

# CENSUS AND STATISTICS

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## Census of Dwellings Proclamation 24 of 1945

**Summary:** This Proclamation ([OG 1196](#)) makes provision for the taking of a census of dwellings. It is not included in the database of annotated statutes as it has been earmarked for repeal by the Law Reform and Development Commission, on the basis that it has been superseded by two successive laws that deal comprehensively with official population and housing censuses: the Statistics Act, 1976 (Act No. 66 of 1976) inherited from South Africa, which was applicable to Namibia until 2011, and then the Statistics Act, 2011 (Act No. 9 of 2011).<sup>25</sup>

**Regulations:** The Proclamation makes no provision for regulations.

## Statistics Act 9 of 2011

**Summary:** This Act ([GG 4777](#)) establishes the Namibia Statistics Agency and provides for the development of the National Statistics System. The Namibia Statistics Agency is charged with organising a population and housing census every ten years, amongst its many other duties. The Act also establishes the National Spatial Data Infrastructure and the Committee for Spatial Data. It repeals the *Statistics Act 66 of 1976*. The Act was brought into force on 16 April 2012 by GN 103/2012 ([GG 4929](#)).

**Regulations and notices:** Regulations and notices made under the previous law survive under the current Act, pursuant to section 60(3) which states: “Unless otherwise provided in this Act, anything done under a law repealed by section 59 and which could have been done under a corresponding provision of this Act is deemed to have been done under that corresponding provision.” Regulations are authorised under section 58 of the current Act.

Regulations and notices issued under the *Statistics Act 66 of 1976* are contained in -

- RSA GN 1133/1976
- RSA GN 1138/1976
- RSA GN 1437/1976
- RSA GN 1444/1976
- RSA GN R.1436/1976
- RSA GN R.1508/1976
- RSA GN R.1729/1976
- RSA GN R.200/1977
- RSA GN R.201/1977
- RSA GN R.502/1977
- RSA GN R.704/1977
- RSA GN R.758/1977
- RSA GN R.758/1977
- RSA GN R.974/1977
- RSA GN R.2161/1979 (RSA GG 6679) (1979 census of architects and quantity surveyors and these professions)
- AG 188/1980
- AG GN 93/1981
- AG GN 74/1984

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<sup>25</sup> Law Reform and Development Commission, *Report on Repeal of Obsolete Laws: Phase 2* (LRDC 42), March 2021, pages 15-ff.

GN 39/1986  
GN 181/1987  
AG GN 11/1989  
GN 101/1991 ([GG 253](#)) (regulations for 1991 census)  
GN 54/1999 ([GG 2076](#)) (child economic activities)  
GN 167/2001 ([GG 2547](#)) (dates for 2001 census)  
GN 168/2001 ([GG 2597](#)) (regulations for 2001 census)  
GN 176/2004 ([GG 3256](#)) (labour force activities)  
GN 177/2004 ([GG 3256](#)) (labour force activities)  
GN 25/2005 ([GG 3393](#)) (agricultural activities)  
GN 26/2005 ([GG 3393](#)) (agricultural activities)  
GN 235/2008 ([GG 4131](#)) (labour force survey)  
GN 146/2009 ([GG 4301](#)) (business enterprises and business establishments)  
GN 162/2009 ([GG 4314](#)) (household income and expenditure)  
GN 114/2010 ([GG 4495](#)) (dwellings and other building structures)  
GN 146/2011 ([GG 4776](#)), as extended by GN 177/2011 ([GG 4796](#)) (dates for 2011 census)  
GN 147/2011 ([GG 4776](#)) (regulations for 2011 census).

Note that many of these have no ongoing effect.

No regulations have been issued under the current Act.

**Notices:** A **Namibia Statistics Policy** is published in General Notice 18/2015 ([GG 5654](#)).

A **Code of Practice** regarding professional and ethical standards applicable to statistics producers is published in General Notice 19/2015 ([GG 5655](#)).

The **Data Collection, Processing and Dissemination Policy and Practice** is published in General Notice 20/2015 ([GG 5656](#)).

A **Data Quality Assessment Framework** setting out standards which will be used for the designation of statistics as “official” statistics is published in General Notice 21/2015 ([GG 5657](#)).

A **National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Policy** is published in General Notice 103/2015 ([GG 5684](#)). A notice on the manner and specification for the capturing of spatial data, including any application for exemption from such manner or specification, is contained in General Notice 404/2016 ([GG 6143](#)).

A **Metadata Standard on the Manner for the Capturing and Publishing of Metadata for Spatial Data and Services in Namibia** is published in General Notice 405/2016 ([GG 6144](#)).

A **Data Quality Standard for the Purchase, Capture, Collection, Production and Dissemination of Geospatial Data in Namibia** is published in General Notice 406/2016 ([GG 6145](#)).

The **Namibia Quality Assurance Framework for Statistics** is published in General Notice 231/2020 ([GG 7242](#)) and the **Implementation Plan** for the framework is published in General Notice 232/2020 ([GG 7243](#)).

A **Namibian Statistical Systems Standard for Measuring ‘Leave No One Behind’** is published in General Notice 233/2020 ([GG 7244](#)).

**Appointments:** Appointments to the Board of the Namibia Statistics Agency are announced in GN 174/2011 ([GG 4792](#)), GN 148/2014 ([GG 5559](#)) and GN 158/2021 ([GG 7590](#)).

## **COMMENTARY**

Frederico Links, Ndeshi Fikameni and Michael Hasheela, “Access Denied: Access to Information in Namibia”, Institute for Public Policy Research, 2017, available [here](#)

Karen Mohan, “Sunlight is the Best Disinfectant: Why Namibia Needs Access to Information”, Institute for Public Policy Research, 2012, available [here](#)

Henry Maina, “Disclosure vs Secrecy: What is the right balance?”, Institute for Public Policy Research, 2012, available [here](#)

M Dimba, “Access to Information as a Tool for Socio-economic Justice”, Institute for Public Policy Research, 2012, available [here](#)

Karen Mohan, “Access to Information: The Media and the ICT Sector”, Institute for Public Policy Research, 2012, available [here](#)

Robin Sherbourne, “Access to Information and the Namibian Economy”, Institute for Public Policy Research, 2012, available [here](#).

## **INTERNATIONAL LAW**

*African Charter on Statistics, 2009*