Do Criminality and Socioeconomic Stress Hinder Economic Development of an Emerging Southeast Asian Economy?

Suchira Mattayaphutron

Abstract

The primary objective of this research is to investigate how factors such as criminal activity, social and economic pressures, and economic growth in Thailand interact with one another. In order for the study to be successful, the ARDL methodology was used. In order to conduct its analysis of the data, ARDL IV considered both the near and the far future. The work of a lot of scholars have allowed us to compile this information spanning 37 years, from 1979 to 2015. The findings demonstrated that a significant amount of focus is placed on the roles that crime serves, in particular as a barrier to the progression of economic growth. As a result of economic crime, even more money is lost, and highly skilled people are more inclined to quit their positions, making it an even more problematic situation than the gray market. The previous results imply that there is a positive association between socioeconomic stress and some features that are associated to criminal behavior. The deterrent factors, with the exception of the person's criminal background, all functioned as expected for the other variables. There was evidence to imply that there was an increase in property crime when families were unstable. The dissatisfaction, anger, and stress of the people in Thailand are represented in the socioeconomic elements that prevail in the country, as shown by the association between socioeconomic stress and variables related to crime. People come up with creative solutions to make ends meet when their quality-of-life lowers as a result of the social and economic situations in their environment. The study will help policymakers and practitioners better understand the obstacles faced by socioeconomic restrictions in emerging countries like Thailand.

Keywords: Crime, socioeconomic strains, economic growth, Thailand

© 2021 Asian Academy of Business and social science research Ltd. All rights reserved

Background

The Thai government is aware of the risk that crime poses to the proper execution of its budget, and they are taking steps to mitigate that risk. This national scourge manifests itself in many different ways, including but not limited to acts of violent crime, arson, false pretenses or deceit, unauthorized possession, robbery, assault, murder, theft, destruction, fraud, and corruption. During the introduction of the budget for 2014, it was said that
increasing costs of governance might be ascribed to pension fraud, corruption, property damage, and theft. In addition to the direct costs associated with these individual acts, the government was responsible for the social costs of crime, which included things like arrests, prosecution, and damage repairs. As a result, development objectives like economic growth, lowering income inequality, and eliminating poverty may be put in jeopardy by increased expenditures associated with governance. This is due to the fact that the commercial and economic prospects in a risky region may inhibit investment, which would otherwise contribute to the expansion of the economy. The United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (2005) asserts that illegal activity is a threat to the economic development of the countries that make up the Asian region. This is due to the fact that crimes such as homicide, sexual harassment and assault, bribery and corruption, as well as armed robbery, fraud, and money laundering, are all too widespread throughout the continent. Suicide is also a serious concern in Asia. In point of fact, the percentage change in the suicide rate per 100,000 persons in the low- and middle-income countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) between the years 2000 and 2012 was 38%. (World Health Organization, 2014).

According to the crime data in Thailand and other Asian countries, the viewpoint taken by UNODC (2005) about the reporting of crimes in Asian nations, which states that victims are often hesitant to report crimes, seems to be verified. If we take Thailand as an example, a survey that was carried out across the entire country in 2007 by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) found that the vast majority of crime victims did not believe that it was in their best interest to report the crimes that they had been victims of to the appropriate authorities. There are a lot of reasons why crimes in Thailand are not reported, including the fact that victims are reluctant to come forward for fear of retaliation from the people who committed the crimes and the fact that the police do not handle cases in the appropriate manner (Ayodele & Ogunjuyigbe, 2015; Okenyodo, 2016). (Ayodele & Ogunjuyigbe, 2015). This study will still be able to analyze the crime rate by making use of the data that is already available despite the fact that crime in Thailand is underreported. For these four factors: To begin, there is a loss of both resources and human potential as a result of the large number of deaths that are brought on by criminal activity (Nwankwo & James, 2016; Ojedokun, 2014). For example, between 2006 and 2015, armed robberies were responsible for half of the 8,516 deaths that occurred as a result of the 3,840 killings that occurred in Thailand. (Nwankwo & James, 2016). In a similar vein, various investigations have shown that between the years 2006 and 2011, war and criminal activity were each responsible for an annual average of 1,655 fatalities. Furthermore, terrorists and armed bandits have murdered a considerable number of police personnel (Ojedokun, 2014). (Ojedokun, 2014). The rate of violent crime in Thailand is the second highest of all the countries that are part of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) (see Figure 1).

Second, the vibrations that result from unlawful conduct make the threat to the locals and their property much more severe (Ayodele & Ogunjuyigbe, 2015; Krakranaa-Bestman, 2018). The possibility of oil exploration interests in the region being subject to extortion, murder, rape, and abduction for ransom has a detrimental influence on such investments (Krakranaa-Bestman, 2018). Additionally, the criminal activity, instability, and insecurity that spread through the northeastern part of the country led to the deterioration of infrastructure, which in turn led to fear across the country. Several local businesswomen have been the victims of violent crimes, including rape, as well as the theft of cash, food, and other transportable economic items. These crimes have taken place in the local area (Ayodele & Ogunjuyigbe, 2015).

Third, the nation's high prevalence of criminal activity contributes to its already-established international image as a risky location for business investments (Adekoya, 2017). Theft, cybercrime, advance fee fraud, and false pretenses or cheating are all factors that lead to a diminishing feeling of confidence in the world. In 2013, the Economic and Financial Crimes...
Commission (EFCC) reached guilty verdicts in 49.57 percent of cases involving false pretense or cheating. (EFCC, 2013).

![Crime rate per 100000 population](image)

**Figure 1. Crime rate per 100000 population**

*Source: UN office of Drugs and crime*

Last but not least, criminal activity drives up the cost of administering government programs (FMFN, 2014). This is as a result of the fact that monies that might be utilized for activities such as boosting output, improving health and agricultural conditions, and extending social programs are, instead, being allocated to activities related to the prevention and control of criminal activity (Petreski et al., 2018). Internal security received 7.43% of the government’s budget from 2010–2013, whereas education received 7.96%, healthcare received 4.72%, agriculture received 2.21%, and road and construction received 5.70%. During this historical period, the amount of money spent on internal security was about comparable to the amount of money spent on education, but it was higher than the amount of money spent on agriculture, health, and road and building construction combined. When money is taken away from important sectors like education, agriculture, and healthcare, it has a negative impact on national development (Petreski et al., 2018).

It was vital to study the foundations of the problem in order to reduce the amount of crime and enhance the quality of life for the citizens. All crime, crimes against persons (including homicide, felonious wounding, and other crimes against persons such as rape, kidnapping, and others), and crimes against property (including armed robbery, extortion, burglary, and other forms of property crime like false pretenses and cheating) are connected to the causes that were discussed earlier. This includes crimes against persons (including homicide, felonious wounding, and other crimes against persons such as rape, and others).

**Theoretical and empirical review**

The concept of socioeconomic strain was devised for the purpose of analyzing how the pressures of an area affect the quality of life, career opportunities, and housing options available to its citizens (Adekoya, 2017). High unemployment rates, poor salaries, and limited prospects are all indicators of social and economic strain. Therefore, areas that have less
socioeconomic opportunity are more prone to display indicators of socioeconomic stress. This is due to the fact that those who are lower in the social hierarchy have greater levels of stress and fatigue, which leads to worse overall physical, emotional, and behavioral health. Economic strain is defined in this paper as the presence of elements that contribute to feelings of jealousy, tension, exhaustion, and a general lack of motivation among workers. These feelings are all attributed to the state of being economically strained. Contributing factors include precarious employment, difficult financial circumstances, and poor living conditions (Adekoya, 2017). When individuals remain unemployed for an extended period of time, negative circumstances tend to compound one another in a snowball effect. There is a link between long-term unemployment and a reduction in education as well as a loss in income, which is one of them (Horan & Widom, 2015). It also made the already difficult financial situation much worse, which contributed to instability in the household. The underlying issues in parenting were made much worse when there was a breakdown in the family, including divorce and breakups (Smith, Crosnoe, & Cavanagh, 2017). Children who come from families with poor incomes have a harder time getting a good education, which puts them at a disadvantage from the beginning (Merrifield, 2017). As a consequence of this, children who live in poverty are at a bigger disadvantage academically than their peers who come from more wealthy backgrounds (Hall & De Lannoy, 2015). Children that originate from families with poor incomes often have a later school start date, which has a detrimental effect on the children's potential for long-term academic performance (Merrifield, 2017).

Because they lack the financial resources and access to consumer goods necessary to sustain higher-paying professions, low-income families are forced to engage in low-skilled labor in order to make ends meet. This is due to the fact that in emerging countries, one of the most common measures of material wealth is family consumption. People who originate from families with poor incomes often have to make do with lower levels of care, which may be directly connected to the high mortality rates that are seen in these populations (Schmeer & Yoon, 2016). Therefore, the natural logarithm of a population's average income is used to determine the degree of income disparity in a given population (Adekoya, 2017).

Because of the country's current socioeconomic climate, the people of Thailand are under a significant amount of pressure. According to the findings of one research that was mentioned by Ibikunle, Umeadi, and Ummunah (2012), low salaries led to employee unhappiness, which in turn led to emotional weariness among the workforces. According to the author, some immigrants in Lagos resorted to criminal behavior due to a lack of economic opportunities and the expanding variety of the city's high- and medium-rent districts. This diversity contributed to an increase in the number of high- and medium-rent communities in the city. The majority of immigrants who were in need resided in low-income districts, but immigrants who lived in middle-income or high-income regions were more likely to commit crimes. The study that Alabi and Durowaiye (2018) conducted found that being jobless is a significant factor in engaging in criminal activity. Adekoya (2017) also discovered that young people are more likely to participate in criminal activities when they are impoverished, have limited access to stable jobs, and have weak family relationships. These factors all contribute to an increased likelihood of young people engaging in criminal behavior.

Torruam and Abur (2014) stated that people's morale in the economic structure is lowered by unemployment, and that this in turn leads them to seek out illegal or unethical ways to get money. In addition, Torruam and Abur (2014) stated that people's morale in the economic structure is lowered by unemployment. As a direct consequence of this, the evidence of juvenile and young adult crime in Thailand as a direct consequence of socioeconomic circumstances has proved to be difficult to confirm (Adekoya & Razak, 2016). Investigation is the only way to respond appropriately to challenges posed by social and economic strain. Here, researchers look into whether or not there is a connection
between the socioeconomic troubles of Thailand and the country's high rate of violent crime. There are four primary reasons why we should consider looking at these components. To begin, a bigger proportion of the Thai population is now living in poverty than at any other time in history since salaries are so low. Second, a significant section of the population that is of working age may be deprived of the chance to provide their children an education that is appropriate for their needs. Last but not least, the capacity of the people of Thailand to avoid or, at the very least, lessen the negative impacts of socioeconomic misery is crucial to the country's ability to maintain its security, peace, and wellbeing.

Traditional economic theory defines growth as an increase in per capita income; however, the literature is split over the most effective ways for working toward this objective. The primary question that has been at the center of the discussion is whether or not the levels of investment are adequate to maintain the present pace of development. Due to the dualistic position that it has in the economy, Berg (2016) and Khandelwal and Joshy (2017) have hypothesized that the accumulation of capital is a primary factor in the progression of economic growth. The economy enjoys greater prosperity and levels of productivity as a direct outcome of the accumulation of capital. On the near term, an increase in revenue will result in an increase in spending, but on the long term, an increase in output will result in an increase in the quantity of items that are available. Full employment and, as a result, continuous growth are essential conditions for an expanding economy, and this can only be ensured if the money earned via spending is sufficient to clear the generated output through a rise in capital stocks. Full employment is also a vital condition for an expanding economy.

Data Model estimation and estimation technique

When compiling data for the 34-year span starting in 1985 and concluding in 2019, we make use of official sources whenever possible. In this article, we expand upon Becker's (1968) model of criminal activity and the legal reaction to such behavior. The following equation, developed by Becker (1968), may be used to describe the availability of opportunities for criminal conduct in a society:

\[ CRI_t = f(PRAR_t, PCO_t, V_t) \] \[ (1) \]

In the first equation, "CRI_t" stands for the total number of offenses, which is determined by PRAR_t, PCO_t, and V_t, respectively. While 'PCO_t' represents the penalty for committing the offense, 'PRAR_t' indicates the possibility that the criminal would be arrested and prosecuted, and 'V_t' indicates the presence of additional factors that have an impact on the commission of the offense.

In addition, Ehrlich (1973) broadened the scope of the crime model by include income disparity as well as other factors into the model, as seen in equation 2:

\[ CRI_t = f(PRAR_t, PCO_t, RF_t, RFI_t, PUN_t, W_t, Z_t) \] \[ (2) \]

PUN_t represents the likelihood of being unemployed, W_t is a vector of environmental variables, and Z_t takes into consideration the psychological effect as well as other intangible factors that contribute to the crime rate. Where RF_t represents the profits from illegal activity that serve as an incentive to engage in criminal activity, RFI_t represents the current legal income gap, PUN_t is the probability of unemployment, and W_t is a vector of environmental factors. These profits serve as an incentive to engage in criminal activity. By including the demographic parameters indicated by DG_t, Virén (2001) enhanced the Becker-Ehrlich crime model described in Equation 3 by Becker-Ehrlich.
\[ CRI_t = f(PRAR_t, PCO_t, RF_t, RFt, WT_t, IT_t, SE_t) \ldots \ldots (3) \]

\( WT_t, IT_t, \) and \( DG_t \) are the working time, income transfers and the possible demographic variables, which include other accounted variables for crime respectively. 

Hamid, Habibullah, and Noor (2013) reconstructed Virén’s original crime model to better examine the impact of socioeconomic and macroeconomic factors on crime in Malaysia (2001). As seen by equation 4, which provides a rewrite of the crime model, both social and macroeconomic factors were included. This may be shown since it reflects a revision of the crime model. In equation 4, the following parameters of the model are specified: 

\[ CRI_t = f(V_t, SE_t, ME_t) \ldots \ldots (4) \]

For instance, in the model of crime that was provided by Hamid et al. (2013), \( SE_t \) refers to socioeconomic factors that create an unreasonable burden on the economy, \( ME_t \) refers to macroeconomic variables that lay an unfair cost on the people, and \( V_t \) refers to other variables. This research takes use of the crime model presented in model 4 and expands upon it by taking into consideration the deterrent variable (security expenditure) as well as the effect that family instability has on the rates of crime (2013). In addition, Becker (1968) conducted theoretical research on the consequences of illegal behavior, which were conceptualized as a cost to society. As a result, Becker devised the following model in order to conduct research on the cost of crime to society.

\[ CRI_t = f(PRAR_t, PCO_t, COR_t, D_t) \ldots \ldots (5) \]

Where, \( COR_t \) cost from crime and \( D_t \) is the damage from crime. 

In addition, the splitting of the social loss due to crime into three distinct components changes the social loss function model proposed by Becker (1968). The following elements comprise this whole: The economic cost of criminal activity may be divided into three categories: 1) the explicit cost of sanctions to criminals, which represents the foregone earnings due to incarceration; 2) the cost of preventing crime and the cost incurred on the judicial system; and 3) the cost of pain, which is related to the economic cost of crime and is viewed as the direct cost of crime in terms of physical and psychological pain borne by the victims. The economic cost of crime quantifies the direct cost of crime, which includes the cost of victims’ suffering. According to Hamid et al. (2013), the crime rate is connected to the per capita social loss, which may be expressed as follows.

\[ CRI_t = f(PN_t, PRAR_t, PCO_t, CR_t) \ldots \ldots (6) \]

Mauro and Carmeci (2007) developed two models that accounted for the poverty trap resulting from high crime rates \((CR_t)\). These models accounted for both the effect of low income and the effect of income increase. This is because research has shown that the tax imposed by crime has a negative impact on the quantity of money available in a society. In other words, a rise in criminal recidivism is the fundamental cause of an irreversible drop in economic development. Criminal conduct slows economic progress, which in turn promotes poverty and maintains the cycle (see Equation 7).

\[ CRI_t = f(ROA_t, RUNE_t, CR_t) \ldots \ldots (7) \]

Thus, the econometric model of the current study will be as below

\[ \ln CR_i = a_0 + a_1 RUNE_t + a_2 IDA_t + a_3 ROP_t + a_4 FMI_t + a_5 ANSE_t + \varepsilon \ldots (8) \]

In equation 8 \( CR_t \) is the annual crime activities in the country, \( RUNE_t \) is the annual unemployment rate, \( IDA_t \) is the income disadvantage rate, \( ROP_t \) is the poverty rate, \( FMI_t \) is the family instability, \( ANSE_t \) is the annual security expenditure, \( \varepsilon_t \) is the white-noise term.
The ARDL OLS technique has the potential to provide accurate estimates in settings in which the variables are endogenous. This is due to the fact that the regressors in ARDL OLS are duplicates of the variable of interest with a lag attached to them. Nevertheless, the estimates would only be considered credible if the residual was unaffected by the values that came before it (Pesaran & Shin, 1997). Because the ARDL OLS residuals do not exhibit any signs of serial correlation, it is acceptable to draw the conclusion that there is no need to be concerned about endogeneity (Pesaran & Shin, 1997). In the event that the endogeneity problem still persists after the use of ARDL OLS and the variables included in the model are, in fact, endogenous, the ARDL IV would also be applied in order to solve the problem (Pesaran & Shin, 1997). In light of this, the justification for Equation 8 may be stated as follows:

\[
\ln CR_t = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 RUNE_t + \alpha_2 IDA_t + \alpha_3 ROP_t + \alpha_4 FMI_t + \alpha_5 \ln \text{ANSE}_t + \frac{1}{\mu(1)} \sum_{i=1}^{m_1-1} \alpha_1 \Delta RUNE_{t-1} + \\
\frac{1}{\mu(1)} \sum_{i=1}^{m_2-1} a_2 \Delta IDA_{t-1} + \frac{1}{\mu(1)} \sum_{i=1}^{m_3-1} a_3 \Delta ROP_{t-1} + \frac{1}{\mu(1)} \sum_{i=1}^{m_4-1} a_4 \Delta FMI_{t-1} + \\
\frac{1}{\mu(1)} \sum_{i=1}^{m_5-1} a_4 \Delta \ln \text{ANSE}_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t \ldots(9)
\]

The ARDL IV combined the short-run and the long-run in the same model. When it is used to model variables, the problem of simultaneity bias is avoided, and a further test for exogeneity is not required. That is, making relevant adjustment to ARDL orders, ARDL model is adequate to simultaneously correct for the serial correlation in the residual and further problems in endogenous regressors (Pesaran & Shin, 1997). This process allows endogenous variables to be estimated with ARDL IV. The ARDL OLS is transformed to Bewley’s equation of 1979 and thus, estimated with Instrumental Variables method by using 2SLS (Pesaran & Shin, 1997).

**Result and Discussion**

The results of the correlation test between the dependent variable and the independent variables were rather beneficial to the preliminary estimate analysis, especially in terms of the probable correlations offered by theories. Because the test was run between the dependent variable and the independent variables, this was the case. As a prelude to the econometric analysis, it is important to investigate the statistical correlation of the variables in order to discover the statistical relationships between and among them. This will help one to establish the statistical relationships between variables.

**Table 1.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CO2</th>
<th>FD+</th>
<th>FD-</th>
<th>GDPG</th>
<th>EC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CR</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUNE</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(0.41)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDA</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(0.27)</td>
<td>(0.48)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROP</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>-0.13</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(0.15)</td>
<td>(0.46)</td>
<td>(0.02)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FPI</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>-0.12</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(0.87)</td>
<td>(0.52)</td>
<td>(0.01)</td>
<td>(0.88)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANSE</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>0.29</td>
<td>0.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(0.71)</td>
<td>(0.59)</td>
<td>(0.21)</td>
<td>(0.48)</td>
<td>(0.38)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Asean’s optimum models selection was undertaken as depicted by Table 2. The selected models are ARDL (2,1,0,0,1), ARDL (1,1,0,2,1,2,0,0,0).

In the context of the idea of property crime, family instability is an important differentiation. Robbery with a weapon, as well as robbery and extortion, burglary, and false pretenses or deceit, all fall under the category of property crimes. Unemployment contributes significantly to a 5% increase in property crime. Property crime would go up by 0.05% for every one percentage point that the unemployment rate goes up. According to this, modifying labor policies would result in a reduction in property crime. Blasi et al. provide results that are comparable to these ones (2016). Additionally, at the 10% significance level, having less money leads to an increase in property crime among the poor. A one percent increase in economic disadvantage would result in a 0.6 percent increase in property crime. This suggests that an increase in the number of people whose incomes are low will lead to an increase in the rate of criminal activity. It’s possible that a further widening of the wealth gap would put more stress on people whose incomes are unequal, pushing them over the edge into committing some kind of property crime (Tarling & Dennis, 2016).

Table 2.
ARDL long term OLS estimation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Coefficients</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>t-statistics</th>
<th>p-Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RUNE (1,0,0,1)</td>
<td>0.415</td>
<td>0.142</td>
<td>1.522</td>
<td>0.008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUNE (-1)</td>
<td>0.455</td>
<td>0.147</td>
<td>3.090</td>
<td>0.006**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDA</td>
<td>0.010</td>
<td>0.019</td>
<td>1.427</td>
<td>0.024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDA (-1)</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.201</td>
<td>5.938</td>
<td>0.000**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROP</td>
<td>-0.477</td>
<td>-0.137</td>
<td>-3.498</td>
<td>0.002*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMI</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>4.202</td>
<td>0.243**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lnANSE</td>
<td>-0.023</td>
<td>-0.043</td>
<td>0.526</td>
<td>0.604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lnANSE (-1)</td>
<td>-0.065</td>
<td>-0.037</td>
<td>3.763</td>
<td>0.092**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>7.406</td>
<td>2.882</td>
<td>2.570</td>
<td>0.018*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>0.045</td>
<td>0.009</td>
<td>4.731</td>
<td>0.000*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2.
ARDL IV Long-run Estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Coefficients</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>t-statistics</th>
<th>p-Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RUNE</td>
<td>0.425</td>
<td>0.183</td>
<td>2.327</td>
<td>0.031*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUNE(-1)</td>
<td>0.340</td>
<td>0.173</td>
<td>1.959</td>
<td>0.065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDA</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>1.401</td>
<td>0.177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDA (-1)</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>4.338</td>
<td>0.000*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROP</td>
<td>-0.428</td>
<td>0.195</td>
<td>2.201</td>
<td>0.040*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMI</td>
<td>0.045</td>
<td>0.056</td>
<td>0.795</td>
<td>0.437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMI (-1)</td>
<td>0.033</td>
<td>0.057</td>
<td>0.570</td>
<td>0.575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMI (-2)</td>
<td>0.103</td>
<td>0.062</td>
<td>1.675</td>
<td>0.110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lnANSE</td>
<td>0.033</td>
<td>0.048</td>
<td>0.689</td>
<td>0.499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lnANSE (-1)</td>
<td>0.097</td>
<td>0.053</td>
<td>1.831</td>
<td>0.083**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ΔRUNE</td>
<td>0.429</td>
<td>0.118</td>
<td>3.624</td>
<td>0.001*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition, the fact that stolen goods may be resold on the open market for a profit provides another incentive for criminals to engage in property theft (Sidebottom, Ashby, & Johnson, 2014). The lack of relevance that poverty has under this model. At the 1% significance level, the deterrence variable was shown to have a negative influence on the property crime rate. A 1% increase in security expenditure would result in a 0.209 percentage point decrease in property crime. The result provided support for the overall crime rate but was unique from the individual’s crime rate since it did not reach statistical significance in the individual’s crime model. This distinction was due to the fact that the overall crime rate was being measured. Coccia (2017) came to very similar conclusions; he found that the amount of money spent by the police had a higher influence on the rate of property crime than it did on the rate of violent crime. At the 1% significance level, there was a substantial association between unstable family situations and property crime. This suggests that any increase in the instability of families will lead to an increase in the amount of property crime. Therefore, neglecting to address the issues that contribute to the instability of families would increase the participation in criminal conduct among children who come from unstable homes. These conditions include emotional instability among children as a consequence of the structure of their families, the breakdown of their families, and the prevalence of poverty (Coccia, 2017). The findings shown here validate Coccia’s (2017) findings with respect to property crime; nevertheless, Kelly’s research is more convincing due to the fact that it demonstrates that family instability is positively connected with both violent crime and property crime. Researchers from Halicioglu, Kiki, and Yavuz (2012) found a link between family instability and property crimes like robbery and theft by using the divorce rate as a proxy for family instability. They found that family instability was associated with higher rates of property crime.

Conclusion

The positive link between socioeconomic stress and crime features remains true across a variety of pertinent variables, as can be observed from the data that came before it. The deterrent factors functioned as expected on all of the other variables, with the exception of the person’s criminal characteristic. There was evidence to imply that there was an increase in property crime when families were unstable. The unhappiness, anger, and stress of Thai residents are reflected in Thai society and economy, as can be observed from the association between high levels of socioeconomic stress and high levels of criminal activity. When people’s quality of life lowers as a result of social and economic concerns, they often come up with new solutions to their problems. These options, according to Becker, constitute illegal behavior (1968). They may engage in illegal actions such as stealing, burglary, armed robbery, false pretense, and even murder in order to augment their income. This may be the only option available to them. Both the rate of property crime committed by offenders and the rate of property crime committed by victims were reduced in the long and short term by the presence of unemployment. It’s possible that this might be explained by Thailand’s high jobless rate. The high unemployment rate includes not just those who have graduated from college but also people who have not completed their degrees but are still looking for work. It is possible that persons who did obtain employment are not completely involved in their job if they were not given enough consideration for the positions for which
they were hired. These fresh graduates as well as non-graduates have a responsibility to be able to make contributions that are helpful to the country.

References


Virén, M. (2001). The Okun curve is non-linear. *Economics Letters, 70*(2), 253-257. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0165-1765(00)00370-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0165-1765(00)00370-0)