



SPATIAL VARIABILITY IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF MIGRANTS AND INDIGENOUS LABOUR FORCE AMONG OIL COMPANIES IN OGBA/NDONI/EGBEMA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF RIVERS STATE

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ABSTRACT

Labour migration is generally seen as a cross-border movement of people for the purpose of employment in another geographical area. It is a decision by individuals that impacts on the welfare of the household, the home community, and in the end the whole economy in various ways. The objective of this study was to determine the spatial variability in the distribution of labour migrants among oil companies in Ogba/Ndoni/Egbema Local Government Area of River State. There are a total of nine oil companies operating in the study area, out of which six were selected for study because of their accessibility to information. The locations of the oil companies are Obrikom (Agip), Obagi (Ponticelli Nig. Ltd), Ogbogu (Saipem), Idu (Agip), Obite (Total) and Omoku (Agip). Six hundred copies of questionnaire were distributed to the oil companies with each having one hundred copies. The content of the questionnaire bothers on demographic characteristics of the respondents, place of origin of migrants, employment structure and the distribution of migrants among the six oil companies. The study adopted both descriptive and inferential statistics for data analysis. Descriptive statistical method such as tables, charts, standard deviation, means frequencies and percentages were used whereas the inferential statistical tool i.e. the independent 't' test was used to test for the variability in labour migration and the differences in population of indigenes and labour migrants in the oil companies. The result of the study generally indicated that 332 (68%) of the migrants come from Imo, Delta and Akwa Ibom State; 42% of the workforce in the oil companies are semi-skilled; 1415 of the total number of labour force of 2358 are migrants while 943 are indigenes. The result of the test statistics analysis indicated that the number of labour migrants in the study area was highly variable with the mean of 236 and the computed variance of 284.83. The standard deviation was 11.44. The result of the hypothesis, showed that the calculated value of 2.0 was greater than the table value of 1.96, which led to the rejection of the null hypothesis meaning that there is a significant difference between the number of indigenes and migrant workforce in the oil companies in Onelga. This study finally recommended for more employment of indigenes than migrants so as to avert certain conflicts by the indigenes arising from marginalization.

Keywords: Labour, Migration, Variability, Distribution, Spatial, Companies.

Received: 21 September 2016 / Revised: 19 October 2016 / Accepted: 29 October 2016 / Published: 8 November 2016

Contribution/ Originality

This study documents the factors responsible for influx of people into the oil rich region of the Niger Delta (Ogba/Ndoni/Egbema) Local Government Area as well as the variations that occur in the employment structures between migrants and indigenous labour force. The study revealed eventually that the migrant labour outnumbered

the indigenous labour force and so that the present of agitation and insecurity in the area is attributed to this imbalance in employment structure.

1. INTRODUCTION

Human population is very dynamic in nature. It fluctuates and is influenced essentially by factors and processes such as fertility rate, mortality and migration. Taking into consideration all the factors that interplay to bring about changes in population, migration plays a very significant, drastic and forceful role at orchestrating a dominant and obvious change in any given population. The term 'migration' is a more complex one both in definition and specificity. The United Nations defines migration as a permanent change of one's cultural heritage and customs, his relatives and long life friends as well as his occupation. In the views of [Akinmoladun \(1999\)](#) migration refers to movement from one place of abode to another or residence to another usually with the intention of settling there. This movement is typically from one region or country to another. Migration may involve individuals, family units or large group of persons.

Generally, according to [Aniah and Okpiliya \(2003\)](#) this scenario where people tend to move from one place to another can be viewed as a spontaneous human effort to achieve balance between population and resources. In most cases, it could be seen as a characteristic reaction to population expansion and to difficult conditions which has culminated in people being mixed and mingled all over the world. Also, migration can be viewed at in terms of time and spatial scale. Some migrants move for temporary periods while others move permanently. Migrations tend to occur over long as well as over short distances, with the vast majority of people generally wanting to remain close to the community and family where they were born and bred.

Indeed, there is a distance decay relationship between the number of migrants and the distance they have travelled for permanent migration. [Hall \(2013\)](#) noted that human movement may involve a temporary and semi-permanent change of location. But not all human movement can be regarded as migration and not all movers are migrants. In the same manner, a sharp distinction does not exist in these differentiations among the movement rather the differences are blurred. Most migrations are local, but all migrations result from a huge range of push and pull factors. A push factor is what enables someone to move while a pull factor is what attracts somebody to a place ([Richards and Edwards, 2010](#)). The push factors include unemployment, lack of safety, lack of services, poverty, drought and isolation among others, while the pull factors include potential employment, fertile land, political security and less risk of natural hazards.

According to [Cunningham and Cunningham \(2008\)](#) migration is a very important demographic factor. They observed that humans are highly mobile so that migration plays a very key role in human population dynamics. Currently, about 800,000 people migrate illegally to the United States each year. Western Europe receives about 1 million applications each year for asylum from economic chaos and wars from former socialist states and the Middle East. In Nigeria, there is a tendency for a huge movement of people into the oil-rich region of Niger Delta, the fertile agricultural plains of the south west and the flood plains of the Niger-Benue, Gongola and Sokoto plains. In the local setting here too, there is a massive drift of people from neighbouring areas of Owerri, Port Harcourt, Mbiang, Warri, Sapele and Asaba into Onelga Local Government Area where oil is found and drilled in appreciable quantity. It is the vigour in which people move into this oil rich area that has necessitated this study.

1.1. Statement of the Research Problem

Migration is a widespread human activity dating back to the origin of our species. Advances in genetic sequencing have greatly increased our ability to track prehistoric and historic population movements and allowed migration to be described both as a biological and socio-economic process. Causes and consequences of human

migration provide an evolutionary perspective on general movement pattern both in the past and the present. All over the world, individuals have often moved from place to place in response to various factors that have compelled them to move in search for better life elsewhere. It is important to note that these movements of people in large numbers have several consequences on both the receiving areas and at their point of departure.

Generally, population growth is primarily caused by a natural increase, that is, the excess of births over deaths. In most regions of the world, migration will cause population growth when the amount of in-migration exceeds that of emigration. In the United Kingdom for example migration is a greater cause of population growth than natural increase. Both population growth and migration can affect the quality of the natural environment, the likelihood of conflict, and social cohesion between ethnic groups – which in most cases are often underestimated by governments and non-governmental organizations, [Harris and Todaro \(1970\)](#).

Migration influences changes in a population as a result of its impact on the sex ratio of a population. Sex ratio is the ratio of males to females in a population. When a particular group of sex is involved in migrating from the population as in the case of the young ones leaving for greener pastures, they tend to impact on the sex ratio of both the origin and destination areas. Sex ratio imbalances have many consequences. High ratios of males make it easier for women to marry, but harder for men.

Life expectancy of individuals in any particular area is influenced by migration. It is defined as the average age to which a person can be expected to live. Quite simply a short life expectancy is linked to an area with poor health facilities, diet, limited access to education and generally a low standard of living as well as poor sanitary conditions. These conditions may arise as a result of the influx of people into any particular area. Also, when migrants spread deadly diseases in their destination areas, they equally reduce the life expectancies in these areas. HIV and Aids have taken their toll in Africa, Asia and South America thereby reducing the life expectancies in the area.

Migration has a very profound impact on population density. Population density refers to the number of people per square kilometer. When people move, the source area becomes sparsely populated while the destination area becomes densely populated leading to competition for basic facilities of living (water, electricity, etc.)

Closely related to the above, migration of any sort stretches the carrying capacity of an area. The carrying capacity of a biological species in an environment is the maximum population size of the species that the environment can sustain indefinitely, given the food, habitat, water and other necessities available in the environment. Migration greatly influences the carrying capacity because it puts a stretch on the infrastructures and resources of the destination area. Although the essence of mobility to the survival of any nation is well documented ([Filami, 2005](#)) unpreparedness by prospective migrant receipts to adjust to consequent change in structure is the main source of burden, which readily manifests in distorted social equilibrium. The effects of this disequilibrium are short-lived in some cases while in others are long lasting or even permanent. The burden of migration is multifaceted and intertwining as most times, migrants get disappointed at their destinations, which are often played with human traffic, vehicular congestions, environmental pollution to mention but a few and all have implications on both the health and psychology of victims.

Migration is an act of courage as it can be quite traumatic considering the challenges experienced in the process such as moving to a different place with distinct culture and norms can be quite daunting because the potential loneliness to be suffered is not always easy to overcome. Also, there may be the additional pressure to earn enough to live (in-a more expensive-to-live-in-place) and send back meager savings. Migrants suffer mental health problems, depression, post-traumatic stress syndrome, psychosomatic complaints and anxiety.

Finally, the burden inherent in normative conflict and social maladjustment in a non-regulatory system is enormous ([Saracojhn and Roe, 2013](#)). Given that individuals are culture bearing, immigrants do not immediately

adjust sufficiently to cultures they move into. This may pose a very serious problem to them especially on the style of living.

1.2. Objectives of the Study

The aim of this study is to assess the level of migration in Ogba/Ndoni/Egbena Local Government Areas of Rivers State. Specifically, the objectives are to:

- (i) Examine the factors responsible for the influx of people into the area
- (ii) Asses the employment structure in the oil companies in the area
- (iii) To examine the challenges at the destination point of the migrants
- (iv) To examine the differences in employment structure between migrants and indigenes in the oil companies

1.3. Hypothesis of the Study

The hypothesis was stated thus:

1. H_0 : There is no significant difference in the population of indigenes and labour migrants in the oil companies in the area of study.
2. H_i : There is significant difference in the population of indigenes and labour migrants in the oil companies in the area of study.

1.4. Scope of the Study

The focus of this study was on labour in-migration in Onelga Local Government, Rivers State. This area is noted for oil drilling in the Niger Delta. This activity has facilitated the movement of people from within the area into Onelga. The study considered factors necessitating the movement of people into the area, the demographic of migrants. The six companies in the area out of 9 was surveyed to analyze the strength of labour migration in these companies.

1.5. Study Area

Onelga which is an abbreviation for Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area of Rivers State lies between latitude $60^{\circ}7'$ and $100^{\circ}40'$ north of the equator and longitude $70^{\circ}3'$ and 1200451 east of the Greenwich meridian. It has a total area of about 150km^2 . It is popularly referred to as Ogba Kingdom. Omoku is located in the Niger Float Plains, with Ekpeye, Egeni and Ijaw areas to the south and southwest; Egbenma, Oguta, Awara to the North and Northeast; and Aboh, Kwale and Onitsha to South through Obrikom, Krreigani, Idu.

The geology of Onelga differs a little from the general Precambrian rock underlying most part of the country. The town lies at the edge of the extensive outcrop of tertiary sediment known in Nigeria as the coastal plain sand; and surrounding it is the quarterly sediments of the Niger belt. Tertiary beds are the youngest members of thick formation gently dipping southwest ward. The sediments are sands, pebbles and grift with occasional lens of clay. The quaternary sediments are few hundred feet thick. Locally, their conjunction with the tertiary bed is not comfortable.

The area is predominantly flat and rises to about 12-15m (40ft) above sea level. The town is traversed by deep blue River Omoku. The land bordering the river is very swampy and the vegetation consists of terms and mangrove trees. River Omoku rises as if it came from the underworld, one mile east of the orashi, and empties itself into the Orashi at 'Onu Omoku' (i.e mouth of Omuku), after a slow journey of about four miles. 'Onu-Omoku' is regarded as

a shrine, and has a “face” (Thi erisi), where sacrifices are offered by adherents and worshippers at appointed time of the year.

Onelga has a typical climate with high relative humidity of well over 70% all year round. The average mean temperature is 30°C (86°F) yearly with warmest months being February, March, April and May each having more than 30 days of the temperature which equals 32°C (90°F) and above. As a tropical region, its two seasons (rainy and dry) are very pronounced. The rainy season starts from March to October and is pioneered by the South East monsoon wind. The dry season on the other hand starts from November to February and is brought about by the North East trade wind. Annual rainfall in the town is about 2,327mm (91.6 inches).

According to 2006 population census, Onelga has a population of approximately 9,684. High growth rate has been recorded in the town because of the proliferation of oil companies, which attracted many people into the area.

The settlement pattern in the area is highly nucleated. But this nucleation thin out as you move away from the centre of the town. Also there is the existence of linear settlements along the routes created by these oil companies linking up their facilities in the area.

Onelga is basically an agrarian community. Agriculture is of the subsistence type. Farmers groom such crops as yam, cassava, cocoyam and maize for consumption and for domestic markets.

With the exploration and exploitation of crude oil in the area, the economy changed drastically. There are about 2 major oil companies and 7 sub-companies in Omoku. They include Agip Oil Company, Total Nigeria Ltd, Saipem Contracting Nig. Ltd, Ponticil Nig. Ltd, Spie Oil and Gas Ltd and Dyrecet Int. Ltd.

It is suffice to note that with the influx of oil companies into the area, this has facilitated in migration in no small measure into the area. People from neighboring villages, towns, states and even expatriate have moved into the area thereby changing the population ecology of the area. It is based on this background that this study was undertaken with the view to analyzing the spatial distribution of labour migrants among the companies in the area.

2. METHODS

This research was intended to design a framework that enabled data collection realistic so as to make interpretations possible. This involved the collection of data on labour migration with representative sample by the use of observations, questionnaire and interview. The type of data that formed the basis for this study included: Data on demographic characteristic of labour migrants – sex, age, marital status, educational level and occupation, data on places of origin of labour migrants, data relating to reasons for migration, the challenges involved in migration at the destination point, the of labour force between migrants and indigene workers in the oil companies.

Both the primary and secondary sources of data were used for the study. Data on the demographic characteristic of labour migrants, origin of migrants, employment structures of the oil companies, spatial variability in the distribution of migrants among oil companies in the area, as well as or migration as well as data on the impact of labour migrants on land rent in the area were obtained from primary source i.e. the residents of the area through the use of a structured questionnaire. While data on the employment structure of the sampled oil companies was collected from the Human Resources Department of the companies.

The study adopted purposive sampling method for data collection. There are about nine oil servicing companies located in nine commodities in the study area. Out of these, six communities with each having an oil company were purposively chosen for this study. They include Obrikom – Agip, Obagi – Ponticelli Nig. Ltd., Ogbogu – Saipem, Idu – Agip, Obite – Total and Omoku – Agip. The reasons for choosing these six communities were due to the intensification of the oil production activities in the areas. In each of these oil companies located in the communities chosen for study, 100 copies of questionnaire were distributed to the labour migrants in each of the six oil companies totaling 600 in all. The content of the questionnaire bothers on the demographic characteristics of

the respondents, factors necessitating movement to the study area, the challenges in the course of movement, and the socio-economic implications of labour migrants on the host communities.

In order to bring the obtained data to a clearer perspective, the study adopted both descriptive and inferential statistics for data analysis. Descriptive statistical methods such as tables, charts, frequencies, percentages standard deviation and means were used for them in initial process of data analysis. On the other hand, the inferential statistical tool i.e. the independent 't' distribution test was used to examine the differences in population of indigenes and labour migrants in the oil companies in the area.

The formula is given as:

$$t = \frac{x - y}{\sqrt{\frac{x^2}{N_x} + \frac{y^2}{N_y}}}$$

- Where t = student t test
- X = sample I
- Y = sample II
- $\sqrt{x^2}$ = a square of standard deviation x
- $\sqrt{y^2}$ = a square of standard deviation of y
- Nx = sample size of x
- Ny = sample size of y

It should be noted that the higher the value of t, the higher the discrepancy between the means of sample and population.

3. DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

3.1. Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

3.1.1. Age Distribution of Sampled Respondents

Table 1 shows that migrants within the age cohort of 31-40 years constituted the bulk of the labour force in the study area as they totaled 325 (54%) of the entire workforce in the oil companies. This was followed by migrants in the bracket of 18-30 years 160 (26%). Migrants within the age of limit of 40-50 years and above 50 years were 60 (10%) and 55 (9%) respectively. There were no migrant workers within the ages of 1-20 years.

Table-1. Distribution of Respondent by Age

| Age | No. of Respondents | Percentage |
|----------|--------------------|------------|
| 18-30 | 160 | 26 |
| 31-40 | 325 | 54 |
| 41-50 | 60 | 10 |
| ABOVE 50 | 55 | 9 |
| Total | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

3.1.2. Sex of Respondents

In the study area as Table 2 shows, male migrants were 480 (80%) while the female migrants in the oil companies were 120 (20%). The implication of this is that male workers were more in number than female workers. This could also mean that male migrate more than the female.

Table-2. Sex of Respondents

| Sex | No. of Respondents | Percentage |
|--------|--------------------|------------|
| Male | 480 | 80 |
| Female | 120 | 20 |
| Total | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

3.1.3. Household Size of Respondents

From Table 3 which was focused on the presentation of household sizes of migrants in the area, it was observed that the predominant household size was 1-5 person per house which indicated about 93% of the respondents. On the other hand, those with 6-10 persons per household per compound showed value of 40 (07%).

Table-3. Household size of Respondents

| Size | Number of migrants | Percentage |
|-------|--------------------|------------|
| 1-5 | 560 | 93 |
| 6-10 | 40 | 07 |
| 11-15 | - | - |
| 16-20 | - | - |
| Total | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

3.1.4. Occupation

In the consideration of the occupation profile of the respondents in the area, as shown in Table 4, it was observed that the predominant occupation in the area was helpers as this was attested by 120 workers (20%). Welders and fitters were 100 respondents (17%) respectively. This was followed by riggers with 80 respondents (13%). Finally, erectors and carpenters were 50 respondents each (8%).

Table-4. Occupation of Respondents

| Occupation | Number of Respondents | Percentage |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Welders | 100 | 17 |
| Fitters | 100 | 17 |
| Riggers | 80 | 13 |
| Erectors | 50 | 8 |
| Carpenters | 50 | 8 |
| Labours (helpers) | 120 | 20 |
| Admin. Staff | 100 | 17 |
| Total | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

3.1.5. Income of Respondents

The income of respondents in the study area was shown in Table 5. Here, it was noticed that 500 (83%) of migrants in the area earned above sixty thousand (N60, 000.00) naira. Others also, were observed to have earnings between forty thousand naira to fifty thousand naira with a percentage value of 13 per cent. However, others who earned within forty thousand naira and below were negligible in number with a per cent value of 4. Hence, it can be said at this point that the major poll factor into the area was the wages paid by the companies.

Table-5. Income of Respondents

| Income (Monthly) N | No. of Respondents | Percentage |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------|
| 10,000-20,000 | 0 | 0 |
| 20,000-30,000 | 0 | 0 |
| 30,000-40,000 | 20 | 4 |
| 40,000-50,000 | 80 | 13 |
| 50,000-60,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Above 60,000 | 500 | 83 |
| Total | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

3.1.6. Level of Education of Respondents

Table 8 shows that migrant labour with educational qualification of OND and HND form the bulk of the workforce with 124 respondents (21%) respectively. This was followed by HSC (16%), GCE 90 (15%) other qualification 64 (11%), BSC 60 (10%) and NCE 40 (6%). Arising from the above analysis, it was observed in the field that oil companies in the area prefer essentially middle-skilled manpower possessing OND and HND to graduates and post-graduates.

Table-6. Level of Education

| Educational Status | No. of Respondents | Percentage |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------|
| GCE | 90 | 15 |
| HSC | 98 | 16 |
| OND | 124 | 21 |
| HND | 124 | 21 |
| NCE | 40 | 6 |
| B.Sc | 60 | 10 |
| OTHERS | 64 | 11 |
| Total | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

3.1.7. Marital Status of Respondents

In the study area as shown in Table 7, it was observed that 480 (80%) of the migrants were married. This showed that majority of migrant workers in the area are married. However, 100 (17%) of the migrants labour force were single while 20 (3%) were divorcees in the area.

Table-7. Marital status of Respondents

| Marital status | No. of respondents | Percentage |
|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Single | 100 | 17 |
| Married | 480 | 80 |
| Divorced | 20 | 3 |
| Total | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

3.1.8. Place of Origin of Migrants of Respondents

Table 8 indicated the place of origin of the migrants. As it can be seen, 188 migrants (32%) came from Imo State, 122 (19%) from Delta, 102 (17%) from Akwa Ibom, 56 (9%) from other states, 50 (8%) from Bayelsa, 52 (7%) from Rivers, 30 (6%) from Edo and finally 10 (2%) from Cross River. The reason for Imo, Delta and Akwa Ibom

states having more migrants labour force in the oil companies. The other states may be attributed to the fact that these are catchment areas within the location of these oil companies.

Table-8. Place of Origin of Migrants

| Place of Origin | No. of Respondents | Percentage |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Rivers | 52 | 7 |
| Delta | 112 | 19 |
| Bayelsa | 50 | 8 |
| Cross River | 10 | 2 |
| Edo | 30 | 6 |
| Imo | 188 | 32 |
| Akwa Ibom | 102 | 17 |
| Others | 56 | 9 |
| TOTAL | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

3.2. Factors for Migration

Table-9. Factors Responsible for Migration

| Factors | No. of respondents | Percentage |
|---|--------------------|------------|
| Search for better jobs | 370 | 62 |
| War at home | 20 | 3 |
| Poverty | 160 | 26 |
| Uncompromising attitude of parents | 10 | 2 |
| To raised money to pay children school fees | 40 | 7 |
| Total | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

3.3. Workforce Categorization of Respondents

Table-10. Workforce Categorization

| Workforce | No. of indigenes | % | Migrants | % | Total |
|---------------|------------------|-----|----------|-----|-------|
| Direct labour | 300 | 32% | - | - | 300 |
| Semi-skilled | 400 | 42 | 849 | 60 | 1249 |
| Skilled | 243 | 36 | 566 | 40 | 812 |
| Total | 943 | 100 | 1415 | 100 | 2358 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

As table 10 indicated the total number of workforce that are indigenes in the oil companies in the study area were 943. Out of these, 300 (32%), were direct labour, semi-skilled were 400 (42%) and skilled labour were 243 (20%). This is to say that semi-skilled constituted the greatest bulk of the workforce, followed by skilled and then direct labour. On the other hand, in terms of the workforce categorization among the migrant population, the semi-skilled equally had the greatest number of 849 (60%) and the skilled 566 (40%). There is virtually no provision for the direct labor in terms of employment in all the 6 oil companies. From observations in the field, this has to do with the law of the land prohibiting non indigenes from being recruited as direct labour in the oil companies.

Table-11. Challenges at the Destination Area

| CHALLENGES | No. of respondents | Percentage |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Accommodation | 80 | 13 |
| Transportation | 60 | 10 |
| Water supply | 50 | 8 |
| Rising cost of food | 100 | 17 |
| Insecurity | 310 | 52 |
| Total | 600 | 100 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

Table 11 shows that the greatest challenge faced by labour migrants in the area is insecurity. 310 migrants (52%) attested to this fact as they claimed that there has been incessant kidnapping of workers in the area. 100 respondents (17%) claimed that the greatest challenge they have is rising cost of food. 80 (13%) had the problem of accommodation, 60 (10%) transportation and 50 (8%) are faced with the water supply problem as most of the water in the area is highly polluted.

3.4. Spatial Variability in the Distribution of Labour Migrants in Onelga Local Government Area

Table-12. Variation of Labour Migrants in Oil Companies

| Oil companies and localities | No. of migrants (x) |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Obikom (Agip) | 252 |
| Obagi (Ponticelli) | 240 |
| Ogbogu (Saipem) | 180 |
| Idu (Agip) | 245 |
| Obite (Total) | 228 |
| Omoku (Agip) | 270 |

Source: Author's Field Work, 2015

Table-13. Analysis of Variation in the Distribution of Labour Migrant in Onelga Local Government Area

| X | $X - \bar{x}$ | $(x - \bar{x})^2$ |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 252 | 16 | 256 |
| 240 | 4 | 16 |
| 180 | 56 | 3136 |
| 245 | 9 | 81 |
| 228 | 8 | 64 |
| 270 | 34 | 1156 |
| $\sum = 1415$ | | 4709 |
| $\bar{x} = 236$ | | |

Source: Authors Field Work, 2015

It should be noted that the total number of employees in the sampled oil companies were 1415. Hence, from the mean value of labour migrants in the study area being 236 and the computed variance of 784.83, it indicated that the number of labour migrants in the study area is highly variable. The standard deviation was seen to be 11.44. Also, the mean value of labour migrants in the study area was 236 so that from the analysis, Obrikom, Obagi, Idu and Omoku had migrants in the respective oil companies above the mean while Ogbogu, and Idu had labour migrants below the mean. From all indications, these oil companies that have the number of migrants workers above the mean value are more accessible than the other companies that have migrant workers below the mean value of 236.

Table-14. Population of Migrants and indigenes in the oil companies

| Communities and oil companies | No. of indigenes (A) | No. of migrants (B) |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Obrikom (Agip) | 168 | 252 |
| Obagi (Ponticelli) | 160 | 240 |
| Ogbogu (Saipem) | 120 | 180 |
| Idu (Agip) | 163 | 245 |
| Obite (Total) | 152 | 228 |
| Omoku (Agip) | 180 | 270 |

Source: Authors Field Survey, 2015

Table-15. Analysis of the differences in Population of Indigenes and Labour Migrants in the Oil Companies using Student t'test

| Communities and oil companies | No. of indigenes | (A - \bar{A}) ² | No. of migrants (B) | (B - \bar{B}) ² |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Obrikom (Agip) | 168 | 121 | 252 | 256 |
| Obaji (Ponticelli) | 160 | 9 | 240 | 16 |
| Ogbuigu (Saipem) | 120 | 369 | 180 | 136 |
| Idu (Agip) | 163 | 36 | 245 | 81 |
| Obite (Total) | 152 | 25 | 228 | 64 |
| Omoku (Agip) | 180 | 529 | 270 | 1156 |
| $\Sigma = 943$ $\bar{A} = 157$ | | 989 | $\Sigma = 1415$ $\bar{B} = 236$ | 709 |

Source: Authors Field Survey, 2015

Table 14 indicated the employment structure in the oil companies in the study area. As it is seen, the number of migrant labour outnumbered that of the indigenes as the total number of indigenes were 943 and that of migrants were 1415. The implication is that most of the indigenes who would have been gainfully employed are eventually denied employment and given to migrant. Most of the unrest cases recorded in the study area are attributed to the agitation by indigenes (youths) in the area to seek jobs in the oil companies. Also, data on table 14 was used to test the null hypothesis, which states that: There is no significant difference in the population of indigenes and labour migrants in the oil companies in the area of study. The decision from the analysis revealed that since the calculated value of 2.0 is greater than the table value of 1.96, we therefore reject the H_0 and accept H_1 , meaning that there is significant difference between the number of indigenes working in oil companies in Onelga and the migrant labour.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Generally, migration of any sort whether permanent or temporal is seen to be a decision that impacts on the welfare of households, the home community, and of the end the whole economy in various ways. The welfare implications of migration on the place of origin are often, though not always, sizeable and positive. The main channels through which migration alleviates poverty are increased income from remittances, ability to boost consumption, access to finance for starting a new business, as well as tapping onto the knowledge and resources available at any point in time and space. Besides pure monetary gains, migration and remittances allow for higher investment in healthcare and education. However, it should be noted that not all impacts associated with migration are positive. There are usually the case of exploitation of migrants by unscrupulous recruiters or employers as well as separation from family ties. There is also the inevitable case of insecurity as witnessed in the study area. There are incessant cases of kidnapping of workers almost every week in the study area. This situation has greatly hampered oil production activities in the area as workers sometime flee for their safety.

Funding: This study received no specific financial support.

Competing Interests: The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Contributors/Acknowledgement: All authors contributed equally to the conception and design of the study.

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