



Rezekne Academy of Technologies (RTA)

RESULTS of Questionnaire for Adults to Engage in Education Activities

The pilot testing of Questionnaire for Adults to Engage in Education Activities was done during of March 2020. First five persons filled the questionnaire by paper-and-pencil administration. Another five persons filled the questionnaire web-based as Emergency Situation was declared in 14th of March.

All 10 participants were females proportionally split into three age groups from 25-55 years. Half of them are from countryside with average annual income (Figure 1).

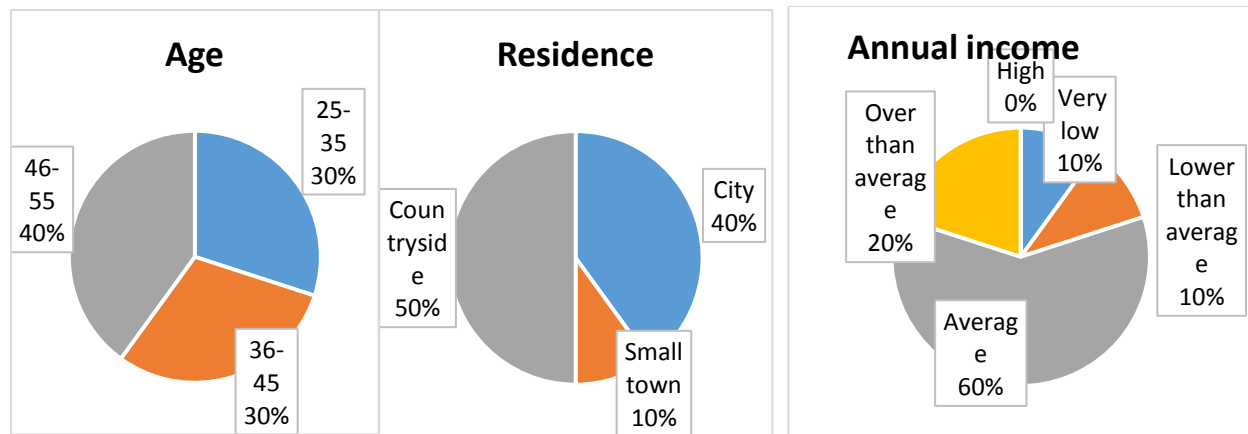


Figure 1 Demographic characteristics of participants

EDUCATION AND DIGITAL AWARENESS

Participants represent a wide range of educational levels from secondary school to Master' degree level. Almost all use the smartphones or computers and self-evaluate as c.

Independent user: able to use different search engines to find information online and use online services such as public services, e-banking, online shopping, Word/Excel. 70% participants use computer at least 4 days a week and 80% use the smart devices at least 1 hour a day (Figure 2).

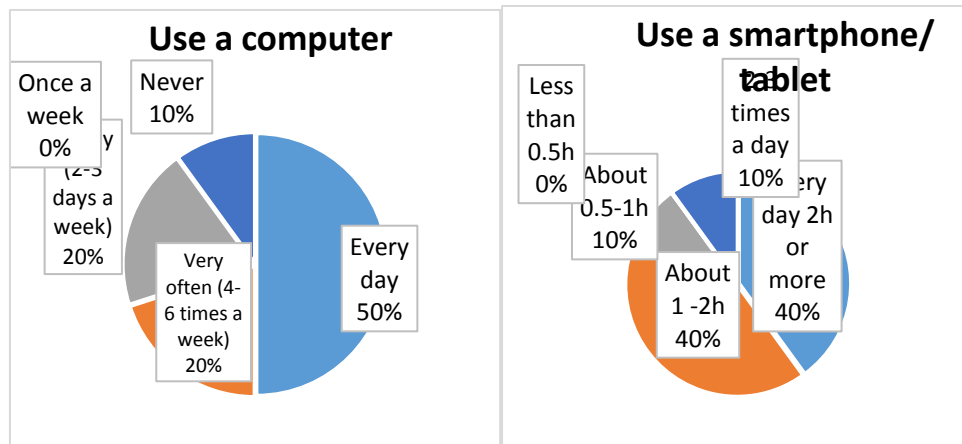


Figure 2 Use of IT

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL PROCESSES

Most of participants prefer the informal self-learning by different social media channels. Only some of them participated in non-formal and formal education processes (Figure 3).

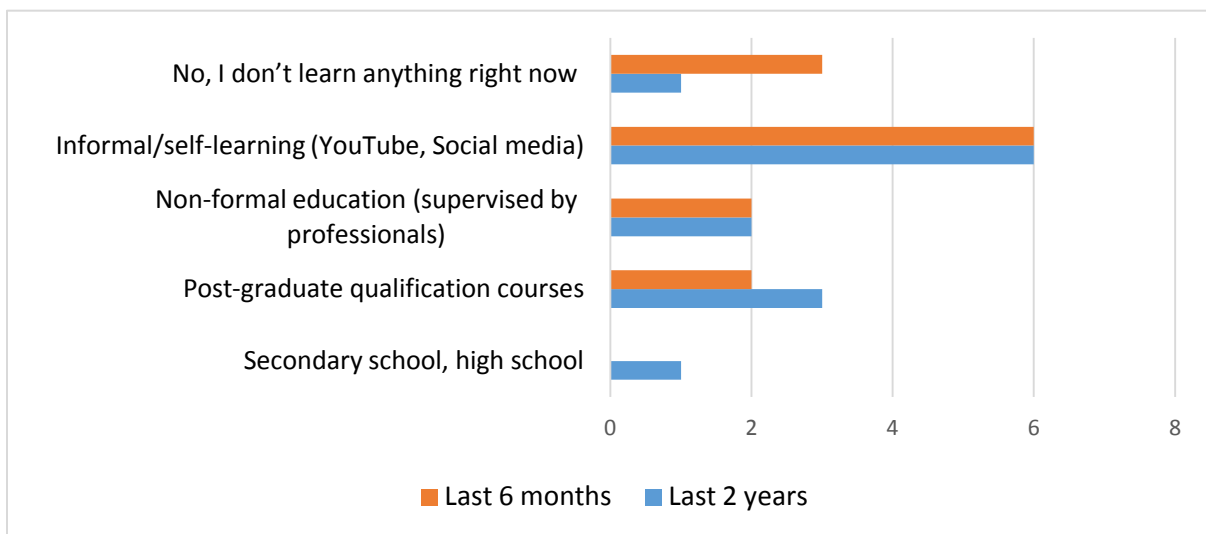


Figure 3 Participation in educational processes

Only some of participants filled the open-ended questions. There are examples of short answers:

- “What kind of new knowledge would you like to learn?”*
- Aba therapy, sand therapy and other areas*
- Non-class, courses*
- Computer skills*
- Second education*
- Home improvement courses*
- Social, hairdressing*

How to raise a child with autism spectrum disorders

Accounting

Pedagogy, sports and health, medicine

“What would motivate you to acquire new knowledge about that?”

Interest

Graphic design

Additional knowledge

Difficult to answer. Rather, you have to commit yourself to the process.

Because I want to build a country house well

Courses

Because there is direct contact, a lot of confusion

Desire

INTEREST IN ENGAGING IN TRAINING ACTIVITIES AND PREFERRED TRAINING METHODS AND TOOLS

There are no clear preference how many hours per week and minutes a day, they could spend for learning activities. The variance of answers is very wide. Probably the optimal amount of time for self-learning could be 1-3 hours per week and 45-90 minutes a day (Figure 4).

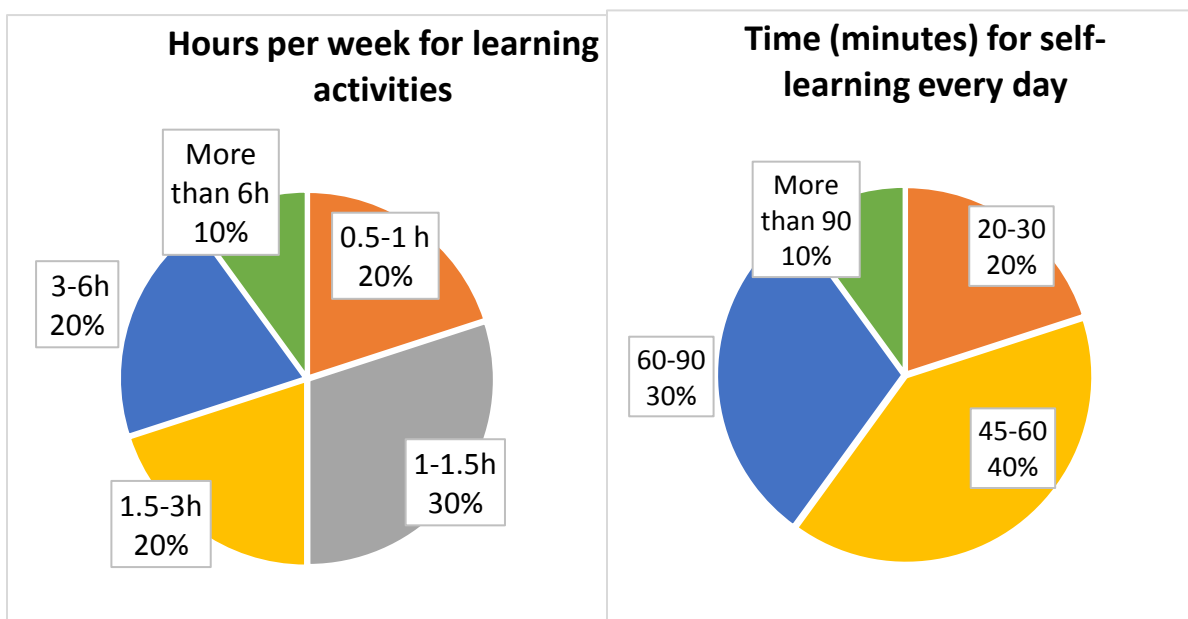


Figure 4 Preferred time for self-education

Two last questions were about the main barriers that could be important to acquire new knowledge and what kind of sources of information are more efficient for receiving new knowledge. As it was expected, lack of time and money are the most important barriers for



acquiring new knowledge. In addition, the quality and availability of educational information are important (Table 1).

The practical experience is the main source for gaining of new knowledge. Most of participants preferred the practical workshops with experts and educational courses with a certain number of lectures. In addition, individual expert consultation is also highly appreciated. All other channels of information had lower ranks (Table 2).

Table 1 The main the barriers to acquire new knowledge

TOP BARRIERS	Mean rank
Lack of time	3
Lack of money (if learning is charged)	3,5
Insufficient information about course content	5
Insufficient information on self-education opportunities	5
No interesting educational material	5
Insufficient knowledge of Latvian/native language	5,5
Lack energy for self-education	5,5
Inability to concentrate for a long time	7
Difficulties remembering printed information	7
Not confident in ability to acquire new knowledge	7

Table 2 Rank of preferred ways of learning

TOP priority	Mean rank
Practical workshops with experts	3



Co-funded by the Erasmus+
Programme of the European Union



2019-1-TR01-KA204-076875

Educational course of lectures	3,5
Individual expert consultation	4,5
Compilation of video materials (video lectures, demonstrations, webinars, YouTube channels, etc.)	5,5
Printed handouts (books, manuals, leaflets, etc)	5,5
Audio materials (audio lectures, podcasts, audio books)	6
Lecture/presentation	6,5