

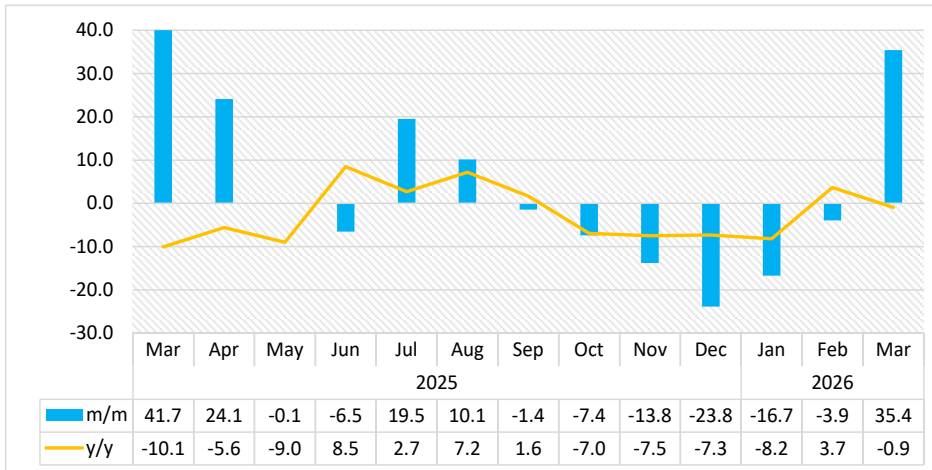


# SECTORAL REPORT

## ROOMS & BEDS OCCUPANCY MARCH 2026

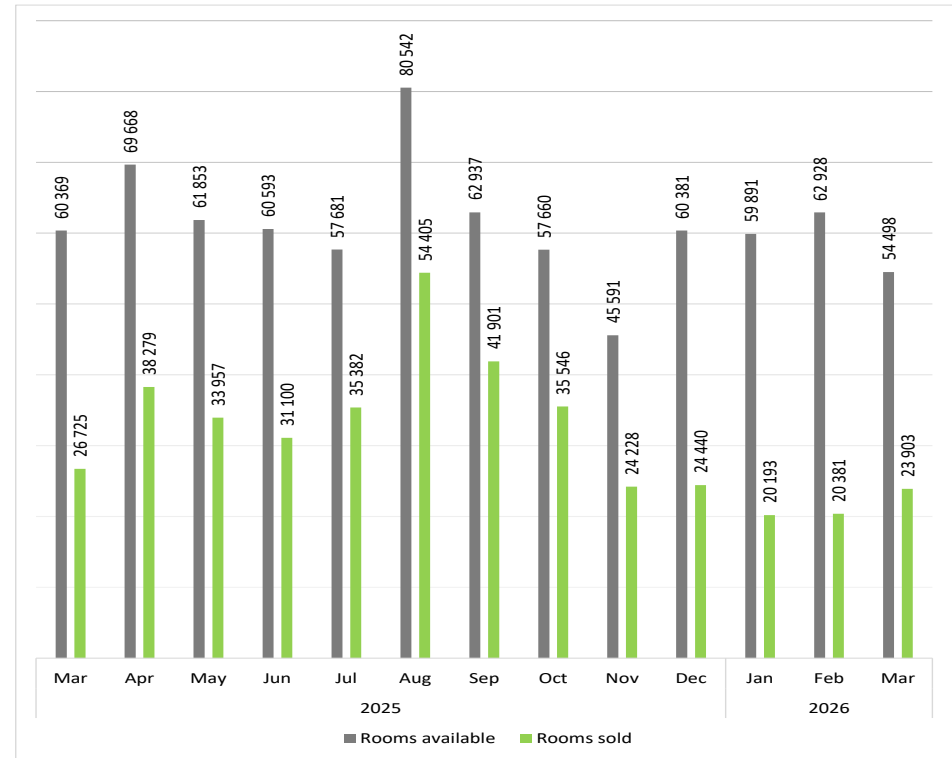


Chart 1: Rooms Occupancy Rate Index, Percentage Change<sup>1</sup>



- The **Rooms Occupancy Rate Index** rebounded on a month-on-month basis, rising by 35.4 percent in March 2026 after a 3.9 percent decline posted in February 2026. Despite this recovery, the index edged down by 0.9 percent year-on-year compared to March 2025 (Chart 1).
- The monthly increase was driven by higher occupancy levels across hospitality establishments in all regions during the review period.
- At regional level, the central area registered the highest increase, with occupancy levels rising by 94.6 percent. The coastal and northern region followed with 32.9 percent increase each, while the southern region ranked fourth, recording growth of 30.4 percent during the period under review.

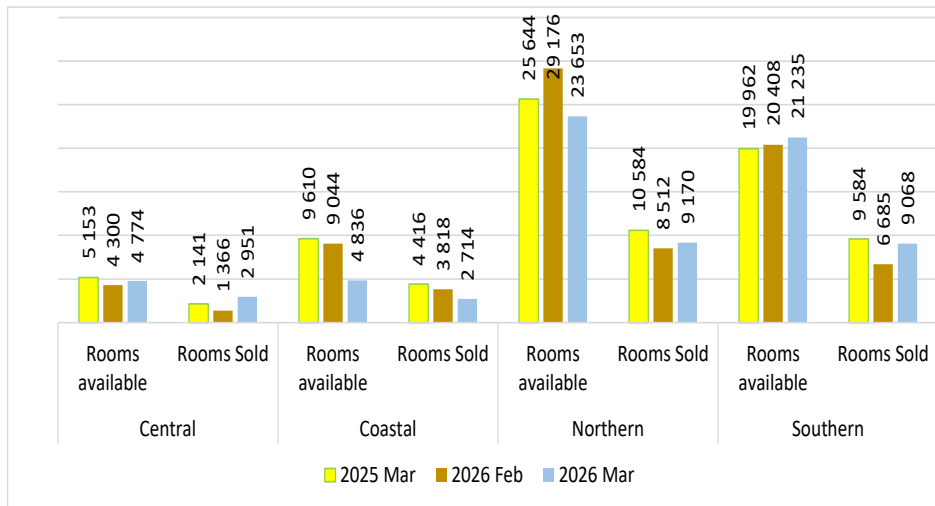
Chart 2: Number of Rooms Available and Sold



- During the period under review, a total of 54 498 rooms were available nationwide, with 23 903 rooms occupied, resulting in an occupancy rate of 43.9 percent. By comparison, February 2026 recorded 62 928 available rooms and 20 381 occupied rooms, yielding a lower occupancy rate of 32.4 percent (Chart 2).

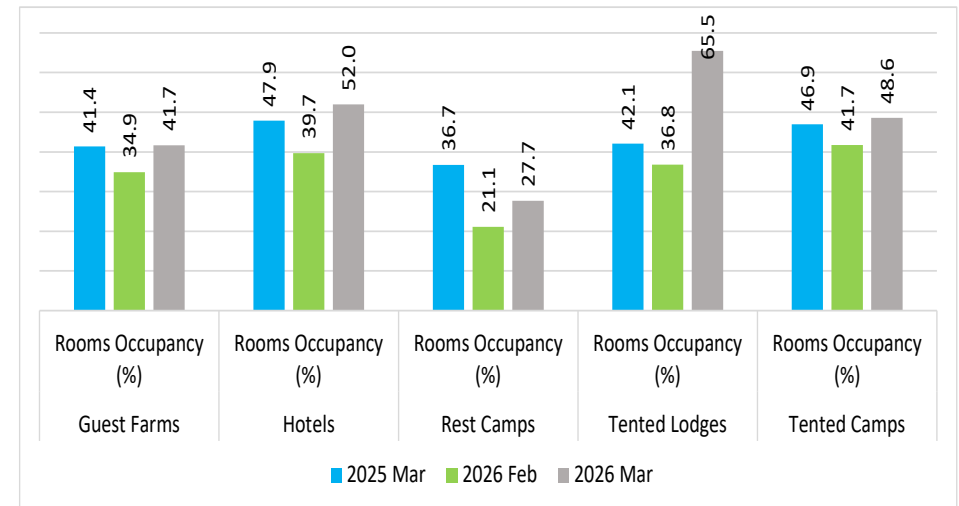
<sup>1</sup> This chart is limited to 40 percent for better readability.

**Chart 3: Number of Rooms Available and Sold by Region**



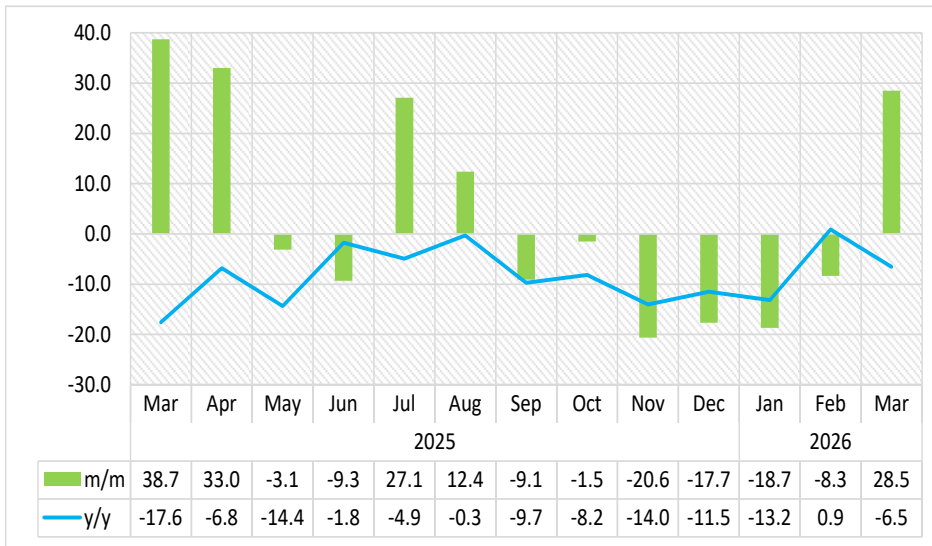
- In March 2026, the northern region recorded 23 653 available rooms, down from 29 176 rooms registered in February 2026 and 25 644 rooms recorded in the same month of 2025 (Chart 3).
- During the period under review, 9 170 rooms were sold in the northern region, compared to 8 512 rooms sold in February 2026 and 10 584 rooms recorded in March 2025.
- In the southern region, a total of 21 235 rooms were available, of which 9 068 were occupied, leaving 12 167 rooms unoccupied during the month.

**Chart 4: Rooms Occupancy by Type of Hospitality Establishments**



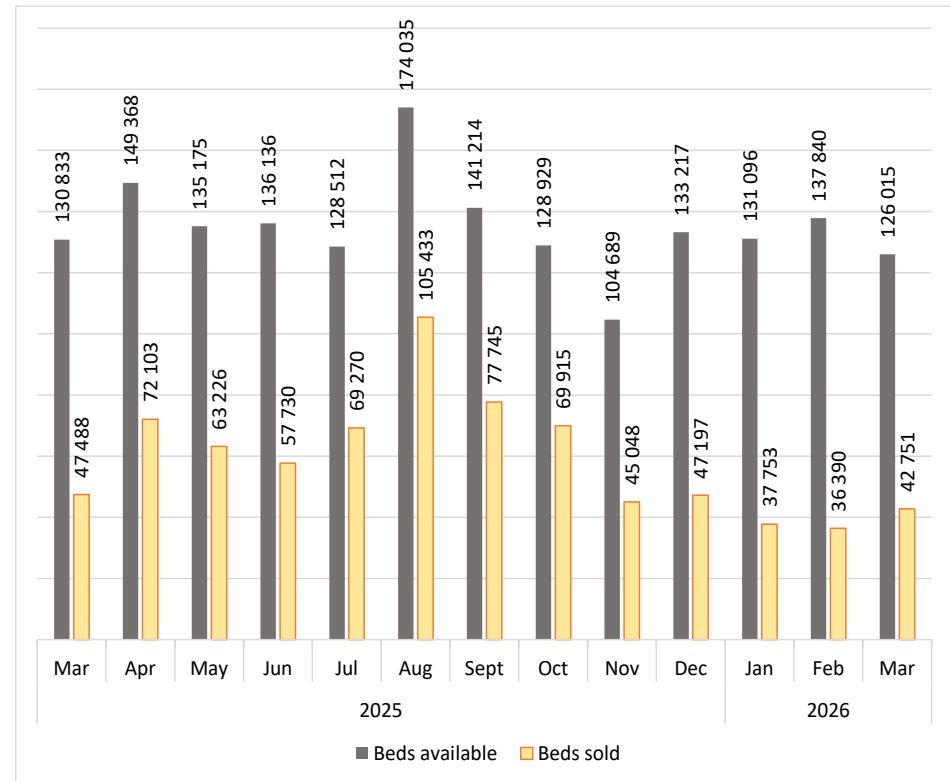
- In March 2026, room occupancy rates increased across all accommodation establishments compared to the preceding month (Chart 4).
- Tented lodges and hotels recorded strong performances, with room occupancy rates rising to 65.5 and 52.0 percent, up from 36.8 and 39.7 percent recorded in February 2026, respectively.
- Tented camps and guest farms also posted notable improvements, with room occupancy rates rising to 48.6 and 41.7 percent compared to 41.7 and 34.9 percent witnessed in the previous month.
- Rest camps similarly showed improved performance, with room occupancy increasing to 27.7 percent in March 2026 from 21.1 percent recorded a month earlier.

Chart 5: Beds Occupancy Index, Percentage Change



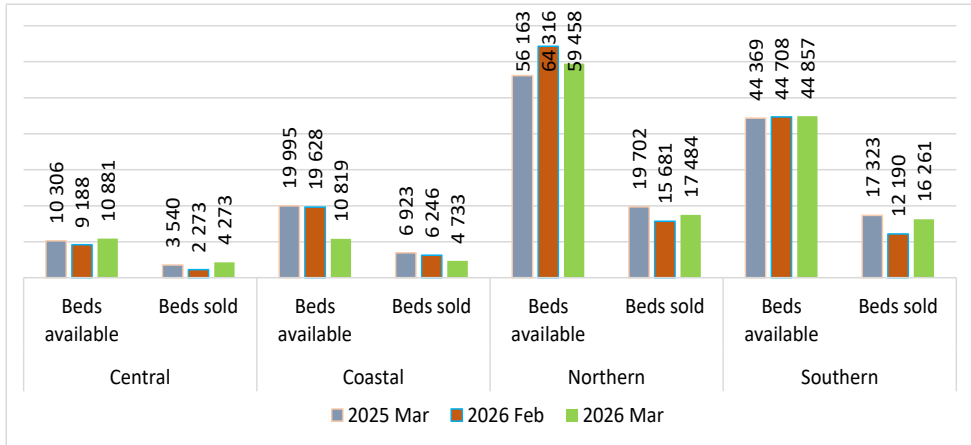
- The **Bed Occupancy Rate Index** rose by 28.5 percent month-on-month in March 2026, reversing 8.3 percent decline recorded in February 2026. However, on a year-on-year basis, the index reflected a decline of 6.5 percent (Chart 5).
- The monthly increase was driven by higher bed occupancy levels across hospitality establishments in all regions during the review period.
- At the regional level, the central area registered the highest month-on-month increase in bed occupancy of 58.7 percent in March 2026, followed by 37.5 percent rise in the coastal region. The southern and northern regions also recorded increases of 33.0 and 20.6 percent, respectively, during the same period.

Chart 6: Number of Beds Available and Sold



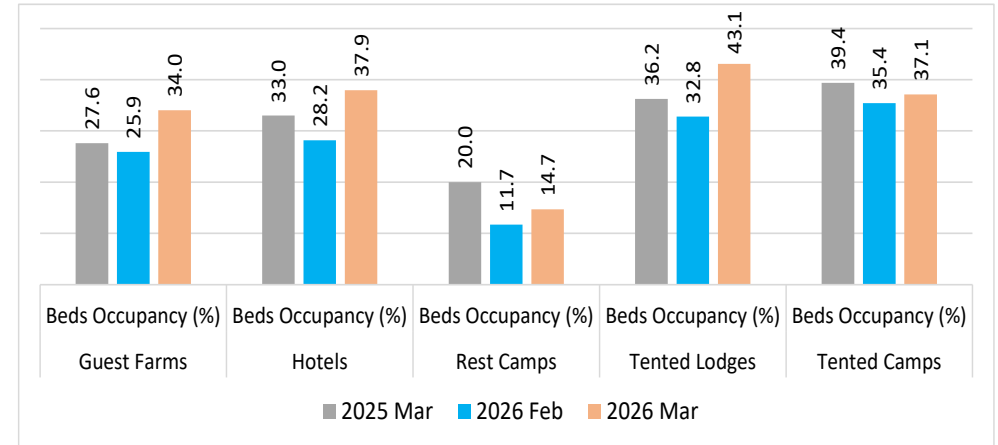
- In March 2026, a total of 42 751 beds were sold out of 126 015 beds available nationwide, compared to 36 390 beds sold out of 137 840 beds available in February 2026 (Chart 6).
- This comparison reflects a decline in bed availability between February and March 2026, alongside an increase in bed sales over the same period.

**Chart 7: Number of Beds Available and Sold by Region**



- In March 2026, hospitality establishments in the northern region recorded 59 458 available beds, down from 64 316 beds recorded in February 2026 but higher than 56 163 beds available in March 2025.
- During the same period, the southern region reported 44 857 available beds, up slightly from 44 708 beds noted in February 2026 and above 44 369 beds recorded in the corresponding month of 2025.
- In the central region, bed availability increased to 10 881 in March 2026 from 9 188 beds in February 2026. However, the coastal region recorded a decline, with 10 819 available beds, significantly lower than 19 628 beds reported in the previous month (Chart 7).

**Chart 8: Beds Occupancy by Type of Hospitality Establishments**



- During the review period, bed occupancy rates across all accommodation establishments increased significantly compared to February 2026.
- In March 2026, tented lodges recorded the highest month-on-month growth in bed occupancy with 43.1 percent, followed by hotels with an increase of 37.9 percent while tented camps rose by 37.1 percent. Guest farms and rest camps ranked fourth and fifth, with occupancy increases of 34.0 and 14.7 percent, respectively (Chart 8).

Table 1: The Indices of Rooms and Beds Occupancy

Year	Month	Index for Room Occupancy rates	Index for Bed Occupancy rates
2021	Jan	37.0	42.8
	Feb	35.3	36.1
	Mar	36.7	41.2
	Apr	50.6	55.7
	May	45.8	54.1
	Jun	30.6	32.5
	Jul	21.7	26.1
	Aug	37.7	44.4
	Sep	50.1	55.7
	Oct	61.8	72.5
	Nov	64.2	71.0
	Dec	50.8	64.0
2022	Jan	35.2	41.9
	Feb	48.1	48.3
	Mar	51.1	56.3
	Apr	66.7	80.7
	May	71.9	84.8
	Jun	58.7	67.2
	Jul	95.9	116.7
	Aug	111.9	135.2
	Sep	96.6	117.9
	Oct	62.0	73.1
	Nov	83.7	96.1
	Dec	69.3	86.2
2023	Jan	67.7	78.8
	Feb	57.8	65.1
	Mar	74.3	85.1
	Apr	94.7	120.1
	May	92.8	108.6
	Jun	93.5	103.7
	Jul	111.4	134.5
	Aug	125.8	154.6
	Sep	119.6	141.8
	Oct	119.7	146.0
	Nov	91.0	114.5
	Dec	72.3	90.0

Table 1: The Indices of Rooms and Beds Occupancy Continue...

Year	Month	Index for Room Occupancy rates	Index for Bed Occupancy rates
2024	Jan	67.2	77.3
	Feb	66.4	76.0
	Mar	89.9	105.7
	Apr	106.3	124.3
	May	110.2	131.0
	Jun	86.4	103.6
	Jul	109.1	136.0
	Aug	115.1	145.8
	Sep	119.6	146.3
	Oct	121.0	141.7
	Nov	104.9	120.1
	Dec	79.8	96.0
2025	Jan	67.1	79.6
	Feb	57.0	62.8
	Mar	80.8	87.1
	Apr	100.3	115.8
	May	100.3	112.2
	Jun	93.7	101.8
	Jul	112.0	129.3
	Aug	123.4	145.4
	Sep	121.6	132.1
	Oct	112.6	130.1
	Nov	97.0	103.3
	Dec	73.9	85.0
2026	Jan	61.6	69.1
	Feb	59.1	63.3
	Mar	80.1	81.4

## *Methodology*

<b>Background:</b>	The room and bed occupancy indices serve as a proxy for the tourism sector, a priority sector under NDP5.
<b>Data sources:</b>	Hospitality Association of Namibia.
<b>Central regions:</b>	Khomas, Omaheke and Otjozondjupa.
<b>Coastal region:</b>	Erongo.
<b>Northern regions:</b>	Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Kunene, Kavango East, Kavango West and Zambezi.
<b>Southern regions:</b>	//Kharas and Hardap.
<b>Base year:</b>	The volumes have been referenced to 2015 data as of November 2019.
<b>Conversion:</b>	1 basis point = 0.01 percent.