

TO ORGANIZE OR NOT TO ORGANIZE?

STRATEGY PREFERENCES DURING REAL-WORLD SEARCH

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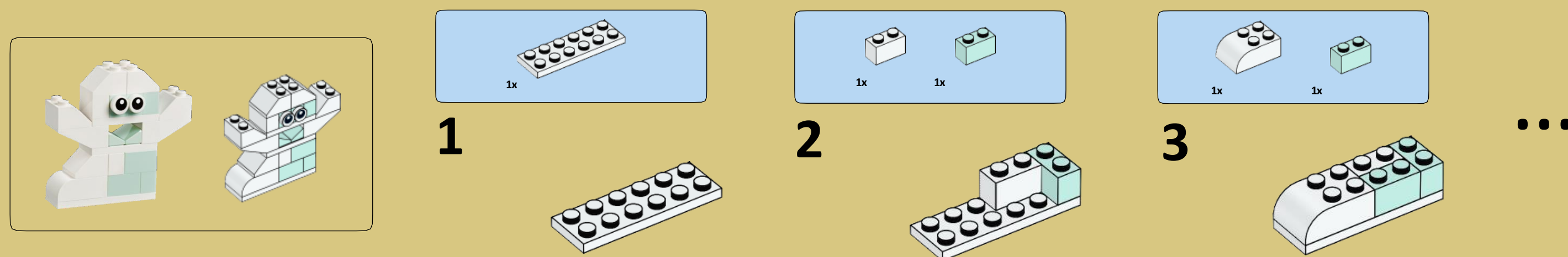


BACKGROUND

Organization can be a beneficial strategy when searching for everyday objects. But how often do individuals actually organize their space when given the opportunity to do so?

1

Individuals were told that the task objective was to search for target pieces (example shown below) among a pile of Lego building blocks



2

Asked to provide their preferred strategy (organize then search vs. search only) and time estimates for each strategy

3

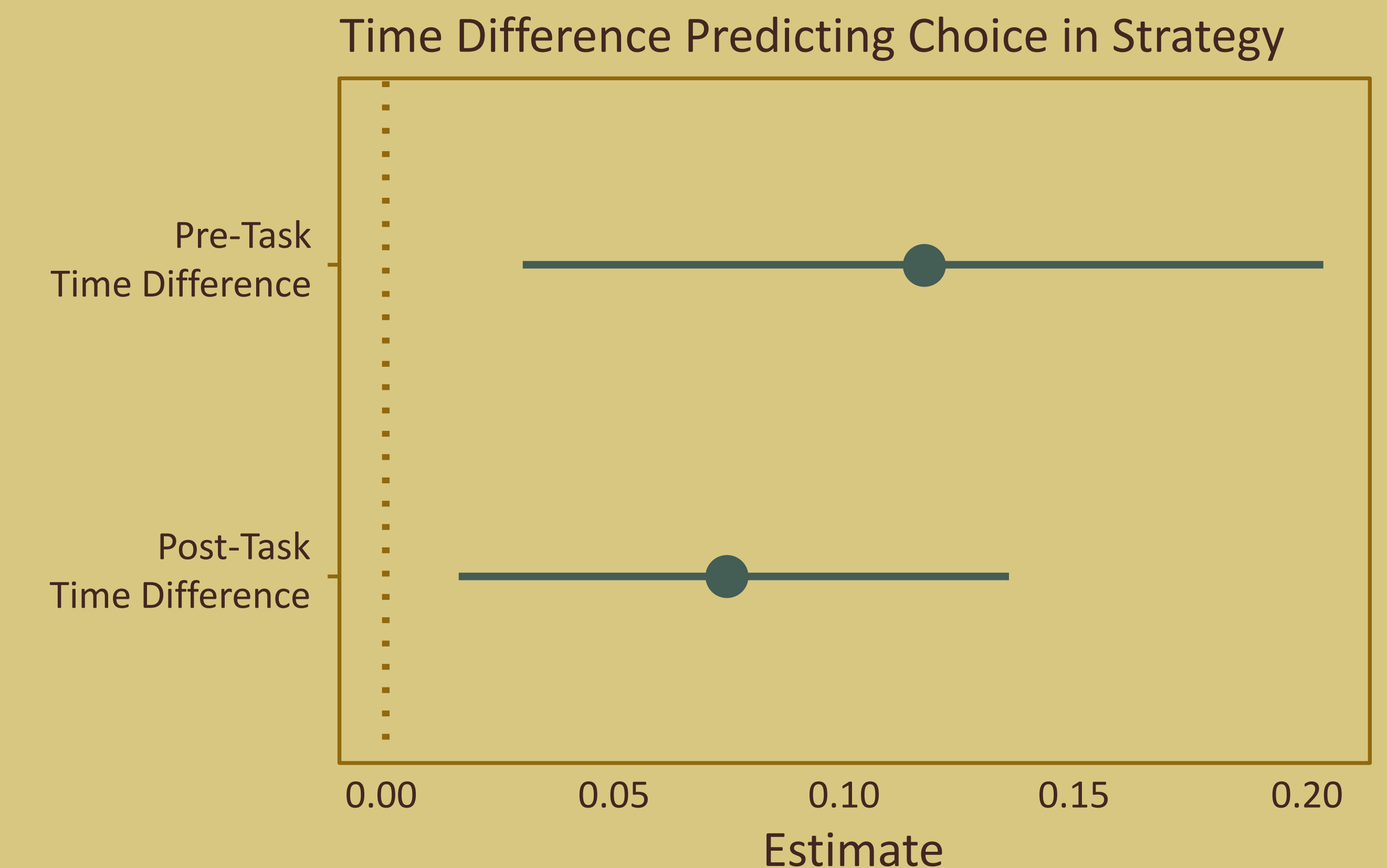
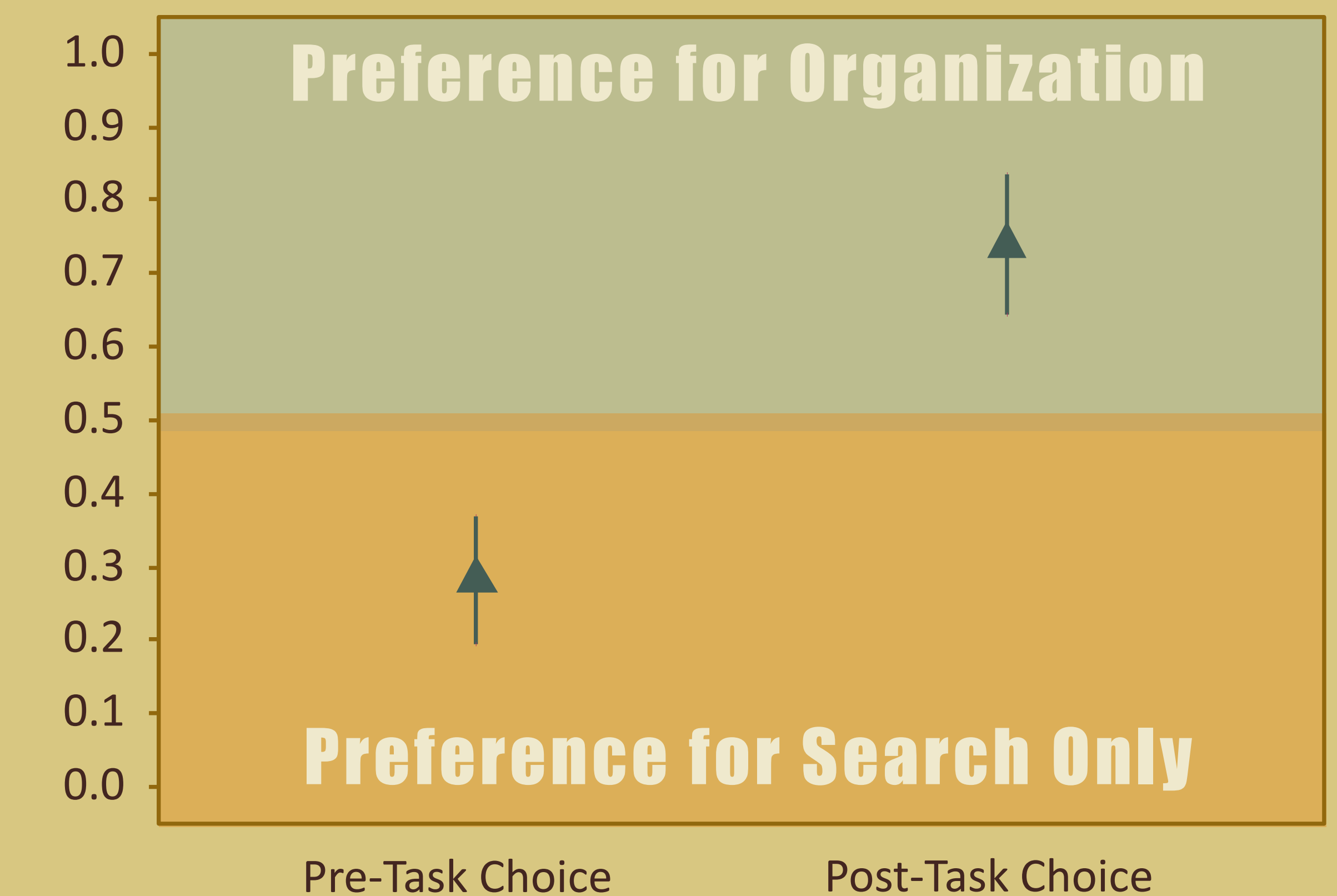
Randomly assigned to complete the task using either the *organize then search* or *search only* strategy

4

Provided time estimates again for both strategies and their preferred strategy now that they have completed the task

MAIN FINDINGS

INDIVIDUALS' PREFERRED STRATEGY CHANGED BEFORE VS. AFTER COMPLETING THE SEARCH TASK



ALTHOUGH OBJECTIVE TASK TIME DID NOT DIFFER INDIVIDUALS CHOSE THE STRATEGY THEY THOUGHT WAS FASTER



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WITH SUPPORT FROM:



Ontario

