



Quick Facts	
Immigration detainees (2019)	Not Available
International migrants (2019)	1,256,408
New asylum applications (2019)	19,681

NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/africa/nigeria>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

STATISTICS

Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Total number of immigration detainees by year	Not Available	2019	Criminal prison population	68,259	2017
				53,841	2013
				50,692	2011
				40,240	2008
				39,006	2005
				40,048	2002
				44,797	1999
				52,000	1996
				47,508	1992
Percentage of foreign prisoners	0.3	2014	Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	36	2017
				32	2013
				31	2011
				27	2008
				28	2005
				31	2002
				37	1999
				46	1996
				46	1992

Demographics and immigration-related statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Population	206,100,000	2020	International migrants	1,256,408	2019
	182,202,000	2015		1,199,100	2015
International migrants as a percentage of the population	0.7	2015	Refugees	54,157	2019
				34,738	2018
				1,922	2017
				1,347	2016
				1,395	2015
				1,239	2014
Ratio of refugees per 1000 inhabitants	0.01	2016	Total number of new asylum applications	19,681	2019
	0.01	2014		206	2016
				516	2014
Refugee recognition rate	45.1	2014			

DOMESTIC LAW

LEGAL TRADITION

	Name	Observation Date
Legal tradition	Common law	2017
	Muslim law	2017
	Customary law	2017

COVID-19 UPDATES

	Update Status	Observation Date
Latest Update	<p>Amnesty International has warned about the potential spread of Covid-19 in the country's overcrowded prisons and detention centres. It highlights the case of Kaduna Prison which although having a capacity of only 473 inmates, as of early April had "1,480 prisoners; while Enugu Maximum Security Prison with capacity for 638, now has 2,077 prisoners." In Kaduna Prison, two uprisings among inmates on 31 March and 3 April led to the death of 9 prisoners, leaving many injured. Panic related to the pandemic and sanitary conditions led to an escape attempt in Aba prison on 16 May, where one inmate was killed. On 22 April, Nigeria's President Buhari urged the chief judge to release prison inmates awaiting trial for more than six years, as well as elderly prisoners and those who are terminally ill. He stated that "42 percent of Nigeria's 74,000 or so prisoners were awaiting trial." On 9 April, the government announced the upcoming release of 2,670 prisoners during the pandemic and on 15 May, the chief justice called for the speed up of the decongestion of custodial centres. However, immigration arrests are still being conducted during the pandemic, according to reports from 1 May.</p>	2020

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification		
International treaties	Name	Ratification Year
	ICESCR, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1993
	VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations	1968
	ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	1967
	ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1993
	CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	1985
	CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2001
	CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child	1991
	ICRMW, International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	2009
	CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2010
	ICPED, International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	2009
	CRSR, Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees	1967
	CRSSP, Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons	2011
	CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	2001
	CTOCSP, Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	2001
	OPCAT, Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2009
PCRSR, Protocol to the Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees	1968	
Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified	16/19	
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification		
Individual complaints procedure	Name	Acceptance Year
	CEDAW, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 1999	2004
	CRPD, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2010
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification		
Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	Number	Observation Date
	2/9	2017

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year
Relevant recommendations issued by treaty bodies	Committee on Migrant Workers	§ 34. The Committee recommends that the State party: [...] (b) Ensure that administrative detention is used only as a measure of last resort and that non-custodial alternatives are provided, in line with the Committee's general comment No. 2 (2013) on the rights of migrant workers in an irregular situation and members of their families; (c) Cease the detention of children on the basis of their or their parents' immigration status and adopt alternatives to detention that allow children to remain with family members and/or guardians in non-custodial, community-based contexts while their immigration status is being reviewed, in line with the principles of the best interests of the child and the child's right to family life. 36. The Committee recommends that the State party: (a) Ensure that all migrant workers and members of their families, particularly those in detention, have recourse to consular support to protect the rights set out in the Convention; [...]	2007

Regional treaties, regulations, and directives

	Name	Year of Ratification (Treaty) / Transposed (Directive) / Adoption (Regulation)
Regional legal instruments	ACHPR, African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights	1983
	ACRWC, African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child	2001
	APRW, Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol)	2004

Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms

	Recommendation Issued	Year Issued	Observation Date
Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	No	2009	2017
	No	2013	2017

INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

More information about immigration detention in Nigeria is available at the website of the Global Detention Project (www.globaldetentionproject.org)