

Christopher Halim's Behavioral Science Results Writeup

RATP Spring 2021

I. Introduction

I wanted to see whether people's mental health supports are correlated with their mental health condition during the Covid-19 pandemic.

II. Hypothesis

I predicted that people who have less mental health support will be more likely to have worse mental health conditions during the Covid-19 pandemic.

III. Materials

People's mental health support is measure from a scale of 1 to 100 (one to a hundred). People's mental health condition during the Covid-19 pandemic is measured through 5 different categories: "Extremely more negative," "Slightly more negative," "Neither more negative nor more positive," "Slightly more positive," "Extremely more positive."

IV. Participants

I recruited 30 participants from the Research Assistant Training Program, Spring 2021, to participate in my online study as part of a course assignment.

V. Results

1. People's mental health support

Response	Number	Percent of Sample (%)
0 - 10	3	11.1
11 - 20	1	3.7
21 - 30	1	3.7
31 - 40	4	14.81
41 - 50	4	14.81
51 - 60	2	7.41
61 - 70	5	18.52
71 - 80	3	11.1

81 - 90	4	14.81
91 - 100	0	0

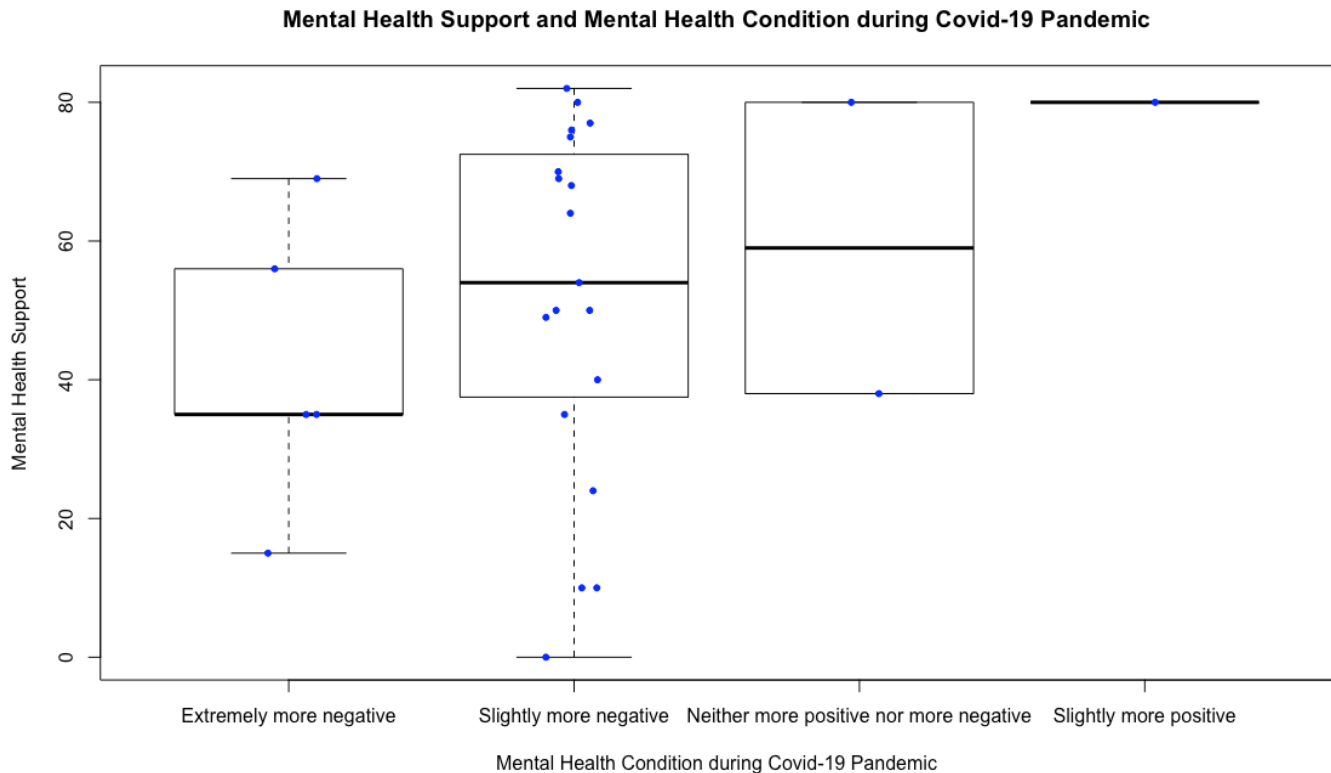
2. People's Mental Health Condition during Covid-19 Pandemic

Response	Number	Percentage (%)
Extremely more negative	5	18.52
Slightly more negative	19	70.37
Neither more negative nor more positive	2	7.41
Slightly more positive	1	3.70
Extremely more positive	0	0

Means. The average mental health support among participants from a scale of 1 to 100 was $M = 51.52$, $SD = 24.73$. The average mental health condition among participants was $M = 1.96 \sim 2$ (slightly more positive), $SD = 0.65$.

Statistics. I used a Pearson correlation test to analyze whether the differences between means was statistically significant. Results of a correlation test indicates that $r = 0.28$ and $p\text{-value} = 0.1478$. With $r = 0.28$, it emphasizes that the two variables are not strongly correlated. Furthermore, with this $p\text{-value}$, it means that we do not find any significant evidence to reject the null hypothesis. There is not enough evidence that mental health support among participants indicate differences in average mental health conditions among participants.

Figure 1. Participants' mental health condition during Covid-19 pandemic according to participants' mental health support. Blue dots represent all the data taken during the survey. The black and the bolded line represent the median value of the data according to each participant's mental health condition during the Covid-19 pandemic.



Conclusion

This analysis shows that there is no indication that mental health support correlates with the average mental health condition among participants during the Covid-19 pandemic. This might be because this research might need more sample size, and there is a divergence of mental health supports and conditions among participants, which might make the data distorted. Further research with an expanded number of participants could further investigate this issue and get a more accurate result. If a significant relationship exists, the implications could be geared towards changing public health policy on mental health and acknowledge how the Covid-19 pandemic has indeed exacerbated the mental health conditions among people.