

Economics Project Topics

100 research ideas for Nigerian students

Free topic list, selection guidance and FAQs. Adapt your idea with your supervisor before developing a proposal.

[Open the online topic guide](#)

An Economics project needs an economic question and data that can answer it. This list offers Nigerian macroeconomic, labour, trade, agricultural and household research ideas, including secondary-data studies and local surveys for students who can reach respondents.

Start by downloading a small sample of your proposed data. Check definitions, frequency, coverage and missing observations before fixing the study period. A fashionable title is not useful if the required series or respondent group is unavailable. The titles below are starting points to refine with your supervisor, not claims that a relationship has already been established.

Research areas

1. Inflation, prices and monetary conditions (10 ideas)
2. Growth, investment and sectoral output (10 ideas)
3. Labour markets and youth employment (10 ideas)
4. Public finance and government expenditure (10 ideas)
5. International trade and external flows (10 ideas)
6. Agricultural economics and food markets (10 ideas)
7. Household welfare, poverty and consumption (10 ideas)
8. Financial inclusion and small-business economics (10 ideas)
9. Energy, environment and urban economics (10 ideas)
10. Focused student and community survey topics (10 ideas)

How to choose an Economics topic with usable data

Decide whether your question needs national time-series data, a household survey or firm-level information before choosing an analysis method.

- Download candidate series from CBN or NBS and check their units, frequency and coverage. Set the study period from the common observations actually available.

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- Read metadata before combining series. NBS rebased the CPI to a 2024 price reference period, and labour-force methodology changed; do not splice incompatible series without justification.
 - For inflation, wages or spending, distinguish nominal values from real values and explain any deflator used.
 - For a local survey, specify the population, sampling frame, consent process and measurable outcomes. A convenience sample cannot represent all Nigerian households.
 - Match the econometric method to your question and data. Check assumptions and stationarity where relevant rather than selecting ARDL, OLS or another method because it appears in an old project.
 - Use 'relationship' or 'association' when the design cannot establish causality. A before-and-after comparison alone does not isolate a policy's effect.

Example: replace 'inflation and Nigerians' with 'Food Price Changes and Food Budget Shares among Households in a Selected Ibadan Community'. Define the survey period and sample before seeking approval.

Match the Economics project to your programme

These ideas primarily target undergraduate Economics research. Confirm your exact programme title and methods requirements.

- For a university Economics project, consider a clearly specified model using compatible secondary data, or a focused survey grounded in economic theory.
- For a short research assignment, a descriptive price comparison or household expenditure study may be feasible if your department accepts that scope.
- ND and HND students in related programmes such as Banking and Finance or Business Administration should adapt relevant ideas with their own supervisors; this list does not imply that every polytechnic offers an Economics diploma.
- Choose tools you can explain at defence. The number of variables or sophistication of the software is not a substitute for a sound research design.

Inflation, prices and monetary conditions

Check CPI definitions and rebasing notes. Align frequencies and distinguish price levels, inflation rates and changes in purchasing power.

1. Exchange Rate Changes and Food Inflation in Nigeria Using Compatible Monthly Series
2. Money Supply Growth and Consumer Price Inflation in Nigeria over an Available Common Period
3. Monetary Policy Rate Changes and Deposit Money Bank Lending Rates in Nigeria
4. Food and Non-Food Price Movements in Nigeria within a Consistent CPI Series
5. Exchange Rate Volatility and Imported Goods Prices Reported by Selected Lagos Retailers
6. Interest Rates and Household Savings Choices among Salaried Workers in Ilorin

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7. Inflation Expectations and Pricing Decisions among Selected Ibadan Market Traders
 8. Changes in Real Deposit Returns in Nigeria Using Matched Interest Rate and Inflation Data
 9. Fuel Price Changes and Commuting Expenditure among Workers in a Selected Abuja District
 10. Price Dispersion for Staple Foods across Selected Retail Markets in Enugu

Growth, investment and sectoral output

Check GDP vintages and whether values are nominal or real. Keep causal claims consistent with the identification strategy.

11. Domestic Investment and Real Output Growth in Nigeria Using Compatible Annual Data
12. Private Sector Credit and Manufacturing Output in Nigeria
13. Electricity Expenditure and Reported Production Levels among Small Manufacturers in Ogun State
14. Capital Importation Composition and Sectoral Output Trends in Nigeria
15. Construction Sector Output and Public Capital Expenditure in Nigeria
16. Services Sector Expansion and Employment Composition in Nigeria within Comparable Data Releases
17. Capacity Utilisation and Energy Costs among Selected Manufacturers in Kano
18. Equipment Financing Constraints among Small Agro-Processors in Kwara State
19. Business Entry Costs and Investment Plans among Selected Young Entrepreneurs in Benin City
20. Inventory Financing and Sales Turnover among Selected Wholesalers in Onitsha

Labour markets and youth employment

Use labour-force definitions from the same methodology. For surveys, distinguish paid work, hours worked, job search and self-employment.

21. Educational Attainment and Employment Status in a Selected NBS Labour Force Survey Release
22. Gender Differences in Hours Worked Using a Compatible Nigerian Labour Force Dataset
23. Job Search Costs among Recent Graduates in a Selected Lagos Community
24. Vocational Training Participation and Employment Outcomes among Young Adults in Ilorin
25. Commuting Time and Labour Supply Decisions among Workers in a Selected Abuja District
26. Self-Employment Income Variability among Selected Delivery Riders in Ibadan
27. Reported Skill Mismatch among Employed Graduates in Enugu
28. Childcare Expenditure and Working Hours among Mothers in a Selected Benin City Community
29. Recruitment Practices and Entry-Level Wage Offers among Selected Small Firms in Kano
30. Digital Job Search Use and Interview Invitations among Final-Year Students at a Selected Nigerian University

Public finance and government expenditure

Separate budget allocations from releases and spending. Verify whether fiscal figures cover federal government or a wider government aggregate.

31. Oil Revenue Volatility and Federal Capital Expenditure in Nigeria
32. Debt Service and Federal Budget Expenditure Composition in Nigeria
33. Non-Oil Revenue and Federal Fiscal Balance in Nigeria
34. Approved and Reported Actual Education Spending in Selected Nigerian Federal Budget Reports
35. Public Health Expenditure and Selected Health Indicators in Nigeria over a Common Data Period
36. Capital Budget Implementation Rates in Nigeria across Selected Published Fiscal Years
37. Internally Generated Revenue Composition in Selected Nigerian States with Available Reports
38. Local Market Fees and Operating Costs Reported by Traders in a Selected Ogun State Market
39. Tax Awareness and Record-Keeping among Small Retail Businesses in Ilorin
40. Reported Household Transport Expenditure before and after Fuel Price Changes in a Selected Kaduna Community

International trade and external flows

Distinguish values from volumes and identify exchange-rate measures. Check consistent product classifications for trade comparisons.

41. Exchange Rate Changes and Non-Oil Export Earnings in Nigeria
42. Import Composition and Manufacturing Output Trends in Nigeria
43. External Reserves and Import Payments in Nigeria Using Compatible Time-Series Data
44. Remittance Receipts and Household Education Spending in a Selected Edo State Community
45. Export Market Access Constraints Reported by Selected Nigerian Agro-Processors
46. Exchange Rate Uncertainty and Inventory Choices among Import-Dependent Lagos Retailers
47. Trade Openness and Agricultural Output in Nigeria over an Available Common Period
48. Transport Costs and Cross-Border Trading Margins Reported by Selected Ogun State Traders
49. Foreign Direct Investment Composition and Non-Oil Sector Output in Nigeria
50. Import Substitution Practices among Selected Small Manufacturers in Aba

Agricultural economics and food markets

Define the crop, production season and market. Account for input costs, seasonality and differences between farmgate and retail prices.

51. Fertiliser Costs and Gross Margins among Selected Maize Farmers in Kaduna State
52. Farmgate and Retail Price Spreads for Tomatoes in Selected Kano Markets

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53. Transport Costs and Cassava Marketing Margins in Selected Ogun State Communities
 54. Storage Access and Reported Post-Harvest Losses among Rice Traders in Ebonyi State
 55. Credit Access and Input Purchases among Smallholder Farmers in Kwara State
 56. Seasonal Variation in Staple Food Prices across Selected Ibadan Markets
 57. Irrigation Expenses and Vegetable Farm Returns in a Selected Niger State Farming Cluster
 58. Cooperative Membership and Input Procurement Costs among Selected Enugu Farmers
 59. Poultry Feed Costs and Enterprise Margins among Selected Farms in Oyo State
 60. Mobile Price Information Use among Agricultural Traders in a Selected Benue State Market

Household welfare, poverty and consumption

Ask only for information needed for the research. Explain whether income or spending is recalled, recorded or measured and recognise sampling limits.

61. Food Budget Shares among Households in a Selected Ibadan Community
62. Housing Rent Burdens among Salaried Workers in a Selected Abuja District
63. Income Sources and Household Consumption Smoothing in a Selected Ilorin Community
64. Healthcare Payments and Household Coping Strategies in a Selected Enugu Neighbourhood
65. Remittance Use and Household Savings in a Selected Benin City Community
66. Transport Expenditure and Access to Work among Residents of a Selected Lagos Suburb
67. Household Size and Per-Person Food Expenditure in a Selected Kaduna Community
68. Schooling Costs and Household Education Spending in a Selected Ogun State Community
69. Price Changes and Substitution between Staple Foods among Selected Kano Households
70. Informal Borrowing and Unexpected Household Expenses in a Selected Port Harcourt Community

Financial inclusion and small-business economics

Define usage, fees and business outcomes precisely. Avoid collecting account details or equating access to an account with active use.

71. Point-of-Sale Transaction Fees and Cash Withdrawal Choices in a Selected Ilorin Community
72. Mobile Payment Use and Transaction Costs among Selected Lagos Market Traders
73. Savings Group Participation and Business Working Capital among Selected Women Traders in Enugu
74. Loan Repayment Schedules and Cash-Flow Management among Small Businesses in Ibadan
75. Digital Credit Charges and Borrowing Decisions among Selected Young Adults in Abuja
76. Bank Distance and Financial Service Use in Selected Rural Ogun State Communities
77. Payment Failure Experiences and Payment-Method Choices among Selected Benin City Retailers
78. Financial Literacy and Savings Choices among Students at a Selected Nigerian University

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79. Credit Constraints and Inventory Levels among Selected Kano Retailers
 80. Business Record-Keeping and Reported Profit Measurement among Selected Microenterprises in Kaduna

Energy, environment and urban economics

Define costs and comparison groups before collecting data. Use reported preferences carefully and distinguish them from actual purchases.

81. Generator Fuel Expenses and Operating Hours among Selected Lagos Small Businesses
82. Solar System Financing and Adoption Decisions among Selected Abuja Households
83. Waste Collection Fees and Service Use in a Selected Ibadan Residential Area
84. Travel Time and Housing Rent Differences across Selected Ilorin Neighbourhoods
85. Electricity Supply Reliability and Cold-Storage Costs among Food Retailers in Enugu
86. Flood-Related Business Disruption Costs Reported by Traders in a Selected Port Harcourt Market
87. Cooking Fuel Choices and Household Energy Expenditure in a Selected Kaduna Community
88. Willingness to Pay for Improved Market Sanitation among Traders in a Selected Benin City Market
89. Transport Accessibility and Retail Stall Rents across Selected Kano Markets
90. Repair and Replacement Spending on Solar Equipment among Selected Ogun State Microenterprises

Focused student and community survey topics

These smaller-scope ideas use reachable populations. Pilot the questionnaire and decide whether your department requires analysis beyond descriptive statistics.

91. Meal Price Changes and Food Choices among Students at a Selected Nigerian Polytechnic
92. Commuting Costs and Attendance Decisions among Students at a Selected Ilorin Institution
93. Textbook Prices and Use of Second-Hand Books among Undergraduates in Ibadan
94. Data Subscription Spending and Study Resource Choices among Students at a Selected Enugu Institution
95. Accommodation Rent and Shared-Housing Choices among Students in Abeokuta
96. Savings Goals and Informal Savings Participation among Students in Benin City
97. Price Differences for a Standard Food Basket across Three Selected Kaduna Markets
98. Transaction Fees and Payment Choices among Small Vendors on a Selected Abuja Campus
99. Part-Time Work and Weekly Study Hours among Undergraduates at a Selected Nigerian University
100. Delivery Charges and Online Shopping Choices among Students at a Selected Lagos Institution

Frequently asked questions

What are good Economics project topics for Nigerian undergraduates?

Choose a specific question in a field you understand, such as prices, labour, trade, public finance or household behaviour. A good title identifies measurable variables or a defined population and can be supported with data you have already checked.

Where can I get secondary data for an Economics project in Nigeria?

Start with the CBN Statistics Database, NBS report collections and Budget Office publications. Verify variable definitions, frequency, units and available years. Microdata may have registration or access requirements, and not every indicator is available at state or local-government level.

Can I write an Economics project using a questionnaire?

Yes, where your department accepts primary research. Household spending, commuting costs, savings choices and small-business pricing can be studied with a defined sample. Obtain consent, pilot your questions and explain sampling limits. Avoid collecting unnecessary identifying or sensitive financial information.

Can I combine older and newer Nigerian inflation or unemployment figures?

Check the documentation first. NBS has rebased the CPI and reviewed labour-force methodology. A change in definitions, weights or reference periods can create a break in comparability. Use a compatible series, an appropriate adjustment or a restricted period agreed with your supervisor.

Must every Economics project use ARDL or regression?

No. The method should follow the economic question, design and data. Descriptive comparisons, survey analysis and other methods may be appropriate where approved. If using regression or a time-series model, explain its assumptions and limitations rather than copying a method from another dissertation.

Which Economics topics are manageable on a small budget?

A secondary-data study can reduce travel costs if compatible data are available. A focused survey among reachable households, traders or students can also be manageable. Pilot the data collection and estimate analysis time; neither route is automatically easy.

Does the free Economics PDF include complete project materials?

The download includes topic ideas, data-selection guidance and FAQs. It does not include completed chapters or datasets. Use the ideas to develop your own proposal, find relevant literature and agree a research design with your supervisor.

Continue your project

Proposal-to-defence guide: <https://monoed.africa/final-year-project-guide>

Free research tools: <https://fyp.monoed.africa/tools>