

Examining the effect of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Food Insecurity

Abstract:

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program has been in existence since the 1960's and was a measure taken in response to malnutrition. Today the term food insecurity has been coined to define an inability to obtain enough food in a socially acceptable way. Malnutrition is still a prevalent issue in the United States, in spite of the current supplemental government assistance given. So why are millions of Americans still struggling to properly feed themselves? We will examine factors such as food deserts, and the limitations that financial status places on SNAP recipients to determine if there is a correlation between food insecurity and SNAP benefits per state. The purpose of this study is to examine the impact of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) on food insecurity in the U.S. To determine the impact SNAP has on food insecurity. Data collected in 2015 detailing the number of SNAP beneficiaries and the prevalence of low and very low food security will be analyzed. Fruit and vegetable consumption statistics will also be included as a secondary indicator for overall nutrition density. Using data accessible to the public we hypothesize that there is a correlation between food insecurity and SNAP beneficiaries. Different statistical analysis will be used in our research. The population will be all 50 U.S. states.