



**STAND  
PROUD**

**Over  
148,452  
persons  
trained**

**11.42%  
of  
T&T**



Youth Empowerment Through Quality Training

# Tracer Studies objectives were to:

- Obtain feedback from former trainees on their satisfaction with the Micro Entrepreneurship Programme,
- Trace and document how graduates have utilized the training obtained,
- Provide YTEPP Limited with an idea as to whether or not it is meeting its mandate in terms of assisting persons to become self employed,
- Evaluate trainees needs in terms of institutional support for the establishment of small business
- Record trainees' aspirations and goals for their small business futures.

# What We Know

- Entrepreneurship is increasingly accepted as an important means and a valuable strategy to create jobs and improve livelihoods and economic independence of young people
- Challenges are that little effort has been placed on entrepreneurship from a youth perspective.
- Young people are mostly treated as part of the general adult population

# Cont'd

- Due to their age, limited resources, life and work experience, young people face unique constraints and greater barriers than older age cohorts in establishing small enterprises.
- Their specific needs and particular entrepreneurial potential as well as their critical contribution to economic and social progress are underestimated.

# The YTEPP Model

- The Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP) stands as one of the longest serving, **State sponsored postsecondary technical/ vocational training** initiatives in Trinidad and Tobago
- The programme in its genesis was directed towards providing '**At Risk Youth**' with technical vocational and entrepreneurial training in the hope of improving their employment and self employment prospects.

# What is at Risk Youth

- At risk youth are those who face environmental , social and family conditions, that hinder their personal development and their successful integration into society as productive citizens
- The consequences of their actions can result in early school drop out, teen pregnancy, unemployment, joblessness, contraction of STDs addiction, incarceration and social exclusion

# At Risk Youth



## Youth At Risk Behaviors Model



# Characteristics

- Usually come from lower income families
- Live in Urban and densely populated areas
- Socially disadvantaged and politically neglected areas
- Possess the tendency to under estimate the probability that a negative out- come would happen to them as a result of their risky behavior
- At risk girls have a higher birth rate and are more likely to pass on at risk behavior to future generations.
- Single parent households
- Lack positive role models



# Programme Mandate

- To provide unemployed youths with the requisite skills and knowledge to enhance their opportunities at self employment or paid employment;
- To develop and implement programmes of activities to inculcate in the youths appropriate attitudes towards work, self and others;
- To facilitate and support the launching and establishment of self employment ventures by the youths;
- To develop and implement programmes for the acquisition of on the job experience and work experience in the work place by the youths;

# YTEPP's Micro Entrepreneurship Programme

- A six month cycle of training utilizing a variety of modalities
- Content
- Locally developed training manuals
- In collaboration with the ILO the adaptation of the ILO's Start Your Business (SYB) Training Manual.
- ILO's Business game

# Linkages with local Stakeholders

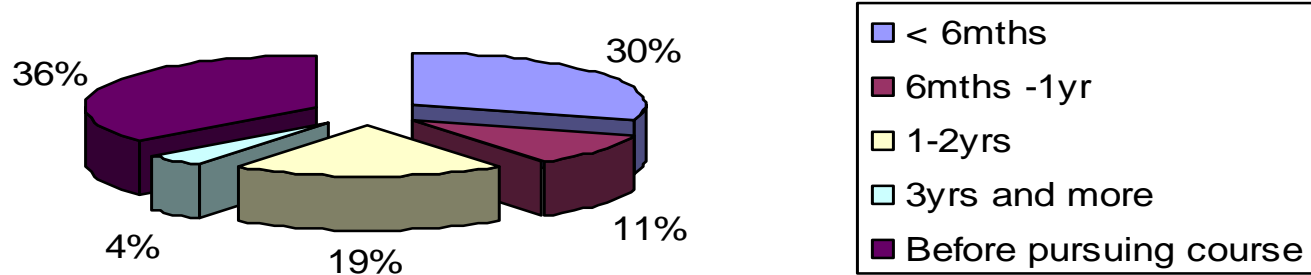
- National Entrepreneurship Development company (NEDCO)
- Youth Business TnT (YBTT)

# Those not involved in Entrepreneurship.

- For persons who were not employed or who were wage employed, 86% of these respondents never attempted to start a business.
- These persons stated that they did not have the time
- They were not ready for this type of adventure
- They were not sure as to what business they would like to operate
- They are wage employed and comfortable in their current jobs.

# Training to Start up

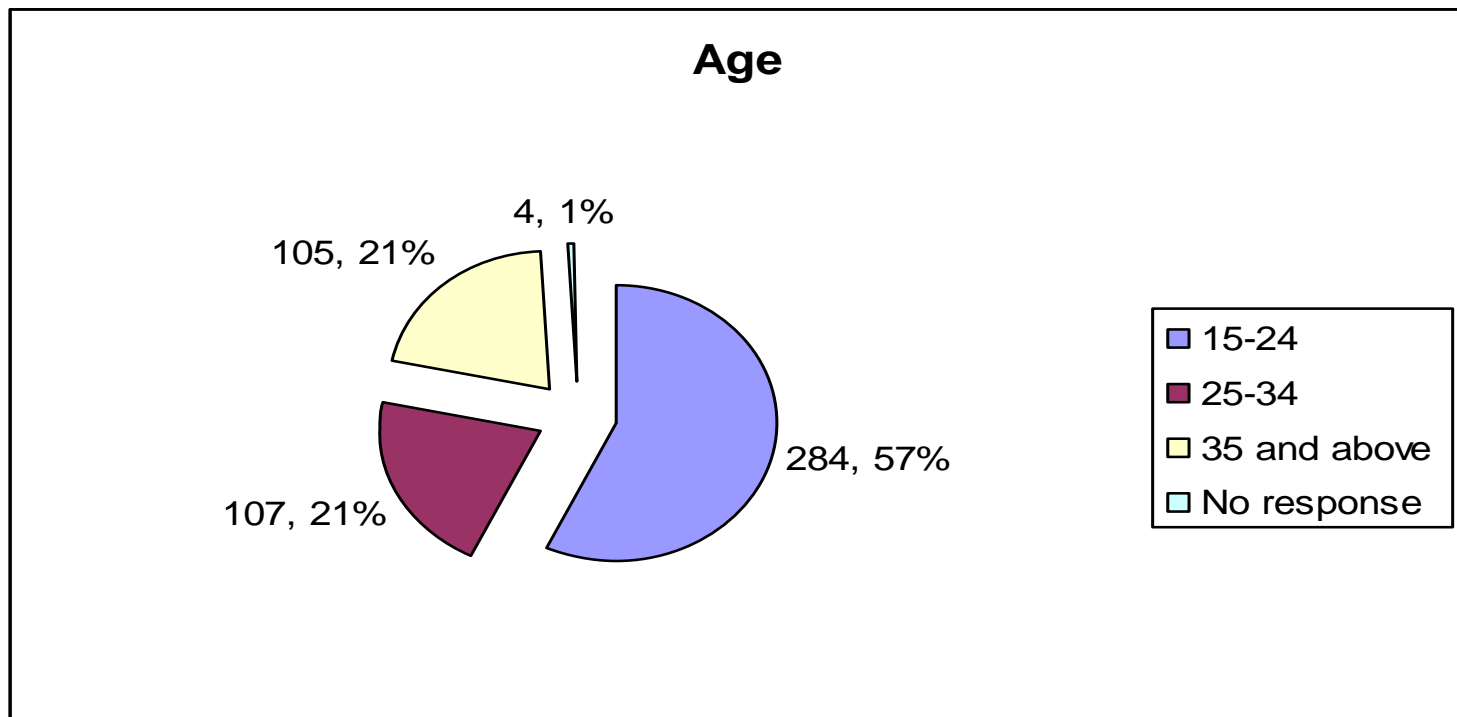
Starting of business after the training course



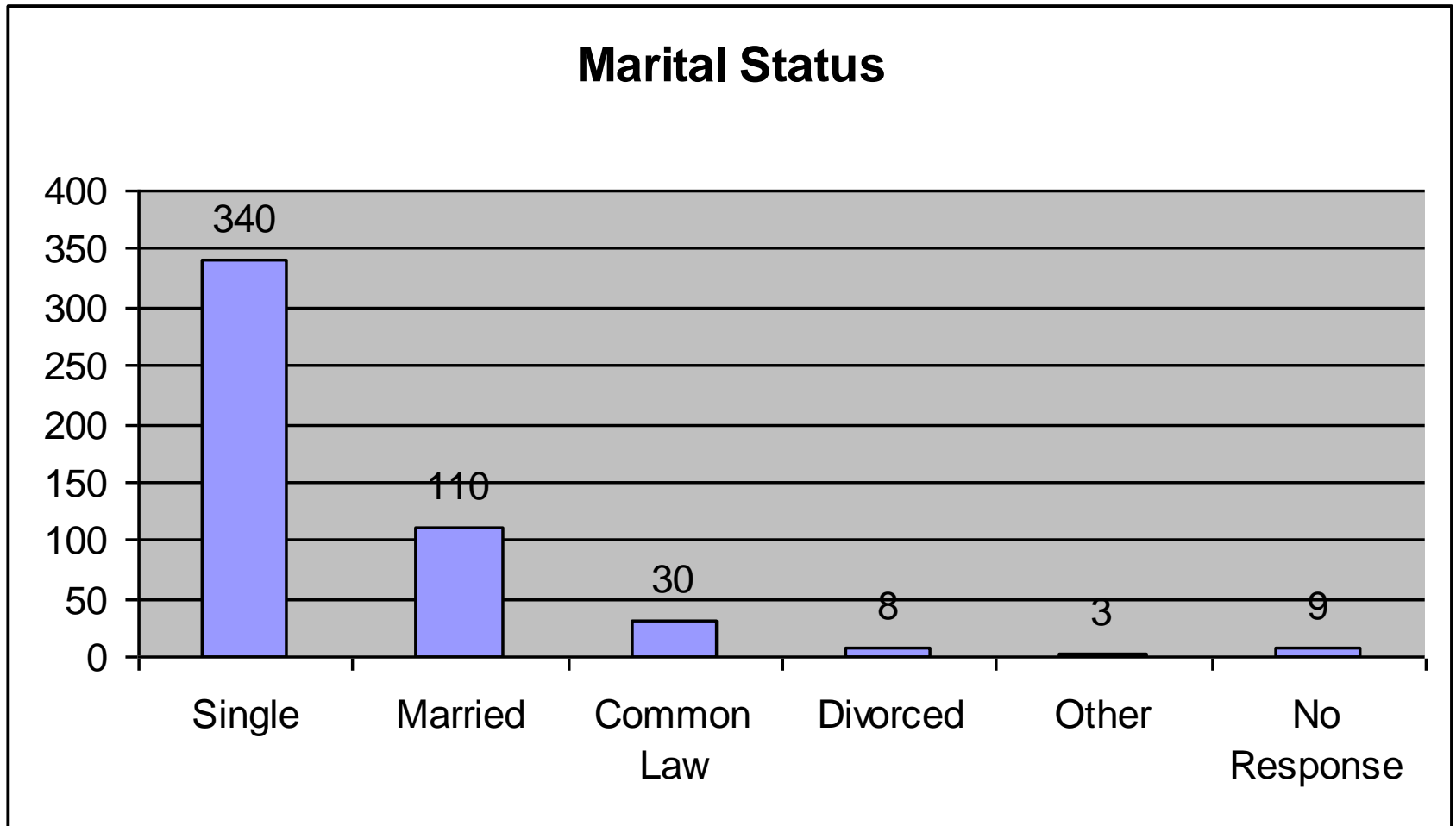
# Type of Businesses

- The most popular business were Food outlets
- Nurseries or pre – schools
- Clothes stores, Boutiques
- Mini marts
- Welding shops
- Hair salons an Beauty spas
- plant shops
- computer repair shops
- DVD shops
- ice cream outlets.

# Age Ranges of Graduates



# Trainee Profile





# Employment Creation

- Eighty-five percent (85%) of the entrepreneurs interviewed had not hired any employees to work with them.

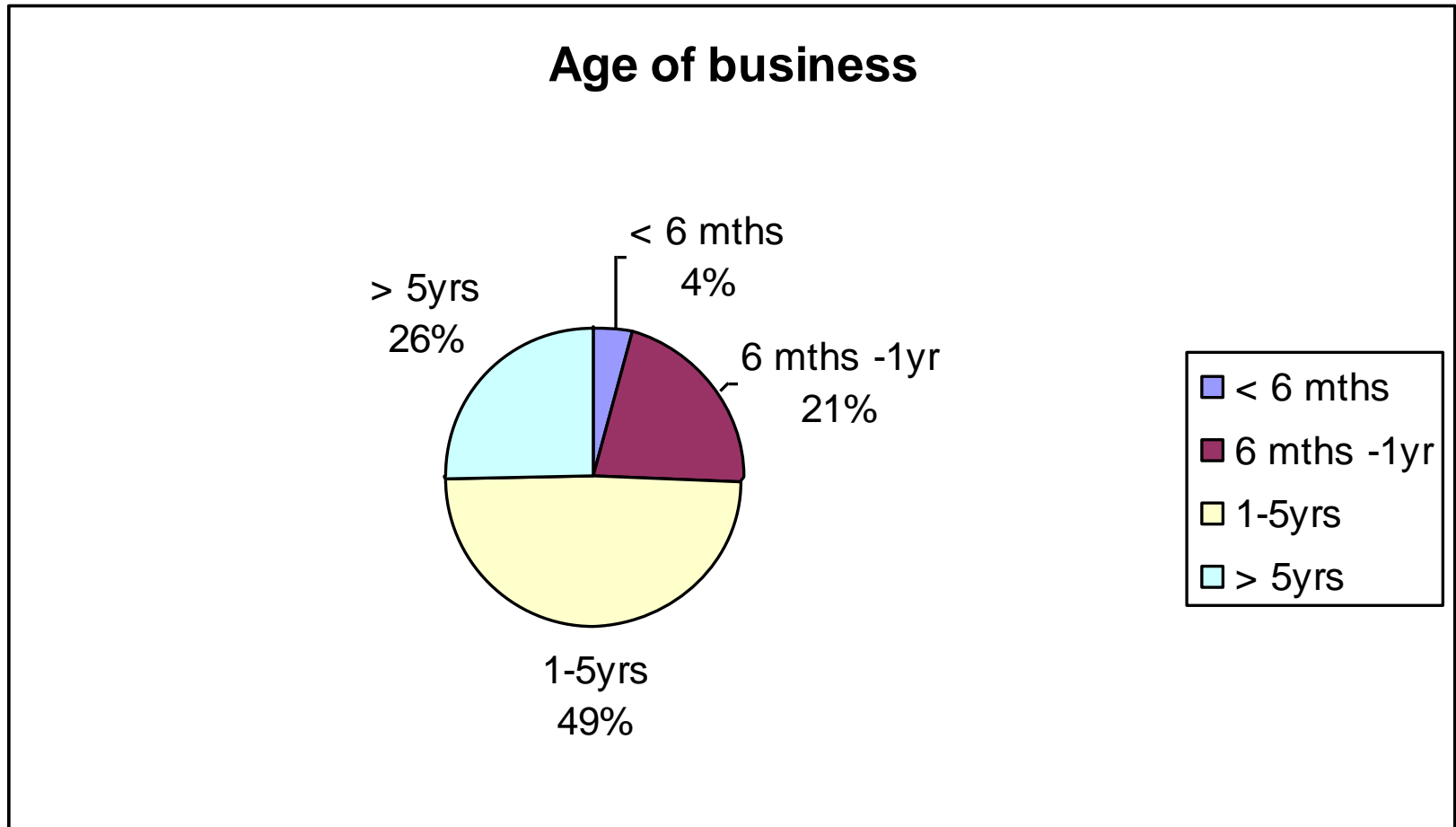
# Financing

- Of particular note is the finding that there appears to be some level of aversion among youths to access business funding from financial institutions despite established policies and programme to provide financial support to small and medium business establishment

# Financing

- Seventy-nine (79%) percent did not obtain external financing (Self Financing)
- Of the Twenty one (21%) percent that did
  - Forty Percent (40%) NEDCO
  - Twenty Percent(20%) Banks
  - Ten Percent (10%) Credit Unions
  - Thirty Percent (30%) Others

# Failure Rates



# Barriers to Small Business Operations

- Businesses experiencing prolonged and frequent slow periods
- financial difficulties
- difficulty in attracting clients, as well as theft. The process of registering the business was quite overwhelming and tedious.
- Many business owners also highlighted the high levels of competition as a major hurdle for their new businesses

# Cont'd

- Finding a safe, suitable location is difficult and renting a place is very costly.
- Lack the necessary finances or capital to start a business.
- The crime situation in the country has also discouraged some persons from starting a business currently.
- The need for more practical experience on how to manage and own a business successfully before becoming self employed.

# Cont'd

- Assistance in advertising and marketing their business.
- Advice from experienced business persons
- Emotional support from family and friends

# Recommendations for Improvements

- More practical rather than theoretical experiences.
- Visit different types of established businesses to obtain advice from experienced business persons.
- Introduction of a level 2 course in entrepreneurship
- Lengthen the programme duration.
- Revisit compulsory Business plan as a requirement for certification.



# Programme Success Rates

Overall, YTEPP Limited generated youth entrepreneurial figures 6% which was higher than documented country rates, thus satisfying YTEPP's mandate for increase entrepreneurial development in Trinidad and Tobago.

T&T's youth entrepreneurial figures have been averaged at between 3 – 4% by the ILO and Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, UWI.



QUESTIONS ?

**YTEP***Proud*