



## DETERMINANTS OF YOUTH EMPLOYMENT STATUS IN ETHIOPIA

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### Abstract

*Youth is undeniably among the most important formidable force and resource a country can have in order to boost its economy. However, youth unemployment in the cities, urban and towns of Ethiopia is a problem that has received increased attention. Therefore, the main objective of this study was to examine the determinants of youth unemployment in Gedo town, West shoa Zone, Oromia regional governmental state. Some of the specific objectives set were to analyze urban youth's perceptions towards youth's unemployment, to identify the determinants of youth employment status and to assess the role of government to addressing youth unemployment in the study area. Both primary and secondary data sources were utilized. A cross sectional survey design was employed for this study. The sample respondents were selected from sample frame by using simple random sampling. 136 sample youths from the two kebele of Gedo town were determined by using Kothari formula for questionnaire, and 7 key informant interviews and 2 Focus group discussions were conducted. Descriptive statistics and inferential statistics like binary logistic regression were employed for quantitative data analysis and Narrative analysis was done for qualitative data to meet the stated objectives. The descriptive analysis found that 61 percent of the respondents were unemployed while 39 percent of them were employed. Binary logit model analysis indicated that sex and educational level affected urban youth unemployment positively and significantly whereas the variable Migration status, family size, Workplace, Participating in training program, Access to job information and having a habit of Saving money*

*affected urban youth unemployment negatively and significantly. The study suggests that local government and other stakeholders should consider these predictor variables when they discuss the issue of urban youth unemployment and also create conducive investment areas. Youth development package should be well implemented by those urban sectors.*

*Key words: Youth, Gedo town, youth unemployment, Economically inactive, human capital, social capital*

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## CHAPTER ONE

### Introduction

It is unquestionable that unemployment affects one country's economic, social and political growth as well as personal development. In general, unemployment is a condition in which citizens of a country have the ability and willingness to work but unable to obtain jobs (Ahmad, 2019). In particular, youth unemployment is the unemployment of young people who pursue a job to support their lives and families but are unable to find a desired job.

The active involvement of youth in sustainable development efforts is central to averting the worst threats and challenges to sustainable development, including the impact of unemployment, poverty, gender inequality, conflict and migration. However, youth unemployment remain one of the world's major challenges facing developed as well as developing countries (UNDESA,2018). The issue of youth unemployment in developing countries is more serious as their labor market has significantly weakened, especially in sub-Saharan African countries it is a severe problem. Hence, the prevalence of youth unemployment is vary from place to place and growing from time to time due to the increasing change in the number of unemployed youth and rising in the total number of active youth population (Malede, 2017).

The majority of young people are affected by unemployment. In 2018, (30%) of young women and (13%) of young men around the world are classified as non-educational, employment and training (kuhn, 2019). This high rates of youth unemployment continue to mean that the problems of economic and political prosperity, pleasure or hopefulness are being passed on future generation and negatively affect the peace of future generations. With a growing proportion of youth in Ethiopia, the labor force is growing, and employment growth is inadequate to absorb this high proportion of labor force (Menta, L., & Leza, T. (2020).

According to CSA(2018) youth unemployment rate in Ethiopia was (24.95 %) of this (19 %) was male and (30.9%) was female. Martha (2012) indicated that unemployment (mostly as an urban event) and underemployment in Ethiopia continued to be a serious social problems even some developments has been done by governments. The Ethiopian government has formulated various plans, yet it is not addressing the problem effectively (Malede, 2017). This high youth unemployment in urban Ethiopia has serious economic and political cost and thus becomes a problem that requires thorough examination. The type of unemployment in the study area may be

considered as Seasonal and Long-term unemployment. Since, Seasonal unemployment is a regular changes in the season whereas Long-term unemployment occurs for those youth who are actively looking for a job for over 27 weeks and its effects are emotional and financial costs can be very damaging (Gautier *et al.*, 2010).

In every day life experience, youth unemployment is found to be a current social, political and economic issue which needs a further study again and again based on the specific perception and factors of the study area. There were three basic questions which were addressed by this study. Initially, the researcher interested to address the question of what was the specific perception of urban youth's towards youth unemployments that was exclusively focused on Gedo town because individual youth perception vary across time, person to person and place to place. The next question was, what were the determinants of youth employment status was another inquiry which need to be studied further since there were various factors which determine youth employment status that was specifically explain the study area. Finally, What kinds of measure have been taken by the local government sectors to address youth unemployment in the study area were also dealt with by this study.

Hence, to fill this gap, specific area study has paramount importance and therefore, this study was intended to identify Determinants of youth employment status and urban youth's perceptions towards youth's unemployment in Gedo town.

## **1.1. Objectives**

### **1.1.1. General Objectives**

- ✓ The main objective of this study was to examine the determinants of youth unemployment in Gedo town.

### **1.1.2. Specific Objectives**

- ❖ To analyze urban youth's perceptions towards youth's unemployment in the study area.
- ❖ To identify the determinants of youth employment status in the study area.
- ❖ To assess the role of government to addressing youth unemployment in the study area.

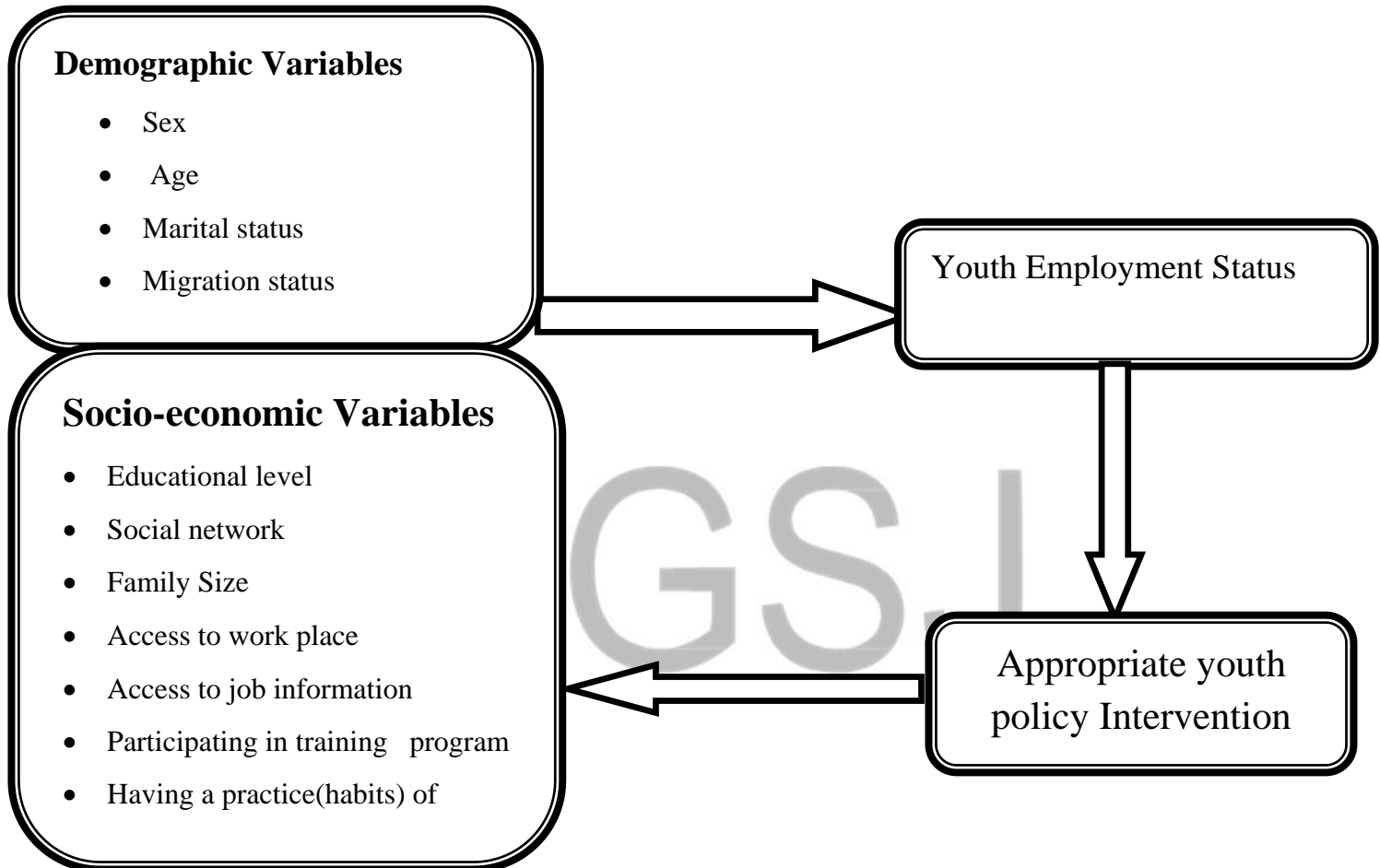
## **1.2. Research Question**

- ❖ What was the urban youth's perceptions towards youth's unemployment in the study area ?
- ❖ What were the determinants of youth employment status in study area?
- ❖ What kinds of measure have been taken by the government to address youth unemployment in the study area?

### .2.1. Conceptual Framework of Youth employment status

Conceptual framework showing the youth employment status in Chelia District in Oromia region of Ethiopia. See figure 1 below

#### Independent Variables



### 3. Research Methodology

The study is community based cross-sectional study design using mixed research methods. The researcher uses a convergent mixed methods design. The quantitative and qualitative data was collected concurrently, analyzed at the same time. On other hand the researcher use for data analyses quantitative analyzed.

#### 3.1. Description of the Study Area

The study was conducted in GedoTown, West Shewa Zone in Oromia Regional Governmental State, Situated 178 km from Addis Ababa and is about 64 km west of Ambo town found in the Ambo -Wollega highway. Gedo town was the capital of Chelia districts bordered by Ilu Galan &

BakoTibe from the west, Mida Qanyi and Goban town to the north, Liban Jawi to the east and Danno and Jibat district to the south. The Town has two kebeles with an average altitude ranging from 1700m to 3051m (CSA, 2007). The main economic activity of the town was trade and agriculture and others (Chelia District Finance and Economic Development Office, 2019).

Based on statistics reported by the Central Statistical Agency( 2007), Gedo town health center (2019) report showed that Gedo town has a total population of 19,959 ; of which 10,648 are males and 9311 are females, out of this population, youth that ranges between the age of 15-29 years were estimated to be 1456 (Youth and Sport Office, 2019). According to Chelia District Labour and Social Affairs Office (2019) the total number of unemployed population in the Gedo town was 4345 and the remaining population were employed and underemployed and economically inactive population. Even though, some activities were implemented to solve the challenge of youth unemployment in the town, 976 youth populations were registered as unemployed in Chelia labour and social affairs office between the age group of 15-29(2019/2020) in the town.

### **3.2. Research Design**

Research design refers to the overall strategy chosen to integrate the different components of the study in a coherent and logical way.

The purpose of the research would have been Explanatory research in this study. Explanatory research aims to explain the phenomenon being studied, rather than simply to describe. This follows the descriptive question and it answers the questions like why and how a phenomenon happens. .

### 3.3.Sampling Techniques and Procedures

Since this study was conducted at individual level, the required number of sample size was drawn from the sampling frame or lists of total youth population between the age category of 15 and 29 who were registered in Gedo 01 and 02 kebele and have taken identification card .Thus, the sampling frame (lists of youth whose age category was between 15 and 29) was registered in Gedo 01and Gedo 02 kebeles were 773 and 683 respectively.

In Gedo 01 kebele had a total lists of youth population of 773 out this by using Simple Random sampling 72 respondents were selected as well as from Gedo 02 out of 683 youth the researcher had selected 64 respondents by utilizing Simple Random sampling techniques. Totally 136 respondents had been taken for this study.

Where **n** is the representative sample size, **N** is the total youth population within the age group of (15-29) who lives in the two kebeles, which was found to be the total of **1456** (Chelia labor and social Affairs office, 2019) and **e** is the margin of error.

The sample size was determined by using the formula given by Kothari (2004)

$$n = \frac{z^2 \cdot N \cdot p \cdot q}{e^2 (N-1) + z^2 \cdot p \cdot q} \text{-----Equation(1)}$$

Where n = required sample size N= size of the population (1456)  
 e = 8% P=0.5 q=0.5

Z = Confidence interval at 95% which is 1.96

$$n = \frac{(1.96)^2 \times 1456 \times 0.5 \times 0.5}{(0.08)^2 (1456 - 1) + (1.96)^2 \times 0.5 \times 0.5} = 136$$

$$n = 136$$

The number of respondents were taken from two kebele was determined based on the number of youth within the age category of 15-29 that reside in both kebeles proportionally /by the proportion of probability to the system of population size/. Simple random sampling method was used to select the respondents by lottery method.

### 3.3.Methods of Data Collection

Data collection methods were employed in this study include **individual survey questionnaire**, focus group discussion, Key Informant Interviews, and field observation.

### 3.4. Methods of Data Analysis

Regarding to data analysis descriptive statistics, inferential statistics were used for analyzing Objective one and two and Narrative analysis was utilized for objective three of this study

## CHAPTER FOUR

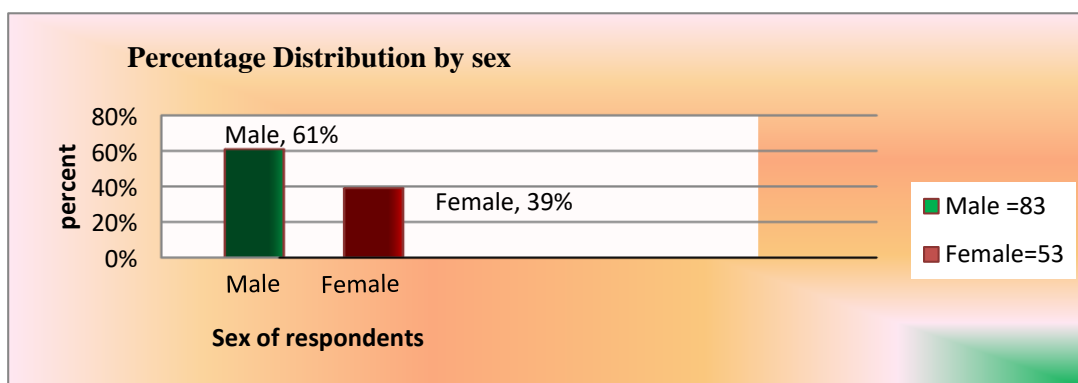
### 3. Results and Discussion of the Study

#### Demographic characteristics of the respondents

##### Sex of the respondents

Sex was one of the variables which were used to interpret and analyze the demographic Characteristics of the respondents in this study. The survey results from figure 3 below reveals that **61** percent of the sample respondents were Males while the rest **39** percent were Females.

Figure1: Percentage of respondents by sex distribution



Source: Computed from Survey Data (2020)

##### Age of respondents

One of the continuous variable which was incorporated in the survey questionnaire during survey period was the age of the respondent. As indicated below in Table 4 the mean age of the respondents were 23.3162 and Standard deviation was 3.185. The minimum and maximum age of the respondents were 15 and 29 respectively. This shows that majority of the respondents average age was 23 years during the survey time.

**Table 1: Age of the Respondents**

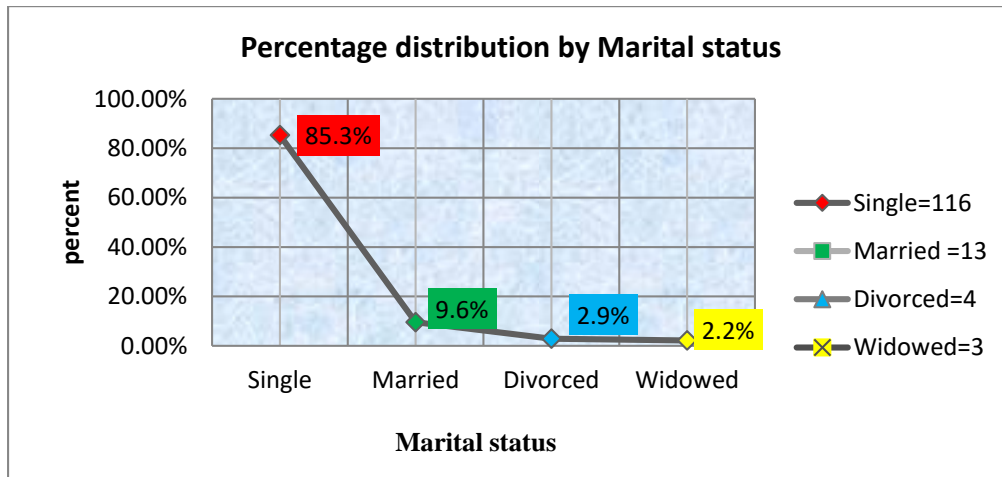
Variable	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
Age	136	23.3162	3.18492	15.00	29.00



### Marital Status of respondents

The distribution of the respondents according to their marital status was displayed below in figures 4. Out of the total respondents (85.3%) were single, 9.6 percent married, (2.9%) Divorced and (2.2%) were widowed

Figure 2: Percentage distribution of respondents by Marital status

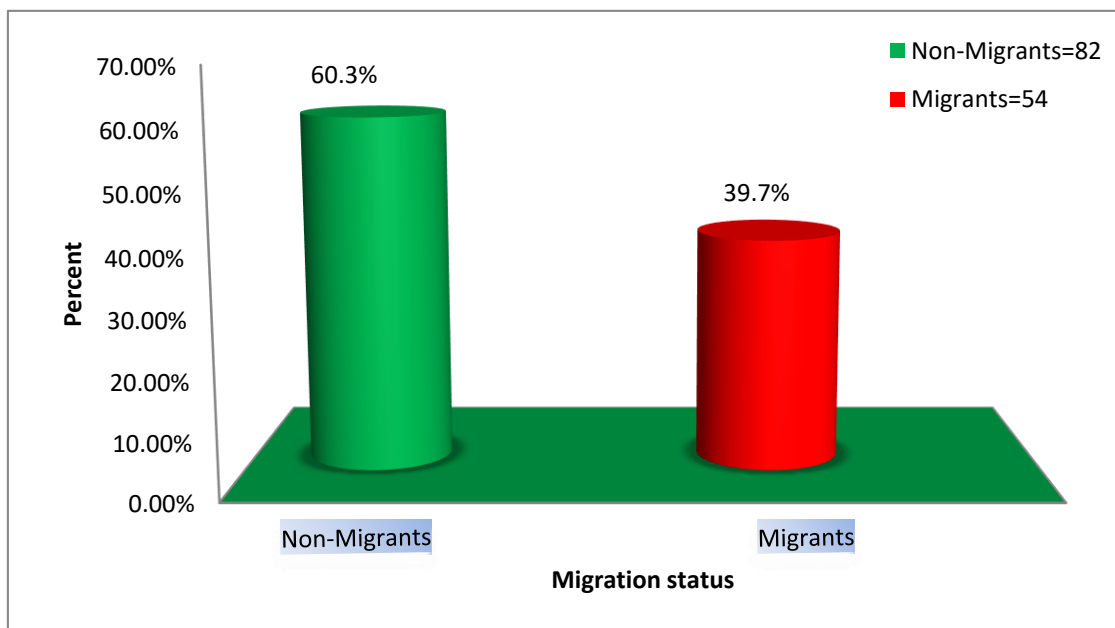


Source: Computed from Survey Data (2020)

### Migration Status of Respondents

During Data Collection process the sampled respondents were asked about their Migration status. The responses obtained from the respondents were explained as indicated below in figure 5 . Which indicates that 60.3 percent of respondents were Non-Migrants and 39.7 percent were Migrant youth.

Figure 3: Percentage distribution of respondents by migration status



Source: Computed from survey data (2020)

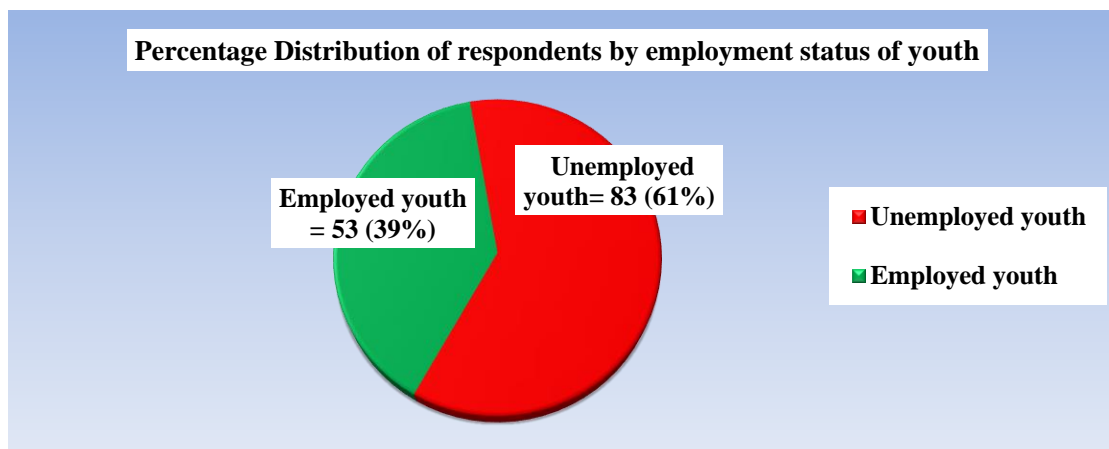
### 1.1.1. Socio-Economic profiles of respondents

#### Employment status of youth

In the study, the sampled respondents were requested regarding their employment status during data collection process.

As revealed below in figure 6 Out of the 136 respondents, the majority of the respondents 61 percent were unemployed youth since economic performance of the town was too low ,and seasonal and long term unemployment was also prevalent in the town . For instance, there was no any industry in the town which absorbs large number of unemployed youth, higher institution like Universities, college, and other Non-governmental organization which attract high number of youth unemployment. The rest of the respondents 39 percent were found to be employed youth at the time of the survey

**Figure 4: Percentage distribution of respondents by EmploymentStatus.**



**Source: Computed from survey data (2020)**

**Family size of the respondent**

Family size of the respondent was a significant variable in deciding the youth employment status. As the members of respondents family size raises; it makes the youth to find out a job to meet the basic needs of his family. In this regard, the family size of the respondents was studied and the results were displayed. It was found that the average total number of family size in which majority of the respondents belonged were 7 and standard deviation was 2.05 .This indicated that majority of the respondent’s family size comprised of seven members during survey period (see Table 5 below)

**Table 2 :FamilySizeoftherespondents**

Variable	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Family Size	136	6.6765	2.05438

Source: Computed from Survey data(2020)

**Educational Level**

Education was one the component of human capital which has a direct impact on the employment condition of people. The survey result in the table 6 below showed that the greater number of respondents (39.7%) had College of Diploma or TVET; 30.1 percent of respondents were Degree and above ; (12.5%) of the respondents had education up to secondary level (9-12) ; 9.6 percent of them had educated up to primary (1-8) level and the rest 8.1 percent were illiterate. The survey result indicated that greater number of sample respondents (69.8%) were completed their education in Diploma or TVET level and above from different higher institution or college and they were searching job.

Table 3 : Distribution of respondents according to their socio-economic characteristics

Socio-economic profile of respondents	Frequency	Percent (%)	Total	
			Frequency	Percent (%)
<b>Educational Level of the respondent</b>				
❖ College of Diploma or TVET	54	39.7	136	<b>100</b>
❖ Degree and above	41	30.1		
❖ Secondary Education (9-12)	17	12.5		
❖ Primary Education (1-8)	13	9.6		
❖ Illiterate	11	8.1		
<b>Social Network</b>				
❖ Low	83	61	136	<b>100</b>
❖ Medium	34	25		
❖ High	19	14		
<b>Work place</b>				
● Accessibility of workplace	24	17.6	136	<b>100</b>
● Inaccessibility of work place	112	82.4		
<b>Access to Job opportunities Information</b>				
● Access to job information	23	16.9	136	<b>100</b>
● No access to job information	113	83.1		
<b>Participating in Job Training program,</b>				
✓ Participated in training program	19	14	136	100
✓ Not participated in training program	117	86		
<b>Having a practice(habits) of Saving money</b>				
● Have a habit of saving money	22	16.2	136	100
● No Saving habit(practice)	114	83.8		
<b>Interest to join Job</b>				
○ Self employment	61	44.9	136	100
○ NGO	33	24.2		
○ Paid employment in formal sector (private or Government Institution).	23	16.9		
○ Any available job in the labor market	19	14		
<b>Salary Expectation</b>				
Yes	107	78.7	136	100
No	29	21.3		

Source: Computed from Survey Data(2020)

TABLE 4:RESULTS OFBINARY LOGISTIC REGRESSION MODEL .

Variables in the Equation									
	Variables		B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)	
Step 1 <sup>a</sup>	Sex(1)	Male	2.197	.927	5.620	1	.018**	9.000	
		Female(RC)							
	Age		.118	.106	1.229	1	.268	1.125	
	Marital Status	Single			1.642	3	.650		
		Married		1.549	1.302	1.415	1	.234	4.708
		Widowed		1.555	5.220	.000	1	.999	63.105
	Marital Status(3)	Divorced		1.424	1.969	.523	1	.469	4.154
	Migration Status(1)	Non-Migrants		-2.758	.833	10.968	1	.001***	.063
		Migrants (RC)							
	Education	Illiterate (RC)			8.529	4	.74		
	Education(1)	Primary/1-8/		3.061	2.711	1.275	1	.259	21.350
	Education(2)	Secondary (9-12)		5.757	2.670	4.650	1	.31	316.506
	Education(3)	College or TVET		5.691	2.597	4.802	1	.028**	296.174
	Education(4)	Degree and above		6.205	2.541	5.965	1	.015 **	495.281
	Social Network (1)			.447	1.037	.186	1	.666	.640
	Family Size			-.321	.162	3.918	1	.048**	.726
	Work place(1)	No access to working place		-4.011	1.247	10.346	1	.001***	.018
		Access to work place (RC)							
	Access to Job Information(1)	No access to job information		-1.725	1.155	2.231	1	.035**	.178
		Access to job information(RC)							
Participate in train(1)	Not Participate in training		-2.885	1.140	6.404	1	.011**	.056	
	Participate in training (RC)								
Having a practice(habit) of saving (1)	Not having Saving practices		-2.245	.991	5.135	1	.023**	.106	
	Having Saving practices(RC)								
Interest to join job(1)			1.389	1.883	.544	1	.461	4.009	
Constant			2.275	3.192	.508	1	.476	9.727	

a. Variable(s) entered on step 1: Sex, Age, Marital Status, Migration Status, Education, Social Network , Family Size, Work place, Access to Job Information, Participate in train, Having a practice(habit) of saving , Interest an to join a job.

Source: Result of the regression analysis of survey data (2020)

Note: Statistically significant at: \*\*P < 5% (0.05); \*\*\*P <1%(0.01)

$\beta$  = Regression coefficient, S.E.= Standard Error , Sig = Significance(P-Value),

EXP(B) = odd ratio , RC = Reference Category

### **Discussion on Significant and Non-significant Predictor variable**

#### **Sex**

The result from binary logistic regression model in table 32 shows that, Sex was one of the variables that affect youth employment status. It shows that the odd ratio of being unemployed increases by 9 if individual youths are male. In the regression analysis, it was found that the odds (chances) of being unemployed for male youth was more likely than that of female youth or females are less likely being unemployed as compared to males in the study area. The regression coefficient between sex and youth unemployment was significant at 5% ( $P < 0.05$ )

The results of this study confirms the finding by Malede (2017) which states that male youth unemployment is higher than that of female youth unemployment in Woreta town

#### **Age**

Age was another Demographic variable which affects youth employment status in the study area. Youth unemployment was higher for those youth whose age was 23 years old in the study area. But, From Table 32 above the association between Age and youth employment status statistically not significant (since  $P\text{-value} > 0.05$ ,  $P > 0.01$ )

#### **Marital Status**

As far as the marital status of youth was concerned, the unemployment was higher among single youth as compared to those of married, widowed and divorced (reference category). However, As shown above in Table 32 the relationship between marital status and youth employment status statistically insignificant (since  $P\text{-value} > 0.05$ ,  $P > 0.01$ )

#### **Migration Status**

Migration status was the other demographic factor which significantly affects youth employment status. As indicated in Table 32, it affects youth employment status negatively at 1 % significance level ( $P < 0.01$ , since  $P_{\text{value}} = 0.001$ ). The logit model predicts that if individuals' youth were migrants, their **unemployment** opportunity decreases by the odd ratio of **0.063** compared to non-migrants whereas if individuals' youth were non-migrants, their **employment** opportunity decreases by the odd ratio of **0.063** compared to migrants. On the other hand, the likelihood ratio of being unemployed for Non-migrants youth was **0.063** times higher than that of migrant youth.

### **Educational Level**

The result of multivariate analysis in table 32 indicated that youth who had completed their educations from higher institution were more likely to be unemployed. The odds ratio of being unemployed for those respondents who were attained higher education ( Diploma /TVET/ and first Degree and above) were more likely higher than those illiterate and less educated youth ( those who completed primary and secondary level of education) and the association was significant at 5% (  $P < 0.05$ ).

### **Social Network**

Access to social networks is a key to find a job in urban areas (Lange and Martin, 1993). Youth who had low personal networks could miss job opportunities available through intimate personal works. Those youth who had low social network highly unemployed when compared with those who had medium and high intimate social network. However, From Table 32 above the association between Social Network and youth employment status statistically insignificant in the study area (since  $P\text{-value} > 0.05$ ,  $P > .01$ ).

### **Family Size**

The number of persons living in the family was hypothesized to affect youth employment status negatively. Hence, the results from table 32 above also show that family size affects youth employment status negatively and significantly at 5% Significance level. This study is inline with Lencha,T.(2017) finding which reveals that family of the youth also stressed economically and psychologically due to the fact that they did not get something in return from their investment in their children's education in Tabor subcity in Hawassa City.

### **Access to Work place**

Access to Workplace was one of the socio-economic variables which affect youth employment status negatively and significantly at 1%(  $P=0.01$ ).

The finding of this study confirms the finding of Obsa, E.(2019) which indicated that various problems were associated concerning work place premises with respect to its location and unable to take over government work places from graduate entrepreneurs and stayed long years which might reduce the current work place premises.

### **Access to job information**

Another important variable to get employment was access to job information was the most significant thing. Lack of adequate information was one of the factors that affect youth unemployment. The finding of this study shows that as the individual youth access to job information increases, the odd ratio of being unemployed decreases by **0.178**. Whereas the odds ratio of being unemployed increases by **0.178** if individual youth had no access to job information. The relationship is statistically significant at ( $P < 0.05$ ) 5% level (See Table 32).

The finding of this study confirms the findings of Dejene *et al.*, (2016) which indicated that the relative risks of unemployment for youth who had low information access from various employment sources were higher as compared to those who had high information access.

### **Participating in training program**

The result from binary logit regression in Table 32 shows that Participating in training program affects youth employment status negatively and significantly at 5% ( $P = 0.011$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ).

This study was supported by the finding of Obsa Ensermu (2019) which stated that lack of training and capacity building influenced to build motivation and drive the enterprises business due to supportive package provided by government institution were not effective and less coordination among streaming committee of MSEs.

### **Having a practice (habits) of saving money**

In this study the regression analysis in table 32 shows that Having a practice (habits) of saving money affects youth employment status negatively and significantly at 5% ( $P = 0.023$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ) significance level.

This finding confirms the finding by Larry, D., and Abdusemed, M. (2019) state that having a practice of saving money and gaining critical employment attitudes, especially regarding self employment. Such as a desire to start saving and putting away money, has a meaningful effect-size on gaining self-employment.

### **Interest to join the job**

As far as the interest of youth to join a job is concerned, Those individual youth who were interested to join in self employment is highly unemployed than those who were interested to work in paid employment (Government or private institution), NGO and any available job in the labor market. However, the relationship between Interest to join a job and Youth employment status is not statistically significant (since  $P\text{-value} > 0.05$ ,  $P > 0.01$ ) (See Table 32)



## CHAPTER FIVE

### 5. Conclusion and Recommendation

#### 5.1. Conclusion

Young population is one of the major productive factors that national economies have. Fully Capitalizing on this population will increase human capital for the nation as a whole and support stable economic growth. However, young people particularly urban youth are mostly affected by unemployment. The high rates of youth unemployment and unemployment continues to mean that the problems of economic prosperity, happiness or optimism are being passed on the future generations and negatively affect the peace of future generations.

Despite the recent encouraging economic improvement in Ethiopia, youth unemployment is high and remains to be one of the socio-economic and demographic problem in the country particularly there was high youth unemployment problem in Gedo town. So, the main objectives of this study was to examine determinants youth unemployment in case of Gedo town, west shewa Zone of oromia region, Ethiopia.

Regarding urban youth's perceptions towards youth's unemployment in the study area respondent's perception described as follows: Firstly, majority of the respondents agreed that Skills mismatch with the existing job opportunities; Negative attitudes of youth towards certain jobs; uncomfortable business environment for entrepreneurship and Small and medium sized enterprises were the main reasons for youth unemployment in the town they live as well as they openly responded that unemployment was not due to taking enough responsibility for their lives but it was due to a limited availability of job in the town .

Secondly, Greater than half of the respondents were answered that male and the age category of 20-24 youth were more affected by youth unemployment in Gedo town. Thirdly, preponderance of the respondent replied that community perceives unemployed youth as locally named as “**kashalabee**” which means a fault person who engage in mischievous things. Finally, corruption was found to be a serious problem in finding jobs for the young people in the study area.

The study was utilized binary logit model to analyze the determinants of youth employment status in the study area. In the model urban youth employment status were taken as dependent variable which was categorized into employed and unemployed, and 12 predictor variables were included

Based on the result of binary logit model, eight of the independent variables were found to be significant determinants of urban youth unemployment; of which sex and educational level affected urban youth unemployment positively and significantly where as the variables migration status, Family size, access to workplace, participating in training program, Access to job opportunity information, and having a habit(practice) of saving money affected urban youth unemployment negatively and significantly while Age, marital status, social network and Interest to join a job were found to be insignificant.

The econometric result indicated that the relative risk of youth unemployment was found to be higher for males than females and also the probability of being unemployed was higher for Non-migrants as compared to migrants. The results also show that diploma/TVET/ holders were more likely to be unemployed; the likelihood of being unemployed for youth who had no a habit of saving was more likely to be unemployed than those who had saving habit and the odd ratio of being unemployed was higher for those who had no access to work place .

Concerning the role of government being done to addressing youth unemployment in the study area. Due to the important role of government sector like Micro and small enterprises (MSEs), Gedo town administration, kebele administrators, Chelia district credit and saving association, women, children and youth office affairs and TVET of the district play in the alleviation of youth unemployment indepth interviews was conducted with these sectors regarding their efforts and current interventions being done to minimize youth unemployment in the town, but the efforts and interventions made by these sectors to realizes their roles was not sufficient enough. Generally, there is a wide spectrum of policy options available in the field of youth employment promotion and employability to address the challenges of youth group over the short, Medium and long term, but improper handling and applying these options are sacrificing the government and youth themselves.

## **5.2.Recommendations**

Based on the finding of the study the following recommendations are forwarded:

- 1 Youth development package which wasplanned to minimize youth unemployment in urban areas should be well implemented by those urban sectors, community and youth themselves.
- 2 The administration of the town should give special attention to non-migrant youth by creating job opportunity especially by using public media to attract private investor and continuously work on private investor who were leaving the town to invest in other areas.

- 3 The government should consider the policies and programs concerning work place premises like space shade and other necessary requirements for getting involved in enterprises especially for single youth and Diploma and Degree holders.
- 4 The special training and awareness should be provided for youth to develop a habits (practice) saving money by the collaboration efforts of Women, children and youth office affairs and saving and credit association of the district.
- 5 The study also recommends that the government should give emphasis to urban areas economic benefits and social activities so that non-migrant youth could benefit.
- 6 Currently urban youth who completed higher education are more likely to be unemployed than those who did not attend higher education. So, Industrial linkage with higher education is very important to minimize youth unemployment.
- 7 Government sectors and kebele administrators should have a well organized data concerning youth employment opportunities and accurate report regarding youth unemployment.
- 8 New laws and youth development package and program should be developed to create opportunities for youth entrepreneurship.
- 9 Government and all concerned authorities should consider the seriousness of youth unemployment and it's far reaching consequences while making public policies and directions to overcome the problem.
- 10 The local government(the study areas government bodies) are recommended to provide a combination of integrated employment services that involves counseling, placement assistance, job matching, technical support to unions and associations and the preparation and dissemination of the results of labor market surveys.
- 11 Government should take curative and preventive measures of youth unemployment so that the economy of the country can easily accommodate the job seeking youths.
- 12 The Gedo town administration should encourage the private sector to invest more industries with high employment creation capacity through joint venture with those requiring huge investment highly labor intensive.
- 13 Oromia regional governmental state should answers the basic questions of Chelia district which had been stayed for several years without any answers that was to develop the district to Zonal level so that many unemployed youth could get employment opportunities.

- 14 Capacitating and empowering male youth to increase their participation in development activities and popularizing information communication technology to create conducive condition for youths in order to increase their social networks .
- 15 Long and short term training should be needed to improve the awareness of youth through advocating the importance of self employment by using role models that enabling them to bring attitude change through time.
- 16 Finally, the task of fighting youth unemployment in Ethiopia is unlikely to be an easy one .It is a task that government alone cannot carry out. A cooperative effort from all the major actors is absolutely vital though the state should be at the forefront of the fight by creating an enabling environment and by carrying out the much-needed task of coordination. The private sector, NGO, the donor community, and other important actors should be there to complement any such effort.

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