

bp upf and na

Table of Contents

BP and UPF and Na in NDNS Dissertation.....	3
Trends in the association between Ultra-processed foods, salt intake and Blood Pressure using the National Dietary and Nutritional Survey (NDNS) in England 2008-2019.....	3
David O'Hagan.....	3
Dedication.....	3
Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Public Health, The University of Liverpool.....	3
August 2023.....	3
Literature Review.....	3
Method.....	20
Introduction.....	20
Research Question.....	20
National Dietary and Nutritional Survey.....	20
Study design.....	21
NDNS Dataset.....	21
University Research Governance and Ethical Review.....	21
Data Processing.....	21
Exclusions.....	22
Description of the data.....	22
Analysis of Change over Survey Years.....	23
Regression of key variables on systolic BP.....	23
Multiple Regression on Systolic BP.....	23
AIC and sensitivity Analysis.....	23
Method Conclusion.....	23

Results.....	24
Results Introduction.....	24
Description of the Data.....	24
Analysis of Change over Survey Years.....	28
Comparatison of other variables.....	29
Regression of key variables on Systolic BP.....	30
Multi variable regression on Systolic BP.....	33
Summary of Results.....	35
Conclusion.....	35
Discussion.....	36
Introduction to Discussion.....	36
Discussion of results.....	36
Data.....	36
comparative Data.....	37
univariable regression.....	37
multivariable models.....	37
Limitations of Study.....	37
Ideas for further research.....	37
Quantitative.....	37
Mixed and Qualitative.....	37
Ideas for policy.....	37
Conclusion.....	38
Bibliography.....	38
Appendices.....	38

BP and UPF and Na in NDNS Dissertation

Trends in the association between Ultra-processed foods, salt intake and Blood Pressure using the National Dietary and Nutritional Survey (NDNS) in England 2008-2019

David O'Hagan

200299857

Dedication

To Julie Andrew and Sophie

Acknowledgments

To Zoe and Martn

To Paul

Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Public Health, The University of Liverpool

August 2023

#Introduction and Back ground

Literature Review

Literature review 1 describe literature 2 synthesise literature 3 critique literature 4 explain role of study within context

Table of Contents BP, NCD and Public Health 1 PH and BP 2 Salt and BP 5 UPF and BP 6 UPF and BP 10 BP UPF and Salt 14 Bibliography 15

BP, NCD and Public Health Non-communicable disease is an increasing burden on public health. Blood pressure is a significant contributor to NCD. Blood pressure rises are described as idiopathic as their cause is not clear. Dietary and lifestyle causes are sought as explanations, if true this still is difficult to narrow down. Social and commercial determinants of health have a significant role to play. In reviewing the Framingham study, Kannel (1,2) describes how risk factor medicine came about. He describes raised blood pressure as a 'prominent member' of a group of risks in cardiovascular disease. A disease which is the outcome of 'multiple forces'. His description sees this as part of the march of progress in understanding cardiovascular disease in particular, but also non-communicable

disease. He identifies that cardiologists alone cannot conquer cardiovascular disease. Since then NCD and in particular BP has come to feature more and more. With studies that showed that reducing BP reduced the risk of CVD. This placed Blood pressure detection, management, and control at the centre of reducing CVD (3–7).

The causes of BP, as Kannel explains, are divided into secondary BP where there is an identified pathological cause and ‘essential’ or idiopathic BP where no cause is identifiable. Contributors to and partial causes of this essential BP have been sought, at individual and societal levels, using medical and epidemiological approaches (8–10). Key factors are often separated into lifestyle causes (11), and social determinants (12–17). Commerce also has a role to play in a causation model which embraces an understanding of causation on a population scale.

Lifestyle factors are contented. Whilst individual choice is involved. The range of choices available to individuals is limited by the nature of their society. A misapplication of lifestyle results in blaming individuals for the poor choices determined by their social and commercial environment.

Instead of trying to change activity of millions of people can be more effective to change laws and policies once (17–22). These ‘upstream’ changes are relatively simple, and are much more effective though they can also be reversed (23). Opposition sometimes comes from industry.

PH and BP 1. Campos-Nonato I, Vargas Meza J, Nieto C, Ariza AC, Barquera S. Reducing sodium consumption in Mexico: A strategy to decrease the morbidity and mortality of cardiovascular diseases. *Frontiers in public health*. 2022;10:857818–857818. 2. Cappuccio FP, Capewell S. Facts, Issues, and Controversies in Salt Reduction for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease. 2015;7(1):21. 3. Carmen BS, Karl V, Michelle G, Johnson N, LeeAnna L, Beryl W, et al. The UnProcessed pantry project (UP3). *Family & community health*. 2022;45(1):23–33. 4. Colombet Z, Schwaller E, Head A, Kypridemos C, Capewell S, O’Flaherty M. OP12 Social inequalities in ultra-processed food intakes in the United Kingdom: A time trend analysis (2008–2018). *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2022 Aug 1;76(Suppl 1):A6–7. 5. Colombet Z, Simioni M, Droque S, Lamani V, Perignon M, Martin-Prevel Y, et al. Demographic and socio-economic shifts partly explain the Martinican nutrition transition: an analysis of 10-year health and dietary changes (2003–2013) using decomposition models. *Public health nutrition*. 2021;24(18):6323–34. 6. Institute of Medicine, Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Food and Nutrition Board, Committee on the Consequences of Sodium Reduction in Populations, Oria M, Yaktine AL, et al. *Sodium Intake in Populations: Assessment of Evidence* [Internet]. Washington, D.C., UNITED STATES: National Academies Press; 2013 [cited 2023 Jan 21]. Available from: <http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/liverpool/detail.action?docID=3379068> 7. Institute of Medicine, Food and Nutrition Board, Committee on Strategies to Reduce Sodium Intake, Boon CS, Taylor CL, Henney JE. *Strategies to Reduce Sodium Intake in the United States* [Internet]. Washington, D.C., UNITED STATES: National Academies Press; 2010 [cited 2023 Jan 21]. Available from: <http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/liverpool/detail.action?docID=3378676> 8. Iso H, Shimamoto T, Yokota K, Ohki M, Sankai T, Kudo M, et al. [Changes in 24-hour urinary

excretion of sodium and potassium in a community-based health education program on salt reduction]. *Nihon Koshu Eisei Zasshi*. 1999 Oct;46(10):894–903. 9. Ji C, Cappuccio FP. Socioeconomic inequality in salt intake in Britain 10 years after a national salt reduction programme. *BMJ Open*. 2014 Aug 26;4(8):e005683–e005683. 10. Ji C, Cappuccio FP. Socioeconomic inequality in salt intake in Britain 10 years after a national salt reduction programme. *BMJ Open*. 2014 Aug 1;4(8):e005683. 11. Jones NR, Tong TY, Monsivais P. Meeting UK dietary recommendations is associated with higher estimated consumer food costs: an analysis using the National Diet and Nutrition Survey and consumer expenditure data, 2008–2012. *Public Health Nutrition*. 2018 Apr;21(5):948–56. 12. Kannel WB. Hypertension: Reflections on Risks and Prognostication. *Med Clin North Am*. 2009 May;93(3):541-Contents. 13. Lavery AA, Link to external site this link will open in a new window, Kypridemos C, Seferidi P, Vamos EP, Pearson-Stuttard J, et al. Quantifying the impact of the Public Health Responsibility Deal on salt intake, cardiovascular disease and gastric cancer burdens: interrupted time series and microsimulation study. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*. 2019 Sep;73(9):881. 14. Leeuw E de, Simos J, editors. *Healthy cities: the theory, policy, and practice of value-based urban planning*. New York, NY: Springer; 2017. 515 p. 15. MacGregor GA, He FJ, Pombo-Rodrigues S. Food and the responsibility deal: how the salt reduction strategy was derailed. *BMJ*. 2015 Apr 28;350:h1936. 16. Mahmood SS, Levy D, Vasan RS, Wang TJ. The Framingham Heart Study and the epidemiology of cardiovascular disease: a historical perspective. *The Lancet*. 2014 Mar 15;383(9921):999–1008. 17. Millett C, Lavery AA, Stylianou N, Bibbins-Domingo K, Pape UJ. Impacts of a National Strategy to Reduce Population Salt Intake in England: Serial Cross Sectional Study. *PLoS One*. 2012 Jan 4;7(1):e29836. 18. Moreira PVL, Baraldi LG, Moubarac JC, Monteiro CA, Newton A, Capewell S, et al. Comparing Different Policy Scenarios to Reduce the Consumption of Ultra-Processed Foods in UK: Impact on Cardiovascular Disease Mortality Using a Modelling Approach. Hernandez AV, editor. *PLoS ONE*. 2015 Feb 13;10(2):e0118353. 19. National Food Strategy, editor. *National Food Strategy:: part one*. [Internet]. London: National Food Strategy;; 2020. Available from: <https://www.nationalfoodstrategy.org/partone/> 20. WHO. High blood pressure: a public health problem [Internet]. World Health Organization - Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean. [cited 2022 Jan 19]. Available from: <http://www.emro.who.int/media/world-health-day/public-health-problem-factsheet-2013.html>

Salt and BP Salt is a contributor to the physiology of BP Its role in pathology is less clear. There are increasing levels of intake. This is correlated with increasing BP readings. Other nutrients have also been correlated. The role of salt in normal and abnormal BP control is established (23–25). However there remain areas of contention(26). There may be individuals with higher sensitivity to salt (27). Understanding the best approaches to reducing salt is difficult. Is it best to get individuals to reduce intake(28–32), or for all of the food industry to reduce salt levels(23,33).

UPF and BP Nova classification looks at food beyond the nutrient level. It incorporates ideas relating to ‘processing of food’ But also includes availability and intake which are all affected. Increasing Category four or UPF is associated with increasing BP. Other

approaches to food classification try to address more than the nutritional content. There is always conflict between commercial interests and restriction to the freedom to exploitation

Food classification has traditionally concentrated on nutritional analysis eg Nutriscore (34–37). The social aspect of food has been studied famously by Bourdieu (38,39). The effect of the social and commercial nature of food is partly accounted for in Monteiro's Nova classification. Dickie et al(35,40) tried to develop a system which took this idea further, but struggled to build a model which was any more effective.

Monteiro's initial explanation uses the concept of 'processing' (41–47). This idea separates foods into categories based on the amount of processing that occurs before the food is consumed. Group one are foods which are in a natural state, as plucked from the tree. Group two is foods which are used in processes to modify group one foods. Group three initially was all other foods, but was soon separated into minimally processed foods, and group four the ultra-processed foods.

Explanations for the differential effect of these foods have developed as quickly as new ultra-processed foods have been developed. Is it due to nutritional content(48)? They are high in salt and sugar on average. Is it due to effects on satiety, or changes to appetite(49)? Is it due to being easy to buy, and easy to eat(50)? Is it because they don't require time and effort in the home to process? Is it because these processes are industrial? Is it because these foods contain 'chemicals' or new ingredients? These explanations move from nutritional through into social and commercial.

All these critiques are possible because of the social element to the classification. Nutrition based classifications appear less socially divisive due to scientific isolation. They still contain elements of social factors. In particular, the way that foods are analysed can change their reported nutritional content. Eg a 'standard' food may be compared to a 'traditionally prepared' food. The first is prepared in a factory with control of its nutrition, the second by a home cook with limited access to nutrition modification technology.

Statements about the scheme often discuss the high salt and sugar content. Papers discussing the effect on physiology, and pathology in particular highlight these, but they do not back their statements with analysis. They do not show that the sodium, and UPF together increase the risk of CVD, or BP rise. This dissertation intends to address this gap

1. A. A, Gan HJ, M.Y. H, K. KS, Zainudin AA. Food classification system based on food processing and its relationship with nutritional status of adults in Terengganu, Malaysia. *Food Research*. 2019;4(2):539–46.
2. Aceves-Martins M, Bates RL, Craig LCA, Chalmers N, Horgan G, Boskamp B, et al. Nutritional Quality, Environmental Impact and Cost of Ultra-Processed Foods: A UK Food-Based Analysis. *IJERPH*. 2022 Mar 8;19(6):3191.
3. Aceves-Martins M, Link to external site this link will open in a new window, Bates RL, Link to external site this link will open in a new window, Craig LCA, Chalmers N, et al. Nutritional Quality, Environmental Impact and Cost of Ultra-Processed Foods: A UK Food-Based Analysis. *International journal of environmental research and public health* [Internet]. 2022 [cited 2022 Oct 28];19(6). Available from:

<http://www.proquest.com/publiccontent/docview/2644005015?pq-origsite=primo>

4. Armendariz M, Pérez-Ferrer C, Basto-Abreu A, Lovasi GS, Bilal U, Barrientos-Gutiérrez T. Changes in the Retail Food Environment in Mexican Cities and Their Association with Blood Pressure Outcomes. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2022 Jan 26;19(3):1353.
5. Astrup A, Monteiro CA. Does the concept of “ultra-processed foods” help inform dietary guidelines, beyond conventional classification systems? Debate consensus. *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. 2022 Dec 1;116(6):1489–91.
6. Astrup A, Monteiro CA. Does the concept of “ultra-processed foods” help inform dietary guidelines, beyond conventional classification systems? Debate consensus | *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* | Oxford Academic. *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* [Internet]. 2022 Oct 17 [cited 2022 Oct 25]; Available from: <https://academic-oup-com.liverpool.idm.oclc.org/ajcn/advance-article/doi/10.1093/ajcn/nqac230/6762413>
7. Bawajeel A, Zulyniak M, Evans C, Cade J. P21 Taste classification of foods consumed in the national diet and nutrition survey. *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2021 Sep 1;75(Suppl 1):A52.
8. Colombet Z, Schwaller E, Head A, Kypridemos C, Capewell S, O’Flaherty M. OP12 Social inequalities in ultra-processed food intakes in the United Kingdom: A time trend analysis (2008–2018). *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2022 Aug 1;76(Suppl 1):A6–7.
9. Cuj M, Grabinsky L, Yates-Doerr E. Cultures of Nutrition: Classification, Food Policy, and Health. *Medical Anthropology*. 2021 Jan 2;40(1):79–97.
10. D’avila HF, Kirsten VR. Energy intake from ultra-processed foods among adolescents. *Revista paulista de pediatria*. 2017;35(1):54–60.
11. Dickie S, Woods J, Machado P, Lawrence M. Nutrition Classification Schemes for Informing Nutrition Policy in Australia: Nutrient-Based, Food-Based, or Dietary-Based? *Curr Dev Nutr*. 2022 Jul 4;6(8):nzac112.
12. Dickie S, Woods J, Machado P, Lawrence M. A novel food processing-based nutrition classification scheme for guiding policy actions applied to the Australian food supply. *Frontiers in Nutrition* [Internet]. 2023 [cited 2023 Feb 10];10. Available from: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnut.2023.1071356>
13. Gupta D, Khanal P, Khan M. Sustainability and ultra-processed foods: role of youth. *Sustainability, agri, food and environmental research*. 2021;
14. Hodge A. In this issue: Ultra-processed food and health. *Public health nutrition*. 2021;24(11):3177–8.
15. Mertens E, Colizzi C, Peñalvo JL. Ultra-processed food consumption in adults across Europe. *Eur J Nutr*. 2022;61(3):1521–39.
16. Monteiro CA, Moubarac JC, Cannon G, Ng SW, Popkin B. Ultra-processed products are becoming dominant in the global food system. *Obesity Reviews*. 2013;14(S2):21–8.

17. Monteiro CA, Astrup A. Does the concept of “ultra-processed foods” help inform dietary guidelines, beyond conventional classification systems? YES. *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. 2022 Dec 1;116(6):1476–81.
18. Monteiro CA. Nutrition and health. The issue is not food, nor nutrients, so much as processing. *Public Health Nutrition*. 2009 May;12(5):729–31.
19. Monteiro CA, Cannon G, Levy R, Moubarac JC, Jaime P, Martins AP, et al. NOVA. The star shines bright. *World Nutrition*. 2016 Jan 7;7(1–3):28–38.
20. Monteiro CA, Levy RB, Claro RM, Castro IRR de, Cannon G. A new classification of foods based on the extent and purpose of their processing. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2010 Nov;26:2039–49.
21. Monteiro CA, Levy RB, Claro RM, Castro IRR de, Cannon G. Uma nova classificação de alimentos baseada na extensão e propósito do seu processamento. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2010 Nov;26:2039–49.
22. Muñoz-Lara A, Moncada-Patiño J, Tovar-Vega A, Aguilar-Zavala H. THE CONSUMPTION OF ULTRA-PROCESSED FOODS, ANTHROPOMORPHIC MEASUREMENTS AND BLOOD CHEMISTRY IN MEXICAN SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN. *Annals of nutrition and metabolism*. 2020;76:212-.
23. Rauber F, Louzada ML da C, Steele EM, Rezende LFM de, Millett C, Monteiro CA, et al. Ultra-processed foods and excessive free sugar intake in the UK: a nationally representative cross-sectional study. *BMJ Open*. 2019 Oct 1;9(10):e027546.
24. Rauber F, Steele EM, Louzada ML da C, Millett C, Monteiro CA, Levy RB. Ultra-processed food consumption and indicators of obesity in the United Kingdom population (2008-2016). Meyre D, editor. *PLoS ONE*. 2020 May 1;15(5):e0232676.
25. Southall JR. Ultra-processed food consumption linked to risk for colorectal cancer among men. *HEM/ONC Today*. 2022 Oct 25;23(14):13.
26. Vargas-Meza J, Cervantes-Armenta MA, Campos-Nonato I, Nieto C, Marrón-Ponce JA, Barquera S, et al. Dietary sodium and potassium intake: Data from the mexican national health and nutrition survey 2016. *Nutrients*. 2022;14(2):281-.
27. Wang L, Du M, Wang K, Khandpur N, Rossato SL, Drouin-Chartier JP, et al. Association of ultra-processed food consumption with colorectal cancer risk among men and women: results from three prospective US cohort studies. *BMJ*. 2022 Aug 31;378:e068921.
28. Wang L, Martínez Steele E, Du M, Pomeranz JL, O'Connor LE, Herrick KA, et al. Trends in Consumption of Ultraprocessed Foods Among US Youths Aged 2-19 Years, 1999-2018. *JAMA*. 2021 Aug 10;326(6):519–30.
29. Weinstein G, Vered S, Ivancovsky-Wajcman D, Zelber-Sagi S, Ravona-Springer R, Heymann A, et al. Consumption of ultra-processed food and cognitive decline among older adults with type-2 diabetes. *Alzheimer's & dementia*. 2021;17(S10).

UPF and BP 1. Aceves-Martins M, Link to external site this link will open in a new window, Bates RL, Link to external site this link will open in a new window, Craig LCA, Chalmers N, et al. Nutritional Quality, Environmental Impact and Cost of Ultra-Processed Foods: A UK Food-Based Analysis. *International journal of environmental research and public health* [Internet]. 2022 [cited 2022 Oct 28];19(6). Available from:

<http://www.proquest.com/publiccontent/docview/2644005015?pq-origsite=primo> 2. Aguiar Sarmento R, Peçanha Antonio J, Lamas de Miranda I, Bellicanta Nicoletto B, Carnevale de Almeida J. Eating patterns and health outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes. *Journal of the Endocrine Society*. 2018;2(1):42–52. 3. Barbosa SS, Sousa LCM, de Oliveira Silva DF, Pimentel JB, Evangelista KCM de S, Lyra C de O, et al. A Systematic Review on Processed/Ultra-Processed Foods and Arterial Hypertension in Adults and Older People. *Nutrients*. 2022 Mar 13;14(6):1215. 4. Colombet Z, Perignon M, Salanave B, Landais E, Martin-Prevel Y, Allès B, et al. Socioeconomic inequalities in metabolic syndrome in the French West Indies. *BMC Public Health*. 2019 Dec 3;19(1):1620. 5. D'Avila HF, Kirsten VR. CONSUMO ENERGÉTICO PROVENIENTE DE ALIMENTOS ULTRAPROCESSADOS POR ADOLESCENTES. *Revista paulista de pediatria*. 2017;35(1):54–60. 6. De Deus Mendonça R, Souza Lopes AC, Pimenta AM, Gea A, Martinez-Gonzalez MA, Bes-Rastrollo M. Ultra-processed food consumption and the incidence of hypertension in a mediterranean cohort: The seguimiento universidad de navarra project. *American journal of hypertension*. 2017;30(4):358–66. 7. de Miranda RC, Rauber F, Levy RB. Impact of ultra-processed food consumption on metabolic health. *Current opinion in lipidology*. 2021;32(1):24–37. 8. dos Santos FS, Dias M da S, Mintem GC, de Oliveira IO, Gigante DP. Food processing and cardiometabolic risk factors: a systematic review. *Rev Saude Publica*. 54:70. 9. Gomez-Smith M, Janik R, Adams C, Lake EM, Thomason LAM, Jeffers MS, et al. Reduced cerebrovascular reactivity and increased resting cerebral perfusion in rats exposed to a cafeteria diet. *Neuroscience*. 2018;371:166–77. 10. Gonçalves VS, Duarte EC, Dutra ES, Barufaldi LA, Carvalho KM. Characteristics of the school food environment associated with hypertension and obesity in Brazilian adolescents: a multilevel analysis of the Study of Cardiovascular Risks in Adolescents (ERICA). *Public health nutrition*. 2019;22(14):2625–34. 11. Goodman D, González-Rivas JP, Jaacks LM, Duran M, Marulanda MI, Ugel E, et al. Dietary intake and cardiometabolic risk factors among Venezuelan adults: a nationally representative analysis. *BMC nutrition*. 2020;6(1):61–61. 12. Ivancovsky-Wajcman D, Fliss-Isakov N, Webb M, Bentov I, Shibolet O, Kariv R, et al. Ultra-processed food is associated with features of metabolic syndrome and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. *Liver international*. 2021;41(11):2635–45. 13. Kityo A, Lee SA. The intake of ultra-processed foods and prevalence of chronic kidney disease: The health examinees study. *Nutrients*. 2022;14(17):3548-. 14. Lee HY. Ultra-processed foods as a less-known risk factor in cardiovascular diseases. *Korean circulation journal*. 2022;52(1):71–3. 15. Li M, Link to external site this link will open in a new window, Shi Z, Link to external site this link will open in a new window. Association between Ultra-Processed Food Consumption and Diabetes in Chinese Adults-Results from the China Health and Nutrition Survey. *Nutrients* [Internet]. 2022 [cited 2022 Nov 12];14(20). Available from: <https://www.proquest.com/publiccontent/docview/2729520244?parentSessionId=8CgvVWDFcQEhyTTXC%2B3zh7oBuY1vDlji2c0%2Fm7JmQZk%3D&pq-origsite=primo> 16. Li M, Shi Z. Ultra-processed food consumption associated with overweight/obesity among Chinese adults—Results from China health and nutrition survey 1997–2011. *Nutrients*. 2021;13(8):2796-. 17. Li M, Shi Z. Association between Ultra-Processed Food Consumption and Diabetes in Chinese Adults—Results from the China Health and Nutrition Survey. *Nutrients*. 2022 Jan;14(20):4241. 18. Lima R, Moreira L, Rossato S, Silva R, Fuchs S. P2-155 Consumption of ultra-processed food is associated with blood pressure in hypertensive individuals. *Journal of epidemiology and community health*

(1979). 2011;65(Suppl 1):A263–A263. 19. Martínez Steele E, Juul F, Neri D, Rauber F, Monteiro CA. Dietary share of ultra-processed foods and metabolic syndrome in the US adult population. *Preventive medicine*. 2019;125:40–8. 20. Oliveira T, Ribeiro I, Jurema-Santos G, Nobre I, Santos R, Rodrigues C, et al. Can the consumption of ultra-processed food be associated with anthropometric indicators of obesity and blood pressure in children 7 to 10 years old? *Foods*. 2020;9(11):1567-. 21. Rauber F, Louzada ML da C, Steele EM, Rezende LFM de, Millett C, Monteiro CA, et al. Ultra-processed foods and excessive free sugar intake in the UK: a nationally representative cross-sectional study. *BMJ Open*. 2019 Oct 1;9(10):e027546. 22. Rauber F, Steele EM, Louzada ML da C, Millett C, Monteiro CA, Levy RB. Ultra-processed food consumption and indicators of obesity in the United Kingdom population (2008-2016). Meyre D, editor. *PLoS ONE*. 2020 May 1;15(5):e0232676. 23. Rezende-Alves K, Hermsdorff HHM, Miranda AE da S, Lopes ACS, Bressan J, Pimenta AM. Food processing and risk of hypertension: Cohort of universities of minas gerais, brazil (CUME project). *Public health nutrition*. 2021;24(13):4071–9. 24. Santos FSD, Dias M da S, Mintem GC, Oliveira IO de, Gigante DP. Food processing and cardiometabolic risk factors: a systematic review. *Revista de saúde pública*. 2020;54:70–70. 25. Scaranni P de O da S. Ultra-processed foods, changes in blood pressure and incidence of hypertension: the Brazilian Longitudinal Study of Adult Health (ELSA-Brasil) | *Public Health Nutrition* | Cambridge Core [Internet]. [cited 2023 Mar 15]. Available from: <https://www.cambridge-org.liverpool.idm.oclc.org/core/journals/public-health-nutrition/article/ultraprocessed-foods-changes-in-blood-pressure-and-incidence-of-hypertension-the-brazilian-longitudinal-study-of-adult-health-elsabrasil/1A120EFBE6785C030961E19B94977D9B> 26. Scaranni P de O da S, Cardoso L de O, Chor D, Melo ECP, Matos SMA, Giatti L, et al. Ultra-processed foods, changes in blood pressure and incidence of hypertension: the Brazilian Longitudinal Study of Adult Health (ELSA-Brasil). *Public health nutrition*. 2021;24(11):3352–60. 27. Scaranni P de O da S, Cardoso L de O, Chor D, Melo ECP, Matos SMA, Giatti L, et al. Ultra-processed foods, changes in blood pressure and incidence of hypertension: the Brazilian Longitudinal Study of Adult Health (ELSA-Brasil). *Public Health Nutrition*. 2021 Aug;24(11):3352–60. 28. Schulze K. UPF and cardiometabolic health [Internet]. University of Cambridge; 2019 [cited 2023 Mar 2]. Available from: https://www.repository.cam.ac.uk/bitstream/handle/1810/306587/Kai%20Schulze%20Thesis%202020_final.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y 29. Shim SY, Kim HC, Shim JS. Consumption of ultra-processed food and blood pressure in korean adults. *Korean circulation journal*. 2022;52(1):60–70. 30. Shim SY, Kim HC, Shim JS. Consumption of Ultra-Processed Food and Blood Pressure in Korean Adults. *Korean Circ J*. 2022 Jan;52(1):60–70. 31. Smiljanec K, Mbakwe AU, Ramos-Gonzalez M, Mesbah C, Lennon SL. Associations of ultra-processed and unprocessed/minimally processed food consumption with peripheral and central hemodynamics, and arterial stiffness in young healthy adults. *Nutrients*. 2020;12(11):1–19. 32. Suter PM, Siervo C, Vetter W. Nutritional Factors in the Control of Blood Pressure and Hypertension. *Nutrition in Clinical Care*. 2002;5(1):9–19. 33. Tavares LF, Fonseca SC, Garcia Rosa ML, Yokoo EM. Relationship between ultra-processed foods and metabolic syndrome in adolescents from a Brazilian Family Doctor Program. *Public health nutrition*. 2012;15(1):82–7. 34. Tzelefa V, Tsimiagkou C, Argyris A, Moschonis G, Perogiannakis G, Yannakoulia M, et al. Associations of dietary patterns with blood pressure and markers of subclinical arterial damage in adults with risk factors for CVD. *Public health nutrition*. 2021;24(18):6075–84. 35. Vilela S, Magalhães V, Severo M, Oliveira A, Torres D,

Lopes C. Effect of the food processing degree on cardiometabolic health outcomes: A prospective approach in childhood. *Clinical nutrition* (Edinburgh, Scotland). 2022;41(10):2235–43. 36. Wang M, Du X, Huang W, Xu Y. Ultra-processed foods consumption increases the risk of hypertension in adults: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *American journal of hypertension*. 2022;35(10):892–901. 37. Wang M, Du X, Huang W, Xu Y. Ultra-Processed Foods Consumption Increases the Risk of Hypertension in Adults: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *American Journal of Hypertension*. 2022 Oct 1;35(10):892–901.

BP UPF and Salt What is not known is how UPF cause BP. Is it nutrient based? In which case is this mediated by Salt? Is it other factors? This study looks only at if Na is part of the causal pathway The thesis is that UPF is more of a risk than the salt it contains

1. Cappuccio FP, Capewell S. Facts, Issues, and Controversies in Salt Reduction for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease. 2015;7(1):21.
2. Eljovich F, Weinberger MH, Anderson CAM, Appel LJ, Bursztyn M, Cook NR, et al. Salt Sensitivity of Blood Pressure: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association. *Hypertension*. 2016 Sep;68(3):e7–46.
3. Elliott P, Stamler J, Nichols R, Dyer AR, Stamler R, Kesteloot H, et al. Intersalt revisited: further analyses of 24 hour sodium excretion and blood pressure within and across populations. *BMJ*. 1996 May 18;312(7041):1249–53.
4. He FJ, MacGregor GA. Reducing Population Salt Intake Worldwide: From Evidence to Implementation. *Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases*. 2010 Mar 1;52(5):363–82.
5. Newman T. High blood pressure: Sodium may not be the culprit [Internet]. *Medical News Today*. 2017 [cited 2022 Oct 14]. Available from: <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/317099>
6. Nilson EAF, Spaniol AM, Santin R da C, Silva SA. Estratégias para redução do consumo de nutrientes críticos para a saúde: o caso do sódio. *Cadernos de saúde pública*. 2021;37(suppl 1).
7. Sacks FM, Svetkey LP, Vollmer WM, Appel LJ, Bray GA, Harsha D, et al. Effects on Blood Pressure of Reduced Dietary Sodium and the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) Diet. *New England Journal of Medicine*. 2001 Jan 4;344(1):3–10.
8. Vollmer WM, Sacks FM, Ard J, Appel LJ, Bray GA, Simons-Morton DG, et al. Effects of Diet and Sodium Intake on Blood Pressure: Subgroup Analysis of the DASH-Sodium Trial. *Ann Intern Med*. 2001 Dec 18;135(12):1019.
9. Intersalt: an international study of electrolyte excretion and blood pressure. Results for 24 hour urinary sodium and potassium excretion. Intersalt Cooperative Research Group. *BMJ*. 1988 Jul 30;297(6644):319–28.
10. Your Guide to Lowering Your Blood Pressure with DASH. US Department of Health and Human Services; 1998 p. 64.

Bibliography 1. Kannel WB, Garrison RJ, Dannenberg AL. Secular blood pressure trends in normotensive persons: The Framingham Study. *Am Heart J*. 1993 Apr 1;125(4):1154–8. 2. Kannel WB. Hypertension: Reflections on Risks and Prognostication. *Med Clin North Am*. 2009 May;93(3):541-Contents. 3. Bress AP, Cohen JB, Anstey DE, Conroy MB, Ferdinand KC,

Fontil V, et al. Inequities in Hypertension Control in the United States Exposed and Exacerbated by COVID-19 and the Role of Home Blood Pressure and Virtual Health Care During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic. *J Am Heart Assoc*. 2021 Jun 1;10(11):e020997. 4. Debon R, Bellei EA, Biduski D, Volpi SS, Alves ALS, Portella MR, et al. Effects of using a mobile health application on the health conditions of patients with arterial hypertension: A pilot trial in the context of Brazil's Family Health Strategy. *Sci Rep*. 2020;10(1):6009–6009. 5. Ettehad D, Emdin CA, Kiran A, Anderson SG, Callender T, Emberson J, et al. Blood pressure lowering for prevention of cardiovascular disease and death: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *The Lancet*. 2016 Mar 5;387(10022):957–67. 6. Pringle E, Phillips C, Thijs L, Davidson C, Staessen JA, de Leeuw PW, et al. Systolic blood pressure variability as a risk factor for stroke and cardiovascular mortality in the elderly hypertensive population. *J Hypertens*. 2003 Dec;21(12):2251–7. 7. Roche M, Onyia I. A quality improvement package for high blood pressure (BP) management in general practice, part of a systems leadership approach to tackling high BP in Cheshire and Merseyside [Internet]. NICE. NICE; 2018 [cited 2022 Jan 19]. Available from: <https://www.nice.org.uk/sharedlearning/a-quality-improvement-package-for-high-blood-pressure-bp-management-in-general-practice-part-of-a-systems-leadership-approach-to-tackling-high-bp-in-cheshire-and-merseyside> 8. WHO. High blood pressure: a public health problem [Internet]. World Health Organization - Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean. [cited 2022 Jan 19]. Available from: <http://www.emro.who.int/media/world-health-day/public-health-problem-factsheet-2013.html> 9. Blood pressure - Action on Salt [Internet]. [cited 2022 Nov 16]. Available from: <https://www.actiononsalt.org.uk/salthealth/factsheets/pressure/> 10. Blood Pressure UK [Internet]. [cited 2022 Jan 27]. Available from: <https://www.bloodpressureuk.org/> 11. Boutain DM. Discourses of worry, stress, and high blood pressure in rural South Louisiana. *J Nurs Scholarsh*. 2001 Third Quarter;33(3):225–30. 12. Colombet Z, Simioni M, Droque S, Lamani V, Perignon M, Martin-Prevel Y, et al. Demographic and socio-economic shifts partly explain the Martinican nutrition transition: an analysis of 10-year health and dietary changes (2003–2013) using decomposition models. *Public Health Nutr*. 2021;24(18):6323–34. 13. Colombet Z, Schwaller E, Head A, Kypridemos C, Capewell S, O'Flaherty M. OP12 Social inequalities in ultra-processed food intakes in the United Kingdom: A time trend analysis (2008–2018). *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2022 Aug 1;76(Suppl 1):A6–7. 14. Ji C, Cappuccio FP. Socioeconomic inequality in salt intake in Britain 10 years after a national salt reduction programme. *BMJ Open*. 2014 Aug 26;4(8):e005683–e005683. 15. Jones NR, Tong TY, Monsivais P. Meeting UK dietary recommendations is associated with higher estimated consumer food costs: an analysis using the National Diet and Nutrition Survey and consumer expenditure data, 2008–2012. *Public Health Nutr*. 2018 Apr;21(5):948–56. 16. Leeuw E de, Simos J, editors. Healthy cities: the theory, policy, and practice of value-based urban planning. New York, NY: Springer; 2017. 515 p. 17. MacGregor GA, He FJ, Pombo-Rodrigues S. Food and the responsibility deal: how the salt reduction strategy was derailed. *BMJ*. 2015 Apr 28;350:h1936. 18. Institute of Medicine, Food and Nutrition Board, Committee on Strategies to Reduce Sodium Intake, Boon CS, Taylor CL, Henney JE. Strategies to Reduce Sodium Intake in the United States [Internet]. Washington, D.C., UNITED STATES: National Academies Press; 2010 [cited 2023 Jan 21]. Available from: <http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/liverpool/detail.action?docID=3378676> 19. Laverty AA, Link to external site this link will open in a new window, Kypridemos C, Seferidi P,

Vamos EP, Pearson-Stuttard J, et al. Quantifying the impact of the Public Health Responsibility Deal on salt intake, cardiovascular disease and gastric cancer burdens: interrupted time series and microsimulation study. *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2019 Sep;73(9):881. 20. Millett C, Lavery AA, Stylianou N, Bibbins-Domingo K, Pape UJ. Impacts of a National Strategy to Reduce Population Salt Intake in England: Serial Cross Sectional Study. *PLoS ONE*. 2012 Jan 4;7(1):e29836. 21. Moreira PVL, Baraldi LG, Moubarac JC, Monteiro CA, Newton A, Capewell S, et al. Comparing Different Policy Scenarios to Reduce the Consumption of Ultra-Processed Foods in UK: Impact on Cardiovascular Disease Mortality Using a Modelling Approach. Hernandez AV, editor. *PLOS ONE*. 2015 Feb 13;10(2):e0118353. 22. National Food Strategy, editor. National Food Strategy:: part one. [Internet]. London: National Food Strategy,; 2020. Available from: <https://www.nationalfoodstrategy.org/partone/> 23. Cappuccio FP, Capewell S. Facts, Issues, and Controversies in Salt Reduction for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease. 2015;7(1):21. 24. Intersalt: an international study of electrolyte excretion and blood pressure. Results for 24 hour urinary sodium and potassium excretion. Intersalt Cooperative Research Group. *BMJ*. 1988 Jul 30;297(6644):319–28. 25. Elliott P, Stamler J, Nichols R, Dyer AR, Stamler R, Kesteloot H, et al. Intersalt revisited: further analyses of 24 hour sodium excretion and blood pressure within and across populations. *BMJ*. 1996 May 18;312(7041):1249–53. 26. Newman T. High blood pressure: Sodium may not be the culprit [Internet]. *Medical News Today*. 2017 [cited 2022 Oct 14]. Available from: <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/317099> 27. Eljovich F, Weinberger MH, Anderson CAM, Appel LJ, Bursztyrn M, Cook NR, et al. Salt Sensitivity of Blood Pressure: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association. *Hypertens Dallas Tex* 1979. 2016 Sep;68(3):e7–46. 28. Your Guide to Lowering Your Blood Pressure with DASH. US Department of Health and Human Services; 1998 p. 64. 29. Reports Outline Obesity, Fitness and Wellness Findings from Federal University Vicosa (Effects of Minimally and Ultra-processed Foods On Blood Pressure In Brazilian Adults: a Two-year Follow Up of the Cume Project). *Obes Fit Wellness Week*. 2023;3265-. 30. Vollmer WM, Sacks FM, Ard J, Appel LJ, Bray GA, Simons-Morton DG, et al. Effects of Diet and Sodium Intake on Blood Pressure: Subgroup Analysis of the DASH-Sodium Trial. *Ann Intern Med*. 2001 Dec 18;135(12):1019. 31. Sacks FM, Svetkey LP, Vollmer WM, Appel LJ, Bray GA, Harsha D, et al. Effects on Blood Pressure of Reduced Dietary Sodium and the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) Diet. *N Engl J Med*. 2001 Jan 4;344(1):3–10. 32. Nilson EAF, Spaniol AM, Santin R da C, Silva SA. Estratégias para redução do consumo de nutrientes críticos para a saúde: o caso do sódio. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2021;37(suppl 1). 33. He FJ, MacGregor GA. Reducing Population Salt Intake Worldwide: From Evidence to Implementation. *Prog Cardiovasc Dis*. 2010 Mar 1;52(5):363–82. 34. Cuj M, Grabinsky L, Yates-Doerr E. Cultures of Nutrition: Classification, Food Policy, and Health. *Med Anthropol*. 2021 Jan 2;40(1):79–97. 35. Dickie S, Woods J, Machado P, Lawrence M. Nutrition Classification Schemes for Informing Nutrition Policy in Australia: Nutrient-Based, Food-Based, or Dietary-Based? *Curr Dev Nutr*. 2022 Jul 4;6(8):nzac112. 36. Romero Ferreiro C, Lora Pablos D, Gómez de la Cámara A. Two Dimensions of Nutritional Value: Nutri-Score and NOVA. *Nutrients*. 2021 Aug 13;13(8):2783. 37. A. A, Gan HJ, M.Y. H, K. KS, Zainudin AA. Food classification system based on food processing and its relationship with nutritional status of adults in Terengganu, Malaysia. *Food Res*. 2019;4(2):539–46. 38. Bourdieu P, Bourdieu P. Distinction: a social critique of the judgement of taste. 11. print. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard Univ. Press; 2002.

613 p. 39. A Bourdieu'dian Analysis for the Construction of an Education in Tea [Internet]. Tea Technique. 2021 [cited 2022 Apr 30]. Available from: <https://www.teatechnique.org/a-bourdieuian-analysis-for-the-construction-of-an-education-in-tea/> 40. Dickie S, Woods J, Machado P, Lawrence M. A novel food processing-based nutrition classification scheme for guiding policy actions applied to the Australian food supply. *Front Nutr* [Internet]. 2023 [cited 2023 Feb 10];10. Available from: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnut.2023.1071356> 41. Monteiro CA. Nutrition and health. The issue is not food, nor nutrients, so much as processing. *Public Health Nutr*. 2009 May;12(5):729–31. 42. Monteiro CA, Cannon G, Levy R, Moubarac JC, Jaime P, Martins AP, et al. NOVA. The star shines bright. *World Nutr*. 2016 Jan 7;7(1–3):28–38. 43. Monteiro CA, Levy RB, Claro RM, Castro IRR de, Cannon G. A new classification of foods based on the extent and purpose of their processing. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2010 Nov;26:2039–49. 44. Monteiro CA, Levy RB, Claro RM, Castro IRR de, Cannon G. Uma nova classificação de alimentos baseada na extensão e propósito do seu processamento. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2010 Nov;26:2039–49. 45. Monteiro CA, Moubarac JC, Cannon G, Ng SW, Popkin B. Ultra-processed products are becoming dominant in the global food system. *Obes Rev*. 2013;14(S2):21–8. 46. Monteiro CA, Astrup A. Does the concept of “ultra-processed foods” help inform dietary guidelines, beyond conventional classification systems? YES. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2022 Dec 1;116(6):1476–81. 47. Astrup A, Monteiro CA. Does the concept of “ultra-processed foods” help inform dietary guidelines, beyond conventional classification systems? Debate consensus. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2022 Dec 1;116(6):1489–91. 48. Aceves-Martins M, Bates RL, Craig LCA, Chalmers N, Horgan G, Boskamp B, et al. Nutritional Quality, Environmental Impact and Cost of Ultra-Processed Foods: A UK Food-Based Analysis. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2022 Mar 8;19(6):3191. 49. Rauber F, Louzada ML da C, Steele EM, Rezende LFM de, Millett C, Monteiro CA, et al. Ultra-processed foods and excessive free sugar intake in the UK: a nationally representative cross-sectional study. *BMJ Open*. 2019 Oct 1;9(10):e027546. 50. Wang L, Martínez Steele E, Du M, Pomeranz JL, O'Connor LE, Herrick KA, et al. Trends in Consumption of Ultraprocessed Foods Among US Youths Aged 2-19 Years, 1999-2018. *JAMA*. 2021 Aug 10;326(6):519–30. 1. Kannel WB, Garrison RJ, Dannenberg AL. Secular blood pressure trends in normotensive persons: The Framingham Study. *Am Heart J*. 1993 Apr 1;125(4):1154–8. 2. Kannel WB. Hypertension: Reflections on Risks and Prognostication. *Med Clin North Am*. 2009 May;93(3):541-Contents. 3. Bress AP, Cohen JB, Anstey DE, Conroy MB, Ferdinand KC, Fontil V, et al. Inequities in Hypertension Control in the United States Exposed and Exacerbated by COVID-19 and the Role of Home Blood Pressure and Virtual Health Care During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic. *J Am Heart Assoc*. 2021 Jun 1;10(11):e020997. 4. Debon R, Bellei EA, Biduski D, Volpi SS, Alves ALS, Portella MR, et al. Effects of using a mobile health application on the health conditions of patients with arterial hypertension: A pilot trial in the context of Brazil's Family Health Strategy. *Sci Rep*. 2020;10(1):6009–6009. 5. Ettehad D, Emdin CA, Kiran A, Anderson SG, Callender T, Emberson J, et al. Blood pressure lowering for prevention of cardiovascular disease and death: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *The Lancet*. 2016 Mar 5;387(10022):957–67. 6. Pringle E, Phillips C, Thijs L, Davidson C, Staessen JA, de Leeuw PW, et al. Systolic blood pressure variability as a risk factor for stroke and cardiovascular mortality in the elderly hypertensive population. *J Hypertens*. 2003 Dec;21(12):2251–7. 7. Roche M, Onyia I. A quality improvement package for high blood pressure (BP) management in general practice, part of a systems leadership

approach to tackling high BP in Cheshire and Merseyside [Internet]. NICE. NICE; 2018 [cited 2022 Jan 19]. Available from: <https://www.nice.org.uk/sharedlearning/a-quality-improvement-package-for-high-blood-pressure-bp-management-in-general-practice-part-of-a-systems-leadership-approach-to-tackling-high-bp-in-cheshire-and-merseyside> 8.

WHO. High blood pressure: a public health problem [Internet]. World Health Organization - Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean. [cited 2022 Jan 19]. Available from: <http://www.emro.who.int/media/world-health-day/public-health-problem-factsheet-2013.html> 9. Blood pressure - Action on Salt [Internet]. [cited 2022 Nov 16]. Available from: <https://www.actiononsalt.org.uk/salthealth/factsheets/pressure/> 10. Blood Pressure UK [Internet]. [cited 2022 Jan 27]. Available from: <https://www.bloodpressureuk.org/> 11. Boutain DM. Discourses of worry, stress, and high blood pressure in rural South Louisiana. *J Nurs Scholarsh*. 2001 Third Quarter;33(3):225–30. 12. Colombet Z, Simioni M, Drogue S, Lamani V, Perignon M, Martin-Prevel Y, et al. Demographic and socio-economic shifts partly explain the Martinican nutrition transition: an analysis of 10-year health and dietary changes (2003–2013) using decomposition models. *Public Health Nutr*. 2021;24(18):6323–34. 13. Colombet Z, Schwaller E, Head A, Kypridemos C, Capewell S, O’Flaherty M. OP12 Social inequalities in ultra-processed food intakes in the United Kingdom: A time trend analysis (2008–2018). *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2022 Aug 1;76(Suppl 1):A6–7. 14. Ji C, Cappuccio FP. Socioeconomic inequality in salt intake in Britain 10 years after a national salt reduction programme. *BMJ Open*. 2014 Aug 26;4(8):e005683–e005683. 15. Jones NR, Tong TY, Monsivais P. Meeting UK dietary recommendations is associated with higher estimated consumer food costs: an analysis using the National Diet and Nutrition Survey and consumer expenditure data, 2008–2012. *Public Health Nutr*. 2018 Apr;21(5):948–56. 16. Leeuw E de, Simos J, editors. *Healthy cities: the theory, policy, and practice of value-based urban planning*. New York, NY: Springer; 2017. 515 p. 17. MacGregor GA, He FJ, Pombo-Rodrigues S. Food and the responsibility deal: how the salt reduction strategy was derailed. *BMJ*. 2015 Apr 28;350:h1936. 18. Institute of Medicine, Food and Nutrition Board, Committee on Strategies to Reduce Sodium Intake, Boon CS, Taylor CL, Henney JE. *Strategies to Reduce Sodium Intake in the United States* [Internet]. Washington, D.C., UNITED STATES: National Academies Press; 2010 [cited 2023 Jan 21]. Available from: <http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/liverpool/detail.action?docID=3378676> 19. Lavery AA, Link to external site this link will open in a new window, Kypridemos C, Seferidi P, Vamos EP, Pearson-Stuttard J, et al. Quantifying the impact of the Public Health Responsibility Deal on salt intake, cardiovascular disease and gastric cancer burdens: interrupted time series and microsimulation study. *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2019 Sep;73(9):881. 20. Millett C, Lavery AA, Stylianou N, Bibbins-Domingo K, Pape UJ. Impacts of a National Strategy to Reduce Population Salt Intake in England: Serial Cross Sectional Study. *PLoS ONE*. 2012 Jan 4;7(1):e29836. 21. Moreira PVL, Baraldi LG, Moubarac JC, Monteiro CA, Newton A, Capewell S, et al. Comparing Different Policy Scenarios to Reduce the Consumption of Ultra-Processed Foods in UK: Impact on Cardiovascular Disease Mortality Using a Modelling Approach. Hernandez AV, editor. *PLOS ONE*. 2015 Feb 13;10(2):e0118353. 22. National Food Strategy, editor. *National Food Strategy:: part one*. [Internet]. London: National Food Strategy,; 2020. Available from: <https://www.nationalfoodstrategy.org/partone/> 23. Cappuccio FP, Capewell S. Facts, Issues, and Controversies in Salt Reduction for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease.

2015;7(1):21. 24. Intersalt: an international study of electrolyte excretion and blood pressure. Results for 24 hour urinary sodium and potassium excretion. Intersalt Cooperative Research Group. *BMJ*. 1988 Jul 30;297(6644):319–28. 25. Elliott P, Stamler J, Nichols R, Dyer AR, Stamler R, Kesteloot H, et al. Intersalt revisited: further analyses of 24 hour sodium excretion and blood pressure within and across populations. *BMJ*. 1996 May 18;312(7041):1249–53. 26. Newman T. High blood pressure: Sodium may not be the culprit [Internet]. *Medical News Today*. 2017 [cited 2022 Oct 14]. Available from: <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/317099> 27. Elijovich F, Weinberger MH, Anderson CAM, Appel LJ, Bursztyn M, Cook NR, et al. Salt Sensitivity of Blood Pressure: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association. *Hypertens Dallas Tex* 1979. 2016 Sep;68(3):e7–46. 28. Your Guide to Lowering Your Blood Pressure with DASH. US Department of Health and Human Services; 1998 p. 64. 29. Reports Outline Obesity, Fitness and Wellness Findings from Federal University Vicoso (Effects of Minimally and Ultra-processed Foods On Blood Pressure In Brazilian Adults: a Two-year Follow Up of the Cume Project). *Obes Fit Wellness Week*. 2023;3265-. 30. Vollmer WM, Sacks FM, Ard J, Appel LJ, Bray GA, Simons-Morton DG, et al. Effects of Diet and Sodium Intake on Blood Pressure: Subgroup Analysis of the DASH-Sodium Trial. *Ann Intern Med*. 2001 Dec 18;135(12):1019. 31. Sacks FM, Svetkey LP, Vollmer WM, Appel LJ, Bray GA, Harsha D, et al. Effects on Blood Pressure of Reduced Dietary Sodium and the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) Diet. *N Engl J Med*. 2001 Jan 4;344(1):3–10. 32. Nilson EAF, Spaniol AM, Santin R da C, Silva SA. Estratégias para redução do consumo de nutrientes críticos para a saúde: o caso do sódio. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2021;37(suppl 1). 33. He FJ, MacGregor GA. Reducing Population Salt Intake Worldwide: From Evidence to Implementation. *Prog Cardiovasc Dis*. 2010 Mar 1;52(5):363–82. 34. Cuj M, Grabinsky L, Yates-Doerr E. Cultures of Nutrition: Classification, Food Policy, and Health. *Med Anthropol*. 2021 Jan 2;40(1):79–97. 35. Dickie S, Woods J, Machado P, Lawrence M. Nutrition Classification Schemes for Informing Nutrition Policy in Australia: Nutrient-Based, Food-Based, or Dietary-Based? *Curr Dev Nutr*. 2022 Jul 4;6(8):nzac112. 36. Romero Ferreiro C, Lora Pablos D, Gómez de la Cámara A. Two Dimensions of Nutritional Value: Nutri-Score and NOVA. *Nutrients*. 2021 Aug 13;13(8):2783. 37. A. A, Gan HJ, M.Y. H, K. KS, Zainudin AA. Food classification system based on food processing and its relationship with nutritional status of adults in Terengganu, Malaysia. *Food Res*. 2019;4(2):539–46. 38. Bourdieu P, Bourdieu P. *Distinction: a social critique of the judgement of taste*. 11. print. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard Univ. Press; 2002. 613 p. 39. A Bourdieu'dian Analysis for the Construction of an Education in Tea [Internet]. *Tea Technique*. 2021 [cited 2022 Apr 30]. Available from: <https://www.teatechnique.org/a-bourdieu-dian-analysis-for-the-construction-of-an-education-in-tea/> 40. Dickie S, Woods J, Machado P, Lawrence M. A novel food processing-based nutrition classification scheme for guiding policy actions applied to the Australian food supply. *Front Nutr* [Internet]. 2023 [cited 2023 Feb 10];10. Available from: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnut.2023.1071356> 41. Monteiro CA. Nutrition and health. The issue is not food, nor nutrients, so much as processing. *Public Health Nutr*. 2009 May;12(5):729–31. 42. Monteiro CA, Cannon G, Levy R, Moubarac JC, Jaime P, Martins AP, et al. NOVA. The star shines bright. *World Nutr*. 2016 Jan 7;7(1–3):28–38. 43. Monteiro CA, Levy RB, Claro RM, Castro IRR de, Cannon G. A new classification of foods based on the extent and purpose of their processing. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2010 Nov;26:2039–49. 44. Monteiro CA, Levy RB, Claro RM, Castro IRR de, Cannon G. Uma nova

classificação de alimentos baseada na extensão e propósito do seu processamento. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2010 Nov;26:2039–49. 45. Monteiro CA, Moubarac JC, Cannon G, Ng SW, Popkin B. Ultra-processed products are becoming dominant in the global food system. *Obes Rev*. 2013;14(S2):21–8. 46. Monteiro CA, Astrup A. Does the concept of “ultra-processed foods” help inform dietary guidelines, beyond conventional classification systems? YES. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2022 Dec 1;116(6):1476–81. 47. Astrup A, Monteiro CA. Does the concept of “ultra-processed foods” help inform dietary guidelines, beyond conventional classification systems? Debate consensus. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2022 Dec 1;116(6):1489–91. 48. Aceves-Martins M, Bates RL, Craig LCA, Chalmers N, Horgan G, Boskamp B, et al. Nutritional Quality, Environmental Impact and Cost of Ultra-Processed Foods: A UK Food-Based Analysis. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2022 Mar 8;19(6):3191. 49. Rauber F, Louzada ML da C, Steele EM, Rezende LFM de, Millett C, Monteiro CA, et al. Ultra-processed foods and excessive free sugar intake in the UK: a nationally representative cross-sectional study. *BMJ Open*. 2019 Oct 1;9(10):e027546. 50. Wang L, Martínez Steele E, Du M, Pomeranz JL, O'Connor LE, Herrick KA, et al. Trends in Consumption of Ultraprocessed Foods Among US Youths Aged 2-19 Years, 1999-2018. *JAMA*. 2021 Aug 10;326(6):519–30. 1. Kannel WB, Garrison RJ, Dannenberg AL. Secular blood pressure trends in normotensive persons: The Framingham Study. *Am Heart J*. 1993 Apr 1;125(4):1154–8. 2. Kannel WB. Hypertension: Reflections on Risks and Prognostication. *Med Clin North Am*. 2009 May;93(3):541-Contents. 3. Bress AP, Cohen JB, Anstey DE, Conroy MB, Ferdinand KC, Fontil V, et al. Inequities in Hypertension Control in the United States Exposed and Exacerbated by COVID-19 and the Role of Home Blood Pressure and Virtual Health Care During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic. *J Am Heart Assoc*. 2021 Jun 1;10(11):e020997. 4. Debon R, Bellei EA, Biduski D, Volpi SS, Alves ALS, Portella MR, et al. Effects of using a mobile health application on the health conditions of patients with arterial hypertension: A pilot trial in the context of Brazil's Family Health Strategy. *Sci Rep*. 2020;10(1):6009–6009. 5. Ettehad D, Emdin CA, Kiran A, Anderson SG, Callender T, Emberson J, et al. Blood pressure lowering for prevention of cardiovascular disease and death: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *The Lancet*. 2016 Mar 5;387(10022):957–67. 6. Pringle E, Phillips C, Thijs L, Davidson C, Staessen JA, de Leeuw PW, et al. Systolic blood pressure variability as a risk factor for stroke and cardiovascular mortality in the elderly hypertensive population. *J Hypertens*. 2003 Dec;21(12):2251–7. 7. Roche M, Onyia I. A quality improvement package for high blood pressure (BP) management in general practice, part of a systems leadership approach to tackling high BP in Cheshire and Merseyside [Internet]. NICE. NICE; 2018 [cited 2022 Jan 19]. Available from: <https://www.nice.org.uk/sharedlearning/a-quality-improvement-package-for-high-blood-pressure-bp-management-in-general-practice-part-of-a-systems-leadership-approach-to-tackling-high-bp-in-cheshire-and-merseyside> 8. WHO. High blood pressure: a public health problem [Internet]. World Health Organization - Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean. [cited 2022 Jan 19]. Available from: <http://www.emro.who.int/media/world-health-day/public-health-problem-factsheet-2013.html> 9. Blood pressure - Action on Salt [Internet]. [cited 2022 Nov 16]. Available from: <https://www.actiononsalt.org.uk/salthhealth/factsheets/pressure/> 10. Blood Pressure UK [Internet]. [cited 2022 Jan 27]. Available from: <https://www.bloodpressureuk.org/> 11. Boutain DM. Discourses of worry, stress, and high blood pressure in rural South Louisiana. *J Nurs Scholarsh*. 2001 Third Quarter;33(3):225–30. 12. Colombet Z, Simioni M, Drogue S, Lamani V, Perignon M, Martin-Prevel Y, et

al. Demographic and socio-economic shifts partly explain the Martinican nutrition transition: an analysis of 10-year health and dietary changes (2003–2013) using decomposition models. *Public Health Nutr.* 2021;24(18):6323–34. 13. Colombet Z, Schwaller E, Head A, Kypridemos C, Capewell S, O’Flaherty M. OP12 Social inequalities in ultra-processed food intakes in the United Kingdom: A time trend analysis (2008–2018). *J Epidemiol Community Health.* 2022 Aug 1;76(Suppl 1):A6–7. 14. Ji C, Cappuccio FP. Socioeconomic inequality in salt intake in Britain 10 years after a national salt reduction programme. *BMJ Open.* 2014 Aug 26;4(8):e005683–e005683. 15. Jones NR, Tong TY, Monsivais P. Meeting UK dietary recommendations is associated with higher estimated consumer food costs: an analysis using the National Diet and Nutrition Survey and consumer expenditure data, 2008–2012. *Public Health Nutr.* 2018 Apr;21(5):948–56. 16. Leeuw E de, Simos J, editors. *Healthy cities: the theory, policy, and practice of value-based urban planning.* New York, NY: Springer; 2017. 515 p. 17. MacGregor GA, He FJ, Pombo-Rodrigues S. Food and the responsibility deal: how the salt reduction strategy was derailed. *BMJ.* 2015 Apr 28;350:h1936. 18. Institute of Medicine, Food and Nutrition Board, Committee on Strategies to Reduce Sodium Intake, Boon CS, Taylor CL, Henney JE. *Strategies to Reduce Sodium Intake in the United States* [Internet]. Washington, D.C., UNITED STATES: National Academies Press; 2010 [cited 2023 Jan 21]. Available from: <http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/liverpool/detail.action?docID=3378676> 19. Lavery AA, Link to external site this link will open in a new window, Kypridemos C, Seferidi P, Vamos EP, Pearson-Stuttard J, et al. Quantifying the impact of the Public Health Responsibility Deal on salt intake, cardiovascular disease and gastric cancer burdens: interrupted time series and microsimulation study. *J Epidemiol Community Health.* 2019 Sep;73(9):881. 20. Millett C, Lavery AA, Stylianou N, Bibbins-Domingo K, Pape UJ. Impacts of a National Strategy to Reduce Population Salt Intake in England: Serial Cross Sectional Study. *PLoS ONE.* 2012 Jan 4;7(1):e29836. 21. Moreira PVL, Baraldi LG, Moubarac JC, Monteiro CA, Newton A, Capewell S, et al. Comparing Different Policy Scenarios to Reduce the Consumption of Ultra-Processed Foods in UK: Impact on Cardiovascular Disease Mortality Using a Modelling Approach. Hernandez AV, editor. *PLOS ONE.* 2015 Feb 13;10(2):e0118353. 22. National Food Strategy, editor. *National Food Strategy:: part one.* [Internet]. London: National Food Strategy;; 2020. Available from: <https://www.nationalfoodstrategy.org/partone/> 23. Cappuccio FP, Capewell S. Facts, Issues, and Controversies in Salt Reduction for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease. 2015;7(1):21. 24. Intersalt: an international study of electrolyte excretion and blood pressure. Results for 24 hour urinary sodium and potassium excretion. Intersalt Cooperative Research Group. *BMJ.* 1988 Jul 30;297(6644):319–28. 25. Elliott P, Stamler J, Nichols R, Dyer AR, Stamler R, Kesteloot H, et al. Intersalt revisited: further analyses of 24 hour sodium excretion and blood pressure within and across populations. *BMJ.* 1996 May 18;312(7041):1249–53. 26. Newman T. High blood pressure: Sodium may not be the culprit [Internet]. *Medical News Today.* 2017 [cited 2022 Oct 14]. Available from: <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/317099> 27. Eljovich F, Weinberger MH, Anderson CAM, Appel LJ, Bursztyn M, Cook NR, et al. Salt Sensitivity of Blood Pressure: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association. *Hypertens Dallas Tex* 1979. 2016 Sep;68(3):e7–46. 28. *Your Guide to Lowering Your Blood Pressure with DASH.* US Department of Health and Human Services; 1998 p. 64. 29. Reports Outline Obesity, Fitness and Wellness Findings from Federal University Vicoso (Effects of Minimally and Ultra-

processed Foods On Blood Pressure In Brazilian Adults: a Two-year Follow Up of the Cume Project). *Obes Fit Wellness Week*. 2023;3265-. 30. Vollmer WM, Sacks FM, Ard J, Appel LJ, Bray GA, Simons-Morton DG, et al. Effects of Diet and Sodium Intake on Blood Pressure: Subgroup Analysis of the DASH-Sodium Trial. *Ann Intern Med*. 2001 Dec 18;135(12):1019.

31. Sacks FM, Svetkey LP, Vollmer WM, Appel LJ, Bray GA, Harsha D, et al. Effects on Blood Pressure of Reduced Dietary Sodium and the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) Diet. *N Engl J Med*. 2001 Jan 4;344(1):3–10. 32. Nilson EAF, Spaniol AM, Santin R da C, Silva SA. Estratégias para redução do consumo de nutrientes críticos para a saúde: o caso do sódio. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2021;37(suppl 1). 33. He FJ, MacGregor GA. Reducing Population Salt Intake Worldwide: From Evidence to Implementation. *Prog Cardiovasc Dis*. 2010 Mar 1;52(5):363–82. 34. Cuj M, Grabinsky L, Yates-Doerr E. Cultures of Nutrition: Classification, Food Policy, and Health. *Med Anthropol*. 2021 Jan 2;40(1):79–97. 35. Dickie S, Woods J, Machado P, Lawrence M. Nutrition Classification Schemes for Informing Nutrition Policy in Australia: Nutrient-Based, Food-Based, or Dietary-Based? *Curr Dev Nutr*. 2022 Jul 4;6(8):nzac112. 36. Romero Ferreiro C, Lora Pablos D, Gómez de la Cámara A. Two Dimensions of Nutritional Value: Nutri-Score and NOVA. *Nutrients*. 2021 Aug 13;13(8):2783. 37. A. A, Gan HJ, M.Y. H, K. KS, Zainudin AA. Food classification system based on food processing and its relationship with nutritional status of adults in Terengganu, Malaysia. *Food Res*. 2019;4(2):539–46. 38. Bourdieu P, Bourdieu P. *Distinction: a social critique of the judgement of taste*. 11. print. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard Univ. Press; 2002. 613 p. 39. A Bourdieu'dian Analysis for the Construction of an Education in Tea [Internet]. *Tea Technique*. 2021 [cited 2022 Apr 30]. Available from: <https://www.teatechnique.org/a-bourdieu-dian-analysis-for-the-construction-of-an-education-in-tea/> 40. Dickie S, Woods J, Machado P, Lawrence M. A novel food processing-based nutrition classification scheme for guiding policy actions applied to the Australian food supply. *Front Nutr* [Internet]. 2023 [cited 2023 Feb 10];10. Available from: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnut.2023.1071356> 41. Monteiro CA. Nutrition and health. The issue is not food, nor nutrients, so much as processing. *Public Health Nutr*. 2009 May;12(5):729–31. 42. Monteiro CA, Cannon G, Levy R, Moubarac JC, Jaime P, Martins AP, et al. NOVA. The star shines bright. *World Nutr*. 2016 Jan 7;7(1–3):28–38. 43. Monteiro CA, Levy RB, Claro RM, Castro IRR de, Cannon G. A new classification of foods based on the extent and purpose of their processing. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2010 Nov;26:2039–49. 44. Monteiro CA, Levy RB, Claro RM, Castro IRR de, Cannon G. Uma nova classificação de alimentos baseada na extensão e propósito do seu processamento. *Cad Saúde Pública*. 2010 Nov;26:2039–49. 45. Monteiro CA, Moubarac JC, Cannon G, Ng SW, Popkin B. Ultra-processed products are becoming dominant in the global food system. *Obes Rev*. 2013;14(S2):21–8. 46. Monteiro CA, Astrup A. Does the concept of “ultra-processed foods” help inform dietary guidelines, beyond conventional classification systems? YES. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2022 Dec 1;116(6):1476–81. 47. Astrup A, Monteiro CA. Does the concept of “ultra-processed foods” help inform dietary guidelines, beyond conventional classification systems? Debate consensus. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2022 Dec 1;116(6):1489–91. 48. Aceves-Martins M, Bates RL, Craig LCA, Chalmers N, Horgan G, Boskamp B, et al. Nutritional Quality, Environmental Impact and Cost of Ultra-Processed Foods: A UK Food-Based Analysis. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2022 Mar 8;19(6):3191. 49. Rauber F, Louzada ML da C, Steele EM, Rezende LFM de, Millett C, Monteiro CA, et al. Ultra-processed foods and excessive free sugar intake in the UK: a nationally representative cross-sectional study.

BMJ Open. 2019 Oct 1;9(10):e027546. 50. Wang L, Martínez Steele E, Du M, Pomeranz JL, O'Connor LE, Herrick KA, et al. Trends in Consumption of Ultraprocessed Foods Among US Youths Aged 2-19 Years, 1999-2018. JAMA. 2021 Aug 10;326(6):519–30.

Method

Introduction

This section takes the research question and explains how the data is used to answer the question.

There will be a description of the study and data collection. Then a section on governance and ethics in this project.

Data analysis starts with the relevant variables being identified and extracted. Some data may need to be recalculated or to be processed to make a more useable form. The population will be reviewed. Groups which bias the results are removed. Then there is a description of the data. The second analysis section compares the data between two cohorts. The third analysis section involves using linear regression to identify if there is a correlation between the BP and each of the key variables. Multivariable regression models are then generated. These models are finally examined to identify the relative importance of the different variables in developing an optimal model and what these models tell us about the relationship between our variables. A summary and conclusion will bring all these together.

Research Question

What proportion of the association between blood pressure (SBP) and UPF intake can be explained by the changes in salt intake in England between 2008 and 2019?

The question can be split into parts, What was intake of salt between 2008 and 2019? What was intake of UPF between 2008 and 2019? What was BP between 2008 and 2019? Did each of these change over that time and how? Did the changes in any one affect any other? What are the sizes of the changes? Which element was most important in these changes?

All of these questions look for numbers as answers.

Answering the question starts with counting. The collected numbers are then compared in different ways to answer each part of the question.

National Dietary and Nutritional Survey

This survey is a collaboration between government departments responsible for health and for food production. They have engaged academic partners to deliver reports on diet and nutrition across the United Kingdom. The study is designed to be representative across the whole area.

Study design

This is a rolling cohort study which each year selects a new cohort of participants. The sample is approximately 1000 per year with 50% adults. The design has a random selection across postal units (psu). This is stratified to ensure a representative sample across the four nations and across regions within those countries. The sample is also representative for age and sex.

Having taken up the study, participants complete a 4 day food diary, and have an interview with a nurse which includes taking several measurements. Weighting is given for each annual survey to enable comparison across the years taking account for alterations in uptake and response completion.

NDNS Dataset

The data from the NDNS study contains items about each individual, and their household. It contains a table with each item of food as recorded in their diary. There is a table with the overall intake of each of a large range of nutrients for the whole period. This is calculated from the diary using nutritional tables which are published as part of the dataset. The dataset is available via the UK national Data service for research purposes.

NDNS began before Monteiro's processing based classification, Nova, was developed. There is no record of Nova food type in NDNS. This has been calculated from the food descriptions. I have used a table from Rauber et al. for Nova values in NDNS.

University Research Governance and Ethical Review

The research has been carried out under the University governance. A proposal was discussed and agreed within the department. The need for ethical review was considered using the university research tool. The fact that the data is anonymised and there was no contact with participants means that there is minimal risk of harm to research participants. A certificate from the ethics department is in the appendix.

Other ethical issues include data custodianship ensuring that the the rights of the owners of the data and of the participants are still considered as part of the process of analysis and dissemination of the research.

Issues around the power structures which lead to privilege one research project or proposal over another are considered more in the positionality section.

Data Processing

The storage of the data is in keeping with the research governance agreements of the University and the Data set owners. The data is read from its files using 'r-studio' with the processing being carried out using packages available from CRAN. I have used files which had been amalgamated into four batches. These are 2008-2012, 2013-2014, 2015-2016, 2017-2019.

Once the data labels are made consistent across the batches, weighting recalculation is done. This generates values which account for differences in population balance across the

annual cohorts. These result from differences in compliance and uptake within and across the years.

The years are amalgamated and the nature of the variables is specified.

Exclusions

The relationship between salt and systolic blood pressure may be different in individuals with pathologically high BP. Those taking BP controlling medications may have a different relationship to sodium and UPF. These patients were excluded from the main analysis, however this affected the sample size and skewed the male female ratio. Analysis was done with exclusion and this produced results in line with those presented, but of smaller magnitude. This additional analysis is not presented here.

Description of the data

The data is summarised for the key continuous variables. The key variables are systolic BP (omsysval), UPF intake (Epcnt_4) and Sodium intake (sodiummg). These variables are the ones which most relate to the research question. Table x shows the data which has been balanced using the weightings provided by the NDNS research team.

There are a number of related variables in the dataset. These were chosen for relevance, reliability and practicality. These variables are ones which can also influence BP. They include Age, Sex, BMI, height and weight. Age at completion of education (educfinh), and IMD are also used.

The omsysval is a validated measurement with significant quality assessment within the dataset. Raw systolic BP values are present in the dataset but are made up of data with issues around quality. In particular the systolic BP values are assessed for the effects of exercise, temperature and ill health. The variable omsysval is a quality assured mean value which is reliable across the dataset.

The sodium value is one calculated from intake based on food diaries and standard food nutrient values. This only reflects standard foods and is the result of assumptions about the content being consistent. Serum sodium values are available for the early dataset, but not the later one. There are also values for 24 urinary sodium which is probably a better indicator of dietary sodium for parts of the dataset, but again these are not found in both time periods.

The food diaries need processing to identify the UPF intake. Each persons food diary entries are assessed against the Nova food classification from Rauber. Then the weight and energy content of the days food is calculated by Nova group. This is added to the intake for the other 3 days and the total intake by Nova group established.

The percentage of the total intake of energy (Epcnt_4) is then calculated for each of the 4 Nova categories. Nova group 4 or UPF intake is used for the study.

Mean values for the data are displayed with a comparison for weighted values. The exposure variables are sodium intake (Sodiummg), and ultra processed food intake (Epcnt_4). The outcome variable, the mean systolic blood pressure (omsysval).

Analysis of Change over Survey Years

The second phase of analysis shows how the key variables have changed over the survey years cohorts. This will show separately how the inputs and outputs have changed.

These are not the same participants so matched analysis, or time series analysis is not directly applicable.

Plots will be given to show the values in each of the available cohorts.

Other variables in the data are compared across to assess how the data changes. t tests are again used for continuous data, and chi squared tests are used for categorical data.

Regression of key variables on systolic BP

Analysis of the correlation between BP and sodium intake, and then BP and UPF intake is done using linear regression. This will give an indicator of the direction, and strength of any relationship between the variables. There is also anova analysis to understand the statistical significance of these results.

Multiple Regression on Systolic BP

Multivariable regression models are then developed to understand the interactions between variables and to develop a mathematical model of the relationship. The optimal model is one which best explains the pattern of data, but which also makes practical sense for the wider understanding of relationships. Assessment techniques try to understand the importance of including particular variables, and the form in which they are best included. Anova analysis here identifies how the addition of different variables changes the significance of other variables. This can suggest causative relationships.

AIC and sensitivity Analysis

This section compares models side by side using assessment techniques to identify the best way of describing the data. The 'best' in part is determined by whether a model is needed to predict more data, or just to understand the data available. Here it is about how best to describe the relationship between Na, UPF, and BP.

Method Conclusion

This section has highlighted how the material for the study is brought together and how the governance and ethics fit with the data collection, processing and analysis to help us to derive the results which will be presented in the next section.

Results

Results Introduction

The results derive from the method outlined above and follow the pattern described. I will discuss the results having already described the method.

Description of the Data

This first table highlights the key variables from the years 2008-2019. These are weighted values

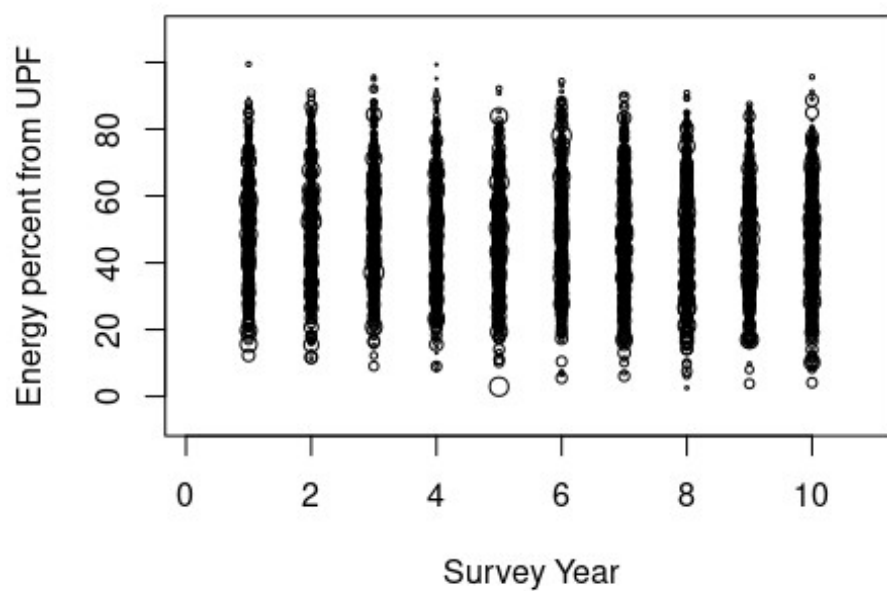
##	Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.	NA's
##	70.5	105.5	115.5	118.3	128.5	220.0	7958

NDNS year 1-11 data over years

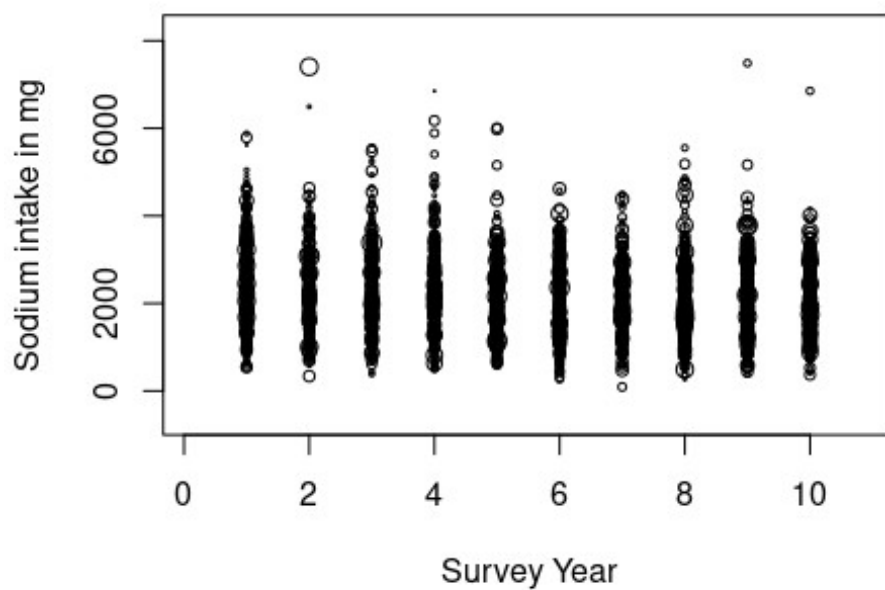
2 , N = 1,429 ¹	3 , N = 1,372 ¹	4 , N = 1,432 ¹	5 , N = 1,485 ¹	6 , N = 1,362 ¹	7 , N = 1,442 ¹	8 , N = 1,405 ¹
2,208 (827)	2,184 (830)	2,077 (799)	2,010 (742)	1,988 (765)	1,987 (798)	1,945 (822)
50 (15)	49 (15)	49 (15)	48 (15)	50 (16)	47 (15)	45 (16)
124 (16)	124 (18)	124 (16)	122 (17)	120 (18)	124 (19)	121 (18)
639	604	654	551	574	588	541

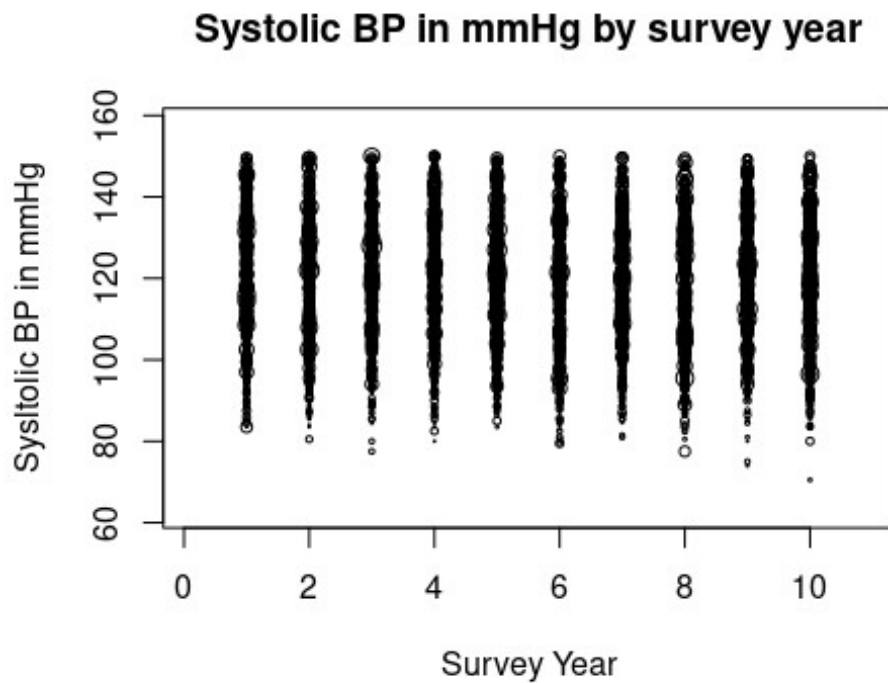
This tables shows the change between annual cohorts.

Energy from UPF in percent by survey year



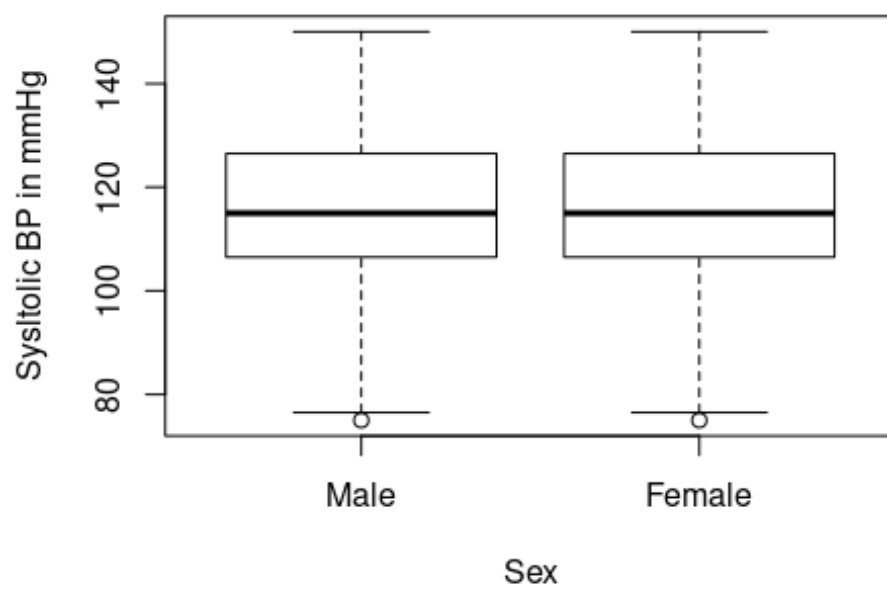
Sodium Intake in mg by survey year



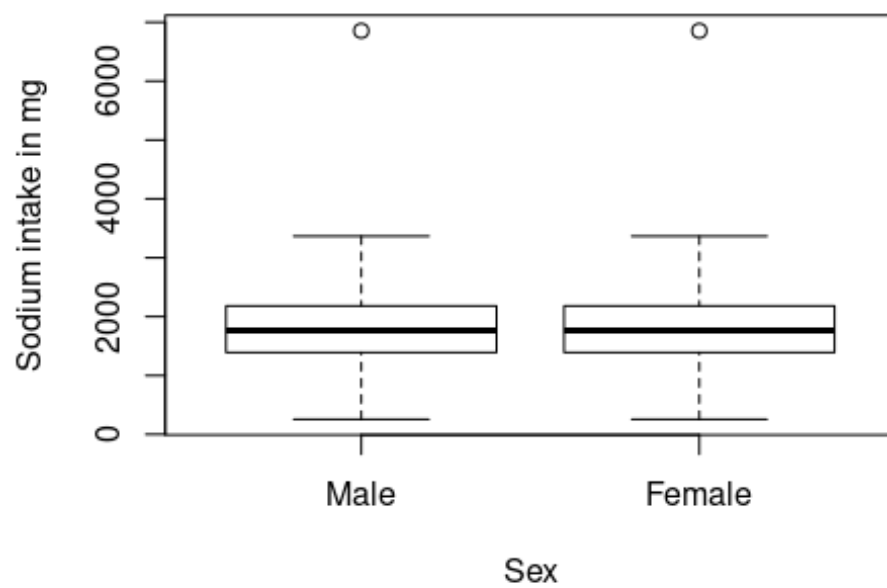


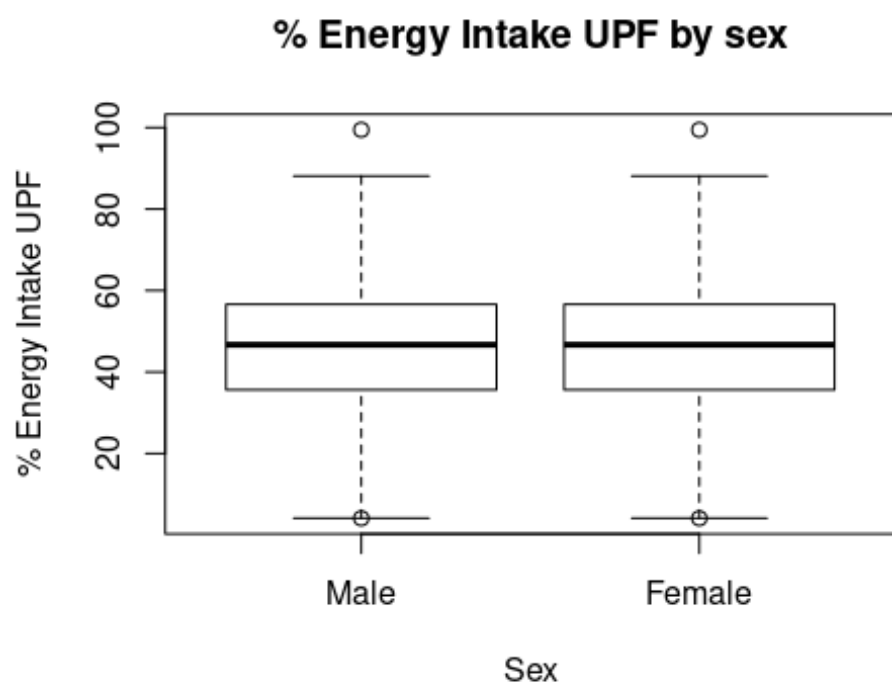
These plots show how the percentage of energy derived from UPF, the sodium intake, and the Systolic BP have changed over the years. The graphs show that there is not a clear visible difference between the years. Statistical analysis will follow. These next box plots show the difference between the sexes in the key variables.

Systolic BP in mmHg by Sex



Sodium Intake in mg by Sex





Analysis of Change over Survey Years

comparing UPF and Sodium intake calculated from diet

The sodium levels are compared across the survey years and show a statistically significant trend.

The pcnt UPF intake in over the same period shows a similar trend.

It seems the mean percentage UPF intake changes from 48.8% to 59.2% energy and this increase is statistically significant. The mean sodium intake has changed from 2156.30 mg to 2574.33 mg and is also statistically significant with a p value less than 0.05.

what about outcome BP?

The next t tests compare mean systolic values in the two time periods and then the mean diastolic values.

Group	Characteristic	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value
Sodium in mg	SurveyYear	-40	-50, -30	<0.001
Percent Energy UPF	SurveyYear	-0.57	-0.74, -0.39	<0.001
Systolic BP	NDNS Survey year	-0.37	-0.56, -0.19	<0.001

Group	Characteristic	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value
-------	----------------	------	---------------------	---------

¹CI = Confidence Interval

There is a change in mean systolic from 122-152 mmHg with a p value of 3.112e -7.

In summary there is statistically significant change in UPF and Na intake and also in both systolic and diastolic pressures.

Has another factor affected the BP change ?

Comparatison of other variables

How are variables distributed between the two cohorts. The NDNS dataset was weighted to keep many of these the same between datasets. Continuous variables are assessed using linear regression and categorical variables using chi squared tests to give p.values.

Age and Sex The age of the two datasets does not show a statistically significant change table x.

There is no statistically significant change in the sex distribution over the years.

This might be due to differences in the numbers of excluded participants. In particular there may be more younger people and women taking e.g. bblockers in one group.

This table suggests that there is a significant difference in the bmi of the cohorts.

Group	Characteristic	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value
Age	NDNS Survey year	0.10	-0.06, 0.25	0.2
BMI	NDNS Survey year	-0.09	-0.13, -0.04	<0.001

¹CI = Confidence Interval

There is a difference in the age of finishing education.

The differences in qimd, are not statistically significant.

These values identify a significant difference in the number of vegetarians

Variable	p.value ¹
Sex	0.5921
Education	0.0000

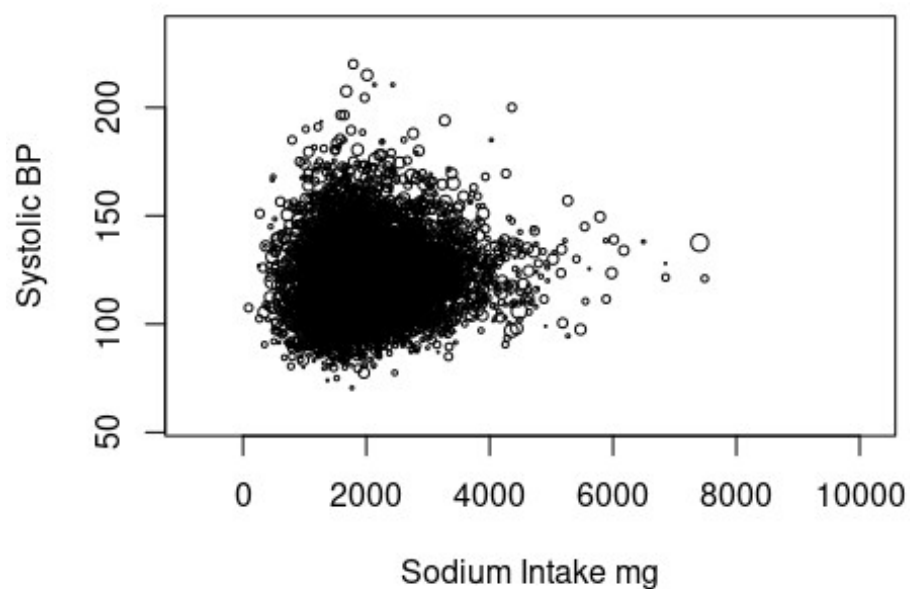
Variable	p.value ¹
IMD	0.2208
Vegetarian	0.0245

¹Chi Squared for categorical data

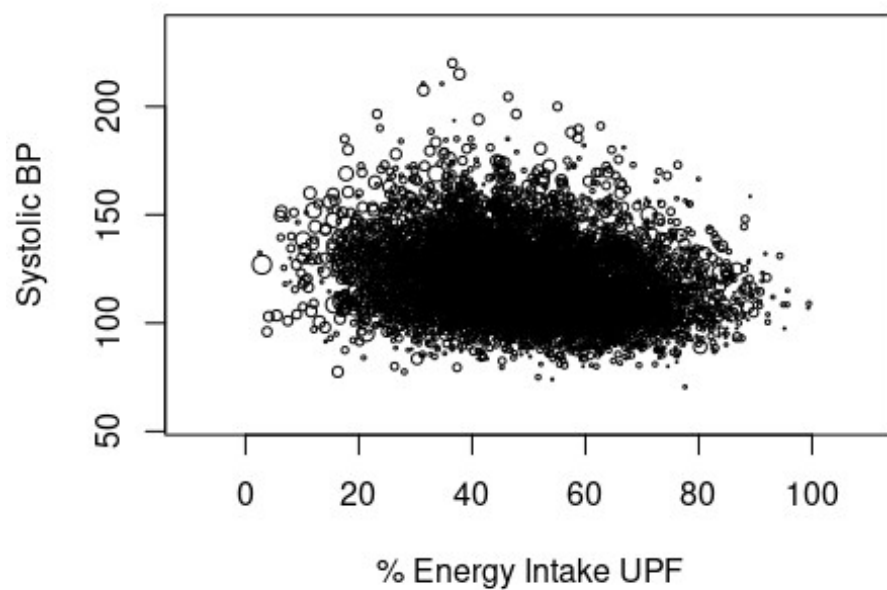
Regression of key variables on Systolic BP

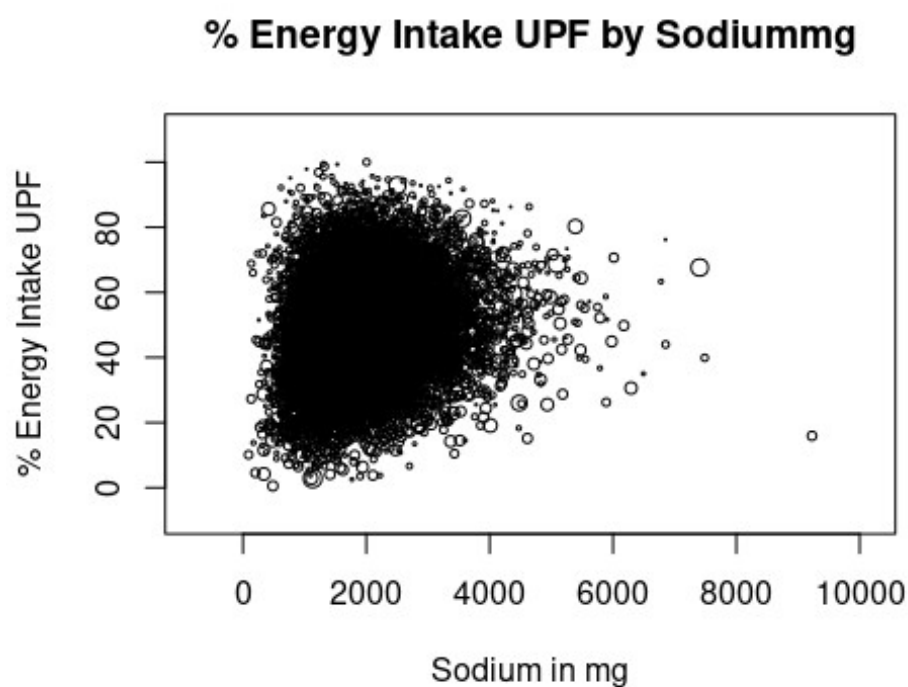
Simple linear regression equations look for the relationship between the dependant variable, and the independent variable. For these I am looking at the whole dataset

% Energy Intake UPF by Systolic BP



% Energy Intake UPF by Systolic BP





The regression models are examined for Sodium and UP against BP. These use the populations where participants have been excluded. (analysis including these makes no difference!!)

First, omsysval is compared to EnergykJ, then sodiummg.

Group	Characteristic	Beta	95% CI¹	p-value
Na/BP	Sodium (mg) diet only	0.00	0.00, 0.00	<0.001
UPF/bp	Epcnt_4	-0.21	-0.24, -0.17	<0.001
UPF/Na	Sodium (mg) diet only	0.00	0.00, 0.00	<0.001
Age/BP	Age	0.43	0.40, 0.45	<0.001
Age/UPF	Age	-0.21	-0.23, -0.20	<0.001
Age/Na	Age	0.75	0.08, 1.4	0.028

¹CI = Confidence Interval

Sodium intake appears to have no linear relationship with BP or UPF energy intake. The UPF energy intake has a negative relationship with BP. BP clearly increases with age. Regression of UPF with age shows an equal and opposite affect to that on BP. Regression of Sodium with age shows a weaker positive effect.

In conclusion the linear regression models show that there are correlations between the systolic BP and energy intake only. The next section will examine how this situation changes as variables interact in more complex models.

Multi variable regression on Systolic BP

This uses a model of several variables and it can highlight the contributions of each variable. The intention is to develop an optimal model which mathematically describes the situation.

In particular the research question asks about the relationship between Sodium and UPF intake with BP. The models will reflect this question with models looking to include or exclude particular variables. Comparisons between these models are then made using sensitivity analysis, identifying how sensitive the model is to sodium, or other factors

This first model looks at the relationships between BP and Age and Sex education and IMD all of which may have an effect on BP. This model excludes UPF and Na.

This first model shows that all these variables, Age, Sex, education, IMD, and bmi, give statistically significant coefficients for the model which suggests that they do have an important part to play in any optimal model.

The next model adds Sodiummg.

This second model gives Sodiummg, educfinh, and IMD statistical significance. VitaminD shows no statistical significance, TotalEMJ and sqrt(pcpt) and ethgrp2 all have limited significance.

Now we add UPF as total energy from nova 4 or UPF

UPF does not seem significant...

but when removing sodiummg

the UPF becomes significant! This suggests that the effect of UPF is mediated by Sodium!!

comparing AIC for these three models

	No sodium or UPF			Sodium only			Epcnt only			Sodium and UPF		
Characteristic	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value
Age	0.38	0.34, 0.42	<0.001	0.38	0.34, 0.42	<0.001	0.37	0.33, 0.42	<0.001	0.37	0.33, 0.42	<0.001

	No sodium or UPF			Sodium only			Epcnt only			Sodium and UPF		
Characteristic	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value
Sex												
Male	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Female	-6.3	-7.5, -5.1	<0.001	-5.8	-7.1, -4.5	<0.001	-6.3	-7.5, -5.1	<0.001	-5.8	-7.1, -4.5	<0.001
(D) Valid BMI	0.40	0.24, 0.56	<0.001	0.39	0.23, 0.55	<0.001	0.40	0.24, 0.56	<0.001	0.39	0.23, 0.55	<0.001
educfinh												
1	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
2	1.4	-4.9, 7.7	0.7	2.0	-4.0, 8.0	0.5	1.3	-5.1, 7.6	0.7	1.7	-4.4, 7.8	0.6
3	0.68	-4.1, 5.4	0.8	1.0	-3.7, 5.7	0.7	0.69	-4.1, 5.4	0.8	1.0	-3.7, 5.8	0.7
4	-1.4	-4.6, 1.9	0.4	-1.2	-4.5, 2.0	0.5	-1.4	-4.7, 1.9	0.4	-1.2	-4.5, 2.0	0.5
5	-2.8	-5.3, -0.27	0.030	-2.7	-5.2, -0.14	0.038	-2.8	-5.4, -0.30	0.029	-2.7	-5.3, -0.19	0.035
6	-2.8	-6.0, 0.33	0.079	-2.6	-5.8, 0.52	0.10	-2.9	-6.1, 0.29	0.075	-2.7	-5.9, 0.46	0.094
7	-1.5	-4.2, 1.2	0.3	-1.4	-4.1, 1.3	0.3	-1.6	-4.3, 1.2	0.3	-1.6	-4.3, 1.2	0.3
8	-3.2	-5.6, -0.79	0.009	-3.1	-5.5, -0.67	0.013	-3.3	-5.8, -0.86	0.008	-3.3	-5.8, -0.82	0.009
EIMD_2010 Quintile												
1	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
2	0.	-1.2, 0.5	0.5	0.	-1.2, 0.5	0.5	0.	-1.2, 0.5	0.5	0.	-1.2, 0.5	0.5

	No sodium or UPF			Sodium only			Epcnt only			Sodium and UPF		
Characteristic	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value	Beta	95% CI ¹	p-value
3	0.77	-1.2, 2.7	0.4	0.65	-1.3, 2.6	0.5	0.76	-1.2, 2.7	0.4	0.64	-1.3, 2.6	0.5
4	0.58	-1.6, 2.7	0.6	0.53	-1.6, 2.7	0.6	0.58	-1.6, 2.7	0.6	0.53	-1.6, 2.7	0.6
5	0.52	-1.5, 2.5	0.6	0.49	-1.5, 2.5	0.6	0.53	-1.4, 2.5	0.6	0.51	-1.4, 2.5	0.6
Sodium (mg) diet only				0.00	0.00, 0.00	0.43				0.00	0.00, 0.00	0.29
Epcnt_4							-0.01	-0.05, 0.03	0.6	-0.02	-0.06, 0.02	0.3

¹CI = Confidence Interval

Model	AIC
No sodium or UPF	28,435.99
Sodium only	28,430.71
Epcnt only	28,437.53
Sodium and UPF	28,431.29

[1] 0.02400091

we find that the lowest AIC is given by the model without UPF!! Though all the models with UPF have a lower aic than the model without.

Summary of Results

There is a table with summary values for the key variables across the dataset.

Statistical analysis of the key variables shows the change in all the variables between the two time periods.

Confounding variables are analysed and show if there has been a significant change in the balance of the populations.

Regression shows a degree of association between the BP and UPF intake by weight and by energy. It also shows the same for sodium intake.

Using Anova analysis of different multi variable regression models the key variables are significant for sodium in several models, and sometimes for UPF.

Conclusion

The percentage by energy of NOVA group 4 foods decreased from 2008 to 2019. The mean sodium intake in mg decreased. The systolic BP has decreased.

There is a correlation between systolic BP and sodium intake. There is a correlation between systolic BP and UPF intake.

The regression models identify that age and sex are statistically significant contributors to the BP and that bmi, educfinh, and IMD are also.

The regression models identify that sodium intake is an important contributor to any optimal model. That UPF intake is no longer significant, but still has some effect.

Discussion

Introduction to Discussion

This section will consider what the results mean. That will include how the context of the literature influences understanding of the values. The limitations of the study will be considered. opportunities for further research, and to influence policy will be considered.

Discussion of results

The study provides a number of results which will be first considered individually before being brought together to support the development of the dissertation.

Data

The data is well collected and comprehensive. There have been several changes over the course of the study. These changes have meant that collating the data was more than just bringing all the numbers together.

In addition the differing take up rates between different groups in each of the cohorts meant that the numbers from each cohort are not comparable. This is overcome by using weighting factors to balance the datasets. This needs adjusting every time there is a new group added to the collected data set.

The analysis using these weighted datasets is performed using “survey” which is a software package used in R studio.

The table (x) of data shows how the key data items alter over the survey years. In particular demonstrating the lack of BP data from year 11.

comparative Data

univariable regression

of BP

of other comparisons

multivariable models

analysis for BP

analysis for Sodium

analysis for UPF_4

Limitations of Study

Ideas for further research

I will divide these suggestions into quantitative and qualitative. Within the quantitative there are biomedical

Quantitative

There is scope for more research based on this data set. Within this same biomedical paradigm there are whole range of variables which can be compared against the clinical and biochemical outcomes.

Mixed and Qualitative

The richness of the quantitative data in this survey calls for its use within an approach allowing more detailed description and in depth assessment with participants.

It could also be used as a template for studies smaller in geographical scope, but more in depth as cross over studies collecting both quantitative and qualitative data.

Modelling research has allowed projections to be made using

Ideas for policy

Policy is an 'upstream' approach.

Ideas include legislation to reduce UPF use, this might be by pricing, or other approaches.

Health promotion policy needs to match policy activity. People who know that UPF is bad, are more likely to accept policy limiting availability.

Conclusion

Bibliography

Appendices