

A STUDY ON YOUTH WILLINGNESS TO WORK IN AGRICULTURE

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1.ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to investigate the youth willingness to work in agriculture of to participate in agriculture with a view to showcase the potentials in Tumkur agriculture especially in the area of employment generation for the youths. The study made use of primary data collected with the aid of structured questionnaires from 77 respondents from the Tumkur city ,being the representative. The findings of the study showed that majority of the respondents interviewed representing (29.9 %) are not interested pursuing in agriculture and majority of the respondents (39 %) ,willing to participate in agriculture given the needed and required supports such as conducive environment by the stakeholders particularly the government. Educational status, marital status, gender, possession of agricultural training and employment status of respondents significantly influenced their willingness to participate in agriculture .The greatest limitation of this study is its sample size which is considerably small but considering the peculiarity in the challenges faced by the entire population, this limitation has been overcome thus making its findings valid for policy purposes. Understanding the factors influencing youth willingness is crucial for sustainable agricultural development. Motivations such as a desire for independence, passion for environmental stewardship, and opportunities for innovation drive youth interest in agriculture. However, challenges such as limited access to resources, lack of training, and perceptions of agriculture as unattractive hinder their participation. Innovative approaches, including digital agriculture, entrepreneurship programs, and policy support, present avenues to enhance youth engagement in agriculture

Keywords: Agriculture, participation, Youths.

2.INTRODUCTION

Youth interest in agriculture has been steadily increasing in recent years. Many young people are drawn to agriculture due to factors such as a desire to make a positive impact on the environment, interest in sustainable food production, and the potential for entrepreneurship in agribusiness. Additionally, the integration of technology in agriculture, such as precision there has been a noticeable shift in the attitudes of young people towards agriculture.

Traditionally viewed as a labor-intensive and unattractive profession, agriculture is experiencing a resurgence in interest among the youth, driven by a combination of factors such as technological advancements, changing societal values, and a growing awareness of the importance of food security and sustainability. Farming and vertical farming, has made the sector more appealing to tech-savvy youths. Government initiatives and programs aimed at supporting young farmers and providing training and resources have also contributed to this trend. Overall, there's a growing recognition among young people of the importance of agriculture in addressing global challenges like food security and climate change.

The youth's interest in agriculture has grown due to factors like a desire for sustainable living, technological advancements in farming, potential for entrepreneurship, and a focus on food security and environmental conservation.

The current generation of youths seem to be increasingly interested in agriculture, driven by factors like sustainability concerns, technology integration, and a desire for meaningful work. This shift is evident in the rise of urban farming initiatives, agri-tech startups, and a growing interest in organic and local food production among young people.

This renewed interest holds significant promise for the future of agriculture, as it presents an opportunity to infuse new energy, innovation, and talent into an industry that is vital for global prosperity. However, understanding the motivations and willingness of youth to engage in agricultural work is crucial for harnessing this potential and addressing the challenges that may hinder their participation.

We delve into the dynamics of youth willingness to work in agriculture, exploring the factors that influence their decision-making processes, the opportunities they perceive within the sector, and the barriers they face. By gaining insights into the mindset of young individuals towards agriculture, we aim to inform policies, programs, and initiatives that can effectively engage and empower the next generation of agricultural leaders and entrepreneurs.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Youth development for citizenship, employment and leadership is a crucial topic for addressing and overcoming the challenges posed to agriculture education and training (AET). Today's group of young people is the largest in history and much of these youth have abandoned agriculture as a way of life (World Bank, 2008). The growing food crisis, climate change and increasing global unemployment and underemployment rates disproportionately affect the world's youth population (Bennell, 2010; FAO, 2009). They are the next generation of farmers, yet most have limited opportunities or declining interests in continuing in agriculture (World Bank, 2008). Youth represent a massive untapped potential to improve the rural agricultural system of developing countries, if appropriately equipped with the necessary skills, training and education to enter

B. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Kassa Tarekegn,(2022) : Agricultural Economics and Gender Research, Arba Minch Agricultural Research Center, Southern Agricultural Research Institute, PO.Box. 2228, Arba Minch, Ethiopia, Received 26 Dec 2021 , Accepted :29 Jan 2022, Published :23 Feb 2022. The paper entitled that “youths” opinions on working in agriculture field .The youths who participated in this study are acknowledged for providing their valuable information. The authors gratefully acknowledge Southern Agricultural Research Institute (SARI) for its financial support through the AGP-2 program. Finally, the authors express their gratitude to Arba Minch Agricultural Research Center for its logistic support.

Adetoso Adebisi Adetoro (2021) : Submission received: 27 July 2021 Revised: 8 August 2021 , Accepted: 12 August 2021 ,Published: 14 August 2021, Based on the literature search, most youths were involved in primary activities such as crop production (for example, cassava, cocoa, rice, maize vegetable production) and animal production (for example, livestock rearing, breeding, poultry, and poultry piggery). An analysis of the value chain showed that very few youths participated in mid-point activities such as agro-processing and agricultural engineering. One study was conducted on youth involvement in fish farming ,In eight studies, youths were involved in agriculture as their primary occupation, followed by trading activities and government jobs. The remaining youth were students, and others were involved in other livelihood activities such as trading and other forms of temporary employment. The majority of the studies did not mention any ownership of land by the youths. However, in studies where it was mentioned, there was no mention in any study of youth involvement in dealing with issues concerning the food environment.

Wasiu Olayinka Fawole: Received 30 May 2017 Revised 6 April 2018 2 August 2018 Accepted 5 August 2018, The findings of the study showed that the majority of the respondents interviewed representing 62.8 percent were unemployed with the majority of the respondents (68.3 percent) willing to participate in agriculture given the needed and required supports such as conducive environment by the stakeholders particularly the government. Educational status, marital status, gender, possession of agricultural training and employment status of respondents significantly influenced their willingness to participate in agriculture

C. OBJECTIVES

- To know the youths opinion with the respect of agriculture.
- To know the attitude of youths towards agriculture as their profession.

D. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The scope of study on agriculture is limited in Tumkur district. What are needs for making agriculture are broad and multifaceted, covering various aspects depending on the specific focus .They know types of crops

and their cultivation practices, pest and disease control. And Breeding, raising, and caring for livestock, To know the market analysis and agriculture pricing , and climate change adaptation and mitigation, information technology in agriculture, and give the Education and extention serives in agriculture, among this youths are focus on willing to work in agriculture.

E. LIMITATION

The information is confined to Tumkur city only.

F. RESEARCH DESIGN

The study seeks to assess the rates of youth's preception in agriculture. Survey is undertaken as a research method to study on ' youths willingness to work in agriculture'. In Tumkur city. The study is carried through a structured questionnaire.

G. SOURCES OF DATA COLLECTION

- Primary data is collected through face- to-face interview with the help of presented, well-structured questionnaire which was administered personally.
- Secondary data were collected through websites, published articles, focus grouos transcript, newspaper and etc.

H. SAMPLING DESIGN

- Sampling Technique- convenient sampling.
- Sampling size of the youths -77 respondents

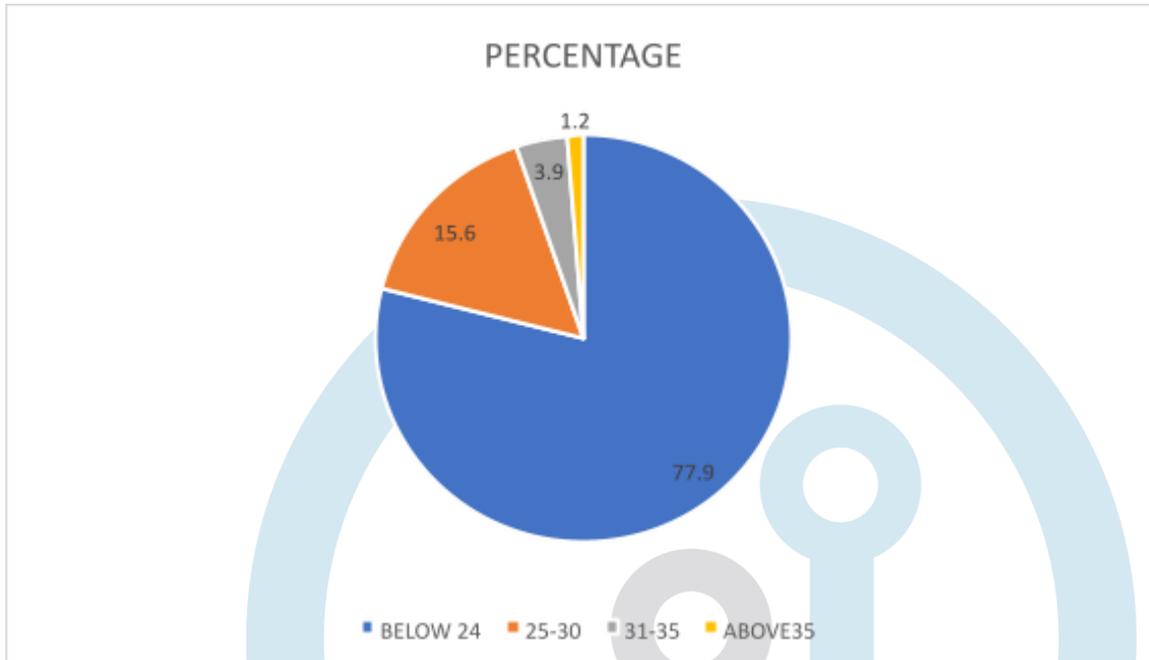
Table no.1 : Table showing the age of the repondents.

SL.NO	AGE FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Below 24	60	77.9
2	25 to 30	12	15.6
3	31 to 35	3	3.9
4	Above 35	2	2.6
TOTAL	77	77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 77.9% of response are age group of below 24 years, and 15.6% of respondent are age of 25 to 30 years.

GRAPH NO 1: Graph showing age group of the respondent.



INTERPETATION

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are to the age group of below 24.

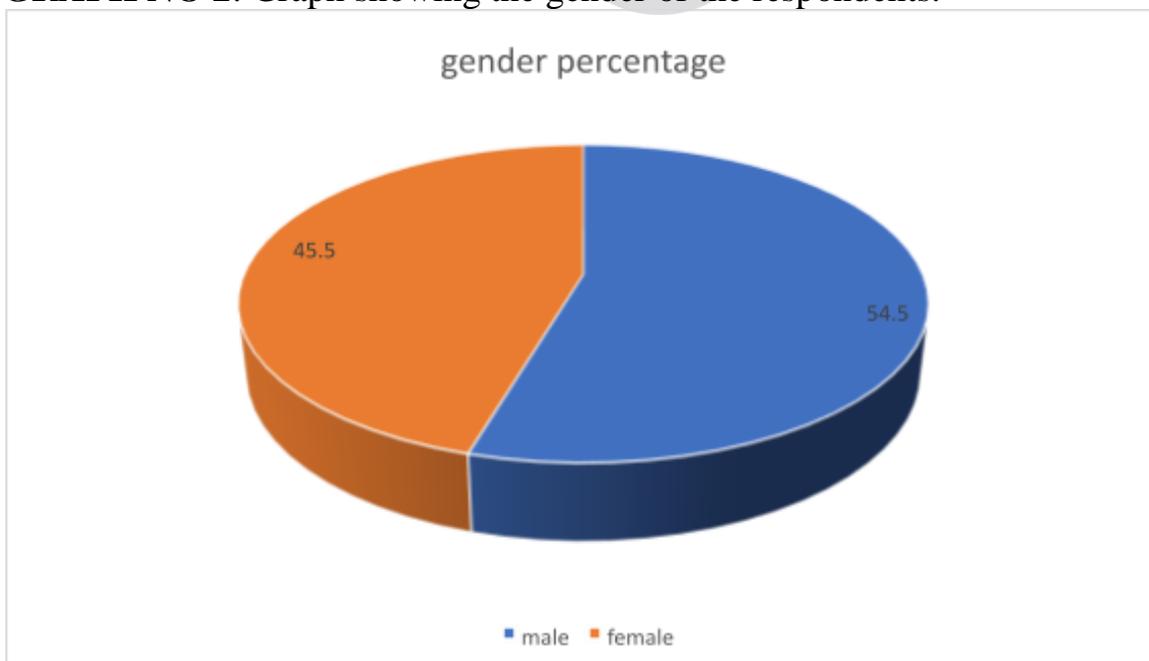
Table no 2 : Table showing the gender of the respondents.

SL NO:	GENDER	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	MALE	42	54.5
2	FEMALE	35	45.5
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 54.5% of respondents are male , and 44.5% respondents are female.

GRAPH NO 2: Graph showing the gender of the respondents.



INTERPETTATION

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent belows to the male 54.5

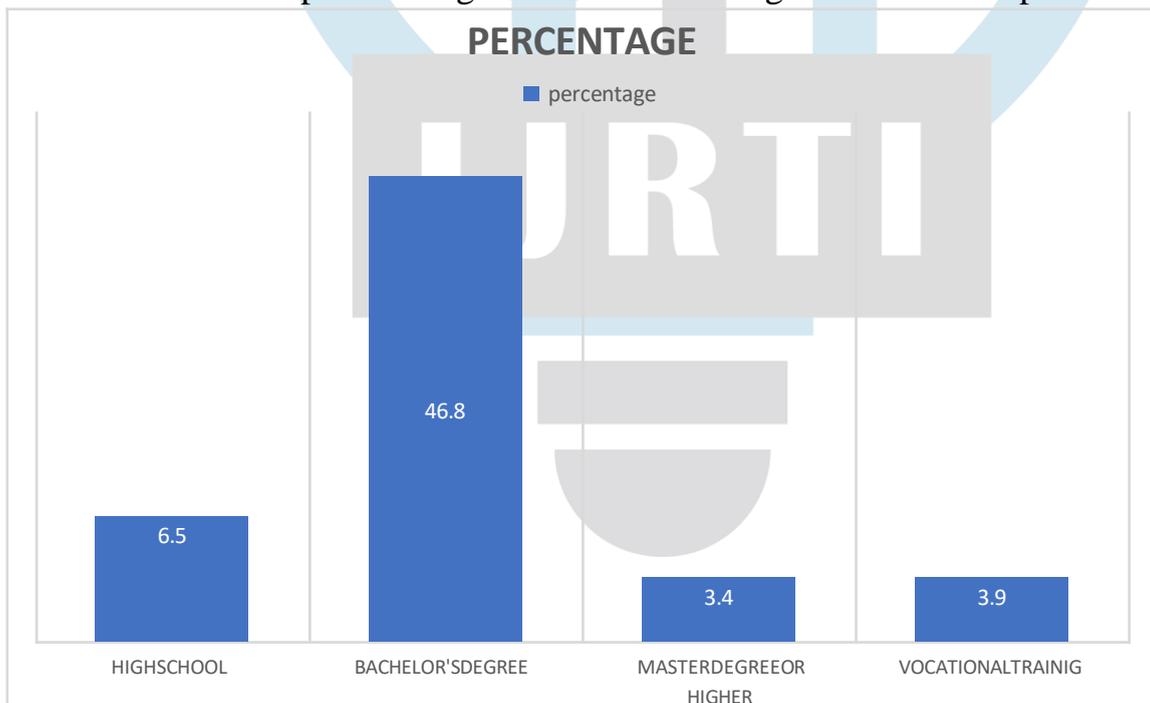
TABLE NO 3: Table showing the education background of the respondents?

SL NO	EDUCATION	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	High school	5	6.5
2	Bachelor's degree	36	46.8
3	Master degree or higher	28	36.4
4	vocational training	3	3.9
5	Other	5	6.5
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed the 46.8% of respondents are the Bachelor's degree, and 36.4% of respondents are Master degree or higher.

GRAPH NO 3:Graph showing the education background of the respondents.



INTERPETATION

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent belows to education background of bachelor's degree 46.8%

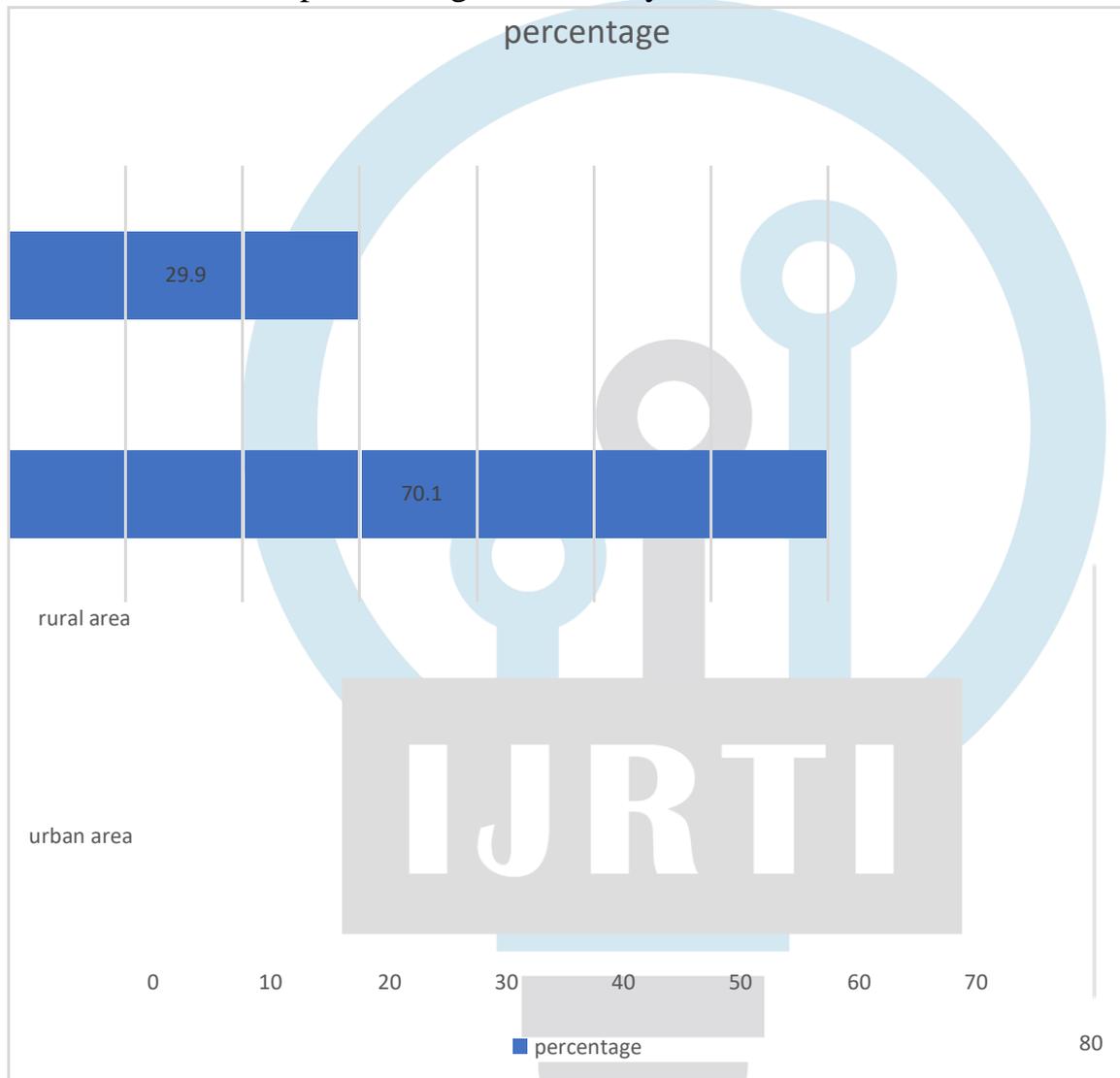
TABLE NO.4 : Table showing the currently reside in

SL NO.	AREA	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	urban area	54	70.1
2	rural area	23	29.9
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can analysed the 70.1% of response belongs to urban area, and 29.9 % of response to rural area,

GRAPH NO 4. Graph showing the currently reside in:



INTERPETTATION

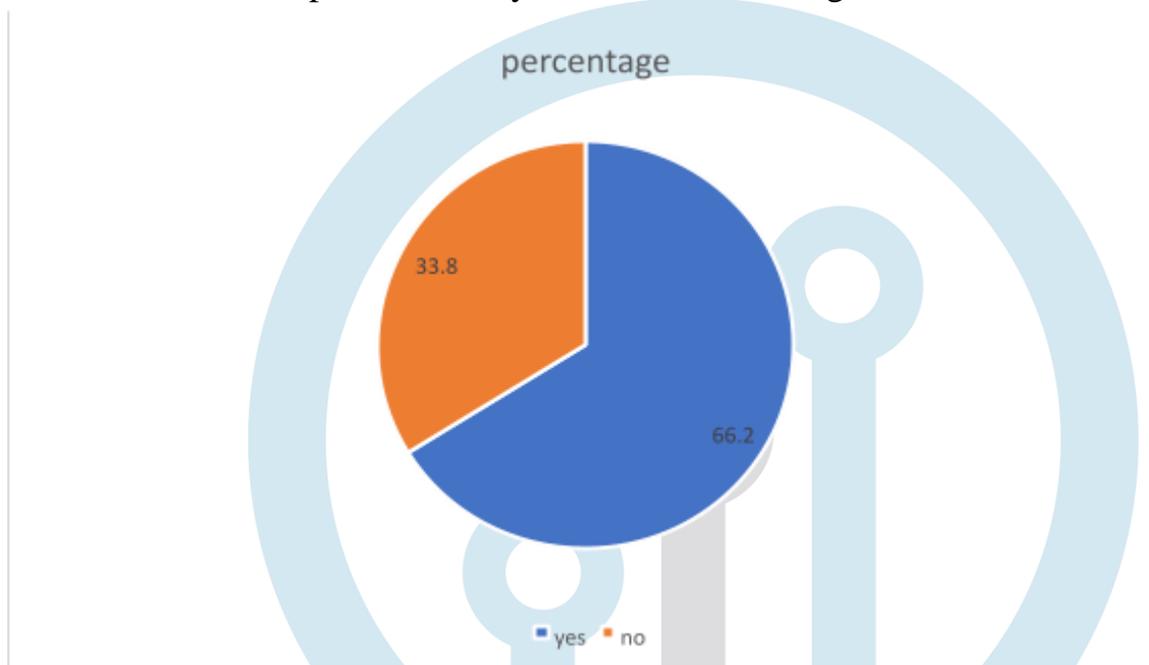
From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent belong to currently reside in urban area 70.1%.

TABLE NO 5: Did you ever work in agriculture before.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	YES	51	66.2
2	NO	26	33.8
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS:

From the above table it can be analysed that 66.2% of respondents are work in agriculture and 33.8 % are not .

GRAPH NO 5 :Graph show Did you ever worked in agriculture before**INTERPETTATION**

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are ever work in agriculture 66.2 % .

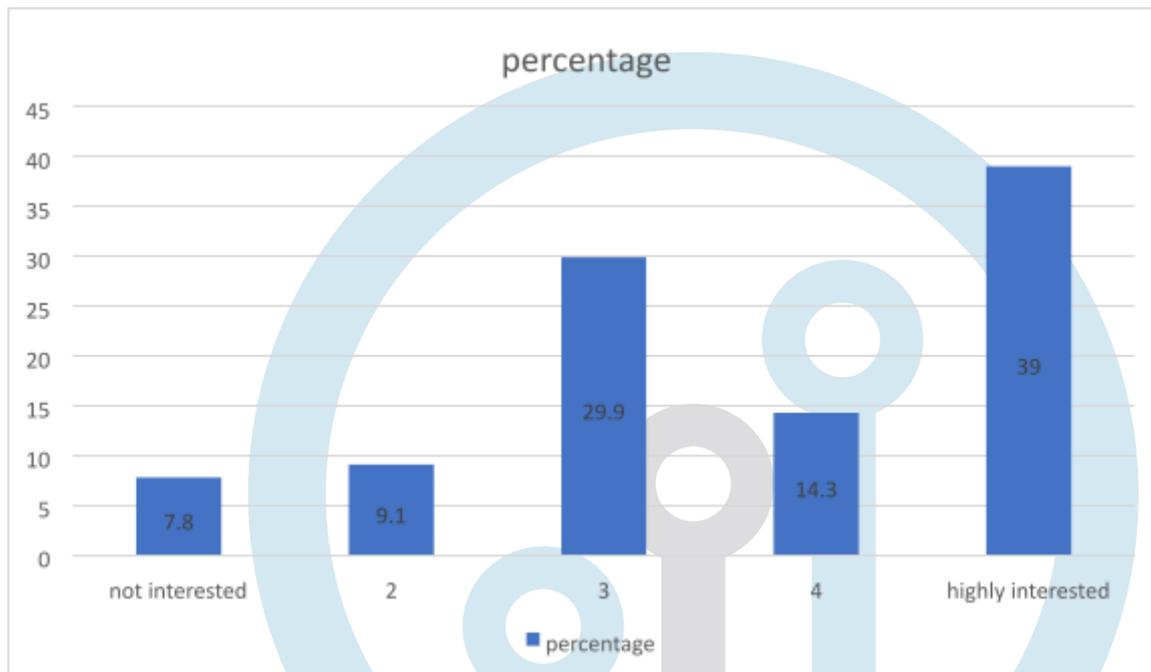
TABLE NO 6 : Table showing the interest of respondents in pursuing agriculture as their career.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	1 Not interested	6	7.8
2	2	7	9.1
3	3	23	29.9
4	4	11	14.3
5	5 Highly Interested	30	39
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS:

From the above table it can be analysed the 39% of respondents belongs to highly interested the agriculture, and 29.9% of respondents are the neutral, and 14.3 % of respondents are high interest.

GRAPH NO 6: Graph showing the interest of respondents in pursuing agriculture as their career.



INTERPETTATION

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are , Highly Interested 39%. Now a days the agriculture is best living in healthy life compering to other business.

TABLE NO 7 : Table showing Which factors would influence your decision to work in agriculture

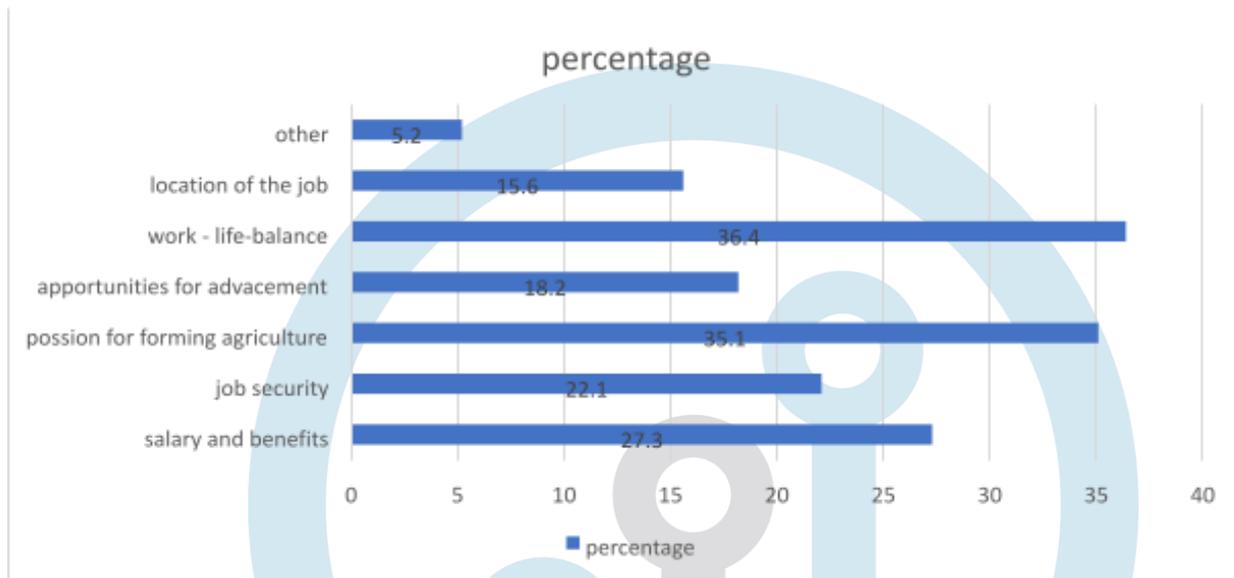
SL NO	INFLUENCE FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	salary and benefits	21	27.3
2	Job security	17	22.1
3	Possion for forming agriculture	27	35.1
4	Apportunities for advancement	14	18.2
5	Work -life balance	28	36.4
6	Location of the job	12	15.6
7	Others	4	5.2
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS:

From the above table it can be analysed that 36.4% of response are to Work -life balance, and 35.1 % of response are to Possion for forming agriculture, and 27.3% of response are to salary and benefits, and 22.1% of response are to Job security, and 18.2% of response are of Apportunities for advancement,

and 15.6% of response are to Location of the job.

GRAPH NO 7: Which factors would influence your decision to work in agriculture



INTERPETTATION

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the response are factors would influence your decision to work in agriculture , Work -life balance 36.4%. because they ensuring a goods work- life-balance can lead to improved mental and physical health.

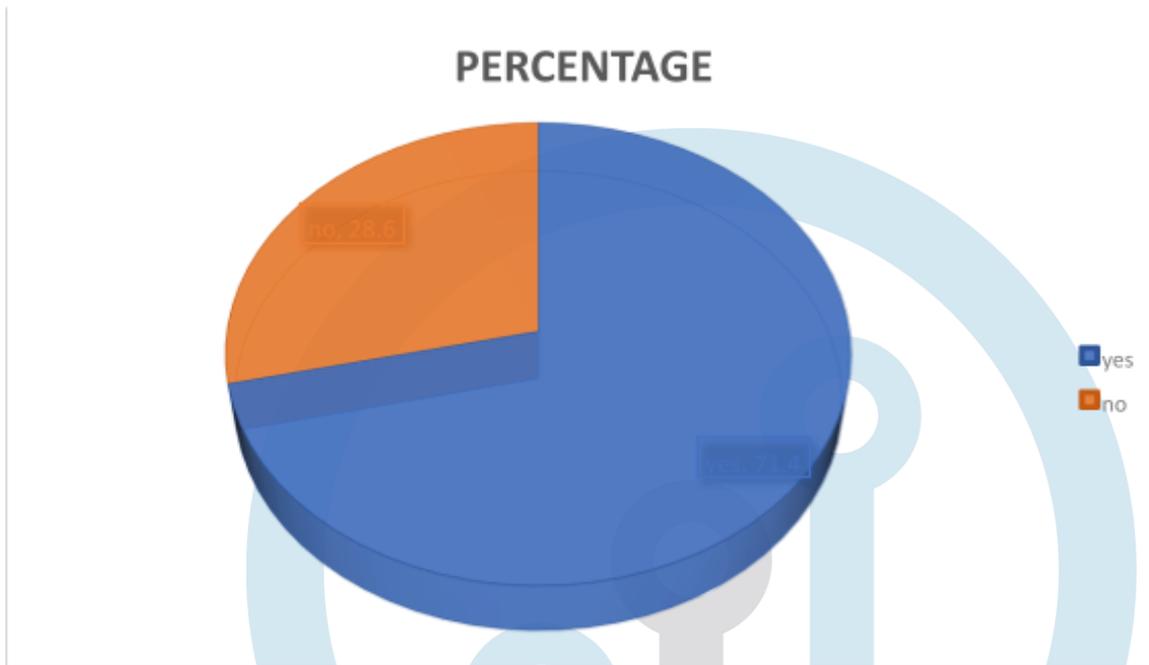
TABLE NO 8: : Table showing Did you aware of any government programs of incentives to support youth involvement in agriculture.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	YES	55	71.4
2	NO	22	28.6
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 71.4 % of response are know the government programs for supporting youths in giving incentives and 28.6 % are not aware of any governments.

GRAPH NO 8: Did you aware of any government programs of incentives to support youth involvement in agriculture



INTERPETTATION

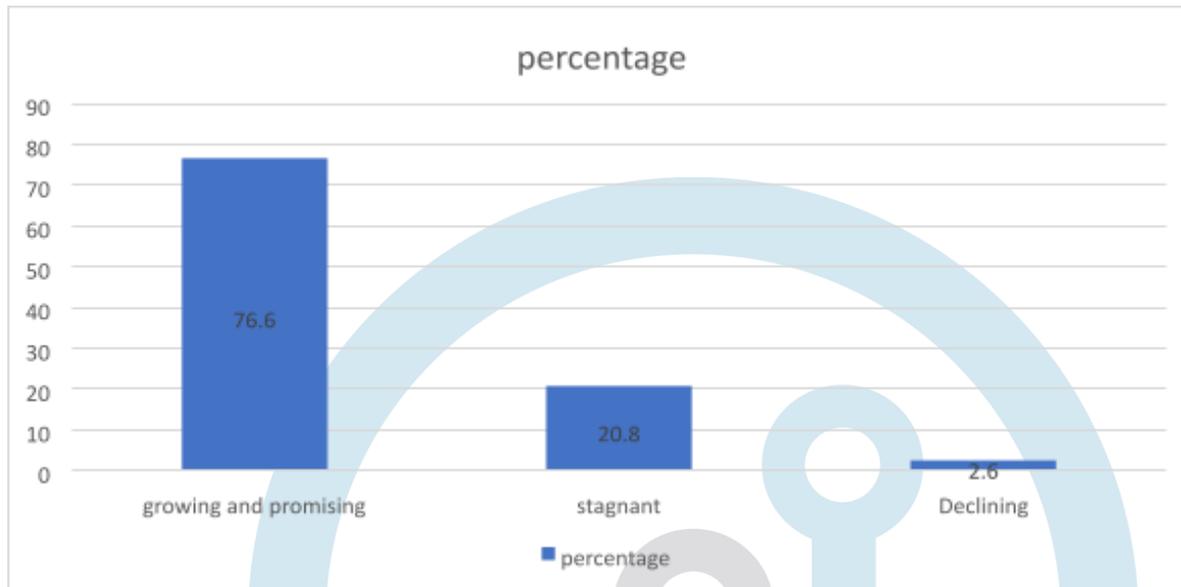
From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent belows to the aware of any government programs of incentives to support youth involvement in agriculture, yes 71.4%. they address the aging famer population and encourage young people to enter the agriculture sector, provides grants for education ,training ,techinal assistance, and outreach to help new farmer and ranchers.

TABLE NO 9: : Table showing How do you perceive the future of agriculture in our country.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Growing and promising	59	76.6
2	stagnant	16	20.8
3	Declining	2	2.6
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 76.6 % of response are Growing and promising the agriculture in their future . others are stagnant in perceive in agriculture in future 20.8%.

GRAPH NO 9: How do you perceive the future of agriculture in our country.**INTERPETTATION**

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are perceive the future of agriculture in our country, Growing and promising 76.6%. As the global population grows,there will be an increasing demand for food. Ensuring food security through efficient and sustainable agriculture pratices will be a priority.

TABLE NO 10 : Table showing Did you consider starting your own agriculture business or form in the future.

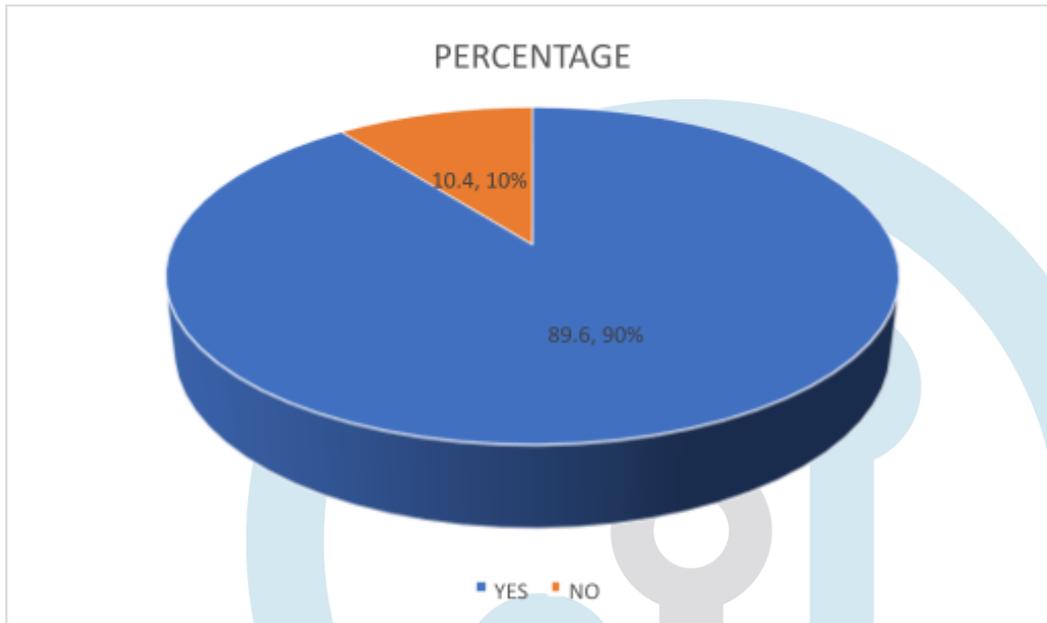
SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	YES	69	89.6
2	NO	8	10.4
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 89.6% of respondent are starting their own agriculture in future and 10.4 % not interested to start their own agriculture in future.

GRAPH NO 10: Would you consider startilg your own agriculture business or form in the future

INTERPETTATION



From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are starting own agriculture in future , 89.6%. Owing an agricultural business allows for greater autonomy and control over your work environment ,schedule, and business decision. This independence can be very appealing for those looking to be their own boss.

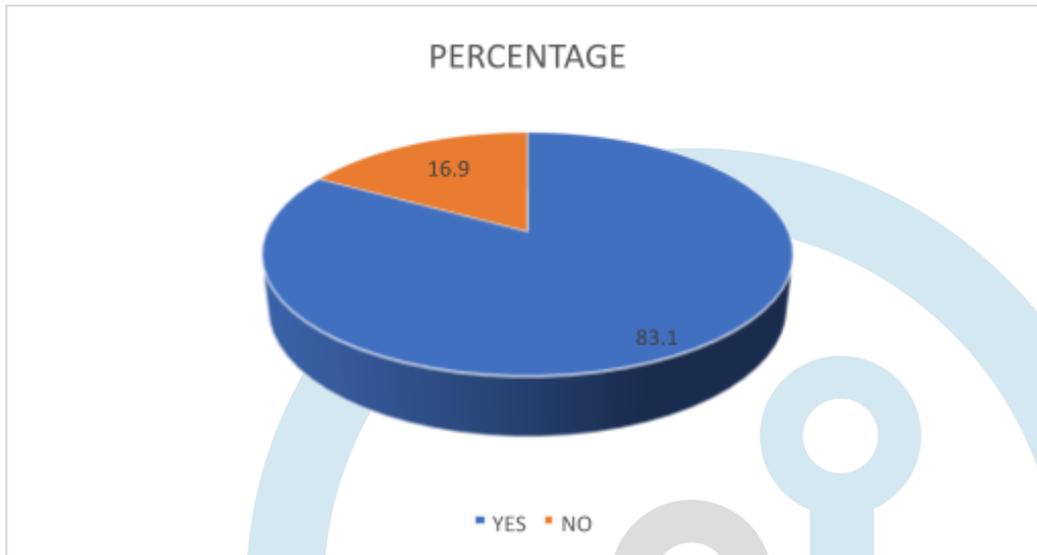
TABLE NO 11: : Table showing Do you think there are enough oppotunities for youths in the agriculture sector.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	YES	64	83.1
2	NO	13	16.9
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the table it can be analysed that 83.1% of respondent are know the oppotunities in agriculture and 16.9% of respondent are not .

GRAPH NO 11: Do you think there are enough opportunities for youths in the agriculture sector.



INTERPETTATION

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are know the opportunities in agriculture 83.1% .Many governments and international organizations provide grants, loans, and technical assistance to young farmers. Programs like the U.S. Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program, EU Young Farmers' Payment, and various initiatives in developing countries aim to lower the barriers to entry for young people in agriculture.

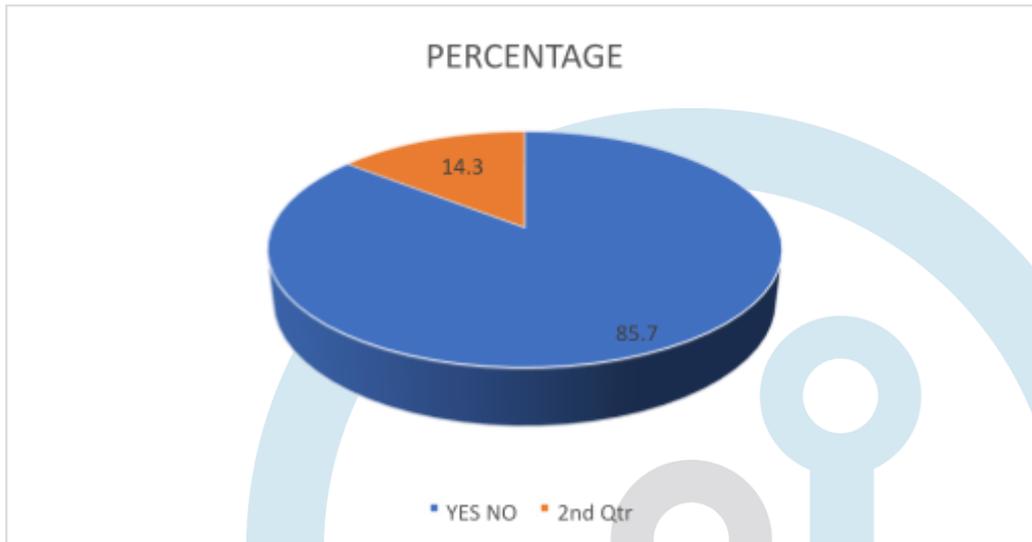
TABLE NO 12 : Table showing whether respondents are interested in receiving training or education related to agriculture

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	YES	66	85.7
2	NO	11	14.3
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the table it can be analysed that 85.7 % of respondents are interested in receiving training related to agriculture and 14.3% of respondents are not interested in receiving training related to agriculture.

GRAPH NO 12: Graph showing whether respondents are interested in receiving training or education related to agriculture



INTERPETTATION

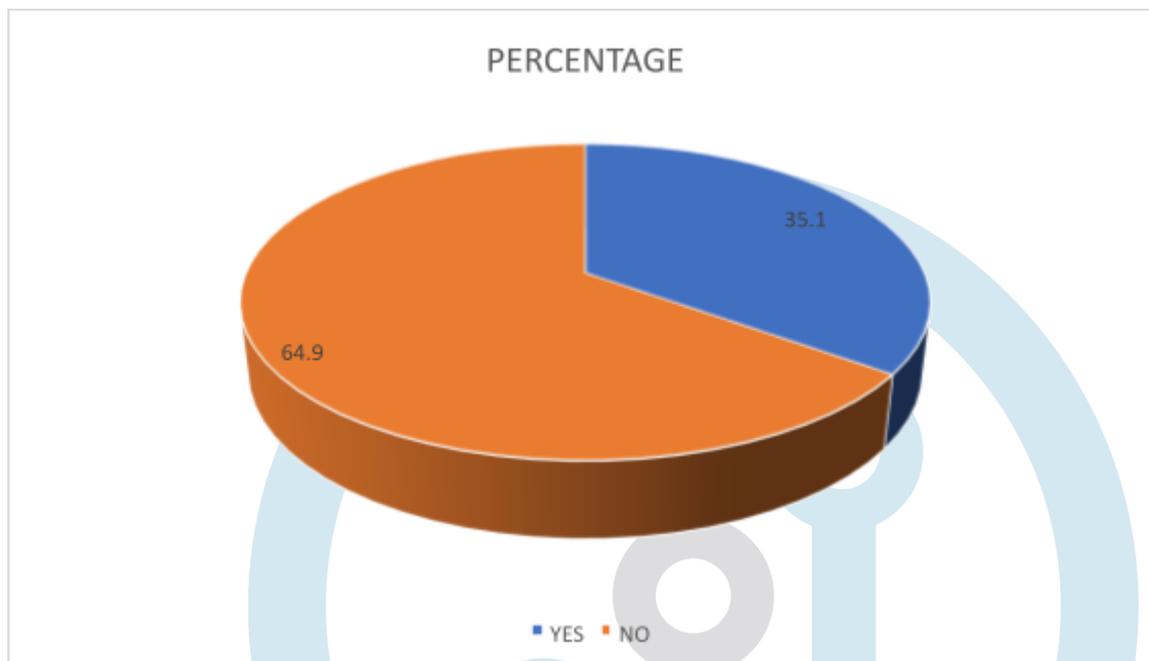
From the above graph it can be interpreted that majority of the respondent are interested in receiving training related to agriculture 85.7 %. Because they are interested in agriculture

TABLE NO 13: Table showing Have you ever worked in agriculture before.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	YES	50	35.1
2	NO	27	64.9
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analyed that 64.9% of respndence are not ever work in agriculture and 35.1 % are work in agriculture.

GRAPH NO 13: Graph showing Have you ever worked in agriculture before.**INTERPETTATION**

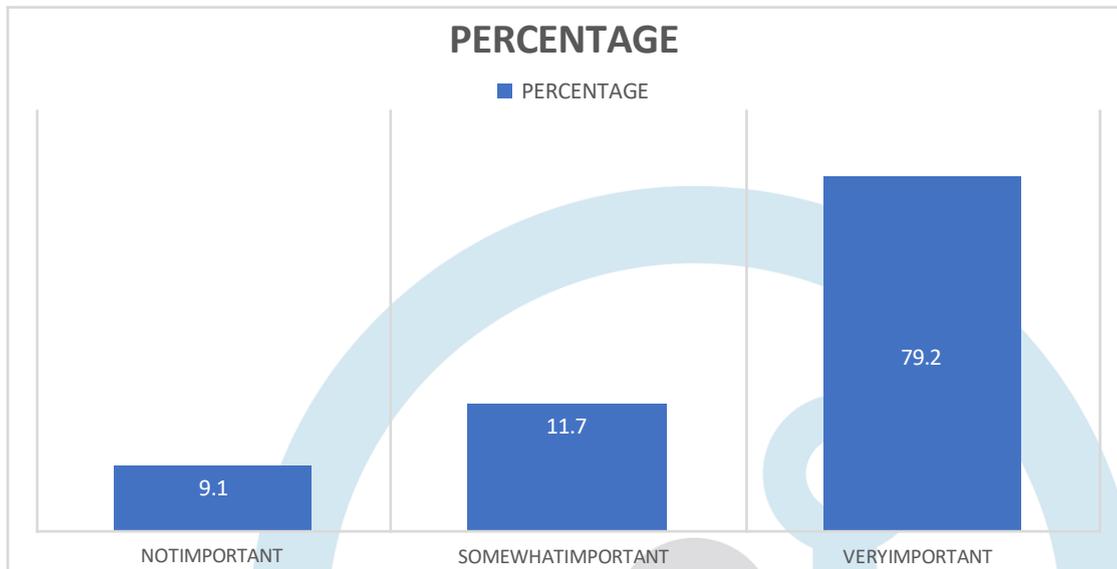
From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are not ever work in agriculture and 35.1 % are interested in agriculture. Agriculture can be a primary source of income in some regions, and youths work to contribute to the household income .

TABLE NO 14: Table showing that agriculture is important in development of our country.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Not important	7	9.1
2	Some what important	9	11.7
3	very important	61	79.2
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 79.2 % are think development of our country depend on agriculture and 11.7 % are same important.

GRAPH NO 14 : Graph showing that agriculture is important in development of our country.**INTERPETTATION**

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are think agriculture are important to development of our country, is very important 79.2%. Agriculture is a significant contributor to the economy, especially in developing countries.

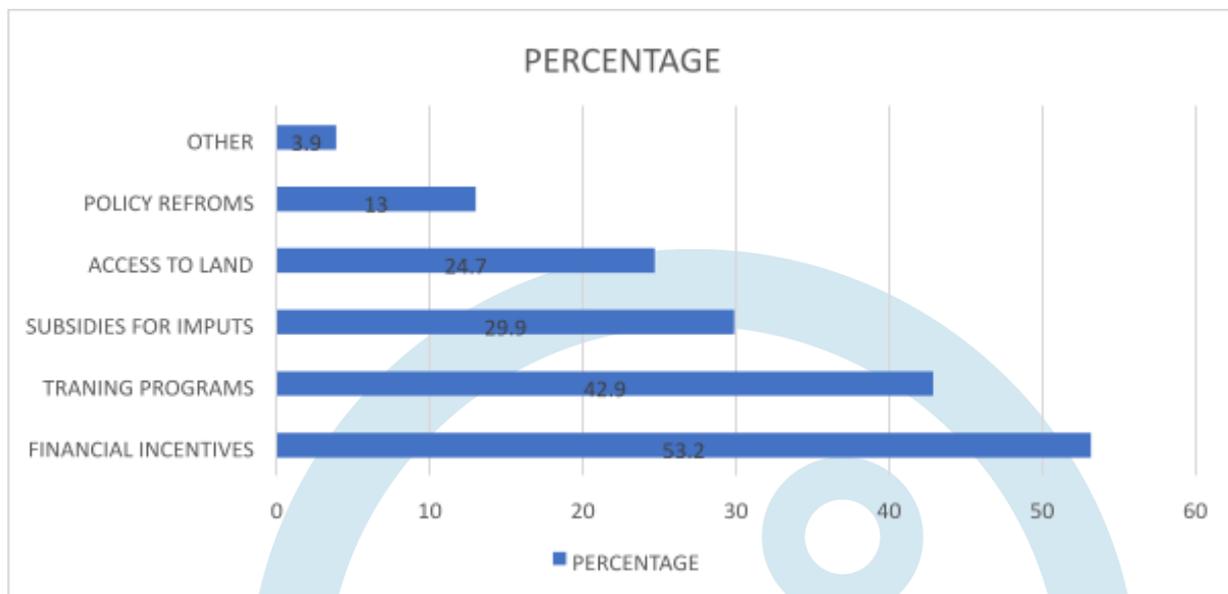
TABLE NO 15: Table showing, in which of the following ways does government support agriculture

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Financial incentives	41	53.2
2	Training programs	33	42.9
3	Subsidies for inputs	23	29.9
4	Access to land	19	24.7
5	Policy reforms	10	13
6	Others	3	3.9
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that gives 53.2 % are financial incentives for supporting agriculture and giving training programs to them are 42.9 % . others are subsidies are given to them 29.9 %.

GRAPH NO 15: Graph showing in which of the following ways does government support agriculture.



INTERPETTATION

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are knows the government support to agriculture.53.2% on Financial incentives , and that gives youths to encourages them in agriculture and

TABLE NO 16 : Table showing various challenges faced by the respondents in pursuing agriculture as a career.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENT	PERCENTAGE
1	Lack of access to resources	19	24.7
2	Technological barriers	23	29.9
3	Social stigma	7	9.1
4	Financial constraints	17	22.1
5	Educational gaps	11	14.3
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 29.9% of respondent are faced technological barriers and 24.7% are faced challenges in lack of access to resources. And financial constraints are main challenges faced by the respondents are 22.1%.

GRAPH NO 16: Graph showing various Challenges in pursuing agriculture as your careers.**INTERPETTATION**

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are faced many Challenges in pursuing agriculture in careers, 29.9 % Technological barriers. High initial investments in land , equipment, and inputs coupled with the uncertainty of returns, make agriculture a financially risky endeavor.

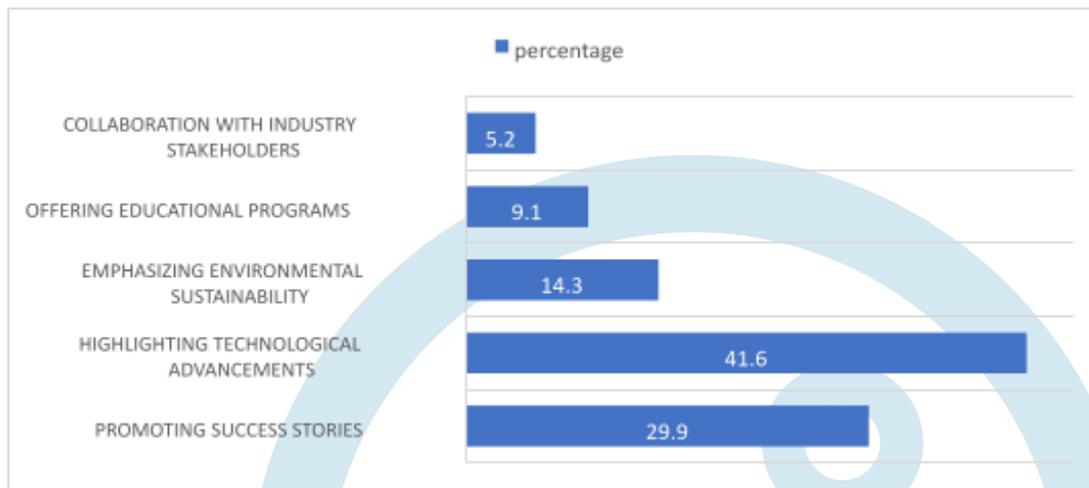
TABLE NO 17: : Table showing various following ways which Improving perception of agriculture among youths

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENT	PERCENTAGE
1	Promoting success stories	23	29.9
2	Highlighting technological advancements	32	41.6
3	Emphasizing environmental sustainability	11	14.3
4	Offering educational programs	7	9.1
5	Collaboration with industry stakeholders	4	5.2
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 41.6% of respondent are improving perception of agriculture among youths is highlighting technological advancement 41.6 % . and promoting them to telling success stories by inspiring them to agriculture .and emphasizing environmental sustainability to them 14.3%.

GRAPH NO 17: Graph showing various following ways which Improving perception of agriculture among youths.



INTERPETTATION

From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are Highlighting technological advancements 41.6%. to improving perception of agriculture among youths.

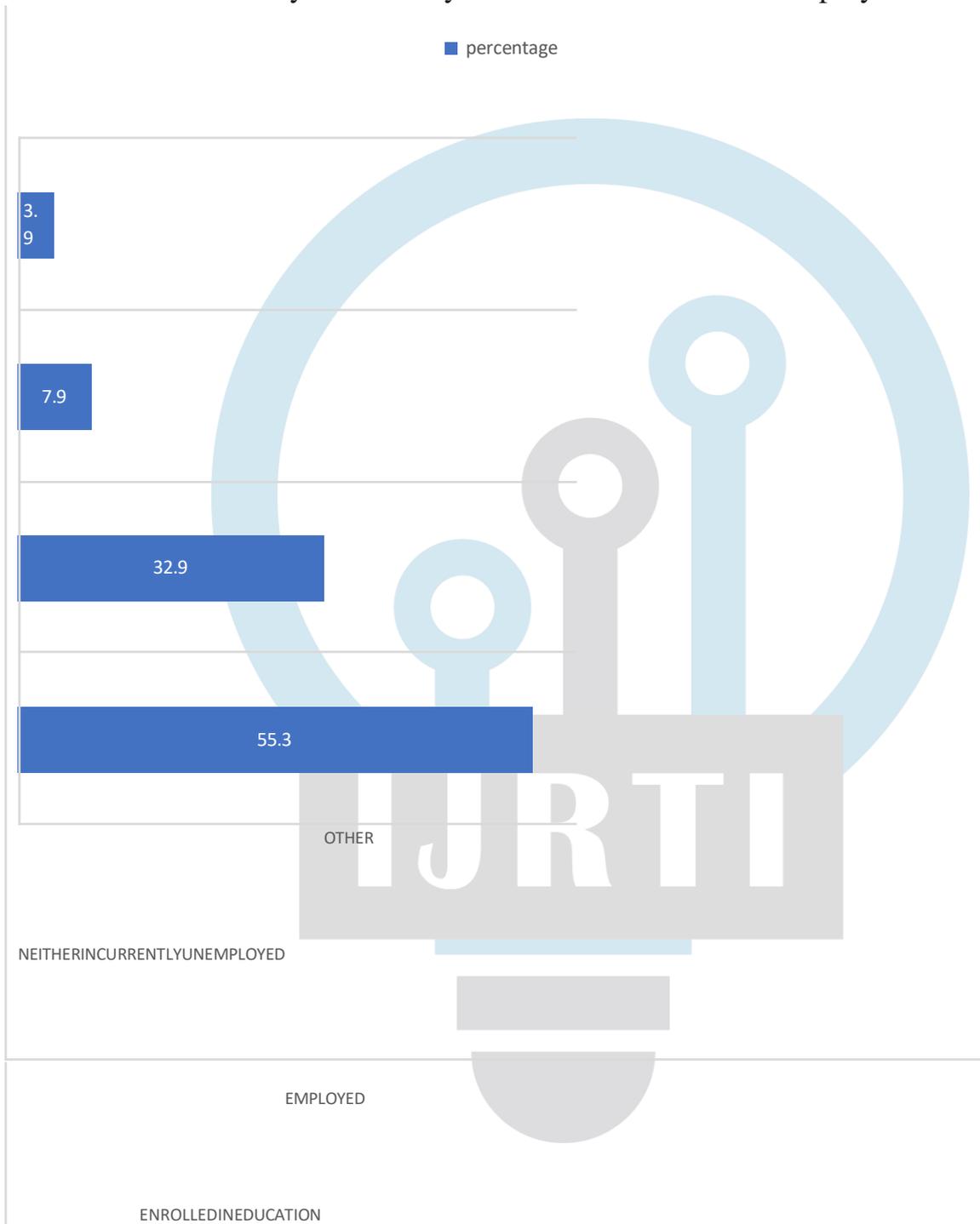
TABLE NO 18 : Table showing Are you currently enrolled in education or employed.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Enrolled in education	42	55.3
2	Employed	25	32.9
3	Neither in currently unemployed	6	7.9
4	Other	3	3.9
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 55.3 % of respondent belongs to the Enrolled in education. And 32.9% of respondent are Employed.

GRAPH NO 18: Are you currently enrolled in education or employed.



INTERPETTATION

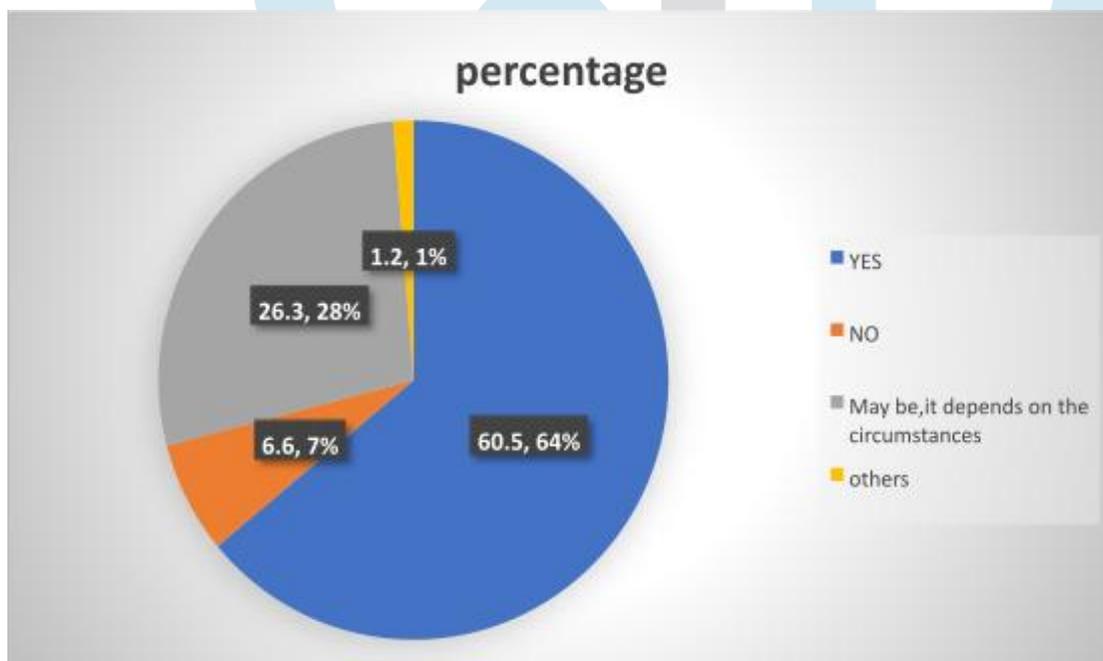
From the above graph it can be interpreted that megarity of the respondent are 55.3 % belongs to Enrolled in education. For many working in agriculture offers a sense of fulfillment by being connected to the land and contributing to the well being of communities.

TABLE NO 19 : Table showing Would you be willing to relocate to rural areas for agriculture work.

SL NO	FACTORS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Yes	46	60.5
2	No	5	6.6
3	may be, it depends on the circumstances	20	26.3
4	others	5	6.6
TOTAL		77	100

ANALYSIS

From the above table it can be analysed that 60.5% of respondent are willing to relocate in rural areas for agriculture work .and 26.3 % may be ,depends on the circumstances.

GRAPH NO 19: Would you be willing to relocate to rural areas for agriculture work.

INTERPETTATION

From the above table it can be analysed that 60.5 % of respondent are willing to relocate in rural areas for agriculture work . There can be economic benefits, such as lower cost of living and potential for entrepreneurial venture in agriculture.

5.SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

- After thorough analysis and interpretation of the data and research, the following findings are derived.
- ➤Most of the respondents are male 42 (54.5 %), female respondents are 35 (45.5%). it can be found that most of the respondents are male.

- ➤ few of the respondents are interested in pursuing a career in agriculture 30(39%).
- ➤ Most of the respondents says that any government programs in terms of incentives to support youth in involvement in agriculture.
- ➤ Most of the youths are saying that agriculture provides influence in decision to work in agriculture for work life balance 28 (34.6%)
- ➤ Encouraging youth involvement helps preserve agricultural knowledge and skills ,ensuring they are passed down through generations

6.SUGGESTIONS:

Keeping in the view the opinions given by the youths and the analysis of data the following suggestions are offered.

- To give the education and training in implement agriculture education programs in schools and universities.
- To provide access to land, credit, and financial services tailored to young farmers. And affordable inputs like seeds, fertilizers and equipment.
- To Encourage and educate about sustainable and organic farming practices that appeal to environmentally conscious youth.
- To awareness and promotion to agriculture in lunch campaigns highlighting successful young farmers and the potential of agriculture as a viable career.

7.CONCLUSION

fostering youths' willingness to work in agriculture is crucial for the future of the sector and broader economic and social development. By implementing educational programs, improving access to resources, integrating technology, and providing financial incentives, we can make agriculture an attractive and sustainable career choice. Additionally, enhancing market access, offering mentorship, ensuring supportive policies, raising awareness, and promoting sustainable practices are key to engaging young people in agriculture. Empowering youth in this way not only ensures generational continuity and food security but also revitalizes rural communities and contributes to global sustainability efforts.

8.REFERENCE:

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