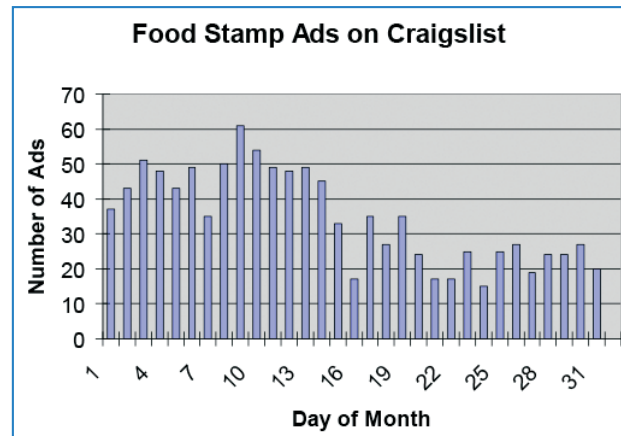


Welfare Benefits Trafficking on Craigslist

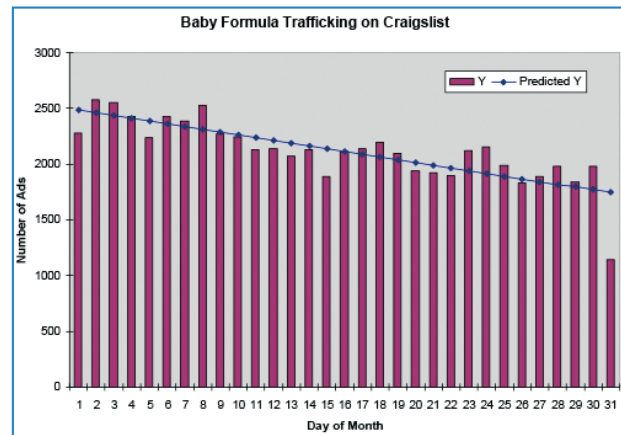
A sample of about 1,000 Craigslist ads from 2014 were identified where keywords such as “snap”, “ebt”, “food stamps” were in the title. The top 10 states for trafficking of food stamps on Craigslist were found below. Secondly, some correlation was found between food stamps being sold and the day of the month. There is some correlation to the beginning of the month when SNAP / EBT cards are reloaded.

STATE	PERCENT	ADS
California	36%	386
Georgia	15%	166
Florida	7%	80
Texas	6%	65
Nevada	4%	38
Arizona	3%	35
Pennsylvania	3%	33
Washington	3%	33
Illinois	3%	30
New York	2%	26



Secondly WIC benefits such as baby formula are also being trafficked. Over 65,000 ads with keywords “baby formula”, “enfamil”, “similac” in the title were analyzed. A very strong correlation of ads appeared on dates close to the beginning of the month, when WIC benefits are released to recipients.

STATE	PERCENT	ADS
California	27%	17,871
Texas	15%	9,746
Arizona	6%	3,702
Florida	5%	3,121
New York	5%	3,116
Illinois	3%	2,138
Nevada	3%	1,884
Ohio	3%	1,662
Washington	3%	1,662
Pennsylvania	2%	1,578



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