

Variations in Migrant Stocks among Nigerian Households: Assessment of the Roles of Households' Initial Conditions

David Onyinyechi AGU, Emmanuel Ikechukwu DICK and Uchenna Alexander NNAMANI
Development Strategy Centre, Enugu, Nigeria

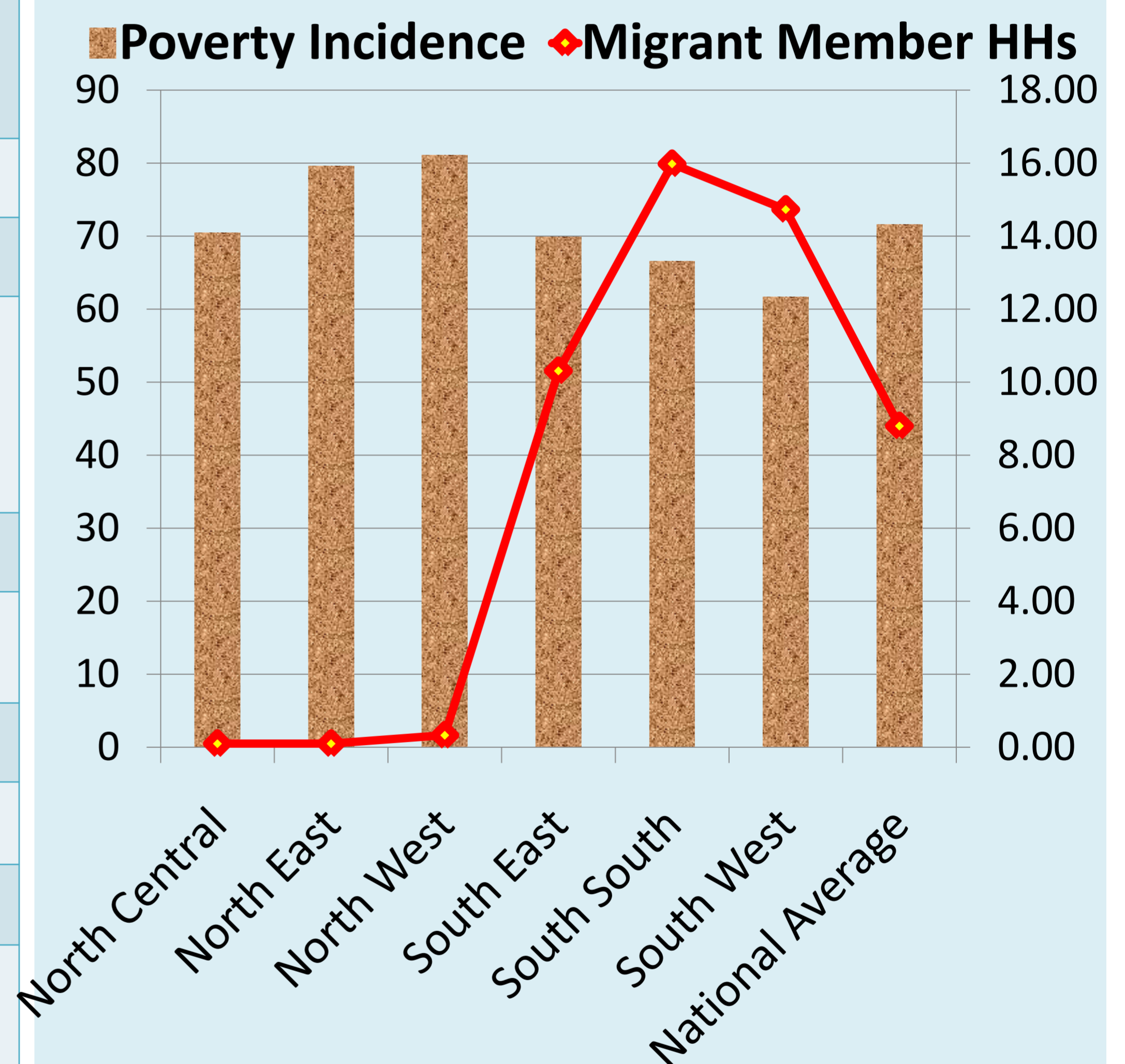
- High level of migration among Nigerian households.
- Willingness to migrate is still very high in most of the households.
- Willingness to migrate is much higher than actual level of migration among Nigerian households.

- Majority of the migration experiences are for economic reasons.
- Economic migration is profitable, but it involves some forms of economic costs.
- Inability to meet the costs can determine the proportion of potential migrants that will eventually migrate

Table 1: Enablers of Migration in Nigeria

Enablers of OR Deterrents to Migration	Level of Importance
Primary Unit of Households (Urban or Rural)	Minor
Household Size	Major
Type of Dwelling	Minor
Major Construction Materials of Exterior Walls of Household Dwelling	Major
Ownership of Agricultural Land	Minor
Ownership of Non-Agric Land	Major
Ownership of Family House	Major
Ownership of Other Buildings	Minor
Ownership of Car/Truck	Major
Household Monthly Expenditures	Major

Figure 1: Poverty & Migration Incidences among Households in Different Regions of Nigeria



- Household income level is a major enabler of or deterrent to migration business.
 - Higher income implies higher abilities to finance migration.
 - Lower income implies reduced abilities to finance migration.
- Easily convertible assets, which include non-agricultural land, family house, and vehicles also enhance migration.
- Larger household size reduces the probability that the household will produce a migrant member.

- Only better-off households can bear the cost of migration, and therefore can benefit from migration.
- Initially worse-off households can still benefit from migration by connecting their prospective migrant member to an already established migrant from another household.
- Variation in regional incidence of migration in Nigeria can be explained by regional variations in the level of poverty incidence in Nigeria.