

MEDIA STATEMENT

(NSA clarification of the divorce percentage presented at the for Khomas Regional report launch)

23 February 2026

NSA Head Office

For immediate release

MEDIA STATEMENT

Clarity on the Marital Status Statistics presented at the Khomas Regional Report on the 18 February 2026.

1. The Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA), on the 18th of February 2026 released the Khomas Regional Profile report based on the 2023 Population and Housing Census.
2. The NSA wishes to clarify information published in a recent newspaper article regarding the proportion of divorced persons by sex in the Khomas Region Profile presentation delivered to stakeholders.
3. During the presentation, a slide indicated that 82 percent were female and 18 percent were male under the “divorced” category. We would like to clarify that this was an inadvertent presentation error. The figures (82% female and 18% male) in fact relate to the widowed population category and not to the divorced category. The correct figure for divorce is 63.9 percent female and 36.1 percent male.
4. Furthermore, the swapping of the two categories affected figure 3.1 in the regional reports of Kavango West, Khomas, Omaheke, //Kharas and Zambezi.
5. The two categories “divorced” and “widowed” were mistakenly swapped on the excel sheet used to create graphs for the report and presentations. **The underlying dataset remains accurate and correct.**
6. NSA further wish to emphasize that the absolute numbers presented in the annexure of the report remain correct and accurate. The error affected only the proportional percentages displayed on the graph and the slide and did not affect the underlying data or the annexed statistical tables.
7. For clarity, it is also important to note that the proportion of divorced or widowed males and females in a population does not necessarily have to be equal. Census data capture individuals according to their current marital status at the time of enumeration. Differences in proportions may arise due to factors such as

remarriage patterns (where one sex may remarry more quicker than the other sex and therefore no longer be classified as divorced or widowed while a person in a sex category which did not change its status will remain divorced or widowed if they do not marry again), migration (from one region to another), and mortality (deaths) differences. The statistics therefore reflect the current distribution of divorced persons, not the number of divorce events.

8. We regret any confusion this may have caused and appreciate the opportunity to correct the record in line with our Revision Policy. The corrected information will be reflected in the updated regional reports that will be published on our website and subsequent publications.
9. **The NSA remains committed to transparency, accuracy, and the integrity of official statistics.**
10. For more information and updates on this and other reports from the Census Data, please visit our official website at www.nsa.org.na or contact our office at 061 431 3200 or email 2023-census@nsa.org.na

I thank you



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