



Kaduna State Nutrition Interventions:

A Trend Analysis of Government Investments



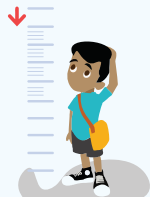


Introduction

Nutritional status of children

Child Nutrition Indicators

(Too short for their Age)



48.1%

Stunting in children under 5-years of age

This means that nearly one in every two children in Kaduna is affected by stunting, which is characterised by a low height for their age.

(Too thin for their Height)



22.1%

Wasting among children under 5-years of age

This means that approximately one in every five children in Kaduna is affected by wasting, which indicates a low weight for their height.

(Too thin for their Age)



4.8%

Underweight among children under 5 years of age

This means that approximately one in every twenty children in Kaduna is underweight, indicating a lower weight than expected for their age.

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey 2018

Infant and Young Child Feeding



only **27.5%** of Children (6 - 59 months) receive Vitamin A

Approximately one in four children aged 6 to 59 months receive Vitamin A in Kaduna state.



only **9.4%** of Children (6 - 59 months) receive Deworming tablets

Approximately one out of every ten children (or 1 in 2) aged 6 to 59 months receive deworming tablets



only **73.0%** are Breastfeed within 1 hour of birth

Approximately three in four children are breastfed within one hour of birth

Exclusive Breastfeeding rate:

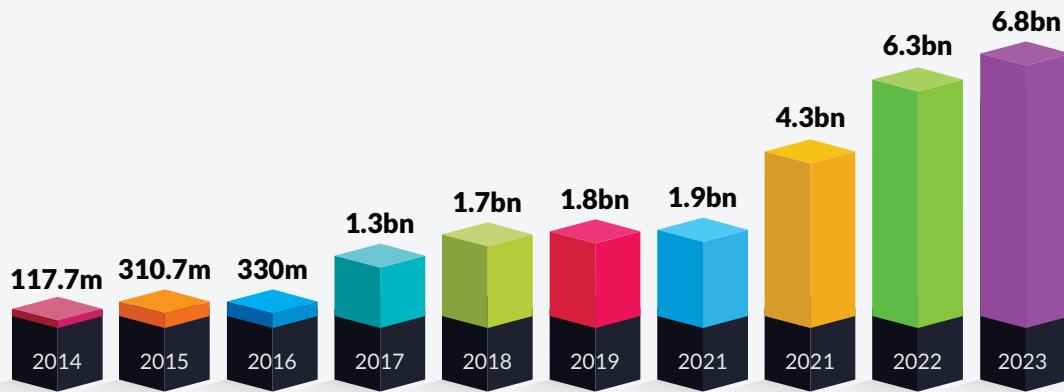
Samples at state level are too low for any meaningful statistical presentation

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey 2018



Budgetary Allocation

Nominal Budgetary Allocation (₦) ▾

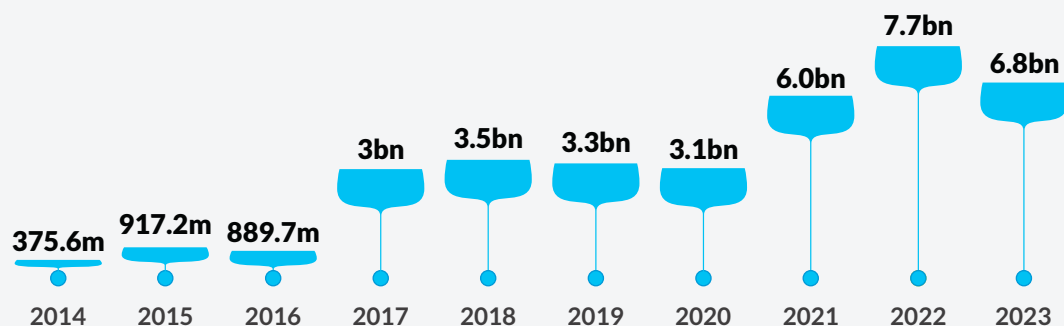


Between 2014 and 2023, budgetary allocations for nutrition interventions in Kaduna State underwent considerable changes. The allocation started at N117.75 million in 2014, then more than doubled to N310.77 million in 2015, and continued to grow slightly to N330 million in 2016. The year 2017 saw a remarkable leap as the budget rose significantly to N1.342 billion, followed by another increase to N1.775 billion in 2018. The upward trend continued in 2019, with the allocation reaching N1.871 billion, and further rose to N1.96 billion in 2020.

In 2021, the budget saw a significant increase to N4.34 billion, before experiencing a more significant boost to N6.397 billion in 2022. By 2023, the budgetary allocation had climbed to an impressive peak of N6.800 billion. However, despite these considerable increases over the years, it's critical to maintain and enhance investment in this area to improve the nutritional status of children in Kaduna State, given the essential role that nutrition plays in their overall development.

Analysing Inflation's Impact on Nutrition Intervention Budgets: A Closer Look at Allocations

▾ Inflation -Adjusted Budgetary Allocation(₦)



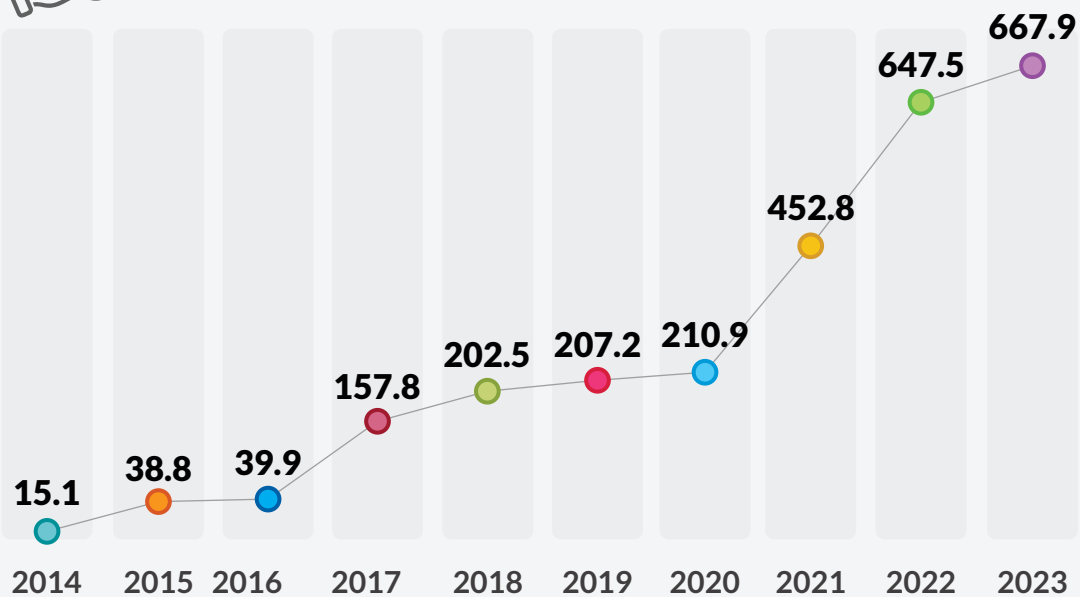
Inflation and Budget Changes in Kaduna: Between 2014 and 2015, the budget increased from N117.75 million to N310.77 million. However, because of inflation, the 'real' or 'effective' budget was actually higher - you would need N375.67 million in 2014 and N917.24 million in 2015 to buy the same items. In 2017, there was a significant jump in the budget to an inflation-adjusted N3.084 billion. From 2016 to 2021, the budget increased steadily, even when accounting for inflation.

These numbers show why it's important to consider inflation when planning a budget. Although the budget may seem to increase on paper, inflation can reduce the purchasing power of that money - meaning it can buy less. This is why it's crucial to make adjustments for inflation for a more accurate picture of budget planning and decision-making



Comparing Budgetary Allocations to Population Growth: An Examination of Real Value of Investment in Nutrition intervention

Per capita Budgetary allocation for Nutrition intervention (₦)



**Population - estimate based on 3.36percent growth rate

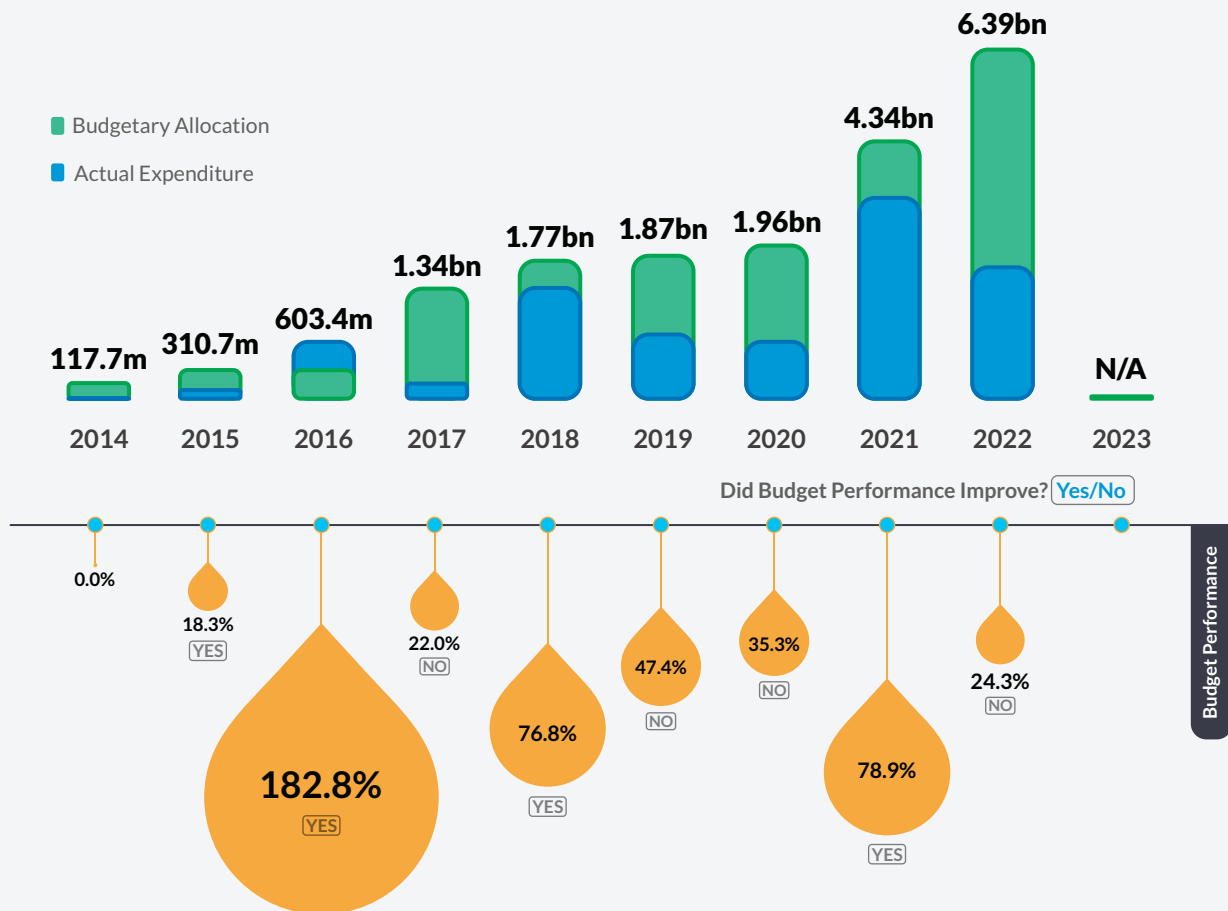
Over the past decade, Kaduna state's nutrition intervention budget has risen from N117.75 million in 2014 to a projected N6.8 billion in 2023, while the population grew from 7.77 million to an estimated 10.18 million. Despite the overall budget growth, per capita allocations for nutrition intervention varied, reaching a peak of N667.93 in 2023. However, it is crucial to further increase per capita allocation to adequately address nutritional needs.

The Kaduna state government's focus on increased budgetary allocations to nutrition intervention is commendable. Continuing this trend and implementing efficient strategies will be vital to maintain progress and improve nutrition outcomes in the state. These insights highlight the importance of considering population growth when examining the impact of budgetary allocations. While nominal budgetary allocations have significantly increased, per capita allocations offer a more accurate perspective of the actual funds available for nutrition intervention per individual.



Evaluating the Performance and Credibility of Nutrition Intervention Budget Allocations

Budget Performance Trend (₦)



Our review of the annual budget allocations and performances for nutrition interventions in Kaduna over nine years (2014-2022) reveals variable commitment and fluctuating results. In 2014, the budget allocation was N117.75 million, with 0.00% expenditure, indicating a lack of implementation.

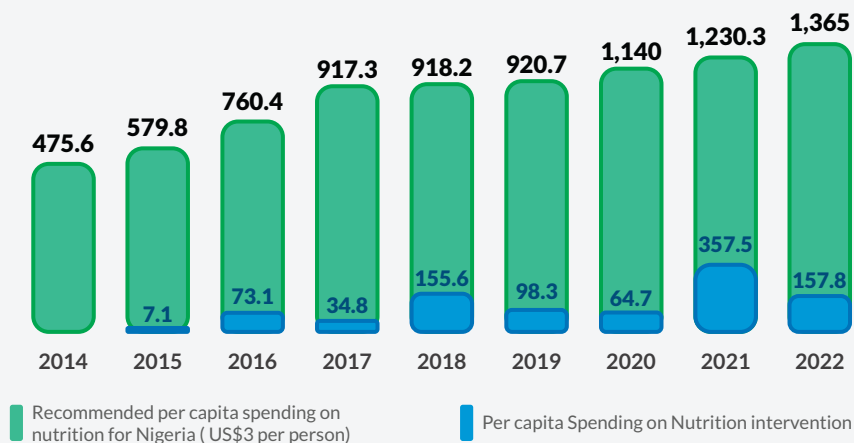
In 2015, the allocation increased to N310.77 million, with 18.34% spent. Improvement continued in 2016, with a budget of N330 million and a remarkable 182.87% performance. However, in 2017, despite a higher allocation of N1.34 billion, performance dropped to 22.07%. It improved to 76.85% in 2018, spending N1.36 billion from a N1.78 billion budget. Subsequently, performance declined to 47.47% in 2019 and further to 30.70% in 2020. There was an improvement in 2021, with a 78.95% performance despite increased allocation. In 2022, with N6.40 billion allocated, performance dropped to 24.38%.

These patterns show inconsistency in budget utilisation for nutrition interventions, deviating significantly from global best practices. A comprehensive review is necessary to identify and address barriers to effective fund utilisation. Optimal use of allocated funds is crucial for the effectiveness of nutrition interventions, impacting the health and wellbeing of the population.



Comparing Actual Spending on Nutrition to Population Growth: An Examination of Real Value of Investment in Nutrition intervention

Per capita Spending (₦) ▾



Kaduna State, a major state in northern Nigeria, has long struggled with underinvestment in nutrition interventions, as evident from the available data. An analysis of per capita spending on nutrition interventions from 2014 to 2022 reveals continuous underinvestment. In 2014, there were no funds allocated to this critical sector. Despite some minor increases in subsequent years, the figures remained significantly lower than the recommended spending of US\$3 per person.

For instance, in 2015, the state invested only N7.12 per person, compared to the recommended N579.84. The situation worsened over the years, with spending consistently below the three-digit mark. The highest investment occurred in 2018, with N155.69 per person, still far from the recommended N918.24. The disparity between actual and recommended spending widened, peaking in 2022, with N157.89 per person invested compared to the recommended N1,365. The persistent underinvestment in nutrition interventions is deeply concerning. Nutrition is crucial for health, well-being, and the population's productivity and economic growth.

To address this urgent issue, Kaduna State must significantly overhaul the funding of nutrition interventions. Bridging the investment gap and prioritising the nutrition sector is crucial for the future prosperity of the state. It is not just an investment in health but an investment in the overall well-being and development of Kaduna State.



Summary of key Findings

This analysis of the budgetary allocations for nutrition interventions in Kaduna State, Nigeria from 2014 to 2023 provides several key insights.

Inflation and Funding Challenges: Despite notable increases in nominal budget allocations for nutrition interventions, from N117.75 million in 2014 to a projected N6.8 billion in 2023, the 'real' or 'effective' budget when adjusted for inflation reveals a different picture. Inflation has consistently eroded the value of allocated funds, thereby highlighting the need to factor inflation into budget planning and decision-making.

Population Growth and Per Capita Spending: The population of Kaduna State has seen consistent growth over the period, with the estimated population rising from approximately 7.77 million in 2014 to around 10.18 million in 2023. However, per capita public allocations for nutrition intervention have not shown a consistent upward trend. Despite a significant rise in 2023, reaching N157.89 per capita, the overall per capita spending remains substantially lower than the recommended investment of N1,365 per person based on the suggested per capita spending of US\$3 per person.

Budget Performance: The performance of allocated budgets has been highly variable and often suboptimal, with significant deviations from the global best practice of +/- 5%. In 2014, despite a budget allocation, no funds were utilised for nutrition interventions. This trend of variable budget performance suggests issues in administrative efficiency, possible corruption, and a lack of accountability hindering the effective use of funds.

Underinvestment in Nutrition Interventions: Over the years, there has been a significant underinvestment in nutrition interventions in Kaduna State. Despite some increases in allocations and expenditures, the per capita spending on nutrition interventions remains starkly below the recommended spending. This underinvestment represents a grave concern, given the profound impact of nutrition on health, well-being, and economic productivity.

In summary, while Kaduna State has experienced a significant nominal increase in budget allocations for nutrition interventions, real-term values, implementation issues, population growth, and per capita spending underscore considerable challenges in ensuring adequate nutrition for the state's populace. These issues call for immediate attention and significant rectification to effectively combat malnutrition and promote healthy development in Kaduna State.



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