

## **A study on aspiration level of students among rural and urban students**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The aim of the study was to study the level of aspiration among Rural and Urban Pre-university students. A survey and random method were used in the study to find out about the colleges which catered to Pre University Course [PUC], to collect the data. The colleges selected were from Bangalore rural and urban area. Aspiration scale by Sharma and Gupta (1987), and self structured questionnaire were the tools used to collect the data. Results shows that majority of the students (61.7 %) were belongs to the age group of 17-18 years. There was equal percentages (33.3) of the students in all the three categories namely science, commerce and arts in both rural and urban area. And similar percentages of students (50) were belongs to I and II puc in both rural and urban area. With regard to the age group of the respondents not much difference was not seen between different age group with the level of aspiration, but the percentage was varies between low, middle and high level of aspiration. Class of the students studying and level of the aspiration was found to be statistically significant. Low and middle levels of aspirants were more in the respondents studying I PUC when compared to II PUC students. In high level of aspiration science students have highest percentage (49.2) than commerce (13.3 %) and arts (3.3%) students. Statistically it was found to be significant.

**Key Words :** Aspiration level, Urban students, Vigorous energy, Idealism

### **INTRODUCTION**

In everybody's life, adolescence has been manifested with many qualities like vigorous energy, high aspirations, idealism, and spirit of adventure, creative thinking and keenness to assume responsibility. Learning and education is a very important part of the adolescent life between the ages of 10 and 18.

Education is the complete development of the individuality of the child. It is a dynamic process through which an individual is helped to unfold his potentialities and change for better knowledge, enlightenment and self realization. From the time of admission to a school to the time of leaving, the child is viewed as an achiever.

For academic excellence as well as taking advantage of future opportunities that come in the way of one's life, learning is important particularly it assumes great importance at 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> standard since it is the terminal stage in setting the stage for ones academic career. In addition to this the scientific advancement, high educational aspirations and severe competition in academic

and professional areas have an impact on the overall development college students.

### METHODOLOGY

The aim of the study was to study the level of aspiration among Rural and Urban Pre-university students.

#### Objectives:

To study the level of aspiration among Rural and Urban Pre-university students.

A survey and random method were used in the study to find out about the colleges which catered to Pre University Course [PUC], to collect the data. The colleges selected were from Bangalore rural and urban area. Aspiration scale by Sharma and Gupta (1987), and self structured questionnaire were the tools used to collect the data. The basic data comprised of demographic variables such as gender, course opted, educational qualification of parents, monthly income of the family and so on. The Aspiration scale measures the individual desire to achieve in accordance with society expectation / self expectation depending upon one's own capacity, ability and memory. Aspiration of student's classification was done on the basis of level of aspiration prescribed by Sharma and Gupta (1987) and quantified as high, medium and low aspiration and score of 5, 3 and 1 is given, respectively.

Four colleges were randomly selected for the study and 180 students from the rural and 180 from the urban students were part of the study. Within the 180 samples, 90 respondents were from I PUC and 90 from II PUC were selected randomly from both rural and urban area studying from different streams like science, commerce and arts. The sample consisted of both male and female respondents between the age group of 17 years to 20 years. Data for the study was collected using the questionnaire which was formulated by the researcher. The researcher made visits to the different colleges at different days and administered the questionnaire to the respondents. The respondents were asked to fill the questionnaire and give their replies for all the given questions. Any doubts that cropped up were dealt by the researcher herself.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results obtained from the data are tabulated and discussed as below.

Table 1 reveals the classification of respondents by age group and gender. It shows that majority of the students (61.7 % ) were belongs to the age group of 17-18 years, followed by the 15-16 age group of the respondents in both rural and urban area. In combined respondents the age

Table 1 : Classification of respondents by age group and gender							
Characteristics	Category	Respondents					
		Rural		Urban		Combined	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Age group (years)	15-16	60	33.3	60	33.3	120	33.3
	17-18	111	61.7	111	61.7	222	61.7
	19-20	9	5.0	9	5.0	18	5.0
Gender	Male	90	50.0	90	50.0	180	50.0
	Female	90	50.0	90	50.0	180	50.0
Total		180	100.0	180	100.0	360	100.0

NS : Non-significant, 2 (0.05,2df) = 5.991, 2 (0.05,1df) = 3.841

groups of 17-18 years were more when compared to other two categories of age group. Equal percentages (50) of both male and female students were there in both rural and urban area.

Table 2 shows classification of respondents by course opted and class studying. It depicts that there was equal percentages (33.3) of the students in all the three categories namely science, commerce and arts in both rural and urban area. And similar percentages of students (50) were belongs to I and II PUC in both rural and urban area. In combined respondents same result was found.

**Table 2 : Classification of respondents by course opted and class studying**

Characteristics	Category	Respondents					
		Rural		Urban		Combined	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Course opted	Science	60	33.3	60	33.3	120	33.3
	Commerce	60	33.3	60	33.3	120	33.3
	Arts	60	33.3	60	33.3	120	33.3
Class studying	I PUC	90	50.0	90	50.0	180	50.0
	II PUC	90	50.0	90	50.0	180	50.0
Total		180	100.0	180	100.0	360	100.0

NS : Non-significant, 2 (0.05,2df) = 5.991, 2 (0.05,1df) = 3.841

Level of aspiration of the students is shown in the Table 3. It highlights that about 20.6 and 23.3 percentages of rural and urban students has high level of aspiration about their future studies. While medium level of aspirants was 39.4 per cent in rural area and 43.9 per cent of urban area students. Aspirants of low level were more in rural area (40.0 %) than the urban area (32.8 %) students. It shows that percentage of high and medium aspirants were more in urban students than rural students but difference between both the students was not so much. Statistically it was not found to be significant. Overall medium levels of aspirants were more than the low and high level of aspiration.

**Table 3 : Classification of respondents by level of aspiration**

Aspiration level	Respondents						2 Value
	Rural		Urban		Combined		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Low	72	40.0	59	32.8	131	36.4	2.03 <sup>NS</sup>
Medium	71	39.4	79	43.9	150	41.7	
High	37	20.6	42	23.3	79	21.9	
Total	180	100.0	180	100.0	360	100.0	

NS : Non-significant, 2 (0.05,2df) = 5.991

Table 4 shows level of the aspiration of the respondents on different independent variables. With regard to the age group of the respondents not much difference was not seen between different age group with the level of aspiration, but the percentage was varies between low, middle and high level of aspiration. In the age group of 15-16 years about 43.3 per cent of the students had low level of aspiration followed by 40.8 per cent of middle level of aspiration. But 15.9 per cent of the same age group has high level of aspiration about their studies. In the age group of 17-18 years highest percentage (42.8%) of the respondents had middle level of aspiration followed by 32 per cent of low level of aspiration. While about 25 per cent of the same age group of the students had

high level of aspiration about their future studies. In the age group of 19-20 years highest percentage (44.5) of the respondents were having low level of aspiration followed by middle level of aspiration (33.3 %). while 22.2 % of the respondents had high level of aspiration. Statistically it was found to be non-significant. It reveals that aspiration level doesn't vary among different age group.

**Table 4 : Classification of respondents age, gender, class and course by level of aspiration**

Variables	Sample (n)	Respondents aspiration level						2 value	Degrees of freedom	
		Low		Medium		High				
		N	%	N	%	N	%			
Age group (years)	15-16	120	52	43.3	49	40.8	19	15.9	6.62 <sup>NS</sup>	(0.05, 4df) = 9.488
	17-18	222	71	32.0	95	42.8	56	25.2		
	19-20	18	8	44.5	6	33.3	4	22.2		
	Total	360	131	36.4	150	41.7	79	21.9		
Gender	Male	180	65	36.1	76	42.2	39	21.7	0.45 <sup>NS</sup>	(0.05, 2df) = 5.991
	Female	180	66	36.7	74	41.1	40	22.2		
	Total	360	131	36.4	150	41.7	79	21.9		
Class	I PUC	180	76	42.2	81	45.0	23	12.8	18.11*	(0.05, 2df) = 5.991
	II PUC	180	55	30.6	69	38.3	56	31.1		
	Total	360	131	36.4	150	41.7	79	21.9		
Course	Science	120	21	17.5	40	33.3	59	49.2	99.89*	(0.05, 4df) = 9.488
	Commerce	120	39	32.5	65	54.2	16	13.3		
	Arts	120	71	59.2	45	37.5	4	3.3		
	Total	360	131	36.4	150	41.7	79	21.9		

With regard to the gender of the respondents the table shows that there were not much variations in the different levels of aspiration between male and female respondents. Both were possessing almost same levels of aspiration in all the three categories. Statistically it was found to be non-significant. About 21 to 22 per cent of both male and female respondents have high level of aspiration than 41 to 42 % of middle and 36 % of low levels of aspiration.

Class of the students studying and level of the aspiration was found to be statistically significant. From the table it can be depicted that low and middle levels of aspirants were more in the respondents studying I PUC when compared to II PUC students. While about 31.1 percentages of II PUC students studying high level of aspiration about their studies when compared to only 12.8 per cent of I PUC students.

The above table also reveals the course of the students studying and the levels of aspiration. In high level of aspiration science students have highest percentage (49.2) than commerce (13.3 %) and arts (3.3%) students. More than 50 and highest percentage of commerce students has middle level of aspiration than the 37.5 % per cent of arts and 33.3 % per cent of science students. In case of low level of aspiration arts students has highest percentage (59.2 %) than commerce and science students. Statistically it was found to be significant. It shows that students' course of studying and their aspiration about their studies both were associated. Highest percentage of science students were high aspirants, highest percentage of commerce students were middle level of aspirants and highest percentage of arts students were low level of aspirants.

**Conclusion:**

From the result it can be concluded that II PUC and Science students had high level of

aspiration than the I PUC and commerce and arts students. About 20.6 and 23.3 percentages of rural and urban students have high level of aspiration about their future studies. It shows that percentage of high and medium aspirants were more in urban students than rural students but difference between both the students was not so much. Statistically it was not found to be significant. Overall medium levels of aspirants were more than the low and high level of aspiration.

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