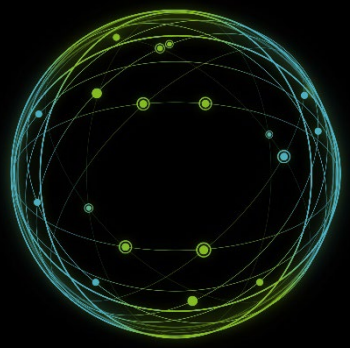
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International Tax

Namibia Highlights 2026

Updated March 2026



Investment basics

Currency: Namibia dollar (NAD)

Foreign exchange control: Namibia is part of the Common Monetary Area (CMA) (with Lesotho, South Africa, and Swaziland), and Namibia continues gradually to relax its exchange controls in line with other CMA countries. In broad terms, there are few restrictions on inward investment by foreigners, and profits may be repatriated in full. There are some restrictions on outward investment by residents.

Accounting principles/financial statements: IFRS generally applies. Companies (including subsidiaries and external companies (i.e., companies incorporated outside of Namibia but with an established place of business within Namibia)) must prepare financial statements annually, which must be audited by a Namibian registered auditor.

Principal business entities: Companies are classified as profit or nonprofit companies. The Companies Act distinguishes four types of profit companies: the private company, personal liability company, state-owned company, and public company. A branch of a foreign company is required to register as an external company. The most commonly adopted forms of doing business by foreign investors are private companies and branches.

Corporate taxation

Rates	
Corporate income tax rate	30%
Branch tax rate	30%
Capital gains tax rate	Where applicable, taxed at corporate income tax rates

Residence: Namibia's tax laws do not define a resident corporation, but it is understood to be a corporation incorporated in Namibia.

Basis: Resident and nonresident entities are subject to Namibian income tax only on taxable income arising from, or deemed to arise from, a source within Namibia.

Taxable income: Taxable income is calculated as gross income less exempt income and deductions. Gross income is the total amount, in cash or otherwise, received or accrued during the tax year from a source within (or deemed to be within) Namibia, excluding receipts or accruals of a capital nature. Some deductions are available for capital expenditure, certain donations, bad debts, and certain prepayments, among others.

Rate

General

The standard corporate income tax rate is 30%. A special tax rate of 18% for registered manufacturing companies was abolished, with a sunset clause that ended on 31 December 2025. Mining companies are taxed at 37.5% (non-diamond mining), 55% (diamond mining), or 35% (petroleum). The 37.5% and 55% rates also apply to mining service companies, i.e., companies that subcontract with mining companies to carry out mining activities on their behalf. Insurance companies are taxed at the same rate as other companies, but special rules apply for the computation of taxable income for companies providing short- and long-term insurance. The 30% standard corporate income tax rate applies to branches of foreign companies unless the branch is a mining or a mining service company, in which case the applicable mining tax rate applies.

Surtax

There is no surtax.

Alternative minimum tax

There is no alternative minimum tax.

Global minimum tax (Pillar Two)

Namibia has not yet announced the implementation of rules that generally are in line with the global anti-base erosion (GloBE) or "Pillar Two" model rules published by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS that are designed to ensure a global minimum level of taxation of 15% for multinational enterprise groups with annual consolidated revenue of at least EUR 750 million.

Taxation of dividends: Dividends received by a Namibian registered company from a resident or nonresident company are exempt from corporate income tax. Dividends received from a resident company are expected to be subject to a 10% dividend withholding tax as from the latter part of the 2026 calendar year.

Capital gains: Although there currently is no capital gains tax system in Namibia, income from certain capital transactions is included in gross income and subject to income tax in Namibia, regardless of its capital nature. Such transactions include: income received or accrued from the sale, donation, expropriation, cession, grant, transfer, or other alienation of a license or a right to mine minerals in Namibia, as well as petroleum licenses or rights, irrespective of where the transaction is concluded, the place where payment for the transaction is made, or the place where the funds from which payment is made are held; the direct or indirect sale of shares in a company that holds a license or has a right to mine minerals in Namibia; and the sale or other disposal of petroleum rights/licenses, or the direct or indirect sale of shares in a company that holds such rights/licenses.

Losses: Companies must pay tax on at least 20% of their taxable income before the application of accumulated tax losses. Tax losses may be carried forward for limited time periods: 10 years for companies in the mining, upstream petroleum, and green hydrogen industries, and five years for all other industries. The list of industries that enjoy a 10-year period may be expanded to renewable energy.

Foreign tax relief: A foreign tax credit is available only for tax paid to jurisdictions with which Namibia has concluded a tax treaty.

Participation exemption: There is no participation exemption.

Holding company regime: There is no holding company regime.

Incentives: Assets may be depreciated for tax purposes over a three-year period. Building allowances may be claimed on the erection cost of the building (20% of the cost in the year the building is first brought into use and 4% for the subsequent 20 years). Special manufacturing allowances were abolished, with a sunset clause that expired on 31 December 2025.

Compliance for corporations

Tax year: The tax year is the corporation's financial year.

Consolidated returns: Consolidated returns are not permitted; each company must file a separate return.

Filing and payment: Provisional tax payments are payable six months after the beginning of the taxpayer's financial year and at year end, based on estimates of taxable income for the year. Final tax returns, together with a computation of taxable income and the payment of any remaining corporation tax owed for the relevant tax year, are due within seven months after year end. Reasonable extensions may be granted to submit tax returns.

Penalties: Interest at 20% per annum is imposed on the late payment of or failure to pay income tax, Pay-As-You-Earn (PAYE), provisional tax, VAT, and import VAT. The interest amount may not exceed the original tax amount. Various penalties also may be imposed for the late submission or failure to submit returns, and late payment of or failure to pay taxes. The penalty may not exceed the original tax amount.

Rulings: Rulings may be obtained from the tax authorities.

Individual taxation

Rates		
Individual income tax rate	**Taxable income (NAD)**	**Rate**
	Up to 100,000	0%
	100,001–150,000	18% of amount over 100,000
	150,001–350,000	9,000 + 25% of amount over 150,000
	350,001–550,000	59,000 + 28% of amount over 350,000
	550,001–850,000	115,000 + 30% of amount over 550,000
	850,001–1,550,000	205,000 + 32% of amount over 850,000
	Over 1,550,000	429,000 + 37% of amount over 1,550,000
Capital gains tax rate		As above

Residence: Namibian tax law currently does not define a resident.

Basis: Individuals are taxable on all income received or accrued from a Namibian source or a deemed Namibian source.

Taxable income: Individuals in Namibia are taxed on the value of any benefit or advantage arising from employment, as well as on business income and investment income. An exemption (limited to NAD 300,000) is allowed for gratuity payments made to an employee upon retirement who is 55 years of age or older, or whose employment is terminated due to ill health or retrenchment due to their position becoming redundant. Lump sum pension fund payouts are exempt up to NAD 50,000; if the payout exceeds NAD 50,000, one-third is paid as a tax-free lump sum and the remaining portion as an annuity. This threshold will be increased to NAD 375,000 in the latter part of the 2026 calendar year. Similar provisions apply for payouts in terms of "preservation" and retirement annuity funds. Dividends received by a Namibian resident from a nonresident company are tax exempt. Dividends received from a resident company are expected to be subject to a 10% dividend withholding tax as from the latter part of the 2026 calendar year.

Rates: Individual income tax generally is levied at progressive rates up to 37%; however, part-time employees are taxed at a flat rate of 18%. The same tax rates apply to nonresidents in respect of employment and business income earned in Namibia. The tax rates for individuals generally also apply to trusts; however, the interest portion of a unit trust's income is subject to a

10% withholding tax unless the income is payable to resident companies and entities normally exempt from tax (e.g., pension funds), in which case it is exempt. The dividend portion of a unit trust's income is exempt from tax, subject to the expected dividend withholding tax referred to above (see "Taxable income").

Capital gains: There currently is no separate capital gains tax system, but income from certain capital transactions is included in gross income and subject to income tax.

Deductions and allowances: The annual aggregate allowable deductions for contributions to Namibian-registered pension funds, provident funds, and retirement annuity funds and premiums payable with respect to educational policies are limited to NAD 150,000 per annum.

Foreign tax relief: A foreign tax credit is available only for tax paid to jurisdictions with which Namibia has concluded a tax treaty.

Compliance for individuals

Tax year: The tax year for individuals is from 1 March to 28 February.

Filing status: Spouses are taxed separately on their income.

Filing and payment: Returns are due by 30 June for salaried individuals, and by 30 September for non-salaried individuals.

Tax on employment income is withheld by the employer under the PAYE system and remitted monthly to the tax authorities. PAYE is deducted based on the individual tax rates set out in the table above (see "Individual taxation").

Penalties: Interest at 20% per annum is imposed on the late payment of or failure to pay income tax. The interest amount may not exceed the original tax amount. Various penalties also may be imposed for the late submission of or failure to submit provisional tax returns, and late payment of or failure to pay taxes. The penalty amount may not exceed the original tax amount.

Rulings: Rulings may be obtained from the tax authorities.

Withholding tax

Rates				
Type of payment	**Residents**		**Nonresidents**	
	Company	**Individual**	**Company**	**Individual**
Dividends	0%	0%	10%/20%	20%
Interest	0%/10%	0%/10%	0%/10%	10%
Royalties	0%	0%	10%	10%
Fees for technical services	0%	0%	10%	10%

Dividends: Dividends paid to residents are currently exempt from withholding tax. However, as from the latter part of the 2026 calendar year, dividends paid to residents are expected to be subject to a 10% dividend withholding tax. A 20% withholding tax applies to dividends paid to a nonresident individual, or to a nonresident company that holds less than 25% of the payer company; otherwise, the rate is 10%. The withholding tax on dividends is a final tax. The rate may be reduced under an applicable tax treaty.

Interest: Interest paid to residents generally is exempt from withholding tax. Namibian-registered banks and Namibian-registered unit trust management companies must withhold a final tax at a flat rate of 10% from interest accruing to an individual, a trust, the estate of a deceased person, or a nonresident company. Interest payable by resident individuals and companies to nonresidents is also subject to a 10% withholding tax, except for interest paid by a Namibian bank to a nonresident bank, which is exempt from withholding tax. In the case of nonresidents, the rate may be reduced under an applicable tax treaty.

Royalties: Royalties paid to residents are exempt from withholding tax. A 10% withholding tax applies to royalties paid to nonresidents, unless the rate is reduced under an applicable tax treaty. The scope of royalty withholding tax includes payments for rentals of commercial, scientific, and industrial equipment. The withholding tax on royalties paid to nonresidents may be credited against the final assessed income tax liability by the nonresident.

Fees for technical services: Fees for technical services paid to residents are exempt from withholding tax. A 10% withholding tax applies to payments made to nonresident entertainers and payments made to nonresidents for administrative, managerial, technical, or consulting services, or any similar services, regardless of whether the services are of a professional nature, unless the rate is reduced under an applicable tax treaty.

Branch remittance tax: There is no branch remittance tax, but nonresident shareholders' tax is payable when branch profits that have been repatriated to the nonresident head office are distributed to nonresident shareholders.

Other: A final withholding tax of 25% applies to payments made to nonresident directors and entertainers.

Anti-avoidance rules

Transfer pricing: Transfer pricing legislation regulates cross-border transactions involving goods or services between related persons. The rules allow the tax authorities to disallow a deduction for certain expenditure or adjust income if the contract price is higher or lower than what the price would have been between parties dealing at arm's length.

Interest deduction limitations: The deduction of interest payments in excess of NAD 3 million per annum to connected parties (as defined) are limited to 30% of "tax EBITDA" (a defined term).

Controlled foreign companies: There are no controlled foreign company rules.

Anti-hybrid rules: There are currently no anti-hybrid rules, but an amendment to the Income Tax Act regarding such rules is expected in the latter part of the 2026 calendar year.

Economic substance requirements: There are no economic substance requirements.

Disclosure requirements: There are no specific disclosure requirements.

Exit tax: There are no specific exit taxes.

General anti-avoidance rule: Statutory general anti-avoidance rules apply in respect of income tax and VAT.

Other: Where an individual's taxable income exceeds NAD 200,000 in a tax year and the individual is carrying on a "suspect trade," as defined, the individual may have to "ring-fence" any losses from that trade from other taxable income. The application of this provision is limited, depending on the number of years the taxpayer has incurred losses and whether there is a prospect of deriving taxable income within a reasonable period. Suspect trades include sport; dealing in collectables; rental of residential accommodation in certain circumstances; rental of vehicles, aircraft, or boats in certain circumstances; animal showing, farming, or animal breeding (unless carried out on a full-time basis); performing or creative arts; and any form of gambling or betting.

Value added tax

Rates	
Standard rate	15%
Reduced rate	0%

Taxable transactions: VAT is imposed on the supply and import of most goods, and on the provision of services.

Rates: The standard rate is 15%. Certain supplies are subject to a 0% rate, including the direct export of goods, international transport services, the sale of a business as a going concern, certain services rendered to nonresident persons, the construction and extension of a building used for residential purposes, and the sale of residential land and buildings.

Improvements to buildings used for residential purposes are subject to the standard rate. Certain foodstuffs are zero-rated. Exempt supplies include medical, dental, and hospital services; educational services; public transportation services; financial services; the rental of residential accommodations; and fringe benefits.

Registration: The registration threshold for VAT purposes is annual turnover of NAD 1 million.

Filing and payment: VAT returns are due bimonthly on the 25th day of the relevant month. VAT-registered persons are registered in either Category A or Category B, which indicates the calendar month in which the VAT period ends.

Other taxes on corporations and individuals

Unless otherwise stated, the taxes in this section apply both to companies and individuals and are imposed at the national level.

Social contributions and payroll taxes: All employers are required to register with the Social Security Commissioner and to register every employee younger than 65 years of age. Social security contributions are calculated at 1.8% of the employee's basic salary, shared equally between the employer and the employee (0.9% each). The current maximum contribution is NAD 198 per employee (i.e., NAD 99 payable by the employee and NAD 99 payable by the employer) for employees whose monthly earnings are above NAD 11,000. For employees earning below NAD 11,000 per month, the monthly employer and employee contributions are calculated at 0.9% of the monthly basic wage.

Capital duty: There is no capital duty.

Real property tax: Land tax on agricultural land is payable for every 12-month period ending 28 February, at a rate of 0.75% for a Namibian resident owner and a rate of 1.75% for a nonresident owner (applied to the unimproved value of the site). For each additional farm property, the rate increases by 0.25%.

Transfer tax: Transfer duty is levied on the value of any property acquired (excluding the VAT and stamp duty, where applicable). The rates for acquisitions by individuals vary depending on the value and type of the property and are progressive from 0% to 8%. The rate for acquisitions by legal entities, including trusts, is 12% of the value of the property. The sale of shares/membership interests in property-owning companies/close corporations is not subject to transfer duty.

Stamp duty: Stamp duty is payable at 0.2% on the issue or transfer of shares. Shares listed on the Namibian stock exchange (NSX) are exempt from the duty. Stamp duty also is imposed on the acquisition of immovable property and a range of other instruments. The rate on the acquisition of immovable property by an individual is NAD 10 for every NAD 1,000 (or part thereof) of the value of the property, with the first NAD 600,000 exempt. The rate on acquisitions by legal entities, including trusts, is NAD 12 for every NAD 1,000 (or part thereof) of the value of the immovable property.

Net wealth/worth tax: There is no net wealth tax or net worth tax.

Inheritance/estate tax: There is no inheritance tax or estate tax.

Other: Environmental levies apply on the importation of vehicles, tires, certain light bulbs, plastic bags, and certain lubricants.

Tax treaties: Namibia has concluded over 10 tax treaties. Namibia signed the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS MLI) on 30 September 2021 but has not yet ratified the agreement.

Tax authorities: Namibian Revenue Agency (NamRA)

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