

7.3 INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

7.3.1 Portray the performance of the institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust within 1000 words.

ST. ALOYSIUS DEGREE COLLEGE: A BEACON OF HOPE FOR FIRST-GENERATION LEARNERS

Education is often hailed as the great equalizer, a beacon of hope that illuminates paths to success regardless of one's background. However, for first-generation learners, those who are the first in their families to pursue higher education, the journey can be daunting, fraught with obstacles both tangible and intangible. In the pursuit of fostering inclusivity and empowerment, St. Aloysius Degree College stands out with its unwavering commitment to prioritizing the holistic development of these pioneering students.

At the heart of St. Aloysius Degree College's ethos lies a profound dedication to providing quality education to all, irrespective of their socio-economic status or familial background. With approximately 50% of its student body composed of first-generation learners, the institution recognizes the unique challenges these individuals face and endeavors to provide them with the necessary support systems to thrive academically, personally, and professionally. The following areas vividly reveal the ways the first generation learners are enhanced to be good individuals and responsible citizens for the country.

Quality Education:

Central to the college's approach is the provision of quality education that transcends mere dissemination of information. It encompasses a pedagogical philosophy that emphasizes critical thinking, creativity, and experiential learning. Through a meticulously crafted curriculum delivered by dedicated faculty members, students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate an increasingly complex world.

Constant Accompaniment through Mentoring:

At St. Aloysius Degree College, education is not limited to the transmission of academic knowledge; it encompasses the holistic development of each student. Recognizing the multifaceted challenges faced by individuals, especially first-generation learners, the institution places a strong emphasis on providing continuous support through mentoring programs.



The mentoring initiatives at St. Aloysius Degree College are designed to address the diverse needs of students and facilitate their personal and emotional growth. Trained mentors offer a safe and supportive environment where students can freely express their concerns, fears, and aspirations. Through individual sessions or group discussions, students are encouraged to explore and understand their emotions, develop coping mechanisms, and build resilience in the face of adversity. Emotional well-being is prioritized as a cornerstone of student success. The college acknowledges that the journey through higher education can be fraught with challenges, including academic pressure, social expectations, and personal dilemmas. Therefore, fostering a positive and supportive atmosphere is integral to ensuring that students feel empowered to overcome obstacles and achieve their full potential. Many first-generation learners may lack the self-assurance necessary to navigate unfamiliar academic and social environments. Through personalized guidance and encouragement, mentors help students recognize their strengths, talents, and capabilities. By instilling a sense of belief in themselves, students are better equipped to face challenges with courage and determination.

Relentless support through Counselling

Guidance is provided not only in academic matters but also in broader life choices and career decisions. Mentors offer insights, advice, and resources to help students explore their interests, set achievable goals, and chart a path towards their desired futures. Whether it's choosing a major, applying for internships, or planning for further education, students receive personalized support tailored to their individual aspirations and circumstances. Furthermore, the counseling programs extend beyond the college years, preparing students for the challenges they may encounter in their professional and personal lives. By fostering self-awareness, emotional intelligence, and interpersonal skills, students develop a strong foundation for lifelong learning and personal growth.

Cultural and Sports Performance:

Moreover, the college recognizes the significance of extracurricular activities in fostering personal growth and cultivating well-rounded individuals. Students are encouraged to participate in cultural and sports performances at intra, inter, and university levels. These platforms not only serve as avenues for self-expression and skill development but also foster a sense of camaraderie and belonging among students.



Value Education and Character Enhancement:

In addition to academic and extracurricular pursuits, St. Aloysius Degree College places a strong emphasis on value education and character enhancement. Through practices such as yoga and meditation, students are encouraged to cultivate inner strength, resilience, and a sense of purpose. These holistic approaches not only contribute to their personal development but also equip them with the moral compass needed to navigate the complexities of the modern world.

Best Teacher-Student Relationship:

Crucially, the college fosters a nurturing and supportive environment characterized by strong teacher-student relationships. Faculty members serve not only as educators but also as mentors, offering guidance, encouragement, and support to students throughout their academic journey. This personalized approach ensures that each student feels valued, understood, and empowered to reach their full potential. Various programs are initiated by the principal and management of St. Aloysius Degree College that serve as pillars of support, guiding students through their educational journey and empowering them to become confident, resilient, and compassionate individuals.

Encouraging Academic Excellence:

Furthermore, St. Aloysius Degree College celebrates academic excellence and endeavors to recognize and reward outstanding achievements. The institution awards the Best Aloysius Award to academically exceptional students, acknowledging their hard work and dedication. Additionally, cash awards are bestowed upon the best students from each academic stream, serving as incentives for continued excellence.

Fees Concession and Mid-Day Meals:

Importantly, the college remains committed to promoting inclusivity and accessibility by offering fee concessions and providing mid-day meals for economically weaker students. These initiatives ensure that financial constraints do not serve as barriers to education, enabling all students to pursue their academic aspirations irrespective of their financial circumstances.

St. Aloysius Degree College's steadfast commitment to empowering first-generation learners sets it apart as a beacon of hope and opportunity in the realm of higher education. By providing quality education, holistic support, and fostering a nurturing environment, the institution equips



its students with the tools and confidence needed to transcend barriers and realize their full potential. In doing so, it not only transforms individual lives but also contributes to the collective advancement of society as a whole.

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7.3.1 Portray the performance of the institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust

Survey Results on First-Generation Learners at St. Aloysius Degree College

- The survey conducted at St. Aloysius Degree College has provided valuable insights into the prevalence of first-generation learners within our student body. It serves as a testament to our commitment to diversity, inclusivity, and student success.
- The survey includes the educational qualifications of parents, their occupation, if they have elder siblings and other socio- demographic details of students
- Below enclosed are the results and their analysis.



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The term first-generation refers to students who are the first in their families to attend college. More specifically, it means that a student's parents have not earned a bachelor's degree. Students who have siblings in college but whose parents did not earn a bachelor's degree are considered first-generation.

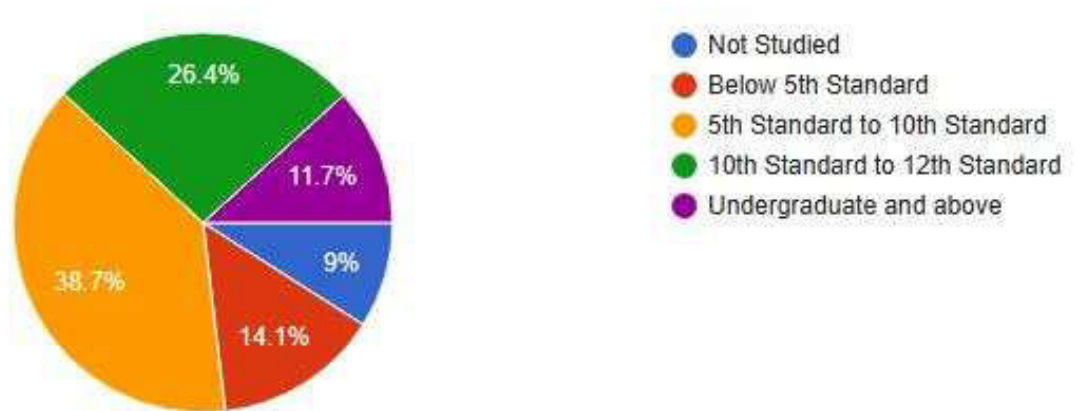
As part of our ongoing commitment to understanding and meeting the needs of our student body, St. Aloysius Degree College recently conducted a comprehensive survey to gather insights into the demographics of our student population. One of the key areas of focus was to determine the proportion of first-generation learners within our institution.

The survey results revealed compelling evidence that a significant majority of our students are indeed first-generation learners. Through meticulous data collection and analysis, it was found that approximately 60% of our student body falls into this category. This statistic underscores the unique challenges and opportunities faced by a large segment of our student population.

The survey methodology involved reaching out to students through various channels, including online surveys, face-to-face interviews, and administrative records. By employing a multifaceted approach, we were able to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the data collected.

Father's Qualification

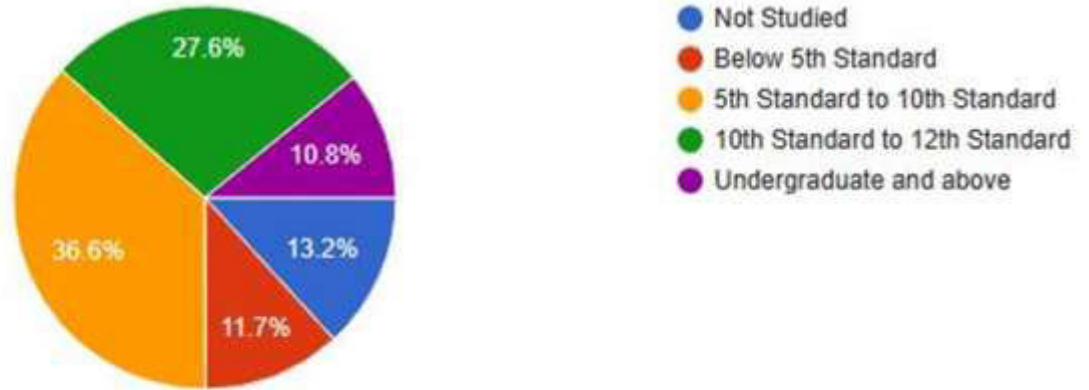
333 responses



The above figure reveals that 9 % of the parents have not studied and 14.1% have studied below 5th standard 38.7% have their qualification between the standards of 5th to 10th. 26.4% have studies up to 12th standard and only 11.7% have studies undergraduate and above.

Mother's Qualification

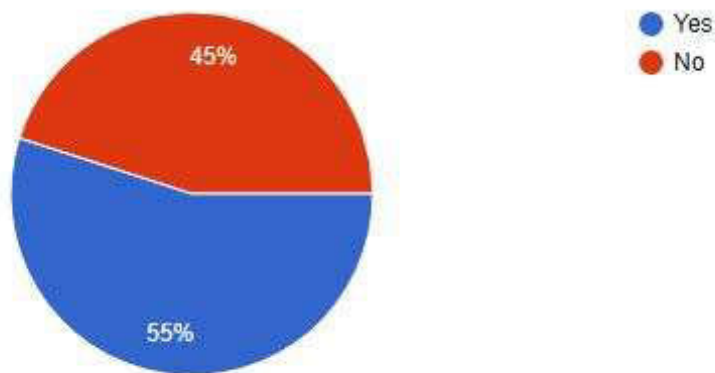
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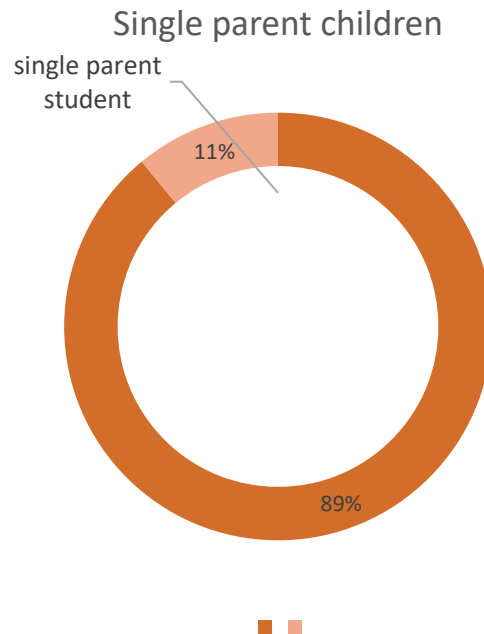
The above figure reveals that 13.2 % of the mothers have not studied and 11.7% have studied below 5th standard 36.6 % have their qualification between the standards of 5th to 10th. 27.6 % have studies up to 12th standard and only 10.8 % have studies undergraduate and above.

Do you have elder siblings?

333 responses

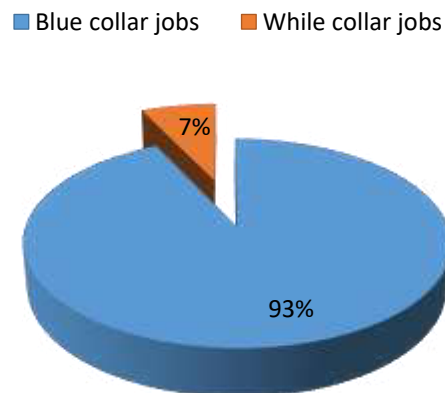


The above figure depicts that 45 % of students do not have elder siblings. Those students who have elder siblings also who have not gone to college can be considered as first generation learners.



The above figure reveals that 11 % of our students are single parent children and other 89% have both parents. Single-parent children may face obstacles in their academic pursuits due to limited resources, parental involvement, or support at home. Children may experience stress or anxiety related to financial instability, such as difficulties affording basic necessities, housing instability, or limited access to extracurricular activities. So, these students are in need of special support.

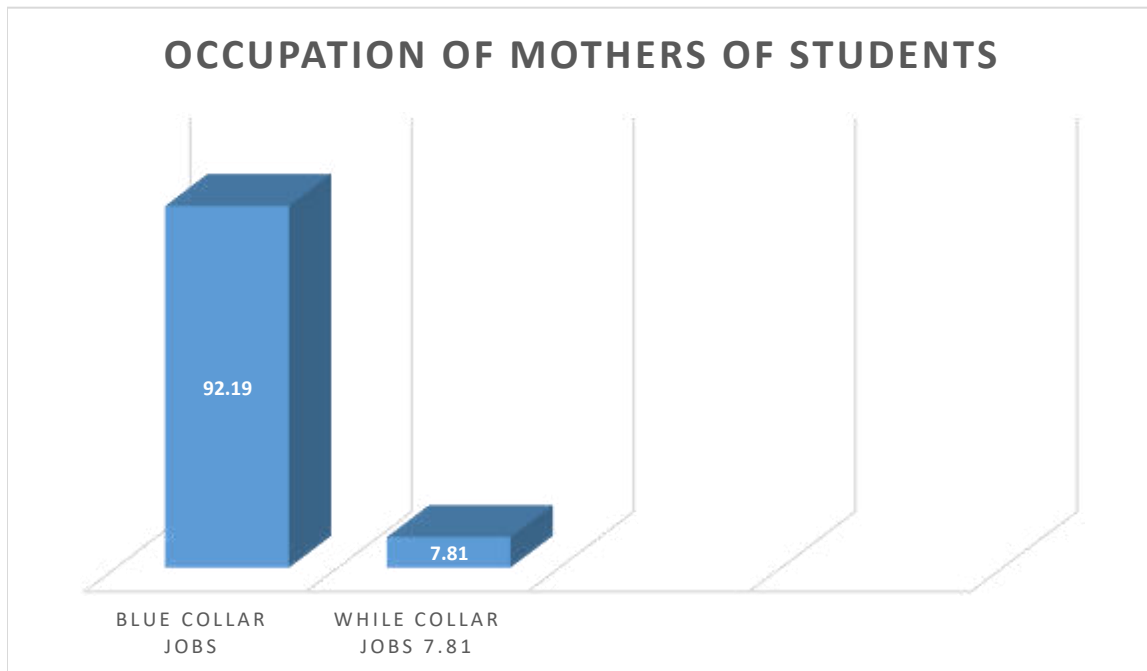
Occupation of fathers



The above figure reveals that 93% of our students father's do blue collar jobs and other 7% have white collar jobs. Blue-collar jobs and white-collar jobs are two distinct categories of employment that are often used to classify different types of work based on the nature of the tasks involved and

the skills required. Blue-collar jobs typically involve manual labor and are often performed in industrial, manufacturing, construction, or skilled trade sectors.

Workers in blue-collar jobs usually work with their hands and physical strength, performing tasks such as assembly line work, operating machinery, construction work, welding, plumbing, electrical work, and automotive repair. White-collar jobs refer to professional, managerial, administrative, or clerical positions that typically involve mental or administrative work rather than manual labor. Workers in white-collar jobs usually perform tasks such as analysis, decision-making, problem-solving, planning, organizing, and administrative duties.



The above figure reveals that 92.19% of our students father's do blue collar jobs and other 7.81% have white collar jobs.

The findings of the survey shed light on the diverse backgrounds and experiences of our student community. They reaffirm our commitment to providing tailored support and resources to empower first-generation learners on their educational journey. From academic assistance to emotional support and career guidance, we remain steadfast in our dedication to nurturing the holistic development of all our students.