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Determinants of Households Consumption among Staff of Osun State Local Government Service Commission

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Abstract
This study empirically examined the determinants of household consumption expenditure among staff of Osun State Local Government Service Commission. A total sample of 124 staff of local government commission was purposively selected for the study. A self-constructed questionnaire was employed to gathered data from the respondents. Multiple linear regression model and correlation analysis were used to analyse the information obtained from the field. The findings of the study revealed that employment status and income level of household are the most significant factor that influence household's consumption pattern in the study area. while employment status exact positive significance, income on the hand show a negative relationship with consumption expenditure. The study therefore recommended that government should initiate policies such as unemployment benefits, vocational training programme, job training programme, and investment incentives that is capable of guarantee suitable employment opportunities for the teaming youth so as to enhance their consumption level. Also, government should also prioritize policies and programmes, which may include quality health care services, subsidized education and unconditional cash transfer financial support, as a way of reducing poverty level, in a bid to enhance consumption level of the people in the study area. that will alleviate poverty level in the society with a view to increase income level, and consequently their consumption level.

Keywords: Consumption, Government, Household
JEL Classification Codes: E21, R5, R2

1. Introduction

Nigeria, as a top oil exporter in Africa, is classified among wealthy countries, with oil revenue accounting for more than half of its revenue (National Bureau of Statistics [NBS], 2022). However, Nigeria's failure to diversify the economy and build the much-needed transport and power infrastructure necessary for industrialization, coupled with its long-standing dependence on oil has not only slowed its growth, but also inflicts poverty and inequality among its populace (NBS, 2022; World Bank, 2022). The NBS in its 2018/19 report on poverty and inequality indicated that monetary poverty shows that 40.1 per cent of people in the continent's most populous country (Nigeria) are classified as poor. In other words, on average, the real per capita expenditure of 4 in every 10 individuals is below the country's poverty line of 134,430 naira per year (NBS, 2022). NBS (2023), further disclosed that 133 million people that is, 63 per cent, are multidimensionally poor, mainly due to deprivation across health, education, living standard, employment and security shocks.

Even though, the Russia-Ukraine crisis may partially be blamed for the present inflation trigger on one hand, the lingering structural and security challenges driving prices of food and basic services beyond the reach of the poor and the almost non-existent middle class is also influential (The Guardian, 2022). In fact, poverty in Nigeria is increasingly rising due to a number of factors, ranging from climate shocks through floods and droughts; conflicts shocks like the Boko Haram insurgency in 2009 in the North Eastern zone, the rise of criminal gangs and banditry in the North Western zone, and the dirty operations of members of various vigilantes for different ethnic groups in Southern zone of the country respectively; uncertainty about shocks such resulting from climate and conflicts; recessions, specifically that of the 2015; the recent Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and recent inflationary trend. These have collectively cut off millions of households from accessing their livelihoods and income, and also, undermines government plans and efforts to lift 100 million of Nigerians out of poverty within a specified period of time (World Bank, 2022; Felbab-Brown, 2021; and International Crisis Group, 2021).

Added to the adverse effect of poverty level across many households is the rising inflation, which had posed a significant challenge to many households across the world, by driving them into deep poverty resulting from depreciation of the value of their real wages and savings by higher prices. Even with the negative growth rate, rising inflation drove Nigerians' consumption expenditure to N130.08 trillion 2022, which is N21.61trillion or 16.61 per cent higher compared to the N108.47tn in 2021 (NBS, 2022). The World Bank had already projected that the number of poor Nigerians would hit 95.1 million in 2022. This is largely because, Nigeria's inflation rate is likely to be one of the highest in the world and the seventh highest in sub-Saharan Africa in 2022, resulting into diminishing the welfare of the Nigerian households through eroding their purchasing power (The Guardian, 2022). Considering the recent floods, conflicts, and uncertainty, the Nigeria's outlook for inflation does not provide a great outlook in terms of performance rating compared to other countries. Today's reality revealed a worse situation than the World Bank's prediction. The NBS in its reports uncovered Nigeria's inflation level and worsening poverty, thereby citing it as the key driver for the increasing number of poor people in the country (The Guardian, 2022).

While, it is important to note that poverty was widespread in Nigeria even before the outbreak of COVID-19, as documented in (NBS, 2019), it is equally important to note that Nigeria's widespread poverty is deeply concentrated in rural areas, where 52.1 per cent of the population was estimated to be poor, which is consider higher than the 18.0 per cent of the urban population. In line with this, it is also indicated that, of the total poor Nigerians, 84.1 per cent lived in rural areas. Thus, it is of paramount importance to also note that these effects are not felt proportionately. The Low- and middle-income households tend to be more vulnerable to high inflation than wealthier households, considering the composition of their income, assets and consumption baskets. Inflation may affect the very poorest households living below the global poverty line less directly, than the rest. On the other hand, patterns of consumption among poor and non-poor Nigerian households also differ sharply.

The share of consumption devoted to food (both purchased and non-purchased sources) is much higher among the poor households, as it comprises 57.1 per cent of their consumption basket, compared to non-poor whose consumption share devoted food comprises 46.5 per cent of their consumption basket. Subsequently, Nigerians are beginning to witness a trend where more people are borrowing to survive, with the aids of quick loan apps, as spending has been largely focused on food and essential commodities. This further skyrocketed food inflation, making it a challenge for many households whose incomes have not witnessed any improvement (Fred, Lennis, & Thomas, 2024).

The rising inflation in Nigeria becomes worrisome, looking at the recent trends in the country. According to NBS (2023) as at August, 2023 the headline inflation rate (all items index) rose to 25.80% from 24.08% in July 2023. This movement shows an increase in the headline inflation of 1.7% from July to August, 2023. On a year-on-year basis, the headline inflation rate rose from 20.52% in August, 2022 to 25.80% in August, 2023, indicating a rise of the headline inflation rate by 5.27%. Similarly, on a month-on-month basis, the headline inflation rate rose from 2.89% in July, to 3.18% August, 2023, indicating an increase of 0.29% between the months.

On the other hand, while the urban CPI on a year-on-year basis rose from 20.95% in August, 2022 to 27.69% in August, 2023, indicating an increase of 6.73%. on the other hand, the rural CPI on a year-on-year basis rose to24.10% in August, 2023, from 20.12% in August, 2022, which was higher by 3.98%. The Food inflation rate, on a year-on-year basis, was 29.34% in August 2023, which was 6.22% points higher than the 23.12% rate recorded in August 2022. Similarly, Food inflation rate, on a month-on-month basis was 3.87%, which was 0.41% points higher than the 3.45% rate recorded in July 2023 (NBS, 2023). This is crystal clear that inflation alone pushing households across Nigerian regions into deep ocean of poverty day by day.

Poverty is unarguably the most alarming issue affecting the state of Nigerian economy. The World Bank (2022) asserted that the growth rate of Nigeria economy is at its lowest given all the indicators in terms of low human capital, labour market weaknesses, and exposure to shocks, which were holding Nigeria's poverty reduction back. While macroeconomics factors such as the GDP per capita or per capita income, gross savings, debt levels, inflation and availability of goods and services are said to determine households' consumptions (Dilanchiev & Taktakishvili, 2021; Tomasetti, 2023). Consumption of households in the North-western part of Nigeria suffers the effects of each of the preceding consumption determinants. Meanwhile, the pervasive rising poverty in the North-western Nigeria, which is majorly rooted in the rural areas, where majority of poor Nigerians lived, may said to be caused by the foregoing factors.

Indeed, growth commands income level, which determines the spending capacity of individual households (Dilanchiev & Taktakishvili, 2021). Hence, low growth due to factors such as climate and conflicts shocks caused either by poor harvest or cutting off of households from accessing their livelihoods and income, implies low-income level in the zone. The prevalence of low human capital in the North-western states of Nigeria, as reported in the United Nation Development Programme [UNDP], 2016) where North-western states are ranked below 28 out of the 36 states plus FCT across many human development indices equally remains a critical problem (NBS, 2016). More so, the labour and product markets, particularly agricultural products market are very weak, partly because of structural inefficiencies and conflicts that disrupts the markets. Finally, the skyrocketing inflation across the country resulting from a sharp drop in the supply of agricultural products to markets worsen the situation. This is partly due to the fear of being killed, kidnaped or raped by bandits when many of the Nigerian farmers, particularly in the Middle-Belt, North-West and North-East states returned to the farm, or the uncertainty of farmers and traders about consequences of climate and conflicts shocks that prevent them from engaging into their daily businesses and farming.

The issue of poverty has been a subject of discourse among international partners and other concerned stakeholders across the globe. In

Nigeria for example, government at regional and sub-nationals have initiated different policies and programmes in a bid to stem the tide of rising poverty and due to its attendant consequences on household consumption expenditure. These policies and proganrmmes includes the farm settlement programme to develop both export and cash crops, Agriculture Development Project (ADP), to provide low-interest to farmers for the development of agricultural projects, the National Poverty Alleviation Programme (NAPEP) with primary mandate of addressing the challenges of poverty, and other recent polices and programme initiated includes the conditional cash transfer programme as a form of social security for the vulnerable groups, trader money and market money (Egobueze & Davies, 2022 ; Taiwo &Agwu, 2016).

Despite efforts to alleviate poverty and stabilize prices, many households continue to struggle with reducing their consumption expenditure in the face of rising poverty, leading to decreased purchasing power, compromised well-being, and perpetuated poverty cycles. The problem is particularly acute among low-income households, who are disproportionately affected by poverty and inflation and have limited adaptive capacity to adjust their consumption expenditure. The existing literatures have not adequately explored the complex interplay between household consumption expenditures and its determinants. and household consumption expenditure, nor has it provided sufficient insights into effective policy interventions to support vulnerable populations. Therefore, this study aims to investigate the determinants of household consumption expenditure, identifying the role of household's employment status, income level, educational attainment, poverty and inflation as they affect their consumption pattern.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Conceptual Review

2.1.1 Household

According to 2006 UNECE/CES population census standard, as cited in Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development [OECD], 2013), the concept of a household can be classified into two identified as "private households" and "institutional households". A private household is defined as either a one-person household- a person who lives alone in a separate housing unit or who occupies, as a lodger, a separate room (or rooms) of a housing unit but does not join with any of the other occupants of the housing unit to form part of a multi-person household or a multi-person household- that is a group of two or more persons who combine to occupy the whole or part of a housing unit and to provide themselves with food and possibly other essentials for living.

Members of the group may pool their incomes to a greater or lesser extent. While this definition relates explicitly to persons occupying a "housing unit". An institutional household comprises persons whose need for shelter and subsistence is being provided by an institution. An institution is a legal body for the purpose of long-term inhabitation and provision of services to a group of persons. The great majority of institutional households are considered to fall into the following categories: residences for students; hospitals, convalescent homes, old people's homes, etc.; assisted-living facilities and welfare institutions; military barracks; correctional and penal institutions; religious institutions; and worker dormitories.

2.1.2 Consumption

Consumption is the end product of production. It could be described that production function is incomplete until goods produced get to the final consumer. Zehiwot and Senapathy (2019) stated that consumption is the amount of service of a good that is used up in any one period. Consumption is the most important component of national income accounting and the aggregate demand; it is the ultimate economic activity on which the welfare of the economy depends and constitutes a major portion of disposable income of the households on micro economic level. Consumption is one of the fundamental determinants of aggregate economic activities and the consumption pattern of the household does not only vary with income per person in a household but also with its size, age of the head of household, and sex composition. According to Ezeji and Ajudua (2015), the neoclassical economists consider consumption to be a final product of economic activities. This means that the level of consumption in an economy is a central measure of productivity success in that economy.

2.1.3 Household Consumption

Household consumption has contributed primarily to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in virtually every economy across the world and also in West Africa. In economic literature, it is acknowledged that household consumption drives economic activities as it contributes substantially to aggregate demand, which ultimately transmit to economic growth and unemployment reduction with possible spillover benefits to the reduction in poverty (Iheonu & Nwachukwu, 2020). Household consumption expenditure reflects the behaviour of households and their purchasing power and represents one of the important measures of economic activity. They actually express the amount of money spent by households on goods and services, whether long-term or short-term consumption, on housing, and on public services.

Measuring household consumption expenditure is important for the analysis of economic growth, inflation, and overall economic performance. From the government's perspective, household consumption expenditure is important for a variety of reasons, which include to assess the overall health of the economy, track inflation, and inform monetary and fiscal policy decisions (Madudova & Tatiana 2023).

2.2 Theoretical Review

2.2.1 Consumption Smoothing Theory

The theory consumption smoothing theory developed by Friedman (1957), which is based on the permanent income theory hypothesis. The theory holds that consumption is directly linked to an individuals' income which also depends on a number of factors. The theory rests on the assumption that the individuals are able to finance their expenditures on income generated from a number of sources. Although, this theory is able to describes how household at any point given the circumstances always strive to maintain a stable level of consumption despite income distortion characterize by change environmental and economic factors which after the low-income strata adversely compared to their middle-income households, but it has been criticizes on several grounds ranging from oversimplification, unaccountable for risks, limited empirical support, particularly in the context of developing countries, and measurements bias among others. Nevertheless, the theory is found suitable for this research due to its uniqueness in predicting the uncertainty of economic shocks and its identifying challenges to the low-income individuals

2.2.2 Life Hypothesis Theory

The life hypothesis developed by Modigliani and Brumberg (1950), emphasized that household make consumption decision based on their expected lifetime income. This they rely on the assumption that consumers have a fairly accurate estimate of their lifetime income, hence they behave rationally and make informed decisions about their consumption and savings. The theory also describes the importance of uncertainty about the future or other factors that might affect consumption. This theory provides a sound base, and more relevant to the current study as it helps in understanding the consumption patterns, and how why households consume more or less at different stages of life.

2.3 Empirical Review

Mohammed, Abubaka, and Yakubu (2023) study on the determinants of household food consumption expenditure in Borno State, Nigeria. The study utilized 2020 - 2021 Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) data generated from 1352 samples purposively selected for the study. Ordinary Least Square regression model was used to analyze data collected from the field. The result indicated that family type and income of household head exact a positive and significance influence on food consumption expenditure. The study inferred that both demographic and economic factors affect household decision to consume food in the study area. This study aligns with the current study as it suggests that an improvement in employment opportunities drive consumption expenditure.

Lawrence *et al.* (2023) examined household consumption variation across poverty subgroups in Ghana. Multiple linear regression techniques were employed to estimates the determinants of total daily household expenditure for the samples of the study. The results of the study revealed that non-poor group spending pattern on consumption is extremely higher than their poor counterparts.

Bula, Sanni, Aliyu, and Dogo (2023) investigated the influence of labour participation in household consumption in the developing country of Nigeria. The study made use of secondary data extracted from the Nigerian Living Standard Survey (NLSS) carried out in 2018–2019 by the National Bureau of Statistics in conjunction with the World Bank. The data was analysed using descriptive statistics, linear regression, and logit models. The findings of the study showed that households headed by self-employed consume less than those whose heads are unemployed, while households whose heads are employed consume significantly more than those whose heads are unemployed. The study therefore recommended that employment policies should be implemented in order to increase their income generating capacity.

Talent (2022) examined the determinants and effects of non-monetary household asset poverty in South Africa. The study obtained data from secondary sources using all the existing five waves of the National Income Dynamics Study (NIDS) panel dataset observed over the period 2008-2017 and the Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and random effect probit model were used in analysing the data. The study found that some factors such as levels of education of the head of household and land ownership, have a reducing influence on asset poverty. The study also revealed that larger household and unemployed are more prone to poverty in South Africa. The study therefore recommended that government should focus more on providing quality education at all levels.

Naseebullah, Ahmed, and Faiz (2022) study on the impact of demographic Factors, household characteristics and locational Factors on Poverty in Pakistan. The study used secondary data obtained from the Pakistan social and living standards measurement (PSLM) survey covering period of

2014 to 2015. Logistic regression model was used to analyse the data. The study found that household head's education, household size, household head age, marital status, health status, remoteness, region and gender have significant impact on poverty level. The study concluded that the differences in region, gender, and provinces cause rise in poverty rate due to low health facilities, poor educational system, low infrastructure, low employment opportunities and low economic growth. The study recommends that government should prioritize investment in education and health care to improve human capital and reduce poverty most especially among women

Similarly, Wabil (2021) examined the determinants of household consumption expenditure in Nekemte Administrative Town, Oromia Regional State of Ethiopia. Stratified and purposive sampling technique were employed to select 379 households for the study. Ordinary Least Square regression model was used to analyse the data obtained from questionnaire administration. The findings of the study show that respondent's income, age, age dependency ratio, family size, and education level of the respondents were the only variables that exact a positive significant influence on consumption level in the study area. The results also revealed that other factors such as sex, marital status, employment status of the respondents do not have any significant influence on household consumption expenditure. Although, this paper highlighted the importance of income and dependency ratio on household consumption expenditure as in the current study but differs because the study produced a mixed finding as regards the role of individual employment status to consumption expenditure.

Zehiwot and Senapathy (2020) conducted a study to assess and evaluate the consumption expenditure of households at Debremarkos in Ethiopia. A total sample of 100 respondents were randomly selected for the study. Interview was employed as the main gathering instrument for the study. Multiple linear regression model was applied to x-ray the major determinants of household's consumption pattern in the study area. The findings of the study revealed that those respondents on formal employment exhibit less consumption compared to self-employed individuals. Also, it was discovered that income and family size exact positive and significance effect on consumption expenditure of sampled respondents. This study resonates with the current study as it highlights some of the major determinants of household's consumption expenditure but differs from the current study as it was conducted in faraway Ethiopia.

In another study, Ihenonu and Nwachukwu (2020) investigated the macroeconomic determinants of household consumption in selected West African countries. A panel data analysis was employed for the period between 1989-2018. The results indicated that inflationary trend has a negative effect on household's consumption expenditure. It was also discovered exchange rate and domestic credit to private sector positively influenced household's consumption pattern in the study area.

Wegayehu, Yibeltal, and Digvijay (2020) identified and assess the influence of socio-economic and demographic factors affecting household's consumption expenditure. Simple random sampling technique was employed to select 130 respondents for the study. A self-designed questionnaire was employed as the main instrument to generate information from the samples selected. The multiple regression results revealed that household's income and family size have a positive and significance influence on consumption level at individual households' level. This study also lay emphasis to income as in the current study but differs from the current study because only family size and income were mentioned in the study.

3. Methodology

The study adopted cross-sectional survey research design. This method was adopted as it allows researcher to collect information from selected respondents on the spot, for a period of time. The population for the study consists of the entire staff members of the state local government service commission in Osun State. These includes those on grade level 01-06, 07 and above, the casual staff, and contract staff. Due to non-availability of accurate data on the personnel enrolment, a purposive sampling procedure was employed to select 124 staff members which cut across all the categories of staff in the commission. This sampling procedure was found most suitable since the list of sampling frame is not available as at the time of conducting this research.

A self-constructed questionnaire was used to obtain relevant information from the respondents. The questionnaire contains a close-ended question with multiple choice options ranging from strongly disagree (SD), disagree (D), agreed (A), strongly agreed (SA), and undecided. A self-constructed questionnaire was used to obtain relevant information from the respondents. Two different methods of data analyses techniques were adopted for the study vis-à-vis the multiple linear regression and correlation coefficient. The multiple regression was used to measure the level of significance/effect both combined and individuals' effects of employment status, income level, educational attainment on consumption expenditure while correlation analysis was used to explain the relationship between the variables.

3.1 Model Specification

$$CE = f(household\ income, house\ size, employemt\ status, educational\ level) \ldots\ldots 1$$

$$CE = \beta_0 + \beta_1 HI + \beta_2 HS + \beta_3 ES + \beta_4 EL + \mu \ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots 2$$

Where:

CE is Consumption Expenditure
HI is Household Income
HS is Household Size
ES is Employment Status
EL is, Educational Level
μ is the stochastic term
β_0 is the constant
β_1 to β_4 are the regression slopes

Consumption Expenditure defined by the total monthly expenditure on goods and services, while the HI stands for household income measure as the total monthly income from different sources, HS stands for household size which simply mean the number of individuals living in the household, and ES represents the total number of people in employment category which include formal employment, self-employment, unemployed and retired from active service. The β_1 to β_4 are the regression coefficients and μ stands for those variables not captured in the model.

4. Results and Discussion

Table 1: Summary of Regression Results

Variable	Co-efficient	Std. error	t-value	Prob.
Constant	1.055207	.4410472	2.39	0.018
Hi	- 1537486	.0608935	2.53	0.013
Hs	1530911	.1179209	1.30	0.197
Es	5667994	.1071132	5.29	0.000
El	09003	.998573	0.90	0.369
R-Squared	0.456			
Adjusted R-Squared	0.438			
F-Statistics	25.02			0.0000

Source: Author's Computation (2024).

Table 1 presents the regression results which shows the relationship between household consumption expenditure, and the other factors which influence the consumption patterns of households such as the household income, household size, employment status, and educational attainment of the respondents. The regression results show that the model is of good fit and adequate which is shown by the F-statistics of 25.02 and with probability of F > 0.0000. The R2 value of 0.4568 explains the variability in consumption expenditure, while the remaining 55% was explained by other variables not captured in the model.

In explaining the individual effects of the independent variables on the dependent variable, it was discovered that household income and employment status of households exact a positive and negative significance on the consumption pattern of households in the study area. For instance, the coefficient of household income of -1537 with value of P> 0.05 show a negative but significance relationship with consumption expenditure. Also, the coefficient of employment status of 0.5667 with P>0.0000 show a positive and significance relationship between employment status and consumption expenditure of household in the study area. The coefficient of household size of .1530 and educational level of .0900 indicated that the duo does not have any significance influence of individuals households' consumption expenditure.

Table 2: Correlation analysis

	CE	HI	HS	ES	EL
CE	1.0000				
HI	-0.1663	1.0000			
HS	0.4680	0.0778	1.0000		
ES	0.6427	0.0044	0.6177	1.0000	
EL	0.4955	-0.0596	0.5502	0.6533	1.0000

Source: Author's Computation (2024)

Table 2 presents the correlation analysis which expresses the relationship between independent variables and dependent variable. As shown in the table, it could be observed that employment status exacts a strong relationship with consumption expenditure showing a correlation coefficient of 0.6427 which is also the highest value as shown above. This interpretation of this value is that the higher the level of employment all things being equal, the high the consumption expenditure of households. The other variable that follows closely is the educational level with a value of 0.4955 indicating that higher education attainment shows a strong correlation with expenditure. The household's size with a value of 0.4680, also implies that the higher the size of households, the higher the level of correlation with consumption expenditure.

The last variable indicated that household's income shows a negative relationship with consumption expenditure, and this relationship conform with the coefficient of explanatory variables in the case of income as reported in the multiple linear regression results. The implications of this is that income level does not in any way have a positive relationship with consumption expenditure. This may not be unconnected to the fact that majority of selected samples fall within the categories of those that earn higher income, hence save more for investment purposes rather than consumption.

4.2 Discussion of Findings

The study found out that both employment status and household income exact a great significance on consumption expenditure of the households. Though, the significance between income and consumption expenditure remains largely negative, this may not be unconnected to the fact that as income increases most especially for higher income group in the society, their pattern of expenditure on consumption differs from low-income group in the society. The study also reported no significant effects between educational attainment and households' size on consumption expenditure and this may be as a result of the fact that formal education and additional years of education may not necessarily translate to higher consumption.

Similarly, a larger family size where resources are shared among members of the family may not have any impact on individual consumption level. The coefficients of the regression results indicated that a one unit increase in employment situation or status of the respondents, led to 56% increase in consumption expenditure. In the same manner, the results also revealed that a one unit increase in households size implies 15% increase in consumption expenditure though not exact any significant influence on the consumption pattern of the households. The findings further revealed that a one unit increase in household's education produces about 9% increase in consumption expenditures. And finally, it was observed that a one unit increase in household's income decreases the consumption expenditure by 15%. This may be due to the fact that high income households tend to spend a smaller proportion of their income on consumption unlike their low-income counterpart.

The study has contributed to the existing literature by examining empirically the relationship between consumption expenditure and other variables such as income, households' size and employment status as they affect consumption expenditure. The findings of this study corroborate with the study of (Naseebullah *et al.*, 2022; Talent, 2022) who also reported that employment and income assert a great influence on household's consumption patterns This study discovered that the significance of employment status and household's income on consumption expenditure cannot be overemphasized and ignored.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

The study on the determinants of household consumption among staff of Osun State Local Government Service Commission has provided valuable insights into the factors that influence household consumption patterns. The findings of the study have implications for policy makers, and other stakeholders to understand the dynamics of household consumption in the study area, and Nigeria at large. The study concluded that income and employment status of households have a positive and negative significance influence on consumption expenditure, while other variables such as household size and educational attainment of households does not have any influence on consumption expenditure.

Based on the findings of this study, the study recommends as follows:

i. That government should initiate employment policies that is capable of providing suitable employment opportunities for the teaming youth so as to enhance their consumption level.

ii. Government should provide financial support to staff with large household sizes to alleviate consumption pressures. also initiate good policies and programmes that will alleviate poverty level in the society with a view to increase income level, and consequently their consumption level.

iii. Government should also organize workshop on personal finance, budgeting and resource management to all categories of staff as part of efforts to ensure financial discipline among all staff.

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