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**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF HEALTH
SCIENCES, SCHOOL OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY
GRADUATE STUDIES PROGRAM**

**NURSING STUDENTS' PERCEPTION AND ASSOCIATED
FACTORS TOWARDS NURSING PROFESSION AT SELECTED
HEALTH SCIENCE COLLEGES IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA,
2024: A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY**

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**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY,
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES, SCHOOL OF NURSING
AND MIDWIFERY, DEPARTMENT OF NURSING IN PARTIAL
FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEGREE
OF MASTERS IN ADULT HEALTH NURSING.**

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

MAY, 2024



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ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

MAY, 2024

**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES SCHOOL,
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Duration of study	From March19- April 19, 2024
Study Area	Public and Private health Science collages/Universities in Addis Ababa

APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF EXAMINATION

This thesis by Rahmet Hassen is accepted in its present form by the board of examiners as satisfying thesis requirement for the degree of masters in adult health nursing.

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STATEMENT OF DECLARATION

By my signature below, I declare and affirm that this thesis is my work. I have followed all ethical principles of scholarship in the preparation, data collection, data analysis, and completion of this thesis. All scholarly matter that is included in the thesis has been given recognition through citation. I affirm that I have cited and referenced all sources used in this document. Every effort has been made to avoid plagiarism in the preparation of this thesis. This thesis is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for a graduate degree from Addis Ababa University at the College of Health Sciences, School of Nursing Department of Nursing and Midwifery. The thesis is deposited in the Addis Ababa University Digital Library and is made available to the local, national, and international scientific community. I solemnly declare that this thesis has not been submitted to any other institution anywhere for the award of any academic degree, diploma, or certificate.”

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted to Allah for allowing me to excel in my efforts to complete this research thesis and I would like to thank my family for their financial and spiritual support. Secondly, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Teshome Habte (BSc, MSc, Assistant professor) and Mr. Boka Dugassa (BSc, MSc, Assistant professor) for their advice and encouragement in each step of thesis development.

Also, I would like to thank the administrative offices of the chosen Health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa as well as all of the nursing students who took part in this study for their unwavering support in helping me gather my data. This study would not have been feasible without the lengthy hours of dedication to data collecting by supervisors and data collectors. For this reason, I am appreciative of the essential contributions made by supervisors and data collectors.

Finally, I would like to express my acknowledgment to Addis Ababa University for providing such an opportunity to undertake research project work.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAU	Addis Ababa University
ANA.....	American Nurses Association
BSC.....	Bachelor of Science
ETB.....	Ethiopian Birr
GC.....	Gregorian calendar
MSC	Master of Science
RN	Registered Nurse
SPSS.....	Statistical package for social science
UK	United Kingdom
WHO	World Health Organization

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ABSTRACT

Background: Perception plays a key role in preparing the shape of an individual as a person and as a professional. Nursing students' perceptions in the image of the nursing profession have a visible impact on their self-concept, self-esteem, recruitment, retention, and performance.

Objective: This study is aimed to assess nursing student perception and associated factors towards nursing profession at selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024.

Method: Institution-based Cross-sectional study design was conducted from Feb 19- Mar 19, 2024, Data were collected from randomly selected in 267 undergraduate years two, three, and four Nursing students enrolled in the selected health science colleges in Addis Ababa. Data was collected by using structured questionnaires after prepared and validated by using expert review in the field of nursing. The collected data wear entered and then analyzed by using SPSS version 26 to see the association of variables. Bivariate and multiple logistic regression analysis wear computed to describe the association between perception and independent variables. A variable at P- value of less than 0.05 with 95% CI was declared the association of variables as statically significant.

Result: A total of 267 nursing students were participated in this study yielding 100% response rate. From this, 82% (n=219) of the study participants were female nurses. More than one half (52.2%) of the study subjects did join the faculty of nursing due to desire to help others. Only 57.3% of nursing students had positive perception towards their profession. Being female (AOR = 5.77; 95% CI: 2.47 – 13.44), nurses who thought that their salary competitive to other profession (AOR = 3.48; 95% CI: 1.81 – 6.66), having reasons for enrolling to nursing profession (AOR = 4.39; 95% CI: 2.37 – 8.13) were significantly associated with the perception of nurses towards their profession.

Conclusions and Recommendation: in this study, the overall perception of nursing students toward their profession in Addis Ababa was 57.3% which need pressing remedy to enhance awareness and perception towards the profession. Gender, competitive salary and reasons for enrollment were significantly associated with the perception of nursing students. Therefore, health education and awareness creation towards the nursing profession should be given to the

students before and after joining nursing school and also, all stake holders should contribute their role by focusing on factors affects nursing student's perception.

Key words: Perception, nursing students, nursing profession, Ethiopia.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

The majority of workers who offer healthcare services are nurses, and they are essential to the delivery of quality treatment in all healthcare settings. Nursing is the backbone of health sectors, but it has not found its place(1). Nurses account for almost 50% of the global healthcare workforce, and their deficits pose the single biggest challenge for many healthcare systems(2). Globally, in the 21st century, the demand for nursing is growing(3). A model predicts that global demand for nursing workers will increase to 36 million workers by 2030, which is more challenging in low and middle-income countries(4). With China as an example, the ratio of nurses to the 1000 population is 2.3, compared with 12.9 in Germany in 2017(5).

In health-related areas, it is clear that there are different perceptions of nursing. Perception by itself is merely defined as an idea, belief, or image you have as a result of how you see or understand something(6). The perception of nursing may vary depending on age, educational level, social and professional experience(6). Perception plays a key role in preparing the shape of an individual as a person and as a professional. Perception has an important role in molding the shape of an individual as a person and as a professional. To build up and to grow a profession, it requires strong positive perception, and positive attitude of its workers(7). The way in which nursing students view the field has a direct bearing on their performance, recruitment, retention, and self-concept(8).

According to a study conducted in Taiwan, feelings of satisfaction served as the primary motivator for nursing students to select the field as their profession. Just 4(3.1%) people said that entering this field requires having an optimistic outlook. At the graduating level, 69 nurses (53.5%) decide to pursue a career in nursing because it offers them both work and educational opportunities. Of these, 12 (or 9.3%) desired to change careers, whereas 36 (or 27.9%) were in academia. Social animosity was cited by 63 respondents (48.8%) as a major factor in nursing students' decision to pick this vocation(9).

In order to understand students' decision to choose nursing as a career, a multifaceted viewpoint on career choice needs to be investigated(10). Students' perceptions about the nursing profession

may have the biggest impact on their decision to search for better possibilities to learn more about it. One of the most significant decisions a student will ever make is selecting a career, which will positively impact how they build their sense of self and find their calling in life(11).

In Ethiopia, a variety of elements, including the background of one's parents, the communications within communities, and spirituality in many fields, greatly influence one's choice of employment(12).

1.2. Statement of the problems

A large number of nursing student dropouts during and after school is one of the biggest issues facing the nursing profession today. Currently, between 15% and 20% of nursing student's worldwide drop out of school every year. In particular, among recently graduated nurses, these staffing shortages may have unfavorable consequences on the quality of nursing care provided by current nurses, leading to burnout, lower job satisfaction, and more turnover (13). According to projections made by the World Health Organization (WHO), there will be a 12.9 million deficit of nurses by 2035. Data revealed that 89% of these nursing shortages occurred in low- and lower-middle-income nations, with significant gaps in nations in Africa, South-East Asia, and the Eastern Mediterranean (4).

Despite this, nurses' contributions and methods are often disregarded and they remain unnoticed. It's believed that the profession plays a small part in decision-making and is characterized by anxiety, uncertainty, and a feeling of inferiority. A growing number of professional nurses are leaving the profession, and young individuals are not selecting nursing as a career(14). Young individuals are not selecting nursing as a career option, and many seasoned nurses are quitting the field or industry for a variety of reasons. In Canada, 40% of nursing students drop out of school, however in the UK, 25% of nursing students is expected to leave the sector. In terms of health workers per 100,000 inhabitants, Africa as a whole fall short of the required minimum(15). According to the results of another Italian study, young people think that nurses are underpaid for the substantial and difficult training they receive, the hard effort they put in, and the challenging and occasionally unpleasant tasks they undertake. It demonstrated that the public values nursing despite the significant challenges and sacrifices it frequently entails; nurses are viewed as persons who perform tasks that most other people would find unpleasant. Thus,

this work garners respect and recognition from society(16).According to 25% of Indians surveyed on the public's perception of nursing and career influence, people think that nurses are rude to patients and have a dirty job(17).

From recent time up to now society related nursing with female(18). Numerous unfavorable social conceptions of nursing, including gender stereotyping, poor academic standards, few career options, and inadequate pay and working conditions, have been identified by researchers. More significantly, these beliefs may have an impact on the number of people entering the nursing field(19). Rather than being viewed as gifted and educated healthcare workers who may play significant roles in the medical field, nurses are typically perceived as female-only occupations limited to bedside care and medication administration (20).

81.8% of undergraduate nursing students in Ugandan study that evaluated their attitudes and perceptions of nursing profession said they had positive attitudes toward it. However, nursing was seen as an unpopular, low-paying career that favored hiring people from lower social classes. The result of this study verified that undergraduate nursing students had positive attitudes toward nursing profession but negative perceptions of it(21). There are several different elements contributing to the unfavorable perception of the nursing profession. If these issues are not dealt with and fixed, we risk losing a lot of nurses and having fewer students choose to major in nursing. Nurse managers, academic managers, and other interested parties need to devise a plan to tackle these issues and change the unfavorable perception of nurses in the industry(22).

According to the results of a survey on how the public views nurses and nursing in South Africa, despite the negative image that the media presents, the public's perception of nursing and nurses is generally positive. Merely 43% of those surveyed expressed their desire for their offspring to pursue careers in nursing. The public did not seem to recognize the intricacy of a nursing career, nor was nursing considered a professional option (23). The negative perception of their employment that Nigerian nurses held of their work in higher-level hospitals hindered their desire to stay in the field. (24). Research indicates a lack of consensus regarding the nursing profession. In Tanzania, for example, a research assessing secondary school students' attitudes and knowledge about the nursing industry found that students decide against enrolling in nursing programs due to the negative public view of the field. (25). Conversely, a study conducted in Kenya revealed

that 90% of first-year nursing students would still select nursing as a career if given another chance, and the majority of them had positive opinions about the field (26).

A study conducted in Ethiopia on 243 nurses' perceptions of the nursing profession revealed that 54.6% of nurses had positive perceptions. Nurses' opinions of the nursing profession are favorable in these regions. To maintain experienced nurses in their profession and to improve nurses' perceptions of their career, factors such as education level, monthly compensation scale, and type of hospital worked in should be taken into account(15). The results of this study will assist academics and researchers in organizing more extensive investigations on this subject in the future, as there are currently none in Ethiopia on nursing students' perceptions of the nursing profession and the factors that influence it.

1.3. Significant of the study

Nurses are deeply invested in the well-being and health of persons in their communities. They are responsible for the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of others. Because this care frequently relies on patient compliance, the public's image of nursing has important implications for the profession. Nurses make up the vast of health care professionals; nonetheless, they are mainly invisible and have been disregarded in terms of what and how they accomplish their jobs. The profession is viewed as having a limited role in decision-making, a lack of professional confidence, fear, insecurity, and a sense of inferiority (27).

There is a global scarcity of nursing experts. A study conducted by American Association of Colleges of Nursing, there will be a 9 million nurse shortfall by 2030, posing a significant threat to patient safety. Relationships between nurses, other healthcare practitioners, and the families they serve rely heavily on how people view themselves and how others perceive them(28).As a result, this study will help students, nurses, and their families gain a better understanding of the profession.

Nurse professionals' perceptions and their impact on improving clinical practices in low-income settings have rarely been investigated as a crucial element that may mediate the effects of cares (29). There is a lack of sufficient studies on nurses' perceptions towards their profession and its determinant factors in Ethiopia, despite the country's high staff attrition rates. It is strongly

believed that the research findings will help lecturers and nursing students become more knowledgeable of the nursing profession. The study findings will be used by administrative management at all universities and colleges for training reasons, to address the identified predictors with corrective actions, and to establish a plan to foster a positive perception among nursing students. After graduation, this will improve the effectiveness and quality of nursing care. Once again, the study's findings will encourage scholars and other interested parties to collect data as a foundation for future research on the subject. Thus, this study will serve as baseline information for researchers, as well as managers, who will be informed and take decisive action to assist establish a satisfied and motivated healthcare workforce.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Perception is an idea, belief, or image towards a certain profession. Perception is either positive or negative(30). This unfavorable view of the nursing profession is not a natural habit; rather, it is the result of a multifaceted interplay of Sociodemographic, individual and social image elements. The perceptions of nursing students about the field and related variables (individual, Sociodemographic, and societal image components) were compiled in this study of the literature.

2.1. Nursing students' perception towards their profession

According to a research study on The opinions of college students on nursing as a potential career done in Bangladesh, 58.2% of respondents said nursing was a respectable and noble profession (11). Another study on nursing students' perceptions of their profession and their intended future career motives was carried out in Nepal. Of the 131 respondents, 98.5% saw nursing as a chance to help people, 46.6% saw it as a means of achieving financial security, 84.7% saw it as a means of gaining social recognition, 87.8% saw it as a dignified and respectful profession, 91.6 percent saw it as a means of earning blessings, and only 25.2% saw it as a chance to obtain a better marriage offer. (31).

A study on the perceptions of 350 nursing students carried out in Saudi Arabia revealed that the majority of participants had a good impression of nursing, with the majority (59.1%) expressing pride in their profession(32). A descriptive cross-sectional study on Yemeni nursing students' perceptions of the nursing profession found that 37.3% of participants had very high positive perceptions of nursing, followed by high positive perceptions (48%) and low and very-low perceptions (the remaining percentages)(33).

According to a Nigerian study, 93% of senior secondary school students have a positive opinion of nursing as a career(34). Thirty percent of the 76 nursing students in Zambia who participated in the study on their impressions of the nursing profession had unfavorable ideas about the field, whereas seventy percent of the students had positive perceptions. Many (80%) said that after entering the nursing profession, their perspective of the field had changed from being unfavorable to favorable as a result of several circumstances(35).

2.2. Factors associated with students' perception towards nursing profession

2.2.1. Socio-demographic factors

In Punjab State, 200 student nurses participated in a quantitative study to compare and evaluate first-year and fourth-year students' perceptions on nursing profession. The finding showed a First-year students' perceptions of nursing profession were substantially more positive ($p=0.026$) than those of final-year students. The perceived image of the nursing profession was found to have a highly significant association ($p=0.000$) with the type of institution. Private school nursing students' opinions of the profession were noticeably more positive(7).

The research that was done in Jazan on perception of nursing students about the nursing profession among 66 respondents showed that 59 (89%) were more than 20 years, and only 7 (11%) were between the ages of 18 and 20 years(36).

A cross-sectional study was conducted in Turkey with 193 students enrolled in the third and fourth year of the Aydın School of Health's nursing department. The mean age of the participants was 21.83 ± 1.151 , and 72.3% of the students were female ($n = 120$) and 27.7% were male ($n = 46$). The average professional perception scores of the students were 87.11 ± 12.822 , 89.60 ± 12.018 for female students, and 80.57 ± 12.685 for male students. The mean professional perception scores of male and female students differed statistically significantly(37).

2.2.2. Individual factors

A study conducted in Jazan on 66 respondents' opinions of the nursing profession found that 58 (87.9%) students responded positively to being enrolled as nursing students, whereas 7 (10.6%) students reacted negatively because of the willingness of their family members. Regarding their ideal career, 52 pupils (78.8%) cite the influence of others as a deciding element. Of these, eight (12.1%) were influenced by their peers, whilst five (7.6) were motivated by themselves. One student is not specific (36). A different study on female governmental colleges in Saudi Arabia reveals that the majority of the participants entered the nursing faculty due to their foundation year grades, and half of them also have a nurse friend or relative(38). A descriptive cross-sectional design conducted in Yemen revealed that almost more than half of the respondents

(57.2%) attributed the reason behind their enrollment to the Nursing Department to their desire to help others followed by secondary school grads (27.5%). Almost two-thirds (64.3%) of the respondents had a friend/relative nurse. Concerning to family's reaction to students' enrollment in the Nursing Department, the positive reaction was high (71.9%) followed by a neutral reaction of 81 (22.1%), and a negative reaction of 22 (6%)(33).

In Ethiopia, 413 BSc nursing students attending governmental universities in the Amhara area participated in a survey. Of them, 33.3 percent entered nursing school with the intention of helping others, whereas 19% did so in response to their preparatory school grades. A significant portion of the sample (71.7%) had friends or family members employed in the nursing profession. The majority of respondents' families (91.5%) responded favorably to their sons' decision to become nurses. Before enrolling in nursing college, more than three-fourths (76.8%) of the respondents knew something about nursing. 50.8 percent of the participants said they were happy with the nursing program(39).

2.2.3. Social image factors

A cross-sectional study conducted on 293 respondents in Nigeria found that, despite the positive perception of nursing as a career choice among men (53%), 93% of participants had a positive view of the field. Additionally, 50% of the students in the study disagreed that nursing is a career choice exclusive to women. Thirty-seven (37%) of the students said that men should not choose careers in nursing because they are not manly. Additionally, 65.6% of respondents felt that because women are more compassionate, nursing is a more suitable profession for them(20). In order to evaluate patient perceptions of the nursing profession and related factors, an institutional-based cross-sectional study was carried out at Jimma Medical Center. The results showed that 99 patients (42.4%) had high perceptions of the nursing profession, 61 patients (26%) had medium perceptions, and 74 patients (31.6%) had low perceptions. Patients' general opinions of the nursing profession were not favorable. The perception of patients was substantially correlated with factors such as age, place of residence, societal values and role traits, and satisfaction with nursing care. As a result, the community should get health education and awareness raising about the nursing profession(40).

2.3. Conceptual framework

This conceptual frame-work illustrates the relationship between dependent variable of nurses' perception towards their profession and independent variable of student nurses, socio-demographic characteristics and associated factors or its predictors as depicted in the Figure 1 below. This conceptual frame-work wear adopted from after reviewing different literatures on the perception of nurse towards nurse professional and factors associated with this perception(7,33,36,36–40).

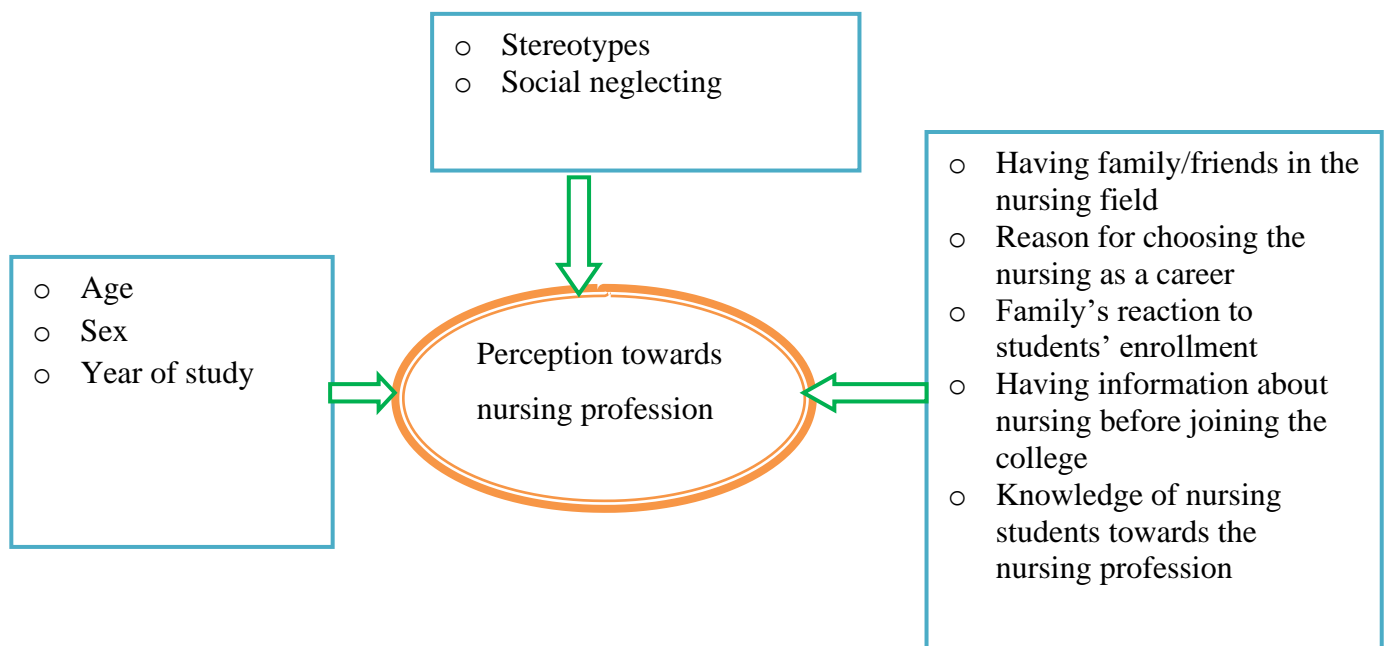


Figure 1: Conceptual frame-work on factors associated with nursing students' perception toward nursing profession at selected health Science College in Addis Ababa.

2.4. Research questions

- What is the perception of nursing students towards their profession?
- Is there an association between nursing students' perceptions and its predictors?

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

3.1. General objective

- To assess nursing students' perception and associated factors towards nursing profession at selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024.

3.2. Specific objectives

- To determine the perception of nursing students towards nursing profession at selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024.
- To identify factors that affect nursing students' perception toward nursing at selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024.

4. METHODS AND MATERIALS

4.1. Study area

Addis Ababa was chosen in the first place primarily because it is the hub of the nation and home to numerous prestigious private and public health colleges with superior staffing and state-of-the-art facilities. Currently, the nation's baccalaureate nursing programs are offered by at least 40 public and private universities and colleges. In Addis Ababa, there are around Twenty-Five private and three public, one defense/military nursing institution College/University that provides education in BSc degree program. This study was conducted at a randomly selected health science college in Addis Ababa. The study was conducted at Addis Ababa University, Menelik II Health Science College, Alkan Health Science Business & Technology College and Ayer Tena Health Science College.

Originally founded as the University College of Addis Ababa in 1950, Addis Abeba University (AAU) is Ethiopia's oldest and biggest institution of higher education and research. The University has been a premier hub for research, teaching-learning, and community services since its founding.

Menelik II Health Sciences College is part of the Addis Ababa City Government Health Institute. At the certificate level, the institution provides a variety of courses in radiography, public health, midwifery, medical laboratory technology, and basic clinical nursing. It was established as an auxiliary education in the health sciences in 1949.

Alkan Health Science Business & Technology College is one of Addis Abeba's premier institutions for learning, research, and volunteer work. Operating under the authority of Alkan Private Limited, Alkan was founded in December 2002 and provides seven programs. Since its founding till the present, the school has trained over 14,000 graduates who have held a variety of positions in the education industry and received certificates and diplomas (level IV) in numerous fields.

Ayer Tena Health Science college is a private health science college established by consortium of health professionals in the health center. The college is located in the capital city of the country, Addis Ababa, Kolfekeranyo Sub City. They envision world where people

have equitable access to basic health services and information and enjoy holistically health and happier life with dignity.

4.2. Study design and period

A descriptive cross- section study was conducted from Feb 19- Mar 19, 2024 G.C.

4.3. Population

4.3.1. Source population

The source population was all undergraduate BSc nursing students; who were study in the four selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa.

4.3.2. Study population

The study population was randomly selected undergraduate BSc nursing students from 2nd year to 4th year; who were studying in four selected health science colleges Addis Ababa.

4.4. Inclusion and exclusion criteria

4.4.1. Inclusion criteria

- All nursing students in four selected health science colleges in Addis Ababa, and available during the time of data collection.

4.4.2. Exclusion criteria

- Those nursing students who were absent and unable to participate in the study.

4.5. Sample Size Determination and Sampling Procedure

4.5.1. Sample Size

The sample size was determined by using single population proportion formula with the following assumptions: 95% confidence interval (CI), 5% margin of error;

$$n = \frac{z_{\alpha/2}^2 p(1-p)}{w^2}$$

Where, n= is the minimum sample required

P= 50 % Even if the researcher got plenty of related research done in other countries it is difficult to take prevalence, the socio-demographic of those countries could not be similar with Ethiopia.

w= the margin of error (5%)

Z= the upper percentile of the normal distribution 1.96 (with CI=95%)

$$n = (1.96)^2 (0.5) (1-0.5) / (0.05)^2 = n \approx 384$$

By using the correction formula, the sample size is 243 students.

Adding a 10% non-responsive rate, then the sample size required for this study is 267 students.

4.5.2. Sampling Technique

There were three government-owned colleges and fourteen privately-owned colleges offering nursing programmes at Addis Ababa. Health science colleges that provided training for the nursing profession at Addis Ababa was purposely selected from among those available. Simple random sampling (lottery method) was used to select two government and two private institutions from a pool of 17 nursing schools. The total number of nursing students at selected health science colleges was 664. The number of students was distributed proportionally across the four selected colleges, as shown in Figure 2 below. The second, third, and fourth-year students were picked using systematic random sampling techniques.

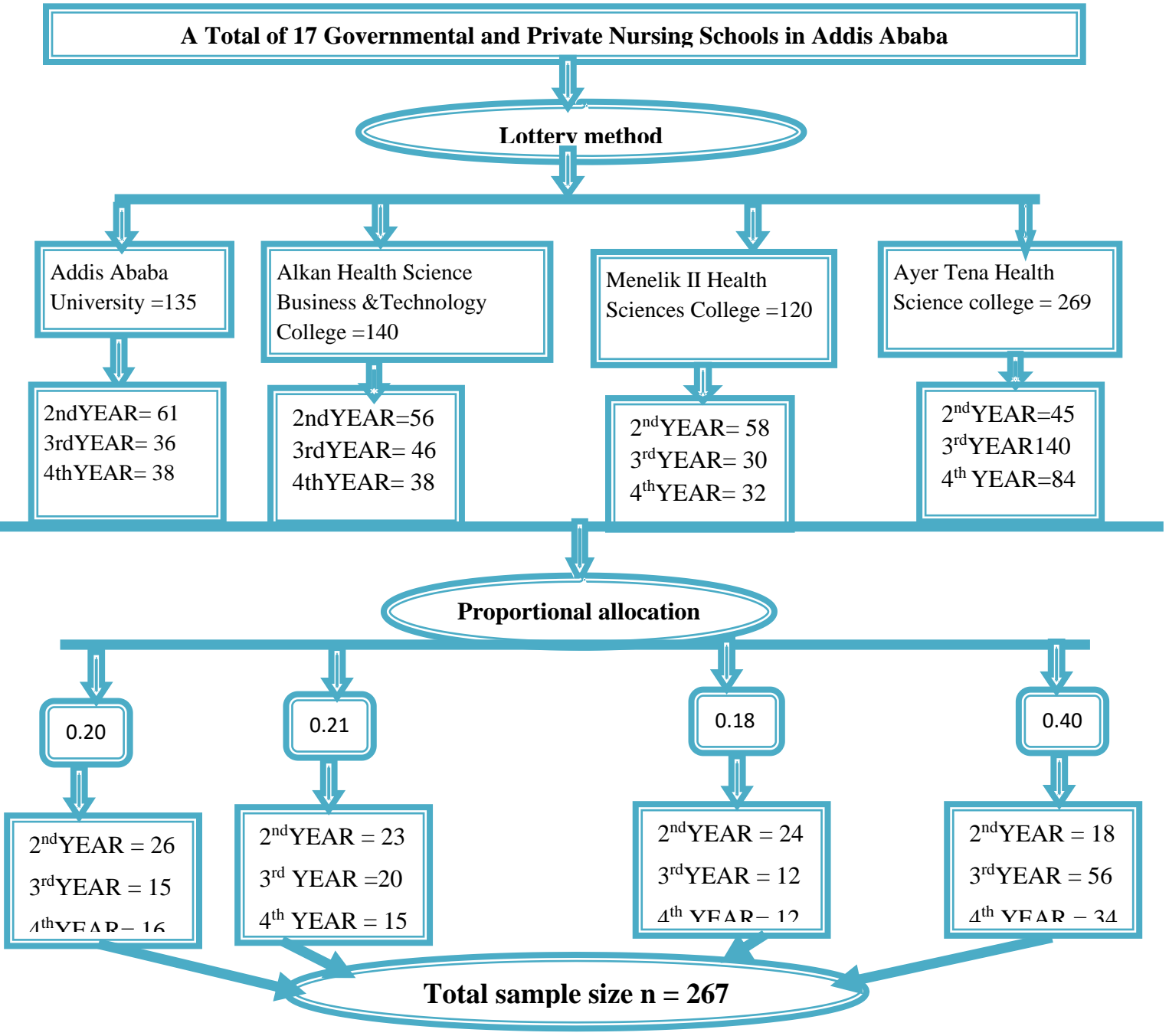


Figure 2: Schematic representation of sampling procedure of nursing students

4.6. Definition of terms / Operational definition

Nursing student – refers to any person who is officially enrolled in the College of Nursing in order to pursue a BSN degree. This includes registered nurses (RNs), students enrolled in distance education programs, and special students, whether they are pursuing a BSN degree alone or in conjunction with another degree.

Nursing profession –would refer to the holistic conscious and continuous caring for and helping the patient.

Perception – it refers an idea or image that is formed as result of the way you see or understand something(6).

Positive perception –Those who were scored greater than or equal to mean value(41).

Negative perception –Those who were scored score less than mean value(41).

4.7. Variables

4.7.1. Dependent variable

- Nursing student perception

4.7.2. Independent variables

- Age
- Sex
- Year of study
- Individual factors (having relatives/friends in the nursing field, the reason for choosing the nursing profession, family's reaction to students' enrollment, satisfaction with the nursing program, source of information, having information about nursing before joining the college, knowledge of nursing students towards the nursing profession)
- Social image factors (stereotypes, social neglecting)

4.8. Data collection instrument and procedure

4.8.1. Data collection instrument

The data was gathered by using a structured questionnaire adapted from a prior study(41–43). The questionnaires were prepared in English version. The questionnaires contain three parts; the first part contains socio-demographic characteristics (age, sex, year of education and religion, reasons for enrollment to the faculty of nursing, family’s reaction to students' enrollment and having information before joining the department).The second section contains 22 questionnaires on the assessment of nursing students’ perception. These questionnaires used a five-point Likert scale. A 5-point Likert scale, ranging from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5), was given to the participants to indicate how they felt about each issue. Perception toward nursing profession was measured using a Likert scale which consists of 22 items. The mean and standard deviation of each respondent was computed. The average mean and standard deviation were calculated as 3.04 and 1.19 respectively. The score above and equal to the mean of all the respondents was considered as having a positive perception and the score below the mean had a negative perception toward nursing profession. The third part contains 18 questionnaires related to factors affecting nursing student perception.

4.8.2. Data collection procedure

Students who meet the inclusion criteria was selected by systemic random sampling from the sample size proportionally distributed each year, and the relevant information on the student perception and associated factors was gathered through a self-administered structured questionnaire. Two nursing students and one senior supervisor with a BSc in nursing who have experience in collecting data was selected and trained to collect the data. The data collectors and supervisor were trained for half day on the relevance of the study, the confidentiality of client information, eligibility criteria, and how to collect the data.

4.9. Data processing and analysis

The collected data was checked for completeness, relevance and accuracy before the data was analyzed, interpreted and organized. The statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) version 26 software applications were used to enter and analyze the data. Frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation were used to show the descriptive data analysis results. To ascertain whether there was a relationship between professional perception and the independent variables independently, bivariate logistic regression with 95% CI was employed. Following that, multiple logistic regressions were used to analyze all variables with p-values less than 0.25; a p-value of ≤ 0.05 with a 95% confidence interval was considered statistically significant. Multicollinearity among independent variables and model fitness were examined. Ultimately, the findings were compared and discussed with those of other studies, and the results were displayed using descriptive text, tables, graphs, and charts.

4.10. Data quality control

Data was collected by two nursing students. A pretest was administered to nursing students at Yanet Health Science College. Based on the pretest, the tool was examined for the validity and reliability of the method and materials, and the principal investigator made the required changes. The overall Cronbach's Alpha of this tool during the pretest was 0.622, or 62.2%, therefore necessary adjustments were performed. The questionnaire's accuracy and the average time to finish the questions were estimated.

4.11. Ethical consideration

College of Health Sciences Institutional Review Board at Addis Ababa University provided an ethical clearance letter. The data were then collected after obtaining a support letter from the appropriate department to allow authorization and collaboration. The letters were delivered to the individual nursing schools to request permission to perform the study. All participants were asked about their desire to participate in the study and informed that there was no risk to them. Before beginning the data collection procedure, each study subject was briefed on the purpose of the study, the confidentiality of their responses, and the necessity of providing the appropriate information to help the study achieve its goal. The information's confidentiality and privacy were ensured

4.12. Dissemination of the study

This thesis was grant permitted in Addis Ababa University as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of masters in adult health nursing and the study finding were then presented to Addis Ababa University, College of Health Science and School of Nursing and Midwifery. The study findings were forwarded to the department of nursing. An attempt was made to publish the study's findings in a reputable international journal. Stakeholders such as the Ministry of Education, the Federal Ministry of Health, the Ethiopia Nurses Association, and other policymakers working in the health sector can use the study's results and recommendations to promote their services.

5. RESULT

5.1. Socio demographic characteristics of respondents

A total of 267 nursing students were selected to participate in this study which yields a 100% response rate. Among these, a total of 82% (n=219) of participants were female. A larger proportion of the respondents, 62.5% (n=167) were in the age group of 21-25, 8.2% (n=22) were in the age group of 15-20 and 29.2% (n=78) were in the age group of 26-30years. With their educational year of study, the majority of the respondents, about 66.6% (n= 178) were above third year, and 33.3% (n=89) were second and below years. As depicted in Table 1 below, the religious characteristics of participants showed the majority 102 (38.2%) were Muslim followed by 92 (34.5%) Orthodox and 67 (25.1%) Protestants.

Table 1: Sociodemographic characteristics of nursing students in selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024

	Variables	Frequency (n= 267)	Percent
Gender	Male	48	18.0
	Female	219	82.0
Age	15 – 20 years	22	8.2
	21 – 25 years	167	62.5
	26 – 30 years	78	29.2
Educational year	Second Year	89	33.3
	Third Year	101	37.8
	Fourth Year	77	28.8
Religion	Orthodox	92	34.5
	Muslim	102	38.2
	Protestant	67	25.1
	Catholic	5	1.9
	Others	1	.4
Family's reaction to student' enrollment	Positive	208	77.9
	Neutral	45	16.9
	Negative	14	5.2
Having relatives / friends in nursing field	Family	77	28.8
	Friends	76	28.5
	I don't have	114	42.7
Having information before	Yes	103	38.6

joining the collages	No	164	61.4
Did you have a reason for enrollment	Yes	161	60.3
	No	106	39.7

The majority of the students' families, 208 (77.9%) have a positive reaction to the enrollment of their children in nursing school. More than half of the respondents 153 (57.3%) had either a family member or a friend and 114 (42.7%) didn't have any relatives or friends in the nursing profession. More than one-half (61.4%) of participants didn't have any information about the nursing profession before joining the college. as depicted in Table 1. More than one-half (52.20%) of the study subjects did join the faculty of nursing due to a desire to help others and (19.9%) did so due to their average in secondary school. (18%) the student joined the nursing school because of the availability of work and the rest (9.90 %) of the subjects joined the faculty of nursing according to their families' advice.

5.2 Perception towards nursing profession

The percentage ratings of the perception towards nursing professional were calculated using a Likert scale questionnaire. The items used to assess the perception of the study participants towards nursing profession had a good reliability with a Cronbach's alpha of 0.622.

About 81.2% of the study participants agreed and strongly agreed that nursing is a respectful profession in the health sectors (mean = 3.95 and SD = 1.148). More than 88% of the respondents perceived that nursing is not an occupation rather it is a profession (mean = 1.84 and SD = 0.692). About 76.7% of the study participants decided that nursing is not a women's profession (mean = 2.04 and SD = 0.943). More than 63% of the respondents perceived that nursing is a well appreciated profession in the society (mean = 3.4 and SD = 1.111). About 68.5%the respondents did not believe that nursing profession is an independent profession by which nurses make decision for themselves (mean = 2.52 and SD = 1.333). More than 68% of the respondents did not agree that nurses are a professional that obeys doctors' orders without questioning them (mean = 2.54 and SD = 1.428).About 78.6% of the respondents did not recommend their children to be a nurse (mean = 2.46 and SD = 1.158). More than 75% of the respondents perceived that nursing is a profession which provide caring patients in ethical and standard ways that can maintain their privacy (mean = 3.75 and SD = 1.217). More than half of

the respondents did not think of that nursing profession is actually equal to other profession in the health system (mean = 3.08 and SD = 1.434). As shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Perception of the study participants towards nursing profession in selected health science colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024

Items	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Mean	SD	N
Nursing profession is a respectful profession	7.5	6.0	5.2	46.4	34.8	3.95	1.148	267
Nursing profession is an occupation and not a profession	30.0	58.4	9.4	1.9	0.4	1.84	0.692	267
Nursing profession is a women's profession	30.3	46.4	12.7	9.7	0.7	2.04	0.943	267
Nursing profession is similar to that of the servant's job	30.7	30.0	5.6	28.1	5.6	2.48	1.33	267
Nursing profession is a well appreciated in the society	7.9	16.5	12.4	53.9	9.4	3.4	1.111	267
Nursing profession is a prestigious profession	8.6	10.9	18.4	42.7	19.5	3.54	1.174	267
Nursing profession is a dangerous profession	18.4	36.7	16.9	23.2	4.9	2.6	1.17	267
Nursing profession is a human profession	3.4	1.1	6.4	56.9	32.2	4.13	0.848	267
Nursing profession is an extremely hard profession that does not receive enough appreciation	12.7	40.4	12.7	26.2	7.9	2.76	1.199	267
Nursing profession is an essential profession in any society	4.5	7.9	14.2	55.1	18.4	3.75	0.993	267
Nursing profession is an independent profession by which nurses make decision for themselves	28.8	30.0	9.7	23.6	7.9	2.52	1.333	267
Nursing profession is a significant in the patient recovery	2.2	4.5	10.9	56.2	26.2	4	0.869	267
Nursing profession is helping in permission of health and prevention of disease	21.0	17.6	7.9	36.0	17.6	3.12	1.44	267
Nursing profession is providing self-actualization	15.4	6.7	11.2	46.4	20.2	3.49	1.31	267
In nursing profession nurses are given a chance to use their own initiative in their work.	18.7	12.0	5.6	46.4	17.2	3.31	1.39	267
In nursing profession nurses obeys doctors' orders without questioning them.	31.1	28.5	8.6	18.7	13.1	2.54	1.428	267

In nursing profession nurses waste a lot of time being busy doing nothing	34.1	29.6	11.2	15.4	9.7	2.37	1.347	267
I would like my child to become a nurse	26.2	25.8	26.6	18.0	3.4	2.46	1.158	267
Anyone could be nurse easy	23.2	27.0	14.6	21.0	14.2	2.76	1.388	267
Nursing profession has opportunity for personal growth	18.4	20.6	12.0	30.7	18.4	3.1	1.407	267
Nursing profession is caring profession in which ethical standard of care is maintained	10.1	7.1	7.5	48.3	27.0	3.75	1.217	267
Nursing profession is actually equal to other profession	19.9	19.9	12.4	28.5	19.5	3.08	1.434	267

Perception toward nursing profession was measured using a Likert scale which consists of 22 items as depicted in the table above. The mean and standard deviation of each respondent was computed. Then, the average mean and standard deviation were calculated and became 3.04 and 1.19 respectively. The score above and equal to the average mean of the respondents was considered as having a positive perception and the score below the mean had a negative perception towards nursing profession. From the study participants as depicted in Figure 3 below, about 57.3 % (n=153) of the respondents had a positive perception toward their profession.

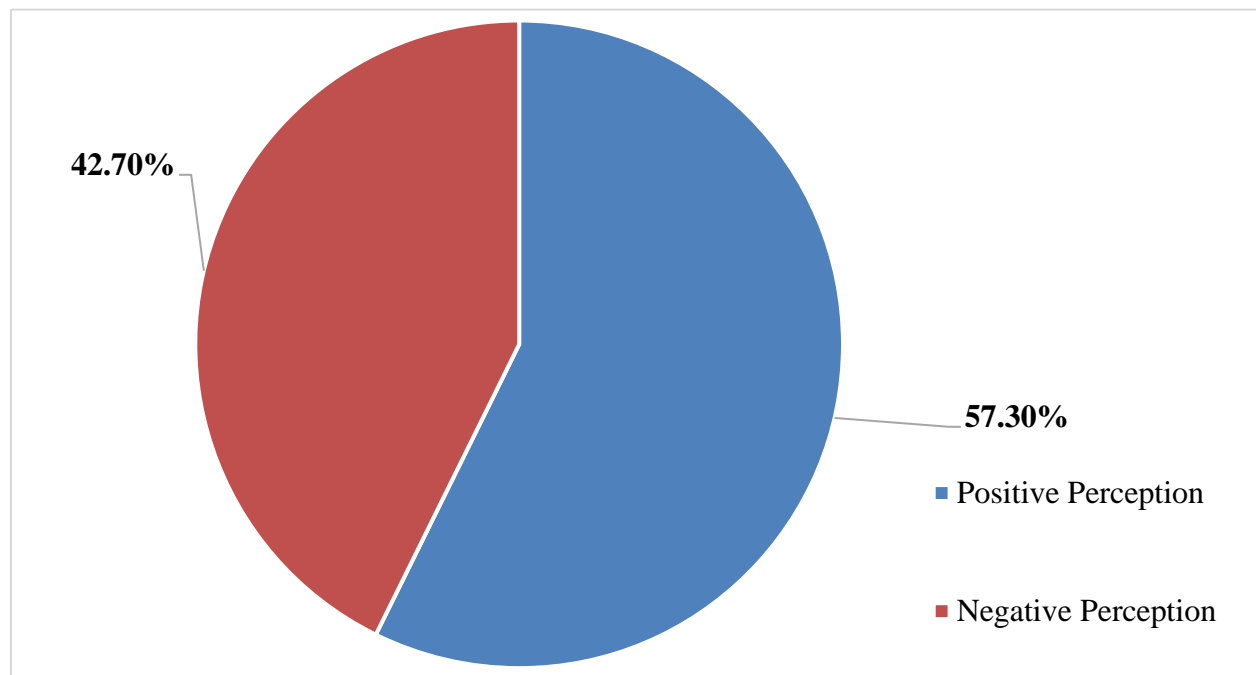


Figure 3: Perception of the respondents towards nursing professionals at selected health science collage in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024

5.3. Factor affecting nursing students' perception

There are believes and attitude manifested by individuals towards nursing profession. Majority of the respondents, 176 (66%) replied that they did not believe in interpersonal skill communication and sex difference that can affect their perception towards their profession. More than half of the respondents did not believe that being not respected by others, personality trait and educational level would not affect their perception (55%, 56% and 59%). About 67% of the study participants believed that their confidence could not affect their perception towards nursing profession.

Almost half of the respondents believed that occupational/work overload, and staff shortage can affect their perception towards the nursing profession. More than 62% of the study participants believed that low salary for nurses can highly affect perception about their profession and 58% of them believed that their perception can be affected by the conflict between other profession. About 57.3% of the respondents replied that the risk of occupational exposure would affect their perception about their profession (Table 3).

Table 3:Factors affecting nursing students 'perception at selected health science colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024

Table 3:

Variables	Category	Frequency	Percent
Interpersonal skill communication	Yes	91	34.1
	No	176	65.9
Sex difference	Yes	90	33.7
	No	177	66.3
Being not respected	Yes	120	44.9
	No	147	55.1
Personality trait (behavior)	Yes	118	44.2
	No	149	55.8
Educational level	Yes	159	59.6
	No	108	40.4

Lack of confidence	Yes	88	33.0
	No	179	67.0
Occupational and work overload	Yes	129	48.3
	No	138	51.7
Occupational and work area relooked factors	Yes	129	48.3
	No	138	51.7
Staff shortage	Yes	142	53.2
	No	125	46.8
Low salary for nurses	Yes	166	62.2
	No	101	37.8
Conflict between other professionals	Yes	156	58.4
	No	111	41.6
Risk of occupational exposure	Yes	153	57.3
	No	114	42.7
Negative stereo type towards nurses	Yes	125	46.8
	No	142	53.2

About (52.8%) of the study respondents agreed that administrative policy would pose an influence on their perception towards nursing profession and (54.70%) of the respondent agree that social and governmental factors affected their perception. More than half of the study participants responded that poor attitude towards nursing profession, nature of the profession and feeling of dependency (53.60%, 56.9%, and 57.30%) did not affect their respondents' perception towards their profession (Figure 4).

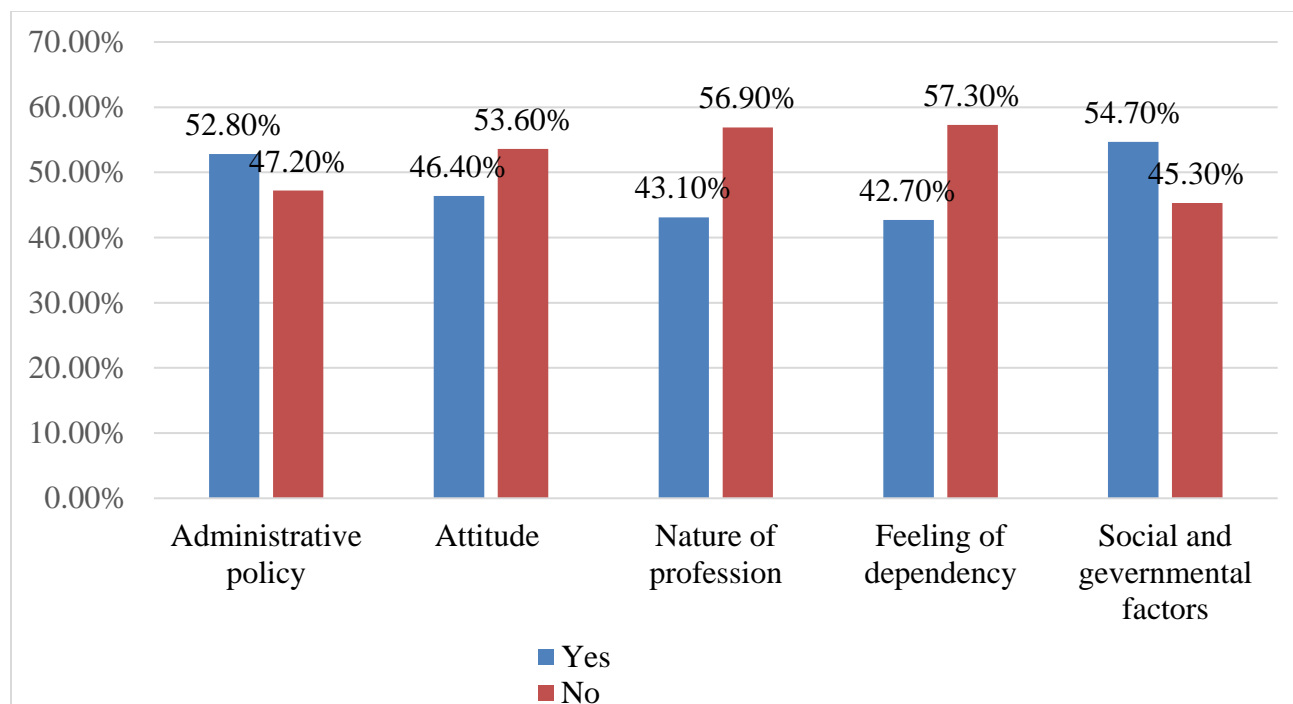


Figure 4: Factors affecting nursing students’ perception at selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024

5.4. Factors associated with perception of nursing students towards their profession

Binary logistic regression was computed to see the existence of an association and select variables at a cutoff point 0.25 p-value between nursing student’s perception toward their profession and each independent variable separately. The variables showed P- value of less than 0.25 were considered as a candidate variable and transferred to multivariate logistic regression analysis. A logistic regression was performed to ascertain the effect of socio-demographic, individual related and social image factors on the perception of nursing student’s perception towards their profession.

In a bivariate analysis, factors like gender, age, family reaction to enrollment, having relative and/or friends in nursing profession, lack of confidence, work overload, poor attitude to wars their profession, conflict between others health professionals, low salary, having a reason for

enrollment were significantly associated with perception of nurse towards their profession at p-value of 0.25.

Based on the statistically significant level cut off points ($p\text{-value} < 0.25$) in the bivariate logistic regression analysis so as to increase the power of the test and select the possible candidate variables and rule out the existence of confounders, we need an arrangement of such variables and included in to multivariate logistic regression analysis to determine the final factors that could have a significant association with perception of nurse towards their own profession.

In a multivariable logistic regression analysis, gender, believe to have low job salary and having a reason for enrollments were significantly associated with perception of nurse towards their profession (Table 4).

Women students have five time more likely to have positive perception towards their profession than male respondents (AOR = 5.77; 95% CI: 2.47 – 13.44). Those respondents who said nursing had competitive salary like other profession were three times more likely to have a positive perception towards their profession than those who responded that nursing had lower salary (AOR = 3.48; 95% CI: 1.81 – 6.66). The likelihood of positive perception was more than four-fold among the study participants who had their own reasons to enroll in nursing profession when compared to those who had no reason for enrollment (AOR = 4.39; 95% CI: 2.37 – 8.13) (Table 4).

Table 4: Factors associated with perception of nursing students towards their profession at selected health Science College in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024.

Variables	Category	Perception		COR (95% CI)	AOR (95% CI)	p-value
		Positive	Negative			
Gender	Male	14 (29.2%)	34 (70.8%)	1	1	0.000**
	Female	139 (63.5%)	80 (36.5%)	4.22 (2.137 – 8.333)	5.77 (2.47 – 13.44)	
Age	15 – 20 years	17 (77.3%)	5 (22.7%)	1	1	0.053
	21 – 25 years	73 (43.7%)	94 (56.3%)	4.37 (1.54 – 12.42)	3.45 (0.98 – 12.08)	0.278

	26 – 30 years	63 (80.8%)	15 (19.2%)	0.81 (0.25 – 2.54)	0.46 (0.11 – 1.85)	
Family reaction	Positive	120 (57.7%)	88 (42.3%)	1	1	0.197
	Neutral	29 (64.4%)	16 (35.6%)	0.75 (0.38 – 1.47)	0.58 (0.25 – 1.32)	
	Negative	4 (28.6%)	10 (71.4%)	3.41 (1.03 – 11.22)	2.83 (0.68 – 11.91)	0.156
Relative/friends	Family	39 (50.6%)	38 (49.4%)	1.29 (0.72 – 2.31)	1.77 (0.80 – 3.89)	0.155
	Friends	49 (64.5%)	27 (35.5%)	0.73 (0.40 – 1.33)	0.97 (0.44 – 2.15)	0.957
	Don't have	65 (57.0%)	49 (43.0%)	1	1	
Confidence	Yes	42 (47.7%)	46 (52.3%)	1.78 (1.06 – 2.99)	1.24 (0.61 – 2.50)	0.542
	No	111 (62.0%)	68 (38.0%)	1	1	
Work overload	Yes	68 (52.7%)	61 (47.3%)	1.43 (0.88 – 2.34)	1.11 (0.59 – 2.12)	0.730
	No	85 (61.6%)	53 (38.4%)	1	1	
Attitude	Yes	77 (46.4%)	89 (53.6%)	3.51 (2.03 – 6.06)	1.84 (0.99 – 3.40)	0.051
	No	76 (53.6%)	25 (46.4%)	1	1	
Conflict with other professional	Yes	95 (60.9%)	61 (39.1%)	0.70 (0.43 – 1.14)	0.65 (0.34 – 1.23)	0.189
	No	58 (52.3%)	53 (47.7%)	1	1	
Competitive salary	Yes	80 (64.5%)	44 (35.5%)	1	1	0.000**
	No	73 (51.0%)	70 (49.0%)	1.74 (1.06 – 2.85)	3.48 (1.81 – 6.66)	
Reason for enrollment	Yes	115 (71.4%)	46 (29.6%)	4.47 (2.64 – 7.55)	4.39 (2.37 – 8.13)	0.000**
	No	38 (35.8%)	68 (64.2%)	1	1	

**Statistically significant at p-value < 0.05; is odds ratio for reference category.

6. DISCUSSION

Despite considerable advances in the nursing profession, nurses continue to face substantial difficulties related to their job, affecting their prestige, power, and ability to influence changes in the healthcare system. Unfavorable perception of nursing has a number of negative consequences, including an impact on people who choose to work in the nursing profession. If the students are repeatedly exposed to an incorrect and negative image of nursing, they will see it as unappealing. Nurses make up the vast majority of health service personnel in the healthcare sectors. Around-the-clock, they provide hospitalized patients with direct, ongoing nurse care. The patient's condition is their main focus, and nurses are commonly recognized as having a significant role in the setting of a health facility.

The aim of this study was to discover the perception of nursing students towards their profession and to pinpoint the variables influencing perceptions. The study's conclusions showed that, 57.3% (n=153) of study participants had a positive perception toward their profession. This result is consistent with the studies done in Ethiopia (54.6%), Bangladesh (58.2%) and in Saudi Arabia (59.1%)(11, 15, 32). However, this result is lower than that of the studies done in Yemen, Zambia (85.3%), (70%)(33, 35,). This difference may be the due to study area, study period and study tool utilized.

According to this study finding, gender was statistical a significant factor for the perception of nurses towards their profession. The study result showed that female participants were five times more likely to have a positive perception compared to male participants. This finding is align with those of the research conducted in Yemen and Ethiopia revealed that being female had more positive perception about nursing profession than males (33, 44). According to a different Norwegian study, female nursing students were more driven than male students to pursue specializations and professional interests, were less likely to take on leadership roles in the future, prioritized family care, and intended to work in the traditional nursing sector(47).This finding is well supported by different studies that concluded there persists a gender disparity between males and females within the health sectors (48–50). This might be the fact that female nurses perceived themselves as more approachable and collaborative than male nurses. Nursing has historically been a female-dominated profession. This social prejudice has automatically

banned men from entering the profession, creating a stigma. In addition, female nurses are vocationally satisfied in the nursing profession, happy at work and want to do all the activities well. Some people may still believe that nursing work is similar to that of mothers, that women are easier to handle than males, and that this does not make them feel more prepared because they are women, more at ease, more patient, or have more options when it comes to providing care for the health of their countrymen.(37,41).

The perception of nurses who thought that their salary is competitive with other disciplines had a better perception than their counterparts. This study revealed that nurses who think that nursing had competitive salary with other profession were three times more likely to have a positive perception towards their profession. This study is in line with study done in Ethiopia (15, 45) that nurses with higher salary had good perception than nurses with lower salary. A different research carried out at Mosul City's Al-Jamhory Teaching Hospital revealed that 72% of nurses planned to quit their jobs because of their low pay(52). In contrast to nurses in the civil service system, another study indicated that nurses at independently run healthcare institutions were more satisfied with their career ladder and financial rewards(53). It explained that nurses had a desire to leave their works because of the low salary and lack of incentives for their best performance. The finding was also confirmed by others studies that stated 77.6% of the sampled respondents believed that nursing was not a profession with high financial rewards and they were dissatisfied with their works in general (45,46).The nursing profession continues to confront low pay and poor working conditions due to a variety of issues. One of the primary reasons could be a low wage for nursing professionals. Low payment for the profession has a substantial impact on nurses' perceptions of their own professionals, despite the fact that it is an indirect effect(56).

The study participants who had some sort of reasons to attend the nursing school had four times more likely to develop a positive perception towards their profession than who attended the school without any reasons to mention. A study conducted to examine the reasons for students enrollment in nursing school revealed that students who had reasons for enrollment had good satisfaction than who did not have (51). Another study done in Indonesia showed that students who admitted to nurse school with specific reason have better satisfaction and perception than other nurses (57). The desire to help others, a sense of personal calling, and the influence of friends and family were the main factors that shaped these nurses. They expressed a desire to

work in noble and compassionate profession dealing with the sick and in the health industry. These all contribute to their motivation, empathy, compassion, and favorable impression of the nursing profession. Planning to promote education and the nursing profession in the community to entice students to enroll can benefit from knowing the reasons behind enrollment(2,14,57).

About 60% of the participants did have their own reason to choose and engage in nursing school in this study. A desire intended to help and care others was one of the main reasons mentioned by the study participants (52.2%). A similar study also confirmed that half of the respondent nurses were reporting that they helped or served others or their own families. Having an impact on the lives of others was most important to nursing profession, students desired to be a benefit to others, but nurses appreciated the interpersonal engagement that is an essential component of nursing practice(57).The other reason mentioned by the study participants was an advice they got from family and friend (9.9%). The Indonesian study also showed that many of them talked about having a personal called to nursing, having grown up dreaming of rewarding and satisfying themselves, and that circumstances or the influence of others had a big influence on their decision to become nurses. Choosing to attend nursing school was found to be significantly influenced by one's attraction to the nursing profession. While many nurses indicated a desire to work in the medical area or with the sick, students showed a desire to be a part of or enhance the profession. One important factor for nurses was the profession's reputation as noble and compassionate.(57).

About 20% of the respondents replied that having good grading in secondary school was the factors to choose and enroll in nursing school about 18% of them made a choice due to the reason that they can got job easily as soon as they graduated. A similar finding stated that financial reasons were identified by a small number of participants in both groups who identified commencing their nursing education as they received an offer of a scholarship(57).Another study done in China found that students' inclinations to pursue nursing education were significantly predicted by both academic achievement and familial support(58).The nursing professional knowledge and skills are critical in providing safe and ethical care to patients. Identifying learned and envisioned competences in nursing education can serve as a useful chaperon for nursing education institutions looking to enhance their educational processes(59).

7. STRENGTHS AND LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Strength of the study

- Generalization is possible since systematic random sampling was the sample technique employed.

Limitation of the study

- The study employed a quantitative approach and self-administered questionnaires to evaluate nursing students' perceptions and the factors that influence them. Thus, in order to gauge professional perception, researchers ought to take this matter into account.
- A temporal relationship between the independent variables and the outcome variable could not be established because of the cross-sectional character of the study design.

8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1. Conclusion

In this study, nearly sixty percent of the nursing students had a positive perception towards their profession. Perception plays an essential role in the field of nursing. It has an impact on an array of factors, including learning experiences, career choices, the quality of care, and interactions between patients and their loved ones. Gender, having reason for enrolling to nursing school and having a thought of low salary for them were determinant factors that was found to be statistically significant for the perception of nursing students towards their profession. Being female, having reason to choose the discipline, and perceiving low salary for nursing profession should all be considered when enhancing nurses' perception towards their profession and thereby keep the competent nurses in profession.

8.2. Recommendations

- Health Science College should play their roles in encouraging and teaching nurses to create awareness towards their profession.
- The Ethiopian Nursing Association and other stakeholders ought to exert significant effort in increasing the knowledge of the nursing profession among students and the community, and play a part in its advancement through diverse media platforms.
- Each health science college's administration and human resources department should provide unique training programs for nursing students that are relevant to ethics and provide ongoing educational opportunities.
- Ethiopian public service and government should carry out a nationwide assessment on the fairness of nurse salaries, taking into account the workload and the role that nurses play in healthcare services, and implement appropriate corrective measures.
- Additional study should be conducted to identify problems of nursing students and nursing profession

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10. ANNEXES

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES SCHOOL OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

Annex 1: Information Sheet

Dear Respondent;

My name is Rahmet Hassen. I am the principal investigator for the study titled "Nursing student perception and associated factors towards nursing profession at selected health science collages in Addis Ababa. The permission letter was obtained from Addis Ababa University. The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather data on the level of nursing student perception toward their profession and associated factors at selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa. I am going to ask you some questions that are very important about nurses' perception toward nursing profession and associated factors. However, your willingness and support to answer all of the questions would be appreciated and thank you.

Title of study

Nursing student's perception and associated factors towards nursing profession at selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024.

Objective of the study

To assess Nursing student's perception and associated factors towards nursing profession at selected health Science Colleges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2024.

Procedure and duration

The questionnaires will be self-administered to provide me with pertinent data that is helpful for the study. The questionnaires will be taken about 30 minutes.

Risks and benefits of study

The risk of being participating in this study is very minimal, but only taking your time. There would not be any direct payment for participating in this study. But the findings from this research may reveal important information for Addis Ababa University.

Rights of participants

Participant of this study will be fully voluntary. You have the right to declare to participate or not in the study. If you decide to participate, you have the right to withdraw from the study at any time. You do not have to answer any question that you do not want to answer.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality of the participants will be provided. There will be no any information that identified study participant in particular. Any information forwarded will be kept private and name will be excluded.

Contact address

If there are any questions or enquires any time about the study or the procedures, you can contact by using the following addresses.

Principal investigator: Rahmet Hassen

E-mail: rahmethassen03@gmail.com Mobile phone: +251- 923470390

Annex2: Consent form

It is clear that the purpose of this study is to assess nurse's student perception and associated factors towards nursing profession at selected health science collages in Addis Ababa. Similarly, I understand that participating in this study is completely voluntarily and provided my privacy is guaranteed and is not exposed to third parties. I promised to answer honestly all questions and not provide any false information or, in any other way purposely mislead the researcher.

Signature of participant Date

Name of the data collector who sought the consent.....Signature.....

Name of the supervisor..... signature.....

1. RESPONDENT AGREES TO PARTICIPATED- -- START
2. RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE TO PARTICIPATED--- END

Thank you for your cooperation

Annex3: English version of the questionnaires

Part one: socio- demographic question						
No.	Questions	Categories				
101	Sex	1. Male 2. Female				
102	Age	1. 15-20 2. 21-25 3. 26-30				
103	Level of education	1. Second year 2. Third year 3. Fourth year				
104	Religion	1. Orthodox 2. Muslim 3. Protestant 4. Catholic 5. Others (specify).....				
105	Reasons for enrollment to the Faculty of Nursing	1. Secondary School Grade 2. Desire to help others 3. Financial reasons/ Availability of work 4. Advice from family members				
106	Family's reaction to students' enrollment	1. Positive 2. Neutral 3. Negative				
107	Having relatives / friends in nursing field	1. Family 2. Friends				
108	Having information about nursing before joining the collages	1. Yes, I have 2. No, I haven't				
Part two: - perception question						
No	Variables	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
201	Nursing profession is a respectful profession.					
202	Nursing profession is an occupation and not a profession.					
203	Nursing profession is a women's profession					
204	Nursing profession is similar to that of the servant's job.					
205	Nursing profession is a well appreciated in the society.					
206	Nursing profession is a prestigious profession.					
207	Nursing profession is a dangerous profession.					

208	Nursing profession is an extremely hard profession that does not receive enough appreciation.					
209	Nursing profession is an essential profession in any society					
210	Nursing profession is a human profession.					
211	Nursing profession is an independent profession by which nurses make decision for themselves					
212	Nursing profession is a significant in-patient recovery.					
213	Nursing profession is helping in permission of health and prevention of disease					
214	Nursing profession is providing self-actualization.					
215	In nursing profession nurses are given a chance to use their own initiative in their work.					
216	In nursing profession nurses obeys doctors" orders without questioning them.					
217	In nursing profession nurses waste a lot of time being busy doing nothing					
218	I would like my child to become a nurse					
219	Anyone could be nurse easy					
220	Nursing profession has opportunity for personal growth					
221	Nursing profession is caring profession in which ethical standard of care is maintained					
222	Nursing profession is actually equal to other profession					

Part three: - factor affecting nursing student perception

No	Factor affecting nursing perception	Yes	No
301	Interpersonal skill communication		
302	Sex difference		
303	Perception or being not respected		
304	Personality trait (behavior)		
305	Educational level		
306	lack of confidence		
307	Feeling of infuriating or dependency		
308	Occupational and work over load factors		
309	Occupational and work area relooked factors		
310	Staff shortage		
311	Poor Attitude to won		
312	Conflict between other professionals		
313	Nature of profession		

314	Risk of occupational exposure		
315	social and governmental factor		
316	Low salary for nurse		
317	administrative police		
318	Negative stereo type towards nurses		