

READER POLL REPORT

What is the biggest barrier to youth employment in Lesotho?

Select up to two of the obstacles you think matter most.

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BALLOTS CAST	STATUS	CLOSED
5	Closed	31 Aug 2026

Overall result

Too few jobs being created	60.0% (3)
Skills mismatch with what employers need	20.0% (1)
Lack of capital to start a business	40.0% (2)
Jobs given through connections, not merit	20.0% (1)
Limited access to training and higher education	0.0% (0)

Readers could pick more than one answer, so shares are of ballots cast and add to more than 100%.

Who took part

Age

	Ballots	Share
25–34	1	20.0%
45–54	1	20.0%
55–64	1	20.0%

Gender

	Ballots	Share
Female	1	20.0%
Male	2	40.0%

District

	Ballots	Share
Maseru	2	40.0%
Qacha's Nek	1	20.0%

Education

	Ballots	Share
Bachelor's degree	2	40.0%
Postgraduate	1	20.0%

Employment status

	Ballots	Share
Employed full-time	1	20.0%
Self-employed	1	20.0%
Retired	1	20.0%

Monthly household income

	Ballots	Share
M3,000 – M5,999	1	20.0%
M10,000 – M19,999	1	20.0%
M20,000 and above	1	20.0%

How the answers differed

Each group below shows how its members voted. Small groups move a lot on a single ballot — read them with care.

By age

25–34 — 1 ballot

Lack of capital to start a business 100.0% (1)



Too few jobs being created 100.0% (1)



45–54 — 1 ballot

Skills mismatch with what employers need 100.0% (1)



55–64 — 1 ballot

Too few jobs being created 100.0% (1)



By gender

Female — 1 ballot

Lack of capital to start a business 100.0% (1)



Too few jobs being created 100.0% (1)



Male — 2 ballots

Skills mismatch with what employers need 50.0% (1)



Too few jobs being created 50.0% (1)



By district

Maseru — 2 ballots

Skills mismatch with what employers need 50.0% (1)



Too few jobs being created 50.0% (1)



Qacha's Nek — 1 ballot

Lack of capital to start a business 100.0% (1)



Too few jobs being created 100.0% (1)



By education

Bachelor's degree — 2 ballots

Too few jobs being created 100.0% (2)

Lack of capital to start a business 50.0% (1)

Postgraduate — 1 ballot

Skills mismatch with what employers need 100.0% (1)

By employment status

Employed full-time — 1 ballot

Skills mismatch with what employers need 100.0% (1)

Self-employed — 1 ballot

Lack of capital to start a business 100.0% (1)

Too few jobs being created 100.0% (1)

Retired — 1 ballot

Too few jobs being created 100.0% (1)

By monthly household income

M3,000 – M5,999 — 1 ballot

Too few jobs being created 100.0% (1)

M10,000 – M19,999 — 1 ballot

Lack of capital to start a business 100.0% (1)

Too few jobs being created 100.0% (1)

M20,000 and above — 1 ballot

Skills mismatch with what employers need 100.0% (1)

About this poll

This was an open online poll of OurInsights readers. It is not a representative sample of the population of Lesotho: everyone who took part chose to do so, and people who feel strongly about a question are more likely to answer it. The figures describe the readers who responded, and nobody else. One ballot was allowed per reader.

Demographic answers were given voluntarily and are stored with the ballot, never with a name or address.