# Geographical Analysis of Risky Sexual Behaviours Among Migrant and Non-Migrant Youth in Nigeria

By

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## Abstract

Risky sexual behaviours (RSB) are major global issue prevalent in sub Saharan Africa with regional variations. Major implications observed in African countries affect both migrant and non-migrant population yet comparative study remains limited in Nigeria. This study examined regional variations and factors affecting (RSB) among migrant and non-migrant youth in Nigeria using migrant hypothesis to conceptualize the study. National HIV/AIDS and Reproductive Health Survey data of Nigeria (NARHS) 2012 was used and it was analysed using ANOVA and logistic regression. Results showed significant spatial variations across regions. South South and North Central showed highest prevalence among migrant (24.2% and 24.2% respectively) and non-migrant population (25.5% and 18.9% respectively). Furthermore, significant determinants of RSB varied across regions. Level of education and marital status were major determinant of RSB in Northern and Southern Nigeria respectively. This paper advocates the need for a region-specific intervention to help mitigate incidence of RSB among Nigerian youth.

**Keywords: Risky Sexual Behaviours, Migrant, Non-Migrant, Youth, Nigeria**

## Background

The implications of Risky Sexual Behaviours among young population have contributed immensely to high rate of mortality and morbidity worldwide especially through HIV and AIDS which, in 2015 had 2.1 million newly infected victims, summing up to 36.7 million people living with HIV worldwide (PRB, 2016). Developing countries are 95% contributors of adolescent births globally (UNICEF, 2012). Given that a large percentage of abortions in developing regions are unsafe, youth at these regions are at higher risk of health consequences (WHO, 2011).

To risky sexual behaviour, migration is a key factor as research had showed migrants more prone to it than their non-migrant population (Mberu et al. 2011). Compared to past years, migration has increased tremendously over the last decade as recent changes in globalization and modern transportation now allow humans to move with more ease. Globally, one billion people at every time are on the move for either real or perceived wealth differentials between areas of origin and destination with youth having a greater propensity to migrate than other population (Gap report, 2014). To Hesketh et al. (2005), migration is a dominant survival strategy for young population in developing countries and its consequences shouldn't be over looked.

An observed increase in risky sexual behaviour among youth globally does not exclude Nigeria as studies have shown evidence of high prevalence rate of about 25.5% and 51.3% in the country (Pinyopornponish et al. 2017; Belay et al. 2017). Furthermore, delayed marriage in Nigeria, for the purpose of acquiring formal education have also given rise to increasing premarital sex among youth though some regions due to custom and culture, do engage in early marriages (Bankole et al.2006; NPC, 2009). Median age at sex debut of adolescents in the country is 18 years with the age among males and females at 16years and 15years respectively (NDHS, 2013). Odimegwu et al. (2017) in their study recorded 84% female and 57% male youth as non-condom users at last sexual intercourse while 35% female and 81% male were reported to have had multiple sexual partners in Nigeria. More so, there is an alarming increase of sexually active youth with majority of them lacking reproductive health information to practice safe sex (Imaledo et al. 2012).

The implication of risky sexual behaviour in Nigeria ranges from 42.1% of the adolescent population resulting in either/both unintended pregnancies, STI or illegal abortion in just the rural parts of the country (Okonta, 2007); an estimate of 900,000 births by adolescents occur annually while 150 out of every 1000 women who give birth are aged 19 years and below (Odimegwu et al. 2002; Ankomah et al. 2011). Approximately 610,000 induced abortions are recorded annually in the country with youth in secondary school or college as majority of the population. With the country's statistics indicating that 47 million young Nigerians within ages 10-24 accounts for one third of the country's population and with the projected youth population figures in 2025 at 57million, a good number of youth are put at risk of sexual behaviours (Onyebuchi, 2015).

With the youth at the forefront of world health and youth in Nigeria and frequently migrating (to improve their standards of living, educational purposes, health benefits, apprenticeship and need for change in place of residence) (Ajaero & Onokala, 2013), it is not out of place to prioritize their sexual needs in other to attain the sustainable development goal 3 which seeks to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all population categories. The socio-cultural spatial variations in Nigeria today, also spur a need beyond literatures to understand the regional differences in risky sexual behaviour among migrant youth as this is a critical factor in mitigating and preventing the occurrence of these behaviors among the young population.

**The Theoretical Work**

The study, was associated with risky sexual behaviours found among migrants than non-migrants. The difference in these behaviours was explained by Bockerhoff and

Biddlecom (1998) to be as a result of three broad factors which he summarized and grouped into predisposing individual characteristics, changes in individual attributes due to migration and exposure to a new social environment. Furthermore Akinyemi et al. (2017) called it migration hypotheses. These four broad groups were elaborated under four effects.

1). Selection Effect: Macisco, Bouvier and Weller (1970) and Hoem, (1975) poise that migrants are highly selected with certain individual and community characterises such as higher education, young age, unmarried status and desire for comfort. As a result of this selection, migrants are reported to be wealthier with a healthy outlook to life than non-migrants at the origin (Mberu and White, 20011).

2). Disruption Effect: Physiological stress, due to moving, loss of social capital and separation from close relatives including spouse. These are closely associated to the short or long periods individuals migrate to a place. In the bit to avoid the pain of separation and loneliness, some get into risky sexual behaviours.

3). Adaptation Effect: Over time, as these migrants adapts to new economic, cultural and social environment at the place of destination, their behaviours changes causing their sexual behaviours to converge towards that of the native population at the destination.

4). Socialization Effect: Certain behaviours acquired by migrants at the place of origin especially during childhood, may persist in later life no matter the new environmental condition the migrants are exposed to (Kulu, 2005). Though adaptation effect may still exist, it may not adequately offset socialization effect.

In as much as migration hypothesis is in use by behavioural health researchers and variations found between sexual behaviours of migrants and that of non-migrants, some empirical research has criticised it stating that in Africa migration occurs within families and community networks which affords migrants some of the support they need to adjust to life at the destination. According to Mberu et al. (2011), implications of migration on migrants' risky sexual behaviours are moderated. Also, other factors outside migration were identified as factors predicting young people's sexual behaviours in developing countries. Some of them include; gender, chronological age, family economic circumstances, school environment, unemployment and nature of employment.

Hinged on migration hypothesis, the analyses in this study were guided by the framework in Figure 1 It was used to examine the relationship between individual characteristics, migration status and risky sexual behaviours of the youth population. In Nigeria, people migrate mostly for economic reasons and most times the population who are healthier, with more financial capacity and ideas tend to migrate in other to attain a better standard of living. At the destination, migrants have tendency of being healthier than the non-

migrants. The act of migrating may influence the extent to which people engage in risky sexual behaviours. For instance, consequent of disruption effects on migrants which could bring about loneliness, lack of economic support and making them seeking for acceptance at their destination, may engage in risky sexual behaviours in the cause of adoption. Non-migrants who does not always use condom during sexual intercourse, engage in multiple sexual partnerships may be influenced by the sexual behaviours of migrants at the destination, the sexual norms of those at the destination are also likely to influence that of the migrants. For reason of socialisation, some migrants and non-migrants may persist on their sexual values and not give in to risky sexual practices of individuals during adaption. The arrows in Figure 1, shows the effects of migrants' and non-migrants' individual characteristics on sexual behaviours.
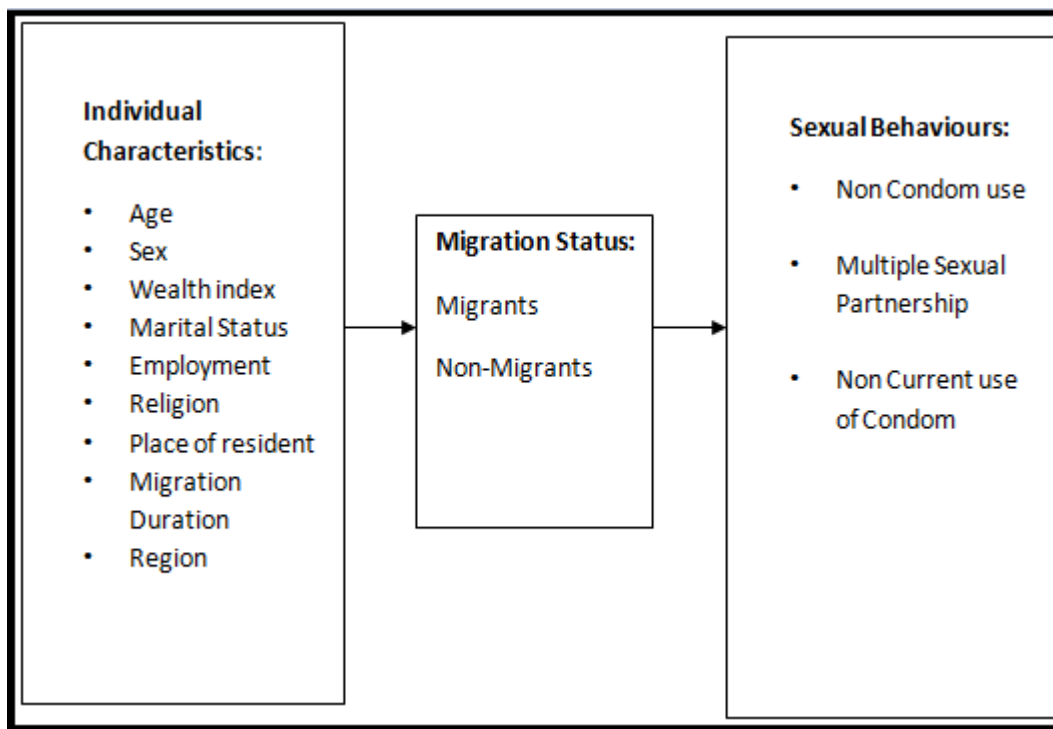


Figure.1: Conceptual framework of the relationship between individual and contextual characteristics, migration status and risky sexual behaviours Adapted from Akinyemi et al. (2017).

**Research Method and Process**

This study used a secondary data from the 2012 National HIV/AIDS and Reproductive Health Survey of Nigeria (NARHS) conducted on a nationally representative sample of respondents aged 15-64 years from 1116 clusters across all the 36 states of country and FCT Abuja. This is because it's the only current available dataset with RSB and migration variables. The outcome variable of risky sexual behaviour (named "RSB" in the dataset) measured in this study include condom use at last sex and multiple sexual partners. The

respondents who had responded 'Yes' to one or more of these questions; (i) had more than one sexual partner (ii) who were not currently using condom (iii) who had never used condom, were classified as engaging in risky sexual behaviour and coded "1" while those who responded 'No' to all the three questions were classified as engaging in non-risky sexual behaviour and coded "0". Internal migration status was categorized as 1= migrant, and 0= non-migrants (migrant or non-migrant). Since the dataset has no specific question on migration, we used two variables; (i) Age of respondents, and (ii) Number of years the respondent had lived in his present location. If the age of the respondent is more than the number of years lived in a location, the respondent is categorised as a migrant while the rest are categorised as non-migrant. This agrees with empirical researches (Akinyemi et al., 2017; Mberu and White 2011).

**Data Analysis**

Before analysis, the data was weighted to account for differences due to under-sampling and over sampling errors. The analyses of data were disaggregated on the basis of regional differentials. The prevalence of RSB among the target population across the study area was carried out using frequencies, percentages and density maps. Furthermore, ANOVA was used to show significant spatial variations across regions while, binary logistic regression was used to estimate regional determinants of RSB in the country. Analyses were done with ArcGIS and STATA software.

**Results**

**Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents**

From table 1 below, this study showed that greater percentage of the study populations are migrants (54.8%) with higher percentages in North Central (22.7%) and South South (20.1%) Nigeria while South East (11.7%) and North East (14.2%) recorded the least. In comparison with 45.2% of non-migrant population, North West (24.6%) and South South (20.2%) had the highest population while South West (9.1%) and South East (10.8%) recorded the least. Married respondents identified were 50.5% of the total sampled population, 47.4% were singles while 2.1% were separated/divorced/widowed. Unlike the non-migrant population were 49.8% and 47.8% are single and married respectively, the migrant population had 45.3% and 52.7% of its population single and married respectively (see table 1 below).

TABLE 1: Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

| Population Variables | Total Population (%) | Migrant (%) | Non-migrant (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Multiple Sexual Partner** | | | |
| No | 3504(82.7) | 1922(82.5) | 1582(82.8) |
| Yes | 735(17.3) | 407(17.5) | 328(17.2) |
| **Ever used Condom** | | | |
| Yes | 1675(46.9) | 952(47.5) | 723(46.1) |
| No | 1870(52.3) | 1037(51.7) | 833(53.1) |
| Do not remember | 29(0.8) | 16(0.8) | 13(0.8) |
| **Currently using condom** | | | |
| Yes | 1163(69.7) | 636(67.2) | 527(73.0) |
| No | 505(30.3) | 310(32.7) | 195(27.0) |
| Do not remember | 1(0) | 1 | 0 |
| **Age group** | | | |
| 15-19 | 1591(31.7) | 760(27.6) | 831(36.6) |
| 20-24 | 3430(68.3) | 1993(72.4) | 1437(63.4) |
| **Sex** | | | |
| Male | 1753(34.9) | 839(30.5) | 914(40.3) |
| Female | 3268(65.1) | 1914(69.5) | 1354(59.7) |
| **Marital Status** | | | |
| Single | 2353(47.4) | 1237(45.3) | 1116(49.82) |
| Married | 2508(50.5) | 1438(52.7) | 1070(47.8) |
| Widowed/Divorced/Separated | 107(2.1) | 53(1.9) | 54(2.4) |
| **Education** | | | |
| None | 1480(29.5) | 711(25.8) | 769(34.0) |
| Primary | 527(10.5) | 298(10.8) | 229(10.1) |
| Secondary | 2539(50.6) | 1434(52.1) | 1105(48.9) |
| Tertiary & above | 468(9.3) | 309(11.2) | 159(7.0) |
| **Religion** | | | |
| Islam | 2068(41.3) | 1035(37.6) | 1033(45.7) |
| Christian | 2885(57.6) | 1687(61.3) | 1198(53.0) |
| Others | 60(1.2) | 31(1.1) | 29(1.3) |
| **Ethnic group** | | | |
| Hausa/Fulani | 1287(25.7) | 619(22.5) | 668(29.6) |
| Igbo | 672(13.4) | 415(15.1) | 257(11.4) |
| Yoruba | 673(13.4) | 440(16.0) | 233(10.3) |
| Others | 2376(47.4) | 1278(46.4) | 1098(48.7) |
| **Employment status** | | | |
| Empolyed | 3002(59.8) | 1672(60.8) | 1330(58.7) |
| Unempolyed | 2015(40.2) | 1080(39.2) | 935(41.3) |
| **Residence** | | | |
| Urban | 1369(27.3) | 871(31.6) | 498(22.0) |
| Rural | 3652(72.7) | 1882(68.4) | 1770(78.0) |
| **Wealth status** | | | |
| Poor | 319(6.4) | 212(7.7) | 107(4.7) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Middle | 3189(63.5) | 1788(65.0) | 1401(61.8) |
| Rich | 1513(30.1) | 753(27.4) | 760(33.5) |
| **Migration Status** | 5021 | 2753(54.8) | 2268(45.2) |
| **Region** | | | |
| North Central | 1007(20.1) | 626(22.7) | 381(16.8) |
| North East | 813(16.2) | 392(14.2) | 421(18.6) |
| North West | 973(19.4) | 415 (15.1) | 558(24.6) |
| South East | 567(11.3) | 322(11.7) | 245(10.8) |
| South South | 1009(20.1) | 552(20.1) | 457(20.2) |
| South West | 652(13.0) | 446(16.2) | 206(9.1) |

Source: Author's computation (2018)

**Spatial Variations of RSB Among Migrants and Non-Migrants in Nigeria**

ANOVA result in table 2 below showed that there was a statistically significant spatial variation in RSB among migrants and non-migrants between rural and urban areas, states and regions in Nigeria. Also, the density maps below showed prevalence rate of RSB among the sampled population. The migrant population, had highest prevalence in North Central and South South (see Figure 2 below) while non-migrant population had South South recorded with highest prevalence rate of RSB and South West and South East were the least regions (see Figure 3 below).

Table 2: ANOVA Result for Significant Spatial Variations in the study area.

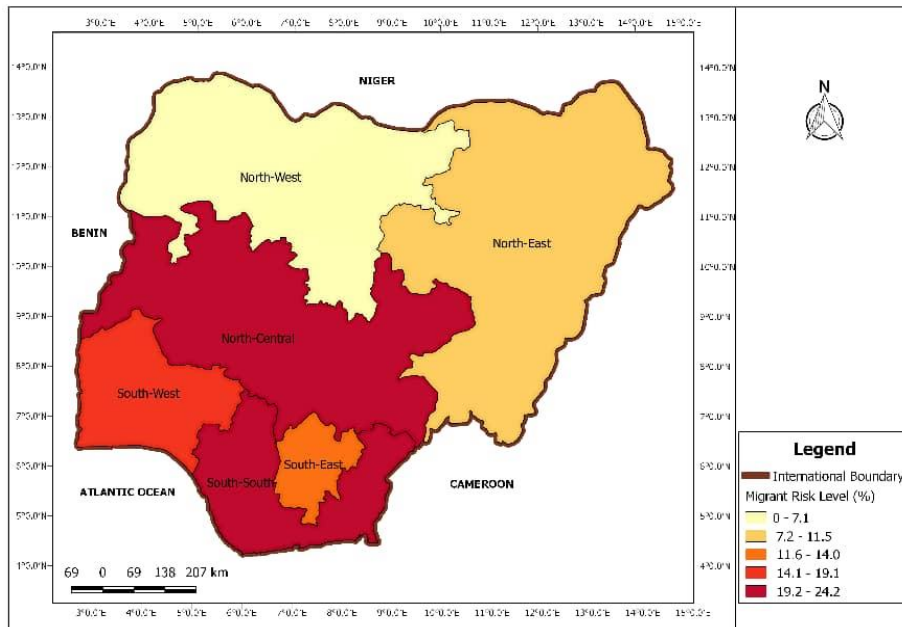| **Migrant population** | **F-Values** | **P-Values** |
|---|---|---|
| Place of residence | 22.71 | 0.00 |
| States | 18.41 | 0.00 |
| Regions | 53.87 | 0.00 |
| **Non-migrant Population** | | |
| Place of residence | 6.7 | 0.01 |
| States | 9.83 | 0.00 |
| Regions | 38.72 | 0.00 |

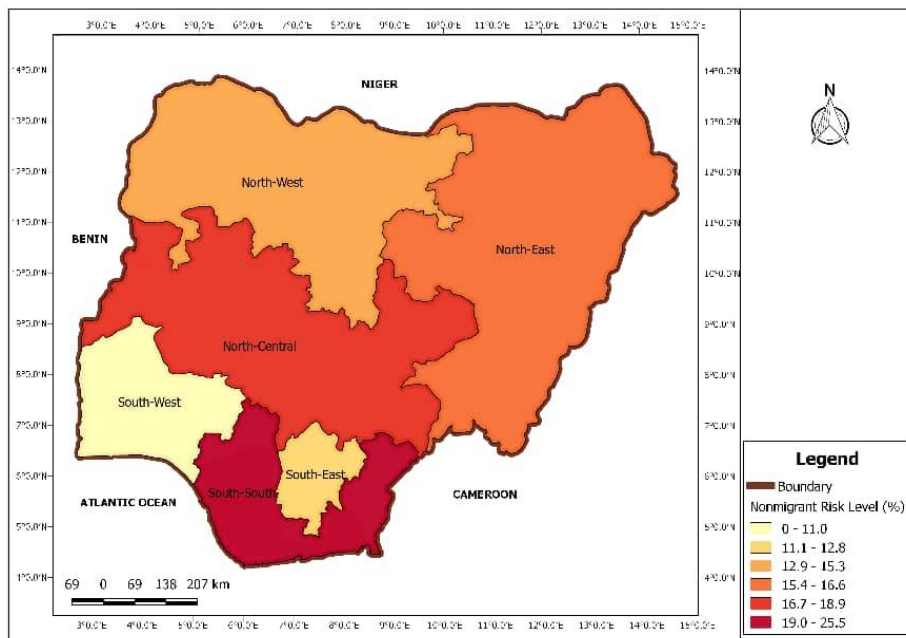FIGURE 2: RSB of migrant youth across regions in Nigeria



FIGURE 3: RSB of non-migrant youth across regions in Nigeria

**Determinants of Risky Sexual Behaviours among Migrants and Non-Migrants in Nigeria**

The total sampled migrant population identified the married (OR=1.81; P=0.001), Yoruba's (OR=3.01; P=0.001), those with secondary (OR=3.90; P=0.001) and primary (OR=3.10; P=0.001) education, as more likely to engage in risky sexual behaviours than the rest of the population category (see table 3 below). Regional variations showed the married (OR=2.15; P=0.01), those with secondary (OR=5.27; P=0.001) and tertiary (OR=4.11; P=0.01) education as most prone to RSB in North Central. In North East; those with secondary education (OR=4.29; P=0.001), Christians (OR=2.47; P=0.01), other ethnic groups

8

(OR=2.89; P=0.001), middle class status (OR=7.10; P=0.05) and unemployed (OR=2.49; P=0.01) were identified as more likely to engage in RSB. In North West, those; aged 20 to 24 (OR=2.53; P=0.001), with tertiary (OR=7.99; P=0.01), secondary (OR=3.90; P=0.05) and primary (OR=2.80; P=0.01) education were most likely to engage in RSB. In South East, married respondents (OR=2.63; P=0.01) were more likely. While in South South; married respondents (OR=2.02; P=0.01), rural residence (OR=1.88; P=0.01), middle class (OR=2.31; P=0.01) and the rich (OR=4.69; P=0.01) showed more prone to RSB. Finally, in South West; those with primary education (OR=2.88; P=0.05), other ethnic group (OR=9.43; P=0.05), Yoruba (OR=7.46; P=0.05), and Igbo (OR=7.73; P=0.01) showed more likelihood.

TABLE 3 : Binary Logistic Regression Result of Regional Determinants of Risky Sexual Behaviours among Migrants in Nigeria

| Population Variables | Total Population | North Central | North East | North West | South East | South South | South West |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Age group** 15-19 (RC) | | | | | | | |
| 20-24 | 1.0 | 1.10 | 1.04 | 2.53*** | 0.61 | 0.65 | 0.64 |
| **Sex** Male (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Female | 0.75** | 0.87 | 0.43* | 0.15*** | 1.06 | 1.01 | 0.70 |
| **Marital Status** Never Married (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Married | 1.81*** | 2.15** | 1.51 | 1.08* | 2.63** | 2.02** | 1.60 |
| Widowed/Divorced /Separated | 1.94 | 0.45 | 2.46 | 1.44* | - | 4.50 | 2.86 |
| **Education** None(RC) | | | | | | | |
| Primary | 3.10*** | 3.62*** | 1.51 | 2.80** | 3.57 | 0.82 | 2.88* |
| Secondary | 3.90*** | 5.27*** | 4.29*** | 3.90*** | 3.43 | 1.06 | 1.51 |
| Tertiary & above | 2.08*** | 4.11** | 0.72 | 7.99** | 2.06 | 0.53 | 0.92 |
| **Religion** Islam (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Christian | 1.16 | 1.18 | 2.47** | 3.06* | 0.24 | 0.47 | 0.87 |
| Others | 0.77 | 0.79 | - | - | - | 0.60 | 0.45 |
| **Ethnic group** Hausa/Fulani(RC) | | | | | | | |
| Igbo | 2.48** | 0.69 | - | 0.40* | 5.49 | - | 7.73* |
| Yoruba | 3.01*** | 1.39 | -- | - | - | 0.94 | 7.46* |
| Others | 2.56*** | 1.06 | 2.89*** | 1.08* | 16.50 | 0.60 | 9.43* |
| **Employment Status** Employed(RC) | | | | | | | |
| Unemployed | 1.25 | 1.04 | 2.49* | 0.48* | 1.06 | 1.40 | 1.22 |
| **Residence** Urban(RC) | | | | | | | |
| Rural | 0.96 | 0.69 | 0.55 | 0.83* | 0.68 | 1.88** | 0.74 |
| **Wealth Status** Poor (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Middle | 1.24 | 1.24 | 7.10* | 0.35* | 1.07 | 2.31** | 0.74 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rich | 0.80 | 0.68 | 4.97 | 0.17* | 0.92 | 4.69** | 0.54 |
| **Migration Duration** 1-4 Years (RC) | | | | | | | |
| 5-9 Years | 1.12 | | | | | | |
| 10+ | 1.18 | | | | | | |

Constant  0.945   0.000***

*p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01, \*\*\* p<0.001 (\* = level of significance)*
Source: Author's computation (2018)

The total sampled non-migrant population identified ages 20 to 24 (OR=1.45; P=0.001), those with secondary (OR=3.01; P=0.001), primary (OR=2.14; P=0.001) and tertiary (OR=1.84; P=0.001), as most prone to RSB (see table 4 below). A regional variation was recorded and those with secondary education (OR=3.70; P=0.001) were more prone to RSB in North East (see table 3 below). In North West it showed; those aged 20 to 24 (OR=2.87; P=0.001), those with secondary (OR=3.68; P=0.001) and primary (OR=2.36; P=0.05) education, and middle class wealth status (OR=2.60; P=0.001) as more prone to RSB while in South South, only the married respondents (OR=2.28; P=0.05) were more prone.

TABLE 4: Binary Logistic Regression Result of Regional Determinants of Risky Sexual Behaviours among Non-Migrants in Nigeria.

| Population Variables | Total Population | North Central | North East | North West | South East | South South | South West |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Age group** 15-19 (RC) | | | | | | | |
| 20-24 | 1.45*** | 1.10 | 1.45 | 2.87*** | 0.43* | 1.28 | 1.75 |
| **Sex** Male (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Female | 0.73** | 0.71 | 0.31*** | 0.38*** | 1.64 | 1.26 | 1.42 |
| **Marital Status** Never Married (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Married | 1.20 | 0.90 | 0.77 | 1.66 | 2.47 | 2.28* | 0.69 |
| Widowed/Divorced /Separated | 0.82 | 0.92 | 1.26 | 0.62 | - | 0.45 | 0.47 |
| **Education** None (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Primary | 2.17*** | 1.34 | 1.95 | 2.36* | 0.10* | 1.92 | 0.61 |
| Secondary | 3.01*** | 1.24 | 3.70*** | 3.68*** | 0.47 | 1.86 | 0.52 |
| Tertiary & above | 1.84** | 0.61 | 3.00 | 7.44 | 0.59 | 0.65 | 0.40 |
| **Religion** Islam (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Christian | 1.32 | 1.37 | 1.83 | 1.98 | 1.42 | 0.94 | 1.18 |
| Others | 1.03 | 0.68 | - | 3.72 | - | 1.41 | 1.44 |
| **Ethnic group** Hausa/Fulani (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Igbo | 1.52 | 0.37 | - | - | - | 5.53 | - |
| Yoruba | 1.39 | 1.09 | -- | 0.32 | - | - | 1.07 |
| Others | 1.03 | 1.18 | 1.24 | 0.24* | 0.20 | - | - |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Employment Status** Employed (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Unemployed | 0.97 | 1.18 | 0.64 | 1.40 | 0.83 | 0.86 | 1.20 |
| **Residence** Urban (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Rural | 1.05 | 0.69 | 0.64 | 0.97 | 2.17 | 1.68 | 0.96 |
| **Wealth Status** Poor (RC) | | | | | | | |
| Middle | 1.13 | 1.50 | 1.18 | 2.60*** | 1.51 | 0.95 | 1.86 |
| Rich | 0.74 | 1.14 | - | - | 1.49 | 0.95 | 0.79 |

Constant 0.945   0.000***

*p<0.05, ** p<0.01, *** p<0.001 (* = level of significance)

Source: Author's computation (2018)

## Discussion of findings

### Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

In line with Ravistein's law, which states that "females migrate more than males within the country of origin but males migrate more than females internationally". The study found that females migrate more in Nigeria than males with the population aged 20 to 24 more involved than late adolescents. This could be as a result of the increase in education and enlightenment of females in Nigeria. Also, an explanation could be the movement away from cultural norms that restrict females from migrating or travelling outside their primary place of birth except after marriage. From this study, the married migrates more than the single. This does not agree with numerous researches that reported singles as migrating more than the married. Single migrants could be driven by educational reasons, learning a trade, looking for job or being newly employed while for married persons; it is majorly driven by joining spouses or getting married.

### Spatial Variations of RSB in Nigeria

Unlike previous researches that sees adolescents and youth as a homogenous population, this finding reveals enormous heterogeneity by age, region, ethnicity, sex, marital status, class, religion, and cultural context especially in a country like Nigeria which has diverse ethnicity. Sexual and Reproductive Health needs may vary considerably across these different groups, cultures and regions. One of such regions where variability is likely to exist is Niger Delta Region (NDR) of Nigeria which is located in South South region. Of all the regions in Nigeria, RSB is more prevalent in South South and North Central while North West has the least prevalence rate. Reason in South South could be explained by researchers who observed that residents of South South especially in Niger Delta have their high rate of RSB linked to a play down in the national government and economic conditions like sex work, migration, poverty which are region specific (Udoh, 2006; Macilwain, 2007). In North central, example

Plateau state, the age at first sexual intercourse was 10 to 15 years (report mostly by the females) while most of the males reported 11 to 16 years (Envuladu, Kwaak, Zwanikken, & Zoakah, 2017).

**Determinants of Risky Sexual Behaviours among Migrants in Nigeria**

Our findings support the disruption hypothesis that sees migration as a cause for disassociation from spouse, friends and relatives. Among migrant population in the study, age was a statistically significant factor with migrants in North West aged 20 to 24, 2.53 times, more likely to engage in RSB than their late adolescent counterparts (ages 15 to 19). Among non-migrant population, those aged 20 to 24 in North West were 2.87 times more likely to engage in risky sexual behaviours than others while non-migrant population in South East, was 0.43 times less likely to engage in RSB than their follow counterpart This supports findings by Akinyemi et al. (2017) that older youth engage more in RSB than older adolescent.

The research findings also, agrees with Azuike et al. 2015; Amoo et al. 2014 & Odimegwu et al. 2017 findings that males engage more in RSB than females. Males are more prone to RSB than females, among the migrant population in North Eastern and North Western Nigeria. Female migrant youth in North East and North West were 0.43 and 0.15 times less likely to engage in RSB than their male counterparts. While among non-migrant population, North central and North West were 0.31 and 1.64 times less/more likely to engage in RSB than the males. According to previous studies, socially defined roles and power affect sexual behaviours. The male child is placed above the girl child due to gender norm gender prevalent in Nigeria (Makwe, & Ahmad, 2014). The male child is perceived by the society as more superior to the girl child. Whereas male see sex as a test of manhood and a sense of pride, the females are expected to submit to the demands of the male (NARHS Plus, 2012; Oladepo, & Fayemi, 2011) and so, they find it shameful discussing or negotiating sex and condom use. (Nnadi, 2014; NARHS Plus, 2012) in their study reported that one of the reasons why females engage in sexual act is due to respect and their desire to please their male partners. Most females felt obligated to positively respond to a man's demand.

The migrant population had marital status as a statistically significant factor. Married migrants located in South East are 2.63 more likely to engage in RSB than those located in North Central, North West and South South who were 2.15, 1.08 and 2.02 more likely to engage in RSB respectively. Among non-migrant population with an exception to South South, marital status was not a statistically significant factor influencing RSB. The married

population in South South, were observed to be 2 times more likely to engage in RSB than singles and divorced in the region. This was found to be in variance with Tamiru et al, (2011) findings which reports singles as more adventurous than married and divorced therefore, they are considered more prone to RSB. In Sub-Saharan Africa, a woman's gender identity is tied to her motherhood and a childless woman is stigmatized (Omorodion, 2015; Oyediran, Feyisetan, & Akpan, 2011). Once married, the society expects the female even married adolescents to have children right away therefore, married women are more likely to prove their fertility than the unmarried. Furthermore, because of fear of side effects of engaging in RSB the unmarried are more concerned about their safety (Odeyemi, Onajole, & Ogunowo, 2009) than the married.

In North Central and North Eastern Nigeria, migrants with secondary education, were 5 and 4 times respectively more likely to engage in RSB than those with primary and tertiary education. This was in contrast with migrants in North Western Nigeria which had those in tertiary education 7 times more likely to engage in RSB than those with primary and secondary education. Among the non-migrant population, those with secondary education in North Eastern and North Western Nigeria, were 3 times more prone to RSB than those of other educational level. The study supports an earlier finding that sees educated individuals as better equipped with more resources to lavish on multiple sexual partners thereby, making them more sexually desirable than the uneducated and more prone to RSB (Uchudi et al. 2010. Federal Ministry of Health (2009) in a study identified female adolescents in school as more appealing and enticed to men for sex.

Religiosity is the second potent predictor of risky behaviours in this study. The maxim that religion is an opium of the society is reaffirmed by previous findings (Odimegwu, 2005; Zong et al, (2017)) which identified a negative relationship between religion and risky sexual behaviours. Health, well-being, Religion offers moral support, encourages, devotion, obedience, and a standard behaviour which sometimes comes from seeing a deity as responsible to punish defaulters. Contrary to previous studies, this study identified Christian migrants in North East and North West to be 2 and 3 times more prone to RSB than non-Christians, Islam's and those of other religion. Therefore, religious youth in some regions were more likely to engage in RSB than less religious ones. This could be a pointer that religion as a sole factor may not be sufficient to determine RSB of youth. Also, the study showed no statistically significant influence of religion on the RSB of non-migrants in Nigeria.

More than the Hausa/Fulani migrants, those from other ethnic group, Igbo and Yoruba were 9 and 7 times prone to RSB in South Western Nigeria. This supports Odimegwu et al, (2017) findings in Nigeria that Hausa/Fulani had significantly lower odds of engaging in RSB than other ethnic groups. In North East and North West, those from other ethnic groups are 2 and 1 times/time prone to RSB than those from Igbo, Hausa/Fulani and Yoruba. Among non-migrant population, ethnic group is not a significant factor affecting RSB. This pattern is in concordance with migrant adaption hypothesis. Due to an increasing diffusion of norms in the present day era of globalization, migrants from other ethnic groups had gotten use to the norms at the point of destination and able to either practice safe sex or engage in RSB.

Migrants in Rural South South region of Nigeria are 2 times more prone to RSB than migrants in the urban area while place of residence had no significant influence on the non-migrant population across regions. The study is consistent with findings of Lamidi, (2015) and Mberu & White, (2011). This also reveals the extent of independent and freedom on the part of migrants than the non-migrants.

Evidence from literature (Uchudi et al, 2010) has poverty as one of the greatest drivers of risky sexual behaviours. Out of school adolescents in a study by [39, 40] had persons who engage in RSB for money or material gains. This makes the rich more enticing, equipped with higher tendencies of engaging in RSB than the poor (Envuladu et al., 2017). The study had the rich migrants in South South Nigeria 4 times more prone to RSB than the middle and poor categories while the middle-class migrants in North East were 7 times more likely to engage in RSB than the rich and poor categories. In the North West, middle class non-migrants are 2 times more likely to engage in RSB than those in other wealth categories.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the study discovered a statistically significant variation of RSB among migrant and non-migrant youth. The migrant youth was found to engage more in RSB than their non-migrant counterparts. Also recorded, were variation of RSB across regions in Nigeria. Migrants and non-migrants in South South and North Central had the highest prevalence rate. The migrants and non-migrants who are educated, wealthy and married showed more likelihood of engaging in RSB. Therefore, given the need to meet SDG 3 on good health and well-being in Nigeria, there is need for regional specific approach in interventions set out by the government and non-governmental organisations. Northern resident youth should be sensitized more on the need for education.

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