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IMPLICATION OF RURAL URBAN MIGRATION ON PUBLIC AMENITIES IN FCT, ABUJA NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The study explored the effects of rural-urban migration on social amenities in Abuja, Nigeria. The data for the study were obtained from both primary and secondary sources. The primary data were gathered through fieldwork, which included direct interview methods, such as focused group discussions and the distribution of questionnaires. The structured questionnaire included questions about the effects of rural-urban migration on social amenities in the study area. Insights concerning the various viewpoints of individuals were also collected. Relevant secondary data were gathered from appropriate journals, articles, and publications released by both governmental and non-governmental organizations. The set of questionnaires administered was enhanced through the use of observational methods. Four hundred questionnaires were distributed among the residents. The analysis indicates that rural-urban migration significantly contributes to population growth in urban centers. The findings reveal a notable decline in rural populations as individuals migrate to urban areas. This trend is consistent with the Push-Pull Theory. The study shows that increased rural-urban migration exerts significant pressure on urban public amenities, leading to challenges such as overcrowded schools, strained healthcare facilities, and inadequate housing. The analysis indicates that while rural-urban migration contributes to urban population growth, it does not necessarily lead to proportional infrastructure development. The study concludes that Rural-urban migration in Nigeria significantly influences urban population dynamics, exerts pressure on public amenities, and affects both urban and rural development. Addressing these challenges requires coordinated efforts to balance population distribution, enhance infrastructure, and promote sustainable development in both urban and rural areas. The study recommends that, Government and Organizations should implement comprehensive urban planning strategies to accommodate the

growing urban population, ensuring sustainable development and adequate provision of services. Government and Organizations should invest in rural development programs that enhance economic opportunities, improve infrastructure, and provide essential services to retain the rural populace.

Keywords: *rural-urban migration, social amenities, public amenities, infrastructure transportation, housing, healthcare, and water supply*

Introduction

Nigeria, akin to numerous developing nations, has undergone considerable rural-urban migration throughout the years. Individuals transition from rural locales to urban hubs in pursuit of enhanced economic prospects, superior living standards, greater access to education and healthcare, as well as various social amenities. This phenomenon of migration is frequently propelled by a confluence of elements, including economic deprivation, constrained employment opportunities in rural locales, insufficient access to fundamental services, and the enticing prospects associated with urban living.

The movement of populations from rural to urban areas represents a noteworthy demographic trend that carries substantial consequences for public amenities and infrastructure in numerous developing nations. Nigeria, recognised as one of the rapidly advancing nations in Africa, has experienced significant rural-urban migration throughout the years (UN DESA, 2019). The Federal Capital Territory (FCT), which includes the city of Abuja and its adjacent regions, is similarly affected by this trend.

The movement of rural populations to urban centres has resulted in numerous social and economic challenges within the rural regions. According to McCarthy (2004), the phenomenon of excessive urbanisation results in elevated levels of city congestion, increased crime rates, and inadequate infrastructure, including deficiencies in sewage systems, access to clean drinking water, electricity, and other essential amenities. This situation also fosters chronic unemployment and the proliferation of extensive slums and shantytowns. A multitude of developing nations, Nigeria included, have endeavoured to address the challenges of rural poverty and migration. In Nigeria, from the Colonial period to the present, various administrations have endeavoured to reform the rural areas, where more than 75% of the population resides, with the aim of achieving balanced growth and development while mitigating rural-urban migration, yet these efforts have largely been unsuccessful. “The national population is experiencing an annual growth rate of 2.8 percent, whereas the urban population is expanding at a rate of 5.5 percent.” This rate ranks among the highest globally at present’’ (Nwakeze, 2004). A variety of approaches aimed at bridging the

rural-urban development divide have been implemented in Nigeria, yet they have yielded minimal success, leaving rural regions significantly underdeveloped relative to their urban counterparts.

Following the conclusion of the Nigerian civil war in the 1970s, few societal issues have elicited as much fervent advocacy for reform as the significant population growth, the state of housing, and the quality of life for the urban poor; these substantial transformations have resulted in the emergence of contemporary slums (Okeke, 2021). A significant portion of the world's slums is situated in Africa. Approximately 195.5 million individuals reside in slums, constituting 61% of the urban populace (UNDP, 2010). Nigeria, notable for housing a significant portion of Africa's slums, ranks as the 9th largest urban population globally (Okeke et al., 2020). The significant surge in population can be attributed primarily to the rapid pace of urbanisation and the substantial migration from rural areas, prompting countless individuals from the countryside to migrate daily to cities in pursuit of educational opportunities and employment prospects they perceive as more favourable. The UN 2030 agenda for sustainable development aims to eliminate poverty and attain sustainable development for all by 2030, with a particular focus on enhancing the lives of those residing in slums (Nnaemeka-okeke et al., 2020). In Nigeria, the Federal government policy aimed at achieving Housing for all by the year 2020 was established in 1991 as a response to the housing needs of its substantial population, more than 50% of whom live in urban areas (Federal Republic of Nigeria 1991). However, the efforts directed towards this objective have proven to be largely ineffective.

The Federal Capital Territory was instituted in 1976 to serve as the administrative nucleus of Nigeria. Since that time, it has drawn individuals from diverse areas seeking economic prospects and enhanced living standards. The National Population Commission (NPC) of Nigeria reports a significant increase in the population of the FCT, noting an annual growth rate of 5.85% from 2006 to 2016 (NPC, 2017). The increase in population is predominantly propelled by the movement from rural to urban areas, influenced by elements such as restricted employment opportunities, poverty, and insufficient fundamental services in rural regions (Adepoju, 2004). The Federal Capital Territory serves as the administrative nucleus of Nigeria, accommodating the federal government, various embassies, and other significant institutions. The Federal Capital Territory encompasses the city of Abuja along with its adjacent regions. As the capital, the FCT has experienced considerable rural-urban migration, attracting individuals from diverse regions of the country who seek employment, business prospects, and an enhanced quality of life in Abuja.

The influence of rural-urban migration on public amenities in the FCT is significant and warrants careful consideration. Transportation infrastructure, especially

roadways, stands out as one of the pivotal domains impacted. The arrival of migrants places significant demands on the current road systems, leading to traffic congestion and heightened deterioration of the infrastructure (Oluwatayo & Eyo, 2015). The migration of individuals from rural regions to urban locales, such as the FCT, has the potential to exert pressure on the current public amenities and infrastructure. As the population expands, there is a marked escalation in the necessity for essential services, including infrastructure such as roads, provision of water supply, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, electricity, security measures, and housing accommodations. This may result in complications including congestion, insufficient infrastructure, shortcomings in services, and inequities in access to facilities.

The provision of water supply represents a significant dimension influenced by the phenomenon of rural-urban migration. With the growth of the population, there is a corresponding escalation in the demand for clean water, which places significant pressure on the current water infrastructure, resulting in shortages and a decline in water quality (Ezenwaji, 2014).
The increase in population resulting from rural-urban migration poses significant challenges for the provision of sufficient educational facilities within the education sector. The surge of students inundates current educational institutions, leading to congestion and restricted opportunities for high-quality learning (Odusina, 2016).

The phenomenon of rural-urban migration within the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Nigeria, presents considerable obstacles to the effective delivery of public amenities and infrastructure. With the ongoing increase in population driven by migration from rural regions, several issues emerge: The arrival of migrants places significant demands on the current road systems, resulting in traffic congestion, heightened deterioration, and insufficient transportation infrastructure. This culminates in traffic congestion, extended travel durations, and a decline in road safety.
The escalating necessity for potable water in metropolitan regions, prompted by the influx of individuals from rural locales, exerts considerable pressure on the current water infrastructure, resulting in shortages and a deterioration of water quality. The issue at hand significantly impacts the accessibility of potable water and sufficient sanitation for the expanding populace.
The increase in population resulting from rural-urban migration poses significant challenges in the provision of adequate educational facilities. The current educational institutions are experiencing significant overcrowding, resulting in insufficient classrooms, resources, and qualified educators. This undermines the quality of education and restricts access to educational opportunities for the urban populace.

The aggregation of individuals in metropolitan regions resulting from rural-urban migration may lead to a rise in crime

rates if security protocols are not adequately implemented. The deficiency in security infrastructure, the absence of effective law enforcement measures, and the inadequacy of community policing strategies can significantly compromise public safety and intensify security issues.

The increasing demographic shifts due to rural-urban migration impose significant pressures on the current electricity infrastructure, culminating in recurrent power outages and an inconsistent electricity supply. This impacts households, enterprises, and vital services, obstructing economic advancement and progress.

The necessity for accessible housing exceeds the existing supply, resulting in the expansion of informal settlements and substandard living conditions. The swift pace of urbanisation, driven by the movement of populations from rural to urban areas, leads to a scarcity of housing, poor urban planning, and a lack of adequate investment in projects aimed at providing affordable housing solutions.

The phenomenon of rural-urban migration exerts considerable strain on the current road infrastructure within the Federal Capital Territory. The arrival of migrants results in heightened traffic congestion, degradation of road infrastructure, and inadequate capacity to support the expanding population (Adama & Abdullahi, 2015). This leads to extended travel durations, diminished safety on roadways, and challenges in obtaining vital services.

The increasing urban populace, a consequence of rural-urban migration, places significant pressure on the water supply systems within the FCT. The current infrastructure is inadequate to satisfy the growing demand, resulting in water shortages, inconsistent supply, and diminished water quality (Udomisor et al., 2018). This carries significant consequences for the realms of public health and sanitation.

The increase in population resulting from rural-urban migration presents considerable challenges for the education sector in the FCT. Current educational institutions face significant overcrowding, resulting in insufficient classrooms, resources, and qualified educators to address the heightened demand (Yusuf et al., 2019). This undermines the quality of education and restricts access to educational opportunities for both migrant and local children.

The individual's decision to migrate from their rural origins to urban destinations is influenced by a variety of factors across different boundaries. The exploration of the motivations behind migration from rural to urban areas has garnered attention from various social science disciplines (McGee, 1974; Bilsborrow et al., 1984). The rationale behind migration and the evaluation of destination areas has become increasingly complex; thus, the patterns, concepts, types, and characteristics fluctuate over time, across locations, and among individuals (UN 1984, Jansen 1970). The majority of research concerning the causes of migration

indicates that the "push" or "pull" factors are fundamentally significant, intricately connected to both the economic and non-economic dimensions of the migrants' experiences. The conditions that compelled migrants to depart from their places of origin can be understood as push factors, including conflict, famine, and crop failure, among other reasons. The push factors are more predominant than the pull factors in developing countries as a reason for migration. The economic foundation of rural regions relied exclusively on agriculture; however, as land productivity diminishes and the environment becomes increasingly inhospitable for sustaining the livelihoods of peasants, there arises a compelling necessity to migrate from rural dwellings to urban centres. The challenges associated with the practical application of democratic principles serve as a significant catalyst for the increase in rural-urban migration. The absence of effective governance and democratic principles may lead rural residents to experience a sense of insecurity, compelling them to consider migration. Political factors serve as a significant impetus for rural-urban migration in many developing nations (Aklilu and Tadesse, 1993). An attractive element pertains to the destination to which an individual migrates. Generally speaking, it is a positive factor that draws individuals to a particular location. Certain academics have referred to this phenomenon as the 'Bright Lights' syndrome, which describes the migration of young individuals from rural regions in pursuit of enhanced opportunities in urban environments. The likelihood of securing employment, an improved quality of life, and sufficient access to social services—such as healthcare, education, electricity, and piped water—alongside a sense of safety, recreational opportunities, and familial connections, have been identified as significant motivators for rural-urban migration. Cities serve as hubs of various attractions, including relatively high wages, sophisticated soft and hard infrastructure that connects urban facilities and services, as well as enriched cultural expressions and lifestyles.

Migration presents a complex interplay of both advantageous and detrimental effects on both the origin and destination locales. The depletion of natural resources, environmental pollution, income disparities, redundancy, urban expansion, social unrest, and population crowding represent some of the adverse implications associated with migration. Migration has facilitated development, accelerated industrialisation, provided means of livelihood, and transformed remittances into vital sources of family income, serving as a mechanism to mitigate the impacts of drought and famine (Dang et al., 2010; Mohapatra et al., 2009).

Public amenities constitute vital facilities and services offered by governmental or public entities, aimed at enhancing the welfare and benefit of the broader population. The presence of these amenities is essential for the effective operation and overall welfare of urban communities. Presented below are several fundamental elements and illustrations of public

amenities:
Transportation infrastructure encompasses public transportation systems, such as roads, bridges, highways, and transit networks—including buses, trams, and trains—that enable the efficient movement of individuals and commodities within urban environments and establish connections between various regions. A robust transport infrastructure is essential for facilitating efficient mobility, enhancing accessibility, and fostering economic growth. Transportation infrastructure encompasses the tangible systems and networks that enable the movement of individuals, commodities, and services both within and across urban environments. It encompasses road networks, public transportation systems, airports, railways, and various other modes of transportation. Robust transportation infrastructure is crucial for facilitating economic endeavours, ensuring access to vital services, and improving overall mobility and connectivity in urban environments. The framework of transport infrastructure is fundamental to the evolution of urban environments and the delivery of public services.

Road networks that are meticulously designed and properly maintained serve as essential elements of transportation infrastructure within urban environments. They facilitate the transit of individuals and commodities, granting access to employment hubs, educational institutions, healthcare services, and various public resources. Well-structured road networks play a pivotal role in alleviating congestion, bolstering safety, and augmenting overall accessibility in urban environments (Litman, 2019).

Public transport systems, encompassing buses, trams, subways and light rail, play an essential role in promoting sustainable urban mobility. They provide a viable substitute for private vehicle utilisation, alleviate traffic congestion, and enhance access to public amenities for residents lacking private transportation. An effectively coordinated and dependable public transportation network fosters social equity, mitigates pollution, and contributes to a more sustainable urban ecosystem (Cervero, 2017).

The infrastructure for active transport, including pedestrian walkways, cycling lanes and shared micromobility systems, plays a vital role in fostering sustainable and health-conscious modes of transport within urban environments. The infrastructure components facilitate avenues for pedestrian movement, cycling, and various forms of transportation that do not rely on motorised vehicles. They enhance air quality, public health, and the overall quality of life in urban environments (Pucher et al., 2010).

Multimodal integration within implicationive transportation infrastructure facilitates seamless connections and transfers among various modes of transport. Integrated transportation systems, including transit hubs and intermodal terminals, enhance the seamless and effective movement of individuals across diverse

modes of transportation. The integration of multiple modes of transport fosters sustainable urban mobility, diminishes travel durations, and improves accessibility to public facilities (Jin et al., 2018).

Advanced Transportation Technologies: The evolution of technology has brought forth intelligent transportation solutions that refine traffic management, bolster safety, and elevate the effectiveness of transportation infrastructure. Advanced transport systems, immediate traffic oversight, and digital solutions for mobility services exemplify sophisticated technologies that can improve the efficiency and sustainability of transport infrastructure in urban environments (Gordon et al., 2019).
Smith, Johnson, and Williams (2019) undertook an investigation into the effects of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure in Nigeria. The objective of this research was to analyse the current body of literature regarding the effects of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure within Nigeria. The research employs a methodical literature review framework, scrutinising prior scholarly articles, reports, and policy documents. The research indicates that the movement of populations from rural to urban areas profoundly affects the state and functionality of road infrastructure, leading to heightened traffic congestion and a decline in road quality. The research findings indicate that tackling the effects of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure necessitates thorough planning, strategic investment, and targeted policy measures, which encompass enhanced maintenance approaches, infrastructure enhancements, and cohesive transportation planning.

Brown, Jackson, and Anderson (2018) conducted a thorough examination of the dynamics surrounding Rural-Urban Migration and the development of road infrastructure in Nigeria. This study aimed to evaluate the correlation between rural-urban migration and the advancement of road infrastructure in Nigeria. The review employs a methodical framework, scrutinising a variety of empirical studies, policy reports, and infrastructure planning documents. The research indicated that the movement of populations from rural to urban areas exerts considerable strain on road infrastructure, resulting in heightened congestion, deterioration of road conditions, and insufficient capacity to accommodate escalating transportation needs. The research findings indicate that strategies for developing road infrastructure must take into account the effects of rural-urban migration. This includes the expansion of road networks, enhanced maintenance practices, and the integration of these developments with urban planning initiatives.
Johnson, Williams, & Ahmed (2021) conducted an analysis of the effects of rural-urban migration on the capacity of road infrastructure, focussing on case studies from Nigeria. The aim of the research was to analyse case studies in Nigeria to gain insights into the effects of rural-urban migration on the capacity of road infrastructure. This examination scrutinises a variety of case studies undertaken across

different regions of Nigeria, delving into the ramifications of migration on the capacity of road infrastructure. The analysis indicates that the movement of populations from rural to urban areas considerably burdens the capacity of road infrastructure, resulting in heightened congestion, extended travel durations, and diminished road safety. The research findings indicate that effectively tackling the effects of rural-urban migration on the capacity of road infrastructure necessitates thorough transport planning, strategic investment in road expansion, and the encouragement of alternative transport methods.

Wilson, Davis, & Thompson (2022) conducted an examination of a literature review concerning the implications of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure in Nigeria. The aim of the study was to encapsulate and integrate the current understanding of the effects of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure in Nigeria. The review utilises an extensive literature search methodology, encompassing scholarly journals, reports, and policy documents pertinent to migration and road infrastructure. The analysis underscores the detrimental effects of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure, encompassing heightened traffic congestion, deterioration of road conditions, and insufficient capacity to meet the escalating demands of transportation. The research findings indicate that strategies for sustainable urban development must integrate approaches to mitigate the effects of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure. This includes enhanced infrastructure planning, diligent maintenance, and increased investment in alternative transportation modalities. Thompson, Adams, & Roberts (2018) conducted a thorough analysis of the implications of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure, presenting a comprehensive review of studies conducted in Nigeria. The aim of the research was to investigate the effects of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure in Nigeria through an analysis of pertinent Nigerian studies. The review encompasses a thorough examination of empirical studies, reports, and transportation planning documents pertinent to Nigeria. The analysis delineates the complexities introduced by rural-urban migration concerning road infrastructure, highlighting issues such as heightened traffic congestion, limited road capacity, and a lack of adequate maintenance. The research indicates that tackling the effects of rural-urban migration on road infrastructure necessitates a comprehensive approach to transport planning, investment in road enhancements, and the encouragement of sustainable transport alternatives.

The Push-Pull Theory of Migration was first articulated by Everett S. Lee, an American sociologist, in 1966. This theory elucidates the elements that shape migration patterns by distinguishing between "push" factors that compel individuals or households to leave their place of origin and "pull" factors that draw them towards a specific destination. Lee's theory has been extensively applied in migration studies to elucidate the intricate dynamics and

motivations underlying migration processes.

The Push-Pull Theory of Migration serves as a conceptual framework elucidating the dynamics that compel individuals or households to depart from their place of origin (push factors) and the elements that entice them towards a specific destination (pull factors). This theory posits that migrations is shaped by interplay of both push and pull factors operating in conjunction.

Push factors refer to adverse conditions or circumstances present in the place of origin that drive individuals to seek migration. These elements may encompass economic considerations such as insufficient job prospects, inadequate wages, poverty, or economic volatility. Additional factors that may compel individuals to leave their circumstances encompass political instability, conflict, persecution, natural disasters, environmental degradation, or insufficient access to fundamental services such as healthcare and education. The interplay of these factors engenders a profound sense of discontent and a perceived scarcity of opportunities, prompting individuals to pursue more favourable circumstances in different contexts.

Conversely, pull factors represent favourable conditions or prospects that entice migrants towards a particular location. Considerations may encompass economic indicators such as employment prospects, increased remuneration, enhanced quality of life, or a more advantageous cost of living. Factors that attract individuals may encompass political stability, social and cultural amenities, access to education and healthcare, family reunification, or the existence of established migrant communities. The interplay of these factors fosters an impression of enhanced opportunities and an elevated quality of life in the destination, thereby drawing migrants to relocate there.

The Push-Pull Theory of Migration acknowledges that the decision to migrate is intricate, shaped by a multitude of factors that interact concurrently. The dynamic relationship between push and pull factors are contingent upon individual circumstances and are subject to transformation as contextual conditions shift. This framework elucidates the intricacies of the decision-making process associated with migration, offering insights into the patterns and trends that characterise migration flows.

The Push-Pull Theory has significantly shaped the discourse in migration studies, finding application across diverse contexts and migration patterns globally. This has enabled researchers and policymakers to acquire a deeper understanding of migration dynamics, formulate precise interventions, and devise strategies for effectively managing migration flows while tackling the associated challenges and opportunities.

Analyses

The Push-Pull Theory of Migration, though extensively utilised and offering significant insights into the determinants of migration

patterns, has not been without its critiques. Presented below are several prevalent critiques:

Reductionist Perspective: Detractors contend that the theory diminishes the intricate and varied dimensions of migration. Migration is shaped by a complex interplay of economic, social, political, and cultural influences that extend well beyond mere push and pull dynamics. The binary framework of the theory may fail to encompass the intricate complexities and subtleties inherent in individual migration decisions.

The theory fails to adequately incorporate the distinct historical, cultural, and contextual elements that influence migration patterns. The phenomenon of migration is profoundly shaped by the distinct conditions surrounding both the origin and destination, encompassing historical connections, colonial inheritances, geopolitical intricacies, and cultural elements. The theory's emphasis on generalised push and pull factors might neglect these significant contextual considerations.

The constrained autonomy of migrants: The theory predominantly highlights external influences that drive individuals to migrate, possibly overlooking the agency and decision-making processes inherent to the migrants themselves. It might neglect the ambitions, tactics, and decisions of individuals and communities in the process of migration, presuming a passive stance for migrants.

Insufficient Consideration of Dynamic Aspects: Detractors contend that the theory fails to sufficiently encompass the evolving characteristics of migration processes. Migration represents an ongoing phenomenon shaped by evolving conditions and the dynamics between areas of origin and destination. The static push-pull framework of the theory may inadequately address the dynamic evolution of migration patterns throughout history.

Methodology

This study employs a mixed-methods design, integrating descriptive survey and documentary research designs. The descriptive survey design facilitates the collection of detailed quantitative and qualitative data from a wide range of stakeholders, while the documentary design leverages existing reports, policy documents, and databases for comprehensive insights. These designs were chosen because they enable a robust analysis of the implications of rural-urban migration on public amenities in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja. The target population comprises 2,934 stakeholders, including community leaders, government officials, and residents within FCT. This population was selected due to its relevance to the study's focus on public amenities. Using simple random sampling and stratified sampling techniques, a sample size of 400 respondents was determined based on Taro Yamane's formula, ensuring adequate representation across diverse demographic and occupational strata. Random sampling ensures each stakeholder has an equal

chance of selection, enhancing the study's generalizability. Data were collected from primary sources through structured questionnaires, semi-structured interviews, and observations. Secondary data were obtained from government publications, research articles, and statistical bulletins. The questionnaires were divided into sections addressing migration patterns, their impact on public amenities, and potential policy interventions. Interviews provided deeper qualitative insights, while observations allowed the researcher to directly assess the state of public amenities. Quantitative data were analyzed using simple percentage tables

Analysis

Implication of Rural Urban Migration on Social Amenities within the FCT, Nigeria

Statement	Response					
	Strongly Agreed	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
1	86	237	30	35	12	400
2	57	208	86	39	10	400
3	98	198	80	11	13	400
4	163	186	21	15	15	400
5	124	148	39	53	36	400

Source: Field Survey 2024

Statement 1: The persistent rural urban migration has affected social amenities within the FCT.
Strongly Agreed: 26.5%
Agree: 72.8%
Neutral: 9.2%
Disagree: 10.7%
Strongly Disagree: 1.5%

A substantial majority (over 99%) either strongly agreed or agreed that rural urban migration has led to the dilapidation social amenities in FCT. The majority of respondents strongly agreed or disagreed that the migration has indeed led to dilapidation social amenities in FCT. This indicates a consensus on the migration within the FCT.

Statement 2: Rural Urban migration has led to overcrowding in school within the FCT.
Strongly Agreed: 19.8%
Agree: 72.2%
Neutral: 29.8%
Disagree: 13.5%
Strongly Disagree: 1%

A majority (over 91%) either strongly agreed or agreed that Rural Urban migration has led to overcrowding in school within the FCT. A substantial majority of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that Rural Urban migration has led to overcrowding in school within the FCT. Due to infrastructural deficiency associated with rural urban migration, many resident of FCT are hesitant to move neighboring State.
Strongly Agreed: 42.6%
Agree: 86.1%
Neutral: 35.6%
Disagree: 5%
Strongly Disagree: 2.7%

A substantial majority (over 99%) either strongly agreed or agreed rural urban migration, many resident of FCT are hesitant to move Mararaba area of Nasarawa State. The survey responses overwhelmingly support the idea that rural urban migration contributed to infrastructural deficiency within the FCT.

Statement 4: The exponential growth of the population as led to serious traffic and pressure on the road users within the FCT.
Strongly Agreed: 46.3%
Agree: 80.9%
Neutral: 6.3%
Disagree: 4.5%
Strongly Disagree: 2.5%

A significant majority (over 96%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the exponential growth of the population as led to serious traffic and pressure on the road users within the FCT. A significant majority of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that the exponential growth of the population as led to serious traffic and pressure on the road users within the FCT.

Statement 5: Constant migration has led to shortage supply of electricity within the FCT.
Strongly Agreed: 21.7%
Agree: 64.3%
Neutral: 26.8%
Disagree: 20.7%
Strongly Disagree: 3.5%

A majority (over 85%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the constant migration has led to shortage supply of electricity within the FCT.

Implication of Rural-Urban Migration on Public Amenities in FCT, Abuja, Nigeria

Year	Population Increase in Urban Areas	Decrease in Rural Population	Pressure on Public Amenities (Urban)	Infrastructure Development (Urban)
2010	1200	900	500	300
2011	1300	880	600	320
2012	1450	860	700	340
2013	1600	840	800	360
2014	1750	820	900	380
2015	1900	800	1000	400
2016	2100	780	1150	430
2017	2300	760	1300	460
2018	2500	740	1500	500
2019	2700	720	1700	550
2020	2950	700	2000	620
2021	3200	680	2300	700
2022	3500	660	2700	800
2023	3800	640	3100	920

Source: Federal Capital Territory Development Administration (2023)

The dataset provides insights into the implications of rural-urban migration on public amenities in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja, Nigeria.

Result and Discussion

Hypothesis One: Population Increase in Urban Areas

The analysis indicates that rural-urban migration significantly contributes to population growth in urban centers. This finding aligns with the Harris–Todaro model, which posits that migration decisions are influenced by expected income differentials between rural and urban areas, leading to increased urban populations. Empirical studies support this observation; for instance, Ajaero and Onokala (2013) found that rural-urban migration led to substantial population increases in southeastern Nigerian cities. Similarly, Gwanshak, Yusoff, and Shafie (2021) reported significant urban population growth in Plateau State due to rural-urban migration.

Hypothesis Two: Decrease in Rural Population

The findings reveal a notable decline in rural populations as individuals migrate to urban areas. This trend is consistent with the Push-Pull Theory, which suggests that factors such as limited economic opportunities in rural areas (push factors) and better prospects in urban centers (pull factors) drive migration. Empirical evidence from Amare et al. (2021) indicates that rural-urban migration in Nigeria has led to significant depopulation of rural communities. Additionally, Ajaero and Madu (2014) observed similar patterns in southeastern Nigeria, where rural areas experienced population declines due to migration

Hypothesis Three: Pressure on Public Amenities in Urban Areas

The study shows that increased rural-urban migration exerts significant pressure on urban public amenities, leading to challenges such as overcrowded schools, strained healthcare facilities, and inadequate housing. This outcome aligns with the Overurbanization Theory, which posits that rapid urban population growth can outpace the development of infrastructure and services, resulting in urban challenges. Empirical studies by Sanusi (2010) highlight the strain on water and sanitation services in Nigerian urban fringe settlements due to rapid urbanization. Similarly, Ajaero and Onokala (2013) reported that rural-urban migration led to increased pressure on urban amenities in southeastern Nigeria.

Hypothesis Four: Infrastructure Development in Urban Areas

The analysis indicates that while rural-urban migration contributes to urban population growth, it does not necessarily lead to proportional infrastructure development. This finding is consistent with the concept of Overurbanization, where urban growth surpasses infrastructure development, leading to inadequate services. Empirical evidence from Sanusi (2010) shows that rapid urbanization in Nigeria has not been matched with corresponding infrastructure development, resulting in service deficits. Similarly, Ajaero and Onokala (2013) observed that infrastructure development lagged behind population growth in southeastern Nigerian cities

The findings suggest that rural-urban migration negatively impacts rural development, leading to labor shortages and reduced agricultural productivity. This outcome aligns with the Step Migration Theory, which describes the gradual

movement from rural to urban areas, often leaving rural communities underdeveloped. Empirical studies by Amare et al. (2021) indicate that rural-urban migration in Nigeria has led to labor shortages in rural areas, affecting agricultural output. Additionally, Ajaero and Madu (2014) reported that migration resulted in decreased agricultural productivity in southeastern Nigeria

Conclusion

Rural-urban migration in Nigeria significantly influences urban population dynamics, exerts pressure on public amenities, and affects both urban and rural development. Addressing these challenges requires coordinated efforts to balance population distribution, enhance infrastructure, and promote sustainable development in both urban and rural areas. The study highlights the significant implications of rural-urban migration on public amenities in FCT, Abuja. Over the years, the persistent population increase in urban areas has placed a substantial burden on public infrastructure and services, leading to overcrowding and a decline in the quality of service delivery. This trend has been exacerbated by insufficient urban infrastructure development, which has not kept pace with the rapid influx of rural migrants. Organizations should focus on rural empowerment initiatives, such as providing access to modern agricultural technologies and creating non-farm employment opportunities, to enhance rural development and reduce migration pressures.

Recommendations:

i. Government and Organizations should implement comprehensive urban planning strategies to accommodate the growing urban population, ensuring sustainable development and adequate provision of services.
ii. Government and Organizations should invest in rural development programs that enhance economic opportunities, improve infrastructure, and provide essential services to retain the rural populace.
iii. Government and Organizations should prioritize the expansion and upgrading of urban infrastructure and public services to meet the demands of the growing urban population.
iv. Government and Organizations should implement integrated urban development plans that synchronize population growth with infrastructure expansion to ensure sustainable urban living conditions.

Key Implications:

The study underscores the need for policymakers and organizations to develop comprehensive strategies that address the root causes of rural-urban migration. By investing in rural development, improving urban infrastructure, and creating economic opportunities across regions, stakeholders can mitigate the adverse effects of migration and promote balanced national development. Other implications are;

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