



Prosperity, Harmony, Peace and Political Stability

Namibia Vision 2030

**Policy Framework for Long-Term National Development
(Main Document)**

**Office of the President
Windhoek
(2004)**



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infection
ACP	African, Caribbean, Pacific Countries
ADB	African Development Bank
AGOA	African Growth Opportunity Act
ASP	Application Service Provider
ATM	Asynchronous Transfer Mode
AU	African Union
BADEA	Banque Arab du Development en Afrique
BLNS	Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland
BTP	Build Together Programme
CBI	Cross Border Initiatives
CBNRM	Community-Based Natural Resource Management
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CBT	Community-Based Tourism
CD	Compact Disc
CET	Common Excise Tariff
CFA	Communaute Financiere Africaine
CMA	Common Monetary Area
COD	Congress of Democrats
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
COSDEC	Community Skills Development Centre
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DIP	Decentralisation Implementation Plan
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Shortcourse
DRAMs	Dynamic Random Access Memories
DRFN	Desert Research Foundation of Namibia
DTA	Democratic Turnhalle Alliance
DVD	Digital Versatile Disc
DWA	Department of Water Affairs
EA	Environmental Assessment
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ECOMOG	ECOWAS Military Observer Group
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDF	European Development Fund
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIF	Environmental Investment Fund
EISA	Electoral Institute of Southern Africa
EMP	Environmental Management Plans
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunisation
EPZ	Export Processing Zone
EPLs	Exclusive Prospecting Licences
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FPRM	Foreign Policy Response Model
FTA	Free Trade Area
GDP	Gross Domestic Product

GEAR	Growth, Employment and Redistribution
GFCF	Gross Fixed Capital Formation
GIPF	Government Institutions Pension Fund
GNP	Gross National Product
GRN	Government of the Republic of Namibia
GSP	Generalised System of Preferences
GSM	Global System for Mobile Communications
HDI	Human Development Index
HPI	Human Poverty Index
HIS	Health Information System
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IATCP	Inter Agency Technical Committee on Population
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICZMP	Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
ISO	International Standards Organization
IT	Information Technology
LAN	Local Area Network
LNS	Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland
MAG	Monitor Action Group
MAP	Millennium African Recovery Plan
MARPOL	International Convention on the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism
MF	Ministry of Finance
MFAIB	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Information and Broadcasting
MIGA	Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
MONUA	UN Observer Mission in Angola
MLRR	Ministry of Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOL	Ministry of Labour
MOP	Ministry of Prisons
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MOF	Ministry of Fisheries
MOHSS	Ministry of Health and Social Services
MOHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MONOUA	United Nations Observer Mission in Angola
MRLGH	Ministry of Regional, Local Government and Housing
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MTC	Mobile Telecommunications Corporation
MWACW	Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Welfare
MWTC	Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication

NACHE	National Advisory Council for Higher Education
NAI	New African Initiative
NAMCOL	Namibia College of Open Learning
NANGOF	Namibia Non-Governmental Organisations Forum
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NBC	Namibia Broadcasting Corporation
NCC	National Communications Commission
NCCI	Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry
NDF	National Defence Force
NDP	National Development Plan
NEACB	National Examination, Assessment and Certification Board
NEPAD	New Partnership for African Development
NEPLs	Non-exclusive Prospecting Licenses
NEPRU	Namibia Economic Policy Research Unit
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NIED	National Institute for Educational Development
NIMT	Namibia Institute of Mining and Technology
NLTPS	National Long-term Perspective Studies
NPCS	National Planning Commission Secretariat
NQA	Namibia Qualifications Authority
NTA	National Training Authority
NTCP	National Tuberculosis Control Programme
NUNW	National Union of Namibian Workers
OAU	Organisation of African Unity
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation & Development
OPEC	Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PC	Personal Computer
PLAN	People's Liberation Army of Namibia
PON	Polytechnic of Namibia
PEAC	Presidential Economic Advisory Council
RSA	Republic of South Africa
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SADCC	Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference
SDR	Special Drawing Rights
SME	Small and Medium Size Enterprises
SSC	Social Security Commission
STDs	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
SWAPO	South West Africa People's Organisation
SWATF	South West Africa Territory Force
TACs	Total Allowable Catches
TB	Tuberculosis
VAT	Value Added Tax
VET	Vocational Education and Training
VTB	The Vocational Training Broad
VTC	Vocational Training Centre
UN	United Nations

UNAM	University of Namibia
UNAVEM	United Nations Angolan Verification Mission
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UDF	United Democratic Front
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNTAG	United Nations Transitional Assistance Group
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
WAMU	West African Monetary Union
WAMZ	West African Monetary Zone
WASP	Water and Sanitation Programme
WB	World Bank
WTO	World Trade Organisation
WTO ²	World Tourism Organisation (<i>noting that the acronym WTO is used for the World Trade Organisation</i>)
ZERI	Zero Emission Research Initiative
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WCU	World Conservation Union



4. PEOPLE'S QUALITY OF LIFE

4.1 POPULATION AND HEALTH

The Vision for Namibia in 2030 is about the people. Therefore, at the centre of the visioning exercise was concern for the population in relation to their social (particularly health), economic and overall well-being. How many Namibians? How well are they living? Where do they live, and what do they do for a living? All the questions about the welfare and well-being of the people of this country, at any point in time, even beyond 2030, is about our population's living conditions. In essence, the dynamics of our population and the associated social, economic, demographic, environmental and political factors are critical elements in visioning, scenario-building and determining of strategic elements that would translate the vision for 2030 into reality.

4.1.1 Population Size and Growth

The available evidence suggests that though relatively small in size (1,826,854 in 2001), the population of Namibia experienced a high growth rate of over 3.0 per cent in the decade before Independence (1981 – 1991). Against the official projections that anticipated a continuation of the growth trend well beyond 2000, the negative impact of HIV/AIDS on health and longevity of the people has reduced the growth rate from the projected estimate of 3.0 percent per annum to 2.6 percent (1991-2001).

Given the continuing negative effect of HIV/AIDS on the population in the immediate future, the growth rate of the population will be further curtailed to about 1.5 percent or below annually until about 2015, when the worst impact of the epidemic will probably be seen. The overall population size will, however, not be reduced as a result of the pandemic; and even in the worst-case scenario, as shown in Table 4.1, Namibia will have a population of about 3.0 million by 2030.

Initial estimates based on the 1991 census indicated that the population of Namibia would continue to increase, from 1.4 million in 1991, to 1.63 million in 1996 to 1.9 in 2001 and 3.5 million in 2021, based on an anticipated annual population growth rate of slightly over 3%. These projections were based on the high fertility rates prevailing at the time. However, because of HIV/AIDS, these initial assumptions needed to be reconsidered. Projections by 5-yearly intervals for the three scenarios are contained in Table 4.1, and illustrated in Fig. 4.1

Year	Low Variant	Medium Variant	High Variant
2001	1.83	1.83	1.83
2006	2.02	2.14	2.25
2011	2.19	2.39	2.61
2016	2.39	2.66	3.01
2021	2.57	2.93	3.41
2026	2.78	3.23	3.86
2030	2.98	3.49	4.27

Table 4.1: Namibia - Population Projections (in millions)
Based on the 'High', 'Medium' and 'Low' Variants of the Projection Model.

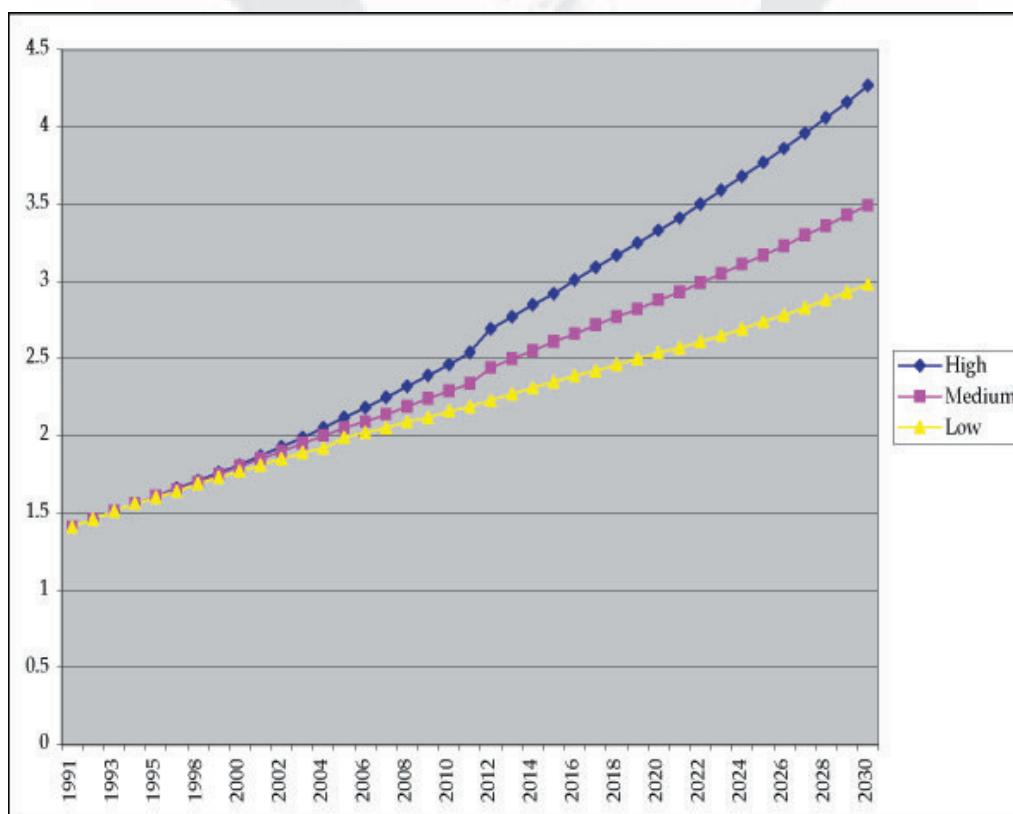


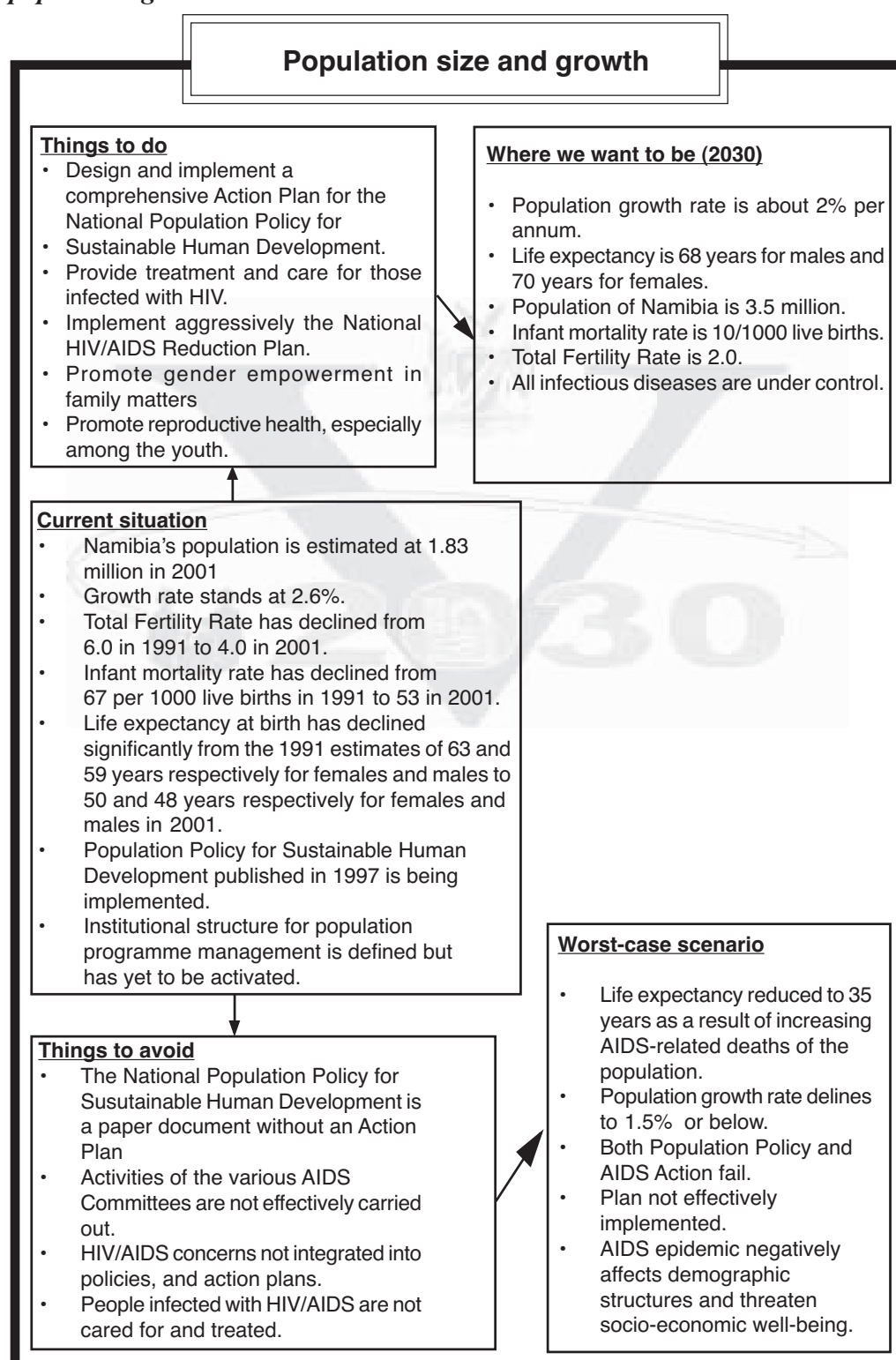
Figure 4.1. Projected Population, 1991 - 2030
Based on the 'High', 'Medium' and 'Low' Variants of the Projection Model

The results of the 2001 population census show a total population of 1,830,330 for the country. The variations in the projections shown in Table 4.1 are due to differences in the assumptions made about the future course of mortality and

fertility during the Vision period. Due to uncertainty about the future course of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the projections of the population should be reviewed periodically during this period. It is, however, suggested that the 'Medium Variant' of the projection should guide Vision implementation from the beginning.

Sub-Vision

A healthy and food-secured nation in which all preventable, infectious and parasitic diseases are under secure control; people enjoy a high standard of living, good quality life and have access to quality education, health and other vital services. All of these translate into long life expectancy and sustainable population growth.



Targets for Population and Health

- Reduction in the population growth rate from the annual average growth rate of 2.6 % (1991 – 2001) to 2.4% by 2015, 2.2% by 2025, and 2.0% by the year 2030.
- Reduction in the infant mortality rate from 53 per 1000 live births in 2001 to 30 per 1000 live births by 2015; 15 per 1000 in 2025; and 10 per 1000 in 2030.
- Reduction in the maternal mortality rate from 271/100,000 live births in the year 2002 to 80 per 100,000 in 2015; 50 per 100,000 in 2025; and 20 per 100,000 in 2030.
- Reduction in the total fertility rate from the 2002 level of 4.2 to 3.5 by the year 2015; 3.0 by 2025, and 2.0 by 2030.
- Full immunization coverage from 65% in 2002, to 70% in 2015, to 75% in 2025, and 80% in 2030.
- Increase contraceptive prevalence rate from 37.8% in the year 2002 to 50% by the year 2015; 65% by 2025; and 80% by 2030.

Objectives

- To reduce mortality from all causes, including HIV/AIDS.
- To revive the population policy and implement it effectively.
- To make health services adolescent/youth friendly and accessible to all.
- To make anti-retroviral drugs available to and affordable the public.
- To intensify population information, education and communication (IEC) through appropriate means taking, into account people with disability.

Strategies

- Providing treatment and care for those infected and limiting the further spread of the disease.
- Developing a comprehensive Action Plan and reviving the institutional structures in place for programme implementation.

Institutional responsibilities for resolving population and related health problems are clearly stated in the ***Population Policy for Sustainable Human Development (1997)***. While all the sectors are involved and their respective duties defined, overall technical coordination of policy implementation is vested in the NPC, supported by the National Advisory Committee on Population.

4.1.2 Migration, Urbanisation and Population Distribution

Migration has historically been male dominated and mostly from the northern communal areas to the commercial farming, mining and manufacturing areas in the centre and south. The distribution of Namibia's population is highly uneven, being closely linked to agro-ecological conditions and thus economic and social opportunities. While the national population density in 2001 was 2.1 persons/km², one of the lowest in Africa, in Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana and Oshikoto Regions it was 13.2 persons/km². These four regions contain 6.8% of Namibia's land area, but had 44.9% of the total population in that year (see population total by Region, Fig. 4.2).



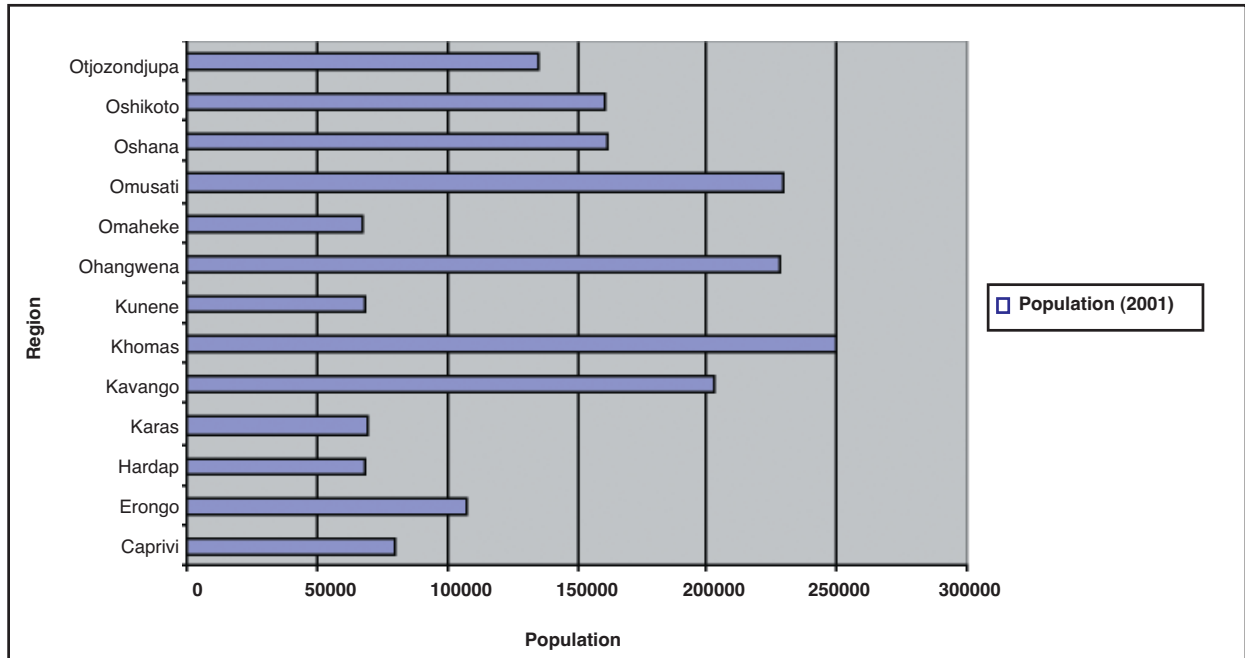


Figure. 4.2: Population by Region(2001)

Only 27% of Namibia's Population was urbanised in 1991; by 2001 the proportion of the population living in urban areas increased to 33%. One important demographic characteristic of the urban population in Namibia is the very high rate of growth. While the overall national population increased at 3.1 percent per annum from 1981 to 1991, the urban population registered a growth rate of 5.6 per cent, and the rural population 1.97 per cent.

At the current rate of urban population growth it is estimated that the population of Namibia would be 43 percent urbanised, with about 1 million people residing in urban places by the year 2006, and 50 percent by 2010; 60 per cent by 2020, and 75 per cent urbanised by 2030. The major factor promoting the rapid rate of urbanisation in the country is rural-to-urban migration, mainly of young men and women in search of better social and economic opportunities. This trend is likely to continue during the Vision period. The trend in urbanisation is shown in Fig. 4.3.

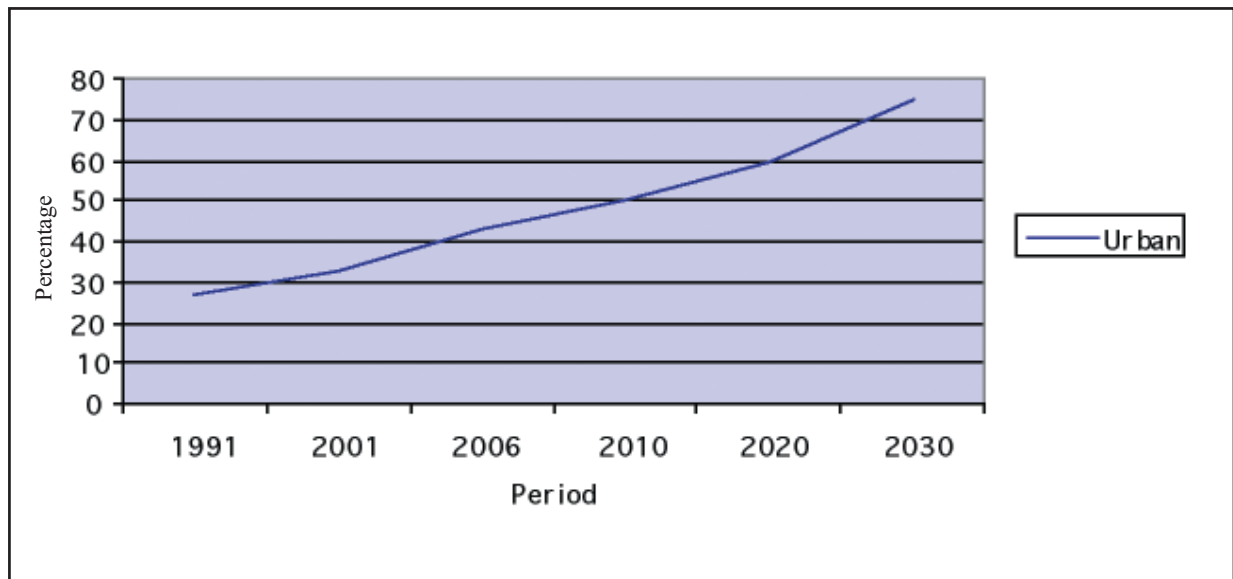
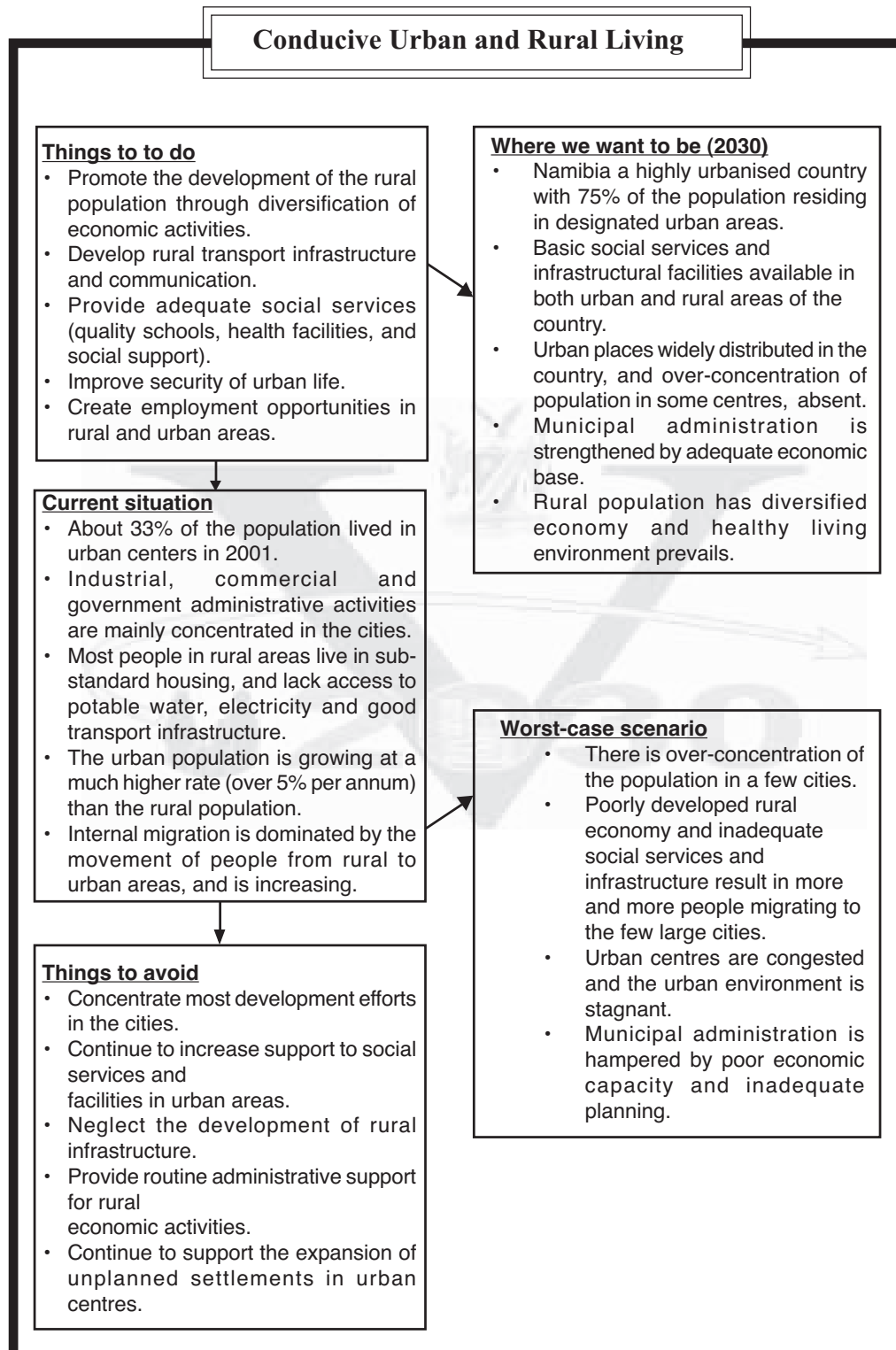


Figure. 4.3: Urbanisation Trend in Namibia

Sub-Vision

There is free movement of the population within the country and population distribution is maturely adjusted to the location of resources for livelihood. Namibia is a highly urbanised country with about 75 per cent of the population living in proclaimed urban centres, while the predominance of Windhoek has considerably reduced as a result of growth of other urban centres throughout the country.



Objective

The overall objective is to achieve integrated rural and urban development in which living conditions and social and economic opportunities are adequate for all.

Strategies

- Promoting rural and urban development,
- Ensuring that overall social and economic development is commensurate with the degree of urbanization of the population,
- Enhancing the capacity of local authorities to function effectively,
- Harmonizing the local markets for agricultural trade, including removal of the “red line”.
- Upholding the constitutional provisions for international migration as well as the appropriate immigration policies.

4.1.3 Population Age and Sex Distribution

As in most developing countries, the Namibian population is very youthful. Children below the age of 15 years constituted 42% of the population in 1991, resulting from persistently high levels of fertility and declining levels of infant mortality. Older persons aged 60 years and over made up 7.0% of the 1991 as well as the 2001 population, most of them enumerated in rural areas.

The results of the 2001 population census indicate that close to 40% of the total population is under 15 years of age. This shows little change from 43% in 1991 and the estimate of 41% by the CBS in 1996. The 2001 census report also shows that rural areas, where 67% of the population live, have relatively more young people (44%) as well as more senior citizens or those 60 years and over (8%) compared to the urban population, where there are 30% and 4% young and old persons respectively. The majority of urban residents (64%) is made up of the economically active age group (15-59 years) compared to 46.3% of the rural population. Overall, senior citizens constitute a small percentage of the total population (7%) in the 2001 census report and this, as shown in Figure 4.4, is not expected to increase appreciably during the Vision period, as a result of the effect of HIV/AIDS on the population.

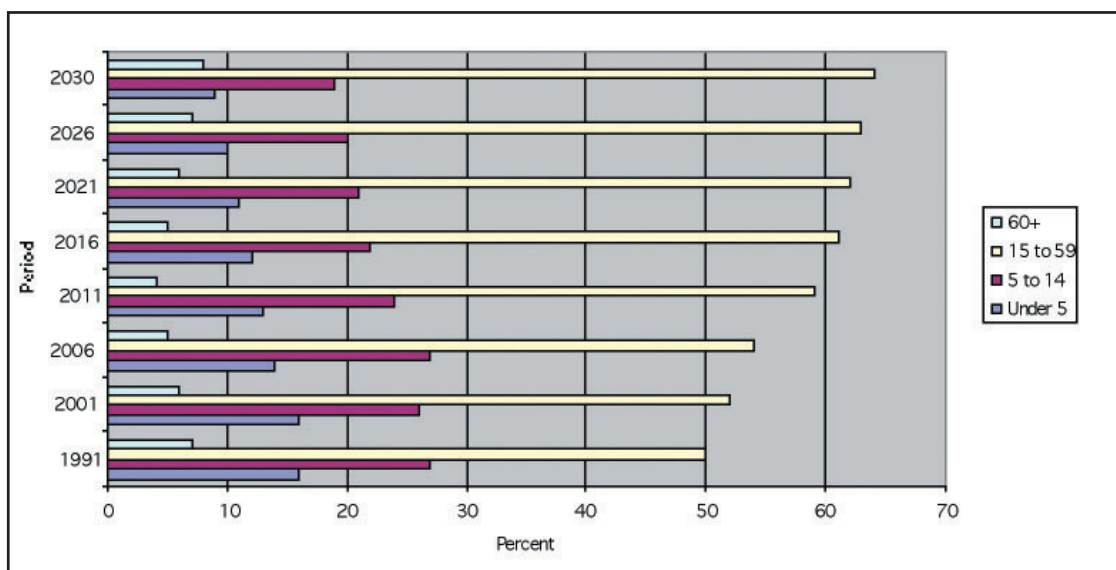


Figure 4.4: Population Projection by Age Groups