

DETERMINANTS OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT ACCESSIBILITY IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY (FCT), ABUJA, NIGERIA

Tolufashe, Stephen Afolabi

Consultancy Services Department, Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Zaria

Corresponding Author's email: stevesuccess2010@yahoo.com



Abstract

The study aimed at examining the determinants of public transport accessibility in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) in view of the prevalence of private cars used for commuting at a point in its physical development stage. Ten access levels indicators: safety level of the vehicle, fare charged by the operators, real time availability of the vehicle, vehicle comfort level, public transport speed on transit, delays at parks, bus stops and on transit highway, adherence to estimated arrival time, adherence to estimated departure time, reliability of bus schedules on routes and level of overloading practices. Data on these factors were collected from administration of questionnaires to 859 public transport commuters in 17 major public transport terminals across the FCT. Using the Factor Analysis, the result shows that three factors namely, adherence to estimated departure time, fare charged by the operators and reliability of bus schedules on routes together explained about 54% of the cumulative total variance, leaving the remaining 46% to seven other factors namely; safety, bus availability, comfort, speed, delays in parks and bus stops, adherence to estimated arrival time and level of overloading practices by operators and residuals. The Spearman's' rank correlation matrix for all the variables shows that they were all positively correlated at varying degrees. The standardized co-efficient of the regression model revealed that, bus service reliability is the major determinant of public transport access level. In order to raise the current access level of commuters' access to public transport in FCT, operators must improve on the level of service in line with the three critical factors which the study has identified.

Keyword: Public Transport, Accessibility, Abuja