

## Youth Unemployment and Security Challenges in Anambra State, Nigeria

Eze Solomon Uchechukwu<sup>1\*</sup>, Anoke Fabian Amechi<sup>1</sup>, Chinwe Chinazo Okoye<sup>2</sup>, Njideka Maryann Okeke<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Business Administration, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka, Nigeria

<sup>2</sup>Access Bank Nigeria PLC

<sup>3</sup>Department of Social Studies Education, Nwafor Orizu College of Education Anambra State, Nigeria

DOI: [10.36347/sjahss.2023.v11i04.005](https://doi.org/10.36347/sjahss.2023.v11i04.005)

Received: 08.03.2023 | Accepted: 15.04.2023 | Published: 23.04.2023

\*Corresponding author: Eze Solomon Uchechukwu

Department of Business Administration, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka, Nigeria

### Abstract

### Original Research Article

With special emphasis on the Ogbaru local government area of Anambra state, the study examined issues with youth unemployment and security in Nigeria. In particular, the research looked at how youth unemployment in Ogbaru Local Government Area has impacted poverty and how much it has affected social vices. The research used a survey methodology. The study's sample of 400 respondents was chosen from a group of 221,879 using Yamane's 1976 sample size calculation formula. A percentage and frequency table was used to evaluate the data from the structured questionnaire, and multiple regressions were used to verify the hypotheses. According to the study, youth unemployment has led to an increase in social vices like kidnapping, prostitution, robbery, and thuggery in the Ogbaru local government area. Therefore, the study suggests that in order to address the unemployment issue in Anambra State, Nigeria, government at all levels should generate more employment opportunities. To reduce youth unemployment in Nigeria, the government should also set up centers for vocational training and talent development.

**Keywords:** Unemployment, Security, Challenges, Youth, poverty.

Copyright © 2023 The Author(s): This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0) which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium for non-commercial use provided the original author and source are credited.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

One of Nigeria's biggest problems right now is unemployment. Thousands of graduates are produced annually, and there are plenty of natural resources, but the unemployment rate is alarmingly increasing every day. Apart from Nigerian students who study overseas and return home to compete for jobs, Kazeem (2016) found that Nigerian tertiary education institutions annually generate up to 500,000 graduates (Kazeem, 2016). In November 2016, the federal tax agency got 700,000 applications for 500 open positions. For the 10,000 open jobs in the Nigerian Police Force, nearly a million people applied in May (Kazeem, 2017). With an additional 2 million anticipated to join by the end of the year 2018, Voice of America (2018) stated that the official unemployment rate in Nigeria is 16 million. The jobless rate in Nigeria, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), was 14.2% in the last quarter of 2019 compared to 13.9% in the quarter before (Kazeem, 2017). In the third quarter of 2018, the jobless rate rose from 22.70 percent to 23.10 percent, according to Trading Economics (2019). Between 2006 and 2018, Nigeria's unemployment rate averaged 12.31%, with the third quarter of 2018 seeing an all-time peak of 23.10%. The fourth quarter of 2010 saw

the lowest mark at 5.10 percent (Akwagyiram, 2018; Trading Economics, 2019). National security is seriously hampered by Nigeria's rising jobless rate, particularly among young people. The main issue that Nigerian youth are dealing with today is unemployment, which makes them dependent on friends and family who also have their own issues to deal with and causes them to feel frustrated, depressed, and helpless. The high rates of poverty and instability in Nigeria are a result of the high unemployment rate among young people in that nation. Numerous factors, such as rapid rural to urban migration, rapid population growth, inadequate school curricula, corruption, the decline of the manufacturing sector, the perception of policymakers and the youths themselves on employment, and poor governance, have been linked to Nigeria's high youth unemployment rate (Adebayo, 2013; Ekeji, 2019). Scholars generally agree that unemployment and crime are related. Ehrlich, quoted in Jelilov and Ndanitsa (2015), observed that unemployment is associated with crime because doing legitimate work reduces the likelihood of doing illegal work. According to Fadaei-Tehrani and Green in Jelilov and Ndanitsa (2015), a decline in unemployment causes a decline in crime, and the opposite is also true.

According to research by UN-Habitat, one of the main causes of crime and violence is socioeconomic inequality, which also contributes to a lack of chances for social advancement and employment (Ajaegbu, 2012). However, the majority of crimes, like robbery, abduction, and thuggery, are violent in nature and pose a threat to both the safety of the victims and the general public.

The rise in crime in Nigeria over the past few years is disturbing and worrisome. Daily news reports of numerous crimes, such as robberies, burglaries, car thefts, rapes, kidnappings, internet fraud, and other social media crimes, make this abundantly obvious (Ibrahim, 2019; the Punch, 2019). When it comes to the protection of lives and property, South Eastern Nigeria was once renowned for its peaceful and tranquil atmosphere, but the current wave of insecurity has taken on a new dimension (Ibrahim, 2019). Additionally, a private university professor was abducted in Ondo State and subsequently discovered dead (The Punch, 2019). Unfortunately, youths—who made up more than half of Nigeria's population as of the 2016 census (Mbachu & Alake, 2016)—and the energetic class, which should diversify its strengths for the country's growth, are frequently found to be responsible for the challenges of crime the nation faces. Crime poses a danger to the social fabric, according to Adebayo (2013). The public is made fearful, and there is needless suffering, anguish, and loss of lives and property. Additionally, it poses a risk to the safety and stability of civilization. Any nation that wants to enjoy long-term security must dramatically reduce crime. Numerous academics have suggested that young unemployment in Nigeria is the cause of the country's elevated crime rate. Indeed, the majority of the tens of thousands of young people who graduate each year with no work attest to the chronic youth unemployment that exists in this country (Adebayo, 2013; Ajaegbu, 2012; Kostadis, 2017). Many young people have resorted to the devil's workshop due to their inability to find gainful employment. The majority of Nigerian youths, according to Adebayo (2013), is either jobless or has part-time jobs. Some of them choose to commit different crimes as a consequence.

Youths are typically recognized as the foundation upon which society is anchored and are seen as tomorrow's leaders. They are basically the most valuable resource for the development of a nation. (UN: 2007). In light of this, it is possible to argue that any community or country that meddles with the welfare and development of its youth is meddling with its future and survival (Alanana, 2003). Youth in Nigeria unfortunately face a variety of issues, including extreme poverty and rising unemployment, in addition to being neglected and left to their destiny. It would be an understatement to say that the young of Nigeria today have no future. Even though there are groups in Nigeria that work to lessen youth suffering, such as the National

Directorate of Employment (NDE), National Economic and Empowerment Development Scheme (NEEDS), National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP), and others, this is still the case. However, there are still problems that young people in Nigeria must deal with, including poverty, illiteracy, substance abuse, juvenile delinquency, crime, prostitution, and fraudulent activities, all of which are related to unemployment (Freedom, 2008). Young people who are out of work may feel frustrated and socially alienated, which can be a motivating factor in crime and violence.

Recent changes in Nigeria's social, economic, and political landscape are largely negative and are best exemplified by an increase in militancy, violent crime, kidnappings, restlessness, and political instability. These changes are also a direct consequence of youth unemployment and gender employment. The recent global financial crisis, which has crippled businesses, and the likelihood of obtaining jobs for young people have made the situation in Nigeria even worse (Fanimu and Olayinka, 2009). According to Adejumo and Tayo-Olajubulu (2009), societal vices like armed robbery, destitution, prostitution, political thuggery, kidnapping, and many others have been linked to unemployment as one of the main causes. Musari (2009) estimates that 4.5 million people join the workforce every year with no hope of finding a job that will pay them enough to subsist. Due to their precarious circumstances, the young people are trapped in a cycle of destitution that daily undermines their optimism about the future. Graduates in Nigeria are having trouble finding jobs, which has an adverse effect not only on the young people who are impacted but also on society as a whole. Because it wastes human capital that could, in the near term, advance the economy, youth unemployment is a problem that persists. Additionally, it fuels social unrest among youth and adds to their depression, which is manifested in increasing suicide rates. Long-term effects on the working adults of the following generation are also possible. Alienated youth, especially if they are numerous, can occasionally cause social unrest in societies, as in Sierra Leone, Liberia, and other war-torn countries. Except for the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) offices, which are only located in major cities; it appears that Nigeria lacks career/employment offices where job seekers can register their names and areas of expertise in order to find work after graduation. The degree of public services the government appears to have offered the people in this area are not at an acceptable level. Numerous young people are now scouring the streets for ways to keep their body and mind connected as a result.

Due to these circumstances, the researchers decided to concentrate on the Ogbaru local government area of Nigeria for this study on youth unemployment and security issues.

## 1.1 Objectives of the Study

The study's overarching goal is to evaluate the problems with young unemployment and security in Nigeria: a study of the Ogbaru Local Government Area in the state of Anambra. The research specifically aims to:

1. Determine the extent to which youth unemployment has affected social vices in Ogbaru Local government area.
2. Determine the extent to which youth unemployment has affected poverty in Ogbaru Local government area

## 2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

### 2.1 Conceptual Framework

#### 2.1.1 Youths

The age range between 18 and 24 was used by Osakwe (2013) to identify youths. Typically, they have completed their secondary education and are either registered in postsecondary institutions, actively seeking employment, or hold positions that they are already employed in. Osakwe argued that youth is typically seen as a stage, a transition from dependency to independence, and is marked by some distinctive characteristics, including leaving the parental home and establishing a new living situation; finishing full-time education; developing close, stable personal relationships outside of the family, which frequently result in marriage and children; testing the labor market, finding work, and possibly settling into a career; and achieving a more independent lifestyle.

#### 2.1.2 Unemployment

Contrarily, unemployment describes the situation in which a person or collection of people are without a job (Adebayo, 2013). The unemployment rate, as defined by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2007, is the proportion of economically active people who are unemployed but available and searching for work, including people who have lost their jobs and people who have voluntarily left their jobs. Another time, Osakwe said that when a group of people who are qualified and available for employment lacks a task or job to perform in return for payment, unemployment occurs. According to Adebayo (2013), the root causes of unemployment in Nigeria include, among other things, a lack of qualified and trained labor, a rapid rural-urban migration, inappropriate school curricula, a rapid increase in population, a rapid expansion of the educational system, a decline in the manufacturing sector, and corruption. Similar to this, Akwara *et al.*, (2013) observed that the pressure of a rapidly expanding population of school dropouts, inadequate manpower planning, and job seekers' selectiveness of job availability and location are major causes of unemployment and underemployment in a developing country such as Nigeria. Every nation on earth is experiencing an increase in unemployment, but in developing nations

like Nigeria, where it is particularly prevalent and has negative social, economic, political, and psychological effects, this tendency is particularly pronounced. According to Adebayo, youths suffer more severely from unemployment than adults do. According to him, 12.7% of young people worldwide were expected to be unemployed in 2012. When you consider that the next group of potential economic and social actors will be made up of young people, this portends enormous dangers. He continued by stating that youth unemployment, particularly among young people in Nigeria and throughout the rest of Africa, has been a significant issue that has contributed to other criminal tendencies in young people, endangering the socio-economic peace and security of both the country and the continent. It is important to notice how concerning Nigeria's unemployment situation is.

#### 2.1.3 Security Challenges

Nigeria has recently experienced a number of security issues. These security issues include an increase in violent crimes like armed robberies and kidnappings, an insurgency by militants in the Niger Delta, racial disputes, and most recently, Boko Haram sect activities. Numerous violent crimes have resulted in the deaths of hundreds of Nigerians and foreign residents living there, and the instability of the country has also resulted in the loss of property worth millions of Naira. Fundamentally, no one or location is thought to be completely safe in Nigeria. Nigerians in the north live in constant fear as they don't know where or when the next batch of explosives will detonate, while those in the southern regions of the country struggle with kidnapping and other violent crimes. With the bombing on October 1st, 2010, close to Eagle Square in Abuja, the location of the nation's 50th anniversary of independence, the security issue facing the country assumed a terrorist component. Since then, bombings have occurred in numerous cities across the country, including Jos, Kaduna, Maiduguri, Bauchi, Kano, Suleja in Niger State, and others. A number of racial and religious crises have also been observed in this nation, and they now seem to be reaching intolerable proportions. Individually and collectively, these crises and criminal activity create a climate of unrest and volatility that may or may not have an effect on the country's legal, social, and economic operations (Ababakar, 2005). The negative effects of these security concerns convey to the rest of the world that Nigeria is not a safe and secure place and is therefore unsuitable for economic activity and investment. This is crucial, particularly in light of the efforts being made to establish the ideal environment to attract foreign investment. Because it signals them to shift their investable capital to nations with sufficient or a semblance of security, investors view insecurity as a risk factor and are afraid of it. In addition to being viewed as a bad omen for business, investors around the globe are scared of uncertainty as a risk factor. A negative message is also being sent to the international

community about visiting Nigeria by the overall level of insecurity in the nation. The dangers associated with traveling to and conducting business in some areas of the country have been emphasized by numerous international organizations and nations. For instance, the US State Department's division of consular affairs issued a release on January 12, 2012, alerting its citizens to the avoidable risk associated with visiting certain regions of Nigeria.

### 2.1.4 Unemployment and Social Vices

The high level of youth unemployment in this country encourages political and social unrest. Being jobless can also negatively affect one's mental health in addition to poverty. The possibility of poverty, deskilling, and social marginalization are all increased, according to Nedeljkovic (2014), if a person is young and jobless. These factors "may also lead to lack of motivation and mental health issues." The psychological effects of unemployment, according to Akwara (2013), include trauma, rage, irritation, poor self-esteem, negative life satisfaction, unhappiness, and mental disorders like depression and acute stress. According to studies, teenage unemployment is linked to rising drug and alcohol use as well as higher rates of youth crime (2014 Nedeljkovic).

Youth unemployment in Nigeria today is one of the biggest threats to the country's stability and security. A climate of lawlessness, a high crime rate, poverty, and a lack of protection in both life and property have resulted from the phenomenon. Kidnapping, armed robbery, militancy, oil bunkering, internet scam, car snatching, murder, cultism, abduction, rape, adulteration of food and drugs, drug trafficking and abuse, prostitution, burglary, human trafficking, political thugs, advanced fee fraud (419), money rituals, cybercrimes (activities of yahoo boys), and various forms of insurgency are just a few of the criminal. There is no denying that the country's violent situation may deter potential investors from making investments in a society marked by instability and uncertainty, while current ones may choose to relocate to nations with higher levels of security. This is a major setback for Nigeria's socioeconomic growth. Although the Niger-Delta region is rich in oil, youth unemployment has been linked to the region's high incidence of violence and militancy. Nigeria's oil fields are now extremely risky and pose a growing threat to the main source of income for the nation due to the problem of militancy in the Niger delta. Due to the militants' actions, Nigeria has lost billions of dollars in oil income (Ekpu, 2007). The militants' actions have distorted the value systems of the local communities and brought about a climate of fear and anomie. Bloodshed, hostage-taking, intermittent production facility shutdowns, and the hasty withdrawal of some foreign energy companies from the area have all occurred (Inokoba and Imubua, 2010). This could be

the unemployed teenagers' way of expressing their annoyance and rage.

Kidnapping for ransom has become a lucrative business in many parts of the country, particularly the Southern region, and young people without jobs are the ones who are primarily accountable for it. Targets are frequently wealthy people and/or their families. 512 kidnapping cases were reported from January 2008 to June 2009, according to statistics made public in December 2009, according to Umejei (2010), who is also the author of this article. Abia State claimed the top spot with a total of 110 kidnapping incidents, according to the statistics. According to the study, over 600 million were lost to kidnapping, bank robbery, and bullion van theft between July/September 2008 and July 2009. In this nation, kidnappings are still a problem. A former Anambra State deputy governor was abducted in 2013 and later murdered because his family refused to pay the kidnappers' 30 million naira ransom demand. He was killed by the kidnappers after the family reportedly brought only 5 million naira with them. (Daily Sun 2014:7). The peace and advancement of Nigerian society are undoubtedly in grave peril, despite the fact that security agents have already captured a large number of them.

Poverty and unemployment are contributing factors in the Boko Haram uprising in Northern Nigeria (Aleyomi, 2012; Adesoji 2010). This group's 2009-onset actions have resulted in the loss of life and property while also endangering the nation's peace and security. Due to the relocation of many Southerners who formerly resided in the North and are now residents of that area, the unemployment rate in the nation has increased. For instance, a bombing at a UN building in Abuja resulted in the deaths of 20 individuals. 186 persons were burned to death in an explosion that occurred on January 20, 2012, at the Kano Police Headquarters and the Immigration Office. (Adetoro, 2012:24). At the Government Girls Secondary School in Chibok, Borno State, on April 14, 2014, the Boko Haram terrorist organization kidnapped over 200 girls. The bulk of them are still under their custody, but the school is still closed. As reports of attacks at different locations in the North that result in bloodshed are almost daily, Boko Haram attacks have become a daily occurrence. Not just Nigeria, but also Africa and the entire world are being impacted by this, which compromises peace and security.

### 2.1.5 The Nexus between Unemployment and Security Challenges in Nigeria

It is simple to understand how this community of jobless people can pose a security threat given the picture of Nigeria's high level of unemployment painted above. Unemployment has frequently been blamed for the country's different security issues. The phrase "the idle hand is the devil's workshop" is a proverb that states that a country's high level of insecurity will surely



result from the majority of its citizens being impoverished, and hungry. In response to employment advertisements, it has become commonplace to see thousands of unemployed people show up even though only a small number of people will be hired. Competitiveness and output are directly impacted by the gross underutilization and poor management of human resources across the country.

Due to their high jobless rate, many Nigerians are taking actions that put the security of their country in jeopardy. For their participation in one type of crime or another, graduates have occasionally been imprisoned. For their involvement in these crimes, the majority of these criminally inclined recent graduates blame the high jobless rate in the country. For instance, the cover caption for the news magazine's September 26, 2011, cover story read, "Graduates bandits on the lookout." When allegedly interviewed, the vast majority of graduate burglars admitted that they turned to crime because they were jobless.

The failure of facilities, such as energy, supplies, and a robust road network, that are supposed to be kept by the government is also having a negative impact on small and medium-sized businesses, which provide employment opportunities for unemployed people. Many artists today, including furniture makers, welders, installers of metal windows, tailors, etc., who lack the financial means to buy power generators, are unemployed. Many teenagers in Nigeria have resorted to riding commercial motorcycles as a way to keep their bodies and souls intact. As a stopgap measure, other young people resort to street selling. For breaking anti-hawking laws, the unfortunate ones, like the late Mohammed Bonazizi of Tunisia, have their goods confiscated. Because so many people and nations have yet to experience true peace, particularly in light of the role that globalization has played in ensuring the spread of national borders, everyone on earth is aware of what happened after that. Aside from that, the banking sector, which employs a large number of people, has lately been forced to reduce its workforce as a result of banking reforms implemented in the nation. As a result, the unemployment rate has increased. Since Access Bank and Oceanic Bank recently acquired International Continental Bank, more employees have been laid off, continuing the trend that started earlier.

Additionally, businesses and sectors like the Nigerian Railways, the steel industry, and the cloth industry are closing. Private companies that give Nigerians work chances are progressively moving their headquarters to other West African countries like Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Togo, and South Africa. Due to constant power outages, which force them to depend on generating sets that must be fueled at exorbitant prices, many manufacturers are experiencing low turnover in their businesses. Many indigenous employees are laid off as a result of their inability to make ends meet due

to the fact that their monthly salaries may only cover half of their expenses.

## 2.2 Theoretical Framework

In this research, the psychological theory served as the theoretical foundation. In 1939 and 1978, respectively, Dollard and Leeds put forth the idea that anger always results in some form of violence, and that anger always breeds anger (Leeds, 1978) (Dollard, 1939).

Anger and ill will are born of frustration (an emotional readiness to aggress). Anger leads to hostile violence. Everywhere, the idea applies. In their 1972 (1968) analysis of political instability in 84 countries, Ivo and Rosaline Feierabend applied the frustration-aggression theory. It was discovered that as urbanization and literacy levels rise (as is happening in Nigeria right now), people in quickly modernizing societies become more conscious of material advancement. However, the widening gap between the wealthy and the less fortunate feeds discontent, which then breeds uncalled for aggression, which only gets worse because wealth typically spreads slowly. As a consequence of these aggressions, Nigeria is plagued by crime and violence.

## 2.2 Empirical Review

Ogunmefun & Okuneye (2020), examined Youth Employment Insecurity and Development in Nigeria. Relevant publications from a variety of search engines, including EMBASE, PDF, Scholarly Google, Scopus, and JSTORS, were examined using a content-systematic technique of analysis to support the investigation's results. Auguste Comte's Social Contract Theory as well as the classical and neo-classical theories of Schumpeter and Boulding were used to explain the causes, effects, and remedies of young unemployment in Nigeria. The research suggests that the government of Nigeria, philanthropists, and non-governmental organizations learn more about the significance of the social contract as the primary factor influencing social development. Additionally, more informal and formal learning institutions should be established to support youth employability, flexibility, and access to work, among other things.

Janet (2021) conducted a study on youth unemployment, rising crime, and the difficulty of achieving sustainable security in South West Region of Nigeria. Data were gathered from the inhabitants using a total of 200 questionnaires. In addition to other factors, it was found that high rates of youth crime are caused by unemployment and a lack of meaningful government empowerment. It urges the government to take immediate action to find gainful employment for young people who are unemployed so they can have a respectable way of life. Additionally, to serve as a warning to others, appropriate punishments ought to be

meted out to criminals, including any complicit security personnel.

Niyi (2015) studied the issues of youth unemployment and security in Nigeria. Nigeria has recently faced a number of security issues, including violent crimes, kidnappings, militant insurgency in the Niger Delta, ethnic and religious strife, political assassinations, and activities of the Boko Haram group. The study investigates how security issues in Nigeria are affected by unemployment. Only 145 answers were gathered from the 150 respondents who were randomly chosen. The primary data for the research were gathered using a survey technique, and secondary data came from academic journals and online sources. Data research methods used included frequency, percentages, and chi square. Also used as a framework for study was the aggressive-frustration theoretical framework. The correlation between unemployment and fear is quite strong, it was discovered. The document thus urges, among other things, that program and policies aimed at reducing unemployment and poverty be established and maintained at all levels.

Odumade (2020) looked into the impacts of youth unemployment and how it affected Nigeria's economic expansion. Using a multi-stage sampling method, 600 respondents were chosen for the descriptive research design of the survey type. To evaluate two research topics and three research hypotheses, the Effect and Consequences of Youth Unemployment Questionnaire was used (EACOUYUQ). The data study employed Pearson product moment correlation, frequency counts, and percentages. The findings revealed a significant correlation between the youth unemployment rate and Nigeria's economic growth ( $r=0.820$ ,  $P0.05$ ), the government's programs to address the issue ( $r=0.924$ ,  $P0.05$ ), and the government's potential methods for ensuring a decline in the country's unemployment rate ( $r=0.765$ ,  $P0.05$ ). Further analysis of the results revealed that cultural barriers (64.3%), rapid population growth (89.1%), widespread corruption (81.7%), labor force expansion (81.5%), a lack of employable skills (80.6%), a dearth of industries/factories (79.2%), and rapid population growth (89.1%) were the main contributors to youth unemployment. In addition, the study found that youth unemployment had a negative impact on the use of youth as political thugs (87.5%), their participation in various anti-social vices (81.5%), and their use to thwart and obstruct the democratic and development processes of the state (71.7%). It was advised based on the findings that government should support entrepreneurial activities, which are thought to be the indirect cause of Nigeria's unemployment issue. Furthermore, financing should be made available to

those who have profitable business plans that could result in the production of both industrial and agricultural consumables, which could result in the creation of employment.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Research Design

The survey methodology was used by the researcher. This is due to the reality that survey design is a fact-finding method. It emphasizes individuals and their attitudes, convictions, and viewpoints. The study's geographic scope includes the state of Anambra's Ogbaru local government region. According to the 2006 population census, which also happened to be the most recent national population census in Nigeria, the population of the study is believed to be 221,879 people (Males: 117,975; females: 103,904) (Anambra State Local Government Commission, 2018). Since births and deaths have occurred continuously over the years, this number may change. Taro Yamane's formula was used to calculate the sample size, which were 400. A structured questionnaire with a Likert scale of Strongly Agree (5), Agree (4), Undecided (3), Disagree (2), and Strongly Disagree (2) was used in the research. (1). The structured questionnaire that serves as the research tool underwent processes for face and content validity, and the test-retest method was used to determine the reliability of the questionnaire. Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient was used to correlate two sets of responses, and a value of 0.773 was found. This will be regarded as being good enough to ensure the instrument's dependability. Utilizing straightforward percentage and frequency tables, the produced data were examined. Therefore, in order to evaluate the hypotheses put forth, multiple regression analysis was used.

### 4. DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

A detailed analysis of the returned questionnaires was conducted for this part of the study, and the information gathered was displayed in straightforward percentage tables. There was equal use of analysis and judgment. In Ogbaru, young people were given the surveys.

The fact that 400 copies of the questionnaire were given out to the sampled population must be stressed once more. Three hundred eighty two (382) was deemed to be fine while 18 was returned empty. In order to analyze the collected data and verify the hypotheses, the researcher decided that the simple percentage technique would be appropriate.

#### 4.1 Data Presentation

**Table 1: Personal Characteristics of Respondents**

1. Age	Frequency	Percentage
18-25	166	43
26-34	126	33
35-41	90	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>100</b>
2. Sex		
Male	267	69.9
Female	115	30.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>100</b>
3. High Educational		
Primary	58	15.2
Secondary	142	37.2
Tertiary (diploma)	80	20.9
Tertiary (degree)	72	18.8
Tertiary (professional qualification )	30	7.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2023.

In classifying the respondents by their age distribution in the above table, it was gathered that 166 (43%) are between 18-25 years. 126 (33%) are between 26-34 years. 90(24%) are 35-41 years. In the above table regarding the sex of the respondents, it shows that 267 (69.9%) were male while 115 (30.1%) were female. Concerning the Highest Educational Level, the table above indicates that 58 (15.2%) of the respondents have

Primary school certificate. 142 (37.2%) have secondary certificate. 80(20.9%) for tertiary (diploma). 72(18.8%) for Tertiary (degree), while 30(7.9%) specify Tertiary (professional qualification).

#### Data on Variables of Subject Investigation The Extent to Which Youth Unemployment has Affected Social Vices in Ogbaru L.G.A.

S/N	Questionnaire Item	A	SA	D	SD	U	Remark
1	Some of the youths in Ogbaru have resorted to robbery for lack of gainful employment?	115 (30.1%)	95 (24.9%)	75 (19.6%)	42 (11%)	55 (14.1%)	Agreement
2	Most female graduates in Ogbaru have turned prostitutes for lack of job?	110 (28.8%)	100 (26.2%)	70 (18.3%)	47 (12.3%)	55 (14.4%)	Agreement
3	Kidnapping activities carried out in the area are master-minded by unemployed youths?	170 (44.5%)	100 (26.2%)	50 (13.1%)	42 (11%)	20 (5.2%)	Agreement
4	Violence during elections in Ogbaru is perpetrated by the youths?	180 (47.1%)	115 (30.1%)	47 (12.3%)	30 (7.9%)	10 (2.6%)	Agreement
5	Majority of the youths roam the streets, smoking Indian hemp and committing all kinds of atrocities?	195 (51%)	120 (31.4%)	20 (5.2%)	15 (3.9%)	55 (14.4%)	Agreement

Source: Field Survey, 2023.

The above table revealed that 115 respondents representing 30.1% agreed that some of the youths in Ogbaru have resorted to robbery for lack of gainful employment, While 75 respondents representing 19.6% disagreed. This therefore indicates that some of the youths in Ogbaru have resorted to robbery for lack of gainful employment. 110 respondents representing 28.8% agreed While 70 respondents representing 18.3% disagreed. This implies that most female graduates in Ogbaru have turned prostitutes. 170 respondents representing 44.5% agreed that kidnapping activities carried out in the area are master-minded by unemployed youths. While 50 respondents representing 13.1% disagreed. This implies that kidnapping activities carried out in the area are master-minded by

unemployed youths. 180 respondents representing 47.1% agreed that violence during elections in Ogbaru is perpetrated by the youths. While 47 respondents representing 12.3% disagreed. This therefore indicates that violence during elections in Ogbaru are perpetrated by the youths. 195 respondents representing 51% agreed that majority of youths roam the streets, smoking Indian hemp and committing all kinds of atrocities, while 20 respondents representing 5.2% disagreed. This shows that most of youths roam the streets, smoking Indian hemp and committing all kinds of atrocities.

### The Extent to which Youth Unemployment has Affected Poverty

S/N	Questionnaire Item	A	SA	D	SD	U	Remark
1	The youths of Ogbaru especially the male counterpart, delay in marriage for lack of jobs?	160 (41.8%)	85 (22.3%)	57 (14.9%)	50 (13.1%)	30 (7.9%)	Agreement
2	Most of the youths who venture into farming are on subsistence basis?	180 47.1%	115 (30.1%)	47 (12.3%)	30 (7.9%)	10 (2.6%)	Agreement
3	The youths are mostly involved in menial jobs?	110 (28.8%)	100 (26.2%)	70 (18.3%)	47 (12.3%)	55 (14.4%)	Agreement
4	The youth survive basically from hand to mouth?	157 (41%)	130 (34%)	50 (13.1%)	30 (7.9%)	15 (3.9%)	Agreement
5	Majority of the youth in this area always appear frustrated?	160 (41.9%)	85 (22.3%)	57 (14.9%)	50 (13.1%)	30 (7.9%)	Agreement

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The table above indicates that 160 respondents representing 41.8% agreed that the youths of Ogbaru especially the male counterpart delay in marriage for lack of gainful employment, while 57 respondents, representing 14.9% disagreed. This indicates that the youths of Ogbaru especially the male counterpart delay in marriage for lack of gainful employment. 180 respondents representing 47.1% agreed that most of the youths who venture into farming are on subsistence basis while 47 respondents representing 12.3% disagreed. This entails that most of the youths who venture into farming are on subsistence basis.

From the above table, it implies that 110 respondents representing 28.8% agreed to the above question while 70 respondents representing 18.3% disagreed. This implies that the youths are mostly

involved in menial jobs. 157 respondents representing 41% agreed to the above question while 50 respondents representing 13.1% disagreed. This implies that they survive basically from hand to mouth. 115 respondents representing 30.1% agreed to the above question while 75 respondents representing 19.6% disagreed. This indicates that most of the youth in this area always appear frustrated.

#### 4.2 Analysis of Data (Hypotheses Testing)

To verify the formulated hypothesis, regression analysis was used. In accordance with that, the hypotheses test findings were interpreted.

**Ho<sub>1</sub>: Youth unemployment has no effect on social vices in Ogbaru L. G. A, in Anambra State**

Model Summary				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.259 <sup>a</sup>	.211	.303	3.67231

a. Predictors: (Constant) Youth unemployment

The R value is .259, R square is .211, adjusted R square is .303, and the standard error of the estimate is 3.67231 according to the model summary chart above.

The table shows that the dependent variable's influence on the independent variable is not significantly determined by the R square's value of .211.

ANOVA <sup>a</sup>						
Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	177.612	1	177.612	34.871	.000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	664.135	194	7.141		
	Total	841.747	195			

a. Dependent Variable: Youth unemployment

b. Predictors: (Constant), social vices

According to the Anova table above, the probability level is .000, which is less than the significance level of .05, and the F value, is 34.871. This indicates that youth unemployment in Ogbaru L. G. A.

in Anambra State is one of several important variables that affect social vices. Based on this, the null hypothesis was rejected



Coefficients						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	5.296	.926		7.721	.000
	factor that hinder	.531	.106	.459	5.987	.000
Dependent Variable: social vices						

The significant level of t statistics is displayed in the coefficient chart above, showing that the t value is at 4.987 and the sig level is at .000. This indicates that

the independent variable's impact on the dependent variable is substantial.

**Ho<sub>2</sub>: Youth unemployment has no effect on poverty in Ogbaru L. G. A, in Anambra State**

Model Summary				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.034 <sup>a</sup>	.001	-.010	3.00680
a. Predictors: (Constant), youth unemployment				

According to the table above, R is .034, R square is .001, adjusted R square is -.010, and the standard error of the guess is 3.00680. This

demonstrates that the R square value of .001 is not a reliable indicator of the relative influence of the independent and dependent variables.

ANOVA <sup>a</sup>						
Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	.950	1	.950	4.105	.000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	840.798	93	9.041		
	Total	841.747	94			
a. Dependent Variable: poverty						
b. Predictors: (Constant), youth unemployment						

According to the Anova table above, the f value is lower than the probability threshold of .05. The sig is also lower, at .000. This indicates that there is a

substantial connection between youth unemployment and security issues in Ogbaru L. G. A., Anambra State Rejecting the null hypotheses.

Coefficients <sup>a</sup>						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	9.385	1.036		9.060	.000
	insufficient finance	.037	.116	.034	.324	.747
a. Dependent Variable: Youth unemployment						

According to the coefficient table above, the sig value is less than the probability threshold of .05. The t value is 9.060, while the sig value is .000. This demonstrates that the independent variable is significantly more important than the dependent variable.

- Youth unemployment has significant effect on poverty in Ogbaru Local government area Anambra state.

**5. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**5.1 Summary of Findings**

Based on the hypotheses tested and the research findings are as follows:

- Youth unemployment has significant effect on social vices in Ogbaru Local government area, Anambra state

**5.2 Conclusion**

Youth unemployment in Nigeria appears to be a significant issue that threatens political and social development. This project work has raised significant expectations for the power potential of career counseling to change the dynamic between the school system and the labor market. However, career counseling can only be a strategy for lowering the rate of young unemployment when combined with entrepreneurship and technical and vocational education (TVE). Access to work is a requirement for the eradication of poverty, sustainable development, and enduring peace. In addition, the enthusiasm, talent, and

inspiration of young people are priceless. The top priority for the government continues to be ensuring the welfare of the nation's inhabitants and residents. Providing for and creating an atmosphere that facilitates the creation of jobs, as well as protecting lives and reducing poverty among Nigerians, are crucial. A nation's economic development will be greatly hampered because no investor will make an investment in a nation where security cannot be ensured.

Additionally, only a peaceful environment can enable residents to function at their peak levels. The government's attempts to encourage development in Nigeria will be ineffectual if the country's dangerously high level of insecurity is not addressed. As a result, the nation's security problems as well as the unemployment issue must be resolved right away.

### 5.3 Recommendations

The following suggestions have been made in light of the results summary:

- To address the unemployment issue, all levels of government in the nation should increase the number of employment possibilities. To accommodate the nation's unemployed, it is important to encourage the private sector and non-governmental organizations to increase employment creation.
- Technical and vocational education in the entire country should be prioritized. More people will be able to learn useful skills that will allow them to work for themselves and stop looking for white-collar jobs as a result, increasing the number of people who are able to do so. Classes geared in this direction could be added to school curricula to urge students to learn how they might use these skills to improve their circumstances and for them to become employers of labor.

### REFERENCES

- Adebayo, A. (2013). Youth Unemployment and National Directorate of Employment Self-Employment Programmes. *Nigerian Journal of Economics and Social Studies*, 41,(1),81-102.
- Adetoro, R. A. (2012). Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria as a symptom of poverty and political alienation. 8(1), 31-40.
- Ahonsi-Yakubu, A. (2009). Political transitions, crime and insecurity in Nigeria: *Journal of African Development*, 26(1&2).
- Ajaegbu, O. (2012). Rising youth unemployment and violent crime in Nigeria. *American Journal of Social Issues and Humanities*, 2(5), 315-321. Available at: 10.1.1.684.5857&rep=rep1&type=pdf.
- Akande, S. O., & Okuwa, O. B. (2009): "Empowering Nigerian Youths for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". *NISER Occasional Paper No.3*, NISER, Ibadan, Nigeria.
- Akwagyiram, A. (2018). Nigeria unemployment rises to 23.1 pct in Q3 from 18.1 pct year earlier Stats Office. Retrieved from; <https://af.reuters.com/article/africaTech/idADKBN101106>
- Akwara, A. F., Akwara, N. F., Enwuchola, J., Adekunle, M., & Udaw, J. E. (2013). Unemployment and Poverty: Implications for National Security and Good Governance in Nigeria. *International Journal of Public Administration and Management Research*, 2(1), 1-11.
- Alanana, O. O. (2003). Youth Unemployment in Nigeria: Some Implications for the Third Millennium. *Global Journal of Social Science*, 2(1), 21-26.
- Aleyomi, M. B. (2012). Ethno-religious crisis as a threat to the Stability of Nigeria's federalism. *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa*, 14(3), 127-140.
- Dollard, J. (1939). *Frustration and Aggression*, New Haven, Conn: Yale University Press.
- Ekeji, C. C. (2019). Poverty and crime among youths in Nigeria. Retrieved from: [https://www.academia.edu/4819129/poverty\\_and\\_crime\\_among\\_youths\\_in\\_nigeria](https://www.academia.edu/4819129/poverty_and_crime_among_youths_in_nigeria).
- Ekpu, R. (2007). The dilemma of Niger Delta, in: *NewsWatch*, August 13th 10-30.
- Freedom, O. C. (2008) *Youth Unemployment and Poverty: Connections and Concerns for National Development in Nigeria: A Paper Presented at International Conference on Youths and National Development* organized by Centre of Democratic Research and Training, Mumbayya House, Kano. P8
- Ibrahim, R. (2019). Insecurity: Saving Ekiti from Kidnappers, robbers.
- Inokoba, P. K., & Imubua, D. L. (2010). Vexation and militancy in the Niger Delta: The way forward, in: *Journal of Human Ecology*, 29(2), 101-120.
- International Labour Organization (2007): *Global Employment Trends*: Geneva: International Labour Organization.
- Janet, M. O. (2021). Unemployment, Rising Criminality and the Challenge of Sustainable Security in Nigeria's South-West Region. *International Journal of Social Sciences Perspectives*.
- Jelilov, C., & Ndanitsa, A. Y. (2015). The relationship between unemployment and property crime rate in Nigeria (1994-2014). *Sacha Journal of Environmental Studies*, 5(1), 88-93.
- Kazeem, Y. (2016). About half of the University graduates in Nigeria cannot Find Jobs. *Quartz Africa*. Retrieved from: <https://qz.com/africa/603967/about-half-of-the-university-graduates-in-nigeria-cannot-find-jobs/>.
- Kazeem, Y. (2017). Nigeria's unemployment problem is showing no signs of slowing down. *Quartz Africa*.

- Kia, B., & Nwibor, B. L. (2015). National Insecurity and Youth Unemployment in Nigeria: The Case of Niger-Delta Region. *British Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, 13(1).
- Kirby, M. (2011). "Unemployment: Relationship with Poverty from Rich to Poor Countries". [www.aidemocracy.org](http://www.aidemocracy.org)
- Kostadis, J. P. (2017). Hunger makes a Thief of any Man": Poverty and Crime in British Colonial Asia. *European Review of Economic History*, 21(1), 1-28
- Lamido, (2013, July 23) "Unemployment Fuelling Insecurity in Nigeria" *Punch Newspaper*.
- Leeds, C. A. (1978). *Political Studies*. Eastover: McDonalds and Evans.
- Mbach, D., & Alake, T. (2016). *Nigeria population at 182 million, with widening youth bulge*. Bloomberg.
- Nedeljkovic, V. (2014). *Consequences of high youth unemployment*. [Online] Available: <http://www.bridgingeurope.net/consequences-of-high-youth-unemployment.html> (June 6, 2015).Nigeria
- Niyi, A. (2015). Youth Unemployment and Security Challenges in Nigeria. *Asian Journal of Humanities and Social Studies*, 3(1).
- Obadan, M. I., & Odusola, A.Y. (2001). *Productivity and Unemployment in Nigeria*. Ibadan: NCEMA.
- Odumade, A. S. (2020). Effects of Youth Unemployment and its Consequences on Economic Growth in Nigeria. *KIU Journal of Humanities Kampala International University*, 5(3), 33–40.
- Ogunmefun, F. M., & Okuneye, M. Y. (2020). Youth Employment Insecurity and Development in Nigeria.
- Osakwe, C. (2013). Youth, Unemployment and National Security in Nigeria. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 3(21), 258-269.
- The Punch. (2019). Ondo security situation worrisome – UPN. Retrieved from: <https://punchng.com/ondo-security-situation-worrisome-upn/>.
- Tickner, J. A. (1994) "Re-visioning Security" in Ken Booth and Steve Smiths Trading Economics. (2019).Nigeria unemployment rate. Retrieved from: <https://tradingeconomics.com/nigeria/unemployment-rate>
- Umejei, E. (2010). *Kidnapping in 'Kidnapped' Economy [Analysis]*. Africa News Service. [Online] Available: Emekaumejei's Weblog (September 23, 2015).
- United Nations. (2007). Young people's transition to adulthood: Progress and challenges.