

## Special Issue

# The Impact of Internet and Social Media Use on Young People's Mental Health

### Message from the Guest Editors

The digital era has had a tremendous influence on adolescents and young people. People no longer distinguish their experience with the old categories: offline vs. online. Digital reality is the new reality. This equivalence affects psychological development, and this is a risk and vulnerability factor, with extreme potential consequences such as suicide or interpersonal violence. This Special Issue of *IJERPH* welcomes scientific contributions which help to understand contemporary phenomena related to internet use in the adolescent mind. Studies may focus on aspects related to the self (identity, body image, ability to regulate emotions, metacognitive skills, coping, addictions, personality traits, etc.) as well as relational aspects (parasocial interactions, phubbing, sexting, ghosting, cyberviolence, etc.). These topics deserve further study, which should address the conceptualization of new phenomena and their possible prevention in terms of psychological and public health risks.

### Guest Editors

Dr. Amelia Rizzo

Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, University of Messina, 98122 Messina, Italy

Dr. Dario Alparone

Department of Psychology, Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences, University of Western Brittany, 20 Rue Duquesne, CEDEX 3, 29238 Brest, France

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 April 2025)



## International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

CiteScore 8.5  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/si/157138](https://mdpi.com/si/157138)

*International Journal of  
Environmental Research and  
Public Health*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[ijerph@mdpi.com](mailto:ijerph@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
ijerph](https://mdpi.com/journal/ijerph)





# International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

CiteScore 8.5  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/  
ijerph](https://mdpi.com/journal/ijerph)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

*IJERPH* provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality peer-reviewed journal.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul R. Ward

Centre for Public Health, Equity and Human Flourishing, Torrens  
University Australia, Adelaide 5000, Australia

---

### Author Benefits

#### Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, PubMed, MEDLINE, PMC, Embase, GEOBASE, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

CiteScore - Q1 (Public Health, Environmental and Occupational Health)