



Hobbies and Grades



Why we chose this topic:

The reason why we chose this topic is because we all participate in multiple activities outside of school, and we wanted to find out if this had a positive or negative effect on our academic performance.

Introduction:

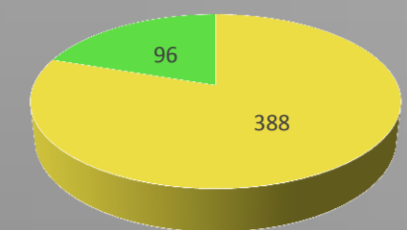
We surveyed 30 males and 30 females from Transition Year and fifth year, asking if they participated in any extra curricular activities and, if so, for how many hours a week did they practice. We also asked how many A's and B's they received in their Junior Certificate Examinations, in order for us to see a possible relation between a student's hobbies and their grades.

What we aimed to achieve:

In carrying out this survey, we aimed to discover:

- If the academic performance of Junior Cert students is influenced by their choice of extra curricular activities
- If specific activities have different effects on academic performance
- If the level of intensity of activities aids academic performance

Total number of A's and B's achieved

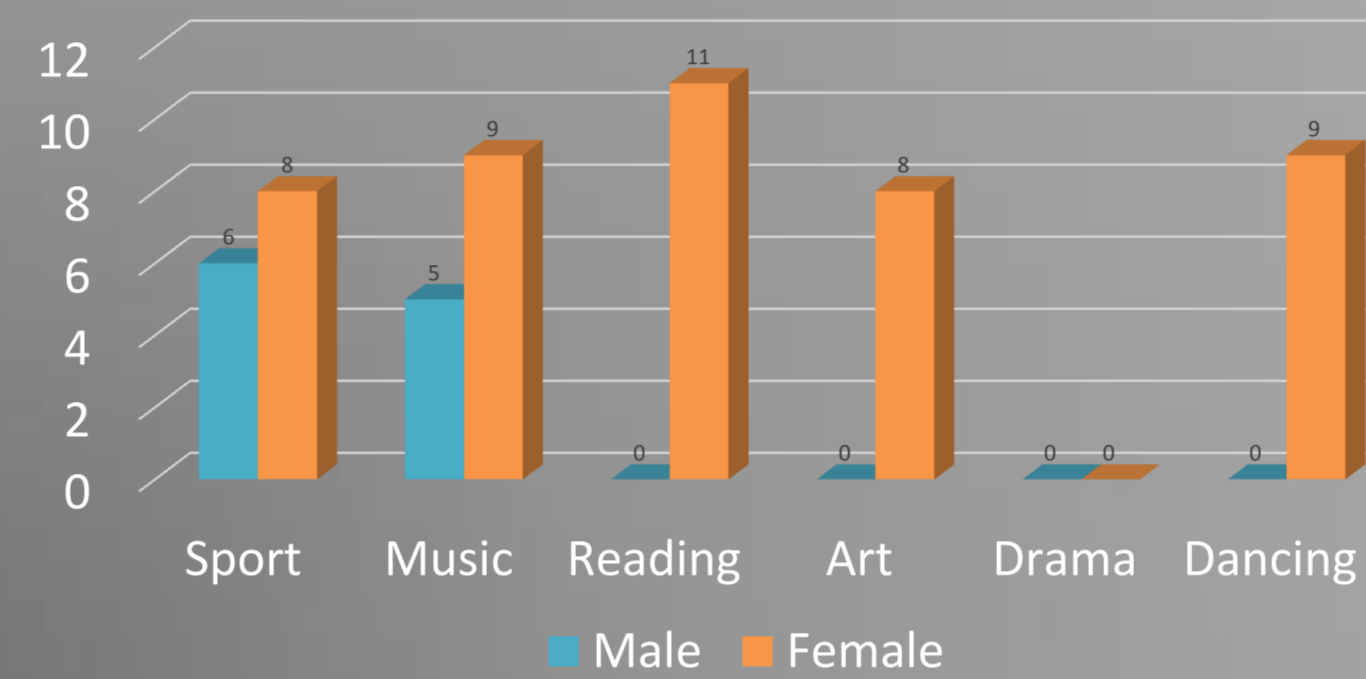


■ Hobby ■ No Hobby

There was an average of 7 A's and B's achieved by the students who participated in extra curricular activities, while the students with no hobby achieved an average number of 4 A's and B's.

From carrying out this survey, we discovered that a total number of 484 A's and B's were achieved by the 80 students.

Average number of A's and B's achieved by males and females in each hobby



From this bar chart we can see the average number of A's and B's achieved by students participating in each hobby. We can see that those who are reading achieve a distinctly higher average of A's and B's than those in any other hobby.

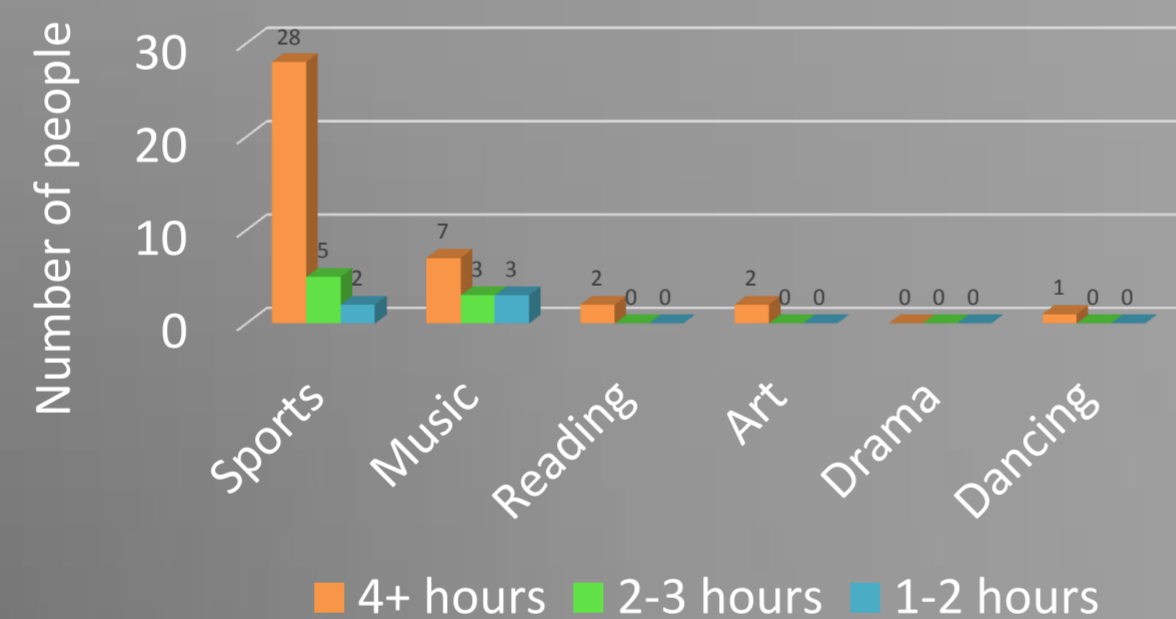
Conclusions:

From this survey we have discovered:

- More than 50% of the students we surveyed participate in extra curricular activities. There were almost equal numbers of males and females who participate in extra curricular activities, and also, almost equal numbers of males and females who don't participate in extra curricular activities.
- We discovered that the students who participate in extra curricular activities achieved an average number of 7 A's and B's in their Junior Certificate Examination, while the students with no hobby achieved an average of 4 A's and B's.
- In carrying out this survey, we discovered that sport is the most popular hobby within our sample, followed by music. We were shocked to discover the lack of participation in other activities, particularly in drama.
- We observed that the students who read as their hobby achieved an unmistakably higher average number of A's and B's (10) than in any other hobby.
- Finally, we discovered that the male students without a hobby achieved a higher average number of A's and B's than the female students who were without a hobby.

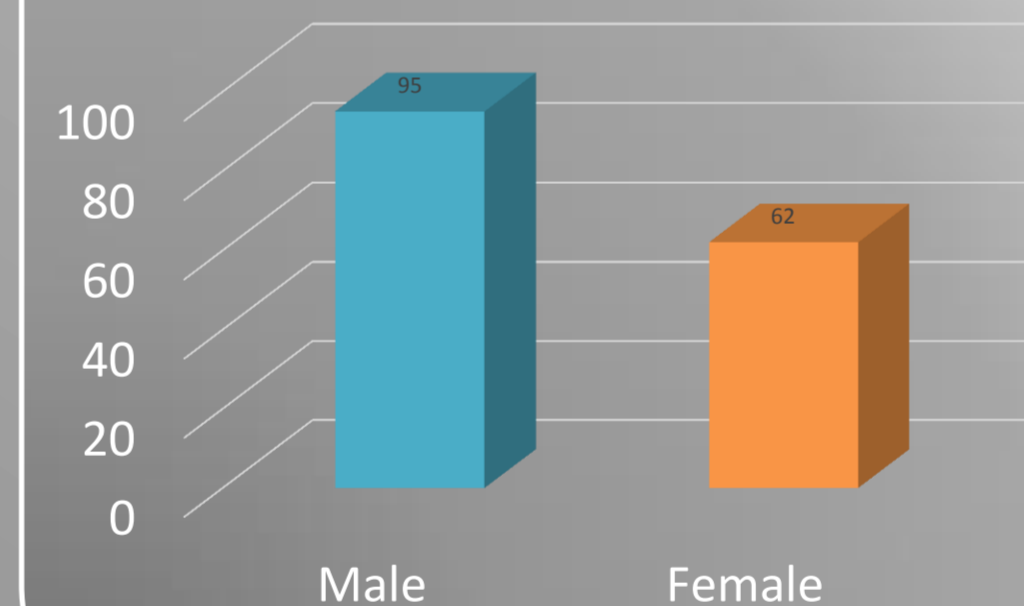
We then asked the students how many hours per week they spent on extra curricular activities.

Hours per week spent on extra curricular activities



This graph shows the hours per week spent on people's extra curricular activities. We can clearly see sport is the most popular extra curricular activity, followed by music. However, we were shocked to discover the lack of students participating in the other activities.

Number of A's and B's achieved by students with no hobby



From this graph we can see that the males who have no hobby have achieved a higher number of A's and B's in their Junior Certificate than the females who were surveyed.

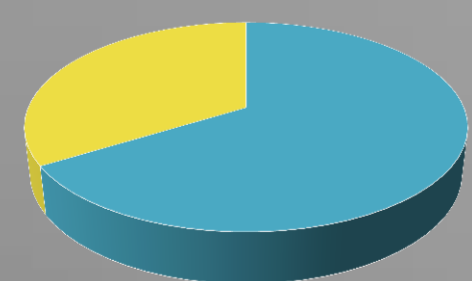
There is an average number of 7 A's and B's achieved by males who had no hobby, and an average of 4 A's and B's achieved by females who had no hobby.

The overall average number of A's and B's achieved by students with no hobby is 6.

If we were to complete this survey again, we would try to survey a higher amount of students who participate in hobbies other than sports. We would also like to complete a more in-depth survey to examine in detail the hobbies of the male students in our school.

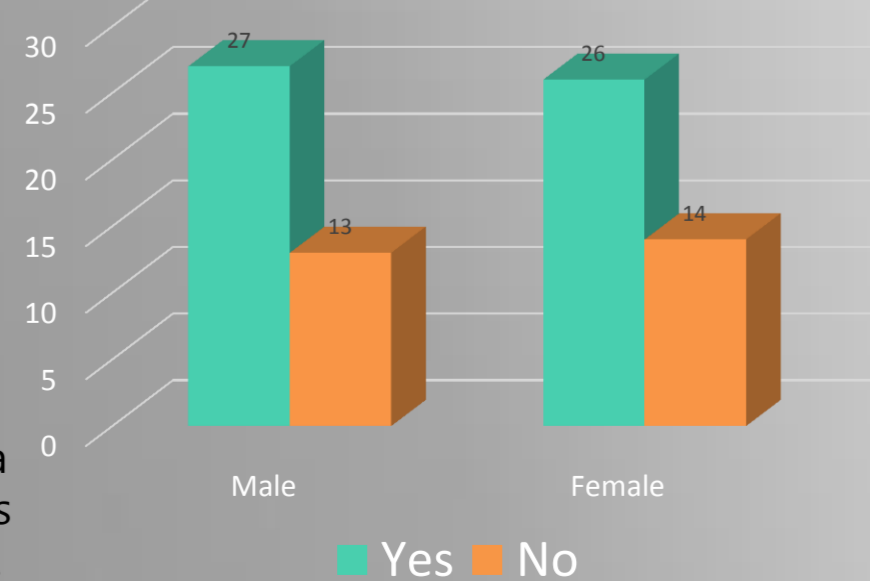
In conclusion, we discovered that participating in extra curricular activities has an extremely positive effect on a student's academic performance.

Do you participate in any extra curricular activities?



■ Yes ■ No

Of the 80 students we surveyed, 53 stated that they participate in at least one extra curricular activity, while 27 did not participate in any extra curricular activity. 26 of those who answered yes were female, while the remaining 27 were male. The students who answered no were made up of 13 males and 14 females.



■ Yes ■ No

We then asked them to choose their main activity. These are their answers:

