

Factors influencing job search in urban Sierra Leone

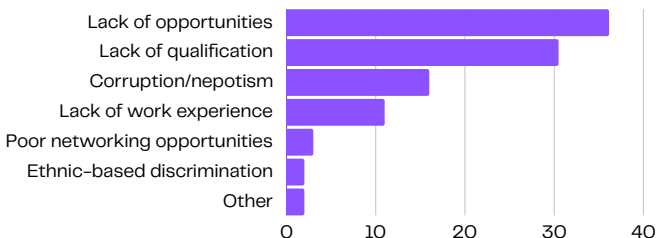
Headline findings from a survey carried out in April 2025 in Freetown, Bo und Makeni



“Like Sierra Leone right now, it is based on connection; you will have your certificates but if you do not have connections, you would not get the job”

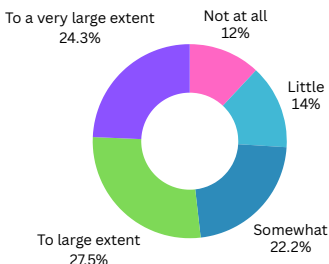
An overwhelming majority of the respondents (91.2%) found their current job through personal connections or recommendations.

What is the main challenge you face when searching for a job?



Education does not always eliminate perceived barriers to employment

To what extent might corruption/nepotism prevent you from getting a job that you wish to have?



Corruption and nepotism are seen as important barriers to employment across all groups

Gender remains an important factor: women report being more affected by nearly all employment barriers than men