

NIGERIA

Region: Sub-Saharan Africa (Global South)

Population (2022): 218.5 million (6th)

Life Expectancy at Birth (Women): 64.1 (169th)

Governance System: Federal republic, presidential system

Capital: Abuja

Land Area (km²): 910,770 (30th)

Major Languages: English, Hausa, Yoruba

Select Global Rankings

GDP (2022): 32nd (477,386 US\$ Millions)

Human Development Index: 163rd (Low)

Fragile States Index - Inverted: 165th (Cat. 9)

Good Country Index: 140th

Human Freedom Index: 123rd

World Happiness Ranking: 95th

Select Global Rankings (Gender-Focus)

Gross National Income Per Capita (Women): 120th

Gender Social Norms Index: 85th

Women's Power Index: 177th

Social Institutions and Gender Index (World Cup rank): 29th

Gender Inequality Index: 168th

Global Gender Gap Index: 130th

Women Peace & Security Index: 130th

Elite Sport System Rankings

2020 Summer Olympic Women's Medals (% of Total): 2 (100%)

2022 Winter Olympic Women's Medals (% of Total): none

Global Cup Ranking (Women): 43rd

Football/World Cup Profile

FIFA Region: CAF

FIFA Ranking: 40

World Cup Appearance: 9th

Best World Cup Performance(s): Quarter-finals (1999)

Qualification: African Cup of Nations semi-finalist

World Cup Group: B

Last World Cup Appearance: 2019

NIGERIA in International (Gender) Affairs (by Tasha Cory)

The Nigeria national women's football team, nicknamed the Super Falcons, represents [Nigeria](#) in international women's football and is controlled by the Nigeria Football Federation. The team is by far Africa's most successful international women's football team winning a record eleven Women's Africa Cup of Nations titles. They are also the only team that has reached the quarter-finals at the summer Olympics and the women's FIFA world cup. Women's football clubs began to emerge in Nigeria in the 1970s and by the 1980s, the Youth Sports Federation of Nigeria organised a national cup competition for women footballers. Increased female soccer participation in Nigeria has been a goal of the Nigerian Football Federation ([NFF](#)). By planning contests and training sessions for women's football teams, the NFF has been working to develop the sport in Nigeria.

In both 2003 and 2007, they were grouped with the traditional European superpower Sweden, the rising Asian superpower North Korea, and the historic women's superpower, the United States, and faced the threat of death. Nigeria replaced Gabon, which was initially given the right to host but later withdrew



citing financial difficulties, and hosted the African women's championship finals for the third time in 2006 before they were cancelled due to a severe outbreak of gang-induced violence within the Nigerian area. Nigeria won it for the seventh consecutive year.

In Nigeria, women's football has a long history of defiance. The colonists threatened to ban any playing area that permitted women to participate in sports, according to a 1950 article in the Nigerian Dailytimes. This decree was defied by Nigerian women, who kept playing football. According to the World Economic Forum's [Gender Gap](#) Index, Nigeria is ranked 139th out of 156 nations, and civil society organizations have expressed concern that the country's representation of women in leadership positions may be declining. The [report](#) also shows that Nigeria has a gender gap of 63.9%. In Nigeria, the labor force participation rate among females is 47.9% and among males is 59.6% for 2021.

Despite the adoption of Article 42 of the Federal Republic of Nigeria's 1999 Constitution, which was adapted from the United Nations' principles of gender equality and provides for equality and the abolition of all forms of discrimination against women, the Nigerian state still faces difficulties with various forms of [gendered marginalization issues](#) against women in various facets of Nigerian society; these difficulties are primarily brought on by cultural, economic, and legal obstacles. For the current imbalanced position of women in Nigerian society, a number of explanations have been put forth. The colonization, history under military rule, patriarchal system through males, and women's lack of literacy, which places them in the background, are some of the causes.