

**Financial Hardship and Obesity:  
The Link between Weight and Household Debt**

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Table 1: Cross tabulations of credit card debt and having trouble paying bills

|                      |  | Key               |       |       |
|----------------------|--|-------------------|-------|-------|
|                      |  | frequency         |       |       |
|                      |  | row percentage    |       |       |
|                      |  | column percentage |       |       |
| Men                  |  | Credit Card Debt  |       |       |
| Trouble Paying Bills |  | 0                 | 1     | Total |
| 0                    |  | 2,650             | 1,570 | 4,220 |
|                      |  | 62.80             | 37.2  | 100   |
|                      |  | 72.15             | 67.91 | 70.51 |
| 1                    |  | 1,023             | 742   | 1,765 |
|                      |  | 57.96             | 42.04 | 100   |
|                      |  | 27.85             | 32.09 | 29.49 |
| Total                |  | 3,673             | 2,312 | 5,985 |
|                      |  | 61.37             | 38.63 | 100   |
|                      |  | 100               | 100   | 100   |
| Women                |  | Credit Card Debt  |       |       |
| Trouble Paying Bills |  | 0                 | 1     | Total |
| 0                    |  | 2,491             | 1,883 | 4,374 |
|                      |  | 56.95             | 43.05 | 100   |
|                      |  | 70.23             | 63.44 | 67.14 |
| 1                    |  | 1,056             | 1,085 | 2,141 |
|                      |  | 49.32             | 50.68 | 100   |
|                      |  | 29.77             | 36.56 | 32.86 |
| Total                |  | 3,547             | 2,968 | 6,515 |
|                      |  | 54.44             | 45.56 | 100   |
|                      |  | 100               | 100   | 100   |

Table 2: Sample Means by Gender and Debt Status

| Variable                                 | Men                 |                          |                     |     |                      |                     | Women |                     |                          |                     |    |                      |                     |   |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----|----------------------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----|----------------------|---------------------|---|
|                                          | All Men             | Has trouble paying bills |                     |     | Has credit card debt |                     |       | All Women           | Has trouble paying bills |                     |    | Has credit card debt |                     |   |
|                                          | Yes                 | No                       | sig? <sup>a</sup>   | Yes | No                   | sig? <sup>a</sup>   | Yes   | No                  | sig? <sup>a</sup>        | Yes                 | No | sig? <sup>a</sup>    |                     |   |
| Wave I variables                         |                     |                          |                     |     |                      |                     |       |                     |                          |                     |    |                      |                     |   |
| Age in years                             | 22.073<br>(1.7371)  | 22.196<br>(1.693)        | 22.0216<br>(1.7529) | *   | 22.4442<br>(1.5684)  | 21.8394<br>(1.7967) | *     | 21.8761<br>(1.7495) | 21.9594<br>(1.7195)      | 21.8354<br>(1.7627) | *  | 22.1934<br>(1.619)   | 21.6107<br>(1.8096) | * |
| Married                                  | .1515               | .1609                    | .1476               |     | .2042                | .1184               | *     | .2206               | .2555                    | .2035               | *  | .2652                | .1833               | * |
| Income is between \$1 and \$7            | .1482               | .1598                    | .1434               |     | .1202                | .1658               | *     | .2098               | .2139                    | .2078               |    | .1769                | .2374               | * |
| Income is between \$8 and \$3,900        | .1642               | .1637                    | .1645               | *   | .1337                | .1835               | *     | .1986               | .1952                    | .2003               |    | .1715                | .2213               | * |
| Income is between \$4,000 and \$11,700   | .1766               | .1909                    | .1706               | *   | .1466                | .1955               | *     | .1972               | .2172                    | .1875               | *  | .1917                | .2019               |   |
| Income is between \$12,000 and \$20,100  | .2179               | .2408                    | .2083               | *   | .2431                | .202                | *     | .2066               | .22                      | .2                  | *  | .2419                | .1771               | * |
| Income is between \$20,352 and \$500,909 | .2496               | .2091                    | .2666               |     | .3253                | .202                | *     | .1521               | .1196                    | .168                | *  | .1924                | .1184               | * |
| Gambled for \$                           | .6501               | .6635                    | .6445               |     | .7145                | .6096               | *     | .5283               | .5297                    | .5277               |    | .6061                | .4632               | * |
| Has a savings account                    | .6316               | .5331                    | .6727               | *   | .6704                | .6071               | *     | .655                | .5441                    | .7092               | *  | .6705                | .642                | * |
| Purchased a lottery ticket               | .6438               | .6742                    | .631                | *   | .7184                | .5968               | *     | .5919               | .624                     | .5761               | *  | .6685                | .5278               | * |
| Religious                                | 1.3054              | 1.2425                   | 1.3318              | *   | 1.2794               | 1.3218              | *     | 1.4685              | 1.4176                   | 1.4934              | *  | 1.4592               | 1.4762              |   |
| Black                                    | .2027               | .2204                    | .1953               | *   | .1773                | .2186               | *     | .2339               | .2662                    | .2181               | *  | .2389                | .2298               |   |
| Other race                               | .1226               | .1099                    | .128                | *   | .1133                | .1285               | *     | .1038               | .0883                    | .1113               | *  | .1065                | .1015               |   |
| Hispanic                                 | .1559               | .1428                    | .1614               | *   | .1856                | .1372               | *     | .1409               | .1425                    | .1401               |    | .1577                | .1269               | * |
| Wave III variables                       |                     |                          |                     |     |                      |                     |       |                     |                          |                     |    |                      |                     |   |
| BMI wave I                               | 22.8226<br>(4.4565) | 22.8721<br>(4.5648)      | 22.8019<br>(4.4107) |     | 23.013<br>(4.3427)   | 22.7027<br>(4.5231) | *     | 22.2602<br>(4.4224) | 22.8823<br>(4.7247)      | 21.9556<br>(4.234)  | *  | 22.5676<br>(4.4043)  | 22.0029<br>(4.4217) | * |
| Drank in past 30 days                    | .1123               | .1212                    | .1085               |     | .1185                | .1084               |       | .07                 | .0803                    | .0649               | *  | .0681                | .0716               |   |
| Thinks smart                             | .5714               | .5411                    | .5841               | *   | .609                 | .5478               | *     | .5625               | .5241                    | .5814               | *  | .596                 | .5345               | * |

|                                                   |           |           |           |   |           |           |   |           |           |           |   |           |           |   |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|---|
| compared to<br>others                             |           |           |           |   |           |           |   |           |           |           |   |           |           |   |
| Likely to go to<br>college                        | .4992     | .4204     | .5322     | * | .5095     | .4928     |   | .6281     | .532      | .6751     | * | .6533     | .607      | * |
| Usual hours of<br>work in summer                  | 16.7858   | 17.5915   | 16.4488   | * | 19.5017   | 15.0762   | * | 13.3962   | 13.8893   | 13.1548   | * | 15.4693   | 11.6614   | * |
|                                                   | (18.2949) | (18.5463) | (18.1804) |   | (18.4164) | (18.0117) |   | (16.0522) | (16.4791) | (15.8354) |   | (16.8134) | (15.1726) |   |
| Dad is not<br>working                             | .0379     | .0487     | .0334     | * | .0389     | .0373     |   | .0353     | .0458     | .0302     | * | .032      | .0381     |   |
| Dad's job is other<br>than<br>management/prof.    | .5305     | .502      | .5424     | * | .5329     | .529      |   | .5008     | .4647     | .5185     | * | .5142     | .4897     | * |
| Smoked in high<br>school                          | .1906     | .255      | .1637     | * | .1972     | .1865     |   | .188      | .255      | .1552     | * | .191      | .1855     |   |
| Parent had some<br>college                        | .2017     | .2079     | .1991     |   | .2245     | .1873     | * | .2153     | .2214     | .2124     |   | .2449     | .1906     | * |
| Parent is high<br>school graduate                 | .2775     | .2997     | .2682     | * | .2612     | .2878     | * | .2769     | .3143     | .2586     | * | .2716     | .2814     |   |
| Parent's education<br>is less than High<br>school | .0911     | .1014     | .0867     | * | .0878     | .0931     |   | .1065     | .1308     | .0947     | * | .0947     | .1164     | * |
| Parent received<br>welfare                        | .0909     | .132      | .0737     | * | .0753     | .1007     | * | .0995     | .1387     | .0802     | * | .0805     | .1153     | * |
| Parent smoked                                     | .2267     | .2669     | .21       | * | .2219     | .2298     |   | .2398     | .2971     | .2117     | * | .2369     | .2422     |   |
| Mother is obese                                   | .1532     | .1575     | .1514     |   | .1579     | .1503     |   | .1558     | .1714     | .1481     | * | .1651     | .148      | * |
| Mother was a<br>binge drinker                     | .1031     | .115      | .0981     | * | .099      | .1056     |   | .101      | .1163     | .0935     | * | .1024     | .0998     |   |
| Mother breastfed                                  | .3733     | .3473     | .3841     | * | .375      | .3722     |   | .3655     | .341      | .3775     | * | .3679     | .3634     |   |
| High school GPA                                   | 2.6833    | 2.5632    | 2.7335    | * | 2.7178    | 2.6615    | * | 2.9023    | 2.7529    | 2.9754    | * | 2.9208    | 2.8867    | * |
|                                                   | (.7724)   | (.7674)   | (.7691)   |   | (.7462)   | (.7878)   |   | (.7506)   | (.7436)   | (.7433)   |   | (.7112)   | (.7818)   |   |
| Stolen from a<br>store                            | .2765     | .3303     | .254      | * | .2989     | .2625     | * | .2104     | .2522     | .19       | * | .2156     | .2061     |   |
| Observations                                      | 5985      | 1765      | 4220      |   | 2312      | 3673      |   | 6515      | 2141      | 4374      |   | 2968      | 3547      |   |

Standard deviations in parentheses

Note: Income is total personal income before taxes measured in \$.

<sup>a</sup> indicates significant at the 10% level or greater.

Table 3a: OLS Models of the Effect of Having Credit Card Debt on Body Weight

| VARIABLES                       | Men                  |                      |                      | Women                |                      |                      |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                                 | BMI                  | Overweight/o<br>bese | Obese                | BMI                  | Overweight/<br>Obese | Obese                |
| <u>Wave III Variables</u>       |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Has credit card debt            | 0.135<br>(0.091)     | 0.028**<br>(0.011)   | 0.004<br>(0.008)     | -0.018<br>(0.100)    | -0.002<br>(0.010)    | -0.003<br>(0.008)    |
| Impulsive                       | 0.071<br>(0.095)     | -0.004<br>(0.012)    | 0.012<br>(0.008)     | 0.151<br>(0.114)     | -0.008<br>(0.011)    | 0.007<br>(0.009)     |
| BMI_1994                        | 0.886***<br>(0.015)  | 0.060***<br>(0.001)  | 0.053***<br>(0.001)  | 1.051***<br>(0.016)  | 0.062***<br>(0.001)  | 0.053***<br>(0.001)  |
| Volunteer                       |                      |                      |                      | 0.257**<br>(0.111)   | -0.002<br>(0.011)    | 0.012<br>(0.009)     |
| Age                             | -0.219***<br>(0.032) | -0.013***<br>(0.004) | -0.018***<br>(0.003) | -0.184***<br>(0.034) | -0.010***<br>(0.003) | -0.011***<br>(0.003) |
| Married                         | 0.654***<br>(0.138)  | 0.055***<br>(0.016)  | 0.037***<br>(0.013)  | 1.376***<br>(0.134)  | 0.123***<br>(0.013)  | 0.064***<br>(0.011)  |
| Inc. btw \$1 -\$7               | 0.395<br>(0.260)     | 0.018<br>(0.031)     | 0.032<br>(0.022)     | 0.573*<br>(0.307)    | 0.038<br>(0.028)     | 0.039*<br>(0.021)    |
| Inc. btw \$8-\$3900             | 0.254<br>(0.253)     | -0.009<br>(0.031)    | 0.025<br>(0.021)     | 0.827***<br>(0.309)  | 0.073**<br>(0.028)   | 0.047**<br>(0.022)   |
| Inc. btw \$4000-\$11700         | 0.066<br>(0.253)     | -0.035<br>(0.031)    | 0.031<br>(0.021)     | 0.669**<br>(0.309)   | 0.048*<br>(0.028)    | 0.044**<br>(0.022)   |
| Inc. btw \$12000-\$20100        | 0.116<br>(0.248)     | -0.023<br>(0.030)    | 0.008<br>(0.021)     | 0.738**<br>(0.308)   | 0.061**<br>(0.028)   | 0.043**<br>(0.022)   |
| Income missing                  | 0.275<br>(0.247)     | 0.017<br>(0.030)     | 0.022<br>(0.021)     | 0.712**<br>(0.314)   | 0.046<br>(0.029)     | 0.052**<br>(0.022)   |
| Gamble                          | 0.198*<br>(0.104)    | 0.021<br>(0.013)     | -0.013<br>(0.009)    | 0.151<br>(0.109)     | -0.010<br>(0.011)    | -0.007<br>(0.008)    |
| Has savings account             | 0.078<br>(0.096)     | 0.022*<br>(0.012)    | -0.014*<br>(0.009)   | -0.315***<br>(0.110) | -0.022**<br>(0.011)  | -0.012<br>(0.008)    |
| Lottery                         | 0.304***<br>(0.102)  | 0.016<br>(0.013)     | 0.028***<br>(0.009)  | 0.100<br>(0.110)     | 0.033***<br>(0.011)  | 0.003<br>(0.008)     |
| Religious                       | 0.116**<br>(0.048)   | 0.016***<br>(0.006)  | 0.008*<br>(0.004)    | 0.115**<br>(0.056)   | 0.007<br>(0.006)     | 0.004<br>(0.004)     |
| Black                           | 0.244*<br>(0.132)    | -0.011<br>(0.016)    | 0.016<br>(0.012)     | 0.387***<br>(0.148)  | 0.071***<br>(0.014)  | 0.001<br>(0.011)     |
| Other race                      | 0.234<br>(0.151)     | 0.000<br>(0.018)     | 0.021<br>(0.013)     | -0.173<br>(0.158)    | -0.021<br>(0.016)    | 0.005<br>(0.012)     |
| Hispanic                        | 0.366***<br>(0.141)  | 0.045***<br>(0.017)  | -0.001<br>(0.013)    | 0.120<br>(0.157)     | 0.039**<br>(0.016)   | -0.000<br>(0.013)    |
| <u>Wave I Variables</u>         |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Drank in past 30 days           | -0.009<br>(0.145)    | 0.021<br>(0.018)     | -0.004<br>(0.014)    | -0.059<br>(0.214)    | 0.003<br>(0.021)     | -0.005<br>(0.015)    |
| Thinks smart compared to others | 0.064<br>(0.100)     | 0.007<br>(0.012)     | 0.003<br>(0.009)     | 0.039<br>(0.114)     | -0.007<br>(0.011)    | 0.005<br>(0.009)     |
| Likely to go to college         | 0.066                | 0.011                | 0.000                | 0.066                | 0.013                | -0.005               |

|                                             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                             | (0.099)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   | (0.118)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   |
| Usual summer work hrs                       | 0.005*    | 0.000     | 0.000     | -0.003    | 0.000     | -0.000    |
|                                             | (0.003)   | (0.000)   | (0.000)   | (0.003)   | (0.000)   | (0.000)   |
| Dad unemployed                              | -0.068    | 0.016     | 0.007     | 0.697**   | 0.104***  | 0.026     |
|                                             | (0.265)   | (0.032)   | (0.024)   | (0.314)   | (0.030)   | (0.025)   |
| Dad job unknown                             | -0.015    | -0.015    | 0.015     | 0.064     | 0.049***  | -0.003    |
|                                             | (0.146)   | (0.018)   | (0.013)   | (0.160)   | (0.016)   | (0.012)   |
| Dad job other than manag/prof               | 0.187     | 0.020     | 0.023**   | 0.031     | 0.036***  | -0.009    |
|                                             | (0.119)   | (0.016)   | (0.011)   | (0.132)   | (0.014)   | (0.010)   |
| Smoked in HS                                | -0.207*   | -0.019    | 0.006     | -0.493*** | -0.023    | -0.029**  |
|                                             | (0.119)   | (0.015)   | (0.011)   | (0.144)   | (0.014)   | (0.011)   |
| Parent has some college                     | -0.236*   | -0.002    | -0.020*   | 0.013     | 0.021     | -0.003    |
|                                             | (0.123)   | (0.015)   | (0.011)   | (0.135)   | (0.014)   | (0.011)   |
| Parent educ. HS graduate                    | -0.017    | 0.006     | -0.013    | 0.324**   | 0.055***  | 0.023**   |
|                                             | (0.122)   | (0.015)   | (0.011)   | (0.140)   | (0.014)   | (0.011)   |
| Parent educ. less than HS                   | -0.032    | 0.040*    | -0.008    | 0.156     | 0.019     | 0.021     |
|                                             | (0.193)   | (0.023)   | (0.017)   | (0.205)   | (0.020)   | (0.016)   |
| Parent educ. unknown                        | 0.142     | 0.021     | 0.021     | -0.646*   | -0.019    | -0.005    |
|                                             | (0.300)   | (0.035)   | (0.026)   | (0.373)   | (0.034)   | (0.027)   |
| Parent on welfare                           | -0.030    | -0.016    | -0.027*   | 0.156     | -0.011    | 0.024     |
|                                             | (0.176)   | (0.020)   | (0.015)   | (0.207)   | (0.018)   | (0.016)   |
| Parent smoked                               | -0.076    | -0.019    | 0.006     | 0.250*    | 0.020     | 0.020*    |
|                                             | (0.117)   | (0.014)   | (0.010)   | (0.132)   | (0.013)   | (0.011)   |
| Mom obese                                   | 0.807***  | 0.032**   | 0.057***  | 0.791***  | 0.048***  | 0.047***  |
|                                             | (0.139)   | (0.015)   | (0.013)   | (0.159)   | (0.015)   | (0.013)   |
| Mom binge drank                             | 0.050     | 0.006     | -0.009    | -0.006    | -0.002    | -0.005    |
|                                             | (0.151)   | (0.018)   | (0.013)   | (0.181)   | (0.017)   | (0.013)   |
| Mom binge not known                         | -0.285    | -0.034    | -0.025    | -0.201    | -0.012    | -0.043**  |
|                                             | (0.217)   | (0.027)   | (0.019)   | (0.220)   | (0.023)   | (0.019)   |
| Mom breast fed                              | -0.175*   | -0.035*** | -0.012    | -0.054    | 0.003     | -0.010    |
|                                             | (0.100)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   | (0.111)   | (0.011)   | (0.009)   |
| Mom breast fed unknown                      | 0.228     | 0.034     | 0.027     | 0.299     | 0.009     | 0.058***  |
|                                             | (0.210)   | (0.026)   | (0.018)   | (0.221)   | (0.023)   | (0.019)   |
| GPA                                         | -0.076    | -0.012    | -0.004    | -0.270*** | -0.023*** | -0.017*** |
|                                             | (0.066)   | (0.008)   | (0.006)   | (0.084)   | (0.008)   | (0.006)   |
| Took something from store w/o paying for it | -0.258*** | -0.013    | -0.011    | -0.255**  | -0.034*** | -0.014    |
|                                             | (0.099)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   | (0.122)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   |
| Constant                                    | 9.691***  | -0.624*** | -0.690*** | 5.320***  | -0.833*** | -0.774*** |
|                                             | (0.772)   | (0.092)   | (0.067)   | (0.864)   | (0.084)   | (0.066)   |
| Observations                                | 5,985     | 5,985     | 5,985     | 6,515     | 6,515     | 6,515     |
| R-squared                                   | 0.590     | 0.311     | 0.386     | 0.609     | 0.370     | 0.397     |

Robust standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. Benchmark categories: father's job is managerial/professional, income is unknown, parent's highest level of education is college or more.

Table 3b: OLS Models of the Effect of Having Trouble Paying Bills on Body Weight

| VARIABLES                       | Men                  |                      |                      | Women                |                      |                      |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                                 | BMI                  | Overweight/<br>Obese | Obese                | BMI                  | Overweight/<br>Obese | Obese                |
| <u>Wave III Variables</u>       |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Has trouble paying bills        | -0.064<br>(0.103)    | -0.043***<br>(0.012) | 0.000<br>(0.009)     | 0.374***<br>(0.112)  | 0.024**<br>(0.011)   | 0.024***<br>(0.009)  |
| Impulsive                       | 0.078<br>(0.096)     | -0.002<br>(0.012)    | 0.011<br>(0.008)     | 0.130<br>(0.114)     | -0.011<br>(0.011)    | 0.006<br>(0.009)     |
| BMI_1994                        | 0.886***<br>(0.015)  | 0.060***<br>(0.001)  | 0.053***<br>(0.001)  | 1.049***<br>(0.016)  | 0.061***<br>(0.001)  | 0.053***<br>(0.001)  |
| Has a credit card               | 0.184*<br>(0.099)    | 0.034***<br>(0.012)  | -0.004<br>(0.009)    | -0.167<br>(0.117)    | -0.032***<br>(0.011) | -0.011<br>(0.009)    |
| Volunteer                       |                      |                      |                      | 0.258**<br>(0.110)   | -0.001<br>(0.011)    | 0.012<br>(0.009)     |
| Age                             | -0.219***<br>(0.032) | -0.012***<br>(0.004) | -0.017***<br>(0.003) | -0.183***<br>(0.034) | -0.010***<br>(0.003) | -0.011***<br>(0.003) |
| Married                         | 0.662***<br>(0.138)  | 0.058***<br>(0.016)  | 0.038***<br>(0.013)  | 1.357***<br>(0.133)  | 0.123***<br>(0.013)  | 0.063***<br>(0.011)  |
| Inc. btw \$1 -\$7               | 0.427<br>(0.262)     | 0.026<br>(0.031)     | 0.032<br>(0.022)     | 0.555*<br>(0.308)    | 0.036<br>(0.028)     | 0.038*<br>(0.022)    |
| Inc. btw \$8-\$3900             | 0.274<br>(0.254)     | -0.004<br>(0.031)    | 0.025<br>(0.021)     | 0.814***<br>(0.310)  | 0.071**<br>(0.028)   | 0.046**<br>(0.022)   |
| Inc. btw \$4000-\$11700         | 0.095<br>(0.255)     | -0.026<br>(0.031)    | 0.031<br>(0.022)     | 0.638**<br>(0.310)   | 0.045<br>(0.028)     | 0.042*<br>(0.022)    |
| Inc. btw \$12000-\$20100        | 0.144<br>(0.249)     | -0.015<br>(0.030)    | 0.008<br>(0.021)     | 0.729**<br>(0.309)   | 0.061**<br>(0.028)   | 0.042*<br>(0.022)    |
| Income missing                  | 0.278<br>(0.247)     | 0.017<br>(0.030)     | 0.023<br>(0.021)     | 0.743**<br>(0.315)   | 0.050*<br>(0.029)    | 0.053**<br>(0.022)   |
| Gamble                          | 0.196*<br>(0.104)    | 0.021<br>(0.013)     | -0.013<br>(0.009)    | 0.161<br>(0.109)     | -0.008<br>(0.011)    | -0.007<br>(0.008)    |
| Has savings account             | 0.044<br>(0.097)     | 0.013<br>(0.012)     | -0.013<br>(0.009)    | -0.244**<br>(0.111)  | -0.014<br>(0.011)    | -0.007<br>(0.009)    |
| Lottery                         | 0.311***<br>(0.102)  | 0.018<br>(0.013)     | 0.029***<br>(0.009)  | 0.090<br>(0.110)     | 0.033***<br>(0.011)  | 0.002<br>(0.008)     |
| Religious                       | 0.114**<br>(0.048)   | 0.015**<br>(0.006)   | 0.008*<br>(0.004)    | 0.119**<br>(0.056)   | 0.007<br>(0.006)     | 0.004<br>(0.004)     |
| Black                           | 0.263**<br>(0.132)   | -0.006<br>(0.016)    | 0.016<br>(0.012)     | 0.357**<br>(0.148)   | 0.068***<br>(0.014)  | -0.001<br>(0.011)    |
| Other race                      | 0.224<br>(0.152)     | -0.002<br>(0.018)    | 0.021<br>(0.013)     | -0.162<br>(0.157)    | -0.020<br>(0.016)    | 0.005<br>(0.012)     |
| Hispanic                        | 0.362**<br>(0.141)   | 0.043***<br>(0.017)  | 0.000<br>(0.013)     | 0.134<br>(0.156)     | 0.042***<br>(0.016)  | 0.000<br>(0.013)     |
| <u>Wave I Variables</u>         |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Drank in past 30 days           | -0.017<br>(0.145)    | 0.019<br>(0.018)     | -0.004<br>(0.014)    | -0.056<br>(0.214)    | 0.003<br>(0.021)     | -0.005<br>(0.015)    |
| Thinks smart compared to others | 0.064<br>(0.099)     | 0.007<br>(0.012)     | 0.003<br>(0.009)     | 0.038<br>(0.114)     | -0.007<br>(0.011)    | 0.005<br>(0.009)     |
| Likely to go to college         | 0.052                | 0.007                | 0.000                | 0.099                | 0.016                | -0.003               |

|                                                |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                                | (0.099)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   | (0.119)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   |
| Usual summer work hrs                          | 0.004     | 0.001     | 0.000     | -0.003    | 0.000     | -0.000    |
|                                                | (0.003)   | (0.000)   | (0.000)   | (0.003)   | (0.000)   | (0.000)   |
| Dad unemployed                                 | -0.054    | 0.020     | 0.007     | 0.656**   | 0.100***  | 0.023     |
|                                                | (0.265)   | (0.032)   | (0.024)   | (0.315)   | (0.030)   | (0.025)   |
| Dad job unknown                                | 0.003     | -0.011    | 0.015     | 0.027     | 0.046***  | -0.006    |
|                                                | (0.146)   | (0.018)   | (0.013)   | (0.160)   | (0.016)   | (0.012)   |
| Dad job other than manag/prof                  | 0.195     | 0.021     | 0.023**   | 0.019     | 0.035**   | -0.009    |
|                                                | (0.119)   | (0.016)   | (0.011)   | (0.132)   | (0.014)   | (0.010)   |
| Smoked in HS                                   | -0.194    | -0.014    | 0.006     | -0.533*** | -0.027*   | -0.031*** |
|                                                | (0.119)   | (0.015)   | (0.011)   | (0.144)   | (0.014)   | (0.011)   |
| Parent has some college                        | -0.227*   | 0.000     | -0.020*   | 0.011     | 0.021     | -0.003    |
|                                                | (0.123)   | (0.015)   | (0.011)   | (0.135)   | (0.014)   | (0.011)   |
| Parent educ. HS graduate                       | -0.014    | 0.007     | -0.014    | 0.313**   | 0.054***  | 0.022**   |
|                                                | (0.122)   | (0.015)   | (0.011)   | (0.140)   | (0.014)   | (0.011)   |
| Parent educ. less than HS                      | -0.023    | 0.042*    | -0.009    | 0.131     | 0.015     | 0.020     |
|                                                | (0.193)   | (0.023)   | (0.017)   | (0.205)   | (0.020)   | (0.016)   |
| Parent educ. unknown                           | 0.143     | 0.021     | 0.021     | -0.647*   | -0.021    | -0.004    |
|                                                | (0.300)   | (0.035)   | (0.026)   | (0.373)   | (0.034)   | (0.027)   |
| Parent on welfare                              | -0.024    | -0.012    | -0.028*   | 0.124     | -0.015    | 0.022     |
|                                                | (0.176)   | (0.020)   | (0.015)   | (0.207)   | (0.018)   | (0.016)   |
| Parent smoked                                  | -0.072    | -0.017    | 0.006     | 0.228*    | 0.018     | 0.018*    |
|                                                | (0.117)   | (0.014)   | (0.010)   | (0.132)   | (0.013)   | (0.011)   |
| Mom obese                                      | 0.811***  | 0.033**   | 0.057***  | 0.783***  | 0.047***  | 0.046***  |
|                                                | (0.139)   | (0.015)   | (0.013)   | (0.158)   | (0.015)   | (0.013)   |
| Mom binge drank                                | 0.051     | 0.006     | -0.009    | -0.009    | -0.003    | -0.006    |
|                                                | (0.151)   | (0.018)   | (0.013)   | (0.180)   | (0.017)   | (0.013)   |
| Mom binge not known                            | -0.287    | -0.035    | -0.025    | -0.212    | -0.013    | -0.044**  |
|                                                | (0.217)   | (0.027)   | (0.019)   | (0.221)   | (0.023)   | (0.019)   |
| Mom breast fed                                 | -0.175*   | -0.035*** | -0.012    | -0.065    | 0.002     | -0.011    |
|                                                | (0.100)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   | (0.111)   | (0.011)   | (0.009)   |
| Mom breast fed unknown                         | 0.226     | 0.033     | 0.027     | 0.293     | 0.008     | 0.057***  |
|                                                | (0.210)   | (0.026)   | (0.018)   | (0.221)   | (0.023)   | (0.019)   |
| GPA                                            | -0.090    | -0.015*   | -0.004    | -0.250*** | -0.020**  | -0.016**  |
|                                                | (0.066)   | (0.008)   | (0.006)   | (0.083)   | (0.008)   | (0.006)   |
| Took something from store w/o<br>paying for it | -0.254*** | -0.010    | -0.011    | -0.269**  | -0.035*** | -0.015    |
|                                                | (0.099)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   | (0.122)   | (0.012)   | (0.009)   |
| Constant                                       | 9.671***  | -0.629*** | -0.693*** | 5.261***  | -0.836*** | -0.777*** |
|                                                | (0.768)   | (0.091)   | (0.066)   | (0.863)   | (0.084)   | (0.066)   |
| Observations                                   | 5,985     | 5,985     | 5,985     | 6,515     | 6,515     | 6,515     |
| R-squared                                      | 0.590     | 0.313     | 0.386     | 0.609     | 0.371     | 0.397     |

Robust standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. See notes to Appendix Table 2a.

Table 4a: Propensity Score Models for Credit Card Debt

| Men Credit Card Debt   |                    |                     |                       |                        |                         |                          |                    |                    |                        |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| VARIABLES              | OLS                | Nearest<br>Neighbor | k nearest<br>neighbor | Within Caliper<br>.001 | Within Caliper<br>.0001 | Within Caliper<br>.00005 | Kernel<br>bw.06    | LLR<br>bw .18      | Radius<br>caliper .001 |
| BMI                    | 0.134<br>(0.091)   | 0.188<br>(0.192)    | 0.280<br>(0.171)      | 0.189<br>(0.207)       | 0.179<br>(0.236)        | 0.268<br>(0.294)         | 0.176<br>(0.150)   | 0.132<br>(0.140)   | 0.268*<br>(0.146)      |
| Obese                  | 0.004<br>(0.008)   | 0.007<br>(0.014)    | 0.013<br>(0.013)      | 0.008<br>(0.016)       | 0.009<br>(0.018)        | 0.014<br>(0.022)         | 0.005<br>(0.012)   | 0.002<br>(0.011)   | 0.013<br>(0.011)       |
| Overweight/obese       | 0.028**<br>(0.011) | 0.043**<br>(0.019)  | 0.036**<br>(0.017)    | 0.041**<br>(0.020)     | 0.037<br>(0.023)        | 0.038<br>(0.028)         | 0.033**<br>(0.015) | 0.031**<br>(0.013) | 0.037**<br>(0.015)     |
| On common support      |                    | 5,981               | 5,981                 | 5,939                  | 5,277                   | 4,789                    | 5,981              | 5,981              | 5,939                  |
| Observations           | 5,985              | 5,985               | 5,985                 | 5,985                  | 5,985                   | 5,985                    | 5,985              | 5,985              | 5,985                  |
| Women Credit Card Debt |                    |                     |                       |                        |                         |                          |                    |                    |                        |
| VARIABLES              | OLS                | Nearest<br>Neighbor | k nearest<br>neighbor | Within Caliper<br>.001 | Within Caliper<br>.0001 | Within Caliper<br>.00005 | Kernel<br>bw.06    | LLR<br>bw .18      | Radius<br>caliper .001 |
| BMI                    | -0.018<br>(0.100)  | 0.219<br>(0.227)    | 0.190<br>(0.198)      | 0.158<br>(0.221)       | 0.205<br>(0.286)        | 0.182<br>(0.343)         | 0.101<br>(0.165)   | 0.070<br>(0.169)   | 0.067<br>(0.184)       |
| Obese                  | -0.003<br>(0.008)  | 0.007<br>(0.015)    | 0.010<br>(0.013)      | 0.006<br>(0.014)       | 0.002<br>(0.018)        | -0.007<br>(0.021)        | 0.001<br>(0.010)   | -0.001<br>(0.011)  | -0.001<br>(0.012)      |
| Overweight/obese       | -0.002<br>(0.010)  | 0.011<br>(0.018)    | 0.006<br>(0.016)      | 0.009<br>(0.018)       | 0.005<br>(0.023)        | 0.008<br>(0.027)         | 0.005<br>(0.013)   | 0.003<br>(0.013)   | 0.004<br>(0.014)       |
| On common support      |                    | 6,515               | 6,515                 | 6,469                  | 5,500                   | 4,822                    | 6,515              | 6,515              | 6,469                  |
| Observations           | 6,515              | 6,515               | 6,515                 | 6,515                  | 6,515                   | 6,515                    | 6,515              | 6,515              | 6,515                  |

Standard errors in parentheses\*\*\* p&lt;0.01, \*\* p&lt;0.05, \* p&lt;0.1

Table 4b: Propensity Score Models for Trouble Paying Bills

| Men Trouble Paying Bills   |                      |                   |                    |                     |                      |                       |                      |                     |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| VARIABLES                  | OLS                  | Nearest Neighbor  | k nearest neighbor | Within Caliper .001 | Within Caliper .0001 | Within Caliper .00005 | Kernel bw.06         | LLR bw .18          | Radius caliper .001  |
| BMI                        | -0.065<br>(0.104)    | 0.156<br>(0.230)  | -0.044<br>(0.220)  | 0.148<br>(0.237)    | 0.155<br>(0.272)     | -0.112<br>(0.316)     | -0.045<br>(0.170)    | -0.010<br>(0.155)   | -0.032<br>(0.177)    |
| Obese                      | 0.000<br>(0.009)     | 0.018<br>(0.017)  | 0.004<br>(0.015)   | 0.016<br>(0.018)    | 0.018<br>(0.019)     | -0.004<br>(0.024)     | 0.004<br>(0.012)     | 0.006<br>(0.011)    | 0.001<br>(0.013)     |
| Overweight/obese           | -0.043***<br>(0.012) | -0.029<br>(0.022) | -0.035*<br>(0.020) | -0.029<br>(0.023)   | -0.034<br>(0.027)    | -0.051<br>(0.031)     | -0.041***<br>(0.016) | -0.036**<br>(0.015) | -0.042***<br>(0.016) |
| On common support          |                      | 5,983             | 5,983              | 5,938               | 5,531                | 5,215                 | 5,983                | 5,983               | 5,938                |
| Observations               | 5,985                | 5,985             | 5,985              | 5,985               | 5,985                | 5,985                 | 5,985                | 5,985               | 5,985                |
| Women Trouble Paying Bills |                      |                   |                    |                     |                      |                       |                      |                     |                      |
| VARIABLES                  | OLS                  | Nearest Neighbor  | k nearest neighbor | Within Caliper .001 | Within Caliper .0001 | Within Caliper .00005 | Kernel bw.06         | LLR bw .18          | Radius caliper .001  |
| BMI                        | 0.374***<br>(0.112)  | 0.382<br>(0.253)  | 0.586**<br>(0.229) | 0.393<br>(0.253)    | 0.096<br>(0.291)     | -0.093<br>(0.353)     | 0.458**<br>(0.198)   | 0.443**<br>(0.198)  | 0.379*<br>(0.198)    |
| Obese                      | 0.024***<br>(0.009)  | 0.018<br>(0.016)  | 0.036**<br>(0.015) | 0.019<br>(0.016)    | 0.010<br>(0.020)     | -0.003<br>(0.022)     | 0.025**<br>(0.013)   | 0.024*<br>(0.012)   | 0.022*<br>(0.013)    |
| Overweight/obese           | 0.024**<br>(0.011)   | 0.016<br>(0.018)  | 0.030*<br>(0.017)  | 0.023<br>(0.018)    | -0.009<br>(0.024)    | -0.033<br>(0.029)     | 0.027*<br>(0.015)    | 0.026*<br>(0.014)   | 0.028*<br>(0.015)    |
| On common support          |                      | 6,513             | 6,513              | 6,458               | 5,855                | 5,436                 | 6,513                | 6,513               | 6,458                |
| Observations               | 6,515                | 6,515             | 6,515              | 6,515               | 6,515                | 6,515                 | 6,515                | 6,515               | 6,515                |

Standard errors in parentheses \*\*\* p&lt;0.01, \*\* p&lt;0.05, \* p&lt;0.1

Table 5: Bounds on the OLS estimates given relative correlation restrictions

## Panel A: Bounds on has trouble paying bills by weight outcome (Men)

| Relative correlation restriction | Overweight/Obese                                     |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 0.00                             | -0.043***<br>(-0.06652, -0.01948)                    |
| [0.00, 1.00]                     | [-.0451, -.0388]<br>(-.0687, -.00137)                |
| [0.00, 2.00]                     | [-.0451, -.03151]<br>(-.0687, .0332)                 |
| [0.00, 3.00]                     | [-.0451, -.0231]<br>(-.0687, .0760)                  |
| [0.00, 5.00]                     | [ $-\infty$ , $\infty$ ]<br>( $-\infty$ , $\infty$ ) |
| Other parameter estimates:       |                                                      |
| Lambda hat star                  | 4.878                                                |
| Theta hat star                   | -.139                                                |
| Lambda hat (0)                   | 5.14                                                 |

## Panel B: Bounds on has trouble paying bills by weight outcome (Women)

| Relative correlation restriction | Overweight/Obese                                     | Obese                                                |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 0.00                             | 0.024**<br>(0.00244, 0.04556)                        | 0.024***<br>(0.00636, 0.04164)                       |
| [0.00, 1.00]                     | [-.104, .023]<br>(-.139, .044)                       | [-.0623, .0238]<br>(-.0895, .0408)                   |
| [0.00, 3.00]                     | [-.505, .023]<br>(-.661, .044)                       | [-.321, .0238]<br>(-.429, .0408)                     |
| [0.00, 5.00]                     | [ $-\infty$ , $\infty$ ]<br>( $-\infty$ , $\infty$ ) | [ $-\infty$ , $\infty$ ]<br>( $-\infty$ , $\infty$ ) |
| Other parameter estimates:       |                                                      |                                                      |
| Lambda hat star                  | 3.66                                                 | 3.66                                                 |
| Theta hat star                   | 1.21                                                 | .871                                                 |
| Lambda hat (0)                   | .195                                                 | .294                                                 |

## Panel C: Bounds on has credit card debt by weight outcome (Men)

| Relative correlation restriction | Overweight/Obese                                     |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 0.00                             | 0.028**<br>(0.00644, .0496)                          |
| [0.00, 1.00]                     | [-.023, .0282]<br>(-.060, .051)                      |
| [0.00, 3.00]                     | [-.181, .0282]<br>(-.307, .051)                      |
| [0.00, 5.00]                     | [ $-\infty$ , $\infty$ ]<br>( $-\infty$ , $\infty$ ) |
| Other parameter estimates:       |                                                      |
| Lambda hat star                  | 3.61                                                 |
| Theta hat star                   | .420                                                 |
| Lambda hat (0)                   | .583                                                 |

Intervals in square brackets are the bounds themselves and the intervals in the parentheses are the 95% conservative confidence intervals. Krauth's procedure limits the number of covariates so the bounds are estimated with the limited set of covariates. However, our OLS estimates indicated when the relative correlation equals zero are of similar size and significance.

Table 6: Rosenbaum Bounds Sensitivity Test

| $e^\gamma$    | Overweight/Obese                    |                                           |                                         | Obese                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
|               | Men<br>Credit Card Debt<br>P-values | Women<br>Trouble paying bills<br>P-values | Men<br>Trouble paying bills<br>P-values | Women<br>Trouble paying bills<br>P-values |
| $\gamma=1$    | 0.000015                            | 3.30E-16                                  | 0.000267                                | 8.90E-16                                  |
| $\gamma=1.05$ | 0.000567                            | 4.10E-13                                  | 7.70E-06                                | 3.20E-13                                  |
| $\gamma=1.10$ | 0.008622                            | 1.70E-10                                  | 1.30E-07                                | 5.00E-11                                  |
| $\gamma=1.15$ | 0.060929                            | 2.60E-08                                  | 1.50E-09                                | 3.80E-09                                  |
| $\gamma=1.20$ | 0.227138                            | 1.70E-06                                  | 1.10E-11                                | 1.60E-07                                  |
| $\gamma=1.25$ | 0.507065                            | 0.000053                                  | 6.20E-14                                | 3.70E-06                                  |
| $\gamma=1.30$ | 0.241857                            | 0.000838                                  | 2.20E-16                                | 0.000053                                  |
| $\gamma=1.35$ | 0.079483                            | 0.007458                                  | 0                                       | 0.000492                                  |
| $\gamma=1.40$ | 0.018257                            | 0.039844                                  | 0                                       | 0.003125                                  |
| $\gamma=1.45$ | 0.00298                             | 0.136825                                  | 0                                       | 0.014125                                  |
| $\gamma=1.50$ | 0.000354                            | 0.323008                                  | 0                                       | 0.047268                                  |
| $\gamma=1.55$ | 0.000031                            | 0.45944                                   | 0                                       | 0.121515                                  |
| $\gamma=1.60$ | 2.10E-06                            | 0.24295                                   | 0                                       | 0.248530                                  |
| $\gamma=1.65$ | 1.10E-07                            | 0.101405                                  | 0                                       | 0.418429                                  |
| $\gamma=1.70$ | 4.70E-09                            | 0.033386                                  | 0                                       | 0.425380                                  |
| $\gamma=1.75$ | 1.60E-10                            | 0.008733                                  | 0                                       | 0.263044                                  |
| $\gamma=1.80$ | 4.60E-12                            | 0.001836                                  | 0                                       | 0.142911                                  |
| $\gamma=1.85$ | 1.10E-13                            | 0.000314                                  | 0                                       | 0.068256                                  |
| $\gamma=1.90$ | 2.30E-15                            | 0.000044                                  | 0                                       | 0.028757                                  |
| $\gamma=1.95$ | 0                                   | 5.20E-06                                  | 0                                       | 0.010743                                  |
| $\gamma=2$    | 0                                   | 5.20E-07                                  | 0                                       | 0.003579                                  |

These results assess the sensitivity of the kernel matching because this is the matching method most often recommended in the literature (Henry and Yi, 2009)

Table 7: Sensitivity of Treatment effects to unobservable characteristics

|                                                                               | Women            |                      | Men              |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
|                                                                               | Credit Card Debt | Trouble Paying Bills | Credit Card Debt | Trouble Paying Bills |
| Estimates under assumption that correlation between unobservables is zero     |                  |                      |                  |                      |
| ATT                                                                           | -0.003           | 0.021**              | 0.032***         | -0.039***            |
| Overweight/Obese                                                              | (.009)           | (.010)               | (.011)           | (.012)               |
| ATT                                                                           | 0.000            | 0.021***             |                  | -0.003               |
| Obese                                                                         | (.008)           | (.008)               |                  | (.009)               |
| Estimates assuming selection on observables equals selection on unobservables |                  |                      |                  |                      |
| ATT                                                                           | -0.034***        | -0.029***            | 0.012            | -0.037***            |
| Overweight/Obese                                                              | (.010)           | (.010)               | (0.011)          | (.012)               |
| $\rho$                                                                        | 0.0773           | 0.126                | 0.0451           | -0.0047              |
| ATT                                                                           | -0.019**         | -0.015**             |                  | -0.005               |
| Obese                                                                         | (.008)           | (.008)               |                  | (.009)               |
| $\rho$                                                                        | 0.0779           | 0.142                |                  | 0.008                |
| Estimated relative selection assuming no effect of treatment                  |                  |                      |                  |                      |
| ATT/bias                                                                      |                  |                      |                  |                      |
| Overweight/Obese                                                              | 0.085            | 0.152                | 0.073            | -0.016               |
| ATT/bias                                                                      |                  |                      |                  |                      |
| Obese                                                                         | 0.044            | 0.099                |                  | 0.005                |
| Observations                                                                  | 6,515            | 6,515                | 5,985            | 5,985                |

Standard errors are in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1

Estimates shown are marginal effects.

Table 8: Bounds on the IV estimates (Nevo and Rosen procedure)

**Men overweight/obese bill trouble**

| <b>Instrument</b>                                             | <b>Lower bound</b> | <b>Upper bound</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Parent reported that they had enough money to pay their bills | -1.613             | 0.8348             |
| Currently lives with their parents                            | -0.1173            | 0.1055             |
| Currently receives support from parents                       | -0.1253            | 0.0949             |

**Women obese bill trouble**

| <b>Instrument</b>                                             | <b>Lower bound</b> | <b>Upper bound</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Parent reported that they had enough money to pay their bills | -0.3423            | 0.9976             |
| Currently lives with their parents                            | -0.0171            | 0.1997             |
| Currently receives support from parents                       | -0.0935            | 0.5914             |