

Who Gets Kissed?

The Effects of Gender, Body-size, and Hometown on Kissing-Partner Totals in Taiwanese Twenty-somethings

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Abstract

This report presents a statistical summary of data on people's number of kissing-partners, collected from a sample of twelve Taiwanese individuals in their twenties. Variables analyzed include gender, age, height, weight, and hometown. Descriptive statistics and visualizations are used to explore potential trends, followed by inferential tests including Pearson correlation, point-biserial correlation, or Kruskal-Wallis tests where appropriate. No significant correlations were found between the number of kissing partners and the height or weight variable. Gender and age also showed no significant effect. However, a significant effect was found for hometown, with participants from Kaohsiung and Taipei reporting higher numbers of kissing partners than those from Taoyuan.

1 Introduction

This report explores the relationship between an individual's *kiss-count* and a set of demographic and physical variables: gender, age, height, weight, and hometown. 'Kiss-count' refers to the total number of people each participant reports having kissed in their lifetime. The dataset consists of twelve Taiwanese participants in their twenties, with variation across gender, age, and physical characteristics. The goal of this project is to identify potential associations between kiss-count and the variables under investigation using a combination of descriptive statistics, visualizations, and inferential statistical tests. Each section below focuses on one or more variables and summarizes the corresponding findings.

*Submit this part of the assignment as a PDF file with a link to your Overleaf project like so: <https://www.overleaf.com/read/rsjwntjbgrfc#c82028>. Put the '\ ' before the # character, otherwise it won't show up! Make 100% sure the whole link shows up the PDF file. To get the link to project, just click the share menu at the top of the page.

Person	Gender	Age	Height	Weight	Hometown	Kiss-count
Anna	Female	20	150.5	55.4	Kaohsiung	7
Betty	Female	24	140.4	52.1	Taoyuan	3
Carla	Female	28	135.3	46.5	Kaohsiung	10
David	Male	21	170.2	67.6	Taipei	10
Edward	Male	24	180.1	75.4	Taoyuan	1
Fred	Male	28	175.0	78.9	Taoyuan	0
George	Male	25	185.1	75.6	Taoyuan	2
Henry	Male	29	170.2	65.6	Taipei	5
Ines	Female	27	165.3	60.1	Taoyuan	1
Joanne	Female	25	155.4	68.9	Taoyuan	2
Keith	Male	25	165.5	64.5	Taipei	4
Laura	Female	22	170.6	63.4	Taoyuan	0

Table 1: Kiss-count data from Mattausch (2025)

The dataset includes 12 individuals: 6 males and 6 females. Participants come from three hometowns—Taoyuan (7 individuals), Taipei (3), and Kaohsiung (2). The average age across all participants is approximately 24.3 years. The average number of kissing partners (kiss-count) is 3.42, with a minimum of 0 and a maximum of 10. The highest kiss-counts were reported by Carla and David (10 each), while Fred and Laura reported zero. Among males, the average height is 174.3 cm and average weight is 73.0 kg. Among females, the average height is 152.9 cm and average weight is 58.1 kg.

2 Kiss-count, Age, and Gender

To explore potential associations between kiss-count and age or gender, we first examined basic descriptive statistics and visualizations. As shown in Figure 1, females and males both exhibited a wide range of kiss-counts, with no clear difference in central tendency. A point-biserial correlation was calculated to test the relationship between gender and kiss-count. The result was not statistically significant ($|r| < 0.1$, $p > 0.9$), indicating no reliable association between gender and kiss-count in this sample.¹

Figure 2 plots kiss-count against age. Although some participants with higher kiss-counts were older, the pattern was inconsistent. A Pearson correlation was computed to assess the linear relationship between age and kiss-count. Figure 2 shows a scatterplot of kiss-count by age, with a fitted regression line and a shaded 95% confidence interval. The weak, non-significant correlation ($r \approx 0.17$, $p > .5$) indicates no linear relationship between age and number of people kissed.²

Taken together, these results indicate that neither age nor gender was significantly associated with kiss-count in this dataset.

¹Code: 01_gender_kiss.py on GitHub

²Code: 02_age_kiss.py on GitHub

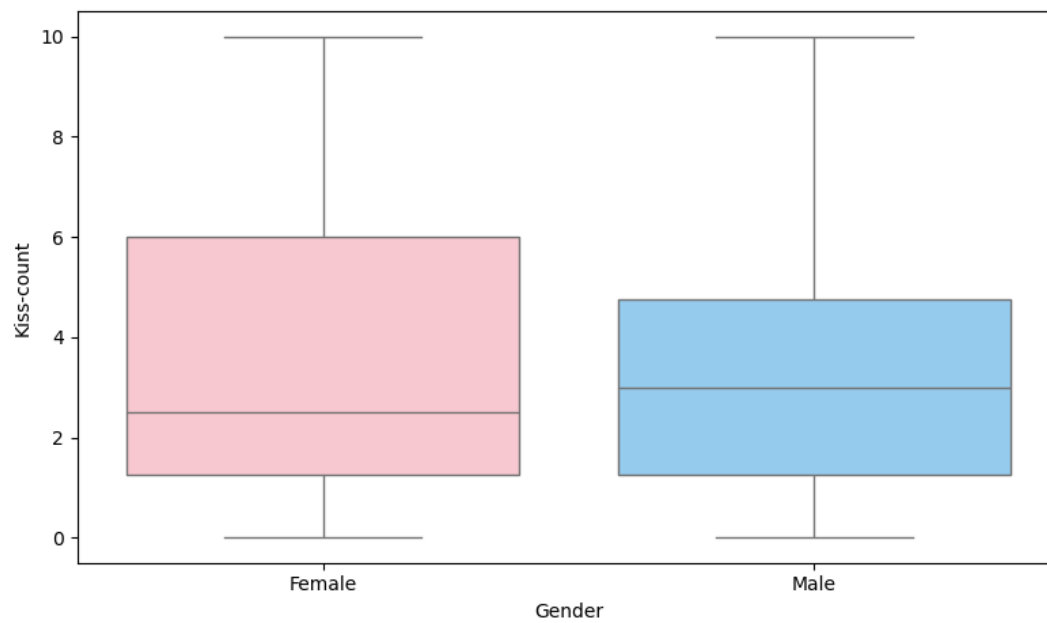


Figure 1: Kiss-count and gender ($r \approx -0.02$, $p \approx 0.94$)

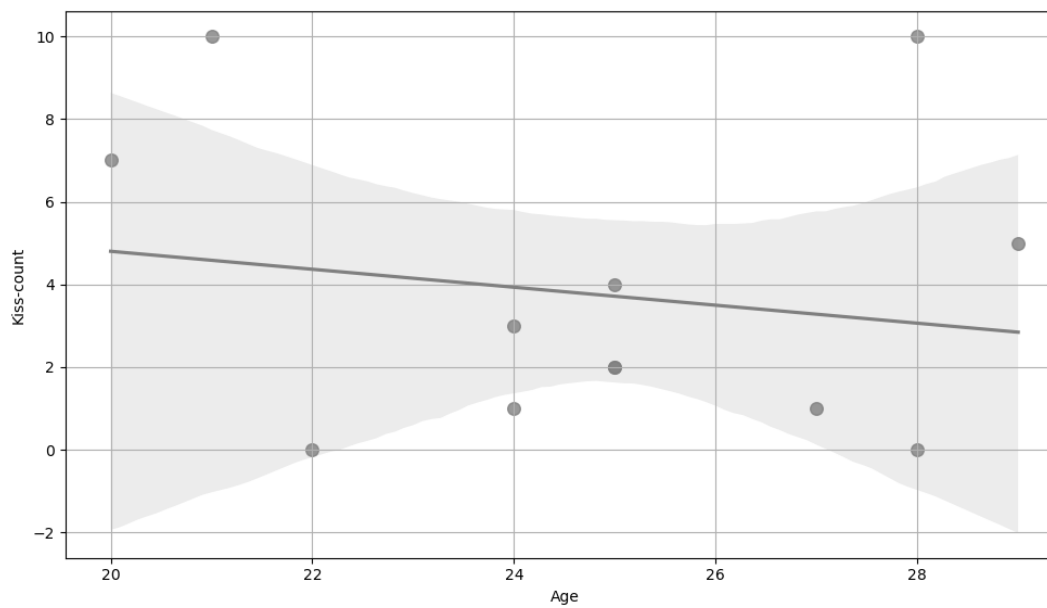


Figure 2: Kiss-count and age ($r \approx -0.17$, $p \approx 0.59$)

3 Kiss-count, Height, and Weight

This section investigates whether physical characteristics, specifically height and weight, are associated with kiss count. As shown in Figure 3, height and weight are strongly correlated with each other, reflecting a consistent pattern across individuals. However, kiss count does not appear to follow this trend. While a few shorter and lighter individuals reported higher kiss counts, there is no clear or consistent relationship. A Pearson correlation analysis confirmed this: the association between height and kiss count was not statistically significant ($r \approx -0.49$, $p > 0.1$), nor was the relationship between weight and kiss count ($r \approx -0.54$, $p > 0.07$).³ These findings suggest that although height and weight track together, neither reliably predicts kiss count in this sample.

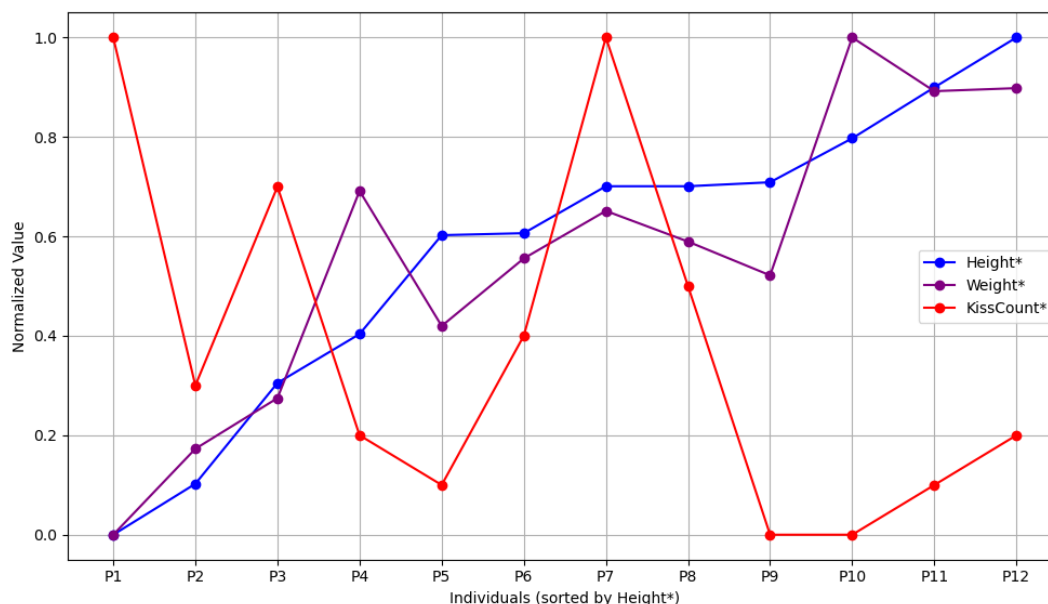


Figure 3: Normalized values for kiss-count, height, and weight

It is noteworthy that, when gender is taken into account, Figure 5 (the height–weight–kiss-count bubble chart) suggests a possible interaction. Among male participants, the three tallest individuals—George (185.1 cm), Edward (180.1 cm), and Fred (175.0 cm)—reported the lowest kiss-counts (2, 1, and 0 respectively). In contrast, among females, the three shortest participants—Carla (135.3 cm), Betty (140.4 cm), and Anna (150.5 cm)—had some of the highest kiss-counts (10, 3, and 7 respectively).⁴ While these observations are based on a small sample and were not statistically tested, they suggest that future research could explore whether height-related social perceptions differ by gender and influence romantic or social experiences accordingly.

³Code: 03_height_weight_kiss_linechart.py on GitHub

⁴Code: 04_height_weight_kiss_bubblechart.py on GitHub

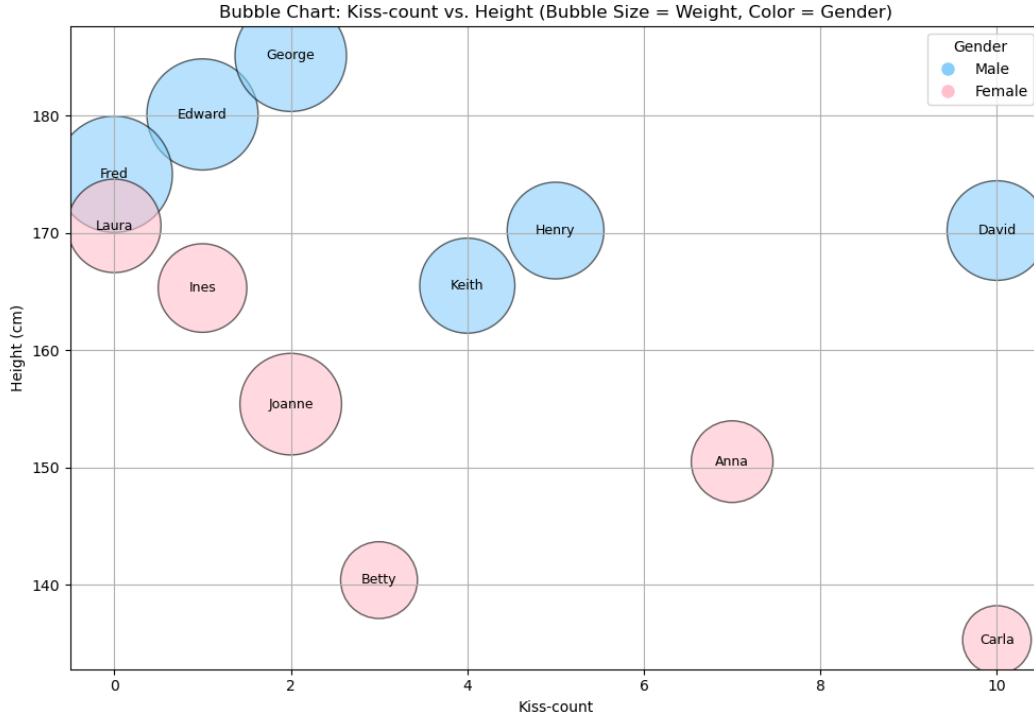


Figure 4: Kiss-count for various heights, weights, and genders

4 Kiss-count and Hometown

To investigate whether kiss-count varied by hometown, participants were grouped according to their reported hometowns: Taoyuan, Taipei, and Kaohsiung. Figure 6 presents the distribution of kiss-counts across these groups. Participants from Kaohsiung and Taipei reported notably higher kiss-counts on average compared to those from Taoyuan.

Because the sample size was small and the distributions were not normally distributed, a Kruskal–Wallis H test was used to assess whether kiss-counts differed significantly across hometown groups. The test revealed a statistically significant difference ($H \approx 8.34, p < 0.02$)⁵, indicating that hometown is associated with variation in kiss-count in this dataset. Further analyses were not conducted due to the limited sample size, but the pattern suggests that participants from Taoyuan generally reported fewer kissing partners than those from the other two cities.

⁵Code: 05_hometown_kiss_boxplot_violin_barchart.py on GitHub

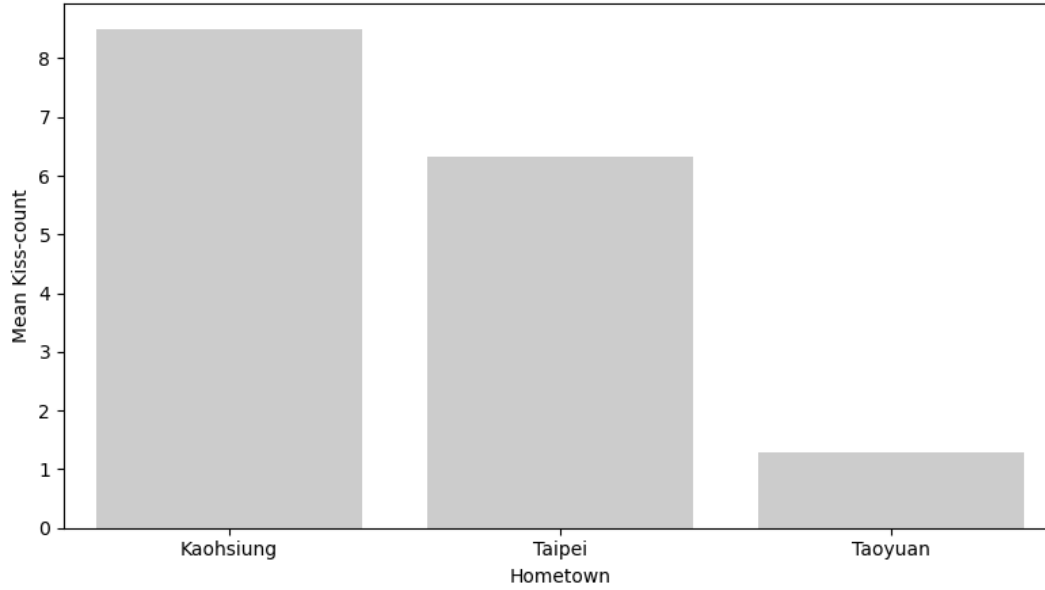


Figure 5: Average kiss-count by hometown (Kruskal-Wallis $H \approx 8.34$, $p \approx 0.015$)

5 Conclusion

This report analyzed the relationship between kiss count and several demographic and physical variables in a small sample of Taiwanese individuals in their twenties. No significant associations were found between kiss count and gender, age, height, or weight. However, a significant effect was observed for hometown, with participants from Taoyuan reporting consistently lower kiss counts than those from Taipei and Kaohsiung. Further research with a larger and more diverse sample could clarify the strength and nature of this relationship and help determine whether hometown exerts a consistent influence on romantic or social experience.

References

Mattausch, J. (2025). Stuff that isn't really true. *Journal of Nonsense and Baloney*, 12:1–16.