

MEDIA RELEASE

(2025/26 NHIES PILOT SURVEY COMMENCES)

27th September 2024

Otjiwarongo, Otjozondjupa Region

For immediate release

COMMENCEMENT OF THE PILOT NAMIBIA HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY (NHIES).

1. The NSA would like to inform the nation that we are embarking upon the next statistical exercise, known as the 2025/2026 Namibia Household Income and Expenditure Survey (NHIES). As part of the NSA's data collection efforts, this will be the 5th Namibia Household Income & Expenditure Survey (NHIES), which is the primary source of information on Namibia's income and expenditure, instrumental in calculating poverty and inequality indicators.
2. The NHIES is usually conducted after every five years and its main objectives are to collect data necessary for understanding Namibia's household income and expenditure patterns, as well as measure poverty and inequality conditions. These are used for planning and monitoring of development and other projects. Before the big survey starts next year, the NSA will conduct a NHIES PILOT survey which aims to test our readiness for this important statistical exercise.
3. The NHIES will kick off with a Pilot survey in eight regions, namely: Erongo, Hardap, Kavango West, Khomas, Kunene, Omaheke, Omusati and Zambezi, from 30 September – 20 October 2024. These regions, and specific areas, were randomly chosen and the purpose is to test in different areas and terrains to prepare adequately. The NHIES pilot further aims to test and refine the methodology, survey tools and logistics. The pilot insights will be used only to improve the pilot survey tools (e.g questionnaires,

applications, etc.) to ensure the success of the full survey in March 2025 – March 2026.

4. The NHIES field staff (Interviewers) will be deployed over the weekend of the September 27, 2024, at an oath of secrecy signing ceremony, which echoes the NSA's commitment to uphold the privacy and confidentiality of all respondent's information and adhere to all legal provisions, as outlined by the Statistics Act No 9 of 2011.
5. In preparation for the NHIES Pilot, the NSA so far completed the:
 - **NHIES Manual Review: 15 – 26 July 2024**, this involved the revision of all manual modules, main questionnaire and Daily Record Book (DRB), ensuring that all survey material content is up-to-date and relevant.
 - **Training of Trainers: 05 – 30 August 2024**, NSA master trainers presented the modules, establishing the necessary skills to train the interviewers.
 - **NHIES Pilot Main Training: 02 – 27 September 2024**, the 32 NHIES interviewers (Inclusive of 8 reserves), being equipped on understanding the survey questions, proper use of digital tools, and techniques for engaging with participants respectfully and effectively, hence enabling them to successfully gather accurate data.
6. During the NHIES Pilot, the households will be given Daily Record Books (DRB) which households will be requested to self-administer and record their daily household spending and consumption while the interviewers will come around to record the household income and expenditure that are not frequent. NSA trained interviewers will assist with the recording of DRB where the need arises.
7. To ensure widespread awareness and participation, awareness activities were targeted to mass media as well as targeted awareness creation in those regions, and areas, where the PILOT NHIES takes place.
8. The NHIES Pilot matters because it contributes to the full survey by identifying and addressing potential challenges, refining the questionnaire to ensure it captures relevant data accurately, and aligning logistical

aspects such as timelines, resources and other logistics for the larger-scale data collection.

9. Through such preparations, the pilot ensures that the main NHIES can run smoothly and collect high-quality data on household income, expenditures, and living conditions across Namibia. The overall survey findings will be able to support planning, policy formulation, decision making as well as research and development for a knowledge-based economy, to eradicate poverty and income inequalities in Namibia.
10. The NSA continues to value and appreciate all households that participate in statistical data collection exercises and wishes to encourage all and sundry to support the NHIES Pilot survey as well.
11. For further details visit NSA website (<https://nsa.org.na>), social media pages as well as follow mass media for more information.

I thank you.

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