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Research Article

FINANCIAL STATEMENT DISCLOSURE ON FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF LISTED MANUFACTURING FIRMS IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

Using the disclosure concept in accounting, this study examines the relationship between financial disclosure and the financial performance of Nigeria's publicly traded manufacturing firms. The study emphasizes the importance of firm attributes such as size, leverage, age, and institution affiliation in accounting for disclosure quality and overall firm performance. The study reaffirms that reliable and relevant financial reports help stakeholders make decisions and facilitate collaboration. Using a sample of listed manufacturing firms on the Nigerian Stock Exchange from 2014 to 2020, this study fills literature gaps by investigating internal and external variables that lead to a shift in disclosure practices, with consequences for economic stability and growth. The study looks into discretionary accrual and its impact on financial performance by using Jones' model as an examination area to determine the importance of disclosure in financial statements. Diagnostic procedures were used to validate findings, such as the absence of multicollinearity (mean VIF = 1.11), the absence of heteroscedasticity, and the accuracy of the random-effects model as demonstrated by the Hausman test (p = 0.1534). The study found that firm size (r=0.2341) positively and significantly impacts financial performance, indicating that larger firms improve governance and oversight. However, firm age (r = 0.0126) and leverage (r = -0.0273) did not show a significant relationship with financial performance, challenging the notion that these attributes inherently contribute to better financial outcomes. Institutional investors also showed a weak but significant relationship.

Keywords: Financial Statement Disclosure, Firm Attributes, Leverage and Performance, Institutional Investors, Financial Reporting Quality, Corporate Governance.

INTRODUCTION

The demand for relevant financial statement disclosure that influences a firm's financial performance by various stakeholders or users is increasing due to the growing complexity of the business environment worldwide and the recent global financial crisis. Firm financial statement disclosure is a variable affecting the firm's internal and external decisions (Shehu, 2017). Specific characteristics inherent to business entities can substantially impact their financial performance, either positively or negatively. Factors including ownership structure, the age of the firm, its size, leverage, liquidity, profitability, institutional characteristics, and operating expenses can all influence a firm's financial statements. The disclosure principle in accounting mandates that financial statements must convey the most relevant information to ensure clarity and prevent misrepresentation (Thomas & Taofeek, 2018). While a Company's financial statement contains all the relevant financial data about the company, the data will often require further clarification. The ability of management, investors, and investment analysts to make adequate decisions depends, to a large extent, on the quality of financial statement disclosure at their disposal, which will be the significant scope of this study. These typically include firm size, growth, liquidity and investment opportunity, risk, and intangibility. Others include firm age, cash flow, dividend, leverage, and internal governance mechanisms (Hassan & Ahmed, 2013; Abdullahi, 2016). Therefore, variables that consist of the firm financial performance will be chosen based on the researcher's interest. Financial performance reflects a firm's size in terms of infrastructure and employment. It is used to show operating effectiveness. The larger the firm, the more likely it is to achieve economies of scale. From this point of view, larger firms are likely to have higher financial statement disclosure. The years a company has been listed on the Nigerian stock exchange and involved in the capital market is known as its firm age. Another factor influencing the value of financial statement disclosure is firm age. This is because the impact of a company's age on its financial display has been extensively examined and determined to be substantial. Older businesses must, after all, gradually enhance their yearly reports. Therefore, lowering asymmetric information improves accounting information disclosure, according to Aussi, Hisyam, & Hanefah (2009). Leverage refers to using various financial instruments or borrowed capital, including margins, to enhance the potential returns on a firm's investments. It represents the extent of debt employed to finance a company's assets. It is posited that a higher level of debt necessitates more rigorous oversight of management, thereby resulting in superior accounting information for the firm. Consequently, companies characterized by substantial levels of both debt and

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equity are classified as highly leveraged. The research conducted by Ahmed, Fida, & Zakaria (2013) indicates a reciprocal relationship between leverage and the value relevance of accounting information. The investigation focused on the influence of financial statement disclosures on the performance of publicly listed manufacturing firms in Nigeria. Financial statement disclosures involve the summarization of accounting data, which can significantly impact stock valuations, enabling investors to make informed decisions regarding their investments in an organization. Proper disclosure of accounting policies is crucial in mitigating losses and preventing asset misappropriation. Potential investors can analyse the available financial statement disclosures to determine their investment strategies. When financial statement disclosures are effectively structured to fulfil their intended purposes, they guide shareholders in making sound investment decisions, ultimately leading to enhanced returns and reduced investment risks.

Financial statement disclosure is commonly accepted as confirmation of the quality and usefulness of accounting data for investor decision-making. Financial statement disclosure helps investors make educated decisions or judgments. Accounting information is useful when it influences investors' user decisions. Financial statement disclosure evaluates the relationship between accounting information and the capital value market (Khanagha, 2011). The disclosure of financial statements pertains to assessing the correlation between accounting data and its capacity to accurately forecast a company's financial outcomes, thereby facilitating informed decision-making by investors. The principle of disclosure in accounting mandates that financial statements convey the most pertinent information necessary to avoid any potential misrepresentation. Comprehensive disclosure entails maintaining data integrity in presenting reports to regulatory bodies and the public, allowing them to evaluate the manufacturing entity's financial status and performance.

A financial statement has two fundamental characteristics: relevance and reliability. For a financial statement to become effective and efficient, its information about firm attributes in qualitative and quantitative terms must be reliable and relevant (Khanna, 2014). Internal and external factors influence the disclosure of accounting information because the opinions formed by users of financial statements are influenced mainly by the accounting figures or information of the firms. Information from firm attributes is analysed to get a clearer picture of the firm and form a basis for investors' perception of the firm's financial performance. The rationale for undertaking this study is based on service companies' swift rise and growing relevance. The past ten years in Nigeria have been marked by significant progress in service-oriented industries. The service sector's contribution to the growth and development of the Nigerian economy has also seen a marked increase during this period. The inquiry into disclosure in financial statements and its relationship with financial performance is motivated by the necessity for listed firms to communicate efficiently with their equity shareholders and the general public via their financial statements. Also, with investors showing a higher willingness to understand the dynamics of this sector in Nigeria, an empirical study needs to be conducted to analyse the effect of financial statement disclosure on the financial performance of public manufacturing companies in Nigeria.

Objectives of the study

This study primarily examines the effect of financial statement disclosure on the performance of publicly listed manufacturing firms in Nigeria. The research delineates several specific objectives, which include:

1. Investigating the relationship between firm size and financial statement disclosure and its correlation with the financial performance of publicly listed manufacturing firms in Nigeria.
2. Assessing the influence of leverage on financial statement disclosure and its consequences for the financial performance of publicly listed manufacturing firms in Nigeria.
3. Analysing the impact of firm age on financial statement disclosure and its association with the financial performance of publicly listed manufacturing firms in Nigeria.
4. Evaluating the role of institutional members in financial statement disclosure and their effect on the financial performance of publicly listed manufacturing firms in Nigeria.

Research Hypotheses

To validate the data analysis, the following null hypotheses will be examined:

LITERATURE REVIEW

Concept of financial statement disclosure

Dhaliwal, Khurana, & Pereira (2018) assert that financial disclosure is crucial for transmitting a firm's information to external investors. Typically, the relevant regulatory authority mandates companies to disclose financial statements. These disclosures are vital for facilitating communication between a corporation and its stakeholders. Financial statements often encapsulate the most significant transactions of a company as required disclosures. Conversely, voluntary disclosures offer supplementary information that enhances the understanding of mandatory disclosures and addresses users' needs. Hossain (2008) suggested that management's determination regarding the disclosure of information hinges on a careful assessment of the anticipated costs versus the benefits of publicizing that information.

Firm Size

Hadiyah (2017) described firm Size as the Size of assets or amounts of assets that a firm owns and the Size of measurement by physical form or by several assets acquired. In other words, firm Size refers to how big a firm is in terms of assets and employees. It is a reflection of the growth rate of firms. Firm size refers to the expansion of business operations, which facilitates growth in various dimensions, such as revenue, profit, employee count, and infrastructure (Pervan & Visic, 2018). Irom, Joshua, Ahmed, & Emmanuel (2018) define firm Size as the rate and extent of growth appropriate for a given context. Previous research has utilized several variables to measure firm Size, including total assets, total sales, and employee numbers. In the present study, firm Size will be quantified through the natural logarithm of total assets, as demonstrated in the works of Shehu (2017), Makota & Pascal (2018), and Hassan & Ahmed (2018).

Firm Age

Firm age is when the firm was listed on the Nigerian stock exchange. The older a firm, the more likely it will disclose more accounting information than younger firms because of more extended experience and deep knowledge and understanding in financial reporting; they are opportune to have well-organized professional staff that sort out challenging aspects of their financial statement and large firms protect their reputation to avoid Government intervention (Demir & Bahadir, 2016). Older firms may perform better than newly listed firms because they provide a more expansive range of relevant accounting information than younger firms due to their extended experience and existence. In this study, firm age will be measured as the number of years a firm has been listed.

Leverage

Leverage is the degree to which a firm funds its assets with debt rather than equity (Dogorawa & Maude, 2018). The firm's mix of financial liabilities refers to the debt amount it uses in its capital structure to finance its assets and the various financial instruments that aid potential return on investment (Irom, Joshua, Ahmed & Emmanuel, 2018).

Institutional Investors

Masry (2016) states institutional investors and stakeholders are pivotal in overseeing a firm's management. As a result, firms with minimal institutional ownership may suffer from inadequate governance structures. Shareholders, the firm's legal owners, can monitor management and invest in shares to support the firm's financial activities (ANAN, 2015). Institutional investors encompass the group of shareholders who own ordinary shares, indicating individual ownership. Firms with a higher concentration of institutional shareholders are expected to offer more trustworthy accounting information (Mary, 2016).

Firm Financial Performance and Attributes of Financial Statement Disclosure in Nigeria

With the inception/adoption of IFRS in Nigeria in 2012, after several years of using Nigeria GAAP (NGAAP), there were rising expectations that financial statement disclosure would become more value-relevant due to the facts that the adopted IFRS guidelines would add value and credibility to accounting information contained in the financial statement. Financial statement disclosure is one of the significant channels of communication with information users, meaning it conveys information about the companies to concerned stakeholders. It also influences users to make predictions or assess the past, present, and future and subsequently form an opinion. The primary objective of a financial statement is to present an accurate and fair view of a company's financial position (Chandrapala, 2017). For a financial statement to be effective and efficient, the information contents must be value-relevant and reliable (Khanna, 2014).

Firm size and impact of financial statement disclosure to financial performance

The impact of business size and financial statement disclosure on the film financial performance of companies listed on LQ-45 between 2016 and 2020 was examined by Bestariningrun (2017). The study used a quantitative approach with several regression analysis approaches and a sample size of forty-two organisations. The study's conclusions demonstrate that firm size and financial statement disclosure favourably impact a company's financial performance. Since this study was conducted eight years ago and only covered four years, the researchers plan to extend the period by five years, from 2015 to 2020, to close the gap.

Institutional Investors and Financial Statement Disclosure

Bushee & Noe (2000) investigated the impact of disclosure quality on the composition of an organization's institutional investor base and the possible repercussions for volatility in stock returns. The findings show that companies with higher institutional ownership typically have better disclosure quality as measured by AIMR rankings. However, stock return volatility is not significantly impacted by the particular institutional investor types attracted to companies with high disclosure quality. Conversely, transient institutional investors who usually make short-term investments and have aggressive trading patterns are associated with instantaneous increases in ownership when disclosure quality improves. The findings suggest that firms that enhance their disclosure quality and attract more transient institutional investors may experience increased stock return volatility.

Theoretical Framework

The study adopted the Agency Theory introduced by Jensen & Meckling (1976). The theory is a foundational concept in corporate governance that explains the relationship between principals (owners or shareholders) and agents (managers or executives) in an organizational setting. The separation of ownership from the management of an entity results in conflicts of interest between agent and principal. The principal appoints the agents to manage the day-to-day activities of the business. Agency theory resolves the conflict between both parties by incurring agency costs to monitor management activities, controlling self – self-centred behaviour of managers, and examining the financial reporting process (Habbash, 2016). The agents handle jobs on behalf of shareholders, and they try to maximize the interest of the shareholders. The agents prepare financial statements that ensure that financial statement disclosure is available to investors and relevant to the firm's financial performance. Agency theory contributes immensely to the maximization of profit for shareholders. They are expected to act in the best interest of shareholders to maximize their wealth.

However, due to selfish interests, managers' time maximizes their winter, eventually resulting in agency problems. The shareholder desires to have more dividends and continuous share price increases. The agency theory assumes that managers and shareholders are risk-averse (Ogheneochuko & Abigirl, 2018). Shareholders incur additional monitoring costs, which are the agency's cost to supervise management activities to ensure managers are not overriding their interests but acting in the shareholders' best interest. Agency costs arise due to the separation of powers between owners and managers (Jacob & Philip, 2016). Shareholders bear agency costs to enable managers to perform in the best interest of shareholders rather than the manager's interest.

Empirical Review

Despite the high expectations for disclosure under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) from various nations, significant concerns persist regarding the manipulation of financial statements (Xu & Lei, 2011), the transparency of related party transactions (RPTs) (Lo & Wong, 2016), and the overall lack of clarity in how entities present and disclose their financial positions (Odoemelam, 2016). Barth, Landsman, and Lang (2008) noted that IFRS is fundamentally principle-based, designed to mitigate the issues associated with accounting alternatives, ensuring that earnings accurately reflect a firm's economic performance. However, accountants and corporate managers are accused of failing to disclose critical information that could impact the economic decisions of investors and other stakeholders. Such financial manipulation undermines the purpose of disclosure, which is to provide investors with trustworthy accounting data necessary for assessing a firm's financial health. Conversely, the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) have faced criticism for not establishing sufficient standards (Pelger, 2016). In developing nations, financial reporting disclosures often lack transparency, adequacy, reliability, and timeliness. Corporations produce disclosures to give investors and analysts information that may significantly affect investment decisions regarding a company's stocks or bonds. These statements can reveal both favourable and unfavourable financial news.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study employs an ex-post-facto (descriptive) research design alongside a comparative research design, utilizing quantitative annual data from a selection of firms pertinent to the variables under investigation. This methodological choice is warranted as the events being analysed transpired in the past, and the researcher refrains from altering the variables in question. Furthermore, secondary data is used to support testing the proposed hypotheses. The research centres on a population of 38 manufacturing firms that were listed on the Nigeria Exchange Group as of December 31, 2020. These firms are categorized into six subsectors: conglomerates (6 firms), consumer goods (21 firms), healthcare (10 firms), ICT (7 firms), industrial goods (14 firms), and natural resources (4 firms). Therefore, twenty-four companies were excluded from the analysis based on this classification, leaving 38 companies in the final sample. This research utilizes a model synthesizing variable incorporated in the study with results of previous empirical studies (Alzoubi, 2014; Adebiyi, 2017; & Manukaji, 2018). A Jones-modified model is used, with the dependent variable discretionary accounting accruals captured by return on assets (ROA). Independent variable, Financial Statement Disclosure, is represented by Firm Age, Firm Size, Leverage, and Institutional Number.

The regression model is specified as:

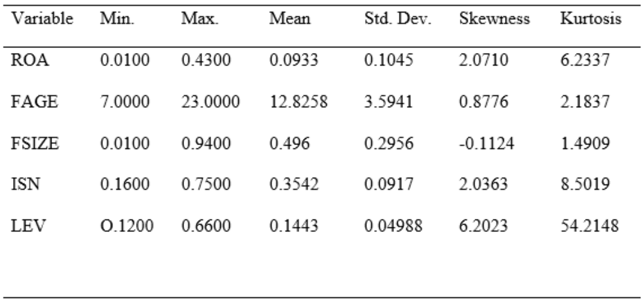
Where:

$$ROA\ it = \beta 0 + \beta 1FAGE\ it + \beta 2FSIZE\ it + \beta 3ISNit + \beta 4LEV\ it + \varepsilon\ it$$

Financial Performance (ROA)= Return on Asset
FAGE= Firm age is estimated by numbers of years from when it was listed on
Nigerian Stock Exchange.
F Size = Firm size refers to the Natural logarithm of total assets of the firm,
ISN=institution number is the Number of share holders
LEV=Leverage is the firm total debt to total asset
ε = Error term.

RESULTS

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics



Variable	Min.	Max.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Skewness	Kurtosis
ROA	0.0100	0.4300	0.0933	0.1045	2.0710	6.2337
FAGE	7.0000	23.0000	12.8258	3.5941	0.8776	2.1837
FSIZE	0.0100	0.9400	0.496	0.2956	-0.1124	1.4909
ISN	0.1600	0.7500	0.3542	0.0917	2.0363	8.5019
LEV	O.1200	0.6600	0.1443	0.04988	6.2023	54.2148

Source: STATA Output Result 2023

Table 1's descriptive statistics provide a detailed account of the characteristics of the variables analysed in this research. The financial performance, as denoted by the return on assets (ROA) for the selected manufacturing firms, ranges from a low of 0.01 to a high of 0.43, with a mean of 0.0933. The standard deviation of 0.1045 reflects a 10% deviation from the mean, indicating a moderate variability in the firm's financial performance. For companies registered on the Nigerian Stock Exchange, the Firm's Age (FAGE) ranges from 7 to 23 years, with a mean of 12.83 years and a standard deviation of 3.59 years. This range reflects significant variation in the ages of directors across the organisations investigated. The skewness value of 0.8776 indicates a slight positive skew, while the kurtosis value of 2.1837 reveals that the distribution is roughly normal, with a slight emphasis on the mean.

The firm size variable (FSIZE) ranges from 0.01 to 0.94, with a mean of 0.496 and a standard deviation of 0.2956. The negative skewness of -0.1124 denotes a slight leftward asymmetry, while the kurtosis value 1.4909 indicates a relatively flat distribution. This research indicates that, on average, about half of the firm sizes within the analysed entities are independent, despite significant variation in size among the firms.

The Institutional Number (ISN) variable ranges from 0.16 to 0.75, with an average of 0.3542 and a standard deviation of 0.0917, reflecting minimal deviation from the mean. The skewness is measured at 2.0363, and the kurtosis is recorded at 8.5019, indicating a significantly positively skewed distribution and a pronounced peak. This implies that although specific boards possess many institutions with substantial firm size, a majority are situated below this threshold. Leverage (LEV), the ratio of a firm's debt to its equity, ranges from a minimum of 0.12 to a maximum of 0.66, with an average value of 0.1443. The standard deviation of 0.04988 suggests a minimal deviation from the mean, indicating that most firms exhibit a conservative approach to borrowing. Nevertheless, the substantial skewness of 6.2023 and kurtosis of 54.2148 reveal pronounced non-normality in the distribution, underscoring considerable variations in leverage across the firms.

Table 2. Correlation Matrix

VARS	FRQ	BSIZE	BI	BFE	BD	FSIZE
ROA	1.0000					
FAGE	0.2341*	1.0000				
	0.0000					
FSIZE	0.0126	0.2086*	1.0000			
	0.8464	0.0012				
ISN	-0.0273	0.3083*	0.2875*	1.0000		
	0.6742	0.0000	0.0000			
LEV	0.0877	0.1636*	0.1166	0.0886	1.0000	
	0.1755	0.0111	0.0713	0.1713		

Source: STATA Output, 2023

The correlation matrix offers valuable insight into the correlation between variables under study. Notably, between financial performance as it is described by return on assets (ROA) and Firm Age (FAGE), an optimistic yet weak relationship is demonstrated (r=0.2341). This reflects that the older the firms are, the better, though not quite so, the return on their assets. This improvement can be linked to the infusion of institutional experience and perspectives characteristic of older companies, potentially leading to improved decision-making and governance strategies. The relevance of this association establishes Firm Age as a vital factor in corporate governance. Conversely, the relationship between return on assets (ROA) and Firm Size (FSIZE) is strongly weak (r = 0.0126), implying that there is virtually no correlation between these two variables. This implies that independent firm characteristics are unlikely to influence the firm's financial performance. The non-significance of this relationship implies that further examination of the impact of independent firm characteristics in determining financial performance among the firms under study is warranted.

The correlation of return on assets (ROA) with institutional number (ISN) is weak negative (r = −0.0273), indicating a statistically insignificant and weak relationship. This finding implies that firms with institutional numbers do not automatically yield greater returns on assets. These results may indicate difficulties in effectively utilizing institutional numbers or may be indicative of other factors influencing ROA. Likewise, Leverage (LEV) has a poor positive correlation with return on assets (ROA) (r= 0.0877). Companies with more diverse members may experience a slight increase in their return on assets (ROA). However, the poor correlation implies that diversity is not a good indicator of return on assets (ROA). Further, this correlation should be complemented by other governance mechanisms to have a more substantial impact.

Table 3. Diagnostic Test

Variables	VIF	Tolerance	
FAGE	1.18	0.847924	
FSIZE	1.17	0.852492	
ISN	1.13	0.963418	
LEV	1.04	0.965208	
MeanVIF			1.11
HettestSig			0.0000
Hausman			0.1534
LMTest			0.0000

Source: STATA Output, 2023

The diagnostic assessments performed in this study provide critical insights into the validity and reliability of the regression analysis used. The results of the multicollinearity test, as evidenced by the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) values, show no multicollinearity among the independent variables. The VIF readings are much lower than the crucial threshold of 10, with an average of 1.11. Furthermore, the tolerance values for all variables exceed 0.1, supporting the absence of multicollinearity. These data indicate that the independent variables in the regression model have minimum intercorrelation, which improves the stability of the computed coefficients. The test for heteroscedasticity carried out to check for the variation of the error terms yielded a significant result ($p < 0.01$), implying that heteroscedasticity is present in the data set. This result implies that the variance of the error terms is not constant across observations, which can compromise the efficiency of the ordinary least squares (OLS) estimators. To prevent this problem, substantial standard errors or other methods resistant to heteroscedasticity in regression analysis are advised.

The Hausman test to assess the appropriateness of either the fixed-effects or random-effects model yielded a p-value of 0.1534. This result suggests that the random-effects model is more appropriate for the dataset, as the null hypothesis, which posits no systematic differences between the fixed-effects and random-effects estimators, cannot be rejected. Consequently, the random-effects model, known for its efficiency in addressing unobserved heterogeneity, is utilized in the analysis. Additionally, the Breusch-Pagan Lagrange Multiplier (LM) test for random effects produced a statistically significant result ($p < 0.01$), indicating a preference for the random-effects model over the pooled OLS model. This finding emphasizes the necessity of incorporating firm-specific random effects in the estimation process to account for unobserved heterogeneity among firms.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The study's outcome reveals the firms' immense contribution to the financial performance of listed manufacturing firms in Nigeria. The positive and strong correlation between the age of firms and the firm's financial performance indicates the decisive role exercised by firm age in rationalizing organizational effectiveness and governance practices. This aligns with Hassan's (2013) study, which revealed that older firms will likely experience improved financial performance by implementing institutional knowledge and frameworks. Moreover, the age of a firm will enable more effective decision-making processes, ensuring adherence to accounting standards in financial reporting. However, it is wise to note that larger corporations carry inefficiencies, as Loderer& Peyer (2018) hypothesized, prompting careful consideration of ideal company size. The findings show no significant relationship between firm size and financial performance. This result supports the study of Abdullah & Mohd Nasir (2014), which theorized that a rise in firm size alone does not ensure improved financial results. Conversely, the presence of institutional investors indicates a weak but statistically significant positive relationship with performance, as cited in the research. Such a finding lends credence to the argument that shareholder diversity can aid in improved governance through inclusive decision-making and groupthink alleviation, as the research by Bravo & Reguera-Alvarado (2018) found. However, the delicate nature of this relationship indicates that merely having more institutional investors is insufficient to address governance issues. Companies must embrace more policies to empower institutional investors and tap their distinct visions adequately. The study's results reveal a negative and insignificant relationship between financial performance and leverage, contrary to the expectation that significant governance results should emanate from using leverage. This corroborates with findings established by Adebiyi (2017), who noted that leverage does not necessarily correspond with better financial performance. These findings shed light on the complex nature of corporate governance and the need for a general solution to attaining improved financial performance for Nigerian manufacturing firms.

Conclusion

This research highlights the important role of firms in determining the financial performance of publicly listed manufacturing companies in Nigeria. Among the various attributes tested, the firms' age and size were determined to be important, albeit weakly correlated, determinants of financial performance. Maturation of a company can enhance the shareholder base and increase horizons, which can translate into improved organizational policies and better governance, thus having a favourable impact on finance. Likewise, the positive nexus between firm size and finance captured here implies that inclusive decision-making, as a proxy by the natural logarithm of total assets, can lead to improved governance implications. Nevertheless, the poor correlation observed for these variables emphasizes that firms need to balance structural qualities with effective operating dynamics to register meaningful improvements in financial performance. The findings, nonetheless, indicate that institutional numbers and leverage had little effect on the financial performance of the firms under the sample. This finding contradicts widespread presumptions of these variables' essential contribution to achieving optimum financial returns. The implication is that possessing institutional numbers or leverage is insufficient without an efficient system to exploit their potential to contribute significantly. This necessitates a revision of governance guidelines and practices so that the structural characteristics of companies lead to compelling operational performances. Policymakers and regulators must explore the potential for developing context-specific guidelines to address the country-specific challenges of Nigerian manufacturing companies. This would do much to enhance financial performance accountability and transparency, ultimately leading to boosting investor confidence and stakeholder trust.

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