

INSECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN ENUGU STATE NIGERIA: THE NEXUS

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ABSTRACT

The study examined insecurity and development in Enugu State, Nigeria. The specific objectives were to: determine the effect of incidences of kidnapping on the economic development of Enugu State; and examine the effect of armed robbery on the economic development of Enugu State. The study was guided by two objectives and two hypotheses. This research employed a descriptive research design. The population of the study was 968,300 and Taro Yamani's statistical sampling formula was used to obtain a sample size of 362. The data collected were analyzed through the use of mean scores and the chi-square method was applied in the test for hypotheses. The findings showed that the incidents of kidnapping and armed have a significant negative effect on economic development in Enugu State. The study recommended that governments at all levels should put in place the necessary mechanisms to curtail insecurity and proffer effective economic policies that will ease investment

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1. INTRODUCTION

Insecurity in Nigeria has been an age-long issue. However, there has been a serious increase in insecurity in the country making it a prominent issue in recent times. The African continent has

been the victim of numerous assaults that have negatively impacted its material and people resources across both urban and rural regions. Unfortunately, these insecurity issues have not only caused civil turbulence and economic breakdown but have also sparked mentally related health problems among migrant young adults in urban places. The continuous increase and frequent occurrence of acts of violence and lawlessness including issues such as kidnapping arms insurgence, cultism, assassination, ritual killings, violent robbery, murder, cattle rustling, and militancy among others have called for serious concern. In Enugu State, car vandals are on the increase on a daily basis as motorists lose their car batteries, windscreens, side mirrors, brain boxes, and tires among others to armed robbers. Those who withdraw cash from the banks are not safe, as hoodlums follow and snatch such money from them at gunpoint even in broad daylight. Nevertheless, insecurity in Nigeria and Enugu State in particular is not a recent phenomenon as there have been various forms of insecurity. Most of these insecurities are both economically, and politically motivated and have existed for a long time. To address the economically motivated violence and insecurity in the country, various governments have come up with different initiatives aimed at curbing the menace. At the national level, the government has initiated such programmes as, Poverty Eradication Programmes, Community and Social Development Programme as well as the establishment of the National Directorate of Employment and the most recent N-Power programme, while at the State level, the government has been more focused in forming vigilante groups, youths assembly, neighbourhood watch all aimed at curbing insecurity in the state. With all these efforts, available records still show that the more some of these programmes evolve, the worse the situation gets.

There is no question that Nigeria's socio-economic and political stability is being threatened by these security issues. Although several factors could have contributed to this situation, there is no doubt that lack of access to means of livelihood, illiteracy and hopelessness among the youths have contributed immensely to the level of the present security challenges in Nigeria and Enugu State in particular. The youth across the globe play a vital role in their societies. If they are focused, diligent, and abide by the law, they can create a promising future for any nation. The youths are the most affected groups who in turn due to frustration, resort to violence, compelling Ezeji and Okorie (1999) to argue that unemployment has become chronic and intractable and has become the brain behind youth restiveness in the country. As the popular saying goes, idle minds are the devil's workshop. Most of the youth who acquired various certificates including degrees are idle and stranded, unlike in the time past when the acquisition of such certificates was considered as a sure ticket to paid employment in either the public or private sectors of the economy. Those of them who did not go to school, get discouraged and are left with neither certificates nor skills. As a means of survival, these youths take to crime.

The lack of a clear security strategy in Nigeria has negatively impacted various aspects of our national life, including youth unemployment. Due to the absence of a secure environment for exploring and acquiring skills necessary for gainful employment, many youths are unable to prepare themselves for the job market. The large number of unskilled workers in Nigeria, particularly in Enugu State, has led to a significant unemployment rate. This lack of opportunities has caused many young people to resort to crime and violence, which has resulted in unrest in

urban areas. Consequently, this study examines the relationship between urban insecurity and economic development in Enugu State.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Governance faces a unique challenge in providing security and a supportive environment for individuals to move freely and conduct legitimate business, contributing to a state's economic development.

Insecurity has caused not only societal unrest and economic decay including migrant youths' mental health challenges to urban conditions. Insecurity of lives and property has reached unimaginable levels in both urban and rural areas in Nigeria, demanding consideration and action from global organizations such as the United Nations, the African Union Peace and Security Council (PSC), and the International Crisis Group. To help states with high levels of instability, these organizations have dispatched armed people, relief supplies, and other supplies but the problem continues to escalate. Government representatives and other players in the fight against urban insecurity frequently polarize the issue.

Due to the rising levels of insecurity in the continent's cities, economic development in Enugu state has dropped drastically. Resources, both material and human, are at risk as a result of this uncertainty. Unfortunately, addressing this issue has been difficult due to irregular strategies, insensitivity from political leaders, politics, lack of funding, and misappropriation of funds. This insecurity has threatened the peace of Enugu state, and as a result, the government has allocated a significant portion of its budget to restore security in the state. Despite these initiatives, the state nevertheless has a severe degree of insecurity. This investigation was prompted by the ongoing security challenges and the failure of the Enugu state government's security apparatus to ensure safety and an enabling environment for economic development.

1.3 Research Questions

- i. What are the effects of incidences of kidnapping on the economic development of Enugu State?
- ii. How has the rate of armed robbery affected the economic development of Enugu State?

1.4 Hypotheses

- i. Incidences of kidnapping have no significant effect on the economic development of Enugu State.
- ii. Armed robbery has no significant effect on the economic development of Enugu State.

2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Conceptual Review

2.2 Insecurity

Insecurity is a condition that arises when individuals, information, and property lack effective protection against hostile actions and influences. It is viewed from social, economic, and

psychological perspectives. Aminu, Hamza, and Ali (2015) explain that insecurity prevents people from freely going about their daily activities due to the fear of harmful disruptions to their lives and possessions. Akin (2008) also sees insecurity as a situation where individuals are denied the freedom to engage in their normal businesses or activities due to threats to their lives and properties. Everyone in Enugu today is tremendously concerned about insecurity, which has bred much fear and uncertainty among the population. Every area of the state is struggling with different forms of insecurity.

Lack of security leads to insecurity, which is the opposite. According to Beland (2005), insecurity is a feeling of vulnerability that results in a condition of worry and panic. Security today remains essential to the socioeconomic viability of any given civilization since it is the most important factor in the survival and maintenance of life and property. As a result, every community fight to preserve its environment so that people can live their lives without any form of illegal restriction. For the common street person, security refers to safety or protection from risk and harm. This is why Adeola and Oluyemi (2022), view insecurity as one feeling exposed to terrorism, dangers, hazards, molestation, assault, discrimination, etc. in every way is the state of being insecure. Enugu state is on the threshold of making rising insecurity its attribute since barely a day rolls by without an incident of insecurity. Even more alarming is the fact that the Nigerian government which has all the security architecture in the country as its exclusive function seems unable to or unmotivated to address this current danger. Everyone in the state now sleeps with one eye open. Without security, Tella, (2021) further notes, it will be challenging for the people of a state to confidently partake in productive endeavours. As a result, without security, the state will inevitably have a hard time bridging its human growth and the promotion of the general welfare of the populace. Insecurity results from the failure of the government to manage unlawful activity, mitigate internal or foreign hostility, eradicate fraud, and foster growth toward an improvement in every citizen's quality of life.

It can therefore be concluded that the bridge of social contract in which the government fails to oversee the survival of the people who willingly surrender their right to her in a give-and-take interaction. This demonstrates the need for law enforcement organizations to maintain domestic order as well as the need for the Armed Forces to defend against external attacks.

3. ADVERSE IMPACT OF INSECURITY ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF ENUGU STATE

However, the rising level of insecurity in the state as a result of the manifestation of various forms and varied fundamental causes of insecurity in Enugu State significantly affects the ability of the state government to achieve its stated economic development goals:

First and foremost, political instability has a significant impact on economic development in Enugu state. However, we must note that the connection between political stability and economic development is multidimensional and multifaceted, and it works in both directions as economic factors can also influence political stability. A prosperous and growing economy can contribute to political stability by reducing poverty, unemployment, and social discontent. Political instability in Enugu state has created an environment of uncertainty and risk for businesses and investors.

Investors are now hesitant to commit their capital to a state, fearing that their investments could be subject to expropriation, sudden policy changes, or disruptions due to political unrest. This has led to reduced foreign direct investment (FDI) and capital flight, which can hinder economic growth. Also, a lack of continuity in the political system of Enugu state has resulted in inconsistent economic policies. Each new administration has different economic priorities and approaches, making it difficult for businesses to plan for the long term. This policy instability has deterred investment and economic development in Enugu state.

The effect of ineffective law enforcement on economic development is discussed next. Ineffective law enforcement is a crucial component of insecurity, and since lacking, has a detrimental impact on the economic development of Enugu state by reducing investment confidence, increasing transaction costs, undermining trust, and fostering an environment that is less conducive to economic growth. Over time, inadequate law enforcement is obviously eroding the credibility and effectiveness of institutions, further undermining economic development. Weak institutions can perpetuate a cycle of corruption and inefficiency. Due to weak law enforcement, tax evasion and informal economic activity have increased hence decreasing government tax revenue, which is necessary for public infrastructure and services that support economic development. Also, insufficient policing, corruption within the security forces, and a lack of resources have hindered efforts to maintain security in Enugu state.

Another is an economic issue which has to do with a high rate of unemployment and poverty in the state. A lack of economic opportunities has been seen to result in social discontent in Enugu state. A large portion of the population is unemployed or living in poverty, their ability to spend on goods and services is limited. This reduction in consumer spending has led to lower demand for businesses, resulting in decreased production, layoffs, and business closures. With people unable to meet their basic needs and do not see opportunities for economic advancement due to unemployment and poverty, they become more inclined to engage in protests, strikes, or other forms of civil unrest which has been witnessed frequently in Enugu state. This disrupts economic activities and deters investors.

Fulani herdsmen Conflict is one of the significant insecurity challenges in Enugu State occurring between local farmers and Fulani herdsmen. This conflict has led to the destruction of farmlands and crops due to the movement of cattle and clashes between farmers and herdsmen. This disruption in agricultural activities has resulted in reduced food production and income for farmers. Displacement and loss of property become eminent, making it difficult for affected individuals and communities to sustain their livelihoods. This has led to increased poverty and reduced economic opportunities. The government of Enugu State in response to this has to allocate significant resources to address the security challenges posed by the conflict. Funds that could have been used for enhancing economic development in Enugu state are often redirected towards security operations and maintaining law and order.

Cultism is a prevalent issue among the youth in Enugu State. Various cult groups engage in criminal activities, leading to violence and insecurity in communities. Cultism is often associated with violence and criminal activities and has had a negative impact on economic development in Enugu State, as it has in many other parts of Nigeria. Rival cult groups are seen engaging in

clashes, turf wars, and violent confrontations. This not only poses a serious threat to human security but also discourages potential investors from establishing businesses in the state. Insecurity deters both local and foreign investments, which are crucial for economic development.

Human Capital Flight People and skilled labour are another major adverse effect of insecurity as people tend to leave Enugu state because of insecurity in search of safer environments. This "brain drain" has deprived the Enugu state of its most talented, experienced and best individuals, which has long-term negative effects on its economic development. Insecurity has also deterred tourists from visiting Enugu state. The tourism industry in Enugu state is a significant source of income, and a decline in tourism has a direct negative impact on the economic development of Enugu state.

Along the same line, businesses and institutions were observed to either shut down entirely or earlier than expected. The government in response imposes dusk to dawn curfew on public buses and keke from 9pm to 6am in reaction to the security situation in the state. All these contribute to lowering the overall number of productive hours resulting in a spike in unemployment and poverty levels currently faced by Enugu state and a decrease in internally generated revenue. This high level of insecurity in Enugu state has adversely impacted its economic development.

3.1 Kidnapping

Kidnapping has been defined in several ways by different authors. Kidnapping typically involves the unauthorized and forcible removal or restraint of an individual from their normal environment and can be short-term or long-term. Short-term kidnappings may involve a victim being held for a relatively brief period, while long-term kidnappings can extend for an extended period, often involving captivity or confinement. This can occur through various means, such as physical force, threats, deceit, or coercion. It was defined as the act of seizing, removing, and detaining someone against their will by Inyang and Abraham (2013). Kidnapping is usually done with a specific intent, which can vary widely. Common motives for kidnapping include ransom demands, sexual exploitation, human trafficking, revenge, or to exert control over the victim. The specific intent behind the kidnapping often determines the severity of the charges and potential penalties. The main factor that makes this a common law offence is that the victim did not wish to commit the crime. Fage and Alabi (2017) offered a different definition of kidnapping, defining it as the forced or fraudulent abduction of a person or a group of people for a variety of causes, such as economic, political, religious, or self-determination battles. The writers later admitted that people who are kidnapped illegally or forcibly are often taken as hostages in exchange for ransom. This implies that while political and economic reasons may play a role in kidnapping, the latter is more frequently predisposed than the former.

Kidnapping is a criminal act that involves the abduction or unlawful confinement of an individual against their will, typically with the intent to harm, ransom, or otherwise exploit the victim. It is considered a serious crime in most legal systems around the world, and the penalties for kidnapping can be severe. Kidnapping can have various motives, including financial gain, revenge, political objectives, and personal vendettas. Motives can vary widely depending on the circumstances. For instance, the demand for a better and larger part of the wealth generated from crude obtained from the oil-producing Niger Delta region (Essien & Ema, 2013). Additionally, accumulation

politics, which are characterized by the power elite's propensity to indulge in a never-ending quest for greater control over the area's mineral wealth and the rental despite intentional actions to marginalize and deprive the people, exacerbate this issue (Akpan, 2010). According to some observers, one of the factors that led some Niger Delta youths to engage in kidnapping and hostage-taking was the region's high unemployment and poverty rates, which are above the national average (UNDP, 2006). However, in nearly every state, kidnapping is a serious offence, and those found guilty may be subject to severe penalties like incarceration. The age of the victim, whether violence was used, and the intentions of the kidnapper are but a number of instances of the factors that could influence the penalties. Also, international laws and other agreements may be made, such as the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction may apply to international kidnapping, which might include complicated legal difficulties.

3.2 Here are some key concepts related to kidnapping:

1. **Abduction:** Kidnapping often begins with the abduction of a person, which means forcibly taking someone away from their location, usually by force, threat, deceit, or coercion.
2. **Ransom:** In some cases, kidnappers may demand a ransom in exchange for the safe release of the victim. This is a common motive for kidnappings, especially when the victim's family is wealthy or influential.
3. **Hostage-taking:** Kidnappers may use their victims as hostages to achieve various goals, such as political objectives, publicity, or as bargaining chips in negotiations with authorities.
4. **Extortion:** Kidnappers may threaten to harm the victim or release sensitive information about them unless a specific demand is met, such as paying money or committing a criminal act.
5. **Human trafficking:** Some kidnappings are part of human trafficking operations where victims, often women and children, are abducted and forced into situations such as forced labour, sexual exploitation, or servitude.

3.3 Armed Robbery,

Arm robbery, or armed robbery, refers to a serious and violent crime where individuals use weapons or the threat of violence to steal from others. While the connections between armed robbery and economic development are complicated and multifaceted, it is essential to understand that high levels of crime, including armed robbery, can have detrimental effects on economic development in a region like Enugu State, Nigeria or anywhere else. This type of crime involves the use of an offensive weapon or any type of weapon (Aigbovo & Eidenoje, 2016; Nwalozie, 2011). Armed robbery, a criminal act that involves the use of weapons or threats to steal from individuals, businesses, or institutions, is a grave and pervasive concern in Enugu state. There are various aspects of armed robbery, including its causes, consequences, and measures to combat it. This crime not only inflicts physical and psychological harm on victims but also erodes the fabric of communities and hampers economic development.

The adverse effect of armed robbery continues to impede the Enugu state's economic development. The variances range from rigorous enforcement to none, as well as from society to society and occasionally (Okolo, 2002). In Nigeria, armed robbery is a common crime where weapons are used to threaten or harm people. Many suspected armed robbers are held in maximum security prisons for long periods, sometimes without trial for up to 20 years. As a result, they make up a significant portion of the prison population (Oyeleke, Tanga, & Ishola 2017). Crime in Nigeria has reached epidemic levels, causing instability and negatively impacting foreign investments (Abbas, Bakari, & Abba, 2012). In addition, armed robbers, often young adults, kill both Nigerians and foreigners by shooting them (Etuk & Nnam, 2018), raising the level of joblessness and impoverishment (Oguntunde, Ojo, Okagbue, & Oguntunde, 2018), and increasing the risk to people's lives and their property (Akujobi & Jack, 2017; Duruji & Dibia, 2017; Jack, Jackson, Theophilus & Ugechukwu, 2016).

3.4 Causes of Armed Robbery

- i. **Socioeconomic Factors:** Economic inequalities, poverty, and a lack of chances frequently lead to armed robberies. People who are in financial difficulty may turn to crime as a means of surviving.
- ii. **Substance Abuse:** Many armed robbers are driven by drug addiction, which fuels their need for money to sustain their habits. Substance abuse leads to impulsive and irrational behaviour, making individuals more prone to criminal activities.
- iii. **Lack of Education:** Lack of access to education may be a factor in the high rate of armed robberies. Having fewer educational options can lower your chances of survival in life and make you more vulnerable to criminal influences.
- iv. **Peer Pressure and Social Networks:** Gangs and other criminal organizations frequently lure helpless people into a life of armed robbery. People who perpetrate these acts may be motivated by peer pressure and a sense of belonging.

3.5 Consequences of Armed Robbery in the economic development of Enugu state:

- i. **Investment and Business Climate:** High crime rates, especially armed robberies, discourage prospective business owners and investors from opening operations there. Businesses and entrepreneurs are less willing to invest in a situation where they worry about the protection of their assets and the safety of their personnel. Reduced economic activity, job openings, and slower overall economic growth may result from this.
- ii. **Loss of Productivity:** The daily routine can be disrupted by frequent armed robberies, which may force certain firms to close temporarily or operate at a reduced capacity. Travelling or getting to work may be feared by employees, which can reduce output and raise absenteeism.
- iii. **Cost of Security:** Businesses and individuals may spend a lot of money protecting their valuables from armed robbery. This covers the cost of security guards, alarm systems, and

other safety precautions. These costs take money away from projects that would otherwise be used to fund development or productive endeavours.

- iv. **Reduction in Tourism:** Like many other locations, Enugu State might rely on tourism as a source of revenue and economic growth. Tourists may be deterred from visiting due to high crime rates, particularly serious crimes like armed robberies, which could harm the local economy.
- v. **Weakened Trust in Institutions:** The legal system and public trust in governmental institutions can be damaged by persistent armed robberies and ineffective law enforcement. Economic development may be further hampered by this erosion of confidence since prospective investors may begin to doubt the stability and dependability of the local setting.

3.6 Economic Development

The well-being and level of life in Enugu state can be improved by a number of elements and techniques that are included in the complicated process of economic development. To enable the transformation of the economy, economic development should be supported by improvements in institutional, social, and political dimensions as well as infrastructure (Myint and Krueger 2016). It entails structural adjustments, advancements in numerous economic areas, and steady and inclusive growth. Economic development involves more than just creating riches; it also involves sharing that prosperity fairly, alleviating poverty, and improving the general standard of living for a population. Additionally, it can involve improving education, health, and nutrition, conserving natural resources, promoting a clean environment, and fostering a richer cultural life. Also, due to ongoing technological advancement and shifting socioeconomic and political conditions, every country, including the so-called 'developed countries,' is still developing in some fashion (Acemoglu and Robinson 2012). This is a complicated and interconnected concept which has to do with changes in various sectors of the economy, such as the composition of output and employment sectors, and the organization of industry. These changes can impact economic growth and are therefore vital for the development of an economy.

The importance of economic development:

I. Economic Growth and Its Role in Development: The basis for economic development is economic growth. It describes the gradual rise in a nation's output of products and services. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and other metrics are frequently used to gauge this expansion. Even though economic growth is essential for development, it cannot be the only factor. To achieve sustainable development, it needs to be combined with other elements. The capacity of economic expansion to generate jobs is one of its most important characteristics. The workforce has more employment options as a result of an expanding economy, which lowers poverty and unemployment rates. People's general well-being improves when they have steady employment that allows them to sustain their families and themselves. Additionally, economic expansion increases the government's tax take. Investments in infrastructure, healthcare, education, and social programs, all of which are essential for development, can be made with the money raised. The quality of life for individuals can be improved, and additional economic growth can be encouraged, with adequate investment for these sectors.

ii. Inclusive Development: GDP growth alone is not the only factor in economic progress. In order for all facets of society to gain from growth, it must be inclusive. Reduced income disparity and increased social cohesion are benefits of inclusive growth. The eradication of poverty is a crucial component of inclusive development. Economic development can help people escape poverty and raise their standard of living by providing opportunities for low-income and marginalized communities. Making sure that all individuals have access to fundamental services like healthcare, education, clean water, and sanitation is another aspect of inclusive development. These services are essential for human growth and can result in a more knowledgeable and fitter workforce.

iii. Structural Changes and Diversification: Economic structural changes are necessary for economic progress. A country's development may be hampered by an overreliance on a single industry, such as agriculture or natural resources. The economy can become more resilient and flexible to changes in the global economy by diversifying by encouraging the manufacturing, services, and technology sectors. Industrialization should result from structural changes as it is a crucial step in the development of the economy. It entails the expansion of manufacturing sectors, which has the potential to boost the economy and produce jobs. Further promoting expansion, industrialization frequently results in technological improvements. The development of technology is another. Today's economic growth is mostly driven by embracing and funding technology. Technology has the potential to raise productivity, increase competitiveness, and create new business opportunities. Countries that place a high priority on R&D and promote innovation typically build their economies more quickly.

iv. Infrastructure Development: Another crucial element of economic development is infrastructure development. For economic activity to flourish, there must be sufficient infrastructure for electricity, communications, and transportation. The domain of transportation is a crucial component of infrastructure development. Roads, railways, ports, and airports all have efficient transportation networks that make it easier to transfer people and commodities, which lowers costs and expands economic prospects. For industrialization and economic development, a steady and economical energy supply is also crucial. Environmental sustainability is also enhanced by investments in clean and sustainable energy sources.

3.7 Theoretical Framework

Frustration–Aggression Theory

The theory of frustration aggression was first proposed by John Dollard and his coworkers in 1939. This notion claims that frustration always results in aggressive conduct. and previous frustrations always result in aggression. Neal E. Miller, another advocate of the theory, later suggested that frustration could produce various types of actions, but the desire for violence would persist as frustration continues.

The theory proposes that when we experience frustration, we tend to become aggressive. Aggression is seen as a way to discharge the build-up of annoyance. If a person When external reasons hinder a person from reaching a goal, frustration develops in, which may turn into aggressiveness. However, the aggression may not always be directed towards the source of

frustration, which could be intangible or too powerful. Frustration is an anxiety-inducing feeling that arises when we are unable to achieve a desired goal. This can result in feelings of anger and ultimately lead to aggressive behaviour.

As a result, individuals who become aggressive may exhibit abnormal behaviour that can threaten the security of the peace and safety of Enugu state where they stay.

4. METHODOLOGY

The study used a descriptive survey design, which included both qualitative and quantitative methods and purposive sampling was utilized in this investigation. Three Local Governments in Enugu state were used for the study. This design was chosen because it helped the researcher gather information and opinions from respondents effectively (Creswell & Clark, 2017). The study focused on the impact of unemployment on crime rates in Enugu State, Nigeria. The researcher chose to focus on Enugu North, Enugu East, and Enugu South, which are three out of the seventeen local government areas in the state. The study used both primary and secondary data, including surveys and information from publications related to the research. An interview guide and a questionnaire were used by the researcher to collect primary data and experts were provided with the interview guide and questionnaire to determine content and construct validity. The test-retest procedure was used to ensure reliability in this study.

4.1 Area of the Study

The government of General Ibrahim Babangida established Enugu State on August 27, 1991, from the Anambra State that had previously existed (from what was once known as Anambra North). Enugu serves as its capital. The state's name comes from Enugu, which is where it is headquartered. The phrase "the top of the hill" describes what the term "Enugu" means. Enugu State, which is 7,161 square kilometres in size, is located in interior southeast Nigeria. On the west, it borders Anambra; on the south, Enugu State; on the north, Kogi; on the east, Benue and Ebonyi; and on the south, Imo State. Its two largest towns are Enugu and Nsukka. The erstwhile East Central State and Eastern Nigeria were headquartered in Enugu. The state is located in the Agwu Highlands. To the east are the Udi and Nsukka Hills, while to the west is the valley of the Oji River. The State stretches through a land area of around 7,161 sq km, partially inside the semi-tropical rainforest zone to the south. Physically, it transitions from a tropical rainforest to an open wooded area, and then to a Savannah. The rest of the state is made up of low land that is divided by numerous streams and rivulets, the two biggest of which are the Adada River and the Oji River. There are a few low hills that run through Abakaliki, Ebonyi State in the east to Nsukka in the north-west, and southward through Enugu and Agwu.

4.2 Economy of the Area of the Study

Enugu state is well known for its coal reserves. Before the commercial discovery of oil, its primary economy was reliant on coal. The fundamental justification for Enugu's moniker, "coal city," is

this. The state's economy is based primarily on agriculture, with yam tubers, palm fruit, and rice being its top three exports. Enugu State has recently found new mineral reserves in addition to coal. These include bauxite, iron ore, crude oil, limestone, and natural gas.

Major centres of commerce and industry in the state are connected by a network of roads. The state capital of Enugu is connected by a rail line of the Nigerian Railways' Eastern District to Port-Harcourt in Rivers State and then northward from Makurdi. The Nike Lake Resort, which is about 10 km from Enugu, the state capital, is a good site for tourists in the state. Enugu State has several industries that meet both local and international demands.

4.3 Method of Data Analyses

The study presented its data through a table and a mean score, using simple statistics. The hypotheses were tested using the chi-square test method, which was applied twice. The chi-square formula is a formula stated thus.

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O - E)^2}{E}$$

Where:

- χ^2 = Chi-square
- O = Observed Frequency
- E = Expected Frequency
- Σ = Summation of all items

Decision rule

Reject H_0 if the calculated value of χ^2 is greater than the critical value of χ^2 otherwise accept H_0 .

4. DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Data Presentation and Analysis

The data collected were presented and analysed in this section. Four hundred (400) copies of the questionnaire were distributed and three hundred and sixty copies of the questionnaire were returned.

Research Question 1: What is the effect of incidences of kidnapping on the economic development of Enugu State?

Table 4. 1: Effect of incidences of kidnapping on the economic development of Enugu State

s/n	Response	SA	A	UD	DA	SD	Total	Mean	Decision
1	The high level of kidnapping in Enugu state scares away investors in the states	160	100	20	40	40	360	3.8	Accepted

2	It diminishes the growth income of the Enugu state residents	120	140	10	50	40	360	3.8	Accepted
3	Kidnapping for ransom reduces the business activities in the State.	100	130	10	70	50	360	3.4	Accepted
4	Kidnapping rings and gangs prey on the underprivileged which escalates tension for rapid economic growth in the Enugu state	130	100	10	60	60	360	3.5	Accepted
5	Kidnapping has become a lucrative profession for unemployed youngsters in Enugu state	140	120	20	40	40	360	3.8	Accepted

Source: Field Survey 2023

The mean distribution of respondents' thoughts on the effect of incidences of kidnapping on the economic development of Enugu State is shown in Table 1. The mean score for question one is 3.8, indicating that the majority of respondents agreed that the high level of kidnapping in Enugu urban scares away investors in the states. On item two, a high mean score of 3.8 indicates that the majority of respondents believe that It diminishes the growth income of the urban residents. On item three, a high mean score of 3.4 indicates that the majority of respondents believe that Kidnapping for ransom reduces business activities in the states. The high mean score of 3.5 for item number four indicates that respondents agreed that Kidnapping rings and gangs prey on the underprivileged which escalates tension for rapid economic growth in the state. The respondents agreed that kidnapping had become a lucrative industry for unemployed teenagers in Enugu State, as evidenced by item five, which had a mean of 3.8.

Research Question 2: How has the rate of armed robbery affected the economic development of Enugu State?

Table 4.2: How the rate of armed robbery affected the economic development of Enugu State

s/n		SA	A	UD	DA	SD	Total	Mean	Decision
1	Armed robbery makes business operators close on	130	120	10	40	60	360	3.6	Accepted

	time thereby reducing their daily income earnings									
2	Armed robbers in the Enugu state rob people of their means of livelihood and effect strong psychological trauma	120	140	10	50	40	360	3.1	Accepted	
3	It reduces the circular flow of income and foreign direct investment in the Enugu state	140	130	15	45	30	360	3.7	Accepted	
4	It deprives the state of investment opportunities and economic sustainability	150	100	10	60	40	360	3.7	Accepted	
5	Armed robbery weakens the ability of individuals in the Enugu state to contribute to economic development in the zone and nation at large	130	130	10	50	40	360	3.4	Accepted	

Source: Field Survey, 2023

Responses on how the rate of armed robbery affected the economic development of Enugu State are shown in Table 2. The mean score for item one is 3.6, indicating that the majority of the respondents agreed that Armed robbery makes business operators close on time thereby reducing their daily income. On item two, the mean of 3.1 indicates that the majority of respondents agreed that Armed robbers in the state rob people of their means of livelihood. With regard to item three, the mean score of 3.7 indicates that the majority of respondents agreed that It reduces the foreign direct investment in the state. The agreed mean of 3.7 for item number four indicates that respondents agreed that It deprives the state of investment opportunities and economic sustainability, and item five, with a mean of 3.4, indicated that respondents agreed that Armed robbery weakens the ability of individuals in the state to contribute to economic development in the state.

4.2 Test of Hypotheses

The hypotheses were tested with the aid of the Software Package for Social Science (SPSS Version 16.0 for Student Version).

The following is the decision rule: If the computed value of 2 is less than the table value, the "null hypothesis" is accepted; however, if the calculated value is larger than the table value, the null hypothesis is rejected.

Test of Hypothesis One

Restatement of Hypothesis One

Ho: Unemployment has no significant effect on the level of kidnapping for ransom in Enugu State.

Table 4.3 : Chi-square test for Economic Development and kidnapping for ransom

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.000(a)	6	.238
Likelihood Ratio	8.318	6	.216
Linear-by-Linear Association	.000	1	1.000
N of Valid Cases	4		

a 12 cells (100.0%) have an expected count of less than 5. The minimum expected count is .25.

Source: Authors compilation SPSS Output

We are interested in the outcomes of the "Pearson Chi-Square" row when reading this table. Here, we can observe that $\chi^2(6) = 8.00$ and $p = .238$.

Decision: We reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis because the calculated value of $\chi^2 = 8.00$ is greater than the table value of $\chi^2 = 5.35$. Indicating that Incidents of kidnapping have a significant effect on the economic development of Enugu State.

Test of Hypothesis Two

Restatement of Hypothesis Two

Ho: Armed robbery has no significant effect on the economic development of Enugu State.

Table 2 Chi-Square Tests on Economic Development and level of armed robbery

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	15.000(a)	12	.241
Likelihood Ratio	13.322	12	.346
Linear-by-Linear Association	.976	1	.323
N of Valid Cases	5		

a 20 cells (100.0%) have an expected count of less than 5. The minimum expected count is .20.

Source: Authors compilation SPSS Output

Decision: We reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis because the calculated value of $\chi^2 = 15.00$ is bigger than the table value of $\chi^2 = 11.34$. This revealed that Armed robbery has a significant effect on the economic development of Enugu State.

4.4 Discussion of Results

Economic Development and kidnapping for ransom

The study's first objective was to Determine the effect of incidences of kidnapping on the economic development of Enugu State. The findings revealed that incidents of kidnapping have a significant effect on the economic development of Enugu State. The Chi-square test ($\chi (6) = 8.00, p = .238$) was used. The finding is a clear indication that the state of kidnapping in the state affects economic development. This is supported by the data in table 1 where the majority of the respondents affirmed all listed items in the research question one.

Economic Development and level of armed robbery

The second objective of the study was to examine the effect of armed robbery on the economic development of Enugu State. Armed robbery has a significant effect on the economic development of Enugu State, according to the findings. ($\chi^2 = 15.00, \chi^2 = 11.34$) is the result. This result is consistent with data obtained in table 2 which showed that armed robbers scare away investors, which produces less direct investment to the state.

4.5 Findings

The following were findings from the study

- i. The findings revealed that incidents of kidnapping have a significant effect on the economic development of Enugu. This means that the high level of kidnapping in Enugu urban scares away investors in the states.
- ii. Armed robbery has a significant effect on the economic development of Enugu State. This shows that Armed robbery makes business operators close on time thereby reducing their daily income.

4.6 Conclusion

In view of the findings, it was concluded that urban insecurity which often manifests in the way of kidnapping, armed robbery, violent agitations etc. influenced the economic development in Enugu State It's clear that insecurity in Nigeria has led to loss of life, worsened food and nutrition insecurity, harmed the health and education sectors, and caused widespread fear and anxiety. It's urgent that a solution is found as insurgency poses a significant threat to human security in the country.

4.7 Recommendations

The following recommendations were made for the study:

- i. Governments at all levels should put in place mechanisms that encourage financial institutions to provide soft loans to aspiring young entrepreneurs who want to start small businesses, allowing them to sustain themselves and avoid engaging in criminal activities such as kidnapping for ransom, which has become the norm in many Nigerian states.
- ii. To tackle high youth unemployment and banditry, the government should establish a conducive climate for businesses to thrive. It is not good for the country when enterprises that are intended to employ youths close their doors.

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