

**Criminal Victimization and Safety in Lagos State  
Nigeria: 2009**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Research Design and Methodology**

The principal aim was to determine the views of Lagos residents on the extent, trends and patterns of victimization in the state in order to enhance security, safety and criminal justice administration. Other objectives include the identification of public opinion on fear of crime; perceptions of the extent and pattern of crime in their communities; opinions on the extent of corruption in different institutions of society; perceptions of the performance of public agencies and officials, and extent of trust in public officials and institutions.

This study employed survey research design. Fieldwork for the study was conducted in September and October 2009 throughout the twenty local government areas of Lagos State. The data collection method employed was household survey involving face-to-face personal interview. Respondents were selected through stratified multi-stage random selection procedure in order to achieve a representative sample. Respondents were adult Nigerian males and females who were eighteen years and older and who had lived in the selected households for a period of not less than six months. A total of 2000 respondents were covered in the survey, based on 100 respondents from each Local Government Area. Where necessary during analysis, the sample data were weighted proportional to the population of each Local Government Area.

### **Background of Respondents**

The sample consisted of equal number of males and females; majority were 35 years old or younger; more than three quarters were urban dwellers<sup>1</sup>; more than two-fifths lived in area with preponderant middle class person and about the same number also lived in areas occupied by people from lower socio-economic stratum; nearly two-thirds were Christians; more than four-fifths had secondary or higher education and more than one-half were employed.

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<sup>1</sup> Lagos is the most urbanized state in the country with fourteen of its twenty local government areas within the metropolis.

## Summary of Criminal Victimization, Lagos 2009

The Major findings of the Victimization survey conducted in Lagos in 2009 are as follow.

### *Victimization in the past five years*

- 21.8% (435) of the respondents reported being victims between 2005 and 2009
- 61.1% of the victimization were reported to have occurred in the past two years – 2008 (26.4%); 2009 (34.7%)

### *Most recent experience of victimization*

- Armed Robbery 17.7%
- Burglary 9.4%
- Mobile phones 42.3%
- Theft of money 13.1 %
- Robbery in traffic 5.1%
- Domestic Violence 5.5%

### *Agency and persons to whom victimizations were reported*

- Family and friends 46.2%
- Police 20.9%
- Traditional system 1.4%
- No report 30.1%

52.8% of these who reported to the police were dissatisfied compared to 18.1% who were satisfied and 28.6% who were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied.

### *Reasons for not reporting to the police*

- Generally three-fifths of those who did not report to the police felt that they will not do anything or recover lost items, while 30.9% said police will not take complaints seriously.

## **Pattern of victimization**

### *Murder (N=13)*

- Slightly more than a fifth (46.2%) attempted murder occurred near victim's home
- Near a quarter (23.1%) occurred near victim's home

### *Robbery (N=167)*

- A half (49.7%) occurred in victim's home
- A quarter occurred near victim's home

*Attempted Murder* (N=66)

- More than one-half (51.5%) of attempted robbery occurred in victims home
- More than a quarter (27.3%) of attempted robbery occurred near victim's home

*Rape* (N=10)

- A half (50%) occurred in victim's home
- Two-fifths (40%) occurred near victim's home

*Kidnapping* (N=9)

- More than one fifth (22.2%) occurred in victim's home
- More than two fifths (44.4%) occurred near victim's home
- More than a fifth (22.2%) occurred elsewhere in the state

*Vehicle theft/robbery* (N=32)

- Nearly two fifths (37.5%) occurred in victim's home and same percentage also occurred near victim's home

*Domestic Violence* (N=36)

- Near a half (47.2%) occurred in victim's home
- Near a third (30.6%) occurred near victim's home

*Physical Assault* (N=55)

- More than a third (38.2%) occurred in victim's home and same percentage also occurred near victim's home

*Mobile phone handset theft* (N=334)

- Near a half (48.8%) occurred in victim's home
- More than a fifth (23.1%) near victim's home
- Less than a fifth (16.7%) occurred elsewhere in the state, while slightly more than a tenth (11.4%) occurred at workplace or school

*Burglary (house/store breaking)* (N=104)

- Near two-thirds occurred in victim's home
- One-eight (12.5%) occurred near victim's home while 14.4% occurred at victim's school/work place. Properly interpreted, it means that house breaking constituted two-thirds of burglary. Breaking and entry near home mainly pertain to theft in vehicle.

*Theft of money* (N=116)

- One-half (50%) of theft of money occurred at home
- A quarter (25.9%) occurred at school or workplace

*Time of Occurrence*

- Incidence of murder, robbery, attempted robbery, burglary, physical assault, vehicle theft are generally considered in the evening, night and midnight
- Rape occurred fairly, uniformly that is in the afternoon 40%, evening 20%, night/ midnight 30%. Only one out of five cases of rape was reported to the police
- Theft of mobile phone occurred fairly across the day and evening. For example morning (18.9%) afternoon (29.5%) evening (23.1%) night/ midnight (28.4 %)
- Theft of money also occurred fairly uniformly across day and night – morning 23%, afternoon 30.8%, evening 20.5% night/ midnight 24.8%

## **CHAPTER ONE: BACKGROUND AND METHODS**

### **Introduction**

Effective crime prevention and crime control policy requires reliable and valid information and data on the incidence and prevalence of crime and criminal victimization. Unfortunately, such data are unavailable in most countries. There are several difficulties that impinge on the collection of reliable statistics on criminal activity and victimization<sup>2</sup>. The following are the major difficulties.

1. Some crimes occur without anyone realizing it and the incidence remains unknown and unreported. This is generally referred to as the dark crime figure because they exist but not known
2. Many victims of crimes do not report their experience to formal law enforcement officials such as the police to enable them record such events. This is referred to as grey crime figures, because though known, they are not entered in the formal crime statistical records;
3. Law enforcement agents may resolve some crimes brought to their notice without recording them and invoking the criminal process. This also is referred to as grey crime figures, because though known, they are not entered in the formal crime statistical records;
4. Some countries, including Nigeria, do not appreciate the significance of grounding public policy and decision-making in reliable information and statistics and therefore neglect the production and utilisation of reliable and valid statistics;
5. Police forces in many countries, including Nigeria, neglect the collection, analysis and utilization of crime and victimization surveys as essential input to their planning, operations and administrations;
6. Countries and police forces that have previously ignored the collection and utilization of vital statistics for planning and administration usually lack necessary capacity for the collection, analysis, utilization, storage and retrieval of essential data and information.

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<sup>2</sup> Etannibi EO Alemika 2004. "Crime statistics and information management in Nigerian justice and security systems" in EEO Alemika and IC Chukwuma (Eds.) *Crime and Policing in Nigeria: Challenges and Options*, Lagos: Network on Police Reform in Nigeria (NOPRIN).

Many countries make conscious effort to improve the quality of official crime and victimization statistics available to by correcting the deficiencies enumerated above. Such countries adopt several measures aimed at enhancing the quality of information and statistics on crime, including the following:

- a. In the case of the lesser difficulty of grey crime figures, measures like mandatory recording of complaints; better training of officers responsible for receiving crime complaints and recording, and improved – including automated – crime record processing, storage and retrieval are implemented. However, the critical problem of dark figures of crime remains largely unresolved.
- b. Criminologists have in the past five decades attempted to minimize the problem by devising two alternative and independent measures of level of criminal activity and victimization in a country. These are self-report crime survey and crime victimization survey.
- c. The three alternative measures of criminality and victimization are *official statistics, self-report survey and criminal victimization survey*. The latter method that has been adopted in this work is discussed below.

### **Crime Victim Survey**

Victim survey is used to obtain data on the extent of criminal victimization. Unlike crime survey, which is used to obtain data on the extent and patterns of crimes committed by members of society, victim survey is used to measure the extent and pattern of victimization in a community, among members of groups and in a nation. Questionnaires are designed and administered to gather information on respondents' experience of criminal victimization.

The method suffers several deficiencies, including inability of the respondents to accurately report events during the period covered by the survey. However, several advantages have been attributed to victim survey. Principally, it provides rich data for understanding the distribution of criminal victimization and the socio-demographic characteristics of victims and criminals; offers better information for building theories on criminality and victimization. It also promotes understanding of the consequences of victimization and the extent

of fear of crime among different groups in different locations<sup>3</sup>. The research reported in this publication is a victim survey and the research design and methodology are described below.

### **Research Design and Methodology**

This study employed survey research design. Its principal aim was to determine the views of Lagos residents on the extent, trends and patterns of victimization in the state in order to enhance security, safety and criminal justice administration. Other objectives include the identification of public opinion on fear of crime; perceptions of the extent and pattern of crime in their communities; opinions on the extent of corruption in different institutions of society; perceptions of the performance of public agencies and officials, and extent of trust in public officials and institutions.

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### **Background of Respondents**

The sample consisted of equal number of males and females; majority were 35 years old or younger; more than three quarters were urban dwellers<sup>4</sup>; more than two-fifths lived in area with preponderant middle class person and about

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<sup>3</sup> Cantor, D. and J. P. Lynch. 2000. "Self-Report Surveys as Measures of Crime and Criminal Victimization" *Criminal Justice*, 2000, vol. 4: 87-138 and Gottfredson, MR and MJ Hindelang (1981) "Sociological Aspects of Criminal Victimization"; *Annual Review of Sociology*, Vol. 7: 107-128

<sup>4</sup> Lagos is the most urbanized state in the country with fourteen of its twenty local government areas within the metropolis.

the same number also lived in areas occupied by people from lower socio-economic stratum; nearly two-thirds were Christians; more than four-fifths had secondary or higher education and more than one-half were employed see (Table 1).

Table 1 Socio-economic characteristics of respondents

<i>Socio-economic characteristics</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	1000	50.0
Female	1000	50.0
<b>Age (years)</b>		
18 – 24	413	20.7
25 - 50	551	27.6
31 - 35	303	15.2
36 – 40	224	11.2
41-50	232	11.6
51 years and older	277	13.9
<b>Sector</b>		
Urban	1567	78.4
Rural	357	17.9
Unclassified	76	3.8
<b>Residential Area Status</b>		
High	155	7.7
Middle	847	42.4
Low	941	47.1
Unclassified	57	2.8
<b>Religion</b>		
Christianity	1302	65.1
Islam	612	30.6
Other	86	4.3
<b>Education</b>		
None or less than primary	105	5.3
Primary	191	9.6
Secondary	838	41.9
Post-secondary	866	43.3



<b>Employment Status</b>		
Employed	1015	50.8
Unemployed (looking for work)	199	10.0
House-keeping	137	6.9
Retiree	112	5.6
Schooling and apprenticeship	370	18.5
Others	167	8.4

## **CHAPTER TWO: VICTIMIZATION OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**

Data on the victimization of household members generally provide insight into the extent and pattern of crime in a society. Information on the victimization of household members are collected by asking a respondent to indicate whether or not anybody from the household was a victim of specified crimes within a period, like the previous twelve months (or year). The data generated through this approach, therefore, pertain to the respondent and other persons belonging to the household. This approach gives a wide coverage of cases of victimization and crime. However, the data obtained from the respondent may not be completely accurate due to the problems of recall, telescoping (reporting cases outside the designated period) and incomplete knowledge of victimization by household members. Notwithstanding these adequacies, the approach is considered to be a very useful way to estimate extent, trend and pattern of victimization and crime in society.

### **Household victimization**

In the five year period (2005-2009) covered by the victimization survey, the most common types of victimization reported by the respondents were theft of mobile phone and handsets (16.7%), robbery (8.4%), theft of money (5.8%), burglary (5.2%), attempted robbery (3.3%) and assault (2.8%). Overall, economic crimes were the most frequent form of criminal victimization Table 2

**Table 2: Victimization of Household members in the past 5 years**

In the past 5 years have you or any member of your household suffered any of the following crimes within Lagos state	Frequency	%
Murder	13	0.7
Robbery	167	0.8
Attempted Robbery	66	3.3
Rape	10	0.5
Attempted rape	11	0.6

Kidnapping	9	0.5
Vehicle theft/robbery	32	1.6
Motor cycle theft	23	1.2
Domestic violence	36	1.8
Forced same-sex intercourse	4	0.2
Physical assault	55	2.8
Theft of mobile phone/handset	334	16.7
Burglary (house/store breaking)	104	5.2
Theft of money	116	5.8
One – chance (in-vehicle robbery)	4	0.2

*Pattern of victimization across Local Government Areas (LGAs)*

A closer analysis of respondents' report on the victimization of members of their household during the past five years (2005-2009) revealed the following pattern of prevalence of victimization and different Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Lagos State (table 3)

**Table 3: Household Victimization in Local Government Areas**

Local Government Areas	Murder	Robbery	Attempted Robbery	Vehicle Theft or robbery	Physical assault	GSM handset Theft	Burglary	Theft of money
Mushin	3.0	10.0	4.0	2.0	6.0	28.0	9.0	5.0
Oshodi-Isolo	1.0	10.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	27.0	5.0	5.0
Amuwo-Odofin	1.0	9.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	1.0	15.0	4.0
Ojoo	0.0	5.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	8.0	3.0	8.0
Shomolu	0.0	5.0	4.0	2.0	1.0	35.0	7.0	5.0
Apapa	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	20.0	9.0	6.0
Badagry	1.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.0	3.0
Ajeromi-Ifelodun	0.0	6.0	2.0	0.0	1.0	21.0	2.0	3.0
Lagos Mainland	1.0	18.0	6.0	3.0	2.0	19.0	8.0	2.0
Surulere	1.0	7.0	2.0	0.0	4.0	8.0	4.0	5.0
Ifako-Ijaye	0.0	12.0	3.0	1.0	0.0	5.0	3.0	2.0
Alimosho	0.0	10.0	5.0	2.0	1.0	14.0	2.0	2.0
Agege	0.0	10.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	14.0	2.0	7.0

Ikeja	1.0	11.0	5.0	3.0	0.0	8.0	1.0	1.0
Kosofe	0.0	4.0	2.0	0.0	1.0	17.0	1.0	9.0
Ikorodu	0.0	6.0	3.0	2.0	4.0	24.0	10.0	14.0
Epe	2.0	6.0	2.0	2.0	4.0	7.0	12.0	5.0
Eti-Osa	1.0	7.0	4.0	6.0	9.0	15.0	5.0	11.0
Lagos Island	0.0	12.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	25.0	5.0	6.0
Ibeju-Leki	1.0	15.0	9.0	4.0	14.0	10.0	7.0	9.0
Total	0.7 (13)	8.4 (167)	3.3 (66)	1.6 (32)	2.8 (55)	16.7 (334)	5.2 (104)	5.8 (110)

The following pattern can be observed from the figures presented in table 3

1. Murder was generally low, but nonetheless highest in Mushin and Epe
2. Robbery was more prevalent in Lagos Mainland, Ibeju-Leki, Ifako-Ijaye, Lagos Island, Ikeja, Mushin, Oshodi-Isolo, Alimosho, Agege and Amuwo-Odofin LGAs.
3. Attempted robbery was highest in Ibeju-Leki, Lagos Mainland and Ikeja LGAs.
4. Vehicle theft and robbery were more prevalent in Eti-Osa and Ibeju-Leki LGAs
5. Physical assault was highest in Ibeju Leki, Eti-Osa and Mushin LGAs
6. Theft of GSM handsets, was widespread, but was more prevalent in Shomolu, Mushin, Oshodi-Isolo, Lagos Island, Ikorodu, Ajeromi-Ifelodun and Apapa LGAs
7. Burglary was highest in Amuwo-Odofin, Epe, Ikorodu, Mushin and Apapa LGAs
8. Theft of money was more prevalent in Ikorodu, Eti-Osa, /ibeju-Leki, Kosofe, Ojoo and Agege LGAs

#### *Location of victimization of members of households*

Crimes and victimizations do not occur randomly. They tend to reflect the spaces and times that interactions and activities frequently occur.

Analyses of the survey data revealed that different crimes and victimization occur more frequently in particular or identifiable places as follows:

1. Murder occurred more frequently near victim's home

2. Robbery occurred more at victim's home
3. Attempted robbery took place more frequently at victim's home
4. Rape occurred most often at victim's home and near the victims' residence, plausibly in neighbours and acquaintances home.
5. Expectedly, domestic violence occurred more frequently in the victim's home
6. Physical assault were equally more likely to occur in the victim's home or near their home
7. Theft of mobile phone handsets took place more often at victim's home than elsewhere
8. Burglary was more frequent at home than elsewhere, revealing the preponderance of house-breaking compared to store or office breaking (table 4).

**Table 4: Location of Household member's victimization in the past 5 years**

Nature of Criminal Victimization	At own own home	Near own home	At work place or school	Elsewhere in the state state	Total (N)
Murder	23.1	69.2	0.0	7.7	0.7 (13)
Robbery	49.7	24.6	6.6	19.2	8.4 (167)
Attempted Robbery	51.5	27.3	10.6	10.6	3.3 (66)
Rape	50.0	40.0	0.0	10.0	0.5 (10)
Vehicle theft/Robbery	37.5	37.5	6.3	18.8	1.6 (32)

Domestic violence	47.2	30.6	11.1	11.1	1.8 (36)
Physical assault	38.2	38.2	14.5	9.1	2.8 (55)
Theft of mobile telephone handset	48.8	23.1	11.4	16.8	5.2 (104)
Burglary	65.4	12.5	14.4	7.7	5.8 (116)

*Trend of victimization over the five last years*

The analysis of the data revealed that most of the victimization reported by the respondents occurred in 2008 and 2009 (table 5). Most of the victimizations reported occurred within three years period from 2007 to 2009 (table 5).

**Table 5: Year of Household member's victimization in the past 5 years**

Nature of Criminal Victimization	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total (N)
Murder	-	-	66.7	33.3	-	0.7 (13)
Robbery	12.0	10.8	24.0	22.8	30.5	8.4 (167)
Attempted Robbery	15.2	10.6	21.2	22.7	30.3	3.3 (66)
Rape	10.0	10.0	20.0	20.0	40.0	0.5 (10)
Kidnapping	11.1	11.1	22.2	22.2	33.3	0.5 (9)

Vehicle theft/Robbery	21.9	6.3	18.8	21.9	31.3	1.6 (32)
Domestic violence	8.3	13.9	13.9	25.0	38.9	1.8 (36)
Physical assault	10.9	7.3	10.9	23.6	47.3	2.8 (55)
Theft of mobile telephone handset	5.1	7.5	15.3	32.6	39.5	16.7 (334)
Burglary	7.6	8.6	19.0	26.7	38.1	53 (105)
Theft of money	7.7	9.4	16.2	29.1	37.6	5.9 (117)

The pattern of responses in table 4 indicates systematic increase in criminal victimization. For example, more than a third of most of the victimization was reported to have occurred in 2009. However, more than three quarters of the respondents said crime decreased in 2009 compared to 2008 (table 6).

**Table 6: Level of Crime in the past 12 months**

Crime in 2009 compared to 2008	Increased	Decreased	Stayed the Same	Don't know
Crime generally	10.5	79.5	6.9	3.2
Violent crime	9.5	79.3	6.6	4.7
Property crime	10.1	79.0	8.4	4.6

A plausible explanation for the reported high incidence of victimization during the recent years may be attributed to higher recall of recent events and telescoping of events in distant past to a more recent period.

*Time of victimization of household members in the past 5 years*

Several crimes were more prevalent at night and mid night. Such crimes were murder, robbery, attempted robbery, burglary, vehicle theft and robbery and kidnapping (table 7). In contrast, rape and theft were more prevalent in the afternoon. Domestic violence occurred more in the evening than any other period (table 7)

**Table 7: Time of Household Member’s Victimization in the past 5 years**

Nature of Criminal Victimization	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Night and Midnight
Murder	16.7	16.7	25.0	41.7
Robbery	18.0	10.8	26.9	44.3
Attempted Robbery	13.6	21.2	19.7	45.5
Rape	10.0	40.0	20.0	30.0
Kidnapping	11.3	33.3	11.1	44.4
Vehicle theft/Robbery	21.5	18.8	15.6	53.1
Domestic violence	13.9	22.2	38.9	25.0
Physical assault	16.4	20.0	30.9	32.7
Theft of mobile telephone handset	18.9	29.6	23.1	28.4
Burglary	15.2	18.1	20.0	46.7
Theft of money	23.9	30.8	20.5	24.8



## Age, Sex, Residence and Criminal Victimization

**Table 8: Sex and victimization**

Sex	Victimization during the past five years			Total
	Yes	No	No Response	
Male	23.5 (235)	73.0 (730)	3.5 (35)	100.0 1000
Female	20.0 (200)	75.1 (751)	4.9 (49)	100.0 1000

The empirical literature on the relationship between sex and victimization generally indicated that males experience more victimization than females. Although the data in table 8 did not show strong relationship between male and female, they are nonetheless consistent with the literature: females reported less victimization than males.

**Table 9: Age and victimization**

Age (Years)	Victimization during the past five years			Total
	Yes	No	No Response	
18-24	23.7 (98)	71.2 (294)	5.1 (21)	100.0 (413)
25-35	22.1 (189)	74.0 (632)	3.9 (33)	100.0 (854)
36-50	22.4 (102)	73.9 (337)	3.7 (17)	100.0 (456)
51 years and older	16.6 (46)	78.7 (218)	4.7 (13)	100.0 (277)

The majority of findings in the literature indicate that age and victimization are inversely related. This implies that younger people are more likely to experience criminal victimization than older persons. The data presented in table 9 indicate that there is no statistically strong relationship between age and victimization. Nonetheless, the data show that the older persons in fifty years of age and older category, reported less victimization, which is consistent with several findings in the literature. Extent of victimization and the effect of age may vary across different crimes, especially violent crimes, property or economic crimes, including white-collar crimes such as fraud and corruption.

**Table 10: Residential area and victimization**

Residential Areas	Victimization during the past five years			Total
	Yes	No	No Response	
High	18.7 (29)	74.8 (116)	6.5 (10)	100.0 (155)
Middle	21.1 (179)	76.2 (645)	2.7 (23)	100.0 (847)
Low	23.6 (222)	73.4 (691)	3.0 (28)	100.0 (941)

The relationship between residential area status and victimization is not very significant. However, the pattern is consistent with findings in the literature pertaining to higher victimization for persons resident in the low residential status area. Residents of high residential status areas reported lower victimization than their counterparts in the middle and low residential status areas (table 10). The absence of strong relationship between residential area status and victimization may be due to the lack of clear demarcation between the high, middle and low status residential areas. Each residential area is classified by the dominant socio-economic characteristics of residents, environment and property value.

**Table 11: Sex and fear of victimization**

Sex	Fear of victimization					Total
	Very fearful	Fearful	A little fearful	Not at all fearful	Don't know	
Male	24.6 (246)	30.2 (302)	16.7 (167)	27.7 (277)	0.8 (8)	100.0 (1000)
Female	28.8 (288)	32.9 (329)	16.8 (168)	20.0 (200)	1.5 (15)	100.0 (1000)

Fear of victimization does not necessarily correspond to reality. Literature has shown that some category of citizens that are less likely to be a victim of crime such as females and elderly tend to be more fearful of crime than males and young people who are more prone to criminal victimization. The data in table11 indicate that females expressed greater fear of being a victim of crime than males, despite lower experience of victimization, recorded in table 8. This finding is consistent with the literature. The condition is explained by perceived vulnerability. Female citizens may consider themselves vulnerable to victimization by offenders who are typically represented as male and young.

**Table 12: Age and fear of victimization**

Age (Years)	Fear of victimization					Total
	Very fearful	Fearful	A little fearful	Not at all fearful	Don't know	
18-24	29.8 (123)	31.5 (130)	18.4 (76)	19.4 (80)	1.0 (4)	100.0 (413)
25-35	26.2 (224)	33.0 (282)	16.6 (142)	22.8 (195)	1.3 (11)	100.0 (854)
36-50	27.4 (125)	30.3 (138)	16.4 (75)	25.0 (114)	0.9 (4)	100.0 456
51 and older	22.4 (62)	29.2 (81)	15.2 (42)	31.8 (88)	1.4 (4)	100.0 (277)

Younger respondents in the survey reported higher fear of crime than the elderly respondents who were 51 years and older. Findings in the literature generally tend to report positive relationship between age and fear of crime. However, findings in this study show that the oldest respondents were less fearful of criminal victimization. The fear of victimization by the elderly and females tend to be dominated by concern about violent crimes involving weapons or force. Thus, the relationship among fear of crime, sex and age needs to be considered with respect to specific crimes.

## **CHAPTER THREE: PERSONAL VICTIMIZATION**

Whereas the household member's victimization data provide insight into the experience of the household, personal victimization information pertain to the individual respondent.

### **Extent and pattern of personal victimization**

One –fifth (21.8%) of the respondents had personally been victim of crime within the past five years (2005-2009) (table 13).

**Table 13: Personal Victimization in the past 5 years**

Have you been a victim of crime in the last 5 years	No	%
Yes	435	21.8
No	1481	74.1
No Response	84	4.2
Total	2000	100.0

More than a third (34.7%) of the victimization was reported to have occurred during the immediate past year (2009) and more than a quarter (26.4%) in 2008 (table 14).

**Table 14: Year of Personal Criminal Victimization**

Year	N	%
2005	24	5.5
2006	23	5.3
2007	75	17.2
2008	115	26.4
2009	151	34.7
Cannot remember	47	2.4
Total	435	100.0

As earlier observed in respect of the victimization of members of households, the concentration of report of victimization in the years proximate to the study may be a product of tendency to recall recent experiences and problem of telescoping-reporting experiences in the distant past as occurring at a later and more recent period.

The most common forms of criminal victimization reported were theft of mobile phone handset, armed robbery, burglary, domestic violence and robbery at hold up (table 15). More than two fifth (42.3%) and one sixth (17.7%) of the respondents who reported victimization during the five year period (2005-2009) were victims of theft of mobile phone handsets and armed robbery respectively. Overall, economic crimes constituted more than three quarters (77.1%) of the reported victimization.

**Table 15: Nature of Personal Experience (victimization) of crime**

Nature of criminal victimization	N	%
Armed robbery	77	77.7
Burglary	41	9.4
Theft of mobile phone	184	42.3
Domestic violence	57	5.5
Sexual harassment	6	1.4
Theft of or from car	9	2.1
Drug abuse	4	0.9
Robbery at traffic	22	5.1
Traffic accident	6	1.4
Attempted murder	1	0.2
Car snatching	2	0.5
Kidnapping	2	0.5
Total	435	100.0

Victims reported their experiences to several agencies. Nearly a third (30.1%) did not report to anyone or any agency. Family and friends were the preferred groups to which the victims reported their victimization. Nearly one half (46.2%) of the victims reported to family and friends and slightly more than a fifth (20.9%) reported to the police (table 16).

**Table 16: Agency to which most recent Crime was reported**

Agency	N	%
Family and friends	201	46.2
Police	91	20.9
Traditional system/rulers	6	1.4
Court of law	2	0.5
Vigilante group/ethnic militia	2	0.5
Religious leaders	1	0.2
Community associations/groups	1	0.2
Did not report the accident	131	30.1
Total	435	100.0

From the responses in table 10, only one in five victimizations were reported to the police, which confirms the concern that data figures (unreported crime) is the major source of inaccuracy in police crime statistics.

### **Sexual crime victimization**

Sexual crimes are increasingly becoming a major concern in the country due to reports of sexual violence by the mass media. Although in numerical terms levels of victimization remains low, in substantive term and given the violence and trauma that often accompany sexual crimes, it is significant that one in two hundred female respondents reported being raped during the five year period (table 17). Similarly 2.0% and 1.1% of the respondents reported being victims of indecent assault and offensive behaviors during the period.

**Table 17: Experience of sex crimes in the past 5 years by female Respondents**

Types of victimization	N	%
Rape	5	0.5
Attempted rape	8	0.8
Indecent assault	20	2.0
Offensive behavior	11	1.1
Domestic violence	18	1.8

More than a quarter of the female respondents felt that incidence of rape was nonexistent in Lagos state, while nearly two-fifths of them felt that rape occurred only occasionally. However, more than a fifth (21.8%) of the female respondents felt that rape was wide spread in the state (table 18). Sexual crime is a serious social problem because of its physical, mental and socio-economic consequences. It inhibits the participation of women in public and domestic spheres.

**Table 18: Opinion of female Respondents on Extent of rape in Lagos State**

How widespread is rape in Lagos state	N	%
Completely non-existent	271	27.1
Occasionally (only few isolated cases)	393	39.3
Quite widespread	189	18.9
Very widespread	57	2.9
Don't know	90	9.0
Total	1000	100.0

Rape is generally attributed to many causes. The female respondents in the study were asked about causes of rape. Nearly a third (30.3%) attributed rape to provocative dressing by women, thereby validating the often criticized



victim-precipitation perspective on victimization. About one-eight (12.4%) of the respondents attributed rape to lack of self control by men, while (5.4%) considered mental illness of the perpetrator as a cause (table 19)

**Table 19: Major Opinions of (Male/Female) Respondents on causes of Rape**

Why are women raped?	N	%
Provocative dressing by women	606	30.3
Influence of media presentations	26	1.3
Lack of self-control by men	248	12.4
Mental illness of men	108	5.4
Influence of hard drug	85	4.3

Percentages do not add up to 100.0% because only major responses are presented. Each of the other responses was less than 1%

## CHAPTER FOUR: ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES

### Bribery and corruption

Bribery and corruption generally are widespread and serious problems in Nigeria. Respondents were asked if they had contact with certain public officials during the past year (twelve months). Those who reported contact were further asked whether such officials asked for or expected bribe. The responses are presented in table 20.

**Table 20: Demand for service and solicitation for Bribe Respondents with contacts**

Over the past twelve months did you call for service on encounter listed officials and which demanded bribe	Encounter officials		Asked for bribe by officials	
	% yes	(N)		% yes
LASTMA	8.2	163	77	47.2
Federal Road Safety Corp	5.3	105	31	29.5
Rapid Response Squad	3.6	75	22	29.3
Kick Against Indiscipline (KAI)	6.8	135	68	50.3
Customs	3.4	68	36	52.9
Immigration	3.5	70	29	41.4
Police	23.3	465	337	72.5
Security guard	2.9	58	16	27.6
Elected local government	5.9	117	42	35.9
Councilors/Local officials	8.4	168	71	42.3
Tax revenue officials	6.2	123	46	37.4
Court	1.8	35	7	20.0
Post office	3.2	64	4	6.0
Doctors and Nurses	22.5	449	33	7.3
Teachers/lecturers	19.0	379	78	20.6
Bank officials	15.3	306	12	3.9
Prison	2.0	40	6	15.0
PHCN	41.8	836	420	50.2
Petrol station	19.0	380	189	49.7
Traditional authorities	4.5	89	7	7.9

Percentage of respondents with contacts with the officials who reported being asked to pay bribe.

Very significant proportion of the respondents said that they were asked or expected to pay bribes by several agencies like the Police (72.5%), Customs (52.9%), Kick Against Indiscipline (50.3%), Power Holdings Company of Nigeria (50.2%), petrol station attendants (49.7%), Lagos State Transport Management Authority (47.2%), Local Government Officials (42.3%), Immigration (41.4%) and Elected Local Government Councilors (35.9%). Officials in few organizations like the bank, hospitals and post offices were least likely to demand bribe. Overall, 37.6% of respondents in the study said they encountered public officials who demanded bribe from them during the preceding twelve months (table 21).

**Table 21: Solicitation for Bribe by Public officials**

During the past twelve months, did any government officials ask you or expect you to pay a bribe for his/her service?	N	%
Yes	551	37.6
No	1388	69.4
Refused to answer	61	3.1
Total	2000	100.0

Respondents were further asked about their perception of the likelihood of being required to pay bribe by officials of several agencies. Majority of them felt that they were mostly likely or likely to be asked to pay bribe by officials of the Police Force, Customs, Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), Kick Against Indiscipline (KAI) and Lagos State Transport Management Authority (LASTMA) (table 22).

**Table 22: Likelihood of being asked to pay a bribe to obtain services from listed officials/agency**

Officials/Agency	Most likely	Likely	Not likely	Don't know
Members of legislature	8.3	27.1	18.7	46.0
Officials from the ministries	8.7	31.1	16.4	43.8
Customs	15.8	35.1	13.8	35.4
Immigration officials	13.3	35.3	13.9	37.7
Police officials	41.7	31.9	9.4	17.1
Security guard	10.1	32.1	23.1	34.9
Elected councilors	10.6	33.5	17.2	38.8
LGA officials	12.1	35.2	16.2	36.6
Tax/revenue officials	11.5	33.9	17.0	37.6
Court officials	7.2	30.0	20.6	42.3
Post office officials	5.5	23.9	26.5	44.1
Doctors and Nurses	5.5	22.5	37.8	34.3
Teachers and lecturers	9.2	31.9	24.8	34.2
Bank officials	4.9	22.7	34.9	37.6
Prison workers	7.7	29.1	19.2	44.1
PHCN	27.1	36.8	12.1	24.1
Petrol station attendants	13.2	35.0	18.5	33.4
Rapid Response Squad	10.6	35.5	15.2	38.5
Kick Against Indiscipline	12.9	37.5	14.6	35.1
FRSC	9.8	37.2	15.6	37.4
Traditional authorities	6.4	28.7	20.1	44.9
LASTMA	14.9	36.4	13.6	35.3

In spite of the widespread perception and experience of demand for bribe by Police officials, one-half of the respondents said corruption has decreased during the preceding twelve months (table 23).

**Table 23: Trend of Corruption in the Past 12 months**

Over 12 months how has corruption fared?	No.	%
Increased a lot	332	16.6
Slightly increased	332	11.8
Stayed the same	224	11.2
Slightly decreased	708	35.4
Decreased	283	14.2
Don't know	217	10.9

The respondents recommended several measures for the control of corruption. Prominent among their recommendations were tougher laws and sentence (30.9%), good leadership (30.7%) and better salary for public officials (27.9%) (table 24).

**Table 24: Most appropriate Approach to Corruption Control**

Measures	No.	%
Tougher laws and sentences	618	30.9
Better education and upbringing of children	377	18.9
More effective control of public officials	381	19.1
Greater publicity of problems of Corruption	282	14.1
Providing good example of leadership	614	30.7
Better salaries for public officials	557	27.9
Create more jobs	131	6.6

Percentages do not add to 100 because of multiple responses.

## **CHAPTER FIVE: FEAR OF CRIME AND PERCEPTION OF SAFETY**

Fear of crime is a major problem because it adversely affects personal well-being, social interaction and economic activity within the community. For example, fear of crime inhibits evening and night social activities, including the associated economic activities. Further, fear of crime increases expenditure on security measures.

### **Feeling of safety**

Analysis of data from the survey showed that the respondents generally felt safe walking in their communities during the day and at night. They also felt safe in their homes, at work, and in public places (table 18). However, 58% of the respondents said they often feared being a victim of armed robbery when walking alone at night (table 25).

**Table 25: Feeling of Safety**

How safe do you feel?	Very safe	Some what safe	Some what safe	Very unsafe	Don't know
Walking in your area during the day	72.7	18.3	3.6	1.9	3.7
Walking in your area at night	60.9	21.7	9.3	5.4	2.8
In your home during the day	74.8	17.2	2.8	1.7	3.7
In your home at night	66.9	22.1	5.4	2.6	3.1
At work	65.7	18.9	4.1	1.9	9.6
In public places	56.4	24.6	8.9	3.7	6.5

### **Crime and disorder problems**

Robbery was the main crime of concern in the residential areas of the respondents (table 20). More than one-fifth (21.0%) said that the major crime problem in their areas of residence was robbery. Burglary and theft of mobile phone handset were also perceived major crimes in the respondents' residential areas (table 26).

**Table 26: Main Crime and Disorder problems in respondents' Residential Area**

Crime and Disorder Problems	No.	%
Armed Robbery	420	21.0
Burglary	192	9.6
Theft of mobile phone handset	175	8.8
Domestic violence	95	4.8
Area boys disturbances	81	4.1
Assault	65	3.3
Drug abuse	54	2.7
Theft of money	36	1.8
Theft of or from car	28	1.4
Sexual harassment	22	1.1
Don't know	109	5.5

Percentages do not add to 100 because responses less than 1% were excluded from the table

Armed robbery was also perceived as the major crime problem across Lagos State by 58.4% of the respondents (table 27).

**Table 27: Main crime and Disorder problems in Lagos State**

Main crime and disorder problems	No.	%
Verbal harassment	71	9.8
Robbery	422	58.4
Abduction	26	3.6
Traffic accident	21	2.9
Assault	40	5.5
Abuse by drunks	7	1.0
Sexual victimization	15	2.1
Rape	25	3.4

Area boys and touts	9	1.2
Police raid and harassment	20	2.8
Cultists and ritualists	3	0.4
Stray bullets	1	0.1
Tribalism	1	0.1
Assassinations	1	0.1
None at all	65	8.9
Total	727	100.0

Residents of Lagos Mainland, Shomolu, Surulere, Oshodi-Isolo, Ifako-Ijaye, Amuwo-Odofin, Kosofe, Ibeju-Leki, Ajeromi-Ifelodun Local Government Areas (LGAs) were particularly concerned about the incidence of armed robbery in those areas. Similarly, respondents in Agege, Oshodi-Isolo, Ibeju-Leki, Badagry and Kosofe LGAs identified burglary as a major crime problem in their areas. Assault was perceived as a major crime problem by respondents in Ikorodu, Mushin and Ojoo LGAs (table 28)

**Table 28: Problems of Armed Robbery, Burglary and Assault in Respondents Area**

Local Government Areas	% of Respondents identifying Armed Robbery	% of Respondents identifying Burglary	% of Respondents identifying Assault
Mushin	21.0	2.0	8.0
Oshodi-Isolo	29.0	15.0	0.0
Amuwo-Odofin	25.0	5.0	0.0
Ojoo	19.0	10.0	8.0
Shomolu	42.0	4.0	4.0
Apapa	7.0	8.0	1.0



Badagry	15.0	18.0	3.0
Ajerumi-Ifelodun	22.0	14.0	0.0
Lagos-Mainland	52.0	4.0	2.0
Surulere	31.0	6.0	3.0
Ifako-Ijaye	27.0	6.0	0.0
Alimosho	18.0	10.0	1.0
Agege	14.0	25.0	3.0
Ikeja	17.0	5.0	1.0
Kosofe	23.0	12.0	4.0
Ikorodu	12.0	9.0	12.0
Epe	2.0	9.0	6.0
Eti-Osa	11.0	6.0	4.0
Lagos-Island	10.0	8.0	5.0
Ijebu-Lekki	23.0	16.0	0.0

Note: Figures pertain to the % of respondents in each LGA that identified armed robbery, burglary and assault respectively in their residential area.

#### **Levels of Crime in areas and Lagos State**

Generally respondents perceived incidence of crime to be higher in Lagos State than in their residential areas. For example, 16% considered crime to be high in their residential areas compared to 36% who said crime level was high in Lagos State (table 29).

**Table 29: Level of Crime in Respondent's Area and Lagos State**

Level of Crime	Respondents' Residential Area		Lagos State	
	No.	%	No.	%
Extremely high	140	7.0	360	18.0
Somewhat high	180	9.0	360	18.0
Average	277	13.9	510	25.5
Somewhat low	557	27.9	578	28.9
Extremely low	547	27.5	172	8.6
Non-existence	297	14.9	20	1.0

A relatively high perception of crime levels was reported by respondents in Ojoo, Apapa, Ibeju-Lekki, Oshodi-Isolo, Badagry, Ajeromi-Ifelodun and Ikorodu LGAs (table 30).

**Table 30: Level of Crime in Respondent Residential Areas**

Local Government Areas	Extremely high	Some what high	Average	Some what low	Extremely low	Non-Existence
Mushin	9.0	8.0	29.0	47.0	6.0	1.0
Oshodi-Isolo	10.0	16.0	43.0	28.0	2.0	1.0
Amuwo-Odofin	13.0	6.0	11.0	13.0	25.0	32.0
Ojoo	14.0	21.0	10.0	19.0	11.0	25.0
Shomolu	2.0	14.0	16.0	37.0	29.0	2.0
Apapa	15.0	14.0	9.0	18.0	21.0	23.0
Badagry	14.0	13.0	2.0	16.0	18.0	37.0
Ajeromi-Ifelodun	12.0	11.0	15.0	25.0	25.0	22.0
Lagos-Mainland	2.0	6.0	5.0	38.0	39.0	0.0
Surulere	8.0	4.0	28.0	36.0	18.0	6.0
Ifako-Ijaye	1.0	8.0	5.0	25.0	26.0	35.0
Alimosho	0.0	3.0	12.0	50.0	32.0	3.0
Agege	2.0	3.0	7.0	30.0	53.0	5.0
Ikeja	1.0	9.0	10.0	36.0	31.0	13.0
Kosofe	2.0	4.0	12.0	32.0	50.0	0.0
Ikorodu	3.0	7.0	13.0	24.0	27.0	16.0
Epe	2.0	13.0	12.0	11.0	42.0	30.0
Eti-Osa	7.0	4.0	15.0	9.0	43.0	22.0
Lagos-Island	3.0	8.0	15.0	52.0	22.0	0.0
Ijebu-Lekki	20.0	8.0	8.0	11.0	29.0	24.0
Total (2000)	7.0 (140)	9.0 (180)	13.9 (277)	27.9 (557)	27.5 (549)	14.9 (297)

Nearly four-fifths of the respondents said violent and property crimes decreased over the past twelve months.

Academic literature and folk culture have identified several motivations for crime. More than two-fifths (40.8%) of the respondents attributed crime to real need and property. However, more than a fifth (21.6%) of the respondents said greed was responsible for crimes (table 31).

**Table 31: Motivation for Crime**

Motivations	No.	%
Real need and Poverty	816	40.8
Greed	432	21.6
Non-financial motives	238	11.6
Don't know	475	23.8
Refused answer	38	1.9
Total	2000	100.0

Respondents were asked who they would prefer to report experience of crime victimization. More than three-fifths of the respondents preferred the police and another slightly more than one-fifths (21.3%) preferred family members (table 32).

**Table 32: Preferred Agency for Crime Report**

Preferred Agency	No.	%
Family member	425	21.3
Police	1203	60.2
Community leader	75	3.8
Traditional ruler	51	2.6
Vigilante group	17	0.9
God	18	0.9
Others	16	0.8
Nobody	191	9.6
Don't know	4	0.2

This pattern of response on preference demonstrates sharp contrast with actual reports made by victims (table 9). Nearly a half (46.2%) and slightly more than a fifth (20.9%) of the respondents who were victims said they reported their experiences to family and friends as well as the police (table 9).

### **Fear of crime**

More than one-half (58.3%) of the respondents expressed fear of being crime victims. However, 40.7% were not afraid of the prospect of criminal victimization (table 33).

**Table 33: Extent of Fear of Becoming a Victim**

Extent of fear	No.	%
Very fearful	534	26.7
Fearful	631	31.6
A little fearful	335	16.8
Not at all fearful	477	23.9
Don't know	23	1.2

Fear of crime varies across the Local Government Areas (LGAs). Fear of becoming crime victims was very high among respondents in Ibeju-Lekki, Eti-Osa, Ifako-Ijaye, Kosofe, Shomolu, Ojoo, Lagos Mainland, Lagos Island, Ikeja, Badagry and Oshodi-Isolo LGAs where at least three-fifths of respondents were fearful of becoming a victim of crime (table 34).

**Table 34: Extent of fear Among Residents in the Local Government Areas**

Local Government Areas	Very fearful	Fearful	A little fearful	Not at all fearful	Don't know
Mushin	27.0	30.0	9.0	33.0	1.0
Oshodi-Isolo	30.0	30.0	34.0	6.0	0.0
Amuwo-Odofin	16.0	40.0	12.0	32.0	0.0

Ojoo	58.0	17.0	5.0	20.0	0.0
Shomolu	20.0	55.0	17.0	8.3	0.0
Apapa	17.0	21.0	26.0	5.0	1.0
Badagry	39.0	27.0	8.0	26.0	0.0
Ajerumi-Ifelodun	9.0	50.0	5.0	34.0	2.0
Lagos-Mainland	9.0	64.0	7.0	20.0	0.0
Surulere	22.0	26.0	31.0	19.0	2.0
Ifako-Ijaye	22.0	57.0	12.0	9.0	0.0
Alimosho	21.0	8.0	22.0	47.0	0.0
Agege	17.0	15.0	36.0	29.0	3.0
Ikeja	28.0	41.0	13.0	18.0	0.0
Kosofe	20.0	58.0	14.0	5.0	3.0
Ikorodu	0.0	18.0	43.0	35.0	4.0
Epe	1.0	3.0	29.0	64.0	3.0
Eti-Osa	80.0	9.0	2.0	7.0	2.0
Lagos-Island	19.0	52.0	8.0	21.0	0.0
Ijebu-Lekki	79.0	10.0	2.0	9.0	0.0
Total	26.7 (534)	31.6 (631)	16.8 (335)	23.9 (477)	1.2 (23)

Members of the community adopted diverse measures for their protection from crime. Nearly three-fifths (57.8%) and more than a tenth (10.5%) of the respondents used physical target hardening and employed vigilante member or security guards for their safety (table 35). More than four-fifths (84.7%) of the respondents who employed anti-crime measures said they felt safer.

**Table 35: Safety and Security Measures by Individuals**

Measures by Individuals	No.	%
Physical target hardening of home	1155	57.8
Physical target hardening of vehicles	39	2.0
Possession and bearing of weapons	10	0.5
Employment of private Security	77	3.9
Employment of vigilante members and night guards	205	10.5

The respondents also reported the existence of several organizations and groups that have been employed by residents' groups or associations to enhance security in their areas. More than a quarter (28.2%) of the respondents said they had vigilante groups in their areas and 21.6% employed night guards.

### **Safety and Accidents on Roads in Lagos State**

Crime and accidents are major problems in Nigeria. There is a high concentration of population, industries, vehicle and roads in Lagos State. High level of crime and accidents are often reported in the mass media. Nearly two-thirds (65.9%) of the respondents said they felt very safe or safe on the roads in Lagos State (Table 36).

**Table 36: Feeling of Safety on Roads in Lagos State**

How safe do you feel on roads in Lagos?	No.	%
Very safe	399	20.0
Safe	917	45.9
Somewhat safe	422	21.1
Not safe at all	262	13.1

Note: 15.8% (315) of the respondents were involved in road accident in Lagos State in the last five years

However, 15.8% (315) of the respondents reported being involved in a road accident during the last five years. More than one-third (36.2%) of the respondents who had accidents during the past five years classified the incidence as very serious. Further, nearly one-quarter (23.8%) classified the incidence as serious. Overall, nearly three-fifths of the respondents classified their accident as very serious or serious (table 37).

**Table 37: Seriousness of Accident Involving Respondents**

Seriousness of accidents	No.	%
Very Serious	114	36.2
Serious	75	23.8
Somewhat Serious	63	20.0
Not Serious	54	17.1
Not Serious at all	93	2.9
Total	15	100.0

## **CHAPTER SIX: PERCEPTION OF GOVERNANCE IN LAGOS STATE**

A major political problem in the country is poor performance by the government resulting in diverse socio-economic problems like lack or deterioration of health care, education, transportation and other essential services. Respondents were generally satisfied with the performance of Lagos state Government in respect of delivery of services especially road construction and maintenance, environmental beautification, construction drainages, refuse disposal, improvement of public school and health care (table 38).

**Table 38: Satisfaction with Government in Service Delivery**

Services	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Not Satisfied	Not Satisfied
Road Construction and Maintenance	23.6	60.3	8.2	6.7	1.4
Environmental beautification	23.1	62.7	8.6	4.5	1.2
Construction of drainages	19.7	60.0	10.1	8.7	1.6
Refuse disposal	19.9	62.7	9.4	6.6	1.6
Crime control	15.8	59.7	12.7	10.5	1.5
Responsiveness to public opinion	14.4	56.1	18.8	9.1	1.6
Improvement of public schools	15.7	60.5	13.5	8.9	1.5
Improvement of health services	14.4	62.8	13.6	7.6	1.7
Payment of salaries of civil servants	11.8	55.4	21.2	9.3	2.5



Checking menace of okada riders	11.7	53.2	18.1	14.1	3.0
Environmental pollution	13.0	61.2	16.8	7.3	1.9
Checking extortion by law enforcement agencies	10.5	45.4	16.4	20.0	7.9
Checking the activities of touts and area boys	10.8	45.6	15.8	20.5	7.9
Removal of street gates/ barriers	11.1	52.7	24.3	9.7	2.3
Checking too much noise from churches/ mosques	10.6	48.1	21.2	15.7	4.6

However they were relatively less satisfied with governments efforts concerning curbing extortion by law enforcement agencies, activities of touts and area boys (gang), noise from places of religious worship (churches and mosques) and menace of *okada* (commercial motor-cycle transporters).

Respondents were asked about their opinion on areas that should attract priority spending by the Lagos State Government. The major areas identified by them were provision of stable electricity (27.5%), creation of more employment opportunities (19.5%), construction and maintenance of roads (14.2%) and reduction of poverty level (10.7%)(table 39).

**Table 39: Suggested Priority Spending by Lagos Government for Greater Safety**

Area of Spending	No.	%
Increase Police capacity	129	6.5
Fix the roads	284	14.2
Create more employment opportunities	389	19.5

Provide stable electricity	545	27.5
Reduce Poverty level	213	10.7
Create better educational and vocational opportunities	198	9.9
Harder punishment for offenders	31	1.6
Equip judiciary better	2	0.1
Improve emergency Services	36	1.8
Flood control	45	2.3
Traffic Congestion	10	0.5
Don't know/No Response	118	5.9

The respondents were further asked about major issues that require priority attention of the Lagos State Government. The major areas identified were road construction (22.3%), crime control (11.6%), provision of electricity (8.9%), job creation and poverty reduction (8.2%) (table 40).

**Table 40: Major Issues Requiring Attention by Lagos State Government**

One thing the government should pay attention to	No.	%
Road construction and maintenance	446	22.3
Crime control	231	11.6
Construction of drainages	94	4.7
Responsiveness to public opinion	57	2.9
Improvement of public schools	120	6.0
Improvement of health services	60	3.0
Payment of salaries of civil servants	46	2.3
Checking extortion by law enforcement agencies	129	6.5
Checking activities of area boys and touts	122	6.1
Provision of electricity	177	8.9
Provision of portable water	47	2.4
Create employment/reduce poverty	164	8.2
Tackle drug dealers	51	2.6

Percentages do not add to 100 because respondents' categories that are less than 1% were excluded from the table

### **Public perception of conditions in the past and present**

The respondents reported that present conditions were better or much better than they were in the past, especially in the areas of transportation, access to education and health care, safety from crime and accountability of state government to the public (table 41).

**Table 41: Present conditions compared to few years ago**

Are the following conditions or better than they were few years ago?	Much worse	Worse	Same	Better	Much Better	Don't Know
Transportation	1.4	6.2	5.3	69.0	16.1	2.1
Access to education	1.5	9.1	19.0	60.3	6.0	4.2
Access to employment	10.1	24.4	21.8	35.8	2.7	5.3
Access to health care	1.8	7.5	18.6	60.8	5.2	6.1
Access to land and licensing	7.0	25.7	20.5	31.4	2.4	13.2
Accountability of state government to the public	1.7	7.9	23.0	47.9	4.3	15.4
Safety from crime and violence	1.2	6.5	20.1	58.7	5.3	8.3
Equal and fair treatment of all groups by government	2.1	10.3	26.7	38.2	2.9	20.0

### **Performance of Local Government**

Local Governments in the country have been criticized for failing to deliver service and to enhance popular participation and accountability. Majority of the respondents said that the Local Government Administration have performed very badly or badly in (a) informing the public on council programmes and budgets (b) enhancing participation in the development of

council decisions (c) ensuring proper representation of the views of the electorate or public (d) ensuring efficient use of public resources and (e) providing mechanism for registering complaints against councillors and securing redress (table 42).

**Table 42: Perception of Local Government Administration**

How well or badly do you think the local government in doing the following	Very badly	Badly	Fairly well	Very well	Don't know haven't heard enough*
Making the council's program of work known to the ordinary people	21.5	23.0	24.5	3.6	27.4
Providing people with information on council's budget	26.7	22.8	19.6	2.7	28.3
Allowing citizens like yourself participate in council's decisions consulting others before making decisions	26.5	22.7	20.7	3.7	3.7
Ensuring elected councillors represent view of people ordinary people	21.4	21.8	21.0	3.8	31.6
Provide effective ways to handle complaints about LGA Councillors and officials	21.9	21.8	21.0	3.8	31.6
Guaranteeing LGA revenue is used for public services	22.8	23.4	21.2	2.3	30.4

\*For purposes of interpretation of the data, responses in the category of don't know or haven't heard enough should be discounted.

### Trust in political institutions and officials

Trust in political institutions and officials are indicators of their legitimacy and are often based on the performance and integrity of those in government or those who manage public institutions. The analyses of the survey data reflect general lack of trust in public institutions and officials in the country. However, a majority of the respondents (52.6%) expressed considerable trust in the Lagos State Governor and officials in the cabinet. The levels of trust is general low for other institutions like the Presidency (18.1%), National Assembly (16.0%), LGA Chairman in Lagos State (19.5%), Police (11%), Courts (22.7%), Lagos State Transport Management Authority (17.9%), Kick Against Indiscipline (17.6%), and State Independent Electoral Commission (14.1%)(table 43).

**Table 43: Trust in Political Institutions and Officials**

Institution and officials	Not at all	Just a little	<i>Somewhat</i>	A lot	Don't know
President and officials in cabinet	31.0	36.2	12.6	5.5	14.8
State governor and officials in cabinet	14.1	25.6	15.5	37.1	7.8
Members of National Assembly	30.2	34.8	12.1	3.9	19.0
Elected LGA Chairman in the state	30.9	35.5	13.4	6.1	14.2
Elected councilors in the state	31.3	35.3	12.9	5.7	15.0
LGA Officials	32.9	36.7	12.9	4.2	13.4
Police	45.4	34.1	9.2	1.8	9.7
Courts	24.7	34.4	15.9	6.8	18.3
LASTMA	30.0	37.2	13.2	4.7	15.1
Rapid Response Squad	29.1	36.3	14.5	4.6	15.4
KAI	31.0	37.8	13.3	4.3	13.8

FRSC	26.5	36.5	16.1	5.8	15.2
Political appointees	27.5	37.4	12.8	3.5	18.9
Revenue officials of the state	26.4	37.0	14.1	4.8	17.8
Vigilante group members	23.9	34.3	15.9	7.9	18.3
State independent Electoral Commission	35.5	34.5	11.8	2.3	16.1

### Perception of Corruption in public institutions

Corruption is a major socio-economic and political problem in the country. Efforts by successive governments have largely been ineffectively implemented, resulting in the persistence of the problem. Respondents felt that a significant proportion of officials in several institutions were corrupt (table 44). Nearly one-third (30.9%) of the respondents said most or all of the officials in the presidency were corrupt. Further, 22.5% said that most or all the officers in the governor's office were corrupt compared to 33% who said most or all elected Local Government Chairmen were corrupt. More than one-half (52.8%) said most or all police officers were corrupt compared to 37.4% among the officials of Kick Against Indiscipline and 38.4% among the Lagos State Transport Management Authority officials (table 44).

**Table 44: Perception of Extent of Public Corruption**

Agencies and Officials	None	Some of them	Most of them	All of them	Don't know
President and officials in cabinet	2.1	49.4	18.4	12.5	17.8
State governor and officials in the cabinet	6.3	56.0	13.3	9.2	15.3
Members of National Assembly	1.2	46.5	21.5	12.3	18.6
Elected LGA Chairman in the state	1.9	48.5	21.2	11.8	16.8

Elected Councilors in the state	1.8	48.1	21.6	12.1	16.5
LGA Official	1.8	48.5	22.1	12.4	15.3
Police	1.0	35.0	31.0	21.8	11.3
Courts	3.4	43.9	16.9	11.0	25.0
LASTMA	1.8	43.4	24.9	13.5	16.5
Rapid Response Squad	1.3	49.4	19.1	13.1	17.3
KAI	1.4	44.5	23.0	14.4	16.8
FRSC	3.7	47.3	19.0	12.1	17.9
Political appointees	1.4	46.2	20.0	11.7	20.8
Revenue officials of the state	3.9	45.7	14.9	10.8	23.7
Vigilante group members	5.2	45.5	14.9	10.8	23.7
State Independent Electoral Commission INEC	1.9	43.8	20.4	16.2	17.8

### **Performance of Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Agencies**

Members of the public generally complain about the effectiveness of the criminal justice and law enforcement agencies in the country. However, there are very few empirical data on the performance of the agencies. The result of the survey indicate that at least one-half of the respondents said the Rapid Response Squad of the Nigeria Police Force, Federal Road Safety Corps and the Lagos State Transport Management Authority were doing very good or good job. In contrast, less than two-fifths (37.3%) said that the courts were doing a very good or good job. Less than a third of the respondents said the Police Force, Prisons servicer and the office of the Director of Public Relations were doing a very good or good job (table 45). The data confirms the general concern about the poor performance of public institutions.

**Table 45: Performance of Law Enforcement and Justice Agencies**

Agencies	Very good job	Good job	Neither good nor poor job	Poor job	Very poor job	Don't know
Police	1.5	29.5	23.8	24.9	12.4	8.1
Courts	2.5	34.8	29.6	7.4	2.3	23.6
Prisons Director of Public persecution	1.3	28.4	31.7	8.5	3.6	26.9
Rapid Response	1.6	28.7	30.9	6.8	2.2	30.0
Squad	3.9	48.5	31.6	12.7	2.6	0.6
FRSC	5.6	55.9	27.5	7.2	1.5	0.7
LASTMA	4.1	47.3	31.7	13.3	2.8	0.5



## **CHAPTER SEVEN: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

The study revealed several patterns of criminal victimization in Lagos State. Policy makers can use the information provided by the study to formulate policies for the guarantee of safety, security and justice in the state. Law enforcement agencies can also use the findings of the study to plan their operations and improve their performance and public confidence. Members of the public can also use the findings to mitigate their vulnerability to criminal victimization

### **Summary of findings**

Fear of armed robbery is a major concern for majority of the residents of Lagos State. However, theft of mobile phone handset was the most common form of victimization during the past five years. Other major forms of victimization during the five year period were robbery (8.4%); theft of money (5.8%); burglary (5.2%); attempted robbery (3.3%) and physical assault (2.8%). The incidence of criminal victimization varied across the Local Government Areas. Incidence of murder was generally low. Slightly more than a fifth (21.0%) of the respondents reported being a victim of crime during the past five years. About three-quarters of the respondents reported decrease in crime.

Victims usually report their experience of criminal victimization to different agencies, including non-law enforcement agencies. Nearly one-half (46.2%) of the respondents reported their victimization to family members and friends, followed by a fifth (20.9%) of the respondents who reported to the police, while nearly a third (30.1%) did not report to anyone.

Indecent assault and domestic violence were the two common sex-related victimizations encountered by the female respondents. Slightly more than a fifth (21.8%) of the respondents in the survey said rape was widespread in Lagos state. Nearly a third (30.3%) of the respondents identified provocative dressing as the cause of rape while about one-twelfth (12.4%) attributed rape to lack of self-control by men.

More than a third of the respondents said they were asked or expected to pay bribe by public officials for their services. The citizens reported the highest contacts, during the preceding twelve months, with the following agencies and officials: PHCN, police, doctors and nurses, teachers and lecturers, and petrol station attendant. According to them, the agencies whose officials frequently demanded bribe during contacts and demand for services were the Nigeria Police, Customs, PHCN, KAI, LASTMA, petrol station attendants, local government officials, Immigration officials, and tax and revenue officials and elected councillors. Bank officials, post office officials, doctors and nurses, and traditional rulers rarely demanded bribe during contacts.

Notwithstanding the reported solicitation for bribe by several organisations, nearly one-half (49.8%) of the respondents said corruption decreased during the preceding twelve months. Less than a third of the respondents (28.4%) said corruption has increased over the past twelve months. The major recommendations by the respondents for the control of corruption were tougher laws and sentences (30.9%), good example of leadership (30.7); better salaries for public officials (27.9%), more effective control of public officials (19.1%), better education and upbringing of children (18.9%).

More than four-fifths of the respondents felt safe in their homes, walking during the day and night in their neighbourhoods. They also felt safe at work and in public places. Robbery was identified by 58% of the respondents as their major source of fear if they walked alone in the night within their neighbourhood. Respondents identified robbery, burglary, theft of mobile phone, domestic violence and disturbances by area boys as the major crime and disorder problems in their communities. Robbery was identified by a very wide majority as the major crime and disorder problem within the Lagos state. Respondents in Lagos Mainland, Shomolu, Surulere, Oshodi-Isole, Ifako-Ijaye, Ibeju-Lekki, Ajeromi-Ifelodun, Mushin and Ojoo LGAs, in particular, identified robbery as a major crime problem in their areas. Burglary was identified as a major crime problem by respondents in Agege, Oshodi-Isole, Ajeromi-Ifelodun, Badagry and Ibeju-Lekki LGAs.

Slightly more than a third of the respondents (36%) said the level of crime was high in Lagos state compared to 25.5% and 27.5% who said the level of crime was average or low respectively. More than one-half of the respondents, however, said the level of crime in their community was low. Thus, respondents tend to report higher level of crime within the state than within their own communities. This may be due to hear-say and especially the high concentration of electronic and print media that report crimes within the state with the effects of amplification.

Nearly four-fifths (79.3%) of the respondents said the level of crime (both violent and property crimes) decreased within the state in 2009 compared to 2008. The respondents attributed crime to needs and poverty (40.8%), greed (21.6%) and other non-financial motives (11.6). More than three-fifths (60.2%) of the respondents preferred to lodge complaint about criminal victimization with the police and another one-fifth (21.3%) preferred to do so with their family members. But in reality, the reverse is the case as more people reported criminal victimization to family members than the police.

Majority (58.3%) of the respondents said they were fearful of being a victim of crime. In order to enhance security and safety in the state, respondents asked the government to spend more money to provide uninterrupted electricity (27.5%), create more employment opportunities (19.5%) and fix the roads (14.2%).

Nearly three-fifths of the respondents used some form of target hardening (fences, locks, alarms, etc.) in their homes. Out of the 1354 respondents who used some security measures at home or to secure themselves and automobiles reported that they felt safer because of the target hardening and defence measures. More than a quarter (28.2%) of the respondents employed vigilante group members and another 21.6% employed night guards. Nearly two-thirds of the respondents said they felt safe on roads in Lagos State. With regards to accidents, 15.8% of the respondents were involved in accidents during the past five years. Three-fifths of those involved in accidents said the incidence was very serious.

The respondents were generally very satisfied with service delivery by the state government. They were particularly satisfied with the government's efforts in such areas as road construction and maintenance (83.9%), environmental beautification (85.8%), construction of drainages (79.7%), refuse disposal (82.6%), crime control (75.5%), responsiveness to public opinion (70.5%), improvement of public schools (76.2%), and improvement of health facilities (77.2%). In all these cases, more than 70% of the respondents were satisfied with the government's performance. Notwithstanding the excellent performance attributed to the state government, respondents urge continuing attention to road construction and maintenance, crime control, electricity supply, employment and poverty reduction.

Trust in public institutions is a measure of the legitimacy of government. There is a general lack of trust in major public institutions by the respondents. Overall, 37.1% trusted the state governor and his cabinet a lot and another 15.5% trusted somewhat. The governor and his cabinet were the most trusted among the public officials. A lot of the institutions were generally distrusted. Such institutions included the presidency, national legislature, the police, LASTMA, local government officials and councillors, KAI, and INEC.

Respondents generally said conditions of transportation, education, employment and health care were generally better than they were few years before. Other areas of improvement were accountability of the government to the public, safety from crime and violence, and equal treatment of all groups by the government. Majority of the law enforcement and judicial agencies were not credited with high performance. The FRSC was reported to have done either a very good job or a good job by 61.5% of the respondents while Rapid Response Squad and LASTMA respectively were reported to have done a good job by 52.4% and 51.4% of the respondents.

The Local Government Councils' leaders were reported by majority of the respondents to have done either very badly or badly in various areas such as making the councils programmes known to the ordinary people (44.5%), providing people with information on the Council's budget (49.5%), and allowing citizens participation in the council's decisions (49.2%).

## **Conclusion**

The study identified patterns of victimization, corruption, fear of crime, trust in public institution and perception of performance by the state government. Economic crimes, especially armed robbery, corruption, theft and burglary were reported to be widespread and constituted major concern to the people. There is need to pay attention to pro-active or preventive measures (e.g. enhanced social and economic opportunities, poverty reduction, relevant or appropriate laws) and reactive or enforcement measures (e.g. enhanced capacity of the police and other law enforcement agencies, improved performance by the prosecutors and the judges) in the search for solutions against economic crimes in the society.

The government needs to institutionalise evidence-led or research-based policy formulation and implementation. For example, the government needs to institutionalise victim and crime surveys to complement official crime statistics (that require significant improvement) as input into decision making and practices in the field of security and safety. The study also identified areas of strength and weakness in the governance of people, security and resources in Lagos State. The overall picture produced by the result is one of hope and assurance that good governance is possible and expected by the citizens in Nigeria.

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