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AN ASSESSMENT OF THE SOCIO ECONOMIC IMPACT OF INDUSTRIAL EMIGRATION FROM PORT HARCOURT METROPOLITAN CITY

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Abstract: *Industries play developmental roles in cities of the world. They assist in the creation of employment, assist educational institutions, training of workers and production of goods to all levels of people within and out of the city. Despite the urban location of industries, they are regional projects. Sequel to the gross importance of industries, it becomes necessary protect the industries. However, migration of industries as experienced in Port Harcourt, Nigeria is due to several factors ranging from poor government policies, insecurity and power. Others include deteriorating road infrastructure, hoist community disturbances and increasing inflation. This study aims at assessing the impacts of industrial emigration from Port Harcourt metropolitan City. 200 questionnaires were administered to residents, government agents, industrial workers within the 3 industrial locations of Trans Amadi, Aker Base and Industry Road of Port Harcourt. Findings revealed that emigration of industries have caused serious impacts on the residents of the city. It recommends that government should take drastic measure to address the identified problems.*

Keywords: Industry, Emigration, government policies, Industrial location and Emigration Consequences

Introduction

Urban and regional areas globally witness continuous shifts in economic activities, influenced by factors like globalization, technological advancements, and policy changes. Among these changes, the relocation of industries, known as industrial emigration, holds significant socioeconomic implications for affected regions, drawing scholarly, policymaker, and practitioner attention. Port Harcourt, the capital of Rivers State, Nigeria, serves as a pertinent case study due to its historical industrial prominence, now experiencing a decline in industrial activities marked by closures and relocations.

Industrial emigration in Port Harcourt stems from a mix of internal and external factors. Internally, deteriorating infrastructure in transportation, energy supply, and waste management diminishes the city's industrial competitiveness, driving investors away to more favorable locations (Ogwude & Akpo, 2019). Environmental degradation, particularly

from oil and gas activities, poses health risks and financial burdens on industries, influencing their decisions to relocate (Adeyemo & Adewale, 2020). Externally, changes in government policies and global economic trends, such as taxation policies and commodity price fluctuations, also impact business decisions regarding location (Adewale, 2018; Igwe, 2021). The consequences of industrial emigration extend beyond economics, affecting employment, poverty, and social cohesion. Job losses lead to unemployment and underemployment, exacerbating poverty and inequality (Adeyemo & Akpo, 2020). Moreover, the city's overreliance on the oil and gas sector impedes economic diversification and innovation, making it vulnerable to global market volatility (Ogwude & Igwe, 2019).

Understanding the socioeconomic impact of industrial emigration is vital for revitalizing Port Harcourt's economy sustainably. By identifying root causes, vulnerable populations, and potential interventions, policymakers can devise targeted strategies for inclusive growth and prosperity (Ogwude & Akpo, 2019).

As industries relocate or shutter their operations, workers are displaced, leading to rising unemployment and underemployment rates (Adeyemo & Akpo, 2020). This exacerbates poverty and social inequality, particularly among vulnerable populations who rely on the industrial sector for their sustenance.

Moreover, the departure of industries from Port Harcourt contributes to the erosion of the city's manufacturing base and hampers its economic diversification efforts. With fewer industrial activities, the city becomes overly reliant on the oil and gas sector, rendering it vulnerable to the volatility of global commodity markets (Ogwude & Igwe, 2019). This overdependence stifles innovation and limits opportunities for entrepreneurship and industrial development in other sectors, hindering the city's long-term economic sustainability.

Furthermore, industrial emigration exacerbates environmental degradation and public health risks in Port Harcourt. The legacy of oil and gas extraction has left the region plagued by pollution and contamination, leading to adverse health outcomes for residents (Adeyemo & Adewale, 2020). The departure of industries may alleviate immediate environmental pressures but can also result in economic dislocation and social upheaval, creating a complex trade-off between environmental conservation and socioeconomic development.

Additionally, the problem of industrial flight underscores broader governance challenges related to infrastructure decay, ineffective regulatory enforcement, and policy inconsistency (Ogwude & Akpo, 2019). Inadequate infrastructure, particularly in transportation, energy, and waste management, undermines the competitiveness of local industries and exacerbates the cost of doing business in Port Harcourt. Moreover, regulatory gaps and inconsistent enforcement of environmental standards create uncertainty for businesses and hinder investment in sustainable development initiatives. The problem of industrial emigration in Port Harcourt presents a multidimensional challenge that requires a holistic understanding of its root causes and impacts on the city's economy, society, and environment.

This study aims at assessing the socio economic impact of industrial emigration from Port Harcourt Metropolitan city and to proffer solutions to identified problems.

This study is focused specifically on the phenomenon of industrial emigration in Port Harcourt, Nigeria. It will encompass an examination of the factors driving industrial emigration, the socioeconomic impacts on the local population, and the environmental consequences for the region. This is achieved through targeting key stakeholders including policymakers, urban planners, businesses, and community representatives.
The article considers three major industrial areas. These are
1)Trans-Amadi Industrial Layout 2)Aker Base and 3) Industry Road

2.1.1 The Concept of Industrial Emigration

Industrial emigration, also known as deindustrialization, flight or industrial relocation, refers to the phenomenon where industries relocate or shut down their operations in a particular area, often due to economic, environmental, or policy-related factors (Scott, 2020).

Source: cfromm.com

Industrial flight reflects the shifting dynamics of global capitalism, characterized by the mobility of capital and the search for cost efficiencies and competitive advantages (Storper, 2013). Industries may opt to relocate to other regions or countries with lower labor costs, more favorable regulatory environments, or better access to markets and resources. Additionally, technological advancements and automation have facilitated the decentralization of production processes, enabling firms to disperse their operations across multiple locations (Rodríguez-Pose, 2018).

One of the primary drivers of industrial flight is the quest for cost savings, particularly in labor-intensive industries such as manufacturing. Rising wages, labor union demands, and regulatory burdens in traditional industrial centers can prompt firms to seek out cheaper labor markets elsewhere (Frey & Osborne, 2017). For example, industries in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, may face competition from other regions or countries with lower labor costs, leading them to relocate their production facilities to remain competitive in the global marketplace (Adeyemo & Akpo, 2020).

Regulatory factors play a significant role in influencing industrial flight. Stringent environmental regulations, labor laws, and taxation policies in certain jurisdictions may deter investment and incentivize industries to seek more lenient regulatory regimes elsewhere (Martin & Sunley, 2019). In Port Harcourt, industries grappling with environmental compliance costs or bureaucratic hurdles may opt to relocate to areas with laxer regulations, exacerbating the environmental degradation in the region (Adeyemo & Adewale, 2020).

Environmental concerns also drive industrial flight, particularly in regions with significant pollution or resource depletion issues. Industries operating in environmentally sensitive areas may face public backlash, legal challenges, and reputational risks, prompting them to seek out greener pastures elsewhere (Jaffe et al., 2017). In Port Harcourt, the legacy of oil and gas extraction has left the region plagued by pollution and contamination, leading some industries to consider relocation as a means of avoiding environmental liabilities (Ogwude & Akpo, 2019).

Furthermore, shifts in global trade patterns and market demand can influence industrial flight. Changes in consumer preferences, technological trends, and trade agreements may alter the competitive landscape for industries, prompting them to reevaluate their location choices (Frey & Osborne, 2017). For instance, fluctuations in commodity prices, such as oil prices in the case of Port Harcourt, can impact the profitability of industries and influence their decision to stay or relocate (Igwe, 2021).

The Port Harcourt Industrial Landscape

The Port Harcourt industrial landscape has undergone significant transformations over the years, shaped by historical, economic, social, and environmental factors. As a major industrial hub in Nigeria's oil-rich Niger Delta region, Port Harcourt has been a focal point for industrial development, with industries ranging from oil and gas to manufacturing, petrochemicals, and agro-processing. However, the industrial landscape of Port Harcourt is not without its challenges, including environmental degradation, social inequalities, governance issues, and spatial disparities.

The industrial landscape of Port Harcourt is characterized by its heavy reliance on the oil and gas sector, which dominates the city's economy and shapes its physical and socio-economic dynamics (Okonkwo & Uzoechi, 2021). The presence of multinational oil companies, refineries, and petrochemical plants has made Port Harcourt a key player in Nigeria's petroleum industry, attracting investments, generating employment, and driving economic

growth. However, the dominance of the oil and gas sector has also contributed to environmental pollution, land degradation, and social conflicts, as local communities contend with the adverse impacts of oil exploration, production, and transportation (Adeyemo & Adewale, 2020).

Furthermore, the industrial landscape of Port Harcourt reflects spatial patterns of development shaped by historical legacies, infrastructural constraints, and policy interventions (Onwuama, 2021). Industrial activities are concentrated in certain areas of the city, such as Trans-Amadi Industrial Layout and Aker base, where infrastructure, utilities, and services are more readily available (Onwuama, 2021). However, these industrial clusters are often characterized by inadequate infrastructure, environmental pollution, and social deprivation, as marginalized communities bear the brunt of industrial activities without reaping the benefits of economic development (Ibrahim et al., 2018).

Moreover, the industrial landscape of Port Harcourt is marked by governance challenges, including regulatory gaps, enforcement failures, and institutional weaknesses (Okonkwo & Uzoechi, 2021). The absence of stringent environmental regulations, weak enforcement mechanisms, and regulatory capture by industry players have contributed to environmental degradation, pollution, and public health risks in Port Harcourt (Okonkwo & Uzoechi, 2021). Additionally, corruption, rent-seeking behavior, and bureaucratic inefficiencies have hindered efforts to promote transparent, accountable, and inclusive governance in the city, exacerbating social inequalities and governance challenges (Adeyemo & Adewale, 2020).

Furthermore, the industrial landscape of Port Harcourt is undergoing transformations in response to global economic trends, technological advancements, and climate change imperatives (Jaffe et al., 2017). Industries in Port Harcourt are grappling with the challenges of digitalization, automation, and decarbonization, as they seek to remain competitive in a rapidly evolving global economy (Jaffe et al., 2017). Moreover, the imperative to transition to a low-carbon, sustainable economy is driving investments in renewable energy, clean technologies, and green industries, reshaping the industrial landscape of Port Harcourt and offering opportunities for economic diversification and environmental stewardship (Rodríguez-Pose, 2018).

Technological innovation plays a crucial role in shaping the competitiveness and sustainability of industries in Port Harcourt. Advances in digitalization, automation, and artificial intelligence are transforming production processes, supply chains, and business models, offering opportunities for productivity gains, cost efficiencies, and market expansion (Frey & Osborne, 2017). Industries in Port Harcourt are increasingly adopting digital technologies, smart manufacturing systems, and renewable energy solutions to enhance their competitiveness and reduce their environmental footprint (Jaffe et al., 2017).

Moreover, labor dynamics are an integral part of the Port Harcourt industrial landscape, with implications for employment, skills development, and social inclusion. The industrial sector in Port Harcourt provides livelihoods for a significant portion of the city's workforce, ranging from skilled technicians and engineers to semi-skilled workers and informal laborers (Ojo et al., 2020). However, labor markets in Port Harcourt are characterized by disparities in wages,

working conditions, and job security, as well as gender and ethnic inequalities (Ojo et al., 2020). Addressing these labor challenges requires investments in education, training, and social protection, as well as measures to promote decent work and equitable employment opportunities (Ojo et al., 2020).

Community engagement is another critical aspect of the Port Harcourt industrial landscape, as local residents and stakeholders play a vital role in shaping industrial development, environmental management, and social welfare. Communities affected by industrial activities in Port Harcourt often advocate for greater participation in decision-making processes, transparency in governance, and accountability from industry and government actors (Adeyemo & Adewale, 2020). Moreover, community-based organizations, civil society groups, and non-governmental organizations are actively involved in monitoring environmental impacts, advocating for social justice, and promoting sustainable development in Port Harcourt (Adeyemo & Adewale, 2020).

Infrastructure development is essential for supporting industrial activities in Port Harcourt and facilitating economic growth, job creation, and social development. Investments in transportation, energy, water supply, and telecommunications infrastructure are critical for enabling the efficient movement of goods and services, reducing production costs, and improving access to basic services for residents (Ibrahim et al., 2018). However, infrastructure deficits, inadequate maintenance, and underinvestment pose challenges to the sustainable development of the Port Harcourt industrial landscape, hindering its competitiveness and resilience (Ibrahim et al., 2018).

Furthermore, global market trends and economic forces shape the competitiveness and growth prospects of industries in Port Harcourt, influencing investment decisions, market demand, and export opportunities. Fluctuations in global commodity prices, changes in consumer preferences, and shifts in trade patterns can impact the performance of industries in Port Harcourt, affecting their profitability, market share, and long-term viability (Rodríguez-Pose, 2018). Moreover, geopolitical tensions, trade policies, and regulatory frameworks in international markets can create uncertainties and risks for industries in Port Harcourt, requiring strategic adaptation and diversification strategies (Rodríguez-Pose, 2018).

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The Role of Rivers State Politics in Industrial Flight in Port Harcourt

The industrial landscape of Port Harcourt, Nigeria, has been significantly influenced by the political dynamics and governance structures of Rivers State, where the city is located. The role of Rivers State politics in industrial flight in Port Harcourt is complex and multifaceted, shaped by a combination of historical legacies, economic interests, governance priorities, and power dynamics. This analysis will critically examine the role of Rivers State politics in industrial flight, considering its implications for economic development, social welfare, and environmental sustainability.

One of the key factors shaping the role of Rivers State politics in industrial flight is the legacy of resource-based politics and rent-seeking behavior in the region. Rivers State, endowed with abundant natural resources, including oil and gas reserves, has long been a battleground for political elites vying for control over resource rents and patronage networks (Ibeanu, 2019). The politicization of resource allocation, licensing, and regulatory processes in Rivers State has created incentives for rent-seeking behavior, corruption, and regulatory capture, undermining the competitiveness and sustainability of industries in Port Harcourt (Ibeanu, 2019).

Moreover, the role of Rivers State politics in industrial flight is influenced by the state's economic development strategies, industrial policy initiatives, and investment promotion efforts. State governments play a central role in shaping the business environment, providing incentives, and facilitating investments in key sectors of the economy, including manufacturing, petrochemicals, and agro-processing (Amaechi & Peterside, 2017). However, the effectiveness of state-led industrial development strategies in Rivers State has been hampered by political instability, policy inconsistencies, and governance challenges, contributing to the flight of industries from Port Harcourt (Amaechi & Peterside, 2017).

Furthermore, the role of Rivers State politics in industrial flight is intertwined with broader governance issues, including regulatory frameworks, environmental management, and infrastructure development. State governments are responsible for establishing and enforcing regulations governing industrial activities, protecting the environment, and providing essential infrastructure and services to support economic development (Nwankwo & Nwosu, 2020). However, governance failures, regulatory gaps, and institutional weaknesses in Rivers State have created uncertainties, risks, and barriers to investment, leading to the flight of industries from Port Harcourt (Nwankwo & Nwosu, 2020).

Additionally, the role of Rivers State politics in industrial flight is influenced by the dynamics of intergovernmental relations and power struggles between different tiers of government. Nigeria operates a federal system of government, with powers and responsibilities shared between the federal, state, and local governments (Omotola, 2019). The distribution of powers and resources between the federal government and state governments, as well as conflicts over jurisdiction, taxation, and revenue allocation, can create tensions and uncertainties for investors in Port Harcourt (Omotola, 2019). Moreover, political competition and electoral considerations may influence policy decisions and governance outcomes in Rivers State, affecting the business climate and investment attractiveness of Port Harcourt (Omotola, 2019).

In conclusion, the role of Rivers State politics in industrial flight in Port Harcourt is complex and multifaceted, shaped by historical legacies, economic interests, governance priorities, and power dynamics. The politicization of resource allocation, rent-seeking behavior, and policy inconsistencies undermine the competitiveness and sustainability of industries in Port Harcourt. Addressing the challenges posed by Rivers State politics requires governance reforms, regulatory improvements, and institutional strengthening to create an enabling

environment for investment, economic diversification, and sustainable development in Port Harcourt.

Responses to Industrial Flight in Port Harcourt

Industrial flight, characterized by the departure or relocation of industries from a particular region, poses significant challenges for local economies, communities, and governance systems. In the case of Port Harcourt, Nigeria, responses to industrial flight have been shaped by a combination of economic, social, environmental, and governance factors, with diverse implications for the city's development trajectory.

One of the key responses to industrial flight in Port Harcourt has been the promotion of economic diversification and industrial transformation initiatives aimed at reducing the city's dependence on the oil and gas sector (Okonkwo & Uzoechi, 2021). Recognizing the vulnerabilities associated with overreliance on a single industry, policymakers and stakeholders have sought to attract investment, foster entrepreneurship, and promote innovation in non-oil sectors such as manufacturing, agriculture, tourism, and services (Okonkwo & Uzoechi, 2021). These efforts are aimed at creating new economic opportunities, generating employment, and enhancing the resilience of the local economy to external shocks.

Moreover, responses to industrial flight in Port Harcourt have included efforts to revitalize and repurpose abandoned industrial sites and brownfield areas, promoting urban regeneration and sustainable land use practices (Adeyemo & Adewale, 2020). Derelict industrial sites and vacant land left behind by departing industries present opportunities for redevelopment, rehabilitation, and adaptive reuse, fostering economic revitalization, environmental restoration, and community renewal (Adeyemo & Adewale, 2020). Redevelopment initiatives may involve partnerships between government, private sector actors, and community stakeholders to ensure inclusive and sustainable urban development outcomes.

Furthermore, responses to industrial flight in Port Harcourt have involved measures to address environmental pollution, contamination, and degradation resulting from industrial activities (Ogwude & Akpo, 2019). Recognizing the environmental risks associated with abandoned industrial sites and legacy pollution, policymakers and regulators have implemented remediation programs, pollution control measures, and environmental monitoring systems to mitigate the impacts of industrial flight on public health and ecological integrity (Ogwude & Akpo, 2019). Environmental cleanup efforts may involve legal, financial, and technical interventions to hold polluters accountable and restore affected ecosystems to a safe and sustainable condition.

Additionally, responses to industrial flight in Port Harcourt have included social welfare programs, community development initiatives, and capacity-building efforts aimed at supporting affected workers and communities (Ojo et al., 2020). Recognizing the socio-economic disruptions caused by job loss, economic dislocation, and social exclusion, policymakers, and stakeholders have implemented measures to provide social protection,

skills training, and entrepreneurship support to affected individuals and communities (Ojo et al., 2020). Moreover, community development projects, social enterprises, and grassroots organizations play a vital role in fostering social cohesion, community resilience, and participatory governance in response to industrial flight.

Furthermore, responses to industrial flight in Port Harcourt have involved governance reforms, policy interventions, and institutional innovations aimed at improving regulatory frameworks, enhancing governance effectiveness, and promoting sustainable development (Okonkwo & Uzoechi, 2021). Recognizing the governance challenges associated with industrial flight, including regulatory gaps, enforcement failures, and institutional weaknesses, policymakers and stakeholders have implemented measures to strengthen environmental regulations, enhance enforcement mechanisms, and promote transparency, accountability, and stakeholder participation in decision-making processes (Okonkwo & Uzoechi, 2021).

Theoretical Review

This article adapts the following theoretical approaches:

Economic Base Theory

According to this theory, the economy of a region consists of two sectors: the basic sector, which produces goods and services primarily for export, and the non-basic sector, which serves local needs (Friedmann, 1966).

Industries such as oil and gas extraction, refining, and petrochemicals constitute the basic sector, generating substantial revenues and employment opportunities. The relocation or closure of these industries due to factors like economic downturns or environmental concerns can significantly affect the local economy. As highlighted by Fan (2012), the oil and gas sector plays a crucial role in the economic development of Port Harcourt and the wider Nigerian economy. Therefore, analyzing the repercussions of industrial flight on this key sector is paramount for understanding its broader socioeconomic implications.

The Economic Base Theory enables researchers to assess how changes in the basic sector reverberate throughout the entire economy, influencing employment levels, income distribution, and investment patterns (Isard, 1954). For instance, research by Uduji and Okolo-Obasi (2020) emphasizes the importance of the oil and gas industry in driving economic growth and job creation in Port Harcourt. By applying the Economic Base Theory, this study will examine how the departure of industrial firms from Port Harcourt affects not only direct employment in the affected sectors but also related industries and service providers, thereby shaping the overall economic structure and dynamics of the region.

Urban Decline Theory

According to the urban decline theory, urban decline encompasses various interconnected processes such as population loss, economic disinvestment, and social deterioration (Smith, 2017). Here, industrial flight leads to the closure or relocation of industries, resulting in job losses, decreased tax revenue, and diminished economic activity within the city.

Research by Johnson and Smith (2020) highlights how industrial flight exacerbates urban decline by triggering a downward spiral of disinvestment, property abandonment, and social

dislocation in affected neighborhoods. Through qualitative interviews and spatial analysis, the study identifies the specific mechanisms through which industrial flight contributes to urban decline in Port Harcourt, including the decline of industrial zones, the outmigration of skilled labor, and the deterioration of infrastructure and public services.

Furthermore, the Urban Decline Theory provides insights into the social dynamics and governance challenges associated with industrial flight. For instance, research by Brown et al. (2019) emphasizes the role of ineffective urban planning policies and weak regulatory frameworks in exacerbating urban decline in post-industrial cities.

Spatial Mismatch Theory

Spatial Mismatch Theory posits that there is often a disconnect between the location of job opportunities and the spatial distribution of the workforce, particularly in urban areas (Kain, 1968). In the context of the socioeconomic impact of industrial flight out of Port Harcourt, this theory becomes relevant in understanding how the departure of industries from the area may exacerbate existing spatial inequalities and contribute to unemployment and poverty in certain neighborhoods.

Research by Ihua and Adepoju (2020) on the spatial mismatch phenomenon in Nigerian cities highlights how industrial relocation can lead to job losses in specific areas, creating spatial disparities in employment opportunities. As industries move away from Port Harcourt, job opportunities may diminish in the city center or areas traditionally associated with industrial activity, leaving residents in those areas with limited access to employment opportunities (Ihua & Adepoju, 2020).

Furthermore, studies by Aderamo and Adeyemi (2019) emphasize the importance of transportation infrastructure and accessibility in mitigating spatial mismatch challenges. The departure of industries from Port Harcourt may not only affect employment opportunities but also hinder access to jobs for residents living in peripheral or underserved areas due to inadequate transportation networks (Aderamo & Adeyemi, 2019).

Resilience Theory

According to Folke (2016), resilience refers to the capacity of a system to absorb disturbances, adapt to changes, and maintain its essential functions and identity. In the context of Port Harcourt, industrial flight represents a significant disturbance to the local socioeconomic system, affecting employment, income levels, and community well-being.

Resilience theory helps elucidate how various actors and institutions in Port Harcourt respond to the challenges posed by industrial flight. For instance, according to Carpenter et al. (2015), resilient systems exhibit characteristics such as diversity, redundancy, and connectivity, which enable them to cope with and recover from shocks and stresses. In the case of Port Harcourt, diverse economic activities, community networks, and institutional collaborations may contribute to resilience by fostering alternative sources of employment and social support.

Furthermore, resilience theory emphasizes the importance of adaptive capacity in responding to change (Berkes and Ross, 2016). In the context of industrial flight, this may

involve the development of new skills, the diversification of economic activities, and the implementation of supportive policies and programs. For example, community-based initiatives, such as skills training programs or small business incubators, can help empower individuals and communities to adapt to the loss of industrial jobs and pursue new opportunities.

Methodology

In this study, residents living near Trans-Amadi Industrial Layout, Aker Base, and Industry Road in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria, was surveyed using a socio-economic impact assessment approach. This method was selected to delve into the implications and drivers of industrial emigration from these areas (Bairagi & Minot, 2019). The research design was specifically chosen to gain insights into why industries are relocating from Port Harcourt and its socio-economic repercussions on the local population. The focus of this assessment is on identifying the socio-economic factors associated with the industrial emigration.

The population of this study included residents and workers who were directly affected by the industrial emigration surveyed study area who reside or work within these industrial zones, as well as those residing in nearby communities impacted by the relocation of industries.

The target population encompassed a diverse range of demographics, including but not limited to:

1. Employees of the affected industries
2. Local business owners and entrepreneurs reliant on the industrial sector
3. Residents living in close proximity to the industrial areas
4. Community leaders and representatives
5. Government officials and policymakers involved in urban planning and development initiatives within Port Harcourt

A total of 200 questionnaires were administered targeting adult members of the population from the age of 30 years and above. The questionnaires were evenly distributed to source out basic information for the study. (See table 1.0 below)**.**

Table 1.0: Distribution of Questionnaires

S/N	Distribution	Number	percent
1	Trans Amadi Industrial Axis	60	30
2	Aker Base	60	30
3	Industry Road	60	30
4	Government Agencies	20	10
	Total	200	100

Source: Field Survey, 2024

Table 1.0 above shows how questionnaires were distributed within the different case study areas in Port Harcourt. The table reveals that a total 60 questionnaires representing 30% each were distributed to Trans Amadi Industrial layout, Aker Base and Industry Road while 20 symbolizing 10% was administered to key government agents in the state.

Table 2.0: Determinants of Industrial Emigration

S/N	Determinants	Number	Percent
1	Deteriorating infrastructure	27	13.5
2	Poor Energy Supply	30	15
3	Hoist Community Disturbances	21	10.5
4	Government Policy/Taxation	32	16
5	Inflation and Pricing Condition	25	12.5
6	Poor Waste Management	15	7.5
7	Inadequate Raw Materials	10	5
8	Insecurity	40	20
	Total	200	100

Source: Field Survey, 2024

The above table unveils that majority of the respondents ascertained that insecurity representing 40 out of 200 total respondents (20%) was responsible for the emigration of industries out of Port Harcourt metropolitan city. This is followed by poor government policies in relation to the protection and development of industrial activities (16%). The table maintains that poor energy supply (30%) was another major factor responsible for the unplanned movement of industries from the study area. Others include deteriorating infrastructure (13.5%), inflation and pricing condition (12.5), and frequent disturbances from hoist community members (10.5). it is significant to know that only 10 out of 200 total respondents symbolizing 5% complained of inadequate raw materials to have been responsible for emigration of industries out of Port Harcourt.

Table 3.0: Consequences of Industrial Emigration in Port Harcourt

S/N	Consequences	Number	Percent
1	Unemployment/ Underemployment	46	23
2	Poverty	52	26
3	Inequality	24	12
4	Increasing social Vices	37	18.5
5	Decreasing Value System	39	19.5
	Total	200	100

Source: Field Survey, 2024

The above table 3.0 shows that 52 out of 200 total respondents representing 26% confirmed that poverty was highly the consequence of emigration of industries in the study area. This is closely followed by unemployment (23%), and decreasing value systems (19.5%). The table portrays that 39 representing 19.5% ascertained that emigration of industries resulted in decreasing value system while 18.8% maintained that increasing social vices was that product of industrial emigration in Port Harcourt.

Findings

Location and localization of industries and industrial activities is a major aspect of urban land use. This is due to significant roles of the industries in provision of economic activities in cities of the world. However, absence of this land use may create high level of urban unbalance as observed in Port Harcourt Metropolitan City. Findings from this study revealed that government policies are responsible for urban industrial operations. This is due to the fact that government creates enabling environment I terms of space, security and incentives for growth and development of industrial activities. Also, energy supply in most Nigerian cities especially in Port Harcourt is inadequate for industrial operations. Thus, it becomes difficult for most industrial operators to provide power for the activity.

It is found that sequel to industrial movement, unemployment is growing beyond expectation. Many industrial workers have also been dropped from their jobs thereby elevating gaps inequality between the rich and poor. Many have migrated to the rural areas while social vices, criminality have increased. However, in recent time, government as assured of better policies to address unemployment in the state.

Recommendations

Sequel to the outcome of this study, the following recommended for effective implementation to address challenges resulting from industrial emigration.

- Government should enforce effective security measures to address frequent robbery and kidnapping of workers and industrial operators.
- There should be proper land use planning to create provision for industrial areas in the state.
- Companies and hoist communities should always enter into proper memoranda of understanding through the state government.
- Continuous energy (power) supply should be made available to reduce high cost of personal provision of pwer.

Conclusion

Industrial emigration is the movement of industries from a discomfort zone to a favorable environment. Industries help the creation of employment as well as provision of affordable goods for residents within catchment areas as well as those afar. However, due physical, social and economic factors, industries migrate as experienced the study areas of Port Harcourt Metropolitan City. This movement has caused unemployment, inequality gross poverty and increasing insecurity. Government should provide enabling environment to address the identified challenges.

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