



*Survey on Assessing Accessibility
to Online Education among
students of
Al - Ameen College
2020 -2021
June—2020*



Introduction

COVID—19, Pandemic has disrupted the education sector in a significant manner. The traditional classroom learning was shifted to virtual class rooms and e-learning system. Teachers were forced to undertake teaching remotely and on digital platforms. This drastic change has evolved many concerns in the mind set of teachers and students.

Significance of the survey

Al– Ameen College being a minority institution holds students from a deprived economic background. At this stage, IQAC of Al– Ameen College has decided to initiate an online survey among their wards to know about their accessibility towards internet and online education. The major aim behind this step was to identify the students who were lacking the gadgets and to identify the various types of hurdles faced by the students while attending online sessions.

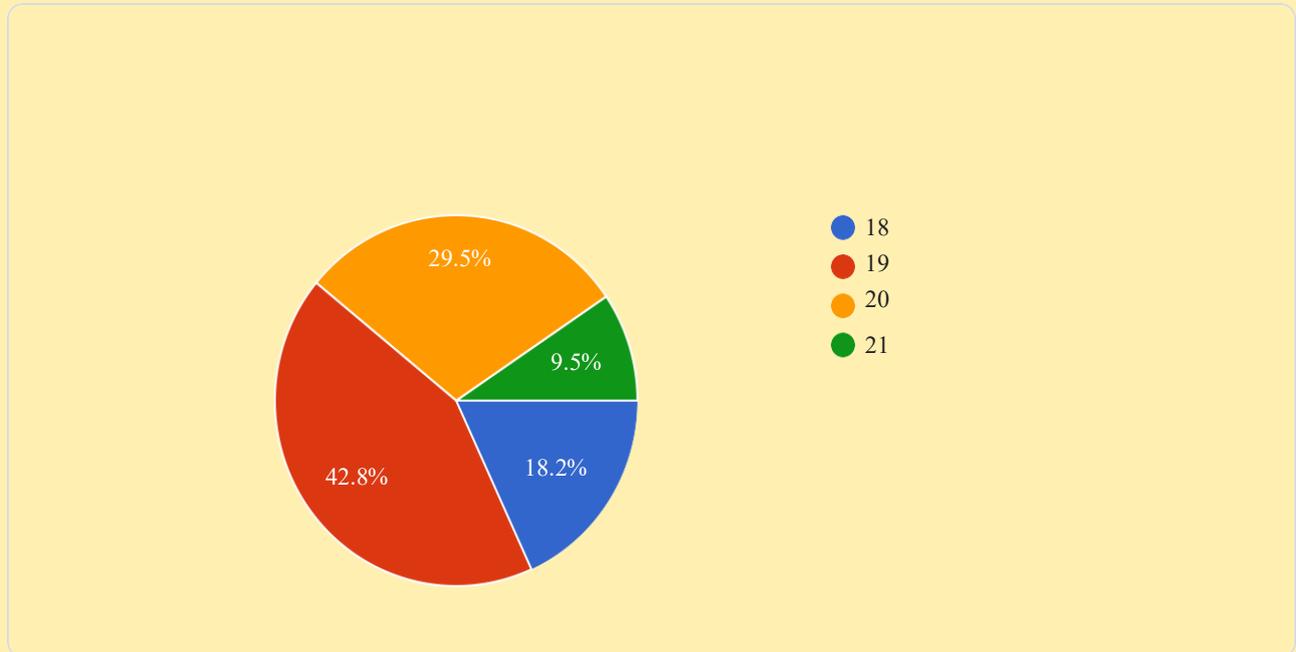
Methodology adopted in carrying out the survey

The survey was conducted among the whole students of Al– Ameen College, including the final year and second year Under graduate students as well as final year Post graduate students. An online survey form was drafted by the IQAC and was circulated among the student whatsapp groups and the response was collected and analysed and the findings of the survey and suggestions as part of the findings were submitted to the Principal and Management for further action.

Follow up action

The findings of the survey was presented in the Staff council meeting before the Management, Principal and Head of the Departments to discuss and find out a solution for the problems identified in the survey.

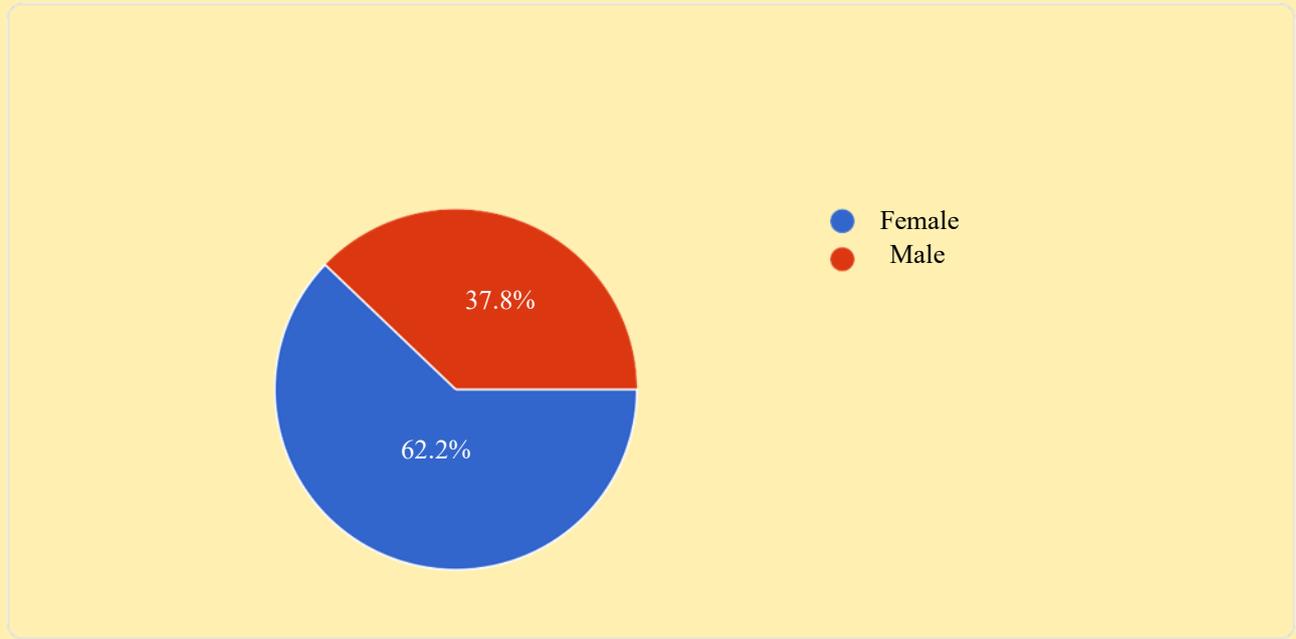
Age of the Respondents:



Inference:

From the response collected from a total of 798 students it was found that the majority of the respondents nearly 43 % (students of Al—Ameen College, Edathala) are falling under the age category of 19 and nearly 30% of student respondents are under the age category 20. It was also found that only as small group of students 9.5% are under the age category of 21.

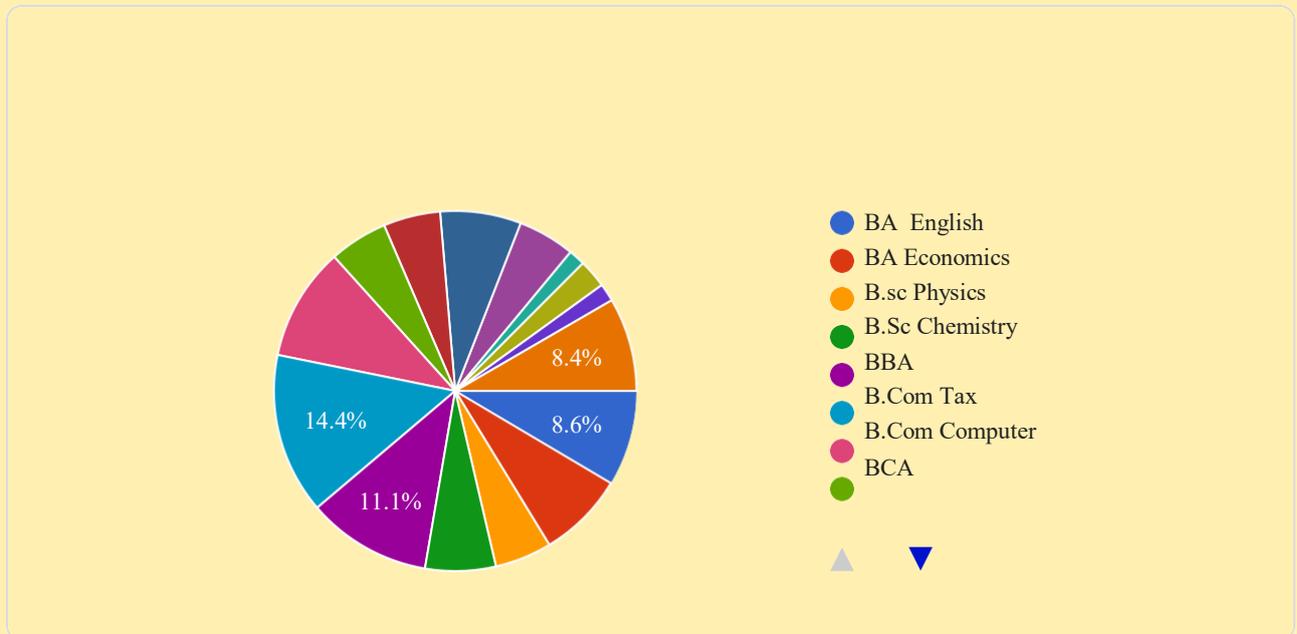
Gender of the Respondents



Inference :

The survey results throw light to the fact that the majority of the respondents are Female students which is coming around 62.2% and the male students response rate is only 37.8%. This clearly states that the institution holds majority of female students during the year 2020-2021.

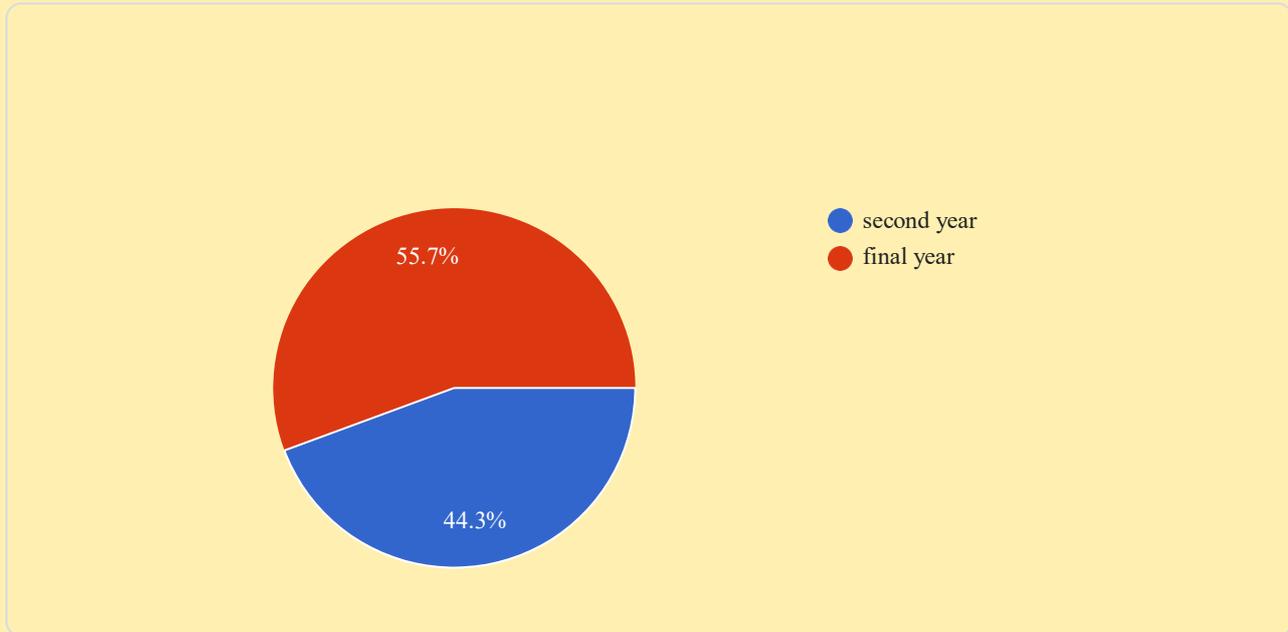
Stream of Study / Programme of Respondents



Inference :

With regard to the course of study of the students responded in the survey, it was found that majority of students are from Department of Commerce (B.Com Computer) (14.4%) which is followed by department of Business Administration (BBA). This also sheds light to the fact that highest number of students in the institution is under the department of commerce (B.Com Computer)

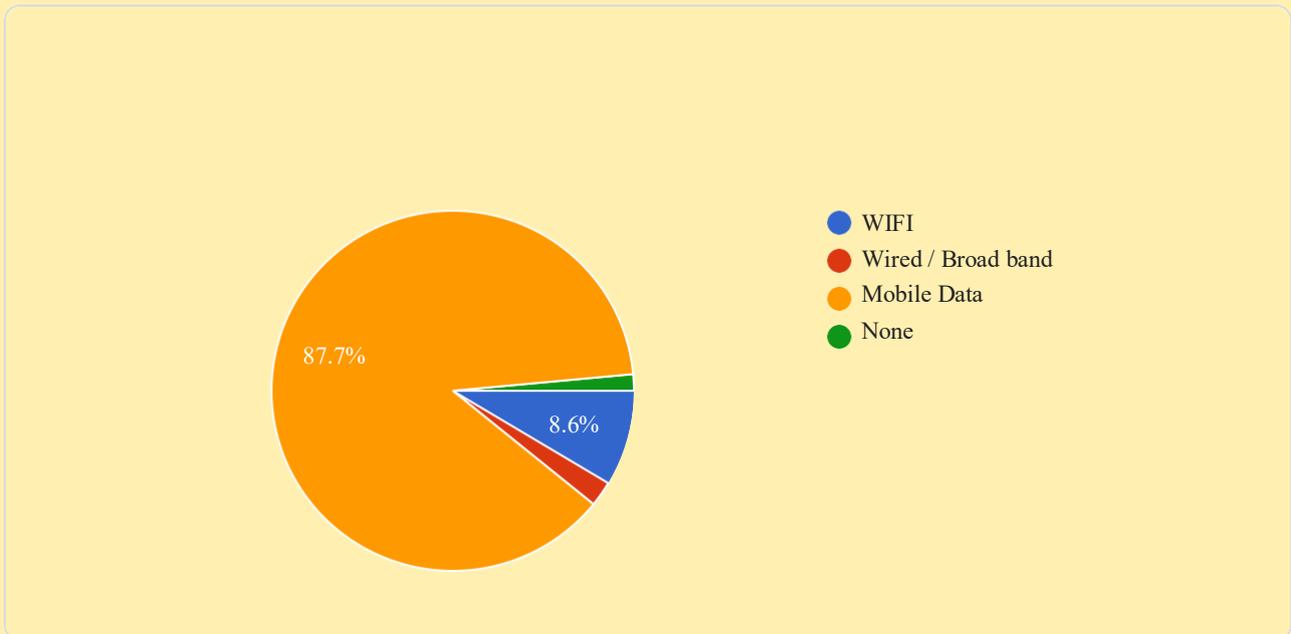
Class of Student Respondents / Year of Study



Inference :

The study put forwards to the fact that the highest response rate was found from the final year students of the institution (55.7%) which is including the final year under graduate students and final year post graduate students.

Accessibility to Internet

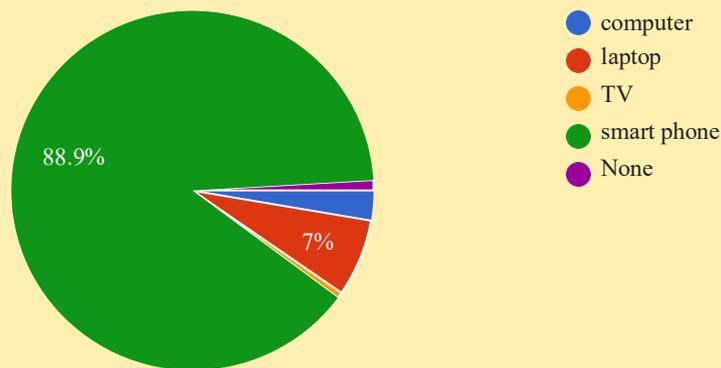


Inference :

The study sheds light to the fact that almost all the students nearly 88% of the respondents are using their mobile data on their smart phones for attending their online classes. Only a few around 9% is depending on wifi for their internet access so as to attend the online classes.

It was also to be noted that a few students have stated that they are not having any access towards the internet and hence were not able to attend the online sessions carried on.

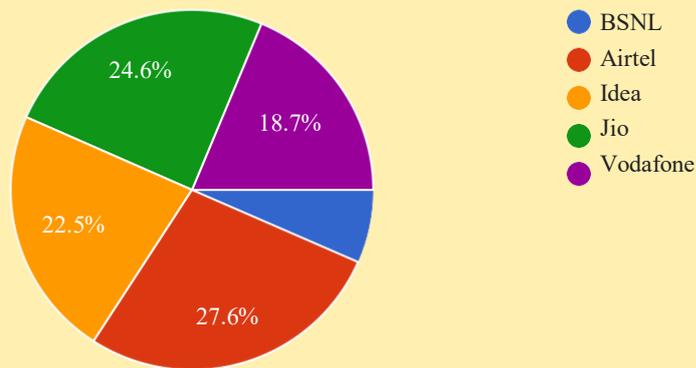
Devices used for Internet Accessibility



Inference :

It was found from the survey that nearly 90% of the students who have responded were opting smart phone as their device to access internet so as to attend the online sessions. Only a meagre percentage, 7% are relying on laptop and computers for their online education. It is also pointed out that there are a very few students who were not having any device on their own to attend the online classes.

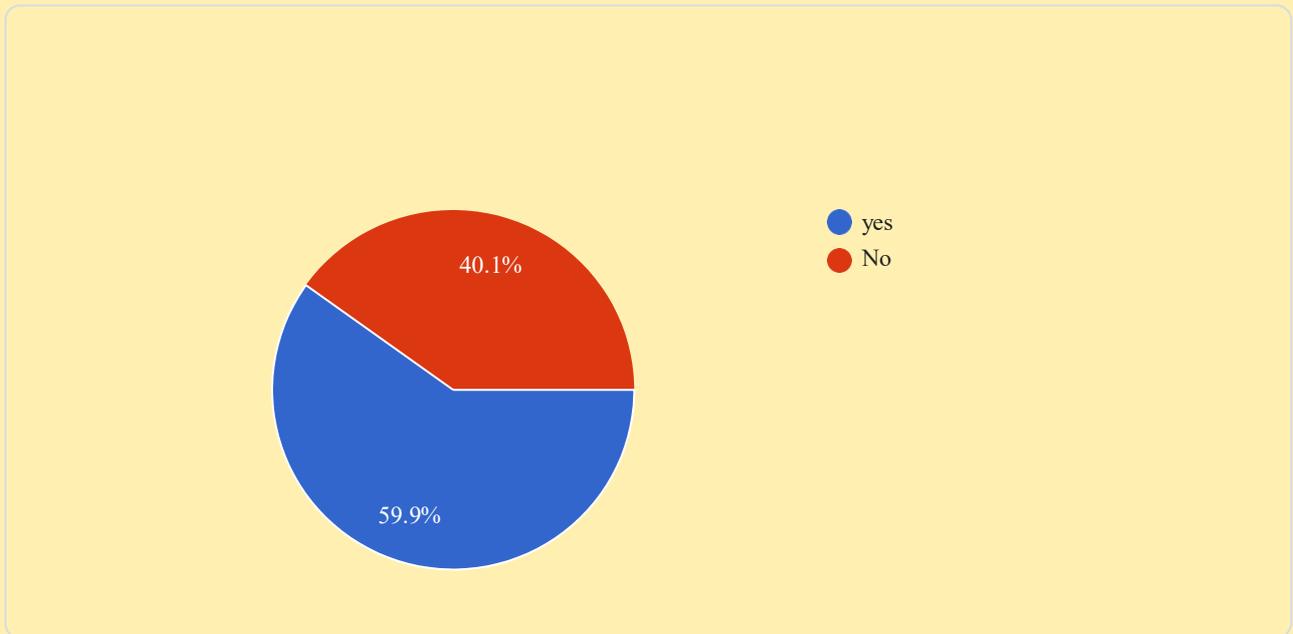
The Internet Provider which is being used by the students



Inference :

With regard to the type of provider the students are using so as to access the internet for their online education, it was clear that there is no such difference found in the type of providers they are relying on. Among the various providers a small majority of preference is found with Airtel which is followed by Jio. It was further noticed that the lowest preference of providers was given to BSNL.

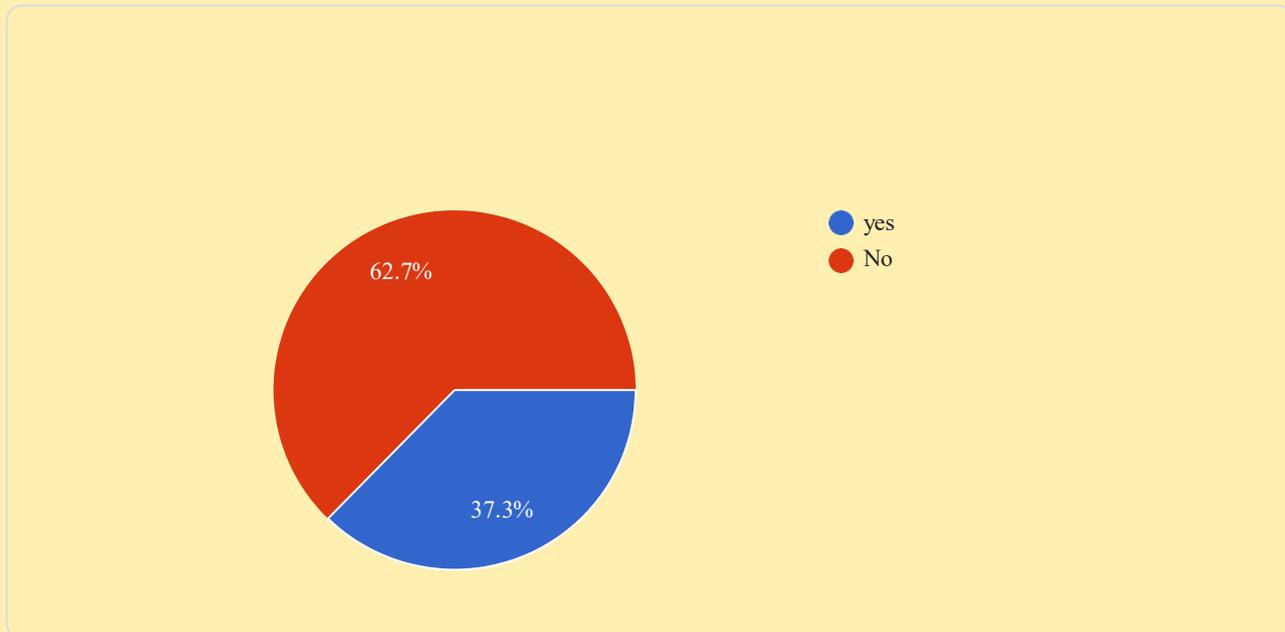
Students attended online classes so far



Inference :

The study draws attention of the authorities to the fact that only 60% of the students have attended the online classes so far during the survey period. The remaining 40% have no idea about the online sessions since they have not attended any such type of virtual class rooms.

Any Problems encountered while attending online classes



Inference :

Among the student respondents of the survey who have attended the online classes so far during the survey period, it was clear that nearly 63% of the students have not encountered any problems during the online sessions and nearly 37% of the respondents have come through various obstructions while attending their online sessions.

Problems Encountered—List of major hurdles

1. Range issue—Network Problems
2. Data usage—very high and not affordable
3. Health issues like headache, ear pain etc.

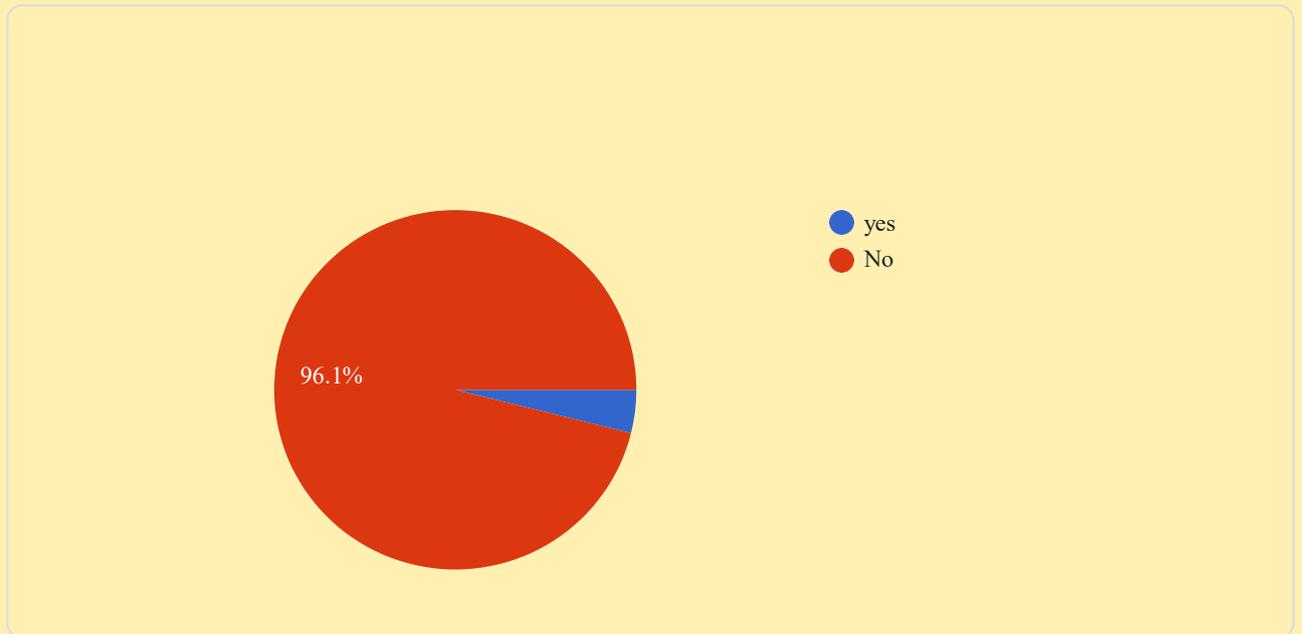
Inference :

The major problem encountered by the students were the network issues, climate, rural areas where mobile towers are few have paved way to the network issues and range problems for the students.

Another problems identified was the prolonged data usage forces students to rely on a large plan of internet data which requires a huge amount since the data charges of the providers are very high. It is not affordable for the students.

Health issues were also pointed out by the students like head ache, ear pain etc due to the long sessions they have to attend every day.

Any Free Access to Internet Available



Inference :

It was found from the survey that only a very few are receiving free access to internet and the majority 96% are not enjoying any benefit regarding free access to internet from any sources.

Findings of the Survey :

- * It was found that nearly 43 % (students of Al—Ameen College, Edathala) are falling under the age category of 19 and nearly 30% of student respondents are under the age category 20. It was also found that only as small group of students 9.5% are under the age category of 21.
- * The survey results throw light to the fact that the institution holds majority of female students during the year 2020-2021.
- * The survey sheds light to the fact that highest number of students in the institution is under the department of commerce (B.Com Computer) followed by the department of Business Administration (BBA).
- * Almost all the students nearly 88% of the respondents are using their mobile data on their smart phones for attending their online classes. Only a few around 9% is depending on wifi for their internet and a few students have no device for internet access.
- * 90% of the students who have responded were opting smart phone as their device to access internet so as to attend the online sessions. Only a meagre percentage, 7% are relying on laptop and computers for their online education.
- * No much difference was found in the type of providers students are relying on. Among the various providers a small majority of preference is found with Airtel which is followed by Jio. It was further noticed that the lowest preference of providers was given to BSNL.

Findings of the Survey : contd....

- * Only 60% of the students have attended the online classes so far during the survey period. The remaining 40% have no idea about the online sessions since they have not attended any such type of virtual class rooms.
- * Among the student respondents of the survey who have attended the online classes so far during the survey period, it was clear that nearly 63% of the students have not encountered any problems during the online sessions and nearly 37% of the respondents have come through various obstructions while attending their online sessions.
- * The major problem encountered by the students were the network issues, climate, rural areas where mobile towers are few have paved way to the network issues and range problems for the students.
- * Another problems identified was the prolonged data usage forces students to rely on a large plan of internet data which requires a huge amount since the data charges of the providers are very high. It is not affordable for the students.
- * Health issues were also pointed out by the students like head ache, ear pain etc due to the long sessions they have to attend every day.
- * It was found from the survey that only a very few are receiving free access to internet and the majority 96% are not enjoying any benefit regarding free access to internet from any sources.

Suggestions

- ◆ As per the survey, it was found that there are a few students who are not having any device or accessibility to internet in order to attend the online classes. So this seeks serious and immediate attention from the part of the authorities to make a department wise analysis of students who lack the device and if it is a genuine case, the institution should find a solution as to supply the device to the deserving students free of cost at the earliest so as to enable them to participate in the online sessions.
- ◆ Regarding the network issues, we can contact the panchayat or any other local authorities to find an ultimate solution like fixing boosters so as to fasten the network and reduce range problems.
- ◆ The data usage can be kept to the minimum by adopting certain measures while online sessions are carried on.
- ◆ Teachers can also utilise the MOODLE platform for their virtual classes.
- ◆ Apart from the curriculum students should be provided with an opportunity with extra curricular sessions also like webinars, online quiz, competitions etc.