EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Namibia

Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>2,540,916</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual births</td>
<td>70,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children under 5</td>
<td>336,078 (13%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under-five mortality</td>
<td>42/1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Young children at risk of poor development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Risk by sex and residence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Threats to Early Childhood Development

- Maternal mortality: 395/100,000
- Preterm births: 14%
- Low birthweight: 16%
- Child poverty: 19%
- Under-five stunting: 23%
- Inadequate supervision: no data
- Young mothers (births by 18y): 15%
- Violent discipline: no data
- Under-five mortality: 42/1,000

Support and services for early childhood development:

Nurturing care

Parents and caregivers need a facilitating environment of laws, policies, services and community support to assist them in providing their young children with nurturing care.

Facilitating environments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>14–18</th>
<th>18–26</th>
<th>≥26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid maternity leave (weeks)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>14–18</td>
<td>18–26</td>
<td>≥26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid paternity leave (weeks)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>14–18</td>
<td>18–26</td>
<td>≥26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nutrition

- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 95%
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 71%
- Minimum acceptable diet: 48%
- Antenatal care (4 or more visits): 63%
- Postnatal visits: 69%
- Careseeking for child pneumonia: 68%

Responsive caregiving

Public information about ECD
Parental mental health
Parent support (groups, home visits)
Quality child day care

Comparative country data urgently needed

Security and safety

- Birth registration: 77%
- Positive discipline: 83%
- Basic drinking water: 35%
- Basic sanitation: 36%

International conventions

- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption

DETAILED COUNTRY DATA SOURCES AND FOOTNOTES CAN BE FOUND IN THE MASTER DATABASE AT NURTURING-CARE.ORG