

Katsina, Nigeria (2026)

We pray for the Diocesan President and all Mothers' Union members in Katsina. (*A candle is lit*).

Located in Western Africa, Nigeria is Africa's most populous country and the sixth most populated country in the world. According to December 2025 figures the population is 237.5 million, an increase of 2 million in the year.

Katsina is in the north of Nigeria, near the border with Niger. It has a hot semi-arid climate. On New Year's Day 2026 the temperature reached 36 Centigrade (96.8% Fahrenheit).

Katsina is home to diverse ethnic groups, though the Hausa-Fulani constitute the majority. The state's ethnic composition has been shaped by centuries of migration, trade and cultural exchange. The state has a population of 8.8 million with 45% under the age of 15 and only 4% over the age of 65. Significant strides have been made in improving access to education though challenges remain, particularly in rural areas and in girls' education. The overall literacy rate is 55%. Since 2021 when the government introduced the Katsina Youth Empowerment Program, 15,000 youths have been trained in various vocational skills, startup capital has been provided to 2,500 young entrepreneurs and 5,000 direct and indirect jobs have been created. The program is ongoing and is intended to equip youth with skills, provide entrepreneurship support and create employment opportunities.

There are 4 key economic activities in Katsina; the first is crop production – millet, sorghum, maize, rice, groundnuts, cotton and vegetables, secondly livestock – cattle, sheep, goats and poultry farming; thirdly commerce – trading activities, both local and cross border with Niger Republic contribute significantly to the state's economy and lastly crafts – leatherwork, weaving and pottery provide livelihoods for many artisans.

Mothers' Union, active in Nigeria since 1908, is estimated to have at least 60,000 members though the actual number is likely much higher. Working closely with the Womens' Guild, members support communities through hospital visits, health clinics, orphan and widow care, vocational training, day care centres, marriage preparation, prison ministry and parenting programmes.

We pray for our members in Katsina, that the love and care they give to people in their community will continue and be strengthened.

Amen