



NAMIBIA

Region: Sub-Saharan Africa

Income Category: Lower Middle Income



Human capital – knowledge, skills, and good health – empowers people to achieve their potential and drives economic growth. This brief tracks progress by Namibia in building and using human capital. The Human Capital Complementary Indicators offer a snapshot of human capital investments at four stages of the lifecycle. The brief uses the latest available data. It is benchmarked against regional averages and reports progress over the previous 5 years.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

- **Neonatal mortality rate.** The neonatal mortality rate is **24** per 1,000 live births (2023), compared to 28 in 2018. The indicator is similar to the regional average.
- **DTP vaccination rate, third dose.** In 2024, **74%** of infants received the third dose of the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine, compared to 87% in 2019. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio.** The pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio is **37%** (by the official age) (2021), compared to 34% in 2016. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

SCHOOL AGE

- **Child mortality rate.** The mortality rate for children ages 5-14 is **7** per 1,000 children aged 5 (2023), compared to 10 in 2018. The indicator is lower than the regional average.
- **Primary school completion rate.** The primary school completion rate is **100%** (by the official entrance age of the last grade) (2018). The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Over-age lower secondary students.** The percentage of lower secondary school students who are older than the typical age for their respective school level is **43%** (2023), compared to 50% in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

YOUTH

- **Youth not in employment, education or training.** In 2024, **31%** of youth (ages 15-24) were not in employment, education or training. This remains unchanged since 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Youth literacy rate.** The share of youth (ages 15-24) who are literate is **96%** (2021). The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Adolescent fertility rate.** The number of births for every 1,000 women ages 15-19 is **66** (2023), compared to 73 in 2018. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

ADULTS

- **Life expectancy at birth.** Life expectancy at birth is **67** years (2023), compared to 63 in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Female labor force participation rate.** Female labor force participation as a percentage of the female working-age population (ages 25+) is **67%** (2024). This remains unchanged since 2019. The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Adult unemployment rate.** Unemployed adults as a share of the adult labor force (ages 25+) is **16%** (2024), compared to 17% in 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

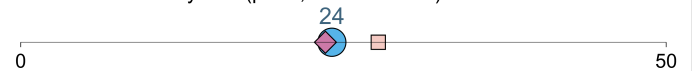
HUMAN CAPITAL COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

● Latest available data for Namibia (NAM)

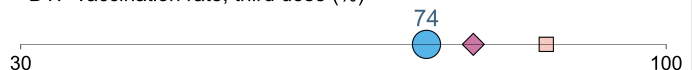
■ NAM approx. 5 years before ◆ Average for Sub-Saharan Africa

EARLY CHILDHOOD

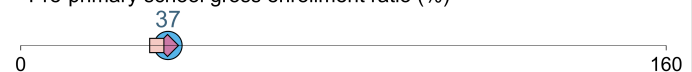
Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)



DTP vaccination rate, third dose (%)

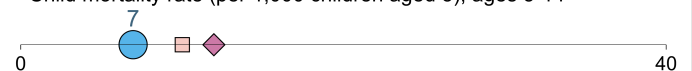


Pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio (%)

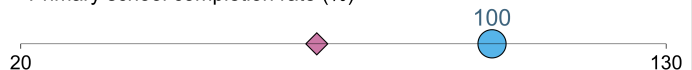


SCHOOL AGE

Child mortality rate (per 1,000 children aged 5, ages 5-14)



Primary school completion rate (%)

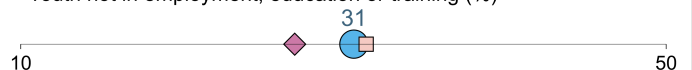


Over-age lower secondary students (%)



YOUTH

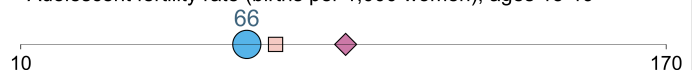
Youth not in employment, education or training (%)



Youth literacy rate (%), ages 15-24

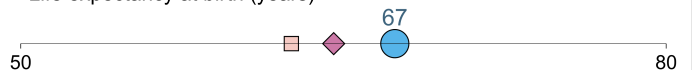


Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women), ages 15-19

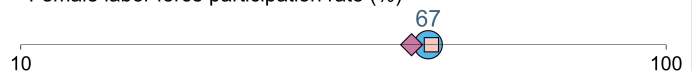


ADULTS

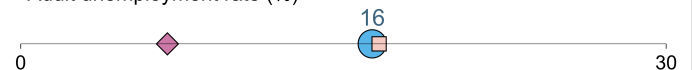
Life expectancy at birth (years)



Female labor force participation rate (%)



Adult unemployment rate (%)



Note: All values use internationally comparable public datasets. Missing symbols indicate unavailable statistics. Full details can be accessed through the QR code.

