



Country Profile: Nigeria

Nigeria is a developing country in western Africa that has experienced periods of political instability. It has the largest population on the continent, estimated at 144 million people, and its infrastructure is not fully functional or well maintained. Read the Department of State's [Background Notes](#) on Nigeria for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Nigeria
Continent:	Africa
Capital City:	Abuja
Boundary Countries:	Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Niger
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Abuja Clinics Ltd. (Abuja, Garki, Karu), Barnes Hospital (Lagos), Bimax Hospital and Maternity Home (Lagos), Bio-Royal Hospital & Maternity Ltd. (Abuja), CRI Mediclinic (Abuja, GRA, Ikeja, Port Harcourt, VGC), General Medical Care (Lagos), National Hospital Abuja, Nisa Premiere Hospital (Abuja), Parklande Specialist Hospital (Lagos), Reddington Hospital (Lagos), St. Charles Borromeo Hospital (Anambra), St. Nicholas Hospital (Lagos), Zankli Medical Centre (Abuja)
Main Cities:	Abuja, Lagos, Kano, Sokoto, Yola, Zaria, Kaduna, Warri, Port Harcourt
Country Size:	923,768 sq km
Population:	131,859,731

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	English (official), Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo (Ibo), Fulani
Currency:	naira (NGN)
Predominant Religions:	Muslim 50%, Christian 40%, indigenous beliefs 10%
National Holidays:	Independence Day (National Day), 1 October (1960)
Economic Status:	Oil-rich Nigeria, long hobbled by political instability, corruption, inadequate infrastructure, and poor macroeconomic management, is undertaking some reforms under a new administration. In the last year the government has begun showing the political will to implement the reforms urged by the IMF, such as to modernize the banking system, to curb inflation by blocking excessive wage demands, and to resolve regional disputes over the distribution of earnings from the oil industry.
Security:	Nigerian Armed Forces (Forces Armees Nigeriennes, FAN): Army, Niger Air Force
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy Abuja Plot 1075 Diplomatic Drive Central District Area, Abuja, Nigeria Telephone: (234)-9-461-4000 U.S. Consulate Lagos 2 Walter Carrington Crescent, Victoria Island, Lagos Telephone:(234)-1- 460-3600 or (234)-1- 460-3400

Major Airports:	Airports: 69, Airports w/paved runways: 36 Lagos – Murtala Muhammed International Airport (LOS/DNMM) Lagos Airport, Nigeria, PO Box 21084, Ikeja, Lagos, 01, NIGERIA Lagos Airport, Nigeria, Murtala Muhammed Airport, Ikeja, Lagos, 01, NIGERIA Tel: +234 (0)1 493 3385, +234 (0)1 493 1140 Fax: +234 (0)1 493 3147 Customs, hours: 24 hours
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