

# Statistics scores high at UG level after AI creates a buzz

## New Areas Increase Job Scope For Such Courses

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**Pune:** Statistics courses are gaining momentum after jobs in data related fields opened up. With Artificial Intelligence, machine learning and data analytics are becoming the new buzz words and a strong base in statistics and mathematics is being much sought after in colleges at the undergraduate level.

Colleges in Pune traditionally have a full-fledged statistics department, but new colleges and universities are coming up with industry collaborations so that students can directly get job as data scientists.

N M Kulkarni, vice principal of Fergusson College said for admissions in the academic year 2018-19, there was a huge turnout for basic sciences. He believes that with the entire craze for engineering on the decline, there are students who are choosing to do a BSc over engineering if their chances of getting a good college after engineering entrances dwindle.

"Secondly, this year, there is a rush for statistics. Our seats were full in the first round itself. The cut-off marks for students from Maharashtra was around 84% while the cut-off for candidates from other states was a whopping 94%. One of the reasons is also the ample job opportunities in the data sciences field and the developing field of Artificial Intelligence which requires a sound understanding of statistical principles," Kulkarni said.

According to Siddharth Jabade, vice chancellor of Vishwakarma University, statistics

## WHERE TO LOOK FOR A COURSE

in Quality Management Science | **Bengaluru, Hyderabad**

■ 2-year Master of Science in Library and Information Science | **Bengaluru**

■ 2-year Master of Technology in Computer Science | **Kolkata**

■ 2-year Master of Technology in Cryptology and Security | **Kolkata**

■ 2-year Master of Technology in Quality, Reliability & Operations Research | **Kolkata**

■ 1-year PG

Diploma in Statistical Methods and

Analytics | **ISI NE Centre at Tezpur**

■ 1-year PG

Diploma in Computer Applications | **Giridih**

(As per ISI prospectus for 2018-19)

■ 2-year Master of Science

Mathematics | **Kolkata**

■ 2-year Master of Science

in Quantitative Economics | **Kolkata, Delhi**

## IN PUNE

Savitribai Phule Pune University has a well established department of statistics for postgraduate programme

**For UG programme in statistics in Pune, some options are**

► Fergusson College

► SP College

► Garware College

► Modern College

Many deemed and private universities offering different specializations in statistics



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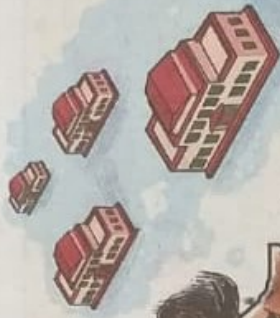


Illustration: Aamir Shaikh

about the utility of subject in job field.

"There is a chance that even after completing the bachelor's degree, the student will get a job. In 2017, we celebrated the international year of statistics to create awareness about this field among students and the public. While there are a lot of jobs outside in the private sector for students who master statistics, there are jobs within the government too for students of statistics. Actuarial science is another upcoming field for students of statistics to specialize in. There is a huge market for such students as it deals with assessing risk in insurance and other professions," Teke said.

We are offering a three-year BSc in Statistics. Through our strong industry connect with industry giants such as IBM, our students get to work with industry professionals on live projects, equipping them with the necessary skills. Statistics graduates can work in the field of bio-informatics, data mining, health insurance, management, science, agriculture and software firms as data analysts, programmers, KPOs, data scientists," Jabade said.

Shalini Teke, member of the admission committee at SP College and the head of the department of statistics, says that this year the demand is high due to the increased awareness

was initially seen as a research tool employed for collecting, organizing and analyzing data.

With the emergence of new arenas such as Artificial Intelligence, Business Analytics, Big Data Analytics etc. the scope and applicability of statistics has broadened offering more employment opportunities to students than ever before.

"Institutions offering graduate courses in statistics need to integrate a strong application-oriented component in the curriculum, through live industry projects, internships and trainings to make it relevant to the demands of the industry and increase placement opportunities for the students.

# CM defends arrest of Gadling.