

## Original Article

### Exam Stress and Impact on Mental Health on Undergraduate Students

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#### Abstract

*Exam stress has become a significant psychological concern among undergraduate students, affecting their mental, emotional, and physical well-being. While a moderate level of stress can enhance focus and performance, excessive stress often results in anxiety, sleep disturbances, low self-esteem, and emotional burnout. This paper explores the major causes of exam-related stress, including academic pressure, parental expectations, fear of failure, inadequate preparation, and competitive environments. A survey conducted among 50 undergraduate students further highlights the prevalence of anxiety, insomnia, and unhealthy coping mechanisms during examination periods. The findings emphasize the urgent need for institutional support, awareness programs, and effective coping strategies to protect students' mental health and promote a healthier academic atmosphere.*

**Keywords:** Exam Stress; Mental Health; Undergraduate Students; Anxiety; Sleep Disturbance; Emotional Burnout; Academic Pressure; Coping Mechanisms; Student Well-being.

#### Introduction

Tests have long been used to assess educational fulfillment, however for lots university college students, they're lots greater than only a check of information. The stress to do nicely, comfy destiny prospects, and fulfill personal and cultural requirements regularly consequences in excessive examination-associated stress. Whilst moderate strain can improve attention and productivity, immoderate pressure can be detrimental to college students' intellectual health. Examination strain's mental effect on college campuses is turning into increasingly clear, starting from anxiety and sleep disruptions to depression and burnout. This newsletter investigates the causes, signs and symptoms, and results of take a look at strain, emphasizing a rising but now and again omitted problem affecting student properly-being in better training.

#### Objective

The objective of this newsletter is to analyze the causes and outcomes of examination-related stress amongst undergraduate college students, as well as the affect on their mental health. Its intention is to growth awareness of the psychological issues that scholars confront at some stage in the test season, in addition to to suggest for correct coping mechanisms, help networks, and institutional projects that beautify intellectual properly-being in the instructional surroundings.

#### Owing to test stress

##### 1. Educational stress

College students can also feel pressured to do in particular well if you want to obtain instructional requirements, hold scholarships, or make sure destiny expert opportunities. This high stress would possibly result in lengthy-time period pressure.

##### 2. Parental and societal expectations.

Family expectations of awesome grades or turning into "toppers" could make kids sense usually scrutinized or as compared, main to heightened overall performance anxiety.

##### 3. Worry of Failure.

The concern of now not attaining personal objectives or failing can purpose undue stress, mainly while students partner their 310eaa1671f8cdca56bbfc482325088 with academics.

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#### 4. Terrible time management.

Procrastination and unwillingness to prioritize closing-minute have a look at and obligations can motive anxiety, especially whilst examinations method.

#### 5. Aggressive environment.

Being surrounded with the aid of high-accomplishing classmates or living in a incredibly competitive academic environment would possibly bring about a never-finishing evaluation loop, reducing 6ba8f6984f70c7ac4038c462a50ee3 and raising strain.

#### 6. Inadequate preparedness.

Students who bypass lessons, do not evaluation continuously, or depend upon cramming may also experience unprepared, causing greater tension before and throughout the exam.

#### 7. Lack of sleep and bodily weariness.

Examination instruction often comes at the sacrifice of sleep, workout, and nutrition. Sleep deprivation immediately decreases cognitive performance and emotional manage, resulting in multiplied strain tiers.

#### 8. Unrealistic expectations.

Placing unrealistic expectancies or attempting to research an excessive amount of in a brief quantity of time can be mentally draining and disappointing whilst consequences fall brief.

#### 9. Digital Distractions.

Social media and smartphone use regularly disrupt take a look at time, resulting in guilt, lack of consciousness, and difficulty approximately finished quantities.

#### Effect

**Exam pressure** can negatively effect intellectual health, main to anxiety and panic attacks. Exam pressure can produce acute anxiety, including racing thoughts, quick heartbeat, and trouble breathing.

**Signs of examination tension** consist of sweaty palms and, in severe conditions, panic attacks. strain can reason melancholy, which include continual depression, decreased hobby in schoolwork and social sports, fatigue, terrible thoughts, and self-grievance. Right support is crucial.

**Sleep disturbances** strain alters sleep patterns in a ramification of methods: Overthinking or analyzing overdue at night time can cause insomnia, negative sleep nice, immoderate daytime drowsiness, and irritability.

**Low self esteem:** pressured students may additionally sense insufficient in contrast to their classmates. Feeling insecure about your talents and pissed off through little setbacks can negatively damage self-self assurance and mental health.

**Emotional burnout** can result from continual pressure to prevail, consisting of emotional tiredness, disinterest in teachers, and shortage of pleasure. This is specially popular among college students who do no longer practice self-care or take common breaks.

**Social Withdrawal:** students may withdraw themselves from friends and family due to the following reasons: perception that others will now not understand pressure. Feeling too crushed to socialise. This could lead to emotions of loneliness.

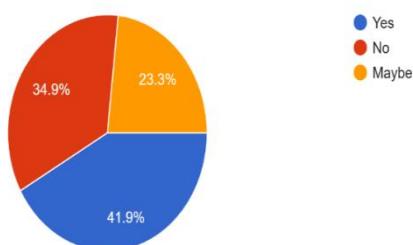
**Bodily signs:** strain influences both the thoughts and body. Signs may include headache, nausea, muscle tension, and lack of urge for food.

**Better risk of risky behaviour:** In intense occasions, kids may additionally have interaction in substance misuse (e.g., coffee, slumbering drugs, narcotics), develop eating troubles, or have suicidal mind (which have to be handled with compassion and speed).

#### Analysis from Survey Conducted

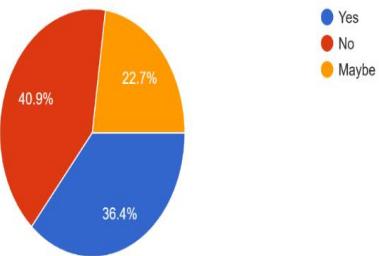
Do you feel stressed during exams?

43 responses



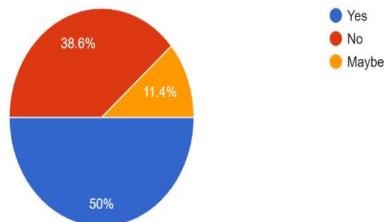
Do you feel pressure to get high marks?

44 responses



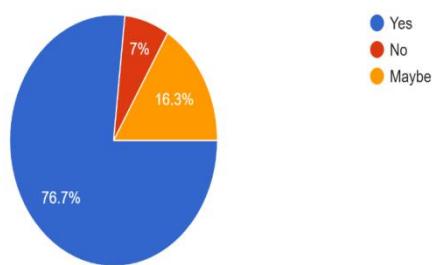
Do you feel anxious or nervous before exams?

44 responses



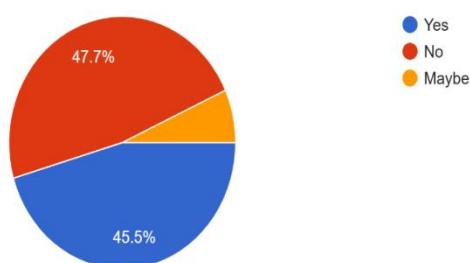
Would you like your college to give more support for mental health?

43 responses



Do you talk to someone when you feel stressed?

44 responses



A survey was completed among 50 university students to assess exam-associated strain and its impact on mental health. The questionnaire requested both a couple of-preference and open-ended questions about stress stages, coping mechanisms, signs and symptoms, and educational achievement.

## Main findings

### 1. Exam strain:

- Forty one% of college students skilled slight to extreme stress all through the examination length.
- 23% said feeling overwhelmed "most of the time" during assessments.
- Handiest 34% suggested experiencing minimum to no pressure.

### 2. Having mental health signs.

- 50% suggested feeling irritating or panicked.
- 50% skilled sleep disturbances throughout check season.

### 3. Aid structures.

- Best 18% of college students pronounced their college having a devoted intellectual fitness counsellor.
- Sixty seven% of respondents could gain from pressure control schooling or classes given by using their corporation.

## Evaluation and Perception:

The findings honestly display that exam strain is a not unusual and critical trouble among undergraduate college students, with the majority experiencing slight to excessive stress stages. The statistics reveal a excessive link among exam length and intellectual fitness signs and symptoms including anxiety, sleeplessness, and sadness.

The maximum regarding conclusion is that greater than half of college students use dangerous coping mechanisms, which may additionally exacerbate their scenario over the years. Moreover, a lack of institutional mental fitness care worsens the outcomes of stress, leaving many college students feeling by myself and powerless for the duration of important academic intervals. The poll also demonstrates that pressure has an immediate have an effect on educational performance, underlining the need for immediate assistance.

## Conclusion

Exam pressure is no longer just a non-public war; it has emerge as a massive mental fitness issue affecting a widespread proportion of the undergraduate pupil body. The chronic stress to perform, satisfy expectancies, and compete in a high-level academic setting has led many college students to be afflicted by anxiety, depression, sleep problems, and emotional fatigue. Lamentably, many human beings maintain to go through in silence due to stigma and a loss of institutional guide. It's far critical for educational institutions, dad and mom and policy makers to renowned the significance of examination-related pressure and its affect on mental fitness. Creating an open environment for discussing intellectual health, integrating counselling offerings, and inspiring top observe habits can also all make a distinction. With the right guide systems, college students can learn to manipulate strain extra efficaciously, listen better, and in the end succeed - no longer just academically, however also emotionally and mentally.

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