

Impact of Economic Indices on Teacher's Job Performance in Public Secondary Schools in Oyo Metropolis

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Abstract

The study investigated impact of economic indices on teacher's job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis. The design of the study was descriptive survey. The population comprises all secondary school teachers in Oyo metropolis, their number stands at one thousand, three hundred and eighty (1380) male and female teachers. The sample of this study was two hundred and fifty (250) male and female teachers of public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis. The research randomly selected ten (10) public secondary schools out of fifty-five (55) public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis and data were collected through structured questionnaire. The work was guided by two research questions and hypotheses. Analysis of data was done using chi-square statistical tool at 0.05 level of significance. The findings of the study revealed that economic indices affect teachers' job performance in Oyo metropolis. In consideration of the findings of this study, it was recommended that government should implement new salary scale for teachers in order to enhance their performances.

Keywords: economic, indices, teacher, job, performance

Introduction

Education is an indispensable tool in national development; it is a vital aspect for enhancing social and economic mobility. Education has been widely adjudged as the most essential instrument for human development (Eze, 2011). Without education, no country can develop to meet the current challenges of economic indices in most countries. Economic indices constitutes a problem to the social, economic and educational development of Nigeria. The educational sector has fallen into economic indices in recent time where hardly a day goes by without noticeable influence of indices on the teacher's performance in schools. This ugly trend has tremendously

constituted a setback to the educational development of Nigeria (Tijani & Abdullahi, 2021).

The removal of fuel subsidy in Nigeria by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu on 29th May, 2023 represents a significant shift in the citizens' economic and social well-being. Though the intention may be to address fiscal challenges and encourage market-driven pricing, the impact on inflation, transportation costs, and individuals' livelihoods cannot be neglected. The removal of subsidies has affected both public and private institutions, educational institutions, financial institutions, health institutions, religious institutions, political institutions, tourism sector, judiciary, among others (Ogunode et al., 2023; Ogunode & Ukozor, 2023).

Economic indices can be caused by two broad factors: internal and external factors. The internal factor is usually because of a conflict of ideas, misapplication of economic theory and regulatory negligence or policy inconsistency. The external causes of indices have to do with factors that are exogenous to the economy over which policy-makers have little or no control which include factors like natural disaster, climate change, revolution and wars. The reasons for the emergence of the current economic indices in Nigeria can be linked to the above factors to include legacy factors, policy factors and political/security factors (Shido-Ikwu, 2017).

In Nigeria, economic indices has caused noticeable imbalance in the economy thereby depleting the country's external reserve, substantial crash of the stock market, high cost of goods and services, depreciation of the nation's currency and shortfall in monthly allocation to the states and the local government thus fall in the standard of living of workers. All these have drastically affected the educational sector and this has remained one of the most crucial issues affecting the teacher's performance in the educational sector (Tijani & Abdullahi, 2021; Adubi, 2021). Ishola 2(009) saw inflation as a period when too much money is chasing few educational goods and services. This is usually characterized by general increase in the prices of goods and services.

More so, change in government with different areas of priority has also affected education financing in Nigeria, placing different agenda on different sectors at the expense of educational sector, and lack of continuity of already formulated policies by successive government has brought a blow on educational sector development over the years (Bamigboye & Adeyemi, 2016).

Teachers are expected to perform different roles including teaching, mentoring, nurturing and supporting students and normally improving their socio-economic development through education (Iwu et al., 2017). Teachers who have high socio-economic status are capable of giving enough time for formulation of materials and media needed in the teaching and learning process. On the other hand, teachers who

have low socio-economic status are not only incapable of fulfilling their family's basic needs but are not able to give enough time and opportunities at home to ventures that improve their skills and knowledge which are needed to deal with daily teaching challenges. In view of this, the study investigated the impact of economic indices on teacher's job performance in secondary schools in Oyo metropolis.

Statement of the problem

Economic indices in Nigeria today is making it difficult to fulfil one of the most modest commitments of recruiting and retaining teachers. This has made accessibility and affordability of quality education, which is supposed to be the right of every citizen, a mirage. This is because, poverty is not the result of lack of money, rather it is deprivation of capabilities. This has forced so many students into prostitution resulting into unwanted pregnancies and out of school problems. When indices hits, government may be unable to offer salary increment to teachers making it difficult to attract and maintain qualified teachers. This can lead to frustration among teachers who feel undervalued and under-compensated for their work. This study therefore investigated economic indices and job performance of secondary school teacher's in Oyo metropolis.

Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between economic indices in Nigeria and teachers' job performance in secondary schools in Oyo metropolis. The following specific objectives guided the study:

- i. To investigate the relationship between economic indices and teachers' job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis.
- ii. To examine the relationship between inflation and teachers' job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis.

Research questions

- i. What is the relationship between economic indices and teachers' job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis?
- ii. What is the relationship between inflation and teachers' job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis?

Hypotheses

Ho1: There is no significant relationship between economic indices and teachers' job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis.

Ho2: There is no significant relationship between the rate of inflation and teachers' job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis.

Methodology

Survey design was employed for this study. This design is considered appropriate for the study because it entails collection of data systematically from a given sample to

describe certain characteristics and fact of the entire population. According to Isangedighi (2012), survey research design is used when the researcher is interested in describing the nature of a situation as at the time when the investigation was carried out.

The target population for this study was made up of all teachers of public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis. Their number stands at one thousand, three hundred and eighty (1,380) male and female teachers. The sample of this study was two hundred and fifty (250) male and female teachers of public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis. The research randomly selectd ten (10) public secondary schools out of fifty-five (55) public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis.

Two instruments were used for this study. The instruments are Economic Indices Scale, and Teacher's Job Performance Scale. Economic Indices Scale is a 20 item instrument that measures the economic indices of respondents adapted from Jiri and Elena (2013). Respondents were to indicate by ticking the response. The questionnaire was designed on four-point rating scale which includes Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD). Teacher's Job Performance scale was adapted from Bhat and Beri (2016). This instrument is a standardized one that seeks to measure various aspects of teacher's job performance. It has four point scale ranging from Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD).

The instrument was validated by giving it to experts in the field of Educational Management and Measurement and Evaluation. They all subjected the instrument to face and construct validity in order to ascertain the clarity, relevance, adequacy and other attributes which a good research instrument should possess. Data generated from this study were analyzed using Chi-square for the analyses of the hypotheses formulated for this study. The hypotheses were tested with Chi-square statistical tool at 0.05 level of significance.

Presentation of results

Ho1: There is no significant relationship between economic recession and teachers' job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis.

Table 1: Chi-square analysis on the relationship between economic recession and teachers' job performance

Group	Mean	Degree of Freedom	χ^2 Cal	χ^2 Tab	Remark
Agree	109.74	5	13.208	11.070	Reject the Ho
Disagree	140.26				
Total	250				

Table 1 indicated the χ^2 -cal value to be 13.208 and the χ^2 tab value to be 11.070. Since the χ^2 tab (11.070) is less than the χ^2 -cal (13.208), the null hypotheses (Ho) that economic recession has no significant relationship with teachers' job performance is rejected.

Ho2: There is no significant relationship between the rate of inflation and teachers' job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis.

Table 2: Chi-square analysis on the relationship between the rate of inflation and teachers' job performance

Group	Mean	Degree of Freedom	χ^2 Cal	χ^2 Tab	Remark
Agree	90.74				
Disagree	159.26	5	13.208	9.488	Reject the Ho
Total	250				

Table 2 indicated the χ^2 -cal value to be 13.208 and the χ^2 tab value to be 9.488. Since the χ^2 tab (9.488) is less than the χ^2 -cal (13.208), the null hypothesis (Ho) that inflation has no significant relationship with teachers' job performance is rejected.

Discussion of findings

The result presented on the testing of research hypothesis one on table 1 shows that there is significant relationship between economic recession and teachers' job performance. It could be deduced from the findings that economic recession affects teachers' job performance in Oyo metropolis public secondary schools. According to Tijani and Abdullahi (2021), and Adubi (2021), economic recession has caused noticeable imbalance in the economy thereby depleting the country's external reserve, causing substantial crash of the stock market, high cost of goods and services, depreciation of the nation's currency and shortfall in monthly allocation to the states and the local government thus fall in the standard of living of workers. All these have drastically affected the educational sector and this has remained one of the most crucial issues affecting teachers' performance in the educational sector.

Also, the result presented on the testing of the research hypothesis two on table 2 shows that there is significant relationship between inflation and teachers' job performance in public secondary schools in Oyo metropolis. Inflation emerges from rises in the prices of goods and services, not being able to enjoy basic amenities, increase in prices of petroleum products, house rent increment and so on. This has brought hardship to teachers which made their salaries not enough to cater for their families hence, the teacher finds it so difficult to discharge their curricular and co-curricular activities diligently which affects their job performances in the schools. This study agreed with Ishola (2009) that general increase in the prices of goods and services influence teachers' job performance.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, it was concluded that economic indices and inflation affect teachers' job performance. If teachers are psychologically balanced, they will perform better, both for the school growth and personal growth; teacher will be more responsible and more motivated.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this research, the following recommendations were proffered:

- i. Government should implement attractive salary packages, and other allowances for teachers.
- ii. Government should extend health insurance scheme to teachers.
- iii. Implementing performance-based incentives, rewards, and recognition programmes should be introduced because it can motivate teachers to excel in their roles and make them to feel valued for their contributions to the school.
- iv. To curb the current economic indices, government needs to protect domestic investment and attract foreign direct investment.

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