



Survey

of the Unemployment Among University Graduates

Case Study: Mogadishu, Somalia



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Methodology

The Survey of the unemployment among university graduates was conducted in Mogadishu, Somalia. The objective of the survey was to find out:

- The main problems faced by university graduates in their search for work
- The causes of unemployment among university graduates
- How to reduce unemployment problems by university graduates

The approach adopted in collecting the required information for this survey was the OPEN DATA KIT (ODK). Data were collected 91 of unemployed university graduates in Mogadishu.

Background characteristics of respondents

The respondents are mostly male (62%), the largest proportion of the respondents was in the 18 – 24 years age group, which accounted by 43.4% of total respondents followed by those in the 25 – 34 (41.4%). according to the respondents by marital status, 39.4% of respondents were single while 33.3% were married.

In terms of education level of respondents, 44.4% had a bachelor degree followed by those who had master degree (24.2%) and 23.2% had PhD.

The distribution of educational level by marital status of respondents. Overall, 68% of respondents that had a bachelor degree were single while 9% of them were married. compared to 9% of respondents with a master's degree, they were single while 27.3% of them were married followed by those had PhD 8% were single and 46% were married.

31.6% of female participants that had a bachelor degree was higher among the male 47.5%

The educated unemployment respondents were asked to provide details of their unemployment period, the results indicates that 42.4% were unemployed for 3 - 6 months.

Also, the respondents were asked to provide details about the sector they try to get a job. More than 35% of respondents reported that the sector they tried to find a job was the Government Sector while 32.3% mentioned

the Private Sector followed by international Organization Jobs 20.2%

The major reasons for unemployment among young graduates

The respondents were asked to provide details their reasons for choosing a job, 38.4% of respondents indicated that their reasons for choosing a job is High Salary while 26.3% mentioned the Stability and followed by Career advancement 17.2%

The majority of young educated unemployment the only reason for choosing a job is High Salary. Overall, 43.4% of the participants indicated that, educated youth do not like to work in technical jobs while they prefer office jobs.

26.3% of respondents agreed that University graduate unemployment don't have possess the experience required for the jobs. The employer always looking worker who had a lot of experienced one compared to the one without experience. Most university graduate unemployment in Mogadishu are looking for their first job and have no previous work experience and the number of long-term unemployed is increasing. Also, 26.3% of respondents agreed that, Youth skills not suitable for market demands There is a Skills mismatch between what skills are required by market and what skills graduates have.

28.3% of respondents rejected that lack of shortage jobs in market. There are many vacancies have not yet been filled, and although there are thousands of individuals who are both ready and able to work but do not have the necessary skills

There is also an unusual, inverse correlation between university education and employment as increased levels of education tend to lead to higher unemployment rates – this is because of a skills mismatch. University graduates' unemployment were asked the appropriate solution to enhance youth job opportunity in market, 32.3% of them they reported Establishment of internship programs followed by Improving the employability skills and capacity for entrepreneurship among young women and men 24.2%

The private sector, government and education systems need to start collaborating to determine what knowledge and skills young people should be taught in order to find rewarding work. Considering businesses are suffering

from the skills mismatch, too, they need to take a more active role in promoting appropriate education and skill-building for young people from an early age.

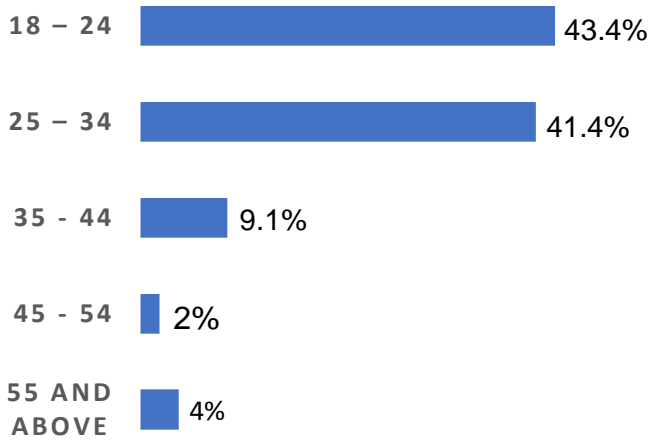
The problem of inexperience is compounded by the deterioration of knowledge between the period of graduation and job acquisition. It was pointed out that graduates take long before they are employed. Even when they get the jobs, most likely the jobs are not in their areas of specialization, thus amounting to irrelevant experience and career stagnation

The youth also became too picky regarding certain jobs, they all want to work in offices to avoid hard physical labor.

Recommendation

1. Most of university graduates who are entering the job market is not having enough experience that employers look for. Through public and private partnerships, should be established internship opportunities to build their experience.
2. Lack of employment skills, or having skills that are not suitable for the current labor market are the biggest problems face by university graduates, therefore building employability skills and practical knowledge are ways to address the unemployment of university graduates
3. Government should allow more foreign enterprises to open their unit in Somalia, so that more employment opportunities will be available
4. There is a lack of information flow between the job seekers and hiring employers in Mogadishu. This is especially apparent for youth with little education as they seem to know less about where to look for jobs and therefore building employment agencies can help jobseekers to know about where they look for job.
5. Most youths do not have the necessary skills and motivation to operate businesses, therefore entrepreneurship skills and investment can boost employment and the economic transformation of Somalia
6. Establish of vocational training centers have an immense part on the employability of young people and improving skills.
7. Educational institutions can teach students practical skills to match with the existing work on the labor market
8. Government should encourage agriculture production which can boost employment and reduce poverty and unemployment in the country.

What is your age group?

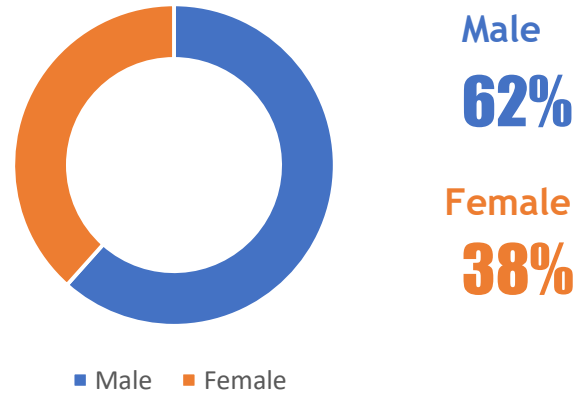


The largest proportion of the respondents was in the 18 – 24 years age group, which accounted by **43.4%** of total respondents followed by those in the 25 – 34.

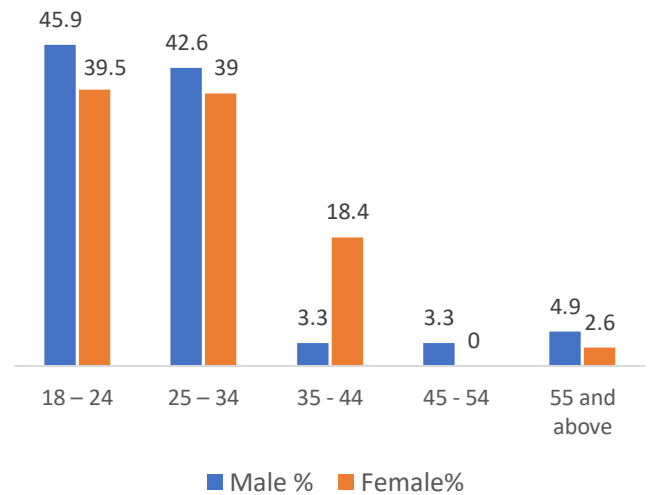
Table 1. Age Group by Sex %

Age Group	Sex	
	Male %	Female%
18 – 24	45.9	39.5
25 – 34	42.6	39
35 - 44	3.3	18.4
45 - 54	3.3	-
55 and above	4.9	2.6

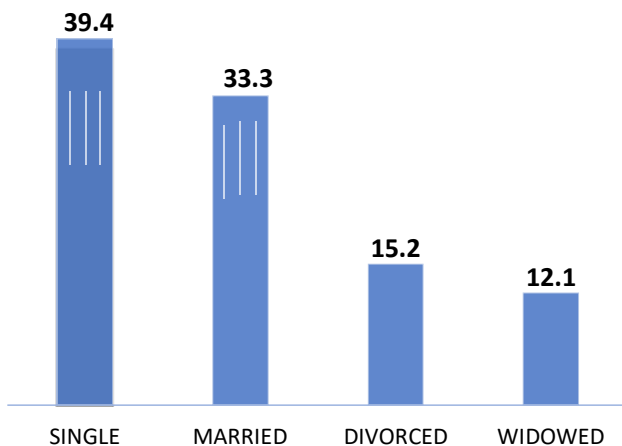
What is your gender?



62% of the survey respondents are **Male** and the rest by **Female (38%)**

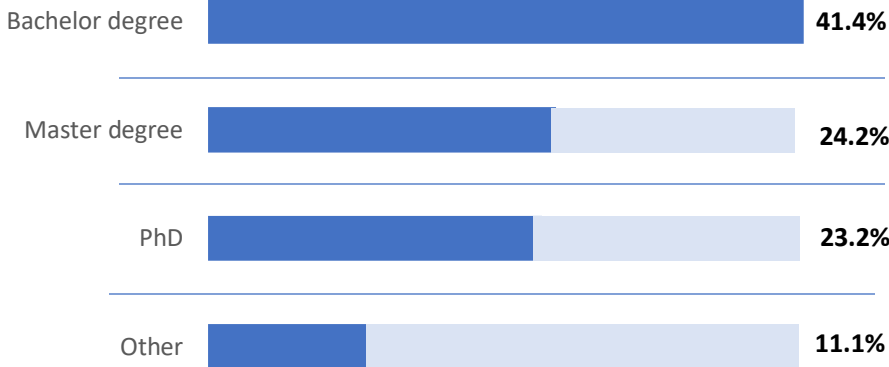


Marital Status



39.4% of the survey participants were **Single** while **33.3%** are **Married**.

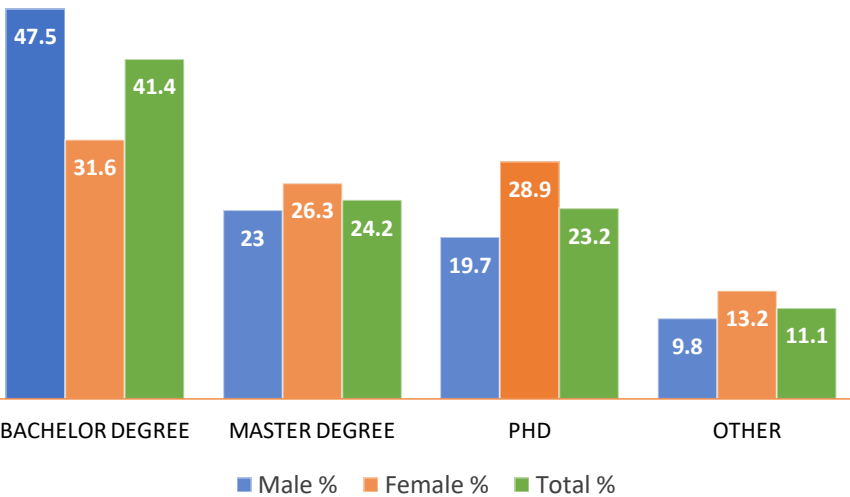
What is your educational level?



In terms of education level of respondents, **41.4%** had a **Bachelor degree** followed by those who had **Master degree (24.2%)** and **23.2%** had **PhD**

Table 2. Educational level by Sex %

Educational level	Sex		
	Male %	Female %	Total %
Bachelor degree	47.5	31.6	41.4
Master degree	23.0	26.3	24.2
PhD	19.7	28.9	23.2
Other	9.8	13.2	11.1

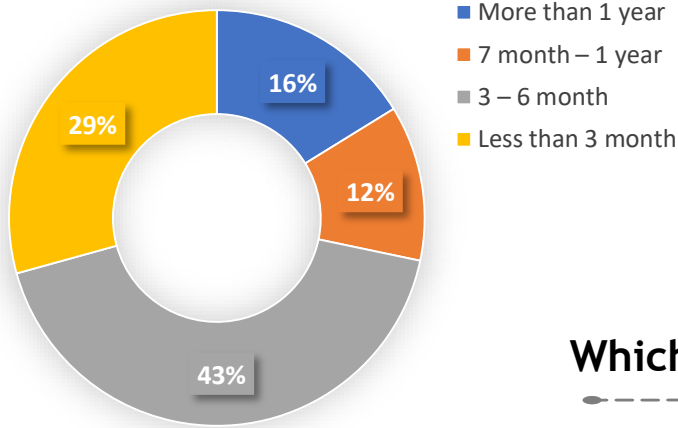


“The distribution of educational level by marital status of respondents.

Overall, **68%** of respondents that had a **bachelor degree** were single while **9%** of them were married. compared to **9%** of respondents with a **master's degree**, they were single while **27.3%** of them were married followed by those had **PhD 8%** were single and **46%** were married , ,

31.6% of **female** participants that had a bachelor degree was higher among the **male 47.5%**

Your unemployment period

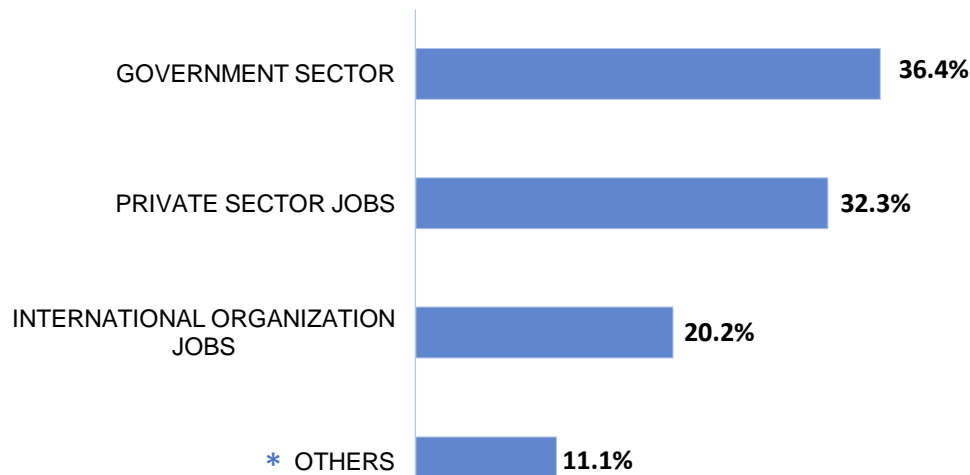


The educated unemployment respondents were asked to provide details of their unemployment period, the results indicates that **42.4%** were unemployed for **3 - 6 months**.

The respondents were asked to provide details about the sector they try to get a job.

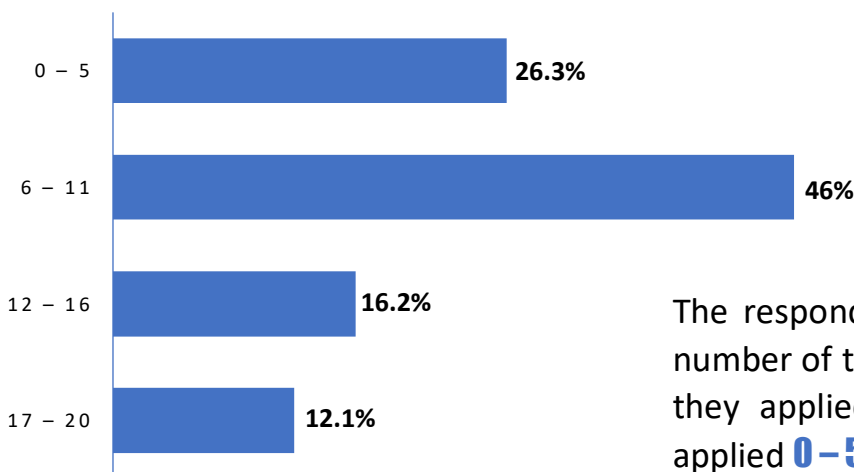
More than **35%** of respondents reported that the sector they tried to find a job was the **Government Sector** while **32.3%** mentioned the **Private Sector Jobs** followed by **international Organization Jobs** **20.2%**

Which sector that you are trying to get a job?



* Others include own business

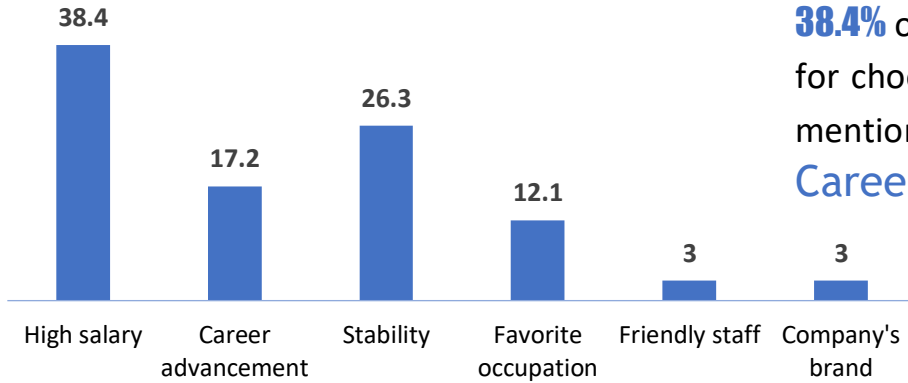
How many times have you applied for a job?



The respondents were asked to give details of their number of times applied for a Job, **46%** indicated that they applied **6 – 11** times followed by those who applied **0 – 5** times (**26.3%**)

The major reasons for unemployment among young graduates

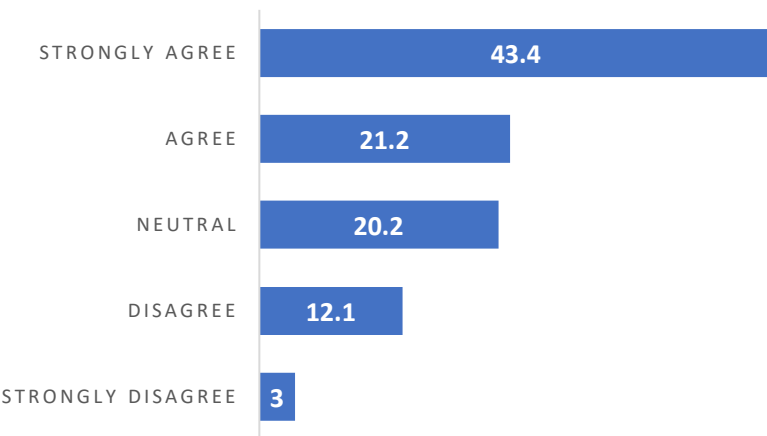
Underlying factors of choosing a job



38.4% of respondents indicated that their reason for choosing a job is **High Salary** while **26.3%** mentioned the **Stability** and followed by **Career advancement 17.2%**

Educated youth do not like to work in technical jobs while they prefer office jobs

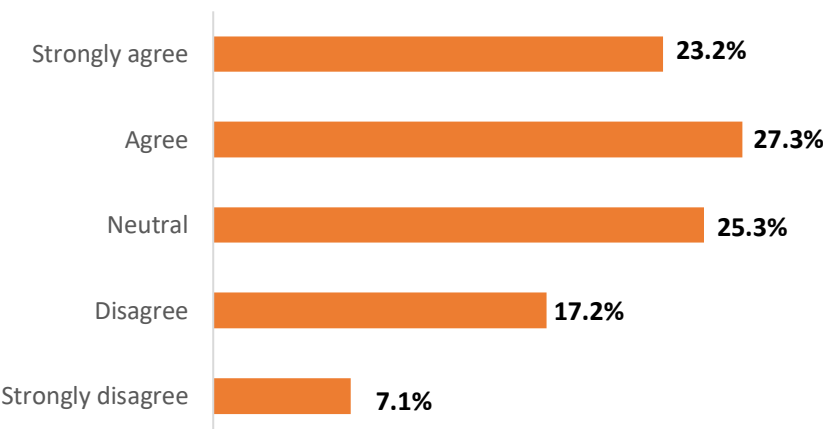
“The majority of young educated unemployment the only reason for choosing a job is **High Salary**,”



Overall, **43.4%** of the participants indicated that, **educated youth do not like to work in technical jobs while they prefer office jobs**

Lack vocational training centers which provides marketable skills

About **27.3%** of respondents agreed that, **lack vocational training centers which provides marketable skills**



Vocational training centers have an immense part on the employability of young people and improving skills.

The major reasons for unemployment among young graduates

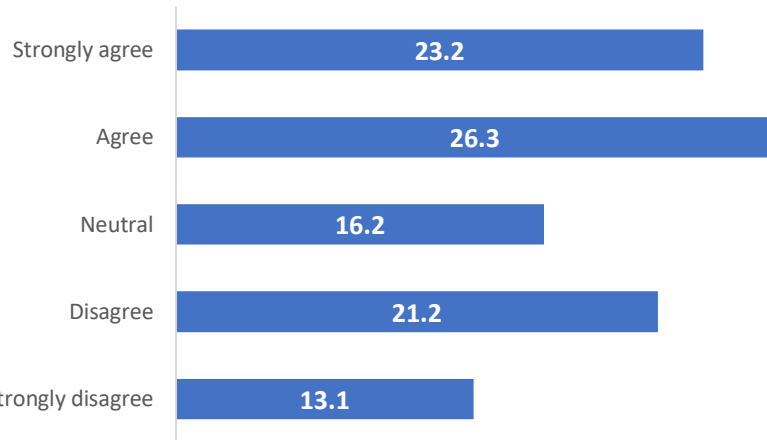
Educated youth don't have possess the experience required for the jobs



26.3% of respondents agreed that **University graduate unemployment don't have possess the experience required for the jobs**

The employer always looking worker who had a lot of experienced one compared to the one without experience.

Most university graduate unemployment in Mogadishu are looking for their first job and have no previous work experience. And the number of long-term unemployed is increasing.

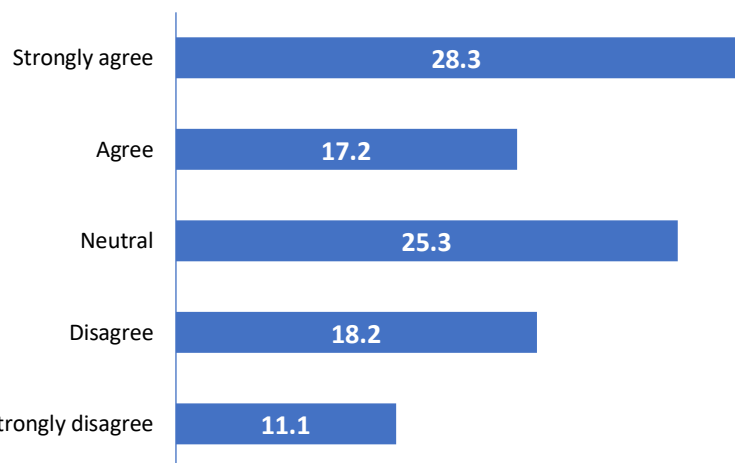


Youth skills not suitable for market demands

Also, **26.3%** of respondents agreed that, Youth skills not suitable for market demands

There is a **Skills mismatch** between what skills are required by market and what skills graduates have.

There is also an unusual, inverse correlation between university education and employment as increased levels of education tend to lead to higher unemployment rates – this is because of a skills mismatch

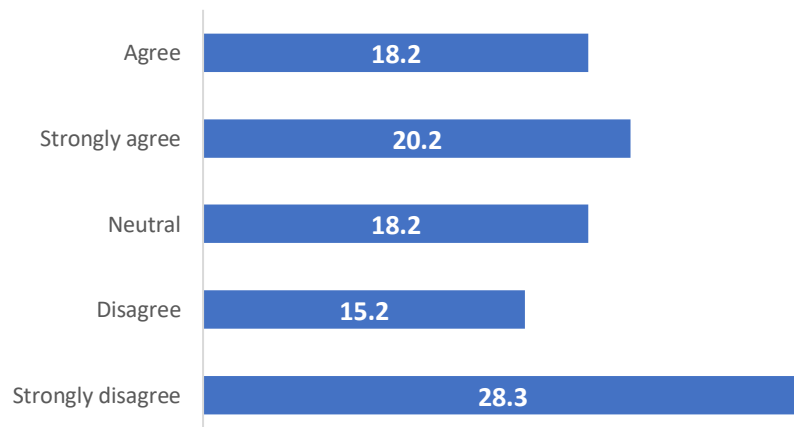


28.3% of respondents rejected that **lack of shortage jobs in market.**

There are many vacancies have not yet been filled, and although there are thousands of individuals who are both ready and able to work but do not have the necessary skills.

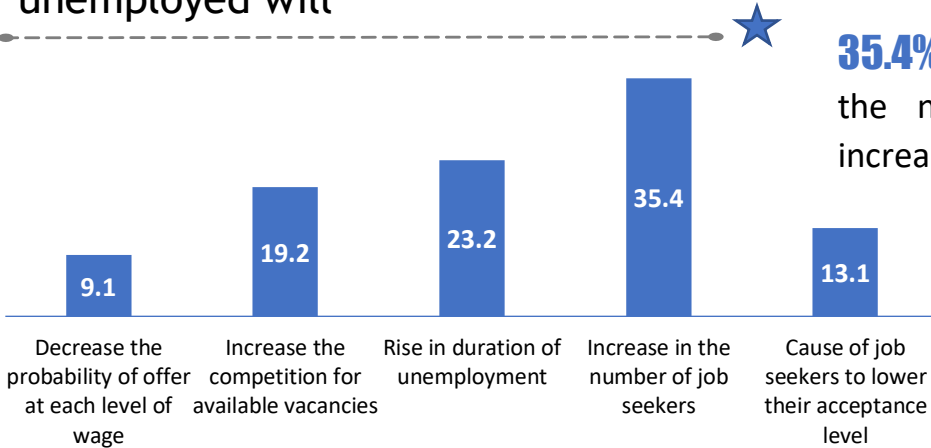


Shortage of jobs in the market



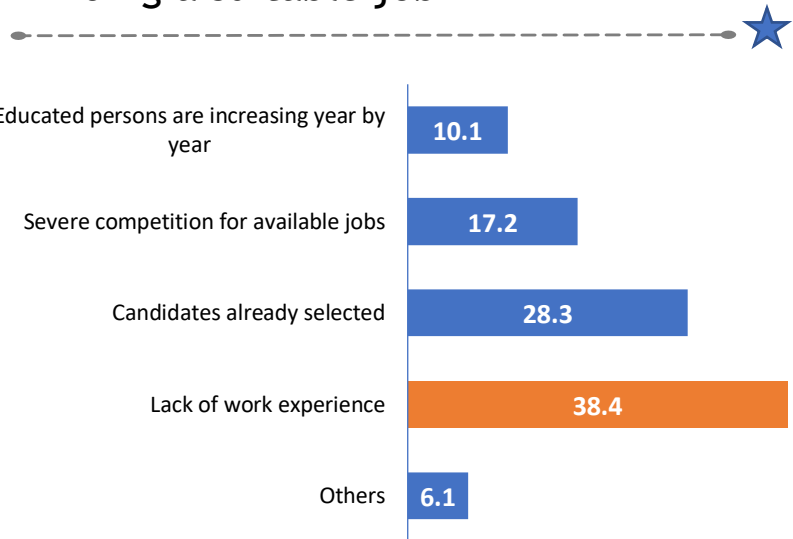
The major reasons for unemployment among young graduates

If increase the levels of educated unemployed will



35.4% of respondents said that an increase in the number of university graduates would increase the number of job seekers

The difficulties and obstacles in finding a suitable job



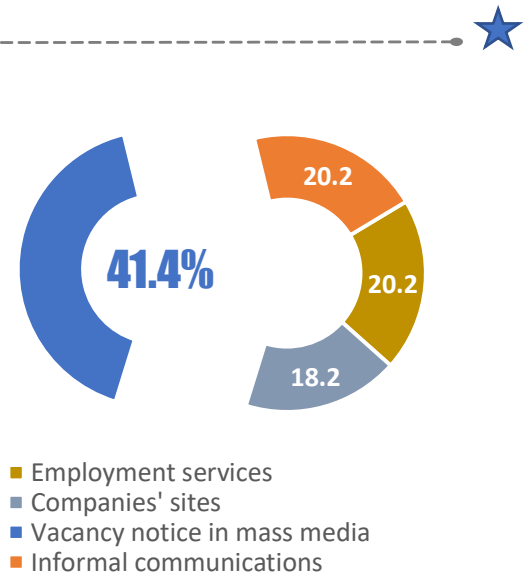
41.4% of respondents reported that they used **social media networks** as a search tool for job opportunities

38.4% of respondents indicated that their difficulties and obstacles in finding suitable jobs were **lack of work experience**

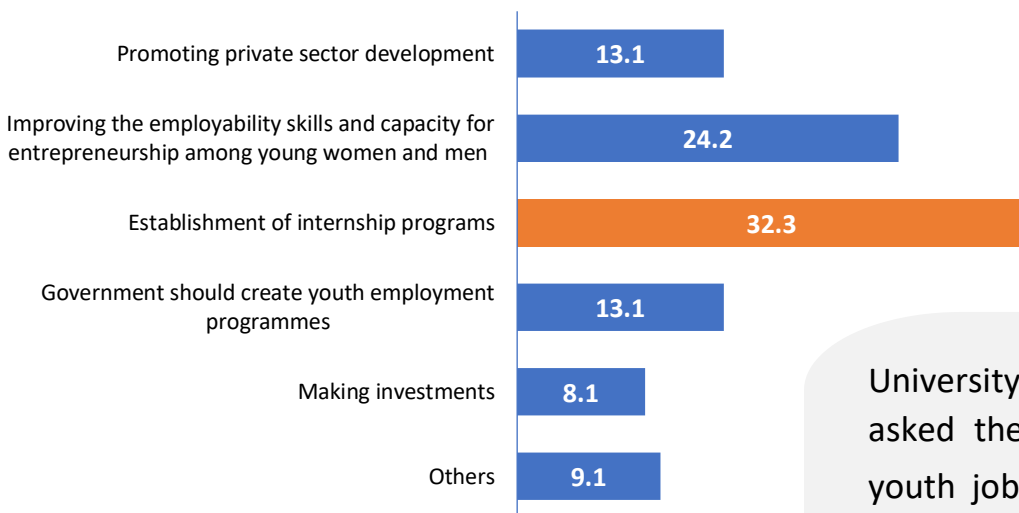
In general, most of university graduated stated that they are lacking of the employability skills and work experience

Therefore, lack of skills and experience are the major causes of unemployment rates for university graduates

What are the basic ways of search for job?



Most appropriate solution to enhance youth job opportunity in the market



University graduates' unemployment were asked the appropriate solution to enhance youth job opportunity in market, **32.3%** of them they reported **Establishment of internship programs** followed by Improving the employability skills and capacity for entrepreneurship among young women and men **24.2%**

“Employers (naturally) engage in low-risk hiring practices, favoring experienced workers over first-time job seekers; disadvantaged youth lack work experience—often more so than other candidates entering the job market ”



“The private sector, government and education systems need to start collaborating to determine what knowledge and skills young people should be taught in order to find rewarding work. Considering businesses are suffering from the skills mismatch, too, they need to take a more active role in promoting appropriate education and skill-building for young people from an early age. ”

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References

1. Shankar, V., Cooper, A. (2016). Reducing Youth Unemployment, 9.
2. <https://peacechild.org/youth-unemployment-causes-and-solutions/>
3. <https://t9y.me/9PzG>