

User Attitude Towards the Library Resources and Services in the Nursing Colleges of Karaikal Region

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KEYWORDS

Women migrants, occupational hazards, health issues, social discrimination.

ABSTRACT

The study examines the attitudes of nursing students and faculty members toward library resources and services in nursing colleges located in the Karaikal region. Libraries play a critical role in nursing education, providing essential resources for research, clinical practice, and academic advancement. Understanding user attitudes helps in enhancing library services to meet user needs more effectively. This research employs quantitative methodology to analyse the satisfaction level and usage patterns of library resources. The study reveals that while users generally appreciate the availability of resources, there are significant gaps in digital access, specialized nursing collections, and user-centred services.

Introduction

Libraries are the cornerstone of academic institutions, particularly in specialized fields like nursing, where students and faculty rely heavily on access to up-to-date research materials, textbooks, and databases. The role of libraries in nursing education extends beyond traditional book lending, they provide digital resources, research assistance, and spaces for collaborative learning. Despite this, user satisfaction with library services can vary based on several factors, including the availability of resources, ease of access, and the support provided by the library staff. In the Karaikal region, which is home to nursing colleges, it is essential to gauge the perception and attitude of users towards their libraries to identify areas for improvement and ensure these libraries meet the evolving needs of students and faculty members.

Definition of Nursing

American Nurses Association (ANA) defines nursing as Nursing is the protection promotion, and optimization of Health and abilities, prevention of illness and injury, alleviation of suffering through the diagnosis and treatment of human response, and advocacy in the care of individuals, families, communities and populations “(ANA,2015)”.

Library resources

Library resources are described by Aina (2004) as “all materials available in a library for the use of its users,” which include books, periodicals, audio-visual materials, databases, and other information resources.

Library services

Library services are defined by Oak (2010) as activities and programs designed to help library users efficiently access information resources. These can include Interlibrary loans, reference services, user education, online database access, and special events or programming aimed at improving literacy or information skills.

User attitude

Refers to the perceptions, satisfaction levels, and opinions of library users, which may include nursing students and faculty towards the available resources and services.

Review of Literature

1. Barfi Kwaku Anhwere, Afful-Arthur Paulina, and Agyapong Emmanuel Manu (2018) designed the utilization of library resources by lecturers in University of Cape Coast. The purpose of the study was to ascertain how readily available University library resources were and how much professors used them. The study employed a descriptive survey, for the study, 200 lectures were chosen. Textbooks, periodicals, research monographs, newspapers, internet services, and so forth are examples of library materials. They also utilize it to borrow books and conduct research. The availability of library resources fosters an environment that makes them easier to use, which will support instruction and learning. A mean score of 2.5 or more is regarded as positive and acceptable in this study, less than 2.5 is rejected and negative.

2. Navin Kumar Soni, Savita Rani, Avdhesh Kumar (2020) have analysed, Evaluation of usage of E-resources and INMAS library services through user's perspective: An analytical study. The goal of the study was to determine how users of the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Science (INMAS) TIRC Library used online and print journals, books, and other services. 121 users answered the 150 questionnaires that were randomly sent to INMAS research researchers, scientists service officers, and the defense research technical Cadre (DRTC). The gender distribution of 121 responses shows that 55(45.5%) are female and 66(54.6%) are male. Before choosing and finalizing print and electronic journals, the majority of users (98.04% of scientists and service officers, 97.14 % of DRTC, and 71.43 % of research scholars) stated that the library solicits their recommendations. To improve internet and ICT speed and library service utilization.

Scope and limitation

The study focuses on nursing colleges in the Karaikal region providing insights into the library resources and services. The research highlights the specific needs and challenges faced by nursing students and faculty in accessing library resources which can inform the improvements in library management allowing for your comprehensive evolution of library services. The study is limited to only 2 nursing colleges in Karaikal. This is not cover Puducherry, Mahi (Kerala), and Yanam (Andhra) to undertake this study in all the nursing colleges of Puducherry is not possible to act on the level of an individual researcher, due to constraints imposed by money, time, energy and facts.

Objectives

1. To analyze the distribution of questionnaires and responses from nursing colleges in the Karaikal region.
2. To identify the gender-wise distribution of respondents.
3. To analyze the frequency of library visits by designation in nursing college
4. To evaluate the place of internet access by academic status.
5. To study the frequency of library visits and facility usage by gender.

Hypothesis

The following hypothesis is formulated based on content and coverage of framed objectives and they are tested by employing appropriate statistical tools.

1. There is a significant association between the distribution of questionnaires and responses from nursing colleges in the Karaikal region.
2. There is no significant difference between the gender-wise distribution of respondents.
3. There is no significant association between the frequency of library visits by designation.
4. There is a significant difference between internet access to the library by nursing students and faculty members.
5. There is no significant difference between the frequency of library visits and facility usage by gender.

Data analysis

The collected data were analyzed using statistical tools. The results were interpreted to understand the trends in user satisfaction and areas of concern.

Table 1 Distribution of Questionnaire and Responses from Different Nursing Colleges in the Karaikal Region

S. No	Name of Nursing college	Questionnaire distributed						Responses Received					
		UG	PG	AP	Assoc. P	P	Total	UG	PG	AP	Assoc. P	P	Total
1	Vinayaka Mission's College of Nursing, Karaikal	74	17	16	12	11	130	64	13	10	7	7	101
2	Mother Theresa Post Graduate and Research Institute of Health Sciences, Karaikal	73	0	15	11	9	108	61	0	13	9	8	91
	Total	147	17	31	23	20	238	125	13	23	16	15	192

Table 1, Shows the responses received from various nursing colleges in different categories: undergraduate (UG), Postgraduate (PG), Assistant Professor (AP), Associate Professor (Asso. P), and Professor (P). The table also presents the responses received from nursing colleges. A total of 192 responses were collected with 125 from undergraduate (UG), 13 from postgraduate (PG), 23 from Assistant professor (AP), 16 from Associate Professor (Assoc. P), and 15 from Professor (P). It is observed from the above discussion more number of responses were received from undergraduate students of Vinayaka Mission's College of Nursing and Mother Theresa Post Graduate and Research Institute of Health Sciences.

Table 2 Distribution of Questionnaires and Responses by Gender

S. No	Name of colleges	Male	Female	Total
1	Vinayaka mission's College of Nursing, karaikal	30 (3.0)	71 (7.2)	101 (10.2)
2	Mother Theresa post graduate and research Institute of health sciences, Karaikal	37 (3.7)	54 (5.5)	91 (9.2)
	Total	67 (34.89)	125 (65.1)	192 (100.0)

Table 2, Presents the Distribution of Questionnaires and Responses from nursing colleges by gender. A total of 192 respondents were surveyed, 67(34.9%) male respondents and 125(65.1%) female respondents. Among the two colleges, Vinayaka Mission's College of Nursing had the highest number of responses, with 101(10.2%) respondents, comprising 30(3.0%) male and 71(7.2%) female.

Table 3 Frequency of Library Visits by Designation

S. No	Frequency of visit the library	UG	PG	AP	Assoc. P	P	Total
1	Every day	47 (24.5)	3 (1.6)	7 (3.6)	5 (2.6)	5 (2.6)	67 (34.9)
2	Once in a week	24 (12.5)	3 (1.6)	5 (2.6)	4 (2.1)	3 (1.6)	39 (20.3)

3	Once in a fortnight	22 (11.5)	3 (1.6)	6 (3.1)	3 (1.6)	2 (1.0)	36 (18.8)
4	Once in a month	20 (10.4)	2 (1.0)	3 (1.6)	2 (1.0)	3 (1.6)	30 (15.6)
5	Very rarely	12 (6.3)	2 (1.0)	2 (1.0)	2 (1.0)	2 (1.0)	20 (10.4)
Total		125 (65.1)	13 (6.8)	23 (11.9)	16 (8.3)	15 (7.8)	192 (100.0)
Pearson Chi-Square			Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
			3.46	16	0.999		

Chi-Square Tests	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	3.46	16	0.999
Likelihood Ratio	0.00005	16	0.976
Linear-by-Linear Association	0.914	1	0.03
N of Valid Cases	192		

Table 3, Presents the frequency of library visits by academic status, showing the various levels of engagement with library resources among different groups. Out of 192 respondents, 67(34.5%) of respondents visit the library every day, 39(20.3%) of respondents visit the library once in a week, 36(18.8%) of respondents visit the library once in a fortnight, 30(15.6%) of respondents visit the library once in a month, 20(10.4%) of respondents visit the library very rarely. It is found that the majority of the respondents 67(34.5%) visit the library every day.

The chi-square analysis of library visit frequency by designation yielded a Pearson chi-square value of 3.46 with 16 degrees of freedom and a p-value of 0.999. This calculated chi-square is much lower than the critical value for statistical significance, indicating no significant association between library visits and academic designations (undergraduate, postgraduate, assistant professor, associate professor, and professor). Therefore, we do not reject the null hypothesis, suggesting that library visit patterns do not significantly differ across these designations.

Table 4 shows the frequency of library visits among the selected colleges in Karaikal region

S. No	Frequency of visits the library	Vinayaka mission's	Mother Theresa Karaikal	Total
1	Every day	21 (10.9)	24 (12.5)	45 (23.4)
2	Once in a week	51 (26.6)	39 (20.3)	90 (46.9)
3	Once in a fortnight	20 (10.4)	18 (9.4)	38 (19.8)

4	Once in a month	9 (4.7)	10 (5.2)	19 (9.9)
5	Very rarely	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Total		101 (52.6)	91 (47.4)	192 (100.0)
Pearson Chi-Square		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
		0.574	4	0.965

Chi-Square Tests	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	0.574	4	0.965
Likelihood Ratio	0.576	4	0.965
Linear-by-Linear Association	0.041	1	0.839
N of Valid Cases	192		

Table 4, It is observed the frequency of library visits among 192 respondents of the college, Vinayaka Mission's College of Nursing and Mother Theresa Post Graduate and Research Institute of Health Sciences. 90(46.9%) visit the library once in a week, 45(23.4%) respondents visit the library everyday, 38(19.8%) visit the library once in a fortnight, 19(9.9%) visit the library once in a month.

From the above analysis found that more than 45% of respondents visit the library once a week. The chi-square analysis of library visit frequencies among respondents from various colleges yielded a Pearson chi-square value of 0.574 with 4 degrees of freedom and a p-value of 0.965. This high p-value indicates no significant association between library visit frequency and the respondents' colleges. Consequently, we do not reject the null hypothesis, suggesting consistent patterns of library visits across the colleges with no substantial differences.

Table 5 Places of Internet Access by Academic Status

S. No	Places of Internet Access	UG	PG	AP	Assoc. P	P	Total
1	Cyber cafe	25 (13.0)	3 (1.6)	7 (3.6)	4 (2.1)	3 (1.6)	42 (21.9)
2	Department Library	23 (11.9)	4 (2.1)	5 (2.6)	2 (1.0)	4 (2.1)	38 (19.8)
3	Home	19 (9.9)	2 (1.0)	4 (2.1)	1 (0.5)	2 (1.0)	28 (14.6)

4	College Library	41 (21.4)	3 (1.6)	5 (2.6)	6 (3.1)	5 (2.6)	60 (31.3)
5	Any other Places	17 (8.9)	1 (0.5)	2 (1.0)	3 (1.6)	1 (0.5)	24 (12.5)
Total		125 (65.1)	13 (6.8)	23 (11.9)	16 (8.3)	15 (7.8)	192 (100.0)

Chi-Square Tests	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	16.149	16	0.446
Likelihood Ratio	15.892	16	0.505
Linear-by-Linear Association	0.617	1	0.432
N of Valid Cases	192		

Table 5, observed that the distribution of internet access locations varies significantly among different Statuses. The most frequently used place is the college library with 60(31.3%) of respondents indicating Access from this location, 42(21.9%) of respondents indicating Access from cyber café, 38(19.8%) of respondents indicating access from the department library, 28(14.6%) of respondents indicating access from home, 24(12.5%) of respondents indicating access from any other place. It is observed from the above analysis, that more than 30% of them prefer to access the internet from the college library.

The chi-square analysis of places of internet access by academic status yielded a Pearson chi-square value of **16.149** with **16** degrees of freedom and an Asymptotic Significance (2-sided) of **0.446**. This p-value suggests that there is no statistically significant association between internet access locations and the academic status of the respondents, as it exceeds the conventional threshold of 0.05. Consequently, we fail to reject the null hypothesis, indicating that the distribution of internet access locations remains consistent across the different academic statuses within the sample.

Table 6 Factors Influencing the Preference for Places of Internet Access by Residential Background

S. No	Factors	Rural	Urban	Semi Urban	Total
1	Speed of Access	18 (9.4)	19 (9.9)	14 (7.3)	51 (26.6)
2	Cost factor	13 (6.8)	14 (7.3)	12 (6.3)	39 (20.3)
3	Convenient hour	15 (7.8)	11 (5.7)	10 (5.2)	36 (18.8)
4	Provision for downloading and get print out	12 (6.3)	13 (6.8)	9 (4.7)	34 (17.7)
5	High band width	16 (8.3)	10 (5.2)	6 (3.1)	32 (16.6)
Total		74 (38.5)	67 (34.9)	51 (26.6)	192 (100.0)

Table 6, Outlines the factors influencing preference for Places of internet access based on residential backgrounds of respondents. Among 192 respondents, 51(26.6%) of respondents prefer speed of access including 19(9.9%) from Urban, 18(9.4%) from rural, 14(7.3%) from semi- Urban backgrounds. 39(20.3%) of respondents prefer cost factor, 36(18.8%) respondents prefer convenient hour, 34(17.7%) of respondents prefer provision for downloading and printing, 32(16.6%) of respondents prefer high bandwidth. It is found that more than 25% of them give more preference for speed of access.

Table 7 Frequency Distribution of Library Facility Usage by Gender

S. No	Library Facilities	Male	Female	Total
1	To borrow and returns books	12 (6.3)	25 (13.0)	37 (19.3)
2	To read newspapers and magazine	8 (4.2)	21 (10.9)	29 (15.1)
3	To get reference books	8 (4.2)	19 (9.9)	27 (14.1)
4	To copy of materials	13 (6.8)	14 (7.3)	27 (14.1)
5	To consult reference books	7 (3.6)	13 (6.8)	20 (10.4)
6	To complete class room assignment	8 (4.2)	12 (6.3)	20 (10.4)
7	To read subject books	7 (3.6)	11 (5.7)	18 (9.4)
8	To read general books	4 (2.1)	10 (5.2)	14 (7.3)
Total		67 (34.9)	125 (65.1)	192 (100.0)

Chi-Square Tests Value df Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)

Chi-Square Tests	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	17.321	7	0.013
Likelihood Ratio	19.081	7	0.007
Linear-by-Linear Association	0.068	1	0.793
N of Valid Cases	192		

Table 7, The frequency distribution of library faculty usage by gender indicates that the majority of respondents utilize various services. Among 192 respondents, 25(13.0%) of female respondents, compared to

12(6.3%) of male respondents, utilize the faculty to borrow and return books, totaling 37(19.3%). Reading newspapers and magazines, 21(10.9%) of female respondents, 8(4.2%) of male respondents. To get reference books 19(9.9%) of female respondents, and 8(4.2%) of male respondents access this facility. To copy materials, 14(7.3%) of female respondents, and 13(6.8%) of male respondents access this facility. In the consult reference books, 13(6.8%) of female respondents, and 7(3.6%) of male respondents access this facility. To complete classroom assignments, 12(6.3%) of female respondents, and 8(4.2%) of male respondents access this facility. To read subject books, 11(5.7%) of female respondents, and 7(3.6%) of male respondents access this facility. To read general books, 10(5.2%) of female respondents, and 4(2.1%) of male respondents access this facility.

It is observed that 13% of female respondents utilize the library facilities for borrowing and returning books only.

Findings

1. It is found that more responses are received from Vinayaka Mission's College of Nursing.
2. It is observed that more than 65% of respondents are from the female category when compared to males.
3. It is found that 67(34.9%) of the students and faculty members visit the library every day.
4. The findings of the college-wise distribution of respondents more than 50% of respondents are from Vinayaka Mission's College of Nursing. Based on the institution, the majority of the students and faculty members 101(52.6%) are from Vinayaka Mission's College of Nursing, Karaikal.
5. The findings of the distribution of respondents, and place of access to the internet reveal the fact that more than 30% of respondents access the internet from the college library.
6. It is found that more than 26% of the students and faculty members use the speedy access of internet
7. Based on the level of satisfaction with the library facilities 13% of the female respondents borrow and return the books from the library.

Conclusion

The study on user attitudes towards library resources and services in the nursing colleges of Karaikal region reveals a positive yet critical outlook. While students and faculty appreciate the essential role of libraries in their academic lives, several areas require improvement. There is a growing need for digital resources, better access to specialized nursing literature, and more personalized library resource services. The study suggests that nursing college libraries in the region must adapt to the changing demands of nursing education by expanding their digital infrastructure and providing more user-friendly services to enhance the overall library experience. With the right improvements, these libraries can significantly contribute to the academic and professional success of nursing students and faculty.

It is also observed from the study, that the majority of the respondents are satisfied in using the nursing college library resources and services. So, the use and user perception of nursing college library resources and services at this juncture are up to the mark. Hence, it is concluded from the study that the nursing college library resources and services have become indispensable as well as unavoidable commodities for students and faculty members.

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