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# A survey based study of internet usage by students in COVID 19 pandemic

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#### **Abstract**

The development of technology and devices related to the internet increases with time and also their usage which has both positive and negative impact on user's, especially on students. In order to handle the epidemic of covid19 the physical classes in schools and colleges have been postponed and studies through the online classes have started. So in the current situation all students have their own devices with internet connection for continuing their studies. In this research we study, investigate, how much internet usage has increased and how much and which area it has affected students like in their studies, behavior or health etc. To get the answer to our questions we create a set of questionnaires to get information from students. We distribute this set of questions to students to collect information then we will analyze those data to find the answers.

Keywords: Internet usages, social media, depression, technology, students, covid-19

# 1. Introduction

The Internet is a network of computers and other electronic devices. Billions of Devices Worldwide the Internet prevents billions of devices from communicating via websites and using Internet protocols such as TCP/IP. Unlimited data on the Internet. Inside is a lot of information on a single topic. This is the reason why many people depend on the internet to get work. This is because researchers and students collect data and information online for research purposes [1].

Due to COVID19 infection students are studying online classes at home to overcome various situations. Because students are becoming increasingly dependent on the Internet to collect research material, for example, or for online lectures and other activities.

But internet is good for students. But it also has negative consequences. Due to COVID-19, students do not have to go to college and spend all their time at home. Many students want to spend their time online. Students use the Internet for education, but mainly for online games and for use on social media and to watch online videos.

In the new era of 2021, at this time everyone is connected to the Internet in some way or the other and is using it. People are already using Google apps like Paytm to transact on the site to buy products. And this process is also stimulated by the government. In case of covid19 it is a human process where people have to divorce, it will be very helpful for them.

# 2. Purpose and importance of study

The purpose of this research paper is that we will find out that due to covid19 pandemic, to what extent students' internet usage has increased and what is its effect on their academic progress. You will find out about the impact of student's use of internet on their life, their behavior and their health.

Through this study, we came to know about how dependent the student is on the Internet, how much they use it, so later if any problem will be exposed, and then it is easy to get the solution for it.

# 3. Objectives

The main objective of this research work is to understand the effects of the internet in the lives of students living in different places during covid19 and the importance of the internet in their lives. The key objectives of this research study -

- How much have students become dependent on the internet for studies in covid19?
- To study the frequency of internet use by school and college students.
- To Study the importance of the Internet in the lives of students.

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- To study the motives of the students for using the Internet.
- To study how the Internet is affecting the physical and mental health of students.

# 4. Review of literature

In the modern age of todays is going to ICT based and Internet is the platform which provide environment where millions of people engage in the creation and exchange of information. Indeed, this fact affects academic achievement and social life <sup>[2]</sup>. By this, a review of the literature was carried out to study and investigate the internet usage by students in covid-19 pandemic.

It is very important for the researcher to see how the authors see how much students get dependent on the internet in pandemic situations. In addition, it aimed at how digital online can help students in their academics. The researcher also wants to see how many hours' students use the internet and how much the internet as a source of information affects students' learning. In addition, this prose aims to give the impression of being at the positive and negative special effects of Internet usage in a student's life. Therefore, this writing assessment will endeavor to provide a better understanding of the effect of the internet on students, how much youth, and young students are getting more and more dependent on the internet.

Statistics and facts published by Sandhya Keelari on Internet usage in India, as of August 2, 2021 – With over 560 million Internet users, India is the world's second largest online market, second only to China. And according to a survey conducted in 2019, about 54 percent of the Indian internet user base was between 20 and 39 years old. People over the age of 40 made up the lowest share, while youth in the age group of 12 to 15 years made up approx. From all this information, we come to know that most of the people who use the internet are students studying in schools, colleges i.e. new generation [3].

# 4.1 Internet use as study materials/purpose

In a 2013 study by Sampath Kumar and Manjunat, teachers and research assistants viewed Internet use in a positive way. According to him, the use of the Internet improves the experience during the internship. And to write scientific articles in research [4]. Learning to drive is perhaps the most important plan for many students. Contents and details are very different. But the main purpose is to provide information and details. "With my words". There is usually two reasons for keeping a journal. At first, some students find that translating and interpreting helps they remember the material. Another reason is to make sure kids get things done, especially before exams. He needs words that are easy to understand. Many people use the literature for further research and reviews. Especially during the course of the experiment [14].

# 4.2 Importance of internet in student's life

The Internet, today's most efficient technology. Used by all children, teenagers and adults. It helps us not only in daily life but also in work. Nowadays, we all know that internet plays an important role in education and in case of covid19, students are completely dependent on internet for education. Collecting online class and research material etc. By using popular internet tools like Google, Yahoo and others, students collect huge amount of data in a short amount of

time. For research and other works. "Internet is a way for students. To solve all the problems related to research easily."

# 4.3 Impact of internet in students

While the use of the internet for students is helpful in solving the problems related to their studies, which has a positive effect on the students of the internet, its negative effects are also being found in the student like sleeping disorder [7].

Most of the young generation see in the present time, they use more than half of their day to use the internet, due to which their other essential work is lost and suffer, for example some students instead of preparing for the exam they waste their time, so they have to face difficulty in the examination. Using mobile phones late at night, they face sleeping disorders due to the habit of staying awake till late night, they are becoming physically weak due to lack of physical activity. There are many other things in today's children's behavior which shows the negative effect of the internet on students [7,8].

The internet is inundated with the results of a new study on Matthew's happiness. Kills worth and Daniel Gilbert, who show that the more we have a mind, the lower our happiness. Whether work is fun or not Research shows that we are happiest when we focus on a single task.

I hope it will be much easier to find a way to focus. With the flow of information that reaches us every day. The Focus quickly became the toughest product of the 21st century. I have put together some of the best programs to continually fight the destruction of our digital lives [10].

By getting all the necessary information from the Internet, students avoid working hard, due to which the creativity inside them gradually decreases. By spending all their time on mobile, they are not able to talk face to face with other people and express their thoughts; there is a lack of confidence in them [12].

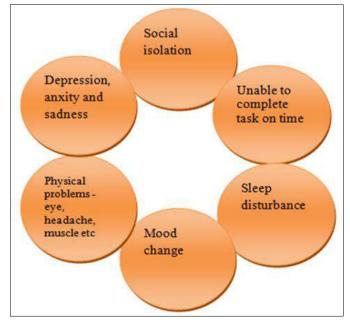


Fig 1: Problems caused by excessive internet usage

Where the internet proves to be an important resource for students to have good quality education, for their development, its misuse also becomes a medium to remove them from all the necessary things related to their development, so all students should use the internet properly and appropriately. It should be done.

Emotional symptoms of online addiction-Feeling of guilt, Anxiety, Depression, Dishonesty, Euphoric feeling when in front of computer, Unable to keep scheduled, No sense of time, Isolation, Defensiveness, Avoiding doing work Agitation [8, 9, 12].

Physical symptoms of online addiction or characteristic of someone who uses the computer or mobile for a very long period of time- Backache, Headaches, Weight gain or loss, Disturbances in sleep, Carpal tunnel syndrome, Blurred or strained vision [5, 9, 12].

R.H. Puspita has proved through his research "The Impact of Internet Use for Students" that how much high school students use the Internet, 120 response students said that

from the beginning of their day, they sleep at night. Till they do not stay away from the internet, 68.33% always use the internet for social media, 54.17% student's respond that they use the internet for online games and 51.67% always use internet to watch YouTube, only 31.67% people response for learning and seeking information or for study [6]

# 5. Research methodology

In this research, qualitative research is conducted based on questionnaire methods to obtain and to analyze the data with the help of Google form. This method was designated to help researchers to understand the importance and impacts of the internet in students during covid-19 pandemic. Survey techniques and questionnaires were used as tools to collect the data.

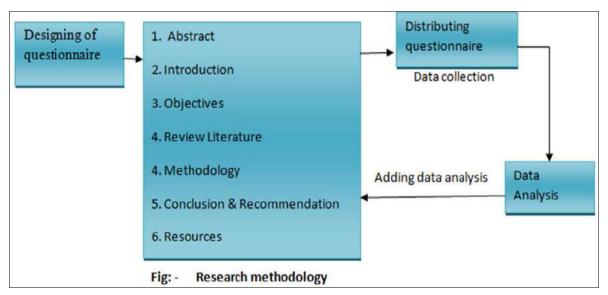


Fig 2: Research methodology

# 5.1 Questionnaire designing

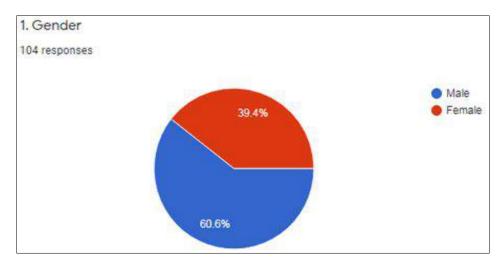
After considering the questions related to this study, its sample was prepared and it was distributed among some students, after discussing with other students and the data obtained from the sample questionnaire, the final design was obtained by re-preparing the questionnaire as required.

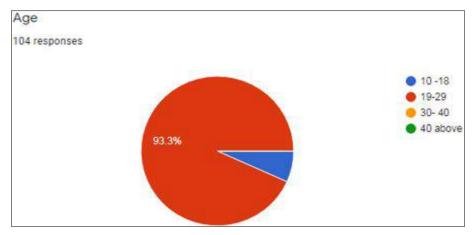
# **5.2 Participants**

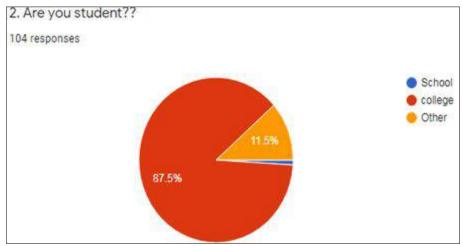
Undergraduate, postgraduate, related students from other fields as well as students studying in schools were selected

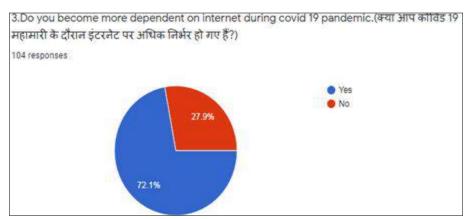
as respondents in this study because before the arrival of covid 19 and at the present time 2021, the most users of the internet are the new generation i.e. students. In the era of covid19, the internet has become a necessity for the students for their studies. The participants are from various schools, universities and govt. of Chhattisgarh. Were students studying for jobs.

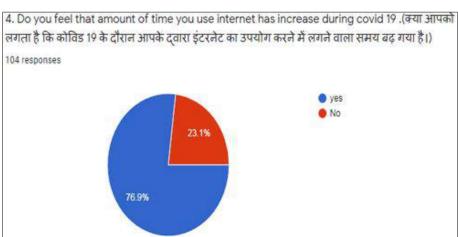
# 6. Data analysis

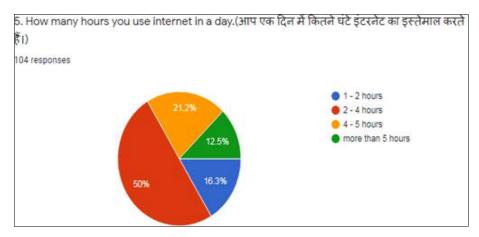


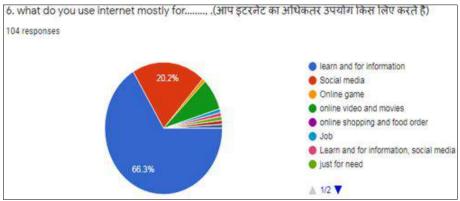


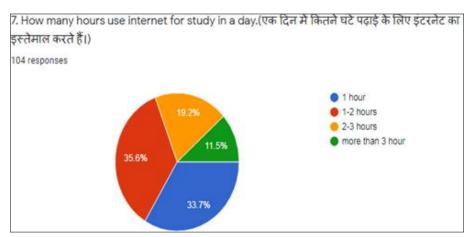


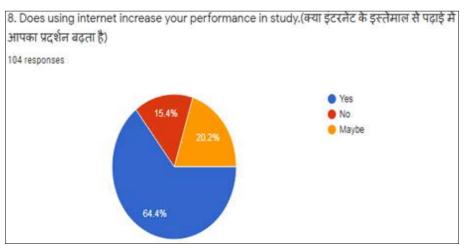


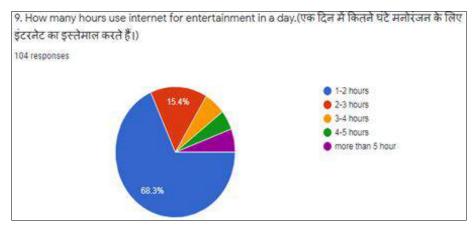


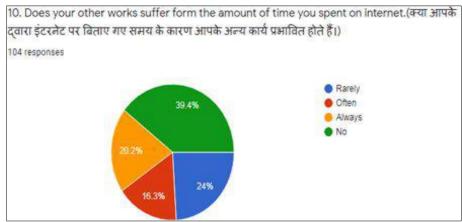


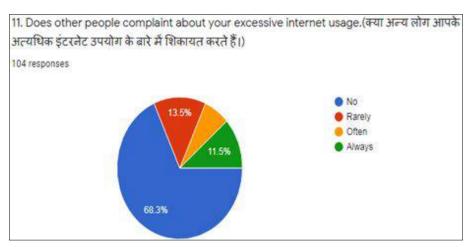


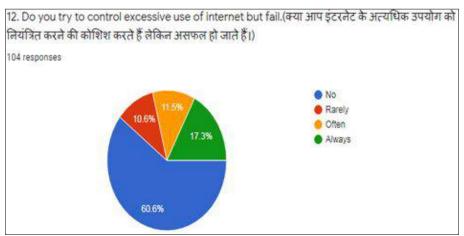


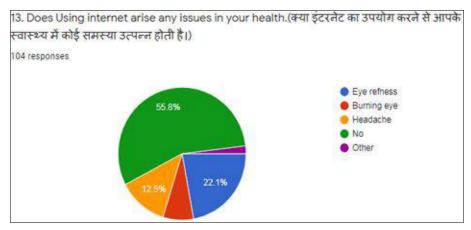


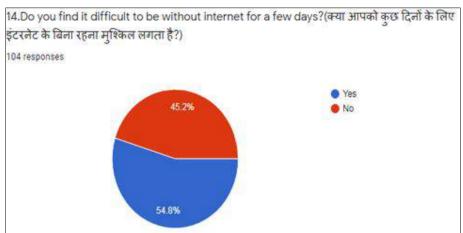


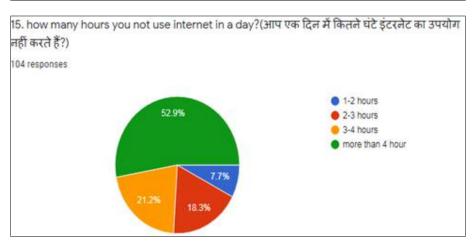


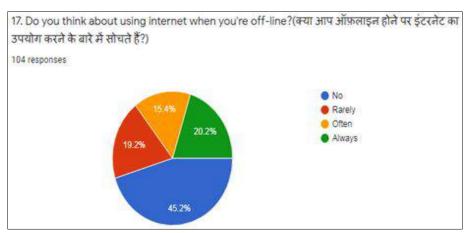


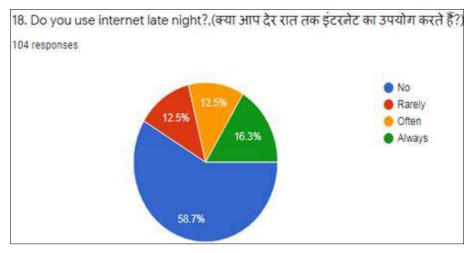


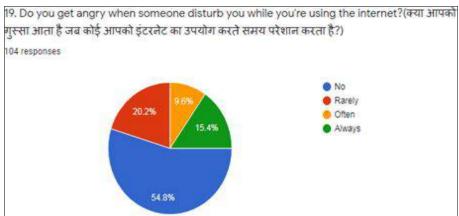


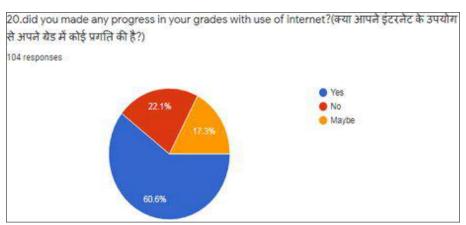


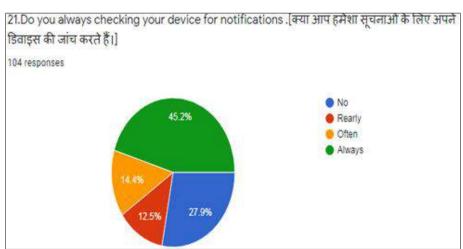


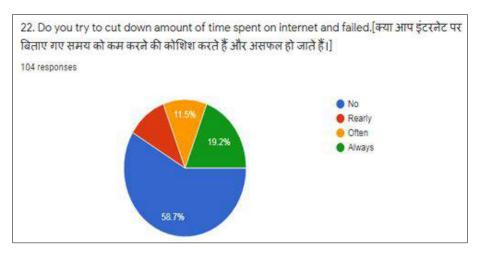


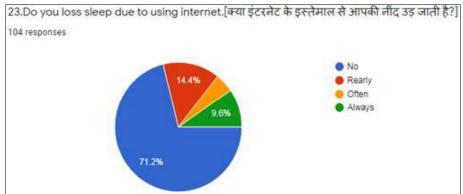


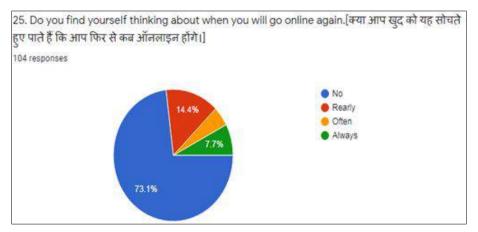


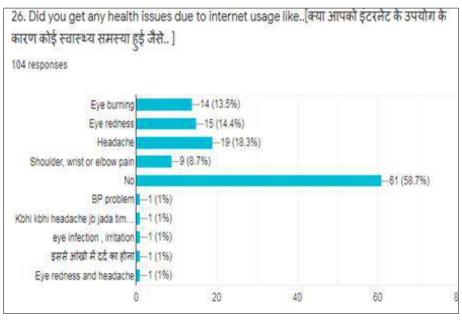


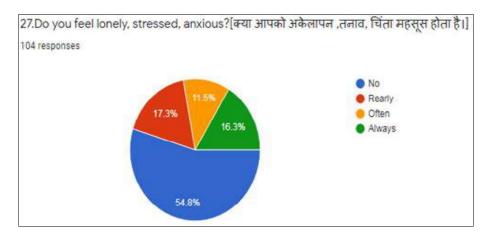












## 7. Result and Discussion

The main aim of this research is to understand the importance of the internet on students since the arrival of covid 19 pandemic and with changing times the impact of the internet on students and the young generation on their social life and on their mental and physical health. The effect was to be understood. It presents the results that are derived after analyzing the collected data from students with usability evaluation methods.

# 7.1 Questionnaire Results

After research, questionnaires were distributed among students studying for u.g and p.g level as well as other purposes to understand the merits and demerits of internet usage in urban and rural populations. The questionnaire was prepared as per the research work. It was sent to the students through WhatsApp. In this questionnaire, 104 responses were received, in which 63 responses were from men and 41 responses were from women, of which 97 responses were from people aged 19 to 29 and 7 from 10 to 18 years.91 responses i.e. most of the respondents were college students and 13 responses were from students studying for school and jobs. According to 75 responses, he became more dependent on the internet due to the covid19 epidemic and 80 responses came from people who used to use more internet.

The questions were asked to find out how many hours people use the internet for a day, 52 responses 2 to 4 hours, 22 responses 4 to 5 hours, 17 responses 1 to 2 hours and 13 responses 5 More than an hour was received. 73 responses were received for teaching and receiving information, 23 responses for social media and 9 responses for online video movie viewing. 37 responses were received in 1 to 2 hours, 20 responses 2 to 3 hours and only 12 responses were received for those who used the Internet for more than 3 hours for studies. 71 responses were received for 1 to 2 hours, 16 responses 2 to 3 hours, 5 responses 4 to 5 hours and 6 responses were received by those who used the Internet for entertainment purposes for more than 5 hours. 11 responses were received for 1 to 2 hours, 3 responses 2 to 3 hours, 2 responses 3 to 4 hours and 1 response was received for those who played online video games for more

According to 67 responses and 21 responses for perhaps that their academic performance increased due to Internet use, 16 responses were received against this. 21 respondents say that always and 17 respondents say that sometimes the time spent on the Internet affects their other important tasks. 12 respondents said they always and 14 respondents sometimes

and 7 respondents often their close people complain about their excessive internet usage. Out of 104 responses received, people with 54 responses find it difficult to even live a few days without internet. People were asked how many hours of the day do you use the Internet, in which 55 responses were received in more than 4 hours, 22 responses were received in 3 to 4 hours, 19 responses were received in 2 to 3 hours and 8 responses were received in 1 to 2 hours. 21 responses always, 16 responses often and 20 responses rarely were received from people who think about using the internet even when they are offline.

# 7.2 Discussion

The primary objective of this study was to investigate the importance of using the Internet and its adverse effects on students. Majority of the respondents agreed on their increasing dependence on internet due to the problems like handling of online classes and syllabus handling due to lockdown in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.64.4% of the respondents believed that Internet use had a positive effect on their academic performance, but some students also read its negative effects and found signs of online addiction.

# 8. Conclusion and Recommendation 8.1 Conclusion

For the progress of any country, it is necessary for the residents of that country to be educated. In India, on 30 January 2020, the covid 19 virus had given evidence of its existence, after some time due to the conditions, the teaching work was stopped but later it was again made online. Initiated through. Due to the circumstances of covid19, students have become dependent on the internet for their education. Now it is also the time that students are using the internet more for other work instead of studies and are taking their steps towards problems like internet addiction, sleeping disorders etc. Due to the excessive dependence of students on the internet, their mental health and social life are being affected, so the parents and teachers should work towards making the students aware of the proper use of the internet and making them aware of the illeffects, apart from using the internet to the students. Should be stopped.

# 8.2 Recommendation

It has been found from this research work that in the present time, the importance of internet for students has increased in relation to studies as well as has helped to progress in academic performance. The situation has also come to the fore that the student is slowly moving on the path of internet addiction/online addiction, due to which their social life, mental and physical health are getting affected. In such a situation, we would recommend that you follow the tips given below for dominating internet addiction or even more.

- Doing yoga or some physical exercise during the day will increase your will power, concentration along with keeping your mind fresh and body active.
- Out of the virtual world for real life experience and spend time with family.
- Focus on a single task for 25 min and then take a 5 minutes break.
- It must be boundary your concentration to a single application at a time.
- Set clear goals.
- Less use of smart phones.
- While doing a task, pay more attention to the same task when you are distracted.
- Close and block such websites that are causing your distraction for some time.

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