# **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**

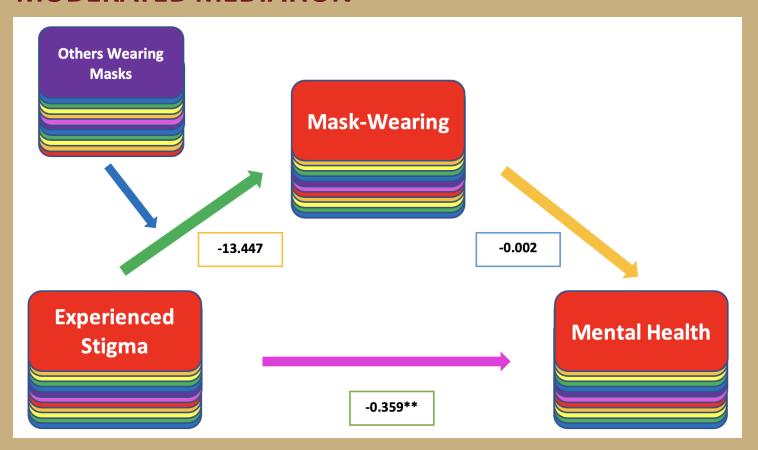
- There was a significant, negative effect of experienced stigma on mental health (both total and direct effects remained significant)
- The proportion of others wearing masks did not moderate the stigma → mask-wearing relationship
- Mask-wearing did not mediate the stigma → mental health relationship

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

Clara O'Brien, Jaylee York, Ashley R. Righetti, & Lynette H. Bikos

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

# **MODERATED MEDIATION**



### **RESULTS**

KESULIS								
Table 1								
Analysis of Moderated Mediation for Stigma, Proportion of Others Wearing Masks, Proportion of Mask-Wearing, and Mental Health								
Proportion of Mask-Wearing (M)					Affect (Y)			
Antecedent	path	β	SE	р	path	β	SE	р
Constant	$i_{\mathrm{M}}$	86.906	18.124	<.001	$i_{\rm X}$	4.246	0.198	<.001
STIGMA (X)	$a_{I}$	-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		00	-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		-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	

