Food Stamps Program (SNAP), Food Insufficiency, and Health of the Elderly

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Introduction

The Food Stamps Program is designed to help low-income households stretch their food budget, reduce their food insufficiency, and ultimately improve their health. The growth of low-income elderly population and long lifespan in the US makes them the most vulnerable to food insufficiency and health deterioration. The presence and degree of food insufficiency affects the outcome of the SNAP Program participation decision may affect the health status of the elderly.

Objectives

A theoretical framework is developed to understand the mechanism of the FSP participation decision, food insufficiency, and these two factors impact food insufficiency to

1) estimate the effectiveness of the FSP on improving the health of the elderly and alleviating food insufficiency, and
2) examine why so few elderly households choose to receive food stamps and what determines their level of food insufficiency.

Data

The data is a cross sectional data. Panel data could well explain the effect of FSP participation decision, food insufficiency and these two factors impact food insufficiency.

The data is from the Food Security Incomes and Nutrition Survey (FSANS) and the Health and Retirement Survey (HRS), both conducted in 2002. The data used is from 2002.

Food Stamps Program (SNAP) Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>FSP was enacted</td>
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</table>
| 1980 | FSP was extended to cover food stamps for all food 
| 1996 | FSP was extended to cover food stamps for all food 
| 2002 | FSP was extended to cover food stamps for all food 

The Food Security Incomes and Nutrition Survey (FSANS) is a survey of households in the US that collects data on food security and related factors. The survey is conducted every two years and includes questions about food availability, food consumption, and household income. The data is used to calculate the Food Security Status Index (FSSI), which is a measure of food security that ranges from 1 to 10, with higher scores indicating better food security.

The Health and Retirement Survey (HRS) is a longitudinal survey of households in the US that collects data on health, income, and other factors over time. The survey is conducted every two years and includes questions about health status, health care use, and other factors. The data is used to calculate the Health and Retirement Status Index (HRS), which is a measure of health status that ranges from 1 to 10, with higher scores indicating better health.

The two surveys are combined to create the Health and Food Security Index (HFAS), which is a measure of the health and food security of elderly households. The HFAS is calculated by multiplying the FSSI and HRS, with higher scores indicating better health and food security.

The FSP participation decision is influenced by a number of factors, including income, health status, and other related factors. The FSP participation decision is also influenced by the FSP eligibility rules, which are based on income and other factors.

The Food Stamps Program (FSP) is a federal program that provides food assistance to low-income households. The FSP is administered by the Department of Agriculture and is funded by the federal government.

The FSP eligibility rules are based on income and other factors, including age, household size, and other related factors. The FSP eligibility rules are designed to ensure that the FSP is available to those who need it the most.

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