

An Introduction to Nigeria

Nigerian Cultural Ambassadors

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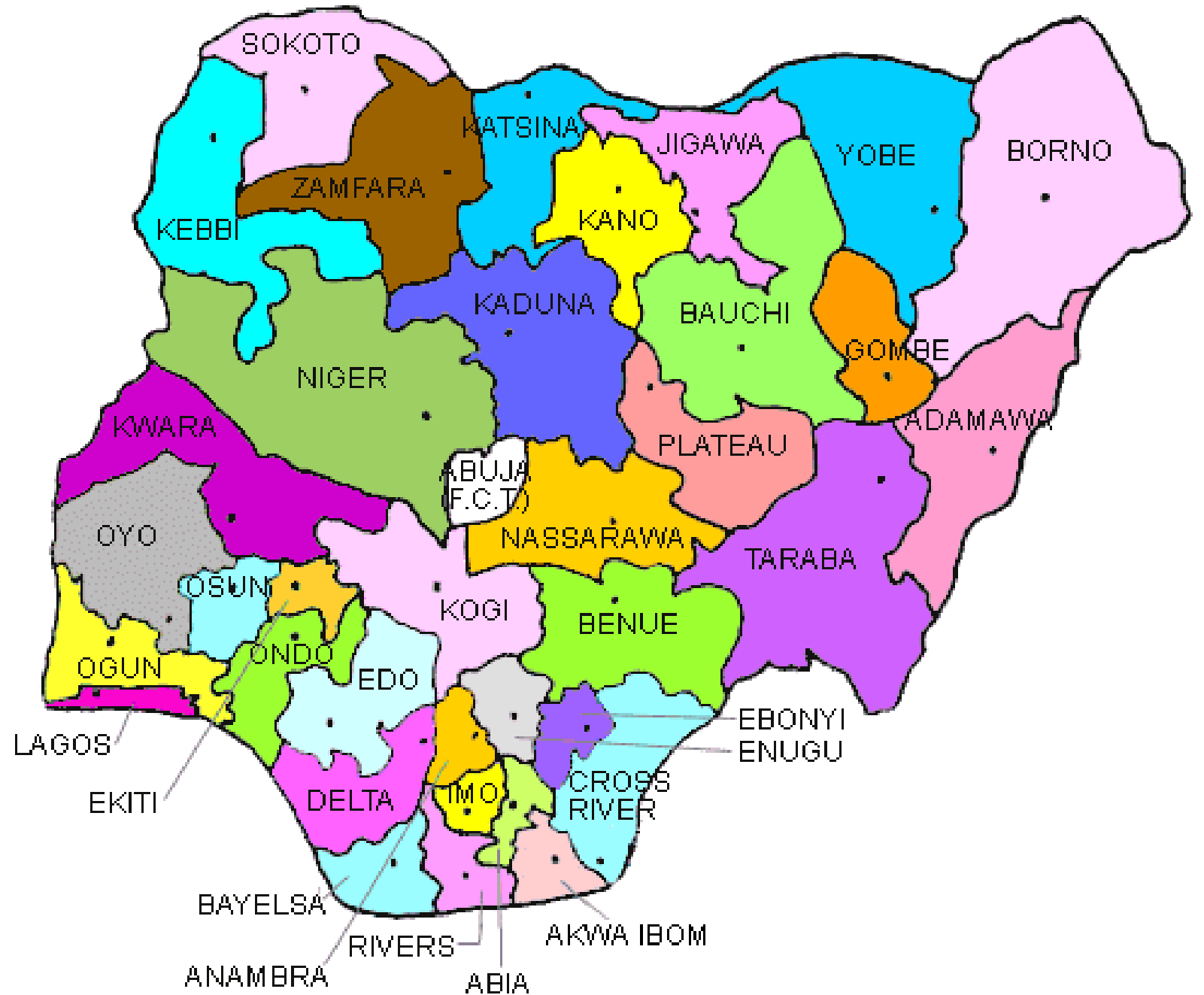
AFRICA



MAP OF AFRICA

LEGEND
--- Country Boundary

MAP OF NIGERIA



FACTS ABOUT NIGERIA

Location: On the continent of Africa; Nigeria is on the west coast

36 states

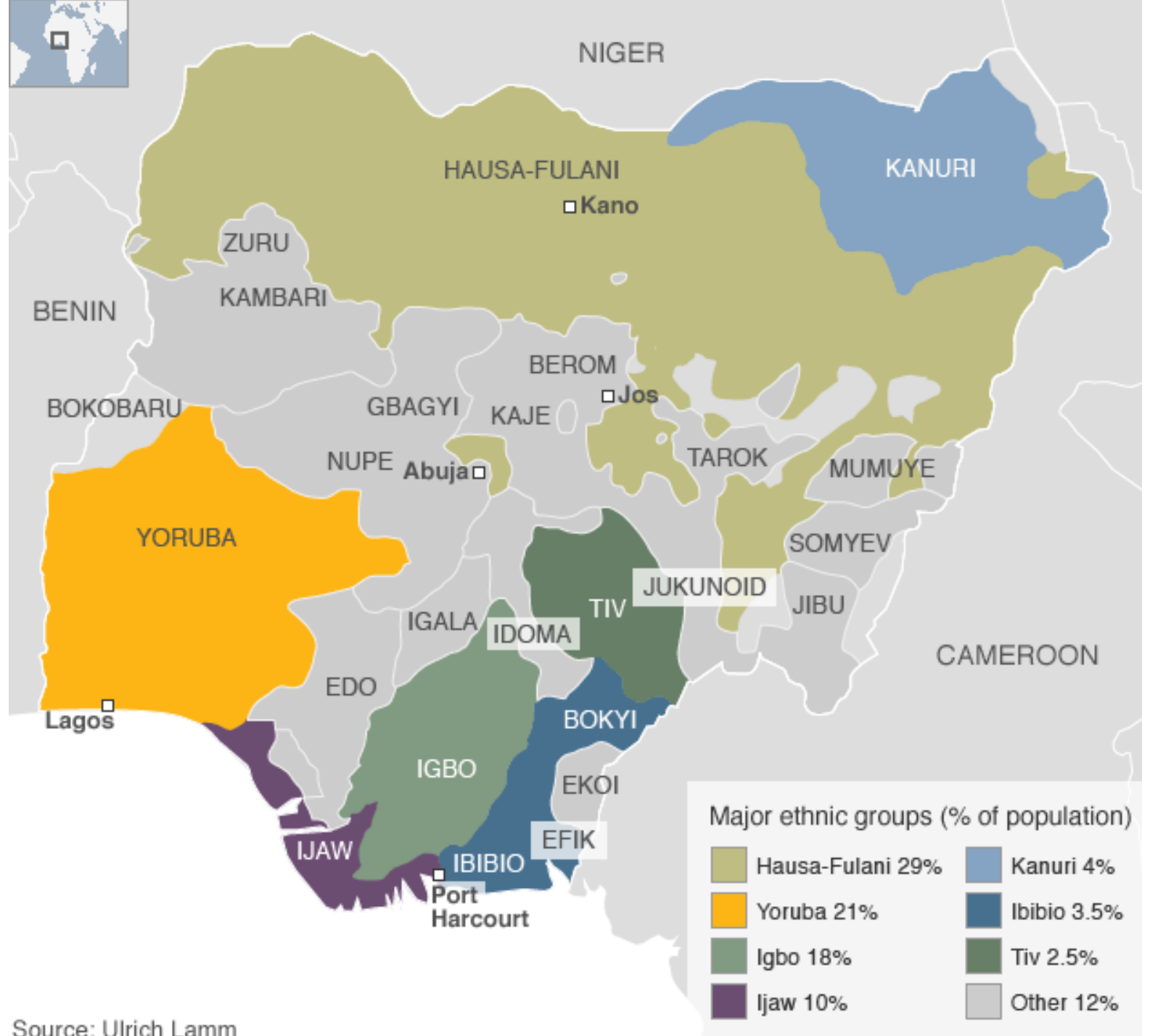
Capital: Abuja

Largest City: Lagos

Population: Approximately 225 million people with a growth rate of ~2.5% each year

Travel: Flight; From DC area it would take 13 hours or more

Ethnicity



Source: Ulrich Lamm



Hausa-Fulani Tribe

- Hausa-Fulani tribe is located mostly in northern Nigeria
- Largest ethnic group and arguably the biggest players in Nigerian politics
- Main religion is Islam
- Main occupation includes cattle-ranching, growing crops and other forms of trading

Yoruba Tribe

- Yoruba tribe are located mostly in Southwestern Nigeria
- Second largest ethnic group in the country and have significant representation in other West African countries such as Togo, Benin due to the old Oyo empire
- Main religion is split between Islam and Christianity. Significant population still uphold traditional aspects of their ancestors' religious practices and beliefs.



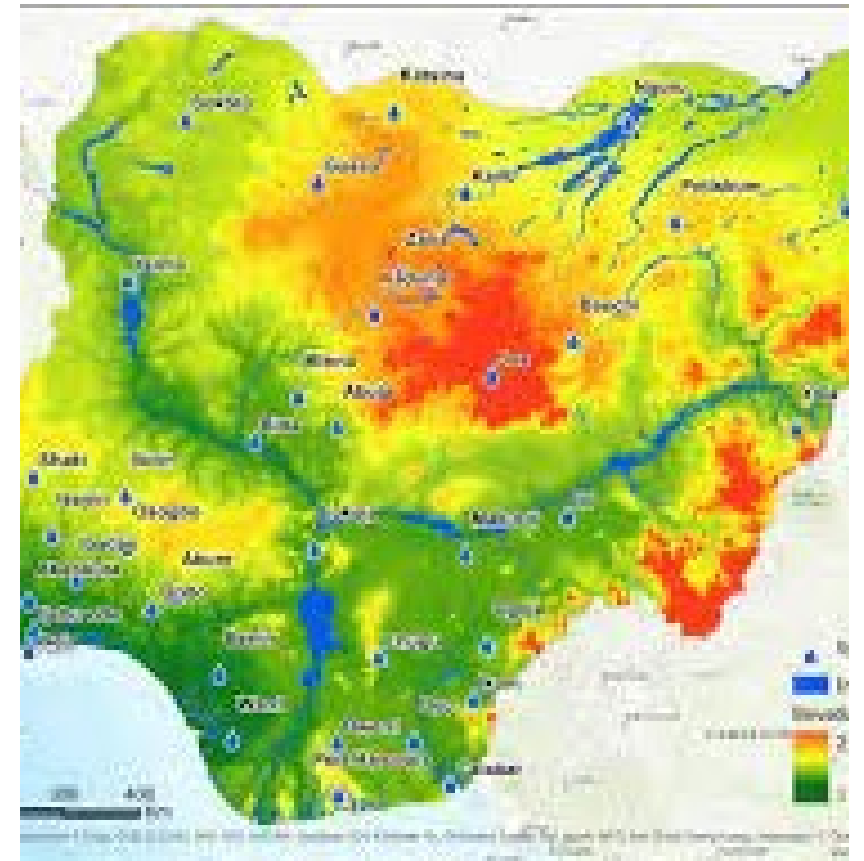


Igbo Tribe

- Igbo tribe are located mostly in Southeastern Nigeria
- Third largest ethnic group in the country
- The Igbos are also surrounded on all sides by the 4th largest tribe in Ijaw and other tribes including the Bini, Efik, Ogoni, Igala, Tiv, Yako and Ibibio.
- Main religion is Christianity.

Weather and Climate

- Diverse climate that ranges from arid (having little rain) in the north to tropical (hot and humid) in most of the rest of the country.
- Nigeria is characterized by three distinct climate zones:
 - a tropical monsoon (windy) climate in the south
 - a tropical savannah (warm and dry) climate for most of the central regions
 - a hot and semi-arid climate in the north of the country
- In general, seasons are defined as the wet season, from April to October, and the dry season, from November until March



Climate Information

- Hottest Month - March (85 °F avg)
- Coldest Month - August (79 °F avg)
- Wettest Month - June (7.35" avg)
- Windiest Month - August (8 mph avg)
- Annual precipitation - 51.75" (per year)

Weather in
Nigeria

Religion

- There two dominant religions in Nigeria
 - Islam- 50% (US Department of State, 2023)
 - Was brought to Nigeria in the 11th Century, by Muslim traders, and became widespread in the 18th century by Usman Dan Fodio. (*Nigeria*, n.d.)
 - Christianity -48.1 % ((US Department of State, 2023)
 - Was introduced by the Portuguese in the 15th Century. (*Nigeria*, n.d.)
 - Catholics~ 25 % (US Department of State, 2023)
 - Protestants and other Christians ~ 75 % (US Department of State, 2023)
- Approximately 0.6% of Nigerians are other, which include Indigenous Traditional Religion. (US Department of State, 2023)
 - Was commonly practiced by Tribes and Empires before the introduction of Islam and Christianity. (*Nigeria*, n.d.)

Religion

- Northern Nigeria is mostly Muslim (Stonawski et al., 2016)
- Southern Nigeria is mostly Christian (Stonawski et al., 2016)

THE CHANGING RELIGIOUS COMPOSITION OF NIGERIA

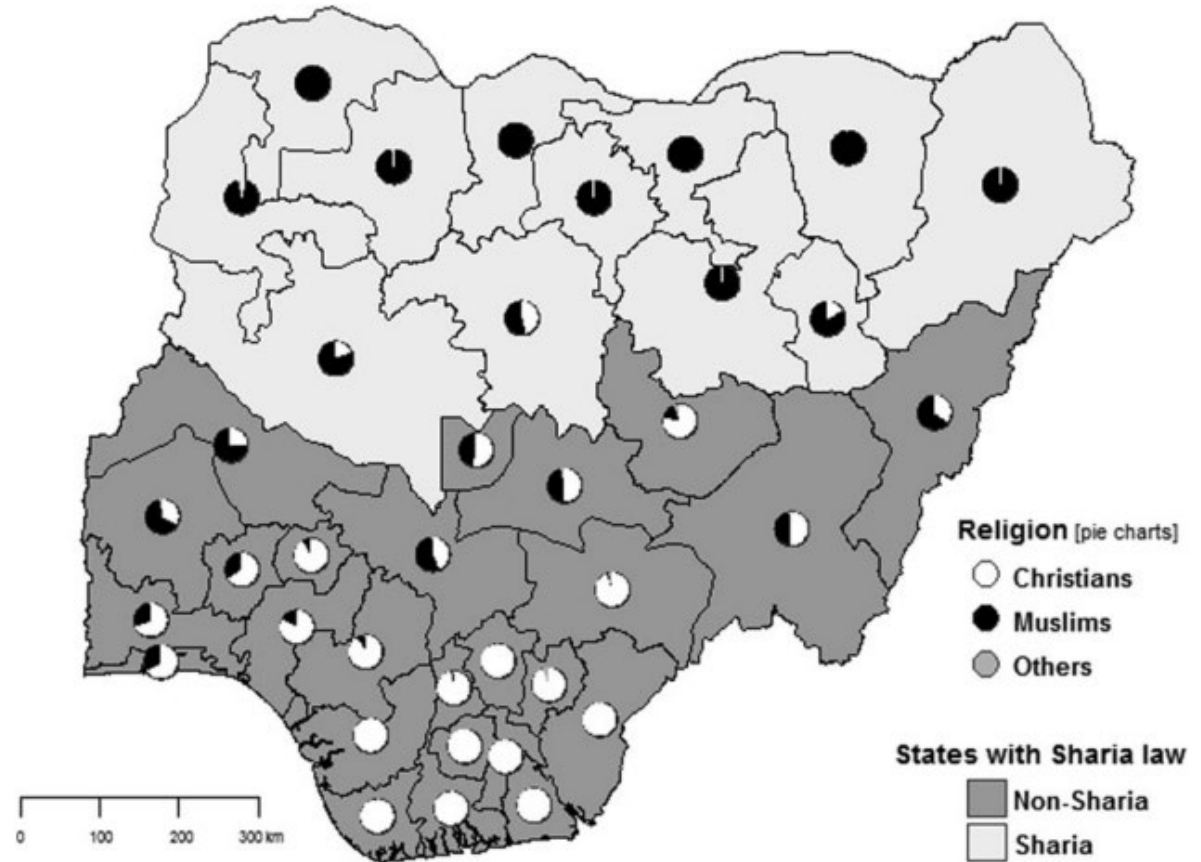


Figure 1: Religious composition by state in Nigeria 2013. Adapted from "The changing religious composition of Nigeria: Causes and implications of demographics divergence" by M. Stonawski, M. Potancokova, M. Cantele, V. Skirbekk, 2016, *Journal of Modern African Studies*. Retrieved from <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/journal-of-modern-african-studies/article/abs/changing-religious-composition-of-nigeria-causes-and-implications-of-demographic-divergence/C780E68F677B92253395051D3B1C8FA3>

Interesting Facts

- Over 500 spoken languages
- Largest economy in Africa
- One of the largest exports of crude oil
- Home to the richest man in Africa
- Nollywood – Nigerian movie industry



**DID YOU
KNOW?**



Questions



Reference

Nigeria. (n.d.). Religion and Public Life at Harvard Divinity School. <https://rpl.hds.harvard.edu/religion-context/country-profiles/Nigeria>

Stonawski, M., Potančoková, M., Cantele, M., & Skirbekk, V. (2016). The changing religious composition of Nigeria: causes and implications of demographic divergence. *Journal of Modern African Studies*, 54(3), 361–387. <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0022278x16000409>

U.S. Department of State. (2023, May 15). Nigeria - united states department of state. U.S. Department of State. <https://www.state.gov/reports/2022-report-on-international-religious-freedom/nigeria/#:~:text=Section%20I.,Religious%20Demography,other%20or%20no%20religious%20groups>.