Reviewer's report

Title: Time trends of non-alcoholic beverage consumption among adults in Germany, 1990-2011

Version: 0 Date: 19 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Maria Romo-Palafox

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting paper and it adds relevant data to the literature on beverage intake patterns in Germany. Nonetheless, the results and discussion are hard to follow and I would recommend you review the wording to try and minimize confusion when using multiple adjectives for quantity in the same sentence.

Abstract:

1. Line 45-46 "An intake of almost daily and more was defined as frequent beverage intake" is awkwardly worded. Please clarify.

2. Lines 49, 53. Please use the same notation for years, "1990-1992 and increased until 2008-2011."

Background:

1. Line 82, it seems that juices and soft drinks are less common, frequent, or recurrent instead of less important.

Methods:

1. Please add more information on how the samples were weighted to compare all three surveys.

2. In the USA, it is customary to add 100% before fruit juice to indicate the data do not refer to juice flavored waters.
Results:

1. Lines 211-214. Please include the same amount of detail for coffee and tea consumption as the other non-alcoholic beverages.

2. Line 215. Please use "frequently" instead of almost daily or more for consistency.

3. Line 219-220. The wording is confusing; please clarify age differences in "frequent consumption" among men; the sentence is not clear.

4. Line 223. The overall increase in women's consumption was not significant but it was significant when stratified by income group?

5. Line 226-227. Sentence is unclear; please reword.

6. Results are hard to read. Please consider standardizing the terms. For example, "consume less often daily" is hard to read and makes it complicated to understand the whole picture.

Discussion:

1. Data from different studies and countries are included in the discussion, but there is no apparent tie to the current study. I would recommend reviewing the discussion section and only include data that is relevant to the discussion of your results.

2. Line 244-245. Delete "adult population" from the sentence; it is repetitive.

3. Line 247-248. "coffee intake decreased in the 1990ths" You do not have data to support the decrease of consumption, it might read better as "coffee intake was lowest in the 1990ths and increased between"

4. Lines 254-258. Please move this section to background or use the data to make a point in the discussion; currently it reads as the context for beverage intake in Germany.

5. Lines 261-264. Please add a reference to support the claim that the availability of mineral water has changed in Germany and that this change resulted in a more attractive product.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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