

# Effect Of Insecurity Of Security Officers On Nigeria Economic Prospect

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**Abstract.** This study examined the effect of insecurity of security officers on economic prospect in Nigeria. This work seeks to explain the meaning of security, insecurity, types of security, causes of insecurity of security officers and its effect on Nigeria economic prospect. The security officials in which their statutory assignments are to secure life and properties of the citizens and aliens are to be firstly safe in order to discharge their duties diligently. Therefore a random sampling through distribution of 130 questionnaire to respondents. Also, secondary data such as relevant books, news papers, research articles and government publications in Nigeria were adopted. After the data analysis conducted, the findings testified that insecurity of security officials is evident in Nigeria as a result of many identified factors responsible for their insecurity which hindered Nigeria economic prospect as a result of discouragement cause to both existing and prospective investors locally and internationally, it also led to displacement of investors from crisis zone to peaceful area, sometimes led to relocation of industry to security assured country. After rigorous findings, this research concludes and recommended that, the government, civil society and every arms of the society must take a proactive approach to ensure that the safety of every security officials in Nigeria is given needed attention in order to address the issue.

**Key Words:** Economic Prospect, Human Security, Insecurity and Security

## 1.1 Introduction

The issue of insecurity recently in Nigeria has become a worried matter that needed urgent attention. Particularly, insecurity against security officers has become a common occurrence in Nigeria. This has threatened national security and has cost the country alot which led to huge allocation of the national budget to security sector, this view also in line with Achumba and Akpor,(2013) view. As a matter of fact, security has been an issue that attracted a rapid growing interest and big concern among the scholar in social science in which a wide spectrum of issues on the subject (security) has remained constant in which new breakthroughs and findings are still being made showing the strategic importance of security in the in the development of a nations and actualization of peace and order of human relations Monsuru,(2013). Statutorily, security and well being of the people in respective of status, the rich, the poor, the elites, illiterates and security officials are constitutional responsibilities of a reasonable

government, Olabanji, and Eze,(2014) also asserted something similar in their work titled “Insecurity and Socio-Economic Development in Nigeria. These researchers has identified after rigorous findings that the security officers must be giving all necessary security apparatus that will assured that they are hundred percent save, to enable them discharge their statutory duties as recognized by International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Law Enforcement Code of Ethics (1983), which posited that “as a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community, to safeguard life and property, to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against the oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice”. With this identified fundamental duties of law enforcement officer, it is a factual to say that reasonable government should give priority to the safety of its security officials (law enforcement agencies), such as the police, army, navy, air force, custom, immigration and so on. There is an understandable technicality here; “one cannot give what he or she did not have”.Security officers here recognized to be any among those law enforcement agencies and it is when their safety assured that they can in turn perform those identified fundamental duties by IACP. Researchers here refer to an insecure nation as a prison for investment which cannot sees the day light, therefore, an insecurity of security officer is a parasite to national economic and thereby cause severe damage to Nigeria’s economic prospect.

### 1.2 Statement of the Problem

The issue of recent insecurity of security officers in Nigeria which has reached an alarming stage, therefore, the safety of security official is not negotiable, the needful must be considered and must promptly be done to enhance viable economic prospect.Recently a lot of securities officers loss their live due to frequently attack by bandits and this causes a lot of economic lost to the nation.

The effect of insecurity of security officers on Nigeria economic prospect need to be identify by government and relevant agencies and finding lasting solution to it before it crumble the whole economy.

### 1.3 Research Question

Does insecurity of security officers is evident in Nigeria?

Does insecurity of security officers has any significant effect on Nigeria economic prospect?

### 1.4 Research Objective

To investigate the incidents of insecurity of security officers and to ascertain if is evident in Nigeria

To analyze the effect of insecurity of security officers onNigeria economic prospects

### 1.5 Scope of the Study

This study thorough investigate the incidents of insecurity of security officers, types of insecurity, causes of insecurity of security officers and its effect on Nigeria economic prospect, using information gathered from available government documents, related publications and Researchers experience. It focused on relevant securities agencies in Nigeria.

## 2. Literature Review

The issue of insecurity particularly against the security officers which referred to as law enforcement officers, such as the army, police, navy, air force, prison, immigration, custom, and other paramilitary are all recognized to be the earth or back bone to security arena in Nigeria. Ali,(2013) traced the origin of insecurity to the return of democracy in 1999. Recently, the insecurity against law enforcement officers which cause a severe threat to national security and resulted to a lot decadence or damage to Nigeria economic prospect that call for urgent attention by the government at various level. This also generate internal security crisis in Nigeria, Egbefor, (2014) explain that, “the problem of internal security crisis cannot be properly understood nor decoded, unless the analysis and the interpretation of the underlining causes, types, effects and solution are premised on the contemporary global financial and economic crisis, while Omoyibo and Akpomera, (2013) also posited that security is a concept that is prior to the state, and the state exists in order to provide that concept. Therefore, law enforcement officers are the machinery that will realize the concept for the government. Basically, 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic stated that, “the security and the welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government”. Hence, a reasonable government should know that the safety of the security officials is not negotiable and should be giving priority while discharging its responsibilities. Okonkwo, R. I. et al.(2015) and Bright, (2018) in their respective study revealed that despite the government effort that created Anti-Terrorism Act 2011, which criminalized terrorism as to cob the issue of insecurity and to bring peace in Nigeria but not yield any result. Because the law enforcement officers that are to secure the nation are no more save in the hand of terrorists, militia groups, rubbery and other deadly groups claiming their live on daily basis, this shows that government need to take proactive measure in bringing peace, thus, Global Peace Index GPI (2012) revealed Nigeria low ranking in term of security.

#### 2.1.1 Causes of Insecurity against the Security Officers (Law Enforcement Officers)

There are various factors identified responsible for the insecurity against the law enforcement officers depends on understanding of different investigators. Therefore researcher identified the following factors to be responsible for insecurity against the security officers known as law enforcement officers /officials:

**Lack of Workable and Serviceable equipment:** A lot of equipment used by many law enforcement officers here in Nigeria are outdated , that is why one will see Nigeria law enforcement official performing excellent well in the United Nation Foreign Mission, because UN provide them with quality equipments without playing bad politics.

**Shortage of Man Power:** The numbers of security officers to the Nigeria population require more recruitment of more personnel. This also resulted to recent concluded recruitment by the Nigeria army, the police, immigration, custom, etc.

**Inadequate Founding:** The Nigeria army, the police and others armed forces are not well funded, the little allocated to them were not judiciously spend, thus, posed severe threat to National security and led to witness long insecurity in Nigeria.

**Poor Security Management:** The issue of insecurity is persistence in Nigeria due to poor managerial factor which rest in the hand of government and those security chiefs and if the security officers are not well managed the end result is what we are all encountering in this country. Though, the government and the service chiefs are working hazardously but yet to meet the expectation of Nigerians.

**Lack of Technological Advancement:** The issue of security outside world recently has advance from initial traditional methods into the modern use of technology in detection of crime, fight against terrorism, cultism, among others. Itgoing to cob the trend of insecurity, and bring about the safety of law

enforcement officials, ease their work force and bring about efficiency while discharging their duties and responsibilities to make Nigeria economic prospect a sound one.

**Misappropriation of Fund:** This can keep a nation into unstoppable security problem, typical example of this can be traced back previous regime in Nigeria, where reasonable amount of money allotted to procure security equipment was shared among the politicians without considering the high rate of insecurity and the matter still on the table at EFCC for thorough investigation, the initial focus was to equipped the security, but sharp practice made the government to lost focus, therefore, the terrorist groups are at the custodial of sophisticated weapons thanlaw enforcement officials, this led to recall to a very recent post alleged to be from commander of Nigeria army at the battle field at the one of the crisis zone states in Nigeria.

**Bad Leadership:** The role of leadership in ensuring national security shall not be under estimate, any country with bad leader as head of security will lead such nation to a lot of security crisis, competency ply a big role here, any nation with competent leader will enjoy proper security standard and will stick to ethical standard of the profession.

**Corruption (Sharp Practice):** This is another factor that hindered Nigeria security which led to recent insecurity that the country is now into, many government allocated fund ends up to corruption, sometime in Nigeria one will heard that animal part away with huge money.

**Bad Politics:** Here in Nigeria, particularly during electioneering when politicians are buying their ways to gain an elective post, sometimes at the conduct of election. Today, it very hard to conduct general election in Nigeria without claiming live of many security official, factually, electoral fraud has be a normal game which associated with political tension, violence, and crises in Nigeria, this also similar to the views of scholars like, Adekanye, (1990), Chukwuma, (2006), Daniel, (2001), Egbefo and Salihu, (2014) and Jibrin,(2006).

**Porous Border:** The inflow of criminals with illegal arms and other light weapons into the country as a result of unchecked or not properly checked has led to frequent criminality, also obstruct the country peace and increase the rate of insecurity in Nigeria, this also conformed with the view of Hazen and Horner, (2007).

**Unemployment:** This is a factor that majorly led to security crises in Nigeria because of inadequate employment for many employable graduates that led many youths to join militia group that today destroying live and property, a lot of innocent citizens and security officials lost their lives to militant mess, unemployment resulted to abject poverty and rendered many youths useless, Adagba, et al.(2012) also posited same.

**Government:** Constitutionally, 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria posited that “the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government”. Therefore, it is unfortunate that the government failed to provide this constitutional responsibility diligently, thus endangered the lives of security officials the general public, Olabanji, O. E.(2014) also observed same.

### 2.1.2 Types of Security

The issue of insecurity has make us understand that the security of Nigeria cover a wide range of issues both traditional and non-traditional which goes beyond explaining security as protection of life and property of an individual, thus, it is also covers measures to mitigate to avoid the effects of other threats like environmental pollution, terrorism, shortage of water, HIV-AIDS etc, on man and the state.

Monsuru, et al. (2013) identified the following types of security; community security, economic security, environment security, food security, health security, personal security and territorial security, researchers choose to explain the following.

**Economic Security:** This can be referred to creating an enabling environment and strategize a way that will provide employment for employable graduates and living wages to unemployed one. It is quite unfortunate here in Nigeria that unemployed people are left to their own fate, while in advanced countries, government often puts in place social security for citizens who are out of job in which stipends are provided for the citizens to keep body and soul together, some that have jobs don't have job security. Therefore, economic deprivation has been the major source of increasing criminality and criminal activities among the people particularly the youth.

**Environmental Security:** Adebayo (1994) described environment as "the total surrounding or external conditions within which an organism or a community exists". Thus, the concept environment has begun to dominate international discourse, the United Nations efforts are being made through its relevant agency United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) to monitor environmental issues, and make reports and plans for such issues and to act and promote legal instrument on environment. Such environment includes lithosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere, ozone layer damage, water pollution, environment degradation, to mention a few. Therefore, the effects of insecure environment also pose a severe threat to national security.

**Personal Security:** This is a type of security which involves protecting an individual from any physical violence. Therefore both the state and other entities like any other people or group or people, member(s) of the person's immediate family are barred by the law to carry out any action(s) that can cause injury or death against that individual. This kind of security also prevents the individual from physical aggression against oneself, means self-killing is regarded by the law as a criminal offence.

**Territorial Security:** An aspect of the United Nations mandate, which the world body has found crucial to the maintenance of global peace and security. This connotes protecting a state from any internal and external aggression.

### 2.1.3 State by State Analysis of Insecurity of Security Officers in Nigeria

The issues of insecurity in Nigeria nowadays is very alarming in nature, the security officers that shoulder the responsibility of securing the life and property of the citizenry are no more up to the task of the current security challenges in Nigeria, going to the investigation of the researcher with the references to the noticeable insecurity against security officers in Nigeria which has become a daily routine.

#### 2.3.1 Nasarawa state

Emeka, (2013) revealed that, "tension in Nasarawa where 100 police, DSS missing in Lafia". The state police command has said that only 17 out of 90 police officers, excluding other security officers who were on mission to arrest the chief priest of Ombatse shrine, located at 10 kilometers from Lafia the state capital, returned so far with various degrees of wounds. Ombatse in English Language literally means "time has come". The terrible act that led to cancellation of then president's scheduled visit to Namibia to personally oversee efforts by security agencies to curtail the new security challenge in the state. It was also revealed already that 40 dead bodies of the missing policemen had been recovered from the forests. It is a great mess to the national security because a single attack of such magnitude of officers that lost their lives, which robbed the institution of its operational chief in the state. More so,

Nwofor, S. (2019) explained that gunmen kill three police officers attack convoy of Nasarawa Deputy Governor. The convoy of the Deputy Governor was attacked on 20th August, 2019 by gunmen where three police officers and a civilian were killed, the incident happened around Gako hill in Nasarawa, Eggon local government when the Deputy Governor was said to be heading to Abuja for the inauguration of ministers scheduled to take place on Wednesday 21st August, 2019.

### 2.3.2 Zamfara State

Samuel, (2018) revealed that the force headquarters has declined to provide details of the killing of many Nigerian police officers in state on November 29th, 2018, No fewer than 50 officers who were part of a police anti-rustling team deployed in the trouble state were killed in an ambush by armed bandits multiple police source told Premium Times. The incident led to the called by former Vice President for national mourning after bandits killed over 50 police officers in Zamfara state.

### 2.3.3 Kogi State

On Friday 5th June, 2020 the police confirmed eight of their personnel and a civilian were killed in robbery attack in Nigeria North Central, Kogi state. A gang of 25 armed robbers stormed a bank and police station at Isanlu, a serene town in the Kogi state. On June 4th, 2020 Thursday evening, Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO) said in his statement, “during the incident eight police officers lost their lives among which women police officers while others sustained various degrees of injuries. Therefore, as these continuing to occur, the country (Nigeria) may likely be refer to as prison for investment and result to relocation of real investors because they will like keep their business at safer place and these may consequently hindered Nigeria economic prospect.

## 2.2 Theoretical Review

In Nigeria of today, it is understandable that managing security has remain an activities which requires the stakeholders to develop connections and relationships in theoretical terms, which assist the policy makers to explore a wide range of policy options, assessing their strengths and weakness in addressing the complex political, socio-economic and environmental threats to security. Researcher therefore adopted the theory of idealism that emerged in the 1920s, as an initiative that guarantee world peace and security, this theory believed that security could be efficiently managed through non-coercive or non violent process, based on fact that violence would only give birth to further violence. The use of violence or force cannot guarantee any security within or internationally. Kasali,(2003) in his study revealed that those scholars of this thought hold that security can best be managed if government at all levels from local to the world ensured that a security system ‘based on development of civic culture on international agreements and treaties, stress on depolarization, demilitarization, transcendence of enemy imaging and solidarity. Scholars of this theory also form an opinion that democratic governance has the ultimate mechanism for effective security management. Therefore the emergence of World War II had undermined the relevance of this theory in the management of international security especially as it concerned the issues of democratic order. Meanwhile, the experience of the world population has not only shown that democracy cannot peace and security but some democracies can carryout offensives capable of jeopardizing national and international security.

### 2.3.keywords additional information

Economic Prospect: This refer to as the focus is on current economic trends, both domestically and globally, as well as forecasts of the most important macroeconomic variables, including inflation, interest and exchange rates, GDP growth and household consumption. Source: <https://www.ber.ac.za>.

Human Security: UNDP,(1994) posited that human security means first, safety from such chronic threats as hunger, disease and repression. Secondly, it means protection from sudden and harmful destruction in the patterns of daily life, whether in house, in jobs or in communities, identified those elements that made up human security, such as food security, health security, community security, economic security, personal security, health security and environmental security. Anything short of this definition that includes those identified elements amount to insecurity.

Insecurity: Igbuzor,(2011), Oche, (2001), Nwanegbo and Odigbo, (2013), all indicated scholars while explaining Insecurity, they placed emphasis on the absence of threats to peace, stability, national cohesion, political and socio-economic objectives of a country. Insecurity connotes different meanings such as absent of safety, danger, hazard, uncertainty, lack of protection, and lack of safety Olabanji, and Ese, (2014), while Beland, (2005) refered to insecurity as a state of fear or anxiety due to absence or lack of protection.

Security: South Africa White Paper on Defence (1996) while explaining security, refered to it as an all-encompassing condition in which individual citizens live in freedom, peace and safety, participate fully in process of governance, enjoy the protection of fundamental rights, have access to resources and the basic necessity of life, and inhabit an environment which is not detrimental to their health and wellbeing. Tickner, (1994) expanded this explanation to includes that, Not only in term of the internal security of the state, but also in term of secure systems of health, money, and trade.

#### 2.4. Empirical review

Bright,(2018) in his study titled insecurity and economic growth in Nigeria: A diagnostic review. Using elements of descriptive qualitative analysis and data from secondary source, analyzed its effect on some economic parameters. The finding revealed that insecurity has negative impact on Nigeria economy. The study recommended an increase in capital expenditure on internal security and concludes with a discussion of some policies to be designed and targeted at addressing the economic effects of insecurity.

### 3.0 Methodology

#### Research Design

This research has been drawn from contemporary documents that germane in the area of politics both locally and internationally and been descriptive in nature. Focuses on the extent of insecurity of security officers and considering its effect on Nigeria economic prospect. Related articles, journals, books and online sources contributed a lot into the reality of this study.

#### 3.1 Sample Size

In this research, investigated population comprised of respondent picked at random, the survey was captured and discusses 130 respondents from the general public and technically work on information given on their precise observation concerning the issue of insecurity against security officers and its possible effect on Nigeria economic prospect.

#### 3.2 Sample Techniques and Instrument

The technique adopted in this study is enumerative, multiplying the number of respondents to generate the percentage. While one single, simplified instrument of structured questionnaire was used to determine the effect of insecurity of security officers on Nigeria economic prospect. The demographic information part of the instrument was used to gather personal data of the respondents. The reason for this instrument was to get exact needy information as the questionnaires administered randomly presents objectively the analogy.

#### 4.0 Results and Findings

This section explains the method adopted in this study. In assessing the general responses of the respondents concerning the data collected through the use of questionnaires, aiming to report and discuss the results of the data, analyze, interpret them to answer the research questions and thereby accept or reject the proposed hypothesis. This study pasted reasonable research questions. The information below presents the analysis of the data relevant to the research questions. The findings related to each hypothesis tested are provided. The required statistical presentation for this study is also presented in the table below.

##### 4.1 Section A: Statistical Analysis

**Table1: Scale for Interpretation**

Unit weight	Weighted interval	Mean Verbal Description
4	2 . 5 – 4 . 0	Strongly Agree
3	1 . 5 – 2 . 4 9	A g r e e
2	1 . 0 – 1 . 4 9	D i s a g r e e
1	B e l o w 1 . 0	Strongly disagree

The respondents were required to rank each statement of fact on the scale of 1-4 which is shown above.

The presentation and interpretation of data analysis in this section combines the use of frequency table and mean (average) ranking of each statement. The likert scale used for questionnaire range from 1-4(i.e. Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree). The acceptable range of mean for each of the questions in this section is  $\geq 1.50$  (see Table on mean score interpretation of factors for details).

##### 4.1.2 SECTION B: Findings of Evident of Insecurity of Security Officers in Nigeria.



**Table 2: There are evident of insecurity of security officers in Nigeria.**

V a l i d	F r e q u e n c y	P e r c e n t	V a l i d Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Agree	58	44.62	44.62	44.62
Agree	38	29.23	29.23	73.85
Disagree	20	15.38	15.38	89.23
Strongly Disagree	14	10.77	10.77	100.00
Total	130	100.00	100.00	

The table above shows that 73.85% of the respondents having the mean of 2.76 agreed that, there are evident of insecurity of security officers here in Nigeria.

**Table 3: Investigate the Major Security Challenges in Nigeria.**

V a l i d	F r e q u e n c y	P e r c e n t	V a l i d Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Agree	44	33.85	33.85	33.85
Agree	46	35.38	35.38	69.23
Disagree	22	16.92	16.92	86.15
Strongly Disagree	18	13.85	13.85	100.0
Total	130	100.00	100.00	

The table shows that insecurity of security officers resulted to incessant security challenges that Nigerian investors are facing. 69.23% of the respondents with the respondents with the mean of 2.64 agreed that it is.

**4.1.3SECTION C: Investigation of the Effect of Insecurity of Security officers on Nigeria Economic Prospect.**

**Table 4: There are evident of insecurity of security officers which has a severe negative effect on Nigeriaeconomic prospect.**

Valid	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Agree	28	29.23	29.23	29.23
Agree	58	44.62	44.62	73.85
Disagree	14	10.77	10.77	84.62
Strongly Disagree	20	15.38	15.38	100.00
Total	130	100.00	100.00	

From the table above, 73.85% of the respondents having the mean of 2.76 agreed that insecurity of security officers is evident which has severe negative effect on Nigeria economic prospect.

**4.1.4 SECTION D: Possible Remedy to the Issue of Insecurity of Security Officers and its Effect on Nigeria**

**Table 5: Governments, Civil Societies, general public and any other relevant authorities to give safety of security officers a priority by provision of quality, workable and serviceable equipment to facilitate safety and valuable Nigeria economic prospect.**

V a l i d	Frequency	Percent	V a l i d Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Agree	46	35.38	35.38	35.38
Agree	44	33.85	33.85	69.23
Disagree	18	13.85	13.85	83.08
Strongly Disagree	22	16.92	16.92	100.0
Total	130	100.00	100.00	

The table above shows that 69.23% of the respondents having the mean score of 2.64 agreed that governments, civil societies, general public and any other relevant authorities to safety of security officers a priority by provision of employment, quality, workable and serviceable modern equipments to facilitate safety and valuable Nigeria economic prospect.

## 5.1 Conclusion

After series of findings above, researchers conclude the following that:

There is evident of insecurity of security officers here in Nigeria.

The occurrence of insecurity of security officers resulted to incessant security challenges in Nigeria.

The insecurity of security officers is establish, therefore has severe negative effect on Nigeria economic prospect as indicated above.

## 5.2 Recommendation

After thorough investigation, the following were recommended;

(i) Government constitutional responsibility includes protection of life and property, therefore, government at all levels should take a proactive approach to give priority to the safety of security officers, since they are government tools in discharging their statutory duties.

(ii)The governments, civil society, general public and any other relevant authorities should provide employment, quality, workable and serviceable equipments to facilitate safety and valuable Nigeria economic prospect.

(iii) The government should ensure that security issues are not be politicized and the needful on security must be done at the right time.

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