

- 3.1.1) Port Nolloth-Richtersveld Municipality (NC061)
 - Port Nolloth
- 3.1.2) Nama Khoi Municipality (NC062)
 - Springbok
- 3.1.3) Khai Ma Municipality (NC067)
 - Pofadder
- 3.1.4) Kamiesberg Municipality (NC064)
 - Garies
- 3.1.5) Hantam Municipality (NC065)
 - Calvinia
- 3.1.6) Karoo Hoogland Municipality (NC066)
 - Williston
- 3.1.7) District Management Area, DMA, (NCDMA06)

As regards the surface area that the Namaqua District Municipality covers (approximately 126 74 km²) it is the largest district municipality in South Africa. The Namaqua District Municipality stretches from Alexanderbay in the northwest to Sutherland and Fraserburg in the south and southeast. Located in the northwest corner of South Africa it shares its borders with Namibia and the Atlantic Ocean.

Two national roads, the N7 (connecting the Western Cape to Namibia) and the N14 (connecting Springbok to Upington and further east to Gauteng) pass through the region. Three airports with tar covered airstrips are located in the region viz. Alexanderbay, Springbok and Calvinia.

3.2) Demographic Profile

The demographic information has largely been extracted from census 1996 and Pimms.net statistical information.

The Namaqua District Municipality has a population of approximately 110 000 people with an average density of roughly one person per square kilometer. The population, comprised of different ethnic groupings, is highly urbanized. Afrikaans is the language of choice. English and Xhosa are spoken to a lesser extent.

3.2.1) Population distribution

The table below is a summary of population group figures for the district.

	Port Nolloth Richtersveld	Nama Khoi	Khai Ma	Kamies berg	Karoo Hoogland	Hantam	DMA	TOTAL
Population								
African	948	1034	283	188	102	556	5	3116
Coloured	8584	38440	7764	9178	9643	15318	1155	90082
Indian	20	33	3	3	2	21	3	85

White	2115	4827	1263	1230	2233	3038	297	15003
Other	97	502	42	432	136	153	11	1276
TOTAL	11764	44836	9355	11031	12116	19086	1471	109562

3.2.2) Urbanization

Information extracted from Pimms.net shows that the urbanized population is relatively high in all Municipalities (61% - 83%). Only the Kamiesberg and Nama Khoi Municipalities have lower indices viz. 31% and 28% respectively.

Municipality	Urban population	Urban population (%)	Population
Khai Ma	6168	69.1	8924
Karoo Hoogland	8480	61.1	13880
Hantam	15316	71.6	21402
Kamiesberg	3137	31.7	9889
Nama Khoi	15438	28.8	53622
DMA	0	0	0
Port Nolloth - Richtersveld	9685	83.7	11578

3.2.3) Population Growth Rates

The table below gives an indication of the population growth rates for the period 1996 – 2001 and the expected population growth rates for 2001 to 2010.

Municipality	Pop growth	Pop Growth (2001 – 2010)
Khai Ma	1.0186	1.0196
Karoo Hoogland	1.0186	1.0196
Hantam	1.0181	1.0191
Kamiesberg	1.0186	1.0193
Nama Khoi	0.9454	0.9463
DMA	0	0
Port Nolloth - Richtersveld	1.0187	1.1095

The population growth rate averages 2% over a five-year period for five of the Municipalities. Nama Khoi has a negative growth implying that the population in the municipality decreased over the period.

The table also indicates the expected population growth rates for the period 2001 to 2010. A slight increase (0.1%) is detected in all municipalities. The Nama Khoi rate is also slightly higher. These statistics indicate that the population growth rates will not change much over the ten-year period.

3.2.4) Gender Distribution

The table below indicates a relatively even gender distribution in the district.

	Port Nolloth Richtersveld	Nama Khoi	Khai Ma	Kamies berg	Karoo Hoogland	Hantam	DMA	TOTAL
Male	6294	21929	4709	5709	5854	9253	807	54555
Female	5458	22882	4638	5320	6248	9840	665	55051
TOTAL	11752	44811	9347	11029	12102	19093	1472	109606

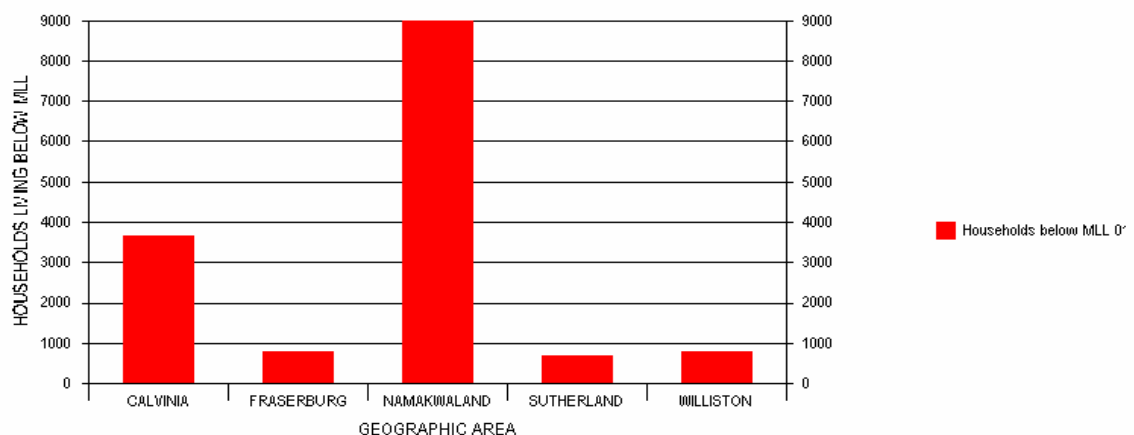
3.2.5) Age Distribution

The table below gives the age distribution as municipality. Analysis of these statistics shows that the Namaqua District Municipality has a relatively young population. The economic active population, scholars and pre-school children (approximately 11 years) averages at 46 000, 33 000 and 11 000.

AGE BREAK DOWN	Port Nolloth Richtersveld	Nama Khoi	Khai Ma	Kamies berg	Karoo Hoogland	Hantam	DMA	TOTAL
0-4	1105	4549	1039	1085	1205	2066	134	11183
5-19	3072	14370	2998	3405	3398	5833	295	33371
20-29	2347	7370	1463	1594	1905	2708	231	17618
30-49	3644	11330	2403	2630	3024	4656	496	28183
50-64	1060	4551	908	1269	1436	2136	223	11583
Over 65	440	2348	523	910	963	1530	111	6825
Age Unknown	89	363	36	148	180	159	20	995
TOTAL	4177	18919	4037	4490	4603	7899	429	109758

3.2.6) Estimated number of households living below the Minimum Living Level

ESTIMATED NO. OF HOUSEHOLDS LIVING BELOW MINIMUM LIVING LEVEL (MLL)



From the above chart (Households living below MLL) it can be deduced that a large number of the population in the Namaqualand (Nama Khoi, Port Nolloth – Richtersveld) lives below the MLL. This state of affairs is possibly due to a high unemployment rate. Calvinia, to a lesser extent, shows the same trend.

3.2.7) *Bio-physical zones*

The Namaqua District Municipality has unique bio-physical zones each with its characteristic fauna and flora. The potential contribution to the economy of the District Municipality has still not been sufficiently explored. Such a biosphere forms the center of a particular study of a succulent Karoo tree. The project “Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Plan” is focuses on

- The collection of information regarding different ecologically sensitive systems;
- Processing this information and making it available to conservation initiatives;

This study covers the entire Namaqua District Municipality in order to achieve a sense of integrated development encompassing the region. The study is managed by the Botanical institute of South Africa.

In addition to “SKEP Project” two further studies are of importance:

- A study to compare the economic and ecological cost and advantages of environmentally friendly farming practices in comparison to current farming activities.
- A study of the riverine rabbit in the Hantam and Karoo Hoogland Municipalities.

This information serves to exhibit the important role of the Namaqua District Municipality – nationally and internationally – in conservation and environmental protection.