

# **Infrastructural Deterioration and Outcomes of the 2019 Gubernatorial Elections in Bauchi State, Nigeria**

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## **Abstract**

*Infrastructure comprising road and rail network, health care, and educational facilities have powerful effects on the overall electoral process of people in various political entities. They also play a determining role in setting the bases of the voting choice and change in the orientations of the people towards their political system. Reports on infrastructure in Bauchi state exist but are incomplete to academic principles. This study examines infrastructure deterioration and the outcome of the 2019 gubernatorial elections in Bauchi state Nigeria through a qualitative method of data collection and analysis. Findings of the study concludes that, part of the underlying principle for the success of an opposition political party, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the 2019 gubernatorial elections includes. The electorates' assessments of the All Progressives Congress (APC) administration's discouraging records in the provision and maintenance of Infrastructure comprising: road and rail network, health care system, and educational facilities. Better election campaign strategy and reliable contestant offered by opposition parties; and enhanced training by the electoral body, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). This confirms the significance of Infrastructure (road and rail network, health care, and*

*educational facilities) as crucial factors influencing electoral outcomes of the 2019 gubernatorial elections in Bauchi state, Nigeria.*

**Keywords:** Infrastructural deterioration; Gubernatorial Elections; Bauchi; Nigeria.

## **Introduction**

Infrastructural provision comprising road and rail network, health care, and educational facilities has great impact on the general electoral process of people in a range of political systems.<sup>1</sup> For example, early works on political attitudes find that infrastructural issues were among the most important variables in influencing voting choice.<sup>2</sup> Also as an element of a very persuasive theory of values, Inglehart points out how individual choice and values are shaped by infrastructure conditions in the political system.<sup>3</sup>

Similarly, an individual's subjective and objective assessment of their economic condition based on personal benefit is found to have effect on trust or mistrust in the administration, while both objective and subjective evaluations of the situation of the state economy based on social

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<sup>1</sup> Brady, H. E., Verba, S., & Schlozman, K. L. (1995). Beyond SES: A resource model of political participation. *American Political Science Review*, 89(2), 271-294.

<sup>2</sup> Peter Regenstrief, *The Diefenbaker Interlude* (Toronto: Longman's, 1965), 50; John Meisel, *Working Papers on Canadian Politics* (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1972), 14-22, and Tables 4-6 in Appendix.

<sup>3</sup> See Trump, Thomas M. 1991. "Value Formation and Post materialism: Inglehart's Theory of Value Change Reconsidered." *Comparative Political Studies* 24:365-90; Clarke, Harold D., and Nitish Dutt. 1991. "Measuring Value Change in Western Industrialized Societies: The Impact of Unemployment." *American Political Science Review* 79:10-27; Duch, R. M., & Taylor, M. A. (1994). A reply to Abramson and Inglehart's 'Education, Security, and Post materialism'. *American Journal of Political Science*, 38(3), 815-824.

benefit is also found to have an effect<sup>4</sup>. Thus, the link between the deterioration of infrastructure conditions and electoral outcomes can be examined practically from micro and macro levels.<sup>5</sup>

## Methodology

Qualitative technique allows a researcher to understand, describe and analyse peoples' views through discourse analysis with observed evidences and facts. Some characteristic of social life, experiences, and attitudes of people, by means of verbal expression such as interviews or discussions with varying methodological practices<sup>6</sup>. The study utilize a qualitative method in its data collection and analysis. The participants were distributed in the following manner: ( $n = 30$ ) men and women. Four ( $n = 4$ ) of the thirty participants were prominent politicians and stakeholders, six ( $n = 6$ ) were Academics, four ( $n = 4$ ) Journalists, four ( $n = 4$ ) Representatives of Civil Society Organizations, four ( $n = 4$ ) Business Men and Women, four ( $n = 4$ ), Civil Servants, and four ( $n = 4$ ) Political Analysts. While some of these participants permitted their designations to be revealed in the research documentation, some disapproved it for confidential reasons.

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<sup>4</sup> Lee, S. (1993). *An Empirical Study on the Determinants of Trust in the Sixth Republican Government in Korea*. Ph. D. Dissertation, Seoul National University. (In Korean)

<sup>5</sup> See, e.g., Gebhard Kirchgässner, 'Economic Conditions and the Popularity of West German Parties: A Survey', *European Journal of Political Research*, 14 (1986), pp.421–439; idem, 'On the Relation between Voting Intention and the Perception of the General Economic Situation: An Empirical Analysis for the FRG, 1972–1986', *European Journal of Political Economy*, 7 (1991), pp.497–526; Hans Rattinger, *Wirtschaftliche Konjunktur und politische Wahlen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland* (Berlin 1980); idem, 'Allgemeine und persönliche wirtschaftliche Lage als Bestimmungsfaktoren politischen Verhaltens bei der Bundestagswahl 1983', in Dieter Oberdorfer, Hans Rattinger and Karl Schmitt (eds.), *Wirtschaftlicher Wandel, religiöser Wandel, Wertwandel: Folgen für das politische Verhalten in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland* (Berlin 1985), pp.183–218; idem, 'Collective and Individual Economic Judgements and Voting in West Germany, 1961–1984', *European Journal of Political Research*, 14 (1986), pp.393–419; idem, 'Unemployment and Elections in West Germany', in Helmut Norpoth, Michael S. Lewis-Beck and Jean-Dominique Lafay (eds.), *Economics and Politics: The Calculus of Support* (Ann Arbor, MI, 1991), pp.49–62; Hans Rattinger and Walter Puschner, 'Ökonomie und Politik in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland. Eine Quer- und Längsschnittanalyse von 1971 bis 1976 (Paderborn, 1982); idem, 'Ökonomische Variablen und ihre politischen Folgen: Ein kritischer Literaturbericht', in Oberdorfer et al. (eds.), *Wirtschaftlicher Wandel, religiöser Wandel und Wertwandel*, pp.61–95.

<sup>6</sup> McCusker and Gunaydin, (2015); Gough and Lyons, (2016)

Therefore, the scholar provided the entire participants pen names to safeguard their confidentiality. The essence of selecting these varieties of participants is because their knowledge and experiences.

### **Theoretical Explanations**

Moreover, diverse theoretical prospects and assumptions are obtainable from the connection between electoral outcomes and infrastructure factors. Among these theoretical underpinnings is ‘incumbency’ assumption, which stresses that poor management and corrupt infrastructure conditions within a political entity would upset the electorates,<sup>7</sup> thereby influencing their voting choice and, at the same time, giving ways for the opposition to profit, and vice versa.

Similarly, the ‘clientele’ or policy theory highlights that the democratic accomplishment of an administration relies not simply on the economic conditions of that particular government. Other vital issues like what matters most and requires urgent attention by the government as a top priority yearning of the citizenry contributes to the success or downfall of a government.<sup>8</sup> Therefore, from this viewpoint, high rate of poverty, corruption, and infrastructure decay in education, health, and transportation will frustrate the people thereby influencing peoples voting choice and electoral

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<sup>7</sup> See Anthony Downs, *An Economic Theory of Democracy* (New York, 1957).

<sup>8</sup> Empirical evidence for this correlation effect also exists for the Federal Republic. See e.g. Douglas A. Hibbs, ‘On the Demand for Economic Outcomes: Macroeconomic Performance and Mass Political Support in the United States, Great Britain, and Germany’, *Journal of Politics*, 44 (1982), pp.426–62; Hans Rattinger, ‘Arbeitslosigkeit, Apathie und Protestpotential: Zu den Auswirkungen der Arbeitsmarktlage auf das Wahlverhalten bei der Bundestagswahl 1980’, in Max Kaase and Hans-Dieter Klingemann (eds.), *Wahlen und politisches System. Analysen aus Anlaß der Bundestagswahl 1980* (Opladen, 1983), pp.257–318; idem, ‘Collective and Individual Economic Judgements and Voting in West Germany, 1961–1984’; idem, ‘Konjunktorentwicklung, Wahrnehmung der Wirtschaftslage und Parteipräferenzen in Deutschland, 1977–1998’, in Markus Klein, Wolfgang Jagodzinski, Ekkehard Mochmann and Dieter Ohr (eds.), *50 Jahre Empirische Wahlforschung in Deutschland: Entwicklung, Befunde, Perspektiven, Daten* (Wiesbaden, 2000), pp.309–39; Hans Rattinger and Thorsten Faas, ‘Wahrnehmung der Wirtschaftslage und Wahlverhalten 1977 bis 1998’, in Hans-Dieter Klingemann and Max Kaase (eds.), *Wahlen und Wähler: Analysen aus Anlaß der Bundestagswahl 1998* (Wiesbaden, 2001), pp.283–308.

outcome. It is obvious that all these infrastructure and economic issues are constantly and reciprocally connected.<sup>9</sup>

## **Findings**

The third subtheme under the economic factors is infrastructure deterioration. Within this subtheme, three other subunits appear. For instance, while infrastructure deterioration has been the frequently mentioned word by the respondent's #AC2, #AC1, #CSR3, #CS4, #PA2 #BP1 and #LG1, it is mentioned with reference to health, education and road network subsectors. All the discussions by these respondents revolve round these three major subsectors of the economy. The respondents point out that infrastructure deterioration has resulted in lack of or inadequate portable drinkable water, good and affordable hospitals, schools, good road network, and sporting and recreational facilities in Bauchi.<sup>10</sup>

Where these facilities do exist, they decay with time due to systematic neglect because little or no attempt is made to revamp them. The facts on the ground attest to these general findings that Bauchi State government has systematically neglected most of the infrastructures that have direct impact on the public. The findings of the study of Otahiru, Umar, Zawawi, Sodangi and Hammad validate this assertion when it points out that despite been oil rich country, Nigeria has

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<sup>9</sup>A discussion of both theoretical approaches can be found in D. Roderick Kiewiet, *Macroeconomics, and Micro politics* (Chicago, 1983).

<sup>10</sup>Interviews with respondents #AC2, #AC1, #CSR3, #CS4, #PA2 #BP1, and #LG1 between 2016 and 2017 respectively, in Bauchi Nigeria.

crashed into a situation where a substantial percentage of the country's populace grieves even more than countries with fewer resources.

Despite the increase in earnings from oil and gas over the last three decades, from 26.3 percent in 1970 to 83.5 percent in 2000, public services and infrastructure continue to be worsening.<sup>11</sup> Infrastructures remain completely insufficient to meet the needs of the people. In some places, these facilities have been either dilapidated or they are in total ruins.<sup>12</sup> In addition, the World Bank reports indicate that several businesses in Bauchi State and Nigeria, in general, suffer from lack of reliable power for industrial development. At the most basic level, millions of lives are threatened every day for lack of clean water or safe sanitation.<sup>13</sup> It is within this context that the next subsections will discuss the decay particularly in education, health and roads in Bauchi State due mostly to poor governance and systematic neglect of public sectors by the previous regimes.

### **Educational facilities in school**

Although there have been efforts and some progressive projects in the education sectors that have been initiated by various governmental regimes in Bauchi State. However, these projects have not effectively resolved the problems in the education sector of Bauchi State. The first subtheme under the infrastructure deterioration is poor education facilities across Bauchi State ranging from primary to tertiary institutions. Some of the respondents disclose that pupils in

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<sup>11</sup> Otairu, A., Umar, A. A., Zawawi, N. A. W. A., Sodangi, M., & Hammad, D. B. (2014). Slow adoption of PPPs in developing countries: Survey of Nigerian Construction professionals. *Procedia Engineering*, 77, 188-195.

<sup>12</sup> Baba, I., & Abubakar, M. (2015). Decaying nature of facilities and the need for infrastructural development in North-east Nigeria. *Universal Journal of Industrial and Business Management*, 3(2), 37-45.

<sup>13</sup> IFC (2013): *Infrastructure in Africa (Regions)*. International Finance Corporation. World Bank Group.

primary school mostly study under the trees, while in secondary schools whether boarding or day schools lack the basic tools and facilities for conducive learning processes. All these are apart from the inadequate qualified teachers. The Bauchi State Chairman of the Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT), Danjuma, asserts that the 26,000 teachers in the primary school system are obviously insufficient for the state.<sup>14</sup>

Previous governments are involved in gigantic projects in the education sector that have no direct bearing on the education quality or making it accessible to the common man in Bauchi.<sup>15</sup> While to some extent one can argue that these big projects have some impacts on the education sector, an in-depth analysis of such projects will reveal that the education at grassroots level still need a lot of improvement.

Respondent's #AC3, #PA2, #CS1, AC2 and #AC6 express concerns on the future of Bauchi State with the current poor condition of the educational sector. For these respondents, it is worrisome that most of the previous administrations continued to treat education with disdain, which only jeopardizes the future potentials of the state. Respondent #AC5 reveals that "in the tertiary levels of education, numerous students receive lectures dangling out of windows and doors and taught by a single lecturer."<sup>16</sup> Other respondents further lament inadequate amenities in not only the primary and secondary schools but in tertiary institutions, such as inadequate conducive

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<sup>14</sup> Interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Bauchi. March 8th, 2018.

<sup>15</sup> Interviews with many respondents #AC3 on 11 April 2016, #PA2 on 22 August 2016, #CS1 on 9 October 2016, AC2 on 5 April 2016, and #AC6 on 25 March 2017

<sup>16</sup> Interview with respondent #AC5 on 15 March 2017.

classrooms, offices, laboratories, workshops, libraries, electricity, hostels of accommodation, water supply, and other basic necessities like adequate and good shuttle bus schemes.<sup>17</sup>

These assertions are testified to by the constant strike actions by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU). In order to compel the government to improve the education sector and makes it affordable for the common man. While most of the respondents complain about insufficiency of funds as the major reason hindering the implementation of good educational policies, in reality the unsuccessful implementation manifested originally from the lack of political will, lack of continuity of programmes, and corruption by the leaders. This is because if the little they claim they have is utilized judiciously, it could be enough to provide standard education for the people.

The study of Moja supports the respondents' general assertion that basic infrastructure in Nigerian schools such as classrooms, laboratories, workshops, sporting facilities, equipment, libraries inadequate and in some instances in a total disappointment. The school environment is generally not favourable to learning due to the physical condition of infrastructure in schools and inadequate teaching and learning resources. The annual population growth rate estimated at 3.3 percent adds to the difficulty of the large number of children who have to be enrolled in schools, coupled with negligence and failure by the government to plan appropriately for the projection of its population growth.<sup>18</sup> Similarly, Adeyemi and Edeki contend that inherent problems of poor funding and facilities, insufficient welfare provision for workers, mismanagement, inefficiency,

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<sup>17</sup> Interviews with respondent's #AC1 on 3 April 2016, #AC2 on April 2016, and #AC4 on 3 March 2017.

<sup>18</sup> Moja, T. (2000). Nigeria education sector analysis: An analytical synthesis of performance and main issues. World Bank Report, 3, 46-56.

lack of awareness in terms of educational importance, and poor educational standards have tremendously affected the standard of education in Nigeria.<sup>19</sup>

Additionally, a study conducted by Babs and Ojiefor posits that there are many activities that hinder the development of education in Nigeria. Apart from negligence and lackadaisical attitude towards the sector by both military and civilian regimes alike, constant strikes by teachers, lecturers and non-academics have continued to obstruct the teaching and learning in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions in Nigeria. Strike has become almost a yearly activity, and this has seriously subjected the students to spending more than a reasonable and rational time for their registered programmes.<sup>20</sup>

Many respondents of this study and other scholars continue to emphasize on the attitude of government officials towards the education sector which is marred by inadequate and unsuitable facilities such as poor accommodation and classrooms, and lack of modern technology and inadequate well-equipped laboratories, poverty, and lack of seriousness from the students. One aspect that they neglect or overlook is degeneration of morality in the society today. For educational sector in Bauchi and Nigeria, in general, to come back to its normal condition, there should be serious considerations and approach from the government at both state and federal levels to improve the educational system and curriculum. Teachers must be well trained and reoriented

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<sup>19</sup> Adeyemi, G. A., & Edeki, S. O. (2018). Dataset on spatial distribution and location of universities in Nigeria. *Data in brief*, 18, 1602-1608.

<sup>20</sup> BABS, A. (2018). History of education in Nigeria. ROUTLEDGE. See also, Bray, M. (1999). The private costs of public schooling: household and community financing of primary education in Cambodia. International Institute for Educational Planning.; Ojiefor S. (2006) Education Sector Reforms Critical to MDG This Day Magazine, see also Amuda, Y. J. (2011). Child education in Nigeria: Hindrances and legal solutions. *Procedia-Social and Behavioural Sciences*, 15, 3027-3031.

with modern technology. Teaching facilities and amenities, which are currently insufficient, should be provided in order to enhance effective delivery.

### **Roads network**

The second most frequently mentioned subtheme under infrastructural decay is poor road network mostly linking the villages and other hamlets within Bauchi State. While majority of the respondents acknowledge the fact that there was an effort on construction of roads, most of these roads have been concentrated in the Bauchi metropolis and other cosmopolitan settlements in the local government headquarters. Their main concern is that the road network is concentrated in the cities and towns while places where agricultural activities that provide the generality of the Bauchi people employment has been neglected. Respondent's #AC1, #CSR3, #PA1, BP4, #LG and #CS1 express concerns about the condition of the rural road system being a crucial component of development of the state.<sup>21</sup>

For instance, urban canters internationally rely on well-organized transportation systems for functional efficiency and this could be possible if there is a good road network system. Most roads in Bauchi are characterized with potholes due to ineffective and inadequate maintenance scheme of the road networks. Many people might think this problem is for the dwellers of such areas particularly the poor farmers who usually in harvesting period find it difficult to bring their goods from different villages across the local government areas for sale at the state capital. However, the

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<sup>21</sup> Interviews with respondent's #AC1 on 3 April 2016, #CSR3 on 5 April 2017, #PA1 on 16 August 2016, BP4 on 17 April 2017, #LG3 on 20 April 2017 and #CS1 on 9 October 2016.

implication to the general public is the higher cost of food stuffs and other materials and ingredients for daily living.

The study of Odeyele affirms the assertion that Nigerian economy relies strongly on the functionality of its road transport system, with about 90 percent of the macroeconomic activities in Nigeria depending on the automobile as a means of mobility. Unfortunately, the demise of the railway system has continued to put more pressure on the road networks of many states in Nigeria. This is because road has become the only way of transporting heavy materials and this has for a long time been due to technical inadequacy and negligence by successive regimes and the destructive effect on the roads is beyond imagination. Although more kilometres of roads have been constructed, the existing ones continue to worsen rapidly due to poor maintenance and heavy traffic. The demand for transport services in Nigeria is above the supply with a total road network of 200,000 km, 65,000 km of which are bituminous roads, with only 3,500 km of narrow gauge and single-track railway network. The road transport is the predominant mode and accounts for more than 90 percent of the sub-sector's contribution to the nations GDP.<sup>22</sup>

Respondent's #AC6, #CSR4, #PA4, BP4, #LG2 and #CS4 lamented that in some areas of, Bauchi for example, a trip of an hour now takes more hours due to the devastating condition of the roads.<sup>23</sup> Drainages are blocked, and roads are without signs, street lights are virtually absent, traffic lights are not working, there is absence of packing facilities and pedestrian/cyclist facilities, road marking and painting are poorly maintained. The roads are characterized by over-speeding,

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<sup>22</sup> Odeyele, J. A. (2000). Towards financing and planning road safety audit operations in Nigeria. *IATSS research*, 24(2), 85-96.

<sup>23</sup> Interviews with respondent's #AC6 on 25 March 2017, #CSR4 on 28 May 2017, #PA4 on 27 June 2017, BP4 on 17 April 2017, #LG2 on 17 July 2016 and #CS4 on 28 May 2017.

blocked drainages, narrow pedestrian walkways, rough and undulating surfaces, black spots, unfit road/intersections, narrow bridges, defaced signs and non-functional traffic lights. This is the real situation in Bauchi and most of the states in Nigeria. The disheartening state of roads is ascribed to the failure by government to maintain them. For instance, night travel in Nigeria is no longer promising because, apart from the bad condition of the roads, insecurity is another major concern. The high rate of recorded road accidents in Nigeria portrays the deplorable state of the roads.<sup>24</sup>

The study of Adelekan, McBean, and Joakim adds that, generally, Nigeria's roads and general transport system are suffering from a misrepresented developmental approach consequently creating overwhelming challenges to urban transportation. Road transport has replaced the rail system in terms of low speeds, high costs, neglect, and generally unreliable services. For instance, residents of Lagos are scared driving on some of the bridges claiming that of these bridges are old and need renovation. This might be one of the reasons why Nigeria is ranked least in the value of social amenities About \$15b is required annually to adequately fund Nigeria's infrastructural deficits.<sup>25</sup>

Additionally, the study of Seedhouse, Igwe, Starkey and Njenga, acknowledges the fact that most of the rural people in Nigeria have poor access to the roads that help them to meet up their socio-economic needs. The study further suggests that there is the need to address the existing problems in the quality of roads which makes the transport system and services defective. This is

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<sup>24</sup> Odeleye, J. A. (2000). Towards financing and planning road safety audit operations in Nigeria. *IATSS research*, 24(2), 85-96.

<sup>25</sup> Adelekan, (2016) *Transport Systems and Wellbeing in Nigeria: Socio-economic development and environmental change* Lecture presented at the Africa Voices Series, University College London; McBean, G., Cooper, R., & Joakim, E. (2017). *Coastal cities at risk (CCaR): building adaptive capacity for managing climate change in coastal megacities*.

because enhancing the road networks and transport amenities plays vital role in inspiring the economy and decreasing poverty, particularly, in rural areas, being a major means of generating income and increasing the productivity of local activities that households rely on for their livelihoods.<sup>26</sup> Some areas in Bauchi State are only reachable during the dry season as heavy rain fall makes them inaccessible due to devastation by erosion. Despite the importance of road for the people's day-to-day activities, the previous PDP administration in Bauchi has failed to meet up with the needs of the people in this regard as roads remain insufficient.

### **Health care system**

The third subtheme within the major theme of infrastructural decay is the poor health care system. That is, in addition to the other subthemes, has also continued to be reoccurring in the course of the interviews. Respondents #AC5, #AC4, #JO2, #BP3, #PA3, #PA4, #CS3, #LG3 and #CSR2 have, explained that one of the reasons why their political behaviours change and why majority of the people in Bauchi are no longer supporting the previous ruling party is that health care centres across Bauchi, particularly in the rural areas, are in a poor condition. This is demonstrated in the long queues witnessed in the hospitals because of inadequate medical doctors. The equipment and facilities, even where they exist, are obsolete and out of date, coupled with the half-baked and understaffed supporting medical personnel. The required medication is frequently in short of supply, and the majority of the patients that patronize the government health facilities could not afford the expenses of the drugs or treatment despite the claim of subsidy by the

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<sup>26</sup> Seedhouse, A., Johnson, R., & Newbery, R. (2016). Potholes and pitfalls: The impact of rural transport on female entrepreneurs in Nigeria. *Journal of Transport Geography*, 54, 140-147; IGWE, C. N., Oyelola, O. T., Ajiboshin, I. O., & Raheem, S. (2013). A review: Nigeria's transportation system and the place of entrepreneurs. *Journal of Sustainable Development Studies*, 3(2); Starkey, P., & Njenga, P. (2010, November). Improving sustainable rural transport services: constraints, opportunities and research needs. In AFCAP Practitioner Conference.; Starkey, P., Njenga, P., Kemsop, G., Willilo, S., Opiyo, R., & Hine, J. (2013, September). Rural transport service indicators. In Final Report. International Forum for Rural Transport and Development (IFRTD), for African Community Access Programme.

government. Similarly, there is no adequate arrangement by the government or effective means of identifying an epidemic disease, incidences of infectious disease outbursts in a timely manner and reduce the intermittent incidence of such in the state.<sup>27</sup>

In addition to the above-mentioned problems, the health sector in Bauchi has serious problems with state government currently owing its health workers several months of outstanding salaries and poor welfare facilities. Poor administration and slow in response to the need and timely intervention across various levels of government have intensified more internal crises among the health workers. This situation has affected healthcare delivery to the people in the state. The study of Innocent, Uche, and Uche validates this finding in Bauchi health sector when it explains that healthcare system in the country, in general, began to depreciate in the 1980s when the Nigerian medical professionals and other medical personnel left the country in search of a greener pasture abroad.

This is due mostly to inadequate motivation for the doctors and unattractive payment package, compared to the one presented to the same medical doctors abroad in countries like Saudi Arabia. Nigeria continues to lose many consultants in the health sector, due to lack of job satisfaction, to the countries where their services are better appreciated. Equally, around 700 Nigerian doctors immigrated to Europe (generally the UK), North America, Australia, West Indies and South Africa in search of better working conditions.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Interview with respondents #AC5 on 15 March 2017, #AC4 on 3 March 2017, #JO2 on 7 May 2016, #BP3 on 6 March 2017, #PA3 on 8 June 2017, #PA4 on 27 June 2017, #CS3, 2 April 2017, #LG3 on 20 April 2017 and #CSR2 on 10 June 2016.

<sup>28</sup> Innocent, E. O., Uche, O. A., & Uche, I. B. (2014). Building a solid health care system in Nigeria: challenges and prospects. *Academic Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, 3(6), 501.

Despite having some of the best healthcare professionals in the world, Nigerian health sector continues to experience a serious setback and stagnation, slow development with little confidence in the country's healthcare system. The absence of confidence in the system could be seen in the number of medical trips by many categories of Nigerians to not only European countries but also countries such as South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Malaysia, Singapore and Dubai. Even the leaders who should lead by example are also guilty of this lack of faith in the Nigerian healthcare system, which is why they excel at flying themselves and their associates to other countries with highly developed healthcare systems at the slightest opportunities. This is, essentially, because doctors, nurses, and healthcare workers in Nigeria are paid a meagre that does not correspond to the level of stress and daily exposure to the risk of infectious diseases.

There is also the issue of poor adherence to the ethics of health services delivery by medical staff, which contributes to the problems of management and ineffectiveness in the health sector.<sup>29</sup> Omuluab points out that Nigeria's stock of practicing physicians was 30,232 doctors as at 31st December 2013, and the general density of Nigerian HRH unit is much lower than usually officially acknowledged, with only 0.17 doctors to 1000 population. This shows that Nigeria's physician density is essentially among the lowest in Africa when compared with the emerging countries like South Africa (5.5), Tunisia (11.9), Algeria (12.1), Brazil (17.2), and Mexico (28.9). Nigeria has less than one-tenth of the required number of doctors to meet its needs. For instance, health sector in Bauchi is facing challenges of decay.<sup>30</sup>The Nigerian health care system is poorly

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<sup>29</sup> "Ibid".

<sup>30</sup> Omuluab E. (2014) "Needs Assessment of The Nigerian Health Sector" International Organization for Migration, Abuja, Nigeria May 2014.

developed and has suffered several backdrops, mainly at the state and local government levels. No adequate and functional supervision to track and monitor the operation of the health sector.<sup>31</sup>

## **Conclusion**

Findings of the e study concludes that, part of the underlying principle for the success of an opposition political party, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the 2019 gubernatorial elections includes. The electorates' assessments of the All Progressives Congress (APC) administration's discouraging records in the provision and maintenance of Infrastructure comprising: road and rail network, health care system, and educational facilities. Better election campaign strategy and reliable contestant offered by opposition parties; and enhanced training by the electoral body, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). This confirms the significance of Infrastructure (road and rail network, health care, and educational facilities) as crucial factors influencing electoral outcomes of the 2019 gubernatorial elections in Bauchi state, Nigeria.

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<sup>31</sup> Welcome, M. O. (2011). The Nigerian health care system: need for integrating adequate medical intelligence and surveillance systems. *Journal of pharmacy & bioallied sciences*, 3(4), 470. See also Adeloje, D., David, R. A., Olaogun, A. A., Auta, A., Adesokan, A., Gadanya, M., ... & Iseolorunkanmi, A. (2017). Health workforce and governance: the crisis in Nigeria. *Human resources for health*, 15(1), 32.; Emmanuel, A. N. (2014). Challenges of implementing sustainable health care delivery in Nigeria under environmental uncertainty. *Journal of Hospital Administration*, 3(6), 113.

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## **Author Contributions**

R. A. G designed and analysed the data and draft the manuscript. M.N.U., contributed in the manuscript draft and data curation. All authors reviewed and edited the manuscript.

## **Competing Interest**

The authors affirm no competing interest.

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