

Instagram Use and Body Image Dissatisfaction

UC San Diego
Herbert Wertheim
School of Public Health on

Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Human Longevity Science

Amanda Baumgartner, Niloufar Shirzadi, Sana Sazegar | UC San Diego | La Jolla

Background

- 97% of college students in the U.S. currently possess a social media account.
- There was a 67% increase in daily use of social media in college students from 2005 to 2021.
- Negative impacts of heavy social media use: mental health, self-esteem, body satisfaction, and risk developing eating disorders.

Objective

To determine if **increased screen time** on Instagram is associated with **greater body dissatisfaction**.

Methods

Anonymous Online Cross-Sectional Survey

o Distributed via email and student groups

Participant eligibility

o Current enrollment at UC San Diego

Exposure and Outcome Questions

- Exposure = amount of screen time
- Outcome = 8 scaled questions targeting body dissatisfaction behavior
- o Total Body Dissatisfaction Score (8 to 40)

SPSS Data Analysis

 Pearson Correlation Coefficient used to measure strength of relationship between screen time and body dissatisfaction

Results

Total of **60 participants** (n=60)

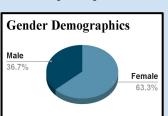
Mean Body Image Dissatisfaction Score \pm SD = **20.63** \pm **7.06** Pearson Correlation Coefficient: $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{0.131}$

• A **positive correlation** between more screen time on Instagram and body image dissatisfaction score

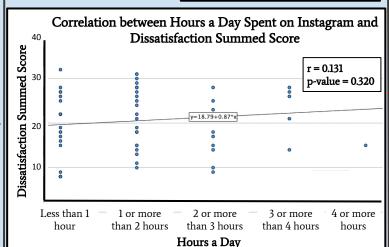
P-Value = **0.320**

 A P-Value of 0.320, which is greater than 0.05, indicates no statistical significance.

70.0% of participants were within the age range of 21-24 (n=42).







Conclusion

Given the P-value (0.320) was greater than 0.05, there was **NO** statistical significance found in our study.



Policy Implication and Next Steps

Suggestions for further directions and studies:

- Targeting participants who identify as men in all age groups
- Targeting younger audiences
- Providing resources to promote self image and eliminate negative stigmas

Public Health Implications:

 Increasing adverse effects on the mental health and well being of users at all age groups



Meet the Team







Sana Sazegar