



INTRODUCTION

Excessive screen time in children has become an increasing concern for parents and healthcare professionals. One study found that 8-12 years-old use screens for entertainment an average of 4 hours, 44 minutes a day, while teenagers 13-18 years-old average 7 hours, 22 minutes each day. While research on the associations between screen time and obesity are well studied, the evidence specifically on associations between screen time and psychological wellbeing has been mixed. We aimed to identify the prevalence and odds of daily screen time among children with MEDB compared to children without MEDB.

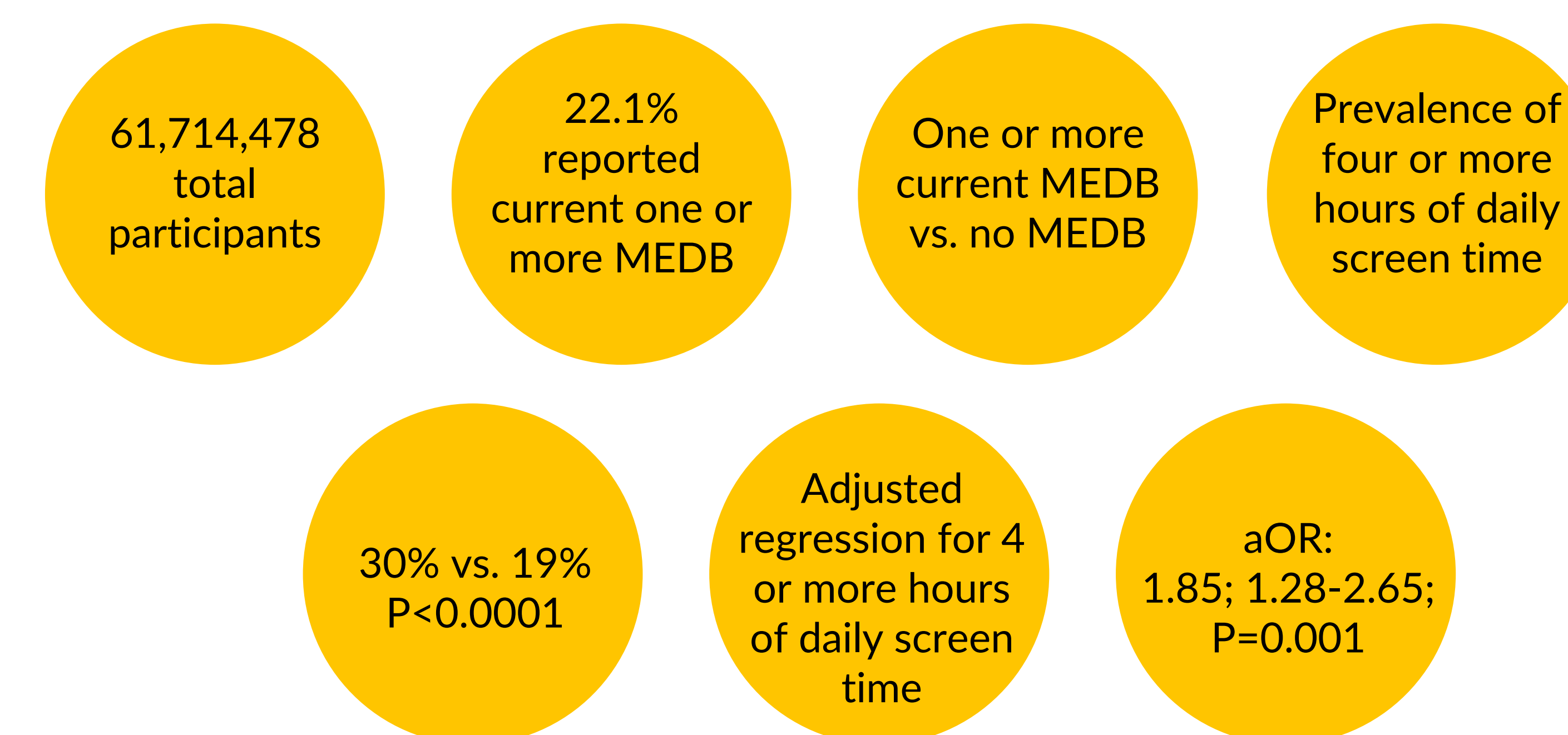
METHODS

1. Data analyzed: Retrospective analysis of the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) 2018-2019 representative of US pediatric population.
2. Daily screen time on TV, computer, cellphone, or other electronic devices was identified using survey questions.
3. MEDB measure derived from conditions: Tourette Syndrome, anxiety problems, depression, behavioral and conduct problems, developmental delay, intellectual disability, speech or other language disorder, learning disability, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder.
4. Statistical Analysis: Rao-Scott Chi Square Test for univariate analysis, multivariable logistic regression analysis to adjust for age, sex, race, socioeconomic status and overall health status.

Children with **1 or more MEDB** are at higher odds of **4 or more hours of daily screen time** than children without any **MEDB**.

RESULT

- A total of 61,714,478 participants included.
- 22.1% reported 1 or more current MEDB.
- Compared to participants with no MEDB, the prevalence of four or more hours of daily screen time was significantly higher in children with 1 or more current MEDB (30% vs. 19%; $p < 0.0001$).
- In regression analysis, children with 1 or more MEDB were at higher odds of four or more hours of daily screen time (aOR: 1.85; 95%CI: 1.28-2.65; $p = 0.001$) than those without any MEDB.



CONCLUSIONS

We found a higher prevalence and odds of four or more hours of daily screen time among children with MEDB using nationally representative US pediatric population data. Implications of higher screen time among children with MEDB warrant further research.