A Study to Assess the Perceived Image of Nursing Profession and Influencing Factors among B.sc Nursing Students of Kamrup (Metro), Assam

Ankita Sarma

Lecturer, Royal Global University

Abstract

Student nurses are the future of our nursing profession. If we mold them in a good way and educate them regarding all the aspect of nursing profession it will help to uplift our profession and it will also help the upcoming nurse to adopt a positive attitude regarding their profession. The objectives of the study is to to assess the perceived image of nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student of Kamrup (Metro) Assam.To identify the influencing factors for enrollment to nursing programme at selected nursing colleges of KAMRUP (Metro), Assam.To find out association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession and selected demographic variables.To identify correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program of KAMRUP (Metro), Assam. The research approach and design adopted for this study was quantitative research approach and descriptive research design. Convenience sampling technique was used to select two nursing colleges from Kamrup (Metro), Assam and to collect data from 80 students from selected nursing colleges of Kamrup (Metro), Assam. The data collection instruments consisted of three sections which were: Part I included questions related to socio demographic Performa, Part II included Self structured 5 point rating scale will be used to assess perceived image related to nursing profession. Part III included Self structured 5 point rating scale to assess the Factors influencing the nursing image as a profession among nursing students. . The data findings shows that majority of the participants 61(76.2%) are belonged to the age group of 22-23 years .Regarding gender that female 61(76.2%) are more enrolling into nursing profession than male 19(23.8%).Regarding Religion majority are from Hindu religion 31(38.8%) and from Muslim religion 27(33.8%) and from Christian religion 22(27.4%).Majority 67(83.8%) of participants reasons for enrolling into nursing profession were desire to serve humanity and 13(16.2%) of participants for were Availability of work. Regarding parents income maximum 49(61.3%) of participants parents source of income were father, 21(26.2%) of participants parents source of income were mother and 10(12.5%) of participants parents source of income were both father and mother. Majority 42(52.6%) of participants monthly income of family were 40000-60000, 33(41.2%) of participants were 20000-40000, and 5(6.2%) of participants monthly income of family were 60000-80000.Maximum 54(67.5%) of participants had no known person who is in nursing profession and 26(32.5%) of participants had known person who is in nursing profession. 11(13.8%) of participants family members were in nursing profession, 10(12.5%) of participants relatives were in nursing profession and 5(67.2%) of participants friends were in nursing profession. Majority 45(56.2%) of participants were residing in rural area and 35(43.8%) of participants were residing in urban

area. The overall perceived image score shows that the 50(62.5%) have positive perceived image regarding nursing profession and 30(37.5%) has uncertain perceived image and there is no negative perceived image of nursing profession among B.Sc nursing 4th year student of selected colleges. The influencing factors score revealed that majority 48(60%) of participants had moderately influencing factors and 32(40%) of participants had greatly influencing factors for enrollment to nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student. The association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student and selected demographic variables which was tested by using chi-square test. The chi square values showed that age, gender, religion and monthly income of the family were found statistically significant association at p<0.05 level with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession. The correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student which was tested by using spearman brown correlation with obtained (r=0.854, p=0.001) indicates good positive correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student was found to be statistically significant at p<0.05 level of significance.

Keywords: Perceived image, influencing factors, B.Sc nursing students.

Introduction

Nursing, a profession that recalls the name of Florence Nightingale is indeed one of the noblest professions in the world. However availability of nursing professionals in this area is below accepted norms per population. Nursing education is becoming more demanding each day. Future nurses have to consider theoretical, practical, ethical and legal aspects of their careers especially in the area of rights of the patients. They also need to cater their professional skills to the large number of needy. They have to enhance their skills in the practical activity, complementing it with theoretical background and need to be updated in their knowledge in the era of information technology. Individuals enter the profession with a strong perception of what it involves and how they will practice; indeed nursing is not only a job but a career, profession and also service to mankind.[i]

There are no studies available in India to know the contemporary generation's attitude and perceptions towards the nursing profession. Hence, the present study explored student nurses' perception of nursing and themselves as nurses and also explored their expectations of themselves as nurses and the nursing profession. Nurses constitute the backbone of the healthcare system in all countries. Nursing is a critical factor in determining the quality of care in hospitals and the nature of patient outcomes.[ii]

The positive perceived image of the nursing profession is of great importance for the students who will choose the profession and therefore for the society. When the existing studies in the literature were examined, it was found that there were many studies related to professional perceptions of nursing students, nurses and other health professionals. However, no study has been found examining the impact of nurses on professional perceptions of nursing students. In the light of this knowledge, this study was conducted to determine the role of the nurses in professional perceptions of nursing.

Studies investigating students' perception of nursing at the beginning of the nursing programme showed that the students had idealistic views of the profession with concepts of caring, compassion and nurturing but after the exposure to clinical experiences it shifted towards it being more of technical, documentation and procedural skills

Objectives

1. To assess the perceived image of nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student of Kamrup (Metro) Assam.
2. To find out the influencing factors for enrollment to nursing program among B.Sc Nursing students of KAMRUP (Metro), Assam.
3. To find out association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession and selected demographic variables.
4. To identify correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program of KAMRUP (Metro), Assam.

Hypothesis

Hypothesis were tested at 0.05 level of significance and 0.01 level of significance

(H_1): There is significant relationship between perceived image and influencing factors among selected B.Sc Nursing students.

(H_2): There is significant correlation between perceived image and influencing factors among B.Sc nursing students of Kamrup (Metro), Assam.

Material and Methods

Considering the objectives, the descriptive research design was adopted for the study. The study was conducted on 80 students of B.Sc nursing 4th year of Asian Institute of Nursing Education; Bylane no-1, Usha nagar (nearby GNRC Hospitals), Dishpur, Guwahati-781006, Assam,International hospital & school of nursing;6 Upasana palace,RP road near Ganesh Mandir,Dispur,Ganeshguri,Guwahati-781006,Assam.Convenience sampling technique was used. Tool was divided in 3 parts. Self-structured questionnaire(sociodemographic data ,PART I) ,self-structured 5 point rating scale to assess perceived image (PART II) and factors influencing nursing profession(PART III)

Reliability of the tool

The reliability of the tool using Cronbach's Alpha index is well accepted instrument to assess the perceived image of nursing profession and influencing factors among B.Sc nursing students and it was found 0.97 for part II ,0.78 for part III.

Ethical consideration

Permission was taken from the Principal of Asian institute of nursing education and international hospital and school of nursing for conducting the study. Verbal and written consent was obtained from the participants of the study and the subject was assured of the confidentiality of the data obtained.

Data collection procedure

Data was collected in the month of June and July 2021.Informed consent was obtained from willing participants, and a convenience sample of up to 80 students (40 students per college) was selected. A self-structured questionnaire to assess sociodemographic data and 5 point rating scale to assess the perceived image and factors influencing nursing profession was given to students. After completion of the answered tool researcher collected the tool one by one from all the participants.

Results

The collected data were analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Frequency and percentage distribution would be computed to describe demographic variables. Mean and Standard deviation of perceived image of nursing profession and influencing factors among B.Sc Nursing students. Chi-square test to association between perceived image of nursing profession among B.Sc nursing student and selected demographic variables. Spearman brown correlation to correlation between perceived image B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors

Section I: Description of the demographic characteristics of B.Sc nursing 4th year students in percentage.
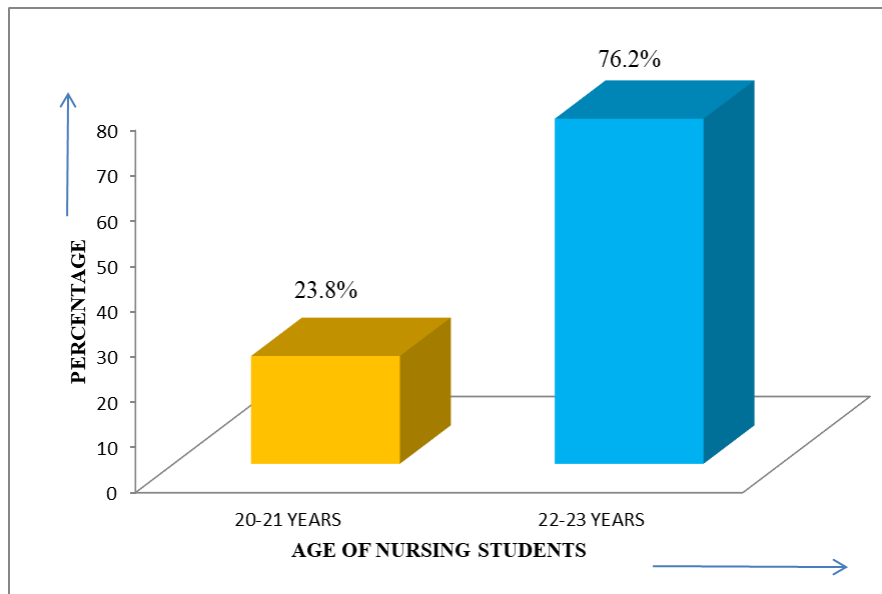

Figure I: depicts that majority (76.2%) of participants were in the age group of 22-23 years, and (23.8%) of participants were in age group of 22-23 years
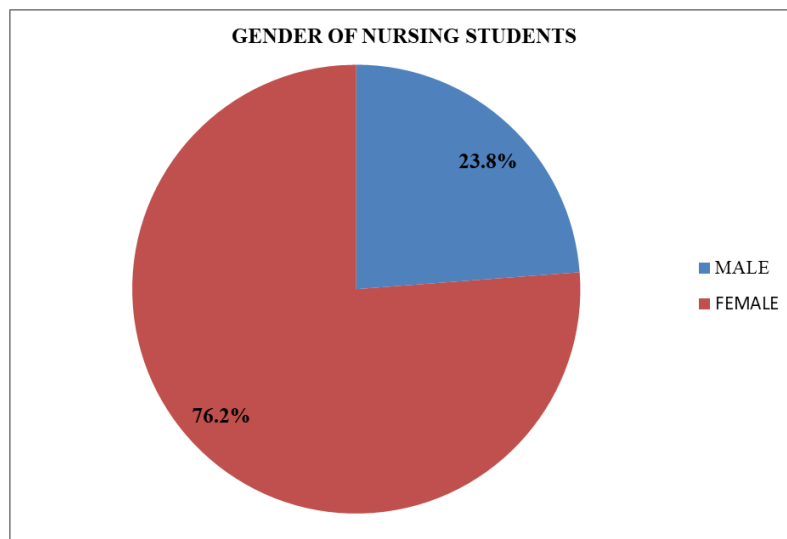

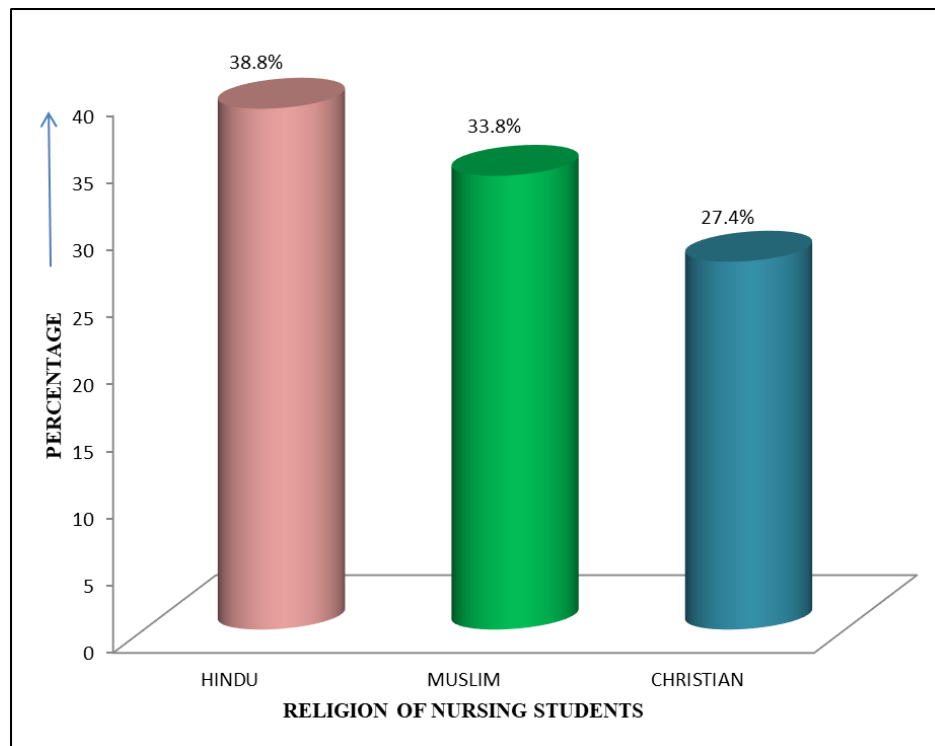**Figure II: depicts that maximum (76.2%) of participants were female and (23.8%) of participants were male.**

Figure III depicts that majority (38.8%) of participants belongs to Hindu,(33.8%) of participants belongs to Muslim and (27.4%) of participants belongs to Christian.
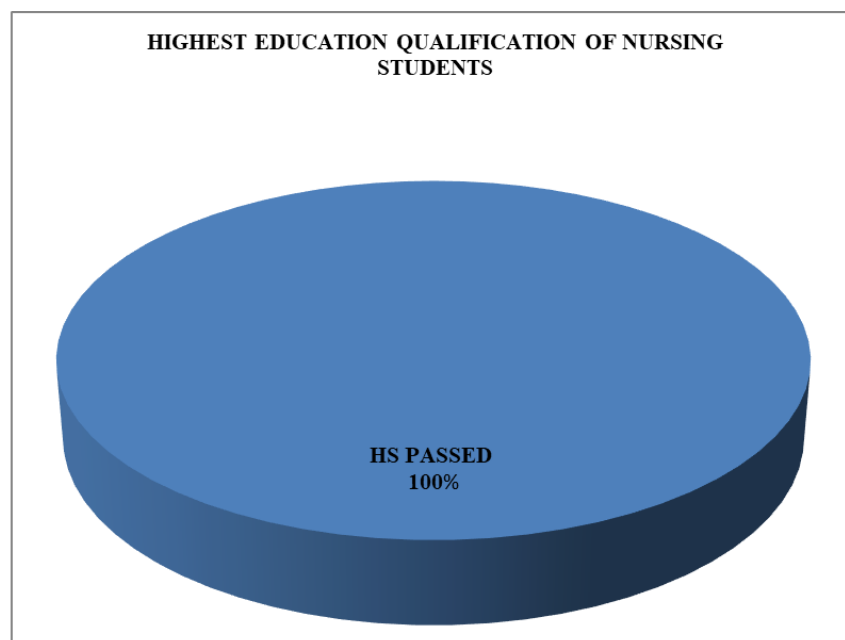

Figure IV depicts that all the participants i.e. 80(100%) had highest educational qualification were HS passed
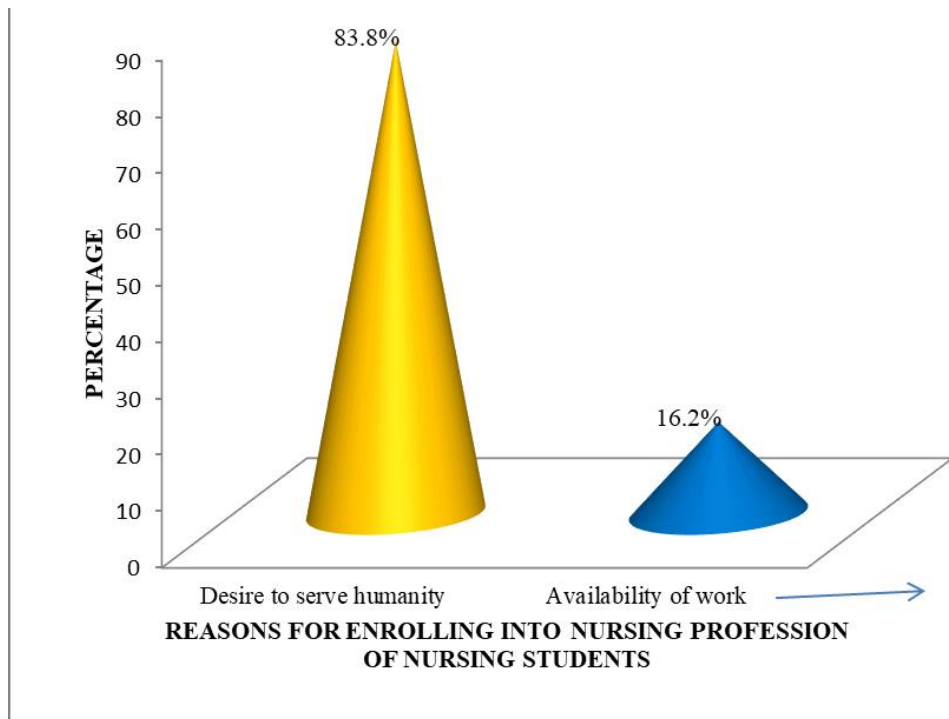
Figure V depicts that (83.8%) of participants reasons for enrolling into nursing profession were desire to serve humanity and (16.2%) of participants reasons for enrolling into nursing profession were Availability of work
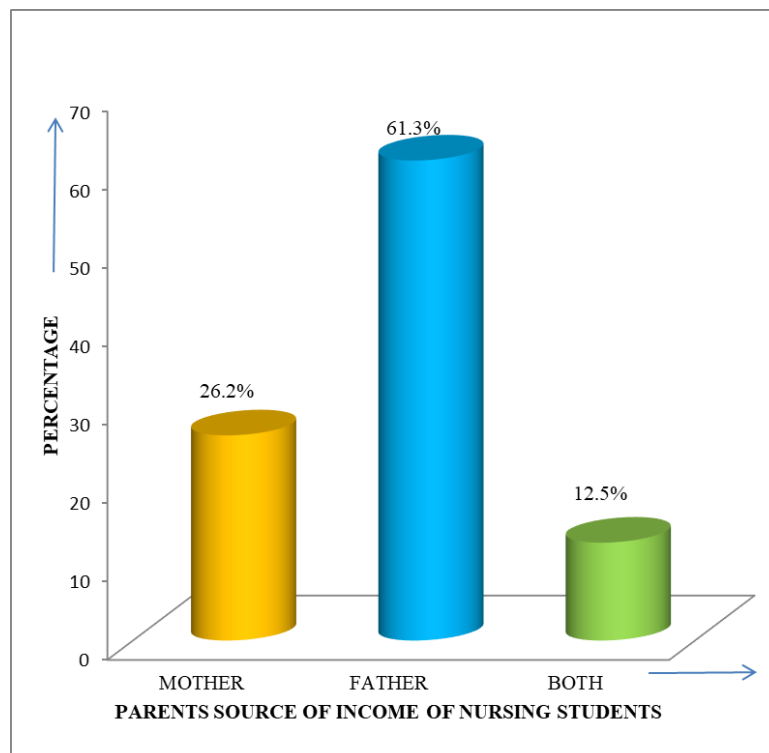

Figure VI depicts that maximum (61.3%) of participants parents source of income were father, (26.2%) of participants parents source of income were mother and (12.5%) of participants parents source of income were both father and mother.
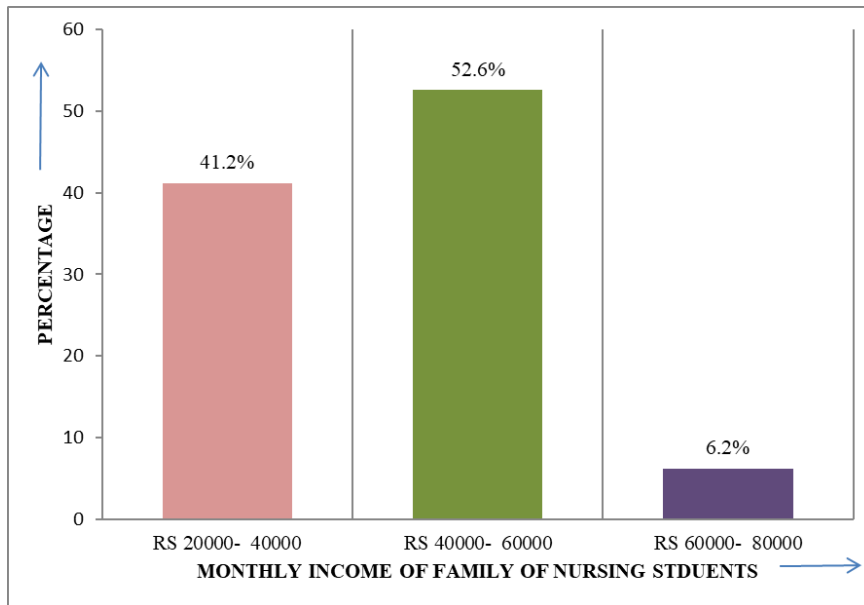
Figure VII depicts that maximum participants parents (52.6%) monthly income of 40000-60000,(41.2%) participants parents had 20000-40000,(6.2%) had 60000-80000
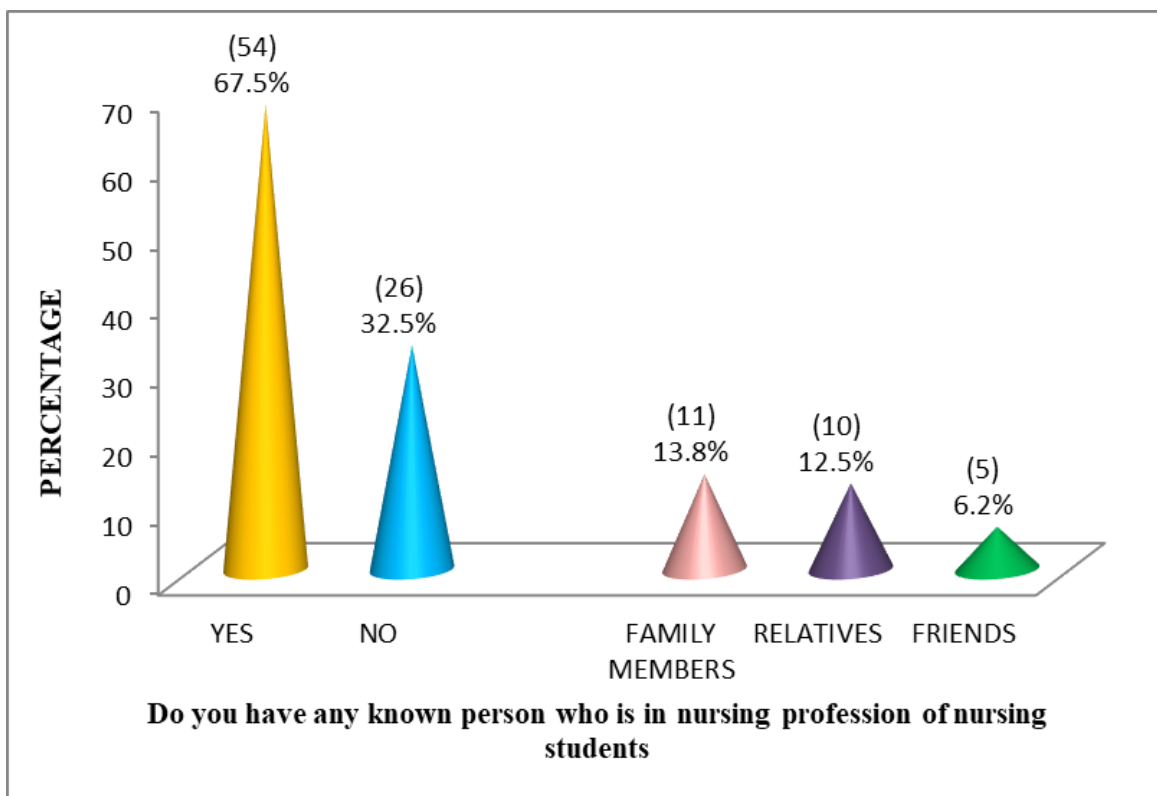
FigureVIII depicts that maximum (67.5%) of participants had known person who is in nursing profession and (32.5%) of participants had no known person who is in nursing profession.(13.8%) of participants family members were in nursing profession, (12.5%) of participants relatives were in nursing profession and (67.2%) of participants friends were in nursing profession

Figure IX depicts that majority (56.2%) of participants were residing in rural area and (43.8%) of participants were residing in urban area

Figure X depicts that all the participants (100%) Family's reactions to student's enrollment were positive.

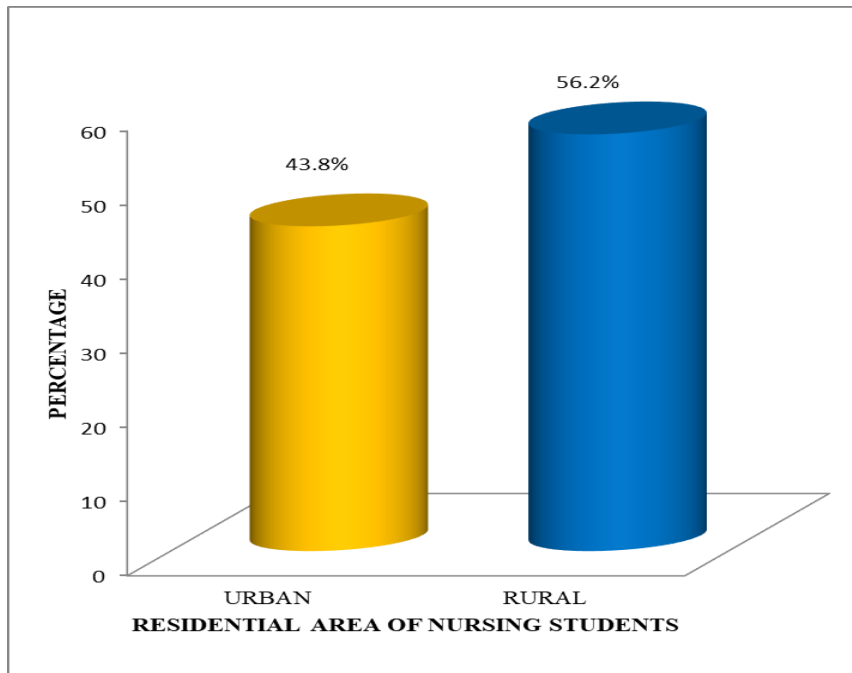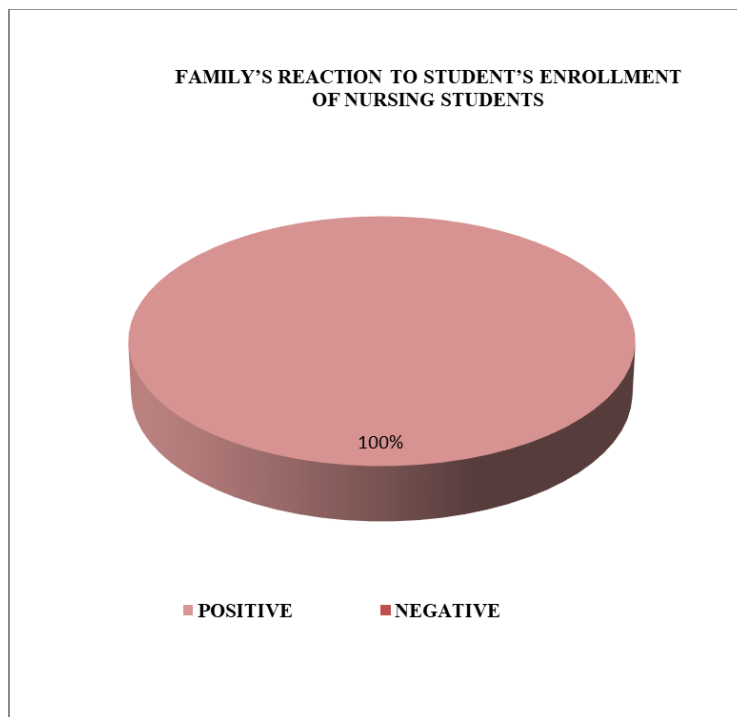**SECTION – II: Frequency and percentage distribution of perceived image of nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing 4th year student of Kamrup(Metro),Assam.**

Perceived image of nursing profession	frequency (f)	percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Negative perceived image Score range (31-73)	0	0	115.06	7.254
Uncertain Score range (73-113)	30	37.5		
Positive perceived image Score range (113-155)	50	62.5		

Table I depicts that majority 50(62.5%) of participants had positive perceived image of nursing profession and 30(37.5%) of participants had uncertain perceived image of nursing profession

SECTION-III: Frequency and percentage distribution of influencing factors like (teaching environment, relationship with teachers, physical facility etc) for enrollment to nursing programme among B.Sc Nursing 4th year student.

Influencing factors for enrollment to nursing programme	frequency (f)	percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Poorly influencing	0	0	70.76	9.210
Moderately influencing	48	60		
Greatly influencing	32	40		

Table I depicts that majority 48(60%) of participants had moderately influencing factors and 32(40%) of participants had greatly influencing factors for enrollment to nursing programme among B.Sc Nursing student .

SECTION IV: Association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student and selected demographic variables.

Table I:the association between perceived image of B.SC nursing profession among B.Sc nursing student and Age

Demographic variables	Perceived image of nursing profession		Chi value (χ^2)	df	p value	Remarks
	Uncertain	Positive				
Age in years a. 20-21 years b. 22-23 years	19 11	0 50	41.53	1	0.001*	Significant

*p<0.05 level of significance   NS-Non significant

Table I depicts the association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student and selected demographic variables which was tested by using chi-square test. The chi square values showed that age (p=0.001) were found statistically significant association at p<0.05 level with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession.

Table II:the association between perceived image of B.SC nursing profession among B.Sc nursing student and Gender

Demographic variables	Perceived image of nursing profession		Chi value	df	p value	Remarks
	Uncertain	Positive				
Gender						Significant
a. Male	3	16	5.011	1	0.025*	
b. Female	27	34				

Table II depicts the association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student and selected demographic variables which was tested by using chi-square test. The chi square values showed that Gender (p=0.025) were found statistically significant association at p<0.05 level with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession

Table III: the association between perceived image of B.SC nursing profession among B.Sc nursing student and Religion

Demographic variables	Perceived image of nursing profession		Chi value	df	p value	Remarks
	Uncertain	Positive				
Religion						Significant
a. Hindu	18	13	11.53	2	0.003*	
b. Muslim	4	23				
c. Christian	8	14				

p<0.05 level of significance   NS-Non significant

Table III depicts the association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student and selected demographic variables which was tested by using chi-square test. The chi square values showed that Religion (p=0.003) were found statistically significant association at p<0.05 level with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession.

Table IV: the association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc nursing student and Reason for enrolling into nursing profession

Demographic variables	Perceived image of nursing profession		Chi value	df	p value	Remarks
	Uncertain	Positive				
Reasons for enrolling into nursing profession						

a. Desire to serve humanity a. Availability of work	23 7	44 6	1.770	1	0.183[NS]	Non significant

*p<0.05 level of significance   NS-Non significant

Table IV depicts that the other demographic variables such as Reasons for enrolling into nursing profession. The chi square values showed that Reason for enrolling into nursing profession (p=0.183) were found statistically non-significant with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession

Table V: the association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc nursing student and Parents source of income

Demographic variables	Perceived image of nursing profession		Chi value	df	p value	Remarks
	Uncertain	Positive				
Parents source of income a. Mother b. Father c. Both	7 20 3	14 29 7	0.625	2	0.731[NS]	Non significant

*p<0.05 level of significance   NS-Non significant

Table V depicts thatparents source of income is non-significant with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student. The chi square values showed that Parents source of income (p=0.731) were found statistically non significant with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession

Table VI: the association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc nursing student and Monthly income of the family

Demographic variables	Perceived image of nursing profession		Chi value	df	p value	Remarks
	Uncertain	Positive				
Monthly income of family a. 20000-40000 b. 40000-60000 c. 60000-80000	30 0 0	3 42 5	68.36	2	0.001*	Significant

*p<0.05 level of significance   NS-Non significant

Table VI depicts that the chi square values showed that Monthly income of the family (p=0.001) were found statistically significant association at p<0.05 level with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession.

TableVII: the association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc nursing student and any known person in nursing profession

Demographic variables	Perceived image of nursing profession		Chi value	df	p value	Remarks
	Uncertain	Positive				
Do you have any known person who is in nursing profession a. Yes b. No	 19 11	 35 15	0.380	1	0.538^{NS}	Non significant

*p<0.05 level of significance   NS-Non significant

Table VII depicts that Do you have any known person who is in nursing profession and residential area were non significant with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student. The chi square values showed that Any known person in the nursing profession (p=0.538) were found statistically non significant with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession

Table VIII: the association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc nursing student and Residential area

Demographic variables	Perceived image of nursing profession		Chi value	df	p value	Remarks
	Uncertain	Positive				
Residential area a. Urban b. Rural	 14 16	 21 29	0.166	1	0.684^{NS}	Non significant

*p<0.05 level of significance   NS-Non significant

Table VIII depicts that residential area were non significant with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student. The chi square values showed that Residential area (p=0.684) were found statistically non significant with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession.

At last, Thus the research hypothesis "H$_1$: There is significant association between perceived image and influencing factors among selected B.Sc Nursing students" is accepted with respect to age, gender, Religion, monthly income.

SECTION V: the correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student

Table 1: Correlation between the perceived image of B.Sc nursing and influencing factors

Correlation	Mean	SD	r value	p value	Remarks
Perceived image	115.06	7.254	0.854	0.001*	Positive correlation
Influencing factors	70.76	9.210			

*p<0.05 level of significance

Table 13 illustrates the correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student which was tested by using spearman brown correlation with obtained (r=0.854, p=0.001) indicates good positive correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student was found to be statistically significant at p<0.05 level of significance.

At last,Thus the research hypothesis "H_2: There is significant correlation between perceived image and influencing factors among B.Sc nursing students of Kamrup (Metro), Assam."

DISCUSSION

This present study shows that majority of the participants 61(76.2%) are belonged to the age group of 22-23 years and 19(23.8%) are belonged to the age group of 20-21 years who are currently enrolling into B.Sc nursing 4th year.

This present study also shows that female 61(76.2%) are more enrolling into nursing profession than male 19(23.8%).

This study also shows that majority of the participant are from Hindu religion 31(38.8%) and from Muslim religion 27(33.8%) and from Christian religion 22(27.4%).That means we can say that in Hindu religion people are more attracted to nursing profession than Muslim and Christian.

The study shows that majority 67(83.8%) of participants reasons for enrolling into nursing profession were desire to serve humanity and 13(16.2%) of participants reasons for enrolling into nursing profession were Availability of work.

From this study it also shows that maximum 49(61.3%) of participants parents source of income were father, 21(26.2%) of participants parents source of income were mother and 10(12.5%) of participants parents source of income were both father and mother.

This study shows that majority 42(52.6%) of participants monthly income of family were 40000-60000, 33(41.2%) of participants monthly income of family were 20000-40000, and 5(6.2%) of participants monthly income of family were 60000-80000.

This study also showed that maximum 54(67.5%) of participants had no known person who is in nursing profession and 26(32.5%) of participants had known person who is in nursing profession. 11(13.8%) of participants family members were in nursing profession, 10(12.5%) of participants relatives were in nursing profession and 5(67.2%) of participants friends were in nursing profession.

Study showed that majority 45(56.2%) of participants were residing in rural area and 35(43.8%) of participants were residing in urban area.

The overall perceived image score shows that the 50(62.5%) have positive perceived image regarding nursing profession and 30(37.5%) has uncertain perceived image and there is no negative perceived image of nursing profession among B.Sc nursing 4th year student of selected colleges.

The influencing factors score shows among B.Sc Nursing student Results revealed that majority 48(60%)

of participants had moderately influencing factors and 32(40%) of participants had greatly influencing factors for enrollment to nursing programme among B.Sc Nursing student.

The association between perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student and selected demographic variables which was tested by using chi-square test. The chi square values showed that age(p=0.001) ,Gender (p=0.025) ,Religion (p=0.003),Monthly income of the family (p=0.001) were found statistically significant association at $p<0.05$ level with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession.The other demographic variables such as Reasons for enrolling into nursing profession (p=0.183), parents source of income(p=0.731), Do you have any known person who is in nursing profession(0.538) and residential area(p=0.684) were non significant with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student.

The correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student which was tested by using spearman brown correlation with obtained (r=0.854, p=0.001) indicates good positive correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student was found to be statistically significant at $p<0.05$ level of significance.

CONCLUSION

The present study to assess the perceived image of nursing profession and influencing factors among B.Sc nursing students of Kamrup(Metro),Assam revealed that among 80 students majority i.e., majority 50(62.5%) of participants have positive perceived image of nursing profession and 30(37.5%) of participants have uncertain perceived image of nursing profession. Also the study revealed that majority 48(60%) of participants have moderately influencing factors and 32(40%) of participants have greatly influencing factors for enrollment to nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student. Also age, gender, religion and monthly income of the family were found statistically significant association with perceived image of B.Sc nursing profession. There is a good positive correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program among B.Sc Nursing students of Kamrup (Metro), Assam.

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