

DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF BASIC BIO-DATA & STUDY METHOD OF NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS (OWERRI & IBADAN STUDY CENTERS)

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ARTICLE INFORMATION	ABSTRACT
Received: 26th February, 2025 Accepted: 28nd February 2025 Published: 27th March 2025 KEYWORDS: Descriptive Analysis, Study Method, National Open University, Nigeria Undergraduate, Students. Publisher: Empirical Studies and Communication - (A Research Center) Website: www.cescd.com.ng	<i>Descriptive Analysis of Basic Bio-data involving the age, sex, height, weight and marital status, with the study method of National Open University of Nigeria undergraduate students using OWERRI and Ibadan study centers as case study, were analyzed with the specific objectives to know the true reflection of the basic Bio-data and determine their averages. Also to know the study methods adopted and their computer literacy before admission. From the total population of about Two thousand students (2,000) at Owerri and One thousand five hundred (1,500) at Ibadan study centers, One hundred (100) respondents were chosen from each, giving total of Two hundred using simple and stratified random sampling techniques. With these, Two hundred copies of questionnaire were administered. Frequency and percentage tables were used for the analysis from which, 60.5%, the majority were female, 78% were single students, the majority age group of 23-23 years were schooling, average weight of 66.8kg, with height of 5.8ft were recorded. Also, the majority (67.5%) read through the provided materials, 77% were employed as they attended school and 74.5% representing the majority were computer literate before admission. With these, if Open and Distance Learning System is well organized, the citizenry will be more educated.</i>

1. Introduction

Education, as defined by Nkwocha (2015) is a systematic training and instruction, designed to impact knowledge and desired skills. It is on this premise that Nigeria upheld her educational system in 1932, and about 1960, universities were founded. Iwuji (2000), equally made it known that, to take care of those interested in knowledge acquisition but not physically available to attend regular schools, the Open and Distance Learning in Nigeria started in 1997. This gave birth to National Open University of Nigeria, NOUN, in 2002.

This paper is to x-ray the sex, age, height, weight, marital status, study methods and computer literacy before admission, of National Open University of Nigeria, NOUN undergraduate students of Owerri and Ibadan study centers specifically.

Previously, Okeke, (2005) worked on the regression analysis of height and weight of students in Anambra State and concluded that there was relationship between the height and weight of the students. Ajayi, (2016) equally studied the height, weight and cognitive domain of secondary school students in Imo State, and discovered that they were related. Also, Obi, (2006) carried out a study on height and weight of working adults in Remm Oils, Port Harcourt and concluded that there was impact.

To this effect, this paper aims at getting the true reflection of sex, age, height, weight, marital status, study methods and computer literacy of the NOUN undergraduate students in Owerri, Imo State and Ibadan, Oyo State, study centers.

MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY

• Design of the Study

Descriptive design, showing the opinions and bio-data of the respondents in simple frequency and percentage tables are used.

• Population of the Study

The study covers only two chosen areas of the NOUN centres - Owerri, being the main educational and hearth of the south east and Ibadan, also the main hearth of the south west of Nigeria. The entire population: the NOUN students in Nigeria is about 515,000 while that of Owerri study center is 2,000 and Ibadan study centre is 1,500

• **Sample and Sampling Technique** Simple sampling technique is the approach adopted in choosing the sample, which is a subset or fraction from the population which it represents. In this case, the simple random sampling method is adopted by picking the students at random during the examination period of over two weeks with the allocation below:

Centre Population showing number of Respondents

Centre	Population	Sample
Owerri study centre	2000	100
Ibadan study centre	1500	100
Total	3500	200

• Instrument for Data Collection

200 copies of a well structured questionnaire of 15 itemised questions were used for data collection, filled by the students of NOUN

• Administration of the Instrument

After reasonable structuring of the questionnaire, 200 copies were made, 100 for each centre (Owerri and Ibadan). The undergraduate students were consciously informed of the reason behind the questionnaire and research work. It was distributed and filled by the students and collected for immediate compilation and tabulation.

• Method of Data Analysis

The data collected was analyzed descriptively using frequency percentage tables and pie chart respectively.

• Results of Findings

This chapter has to do with the analysis of data and results using the questionnaire generated from research questions.

• **Research Question 1:** What are the basic bio-data of the undergraduate students of NOUN in sex and marital status.

Table 1: The table represents data on sex and marital status of the NOUN students using questions 1 and 5 from questionnaire

Attribute		Centre				Aveg %
		Owerri		Ibadan		
		No	%	No	%	
Sex	Male	54	54	25	25	39.5
	Female	46	46	75	75	60.5
Marital Status	Single	66	66	90	90	78
	Married	34	34	10	10	22

In Owerri, 54% are Male, 46% Female, with 66% Single and 34% Married while Ibadan has 25% Male, 75% Female, with 90% Single with 10% Married giving the average percentage of 39.5% Male, 60.5% Female, 78% Single and 22% Married students.

• **Research Question 2:** What are the averages of the undergraduate students of NOUN in Age, Weight and Height?

Table 2: This table represents the age, weight and height of NOUN students using questions 4, 7, 8 from questionnaire.

Attribute	Center Owerri		Ibadan		Ave (%)
	No	%	No	%	
Age 20-22	10	10	21	21	15.5
23-25	81	81	75	75	78
>25	9	9	4	4	6.5
Weight (kg)					
<60	2	2	13	13	7.5
61-65	24	24	48	48	36
66-70	24	24	21	21	22.5
71-75	30	30	9	9	19.5
76-80	20	20	9	9	15.5
Height (ft)					
5	30	30	48	48	39
6	58	58	42	42	50
7	6	6	10	10	8
>7	6	6	-	-	3

From the table , no student is below 20 years of age, in Owerri, 10% are in 20 - 22 years, 81% in 23 - 25 and 9% above 25 years, giving average of 24 years, in Ibadan 21% are in 20 - 22, 75% are in 23- 25 and 4% above 25. Average, 15.5% are in 20 - 22 years giving the overall average of 23.1 years (23). Also, for the weight, in Owerri, 2% are below 60kg, 24%, 61 - 6kg, 24% have 66 - 70kg, 30% have 71 - 75kg and 20% have 76 - 80kg giving average 64kg while Ibadan has 13% below 60kg, 48% 21% for 65, 70, 9%, 71- 75kg and 76- 70kg. The average % has 7.5% for below 60kg, 36% for 61- 65kg, 22.5% for 66 - 70, 19.5 for 71- 75 and 15.5 for 76- 80kg giving 66.8kg as the overall average weight. Then in height, Owerri has 30% or 5ft, 58% for 6ft, 6% each for 7 and above 7th with average of 6ft. while Ibadan has 48% for 5ft, 42% for 6ft and 10% per 7ft average height has 39% for 5ft, 50% for 6ft, 80% for 7ft and 3% for above 7ft, with overall average height of 5.8ft.

- **Research Question 3:** In what ways is the NOUN Program indeed easy or difficult?

Table 3: This table represents the data for question 10

	Owerri		Ibadan		Ave(%)
	No	%	No	%	
Yes	78	78	84	84	81
No	22	22	16	16	19

From this table 4.3 above, in Owerri 78% agreed that it is easy while 22% difficult and in Ibadan 84% ticked Yes, while 16% ticked No. The average, 81% agreed that it is easy while only 19% disagreed.

Generally, 62.5% agreed that there is enough time to study, 13%, because of cooperation in the hall, 10.5% conducive invigilation and 1.5% because of simple questions. But No because 17.5% for strict invigilation, 15% difficult questions, 6.55 no time to study.

- **Research Question 4:** Do the Undergraduate Students actually work and learn as a reason for its institution?

Table 4: This represents the data on response in questionnaire No 13

	Owerri		Ibadan		Ave(%)
	No	%	No	%	
Yes	70	70	84	84	77
No	30	30	16	16	23

From the table above, in Owerri 70% work and learn while only 30% learn alone. In Ibadan, 85% work and learn while only 16% learn alone. On the average, 77% work and learn and only 23% learn alone.

- **Research Question 5:** Are the students computer literate before admission into NOUN?

Table 5: This shows the data on the response in questionnaire No 15

	Owerri		Ibadan		Ave(%)
	No	%	No	%	
Yes	65	65	84	84	74.5
No	35	35	16	16	25.5

From the table, in Owerri 65% were computer literate before admission while 35% were not, also in Ibadan 84% were computer literate while 16% were not. On the average, 74.5% were computer literate with only 25.5 not. Also, from appendix 1, 74% of them actually attempted JAMB before gaining admission into NOUN.

• Discussion of Findings

From the research work, based on the data collected through questionnaire from Owerri and Ibadan centres, it is clear that the majority of the students are female with 60.5%, while only 39.5 are male, also, 78% are single while only 22% are married students. Then, the majority of the students fall within the age 23- 25 years (78%) with average overall age of 23.1 years, while 15.55 are 20 - 22 years and 6.5%, above 25 years. In weight, the average weight is 68.8kg, as the majority are 66-70kg, 19.5%, 71 - 75, 76 - 80kg have 15.5% and 61 - 65 have 3.6 with below 60 having 7.5% for the height, the average height is 5.8kg as the majority have 6kg of 50%, 5kg of 39%, 7kg of 8% and above 7 of 3%.

Also, the majority of 81% agreed that the program is actually easy, while only 19% said it is difficult. Then 77% work and learn, which represents the majority with only 23% learning alone. And 74.5% were computer literate before admission representing the majority with only 25.5 not.

• Conclusion

This work on Statistical Analysis of Undergraduate Students Basic Bio-data and Study Method in NOUN (Owerri and Ibadan Study Centres) is aimed at doing the simple descriptive analysis using percentage tables. With the sample of 100 students each from the two centres, 200 were used and questionnaire of 200 copies administered. From this, there is reflection that the majority of the undergraduate students are female, single with average age of 23.1 years, 66.8kg in weight and 5.8kg in height as the majority (67.5%) read through materials provided. Majority see the program to be easy one. They work and learn at the same time, and are indeed computer literate before admission.

• Recommendations

Based on this study, I make the following recommendations:

1. The government should make employment more interesting to encourage the male to go to school more.
2. The NOUN should educate the students on computer literacy during admission as they use computer for the program to have 100% computer knowledge.
3. Further studies can be adopted to know the factors responsible for the female majority students in schools.

4. With 77% that work and learn, the program should be made to encourage the worker participate effectively by providing reading materials (books).

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