

Paper Title:

CORRELATES OF POLICE STATIONS AND CRIME MANAGEMENT IN ILORIN METROPOLIS

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ABSTRACT

Police stations are an important and visible aspect of police force organisation. A survey was conducted in Ilorin metropolis to examine the spatial distribution of police stations and their correlation with crime prevention and control. Data were gathered from both primary and secondary sources, with 120 copies of questionnaire administered. Data on the spatial locations of police stations were obtained from reports, the Nigeria Police Force, and journals. The study revealed that the majority of residents in the area were underserved by police stations, indicating a shortage of police personnel to combat crime. The current ratio of one police personnel to 1,318 persons was far lower than the ratio of 1:450 persons recommended by the United Nations. The study recommended that the government recruit more personnel into the police force, apply physical planning mechanisms to strategically locate new police stations, and adopt new technologies, such as GIS, to combat crime.

Keywords: Crime, crime control, crime prevention, police station, urban planning, urban security

1. INTRODUCTION

Insecurity is a contending issue worldwide, ranging from global summit to local conferences. The premise is that, the security of lives and properties cannot be overemphasised. The plethora of crimes comprising armed robbery, kidnapping, terrorism, overall victimisation, suicide bombing, arson, banditry, and politically motivated killing have become unprecedented and awakened fear (Adegoke, 2014).

According to Dambazau (2007), Nigeria has an unenviable position on the global crime map, whether statistically or perceptually. Since the 1980s, this feat has given rise to a variety of criminal dimensions, including human trafficking, fraud, financial and electoral malfeasances, general acts of corruption, terrorism, banditry, insurgency, among others. These criminal directions have plunged Nigeria and her citizens into the state of *Sturm und Drang*. According to a 2015 survey conducted by Afrobarometer, 39 percent of Nigerians felt unsafe in their various neighbourhoods, while 33 percent were concerned about crime occurring in their homes.

The fundamental responsibility of any civilised government (Federal or State) is to guarantee maximum security of its citizens and their properties continuously (Adegoke, 2014). This duty is frequently performed by law enforcement agencies, with the police taking the lead. By definition, the police are the upholders of law and order in any society, state, or region, within or between nations. As asserted by Bindler and Hjalmarsson (2021), who evaluated the effect on crime of creating a fundamental modern-day institution, notably the creation of the London Metropolitan Police on crime and document, more policing deters violent crime. By way of scoping, the duties of the police include (i) identifying the source and nature of a crime; and (ii) arresting perpetrators of the crime. Moreover, the police have a constitutional duty to furnish the judges with credible shreds of evidence beyond reasonable doubt that perpetrators are guilty as charged. However, discharging these responsibilities effectively presents a considerable challenge, as crime situations are either handled with levity due to a lack of motivation and inadequate infrastructure or micromanaged due to incompetence. This challenge has heightened citizens' concerns, particularly among urban dwellers. Notably, the police continue to be responsible for meeting the people's safety and security needs.

Crime, as observed by Adebayo (2013), is associated with the rate of urban degeneration. It has the proclivity to threaten any country's social, economic, cultural, and political landscape. More

so, the prevalence of crime can create an environment impervious to social and financial investments and increase property and insurance claims (Bako et al., 2020). It can also create a socio-psychological issue, increase legal allegations and social media unrest. Crime has the propensity to dampen the age-long relationships between state and non-state actors, public and private citizens, and ultimately lead to public distrust in any nation's democracy and a breakdown in the rule of law of a nation.

In comparison, persistent security problems in developing countries, including Nigeria, are inextricably linked to the government's apathy or ineptitude. It may seem as though these problems far outstrip the capability of the government to respond in line with urban realities. In the submission of Uhunmwangho & Aluforo (2011), which was corroborated by Achumba, et al (2013), extant efforts in improving and reforming the entire policing architecture in Nigeria have yielded little success.

Police stations represent an important and visible aspect of the organisation of police forces (Blesse and Diegmann, 2022). Since crime is a territorial issue, the strategic location and distribution of police stations and command are a sine qua non to the effective prevention and control of crime. Basorun (2006) suggested that a police post, by standard, must serve a maximum of 5,000 individuals in a given area. This assertion further re-enacts that, in addition to location, population and community size play a pivotal role in controlling and preventing crime at all levels of urban planning. Against this backdrop, this study attempted to analyse the spatial distribution of police stations in Ilorin metropolis, as well as their role in crime prevention and control. It also provides planning ideas to help the police and other law enforcement agencies make decisions.

2. STUDY AREA

Ilorin is located between latitudes 8° 32'20" to 8° 24'41" and longitudes 4° 27'7"to 4° 38'39" with an area of about 765km². It lies in the plain of the Southwestern part of Nigeria (Figure 1). The city, which lies along the Lagos-Kaduna highway, is about 306 km from Lagos, 600 km from Kaduna, and about 500 km from Abuja, the Federal Capital city of Nigeria.

The city performs the function of the state capital and headquarters for the three local government areas, namely *Ilorin* East, *Ilorin* West, and *Ilorin* South Local Government Areas. The 2006 population figures showed that the city has a population of 777,667 (Nigeria Population

Commission, NPC, 2006) and a projected population of 1.212 million in 2021, heralding *Ilorin* as the sixth-largest city in Nigeria by population.

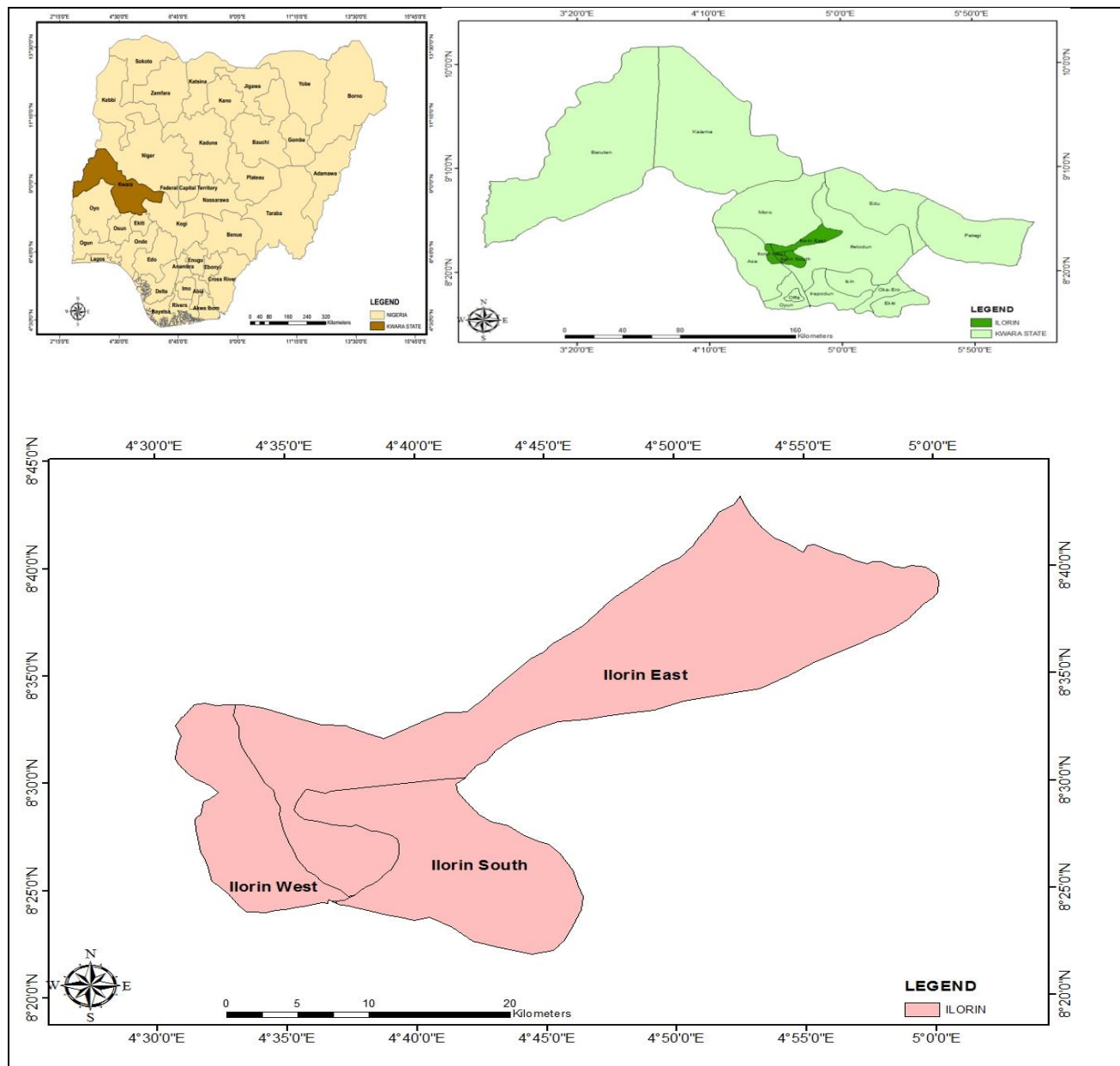


Figure 1: *Ilorin* and Kwara State within the National Context

Source: Google Maps Modified by Authors, 2019

The most important river is the Asa River which flows in the South-North direction. Asa River occupies a reasonably wide valley and goes a long way to divide *Ilorin* into the Eastern and the Western part. The East part covers those planned neighbourhoods where the government reservation area (GRA) is located, while the indigenous areas and traditional cores of *Ilorin* are

found in the Western part. Within the metropolis, the primary occupation includes distributive trading, civil service of varying cadres and persuasions, and a host of informal sector services. The modern residential part of *Ilorin* developed along the east and south of the Asa River. This area attracted several land-use types, including industrial, residential, administrative, commercial, transportation, institutions, communication, and health. Others are religious, recreational, financial, and general services. Specifically, the areas covered for the study are crime hotspots such as *Eleko/Poly Gate*, *Ipata*, *Gaa Akanbi*, *Coca-Cola/Obo Road*, *Oke-Odo*, and *Agbo-Oba*.

3. MATERIALS AND METHODS

This research work used primary and secondary data as the sources of data collection. The primary data, such as nature, drivers and frequency of occurrence of crimes, were obtained through an oral interview guide, questionnaire administration and direct field observation from divisional police stations and residents of the study area. Also, the global positioning system (GPS) device was used to source each police station's coordinates in the study area. The secondary data, such as background knowledge of the study, and maps were sourced through journals, chapters in books, published and unpublished reports, edited conferences, and existing documents and records from the police headquarters in *Ilorin*. Crime statistics and population growth rate from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS); population estimates were also obtained from the National Population Commission (NPC).

The crime hotspots being focused on by this study were obtained from Kwara State Police Headquarters, *Ilorin*. A reconnaissance survey was carried out to get familiarised with the areas. The identified crime hotspots are *Eleko/Polygate*, *Ipata*, *Gaa-Akanbi*, *Coca-Cola/Obo*, *Oke-Odo*, and *Agbo-Oba*. Based on the total number of 2,403 buildings enumerated across six (6) crime hotspot areas in the study area, a 5 percent sample size was taken (Table 1). This sample size amounted to 120 copies of questionnaire administered to gather information on the socio-economic characteristics of the residents, nature of crime, the existence of police station(s), patronage and the quality of services rendered by the police. Different sets of questionnaire were directed to identified police stations to elicit information on the adequacy of police personnel and operational equipment and the quality of services rendered to the public. Based on the identified crime hotspots, eight (8) of the police stations in the *Ilorin* metropolis (divisions A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and

Oke-oyi) were selected for the survey as the crime hotspots were adjudged to be under their jurisdiction.

Table 1: Sample Size Analysis of the Study Area.

S/N	Areas under Investigation	Building population	Percentage sampled at 5 percent sample size
	Eleko/Polygate	801	40
	Ipata	167	8
	Gaa Akanbi	520	26
	Coca-Cola/Obo road	140	7
	Oke-Odo	180	9
	Agbo Oba	600	30
	Total	2408	120

Source: Authors' Computation, 2019

The data were analysed using simple descriptive and inferential statistics. Also, ArcGIS 10.2 was used to geo-reference, digitise, prepare and present maps. Average Nearest Neighbour Analysis (ANNA) was employed to establish the distribution pattern of the police posts, and Proximity analysis was employed to determine the areas that are fully served or under-served by the police stations in the study area.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

4.1 Socio-economic Characteristics of the Respondents

The socio-economic characteristics of respondents are shown in Table 2. The study found that 53.3 percent of respondents were males, while 46.7 percent of respondents were female. With this, one can say both genders were fairly represented. 65.8 percent of respondents were singles, while 27.5 percent, 5.9 percent, and 0.8 percent of respondents were married, divorced and widowed, respectively. The higher number of singles among respondents is due to the identified hotspots being occupied mostly by students. The age distribution revealed that 99.2 percent of the respondents were between 18-55 years. In contrast, those from 55 years and above amounted to 0.8 percent. This analysis shows that most respondents were adults who were well acquainted with crime situations in their area.

The educational status of the respondents indicates that 91.6 percent were literates i.e., respondents can read, write, understand, and have secondary school leaving certificates. At the same time, the remaining 8.4 percent were either elementary school leavers or had no formal education. It however implies that majority of respondents were literate and could relate well to crime issues. The respondents' religious characteristics showed that 36.7 percent and 63.3 percent were practising Christianity and Islam, respectively. The occupational status of respondents reveals that 61.7 percent of the respondents were students. In comparison, 11.7 percent, 21.6 percent and 5.0 percent of respondents were public servants, traders and artisans, respectively. The reason for having a higher percentage of respondents as students is not far-fetched because three (3) of the identified crime hotspots (Agbo-Oba, Eleko/Polygate, Oke-Odo) were mainly occupied by the students of Kwara State Polytechnic and the University of *Ilorin*. Respondents, by nature, have a penchant for revelling in crime.

Table 2: Socio-economic Characteristics

Characteristics		Frequency	Percentage	Total
Sex	Male	64	53.3	100
	Female	56	46.7	
Marital status	Single	79	65.8	100
	Married	33	27.5	
	Divorced	7	5.9	
	Widowed	1	0.8	
Age	18-25 years	69	57.5	100
	26-35 years	33	27.5	
	36-45 years	9	7.5	
	46- 55 years	8	6.7	
	Above 55 years	1	0.8	
Educational status	Primary	5	4.2	100
	Secondary	23	19.1	
	Tertiary institution	87	72.5	
	No formal education	5	4.2	
Religion	Christianity	44	36.7	100
	Islam	76	63.3	
Occupation	Public Servant	14	11.7	100
	Student	74	61.7	
	Trading	26	21.6	
	Artisans	6	5.0	

Source: Authors' Fieldwork, 2019

4.2 Distribution of Police Station

Table 3 shows the number of police stations within the Ilorin metropolis and their location. The police stations include A, B, C, D, E, F, G and Oke-Oyi divisions. Ilorin, East Local Government (LGA) has two police stations (E and Oke-Oyi divisions); Ilorin West LGA has divisions B, C, D, and G; Ilorin South LGA has division G, and some parts of the Local Government Area have *Fufu* and *Ganmo* divisions. According to its Station Officer, Division 'A' has jurisdiction to cover every part of *Ilorin*, unlike other divisions covering specific communities within the *Ilorin* metropolis. The Kwara State Police Command has its headquarters located in the *Ilorin* metropolis, from where the name and locations of the sampled police stations were obtained.

Table 3: Police Stations within *Ilorin* Metropolis and Location

S/N	Police Station	Coordinate (Easting)	Coordinate (Northing)	Location
1	A Division	672077.28	937625.44	Ajase-Ipo Road
2	B Division	669056.45	937722.01	Surulere
3	C Division	670269.27	939457.91	Oja-Oba
4	D Division	667062.96	937919.36	Adewole
5	E Division	674316.89	941653.36	Kulende
6	F Division	677309.84	938856.17	Tanke
7	G Division	666685.18	941149.64	Oloje
8	Oke Oyi Division	689491.57	949354.91	Oke-Oyi

Source: Authors' Fieldwork, 2019

Figure 2 shows the distribution of the police stations within the *Ilorin* metropolis. The figure shows that there is an uneven distribution of police stations within the *Ilorin* metropolis. The Nearest Neighbour Analysis ascertained the uneven distribution of the police stations carried out using Arc Map 10.2. The Nearest Neighbour Analysis gives 1.6 (having the expected mean to be 3160.26 and the observed mean to be 5180.71), which shows that the police stations within the metropolis are randomly dispersed. Christaller's Central Place Theory, which demonstrates that, the location of services is based on the population threshold and range of services, cannot explain the distribution of police stations within the *Ilorin* metropolis. Given the size of communities, population, accessibility, and proximity, the locations of divisions have minor impact on crime control and prevention.

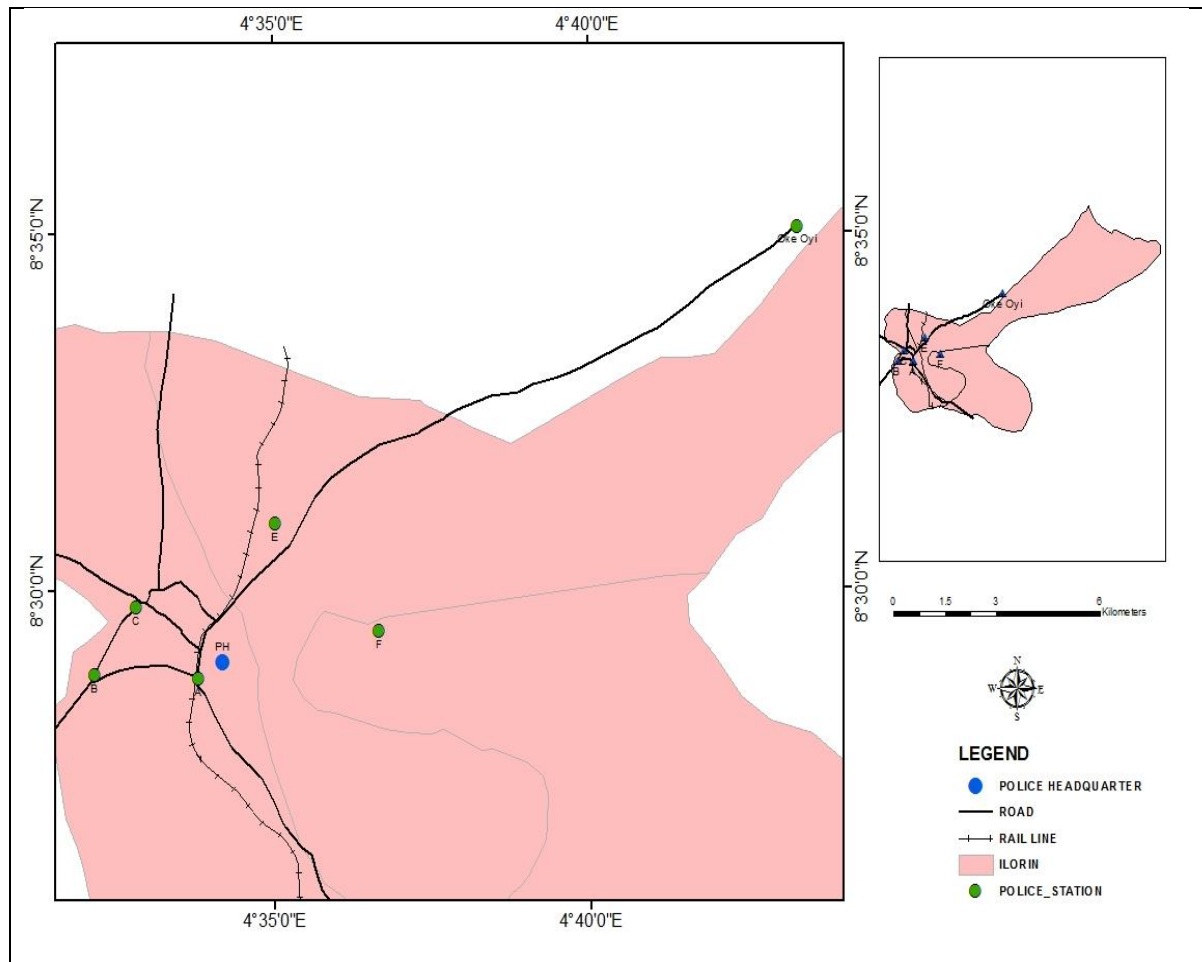


Figure 2: Distribution of the Sampled Police Stations within *Ilorin* Metropolis

Source: Authors' Fieldwork and Arc GIS, 2019

4.3 Knowledge Links between Distribution of Police Stations and Crime Hotspots

One of this study's major concerns was to examine the relationship between the distribution of police stations and crime hotspots.

As of the time of collecting data for this study, no standard regulation was provided to guide the locational distance of police stations in the study area. According to the Kwara State Police Command, where the spokesman was quoted saying, "establishment of new commands is at the behest of the dispensation of Inspector General of Police in power and availability of funds and not according to planning law and policies." The reason behind the 800 meters and 1600 meters buffer is that the study attempted to adopt the standard set by Basorun (2006), who put the maximum service radius for siting of the police command at 800 meters. Figure 3 shows the 800 and 1600 buffers created to determine the fully served and under-served areas supposedly under

the control of police stations. The buffer analysis shows that two of the crime hotspots, i.e., Coca-Cola/Obo and Agbo-Oba, were well served by the police stations, including other communities that fell within the 800 or 1600-meter radius instituted for this analysis. The implication of this is that residents of Ipata travelled more than 1.6km (1658 meters) to access the nearest police station (C division which happened to have Ipata under its jurisdiction). In the same vein, Oke-Odo falls under the 'F' division's jurisdiction, which means that its residents travel approximately 2km (2175 meters) to access the police station. 'F' division with Gaa-Akanbi under its jurisdiction usually has its residents travel a distance of more than 4km (4305 meters) to access the police station. Eleko/Polygate, which happens to have the highest incidences of crime, falls under the jurisdiction of the Oke-Oyi police station. The location of the station to Eleko/Polygate is approximately 11.5km (11565 meters). According to this study, areas that are considerably under-served by the police station include; Ipata, Oke-Odo, Gaa-Akanbi and Eleko/Polygate. These are captured in Table 4 purposely generated to show the proximity of the police stations to the crime hotspots.

Table 4: Locations of Police Stations and Proximity to Crime Hotspots

Police Station	Crime Hotspot	Nearest Distance (meters)
A	Coca-Cola/Obo	211.38
B	Agbo Oba	468.56
C	Ipata	1,658.01
F	Gaa-Akanbi	4,304.99
F	Oke Odo	2,174.79
Oke Oyi	Eleko/Polygate	11,565.21

Source: Authors' Fieldwork, 2019

It can be deduced from the results that the locations of some police stations have no substantial effect on the prevention and control of crime incidents in the identified crime hotspots. For instance, as close as the Coca-Cola/Obo is to 'A' division police station (211.3 meters), the area is still marked as a crime black spot (crime hotspot) by the Kwara State Police Command. The 'A' division's Station Officer stated that "having the station closer to the area is not the only factor to be considered in preventing and controlling crime. It includes other elements like an adequate and fully equipped workforce, and logistics (in terms of vehicles), which they are lacking."

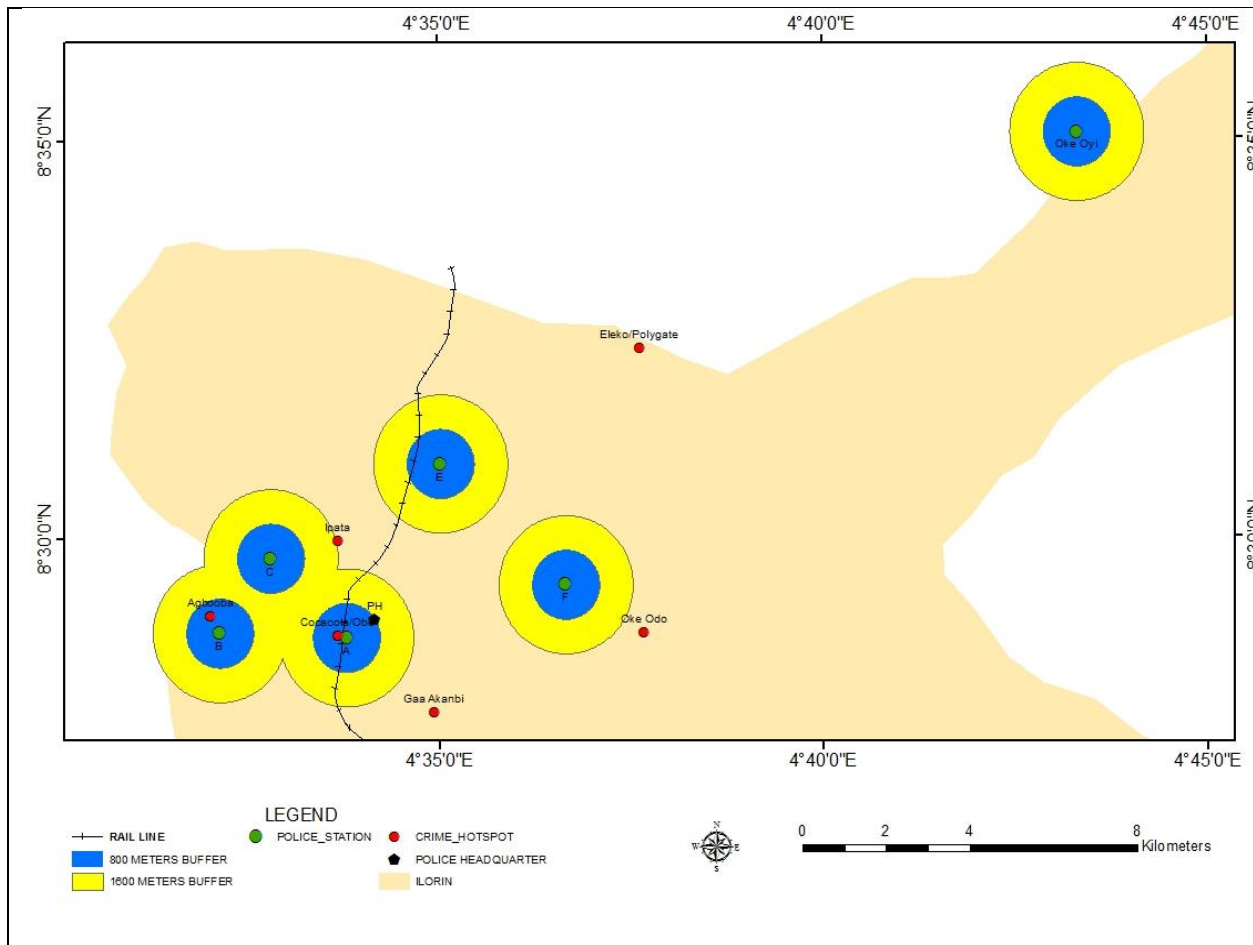


Figure 3: Buffered Zone around Police Stations
Source: Authors' Fieldwork and Arc GIS, 2019

On the other hand, the rate of crime in Eleko/Polygate cannot be overemphasised. As adumbrated by the Oke Oyi police chief, and considering the respondents' responses on crime prominence, the prevalence of crime can be very inundating due to the high level of cult-related activities in this area. Findings from the proximity analysis further lend credence to the fact that Eleko/Polygate is too distant from Oke-Oyi, contributing to the high crime rate and slow response rate of the Oke-Oyi divisional station in the area. Other factors contributing to Eleko/Polygate as a crime hotspot apart from not having a police station within a proximate distance include insufficient human resources, the police station having many communities under its jurisdiction, inadequate patrol vehicles, and proximity of the area to higher institutions.

4.4 Nature, Drivers, and Frequency of Occurrences of Crime in the Study Area

According to the Kwara State Police Command (2018), the state recorded 832 and 842 crime incidents in 2017 and 2016, respectively. In identifying the nature and magnitude of crime incidents in the study area, the residents and the police were sampled about the nature of crimes prominent in their area. Table 5 shows respondents' responses on the nature of crimes in their respective areas. These crimes show that 5.8 percent of the respondents claimed that armed robbery was prominent. Meanwhile, 2.5 percent and 30 percent of respondents reported that rape & sexual harassment, and burglary, respectively, were rampant. At the same time, 15.8 percent and 45.9 percent agreed that thuggery & public disturbance and other forms of violence like cult and gang-related activities such as drug trafficking, robbery, kidnapping and victimisation were dominant in the area. Respondents in Eleko/Polygate and Agbo-Oba communities stated that cultism is the primary form of crime that dominates their areas. The assertion of respondents from Eleko/Polygate and Agbo-Oba was corroborated by the police officers that 'cult and gang-related crimes are widespread in the areas mentioned above, and this is due to the high number of students in the area. There were traces of cult-related crimes in Gaa-Akanbi and Oke-Odo as well. According to the Station Officer ('A'Division), he stated that "robbery was predominant around Coca-Cola/Obo community, especially the stealing of motorcycles and other properties."

The Station Officer ('F' Division, Tanke) stated that apart from burglary, thuggery & public disturbance common in Oke Odo, domestic violence and robbery were also rampant. He was quoted saying, "burglary is rampant because most of the residents of Tanke, Oke-Odo inclusive who are civil servants usually file complaints of their houses being burgled after returning from work in the evening. The reason is that a burglar will burgle their houses after discovering the houses are empty in the morning and afternoon." According to the discussant, the causes of crime are poverty, peer pressure, and drugs.

Other causes of crime, according to respondents and the police during the field survey, are the increase in population growth rate that has resulted in unemployment, poor wages, poor living conditions, urban culture shocks, and poor quality of urban management. Also, discussions with station chiefs across the six divisions (A, B, C, F, and Oke Oyi division) revealed that the age range between 16-35years is usually the perpetrators of crime across the major crime hotspots

identified. This statistic shows that this age bracket possesses a robust strength with a high affinity and proclivity to commit a crime.

Table 5 also displays the frequency of crime in the study area. It shows that 63.3 percent of respondents asserted that crime occurs quite often in the surveyed crime hotspots. Furthermore, 29.2 percent of the respondents stated that crime occurs rarely, and 2.5 percent of respondents were not aware of the frequency of crime in the study area. Juxtaposing the data collected during the field survey with the crime mapping data of the sampled areas (Agbo-Oba, Coca-Cola/Obo, Eleko/Polygate, Gaa-Akanbi, Ipata, and Oke Odo), it can be ascertained that more than 50 percent of crime in *Ilorin* emanates from the crime hotspot areas in *Ilorin* metropolis.

Table 5: Nature, Drivers, and Frequency of Occurrences of Crime in the Study Area

Character	Frequency	Percentage
Nature of Crime		
Armed robbery	7	5.8
Rape & sexual harassment	3	2.5
Burglary	36	30.0
Thuggery & Public disturbance	19	15.8
Others	55	45.9
Total	120	100.0
Frequency of Crime Occurrence		
Quite often	82	68.3
Rarely	35	29.2
Not aware	3	2.5
Total	120	100.0

Source: Authors' Fieldwork, 2019

4.5 Reporting Crime at the Police Stations

The respondents were asked to express how crimes are being reported, and their responses are presented in Table 6. It was revealed that 28.3 percent of respondents have been to the police station to report a crime. At the same time, 71.7 percent of the respondents have never reported a crime at the police station. This reason is not far-fetched as many respondents have lost faith in the Nigerian police outfit to discharge their duties without any ineptitude. A discussant was quoted saying, "reporting a crime to Nigerian police is tantamount to a waste of time as three scenarios

might play out: (i) you might get detained and questioned like an animal for an offence you have come to report; (ii) you can be asked to pay mobilisation fee; or (iii) show signs of logistical unpreparedness." It may seem as though this ineptitude from the Nigeria Police Force has disabused many Nigerians, including the *Ilorin* residents, to report a crime.

The respondents were further queried why people do not visit a police station to report a crime, and Table 6 shows that 48.8percent of the respondents do not go to the police station to report a crime because of the distance to their respective homes; 3.7 percent of respondents stated that it is because of fear of the police; 19.5percent of respondents stated that their experience with the police influenced their staunch decision of shunning visits to the police station to report a crime; while 28.0percent of the respondents have other reasons for not visiting the police to report a crime. Other reasons people do not report a crime at the police station include: the perpetrators being their friends, relatives, or neighbours and the fear that perpetrators of the crime might hurt them. In rape cases, victims exhibit Stockholm Syndrome and find it impossible in lodging complaints of crime-related rape and sexual harassment. Some of the respondents believed that the police could be somewhat hostile towards the public. However, for police to effectively perform their duties, they require cooperation and support of the people.

Table 6: Reporting Crime at the Police Stations

Character	Frequency	Percentage
Ever been to the police station to report a crime		
Yes	34	28.3
No	86	71.7
Total	120	100.0
Reasons for never being to a police station		
Distance	59	48.8
Fear	4	3.7
Experience with police	23	19.5
Others	34	28.0
Total	120	100.0

Source: Authors' Fieldwork, 2019

4.6 The ratio of Police Personnel to Population

The number of police personnel and the population they protect must be balanced for any meaningful and effective policing. For the police to effectively prevent and control crime, the population of the citizens must keep pace with the number of police personnel. In examining the ratio of police personnel to the people in *Ilorin*, the number of police personnel obtained from Kwara State Police Headquarters in *Ilorin* was matched with the projected population of *Ilorin* as of 2018. The information revealed that the *Ilorin* metropolis currently has 869 police personnel. The projected population of *Ilorin* as of 2018 resulted in 1,145,503 persons; this put the ratio of police personnel to the population of *Ilorin* to be 1:1318. The current mix of police personnel in *Ilorin* is far from the United Nations' recommendation of 1:450. It is almost a threefold compromise of the United Nations (UN) standard (United Nations Africa Renewal, 2009). Therefore, as it stands, *Ilorin* is under-policed and under-secured at the same time.

The Nigeria police are saddled with the statutory responsibility of protecting the lives and properties of its residents. However, with a ratio of 1:1318, the police command in *Ilorin* is woefully and hugely understaffed and inadequate in preventing and controlling the crime rate in the metropolis. During the field survey, it was discovered that not all 869 police personnel were readily available to prevent and control crime in *Ilorin*. This reason is that some of the personnel were on leave; some were providing security for politicians, Governors with their Deputies, Speakers, and their wives, Judges, Royal Highnesses, and some were even posted to commercial banks. This premise further reinforces the strong assertion that the Nigerian Police Force is stressed to its limits. The personnel are often put through tiresome assignments that are extraneous to their primary mission of providing security to the general public.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The location of police stations is crucial in preventing and controlling crime. The Federal and Kwara State governments should ensure that future police stations are products of crime mapping and strategically located to enhance accessibility and improve the police response time to distress calls. The city planners, and other stakeholders saddled with site selection and planning for developmental projects, should ensure crime hotspots are considered in locating police stations and distributing police personnel. There should be an increase in the budgetary allocation from the Federation for the city police to acquire adequate equipment, and a thick-tank monitoring team

recognised by the constitution must be instituted to monitor the effective disbursement of monthly security votes to the appropriate organs. There is a need for recruitment into the police force to meet the UN recommendation of 1 police personnel to 450 populace. This makes will take some unemployed youths off the streets and curb crime, which young adults most often commit.

The police's orientation and archaic methodology in enfoldng modern technology in preventing and controlling crime must change. There is a need for the police to start recruiting more graduates into the force to improve training and change from the traditional method of crime control to the modern method. As a major crime prevention and control actor, the police need to develop certain Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capacities to deal with crime. This will make police identify crime hotspots when recording crime information.

Also, the physical planning unit should help improve the flawed structure of physical planning in the metropolis through development control. Development control will help to regulate land use and to achieve a decent environment by removing abandoned buildings which generally serve as a hideout for criminals from the environment. Physical planning agencies like the Kwara State Town Planning and Development Authority can also help with house numbering through street naming activities, preparation of new layouts, and updating the existing plan and design. The police should work with the physical planners for updated maps of the *Ilorin* metropolis or part thereof.

Given the reality of inadequate positive response to the need for more police stations for various reasons, the installation of surveillance cameras and the resort to emerging technologies in combating crimes are also necessary. To complement this and as suggested by Weisburd (2021), irregular police patrol mechanisms may be activated in areas with low police presence to deter crime commission.

Finally, public orientation programs and seminars by the police and members of civil society will help strengthen the relationship between the police and the public. The general public must always be ready to assist the police in discharging their statutory roles.

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