

Geographical Analysis of Socio-economic Characteristics of Traffic in Persons Sources in Southern Nigeria

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Abstract: The study examined the socio-economic characteristics of traffic in persons (TIPs) sources in Southern Nigeria. The study considered human trafficking data between 2010 and 2014 from National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Person (NAPTIP). Descriptive statistics was used to analyse the data. Results showed that the mean population of TIPs sources was 229,296 persons and the population was highest in Akwa Ibom State (19.1%). Population of people living in poverty was highest in Cross River State (23.2%) followed by Bayelsa State (12.3%) while the least was observed in Osun State (0.7%). Similarly, the population with extreme poverty was also observed in Cross River State (28.0%) and Bayelsa (12.2%). Considering the accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people, Bayelsa State was highest (19.9%), followed by Akwa Ibom State (16.1%) and Cross River State (12.2%). Furthermore, about 80% of the total population of Lagos and Abia States had access to improved water while it was 24.6% in Cross River State. Also, not less than 80% of the population in relation to the entire population had access to improved sanitation in Lagos, Abia, Anambra and Imo States while it was 12.3% of the entire population of Bayelsa State. Akwa Ibom State and Cross River State had higher population of young people enrolled in primary school and secondary school. Moreover, Lagos State had the highest (61.9%) proportion of literate people in relation to the total population of the state while the lowest was found in Ebonyi State (33.7%). Of the entire population of Lagos State, 91.8% had access to electricity while more than 70% of the population of Anambra, Edo and Abia States had electricity in their household and the least was found in Cross River State. The study recommended that poverty should be abolished among the residents of the Southern Nigeria and adequate infrastructural facilities should be put in place.

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Keywords: Population, Socio-economic characteristics, Southern Nigeria, Traffic in person

1. Introduction

Human trafficking is a mind boggling process which works inside unlawful frameworks and structures and therefore it is hard to follow and indict (Yukoshko, 2009). Forster (2013) indicated that current servitude, sex-trafficking and the utilization of kid troopers are criminal exercises which are on the whole known as human trafficking. Human trafficking has a complex financial and political premise connected to bigger worldwide procedures and does not require being taken care of with easy-going activities (UNESCO, 2006).

Anderson and Davidson (2002) clarified that trafficking falls inside a continuum of experience which ranges from individuals who are either transported at gunpoint, then constrained in the process of childbirth using physical or sexual brutality or passing dangers, to individuals who are neither cheated nor pressured in any case. Human movement is the third biggest unlawful exchange after medication activity and arms exchange (United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF), 2006). The yearly trafficked in persons (TIPs) reported by USAID (2005) put the assessment of individuals trafficked all inclusive at 4 million

every year; 800,000 persons move crosswise over worldwide fringes yearly; 80% of trafficked casualties are accepted to be females and half are youth and kids while larger part are trafficked for business sex. International Labour Organization (ILO) (2010) assessed a supply of somewhere in the range of 1.2 million youngsters who had been trafficked in 2004 were still in a circumstance of abuse. This appraisal incorporates cross-outskirt and interior trafficking. A noteworthy result of TIPs is the deprivation of its casualties the benefit to practice their entitlement to opportunity, instruction and even the wellbeing among others (ANPPCAN 2010; Omotola, 2011). These youthful persons are presented to sexual misuse from their paramour's spouses and now and again the adult children of their lords.

Records over time showed that pervasive source regions of TIPs were Edo, Abia, Akwa Ibom, Ebonyi, Imo, Enugu and Cross River States while the most widely recognized travel states were Niger, Lagos, Borno, Sokoto and Cross River (NAPTIP, 2008). Olateru-Olagbegi and Ikpeme (2006) found that children from rural communities in Cross-Rivers, Akwa Ibom, Benue, Ebonyi, Kwara, Bayelsa, Imo,

Anambra, Oyo State and border villages in Ogun State are trafficked for domestic service to the urban or city centre such as Lagos, Kano, Port-Harcourt, Ibadan and Kaduna. The same report shows that the southern states of Nigeria are particularly implicated in this inhuman trade. Trafficking to these regions is overwhelmingly for exploitative residential work, ranch work and prostitution (UNESCO, 2006). UNICEF (2007) reported that the poor financial circumstance in Nigeria has prompted unemployment and high rates of school drop-out. Subsequently, numerous youngsters are unengaged and more vulnerable to be trafficked by wrongly alluring them with great work somewhere else. Unarguably, human trafficking has noteworthy negative effects on the casualty, his family, communities and country. This unending pattern in human trafficking has kept on producing serious worry in strategic and scholastic circles. Previous research on human trafficking in Nigeria such as Olateru-Olagbegi and Ikpeme (2006); Kunze (2010); Akpan and Oluwabamide (2010); Akor (2011); Omotola (2010); Onyeizugbo and

Eukay (2011) focussed on the impact of human trafficking especially in the area of prostitution and child labour which were restricted to small geographic locations like a state or Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Nigeria. Investigating the geographical analysis of the socio-economic factors of TIPs in Southern Nigeria is very rare in the literature. Thus, the present study examined the geographical analysis of the socio-economic factors of TIPs in Southern Nigeria.

2. Methodology

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

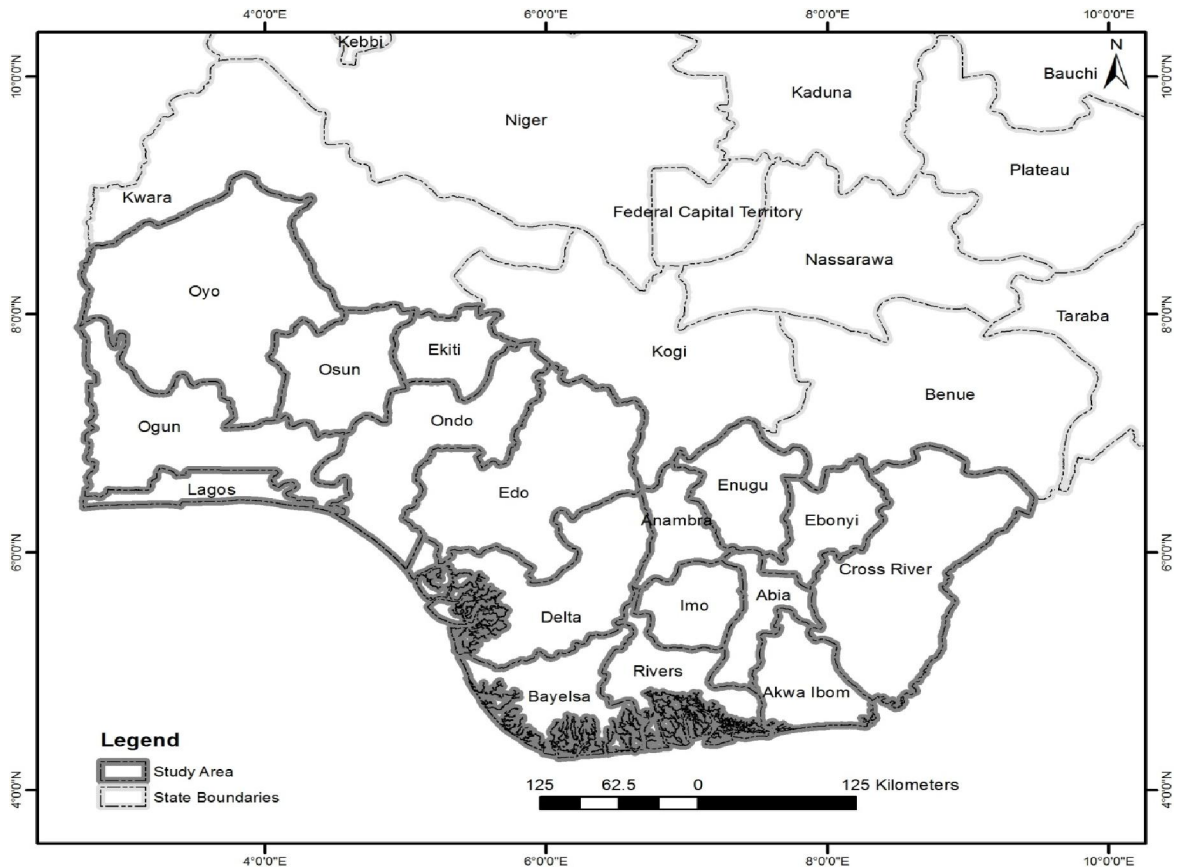


Figure 1: Southern States of Nigeria

The climate is the humid sub-equatorial type (Aweto, 1981) with high annual rainfall ranging between 1600 mm and 3000 mm (Ogolo and

Adeyemi, 2009). Land in relation to the population, is relatively scarce especially in the Niger Delta Region of the study area and as population increases, the

pressure on land for all purposes including agriculture increases accordingly. Majority of the population are Christians while English or pidgin English serves as the national language. The total population of the study area is 65,162,068 (National Population Commission, 2006) in which Lagos, Oyo and Rivers States are the most populous while the population in Bayelsa is the lowest. Farming, fishing and trading are common human activities in the study area. The pattern of settlement in the southern part of Nigeria is largely determined by the availability of dry land. There are pockets of highlands recorded in the South-west and South-east while low relief (15-30m) above sea level dominates most of the South-south part.

Secondary data were used for this study. Data on human trafficking between 2010 and 2014 in the study area were collected from National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (NAPTIP) both from the Southern Zone and Abuja Zone (Table 1). The socio-economic characteristics of traffic in persons used in this study were proportion of people living in poverty, proportion of people living in extreme poverty, accessibility of city of $\geq 50,000$ people, proportion of people with access to improved water, proportion of people with access to improved water, proportion of people with access to improved sanitation, population of young people enrolled in primary school, population of young people enrolled in secondary school, proportion of literate people-15 years and above, population of people with electricity in their household. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze the socio-economic factors of the TIPs per

state with the use of simple percentages. Bar and line charts were used for data presentation. All analyses were done in Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) Version 20.0.

3. Results

The socio-economic characteristics of sources of TIP are presented in Table 4.7. These included population, proportion of people living in extreme poverty, proportion of people living in poverty, accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people, proportion of people with access to improved water, proportion of people with access to improved sanitation, population of young people enrolled in primary school, population of young people enrolled in secondary school, proportion of literate people (15 years and above) and population of people with electricity in their household.

Population of TIP Sources and Number of Victims of Human Trafficking

The mean population of the TIP sources was 229,296 persons (Table 1). The population was highest in Akwa Ibom State (19.1%) while the population of Cross River, Rivers and Abia States was 10.2%, 7.8% and 9.4% respectively (Figure 1) and the lowest population was observed in Ogun State (1.1%) (Figure 1). However, the incidence of human trafficking between 2010 and 2014 in Southern Nigeria was highest in Akwa Ibom recording 220 victims out of the 460 incidences recorded. Also higher records were noticed in Cross River, Imo, Rivers and Abia State (Figure 2).

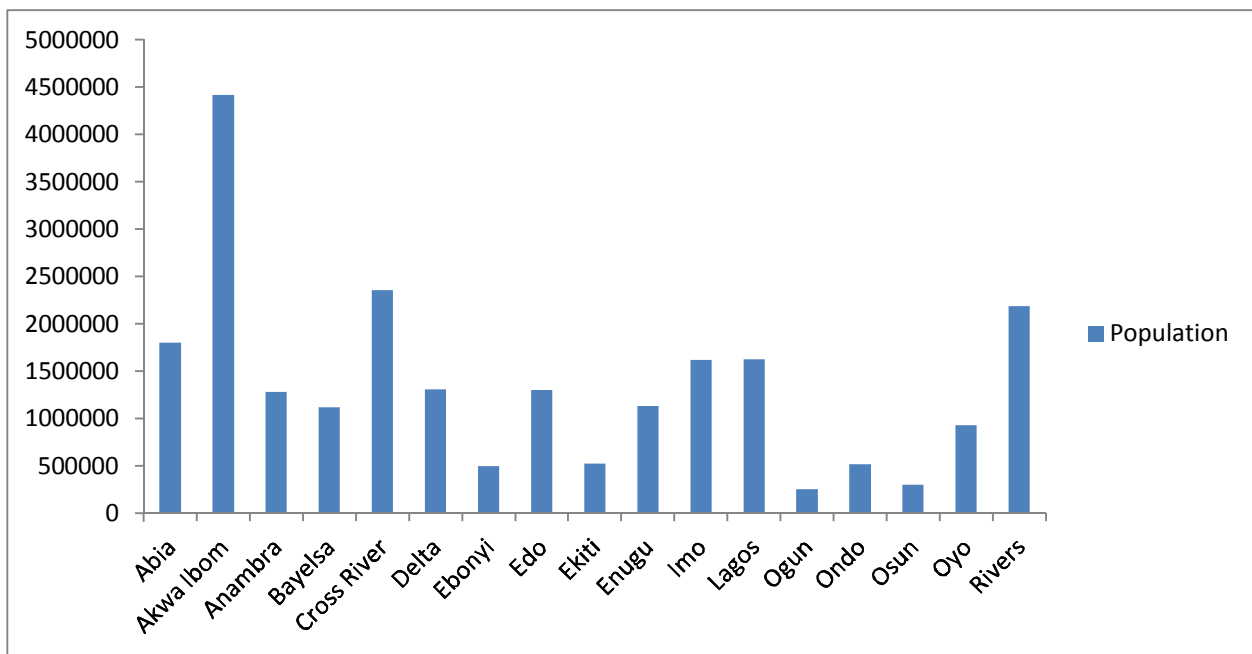


Figure 1: Population of TIPs

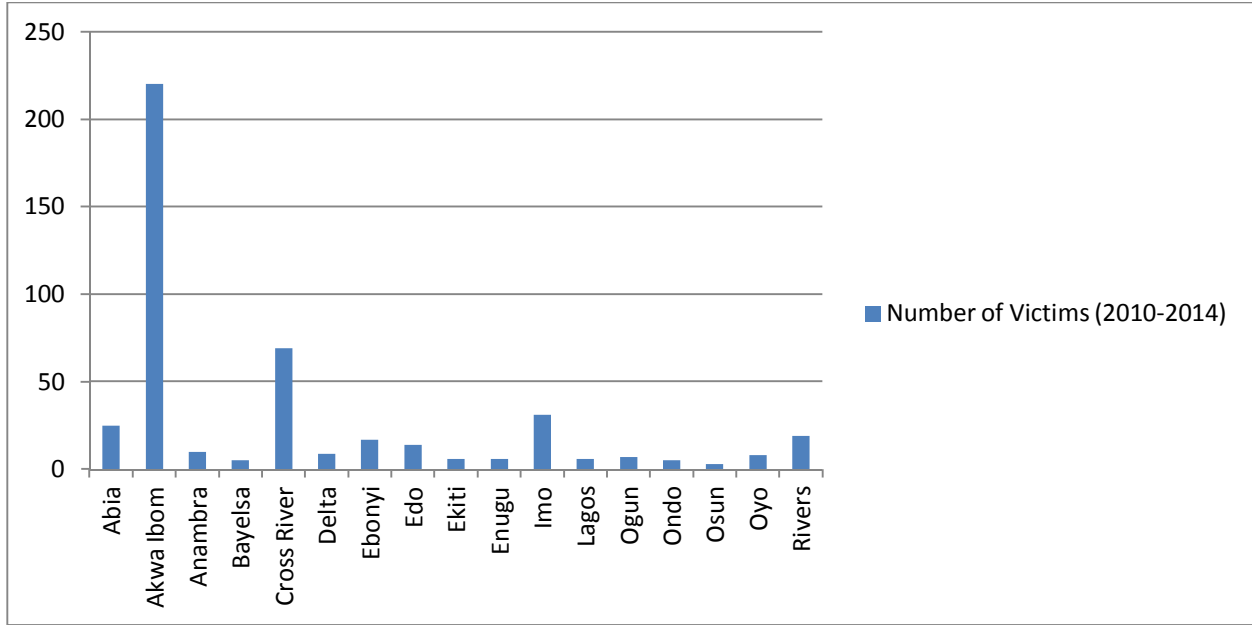


Figure 2: Victims of Human Trafficking in Southern Nigeria
 Source: National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Person (NAPTIP), 2015

Table 1: Socio-economic characteristics of TIP sources in Southern Nigeria

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

N=101

Source: Researcher’s computation, 2016

Population of people living in poverty and extreme poverty in TIP Sources in Southern Nigeria

Results showed that the mean proportion of people living in poverty in the Southern Nigeria were 427 persons. The distribution among the state showed that the proportion of people living in poverty was highest in Cross River with 23.2% of the affected population (Figure 3). Bayelsa State had 12.3% while each of Oyo State and Akwa Ibom State had 10.9%. The lower proportion of people living in poverty was observed in Ogun State, Anambra State and Osun State with 2.8%, 1.9% and 0.7% respectively (Figure 3). Relating the people living in poverty in each state with their total population, Oyo, Ogun and Bayelsa

States had the highest population of 0.5% each of total population (Figure 4).

However, the mean proportion of people living in extreme poverty in the study area was 340 persons (Table 1). Cross River State took the lead with 28.0% of the affected population (34310), Bayelsa State had 12.2% and Akwa Ibom had 11.6% (Figure 4). The least was observed in Osun State with 0.6% of the affected population (Figure 1). Analysis also showed that proportion of the people living in extreme poverty in relation to the entire population of a state was highest in Cross River and Bayelsa States (0.4%), followed by Ebonyi, Ogun and Oyo States (0.3%) (Figure 4).

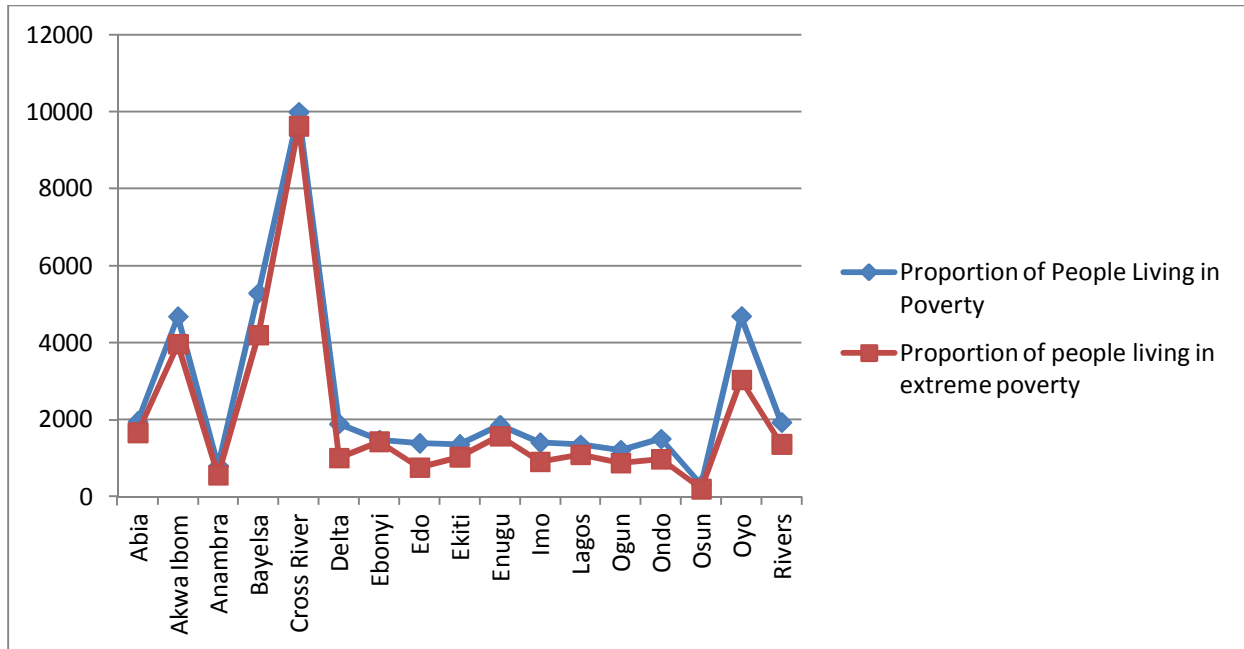


Figure 3: Proportion of people living in poverty and extreme poverty in TIP sources of Southern Nigeria

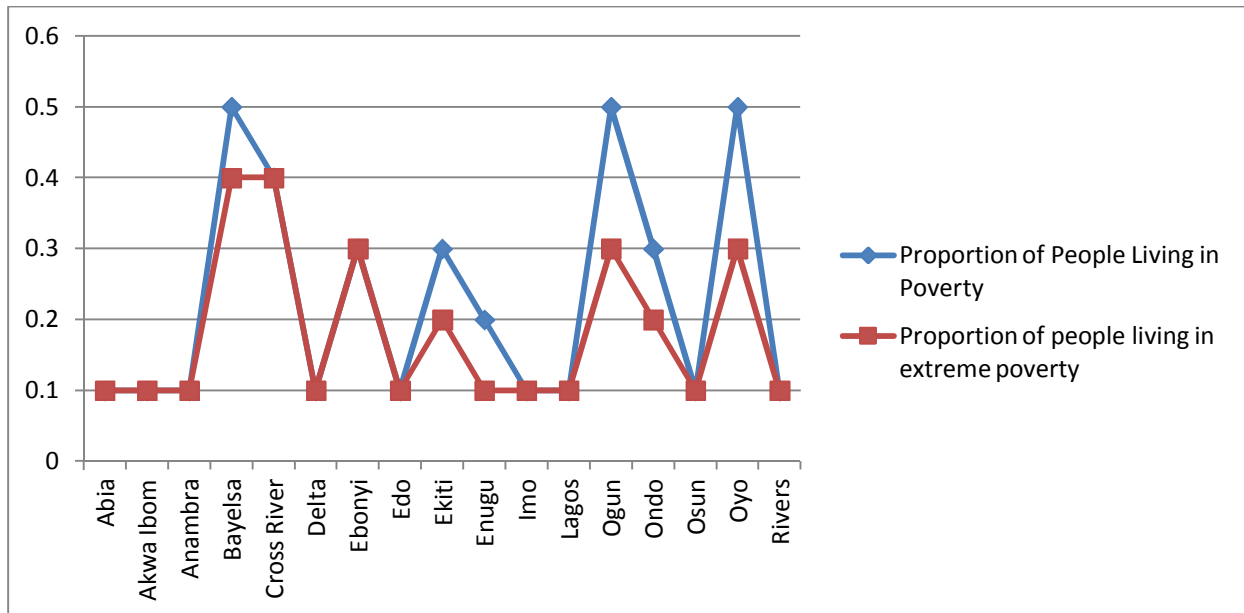


Figure 4: Proportion of people living in poverty and extreme poverty in relation to total population of the state in TIP sources of Southern Nigeria

Accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people in the TIP sources in Southern Nigeria

Reporting the analysis of the accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people, it was found that Bayelsa State had 19.9% of the total affected population (15171 persons), 16.1% in Akwa Ibom State, 12.2% in Cross River (Figure 5). Lower population of 1.1% and 0.8% was observed in Ogun and Osun States respectively (Figure 3). However,

the mean population in the TIP sources in the Southern Nigeria having accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people was 150 persons (Table 1). Analysis showed that Bayelsa State had the highest population of 0.3% of the entire population had accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50,000 people while the least was observed in Anambra and Lagos States with 0.01% (Figure 6).

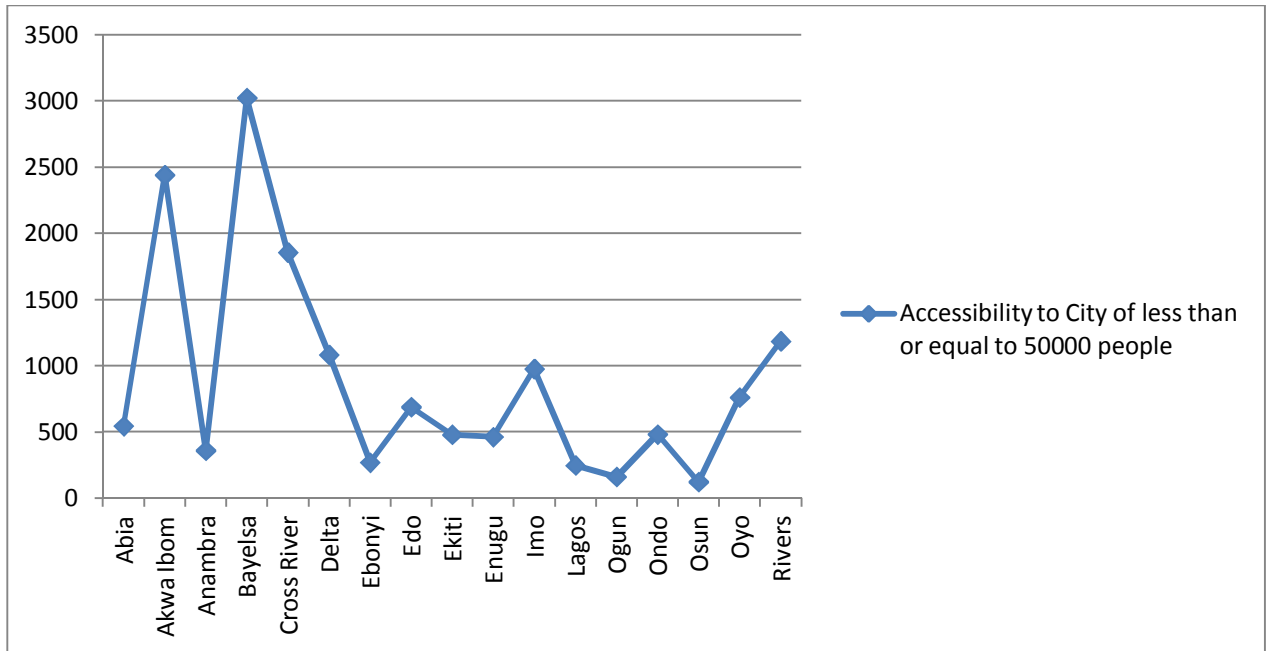


Figure 5: Population having accessibility to city of less than or equal to 50000 people in the TIP sources in Southern Nigeria

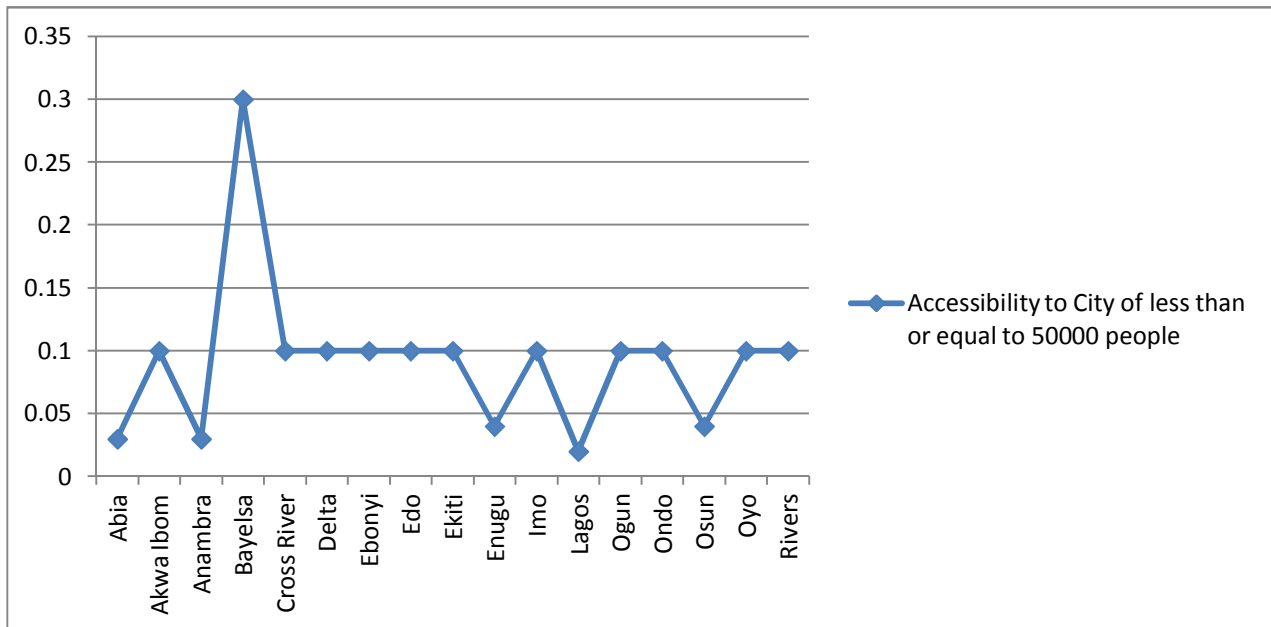


Figure 6: Population having accessibility to city less than or equal to 50000 in relation to total population of the state in TIP sources of Southern Nigeria

Proportion of people with access to improved water and improved sanitation

The mean proportion of people with access to improved water in the entire Southern States of Nigeria was 145521 persons (Table 1). Based on the distribution by state, 19.6% of the total affected population (14697628 persons) had the access in Akwa Ibom State, followed by Rivers State having

10.4% and Abia State having 10.3% (Figure 7). In addition, 1.6% and 1.2% of the affected population had access to improved water in Osun and Ogun State respectively (Figure 7). Analysis showed that over 80% of the population of Lagos and Abia States had access to improved water while the least was observed in Cross River State (24.6%) (Figure 8).

The average proportion of people with access to improved sanitation in the entire study area was 134052 persons (Table 1). Akwa Ibom had the highest proportion of people (22.7%) with access to improved sanitation of the total affected population, followed by Abia State having 11.1%, followed by Lagos State (10.3%) and Imo State (9.6%) (Figure 7). Each of Ebonyi, Ogun, Osun and Bayelsa States had

lower proportion of people of 1.1% with access to improved sanitation (Figure 7). Minimum of 80% of the population in relation to the entire population had access to improved sanitation in Lagos, Abia, Anambra and Imo States while 12.3% of the entire population of Bayelsa State had access to improved sanitation (Figure 8).

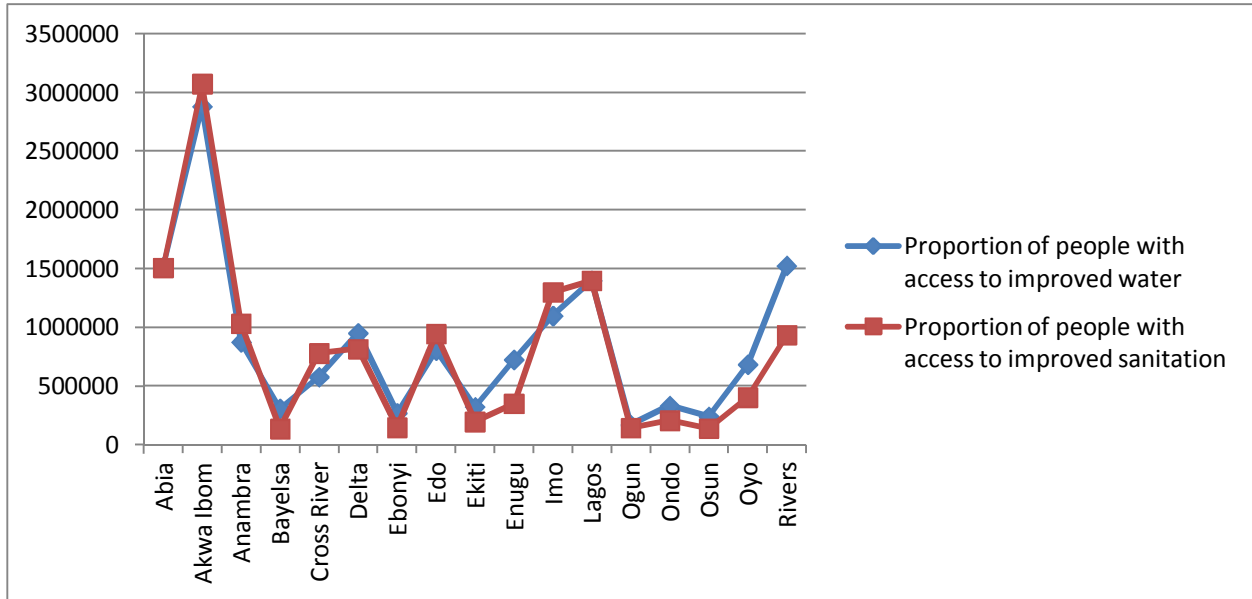


Figure 7: Proportion of people with access to improved water and sanitation in TIP sources of Southern Nigeria

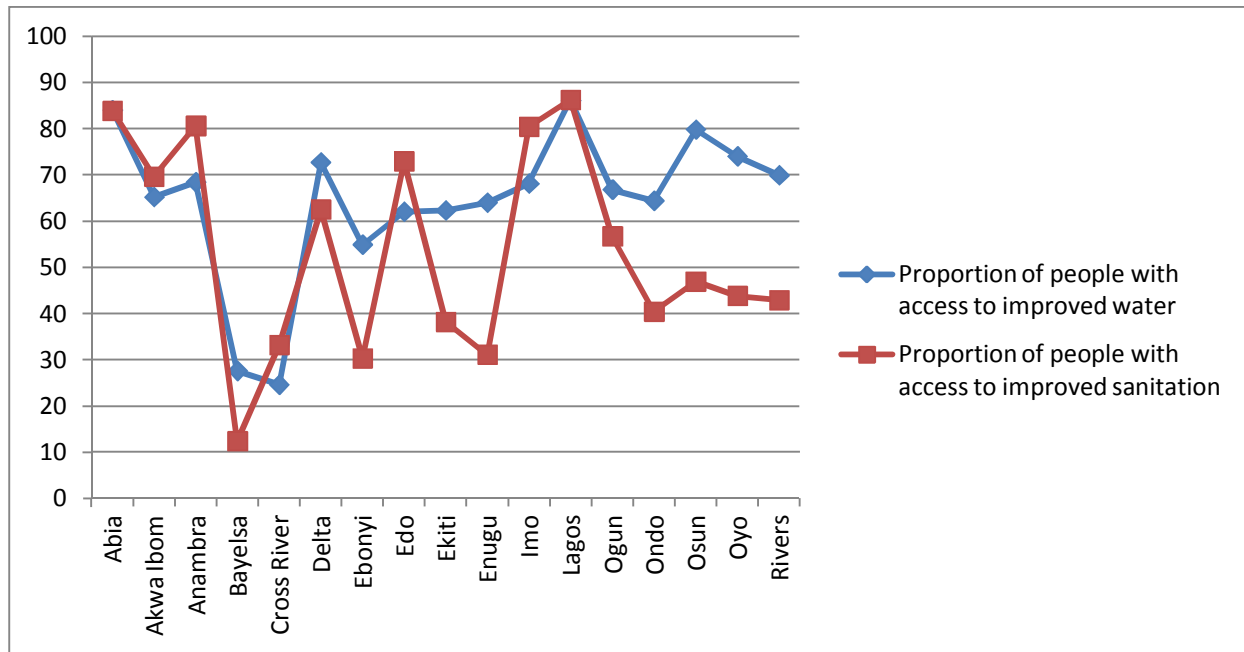


Figure 8: Proportion of people with access to improved water and improved sanitation in relation to total population of the state in TIP sources of Southern Nigeria

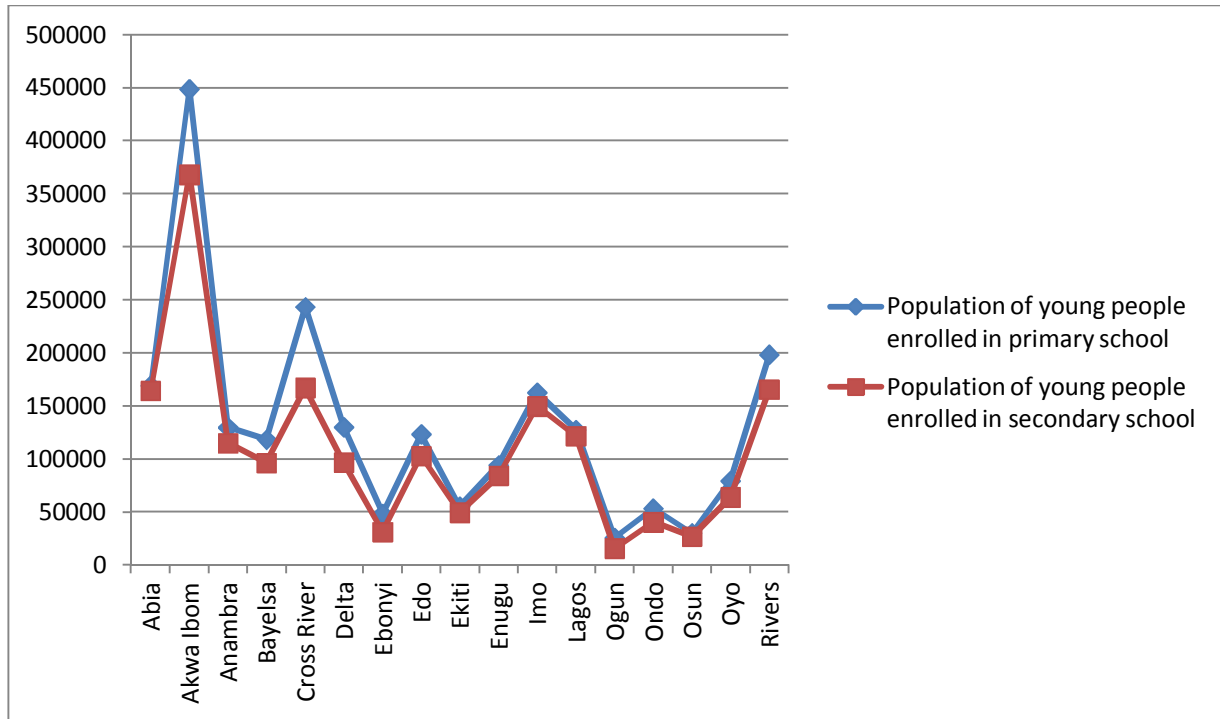


Figure 9: Population of young people enrolled in primary school and secondary school in TIP sources of Southern Nigeria

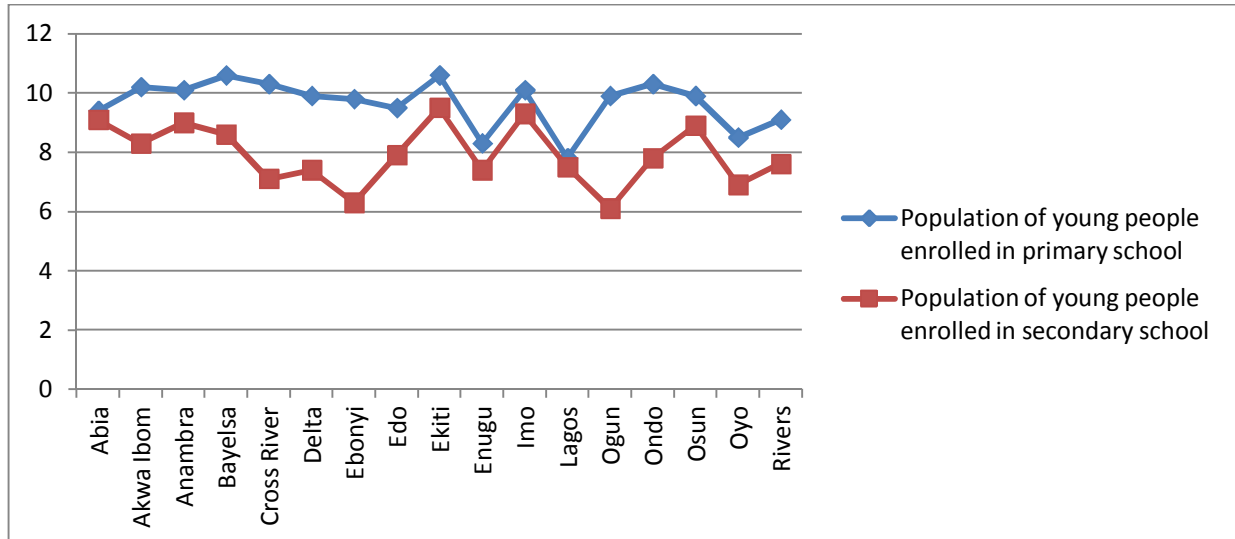


Figure 10: Population of young people enrolled in primary and secondary school in relation to total population of the state in TIP sources of Southern Nigeria

Population of young people enrolled in primary school and secondary school

The mean population of young people enrolled in primary school in the study area was 22142 persons (Table 1). Akwa Ibom had the highest (20.1%) population of young people enrolled in primary school, followed by Cross River with 10.9%, followed by Rivers State having 8.9% (Figure 9). Lower proportion was observed in Osun and Ogun

States having 1.3% and 1.1% respectively (Figure 9). However, 10.6% of the entire population in Ekiti and Bayelsa States were young people enrolled in primary school while 7.8% of Lagos State enrolled young people in primary school (Figure 10).

The mean population of young people enrolled in the secondary school in the TIP States was 18398 persons (Table 1). It was observed that of the total population of the young people enrolled in secondary

school, Akwa Ibom had 19.8%, followed by Cross River having 9.0%, Rivers had 8.9% and Abia State had 8.8% (Figure 9). The lower proportion was found in Osun State with 1.4% of the population and 0.8% was found in Ogun State (Figure 9). Of the entire

population, Ekiti State had the highest (9.5%) population enrolled in the secondary school, followed by Imo State (9.3%) while the least was observed in Ogun State (6.1%) (Figure 10).

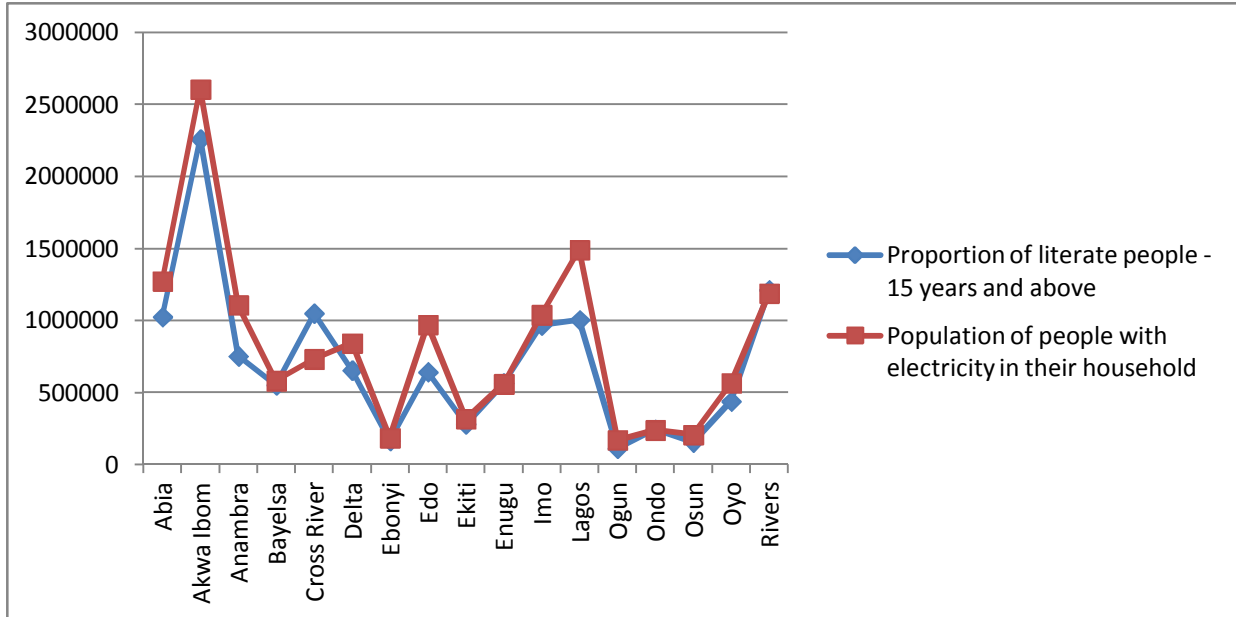


Figure 11: Proportion of literate people (15 years and above) and population with electricity in their household in TIP sources of Southern Nigeria

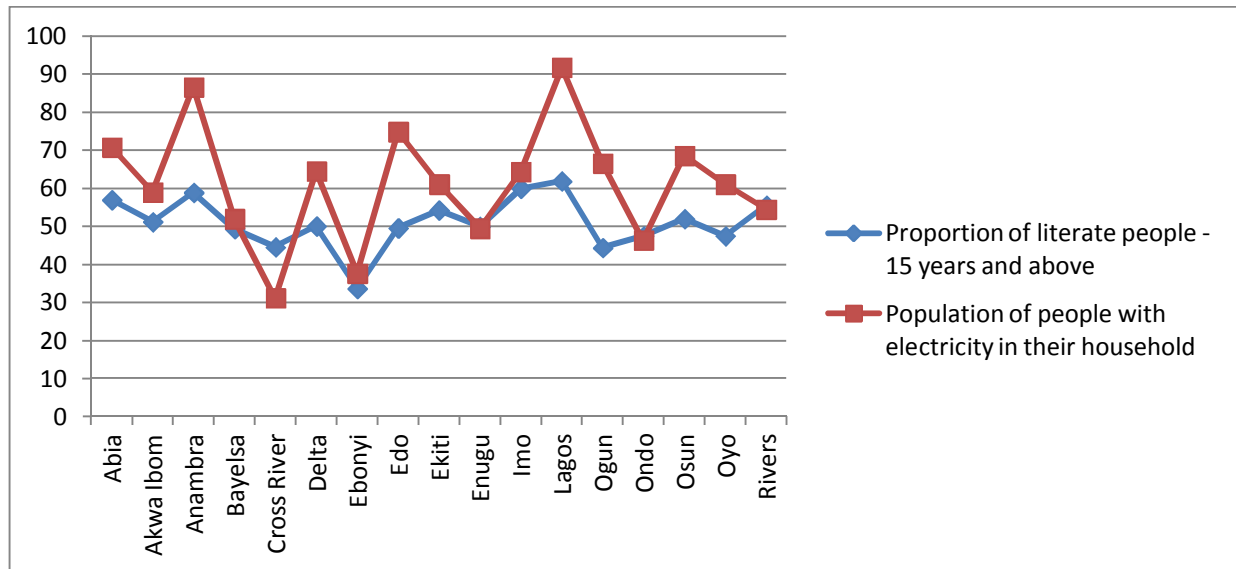


Figure 12: Proportion of literate people (15 years and above) and population of people with electricity in relation to total population of the state in TIP sources of Southern Nigeria

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

The proportion of literate people (15 years and above) was highest in Akwa Ibom (18.7%) (Figure

11). It is followed by Rivers State having 10.0%, Cross River 8.7% and Abia State 8.5% (Figure 11). On the other hand, Ebonyi, Osun and Ogun States had lower proportion of literate people with 1.4%, 1.3% and 0.9% of the total affected population

respectively (Figure 11). However, the mean proportion of literate people (15 years and above) in the entire study area was 119905 persons (Table 1). Lagos State had the highest (61.9%) proportion of literate people in relation to the entire population of the state while the lowest was found in Ebonyi State (33.7%) (Figure 12).

The mean population of people with electricity in their household in the entire study area was 139576 persons (Table 1). Akwa Ibom State had the highest population of 18.5% having electricity in their households, followed by Lagos State (10.6%) and Abia State (9.04%) (Figure 11). Also, Ogun State had the least population of 1.2% of the total affected population, followed by Ebonyi State which had 1.3% and Osun State having 1.5% (Figure 11). Of the entire population of Lagos State, 91.8% had access to electricity while more than 70% of the population of Anambra, Edo and Abia States also had electricity in their household and the least was found in Cross River State (Figure 12).

4. Discussion

The total number of persons trafficked was about 460 persons who were gotten from Southern States of Nigeria with higher proportion from Rivers, Imo, Abia, Cross River and Akwa Ibom State. Akwa Ibom and Cross Rivers were also reported in UNESCO (2006) as major sources of human trafficking; though Delta, Edo, Imo, Ebonyi, Delta, Ogun, Oyo and Lagos were also mentioned. It was observed that proportion of population living with poverty was relatively high in Cross Rivers State (23.2%), Akwa Ibom State (10.9%), Bayelsa (12.3%) and Oyo State (10.9%). Also proportion of population living with extreme poverty was high in Cross River (28.1%), Akwa Ibom (11.6%) and Bayelsa (12.2%). Incidentally, the number of victims was higher in Cross River and Akwa Ibom States. The proportion of population that have access to improved water was low in Bayelsa (2.1%) and Cross River (3.9%). Moreover, comparing with the total population, less than 25% of the population had access to improved water in both Bayelsa and Cross River States. Similarly, the proportion of population living with improved was very low in Bayelsa State (1.0%), Enugu State (2.6%) and Cross River State (5.8%). This constituted 12.4% in Bayelsa State, 31.1% in Enugu State and 33.2% in Cross River State when compared with the total population of each of these States.

The implication is that majority are being exposed to water-borne diseases like cholera, diarrhoea, and elephantiasis to mention a few. An environment with poor sanitation will also attract prevalence of various types of diseases which make

the environment unsafe. These may facilitate easy human trafficking whenever it is suggested. Based on this analysis, there is an indication that Bayelsa State may become highly prevalent TIP sources in the nearest future.

Percentage of people with access to safe water in Nigeria is low (Muta'aHellandendu, 2012) but it is more difficult in the Niger Delta because the estuaries which penetrate very far inland leaving many places surrounded by saline inlets (Chukwu, 2015). Magami and Ibrahim (2016) reported that children continue to suffer disproportionately from diarrhoea diseases, with more than 2 million children being killed by diarrhoea and pneumonia-related illnesses.

In addition, Akintola (2011) and Arokoyu and Ukpere (2014) noted that the health consequences of unsatisfactory drinking water supply and poor sanitation conditions included diarrhoea diseases such as cholera, typhoid fever, salmonellosis, other gastrointestinal viruses, and dysentery, gastroenteritis, infectious hepatitis, hookworm, guinea worm and scabies. Low proportion of literate people (15 years and above) was recorded in Ebonyi State (1.4%) and compared to the total population of Ebonyi State 33.7% were literate.

Eze (2010) noted the importance of literacy as a means of obtaining education, communicating effectively, gaining employment and participating fully in the society. As a matter of fact, Chukwu (2012) observed that low rural capacity utilization of 8% was attributed to the perceived low literacy level of 12% and 69% of the population who were predominantly farmers in Ebonyi State. Compared to other South Eastern States in Nigeria, Ebonyi State recorded the highest adult illiteracy and the highest gender disparity in education (National Bureau of Statistics, 2013).

The lowest proportion of population having electricity in their household was recorded in Ebonyi State (1.3%) and Cross River State (5.2%). However, less than 40% of the population of Ebonyi and Cross Rivers States had electricity in their households. Similar to Bayelsa State, Ebonyi State could become prevalent to human trafficking if adequate care is not given.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

The study has revealed the socio-economic characteristics of TIP sources in Southern Nigeria with a view to understanding that Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Ebonyi and Bayelsa States have the tendency to have higher victims of human trafficking incidences. The study therefore recommended that government and non-governmental organization should find lasting solution to poverty so that the gap between the rich and the poor can be reduced which

could discourage and curtail the tendency of human trafficking in the Southern States of Nigeria. However, social amenities like electricity, schools, improved water and sanitation should be made available to people at both rural and urban areas in Southern part of Nigeria.

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