

TITLE OF ARTICLES: IMPACTS OF OVERLOADS ON THE DETERIORATION OF NIGERIAN ROADS

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ABSTRACT: Failed roads are common all over Nigeria. The road network system has so failed that travelling within any part of Nigeria has turned to be the most assiduous venture the citizens has to undertake. For those who have to commute to their working or business venues on daily basis, I salute their courage for supporting the enormous stress. For big metropolis such as Lagos, many people leave their homes at 5 am and return home after 10 pm there by spending more time on transportation than they effectively put to their works. When it rains heavily it is completely another story as many will never able to get to their working places before the end of the day. For those travelling between other states, you better is well prepared for the unseen because you can never predict the time of arrival. Two inter-state trips I undertook recently better confirmed it all. A journey to Abuja and another one to Enugu, all starting from Lagos took 17 hours and 18 hours respectively instead of the supposed 8 hours. All these point to the level of stresses and damages being suffered by an average Nigerian because of the severe deterioration of Nigerian roads. In view of the excessive damages of Nigerian roads, this research analyses the traffic trend of heavy duty trucks on Lagos-Ibadan expressway in search determining the impact of overloaded trucks on Nigerian roads and to suggest ways of reducing the excessive heavy traffic stress.