FIGURE 2.2.

PERCEPTIONS OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN SELECT AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Though Nigeria, Kenya, and South Africa are among the biggest economies in sub-Saharan Africa, they also struggle with high unemployment, a challenge that may continue to grow as more and more of the youth begin to enter the workforce. Indeed, according to a Pew survey (2016), over 80 percent of respondents in these countries view the lack of employment opportunities "a very big problem." Interestingly, the perception of on-the-ground challenges to getting a job differs somewhat among the countries.

What are reasons why many people in our country do not have jobs?	Countries	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	Don't know/ Refused
Schools don't teach the necessary skills.	Kenya					
	Nigeria					
	South Africa					
Some people are unmotivated or lazy.	Kenya					
	Nigeria					
	South Africa					
Many jobs only go to people with connections.	Kenya					
	Nigeria					
	South Africa					
Some people are discriminated against because of their ethnicity/race.*	Kenya					
	Nigeria					
	South Africa					
	Kenya					
Some people have health problems that prevent them from working.	Nigeria					
	South Africa					
<5% 5 - 19% 20 - 39%						
40 -59% >60%						

^{*}Note: In Kenya and Nigeria, the question asked about "ethnicity." In South Africa, the question asked about "race."

Source: Data from Pew Research Center, November, 2016, "In Key African Nations, Widespread Discontent With Economy, Corruption." Available at: http://assets.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2016/11/15092830/Pew-Research-Center-Development-in-Africa-Report-FINAL-November-15-2016.pdf.