Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: 10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233

Employment Dynamics and Job Loss among Households in Nigeria: Pre COVID-19 and COVID-19 Periods

♣***Yetunde O.M. Oladokun***: *Department of Economics and Extension, Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria.*

Olubunmi O. Alawode: *Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.*

ABSTRACT: *This paper examined employment dynamics and job loss among households in Nigeria at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 Periods. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) was the secondary data used. And analysed using frequency counts, cross tabs and bar charts. At pre Covid-19 period, most households (27.2%) were employed in commerce sector, agricultural sector (23.8%), and personal services, education & health (22.3%). However, during Covid-19 period, almost half (48.7%) of the households, were engaged in agriculture sector and commerce sector (18.3%). During Covid-19, 35.3% of jobs were lost by Nigerian households. Agriculture engaged 200 households at pre Covid-19 period, and rose to 413 during Covid-19, leading to +51.6% change, implying its capability to absorb sudden shocks in households' employment. Policies to enhance greater participation of households within agriculture sector will help to reduce shock. Federal Government of Nigeria should effectively execute Nigerian Economic Sustainability Plan to achieve employment generation.*

Key words: *Covid-19, Employment dynamics, Employment type, Job loss, Pre Covid-19.*

1. Introduction

National Employment Policy (2017) affirms employment generation as one of the difficult aspects of social and economic policy-making in Nigeria. This Policy has been developing in Nigeria for years. After several attempts, the first NEP was developed for adoption in 2002. After 14 years of its development, the economy of Nigeria has evolved to be one of the major economies in Africa, and her ability to create jobs increased greatly. Similarly, the Nigeria's labour force has gone through dynamic changes with varying demographics, an increasing tendency for self-employment, unpaid family work and increasing intensity of urban informal economy.

Covid-19 viral outbreak started in December, 2019 (Asongu & Adesoji, 2020). According to them, the disease was underestimated as an ordinary regional health challenge with no global risk. Globally, as of 12 August 2020, there have been 20,120,919 confirmed cases of Covid-19, including 736,766 deaths. In Nigeria, the first confirmed case was announced in February 2020. By August 15 2020, The Nigeria Centre for Disease control (NCDC) had confirmed 48,445 cases, 35,998 discharged cases and 973 deaths. Apart from the awful health hazards and human consequences of the pandemic, the economic worries, and interferences that have resulted came at a huge loss to the world's economy. Covid-19 pandemic started at the time when Nigeria's economy was recuperating from the 2016 recession (World Bank Group, 2020). In Nigeria, jobs were lost at household level as both people and organisations experienced unforeseen problems because of the Covid-19 pandemic, which disrupted the economy. From the report of the impact monitoring survey of National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on 1,950 households interviewed, 42% of households employed before the pandemic became unemployed a week before the interview because of Covid-19. The interview further revealed that the poorest households had

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

the utmost share of Nigerians who became unemployed (45%), while 35% of the richest households were also involved. Nigerians who were employed in almost all the sectors were affected by the pandemic (National Bureau of Statistics, 2020). Also, fourteen percent of individuals employed in the commerce sector before the pandemic became unemployed due to Covid-19. This is equal to sixty percent of all those employed before the pandemic. It was finally found that the main reason for job loss in all sectors was Covid-19 related economic impacts. On this basis, this paper examined employment dynamics and job loss among households in Nigeria at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods.

1.1. Research Questions

i. What are the employment types among Nigerian households at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods?
ii. How many households lost their jobs during Covid-19?
iii. What reasons account for the job losses?
iv. Did employment status of households change between pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods?

1.2. Research Objectives

The broad objective is to analyse employment dynamics at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 Periods, and the level of job loss during Covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria. The specific objectives are to:

i. Identify employment types among households at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 Periods.
ii. Determine the level of job loss among households during Covid-19.
iii. Examine the reasons for job loss among households.
iv. Assess the employment dynamics of households at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods.

This study is expected to provide real-time information on employment dynamics and job loss among households in Nigeria during Covid-19 period. This is to enable prompt response of Governments, non-governmental organisations and development partners to the crisis. This will also serve as a basis for the effective execution of Nigeria Economic Sustainability Plan in generating employment to lessen the effect of Covid-19 on households.

2. Research Methodology

2.1. Scope of the Study

The Scope of This Study is Nigeria. Figure 1 is the map of Nigeria showing the 6 geopolitical zones.

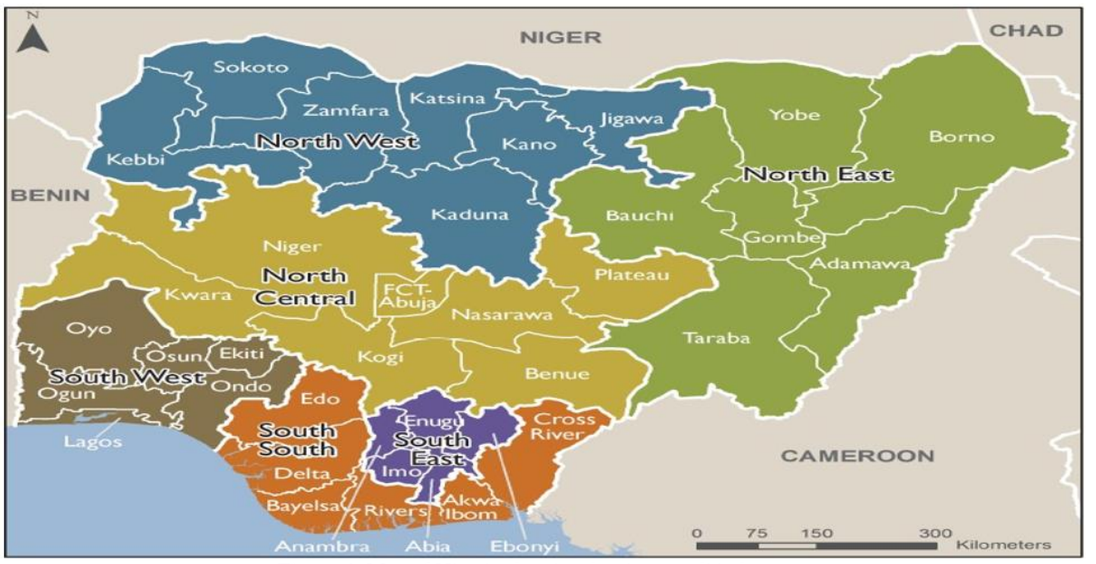


Figure 1. Map of Nigeria showing the six geopolitical zones.

Source: Nigeria DHS (2018).

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

2.2. Data Sources

The secondary data used were the Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS Baseline), first round of Covid-19 NLPS released in June 2020 by National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). After sorting out for missing data 1,950 households' data were used for analysis.

This paper presents findings on employment types among households at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 Periods, level of job loss during Covid-19, reasons for job loss among households and employment dynamics of households at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods.

2.3. Data Analysis

The NLPS data were described to achieve the objectives of this study. Percentages, frequency counts, cross tabs and bar charts were used to analyse the responses of households to the key variables covered by the data; employment types at both periods, job loss during Covid-19, the reasons for job loss and employment dynamics. Cross tabs of variables were done to account for the magnitude of effects of Covid-19 on employment of households by sectors (urban and rural), zones (6 geopolitical zones) in Nigeria.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Employment Types Among Households at Pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 Periods

As documented in the Economic Sustainability Plan (NESP, 2020) unemployment rate before Covid-19 was 23.1% (or 20.9m people).

The employment types among households in Nigeria at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods are presented in Table 1 and Figure 2. From Figure 2, Agriculture, commerce (buying, selling goods & repairs) and personal services, education & health were the main sectors which engaged high proportions of households. Also, from Table 2, results show that before Covid-19, more than one-quarter (27.2%) of households were employed in commerce sector, followed by Agriculture sector (23.8%), and personal services, education & health also engaged 22.3% of households. Mining and manufacturing (1.7%), and electricity, gas, & water supply (0.8%), are the sectors which engaged the least proportions of households.

However, during Covid-19 period, Agricultural sector engaged almost half (48.7%) of the households, followed by the commerce sector (18.3%), and personal services, education & health (15.3%). Others were construction sector (5.4%), transport (4.8%), public administration (3.2%), and professionals (2.2%). Households were more involved in agriculture during Covid-19 period than any other job, when compared to pre Covid-19 period.

Table 1. Employment types among Nigerian households at pre Covid-19 and during Covid-19 periods.

Employment type	Pre Covid-19 Period		Covid-19 Period	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing	200	23.8	413	48.7
Mining and Manufacturing	14	1.7	9	1.1
Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply	7	0.8	8	0.9
Construction	44	5.2	46	5.4
Commerce (Buying, Selling goods and Repair)	228	27.2	155	18.3
Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel	60	7.1	41	4.8
Professional activities: Finance	31	3.7	19	2.2
Public Administration	69	8.2	27	3.2
Personal Services, Education and Health	187	22.3	130	15.3
Total	840	100	848	100

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

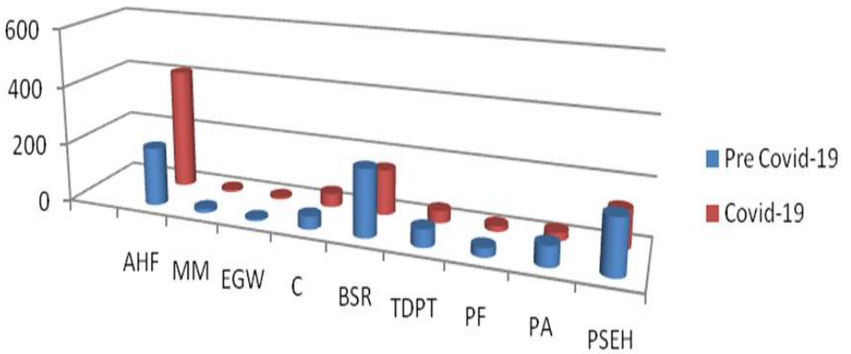


Figure 2. Employment types at pre-Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods.

Note:
AHF-Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing, MM-Mining and Manufacturing.
EGW-Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply, C-Construction.
BSR-Commerce (Buying, Selling goods, and Repair).
TDPT-Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel, PF-Professional activities: Finance.
PA-Public Administration, PSEH-Personal Services, Education and Health.

3.2. Employment Types Across Sectors at Pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 Periods

Distribution of households' employment types across urban and rural sectors in Nigeria at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods are presented in Table 2 and Figures 3 & 4. At pre Covid-19 period, Figure 3 shows that households' engagements followed the same pattern in the rural and urban sectors, except that there were more households who engaged in agriculture in the rural sector. From Table 2, mining, electricity, commerce, professional, public administration and personal services employment types were more in the urban sectors. This is because organisations, companies and industries that need their services are in the urban centres.

Meanwhile, during Covid-19 period, as compared to pre Covid-19 period, there was a higher percentage of households in Agriculture and construction in the rural sector. While in the urban sector, there were less households involved in mining, electricity, commerce, transport, professional, public administration and personal services. This is because of the lockdown and inability of organisations to run their businesses due to covid. It is worthy of note that households that were involved in agriculture in the urban sector rose from 11.0% at pre Covid-19 period to 33.2% during Covid-19 period. According to Figure 4, apart from jobs in agriculture that was tripled during Covid-19, jobs in commerce and personal services, though reduced, were also significant in the urban sector.

Table 2. Employment types among Nigerian households across sectors at Pre Covid- 19 and during Covid-19 periods.

Employment type	Pre Covid-19 Period		Covid-19 Period	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing	41(11.0)	159(34.0)	90(33.2)	323(55.9)
Mining and Manufacturing	8(2.1)	6(1.3)	5(1.8)	4(0.7)
Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply	5(1.3)	2(0.4)	3(1.1)	5(0.9)
Construction	19(5.1)	25(5.4)	14(5.2)	32(5.5)
Commerce (Buying, Selling goods and Repair)	121(32.4)	107(22.9)	57(21.0)	98(17.0)
Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel	24(6.4)	36(7.7)	20(7.4)	21(3.6)
Professional activities: Finance	23(6.2)	8(1.7)	14(5.2)	5(0.9)
Public Administration	33(8.9)	36(7.7)	14(5.2)	13(2.3)
Personal Services, Education and Health	99(26.6)	88(18.8)	54(19.9)	76(13.2)
Total	373(100)	467(100)	271(100)	577(100)

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

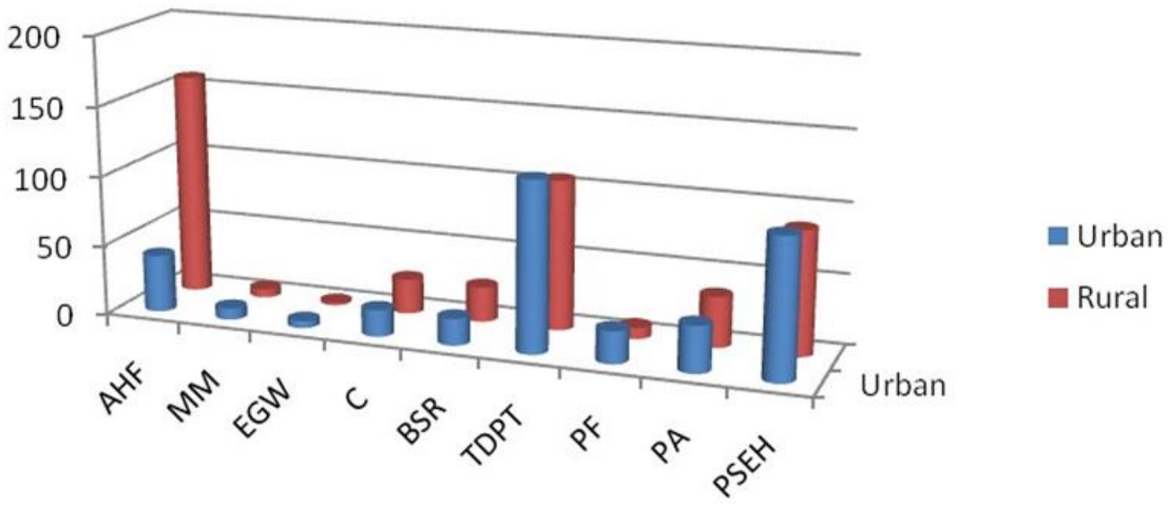


Figure 3. Employment across urban and rural Nigeria (Pre Covid-19 period).

Note:
AHF-Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing, MM-Mining and Manufacturing.
EGW-Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply, C-Construction.
BSR-Commerce (Buying, Selling goods, and Repair).
TDPT-Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel, PF-Professional activities: Finance.
PA-Public Administration, PSEH-Personal Services, Education and Health.

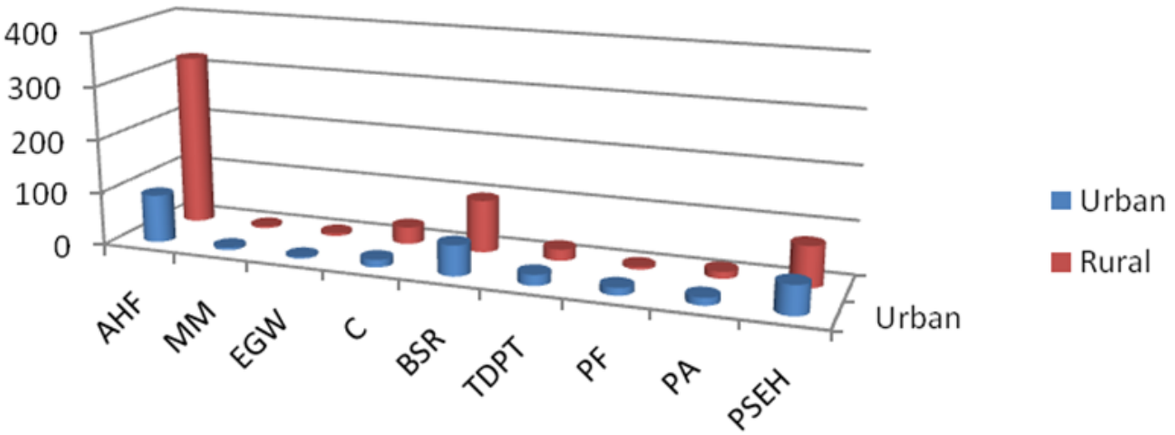


Figure 4. Employment types across urban and rural Nigeria (Covid-19 period).

Note:
AHF-Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing, MM-Mining and Manufacturing.
EGW-Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply, C-Construction.
BSR-Commerce (Buying, Selling goods, and Repair).
TDPT-Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel, PF-Professional activities: Finance.
PA-Public Administration, PSEH-Personal Services, Education and Health.

3.3. Employment Types Across Geopolitical Zones at Pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 Periods

Results of employment types across geopolitical zones at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods are presented in Tables 3 and 4, as well as Figures 5 and 6. Figure 5 shows that, across the geopolitical zones, at pre Covid-19 period, agriculture, commerce and personal services were common. Also, Table 3 shows that at pre Covid-19 period, North East zone had the highest percentage of households in agricultural employment type (27.0%), while South South zone had the least (10.0%). This shows that households in this region were still able to go the farm in spite of insurgency. The South West zone had

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

the highest percentages of households in electricity, gas & water supply (42.8%), professional activities (41.8%), mining & manufacturing (35.7%), commerce (23.3%), and personal services, education & health (31.0%). Lagos is the nation's business hub and it is in the South West, this could have contributed to the high percentages of the employment types in the South West. Also, schools and health facilities are more in the South West. In construction, the North Central had the highest percentage (22.7%) while the North East had the least percentage (9.1%).

Figure 6 shows that during Covid-19 period, agriculture, commerce & personal services were still the dominant employment types observable across the geopolitical zones, except that instead of the North East zone at the pre Covid-19 period, South East zone had greater proportion of households in agriculture than others. Table 4 shows that 33.9% of households in the South East zone were involved in agriculture. Also, instead of South West, North East had the highest percentage in mining and manufacturing (55.6%). North West and South West had the highest percentages of households in electricity, gas & water supply employment type (25.0% each), South East and South South zones had the highest percentages in construction (21.7% each), and South East had the highest proportion in the professional employment types (31.6%). South West zone still had the highest percentage in commerce (26.5%) and Transport (29.2%). North West had the highest percentage in public administration (25.9%) while South South had the highest percentage in personal services, education & health employment types (20.0%). South West region, as compare to pre Covid-19 period, had highest percentage in electricity, gas, & water supply, commerce, and transport employment types. This is because households are at home and they need more of electricity and gas at home. Also, even though there was lockdown, some states in this region opened small food markets in streets, therefore there was still buying and selling of food only although not as it was during pre Covid-19 period when people could buy other things like clothes, drugs, and other non-food household items.

Table 3. Employment types among Nigerian households across Geopolitical Zones at Pre Covid 19 period.

Employment type	Pre Covid-19 Period						
	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West	Total
Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing	36 (18.0)	54 (27.0)	44 (22.0)	24 (12.0)	20 (10.0)	22 (11.0)	200 (100)
Mining and Manufacturing	2 (14.3)	2 (14.3)	1 (7.1)	1 (7.1)	3 (21.5)	5 (35.7)	14 (100)
Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply	1 (14.3)	2 (28.6)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (14.3)	3 (42.8)	7 (100)
Construction	10 (22.7)	4 (9.1)	7 (15.9)	8 (18.2)	8 (18.2)	7 (15.9)	44 (100)
Commerce (Buying, Selling goods and Repair)	40 (17.5)	49 (21.5)	47 (20.6)	18 (7.9)	21 (9.2)	53 (23.3)	228 (100)
Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel	13 (21.7)	15 (25)	5 (8.3)	9 (15.0)	5 (8.3)	13 (21.7)	60 (100)
Professional activities: Finance	10 (32.3)	0 (0.0)	5 (16.1)	1 (3.3)	2 (6.5)	13 (41.8)	31 (100)
Public Administration	14 (20.3)	23 (33.4)	10 (14.5)	2 (2.9)	9 (13.0)	11 (15.9)	69 (100)
Personal Services, Education and Health	20 (10.7)	35 (18.7)	23(12.3)	22 (11.8)	29 (15.5)	58 (31.0)	187 (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses are percentages.

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

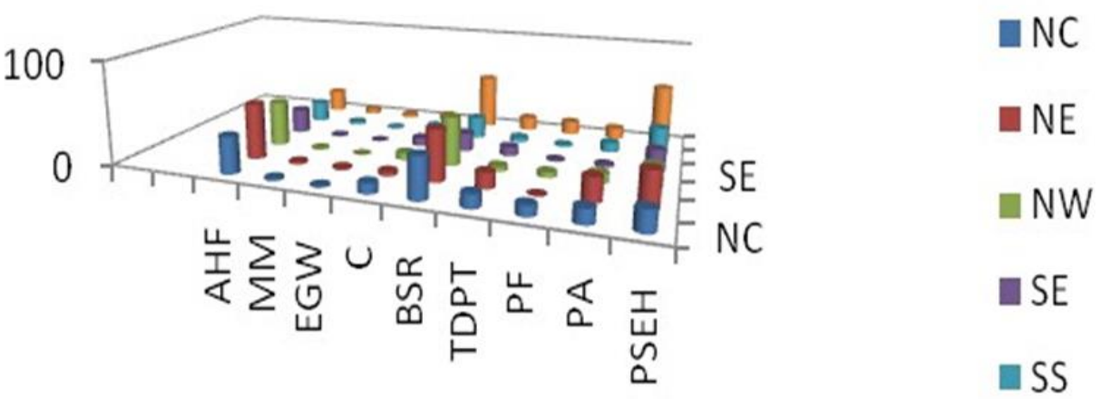


Figure 5. Employment types across geopolitical Zones (Pre-Covid 19 period).

Note:
AHF-Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing, MM-Mining and Manufacturing.
EGW-Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply, C-Construction.
BSR-Commerce (Buying, Selling goods, and Repair).
TDPT-Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel, PF-Professional activities: Finance.
PA-Public Administration, PSEH-Personal Services, Education and Health.

Table 4. Employment types among Nigerian households across geopolitical Zones at Covid-19 period.

Employment type	Covid-19 Period						
	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West	Total
Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing	74 (17.9)	37 (9.0)	37 (9.0)	140 (33.9)	69 (16.6)	56 (13.6)	413 (100)
Mining and Manufacturing	0 (0.0)	5 (55.6)	1 (11.1)	0 (0.0)	1 (11.1)	2 (22.2)	9 (100)
Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply	1 (12.5)	1 (12.5)	2 (25.0)	1 (12.5)	1 (12.5)	2 (25.0)	8 (100)
Construction	3 (6.5)	9 (19.6)	8 (17.5)	10 (21.7)	10 (21.7)	6 (13.0)	46 (100)
Commerce (Buying, Selling goods and Repair)	9 (5.8)	30 (19.4)	40 (25.8)	21 (13.5)	14 (9.0)	41 (26.5)	155 (100)
Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel	5 (12.2)	5 (12.2)	7 (17.1)	4 (9.8)	8 (19.5)	12 (29.2)	41 (100)
Professional activities: Finance	4 (21.1)	3 (15.8)	3 (15.8)	6 (31.6)	2 (10.5)	1 (5.2)	19 (100)
Public Administration	6 (22.2)	4 (14.8)	7 (25.9)	4 (14.8)	4 (14.8)	2 (7.5)	27 (100)
Personal Services, Education and Health	20 (15.4)	20 (15.4)	25 (19.2)	15 (11.5)	26 (20)	24 (18.5)	130 (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses are percentages.

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

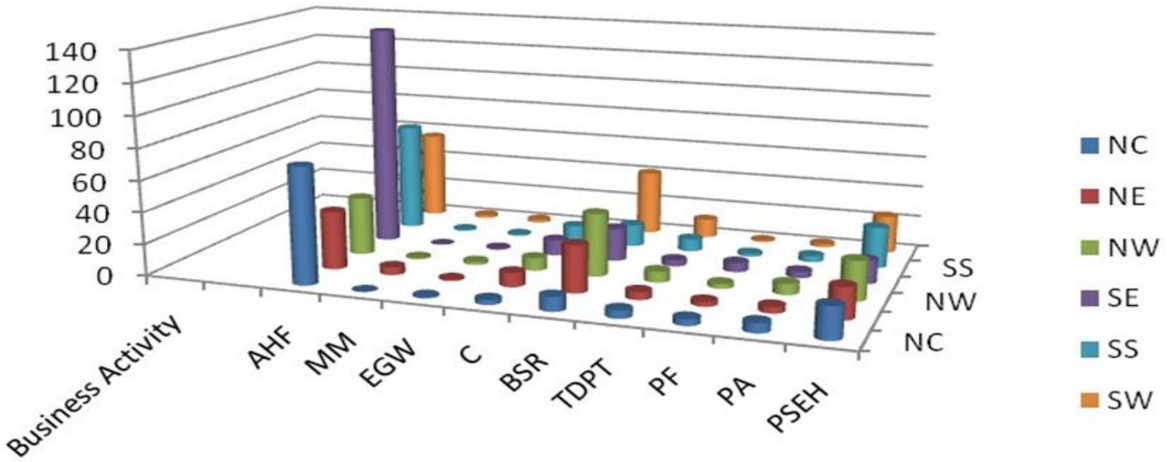


Figure 6. Employment types across geopolitical Zones (Covid-19 period).

Note:
AHF-Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing, MM-Mining and Manufacturing.
EGW-Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply, C-Construction.
BSR-Commerce (Buying, Selling goods, and Repair).
TDPT-Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel, PF-Professional activities: Finance.
PA-Public Administration, PSEH-Personal Services, Education and Health.

3.4. Level of Job Loss among Households in Nigeria During Covid-19 Period

Households lost their jobs during the pandemic. This is because there were strong restrictions on movement of people, organisations and companies, to contain the virus. The level of job loss among households in Nigeria during Covid-19 epidemic are presented in Table 5 and Figure 7.

Figure 7 shows that by number, jobs were lost mostly in commerce, public administration and personal services education & health. Table 5 shows the proportions of jobs that were lost in 6 sectors of employment. Federal government of Nigeria declared lockdown from mid-March (year 2000) and citizens were asked to stay in their houses as there was ban on inter-state travels. More than half (60.9%) of public administration jobs were lost. Also, 38.7% of professional jobs (especially employees), 35.7% of mining jobs, 32.0% of commerce jobs, 31.7% of transport jobs and 30.5% of personal services, education & health jobs were lost.

All these are mainly due to the lockdown occasioned by the containment measures. Miners were not able to go for their mining businesses as a result of the lockdown. Also manufacturers had limited jobs as companies that issue out contracts were on lockdown. Buying, selling goods and repairs were not possible as markets all over Nigeria were closed because of the pandemic. Only food traders were allowed to sell and even in small outlets. Transport, driving, post & travels were banned, including air travels, leading to great losses in monetary terms. Households' members in Nigeria only had to go out when it was highly necessary as advised. Organisations where professionals were employed were not able to run their businesses during the lock down and as a result, they laid off some of their employees because there was no money to pay them. Professionals who worked for the government were the ones having job security. Also, students at all levels were at home during Covd-19 period and only few of them were involved in online classes. From the results, 35.3% of jobs were lost by households in Nigeria, implying that households lost more than one-third of their jobs. This was expected to reduce when businesses open up fully. As at August 2020, the time of this report, businesses were just opening up gradually as lockdowns were eased in phases.

3.5. Reasons for Job Loss among Households.

Table 6 and Figure 8 show the reasons for job loss among Nigerian households during Covid-19 period. Figure 8 shows that the most critical reason for job losses was the closure of businesses or offices due to Covid-19. This, as shown in Table 6, accounted for 84.5% of total job loss by households in Nigeria. Many businesses closed down during Covid-19 pandemic because of the stay at home order by the government.

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

Table 5. Level of job loss among Nigeria households during Covid-19.

Employment type	Number of Jobs at Pre Covid-19 Period	Number of Jobs during Covid-19 Period	Number of Job loss	Level of job loss (%)
Mining and Manufacturing	14	9	5	35.7
Commerce (Buying, Selling goods and Repair)	228	155	73	32.0
Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel	60	41	19	31.7
Professional activities: Finance	31	19	12	38.7
Public Administration	69	27	42	60.9
Personal Services, Education and Health	187	130	57	30.5
Total	589	381	208	35.3

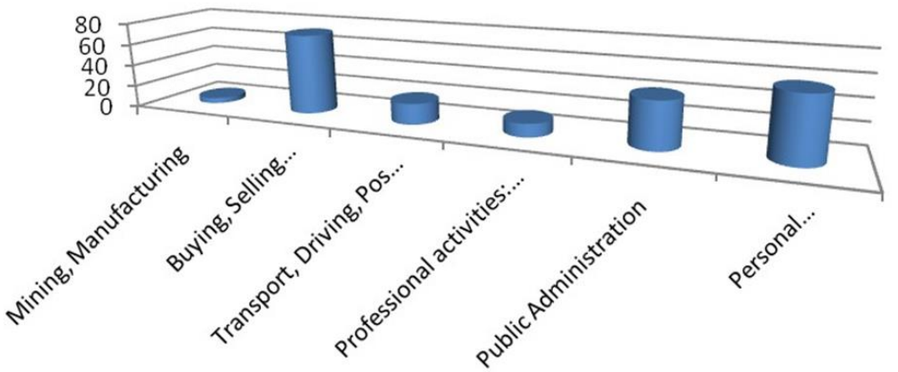


Figure 7. Level of job loss among Nigeria households during Covid-19.

Only businesses that were able to perform their activities online permitted their workers to work from home and this was even applicable to businesses operating in the cities before the pandemic. Also, 2.4% of job loss by households was due to closure of businesses for other reasons apart from the pandemic. For farming households, they could not reach their farms due to restrictions and some considered that March was not farming season.

3.6. Employment Dynamics of Households at Pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 Periods

There was change in employment of households because of Covid-19 pandemic. The movement of Nigerian households within employment types at pre Covid-19 and during Covid-19 periods is as shown in Table 7 and Figure 9. It can be seen on Figure 9 that 3 employment types had positive change while others had negative change. This means that households moved from other employment types, especially through job losses and other reasons, to agriculture (having the highest positive change), electricity, gas & water supply and construction. From results in Table 7, agriculture, hunting & fishing engaged 200 households at pre Covid-19 period but during Covid-19, 413 households are now in the sector. The sector has gained 213 more households, leading to +51.6% change. Households moved into agriculture to survive the pandemic period. It means that during shock, households can easily divert to agriculture to as a coping strategy. For electricity, gas & water supply employment type, there was a change of +14.3% during Covid-19. During this period, since people were at home and they needed more electricity, gas and water, persons involved in these activities had more jobs to do. Construction employment type had a change of +4.5.

However, due to loss of jobs in these employment types, the mining and manufacturing had a change of -35.7%, professional activities (-35.4%), commerce (-32.0%), and transport sector had a change of -31.7%. There was -25.1% change in the number of households involved in personal services, education & health. Public administration had the highest negative change of -60.9%.

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

Table 6. Reasons for job loss among Nigeria households during Covid-19 period.

Reasons for Job loss	Frequency (N=840)	Percentage
Business/Office Closed due to Covid-19	710	84.5
Business/Office Closed for another reason	20	2.4
Laid off while Business Continues	3	0.4
Furlough (temporarily laid off)	1	0.1
Vacation	2	0.2
Ill/Quarantined	9	1.1
Seasonal Worker	14	1.7
Retired	7	0.8
Not able to go to farm due to movement	20	2.4
Not able to farm due to lack of inputs	4	0.5
Not farming Season	23	2.7
Others	27	3.2

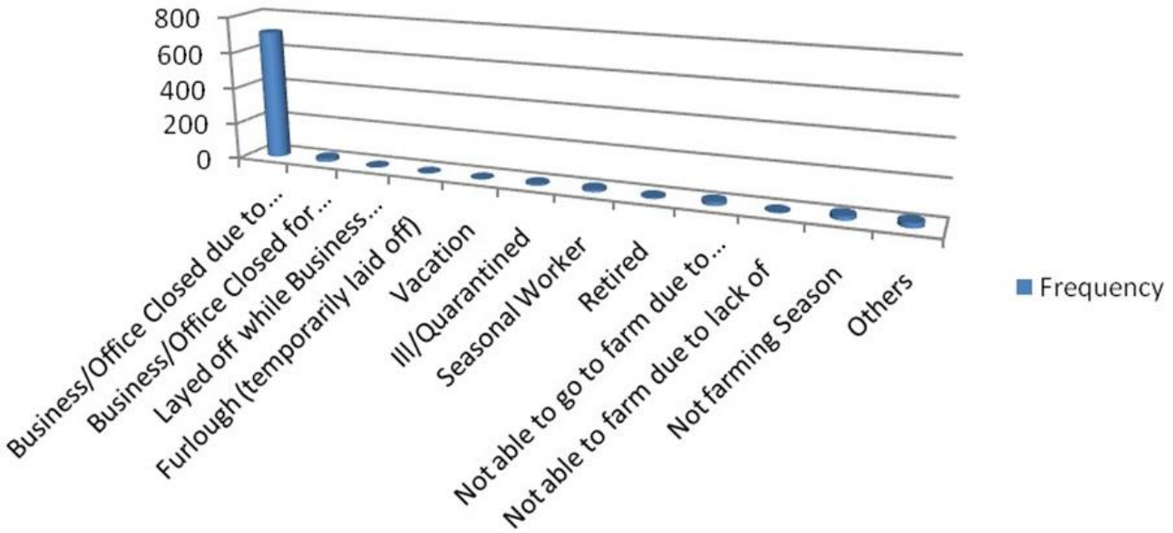


Figure 8. Reasons for job loss among Nigeria during Covid-19 period.

Table 7. Employment dynamics of households at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods.

Employment types	Pre Covid-19 Period Frequency	Covid-19 Period Frequency	Job change	% Change
Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing	200	413	213	+51.6
Mining and Manufacturing	14	9	5	-35.7
Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply	7	8	1	+14.3
Construction	44	46	2	+4.5
Commerce (Buying, Selling goods and Repair)	228	155	73	-32.0
Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel	60	41	19	-31.7
Professional activities: Finance	31	19	11	-35.4
Public Administration	69	27	42	-60.9
Personal Services, Education and Health	187	130	47	-25.1

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

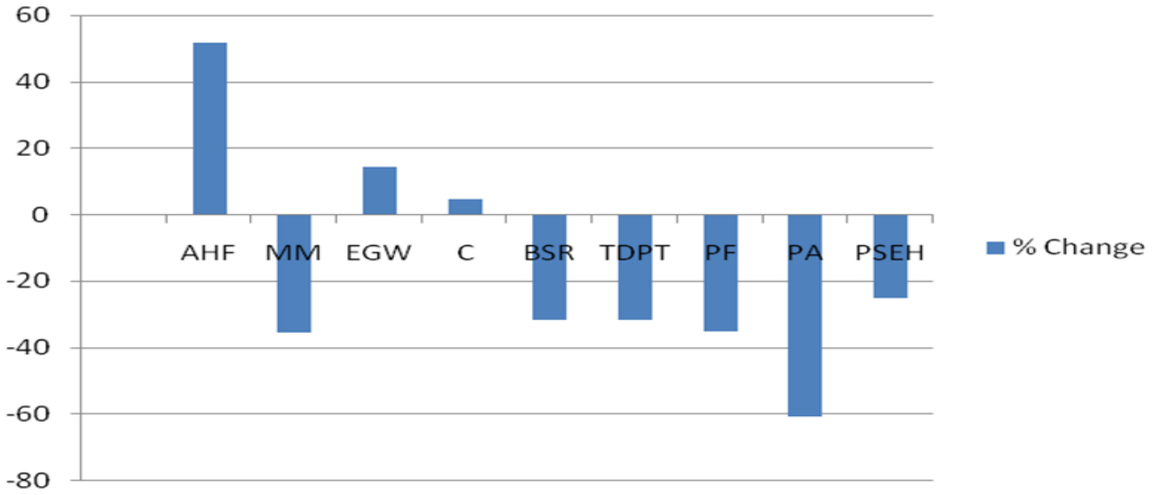


Figure 9. Employment dynamics of households at pre Covid-19 and Covid-19 periods.

Note:
AHF-Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing, MM-Mining and Manufacturing.
EGW-Electricity, Gas, and Water Supply, C-Construction.
BSR-Commerce (Buying, Selling goods, and Repair).
TDPT-Transport, Driving, Post, and Travel, PF-Professional activities: Finance.
PA-Public Administration, PSEH-Personal Services, Education and Health.

4. Conclusion

Agriculture sector employed most households in Nigeria at pre Covid-19 period and even more during Covid-19 period, serving as means for coping with the shock. Households experienced job loss during Covid-19 and the major reason was because offices and businesses were closed during lockdown. This led to households losing more than one-third of jobs. Policies that will enhance greater participation of households within agriculture sector will help to reduce shock. Also, to address job loss and reduce the negative effect of Covid-19, the Federal Government of Nigeria came up with Nigerian Economic Sustainability Plan (NESP, 2020). This plan must be effectively executed to achieve one of the set goals, which is employment generation.

References

Asongu, S. A., & Adesoji, F. (2020). The economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria (pp. 1-24). Excas Working Paper.

DHS. (2018). *Nigeria demographic and health survey*. Abuja: Nigeria and Rockville Maryland USA.

National Bureau of Statistics. (2020). Impact monitoring report. Retrieved from: https://nigeria-coronavirus-response-data-hub-nbs-nigeria.hub.arcgis.com.

National Employment Policy. (2017). Objectives measures strategies and institutional framework to meet the challenges of rising unemployment and underemployment. Montenovo. 8. Retrieved from: https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.ilo.org/africa/countries-covered/nigeria/WCMS_619096/lang--en/index.htm&ved=2ahUKEwjjlrPk2pT6AhXFQPEDHc8qC4MQFnoECAQQAQ&usg=AOvVaw2cyyvGqzqNIXY_mI4zvY7T.

NESP. (2020). Bouncing back: Nigeria economic sustainability plan. Federal Republic of Nigeria, 76. Retrieved from: https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://media.premiumtimesng.com/wp-content/files/2020/06/ESC-Plan-compressed-1.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwjw7KKq25T6AhURSvEDHc0UDtYQFnoECA8QAQ&usg=AOvVaw3OUtai9kAvlZLUEfTM1wj7.

World Bank Group. (2020). Nigeria in times of COVID-19: Laying foundations for a strong recovery. Retrieved from: https://nigeria-coronavirus-response-data-hub-nbs-nigeria.hub.arcgis.com.

Research in Social Sciences
ISSN: 2641-5305
Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 54-64.
2022
DOI: *10.53935/26415305.v5i2.233*
♣*Corresponding Author: Yetunde O.M. Oladokun*
Email: yetunde.oladokun@gmail.com
Funding: *This study received no specific financial support.*
Acknowledgement: *Authors wish to acknowledge the National Bureau of Statistics for the data used for this paper. The Nigeria Covid-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey (NLPS) Baseline released in June 2020.*
Article History:
Received: 14 July 2022
Revised: 23 August 2022
Accepted: 8 September 2022
Published: 29 September 2022
Copyright:
© 2022 by the author. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).