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Comprehensive Bibliometric Analysis and Systematic Review of Two Decades of Food Vendors Study: Deciphering the Dynamics of Food Vendor Research

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ABSTRACT

This study examines food vendor research over a two-decade period (2005-2023), using both bibliometric and systematic review approaches. Using data from the Scopus database with 421 articles, the study shows a significant increase in research production, with a focus on food security, consumer behavior, and the influence of COVID-19. The bibliometric analysis reveals major study issues, such as food safety, sustainability, and the informal sector, while a systematic examination of the top 20 most-cited publications provides additional insight into the research landscape. This review emphasizes the need of include time in food accessibility studies, the need for a more nuanced understanding of food deserts, and the increased interest in organic vegetable marketing and insect eating. Also this is the first article which completely drafted in the perspective of food vendors. The study concludes by identifying limitations and suggesting future research directions, emphasizing the importance of an interdisciplinary approach, incorporating qualitative methods, focusing on specific regions, investigating the impact of the internet, and delving deeper into purchasing habits, sustainability, and socioeconomic impacts. This thorough analysis lays the groundwork for future research, encouraging the creation of more fair, sustainable, and resilient food systems.

Keywords: Food Vendors, Bibliometric Analysis, Systematic Review, Food Security, Sustainability
JEL Classifications: L66, M13, L26

1. INTRODUCTION

Street food vending is mostly an urban phenomena,This is a significant portion of the food industry's unlicensed sector (Malhotra, 2017). Street food has long been an important element of all cultures. From tantalizing spicy and sour foods to satisfying sweet tooth demands, street food is an essential element of all cultures throughout the world. The street food industry enhances nations' tourism, which is especially helpful to countries that rely significantly on tourism. Street food sellers typically make up a sizable portion of the unorganized sector and employ a range of groups that would normally struggle to find work, especially remote migrants (Paliwal et al., 2023). Millions of people eat street meals every day, which are conveniently available and very affordable (Desye et al., 2023). Street food not only affords ease for many consumers, but it also serves as a source of income for millions of low-income individuals, contributing significantly to the economies of many developing nations (Ma et al., 2019). Street-vended foods are described as products such as beverages and snacks offered in public spaces that may be eaten anywhere (Bhattacharjya and Reang, 2014). Street cuisine is distinguished by three characteristics: it is inexpensive, accessible, and readily available across the city via kiosks and/or vans stationed at street markets, festivals, and, particularly, in popular tourist destinations. One factor that shouldn't be forgotten is that if you decide to eat on the street, you will most likely need to do immediately or to

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save money. But also for the joy of being a part of traditions, locations, and cultural landscapes, regardless of social, cultural, or economic factors (Bellia et al., 2016).

Food from the street has become a common meal for travellers, employees, learners, migrants, and vacationers (Malhotra, 2017). Here are some of the previous explanations concerning street food sellers, Food vendors are people who provide food, usually in metropolitan settings, they perform an important role in delivering cheap meals, particularly for low-income clients, and contribute to the earnings of families (Tigari and Shalini, 2020). Food vendors are persons or businesses who offer ready-to-eat food in public areas such as streets, marketplaces, and gatherings. This comprises both conventional vendors and innovative food trucks that provide a variety of culinary experiences (Kowalczyk and Kubal-Czerwińska, 2020). Street vendors are urban dwellers that participate in unstructured sales activities to supplement their income owing to a lack of regular work alternatives, so helping with urban sustainability and livelihood, Street vendors play an important part in the informal economy, supplying goods and services and frequently functioning through social networks. While past study has looked into different elements of street food vending, such as safety issues, food quality, operational problems for vendors, and customer viewpoints, a thorough examination of this dynamic industry is needed. Such a review would give useful insights by combining existing information and highlighting future research needs.

By critically evaluating the current literature on street food sellers, we may acquire a better knowledge of this complex and multidimensional sector, which can help influence future study and policy. This new introduction improves the flow and includes scholarly language. It also emphasizes the purpose for your review study by highlighting the importance of a thorough investigation of street food sellers, which goes beyond previous research that has concentrated on individual characteristics, this review paper provides a two-step method to investigating the food vendor research landscape. First, we do a bibliometric study on 421 publications from the Scopus database. This study will show where the research on food sellers is coming from geographically, as well as which nations are leading the way in this subject. We'll also highlight the most significant papers and scholars who have contributed to our present understanding of food sellers. The study will go deeper into any developing research areas in this sector, revealing interesting new avenues for future investigations. Second, we'll zoom in on the top 20 most-cited articles from our initial data set through a systematic literature review. This detailed analysis will take a close look at the research methods and theoretical frameworks these highly influential studies used. By examining their research styles, we aim to identify best practices and potential areas for improvement in the way we approach future food vendor research. The following sections of this article will be clearly laid out. First, we'll break down the specific steps involved in gathering and analyzing the data. Then, we'll explain the criteria we used to choose and evaluate the articles we reviewed. This will be followed by a deep dive into the results of the bibliometric analysis and a comprehensive discussion of the systematic literature review. Finally, we'll wrap things up by summarizing the key findings from both analyses and suggesting future research directions that can help us gain a richer understanding of the ever-changing landscape of food vendor research. A separate review article concentrating entirely on street food sellers has yet to be created. Existing review articles in this topic are often bigger in scope, addressing the overall business or entrepreneurial scene. The absence of a comprehensive, food vendor-specific evaluation limits our understanding of this dynamic industry.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Bibliometric analysis is a common and rigorous approach for examining vast amounts of scientific data (Donthu et al., 2021). In the past few years, bibliometric analysis has become widely used in business studies (Khan et al., 2021). As (Verma and Gustafsson, 2020) (Donthu et al., 2021) said, bibliometric analysis is to identify trends in article and journal performance, collaboration patterns, research elements, and the intellectual structure of a topic in existing literature. Table 1 shows the clear objectives and the particular objective's methods to separate each part, where Table 2 shows the path break down of research with word stings with codes to clear out the steps. Bibliometrics will help the upcoming particular researchers to get to know the field by viewing a particular documents of review papers, like these analysis flow and deep discussion of the food vendors domain will have a clarity of the particular area to make any steps on.

2.1. Main Information

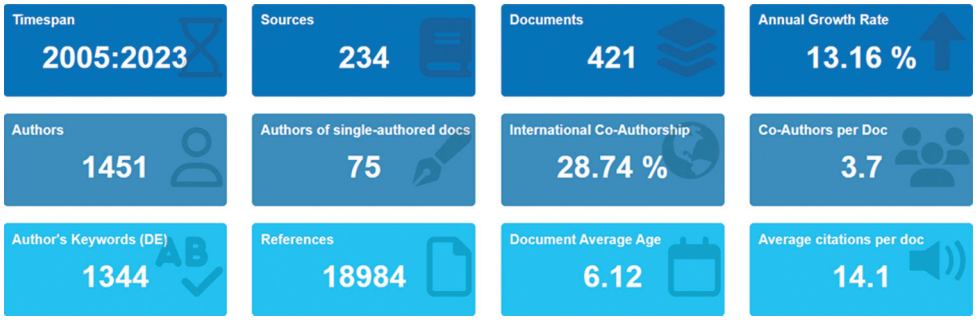
Figure 1 The presented bibliometric data, which spans 2005-2023 and was processed with biblioshiny in R Studio, provides a complete picture of Scopus academic output associated to the search phrase "food vendors." The dataset, which includes 234 sources and 421 documents, shows an annual growth rate of 13.16%, demonstrating a large rise in research effort on food sellers. The engagement of 1451 writers, with 75 single-authored publications and an average of 3.7 co-authors per document, indicates a significant tendency of collaboration in this sector. Notably, 28.74% of the documents include foreign co-authors, demonstrating worldwide research collaborations including food sellers. The dataset contains 1344 different author keywords that cover many elements of food vendor study, as well as 18,984 references that highlight the research subjects' richness and breadth. The documents had an average age of 6.12 years and 14.1 citations each, demonstrating the research's relevance and influence on food sellers. Overall, these measures show a lively and collaborative research environment with strong international participation and academic effect on the study of food sellers. Figure 2 bringing up the review flow with necessary stings and steps mentioned in it.

3. RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

3.1. Year Wise Publication Details

The (Figure 3) shows a graphical study of publishing patterns in food vendor research from 2005 to 2023, based on data gathered from Scopus. This study includes a total of 421 articles. The ordinate y-axis depicts the number of publications, while the

Figure 1: Overall main information



Source: Constructed by authors using Scopus data base

Table 1: Objectives and research methods

Analysis	Research objectives	Research methods
Bibliometric analysis	To explore the landscape of food vendors research	Thematic analysis
	To find out the publication arc of the food vendors research and countries research on it.	Countries scientific production
	To find out the conceptual structure of keywords in food vendors research	Co occurence analysis
	To find out the future way and possiblities of food vendors research	Factorial analysis, treemap analysis.
Systematic review	To understand various applications, exploring different variables and factors in food vendors research	Citation analysis

Source: Constructed by Authours

Table 2: Stages of review

S. No.	Stages	Description
1	Scopus	food AND vendors) AND PUBYEAR>2003 AND PUBYEAR<2025 AND (LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA , "soci") OR LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA , "busi") OR LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA , "econ") OR LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA, "mult")) AND (LIMIT-TO (DOCTYPE, "ar")) AND (LIMIT-TO (PUBSTAGE, "final")) AND (LIMIT-TO (SRCTYPE, "j")) AND (LIMIT-TO (LANGUAGE, "English"))
2	Rstudio	Library (bibliometris), biblioshiny()
3	Biblioshiny Program	Data- Load Data- Import the Exported CSV file from Scopus Database- run the required analysis.
4	VOSviewer	Create- Run Map using bibliographic data-use a required type of visualization to display the output.

Source: Constructed by Authors

abscissa x-axis shows the year of publication. The graph depicts a trend: e.g., steady climb, significant growth, or volatility in academic production on food sellers over the study period. This indicates an increase in research interest in this area. This burgeoning field of inquiry could be attributed to a variety of factors, including growing concerns about public health and safety in the context of street food vending, the changing landscape of food cultures around the world, or the growing importance of the informal food sector in developing countries.

3.2. Publication Details Country Wise

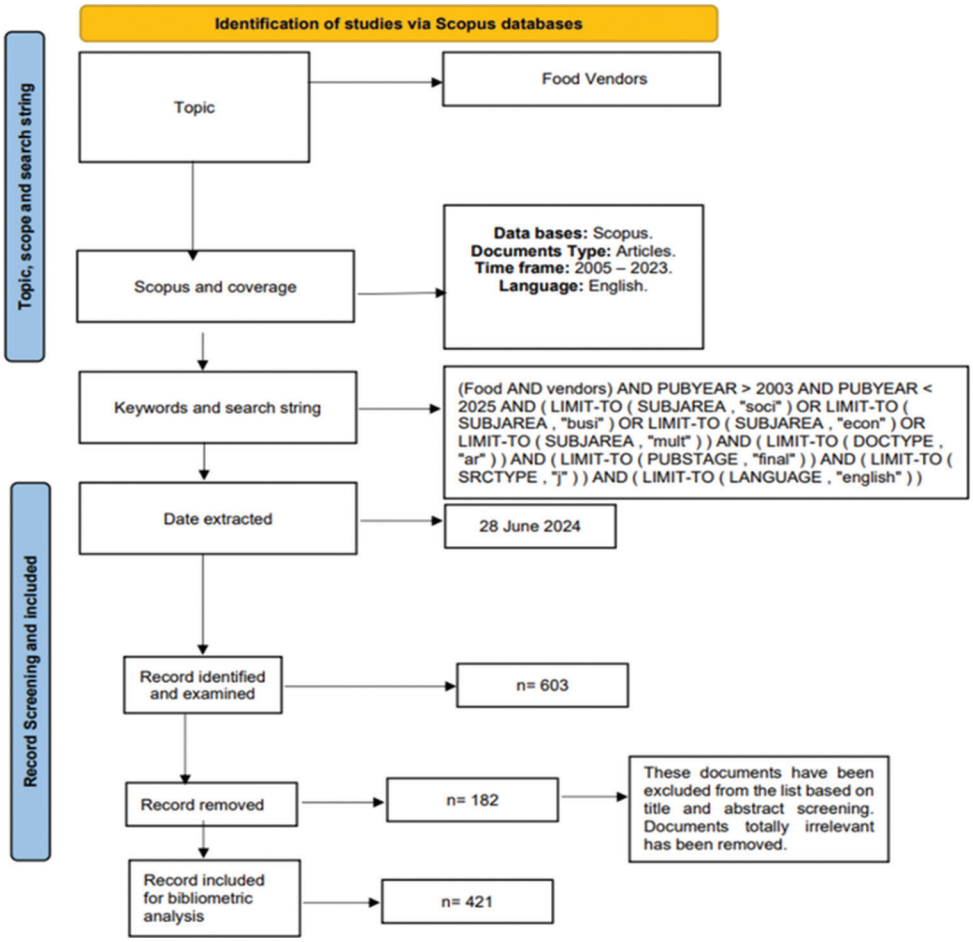
The Figure 4 depicts a bar graph showing the distribution of the 421 publications evaluated in this study, organized by the nation or territory in which the research was undertaken. Scopus is the source of the data. It is crucial to note that the number of publications does not always correspond to the predominance of food sellers in a country. According to the studied publications, the United States has the most published research on food sellers, followed by China and India. This variation might be attributed to a variety of causes, such as inequalities in study funding between nations or the presence of certain food vendor cultures that have received academic attention.

The Figure 5 likely shows a world map generated by Biblioshiny, an R package for bibliometric analysis. Countries with deeper hues or bigger markers are more likely to have a higher number of scientific publications. In Figure 6, Regions with lighter colors/smaller markers have a lower publishing volume, according to the data source. This data often relates to the number of publications produced or co-authored by researchers from a certain nation. The top three countries on the list, China, the United States, and the United Kingdom, are anticipated to be the primary producers of scientific research. This prominent position may be due to causes such as, strong government funding for research and development initiatives may considerably increase a country's scientific output. Well-established universities, research institutes, and labs offer the infrastructure and environment in which researchers can thrive. A big pool of highly qualified researchers, scientists, and engineers may considerably boost a country's scientific production. Countries such as India, Brazil, and South Korea, which may rank around the center of the list, might represent emerging producers in the global scientific scene. International connections with established research institutes can give significant resources and experience.

3.3. Three Field Plot for the Study

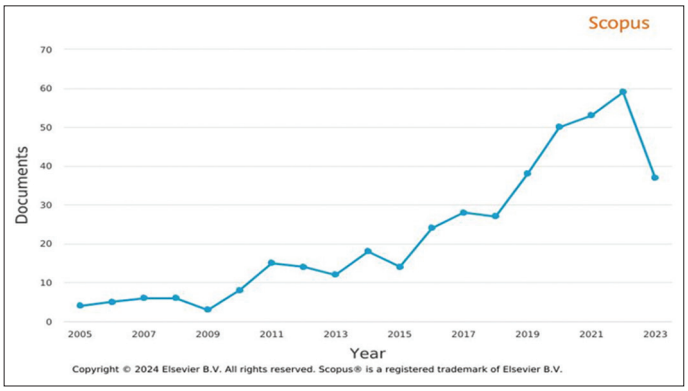
At the same, Figure 7 illustrates a three-field map produced by a bibliometric study. The data, most likely obtained from Scopus, investigates the correlations between cited references (CR), authors

Figure 2: Review flow diagram



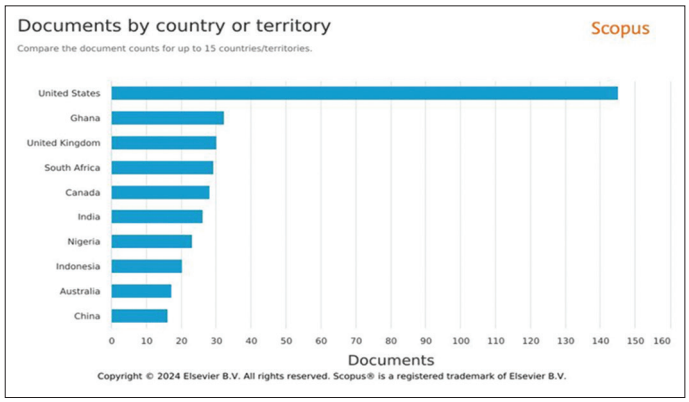
Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

Figure 3: Documents by year



Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

Figure 4: Documents produced by countries



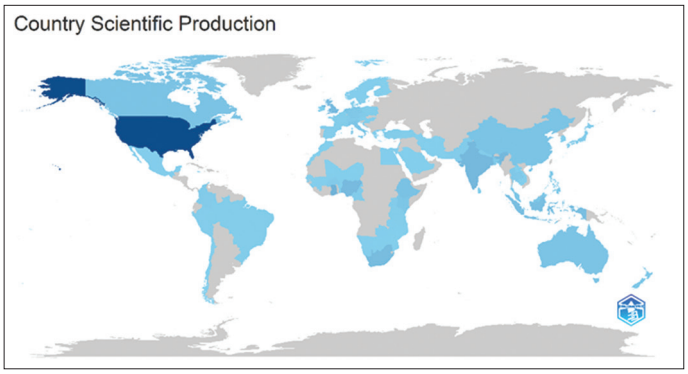
Source: Compiled by author using Scopus data base

(AU), and author keywords (DE) in the context of food vendor research. "The plot's lines link these three fields and indicate their connections. Here are some other interpretations of the links. The links between CR and AU show which scholarly publications are commonly cited by scholars in this discipline. Connections between CR and DE imply that particular references are related to specific study themes defined by the author's keywords. Finally, the linkages between AU and DE reveal the terms used by writers to describe their study. For instance, if the keyword "street food safety" connects to a cluster of cited references by authors like (Mensah et al., 2002) and (Bhowmik,2005), this suggests that these references are seminal works on this particular aspect of food vendor research. "Analysing the number of linkages between certain author keywords might identify new or known study trends in food vendor research. For example, a collection of publications and keywords relating to "food truck rules" might indicate a rising scholarly interest in this topic." "The three-field plot can also help identify potential research gaps." Areas with few keyword links or a scarcity of recent references may highlight issues that warrant additional examination."

3.4. Most Relevant Sources in the Domain

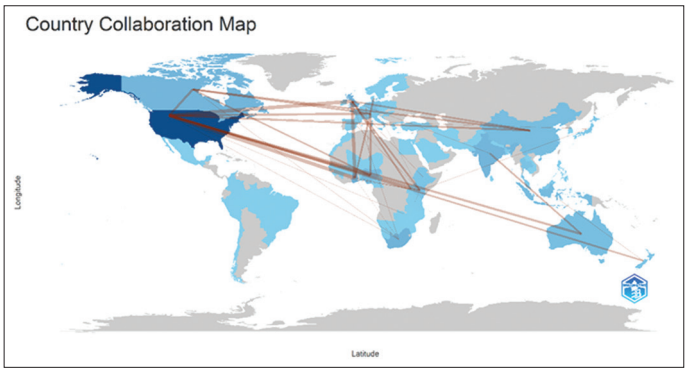
The Figure 8 illustrates the most commonly referenced sources in the examined articles about food vendors. The x-axis represents journal names, and the y-axis indicates the number of document articles that quote each journal. This data shows that academic publications published in "Plus One" and "food culture and society" are the most frequently referenced sources in the field. This shows that these publications might be valuable platforms for sharing research on food sellers. Other prominent sources include British food journal, foods which contribute significantly to the scholarly discourse on food vendors.

Figure 5: Countries mapping on documents production



Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

Figure 6: Countries collaboration map on documents



Source: Compiled by author using Scopus data base

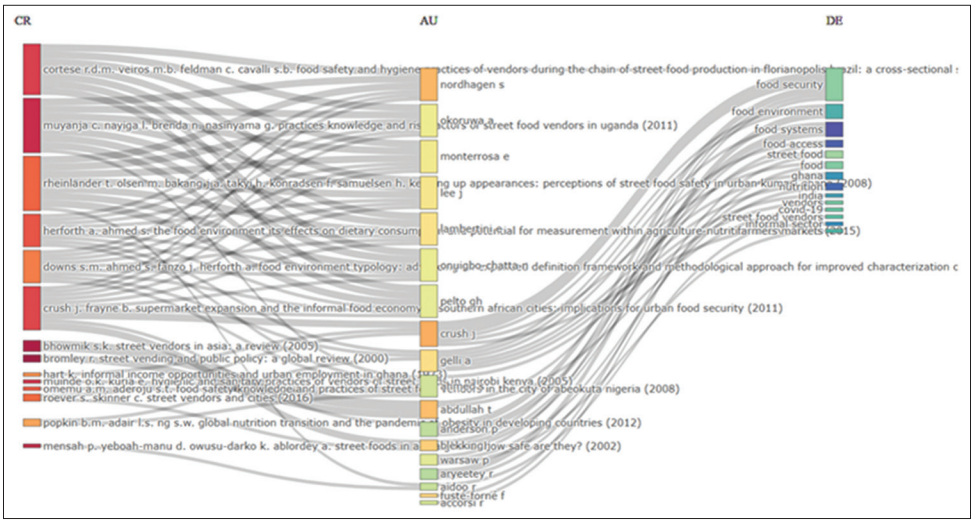
3.5. Most Relevant Authors

Depending on the data source, the Figure 9 will most likely reflect the most productive authors in terms of scholarly production connected to food sellers. Authors with a greater document count authored more papers that were included in the analysis. "The statistics may also represent collaborative tendencies in the field. Authors with a high publishing rate may regularly cooperate with others, thereby inflating their document count. Furthermore, authorship order may alter the measure, with first authors typically contributing more to the research. The findings show that writers with "crush j" publications and "nordhagen s" publications emerge as prominent contributors based on the number of articles included in the study. It's crucial to remember that publication count is a quantitative indicator that doesn't always reflect the quality or effect of individual studies. While our research focuses on active writers, it is important to recognize that knowledge gaps may exist. To have a more thorough knowledge of food vendor research, future study might look at the contributions of researchers from underrepresented regions or fields, which also represent the number of sources from a certain affiliations in the Figure 10 which shows the top 10 affiliations by the sources.

3.6. Thematic Analysis of Keywords Related to Food Vendor's Research

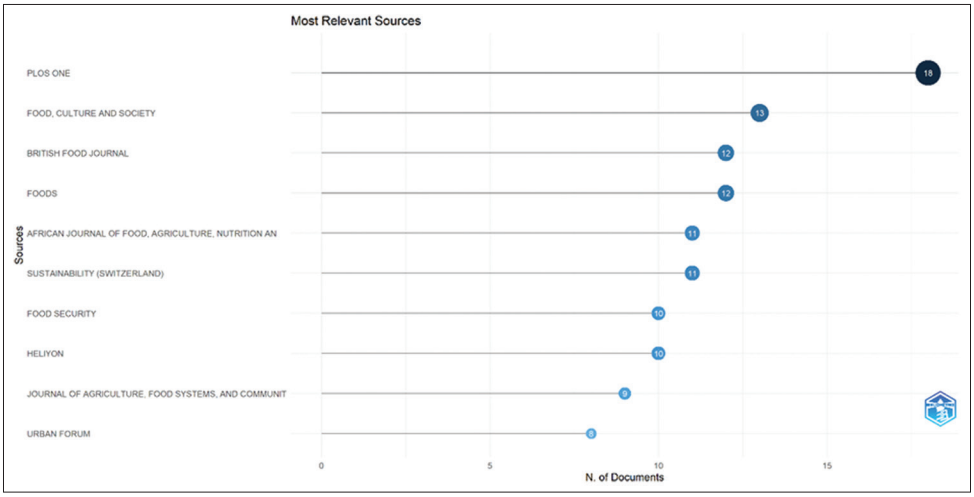
Thematic maps depict patterns and correlations among keywords or phrases found in scholarly publications The Figure 11 depicts numerous significant topic regions. One major cluster probably focuses on sustainability and waste management, as demonstrated by the co-occurrence of terms. In the case of food sellers, the map is likely to show clusters of terms that appear often in the studied articles. Keywords such as "sustainable practices," "food waste reduction," and "composting" may appear together, indicating a thematic emphasis on ecologically friendly food vending

Figure 7: Three field plot on food vendors study



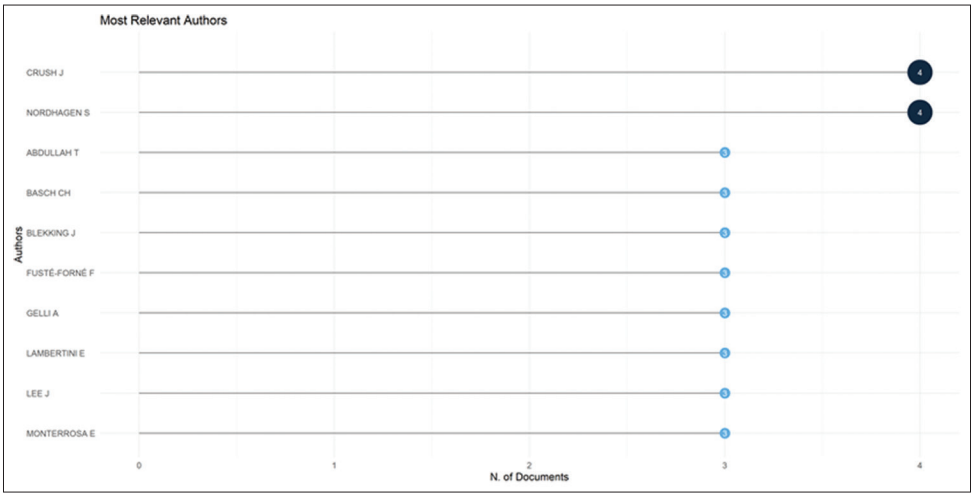
Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

Figure 8: Top journals chart on the domain



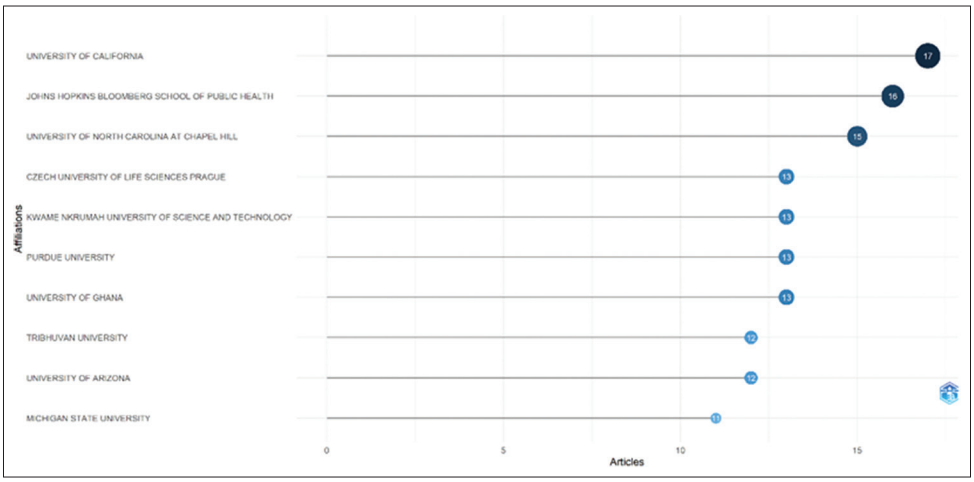
Source: Compiled by author using Scopus data base

Figure 9: Top authors on food vendor's study



Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

Figure 10: Top and most related affiliation to the study



Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

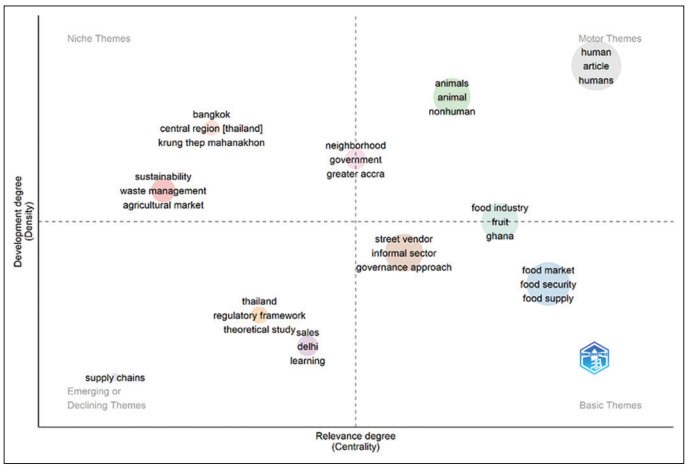
operations. Keywords such as "food access," "food insecurity," and "agricultural markets" may appear together, implying study on the role of food vendors in maintaining food security and supply chain efficiency. Keywords such as "street vending," "informal

economy," and "regulation" may appear together, indicating a research subject that investigates the socioeconomic elements of street vending.

3.7. Trend Topics Related to the Key Words

The Figure 12 "Trend Topics" shows the frequency and temporal patterns of various phrases from 2007 to 2023. The x-axis indicates the chronology from 2007 to 2023, while the y-axis lists the many terms under consideration in the study. The size of the bubble represents how frequently a phrase appears, with larger bubbles indicating greater frequency. Key observations include COVID-19's emergence around 2020 and its high frequency, as seen by massive bubbles in recent years. Terms like sustainability, Kenya, and Nigeria have gained popularity over time, with greater bubbles emerging in recent years. Topics such as child, health behavior, food safety, adolescent, India, and human have increased in popularity over the years, particularly after 2015 The food sector, food, commerce, and marketing have grown more common during the previous decade. In recent years, phrases such as qualitative research and food quality have gained popularity and significance. Africa, the lowest income group, retailing, and public health had occasional appearances but have increased in recent years.

Figure 11: Thematic map by search domain



Source: Compiled by author using Scopus data base

COVID-19, sustainability, and health behavior are all developing subjects that have witnessed significant growth, particularly during the pandemic time. There is also a geographic emphasis on nations such as Kenya, Nigeria, and India, indicating a regional concentration in research or discourse Food and health-related phrases, such as food safety, the food business, and health-related themes, have steadily increased. The graph illustrates which topics have gained or lost popularity over time, reflecting changes in research, public interest, or industrial focus.

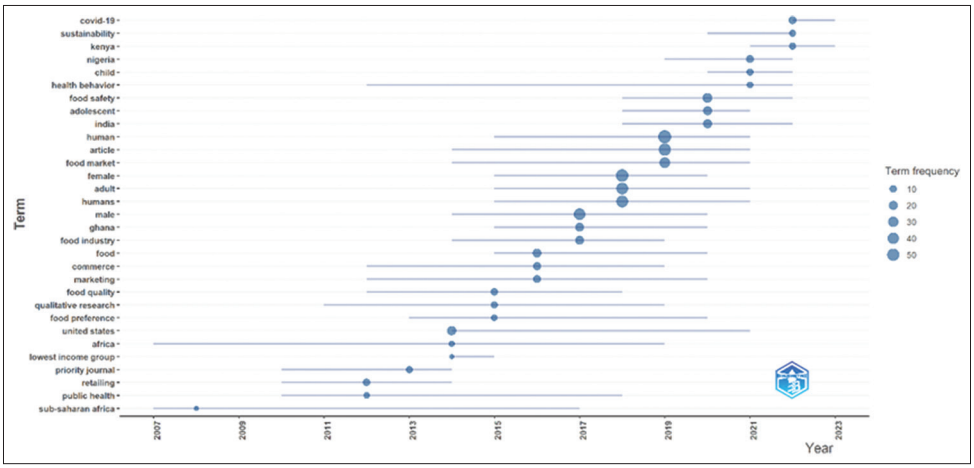
3.8. Words Related Analysis of the Particular Words Search Domain

The word tree Figure 13 created by the biblioshiny interface on a dataset of 421 Scopus articles about food sellers attractively depicts term frequency, with larger boxes indicating more frequency. Major phrases include "human" (59 occurrences, 6%), "female" (52, 5%), "article" (49, 5%), and "adult" (44, 5%), indicating an emphasis on human topics and gender-related. concerns. Food-related phrases include "food market" 35, 4%, "food security" 26, 3%, "food supply" 25, 3%, and "food safety" 20, 2%, all of which show concerns about food distribution, safety, and the industry. Geographical target areas include the United States 21, 2%, India 19, 2%, Ghana 17, 2%, and Nigeria 12, 1%, with demographics including adolescents 20, 2%, middle-aged 19, 2%, and young adults 20, 2%.

Terms such as "diet" 15, 2% and "nutrition" 14, 1% highlight health and nutrition issues. Methodological phrases like "controlled study" 13, 1%, "cross-sectional study" 13, 1%, and "questionnaire" 11, 1% stand out. The map shows a strong interest in the informal sector 16, 2%, street sellers 18, 2%, and economic topics such as "economics" (12, 1%) and "marketing" (12, 1%). This image emphasizes the interdisciplinary nature of food vendor research.

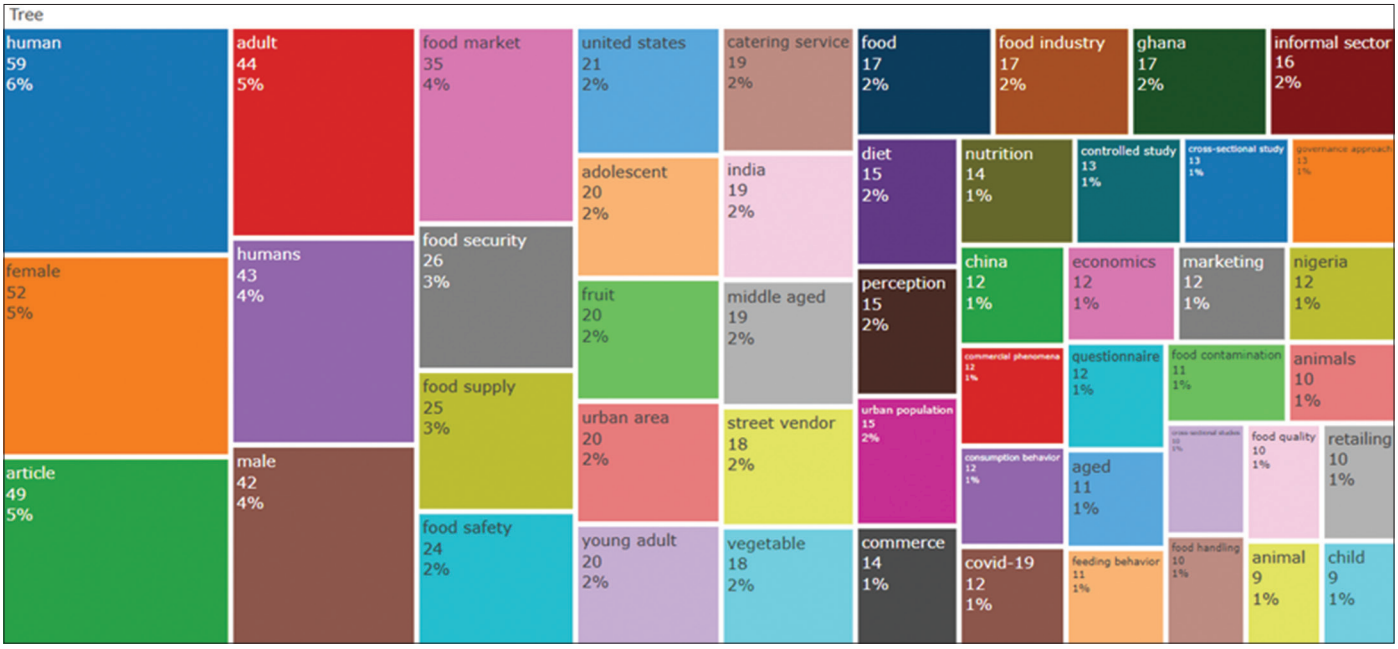
The word cloud Figure 14 created by Biblioshiny illustrates the main topics and focus points in a corpus of academic literature. Notable phrases such as "human," "humans," "female," "male," "adult," "adolescent," "young adult," and "middle aged"

Figure 12: Trending and Niche topics



Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

Figure 13: Word tree map by key words



Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

Figure 14: Word cloud by keywords

Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

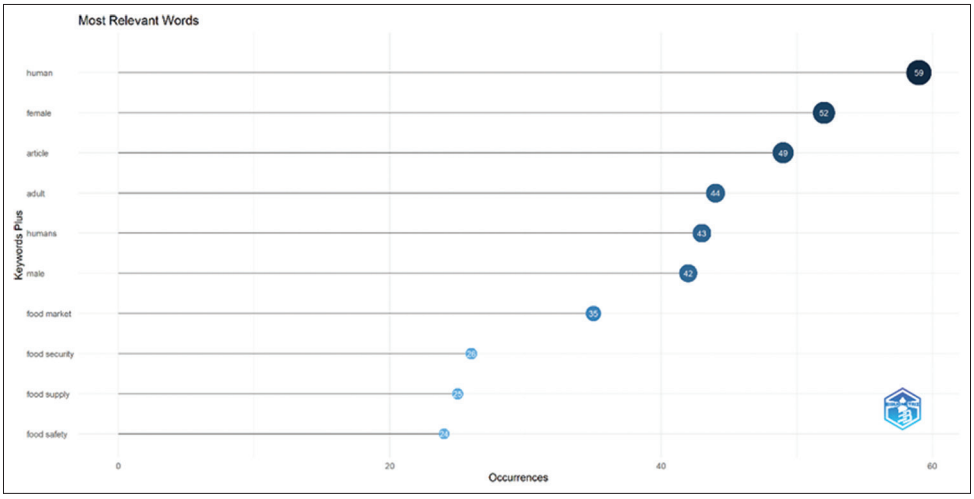
indicate a broad focus on human themes across demographics. The use of terminology like "food security," "food safety," "food market," "food supply," "food quality," and "nutrition" demonstrates a strong scholarly focus on food-related concerns such as supply sufficiency, safety requirements, and nutritional content. Furthermore, terminology such as "catering service," "street vendor," "food industry," "commerce," and "retailing" emphasize the commercial and industrial aspects of food research. The emphasis on "urban area" and "urban population" shows a particular interest in urban environments and inhabitants. Furthermore, terminology like "consumption behavior" and "feeding behavior" refer to studies of people's and groups' eating habits and activities. The terms "governance approach" and "informal sector" refer to study on governance tactics and informal economic activity related to food. The word "COVID-19" implies an academic investigation of the pandemic's influence on food-related concerns. Geographic references to nations such as "United States," "India," "China," "Ghana," and "Nigeria" demonstrate the worldwide reach of the research. Finally, the use of research procedures such as "controlled study" and "cross-sectional studies" demonstrates the scientific rigour used in these academic inquiries.

The "Most Relevant Words" Figure 15 provides a visual examination of the frequency of various keywords in a given text or batch of texts. The vertical axis displays the keywords, while the horizontal axis shows how many times each term appears. The size of the bubbles represents the frequency of each term, with larger bubbles signifying more occurrences. The term "human" appears the most frequently, with 59 instances, followed by "female" 52 occurrence, "article" 49 occurrences, "adult" 44 occurrences, "humans" 43 occurrence, and "male" 4. Food-related keywords such as "food market," "food security," "food supply," and "food safety" appear as well, but at lesser frequency of 35, 26, 25, and 24.

3.9. Processing of Scopus Extracted Data using VOS Viewer Software

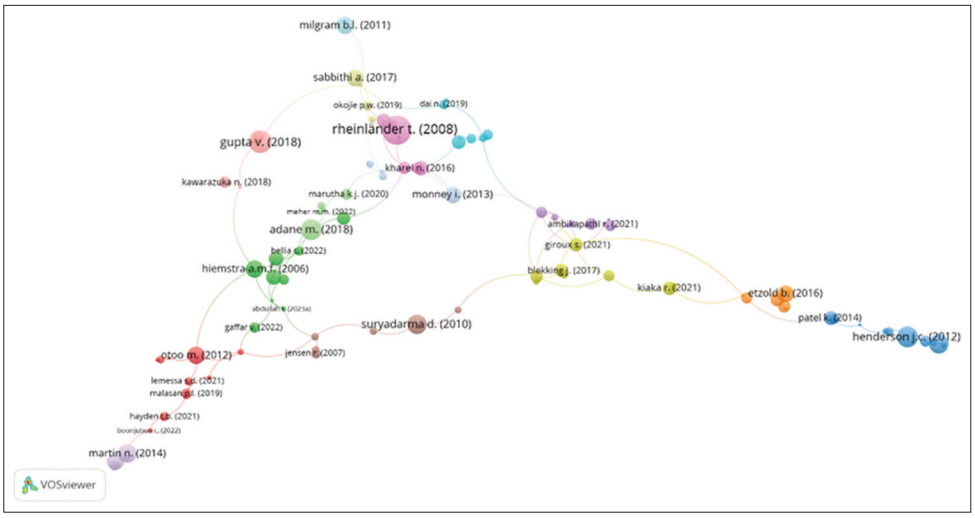
The citation analysis provided by VOSviewer for 421 publications on food vendor studies in Figure 16 gives a thorough visualisation of the intellectual landscape and subject groupings in this academic domain. Each node in the graphic represents a single study, and its size indicates the number of citations obtained. The nodes are organized into clusters, each depicted by a different hue to show thematic similarities and co-citations. The green cluster, which includes notable works such as (Adane et al., 2018) and, (Hiemstra et al., 2006), may focus on the health and economic aspects of food vending. The red cluster, which includes (Gupta et al., 2018) and (Otoo et al., 2012), is expected to focus on food safety and policy consequences. Other significant clusters include the blue cluster, typified by (Henderson et al., 2012), and the yellow cluster, represented by (Blekking et al., 2017), which may contain regional studies and comparative analysis, respectively. Central nodes, such as (Rheinländer et al., 2008), are extremely significant, showing essential references that serve as the foundation for several later

Figure 15: Most relevant keywords by search



Source: Compiled by author using Scopus data base

Figure 16: Citation analysis



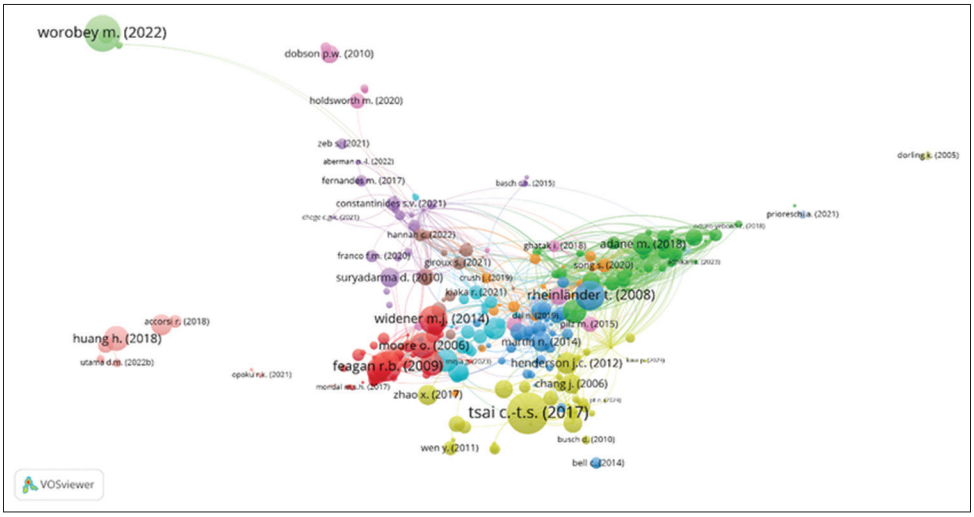
Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

investigations. In contrast, peripheral nodes such as (Martin, 2014) reflect lesser-known or specialized works in the subject.

The depicted bibliographic coupling network map, created with VOSviewer, depicts the scholarly landscape of research on food sellers. The network depicts clusters of articles connected by shared references, emphasizing the field's intellectual structure. Notably, the Figure 17 depicts discrete clusters, with major writers and works like "Worobey et al. (2022)" forming substantial nodes, showing their essential function and impact. Each hue represents a distinct topic cluster within the discipline, with nodes representing specific works and connections indicating the intensity of their bibliographic linkage. The position and size of the nodes indicate the importance and interdependence of these research. For example, "Huang et al. (2018)" and "Widener and Shannon (2014)" are regarded as significant works in their respective fields. This graphic helps to identify important contributors and analyze topic progression and collaboration patterns in the field of food vendor research.

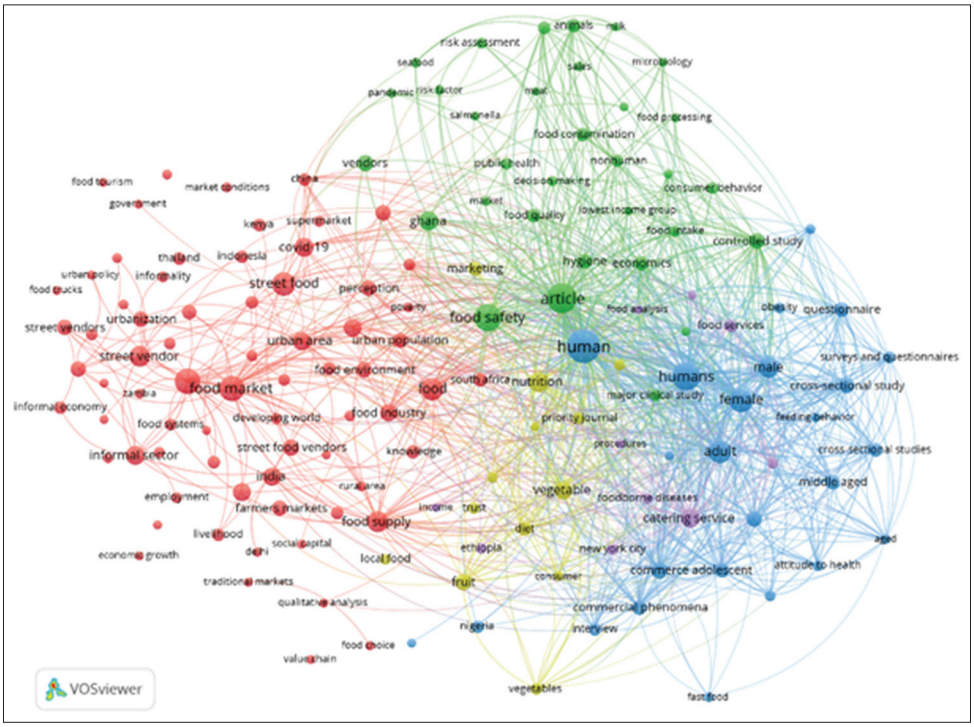
The Figure 18 of co-occurrence network analysis, performed with VOSviewer, indicates unique topic clusters in the scholarly literature on food markets, safety, and nutrition. The red cluster focuses on the informal economy and street food sector, with topics such as urban policy, street vendors, and the impact of COVID-19. The green cluster highlights food safety and public health, with important phrases such as food contamination, cleanliness, and microbiology highlighting the need of proper food handling methods. The blue cluster focuses on human nutrition and consuming behavior, including research on dietary patterns, eating behavior, and cross-sectional surveys. Finally, the yellow cluster investigates food supply and market dynamics, including the efficiency of food systems, value chain analysis, and the significance of local food markets. This report gives a thorough picture of the research landscape, emphasizing the interdependence of these crucial areas and providing significant insights for improving knowledge and tackling difficulties in food markets and safety.

Figure 17: Bibliographic coupling



Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

Figure 18: Co-occurrence analysis



Source: Compiled by author using Scopus data base

The co-occurrence network analysis in Figure 19, which uses VOSviewer to map terms that appear at least 10 times, identifies three major theme clusters in the scholarly literature on food markets, safety, and nutrition. The red cluster focuses on the informal sector and food security, using phrases like "food market," "urbanization," "street vendors," "food supply," and "COVID-19," to illustrate the issues encountered by informal food markets as well as the pandemic's impact on food security. The green cluster focuses on human nutrition and consumption patterns, encompassing phrases such as "human," "nutrition," "diet," "cross-sectional studies," and "consumer behavior," indicating study on dietary habits and variables influencing food choices. The blue cluster focuses on food safety and public health, using phrases like "food safety," "food contamination," "hygiene," "microbiology," and "public health," highlighting the need of ensuring food safety and mitigating foodborne disease risks. This network analysis gives a thorough picture of interrelated research issues, providing important insights for future study and policymaking in these vital areas.

3.10. Systematic Literature Review and Assessment of Highly Cited Articles

A systematic review summarizes information on a specific topic using a systematic approach and a clear study plan (Tawfik et al., 2019). To learn about specific research topics, a systematic literature review will play an important role. This review has been

Table 3: Systematic literature review

S. No.	Authors	Citations	Title	Journal	Key research outline	Research model/method	Major research findings
1	(Tsai and Wang, 2017) (13)	227	Experiential value in branding food tourism	Journal of Destination Marketing and Management 6 (1), pp. 56-65	The study investigates the influence of consumer return on investment (CROI) on a location's food image in food tourism and makes practical recommendations for branding food tourism using experiential value dimensions.	The study uses structural equation modelling (SEM) to investigate the links between experiencing value, location food image, and visitor behavioural intentions in the context of food tourism.	The study demonstrates that consumer return on investment (CROI) has a significant impact on a location's culinary image in food tourism, affecting visitor behavior. Service excellence, attractiveness, and fun have little influence on the food brand image. Street food vendors in Tainan demonstrate the significance of CROI in street food tourist success.
2	(Worobey et al., 2022) (14)	172	The Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market in Wuhan was the early epicentre of the COVID-19 pandemic	Science 377 (6609), pp. 951-959	The major research outline in one sentence is: Investigating the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic, with an emphasis on the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market in Wuhan, China, as an early epicenter.	The key research method/ model used is spatial analysis to identify the association between SARS-CoV-2-positive environmental samples and live wildlife trade activities at the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market.	The main conclusion is that SARS-CoV-2-positive environmental samples are spatially associated with live animal sales in the southwest quadrant of the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market, which supports the zoonotic transmission theory.
3	(Feagan and Morris, 2009) (15)	113	Consumer quest for embeddedness: a case study of the Brantford Farmers' Market	International Journal of Consumer Studies 33 (3), pp. 235-243	The study examines customer motives at the Brantford Farmers' Market via the perspective of embeddedness, with an emphasis on social, geographical, and natural variables.	The study uses an embeddedness paradigm to organize and analyse customer motives at the Brantford Farmers' Market.	Consumer motivations at the Brantford Farmers' Market are predominantly motivated by values such as social contact, vendor expertise, food freshness, and support for local farmers, with less focus on natural embeddedness values.
4	(Rheinländer et al., 2008) (16)	113	Keeping Up Appearances: Perceptions of Street Food Safety in Urban Kumasi, Ghana	Journal of Urban Health 85 (6), pp. 952-964	The study looks at how vendors and customers in metropolitan Kumasi, Ghana, perceive street food safety, with an emphasis on knowledge, behaviors, and social norms that influence food safety.	The study used a qualitative technique, including semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions, participant observations, and workshops, to investigate local perceptions of food safety in Kumasi, Ghana's street food industry.	When examining street food safety in Kumasi, Ghana, the main conclusion reveals that customers prefer aesthetics, vendor trust, and social connections above biological food safety knowledge.
5	(Aydinoğlu and Krishna, 2010) (17)	110	Guiltless Gluttony: The Asymmetric Effect of Size Labels on Size Perceptions and Consumptio	Journal of Consumer Research 37 (6), pp. 1095-1112	The study investigates how size labels influence size perceptions and consuming behaviors, with an emphasis on the idea of "guiltless gluttony" and relative perceived size reversals.	To investigate the impact on participants' perceptions and actions, the researchers used a 2×2 design that included size labels, portion size information, and nutrition consciousness.	Size labels can lead consumers to underestimate large portions, engage in "guiltless gluttony," and perceive smaller packages as larger, influencing consumption habits.

(*Contd...*)

Table 3: (*Continued*)

S. No.	Authors	Citations	Title	Journal	Key research outline	Research model/method	Major research findings
6	(Widener and Shannon, 2014) (18)	102	When are food deserts? Integrating time into research on food accessibility	Health and Place 30, pp. 1-3	The research brief focuses on incorporating time into the study of food accessibility in order to improve knowledge of the link between food deserts and health outcomes, as well as identifying possible possibilities for future spatio-temporal analysis in the area.	This paper's main study method/model is spatio-temporal analysis, which is used to investigate food accessibility and its influence on health outcomes.	The main conclusion shows that current studies may call into question the conventional link between living in a food desert and poor health outcomes, emphasizing the importance of a more nuanced understanding of food accessibility.
7	(Hao et al., 2020) (19)	99	The impact of online grocery shopping on stockpile behavior in Covid-19	China Agricultural Economic Review 12 (3), pp. 459-470	Investigating the Effect of Online Grocery Shopping on Stockpile Behavior During Covid-19 in Chinese Urban Consumers.	Bivariate probit models were used to assess the influence of internet purchase channels on food hoarding habits among Chinese urban consumers.	Major Finding: Fresh food e-commerce channels are related with panic hoarding behaviors due to the increased risk of supply shortages, whereas community group purchase forms assist meet customer requirements and reduce panic buying perceptions.
8	(Łuczaj et al., 2013) (20)	93	Wild vegetable mixes sold in the markets of Dalmatia (southern Croatia)	Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine 9 (1),2	The study attempted to catalog the combinations of wild green vegetables sold in all of Dalmatia's vegetable markets, with an emphasis on common wild food species, names, preparations, and sources	The study took a market survey technique, interviewing 68 vendors in 11 main markets along the Dalmatian coast and gathering herbarium specimens from the wild vegetables offered.	Wild vegetables are regularly sold in Dalmatian markets, with an average of 5.7 species per mix, including popular plants like Sonchus oleraceus and Foeniculum vulgare. Sellers charge 10-20 kuna per kilogram
9	(Moore, 2006) (21)	84	Understanding postorganic fresh fruit and vegetable consumers at participatory farmers' markets in Ireland: reflexivity, trust and social movements	International Journal of Consumer Studies 30 (5), pp. 416-426	The study investigates reflexivity, trust, and social movements among postorganic fruit and vegetable customers in participatory farmers' markets in Ireland.	The study used semistructured in-depth interviews and participant observation to analyze postorganic fruit and vegetable customers at participatory farmers' markets in Ireland.	Consumers choose local, fresh, seasonal 'chemical-free' fruits and vegetables above imported certified organic products, expanding the definition of organic to include socio-environmental values, and demonstrating reflexivity, trust, and social movement participation in their purchasing decisions.
10	(Huang et al., 2018) (22)	82	Pricing and inventory decisions in the food supply chain with production disruption and controllable deterioration	Journal of Cleaner Production 180, pp. 280-296	The study looks at the economic and environmental effects of cooperative methods in a three-tiered food supply chain with decaying items, focusing on price, inventory, and preservation decisions.	The Stackelberg game model is used to determine optimal price, inventory, and preservation options in a three-tiered food supply chain with production interruption.	Vertical supply chain collaboration increases total profit while decreasing carbon emissions, with forward integration outperforming backward integration techniques in terms of food degradation.

(*Contd...*)

Table 3: (*Continued*)

S. No.	Authors	Citations	Title	Journal	Key research outline	Research model/method	Major research findings
11	(Wang et al., 2020) (23)	74	COVID-19 and Retail Grocery Management: Insights From a Broad-Based Consumer Survey	IEEE Engineering Management Review 48 (3),9146107, pp. 202-211	The study describes changes in customer behavior in food shopping during the COVID-19 epidemic and offers management implications for both offline and internet firms.	The primary research approach used in the study is a consumer survey analysis to better understand changes in supermarket shopping behavior during the COVID-19 epidemic.	The key research findings indicate changes in consumer grocery shopping behavior, such as higher expectations for in-store safety, lower store patronage frequency, and an increase in online grocery shopping transactions during the COVID-19 pandemic.
12	(Gupta et al., 2018) (24)	74	A study on the street food dimensions and its effects on consumer attitude and behavioural intentions	Tourism Review 73 (3), pp. 374-388	The study on street food dimensions and their effects on consumer attitude and behavioral intentions investigates factors influencing consumer perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors toward street foods using a structured methodology that includes literature review, data collection, analysis, and implications for vendors.	The study used structural equation modeling to examine the links between risk and benefit perceptions, customer attitudes, and behavioral intentions regarding street food.	The study discovered that perceived benefits such as convenience and value positively affect customer attitudes toward street meals, whilst lowering risk perceptions can lead to a more favorable attitude and behavioral intentions among consumers.
13	(Wittman et al., 2012) (25)	74	Linking Local Food Systems and the Social Economy? Future Roles for Farmers' Markets in Alberta and British Columbia	Rural Sociology 77 (1), pp. 36-61	The paper's study outline focuses on evaluating future responsibilities and methods for improving local food systems through farmers' markets in Alberta and British Columbia.	The Delphi method is an essential research method employed in the study, which involves stakeholders in strategically building information on the growth of farmers' markets in western Canada.	The main research findings emphasize the necessity of coordinating, branding, and increasing consumer demand as critical methods for improving local food systems in western Canada through farmers' markets.
14	(Schuetz et al., 2012) (26)	73	Are poor neighborhoods "retail deserts"?	Regional Science and Urban Economics 42 (1-2), pp. 269-285	The paper's study outline focuses on the association between neighborhood income and retail density in major metropolitan regions in the United States.	The research strategy employed in the article is to regress retail employment measurements on residential income indicators in three models: levels on levels, changes on levels, and changes on changes.	The paper's main findings show that high-poverty districts had lower retail job density across all categories of retail, with income being related with greater retail employment, especially in chain outlets.
15	(Barennes et al., 2015) (27)	69	Insect Consumption to Address Undernutrition, a National Survey on the Prevalence of Insect Consumption among Adults and Vendors in Laos	PLoS ONE 10 (8), e0136458	The study uses a countrywide survey to look into the prevalence, features, and possible advantages of insect intake among adults in Laos.	To investigate insect intake patterns and features, the researchers conducted a multi-stage randomized countrywide survey of households and insect merchants in 16 Lao provinces.	The paper's main results include the prevalence of insect intake, its contribution to the diet, and the variables driving consumption patterns in Laos.

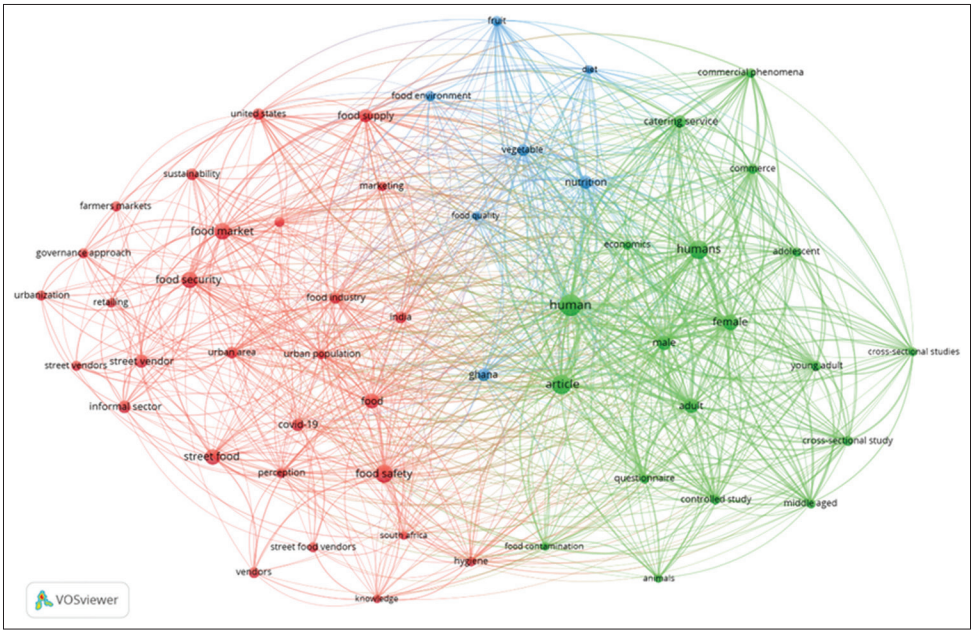
(*Contd...*)

Table 3: (*Continued*)

S. No.	Authors	Citations	Title	Journal	Key research outline	Research model/method	Major research findings
16	(Roy et al., 2017)(28)	68	Trust in local food networks: The role of trust among tourism stakeholders and their impacts in purchasing decisions	Journal of Destination Marketing and Management 6 (4), pp. 309-317	The study investigates the importance of trust among tourist stakeholders in purchase choices involving local food networks.	Thematic content analysis was used to examine interview data and uncover emergent themes about trust and purchase decisions in local food networks.	The research emphasizes the importance of trust and personal ties between restaurants, farmers, and wholesale distributors in the local food supply chain.
17	(Adane et al., 2018) (29)	62	Food hygiene and safety measures among food handlers in street food shops and food establishments of Dessie town, Ethiopia: A community-based cross-sectional study	PLoS ONE 13 (5), e0196919	The paper's study outline includes the following sections: title, authors, affiliations, corresponding author, abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, conclusion, acknowledgements, author contributions, and references.	The study's main research approach is a community-based cross-sectional design.	The paper's main study conclusion is that food handlers at food establishments and street food outlets in Dessie town, Ethiopia, practiced nearly identical levels of food cleanliness and safety.
18	(Probst et al., 2012) (30)	62	Will they buy it? The potential for marketing organic vegetables in the food vending sector to strengthen vegetable safety: A choice experiment study in three West African cities	Food Policy 37 (3), pp. 296-308	The paper's research aims to investigate the marketing potential of certified organic vegetables in the food vending sectors of Cotonou, Accra, and Ouagadougou by analyzing vegetable processing, assessing risk perception, conducting discrete choice experiments, and quantifying willingness-to-pay for organic certification.	The discrete choice experiment is an essential research methodology utilized in the study to evaluate factors that influence food vendors' and consumers' selections of organic vegetables in West Africa's food vending sector	The paper's key results include limited knowledge of chemical contamination hazards, the relevance of appearance in vendor selection, and customer willingness to pay a premium for certified organic veggies in West Africa's food vending industry
19	(Henderson et al., 2012) (31)	60	Hawker centres as tourist attractions: The case of Singapore	International Journal of Hospitality Management 31 (3), pp. 849-855	Investigating Tourists' Experiences and Perceptions of Dining at Hawker Centres in Singapore.	A questionnaire survey was delivered to visitors at Singapore hawker centers, focusing on significant issues from the literature study	While tourists have generally good perceptions of Singapore's hawker cuisine and centers, there are worries about hygiene and cultural understanding.
20	(Stellingwerf et al., 2018) (32)	57	Quantifying the environmental and economic benefits of cooperation: A case study in temperature-controlled food logistics	Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment 65, pp. 178-193	The paper's research outline includes an introduction to logistics cooperation, a literature review on sustainability in food distribution, methodology detailing a case study on VMI and JRP, results comparing cost and emissions, discussion of trade-offs, future research directions, and a conclusion on the benefits of cooperative strategies in temperature-controlled food logistics.	The green Inventory Routing Problem (IRP) is a key research model or approach utilized in this work to estimate the environmental and economic advantages of cooperative Vendor Managed Inventory (VMI) in temperature-controlled food logistics.	The paper's main research finding is that logistics cooperation via Vendor Managed Inventory (VMI) and Joint Route Planning (JRP) can significantly reduce costs and emissions in temperature-controlled food supply chains, with VMI providing the most benefits while requiring a trade-off between cost minimization and emission reduction.

Source: Interpreted by authors using scopus data base

Figure 19: Co-occurrence analysis of 10 times repetitive words



Source: Constructed by author using Scopus data base

used to get insight on food sellers from diverse study perspectives, the Table 3 showing highly cited articles using Scopus data base by certain search results to show the variation in a domain research.

4. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The thorough investigation of food vendor research using bibliometric analysis and a systematic literature review has revealed vital insights into the changing environment of this dynamic business. The area of food vendor research is seeing a spike in scholarly interest, owing to a number of issues, including increased worries about food safety, the expansion of the informal sector, and the growing relevance of sustainable food systems. This thorough bibliometric and systematic analysis of two decades of research reveals a dynamic environment with a worldwide emphasis on major subjects including food security, consumer behavior, and the influence of COVID-19. The Huanan Seafood Market was identified as an early hotspot of the COVID-19 epidemic, and confidence in local food networks plays a critical role, among other key discoveries, Furthermore, the study emphasizes the relevance of time in food accessibility research, as well as the need for a more nuanced understanding of food deserts. The data also suggests an increasing interest in the marketing of organic vegetables in West Africa, as well as the potential for insect eating to combat malnutrition. It acquired a complete grasp of the multifaceted features of food vendor research by examining publication patterns, topic analysis, and highly cited works in above review (Tsai and Wang, 2017; Worobey et al.,2022; Feagan and Morris, 2009; Rheinlander et al., 2008; Aydinoglu and Krishna, 2010; Widener and Shannon, 2014; Hao et al.,2020; Łuczaj et al.,2013; Moore, 2006; Huang et al.,2018; Wang et al.,2020; Gupta et al., 2018; Wittman et al.,2012; Schuetz et al.,2012; Barennes et al., 2015; Roy et al., 2017; Adane et al., 2018; Probst et al., 2012; Henderson et al., 2012; Stellingwerf et al., 2018).

The finding of research gaps, methodology intricacies, and major theme areas has laid a solid platform for future study in this area. Furthermore, the compilation of data from the systematic review offered insight on the present level of knowledge about street food vending, with significant consequences for practice and policy. By examining the most referenced publications and study methodology, researchers may identify best practices and areas for development, ultimately improving the standard and relevance of future food vendor research. The systematic review has not only unified current knowledge, but has also opened the door to new research areas that might address developing difficulties and possibilities in the food vendor business. In conclusion, the combination of bibliometric analysis and systematic literature review has improved our understanding of food vendor research, highlighting its importance in public health, cultural heritage, and economic growth. This review article serves as the foundation for future scholarly initiatives in the topic of street food vending, providing a road map for scholars, regulators, and industry partners to navigate the complexity of this thriving industry. We can develop environmentally friendly methods, improve food safety, and increase the socioeconomic achievements of street food sellers throughout the world by embracing the multidisciplinary character of food vendor research and harnessing the insights gained from this thorough examination.

5. LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH SUGGESTIONS

While this extensive analysis gives useful insights into the changing environment of food vendor research, it is vital to recognize several limitations. The use of Scopus as the major data source may remove significant articles from less-indexed journals or regional papers, thereby biasing research from industrialized nations. Furthermore, focusing on certain subjects such as food safety, food

security, and consumer behavior may result in overlooking other important areas of food vendor study. The statistical emphasis of bibliometric analysis, which is mainly based on citation counts, may not adequately convey the quality or influence of individual research. Future research should address these limitations by taking an interdisciplinary approach, incorporating qualitative methods, focusing on specific regions, researching the impact of the internet, exploring policy implications, and delving deeper into buying habits, sustainability, and social-economic impacts. By filling these gaps, future research may contribute to a more thorough and nuanced knowledge of the complex and multidimensional world of food sellers, thereby promoting the creation of more egalitarian, sustainable, and resilient food systems for all.

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