The Effects of SNAP Enrollment on Financial Stability and Food Acquisition Behaviors: Studying A Facilitated Enrollment Sample

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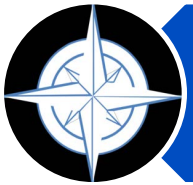
Overview

- Introducing Met Council
- Relevant Research Questions
- Background Literature
- Study Design and Methods
- Results
- Implications for Discussion

Met Council's SNAP Access Program

Screening
-10 minute process to determine eligibility



Navigation Assistance
-Assistance in document preparation
-Appointment scheduling

Enrollment & Recertification
-One-on-one guidance and enrollment
-Electronic application process

Follow-up & Mediation Assistance
-Individual follow-up
-Help with case issues

The Greater Conversation: A Look at Some Literature

- Significant impact on overall poverty rate in NYC (Levitan & Scheer, 2012)
- SNAP improves diet and BMI (Nguyen et al, 2015)
- A study (Shannon, 2014) conducted in Minneapolis/St. Paul found that:
  - Less reliance on nearby Supermarkets in urban low-income neighborhoods
  - Residents of these neighborhoods would travel longer distances for convenience stores, mid-size groceries, and ethnic markets

Research Question

- What are the longitudinal effects of SNAP on its recipients?

The History of "Project Reach Out"

- Launched in the Winter of 2015-2016
  - First comprehensive evaluation survey of Met Council program.
  - Modifications to the content and design of the survey were made in the first two months of the study.
- Lists of clients that were admitted to the SNAP Access program the prior month were produced for volunteers to administer the survey by phone.
  - Data collection overseen by Volunteer Services Department
- Additional surveys were administered at 3 and 6 months after the first survey
  - The last 6 month surveys were collected in June.

Measures

- Financial Stability
  - Have you received *Financial Assistance* from the following sources in the past 3 months?
    - Relatives, Friends, Community/Religious Organization, Gov. Agency
  - In the past 3 months was there a time where you did not meet *Financial Obligations*
    - *Rent/Mortgage, Utilities, Medical, Essential expenses*

Measures

- Food Behaviors
  - Did participants patronize checklist of 4 categories
    - Convenience stores
    - Grocery stores
    - Supermarkets
    - Farmer's markets

Results: Financial Stability

Financial Assistance

- F(2, 3.246)=6.23, p<.01

Pairwise Comparisons

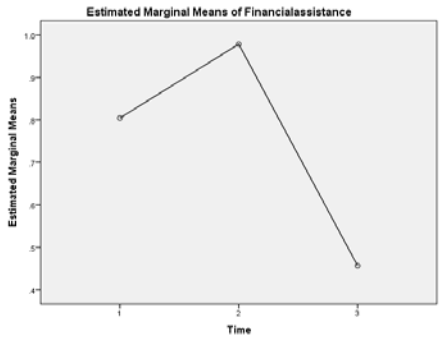
Measure: Financialassistance

(I) Time	(J) Time	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.[b]	95% Confidence Interval for Difference[b]	
					Lower Bound	Upper Bound
1	2	-.174	.162	.870	-.578	.230
	3	.348*	.136	.042	.009	.687
2	1	.174	.162	.870	-.230	.578
	3	.522*	.151	.004	.145	.898
3	1	-.348*	.136	.042	-.687	-.009
	2	-.522*	.151	.004	-.898	-.145

Based on estimated marginal means

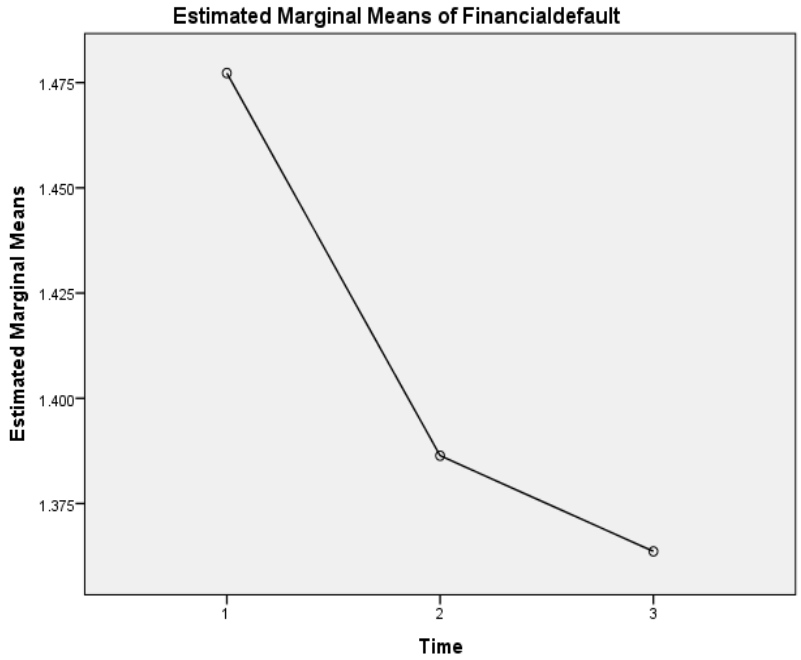
*. The mean difference is significant at the .05 level.

b. Adjustment for multiple comparisons: Bonferroni.



Financial obligations

- F(2, .159)= .162, p=.851



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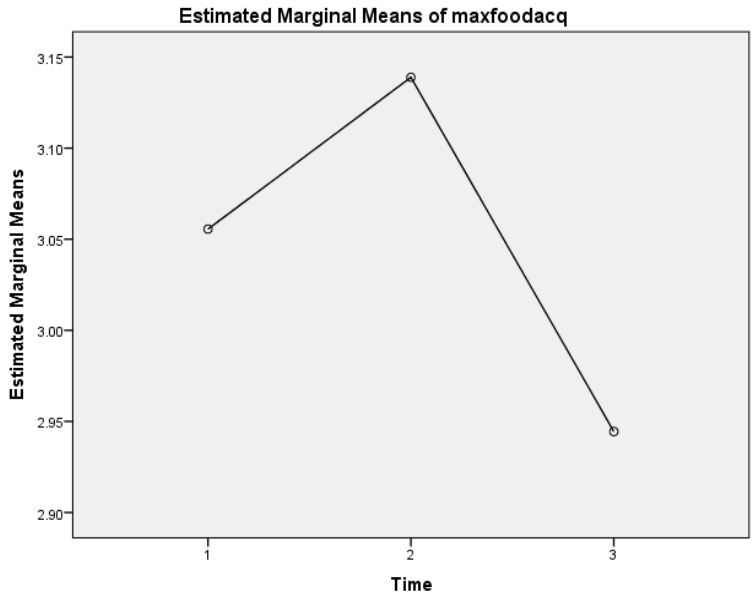
Results: Food Behaviors

Healthiest Food Store

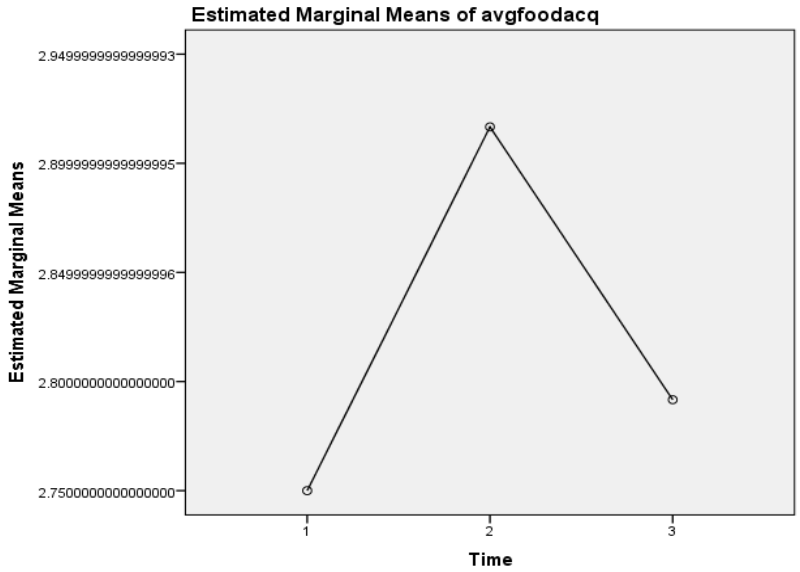
- F(1.814, .378)=1.896, p=.162



- Link

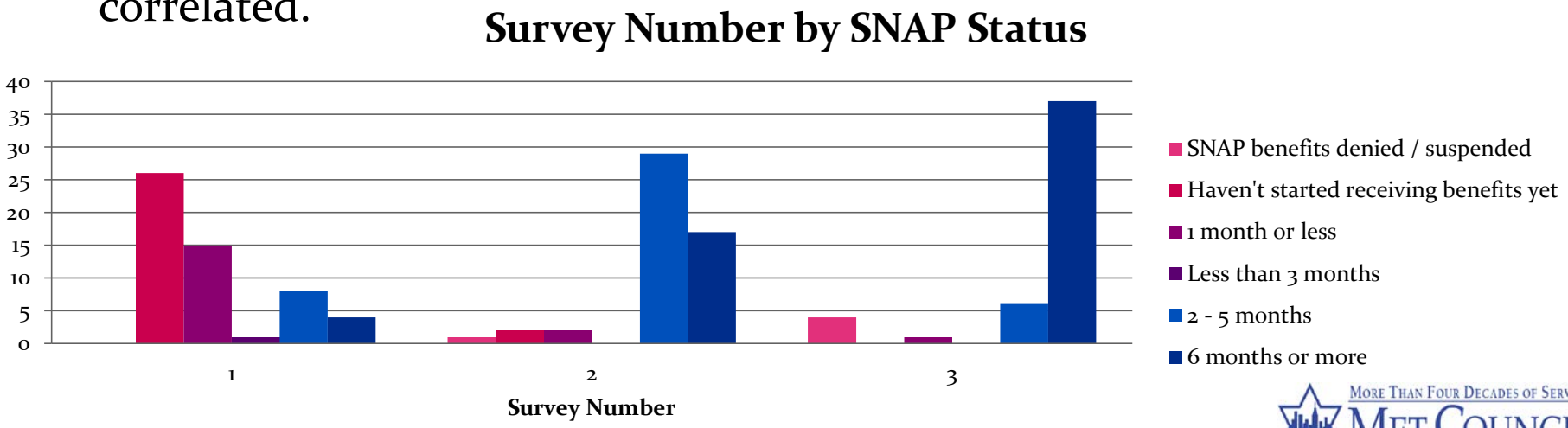
Average of Reported Food Stores

- F(1.935, .280)=1.707, p=.190



Limitations

- Sample Size (N=46)
- External validity
- Potential Cohort Effects
  - Especially with regard to seasonality of Farmer's Markets
- Measured shopping behaviors and not consumption behaviors
- Survey Number and time since SNAP receipt were not perfectly correlated.

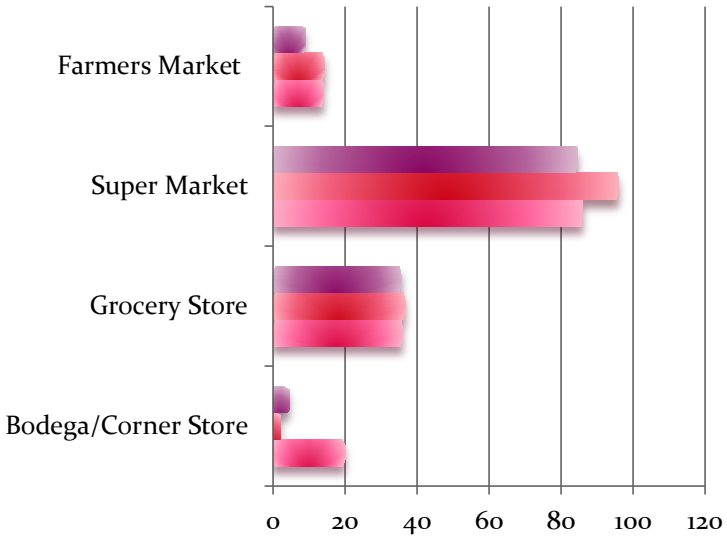


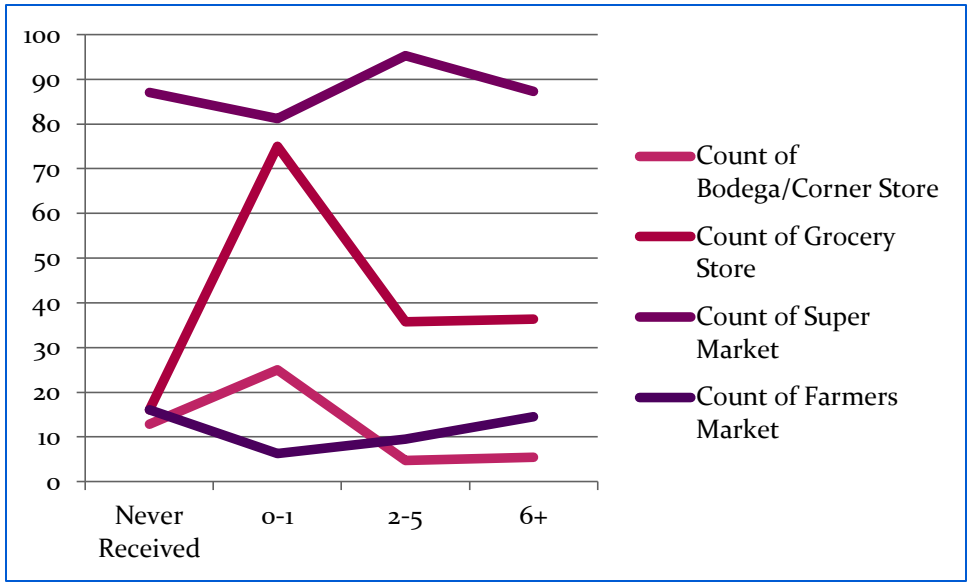
Takeaways

- Does this study of a relatively obscure population contribute?

Thank You!

Appendix 1





Appendix 2:Language

- Survey respondents/ Non-Respondents

Sum of Unique ID	Column Labels		
	NR	Res	Grand Total
Row Labels			
English	61.66%	68.39%	64.94%
Hebrew	0.31%	0.32%	0.31%
Hungarian	0.00%	0.32%	0.16%
Other	7.36%	6.77%	7.08%
Polish	0.00%	0.65%	0.31%
Russian	5.52%	9.35%	7.39%
Spanish	11.04%	10.32%	10.69%
Yiddish	1.23%	1.29%	1.26%
#N/A	9.51%	0.97%	5.35%
(blank)	3.37%	1.61%	2.52%
Grand Total	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**

- 3 Survey respondents

Row Labels	Sum of Unique ID
0	3.92%
English	70.59%
Other	3.92%
Russian	1.96%
Spanish	17.65%
#N/A	1.96%
Grand Total	**100.00%**

Appendix 3:Age

- 3 survey

Values	NR	Res
Average of age	45.08	46.05
StdDev of age	17.13	16.95

Values	Total
Average of age	48.28
StdDev of age	17.46838544