

What to include when writing up Dependent t-test results

1. Remind the reader of the type of test you used and the comparison that was made. The IV and DV do not need to be specifically identified as such, but those variables need to be included.

Example:

“An dependent t-test was used to compare differences in self-reported pain scores before and after medication was administered.”

2. Report significance (or non-significance) between the conditions.

Example:

“There was a significant difference in the self reported pain scores before medication was administered ($M = 52.88$, $SD = 22.42$) compared with after the medication was administered ($M = 41.12$, $SD = 9.99$) conditions; $t(20) = 2.68$, $p = .014$.” The difference was significant at the $p < .05$ level.

Finding the information on your SPSS printout

“There was a significant difference in the self reported pain scores before medication was administered ($M=52.88$, $SD=22.42$) compared with after the medication was administered ($M=41.12$, $SD=9.99$) conditions; $t(20)=2.68$, $p = .014$.”

The image shows three SPSS output tables with red arrows indicating the source of data for the text above. The first table, 'Paired Samples Statistics', shows the mean and standard deviation for PreTest and PostTest. The second table, 'Paired Samples Correlations', shows the correlation between PreTest and PostTest. The third table, 'Paired Samples Test', shows the t-statistic, degrees of freedom, and significance level for the difference between PreTest and PostTest.

	Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Pair 1 PreTest	52.8829	21	22.42266	4.89303
PostTest	41.1157	21	9.98618	2.17916

	N	Correlation	Sig.
Pair 1 PreTest & PostTest	21	.442	.045

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
				Lower	Upper			
				Paired Differences				
Pair 1 PreTest - PostTest	11.76714	20.11459	4.38936	2.61109	20.92320	2.681	20	.014

- Summarize your results by connecting your findings back to the decision to either reject or accept the null hypothesis. If there is a difference, remind the reader of the nature of the difference.

Example:

“Therefore, the null hypothesis that stated that there was no statistically significant difference in self reported pain scores between pre- and post-medication was rejected. In other words, the alternative hypothesis was supported. Post-test scores were significantly lower compared to pre-test scores. These results were statistically significant at the $p < .05$ level.”

all together now...

“An dependent t-test was used to compare differences in self-reported pain scores before and after medication was administered. There was a significant difference in the self reported pain scores before medication was administered ($M = 52.88$, $SD = 22.42$) compared with after the medication was administered ($M = 41.12$, $SD = 9.99$) conditions; $t(20) = 2.68$, $p = .014$. Therefore, the null hypothesis that stated that there was no statistically significant difference in self reported pain scores between pre- and post-medication was rejected. In other words, the alternative hypothesis was supported. Post-test scores were significantly lower compared to pre-test scores. These results were statistically significant at the $p < .05$ level.”