

Title: Food Preference and Health expenditure Patterns of Filipino households

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Abstract:

This study aims to identify the food preference of Filipino households based on the proportion of their expenditures to major food items such as cereals and cereal preparations; roots and tubers; fruits and vegetables; meat and meat preparations; dairy products and eggs; fishes and marine products; coffee, cocoa and tea; non-alcoholic beverages; food not elsewhere classified; food consumed at home and food regularly consumed outside the home to their total expenditures. Moreover, this study relates these expenditures to their health expenditures. The data comes from the Family Income and Expenditures Survey (FIES) 1988 and 2000. Two methods which are considered to discover the food preference patterns of Filipino households are nonhierarchical cluster analysis using raw data and nonhierarchical cluster analysis using principal components analysis. Classical regression and Poisson Regression Analyses establish the relationship of the food preference and medical expenditures of Filipino households. In addition, there is exploration of the effect of prior aggregation of Filipino households using principal component analysis to nonhierarchical cluster. The study shows that food preference patterns exist on Filipino households and these patterns have significant effect on their medical expenditures. Specifically, there are the preferences for cereals, cereal preparations, fishes, marine products and food consumed at home and outside the home.