

GOVERNMENT SOCIAL INTERVENTIONS AND THEIR ROLES IN ENHANCING SOCIOECONOMIC STABILITY IN BORNO STATE, NORTH-EAST NIGERIA

¹JOSEPHINE Edeken Oamen and ²ABUBAKAR H Sambo

^{1&2}Department of Business Administration
University of America, United States of America.
oamenjosephine@yahoo.com

Abstract

The persistent insecurity in Borno State has significantly undermined the region's socioeconomic framework. This situation has resulted in displacement, poverty, high unemployment, and the destruction of social infrastructure. Despite various social intervention programmes initiated by the government, the region continues to struggle with socioeconomic instability. This study examines the effect of government social interventions on socioeconomic stability in Borno State, Nigeria, with specific objectives to assess the impact of healthcare services and education policies. A survey research design was adopted, with a target population of 6,709,607, and a sample size of 440 determined using Yamane's formula. Primary data was collected through structured questionnaires and analyzed using multiple regression, correlation, and descriptive statistics. Findings revealed that healthcare policy does not have a significant effect on socioeconomic stability ($p = 0.333$), whereas education policy shows a significant positive impact ($p = 0.001$), implying that investments in education contribute to socioeconomic stability. The study concludes that while government social interventions are crucial, refining healthcare policies and enhancing education policies are necessary for sustainable development. Recommendations include improving healthcare accessibility, affordability, and quality, as well as increasing education funding and teacher training. The findings highlight the need for strategic policy adjustments to enhance socioeconomic stability, emphasizing education as a key driver of long-term economic growth and development in Borno State.

Keywords: Government, Social Interventions, Socioeconomic, Stability, Health Care Policy, Education Policy.

INTRODUCTION

Africa's socioeconomic stability is intricately linked to its diverse economic structures, political landscapes, and social dynamics. While the continent boasts abundant natural resources and a burgeoning young population, challenges such as political instability, inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to quality education and healthcare impede sustainable development. In recent years, climate change has further exacerbated vulnerabilities, with severe flooding affecting millions across West and Central Africa, leading to loss of lives, displacement, and destruction of livelihoods (Le Monde, 2024). Nigeria, as Africa's largest economy, mirrors these continental challenges. Despite its economic prowess, the nation grapples with structural issues, including an overreliance on oil exports, high poverty rates, and regional disparities. The northern regions, in particular, experience higher poverty levels and human capital underdevelopment compared to the south. Recent economic reforms aimed at unifying exchange rates and reducing fuel subsidies have been introduced to stabilize the economy and promote growth. However, these measures have led to short-term hardships, such as increased fuel prices and inflation, underscoring the delicate balance between reform implementation and socioeconomic stability (United Nations Development Programme, 2022; Financial Times, 2024).

Borno State, located in northeastern Nigeria, faces compounded socioeconomic challenges due to prolonged insurgency and environmental disasters. The Boko Haram insurgency has devastated economic activities, leading to widespread displacement and poverty. In 2024, the collapse of the Alau Dam resulted in severe flooding, submerging parts of Maiduguri, displacing hundreds of thousands, and destroying infrastructure. In Borno State, Nigeria, the government has implemented several social intervention programs to support vulnerable populations. A significant initiative is the enrollment of 46,000 vulnerable individuals—including pregnant women, children under five, people living with disabilities, the elderly, and the impoverished—into a free healthcare scheme. This program, managed by the Borno State Contributory Healthcare Management Agency (BOSCHMA), aims to enhance access to quality healthcare services across the state. To facilitate this, 183 primary healthcare facilities have

been accredited to provide services to beneficiaries, with additional facilities awaiting accreditation in 25 local government areas. Funding for this initiative includes a 1% allocation from the consolidated revenue of the state and local government councils, alongside a take-off grant of ₦100 million released in April 2020 for operationalization. By 2023, BOSCHMA had received cumulative grants totaling approximately ₦1.3 billion through the Basic Healthcare Provision Fund, supporting the Zulum-Special Health Intervention Programme (Z-SHIP) that offers free healthcare to individuals with special needs (News Agency of Nigeria, 2023).

In response to the devastating floods in Maiduguri caused by the collapse of a nearby dam, the Borno State government, in collaboration with U.N. agencies, provided over 42 billion naira (approximately \$28 million) in financial support for recovery efforts. This funding facilitated the restoration of infrastructure, reopening of markets, and revival of public spaces such as the Sanda Kyarimi Park Zoo. Additionally, the government launched a long-term project to rebuild the collapsed dam to prevent future flooding, improve agricultural irrigation, and enhance water supply, with completion expected by 2027. These efforts underscore the government's commitment to rehabilitating affected communities and bolstering resilience against future environmental challenges (Associate Press, 2025).

Statement of the Problem

The socioeconomic stability of Borno State has been significantly disrupted by prolonged insurgency, environmental disasters, and economic hardship, necessitating government intervention through various social programs. Despite substantial investments in free healthcare, poverty alleviation, and infrastructure rehabilitation, the effectiveness of these interventions in fostering sustainable stability remains uncertain. However, related studies have explored similar themes regarding government interventions and socioeconomic stability in Borno State. For instance, Waziri et al. (2024) examined the impact of government expenditure on socioeconomic development in Borno State, finding significant effects on household income levels. Additionally, Oluwole et al. (2018) investigated the challenges and prospects of rehabilitating internally displaced persons in Nigeria's northeast, highlighting issues in fund utilization and program implementation. The objectives of this study are to:

- i.) examine the effect of government healthcare services on socioeconomic stability in Borno State.
- ii.) examine the effect of government education policy on socioeconomic stability in Borno State.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Social Interventions

According to Onyishi and Ogbu (2019), the term "social intervention" develops differently in different social, economic and political contexts. In high- and middle-income countries of the world, many measures are included in the broader social policy framework. Interventions are increasingly perceived in low-income countries, as an effective mechanism for reducing poverty and protecting the poor from falling into deeper poverty or increasing their presence. The overall goal is to reduce the economic and social vulnerability of poor masses, vulnerable and marginalized groups, especially to help the poor win the barriers on the demand side, which prevent them from accessing basic economic and social services. Such actions can be done by the state, non-governmental entities or the private sector, or through informal, individual or community-based initiatives (Onyishi & Ogbu, 2019). Adeeb (2013) noted that it is the goal of any rational government to improve the living conditions of her populace through major economic policy either through fiscal, monetary or trade policy. Again, these economic policies are mostly used to stabilize and sustain the economic progression, especially during the period of economic crisis.

Socio-economic governance policies encompass various measures and interventions used by governments, institutions and organizations to manage and regulate economic activities and enhance social well-being. These policies include fiscal, monetary, social, environmental, international trade, labor and industrial measures (Olalekan, et al. 2023). Social intervention framework was developed by Devereux and Sabates-Wheeler (2004) as a conceptual approach. The analysis appears beyond the social security network and includes the following four social measures:

- i.) Protection (protection and household income, social assistance such as money transfers, cash transfers and tax exemptions to support access to basic social services);
- ii.) Preventive (prevention of increase in poverty, including, for example, health insurance and risk-reducing mechanisms);
- iii.) Promotion (Encourage the family's ability to engage in productive business and increase benefits, such as through public order or conversion of commodities or agricultural subsidies);
- iv.) Transformation (tackle inequalities and social discrimination, including, for example, social protection programs) which deals with gender inequalities and promoting children's rights and related to awareness raising against discrimination programs. The transformation is especially useful for understanding and addressing imbalances in social forces that promote and maintain inequality - and extend social protection in areas such as justice, empowerment and economic, social and cultural rights (Devereux & Sabates-Wheeler, 2004; Holmes & Jones, 2010a).

Health Care Policy

The World Health Organization (WHO) defined health as the “state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity,” a definition first appearing in the organization’s constitution in 1946 and continuing unchanged through today (WHO 2010). Other definitions have embellished the original, including one that says health is “a dynamic state of well-being characterized by a physical and mental potential, which satisfies the demands of life commensurate with age, culture, and personal responsibility” (Association of Academic Health Centers, 2013). Another variation on the definition views health as a “state in which the biological and clinical indicators of organ function are maximized and in which physical, mental, and role functioning in everyday life are also maximized” (Peters, 2013). Yet another definition adds the concept of health as a human right by saying health is “a condition of well-being, free of disease or infirmity, and a basic and universal human right” (Schoen, 2013).

Health policies may be used as regulatory tools that call on government to prescribe and control the behavior of a particular target group by monitoring the group and imposing sanctions if it fails to comply. Examples of regulatory policies include prohibition of smoking in public places, licensure requirements for medical professions, and processes related to the approval of new drugs (Ansari, et al., 2003). Health policy entails the regulation, financing, and provision of a wide range of medical and non-medical services to prevent and cure diseases. This complex task makes it one of the most multifaceted and expensive fields of public policy (Trein, 2019). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (2018) defined public health policy as "laws, regulations, actions, and decisions implemented within society in order to promote wellness and ensure that specific health goals are met. WHO (2018) scribes health policy as decisions, plans, and actions that are undertaken to achieve specific health care goals within a society. According to APHA (2019), health policy is the decisions, plans, and actions that are undertaken to achieve specific health care goals within a society. Health policy defined as "the decisions, plans, and actions that are undertaken to achieve specific health care goals within a society (Health Affairs Definition, 2020). The NAM (2021) defines health policy as the decisions, plans, and actions that are undertaken to achieve specific health care goals within a society.

Education Policy

Blanchenay, Burns, and Köster (2014) looked at the policy as a set of ideas or plans that guide actions, particularly within the governance context. Okoroma (2006) states that a policy serves the purpose of ensuring that every official action of an organization must have a basis or backing. Kerr (as cited in Adeshina, 2014) outlines guiding principles for policy, stating it should portray some elements of guidance for properly directed and coordinated action towards the attainment of desired goals. Policies are developed at different levels, including national, state, and institutional levels, and involve the participation of various stakeholders, including policymakers, educators, parents, students, and community members. It highlights the multifaceted nature of educational policy and its role in shaping educational systems. According to Amirize (2009), policy provides a robust blueprint that forms the basis of any programme of action, and serves as a road map for the attainment of intended goals. For Nwafor

(2011), policy can be viewed as a statement of intent which is implemented as a procedure or protocol, having targets or goals with specified means of achieving them within a spelt-out time frame. In effect, a policy is a principle that guides decisions and the achievement of rational results.

van Zanten and Maxwell (2015) defined education policies as programmes developed by public authorities, informed by values and ideas, directed to education actors and implemented by administrators and education professionals. It encompasses the principles and directives that shape educational systems, guiding their structure, objectives, and operations. Educational policies as initiatives mostly by governments that determine the direction of an educational system (Okoroma, 2006). Also, Awokoya (1981) described educational policy as being "directed towards increasing the quality of life of a people, aiming to "satisfy individual needs, community pressures, and the degree of complexity and sophistication to which socialized personnel must be educated and trained to meet these demands. Educational policies are initiatives, mostly by governments, that determine the direction of an educational system. They are designed to provide benchmarks for the conduct of educational programs and activities in the interest of everyone. Such policies are often formulated and adopted through political processes that acknowledge the reality and legitimacy of conflicting interests and desires among participants and beneficiaries. It emphasizes the role of educational policy in guiding educational programs and activities (Nwafor, 2018).

Socioeconomic Stability

The term "socioeconomic" pertains to the intricate relationship between social and economic factors within a society. While specific definitions from independent authors are limited, related concepts such as "socioeconomic status" (SES) provide insight into this interplay. SES is commonly defined as a measure of an individual's or group's position within a societal hierarchy, determined by a combination of education, income, and occupation. For instance, Baker (2014) describes SES as a composite measure reflecting one's combined economic and social status, which is positively associated with better health outcomes. Similarly, the American Psychological Association (n.d.) defines SES as the social standing or class of an individual or group, often measured as a combination of education, income, and occupation. Furthermore, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (n.d.) refers to economic stability—a component of socioeconomic considerations—as a financial system characterized by minor fluctuations in output growth and consistently low inflation rates. These definitions collectively underscore the multifaceted nature of socioeconomic factors, encompassing both social and economic dimensions that influence individuals' positions and experiences within society.

According to Bukar et al. (2024), economic growth is defined as a rise in national income or output per capita over a long period of time. It is considered as an economic condition in which the rate of rise in national output must outpace the rate of population growth. Thus, economic growth is the long-term expansion of the economy's productive potential. It entails a gain in Real GDP, which translates to increased national output and wealth. Socio-economic development is a product of development and can be defined as the process of social and economic transformation in a society. Socio-economic development embraces changes taking place in the social sphere mostly of an economic nature (Krokeyi & Dadi, 2018). Thus, socio-economic development is made up of processes caused by exogenous and endogenous factors which determine the course and direction of the development. Socio economic development is measured with indicators, such as GDP, life expectancy, literacy and levels of employment.

Empirical Review

Bukar et al. (2024) examined the impact of government expenditure on socio-economic development of Borno State. The study collected annual secondary data from the annual accounts of Borno State government and Global Data Lab (GDL) from the period 2013 to 2021. The data were analyzed using multiple regressions. The Augmented Dickey Fuller (ADF) and Phillip-Peron (PP) unit root tests were conducted. The study established that there is a significant impact of economic, social and administrative capital expenditures on household income levels in Borno State. The study recommends that the State

government should be spending more on economic and social capital expenditures in order to raise income levels in the long run which would cause an improvement in the socio-economic well beings of its citizens. The state government should ensure that the funds are channeled effectively in productive areas in communities in order to improve household income. The state government should support value creation in critical sectors of the economy that employs the larger population to further reduce poverty in the state.

Hu and Wange (2024) examined the impact of public health expenditure on economic growth in 33 OECD countries from 2001 to 2017. The study used a nonlinear dynamic panel threshold model to analyze the threshold effects of public health expenditure on economic growth, considering factors such as household consumption, employee wages, and physical capital investment. The results showed that when household consumption is below 9.63%, public health expenditure negatively impacts economic growth, but above this threshold, it positively influences growth. Similarly, the effects of public health expenditure on economic growth are negative when employee wages are below 10.57%, and physical capital investment below 8.73%. However, once these thresholds are exceeded, public health expenditure has a significant positive impact on economic growth. The study concluded that public health expenditure can significantly promote economic growth in environments with higher household consumption, employee wages, and capital investment. The study could be that it assumes linear thresholds, which might oversimplify complex relationships, and it does not account for the variation in healthcare quality or the structure of health systems across OECD countries, which could influence the effectiveness of health expenditure.

Olalekan et al. (2023) examined the impact of socio-economic governance on economic growth in Nigeria. The study measured socio-economic governance from the perspective of fiscal policy, using indicators such as investment in education, research and development (R&D) and health. The study employed the Autoregressive Distributive Lag (ARDL) Bound Testing method to achieve its objective. The study found that socio-economic policies aimed at increasing investment in education are crucial for Nigeria's long-term economic growth. Additionally, investment in R&D positively impacts economic growth. However, the study revealed that investment in health negatively affects economic growth in Nigeria in the long run. The study suggested that if a country overinvests in health, it may divert resources from other vital sectors such as education, infrastructure and R&D, which can hinder overall economic growth.

Adegboyo et al. (2021) examines the impact of fiscal, monetary and trade policies on Nigerian economic growth from 1985 to 2020. The study adopted endogenous growth model (AK model) as its theoretical framework. The unit root test results reveal that there is mixed level of stationarity in the variables. The bound test result shows that the variables cointegrate. The ARDL long-run result showed that fiscal policies stimulate economic growth, while on the contrary, trade policies deter Nigerian economic growth. The short-run result showed that the fiscal policies has an inconsistent impact on Nigerian economic growth and thus differs from the long-run result; while government spending continues to drive economic growth in Nigeria, government revenues have no effect on the growth of the economy. The result of the impact of monetary policies showed that interest rate impels growth of the economy while money supply deters growth of Nigeria's economy; lastly, the trade policies maintain her negative influence on the economy in both the long run and short run. The study recommended the following: Policymakers should place more emphasis on using fiscal policy which was found to be stimulating the country's growth rate. The government should review her trade policies to reduce import by encouraging consumption of local products and motivate exporters of goods (raw material) to refine the products before exporting such.

Joseph et al. (2021) investigated the challenges facing implementation of real sector (SMEs) intervention programmes of the CBN since year 2000 to 2020. The study employed mixed method using descriptive survey approach to sample 62 intervention programme implementers and 400 Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs). The findings reveal among others that high loan default risks, politicization

of programmes, and in adequate infrastructural development are the leading challenges facing programme implementers in Nigeria. Applicants' non-eligibility in programmes applied for, poor business plan or inadequate knowledge in proposed business topped the reasons for failures among applicant SMEs. Consequently, a need for more public-private partnerships in programme design, monitoring, and evaluation to forestall political interference is advised.

Arthur and Oaikhenan (2020) examined the effect of health outcomes on economic growth in the region. The study employed a panel data technique, using the Generalized Method of Moments (GMM) estimation approach to analyze data from 39 sub-Saharan African countries, sourced from the 2019 World Bank's World Development Indicators. The findings confirmed that health outcomes significantly contribute to economic growth, with improvements in life expectancy, and reductions in infant and under-five mortality rates leading to higher per capita GDP growth. Additionally, capital formation, education, and trade openness positively impacted economic growth, while population growth negatively affected GDP growth. The study concluded that sub-Saharan African countries would benefit from investing in the health sector, focusing on improving life expectancy and reducing mortality rates to achieve sustained economic growth. The study recommended enhanced public health education and government investments to improve healthcare efficiency and accessibility. A critique could point out that while the study highlights the importance of health outcomes, it does not delve deeply into the specific healthcare policies or the barriers to implementing such recommendations, which could provide more practical insights for policymakers.

Waziri, et al. (2019) assessed the impact of government intervention programs (Microcredit scheme and conditional cash transfer) on poverty alleviation in Niger state. The study adopted a quantitative method using PLS path modeling to establish the statistical relationship between the two antipoverty programs on poverty alleviation in Niger state. The study revealed that both Microcredit scheme and conditional cash transfer programs are significant to poverty alleviation. The socioeconomic assessment of the respondents further justified the above assumption. It was observed that multiplicities of intervention programs have the tendencies to alleviate poverty if the stakeholders could concertedly design a framework that is capable of enhancing transparency and accountability among all concern agencies in the policy implementations. The study attributed the perennial poverty in the Niger state to systemic failures such as political instability, corruption, abuse of the rule of law, inadequate budgetary allocation among others. The study recommended for concerted efforts on a strategic framework capable of enhancing transparency and accountability among all parties involved in the policy implementations of the above programs. Similarly, proper coordination of all the stakeholders involved toward poverty alleviation intervention programs are necessary for the enhancement of appropriate implementation of a well-planned policy framework and the provision of adequate budgetary allocation is paramount towards poverty alleviation in Niger state-Nigeria.

Idris and Abdullahi (2019) focused on the impact of higher education on Nigeria economic growth. The study uses secondary data for the period of 1990 to 2018 for its analysis. The objectives of the study are to examine the impact of higher education on Nigeria economic growth; and to evaluate the relationship between higher education and Nigeria economic growth using Autoregressive Distributed Lags (ARDL) method. Data used in this study were sourced from Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). The study used nominal figures and annual Nigeria data for the study period. The results showed that all levels of education, including higher education, have positive and statistically significant effect on the growth rate of per capita income in Nigeria. This implied that conscious and positive investment needed to be encouraged. The study suggested that conducive legal, stable infrastructure, and reliable security framework for achieving sustainable improvement in the nation higher educational system has to be encouraged in Nigeria.

Lawal and Wahab (2011) established between education and economic growth in Nigeria. Time series data were collected between 1980 and 2008, and ordinary least squares technique was used to estimate the model. The study discovered that education investments have direct and significant impact on

economic growth in Nigeria. The study recommended that government at all levels should increase their funding on different segments of education in the country.

Welfare State Theory

Welfare State Theory, propounded by T.H. Marshall (1949), highlights the state's role in ensuring economic, social, and political rights for its citizens through policies that promote equality and social security. Scholars like Esping-Andersen (2020) and Townsend (2019) support this theory by citing successful welfare states, while critics such as Murray (2019) and Hayek (2021) argue that welfare policies can create dependency and hinder economic growth. In Borno State, Nigeria, government social interventions, particularly in post-conflict recovery, reflect aspects of Welfare State Theory by providing aid in healthcare, education, and employment for displaced populations. However, challenges such as resource limitations, political instability, and security threats hinder the effectiveness and sustainability of these interventions. Despite efforts to enhance social security through government and international aid, gaps in coverage and infrastructure limit long-term stability in the region. Welfare State Theory thus serves as a framework to assess the effectiveness of social policies in Borno, highlighting both their potential and limitations in addressing the needs of vulnerable populations.

METHODOLOGY

This study examines the effect of government social intervention on socioeconomic stability of Borno State, Nigeria, using a survey research design. The estimated population for 2024 is 6,709,607, calculated using the compound growth formula, and a sample size of 440 was determined using Yamane's formula with proportional sampling. Data collection involves both primary (structured questionnaires) and secondary sources, with responses measured using a 5-point Likert scale. The reliability of the instrument is assessed through Cronbach's alpha, while validity is confirmed by expert reviews and content analysis. Data analysis employs multiple regression, correlation, and descriptive statistics to examine the relationship between government socioeconomic interventions such as healthcare and education and socioeconomic stability. The study is justified by its focus on unique and authentic responses from residents, using appropriate statistical tools to reveal relationships and significance levels.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the sample size as specified above, 440 copies of questionnaire were distributed to the inhabitants of Borno State covering all the local government areas in the state. Of the 440 copies of questionnaire distributed, 418 copies of questionnaire were retrieved and used for further analysis representing an effective response rate of 95%. Also 22 copies of questionnaire were either not properly filled or lost in the process.

Test of Hypotheses

This section provides avenue for hypotheses testing. The regression is used to determine the cause and effect of dependent variable on the independent variables.

Table 1: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.674 ^a	.454	.448	.53099

a. Predictors: (Constant), HCP, EDP

The model summary table presents key statistical indicators of the regression analysis. The R value (0.674) represents the correlation between the independent variables (Health Care Policy and Education Policy) and the dependent variable, indicating a strong positive relationship. The R Square value (0.454) shows that 45.4% of the variation in socioeconomic stability can be explained by the independent variables, while the Adjusted R Square (0.448) accounts for the number of predictors in the model and provides a slightly more accurate estimate of explained variance. The standard error of the estimate (0.53099) indicates the average deviation of observed values from the predicted values, reflecting the model's accuracy.

Table 2: ANOVA^a

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	96.662	5	19.332	68.567	.000 ^b
	Residual	116.164	412	.282		
	Total	212.826	417			

a. Dependent Variable: SS

b. Predictors: (Constant), HCP, EDP

The ANOVA table assesses the overall significance of the regression model. The regression sum of squares (96.662) represents the variation in the dependent variable (Socioeconomic stability) explained by the independent variables (Health Care Policy and Education Policy). The residual sum of squares (116.164) accounts for the unexplained variation. The total sum of squares (212.826) is the overall variability in the dependent variable. The F-statistic (68.567) tests whether the model significantly explains the variation in the dependent variable, and the associated significance value (0.000) indicates that the regression model is highly significant, meaning the predictors jointly have a meaningful impact on socioeconomic stability.

Table 3: Coefficients^a

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients B	Std. Error	Standardized Coefficients Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	.630	.233		2.699	.007
	HCP	-.062	.064	-.039	-.969	.333
	EDP	.200	.061	.152	3.276	.001

a. Dependent Variable: SS

The first hypothesis (H01) tests whether there is no significant relationship between health care policy (HCP) and socioeconomic stability (SS) in Borno State, Nigeria. The coefficient for HCP is -0.062, with a t-value of -0.969 and a p-value of 0.333. Since the p-value is greater than the 0.05 significance level, we fail to reject the null hypothesis, indicating that health care policy does not have a significant impact on socioeconomic stability in the study area.

The second hypothesis (H02) examines the relationship between education policy (EDP) and socioeconomic stability. The coefficient for EDP is 0.200, with a t-value of 3.276 and a p-value of 0.001. Since the p-value is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that there is a significant positive relationship between education policy and socioeconomic stability in Borno State. This implies that improvements in education policy contribute to better socioeconomic stability in the state.

Discussion of Findings

The findings from the hypothesis testing reveal that health care policy (HCP) does not show statistically significant relationships with socioeconomic policy, as their p-values (0.333) exceed the 0.05 threshold. This suggests that, despite their potential importance, current health care may not be effectively contributing to socioeconomic stability in Borno State. This study is consistent with the work of Olalekan et al. (2023) which revealed that investment in health negatively affects economic growth in Nigeria in the long run. However, the study is inconsistent with the works of Fan et al. (2024), Hu and Wange (2024) and Arthur and Oaikhenan (2020) who believed that that benefit from investing in the health sector, focusing on improving life expectancy and reducing mortality rates to achieve sustained economic growth.

On the other hand, education policy (EDP) also demonstrates a significant impact on socioeconomic stability, with a coefficient of 0.200 and a p-value of 0.001. This finding suggests that improved access to education contributes to better socioeconomic stability outcomes in the state, likely through increased literacy, skill development, and economic empowerment. The positive relationship supports the notion by researchers such as Idris and Abdullahi (2019), and Lawal and Wahab (2011) who stated that education spending positive and statistically significant effect on the growth rate of per capita income in Nigeria.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The study concludes that government social interventions play a crucial role in enhancing socioeconomic stability in Borno State, Nigeria. While health care policy (HCP) does not show a significant impact on socioeconomic stability, education policy (EDP) has a positive and significant influence. This suggests that improvements in education policy contribute to better socioeconomic stability, reinforcing the importance of investing in education as a key driver of social and economic well-being. The findings highlight the need for policymakers to prioritize and refine education policies while reassessing health care strategies to enhance their effectiveness in promoting stability. Overall, strategic government interventions in social sectors remain vital for fostering sustainable socioeconomic development in Borno State.

1. Policymakers should review and refine existing health care policies to improve their impact on socioeconomic stability, focusing on accessibility, affordability, and quality of healthcare services to better meet the needs of the population.
2. The government should strengthen education policies by increasing funding for schools, improving teacher training, and expanding access to quality education, as this has been shown to significantly enhance socioeconomic stability in Borno State.

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