

MAYDAY 2018:

JOB CREATION

STILL A PRIORITY FOR NIGERIANS

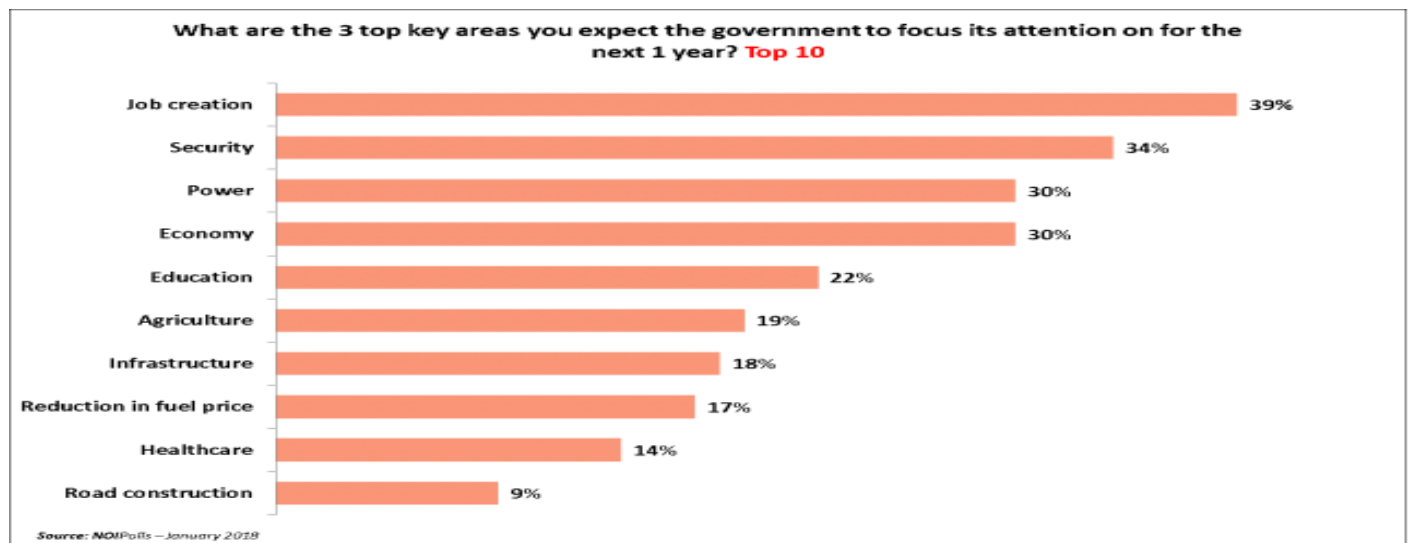


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INTERNATIONAL WORKERS DAY POLL RESULT RELEASE

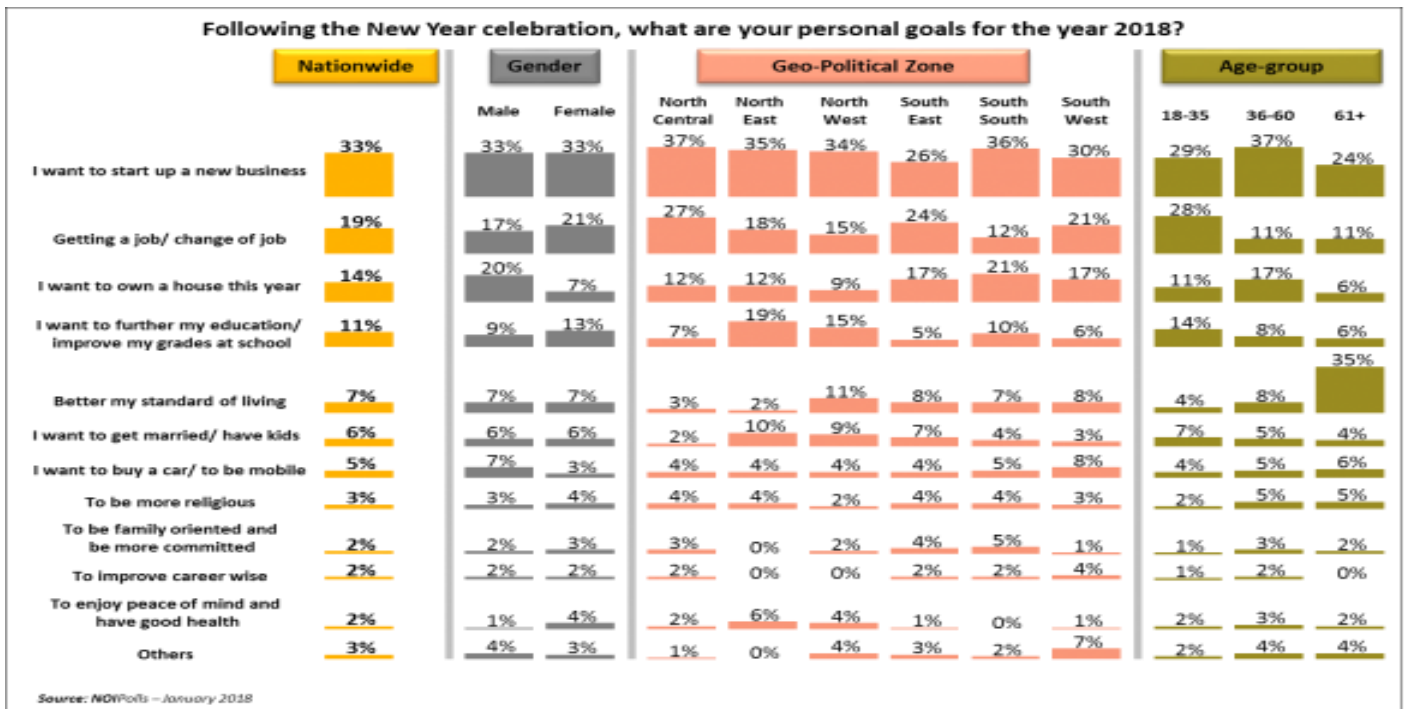
May Day 2018; Job Creation Still A Priority For Nigerians

Abuja, Nigeria. May 1st, 2018 – International Workers' Day, also known as Labour Day in some countries is a celebration of labourers and the working classes promoted by the international labour movement which occurs every year on May 1st. In commemoration of Worker's Day, NOIPolls presents finding from its past poll conducted in January 2018 which revealed job creation (39 percent) as the top priority on citizens' list of what government should focus on in the new year. Additionally, a 2011 poll showed that Nigerians believed that the minimum wage of ₦18,000 naira was inadequate hence the clamoured for an upward review to ₦56,000 naira. Seven years later the minimum wage is still ₦18,000.



The figure below further revealed that majority (33 percent) of Nigerians indicated that they would love to start up a new business or expand their businesses for those who already have businesses and this could be attributed to the high rate of unemployment rate in the country. According to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the country's unemployment rate rose from 14.2 percent in Q4, 2016 to 18.8 percent in Q4, 2017.¹ The result also portrayed that some Nigerians are either not employed or are not satisfied with their present state of employment as 19 percent disclosed that their goal for 2018 is getting a job or to have a change of job.

¹ <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2017/12/nigerias-unemployment-rate-rises-14-2-18-8/>



In conclusion, it is evident that majority of Nigerians expect the government to focus on job creation (39 percent) whereas 33 percent has decided to either start-up or expand their businesses in this year probably due to the high rate of unemployment in Nigeria. As Nigerians join the world in celebrating worker’s day, it is pertinent for government to address issues pertaining to job creation, minimum wage and welfare of Nigerian workers. According to the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), Boss Mustapha, during a dinner and award night organised to mark the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) 40th Anniversary celebration held in Abuja in March, 2018, stated that the Federal Government is committed to ensuring that the new National Minimum Wage meets the present economic realities.²

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² <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/260265-nigerian-govt-says-new-minimum-wage-will-meet-economic-realities.html>

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