

How is grocery shopping completed in household with children? Gender gaps and typologies of grocery shopping in four Canadian metropolises

Monday, July 15, 2024 2:40 PM (20 minutes)

Grocery shopping is an important household labor closely related to die quality and health outcomes. Like other household tasks, it is usually unequally divided within households, with women doing more grocery shopping, which causes burden and health impacts on them. However, classic volume-based indicators of gender gaps (usually activity frequency and duration) are unable to sufficiently depict the full picture of the constraints women may face when they are doing grocery shopping, specifically regarding women in household with children because of heavy care responsibilities. In contrast, this paper examines the gender differences in multiple dimensions, including frequency, duration, location type, travel mode, companions, time of day, and trip chaining. Drawing upon the Time Use & Food Habits survey in four Canadian metropolis in 2021, the results show that women and men in households with children are different in various characteristics of grocery shopping. In addition to spending more time, women also drive less and have more accompanied trips and more shopping in working time. The gender differences were further compared among different types of grocery shopping patterns, which were identified through latent class analysis. Various gender gaps are found across different types, with women of accompanied shoppers potentially having multidimensional constraints. Multinomial logistic regression furtherly shows that the accompanied shoppers are associated with relatively low socioeconomic status, more care responsibilities, and urban area. Overall, this study provides evidence of nuanced gender gaps of grocery shopping in multiple dimensions and within different groups of people. The results highlight group-specific policy implications.

Primary author: LI, Chunjiang (University of Toronto - St. George)

Co-author: WIDENER, Michael (University of Toronto - St. George)

Presenter: LI, Chunjiang (University of Toronto - St. George)

Session Classification: Paper Presentations

Track Classification: Health, Justice, Human Rights, Policy & Practice: Health Disparities