



ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION RESOURCES AND SERVICES IN SOME SELECTED COLLEGES OF EDUCATION LIBRARIES IN NORTH EASTERN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the level of accessibility of information

resources and services among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in the North Eastern States-Nigeria. The study was guided by two objectives, two research questions and two 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

INTRODUCTION

Accessibility of information refers to the ease with which a library user is able to get to the resources and obtain the information needed that satisfies their needs without difficulty. Accessibility determines the extent with which library users continue to patronize the library and its resources. Once a user is able to access information seamlessly, the desire to continue searching for reliable information becomes imminent. Users can access information resources daily, weekly, monthly etc, depending on their information needs. Studies have shown that provision of adequate information resources does not automatically leads to accessibility in the libraries. An information resource can be available, but, if it is not organized, the users may find it difficult to access. It is against this backdrop that this study was carried out to evaluate the level of information resources, access and services among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in the North Eastern States-Nigeria.

Accessibility of information resources refers the extent to which the users get the right information at the right time which could ultimately meet their information needs. This largely depends on the resources and infrastructure put in place by the libraries. Studies have shown that availability of information resources in academic does not automatically guarantee high accessibility in the libraries. In Kenya, Masese, George, Makwae and Moenga (2016) surveyed strategies to



in selecting sample and Yamane formula modified by Polonia (2013) for calculating sample was used to calculate sample size. A self-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 two null-hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. SPSS software was used in the study. This study found that there was low accessibility of information resources. Also, the study revealed that majority of the information resources were frequently accessed monthly and that only journals and text books & reference books were frequently accessed weekly. More so, this study revealed that majority of the information resources were frequently accessed monthly and that only journals and text books & reference books were frequently accessed weekly. The challenges associated with accessibility of information resources and services among selected Colleges of Education Libraries include: inadequate information resources, inadequate infrastructural facilities, lack of basic ICT facilities, outdated information resources, difficulty in locating resources, poor electricity supply, network fluctuation and inadequate library staff. Furthermore, this study suggested strategies that could enhance access of information resources and services among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. They include: training of College Librarians, reducing cost of accessing some library facilities such as ICT, photocopy services internet, linking students directly to the internet, employment of adequate staff, provision of current and up to date information resources and services, stable electricity and borrowing of information resources should be made easy to every student.

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

enhance access and use of e-resources by postgraduate students in selected university libraries in Kisii County, Kenya. 48.15% of the respondents were males who had had access and use of e-resources and 33.85% were females in the same group whereas the remaining 8.49% of the respondents were males who neither knew of resources nor accessed them. The study showed among other findings, that there are increased access and use of library resources and services through the adoption and use of strategies identified in this study. Furthermore, Wanyonyi, Odin and Sikolia (2018) study the effect of adequacy of



information resources on user satisfaction at Pwani University Library, Kenya. The study found that respondents agreed that both print and non-print information materials can easily be accessed by users and that the library has adequate space for all its services. the study concluded that the library should always focus on user satisfaction while offering information services to the users.

In Pakistan, Jabbar *et. al.* (2020) studied accessibility and use of research scholars' institutional repository in COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Lahore. The study found that users accessed information resources out of campus, while, other respondents accessed information resources within campus. Jan and Reman (2020) found that majority of the students of Khushal Khan Khattak University Karakwas accessed Internet from their homes, hostels and the University Library. Interestingly, others were accessing the Internet at classrooms and computers centre.

In Nigeria, Abubakar, Mallo and Suleiman (2020) surveyed the availability and accessibility of information resources in university libraries for students' academic use of pharmaceutical science students of the University of Jos. The study found that that most of the information resources are available while some of them were moderately accessible. It was also discovered based on the findings that almost all the information resources listed in the library were considered useful by the respondents. Mohammed, Udensi and Saka (2022) indicated that textbooks and government documents are not only available but accessible for research productivity by faculty members of Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University Lapai. This can be attributed to the fact that textbooks are determinant collection in any library. Onye (2016) conducted a study to determine the availability, accessibility and utilisation of library information resources by students of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO). The study showed that 670 (98.4%) respondents indicated textbooks as the highest information resources accessible to students. This is followed by 397 (58.3%) serials, 302 (44.3%) internet, 99 (14.5%) computers, and 45 (6.6%) said films (audio-visuals) are accessible to students.

In another study, Abubakar (2020) investigated availability and accessibility of information resources by pharmaceutical science students of the University of Jos. The study found that books, journals, internet, e-books, computers, e-journals, encyclopedia index, handbooks, newspaper and magazines were information resources that were strongly accessed by respondents. Ojokuku, Ishola and Ajala (2021) revealed that there were two ways through which the resources were being accessed. 51(77.3%) responded that resources were accessed through the internet, while, 15(22.7%) reported that the resources were accessed through the library resources by lecturers in Humanities Departments, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State. Magaji (2020) revealed that there was high level of accessibility of Information sources in Federal Polytechnic Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. However, Olubiyo and Yemi (2020) had different view and stated that students of Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo accessed serial materials



by asking staff, following directional signs, browsing racks and shelves and searching periodical catalogue.

Ndakalu (2014) surveyed access and utilisation of digital information services in University of Nairobi, Kenya. This study used a descriptive survey design where the target population comprised of 96 postgraduate students of the University of Nairobi. Data were gathered and collected through the use of questionnaire for postgraduate students in the school of business. The study findings showed that majority of the respondents used the University library to access digital information resources (42.1%), while 32.6% indicated home, and 22.2% preferred university computer lab. Others (3.1%) indicated the office; own laptop and cyber to access the digital information resource. The study revealed that majority of the respondents most often used the university library to access digital information resources.

The frequency of accessing information resources in academic libraries varies and depends on the individual library users. Users who are duly registered perhaps could use the library information resources more than those who are unregistered. In India, Hussain and Kumar (2013) carried out a study on utilisation of information resources and services of the Master School of Management Library, Meerut, India. A well structure questionnaire was used for collecting opinions of the library users about usage of information resources and services. The study showed that 33.33% users of Post-Graduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) used the library resources almost daily and the minimum 13.33% users used monthly, whereas 33.33%, users of Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing Management (PGDMM) programs used the library daily and the minimum 6.66% users used twice a week, while 60% faculty members used the library daily and minimum percentage faculty members are using library resources as whole categories.

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 endeavours 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 accessibility of information resources, and services in some selected Colleges of Education Libraries in the North Eastern States-Nigeria. The specific objectives were to:

- I. Examine the extent through which information resources are accessed in some selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.
- II. Ascertain the frequency in accessing information resources in some selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Research Questions

- I. What is the extent through which information resources are accessed among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria?
- II. How frequent are information resources accessed among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria?

Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance:

H₀: There is no significant difference on the extent of accessibility of information resources in some selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.



H₀₂: There is no significant relationship between availability of information resources and accessibility of information resources among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Research Methodology

Descriptive survey was adapted 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-hypotheses 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

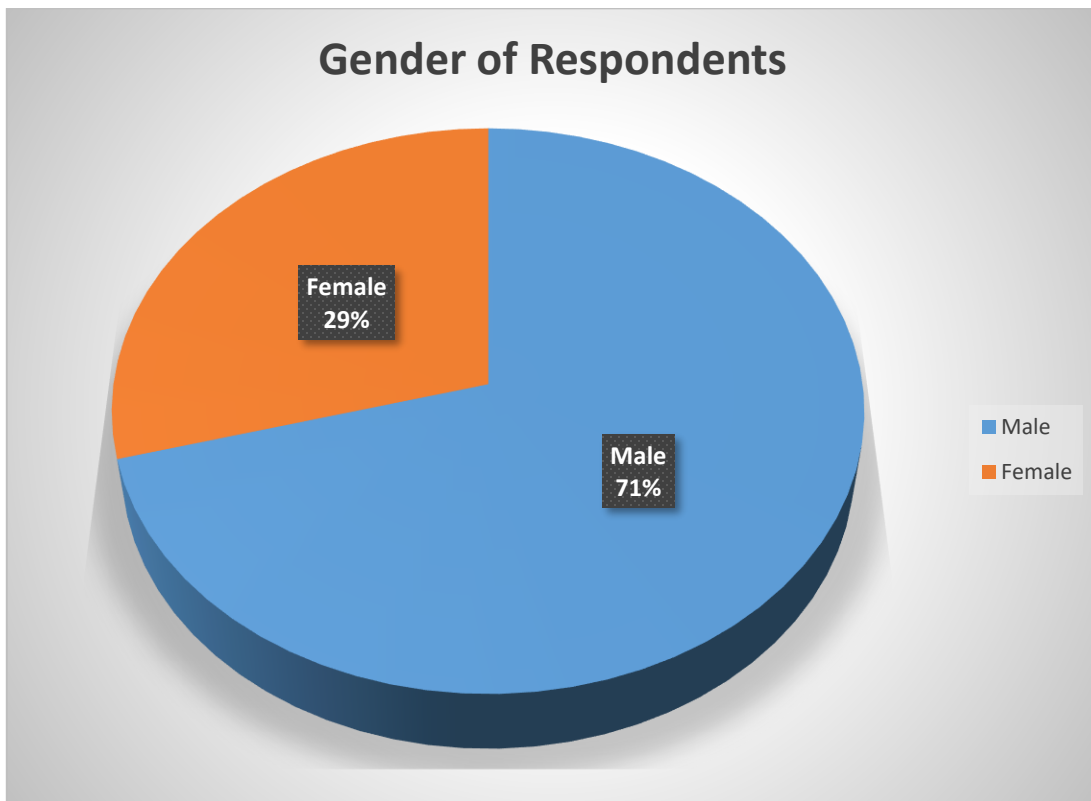


Figure 1: Gender of Respondents

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

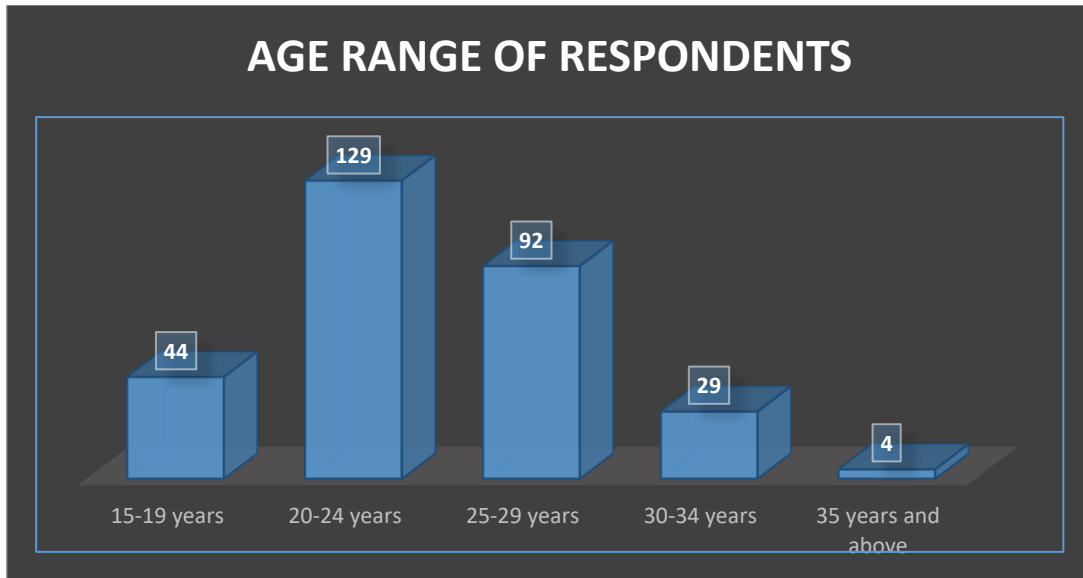


Figure 2: Age of Respondents

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.

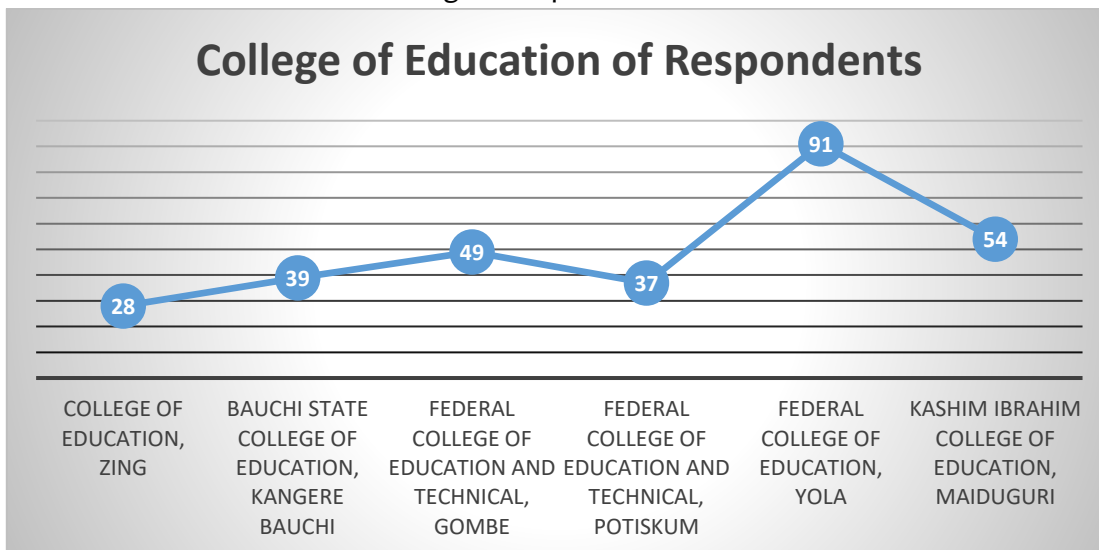


Figure 3: Colleges of Education of Respondents

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.

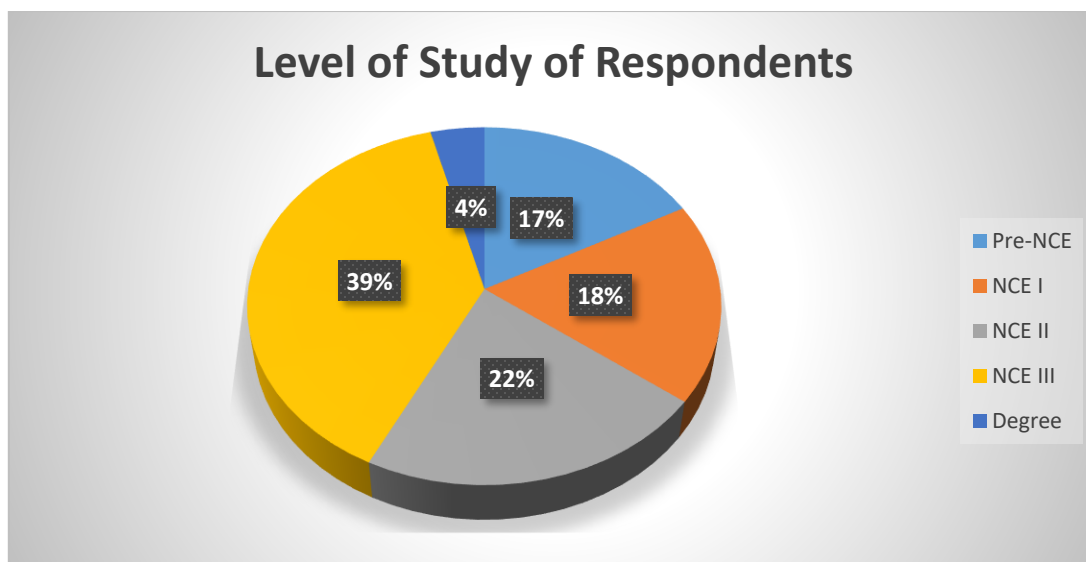


Figure 4: Level of Study of the Respondents

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 extent through which information resources are accessed among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria?

Table 5: Extent through which information resources are accessed among selected Colleges

S/ N	Information Resources	N	Highly Accessible	Moderately Accessible	Lowly Accessible	Not Accessible	Mea n	Std	Decision
1	Journals	298	75(25.2%)	152(51.0%)	71(23.8%)	0(0.0%)	3.01	0.70	Moderately Accessible
2	Text books & Reference books	298	48(16.1%)	150(50.3%)	88(29.5%)	12(4.0%)	2.79	0.76	Moderately Accessible



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3	Conference proceedings & Technical reports	298	6(2.0%)	59(19.8%)	161(54.0%)	72(24.2%)	2.00	0.72	Lowly Accessible
4	Government publications	298	54(18.1%)	117(39.3%)	127(42.6%)	0(0.0%)	2.76	0.74	Lowly Accessible
5	Thesis /Dissertations / projects	298	30(10.1%)	18(6.0%)	83(27.9%)	167(56.0%)	1.70	0.97	Not Accessible
6	Magazines	298	0(0.0%)	48(16.1%)	181(60.7%)	69(23.2%)	2.50	0.62	Lowly Accessible
7	Newspapers	298	36(12.1%)	116(38.9%)	107(35.9%)	39(13.1%)	2.50	0.87	Moderately Accessible
8	Atlas, Maps & Posters	298	0(0.0%)	42(14.1%)	164(55.0%)	92(30.9%)	1.83	0.65	Lowly Accessible
9	E-databases	298	18(6.0%)	30(10.1%)	174(58.4%)	76(25.5%)	1.97	0.77	Lowly Accessible
10	E-Books	298	12(4.0%)	112(37.6%)	141(47.3%)	33(11.1%)	2.35	0.73	Lowly Accessible
11	E-Journals	298	18(6.0%)	59(19.8%)	170(57.0%)	51(17.1%)	2.15	0.77	Lowly Accessible
12	E-thesis/projects	298	0(0.0%)	36(12.1%)	134(45.0%)	128(43.0%)	1.69	0.68	Lowly Accessible
13	E-Newspapers & E-Zines	298	18(6.0%)	93(31.2%)	110(36.9%)	77(25.8%)	2.18	0.89	Lowly Accessible
14	CDROM	298	0(0.0%)	87(29.2%)	128(43.0%)	83(27.9%)	2.01	0.76	Lowly Accessible
15	Microfilms & Microfiche	298	17(5.7%)	18(6.0%)	132(44.3%)	131(44.0%)	1.74	0.81	Lowly Accessible
	Total	4,470	332(7.4%)	1137(25.4%)	1971(44.1%)	1030(23.1%)	2.21	0.76	Lowly Accessible

Source: Field survey, 2023

The table above showed the extent through which information resources were accessed among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. The results showed that none of the information resources was rated “Highly Accessible”. Furthermore, only journals ($\bar{X} = 3.01$, $SD = 0.70$), text books & reference books ($\bar{X} = 2.79$, $SD = 0.76$) as well as newspapers ($\bar{X} = 2.50$, $SD = 0.87$) were rated “Moderately Accessible” as they attracted mean scores above the 2.5 benchmark. Information resources such as conference proceedings & technical reports, government publications,



magazines, atlas, maps & posters, e-databases, e-books, e-journals, e-thesis/projects, e-newspapers & e-zines, CDROM and microfilms & microfiche were rated “Lowly Accessible”, while, thesis /dissertations/ projects were “Not Accessible” at all. These resources attracted mean scores below the 2.5 benchmark. On the whole, an overall weighted mean of 2.21 was obtained signifying the low accessibility of information resources among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Research Question 2: How frequent are information resources accessed among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria?

Table 6: Frequency of information resources accessed among selected Colleges of Education Libraries

S/ N	Information Resources	N	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Never	Mea n	Std	Decisio n
1	Journals	298	65(21.8%)	170(57.0%)	63(21.1%)	0(0.0%)	3.00	0.66	Weekly
2	Text books & Reference books	298	53(17.8%)	188(63.1%)	57(19.1%)	0(0.0%)	2.99	0.61	Weekly
3	Conference proceedings & Technical reports	298	0(0.0%)	66(22.1%)	144(48.3%)	88(29.5%)	1.93	0.72	Monthly
4	Government publications	298	17(5.7%)	93(31.2%)	110(36.9%)	78(26.2%)	2.16	0.88	Monthly
5	Thesis /Dissertations/ projects	298	0(0.0%)	86(28.9%)	129(43.3%)	83(27.9%)	2.01	0.75	Monthly
6	Magazines	298	17(5.7%)	18(6.0%)	132(44.3%)	131(44.0%)	1.73	0.81	Monthly
7	Newspapers	298	24(8.1%)	119(39.9%)	123(41.3%)	32(10.7%)	2.47	0.79	Monthly
8	Atlas, Maps & Posters	298	0(0.0%)	18(6.0%)	60(20.1%)	220(73.8%)	1.32	0.58	Never
9	E-databases	298	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	107(35.9%)	191(64.1%)	1.36	0.48	Never
10	E-Books	298	0(0.0%)	24(8.1%)	178(59.7%)	96(32.2%)	1.76	0.59	Monthly
11	E-Journals	298	12(4.0%)	122(40.9%)	125(41.9%)	39(13.1%)	2.37	0.76	Monthly



12	E-thesis/projects	298	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	134(45.0%)	164(55.0%)	1.45	0.50	Never
13	E-Newspapers & E-Zines	298	30(10.1%)	0(0.0%)	117(39.3%)	151(50.7%)	1.70	0.91	Never
14	CDROM	298	0(0.0%)	66(22.1%)	144(48.3%)	88(29.5%)	1.93	0.72	Monthly
15	Microfilms & Microfiche	298	0(0.0%)	35(11.7%)	128(43.0%)	135(45.3%)	1.66	0.68	Never
	Total	4,470	218(4.9%)	1,012(22.6%)	1,744(39.0%)	1,496(33.5%)	1.99	0.70	Monthly

Source: Field survey, 2023

The table above showed the frequency of information resources accessed among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. The results showed that none of the information resources was accessed “Daily”. Furthermore, only journals ($\bar{X} = 3.00$, $SD = 0.66$) and text books & reference books ($\bar{X} = 2.99$, $SD = 0.61$) were accessed “Monthly” as they attracted mean scores above the 2.5 benchmark. Information resources such as conference proceedings & technical reports, government publications, thesis/dissertations/projects, magazines, newspapers, e-books, e-journals and CDROM were accessed “Monthly”, while, atlas, maps & posters, e-databases, e-thesis/projects, e-newspapers & e-zines and microfilms & microfiche were “Never” accessed at all. These resources attracted mean scores below the 2.5 benchmark. On the whole, an overall weighted mean of 1.99 was obtained signifying that majority of the information resources were accessed monthly among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Ho: There is no significant difference on the extent of accessibility of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Table 7: Descriptive statistics on significant differences on the extent of accessibility 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	2.6145	0.29319
Colleges of Education	Bauchi State College of Education, Kangere Bauchi	39	13.09	2.6011	0.39136



	Federal College of Education and Technical, Gombe	49	16.44	2.6825	0.32389
	Federal College of Education and Technical, Potiskum	37	12.42	2.5886	0.36276
	Federal College of Education, Yola	91	30.54	2.6361	0.33582
	Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri	54	18.12	2.5967	0.28982
	Total	298	100	2.6193	0.32994

Source: Field survey, 2022

Table 13 indicates the descriptive statistics on the significant differences on the extent of accessibility of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. The results shows that, College of Education, Zing had a ($\bar{X} = 2.61, SD = 0.29$), Bauchi State College of Education, Kangere Bauchi had a ($\bar{X} = 2.60, SD = 0.39$), Federal College of Education and Technical, Gombe had a ($\bar{X} = 2.68, SD = 0.32$), Federal College of Education and Technical, Potiskum had a ($\bar{X} = 2.59, SD = 0.36$), Federal College of Education, Yola had a ($\bar{X} = 2.64, SD = 0.34$), while, Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri had a ($\bar{X} = 2.59, SD = 0.29$). The result signifies that Federal College of Education and Technical, Gombe had the highest extent of accessibility of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Table 8: One-Way ANOVA on the significant differences on the extent of accessibility of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.214	5	.043	.390	.856
Within Groups	32.118	292	.110		
Total	32.332	297			

Source: Field survey, 2022

Table 8 shows a one-way between groups ANOVA on the significant differences on the extent of accessibility 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 = 0.856 > 0.05, the degree of freedom is 297 and F-value of 0.390. 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 on the extent of accessibility of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.



Ho₂: There is no significant relationship between availability of information resources and accessibility of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria.

Table 9: Relationship between availability of information resources and accessibility of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria

Correlations			
		Information resources availability	Information resources accessibility
Information resources availability	Pearson Correlation	1	-.267**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	298	298
Information resources accessibility	Pearson Correlation	-.267**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	298	298

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The table 9 above showed the significant relationship between availability of information resources and accessibility of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. The result in showed that the critical value (r-value) ($r = 0.267$) is greater than P-value (0.000), hence, the null hypothesis is rejected. This implied that there is significant relationship between availability of information resources and accessibility of information resources among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. This signifies that availability of information resources could to a large extent influence the extent of accessibility of the information resources. The higher the level of availability of information resources, the higher the chances that users could get access to them and vice versa.

Discussion of Findings

This study found that there was low accessibility of information resources among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. Only journals, text books & reference books and newspapers were moderately accessible. This finding corroborates with Abubakar, Mallo and Suleiman (2020) which found that that most of the information resources are available while some of them were moderately accessible in University of Jos, Nigeria. Onye (2016) indicated that films (audio-visuals) are accessible to students of Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO). The finding is in contrast with Masese, George, Makwae and Moenga (2016) which showed among other findings, that there were increased access and use of library resources and services through the adoption and use of strategies in selected university libraries in Kisii County, Kenya. The study found



that respondents agreed that both print and non-print information materials can easily be accessed by users. Mohammed, Udensi and Saka (2022) indicated that textbooks and government documents are not only available but accessible for research productivity by faculty members of Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University Lapai. Abubakar (2020). Magaji (2020) revealed that there was high level of accessibility of Information sources in Federal Polytechnic Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. However, Olubiyo and Yemi (2020) had different view and stated that students of Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo accessed serial materials by asking staff, following directional signs, browsing racks and shelves and searching periodical catalogue.

Moreso, this study revealed that majority of the information resources were frequently accessed monthly and that only journals and text books & reference books were frequently accessed weekly among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. Similarly, Salubi, Ondari-Okemwa and Nekhwevha (2018) found that majority of Students only visit the library occasionally at Nelson Mandela University and the University of Fort Hare, South Africa. Furthermore, Ndakalu (2014) showed that majority of library users accessed digital information services occasionally in University of Nairobi, Kenya. Also, Abubakar and Akor (2017) revealed that majority of Agricultural Scientists accessed the electronic databases monthly in Federal University Libraries in North Central Nigeria. In disagreement to this finding, Hussain and Kumar (2013) showed that majority of users among Post-Graduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) and Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing Management (PGDMM) used the library resources almost daily in Master School of Management Library, Meerut, India. Motiang, Wallis and Karodia (2014) showed that majority of undergraduate and postgraduate students visit library to access information resources daily at University of Limpopo, Medunsa Campus (Medical University of Southern Africa).

Conclusion

This study found that there was low accessibility of information resources among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. Only journals, text books & reference books and newspapers were moderately accessible. More so, the study revealed that majority of the information resources were frequently accessed monthly and that only journals and text books & reference books were frequently accessed weekly among the selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. Moreover, this study revealed that the challenges associated with accessibility of information resources and services among selected Colleges of Education Libraries include: inadequate information resources, inadequate infrastructural facilities, lack of basic ICT facilities, out-dated information resources, difficulty in locating resources, poor electricity supply, network fluctuation and inadequate library staff. Furthermore, this study suggested strategies that could enhance access of information resources and services among selected Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria. They include: training of College Librarians, reducing cost of accessing some library facilities such as ICT, photocopy services internet, linking students directly to the internet, employment of adequate staff, provision of current and up to date information resources and services,



stable electricity and borrowing of information resources should be made easy to every student.

Recommendation

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

- i. 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.
- ii. The Colleges of Education Libraries in North Eastern Nigeria should devise means of making the library resources and services easily accessible to the users, by improving the Internet connectivity and subscription to electronic information resources.

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