

BACKGROUND

- Although ample evidence has supported its preventative role in reducing the spread of COVID-19, mask-wearing has been stigmatized amidst the pandemic

AIMS

- Examine the relationship between stigma, mask-wearing, and mental health

METHOD

- Recruited participants via social media outlets
- 156 adults from the U.S.
- Data is from Wave 1 of a 12-wave, weekly, survey.
- Data analysis was a moderated mediation in *lavaan* (R)

Measures

- Mental Health
 - Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS; Russel & Daniels, 2018)
- Experienced Stigma
 - Adaptation of Perceived Language Discrimination Scale (Wei & Wang, 2012)
- Mask-Wearing
- Proportion of Others Wearing Masks

RESULTS

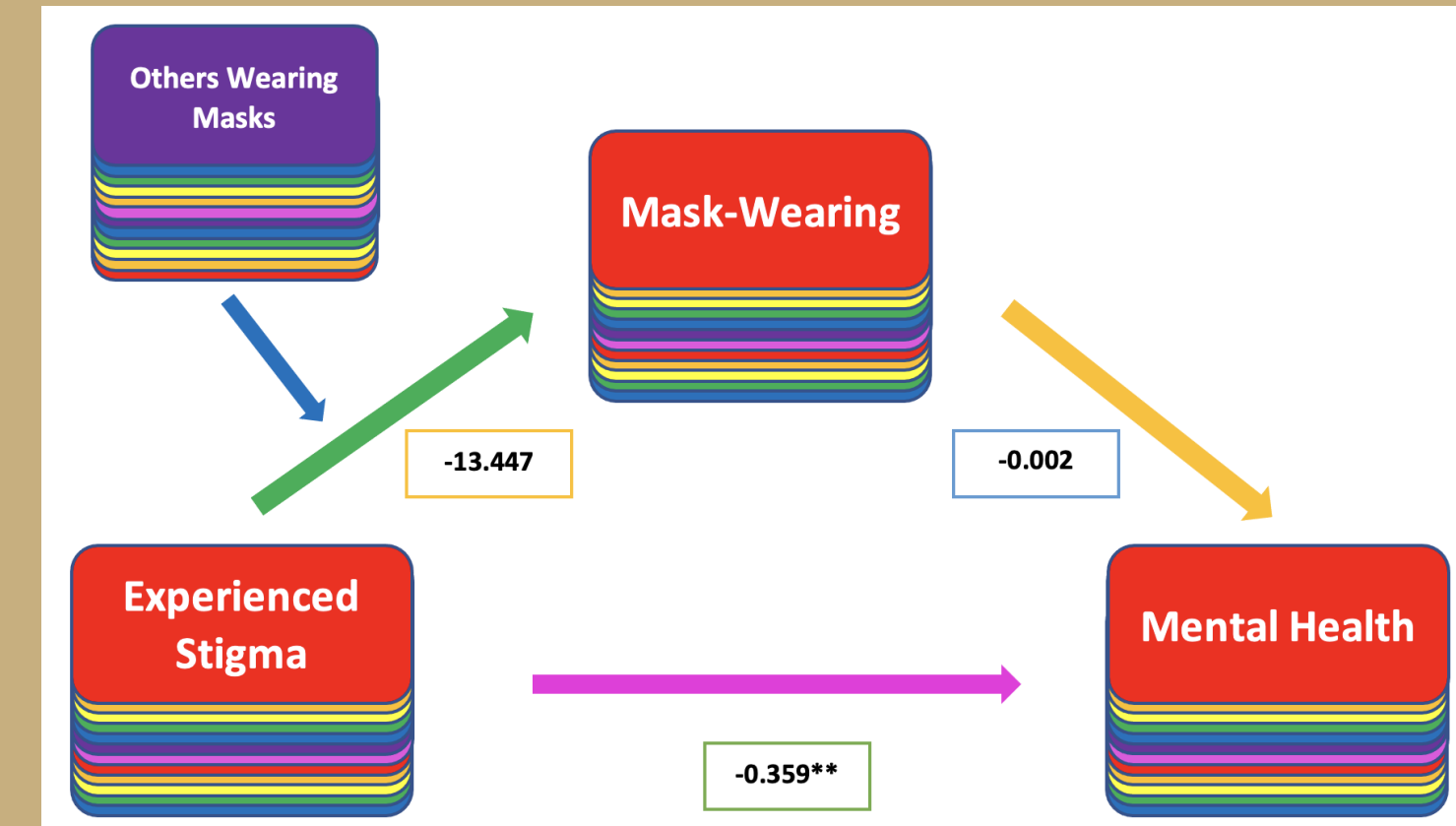
- There was a significant, negative effect of experienced stigma on mental health (both total and direct effects remained significant)
- The proportion of others wearing masks did not moderate the stigma → mask-wearing relationship
- Mask-wearing did not mediate the stigma → mental health relationship

#MaskMadness: The Contributions of Perceived Stigma, Context, and Mask-Wearing on Mental Health

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Individuals who experience **facemask stigma** are less likely to wear a mask and report **negative mental health outcomes.**

MODERATED MEDIATION



RESULTS

Table 1
Analysis of Moderated Mediation for Stigma, Proportion of Others Wearing Masks, Proportion of Mask-Wearing, and Mental Health

Antecedent	Proportion of Mask-Wearing (M)				Affect (Y)				
	path	β	SE	p	path	β	SE	p	
Constant	i_M	86.906	18.124	<.001	i_Y	4.246	0.198	<.001	
STIGMA (X)	a_1	-13.447	8.131	.098	c'	-0.359	0.063	<.001	
OthersProp_1 (W)	a_2	-0.019	0.247	.940					
STIGMA*OthersProp_1 (XW)	a_3	0.164	0.123	.183					
MaskProp (M)					b	-0.002	0.002	.211	
		$R^2 = 12.3\%$				$R^2 = 15.6\%$			
Conditional Indirect, Direct, and Total Effects at Proportion of Others Wearing Masks									
		Boot effect	Boot SE	Boot CI95 lower	Boot CI95 upper				
Index of moderated mediation		-0.000	0.000	-0.001	0.000				
Indirect									
-1 SD		0.018	0.020	-0.014	0.068				
Mean		0.008	0.010	-0.009	0.032				
+1 SD		-0.001	0.012	-0.030	0.019				
Direct									
Direct		-0.359	0.063	-0.483	-0.235				
Total									
-1 SD		-0.341	0.060	-0.462	-0.216				
Mean		-0.351	0.061	-0.473	-0.226				
+1 SD		-0.360	0.065	-0.487	-0.236				



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