

DETERMINING THE VENDING MACHINE PURCHASING EXPERIENCE TOWARDS CUSTOMER SATISFACTION AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

AUTHORS' DECLARATION LETTER		ii
ACKNOWLEDGMENT		vii
ABSTRACT		viii
CHAPTER ONE		1
INTRODUCTION		2
1.1 Overview		2
1.2 Background of the Study		2
1.3 Problem Statement		5
1.4 Research Objectives		7
1.5 Research Questions		8
1.6 Significance of the Study		8
1.7 Definition of Key Terms		8
1.8 Conceptual Framework		10
CHAPTER TWO		11
LITERATURE REVIEW		12
2.1	Overview	12
2.2	Food retailing	12
2.3	Vending Machines	14
2.4	Vending Machine Purchasing Experience Determinants	16
2.5	Product Assortment	17
2.6	Product Freshness	17
2.7	Payment	18
2.8	Condition	19
2.9	Machine Maintenance	21
2.10	Customer Satisfaction	23
CHAPTER THREE		25
<b>RESEARCH METHODOLOGY</b>		26
3.1	Overview	26
3.2	Research Design	26
3.3	Sampling Design	27
3.3.1 Targeted Population		27
3.3	27	

3.3.3 Sampling Element		27
3.3.4 Sampling Technique		27
3.3.	5 Sampling Size	28
3.4	Sources of Data Collection	29
3.5	Instrument Development and Testing	30
3.5.	1 Instrument Development	30
3.5.	2 Testing	34
3.6	Data Collection Procedure	35
3.7	Plans For Data Analysis	36
3.8	Research Ethic Consideration	36
3.9	Assessments of Internal Reliability	38
3.10	Research Timeframe	40
CHAPTER FOUR		42
RESULTS AND ANALYSIS		43
4.1	Overview	43
4.2	Demographic Profile of the Respondents	43
4.3	Descriptive Analysis	56
4.4	Multiple Linear Regressions	64
CHAPTER FIVE		66
SUMMARY, LIMITATIONS, IMPLICATIONS,		67
RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION		67
5.1	Overview	67
5.2	Discussion of the Results	67
5.3	Limitations of the study	71
5.4	Implications, Recommendations, and Conclusion of the Study Implications	73
REFERENCES		76
APPENDICES		90

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## ABSTRACT

The usage of the vending machine has become a significant thing in the food industry nowadays. The vending machines provide many benefits for customers especially for students. It can provide convenient, independent services for customers and is accessible 24 hours a day, and seven days a week. Thus, the presence of a vending machine on the university campus becomes convenient for students. The primary goal of this research is to determine the relationship between the purchasing experiences that may contribute to customer satisfaction among the university students towards vending machines and to identify the most influential determinants affecting vending machine purchasing experience and customer satisfaction among the university students. This study assessed the following five determinants: mode of payment, vending machine condition, vending machine maintenance, product assortment, and product freshness. The convenience sampling technique was used to collect data from 364 customers in the UiTM Terengganu campus using Likert-scale questionnaires via the online survey. This study focuses on three (3) Terengganu campuses: UiTM Dungun, UiTM Bukit Besi, and UiTM Kuala Terengganu where it can deliver great perspective from customers about the demands, needs, and wants from the vending machine retailers. Thus, to meet the research objective, this research used the frequency analysis, descriptive analysis and multiple regression analysis. According to the findings, machine maintenance is the most important factor influencing customer satisfaction among the university students when purchasing vending machines. Thus, the results of this study can be helpful to vending machine retailers in maintaining customers' loyalty and attracting new ones as well as allowing the company to grow in the future.

Keywords: vending machine, purchasing experience, food choices, university students, customer satisfaction.