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Library and Information Sources And Services for Preparation of competitive Examinations: A study With Reference to public Library

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Abstract:

The Education System in India is fast developing, educational institutes and various government departments conduct different types of exams in India to select the ideal candidates. Millions of students attend these exams every year to get jobs. The aspirants are required to use essential information resources to prepare for competitive examinations in recent years, public libraries have become the primary source of resources for students, job seekers, and the general public. As a result, the current study examines the use of public libraries in the preparation for competitive examinations through a comprehensive evaluation of academic research papers. This research article also emphasizes how competitive examination resources are used in public libraries the main purpose of this article is to provide an overview of the we of public libraries in preparation for competitive exams. However, this manuscript provides a good understanding for new researchers who wish to conduct research in this field and facilitates effective data collection.

Key words: Public Libraries, competitive examinations, information Resources, Library Services, ExamPreparation

(1) Introduction:

Now a days administrative job is very popular in young youth of India. For getting administrative position competitive examinations play a vital role. Shaping the future prospects of young youth they have to clear government examination like UPSC exams, IPS Examination. Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Staff Selection Commission (SSC), and banking

examinations, GPSC examination. All the administrative examination are very hard it requires special preparation for the clear the examination. It is not easy task for the student to crack all competitive examination. It required a lot of efforts to clear the examination. The library is paly a vital role for the students. who are want to clear the examination. They have to depends on library for the reading materials. They have to read different types of reading material like magazine ready reconer, text books, dictionary online source off line sources etc. Public libraries is a repositories of knowledge and all types of reading materials, To fulfill all the requirement of the student they have to depends upon different libraries like school libraries, college libraries, government libraries, private libraries, public libraries. However, the effectiveness of public libraries to providing relevant information sources and services are understudied.

Aims and Objectives of this study is that to investigate the information sources and services available in public libraries to full the requirements of students of the competitive examination preparation. Specifically, this research pursues to:

1. Identify the availability and adequacy of library resources for competitive exam preparation.
2. Assess the awareness and utilization of library resources and services among students.
3. Examine the effectiveness of library services in supporting exam preparation.

By exploring the role of public libraries in supporting competitive exam preparation, this study contributes to our understanding of the complex relationships between information access, educational outcomes and societal development.

(2) Hypotheses:

- nonexistenceof public libraries or adequate resources for competitive exam preparation.
- Awareness or unawareness of sources available in the library resources and its services.
- Library services are ineffective in supporting exam preparation.

(3) Objectives:

- To Identify the sources used in procuring resources for competitive exams by the aspirants.
- To Identify the level of satisfaction on the resources of the competitive exam aspirants.
- To investigate the role of public libraries in supporting students preparing for competitive examinations.
- To suggest recommendation for improving library resources and services.
- To Identify the availability and adequacy of library resources (Books, journals, online databases, etc.) for competitive exam preparation.

(4) Research Tool:

Questionaries method was employed for data collection. In the present study a self-made google form questionaries structured for data collection.

(5) Scope & Limitation:

- Geographil scope south Gujarat. The scope of the present study is limited to students preparing for competitive examinations of south Gujarat.
- Population scope students preparing for competitive examinations
- Male and female students are included in this study.
- The Present study is limited to students preparing for competitive exams only.
- This study is limited to one area so the findings of this study can not be applied to the whole state, all district or state equivalent.

(6) Review of Literature:

Relevant studies in the area of information sources and services for competitive exams were reviewed for the study.

- Ramesh, Ananda A. & Kumar, Kishor S (2016) in their study found that 22% are visiting the public library for competitive exam preparation
- Baladhandayutham, A & Murugapandi, V (2015) Suggests that majority of the users visits the central library to prepare for competitive exams and concludes that library provides resources related to competitive examination to the user and lots of the users of the public library gets job opportunities through this central library.
- Koovakkai, Dineshan & Jalaja, V (2006) in their analysis identities that there is a significant difference in level of requirement of resources to prepare for competitive examinations among female and the male career seekers, whereas tthere is no significant difference in level of requirement of electronic resources among them.
- Durrance, Joan. C (1991) points out that the role of the Libraries is not Simply providing the resources needed by the users rather they also should know how the users utilize the library career resources and services.

(7) Research Methodology:

An Analytical study was conducted through a primary survey. In the present study a survey method was used and a self-constructed questionnaire was designed to answer specific questions. So that information can be collected by getting specific answers based on the objectives for the present study the information has been obtained from the students preparing for the competitive examinbations either face to face or indirectly through the medium of questionnaires.

(8) Data Analysis and Interpretation:

For this study, a total of 50 questionnaires were distributed to students preparing for competitive

examinations in south Gujarat areas. Out of 50 questionnaires I jave received 41 (80%) questionnaires with the proper answer. Out of 100%i have received 81% of questiommaires. It was sufficientpopulation to carried research work.

The information obtained during research in any subject can be vast and extensive.it is not possible or difficult to directly analyze the collect data. The collected data can also be displayed using graphs and charts or graphs.In the present study an attempt has been made to show the statistics in percentages while classifying and analyzing theavailable base material by the researcher.

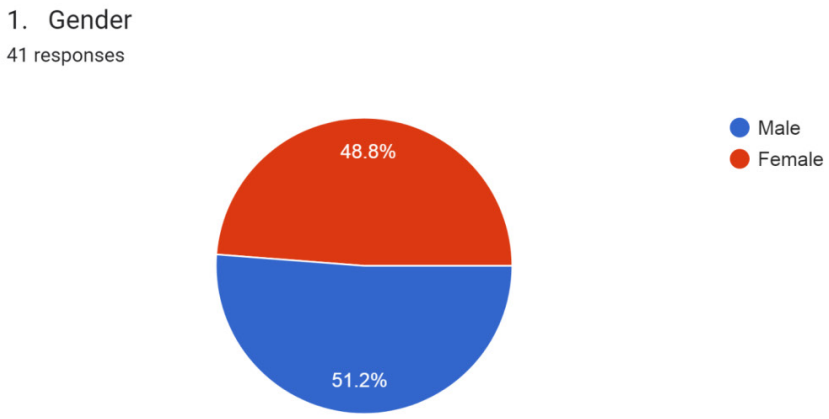


Figure 8.1 Gender of respondents

Figure 8.1 shows that The number of male candidates was 21(51.2%) while the number of women was 20(48.8%)while preparing for the competitive examinations. Thus, base on the above statistics it can be said that the number of male candidates is more than female candidates while preparing for competitive exams.

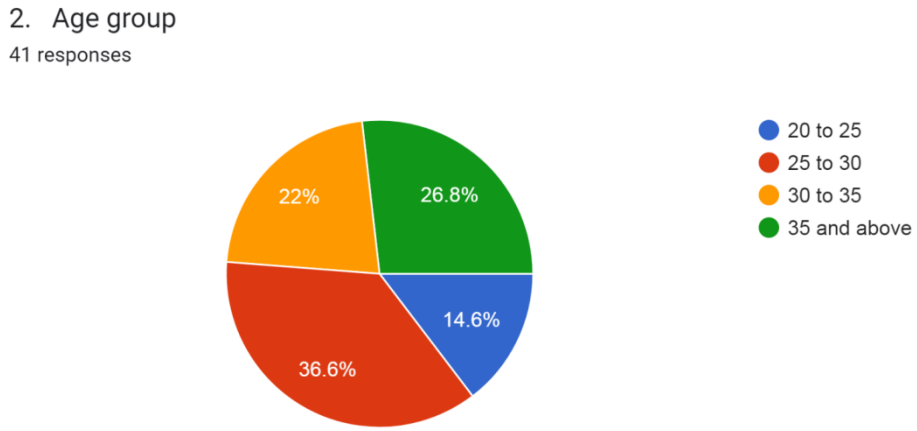


Figure 8.2 Age Information

Figure 8.2 shows that The age groups of the candidates are 20 to 25, 25 to 30, 30 to 35 and 35 and above. That is 6(14.6%), 15(36.5%), 9(22%) and 11(26.8%) so based on the data it can be said that the maximum number of candidates belonging to the age group of 25 to 30 years are engaged in competitive exam preparation. While the candidates are belong to the minimum age group of 20 to 25 years are engaged in competitive exam preparation.

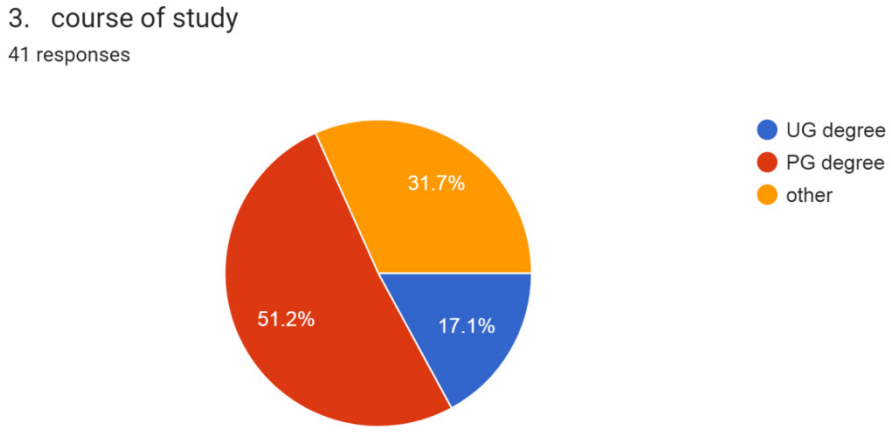


Figure 8.3 course of study

Figure 8.3 shows that The most number of candidates with post graduation educational qualification are involved in the preparation of competitive examinations. Their percentage is 21(51.2%). Thus, it can be said that post graduate level candidates are seen preparing for competitive exams to avail most employment opportunities.

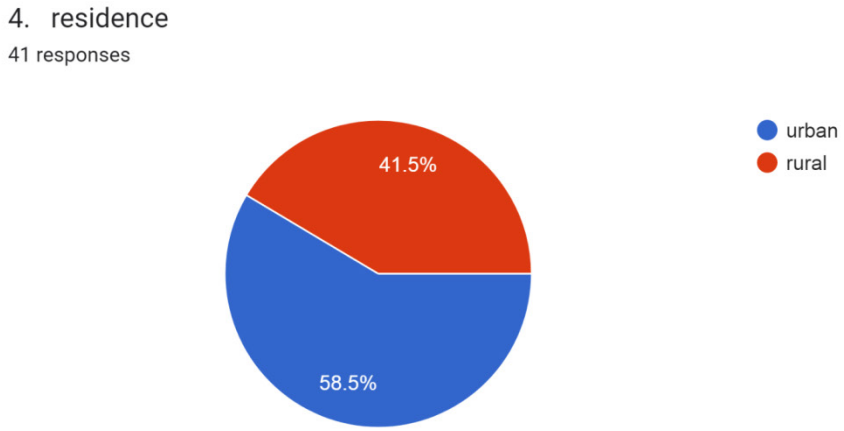


Figure 8.4 residence

Figure 8.4 shows that Out of 41 respondents 24(58.5%) respondents are from Urban area and 17(41.5%) respondents are from Rural area. Thus, majority 24(58.5%) of the respondents are from urban area.

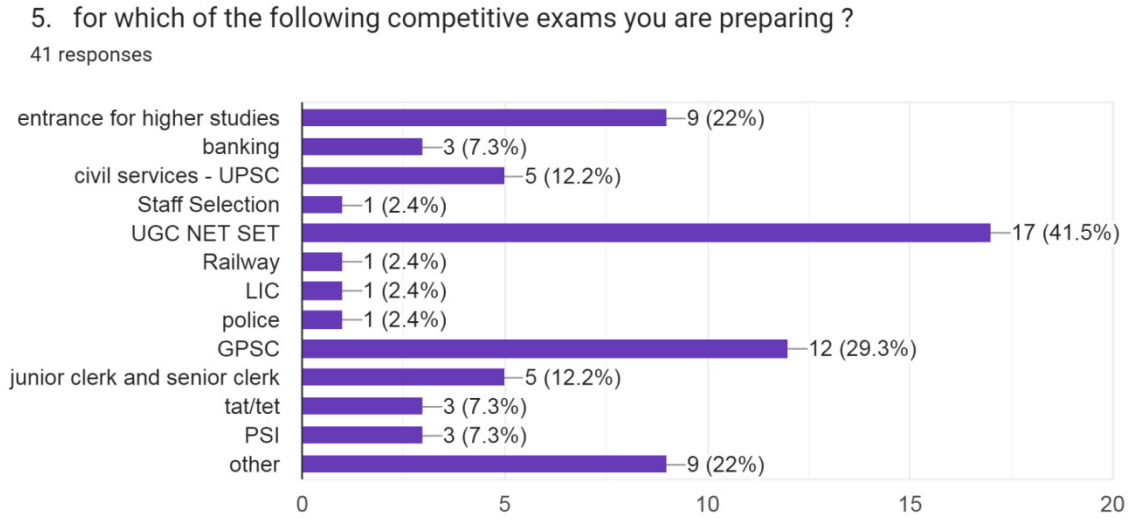


Figure 8.5 following competitive exams

Figure 8.5 shows that It is that 17(41.5%) of the respondents are preparing for UGC NET/SET exams, 12(29.3%) of respondents are preparing for UPSC exams, 9(22%) of respondents are preparing entrance for higher studies and other exams, 5(12.2%) of respondents are preparing for civil services-UPSC and Jr. & Sr. clerk exams, 3(7.3 %) of respondents are preparing for TAT/TET, banking. PSI exams and 1(2.4%) of respondents are preparing for railway, lic, police exams.

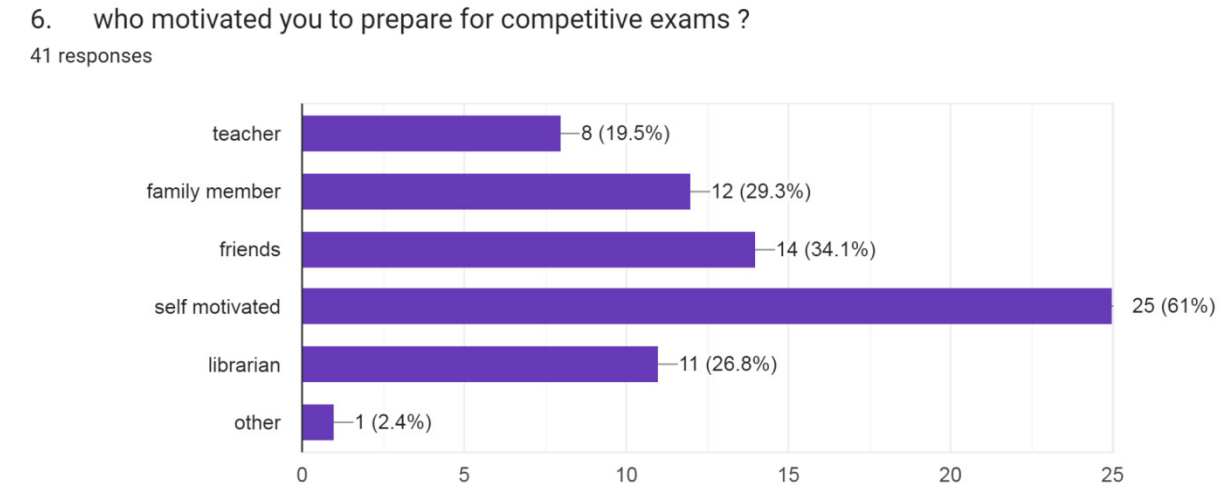


Figure 8.6 motivatedprepare detail

Figure 8.6 shows that 25(61%) of respondents are self-motivated to prepare for competitive exams, 14(34.4%) of respondents are friends to prepare for competitive exams. So this shows that majority 25(61%) of respondents are self motivated to prepare competitive exams.

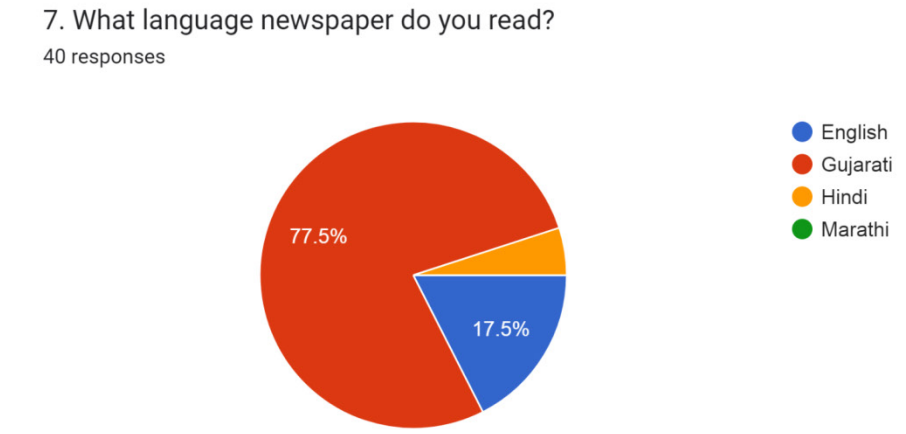


Figure 8.7 Languages

Figure 8.7 shows that 31(77.5%) of respondents to read Gujarati newspaper, 7(17.5%) of respondents prefer to read English newspaper. So majority 31(77.5%) of respondents are gujarati language newspaper.

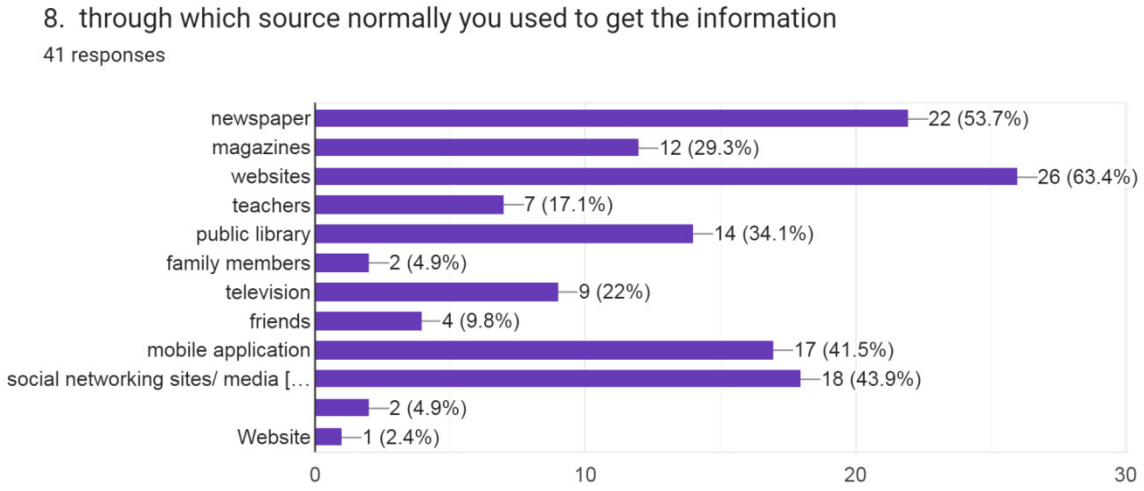


Figure 8.8 Sources used

Figure 8.8 shows that 26(63.4%) of respondents sources of information is websites, 22(53.7%) of respondents sources of information is newspaper, 18(43.9%) respondents sources of information is social networking sites. Thus, it is revealed that most 26(63.4%) of respondents sources of information is websites.

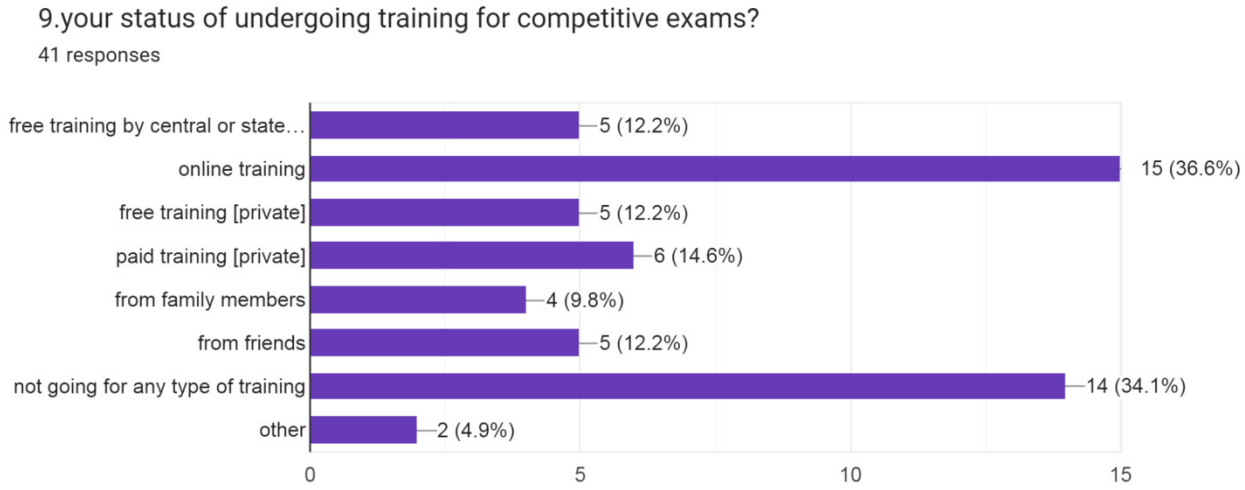


Figure 8.9 Undergoing training for competitive exams

Figure 8.9 shows that 15(36.6%) of respondents are online training for competitive exams, 14(34.1 %) of respondents are not going for any type of training, this shows that most 15(36.6%) of respondents are online training for competitive exams.

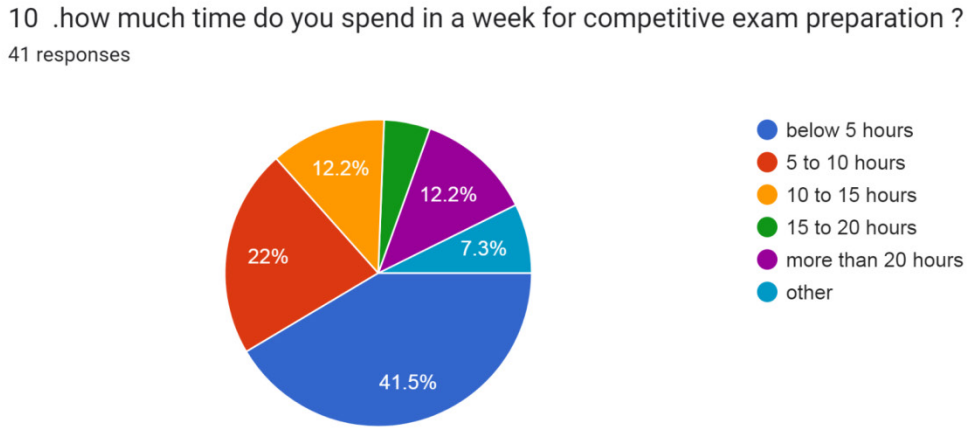


Figure 8.10 weekly time spend detail

Figure 8.10 shows that 17(41.5%) respondents spend below 5 hours per week for competitive exam preparation, 9(22 %) respondents spend 5 to 10 hours in a week for competitive exam preparation, 5(12.2 %) respondents spend 10 to 15 hours and more than 20 hours in a week for competitive exam preparation. Thus, it is found that majority 17(41.5%) respondents spend 5 hours per week for competitive exam preparation.

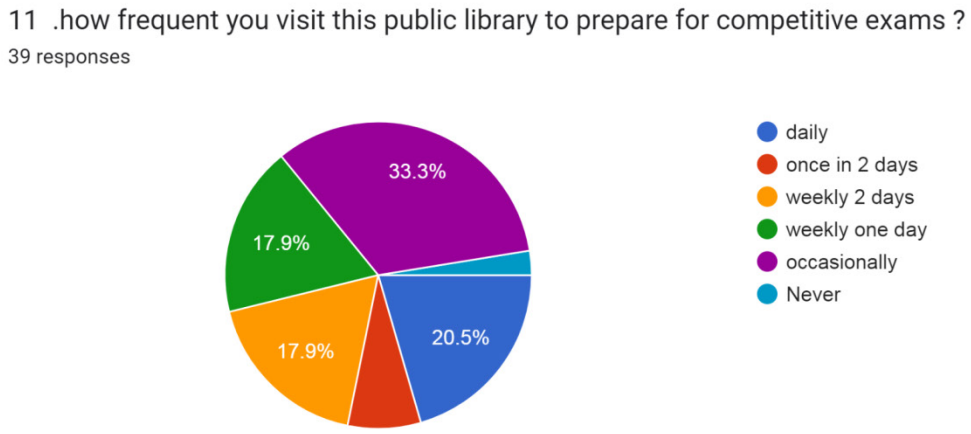


Figure 8.11 visit library

Figure 8.11 shows that 13(33.%) of respondents visit the library for occasionally for competitive exam preparation, 8(20.5 %) of respondents visit the library daily for competitive exam preparation, 7(17.9%) of respondents visit the library weekly one day and weekly 2 days. This shows that most 13(33.3%) of respondents visit the library occasionally for competitive exam preparation.

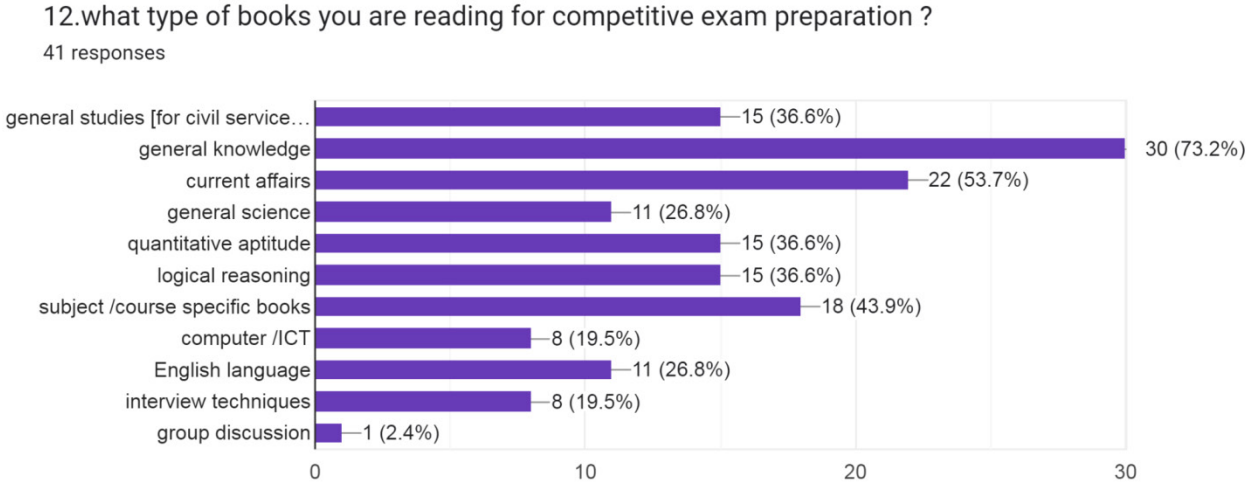


Figure 8.12 Types of books reading

Figure 8.12 shows that 30(73.2%) of respondents use book of General knowledge for their competitive exam preparation, 22(53.7%) of respondents use books on 'current affairs' for their preparation, 15(36.6%) of respondents use book of general studies for civil services, quantitative aptitude and logical reasoning. This shows that majority 30(73.2%) of respondents use book on 'general knowledge' for their competitive exam preparation.

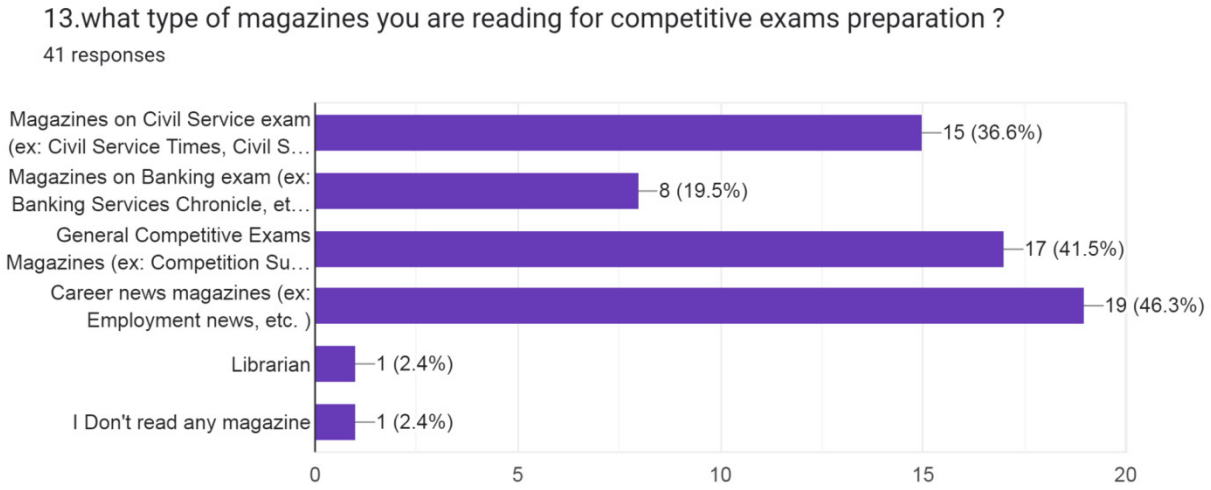


Figure 8.13 magazines reading

Figure 8.13 shows that 19(46.3%) of respondents use career news magazines, 17(41.5%) of respondents use general competitive exams magazines. thus, it is revealed that majority 19(46.3%)of respondents use career news magazines for their preparation.

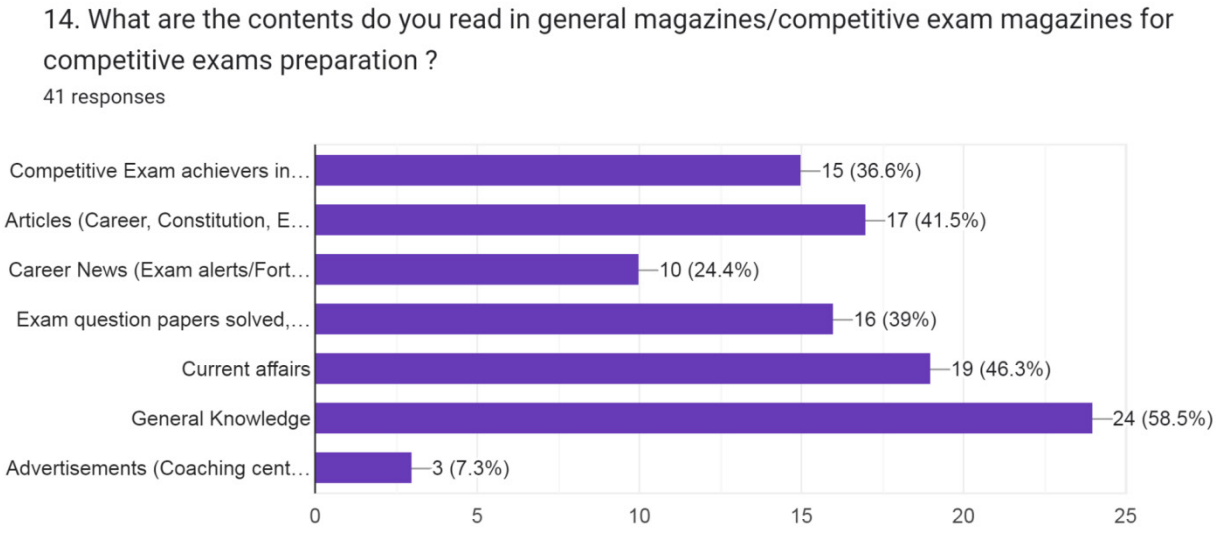


Figure 8.14 read general magazines

Figure 8.14 shows that 24(58.5%) of respondents read 'General knowledge' from the competitive exam magazines, 17(41.5%) of respondents read Articles from the , 16(39%) of respondents exam question papers solved, practice of question papers, this show that majority 24(58.5%) of respondents read general knowledge from the competitive exam magazines.

15. Based on the above listed resources (Books, Magazines and Newspaper) usage, what is your Level of Utility of Competitive Exam Resources in this Library?

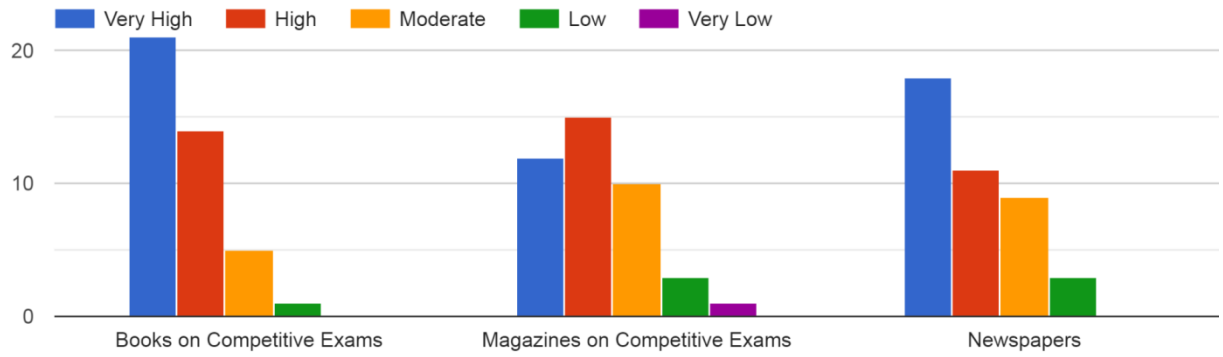


Figure 8.15resources in library

Figure 8.15 shows that Among the level of utility of competitive exam resources in libraries, books on competitive exams is ranked first position, newspaper on competitive exams is ranked second position, and magazines on competitive on competitive exams ranked third position. Thus, majority of the level of utility of competitive exam resources in libraries in books on competitive exams which is most preferred.

16.Which of the following resources are available in libraries?

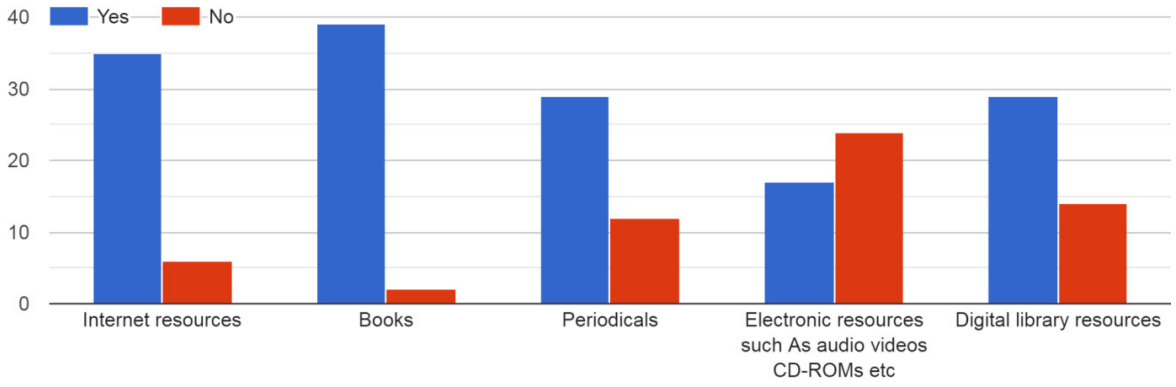


Figure 8.16 resources in libraries

Figure 8.16 shows that Among the level of utility of competitive exam resources in libraries, books on first rank in competitive exams, internet resources is second rank, periodicals and digital library resources both are same.

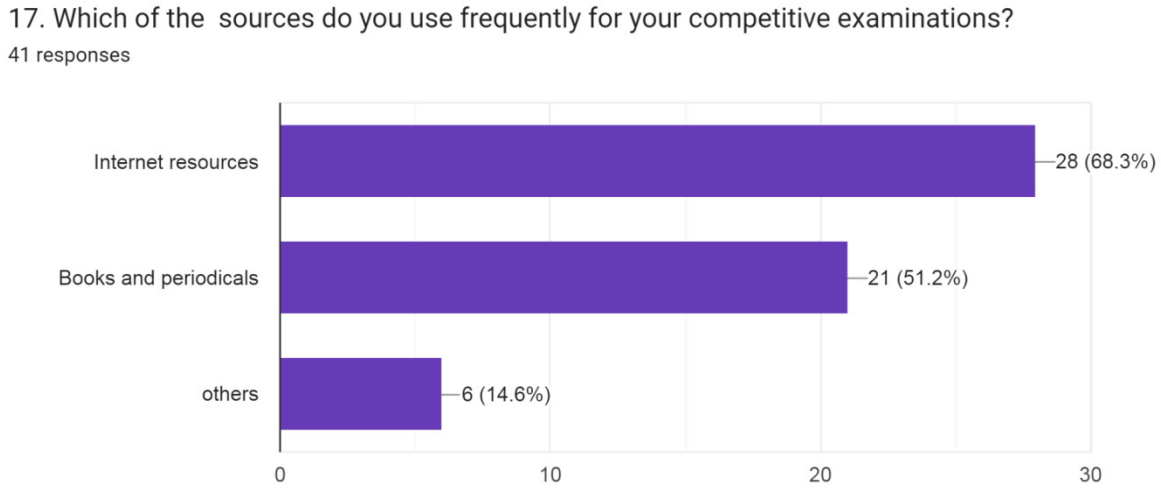


Figure 8.17 sources frequency

Figure 8.17 shows that 28(68.3 %) of respondents are use frequently internet resources, 21(51.2%) of respondents are use frequently books and periodicals. And 6(14.6%) of respondents are use other resources use frequently for competitive exams.

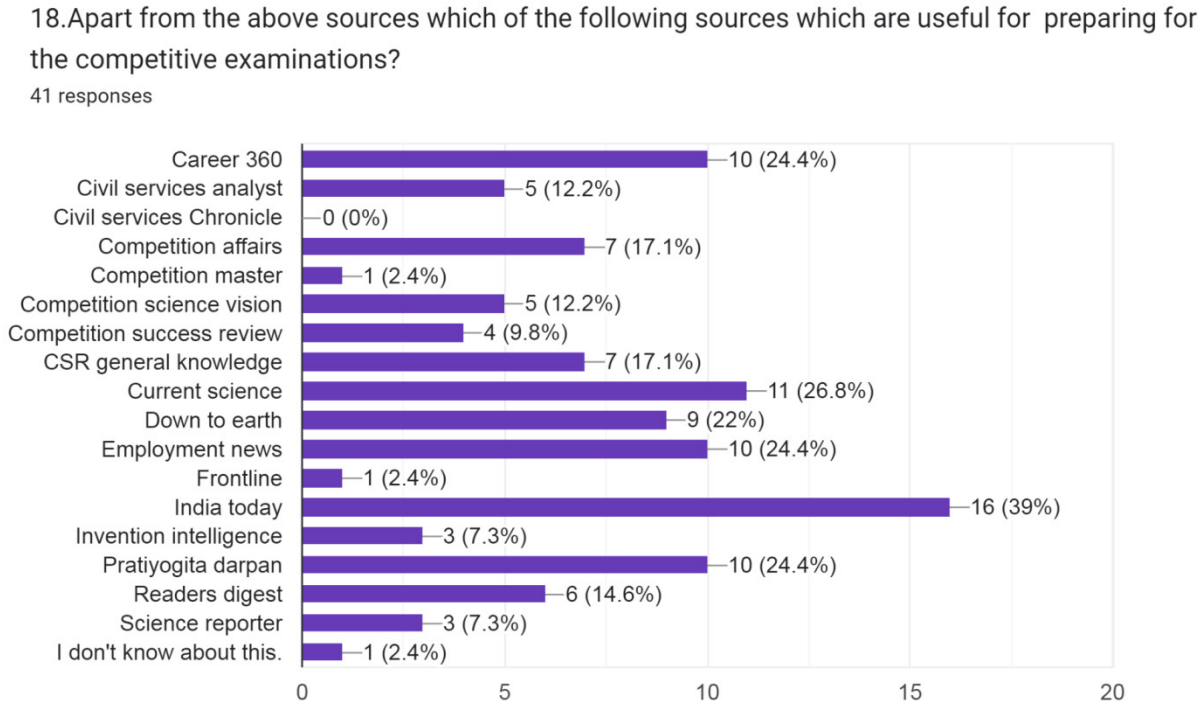


Figure 8.18 useful sources

Figure 8.18 shows that 16(39%) of respondents useful india todayt magazine useful for preparing competitive exams, 10(24.4%) of respondents useful career 360 and employment news.

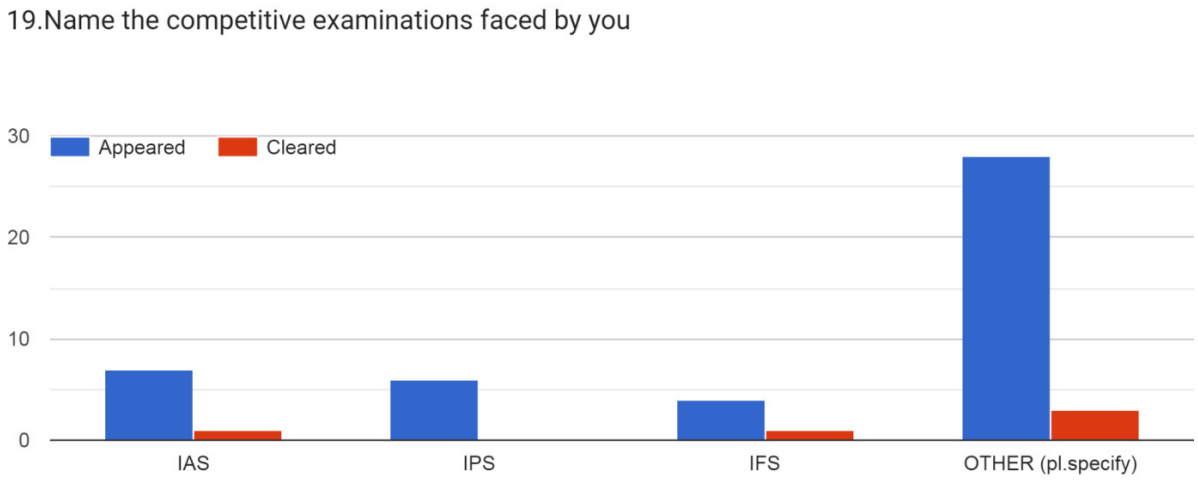


Figure 8.19 name of competitive exams

Figure 8.19 shows that it can be seen that the number of IAS, IPS,IFS examtakers is more than the number of second exam takers.

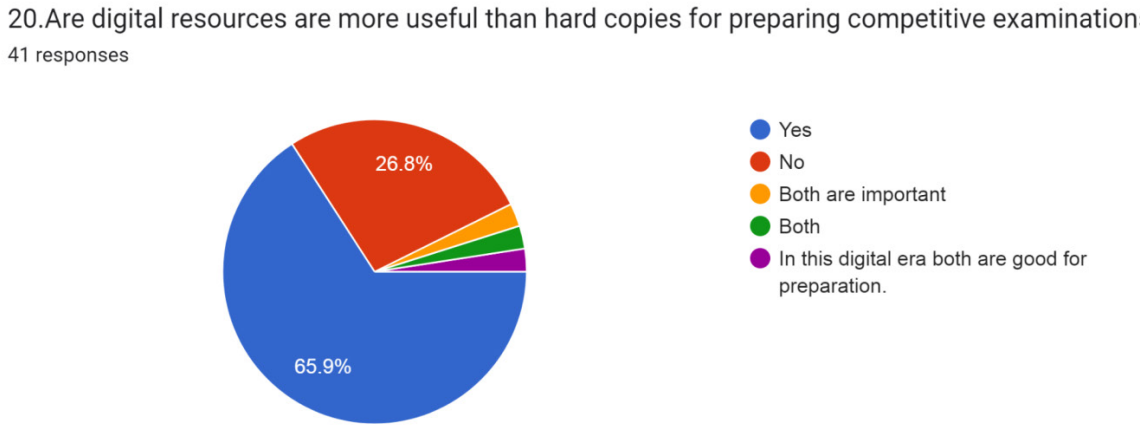


Figure 8.20 digital resources useful detail

Figure 8.20 shows that majority, 27(65.9%) of respondents are useful than hard copies for preparing competitive exams.

(9) Conclusion:

Public Libraries in south Gujarat have potential but require improvement to effectively support students preparing for competitive examinations.while libraries provide some resources and services, there is scope for improvement. Enhancing library collections, services and staff training can bridge the gap between library offerings and student needs.

This report provides an overview of the study's findings, highlighting the knesses of public libraries in supporting competitive exam preparation.

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