

# Statistical Analyses Of Crime In Nigeria And Its General Effect On The Economy: A Case Study Of Abia State

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## Abstract

*This research on 'Statistical Analyses of Crime in Nigeria and its General Effect on the Economy: A case study of Abia State' was carried out with secondary data complemented with primary data collected through Questionnaire. The data collected were analyzed using mainly descriptive and non-parametric statistics. The Cronbach's Alpha test for internal consistency of the test items gave a high alpha value of 0.855. Both the secondary and primary data collected revealed that offences against persons and offenses against property are on the increase than offenses against lawful authority. The paper further discovered that these crimes have generated conditions that weaken the socio-economic, political, psychological wellbeing and general security as well as safety of persons in the state with its attendant adverse effect on the economy. The paper therefore posits that criminal activities in Nigeria cannot be unconnected with frustration arising from joblessness, drug addiction, social injustice and severe social-economic conditions occasioned by the insensitivity of the government. Finally, the paper recommends that rejigging of our value system, reorientation of our youths, provision of jobs and more government investment in crime prevention will drastically reduce crime in Abia State and Nigeria at large.*

**Keywords:** *Crime, Descriptive statistics, Questionnaire, Normality test and Non-Parametric analysis.*

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## I. Introduction/ Background

According to Brown et al 2001, crime is an international act in violation of the criminal law (statutory and case law), committed without defense or excuse and is penalized by the state as a felony or misdemeanor. In studying the offender, there is no presumption that persons are criminals unless they also are held guilty beyond reasonable doubt of a particular offense. Crime, which has plagued society since time immemorial, is a behavior which is prohibited by the criminal code. Generally, the story of crime, criminals and the punishment of criminals pervade the news and the social media. Almost everyone is spellbound by crime so much so that one reacts with fear and is unwilling to walk at night in certain areas, or develop a sense of dread that the home might be burgled or that one might become the victim of a rape or of a senseless drive-by shooting.

Crime can be broadly categorized into three, namely: offences against persons such as murder, man slaughter, infanticide, concealment of birth, rape and other physical abuse; offences against Properties e.g. stealing, receiving stolen properties, obtaining property by false pretense, robbery, burglary and house breaking ; and offences against lawful authority e.g. escape from custody, forgery of currency, failure to pay tax etc.

Crime and criminal activities have become increasingly high in Nigeria so much so that hardly can any day passes without a record of one form of crime or the other. According to the National Bureau of Statistics 2016 & 2017, crime statistics in Nigeria on reported offences came to a total of 134,663 in 2017 as against a total of 125,790 cases reported in 2016. This shows a 7.05% increase. The 2017 figure shows that 68,579 offences were against property, 53,641 against persons and 12,443 recorded cases were against lawful authority. In that year, Abia State had a total of 12,408 reported offences which was significantly higher than the 2016 recorded cases of 364. The 12,408 comprised 9816 offences against person, 2320 against property and 272 against lawful authority (National Bureau of Statistics, 2016 & 2017).

During the height of these violent crimes, Abia State witnessed an up spring of vigilant groups, notable of these groups was the then notorious 'Bakassi' Boys. Their presence brought about a drastic reduction in crime rate in Abia State, but their operations were later marred with human right abuses (Human Right Watch, 2002) hence they were disbanded, since then Abia State has experienced great increase in crime rate.

The impact of crimes are numerous ranging from economic downturns through reduced direct and indirect investments by local and international investors, loss of lives and properties, loss of trust by the people on the security apparatus which would lead to citizenry taking laws into their hands (for example jungle justice),

no conducive economic environment, channeling much human and economic resources to control and prevent crimes leading to wastages of scarce resources, wastages of tax-payers money in fighting crimes.

Data mining and analysis on crimes and its economic impact in Abia state using statistical procedures is critical to the government and other security stakeholders. The collection of crime statistics will help in understanding the trends, patterns, incidence, prevalence and distributions of crimes in areas in Abia state, the importance of this cannot be understated.

In this study, a statistical procedure ranging from descriptive to inferential statistical analyses will be explored.

A display of the relative size of crime types recorded in the State and their development through the years will also be given.

Generally the results of this project will serve as a working security tool for the government and other stakeholders in charge of security and the economy of Abia State, by ensuring efficient allocation of the already scarce human and economic resources to curb this menace thereby preventing wastages; efficient policing of these areas; setting up of special police units that will handle specific crimes that are dominant in these areas; state legislatures making appropriate laws to curtail increasing crime rate in the State; religious and cultural leaders effectively sensitizing and enlightening their subjects on security and crime related issues.

#### Problem Statement/Justification

Although, Abia State has an improving recognition as one of the peaceful states in Nigeria, there exist some social vices that have created undesirable impacts on the good name of the state. The State has faced challenges with crime, particularly murder, armed robbery, kidnapping, child-trafficking and rape. Worse still, the incidence of insecurity as a result of criminal activities has compelled the government to clamp down on some economic activities like transportation (in major towns) either by outright banning of or imposing of curfew on their operations.

The question, what is the relative size of crime types recorded in the State and their development through the years, has not been answered. Worse still, the adverse effect of crime on any economy cannot be overemphasized. Hence, this project is set to identify the various crimes in the State, discover their growth pattern with a view to checkmating their incidence rates since successful efforts to reduce crime can produce substantial economic benefits for not only the individuals but the state in general.

#### Limitation Of The Study

Hardly can the crimes recorded by the police be a true representation of crimes in a particular area. This is because all crimes are not reported to the police, especially violent crimes due to fear of secondary victimization and stigmatization.

Therefore, the data used in this paper may not capture every incidence of crime committed in Abia State.

#### Objective(S) Of The Study

The main objective is to determine the general pattern of crime in the state and its effect on the economy. Specifically, we shall

- Show the relative size of crime types recorded in the State
- Identify the possible causes of crime in the State
- Determine the effect of crime on the economy
- Make appropriate recommendations based on the findings.

## II. Literature Review

Nigeria has been ridden with incessant criminal activities lately. This social epidemic is not just about the increasing rate of crimes, but also the upsurge of such crimes in a different dimension which were hitherto not experienced in Nigeria. Among these are kidnapping, cybercrimes, suicide, insurgence, banditry, terrorism, jungle justice and rape. Globally, the economic cost associated with these crimes cannot be overly emphasized and among those who have extensively researched on it were Detotto and Otrando 2010; Patrick and Gerard, 2017; Gupta and Sachdeva, 2017.

For example, Detotto and Otrando (2010), using state space time series methods lend answers to the question, does crime affect economic growth? Using Italy as their case study, the study revealed that on the average a 1% increase in crime rate causes a 0.00040% reduction in real economic growth in a month, 0.00022% in a year equivalent to 0.5 and 2.6 million of euros, respectively. They also found that the economic cost of crime varies with time and it is significant.

Again, to grasp the surge in kidnapping and its socio-economic and psychological impact, Ene (2018), conducted a study termed "kidnapping and the Nigeria society: A sociological insight". The findings from the study revealed that kidnapping clearly has socio-economic and psychological consequences on the Nigeria society.

Ojiako et al (2016), came up with a study that will provide a decision support system for the government of Abia state concerning crimes in Aba by mapping crimes using Geographical Information system (GIS) approach. Their study showed that police stations were not evenly distributed in the study area and that assaults and theft crimes occurred the most in all the zones considered, hence, their study could serve as a working tool for decision-makers on issues bothering on security of lives and properties within the study area. Their recommendation was that more police stations should be situated within Ariaria and Eziana which are among the economic nerve centres of Aba. This is to revive and boost the economy of the areas, although this do come with its economic cost.

Pelumi et al (2018) carried out a comprehensive statistical analysis of selected crime data in Nigeria; they applied both descriptive and inferential statistical tools to this effect. Their study suggested that there is an increasing trend in murder cases, armed robbery, felonious wounding while assault, man slaughter, burglary, bribery and corruption showed a decreasing trend.

Statistical methods have also been important tools in carrying out crime related studies. Recently, Faweya et al (2018), applied Principal Component Analysis (PCA) on crime data of Ekiti and Osun states. The study showed that in Ekiti, theft and stealing, store and office breaking, house breaking, grievous harm, assault occult harm, receiving stolen property, wounding and arson are commonly committed crimes in Ekiti and Osun states. Ordinarily, the effect of these commonly committed crimes tends to be adverse on the socio-economic lifestyle of these areas.

When crime becomes a frequent issue in any community, many other issues like the livelihood of people, the development state and/or process of such community and indeed the general economy can be affected. According to Havi (2014), many social problems grow out of uncoordinated and disorganized social changes sometimes, especially among those who cannot adjust to ever-changing new environments.

### **III. Data Collection And Methodology**

Unfortunately, precise, annual crime statistics for Abia State (or any specific Nigerian state) are not readily available and easily accessible for the years 2009 to 2020. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) primarily publishes aggregated data for the country as a whole, or in some cases, by state for specific years, rather than detailed annual reports

(<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-bd&q=Crime+statistics+in+Abia+State+from+2009+to+2020>).

Crime statistics in Nigeria are primarily derived from records kept by the Nigeria Police and official reports. No wonder, the source of the secondary data collected for this project is the State Criminal Investigation Department, Police Headquarters Umuahia-Abia State and is shown in Appendix 1.

Regrettably, data collection for this project from 2009 to 2020 was not possible not only because of the above unfortunate statement but because of the burning down of the State CID by allegedly the Indigenous People of Biafra / Eastern Security Network (IPOB/ESN) members on May 29, 2021. Hence, only data from June 2021 to May 2023 was then available and used for the work.

Finally and in order to improve the caliber of the work given the foregoing, the work was complemented from section 4.2 with primary data obtained from the questionnaire administered to 150 respondents (see Appendix 2).

Concerning the analyses, descriptive and non-parametric statistics were used and the package was SPSS.

### **IV. Data Analyses**

#### **For The Secondary Data**

Table 4.1.1: Reported cases of Crime in Abia State from June 2021 to May 2023

<b>Crime</b>	<b>Total</b>
murder	150.000
defilement	45.000
rape	13.000
kidnapping	2.0000
armed robbery	30.000
OBT/Fraud	38.000
Stealing	24.000
Forgery	5.0000
Unlawful Possession of Firearm	18.000

Table 4.1.1 which is also shown graphically in Figure 4.1, summarises the reported cases of crime in Appendix 1.

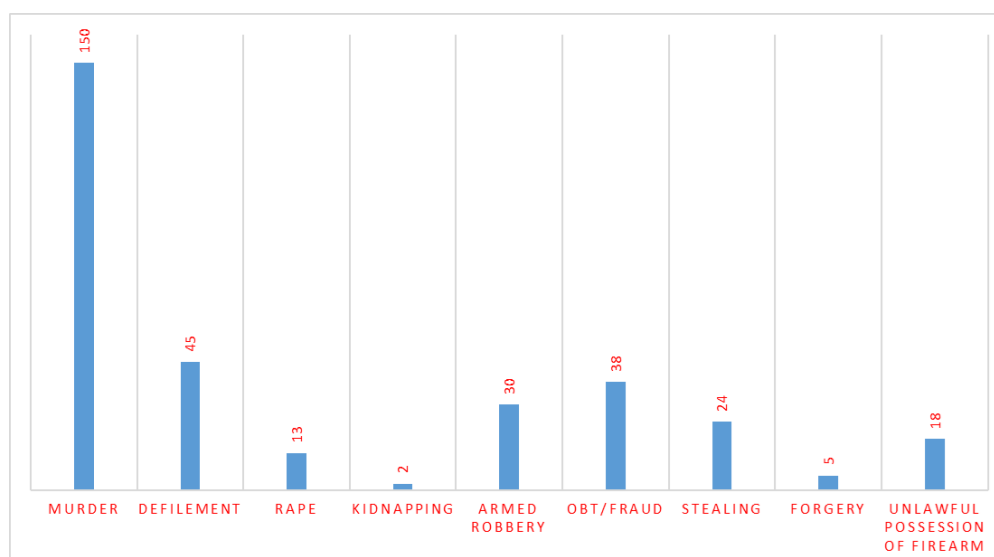


Figure 4.1: Bar Chart Showing Reported cases of Crime in Abia State from June 2021 to May 2023

From Figure 4.1 violent crimes against person like rape and kidnapping when compared with the high perception of respondents on their prevalence in Table 4.2.2A may have been underreported due to fear of secondary victimization and stigmatization.

Table 4.1.2: Reported Crime Cases According To Categories In Abia State From June 2021 To May 2023

NUMBER OF CASES ACCORDING TO CATEGORIES					
S/N	Month	Offense Against Person	Offense Against Property	Offense Against Lawful Authority	TOTAL
1	JUN 2021	7	4	0	11
2	JUL	9	4	0	13
3	AUG	8	7	1	16
4	SEPT	16	7	0	23
5	OCT	13	4	2	19
6	NOV	11	2	0	13
7	DEC	7	1	0	8
8	JAN 2022	9	0	0	9
9	FEB	9	9	2	20
10	MAR	14	5	1	20
11	APR	11	4	3	18
12	MAY	6	3	0	9
13	JUN	12	6	2	20
14	JUL	7	2	2	11
15	AUG	12	8	2	22
16	SEPT	8	5	0	13
17	OCT	13	1	0	14
18	NOV	6	4	2	12
19	DEC	9	5	2	16
20	JAN 2023	6	3	2	11
21	FEB	9	1	0	10
22	MAR	13	3	0	16
23	APRI	11	2	1	14
24	MAY	12	2	1	15
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>238 (67.4%)</b>	<b>92 (26.1%)</b>	<b>23 (6.5%)</b>	<b>353</b>

Table 4.1.3: Descriptive Statistics of Monthly Reported Crimes According to Categories in Abia State (Jun.2021- May 2023)

Statistics									
Variable	N	N*	Mean	SE Mean	StDev	Variance	Sum	Minimum	Q1
Offense Against Person	24	0	9.917	0.574	2.812	7.906	238.000	6.000	7.250
Offense Against Property	24	0	3.833	0.480	2.353	5.536	92.000	0.000	2.000
Offense Against Lawful Authority	24	0	0.958	0.204	0.999	0.998	23.000	0.000	0.000
TOTAL	24	0	14.708	0.884	4.329	18.737	353.000	8.000	11.000

Variable	Median	Q3	Maximum	IQR
Offense Against Person	9.000	12.000	16.000	4.750
Offense Against Property	4.000	5.000	9.000	3.000
Offense Against Lawful Authority	1.000	2.000	3.000	2.000
TOTAL	14.000	18.750	23.000	7.750

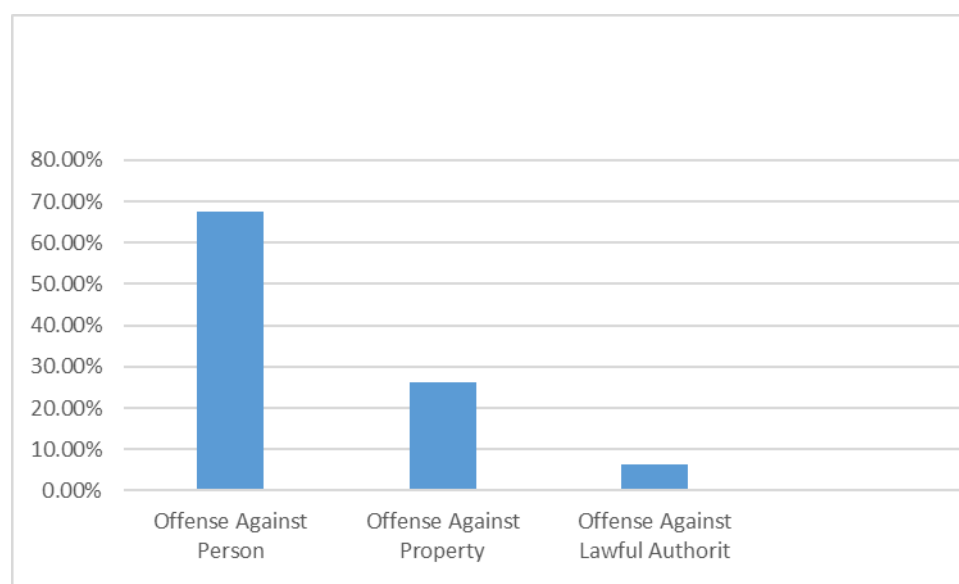


Figure 4.2: Reported Crimes In % According To Categories

From Table 4.1.3, approximately 10 crimes against person is committed per month while approximately 4 offenses against property and 1 offense against lawful authority are committed monthly.

Figure 4.2 shows that 67.4 %, 26.1% and 6.5% of the crimes committed in the state are respectively against person, property and lawful authority.

## Primary Data Analysis

### Test For Reliability

The test items were subjected to a reliability test (Cronbach's Alpha test), using SPSS. Cronbach's alpha coefficient measures the internal consistency of a set of survey items. This statistic helps in determining whether a collection of items consistently measures the same characteristic. Higher values indicate higher agreement between items while low values indicate the set of items do not reliably measure the same construct. From the test (Table 4.2.1), there is a higher Cronbach's Alpha value of 0.855 for the whole items used in the survey. Furthermore, Appendix 2 shows that the individual test items have high Cronbach's Alpha value (the least being 0.841).

Table 4.2.1: Reliability Statistics	
Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
0.855	32

Since the reliability of the survey items has been guaranteed by the high Cronbach's Alpha value, we then proceed to analyse the primary data.

Table 4.2.2A: Analysis Of Prevalence Of Crime In Abia State.

S / N	This crime has been	SA (%)	A (%)	U (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	N	TOTAL	$\bar{X}$	$\sigma$	GRAND	DECISION
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	reported in my area:										ME AN	
1	Murder	48 (32.0%)	64 (42.7%)	22 (14.7%)	16 (10.7%)	0	1 5 0	594	3. 96	0. 94 7		High Percepti on
2	Man slaughter	25 (16.7%)	56 (37.3%)	39 (26.0%)	24 (16.0%)	6 (4.0%)	1 5 0	520	3. 47	1. 07 2		Low Percepti on
3	Rape	49(32.7%)	79(52.7%)	9(6.0%)	12(8.0%)	1(0.7%)	1 5 0	613	4. 09	0. 87 4		High Percepti on
4	Child stealing/Trafficking	26(17.3%)	69(46.0%)	24(16.0%)	25(16.7%)	6(4.0%)	1 5 0	534	3. 56	1. 08 4		Low Percepti on
5	Defilement	40(26.7%)	55(36.7%)	35(23.3%)	15(10.0%)	5(3.3%)	1 5 0	560	3. 73	1. 06 6		High Percepti on
6	Kidnapping	60(40.0%)	42(28.0%)	18(12.0%)	24(16.0%)	6 (4.0%)	1 5 0	576	3. 84	1. 22 7		High Percepti on
7	Other Physical Abuse	49(32.7%)	54(36.0%)	39(26.0%)	8(5.3%)	0	1 5 0	594	3. 96	0. 89 7		High Percepti on
8	Stealing	107(71.3%)	41(27.3%)	2(1.3%)	0	0	1 5 0	705	4. 70	0. 48 8		High Percepti on
9	Receiving Stolen Properties	35(23.3%)	61(40.7%)	42(28.0%)	11(7.3%)	1(0.7%)	1 5 0	568	3. 79	0. 90 9		High Percepti on
10	Obtaining by Trick/ Fraud	38(25.3%)	38(25.3%)	38(25.3%)	30(20.0%)	6 (16.7%)	1 5 0	522	3. 48	1. 18 5		Low Percepti on
11	Robbery	72(48.0%)	67(44.7%)	8 (5.3%)	3 (2.0%)	0	1 5 0	658	4. 39	0. 68 3		High Percepti on
12	Burglary and House breaking	40(26.7%)	90 (60.0%)	13 (8.7%)	7 (4.7%)	0	1 5 0	613	4. 09	0. 73 2		High Percepti on
13	Snatching of phones	103 (68.7%)	43 (28.7%)	3 (2.0%)	1 (0.7%)	0	1 5 0	698	4. 65	0. 55 5		High Percepti on
14	Forgery of currency	8 (5.3%)	10 (6.7%)	63(42.0%)	39 (26.0%)	30 (20.0%)	1 5 0	377	2. 51	1. 05 4		Low Percepti on
15	Unlawful possession of firearms	17(11.3%)	24 (16.0%)	45(30.0%)	32 (21.3%)	32 (21.3%)	1 5 0	412	2. 75	1. 27 5		Low Percepti on
16	Escape from custody	8 (5.3%)	5 (3.3%)	87 (58.0%)	30 (20.0%)	20 (13.3%)	1 5 0	401	2. 67	0. 93 8		Low Percepti on
17	Tax Evasion	8 (5.3%)	35 (23.3%)	69 (46.0%)	24 (16.0%)	14 (9.3%)	1 5 0	449	2. 99	0. 99 3		Low Percepti on

NB: High perception occurs if and only if *the item mean*  $\geq$  *the weighted or grand mean*, otherwise there is low perception.

The analysis shown in Table 4.2.2A reveals that the respondents have high perception on the prevalence of the following crime: Murder, Rape, Defilement, Kidnapping, Other Physical Abuse, Stealing, Receiving Stolen Properties, Robbery, Burglary and House breaking and Snatching of phones. On the other hand, they expressed low perception on the prevalence of man slaughter, child stealing/trafficking, Obtaining by Trick/ Fraud, Forgery of currency, Unlawful possession of firearms, Escape from custody and Tax Evasion.

Table 4.2.2B which summarizes the crimes identified in Table 4.2.2A into three categories shows on the average that crime against person (4.1822) and crime against property (3.8010) are more committed in the state than that against lawful authority (2.7317). Interestingly, this revelation of increase is consistent with the secondary data in Table 4.1.2.

**Table 4.2.2B: Descriptive Statistics of the Categories of Crime.**

Category		Crime Against Person	Crime Against Property	Crime Against Lawful Authority
N	Valid	150	150	150
	Missing	0	0	0
Mean		4.1822.	3.8010	2.7317
Std. Deviation		0.58584	0.34181	0.80898

**Table 4.2.3: Possible Causes Of Crime In Abia State**

S/N	ITEM	SA	A	U	D	SD	N	T O T A L	$\bar{X}$	$\sigma$	GRAN D MEAN	DECIS ION
19	There is a poor protection of potential crime targets in my area	30 (20.0 %)	91(60 .7%)	8 (5.3%)	18 (12.0 %)	3 (2.0 %)	1 5 0	57 7	3. 8 5	0. 9 4 6	3.67	High percepti on
20	There is the presence of youth gangs in my area	55 (36.7 %)	63 (42.0 %)	10 (6.7%)	19 (12.7 %)	3 (2.0 %)	1 5 0	59 8	3. 9 9	1. 0 6 2		High percepti on
21	There is unwillingness to report crime in my area	26 (17.3 %)	46 (30.7 %)	28 (18.7 %)	49 (32.7 %)	1 (0.7 %)	1 5 0	49 7	3. 3 1	1. 2 4		Low percepti on
22	There is an increasing drug and alcohol consumption in my area	58 (38.7 %)	62 (41.3 %)	11(7. 3%)	6 (4.0%)	13 (8.7 %)	1 5 0	59 6	3. 9 7	1. 1 8 7		High percepti on
23	There is availability of drugs in my area	45 (30.0 %)	60 (40.0 %)	19 (12.7 %)	17 (11.3 %)	9 (6.0 %)	1 5 0	56 5	3. 7 7	1. 1 2		High percepti on
24	Weapons can easily be accessed in my area	10 (6.7%)	16 (10.7 %)	66 (44.0 %)	39 (26.0 %)	19(12 .7%)	1 5 0	40 9	2. 7 3	1. 0 3 6		Low percepti on
25	Unemployment is high in my area	70 (46.7 %)	58 (38.7 %)	0	6 (4.0%)	16(10 .6%)	1 5 0	61 0	4. 0 7	0. 7 0 2		High percepti on
26	Inefficient policing of my area by the law enforcement agency	28 (18.7 %)	67(44 .7%)	32 (21.3 %)	23 (15.3 %)	0	1 5 0	55 0	3. 6 7	0. 9 5 3		High percepti on

The data analysis in Table 4.2.3 shows that the respondents have high perception that crime can be caused by almost all the identified items. By having a low perception on weapon accessibility (2.73), the respondents have shown that weapons cannot be easily accessed and cannot be associated with crime prevalence. In the same vain, the low perception of unwillingness to report crime (3.31) implies that the respondents show willingness in reporting crime and as such the item cannot be a factor causing crime.

**Table 4.2.4: Adverse Economic Effect Of Crime**

S/N	ITEM	SA	A	U	D	SD	N	T O T A L	$\bar{X}$	$\sigma$	GR AND ME AN	DECIS ION
28	Many have relocated to other towns because of criminal activities in my area	21 (14.0%)	78 (52.0 %)	20 (13.3 %)	28 (18.7 %)	3 (2.0 %)	1 5 0	53 6	3. 57	1.0 12	3.55	High percepti on
29	People are afraid of investment in my area because of criminal activities	27(18.0 %)	71 (47.3 %)	22 (14.7 %)	21 (14.0 %)	9 (6.0 %)	1 5 0	53 6	3. 57	1.1 19		High percepti on

30	Movement of people are restricted because of criminal activities in my area	48 (32.0%)	43 (28.7%)	17 (11.3%)	29 (19.3%)	13 (8.7%)	1 5 0	53 4	3. 56	1.3 44		High perception
31	Sometimes the operations of motorists, 'okada' riders and or 'keke' drivers are banned/restricted in some areas because of criminal activities	40 (26.7%)	60 (40.0%)	26 (17.3%)	15 (10.0%)	9 (6.0%)	1 5 0	55 7	3. 71	1.1 43		High perception
32	Can one lose his/her job because of criminal activities within his/her environ?	23 (15.3%)	97 (64.7%)	13 (8.7%)	14 (9.3%)	3 (2.0%)	1 5 0	57 3	3. 82	0.8 75		High perception
33	Can one's salary be cut because of criminal activities in the business area?	25 (16.7%)	58 (38.7%)	37 (24.7%)	19 (12.7%)	11 (7.3%)	1 5 0	51 7	3. 45	1.1 32		low perception
34	Government diverts Scarce Resources to crime prevention	21 (14.0%)	42 (28.0%)	43 (28.7%)	34 (22.7%)	10 (6.7%)	1 5 0	48 0	3. 20	1.1 41		low perception

The data analysis in Table 4.2.4 shows that majority of the respondents have very high perception that crime has adverse effect on the economy of the state. For example, relocation; fear of investment; incessant curfew and loss of job cannot be unconnected with criminal activities in the state. The research also discovers that respondents have low perception on government's investment in combatting crime. This implies that much is still expected from the government in this regard. Another discovery was that salary of workers remain unaffected by criminal activities in the state.

### Test For Normality

For normality, the skewness and kurtosis z-value must lie between -1.96 and 1.96 and is obtained by dividing the skewness and the kurtosis values by their respective standard errors. Since all the skewness and kurtosis z-values do not satisfy the condition, therefore the data do not come from normal distributions. See Appendix 3. The test for normality is made clearer in Table 4.3.1.

Table 4.3.1: Tests of Normality						
	Kolmogorov-Smirnov <sup>a</sup>			Shapiro-Wilk		
	Statistic	df	Sig.	Statistic	df	Sig.
CRIME	.093	150	.003	.977	150	.012
Possible causes Crime	.156	150	.000	.909	150	.000
Economic Effect	.123	150	.000	.965	150	.001

a. Lilliefors Significance Correction

Since  $p < 0.05$  in both distributions (see Table 4.3.1), we conclude that the data on crime, possible causes of crime and that on Economic effect of crime do not follow normal. The plots in Figures 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, and 4.8 also show that the distributions are not normal since the histograms are not bell-shaped and the Normal Q-Q plots deviates each from the straight line.

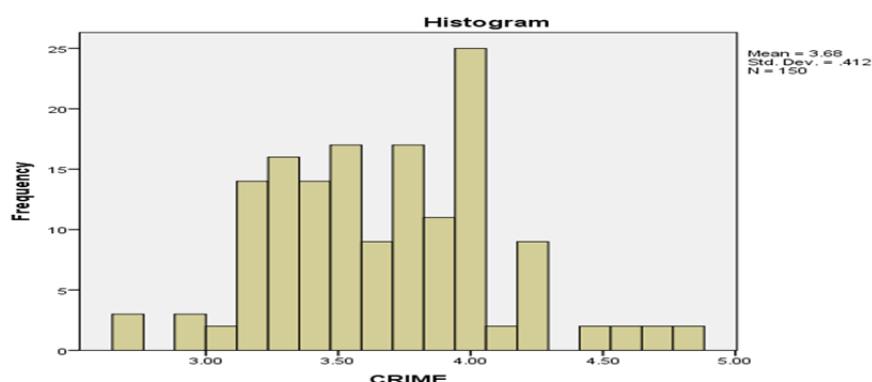


Figure 4.3: Histogram of the data on Crime



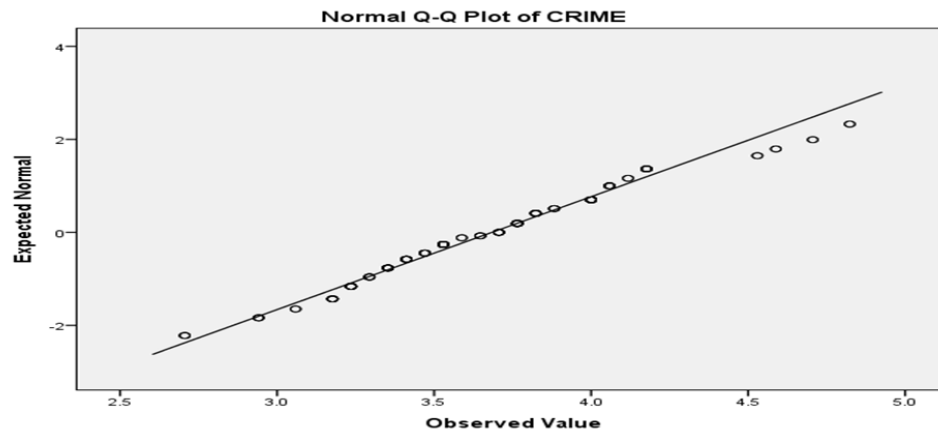


Figure 4.4: Normal Q-Q Plot of Crime

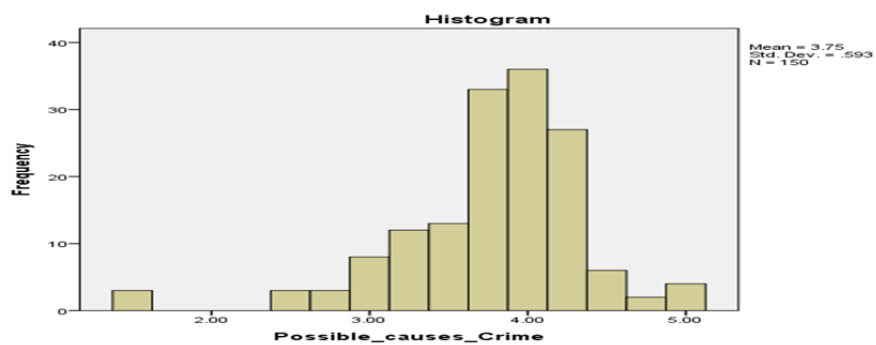


Figure 4.5: Histogram of the data on Possible Causes of Crime

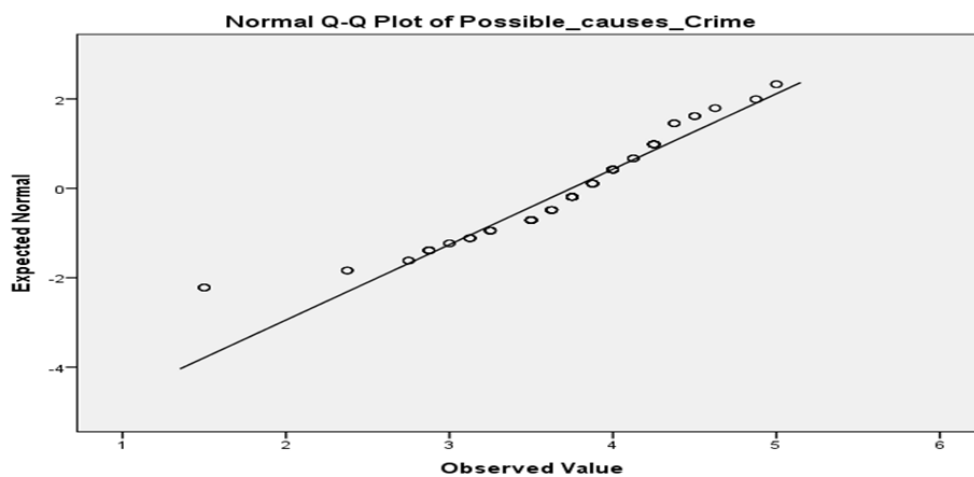


Figure 4.6: Normal Q-Q Plot of Possible causes of crime

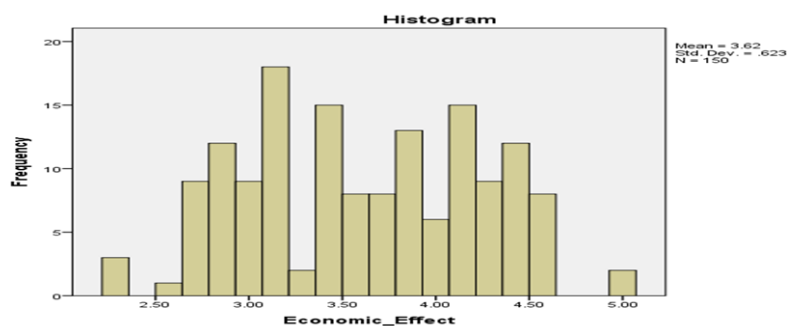


Figure 4.7: Histogram of the data on Economic Effect of Crime

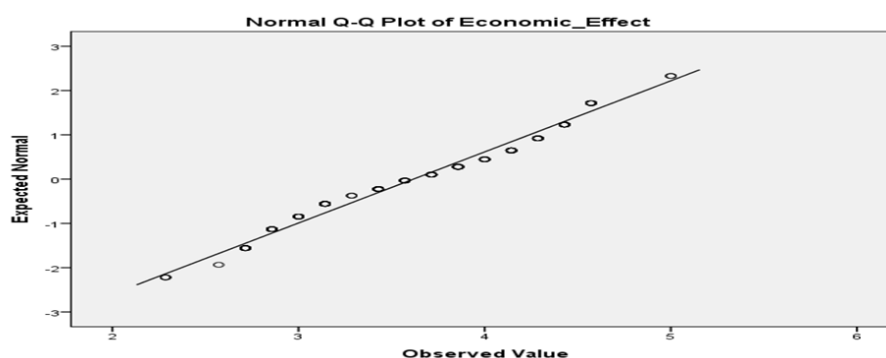


Figure 4.8: Normal Q-Q Plot of Economic Effect of Crime

The failure of the data to meet the normality test resulted to the use of a non-parametric test.

### Spearman Rank Correlation Analysis

$H_o$  : There is no correlation between the prevalence of crime and adverse economy

$H_1$  : There is a correlation between the prevalence of crime and adverse economy

Since the correlation is significant  $\rho < 0.05$  (see Table 4.4.1), the  $H_o$  is rejected and we conclude that there is a strong positive correlation (0.666) between the prevalence of crime and adverse economy.

Table 4.4.1: Correlations				
			Economic Effect	CRIME
Spearman's rho	Economic_Effect	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.666**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.000
		N	150	150
	CRIME	Correlation Coefficient	.666**	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.
		N	150	150

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

## V. Conclusion And Recommendation

Table 4.2.2B which summarizes the crimes identified in Table 4.2.2A into three categories shows on the average that crime against person (4.1822) and crime against property (3.8010) are more committed in the state than that against lawful authority (2.7317). This revelation is consistent with the secondary data in Table 4

On the possible causes of crime, Table 4.2.3 shows that the respondents have high perception that crime can be caused by poor protection of potential crime targets (3.85); youths' restiveness (3.99); drug addiction (3.97); unemployment (4.07) and inefficient policing (3.67).

And finally does crime affect economic growth?

Yes, crime affects economic growth adversely because from the analysis in Table 4.2.4 majority of the respondents have very high perception that crime has adverse effect on the economy of the state as shown in their mean responses. For example, relocation of businesses (3.57); fear of investment (3.57); incessant curfew (3.71) and loss of job (3.82). To put it succinctly, criminal activity acts like a tax on the entire economy: it discourages domestic and foreign direct investments, it reduces firms' competitiveness and hours of business, paralyses night businesses and reallocates resources creating uncertainty, apprehension and inefficiency. Table 8 also shows that there is a significant correlation (0.666) between the prevalence of crime and adverse economy.

The paper therefore posits that criminal activities in Nigeria cannot be unconnected with frustration arising from joblessness, drug addiction, social injustice and severe social-economic conditions occasioned by the insensitivity of the government of the day. Finally, the paper recommends that rejigging of our value system, reorientation of our youths, provision of jobs and more government investment in crime prevention will drastically reduce crime in Abia State and Nigeria at large.

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