

# The Data

## **Mexican Family Life Survey**

National survey, with information at individual, household and community level (part of the contribution of the paper)

How appropriate is the survey to evaluate Oportunidades?

Are communities and households in the surveys representatives of Oportunidades' target population?

Sampling issues

Evidence of Household Surveys (ENIGH, ENEMDU, EPH)

# The Identification Strategy

**Type ALPHA communities (with Oportunidades since 1997-98)**

MC\_05 – OC\_02 = full relative to partial exposure

MC\_05: children of 5 to 7 years old in 2005

OC\_02: children of 5 to 7 years old in 2002

But...difference is: (Program Impact + Time Effect)

Different cohorts → critical years of each group were in different periods

(5 years of exposure + time effect 1997-2004) –

(3 to 5 years of exposure + time effect 1994-2001)

# The Identification Strategy

Type ALPHA communities (with Oportunidades since 1997-98)

Assumption: time effect homogeneous across cohorts

→ Use  $(YC_{05} - MC_{02})$  to control for time effect

$(\text{full exposure} + \text{time effect } 2001-2004) -$   
 $(\text{full exposure} + \text{time effect } 1998-2001) =$   
 $(\text{time effect } 2001-2004 - \text{time effect } 1998-2001)$

$(MC_{05} - OC_{02}) - (YC_{05} - MC_{02}) =$

Unbiased (net of time effect) estimation on the programa effect under full relative to partial exposure

# The Identification Strategy

**Type ALPHA communities (with Oportunidades since 1997-98)**

Robustness checks: time trends are constant over time?

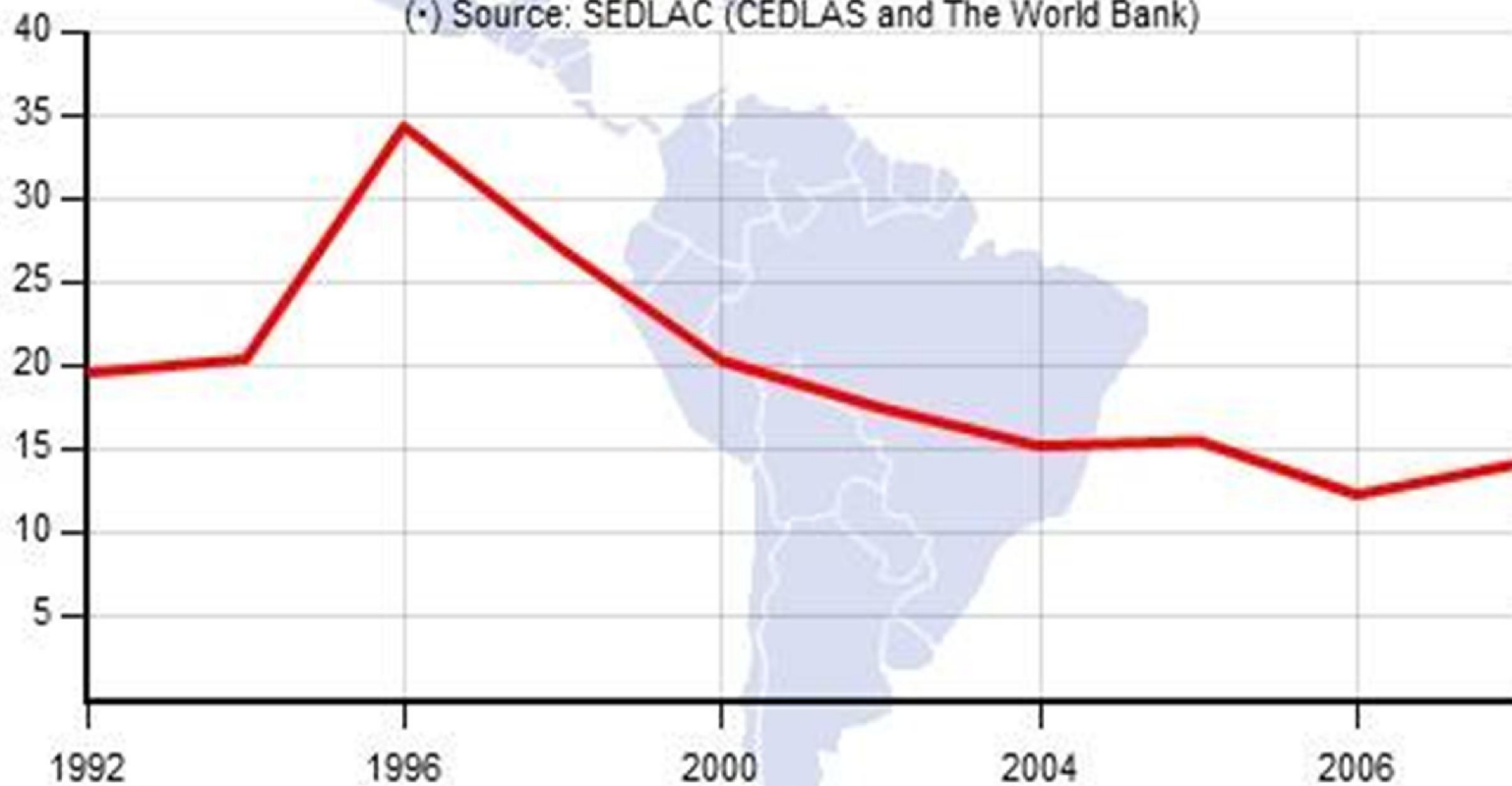
Using questions about past specific shocks suffered by the community (3 years ago) or the household (5 years ago)


The evidence seems to show that time trends are constant

But...the data permits to trace shocks back only to 1997.

Mexico (1992 - 2008)  
Poverty  
Headcount FGT(0). National  
USD-2.50-a-day poverty line

(\*) Source: SEDLAC (CEDLAS and The World Bank)



 Headcount, USD2.50 a day

# The Identification Strategy

**Type ALPHA communities (with Oportunidades since 1997-98)**

Maybe:

(time effect 2001-2004 - time effect 1998-2001)

is not a good measure of

(time effect 1997-2004 – time effect 1994-2001)

In Table 6:

(time effect 2001-2004 - time effect 1998-2001) = -0.55

# The Results

Confirm and generalize (at national level) previous results?

Why the nutritional component work well in certain contexts?

Which is the policy recommendation?