

# DATA-DRIVEN ANALYSIS OF HIIT EFFICIENCY IN WEIGHT LOSS AND BODY COMPOSITION IMPROVEMENT: EVIDENCE FROM COMPETITIVE INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS

Yuequn Ma<sup>1,2</sup>, Mohamad Nizam Bin Nazarudin<sup>3\*</sup>, Nurwina Akmal Binti Anuar<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Education, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi,43600, Selangor, Malaysia,p118918@siswa.ukm.edu.my

<sup>2</sup>Hechi University, Hechi City, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region,China,p118918@siswa.ukm.edu.my

<sup>3\*</sup>Faculty of Education, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi,43600, Selangor, Malaysia,mohdnizam@ukm.edu.my

<sup>4</sup>Faculty of Education, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi,43600, Selangor, Malaysia,

nurwina@ukm.edu.my

Corresponding Author:

Mohamad Nizam Bin Nazarudin, E-mail: mohdnizam@ukm.edu.my

## ABSTRACT

### Purpose:

The aim of the study is to evaluate the effectiveness of the High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) to enhance both the body composition and weight loss outcomes and to integrate a competitive intelligence method to help analyze performance data in the real-life fitness environment.

### Methodology/Approach:

The observational data on the performance of fitness during 300 training records were collected in 12 weeks and quantitative and data-based research design was used. They used descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation analysis, and multiple linear regression to analyze the relationships between training variables (the duration of the workout, caloric expenditure) and physiological outcomes (weight loss, BMI, and body fat percentage). The analytical framework was also extended to cover the performance insights, which were in accordance with the tenets of competitive intelligence.

### Findings:

The findings suggest that HIIT is effective in the process of weight loss and body composition. Caloric expenditure became the most significant predictor of weight loss ( $\beta=0.35$ ), and then the length of the workout ( $\beta=0.28$ ), and the centrality of energy balance was identified. There were large correlations between training variables and physiological outcomes, and therefore, longer and more intense sessions have a larger metabolic effect. Moreover, those who improved more had higher baseline BMI and body fat, which showed that variation in response varies according to physiological features.

### Originality/Relevance:

The paper is relevant to the literature because it combines physiological, behavioral, and analytical levels into one empirical system. It presents the idea of competitive intelligence as a new approach to exercise science, which highlights the importance of data-driven decision-making to optimize training results. The results are useful in both developing individualized fitness programs and applying the adaptive and analytics training programs.

**KEYWORDS:** High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT); Body Composition; Weight Loss; Caloric Expenditure; Competitive Intelligence; Fitness Analytics; Data-Driven Training; Metabolic Efficiency

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Obesity is a significant health issue in the world, where the level of obesity is rising both in the developed and developing sectors. This increase has been greatly attributed to sedentary lifestyles, poor dieting as well as lack of physical exercises. Obesity clinically is closely related with metabolic and cardiovascular disease, Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and dyslipidemia. The improvement of physical activity has always been one of the primary intervention methods, and the studies have shown that the effects of exercise have

led to substantial changes in the body weight, the waist circumference, and the percentage of body fat (An et al., 2025). Nevertheless, irrespective of the identified advantages, there is a continuing research and practice problem of identifying the most effective and sustainable exercise strategy.

Simultaneously, the fitness sector is going through a digital revolution, which is going very fast due to the development of wearable devices, mobile apps, and live tracking systems. Such innovations produce high amounts of personalized performance data such as heart rate, energy consumption, and behavioral patterns. As a result, the change in practices of fitness is not the generalised prescription but the personalized and data-oriented approach (Grivas, 2025). However, the incorporation of the same into organized analytical systems is minimal. The literature is usually based on the conventional ways of evaluation and does not utilize the capability of data analytics to the fullest potential to maximize training results.

It is against this changing environment that High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) has been proposed as an effective and time-efficient form of exercise. HIIT, which is characterized by alternate high-intensity exercise and brief rest, triggers the activity of both aerobic and anaerobic systems, resulting in significant changes to metabolism. HIIT, according to meta-analyses, has a substantial effect on the decrease of body fat mass, total body weight, and waist circumference and increases cardiovascular fitness and muscular performance (Jayedi et al., 2024). HIIT in other instances has shown similar or better impact to moderate-intensity continuous training (MICT) especially in the reduction of visceral adiposity (Madrigal-Cerezo, 2026).

The evidence on the effectiveness of HIIT is not however as consistent. Although some of the studies demonstrate better fat loss results, some also show similar effects of HIIT in comparison to conventional training modalities (Pasrija et al., 2022). These inconsistencies indicate that the results of the training process are determined by a complex of interacting factors, which include the intensity of exercises, the duration of the session, individual differences, and compliance. Furthermore, much of the literature that exists concentrates on a single indicator of the state like the loss of weight or the amount of calories that have been lost, and does not provide a full picture of body composition, including fat distribution and the maintenance of lean mass (Poon et al., 2024; Zheng et al., 2025). Such a fragmented method does not allow developing a complete picture of HIIT effectiveness.

One more weakness is the lack of integration of real-life behavioral and performance data. Even though the physiological processes of HIIT are well known, there is a relative dearth of literature that involves the data produced in the field of real fitness. The results of training in practice are influenced not only by the exercise regimens but also by the way the user is involved, lives and his/her interaction with digital technologies. The omission of such variables leads to the non-alignment of the controlled experimental results with the real fitness practices (Ramalho, 2023; Rotge et al., 2017).

Competitive intelligence provides a promising perspective of analysis in this case. Competitive intelligence is a methodical gathering, evaluation and the utilization of data in order to make informed decisions. In the fitness field, it involves the use of wearable gadgets, tracking applications, and algorithm-based feedback mechanisms to streamline the training behavior. These technologies allow monitoring the training continuously and making changes to the training intensity, frequency, and recovery plans (Sampaio et al., 2024; Wang et al., 2026). Although relevant, competitive intelligence has not been fully used in the research in the field of exercise science and especially concerning physiological outcomes.

Based on this, there is evident research gap, which is at the corner of HIIT performance, body composition outcomes, and competitive intelligence systems. Although the previous research has conducted research on the exercise intensity, fat loss, and digital fitness technologies separately, there is a lack of research on how the dimensions are combined into a single analytical framework. This gap restricts the modeling of models that are more accurate in the current fitness environments, where the physiological, behavioral and technological factors interact dynamically. Nevertheless, no prior research has combined the metrics of HIIT performance with competitive intelligence analysis through practical observation-based studies.

This gap should be filled to enhance the theoretical knowledge and practice. The quantitative approach will allow addressing the HIIT efficiency in a more attentive way, with due consideration of the eventual interdependence of training factors, energy expenditure, and physiological responses (Sanca-Valeriano et al., 2023). It also encourages the integration of behavioral engagement and technological feedback, which is highly important in the continuation of the long-term adherence and optimal performance outcomes.

The given research paper seeks to overcome these shortcomings by using an analytical framework. Specifically, it (i) establishes the effectiveness of HIIT in weight loss in relation to such key outcomes as the calorie expenditure and body weight changes, (ii) explores the alterations in the body composition, such as the proportion of body fat and (iii) includes the competitive intelligence analysis to establish the appropriateness of data-driven involvement in the promotion of training effectiveness.

The paper is relevant to the literature in three aspects. First, it expands current studies by incorporating physiological, behavioral and analytical aspects of studies into one empirical study. Second, it proposes the new and operationalized concept of competitive intelligence to be introduced in the exercise science. Third, it offers empirical information on the use of data-driven fitness systems to improve the efficacy of HIIT in a real-life environment. All these details render the optimization of training in the digital age of fitness more holistic and practical concept.

## 2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

### 2.1 HIIT and Metabolic Efficiency

High-Intensity Interval training (HIIT) has also been of much interest as an effective and metabolic form of exercise that is time-saving. The type of its structure, which is alternate bouts of intense activity and recreation, engages both aerobic and anaerobic energy systems, increasing metabolic flexibility and substrate use (BaiQuan et al., 2025). Such a two-system activity is what makes HIIT different as compared to the conventional continuous training and is the basis of its success in enhancing energy burning.

One of the mechanisms that make HIIT-induced adaptations occur is an increased fat oxidation. Although the metabolic processes in high-intensity phases are based mostly on the metabolism of carbohydrates, the periods of recovery contribute to the shift in the metabolism to lipid fat. This shift is closely linked with excess post-exercise oxygen consumption (EPOC) which maintains high energy consumption after exercise. It has been shown that the HIIT training yields a large amount of EPOC in contrast to moderate-intensity continuous training (MICT), which leads to the increased caloric expenditure and enhanced fat oxidation (Faleiro et al., 2025).

Besides the after exercise, HIIT enhances overall energy burnt during exercise sessions. The intermittent high-intensity exercise workload increases the metabolic rate thus allowing the body to burn a lot of calories in less time. HIIT is proven to have similar or even more significant effects on body fat reduction than the traditional endurance training, though it needs less overall time (Zhang et al., 2025). This is more applicable in the current times when time is a significant obstacle to physical exercise.

Nevertheless, the HIIT is better than the MICT depending on the situation. Although some of the studies indicate that HIIT improves fat loss and metabolism, there are studies that do not show any significant differences between the two modalities (Warren et al., 2020; Eslami et al., 2026). These discrepancies indicate that the effects are determined by numerous interacting factors such as intensity of exercises, duration of the session, features of participants, and the level of adherence. Consequently, the studies of HIIT effectiveness should be extended beyond the individual physiological mechanisms and more towards the data-driven and analytical frameworks that can be used to explain the variability in real-life.

### 2.2 Body Composition Metrics

Body composition is not only a determinant of health but also it gives a more accurate exquisite measure of exercise results than body weight. It is a reflection of the comparative fat mass, lean mass and general physiological state. The most important ones are Body Mass Index (BMI), the percentage of the body fat, the lean body mass, each of which provides a different understanding of the metabolic health.

BMI is a very popular population level measuring of body weight against height. It however fails to distinguish between the fat and muscle mass which reduces its capability to be a good indicator of the physiological adjustments to exercise. However, when a person is in the resistance or high-intensity training, lean mass might increase and fat mass might decrease, which leaves a BMI change with only slight changes (Cheng et al., 2026). This weakness underscores the necessity of using BMI with more accuracy indicators. A more direct measure of adiposity is body fat percentage which is quite closely linked with the metabolic risk factors. HIIT is proven to decrease the percentage of body fat by stimulating such mechanisms as an increase in lipolysis, the process of mitochondrial biogenesis, and insulin sensitivity (Jagsz & Sikora, 2025). Such adaptations enhance the ability of the body to burn fat, which leads to metabolic changes in the long run.

The lean body mass is as well vital since it determines the basal metabolism rate and the physical performance. HIIT is linked to muscle retention or even lean mass gain as opposed to conventional calorie-restriction methods which can lead to muscle loss (Lin et al., 2024; Jia et al., 2021). This is essential to the maintenance of weight in a sustainable fashion because increased muscle mass contributes to the continuous energy expenditure and function capacity.

Combined, these measures allow performing a multidimensional assessment of the effectiveness of exercise.

A body composition approach does not only concentrate on the reduction of weight but rather differentiates fat loss and muscle adaptation which is a more accurate and clinically meaningful determination of the outcomes of training.

### **2.3 Sports analytics Competitive Intelligence Systems.**

The incorporation of competitive intelligence systems into sports and fitness analytics is a major change in the direction of the use of data in performance optimization. Competitive intelligence is the systematized gathering, examination and the use of data to make strategic decisions. This may be the wearable devices, the mobile apps and sophisticated analytics engines that continuously monitor the behavior and bodily responses of the user in the sphere of fitness.

The existing fitness technologies develop quality, real-time information on the variables of the heart rate, and movement patterns and spent energy. Such feedback will allow the user to dynamically control training intensity, frequency, and recovery plans and, thereby, increase performance and personalization (Grivas, 2025). In contrast to the conventional training methods of training based on fixed prescriptions, data-driven systems allow active and flexible exercise programmes.

Competitive intelligence systems aid in optimization of performance beyond monitoring by recognition of patterns and behavior analytics. These systems are able to determine factors that are related to successful results by identifying patterns in training data including consistency, intensity levels, and recovery patterns. There is empirical evidence indicating that a prolonged experience of using fitness tracking technologies is linked to enhanced compliance and the result of weight reduction (Wang et al., 2026).

The predictive analytics extends such functions by using the methods of machine learning to predict the patterns of performance and prescribe individual intervention. These models will be able to combine both past and present data to optimize the HIIT protocols especially in balancing between intensity and recovery. Sampaio et al. (2024) also note that predictive modeling allows making the outcomes of training more precise and helps in designing the program based on the individuality of the result.

Regardless of these improvements, the use of competitive intelligence in the field of exercise science is still low. The majority of research still focuses on the aspect of physiological processes and does not consider the issue of behavioral involvement and interaction with technology. Such a limitation limits the generation of more comprehensive models that capture real world training settings, where data-based feedback is becoming more of a central role.

### **2.4 Integrated Conceptual Model**

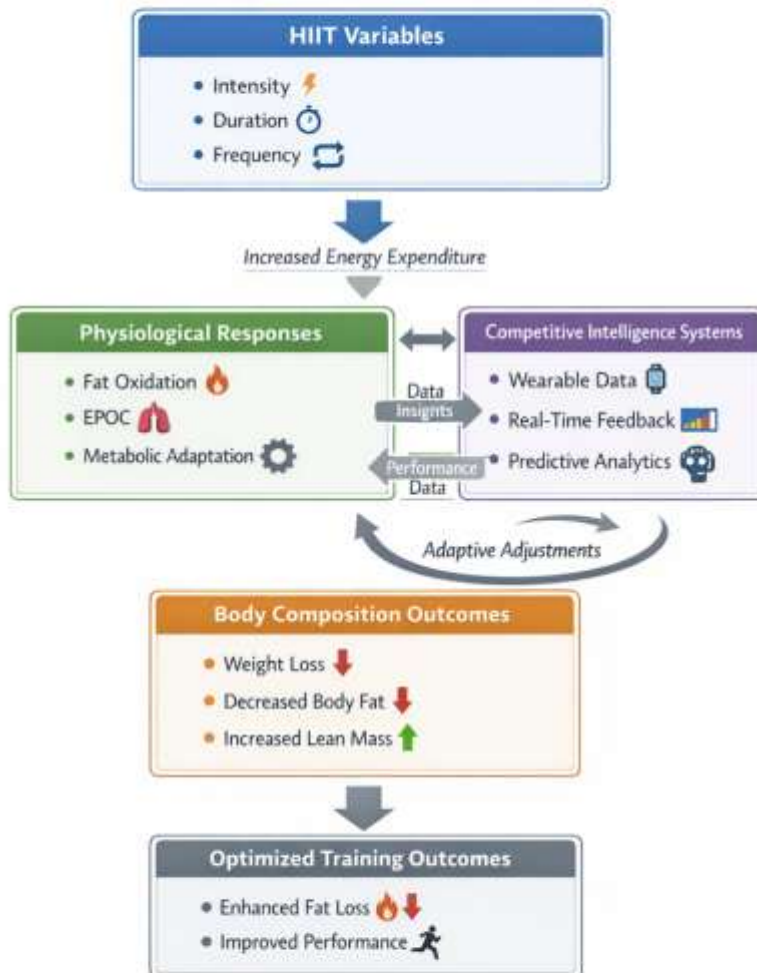
To address these weaknesses, the proposed study proposes a conceptual model to be incorporated in one model that encompasses the HIIT, physiological responses, body composition results, and the competitive intelligence systems. This model represents dynamic and interdependent relations which are the features of the modern fitness environments. The first level is the HIIT that serves as the main stimulus that is determined by the main parameters like intensity, duration, and frequency. These variables impact directly on the metabolic processes such as energy expenditure, use of substrates and EPOC. The second level of the model includes these physiological reactions; the processes of fat oxidation, metabolic adaptation, and regulation of the energy balance are in place (BaiQuan et al., 2025).

The third level aims at quantifiable results such as loss of weight, decreasing of fat percentage in the body, and lean mass. These are the results of training that can be measured and be used as an indicator of success. Even though HIIT is always related to the increase in these values, the extent of the change is different in all individuals because of biological and behavioral variations (Cheng et al., 2026).

The last tier involves the use of competitive intelligence systems whereby a feedback element is added to the model. The information obtained through wearables and apps in the field of fitness gives unremitting information about performance and behavior. These lessons guide the adaptive changes related to training plans, providing a feedback mechanism where evidence-based choices are used to affect physiological changes, and vice versa (He et al., 2026).

This model focuses on the inter-relationship between physiological, behavioral and analytical elements in contrast to the traditional linear structures. It is aware that the effectiveness of HIIT is not based purely on the intensity of exercises but it is influenced by the interplay of metabolism, user interaction, and feedback based on information (Lin et al., 2024). This kind of combination of the factors contributes to the fact that the model provides the holistic foundation of interpretation and maximization of the training outcomes in the contemporary, data-driven fitness environment. The unbreakable relationship between the training stimuli and physiological responses and intelligence-based feedback has been illustrated in Figure 1.

## Integrated Conceptual Model of HIIT, Body Composition, and Competitive Intelligence Systems



**Figure 1.** Conceptual Framework: Integrated Conceptual Model of HIIT, Body Composition, and Competitive Intelligence Systems

### 3. METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Study Design

The study design adopted in the research is a quantitative and data-based study that will be adopted to determine the effectiveness of High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) in improving the outcomes of weight loss and body composition. The relationships between training variables, energy expenditure, and physiological adaptations are analyzed based on observational data of fitness performance, which allows analyzing their relations (Qi et al., 2026; Xiaoyan et al., 2025).

Unlike the controlled experimental studies, this research is an embodiment of what would occur in the real

life training scenarios in which individual differences in the intensity of exercise, the duration of the session, and compliance are already components of the outcome. This increases the ecological validity of the results and increases their relevance to real fitness situations. The research incorporates a predictive and comparative analysis. Key determinants of weight loss are predicted with the help of predictive modeling, whereas differences in weight loss between demographic groups are studied with the help of comparative analysis. It is an integrated framework that will provide a detailed view of the difference in the effectiveness of HIIT among individuals.

### 3.2 Data Source and Characteristics

The dataset will be comprised of 300 separate training records based on a publicly available fitness dataset that is used in performance analytics research. The data are organized high-intensity training exercises that are gathered in the real-life context of fitness tracking.

The dataset is indicative of training observations that were taken after 12 weeks giving enough time to observe significant physiological changes in body weight and body composition.

Every record is associated with one observation of training of a participant and contains both physiological characteristics at a baseline and exercise variables (Danković et al., 2025). The comparatively brief training periods and high caloric expenditure are in line with the HIIT training trends, which explains the appropriateness of the data in the analysis.

The dataset includes:

- Demographic variables: age, gender.
- Physiological variables: initial weight, final weight, BMI, body fat percentage.
- Variables to be trained: length of a workout, calorie burned workouts.
- Derived variable: weekly calories burned.

The variables allow the multidimensional assessment of training outcome through connecting exercise behavior with physiological changes.

**Table 1. Definition and Classification of Study Variables**

Variable	Type	Unit	Description
Age	Independent	Years	Participant age at the time of training observation
Gender	Independent	Categorical (Male/Female)	Biological sex of the participant
Initial Weight	Independent	Kilograms (kg)	Body weight recorded prior to the training period
Final Weight	Dependent	Kilograms (kg)	Body weight recorded after the training period
Weight Loss	Dependent	Kilograms (kg)	Difference between initial and final body weight (Initial – Final)
BMI	Independent	kg/m <sup>2</sup>	Body Mass Index calculated as weight (kg) divided by height squared (m <sup>2</sup> )
Body Fat Percentage	Independent	Percentage (%)	Proportion of fat mass relative to total body weight
Workout Duration	Independent	Minutes (min)	Duration of each HIIT session
Calories Burned	Independent	Kilocalories (kcal)	Energy expenditure per training session
Weekly Calories Burned	Derived	Kilocalories (kcal)	Total caloric expenditure accumulated over one week

### 3.3 Data Preprocessing

A systematic preprocessing process was done to ensure that the data used is analytically reliable.

The records that lacked important variables (e.g., body weight or caloric expenditure) were dropped to avoid data tampering. The non-critical variables with missing values were filled in with the relevant imputation

methods to maintain the completeness of the dataset without any serious forms of biasing.

The statistical thresholds and domain knowledge were taken to identify outliers. The values which were physiologically unreasonable were filtered out particularly in the energy consumed in calorie utilization and body composition measures in order to prevent distortion of results.

The continuous variables were standardized in order to make them comparable across various measurement scales, and also to enhance stability of regression models. Consistency checks were also done to verify logical consistency among variables i.e. whether the resulting values of weight loss were realistic physiological patterns.

The multicollinearity among the predictors was also estimated using correlation diagnostics and all the variables were found to be within the acceptable margin thus showing the strength of the analytical framework.

### 3.4 Analytical Framework

The analysis process was to be designed in a manner that it would provide a multidimensional evaluation of the effectiveness of HIIT (Qi et al., 2026; Yin et al., 2025). The first step involved the calculation of descriptive statistics to describe the central tendencies and variability of the most important variables such as the duration of workouts, caloric expenditure, and body composition measures.

Second, Pearson correlation analysis was done to investigate the relationship between training variables and physiological outcomes with the major emphasis on the relationship between exercise intensity and duration and weight loss and body fat reduction.

Third, the multiple linear regression analysis was used to determine the most significant predictors of weight loss.

The equation of the regression model is:

$$\text{Weight Loss}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(\text{Workout Duration}_i) + \beta_2(\text{Calories Burned}_i) + \beta_3(\text{BMI}_i) + \beta_4(\text{Body Fat}_i) + \varepsilon_i$$

Where:

- $\beta_0$  represents the intercept
- $\beta_1 - \beta_4$  represent regression coefficients
- $\varepsilon_i$  represents the error term

To test the statistical validity, model assumptions such as linearity, normality, independence, and homoscedasticity were tested. The coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) and the level of statistical significance were used to determine model performance.

Lastly, the comparative analysis was conducted to identify variations in the results of demographic factors such as age and gender to understand the variability in the HIIT effectiveness more subtly.

### 3.5 Performance Insight Integration with Data

To go beyond the traditional statistical analysis, this research will involve an informational-based performance view as per the guidelines of competitive intelligence.

Instead of considering data as a descriptive one, the analysis is aimed at determining patterns that will guide training optimization. Training behavior has been correlated with physiological outcomes to calculate relationships between training behavior and the characteristics of the most effective weight loss (Xiaoyan et al., 2025).

This involves the analysis of the effects of changes in the duration of the workout and the caloric expenditure on the results of the individuals. It is also possible to implicitly benchmark using the approach, where individual performance is understood in terms of overall trends of data sets.

Though, the dataset does not directly present the interaction of the user with digital systems, it includes a solid analytical basis on how the use of data-driven insights can lead to an improved training performance in the contemporary fitness setting.

### 3.6 Tools and Techniques

All the analyses were done with the Python programming environment. The standard scientific computing libraries were used to carry out data preprocessing, statistical analysis and modeling, which ensured

reproducibility and the rigor of analysis.

Regression analysis and correlation analysis were done through the stand-alone statistical models, whereas the visualization methods were used to facilitate the interpretation with the help of the visual representation of the trends and associations.

### 3.7 Ethical Considerations

Ethical considerations were observed during the study. All the data were anonymized and no personal information was contained in the data.

Since the data were collected by a publicly available source and it was not associated with any direct contact with the participants, the study presented a low amount of ethical risk. Each analysis has been performed with consideration of established ideas of research integrity and data protection.

## 4. RESULTS and DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Descriptive Statistics

Table 2 shows the descriptive statistics of the most important variables. These findings offer a general description of the study population and give a clue on the degree of variability of the physiological and training related traits among the participants.

**Table 2. Descriptive Statistics of Key Variables**

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev	Min	Max
Age (years)	31.4	8.2	18	49
Initial Weight (kg)	78.6	11.5	60.2	99.8
Final Weight (kg)	74.2	11.0	56.3	96.1
Weight Loss (kg)	4.4	1.8	0.8	7.2
BMI	26.8	3.5	19.5	34.2
Body Fat (%)	22.6	4.2	14.8	30.1
Workout Duration (min)	31.7	6.8	20	45
Calories Burned (session)	412.5	102.3	210	598
Weekly Calories Burned	1650.2	520.4	600	2900

The findings show that the population is relatively young and moderately active with the average age of about 31 years. The average of 4.4 kg of weight loss is an indication that there was a significant change in body mass over the training duration. The observed changes are also backed by the decreases in BMI and body fat percentage, which means that the results under consideration can be related to the changes in body composition, as opposed to the short-term changes.

The difference in caloric expenditure (standard deviation  $\approx$  102 kcal) is a manifestation of variation in the intensity of training and metabolic responses of the individuals. Likewise, the difference in the duration of workouts indicates that the participants were involved in sessions with varying duration of training, which can also lead to the differences in physiological results. Altogether, the descriptive results indicate the heterogeneous sample in which behavioural and physiological heterogeneity is likely to affect training effectiveness. In general, the descriptive findings indicate that there is a significant range of training behavior and physiological reactions, which indicate that individual factors are of paramount importance to HIIT outcomes.

### 4.2 Correlation Analysis

Pearson correlation analysis was used to investigate the relationships between important variables, and the findings are displayed in Table 3.

**Table 3. Correlation Matrix**

Variable	Duration	Calories	BMI	Body Fat	Weight Loss
Workout Duration	1.00	0.72**	0.18	0.22*	0.65**

Calories Burned	0.72**	1.00	0.21*	0.25*	0.71**
BMI	0.18	0.21*	1.00	0.78**	0.39**
Body Fat (%)	0.22*	0.25*	0.78**	1.00	0.46**
Weight Loss	0.65**	0.71**	0.39**	0.46**	1.00

\*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.01

The analysis depicts that there are some significant relations between training variables and physiological outcomes. There is a strong positive correlation between the duration of the workout and the calories burned ( $r = 0.72$ ) which means that the longer the workout, the higher the energy is spent. This is not a surprising association since long-term high-intensity exercise increases the total metabolic need.

The time spent exercising ( $r = 0.65$ ) and the calories spent exercising ( $r = 0.71$ ) is greatly linked to weight loss which implies that energy intake is a major determinant of weight loss body mass reduction. Even though these relationships are not indicative of causation, they indicate that individuals who attend longer sessions or more energy-demanding ones have higher chances of losing weight.

There is also a strong correlation between BMI and body fat percentage ( $r = 0.78$ ), which is a confirmation that the increased BMI values are mostly correlated with adiposity. The fact that they are moderately correlated with weight loss implies that initial physiological attributes could be used to determine the magnitude of change, and people who were at higher levels would have more pronounced changes.

These results prove that behavioral (training length) and physiological (baseline BMI) variables have a combined effect on the effectiveness of HIIT.

#### 4.3 Regression Analysis

A multiple linear regression analysis was done to determine the most significant predictors of weight loss. Table 4 provides the results.

**Table 4. Regression Results (Dependent Variable: Weight Loss)**

Variable	Coefficient ( $\beta$ )	Std. Error	t-value	Significance
Workout Duration	0.28	0.06	4.67	$p < 0.001$
Calories Burned	0.35	0.08	5.12	$p < 0.001$
BMI	0.19	0.05	3.80	$p < 0.01$
Body Fat (%)	0.14	0.04	3.10	$p < 0.01$

**$R^2 = 0.62$**

The regression model can explain a weight loss variance of about 62 percent which shows that the overall fit is very strong. The standardized coefficient (0.35) of calories burned is the largest, so energy expenditure is the most significant variable that is related to weight loss in this dataset.

The duration of the workouts also shows a considerable positive correlation with weight loss (0.28), which supports the notion that the long-term presence of high-intensity exercise is one of the factors that lead to energy expenditure. BMI and body fat percentage are also a significant predictor, and that means that physiological base characteristics are related to the degree of weight change that was seen.

Although such results reveal significant associations, one should be cautious with them, since the data used to conduct such investigations is observational, and causation cannot be performed. However, the findings are solid arguments that training-related and physiological variables are causes of variability in HIIT results.

#### 4.4 Trend Analysis

The strategies that are observed, is depicted in Figure 2. Body fat percentage shows a steady and gradual decrease throughout the training period as depicted in Figure 2(a). The frequency and intensity of training of the participants show a steeper rate of decrease, indicating that long-term HIIT exercise improves fat metabolism and facilitates persistent physiological adaptation.

Figure 2 (b) shows the relationship between caloric expenditure and duration of the workout and a positive relationship exists. Caloric output is positively proportional to the duration of the workout, and the slope is steeper at longer workouts, which means that there is enhanced efficiency in metabolism in longer high-

intensity workouts.

Moreover, Figure 2(c) proposes the comparison of the BMI values before and after the intervention. There is a noticeable general decrease in all categories, and the most significant changes occurred in those people who had a higher baseline BMI. This trend shows that HIIT is especially effective in populations with increased adiposity, and it leads to significant changes in body composition.



Figure 2. Integrated visualization of HIIT-induced changes in body composition and metabolic response: (a) The progressive decrease in percentage of body fat during the training period, with the highest percentage of reduction in participants with high training frequency and intensity. (b) Shows the correlation between the length of time exercising and calories burnt indicating a close positive relation with higher metabolic output at extreme lengths. (c) Reveals the variation in Body Mass Index (BMI) before and after the training intervention in that there are more significant changes in people with high baseline BMI.

The Figure 2 results prove that the effect of training intensity, energy expenditure, and physiological features of the baseline determine the effectiveness of HIIT.

#### 4.5 Integrated Findings

The combination of the results gives a coherent image of HIIT efficacy in the considered data. Energy expenditure that is manifested in calories burnt and time spent on working evolves as one of the main variables that are correlated with weight loss. At the same time, the physiological characteristics (BMI and body fat percentage) appear to be regarded as a baseline and have to be registered to influence the degree of observed changes.

The findings of these researches show that the impact of HIIT is conditional upon the combination of training behavior and individual physiological conditions. As opposed to using an individual determinant, the outcome seems to represent a complex of factors, such as intensity, duration, and initial body composition. Generally, the findings embrace a multidimensional conceptualization of the HIIT effectiveness. The results show that increased energy use is always correlated with better weight loss results where individual variation is a factor that is crucial in determining the extent of change. This points out the need to look at behavioral and physiological levels of training effectiveness.

These findings also correspond to the general view of the fact that data-driven analysis can give important information on the exercise performance. The research will aid in the more comprehensive picture of the functioning of HIIT in the context of actual fitness conditions due to the identification of patterns on several variables.

#### 4.6 Discussion

The current paper offers an evidence-based assessment of the effectiveness of HIIT, which proves that training-related and physiological variables have a significant impact on the results of weight loss and body composition. The results show that caloric expenditure and work time are the most significant predictors of weight loss, which makes sense of the primary importance of the energy balance in the exercise-related physiological change.

Notably, the findings indicate that the efficacy of HIIT does not depend on any specific determinant but results out of the interplay between behavioral performance (e.g., duration and intensity of the sessions) and preliminary physiologic condition (e.g., body mass index and fat percentage). The outcome of this interaction

in multiple dimensions is that it predicated the need to transcend simplistic models of exercise effectiveness into more holistic models that acknowledge biological and behavioral variability.

#### **4.6.1 Comparison with Existing Literature.**

The close relationship between caloric expenditure and weight loss within this study is in line with the already existing evidence on the relevance of energy expenditure in fat loss (Luo et al., 2025). Just like the previous meta-analyses the results show that HIIT is an effective training mode that can yield significant body mass changes in a comparatively short period of time.

Nonetheless, this research expands the literature of study since it offers an insight into inconsistencies, which have been reported in studies. Although there is research evidence that proves the superiority of HIIT over moderate-intensity continuous training (MICT), other studies have shown similar effects (Sert et al., 2025). The current results indicate that these discrepancies can be attributed to varying total energy expenditure, session duration and characteristics of the participants as opposed to the training mode.

Moreover, moderate effect of baseline BMI and body fat percentage substantiates the past studies that suggest relative changes are likely to be high in people with elevated adiposity. Simultaneously, the findings indicate that such factors are not determinants of the outcomes entirely, which is why the behavior of training is critical in facilitating physiological adaptation. This tacit knowledge comes in handy when resolving conflicting evidence because it dwells on the impact of interaction and not merely individual factors.

#### **4.6.2 Mechanistic Interpretation**

The obtained relationships could be explained by the existing physiological processes of HIIT. The high impact of caloric expenditure is an indication of the role played by sustained energy deficit in facilitating the loss of fat. Intense exercise raises the metabolic needs in exercising and excess post-exercise oxygen consumption (EPOC) adds to the energy spending after exercise (Yin et al., 2025).

The fact that the duration of workouts is positively related to weight loss also shows that total training volume is still a factor not to be ignored even in time-saving HIIT programs. Although the HIIT is generally described as short-session training, according to the results, the slight increase in duration might improve the overall caloric output and lead to better results.

Also, the difference in responses among the individuals would be due to the difference in metabolic efficiency, hormonal control and body composition at the stable level. This contributes to the greater idea of uniqueness of responsiveness to exercise, in which analogous training stimuli have dissimilar effects on the basis of physiological condition.

#### **4.6.3 Diversity and Situational influence.**

An important contribution of this research is that it was found that there was a significant variability in training results. Despite the existing overall trends of efficacy of HIIT, the extent to which it is benefiting individuals varies. Such heterogeneity implies that the effectiveness of HIIT cannot be universal since it is context-dependent.

Those who had higher baseline BMI and body fat percentage were more likely to show improvements and this is in line with the reasoning that the more metabolic power one has the more the change he or she is likely to make (Stephenson et al., 2025). However, the difference in time invested in the workout and calories lost indicate that the behavioral variables are also the defining factors of the outcomes.

This observation gives a possible reason as to why earlier studies have had their discrepancies. The variations in the reported results may be as a result of the variations in the sample features, training application, and general energy expenditure in the various researches, as opposed to the contradictory evidence. According to this the efficacy of HIIT should be envisioned to be conditional both in terms of individual as well as a contextual factor.

#### **4.6.4 Theoretical and Empirical Contribution.**

This research has a number of significant implications on the literature. To start with, it pushes existing knowledge by incorporating physiological and behavioral variables into one analysis, as opposed to analyzing them separately. This strategy offers a better in-depth description of the way HIIT works within the real world.

Second, the article puts forward a quantitative-oriented view that is consistent with the principles of competitive intelligence, which involves the use of performance analytics to learn about the results of

exercises. The research goes beyond controlled experimental paradigms because of the use of observational data in the area of fitness, which is a complex area of training (Arnett et al., 2019).

Third, the findings can be used to fill the gaps present in the current literature by demonstrating that the effectiveness of the HIIT is affected by the interactions of the training variables and the individual factors. It is an interaction-oriented perspective, which is a major theoretical input to the subject of exercise science.

#### **4.6.5 Practical Implications**

The results have a number of implications in practice both in clinical and fitness applications. Clinically, HIIT can be referred to as the approach that will assist in enhancing body composition and weight control. But, the variability seen indicates that interventions are to be personalized using the physiological characteristics of baseline.

On the training side, the results are concerned with the necessity to maximize the intensity and duration. Although the application of HIIT is commonly marketed as a time-saving strategy, the results show that the length of sessions is a vital parameter to consider in the overall energy expenditure. Balance programs with reasonable duration will probably have more results in a consistent manner (Schneider et al., 2025).

In addition, the paper emphasizes the importance of tracking the performance outcomes in the form of the caloric expenditure and duration of the workout. The combination of these variables in training design facilitates the use of data to make decisions, which will be more responsive and efficient in exercise strategies.

#### **4.6.6 Limitations and Future Research.**

Even though this study has contributed, it has a number of limitations. The data is observational, and it cannot be assumed that causality can be determined, and the results can only be viewed as correlations and not causes and effects. Also, the session-level data inhibit the possibility to estimate longitudinal changes with time.

Other potentially significant variables like dietary food, recovery patterns and lifestyle behaviors have also not been provided in the dataset and may affect the training outcomes. These factors should be included in future research and the longitudinal or experimental design used to gain a better idea of the causal mechanisms.

Moreover, the wearable technology data and advanced analytics could be added, which makes competitive intelligence more relevant to the study of fitness, and, hence, more precise and custom training models can be developed.

### **5. CONCLUSION**

It is a well-founded and comprehensive study of High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) where the authors establish that the technique is effective in losing weight and body composition under a realistic fitness facility. The results reveal caloric expenditure and length of workouts as the key variables linked with the process of weight loss, which supports the central position of the energy balance in the outcome of exercises.

Notably, the findings indicate that the effectiveness of HIIT is determined by the contact between training behavior and personal physiological factors, such as BMI and body fat percentage. This is one of the reasons why a multidimensional exercise design is necessary, in which behavioral performance and biological background are taken into consideration.

One of the main additions of this research is the fact that the variables of training are combined with the physiological results in the same analytical structure. Through the use of observational data, the study gives a more real life figure of fitness performance and further knowledge as compared to the controlled experimental environment. Through this, it also adds a data-supported view that corresponds to the competitive intelligence, which puts a lot of focus on the use of performance analytics in streamlining training strategies.

Practically, the results indicate that successful HIIT programs must be intense but at the same time with adequate length to make the most use of energy and also consider individual variability. This helps in the creation of more individual and dynamic training methods.

In conclusion, HIIT is a powerful and effective type of exercise when introduced into the system of data-driven structures. The emphasis on the interaction of the behavioral and physiological factors predisposes this study to be the foundation of the more specific, more personal and evidence based strategies of optimization of fitness and health.

## References

1. An, J., Jia, Q., & Huang, Y. (2025). Obesity care in Chinese adults: From evidence to clinical practice. *Precision Clinical Medicine*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/pcmedi/pbaf036>
2. Arnett, D. K., Blumenthal, R. S., Albert, M. A., Buroker, A. B., Goldberger, Z. D., Hahn, E. J., Himmelfarb, C. D., Khera, A., Lloyd-Jones, D., McEvoy, J. W., Michos, E. D., Miedema, M. D., Muñoz, D., Smith, S. C., Virani, S. S., Williams, K. A., Yeboah, J., & Ziaian, B. (2019). 2019 ACC/AHA guideline on the primary prevention of cardiovascular disease. *Circulation*, 140(11), e596–e646. <https://doi.org/10.1161/cir.0000000000000678>
3. BaiQuan, Y., Meng, C., Congqing, Z., & XiaoDong, W. (2025). Effects and post-exercise energy metabolism characteristics of different high-intensity interval training in obese adults. *Scientific Reports*, 15(1), 13770. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-98590-z>
4. Cheng, H., Song, S., Shu, H., Li, H., Tao, M., & Liu, B. (2026). Effects of HIIT and MICT on body fat composition and cardiopulmonary fitness in adults. *BMC Sports Science, Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 18(1), 94. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13102-025-01519-2>
5. Danković, G., Lazić, A., Andrić, O., Korobeinikov, G., Stanković, D., & Trajković, N. (2025). Effects of HIIT on physical fitness and body composition in recreationally active females. *Scientific Reports*, 15(1), 33982. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-11809-x>
6. Eslami, Z., Ghafi, A. G., Wong, A., Asghari, S. H., Asadi, N., & Mirghani, S. J. (2026). Additive effects of HIIT and therapeutic adenosine on lipid metabolism. *Scientific Reports*, 16(1), 6695. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-026-35546-x>
7. Faleiro, V., Gurgel, A. V., Guimarães, T. T., Figueiredo, T. C., Teixeira, F. G., Jotta, B., Monteiro, E. R., Meirelles, A. G., Caldas, C. C. A., de Almeida, M. T., Castiglione, R. C., & Marques-Neto, S. R. (2025). Isocaloric HIIT increases EPOC and lipid oxidation. *Sports*, 13(10), 355. <https://doi.org/10.3390/sports13100355>
8. Grivas, G. (2025). Artificial intelligence in endurance sports. *Nutrients*, 17(20), 3209. <https://www.mdpi.com/2072-6643/17/20/3209>
9. He, Z., Wang, Z., Dong, Y., Viktorovich, K. A., Hao, S., Yang, C., Liu, Y., & Dong, L. (2026). Data-driven reinforcement learning for material development. *Advanced Materials*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/adma.72332>
10. Jagsz, S., & Sikora, M. (2025). Effectiveness of HIIT vs cardio training for weight loss. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, 14(4), 1282. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jcm14041282>
11. Jayedi, A., Soltani, S., Emadi, A., Zargar, M. S., & Najafi, A. (2024). Aerobic exercise and weight loss: Meta-analysis. *JAMA Network Open*, 7(12), e2452185. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.52185>
12. Jia, P., Cao, X., Yang, H., Dai, S., He, P., Huang, G., Wu, T., & Wang, Y. (2021). Green space access and childhood obesity. *Obesity Reviews*, 22(S1), e13100. <https://doi.org/10.1111/obr.13100>
13. Lin, W. W., Su, H., Lan, X. Y., Ni, Q. Y., Wang, X. Y., Cui, K. Y., & Zhang, L. (2024). HIIT effects on body composition and inflammation. *Science & Sports*, 39(4), 348–357. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scispo.2023.09.002>
14. Luo, P., Huang, M., Ye, Y., Wang, R., Yan, W., Zhu, L., Liu, S., Tang, Y., Liu, K., & Gao, W. (2025). HIIT vs MICT on arterial stiffness. *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, 136, 105890. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.archger.2025.105890>
15. Madrigal-Cerezo, R. (2026). Wearable biosensing and machine learning for training. *Biosensors*, 16(2), 97. <https://www.mdpi.com/2079-6374/16/2/97>
16. Pasrija, P., Jha, P., Upadhyaya, P., Khan, M. S., & Chopra, M. (2022). AI in big data-driven drug discovery. *Current Drug Discovery Technologies*, 22(20), 1692–1727. <https://doi.org/10.2174/1568026622666220701091339>
17. Poon, E. T. C., Li, H. Y., Little, J. P., Wong, S. H. S., & Ho, R. S. T. (2024). Interval training and body composition. *Sports Medicine*, 54(11), 2817–2840. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40279-024-02070-9>
18. Qi, K., Tan, L., Xu, Q., Xu, Y., Kawczyński, A., & Chen, A. (2026). Effects of HIIT on aerobic capacity and performance. *BMC Sports Science, Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 18, 41. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13102-025-01479-7>
19. Ramalho, A. (2023). Knowledge in motion: Human kinetics review. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 20(11), 6020. <https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/20/11/6020>

20. Rotge, J. Y., Poitou, C., Fossati, P., Aron-Wisnewsky, J., & Oppert, J. M. (2017). Decision-making in obesity. *Obesity Reviews*, 18(8), 936–942. <https://doi.org/10.1111/obr.12549>
21. Sampaio, T., Oliveira, J., Marinho, D., & Oliveira, H. (2024). Machine learning in sports performance. *Applied Sciences*, 14(13), 5517. <https://www.mdpi.com/2076-3417/14/13/5517>
22. Sanca-Valeriano, S., Espinola-Sánchez, M., Caballero-Alvarado, J., & Canelo-Aybar, C. (2023). HIIT vs MICT effects on body composition. *Heliyon*, 9(10), e20402. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e20402>
23. Schneider, A., Leite, L. B., Santos, F., Teixeira, J., Forte, P., Barbosa, T. M., & Monteiro, A. M. (2025). HIIT and functional fitness in older adults. *Applied Sciences*, 15(19), 10745. <https://doi.org/10.3390/app151910745>
24. Sert, H., Gulbahar Eren, M., Gurcay, B., & Koc, F. (2025). HIIT and cardiometabolic health. *BMC Sports Science, Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 17(1), 128. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13102-025-01176-5>
25. Stephenson, J. C., Tran, T. D., & Graber, T. G. (2025). HIIT and cognitive function. *Frontiers in Aging*, 6, 1589730. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fragi.2025.1589730>
26. Wang, H., Guo, G., Yang, M., Jiang, S., Yang, W., & Zhao, Y. (2026). AI tools for monitoring obesity-related behaviors. *Eating and Weight Disorders*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13668-026-00735-7>
27. Warren, J. L., Hunter, G. R., Gower, B. A., Bamman, M. M., Windham, S. T., Moellering, D. R., & Fisher, G. (2020). Exercise and mitochondrial function. *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*, 52(4), 827–834. <https://doi.org/10.1249/mss.0000000000002190>
28. Xiaoyan, L., Nazarudin, M. N., & Mansor, A. Z. (2025). Running apps and physical fitness: Longitudinal study. *Journal of Physical Education and Sport*, 25(5), 1060–1070. <https://doi.org/10.7752/jpes.2025.05117>
29. Yin, H., Zhang, J., Lian, M., & Zhang, Y. (2025). HIIT effectiveness in university students. *BMC Public Health*, 25(1), 1601. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-025-22829-7>
30. Zhang, J. Z., Liu, X. M., Lu, S. Q., Cao, Z. B., & Zhu, Z. (2025). HIIT and metabolic flexibility in obesity. *Journal of Exercise Science & Fitness*, 23(4), 396–404. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jesf.2025.07.005>
31. Zheng, W., Yin, M., Guo, Y., Liu, H., Sun, J., Zhu, A., Zhong, Y., Xu, K., Li, H., & Piao, S. (2025). HIIT vs MICT in overweight youth. *Frontiers in Physiology*, 16, 1625516. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphys.2025.1625516>