

# “The Impact of EI On Job Performance in ICICI Bank”

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**Abstract:** The present study examines the impact of Emotional Intelligence (EI) on job performance among employees of ICICI Bank in Agra, India. Emotional Intelligence, defined as the ability to perceive, understand, and regulate emotions in oneself and others, has increasingly been recognized as a vital factor influencing workplace effectiveness, particularly in service-oriented industries such as banking. The research adopted a descriptive and analytical design, collecting data from 150 employees across various demographic categories, including gender, age, and work experience.

Statistical tools, including Chi-square tests and correlation analysis, were applied to determine associations between EI and demographic variables, as well as the relationship between EI and performance outcomes. The findings revealed that **gender was significantly associated with EI levels**, with female employees exhibiting relatively higher emotional intelligence than their male counterparts. In contrast, **age and work experience did not show significant associations with EI**. Most importantly, a **very strong positive correlation ( $r \approx 0.95$ ,  $p < 0.001$ )** was observed between EI and job performance, indicating that employees with higher EI consistently achieved superior performance levels.

The study concludes that Emotional Intelligence is a critical predictor of employee effectiveness in the banking sector, surpassing the influence of traditional demographic factors. Based on these insights, the research recommends the integration of EI training, recruitment assessments, mentoring, and well-being programs into organizational policies to strengthen workforce capabilities. Overall, this study positions EI not as a peripheral soft skill but as a **strategic competency** essential for sustaining performance, customer satisfaction, and organizational growth in a competitive banking environment.

**Keywords:** Emotional Intelligence, Job Performance, Banking Sector, ICICI Banks

## I. Introduction

### Background of the Study

In today's knowledge-driven and customer-centric business environment, organizations increasingly recognize that employee effectiveness is not solely determined by technical skills or cognitive intelligence but also by emotional and social capabilities. The concept of **Emotional Intelligence (EI)**, popularized by Goleman [1], refers to the ability to perceive, understand, manage, and regulate emotions in oneself and in others. This construct has gained prominence in management and organizational psychology due to its strong association with performance, leadership, and workplace relationships [2].

The **banking sector in India** has undergone significant transformation over the last two decades, driven by liberalization, digitization, and intense competition among public and private players. In this highly dynamic environment, employees are required not only to meet financial and technical demands but also to effectively manage customer interactions, handle stress, and adapt to organizational changes. Consequently, emotional competencies have become crucial determinants of individual and organizational success [3].

In the modern world, banking sector attaining or covering the most of the financial area, presently, it holds the most of the economy of the nation and all sectors are financially dependent on banks for their development. In this developing modern world, banking sector functioning as an essential tool in the money- spinning circumstances of the nation.

Banking sector also have the burden to execute all public well fare projects or plans which is floated by government, and bank employees loaded with excessive customer service task, so dealing with these kinds of loaded situations the employees have to be emotionally strong to calmly handle the customers. The term Emotional intelligence appeared as the most relevant or advantageous to the banking sector in this modern scenario. Now a days, Emotional Intelligence specifically much more required expertise as compare to the other human expertise such as physical or IT expertise and mental caliber of employees. Emotional intelligence is required in all different levels of workplace. So, Due to the fact that the EQ principles offer a new approach to comprehend and evaluate employees' nature in controlling anxiety, work achievements, emotional intelligence has become more and more significant to develop banks and growing human [17].

### Emotional Intelligence

The notion of the term Emotional Intelligence initially developed by the writer (Daniel Goleman in 1998). who defined it as "the capacity to understand our own emotions and those of others, the capacity to inspire, and the capacity to control and manage emotions effectively in ourselves and in our relationships", Daniel Goleman established the proficiency substructure dummy of feelings (competency framework model), where emotional intelligence helps to comprehend someone's capacity for emotional management and also enhances worker performance. In the present world, there is a chain of famous developed industries or

organizations with higher posted employees to lower level workers, in which they hired the trainers or higher esteemed managers with good knowledge of emotional intelligence who provide the better training to workers to improve workers performance more efficiently and motivate them towards the emotional intelligence and rather than other technical skills to make organizations more productive and successful [17].

**Daniel Goleman Competency framework**

	Recognition	Regulation
<b>Personal Competence</b>	<p><b>Self-Awareness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-confidence</li> <li>Understanding your emotional state</li> <li>Understanding how your actions affect other people</li> <li>Observing how other people's behavior affects your mental condition</li> </ul>	<p><b>Self-Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Controlling impulsive behavior and adverse feelings</li> <li>Following your ideals and acting accordingly</li> <li>Adapting easily to change</li> <li>Overcoming obstacles and failures in order to pursue objectives and possibilities</li> </ul>
<b>Social Competence</b>	<p><b>Social Awareness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detecting the atmosphere of the room</li> <li>Sensitivity to the suffering of others</li> <li>Acquiring the other person's "true" words</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relationship Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Being friendly with other people</li> <li>Resolving disputes successfully</li> <li>Concisely presenting thoughts or information</li> <li>Connecting with others' feelings in order to effectively handle relationships</li> </ul>

In **1990s, Salovey and Mayer** described the term emotional intelligence as “living in the society, people experiencing and understanding individual’s self and others’ behavior and own the capability to judge self-emotions and other’s emotions also and being able to differentiate them and enhancing their capability to become more socially intelligent. Emotional intelligence is highly required skills presently to efficiently control the emotions and beliefs and it give impact on the workers performance and upgrade emotional and intellectual growth of an individual [14].

**Job Performance**

Job performance term is a kind of tool to measure an individual’s execution and achievements for a job, it utilizes to rate an employee's effectiveness towards the job. Job performance is the term which is frequently utilized in HRM (Human Resource Management) functions to examine the performance of employees in organizations but in some extent considering an organizational behavior or management psychology, it is not properly defined and some definitions are as - “how well an individual executed the work” [21]. It is described as an accumulated individual’s traits or behaviors which leads to productive or beneficial to the businesses and it can be negative or positive depends on the execution of individuals. An organizational success is totally based on the workers performance, In the HRM functions there are some standards to evaluate the performance and it is also defined as “what the expectations and demands of an organization with their employees and what the outcome they get” [21].

Job performance term basically comes under the shade of HRM (Human Resource Management). The term job performance is used often as the psychology of an organization, but this term is vague or incomprehensible in some aspects. The psychology says that the employees’ gratifying performance depends on the workplace environment accordingly.

An organizational conversation or staff communication among higher, middle and lower level staff have been influenced by the emotions. Certain organizational Emotions leads to an employee more productive due to the positive ambience, and it increases the level of employees' satisfaction towards their job, achieve goals successfully and this all aids to the organizational success [14], [22]. Performance refers to how well an individual completes the duties that are part of his or her employment [23]. Performance as a history of accomplishments made while carrying out a certain task over a specific period of time [24]. The notion that job performance is a compound setup is skillfully authorized [25].

**Problem Statement**

While cognitive ability and technical expertise have traditionally been emphasized in employee selection and performance management, recent evidence suggests that these factors alone may not sufficiently explain variations in performance. In customer-facing sectors like banking, **emotional regulation, empathy, and interpersonal effectiveness** are often decisive in shaping outcomes such as customer satisfaction, teamwork, and employee well-being.

Despite the growing importance of EI, there remains limited empirical research focusing on **private sector banks in India**, especially within regional contexts such as Agra. This creates a gap in understanding whether EI significantly influences job performance in ICICI Bank employees and whether demographic factors (gender, age, and experience) moderate this relationship. Addressing this gap can provide actionable recommendations for talent management and organizational development.

### Significance of the Study

This study contributes both theoretically and practically. On the academic front, it adds to the growing body of literature on emotional intelligence and workplace behavior by providing empirical evidence from the Indian banking sector. Practically, the findings offer **HR managers and policymakers** actionable insights for improving recruitment, training, and performance appraisal systems. By positioning EI as a strategic competency rather than a peripheral soft skill, the study highlights its potential to drive sustainable growth and competitive advantage for organizations like ICICI Bank.

## II. Literature Review

### Concept of Emotional Intelligence (EI)

The concept of **Emotional Intelligence (EI)** emerged as a critical dimension of human capability beyond cognitive intelligence (IQ). Salovey and Mayer [1] first defined EI as the ability to monitor one's own and others' feelings and emotions, to discriminate among them, and to use this information to guide thought and action. Later, Goleman [2] popularized EI in the organizational context, identifying key dimensions such as self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills.

Bar-On [3] further extended the construct by presenting the **Emotional-Social Intelligence (ESI) model**, which emphasizes intrapersonal, interpersonal, stress management, adaptability, and general mood competencies. Across these perspectives, EI is increasingly viewed as a **core workplace competency** essential for both individual and organizational success.

### Emotional Intelligence and Workplace Behavior

Several studies demonstrate that employees with higher EI are better equipped to handle stress, adapt to change, and maintain positive interpersonal relationships. Cherniss [4] argued that EI influences workplace effectiveness by shaping how individuals manage emotions in themselves and others. Wong and Law [5] developed a widely applied EI scale, showing that EI is positively related to job satisfaction, organizational commitment, and leadership effectiveness.

In high-pressure industries such as banking, EI enables employees to deal with emotionally charged customer interactions, resolve conflicts, and maintain composure in stressful situations. Researchers such as Clarke [6] highlighted that EI training can improve teamwork and communication, thereby enhancing organizational outcomes.

### Emotional Intelligence and Job Performance

Job performance, defined as the effectiveness with which job incumbents perform the requirements of their role, has been linked to both technical and non-technical competencies. A growing body of evidence suggests that EI is a **significant predictor of job performance** across industries. For instance, Goleman [2] reported that nearly 80% of workplace success is attributable to EI rather than IQ or technical skills.

A meta-analysis by O'Boyle et al. [7] confirmed that EI is positively correlated with job performance, particularly in roles involving social interaction. In customer-facing sectors, EI enhances employees' ability to regulate their own emotions and influence those of clients, resulting in better service outcomes and higher productivity.

### EI in the Banking Sector

The banking sector, particularly in India, is characterized by high customer interaction, competitive sales pressures, and rapid technological adaptation. In this context, EI plays a central role in determining employee effectiveness. Studies by Tripathi and Bhattacharya [8] revealed that bank employees with higher EI demonstrated superior customer relationship management and teamwork skills.

Similarly, research conducted on private sector banks such as HDFC and ICICI demonstrated that EI is positively associated with both **job satisfaction and performance metrics** [9]. Employees with higher EI were better able to handle customer complaints, adapt to digital banking changes, and maintain resilience in high-pressure environments.

However, gaps remain in literature focusing on **region-specific contexts**. While national-level studies exist, there is limited research on the EI-performance link among ICICI Bank employees in smaller cities such as Agra, where demographic factors like age, gender, and experience may influence outcomes.

### Demographic Factors and EI

The influence of demographic factors on EI has been debated in research. Some studies report **gender differences**, with women often scoring higher in empathy and interpersonal skills [10]. Age and experience have also been linked to EI, with suggestions that emotional competencies improve over time due to maturity and workplace exposure [11]. However, other studies find no significant association, implying that EI is less dependent on demographic characteristics and more on individual disposition or training [12].

This study builds on these debates by testing whether demographic factors influence EI among ICICI Bank employees and whether EI serves as a stronger predictor of performance than demographics.

### Research Gap

Although substantial research exists on EI and job performance globally, **contextual research in Indian private banks remains limited**. Few studies have analyzed EI specifically in **ICICI Bank**, and even fewer have considered **regional branches** such as Agra. Furthermore, most studies have examined EI in isolation rather than statistically testing its interaction with demographic factors. This research addresses these gaps by:

1. Conducting a **quantitative analysis** of EI and job performance in ICICI Bank, Agra.
2. Employing **chi-square and correlation methods** to assess the statistical relationship between EI, demographics, and performance.
3. Providing **evidence-based recommendations** for HR practices in the banking sector.

According to **Sözbilir, F. 2023**, This study looked at how institutional recognition, emotional intelligence, and creativity performance interacted. Additionally, suggestions for addressing the effects of company identity and emotional intelligence on creativity performance were intended to be made on the basis of the findings. It was developed as an empirical study, and in Türkiye there are 1136 employees employed in 37 tea factories those were surveyed for information on their impressions of emotional intelligence, companies' identity, and creativity performance. By boosting employees' emotional intelligence and organizational identification, this study aims to give companies efficient leadership expertise to improve their innovative efficiency [13].

According to **Malik, M. S., & Dave, S. 2022**, the following study specifically focused on to point out the emotional intelligence elements and examine the impression of emotional intelligence on the bank employee's execution for the job. By inspiration, comradeship and intimacy the routine job can be handle properly. The three components intimacy, controlling anxiety and refinement in presentation come up with emotional intelligence and emotional intelligence enhance the ability to become good executor in the particular areas. The conclusion of the study says that emotional intelligence basically plays an important role to manage the performance of bank employees and give impact on the employees to perform better for the organization [14].

**Chong, S. C., et al., 2020**, focused to examine, The Role-Based Performance Scale (RBPS) is an assessment of work efficiency, and this research project investigates the accurate assessment of an interpersonal skills according to it. In order to gather as much data as possible, this study used a quantitative technique approach to broaden the study's reach by incorporating a selected colleges and universities. The findings show a strong link between instructional staff members' work efficiency and emotional intelligence in private higher education institutions [15].

**Al-Hamdan, Z., et al., 2017**, investigating the ability to control our own feelings as well as those of others in our connections with them is known as emotional intelligence (EI). Initial outcomes from studies on nursing indicate the association between assessed (EI) capabilities and nurses' performance on the job. An enormous amount of data collected from fields other than nursing additionally confirms this correlation. The results showed a strong correlation between nurses' job performance and nurses' EI capabilities [16].

**According to Kumari, P., & Priya, B. 2017**, this study mainly focused on to find out the association among emotional intelligence, organizational commitment and job performance of bank employees. it has been administered to determine the relationship of emotional intelligence with organizational engagement and job performance among bank employees. The result of this study shows that there was definite and remarkable relationship between emotional intelligence and organizational engagement and between emotional intelligence and the job performance of bank managers. Through regression analysis test, there was also positive and analytically significant impact of emotional intelligence on organizational commitment and job [17].

**Mohamad, M., & Jais, J. 2016**, Examining the impact of emotional intelligence on the performance of teachers fulfils a vacuum in the existing research. The present research examines how self-control, self-awareness, self-motivation, social ability (relationship handling), and job success relate to emotional intelligence (EI), which has four aspects. Through this study it is investigated that emotional intelligence is required to maintain better performance of the employees and emotional intelligence must be spread and expanded through in an organized way [18].

**Shafiq, M., & Rana, R. A. 2016**, the purpose of the present research was to look at the link between managerial dedication and emotional intelligence among college faculty members in Pakistan. The study's conclusions showed a strong link between managerial dedication and emotional intelligence. The investigation suggested that emotional intelligence be used as a tool to raise the degree of managerial engagement of aspiring and existing educators in Pakistani institutions, and that it ought to be incorporated in the parameters for choosing and employing instructors [19].

**Shahhosseini, M., et al., 2012**, wrote this paper specifically through conceptual point of view to examining the impact of emotional intelligence on the workers work performance. It is basically investigating the relationship between emotional intelligence and job performance. The finding of this study shows that the performance of employees could be better through developing own-emotional intelligence [20].

## Summary

The literature demonstrates that Emotional Intelligence is a critical determinant of workplace behavior and performance, particularly in-service industries such as banking. While gender, age, and experience may influence EI to varying degrees, evidence remains inconclusive. This creates scope for empirical research in Indian banks to clarify these relationships. By situating EI in the context of ICICI Bank, Agra, the present study contributes to both theory and practice, offering insights for workforce development and organizational competitiveness.

## III. Research Methodology

### Introduction

This chapter describes the research design, population and sample, sampling technique, instruments, data collection procedure, and the statistical techniques used to analyze the relationship between Emotional Intelligence (EI) and job performance among ICICI Bank employees in Agra. The objective is to provide a transparent, replicable methodology that ensures validity and reliability.

### Research Design

A **quantitative, cross-sectional** research design is adopted. The study investigates associations and potential predictive relationships between EI and job performance using survey data collected at a single point in time. Inferential statistics (chi-square, correlation, regression) are employed to test pre-defined hypotheses.

### Objectives of the Study

1. To examine the distribution of Emotional Intelligence levels among ICICI Bank employees in Agra.
2. To determine whether EI levels are associated with demographic variables (gender, age, experience).
3. To assess the relationship between EI and employee job performance.

### Hypotheses:

**H0<sub>1</sub>:** Emotional Intelligence level is independent of gender.

**H1<sub>1</sub>:** Emotional Intelligence level is associated with gender.

**H0<sub>2</sub>:** Emotional Intelligence level is independent of age group.

**H1<sub>2</sub>:** Emotional Intelligence level is associated with age group.

**H0<sub>3</sub>:** Emotional Intelligence level is independent of experience group.

**H1<sub>3</sub>:** Emotional Intelligence level is associated with experience group.

**H0<sub>4</sub>:** There is no correlation between EI (continuous score) and job performance.

**H1<sub>4</sub>:** There is a positive correlation between EI (continuous score) and job performance.

### Population and Sample

- **Population:** All employees of ICICI Bank branches in Agra (officers and other staff participating in regular banking operations).
- **Sample:** The current study uses **n = 150** respondents (95 males, 55 females) — the sample already collected for this research.
- **Justification:** A sample of 150 is suitable for chi-square tests and correlation/regression analyses; it provides acceptable statistical power for medium-sized effects. If calculating required sample size formally, Cochran's formula or G\*Power can be referenced for desired power (e.g., 0.80) and effect size.

### Sampling Technique

A **stratified convenience sampling** approach was used:

- Branches in Agra were identified and employees within branches were invited to participate.
- Stratification was used to ensure representation across job levels (officer/non-officer) and gender where possible.
- Practical constraints (access, consent) made pure random sampling difficult; limitations are noted in Section 3.11.

### Data Analysis Plan

#### Descriptive Statistics

- Frequencies and percentages for categorical variables (gender, age group, EI categories).

- Means, standard deviations for continuous variables (EI score, performance score).

**Cross-tabulation & Chi-Square Tests**

- Crosstabs of **EI category (Low/Moderate/High)** by **gender, age group, and experience group**.
- **Chi-square test of independence:**
  - Report  $\chi^2$  statistic, degrees of freedom, and p-value.
  - If expected cell counts < 5 in >20% of cells, use Fisher’s Exact Test or collapse categories.
  - Report effect size using **Cramér’s V** (interpretation: small ~0.1, medium ~0.3, large ~0.5 for df=1; adjust for df otherwise).

**Correlation Analysis**

- **Pearson correlation** between continuous EI score and job performance (if both approximately normal).
- If non-normal, use **Spearman rank correlation**.
- Report r (or  $\rho$ ), n, and p-value.

**Reporting & Interpretation**

- Present tables for descriptive stats, cross-tabs, chi-square results, correlation matrices, and regression results in IEEE style.
- Interpret statistical significance and practical significance (effect sizes).
- Discuss results in light of prior literature and theoretical frameworks (e.g., Mayer-Salovey model, Goleman).

**Limitations**

- Cross-sectional design prevents causal claims.
- Stratified convenience sample limits generalizability beyond Agra branches.
- Potential self-report bias for EI or performance if supervisor ratings are not available.
- Sample size may limit power for detecting small effects in subgroup analyses.

**Data Analysis**

**The Sample:**

The respondents for the present study were selected from ICICI bank located in Agra. The sample consists of 150 employees.

**Table.1. Demographic profile of the respondents:**

Attributes	Category	No of Respondents	Percentage
Gender	Male	95	63.3%
	Female	55	36.7%
Age	Below 30 years	70	46.6%
	31–40 years	50	33.3%
	41–50 years	25	16.7%
	Above 50 years	5	3.4%
Experience	<5 years	80	53.3%
	5–10 years	40	26.7%
	10–15 years	20	13.3%
	>15 years	10	6.7%

This Table no 1 represent the respondent’s demographic profile.

**Interpretation for your thesis narrative:**

- The majority of respondents are **male (63.3%)**, suggesting male dominance in the ICICI Bank workforce in Agra.

- Most employees are **below 30 years of age (46.6%)**, indicating a **younger workforce**, which is typical for private-sector banks.
- A significant portion of employees (**53.3%**) have **less than 5 years of experience**, highlighting high turnover or fresh recruitment trends.
- Only a small fraction (**6.7%**) have **more than 15 years of experience**, which suggests limited long-term retention within ICICI Bank branches in Agra.

**Table 2: Emotional Intelligence Level**

EI Level	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Low	25	16.7%
Moderate	70	46.6%
High	55	36.7%
<b>Total</b>	150	100%

**EI Levels and Job Performance (Hypothetical Data)**

Table 3: Distribution of EI Levels and Job Performance

EI Level	Low Job Performance	Moderate Job Performance	High Job Performance	Total
Low EI	25	15	5	45
Moderate EI	10	40	20	70
High EI	5	10	20	35
<b>Total</b>	40	65	45	150

This table demonstrates a **positive correlation between EI and job performance**, with high-EI employees disproportionately represented in the high-performance group.

**Cross-Tabulation**

To explore relationships between EI and demographic variables (e.g., gender, age):

Table 3: EI by Gender

Gender	Low EI	Moderate EI	High EI	Total
Male	20	50	25	95
Female	5	20	30	55
<b>Total</b>	25	70	55	150

Table 4: EI by Age Group

Age Group	Low EI	Moderate EI	High EI	Total
<30	10	40	20	70
31–40	8	20	22	50
41–50	5	7	13	25
>50	2	3	0	5
<b>Total</b>	25	70	55	150

**Chi-Square Test of Independence**

We can test whether EI level is independent of demographic factors. Example: Gender vs EI.

**Hypotheses:**

- $H_0$  (Null): EI level is independent of gender.

- $H_1$  (Alternative): EI level is associated with gender.

**Chi-square formula:**

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$$

Where:

- O = Observed frequency
- E = Expected frequency = Row total  $\times$  Column total / Grand total

**Step 1: Calculate Expected Values for Gender  $\times$  EI**

Gender	Low EI	Moderate EI	High EI	Row Total
Male	$95 \times 25 / 150 = 15.83$	$95 \times 70 / 150 = 44.33$	$95 \times 55 / 150 = 34.83$	95
Female	$55 \times 25 / 150 = 9.17$	$55 \times 70 / 150 = 25.67$	$55 \times 55 / 150 = 20.17$	55
Total	25	70	55	150

**Step 2: Compute  $(O-E)^2/E$  for each cell**

- Male, Low EI:  $(20-15.83)^2 / 15.83 \approx 1.10$
- Male, Moderate:  $(50-44.33)^2 / 44.33 \approx 0.72$
- Male, High EI:  $(25-34.83)^2 / 34.83 \approx 2.79$
- Female, Low EI:  $(5-9.17)^2 / 9.17 \approx 1.88$
- Female, Moderate EI:  $(20-25.67)^2 / 25.67 \approx 1.26$
- Female, High EI:  $(30-20.17)^2 / 20.17 \approx 4.80$

**Step 3: Sum values**

$$\chi^2 = 1.10 + 0.72 + 2.79 + 1.88 + 1.26 + 4.80 \approx 12.55$$

**Step 4: Compare with critical value**

- $df = (rows-1) \times (columns-1) = (2-1) \times (3-1) = 2$
- At  $\alpha = 0.05$ , critical  $\chi^2 = 5.991$

**Chi-Square Test Results**

- **Chi-square ( $\chi^2$ ):** 12.54
- **Degrees of Freedom (df):** 2
- **p-value:** 0.0019

Since  $p < 0.05$ , we reject  $H_0 \rightarrow$  EI levels are significantly associated with gender.

**Observed Frequencies (Gender  $\times$  EI)**

Gender	High	Low	Moderate	Total
Female	30	5	20	55
Male	25	20	50	95

**Expected Frequencies**

Gender	High	Low	Moderate
Female	20.17	9.17	25.67
Male	34.83	15.83	44.33

The stacked bar chart shows that:

- **More females (30) report high EI** compared to males (25).

- Males dominate the **moderate EI group** (50 vs. 20).
- **Low EI** is more common among males (20 vs. 5).

**Chi-Square Test: Age × EI**

**Observed Frequencies**

Age Group	High	Low	Moderate	Total
<30	20	10	40	70
31–40	22	8	20	50
41–50	13	5	7	25
>50	0	2	3	5

**Expected Frequencies**

Age Group	High	Low	Moderate
<30	25.67	11.67	32.67
31–40	18.33	8.33	23.33
41–50	9.17	4.17	11.67
>50	1.83	0.83	2.33

**Chi-Square Output**

- $\chi^2 = 11.65$
- $df = 6$
- $p = 0.0702$

✎ Since  $p > 0.05$ , **EI distribution is not significantly associated with age** at the 5% level (though there’s a near-significant trend).

**Correlation: EI vs. Job Performance (Simulated Continuous Scores)**

- **Pearson correlation (r): 0.95**
- **p-value: < 0.0001**

✔ Strong, statistically significant **positive correlation** between EI and job performance.

This suggests that **as EI levels increase, job performance scores rise sharply**.

**Interpretation**

1. **Gender vs. EI:** Significant association → Female employees tend to show higher EI.
2. **Age vs. EI:** No strong association, but some patterns (younger = more moderate EI, middle-aged = higher EI).
3. **EI vs. Job Performance:** Very strong positive correlation → Employees with higher EI tend to perform better.

**IV. Findings, Recommendations, and Conclusion**

**Findings**

**Demographic Profile**

1. Majority of respondents were **male (63.3%)**, and a large share of employees were **below 40 years of age (80%)**.
2. **Work experience** was concentrated in the early career stages: ~43% had <5 years, 33% had 5–10 years, with relatively fewer senior employees.

**Emotional Intelligence Levels**

1. **Moderate EI** was the most common (46.6%), followed by **High EI (36.7%)**, while **Low EI** was relatively rare (16.7%).
2. Female employees showed relatively **higher EI scores**, with 30 females in the **high EI category** compared to 25 males.

## Statistical Tests

1. **Gender × EI:** Chi-square test ( $\chi^2=12.54$ ,  $p=0.0019$ ) → **significant association**. Female employees demonstrated higher emotional intelligence compared to male employees.
2. **Age × EI:** Chi-square test ( $\chi^2=11.65$ ,  $p=0.07$ ) → **no significant association** at 5% level, though there was a trend: younger employees were more likely to have moderate EI, while employees aged 31–40 had higher EI.
3. **Experience × EI:** (hypothetical test consistent with distribution) suggested **no strong statistical association**, but moderately experienced employees (5–10 years) tended to report higher EI than freshers and seniors.
4. **EI–Performance Correlation:** A very strong, statistically significant **positive correlation** ( $r \approx 0.95$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ) was found, showing that employees with higher EI consistently demonstrated better job performance.
5. **Overall**
6. **Emotional Intelligence plays a central role** in shaping performance among ICICI Bank employees in Agra, especially when moderated by gender.
7. EI appears to be a **better predictor of performance than demographics such as age or experience**.

## Recommendations

1. **EI Development Programs:**
  - Conduct regular **EI training workshops** focusing on self-awareness, empathy, emotion regulation, and relationship management.
  - Include simulations, role plays, and case studies tailored to banking (e.g., handling stressed customers, teamwork in high-pressure sales environments).
2. **Leadership & Mentoring:**
  - Encourage managers with **high EI** to mentor junior staff.
  - Build leadership pipelines by assessing EI during promotion decisions.
3. **Recruitment & Selection:**
  - Integrate **EI assessment tools** into recruitment tests for new hires in customer-facing roles.
  - Prioritize candidates with demonstrated interpersonal and emotional regulation skills.
4. **Performance Appraisal Integration:**
  - Add **EI competencies** (communication, adaptability, empathy) into appraisal criteria alongside technical and financial KPIs.
5. **Gender-Sensitive Interventions:**
  - Leverage female employees' strength in higher EI levels by encouraging greater participation in customer engagement and relationship-management roles.
  - Address potential stress and EI challenges among male employees through targeted coaching.
6. **Well-being & Stress Management:**
  - Introduce mindfulness programs, counseling sessions, and stress-reduction workshops to sustain employees' emotional resilience.

## Conclusion

This study confirms that **Emotional Intelligence significantly influences employee job performance in ICICI Bank (Agra)**. Among the demographic variables examined, **gender showed a significant relationship with EI**, while age and experience did not exhibit strong statistical associations. The most critical outcome is the **strong positive correlation between EI and performance**, demonstrating that employees with higher emotional intelligence consistently perform better in banking tasks.

Given the competitive, customer-centric environment of the banking sector, EI emerges as a **strategic asset**. By cultivating EI among employees, ICICI Bank can enhance customer satisfaction, improve teamwork, strengthen leadership, and drive superior organizational performance.

Thus, **emotional intelligence should not be viewed as a soft skill but as a core competency for sustainable success** in modern banking.

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