

Egypt University of Informatics Computer and Information Systems Data Analysis Course

Survey on Factors Influencing Major Selection in College Students

Submitted by: manar yussri

29/3/2023

#### Research Question

1. To what extent did your family's and friend opinions or expectations influence your choice of major? And does this influence have an impact on your satisfaction and your grades

#### Hypothesis:

Students who report that their family and friends have a significant influence on their choice of major will demonstrate higher levels of satisfaction in their chosen field of study compared to those who do not report such influence. Additionally, students who feel supported by their family and friends in their major choice will have higher GPAs as a result of increased motivation and emotional support.

# Population of Interest:

College Students

Sampling Method:

The survey employed a convenience sampling method, targeting college students available through social media platforms and academic forums. This method was deemed appropriate due to its cost-effectiveness and the ability to reach a diverse group of students. However, we acknowledge that convenience sampling may not perfectly represent the entire population of college students.

#### Bias Identification:

In designing this survey, we acknowledged potential biases including selection bias and response bias. To mitigate these, we made the survey accessible to a broad audience and maintained neutrality in question phrasing. We also made the survey anonymous to encourage honesty and reduce response bias, as respondents might feel more comfortable providing genuine answers without the fear of being personally associated with their responses. Efforts were made to ensure the questions did not lead respondents towards any particular answer, aiming for an unbiased collection of data.

## **Survey Questions:**

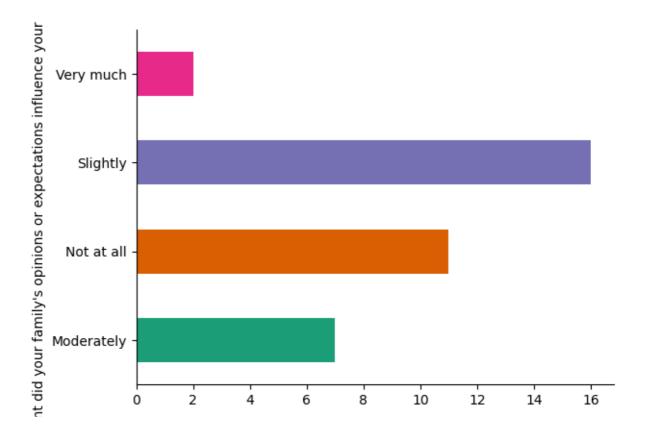
- 1. To what extent did your family's opinions or expectations influence your choice of major?
- 2. How significantly did the opinions of friends or people outside of your family affect your choice of major?
- 3. How satisfied are you with your decision to pursue your current major?
- 4. What is your current GPA?

### Online survey link:

: <a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1v5OSe9H7GZ89Iuu9n0v5FgJ4dAm4O2Wplna">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1v5OSe9H7GZ89Iuu9n0v5FgJ4dAm4O2Wplna</a> 3seVX06s/editNumber of samples collected: xx

### Analysis:

The data reveals varying degrees of influence from family and friends on major selection, with 'slightly' being the most common response regarding family influence. In contrast, 'not at all' was predominant in the context of friends' opinions. Satisfaction levels with their major choice are generally high, with the majority rating it a 4 or 5 out of 5. GPA distribution shows a significant portion of the students scoring between 2-2.5.



#### Conclusion

The survey indicates that while family opinions have a slight influence on students' choice of major, friends' opinions don't significantly affect their decision. The majority of respondents are satisfied with their chosen major, which is an encouraging sign of effective decision-making. However, the range of GPAs indicates academic challenges for a considerable group of students.

### Any potential issues

The convenience sampling method poses a limitation on the extrapolation of our findings to the entire population of college students. Also, since the survey was distributed online, it might have excluded students with limited internet access. These factors could introduce bias into our results, suggesting the need for a more comprehensive sampling strategy in future surveys.