



Group vs Individual Livelihoods and Coaching: Testing Alternative Government-Led Social Protection Strategies in the Philippines

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Evaluation Partners



Graduation programs successful, but questions remain

- Increases income, net worth, consumption (Banerjee et al. 2015, Bandiera et al. 2017), persisting into long run (7 years) (Banerjee et al., 2016, Bandiera et al. 2017)
- Multi-faceted approach important: only assets or only savings assistance do not yield same effects (Banerjee et al. 2017)
- **Would group livelihoods leverage (or dilute) impacts?**
- **How can we increase cost effectiveness?**



Variation 1: Group livelihoods

- Group of ~20 individuals in village, form groups of 3-5 people
- **More effective:** efficiencies from pooling, expanded choice of higher-return assets
- **Less effective:** difficulty in coordination, free-riding

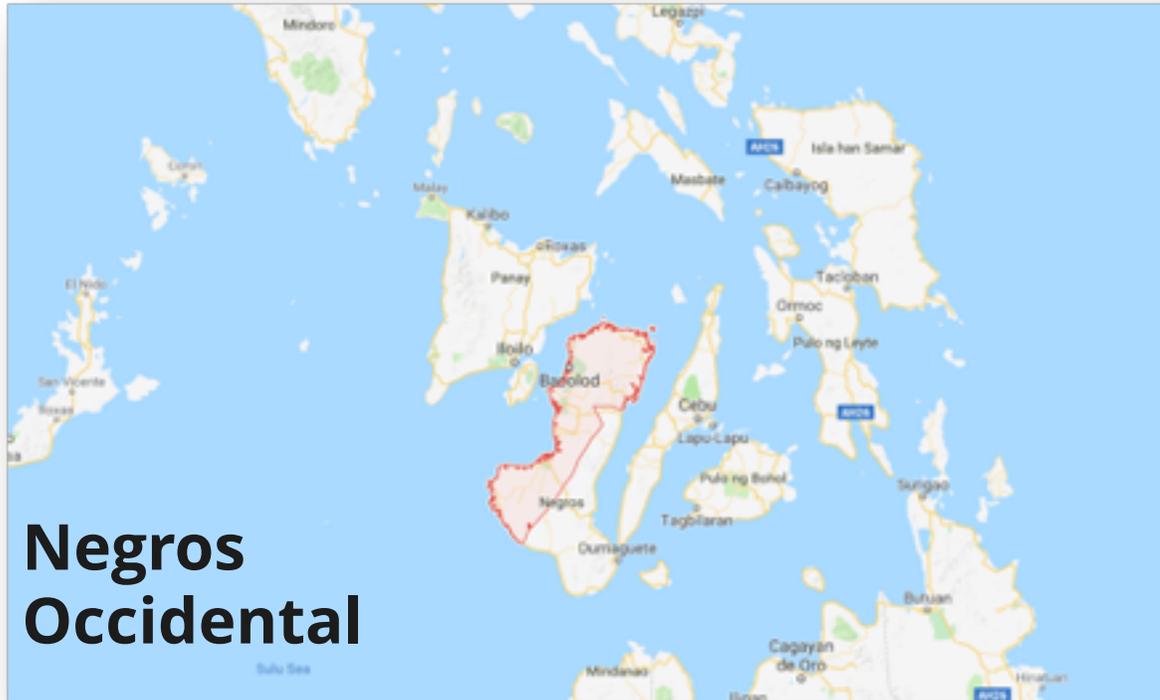


Variation 2: Group coaching

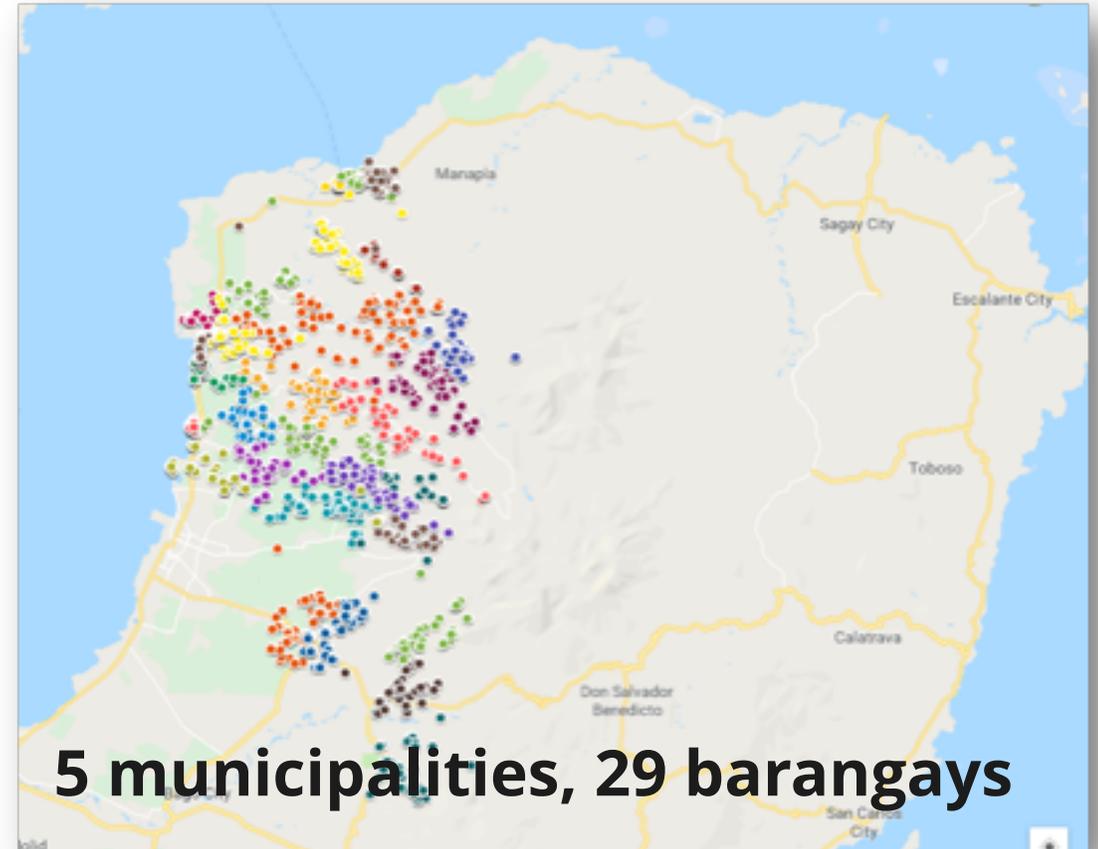
- Group of 20 meets together for life skills modules, training, business management
- **More effective:** Greater information sharing, building social ties
- **Less effective:** less personalized attention, less accountability



Study location and sample



Sample: Poor HHs from 29 barangays that were added to CCT program from 2015-2017, not beneficiary of similar program



Randomized design

	T1: Group livelihoods and group coaching (N=600)	T2: Individual livelihoods and group coaching (N=600)	T3 Individual livelihoods and individual coaching (N=600)	Control (N=600)
4Ps	✓	✓	✓	✓
Asset transfer	Asset worth \$6,000 per group of 20 individuals	Asset worth \$300 USD per individual	Asset worth \$300 USD per individual	X
Coaching	Group coaching every month	Group coaching every month	Personal coaching every month	X
Skills training	✓	✓	✓	X
Savings facilitation	✓	✓	✓	X
Community mobilization	✓	✓	✓	X



Project timeline

Endline data collection tentatively
scheduled for February 2021

Group and individual life-skills coaching started
October 2018 – August 2020

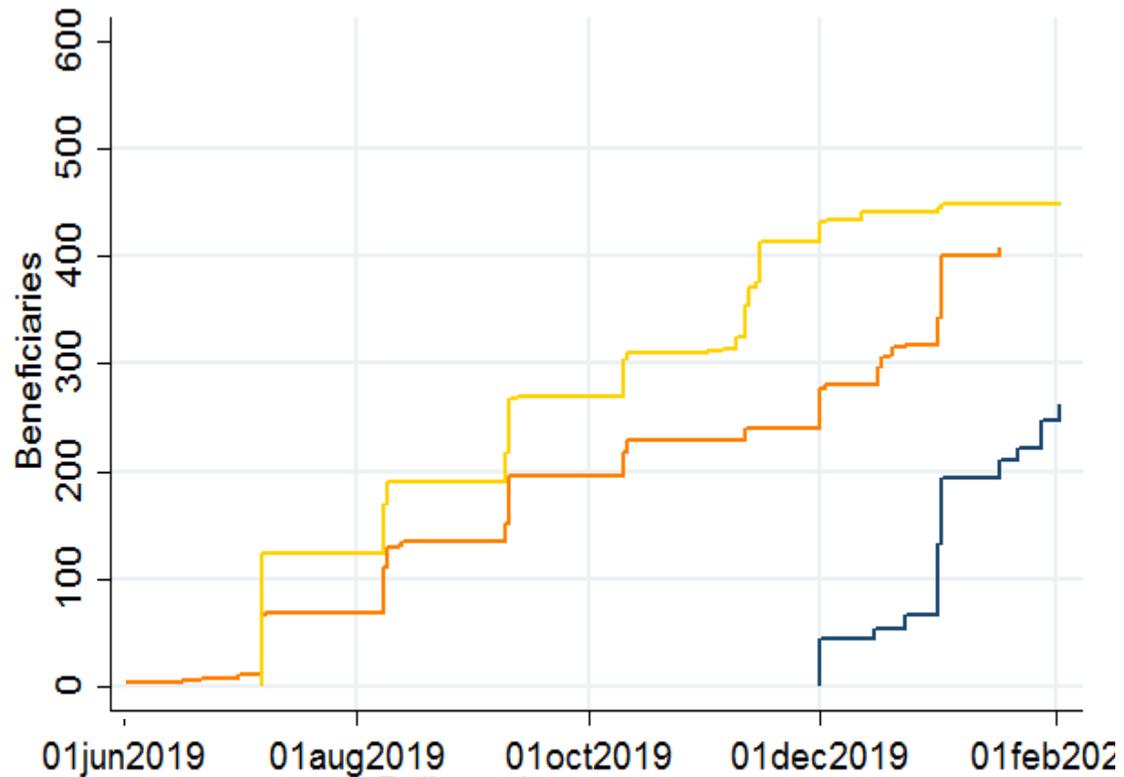
Asset deliveries for individual livelihood ended
June 2019 – January 2020

Asset deliveries for grouped livelihood ended
October 2019 – March 2020

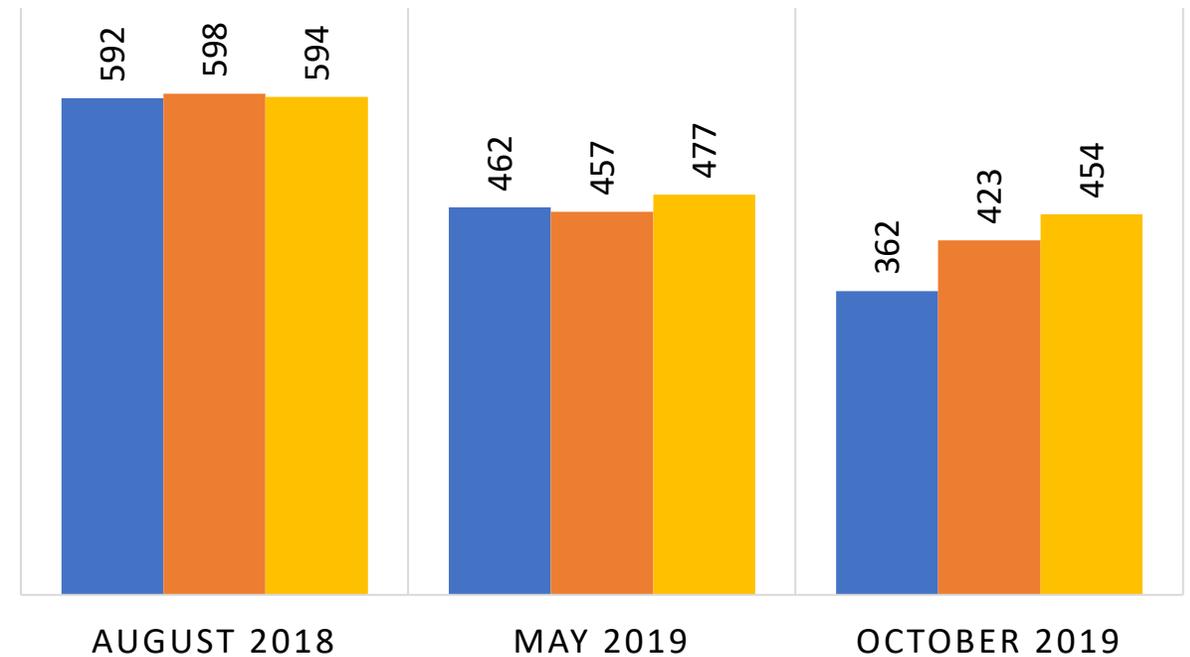


Implementation timeline

Livelihood asset delivery



Decline in beneficiaries



■ T1: Grp Livelihood & Grp Coaching ■ T2: Ind Livelihood & Grp Coaching ■ T3: Ind Livelihood & Ind Coaching



Midline survey data collection

- Target sample: 77% of sample who have phone contact info from baseline, N= 1972
- Response rate: 63% of targeted
- Overall, response not correlated with treatment status, and baseline characteristics do not differentially predict attrition across arms



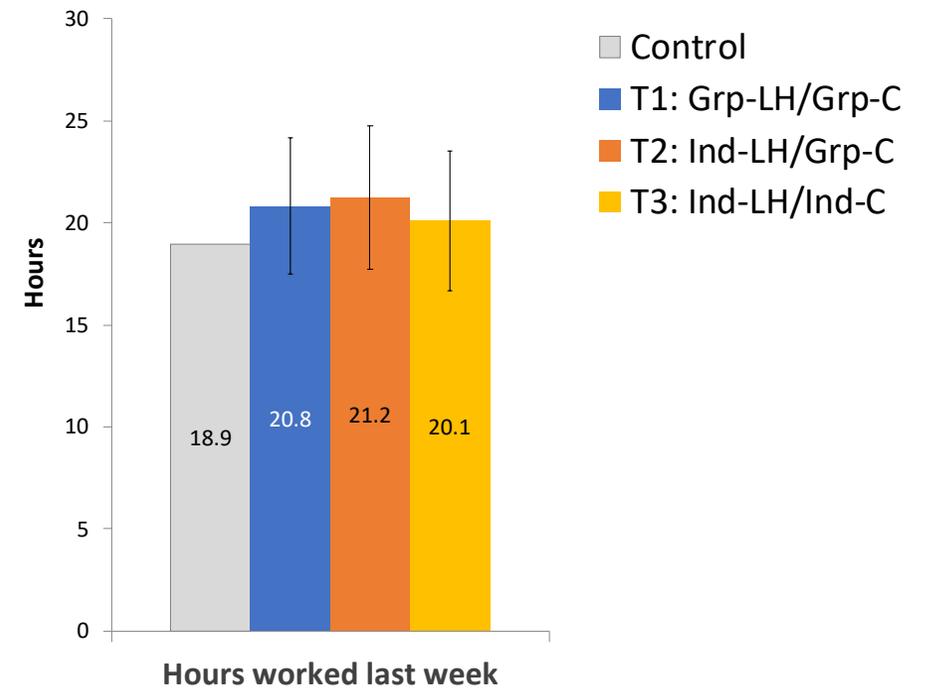
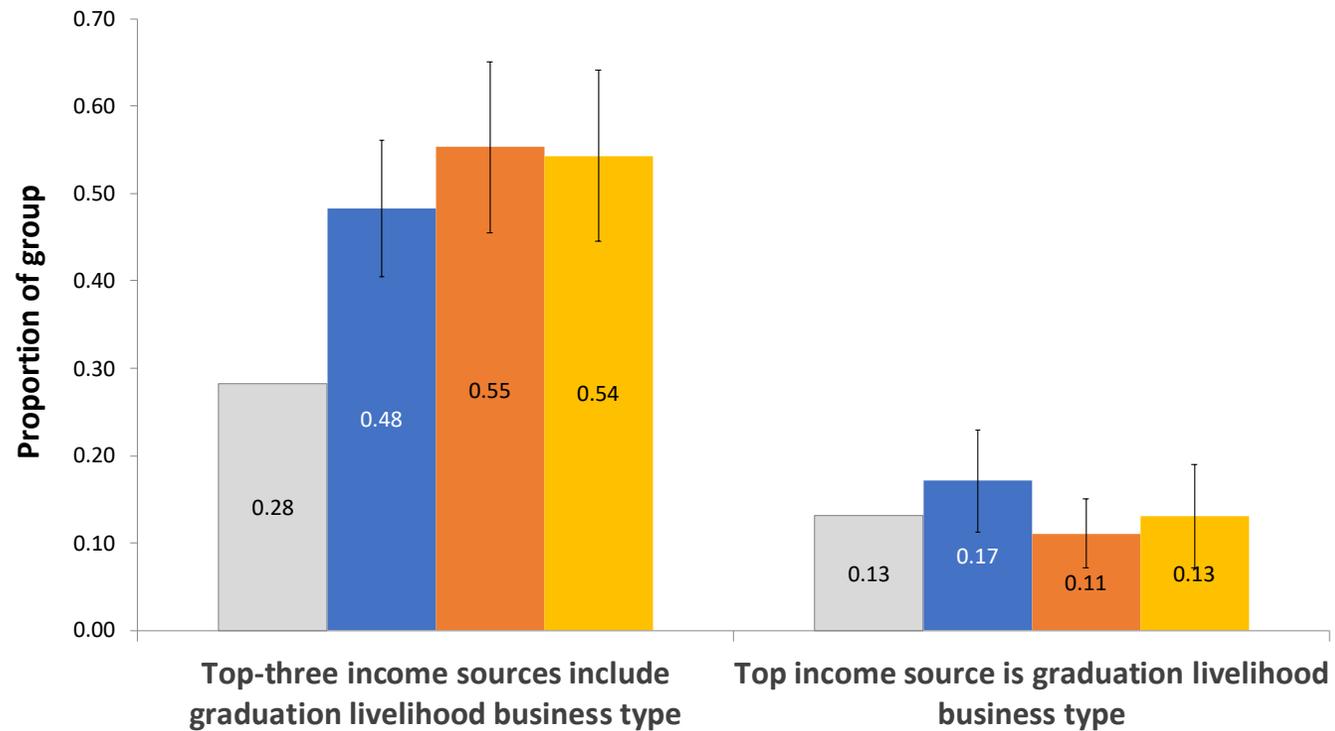
Results

Program participation

	T1 (GrpLH/GrpC)	T2 (IndLH/GrpC)	T3 (IndLH/IndC)
Got livelihood (LH) from BRAC	62%	75%	81%
Currently has LH	44%	53%	59%
LH is currently a main income source	30%	42%	43%
Worked on LH in past 7 days	34%	42%	47%
Earned from LH in past 30 days	38%	51%	51%
Avg hours worked on LH in past 7 days	9.4	12.4	11.8

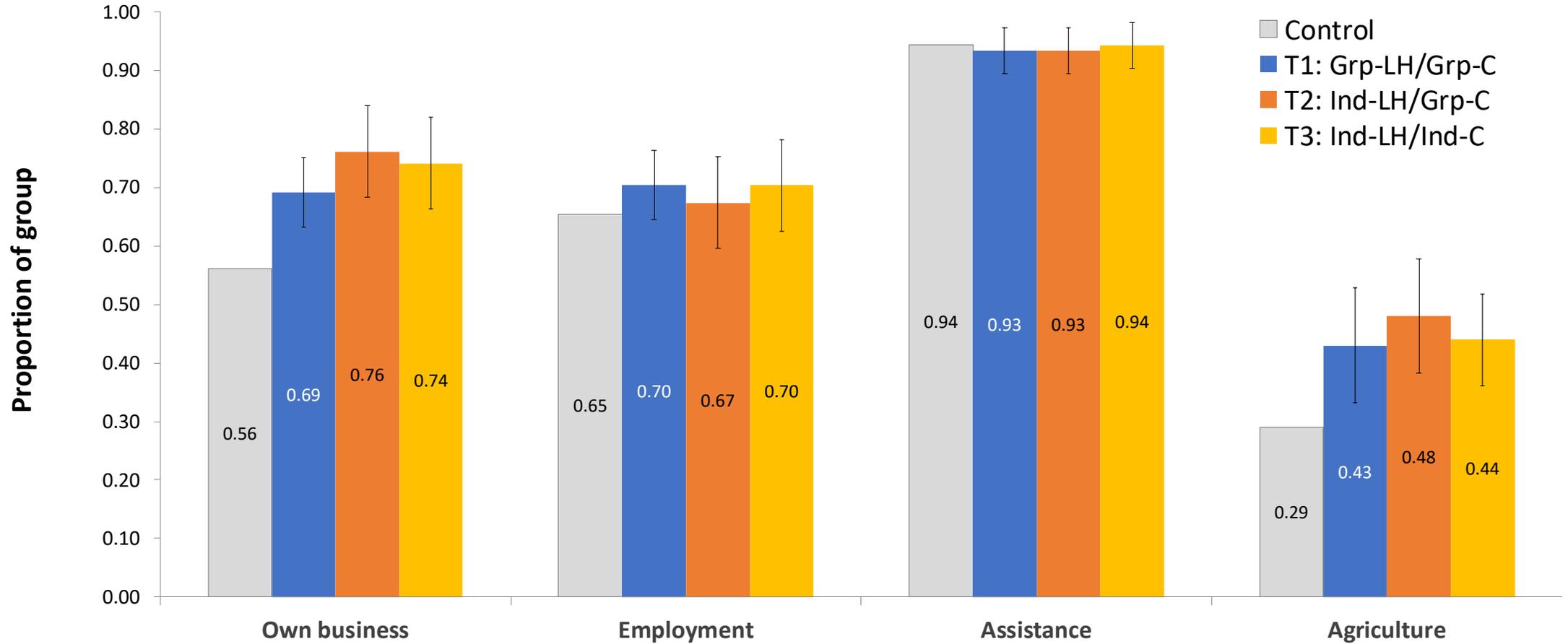


Livelihood

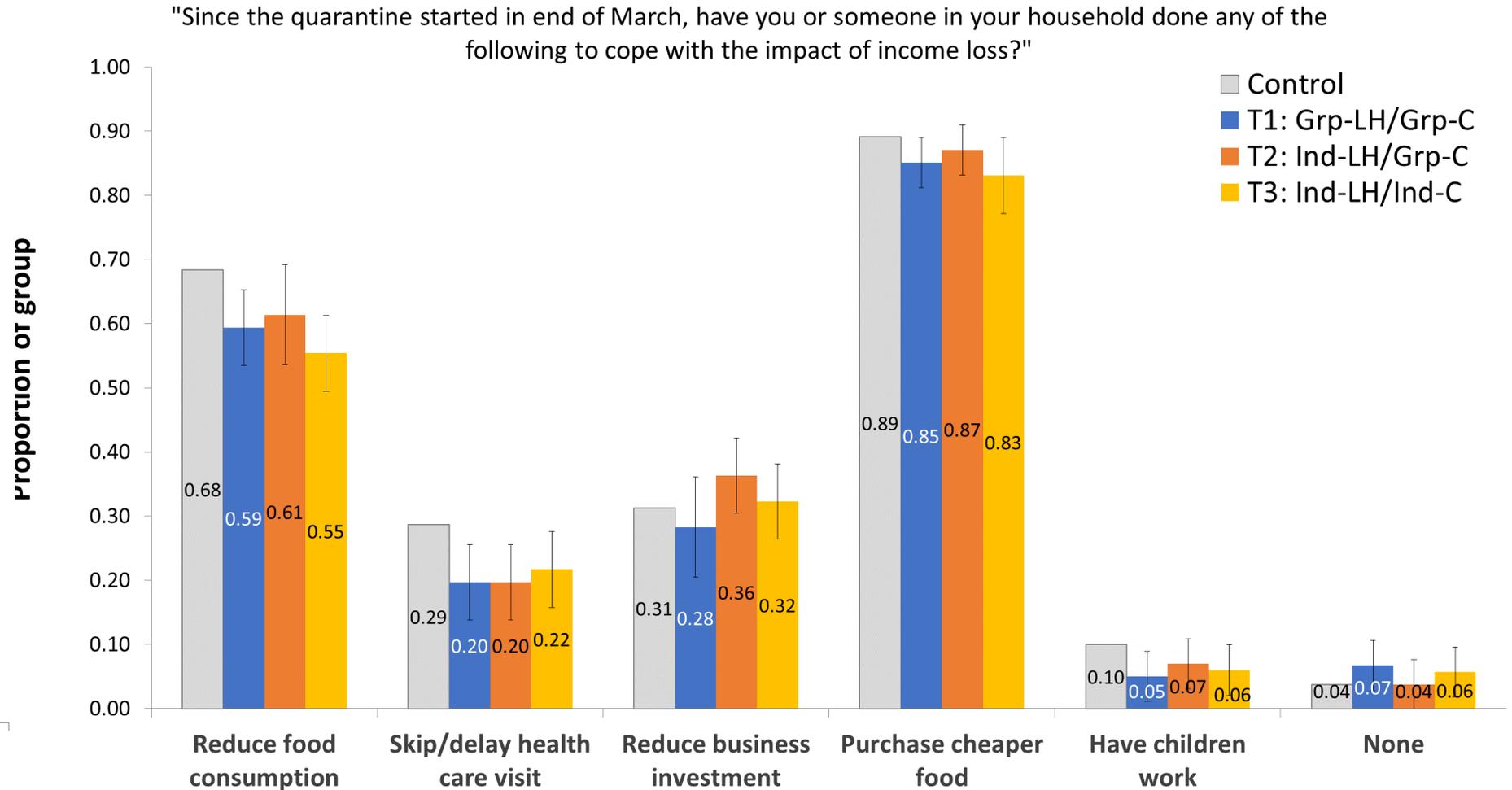
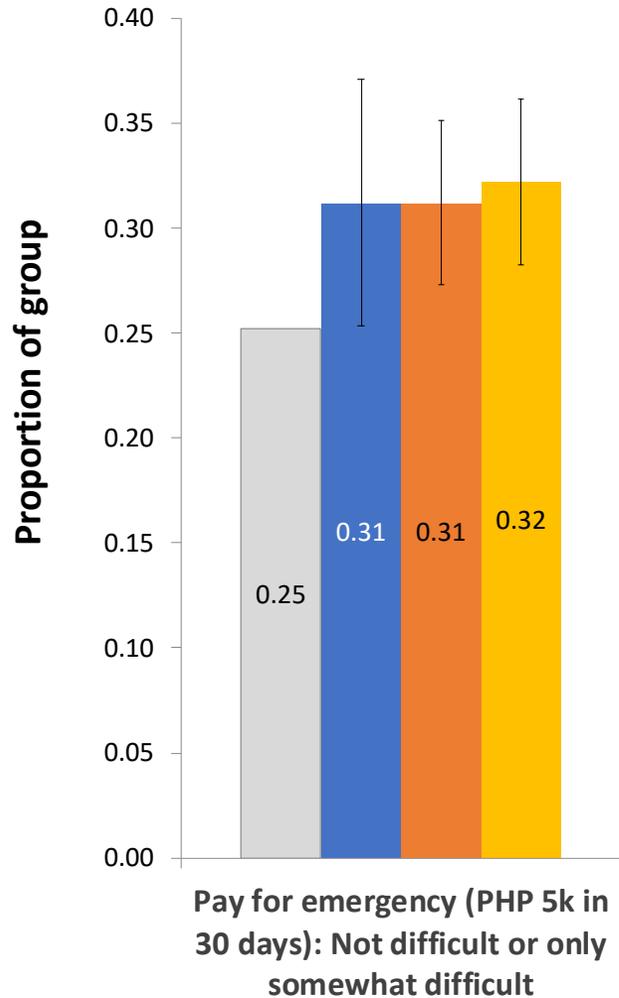


Income sources

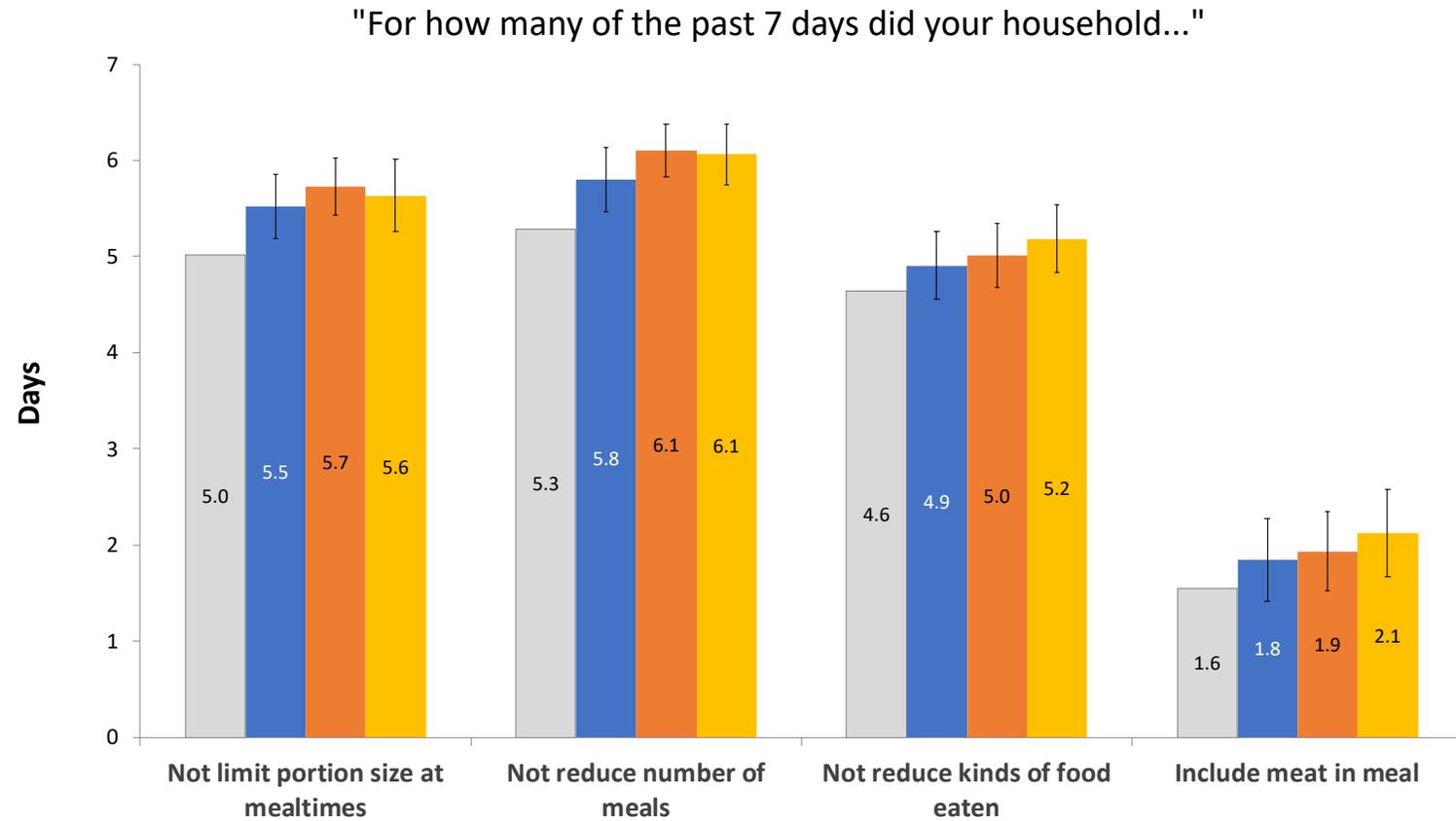
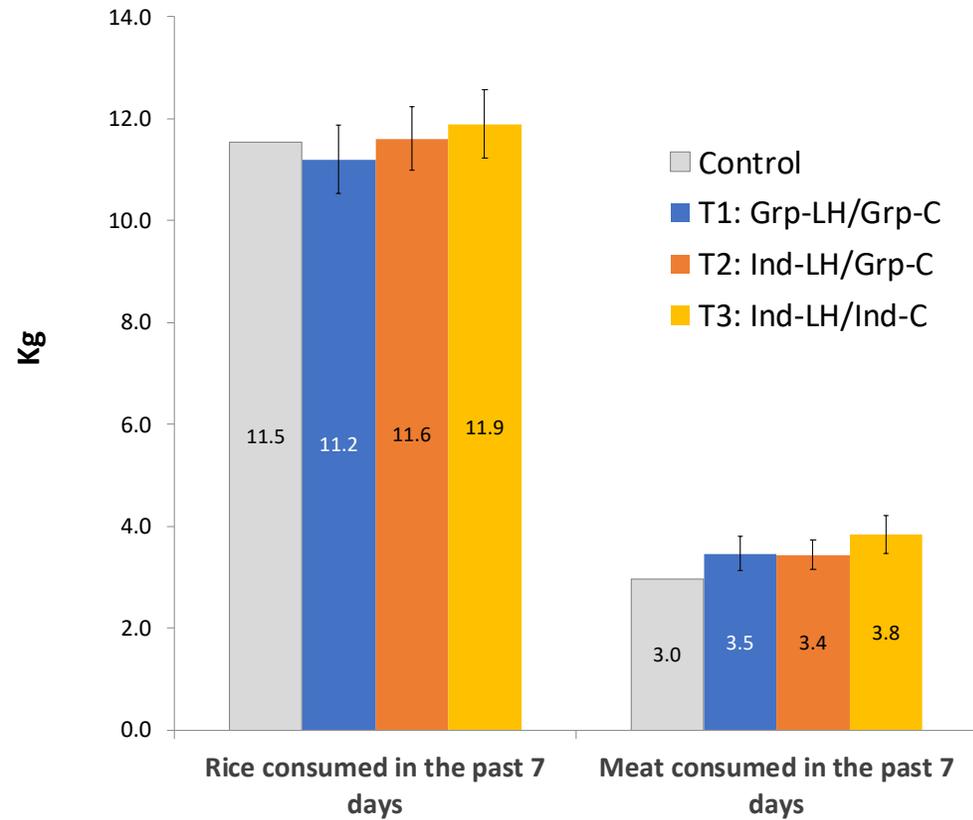
"In the past 3 months, have you had any income from..."



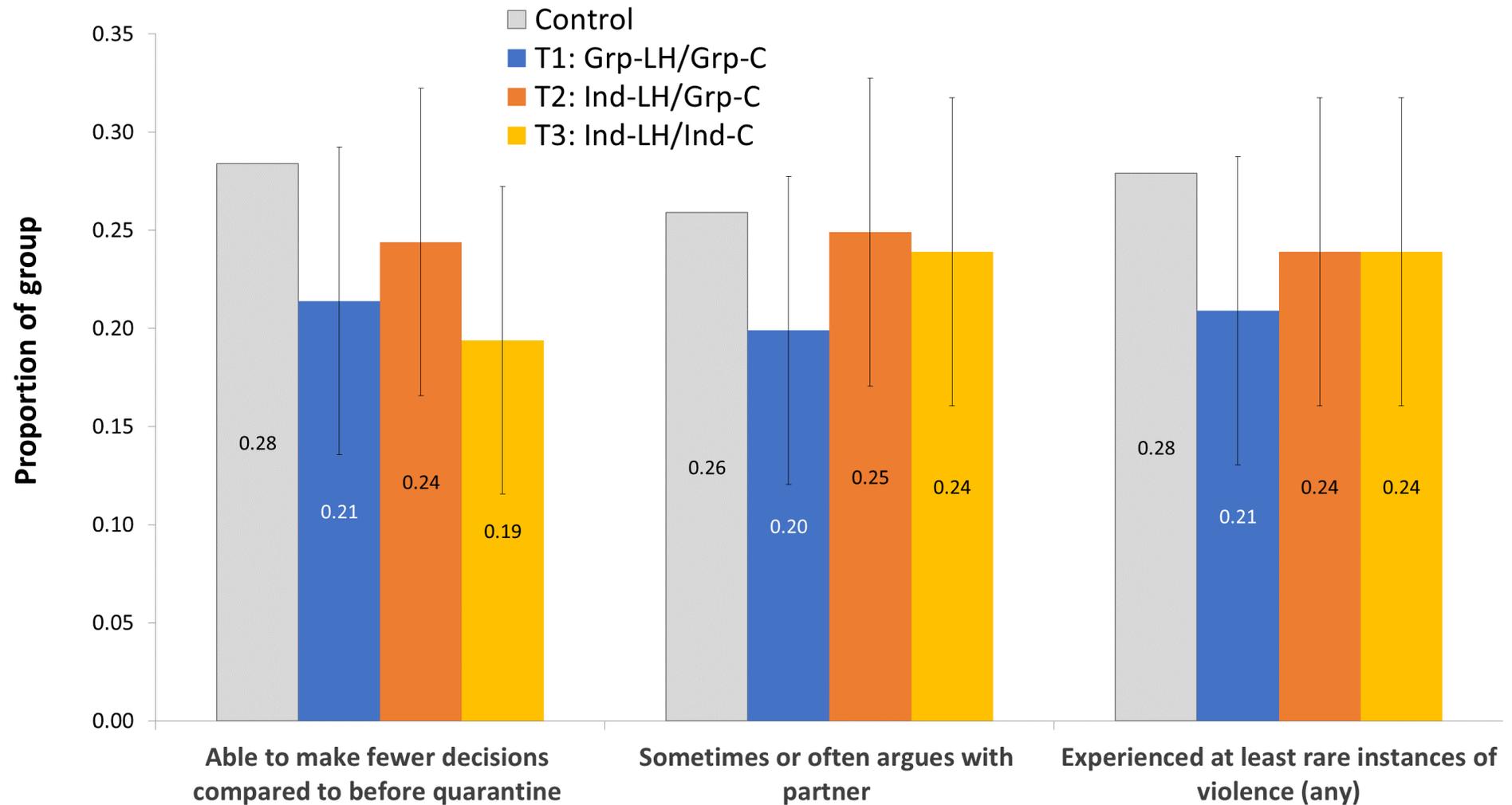
Coping with impact of income loss



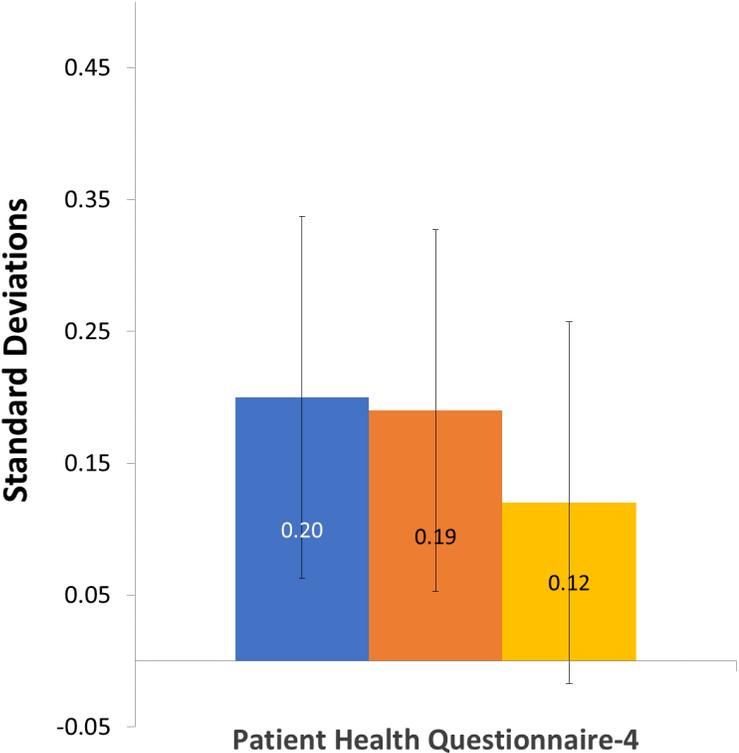
Food security



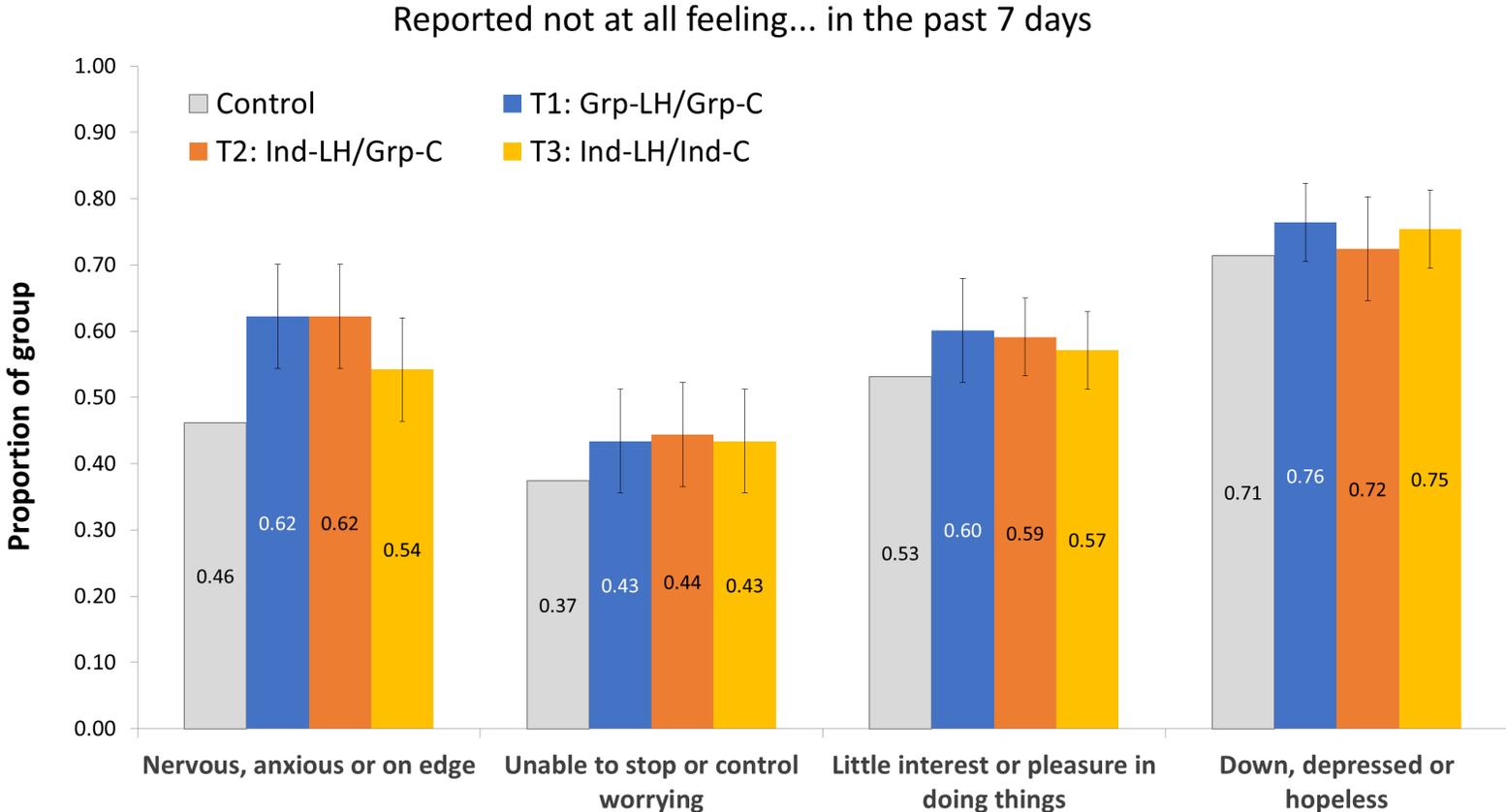
Bargaining and IPV



Mental health



Control group has mean = 0 and SD = 1.



Conclusions and next steps

- Despite implementation challenges, positive impacts across multiple measures – promoting resilience during Covid-19 pandemic
- Lack of evidence that lower-cost group coaching reduces effectiveness (preliminary)
- Endline in 2021, ideally in-person to raise response rates, expand modules



Thank you



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