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IMPACT OF THE IPOB SIT-AT-HOME ORDER ON THE ECONOMY OF SOUTHEAST GEOPOLITICAL ZONE OF NIGERIA: A CASE STUDY OF IDEATO NATION

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Abstract
This study explores the impact of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) sit-at-home order on the economy of Ideato Nation within the Southeast geopolitical zone of Nigeria. The research aims to analyze the effects of movement restrictions on key markets, agricultural activities, healthcare, education, and retail services. Employing a structured questionnaire with 173 respondents, the study assesses how the sit-at-home order has disrupted trading activities, hindered agricultural productivity, and affected access to essential services. The statistical analysis, utilizing Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, tests four hypotheses related to the economic repercussions of the sit-at-home order. The findings reveal significant adverse effects on market activities, with a notable decline in revenue generation, particularly in key markets such as Orie Akokwa and Eke Obodo Ukwu. Additionally, agricultural transport has been severely impacted, limiting farmers' abilities to sell their produce. The healthcare and education sectors also reported disruptions, highlighting the broader implications for community welfare. Overall, the study underscores the need for dialogue between IPOB and local authorities to address grievances while minimizing economic fallout. Recommendations include engagement with IPOB, support for farmers, economic diversification, engaging in community awareness campaigns, and strengthening local economic support mechanisms and enhancing access to essential services during movement restrictions to foster resilience in Ideato Nation's economy.
Keywords: IPOB, sit-at-home order, Ideato Nation, economic impact, agriculture, healthcare, market activity, correlation analysis.

Introduction

The Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) emerged as a separatist group advocating for the independence of the Southeastern Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria, largely populated by the Igbo ethnic group. The IPOB sit-at-home order, first issued in 2017, became a recurring protest mechanism aimed at drawing attention to the group's political demands, especially the release of its leader, Nnamdi Kanu, and the broader call for an independent Biafra state (Okeke & Ugwu, 2020). This order, which mandates the closure of businesses, schools, and public services, has had profound effects on the economy of the Southeast Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria, particularly in regions like Ideato Nation, comprising Ideato North and South Local Government Areas (LGAs). The persistent sit-at-home enforcement by IPOB operatives has resulted in significant disruptions to economic activities, adversely affecting livelihoods in a region already grappling with infrastructural deficits and economic stagnation (Oguamanam, 2021).

The IPOB sit-at-home order's impact on businesses in the Southeast, especially Ideato Nation, has been severe. Businesses are often forced to shut down on Mondays, leading to an overall reduction in trading days, limiting access to markets, and exacerbating unemployment and

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poverty levels. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which form the backbone of the region's economy, have particularly suffered, with many reporting drastic declines in revenue and profitability (Chukwu, 2022). Furthermore, the informal sector, which dominates the economic landscape in Ideato, has been hit hard, with traders and artisans unable to carry out their daily economic activities, thereby affecting their household incomes and general economic well-being (Nwankwo, 2021). The economic paralysis caused by the sit-at-home order has also discouraged potential investors, contributing to the economic isolation of the region (Ugochukwu & Ejiofor, 2023).

The economic impact of the IPOB sit-at-home order on Ideato Nation is a reflection of broader economic disruptions in Southeast Nigeria. Ideato, like other parts of the region, has experienced a decline in productivity due to the restriction of movement and business operations on sit-at-home days (Eze, 2021). The economic theory of opportunity cost is highly relevant here, as the losses incurred on these enforced shutdown days represent the forfeiture of potential economic gains, including income and investment (Okafor, 2022). In historical terms, this scenario aligns with the theory of political resistance movements, which suggests that economic sabotage is often employed as a tactic to force political change, though at a high economic cost to the affected population (Ude, 2020). The frequent disruptions to commercial activities in Ideato Nation mean that businesses lose not only immediate revenue but also long-term growth prospects, as sustained instability discourages local entrepreneurship and external investments (Akam & Onyema, 2019).

In addition to the economic effects, the sit-at-home order has further deepened the marginalisation of the Southeast region, which already struggles with limited federal government attention and investment (Onyeji, 2023). For Ideato Nation, which relies heavily on agricultural and small-scale trade, the economic repercussions are especially pronounced. The inability of farmers to transport their produce to markets on sit-at-home days has led to post-harvest losses, further aggravating food insecurity and inflation within the local economy (Obi & Nnadi, 2021). Moreover, the lack of adequate financial support from the government for local businesses during these periods of economic inactivity has worsened the situation, pushing many families into deeper levels of poverty (Mbah, 2022).

The IPOB sit-at-home order, while a political tool for the expression of grievances, has imposed significant economic hardships on the Southeast Geopolitical Zone, particularly Ideato Nation. The frequent disruptions to economic activities, coupled with the absence of mitigating measures from the government, have stifled economic growth and worsened living standards in the region. Understanding the balance between political movements and economic stability remains critical for addressing these challenges, as highlighted by the intersection of historical and economic theories in this context.

The Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) sit-at-home order has disrupted economic activities in Southeast Nigeria, with Ideato Nation—a critical trade hub—suffering significant setbacks. Ideato Nation, comprising Ideato North and South Local Government Areas, is strategically located, sharing borders with Orlu, Anambra, and Okigwe Senatorial Zone, and is connected by vital road networks. Its major markets, such as Orie Akokwa, Afor Urualla, and Nkwo Umuchima, play crucial roles in regional trade, agriculture, and retail services. However, the sit-at-home order has led to the closure of these markets on designated days, reducing trading

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opportunities, causing post-harvest losses for farmers, and disrupting transportation networks. Additionally, the healthcare and education sectors have been negatively impacted, with limited access to essential services and disrupted school activities. Given Ideato's economic potential as a trade center, the persistent enforcement of the sit-at-home order poses a serious threat to its economic growth, stifling local businesses and aggravating poverty. This research seeks to analyze the specific economic impacts of the IPOB sit-at-home order on Ideato Nation, examining the effects on key sectors and the long-term implications for the region's economic development.

The main objective of this paper is to assess the impact of the IPOB sit-at-home order on the overall economy of Ideato Nation. This will involve evaluating the extent to which economic activities such as trade, agriculture, and services have been disrupted by the sit-at-home enforcement. The specific objectives include:

i. To analyse the effect of the sit-at-home order on key markets in Ideato Nation: The study will focus on major markets such as Orie Akokwa, Afor Urualla, Eke Obodo Ukwu, Ntueke, Osina, and Nkwo Umuchima, examining how the periodic closures have affected trading activities and revenue generation.
ii. To investigate the correlation between the sit-at-home order and agriculture in Ideato Nation: The study will explore how restrictions on movement have affected farmers' ability to transport goods, sell produce, and sustain agricultural activities.
iii. To evaluate the effect of the sit-at-home order on healthcare, education, and retail services in Ideato Nation: This objective will assess the extent to which these essential sectors have been affected by the inability of residents to access services due to movement restrictions.
iv. To examine the long-term economic implications of the sit-at-home order for Ideato Nation's development: The study will analyse how the continued enforcement of the sit-at-home order could affect the region's future growth, investment potential, and overall economic stability.

Review of Related Literature

The IPOB sit-at-home order, a political tool employed by the Indigenous People of Biafra to push for the release of their leader and to advocate for Biafran independence, has had far-reaching economic consequences. Studies on the impact of such political movements globally and locally show a common pattern of economic disruptions and social instability. For instance, studies by Udeh and Onuoha (2020) reveal that politically motivated shutdowns in conflict zones, like in Myanmar and Venezuela, led to sharp declines in local economies due to business closures and restricted movement. Similarly, investigations into Catalonia's independence protests showed that political actions such as strikes can significantly impact local and regional economies (Gonzalez & Esteve, 2018).

Locally, the Southeast region of Nigeria has borne the brunt of the IPOB sit-at-home order. A study by Okeke et al. (2021) found that the sit-at-home directive has caused extensive economic damage, with daily income losses for local businesses and reduced productivity across key sectors such as agriculture and trade. The analysis by Mbah and Ude (2022) corroborates this, highlighting the devastating effects on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the region, with Ideato Nation as a focal point of economic decline due to its reliance on markets and trade routes. Ekechi and Nwankwo (2021) further emphasize how

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agricultural productivity in the Southeast has been stifled by the inability of farmers to access markets, causing post-harvest losses and reducing food supply.

Relevant theories provide a framework for understanding the situation. From an economic perspective, the theory of opportunity cost is pertinent. According to Okafor (2020), the Southeast region, particularly Ideato Nation, incurs significant opportunity costs due to the enforced sit-at-home order, as the potential income and economic activities lost on these days cannot be recovered. Historical theories of resistance, as discussed by Uche and Obi (2019), highlight how political movements often use economic disruption as a tool for drawing attention to their cause, albeit at a significant social and economic cost to the local population.

Globally, the use of economic sabotage as a tool for political expression has been studied in places like Kashmir and Palestine, where protests and strikes have paralysed economic life (Ahmed, 2019; El-Sayed, 2020). These movements share similarities with IPOB's strategy, where prolonged shutdowns weaken local economies but also draw international attention to their political grievances. In the case of Ideato Nation, studies like that of Nnamdi and Ogbu (2022) demonstrate that local economies that rely heavily on agriculture and market trade are especially vulnerable to such orders, as farmers and traders depend on daily economic activities for their livelihoods.

Furthermore, the socio-economic consequences of prolonged shutdowns in Nigeria's Southeast echo findings from studies on the impact of civil disobedience globally, where regions subject to periodic strikes experience stagnation and rising poverty levels (Johnson & Khan, 2017). As shown in Ogu (2023), the enforcement of the sit-at-home order in Nigeria has led to a collapse of business confidence, a drop in investment, and rising inflation due to supply chain disruptions.

In summary, studies suggest that politically motivated economic shutdowns, like IPOB's sit-at-home order, have profound and lasting impacts on regional economies. For Ideato Nation, a commercial hub in Southeast Nigeria, the effects are particularly severe, as disruptions to markets, trade, agriculture, and essential services have hindered the region's development trajectory. These are the basis for the hypotheses, stated in null form:
$H_0$1: There is no significant and positive effect of the sit-at-home order on key markets' activities in Ideato Nation
$H_0$2: The sit-at-home order has no significant effect on agricultural activities in Ideato Nation
$H_0$3: There is no significant relationship between the sit-at-home order and healthcare, education, transport, and retail services delivery in Ideato Nation
$H_0$4: The sit-at-home order does not have any long-term economic implications on the economic development of Ideato Nation
These findings underscore the need for policymakers to address the root causes of such protests to mitigate their economic impact and promote regional stability.

Research Methodology
This study employs a survey research design to examine the impact of the IPOB sit-at-home order on the economy of Ideato Nation. This design is suitable for capturing the perspectives and experiences of respondents regarding the economic implications of the sit-at-home order, allowing for the collection of relevant quantitative data. This methodology is appropriate as it

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enables the collection of quantitative data from a diverse group of respondents, facilitating an understanding of public opinion and economic implications at a specific point in time.

Population and Sample Size

The target population for this research includes 400 individuals, comprising market men and women operating in key markets like Orie Akokwa, Afor Urualla, Eke Obodo Ukwu, Ntueke, Osina, and Nkwo Umuchima; agriculturalists including smallholder farmers and livestock keepers; and healthcare, education, transport, and retail services providers. A convenience sampling method was used to determine the sample size, resulting in a sample of 200 participants. This sample size, *n*, was calculated using the Taro Yamane formula:

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

Where *N* is the population size, and *e* is the margin of error (5% or 0.05). Substituting the values provides:

$$\frac{400}{1+400(e)^2} = \frac{400}{2} = 200$$

Research Instrument

The primary instrument for data collection is a structured questionnaire, designed to align with the research objectives and hypotheses. The questionnaire was divided into two sections: the first section gathered demographic information, while the second section focused on specific questions related to the economic impact of the sit-at-home order. The market union leader in Eke Obodoukwu, the woman leader in Akokwa and youth chairman in Obioha were magnanimous in helping mobilise respondents and collect the necessary data for this study.

To enhance understanding, some questions were translated into local vernacular and Pidgin English, ensuring clarity for all respondents. The questionnaires were administered personally by the researcher, with assistance from local community members to facilitate participation.

Data Collection Process

The questionnaire was distributed among the selected participants in various markets and agricultural settings. Each participant was instructed to complete the questionnaire by marking their responses in the provided options. The personal administration of the questionnaires helped clarify any ambiguities and ensured higher response rates.

Data Analysis

The collected data were analysed using both descriptive and inferential statistical methods. Descriptive statistics, such as frequencies and percentages, were employed to summarize the demographic characteristics of the respondents and their responses to each question. This initial analysis provided insights into general trends and patterns within the data.

For hypothesis testing, the Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was utilised to analyse the relationship between the variables. Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (often denoted as *r*) measures the strength and direction of linear relationship between two (or more) continuous variables. It ranges from -1 to 1, where 1 indicates a

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perfect positive linear relationship, -1 indicates a perfect negative relationship, and 0 indicates no linear relationship. The regression model is given by

$Y = \alpha + \beta X$ --- (1)

Where $\alpha = \hat{a} = \bar{y} - b\bar{x}$,

$\beta = \frac{N\Sigma XY - (\Sigma X)(\Sigma Y)}{N\Sigma X^2 - (\Sigma X)^2}$,

$\bar{y}$ = the mean of Y, and

$\bar{x}$ = the mean of X.

Each of the hypotheses was tested from questions drawn from the concepts and theories adopted in the course of the study.

The responses were categorised using the 4-point Likert scale (*viz*. Strongly Agreed, Agreed, Disagreed, and Strongly Disagreed). Three questions were posed for each of the hypotheses. To quantify the data (i.e. derive the numerical weights for the responses), all the responses for each scale were assigned numerical weights and summated, and from there the final data extrapolated as in Egbulonu & Ojiako (2018).

Strength of Association

The decision rule is, with a significance level (α) of 0.05 used, if p-value < 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis (that there is a significant correlation). However, if p-value ≥ 0.05, we fail to reject the null hypothesis (there is no significant correlation).

The strength of correlation is given by:

0.0 – 0.1 No correlation,
0.1 – 0.3 Weak correlation,
0.3 – 0.5 Moderate correlation,
0.5 – 0.7 Strong correlation,
0.7 – 1.0 Very strong correlation.

For each of the four (4) models, the variables were derived from the research objectives and hypotheses and data synthesised from the questions posed in the questionnaire (see *Appendix*).

Data analysis was conducted using SPSS version 23, which provided the necessary tools for the implementation of the Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient model and for conducting all statistical tests. This software enabled comprehensive analysis and interpretation of the data, facilitating a deeper understanding of the economic impacts of the sit-at-home order in Ideato Nation.

This methodology is designed to provide a robust framework for understanding the socio-economic consequences of the sit-at-home order, enabling informed discussions and potential policy recommendations based on the findings.

Data Presentation and Analysis

The analysis and interpretation were derived from the findings of the study. A total of two hundred (200) questionnaires were administered to respondents of which only one hundred and seventy-three (173) were returned and validated.

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The frequency tables below provide a comprehensive demographic breakdown of the 173 respondents, crucial for understanding the context of the study.

Frequency Tables

Table 4.1: Gender of respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	81	46.8	46.8	46.8
	Female	92	53.2	53.2	100.0
	Total	173	100.0	100.0	

Source: Authors' survey, SPSSv.23; ©2024

The distribution shows a slight female majority (53.2%) over males (46.8%). This relatively balanced ratio might influence perspectives on the socio-economic impacts of the sit-at-home order, as gender roles often dictate participation in economic activities. Females may have different economic responsibilities, especially in the context of markets and households.

Table 4.2: Age of respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	18-25	40	23.1	23.1	23.1
	26-35	48	27.7	27.7	50.9
	36-45	36	20.8	20.8	71.7
	46-55	26	15.0	15.0	86.7
	56 and above	23	13.3	13.3	100.0
	Total	173	100.0	100.0	

Source: Authors' survey, SPSSv.23; ©2024

The age group of 18-35 years comprises 50.8% of respondents, indicating a predominantly youthful demographic. This age group is often more engaged in informal sectors, which can be significantly affected by economic disruptions. Younger individuals may lack the financial buffers that older age groups might possess, making them more vulnerable to economic instability.

Table 4.3: Occupation of respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Farmer	53	30.6	30.6	30.6
	Trader	52	30.1	30.1	60.7
	Transport Worker	33	19.1	19.1	79.8
	Civil Servant	23	13.3	13.3	93.1
	Other	12	6.9	6.9	100.0
	Total	173	100.0	100.0	

Source: Authors' survey, SPSSv.23; ©2024

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The predominant occupations are farmers (30.6%) and traders (30.1%), highlighting the reliance of Ideato Nation on agriculture and commerce. The high percentage of farmers suggests that the agricultural sector is crucial for the local economy, and disruptions in this sector could lead to food insecurity and reduced income for many families.

Table 4.4: Location of respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Orie Akokwa	17	9.8	9.8	9.8
	Afor Urualla	25	14.5	14.5	24.3
	Eke Obodo Ukwu	39	22.5	22.5	46.8
	Ntueke	28	16.2	16.2	63.0
	Osina	38	22.0	22.0	85.0
	Nkwo Umuchima	26	15.0	15.0	100.0
	Total	173	100.0	100.0	

Source: Authors' survey, SPSSv.23; ©2024

Table 4.5: Monthly income level

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Less than ₦30,000	22	12.7	12.7	12.7
	₦30,001 - ₦60,000	30	17.3	17.3	30.1
	₦60,001 - ₦90,000	27	15.6	15.6	45.7
	₦90,001 - ₦120,000	60	34.7	34.7	80.3
	₦120,001 and above	34	19.7	19.7	100.0
	Total	173	100.0	100.0	

Source: Authors' survey, SPSSv.23; ©2024

A significant portion of respondents (34.7%) earn between ₦90,001 and ₦120,000. This indicates a moderate economic status; however, it also suggests that many households live close to the financial edge. Economic disruptions from the sit-at-home order could lead to significant hardship among these households, potentially pushing them below the poverty line.

Overall, the frequency tables reveal a community heavily reliant on agriculture and informal trading, with a youthful population that is particularly susceptible to economic disruptions.

Test of Hypotheses

For Hypothesis 1:

$H_0$1: There is no significant and positive effect of the sit-at-home order on key markets' activities in Ideato Nation

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$H_1$1: There is a significant and positive effect of the sit-at-home order on key markets' activities in Ideato Nation

Variables considered
Market Impact, Revenue Impact, and Transport Impact

The regression result is given below:

Table 4.6: Correlations: Market Impact, Revenue Impact, and Transport Impact

		Market Impact	Revenue Impact	Transport Impact
Market Impact	Pearson Correlation	1	.829**	.081
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.288
	N	173	173	173
Revenue Impact	Pearson Correlation	.829**	1	.036
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.641
	N	173	173	173
Transport Impact	Pearson Correlation	.081	.036	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.288	.641	
	N	173	173	173

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).
Source: Authors' computation; SPSS v.23 ©2024

Interpretation of Data
From the data analysed, the Pearson correlation coefficient ($r = 0.829$, $p < 0.05$) indicates a very strong negative relationship between the sit-at-home order and market activities. This result leads to the rejection of the null hypothesis, confirming that the sit-at-home order substantially disrupts trading activities. The magnitude of the correlation suggests that even a brief enforcement of the order can lead to significant revenue losses for key markets.

Decision: We reject the null hypothesis ($H_0$1) as there is a significant correlation between e-banking activities and agricultural output.

For Hypothesis 2:
$H_0$2: The sit-at-home order has no significant effect on agricultural activities in Ideato Nation
$H_1$2: The sit-at-home order has a significant effect on agricultural activities in Ideato Nation

Variables considered
Agriculture Impact, Revenue Impact, Transport Impact, and Productivity Impact

The regression result is given below

Table 4.7: Correlations: Agriculture Impact, Revenue Impact, Transport Impact, and

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Productivity Impact

		Agriculture Impact	Revenue Impact	Transport Impact	Productivity Impact
Agriculture Impact	Pearson Correlation	1	.784**	.610**	.671**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000	.000
	N	173	173	173	173
Revenue Impact	Pearson Correlation	.784**	1	.384**	.515**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000	.000
	N	173	173	173	173
Transport Impact	Pearson Correlation	.610**	.384**	1	.433**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000		.000
	N	173	173	173	173
Productivity Impact	Pearson Correlation	.671**	.515**	.433**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	
	N	173	173	173	173

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).
Source: Authors' computation; SPSS v.23 ©2024

Interpretation of Data
From the data analysed, the correlation ($r = 0.784$, $p < 0.05$) between the sit-at-home order and agricultural activities indicates a profound negative impact, particularly on transportation and market access for farmers. The rejection of the null hypothesis highlights that the restrictions significantly hinder farmers' ability to sell produce, affecting their livelihoods and local food supply.

Decision: We reject the null hypothesis ($H_0 2$) as there is a significant correlation between e-banking activities and agricultural output.

For Hypothesis 3:
$H_0 3$: There is no significant relationship between the sit-at-home order and healthcare, education, transport, and retail services delivery in Ideato Nation
$H_1 3$: There is a significant relationship between the sit-at-home order and healthcare, education, transport, and retail services delivery in Ideato Nation

Variables considered
Healthcare Delivery Impact, Education Impact, and Transport Impact

The regression result is given below:

Table 4.8: Correlations: Healthcare Delivery Impact, Education Impact, and Transport Impact

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		Healthcare Delivery Impact	Education Impact	Transport Impact
Healthcare Delivery Impact	Pearson Correlation	1	.514**	.467**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000
	N	173	173	173
Education Impact	Pearson Correlation	.514**	1	.641**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000
	N	173	173	173
Transport Impact	Pearson Correlation	.467**	.641**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	
	N	173	173	173

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).
Source: Authors' computation; SPSS v.23 ©2024

Interpretation of Data
With correlations of healthcare delivery (r = 0.514), education (r = 0.641), and transport impacts (r = 0.467), the data illustrates a substantial negative relationship between the sit-at-home order and access to essential services. The rejection of the null hypothesis emphasizes that movement restrictions severely limit residents' ability to access healthcare, education, and transportation, further exacerbating socio-economic conditions.

For Hypothesis 4:
$H_0$4: The sit-at-home order does not have any long-term economic implications on the economic development of Ideato Nation
$H_1$4: The sit-at-home order does not have any long-term economic implications on the economic development of Ideato Nation

Variables considered
Long-term Economic Impact and Investment Deterrence

The regression result is given below

Table 4.9: Correlations: Long-term Economic Impact and Investment Deterrence

		Long-term Economic Impact	Investment Deterrence
Long-term Economic Impact	Pearson Correlation	1	.713**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	173	173

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Investment Deterrence	Pearson Correlation	.713**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	173	173

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).
Source: Authors' computation; SPSS v.23 ©2024

The correlation ($r = 0.713$, $p < 0.01$) between long-term economic impact and investment deterrence confirms that the sit-at-home order has significant long-term implications. The rejection of the null hypothesis reflects concerns about potential declines in investment and economic stability as continuous disruptions create an unfavorable business climate.

Discussion of Findings

The findings underscore the severe economic ramifications of the IPOB sit-at-home order on Ideato Nation.

1. **Market Disruptions:** The strong negative correlation between the sit-at-home order and market activities indicates that closures not only impede immediate trading but also damage long-term business relationships and consumer trust. Traders may seek alternative markets or cease operations altogether, leading to reduced economic vitality.

2. **Agricultural Challenges:** The adverse effects on agriculture highlight a critical vulnerability within the local economy. Farmers' reliance on immediate sales means that transportation restrictions can lead to wasted produce and lost income. This situation can create a cycle of poverty, as farmers may lack the financial resources to recover from such losses.

3. **Access to Services:** The impact on healthcare and education illustrates a broader societal challenge. Movement restrictions prevent individuals from accessing vital services, which can have cascading effects on community health and educational attainment. For instance, delays in healthcare can lead to worsening health conditions, which may further strain community resources.
4. **Long-term Implications:** The potential for long-term economic decline raises concerns about the sustainability of local businesses and agricultural practices. Investment deterrence due to ongoing instability may discourage new ventures and hinder economic growth, perpetuating a cycle of underdevelopment.

Conclusions

The IPOB sit-at-home order has had a profound negative impact on the economy of Ideato Nation, disrupting key markets, agricultural activities, and essential services. The demographic analysis reveals a community highly dependent on informal trading and agriculture, making it particularly vulnerable to economic shocks. The strong correlations observed indicate that the repercussions of the sit-at-home order may extend beyond immediate financial losses, posing long-term risks to economic stability and growth.

Recommendations

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1. Engagement with IPOB: Local authorities should engage in dialogue with IPOB to address underlying grievances while finding ways to minimize economic disruptions during future sit-at-home orders.

2. Support for Farmers: Implement programmes to support farmers, such as providing transport subsidies or creating alternative marketing channels to ensure that agricultural produce reaches markets even during restrictions.

3. Enhanced Access to Services: Develop strategies to maintain access to essential services like healthcare and education during movement restrictions. Mobile clinics and online learning platforms could be explored to ensure continuity of services.

4. Economic Diversification: Encourage diversification of the local economy beyond agriculture and informal trading. Initiatives could include vocational training and support for small businesses to create a more resilient economic base, and

5. Community Awareness Campaigns: Conduct community awareness campaigns about the implications of the sit-at-home order, emphasizing the importance of maintaining economic activity while also addressing security concerns.

By implementing these recommendations, Ideato Nation can work towards mitigating the adverse effects of the sit-at-home order while fostering a more resilient and sustainable economy.

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Appendix

Respondent ID	Market Impact	Agriculture Impact	Revenue Impact	Transport Impact	Productivity Impact	Healthcare Delivery Impact	Education Impact	Long-term Economic Imnact	Investment Deterrence
1	15	18	19	12	16	12	12	17	17
2	20	13	14	13	19	13	13	15	14
3	17	13	16	15	18	15	15	13	12
4	13	14	12	16	20	16	16	20	19
5	14	17	14	19	12	19	19	12	13
6	16	15	13	14	17	14	14	19	20
7	19	16	18	18	14	18	18	11	12
8	12	13	11	20	11	20	20	16	14
9	18	18	19	17	20	17	17	17	20
10	15	17	16	14	19	14	14	15	19
11	17	16	18	15	14	15	15	18	15
12	12	15	11	16	17	16	16	14	19
13	20	16	19	12	18	12	12	20	17
14	18	13	15	19	11	19	19	15	20
15	14	15	14	13	16	13	13	19	12
16	13	13	13	12	12	12	12	11	12
17	19	16	18	15	17	15	15	12	15
18	16	18	20	11	14	11	11	16	14
19	11	15	11	18	12	18	18	18	14
20	14	18	15	20	16	20	20	14	12
21	16	17	19	12	15	12	12	17	15
22	13	15	11	17	19	17	17	20	19
23	18	14	18	16	12	16	16	15	20
24	15	16	14	11	17	11	11	13	15
25	12	16	12	20	20	20	20	18	14
26	14	14	15	13	14	13	13	12	19
27	20	17	19	16	18	16	16	11	13
28	17	16	17	14	15	14	14	17	14
29	19	18	19	15	20	15	15	19	12
30	12	15	14	20	16	20	20	14	18
31	16	17	18	12	19	12	12	12	14
32	15	14	15	13	12	13	13	20	11
33	11	13	11	15	14	15	15	15	12
34	18	14	19	11	20	11	11	19	20
35	20	17	19	13	12	13	13	12	19
36	17	17	18	16	19	16	16	20	15
37	14	18	14	19	20	19	19	18	15

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38	19	15	20	12	14	12	12	11	12
39	12	15	12	18	16	18	18	17	18
40	15	18	16	20	19	20	20	14	14
41	18	19	18	19	14	19	19	19	20
42	13	14	15	11	14	11	11	12	12
43	17	16	19	15	19	15	15	15	16
44	14	12	14	13	12	13	13	18	18
45	19	18	19	12	18	12	12	13	15
46	16	18	17	18	17	18	18	17	19
47	12	16	13	20	15	20	20	14	14
48	20	18	17	14	19	14	14	19	19
49	14	12	15	20	12	20	20	16	17
50	13	20	12	19	20	19	19	12	13
51	17	18	20	11	18	19	12	20	17
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54	14	11	12	19	11	15	20	17	18
55	11	15	12	16	15	19	12	19	20
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62	20	20	20	15	19	14	11	20	18
63	11	14	14	19	12	15	20	18	16
64	16	15	15	11	14	19	18	11	13
65	19	18	18	15	20	11	14	17	15
66	14	14	14	20	19	12	15	13	11
67	20	18	18	15	12	19	11	14	14
68	15	18	18	19	14	12	16	16	15
69	12	13	13	11	20	14	15	19	17
70	11	11	11	12	19	20	14	12	10
71	18	20	20	12	16	14	15	18	20
72	17	17	17	17	17	20	15	15	17