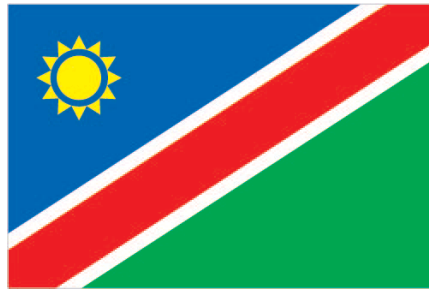




# NAMIBIA



## INTRODUCTION

South Africa occupied the colony, then known as German South West Africa, in 1915 during World War I and administered it as a mandate until after World War II. Namibia gained independence in 1990 and has been governed by the Marxist South-West Africa People's Organization since, though the party has dropped much of its Marxist ideology.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

President Hage GEINGOB

### Head of Government

President Hage GEINGOB

### Government Type

presidential republic

### Capital

Windhoek

### Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of the National Council (42 seats) and the National Assembly (104 seats)

### Ambassador to US

Ambassador Margaret Natalie MENSAH-WILLIAMS

### US Ambassador

Deputy Chief of Mission Jessica LONG

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 824,292 sq km

Land: 823,290 sq km

Water: 1,002 sq km

### Climate

desert; hot, dry; rainfall sparse and erratic

### Natural Resources

diamonds, copper, uranium, gold, silver, lead, tin, lithium, cadmium, tungsten, zinc, salt, hydropower, fish

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

upper middle-income, export-driven Sub-Saharan economy; natural resource rich; Walvis Bay port expansion for trade; high potential for renewable power generation and energy independence; major nature-based tourist locale; natural resource rich; shortage of skilled labor

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$23.12 billion (2021 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$9,100 (2021 est.)

**Industries** - mining, tourism, fishing, agriculture

**Agricultural products** - beef, milk, grapes, millet, maize, mutton, pork, chickens, goats, wheat

**Exports** \$3.96 billion (2021 est.)

copper, gold, diamonds, uranium, fish (2020)

**partners:** China 29%, South Africa 20%, Botswana 8%, Belgium 6%, Zambia 4% (2020)

**Imports** \$6.06 billion (2021 est.)

copper, refined petroleum, delivery trucks, cobalt, cars (2020)

**partners:** South Africa 40%, Zambia 20%, Democratic Republic of the Congo 6%, China 5%, Bulgaria 3% (2020)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

2.7 million (July 2022 est.)

### Population Growth

1.82% (2022 est.)

### Ethnicity

Ovambo 50%, Kavangos 9%, Herero 7%, Damara 7%, mixed European and African ancestry 6.5%, European 6%, Nama 5%, Caprivian 4%, other 5.5%

### Language

Oshiwambo languages 49.7%, Nama/Damara 11%, Kavango languages 10.4%, Afrikaans 9.4%, Herero languages 9.2%, Zambezi languages 4.9%, English (official) 2.3%, other 3.2% (2016 est.)

### Religion

Christian 97.5%, other 0.6% (includes Muslim, Baha'i, Jewish, Buddhist), unaffiliated 1.9% (2020 est.)