



## FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

British influence and control over Nigeria through the 19th century increased. A series of constitutions after World War II granted Nigeria greater autonomy, though independence was not granted until 1960. In 1999, a new constitution was adopted and a peaceful transition to civilian government was completed. Nigeria is currently experiencing its longest period of civilian rule since independence. The 2015 election is considered the most well run election in Nigeria, with the umbrella opposition party, the All Progressives Congress, defeating the long-ruling People's Democratic Party that had governed since 1999. Though, Nigeria continues to experience longstanding ethnic and religious tensions, the country continues to work to institutionalize democracy and reform its petroleum-based economy.

### Physical Geography

**Official name:** Federal Republic of Nigeria

**Region:** Africa

**Size in Square Kilometers:** Total: 923,768 km<sup>2</sup>

**Bordering Countries:** Benin, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger

**Physical Features:** Nigeria has southern lowlands that merge into central hills and plateaus; mountains in the southeast, and plains in north.

**Climate:** The climate of Nigeria mostly varies. It is equatorial in the south, tropical in the center, and arid in the north.

### Cultural Geography

**Population:** 181,562,056 (estimate 2015 dollars)

**Ethnic Groups:** Nigeria, is Africa's most populous country, and is composed of more than 250 ethnic groups; the most populous and politically influential are: Hausa and the Fulani 29%, Yoruba 21%, Igbo (Ibo) 18%, Ijaw 10%, Kanuri 4%, Ibibio 3.5%, Tiv 2.5%.

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**Official Language:** English

**Other Languages Spoken:** Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo (Ibo), Fulani, and over 500 additional indigenous languages

**Capital:** Abuja (2.44 million)

**Other Major Cities:** Lagos (13.123 million); Kano (3.587 million); Ibadan (3.16 million); Port Harcourt (2.343 million); Benin City (1.496 million)

**Average Quality of Life:** Below Average

### Political Geography

**Founded:** October 1, 1960

**Type of Government:** Federal Presidential Republic

**Country's leaders:**

Chief of State/President: Major General (retired) Muhammadu Buhari (May 2015)

Vice President: Oluyemi "Yemi" Osinbajo (May 2015);

\*Note - the president is both chief of state and head of government

**Country's Military:** Between 62,000- 100,000 (estimated 2015)

**Allies:** India, Ghana

**Enemies:** North Korea, Russia, Iran, China, and Countries in which ISIS operates

### Economic Geography

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** \$1.1 trillion USD (2015 est.)

**What are some of your country's natural resources:** natural gas, petroleum, tin, iron ore, coal, limestone, niobium, lead, zinc, arable land

**Currency:** Nigerian Naira

**Major Exports and Imports:**

**Exports:** petroleum and petroleum products 95%, cocoa, rubber (2012 est.)

**Imports:** machinery, chemicals, transport equipment, manufactured goods, food and live animals

**Biggest Trading Partners:**

**Exports:** India 18.2%, Netherlands 8.5%, Spain 8.2%, Brazil 8.2%, South Africa 7.8%, France 5.2%, Japan 4.5%, Cote d'Ivoire 4.2%, Ghana 4% (2015)

**Imports:** China 25.7%, US 6.4%, Netherlands 6.1%, India 4.3% (2015)

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