

# STANDARDIZED REPORTING OF STATISTICAL RESULTS IN APA FORMAT: ENHANCING CLARITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND REPRODUCIBILITY IN RESEARCH

## ABSTRACT

This paper discusses the essential components and guidelines for reporting statistical results in research using the American Psychological Association (APA) format. The accurate presentation of statistical results is critical for ensuring clarity, transparency, and reproducibility in scientific studies. The APA manual provides a standardized structure for reporting statistical findings, which allows researchers to effectively communicate their results and enables replication by other researchers. Key aspects of statistical reporting in APA format include descriptive statistics, hypothesis testing, correlation analysis, regression results, and the use of tables and figures. Descriptive statistics, such as means, standard deviations, and skewness, are foundational for summarizing data before more complex analyses are performed. Hypothesis testing involves reporting test statistics, p-values, and effect sizes, with emphasis on both statistical significance and practical relevance. The paper also explores the importance of regression results in understanding relationships between variables, highlighting the need for clear presentation of coefficients, R-squared values, and effect sizes. Moreover, it emphasizes the use of tables and figures to visualize trends and relationships, which aids in the comprehension of complex data. The discussion extends to advanced analyses, including correlation and analysis of variance (ANOVA) with its variations like ANCOVA. The integration of effect size reporting in all statistical analyses is recommended to provide a more comprehensive understanding of research findings. By adhering to APA guidelines, researchers can enhance the reproducibility and integrity of their findings, ultimately advancing scientific knowledge.

**Keywords:** *APA format, statistical results, hypothesis testing, regression analysis, effect size.*

**JEL classification:** *C0, C1, C8, D0,*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Research paper writing is a fundamental component of academic scholarship, allowing scholars to contribute to existing literature, validate theoretical frameworks, and present empirical findings systematically (Creswell, 2018). The importance of research papers extends across disciplines, serving as a medium for knowledge dissemination, policy formulation, and industry applications. The structure of research papers follows a standardized format, often guided by the American Psychological Association (APA) style, ensuring clarity, coherence, and academic integrity. The research process begins with identifying a research problem, followed by an extensive literature review to establish theoretical foundations and research gaps (Boote & Beile, 2005). The research problem should be specific, relevant, and aligned with scholarly debates, forming the basis for the study's objectives and hypotheses (Yin, 2018).

A well-structured research paper consists of several key components, including an introduction, literature review, methodology, results, discussion, and conclusion (Swales & Feak, 2004). The introduction serves as the foundation, providing a background of the study, defining key terms, and justifying the research's significance (Creswell, 2018). The literature review synthesizes previous studies, highlighting theoretical models and empirical findings that inform the current research (Cooper, 2015). The methodology outlines the research design, data collection techniques, and analytical strategies, ensuring replicability and validity (Saunders 2009). Quantitative research typically involves statistical analysis, while qualitative research focuses on thematic interpretations (Bryman, 2016). Mixed-methods research integrates both approaches to provide a holistic understanding of the phenomenon under investigation (Tashakkori& Teddlie, 2010).

Ethical considerations play a crucial role in research writing, requiring adherence to ethical guidelines such as informed consent, confidentiality, and the avoidance of plagiarism (Resnik, 2020). Academic integrity is maintained through proper citation and referencing of sources, following APA guidelines (American Psychological Association, 2020). Additionally, research papers undergo peer review to ensure credibility, validity, and scholarly contribution (Zeller & Farmer, 1999). The discussion section interprets findings in relation to existing literature, addressing theoretical and practical implications (Maxwell, 2013). Finally, the conclusion summarizes key insights, acknowledges study limitations, and suggests directions for future research (Punch, 2014).

Given the increasing complexity of academic research, technological advancements such as artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted writing tools and reference management software have facilitated the research process (Daniel& Onwuegbuzie, 2007). Despite these advancements, critical thinking and methodological rigor remain essential in producing high-quality research (Guba & Lincoln, 1994). As research methodologies evolve, interdisciplinary collaborations and open-access publishing are transforming the landscape of academic writing (Suber, 2012). Understanding the principles of research paper writing is essential for researchers, educators, and students aiming to contribute meaningfully to their respective fields.

## **II. WHY APA FORMAT IS ESSENTIAL IN ACADEMIC WRITING**

The American Psychological Association (APA) format plays a crucial role in academic writing, particularly in the social sciences, including fields such as psychology, education, and business (American Psychological Association [APA], 2020). The significance of APA format can be understood through its structured guidelines that facilitate clarity, uniformity, and academic credibility in scholarly research. This format ensures consistent presentation of information, which aids in the reader's comprehension and helps to maintain academic integrity. Below is an elaborate discussion on why APA style is essential, with supporting citations.

### **1. Ensuring Academic Credibility and Integrity**

One of the primary reasons for adopting the APA style is to ensure academic credibility and integrity. In scholarly writing, accurate citation of sources is fundamental to avoiding plagiarism, which can result in significant academic consequences. The APA citation style clearly delineates the rules for referencing books, journal articles, websites, and other sources, which helps authors uphold intellectual honesty. By attributing proper credit to the

original authors, researchers demonstrate respect for others' work and provide transparency regarding their sources of information. According to Lipson (2018), "a consistent citation style protects the scholarly community by reducing misrepresentation of sources."

## **2. Promoting Uniformity and Clarity in Research**

APA style provides a standardized framework for writing academic papers, which is especially important in disciplines where multiple authors might be working on similar topics. The standardized format of headings, subheadings, references, and citations allows readers to quickly navigate through research papers (American Psychological Association [APA], 2020). The APA format mandates the use of clear, concise, and unbiased language, helping writers to present their ideas without ambiguity or confusion (Creswell, 2017). This clarity enhances the overall readability of a paper, which is crucial for both scholars and non-specialist audiences who may read the work.

## **3. Facilitating Access to References and Research Resources**

The APA reference list is one of the most comprehensive and systematically structured components of the APA format. It allows readers to easily trace the sources used in the paper by providing full bibliographic details (Creswell, 2017). The author-date citation system in APA, where citations are listed in-text with the author's surname and year of publication, simplifies the process of locating and verifying sources. This style also places emphasis on recent research, making it particularly suitable for fast-evolving disciplines like psychology and business (APA, 2020). Researchers can therefore more easily engage with the current literature and assess the credibility and relevance of the sources cited.

## **4. Enhancing the Professionalism of Scholarly Work**

The use of APA style significantly enhances the professionalism of research papers. By following a well-established structure, scholars adhere to a universal standard, which helps create consistency across different journals, conferences, and academic institutions. This consistency promotes the standardization of academic communication, ensuring that the research is presented in a manner that is easy for others to read, interpret, and critique (Lipson, 2018). This professional presentation is critical in helping researchers maintain academic standards in their field.

## **5. APA and Its Focus on Objectivity and Precision**

In contrast to more flexible writing styles, the APA format emphasizes objectivity and precision in research. Its guidelines on language use discourage biased or subjective language, which may distort the objectivity of academic work (American Psychological Association [APA], 2020). Furthermore, APA's focus on clear citations enables researchers to demonstrate the rigor of their work. As Wang & Leath (2023) argue, "APA helps researchers construct arguments that are both valid and reliable by enforcing strict standards for data presentation and citation."

## **6. Encouraging Academic Writing Across Disciplines**

APA is not limited to one field but is used in several interdisciplinary areas such as education, business, and social work, where research often intersects with the human sciences (Hammer et al.). The format is thus essential in promoting cross-disciplinary communication. By using

APA style, scholars contribute to the interdisciplinary exchange of knowledge, enhancing research collaboration across a variety of fields. Additionally, the APA style's emphasis on empirical research and quantitative analysis makes it invaluable for disciplines such as psychology, sociology, and business that prioritize evidence-based inquiry (Creswell, 2017).

## **7. Structuring Research in a Methodical Manner**

The APA style emphasizes logical and methodical organization, which is essential for presenting complex ideas in a coherent manner. This organization aids in breaking down research into digestible sections, such as the introduction, literature review, methodology, results, and discussion (Hammer et al.). Each section is clearly labelled with APA's standardized headings, which ensures that readers can easily find and interpret specific parts of the research. APA's rigorous approach to formatting, including guidelines for margins, font size, line spacing, and headings, ensures that all papers conform to a unified visual style that is professional and reader-friendly (American Psychological Association [APA], 2020).

## **8. Encouraging Ethical Practices in Research**

Finally, APA's attention to ethical writing practices contributes to the responsible conduct of research. By establishing clear guidelines for citation, author attribution, and handling sensitive topics, APA ensures that researchers maintain a high standard of ethical integrity (APA, 2020). This is particularly important when discussing issues related to human subjects or sensitive data, as it provides a systematic way to ensure compliance with research ethics and guidelines (Wang & Leath, 2023).

The APA citation style is essential for ensuring academic credibility, clarity, and uniformity in scholarly writing. By enforcing consistent formatting, clear citation practices, and a methodical presentation of research, APA style enhances the overall quality and integrity of academic papers. The significance of APA in promoting ethical research practices and interdisciplinary communication makes it indispensable across social sciences, business, and psychology. As Creswell (2017) aptly states, "The use of APA style fosters the integrity and professionalism needed for successful scholarly communication." Consequently, researchers and students must understand and adopt APA style to maximize the impact and validity of their academic contributions.

## **Comparison of major Citation Styles: APA, Chicago, Vancouver, and MLA**

Academic writing requires adherence to specific citation styles, ensuring proper acknowledgment of sources, maintaining scholarly integrity, and facilitating ease of reference (Hammer et al.). Different disciplines prefer different citation styles, with the American Psychological Association (APA), Chicago, Vancouver, and Modern Language Association (MLA) being among the most commonly used. These styles differ in formatting, in-text citation methods, reference structuring, and preferred applications (Lipson, 2018). This paper compares these citation styles comprehensively.

### **1. American Psychological Association (APA) Style**

The APA format, currently in its 7th edition, is primarily used in the social sciences, psychology, education, and business research (American Psychological Association [APA], 2020). It follows an author-date citation system, where in-text citations include the author's last name and year of publication in parentheses.

## **Key Features of APA Style:**

In-Text Citations: (Creswell, 2017) or (Creswell, 2017, p. 24) for direct quotes.

Reference List: Alphabetically arranged with a hanging indent format.

Title Page: Includes title, author's name, institutional affiliation, course, instructor's name, and date.

Page Numbers and Headings: Uses a running head (only for professional papers) and bold headings in a structured format (Levels 1-5).

Digital Object Identifiers (DOI): APA strongly encourages including DOIs in references for scholarly sources.

### **Example of an APA Citation:**

Creswell(2017). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approach* (5th ed.). Sage.

## **2. Chicago Style (Author-Date & Notes-Bibliography)**

Chicago style, maintained by the University of Chicago Press (2017), is widely used in history, philosophy, and the humanities (Turabian, 2018). It offers two citation systems:

1. Author-Date System (Used in sciences and social sciences).
2. Notes and Bibliography System (Common in history and the humanities).

Key Features of Chicago Style:

In-Text Citations (Author-Date System): (Zeller& Farmer, 1999).

Footnotes (Notes-Bibliography System): Uses superscript numbers referring to footnotes/endnotes.

Bibliography: Lists sources alphabetically, unlike the APA reference list.

Title Page: Similar to APA but does not require an abstract.

Page Numbers: Placed at the top of each page, centered.

Example of a Chicago (Notes-Bibliography) Citation:

John Creswell, *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches* (Los Angeles: Sage, 2017), 24.

### **Example of a Chicago (Author-Date) Citation:**

Creswell, 2017. *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. Los Angeles: Sage.

## **3. Vancouver Style (Numbered References)**

The Vancouver citation style, used predominantly in medical, health sciences, and biological sciences, is a numeric referencing system developed by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (Patrias & Wendling, 2022).

Key Features of Vancouver Style:

In-Text Citations: Uses numbers in square brackets or superscripts (e.g., Smith [1] or Smith<sup>1</sup>).

Reference List: Appears in numerical order, not alphabetical.

Title Page: Similar to APA but with no running head.

Abbreviated Journal Titles: Vancouver requires journal abbreviations, unlike APA or MLA.

No DOI Requirement: DOIs are optional.

Example of a Vancouver Citation:

Creswell JW. *Research design: qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches*. 5th ed. Los Angeles: Sage; 2017.

#### 4. Modern Language Association (MLA) Style

MLA is widely used in literature, arts, and humanities, particularly for language and literary studies (Claire, 2023). Unlike APA, MLA does not use author-date citations but employs a parenthetical citation style.

Key Features of MLA Style:

In-Text Citations: (Smith 24) – only the last name and page number are used.

Works Cited Page: MLA uses a “Works Cited” section instead of a reference list.

Title Page: No separate title page is required (unless specified by the instructor).

Page Numbers: Writer’s last name and page number appear in the header.

No DOI Requirement: Unlike APA, MLA does not require DOIs.

Example of an MLA Citation:

Creswell, John W. *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. 5th ed., Sage, 2017.

**Table 1-COMPARISON TABLE: APA VS. CHICAGO VS. VANCOUVER VS. MLA**

| Feature             | APA (7th ed.)                         | Chicago (Author-Date & Notes-Bibliography)                               | Vancouver   | MLA (9th ed.)                              |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Primary Use         | Social sciences, psychology, business | Humanities, history, philosophy (Author, Year) or Footnotes <sup>1</sup> | Medical & health sciences [Number] or Superscript <sup>1</sup> “References” | Literature, arts, humanities (Author Page) |
| In-Text Citation    | (Author, Year)                        | Footnotes <sup>1</sup>   | [Number] or Superscript <sup>1</sup> “References”                           | (Author Page)                              |
| Reference List      | “References”                          | “Bibliography”   | (numbered)  | “Works Cited”                              |
| Order of References | Alphabetical                          | Alphabetical   | Numerical   | Alphabetical                               |
| Page Numbers        | Top-right corner                      | Top-center   | No specific rule  | Top-right with author name                 |
| DOI Requirement     | Yes                                   | Optional   | Optional  | No   |
| Footnotes/Endnotes  | Rarely used                           | Common in Notes-   | No  | No   |

### III. Literature Review

The proper reporting of statistical results is vital for the clarity and reproducibility of scientific findings, particularly in academic research across social sciences and related fields. One widely accepted framework for reporting statistical results is the American Psychological Association (APA) format, which provides standardized guidelines to ensure consistency, transparency, and precision in presenting research findings. This literature review explores the importance of these guidelines in the context of hypothesis testing, descriptive and inferential statistics, and the use of tables and figures, to highlight how following APA style contributes to more effective reporting of statistical outcomes.

#### Importance of APA Reporting Guidelines

The APA reporting format is designed to foster clarity and transparency in research by establishing specific standards for how results should be communicated. According to the American Psychological Association (APA, 2020), adherence to these guidelines ensures that readers can fully understand and evaluate the study's findings, including the tests employed and the significance of results. Hammer et al., emphasizes that the standardized structure of APA format allows for an organized presentation of data, making it easier for readers to follow the logic of the statistical analysis. These guidelines are especially critical in research involving complex statistical methods, where clarity in reporting the results is paramount to the scientific process.

A study by Wasserstein & Lazar (2016) supports the necessity of clear reporting, highlighting that well-documented results make it easier for other researchers to replicate and validate findings, thereby enhancing the credibility of the research. Furthermore, Cohen (1988) argues that while many researchers focus on p-values and statistical significance, the APA format encourages a more nuanced approach, integrating effect sizes and confidence intervals, which provide a more complete understanding of the practical significance of findings.

#### Descriptive Statistics and Inferential Analysis

Descriptive statistics, such as means, standard deviations, and medians, offer a basic overview of the data, which forms the foundation for more complex analyses. Brewer et al., (2006) asserts that descriptive statistics are essential for summarizing large datasets in a way that is accessible to readers. They help identify key trends and variability within the dataset, which can then inform inferential analyses. Reporting measures of central tendency and dispersion, as recommended various authors, aids researchers in providing context to the inferential results that follow.

Inferential statistics, on the other hand, are used to draw conclusions about a population based on a sample. Cohen (1994) emphasizes the importance of reporting p-values, test statistics, and effect sizes, as they enable researchers to make informed inferences about the statistical significance and practical relevance of the study's findings. APA guidelines stress that the use of p-values alone is not sufficient to understand the significance of results, which is why effect sizes and confidence intervals are encouraged. Gelman and Loken (2014) further note that effect sizes offer more meaningful insights into the strength of the relationship between

variables, which is often a more practical and valuable interpretation of the data than simply reporting whether or not the results are "statistically significant."

Moreover, Harlow (2014) discusses the importance of transparency in reporting statistical analyses, including any potential limitations in the data or methodology, to ensure that conclusions drawn from the study are valid and replicable. This aligns with the APA's emphasis on full disclosure of all statistical measures, including descriptive statistics and inferential statistics, to allow for a comprehensive understanding of the results.

### **Reporting Hypothesis Testing**

Effective hypothesis testing is a critical component of reporting statistical results in APA format. According to APA (2020) guidelines, researchers must clearly state the hypothesis being tested, identify the type of statistical test used, and report the associated test statistic (e.g., t-value, F-statistic), degrees of freedom (df), and p-value. This enables the reader to assess the significance of the hypothesis test and evaluate whether the null hypothesis can be rejected.

In support of this practice, Wasserstein & Lazar (2016) argue that clear and transparent reporting of hypothesis testing ensures that researchers do not overstate or misinterpret their findings. For instance, Cohen (1994) explains that presenting both the p-value and effect size is necessary because p-values alone can be misleading, particularly when they are interpreted without consideration of the effect's practical relevance. This dual reporting approach allows for a more balanced and insightful interpretation of statistical results.

Furthermore, Cohen (1988) emphasizes the importance of considering the magnitude of effects, not just the significance level, when interpreting hypothesis testing results. Researchers are encouraged to report both the statistical significance (p-value) and the practical significance (effect size), as the latter provides valuable insight into the importance of the finding in real-world terms.

### **The Role of Tables and Figures in Reporting**

The effective use of tables and figures plays an important role in enhancing the presentation of statistical results. APA (2020) guidelines highlight that tables should be numbered sequentially and labeled with clear, descriptive headings. Tables allow researchers to present detailed numerical information in a format that is easy to interpret. For example, they can display means, standard deviations, correlation coefficients, and regression results, enabling the reader to see the relationships between variables more clearly.

Field (2013) argues that tables provide an organized way to present complex statistical results, making it easier for readers to compare and contrast different data points. In contrast, figures, such as graphs and charts, are useful for visualizing trends and patterns in the data. Cohen (1994) asserts that figures are particularly helpful when illustrating relationships between variables that may be difficult to discern from raw numerical data alone. Brewer et al., (2001) further emphasizes that figures should not merely replicate the results presented in tables, but should serve to highlight key patterns and insights that complement the textual description.

Moreover, Wasserstein, R. L., & Lazar, N. A. (2016) emphasize the importance of clear, descriptive captions for both tables and figures. These captions help ensure that the reader can



quickly understand what each visual element represents and how it relates to the overall research question. By integrating well-designed tables and figures into their reports, researchers can improve the accessibility of their findings and make their research more comprehensible.

The above literature supports the critical role that APA format plays in enhancing the clarity, transparency, and reproducibility of statistical reporting in research. By adhering to standardized guidelines for reporting hypothesis testing, descriptive statistics, inferential analysis, and the use of tables and figures, researchers can ensure that their findings are both rigorous and accessible. The inclusion of effect sizes and confidence intervals, alongside p-values, allows for a more comprehensive interpretation of statistical results, providing insight not only into the significance of findings but also into their practical relevance.

By following APA guidelines for statistical reporting, this research aims to contribute to the ongoing discourse on improving scientific communication and ensuring that statistical findings are presented in a manner that is both precise and meaningful. This approach is particularly valuable in an era of increasing scrutiny and demands for reproducibility in research, as it helps researchers communicate their findings with the clarity and rigor necessary for advancing knowledge in their respective fields.

#### **IV. REPORTING RESULTS IN APA FORMAT: GUIDELINES FOR CLARITY AND PRECISION**

Reporting results in research is a fundamental aspect of scholarly writing, as it allows researchers to communicate their findings to the broader academic community in a clear and systematic manner. The American Psychological Association (APA) format, widely used in the social sciences, provides specific guidelines for presenting statistical results to ensure that they are accurately interpreted by readers. The APA format emphasizes clarity, consistency, and precision in reporting results, especially when it comes to hypothesis testing, descriptive statistics, inferential analyses, and effect sizes (American Psychological Association [APA], 2020). In particular, the way researchers report hypothesis testing is essential for ensuring the transparency of the research process. Clear presentation of statistical results allows for valid conclusions to be drawn, whether those results support or reject the initial hypotheses. By adhering to the APA style, researchers ensure that their findings are accessible, reproducible, and interpretable, providing valuable contributions to the field (Field, 2013).

The importance of using APA format for reporting results lies in its structured approach, which allows readers to easily follow the logic of the research process and understand how conclusions are derived from the data. This is particularly vital in hypothesis-driven research, where the emphasis is on testing predictions or examining relationships between variables (Field, 2013). Reporting results in a standardized format also helps in comparing and contrasting findings across studies, making it easier to synthesize research and identify patterns or inconsistencies in the literature (Cohen, 1988). Thus, a precise and standardized approach to reporting results not only enhances the quality and rigor of the research but also supports the advancement of knowledge within the academic community (Tabachnick & Fidell, 2013). By providing clear and concise reporting of statistical outcomes, including p-values, test statistics, effect sizes, and confidence intervals, researchers adhere to the guidelines set forth by the APA, ensuring that the results are presented in a way that is both accurate and meaningful to the readers (APA, 2020; Tabachnick & Fidell, 2013). Below is an

elaboration on how results should be reported in APA format, with a particular focus on hypothesis testing and statistical outcomes, supported by citations.

### **General Guidelines for Reporting Results in APA Format**

In academic research, the clear and systematic reporting of results is essential to allow readers to evaluate the accuracy and validity of a study's findings. The APA style, widely used in the social sciences, provides structured guidelines for presenting results that are both consistent and transparent, helping to maintain scientific rigor and integrity (Hammer et al.,). Following these guidelines is important for ensuring that the results are accessible and interpretable, fostering reproducibility and allowing for meaningful comparisons across studies.

### **Descriptive Statistics**

Descriptive statistics serve as the foundational summary of the data, providing essential information about the central tendencies, variability, and distribution of variables. According to Field (2013), descriptive statistics summarize the characteristics of a dataset, offering insight into its overall structure before more complex inferential analyses are conducted. These statistics typically include measures of central tendency (such as the mean, median, and mode), which represent the "centre" of the data distribution, and measures of variability (such as the standard deviation, variance, and range), which highlight the spread or dispersion of the data points. Researchers also report measures of distribution, such as skewness and kurtosis, which describe the asymmetry and the "tailedness" of the data distribution (Tabachnick & Fidell, 2013).

**Table 2-A TABLE REPORTING DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS**

| Variable     | Mean   | Median | Standard Deviation | Skewness | Kurtosis |
|--------------|--------|--------|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Age          | 30.5   | 30     | 5.2                | 0.3      | -0.2     |
| Income       | 45,000 | 43,500 | 8,000              | 0.5      | -0.1     |
| Satisfaction | 4.2    | 4      | 0.8                | 0.1      | -0.3     |

Source:

This table offers an overview of the distribution of age, income, and satisfaction scores in a hypothetical study. The mean provides the central location of the data, the standard deviation gives an idea of variability, and skewness and kurtosis indicate how the data are distributed.

### **Hypothesis Testing in APA Format**

In APA format, reporting the results of hypothesis testing goes beyond simply stating the significance of the results; it also involves a detailed and transparent presentation of the statistical findings. This includes the test statistic, degrees of freedom, p-value, and effect size, which collectively offer a complete understanding of the results and their implications.

#### **1. Stating the Hypothesis**

The first step in reporting hypothesis testing is clearly stating the hypothesis being tested. This includes specifying whether the test is one-tailed or two-tailed. A one-tailed test tests for the possibility of an effect in one direction, while a two-tailed test checks for the possibility

of an effect in either direction (Cohen, 1994). Stating the directionality of the hypothesis is critical for interpreting the p-value and determining statistical significance.

Citation Example: According to Field (2013), specifying the directionality of the hypothesis allows the researcher to focus the analysis on one direction of potential change, which can be especially useful in theory-driven studies.

## 2. Test Statistic and Degrees of Freedom

The next component involves reporting the test statistic, such as the t-value, chi-square, or F-statistic, depending on the test being conducted. This statistic reflects the magnitude of the difference or relationship under investigation. Accompanying the test statistic, the degrees of freedom (df) are also reported, as they are essential for interpreting the significance of the test (Field, 2013).

Citation Example: According to Howell (2013), including degrees of freedom is necessary because they account for the sample size and the number of parameters being estimated, influencing the critical value needed to reject the null hypothesis.

## 3. P-Value

The p-value is central to hypothesis testing as it provides the probability of obtaining the observed results, or more extreme results, under the assumption that the null hypothesis is true. In APA reporting, it is essential to report the exact p-value rather than merely stating whether the result is statistically significant or not (APA, 2020).

The p-value serves as a critical indicator of whether the findings are due to chance. If the p-value is less than the threshold of significance (usually 0.05), researchers can reject the null hypothesis and conclude that there is sufficient evidence to support the alternative hypothesis.

Citation Example: According to Wasserstein and Lazar (2016), reporting the exact p-value is important for transparency and for the reader to understand the strength of the evidence against the null hypothesis.

## 4. Effect Size

Effect size is an additional measure that provides more context to the results beyond statistical significance. While the p-value indicates whether an effect exists, the effect size quantifies the magnitude of the effect, allowing the researcher to assess its practical significance. Common measures of effect size include Cohen's  $d$  for differences between two means, or  $\eta^2$  for the proportion of variance explained by a factor in analysis of variance (Cohen, 1988).

Citation Example: As noted by Fritz, Morris, and Richler (2012), effect sizes offer valuable information about the strength of the observed relationships, helping researchers and readers understand whether the findings have meaningful implications in real-world settings.

## 5. Interpretation and Conclusion

After reporting the test statistic, degrees of freedom, p-value, and effect size, the final step is the interpretation of the results. This involves determining whether the p-value falls below the significance threshold (usually  $p < .05$ ). If the p-value is smaller than this threshold, the null

hypothesis is rejected, indicating that the observed effect is statistically significant (Cohen, 1994).

In contrast, if the p-value is larger than 0.05, the null hypothesis is not rejected, suggesting that the observed effect may be due to random chance rather than a true underlying relationship (Nickerson, 2000).

Citation Example: According to Lakens (2013), while statistical significance is important, researchers should not rely solely on p-values but also consider effect sizes to gauge the practical significance of their results.

Reporting the results of a **t-test** in APA format involves a clear and concise presentation of the test statistic, degrees of freedom, p-value, effect size, and an interpretation of the results. Below is a step-by-step explanation of how to report the results of a t-test, along with an example and citations.

Null Hypothesis ( $H_0$ ): There is no significant difference in test scores between male and female students.

Alternative Hypothesis ( $H_1$ ): There is a significant difference in test scores between male and female students.

After stating the hypothesis, report the t-test statistic (t-value), along with the degrees of freedom (df). This statistic represents the difference between the group means relative to the variability within the groups.

Example:  $t(98) = 2.45, p < .05$ .

The degrees of freedom (df) can be calculated based on the number of participants in each group. In a two-sample independent t-test, the formula for df is:

$$df = n_1 + n_2 - 2$$

where  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are the sample sizes for each group. According to Field (2013), reporting degrees of freedom is necessary for interpreting the test statistic and understanding the impact of sample size on statistical power.

#### Report Effect Size

Effect size quantifies the magnitude of the observed difference and provides context for interpreting the significance. A commonly reported effect size for a t-test is Cohen's d, which measures the standardized difference between two means. Cohen (1988) suggests interpreting effect sizes as small ( $d = 0.2$ ), medium ( $d = 0.5$ ), and large ( $d = 0.8$ ). Cohen's  $d = 0.50$ , indicating a medium effect size. According to Lakens (2013), reporting effect sizes provides a clearer understanding of the practical significance of the results, which is often more informative than simply reporting the p-value.

After reporting the test statistic, degrees of freedom, p-value, and effect size, it's crucial to provide an interpretation. This involves determining whether the p-value is below the threshold for statistical significance (typically  $p < .05$ ) and interpreting the practical significance of the findings based on the effect size.

Example: The results of the independent samples t-test indicated a statistically significant difference in test scores between male and female students,  $t(98) = 2.45$ ,  $p = .016$ . The effect size was moderate (Cohen's  $d = 0.50$ ), suggesting that the difference in test scores is both statistically and practically significant. According to Cohen (1994), reporting the effect size is essential for understanding the magnitude of an effect, which provides important context beyond mere statistical significance.

### Reporting Results of an Independent Samples T-Test

“A two-sample independent t-test was conducted to compare the test scores of male and female students. The results indicated a significant difference in test scores between male and female students,  $t(98) = 2.45$ ,  $p = .016$ . The effect size (Cohen's  $d$ ) was 0.50, suggesting a moderate difference between the two groups. Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that there is a statistically significant difference in the test scores between male and female students.”

Reporting the results of Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) in APA format follows similar guidelines to other statistical tests but requires specific attention to detail given the complexity of the test and its different forms. ANOVA is used to compare the means of three or more groups to determine whether there are any statistically significant differences among them. There are several forms of ANOVA, including one-way, two-way, repeated measures, and multivariate ANOVA, each suited to different types of experimental designs and data structures.

### General Guidelines for Reporting ANOVA Results

In APA format, the results of ANOVA should include:

The type of ANOVA used: Whether it is a one-way, two-way, repeated measures, or any other form of ANOVA.

The F-statistic, which includes the degrees of freedom (df) for both the numerator (between-group) and denominator (within-group or error).

The p-value to determine whether the results are statistically significant.

Effect size: Such as partial  $\eta^2$  (eta squared) or Cohen's  $f$  to report the magnitude of the differences between groups.

Post-hoc tests: If the ANOVA is significant, post-hoc tests (e.g., Tukey's HSD) are often performed to determine where the differences lie. The results of these tests should be reported if applicable.

Interpretation of the findings: Explaining the practical significance of the results.

### Reporting for Different Forms of ANOVA

#### 1. One-Way ANOVA

A one-way ANOVA is used when there is one independent variable (factor) with more than two levels (groups) to compare the means across these groups. In reporting the results, you should include the F-statistic, degrees of freedom for between-group and within-group variances, the p-value, and the effect size.

Example: A one-way ANOVA was conducted to examine the effect of three types of diet on weight loss. The results indicated a significant effect of diet on weight loss,  $F(2, 57) = 5.42$ ,  $p = .007$ , partial  $\eta^2 = .16$ , indicating a moderate effect size.

Citation: According to Cohen (1988), effect sizes like partial  $\eta^2$  provide useful information on the magnitude of the effect, not just its statistical significance.

## 2. Two-Way ANOVA

A two-way ANOVA is used when there are two independent variables (factors) and allows for the investigation of both the individual effects of each factor and their interaction effect. Reporting for this involves stating the main effects and the interaction effect between the factors.

Example: A two-way ANOVA was performed to assess the effect of gender (male, female) and exercise type (aerobic, strength training) on weight loss. There was a significant main effect of exercise type,  $F(1, 56) = 7.33$ ,  $p = .009$ , and a significant interaction between gender and exercise type,  $F(1, 56) = 4.67$ ,  $p = .035$ . The effect size for the main effect of exercise type was partial  $\eta^2 = .12$ , and for the interaction, it was partial  $\eta^2 = .08$ .

Citation: Field (2013) emphasizes that two-way ANOVA results should include clear reporting of main effects, interactions, and effect sizes to fully capture the influence of each factor.

## 3. Repeated Measures ANOVA

A repeated measures ANOVA is used when the same participants are used for each treatment (i.e., multiple measurements taken from the same subjects). In this case, you must report within-subjects effects, the F-statistic, degrees of freedom for between-subjects and within-subjects variance, the p-value, and effect size.

Example: A repeated measures ANOVA was conducted to examine the effect of three different teaching methods on student performance across three tests. There was a significant effect of teaching method on test scores,  $F(2, 58) = 8.23$ ,  $p = .001$ , partial  $\eta^2 = .22$ .

Citation: According to McCullagh and Nelder (1989), it is essential to report the interaction effects and include a discussion of the correction for sphericity (e.g., using the Greenhouse-Geisser correction) when necessary.

## 4. Multivariate Analysis of Variance (MANOVA)

MANOVA is used when there are multiple dependent variables and aims to assess whether the independent variable(s) have a statistically significant effect on the combination of dependent variables. Reporting for MANOVA includes the Wilks' Lambda statistic and the corresponding F-statistic.

Example: A MANOVA was conducted to assess the effect of exercise type (aerobic, strength training) on both weight loss and cholesterol levels. There was a significant effect of exercise type on the combined dependent variables, Wilks'  $\Lambda = 0.74$ ,  $F(2, 56) = 6.52$ ,  $p = .002$ . Post-hoc analyses revealed that aerobic exercise led to greater weight loss compared to strength training ( $p = .04$ ).

Citation: Tabachnick and Fidell (2013) recommend reporting Wilks' Lambda along with the F-statistic and p-value, especially when analyzing multiple dependent variables.

#### Example of Reporting ANOVA Results in APA Format

##### Example 1: One-Way ANOVA

“A one-way ANOVA was conducted to compare the effect of three diet plans (Low-carb, Mediterranean, and Vegan) on weight loss over a 6-month period. The results indicated a significant difference in weight loss across the diet plans,  $F(2, 57) = 5.12$ ,  $p = .009$ , partial  $\eta^2 = .15$ , indicating a moderate effect. Post-hoc comparisons using Tukey's HSD revealed that the Low-carb diet led to significantly greater weight loss compared to the Mediterranean diet ( $p = .02$ ), but no significant difference was found between the Mediterranean and Vegan diets.”

#### Reporting ANCOVA Results in APA Format

When reporting ANCOVA results in APA format, the general guidelines are quite similar to ANOVA but with added emphasis on the covariates. The following explanation provides in detail how to report ANCOVA results effectively:

State the ANCOVA model: Begin by specifying the covariates (the continuous variables being controlled for) and the independent variable(s) (the categorical groups being compared).

The F-statistic and associated degrees of freedom (df): As with ANOVA, report the F-statistic for both the covariate(s) and the independent variable(s) (i.e., between-group and covariate effects).

The p-value: Report the p-value for each of the main effects, including both the treatment (independent variable) and covariate(s).

Partial  $\eta^2$ : Report the effect size for each effect (covariates and independent variables) to indicate the magnitude of the difference or relationship.

Post-hoc tests: If applicable, report any post-hoc tests to identify specific group differences, especially if the ANCOVA result is significant.

Interpret the findings: Explain how the covariate(s) affected the group comparisons and provide a context for understanding the statistical significance of the findings.

#### Example of ANCOVA Reporting

Example 1: ANCOVA with One Covariate: “A one-way ANCOVA was conducted to evaluate the effect of diet type (Low-carb, Mediterranean, and Vegan) on weight loss after controlling for initial weight. The results indicated a significant effect of diet type on weight loss,  $F(2, 55) = 4.72$ ,  $p = .013$ , partial  $\eta^2 = .15$ . After controlling for initial weight, post-hoc tests revealed that the Low-carb diet led to significantly greater weight loss than the Mediterranean diet ( $p = .03$ ), while no significant difference was found between the Mediterranean and Vegan diets ( $p = .12$ ).”

In this example, initial weight is the covariate, and its effect on the dependent variable (weight loss) has been adjusted for, allowing a more accurate comparison of the diets' effects.

**Example 2: ANCOVA with Multiple Covariates:** “A two-way ANCOVA was performed to examine the effect of exercise type (aerobic, strength training) and gender (male, female) on cholesterol reduction, controlling for age and baseline cholesterol levels. There was a significant main effect of exercise type,  $F(1, 110) = 5.87, p = .017, \text{partial } \eta^2 = .05$ , indicating that aerobic exercise was more effective than strength training in reducing cholesterol levels. The interaction between exercise type and gender was not significant,  $F(1, 110) = 2.31, p = .13, \text{partial } \eta^2 = .02$ .”

In this example, age and baseline cholesterol levels are the covariates, controlling for their potential confounding effects on the outcome variable (cholesterol reduction). The results show a significant main effect of exercise type on cholesterol reduction after adjusting for these covariates.

Citation Example for ANCOVA:

Field (2013) recommends reporting covariates and their effects clearly in ANCOVA, and it's essential to provide an explanation for why particular covariates were chosen and how they impact the dependent variable.

Cohen (1988) states that partial  $\eta^2$  is a useful measure for understanding the effect size in ANCOVA, just as it is for other forms of ANOVA.

When reporting correlation results in APA format, it is important to convey the strength and direction of relationships between variables, along with any statistical significance. Correlation measures the degree to which two variables are related, with values ranging from -1 (perfect negative correlation) to +1 (perfect positive correlation), and a value of 0 indicating no relationship.

### **Reporting Correlation Results in APA Format**

The general structure for reporting correlations in APA format involves the following elements:

**State the hypothesis:** If you are testing a hypothesis (e.g., whether there is a relationship between two variables), mention it explicitly.

**Indicate the correlation coefficient (r):** Report the correlation coefficient value, which represents the strength and direction of the relationship. Common correlation coefficients include Pearson's  $r$  (for continuous data that is linearly related) and Spearman's  $\rho$  (for ordinal or non-parametric data).

**Provide the sample size (n):** It is important to report the number of participants or cases used in the correlation analysis.

**State the significance (p-value):** Report the p-value to indicate whether the correlation is statistically significant. The threshold for significance is usually  $p < .05$ .

**Confidence Intervals:** If applicable, report the confidence intervals for the correlation coefficient to provide an understanding of the precision of the estimate.

**Interpret the findings:** Briefly explain the relationship, including the direction (positive or negative) and strength (weak, moderate, strong) of the correlation.



### Example of Correlation Reporting: Example 1: Pearson's Correlation

“A Pearson correlation was conducted to examine the relationship between social media usage and self-esteem. The results indicated a significant negative correlation between social media usage and self-esteem,  $r(98) = -.45$ ,  $p < .001$ , 95% CI  $[-.60, -.30]$ . This suggests that higher social media usage is associated with lower self-esteem among participants.”

In this example: The correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) is  $-.45$ , indicating a moderate negative relationship. The  $p$ -value is less than  $.001$ , showing that the result is statistically significant. The confidence interval suggests the true population correlation is likely to fall between  $-.60$  and  $-.30$ .

### Example 2: Spearman's Rank Correlation

“A Spearman rank correlation was used to examine the relationship between income and job satisfaction. The results revealed a significant positive correlation between income and job satisfaction,  $\rho(85) = .62$ ,  $p < .001$ . This indicates a moderate to strong positive relationship between higher income and greater job satisfaction.”

In this example: Spearman's rho ( $\rho$ ) is used because the variables are not normally distributed or are ordinal. The correlation is  $.62$ , suggesting a moderate to strong positive relationship. The  $p$ -value is significant at  $p < .001$ , indicating the relationship is statistically significant.

### Guidelines for Reporting Correlations in APA Format

Be consistent in reporting the correlation coefficient for the type of analysis used (e.g., Pearson's  $r$ , Spearman's  $\rho$ ). Report the degrees of freedom ( $df$ ) where appropriate, for instance in cases of Pearson's correlation, which is typically  $n - 2$ . Use parentheses around the test statistic (e.g.,  $r$ ,  $\rho$ ) and the sample size ( $n$ ). Report a range or confidence interval for the correlation coefficient, if available, to give more context about the reliability of the result.

Consider reporting effect size if relevant. The correlation coefficient itself is a measure of effect size, which can be interpreted as:

Small effect:  $r \approx 0.10$

Medium effect:  $r \approx 0.30$

Large effect:  $r \approx 0.50$  (Cohen, 1988).

### Example of a Correlation Table in APA Format

**Table 3-PEARSON CORRELATION MATRIX BETWEEN VARIABLES**

| Variable              | 1. Social Media Usage | 2. Self-Esteem | 3. Job Satisfaction |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Social Media Usage | 1                     | $-0.45^{**}$   | 0.23                |
| 2. Self-Esteem        | $-0.45^{**}$          | 1              | 0.12                |
| 3. Job Satisfaction   | 0.23                  | 0.12           | 1                   |

Note:  $N = 100$ .  $p < .001$  for all correlations.

Source:

This table shows the correlation coefficients between three variables.

The asterisk (\*\*) next to the correlation coefficient indicates statistical significance.

### Citations for Reporting Correlations

Cohen (1988) emphasizes the importance of the correlation coefficient as a measure of effect size and its utility in understanding relationships between variables.

Field (2013) discusses the use of Pearson's  $r$  and Spearman's  $\rho$  in reporting correlations, and how to interpret the results in the context of significance and effect size.

When reporting regression results in APA format, it is important to present the statistical outcomes clearly, focusing on key elements such as coefficients, significance levels, model fit, and effect size. Regression analysis is used to assess the relationship between a dependent variable and one or more independent variables, providing insights into prediction and causality.

### Reporting Regression Results in APA Format

The structure for reporting regression results involves several key components:

**State the research question or hypothesis:** Clearly mention the variables involved and the purpose of the regression analysis, whether it's to predict, explain, or assess the relationship between variables.

**Provide model details:** Specify the type of regression used (e.g., simple linear regression, multiple regression, logistic regression, etc.).

**Report the regression equation:** This should include the coefficients for each predictor (independent variable), the dependent variable, and the model intercept.

**Report regression coefficients ( $\beta$ ):** The coefficients represent the strength and direction of the relationship between each predictor and the dependent variable.

**Include significance levels:** State the p-values for the coefficients, which indicate whether the predictors significantly contribute to explaining the variance in the dependent variable.

**Model fit statistics:** Report the R-squared ( $R^2$ ) value, which indicates the proportion of variance in the dependent variable explained by the model. Also, include the adjusted  $R^2$  for a more accurate estimate when multiple predictors are involved.

**Interpret the results:** Provide a clear interpretation of the coefficients, indicating the direction and magnitude of the relationship, along with the statistical significance.

**Report effect size:** If applicable, provide effect size metrics such as Cohen's  $f^2$  or standardized coefficients ( $\beta$ ), which offer additional context about the model's practical significance.

### Example of Regression Reporting: Example 1: Simple Linear Regression

"A simple linear regression was conducted to examine the relationship between hours of study and exam scores. The regression equation was found to be significant,  $F(1, 98) = 23.45$ ,  $p < .001$ , and explained 19% of the variance in exam scores ( $R^2 = .19$ ). The regression

coefficient for hours of study was significant,  $\beta = 0.55$ ,  $p < .001$ , indicating that for each additional hour of study, the exam score increased by 0.55 points.”

In this example: The regression equation is  $\text{exam score} = \beta_0 + \beta_1(\text{hours of study})$ .

The R-squared ( $R^2$ ) value is 0.19, meaning 19% of the variance in exam scores is explained by the number of study hours.

The  $\beta$  (regression coefficient) for hours of study is 0.55, indicating a positive relationship between study hours and exam scores.

The p-value for the coefficient is  $p < .001$ , showing that the relationship is statistically significant.

#### Example 2: Multiple Regression

“A multiple regression analysis was performed to predict job satisfaction based on salary, work-life balance, and social support. The overall model was significant,  $F(3, 95) = 12.74$ ,  $p < .001$ , explaining 28% of the variance in job satisfaction ( $R^2 = .28$ ). The coefficient for salary was positive ( $\beta = 0.45$ ,  $p < .001$ ), indicating that higher salary predicts higher job satisfaction. Both work-life balance ( $\beta = 0.30$ ,  $p = .01$ ) and social support ( $\beta = 0.25$ ,  $p = .03$ ) also contributed significantly to the model.”

In this example:

The R-squared ( $R^2$ ) value is 0.28, meaning the model explains 28% of the variance in job satisfaction.

The regression coefficients ( $\beta$ ) for salary, work-life balance, and social support provide the magnitude and direction of the relationships.

The p-values for all predictors are statistically significant, indicating that each of these variables contributes to predicting job satisfaction.

#### Guidelines for Reporting Regression in APA Format

Present the full regression equation, listing all predictors and their coefficients.

Include all relevant statistics, such as the F-statistic for model significance,  $R^2$  for model fit, and p-values for each predictor.

Interpret coefficients in terms of their real-world meaning. For instance, a positive coefficient indicates a direct relationship, while a negative coefficient suggests an inverse relationship.

Report confidence intervals for the regression coefficients if possible. This adds a level of precision to the estimates.

Be mindful of multicollinearity: If multiple predictors are highly correlated, consider reporting Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) scores to assess multicollinearity.

#### Example of a Regression Table in APA Format

**Table 4-MULTIPLE REGRESSION ANALYSIS PREDICTING JOB SATISFACTION**

| Predictor | B | SE B | $\beta$ | t | P |
|-----------|---|------|---------|---|---|
|-----------|---|------|---------|---|---|

|                   |      |      |      |      |       |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Constant          | 2.35 | 0.78 |      | 3.02 | 0.003 |
| Salary            | 0.45 | 0.12 | 0.30 | 3.75 | 0.001 |
| Work-life Balance | 0.3  | 0.09 | 0.25 | 3.33 | 0.01  |
| Social Support    | 0.25 | 0.1  | 0.22 | 2.5  | 0.03  |

Note:  $N = 100$ .  $F(3, 95) = 12.74$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  $R^2 = .28$ .

B represents the unstandardized coefficient, while  $\beta$  represents the standardized coefficient.

t is the t-statistic for each predictor.

p is the p-value, indicating whether each coefficient is significantly different from zero.

### Reporting Statistical Results in Tables and Figures

In APA style, the use of tables and figures is crucial for effectively presenting complex data and making the results of a study more comprehensible to readers. APA guidelines emphasize the clarity, simplicity, and precision required when presenting results in tabular or graphical form. Tables are particularly useful when presenting detailed numerical data such as means, standard deviations, correlations, regression coefficients, and other statistical measures that may be too extensive to include in the main text. Figures, such as bar charts, histograms, or line graphs, are invaluable for visually representing trends, patterns, and relationships within the data (American Psychological Association [APA], 2020).

Tables must be numbered sequentially (e.g., Table 1, Table 2) and should be presented after the first mention of the data in the text. Each table should have a descriptive title at the top, and the headings of each column or row must be clear and concise to ensure the data is easily understood. A key point is that tables should be self-explanatory; the reader should not need to refer back to the text for clarification (APA, 2020). In terms of formatting, it is crucial to ensure that the table is clean and the data is aligned, especially when presenting numerical values, to maintain readability and minimize confusion (Hammer et al.,).

Figures should also follow a similar numbering system, appearing after the first mention in the text. Each figure should be accompanied by a descriptive caption that briefly explains what is being depicted. The caption should allow the reader to understand the figure without needing to consult the text. For example, a bar graph illustrating the mean differences between two groups should have a caption stating, "Figure 1. Mean test scores by gender," and this should clearly describe the contents of the figure (Wasserstein, R. L., & Lazar, N. A. (2016)).

Both tables and figures must adhere to specific formatting guidelines, such as proper font usage, spacing, and alignment, to ensure they are clear and readable. Additionally, APA recommends that excessive tables or figures be avoided; only include them when they add value to the presentation of the results (Wasserstein & Lazar, 2016).

## V. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The process of reporting statistical results is an essential aspect of scientific research, ensuring that findings are communicated clearly and transparently to the academic community. The APA (American Psychological Association) style provides a standardized method for presenting statistical analyses, offering researchers a clear framework to follow.

By adhering to these reporting guidelines, researchers can increase the clarity, replicability, and interpretability of their results, ultimately contributing to the robustness of scientific knowledge. The careful and systematic reporting of statistical results, whether descriptive statistics, hypothesis testing, regression analysis, or the use of tables and figures, is vital for drawing valid conclusions and informing future research. The initial step in reporting results, as emphasized by APA guidelines, is to begin with descriptive statistics. These statistics provide an essential overview of the data by summarizing measures of central tendency (such as means and medians), dispersion (like standard deviation), and distribution characteristics (such as skewness and kurtosis). According to Cohen (1994), descriptive statistics serve as a foundation for understanding the raw data before delving into more complex statistical analyses. Descriptive statistics not only provide context for the research but also allow researchers to identify patterns and trends that might require further investigation.

Next, hypothesis testing is a critical element in empirical research. It enables researchers to determine whether the data supports a specific hypothesis. The reporting of hypothesis testing in APA format typically involves stating the hypothesis, reporting test statistics (such as the t-value or F-statistic), the degrees of freedom (df), and the p-value, which indicates the probability of the results occurring by chance. As noted by Cohen (1994), p-values provide an essential measure of statistical significance, typically using a threshold of  $p < .05$  to determine whether the results are likely to be meaningful. However, researchers are encouraged to go beyond mere statistical significance and report effect sizes to assess the practical significance of the findings (Cohen, 1988). Effect sizes are essential for understanding the magnitude of the observed relationships or differences, as they provide context beyond p-values alone. The use of tables and figures in presenting statistical results plays a crucial role in enhancing the clarity of complex findings. APA guidelines suggest that tables and figures should be numbered sequentially, clearly labelled with descriptive captions, and placed after the relevant text discussion of results. According to the APA manual (2020), tables are ideal for reporting detailed data, such as means, standard deviations, and regression coefficients, while figures are effective for visualizing trends and relationships between variables. The clear presentation of these elements not only facilitates comprehension but also enhances the replicability of the results by offering a detailed and precise presentation of the data.

Moving to more advanced analyses, regression analysis, especially when discussing multiple regression, is central to understanding relationships between dependent and independent variables. The results from regression analysis should include the regression coefficients, standard errors, t-values, p-values, and R-squared values, as these elements provide insight into the strength, direction, and significance of relationships among variables (Field, 2013). Moreover, reporting these results in APA format allows for easier comparison across studies and contributes to the transparency of the research process. For example, reporting unstandardized coefficients (B) alongside standardized coefficients ( $\beta$ ) provides a more comprehensive understanding of how individual predictors impact the dependent variable. As pointed out by Cohen (1988), standardized coefficients are particularly useful when comparing the relative importance of predictors in the model. An often overlooked but equally significant aspect of reporting regression results is the effect size. While significance testing highlights whether a result is statistically significant, effect size measures how large or small the observed effect is in a meaningful context. For instance, a small p-value might indicate

statistical significance, but without a substantial effect size, the finding may not hold practical relevance. Researchers should thus provide not only p-values but also effect size indices such as Cohen's  $f^2$  to inform readers about the practical implications of their results (Cohen, 1988). This approach contributes to a more nuanced interpretation of the findings and helps mitigate over-reliance on p-values alone. Correlations are another critical component of statistical reporting, particularly when exploring the relationships between variables. Correlation coefficients ( $r$ ) are used to measure the strength and direction of linear relationships between pairs of variables. APA guidelines suggest reporting the correlation coefficients, their significance (p-value), and confidence intervals, providing a comprehensive understanding of how variables interact with one another. This is particularly important in exploratory research or when testing theories that suggest specific relationships between variables.

In the case of ANOVA (Analysis of Variance), researchers are tasked with determining whether there are significant differences between group means. Reporting ANOVA results in APA format includes stating the F-statistic, degrees of freedom, p-value, and effect size (e.g., partial  $\eta^2$ ). These elements allow readers to understand both the significance of group differences and the size of the effect. ANCOVA (Analysis of Covariance), an extension of ANOVA that includes covariates, should also be reported in a similar manner, with attention to the significance of both the main effects and the covariates involved in the model.

The ability to present statistical results in a consistent and transparent manner is vital not only for validating the findings but also for ensuring that other researchers can replicate the study. As stated by Wasserstein, R. L., & Lazar, N. A. (2016), the clarity in reporting statistical results is essential for the scientific community to reproduce and verify research outcomes, a cornerstone of scientific integrity. Transparency in the reporting of statistical analyses, including descriptive statistics, hypothesis tests, regression models, and effect sizes, ultimately leads to more robust and reproducible findings, promoting progress in scientific inquiry. Therefore, following APA guidelines for reporting statistical results is a fundamental practice for researchers in all disciplines. By adhering to these standardized reporting practices, researchers ensure that their findings are communicated clearly, are easy to interpret, and can be accurately reproduced by others. The combination of well-organized data presentation, transparent hypothesis testing, and clear reporting of effect sizes and statistical significance contributes to the overall credibility and reliability of research. As statistical methods continue to evolve and become more sophisticated, it remains essential for researchers to prioritize clarity and transparency in their reporting practices to maintain the integrity of scientific research.

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- 3.

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