

The Voice of Middle School Students and their Parents

Following the Second Lockdown of COVID-19 in Israel

Abstract based on a survey conducted by Midgam Consulting and Research,
October 2020

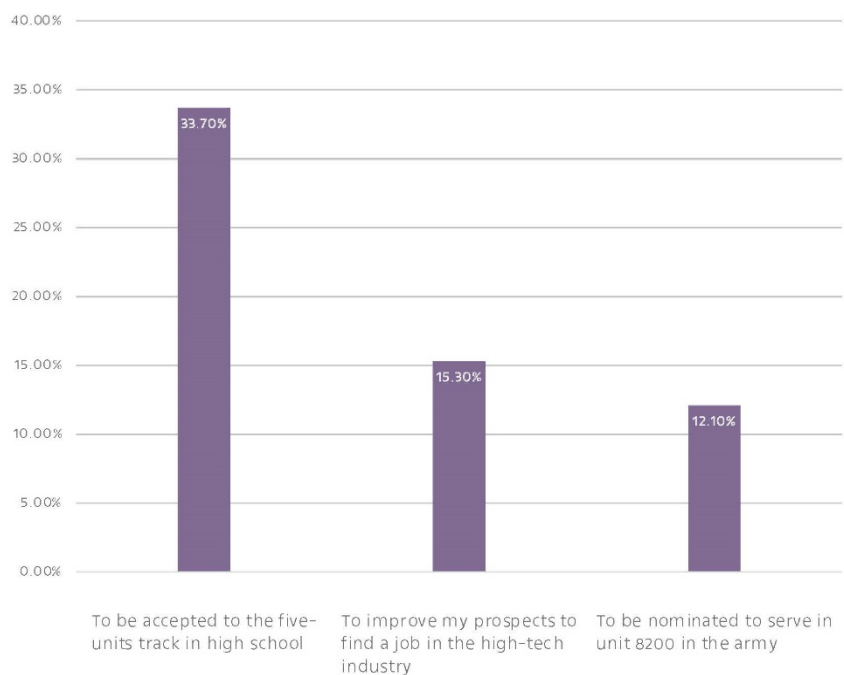
What motivates middle school students to study mathematics and sciences at a high level of an excellence class? What drives them more, their own curiosity and interests, or their parents? Why are they willing to invest significant time and effort in their learning? Is it due to their dream to be admitted to the five-unit class in high school, to IDF Unit 8200 and then to high-tech? Or, is it mainly because they want to study together with their close friends?

We turned to *Midgam*, a firm specializing in public opinion surveys, to conduct a comprehensive study among 12 to 15 year-old students and their parents. We wanted to learn about their experiences and preferences, particularly during the second lockdown of COVID-19 in Israel.

Main findings

Motivation for excellence

The reason I chose to study in an excellence class in middle school, is:



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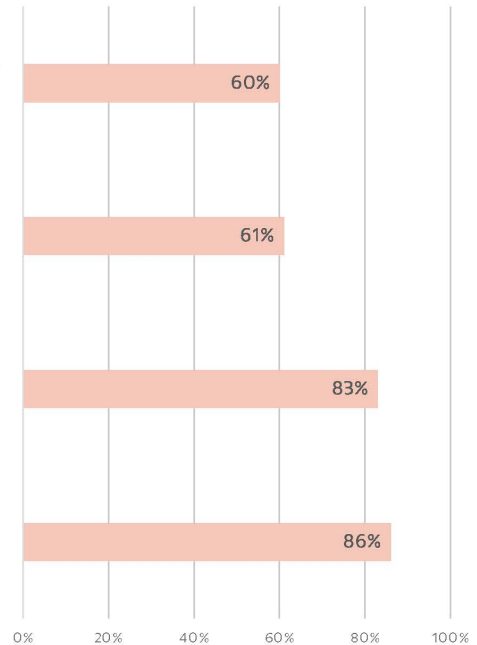
Why did I choose to study in an excellence class

Besides my own will, my parents have the strongest influence on my decision to study in an excellence class.

Especially during COVID-19, it is important to invest and excel and not to give up.

I chose to study in an excellence class in order to secure my future and because I want to excel and receive good grades

It is very important to me to invest and excel in mathematics and the sciences.



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During the COVID-19 period

My main difficulties are:

Focusing on learning.

Understanding the lesson.

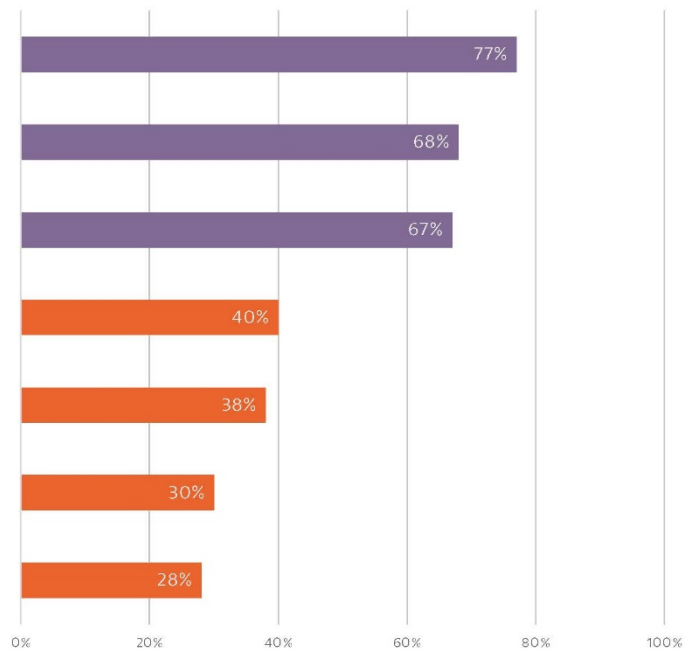
Overburdened with studies.

Emotional difficulty.

No individual response from the teachers.

Technological difficulty.

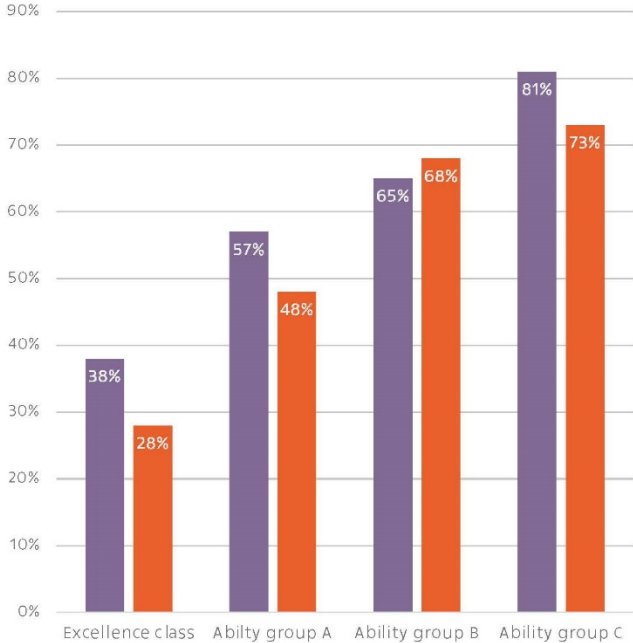
No adequate space at home



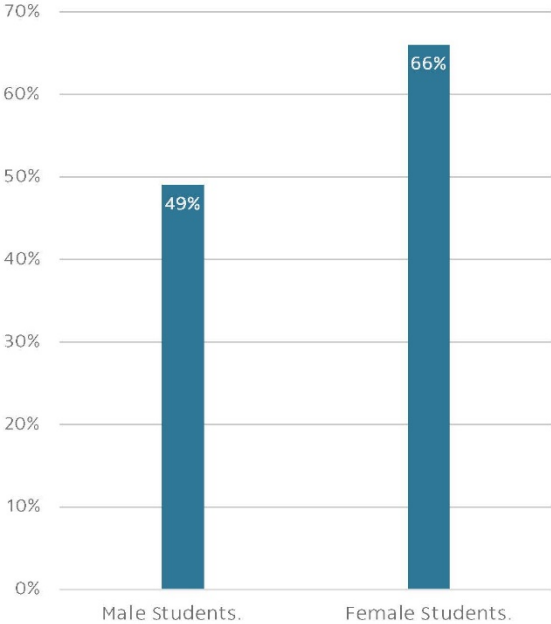
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Learning Mathematics during COVID-19

- I study less mathematics during this school-year
- I already have gaps in my learning of mathematics



I am experiencing difficulties with distance learning



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