

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION ON  
SELECTED PERI-URBAN RURAL SETTLEMENT IN OVIA NORTH-EAST  
LGA: THE CASE OF EKIADOLOR AND UGBOGIOBO.**

**BY**

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BENIN CITY.**

**JULY, 2021**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE  
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**CERTIFICATION**

We the undersigned certify that this research work was carried out by OSAKUE PAUL OSAMUYI in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) Degree in Geography and Regional Planning of the University of Benin City, Nigeria.

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## **DEDICATION**

This work is dedicated to Almighty God for His Grace, love and favour upon my life and family.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

My profound gratitude goes to God Almighty. Special thanks to my amiable Supervisor, Prof. (Mrs) Ikelegbe who in spite of her busy schedule made efforts to read through my work and make essential suggestions and corrections that made this research a success.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Cover	
Title Page - - - - -	i
Certification - - - - -	ii
Dedication - - - - -	iii
Acknowledgements - - - - -	iv
Table of contents - - - - -	v
List of figures - - - - -	ix
List of tables - - - - -	x
Abstract - - - - -	xi

### CHAPTER ONE

#### INTRODUCTION: BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

1.1 Introduction - - - - -	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem - - - - -	3
1.3 Research Questions - - - - -	6
1.4 Aim and Objectives - - - - -	6
1.5 Significance of the Study - - - - -	6
1.6 Scope of the Study - - - - -	7
1.7 Study Area - - - - -	7
1.7.1 Location and Size - - - - -	7
1.7.2 Socio-Economic Activities - - - - -	8

1.7.3 Climate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
1.7.4 Vegetation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
1.7.5 Geology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
1.7.6 Topography	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
1.7.7 Drainage and Soil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### CONCEPTUAL DEFINITIONS AND LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
2.1 Concept of Urbanization and Development	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
2.1.2 Nature and Pattern of Urbanization in Nigeria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
2.1.3 Concept of Peri-Urban	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
2.1.4 Rural-Urban Migration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
2.1.5 Effects of Rural-Urban Migration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
2.1.6 Consequences of Rural-Urban Migration on Rural Areas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
2.1.7 Consequences of Rural-Urban Migration on Urban Areas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
2.1.8 Measures to Combat Rural-Urban Migration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
2.2 Review of Related Literature	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
3.2 Research Design	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25

3.3 Sources of Data	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
3.4 Research Population	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
3.5 Method of Data Collection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
3.6 Sample Size	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
3.7 Sampling Technique	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
3.8 Method of Data Analysis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

4.1 Introduction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
4.2 Presentation of Survey Details	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
4.3 Socio-Demographic Characteristics	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
4.3.1 Sex of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
4.3.2 Age of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
4.3.3 Marital Status of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
4.3.4 Household Size of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
4.3.5 Religion of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
4.3.6 Educational Qualification of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
4.3.7 Occupation of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
4.4 Causes, Effects and Control of Rural-Urban Migration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
4.4.1 Rate of Migration to Urban Areas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
4.4.2 Reason for Rate of Migration to Urban Areas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43

4.4.3 Highest Migrating Age Group	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
4.4.4 Availability of Amenities in the Community				-	-	-		44
4.4.5 Quality of Amenities in the Community			-	-	-	-		45
4.4.6 Out -migration as a Result of Low Quality of Amenities					-	-		48
4.4.7 Significant Impact of Out-migration on the Community					-	-		50
4.4.8 Nature of Impact of Out-migration on the Community					-	-		52
4.4.9 Measures to Control Out-migration from the Community					-	-		53
4.5 Hypothesis Testing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

5.1 Introduction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
5.2 Summary of Research Findings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
5.3 Recommendations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
5.4 Conclusion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
References	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	61
Appendix	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67

## LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 4.1 Sex of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
Fig. 4.2 Age of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Fig. 4.3 Marital Status of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
Fig. 4.4 Religion of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38
Fig. 4.5 Occupation of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
Fig. 4.6 Quality of Amenities in the Community	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47
Fig. 4.7 Out-migration as a Result of Low Quality of Amenities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49
Fig. 4.8 Significant Impact of Out-migration on the Community	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1 Household Size of Respondents	-	-	-	-	-	37
Table 4.2 Educational Qualification of Respondents				-	-	39
Table 4.3 Rate of Migration to Urban Areas	-	-	-	-	-	42
Table 4.4 Reason for Rate of Migration	-	-	-	-	-	43
Table 4.5 Highest Migrating Age Group	-	-	-	-	-	44
Table 4.6 Availability of Amenities in the Community				-	-	45
Table 4.7 Nature of Impact of Out-migration on the community				-	-	53
Table 4.8 Measures to Control Out-migration from the Community				-	-	54
Table 4.9 Chi-Square Test for Reasons for Out-migration and Study Community						55

## **ABSTRACT**

This study accesses the socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration on selected peri-urban and rural settlements in Ovia North-East Local Government Area. The objectives of the study were to identify the causes of rural-urban migration in the selected rural and peri-urban community, highlight the effects of rural-urban migration and suggest ways of controlling rural-urban migration in the study area. The study was carried out through the use of cross-sectional survey design, which essentially involves the collection of data from sampled population at one point in time to be used to draw inferences for the entire population. Structured questionnaire was administered to obtain information through field survey conducted in the study area. The method of data collection was through questionnaire. The questions were structured in a way that it consists of structured/close-ended questions and unstructured/open-ended questions, to collect information on the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the respondents, the causes and effects of rural-urban migration in the study area as well as the possible ways to checkmate the increasing rate of rural-urban migration. The questions also elicit response for the purpose of analysing the socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration on selected peri-urban rural settlements in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo. From the analysis of data the study showed that the out-migration of people to urban areas from the study area has had significant impacts on Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo Communities as affirmed by 70.78% of the sampled population, unemployment and lack of basic amenities are major

factors responsible for the migration of people from the study area to urban areas. The study recommends that government should put appropriate structures in place to create a conducive and enabling environment for rural businesses in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo to thrive and also create skill acquisition centres in the study area aimed to complement employment opportunities by enabling the youth to be trained within their rural domain while still having the opportunity to participate in agricultural activities such as farming.

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY**

#### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The mobility of man has increased with technical and economic process. He has specialized means of transport to assist his mobility as much that distance is spoken of in terms of time according to the mode of transport. Migration is a dynamic component of population with reference to movement of people from one geographical area to another.

Migration is considered as the movement of people from one geographical region to another, which may be on temporary or permanent basis (Oguche et al., 2020). Rural – urban migration has also been identified as a survival strategy utilized by the poor, especially the rural dwellers. The assessment of migration in urban areas has remained relevant since migration acts as a catalyst in the transformation process of not only the destiny of individual migrants but also the conditions of family members left behind, local communities, and the wider sending regions. The burden of rural-urban migration in Edo State is multifaceted.

Urban centres are usually defined on the basis of their population size. In Nigeria, the current official designation is based on a threshold of 20,000. However, this was not always the case: in the 1952 Nigerian Population Census, a community

with less than 5,000 people was regarded as rural. By the 1963 Census, this had been changed to the present figure of 20,000 which resulted in the reclassification of over 2,350 communities with populations of between 5,000 and 20,000 from urban in 1952 to rural in 1963.

On the other hand, many large Nigerian cities still retain elements usually associated with rural communities. Part of this phenomenon is due to urban expansion where former villages were 'swallowed up' by sprawling cities, with changes in land use and livelihood patterns, although some people are still able to retain a rural lifestyle predicated on subsistence farming and other forms of natural resource use (Okali et al., 2001). Globally, the nexus between migration and development has remained an issue under vigorous academic debate (Adams, 2006). Therefore, the process of people migrating to other areas in search of a better life is not a novel one. What has however gained momentum is the increasing voluntary movement in quest of better quality of life by low-skill and low-wage workers as well as high-skill and high-wage workers from less developed rural areas to more developed urban areas, especially among the poor in the developing countries (Adepoju, 2000). In this regard, rural-urban migration results from the search for perceived or real opportunities as a consequence of rural-urban inequality in wealth (Sorenson, 2004 and Madu, 2006). This inequality and/or urban bias in development according to research findings over the years results from the overwhelming concentration of wealth, assets, purchasing capacity, economic activities, and variety of services in the urban centres as well as

the continued neglect and degradation of rural environments or areas (Harris and Todaro, 1970, Ajaero and Mozie, 2011.).

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

There has been several works on rural-urban migration over the years, in an attempt to find critical and logical explanation to this phenomenon, Oguiche et al., (2020) worked on the Paradox of Migration in Nigeria (Rural- Urban): Issues and Challenges in which they explored the concept of rural – urban migration, migration theory, challenges of rural development, effects of rural – urban migration, rural development, Suggestions from their research is that government at all levels should provide adequate and functional amenities such as pipe borne water, electricity, schools, industries, recreational facilities, Government must intensify rural development in Nigeria as expected by majority of the rural populace in the rural areas. Their research has been able to aid researchers, scholars, government, planners as well as related authorities to understand the concept of rural – urban migration, its effects and proffer ways to control and mitigate the trend of rural – urban migration.

Essang and Mabawonku (1974) in their research discussed the various reasons for rural-urban migration and also the concentration in high numbers on urban centres amongst which are policies, housing shortages, proliferation of slumps, rural-urban wage rate to mention a few, Chukwuemeka et al, (2010) also study in Anambra State, revealed among other things that: The housing estate are mostly owned by individuals

or private companies and are very expensive; the transformers provided are not commensurate with the population increase; the state lacks available lands for agriculture as most of the lands are affected by erosion, floods and landslides. The researchers recommended among others that: government should be in partnership with the people and companies to reduce accommodation problems, government should ensure that materials used for transformers are adequate while making sure that the agricultural extension programmes are well financed in real terms as this will help manage the problems of rural-urban migration and bring about development.

Furthermore, Okali and Olawole (2001) underlined the interactions and linkages between the urban centre of Aba in Abia State (south-eastern Nigeria) and five peri-urban and rural towns and villages in the same state. They found out that rural and urban areas are interdependent localities characterised by exchanges of people, ideas, goods and services, to support livelihoods, rather than two separate and isolated socio-economic entities. While rural-urban interactions are not a new phenomenon, government and policies makers have often treated rural and urban areas, and their residents, as distinct from each other with unique problems that should be studied and solved separately. Such an approach overlooks the fact that what happens to the people in the rural areas affects the city dwellers, and vice versa. It also neglects the fact that the livelihoods of different groups are not affected by artificial rural or urban boundaries. The problems faced and the strategies formulated by people vary instead according to economic, socio-cultural and ecological factors. Such strategies

are also affected by macro policies like economic reform and globalisation, which, among other effect have often increased the cost of production inputs for small-scale producers without a corresponding increase in profits.

Migration from rural areas into urban and peri-urban settlement in Benin City, has been on the increase over the years due to the pulling factors which almost every urban centres create, factors such as jobs employment for teaming young adults, better basic amenities as well as educational institutions, which most rural settlement do not provide, these necessary pull out people from rural dwellings couple with the fact that urban settlements benefit greatly from government resource allocation distribution due to how Nigerian development and political structures are, where urban centres are planned and budgeted for and development are on the increased compared to rural settlements who bear the pain of government lack of resource neglect, even though most rural settlements, are responsible for raw materials and agricultural produce. Most processing and finishing industries are located in urban centres, these also hinder the fast pace development and economic growth of rural settlements. Most studies carried out rural-urban migration in Nigeria and outside Nigeria have mostly centred on effects, development and economic aspect of their relationship, but very few have been directed to the socio-economic effects of rural-urban settlements. However, this research wants to bridge that gap which has been left relatively covered.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

In carrying this research on socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration on selected peri-urban rural settlement in Ovia North-East Local government area the following research questions are posed;

1. What are the causes of rural-urban migration in the study area?
2. What are the effects of rural-urban migration in the study area?
3. What are the possible ways to check rural-urban migration in study area?

### **1.4 Aim and Objectives**

The aim of this study is to find out the socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration in the study area, In order to achieve this aim, the following objectives are to:

1. To identify the causes of rural-urban migration in the study area
2. To highlight the effects of rural-urban migration in the study area
3. To suggest ways of controlling rural-urban migration in the study area

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The study of migration has always been a problem because people move from one locality to another in search of favourable opportunities such as good

accommodation, good job, education, health, good communication networks, water and power supply and so on. The study will help to educate the mind of the individual, policy makers and the government to see the need to formulate policies for integrated rural development to check rural-urban drift in the study area.

## **1.6 Scope of the Study**

The scope of the study will cover the socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration on selected peri-urban rural settlement in Ovia North-East Local government area

## **1.7. Study Area**

Benin City lies on Latitude  $6^{\circ} 11'$  and  $6^{\circ} 29'N$  and Longitude  $5^{\circ} 33'$  and  $5^{\circ} 47'E$ . There are five Bini speaking local government areas that make up Benin City. These are Egor, Oredo, Ikpoba-Okha, Ovia North-East and Uhumwunode.

Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo are both situated in Ovia North-East local government area, which serves as the study area of this research.

### **1.7.1 Location and Size**

Ugbogiobo is a rural settlement situated in Ovia North-East area, with latitude of  $6^{\circ} 38' 925''N$  and longitude  $5^{\circ} 53' 37'' E$  (GoogleEarth) while Ekiadolor is a peri-urban settlement, which is a fairly populated space, with villages, agglomeration of

buildings which lies between latitude 60 29' 31'' N and longitude 50 35' 17'' E. (GoogleEarth)

### **1.7.2 Socio-Economic Activities**

Benin City has not been known for high level of industrialization, it was one a highly industrialized city in ancient times with cottage industries. In ancient Benin City workers guild who made specialized products such as bronze works, ivory casting and metal work were very much sort after and most of their works were monopolized by the Oba of Benin, however those glorious day are long gone.

At a time many primary industries which processed the vast agriculture and forest resources that were abundant in the city and the region around it like rubber and oil palm were located within the city to take advantage of these resources. Most of these industries however are no longer functional and the ones still functioning is either not producing to full capacity again, but nonetheless there are economic trade still in progress, the need for commerce and petty trading dominate the economic plains of the city.

Ekiadolor provide an institutional activity, which is seen in the University of Education (Formerly a college of Education) which serves as a source of attention and has a diverse student body and a large staff employment based resulted to the creation of job opportunities as well as low housing rent, has helped transformed this area into

a peri-urban settlement and has resulted to growth of the economy of the settlement. On the other hand Ugbogiobo is a predominated farming settlement, with both the male and female of this settlement engage in it, with lands that are used to produce cash crops such as yams, cassava, plantain, and pineapple.

### **1.7.3 Climate**

The climate of the Benin region is tropical, characterized by relatively wet and dry seasons. Two principal air masses prevail in the City and its environs; Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo inclusive. These are the tropical maritime and tropical continental. The tropical maritime air mass which is essentially humid, warm, moisture-borne, and widely resident in Benin City for almost twelve months, originates from the South Atlantic Zone. It causes rainfall which begins from the late January till its gradual subsidence in mid-November. The arrival of rainfall in the study area brings welcome relief to the urban residents from the prevailing moderately dry and cold wind periods which normally occur between late December and the end of January. As a result of its tropical location and observed climatic characteristics, Benin City experiences the 'humid sub-equatorial climate.

Humidity in Benin is generally above 72%, the highest occurring between in the month of July and September, while the area is characterized by moderate wind speed and sunshine hours of between 2 to 7 hours per day during the wet and dry days respectively. Duration of sunshine hour is significant to perennial crop production.

#### **1.7.4 Vegetation**

The Benin region vegetation is rich in rainforest .The land is used mainly for rubber and oil palm cultivation. Trees such as Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*), an Iroko (*Milicia excelsa*) are scattered within the area. Tropical cedar (*Cedrela odorata*) and spear grass (*Imperata Cylindrica*) spread primarily by means of their rhizomes. Other grasses that often pose fire danger during hamattan are *Andropogon Spp*, *Pennisetuna Spp* and *Chromolaena Odoranta*. Aquatic weeds are distributed mostly near the water bodies of the city. Most of the considerable vegetation can be found at the outskirts of the city and the forest reserve in the area. This is as a result of human activities which resulted in removal of the natural vegetation.

#### **1.7.5 Geology**

The geologic structure of Benin City consists of two principal formations: these are the crystalline rock of the Precambrian basement complex and the sedimentary rock of the cretaceous tertiary and quaternary formation of Miocene-Pleistocene age, Benin City is a tilted plain which slopes in a south-west direction.

#### **1.7.6 Topography**

The city landscape contains laterite soils mixed with abundant clay minerals. Its soils are derived from the deep chemical weathering of the parent sedimentary rocks preferably the hardened sandstones.

### **1.7.7 Drainage and Soil**

The highest elevation occurs around the Esan and Asaba Plateaux which rise steeply from the lower Niger Valley and are bordered on the northern edge by a steep slope. Other than the Ikpoba Hills which form an integral part of these plateaux in the north-west corner of the city region and Aduwawa areas, the rest of Benin City region is relatively undulating terrain with an average elevation of about 80metre above sea level (Udo, 1978; Omiunu, 1988). The city landscape contains laterite soils mixed with abundant clay minerals. Its soils, according to Omiunu (1988), are derived from the deep chemical weathering of the parent sedimentary rocks preferably the hardened sandstones.

The Benin City hydrological basin is partitioned into two main units. The first unit consists of the Ikpoba River Basin which drains the whole eastern part of the city while the second unit covers the Ogba River Basin which drains the western part (Ezemonye, and Emeribe, 2016). Although smaller rivers are found in some parts of the peripheral locations of the study area, in general, the hydrological basin clearly shows a north-south direction of flow owing to the high elevation of Nigeria from its northern part (Okhakhu, 2014).

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **CONCEPTUAL DEFINITIONS AND LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

The key to a successful development of a nation, amongst other things are the promotion of a viable rural economy. The challenges and prospects of rural development in Nigeria have been of great concern to different tiers of government due to the increased rate of rural-urban migration. The various policies of Nigerian government on rural development have been to improve the living conditions in rural areas with a view to curbing the streaming rural-urban migration. According to Oderth (2002) migration has shaped the nature of both receiving and places of origin more than any other phenomenon in human geography. The existence of an intricate relationship between immigration and development is also captured by Hammer et al., (2002), who claim that migration can have a decisive impact on the direction and speed of development on both origin and destination.

This chapter is divided into two broad sections. Section one focuses on the conceptual definitions and section two is the literature review.

#### **2.1 Concept of Urbanization and Development**

The term urbanization refers to the physical growth of urban areas as a result of rural migration and even urban concentration into cities. It also describes the

proportion of total population of an area in cities or towns. Urbanization is not merely a modern phenomenon, but a rapid and historic transformation of human social roots whereby predominantly village culture is being rapidly replaced by urban culture in which efforts are made to reduce time and expense in commuting, while improving opportunities for jobs, education, housing and transportation. In achieving this objective, adequate plan and design is necessary for urban centres for the fulfilment of the basic and superior living standards within the dwelling unit. The satisfaction of all human needs and desires represents a very wide range of factors which must be taken into account and incorporated in any design.

### **2.1.2 Nature and Pattern of Urbanization in Nigeria**

More people will live in cities by the year 2025 (World Bank, 1996). This is a general picture of urbanization at global level, while the developed world is already urbanized. The rapid urbanization processes, which are the characteristic of developing world, have increasingly concentrated on both population and economic growth in cities. Nigeria being a developing nation exhibits pattern of urbanization that is almost unique in Africa, South of the Sahara. Unlike other countries in Africa, Nigeria witnesses urbanization that predates the European colonization of the continents. The pace of development remains astonishing (Barnes, 2002).

### **2.1.3 Concept of Peri-Urban**

Peri-urbanization refers to a process, often a highly dynamic one, in which rural areas that are located on the fringes of established cities become more urban in character (Webster and Muller, 2004). This transformation occurs in physical, economic, and social terms, and often in piecemeal fashion. Peri-urban development usually involves rapid social change, as small agricultural communities are forced to adjust to an urban or industrial way of life in a very short time. High levels of immigration are important driver of such social change.

Rapid environmental deterioration and infrastructures excesses are usually another characteristic of a peri-urban landscape. Typically, peri-urbanization is stimulated by an infusion of new investment, generally from outside (Webster and Muller, 2004). Therefore, peri-urban area could be defined as the transition zone between fully urbanized land in cities and areas with predominantly agricultural use (Appiah, Bugri, Forkio and Boateng, 2014). Thus, it is characterized by mixed land uses and indeterminate inner and outer boundaries. In general, peri-urbanization often arises because effective land use guidance systems are virtually non-existent in many countries (Webster and Muller, 2004).

The term peri-urban is used frequently in literature and as well in policy discussions, yet definitions are largely situational and case specific. They provide little basis for unified understanding of what constitutes peri-urban. Organization of

Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (1979) therefore concludes that the term “peri-urban” cannot be easily defined or delimited through unambiguous criteria. It is a name given to the grey area which is neither entirely urban nor purely rural in the traditional sense, it is at most the partly urbanized rural area.

#### **2.1.4 Rural-Urban Migration**

Rural-urban migration may be occasioned by voluntary forces or involuntary forces. Involuntary or forced migration is migration that takes place when the migrant has no choice whether or not to move. Examples include ethno-religious crises, conflicts and wars, political strife, family and land disputes, conflicts with neighbours etc. Voluntary migration is movement done by choice (Lykke, 2002). Factors responsible for voluntary rural-urban migration include urban job opportunities; better housing conditions; rural land tenure and inheritance patterns; better education opportunities, better health services, extreme poverty etc. Oftentimes, rural dwellers see and hear success stories about people that left the community, moved to cities and are supposedly ‘doing well’. This acts as incentives for out-migration especially among youths.

#### **2.1.5 Effects of Rural-Urban Migration**

Various studies have been carried out on the causes and consequences of rural-urban migration. While some of these studies related the causes of rural-urban

migration to discriminatory government policies in favour of urban development, response to disparities in income, employment and other socio-economic amenities available within the urban and rural areas, with the urban areas being privileged, others related it to spontaneous, emotional, structural, traditional and some other factors.

### **2.1.6 Consequences of Rural Urban Migration on Rural Areas**

Rural areas are oftentimes incapacitated at various levels by inaccessibility, seclusion, underdevelopment, extreme poverty, ignorance, depopulation, hunger, and all types of debilities. Coupled with these is that migration from rural to urban areas leads to a reduction in the number of the rural populace with a negative effect on rural agricultural output and slowed pace of development in the rural areas.

With the exit of youths and young adults from the villages and rural communities, the aged, women and children are left behind to labour on the farms which lead to reduction in agricultural output with its attendant effect on the gross domestic product of the nation, lowered funds for development, income and standard of living of rural inhabitants, underdevelopment, and total desertion of the rural areas.

Constant reduction in rural population over the years will invariably lead to gross rural neglect by government as they tend to concentrate on developing the more obviously populated urban centres. This further reinforces the vicious cycle of gross

rural neglect and underdevelopment as reflected in the lack of rural industrialization and poor physical, social and institutional infrastructures. Also, Lykke (2002) opined that rural-urban migration makes the highly educated and most agile people migrate from rural to urban areas, leaving behind the feeble and uneducated people who are not able to combat poverty successfully. This he argues consequentially increases the differences in the standards of living of the rural and urban inhabitants.

Several authors such as Lykke (2002), McCarthy (2004), Adejugbe (2004), Badru (2004), Uma et al, (2013), Eliss and Harris (2004), have stated that the incessant drift of the rural populace to the urban areas has led to social, economic, environmental, physical, and other severe problems such as congestion in the urban centres with attendant consequences such as spread of communicable diseases, overstretched social amenities such as electricity, health facilities, educational, recreational facilities, motorable roads, pipe borne water, housing etc.

### **2.1.7 Consequences of Rural-Urban Migration on Urban Areas**

Other consequences of rural urban migration includes urban traffic congestion, unemployment, high crime rate such as advance fee fraud, hired assassins, political and civil unrests, armed robbery, alcoholism, drug abuse, prostitution, hooliganism, health hazards from pollution; air, water, and noise, inadequate refuse and sewage disposal system, poor drainage system resulting in flooding. Growth of slums leading

to shanty settlements, cultural changes, juvenile delinquency, and an overall decline in traditional values.

### **2.1.8 Measures to Combat Rural Urban Migration**

The government fundamentally needs to place rural development at the top of its agenda of national development in realization of the fact that enhanced rural development is a prerequisite for meaningful and sustainable overall national development. Consistency is also needed in the execution of the existing rural development programmes. Implementation of appropriate rural development programs should continue irrespective of changes in government. This would go a long way to ensure continuity in these programmes and add value to the lives of rural dwellers.

Agricultural development at the grassroots should be enhanced with massive mechanization and provision of improved extension services, better crop yields, fertilizers, functional loan services and other incentives. This is necessary as increased income from agricultural activities, which is the main stay of the rural economy, improves the quality of the life of the rural dwellers. Establishment of agro based processing industries close to the grassroots would go a long way to increase income generation, eliminate storage problems and boost confidence of farmers in the rural areas. These agro based industries should be firms who use various agricultural products as raw materials such as rice milling and packaging, processing of cashew

and groundnut products, cassava and cocoyam floor packaging, fruit juice processing using pineapple, oranges and paw-paw etc.

## **2.2 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

In a study conducted by Oladeji and Udoh (2012) on rural-urban migration, and migrants' perceptions of problems and benefits in Oyo state of Nigeria findings revealed that several 'push' and 'pull' factors encourage migration of single youths who are ill equipped in terms of education and skills acquisition to combat the difficulties associated with moving into a new location. It also shows that newly migrated youths are more focused on the immediate personal benefits in terms of regular cash income generated without considering the problems it might pose to the society or the agricultural sector. Older and longer established migrants however see the problems created in the society rather than the benefits. Among the problems created are decline in production and manpower reduction.

In a cross sectional study of causes and effects of rural-urban migration in Borno state: a case of Maiduguri metropolis, Gimba and Kumshe (2012) found that the major causes of rural urban migration are search for better education, employment, and business opportunities; while others include: poverty, unemployment, famine, and inadequate social amenities in the rural areas. However, while some of the consequences of rural-urban migration include pressure on urban housing and the environment in general, high rate of population growth in the urban centres also

lessens the quality of life, with overpopulation and congestion encouraging increased crime rate in the society and with slow pace of development of the rural areas.

On the other hand, studies by Ijere (1994) reveal that rural–urban migration has a positive impact on urban growth and social development, which makes generation of employment opportunities and provision of educational facilities and transportation infrastructure for the migrants possible. Until recently, researchers have not paid much attention to the management of rural –urban drift.

Ekpenyong (1992) attributes rural-urban migration in West Africa to the limited economic development policy which started during the colonial era. The colonial government had an urban biased development policy. The towns where they lived consequently had social amenities and economic infrastructure while the rural areas had the following negative effects; malnutrition, insufficient housing, inadequate water supply, bad roads and poor health facilities. Likewise, Ekpenyong (1997) in his study on rural-urban migration presents a form of inequalities between the areas. “Rural-urban imbalance was not created by oil boom of the 1970’s but worsened by it because of the bias in development planning”. As the policy continued, oil or fuel replaced agriculture as the major source of revenue for the country. All the major benefits of economic development process went to the cities or urban areas. In contrasts, the villagers from where the oil is extracted suffer neglect and oil pollutions which destroy their lands (a case of Niger- Delta).

Ewimn (2010) opined that the comfort and socio-economic wellbeing of the rural dweller underscores the reason for rural development. It has the potentials to bring about improved access to resources, employment creation, construction and maintenance of roads, rural electrification, water supply, improved education and health care services that can improve the life of the people. According to Ogidefa (2010), overwhelming majorities of the rural dwellers are poor, illiterate, or semi-literate and engage in petty trade and subsistence agriculture, providing for both the rural and urban areas.

Umebali and Akunbibilo (2006) supported this claim when they stated that oil exploration and agricultural activities are carried out in the rural area and both yield revenue for the nation. While Singh (2010) posits that rural development has always been an important issue in all discussions pertaining economic development. However, the situation in major cities like Lagos, the most affected city in terms of unplanned growth, around 85% of the country's industrial activity is located in Lagos and it is amongst fastest growing cities in the world. Its annual growth rate was estimated at almost 14% during the 1970s and its current population is estimated to be 15million (Census, 2006). Rural-urban migration has a significant impact on unemployment levels of the destination cities. Between 1998 and 1999, urban unemployment rose from 5.5% to 6.5%, a rate higher than the national unemployment which increased from 3.9% to 4.7% during the same period (USAID, 2002). Unplanned population increases in most cities explain infrastructural decay in relevant contexts.

According to Okafor (2005), this is especially the case in Nigeria where maintenance of existing amenities, which ab-initio are haphazardly situated due to unprecedented corruption and biased award of contracts, is not prioritized. It is interesting to note that most roads in the rural area are impassable, hospitals lack human and necessary material resource, schools are dilapidated and electricity supply is very far from stable – in most rural communities though, none of these infrastructures exists. As Nwokocha puts it: The people’s agony is visible in frustrations arising from avoidable diseases and deaths, lack of access to portable water, subsistent economic activities, various kinds of unemployment, child abuse in all its ramifications and dwindling focus on societal norms and values (Nwokocha, 2007).

Rural communities share this burden through loss of manpower necessary for agricultural activities and production. The impoverishment of rural areas in Anambra state is partly explainable by out-migration of able youths in search of employment in cities. Consequently, agriculture which prior to discovery of oil was the mainstay of Nigeria’s economy was far relegated to the background leading to the country’s mono-economy status. Overdependence on oil, it is argued here, has led to employment crisis and avoidable importation of agricultural products, which together have over the years had negative net effect on local industries and productions as well as international trade balances.

According to Iwayemi, (2006) several analyses of Nigeria's economy insist that petroleum resources have been more of a curse rather than a blessing to the development of the country. It is imperative to note that most migrants overcame their locality-imposed powerlessness in new destinations, while a large majority of others became more impoverished to the point of becoming social misfits otherwise known as "area boys and girls". Another burden imposed by rural to urban migration is the increasing number of cohabitation and consensual unions that results among the married and the not yet married. Although it could be argued in some quarters that such union, especially when it involves people from different ethnic backgrounds, could have positive implications for the country's unity at macro level, the negative consequences on existing marriages and family unity at the micro are enormous. The above issues constitute the burden and in some cases of rural-urban migration in most states for which organized critical thinking and context specific intervention strategies are essential.

These realities imply that if any tangible development is to take place, rural-urban migration must be tackled. However, of the many solutions proposed for reducing the burden of rural-urban migration in the society, development of the rural areas remains most feasible as this has a direct effect on reducing the rate at which people flock to the cities. If rural areas are fully developed, with access to basic amenities, health care, roads, education, poverty reduction; inhabitants tend to stay back in the villages rather than rushing to urban areas. Rural-urban migration

constitutes a serious and unresolved urban, as well as rural problem in today world. Rural-urban migration is therefore a social change rather than a cultural one and so rural-urban migration should be seen in various angles to help ascertain and propose significant and efficient change, as well as policies that can help curtail this age long phenomena. From this reviewed literature, several studies have been identified for the causes, reasons, interactions and economic effects, of rural-urban migration as well as psychological and physical tolls, poverty alleviation. The focus has been on economic benefits, paradox of this migration, the impacts of this migration, and their economic developments in Nigeria. A greater part of rural-urban migration research has been conducted in Africa with various urban cities and rural settlements in Nigeria having also been used. This research, therefore attempts to give a clear detail account of the socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration on selected peri-urban and rural settlement in Ovia North-East Local Government Area.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the methodological framework employed to attain the stated aim and objectives of this research study. Research methodology according to Rajasekar *et al.* (2006) is the study of methods by which knowledge is gained. It typifies a process that includes the methods, procedures or modalities by which a researcher intends to accomplish the objectives of the research (Agbonifoh and Yomere, 1999). Methodology involves principles underlying any given research which logically involves obtaining information through field work, data collection, sample size and frame, sampling procedure, data requirements through primary sources and secondary sources and method of data analysis. It covers the procedures to be used for the research investigation. This chapter contains the research design, sources of data, description of the population of the study, method of data collection, sample size, sampling techniques and method of data analysis.

### **3.2 Research Design**

Research design is defined as a framework of methods and techniques chosen by a researcher to combine various components of research in a reasonable and logical manner so that the research problem is efficiently handled. This helps to provide an insight on how the research was conducted using a particular method. According to Ibn Shaibu (2012), research design specifies the methods and procedures for collection, measurement and analysis of data.

The strategy that directed the process through which data was collected in this research is the cross-sectional survey research design. This essentially involves the collection of data from sampled population at one point in time to be used to draw inferences for the entire population. Structured questionnaire will be administered to obtain information through field survey conducted in the study area.

### **3.3 Sources of Data**

Primary sources of data will be utilized to achieve the stated objectives of this research. This is because they constitute the opinion of respondents in the study area and give first-hand information about the research problem. Sources of primary data to be employed in this study include questionnaire survey and field observation. Relevant data will be collected by means of the questionnaire which will be administered to the sampled population in the selected peri-urban settlements that make up the study area. Personal observation will also employed in the gathering of information from the study area and this will be done for the purpose of complementing data gotten from the questionnaire.

### **3.4 Research Population**

A population refers to the total entities existing in a specified area, such as an organization, city, country, or continent at a given time (Collis and Hussey, 2003). Population is used in a more specialized sense to include not just people but also events, animals and objects who or which are members of the target group as defined by the aim and objectives of the research work. It is the total group with which the study is concerned. The population of concern in this research is the entire population of Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo communities in Ovia North-East local Government Area of Edo State. Ekiadolor has a population of 5,593 and Ugbogiobo has a population of 3,577 (NPC, 2006). The sample size to be included in the study was calculated from the summation of the populations of both communities.

### **3.5 Method of Data Collection**

Data for this research will be collected through the use of questionnaire. The questions in the questionnaire will be structured in such a way that it would consist of structured/close-ended questions and unstructured/open-ended questions. The questionnaire would be designed in such a way that it would collect information on the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the respondents, the causes and effects of rural-urban migration in the study area as well as the possible ways to checkmate the increasing rate of rural-urban migration. The questions were designed to elicit response for the purpose of analyzing the socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration on selected peri-urban rural settlements in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo.

### 3.6 Sample Size

In determining the sample that will be adequate for this study, the population of both study communities which stood at 9,170 will be implemented. From this total, a statistical formula proposed by Taro Yamane (1967) was used to select the sample size for the study.

The formula is given as:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where,

$n$  = Sample size (the number of subjects to draw from the population)

$N$  = Population size

$e = 0.08$

The sample size determination is calculated below;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where,

$n$  = Sample size (the number of subjects to draw from the population)

$N$  = Population size

$e$  = Sampling error or level of significance (0.08)

$$n = \frac{9170}{1 + 9170(0.08)^2} = \frac{9170}{1 + 9170(0.0064)} = \frac{9170}{59.688} = 153.6$$

(154 approximately)

Therefore 154 copies of the questionnaire will be administered to the respondents in the study area.

However, to determine the proportion of questionnaire to be distributed in each study community, the following formula was employed:

$$\frac{\text{Population of sampled community } x}{\text{total population of all sampled communities}} \times \frac{\text{sample size}}{1}$$

Ekiadolor =

$$\frac{5593}{9170} \times \frac{154}{1} = 94$$

Ugbogiobo =

$$\frac{3577}{9170} \times \frac{154}{1} = 60$$

Therefore, 94 and 60 copies of questionnaire will be administered in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo respectively.

### 3.7 Sampling Technique

Multi stage sampling will be employed in this research. In the first stage, purposive sampling method will be used to select peri-urban rural settlements in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo. The settlements will primarily be chosen based on their

proximity to urban areas in both study communities. Within these purposively chosen rural settlements, respondents for this study will be systematically selected. In each settlement, respondents will be chosen in every 3<sup>rd</sup> house of each street.

### **3.8 Method of Data Analysis**

All statistical analysis in this research will be carried out using the statistical package for the social sciences (SPSS). Descriptive, inferential and non-inferential statistics techniques will be employed for data analysis. Tables and charts will be used to represent the demographic characteristics of the respondents, respondents' opinions on causes and effects of rural-urban migration in the study area as well as the possible ways to checkmate the increasing rate of rural-urban migration. The inferential statistical technique involves the use of Chi-Square statistical method to analyze data collected. The chi-square is popular for the purpose of data analysis and for observing frequencies of data (Ogbeide, 1997). Thus, Chi-Square will be employed to compare variations in the causal factors of rural-urban migration between communities in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents a detailed analysis and discussion of primary data collected from the field survey and covers the presentation of survey details and the analysis of results.

#### **4.2 Presentation of Survey Details**

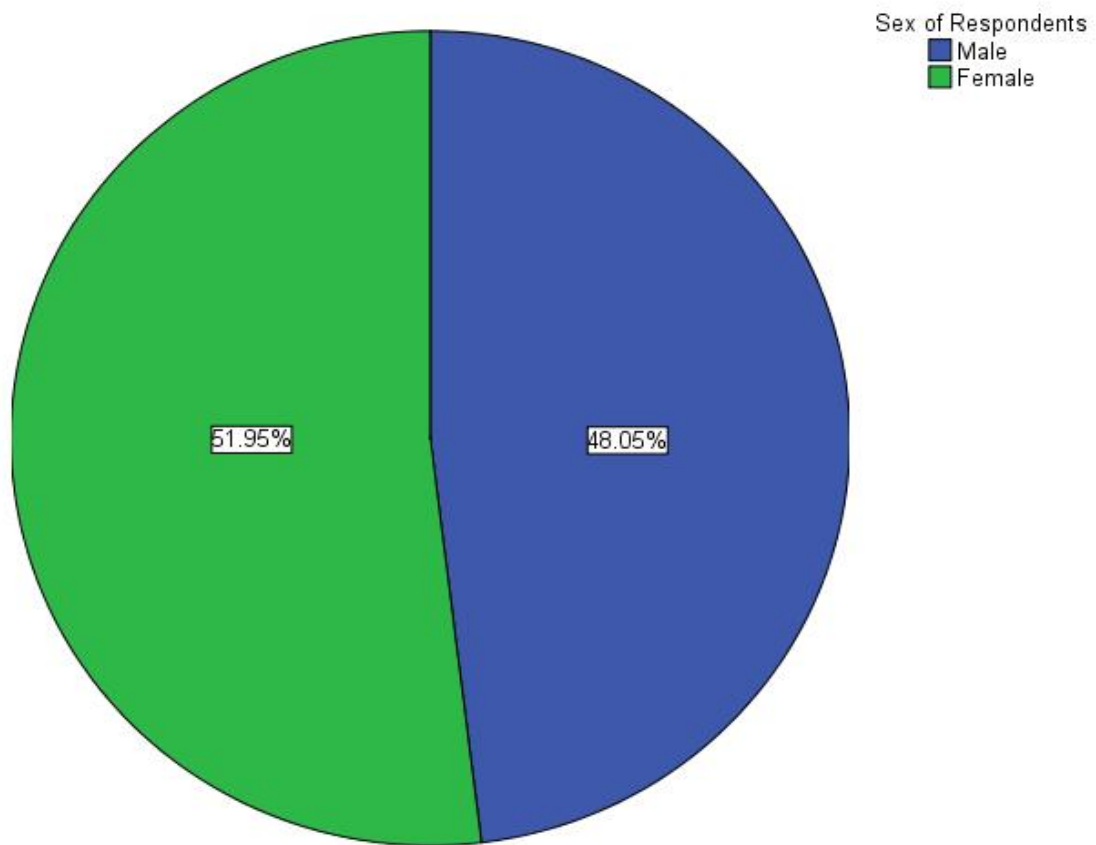
A total of 154 copies of questionnaire were taken to the field for distribution among respondents in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo Communities. All administered copies were returned valid for analysis. The results of the analysis are discussed below.

#### **4.3 Socio-Demographic Characteristics**

This section deals with the analysis of the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents and this will be achieved with the aid of tables and charts. The varying socio-demographic characteristics are discussed below.

##### **4.3.1 Sex of Respondents**

Figure 4.1 shows the proportion distribution of the sex of respondents in the study area. From the chart, the proportion of respondents who are males in the study area is given 48.05% while the proportion of the respondents who are females is represented as 51.95%. This implies that from the sampled population, the proportion of females is more than the proportion of males.

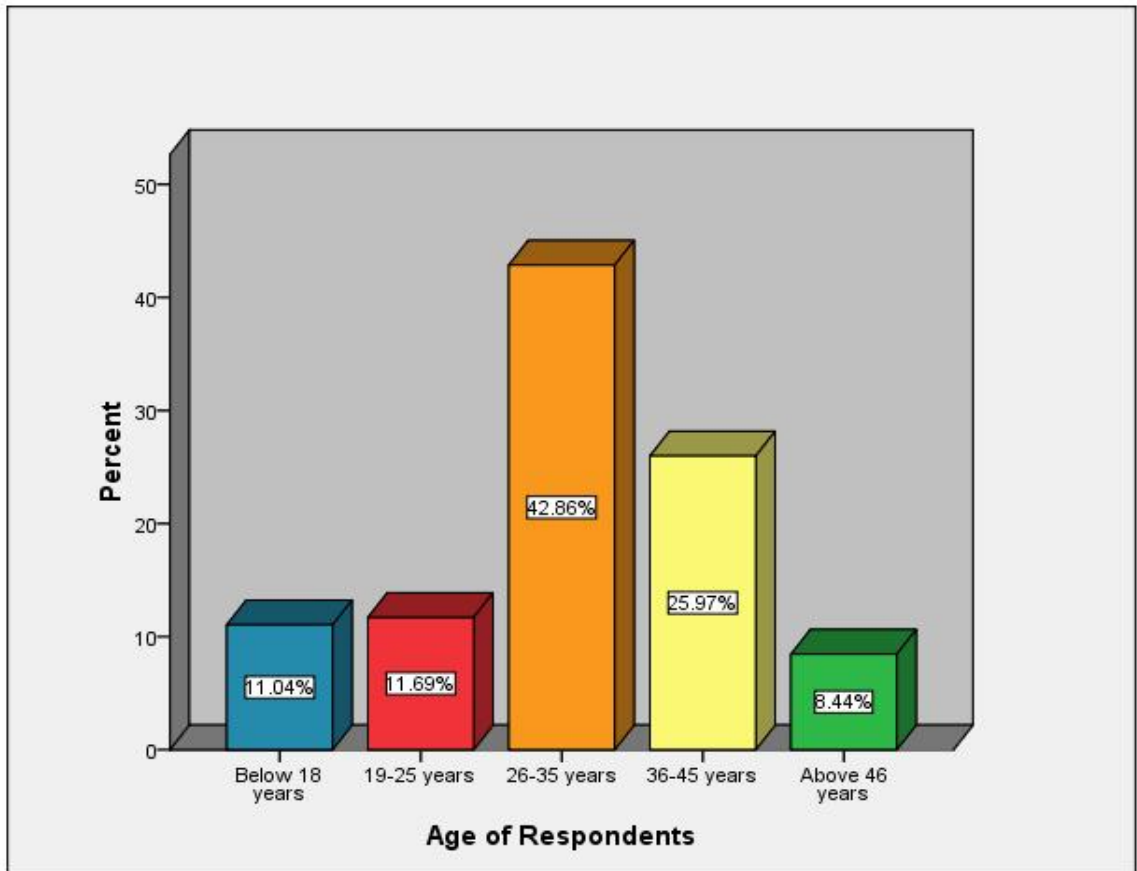


**Figure 4.1: Sex of Respondents**  
Source: Field Survey, 2021

#### 4.3.2 Age of Respondents

Figure 4.2 above shows the age of respondents in the study area. From the chart, the proportion of respondents in the study area who are less than 18 years of age is represented as 11.04%, the proportion of respondents who are between the ages of 19-25 years is given as 11.69% with the proportion of respondents between 26-35 years having a representation of 42.86%. The proportion representation of respondents who are between 36-45 years is represented as 25.97%. Respondents with a representation of 8.44% of the study population are over 46 years of age.

From the analysis above, the age group with the highest representation is 26-35 years with a proportion of 42.86% while the age group with the least representation is of respondents above 46 years. It can thus be concluded that the study population is fairly mature. Being a rural environment, it is no surprise that the study population consists majorly of older respondents.

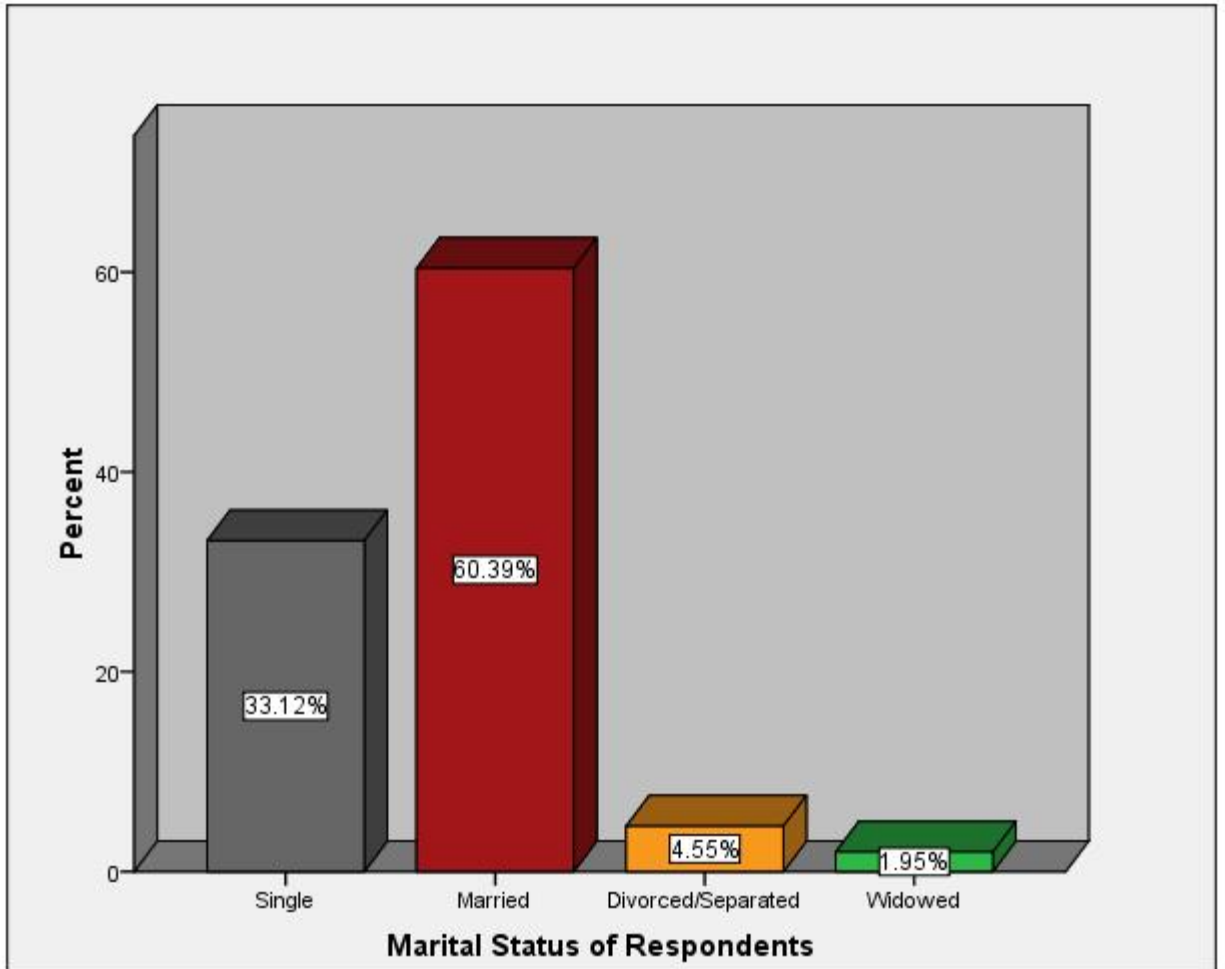


**Figure 4.2: Age of Respondents**  
**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

### **4.3.3 Marital Status of Respondents**

Figure 4.3 shows the marital status of respondents in the study area. From the chart, the proportion of respondents who are single is represented as 33.12%, the proportion who are married is represented as 60.39% while the proportion who are divorced or separated is given as 4.55% with the proportion of the sampled population who are widowed having a representation of 1.95%.

From the above, the marital status with the highest representation is the married population having a proportion of 60.39%. This implies that the majority of the respondents in the study area are married. The marital status with the least representation is the widowed population with a proportion of 1.95%.



**Figure 4.3: Marital Status of Respondents**  
Source: Field Survey, 2021

#### 4.3.4 Household Size of Respondents

Table 4.1 shows the household size of respondents in the study area. From the table, the proportion of the sampled population with a household size of 1-3 persons is represented as 31.2%, the proportion of respondents who have a household size of 4-6 persons is represented as 50.6%, the proportion of respondents who have a household size of 7-9 persons is given as 16.2% while the proportion of respondents who have a household size of above 9 persons have a representation of 1.9%.

From the above analysis, it can be concluded that in the study area, majority of the respondents have a household size of 4-6 persons. It can be concluded thus that the study area consists of medium to large family sizes.

**Table 4.1: Household Size of Respondents**

		Household Size of Respondents				Total
		1-3	4-6	7-9	Above 9	
Ekiadolor	Count	29	46	17	2	94
	Percent (%)	30.9%	48.9%	18.1%	2.1%	100.0%
Ugbogiobo	Count	19	32	8	1	60
	Percent (%)	31.7%	53.3%	13.3%	1.7%	100.0%
Total	Count	48	78	25	3	154
	Percent (%)	31.2%	50.6%	16.2%	1.9%	100.0%

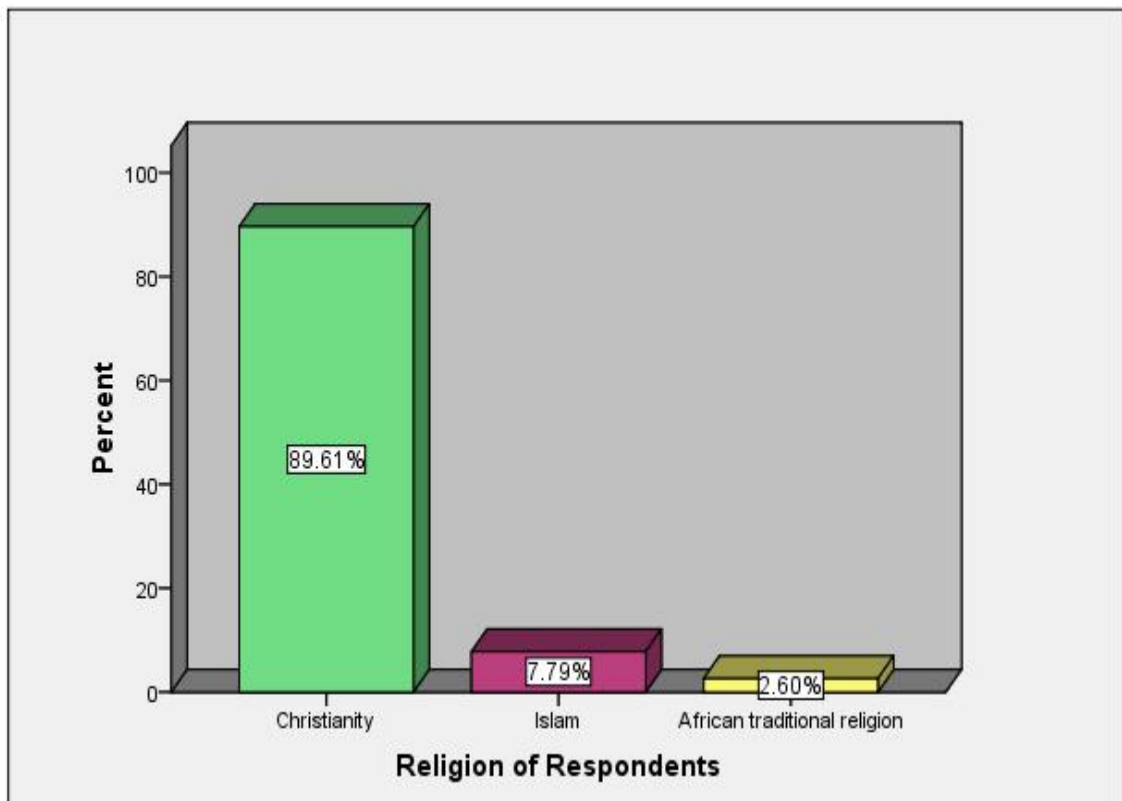
**Source: Field Survey, 2019**

#### 4.3.5 Religion of Respondents

Figure 4.4 shows the religion of respondents in the study area. From the chart, the proportion of the sampled population who are Christians is given as 89.61% with

the proportion of the sample population who are Muslims given as 7.79%. Respondents who practice African traditional religion have a representation of 2.60%.

From the above analysis, the highest practiced religion in the study area is Christianity with a proportion of 89.61%. In essence, majority of the residents in the study area are Christians.



**Figure 4.4: Religion of Respondents**  
Source: Field Survey, 2021

#### 4.3.6 Educational Qualification of Respondents

The educational qualification of respondents in the study area is presented in Table 4.2. The proportion of respondents with no formal education is given as 16.9%, respondents with primary school certification have a proportion of 29.9% of the study population with the proportion of respondents who have secondary school certification represented as 39.6%. 13.6% of the sample population have tertiary/higher educational degrees.

From the above analysis, it can be concluded that majority of the respondents in the study area have secondary education. Ekiadolor however has more respondents with secondary and tertiary education compared to Ugbogiobo. It can be concluded thus that the study area is generally a fairly educated region.

**Table 4.2: Educational Qualification of Respondents**

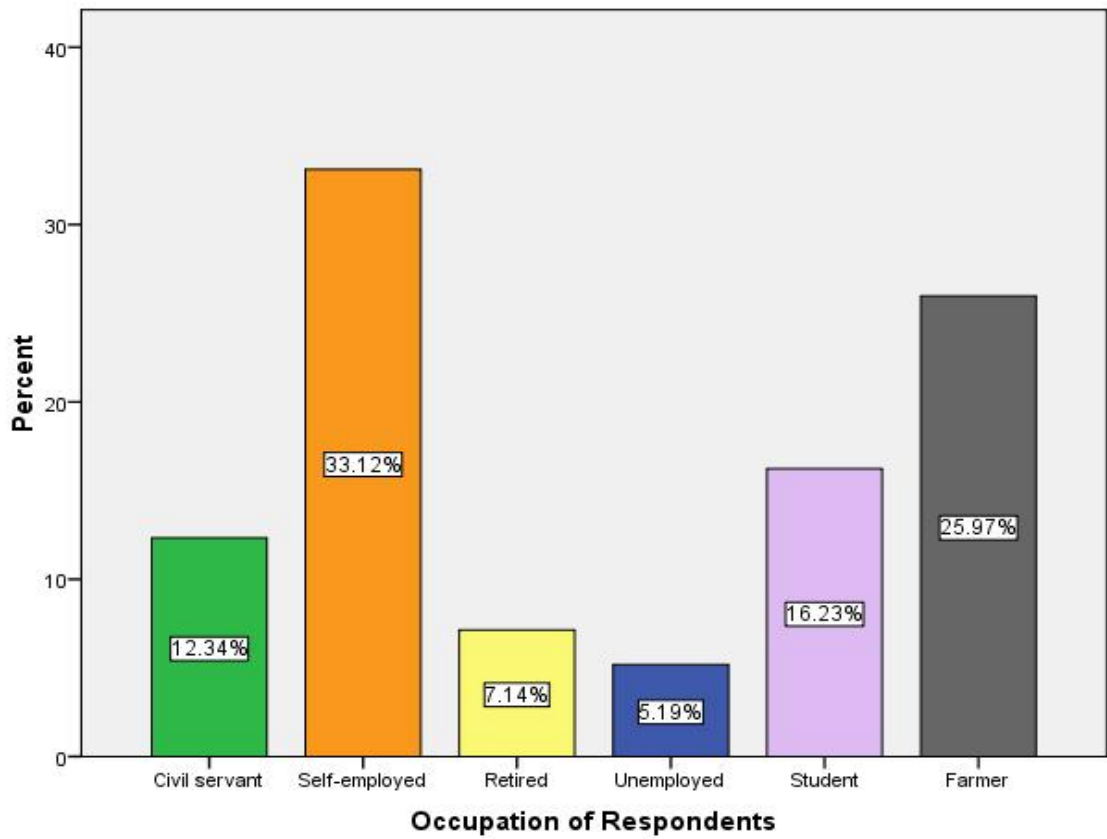
		Educational Qualification of Respondents				Total
		No formal education	Primary school	Secondary school	Tertiary/higher educational degree	
Ekiadolor	Count	9	24	45	16	94
	Percent (%)	9.6%	25.5%	47.9%	17.0%	100.0%
Ugbogiobo	Count	17	22	16	5	60
	Percent (%)	28.3%	36.7%	26.7%	8.3%	100.0%
Total	Count	26	46	61	21	154
	Percent (%)	16.9%	29.9%	39.6%	13.6%	100.0%

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

#### **4.3.7 Occupation of Respondents**

Figure 4.5 shows the occupation of respondents in the study area. From the chart, the proportion of respondents who are civil servants in the study area is represented as 12.34%, the proportion of respondents who are self-employed is given as 33.12% with the proportion of respondents who are retired and unemployed having a representation of 7.14% and 5.19% respectively. The proportion of students in the study area is given as 16.23% while farmers in the study area have a proportion of 25.97%.

From the above analysis, majority of the respondents in the study are self-employed with a representation of 33.12% while a sizeable proportion of the sample population consists of farmers. It can be deduced that majority of the respondents are employed and earn incomes by virtue of their personal businesses. The high proportion of farmers in the study area can be attributed to the study area being a rural environment and thus having a higher tendency compared to urban areas for residents to be involved in primary activities such as farming and fishing.



**Figure 4.5: Occupation of Respondents**  
Source: Field Survey, 2021

#### 4.4 Causes, Effects and Control of Rural-Urban Migration

This section deals with the root causes behind the rate of out-migration from the study area. It also analyses the effects of out-migration on the study area and control measures which could be effected to curb this menace.

##### 4.4.1 Rate of Migration to Urban Areas

Table 4.3 shows the rate of migration to urban areas from the study area. From the table, 14.9% of the sampled population reported that the rate of migration is very high, the proportion of respondents who affirm that the rate of migration from their community is high is given as 42.2%, 24.0% of the sample population are of the opinion that the rate of migration is moderate while 18.8% of the sample population are of the opinion that migration from their community is low.

It can be concluded from the above analysis that the rate of migration from the study area to urban areas is high.

**Table 4.3: Rate of Migration to Urban Areas**

		Rate of Migration to Urban Areas				Total
		Very high	High	Moderate	Low	
Ekiadolor	Count	16	34	34	10	94
	Percent (%)	17.0%	36.2%	36.2%	10.6%	100.0%
Ugbogiobo	Count	7	31	3	19	60
	Percent (%)	11.7%	51.7%	5.0%	31.7%	100.0%
Total	Count	23	65	37	29	154
	Percent (%)	14.9%	42.2%	24.0%	18.8%	100.0%

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

#### 4.4.2 Reason for Rate of Migration to Urban Areas

Table 4.4 shows the reason for rate of out-migration from the study area to urban areas. From the chart, 32.5% of the sampled population attributed the rate of migration from their community to unemployment thus the search for jobs, 22.1% of the population gave the search for better education as the factor responsible for the rate of migration to urban areas with 24.7% of the respondents citing lack of amenities as the reason for the rate of migration from their community. 9.7% of the sample population attributed out-migration from their community to poor health infrastructure while 11.0% of the respondents cite poverty as the reason for the rate of out-migration witnessed.

From the above analysis, it can be concluded that unemployment and lack of basic amenities are the major factors responsible for the migration of people from the study area to urban areas. People migrate from the study areas in search of good jobs. The lure of basic amenities such as good roads, healthcare and education is also a major factor for the high rate of migration from the study area established in Table 4.3.

**Table 4.4: Reason for Rate of Migration**

	Frequency	Percent (%)
Unemployment	50	32.5
Search for better education	34	22.1
Lack of amenities	38	24.7
Poor health infrastructure	15	9.7
Poverty	17	11.0
Total	154	100.0

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

#### 4.4.3 Highest Migrating Age Group

Figure 4.5 shows the highest migrating age group from the study area. It was reported by 24.7% of the sample population that 19-25 years is the highest migrating age group, 52.6% of the respondents believe that 26-35 years is the highest migrating age group. A further 16.9% of the sample population affirmed that 36-45 years make up the highest migrating age group while 5.8% of the respondents report above 46 years to be the highest migrating age group from the study area.

It can be concluded from the analysis above that the highest migrating age group from the study area are people within the ages of 26 and 35 years followed by those between the ages of 19-25 years. This can be attributed to the fact that the lower age groups may migrate to urban areas for higher education and the search for jobs but the older age groups are generally settled and established in their communities.

**Table 4.5: Highest Migrating Age Group**

	Frequency	Percent (%)
19-25 years	38	24.7
26-35 years	81	52.6
36-45 years	26	16.9
Above 46 years	9	5.8
Total	154	100.0

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

#### 4.4.4 Availability of Amenities in the Community

Table 4.6 shows respondents' rating of the availability of amenities in their community. From the Table, 1.9% of the sampled respondents are of the opinion that

availability of amenities in their community is high; the proportion of respondents from the sampled survey who opined that the availability of amenities in their community is moderate is represented as 51.9%, the proportion of respondents who are of the opinion that the availability of amenities in their community is low is represented as 39.6% while a further 6.5% of the sampled respondents affirmed that the availability of amenities in their community is very low.

From the above analysis, it can be concluded that the majority (51.9%) of the sample population consider basic amenities in their community to be in moderate supply.

**Table 4.6: Availability of Amenities in the Community**

		Availability of Amenities in the Community				Total
		High	Moderate	Low	Very low	
Ekiadolor	Count	3	52	36	3	94
	Percent (%)	3.2%	55.3%	38.3%	3.2%	100.0%
Ugbogiobo	Count	0	28	25	7	60
	Percent (%)	.0%	46.7%	41.7%	11.7%	100.0%
Total	Count	3	80	61	10	154
	Percent (%)	1.9%	51.9%	39.6%	6.5%	100.0%

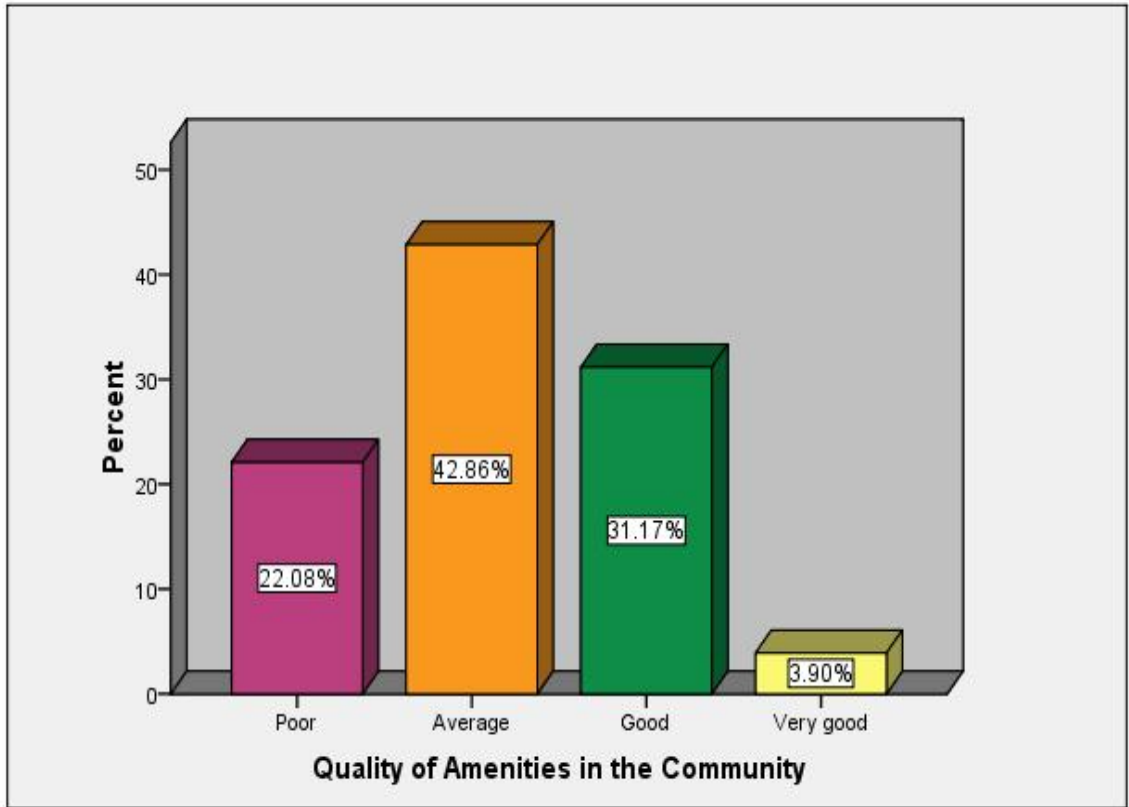
**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

#### 4.4.5 Quality of Amenities in the Community

Respondents' rating of the quality of amenities in their community is depicted in Figure 4.6 shows. From the chart, 22.08% of the sampled respondents are of the opinion that the quality of amenities in their community is poor; the proportion of

respondents from the sampled survey who opined that the quality of amenities in their community is average is represented as 42.86%, the proportion of respondents who are of the opinion that the quality of amenities in their community is good is represented as 31.17% while the proportion of respondents who are of the opinion that the quality of amenities in their community is very good is represented as 3.90%.

It is evident that majority of the sample population consider the amenities in their community to be of average quality.



**Figure 4.6: Quality of Amenities in the Community**

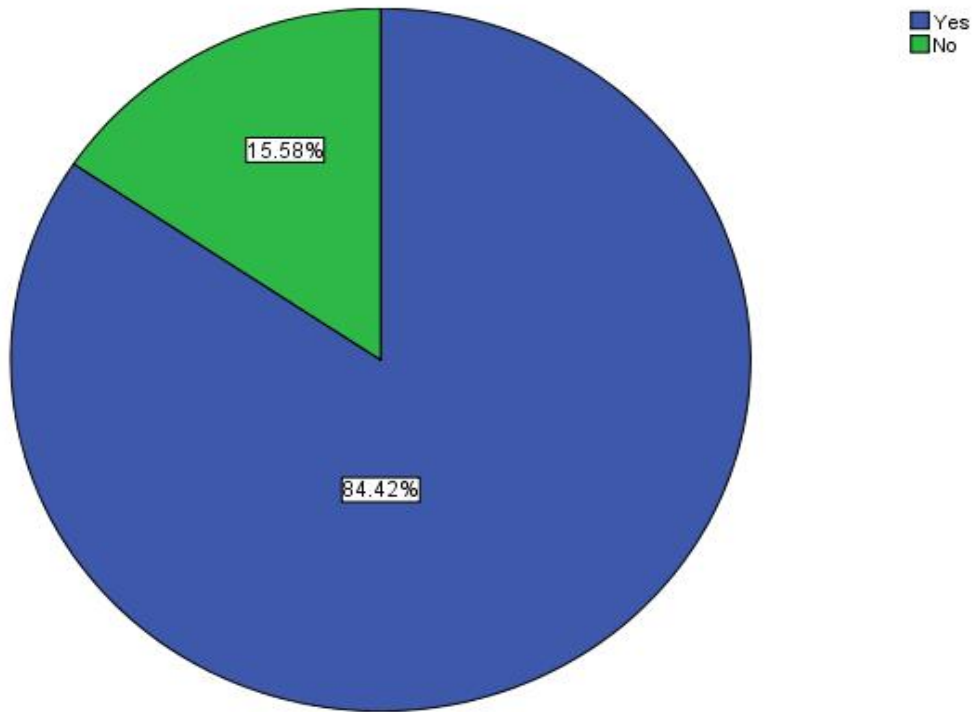
**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

#### **4.4.6 Out-migration as a Result of Low Quality of Amenities**

Figure 4.7 shows respondents' perception of low quality of amenities being a major cause of out-migration from the study area. From the chart, the proportion of respondents who affirmed that low quality of amenities is a major cause of out-migration from the study area is represented as 84.42% while the proportion of respondents who think otherwise given as 15.58% of the sample population.

From the above analysis, it can be concluded that the majority (84.42%) of the sampled population attribute out-migration of people from their community to low quality of amenities.

### Out-migration as a Result of Low Quality of Amenities



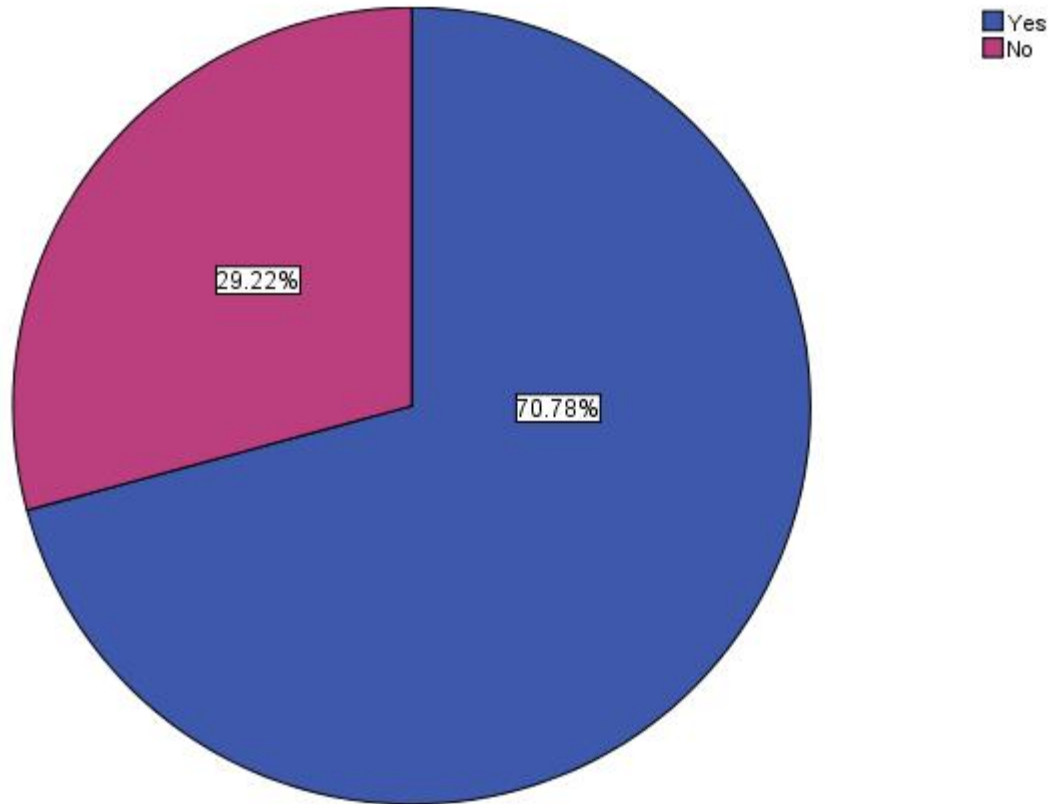
**Figure 4.7: Out-migration as a Result of Low Quality of Amenities**  
Source: Field Survey, 2021

#### **4.4.7 Significant Impact of Out-migration on the Community**

Figure 4.8 shows respondents' perception of out-migration having a significant impact on their community. From the chart, the proportion of respondents who affirmed that out-migration has had a significant impact on their community is given as 70.78% while 29.22% of the sample population are of the opinion that their community has not been significantly affected by out-migration of people to other areas.

It can be concluded from the analysis above that out-migration has had a significant impact on the study area as affirmed the majority (70.78%) of the sampled population.

### Significant Impact of Out-migration on the Community



**Figure 4.8: Significant Impact of Out-migration on the Community**  
**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

#### **4.4.8 Nature of Impact of Out-migration on the Community**

Respondents who replied in the affirmative to the question posed in Figure 4.8 were asked to state the nature of the impact. Table 4.7 shows that 18.2% of the sample population affirmed that out-migration of people from their community has brought about reduction in agricultural labor, 11.7% of the sample population affirmed that out-migration of people from their community has brought about reduction in agricultural output while 30.5% and 10.4% are of the opinion that out-migration of people from their community has led to a slow pace of rural development and lack of rural infrastructure respectively.

It is evident from the above analysis that out-migration of people from the study area has had a significant impact in the areas of reduced pace of development and reduction in agricultural labor. As more of the able-bodied population continues to migrate from the community, the economy of the study communities will continue to deplete as there will be a reduction in demand for local products and consumer goods. There will also be insufficient labor on the farms which will take its toll on expected agricultural output as well.

**Table 4.7: Nature of Impact of Out-migration on the Community**

	Frequency	Percent (%)
Reduction in agricultural labor	28	18.2
Reduction in agricultural output	18	11.7
Slow pace of development	47	30.5
Lack of rural infrastructure	16	10.4
Sub-total	109	70.8
Not applicable	45	29.2
Total	154	100.0

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

#### **4.4.10 Measures to Control Out-migration from the Community**

Table 4.8 shows measures recommended by respondents to control out-migration. From the Table, the proportion of respondents who are of the opinion that government engagement in rural development projects will effectively control the observed rate of out-migration from the community is given as 27.9%, the proportion of the sampled respondents who are of the opinion that provision of loans and agricultural equipment to grassroots farmers will curb the observed rate of out-migration from the community is given as 18.8%. The proportion of respondents who are of the opinion that provision of good education and health infrastructural facilities will effectively control the observed rate of out-migration from the community is given as 29.9% while 23.4% of the study population believe that a combination of all the aforementioned measures will be best to tackle the problem of out-migration from the study area.

Drawing from the analysis above, it can be concluded that provision of basic amenities such as good educational and healthcare facilities in line with rural development projects by the government will help in no small measure to effectively reduce the rate of migration of members of the population who would have otherwise migrated to enjoy these same resources elsewhere.

**Table 4.8: Measures to Control Out-migration from the Community**

	Frequency	Percent (%)
Government engagement in rural development projects	43	27.9
Provision of loans and agricultural equipment to grassroots farmers	29	18.8
Provision of good education and health infrastructural facilities	46	29.9
All of the above	36	23.4
Total	154	100.0

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

#### **4.5 Hypothesis Testing**

**H<sub>0</sub> That there is no significant association between the causal factors of out-migration in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo Communities**

A Pearson Chi-Square test was conducted to determine the level of association between the causal factors of out-migration in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo Communities. The Pearson Chi-Square value is 18.266, the degree of freedom of the Chi-Square value is 5 and the asymptotic significant value is 0.003. This is lower than the alpha

level (0.05). It can be concluded that a significant association exists between the causal factors of out-migration in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo Communities.

**Table 4.9: Chi-Square Test for Reasons for Out-migration and Study Community**

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	18.266 <sup>a</sup>	5	.003
Likelihood Ratio	18.888	5	.002
Linear-by-Linear Association	10.011	1	.002
N of Valid Cases	154		

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents a summary of the research findings. The chapter also includes the recommendations which are in accordance with the research findings and the conclusion of this research.

#### **5.2 Summary of Research Findings**

This study examined the socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration on Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo communities. A comprehensive analysis of data collected from the field revealed a series of deductions which include the following:

Firstly, the study show that over the years, there has been a high rate of migration of the able-bodied population majorly between the ages of 26-35 (52.6%) and 19-25 years (24.7%) from the study area to surrounding urban areas. It was concluded that unemployment and lack of basic amenities are the major factors responsible for the migration of people from the study area to urban areas. Amenities present in the study area were affirmed by majority of the sample population (51.9%) to be in moderate supply with average quality as reported by 42.86% of the respondents. As a result, people migrate from the study area to urban areas in search of good jobs and the lure of basic amenities such as good roads, healthcare and in the case of the younger demographic; education. Compared to the younger age groups, there is a lower rate of out-migration by the older age groups (36 years and above)

which is due to the fact that they are generally settled and established in their community.

In addition, the study showed that the out-migration of people to urban areas from the study area has had significant impacts on Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo Communities as affirmed by 70.78% of the sampled population. The impacts of out-migration on the study communities were seen in the areas of slow pace of development (30.5%), reduction in agricultural labor (18.2%) and reduction in agricultural output (11.7%). With the continued exit of youths and young adults from the rural communities, the aged, women and children are left behind to labor on the farm which has led to a reduction in agricultural labor and consequently agricultural output. This has consequently had a detrimental effect on the rural economy and further stagnated the growth of the rural communities making it nearly impossible to meet up with the rate of development of its adjoining urban areas.

To control the problem of out-migration from the study area, there was a demand majorly for the provision of good education and health facilities in addition to engagement in rural development projects by the government to create an environment with adequate amenities and resources that will discourage people to migrate.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

The study makes the following recommendations based on the findings from this research;

- To reduce the perceived bias in provision of infrastructure of urban areas and the neglect of rural areas. Policy makers should design plans and interventions for poverty alleviation and rural development. There should be a strong consideration for setting up administrative units for rural development which would aid to bridge the gap in development between Ekiador and Ugbogiobo and the surrounding urban environment.
- The government should put appropriate structures in place to create a conducive and enabling environment for rural businesses in Ekiador and Ugbogiobo to thrive. Such environment will be created through infrastructural development and the provision of incentives such as tax relief to encourage the siting of industries by private enterprises in these rural areas. This will provide alternative sources of employment and income for the rural populace and will help in no small measure to minimize rural-urban migration.
- There should be extensive educational programmes and skill acquisition centers in the study area aimed to complement employment opportunities by enabling the youth to be trained within their rural domain while still having the opportunity to participate in agricultural activities such as farming.
- Since farming remains a major occupation of a sizable number of the rural populace, attention should be given to the formation of programmes geared towards enhancing agricultural production in the study area. This should be done with particular emphasis on the improvement of agricultural technology,

provision of fertilizers, tree seedlings, farming implements and credits to farmers as well as other initiatives that will provide an enabling environment to sustain high agricultural production. This will not only boost food supply but also create employment opportunities for the youth.

- Government should discourage the drift of people to urban areas by making available such amenities that would encourage them to stay. If adequate economic and social infrastructure such as roads, markets, housing, transport and communications systems, educational and health facilities, electricity and water supply are provided, the rate of migration from the study area will be greatly lessened.

#### **5.4 Conclusion**

The study has been able to assess most of the socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration on Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo communities. It has been discovered that much like other rural areas in Nigeria, these communities continue to decrease in portions of their human capital while the urban areas increases. The situation has been worsened by inadequate rural infrastructure necessary for the improvement or sustenance of various endeavors such as trade and agriculture.

There is a need to bridge the developmental gap that so clearly exists between the study communities and surrounding urban areas firstly to stem the tide of out-migration and a consequent loss of able-bodied population to urban areas and secondly, to better the lives of the rural population and improve the local economy of the

communities in general. By providing adequate economic and social infrastructure such as roads, electricity and water supply, housing, transport and communications systems among others and creating avenues for the creation of employment and improvement of rural agriculture, such goal will surely be achieved.

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## APPENDIX

### QUESTIONNAIRE

**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND REGIONAL PLANNING,  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE,  
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY.**

Dear Respondent,

I am an undergraduate student of the above named Department and University undertaking a full-time B.Sc. Program. I am conducting a research project titled; **Socio-economic effects of rural-urban migration on selected peri-urban rural settlements in Ekiadolor and Ugbogiobo.** Kindly assist me by providing the correct information requested. Your identity and all information provided will be treated with strict confidentiality and used for academic purpose only.

Thank you for your assistance.

**Instruction:** Please tick [  ] in the appropriate boxes to the following questions.

**Location of respondent:** Ekiadolor [  ] Ugbogiobo [  ]

#### **SECTION A: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS**

1. Sex of respondent (a) Male [  ] (b) Female [  ]
2. Age of respondent (a) below 18 years [  ] (b) 19-25 years [  ] (c) 26-35 years [  ]  
(d) 36-45 years [  ] (e) above 46 years [  ]
3. Marital status (a) Single [  ] (b) Married [  ] (c) Divorced/Separated [  ]  
(d) Widowed [  ]
4. Household size (a) 1-3 [  ] (b) 4-6 [  ] (c) 7-9 [  ] (d) above 9 [  ]

5. Religion (a) Christianity [ ] (b) Islam [ ] (c) African traditional religion [ ]  
 (d) Others (Specify).....
6. Highest educational qualification (a) No formal education [ ] (b) Primary school [ ] (c) Secondary school [ ] (d) Tertiary/higher educational degree [ ] (e) Others (Specify).....
7. Occupation (a) Civil servant [ ] (b) Self-employed [ ] (c) Retired [ ]  
 (d) Unemployed [ ] (e) Student [ ] (f) Others (Specify).....

**SECTION B: CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION**

8. How would you rate the migration of people from your community to urban areas in recent years? (a) Very high [ ] (b) High [ ] (c) Moderate [ ] (d) Low [ ] (e) Very low
9. What is the reason for the rate of migration witnessed? (a) Unemployment [ ] (b) Search for better education [ ] (c) Amenities [ ] (d) Poor health infrastructure [ ] (e) Poverty [ ] (f) Others (Specify)  
 .....
10. Which particular age group has seen the most migration in recent years? (a) below 18 years [ ] (b) 19-25 years [ ] (c) 26-35 years [ ] (d) 36-45 years [ ] (e) above 46 years [ ]
11. How would you rate the availability of amenities in the community? (a ) very high (b ) high (c ) moderate (d ) low (e ) very low

12. How would you rate the quality of amenities in your community? (a) Poor [ ]  
 (b) Average [ ] (c) Good [ ] (d) Very good [ ]
13. Do you think out-migration of residents from your community has been encouraged by no or low quality of amenities in your community? (a) Yes [ ]  
 (b) No [ ]
14. Has the out-migration of residents from your community had any significant impact on the community? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]
15. If yes, in what way? (a) Depopulation of the community [ ] (b) Reduction in agricultural output [ ] (c) Slow pace of development [ ] (d) Lack of rural infrastructure [ ] (e) Others (Specify)

.....

**SECTION C: WAYS OF CONTROLLING RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION**

16. Do you consider out-migration of members of your community to be a problem that needs to be resolved? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]
17. If yes, what measure should be taken to control the problem of out-migration from your community? (a) Government engagement in rural development projects [ ] (b) Provision of loan and agricultural equipment to grass root farmers [ ]  
 (c) Provision of good education and health infrastructural facilities [ ] (d) All of the above [ ] (e) Others (Specify)

.....

Suggest other ways of curbing these problems .....