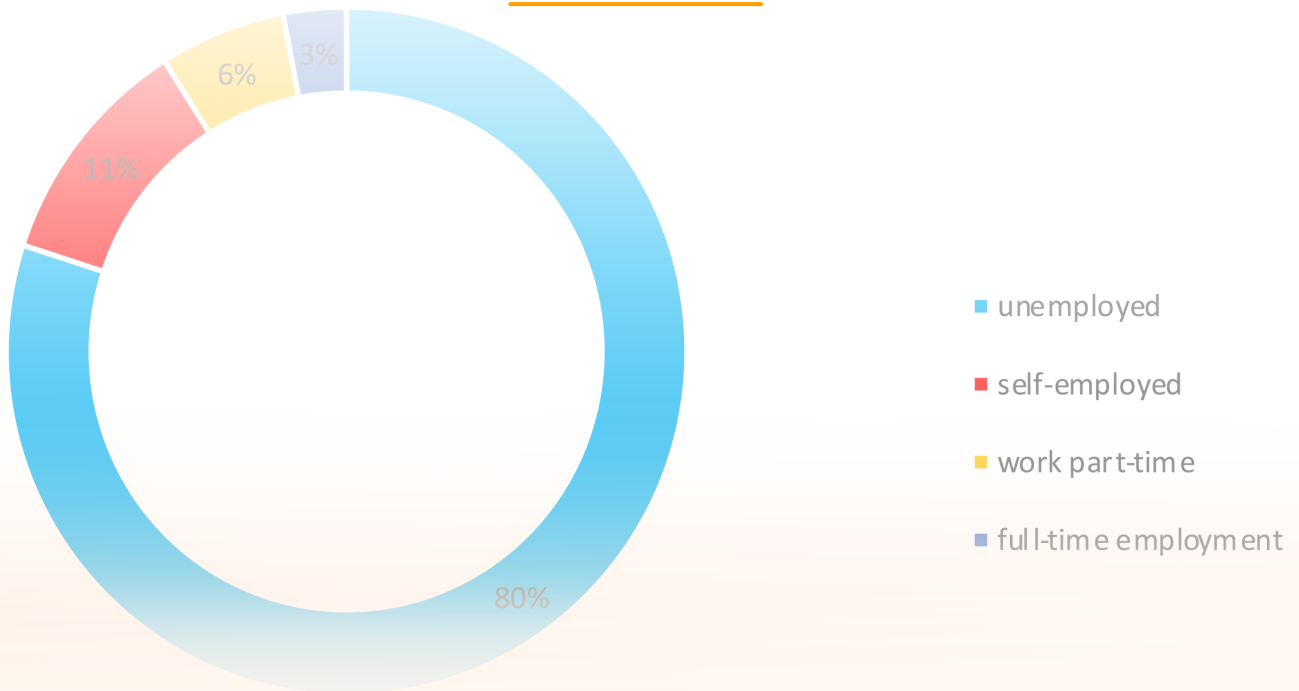




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وَزَارَةُ التَّخْطِيطِ وَالنَّتْمِيَّةِ وَالتَّعَاوُنِ الدَّوْلِيِّ لِدَوْلَةِ شَمَالِ شَرْقِ الصُّومَالِ
Ministry of Planning, Development and International Cooperation, Northeastern Somalia

THE NORTHEASTERN STATE OF SOMALIA SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND UNEMPLOYMENT SURVEY.





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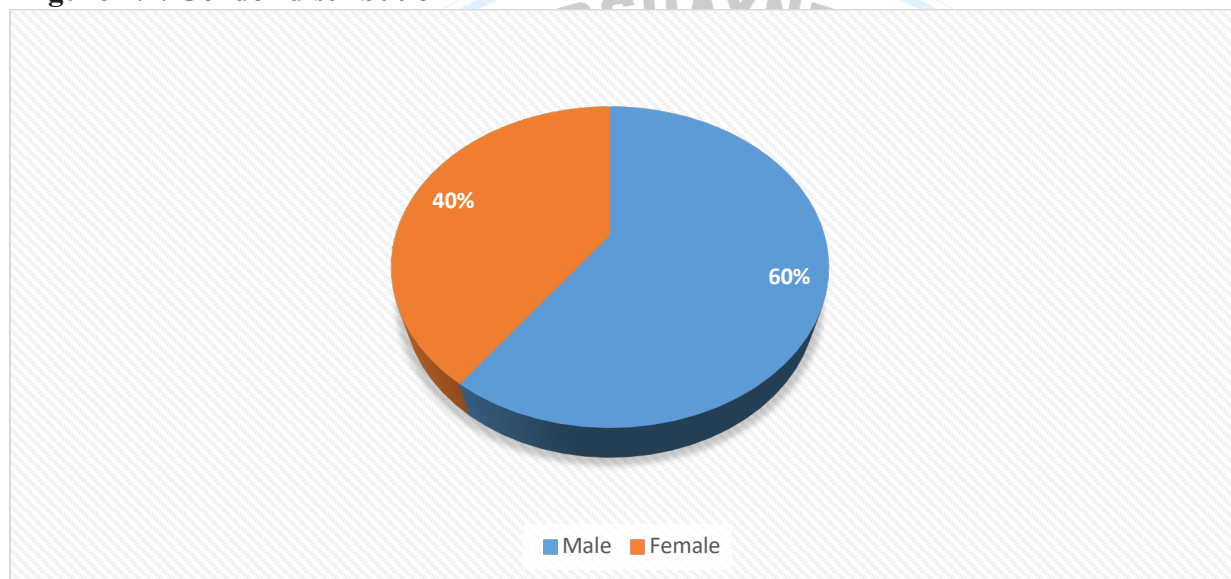
The findings of the *Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey* are presented using charts and graphs to clearly summarize the collected data. Each figure represents key aspects of the respondents' demographic characteristics, employment status, and socio-economic conditions.

The analysis focuses on identifying patterns, trends, and major issues affecting the population. Percentages and frequencies are used to explain the distribution of responses. Each graph is interpreted briefly to highlight its main message and its relevance to unemployment and socio-economic development.

The purpose of presenting the findings visually is to make the results easy to understand and support evidence-based conclusions and recommendations.

SECTION 1: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

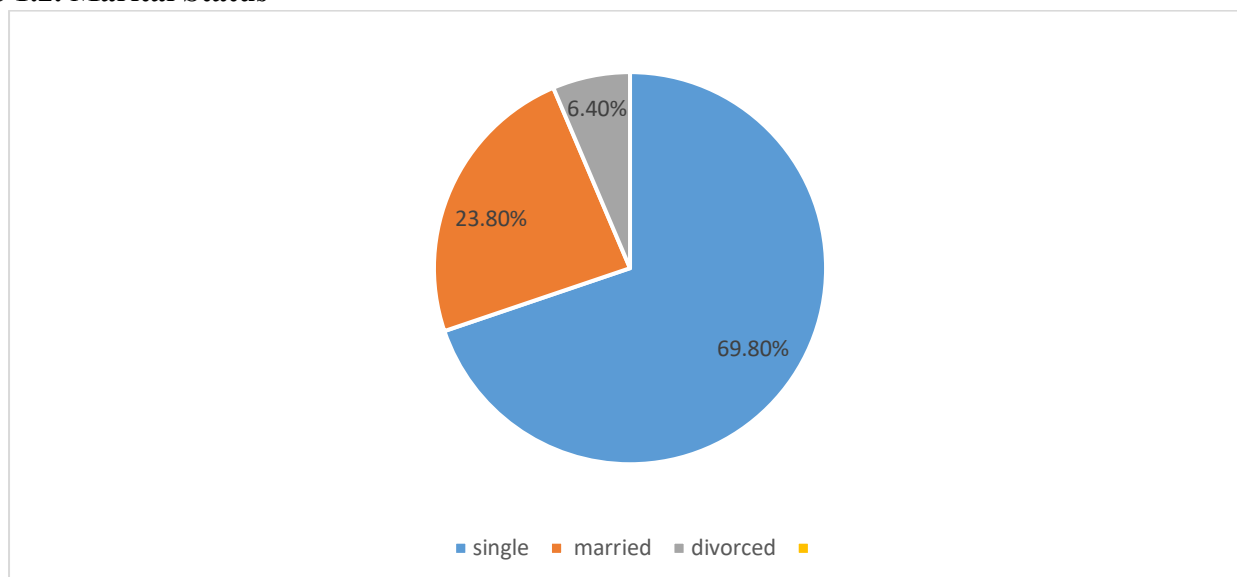
Figure 1.1. Gender distribution



Sources: *Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*

Figure 1.1 shows that in the "Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026," out of a total of 173 respondents, 60% are male, representing approximately 104 participants, while 40% are female, accounting for around 69 respondents. This indicates that male participants are slightly overrepresented in the survey. However, the participation of females remains significant, suggesting that the findings reflect perspectives from both genders. This gender distribution allows for a balanced analysis of socio-economic and unemployment issues across men and women in the Northeastern State of Somalia

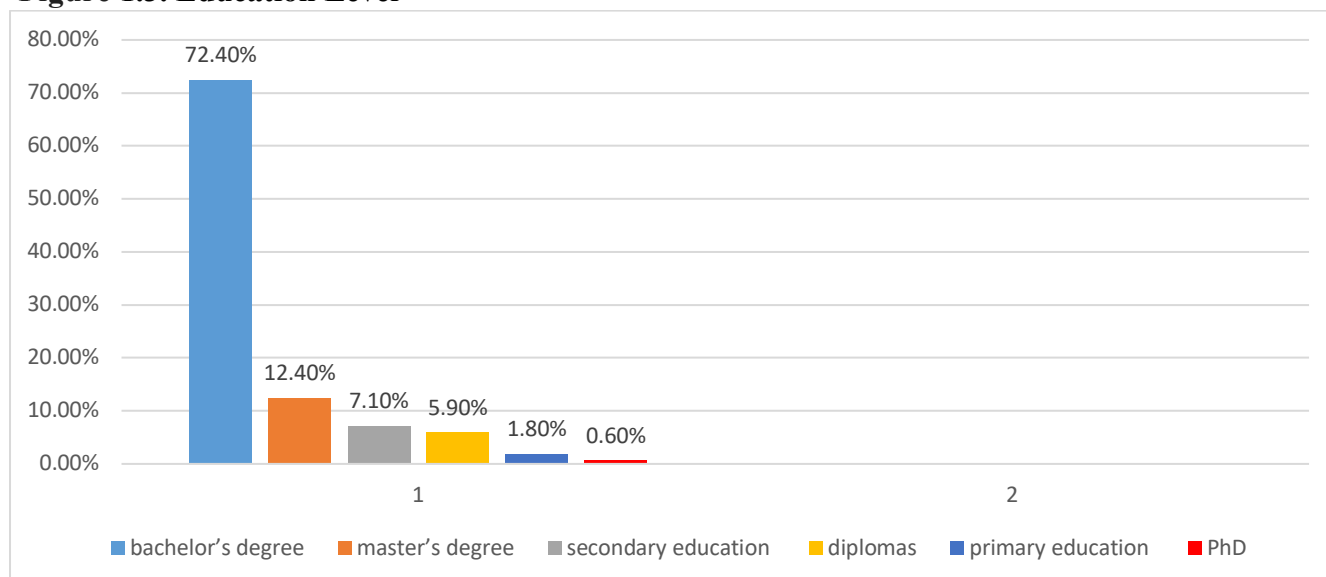
Figure 1.2. Marital Status



Sources: *Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*

Figure 1.2 shows the marital status distribution of respondents in the socio-economic and unemployment survey conducted in Northeastern State of Somalia. Out of a total 173 respondents, 69.8% (approximately 121 participants) are single, 23.8% (about 41 respondents) are married, and 6.4% (around 11 respondents) are divorced. This indicates that the survey population is largely composed of unmarried individuals, suggesting a relatively youthful demographic profile. This pattern has important implications for employment planning and socio-economic development strategies, particularly in designing programs that target young people.

Figure 1.3. Education Level

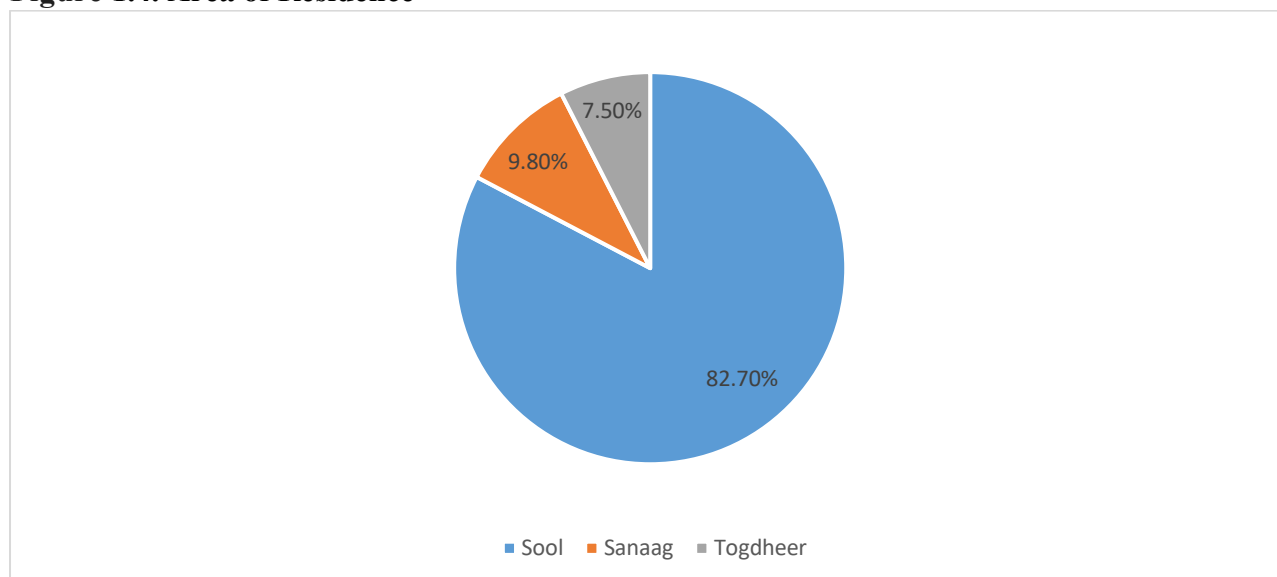


Sources: *Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*

Figure 1.3 shows that in the “Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026,” out of a total of 173 respondents, 72.4% hold a bachelor’s degree, representing approximately 125 participants, while 12.4% possess a master’s degree, accounting for about 21 respondents. In addition, 7.1% have secondary education (around 12 respondents), 5.9% hold diplomas (approximately 10 respondents), 1.8% have primary education (about 3 respondents), and 0.6% hold PhD qualifications (around 1 respondent).

This indicates that the majority of participants are highly educated, with most respondents having attained tertiary-level qualifications. The strong representation of bachelor’s and master’s degree holders suggests that the survey findings largely reflect the perspectives of an educated population. This educational distribution is important when analyzing employment patterns and socio-economic conditions in the Northeastern State of Somalia, as higher educational attainment may influence labor market participation, income opportunities, and unemployment dynamics.

Figure 1.4. Area of Residence



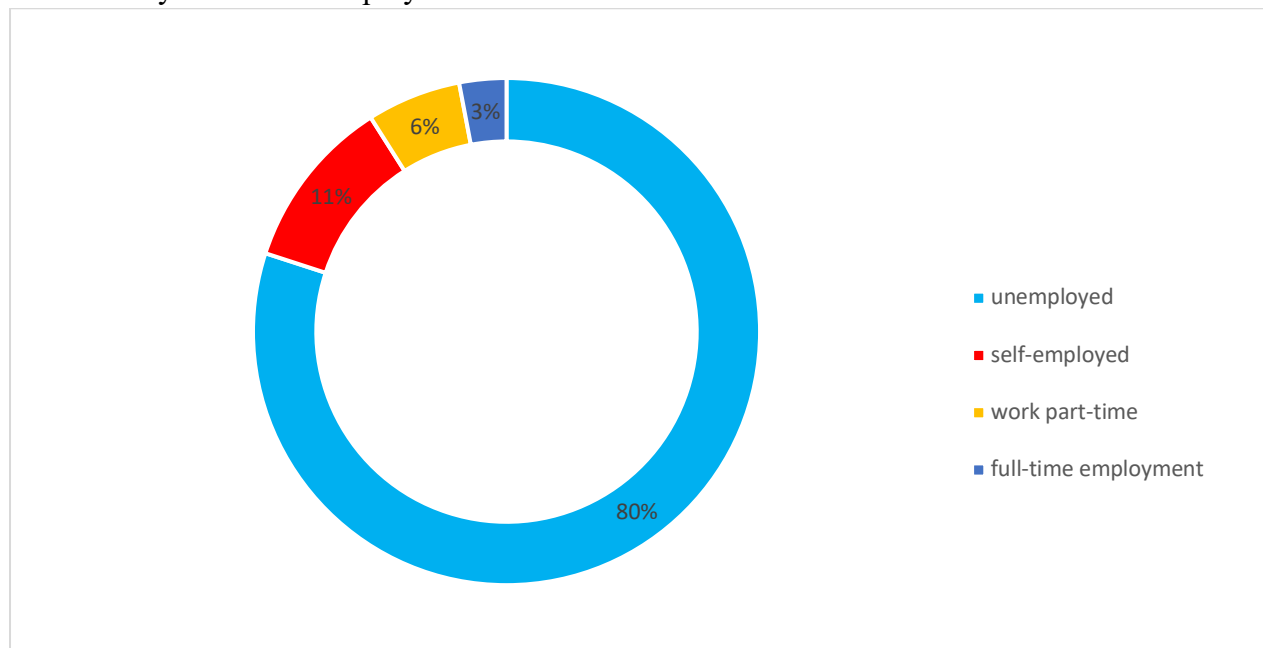
Sources: *Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*

Figure 1.4 shows that in the “*Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*,” out of a total of 173 respondents, 82.7% are from the Sool region, representing approximately 143 participants, while 9.8% are from Sanaag, accounting for about 17 respondents, and 7.5% are from Togdheer, representing around 13 respondents.

This indicates that the survey sample is heavily concentrated in the Sool region, meaning that the findings primarily reflect the socio-economic and unemployment conditions of that area. Although respondents from Sanaag and Togdheer are included, their representation is comparatively limited. Therefore, while the survey provides valuable regional insights, the results are more strongly representative of Sool than the other regions within the Northeastern State of Somalia.

SECTION 2: EMPLOYMENT STATUS.

1. What is your current employment status?

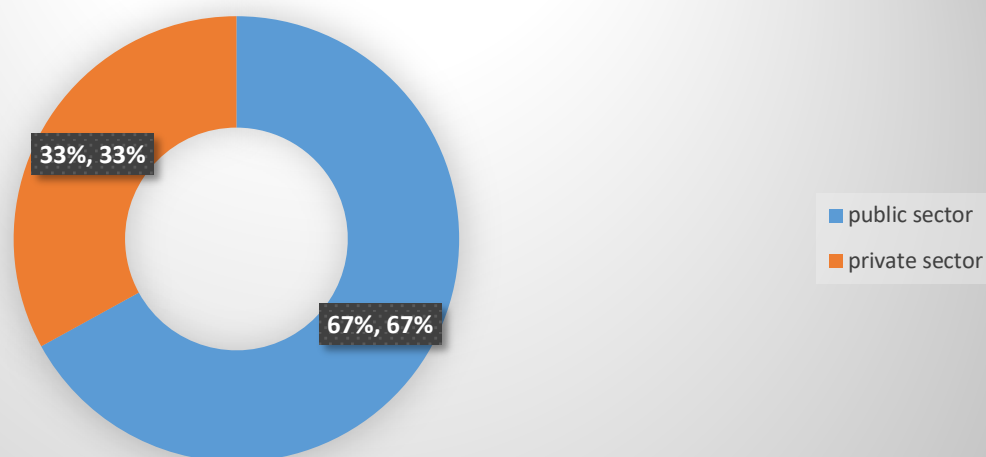


Sources: *Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*

Figure 1.5 shows that in the “*Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*,” out of a total of 173 respondents, 80% are unemployed, representing approximately 138 participants. Meanwhile, 11% are self-employed (about 19 respondents), 6% work part-time (around 10 respondents), and only 3% have full-time employment (approximately 6 respondents).

This distribution indicates a very high unemployment rate among the surveyed population, with only a small proportion engaged in stable or formal employment. The limited number of full-time and part-time employees suggests restricted access to secure job opportunities. These findings highlight the urgent need for employment creation strategies, skills development programs, and broader economic development interventions in the Northeastern State of Somalia to address the unemployment challenge.

2. If You Are Employee, Where Do You Work

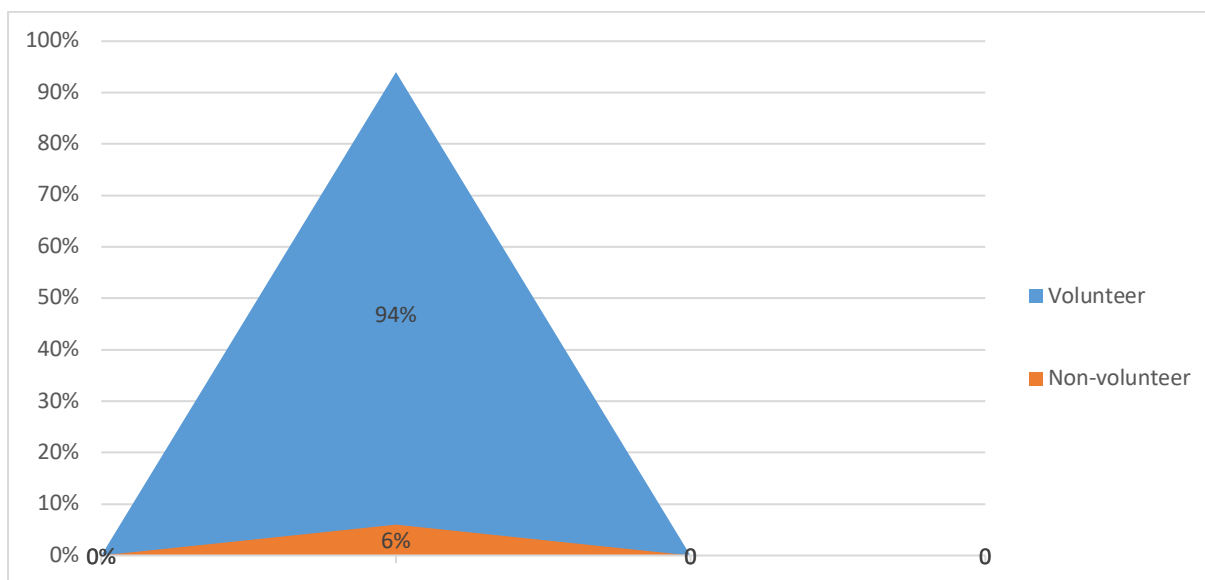


Sources: *Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*

Sector of Employment Figure 1.6 shows that in the “*Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*,” out of a total of 173 respondents, 67% are employed in the public sector, representing approximately 116 participants, while 33% work in the private sector, accounting for about 57 participants.

This distribution indicates that the public sector is the primary source of employment for the surveyed population. The larger proportion of respondents in the public sector highlights a strong reliance on government institutions for job opportunities. In contrast, the smaller share of private sector employment suggests limited private business activity and fewer employment opportunities outside government work. These findings emphasize the need to strengthen private sector development, encourage entrepreneurship, and promote investment to diversify job opportunities and reduce dependence on public sector employment in the Northeastern State of Somalia.

3. If You Are Working in Public Sector What Is Your Employment Status



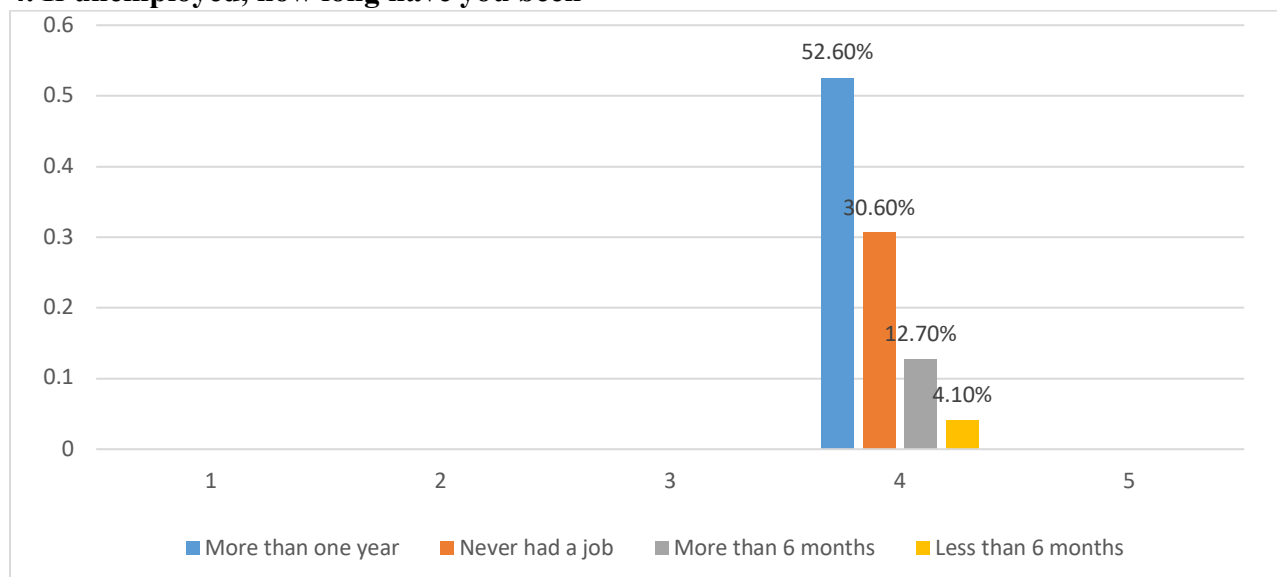
Sources:

Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026

Figure 1.8 shows that in the “*Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*,” out of a total of 173 respondents, 67% (approximately 116 participants) work in the public sector, while 33% (around 57 participants) are employed in the private sector. Among public sector workers, 94% (about 109 respondents) serve as volunteers, and only 6% (around 7 respondents) hold formal paid positions. All private sector employees (33% of total respondents) are paid.

This distribution indicates that most public sector employment is voluntary, reflecting the scarcity of permanent, formal jobs within government institutions. The high reliance on volunteers in the public sector, combined with the smaller private sector share, suggests that stable employment opportunities are limited across both sectors. These findings emphasize the need to create formal paid positions, strengthen private sector development, and promote sustainable employment initiatives to improve job security and economic stability in the Northeastern State of Somalia.

4. If unemployed, how long have you been



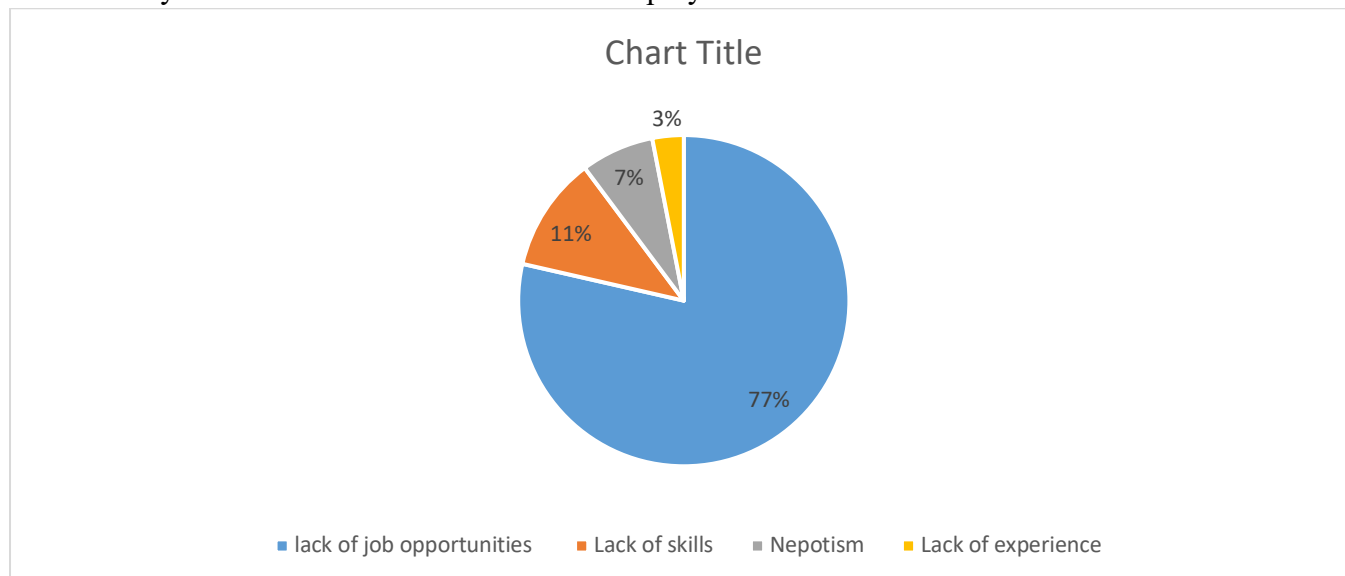
Sources: *Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*

Figure 1.9 shows that in the “*Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*,” out of a total of 173 respondents, 52.6% (91 participants) have been unemployed for more than one year, indicating that long-term unemployment is a significant issue. About 30.6% (53 participants) have never had a job, reflecting barriers to entering the labor market such as limited opportunities or insufficient qualifications. Additionally, 12.7% (22 participants) have been unemployed for more than six months but less than a year, showing that medium-term unemployment is also common. Lastly, 4.1% (7 participants) have been unemployed for less than six months, suggesting some recent job losses or new entrants into the labor market.

This distribution demonstrates that unemployment in the Northeastern State of Somalia affects a large portion of the population and is prolonged for many individuals. The data emphasizes the need for employment creation programs, skills development initiatives, and policies that facilitate labor market entry, particularly to reduce long-term and medium-term unemployment in the region.

SECTION 3: CAUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

1. What do you think is the main reason for unemployment?

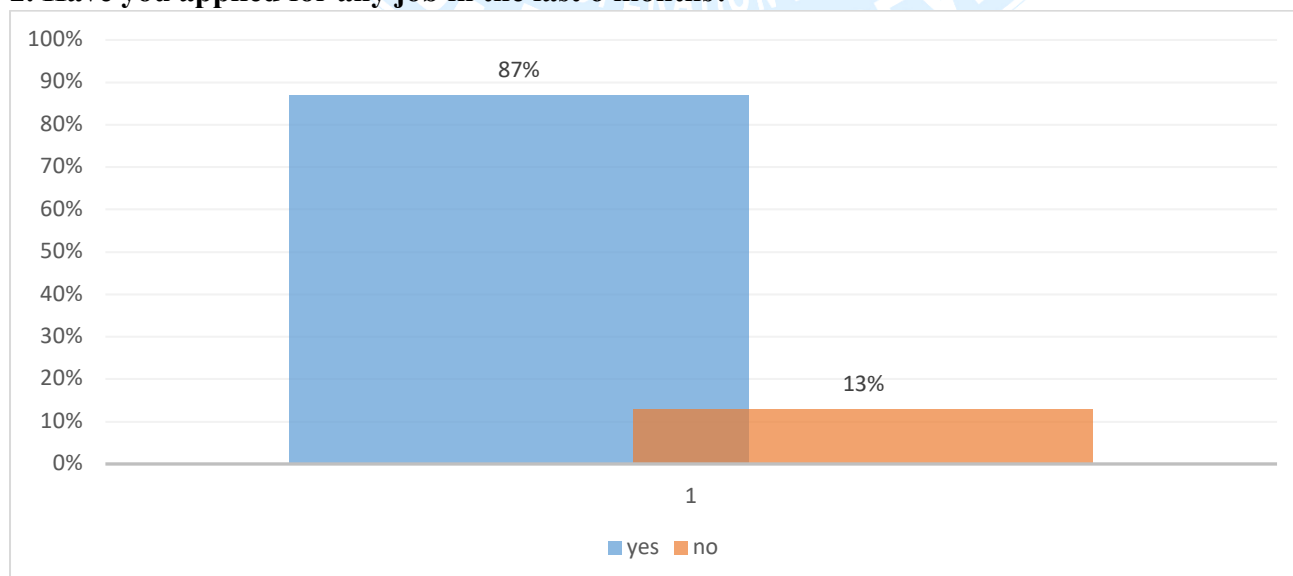


Sources: *Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*

Figure 1.10 shows that in the “*Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*,” out of a total of 173 respondents, the primary cause of unemployment is lack of job opportunities, reported by 77% (approximately 133 participants). Other factors include lack of skills (11%, about 19 participants), nepotism (7%, around 12 participants), and lack of experience (3%, about 5 participants).

This distribution indicates that the main challenge facing the labor market in the Northeastern State of Somalia is the scarcity of available jobs, rather than personal qualifications or connections. While lack of skills, nepotism, and limited experience affect a smaller portion of respondents, addressing the shortage of employment opportunities should be the priority for economic development, job creation programs, and labor market interventions in the region.

2. Have you applied for any job in the last 6 months?



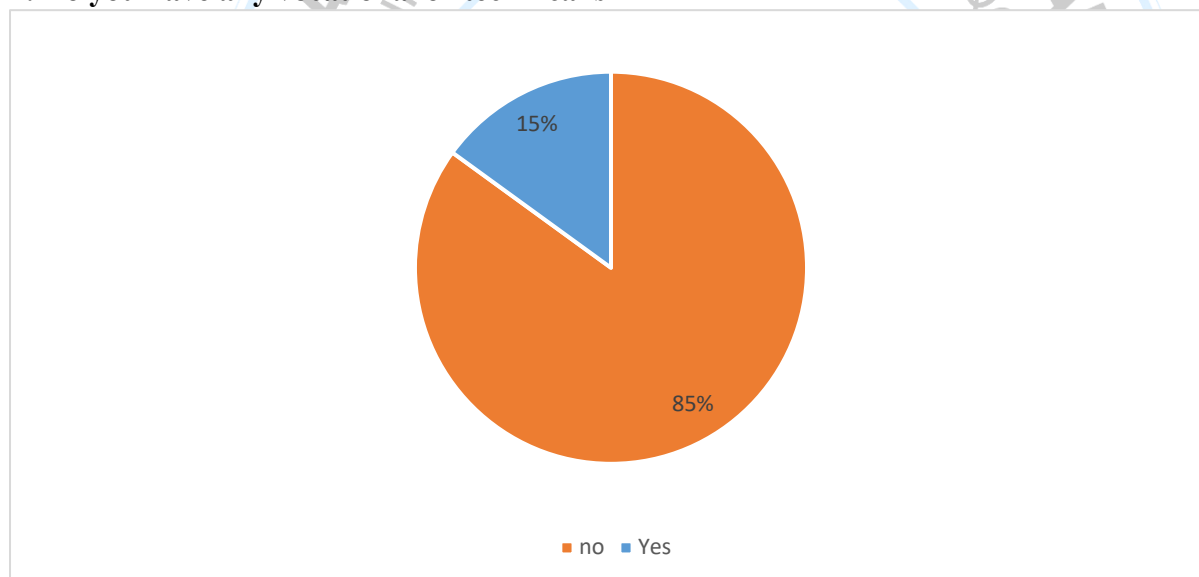
Sources: Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026

Figure 1.11: Have you applied for any job in the last 6 months? “*Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*,” out of a total of 173 respondents, 87% (approximately 150 participants) have actively sought employment, indicating a high level of job-seeking activity in the region. Meanwhile, 13% (about 23 participants) have not applied for jobs, which could be due to discouragement, lack of opportunities, or satisfaction with their current situation.

This distribution highlights that most individuals are actively trying to enter the labor market despite the high unemployment rate. The smaller portion of respondents who have not applied for jobs suggests the presence of barriers such as limited opportunities, low motivation, or alternative sources of support. These findings underscore the need to expand job creation, improve access to employment information, and support active labor market participation in the Northeastern State of Somalia.

SECTION 4: SKILLS AND TRAINING.

1. Do you have any vocational or technical skill



Sources: Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026

Figure 1.12: Do you possess any vocational or technical skills?

The figure shows that in the “*Northeastern State of Somalia Socio-Economic and Unemployment Survey 2026*,” out of a total of 173 respondents, 85% (approximately 147 participants) do not possess vocational or technical skills, indicating limited access to skill-based training in the Northeastern State of Somalia. Only 15% (about 26 participants) have vocational or technical skills, suggesting that skill development programs are not widespread or accessible to most of the population.

This distribution highlights a significant skills gap in the labor market, which may hinder employability and economic participation. The findings underscore the importance of expanding vocational and technical

training programs to equip the workforce with practical skills and improve employment prospects across the region.

Discussion: Comparison with the 2019 National Labor Force Survey

When compared with the **Labor Force Survey Report 2019**, several similarities and differences emerge.

Both studies highlight **high unemployment rates**, particularly among youth. However, the unemployment level in the Northeastern State survey (80%) is significantly higher than national averages reported in the 2019 survey. This suggests that the Northeastern region may face more severe structural employment challenges.

The national survey emphasized the importance of the **informal and private sectors** in job creation, whereas the Northeastern survey shows strong dependence on the **public sector**, with most positions being voluntary. This contrast indicates weaker private sector development in the Northeastern region.

In terms of education, both surveys reveal a growing number of educated youth entering the labor market. However, the Northeastern survey shows a **mismatch between education and employment**, as many degree holders remain unemployed. This supports national findings that education alone does not guarantee employment without practical skills.

The lack of vocational skills identified in the Northeastern survey aligns with national findings that **skills gaps are a major contributor to unemployment**. Both surveys stress the need for technical and vocational education.

Conclusion

The survey demonstrates extremely high unemployment in Northeastern State of Somalia, particularly among educated youth. Employment opportunities are limited, heavily concentrated in the public sector, and often unpaid. The absence of vocational skills further restricts employability. When compared with national findings, the region appears to experience deeper employment challenges, requiring targeted regional interventions.

Limitations of the Study

1. The sample is heavily concentrated in **Sool region**, limiting generalizability.
2. The sample includes a **high proportion of educated respondents**, which may not fully represent the general population.
3. The **number of respondents is relatively small**, which reduces the statistical strength of the findings.

Recommendations

1. Expand vocational and technical training programs to improve employability.
2. Strengthen private sector development to create sustainable jobs.
3. Promote youth entrepreneurship through funding and mentorship.
4. Align education curricula with labor market needs.
5. Encourage public-private partnerships for job creation.

6. Develop regional employment policies tailored to Northeastern Somalia.

Reference:

Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS). *National Labor Force Survey Report 2019*. Mogadishu, Somalia.

