Volume 2, 2020

ISSN:2714-2248





OF LOGISTICS & TRANSPORT

Journal Nigerien De Logistique Et Du Transport

A PUBLICATION OF

Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria.



NIGERIAN JOURNAL OF LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORT

Volume 2, 2020

Publication of
Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT),
Zaria, Nigeria
Email: njlt.nitt.gov.ng
officeofthedgnittzaria@yahoo.com

ISSN: 2714-2248





ISSN: 2714-2248

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FACTORS INFLUENCING URBAN RESIDENTS TRAVEL IN MINNA METROPOLIS, NIGERIA

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Abstract

The need for people to interact is ordered by the spatial spread of activities within the special environment. The spatial separation of cities and land use types necessitate spatial interface for purposeful interrelationship. Several factors influence the interaction demand of households in different cities. This study was conducted to explore the significant factors which serve as determinants of travel among households in Minna, Nigeria. Data were collected through the administration of 1,299 questionnaires to randomly selected households of which 888 questionnaires were returned valid. A multistage sampling technique was adopted in which Minna was divided into four cluster zones, from which 12 diverse residential neighbourhoods were selected. Descriptive analysis was used to determine the socio-economic characteristics of the respondents while factors analysis was used to account for the variation in factors influencing urban travel in the study area. Findings shows that majority of the respondents were male with 63.9% compare to Female with 36.1, the dominant Household size is between 5-8 which is 54.4% while, middle income group households with 49.1% were pronounced. Also, respondents with less than 30 years old were more dominant with 42.7%. The result of the factor analysis shows that 8 factors whose eigenvalue are greater than 1, significantly influences urban residents interaction. These include; Phone call, cost of call, income, marital status, position in household, gender, car ownership, and number of licence driver. These accounted for 59.4% of the total variance. The study recommends that government and other policy makers should take into account socio-economic characteristics of urban residents in the design, construction, planning of roads and provision of public transportation policies. Residents are advised to make use of various opportunities available on Telecommunication platforms in the form of virtual and telecommuting to substitute physical interactions due to covid-19 pandemic.

Keywords: Household; Travel; Urbanization; Spatial; Neighbourhood, Resident; Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM)

1. Introduction

Urbanization has been one of the dominant contemporary processes as a rising share of the global population lives in the cities. The need for people to travel from one place to another is dictated by the spatial spread of activities within the spatial environment (Fadare & Salami, 2004). This has led to the emergence of swell in the usage of automobiles resulting into extended trip

length and high dependence on car usage (Handy, Weston & within the age Mokhtarian, 2005). Human activities must take place in an environment that attracts mobility to the land use within the city center or the hinterland. Activities like working, shopping, religious, recreation and others necessitate themovement of people from one neighbourhood to another. The value of transportation in this regard cannot be over-emphasized (Ojekunle et al., 2018).

The spatial separation of cities and land use creates spatial disparity necessitate spatial interface for purposeful interrelationship. Scholars like: Ayeni, 1974: Adeniyi, 1981: Ojo. 1990: Ogunsanya, 2002; Solanke, 2005; Osoba, 2011; Badejo, 2011; Raji, 2013; Owoeye, 2018, Owoeye et. al, 2018) have all revealed in their studies that in general, people have a propensity to travel in order to gain access to a variety of other people' services and facilities that is not available at the origins of their respective trips. Hence, the rapid urban growth occurring across much of the globe due to these interactions within urban areas, resulting in movement across larger distances as cities developed. This implies that commuting has gradually shifted to faster transport modes and consequently greater distance could be travelled within a short time (Ibrahim, 2012).

The necessity for people to move from one place to another is ordered by the spatial spread of activities within the spatial environment as asserted by Fadare & Salami, 2004; Owoeye, 2018; Adeniji 2000; Fadare & Morenikeji 2001; Fujiwara et al, 2005; Leautier and Melita 2006; Okoko 2007, Fadare, 2010; Alade, 2012; Ojekunle et al 2018. Evidences abound from studies socio-economic household characteristic also play a significant role in behaviour travel their influencing Muili. & 2011 (Tanangsnakol; 2013). Adetunji and Aloba, 2013; and Samson, (2012) also noted in their various studies that age and sex played a significant influence on individual and household travel length to activities on a weekday.

2. The Need for the Research

The search for explanation on the motivating determinants of urban travel in developing countries particularly in Nigeria is not a conclusive one due to the spatial separation of cities, activities and land use types which create dynamic spatial disparity that necessitate spatial interface for purposeful interrelationship within a city. In

addition, from the review of literature, available studies on the same theme in the country were conducted between ten to twenty years ago and majorly in the southern part of Nigeria with little emphasis to Northern part. Thus, not reflecting the current travel situation in many urban landscapes in Nigeria. Hence, the urgent need to conduct fresh studies in order to identify various factors influencing urban trip generations within a city.

It is against this backdrop, that this study endeavours to explore and identify major factors influencing households travel in Minna Metropolis, Niger State, Nigeria. No wonder Clifton and Handy (2001) were of the opinion that the more we understand about urban travel behaviour, the more we realize how much we do not understand, because as one question is answered, new question emerge, and our appreciation of the complexity of urban travel characteristics consequently grow. This study emphasis in identifying factors influencing household travel in Minna an emerging urban metropolis in North-Central Nigeria.

3. Empirical Review of Literature

It is noted that several factors affect the travel demand of households in different neighbourhoods, include; these socioeconomic characteristics of household, level transport infrastructure of development, religion, culture, structure, location of household within city, accessibility to public transport, ownership of means of transport, among others. Scholars like: Fadare, 1987. 1989. Ogunjumo, 1986, Pucher and Renne, 2003, & Fujiwara et al, 2005, Badejo, 2011, Nass et al., 2011, Stephen et al., 2012 & Aditjandra et al., 2010, have identified household size, car ownership, income, age, gender, number of employed people in the family and occupation among others as major socio-economic attributes households that influence their travel behaviour in both developed and developing countries.

Income and car-ownership have been noted as part of the factors that influence travel behaviour (Pucher & Renne, 2003, Fadare, 1989, Ogunjumo, 1986). The consensus here is that the higher the income of a household member the higher the tendency to own and increase the number of vehicles in such households. Owoeye (2018) asserted that in the concept of travel mode choice, individual who often travel by car in related situations may develop a stronger car habit than individuals who travel less frequently or in changing circumstances (e.g. by car, and erstwhile by public transport). Westford (2010) found that self-employed trip makers make short trips than those in regular employment, because many of them are located within close proximity to their homes.

Apart from gender, Srinivasan (2005) established that number of vehicles in the household and the income level were significant socio-economic factors influencing travel or trip making behaviour in Chennai, India. Fadare (1989) observed that household socio-economic attributes (age, sex, income and car ownership) influenced the number and purpose of trips which household members neighbourhood make in a week day in Ibadan, Nigeria. Numerous studies in Europe and North America have recognized that residential density or location positively affects individuals and household travel behaviour (Hanson & Hanson, 1981).

Fadare & Hay (1990) noted that a variety of trips exist in the socio-economic attributes of urban households as a result of the density of their residential areas which has repercussions for their trip generation. The nature and degree of influence of these factors however vary from city to city and even within a given urban center; Hanson & Schwab, 1987; Gordon et al, 1988; Rimmer, 1986; White, 1990; Garling et al, 1994; Bhat & Koppelman, 1999.Rahman et al. (2015)in their studies travel behaviour in Khulna Metropolitan City, Bangladesh, show that people with higher income and

more automobile availability make more travel than people with low income and less automobile availability.

Dieleman et al, (2002), concluded that household with higher income tend to own and use a car and family with children were more likely to use the car than one-person families. Newbold et el, (2005), concluded that factors other than age can also influence travel behaviour. In that daily trip numbers and duration decreased significantly due to changes in employment status and health status of households. Hensher & King, (2001) concluded that travel cost or the influence of pricing also determine travel behaviours of households in term of pattern of travel, length of trip and modal choice of travel by residents in an urban centres.

Best & Lanzendorf (2005) asserted that varieties of socio-demographic factors such as household composition, age, gender, car ownership, employment status, retirement status, educational status and income all influence the choice of travel mode, the length, duration of the journey, travel patterns and behaviours of households. These factors are important but gender and household composition appear to be of particular significance in influencing travel behaviours according to Ryley, (2005).

4. The Study Area and Methodology

4.1 Study Area

Minna is a rapid developing urban centre in North-Central Nigeria and it is the capital of Niger State as shown in Figure 1. Minna is situated between Latitudes 8°20' N and 11°30' N and between Longitude 3°30' E and 7°20' N, and lies entirely within the physical and cultural zone of transition described as the "middle belt of Nigeria". Kaduna and Federal Capital Territory border the State to both North-East and South-West respectively. Minna total land area is 74,344km², it consists of two major ethnic groups: the Nupe and the Gwari. Minna town became a major collecting point for agricultural products, including

peanuts (groundnut), cotton, yams, shea nuts, ginger and rice. While local trade is mainly in sorghum, yams, cotton, shea nuts, indigo, kola nuts, cattle, goats and guinea fowls.

The transport system in Minna incorporates various modes of transport ranging from the use of commercial motorcycle, taxi, buses, tricycles and other public mode of transportation. A point of note is that transport infrastructure in most parts of Minna are grossly inadequate especially roads which enhances the popularisation of the use of commercial motorcycles in accessing the hinterland areas of the

city. Figure 2 and 4 shows the road network system and delineated map of the various neighbourhoods. Minna is known for its woven and dyed cotton cloth, raffia mats and baskets, pottery, and brassware. While, modern industry includes a brick-making plant and a quarry plant. The three homogenous residential densities of low, medium and high were recognised in areas residential These Minna. differentiated by social, economic and physical patterns. Figure 3 shows landuse distribution into commercial, industrial, public recreational, educational. residential within the city.

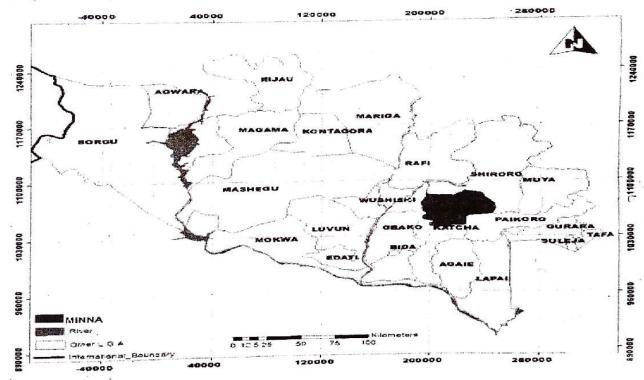


Figure 1 Map of Niger State showing Minna

Source: Department of Transport Management, FUT, Minna (2019)

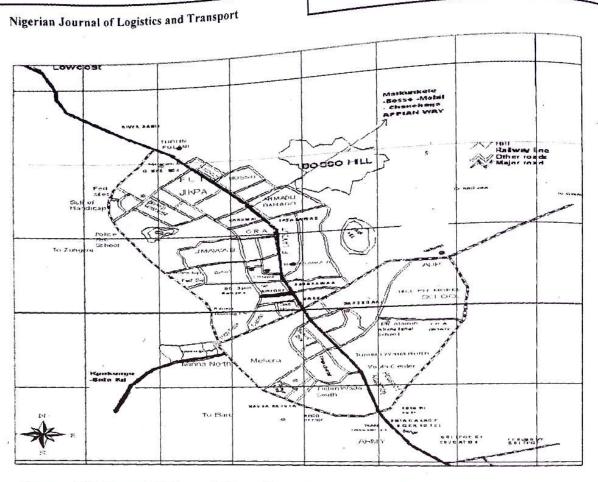


Figure 2:Delineated Map of Minna Road Network and Neighbourhoods Source: Department of Transport Management, FUT, Minna (2019)

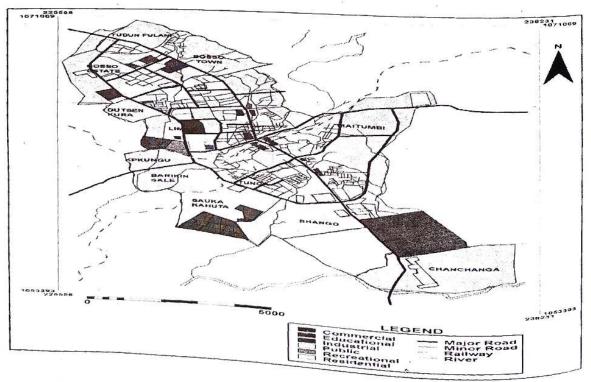


Figure 3: Land Use Map of Minna

Source: Adopted from Owoeye A.S (2018)

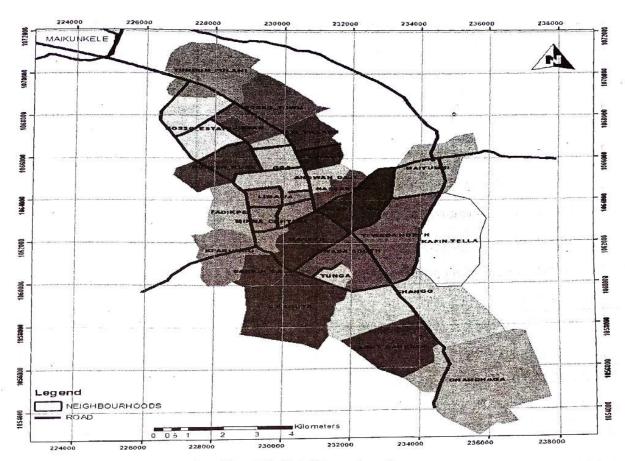


Figure: 4 Map of Minna Residential Neighbourhoods

Source: Adopted from Owoeye, A.S (2018)

4.2 Methodology

A cross sectional survey approach was adopted from which statistical data were gathered to examine the socio-economic characteristics and factors influencing urban travel ' in 12 selected residents neighbourhoods in Minna. A multistage sampling technique was chosen for this study. Minna was divided into four clusters using the major traffic corridors as boundaries. In each cluster. neighbourhoods of low, medium and high densities were selected neighbourhoods. To determine a suitable sample size, the current population of Minna was obtained from National Population Commission record (NPC, 2006) and was projected to 2019 to arrive at estimated population of 182,543 for the 12 selected residential neighbourhoods. Since the household is the target population, according to Nigerian Bureau of Statistics

(NBS, 2010), an average number of 6 persons reside in a household. The population is therefore divided by 6 which gave rise to 30,423 urban residents.

Though, this population size is considered too large; a Dillman (2007) sample size formula was adopted to determine the appropriate sample size for the study. A total number of 1,299 sample size was arrived at using the sample size formula. Therefore. 1.299 questionnaires randomly administered to selected households in the 12 residential locations within the city out of which 888 questionnaires were returned valid making up 68.4% of the total questionnaires administered. The locations were chosen based on the characteristics and densities of residential land uses. The selected neighbourhoods were listed in Table 1. Systematic random sampling method was adopted for questionnaire distribution on

residents based on the population with a minimum age of less than 30 years old in

each neighbourhood.

$$Ns = \frac{(Np)(p)(1-p)}{(Np-1)(B/C)^2 + (p)(1-p)}$$

Where:

Ns= completed sample size needed (notation often used is n)

Np= Size of Population (notation often used is N)

P= Proportion expected to answer a certain way (50% or 0.5 is most conservative)

B= Acceptable level of sampling error (0.03) = (3%)

C= Z statistic associated with confidence interval (2.17) = 97% Confidence level

$$Ns = \frac{(182,543)(0.5)(1-0.5)}{(182,543-1)(0.03/2.17)^2 + (0.5)(1-0.5)}$$

$$Ns = \frac{(45,635.75)}{(182,542)(0.000191) + (0.25)}$$

$$Ns = \frac{(45,635.75)}{(35.1141)}$$

Ns = 1,299

Hence, a total number of 1,299 sample size was arrived at only 888 were correctly administered and returned valid which is 68.4% of the total questionnaires administered.

Table 1: Proportional Samples per Neighbourhoods

S/N	Neighborhoods	2006 Census Results	Projected Population	Sample Frame	Sample Size Per
01	Maitumbi	17,775	26,770	4,462	neighbourhood
02	Angwan Daji	612	922	154	190
03	GRA	4,274	6,437	E	7
04	Barkin Sale	5,862	8,828	1,073	44
05	Tudun Fulani	583	878	1,471	63
06	Jikpan	6,604	9,946	146	6
07	Tudun-Wada South	4,274	6,437	1,658	. 71
08	Shango	6,494	9,780	1,073	46
09	F-Layout	6,604	9,946	1,630	70
10	Tunga	6,494	9,780	1,658	71
11	Kpakungu	17,775	26,770	1,630	71
12	Bosso Town	43,856	66,049	4,462	190
	Total	121,207	182,543	11,009 30,424	470

Source: NPC, (2006) and Author's projection (2019)

5. Results and Discussion

5.1Socio-economic Characteristics of Respondents

respondents population. It also shows that respondents respondents with 36.1% among the sampled The socio-economic attributes analyzed in aggregate of respondents have formal education on the ranking of respondents reveals that 84.5% with 5.3%. respondents 31-40 years while the least age group were 42.7%, followed by age grouped between below 30 years were more pronounced with 2 reveals the dominance of Male with 15.5% having no formal The with age greater the 60 years with 63.9% analysis of over educational Female

education. In term of occupation level study in Minna Metropolis three income groups In the context of prevailing income ranking employed (50% Formal and 34% Informal). reveals that 84% of were low income earners, 49.1% were identified (i.e. Low, Medium and High household's size between 5 households distributions in term of high income medium income earners while, 19.7% were income earners). Findings shows that 31.2% households are more than non-car owning predominant with 54.5% while car owning respectively. households shows with earners that 54.3% respondents respectively. respondents and and were sizes were with The

Table 2 Socio-economic Characteristics of Respondents

Variable	Attribute	Frequency	%
Gender N = 888	Male	567	63.9
	Female	321	36.1
Age $N = 888$	<30 years	379	42.7
Q	31-40 years	209	23.5
	41-50 years	152	17.1
	51-60 years	101	11.4
	> 60 years	47	5.3
Education Status N =	No Formal	÷	
888	Education	138	15.5
	Primary School	25	2.9
	Secondary School	182	20.5
	Tertiary Education	543	61.1
Occupation $N = 888$	Formal	444	50
	Informal	302	34
	Retired	62	7
	Student	44	5
	Unemployed	36	4
Income $N = 888$	Low	277	31.2
	Middle	436	49,1
	High	175	19.7
Household Size N = 888	Btw 1-4	215	24.2
	Btw 5-8	484	54.5
	> &	189	21.3
Car Ownershin N = 888	Yes	482	54.3
	No	406	45.7

Source: Author's Computer Analysis (2020)

5.2. Factors Influencing Urban Travel in Minna

In order to identify the most significant determinant factors among the socioedaphic and travel characteristics variables influencing urban residents travel in Minna, a principal component analysis with varimax rotation was used as shown in Table 4 and 5. A total of twenty variables were considered these include; Gender, Marital status, Age, Position in household, Household size. Education Household income, Occupation of Household, Number of employed household, Number of license driver, Car Ownership, Number of cars in households, Totalweeklytrip, Total weekly tripdistance,

Mode choice of travel, Totaltime of weekly travel, Totalcost of weeklytrip, Travel difficulties experienced, Frequency of call, and Cost of call.

The principal component s technique used seeks to maximize the sum of loadings of each factor extracted in turn. Also, the variables were entered into factor analysis for the purpose of data transformation and data reduction so as to reduce the chance of multicollinearity among predictors. Factor analysis was computed and instructed into retain eigen-values above 1. Eight factors were retained and these explained roughly 59.4% of the variation in the data (See Table 5)

Table 3 KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Adequacy.	Measure of Sampling	.594
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	2422.852
-phonony	Df	190
#I	Sig.	.000

Source: Author's Computer Analysis (2020)

The KMO and Bartlett's Test in Table 3 was used to test the adequacy and validity of the data used for the study, which shows that it was significantly adequate.

Table 4 Communalities

	200	2
		Extractio
	Initial	n
Gender	1.000	0.749
Marital status	1.000	0.860
Age	1.000	0.460
Household size	1.000	0.700
Position in Household	1.000	0.843
Education status	1.000	0.463
Household income	1.000	0.603
Occupation of household	1.000	0.877
Number of employed household	1.000	0.640
Number of License driver	1.000	0.676
Do you own a car	1.000	0.574
Number of cars in Household	1.000	0.574
Total number of weekly trips	1.000	0.229
Total weekly trips distance	1.000	0.170
Mode choice of travel	1.000	0.282
Total time of weekly trips	1.000	0.407
Total cost of weekly trips	1.000	0.376
Travel difficulties experienced on trip	1.000	0.799
Frequency of daily phone call	1.000	0.891
Cost of daily call	1.000	0.877

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis. Source: Author's Computation (2020)

Table 5

Table 3		Tot	al Variance Ex	plained		1.7
		Initial Eigenv	alues	Ròtation	Sums of Squa	ared Loadings
		% of	Cumulative		% of	Cumulative
Component	Total	Variance	%	Total	Variance	%
1	2.596	12.982	12.982	1.850	9.248	9.248
2	1.860	9.302	22.283	1.835	9.175	18.423
3	1.601	8.005	30.288	1.786	8.932	27.355
4	1.348	6.740	37.028	1.623	8.114	35.469
5	1.275	6.376	43.404	1.378	6.889	42.358
6	1.141	5.704	49.108	1.197	5.987	48.345
7	1.043	5.213	54.321	1.141	5.703	54.048
8	1.020	5.101	59.422	1.075	5.374	59.422
9	.978	4.889	64.310			
10	.936	4.680	68.990			
11	.904	4.518	73.508			
12	.832	4.159	77.666			
13	.770	3.848	81.514			
14	.722	3.609	85.123	(W)		n 1 ₆ %
15	.687	3.433	88.556	2.0		8.
16	.602	3.011	91.567	\$		(
17 -	.571	2.857	94.424			et ander t
18	.551	2.756	97.179			
19	.304	1.521	98.700			
20	.260	1.300	100.000			5

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Source Author's Computation (2020)

Using the eigenvalue-one criteria (i.e. Kaiser 1960 criterion) Table 5 explains the results of the total variance of factors influencing travel behaviour of households in the study area. The accounted for 59.4%.leaving about 40.6% of the total variance unaccounted for by the factors.

Table 6

		Rotate	d Comp	onent Ma	ıtrix ^a			
-	100		1 1	Com	ponent			
Variables	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Gender						.749		
Marital status		860						
Age						418	.20	.460
Household size				.700			- 1	
Position in Household		.843		. Tester				
Education status			.463	409	11.50			
Household income			.603				\$1 ⁻¹ 11	
Occupation of								.877
household								######################################
Number of employed household				.640				
Number of License driver			.676	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	i na e 3. T mattac Îni			
Do you own a car					.574			
Number of cars in Household					.573			1 20
Total number of weekly trips				-,424			. *	
Total weekly trips distance					549			
Mode choice of travel			.589	Treatile.	g n			-
Total time of weekly				16			.407	
trips								
Total cost of weekly							*	
trips Travel difficulties experienced on trip			S S	*	18		.799	
Frequency of daily phone call	.891							
Cost of daily call	.877	Componer	at Angla	oic .				

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 25 iterations.

Source Author's Computation (2020)

*Note: Component loadings less than 0.4 are not shown as such were classified low loadings.

Furthermore, the rotated component matrix in Table 6 shows which variables are loaded highly (From 0.4 and above) on each of the eight components. It is on this basis that each of the eight components are identified

and named to reflect the combination of the variable assigned to each component as factor influencing travel behaviour of households in the study area.

Table 6 shows the rotated components matrix of variablesloadings highly on Component 1 to include variables like phone call (0.891) and cost of daily call (0.877). It shows the significant of the service provision GSM usage which is labelled "Telecommunication" as a strong influence on household travel. Variables that loads highly on component 2 are marital status (-0.860) and position in the households (0.843) termed "family-class".

Also, variable loadings on component 3 are number of license driver (0.676) and house income (0.603) which is labelled as "autoincome" also influence house travel behaviour. On component 4 households size (0.700) and number of employed (0.640) are prominent variables loading highly and is labelled "Household-job". On component 5 car ownership (0.574) and number of car own (0.73) loads highly which is termed "Auto-commuting". Component 6 has only one variable-Gender highly loaded on it. Moreover, variable loading highly on component 7 are travel difficulties (0.799) and total time of weekly trips (0.407)

"Mobility-obstacles", While labelled variable loading highly on component 8 is occupation of household (0.877). The finding is similar to the findings of Alade. 2010; Fadare 2010; Samson, 2012; Adetunji & Aloba, 2013; Owoeye, 2018; & Ojekunle et.al, 2018. Which implies that urban significantly interaction is resident's socio-economic their by influenced characteristics.

A cursory look at the scree plot in Figure 5 shows that 8 factors were extracted (point of sharp and sudden change in slope) of which factor 1-8 account for more than 59.4% of the changes in variance which is relative to the remaining 12 factors (i.e. 9-20). The eight components derived and identified at the end of the rotated components matrix in Table 6 which were renamed as factors influencing travel behaviour of households the study area includes; in Telecommunication, family-class, autoincome, households-jobs, Auto-commuting, Gender, mobility-obstacles and occupation of households.

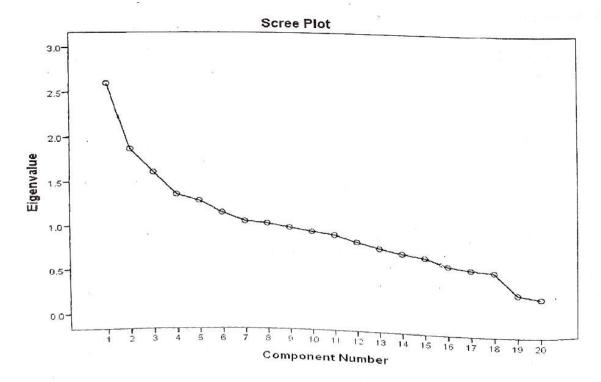


Figure 5: Scree Plot Source: Author's Computation (2020)

7.1 Conclusion

The study has shown that there are eight (8) underlying factors the influences travel behavior of households in Minna Metropolis, Nigeria. More so, findings revealed the significant roles household's socio-economic attributes and Telecommunication (GSM) played as a major influence in urban resident's interaction in the study area.

The findings have important implication for urban mobility in Nigeria. In the first place, identification of socio-economic characteristics and demographic composition as a major determinant of urban travel is necessary to better understand the dynamics of urban resident's interaction in Nigeria which will provide a platform for urban mobility policy plan. Secondly, the impact of GSM ownership and usage among residents has shown in this study how significant its complement, substitute and save trips of households in Nigeria.

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Finally, the research provides a basis in generalising determinant of urban resident's interaction with what is applicable in major urban centres in Nigeria.

7.2 Recommendations

Considering the significant of economic characteristics of household's urban resident's interactions. It is hereby recommended that government and other policy makers should take into cognisance socio-economic characteristics of urban residents in the design, construction, planning of roads and provision of public transportation services. Due to the important roles Telecommunication plays in urban interactions, residents are advised to make more phone calls to save, generate and substitute trips instead of physical interactions. As results of the covid-19 pandemic ravaging the country, urban residents are advised to make use of telecommuting services and virtual communication medium for their meetings, business dealings in order to reduce more physical contact.

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