ROYAL AFRICAN KINGDOMS UNION

Africa: Population & Development

A sourced statistical briefing for community and investment planning.

RAKU Research & Development | 5 November 2026

Population and vital statistics

Population: 1.550 billion (2025); ages 0-14: 38.8%; ages 60+: 5.8%; fertility: 4.0 births per woman; female / male life expectancy: 66.3 / 62.1 years. These UNData figures are medium-variant projected estimates for Africa, not a live census.

Development indicators

UNData reports Africa GDP of US$2.807 trillion at current prices for 2023. ITU estimates Internet use at 42% in its Africa region in 2026. IEA reports about 600 million people without electricity in sub-Saharan Africa in 2024. Coverage differs across these indicators.

What the numbers mean for development

A large young population raises the importance of learning, health, employment, and enterprise opportunities. Population size alone does not ensure prosperity. Productive investment and dependable services are essential to translating human potential into improved living standards.

How to use the data

This is a curated starting point, not an exhaustive African statistical system. Reference years vary. Projections are not census counts. Continental aggregates cannot describe every kingdom, country, city, or community.

Compare like with like

Keep geography, age bands, units, price basis, and reference year consistent. ITU Africa and UN Africa are different groupings. Sub-Saharan Africa excludes North Africa. Current-dollar GDP is affected by prices and exchange rates.

Local evidence for decisions

Combine published statistics with lawful, consent-based local needs assessments. Record the source, collection date, sample, missing values, and uncertainty. Do not publish personal health records or identifiable

household data.

Update and reuse

This edition was reviewed on 5 November 2026. Statistics are a dated snapshot, not a live feed. The downloadable CSV preserves definitions. Consult the originating provider for updates, methodology, and reuse terms.

Sources and publication notes

Original RAKU synthesis. The crest identifies RAKU as publisher; it does not imply endorsement by data providers. Figures retain their source coverage and reference year. This publication presents development priorities, not funding commitments.

UNData Africa profile
https://data.un.org/legacy/en/reg/g2.html

UN World Population Prospects 2024
https://population.un.org/wpp/

ITU Facts and Figures 2026
https://www.itu.int/itu-d/reports/statistics/2026/10/13/ff26-internet-use/

IEA, Financing Electricity Access in Africa (2025)
https://www.iea.org/reports/financing-electricity-access-in-africa/state-of-play

UN 2030 Agenda
https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda