



ISSN Print: 2394-7500  
ISSN Online: 2394-5869  
Impact Factor (RJIF): 8.4  
IJAR 2023; 9(10): 212-217  
[www.allresearchjournal.com](http://www.allresearchjournal.com)  
Received: 18-08-2023  
Accepted: 24-09-2023

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## Final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans in selected colleges of Jammu: Cross-sectional digital survey

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.22271/allresearch.2023.v9.i10d.11328>

### Abstract

**Background:** Nursing is a profession in which student take their training and provide best care to the patients after completed their training. This training will shape the Student's future & make it bright. This Profession make a student's more decision maker, critical thinker & deal with daily ethical challenges. So here investigators assess the final year student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans.

**Objective:** To assess the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plan & to find out the association between the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans.

**Finding:** The Result showed that 109 (54.8%) had good opinion towards nursing profession, 86 (43.2%) had average opinion, only 49 (2.0%) had poor opinion towards nursing profession. 146 (73.4%) subjects wants to pursue job in nursing profession after passing from the institution whereas 53 (26.6%) subjects wants to quit job. As per plan to join after graduation/diploma, 173 (86.9%) subjects wants to join teaching institute whereas only 26(13.1%) hospital. 184 (92.5%) subjects do not wants higher studies after passing their institution whereas 15 (7.5%) subjects wants higher studies. 103 (51.8%) subjects wants to do job in private sector & 96 (48.2%) wants to do job in Govt. sector. 184(92.5%) subjects wants to do job in India and 15(7.5%) wants to do job in abroad. The association between the student's opinion towards nursing profession with their selected socio-demographic variables such as course of the study, religion of student, name of the college, education status of the father, habitat whereas rest of the variables & there was no association between the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans.

**Conclusion:** The study concluded that nursing student's had good opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans.

**Keywords:** Opinion, nursing, profession, student, career plans

### Introduction

Students who enter in the nursing field can be implausible rewarding. People who choose this profession, for those it's a style of living, choice and a frame of mind, and just becoming a registered nurse. There will always be a demand for qualified nurses; according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the demand for RNs through 2031 is expected to grow at a faster-than-average rate of 6% and at a 40% rate for nurse practitioners, midwives, and anaesthetists <sup>[1]</sup>.

A profession is a field of work that has been successfully professionalized. Professionalism is a disciplined group of individuals & professionals, who adhere to ethical standards and are accepted by the public as possessing special knowledge and skills in a widely recognised body of learning derived from research, education and training at a high level, and who are prepared to apply this knowledge and skills in the interest of others <sup>[2]</sup>.

Nursing is an employment that need perpetual learning and professional growth. In this field nurses need a knowledge & advancement about technology, stay up to date in this profession to provide the best possible care <sup>[3]</sup>. Nurses has different opinion about their profession, these opinions includes their judgment, viewpoint, or statement that is not conclusive, rather than facts, which are true statements <sup>[4]</sup>.

Today's nurses truly are health care leaders delivering quality care and ensuring we are healthy. Nursing is a healthcare profession that focuses on the care of individuals and their families to help them recover from illness and maintain optimal health and quality of life. Nurses are distinct from other healthcare providers as they have a wide scope of practice and approach to medical care. They play an integral role in promoting health, preventing illness, and caring for all individuals, including those who are disabled or are physically or mentally ill [5].

Nursing is an aristocratic profession & is not for everyone, Because of this reason many pursue career in nursing. Nearly every aspect of health care has a nursing component. Nurses work in every unit of hospital. Nurses serving in our country health department, working to make sure you are safe in your homes and in the community & schools [6].

In nursing, improvement of nursing student educational environment was recognized as a strong attention-seeking area. In some studies informants stated that the educational environment is not suitable for the teaching-learning process [7].

The depth and breadth to which the individual nurse engages in the total scope of the clinical practice of the nursing are defined by the knowledge base of nurse [8].

### Problem Statement

A study to assess the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans in selected colleges of Jammu.

### Objectives

1. To assess the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession.
2. To assess the final year nursing student's opinion towards career plans.
3. To find out the association between the final year nursing students' opinion towards nursing profession with their selected socio demographic variables.
4. To find out the association between the final year nursing students' opinion towards career plans with their selected socio demographic variables.

### Delimitations

The study was delimited to:

- nursing colleges of Jammu.
- final year students of nursing.

### Material and Methods

#### Research Approach

The quantitative research approach was used to assess final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans.

#### Research Design

A Descriptive cross-sectional design was chosen for the study to assess the assess final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans.

#### Study Setting

The study was conducted in BECON & BNNI, Rajiv Gandhi college of nursing, Stephen college of Nursing Jammu.

### Population

**Target population:** The target population was final year nursing students who were studying in different colleges of Jammu.

**Accessible population:** The accessible population was students of B.Sc. nursing 4<sup>th</sup> year, Post Basic Nursing 2<sup>nd</sup> year & GNM 3<sup>rd</sup> year who were studying in different colleges of Jammu.

### Sample Size

The sample includes 199 students, those who were studying in nursing colleges of Jammu.

### Sampling Technique

The sampling technique used for the data collection was Convenient sampling technique, a type of non-probability sampling technique.

### Sampling Criteria

#### Inclusion Criteria

**The study includes students who were**

1. Pursuing final year of nursing course.
2. Studying in B.Sc (N) 4<sup>th</sup> year, P.BSc 2<sup>nd</sup> year, GNM 3<sup>rd</sup> Year
3. Willing to participate in the study.

#### Exclusion criteria

**The study excludes the students who were not**

1. Available at the time of data collection.
2. Ready to co-operate.

### Development of Tool

Tool used for present study is developed specifically as per the need of the study. After the intense library search tool of the data was divided into three parts.

**Tool A:** Socio-demographic profile of the final year nursing students.

**Tool B:** Self Structured Five Point Likert Scale to assess the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession.

**Tool C:** Structured questionnaire to assess the final year nursing students opinion towards career plans.

### Scoring Procedure

There were 19 statements in likert scale to assess final year nursing students opinion towards nursing profession, Each statement had two responses the score for the positive response to each item is "1".and for negative responses with strongly agree, agree, not sure, disagree, strongly disagree. Maximum score was 95 and minimum score was 1.

The nursing students opinion towards nursing profession score was interpreted is as follows,

- **Good Opinion:** 63-95.
- **Average Opinion:** 32-62
- **Poor Opinion:** 1-31

**Part III:** It includes questions to assess the final year nursing student opinion towards career plans.

## Variables

Variables are an attribute of a person or an object that varies that if takes on different values.

**Socio demographic variables:** Age of the student (in years), Gender, Course of the study, Religion of the student, Name of the college, Any family members/relatives in nursing, Education status of the mother, Education status of the father, Occupation of the father, Habitat, Decision Maker to Choose Nursing Course, Reason to join nursing, Source of information about nursing, Percentage in latest exam, Socioeconomic status scale

## Content Validity

The prepared tool along with the objectives were submitted to experts in the field of nursing. Experts were requested to judge the item for clarity, relatedness, meaningfulness and content. Suggestion from all experts was received and changes were according to them. Considering the practicability of the tool. Reorganization of the items of the tool was done finally and validated tools were ready to ascertain the data from sample subjects.

## Reliability of tool

Reliability of the tool was elicited by split half method. The statistical analysis Karl Pearson co-efficient was found to be

**Table 1:** Frequency and percentage distribution of subject as per their socio demographic variables N=199

S. No.	Socio-demographic variables	f (%)
1.	<b>Age of the student (in years)</b>	
	a) 16-20	6 (3.0)
	b) 21-25	171 (85.9)
	c) 26 and above	18 (9.0)
2.	<b>Gender</b>	
	a) Female	162 (81.4)
	b) Male	37 (18.6)
3.	<b>Course of the study.</b>	
	a) B.Sc. Nursing 4 <sup>th</sup> year	92 (46.2)
	b) Post Basic 2 <sup>nd</sup> year	62 (31.2)
	c) GNM 3 <sup>rd</sup> year	45 (22.6)
4.	<b>Religion of the student.</b>	
	a) Hindu	96 (48.2)
	b) Muslim	94 (47.2)
	c) Sikh	5 (2.5)
	d) Christian	3 (1.5)
	e) Others	1 (0.5)
5.	<b>Name of the college.</b>	
	a) Bee Enn College of Nursing	71 (35.7)
	b) Bee Enn Nursing Institute	34 (17.1)
	c) Stephen's College of Nursing	64 (32.2)
	d) Rajiv Gandhi College of Nursing	30 (15.1)
6.	<b>Any family members/relatives in nursing.</b>	
	a) Yes	83 (41.7)
	b) No	116 (58.3)
7.	<b>Education status of the mother</b>	
	a) Graduation and above	24 (12.1)
	b) Higher education	46 (23.1)
	c) Secondary education	42 (21.1)
	d) Illiterate	28 (14.1)
	e) Primary education	59 (29.6)
8.	<b>Education status of the father.</b>	
	a) Graduation and above	65 (32.7)
	b) Higher education	47 (23.6)
	c) Secondary education	66 (33.2)
	d) Illiterate	6 (3.0)
	e) Primary education	15 (7.5)
9.	<b>Occupation of the father.</b>	
a) Daily wage worker	15 (7.5)	

'r' value was 0.75 which was positively correlated. Therefore the instrument was found to be reliable.

## Data Collection Procedure

Data collection was done through virtual mode (Google form), which allows its distribution as a link to the website where it is hosted and therefore its disseminated via the internet & possibility to reply to it from electronic devices or from computer with internet access. Consent was obtained from the participant based on the mode of conduct & assure them that to confidentiality will be maintained. All the subjects were very much cooperative and the investigator expressed her gratitude for their co-operation.

## Ethical Considerations

- Written permission will take from nursing colleges of Jammu.
- Written informed consent will take from each study sample.
- Confidentiality of the study sample will maintain.

## Plan for data analysis

The data was analyzed in terms of objectives of the study by using descriptive and inferential statistics such as frequency, mean percentage and chi-square test.

	b) Self employed	45 (22.6)
	c) Government worker	119 (59.8)
	d) Private employee	20 (10.1)
<b>10.</b>	<b>Habitat</b>	
	a) Urban	57 (28.6)
	b) Rural	142 (71.4)
<b>11.</b>	<b>Decision Maker to Choose Nursing Course.</b>	
	a) Self	78 (39.2)
	b) Relatives	11 (5.5)
	c) Parents	110 (55.3)
<b>12.</b>	<b>Reason to join nursing.</b>	
	a) Just to complete graduation	7 (3.5)
	b) Didn't get admission into another course	16 (8.0)
	c) Desire to work abroad	28 (14.1)
	d) Desire to help others	128 (64.3)
	e) Family pressure	20 (10.1)
<b>13.</b>	<b>Source of information about nursing.</b>	
	a) Relatives	22 (11.1)
	b) Parents	34 (17.1)
	c) Spouse	74 (37.2)
	d) Friends/ neighbor	01 (0.5)
	e) Internet	50 (25.1)
	f) Personal experience with nurse	18 (9.0)
<b>14.</b>	<b>Percentage in latest exam</b>	
	a) 70-90	136 (68.3)
	b) 50-69	63 (31.7)
<b>15.</b>	<b>Socioeconomic status scale</b>	
	a) Upper medium (36000-111000)	47 (23.6)
	b) Medium (10000-36000)	106 (53.3)
	c) Low income (< 10,000)	36 (18.1)
	d) High income (>111000)	10 (5.0)

Table 1: Represents the frequency and percentage distribution of the study subject.

- As per age group, majority 85.9% of the subjects were in the age group 21-25 years, only 6% were in the age group of 16-20 years.
- On the basis of gender, the majority 81.4% subjects were females and 18.6% were males.
- On the basis of course of study, the majority 46.2% of subjects were studied in B.Sc (N) IV<sup>th</sup> Year.
- On the basis of Religion, the majority 48.2% of subjects were Hindu.
- On the basis of Name of the college, Majority 35.7% of subjects were studied in BECON, Jammu.
- On the basis of family members in nursing, majority 58.3% of the subjects were not have their family members in nursing profession.
- On the basis of educational status of mother 29.6% of subject's mothers had primary education.
- On the basis of educational status of father, majority 32.7% of subject were graduated or above education.
- On the basis of occupation of father, the majority 59.8% of subject had government jobs.

- On the basis of habitat, the majority 31.4% of subjects were from rural areas.
- On the basis of decision maker to choose nursing course, the majority 55.3% were had their parents.
- On the basis of reason to choose nursing, Majority 64.3% of subjects had desire to help others.
- On the basis of source of information, Majority 37.2% of subject were spouse.
- On the basis of percentage in latest exam, Majority 68.3% of subject had 70-90.
- On the basis of family income, the majority 53.3% of subjects were under medium scale.

Table 2: Frequency distribution of final year students as per their opinion towards nursing profession N=199

Level of Opinion	Scoring	f (%)
Good opinion	63-95	109 (54.8)
Average opinion	32-62	86 (43.2)
Poor opinion	1-31	4 (2.0)

Table-2 depicts that 109 (54.8%) had good opinion towards nursing profession, 86 (43.2%) had average opinion, only 49 (2.0%) had poor opinion towards nursing profession.

Table 3: Frequency Distribution of Final Year Students as Per Their Opinion towards Their Carrer Plans. N=199

S. No.	Variables	F (%)
<b>1.</b>	<b>After passing from this institution I will</b>	
	a) Quit job	53 (26.6)
	b) Pursue job in nursing profession	146 (73.4)
<b>2.</b>	<b>Plan to join after graduation/ diploma</b>	
	a) Teaching institute	173 (86.9)
	b) Hospital	26 (13.1)
<b>3.</b>	<b>After passing out from this institution I will go for higher studies</b>	
	a) Yes	15(7.5)

	b) No	184 (92.5)
<b>4.</b>	<b>In Which sector you will choose to work after graduation /diploma.</b>	
	a) Private	103 (51.8)
	b) Government	96 (48.2)
<b>5.</b>	<b>Stay after the nursing:</b>	
	a) India	184 (92.5)
	b) Abroad	15 (7.5)

Table 3 depicts that 146 (73.4%) subjects wants to pursue job in nursing profession after passing from the institution whereas 53 (26.6%) subjects wants to quit job. As per plan to join after graduation/diploma, 173 (86.9%) subjects wants to join teaching institute whereas only 26(13.1%) hospital. 184 (92.5%) subjects do not wants higher studies after

passing their institution whereas 15 (7.5%) subjects wants higher studies. 103 (51.8%) subjects wants to do job in private sector & 96 (48.2%) wants to do job in Govt. sector. 184(92.5%) subjects wants to do job in India and 15(7.5%) wants to do job in abroad.

**Table 4:** Association between the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and socio-demographic profile of the students. N=199

S. No.	Socio-demographic variables	Good Opinion f	Average Opinion f	Poor Opinion F	Chi Square df p
<b>1.</b>	<b>Age of the student (in years)</b>				
	a) 16-20	5	1	0	5.32 4 0.2 <sup>NS</sup>
	b) 21-25	87	80	4	
	c) 26 and above	13	5	0	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Gender:</b>				
	a) Female	91	68	3	0.7 2
	b) Male	18	18	1	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Course of the study.</b>				
	a) B.Sc. Nursing 4 <sup>th</sup> year	45	43	4	16.1 4 0.003*
	b) Post Basic 2 <sup>nd</sup> year	45	17	0	
	c) GNM 3 <sup>rd</sup> year	19	26	0	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Religion of the student.</b>				
	a) Hindu	59	37	0	23.2 8 0.003*
	b) Muslim	48	43	3	
	c) Sikh	1	4	0	
	d) Christian	1	1	1	
	e) Others	0	1	0	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Name of the college.</b>				
	a) Bee Enn College of Nursing	34	33	4	12.6 6 0.05*
	b) Bee Enn Nursing Institute	15	19	0	
	c) Stephen's College of Nursing	40	24	0	
	d) Rajiv Gandhi College of Nursing	20	10	0	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Any family members/relatives in nursing.</b>				
	a) Yes	48	34	1	0.8 2 0.6
	b) No	61	52	3	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Education status of the mother</b>				
	a) Graduation and above	9	14	1	8.1 8 0.4 <sup>NS</sup>
	b) Higher education	26	20	0	
	c) Secondary education	23	18	1	
	d) Illiterate	20	8	0	
	e) Primary education	31	26	2	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Education status of the father.</b>				
	a) Graduation and above	33	28	4	22.1 8 0.005*
	b) Higher education	20	27	0	
	c) Secondary education	46	20	0	
	d) Illiterate	5	1	0	
	e) Primary education	5	10	0	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Occupation of the father.</b>				
	a) Daily wage worker	11	4	0	6.6 6 0.3 <sup>NS</sup>
	b) Self employed	26	19	0	
	c) Government worker	59	57	3	
	d) Private employee	13	6	1	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Habitat</b>				
	a) Urban	31	23	3	4.3 2
	b) Rural	78	63	1	



					0.01*
<b>11.</b>	<b>Socioeconomic status scale</b>				
	a) Upper medium (36000-111000)	20	26	1	9.3 6 0.1 <sup>NS</sup>
	b) Medium (10000-36000)	61	43	2	
	c) Low income (< 10,000)	24	12	0	
	d) High income (>111000)	4	5	1	

Table-4 depicts that there was a association between the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession with their selected socio-demographic variables

such as course of the study, religion of student, name of the college, education status of the father, habitat whereas rest of the variables were not have association.

**Table 5:** Association between the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans. N=199

S. No.	Variables	Good Opinion F	Average Opinion f	Poor Opinion f	Chi Square df p
<b>1.</b>	<b>After passing from this institution I will:</b>				
	Quit job	26	26	1	1.0
	Pursue job in nursing profession	83	60	3	0.6 <sup>NS</sup>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Plan to join after graduation/ diploma</b>				
	Teaching institute	95	74	4	0.6
	Hospital	14	12	0	2 0.7 <sup>NS</sup>
<b>3.</b>	<b>After passing out from this institution I will go for higher studies</b>				
	Yes	11	4	0	2.3
	No	98	82	4	2 0.3 <sup>NS</sup>
<b>4.</b>	<b>In Which sector you will choose to work after graduation /diploma.</b>				
	Private	56	45	2	0.02
	Government	53	41	2	2 0.9 <sup>NS</sup>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Stay after the nursing</b>				
	India	101	79	4	0.03
	Abroad	8	7	0	2 0.8 <sup>NS</sup>

Table-5 depicts that there was no association between the final year nursing student's opinion towards nursing profession and their career plans with their selected socio-demographic variables.

### Discussion

The findings of present study revealed that as per age group, majority 85.9% of the subjects were in the age group 21-25 years, only 6% were in the age group of 16-20 years. The above findings were similar with the finding as reported by Humane Sushil on attitude of nursing students towards nursing profession. The results showed that 47.8% of subjects were in the age group of 18-20 years, 48% were from 21-23 years, only 4% were in the age group of 24-26years.

The findings of present study revealed that, 103 (51.8%) subjects wants to do job in private sector & 96 (48.2%) wants to do job in Govt. sector. The above findings were similar with the finding as reported by Kaundal Mohtab *et al.* [10] on Job Preference and Attitude Level among Nursing Students in Selected College of Mullana, Ambala. 89(81%) students prefer to continue nursing profession as a career option. 82(75%) students believed that work load and long duty hours will affect career choice 80(73%) students are interested in pursuing higher education in nursing.85(78%) students prefer to work in government sector as staff nurse.

**Conclusion:** The study concluded that most of the subjects were good opinion towards nursing profession. Most of the subjects wants to do job in this profession. Some subjects want to do job in nursing institutes, mostly subjects want to

do job in India, only few of the subjects wants to do job in abroad.

**Source Funding:** Self

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