

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

## INVESTIGATION OF THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON SHOE PRODUCTION: CASE STUDY FROM LOCAL SHOE MAKING COMPANIES

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## ARTICLE DETAILS

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## ABSTRACT

Global impact of covid-19 pandemic on well-being of the populace, generally on economic system, political system and social system is challenging and frustrating. However most powerful nation thinkers, and orientated developers focus on thorough hard work on research and production procedures to sustain their citizenry. Nigeria embracing footwear production at this covid-19 pandemic period is key solutions or tools to economic development for poverty reduction level, inflation rate, debt deficit rate and insurgencies. China was leading in footwear production in 2019 with a total of approximately \$13.5bn. Nigeria institute of leather and science technology (NILEST), Lagos footwear producer community, Aba shoemakers community and Naraguta leather works in Jos, Plateau State and other cobblers can increase our nation, Nigeria economic rate with about 20% GDP if is proper harnessed and supported.

## KEYWORDS

Covid-19, government policy, pandemic, challenges and shoemaking production system

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The covid-19 crisis had impacted on both the demand and the supply sides of the labor market, and it has major implications for the all businesses operations (Chen et al., 2019). The crisis or challenges has caused widespread unrest in society and unprecedented to the entire globe, changes in lifestyle, work and social interaction. Covid-19 caused a lot of crisis on airline revenue to drop by 60% in 2020. The nation February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by Medinat Kanabe for Muhammad Kabir Haruna, CEO of FAMAD manufacturing Company, popularly, known as Bata Shoe company in 70s the year 2020 was bad for business and year 2021 is also showing similar signs. covid-19 caused the same company to reduce staff from over 600 to 50. It's also reducing their turnover from 200m to 60m. Richard Okonko is the secretary Indigenous Manufacturers and Dealers of Footwear Association of Nigeria, IMADEFA stated that many has not recover from covid-19 and their customers don't come to buy anymore (Mahmud et al., 2019). Obi Ifeanyi-chukwu Godwin, CEO And God importers, said since 2020 he is yet to recover his losses, Felix Ibekwe who is also an importer said, generally, the market is very scanty because people don't have money (Mahdi et al., 2021). The Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, designated as a 6 Based on 44,672 confirmed cases in Mainland China: <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2002032> treatment center is still under construction currently with 2 makeshift beds. The spread of the virus, as patients are transferred to treatment centers, such as the one in Abuja, could be intensified putting more pressure on the already weakened healthcare infra-structure (JHU, 2020). If confirmed cases reaches numbers similar to that in Italy - 53,578 at the time of writing- it is projected that almost 15,000 people would need to be hospitalized/ require intensive care in Nigeria (WHO, 2020). Based on the trends experienced in Italy, in the first month after the first 30 confirmed cases, this could mean as much as 3,500 Nigerians requiring intensive care in the next 30 days. Shoemaking is the process of making footwear (Casella et al., 2020). Originally, shoes were made one at a time

by hand, often by groups of shoemakers, or cobblers. Steps of making shoe are measurement, selection of style; shoe last making, pattern cutting and clicking assembling the shoe etc. shoemakers may produce a range of footwear items, including shoes, boots sandals clogs and moccasins. Common materials used in making shoe's include, leather, rubber, textile, synthetic and foam, shoemaking-Agra, shoemaking-Agra (Li et al., 2020; Lu, et al., 2019). Tack hammer, long headed hammer for accurate hammering; lasting stand; to hold plastic last; lasting plier

## 1.1 Aim

The aim is to investigate the impact of covid-19 pandemic on shoe production

## 1.2 Objectives

The aim was achieved by the following objectives

- I. Investigation of the challenges association with covid-19 pandemic
- II. To relates these challenges with shoe making
- III. To develop the means of maximizing the business in the era of covid-19 pandemic situations

## 2. METHODOLOGY

## 2.1 Procedures

Shoe making company namely; James Yinkur shoemaking company, Ngaza's shoe making company, It wasn't me shoe making company in Jos plateau state, Nigeria, were used for the investigation of the challenges associated with covid-19 pandemic (Zhou, et al., 2020). Yearly records of the materials and expense (prices) of 2020 and 2021 were collated as a means of effects of covid-9 pandemic on their businesses for two per annual (Benvenuto et al., 2019).

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### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1: Fluctuations of Materials and Prices In 2020-2021**

S\No	Materials	2020 Prices	2021 Prices	2020 (%)	2021 (%)
1	Leather materials yard	1200	2400	4.12	4.87
2	synthetic materials yard	800	1600	2.75	3.25
3	foreign sole (pairs)	600	1400	2.06	2.84
4	muscle sole	600		2.06	3.45
5	Adhesive (gum)	1000	3000	3.44	6.09
6	Electricity bill	4000	6000	13.75	12.18
7	Roll tread	300	450	1.03	0.91
8	Sandals/pans Wood last	800	2000	2.75	4.06
9	Plastic last	2500	8500	8.59	17.26
10	Rough/smooth machine	14000	18000	48.11	36.55
11	Hummer	500	700	1.72	1.42
12	Successor	300	500	1.03	1.42
13	Lasting Pier	2500	3500	8.59	7.11
	<b>Total</b>	<b>29100</b>	<b>49250</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 4. DISCUSSION

In Investigated impact of covid-19 on shoe production we were discovered that there's wide gap increase of 27.72% cost incurred on materials used in 2020-2021 (Xu et al., 2020). However these Materials and prices has major impact in production output, going by 2020 expense incurred is 37.14% only and in 2021 64.86% which in turn has implication on sales, transportation, wages/salaries and others production operation process (Zhang et al., 2020). To relates these challenges with shoe making has huge important in factorize model or a new ways of production, marketing and sales of shoes products which should set to sustain and managing to achieve company goals and objectives (Tang et al., 2020). However all strategies and correct procedures to develop or to achieve the means of maximizing the business in the era of covid-19 pandemic situations is these three namely companies above concerned (OSHA. 2020; WHO. 2019). If Small medium enterprises given support by the government, these supports would Cushing our various firms in spite of covid-19 pandemic and given good services and increases national income whereas some many of shoemaking business closes down due to the pandemic effect (Promed. 2023). The impact is so negative in the side of shoemaking no doubt and on bearable to our various household (WHO. 2020).

#### 4.1 Based on our investigations, the following findings were observed in the course of our research

- Lack of established relationship with the apprentices
- Lack of company/business registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) that represents the federal government of Nigeria.
- Lack of proper administration of their business organization
- Lack of company's identity (brand) or trade mark on their products
- Inadequate of production materials such as shoe "plastic/ wood last"
- Lack of professional certificates in their business areas
- Lack of collaboration with both public & private sectors
- Lack of keeping of proper data

#### 4.2 The following recommendations were suggested based on the above lapses

- A good relationship with the apprentices should be established during the cause or operations of their training and after their training.
- It is advised that business should registered with the Government in order to assess benefits such as Grants, equipment or low interest loans and others bonus
- It is recommended that products should hence a trade mark or brand of the producers for easier identification.

- Company are to be run or operated with well structure organogram e.g. Director, managers, supervisors or operators etc.
- Essential production equipment should be acquires for smooth running of the business not always depending on borrowing
- It is recommended that business owners (cobbler) should acquire professional certificate to back up their trade
- It is recommended that collaboration with both public and private sectors should be encouraged
- It is recommended that both manual and computerized records should be taken on daily basis which records include inputs and output i.e. cost incurred on materials and daily sales of products.

### 5. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, investigated the impact of covid-19 pandemic on shoe production in plateau state, Nigeria, with our findings and recommendations the following conclusion were drawn.

- Better financial management can now be established
- Human and capital developments can henceforth be enhance
- The Growth Domestic Products (GDP) of the state can be ascertained.
- Entrepreneurship will be encouraged if these findings are properly implemented.
- This research serves as a guide to both intending and already established shoe producers.

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