

NIGERIA POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT BAUCHI STATE

FACTSHEET
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Population Growth in Bauchi

Bauchi's population has increased seven-fold since 1960, from about a million people to close to 6.8 million in 2015. In 2017, the population of Bauchi is estimated to be close to 7.3 million. While the Bauchi state government recognizes the need to improve access to vital resources, such as education, healthcare, and employment opportunities, greater investment in family planning in the state is critical to help curb the potentially negative consequences of rapid population growth.

2017 Bauchi Population Profile

- **Population growth trend.** Bauchi's population has grown at a rapid pace over the past several decades and will continue to do so. At the current growth rate of about 3.6 percent per year, the population of Bauchi will double in about 19 years. Population projections estimate that the state's population will grow almost four times larger by 2050, to over 26 million people.
- **Large youth population.** The youth population in Bauchi is a crucial factor to consider. Over half of the population is under the age of 15 and as the population continues to grow, the proportion under age 15 will continue to increase. Bauchi's youthful age structure has enormous implications for future socioeconomic development, as most youth are not yet part of the workforce, placing a heavy burden on the working age population. The large youthful population also constrains the availability and accessibility of basic health and education services. Once Bauchi's youth reach working age, the number of jobs available may not match the number in need.

This snapshot presents findings from the RAPID (Resources for the Awareness of Population Impacts on Development) model application for Bauchi. RAPID projects the economic consequences of rapid population growth on various health and non-health sectors. It complements a larger suite of materials on RAPID, which include national- and state-level applications, and offers quick, easy-to-use facts and figures that demonstrate the impact of population growth on development and the need to invest in family planning in Bauchi as a viable, long-term solution.

Estimated population **7.3 Million**



Population will **double** in 19 years

Average number of **births per woman 8.1**



Married women using a **modern contraceptive method 2.1%**

- **Low contraceptive prevalence rate, high unmet need.** Only 2.1 percent of married women in Bauchi are using a modern method of contraception, which is lower than the national rate of 10 percent. Unmet need for family planning is high in the state—about 14 percent of married women are in need of contraception to limit or space births, and although the total fertility rate in Bauchi is 8.1 births, most women only want to have about four children.

Population Growth Scenarios

Considering the impact of future population growth on socioeconomic development in Bauchi, the RAPID model predicts outcomes in education, employment, and healthcare, based on two scenarios: high population growth and reduced population growth. The following are potential impacts of a reduced population growth scenario, in which the total fertility rate is reduced to around four births per woman over the next 20 years, and then reach three births per woman by 2050.



₦235 billion
saved in primary education costs
 between now and 2050



7,000
fewer doctors will need to be trained
 between now and 2050



2 million
fewer new jobs will be required
 between now and 2050

What We Must Do

- It is essential that Bauchi's family planning programme receive adequate political support. High-level government officials in Bauchi should demonstrate their support for efforts to reduce population growth.
- Decision-makers in Bauchi should encourage both government and nongovernmental organizations to collaborate on delivering family planning programmes.
- Increasing access to family planning information, services, and methods is essential. Providing high-quality family planning services, commodities to support those services, and communication and messaging around family planning all require financial resources. It is critical that sufficient funds are provided to support these efforts.

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