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БЕЗРАБОТИЦА В НИГЕРИИ

Аннотация: в Нигерии самая высокая численность населения среди всех африканских стран. Однако социальные проблемы, такие как растущая безработица, по-прежнему беспокоят нацию. Безработица в Нигерии растет с каждым днем по разным причинам: коррупция, чрезмерная зависимость от нефти, пренебрежительное отношение к сельскому хозяйству и природным ресурсам, некачественное образование, отсутствие рабочих навыков, перенаселение, инфляция, COVID-19.

Ключевые слова: безработица, Нигерия

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UNEMPLOYMENT IN NIGERIA

Abstract: Nigeria has the highest population of any African nation. However, social issues such as growing unemployment still plague the nation. Unemployment in Nigeria is increasing by the day due to various reasons; corruption, over dependence on oil, neglect

of agricultural and natural resources, poor quality education, lack of working skills, overpopulation, inflation, COVID-19.

Key words: unemployment, Nigeria

The rate of unemployment in Nigeria presents as surprisingly high. Nigeria has the most robust economy in Africa, yet in 2019 it is reported an overall unemployment rate of 25%, with an additional 20% of its 186 million people are unemployed. The situation worsens for young Nigerians, as the unemployment rate for people between the ages of 15 and 35 hit 55.4% in 2019. Global poverty projections released by the Brookings institution in 2018, based on data from the world poverty Clock, shows that Nigeria has overtaken India as home to the largest population of people living in extreme poverty with 87 million citizens living on less than $1.90 a day compared to India's 73 million (see graph below).

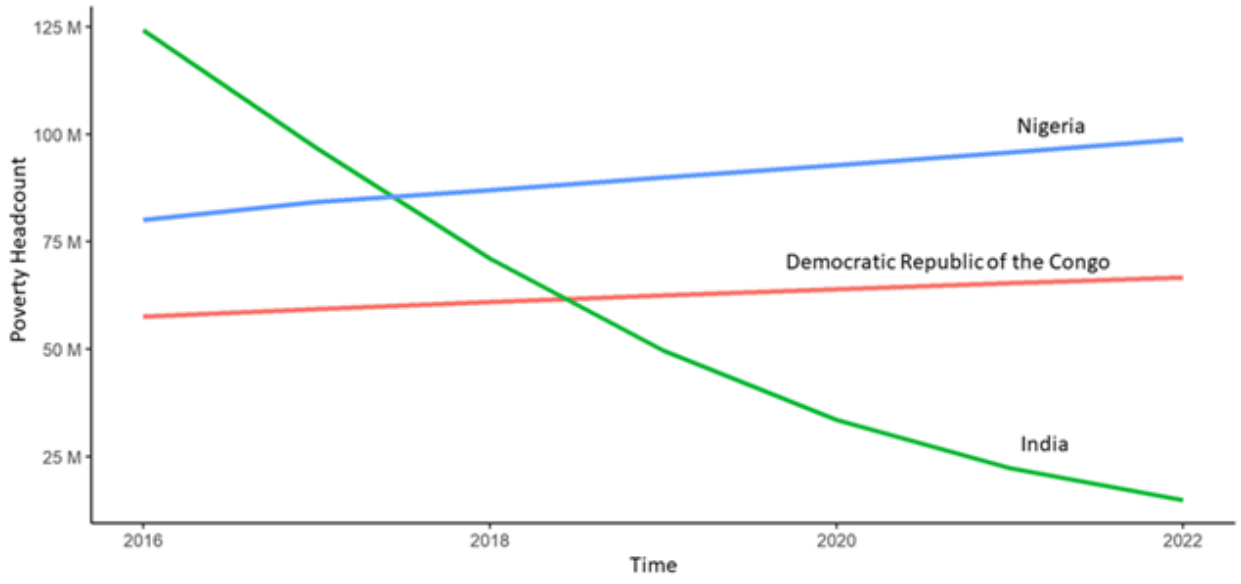


Figure - Graph showing the population of people living in extreme poverty in Nigeria

Over dependence on oil increases unemployment in Nigeria. To explain its unemployment crises. Nigeria's experts took look to prominence of oil as the country's disproportionately dominant industry. The nation's economy has neglected other potentially job-creating fields in order to feed oil. According to The World Bank, "The oil sector provides for 95% of Nigeria's foreign exchange earnings and 80% of its budgetary revenues". Degree-holding Nigerians consequently have trouble finding positions in their field, and others lack access to "vocational training" that should otherwise allow them to find work in a number of industries [1].

Secondly, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased unemployment. Recently, since the world wide outbreak of COVID-19, Nigerian companies have executed major salary cuts and layoffs of their employees. For example, software company Andela and financial institution, Ren Money are two of many more that laid off more than 500 people. This comes as a result of the detrimental effects of the pandemic on the global economy. Study shows that 64% of the considerably increased inflows from employment into unemployment were due to the COVID-19 measures. It has been also established in the study that as at the fourth quarter of 2020, youth unemployment rate rose to 30.1% indicating that about 22,764,614 million Nigerian youths remain unemployed. The study concludes that, the shutdown measures amplified increased unemployment [2].

Thirdly, in Nigeria today it has become a norm that before an unemployed person secure any job, whether in government or private enterprises, he or she must be connected to a top government official, a big politician or a head of the company he/she is applying to. It is sad that even a very qualified applicant doesn't get the job he/she is applying for because he/she doesn't link to top officials, to worsen the matter, applicants sometimes pay huge sum of money before they are employed. The principal of federal character which stipulates fair and equal sharing of jobs across states and regions in the country is totally neglected. The unemployment situation in the country can only get worse than better because corruption has taken the center stage [3].

Further more, Nigeria has been experiencing population growth for the past 50 years as a result of high natality rate, which increases the population geometrically over time. Unemployment occurs as a result of insufficiency of jobs to commensurate with the rapid population growth, even those who are already employed are afraid of being rendered unemployed due to the insecurity of the job, economic recession and retrenchment of workers [4].

Unemployment is one of the major problems in Nigeria because it has caused many issues like insecurity, banditry, kidnapping and other related criminal acts, In 2022, the unemployment rate in Nigeria is estimated to reach 33% and the unemployment among youths is about 73 million [5].

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