

**PERCEPTION OF EDO RESIDENTS TOWARDS UNEMPLOYMENT  
UPRISE ON NIGERIAN GRADUATES IN BENIN CITY**

**BY**

**UBIDO RENATA IFUNANYA  
SSC2004143**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN**

**DECEMBER, 2024**

**PERCEPTION OF EDO RESIDENTS TOWARDS UNEMPLOYMENT  
UPRISE ON NIGERIAN GRADUATES IN BENIN CITY**

**BY**

**UBIDO RENATA IFUNANYA  
SSC2004143**

**BEING A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY, FACULTY OF SOCIAL  
SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY, IN PARTIAL  
FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.Sc) DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY AND  
ANTHROPOLOGY**

**DECEMBER, 2024**

**CERTIFICATION**

We certify that this research was carried out by **UBIDO RENATA IFUNANYA** in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin, Benin City.

---

**Mr. A. Alenkhe**  
**Project Supervisor**

---

**Date**

---

**Prof. A.O. Dokpesi**  
**Head of Department**

---

**Date**

## **DEDICATION**

This work is dedicated to God Almighty for his grace towards my life and academic pursuit and also to my family for their prayers and financial support.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to express my profound gratitude to God Almighty who has showered me with unconditional love and provisions throughout my stay in school.

My profound gratitude goes to my project supervisor, Dr. Alenkhe A.O. for his relentless guidance, jokes that uplifts the moment and a source of knowledge. I am grateful to my lecturer Dr. J.S. Longe for his unwavering support, discipline and guidance through the process, Dr Jude Akaba my course adviser, Dr Lucky Omoruyi and professor Augustine Dokpesi, my HOD.

I also want to acknowledge my mum, Mrs Blessing Otabor, my uncle, chief Albert Tanko Otabor and his lovely wife, Mrs Anne Esohe Otabor, my siblings (Leroy Ubido, Daryl Ubido and Eloise Ubido), my cousins (Belinda Obanor, Stefani Otabor, Abbot Otabor, Ethel Otabor and Freda Otabor) for their support towards my schooling in every aspect.

Lastly, I'll like to specially acknowledge my friends in UNIBEN who have been a strong supporting system in my academic and business journey like Stephanie, Daniella, Khomey, Tejiri, Nancy, Kizito and many others I might not have been able to mention but have been a strong pillar to me. I say a big thank you to you all.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page

Certification

Dedication

Acknowledgements

Table of Contents

abstract

### CHAPTER ONE

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Background of the Study 1
- 1.2 Statement of the Problem 3
- 1.3 Research Questions 4
- 1.4 Research objectives 5
- 1.5 Significance of the Study 5
- 1.6 Scope of the Study 5

### CHAPTER TWO

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

- 2.1 Overview of Unemployment 6
- 2.2 Global Unemployment 7
  - 2.2.1 Unemployment in Nigeria 8
  - 2.2.2 Unemployment Among Youths 9
- 2.3 Factors Influencing Unemployment 10
- 2.4 Effects of Unemployment 17
- 2.5 Theoretical Framework 22

### CHAPTER THREE

#### METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 Research Design 25
- 3.2 Population of the Study 25
- 3.3 Sample and Sampling Technique 25
- 3.4 Instrument for Data Collection 25
- 3.5 Method of Data Collection 26
- 3.6 Validity and Reliability of Research Instrument 26
- 3.7 Method of Data Analysis 26

#### CHAPTER FOUR

##### DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

- 4.1 Introduction 27
- 4.2 Analysis of Respondents Bio-Data 27
- 4.3 Discussion of Findings 36

#### CHAPTER FIVE

##### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Summary 38
- 5.2 Conclusion 38
- 5.3 Recommendations 29

#### REFERENCES 40

## ABSTRACT

Unemployment is a universal phenomenon that has drawn the attention of nations as the unavailability of job opportunities poses also, as a leverage for attendant social unrest and menace. Using a semi-structured questionnaire as the instrument of data collection, this study describes unemployment amongst graduates as a societal problem in relation to its effects on the society. The results of the findings show that unemployment is often as a result of greed and corruption, which could lead members of the society into crime and reduce also, the value of education. In light of the findings, the study recommended that skills acquisition and entrepreneurship be encouraged and supported, proper utilization of resources and more leaning towards the industrial sector.

**Keywords:** Unemployment, university graduates, factor, Nigeria.

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Unemployment is a situation which exists when members of the labour force wish to work at the prevailing wage rate but cannot obtain a job (Owolabi & Adeosun, 2023). People are referred to as unemployed when they are actively searching for a job but are unable to find a gainful means of livelihood. This situation can be perpetuated by the increasing rate of people over the created jobs. While unemployment is not peculiar to a given country, according to Abimbola (2021), at the moment, it is a necessary evil that affects all emerging nations, particularly Nigeria.

There have been emerging challenges in Nigeria in their varying forms, of which unemployment tops. Nigeria is a big country with a population of about 184 million people as of 2018 (National Population Commission, 2018), with inadequate proportion of work opportunities which has led to a large amount of her youths without meaningful employment. Due to figures showing that 115.5 million of Nigeria's population, or those in the economically active age range of 15 to 64, are unemployed, unemployment in the country has garnered a lot of attention (Owolabi & Adeosun, 2023).

Each academic year, universities and polytechnics admit close to 2 million students and produce about 600,000 graduates (Ijeoma, 2021), amidst its declining manufacturing sector and to this end, the sustainability of

legitimate employment becomes but a miracle and approves the assertion, “from education to unemployment”. An earlier submission by the National Bureau of Statistics (2016) showed that 52 million nationals within the economically active population of Nigeria have no job, hence are unemployed and this number is made up of mostly newly trained graduates from tertiary institutions in Nigeria. Additionally, educated youths are not guaranteed employment (Mlatsheni & Leibbrandt, 2011). World Bank data pinpoints the percentage of unemployed Nigerians with advanced education at 13.69% in 2016 and 15.3% in 2019. This is concerning since it results in a large, active, young, unemployed population that does not contribute to the nation’s economic development (Ijeoma, 2021). According to Ogedegbe (2011), the shocking paradox is that people with university degrees, roam the street for years after graduation in search of jobs. Many would assume that the moment one has done their part by going to school and finishing well with every other requirement in place, there will be a reciprocal job awaiting their acceptance. The case instead, is that while the individual has endured through the toughness of school with the aim of getting better opportunities after the conclusion of the degree, the reverse is the case because the struggle continues, if not worse. This situation cumulates to form a certain pattern of thought that can graduate into a non-societally approved and accepted way of behaviour.

The status of unemployed youths in a country result in a certain pattern and way of behaviour that suggests agitation, anxiety and worry. This cumulates into a variety of actions that bears mostly negative responses. For instance, the pressure to contribute to a stream of income without a reciprocal substantive employment can lead to either the pursuit of an illegal means of earning or into societal nuisances. This further contributes to the society's economy negatively because its active population are left inactive, enhancing such individuals into putting their energies to unprescribed means of survival.

In Benin city, Edo state, the establishment of the Edo Jobs Centre commenced from July 15th, 2021 to September 2021 to focus on bringing unemployed residents, jobs. It solves the issue of unskilled graduates, unemployment and underemployment in one swoop, recruiting workers for over 200 firms within and outside the state (Nosakhare, 2022). However, with the presence of this establishment, Nigerian graduates in Benin city, still suffer the sting of unemployment.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Over the past decades, some countries have been very successful in job creation while some other countries have clearly lagged behind. The unavailability of these job opportunities can pose as leverage for concomitant social unrest and political instability. Unemployment is a key economic indicator mainly since it signals the ability (or inability) of workers to readily obtain gainful work to contribute to the productive output of the economy

(Chappelow, 2020).

The menace of high unemployment rate in a country is as a result of various things such as high population vis-a-vis its resources, corruption, misappropriation of funds and this therefore, breeds poverty and idleness. To support themselves, the majority of unemployed people turn to illegal means including robbery, oil vandalism and political thuggery among other things (Abimbola, 2021). It is no wonder Suleiman (2018) stressed that anxiety from Nigerian graduates that later turn to frustration and then to aggression on the government is what has fueled the emergence of these security threats on the country. Indeed, as the saying goes, “an idle hand is the devil’s workshop”.

The eventuality of this occurrence, amasses into diversified turbulences, ranging from an economically declined population, to unproductivity, to poverty and certainly, crime. Society therefore, faces a huge aftermath of unemployment. Hence, this study looks into the issue of unemployment on Nigerian graduates in Benin city.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

1. Is there rising unemployment amongst Nigerian graduates in Benin city?
2. What factors influence unemployment in Benin city?
3. What are the effects of unemployment on Benin city residents and graduates?
4. What measures can curb unemployment amongst Nigerian graduates in Benin city?



#### **1.4 Research objectives**

The main objective of the study is to examine the concept and rate of unemployment on Nigerian graduates in Benin city. Other specific objectives include:

1. To ascertain the presence of unemployment in Benin city.
2. To find out the influencing factors of unemployment in Benin city.
3. To identify the effects of unemployment on Benin residents and graduates.
4. To provide possible measures to curb unemployment in Benin city.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The result of the findings will aid policy regulators in Benin city to better regulate policies to ensure suitable employment for the graduated lots who reside in the city and providing them also, with efficient platforms to encourage graduate competence and upskilling, therefore promoting a growing economic system within it.

#### **1.6 Scope of the Study**

The study focuses on unemployment amongst Nigerian graduates in Benin city, comprising of four Local Government Areas (LGAs), Egor, Ikpoba-Okha, Ovia North-East and Oredo.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Overview of Unemployment

Individual well-being (or happiness) depends on many things, including income, labour market status, job characteristics, health, leisure, family, social relationships, security, liberty, moral values and many others. Unemployment has manifested itself in many countries with the industrial revolution and had become an important problem especially in developing countries. It is one of the most vital macroeconomic issue that all the countries of the world want to solve and have been the subject of constant debate (Ecem, 2021).

Unemployment is one of the most detrimental personal experiences for people of working age (Namkee et al, 2004). According to recent World Bank report, youth unemployment rate is 38% but realistically, 60% of Nigerian youths are unemployed with university and polytechnic graduates accounting for most of this figure (Osimen et al, 2016). With the emergence of university education, one expects that every person that is able to acquire a university degree should be able to secure a job from available employment opportunities. This will in turn, transform and enhance his or her quality of life and be able to live above poverty level.

However, this is a far cry from reality. The surprising paradox is that people with university degrees, roam the street for years after graduation in

search of jobs (Ogedegbe, 2011). Unemployment is a issue created by those who seek a job by willing to work at the current wage level and make an effort in this way but cannot find a job (Ecem, 2022). Unemployment could be categorized into open unemployment and disguised unemployment. Open unemployment is usually associated with urban areas. It also involves people who are able and eager to work but for whom no suitable jobs are available. While disguised unemployment occurs mainly when people who are normally working full time but whose efficiency is so low that a decrease in hours will have a neglectable impact on total output and with the increase in development of tertiary institutions, graduates are excessively produced in their numbers and they seek hopelessly for employment opportunities. This has led to graduate unemployment (Ogege, 2011). In Nigeria, there is high rate of unemployment as institutions of learning, graduate people every year but there are no companies, industries or public corporations to engage their services. The astronomical rate of unemployment is a sine qua non for many other vices in the society (Chinnah, 2021).

## **2.2 Global Unemployment**

Unemployment is greatly dependent on economic activity; in fact, growth and unemployment can be thought of as two sides of the same coin: when economic activity is high, more production happens overall and more people are needed, the higher amount of goods and services and when economic activity is low, firms cut jobs and unemployment rises. In that

sense, unemployment is counter cyclical, meaning that it rises when economic growth is low and vice versa (Ceyda, 2024). According to Longe (2017), most nations of the world grapples with this social problem.

In Africa, the average unemployment rate is generally high. Reiterating from the International Labour Organization (ILO), the world is undergoing the worst global employment crisis coming from the 1930's Great Depression and developing nations are experiencing unemployment. Within the next twenty years, throughout the underdeveloped world, more than 750 million men and women will reach the legal working age and will enter the labour market, adding to the 700 million people currently unemployed or underemployed in poor countries. In those countries, where the population growth rate is high, the labour pool is growing at the rate of three per cent per annum ( M Victor, 2005). According to the United Nation's International Labour Organization (ILO), there were 172 million people worldwide (or 5% of the reported global workforce) without work in 2018 and the global unemployment rate in 2023 stood at 5.1 per cent.

### **2.2.1 Unemployment in Nigeria**

“Educated and unemployed” is the raised placard in Nigeria as unemployment rate stood at 5.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2024. According to Davis (2019) as revealed by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Nigeria's unemployment rate increased to 23.9 per cent in 2011 compared with 21.1 per cent in 2010 and 19.7 percent in 2009.

Unemployment is one of the fundamental developmental challenges facing Nigeria at the moment. Research have shown that unemployment was rapid in the 1980s but the obtainable report from diverse local and international bodies and the glaring evidence of joblessness in these decades are clear evidences that there was no time in Nigeria's checkered history where unemployment is as serious as now (Asaju et al, 2014) In previous days, the eventuality of unemployment though present, was not on a high rise where a high number of educated individuals roam the streets of the country, jobless.

The absence of gainful employment in Nigeria has led the the personal creation of different means of livelihood and mostly, translates into a negative form of earning. This in itself has places Nigeria on the map with the ideas of the nation as fraudulent, with people that are not ready to put in work. While to an extent people may agree, there is however an outlook which is beyond that and to the option that these individuals searched and could not find a meaningful means of survival provided by the government.

### **2.2.2 Unemployment Among Youths**

Youths are most exposed to unemployment. According to the United Nations, young people aged 15 to 24, Make up more than 20% of te world's population (UN, 2017) with a youth unemployment rate of around 13% of the world's population of 37% of the youth population (ILO, 2016). Benin city has grown from 1.905 million in 2023 to 1.973 million in 2024 with a growth rate of 3.57% (United Nations - World Population Prospects).

It seems that young people in Benin are frequently underemployed, and the unemployment rate rises as educational attainment rises (Melain et al, 2021). According to IOM Migration Profile of Benin in 2012, the surge of emigration of its residents to foreign countries, is sponsored by the poverty, unemployment and increased living costs in the city. According to a statistic by Aaron O'Neil in 2024, Benin city recorded a significant higher unemployment rate than the preceding years and this rate refers to the share of the workforce that is currently not working but is actively searching for work.

The rate of unemployment among persons with post-secondary education in Benin city was 8% in 2023 (National Bureau of Statistics). When the Action Congress of Nigeria Political Party took over the mantle of leadership in Edo state on 12th November 2008, the governor's intention to employ 10,000 youths was thwarted by the 18 Local Government Council Chairmen of the PDO who did not buy into his policy of employing 10,000 youths and this disagreement with as traced to party differences and as a result, the unemployed Edolites have remained unemployed (Patrick et al, 2012).

### **2.3 Factors Influencing Unemployment**

The rise of unemployment is necessitated by various circumstances which therefore provokes the rate of unemployed individuals in a society. As an idle person is not only a hungry person but an aggrieved and desperate

person without hope and can do anything desperately to get anything to make ends meet (Chinnah, 2021). Unemployment is regarded as one of the major social problems that is giving rise to impediments within the course of implementation of job duties and achievement of goals and objectives.

Due to this problem, the individuals remain deprived from the possession of financial resources. In order to effectively maintain one's living conditions and satisfy all demands and requirements, financial resources are essential. Hence, due to lack of employment opportunities, the individuals remain deprived of possession of sufficient amount of resources (Radhika 2022). There are a number of influencing factors on the unemployment rate in a society and according to Ecem (2021), the factors that can affect unemployment include inflation, population growth, fertility rate, technological development, industrialization. Some of the factors responsible for unemployment in Nigeria include the lack of quality education, corruption. The following are some of the influencing factors of unemployment.

### **Population Growth**

As the population increases, so does the unemployment rate (Binuyo et al, 2023). Population growth rate refers to the rate of increase in population size over a given period of time, expressed as a fraction of the original population. According to Binuyo et al (2023), a 0.15 percent rise in unemployment is correlated with every 1 percent increase in population and as population grows, the overall output will increase due to rise in workforce

(Amana et al, 2018). Increase in population is regarded as one of the major reasons that is giving rise to problems within the course of acquisition of employment opportunities. The Human Resources are more and job opportunities are less. Consequently, the issue of unemployment overwhelms people in every community across the nation for a variety of reasons (Radhika, 2022).

The nature of the relationship between population growth and economic growth has caused the attraction of a large number of the world's most influential thinkers that most of them have started propounding theories to explain the relationship. Thomas Malthus, over 2 centuries ago, in his Essay on the "Principles of Population" suggested the threshold level at which population increase was bound to stop because the resources which increases at an arithmetic rate would be insufficient to support population growth which increases at a geometric rate and if nothing is done to check the growth rate of population, it would outshine the means of subsistence (Babatunde & Awopetu, 2020). This is applicable to population and employment opportunities in Nigeria.

Nigeria has a growing population which can equally be referred to as increasing population that makes the jobs available, lesser than the job seekers in the country. The census conducted in Nigeria in 2006 put Nigeria's population at 140,003,542 people and 17 years later, Nigeria's population is estimated to be about 200 million which is a huge boost on its inhabitants

(Editorial,2023). According to the study conducted by Onwuka (2006), the empirical result showed that a negative relationship existed between population growth and economic growth. Benin city in particular, has increased from 49,000 in 1950 to 1,973,000 in 2024 (United Nations - World Population Prospects) It has put pressure on its economic system because of the huge rise in the young population brought about by population expansion, which has led to a rapid increase in labour that is outpacing the supply of jobs (Keneth & Muhammad, 2019).

### **Corruption and Nepotism**

Corruption is a cog in the wheel of progress of national development (Chinnah, 2021). It is one of Nigeria's most formidable enemy to national development. Corruption comprehends and encompasses many types of behaviour such as bribery, extortion, cronyism, misuse of information, abuse of discretion (Adam, 2015). The United Nations (UN) defines corruption as the “abuse of public office for private gain”. Over the years, corruption has pervaded every industry in Nigeria and may be defined as a dishonest and unlawful way for those in positions of power to carry out immoral and unlawful actions for their own benefit (Johnny & Michael, 2020).

Nepotism refers to the illegitimate use of influence, power and position by an important person in a system to the advantage of his/her kith and kin. The degree of influence varies with the position occupied by the person in power and the system of working in the organizations. This influence is

illegitimate because the influential person abuses his power and position to favour his friend or relations regardless of their merits. Paying no attention to professional qualifications and experiences, giving unfair merits and misusing power for relatives and non relatives, while considering them for a job, is unprofessional and clearly nepotism (Gitanjali, 2021).

While corruption in the workplace may impact employees, which may then impact the advancement of business operations, corruption in the economy may deny deserving citizens the chances they deserve (Johnny & Michael, 2020). A study by Fisayo et al (2022), affirmed that over the period of 1996 - 2020, corruption could increase unemployment rate in the long run and have a substantial effect on unemployment rate. As bribery, favouritism and nepotism play significant role in employment in Nigeria, corruption is positively related to unemployment and unemployment positively responds to corruption, respectively (Nnaemeka, 2021).

### **Technological Advancement**

One may wonder the extent to which technology proves useful and efficient and the point in which it hits a bottom. Technological development have indeed played absolute value in reshaping economies around the world. However, it has its part to play on impacting unemployment issues and promote inclusive growth, policymakers, academics and stakeholders must have a clear understanding of the link between technology innovation and the unemployment rate (Chibuikem et al, 2023).

According to Susskind (2017), when machines replace workers in some technical advancements, there will be a rise in unemployment.

While others argue that although advancement in technology aids production by making it faster and easier, there's the fear of job displacement in this era as a result of innovations. Additionally, it seems that people lack technological know-how and skills because firms prefer to hire recent graduates with experience (Kong, 2017). However, the truth remains that fresh graduates cannot gain experiences without being given the opportunity to gain them as much of their time was spent in their various institutions, seeking to graduate well - this then projects a skill gap. As technology evolves, new jobs are created while others become obsolete. This dynamic landscape means that traditional educational systems may struggle to keep up with these changes, leaving graduates ill-equipped for the new roles (Olufemi, 2023). Despite the benefits of technological advancements for the economy, its effects on unemployment are not obvious. On the one hand, technological advancement leads to the creation of new business and the other hand, destroys some of the old professions. The creation of new machineries and equipments, reduces the need for labour in some parts because these tools and equipments performed more efficiently, effectively and quickly (Hamidikia&Abbasian, 2019). Technological advancement is a system where old ways of doing things are displaced and replaced with a new and higher form of technology. This process creates an environment where individuals

who do what the superior technology now does, are no longer needed in that company as a result of 'better' mechanized and technological development. It is obvious that at the advent of technological tools and machineries, the request, use and demand for human machineries for the same purpose is limited and minimized. The recent production of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools for example, has dismissed in most regards, the utilization of certain demanded skills needed in organizations, companies and industries.

### **Inflation**

Inflation is the rate of increase in prices over a given period of time. It is typically a broad measure, such as the overall increase in prices or the increase in the cost of living in a country(Ceyda, 2024). Inflation has been a major problem in the country over the years. Inflation is a household word in every market oriented economy. Few people understand or even care to learn about the mechanics and effects of inflation, despite the fact that many people - producers, consumers, professionals, non professionals, trade unionists, workers and the like - talk about it frequently, especially when the situation has taken on a chronicle character. A widespread increase in the cost of products and services throughout the economy in over time is referred to as inflation and it reduces both consumers' and companies' purchasing power (McKinsey & Company, 2024) and based on the study by Yida Wang(2023), unemployment and inflation are growing in simultaneously and are significantly correlated. A general increase in the cost of goods and services

over time is indicative of inflation, which is a slow decline in buying power. Whereas low inflation indicates slower price growth, high inflation indicates faster price growth.

Individuals need a big and diversified set of products as well as a host of services for living a comfortable life. They include job opportunities, health care. Price rise, which means that one unit of money buys fewer goods and services. This loss of purchasing power impacts the cost of living for the common public which ultimately leads to a deceleration in economic growth (Jason, 2024). The number of job seekers greatly outnumbers the number of open positions when unemployment is high. Stated differently, there is a higher supply of labour than there is demand for it. Workers may temporarily supply labour as inflation picks up speed due to increasing salaries, which lowers the unemployment rate (Elvis, 2024). It could as well, lead to a decline in competitiveness and lower export demand, causing unemployment in the export sector especially in a fixed exchange rate.

## **2.4 Effects of Unemployment**

The consequences of unemployment in Nigeria are quite dire, demanding and threatening to the citizenry and economy as a whole (Bello, 2003). It is a major life event that affect people's lives including their family and the broader society. According to Ganiyu & Elizabeth (2019), the effects of unemployment includes loss of output in terms of goods and services, crime and violence, drug addiction, low GDP, political instability, high level

of poverty.

## **Crime and Violence**

Crime has been one of the major problems of modernization from the beginning and its weight has increased over the years and in the political space, public policy regarding crime prevention has been a greatly debated issue (Matthew, 2003). A crime is an illegal act that is punishable by the government; an offense that demands community condemnation and punishment, usually by the way of fine or imprisonment (Rachel & Jessica, 2023). Crime is also an act that is illegal and can be punishable by law (Oxford Dictionary, 2009). Violence has to do with the use of threat, force or power against another individual which results in physical hurt, harm and damage.

One basic notion is that in order for an individual to maintain a certain standard of living during a period of unemployment, he/she will become more likely to commit a criminal act (Matthew, 2003). In general, people without jobs feel excluded from society and the feeling frequently pushes some of them to engage in criminal behaviours. Such behaviours cost society dearly (Davis, 2019). It might be concluded then, that certain actions are based on social or economic circumstances such as unemployment. The only person who will always think evil is one who is not actively involved (Tope et al, 2021).

According to the findings of Akujobi and Ebobo (2022), rising

unemployment and poverty are linked to rising crime rates and if crime is to decrease, the unemployment rate must also decrease. It is also feasible to decrease, the unemployment by producing jobs which will ultimately reduce poverty and crime and insecurity. The idea that criminal activity is caused by unemployment is intuitively appealing and based on the idea that people react to rewards. A “rational offender” who views criminal behaviour as a type of labour that demands time and produces results, should weigh the benefits of time spent on legal and illicit activities before making judgements. When all else is held constant, the relative returns to unlawful behaviour rise due to the reduction in income and prospective earnings brought on by involuntary unemployment (Steven & Rudolf, 2001). According to the research by Kerry & Rainer (2000), results indicate that the total rate of crime remains significantly affected by the unemployment rate and unemployment was found to have a significant relationship to the number of dishonest crimes committed. This is the category that includes the economic crimes of theft, fraud, car conversion and so on. Economists have traditionally focused on explaining the economic behaviour of potential offenders and the way they react to changes in economic conditions. One basic notion is that in order for an individual to maintain a certain standard of living during a period of unemployment, he/she will become more likely to commit a criminal act (Matthew, 2003).

Unemployment yields poor living conditions and to this end, so many

Nigerians have lost trust in the government. Therefore, Nigeria's high crime rate has ultimately been caused by the country's high unemployment rate (Tope et al, 2021). According to the research by Tope et al (2021), the outcome of the results reveals that in Nigeria, a high percentage of unemployment induced a high rate of crime, with a 1% rise in unemployment resulting in a 0.0830 increase in crime rate in Nigeria. It has been theorized that unemployment tends to propel persons into crime to enable them to survive economically, leading to behaviours that are undesirable.

### **High Level of Poverty**

Poverty is characterized by a number of indicators such as low income, poor housing conditions, social exclusion and limited access to education and health services (Klaidia & Ondrej, 2024). Poverty also, is the inability to meet basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing due to lack of financial resources (Bramley et al., 2016). In principle, if individuals are not unemployed, it means they have jobs and income. Through the wages they get from their work, they are expected to be able to meet their basic needs and when an individual's essential needs are met, they will not experience deprivation, which can be classified as low levels of unemployment and poverty. The opposite hence, is linked (Tria et al., 2023). When the unemployment rate increases, the poverty rate will automatically increase (Yacoub, 2012). To attain sustainable development and enhance population wellbeing, economic growth must be steady and sustainable. However, if the

unemployment and poverty rates are large and not adequately managed, they can undoubtedly represent a significant barrier to economic expansion (Ananda et al, 2023). Although poverty has become an international concept, poverty in Nigeria is traceable to mismanagement of the Nigerian economy by successive government both military and civilian (Egunjobi, 2014). According to the evaluation of Okoro and Anowor (2017), it was established that unemployment causes poverty in Nigeria and that poverty is an increasing function of unemployment. The more idle the people get, the more into crime they become in order to earn a source of living.

### **Drug Addiction**

Drugs are substances that change a person's mental or physical state. They can affect the way your brain works, how you feel and behave, your understanding and your senses. This makes them unpredictable and dangerous, especially for young people, which have different effects depending on the drug itself, the person taking it and their surroundings. While there are prescribed and recommended drugs by physicians, there are others that become addictive and are harmful. There are addictive drugs like cocaine, heroine, crack, alcohol and so on which have harmful effects on the individuals like depression, violent behaviours, respiratory failures and several other severe risks.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), drugs are substances that when taken in or administered into one's system, affect

mental processes like their perception, consciousness, cognition or mood and emotions. Drug addiction hence, is an inability to stop using a substance or engaging in a behaviour even though it may cause psychological or physical harm. Its abuse refers to the harmful or hazardous use of psychoactive substances, including alcohol and illicit drugs. The percentage of unemployed people who sought treatment for their alcohol or drug dependence problems rose in tandem with unemployment (Dieter, 2011). Research suggests that unemployment can lead to psychosocial stress, which can worsen an individual's health and lead to short term coping strategies, including substance use (Wendy, 2024). According to World Health Organization (WHO), addiction affects a person's brain and changes their behaviour so that they act in a way that harms them. They become unable to stop taking a drug or engaging in a certain behaviour to the point where it becomes harmful. The relationship between unemployment and drug addiction, lies in the frustration that wells up and according to Carina Nolter-Troha et al (2023), significant research showed that the prevalence of substance abuse and addiction is higher among unemployed individuals than among employed individuals, indicating a link between drug addiction and unemployment.

## **2.5 Theoretical Framework**

In this study, to explain the phenomenon of unemployment as a malfunction in the society, the functionalist theory and the conflict theory will be adopted because they emphasize and express the basics of the concept of

unemployment and its delineations like the ideas of tension, strain and struggle. The functionalist theory emerged in the early 20th century and it has various proponents such as Emile Durkheim, Talcott Parsons, Herbert Spencer and Robert K. Merton.

The functionalist theory proposes that each society is more than the sum of its parts; instead, each structure works for the stability of the whole and these structures of the society include religion, family, government, economy, media and education with each component playing its own role and without the ability to function alone. It focuses on the functions performed by the social structures in the society. The main idea of the functionalist theory is that all aspects of a society serve a purpose and that all these roles are indispensable for the long term survival of the society. However, the main focus for this study is the work of Robert King Merton on dysfunction. Robert Merton (1910-2003) was an American sociologist who acknowledged that not all functions were positive and he called them dysfunctions. Dysfunctions are any social element that disrupts the stability of a society and causes the society not to run smoothly and is based on tension, strain or contradictions within component elements of sociocultural systems where an abnormality in a given sector can reciprocally have an effect on another. Every structure has its role to play but in a situation where a particular structure fails in its responsibility, the whole body/system, suffers for it.

The government of a society is responsible for the provision of job

opportunities for its qualified citizenry howbeit, in a country/nation like Nigeria, its polity system has failed in that aspect as a majority of its populace, roam unemployed. This has therefore impeded on other parts of the system. For example, the unavailability of jobs for graduates, attracts withdrawal from the educational system by youths with the usual Nigerian slogan, “school na scam”. The lack of jobs for graduates on the part of the government, leads the citizenry into belittling the actual relevance and importance of education in the system. It hence, breeds a negative attitude towards that aspect. On the part of the family, the inability to get gainful employment is the inability to cater for the institution of the family. This thus, graduates into a failing economy, degenerating its standard of living. Unemployment too, develops into criminal behaviours and places the society as a whole, at risk.]

The conflict theory is a term associated with Karl Marx. Karl Marx (1818-1883) was a German-born philosopher who propounded the theory of conflict in which different groups/classes in society, compete over limited resources. Conflict theory describes unemployment as a struggle between two classes - the upper class (the haves) and the lower class (the haves not) where the higher class amasses every available slot through bias and sentiments, to the expense of the lower class individuals. Conflict theorists believe that conflict of interests exists in the society, that is, people want to achieve different objectives and commitments and will do anything to make it even at

the expense of further stratification (Boland & Griffin, 2015). The saying, “the rich gets richer and the poor gets poorer” is the same case in Nigeria as every opening in the labour market is not always secured by merit but through the connections of higher ups.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY**

This chapter describes the method and procedure used in carrying out the study under the following subheadings;

#### **3.1 Research Design**

The design of this research is a descriptive research design which employs the use of questionnaire. The reason for using this survey method is because it involves the systematic gathering of information from respondents for the purpose of understanding and prediction.

#### **3.2 Population of the Study**

The population of the study is the number of people in Ovia North-East Local Government Area, Edo state which has been estimated to be 229,500 (Population Projection 2022-03-21).

#### **3.3 Sample and Sampling Technique**

The sample size of the population consists of one hundred and fifty (150) people which is a fraction from the population. The one hundred and fifty (150) respondents were selected with the use of simple random sampling technique.

#### **3.4 Instrument for Data Collection**

To effectively elicit required information from the respondents, a semi structured questionnaire will be used for the study. The questionnaire will be divided into two sections. The first section will be made up of demographic

information about the respondents while the second section will comprise of open and close ended questions in order to obtain the respondents' detailed opinions and arrive at a conclusion.

### **3.5 Method of Data Collection**

The semi structured questionnaire will be administered through a face to face method and a one time survey method.

### **3.6 Validity and Reliability of Research Instrument**

This study is concerned with content validity in accessing the research instrument to an expertise to review the questions in line with the study objectives to ensure that the content there in tallies with the study objectives and will not go against the ethics of research.

### **3.7 Method of Data Analysis**

This study will use descriptive statistics for the quantitative instrument which includes frequency and percentage in analyzing the data from the questionnaire.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

#### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the results obtained from the analysis of data for answering the research questions raised. The data was presented in tables and arranged according to research questions.

#### 4.2 Analysis of Respondents Bio-Data

A total of one hundred and fifty (150) questionnaires were distributed to people residing in Ovia North East Local Government Area (LGA) and all the questionnaires administered were returned back to the researcher which represents 100% rate of response.

#### Section A: Socio Demographic Characteristics

Table 4.1: Sex of the Respondents

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
MALE	52	34.7
FEMALE	98	65.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher's field study, 2024

Results from table 1.1 above shows that 52 respondents were male which represents 34.7% of the sampled population and 98 female represented by 65.3% of the sampled population.

Table 4.2: Age of Respondents

Variables	Frequency	PERCENTAGE (%)
18-25	80	53.3
26-35	54	36
36-45	8	5.3
46 above	8	5.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher's field study, 2024

Results from table 1.2 above, reveals that 80 Of the respondents represented by 53.3% are between the ages of 18-25, 54 represented by 36% of the respondents are within the range of 26-35 years and 8 represented by 5.3% of the respondents are within the age range of 36-45 while 46 years and above is 8, represented by 5.3%.

Table 4.3: Educational Qualification

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
O'LEVEL	73	48.7
BSC	42	28
HND	13	8.7
OTHERS	22	14.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher's field study, 2024

From the table 1.3 above, it shows that 73 respondents who represent 48.7% of the population, have o'level certificates, 42 respondents representing 28% of the population have BSC, 13 respondents who represent 8.7% of the population have HND certificates and 22 people who represent 14.6% of the population have other educational qualifications like PHD, LLB and Masters.

**Table 4.4: Occupation of Respondents**

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Unemployed	56	37.3
Self Employed	58	38.7
White-collar Employment	36	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher's field study, 2024

Table 4.4 above reveals that 56 of the respondents represented by 37.3% are unemployed, 58 of the respondents represented by 38.7% are self employed while 36 of the respondents representing 24% of the population, have white collar jobs.

**Table 4.5: Religion of Respondents**

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
ISLAM	12	8
CHRISTIANITY	136	90.7
OTHERS	2	1.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher's field study, 2024

From table 4.5 above, it is evident that 8% of the respondents are Muslims, 90.7% of the respondents are Christians while 1.3% of the respondents practice other religions.

**Table 4.6: Marital Status of the Respondents**

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
MARRIED	41	27.3
SINGLE	104	69.3
DIVORCED	5	3.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher's field study, 2024

From table 4.6 above, 27.3% of the respondents are married, 69.3% are single and 3.3% of the respondents are divorced.

**SECTION B:**

RESEARCH QUESTION: Is there there rising unemployment amongst Nigerian graduates in Benin city?

**Question 1: Do you know what unemployment is?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
YES	150	100
NO	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher’s field study, 2024

Result from the table above shows that 100% of the sampled population know what the term unemployment means.

**Question 2: What is unemployment?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Lack of Jobs	136	90.7
Unavailability of well-paying jobs	10	6.7
The state of being jobless	4	2.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher’s field study, 2024

From the table above, unemployment as defined by te 150 respondents is vast. However, a majority of 90.7% conceive unemployment as the lack of jobs.

### Question 3: Does unemployment exist in Benin city?

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	149	99.3
No	-	-
A little	1	0.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher's field study, 2024

From the table above shows that 99.3 of our respondents believe that unemployment exists in Benin city, none of them negated the fact while 0.7% believes it exists only in a little measure.

### Question 5: Is unemployment more rampant in Benin city compared to other cities?

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	43	28.7
No	34	22.7
Equally	73	48.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher's field study, 2024

From table above, it is revealed that the majority of the sampled population, representing 48.6% believe that the unemployment situation is not a peculiar phenomenon in just Benin city alone, neither is it lesser in occurrence than other cities. It is hence drawn from here that unemployment exists at an equal pace with other cities.

Research Question: What factors influence unemployment in Benin city?

**Question 6: What do you think influences unemployment amongst Nigerian graduates in Benin city?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Corruption	75	50
Population Growth	43	28.7
Ignorance	20	13.3
Inefficiency of Graduates	12	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Sources: Researcher's field study, 2024

From the table above, it is shown that 75 of the respondents representing 50% of the sampled population perceive that corruption is the influencing factor of unemployment, 28.7% believe population growth is the cause, 13.3% agree with ignorance and 8% believe it is influenced by the inefficiency of graduates.

**Question 7: Do you believe the current situation of Nigeria has affected job opportunities in Benin city?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	139	92.7
No	11	7.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher's field study, 2024

From the table above, it is shown that a percentage of 92.7 of the sampled respondents believe that the current situation of Nigeria has affected the availability of job opportunities in Benin city with 7.3% negating this assertion.



**Question 8: In your opinion, what other factors influences unemployment in Benin city?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Greed	52	34.7
Inflation/recession	32	21.3
Bad governance	31	20.7
Embezzlement	17	11.3
Others	18	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher’s field study, 2024

From table above, it is obvious that greed is another factor that influences unemployment in Benin city as 34.7% suggest it, 21.3% suggest inflation/recession, 20.7% of the respondents suggest bad governance as a cause, 11.3% suggests embezzlement and the remaining 12% suggest other possible varieties of causes.

Research Question: What are the effects of unemployment on Benin city residents and graduates?

**Question 9: Do you think unemployment is the reason students refuse to go to school?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	91	60.7
No	59	39.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher’s field study, 2024

From table above, it is evident that majority of the respondents think unemployment is the reason why students refuse to go to school with the percentage of 60.7 while 39.3% do not agree with the idea.

**Question 10: Can unemployment lead to crime in the society?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	146	97.3
No	4	2.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher’s field study, 2024

Results from table above, 97.3% of the respondents, agree that unemployment can lead to crime in the society, with 2.7% negating the assertion.

**Question 11: What other effects do you think exist?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Societal Menace	12	8
Depression	42	28
Hardship	54	36
Death/drug use	26	17.3
Others	16	10.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher’s field study, 2024

From table above, all 150 respondents suggested societal menace, 28% suggesting depression, 36% suggesting hardship, 17.3% suggesting death/drug use and 10.7% suggesting other options.

Research Question: What measures can curb unemployment amongst Nigerian graduates in Benin city?

**Question 12: Can the assistance and encouragement of skills acquisition by the government put an end to unemployment?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	109	72.7
No	11	7.3
For a while	30	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher’s field study, 2024

Results from table above shows that majority of the respondents represented by 72.7% of the sampled population agree and concur that the assistance and encouragement of skills acquisition by the government can put an end to unemployment while 7.3% negate this assertion and 20% believe it can put an end to unemployment for a while.

**Question 13: Do you think the EdoJob centre can have a part to play in solving unemployment?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	135	90
No	15	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher’s field study, 2024

From the table above, 90% of the respondents believe that EdoJobs centre can in a way, solve unemployment in Benin city while 10% negate this assertion.

**Question 14: What other solutions do you think can be proffered?**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Free skills acquisition	40	26.7
Encouraging entrepreneurship/supporting small businesses	37	24.7
Opening/creating industrial sectors	47	31.3
Proper utilization of resources	22	14.7
Others	4	2.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	150	100

Source: Researcher’s field study, 2024

From table above respondents from fieldwork, suggested solutions that could possibly eradicate unemployment in Benin city. A majority of 31.3%

suggested the opening/creation of industrial sectors in the society, 26.7% suggested the introduction of free skill acquisition programmes, 24.7% suggested the support of small and growing businesses, 14.7% suggested the proper and efficient use and utilization of resources and 2.6% suggested other varieties.

### **4.3 Discussion of Findings**

The results from these findings shows that widely, people know about the concept of unemployment and can give an appropriate definition of it, which goes to prove that they have an innate and actual understanding of it. Before this study, it might have been assumed that Benin city has a high rate of unemployment in comparison to cities, however, based on this study, it is indicated that though there is unemployment in Benin city, in relation to other cities, it is more or less equitable. This means that the rate of unemployment in Benin city is equivalent to the unemployment existing around the country.

Based on the responses from the respondents various factors leads to unemployment, like bad governance, embezzlement of funds, greed and inflation/recession. Notwithstanding, 34.7% of the respondents suggest that greed is the mastermind behind unemployed graduates because the desire to selfishly amass general opportunities ruins the opportunities of others. Greed births corruption most of the time and this becomes a leading factor influencing unemployment.

It is general in Nigeria that most individuals refuse to have a higher

education and the question, “why?” arises. Results from above prove that the reason people refuse to go to school is because of the unemployment problem that faces individuals after school and hence, developed the slang “school na scam”. They believe that going to school does not produce results but rather a waste of hustling time. This thus, reduces the value of education.

Additionally, the vacuum that unemployment leaves in individuals, yields criminal thoughts and actions like theft, kidnapping, murder, fraud and so on. This idea was concluded as 97.3% of the respondents agreed that indeed, unemployment leads to crime. Also, 90% of the respondents believe that the impact of EdoJobs Centre can have an effect on the provision of more gainfully occupied graduates and individuals.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Summary**

This study is centered on the perception of Edo residents about unemployment, the influencing factors of unemployment, identification of the effects of unemployment and the prescription of probable solutions. As a result, research questions and objectives were formulated. Chapter two of the study reviewed other related literatures in relation to the subject topic on unemployment while chapter three gave the research design and scope covered in the study with a sample size of the population in question and the data analysis and collection method after which data was analyzed and recommendations were given accordingly.

#### **5.2 Conclusion**

Indeed, unemployment is not new to the society, however its rate then cannot be compared to what it is today. In Nigeria particularly, based on this finding, the rise in corruption has sponsored the room for more people without jobs without justifications. Hence, every other day, individuals roam the streets jobless and hopeless. The consequence of corruption and greed of people in power comes bearing on its idle workforce.

Corrupt activities like nepotism and favouritism/sentiment and bias is mostly implemented in Nigeria where people who are unfit for certain positions are given the same positions because of corrupt relations, leaving

those who truly merit it without jobs. This situation in itself, can bring to individuals, frustration. These individuals from the pressure of the life and aggression are led towards menaces instead, as a means of survival, a means of expressing their pains. The society bears the recompense of what the society brings, leaving the society to get what the society gives.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

Unemployment as seen, is a crucial and dire phenomenon in the society which affects not just the unemployed folks but extends also, towards other members of the society. Hence, the above findings call for the following under listed recommendations.

- a. Skills acquisition programmed that are either free or with subsidized fees should be organized by the government and other capable individuals.
- b. In addressing the problem of unemployment, entrepreneurship should be encouraged by not just the government but also other institutions, even as small businesses are supported and platforms to share creative ideas are developed and cherished.
- c. Proper utilization of resources and in addition to that, unbiased officials be recruited to check any excesses.
- d. Unemployment could be reduced if the government lean towards the industrial sector by innovation and invention, hence opening and creating companies to work.

## REFERENCES

- Abimbola, T. (2021). *Unemployment case in Nigeria: The consequence and mitigating factors*. National Bureau of Statistics Report, 2021(1).
- Adam, G. (2015). Corruption: Classification and analysis. *Policy and Society*, 34(1), 87–96.
- Akujobi, A. T., & Ebobo, U. C. (2022). The nexus among unemployment, poverty and crime in contemporary Nigeria. *Reality of Politics*, (19), 132–148.
- Amana, S. A., Akpan, G. U., Unyime, A. O., & Aigbedion, I. M. (2018). Impact of population growth rate on unemployment in Nigeria. *Bingham Journal of Economics and Allied Studies (BJEAS)*, 1(2), 1–10.
- Ananda, P. A., Ferdi, F., Nadia, R., Tria, U., Muhammad, D. A., & Desviandra, P. (2023). The impact of unemployment and poverty on economic growth in the city of Palembang. *Indonesian Journal of Multidisciplinary Sciences (IJoMS)*, 2(1), 137–147.
- Anthuvan, V. L. (2005). Jobless growth and unemployment: A global phenomenon. *Journal of World Affairs*, 9(1), 57–68.
- Asaju, K., Samuel, A., & Silas, F. (2014). Rising rate of unemployment in Nigeria: The socio-economic and political implications. *Global Business and Economics Research Journal*, 3(1), 68–89.
- Babatunde, A., & Awopetu, O. B. (2020). Population growth and unemployment in Nigeria. *Journal of Economics and Sustainable Development*, 11(2), 98–106.
- Bello, T. (2003). Attacking unemployment hurdles in the fragile economies of Sub-Saharan Africa: The experience of Nigeria. In *Economics for the Future-Conference* (Occasion of the celebration of 100 years of Cambridge Economics). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University.
- Binuyo, B., & Ajibola, O. (2023). Effects of population growth on unemployment in Nigeria. *Current Trends in Social and Management Sciences Research*, 2(1), 60–74.
- Boband, T., & Ray, G. (2015). The death of unemployment and the birth of job-seeking in welfare policy: Governing a liminal experience. *Irish Journal of Sociology* (forthcoming), 23(2), 1–15.
- Bramley, G., Fitzpatrick, S., & Sosenko, F. (2016). Poverty and anti-poverty

programs in community development. *Journal of Poverty*, 20(3), 231–253.

- Carina, N., Patrick, R., Dieter, H., Norbert, S., Gabriele, K., & Andreas, G. (2023). Unemployment and substance use: An updated review of studies from North America and Europe. *Healthcare (Basel)*, 11(8), 1182.
- Chappelow, J. (2020). Guide to unemployment. *Journal of Economics and Management*, 187–206.
- Chibuikem, D. A., Mehdi, S., & Huseyin, O. (2023). The impact of technological advancement on unemployment in Turkey. *Global Economics Science*, 5(1), 48–63.
- Chinnah, C. P. (2021). Unemployment dilemma and national development in Nigeria: Which way forward. *Academic Journal of Current Research*, 5(19), 52–61.
- Davis, O. (2019). Unemployment and economic development in Nigeria (1980–2017). *Advances in Social Sciences Research Journal*, 6(1), 110–121.
- Dieter, H. (2011). Unemployment and substance use: A review of the literature (1990–2010). *Current Drug Abuse Reviews*, 4(1), 4–27.
- Ecem, T. (2021). Unemployment and factors affecting unemployment in developing countries. *Discussions Between Economic Agents: Panel Data Analysis*, 1(2), 9–38.
- Egunjobi, T. A. (2014). Poverty and unemployment paradox in Nigeria. *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 19(5), 106–116.
- Elvis, P. (2024). How inflation and unemployment are related. A report on *Investopedia* in the series of guide to unemployment.
- Fisayo, F., Tolulope, T. O., Geraldine, E. N., & Taofik, O. B. (2022). Human capital development challenge: Why corruption eradication is a panacea in Nigeria. *Journal of Development Policy and Practice*, 7(2), 7–22.
- Ganiyu, A., & Elizabeth, R. O. (2019). Analysis of the causes and effects of unemployment: Solution for graduate idleness and poverty alleviation. *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 24(2), 36–44.

- Gitanjali, R. (2021). Nepotism: History, politics, culture, and ethnicity. In *Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development* (pp. 1–3).
- Hamidikia, R., & Abbasian, E. (2019). Factors affecting technological unemployment and its implications for the macroeconomic outlook of Iran. *Journal of Applied Economic Studies, Iran (AESI)*, 7(28), 111–139.
- Ijeoma, U. (2021). Unemployment: Too many graduates fighting for too few jobs. *University World News*.
- Jason, F. (2024). Inflation: What it is, how it can be controlled and extreme examples. A report on *Investopedia* in the series of inflation.
- Joanne, R., & John, A. (2008). The ignorance economy. *Prometheus: Critical Studies in Innovation*, 26(4), 335–354.
- Johnny, N., & Michael, J. A. (2020). Effect of corruption on employment in Nigeria: An empirical investigation. *International Journal of Development and Economic Sustainability*, 8(3), 32–46.
- Kenneth, M., & Muhammad, G. A. (2019). The effects of unemployment in Nigeria: Interface between youth unemployment and social vices. *International Journal of Arts and Languages and Business Studies (IJALBS)*, 2(2), 158–169.
- Kerry L. & Rainer W. (2000). Unemployment and Crime: New Evidence for an Old Question. *New Zealand Economic Papers*, 34(1), 53-71.
- Klaudia B. & Ondrej K. (2024). The Relationship Between Unemployment and the Risk of Poverty in the Slovak Republic. EDAMBA 2023: 26th International Scientific Conference for Doctoral Students and Post-Doctoral Scholars.
- Kong J. (2017). Factors Affecting Employment and Unemployment for Fresh Graduates in China. *Unemployment - Perspectives and Solutions*, 3(4), 54-70.
- Longe O. (2017). Graduate Unemployment in Nigeria: Causes, Consequences and Remediable Approaches. *American International Journal of Contemporary Research*, 7(4).
- Matthew D. M (2003). *The Relationship Between Crime and Unemployment*.

- The Park Places Economist, 11(1), 30-36.
- McKinsey & Company (2024). What is Inflation: The Causes and Impact. McKinsey Global Publishing, 1(2), 1-5.
- Melain M.S., Gbinlo E.R, Denis A.H. (2021). Unemployment Duration and Youth's Transition from School to Work in Benin: Is There a Gender Gap? The Journal of Developing Areas, 56(1), 94-106.
- Mlatsheni and Leibbrandt (2011). What is Unemployment. Journal of International Relations and Development, 14(1), 118-126.
- Namkee A., Juan R.G and Juan F.J. (2004). The Impact of Unemployment on Individual Well-Being in the EU. European Network of Economic Policy Research Institutes(ENEPRI) Working paper No. 29, 1-16.
- National Bureau of Statistics(2016). Annual Abstract of Statistics (2)75, 109.
- National Population Commission (2018). (<http://population.gov.ng/>).
- Nnaemeka N.O. (2021). Does Corruption Matter for Unemployment? Investigating the Role of Bribery, Favouritism and Nepotism Corrupt Practices in Employment, Evidence from Nigeria. Journal of Development Economics, 3(1), 15-19.
- Nosakhare A. (2022). Vanguard, [www.vanguard.ng.com](http://www.vanguard.ng.com), Benin city.
- Ogege S.O. (2011). Education and the Paradox of Graduate Unemployment: The Dilemma of Development in Nigeria. African Research Review by International Association of African Researchers and Reviewers, 5(1), 253-265.
- Okorie G.C & Anowor O.F (2017). Empirical Appraisal of Poverty-Unemployment Relationship in Nigeria. International Journal of Economics and Financial Research 3(6), 91-97.
- Olufemi A. (2023). Addressing Skills Mismatch Leading to Youth Unemployment with Technology. The Cable and Publishing LTD Newspaper.
- Onwuka E.C (2006). Another Look at the Impact of Nigeria's Growing Population on the Country's Development. African Population Studies Journal, 21(1), 1-18.
- Osimen G.U., Chuke P.I., Micah E.E. (2016). Youth Unemployment and Insecurity: Impediment of Nation Building in Nigeria. Research on

- Humanities and Social Science, 6(12), 189-194.
- Patrick O.O., Amos O.A., Lawrence I. (2012). Graduates/Youths Unemployment Question in Nigeria: A Case Study of Edo State, *The Anthropologist*, 14(2), 177-184.
- Rachel P.G. & Schubert J. (2023). Crime|Definition, Types & Categories. *Social Science Courses on Study.com*.
- Radhika K. (2022). Causes of Unemployment: Impediments within the Course of Progression of Individuals, Communities and Nation. *Research Paper*, 1-14.
- Steven R. & Rudolf W. (2001). Identifying the Effect of Unemployment on Crime. *Journal of Law and Economics*, 44(1), 259-283.
- Susskind D. (2017). A Model of Technological Unemployment; *Economics Series Working Papers*, 8(19), 1-40.
- Tope J.O., Oluwatomisin O. and Kayode M. (2021). Unemployment and Crime Rate Nexu: An Empirical Evidence from Nigeria. *Journal of Economics and Policy Analysis*, 6(2), 45-66.
- Tria U., Nadia R., Ananda P.A., Ferdi F. (2023). The Impact of Unemployment on Economic Growth in the City of Palembang. *Indonesian Journal of Multidisciplinary Sciences*, 2(1): 137-147.
- Wendy M.G (2024). Recession, Unemployment and Drug Addiction: What's the Link? *American Addiction Centers*, 2(3).
- Yacoub Y. (2012). The Influence of Unemployment Rate to District/City Poverty Level in West Kalimantan Province. *EKSOS Journal*, 8(3), 179-184.
- Yida W. (2023). The Impact of Inflation and Unemployment as Endogenous Variables on Economic Growth in China(2017-2023). *Advances in Economics Management and Political Sciences*, 65(1), 239-244.

APPENDIX  
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

Dear respondent,

My name is Ubido Renata Ifunanya and I'm currently conducting a research on the topic "Perception of Edo Residents Towards Unemployment Uprise on Nigerian Graduates in Benin City" and your participation will be very crucial in the gathering of data and every information provided by you in this study, will be kept in complete confidentiality as your rapt attention also, will be most appreciated.

**SECTION A: SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

SEX: Male ( ) Female ( )

AGE: 18-25 ( ) 26-35 ( ) 36-45 ( ) 46 above ( )

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION B:**

**BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN BENIN CITY**

1. Do you know what unemployment is? Yes ( ) No ( )
2. What is unemployment?
3. Does unemployment exist in Benin city? Yes ( ) No ( ) A little ( )
4. If no, why do you think so? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Is unemployment more rampant in Benin city compared to other cities?  
Yes ( ) No ( ) Equally ( )

**FACTORS INFLUENCING UNEMPLOYMENT IN BENIN CITY**

6. What do you think influences unemployment amongst Nigerian graduates in Benin city? a) Corruption ( ) b) Population growth ( ) c) Ignorance ( ) d) Inefficiency of graduates ( )
7. Do you believe the current situation of Nigeria has affected job opportunities in Benin city? Yes ( ) No ( )
8. In your opinion, what other factors influences unemployment in Benin city?

**EFFECTS OF UNEMPLOYMENT**

9. Do you think unemployment is the reason students refuse to go to school?  
Yes ( ) No ( )
10. Can unemployment lead to crime in the society? Yes ( ) No ( )
11. What other effects do you think exist? \_\_\_\_\_

## **POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS**

12. Can the assistance and encouragement of skills acquisition by the government put an end to unemployment? Yes ( ) No ( ) For a while ( )
13. Do you think the EdoJob centre can have a part to play in solving unemployment? Yes ( ) No ( )
14. What other solutions do you think can be proffered?
-