



EXPLORATION OF THE LEVEL OF INFORMATION RESOURCES AND SERVICES PROVIDED IN SOME SELECTED COLLEGES OF EDUCATION LIBRARIES IN THE NORTH EASTERN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This study evaluated the level of information resources and services in some selected Colleges of Education Libraries in the North Eastern States-Nigeria. The study was guided by two objectives, two research questions and hypotheses. Descriptive survey was adopted for the study and the population comprised of all the 4,834 students who have registered with the college libraries under study. Purposive sampling was used in selecting sample and Yamane formular modified by Polonia (2013) for calculating sample was used to calculate sample size. A self-

Introduction

Academic libraries are those attached to tertiary institutions of learning which are tailored toward supporting the institutions in achieving the missions and visions for which they are established to achieve. This is done through provision of current, quality and reliable information resources as well as provision of effective and efficient information services that could assist in teaching, research and other academic activities. They ensure they provide conducive learning environment for all category of users as well as support teaching, learning, research and community services. These could be achieved through acquiring, organizing, storing, searching, retrieving and disseminating information to staff, students and researchers. Colleges of Education libraries are among academic libraries playing key roles in education based institutions. They assist in training teachers who have over the years become useful members in the society. This can only be achieved where information resources are adequate and information services are efficient.

Information resources refer to collection of valuable information generated by human activities. Barfi, Afful-Athur and Agyapong (2013) define information resources as the raw materials that provide vital services in the teaching and learning process. The colleges of education libraries consist of print resources and non-print resources. Print information resources are information resources in physical and tangible formats. Examples of print information resources are books, journals, pamphlets, newsletters, reference books, conference proceedings, technical reports, government publications, thesis / dissertations / projects, magazines,



developed questionnaire was designed using Google Form mobile application with 4-Points-Likert scale. Descriptive statistics of frequency count, percentage, mean and standard deviation were used to analyse the bio-data of respondents as well as research questions, while, ANOVA and Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) were used to test the null-hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance. SPSS software was used in the study. This study revealed that the level of availability of information resources was low among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. Only text books and reference books were highly available, while, journals and newspapers were moderately available. sy to every student.

Keyword: Information Resources, Services, Colleges of Education, Libraries, North East, Nigeria.

newspapers, atlas, maps and posters among others. They also include projected aids, visual aids, three dimensional aids and non-projected aids. The non-print resources are materials that appeal to the senses of hearing and touch such as records and record players, tapes and tape recorders, language laboratories, radio, and resources that appeal to the senses of sight, hearing and touch such as sound film, filmstrip projector, television, videotape recorder and tapes, VCD, DVD, etc. In other words, non-print information resources are in non-tangible and requires accessibility aid. Information services on the other hand, refer to the organization of the activities, programs and operations of the library and information centers with the aim of meeting patrons' information needs (IGI Global, 2023). Delivering effective and efficient services in institutional libraries could go a long way in meeting the information needs of the users in timely fashion. These services are what motivate the users to continue patronizing the libraries. The information services rendered in polytechnic libraries include: circulation services, reference service, current awareness services, photocopy service, book lending service, newspaper clipping, library website, internet services among others. One of the most important information services is the reference service. Ogugua and Ofordile (2022) described reference service to refer to the personal assistance rendered to library users who are in search of information resources in order to meet their various information needs. What matters most in reference and information services is the manner in which they are carried out and how fast they are able to meet the needs of library patrons. In North Eastern Nigeria, Abdullahi and Aliyu (2019) found that the most common information services in Bauchi state public library were computer and internet services with 35(15.9%), current awareness service and lending services 30(13.6%), 26(11.8%), library orientation/user education and references services 29(13.2%) and 21(9.5%) the table also revealed that 20(9.1%) of the respondents accessed inter-library lending services while response rate of 18(8.2%) accessed reservation service and 16(7.3%), 16(7.3%) indicated that they library publication services and exhibition and display service. And finally, 15(6.8%) indicated that they accessed photocopying services. Further findings revealed that only users who made use of the library had access and benefit from the services available in library and also information services remain important services in the library.



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According to Oriogu, Chukwuemeka and Oriogu-Ogbuiyi (2018), the services provided in the ABUAD library include: OPAC services, CD-ROM facility, current awareness service, student advisory services, user education, reference service, books display service, photocopying services, internet services and lending services. The findings also show that majority of the respondents were fully aware of the availability of the information resources in the library but annual report/brochure, phone calls/sms, exhibition and display have not been effectively used as a means of awareness to published information resources and services to faculty members which have resulted to poor patronage. Atanda and Uchendu (2019) dwelled on information sources and utilisation of library resources and services by the students of Federal University Otuoke, Bayelsa State, Nigeria. The finding of the study showed that there is a positive relationship between availability and utilisation of library resources and services. There is a positive relationship between availability and utilisation of library resources and services and there is a positive relationship between availability and utilisation of library resources and services.

In North Eastern Nigeria, Abdullahi, Isyaku and Ahmed (2019) carried out a study to determine the extent of awareness and utilisation of library resources in Bauchi State College of Agriculture Library. The major finding of the study revealed that there were many library resources such as textbooks, journals, research monographs, research reports, newspapers, indexes/abstracts, internet services and dictionaries/encyclopedias amongst others. Moreover, Abdullahi and Aliyu (2019) studied availability and use of information resources and services in Bauchi State Public Library. The study reveals that 60(27.3%) of the respondents indicated that books/journals were available for use in the library, while 50(22.7%) of the respondents indicated that there were sufficient Newspapers for use. 30(13.6%) expressed that computers and internet facilities were not sufficient. 25(11.3%) responded that audiovisual materials were in limited quantity and 15(6.8%), 11(5%), 10(4.6%), 9(4.1%) others believe that pamphlets, government publications, Graphics, and illustrated books were not enough for the use of clients who visit the library to get materials of interest to use.

On electronic information resources availability, Temboge and Diso (2022) carried out a survey to ascertain the level of availability and accessibility of electronic information resources in federal college of education libraries in Northern Nigeria. Pragmatist research paradigm was employed in the study. Triangulation mixed research design was used to collect qualitative data through structured interviews and quantitative data, using a questionnaire in the libraries under study. The findings of the study revealed that electronic information resources were found to be available on the platform of e-databases, institutional repository, e-Granary and CDS. Majority of the users had access to e-journal, e-newspapers and audio visual resources available. E-manuscripts, e-dissertations/theses/projects, e-discussion and e-images available were not accessible by majority of the respondents. The study recommended that libraries should acquire resources that are relevant to all users and provide unlimited access remotely, and network facilities should be boosted. Yahaya (2019) sought to ascertain users' satisfaction with information resources in libraries of Agricultural Research Institutes in Nigeria. The finding of the study revealed print information resources used include books, magazines, journal, gazette, government publications in form of (circular memos), maps, dictionaries, encyclopedia, pamphlets (as extension materials), newspapers, conference proceeding. The finding of this paper revealed e-resources in the studied libraries to include Film, Slides, CD, Record, e-Book, e-Journal, e-Magazine, Internet Resources,



AGORA, TEAL, EBSCOHOST, HINARY, AGRIS, AGRICOLA and Elsevier being used by researchers in the various libraries.

Statement of the problem

Education in Nigeria is facing a critical challenge in meeting new demand of 21st Century with its ever increasing population growth, inadequate library facilities and resources. Adequate library resources and services at the appropriate level for degrees offered should be available to support intellectual, cultural, and technical development of students enrolled in Nigerian institutions. The growth of research in all fields of human endeavors is becoming increasingly detailed and sophisticated, faculty members and students have realized that the library has great role to play in the provision of information necessary for their day-to-day research and academic work. The library is regarded as an information Centre charged with the responsibility of selecting, acquiring and organizing various information resources to meet the needs of its users. Library renders essential services in tertiary institutions of learning. It supports the academic programs of the parent body by providing relevant information resources that is capable of ensuring success when accessed. Meaningful academic success can only be achieved when there is a functional library with adequate information resources that are well accessed.

Anyanwu (2015) posit that the value of a library collection lies in its effective utilization by the user community. Onifade, Ogbuiyi and Omeluzor (2013) cited in Olajide and Adio (2017) acknowledged that the major aim of any academic library resources is to support teaching, learning and research activities of its parent institution. They emphasized that colleges of education must therefore, make sure that their library resources are well accessed and utilized as this is essential for educational development of students. In any tertiary institution, students have the largest population than any other members of the academic community and they are also expected to be one of the major users of academic library resources available. Since students are expected to be among the major users of an academic library, there is a need for studies to be conducted regularly on the accessibility of the library information resources and services. This will also serve as a channel to access the impact of the library on the user community. In view of the foregoing, this study therefore attempts to evaluate the library information resources, access and services by students of the Federal Colleges of Education Libraries in the North Eastern states, Nigeria.

Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the study was to evaluate the level of information resources, and services in some selected Colleges of Education Libraries in the North Eastern States-Nigeria. The specific objectives were to:

- I. Explore the level of information resources available among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.
- II. Determine the extent of information services provided among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Research Questions

- I. What is the level of information resources available among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria?



- II. To what extent are information services provided among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria

Research Hypotheses

The following hypothesis were tested at 0.05 level of significance:

There is no significant differences in the level of availability of information resources among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Research Methodology

Descriptive survey was adopted to evaluation of information resources, access and services in Federal Colleges of Education Libraries in the North Eastern States-Nigeria. The area of the study covered six Colleges of Education in the region. They include: College of Education, Zing, Bauchi State College of Education, Kangere Bauchi, Federal College of Education and Technical, Gombe, Federal College of Education and Technical, Potiskum, Federal College of Education, Yola and Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri. The targeted population comprised of all students who have registered with the college libraries under study. Findings by the researcher indicated that there were 4,834 library users. The following table shows the distribution of the populations.

Table 1: Table showing the distribution of the populations.

S/N	Name of the Polytechnics	Ownership	Year Established	Library Users
1	College of Education, Zing	State	1984	409
2	Bauchi State College of Education, Kangere Bauchi	State	1979	561
3	Federal College of Education and Technical, Gombe	Federal	2019	957
4	Federal College of Education and Technical, Potiskum	Federal	1993	674
5	Federal College of Education, Yola	Federal	1979	1,341
6	Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri	State	2007	892
	Total			4,834

Source: Colleges of Education in North Eastern Nigeria, 2023

Purposive sampling was used for the study because of the in-depth nature of the study that required a particular characteristic of a population to provide data required to answer certain questions. The researcher considered it adequate because it will be more convenient and satisfied in the specific needs of the researcher on the study. According to Leard (2012), a total population sampling is a type of purposive sampling technique where you choose to examine the entire population that has a particular set of characteristics. Example, experience, knowledge, skills, exposure to an event etc. in such cases the entire population is often chosen because the size of



the population that has the particular set of characteristics that you are interest is not much. Yamane formular modified by Polonia (2013) for calculating sample was used to calculate sample size with 95% confidence level. The formular thus:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N * (e)^2}$$

Where:

N = Sample size

N = Number of people in the population

R = Acceptable sample error

To substitute numbers in the formular, we will have BODMAS

$$n = \frac{4,917}{1 + 4,917 * (0.05)^2}$$

$$N = 400$$

Therefore, using purposive sampling technique and Polonia (2013) for calculating sample size, the sample size for this study will be four hundred (400) from the six colleges of education. The distribution is as follows:

Table 2: Table showing sample of the population

S/N	Name of the Colleges of Education	Number of Library Users	Library Sample	Users
1	College of Education, Zing	409	34	
2	Bauchi State College of Education, Kangere Bauchi	561	47	
3	Federal College of Education and Technical, Gombe	957	79	
4	Federal College of Education and Technical, Potiskum	674	56	
5	Federal College of Education, Yola	1,341	110	
6	Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri	892	74	
	Total	4,834	400	

Source: Colleges of Education in North Eastern Nigeria, 2023

A self-developed questionnaire was designed using Google Form mobile application with 4-Points-Likert scale. The title of the questionnaire was “QEIRASSCELNESN” and was administered by the researchers by posting the links to the respondents various WhatsApp platforms as well as other LIS professional platforms in the geo-political zone. The instrument was subjected reliability test by administering to 10 library staff and 30 registered library users in other colleges of education outside the study area using test re-test method. A Cronbach alpha value was obtained, r = 0.92. This made the research instrument reliable and suitable to be used for the actual research.



Descriptive statistics of frequency count, percentage, mean and standard deviation were used to analyse the bio-data of respondents as well as research questions, while, ANOVA and Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) were used to test the three null-hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance. SPSS software was used in the study.

Data Analysis

Response Rate

Table 3: Response Rate

S/N	Questionnaire	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	Questionnaire administered	400	100
2	Questionnaire returned	298	74.5

Source: Field survey, 2023

Out of the four hundred (400) copies of the questionnaire administered, two hundred and ninety-eight (298) copies were returned and used for the study representing 74.5% of the total respondents. The high percentage of response rate could be attributed to the fact that some staff of the libraries were used as research assistants during the data collection.

Demographic Data of Respondents

Table 4: Demographic Information of the Respondents

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Gender of Respondents		
Male	211	70.8%
Female	87	29.2%
Age Range of Respondents		
15-19 years	44	14.8%
20-24 years	129	43.3%
25-29 years	92	30.9%
30-34 years	29	9.7%
35 years and above	4	1.3%
College of Education of Respondents		
College of Education, Zing	28	9.4%
Bauchi State College of Education, Kangere Bauchi	39	13.1%
Federal College of Education and Technical, Gombe	49	16.4%
Federal College of Education and Technical, Potiskum	37	12.4%
Federal College of Education, Yola	91	30.5%
Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri	54	18.2%
Level of Study of Respondents		



Pre-NCE	51	17.1%
NCE I	54	18.1%
NCE II	66	22.2%
NCE III	115	38.6%
Degree	12	4.0%

Source: Field survey, 2023

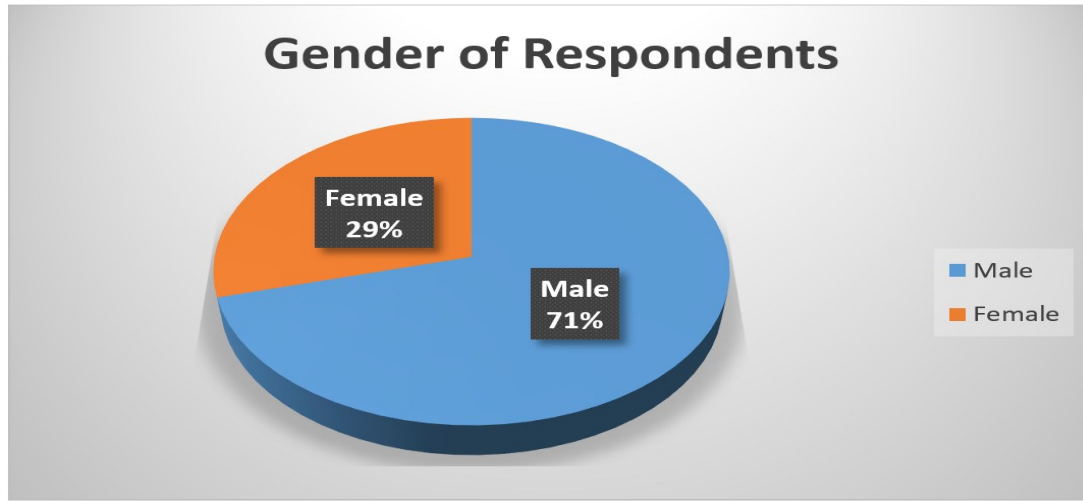


Figure 1: Gender of Respondents

Out of the 298 respondents, 211 were male constituting 71%, while, 87 were female amounting to 29% of the total respondents.

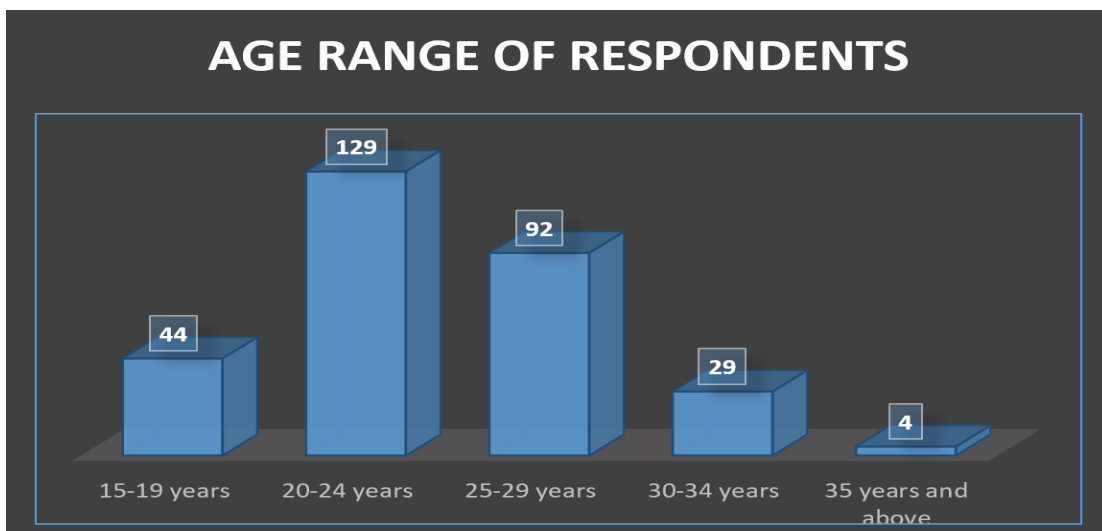


Figure 2: Age of Respondents

Out of the 298 respondents, those within 20-24 years amounting to 129(43.3%) were the majority among the respondents, they were followed by those within 25-29 years 92(30.9%), followed by respondents within 15-19 years 44(14.8%), followed by those with 30-34 years 29(9.7%), while, those



with 35 years and above were only 4(1.3%) and constituted the least number among the respondent.

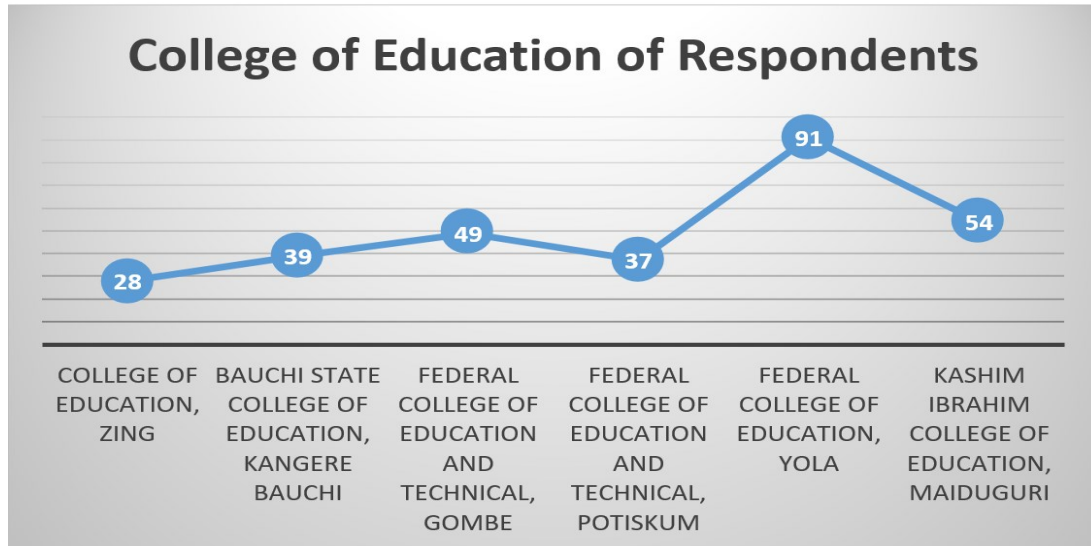


Figure 3: Colleges of Education of Respondents

Federal College of Education, Yola constituted the majority of the respondents with 91(30.5%), followed by those from Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri 54(18.2%), followed by those from Federal College of Education and Technical, Gombe 49(16.4%), followed by those from Bauchi State College of Education, Kangere Bauchi 39(13.1%), followed by those from Federal College of Education and Technical, Potiskum 37(12.4%), while, those from College of Education, Zing were only 28(9.4%) were least among the respondents that participated in the study.

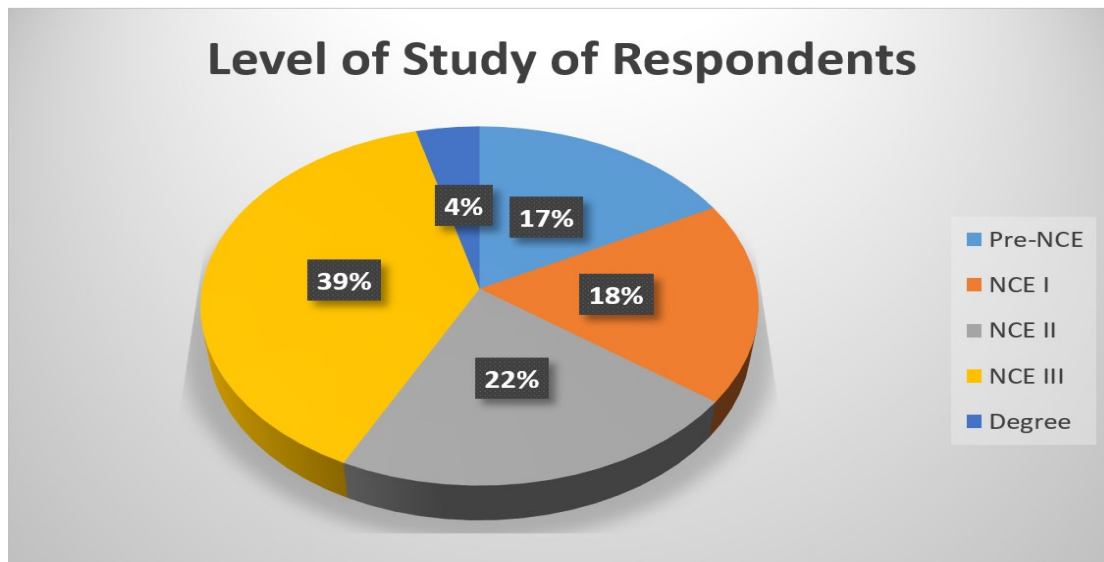


Figure 4: Level of Study of the Respondents



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Respondents who were in NCE III with 115(38.6%) constituted the majority of the respondents, they were followed by those who were in NCE II with 66(22.2%), followed by those who were in NCE I with 54(18.1%), followed by those in Pre-NCE with 51(17.1%), while, those undergoing Degree programme were only 12(4.0%) and were the least among the respondents.

Research Question 1: What is the level of information resources available among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria?

Table 5: Level of information resources available among selected Colleges of Education Libraries

S/N	Information Resources	N	Highly Available	Moderately Available	Lowly Available	Not Available	Mean	Std	Decision
1	Journals	298	36(12.1%)	160(53.7%)	66(22.1%)	36(12.1%)	2.66	0.84	Moderately Available
2	Text books & Reference books	298	172(57.7%)	111(37.2%)	6(2.0%)	9(3.0%)	3.50	0.69	Highly Available
3	Conference proceedings & Technical reports	298	9(3.0%)	27(9.1%)	164(55.0%)	98(32.9%)	1.82	0.71	Lowly Available
4	Government publications	298	17(5.7%)	93(31.2%)	110(36.9%)	78(26.2%)	2.16	0.88	Lowly Available
5	Thesis /Dissertations / projects	298	18(6.0%)	27(9.1%)	125(41.9%)	128(43.0%)	1.78	0.85	Lowly Available
6	Magazines	298	0(0.0%)	36(12.1%)	134(45.0%)	128(43.0%)	1.69	0.68	Lowly Available
7	Newspapers	298	54(18.1%)	145(48.7%)	99(33.2%)	0(0.0%)	2.85	0.70	Moderately Available
8	Atlas, Maps & Posters	298	0(0.0%)	65(21.8%)	144(48.3%)	89(29.9%)	1.92	0.72	Lowly Available
9	E-databases	298	0(0.0%)	12(4.0%)	129(43.3%)	157(52.7%)	1.51	0.58	Not Available
10	E-Books	298	17(5.7%)	35(11.7%)	48(16.1%)	198(66.4%)	1.57	0.91	Not Available
11	E-Journals	298	18(6.0%)	18(6.0%)	130(43.6%)	132(44.3%)	1.74	0.82	Not Available
12	E-thesis/projects	298	17(5.7%)	36(12.1%)	119(39.9%)	126(42.3%)	1.81	0.86	Not Available
13	E-Newspapers & E-Zines	298	18(6.0%)	27(9.1%)	125(41.9%)	128(43.0%)	1.78	0.85	Not Available
14	CDROM	298	0(0.0%)	17(5.7%)	144(48.3%)	137(46.0%)	1.60	0.60	Lowly Available



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15	Microfilms & Microfiche	298	0(0.0%)	17(5.7%)	144(48.3%)	137(46.0%)	1.60	0.60	Lowly Available
	Total	4,470	376(8.4%)	826(18.5%)	1,687(37.7%)	1,581(35.4%)	2.00	0.75	Lowly Available

Source: Field survey, 2023

The table 3 above showed the level of information resources available among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. The results showed that only text books and reference books ($\bar{X} = 3.50$, $SD = 0.69$) were “Highly Available”. Furthermore, journals ($\bar{X} = 2.66$, $SD = 0.84$) and newspapers ($\bar{X} = 2.85$, $SD = 0.70$) were “Moderately Available”. These information resources attracted mean scores above the 2.5 benchmark. Moreover, information resources such as conference proceedings & technical reports, government publications, thesis /dissertations/projects, magazines, atlas, maps & posters, CDROM and microfilms & microfiche were “Lowly Available”. Other information resources such as e-databases, e-books, e-journals, e-thesis/projects and e-newspapers & e-zines were “Not Available” in the selected libraries in the selected libraries. Both the lowly available and those resources rated not available attracted mean scores below 2.5 benchmark. On the whole, the overall weighted mean of 2.00 was obtained depicting the low availability of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Research Question 2: To what extent are information services provided among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria?

Table 6: Information services provided among selected Colleges of Education Libraries

S/N	Information Services	N	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Mean	Std	Decision
1	Circulation services	298	129(43.3%)	77(25.8%)	72(24.2%)	20(6.7%)	3.06	0.97	Excellent
2	Reference service	298	129(43.3%)	77(25.8%)	72(24.2%)	20(6.7%)	3.06	0.97	Excellent
3	Current Awareness Services	298	0(0.0%)	66(22.1%)	144(48.3%)	88(29.5%)	1.93	0.72	Fair
4	Photocopy Service	298	54(18.1%)	139(46.6%)	87(29.2%)	18(6.0%)	2.77	0.82	Good
5	Book Lending Service	298	45(15.1%)	138(46.3%)	98(32.9%)	17(5.7%)	2.71	0.79	Good
6	Reservation of Books	298	84(28.2%)	111(37.2%)	86(28.9%)	17(5.7%)	2.88	0.89	Good
7	Newspaper clipping	298	59(19.8%)	134(45.0%)	57(19.1%)	48(16.1%)	2.69	0.97	Good
8	Library website	298	12(4.0%)	112(37.6%)	141(47.3%)	33(11.1%)	2.35	0.73	Fair



9	Internet services	298	18(6.0%)	59(19.8%)	170(57.0%)	51(17.1%)	2.15	0.77	Fair
	Total	2,682	530(19.8%)	927(34.6%)	913(34.0%)	312(11.6%)	2.62	0.85	Good

Source: Field survey, 2023

The table above showed the extent of information services provided among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. The results showed that only circulation services and reference service were “Excellent” as both services had attracted ($\bar{X} = 3.06$, $SD = 0.97$) each. These information services attracted mean scores above the 2.5 benchmark. Information services such as photocopy service ($\bar{X} = 2.77$, $SD = 0.82$), book lending service ($\bar{X} = 2.71$, $SD = 0.79$), reservation of books ($\bar{X} = 2.88$, $SD = 0.89$), and newspaper clipping ($\bar{X} = 2.69$, $SD = 0.97$) were rated “Good” and had attracted mean scores above the 2.5 benchmark. Other information services such as Current Awareness Services ($\bar{X} = 1.93$, $SD = 0.72$), library website ($\bar{X} = 2.35$, $SD = 0.73$) and Internet services ($\bar{X} = 2.15$, $SD = 0.77$) were rated “Fair” and had attracted mean scores below the 2.5 benchmark. On the whole, an overall weighted mean of 2.62 was obtained signifying that majority of the information services were rated “Good” among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Hypotheses Testing

Ho: There is no significant differences in the level of availability of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Table 11: Descriptive statistics on significant differences in the level of availability of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

		N	%	Mean	Std. Deviation
	College of Education, Zing	28	9.40	1.9524	0.28392
Colleges of Education	Bauchi State College of Education, Kangere Bauchi	39	13.09	1.9915	0.24717
	Federal College of Education and Technical, Gombe	49	16.44	2.0095	0.23844
	Federal College of Education and Technical, Potiskum	37	12.42	2.0108	0.21915
	Federal College of Education, Yola	91	30.54	2.0333	0.22976
	Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri	54	18.12	1.9868	0.24670
	Total	298	100	1.9993	0.24192

Source: Field survey, 2022

Table 11 indicates the descriptive statistics on the significant differences in the level of availability of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. The results shows that, College of Education, Zing had a ($\bar{X} = 1.95$, $SD = 0.28$), Bauchi State College of Education, Kangere Bauchi had a ($\bar{X} = 1.99$, $SD = 0.25$), Federal College of Education and



Technical, Gombe had a ($\bar{X} = 2.01$, $SD = 0.24$), Federal College of Education and Technical, Potiskum had a ($\bar{X} = 2.33$, $SD = 0.23$), Federal College of Education, Yola had a ($\bar{X} = 2.03$ $SD = 0.23$), while, Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri had a ($\bar{X} = 1.99$, $SD = 0.25$). The result implies that Federal College of Education, Yola had the highest level of availability of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Table 12: One-Way ANOVA on the significant differences in the level of availability of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.151	5	.030	.511	.768
Within Groups	17.231	292	.059		
Total	17.382	297			

Source: Field survey, 2022

Table 12 shows a one-way between group ANOVA on the significant differences in the level of availability of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. From the analysis using two-tailed test at the significant level of 0.05, the p-value = 0.768 > 0.05, the degree of freedom is 297 and F-value of 0.511. With this result, the p-value is greater than the critical value of 0.05. Hence, the null hypothesis of no significant is hereby accepted and concluded that, there is no significant differences in the level of availability of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Discussion of Findings

This study was conducted to evaluate the level of information resources, access and services among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in the North Eastern States-Nigeria. Out of the four hundred (400) copies of the questionnaire administered, two hundred and ninety-eight (298) copies were returned and used for the study representing 74.5% of the total respondents. Out of the 298 respondents, 211 were male constituting 71%, while, 87 were female amounting to 29% of the total respondents. Those within 20-24 years amounting to 129(43.3%) were the majority among the respondents, while, those with 35 years and above were only 4(1.3%) and constituted the least number among the respondent. Furthermore, Federal College of Education, Yola constituted the majority of the respondents with 91(30.5%), while, those from College of Education, Zing were only 28(9.4%) were least among the respondents that participated in the study. Respondents who were in NCE III with 115(38.6%) constituted the majority of the respondents, while, those undergoing Degree programme were only 12(4.0%) and were the least among the respondents.

The finding of the study revealed that the level of availability of information resources was low among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. Only Text books & Reference books were highly available, while, journals and newspapers were moderately available. This can be attributed to the fact that textbooks are determinant collection in any library and that most of the college libraries have not yet made e-resources available for use to the users due to perhaps inadequate funding and other factors. This finding corroborates the finding of Terlanga, Iorver, Ternenge, Akosu and Terhemen (2019) which reported that information resources in Gboko



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Polytechnic Gboko- Benue State, Nigeria were grossly inadequate. The library had few books, newspapers/magazines which are not even current and dictionaries. Also, Onuoha and Chukwueke (2020) observed that filmstrips, tapes, slides, recordings, journals and reports were among the information resources not provided in the library at Ndume Otuka Secondary School, Abia State, Nigeria. Lawal and Kannan (2020) reported non availability of Microfilms and Microfiche in three Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria.

The finding disagrees with Wanyonyi, Odin and Sikolia (2018) which reported that there was availability of quality and relevant information materials at Pwani University Library, Kenya. The library had competent and knowledgeable staff, that they were satisfied with the extent of library collection in terms of copies, that the provision and access to information materials is timely and that the loan duration of the information materials was satisfactory. Abdullahi, Isyaku and Ahmed (2019) revealed that there were many library resources such as textbooks, journals, research monographs, research reports, newspapers, indexes/abstracts, internet services and dictionaries/encyclopedias amongst others in Bauchi State College of Agriculture Library. Also, Temboge and Diso (2022) revealed that electronic information resources were found to be available on the platform of e-databases, institutional repository, e-Granary and CDS in federal college of education libraries in Northern Nigeria. Ojokuku, Ishola and Ajala (2021) showed that reference materials, periodicals and theses and dissertations were available Other information resources available include: biographical, conference proceedings, gray literatures, e-resources and relevant website.

In another finding, this study revealed that majority of the information services were rated good and the include: circulation services, reference service, photocopy service, book lending service, reservation of books and newspaper clipping among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. This finding substantiates Kutu and Olabode (2020) which revealed that academic librarians carry out library services such as cataloguing, circulation, reference, acquisition of materials, information literacy, journal publication, current awareness services, selective dissemination of information, exhibition and display, consortium service (inter-library loan), indexing and abstracting services in selected university libraries in North-Central Nigeria. Ajiboye, Bokoh, Bello and Idowu (2023) revealed that literature search, reference services, WIFI services, online research services, lending services, reservation service, user education, referral services, multimedia service, indexing and abstracting services, bindery, current awareness, exhibition and displays and electronic document delivery were the library services available to support postgraduate students' research activities in Southwest Federal Universities, Nigeria. Moreover, Oriogu, Chukwuemeka and Oriogu-Ogbuiyi (2018) showed that the services provided in the ABUAD library include: OPAC services, CD-ROM facility, current awareness service, student advisory services, user education, reference service, books display service, photocopying services, internet services and lending services.

Conclusion

Information resources are critical for any successful library operations. Adequacy of the resources, ease of access to the resources as well as effective and efficient information services ensure the academic libraries achieve their objectives in the academic institutions. This study revealed that the level of availability of information resources was low among the selected Colleges of Education



Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. Only text books and reference books were highly available, while, journals and newspapers were moderately available. This can be attributed to the fact that textbooks are determinant collection in any library and that most of the college libraries have not yet made e-resources available for use to the users due to perhaps inadequate funding and other factors. The study also revealed that majority of the information services were rated good and the include: circulation services, reference service, photocopy service, book lending service, reservation of books and newspaper clipping among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Recommendation

Based on the findings of this study and the conclusion drawn, the following are recommended:

- i. The management of the Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria should prioritise acquisition of electronic information resources. This could go a long way in ameliorating the low level of information resources.
- ii. Library staff in Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria should embark on orienting the users about the services offered, so that the users could explore the opportunities abound in the libraries for academic success.

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