



ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WOMEN AND ISLAMIC CULTURES

Population and Fertility in Nigeria

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- ❖ Over the next 20 years the Muslim population in Nigeria is expected to increase from 76 million in 2010 to 117 million in 2030 making it a 50% increase over a 20 year period.¹ The current population growth rate is 2.6%.² Nigeria is home to five percent of the entire Muslim population in the world.³
- ❖ Nigeria is not identified as a Muslim majority country because its current Muslim population is at 47.9% and in order to be identified as a Muslim majority country Nigeria needs a 50% majority.⁴ The dominant concentration of Muslims in Nigeria is in Northern Nigeria while the southern region of Nigeria is Christian and the mid-section is a combination of both.¹
- ❖ Current total fertility rates, births per woman, in Nigeria are at 5.6% and expected to rise. Life expectancy for women in Nigeria is higher than men with current life expectancy at 55 years for women versus 49 years for men.⁵
- ❖ Women in Nigeria have an average of 5.3 children and have an “ideal family size” of six children.^{4 6}
- ❖ Seven in ten women in Nigeria know of at least one form of contraception which includes: the male condom, the female birth control pill, and hormone injectables.⁵
- ❖ Overall, 10% of women are using a form of family planning and 40% of sexually-active unmarried women are using a form of family planning with 35% using the male condom as a form of contraception.⁵
- ❖ In a national survey, 81.3% of Muslim women in Nigeria said they do not intend to use birth control in comparison to 51.2% of non-Muslim women in Nigeria.¹
- ❖ Rates in mortality have dropped from 99 deaths out of 1000 live births to 75 deaths out of 1000 births making it a 25% drop in infant mortality. Child mortality rates fell from 97 children to 88 children from 2003 to 2008.⁶

¹<http://www.pewforum.org/2011/01/27/future-of-the-global-muslim-population-regional-sub-saharan-africa/>

² <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/muslims/portraits/nigeria.html>

³ <http://www.pewforum.org/2009/10/07/mapping-the-global-muslim-population/>

⁴ http://www.indexmundi.com/nigeria/demographics_profile.html

⁵ <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ni.html>

⁶ <http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/SR173/SR173.pdf>