



A STUDY TO ASSESS THE PREVALENCE OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH IT AMONG ADULTS IN SELECTED COMMUNITY AREAS AT PALLITHOTTAM

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ABSTRACT

Introduction

Unemployment in India refers to the situation where a significant portion of the population who are willing and able to work are without a job. It is a persistent problem that has various social and economic consequences, including poverty, crime, and inequality. Among the working-age population, one of the most damaging individual experiences is unemployment. Unemployment is a major economic criterion because it shows the capability (or incapability) of healthy, educated, and willing individuals to gain a livelihood.

Materials and methods:

Quantitative approach with descriptive non experimental research design was used in this study. The study was done at Velicham Nagar and Donbosco Nagar at Pallithottam. Non probability convenience sampling technique was used for the present study. The tool used in this study was a dichotomous opinionnaire.

Result: The present study revealed that 58% were employed and 42% were unemployed. The prevalence rate was high for employed adults and there was a low prevalence rate for unemployment.

Conclusion: The study revealed that among 200 participants, 58% were employed and 42% were unemployed. The prevalence rate was high for employed adults and there was a low prevalence rate for

unemployment. The factors associated with unemployment was assessed by using an opinionnaire which was given to the participants during the study.

Keywords: Assess, unemployment, opinionnaire

INTRODUCTION

Unemployment in India refers to the situation where a significant portion of the population who are willing and able to work are without a job. It is a persistent problem that has various social and economic consequences, including poverty, crime, and inequality. Among the working-age population, one of the most damaging individual experiences is unemployment. Unemployment is a major economic criterion because it shows the capability (or incapability) of healthy, educated, and willing individuals to gain a livelihood. People unable to work for various reasons such as retirement, disability, pursuing higher education, etc., are excluded from this. The higher the country's unemployment rate, its economic growth is less productive. Employment underpins the economic output of a nation and enables people to support themselves, their families and their communities. Employment is also connected to physical and mental health and is a key factor in overall wellbeing. Unemployment is a problem because it gives birth to poverty, from individual to national level. Poverty leads to many problems. It also drives people towards focusing less on getting educated and living well and more on getting money. The issue will further lead to exploitation and lesser wages. On a country level, this also leads to one country getting under debt on an international level.

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the prevalence of unemployment and factors associated with it among adults.
2. To assess the factors associated with unemployment among adults.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Approach : Quantitative approach

Design : Non experimental descriptive research design

Population : Adults of age group 21-55 years

Sample : Adults of age group 21-55 years who met the inclusion criteria

Inclusion Criteria:

- Adults of age group 21-55 years.
- Adults who were available during the time of study

Exclusion Criteria:

- Adults below the age of 21 years.

- Adults above the age of 55 years.

Sampling technique : Non probability convenience sampling technique

Setting : Velicham Nagar, Pallithottam

Data collection method : Opinionnaire

Tool

Section A

Socio demographic Proforma

Age, Gender, Family type, Marital status, Monthly income, Educational status, Employment status, Health status will be included as socio-demographic variables.

Section B

Opinionnaire

Reliability

Reliability of opinionnaire was checked by using test-retest method.

Analysis

Descriptive analysis : Percentage distribution of sample as per the demographic variables.

Prevalence of unemployment and factors associated with it among adults in selected community areas at Pallithottam.

Result

The study was conducted at selected community areas at Pallithottam. Regarding age, 55(27.5%) were in the age group of 21-27 years, 41(20.5%) were in the group of 42-48 years, 36(18%) were in the age group of 28-34 years, 36(18%) were belonged to the age group of 49-55 and 32(16%) were in the age group of 35- 41 years. Regarding gender, 101(50.5%) were males and 99(49.5%) were females. Regarding education, 97(48.5%) were having secondary education, 76(86%) were having primary education, 24(12%) were graduates, 2(1%) were postgraduates and 1(0.5%) was illiterate. Regarding type of family, 138(69%) were belonged to nuclear family, 52(26%) were belonged to extended family and 10(5%) were belonged to joint family. Regarding marital status, 158(79%) were married, 39(19.5%) were unmarried, 2(1%) were divorced and 1(0.5%) was widowed. Regarding monthly income, 165(82.5%) were had an income below Rs.5000, 19(9.5%) had an income between Rs.5001-Rs.10000, 6(3%) had an income between Rs.10001-20000 and 10(5%) had an income above Rs.20000. Regarding health status, 159(79.5%) were healthy, 36(18%) had chronic illness and 5(2.5%) were disabled. Regarding job status, 116(58%) were employed and 84(42%) were unemployed.

The present study revealed that 58% were employed and 42% were unemployed. The prevalence rate was high for employed adults and there was a low prevalence rate for unemployment.

Table 1

Frequency distribution and percentage of adults based on selected demographic variables.

(N=200)

VARIABLES	f	%
Age in years		
21- 27	55	27.5%
28-34	36	18%
35-41	32	16%
42-48	41	20.5%
49-55	36	18%
Gender		
Male	101	50.5%
Female	99	49.5%
Educational status		
Primary	76	38%
Secondary	97	48.5%
Graduate	24	12%
Post graduate	2	1%
Illiterate	1	0.5%
Type of family		
Nuclear	138	69%
Joint	10	5%
Extended	52	26%
Marital status		
Married	158	79%
Unmarried	39	19.5%
Divorcee	2	1%
Widowed	1	0.5%
Monthly income		
Rs < 5000	165	82.5%
Rs 5001 – 10000	19	9.5%
Rs 10001- 20000	6	3%
Rs > 20000	10	5%
Health status		

Healthy	159	79.5%
Disabled	5	2.5%
Chronic illness	36	18%
Employment status		
Employed	116	58%
Unemployed	84	42%

Description of demographic variables

Percentage distribution of the sample as per age

N = 200

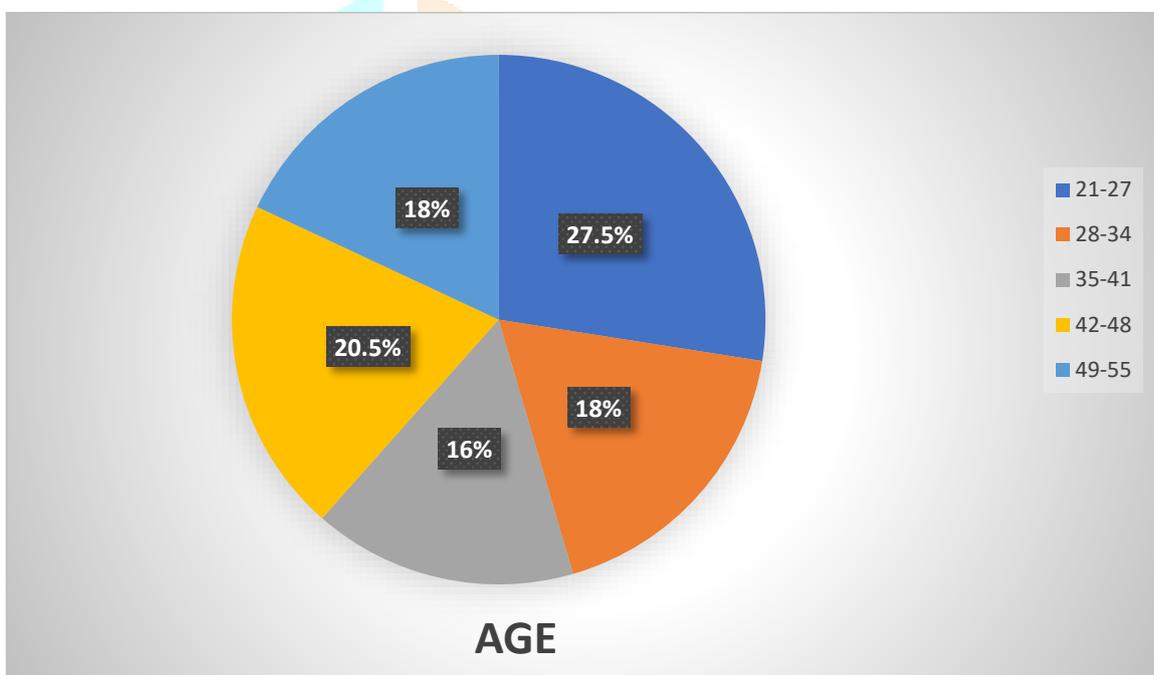


Figure 1 : Percentage wise distribution of the sample according to the age

The data presented in fig 1 shows that out of 200 sample, 55(27.5%) were in the age group of 21-27 years, 41(20.5%) were in the group of 42-48 years, 36(18%) were in the age group of 28-34 years, 36(18%) were belonged to the age group of 49-55 and 32(16%) were in the age group of 25-41 years.

Percentage distribution of the sample as per gender

N=200

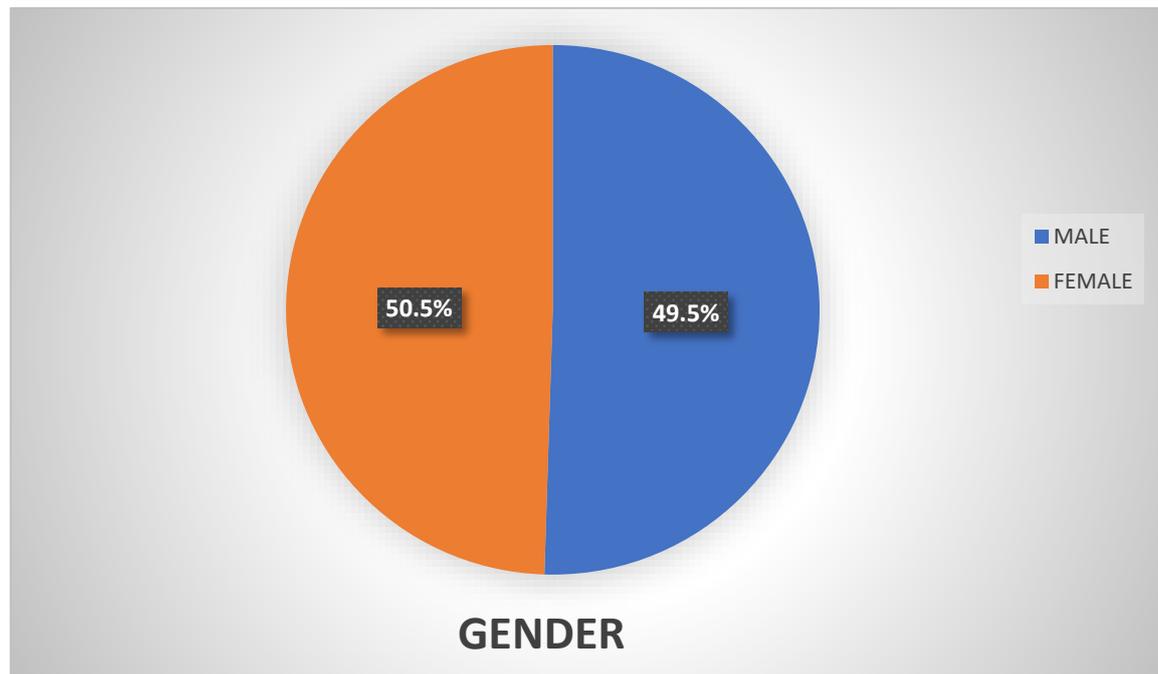


Figure 2 : Percentage wise distribution of the sample according to the gender

The data presented in fig 2 shows that out of 200 sample, 101 (50.5%) were males and 99 (49.5%) were females.

Percentage distribution of the sample as per educational status

N =200

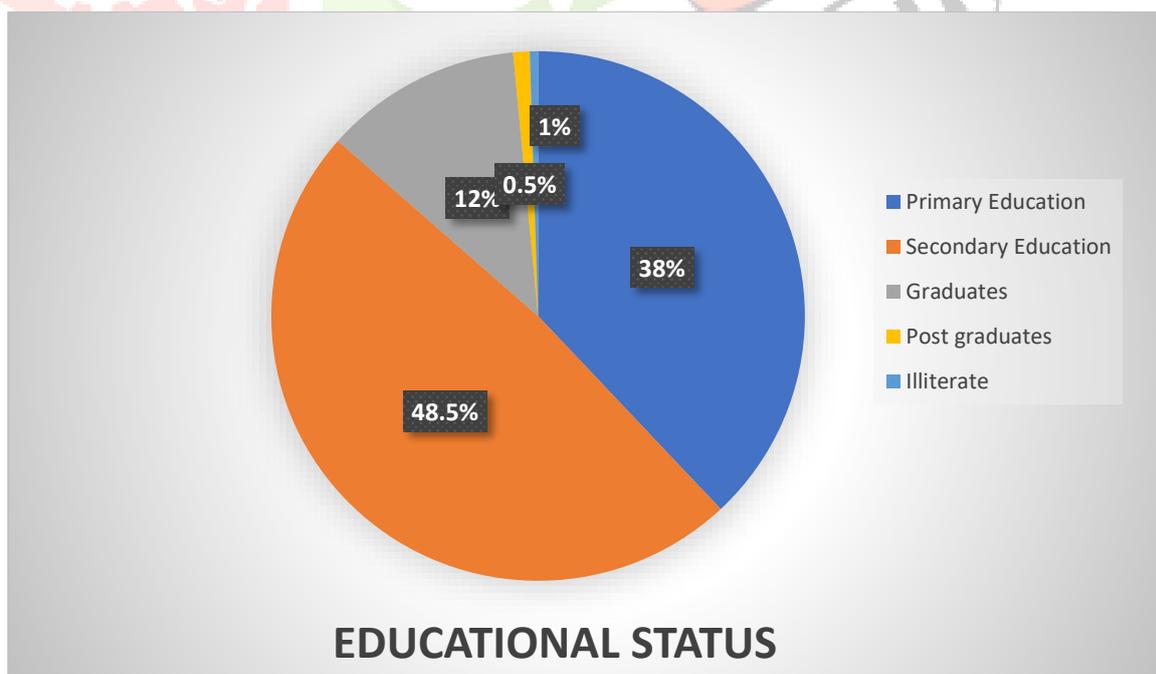


Figure 3 : Percentage wise distribution of the sample according to the educational status

The data presented in fig 3 shows that out of 200 sample, 97(48.5%) were having secondary education, 76(38%) were having primary education, 24(12%) were graduates, 2(1%) were postgraduates and 1(0.5%) was illiterate

Percentage distribution of the sample as per the type of family

N = 200

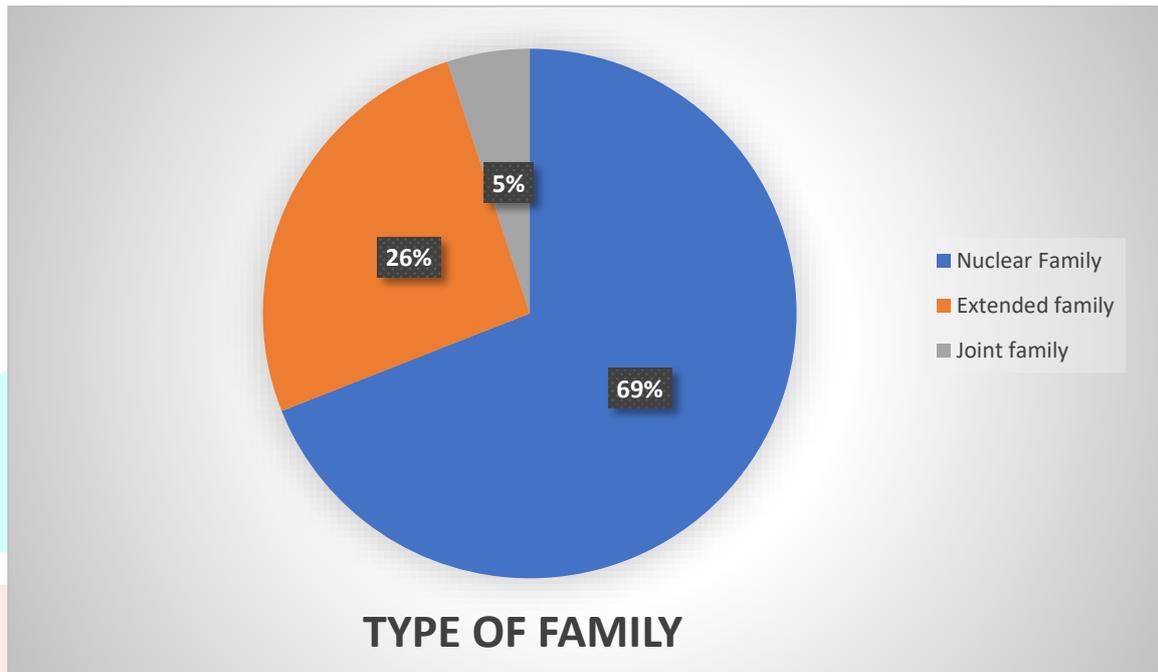


Figure 4 : Percentage wise distribution of the sample according to the type of family

The data presented in fig 4 shows that out of 200 sample, 138(69%) were belonged to nuclear family, 52(26%) were belonged to extended family and 10(5%) were belonged to joint family.

Percentage distribution of the same as per marital status

N = 200

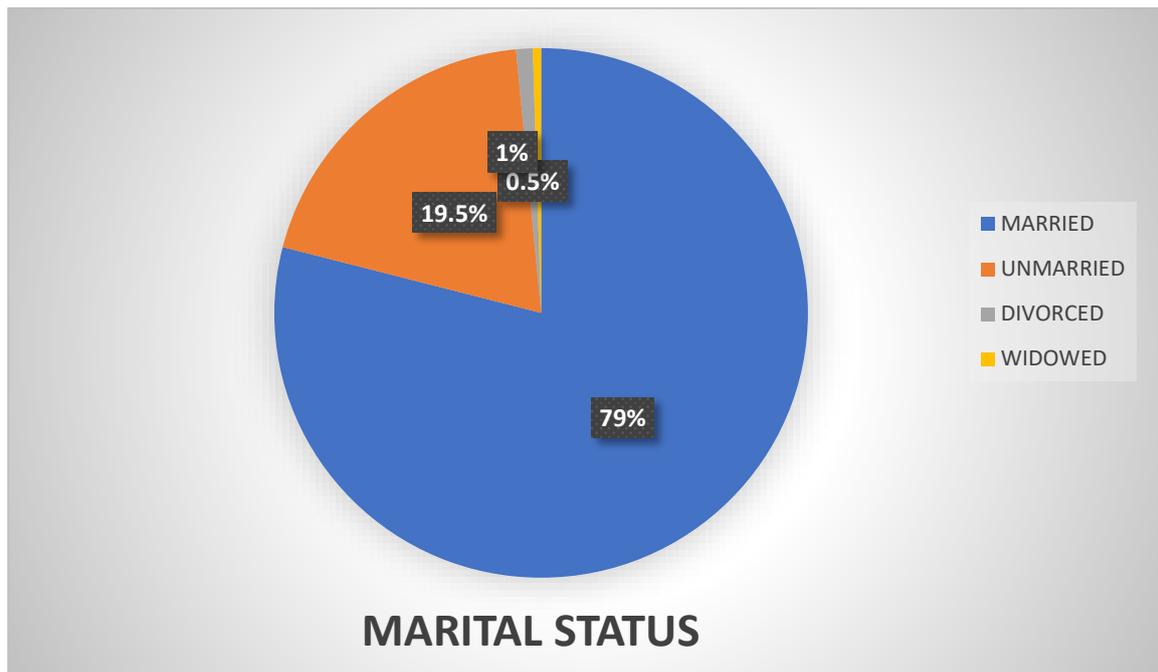


Figure 5 : Percentage wise distribution of the sample according to the marital status

The data presented in fig 5 shows that out of 200 sample, 158(79%) were married, 39(19.5%) were unmarried, 2(1%) were divorced and 1(0.5%) was widowed.

Percentage distribution of the sample as per monthly income

N = 200

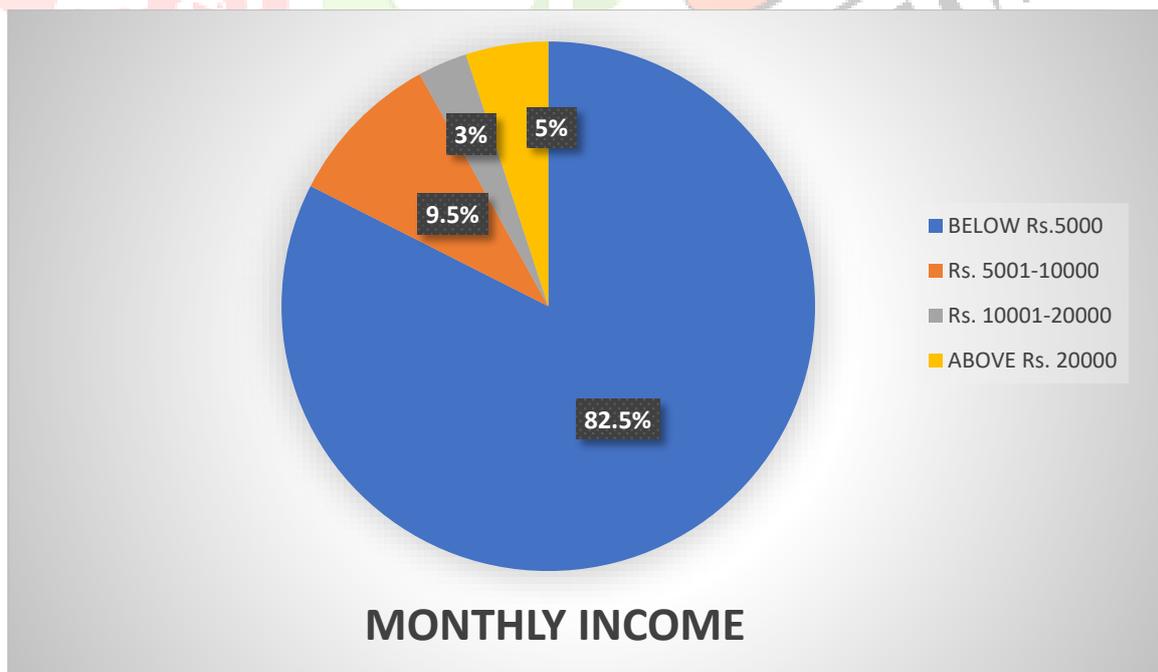


Figure 6 : Percentage wise distribution of the sample according to the monthly income

The data presented in fig 6 shows that out of 200 sample, 165(82.5%) were had an income below Rs.5000, 19(9.5%) had an income between Rs.5001-Rs.10000, 6(3%) had an income between Rs.10001-20000 and 10(5%) had an income above Rs.20000.

Percentage distribution of the sample as per health status

N = 200

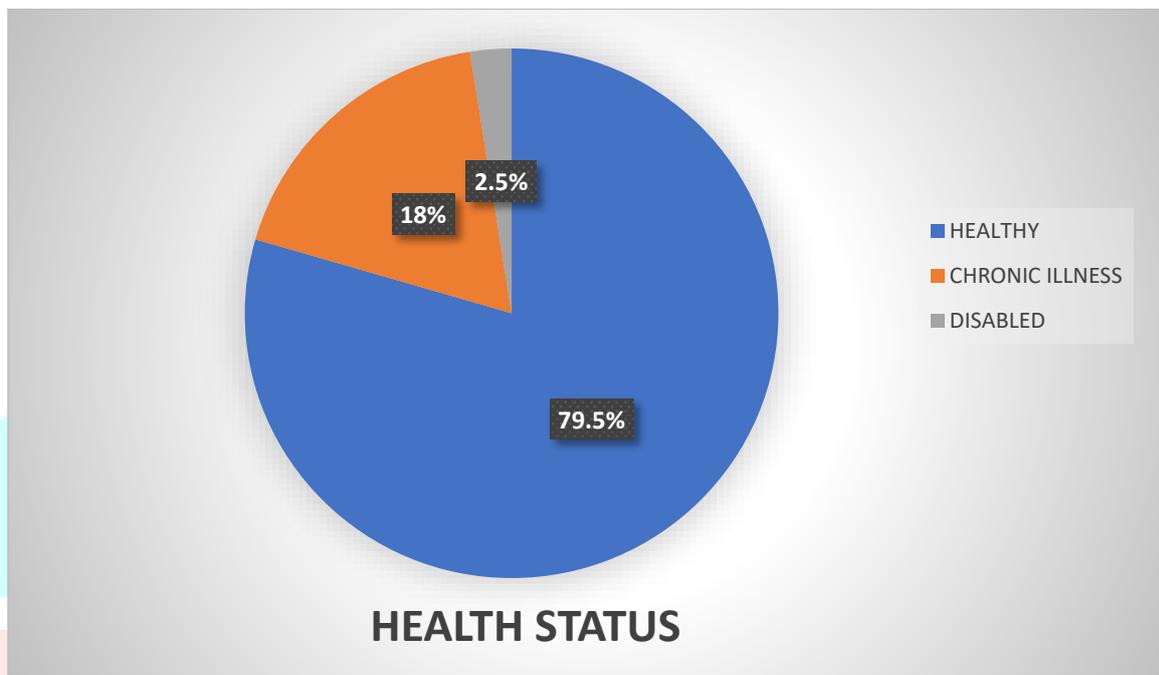


Figure 7 : Percentage wise distribution of the sample according to the health status

The data presented in fig 7 shows that out of 200 sample, 159(79.5%) were healthy, 36(18%) had chronic illness and 5(2.5%) were disabled.

Percentage distribution of the sample as per employment status

N = 200

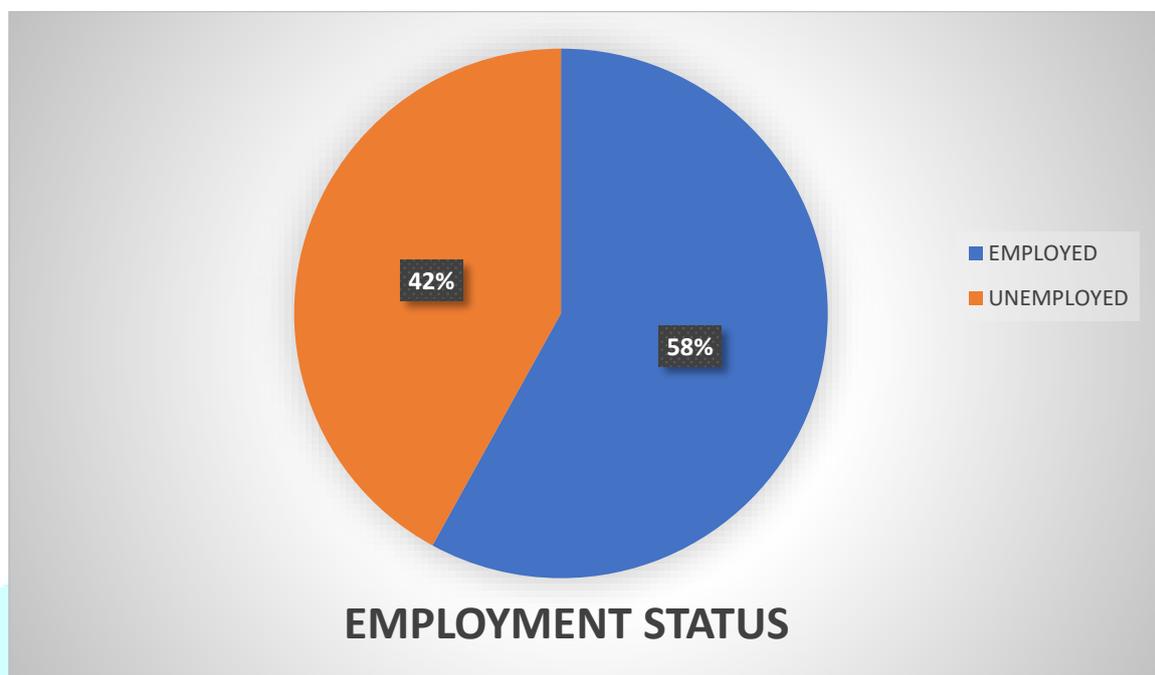


Figure 8 : Percentage wise distribution of the sample according to the employment status

The data presented in fig 8 shows that out of 200 sample, 116(58%) were employed and 84(42%) were unemployed.

Prevalance of unemployment factors associated with it

1. 75% believed that educational qualification affects employment status
2. 88.5% had believed that shortage in higher education facilities leads to unemployment
3. 88% had the opinion that inadequate career guidance leads to unemployment
4. 84% perceived that better job opportunities are missed due to lack of confidence
5. 84.5% believed that gender equality is necessary in the field of employment
6. 94.5% considered underutilization of the skills reduced better opportunities
7. 82% had the perspective that lack of interest in working leads to unemployment
8. 73.5% has the impression that age discrimination in the job market reduced the chance of job placement
9. 87% had the opinion that unemployment is very high due to less job opportunities in rural areas.
10. 78% had the perspective that due to insufficient job securities unemployment is very high
11. 93% believed that inadequate knowledge regarding government services in job opportunities increase the unemployment

12. 92.5% perceived that low wages are the reason for unemployment
13. 96.5% has the opinion that slow economic growth rate leads to unemployment
14. 95.5% had the impression that chronic illness leads to unemployment
15. 93% considered that unhealthy factors influences job of a healthy man
16. 68% perceived that there are employment discriminations based on cultural factors
17. 79% considered that reservation in job hiring practice contributes to unemployment
18. 65% has the impression that cultural taboos hinders employment opportunities outside the community
19. 85.5% believed that lack of technological skills leads to unemployment
20. 87.5% has the opinion that increase in immigrant labours causes reduction in job opportunity.

Unemployment is exacerbated by personal factors, educational factors, employment opportunities, technical factors and economic factors.

Discussion

The present study was aimed to assess the prevalence of unemployment and factors associated with it among adults. The findings of the present study have been discussed in terms of the objectives. In order to achieve the objectives of the study, a non-experimental descriptive research design was adopted. The sample was selected by non probability convenience sampling technique. The sample consisted of 200 adults among selected community areas at Pallithottam.

To assess the prevalence of unemployment among adults.

The present study revealed that among 200 participants, 58% were employed and 42% were unemployed. The prevalence rate was high for employed adults and there was a low prevalence rate for unemployment.

The study findings were supported by a descriptive survey study to assess the prevalence of unemployment among younger and older individuals in Israel. The survey contains 104,055 respondents, but after omitting all of the respondents under the age of 18 or above 59, those who were outside the labour force for medical reasons or due to mandatory military service, non-Jews, the ultra-Orthodox, and those who worked more than 9 months last year, the sample includes 13,494 individuals (the base population). Of these, 9409 are individuals who had not managed to find work, and 4085 are individuals who were employed when the survey was conducted.⁹

The participants' ages range between 18 and 59, with the average age being 33.07 (SD 12.88) and the median age being 29. 40.8% are males; 43.5% have an academic education; 52.5% are single, and 53.5% of the respondents have no children under 17. The results shows that the probability of a young person (age 18–24) getting a job is larger than that of an individual aged 30–44 who belongs to the base group (the coefficient of the dummy variable “age 18–24” is significant and positive). Similarly, individuals who are older than 45 are less likely than those in the base group to find work. It also shows that educated men are more likely to find work than those who are not. At the ages 18–29 and 45–54, the probability of finding a job for educated men is less than that of uneducated males. Among younger workers, this might be due to excess supply—the

share of academic degree owners has risen, in contrast to almost no change in the overall share of individuals receiving some other post-secondary certificate (Fuchs 2015). Analyzing the female population reveals that women between 18 and 24 are more likely to be employed than those who are 30–44, and those who are 45–59 are less likely to be employed than those who are 30–44. The probability of finding a job for women at the age of 25 to 29 is not significantly different from the probability of the base group (women ages 30–44). The findings confirm that the high unemployment rate of young people stems mainly from the characteristics of the labour market and less from their personal attributes. Using data from Israel and 34 OECD countries, we demonstrated that a country's growth rate is the main factor that determines youth unemployment. However, the GDP rate of growth cannot explain adult unemployment. The results also support that the difficulties faced by unemployed older workers when searching for a job are more a function of their age than the overall business environment.⁹

To assess the factors associated with unemployment among adults.

The present study revealed that the most important factor related to unemployment were personal factors such as age, lack of confidence, interest, under utilisation of skills which causes a negative impact on employment status. Also, there was a negative opinion regarding influence of cultural factors on employment. Majority had opposed that cultural factors doesn't leads to unemployment. Besides personal factors, there were some other factors like educational, economic, health, social factors and factors related to job opportunities in which the respondents had a positive opinion that they leads to unemployment.

The study findings were supported by a cross sectional study which identified the factors related to unemployment in a sample of persons Aged 18–64 from Finland, Poland and Spain. In cross-sectional study, factors from different areas were considered as socio-demographic indicators, health habits, chronic conditions, health state Markers, vision and hearing indicators, and social networks and built environment scores. The findings of the study was complete data were available for 5003 participants, mean age 48.1 (SD 11.5), 45.4% males. The most important factors connected to unemployment were health status Indicators such as physical disability (OR = 2.944), self-rated health (OR = 2.629), inpatient care (OR = 1.980), and difficulties with getting to the toilet (OR = 2.040), while the most relevant factor related to employment were moderate alcohol consumption (OR = 0.732 for non-heavy drinkers; OR= 0.573 for infrequent heavy drinkers), and being married (OR = 0.734), or having been married (OR = 0.584). Other factors that played a significant role included presence of depression (OR = 1.384) and difficulties with near vision (OR = 1.584) and conversation hearing (OR = 1.597).¹⁰

The study results revealed that most important factors related to unemployment status were health status indicators such as physical disability, self-rated health, inpatient care, and difficulties with getting to the toilet, while moderate alcohol consumption and the fact of being married, or having been married were factors related to employment status. Other factors that played a significant role included presence of depression and difficulties with near vision and conversation hearing.

Conclusion

The present study was aimed to assess the prevalence of unemployment and factors associated with it among adults in selected community areas at Pallithottam. The study was conducted in 200 adults who met the inclusion criteria of the study.

The study revealed that among 200 participants, 58% were employed and 42% were unemployed. The prevalence rate was high for employed adults and there was a low prevalence rate for unemployment. The factors associated with unemployment was assessed by using an opinionnaire which was given to the participants during the study. The present study revealed that the most important factor related to unemployment were personal factors such as age, lack of confidence, interest, under utilisation of skills which causes a negative impact on employment status. Also, there was a negative opinion regarding influence of cultural factors on employment. Majority had opposed that cultural factors doesn't leads to unemployment. Besides personal factors, there were some other factors like educational, economic, health, social factors and factors related to job opportunities in which the respondents had a positive opinion that they leads to unemployment.

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Nil

Conflict of interest

There are no conflicts of interest

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