

# NIGERIA

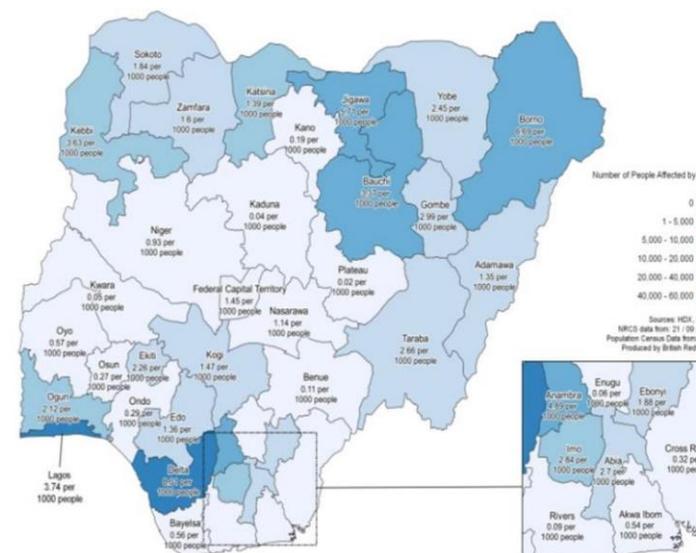
## Floods in Borno, Delta, Kebbi, and Kogi states

Seasonal rainfall and subsequent high-water levels in Niger and Benue rivers have been causing flooding across Nigeria since June 2019. Floods have worsened after a peak in water levels in late September (Floodlist 07/10/2019). According to the latest situation report from 7 October, the floods severely affected 32 of the 36 states and Federal Capital Territory, killing several people, displacing thousands, and causing crop damage to varying degrees across the country (IFRC EPoA 07/10/2019).

### NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE



### IMPACT



### Affected population (per 1000 people)

Borno	6,69 per 1000 people
Delta	8,01 per 1000 people
Kebbi	3,63 per 1000 people
Kogi	1,47 per 1000 people

Source: IFRC EPoA 07/10/2019

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### Anticipated scope and scale

The flooding is estimated to have **affected over 210,000 people**, with **about 130,000 of them being displaced** (IFRC EPoA 07/10/2019). Rainfall is predicted to continue in central Nigeria in the week of 17-23 October (NOAA). Flooding has **destroyed or flooded IDP camps** across north-eastern states, especially in Borno. People in camps in Borno face increased **health risks and lack access to WASH facilities**.

### Key priorities (country level)



**130,000**  
people displaced



**WASH**  
destruction of WASH facilities



**Shelter**  
flooding of camps and houses



**Health**  
risk of disease outbreaks

### Humanitarian constraints



Humanitarian access to Borno state is severely limited due to security concerns and poor road infrastructure. Monitoring the security situation in Kogi and Delta states is recommended due to the ongoing Middle Belt conflict. Destroyed bridges and flooded roads can further constrain access but data on infrastructure damage across states is lacking.

**Limitations:** Data is often not disaggregated by geographical area and information on sectoral needs is uneven, focusing largely on camp sites in north-eastern states and only sporadically on humanitarian needs in other states. This makes it difficult to ascertain the full impact of the floods and the severity of humanitarian need in each state.

## Crisis impact

As a result of heavy rainfalls and high water levels in the Niger and Benue rivers, the two main rivers of Nigeria, a series of flooding has submerged areas across the country in water since June 2019. Following a peak in water levels of rivers Niger and Benue in late September, severe flooding aggravated the situation (Floodlist 07/10/2019). The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has not declared a state of emergency but the Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA) had issued a flood red alert earlier in September (Sahara Reporters 17/09/2019).

According to the latest statistics issued by the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) on 7 October, severe floods occurred in 32 of the 36 states and Federal Capital Territory and it is estimated that in total over 210,000 people are affected with about 130,000 of them being displaced and at least 12 reported deaths in Cross River and Niger states (IFRC EPoA 07/10/2019). No updated estimations were available but since rainfall has been ongoing and is predicted to continue in central Nigeria (NOAA), the number of people affected by the floods is likely to have increased. Moreover, the total number of fatalities is likely to be higher. As of 30 August, at least 15 people had also been killed in Adamawa state (OCHA SitRep 2 30/08/2019) and additional deaths in flood-related accidents in other states keep being reported, for instance in Lagos and Delta state (Guardian Nigeria 12/10/2019 and 23/09/2019).

According to assessments of the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS), the numbers of affected people in Borno and Delta states are higher than in Kebbi and Kogi. For Delta, estimations range between 40,000 and 60,000 affected people, for Borno between 20,000 and 40,000 people (IFRC EPoA 07/10/2019). Other severely affected states in terms of the total number of affected people include Anambra, Bauchi, Jigawa, and Lagos.

### AFFECTED POPULATION RATES (PER 1000 PEOPLE)

<b>BORNO</b>	6.69 per 1000 people
<b>DELTA</b>	8.01 per 1000 people
<b>KEBBI</b>	3.63 per 1000 people
<b>KOGI</b>	1.47 per 1000 people

Source: IFRC EPoA 07/10/2019

As the floods affect states across the different geo-political zones in the country as well as different population groups, especially IDPs and host communities, sectoral needs and gaps vary. Information on specific needs across states is uneven and focuses particularly on flood-related needs in context of the humanitarian crisis in north-east Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe (BAY) states (ex. CCCM MST report 3 04/10/2019).

**Shelter/NFI:** Displacement and shelter damage are widespread across flood-affected states. Heavy rains and flooding in northeast Nigeria destroyed emergency and makeshift camps, rendering IDP residents homeless or forced to stay with family members and friends in overcrowded shelters (NRC 23/08/2019). The destruction and flooding of camps happened particularly in Borno state where, as of 30 August, 68 camps and IDP settlement were affected (OCHA SitRep 2 30/08/2019).

In some flood-prone regions like Kogi state, emergency shelters were opened for people who had to leave their homes due to the floods (Pulse 22/09/2019).

**WASH:** In camps covered by Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) partner agencies in northeast Nigeria, WASH needs are severe because latrines and showers need to be repaired (CCCM MST report 3 04/10/2019). In many camps, people have no choice than to practice open defecation increasing the risk of the outbreak of diseases (NRC 23/08/2019). Specific WASH related needs in other states remain unclear.

**Food:** In September, households in Delta, Kebbi, and Kogi states faced only minimal food insecurity (IPC Phase 1) and there are no reports of current food shortages in these states, though it is likely that flood-displaced people will require food assistance (FEWS NET 09/2019). Due to loss of livestock and crops, food needs among communities depending on agriculture may remain once the floods have subsided.

Households in conflict-affected Borno state, however, faced Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes in September (FEWS NET 09/2019). As of July 2019, over 2 million people in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states have received food assistance (OCHA 08/2019). In camps covered by CCCM, food gaps existed as of 4 October (CCCM MST report 3 04/10/2019).

**Health:** Where safe drinking water is lacking, water-borne diseases such as cholera and acute watery diarrhoea can break out. Other health risks include an increase of malaria infections due to stagnant water, particularly in areas with poor drainage infrastructure (OCHA SitRep 2 30/08/2019).

Poor hygienic conditions in camps in northeastern states has increased the outbreak of diseases since the beginning of the rainy season (OCHA 08/2019). In Borno state, there was an increase in malaria cases as of 30 August and two deaths due to acute watery diarrhoea were reported (OCHA SitRep 2 30/08/2019). No updated health statistics for

Borno flood-affected populations were available. The State Ministry of Health and WHO have set up mobile clinics in northeast Nigeria and use their staff trained for polio eradication to help prevent the outbreak of water-borne diseases (WHO 09/2019).

**Education:** Schools have been flooded across the country making it difficult for children to attend school. Reports about inaccessible education facilities come for instance from Delta state (Guardian Nigeria 23/09/2019). The extent of damage remains unclear making it difficult to assess how many schools need to be repaired and how long they will remain inaccessible.

**Protection:** Concerns regarding the opportunity for armed groups to infiltrate displacement camps have been raised. A suicide bomb attack carried out by a woman on 20 August targeted a displacement camp in Dikwa, Borno state. This kind of attack has not happened in the area since December 2018 (NRC 23/08/2019).

Overcrowded camps also lead to increased levels of vulnerabilities for women and children, especially increasing risks of gender-based violence and abduction (OCHA SitRep 2 30/08/2019, OCHA 2016). Older people and people with disabilities also face greater risks of abuse in camps (OCHA 2019).

## Impact on critical infrastructure

There are no reports on the overall extent to which the flooding has affected infrastructure and public facilities across the country. Still, roads across Nigeria lack effective drainage, making them prone to get submerged (African Arguments 2018).

Many flood-affected states and regions have reported infrastructure damages including roads submerged in water such as in Lagos, indicating severe temporary infrastructure impediments across the country (PM News 12/10/2019).

## Vulnerable groups affected

**IDPs:** Nigeria has a large population of IDPs, mostly displaced due to the Boko Haram conflict in the northeastern states. At the end of 2018, around 2.2 million people in Nigeria were displaced of which over 90% live in the northeast (IDMC Special Report 2019). About 140,000 additional displacement cases were recorded between January and June 2019 across the country (IDMC). Displaced people in emergency and makeshift shelters face increased needs across all sectors due to the flooding including shelter, food, health and protection needs (OCHA 08/2019).

**Children:** Children are especially vulnerable to the increased health risks due to the rainy season (MSF 12/08/2019). The deteriorating health situation can also worsen malnutrition (OCHA 08/2019).

**Gaps:** While the humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations in northeastern camps are being assessed (OCHA 08/2019), there is a general lack of disaggregated information on flood-affected populations in Delta, Kebbi, and Kogi states. This makes it difficult to assess particular vulnerabilities there.

## Humanitarian and operational constraints

Humanitarian access to Borno state is severely limited. Due to the volatile security situation, movement restrictions and poor road infrastructure, people living in areas outside of military control can hardly be reached (MSF 13/08/2019). Over 800,000 people in Borno state cannot be accessed by humanitarian organisations (OCHA HNO 2019).

Kogi state has experienced violence in context of the Middle Belt in the past and so has Delta state to a smaller extent (Idakwoji et al. 2018). As the flooding and ensuing damage to crops and livestock can increase the land conflicts underlying the tensions and a recent government livestock plan has been rejected (SaharaReporters 27/09/2019), the security situation in Kogi should still be monitored.

Destroyed bridges and flooded roads can further constrain access but data on the infrastructural damages across the different states is lacking.

## Aggravating factors

### Recurring flooding

Nigeria experiences flooding annually during the rainy season with Niger and Benue rivers frequently overflowing not only due to local rainfall but also because the country is located downstream of several neighbouring countries (IFRC 09/2019).

In recent years, severe flooding has affected the country in 2012 and in 2018. In the past year, large parts of the country were flooded and the government declared a state of emergency in Kogi, Niger, Anambra and Delta (IFRC 09/2019). The 2018 flooding is estimated to have killed up to 200 people and displaced over half a million people (WHO 09/2019). The 2018 floods also caused widespread crop destruction of at least 150,000 hectares of agricultural land (OCHA 2018). Areas that are now affected by severe flooding for a second consecutive year face increased risks of reduced crop production that can impact the availability of produce in the region (Aljazeera 23/09/2019). In addition, there is a protracted risk of negative impacts on livelihoods of farmers and local populations' capacity to rebuild and repair their homes.

## Rainy season

The main rain season in the north of the country usually lasts from June until October while it can last until November in the south (FEWS NET). For 2019, the Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA) predicted flooding particularly from June throughout September (NNN 26/06/2019). Nevertheless, rainfall is likely to continue in the next days. For central Nigeria, heavy rainfall is expected in the upcoming week making further flooding likely (FEWS NET 11/10/2019).

## Conflicts

**Northeast:** The three northeastern states Borno, Yobe and Adamawa continue to face a volatile security situation due to the Boko Haram conflict that has led to an ongoing humanitarian emergency. As of August 2019, over 7 million people are considered in need of humanitarian assistance in the northeast (OCHA 08/2019). The Boko Haram conflict is a key driver for displacement in Nigeria. Due to ongoing violence against civilians, around 42,000 new cases of displacement were reported in northeast states in the first half of 2019, with actual numbers likely to be even higher (IDMC 12/09/2019). The heavy rains and flooding during this rainy season have increased needs of IDPs and local farmers even further (OCHA 08/2019).

**Middle Belt:** Kogi state is located in the Middle Belt area. In central Nigerian states, the violence between herders and farmers in central Nigerian states known as the Middle Belt conflict has displaced 23,000 people (IDMC 12/09/2019). The Middle Belt conflict mainly affects Benue, Nasarawa, Plateau, and Taraba states (CrisisGroup 26/07/2018) but there have been violent incidents in Kogi in the past (Idakwoji et al. 2018, HRW). The current extent of the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected people in the Middle Belt is under-reported and displacement numbers are likely to be higher (IDMC Special Report 05/2019). Insecurity and displacement have made farming and herding more difficult for communities (CrisisGroup 26/07/2018). This situation is likely to have increased in flooded areas where livestock and crops have been destroyed and can increase the risk of food insecurity. In addition, displaced people in emergency and makeshift shelters are likely to face increased needs due to the flooding.

## Border closure

In August 2019, the Government of Nigeria unilaterally closed its borders with Benin and Niger to goods trade and effectively banned food imports from its neighbouring

countries. According to the government, the decision was a step to counter smuggling (DW 17/09/2019) and is also part of a wider policy to strengthen local agricultural production. The shutdown has begun to impact food prices, which have been rising in September (Bloomberg 15/10/2019). Increased inflation can further limit access to food for poor people and people whose livelihoods have been reduced or destroyed by the floods and now rely on purchasing additional food. It also might aggravate the general availability of food items which has been strained by crop damage due to the flooding.

## Key characteristics

### Demographic profile (population/surface area):

Country level: 193 million people / 909,890 square metres

Borno: 5.7 million people / 72,000 square metres

Delta: 3.9 million people / 17,108 square metres

Kebbi: 4.4 million people / 36,985 square metres

Kogi: 4.5 million people / 27,747 square metres

(GoN National Bureau of Statistics 2011; population projection 2016)

### Poverty statistics:

Poverty gap at national poverty lines (%): 17 (2009)

Rural poverty gap at national poverty lines (%): 20.1 (2009)

Urban poverty gap at national poverty lines (%): 11.6 (2009)

Poverty headcount ratio at USD 3.20 a day (2011 PPP) (% of population): 77.6 (2009)

Poverty headcount ratio at USD 1.90 a day (2011 PPP) (% of population): 53.5 (2009)

### Food security figures:

Most households outside northeast Nigeria face Minimal (IPC Phase 1) acute food insecurity. In Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes continue (FEWS NET 09/2019).

### Nutrition levels:

Prevalence of severe acute malnutrition, weight for height (% of children under 5): 2.9 (2017)

Prevalence of acute malnutrition, weight for height (% of children under 5): 10.6 (2017)

Prevalence of chronic malnutrition, height for age (% of children under 5): 43.6 (2017)

Prevalence of undernourishment (% of population): 7.9 (2015)

### Health statistics:

Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, sanitation and lack of hygiene (per 100,000 population): 68.6 (2017)

Incidence of malaria (per 1,000 population at risk): 380.8 (2015)

**WASH statistics:**

People practicing open defecation (% of population): 25.5 (2015)  
 People using at least basic drinking water services (% of population): 67.3 (2015)  
 People using safely managed drinking water services (% of population): 19.4 (2015)

**Lighting and cooking sources:**

People using safely managed drinking water services (% of population): 19.4 (2015)  
 Access to electricity (% of population): 59.3 (2016)

Source: World Bank 2015

## Response capacity

### Local and national response capacity

At a federal level, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is the coordinating agency for emergency management in Nigeria and operates in cooperation with the state emergency management agencies (SEMA). For 2019, the Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA) predicted flooding particularly from June throughout September (NNN 26/06/2019).

On the individual state level, the response and capacities of state governments vary. Kebbi government for instance announced in September to earmark 1.5 billion Nigerian naira for flood-related emergencies but it remains unclear what the operational response has been in each state (Guardian Nigeria 21/09/2019).

In the past, the national disaster management framework has been criticized for not clearly defining the role of local, state and government emergency management agencies and emergency response has been said to have been sub-optimal (Olanrewaju, Chitakira, Olanrewaju & Louw, 2019). This raises concerns about the government's response capacities regarding the current flooding.

The IFRC has launched an Emergency Plan of Action in October that is supposed to last until 4 February 2020 (IFRC EPoA 07/10/2019). National partner organisations involved in the implementation are the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and the State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMA). On 22 September, a State Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) was activated to coordinate this response. The IFRC disaster response aims to deliver WASH services in Cross River, Kogi, Niger and Taraba states and to support 6,000 persons through a cash transfer programme. Apart from the NRCS, there is no information on local and national NGOs responding to the flood-affected population.

### International response capacity

International partners supporting the IFRC's Emergency Plan of Action are the ICRC and the British Red Cross (IFRC EPoA 07/10/2019).

Despite the concentration of operational presence of humanitarian actors in Maiduguri, the state capital of Borno, gaps remain across sectors in the city. Already in June, MSF reported that some the capacities of its feeding centre in Maiduguri were reached (MSF 13/08/2019). As of 4 October, the Camp Coordination and Camp Management site tracker reveals further gaps in shelter, food and WASH needs across camps in northeast Nigeria (CCCM MST report 3 04/10/2019).

In the three states in northeast Nigeria, including Borno, the State Ministry of Health has launched an emergency response in cooperation with the WHO and other partners in order to provide medical services aiming to mitigate the spread of diseases (WHO 09/2019).

### Information gaps and needs

Most available information either summarises the impact of the flooding across Nigeria without providing a geographical breakdown of the displaced populations, fatalities, injuries, and houses damaged or focuses exclusively on humanitarian needs in the conflict-affected areas in northeast Nigeria. A clear breakdown of humanitarian needs by sector and state level is lacking. Moreover, there is a lack of information regarding the effect of the flooding on non-IDPs and on host communities. On the one hand, there is a detailed picture of sectoral needs of displaced people living in camps in north-east Nigeria through agencies involved with the Humanitarian Response Plan for north-east Nigeria, namely through the multi-sectoral site tracker of the CCCM (CCCM MST report 3 04/10/2019). On the other hand, similar granular information on flood-affected Delta, Kebbi, and Kogi states and local populations there does not exist.

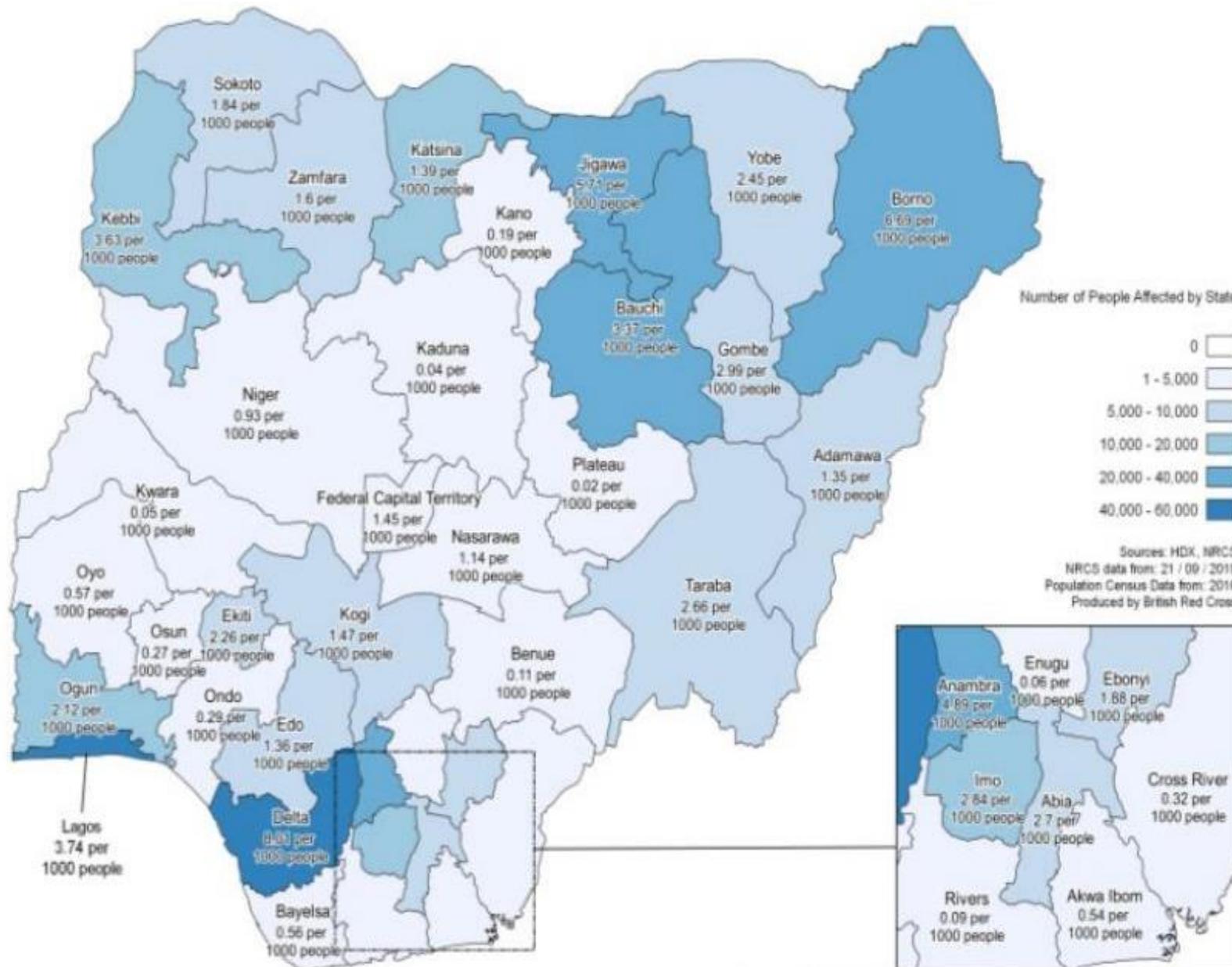
Since flooding has been ongoing throughout the rainy season, information is also not always updated and may refer to previous weeks.

# Nigeria Reference Map



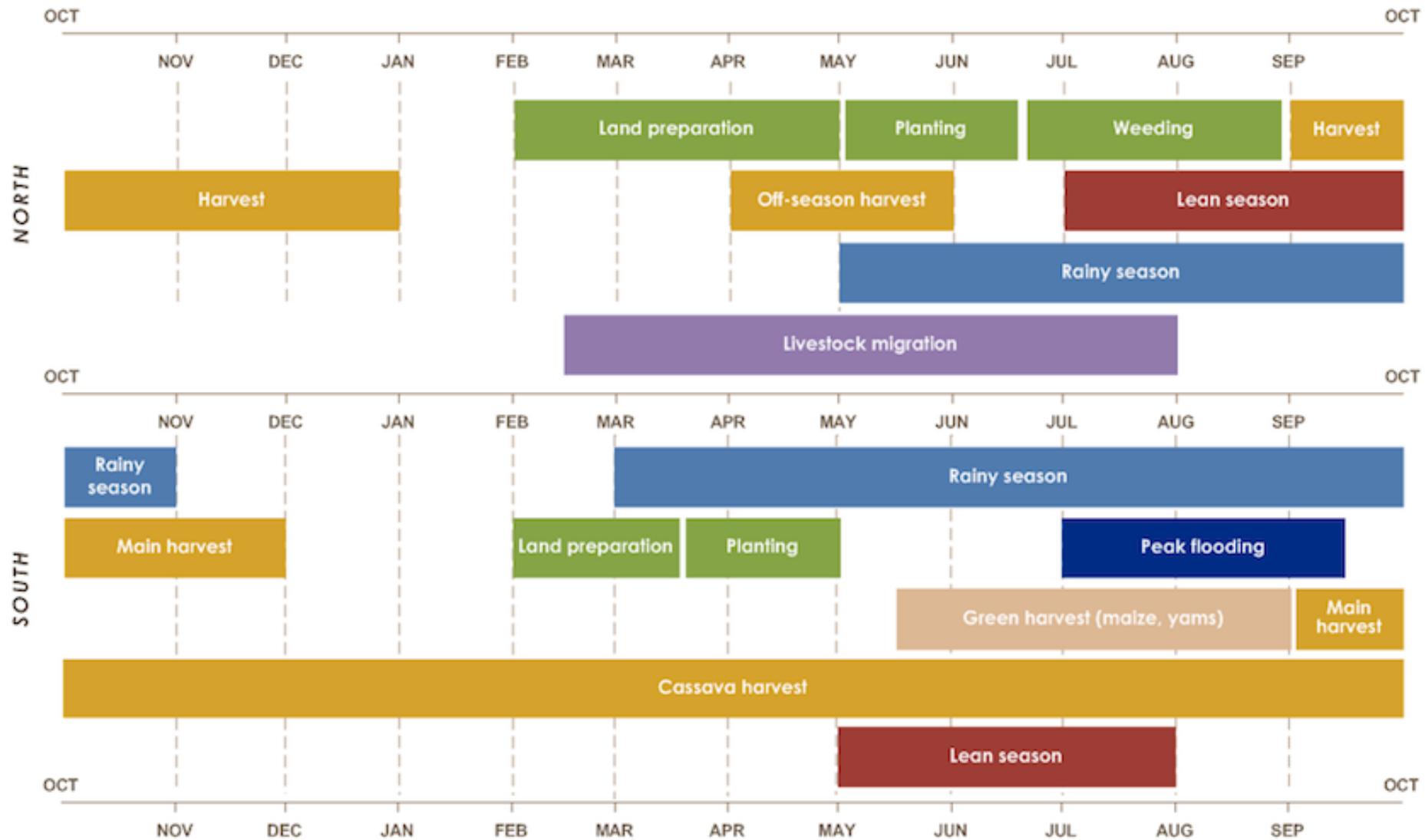
Source: OCHA Reference Map 2016

## Flood-affected population per number and state (as of 27/09/2019)



Source: IFRC EPoA 07/10/2019

## Seasonal calendar of Nigeria during a typical year



Source: FEWS NET