

The power of NIPN (and its limitations)

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What's NIPN's power?

What you count, counts!

Ce que tu comptes, compte!

Lo que cuentas, cuenta!

Key messages in this presentation

- **Message 1: Simple and clear analyses can have a big impact on policy makers!**
 - No need to conduct complicated analyses
 - But.... what is done must be done correctly!
 - This is where NIPN can (and should) make a difference
- **Message 2: Impact or causal analyses are outside the scope of NIPN**

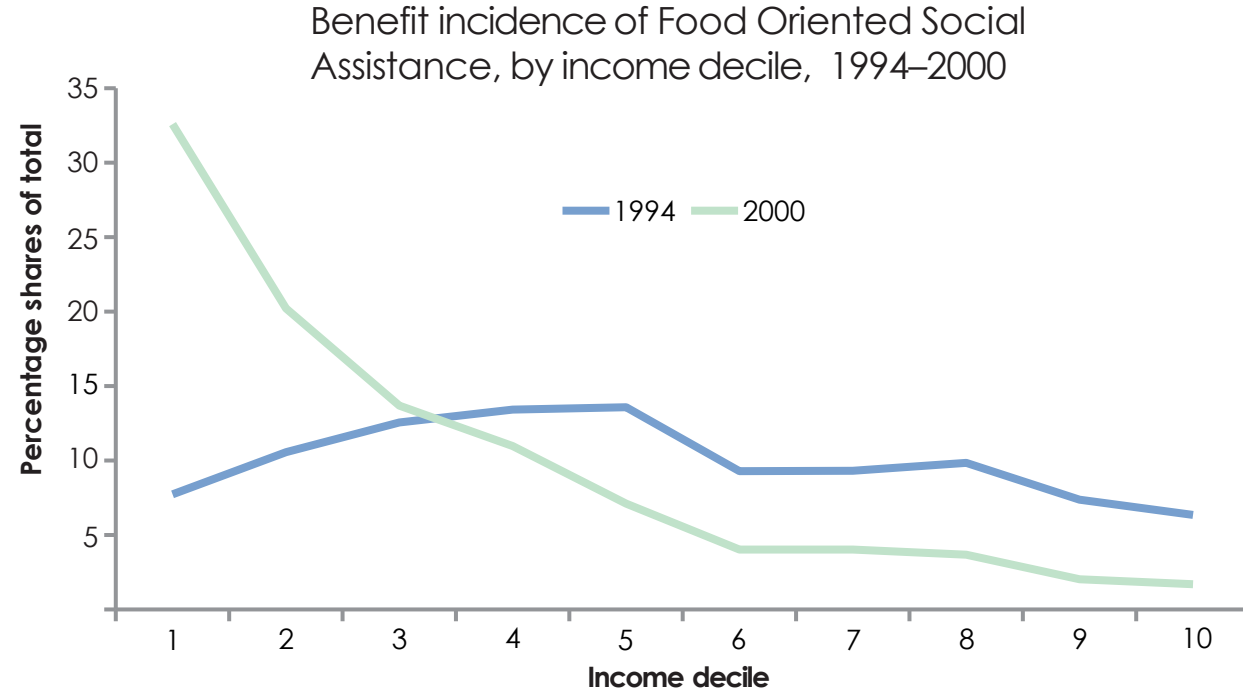
E.g. did the new policy reduce stunting?

 - There is no need to re-demonstrate what has been well studied by international research
 - Causal inference requires a research setting
 - It is very likely that your analyses will lead to the wrong conclusion

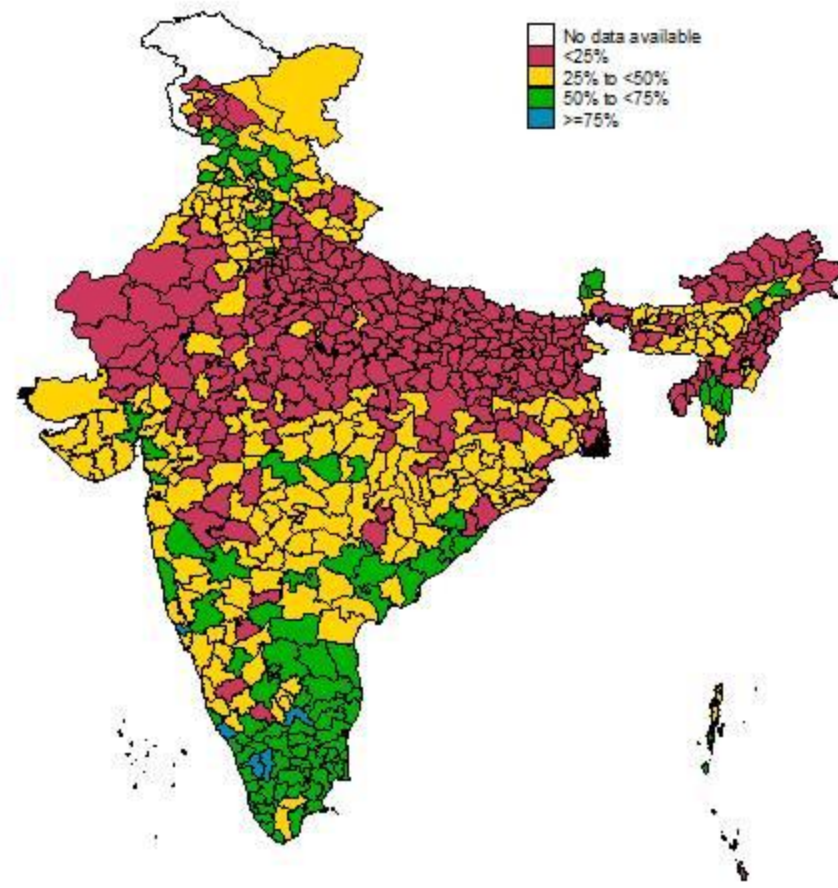
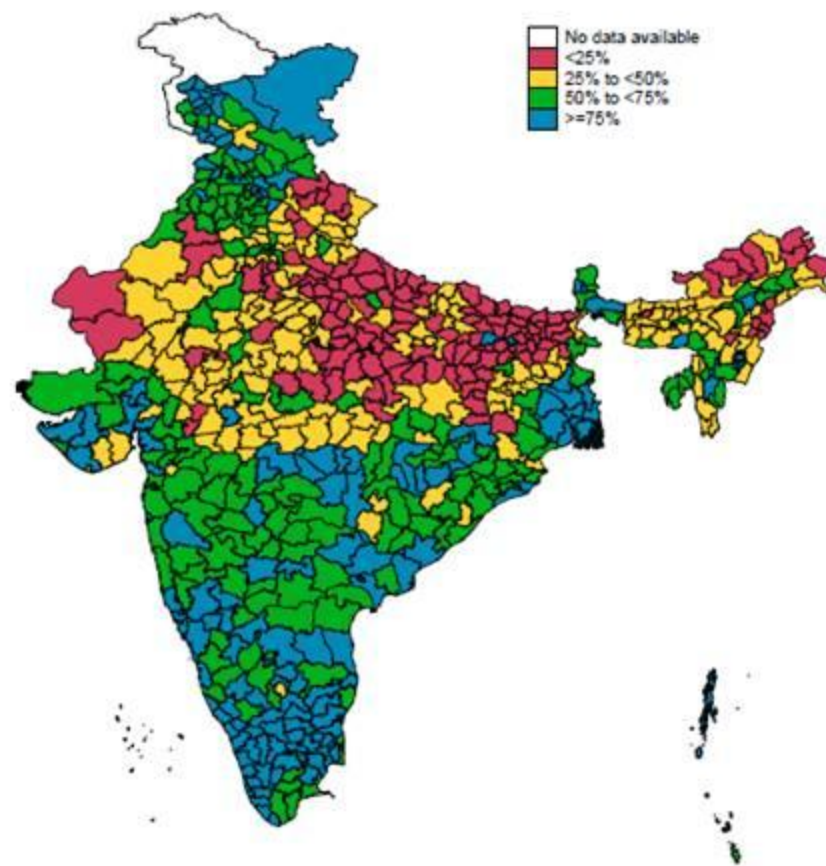
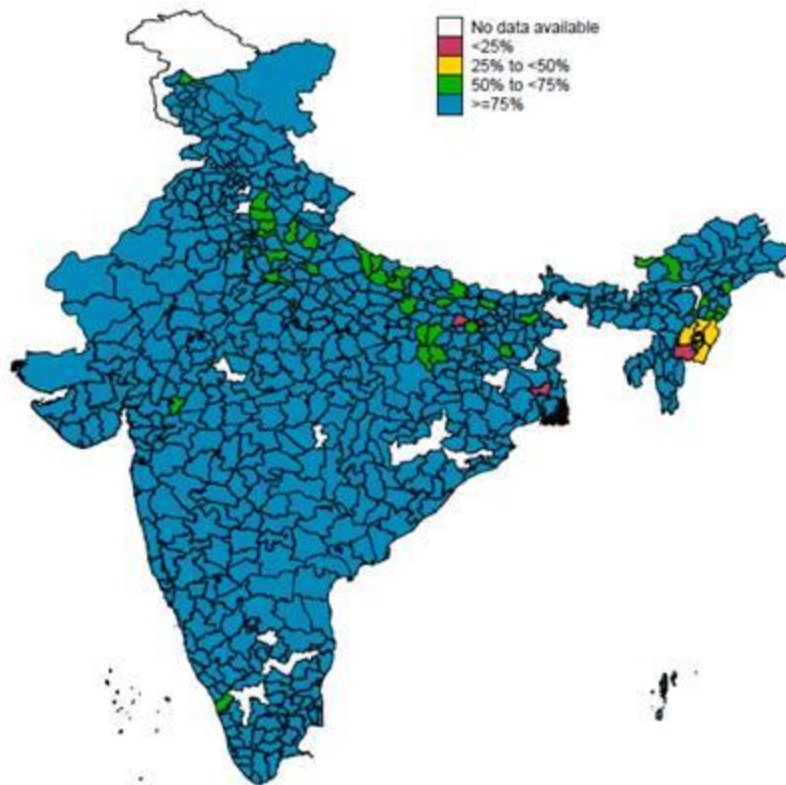
Message 1

Simple and clear analyses can have a big impact on policy makers!

Example 1: Social assistance Mexico



Example 2: Coverage ANC India



Pregnancy registered → Four or more ANC visits → Iron-folic acid supplements for 100+ days

Message 2

Impact or causal analyses are outside the scope of NIPN!

When can you conclude something is causal?

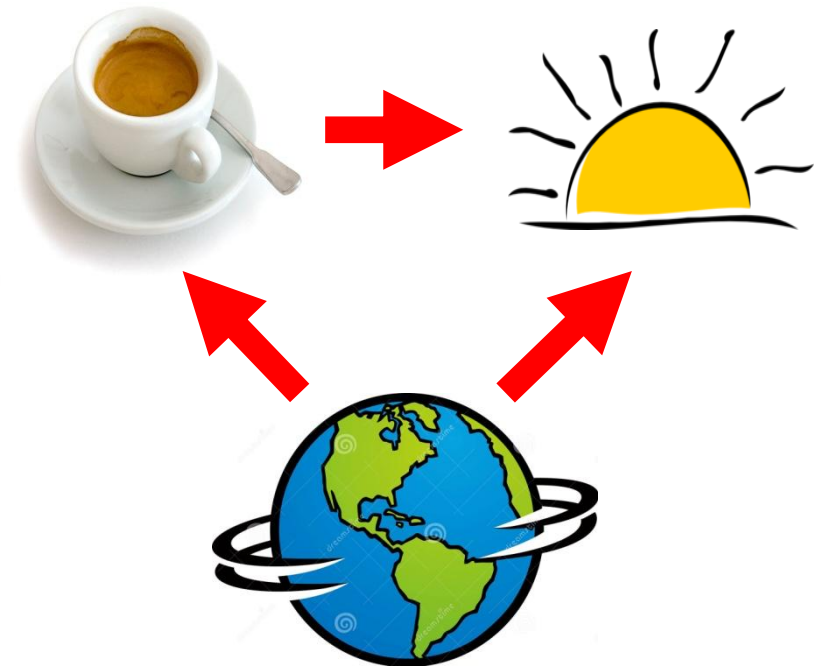
E.g. effect of nutrition-sensitive program on anemia rates?

- Association:

Program associated with reduction in anemia rates.

- Temporality:

Program started before improvement in anemia rates.



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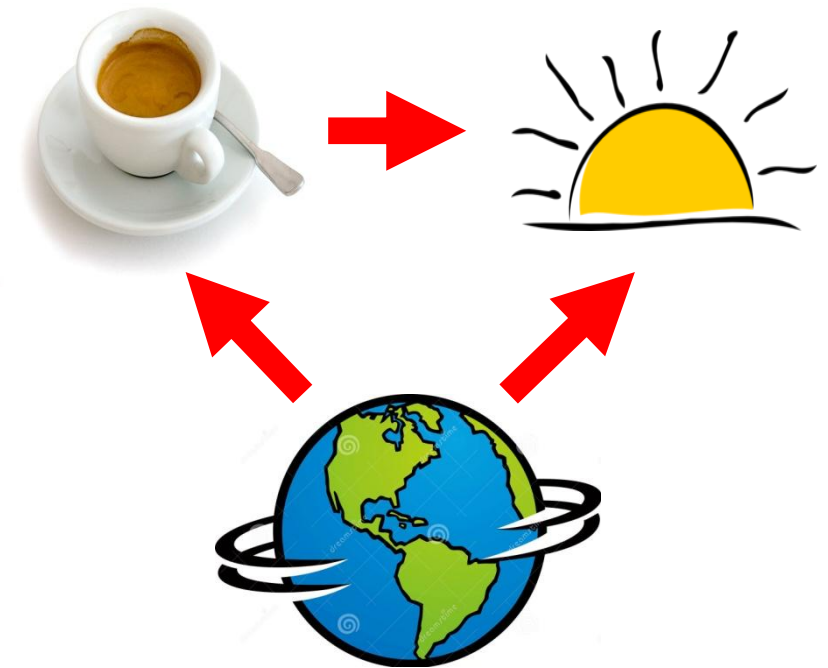
Program started before improvement in anemia rates.

- Not due to confounding:

The association is not due to other factors.

- Plausibility:

Lower anemia rates can be plausibly due to program.



Very challenging - Typically requires a randomized trial
Not what NIPN should be doing!

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What's NIPN's power?

What you count, counts!

(but count accurately!)

Ce que tu comptes, compte!

(il faut compter correctement!)

Lo que cuentas, cuenta!

(hay que contar correctamente!)