

# Computer Phobia among Higher Secondary School Teachers in Relation to their Demographic Variable

Ajay Kumar Chobhiyal<sup>1</sup>

## Abstract

This study was conducted to find out the computer phobia of higher secondary school teachers in relation to their demographic variable. The sample consisted of 160 teachers from Tehsil Nurpur in district Kangra of Himachal Pradesh. Computer Phobia scale developed by S. Rajasekar and P. Vaiyapuri Raja was used to collect the data. The statistical techniques used were the Mean, Standard Deviation, t-test. The results showed that there is no significance difference between computer phobia among teachers in relation to their demographic variable like gender, stream and types of school.

**Keywords:** Computer phobia, Teacher

## Introduction

The current educational scenario in India is an information age where there is knowledge explosion and skills essential for living have become increasingly complex and interdependent. Hence computer education has become one of the essential qualifications for seeking a job. Many people are rarely using computers due to many reasons and one such reason may be their fear towards using the computer. By and large unknowingly have an irrational fear over this electronic machine and hence they keep the computers as their status symbol. Even many of the teachers have this irrational fear towards computers. This irrational fear towards computer is known as "computer phobia". If a teacher is free from computer phobia, then he can make use of computers during their teaching process without any inhibitions.

The important question that arises for the present study is what the importance of studying the computer phobia of higher secondary school teachers. As computer play a very significant role in the life of human being. It has great significance in the life of teachers as well as students. The study helps us to know about the useful habits, interest, likings and disliking of the teachers. It provides the full information of the teachers that may be related to its present, past or helps us to knowing their ability to use computer. As this study provides us the information about every aspect of the teacher to use computer and their fear about use computer. This study also helps to understand his/her own self, his capacities, and his potentials and to modify his/her undesirable behavior or to improve his/her character to use computer. But it is very serious matter that there are many computer phobic teachers.

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<sup>1</sup>Professor Vaishno College of Education, Kangra, H.P.

**E-mail Id:** chobhiyalajay@gmail.com

**Orcid Id:** <http://orcid.org/0000-0002-1605-7840>

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They freeze up when they asked to perform a new task on the computer. Curing computer phobia or fear of computer is too much needed. Keeping this in a view, questions arose in researcher's mind, does the teachers have computer phobia? Does the computer phobia varying with their sex? In the government and private school teachers who is more computer phobic than others? These questions originated the need of the current study.

Early research showed a progression of steps that were taken to assess the phenomenon of computer phobia. Vaiyapuriraja Preveled that as many as 47.8% of the teachers had relatively a high level of computer phobia and the remaining 52.5% of them had relatively a low level of computer phobia.<sup>7</sup> No significance difference in (a) Male and female teachers (b) Urban and rural teachers (c) Government and private school teachers (d) Married and unmarried teachers. Kohaag AA showed that gender and computer experience attracted different levels of computer phobia among high school teachers.<sup>5</sup> Rosen LD et al. believed that gender and attitude were important predictors of computer phobia.<sup>8</sup> Saikumari K showed that the factors like locality of the school management do not influence computer phobia.<sup>6</sup>

From the review of related studies, computer phobia in the Indian scenario was found to be scarce. As computer literacy is a common and essential factor for teachers irrespective of their demographic background, the investigator chose a sample from government and private schools and studied their computer phobia.

### Objectives

- To study the computer phobia of higher secondary school teachers in relation to their gender.

- To study the computer phobia of higher secondary school teachers in relation to their stream.
- To study the computer phobia of higher secondary school teachers in relation to their types of school.

### Hypothesis

- There is no significant difference between computer phobia of higher secondary school teachers in relation to their gender
- There is no significant difference between computer phobia of higher secondary school teachers in relation to their stream.
- There is no significant difference between computer phobia of higher secondary school teachers in relation to their types of school.

### Sample

The study involved the influence of demographic factors like types of school, gender and stream acting as independent variables upon the dependent variable of computer phobia. In the present study the investigator used random sampling technique for selecting the 160 teachers as a sample.

### Tool Used

The computer phobia scale developed and standardized by S. Rajasekar and P. Vaiyapuri Raja is used by the investigator.

### Design

The descriptive survey method was employed for the investigation of the problem.

### Statically techniques

The statistical analysis was performed by t-test.

**Table 1. Statistical inferences of computer phobia**

Variable		N	Mean	Sd	SE <sub>d</sub>	t-test	Level of significance
Gender	Male	80	55.5	15.2	2.22	0.56	Not significant
	Female	80	54.25	12.9			
Stream	Arts	80	55.25	14	2.24	0.28	Not significant
	Science	80	54.6	14.4			
Type of school	Government	80	56.12	16.6	2.24	1.05	Not significant
	Private	80	53.7	11.26			

### Analysis and Interpretation of data

Analysis was done to study of the influence of various demographic variables such as gender, stream and types of schools on computer phobia of higher secondary school teachers.

Since the calculated values from Table 1 are less than table value 1.97 with the significance level of 0.05. It is inferred that the teachers do not differ in their computer phobia with demographic variable like gender, stream and types of schools.

### Findings and Discussion

From the above analysis, the investigator found that the factors like gender, stream and types of schools do not exist in the computer phobia of teachers.

### Conclusion

From the findings of the study, the investigator realized that the teachers working in the government and private sectors must be given training in computer by the government so that they can help their students to develop a positive attitude towards computer learning and usage. The government must insure that all the schools have the infrastructure facilities to have a computer lab and well-trained

teachers so that the students can have hands-on experience in computer despite their socioeconomic background.

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