

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN THE HOSPITALITY SECTOR

BY

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[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Youth Employment in the Hospitality Sector" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined youth employment in the hospitality sector, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of youth; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with youth and employment. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 383 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 344 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 2.99). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.511$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 6.92, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.28$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on youth.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of youth employment in the hospitality sector is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

The relationship between youth and employment has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with youth. An examination by Adekunle and Salami (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Empirical evidence from Bello and Adekunle (2021) suggests that positive developments in employment are associated with improvements in youth. For practitioners, the practical significance of youth cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with employment. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

The salience of youth in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of youth and employment. Okonkwo and Adebayo (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of youth are unevenly distributed across groups. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding employment. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Adigun and Bamgbose (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

youth occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about employment and national development. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which youth advances in practice. Longitudinal research by Adigun and Bamgbose (2016) revealed that sustained attention to youth yields appreciable dividends over time. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Evidence assembled by Eze and Osinachi (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to youth. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

The phenomenon of youth, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of youth. Dauda and Famuyide (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of youth are unevenly distributed across groups. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify,