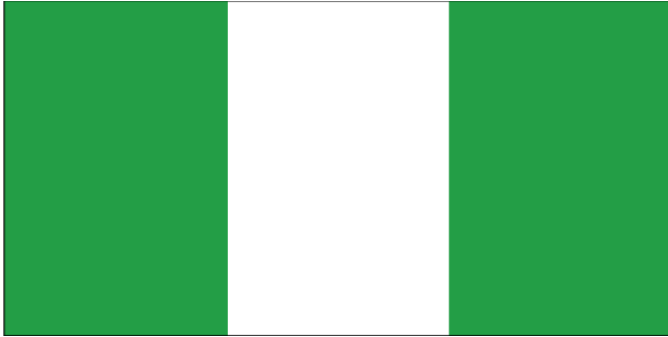


## NIGERIA COUNTRY PROFILE

Capital: Abuja



### **Quick Facts**

- Population: 131,859,731
- GDP (Purchasing Power Parity): \$174.1 billion
- GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity): \$1,400
- GDP composition by sector:
  - Agriculture: 26.8%
  - Industry: 48.8%
  - Services: 24.4%
- Size of labor force: 57.21 million
- Labor force: by occupation:
  - Agriculture: 70%
  - Industry: 10%
  - Services: 20%
- Unemployment Rate: 2.9%
- Population below poverty line (\$2/day): 60%
- Life expectancy at birth: 47.08 years
- HIV/AIDS – adult prevalence rate: 5.4%
- Adult Literacy Rate (age 15 and over):
  - Male: 75.7%
  - Female: 60.6%

For more information: <http://cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ni.html>

### **Political History**

Europeans first set up slave trading settlements in Nigeria in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children were plucked from their native lands for a new life of slavery in the new world. Jumping forward, Nigeria was controlled by the British from 1901 to 1960. Usman don Fodio was also working hard at this time to unify Northern Nigeria under the Muslim Fulani Empire, a feat he accomplished. In 1960, Nigeria gained its independence from Britain and Nnamdi Azikiwe became the country's first president. Post-independence Nigeria was moving fast in the wrong direction. The Nigerian Civil War threw the country into a period of military rule that lasted until 1999, when Olusegun Obasanjo was elected as the first civilian leader in decades. Obasanjo

recently tried to extend his term of office. His attempts were unsuccessful and elections are expected to take place in 2007. Ethnic and religious violence, massive government corruption, and turmoil in the oil-rich Niger Delta Region continue to be the major problems facing the Nigerian government at this time.

For more information: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigeria>

### **The Economy**

Nigeria's economy continues to be reliant on its oil production, which has taken a severe hit with turmoil in the Niger Delta Region. Armed insurgency groups have kidnapped oil workers and have called for massive remittances from Shell oil for destroyed lives and land. 419 scams have also tarnished the reputation of Nigerians worldwide. These email based scams have led to heavy financial loss in developed countries, particularly the United States. Macroeconomic mismanagement of the economy under previous military rules has left Nigeria's economy in a fragile state. The agricultural sector, which used to be a net-exporter, is now too small to provide for Nigeria's huge population. Nigeria has also been in touch with the IMF and has attempted structural adjustment programs in the past. In 2005, the government in Abuja won approval for a historic Paris Club debt relief package that would eliminate \$30 billion of Nigeria's \$37 billion debt. This, like most debt relief, comes with a commitment to more intensified IMF reviews. Nigeria's primary agricultural products include cocoa, peanuts, palm oil, corn, rice, sorghum, millet, cassava (tapioca), yams, rubber; cattle, sheep, goats, pigs; timber; and fish. The primary industries are crude oil, coal, tin, columbite; palm oil, peanuts, cotton, rubber, wood; hides and skins, textiles, cement and other construction materials, food products, footwear, chemicals, fertilizer, printing, ceramics, steel, and small commercial ship construction and repair. Nigeria's exports ring in at \$52.16 billion while its imports ring in at \$25.95 billion. This figure is heavily influenced by oil-exports and does not show that Nigeria must import more food than it is able to produce. Distribution of income in Nigeria is far from equal. The bottom 10% of society receives just 1.6% of the income, while the top 10% receives 40.8% of the income.

For more information: <http://cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ni.html>

### **Advocacy Issues**

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigeria\\_oil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigeria_oil),