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## THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN NIGERIA

**Abstract:** the article describes the main trends of the unemployment in Nigeria, types of the unemployment, effects of the unemployment and the solution for the unemployment in the country. Nigeria unemployment rate has increased steadily throughout the years This has caused a problem for the progress of the Nigerian economy.

**Key words:** unemployment rate, Nigeria.

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## ПРИЧИНЫ И ПОСЛЕДСТВИЯ БЕЗРАБОТИЦЫ В НИГЕРИИ

**Аннотация:** в статье описаны основные тенденции безработицы в Нигерии, виды безработицы, последствия безработицы и пути решения проблемы безработицы в стране. Уровень безработицы в Нигерии неуклонно растет на протяжении многих лет, что создает проблемы для развития нигерийской экономики.

**Ключевые слова:** уровень безработицы, Нигерия.

Unemployment rate in Nigeria increased to 23.10 percent in the third quarter of 2018 from 22.70 percent in the second quarter of 2018. Unemployment Rate in Nigeria averaged 12.31 percent from 2006 until 2018, reaching an all-time high of 23.10 percent in the third quarter of 2018 and a record low of 5.10 percent in the fourth quarter of 2010.

Furthermore, unemployment is one of the major issues affecting Nigeria's economy and its society. The rate of unemployment has increased during last few years due the fallout from the economic challenges.

Additionally, occurs when people who are able to work are unable to find a suitable paid job for a tangible period of time. According to the Bureau of Statistics, 38% of the population that falls within the employable age are unemployed and 65% of Nigerian youth face unemployment as at September 2016.

There are several types of unemployment in Nigeria.

Frictional unemployment is caused by industrial friction. There are jobs but people can't fill them because they don't have the skills or are unaware of the existence of the jobs. This occurs due to ignorance, immobility of labor, shortage of raw materials, and breakdown in machinery.

Residual unemployment is caused by old age, physical or mental disability, irresponsible attitude towards the job and inadequate training.

Structural unemployment is caused by the shift in the country's economy causing a mismatch between the skills required by employers and the skills proposed by employees.

Cyclical unemployment is as a result of a decrease in the demands for goods and services. It is often caused by the economic recession or situation that forces companies to terminate a number of workers in order to reduce the costs.

Technological unemployment is caused by the constant technological changes that have increased mechanization of production. This results in less demand for man-power and displacement of human labor [2].

One of the causes of unemployment in Nigeria is high and rapid population growth. There has been an increase in the growth of the labor forces along with the inadequate supply of jobs. The rapid population growth has been coupled with rural-urban migration. This has increased the population in cities thereby raising the level of joblessness.

Another key problem is poor leadership and high level of corruption in Nigeria. The failure of the government to perform their constitutional duties has resulted in the high level of unemployment. Also, the high level of corruption in Nigeria among politicians has resulted in the mismanagement of the funds and resources supposed to be used for the creation of job opportunities for the people.

Most employers believe that Nigerian graduates are unemployable. This is the result of the educational program which usually include theories and a lack of practical use of knowledge. Also, most tertiary educational courses lack entrepreneurial training. For example, a graduate of agriculture course knows the theory but lacks necessary practical agricultural skills.

Lack of good roads, steady and sustainable power supply has made the economy hostile to investors. The lack of infrastructure has led to the high cost of production. The absence of investors influences the number of available jobs. The operating companies also use fewer people because of the high cost of production.

Unemployment in Nigeria has been worsened by the recent decline in the country's economy. A lot of people have been laid off, while new jobs were not created. Most companies laid off employees because they can't afford a lot workers. [3]

Due to the increasing unemployment rate in Nigeria, there have been adverse effects on both the economy and the society.

Firstly, the unemployed group of people are waste or losses to the national income growth. The unemployed people could have contributed to the economic growth of the nation, but they generate nothing to the productivity of labour and causing reduction to

future economy. Also, unemployment is a serious problem to family stability, when husband cannot meet up his marriage responsibilities or obligations.

Moreover, unemployment disharmonised man in the society, people lost their self-respect and confidence in life; they always depend on their parents, nation, friends for their livelihood and makes man to develop the sense of immorality such as alcoholism, armed robbery, loss of self-actualization, laziness, family crisis, stealing, riots, thuggery, kidnapping, insecurity etc. Therefore, unemployment is a threat to economic, socio- cultural and security of a nation and a major factor associated with underdevelopment, based on how it discourages foreign investors, reduces the quality of life, destroys human and damages relationships between man and his nation, undermining rule of law to promote development etc. Mostly, westernization development has negative impacts on socio-cultural values in the society, where the urbanization is spreading widely or rapidly than improvement in socio-economic activities. In other words, unemployment is a serious threat to a nation [4].

To overcome the crisis of unemployment in Nigeria, the government must be effective in performing their duties. A socio-economic environment should be created. The government needs to foresee looming crisis and to make all possible actions to prevent it. It is also very important to understand the scope and types of unemployment in Nigeria. The government is to consider each sector of the economy and to provide the necessary infrastructure and industrial friendly environment. Agriculture is one of the major sectors and the government has to do everything possible to attract private investors. Thus, creating new job opportunities. Improvement of energy supply and transport system will cut the high cost of production. So, there will be no need to cut jobs. The educational system needs to be reformed in order to produce skilled graduates, innovators, and entrepreneurs. Practice and research should be priority, not just the theoretical learning.

Also, the government needs to create schools, good amenities, and infrastructure and job opportunities in rural areas. This will cut the level of migration to cities, thus reducing high population and unemployment in the cities [4].

On conclusion, the in unemployment rate in Nigeria is steadily increasing due to different causes such as recession, high and rapid population growth, unstable and corrupt political environment, lack of quality education, lack of infrastructure etc. Also, Nigeria has all the types of unemployment which include cyclical, frictional and structural. These also leads to effects such as reduction in the national output of goods and services, the high rate of crimes etc.

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