Anthony Burton formerly, Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals World Health Organization, Geneva Switzerland

Swiss TPH Spring Symposium 2017

Evidence Meets Decision Makers: Better Use of Evidence for Better Health

The Truth, the Lie and the In-Between of Data: Focus on Vaccination Coverage

On behalf of the WHO & UNICEF Working Group on Monitoring National Immunization Coverage

COMPAND A Le Matin Quatre Genevois morts en Norvège:



Ta-

I II HOU deGenève **AVALANCHE** EN NORVÈGE **Trois** Genevois **EMPLOI** 153 offres TRIBUNE DE GENEVE

Can both be true?



- Can both be true?
- Can both be a lie?



- Can both be true?
- Can both be a lie?
- Can both be mistaken?



- Can both be true?
- Can both be a lie?
- Can both be mistaken?
- Can one be the truth and the other a lie?



- Can both be true?
- Can both be a lie?
- Can both be mistaken?
- Can one be the truth and the other a lie? Which?



- Can both be true?
- Can both be a lie?
- Can both be mistaken?
- Can one be the truth and the other a lie? Which?
- Can one be the truth and the other a mistake? Which?



- Can both be true?
- Can both be a lie?
- Can both be mistaken?
- Can one be the truth and the other a lie? Which?
- Can one be the truth and the other a mistake? Which?
- What might explain the differences?
- Produced at different times
- Different definitions.
- Genevois? Resident? Citizen?
- Dead in Norway? Killed in an avalanche?



Monitoring Immunization Coverage

Face value

Analysis

Time series

Do you believe?

DTP3 coverage increased from 28% to 68% in Sierra Leone between 1997-8?

OPV3 coverage in Kenya from 1996-1998: 77% - 36% - 64%

No data available from Norway (Dr. Brundtland's country), Denmark (Dr. Melgaard's country)?

Or 98% measles coverage in Iraq in 1998?

OPV3 dropped from 82% to 33% between 1996-7 in Togo

96% DTP3 coverage in Bangladesh in 1999?

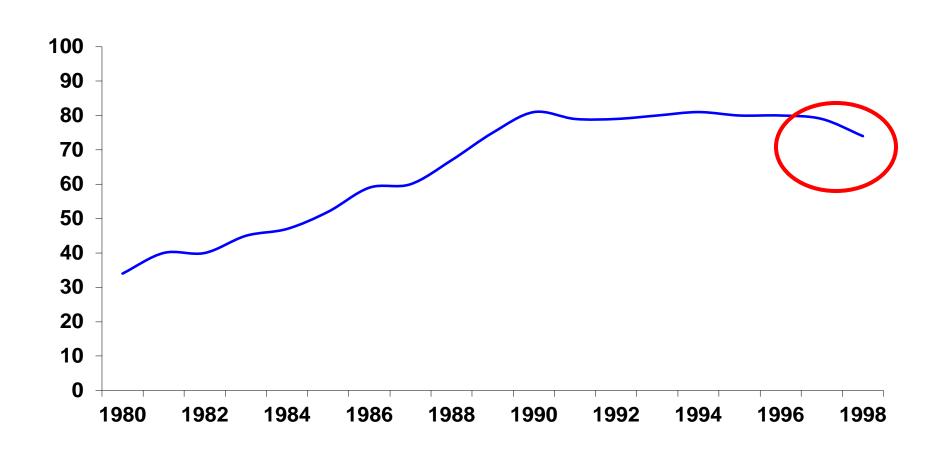
92% measles coverage in China in 1999?

Can we believe the coverage data reported to WHO

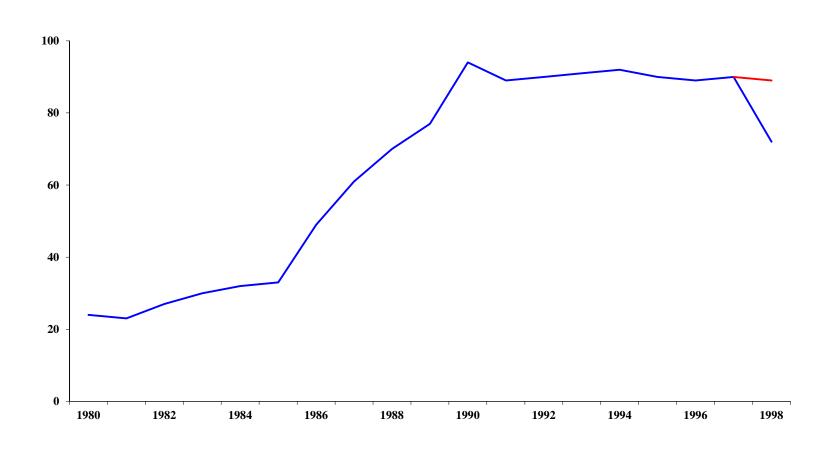
Analysis of reliability and consistency of coverage data from 1991-6

25% of data are missing 19% of data are "outliers"

"Is coverage REALLY decreasing?" Global DTP3 coverage, 1980-1998



DTP3 coverage, South East Asia Region, 1980-98



Official data

Adjusted for administrative data from 3 largest countries

Do the data reflect programme performance?

or

Is there are problem with the data?

Factors influencing the immunization programme

- Vaccine shortage
- Changes in vaccination schedules
- Additional activities campaigns
- Change in donor participation
- Changing in staff/commitment
- Political situation
- Administrative changes such as decentralization

WHO & UNICEF monitoring activities on immunization

- WHO & UNICEF Joint Reporting Form on Immunization.
 - Joint WHO & UNICEF activity
 - Begun in 1998
 - Annual process
 - All member states (196 states)
 - Official submission by member states to UN agencies
- WHO & UNICEF Estimates of National Immunization Coverage.
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Reported coverage data: administrative, survey, "official estimate"

	nistrative coverage estimates												
(Table in	structions)	۸.	В.	C.	D.								
	Vaccine/Supplement	Description of the	Number in target		Person						5 C	Official Country Estimates of Im	munication Couerage
	Please complete separately for each raccine, eren if they are given in combination (e.g., if Pentaralent raccine ETP-HepB-Hib is used,	denominator used in coverage calculation	group (denominator)	Number of administration through re- service	ered (=C/B*100)						J. L	for the Year 20	
	fill in the data for DTPS, HepBS and HibS)			/numerat						Besti	ian in	strastians	
		(instructions)	(instructions)				1					rangerer argereserg var vear accaser, vara e Fraksaulraf accasion PSP-ArgB-Aib is accep,	
4010	BCG	live births			4. Imn	nunization ar	id Vitamin	A Coverage	e	1119	-	**	Official converge religators
4020	HepB, birth dose (given within (instructions) 24 hours of birth)	live births				4B. Cove	rage Surve	vs				Taniar/Sapplement	[present sourcage]
4030	DTP1	surviving infants				127 0070	ago barvo,	, -		5841		·c•	
4040	DTP3	surviving infants								5821	•	rpb, kirlk daar	
	Polio3 (OPV or IPV) (instructions)	surviving infants		Condu	cted in 201	1-2013				5851	•	TP1	
4060	HepB3 (instructions)	surviving infants								5841	•	TP3	
4070	ніьз	surviving infants								5850	•	-li-3	
4080	Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine 1st dose	surviving infants		4410 Ye	ear of most recer	nt survey		(instructions)	<pick one=""></pick>	5860	•	-,D1	
4030	Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine 3rd dose	surviving infants		1110	car or most recer	it survey		(IIISti decions)	Spick ones	5871	•	11.5	
4100	Rotavirus 1st dose	surviving infants		-	II sister of economic	in the learning of			<u> </u>	SIII	•		
4110	Rotavirus last dose	surviving infants			ill title of survey le original report	in the language of				5851	•	arananan anajagale aanaine 2nd dane	
	(2nd or 3rd depending on schedule) MCV1 (measles-containing									5101	•	erenensal anajogale eassier 3rd dese	
4120 4130	raccine, 1st dose)	surviving infants		4430 Fu	ull title of survey	in English				5111	•	alsaires fol dans	
4140	macrine: (instructions) MCY2 (neasles-containing raccine. 2nd dose)									5121	٠.	elaniron lant door End or 3rd depending on unbedole	
4150	Yellow fever vaccine	surviving infants		N	J f 2014	2015				5151	•	ICT1 master-undaining namine, 1nl door	
4160	Vitamin A, 1st dose	less than 59 months	<u>'</u>	rianne	ed for 2014	-2015		_		5141	•	abella 1 [enbella-nunlaining nannine]	
4170	Vitamin A, 2nd dose	12 -59 months								5151	_	ICTZ arastro-osolaising nassior, Zod door	
4180	Japanese encephalitis vaccine				s a coverage surv ext 24 months?	ey planned for the	<pick one=""></pick>			5161		rllan frarr assainr	
4190	Tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine (TT2+)	pregnant (instruc-		116	EXC 24 MONUNS!					5171	_	apanene ennephalilin nannine	
4200	Protection at birth (PAB) (instructions)	live births								5181		ilanin &, fol done	
4210	Yitamin A doses provided to post-partum mothers	live births		w	hat type of surve	ey is planned? (e.g.,				5451		er proqued mane	
	motacis				ICS, DHS, EPI or								
						•					ľ	leane englain mhy lhene are gone official enl	inales and where they some feam:
			_										
			F	lease a	attach a copy	of all reports on	immunizatio	n coverage su	irveys, other	5281	•		
				urveys	with immuni	zation modules	conducted fro	om 2011 to 20	13. Make	\			
			(5	sure to i	include <u>all</u> su	rveys reporting	on Vitamin A	coverage, incl	luding)			
			r	nutrition	n surveys.					´ [n la contract

to next page

Advantages and disadvantages of administrative and survey methods

Administrative method

Advantages:

- Based on data necessary for service provision
- Timely management monitoring tool
- Provides data at local level

Disadvantage / Limitations:

- Denominator (target population may be projected based on old census data)
- Transcription or calculation errors
- Incomplete reporting
- May Include vaccination conducted outside the target group.
- May not include private sector

Survey method

Advantages:

- Estimate of immunization coverage can be obtained if the denominator is unknown.
- Provides additional information on social economical status of reached and unreached children
- Vaccinations given by the private sector reflected

Disadvantage / Limitations:

- Provides information on the previous birth year's cohort.
- Immunization card availability
- Reliance on recall in absence of card
- Interviewer interaction
 - Length or complexity of the questionnaire may compromise accuracy
- Representativeness of sample

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ANNUAL REVIEW OF COVERAGE DATA

- National reports (JRF)
 - Administrative coverage data
 - Country official estimates
- Published and grey literature
 - DHS, MICS (UNICEF), other surveys
- Additional information
 - Stock-outs
 - Data quality audits results
 - Expert opinion / local knowledge



WHO and UNICEF estimates of *routine* infant immunization coverage (WUENIC)

Estimation Methods

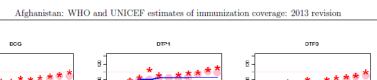
- Estimate = reported data if
 - no other data OR
 - other data do not challenge government reported data
- Challenges arise if *reported* data inconsistent with ...
 - quality survey results
 - across years (sudden, unexplained changes)
 - between vaccines that are administered at about the same time
 (DTP3 ≠ OPV3)
- Decision: what's most consistent with the time series, what are the most likely biases (denominators etc)?
- 100% vaccination coverage not achievable

Estimation Methods

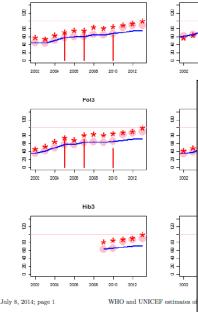
• The estimates are derived from the data using domain-specific rules (Burton, et. al., 2009) expressed as logical conditionals.

If the coverage in country C, for vaccine V, and year Y is reported by the national authorities as P_{rpt} and survey coverage result for country C, vaccine V and year Y is P_{surv} and the absolute difference between P_{surv} and P_{rpt} is less than 10 then the estimate for country C, vaccine V and year Y is P_{rpt} .

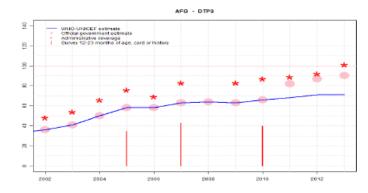
wuenic (C, V, Y, Prpt) : reported(C, V, Y, Prpt),
 survey(C, V, Y, Psurv),
 abs(Psurv - Prpt) < 10.</pre>



2006 2008



Afghanistan - DTP3



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Estimate	36	41	50	58	58	63	64	63	66	68	71	71
Estimate GoC	••	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Official	36	41	50	58	58	63	64	63	66	82	87	90
Administrative	48	54	66	76	69	83	NA.	83	87	89	92	101
Survey	NA.	NA	NA.	35	NA.	43	NA.	NA.	40	NA.	NA.	NA.

The WHO and UNIOSF estimates of national immunization coverage (weenic) are based on data and information that are of varying, and, in some instances, unknown quality. Beginning with the 2011 revision we describe the grade of confidence (COC) we have in these estimates. As there is no underlying probability model upon which the estimates are based, we are unable to present classical measures of uncertainty, e.g., confidence intervals. Moreover, we have chosen not to make subjective estimates of plausibility/containty ranges around the coverage. The COC reflects the degree of empirical support upon which the estimates are based. It is not a judgement of the quality of data reported by national authorities.

- ••• Estimate is supported by reported data [R+], coverage recalculated with an independent denominator from the World Population Prospects: 2012 revision from the UN Population Division (D+), and at least one supporting survey within 2 years [S+]. While well supported, the estimate still carries a risk of being wrong.
- Estimate is supported by at least one data source; [R+], [S+], or [D+]; and no data source, [R-], [D-], or [S-], challenges the estimate.
- There are no directly supporting data; or data from at least one source; [R-], [D-], [S-];
 challenge the estimate.

In all cases these estimates should be used with caution and should be assessed in light of the objective for which they are being used.

Description:

- 2002: Estimate based on coverage reported by national government. Trend in official government estimate follows trend in administrative data. There is significant uncertainty in the provisional estimate due to uncertainty in denominator (last census in 1979) and difficulties in recording and reporting the number of vaccinations delivered by some service providers. GoC=R+D+
- 2003: Estimate based on coverage reported by national government. See comment for 2002 estimates. Estimate challenged by: D-S-
- 2004: Estimate based on coverage reported by national government. See comment for 2002 estimates. Estimate challenged by: D-S-
- 2005: Estimate based on coverage reported by national government. Afghanistan Health Survey 2006 results ignored by working group. Survey is not nationally representative and does not include 5 provinces. Card retention was 17 percent. See comment for 2002 estimates. Estimate challenged by: D-S-
- 2006: Estimate based on coverage reported by national government. See comment for 2002 estimates. Estimate challenged by: D-S-
- 2007: Estimate based on coverage reported by national government. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2007/8: A profile of Afghanistan results ignored by working group. Survey shows inconsistent results between levels of BCG and DTP coverage. See comment for 2002 estimates. Estimate challenged by: D-S-
- 2008: Estimate based on coverage reported by national government. See comment for 2002 estimates. Estimate challenged by: D-S-
- 2009: Estimate based on coverage reported by national government. Data quality self-assessment conducted in 12 provinces found instances of over reporting and errors in recording and reporting. See comment for 2002 estimates. Estimate challenged by: D-S-
- 2010: Afghanistan Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2010-2011 results ignored by working group. Card only data suggest no drop out. Afghanistan Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2010-2011 card or history results of 40 percent modified for recall bias to 58 percent based on 1st dose card or history coverage of 58 percent, 1st dose card only coverage of 32 percent and 3d dose card only coverage of 32 percent. Data quality self-assessment conducted in 22 provinces found instances of over reporting and errors in recording and reporting. See comment for 2002 estimates. Estimate challenged by: D.S.
- 2011: Following the trend in administrative levels from 2010. See comment for 2002 estimates. Apparent increase in official reported data between 2010 to 2011 is unexplained as is the inconsistency in adjustments to administrative coverage levels. Estimate challenged by: D-R-S-

A quick look at two denominator issues

The administrative method: missing data

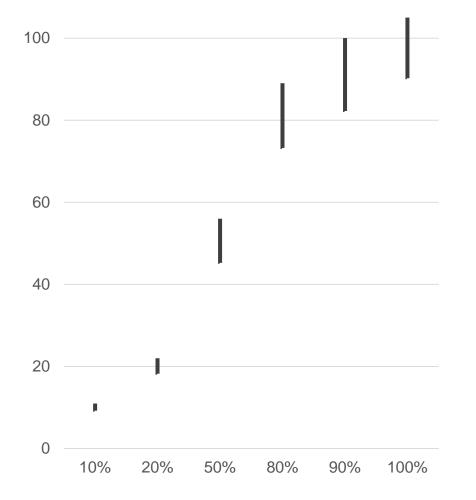
$$310 + 290 + 100$$
----- = 70%
 $486 + 300 + 214$

$$310 + 290 + ?$$
 $------ = 60\%$
 $486 + 300 + 214$

OR

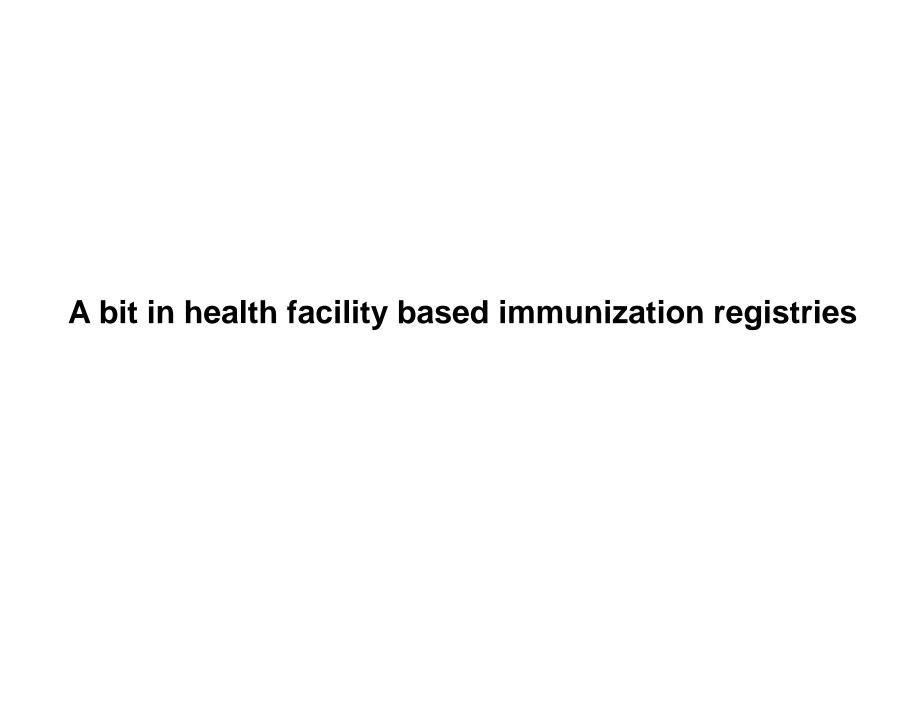
$$310 + 290 + ?$$
 $----- = 76\%$
 $486 + 300 + x$

Coverage range due to denominator error



	Low	High	Coverage	LB	UB
100	90	110	10%	9 %	11%
100	90	110	20%	18%	22%
100	90	110	50%	45%	56%
100	90	110	80%	73%	89%
100	90	110	90%	82%	100%
100	90	110	95%	86%	105%

Brown, D.W., Burton, A.H., Feeney, G. and Gacic-Dobo, M. (2014) Avoiding the Will O' the Wisp: Challenges in Measuring High Levels of Immunization Coverage with Precision. World Journal of Vaccines, 4, 97-99. http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/wjv.2014.43012



REGISTRE JOURNALIER DE VACCINATION **ENFANTS**

	1377									V	ACCIN	S		M			VITAA
DATE	N.	NOM ET PRENOM	NOM DE LA MERE	ADRESSE	DATE DE NAISSANCE	Enfant de 0-11 mois	BCG	DTC t	DTC 2	DTC 3	POUO 0	POLIO 1	POLIO 2	POLIO 3	AAMARII	SOUCEOLE	ENFANT
10/02/11	01	Nerolele	Mbath	1360	30/01/11	2	X	V			X	X					
	2	Mosiandine	M-390 yer	Kamuda	23/01/11	X	X			AU	X						PA
	3	Doums	Bright	Atrone	ofloolo	X	X	×	X		a	X	-				
	4	Nanda	Losingot	Boto	06/01/11	X	×	×	X	x	×	X	*				
	1	Julia	Kadaga	DA	2/11/10	×	1	1	~		6	a	X	X	1 8		
	6	Newsda	Koundan	Attone	08/01/11	1	X	X	X		X	X	+				
	7	Noudalimbage	Noudo Kaus	30	02/02/11	X	X				x				-		
	8	Allahanni	Hen udiquishay	Res	26/12/10	X	X	T	X	X	x	9	K	2		1000	
	9	Hepitubaye			26/12/10	1	1	1	X	X	4	大	~	1	-		
	10	Siegolbe	Man hohel	Rto	02/02/11	X	X	K		0	X			1			
	11	Mbrie poladi	larhidi	Rts Bts	G1/1/10	X	×	X	×	X	X	X	K	of	10		
	12	Ndo relembaye	Nekournodn	Bto	03/01/11	X	_	Q	X		X	×	X				
	13	Koumatei '	Nérole	Augusta	06/01/11	X	X	X	N	K	X	X	12	x			
	14	Heas diluber	Madensinon	Bite	201111	X	X	N	X		X	1	A				
	15	Deureebe'	Ladibé	Pila	27/11/10	×	X	XX	x		2	K	K				
	16	Mbannodi		na Nata	30/21/M	X	X				X						
	17	Toque	Nakoura		26 00111	X	X	V.	4.		X	V	1				
	18		Hawa	worth	· Sept. 10	X	X	X			×	X			100		
	19	LoKissinby		Btp	10/11/10	X	x	a	1		X		2				
		Hembeley	Dewadé	134	2005	X	X	0			×						A
		May naute		NA	with		X	-			V	V					2 10
			Garant	157	12/1/10	K	K		-	1	V	V				13 10	
			Hamason	140	12 ml.	V	V	V	100		1	1				1	
		chara	Hawn	184	2 chillo	1	X	1			W.	1				-	1

correspondante, pour chaque enfant, la ou les doses de vaccin administrées correspondante, pour chaque enfant, si une dose de 100 000 UI de vitamine A est administrée

REGISTRE JOURNALIER DE VACCINATION **ENFANTS**

				-						V	ACCINS						VITAA
DATE	N.	NOM ET PRENOM	NOM DE LA MERE	ADRESSE	DATE DE NAISSANCE	Enfant de 0-11 mois	BCG	DTC 1	DTC 2	DTC 3	POUD 6	POUD 1	POLIO 2	POLIO 3	AAMARII	ROUGEOLE	ENFANT
10/02/11	00/	Newlele	Mbatel	1360	30/01/11	2	X	V			X	K					
	2	Mosiandine		Kamuda	23/01/11	X	×			A	X						
	3	Doums	Bright	Atrone	oflolio	X	X	×	×		a	X	-				
	4	Na-rda	Losingot	De la	06/01/11	X	×	a	X	K	×	a	x				
	J	Julia	Kadidia	DE0	2/11/10	×	1	1	1		1	a	X	X	1. 9		
	6	Newsda	Koundan	Attone	08/01/11	1	X	X	K		X	X	x	-			
	7	Noudilusage	Noudo Kaus	BA	02/02/11	X	X				2					N I	
	8		Henridiginsby	Beta	26/12/10	X	X	T	X	X	X	9	R			N	O
	9	Hepitubaye		64	26/12/10	1	1	~	X	X	4	大	V		C	tat	es
	10	Stegolbe	Mon hohel	K79	02/02/11	X	X	K		V.	X					<i>1</i>	
	11	Mbrigalusti		RU	01/11/10	X	X	X	×	文	X	X	K	2			
	12	Ndo relambaye			03/01/11	K		Q	X	,	×	×	X				
	13	Konnater	Nerold	Augusta	06/01/11	X	K	X		K	X	X	X	x	1		
	14	Heas dilumber		Bito	20/01/11	1	X	X	X		X	V	A				
	15	Deureebe"		Die	27/11/10	×	X	X	x.	-	2	K	K				
	16	A STATE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	Hallbe	13ta	30/21/11	X	X				X						
	17	Jo sue	Nakoura		26/02/11	X	X	V	1		X	K	1				
	18		Hawa	worth	· Sept. 10	X	1	×	200		×	X					
-	19	LOKISSIAbaya	Largeur	Btp	10/11/10	X	X	1	2		X	a	2		1		
	1	Member	Dewade	134	2005	X	X	0			×	0					
		May naigher	Garennote	W	with	V	X				X	X	No.				
			Garant	151	12/1/20	X	K				¥	V					
			Famasni	W-	orlon.	K	V	X			V	V					
		chara	Hawn	129	10/17/10	10	V				1	00			100	1	

correspondante, pour chaque enfant, la ou les doses de vaccin administrées correspondante, pour chaque enfant, si une dose de 100 000 UI de vitamine A est administrée

Entries

REGISTRE JOURNALIER DE VACCINATION

	by	/ date		EN	FANIS												7.11.00
		f visit		4						V	ACCINS	3					VITAA
DAT		NO III	NOM DE LA MERE	ADRESSE	DATE DE NAISSANCE	Enfant de 0-11 mois	BCG	DTC 1	DTC 2	DTC 3	POUD 0	POLIO 1	POLIO 2	POLIO 3	AAMARII	ROUGEOLE	ENFANT
10/02/11	00/	Newlele	Mostel	1300	30/01/11	2	X	V			X	K					
	2	Mosiandine	ATT. RELL ARIA	Kamuda	23/01/11	X	×				X						
	3	Doumes	Bright	Atrone	ofloolo	X	X	×	×		a	X	+				
	4	Marida	Lo singoto	1300	06/01/11	X	×	d	X	x	×	a	x				
	1	Julia	Kadida	Diff	211110	×	1	1	1		6	a	X	X	1. 19		
	6	Newson	Koundan	Aton	08/01/11	人	X	X	K		X	X	x	-			
	7	Noudilubaye		139	02/02/11	X	X				2				1		NIa
	8	Allahanne	Henridiginsbay	1350	26/12/10	X	×	T	X	X	X	9	K	1	1		No
	9	Hept woone	Hennah pumbaya	13.00 13.00	26/12/10	1	1	~	X	X	4	大	V	4	1	C	dates
	10	Sjegsthe	Mon hohel	×79	02/02/11	X	X	K		V.	X			1			
	11	Horigalusti		R. B.	01/11/10	X	X	人又	×	又	X	X	K	2	1	1	
	12	Ndo relembaye			03/01/11	X	X		X	,	×	X	X				
		Konnater	Herold	Augusta	06/01/11	X	K	X	X	K	X	X	X	x			
	14	Heas dy lunby		Bto	2010111	_	X	X	A		X	V	R			-	
	10	Deuréebe	Lachbe	no n	97/11/10	×	X	X	X.		2	K	T			-	
	11	A THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF	Matube		30/21/11	X	X	20			X	-	-			1	
	1+	Toque	Nakoura		26 00111	X	X	V	4.		X	K	1			1	
	18	Achta	Hawa	Atrone	· Sept. 10	X	1	×			×	X		-		1	
-	19	LOKISSINDay	Largeur	Btp	10/11/10	X	X	9	2		X	a	2		-		
		Alember Ly	DeWade	134	Jos 2	X	X	10			×	0			1	1	
		May naiste	Garengole	W.	with	V	X		100		X	X	100				
		hondown	Garant	151	12/12/10	X	K		100	1	¥	V					
			Hamason	W	prion.	K	K	X			V	X					
		Johana	Hawn	W	estirle	x	K				X	e					

correspondante, pour chaque enfant, la ou les doses de vaccin administrées correspondante, pour chaque enfant, si une dose de 100 000 UI de vitamine A est administrée

MINISTERE DE LA SANTE PUBLIQUE Division de la Vaccination

Unité - Travail - Progrès

élégation Sanitaire Régionale de : istrict Sanitaire de :		PEV
entre de Santé de	3	TCH/
ratégie: Fixe : Avancée : Centre c Centre de: Village/Quartier ratégie: Mobile : Centre de : Village/Quartier		الر الله
ategie. Inobite services		ONG ENEANTS

REGISTRE DE POINTAGE JOURNALIER DES VACCINATIONS - ENFANTS

VACCINATION DES ENFANTS 0 - 11 MOIS	Nombre de flacons ouverts
14 111	
144	
AH AH	
10	
n	
THE ATT	

MANIFEST	ATION ADVERSES POST-INJECT	ION
Type d'antigènes	Nombre de MAPI Mineure	Nombre de MAPI Majeure
loms et Prénoms des vaccinateurs :		
Signature :	Date	: 25 /No 1012

Imp. KOUBLA

Registre N

DIVISION DE LA VACCINATION TCHAD-2008

MINISTERE DE LA SANTE PUBLIQUE Division de la Vaccination

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REGISTRE DE	POINTAGE JOURNAL	IER DES VACCIONATIONS EN	FANTS
VACCINS	VACCINATION 0 - 12	DE	
BCG	111-111		
Polio 0	44	No measle	20
Polio 1	Mer way		
Polio 2	AH AH	vaccinatio	n
Polio 3	10		
OTC-HepB-Hib1	n		4
OTC-HepB-Hib2	###		
OTC-HepB-Hib3	10		
Antirougeoleux			
Anti-amaril (FJ)			
	ccinés avant 12 mois		
Enfants complétement va	Comes avant 12 mois		
Enfants complétement va		RSES POST-INJECTION	

Imp. KOUBLA

Registre N

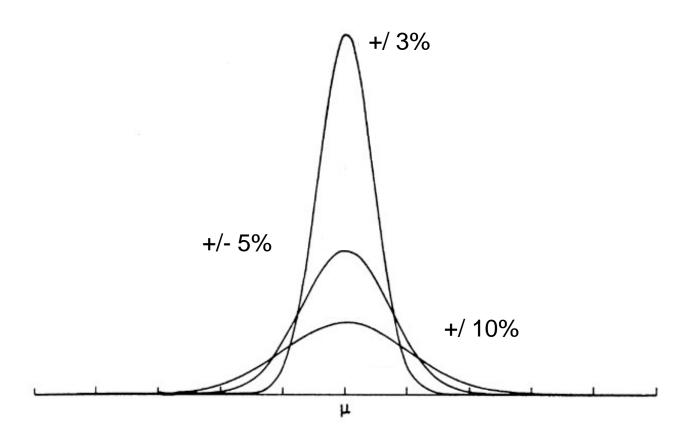
DIVISION DE LA VACCINATION TCHAD-2008

A little bit on confidence intervals

Surveys: confidence intervals



Which level of precision would you rather have?



Q. How Precise is Precise Enough?

True coverage is not knowable, but imagine for a moment that after you estimate coverage, a genie appears with an envelope containing the true coverage figure

She reveals that coverage = the upper limit of the 95% CI; you set out to act accordingly

When suddenly...

The genie realizes that she read the results backwards...

True coverage is at the <u>lower</u> limit of the CI!! What would you do?



Q. How Precise is Precise Enough?

If you would select a different action when you learned that true coverage was at the lower rather than upper limit, then one might say that your estimate is not precise enough.



Summing up

... it is the mark of an educated man to look for precision in each class of things just so far as the nature of the subject admits..

Aristotle

Nicomachean Ethics, Chapter 3

The government are very keen on amassing statistics. They collect them, add them, raise them to the nth power, take the cube root and prepare wonderful diagrams. But you must never forget that every one of these figures comes in the first instance from the chowky dar (village watchman in India), who just puts down what he damn pleases.

Attributed to Josiah Charles Stamp (1880–1941)

When a measure becomes a target, it ceases to be a good measure.

The search for evidence to inform policy may have just gotten easier.

