# Personality Disorders: A Bibliometric Analysis

Kişilik Bozuklukları: Bibliyometrik Bir Analiz

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This study aims to map the studies on personality disorders using the bibliometric analysis method. It focuses on how the studies on personality disorders have evolved over the years, their distribution across different fields, their relationships with other concepts, the interest of countries, institutions, and researchers in personality disorders, and the visualization of relationships between studies and researchers. For the bibliometric analysis of personality disorders, contents indexed in the Web of Science database were used as criteria. VOSviewer software was used for the bibliometric analysis. The keywords used in the literature search were determined as: personality disorders, personality traits, and personality disorder. A literature search conducted on July 18, 2024, in the Web of Science database without any publication type limitation related to personality disorders reached 77,118 studies published between 1975-2024. Most of the studies were conducted in psychiatry, clinical psychology, and multidisciplinary psychology. The analysis results show that personality disorders have always been a topic of interest to researchers in the international literature, but this interest has increased significantly, especially after 2004. This study will contribute to future research by identifying gaps in the literature and the trends of researchers regarding the concept.

**Keywords:** *personality disorders, personality disorder, personality traits, bibliometric analysis*

Bu çalışma, bibliyometrik analiz yöntemini kullanarak kişilik bozuklukları üzerine yapılan çalışmaların bir haritasını çıkarmayı amaçlamaktadır. Kişilik bozuklukları üzerine yapılan çalışmaların yıllar içinde nasıl geliştiği, farklı alanlara dağılımı, diğer kavramlarla ilişkisi, ülkelerin, kurumların ve araştırmacıların kişilik bozukluklarına olan ilgisi, çalışmalar ve araştırmacılar arasındaki ilişkilerin görselleştirilmesi gibi konulara odaklanılmaktadır. Kişilik bozukluklarının bibliyometrik analizi için Web of Science veri tabanında indekslenen içerikler kriter olarak kullanılmıştır. Bibliyometrik analiz için VOSviewer yazılımı kullanılmıştır. Literatür taramasında kullanılan anahtar kelimeler: kişilik bozuklukları, kişilik özellikleri ve kişilik bozukluğu olarak belirlenmiştir. Web of Science veri tabanında 18 Temmuz 2024 tarihinde kişilik bozuklukları ile ilgili herhangi bir yayın türü sınırlaması olmaksızın yapılan literatür taramasında 1975-2024 yılları arasında yayınlanmış 77.118 çalışmaya ulaşılmıştır. Çalışmaların çoğu psikiyatri, klinik psikoloji ve multidisipliner psikoloji alanlarında yapılmıştır. Analiz sonuçları, kişilik bozukluklarının uluslararası literatürde her zaman araştırmacıların ilgisini çeken bir konu olduğunu, ancak bu ilginin özellikle 2004 yılından sonra önemli ölçüde arttığını göstermektedir. Bu çalışma, literatürdeki boşlukları ve araştırmacıların kavrama ilişkin eğilimlerini belirleyerek gelecekteki araştırmalara katkı sağlayacaktır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** *kişilik bozuklukları, kişilik bozukluğu, kişilik özellikleri, bibliyometrik analiz*

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# INTRODUCTION

Personality disorder is an internal experience and behavioral pattern that is characterized by disturbances in identity and interpersonal functioning (Ertan & Cankorur, 2017). It is estimated that the lifetime prevalence of all personality disorders among adults is 7.8% (Svela et al., 2022a). Considering the individuals interacting with those who have a personality disorder, the impact level can be considered quite high. For this reason, the diagnosis and intervention process regarding personality disorders is of great importance. Moreover, personality disorders often lead to significant impairments not only in mental health but also in social, occupational, and overall functional domains, resulting in considerable public health challenges (Fok et al., 2021; Sharp & Wall, 2021b). The stigma surrounding personality disorders and their frequent comorbidity with other psychiatric conditions further complicate diagnosis and treatment efforts (Sharp et al., 2022).

Many definitions of personality disorder have been made throughout history, and various diagnostic systems have been developed. One of these systems is the diagnostic system of the American Psychiatric Association (APA), whose diagnostic criteria are found in the most recent revised 5th edition of the DSM-5, published in 2013. In the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5), personality disorder is described as "a persistent pattern of internal experience and behavior that deviates markedly from the expectations of the individual's culture, is pervasive and inflexible, begins in adolescence or early adulthood, is stable over time, and leads to distress or impairment" (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). In the DSM-5-TR, personality disorders are categorized into three clusters: Cluster A (paranoid, schizoid, and schizotypal), Cluster B (antisocial, borderline, histrionic, and narcissistic), and Cluster C (avoidant, dependent, and obsessive-compulsive). However, due to issues such as the categorical classification of personality disorders and the overlap of diagnostic criteria, the DSM-5 introduced an alternative model for personality disorders, which combines both categorical and dimensional approaches (Sharp & Wall, 2021b). According to the DSM-5 alternative model, the diagnosis of personality disorder includes "impairments in identity and interpersonal functioning" and the severity of five core personality traits, such as "negative affectivity, detachment, antagonism, disinhibition, and psychoticism," along with the traditional diagnoses of six typical personality disorders. These six personality disorders include "antisocial, avoidant, narcissistic, obsessive-compulsive, borderline, and schizotypal personality disorders" (APA, 2013; Töre, 2023). This dimensional approach reflects the growing consensus that personality pathology exists on a continuum, allowing for a more nuanced understanding of symptom severity and heterogeneity across individuals (Hopwood et al., 2018; Wright et al., 2021).

Another diagnostic system related to personality disorders is the ICD classification system developed by the World Health Organization (WHO). The ICD-10, used until 2022, also adopted a categorical approach similar to the DSM-5. However, in the ICD-11, which came into effect in 2022, significant changes were made in the classification of personality disorders (WHO, 2024b). The ICD-11 diagnosis of personality disorders focuses on impairments in identity and interpersonal functioning, which can be classified by severity as "Personality Difficulty, Mild Personality Disorder, Moderate Personality Disorder, and Severe Personality Disorder." It also focuses on personality traits that affect impairments in personality functioning, such as "negative affectivity, detachment, social withdrawal, disinhibition, and anankastia" (Bach & First, 2018a). This trait-focused framework in ICD-11 aims to improve clinical utility and facilitate individualized treatment planning by recognizing specific trait domains contributing to dysfunction (Tyrer et al., 2020). Early studies on ICD-11's implementation indicate enhanced diagnostic reliability and better alignment with clinical observations compared to previous models (Clark et al., 2022).

There are many factors in the etiology of personality disorders, including genetic predisposition, early attachment experiences, traumatic life events, family environment, and sociocultural factors (Magnavita, 2016). Personality disorders are shaped and developed through the interaction of these factors (Konduz, 2015). Recent advances in neurobiological research have also highlighted the role of brain structure and function, particularly in emotion regulation and impulse control circuits, contributing to the development and maintenance of personality pathology (Carcone et al., 2020; Whittle et al., 2022). Understanding and treating personality disorders requires a comprehensive approach involving contributions from various disciplines, including genetics, psychology, psychiatry, and social sciences. A bibliometric analysis of studies in different fields related to personality disorders, along with the discovery of patterns in these studies, can contribute to meeting this need in the relevant literature.

Bibliometrics can be defined as "a statistical method that allows for the quantitative analysis of publications related to a specific topic through mathematical approaches" (Yu et al., 2020a). Bibliometric analysis is a commonly used and appropriate method for examining and analyzing large volumes of scientific data. This method enables the efficient collection of literature, the establishment of relationships among selected publications, the understanding of connections between journal citations, and the presentation of the current state of a specific research topic (Kuzior & Sira, 2022a). Bibliometric analysis is an area of research that is gaining increasing attention from researchers. In the literature, there are various manuscripts that present bibliometric frameworks in diverse research fields, ranging from management to economics, entrepreneurship to international business (Merigó & Yang, 2017). The application of bibliometric analyses in mental health and personality disorder research has grown in recent

years, offering insights into emerging themes, influential authors, and collaborative networks (de Moya-Anegón et al., 2021).

Personality disorders are conditions that can negatively affect both individual and social life, disrupting the individual's adaptation. In light of scientific advancements, they are being redefined based on the accumulated knowledge of the past. Research on this dynamic and impactful concept is of great importance. A review of the literature reveals no bibliometric analysis studies on personality disorders. For these reasons, it can be stated that there is a need for bibliometric studies on personality disorders. This would allow researchers to identify gaps and opportunities in the literature, contributing to future research. In light of all this information, this study aims to map the studies on personality disorders using the bibliometric analysis method. This study aims to present the bibliometric profile of academic works related to personality disorders from a holistic perspective based on bibliometric analyses of quantitative data. To achieve this, the question "What is the place of personality disorders in the literature?" has been addressed. The sub-research questions are as follows:

a. What is the distribution of manuscripts on personality disorders by years?

b. What is the distribution of manuscripts on personality disorders by document types?

c. What is the distribution of manuscripts on personality disorders by organizations?

d. What are the languages of publication of research on personality disorders?

e. What is the distribution of manuscripts on personality disorders by countries?

f. What is the distribution of journals that publish the most on personality disorders by fields?

g. What are the most cited manuscripts on personality disorders?

h. What journals publish the most manuscripts on personality disorders and receive the most citations?

i. What are the most commonly used keywords in studies related to personality disorders?

j. What is the status of citation of countries of personality disorders articles?

## METHOD

### Research Model

This study was designed using a descriptive survey model as one of the quantitative research methods. The main purpose of the descriptive survey model is to reveal the current situation regarding a subject (Büyüköztürk et al. 2024). The study was structured in a descriptive

survey model as it aimed to examine the effectiveness of academic studies on personality disorders in WoS regarding bibliometric indicators.

**Data Analysis**

The research method is a case study that presents the current situation. Since statistical methods are also used, it can be stated that a mixed-methods approach is employed. There are various tools available in the literature for bibliometric analysis. One such tool, VOSviewer, stands out for being a free, easy-to-use program that also offers features like visualization, mapping, and multidimensional analysis. These features make it a preferred tool. Maps created using VOSviewer include elements such as authors, institutions, author keywords, and countries, and the connections between these elements are visualized. A stronger connection means a higher value, and this strength of connection is expressed with a positive numerical value. In this study, the data were obtained from the Web of Science database. The Web of Science database enhances the quality of the research due to its inclusion of high-impact scientific journals and its commitment to qualified and reliable publications.

On July 18, 2024, a literature search was conducted in the Web of Science database using the keywords "personality disorder," "personality disorders," and "personality traits," without any limitation on publication type, yielding 77,118 studies related to the concept of personality disorder. The search results included 62,582 manuscripts, 1,271 book chapters, 629 book reviews, 5,215 review manuscripts, 3,545 methodological studies, 1,478 editorial content pieces, 3,567 conference papers, 1,037 early view studies, 739 letters, and 95 book publications, published between 1975 and 2024 across different fields. The distribution of these publications by field revealed that the majority of studies were conducted in psychiatry (28,334), followed by clinical psychology (10,390), multidisciplinary psychology (7,887), social psychology (6,452), neuroscience (5,504), clinical neurology (4,751), psychology (4,022), substance addiction (2,014), public, occupational, and environmental health (1,960), and applied psychology (1,881). The data obtained were analyzed through author, citation, journal, country, institution, and keyword analyses.

## RESULTS

This section presents the findings obtained from the study. Access to the Web of Science database was gained on July 18, 2024, and the data obtained from the literature search were tabulated. The distribution of studies on personality disorders by field is presented below.
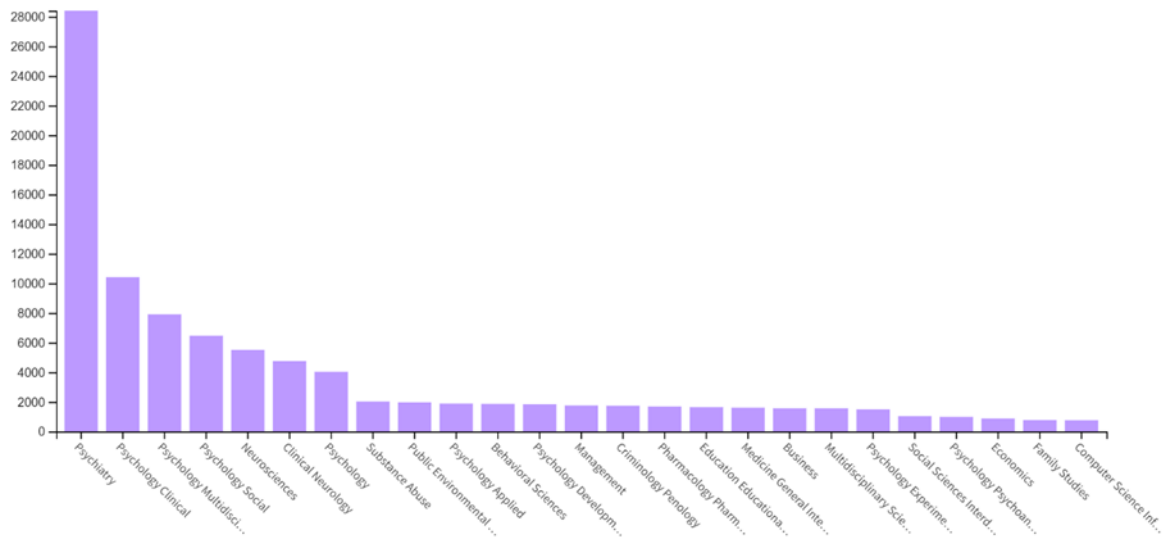
*Figure 1.* Distribution of studies on personality disorders by field

When examining the obtained bar graph, it is evident that studies on personality disorders are concentrated in the fields of psychiatry, clinical psychology, and multidisciplinary psychology. It can be stated that research on personality disorders covers a wide range of fields, from economics to public health. Below is a graph showing the distribution of publications on personality disorders by publication type.
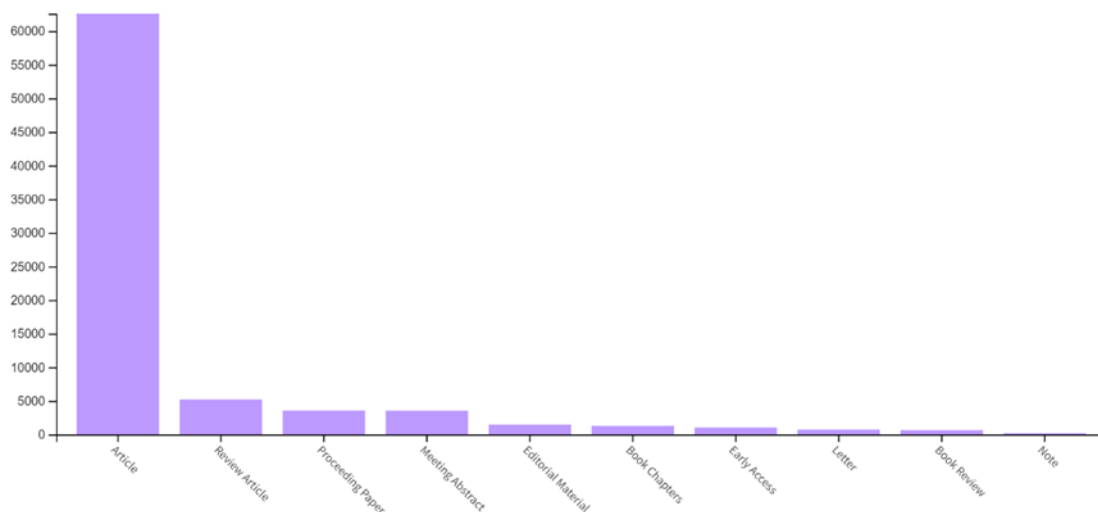


*Figure 2.* Distribution of studies on personality disorders by publication type

Upon examining the graph, it is observed that studies on personality disorders are predominantly in the form of manuscripts (62,582), while book-type publications (95) are

significantly fewer compared to other publication types. The following graph illustrates the change in the number of studies on personality disorders over time.
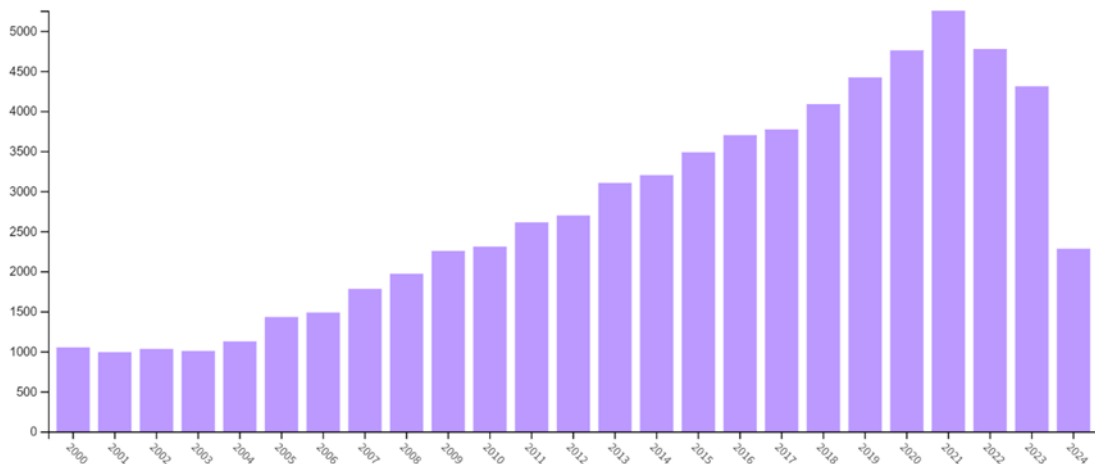


*Figure 3.* Distribution of studies on personality disorders by year

Looking at the graph, it can be observed that the number of studies on personality disorders increased notably after 2003, with a slight decline observed starting in 2021. The following graph presents the distribution of languages used in studies on personality disorders.



*Figure 4.* Distribution of studies on personality disorders by language

According to the treemap, the majority of studies on personality disorders are published in English (72,392), followed by German (1,703) and Spanish (811). Turkish publications (239), ranking 6th, are also present in the Web of Science database. The findings show that studies have

been published in 35 different languages. Below is the information for the top 10 journals with the most publications on personality disorders.

**Table 1**

*Journals on Personality Disorders (Top 10 Journals with the Most Publications)*

| Rank | Journal Name | Number of Publications (WOS*) |
|:---:|:---|:---:|
| 1 | Personality and Individual Differences | 2,070 |
| 2 | Journal of Personality Disorders | 1,520 |
| 3 | Frontiers in Psychology | 1,087 |
| 4 | European Psychiatry | 1,023 |
| 5 | Psychiatry Research | 966 |
| 6 | American Journal of Psychiatry | 841 |
| 7 | Journal of Affective Disorders | 801 |
| 8 | PLOS ONE | 789 |
| 9 | Comprehensive Psychiatry | 659 |
| 10 | Personality Disorders: Theory, Research and Treatment | 638 |

*Web of Science

The journal with the most publications on personality disorders is Personality and Individual Differences, which is a peer-reviewed academic journal published 16 times a year. According to the Web of Science database, the top 10 most cited manuscripts related to personality disorders are presented in the table below.

**Table 2**

*Manuscripts on Personality Disorders (Top 10 Most Cited Manuscripts)*

| Rank | Authors | Manuscript Title | WOS* Citation Count |
|:---:|:---|:---|:---:|
| 1 | Kessler, R. C., McGonagle, K. A., Zhao, S., Nelson, C. B., Hughes, M., Eshleman, S., ... & Kendler, K. S. (1994) | Lifetime and 12-month prevalence of DSM-III-R psychiatric disorders in the United States: results from the National Comorbidity Survey. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 51(1), 8-19. | 9,543 |
| 2 | Kirschbaum, C., Pirke, K. M., & Hellhammer, D. H. (1993) | The 'Trier Social Stress Test' – a tool for investigating psychobiological stress responses in a laboratory setting. *Neuropsychobiology*, 28(1-2), 76-81. | 4,346 |
| 3 | Gottesman, I. I., & Gould, T. D. (2003) | The endo-phenotype concept in psychiatry: etymology and strategic intentions. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 160(4), 636-645. | 4,194 |
| 4 | Buss, A. H., & Perry, M. (1992) | The aggression questionnaire. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 63(3), 452. | 4,079 |
| 5 | Lesch, K. P., Bengel, D., Heils, A., Sabol, S. Z., Greenberg, B. D., Petri, S., ... & Murphy, D. L. (1996) | Association of anxiety-related traits with a polymorphism in the serotonin transporter gene regulatory region. *Science*, 274(5292), 1527-1531. | 4,057 |
| 6 | Dowlati, Y., Herrmann, N., Swardfager, W., Liu, H., Sham, L., Reim, E. K., & Lanctôt, K. L. (2010) | A meta-analysis of cytokines in major depression. *Biological Psychiatry*, 67(5), 446-457. | 3,391 |
| 7 | Van Orden, K. A., Witte, T. K., Cukrowicz, K. C., Braithwaite, S. R., Selby, E. A., & Joiner Jr, T. E. (2010) | The interpersonal theory of suicide. *Psychological Review*, 117(2), 575. | 3,157 |

| Rank | Authors | Manuscript Title | WOS* Citation Count |
|------|---------|------------------|---------------------|
| 8 | Cloninger, C. R. (1987) | A systematic method for clinical description and classification of personality variants: A proposal. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 44(6), 573-588. | 2,773 |
| 9 | Bernstein, E. M., & Putnam, F. W. (1986) | Development, reliability, and validity of a dissociation scale. | 2,752 |
| 10 | Goldberg, L. R. (1993) | The structure of phenotypic personality traits. *American Psychologist*, 48(1), 26. | 2,732 |

*Web of Science

The most cited publication, titled "Lifetime and 12-Month Prevalence of DSM-III-R Psychiatric Disorders in the United States: Results From the National Comorbidity Survey," investigated the lifetime and 12-month prevalence estimates of 14 DSM-III-R psychiatric disorders in a national probability sample in the United States using the National Comorbidity Survey. The study concluded that the prevalence of psychiatric disorders was higher than previously thought. The study also emphasized the importance of investigating the causes and consequences of high comorbidity rates, which should be a focus of future research (Kessler et al., 1994).

### Citation of Authors

To determine the citation networks of authors, a network map was created by considering authors with at least 1 citation and at least 5 publications. It was found that there are 19 clusters and 90,991 connections across 2,763 units. The total connection strength is 184,762. It was observed that the authors with the most publications (Joshua D. Miller with 188 publications, Christian Schmahl with 187 publications, and Peter Fonagy with 178 publications) are among the authors with high total connection strength. Below is the network map for the author citation analysis.
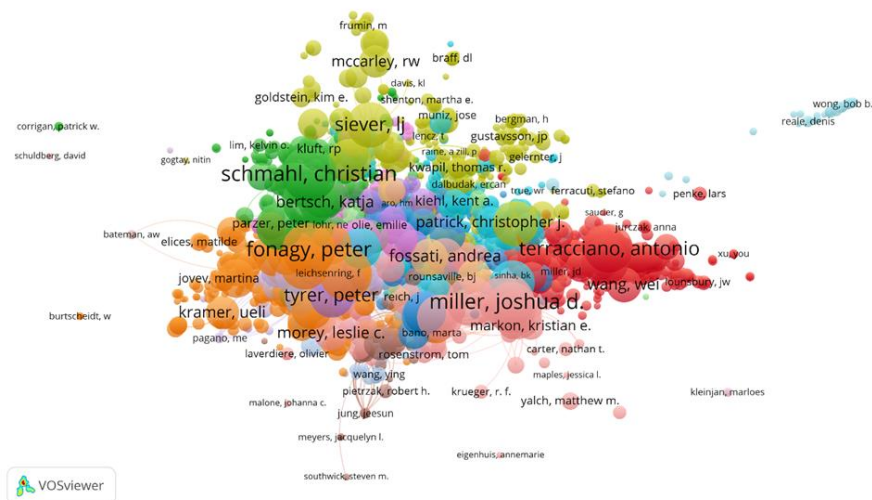


*Figure 5.* Author Citation Analysis Network Map

**Citation of Countries**

In the citation analysis based on countries' publications, the criteria were set as at least 5 publications and at least 1 citation, and a network map was created. The mapping process across 47 units resulted in 7 clusters, 577 connections, and a total connection strength of 15,237. The countries with the most publications and the highest citation counts are the United States with 1,658 publications and 533,825 citations, the United Kingdom with 377 publications and 108,137 citations, and Germany with 268 publications and 77,705 citations. Below is the network map for the citation analysis of countries.
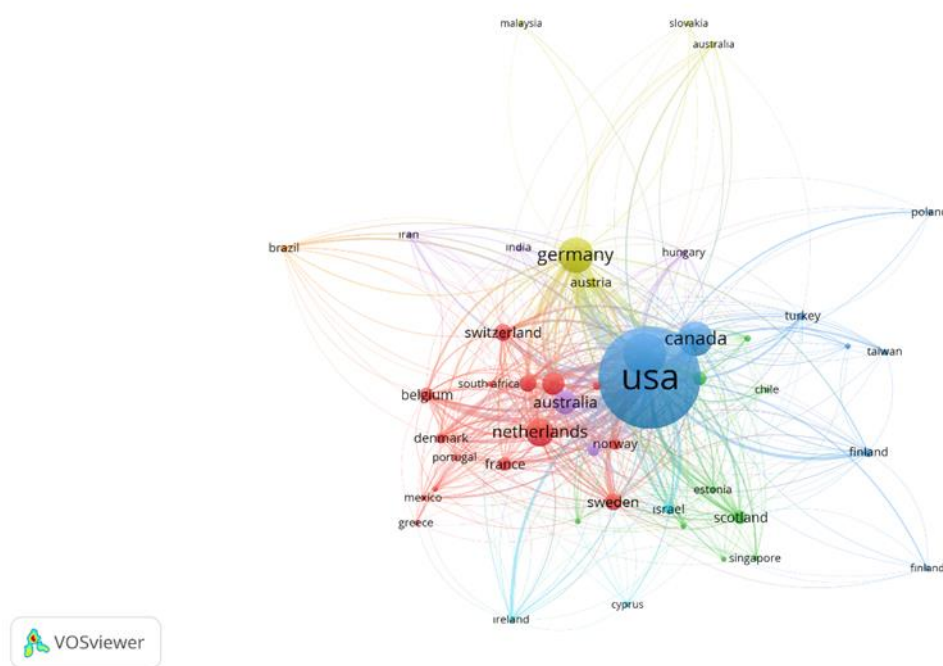


*Figure 6.* Citation Analysis Network Map of Countries

**Citation of Organizations**

For the citation analysis of organizations' publications, the criteria were set as at least 5 publications and at least 1 citation. The network map includes 281 units, 7 clusters, and 11,016 connections. The total connection strength is 33,769. The institutions with the most publications and the highest citation counts are Harvard University with 115 publications and 42,554 citations, Columbia University with 96 publications and 31,348 citations, and the University of Minnesota with 79 publications and 28,667 citations. Below is the network map for the citation analysis of organizations.
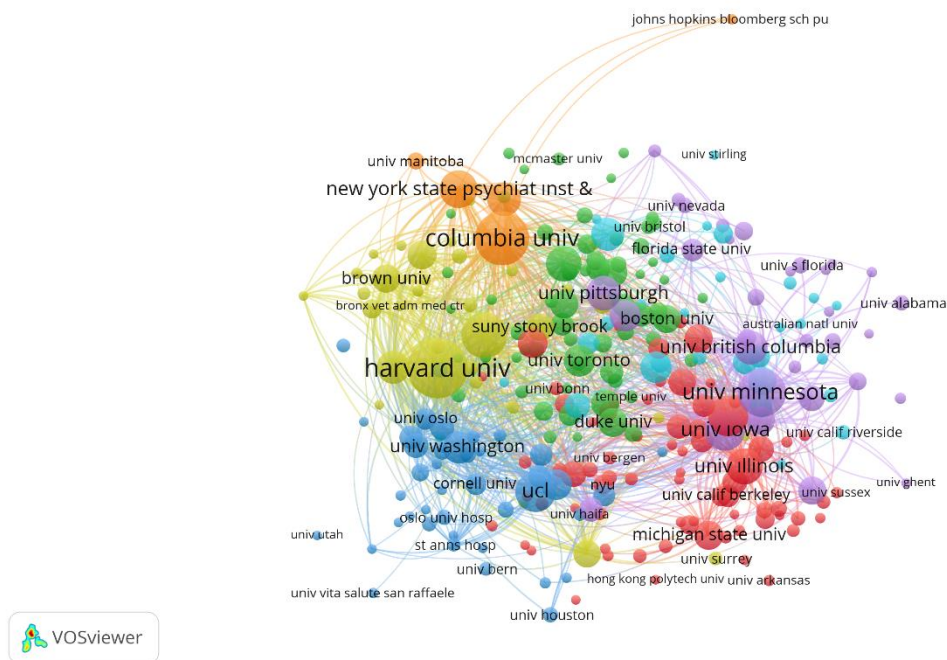
*Figure 7.* Citation Analysis Network Map of Organizations

## Co-occurrence of All Keywords

The most frequently used keywords in publications related to personality disorders are "personality" with 283 occurrences, "borderline personality disorder" with 131 occurrences, and "personality traits" with 106 occurrences. Similarly, these keywords, along with "depression," are prominent in terms of total connection strength. The analysis, conducted using 304 observation units that appeared at least five times and were connected, resulted in 12 clusters, 3,135 connections, and a total connection strength of 1,861. Below is the network map for the keyword analysis.
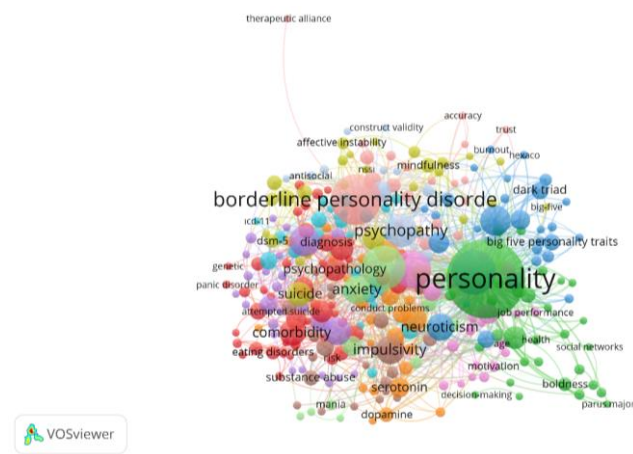


*Figure 8.* Network Map of Keyword Analysis

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Personality and personality disorders have historically been critical concepts in understanding human nature, with many researchers and thinkers focusing on them. Personality can be defined as the internal structures that regulate individuals' self-identification, emotional and cognitive processes, and their interactions with the environment. Personality disorders, on the other hand, are the distortions of these internal structures in a way that disrupts a person's overall functioning and their relationships with society. A personality disorder not only affects the individual's psychological state but also deeply influences their social, cultural, and economic relationships with others. Personality disorders arise from a complex interaction between genetic predisposition and various life experiences. Key factors in this interaction include early attachment experiences, traumatic life events, family dynamics, and the socio-cultural environment (Konduz, 2015; Magnavita, 2016; Sharp & Wall, 2021a; Bornstein et al., 2019). The complexity of these interactions demonstrates that the formation of personality disorders is a multidimensional and dynamic process.

Personality disorders not only create disruptions in an individual's identity and inter-personal functioning, but they also have a significant impact at the societal level. A person's self-perception, emotional responses, and relationships with others can be influenced by these disorders, which affect a large segment of society. Particularly, individuals with personality disorders face significant challenges in their social relationships, creating serious difficulties both in their personal lives and in their interactions with others. This highlights that personality disorders are not only an individual problem but also a societal one. In this regard, personality disorders represent a substantial burden in terms of social and economic costs (Bach & First, 2018b; Gunderson & Links, 2021). Personality disorders have become an important focus for psychotherapy and other treatment approaches because, if left untreated, these disorders can result in lifelong challenges for individuals.

Global research has revealed the prevalence of personality disorders, showing that these disorders affect a large population by impairing social functionality. The lifetime prevalence of all personality disorders in the adult population is estimated to be 7.8% (Svela et al., 2022b; Trull et al., 2022). This figure emphasizes how widespread personality disorders are and the significant impact they have on individuals' social environments. Personality disorders have a substantial effect not only on the individual but also on their family, friends, and wider social networks. This indicates that personality disorders present a serious threat to public health and underscores the growing importance of research in this field (Fok et al., 2021).

The primary sources used for the diagnosis of personality disorders are DSM-5 (APA, 2013) and ICD-10 (WHO, 2024a). These systems are continuously updated in light of evolving

scientific knowledge and clinical experiences. Specifically, the alternative model for personality disorders in DSM-5 places personality disorders within a more dimensional perspective, making the diagnosis more flexible and inclusive (Sharp & Wall, 2021a). ICD-11, on the other hand, takes into account personality traits in the diagnosis of personality disorders, and this new approach is frequently featured in studies on personality disorders (World Health Organization, 2019b; Tyrer et al., 2020). Therefore, changes in the systems used for diagnosing personality disorders should be supported by scientific developments and current clinical practices. This study aims to explore key concepts and recent developments in the literature on personality disorders, highlighting significant gaps in the field and research opportunities.

In the quantitative analysis of publications on a specific topic, bibliometrics is a commonly used statistical method, particularly when working with large-scale data. Bibliometric analysis is a highly functional tool for understanding the development and changes of studies in a particular field over time, and for identifying the trends of researchers, institutions, and countries. This method analyzes trends, focal points, and emerging themes in the research area, thus providing insights for future research (Yu et al., 2020b; Kuzior & Sira, 2022b). Significant findings have been reached in bibliometric analyses of personality disorder research based on data from the Web of Science database. According to the results, the earliest studies related to personality disorders date back to 1975. This historical perspective demonstrates that scientific research on personality disorders has a deep-rooted history and shows how the literature in this area has evolved over time (Kessler et al., 1994; Trull et al., 2008).

Among the most frequently encountered concepts in studies on personality disorders are personality, borderline personality disorder, and personality traits. In particular, the frequent use of borderline personality disorder in the literature is noteworthy. This indicates that both clinical practice and theoretical approaches are discussing borderline personality disorder more and conducting more research on it (Lynch et al., 2006; Paris, 2010). This reflects the challenges in defining and treating borderline personality disorder. Additionally, current approaches, such as ICD-11, which consider personality traits as a determining factor in the diagnosis of personality disorders, further emphasize the importance of this focus on personality traits (WHO, 2019a). In this context, the frequent use of personality traits can be seen as an indicator of the acceptance of new approaches and models.

Bibliometric analyses also show that studies on personality disorders are primarily concentrated in psychiatry, clinical psychology, and multidisciplinary psychology, but research in disciplines such as economics and public health has also increased in recent years (Beck et al., 2004; Gunderson & Lyons-Ruth, 2008). This finding suggests that the focus is not only on the psychological aspects of personality disorders but also on their economic and social impacts,

emphasizing the growing importance of an interdisciplinary research approach. Research on personality disorders and their associated social and economic effects plays a crucial role in the development of health policies, the determination of treatment strategies, and raising social awareness (Bach & First, 2018c; Beauchaine et al., 2017). This shows that research on personality disorders has a significant impact not only on an academic level but also on practical and societal levels.

The most cited publication is the manuscript "Lifetime and 12-month prevalence of DSM-III-R psychiatric disorders in the United States: results from the National Comorbidity Survey" by Kessler et al. (1994), which has received 9,543 citations. This manuscript highlights the prevalence rates of psychiatric disorders and the high comorbidity rates in the United States, making it an important reference point for many studies in the field. The work by Kessler and colleagues provides comprehensive data on the prevalence of psychiatric disorders in society, forming the foundation for numerous studies in clinical psychiatry and psychology (Kessler et al., 1994). Additionally, their examination of comorbidity rates critically contributes to understanding the diagnostic and treatment challenges associated with these disorders (Wittchen & Jacobi, 2005). The year with the most publications is 2021, which marks an extraordinary surge in research literature. The year 2021 saw an increase in studies related to personality disorders and psychiatric conditions, as well as an exploration of the psychological effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. In studies on the pandemic's impact on mental health, the relationships between personality disorders and other psychiatric conditions were thoroughly examined, which likely accounts for the majority of the publications in 2021 (Muench et al., 2021).

Regarding the language of publications, English (72,392), German (1,703), and Spanish (811) are the most common languages, respectively. English leads due to its dominance as the global academic language. Moreover, publications in English have a higher potential for reaching a broad audience and receiving more citations, contributing to its dominance in the international scientific community (Klimova et al., 2021). Publications in German and Spanish reflect research primarily conducted in Europe and Latin America, and these languages have been observed to contribute significantly to the fields of psychology and medicine (Buchholz et al., 2020).

The most cited authors are McCrae with 15,247 citations, Kendler with 12,135 citations, Grant with 11,266 citations, and Kessler with 11,146 citations. McCrae and Costa's work on personality psychology has made significant contributions to personality theories and measurement methods (McCrae & Costa, 1997). Kendler is recognized for his important studies on the role of genetic and environmental factors in psychiatric disorders, while Grant's research on psychopathology and psychiatric disorders has provided valuable data, particularly concerning individual psychological health (Kendler et al., 2006; Grant et al., 2014). Kessler has

made significant contributions regarding the prevalence rates, risk factors, and treatment responses of psychiatric disorders, which explains the frequent citations of his work (Kessler et al., 2005). These findings suggest that certain authors and languages dominate the field of personality disorders and psychiatric diseases, with the most influential studies often being large-scale epidemiological and genetic studies. Furthermore, recent research, particularly in psychopathology, has deepened our understanding of the societal impact of these disorders.

The authors with the highest number of publications are Joshua D. Miller with 188 publications, Christian Schmahl with 187 publications, and Peter Fonagy with 178 publications. These authors are prominent figures in the field of personality disorders, having developed important theories and conducted clinical research. Miller is particularly known for his work on personality disorders and psychopathology (Miller et al., 2009). Schmahl has made significant contributions with his research on borderline personality disorder and emotional regulation, while Fonagy is renowned for his work on psychodynamic theories and mentalization (Fonagy et al., 2002). These authors have produced some of the most frequently cited studies in the field of personality disorders and psychopathology.

The countries with the most publications and citations are as follows: the United States with 1,658 publications and 533,825 citations, the United Kingdom with 377 publications and 108,137 citations, and Germany with 268 publications and 77,705 citations. The United States stands out as the leading country in the production of publications in the field of personality disorders, a trend closely linked to the extensive resources of U.S. universities and research institutes, as well as their interdisciplinary research efforts (Beauchaine et al., 2017). The United Kingdom and Germany represent major research hubs in Europe, where significant studies on personality disorders are being conducted (Tyrer & Johnson, 2005). The leadership of the U.S., the U.K., and Germany in publication output reflects their advanced academic infrastructures and strong research networks.

In terms of institutions, the most prolific and highly cited institutions are Harvard University with 115 publications and 42,554 citations, Columbia University with 96 publications and 31,348 citations, and the University of Minnesota with 79 publications and 28,667 citations. These universities are prominent institutional leaders in personality disorder research. Harvard University, as one of the leading centers for psychological and psychiatric research, conducts extensive studies on personality disorders (Miller & Lynam, 2001). Columbia University and the University of Minnesota also have a significant impact on psychology and clinical psychiatry, with their research providing in-depth insights into the diagnosis, treatment, and risk factors of personality disorders (Widiger & Samuel, 2013).

The United States is the most productive country in terms of research on personality disorders, and the most productive institutions, Harvard University, Columbia University, and the University of Minnesota are also located in the U.S. This finding is consistent with the dominance of English in publication languages, as English is the most widely used language in global academic literature, and publications in English tend to receive more citations (Gorib et al., 2020). This also highlights the widespread influence of the personality disorders literature worldwide. The overlap between the most productive authors and the most productive countries highlights that research on personality disorders is closely linked to the strong research infrastructures and resources of prestigious universities in developed countries. Personality disorders are considered a continuously evolving and prominent field of interest within these universities. However, in Turkey, there is a relatively low number of publications on personality disorders. This indicates a broad area for future research and presents important opportunities for researchers who wish to make scientific contributions in this field.

The inclusion of Web of Science-indexed studies in this analysis represents a limitation, as databases such as TÜBİTAK Ulakbim, YÖK Tez, Scopus, and PubMed, which contain relevant but non-indexed sources, were excluded. This limitation points to the need for future research that integrates these additional databases to provide a more comprehensive picture of the field. This study contributes to the literature by identifying gaps within the existing body of knowledge and understanding the trends and interests of researchers, potentially leading to new avenues for future research. Conducting bibliometric analyses with different keywords, publication types, or time frames, including national literature, could expand the results and provide more comprehensive findings. Similar studies could serve as a comprehensive reference for researchers, offering a holistic perspective and a valuable guide for future investigations.

The findings of this study have important implications for clinical practice. By identifying key trends and focal points in personality disorder research, clinicians can stay informed about the evolving diagnostic frameworks, such as the dimensional models in DSM-5 and trait-based approaches in ICD-11, which enhance diagnostic accuracy and individualized treatment planning. Moreover, understanding the prevalence and societal impact of personality disorders underscores the necessity for early identification and intervention to mitigate long-term social and economic burdens. The increased interdisciplinary research highlighted in this study, incorporating public health and economic perspectives, supports the development of holistic treatment approaches that address not only psychological symptoms but also social determinants and functional impairments. Clinicians may benefit from integrating these insights into comprehensive care plans that include psychotherapy, community support, and policy advocacy. Furthermore, the emphasis on prominent personality disorders like borderline personality

disorder can guide resource allocation and specialized training for mental health professionals to better meet patients' complex needs. Ultimately, this bibliometric analysis reinforces the value of continuous research integration into clinical protocols to improve outcomes and reduce the individual and societal impacts of personality disorders.

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# GENİŞLETİLMİŞ ÖZET

## Giriş

Bu çalışma, bibliyometrik analiz yöntemiyle kişilik bozuklukları ile ilgili yapılan çalışmaların haritasını çıkarmayı amaçlamaktadır. Kişilik bozukları ile ilgili yapılan çalışmaların yıllara göre nasıl değiştiği, alanlara dağılımı, diğer kavramlarla ilişkileri, ülkelerin, kurumların ve araştırmacıların kişilik bozukluklarına ilgisi, araştırmalar ve araştırmacılar arasındaki ilişkilerin görselleştirilmesi; kavramın literatürdeki yerinin daha iyi anlaşılabilmesi ve araştırmaların eğiliminin belirlenmesi, ilerleyen süreçte yapılacak çalışmalar için yol gösterici olması bakımından önem arz etmektedir. Bu çalışma, nicel veriler üzerinden yapılan bibliyometrik analizler sonucunda kişilik bozukluğu ile ilgili akademik çalışmaların bütüncül bir bakış açısı ile bibliyometrik profilini ortaya koymayı amaçlamaktadır. Bu amaçla "Alanyazında kişilik bozukluğunun yeri nasıldır?" sorusuna cevap aranmıştır.

## Yöntem

Kişilik bozuklukları kavramının bibliyometrik analizi için yapılan çalışmada Web of Science veri tabanında indekslenen içerikler ölçüt olarak alınmıştır. Nitelikli ve güvenilir yayınlara erişim sağladığı için Web of Science veri tabanı tercih edilmiştir. Web of science veri tabanının Tr Dizin, Ulusal Tez Merkezi gibi veri kaynaklarını içermemesi nedeniyle bazı çalışmaların analiz dışı kalması çalışmanın kısıtlılığı olarak ifade edilebilir. Bu çalışmada bibliyometrik analiz için VOSviewer programından yararlanılmıştır. VOSviewer programı, kullanışlılık ve ulaşılabilirlik açısından tercih edilen bir program olmasının yanı sıra haritalama, çok boyutlu analiz ve verileri görselleştirme olanağı sağlamaktadır. Literatür taramasında kullanılan anahtar kelimeler; 18.07.2024 tarihinde, "personality disorder", "personality disorders" ve "personality traits" anahtar sözcükleri ile Web of science veri tabanında kişilik bozukluğu kavramı ile ilgili yayın türü sınırlaması olmaksızın yapılan alanyazın taramasında 77.118 çalışmaya ulaşılmıştır. 1975-2024 yılları arasında yayınlanmış farklı alanlardan 62.582 makale, 1271 kitap bölümü, 629 kitap incelemesi, 5215 derleme makale, 3545 yöntemsel çalışma, 1478 editoryal içerik, 3567 bildiri, 1037 erken görünüm çalışma, 739 mektup, 95 kitap türü yayına ulaşılmıştır. Yayınların alanlara dağılımı ile ilgili psikiyatri (28.334), klinik psikoloji (10.390), multidisipliner psikoloji (7887), sosyal psikoloji (6452), nörobilim (5504), klinik nöroloji (4751), psikoloji (4022), madde bağımlılığı (2014), halk, iş ve çevre sağlığı (1960) ve uygulamalı psikoloji (1881) olmak üzere çalışmaların ağırlıklı olarak psikiyatri alanında yapıldığı görülmüştür. Ulaşılan veriler, yazar-atıf-dergi-ülke-kurum ve anahtar sözcük analizleri üzerinden incelenmiştir.

**Bulgular**

Kişilik bozukluğu ile ilgili yayınların alanlara dağılımı incelendiğinde psikiyatri, klinik psikoloji, multidisipliner psikoloji, sosyal psikoloji, nörobilim, klinik nöroloji, psikoloji, madde bağımlılığı, halk, iş ve çevre sağlığı ve uygulamalı psikoloji alanlarında çalışma yapıldığı ve çalışmaların psikiyatri alanında yoğunlaştığı görülmüştür. Analiz sonuçları, uluslararası alanyazında kişilik bozukluklarının her zaman araştırmacıların ilgisini çeken bir konu olduğunu ancak bu ilginin özellikle 2004 yılından sonra daha çok arttığını göstermiştir. Benzer şekilde kişilik bozukluğu hakkında yayınlanan çalışmaların ağırlıklı olarak makale türünde olduğu, kitap türünde çalışmaların diğer yayın türlerine oranla daha az olduğu görülmektedir.

Kişilik bozukluğu ile ilgili çalışmalarda İngilizce, Almanca ve İspanyolca'nın başı çektiği ve Web of Science veri tabanında Türkçe yayınların (6.sırada) da yer aldığı ifade edilebilir. Bulgular 35 farklı dilin kullanıldığını göstermektedir. Kişilik bozuklukları ile ilgili en çok çalışma yayınlayan dergi "Personality and Individual Differences" olarak belirlenmiştir.

En çok atıf alan yayının "Lifetime and 12-Month Prevalence of DSM-III-R Psychiatric Disorders in the United States Results From the National Comorbidity Survey" adlı bir makale olduğu görülmektedir. Makalede, 14 DSM-III-R psikiyatrik bozukluğun yaşam boyu ve 12 aylık yaygınlık tahminleri araştırılmış ve psikiyatrik bozuklukların yaygınlığı tahmin edilenden daha yüksek olduğu sonucuna ulaşılmıştır. Benzer şekilde makalede eş tanı oranlarının yüksekliğine de dikkat çekilmektedir (Kessler ve ark., 1994).

Kişilik bozukluğu ile ilgili çalışmaları ile en çok atıf alan yazarların (McCrae, Kendler, Grant ve Kessler) en çok bağlantılı yazarlar arasında olmadığı görülmektedir. Aynı zamanda en çok yayın üreten yazarların (Joshua D. Miller, Christian Schmahl ve Peter Fonagy) en çok bağlantılı yazarlar arasında olduğu ifade edilebilir. En çok yayın üreten yazarların (Joshua D. Miller, Christian Schmahl ve Peter Fonagy) toplam bağlantı gücü yüksek olan yazarlar arasında olduğu görülmektedir. Kişilik bozukluğu ile ilgili en çok yayın çıkaran ve yayınları en çok atıf alan ülkeler; ABD, İngiltere ve Almanya olarak belirlenmiştir. Benzer şekilde en çok yayın çıkaran ve yayınları en çok atıf alan kurumlar sırasıyla Harvard Üniversitesi, Kolombiya Üniversitesi ve Minnesota Üniversitesi olarak belirlenmiştir. Kişilik bozukluğu ile ilgili yayınlarda en çok kullanılan anahtar sözcükler kişilik (personality), sınırda kişilik bozukluğu (borderline personality disorder), kişilik özellikleri (personality traits) olarak belirlenmiştir. En fazla bibliyografik eşleşme olan yayınların ise Kessler (1994), Kirschbaum (1993) ve Gottesman (2003) olduğu görülmektedir.

**Tartışma ve Sonuç**

Kişilik bozuklukları, insan doğasını anlamada kritik bir yer tutan ve bireyin psikolojik, sosyal, kültürel ilişkilerini etkileyen karmaşık sorunlardır. Kişilik bozukluklarının yaygınlığı,

dünya genelinde %7,8 olarak tahmin edilmekte ve bu durum toplumsal sağlık açısından büyük bir tehdit oluşturmaktadır. DSM-5 ve ICD-10, kişilik bozukluklarının tanısında güncel ve boyutsal yaklaşımlar sunmaktadır. Kişilik bozuklukları üzerine yapılan araştırmalar, özellikle sınırda kişilik bozukluğu ve kişilik özellikleri üzerinde yoğunlaşmaktadır. Son yıllarda, bu alanda psikiyatri dışındaki disiplinlerde de artan araştırmalar, kişilik bozukluklarının ekonomik ve toplumsal etkilerini vurgulamaktadır. ABD, kişilik bozuklukları üzerine en fazla araştırma yapan ülkedir; Harvard, Columbia ve Minnesota üniversiteleri bu alanda öncüdür. Bu çalışma, kişilik bozuklukları hakkında yapılan araştırmaları analiz ederek, bu alandaki boşlukları ve gelecekteki araştırma fırsatlarını belirlemeyi amaçlamıştır. Ancak, sadece Web of Science verileriyle yapılan analiz, araştırmanın sınırlılığıdır. Gelecekte benzer çalışmalar, alanyazını daha geniş bir çerçevede incelemeye olanak sağlayacaktır. Bu çalışma, ilerleyen süreçte yapılacak araştırmalara, kavramla ilgili alanyazındaki boşlukların ve araştırmacıların eğiliminin belirlenmesi ile açısından katkı sağlayacaktır. Kişilik bozukluğu kavramının farklı anahtar sözcükler kullanılarak ulusal alanyazındaki çalışmaları da içerecek şekilde bibliyometrik analizinin yapılması araştırma sonuçlarını genişleterek daha kapsamlı sonuçlar elde edilmesine olanak tanıyacaktır.