, uranium, gold, lead, tin, lithium, cadmium, zinc, salt, vanadium, natural gas, fish; suspected deposits of oil, natural gas, coal, iron ore

## Land use:

arable land:

1%

permanent crops:

0%

meadows and pastures:

64%

forest and woodland:

22%

other:

13%

## Irrigated land:

40 km<sup>2</sup> (1989 est.)

## Environment:

inhospitable with very limited natural water resources; desertification

## Note:

Walvis Bay area is an exclave of South Africa in Namibia

## 1.4 167.guide/People (Namibia)

### People (Namibia)

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## Population:

1,541,321 (July 1993 est.)

## Population growth rate:

3.46% (1993 est.)

## Birth rate:

43.77 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)

## Death rate:

9.13 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)

## Net migration rate:

0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)

## Infant mortality rate:

63.8 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)

## Life expectancy at birth:

total population:

61.2 years

male:

58.57 years

female:

63.91 years (1993 est.)

## Total fertility rate:

6.46 children born/woman (1993 est.)

## Nationality:

noun:

Namibian(s)

adjective:

Namibian

## Ethnic divisions:

black 86%, white 6.6%, mixed 7.4%

## note:

about 50% of the population belong to the Ovambo tribe and 9% to the Kavangos tribe

## Religions:

Christian

## Languages:

English 7% (official), Afrikaans common language of most of the population and about 60% of the white population, German 32%, indigenous languages

## Literacy:

age 15 and over can read and write (1960)

## total population:

38%

## male:

45%

## female:

31%

## Labor force:

500,000

## by occupation:

agriculture 60%, industry and commerce 19%, services 8%, government 7%, mining 6% (1981 est.)

## 1.5 167.guide/Government (Namibia)

### Government (Namibia)

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## Names:

conventional long form:

Republic of Namibia

conventional short form:

Namibia

## Digraph:

WA

## Type:

republic

## Capital:

Windhoek

## Administrative divisions:

13 districts; Erango, Hardap, Karas, Khomas, Kunene, Liambezi, Ohanguena, Okarango, Omaheke, Omusat, Oshana, Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa

## note:

the 26 districts were Bethanien, Boesmanland, Caprivi Oos, Damaraland, Gobabis, Grootfontein, Hereroland Oos, Hereroland Wes, Kaokoland, Karasburg ↔

Karibib, Kavango, Keetmanshoop, Luderitz, Maltahohe, Mariental, Namaland, Okahandja, Omaruru, Otjiwarongo, Outjo, Owambo, Rehoboth, Swakopmund, Tsumeb, Windhoek

## Independence:

21 March 1990 (from South African mandate)

## Constitution:

ratified 9 February 1990

Legal system:  
based on Roman-Dutch law and 1990 constitution

National holiday:  
Independence Day, 21 March (1990)

Political parties and leaders:  
South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), Sam NUJOMA; DTA of Namibia (DTA; formerly Democratic Turnhalle Alliance of Namibia), Dirk MUDGE; ←  
United  
Democratic Front (UDF), Justus GAROEB; Action Christian National (ACN),  
Kosie PRETORIUS; National Patriotic Front (NPF), Moses KATJIUONGUA; Federal  
Convention of Namibia (FCN), Hans DIERGAARDT; Namibia National Front (NNF),  
Vekuii RUKORO

Other political or pressure groups:  
NA

Suffrage:  
18 years of age; universal

Elections:  
President:  
last held 16 February 1990 (next to be held March 1995); results - Sam  
NUJOMA was elected president by the Constituent Assembly (now the National  
Assembly)

National Assembly:  
last held on 7-11 November 1989 (next to be held by November 1994); results  
- percent of vote by party NA; seats - (72 total) SWAPO 41, DTA 21, UDF 4,  
ACN 3, NNF 1, FCN 1, NPF 1

National Council:  
last held 30 November-3 December 1992 (next to be held by December 1998);  
seats - (26 total) SWAPO 19, DTA 6, UDF 1

Executive branch:  
president, Cabinet

Legislative branch:  
bicameral legislature consists of an upper house or National Council and a  
lower house or National Assembly

Judicial branch:  
Supreme Court

## 1.6 167.guide/Government (Namibia 2. usage)

Government (Namibia 2. usage)

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Leaders:  
Chief of State and Head of Government:  
President Sam NUJOMA (since 21 March 1990)

Member of:  
ACP, C, ECA, FAO, FLS, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IOM  
(observer), ITU, NAM, OAU, SACU, SADC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO,  
UPU, WCL, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO

Diplomatic representation in US:  
chief of mission:  
Ambassador Tuliameni KALOMOH  
chancery:



1605 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20009 (mailing address is PO Box 34738, Washington, DC 20043)  
 telephone:  
 (202) 986-0540  
 US diplomatic representation:  
 chief of mission:  
 Charge d'Affaires Marshall MCCAULEY  
 embassy:  
 Ausplan Building, 14 Lossen St., Windhoek  
 mailing address:  
 P. O. Box 9890, Windhoek 9000  
 telephone:  
 [264] (61) 221-601, 222-675, 222-680  
 FAX:  
 [264] (61) 229-792  
 Flag:  
 a large blue triangle with a yellow sunburst fills the upper left section, and an equal green triangle (solid) fills the lower right section; the triangles are separated by a red stripe that is contrasted by two narrow white-edge borders

## 1.7 167.guide/Economy (Namibia)

Economy (Namibia)

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### Overview:

The economy is heavily dependent on the mining industry to extract and process minerals for export. Mining accounts for almost 25% of GDP. Namibia is the fourth-largest exporter of nonfuel minerals in Africa and the world' ←  
 s  
 fifth-largest producer of uranium. Alluvial diamond deposits are among the richest in the world, making Namibia a primary source for gem-quality diamonds. Namibia also produces large quantities of lead, zinc, tin, silver ←  
 ,  
 and tungsten. More than half the population depends on agriculture (largely subsistence agriculture) for its livelihood.

## National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$2 billion (1992 est.)

## National product real growth rate:

2% (1992 est.)

## National product per capita:

\$1,300 (1992 est.)

## Inflation rate (consumer prices):

10% (1992) in urban area

## Unemployment rate:

25-35% (1992)

## Budget:

revenues \$864 million; expenditures \$1,112 million, including capital expenditures of \$144 million (FY 92)

## Exports:

\$1.184 billion (f.o.b., 1991)

## commodities:

diamonds, copper, gold, zinc, lead, uranium, cattle, processed fish, ←  
karakul

skins

## partners:

Switzerland, South Africa, Germany, Japan

## Imports:

\$1.238 billion (f.o.b., 1991)

## 1.8 167.guide/Economy (Namibia 2. usage)

### Economy (Namibia 2. usage)

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## commodities:

foodstuffs, petroleum products and fuel, machinery and equipment

## partners:

South Africa, Germany, US, Switzerland

## External debt:

about \$220 million (1992 est.)

Industrial production: growth rate 4.9% (1991); accounts for 35% of GDP, ←  
including mining

## Electricity:

490,000 kW capacity; 1,290 million kWh produced, 850 kWh per capita (1991)

## Industries:

meatpacking, fish processing, dairy products, mining (copper, lead, zinc, diamond, uranium)

## Agriculture:

accounts for 15% of GDP; mostly subsistence farming; livestock raising ←  
major

source of cash income; crops - millet, sorghum, peanuts; fish catch potential of over 1 million metric tons not being fulfilled, 1988 catch reaching only 384,000 metric tons; not self-sufficient in food

## Economic aid:

Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-87), \$47.2 million

## Currency:

1 South African rand (R) = 100 cents  
 Exchange rates:  
 South African rand (R) per US\$1 - 3.1576 (May 1993), 2.8497 (1992), 2.7653 (1991), 2.5863 (1990), 2.6166 (1989), 2.2611 (1988)  
 Fiscal year:  
 1 April - 31 March

## 1.9 167.guide/Communications (Namibia)

Communications (Namibia)

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Railroads:  
 2,341 km 1.067-meter gauge, single track  
 Highways:  
 54,500 km; 4,079 km paved, 2,540 km gravel, 47,881 km earth roads and ↔ tracks  
 Ports:  
 Luderitz; primary maritime outlet is Walvis Bay (South Africa)  
 Airports:  
 total:  
 137  
 usable:  
 112  
 with permanent-surface runways:  
 21  
 with runways over 3,659 m:  
 1  
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:  
 4  
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:  
 62  
 Telecommunications:  
 good urban, fair rural services; radio relay connects major towns, wires extend to other population centers; 62,800 telephones; broadcast stations - 4 AM, 40 FM, 3 TV

## 1.10 167.guide/Defense Forces (Namibia)

Defense Forces (Namibia)

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Branches:  
 National Defense Force (Army), Police  
 Manpower availability:  
 males age 15-49 324,599; fit for military service 192,381 (1993 est.)  
 Defense expenditures:  
 exchange rate conversion - \$66 million, 3.4% of GDP (FY92)