About half of the population in Nasarawa lives in households that rely on two or three or more water sources. The wealthiest households tend to rely on the same number of options comparing to the poorest households.

Households identify one source as the main drinking water source. A regular drinking water source is used at least a few times a week for a season of the year. The most commonly used drinking water sources in Nasarawa are tubewells, rainwater, and sachet water.

Only 7.5% of households in Nasarawa can access a dedicated handwashing station. 5% of all surveyed households had a dedicated handwashing station with soap and water at the station at the time of the interview.
The vast majority of the population in Nasarawa reports using only one sanitation option. This sanitation option may include an improved, unshared facility, or various unimproved options: shared, non-improved, or the practice of open defecation.

The practice of open defecation is inversely related to household wealth. Across all wealth quintiles, the percent of the household population regularly practicing open defecation is greater than the percent reporting open defecation as their main practice.

Open defecation is more common in rural than urban areas. A higher percent of the household population reports open defecation as a regular rather than main practice. The overall prevalence of open defecation practice is higher than that implied by the main practice indicator.

The use of non-improved (shared and non-improved facilities, and open defecation) make up roughly 70% of main sanitation facility usage in Kano. Note here that a "shared" facility depicts a facility that is shared by multiple households, or which is publicly shared, and is thus not considered an improved facility.

The PMA2016/Nasarawa-R1 survey used a two-stage cluster design with urban-rural as strata. A sample of 40 enumeration areas (EAs) was drawn from the National Population Commission’s master sampling frame. In each EA households and private health facilities were listed and mapped, with 35 households randomly selected. Households were surveyed and occupants enumerated. The final sample included 1,362 households with a total population of 7,713. Data collection was conducted between May and June 2016. The definitions of improved and unimproved water sources and sanitation facilities follow the definitions used in the 2013 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey.

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