EVIDENCE-BASED AGEING-RELATED POLICIES IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

STATISTICS AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA OF OLDER PERSONS IN NIGERIA

By

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Outline

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- Objectives
- General Population Patterns of Nigeria Population
- Proportion of Population of Older Persons (60+)
- Social Protection
- Health Status of Older Persons
- Effect of COVID-19 on Older Persons
- Challenges
- Conclusion
Introduction

- Demographic data are raw information of human population from which their statistics are created.

- This refers to socioeconomic information expressed statistically, including employment, education, income, marriage rates, birth and death rates, and more.

- The three main variables are birth rate, death rate, and the composition of the population in terms of age.

- This demographic information can easily and effectively be collected from censuses, surveys and administrative records.
The main objectives are:

- To present the general population pattern of Nigeria
- To present the statistics and proportion of older persons in Nigeria
- To bring out social protection programs that are beneficial to older persons
Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populous country in the world.

The last population and housing census was conducted in 2006, and since then, it has been projections using the population growth rates. The current population growth rate of Nigeria is 2.58 percent.

The population pyramid below generally presents the population dynamics and patterns in Nigeria.
NIGERIA POPULATION PYRAMID, 2020

2020 Projection from 2006 PHC

Source: National Population Commission
From figure above, the broad base of the Nigeria 2020 population pyramid presents a large number of younger people in relation to working age population.

However, compared to past decades, the base is beginning to narrow at the youngest ages, meaning a decline in fertility rate. This is seen to decline from 5.7 in 2008 to 5.5 in 2013 and further to 5.3 children per woman in 2018 (NDHS).

Moreover, the United Nations projections based on assumptions of continued moderate fertility decline from 5.3 to 4.9 children per woman by 2030 and further to 3.7 by 2050 is an indication of an increasing number of other age categories which includes older persons.

The pattern of fertility decline is based on the stage of demographic transition and some results of family planning programs in Nigeria.

Life expectancy contributes to the growth or otherwise of human population as this is seen to be increasing in Nigeria.
LIFE EXPECTANCY AND POPULATION GROWTH RATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>MALE</th>
<th>FEMALE</th>
<th>ALL</th>
<th>RATE (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>54.6</td>
<td>56.6</td>
<td>55.6</td>
<td>2.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>54.8</td>
<td>56.9</td>
<td>55.9</td>
<td>2.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>55.1</td>
<td>57.1</td>
<td>56.2</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proportion of Population of Older Persons

In Nigeria, both women and men over 60 years old are regarded as older persons.

See table below for the projected population of Nigeria and the proportion of older persons.
# Proportion of Population of Older Persons

Proportion of Nigeria Population Age 60+

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>MALE</th>
<th>FEMALE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>POP. OF OLDER PERS.</th>
<th>% OF OLDER PERS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>71,345,488</td>
<td>69,086,302</td>
<td>140,431,790</td>
<td>6,987,047</td>
<td>4.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>100,055,838</td>
<td>103,040,359</td>
<td>203,096,197</td>
<td>9,370,131</td>
<td>4.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>103,763,040</td>
<td>103,126,282</td>
<td>206,889,322</td>
<td>9,777,339</td>
<td>4.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>105,269,417</td>
<td>108,426,971</td>
<td>213,696,388</td>
<td>10,206,637</td>
<td>4.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIGURE 2: PROPORTION OF POPULATION OF OLDER PERSONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Older Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>4.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>4.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>4.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Population Commission
However, there are other sources of demographic data in Nigeria.

According to the Nigeria Living Standards Survey (NLSS) 2018-2019, Nigeria has a large base of young population, 54.7 percent of all males and 51.1 percent of all females are below age 20.

And 7.3 percent of all males and 7.0 percent of all females are 60+.

- i.e about 7.15% of the total population is 60+ as against 4.47% same year 2019 as projected by National Population Commission.

These differences in the figures generated by different sources on same subject matter will be resolved when Nigeria carries out another population and housing census in 2022.

Moreover, plans are on to collaborate with NSCC to carry out a National Multi-Indicator Survey on Ageing, 2022.
The older persons are part of the vulnerable group across the globe.

In recent years, the Nigerian government and its development partners have sought to develop social protection instruments to tackle the country’s high rates of poverty and vulnerability which has led to creation of different programs and policies under the umbrella of ‘Social Protection’.

Pensioners constitute a significant part of older persons globally.

Data from the two National Agencies in Nigeria that take care of Pension and pensioners, i.e. Pension Commission (PENCOM) and Pension Transitional Arrangement Directorate (PTAD) show that there are 978,200 retirees from both Federal Government and private sector under the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and Defined Benefits Scheme (DBS). However, this figure does not include the 36 states pensioners. With the inclusion of the States Pensioners we will have more than 9 million older persons outside the pension coverage in Nigeria.
As at March 2019, there were 244,945 Pensioners on the Federal Government’s pension payroll under the Defined Benefit Scheme. PTAD

As at March 2019, there were 733,255 older persons with Retirement Savings Accounts (RSA) under the CPS, out which 471,498 RSA holders were from the public sector while 261,757 were from the private sector. PENCOM

Out of a total of 9,370,131 older persons, 2,752,799 (representing 29.38 percent) have been identified as poor and vulnerable in 2020. And out of this vulnerable older persons, 200,000 have been mined for Older Persons Social Safety-Net Program. (National Social Safety-Net Coordination Office, NASSCO)
Statistics from the NLSS revealed that age group 50 years and above reported having health problems in the last 30 days during the survey. Table below
TABLE SHOWING SHARE OF POPULATION WITH ANY HEALTH PROBLEMS IN THE LAST 30 DAYS BY SEX AND AGE GROUP (PERCENT) - NLSS 2018-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE GROUP</th>
<th>PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION WITH ANY HEALTH PROBLEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MALE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>34.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBAN</td>
<td>31.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RURAL</td>
<td>36.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>41.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>31.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>29.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-49</td>
<td>31.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-64</td>
<td>43.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>58.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: NIGERIA LIVING STANDARDS SURVEY, 2018-2019
Challenges

- Also the Quarterly Labour Force Survey conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics does not consider age category 65+, leaving out their economic activities which contribute to the GDP

- There exist some older persons homes but no proper record

- NHIS does not include persons 60+ including pensioners, they are given conditions which are not friendly to continue to benefit from NHIS
Conclusion

- With a declining fertility rate, increasing life expectancy and declining population growth rate, it is expected that the population of older persons will be increasing in Nigeria.
Thanks for Your Attention