

Department of Economics
College of Management and
Economics

Graduate Seminar



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(MA Candidate)

“Factors Affecting the Rate of
Obesity on Canada and the USA
– Evidence from the Joint
Canada USA Health Survey”

ABSTRACT

Despite the fact that the positive effects of a balanced diet and exercise are well known, the prevalence of obesity is rising. The purpose of this paper is to examine differences across countries such as determinants of obesity and whether there is consistency in behavioural patterns associated with discount rate and obesity for U.S. and Canada. This paper uses the cross-sectional data from the joint Canada/United States Survey of Health, 2004. BMI is used as the dependent continuous variable for across country and gender in OLS regression models and Overweight is used as the dependent discrete variable using logistic regression. Evidence was found for systematic differences in BMI between U.S. and Canada. Descriptive statistics include analyzing average BMI across different household income and education levels and finding the peak of maximum health on individual's life horizon where age is used as a proxy.

Monday, January 10, 2011
at 10:00 a.m.
MacKinnon Room 720