

# The Landscape of Poverty in Nigeria: A Spatial Analysis Using Senatorial Districts- level Data

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**Abstract** The study decomposes the Landscape of Poverty in Nigeria based on the significance of spatial contiguity using Senatorial Districts - level Data. The data used for the study were obtained from National Living Standard Survey and Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire Survey conducted by National Bureau of Statistics in 2004 and 2006 respectively. Exploratory spatial data analysis and spatial autocorrelation test were carried out on poverty incidence data.

Average national poverty rate of the Senatorial Districts (SD) was 56.0%. Forty nine percent of the SD had poverty rate (PR) below the national average. The global Moran's I value obtained is strongly positive (0.6657), indicating that spillover of poverty exist among SD. The study revealed that 52% of the SD with significant spatial association had low PR neighbored by low PR SD (Low-Low), 41% of the SD with high PR were neighbored by high PR SD (High-High) and 7% of SDs with low PR were surrounded by high PR SD (Low-High). The mean PR in high-high and low-low SDs was 82.6% and 31.8% respectively.

The study recommends that for a significant poverty reduction to be achieved in Nigeria, greater attention in terms of poverty alleviation strategies should be concentrated on the senatorial districts that constitute the hotspots of poverty.

**Keywords** Spatial Contiguity, Poverty Rate, Spatial Autocorrelation, Senatorial District

## 1. Introduction

The poverty phenomenon in Nigeria and other developing nations has attracted significant global attention since the 1990s. First, was the annual publication of the Human Development Report by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which contains estimates of the Human Development Indices used to rank all the 177 Countries that make up the United Nations. The Human Development Index (HDI) is derived from social and economic indicators that are closely correlated with poverty. Human Development Index is a simple summary measure of three dimensions of human development concept: living a long and healthy life, being educated and having a decent standard of living. Thus it combines measures of life expectancy, school enrolment, literacy and income[1]. Since 2003, African Countries including Nigeria have ranked amongst the countries with the lowest HDI. In 2005, all the 27 Countries of the world with the lowest HDI were African Countries, Nigeria inclusive. These countries each has HDIs of less than 0.5 and when compared with figures of 0.968 for

Iceland and Norway (the countries with the highest HDI) one will realized the enormity of the poverty problem in Nigeria and other lowly developed African Countries. Though the issues of poverty and low human development indices may not be peculiar to Africa, they are however more pronounced in the continent and the Nigeria situation is particularly worrisome because of the country's available natural resources and clement weather. Despite the conflicting statistical data on the incidence of poverty between government agency and international organization, there is undeniable fact that poverty situation in Nigeria is serious and deserves great attention. Specifically,[2] put the poverty rate of Nigeria at 54.4% while[1] and[3] reported 70.2% and 70% respectively.

Over the years a number of Poverty Reduction Strategy Programmes (PRSPs) has been initiated in Nigeria, this includes the recently designed National Economic Empowerment Development Strategies (NEEDS. In addition to the foregoing, a special Federal Government institution to alleviate poverty in the country; the National Poverty Eradication Programmes (NAPEP) was created. These previously initiated PRSPs in the country along with many others initiated by the state governments appear only to have addressed the various manifestations of poverty, such as unemployment, lack of access to credit and functional rural and urban infrastructures, and gender inequality among others.

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While the above mentioned Poverty Reduction Strategy Programmes (PRSPs) were well intentioned, none had any significant, lasting, or sustainable positive effects on the people they were planned for [3],[4]. This can be attributed among others to the non consideration of the heterogeneous nature of poverty and spatial contiguity of geographical units in the design of PRSPs. Existing poverty studies treat a geographical unit, such as a local government area, a state, or a senatorial district, or a county, as an independent isolated entity rather than as an entity surrounded by other geographic units with which it may interact is being considered by this study. Moreover, there is scarce information on spatial decomposition of poverty incidence among SD in Nigeria. Hence, the landscape of Poverty in Nigeria is investigated using Senatorial Districts (SDs) in Nigeria as geographic units.

Senatorial district is composed of Federal constituencies while federal constituency is made up of Local Government Areas. Each state is made up of three senatorial districts while the federal capital territory (Abuja) has one senatorial district. This means that each state in Nigeria is represented by three elected senators in the national assembly (upper legislative chamber). Delineation of the country into senatorial district by National Population Commission is based on population distribution. Apart from performing the legislative duties, senators are also task with the economic development of their respective senatorial district through lobby for sitting capital projects and judicious use of monthly constituency allowance meant for execution of projects in senatorial districts.

The study utilized spatial econometrics technique instead of the conventional econometrics methods. Spatial econometrics technique has the advantage of addressing the problem of spillover effect or spatial autocorrelation if present in the data set. According to [5], studies that ignore spatial autocorrelation (dependence) can produce biased results (coefficient estimates) and lead to ineffective and possibly counterproductive – recommendations for policies targeted at poverty alleviation.

The study identified the locations of senatorial districts with similar and dissimilar (outlier) pattern of poverty incidence. Knowing this will afford researchers to determine the factors that are specific to each of the identified groups. The finding of this study is expected to assist government in localizing poverty alleviation strategy of senatorial districts that exhibit similar spatial pattern of poverty.

## 2. Conceptual Framework and Previous Literature

### 2.1. Conceptual Framework

The philosophy behind this study is based on Tobler First Law of Geography: "everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things." Spatial clustering shows the similarity or dissimilarity of poverty in

neighbouring units and spatial autocorrelation measures the strength of the spatial clustering [6],[7],[8],[9],[10]. Global spatial autocorrelation (Moran's I) analysis yields only one statistics to summarize the pattern of poverty in the whole study area. That is, global Moran's I assumes homogeneity of the study area (that poverty pattern is the same in all the senatorial districts). This is the limitation of global Moran's I. To localize the presence and magnitude of spatial autocorrelation, a measure such as Anselin's Local Indicators of Spatial Association (LISA) is necessary (see equation 7). This approach is most useful when, in addition to global trends in the entire sample of observations, there exist also pockets of localities exhibiting heterogeneous values that do not follow the global trend. This leads to identification of so-called hot spots -regions where the considered phenomenon is extremely pronounced across localities- as well of spatial outliers [11].

'Moran scatter plot' plots a variable of interest against spatial weighted component of that variable. This measure permits a more disaggregated view of the type of spatial autocorrelation that exists in a data. Local Indicators of Spatial Association [12] and Moran scatter plot [13] are valuable for gaining a "local" understanding of the extent and nature of spatial clustering in a geographical unit. LISA indicates significant spatial clustering for each location.

Moran scatter plot utilizes graph only to identify observations (extent of poverty) that are similar as well as different (outliers: neighbouring senatorial districts that has contrasting poverty rates) from their neighbours while formula is used in Local Moran's I to identify similarity or dissimilarity of poverty rates in neighbouring units. For each location (senatorial district), LISA values allow for the computation of its similarity with its neighbours and also to test its significance. Spatial association can be decomposed into four components, viz:

- Senatorial districts with high concentration of poverty with similar neighbours: *high-high*. Also known as "hot spots".

- Senatorial districts with low concentration of poverty with similar neighbours: *low-low*. Also known as "cold spots".

- Senatorial districts with high concentration of poverty with low concentration of poverty neighbours: *high-low*. Potential "spatial outliers".

- Senatorial districts with low concentration of poverty with high concentration of poverty neighbours: *low-high*. Potential "spatial outliers".

- Senatorial districts with no significant local autocorrelation.

Reference [13] demonstrated that the slope of the regression line through the points in Moran scatter plot expresses the global Moran's I value. A strong positive statistic indicates positive spatial autocorrelation (clustering of like values). This means that most senatorial districts would be found in the high-high or low-low (first and third quadrants) areas of the country.

A strong negative statistic indicates negative spatial autocorrelation suggests most senatorial districts with high (low) poverty concentration would be found in the vicinity of low (high) poverty senatorial districts (outliers).

## 2.2. Review of Previous Literature

Poverty is not only a state of existence but also a process with many dimensions and complexities. Generally, poverty has attracted a lot of attention from the academia and non-academia globally. Few recent studies are based on the premise that individuals and households with common characteristics sometimes are found clustered together either by choice or because they are constrained to co-locate by coercive operation of social, economic, geographic or political forces[14]. Identification of these households has been made possible through the advancement in spatial analytical techniques; which has also enables spatial pattern of poverty (concentration of poverty rates and outliers) to be quantified[15],[16],[17]. References[18],[19] showed that poverty rate in nearby locations are likely to be similar to one another, or error for the model in one area or location is correlated with the error terms in its neighboring locations; hence the need to pay attention to the structure of spatial dependence or autocorrelation in our data.

Reference[20] posited that knowing precisely where concentration of poverty exist will help the policy maker, social scientist and all other stake holders in continuing challenge of combating this fundamental threat (poverty) to well-being. Ignoring spatial autocorrelation will make it:

- impossible to measure the strength of spatial concentration of poverty.

- difficult to explain substantial variation in the incidence of poverty across senatorial districts.

In a study on the topography of poverty in US,[20] findings showed that 51.9% of the total counties belong to similar spatial concentration (low – low and high-high), whereas only 7.8% were categorized as being spatial outliers (high – low and low – high). The remaining 40.3% were neither. The categorization of spatial concentration into high or low poverty rate neighbourhood is in relationship with average national poverty rate. Most counties in US are found in the high-high and low-low subregions[14]. That is, the counties whose poverty rate is above (below) the average poverty rate are surrounded by counties with poverty rate above (below) average national poverty rate.

Reference[21] conducted a research on the application of a spatial regression model to analysis and poverty mapping in Ecuador; their results confirmed the significant effects of spatial autocorrelation variable that denotes the presence of clusters in the spatial distribution of poverty and the influence between neighbourhood households on the probability of being poor. A combination of processes

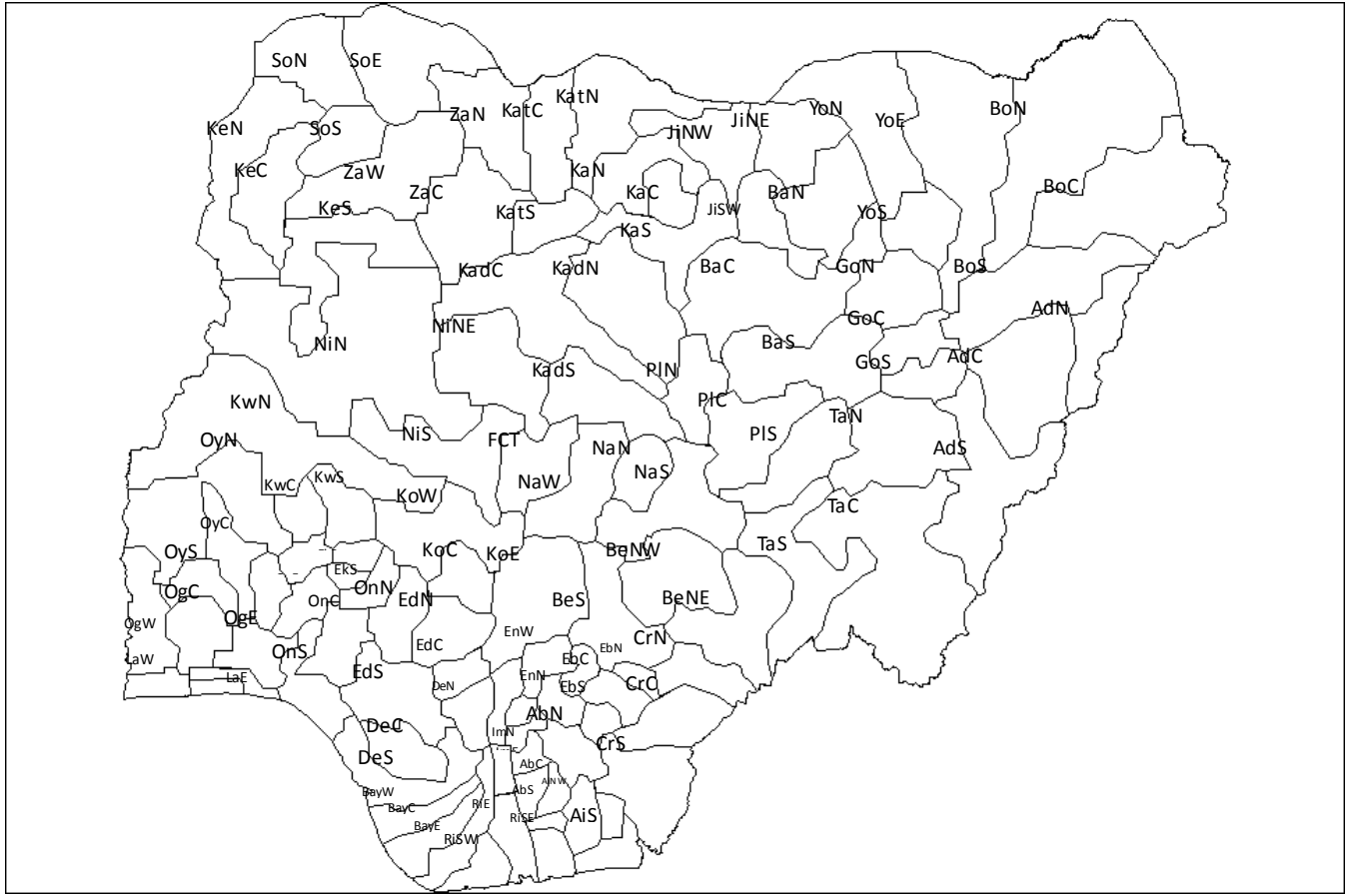
(socioeconomic, political, demographic and geographic) operating in space over time has somehow conspired to partition countries into large regions of high and large regions of low poverty—with occasional “island” geographic units here and there that are very different from their neighbors[14].

Similarly,[22] in study on spatial clustering of rural poverty in Sri Lanka found that Divisional Secretariat (DS) divisions with a high percentage of poor households are found in four rural districts where agriculture is the main source of livelihood of the majority of households. The clustering of DS divisions of low poverty around major urban centres suggests that, in predominantly agricultural areas, poor people have only limited economic opportunities to escape poverty. They revealed that availability of and access to water and land resources are the major factors of spatial concentration of poverty in rural areas. In another study on spatial approach to social and political forces as a determinant of poverty in US,[5] stated that a positive and significant spatial dependence in the dependent variable (poverty rate) indicates that the poverty rate in a particular county is associated with poverty rates in surrounding counties/local government areas. According to them, the value of the spatial autocorrelation coefficient ( $\rho = 0.21$  in the model for all counties) obtained indicates that a 10 percentage point increase in the poverty rate in a county results in a 2% increase in the poverty rate in a neighbouring county. This is strong evidence that spillover effects exist between counties with respect to poverty. This finding is corroborated by[23]. They reasoned that poverty of a neighbourhood is tied to the fortunes of neighbouring areas: there are geographic spillovers in poverty reduction. Reducing poverty in particular neighbourhoods affects the poverty of neighbouring tracts.

## 3. Methodology

### 3.1. Study Area

The study covered the 109 Senatorial districts of Nigeria. According to section five subsections 71 and 72 of Nigeria's 1999 constitution, “the Independent National Electoral Commission shall divide each state of the federation into three Senatorial districts..... No Senatorial district or Federal constituency shall fall within more than one state, and the boundaries of each district or constituency shall be as contiguous as possible and be such that the number of inhabitants thereof is nearly equal to the population quota as is reasonably practicable.” The fig. 1.0 shows the senatorial district map of Nigeria while table 1.0 gives the meaning of the senatorial districts' acronyms.



Source: Adapted from NBS (2007)

**Figure 1.** Senatorial District Map of Nigeria

### 3.3. Methods of Data Analysis

The study utilized descriptive and exploratory spatial data analyses (ESDA). The GIS software (ArcGIS 8.1) was used to ensure the compatibility of the senatorial district map with Geoda 0.9.5i

The most common measure of spatial autocorrelation, a statistic called global Moran's I [24],[25] is defined as follows:

$$I_{global} = \left( \frac{n}{\sum_{i,j \neq i} w_{ij}} \right) \left( \frac{\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} w_{ij} (x_i - \bar{x})(x_j - \bar{x})}{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \right) \quad (1)$$

Where:

$i$  and  $j$  index the area units of which there are  $n$ ,

$w_{ij}$  is a spatial weight measure of contiguity defining the connection between area unit  $i$  and area unit  $j$ .

$w$  is 1 if location  $i$  is contiguous to location  $j$  and 0 (zero) otherwise.

$x_i$  is the poverty rate for each senatorial district

$\bar{x}$  is the average poverty rate for 109 senatorial districts

Positive values of Moran's I suggest spatial clustering of similar values across geo - space. A significant negative value (infrequent in the social sciences) indicates that neighbouring values are more dissimilar than expected by chance, that is high values are frequently found in the

vicinity of low values.. The I statistic is similar to the familiar Pearsonian product-moment correlation coefficient, however, the maximum and minimum possible values of Moran's I are not constrained to lie in the  $(-1, 1)$  range [26],[27].

The expected value and variance of Moran's I for a sample of size  $n$  could be calculated according to the assumed pattern of the spatial data distribution [24].

For the assumption of a normal distribution:

$$E_n(I) = - \frac{1}{(n-1)} \quad (2)$$

$$Var_n(I) = \frac{n^2 w_1 - n w_2 + 3 w_0^2}{w_0^2 (n^2 - 1)} - E_n^2(I) \quad (3)$$

For the assumption of random distribution:

$$E_r(I) = - \frac{1}{(n-1)} \quad (4)$$

$$VAR_r(I) = \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{n((n^2 - 3n + 3)w_1 - n w_2 + 3w_0^2) - K_2((n^2 - n)w_1 - 2n w_2 + 6w_0^2)}{w_0^2 (n-1)(n-2)(n-3)} - E_r^2(I)$$

$$\text{where: } K_2 = \frac{n \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^4}{\left( \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \right)^2}, \quad w_0 = \sum_i \sum_j w_{ij}$$

**Table 1.** Senatorial Districts' Identity

Senatorial District	ID	Senatorial District	ID	Senatorial District	ID	Senatorial District	ID
Abia Central	AbC	Cross River South	CrS	Kaduna South	KadS	Ogun West	OgW
Abia North	AbN	Delta Central	DeC	Kano Central	KaC	Ondo Central	OnC
Abia South	AbS	Delta North	DeN	Kano North	KaN	Ondo West	OnW
Adamawa Central	AdC	Delta South	DeS	Kano South	KaS	Ondo East	OnE
Adamawa North	AdN	Ebonyi Central	EbC	Katsina Central	KatC	Osun Central	OsC
Adamawa South	AdS	Ebonyi North	EbN	Katsina North	KatN	Osun East	OsE
Akwa Ibom North West	AiNW	Ebonyi South	EbS	Katsina South	KatS	Osun West	OsW
Akwa Ibom North East	AiNE	Edo Central	EdC	Kebbi Cental	KeC	Oyo Central	OyC
Akwa Ibom South	AiS	Edo North	EdN	Kebbi North	KeN	Oyo North	OyN
Anambra Central	AnC	Edo South	EdS	Kebbi South	KeS	Oyo South	OyS
Anambra North	AnN	Ekiti Central	EkC	Kogi West	KoW	Plateau Central	PIC
Anambra South	AnS	Ekiti North	EkN	Kogi Central	KoC	Plateau North	PIN
Bauchi Central	BaC	Ekiti South	EkS	Kogi East	KoE	Plateau South	PIS
Bauchi North	BaN	Enugu East	EnE	Kwara Centarl	KwC	Rivers East	RiE
Bauchi South	BaS	Enugu North	EnN	Kwara North	KwN	Rivers South East	RiSE
Bayelsa Central	BayC	Enugu West	EnW	Kwara South	KwS	Rivers South West	RiSW
Bayelsa East	BayE	Gombe Central	GoC	Lagos central	LaC	Sokoto East	SoE
Bayelsa West	BayW	Gombe North	GoN	Lagos East	LaE	Sokoto North	SoN
Benue North East	BeNE	Gombe South	GoS	Lagos West	LaW	Sokoto South	SoS
Benue North West	BeNW	Imo East	ImE	Nassarawa North	NaN	Taraba Central	TaC
Benue South	BeS	Imo North	ImN	Nassarawa South	NaS	Taraba North	TaN
Bomo Central	BoC	Imo West	ImW	Nassarawa Central	NaC	Taraba South	TaS
Bomo North	BoN	Jigawa North East	JiNE	Niger East	NiE	Yobe East	YoE
Bomo South	BoS	Jigawa North West	JiNW	Niger North	NiN	Yobe North	YoN
Bomo South	BoS	Jigawa South West	JiSW	Niger South	NiS	Yobe South	YoS
Cross River Central	CrC	Kaduna Central	KadC	Ogun Central	OgC	Zamfara Central	ZaC
Cross River North	CrN	Kaduna North	KadN	Ogun East	OgE	Zamfara North	ZaN
Zamfara West	ZaW						
FCT	AbJ						

Source: Survey Data, 2010

$$w_1 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i^n \sum_j^n (w_{ij} + w_{ji})^2, \quad w_2 = \sum_i^n (w_i + w_j)^2$$

$w_i$  and  $w_j$  are the sum of the row  $i$  and column  $j$  of the weight matrix respectively.

The test of the null hypothesis that there is no spatial autocorrelation between observed values over the  $n$  locations can be conducted on the basis of the standardized statistics as follows:

$$Z(d) = \frac{I(d) - E(I)}{\sqrt{VAR(I)}} \quad (6)$$

Moran's  $I$  is significant and positive when the observed values of locations within a certain distance ( $d$ ) tend to be similar, negative when they tend to be dissimilar, and approximately zero when the observed values are arranged randomly and independently over space.

Spatial analysis (Local indicator of Spatial Association

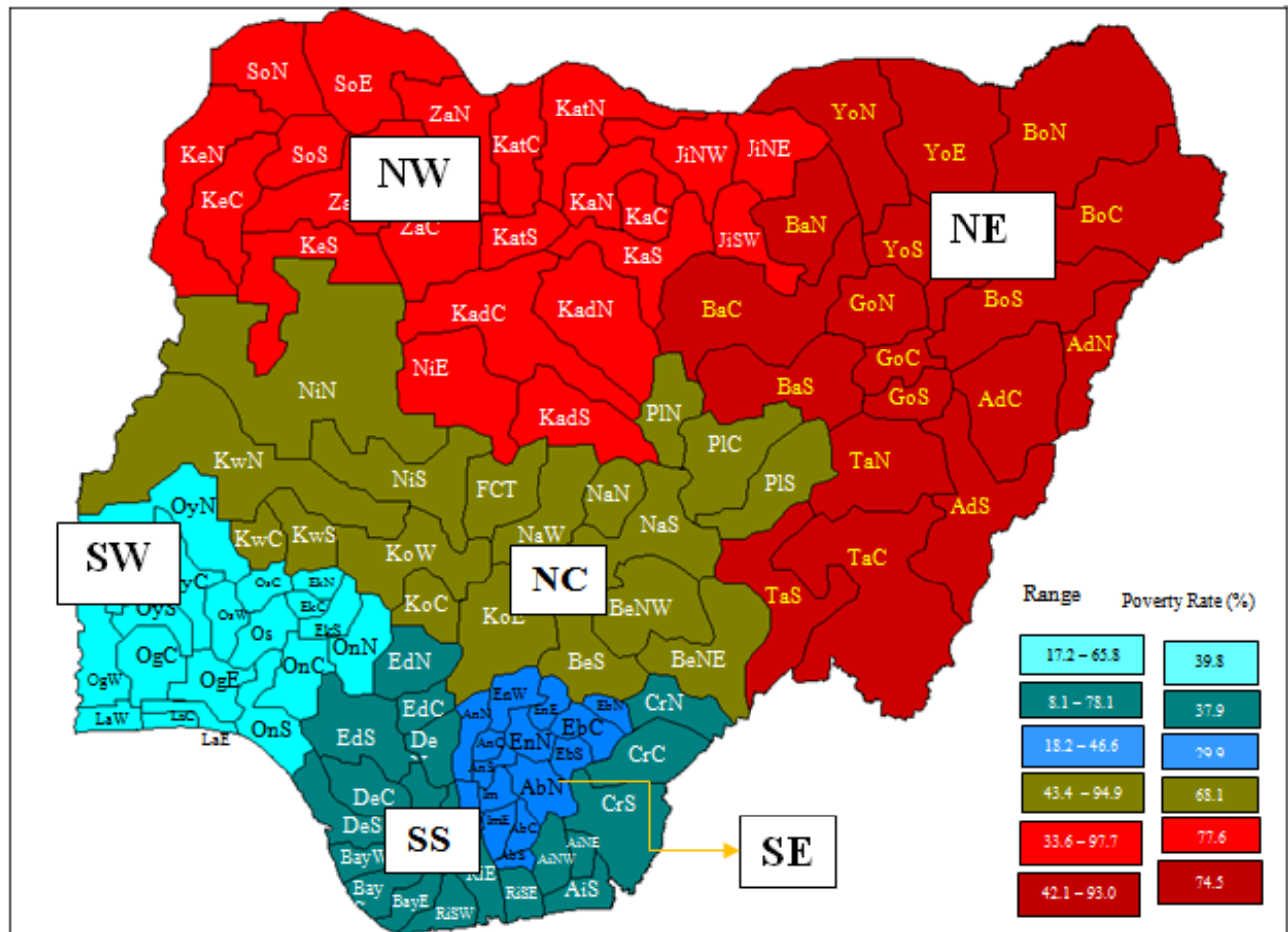
Indices, Local indicator of Spatial Association Cluster Map, Local indicator of Spatial Association Significance Map and Moran scatter plot) is employed to identify the senatorial districts with similar spatial pattern of poverty incidence. The analysis is carried out whether spatial autocorrelation is significantly present in the geo-referenced data set or not. Local Moran's  $I$  is computed using the formula below:

$$I_{local} = \frac{\sum_i w_{ij} (x_i - \bar{x})(x_j - \bar{x})}{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \quad (7)$$

The result from the spatial analysis above (LISA) identifies the senatorial districts with similar pattern of spatial distribution of poverty incidence as well as outliers (high – high, low – low, low – high and high - low). The significance or non significance of spatial autocorrelation is a prerequisite for the choice of corrective measure.

Source: Result of Data Analyzed (2010)

**Figure 1.1.** Map of Poverty Rates based on 109 Senatorial Districts



Source: Result of Data Analyzed (2010)

**Figure 1.2.** Map of Poverty Rates among the Geopolitical Zones

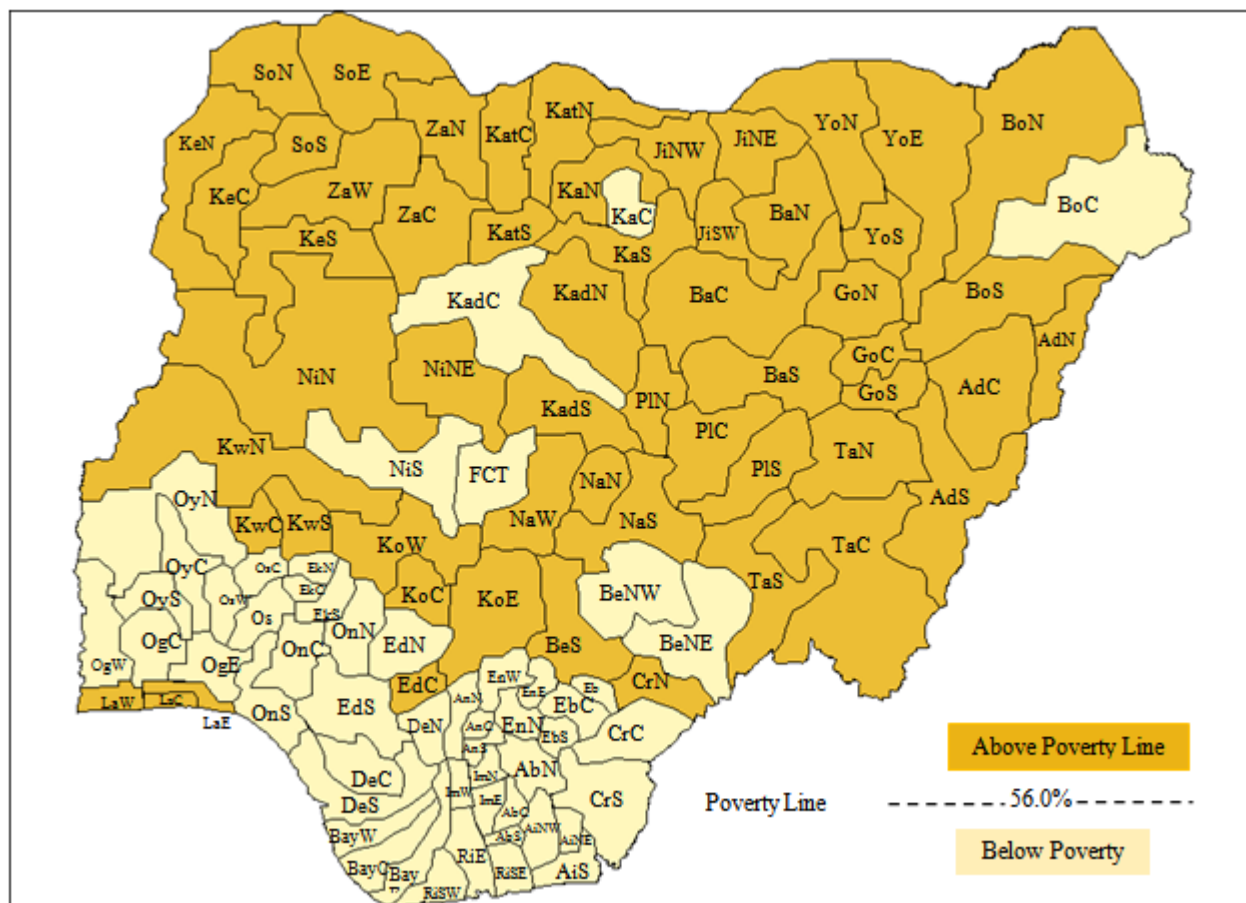
Furthermore, approximately 49% of the senatorial districts (53 SD) have poverty rates below the average national poverty rate (56.0%). The study showed that out of the 53 senatorial districts that the poverty rates are below the national poverty line, 87% is in the southern part of the country while 13% (Borno central, Kano central, Kaduna central, Niger south, FCT, Benue northwest and Benue northeast) is located in the northern part of the country. Also, 91% of the SDs having poverty rates above the national poverty rate is located in the north while 9% (Lagos east, Lagos west, Lagos central, Edo central and Cross - River north) is found in the south (see figure 1.3).

Figure 1.4 shows that 30% of the senatorial districts in northeast, 34% in northwest and 27% in northcentral geopolitical zones have poverty rates above the national poverty rate (56.0%). Conversely, 4% of the senatorial districts in southsouth, 0% in the southeast and 5% in the southwest have poverty rates above the national poverty rate. Among the geopolitical zones, southsouth has the highest number of senatorial districts with poverty rates below the national poverty rate (38%). This is followed by southeast and southwest that shared the same percentage (28%).

The result of the analysis showed that there is positive

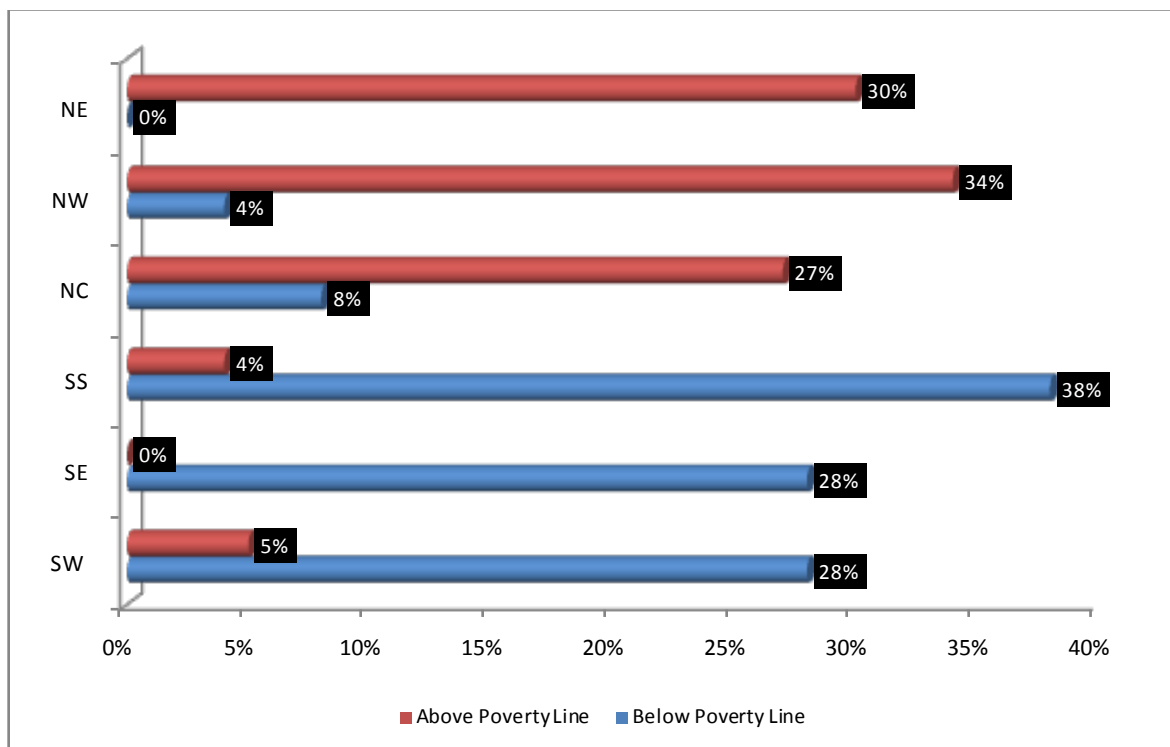
spatial autocorrelation (0.665) in poverty incidence across Nigeria (see figure 1.5). The diagnostics for spatial dependence using a contiguity-based spatial weights matrix also revealed that the spillover effect is not only present but significant ( $p < 0.001$ ). The figure below shows the Moran scatter plot of poverty rates for the senatorial districts in Nigeria. Reference[13] demonstrated that the slope of the regression line through these points expresses the global Moran's I value as shown in figure 1.5 below.

Figure 1.5 below shows that most senatorial districts are found in the high – high (47) or low – low (43) neighbourhoods in the country. Specifically, the upper right quadrant of the Moran Scatterplot shows the SD with above average poverty rate that also share boundaries with neighbouring SD that have above national average value of poverty rate (high-high). The lower left quadrant shows SD with below average poverty rate values and neighbours also with below national average values (low-low). The lower right quadrant displays SD with above average poverty rate surrounded by SD with below average values (high-low), and the upper left quadrant contains the reverse (low-high). The SD in the lower right and upper left quadrants are the outliers.



Source: Result of Data Analyzed (2010)

Figure 1.3. Map of Poverty Line among 109 Senatorial Districts



Source: Result of Data Analyzed (2010)

Figure 1.4. Distribution Poverty Line among Senatorial Districts

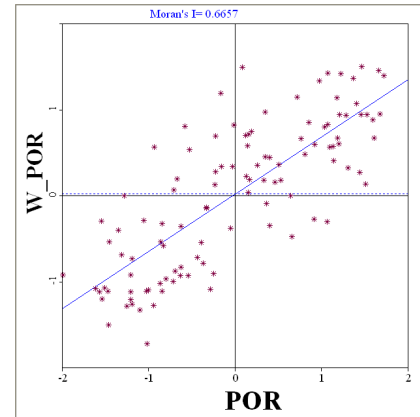


**Table 1.1.** Diagnostics for Spatial Dependence FOR WEIGHT MATRIX : koloqueenPIA.GAL (row-standardized weights)

TEST	MI/DF	VALUE	PROB
Moran's I (error)	0.125539	3.3653048	0.0007647
Lagrange Multiplier (lag)	1	11.677104	0.0006327
Robust LM (lag)	1	7.6509946	0.0056741
Lagrange Multiplier (error)	1	4.0263889	0.0447937
Robust LM (error)	1	0.0002795	0.9866617

Source: Result of Data Analyzed (2010)

The study did not only reveal the significant presence of spatial dependence but also the type of spatial dependence that is more likely, using the robust Lagrange Multiplier indicators[13]. The table 1.1 shows that spatial lag is the type of spatial dependence present in poverty incidence in Nigeria. The value for robust Lagrange multiplier (lag) is high and significant ( $p < 0.01$ ). This means that poverty incidence in one SD is not only influenced by factors within but also by the poverty incidence in nearby SD. That is, proximity of senatorial districts influences the poverty rates. The implication of this result is that spatial dimension has to be given consideration in any causal relationship between poverty rate and factors influencing it.

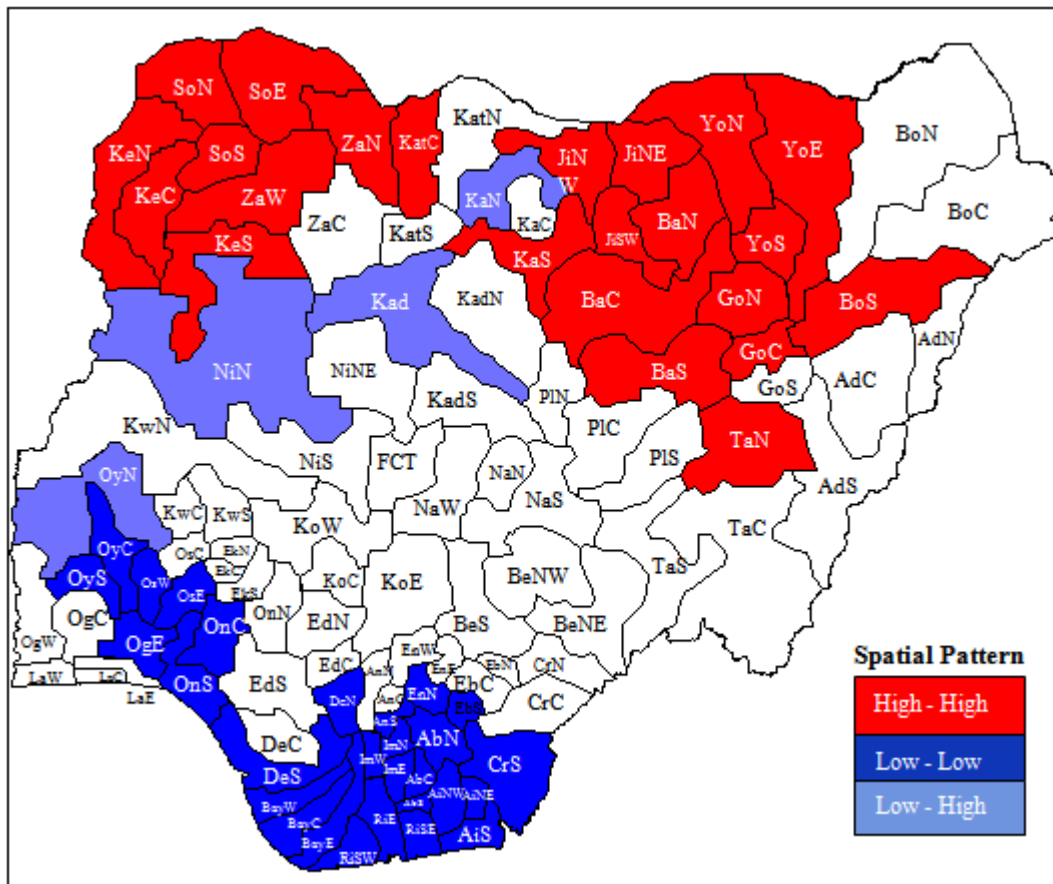


Source: Result of Data Analyzed (2010)

**Figure 1.5.** Moran Scatter Plot of Poverty Incidence

#### 4.1. Location of Senatorial Districts with Similar Pattern of Poverty Incidence.

The result obtained from Local Indicator of Spatial Association (LISA) revealed that out of 90 senatorial districts that have similar spatial pattern of poverty incidence (high-high and low-low), 51 have similar spatial patterns that are statistically significant (at  $p \leq 5\%$ , see table 1.2 below). The high – high constitutes the senatorial districts with more pronounced poverty incidence as well as their neighbouring SD.



Source: Result of Analyzed Data (2010)

**Figure 1.6.** Local Indicator of Spatial Association (LISA) Map for Significant Spatial Pattern

**Table 1.2.** Local Indicator of Spatial Association (LISA) Groupings of Senatorial Districts

LISA Grouping	Total	Sig. (at least 0.05)	Not Sig.
Low - Low	43	28	15
High - High	47	23	24
Low - High	13	4	9
High - Low	6	NA	6

Source: Result of Data Analyzed (2010)

Out of 19 outlier (dissimilar pattern: High-low and low-high), 4 SD are significant (see the figure 1.6 above). The part of the figure with white pattern shows the SD patterns' that are not statistically significant ( $p > 0.05$ ). The significant cluster locations identify locations with a high correlation to the weighted average of the values of its neighbours. Figure 1.6 shows the high poverty rates SD bordered by high poverty SD are concentrated in the north part of the country while the low-low SD are concentrated in the south. The high concentration of poverty incidence in the northern part of the country may be attributed to low level of

education and poor infrastructural facilities among other factors. Few exceptions are Borno central, Kano central, Kaduna central and Abuja (Low-high) in the north while Lagos state senatorial districts are found in the south (see figure 1.6).

High poverty incidence in Lagos state senatorial districts unlike other senatorial districts in the southern part of Nigeria may not be unconnected with high level of rural-urban migration which makes the available infrastructures to be overstretched. Lagos state being the commercial nerve center of Nigeria attracts the poor from all parts of the country, believing that their relocation to Lagos will improve their standard of living. Knowing the factors responsible for the more pronounced incidence of poverty in the red-shaded senatorial districts is important in order to come up with workable poverty reduction strategy in Nigeria.

The categorization of senatorial districts to spatial patterns was based on indicator (CL\_POR) for the type of cluster. It takes the value of **1** for high-high, **2** for low-low, **3** for low-high and **4** for high-low[9]. The categorization as reported by Geoda 0.9.5.i is shown in table 1.4[9],[10]

**Table 1.3.** Spatial Pattern Distribution of Poverty Incidence

Low - High	Low - Low	High - High	H - L (NS)
Kaduna Central <sup>SC</sup>	Abia Central <sup>SC</sup>	Bauchi Central <sup>SC</sup>	Cross river North <sup>NS</sup>
Kano North <sup>SC</sup>	Abia North <sup>SC</sup>	Bauchi North <sup>SC</sup>	Edo Central <sup>NS</sup>
Niger North <sup>SC</sup>	Abia South <sup>SC</sup>	Bauchi South <sup>SC</sup>	Kaduna South <sup>NS</sup>
Oyo North <sup>SC</sup>	Akwa ibom Northeast <sup>SC</sup>	Borno South <sup>SC</sup>	Lagos Central <sup>NS</sup>
Abuja <sup>NS</sup>	Akwa Ibom Northwest <sup>SC</sup>	Gombe Central <sup>SC</sup>	Lagos East <sup>NS</sup>
Benue Northeast <sup>NS</sup>	Akwa Ibom South <sup>SC</sup>	Gombe North <sup>SC</sup>	Lagos West <sup>NS</sup>
Benue Northwest <sup>NS</sup>	Anambra South <sup>SC</sup>	Jigawa Northeast <sup>SC</sup>	
Borno Central <sup>NS</sup>	Bayelsa Central <sup>SC</sup>	Jigawa Northwest <sup>SC</sup>	
Edo North <sup>NS</sup>	Bayelsa East <sup>SC</sup>	Jigawa Southwest <sup>SC</sup>	
Ekiti North <sup>NS</sup>	Bayelsa West <sup>SC</sup>	Kano South <sup>SC</sup>	
Kano Central <sup>NS</sup>	Cross river South <sup>SC</sup>	Katsina Central <sup>SC</sup>	
Niger South <sup>NS</sup>	Delta North <sup>SC</sup>	Kebbi Central <sup>SC</sup>	
Plateau North <sup>NS</sup>	Delta South <sup>SC</sup>	Kebbi North <sup>SC</sup>	
	Ebonyi South <sup>SC</sup>	Kebbi South <sup>SC</sup>	
	Enugu North <sup>SC</sup>	Sokoto East <sup>SC</sup>	
	Imo East <sup>SC</sup>	Sokoto North <sup>SC</sup>	
	Imo North <sup>SC</sup>	Sokoto South <sup>SC</sup>	
	Imo West <sup>SC</sup>	Taraba North <sup>SC</sup>	
	Ogun East <sup>SC</sup>	Yobe East <sup>SC</sup>	
	Ondo <sup>SC</sup>	Yobe North <sup>SC</sup>	
	Ondo Central <sup>SC</sup>	Yobe South <sup>SC</sup>	
	Osun East <sup>SC</sup>	Zamfara North <sup>SC</sup>	
	Osun West <sup>SC</sup>	Zamfara West <sup>SC</sup>	
	Oyo Central <sup>SC</sup>	Adamawa Central <sup>NS</sup>	

	Oyo South <sup>SC</sup>	Adamawa North <sup>NS</sup>	
	Rivers East <sup>SC</sup>	Adamawa South <sup>NS</sup>	
	Rivers South East <sup>SC</sup>	Benue South <sup>NS</sup>	
	Rivers southwest <sup>SC</sup>	Borno North <sup>NS</sup>	
	Anambra Central <sup>NS</sup>	Gombe South <sup>NS</sup>	
	Cross river Central <sup>NS</sup>	Kaduna North <sup>NS</sup>	
	Delta Central <sup>NS</sup>	Katsina North <sup>NS</sup>	
	Ebonyi Central <sup>NS</sup>	Katsina South <sup>NS</sup>	
	Ebonyi North <sup>NS</sup>	Kogi Central <sup>NS</sup>	
	Edo South <sup>NS</sup>	Kogi East <sup>NS</sup>	
	Ekiti Central <sup>NS</sup>	Kwara North <sup>NS</sup>	
	Ekiti South <sup>NS</sup>	Nassarawa Central <sup>NS</sup>	
	Enugu East <sup>NS</sup>	Nassarawa North <sup>NS</sup>	
	Ogun Central <sup>NS</sup>	Nassarawa South <sup>NS</sup>	
	Ogun West <sup>NS</sup>	Niger East <sup>NS</sup>	
	Ondo North <sup>NS</sup>	Plateau Central <sup>NS</sup>	
	Osun Central <sup>NS</sup>	Plateau South <sup>NS</sup>	
	Anambra North <sup>NS</sup>	Taraba Central <sup>NS</sup>	
	Enugu West <sup>NS</sup>	Taraba South <sup>NS</sup>	
		Zamfara Central <sup>NS</sup>	
		Kogi West <sup>NS</sup>	
		Kwara Central <sup>NS</sup>	
		Kwara South <sup>NS</sup>	

**Note:** NS means not significant spatial pattern, SC means significant spatial pattern

**Table 1.4.** LISA Indices and Cluster Type for Each Senatorial District

Senatorial Districts	LISA Indices	Cluster Type	P - Value	Senatorial Districts	LISA Indices	Cluster Type	P - Value	Senatorial Districts	LISA Indices	Cluster Type	P - Value
Borno Central	-0.464223	0	0.138 <sup>ns</sup>	Bayelsa Central	1.755446	2	0.004** *	Taraba North	0.085121	1	0.04**
Sokoto North	0.13299	1	0.002** *	Bayelsa East	1.566994	2	0.002** *	Plateau South	0.18165	0	0.218 <sup>ns</sup>
Sokoto East	1.375078	1	0.036**	Rivers southwest	1.461355	2	0.034**	Plateau Central	0.093344	0	0.234 <sup>ns</sup>
Kebbi North	1.399922	1	0.024**	Imo West	1.765913	0	0.07 <sup>ns</sup>	Bauchi South	0.456214	1	0.05**
Kebbi Central	1.737993	1	0.002** *	Rivers East	1.440714	2	0.004** *	Gombe South	0.603807	0	0.11 <sup>ns</sup>
Sokoto South	1.509702	1	0.008** *	Rivers South East	1.138337	2	0.02**	Kaduna South	0.005438	0	0.456 <sup>ns</sup>
Zamfara West	1.304532	1	0.002** *	Abia South	1.84212	2	0.01**	Niger East	-0.326222	0	0.224 <sup>ns</sup>
Zamfara North	1.196622	1	0.02**	Abia Central	1.823817	2	0.006** *	Katsina South	0.389789	0	0.152 <sup>ns</sup>
Katsina Central	0.349298	1	0.042**	Imo East	1.539762	2	0.016**	Kaduna Central	-0.52441	3	0.036**
Zamfara Central	0.589084	0	0.06 <sup>ns</sup>	Imo North	1.137035	2	0.022**	Kaduna North	0.176175	0	0.192 <sup>ns</sup>
Kebbi South	1.581005	1	0.014**	Anambra North	0.113077	0	0.446 <sup>ns</sup>	Bauchi Central	1.435214	1	0.002** *
Niger North	-0.008198	3	0.014**	Anambra Central	2.197321	0	0.052 <sup>ns</sup>	Kano South	0.795111	1	0.03**

Kwara North	1.079825	0	0.072 <sup>ns</sup>	Abia North	0.889468	2	0.004** *	Katsina North	0.723859	0	0.09 <sup>ns</sup>
Ogun West	0.463057	0	0.172 <sup>ns</sup>	Akwa Ibom Northwest	1.084156	2	0.004** *	Kano Central	-0.193821	0	0.148 <sup>ns</sup>
Lagos West	-0.339704	0	0.144 <sup>ns</sup>	Akwa Ibom South	0.715628	2	0.028**	Jigawa Northwest	1.860673	1	0.002** *
Lagos Central	-0.01579	0	0.486 <sup>ns</sup>	Akwa Ibom Northeast	0.767667	2	0.036**	Jigawa Southwest	2.428236	1	0.002** *
Lagos East	0.027419	0	0.14 <sup>ns</sup>	Cross river South	0.815704	0	0.068 <sup>ns</sup>	Jigawa Northeast	2.407263	1	0.004** *
Ogun Central	0.480427	0	0.094 <sup>ns</sup>	Cross river Central	0.170273	0	0.302 <sup>ns</sup>	Bauchi North	2.202587	1	0.002** *
Oyo South	1.352365	2	0.006** *	Ebonyi South	0.312115	0	0.074 <sup>ns</sup>	Yobe North	1.530074	1	0.002** *
Oyo Central	1.742068	2	0.026**	Enugu North	0.503644	2	0.008** *	Gombe North	0.823629	1	0.008** *
Kwara Central	0.890275	0	0.066 <sup>ns</sup>	Enugu West	0.307916	0	0.244 <sup>ns</sup>	Gombe Central	0.829602	1	0.028**
Kwara South	0.721746	0	0.092 <sup>ns</sup>	Enugu East	0.543905	0	0.186 <sup>ns</sup>	Adamawa South	0.456606	0	0.212 <sup>ns</sup>
Osun West	0.933906	2	0.008** *	Ebonyi Central	0.213703	0	0.096 <sup>ns</sup>	Adamawa Central	0.143101	0	0.072 <sup>ns</sup>
Osun East	0.90421	2	0.028** *	Ebonyi North	-0.209278	0	0.338 <sup>ns</sup>	Adamawa North	0.093192	0	0.418 <sup>ns</sup>
Ogun East	1.112751	2	0.004** *	Cross river North	-0.254197	0	0.286 <sup>ns</sup>	Yobe South	1.336898	1	0.012**
Ekiti South	0.279504	0	0.18 <sup>ns</sup>	Kogi East	0.198294	0	0.34 <sup>ns</sup>	Yobe East	1.134799	1	0.01**
Senatorial Districts	LISA Indices	Cluster Type	P - Value	Senatorial Districts	LISA Indices	Cluster Type	P - Value	Senatorial Districts	LISA Indices	Cluster Type	P - Value
Ondo Central	0.582487	2	0.014**	Benue South	-0.034226	0	0.426 <sup>ns</sup>	Borno North	0.383302	0	0.332 <sup>ns</sup>
Ondo North	0.127022	0	0.216 <sup>ns</sup>	Benue Northeast	-0.052246	0	0.2 <sup>ns</sup>	Borno South	0.113653	1	0.028**
Kogi West	0.417307	0	0.126 <sup>ns</sup>	Benue Northwest	-0.029074	0	0.372 <sup>ns</sup>	Ekiti Central	0.343983	2	0.042**
Kogi West	0.417307	0	0.126	Benue Northwest	-0.029074	0	0.372	Ekiti Central	0.343983	2	0.042**
Kogi Central	0.946763	0	0.064	Taraba Central	0.084992	0	0.148	Ekiti North	-0.129294	0	0.34
Edo North	-0.062722	0	0.292	Taraba South	0.073737	0	0.366	Anambra South	1.433544	2	0.026**
Edo South	0.455539	0	0.192	Niger South	-0.152671	0	0.08	Kano North	0	3	0.002** *
Edo Central	-0.156221	0	0.318	Abuja	-0.278874	0	0.128	Oyo North	0	3	0.002** *
Delta North	0.567632	2	0.022**	Nassarawa Central	0.157945	0	0.148	Osun Central	0.035184	0	0.428
Delta Central	0.220928	0	0.136	Nassarawa North	0.030504	0	0.358	Ondo	0.517628	2	0.02***
Bayelsa West	1.832168	2	0.044**	Nassarawa South	0.030894	0	0.26	Plateau North	-0.008957	0	0.178
								Delta South	0.309415	2	0.008** *

Source: Result of Data Analyzed (2009)

Note: \*\*\*p-value < 0.01 and \*\*p-value < 0.05, ns means not significant, 1 = HH, 2 = LL and 3 = LH (Geoda 0.9.5i reports only the significant clusters)

## 5. Conclusions and Recommendations

The application of spatial data analysis methods revealed

strong evidence of spatial interaction across senatorial district boundaries. Using a binary weight matrix in the estimation of spatial effects, we found that proximity to senatorial districts that have a high (low) poverty rate will

increase the probability that household in a senatorial district will itself have a high (low) incidence of poverty.

The landscape of poverty incidence obtained from the study identified the hot spots and cold spots of poverty in Nigeria. Knowing precisely where concentrations and isolated islands of poverty exist will help various government owned organizations with the mandate of alleviating poverty (NAPEP, NEPAD and NEEDS) and state governments in their continuing challenge of combating this fundamental threat to well-being and economic development of Nigeria. Moreover, this finding will assist government agencies saddled with poverty alleviation in applying specific strategy to different landscape of poverty. Also, the elected representatives (senators) are afforded the opportunity of knowing the poverty landscape of their respective senatorial districts so that their constituency development fund can be properly channeled to poverty alleviation.

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