



Research Article

KNOWLEDGE AND USAGE PATTERN OF COMPUTER BY AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY AND TRADITIONAL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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Abstract: Computer is a useful tool to update the knowledge. A study was conducted in the year 2020-21 to assess the knowledge and usage pattern of computer by agricultural university and traditional university students. The study consists of self-administered close ended questionnaire survey. Google form was administered to agricultural and non agricultural students. The study was conducted for 120 students of which 60 belonged to agricultural University and 60 belong to traditional University. In the selected samples, a large majority of the respondents (96.67%) of agricultural university students and majority 60.00 per cent of traditional University students had knowledge about computers and they were introduced to improve the quality of life, make work easier and faster. More than half (58.88 per cent) of the agricultural University students and 53.33 per cent of traditional University students had computer classes at school respectively, on an average of 80.00 per cent of agricultural university and traditional university students belonged to age group of 18-20 years. With respect to overall medium of instruction majority 76.66 per cent knew to speak English and 29.16 per cent knew to speak Kannada. However, 88.89 per cent of agricultural university students and 90.00 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge about output devices (Printer and Monitor). Majority 75.56 per cent of agricultural university students and 83.33 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge on MS word which is used for typing. Majority 63.33 per cent of agricultural university students and 43.33 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge regarding information that can be stored in Floppy, Scanner and Monitor.

Keywords: Knowledge on computers, Communication tools, Computer skill, Information and communications technologies

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Introduction

As the present era is of modernization, computer usage and its knowledge are essential to gain information in the field of education. The present generation is well updated in the use of internet and computer. Computer affected the educational process more than anything else, the rapid development in computer technology and increase in accessibility and availability of internet for academic purposes changed the study and practices, environments in much educational management. Institutions now days are incorporating the computer into the learning process for easy illustration and comprehension of the lessons. It provides more productive and innovative instruction and learning to enhance the intellectual and creative potentials of the students in today's information society [1]. Therefore, computer has been integrated in teaching faster than the previous audio visual technologies [2]. Hence, a study was undertaken with the following objectives

Objectives of study

To study the general profile of Agricultural University and Traditional University students

To assess the knowledge of students on basics of computers.

Materials and methods

The study was conducted at University of Agricultural Sciences Dharwad and Traditional Commerce College, Belagavi districts of Karnataka state in the year 2020-21. Ex post facto research design was employed for the current study for a total sample of 120 students of which 60 belonged to agricultural university and 60

belong to traditional university by using purposive random sampling technique. Google form was developed and administered to students for data collection. A questionnaire on knowledge was developed including knowledge items which included 10 items and simple frequency and percentage was used to quantify the data. The statistical tools like frequency percentage and mean were used to analyze the data.

Results and Discussion

General profile of students

Age of the students

The results from the above table concluded that, majority (81.11%) of the agricultural university students and traditional university students (80.00%) belonged to 18-20 years age group. Whereas, 13.33 per cent of agricultural university students and 20.00 per cent traditional university students belonged to 20-23 years age group respectively. However, 05.55 per cent of university students belonged to 23-28 age group. The reason for the above result is as the students studying in degree college and University fall in the age group of 18-28. The results were in line par with Jali et al (2014) [3] that most (69.17 %) of the medical students belong to age group of 18-20 years.

Parent's Income

Results from the above table revealed parents' income of both agricultural university and traditional university students. With respect to father's income nearly half (46.67%) of the agricultural university students and half of the (50.00%)

Table-1 Age of the students

SN	Age Group	Agricultural University (n ₁ =60)	Traditional University (n ₂ =60)	Total (n=120)
1	18 – 20	73 (81.11)	24 (80.00)	97 (80.83)
2	20 – 23	12 (13.33)	06 (20.00)	18 (15.00)
3	23 – 28	05 (05.55)	00 (0.00)	05 (04.16)

Table-2 Parent's Income

SN	Income (in Rupees)	Father's Income		Mother's Income		Total income overall Total n=240
		Agricultural University (n ₁ =90)	Traditional University (n ₂ =30)	Agricultural University (n ₁ =90)	Traditional University (n ₂ =30)	
1	Low (0 – 1,00,000)	42 (46.67)	15 (50.00)	75 (83.33)	20 (66.67)	152 (63.34)
2	Medium (1,00,0000- 3,00,000)	28 (31.11)	13 (43.33)	11 (12.22)	10 (33.33)	62 (25.83)
3	High (Above 3,00,000)	20 (22.22)	02 (06.67)	4 (04.44)	0 (0.00)	26 (10.83)

Table-3 Medium of Instruction

SN	Medium of Instruction	Agricultural University (n ₁ =90)	Traditional University (n ₂ =30)	Total (n=120)
1	English	80 (88.89)	12 (40.00)	92 (76.66)
2	Kannada	17 (18.88)	18 (60.00)	35 (29.16)

Table-4 Percentage of marks scored in previous class

SN	Percentage of Marks	Agricultural University (n ₁ =90)	Traditional University (n ₂ =30)	Total
1	50 – 65	10 (11.11)	04 (13.33)	14 (11.66)
2	65 – 75	24 (26.66)	13 (43.33)	37 (30.83)
3	75 – 85	35 (38.88)	10 (33.33)	45 (37.50)
4	85 – 100	21 (23.33)	03 (10.00)	24 (20.00)

Table-5 Computer Classes at College

SN	Computer Classes at School	Agricultural University (n ₁ =90)	Traditional University (n ₂ =30)	Total (n=120)
1	Yes	53 (58.88)	16 (53.33)	69 (57.50)
2	No	37 (41.11)	14 (46.67)	51 (42.50)

Table-6 Computer Classes per Week

SN	Computer Classes per Week	Agricultural University (n ₁ =90)	Traditional University (n ₂ =30)	Total (n=120)
1.	0	40 (44.44)	05 (16.66)	45 (37.50)
2.	1 – 2	35 (38.88)	09 (30.00)	44 (36.66)
3.	3 – 4	09 (10.00)	14 (46.66)	23 (19.16)
4.	5 and Above	06 (06.67)	02 (06.67)	08 (06.67)

Table-7 Things taught in Computer Classes

SN	Lessons taught	University (n=90)	Non University (n=30)	Total
1.	None	37 (41.11)	06 (20.00)	43 (35.83)
2.	Basics to Computers	26 (28.88)	15 (50.00)	41 (34.17)
3.	MSO	14 (15.55)	01 (03.33)	15 (12.50)
4.	Languages and Programming	08 (08.88)	07 (23.33)	15 (12.50)
5.	Multimedia Production	05 (05.55)	01 (03.33)	06 (5.00)

traditional university students father's income belonged to low level of income, 31.11 per cent and 43.33 per cent was medium, 22.22 per cent and 06.67 per cent high respectively. With respect to mother' income majority 83.33 per cent from agricultural university and 66.67 per cent from traditional university belonged to low level, 12.22 per cent from agricultural university and 33.33 per cent traditional university belonged to medium level and only 04.44 per cent of them from agricultural university belonged to high level. However, none of the student's mother from traditional university belonged to high level the possible reason may be the students of traditional University were all from government colleges with lower income group. The results were similar to Ram *et al* (2021) [4] that shown parents income was low (63.34).

Medium of Instruction

From the above table it is clearly indicated that, majority 88.89 per cent of the traditional university students medium of instruction is English and 18.88 per cent is Kannada. With respect to overall medium of instruction majority 76.66 per cent was English and 29.16 per cent was Kannada. The results were similar to as indicated by Sunaina (2019) [5] where English was the major medium of instruction.

Percentage of marks scored in previous class

From the above table it is indicated percentage of marks scored in previous class by agricultural university and traditional university students. With respect to university students 38.88 per cent of them scored between 75-85 percentage, 26.66 per cent of them scored between 65-75 percentage, 23.33 per cent of them

scored between 85-100 percentage and only 11.11 per cent of them scored between 50-65 percentage of marks. With regard to traditional university students nearly half of the students (43.33%) of them scored between 65-75 percentage, 33.33 per cent of them 75-85 percentage, 13.33 per cent of them scored between 50-65 percentage and only 10.00 of the students scored between 85-100 percentage of marks. With respect to overall percentage of marks among agricultural university students and traditional university students 37.50 per cent of them scored between 75-85 percentage, 30.83 per cent of them scored between 65-75 percentage, 20.00 per cent of them scored between 85-100 percentage and only 11.66 per cent of them scored between 50-65 percentage of marks. The results were in line with Kohimath (2012) [6].

Computer Classes at College

Results from the above table indicated that more than half 58.88 per cent of the agricultural university students and 53.33 per cent of traditional students had computer classes at school respectively. Whereas, 41.11 per cent of the agricultural university students and 46.67 per cent traditional university had no computer classes at school. Ramaiah and Daimari (2022) [7] expressed that digital media involvement is now becoming more prevalent in classrooms and at home as children grow up in a digital world.

Computer Classes per Week

Results from the above table indicated that more than half 44.44 per cent of the agricultural university students and 16.66 per cent of traditional university students had no computer classes per week at college respectively.

Table-8 Knowledge on Computers

SN	Statements	University	Non – University	Total
1	Computers was invented by Charles Babbage	85 (94.44)	27(90.00)	112(93.33)
2	Computers were introduced to improve the quality of life, make work easier and faster	87 (96.67)	18(60.00)	105(87.50)
3	Computer is essential for using internet, web camera facility and PowerPoint presentation	83 (92.22)	19(63.33)	102(85.00)
4	Mouse, CPU and Keyboard are parts of computer	88(97.78)	29(96.67)	117(97.50)
5	CPU stands for Central Processing Unit	84(93.33)	26(86.67)	110(91.67)
6	Information can be stored in Floppy, Scanner and Monitor	57(63.33)	13(43.33)	70(58.33)
7	Output devices includes Printer and Monitor	80(88.89)	27(90.00)	107(89.17)
8	CD stands for Compact Disk	85(94.44)	23(76.67)	108(90.00)
9	MS Word is used for Typing	68(75.56)	25(83.33)	93(77.50)
10	MS Excel software can be used for doing calculations	83(92.22)	27(90.00)	110(91.67)

Whereas, 38.88 per cent of the agricultural university students and 30.00 per cent traditional university students had 1-2 computer classes per week at school. About 10.00 per cent of the agricultural university students and 46.66 per cent traditional university students had 3-4 computer classes per week at college. However, equal percentage (06.67%) of the agricultural university students and traditional university students had 5 and above computer classes per week at college. As computer is an additional subject in the college the students had 1-2 classes per week. Sperry (2021) [8] observed that the computer course meets twice per week for fifty minutes and is highly interactive in nature, with a heavily reliance on in-class discussion and participation.

Things taught in Computer Classes

Results from the above table indicated that things taught in computer classes. More than half 41.11 per cent of the agricultural university students and 20.00 per cent of traditional university students had no computer classes per week at college, respectively. Whereas, 28.88 per cent of the agricultural university students and 50.00 per cent traditional university students had learned basics in computer. About 15.55 per cent of the agricultural university students and 03.33 per cent traditional university had learned MSO.

However, 08.88 percent of the agricultural university students and 23.33 percent of traditional university had learned languages and programming. Only 05.55 per cent of agricultural university students and 03.33 per cent of traditional university students had learned multimedia production respectively that were supported by Bowman (2021) [9].

Knowledge on Computers

The results from the above table indicated that knowledge on computers. High majority of the respondents (96.67%) of agricultural university students and majority 60.00 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge about computers and they were introduced to improve the quality of life, make work easier and faster. Large majority of the agricultural university students 94.44 per cent and majority 76.67 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge on CD which stands for compact disk, 93.33 per cent of agricultural university students and 86.67 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge on CPU which stands for central processing unit. Majority of agricultural university students (92.22%) and 90.00 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge about MS Excel software which can be used for doing calculations. Whereas, 92.22 per cent of agricultural university students and 63.33 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge about computer which was essential for using internet, web camera facility and PowerPoint presentation.

However, 88.89 per cent of agricultural university students and 90.00 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge about output devices (Printer and Monitor). Majority 75.56 per cent of agricultural university students and 83.33 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge on MS word which is used for typing. Majority 63.33 per cent of agricultural university students and 43.33 per cent of traditional university students had knowledge regarding information that can be stored in Floppy, Scanner and Monitor where the current findings are in line with Pawar (2009) [10].

Conclusion

Computer skill in today's world can be identified as a life skill. Students have great opportunity to tune their learning and update their knowledge with advanced use

of technologies where computer can be of great use. Deprived of the use of computers, the education field and numerous other uses internet for many works where it's very easy to do daily work-life activities. Apart from that, it pays a way to increase the ability to use wide variety of computer skills and programmes that creates a great opportunity for future career in software technologies as well. Hence, computer based education can be looked as a great boon for education based institutions.

Application of the Research

The research focuses on comparison between professional degree under graduates and non professional degree undergraduates in the field of Information Communication Technology Usage.

Research Category: Extension Education

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