

# New position statement supports permanent standard time

October 31 2023

---



Credit: Unsplash/CC0 Public Domain

An updated [position statement](#) from the American Academy of Sleep Medicine supports the replacement of daylight saving time with permanent standard time.

The statement is [published](#) in the *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*.

It is the position of the AASM that the United States should eliminate seasonal time changes in favor of permanent standard time, which aligns best with human circadian biology. According to the statement, evidence supports the distinct benefits of standard time for health and safety, while also underscoring the potential harms that result from seasonal time changes to and from daylight saving time.

"By causing the human body clock to be misaligned with the natural environment, daylight saving time increases risks to our [physical health](#), mental well-being, and [public safety](#)," said lead author Dr. M. Adeel Rishi, who is chair of the AASM Public Safety Committee and a pulmonary, [sleep medicine](#), and critical care specialist at Indiana University Health in Indianapolis. "Permanent standard time is the optimal choice for health and safety."

The original [position statement published by the AASM in 2020](#) stated that current evidence best supports the adoption of year-round standard time. Based on a growing body of evidence, the updated position statement emphasizes that daylight saving time should be replaced by permanent standard time. This position is supported by similar statements adopted by other organizations including the [Society for Research on Biological Rhythms](#), [National Sleep Foundation](#), [Sleep Research Society](#), and [American Medical Association](#).

"Permanent standard time helps synchronize the body clock with the rising and setting of the sun," said Dr. James A. Rowley, president of the AASM. "This natural synchrony is optimal for [healthy sleep](#), and sleep is essential for health, mood, performance, and safety."

The [position statement](#) was developed by the AASM Public Safety Committee and based on a review of existing literature. It was approved

by the AASM board of directors and endorsed by 20 medical, scientific, and advocacy organizations:

- American Academy of Cardiovascular Sleep Medicine
- American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine
- American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
- American Association of Sleep Technologists
- American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST)
- American College of Lifestyle Medicine
- American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
- American Thoracic Society
- Dakota Sleep Society
- Michigan Academy of Sleep Medicine
- Montana Sleep Society
- National PTA
- National Safety Council
- National Sleep Foundation
- Sleep Research Society
- Society for Research on Biological Rhythms
- Society of Anesthesia and Sleep Medicine
- Society of Behavioral Sleep Medicine
- Southern Sleep Society
- World Sleep Society

Most of the U.S. will return to standard time when daylight saving time ends Sunday, Nov. 5.

**More information:** Muhammad Adeel Rishi et al, Permanent standard time is the optimal choice for health and safety: an American Academy of Sleep Medicine position statement, *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine* (2023). [DOI: 10.5664/jcsm.10898](https://doi.org/10.5664/jcsm.10898)

Visit the Sleep Education website to learn more from the AASM about

[daylight saving time.](#)

Provided by American Academy of Sleep Medicine

Citation: New position statement supports permanent standard time (2023, October 31) retrieved 13 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2023-10-position-statement-permanent-standard.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.