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**BUSINESS PERFORMANCE IN NIGERIA: DOES EDUCATION MATTER?**E. Bowale, O. Olurinola, K. Bolarinwa, S. Oluwatobi, I. Ogunrinola, B. Aderounmu

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The characteristics of business owners/manager can influence the managerial capacity and the ultimate business outcome. Some studies have focused on the environment, social and cultural background of entrepreneurs as equally important measures of entrepreneurial traits. Education is expected enhance general or specific skills and knowledge in handling business assets and resources.

Industry- This knowledge is expected to improve capacity to identify opportunities for business expansion and to address issues of customers' needs, competition and cost reduction In developing countries, the there is still debate on the quality of education generally and the actual effects of education have not been conclusively determine. This study focuses on education level of the owner/manager of businesses in Nigeria. It also analyses the types and scope of education of owners/managers of these small businesses with a view to determining the impact of education on performance of the businesses.

The study will make use of data that will be collected from semi-structured question administered on the small business owners/managers. Descriptive statistics and inference statistics will be employed. This study will show clearly the types of education that will be relevant for the small business development in the economy.

**keywords:** business performance, education, nigeria.