

Self-Confidence and Risk-Taking Ability among Students Appearing for Competitive Exams

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Abstract: *Students face pressure during competitive exams. Confidence and risk matter greatly. The aim of the study was to examine their relationship. To assess self-confidence, the Self-Confidence Inventory by Agnihotri (1987) was used. To assess risk-taking ability, the Risk-Taking Questionnaire by Singh and Gupta (2012) was used. Both tools were administered to a sample of 60 students using purposive sampling. The sample was selected from various students in Pune district. The age range was 17 to 22 years. The average age was 19.4 years. A significant positive correlation was found between self-confidence and risk-taking ability ($r = 0.46, p < 0.01$). Self-confidence significantly predicted risk-taking ability ($\beta = 0.47, p < 0.01$). Self-confidence contributed 22% to the variance in risk-taking ability ($R^2 = 0.22$). This shows that improving confidence may help in taking calculated risks. Teachers and mentors should focus on confidence-building during exam preparation.*

Keywords: self-confidence, risk-taking ability, students, competitive exams, correlation