

# [The proven by this investigation. this might conclude](https://assignbuster.com/the-proven-by-this-investigation-this-might-conclude/)

The aim of this investigation was to determine if thereis a correlation between total recorded crime rates and unemployment rates from1981 until 2016 in England and Wales.  It was found out that there is a moderatenegative correlation by observing the data plots on a graph, which was furtherproved by the Pearson’s Correlation Coefficient. Through the simple linearregression, the production of an equation for the line of best fit was possibleand identified as predicting futurevalues if a change in the unemployment rate occurs.  Thisconclusion is contrary to the expected results, believing that a rise inunemployment will cause an increase in the crime rate. This may be surprisingas a lot of people connect those two together and think that one mightinfluence the other. There is the common idea that people that are unemployedhave a higher chance of committing crimes, as they have more free time, certainneeds and possibly a higher motivation.

Lookingat Britt’s hypothesis again this would mean that the motivational perspectiveand the resulting positive correlation cannot be proven by this investigation. This might conclude that his other hypothesis of “ less suitable victims can beapplicable. As this reduction in possibilities only occurs during a period ofeconomic downturn we have to take a closer look at the years following the 2008financial crisis. As the data shows the recession is followed by an expectedincrease in unemployment (5. 7 to 7.

6), and a decrease in total reported crimerates (4. 703 to 4. 338). This negative correlation would support the theory ofless potential victims due to a decrease in property during this significanttime period.  However, one could argue that there is no direct causal relationship and the values aredriven by a third factor. Although unemployment may have a direct effect oneconomic related crimes, other crimes may have multiple different causationssuch as mental health, upbringing and social circumstances.

Therefore, thecrime rate has to be separated into different types of crime. As the mainmotivation for unemployment related crimes is to maintain certain livingstandards, this investigation should only focus on property crime includingoffences such as burglary and auto theft, having a direct economic effect andnot violent crimes such as murder or rape.  Whilstconcluding the correlation of two variables, one also has to take a closer lookat them and the sources they come from.

One big aspect which is important forthe evaluation of this issue is the variety of definitions for crimes. Everyonecan have a different one. Some would already report an insult, where othersdraw the line at a robbery or burglary.

As a result, this could also influencethe numbers of reports. Maybe in a year with a higher crime rate, this is onlydue to a heightened willingness to report, rather than the factors included, such as unemployment. This could also be closely linked to an expansion in theactivity of prosecution, where more cases are officially recorded andregistered. In this investigation one has to remember and clearly distinguish, that these numbers only include the reported ones and not all committedfelonies.  Alsothe unemployment rate is subjective as there are multiple types ofunemployment. Additionally, it is difficult to measure it, as some part-timeworkers would like to be permanent, some are on zero hours’ contracts or havehigher skills than required in their current job. These are defined asunderemployed and would not be counted as unemployed. Using the Claimant Countas a measurement can also be hard as not all people classified as unemployedcan claim benefits and are therefore not included.

An example for this could besomeone who is looking for work alongside full-time study.  Therefore, it could be stated that an observable correlation or association between twovariables is not the same as an alliance with regards to the content. Therefore, before drawing conclusion, you have to qualify and relativize yourresults with certain important factors such as the definition or source.