



Youth Employment Through Vocational Training Centers in Johannesburg: A One-Year Job Creation Analysis

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Abstract

The Johannesburg area in South Africa has seen a significant youth unemployment rate, with many young people lacking the necessary skills to secure employment. Vocational training centers have been proposed as a solution to address this issue. The research employs both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. Qualitative data includes interviews with participants, trainers, and employers, while quantitative data involves surveys assessing employment outcomes post-training. During the study period, approximately 30% of trained individuals secured job placements in their chosen fields, highlighting the centers' potential to bridge skill gaps and provide employment opportunities for youth. The findings suggest that vocational training centers can be effective in reducing unemployment among young people by offering tailored skills development programmes and direct job connections. Based on this study, policy makers should consider expanding access to these centers and enhancing their curricula to better align with industry needs. Employers are encouraged to partner more closely with training institutions to ensure quality placements post-training.

Keywords: *African Geography, Youth Labour Market, Mixed Methods, Qualitative Research, Quantitative Analysis, Vocational Training, Skills Development*

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