



## **Informal Sector Dynamics and Education Access in Urban Nigeria,**

**Emmanuel Ejiroakpolo<sup>1</sup>, Chika Anyigba<sup>2</sup>, Felix Akpanwa<sup>3,4</sup>, Ukachukwu Obiero<sup>5</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Department of Advanced Studies, Bayero University Kano

<sup>2</sup> Department of Research, University of Maiduguri

<sup>3</sup> Department of Research, American University of Nigeria (AUN)

<sup>4</sup> Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Covenant University, Ota

<sup>5</sup> Bayero University Kano

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**Correspondence:** [eejiroakpolo@aol.com](mailto:eejiroakpolo@aol.com)

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### **Author notes**

*Emmanuel Ejiroakpolo is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Bayero University Kano and focuses on Education research in Africa.*

*Chika Anyigba is affiliated with Department of Research, University of Maiduguri and focuses on Education research in Africa.*

*Felix Akpanwa is affiliated with Department of Research, American University of Nigeria (AUN) and focuses on Education research in Africa.*

*Ukachukwu Obiero is affiliated with Bayero University Kano and focuses on Education research in Africa.*

### **Abstract**

Informal sector activities are a significant part of urban economies in Nigeria, playing crucial roles in employment and economic development. However, their impact on education access for children remains underexplored. The research employs a mixed-methods approach involving surveys of parents/guardians and interviews with educators. Data collection was conducted through structured questionnaires distributed across multiple urban areas in Nigeria. Findings indicate that children from households engaged in informal sectors are less likely to attend secondary schools compared to those from formal sector backgrounds, a disparity evident in both male and female students but more pronounced among girls. The results highlight the challenges faced by urban youth in accessing quality education due to their parents' involvement in informal sectors. This underscores the need for targeted interventions to bridge educational gaps. Policy-makers should consider implementing programmes that provide financial support and mentorship opportunities for children from informal sector families, aiming to reduce barriers to education.

**Keywords:** *African Geography, Informal Economy, Urbanization, Education Policy, Socioeconomic Status, Qualitative Research, Quantitative Analysis*

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