

Effects of Socio-Economic Status of Trafficking in Person on Incidence of Human Trafficking in Southern Nigeria

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ABSTRACT: Trafficking in Persons (TIP) has become a deteriorating issue in our society. The study investigated the effects of socio-economic status of trafficking in person on incidence of human trafficking in Southern Nigeria. TIP records were collected from National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (NAPTIP) between 2010 and 2014 while socio-economic characteristics were collected from National Bureau of Statistics. Clusters analysis was carried out to segment the number of incidence at the LGA level into statistically contiguous groups. After the classification of sources, an analysis was carried to examine the difference in the socio-economic characteristics of the cluster while Kruskal Wallis independent sample test was use to examine the significant difference in the socio-economic characteristics across the clusters. Spearman rank's correlation was use to examine the relationship between socioeconomic variables of sources and incidence of TIP. Results shows that the clusters identified can be referred to as high, medium and low incidence clusters, the high cluster has a cluster centre of 31 incidences with 2 LGAs while the medium cluster has centre of 10 incidences with 15 LGAs. The medium cluster has the highest membership with 84 LGAs across the study area. It is evident that the 3 clusters are not significantly different ($P > 0.05$) therefore based on the socio-economic characteristics the cluster cannot be differentiated from one another. There is a weak and negative relationship between all socio-economic characteristics and total number of trafficked persons except the accessibility of electricity to household which was similarly weak ($r=0.198$) but significant at ($P > 0.05$). The study recommended that effective intervention of the government and non-governmental organization help to improve the living quality across the country.

Keywords: Socio-economic Characteristics, Trafficking in person, Clusters, Southern Nigeria

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I. INTRODUCTION

Human trafficking has become a multitude of activities and diverse institutions with their systematic operation connected together (Lutya and Lenier, 2012). The phenomenon of trafficking is complex and has a socio-economic and political history linked to larger, global processes. It is not simply a social or moral problem to be treated with casual initiatives, as they do not address poverty or related issues of vulnerability and discrimination in strategic or sustainable ways (UNESCO, 2006). Human trafficking constitutes a mind boggling process which has an uncivilized framework and structures and they are difficult to monitor and predict (Yukoshko, 2009). Anderson and O'Connell (2002) clarified that trafficking falls inside a continuum of experience which ranges from individuals who are either transported at gunpoint, then constrained in the process of childbirth using physical or sexual brutality or passing dangers, to individuals who are neither cheated nor pressured in any case. Trafficking is an improvement concern, which requires an adjusted, layered and incorporated methodology, based on an establishment of rights-based standards and norms. Human movement is the third biggest unlawful exchange after medication activity and arms exchange (UNICEF, 2006). Trafficking in persons (TIPs) as explained by (Essien, 2013) has become a recent and known phenomenon which requires adequate attention because of its effects mostly on youth of both sexes in the developing nations. The yearly trafficked in persons (TIPs) reported by USAID (2005) put the assessment of individuals trafficked all inclusive at 4 million every year; 800,000 persons move crosswise over worldwide fringes yearly; 80% of trafficked casualties are accepted to be females and half are youth and kids while larger part are trafficked for business sex. A noteworthy result of TIPs is the deprivation of its casualties the benefit to practice their entitlement to opportunity, instruction and even the wellbeing among others (ANPPCAN 2010; Omotola, 2011). These youthful persons are presented to sexual misuse from their paramour's spouses and now and again the adult children of their lords. Trafficking in persons, like money laundering, advanced fee fraud, cyber scams and

illicit trade in arms and narcotics has elicited a great concern as a contemporary social problem worldwide (Poulin,2004). Trafficked persons who are victims are utilized in different vocations including sexual exploitation, begging, under-paid and exploited forced labour in the agricultural, service, manufacturing and construction industries, domestic service, and organ harvesting (Agbu, 2003). There are many factors that have led to human trafficking and these include widespread and increasing level of poverty, unemployment and underemployment (especially of women), greed, family and communal dislocation, economic transition, globalization, rural impoverishment, accelerated commoditization of sex, economic decline and uncertainties, opportunism, false and fake dream, and dramatically deteriorating living standards, low pay, discriminatory labour practices, violence (particularly against women), lack of social and welfare support, lack of educational opportunities, tourism, false or imaginary marriage, declining border controls, governance, constant and increased demand for cheap labour, combined forces of organized crime and governmental corruption, and the receding capacity of the state to provide basic social services (Abdulkadir,2010). (Asghar, 2005; Yea, 2010) documented the ways boys from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan are recruited from five years of age to become camel jockeys in United Arab Emirates (UAE), having been sold by their parents to agents. The traffickers tell the parents that the children would earn large sum of money, some of which would be sent home to the families. Thereafter, the children are subjected to several forms of abuse during their sojourn including lack of food. In recent times there has been an increase in the internal trafficking of Nigerian women and children especially from rural communities to cities such as Lagos, Abeokuta, Ibadan, Kano, Kaduna, Calabar and Port Harcourt (UNESCO, 2006). A study recent revealed that disabled people, especially children in the developing countries are often trafficked as beggars or deployed in brothels and factories (Yea, 2010). This is because in many cultures, disabled people are seen as a shame or burden on their families and are therefore easily recruited by traffickers from their families (Yea, 2010). Thus, in Thailand, many brothel owners deliberately target deaf girls because they are less able to communicate their situations to clients, police or others who might be in a position to help them. Trafficking to these regions is predominantly for exploitative domestic work, farm labour and prostitution, with incidents of human trafficking and forced labour particularly prevalent in Lagos.

Olateru-Olagbegi and Ikpeme (2006) found that children from rural communities in Cross-Rivers, Akwa Ibom, Benue, Ebonyi, Kwara, Bayelsa, Imo, Anambra, Oyo State and border villages in Ogun State are trafficked for domestic service to the urban or city centre such as Lagos, Kano, Port-Harcourt, Ibadan and Kaduna. The same report shows that the southern states of Nigeria are particularly implicated in this inhuman trade. Trafficking to regions is overwhelmingly for exploitative residential work, ranch work and prostitution (UNESCO, 2006). According to human trafficking report (2015) millions of young men, women and children around the world are currently victims of trafficking in person, bought and sold as commodities into prostitution and forced labour. Traffickers scout for girls and young boys wanting to travel, enticing them with promises of work and education. The victims are offered false papers and also on how to repay the cost of their travel until they reach their destination country. Once recruited, the girls are forced into ritual using their hair from their head, armpit and public area thereby making them to be afraid “according to one of the victims who were promised a new life in Italy.

Victims of TIP are exposed to various health risks and abuse which may result in health problems such as sexually transmitted infections (STIs), HIV/AIDS, pelvic inflammatory disease, hepatitis, tuberculosis, skin infections and other communicable diseases: unwanted pregnancy, forced abortion, abortion-related complications, mental and emotional health problems, including nightmares, insomnia, suicidal tendencies, alcoholism, drug abuse and addiction (NAPTIP, 2008). UNICEF (2007) describes poor economic situation in Nigeria as a factor that has led to unemployment and high rates of school drop-out. These circumstances have created a large pool of inactive and unengaged children and adolescents who are much more vulnerable to trafficking than their peers who go to school. The motivation, especially of teenagers, to find work away from home is often driven by the increasing taste for material things. Unarguably, human trafficking has significant negative impact on the trafficked persons, families, communities and the nation as a whole. Previous research on human trafficking in Nigeria such as Olateru-Olagbegi and Ikpeme (2006); Kunze (2010); Akpan and Oluwabamide (2010); Akor (2011); Omotola (2011); Onyeizugbo and Eukay (2011) focussed on the impact of human trafficking especially in the area of prostitution and child labour which were restricted to small geographic locations like a state or Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Nigeria. Investigating the effect of socio-economic status of trafficking in person on incidence of human trafficking in Southern Nigeria is very rare in the literature. However, the effect of socio-economic status of trafficking can be achieved through the use of Kruskal Wallis independent sample test and spearman rank’s correlation which test the significant difference and the relationship of the socio-economic variables. There are several studies on human trafficking in Nigeria but none has reported the effect of socio-economic status of trafficking in person on incidence of human trafficking in Southern Nigeria. Against this background, the present study examined the effect of socio-economic status of trafficking in person on incidence of human trafficking in Southern Nigeria between 2010 and 2014.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study area encompasses all states in Southern Nigeria; Abia, Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Edo, Ekiti, Enugu, Imo, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun, Oyo and Rivers (Figure 1). The southern part of Nigeria consists of South-West, South-East and South-South regions. The study area is located in the southern part of the country lying between the latitude 4° 32'N and 9° 33'N and longitude 3° 25' E and 10° 25' E (Figure 1).

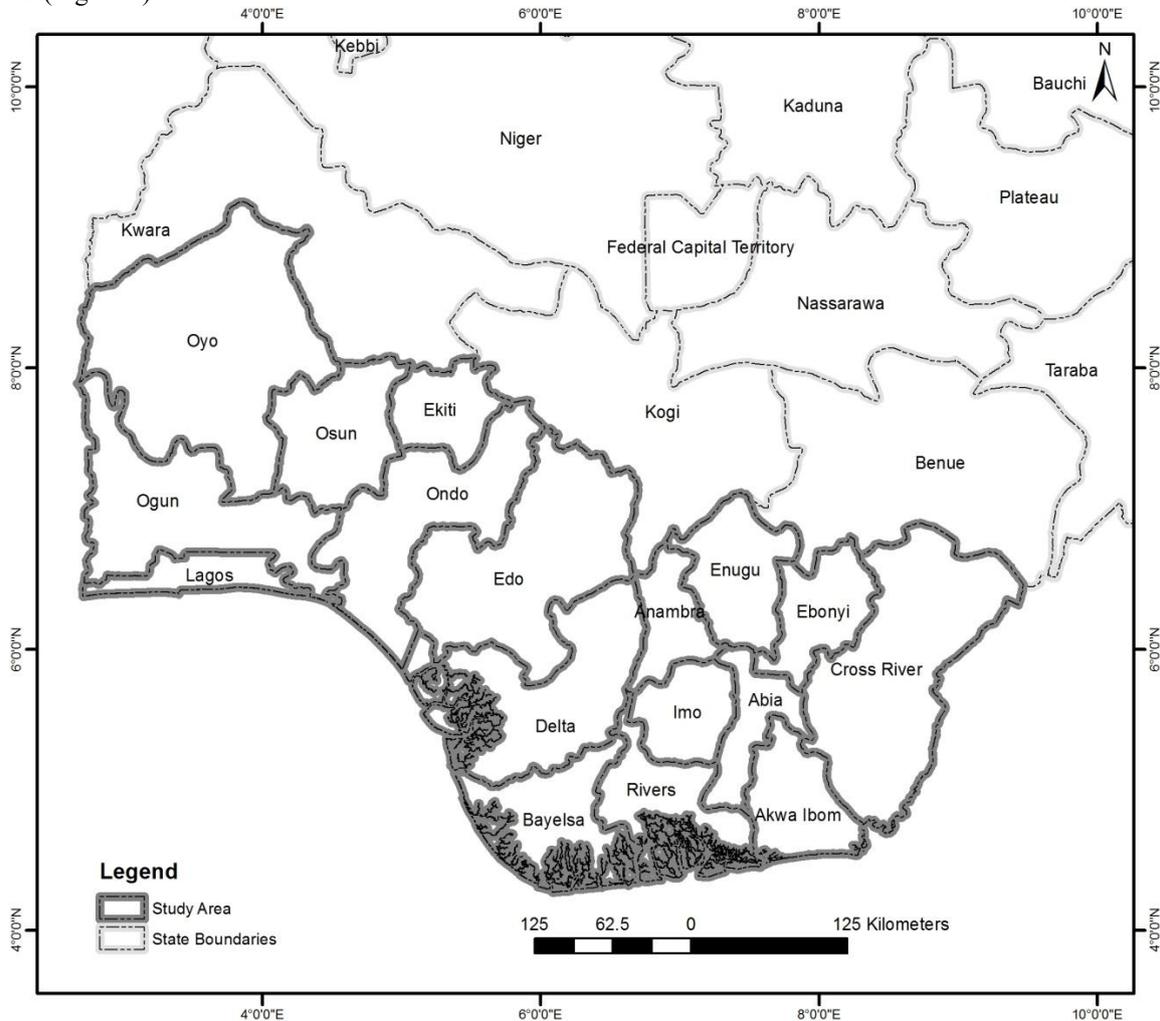


Figure 1: Southern States of Nigeria (Study Area)

The climate is the humid sub-equatorial type (Aweto, 1981) with high annual rainfall ranging between 1600 mm and 3000 mm (Ogolo and Adeyemi, 2009). Land in relation to the population, is relatively scarce especially in the Niger Delta Region of the study area and as population increases, the pressure on land for all purposes including agriculture increases accordingly. Majority of the population are Christians while English or Pidgin English serves as the national language. The total population of the study area is 65,162,068 (National Population Commission, 2006) in which Lagos, Oyo and Rivers States are the most populous while the population in Bayelsa is the lowest. Farming, fishing and trading are common human activities in the study area. The pattern of settlement in the southern part of Nigeria is largely determined by the availability of dry land. According to (Okodudu, 2016) land is primarily low lying in most part resulting in a dendritic nature of its drainage which to some degree governs habitability regions within the study area. There are pockets of highlands recorded in the South-west and South-east while low relief (15-30m) above sea level dominates most of the South-south part.

Secondary data were used for this study. Data on human trafficking between 2010 and 2014 in the study area were collected from National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (NAPTIP) both from the Benin Zone, Akwa-Ibom and Abuja Zone (Figure 2). The socio-economic characteristics of traffic in persons used in this study were proportion of people living in poverty, proportion of people living in extreme poverty, accessibility of city of $\geq 50,000$ people, proportion of people with access to improved water, proportion of people with access to improved water, proportion of people with access to improved sanitation, population of

young people enrolled in primary school, population of young people enrolled in secondary school, proportion of literate people-15 years and above, population of people with electricity in their household. Cluster analysis was carried out to segment the number of incidence at the LGA level into statistically contiguous groups. After this classification of sources, an analysis was carried out to examine the differences in the socio-economic characteristics of the cluster. Using Kruskal-Wallis independent sample test, these clusters were examined to test the significant difference in the socio-economic characteristics across the clusters while Spearman rank's correlation was used to test the relationship between socioeconomic variables of sources and incidence of TIP. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze the socio-economic factors of the TIPs per state with the use of simple percentages. Bar and line charts were used for data presentation. All analyses were done in Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) Version 20.0.

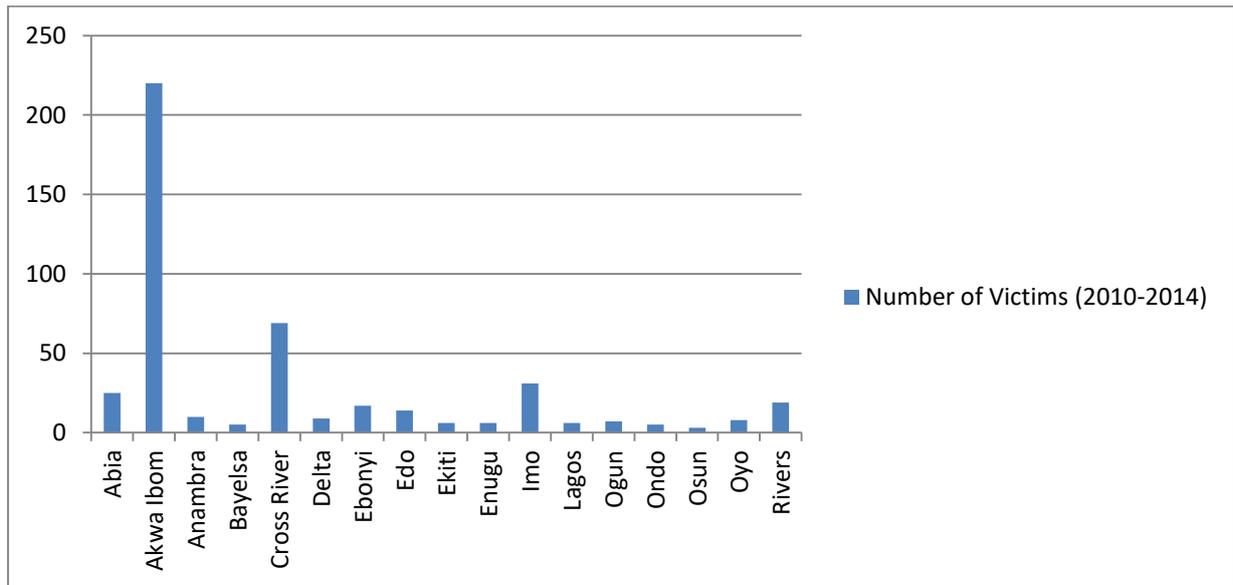


Figure 2: Victims of Human Trafficking in Southern Nigeria

Source: National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Person (NAPTIP), 2015

III. RESULTS

Cluster Centre

The result of cluster analysis carried out to segment the number of incidences shows that the clusters identified can be referred to as high, medium and low incidence clusters. The high cluster has a cluster centre of 31 incidences with 2 LGAs while the medium cluster has centre of 10 incidences with 15 LGAs. The medium cluster has the highest membership with 84 LGAs across the study area, (Table 1).

Table 1: Cluster Centre

Name	1 (High)	2(Medium)	3(Low)
Incidence centre (Mean Centre)	31	10	2
Total LGA members	2	15	84

Source: Researcher's analysis, 2016

Population of TIP Incidence and Number of Victims of Human Trafficking

The mean population of the TIP sources was 229,296 persons (Table 2). The population was highest in Akwa Ibom State (19.1%) while the population of Cross River, Rivers and Abia States was 10.2%, 7.8% and 9.4% respectively (Figure 2) and the lowest population was observed in Ogun State (1.1%) (Figure 2). However, the incidence of human trafficking between 2010 and 2014 in Southern Nigeria was highest in Akwa Ibom recording 220 victims out of the 460 incidences recorded. Also higher records were noticed in Cross River, Imo, Rivers and Abia State (Figure 2).

Table 2: Socio-economic characteristics of TIP Incidence in Southern Nigeria

Socio-economic Characteristics of TIP Sources in Southern Nigeria	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	SD
Population	60482	1051300	229295.58	140313.58
Proportion of people living in poverty	9	2685	427.22	482.42
Proportion of people living in extreme Poverty	4	2561	339.69	418.76
Accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people	4	898	150.23	163.07
Proportion of people with access to improved water	30787	905618	145521.07	113352.45
Proportion of people with access to improved sanitation	21293	905873	134052.49	112487.24
Population of young people enrolled in primary school	6143	82303	22142.39	12254.24
Population of young people enrolled in secondary School	4349	78678	18398.05	10853.13
Proportion of literate people (15 years and above)	30951	651441	119904.65	81344.31
Population of people with electricity in their household	35682	965280	139576.15	116174.28

N=101

Source: Researcher's computation, 2016

The socio-economic characteristics of status of TIP are presented in Table 2. These included population, proportion of people living in extreme poverty, proportion of people living in poverty, accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people, proportion of people with access to improved water, proportion of people with access to improved sanitation, population of young people enrolled in primary school, population of young people enrolled in secondary school, proportion of literate people (15 years and above) and population of people with electricity in their household. Using Kruskal-Wallis independent sample test, these clusters were examined to test the significant difference in the socio-economic characteristics across the clusters. From Table 3, it is evident that the 3 clusters are not significantly different ($P > 0.05$) in any respect, therefore based on the socio-economic characteristics the cluster cannot be differentiated from one another.

Table 3: Kruskal-Wallis test result of socioeconomic condition against incidence clusters

No.	Null Hypothesis	P value	Significance
1	The distribution of extreme poverty is the same across categories of cluster Number of case	0.464	Not Significant
2	The distribution of poverty is the same across categories of cluster number of case	0.282	Not Significant
3	The distribution of primary school is the same across categories of cluster number of case	0.486	Not Significant
4	The distribution of secondary school is the same across categories of cluster Number of case	0.353	Not Significant
5	The distribution of literate people (15years & above) is the same across categories of cluster Number of case	0.255	Not Significant
6	The distribution of population density is the same across categories of cluster Number of case	0.363	Not Significant
7	The distribution of Accessibility to a city 50,000 people is the same across categories of cluster Number of case	0.302	Not Significant
8	The distribution of access improve water is the same across categories of cluster Number of case	0.310	Not Significant
9	The distribution of Access to improve sanitation is the same across categories of cluster Number of case	0.943	Not Significant
10	The distribution of Electricity in Household is the same across categories of cluster Number of case	0.207	Not Significant

Asymptotic significances are displayed. The significance of 0.05 is used for making a decision.

Source: Research's computation, 2016

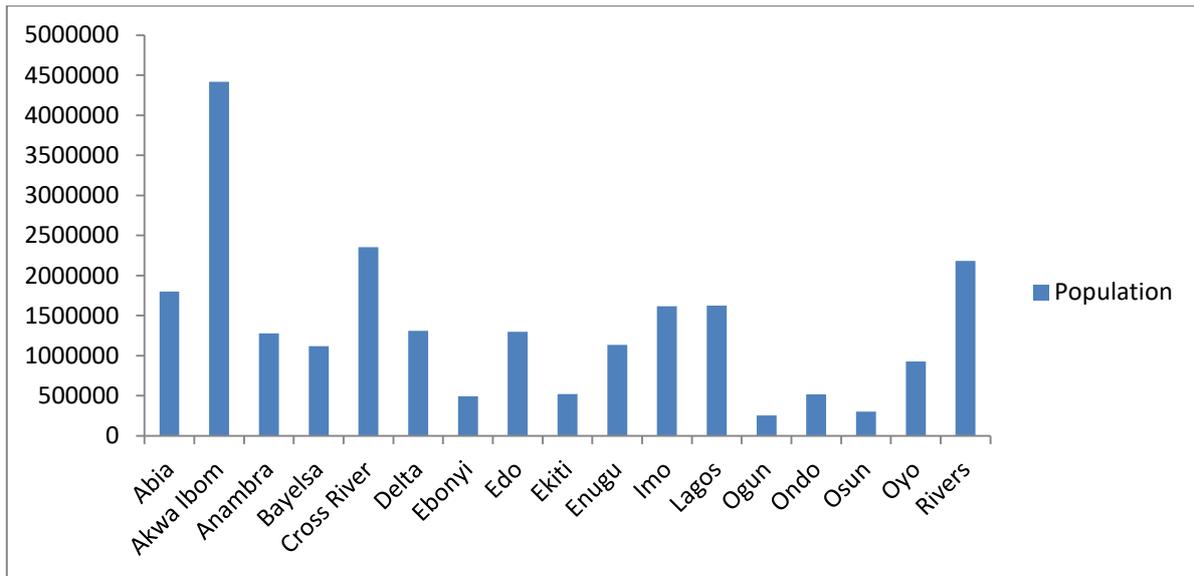


Figure 3: Population of TIPs

Population of people living in poverty and extreme poverty in TIP Incidence

Results showed that the mean proportion of people living in poverty in the Southern Nigeria were 427 persons. The distribution among the state showed that the proportion of people living in poverty was highest in Cross River with 23.2%. Bayelsa State had 12.3% while each of Oyo State and Akwa Ibom State had 10.9%. The lower proportion of people living in poverty was observed in Ogun State, Anambra State and Osun State with 2.8%, 1.9% and 0.7% respectively. Relating the people living in poverty in each state with their total population, Oyo, Ogun and Bayelsa States had the highest population of 0.5% each of total population (Figure 3). However, the mean proportion of people living in extreme poverty in the study area was 340 persons. Cross River State took the lead with 28.0% of the affected population (34310), Bayelsa State had 12.2% and Akwa Ibom had 11.6%. The least was observed in Osun State with 0.6% of the affected population. Analysis also showed that proportion of the people living in extreme poverty in relation to the entire population of a state was highest in Cross River and Bayelsa States (0.4%), followed by Ebonyi, Ogun and Oyo States (0.3%) (Figure 4)

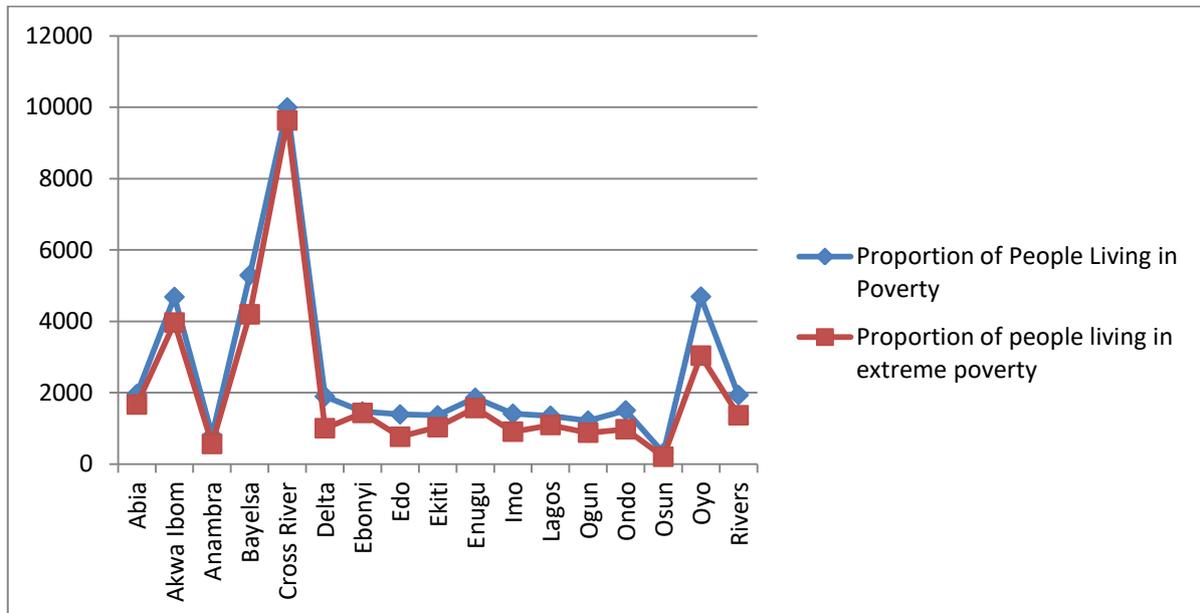


Figure 4: Proportion of people living in poverty and extreme poverty

Accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people in the TIP Incidence

Reporting the analysis of the accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people, it was found that Bayelsa State had 19.9% of the total affected population (15171 persons), 16.1% in Akwa Ibom State, 12.2% in Cross River. Lower population of 1.1% and 0.8% was observed in Ogun and Osun States respectively.

However, the mean population in the TIP sources in the Southern Nigeria having accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people was 150 persons (Table 2). Analysis showed that Bayelsa State had the highest population of 0.3% of the entire population had accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people while the least was observed in Anambra and Lagos States with 0.01% (Figure 5).

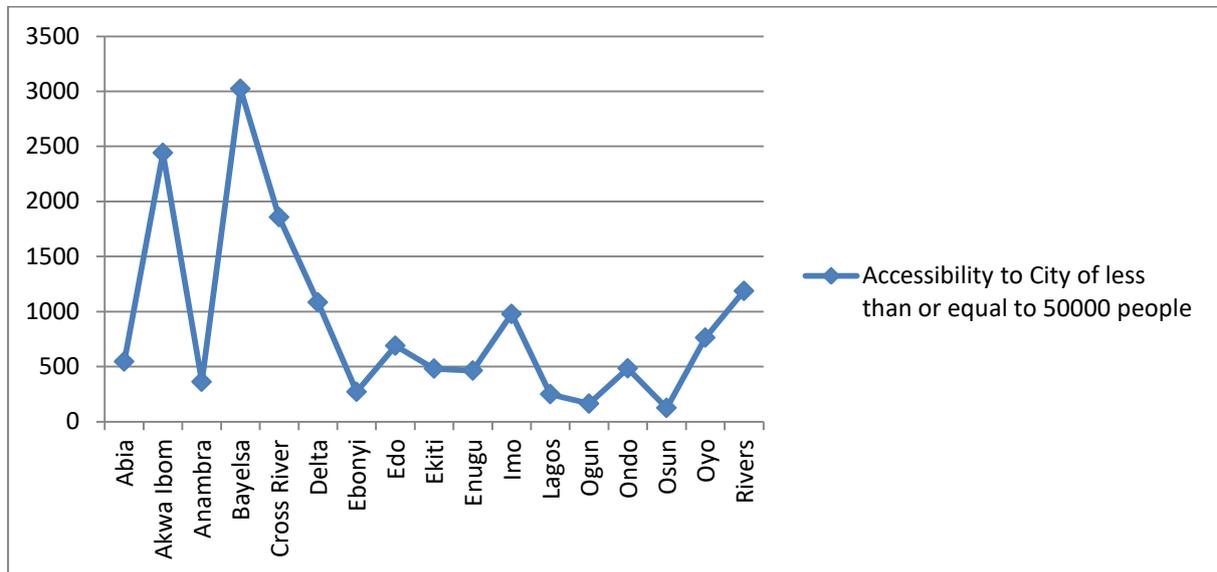


Figure 5: Population having accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50000 people

Proportion of people with access to improved water and improved sanitation

The mean proportion of people with access to improved water in the entire Southern States of Nigeria was 145521 persons. Based on the distribution by state, 19.6% of the total affected population (14697628 persons) had the access in Akwa Ibom State, followed by Rivers State having 10.4% and Abia State having 10.3%. In addition, 1.6% and 1.2% of the affected population had access to improved water in Osun and Ogun State respectively (Figure 6). Analysis showed that over 80% of the population of Lagos and Abia States had access to improved water while the least was observed in Cross River State (24.6%).

The average proportion of people with access to improved sanitation in the entire study area was 134052 persons (Table 2). Akwa Ibom had the highest proportion of people (22.7%) with access to improved sanitation of the total affected population, followed by Abia State having 11.1%, followed by Lagos State (10.3%) and Imo State (9.6%). Each of Ebonyi, Ogun, Osun and Bayelsa States had lower proportion of people of 1.1% with access to improved sanitation (Figure 6).

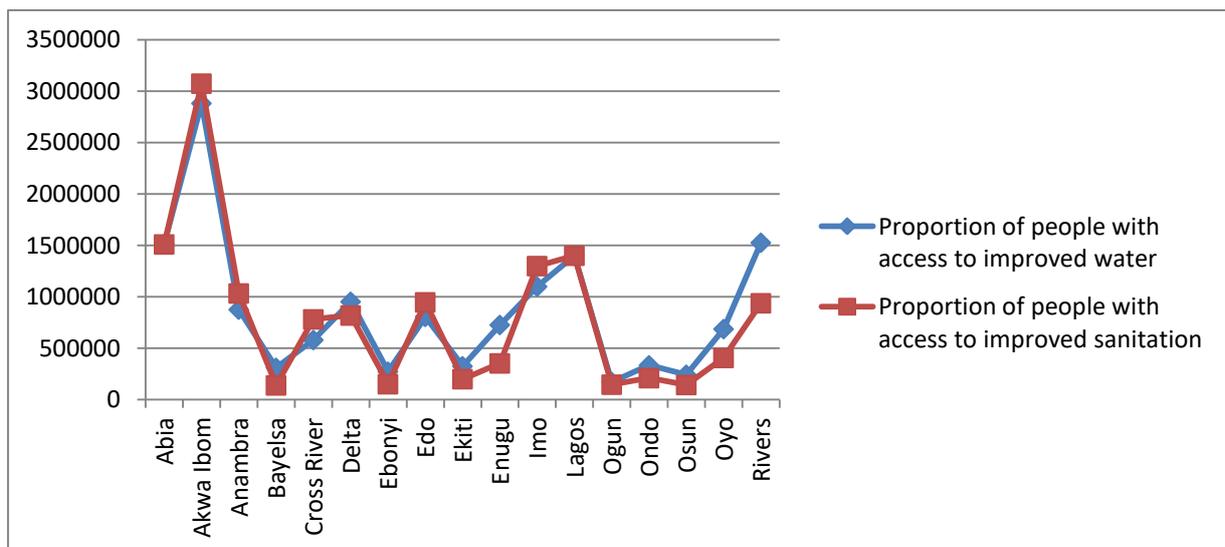


Figure 6: Proportion of people with access to improved water and sanitation in TIP

Population of young people enrolled in primary school and secondary school

The mean population of young people enrolled in primary school in the study area was 22142 persons (Table 2). Akwa Ibom had the highest (20.1%) population of young people enrolled in primary school, followed by Cross River with 10.9%, followed by Rivers State having 8.9% (Figure 9). Lower proportion was observed in Osun and Ogun States having 1.3% and 1.1% respectively. However, 10.6% of the entire population in Ekiti and Bayelsa States were young people enrolled in primary school while 7.8% of Lagos State enrolled young people in primary school (Figure 7).

The mean population of young people enrolled in the secondary school in the TIP States was 18398 persons (Table 2). It was observed that of the total population of the young people enrolled in secondary school, Akwa Ibom had 19.8%, followed by Cross River having 9.0%, Rivers had 8.9% and Abia State had 8.8% (Figure 7). The lower proportion was found in Osun State with 1.4% of the population and 0.8% was found in Ogun State. Of the entire population, Ekiti State had the highest (9.5%) population enrolled in the secondary school, followed by Imo State (9.3%) while the least was observed in Ogun State (6.1%), (Figure 7).

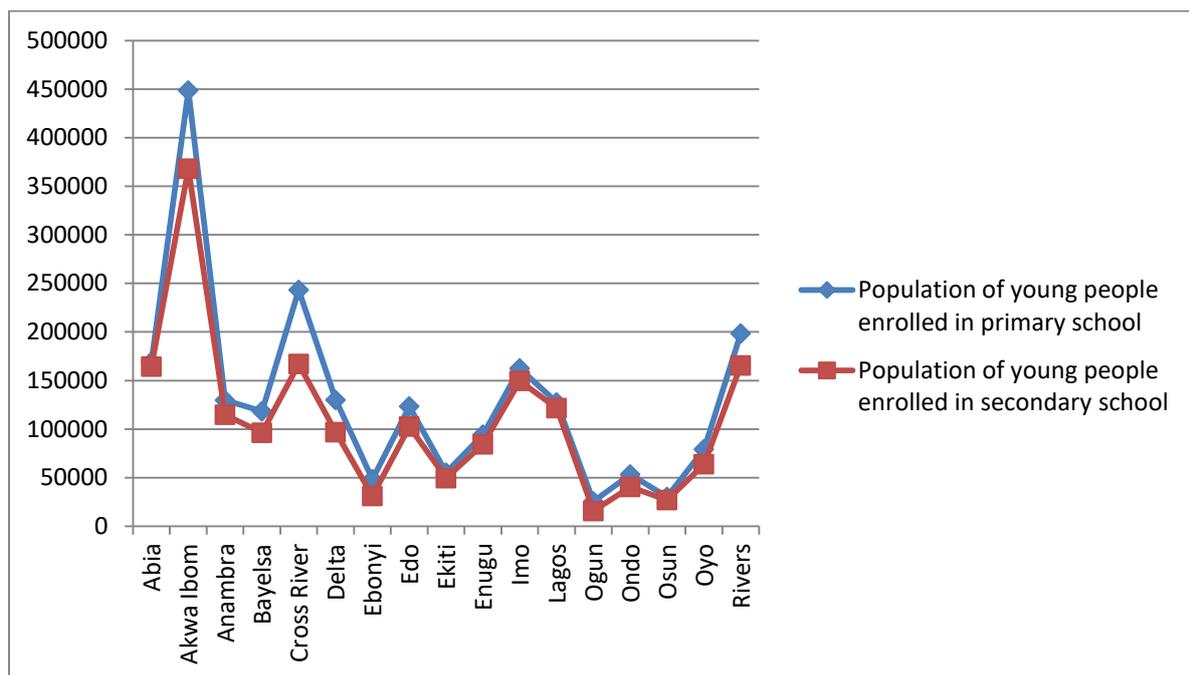


Figure 7: Population of young people enrolled in primary school and secondary school in TIP incidence of Southern Nigeria

Proportion of literate people (15 years and above) and population of people with electricity in their household in Southern Nigeria

The proportion of literate people (15 years and above) was highest in Akwa Ibom (18.7%), (Figure 8). It is followed by Rivers State having 10.0%, Cross River 8.7% and Abia State 8.5% (Figure 8). On the other hand, Ebonyi, Osun and Ogun States had lower proportion of literate people with 1.4%, 1.3% and 0.9% of the total affected population respectively (Figure 11). However, the mean proportion of literate people (15 years and above) in the entire study area was 119905 persons (Table 2).

The mean population of people with electricity in their household in the entire study area was 139576 persons (Table 2). Akwa Ibom State had the highest population of 18.5% having electricity in their households, followed by Lagos State (10.6%) and Abia State (9.04%) (Figure 8). Also, Ogun State had the least population of 1.2% of the total affected population, followed by Ebonyi State which had 1.3% and Osun State having 1.5% (Figure 8). Of the entire population of Lagos State, 91.8% had access to electricity while more than 70% of the population of Anambra, Edo and Abia States also had electricity in their household and the least was found in Cross River State.

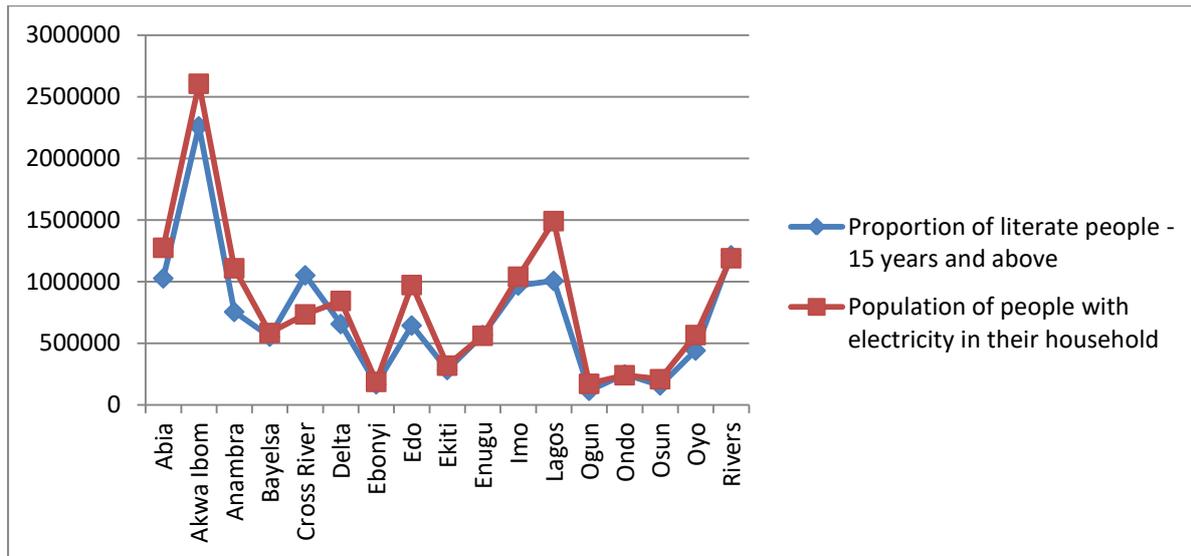


Figure 8: Proportion of literate people (15 years and above) and population with electricity in their household

Association between Socio-economic Status of TIP and Incidence of TIP

Using Spearman rank’s correlation, the relationship between socioeconomic status and incidence of TIP was examined and presented in Table 3. Results showed that there was weak and negative relationship between all socio-economic status and total number of trafficked people except the accessibility of electricity to household which was similarly weak ($r=-0.198$) but significant at $p<0.05$. Therefore, the indication that as the values of these variables goes up the number of incidences of TIP goes down.

Table 3: Spearman rank correlation between socioeconomic status and volume of traffic in person

No.	Variables	Correlation Coefficient	Significance
1	Proportion of people living in extreme poverty	-0.074	0.459
2	Population	-0.115	0.254
3	Proportion of people living in poverty	-0.135	0.179
4	Accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people (mins)	-0.143	0.152
5	Proportion of people with access to improved water	-0.159	0.112
6	Proportion of people with access to improved sanitation	-0.049	0.626
7	Population of people with electricity in their household	-0.198	0.047
8	Population of young people enrolled in primary school	-0.080	0.428
9	Population of young people enrolled in secondary school	-0.177	0.077
10	Proportion of literate people (15 years and above)	-0.193	0.053

Source: Researcher’s computation, 2016

Discussion of Findings

Examination of the relationship between socio-economic status and the incidences of TIP revealed the complexity of the situation across many of the identified sources.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The study has shown the effects of socioeconomic

The study therefore recommended that Government should ensure that the activities of NAPTIP receives sufficient funding, especially in the area of prosecuting trafficking offenders and providing adequate care and help for victims; continue to provide regular training to police and immigration officials to identify trafficking victims among vulnerable populations especially in the rural areas.

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