



**DETERMINANTS OF DEMAND FOR PRIVATE
UNIVERSITIES IN NIGERIA:
IMPLICATION FOR FURTHER
INVESTMENTS IN PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION**

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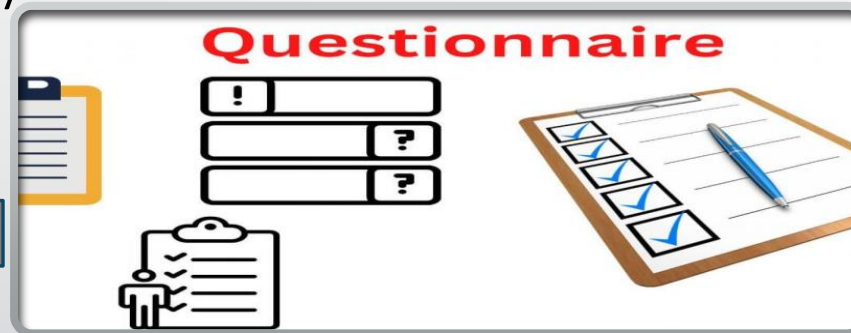
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INTRODUCTION

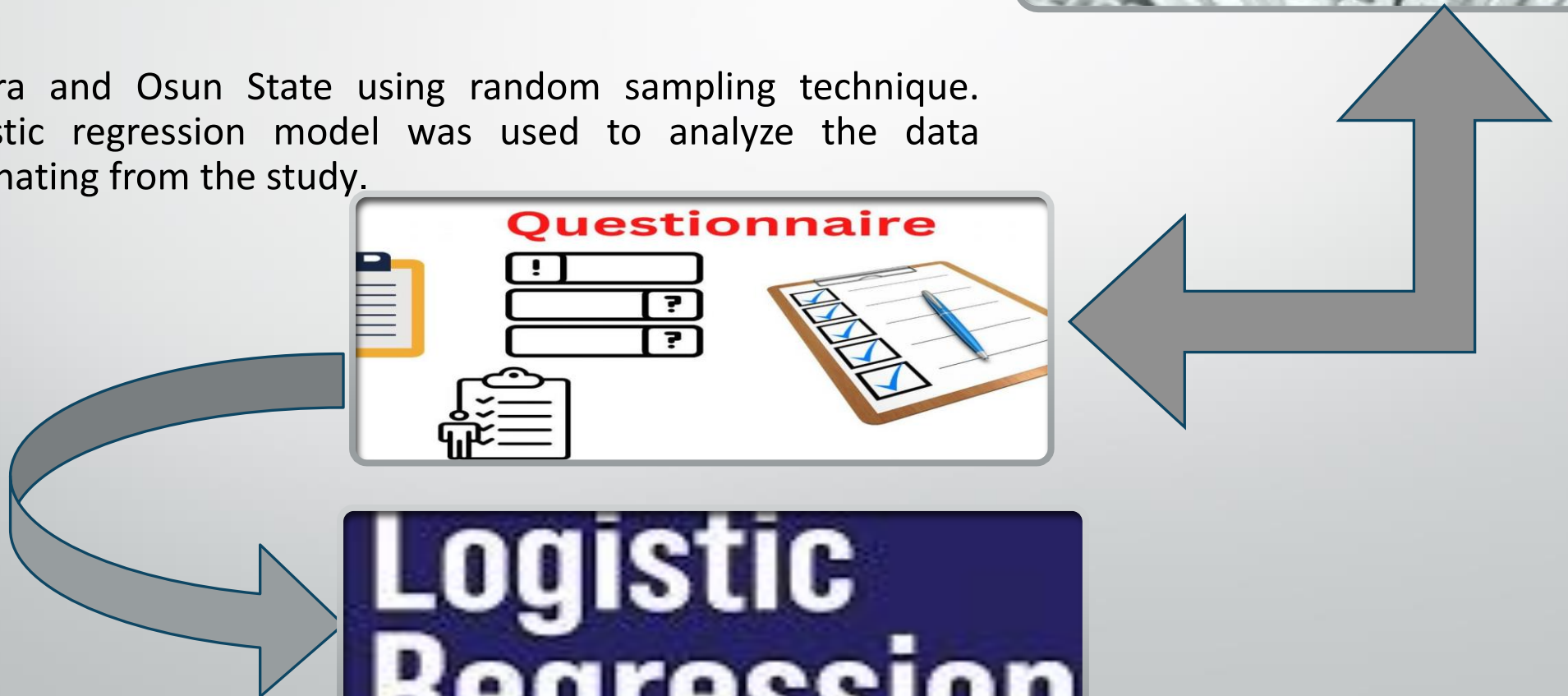
- ❖ Apart from the need to proffer solution to the challenges of excess demand over supply of admission spaces in tertiary institutions in Nigeria, another important reason for licensing private universities was the need to encourage private sector participation in tertiary education since it is evident that government alone could no longer finance education.
- ❖ However, despite the huge investments and active participation of the private sector in the provision of higher education by way of establishing private universities, the admission gap still remains unfilled because the existing 148 private universities of the total of 258 universities in Nigeria only account for 102,500 of about 2 million university students population, translating into only about 7% (NUC 2022).
- ❖ This is in spite of many advantages offer by private universities such as security, stable academic calendar, stable power supply and sizable student-teacher ratio among others. In the light of the above, the objective of the study is to unravel the determinants of demand for private universities in Nigeria and its implication for further investment in private higher education.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

- ❖ The study adopts a survey research design method using structured questionnaire to elicit
- ❖ response from 300 private university students selected from three private universities each from
- ❖ Kwara and Osun State using random sampling technique. Logistic regression model was used to analyze the data emanating from the study.



**Logistic
Regression**



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Following the results emanating from the analysis of our data, we arrived at the following findings:

- Parental income level is the most significant factor affecting the students' demand for private higher education
- Universities offering courses in medical sciences and engineering record higher enrolment compared to those who offer courses in management sciences and pure sciences only.
- Universities that are older in ages record higher enrolment compared to those that are relatively new.
- Ownership type of universities whether religion affiliated or secular is a very significant factor in students demand for private universities
- Degree of freedom and tolerance about social life on campus is another important factor in students' preference of choice of schools.
- The location of the university as regards distance from major cities was found to be significant.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- ❖ The study concludes that for private universities to be able to fill the gap in admission space created by lack of adequate space in public universities, the identified factors determining the demand for private higher education in Nigeria must be adequately addressed.

- ❖ Towards improving the demand for private universities among admission seekers in Nigeria, the study recommends the following among others:
 - ✓ enhancing access to fund through student loans scheme.
 - ✓ running professional courses that are high in demand among admission seekers
 - ✓ allowing moderation in the enforcement of rules on campus as regards social life.
 - ✓ Allowing private universities to access funds from TETFUND as a way of encouraging continuous private investments in tertiary education despite the initial low patronage.



THANK YOU