



LEVEL OF AWARENESS ON INCOME TAXATION AMONG ENTREPRENEURS

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ABSTRACT

Business and entrepreneurs must have a thorough understanding of taxes in order to maintain compliance. Therefore, this research examines the level of awareness among entrepreneurs regarding income taxation. A survey of 30 entrepreneurs from registered MSMEs in General Santos City was conducted to assess their understanding of tax rights, responsibilities, and compliance. The respondents had been in business for at least 5 to 30 years. The collected data were analyzed using statistical methods, including frequency, percentage, weighted average mean, and ANOVA. The results showed that the level of awareness on income taxation has an overall mean of 4.28 shows a moderately aware, which indicates that the entrepreneurs are knowledgeable. This imply that they are familiar with basic tax concepts, but there may still be room for further learning. Age and educational attainment play a significant role in how they understand their tax rights and responsibilities and their tax compliance. However, the years in the business of the entrepreneurs does not have a significant difference in awareness level on income taxation. This study concludes that although entrepreneurs may be knowledgeable about their rights and responsibilities and are compliant, there are certain areas that need improvement. This study emphasizes the importance of continuous learning and activities for entrepreneurs to maintain tax compliance.

Keywords: *Income taxation, tax rights and responsibility, tax compliance, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)*

INTRODUCTION

Taxes are mandatory contributions imposed on individuals and corporations to finance government activities and public services. A solid understanding of taxation is essential for businesses and entrepreneurs to ensure compliance. Assessing awareness level of entrepreneurs of taxation is crucial for determining their understanding of their rights and responsibilities. Given the complexity of tax laws and frequent changes in policies, it is important for the public to remain



informed about tax regulations. This awareness not only enhances compliance but also empowers entrepreneurs to effectively manage their tax obligations.

Low level of understanding of entrepreneurs in taxation in terms of their rights and obligations may influence their compliance, if they are not addressed. Some of the problems that the entrepreneurs may encounter are knowledge about changes of tax rates, tax filing procedures, and penalties for non-compliance. Without sufficient understanding, entrepreneurs may either overpay or underpay taxes, and this may directly affect their business operations, potentially leading to financial penalties, bankruptcy, and reduced tax revenues for the government.

In the recent study of Hamid et al. (2021), taxpayer education serves as a valuable tool for taxpayers to enrich their understanding of tax laws and procedures. Education is a major element since it helps taxpayer to comprehend their tax obligations. A taxpayer with the highest degree of knowledge might have a direct impact on whether they complied with the tax system. As revealed by Salawati et al. (2021) claimed that a higher level of education has an influence on tax compliance among taxpayers since education helps to comply with tax systems. The demographic profile of taxpayers, such as the age, education, and business sectors of registered entrepreneurs from small and medium enterprises, is significant in determining the awareness of taxpayers while gender and religiosity do not have considerable influence (Vincent et al., 2023). Additionally, Ikhsan et al. (2023) determined that age has an effect on tax compliance, it indicates that young taxpayers were more obedient than older taxpayers.

Income taxes play a significant role in shaping the economic growth of the country by providing funds for the government and influencing economic strategies. In the United States a progressive individual income tax was created. Reducing income taxes provides greater support for economic growth rather than causing harm to the economy. This was achieved through stimulating consumption, boosting investment, increasing participation in the workforce, enhancing government spending, and other related factors (Fang, 2024).

Taxpayer awareness refers to the state where taxpayers possess knowledge and comprehension and voluntarily adhere to tax laws. This understanding encourages taxpayers to willingly fulfill their tax obligations since they perceive themselves as benefiting from tax collection being undertaken (Rabiyah et al., 2021). Moreover, Paco et al. (2022) stated that the awareness of taxpayers tends to affect tax compliance of micro and small enterprises (MSEs). It also pertains on how taxpayers perceive and understand their responsibilities regarding taxes, including their beliefs, knowledge, and reasoning (Indah & Setiawan, 2020). Their study showed that MSEs were very aware of the BIR requirements but were fully and moderately aware of the value-added tax (VAT) and other percentage taxes.



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Tax rights and responsibilities were important for individuals and the government considering that knowing the rights helps MSMEs guarantee treatment, access information and confidently manage tax filings. This builds trust and encourages MSMEs to comply with tax laws ultimately making tax collection smoother for the government (Twum et al., 2020). Moreover, Oyedokun (2023) conducted a study in Nigeria the tax rights and responsibilities include, but are not limited to, taxpayer has a required responsibility to timely and accurately file annual returns, reports, and documents, and to timely remit all taxes due on such annual returns, reports, documents, and filings. Stated in the study of Malicdem et al. (2023), there were several inferences in the Philippines that have been drawn from the literature. In general, it was argued that collecting taxes and fees was an essential means for governments to produce public revenues that allow them to finance expenditures in human resources, infrastructure, and services to citizens and enterprises. The government needs to balance achieving goals like enhanced revenue mobilization, sustainable growth, lower compliance costs, and ensuring that the tax system is fair and equitable.

Taxpayer compliance refers to the mindset and actions of a taxpayer who fulfills all their tax responsibilities while also benefiting from their tax entitlements as outlined in the laws and regulations (Larasdiputra & Saputra, 2021). Taxpayer registration, tax return submission, arrears calculation, and payment compliance were all indicators. Tax compliance, in terms of concept, is understood from different angles by many scholars. In a related study, Paco et al. (2022) found that small business owners are more likely to not comply than employed taxpayers. Likewise, their findings showed that businesses are more likely to lack meaningful taxation knowledge and are more likely to treat taxes as painful losses.

According to the study of Schoeman (2023), there are no statistically significant correlation between age and tax compliance. It was revealed in his study that individuals between the ages of 40 and 65 have strong ethical values regarding tax. As a result, these middle-aged taxpayers tend to be more compliant than the young (in this case, those younger than 40) and more compliant than those who are older than 65. Furthermore, those with higher formal education can recognize loopholes and may be less obedient. The old tend to be more compliant than the young (Carsamer & Abbam, 2023). However, age does not always create a willingness to pay tax, as no matter how old a taxpayer is, he/she will not comply if he/she does not have a sense of responsibility to pay tax (Wijayanti et al., 2020). Higher-income individuals are more likely to be qualified, and as a result, they pay more taxes over time. In Cabuyao City, according to the study of Umali (2024), there was no significant difference in the responses of the respondents to the above-mentioned factors when they were classified by the number of years in company.

Numerous studies show that taxpayer awareness is crucial in understanding the voluntary compliance of taxpayers although they are complying with tax laws, but they are not fully aware on some aspects of taxation (Hamid et al., 2021; Paco et al., 2022; Fang, 2024). Limited studies have been conducted in the Philippines, especially in General Santos City about the level of



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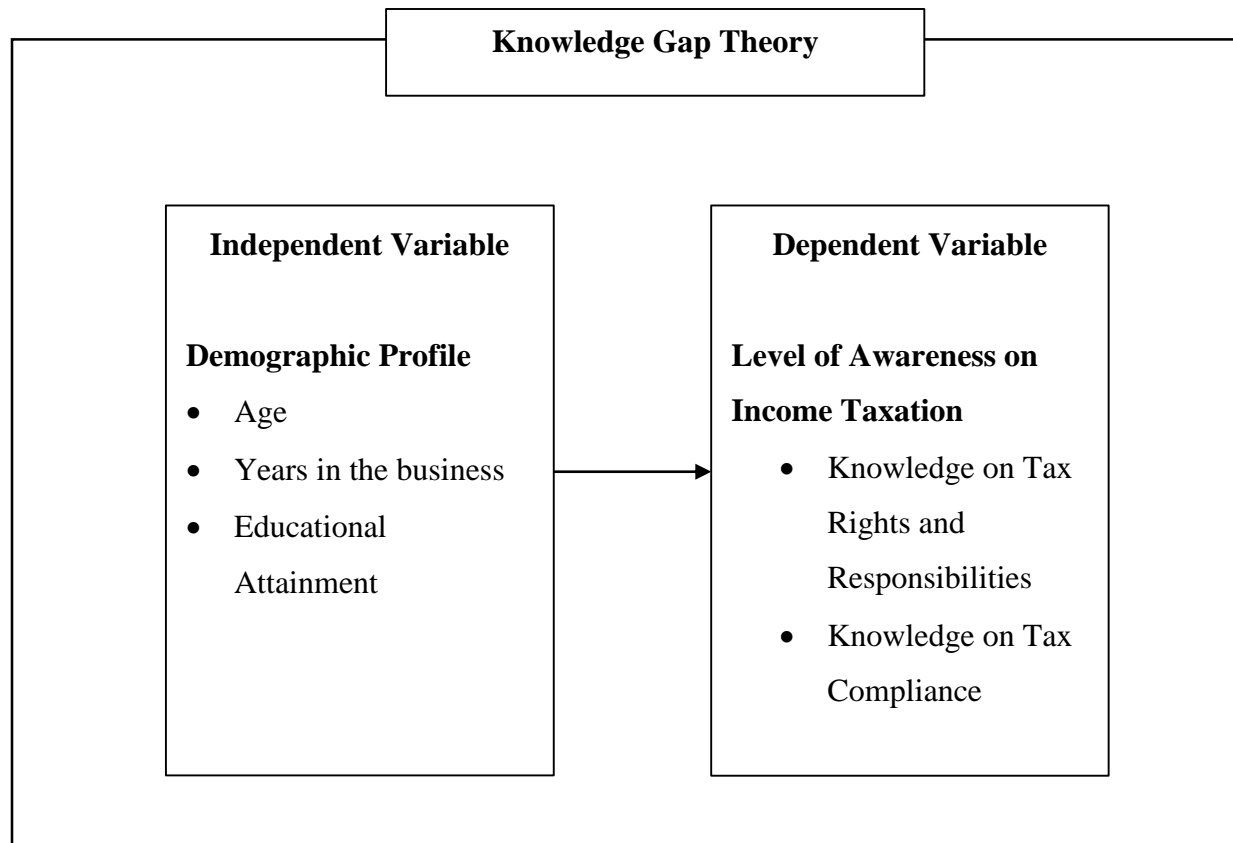
awareness of entrepreneurs on income taxation, which presents a significant gap in understanding the dynamics of tax compliance. Previous studies have predominantly concentrated on the factors that influence the behavior of entrepreneurs and their implications for tax compliance. Furthermore, certain studies suggest that while some entrepreneurs adhere to tax regulations, there's a necessity for them to acquire a deeper understanding of their tax responsibilities and entitlements.

This research seeks to address these problems by investigating how well entrepreneurs understand their tax rights and responsibilities and their compliance with tax regulations and their overall behavior, in meeting tax obligations. This study intends to provide valuable insights into the relationship between the demographic profile of entrepreneurs and their knowledge on income tax. Understanding the level of awareness of entrepreneurs can help tax authorities design more effective enforcement strategies or programs to increase tax revenue and voluntary compliance of taxpayers.

FRAMEWORK

The framework was based on the knowledge gap theory that shows the independent and dependent variables to examine the relationship between the level of awareness of entrepreneurs and their demographic profile. The framework reveals that age, years in business and educational attainment are the independent variables while the level of awareness in terms of knowledge of tax rights and responsibilities and tax compliance as the dependent variables. The direction of the arrow suggests that the demographic profile of the entrepreneurs may influence their awareness level on tax rights and responsibilities and tax compliance.

The relationship of two variables shows that persons with certain demographic characteristics will have different knowledge on taxation. For instance, younger taxpayers or those with limited business experience might possess less knowledge compared to older, seasoned entrepreneurs. Also, educational level may be important, and people with higher levels of education may be more knowledgeable about taxes. Therefore, this framework is expected to explain the differences in tax knowledge by different demographic groups. Thus, helping in designing measures that can be taken to ensure that everyone has the right knowledge on tax and hence comply with the tax laws.



METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The research design used in the study was quantitative—descriptive analysis. This method aims to understand the level of awareness of entrepreneurs regarding income taxation and to determine the significant difference of level of awareness to their demographic profile based on the collected data. The research study used quantitative analysis that shows numerical data. This research study employed a non-experimental research design, utilizing a structured survey questionnaire to assess the awareness level of entrepreneurs on income taxation in terms of the tax rights and responsibilities and tax compliance.

The study used statistical methods such as the percentage, frequency, weighted average mean and analysis of variance (ANOVA). ANOVA was used to examine the difference between the demographic profile of the respondents and their level of awareness of taxation. This statistical technique allowed us to determine the significant variations of level of awareness of entrepreneurs regarding income taxation in demographic profile.



Respondents

The final selected respondents in this study were 30 entrepreneurs who owned micro, small and medium enterprises that duly registered in Business Permits and Licensing Division and must have existed within at least 5 to 20 years in General Santos City. The researchers chose the business owners qualified as micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) as the respondents due to its appropriateness in assessing their level of awareness on income taxation among entrepreneurs.

Research Instruments

The researchers used a self-made survey questionnaire, and it was validated by experts, to assess the level of awareness on income taxation. The research instrument consists of two different sections. The first section of the instrument was to know the demographic profile of the entrepreneurs in terms of their age, years in business, and educational attainment. The respondents had the option to fill in or not any confidential information. The last section would determine the level of awareness of entrepreneurs on income taxation in terms of their knowledge on tax rights and responsibilities and their knowledge on tax compliance.

Data Gathering Procedure

The research study began with the development of structured survey questionnaire to assess the level of awareness regarding income taxation among selected entrepreneurs. The researchers conducted the study by personally distributing the survey questionnaires to selected respondents at their business premises. Prior to distribution, the researchers asked for the consent of respondents to participate in the study and explained the objective of the study. The collection of data was conducted over a period of one week. During this time, the researchers made efforts to accommodate the schedules of the respondents, recognizing that some of them was unavailable. Upon completion, the survey questionnaires were collected and meticulously entered into Microsoft Excel and analyzed using appropriate statistical software. The resulting data was evaluated to draw comprehensive conclusions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Demographic Profile of the Respondents

Table 1

The Demographic Profile of the Respondents

Profile of the Respondents		
Age	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
21-30 years old	13	43.33%
31-40 years old	10	33.33%
41-50 years old	3	10.00%



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51-60 years old	1	3.33%
Others	3	10.00%
Total	30	100.00%
Years in Business	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
5-10 years	23	76.67%
11-15 years	2	6.67%
16-20 years	5	16.67%
Others	0	0.00%
Total	30	100.00%
Educational Attainment	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Elementary Graduate/Level	0	0.00%
High School Graduate/Level	7	23.33%
College School Graduate/Level	23	76.67%
Total	30	100.00%

Table 1 shows that the respondents in the study mainly fall into the age group of 21-30 years old, making up 43.33% of participants, showing that many young people are becoming entrepreneurs. In terms of experience, a significant majority of respondents, 23 of the respondents that corresponds to 76.67%, have been in business for 5-10 years, suggesting that most of them have moderate experience. This could imply that many are in the growth phase of their business ventures, having gained a solid foundation over these years. The educational background of the respondents is highly technical towards college graduates, who make up 76.67% of the total. This high percentage suggests that a college education is a common foundation for entrepreneurs, likely equipping them with essential skills for business management and operations. Overall, this demographic profile indicates that the respondents are mostly young, moderately experienced, and well-educated, which likely influences their awareness and understanding of income taxation. This information is crucial in strategies and activities that considers the background and specific needs of entrepreneurs at various stages of their careers.

The Level of Awareness on Income Taxation of Entrepreneurs in terms of Knowledge on Tax Rights and Responsibilities

Table 2.1

The Level of Awareness on Income Taxation of Entrepreneurs in Terms of Knowledge on Tax Rights and Responsibilities

Indicators			
(Knowledge on Tax Rights and Responsibilities) I know that I have...	Mean	Sd	Interpretation
1. The right to obtain complete, clear, accurate, and simplified explanations of the rules and regulations.	4.43	0.858	<i>Knowledgeable</i>



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2. The right to participate in taxpayer dialogues and information or education campaigns of revenue authorities.	4.33	0.802	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
3. The right to be clearly and timely informed of any pending assessment, rulings, and decisions of revenue authorities about my tax account.	4.20	0.805	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
4. The right to receive prompt, courteous, and professional assistance in dealings with revenue authorities, to be spoken in a way that I can easily understand.	4.17	0.986	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
5. The right to be relieved from interest due to errors or delays caused by revenue authorities.	3.97	0.928	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
6. The responsibility to honestly disclose complete and correct information about my tax account.	4.53	0.681	<i>Fully Knowledgeable</i>
7. The responsibility to pay taxes and fees due on time.	4.67	0.758	<i>Fully Knowledgeable</i>
8. The responsibility to keep an accurate record of my book of accounts and make them available for examination.	4.53	0.900	<i>Fully Knowledgeable</i>
9. The responsibility to be cooperative and apply the relevant laws consistently.	4.60	0.621	<i>Fully Knowledgeable</i>
10. The responsibility to be cooperative with revenue authorities in conducting tax audits in accordance with laws, rules, and regulations.	4.50	0.777	<i>Fully Knowledgeable</i>
Total mean	4.39	0.648	<i>Knowledgeable</i>

Table 2.1 shows the level of awareness of entrepreneurs regarding their tax rights and responsibilities is measured across several indicators. Entrepreneurs show a high level of awareness concerning their responsibilities. The highest-rated statement is their responsibility to be cooperative and applying the relevant laws with a mean score of 4.60 and a standard deviation 0.621, and to pay taxes and fees on time (mean 4.67, SD: 0.758), reflecting that the respondents are extremely aware of this essential duty. These high ratings suggest that the entrepreneurs fully understand their obligations under the law, which is critical for maintaining compliance. On the other hand, their awareness of their rights is somewhat lower, though still within the moderately aware range indicating that they are knowledgeable. Additionally, the awareness of being informed in a timely manner about any pending tax assessments or decisions scored a mean of 4.20 with a standard deviation of 0.805. This suggests a moderate understanding of their rights when interacting with revenue authorities, possibly indicating areas where further information campaigns or educational initiatives could be beneficial. The lowest awareness was related to the right to receive prompt, courteous, and professional assistance in dealings with the revenue



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authorities and to be relieved from interest due to errors or delays caused by revenue authorities, with a mean score of 4.17 and 3.97, and standard deviation of 0.986 and 0.928 respectively. Although still in the moderately aware range, this relatively lower score might imply that entrepreneurs are less familiar with how to address issues arising from administrative errors and how to ask professional assistance from the authorities in a way that they can easily understand, while the respondents exhibit a high level of awareness regarding their tax responsibilities, their understanding of their rights could benefit from further enhancement.

The Level of Awareness on Income Taxation of Entrepreneurs in terms of Knowledge on Tax Compliance

Table 2.2

The Level of Awareness on Income Taxation of Entrepreneurs in Terms of Knowledge on Tax Compliance

Indicators			
(Knowledge on Tax Compliance) I know that ...	Mean	Sd	Interpretation
1. I have to consistently fulfill my tax obligations to pay my taxes annually.	4.53	0.900	<i>Fully Knowledgeable</i>
2. I have to preserve my books of account for a period of five years.	4.53	0.681	<i>Fully Knowledgeable</i>
3. I have to submit all relevant supporting documents to support my protest in terms of reconsideration or reinvestigation within 60 days from the date I filed a protest.	4.37	0.928	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
4. The changes of tax rates (e.g. from 20% to 15% tax due to the excess over P250,000).	3.83	1.117	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
5. The mandatory issuance of an invoice from P100-P500 in sales.	4.23	0.971	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
6. The procedures in filing Income Tax Returns (ITRs)c.	4.33	0.802	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
7. The Income Tax Return shall be filed on or before April 15 of each year covering the income for the preceding taxable years.	4.20	0.997	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
8. The tax returns may be filed either manually or electronically at any authorized agent banks.	4.07	0.944	<i>Knowledgeable</i>



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9. The appropriate BIR form to use (e.g. BIR Form No. 1701, which is designated for the annual income tax return of individuals, including mixed income earners, estates, and trusts).	4.07	1.015	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
10. The civil penalty of 25% of the amount payable (i.e., surcharge) no longer applies	3.67	0.959	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
Total mean	4.18	0.698	<i>Knowledgeable</i>

As shown in Table 2.2, it reflects the awareness of respondents regarding their tax compliance obligations. The overall mean score is 4.18, with a standard deviation of 0.698, indicating that entrepreneurs are generally moderately aware of their tax compliance responsibilities that interpreted as knowledgeable. The highest-rated indicators show that respondents are extremely aware of the need to consistently fulfill their tax obligations annually and to preserve their books of account for five years, both with a mean score of 4.53. These high scores suggest that entrepreneurs are fully knowledgeable with the fundamental requirements for tax compliance, including the need to keep accurate financial records for audit purposes and ensuring that taxes are paid consistently. On the other hand, awareness drops to a moderate level for other aspects of tax compliance. For instance, respondents are moderately aware of the need to submit supporting documents for protests or reconsideration within 60 days from filing a protest, with a mean score of 4.37. This indicates that entrepreneurs are knowledgeable on the process of contesting tax assessments, there may still be knowledge gaps in handling more specific compliance scenarios. Awareness of specific tax policies, such as changes in tax rates (e.g., from 20% to 15% for income above PHP 250,000), scored a mean of 3.83 with a standard deviation of 1.117, which is on the lower end of the moderately aware range. This could suggest that some respondents may not be fully up to date with recent tax reforms, which could affect their compliance. However, procedures like the filing of Income Tax Returns (ITRs) scored a mean of 4.33, suggesting they have a fair understanding of how to file returns but may need more clarity on the finer details. Lower scores were seen in awareness of filing tax returns manually or electronically, with a mean of 4.07, and knowing the appropriate BIR forms to use, also scoring 4.07. This points to potential confusion around the proper procedures and forms required for compliance. The lowest-rated indicators were the filing of Income Tax Return (ITR) on or before April 15 and awareness of the civil penalty of 25% no longer applying, with a mean score of 4.20 and 3.67, and standard deviation of 0.997 and 0.959. This reflects that entrepreneurs may not be fully knowledgeable about the deadline for filing the ITR and changes in penalty, which could expose them to inadvertent penalties due to misunderstanding current regulations, while entrepreneurs exhibit high awareness of their fundamental responsibilities related to tax compliance, such as annual payments and maintaining accurate records, there is moderate awareness regarding more nuanced compliance details, including changing tax rates, specific penalties, and procedural aspects like filing methods. This suggests an opportunity for tax



authorities to focus on enhancing entrepreneurs understanding of detailed compliance regulations through targeted education and outreach programs.

Summary Results on the Level of Awareness on Income Taxation of Entrepreneurs

Table 2.3

Summary Results on the Level of Awareness on Income Taxation of Entrepreneurs

Indicators	Mean	Interpretation
Knowledge on Tax Rights and Responsibilities	4.39	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
Knowledge on Tax Compliance	4.18	<i>Knowledgeable</i>
Overall Mean	4.29	<i>Knowledgeable</i>

The knowledge on tax rights and responsibilities has a computed mean of 4.39 and the knowledge on tax compliance has a computed mean of 4.18 resulting in an overall computed mean of 4.29 described as moderately aware, which means entrepreneurs are highly knowledgeable. This implies that there is a need to develop an initiative to enhance the level of awareness of the entrepreneurs in terms of their tax rights and responsibilities and to encourage them to actively participate and comply in the tax

Significant Difference in the Level of Awareness on Income Taxation when Analyzed According to the Demographic Profiles of the Entrepreneurs

Table 3.1

Significant Difference in the Level of Awareness on Income Taxation in Terms of Knowledge on Tax Rights and Responsibilities when Analyzed According to the Demographic Profiles of the Entrepreneurs

Variable	Knowledge on Tax Rights and Responsibilities			
Profile	F-value	p- value	Remarks	Decision
Age	3.654	0.018	Significant	Reject Ho
Years in Business	2.807	0.059	Not significant	Do not reject Ho
Educational Attainment	18.003	0.000	Significant	Reject Ho

Table 3.1 showed the study examined the difference between the level of awareness on income taxation in terms of knowledge on tax rights and responsibilities and demographic profile. The outcomes revealed a significant difference in awareness based on age and educational attainment with an F-value of 3.654 and 18.003 and p-value of 0.018 and 0.000 respectively. This indicates that age and educational attainment play a vital role in how entrepreneurs understand their rights and responsibilities. As a result, the null hypothesis, which states that there is no significant difference. is rejected. However, there is no significant difference between the level of awareness and demographic profile of entrepreneurs based on years in business with an F-value of 2.807 and



p-value of 0.59. This indicates that years in business do not influence the knowledge of entrepreneurs. As a result, the null hypothesis is not rejected.

Table 3.2

Significant Difference in the Level Awareness on Income Taxation in Terms of Knowledge on Tax Compliance when Analyzed According to the Demographic Profiles of the Entrepreneurs

Variable	Knowledge on Tax Compliance			
Profile	Fvalue	p- value	Remarks	Decision
Age	2.852	0.045	Significant	Reject Ho
Years in Business	1.855	0.162	Not significant	Do not reject Ho
Educational Attainment	6.943	0.014	Significant	Reject Ho

Table 3.2 showed the analysis reveals a significant difference in awareness of tax compliance based on age, with an F-value of 2.852 and a p-value of 0.045. Since the p-value is less than 0.05, this suggests that age affects entrepreneurs' understanding of tax compliance requirements. Different age groups may have varying levels of exposure to tax education or experience with the tax system, leading to differences in awareness. The results revealed that there is a significant difference in awareness based on age and educational attainment with an F-value of 2.852 and 6.943 and p-value of 0.045 and 0.014 respectively. This indicates that different age groups and educational attainment greatly influence their compliance in tax. As a result, the null hypothesis states that there is no significant difference between tax compliance and demographic profile based on age and educational attainment, is rejected. However, there is no significant difference between the level of awareness and demographic profile of entrepreneurs based on years in business with an F-value of 1.855 and p-value of 0.162. This indicates that years in business do not significantly impact their tax compliance. As a result, the null hypothesis is not rejected.

The findings align with the Knowledge Gap Theory by highlighting the significant difference of the demographic profile of entrepreneurs and their level of awareness on income taxation in terms of filing tax returns. According to this theory, individuals with varying levels of knowledge and economic resources interpret information differently. This is evident in how different age groups experience tax education and interact with the tax system, leading to varying levels of awareness. Moreover, the data also indicate that the duration of business operation does not significantly impact understanding of the entrepreneurs of their tax rights and responsibilities. The researchers treated the theory as a resource that is unevenly distributed across society, suggesting that entrepreneurs with higher education levels tend to be more informed about tax laws and regulations. In contrast, those with lower educational attainment may lack crucial knowledge about compliance.



CONCLUSION

The majority of entrepreneurs are relatively young and moderately experienced, with an educational background that provides a solid foundation in business operations. This suggests that these characteristics are likely to influence their understanding of income taxation. The level of awareness of income taxation, which includes both tax rights and responsibilities as well as tax compliance, suggests that entrepreneurs are generally well-informed. They demonstrate a thorough understanding of their tax responsibilities, such as paying taxes and fees on time, following applicable laws, and keeping accurate records. Most entrepreneurs understand their obligations, but there is still a need to educate them on their tax rights. Furthermore, the entrepreneurs demonstrate a high level of awareness regarding compliance aspects, including consistent payment. This suggests filing taxes once a year and keeping books of account for five years. However, their knowledge of specific compliance issues, such as tax rate changes and filing procedures, has the lowest mean score. This suggests that, while many entrepreneurs understand the basics of compliance, more in-depth training on these more specific aspects could be beneficial. The analysis also shows a significant difference in awareness of income taxation based on age and educational background, implying that these factors influence exposure to tax education or the tax code. According to the respondents' demographics, the majority of entrepreneurs are young, and entrepreneurs of different ages and educational backgrounds may have varying levels of access to tax-related information. However, the analysis reveals no significant difference in awareness based on years in business. This shows that regardless of how long entrepreneurs have been in business, their level of tax awareness remains consistent. As a result, age and educational background have a greater impact on tax awareness, responsibilities, and compliance. In contrast, years of business experience do not appear to influence their understanding of taxation, indicating a consistent grasp of tax issues across different stages of business operation.

Based on the conclusion arrived in the study, the following were recommended:

To enhance the compliance of entrepreneurs, the government agency like Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) may offer different seminars and activities regarding the recent changes of tax rates, penalty and tax filing procedure. In addition, BIR may create a strategy to easily gives update to entrepreneurs and other taxpayers.

To increase the awareness of entrepreneurs from micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) may establish their own tax tracking record to ensure they pay their tax obligations and help them monitor their receipts and expenses.

Researchers on MSMEs may explore the factors that may influence the understanding of entrepreneurs about taxes and their adherence to tax regulations by conducting in-depth investigations into aspects beyond demographic characteristics like age, years in business and education levels. By examining these specific areas, researchers could offer suggestions for improving tax literacy and compliance within the entrepreneurial community



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Future research could delve into the evolution of tax compliance programs, their effectiveness in shaping taxpayer behavior, and the impact of policy changes on compliance rates. Additionally, exploring the efficacy of tax education initiatives in enhancing entrepreneurial understanding of tax laws and regulations would be a valuable area of study.

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