# **Supplemental Online Content**

Berkowitz SA, Curran N, Hoeffler S, Henderson R, Price A, Ng SW. 'Association of a fruit and vegetable subsidy program with food purchases by individuals with low income in the US. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2021;4(8):e2120377. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.20377

eAppendix. Technical Appendix

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## eReferences

This supplemental material has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

#### **Technical Appendix**

#### Data pre-processing

To account for outliers, shopper ID numbers in the top 1% of monthly food and beverage spending (>\$1452/month) were excluded as investigation of the transaction records suggested that these were commonly used by multiple households (e.g., a cashier may scan one of these shopper ID numbers to provide discounts to those who forgot their shopper ID card).

#### List of variables for propensity score estimation

The following variables were used for propensity score estimation: total expenditure, food and beverage expenditure, chocolate, candy, and gum expenditure, percentage of transactions that used a coupon, dessert and sweet snacks expenditure, fruit, vegetable, legumes and nuts expenditure, percentage of total expenditures for fruit, vegetables, nuts, and legumes, volume of fruit, vegetables, nuts, and legumes (in ounces) purchased, junk food expenditure, volume of junk food purchased (in ounces), sugar sweetened beverage expenditure, volume of sugar sweetened beverage expenditure (in ounces), expenditure on WIC-eligible fruit, vegetables, nuts, and legumes, percentage of food and beverage purchases paid for out of pocket (e.g., not by SNAP funds), percentage of chocolate, candy, and gum paid for out of pocket, percentage of dessert and sweet snacks paid for out of pocket, percentage of fruit, vegetables, nuts, and legumes paid for out of pocket, percentage of junk food paid for out of pocket, percentage of processed meats and seafood paid for out of pocket, percentage of sugar sweetened beverages paid for out of pocket, percentage of sweeteners and toppings paid for out of pocket, percentage of salty snacks paid for out of pocket, expenditures on processed meats and seafood, percentage of food and beverage spending that came from SNAP benefits, percentage of chocolate, candy, and gum spending from SNAP benefits, percentage of dessert and sweet snacks spending from SNAP benefits, percentage of fruit, vegetables, nuts, and legumes spending from SNAP, percentage of fruit, junk food spending from SNAP, percentage of processed meat and seafood spending from SNAP, percentage of SSB spending from SNAP, percentage of sweeteners and toppings from SNAP, expenditures on sweeteners and toppings, expenditures on salty snacks, percentage of food and beverage expenditure spent on sugar sweetened beverage, index month, and amount of pre-index follow-up time.

eTable 1: Food and Beverage Categories and their Rationale					
Food purchase measures, all	Rationale and link to health outcomes				
monthly					
Foods covered by SuperSNAP	<ul> <li>Important sources of vitamins and fiber</li> </ul>				
fruit and vegetable incentive	<ul> <li>High consumption associated with lower cardiovascular disease</li> </ul>				
	risk. <sup>1</sup>				
	<ul> <li>Underconsumed in the US<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>				
	WIC approved items				
Fruit, vegetables, nuts and	<ul> <li>Important sources of vitamins and fiber</li> </ul>				
legumes	High consumption associated with lower cardiovascular disease				
	risk. <sup>1</sup>				
	<ul> <li>Underconsumed in the US<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>				
Sugar-sweetened beverages	• Large contributors of total energy, sugar, saturated fat and sodium				
(SSBs) and less healthy foods	in US diet <sup>3</sup>				
(processed meats, desserts,	<ul> <li>Overconsumption of processed meats, desserts, sweet snacks,</li> </ul>				
sweet snacks, salty snacks,	salty snacks, sweeteners and toppings, candy and chocolate in the				
sweeteners and toppings,	US <sup>2</sup>				
candy and chocolate)	<ul> <li>SSBs independently linked to obesity and diabetes<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>				

# eTable 2: Full Regression model for Amount Spent on Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, and Legumes in weighted sample

Fixed Effects Parameters					
Fixed Effects Parameters	E attack			1	11
	Estimate	Standard	Р	Lower 95%	Upper 95%
		Error		CI	CI
Intercept	40.52	0.43	<.001	39.68	41.36
Participated in	-2.85	1.20	0.018	-5.19	-0.50
SuperSNAP (Reference =					
did not participate)					
Time (before or after	-7.50	0.28	<.001	-8.04	-6.96
index date)					
Time*Participated in	31.84	0.29	<.001	31.27	32.42
SuperSNAP = 1					
(reference: Time*					
Participated in					
SuperSNAP = 0)					
Month and Year of					
Observation					
October 2019	-16.66	0.35	<.001	-17.35	-15.97
November 2019	-14.63	0.33	<.001	-15.27	-14.00
December 2019	-15.96	0.31	<.001	-16.57	-15.34
January 2020	-13.92	0.29	<.001	-14.48	-13.36
February 2020	-10.86	0.26	<.001	-11.37	-10.36
March 2020	-2.53	0.25	<.001	-3.01	-2.04
April 2020 (Reference)	0.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Follow-up time, months	3.09	0.10	<.001	2.89	3.29
Covariance Parameters fr			-		
	Estimate	Standard	Р		
		Error			
Store random intercept	25.74	2.56	<.001		
Shopper ID random	520.74	5.31	<.001		
intercept					
Residual	11.21	0.04	<.001		

Results from Linear Mixed model including the above terms, and with a random intercept term for shopper ID and a random intercept term for the store at which each shopper ID number was used most often in a given month. Model includes overlap weights. Time indicates whether the observation occurred before or after the index date, which is the date of SuperSNAP enrollment for those who participated in SuperSNAP and a randomly chosen date for those who did not participate in SuperSNAP. The Time\*Participated in SuperSNAP product term indicates whether the change in amount spent is greater for those who participated in SuperSNAP, after their index date, than those who did not participate.

CI = Confidence Interval

n/a = not applicable

		1	1	
Variable	Estimate	Lower	Upper	Р
		95% CI	95% CI	
All Grocery Store Spending, \$	17.82	-3.91	39.55	0.11
Food and Beverage Spending, \$	18.71	1.98	35.44	0.03
Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, and Legume Spending, \$	28.75	25.95	31.54	<.001
Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, and Legume Spending, oz	263.33	236.25	290.41	<.001
Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, and Legume Spending as Share	16.18%	15.21%	17.16%	<.001
of Total Food and Beverage Spending				
Out of Pocket Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, and Legume	-19.91%	-22.76%	-17.06%	<.001
Spending as Share of Total Food and Beverage Spending				
Spending on Less Healthy Food Categories, \$	-1.66	-7.27	3.95	0.56
Spending on Less Healthy Food Categories, oz	-12.27	41.16	16.61	0.41
Spending on Less Healthy Food Categories as Share of	-5.20%	-6.56%	-3.84%	<.001
Total Food and Beverage Spending				
Out of Pocket Spending on Less Healthy Food Categories	-4.00%	-6.61%	-1.39%	0.003
as Share of Total Spending on Less Healthy Food				
Categories				
Sugar Sweetened Beverage Spending, \$	-4.74	-7.74	-1.75	0.002
Sugar Sweetened Beverage Spending, oz	-156.35	-234.72	-77.99	<.001
Sugar Sweetened Beverage Spending, as Share of Total	-4.51%	-5.89%	-3.12%	<.001
Food and Beverage Spending				
Out of Pocket Sugar Sweetened Beverage Spending, as	-4.33%	-7.37%	-1.30%	0.005
Share of Total Sugar Sweetened Beverage Spending				

eTable 3: Sensitivity Analyses of Changes in Purchases Associated with SuperSNAP Participation, without Restricting to Those with Pre-Index Observation Time

Estimates presented are from linear mixed models with terms for SuperSNAP (1/0), time (before SuperSNAP = 0, during = 1) and a SuperSNAP-by-time product term. Models also adjusted for month and year, and duration of follow-up, with the shopper-month as the unit of analysis. Models include two random effects terms: shopper and shopper's most used store for a given month.

## **Appendix References**

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