

An Analysis of Index Crime Reported in Butuan City

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Abstract — The increasing volume of crimes has brought a severe problem in the Philippines and many countries worldwide. Crime prevention is essential to reduce crime as well as for public safety and security. This research study used documentary analysis to analyze the secondary data: the Philippine National Police – Police Station 3 of Butuan City reported index crimes from January 2016 to December 2020. The basic statistical treatment was used to interpret and analyze the data gathered. The study revealed that most of the index crimes are theft and robbery. These usually occur in barangays Libertad, Bayanihan, and Ambago. Index crimes occurred anytime, mostly every Thursday, Sunday, and Monday, in January, July, March, and 2016 and 2017. The index crimes reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City have 374 for the year 2016 – 2020.

Keywords — *Index Crime, Crime prevention, public, safety, and security*

Introduction

Crime is a threat to social order and development and a problem of individual pathology or risk. The level of investment by the state in "law and order" reflects the political salience of public order and crime issues. UNDP (2008).

Moreover, crime is an act committed or omitted in the violation of a law forbidding or commanding it and for which a punishment is imposed upon conviction. In the Philippines, the Revised Penal Code (Republic Act. No. 3815) serves as the fundamental law that defines criminal offenses and provides the penalties for the commission of such. Crime is divided into an index and non-index crimes for statistical purposes and a standardized definition of crime classification. Index crimes refer to crimes against a person and crimes against property such as murder, homicide, physical injury and rape, carnapping/carjacking, and cattle rustling. On the other hand, non-index crimes violate special laws such as illegal logging or local ordinances. Senate Economic Planning Office (2013)

Based on the Philippine National Police (PNP) reports, crime rates in the Philippines have a steady drop. Also, there was a significant decline in index crimes such as murder, homicide, physical injury, rape, robbery, theft, and carnapping in all country regions. The reduction index crime was recorded as a 20.56 percent reduction in 2017 compared to the same period in 2016 from January to October. Felipe (2017).

According to Boba (2005), crime analysis is a process of statistically examining crime data and information to identify crime trends, patterns, and possible suspect descriptions.

As reported by the PDEA Region 13, criminality is a primary concern for the people of Caraga. It is characterized by illegal drug use, theft and robbery, human trafficking, and violence against women and children, and corruption. Illegal drug use Drug affectation in the entire Caraga is recorded at 40.06% or 526 barangays of the total 1,311 barangays of the 526 affected barangays, 49 are seriously affected, 238 are moderately affected, and 239 slightly affected. Among the provinces Butuan City, the only highly urbanized city in the region, recorded 81.39% barangay drug affectation.

Furthermore, in another report of the Provincial Regional Office 13, criminality in the region is also highlighted with incidents of robberies in 2012 in one of the pawnshops in Butuan City and robbery-homicide in a lodging house also in Butuan sometime in 2013. However, there is a downtrend of theft and robbery cases in the Caraga Region. The number of theft cases was recorded at 2,977 in 2014, down to 2,157 in 2015, while robbery cases went down from 1,159 in 2014 to 935 in 2015.

In another report of the Philippine Information Agency of 2019, PRO13 had the highest index crimes solved at 63.33%, followed by the National Capital Region Police Office with 62.53% as second and PRO3 with 58.13% as of third. Moreover, based on the data gathered by the Regional Investigative Detective Management Division (RIDMD13) office, 418 cases of murder, homicide, physical injuries, rape, robbery, theft, motorcycle theft, and cattle rustling were reported and recorded from July to September 2019. Of the 418 reported crimes region-wide, 260 cases have been solved, while 324 have been cleared.

Traditionally, countries have relied on police statistics of reported and recorded offenses to assess changes in offending rates over time. Since many offenses are not reported to the police thus, reliable baseline data and analysis on crime and incidence is vital in developing and adapting relevant crime prevention programs and strategies.

Therefore, with the changing data presented over the years, the researcher comes up with this study to analyze the index crime reporting of the police station in Butuan City.

Literature Review

Felipe 2017, Philippine National Police (PNP), crime rates in the Philippines has a steady drop. The reduction index crime was recorded to be 20.56 percent reduction in 2017 compared to the same period in 2016 from January to October. Also, there was a significant decline in index crimes such as murder, homicide, physical injury, rape, robbery, theft, and carnapping in all country regions.

Campedelli et al. (2020) analyzed crime in Los Angeles in two time periods (the first ending March 16 and the second ending March 28) using Bayesian structural time-series models to estimate what crime would have been if the COVID-19 pandemic had not occurred. Comparing the actual crime data against the estimated 'san-pandemic' data, the first model found an overall crime reduction of 5.6% during the pandemic. Likewise, the second model (ending March 28) showed a 15% reduction. Specifically, researchers found that the overall crime rates significantly decreased, particularly when referencing robbery (-24%), shoplifting (-14%), theft (-21%), and battery (-11%). However, burglary, domestic violence, stolen vehicles, and homicide remained statically unchanged.

Gerell, Kardell, and Kindgren (2020) examine crime during the five weeks after government restrictions on activities began, observing an 8.8% total drop in reported crime despite the country's somewhat lax response (compared to other countries' policies on restricting the public's movement). Specifically, the researchers found residential burglary fell by 23%, commercial burglary declined by 12.7%, and a staggering 61% reduced instances of pick-pocketing - however, there was little change in robberies or narcotics crime.

Payne and Morgan (2020) studied crime in March, finding assaults, sexual violations, and domestic violence were not significantly different from what was predicted under normal conditions at the lower end of the confidence interval. They cautioned against early conclusions based on this data as the government orders came only a few weeks into the study.

Methodology

This study analyzed the index crimes reported at the Philippine National Police - Police Station 3 of Butuan City for 2016 – 2020. The documentary analysis was used to determine the reported index crimes: rape, homicide, physical injury, murder, carnapping, theft, robbery, and cattle rustling. The year, month, day, and time, and the barangay did index crimes usually reported at the PNP Police Station 3, Butuan City for the year 2016 – 2020, were also included in the study. The secondary analysis was used on the gathered data about the circumstances of the reported rape incidents, the profiles of the rape victims and offenders, and the victim–offender relationship to determine the patterns of rape incidents. As used by Candaliza – Gutierrez (2013) in her research study, secondary data sources are the data collected by others and not by the current researcher or secondary analysis. It is applied for the data collected and processed by another researcher, which were reanalyzed, often for different purposes, by another researcher. This study was conducted in the ten (10) barangays covered by the Police Station 3 of Butuan City composed of barangays Ambago, Bancasi, Bayanihan, Bonbon, Dumalagan, Kinamlutan, Libertad, Lumbucan, Masao, and Pinamanculan. A letter of request was sent to the Deputy Chief of Police Station 3 of Butuan City for the researcher to have access to examine and analyze the recorded index crimes for the year 2016 – 2020 in the ten (10) barangays of Butuan City. After the approval of the request letter,

the data were collected through the records of index crimes from 2016 – 2020. The basic statistical treatment was used to analyze and interpret the data gathered.

Results and Discussion

Demographic Profile of the Respondents

Table 1 presents the demographic profile of the respondents.

The majority of the respondents, 88 or 44%, belonged to 21- 30 years old. The respondents were dominated by males comprising 115 or 57.5% and 85 or 42.5% were females. The majority of the respondents 112 or 56% were singles and 85 or 42.5% were married, while a very small 3 or 1.5% were widowed/widower.

Table I. Index Crimes Reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for the year 2016 – 2020

Index Crimes	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Rape	7	9	7	10	7	40
Homicide	5	7	3	2	3	20
Physical Injury	10	20	8	7		45
Murder	10	3	4	4	2	23
Carnapping	4	6	4		2	16
Theft	57	32	31	15	10	145
Robbery	31	11	28	9	6	85
Cattle Rusting	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table I shows the reported index crimes in Police Station 3, Butuan City, 2016 – 2020. It revealed that the index crimes reported for 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 have decreased with a frequency of 124, 88, 85, 47, 30, respectively. It shows that theft is the most frequent index crime reported in Police Station 3 Butuan City with a total frequency of 145 for five years of 2016 – 2020. Likewise, robbery is the second most reported index crime in Police Station 3, Butuan City for 2016 – 2020, with a total frequency of 85. It can reveal that theft and robbery or crimes against property are most of the reported index crimes in Police Station 3, Butuan City, for five years of 2016 to 2020. However, there is no reported cattle rustling for five years of 2016 -2020. Although, there are reported murders and homicides with a frequency of 23 and 20 for the five years of 2016 – 2020. It indicates that crime against a person is one of the index crimes reported seldom for the five years.

In general, the index crimes reported for the five years of 2016 – 2020 have a total frequency of 374. The data shows that for the five years, the index crimes reported have decreased continuously.

Table II. Barangays where Index Crimes Reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for the year 2016 – 2020 mostly occur

Barangays	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Ambago	23	8	11	2	4	48
Bancasi	4	3	6	4	1	18
Bayanihan	24	16	18	7	3	68
Bonbon	5	4	8	3	2	22
Dumalagan	5	4	3	1	1	14
Kinamlutan		4	1	1		6
Libertad	54	38	31	22	17	162
Lumbucan	3	5	3	1	1	13
Masao	1	4	3	3		11
Pinamanculan	5	2	1	3	1	12

Table II shows that among the ten (10) barangays covered by Police Station 3 of Butuan City, barangay Libertad have the most reported index crimes in Police Station 3 with a total frequency of 162 for five years of 2016 – 2020, followed by the barangay Bayanihan and Ambago with a full frequency of 68 and 48, respectively, for five years of 2016-2020. Barangay Kinamlutan is the least reported index crime in Police Station 3 with a total frequency of 6 for five years of 2016-2020.

In general, there are reported index crimes for the ten (10) barangays covered by Police Station 3 of Butuan City, with a total frequency of 374 for the five years of 2016-2020. It indicates that in barangays Libertad, Bayanihan, and Ambago, the crimes of theft and robbery mostly occur for the five years of 2016-2020. The data also shows that barangay Kinamlutan is the most peaceful barangays among the ten-barangay covered by the Police Station 3 of Butuan City for the five years of 2016-2020.

Table III. As to the frequency of Occurrence per Time of Index Crimes Reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for the year 2016 – 2020

Time	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
12:00 – 2:59AM	7	8	5	3	4	27
3:00 – 5:59AM	20	8	12	5	3	48
6:00 – 8:59 AM	14	9	9	1	3	36
9:00 – 11:59AM	22	16	11	6	4	59
12:00 – 2:59 PM	23	7	11	3	3	47
3:00 – 5:59 PM	17	12	13	8	5	55
6:00 – 8:59 PM	13	14	16	8	6	57
9:00 – 11:59 PM	8	14	8	13	2	45

Table III shows that index crimes reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for 2016 - 2020 usually occur between 9:00 AM to 11:59 AM during the five years with a frequency of 59. It was seconded by 6:00 PM to 8:59 PM and 3:00 PM to 5:59 PM with a frequency of 57 and 55, respectively. However, index crimes occurred least between 12:00 AM to 2:59 AM with a frequency of 27. It shows that index crimes can happen anytime in Butuan City for the year 2016 – 2020.

In general, the data shows that index crimes occurred anytime. The index crimes reported between 9:00 AM to 11:59 AM, 6:00 PM to 8:59 PM, and 3:00 PM to 5:59 PM are theft and robbery, as these are the most reported index crimes reported for the five years. It indicates that theft and robbery usually occurred during busy schedules. These are during working time and school time. During these times, most houses are empty because parents are working and children are attending their classes at school.

Table IV. As to the frequency of Occurrence per Day of Index Crimes Reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for the year 2016 – 2020

Time	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Sunday	15	19	14	7	7	62
Monday	20	12	17	8	4	61
Tuesday	13	8	6	4	3	34
Wednesday	7	9	10	5	5	36
Thursday	25	17	13	9	4	68
Friday	22	10	11	10	4	57
Saturday	22	13	14	4	3	56

Table IV shows that the index crimes are reported mostly every Thursday, Sunday, and Monday with a frequency of 68, 62, and 61, respectively. Tuesday and Wednesday are the least reported index crimes with a frequency of 34 and 36, respectively. It indicates that perpetrators are taking advantage of committing theft and robbery while the house owners are working and their children attend schooling. Sunday is the usual day for the family to go out to their house to attend the mass, usually every morning or afternoon, and after the mass, they are going straight to the mall for shopping or taking their lunch or dinner.

In general, there are index crimes reported every day in the Police Station 3 of Butuan City.

Table V. As to the frequency of Occurrence per Month of Index Crimes Reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for the year 2016 – 2020

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
January	25	8	4	5	4	46
February	10	3	8	7	3	31
March	17	8	7	2	1	35
April	5	7	9	4	3	28
May	10	13	5	3		31
June	9	13	9	5	3	39
July	12	11	16	5		44
August	13	5				18
September	6	4	1	2	9	22
October	8	8				16
November	6	3	3	2	8	22
December	3	7	4		3	17
Months not identified		1	2		1	4

Table V shows that the index crimes were reported mainly in the months of January, July, and March with a frequency of 46, 44, and 35, respectively. However, December and September are the least reported index crimes with a frequency of 17 and 19, respectively. However, based on the record book of Police Station 3 of Butuan City, there are unrecorded index crimes in 2017, 2018, and 2020 with a frequency of 1, 2, and 1, respectively.

It indicates that every month there are reported index crimes in Police Station 3 of Butuan City, except on December year 2019, on May year 2020, and on July year 2020. These months have no recorded index crimes based on the Police Station 3 of Butuan City.

Table VI. As to the frequency of Occurrence per Year of Index Crimes Reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for the year 2016 – 2020

Month	Murder	Homicide	Physical Injury	Rape	Robbery	Theft	Carnapping	Cattle Rustling	Total
2016	10	5	10	7	31	57	4	0	124
2017	3	7	20	9	11	32	6	0	88
2018	4	3	8	7	28	31	4	0	85
2019	4	2	7	10	9	15	0	0	47
2020	2	3	0	7	6	10	2	0	30

Table VI shows that 2016 and 2017 are the most reported index crimes with a frequency of 124 and 88, respectively. The year 2020 is the least reported index crimes with a frequency of 30. It indicates that the index crimes reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for 2016 – 2020

are decreasing. The data also show no recorded physical injury in the year 2020 and carnapping in the year 2019. It also shows that there is no recorded cattle rustling for the year 2016 to 2020.

Conclusion

Based on the data gathered, the researcher concludes that there are 374 index crimes reported in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for 2016 to 2020. The crimes of theft and robbery are the most reported index crimes in Police Station 3 of Butuan City. However, no recorded cattle was rustling in Police Station 3 of Butuan City for 2016 to 2020. The index crimes are mostly committed in barangays Libertad, Bayanihan, and Ambago. These index crimes occurred anytime from the year 2016 to 2020. Likewise, these index crimes occurred every day and every month, except for December year 2019, May year 2020, and on July year 2020. Year by year, the index crimes reported are decreasing from the year 2016 to 2020.

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