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## Career preferences of home science students in state agricultural Universities of Uttar Pradesh

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### Abstract

This study was conducted in Home Science College of N.D.U.A. & T., Kumarganj, Faizabad and C.S.A.U.A & T., Kanpur on 150 students using personal interview method. Data revealed that majority of the students (56%) were in 21-23 age group belonged to single family (76.67%) their family educational status was observed in the medium category (4 to 5) 66%. Except 5 respondents all were unmarried and general caste respondents were more in comparison to other categories of caste. The Govt. service was observed as main occupation of majority of the respondents families (57.33). Data on career preferences revealed that teaching and dietitian were found to be most preferred career by the respondents and modelling is the least preferred carrier.

**Keywords:** Career, Preferences, Education, Family

### Introduction

Career describes an individual's journey through learning work and other aspects of life. A career is often composed of the jobs held and work accomplished over a long period of time, rather than just referring to one position is known as career. Career choice refers to the intention to enter a particular occupation (Crites, 1969) Career selection is one of many important choices students will make in determining future plans. This decision will impart them throughout their lives. Career awareness means gaining knowledge of career paths and job opportunities and the skills and qualifications necessary to be successful in these positions. According to the Ministry of labour & employment, Govt. of India, out of all university graduates only a meagre 13% are employable (2012). In 2009-2010 fiscal year, the unemployment rate of India is 9.4%. Home Science is an multidisciplinary course covering a wide spectrum of subjects and presents a blend of science and art. It is a scientific course of study which moulds a student with a variety of skill. It does not limit itself to the home related skill of cooking, laundry, decoration and stitching. Home science is now out of the shell of misconceptions and opened its doors for new avenues in all possible fields of life. It is covering a wide spectrum of subjects falling under 5 main core subjects: Nutrition, Human Development, Family Resource Management, Textile and Extension education and communication management. This is a recognized professional course and requires its students to have a logical and intellectual mind. Career aspirations are influenced by various socio-demographic factors such as age, gender and area of residence. The parents' occupation and education level may also influence gender choices across a variety of context. (Domenico and Jones 2006) The work bound students had the poorest career development and personal functioning, the university students had the highest, whereas the college bound students falling in-between the two groups. The findings further suggested a relationship between career development and personal functioning in high school students. (Creed, Peter A. 2010). Today, men and women are sharing the responsibility of a home equally. This is because of a gradual change in the structure of our society. After completing a graduate degree in home science, students can either join various industries or carry on further studies. The employment opportunities for home science graduates are continuously growing. Thus, one can take up a job in the production industry, service industry or teaching jobs, technical jobs, or sales jobs.

### Methodology

This study was carried out in SAUs of Uttar Pradesh. In Uttar Pradesh, there are four agriculture universities namely as C.S.A.U.A.T., Kanpur, S.V.P.U.A.T., Meerut, N.D.U.A.T., Faizabad and M.S.K.J.U.A.T., Banda. Out of these, two agriculture universities viz.- Narendra Deva University of Agriculture & Technology, Faizabad and Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur were selected purposively because of the existence of home science programme in U.G. & P.G. From the home science colleges of both

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universities 150 student of B.Sc.(H.Sc) 4<sup>th</sup> year and M.Sc.(H.Sc.) were taken as sample for the study because they are more oriented about their study & career. Data on career awareness was collected through personal interview using with prestructured schedule. Information was also collected on the socio economic profile of the students. Age, family

type, family member, family educational status, family income, marital status, caste, were used as independent variables. Career preferences of students was taken as dependent variables. Data was analyzed by computing mean, standard deviation and percentage.

## Result and Discussion- Socio-economic profile-

**Table 1:** Distribution of students in to different socio economic attributes- N-150

S.No.	Variables	Number	Percentage
<b>A.</b>	<b>Age Group-</b>		
1.	Up to 20	37	19.34
2.	21 – 23	84	56.00
3.	24 and above	29	24.66
<b>B.</b>	<b>Caste-</b>		
1.	General caste	58	38.67
2.	Back ward caste	56	37.33
3.	Scheduled caste	35	23.33
4.	Schedule tribe caste	01	0.67
<b>C.</b>	<b>Marital status-</b>		
1.	Married	05	3.34
2.	Unmarried	145	96.66
<b>D.</b>	<b>Family type-</b>		
1.	Single family	115	76.67
2.	Joint family	35	23.33
<b>E.</b>	<b>Family income</b>		
1.	Up to 1,20000	08	05.33
2.	1.200001 to 2,40000	33	22.00
3.	2,40000 to 3,60000	37	24.67
4.	3,60001 to 4,80000	51	34.00
5.	4,80001 and above	21	14.00
<b>F.</b>	<b>Family occupation</b>		
1.	Agriculture labour	00	00.00
2.	Govt. Service	86	57.33
3.	Private Service	28	18.67
4.	Business	13	8.67
5.	Agrobased enterprises	00	00.00
6.	Agriculture	23	15.33
7.	Dairying	00	00.00
<b>G.</b>	<b>Family educational status</b>		
1.	Low (up to 3)	45	30.00
2.	Medium (4-5)	99	66.00
3.	High (5 and above)	06	04.00

Data on social economic profile of students given in Table1 revealed that majority of the respondents (56 %) were observed in the category of 21-23 years of age followed by 19.34% and 24.66 % for up to 20 years and 24 and above years of age respectively. Maximum number of the respondents (38.67 %) belonged to general caste, while the backward caste, scheduled castes and schedule tribe cast were 37.33 %, 23.33 % and 0.67 % respectively. Maximum number of the respondents were observed unmarried (96.66%) against married respondents (3.34%).76.67 % respondent's families belonged to single family system followed by 23.33% families to joint family system. It revealed the fact that the joint family system of our society is now breaking up. Results

indicate that maximum number of the respondents (34%) was from those families whose annual income were found in the category of Rs. 3,60001 to 4,80000 followed by other categories viz.,24.67 % (2,40001 to 3,60000), 22.00 % (Rs. 1,20001 to 2,40000), 14% (4,80001 and above,) 05.33 % (up to 1,20000) respectively. The average income was observed to be Rs. 3,48,080. In case of occupation, the Govt. service was emerged as main occupation (57.33%) followed by private service (28%), agriculture (23%) and business (13%) as their main occupation. The majority of respondent's family education (66.00%) were observed in the medium category followed by low (30.00%) and high (04.00%) respectively.

## Career Preferences

Table 2: Degree of Career preferences of the home science students- N-150

S.No.	Career	Not Preferred	Degree of career prefer			Total Score	Mean Score	Rank order
			Least Preferred	More Preferred	Most Preferred			
			0	1	2			
1.	Teaching	06	02	24	118	404	2.69	I
2.	Dietician	49	11	37	53	245	1.63	II
3.	Civil services	33	44	32	41	231	1.54	III
4.	Banking	71	23	39	17	152	1.02	IV
5.	Food technologist	53	60	23	14	148	0.98	V
6.	Self employment	50	55	22	23	146	0.97	VI
7.	Dress designer	56	57	24	13	144	0.96	VI
8.	Customer care executive	61	55	16	18	141	0.94	VII
9.	Hotel management	64	50	24	12	134	0.89	IX
10.	Aganwadi worker	74	36	24	16	132	0.88	X
11.	Catering manager	72	45	20	13	124	0.82	XI
12.	C.D.P.O.	77	41	18	14	119	0.79	XII
13.	Handicraft work	75	54	13	8	114	0.76	XIII
14.	Fashion designer	84	35	15	16	113	0.75	XIV
15.	Interior decorator	79	47	09	15	110	0.73	XV
16.	Social worker	79	46	15	10	106	0.71	XVI
17.	Newsreader	082	52	11	06	92	0.61	XVII
18.	Counselor	104	20	14	12	84	0.56	XVIII
19.	Child psychologist	99	31	07	13	84	0.56	XIX
20.	Handloom work	102	37	04	07	75	0.5	XX
21.	Reporter	97	35	14	04	75	0.5	
22.	Creche supervisor	108	22	13	07	70	0.47	XI
23.	Journalist	101	33	12	04	69	0.46	XII
24.	Photograph-er	105	31	04	10	69	0.46	
25.	Library staff	103	35	05	07	66	0.44	XIII
26.	Acting	107	27	09	07	66	0.44	
27.	Physical trainer	99	40	07	04	66	0.44	
28.	Health worker	114	26	07	03	49	0.32	XIV
30.	Modeling	136	8	02	04	24	0.16	XV

Data on career preferences of home science students given in Table No.2 revealed that teaching career was the most preferred career ranked at first, as reported for maximum number of respondents with mean score of 2.69 followed by dietitian ranked at II (1.63), civil services ranked at III (1.54), and Banking (1.02), food technologist (0.98), self employment (0.97), dress designer (0.96), customer care executive (0.94), hotel management (0.89), aganwadi worker (0.88), catering manager (0.82), C.D.P.O. (0.79), handicraft work (0.76), fashion designer (0.75), interior decorator (0.73), social worker (0.71), newsreader (0.61), counsellor (0.56), child psychologist (0.56), reporter and handloom work (0.5), creche supervisor (0.47), photographer (0.46), library staff, acting and physical trainer (0.44), health worker (0.32), Modeling (0.16) respectively. The mean of scores for career preference of home science was found to be 23.55 and SD 7.55 with the minimum score of 10 and maximum 44.

A study revealed that Science and technology and education are the most preferred carriers, while agriculture and defense are the least preferred carriers among adolescents. Preference of adolescents for carrier also changes with time. (Shakya and Singh 2013). Krishna and Visvanathan (2014) findings of the study revealed that the higher secondary students have an average level of career preference in ten vocational fields. Also it is found that the higher secondary students in general have given first preference to education field and least preference to artistic and designing.

### Conclusion

It is concluded from the results of study that teaching and dietitian are the most preferred carriers, while modeling and health worker are the least preferred carriers among the home science students.

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