



## Research Article

# COMPARATIVE STUDY ON E-RESOURCE AWARENESS AMONG THE STUDENTS OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

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**Abstract:** The present study was conducted at Banaras Hindu University during the year 2019 with the objective to study the awareness of e-resource among the students of arts and science stream. A total of 200 students were selected from the two streams (100 students from Arts and 100 students from Science stream). The finding of the study revealed that 82 percent of the male respondents and 39 percent of the female respondents from the Arts stream and 88 percent of male respondents and 90 percent of the female respondents from Science stream were aware of e-resources. Majority (73.81%) of the male and female respondents (66.67%) from Arts stream and female respondents (80 %) from Science stream came to know about e-resources from Friends while majority (43.18%) of the male respondents of Science stream came to know about e-resources from Library website.

**Keywords:** Arts, Awareness, E-resource, Science

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## Introduction

Science is the study of knowledge which can be made into a system and which depends on observing and testing facts while technology is the practical application of scientific knowledge [1]. The invention of computer has given pace to the development due its unparallel ability to process the data. Nowadays, we can hardly find any aspect of human life which is directly or indirectly not related or affected with the use of the computers. Education, one of the most important factors for human development, is not an exception to it. The advent of computer, supplemented with internet, has significantly affected the way to access the educational materials. Due to the advantage of universal access to reading and research materials 24 X 7, the importance of electronic resources is increasing day by day. 'E-resource' is a broad term that includes a variety of publishing models, including OPACs, CD-ROMs, online databases, E-journals, E-books, internet resources, print-on-demand (POD), E-mail publishing, wireless publishing, electronic link and web publishing, etc.

## Material and methods

**Locale of Study:** Uttar Pradesh was selected purposively as this state is having highest number of Universities in India.

**Selection of university:** Banaras Hindu University was selected purposively because of the two main reasons-first, the Banaras Hindu University is one of Central Universities of India; second, this university is the largest Central University with a wide diversity of students.

**Selection of streams:** For the present investigation, two streams were selected namely Arts stream and Science stream.

**Selection of respondents:** The respondents selected for the present investigation were the Post Graduate students of the university. A total of 200 respondents were selected from the two streams. Males and females were given equal representation in the present investigation.

Thus, fifty male and fifty female respondents from science stream, and fifty male and fifty female respondents from arts stream were selected randomly.

Table-1 Distribution of respondents according to awareness regarding e-resources, (n=200)

S	Aware of e-resource	Stream							
		Arts				Science			
		Male		Female		Male		Female	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1	Yes	42	82	39	78	44	88	45	90
2	No	8	16	11	22	6	12	5	10

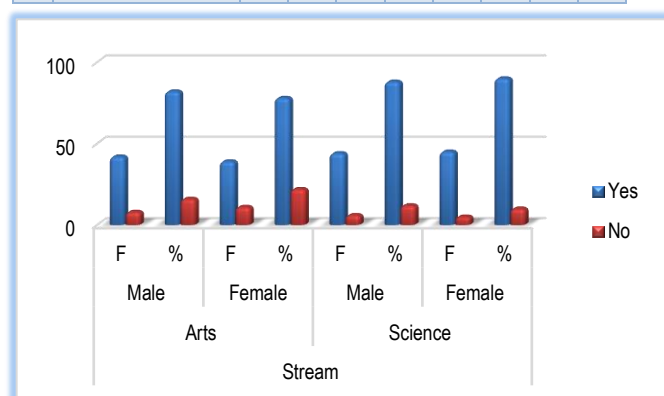


Fig-1 Distribution of respondents according to awareness regarding e-resources. It is clear from [Table-1] that 82 percent of the male respondents and 39 percent of the female respondents from the Arts stream were aware of e-resources while just sixteen percent of the male respondents and 22 percent of the female respondents from the same stream showed their negligence regarding e-resources. Also, 88 percent of male respondents and 90 percent of the female respondents from Science stream were aware of e-resources while just twelve percent of the male respondents and ten percent of the female respondents from Science stream showed their negligence regarding e-resources. This finding is in line with the findings of Madhusudan (2010) [2], Natrajan *et al.* (2010) [3], Walmiki *et al.* (2010) [4], Shukla and Mishra (2011) [5] and Thanuskodi (2012) [6].

Table-2 Distribution of respondents according to source of information, (n=171)

S	Sources of information	Stream							
		Arts				Science			
		Male		Female		Male		Female	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1	Library website	14	33.33	15	38.45	19	43.18	25	55.55
2	Friends	31	73.81	26	66.67	18	40.91	36	80
3	Teachers	12	28.57	14	35.89	17	38.63	14	31.11
4	Newspapers or any advertisement	18	42.85	24	61.53	13	29.55	16	35.55

\*Multiple responses were allowed

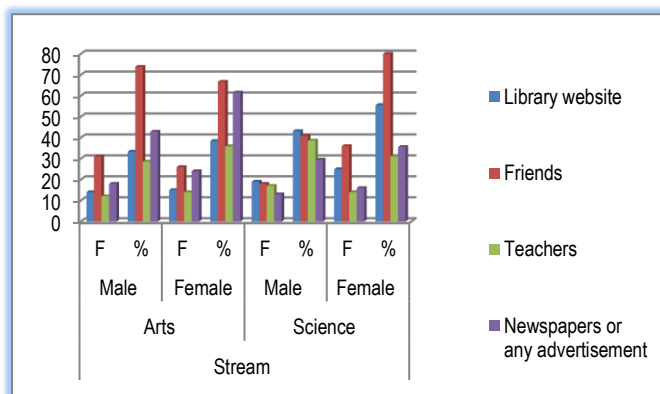


Fig-2 Distribution of respondents according to source of information

It is evident from [Table-2] that majority (73.81%) of the male respondents from Arts stream came to know about e-resources from Friends followed by Newspapers or any advertisement (42.85 %), Library website (33.33 %) and Teachers (28.57 %) while majority (66.67%) of the female respondents from the same stream came to know about e-resources from their Friends followed by News papers or any advertisement (61.53 %), University website (38.45 %) and Teachers (35.89 %). In case of Science stream, majority (43.18%) of the male respondents came to know about e-resources from Library website followed by Friends (40.91 %), Teachers (38.63 %) and Newspapers or any advertisement (29.53 %), while majority (80 %) of the female respondents from the same stream came to know about e-resources from their Friends followed by Library website (55.55 %), News papers or any advertisement (35.55 %) and Teachers (31.11 %).

### Conclusion

Despite the unparallel importance of e-resources in accessing quality academic materials, the awareness of the same is to be spread among all the students. Based on the findings of the present investigation it can be concluded that the level of awareness of e-resources is comparatively high among the students of Science stream as compared to the students of Arts stream.

**Application of research:** The findings of the research will be helpful in making the students of the academic field more up-to-date by becoming informed of different e-resources in their fields.

**Research Category:** Ex post-facto research

**Abbreviations:** OPAC: Online Public Access Catalogue

CD-ROM: Compact Disc Read Only Memory

E-journals: Electronic journals

E-books: Electronic books

POD: Print-on-demand

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**Study area / Sample Collection:** Uttar Pradesh, India

**Cultivar / Variety / Breed name:** Nil

**Conflict of Interest:** None declared

**Ethical approval:** This article does not contain any studies with human participants or animals performed by any of the authors.

Ethical Committee Approval Number: Nil

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