

# Nigeria

## Country profile

**2016**  
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[www.devinit.org/p2oi](http://www.devinit.org/p2oi)

This country profile is produced by Development Initiatives to support the National Dialogue on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As one of the founding partners of the Leave No One Behind partnership, established in July 2015, our role is to provide data at a national level to help track progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) so we can make sure that no one is left behind.

## Poverty profile

- The national poverty line in Nigeria is Nigerian Naira (NGN) 149.04 per person per day. According to the most recently available data (2010), more than half of the population (60.9%), live below this line. The majority of those living below the poverty line (61.3%) live in rural areas while 38.7% live in urban areas.<sup>1</sup>
- Poverty rates vary in Nigeria across zones. Based on 2010 data, the highest rates of poverty were found in the North East (69.0%) and North West (70.0%) zones. The lowest poverty rates are found in the South West (49.8%) and Southern (55.9%) zones.
- At a state level, Sokoto State has the highest proportion of people living in poverty (81.2% in 2010), while Niger and Osun States have the lowest at 33.8% and 37.9% respectively.<sup>2</sup>
- The international extreme poverty line, which currently stands at PPP\$1.90 a day, is used to measure poverty in all countries by the same standard. This is used to identify how many people in the world live in extreme poverty. In Nigeria, those living below this line increased from 52.2% in 1990 to a peak of 66.0% in 2002. This has since fallen to 49.7% in 2013.
- As of 2009, the richest 20% in Nigeria owned 49% of national income, in contrast to the 5.4% shared by the poorest 20%.

### National poverty line (NGN per day)

149.04

Note: 2010 data. Source: Nigeria National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).<sup>3</sup>

### % of population living below the national poverty line

60.9%

Note: 2010 data. Source: Nigeria NBS.<sup>4</sup>

### % of population living below the national poverty line who live in rural areas

61.3%

Note: 2010 data. Source: Nigeria NBS.<sup>5</sup>

### Mean household income per month (2011 PPP\$)

81.33

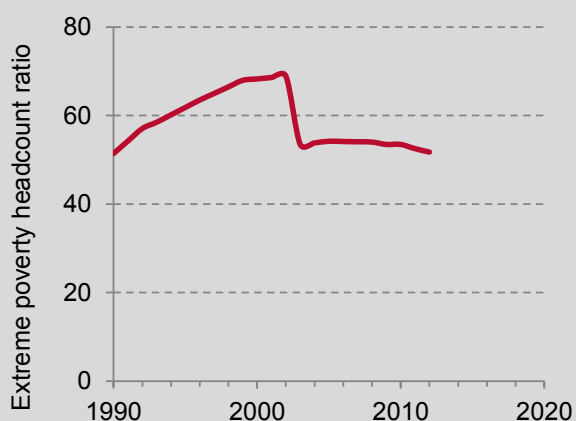
Note: 2013 data. Source: World Bank's PovcalNet.

### % of population living below the international extreme poverty line

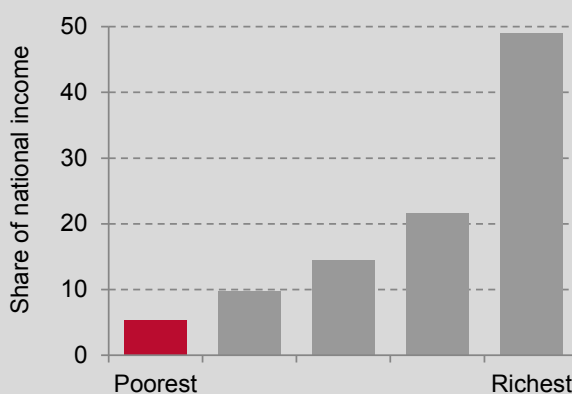
49.7%

Note: 2013 data, international extreme poverty line is 2011 PPP\$ 1.90/day. Source: World Bank's PovcalNet.

### Is poverty reducing over time?



### How is income distributed?



## Economic profile

- Nigeria's GDP per capita is among the highest in Africa, standing at PPP\$5,639 in 2015. This compares with a regional average of PPP\$3,477 for sub-Saharan Africa.
- However, because of its high dependence on oil revenue, the Nigerian economy is currently facing substantial challenges. GDP growth declined from 6.3% in 2014 to 2.7% in 2015. Similarly, gross international reserves decreased from US\$34.3 billion in 2014 to US\$28.3 billion in 2015.
- These challenges are mainly due to low oil prices, amid high security concerns. Oil and gas GDP growth decreased from -1.3% in 2014 to -5.4% in 2015. Oil and gas incomes were also affected by the low Nigerian oil prices (from US\$100.6 per barrel in 2014 to US\$53.1 in 2015).

2015) and decreasing crude oil production (from 2.2 million barrels per day in 2014 to 2.1 million barrels in 2015).<sup>2</sup>

- The Gini index measures the equality of income distribution of a country's residents where 0 means everyone earns the same, and 100 that one person earns everything. In Nigeria in 2010, the Gini index was 44.70, up from 42.96 in 2004, reflecting increasing inequality over time.
- Subnational distribution of incomes shows differences in zones and states. In 2010, the zones with the highest income inequality were the North East (Gini index of 44.68) and the South East (Gini index of 44.42). The North West and South West zones have the lowest income inequality (Gini index of 40.56 and 40.97 respectively).
- In 2010, Taraba State (Gini index of 52.41), Yobe State (52.30) and Federal Capital Territory (51.16) had the highest income inequality, while Kebbi (32.59) and Bauchi (33.48) States had the lowest.
- Out of 188 countries, Nigeria is ranked 152 on the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)'s Human Development Index (2015), with a score of 0.514.

#### **GDP per capita (2011 PPP\$)**

**5,638.89**

Note: 2015 data. Source: World Development Indicators.

#### **Human Development Index Ranking**

**152/188**

Note: 2015 data. Source: United Nations Development Programme.

#### **Gini index**

**44.70**

Note: 2010 data. Source: Nigeria NBS.<sup>7</sup>

## **Education outcomes**

- According to the current budget, the Nigerian government will spend 8.44% of the total budget on education in 2016.
- In 2008, Nigeria's adult literacy rate stood at 51.1%, down from 54.8% in 2003. However, recent statistics show an increase in adult literacy rates to 59.6% in 2015. Literacy rates for men (69.2%) are much higher than for women (49.7%).
- The primary school net attendance declined from 71.0% in 2012 to 68.7% in 2014. In a similar trend, primary six completion rate decreased from 87.7% in 2012 to 74.0% in 2014.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Adult literacy rate**

**59.6%**

Note: 2015 data. Source: World Development Indicators.

#### **Public expenditure on education as a percentage of total budget**

**8.4%**

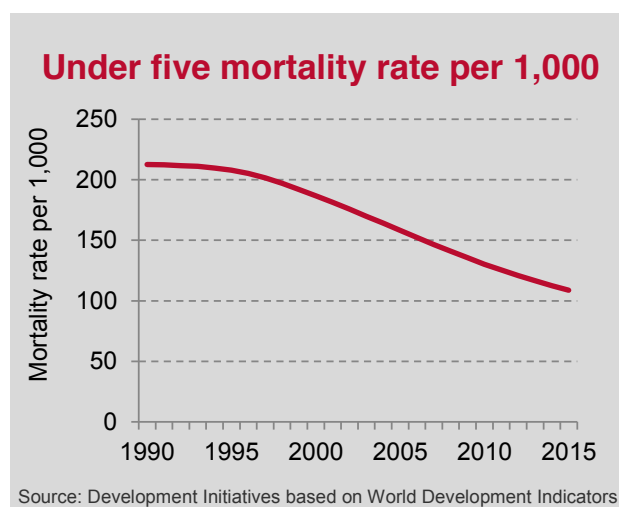
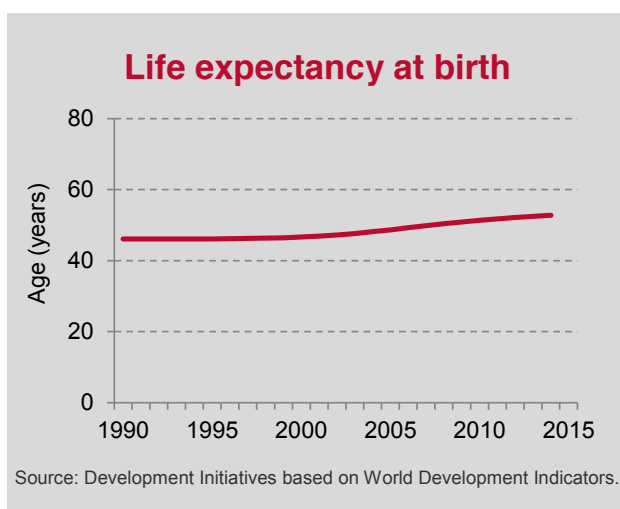
Note: 2016 data. Source: Federal government and state budgets.<sup>4</sup>

## **Health outcomes**

- Life expectancy in Nigeria has increased from 46.1 in 1990 to 52.8 in 2014.
- Since 1990, the mortality rate of children under 5 has steadily fallen from 212.5 per 1,000 down to 108.8 per 1,000 in 2015.

Development Initiatives (DI) is an independent international development organisation working on the use of data to drive poverty eradication and sustainable development.

- In 2014, public spending on healthcare in Nigeria was PPP\$52.03 per capita, compared with a regional average for sub-Saharan Africa of PPP\$80.12.



Note: Economic, health and education data in this profile are Development Initiatives' calculations based on the World Bank's World Development Indicators and the UNDP's Human Development Index; please refer to these sources for full definition of public spending. Poverty data are Development Initiatives' calculations based on the World Bank's PovcalNet.

## Achieving SDGs

If global efforts to end poverty and achieve the SDGs are to be reached, it is essential that no one is left behind; the SDGs will not be considered met unless they are met for everyone. Nigeria has one of the highest per capita incomes in Africa; however, it lags behind in the majority of other development indicators. Nigeria is seeing fewer significant changes than many other African countries in social indicators such as health and education, amid high poverty rates and large income inequalities. There is need for better resource allocation and structural adjustments to bring about equitable and sustainable development to ensure that no one is left behind.

Nigeria's high income from oil exports has not, in the past, resulted in major poverty reduction achievements, as can be seen in the high level of inequality, low educational and health outcomes. Furthermore, there has been a noticeable polarisation between rich and poor regions ('north and south divide') – a key driver of conflict and instability in the past.

However, current data is not good enough to tell us exactly who is being left behind, where they live and why. To better target resources and track their progress we need to better understand who they are. To achieve this we need more and better data disaggregated by at least geography, gender, age and disability.

A new project from Development Initiatives, the P20 Initiative, will be doing just this. The P20 Initiative will provide data on whether things are improving for the poorest 20% of people globally. It will do this by gathering and using existing data and promoting better disaggregation of data on people so we can ensure that those furthest behind are reached first and included in progress so the SDGs can be achieved for all.

## Contact

If you would like more information on any of the data provided in this summary or on the P20 Initiative please contact Cat Langdon on [cat.langdon@devinit.org](mailto:cat.langdon@devinit.org)

## Data use survey

Do you use data in your work? How would you rate your use of data? What data sources do you use? We are interested to hear about the ways in which you use data in your work. Please follow the link below and complete our short survey: [goo.gl/iEJdZb](https://goo.gl/iEJdZb)

## Notes

<sup>1,2,3,4,5,7</sup> National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), 2012. Nigeria Poverty Profile 2010. Available at: <http://www.nigerianstat.gov.ng/pdfuploads/Nigeria%20Poverty%20Profile%202010.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> International Monetary Fund (IMF), 2016. 2016 Article IV Consultation. Available at: <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2016/cr16101.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Nigeria NBS, 2015. The Millennium Development Goals Performance Tracking Survey 2015 Report. Available at:

<http://www.ng.undp.org/content/nigeria/en/home/library/mdg/NigeriaMDGsSurveyReport2015.html>

<sup>4</sup> Daily trust, 2016. Federal government and States spend 8% of budgets on education. Available at <http://www.dailytrust.com.ng/news/general/fg-states-spend-8-of-budgets-on-education/149521.html>

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The Leave No One Behind partnership seeks to drive global momentum to make sure that happens. Made up of three international non-profit organisations (CIVICUS, Development Initiatives, and Project Everyone) with the support of the United Kingdom's Department for International Development we have come together as founding partners to catalyse a global movement to ensure that the pledge to Leave No One Behind turns from words into reality.

For more information on the Leave No One Behind partnership please email [info@leavenoonebehind.global](mailto:info@leavenoonebehind.global) or visit [www.leavenoonebehind.global](http://www.leavenoonebehind.global)

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