

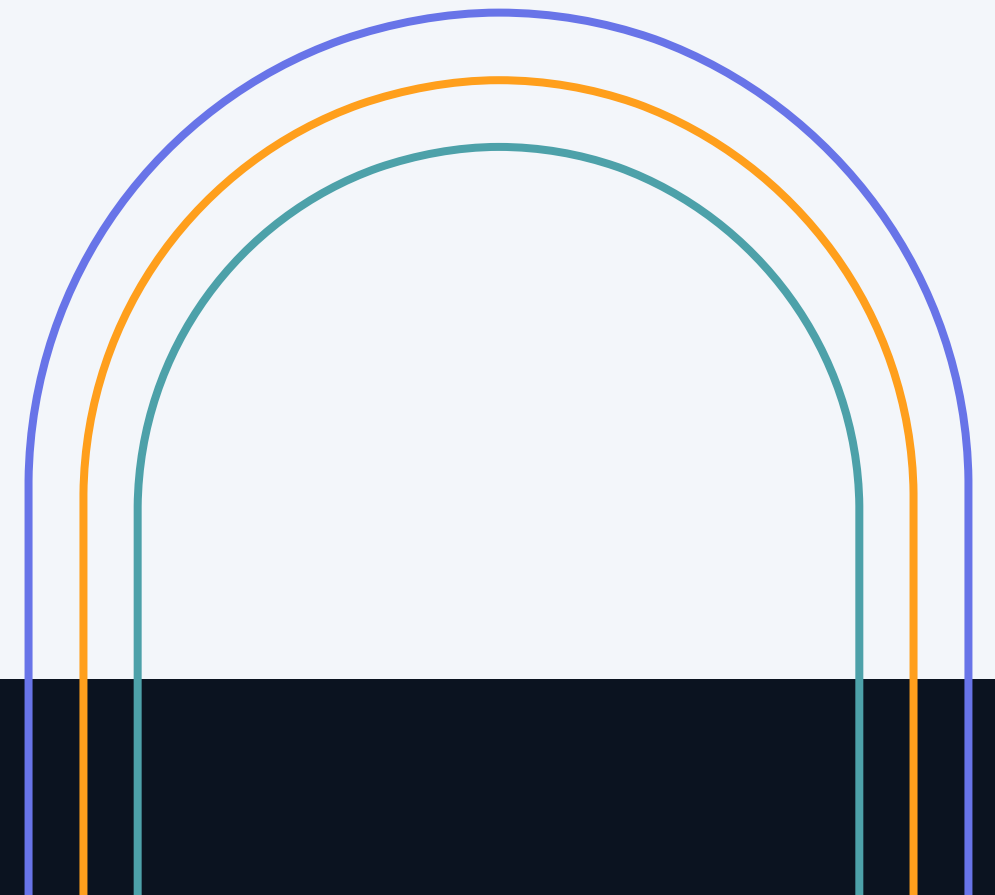


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# Latrine Usage in Rural India

**Sidh Pandit, Ayesha Faheem, Kaylee Aguilar**



- 
- In 2014, **13% of the world** defecated in the open: **60% of this was in India**
  - Open defecation contributes to **diarrheal deaths of 150 thousand children** in India every year
  - Stunting, malnutrition due to parasites
  - Antimicrobial resistance, threat to the world - India **overprescribes**

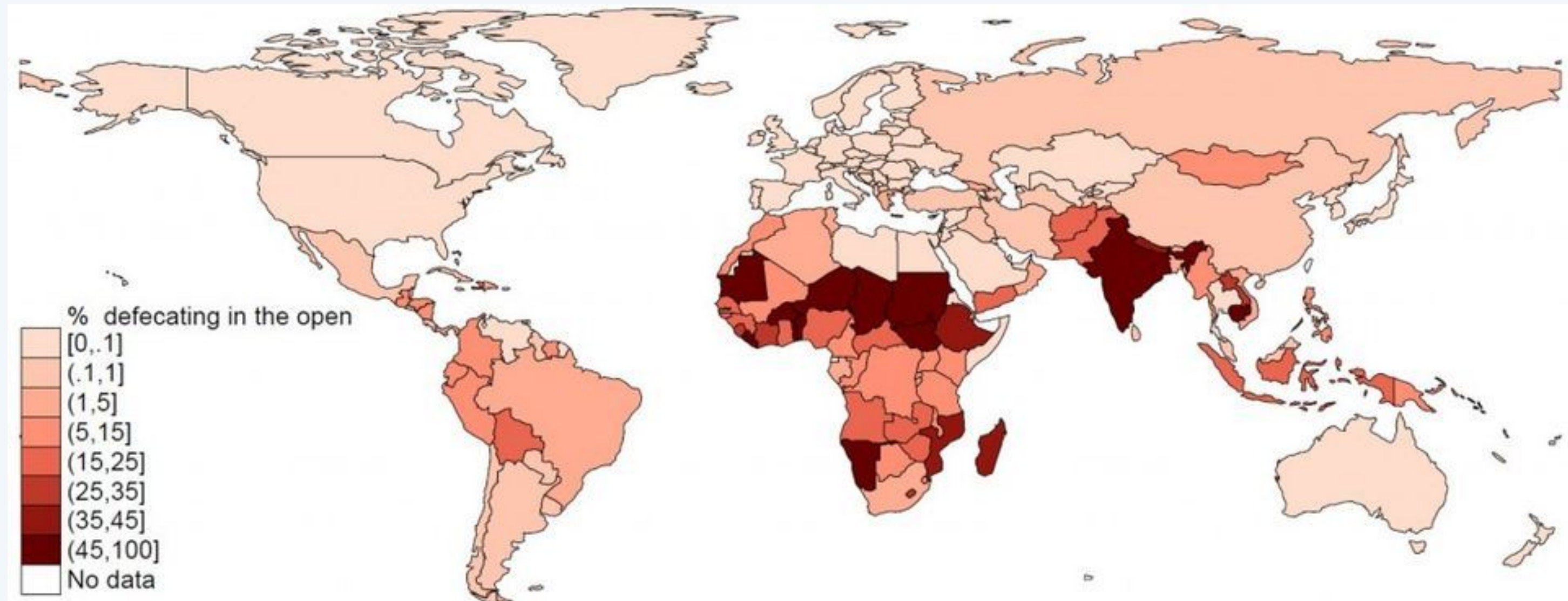
**01.**

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**India has  
uniquely high  
open defecation**

- 
- In 2014, 90% of countries poorer than India have less OD,
  - 82% countries with lower literacy than India have better OD



credits: research institute for compassionate economics

# 02

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• **India's high open  
defecation may be  
due to the caste  
system**



- 
- Caste system: A **social hierarchy** passed down by families that dictates who you can **marry** & what **jobs** you can hold
    - ↳ Dalit caste assigned to ritually polluting tasks (i.e. manual scavenging)
    - ↳ Pit latrines must be manually emptied, caste system creates stigma
    - ↳ Spears et. al. 2019: practicing untouchability accounts for 59% of the difference between India and SSA
      - Practicing untouchability is not collinear with education, income - governs general social equilibria





03

# Swachh Bharat Mission latrines go unused





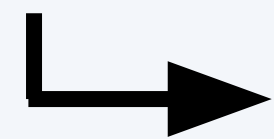
# What is the Swachh Bharat



**Mission?**  
**2014**



**2022**



Initiative by Indian government to improve sanitation



Focus on constructing latrines and improving management of waste



Only 3% of budget used on information, education, and communication

**5**

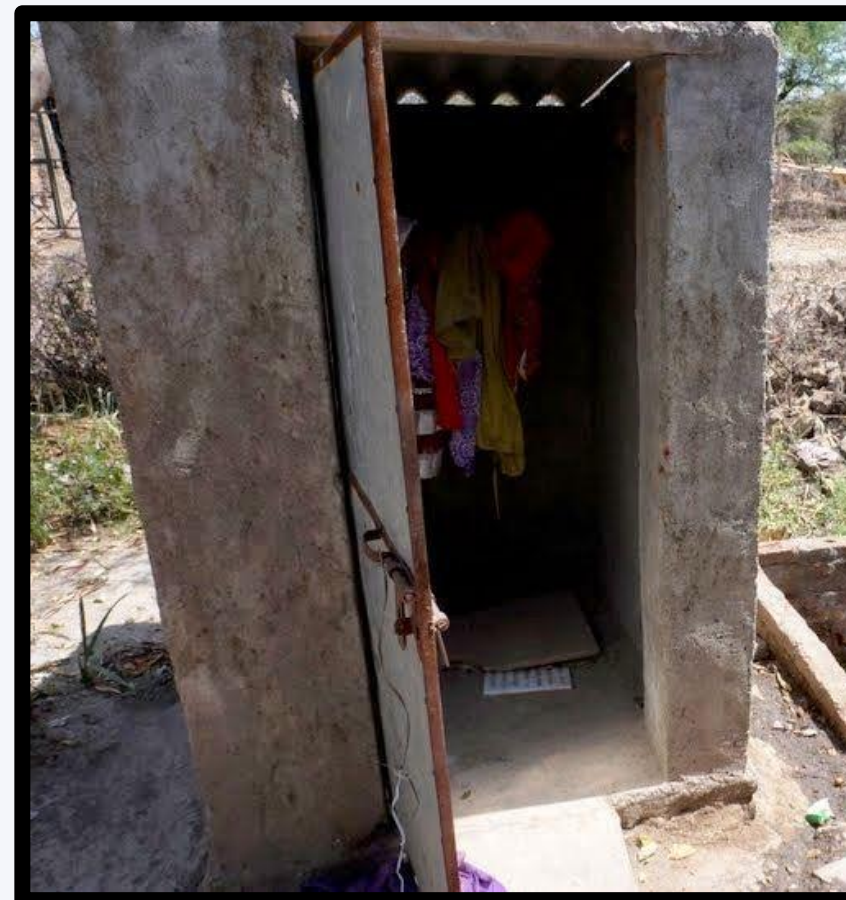
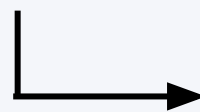


# What is the Swachh Bharat



**Mission?** While over 100 million latrines were successfully constructed, utilization was low...

Latrine being used for  
storage of clothes



# 04

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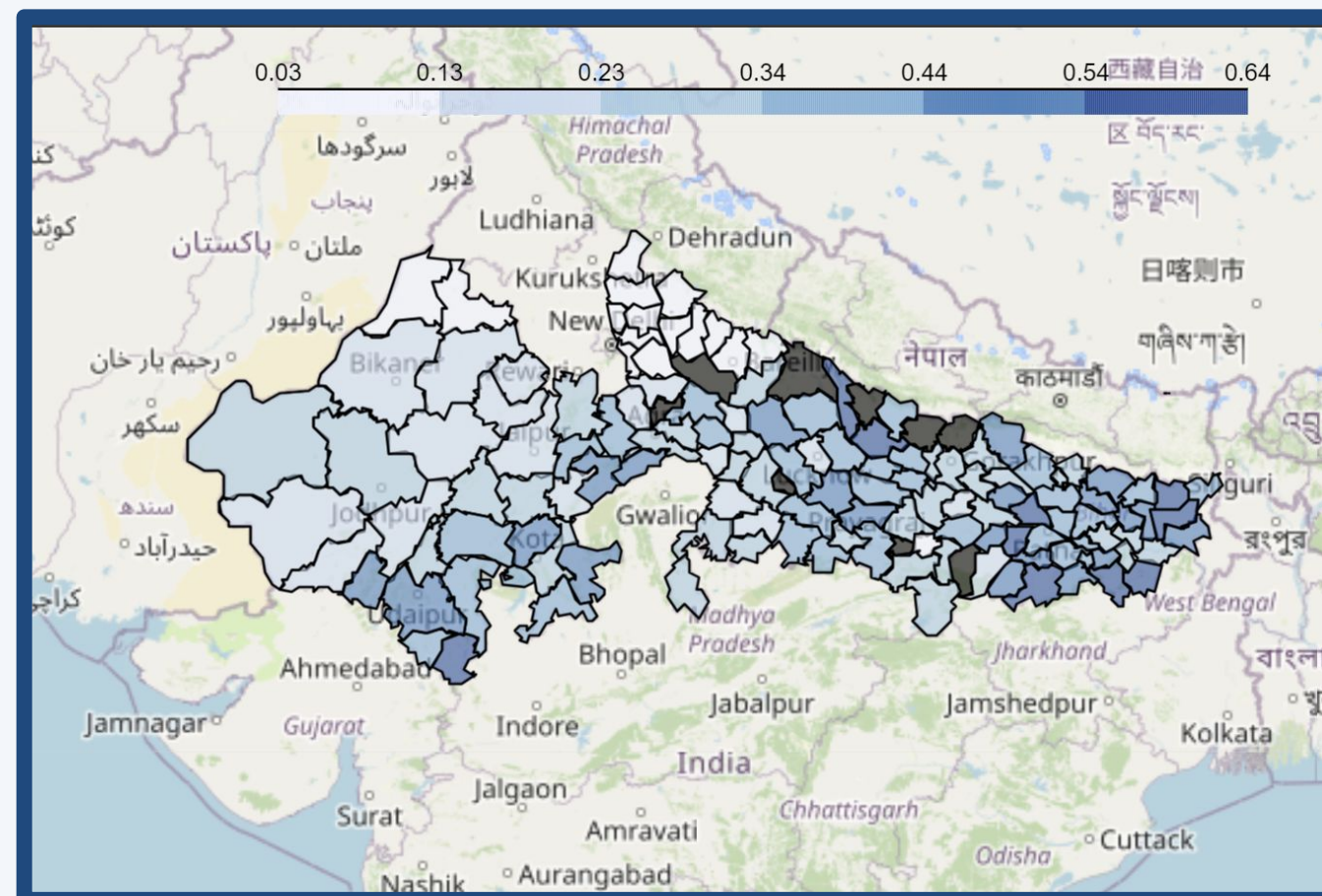
- **SBM needs better  
data collection  
and frontline  
efforts**



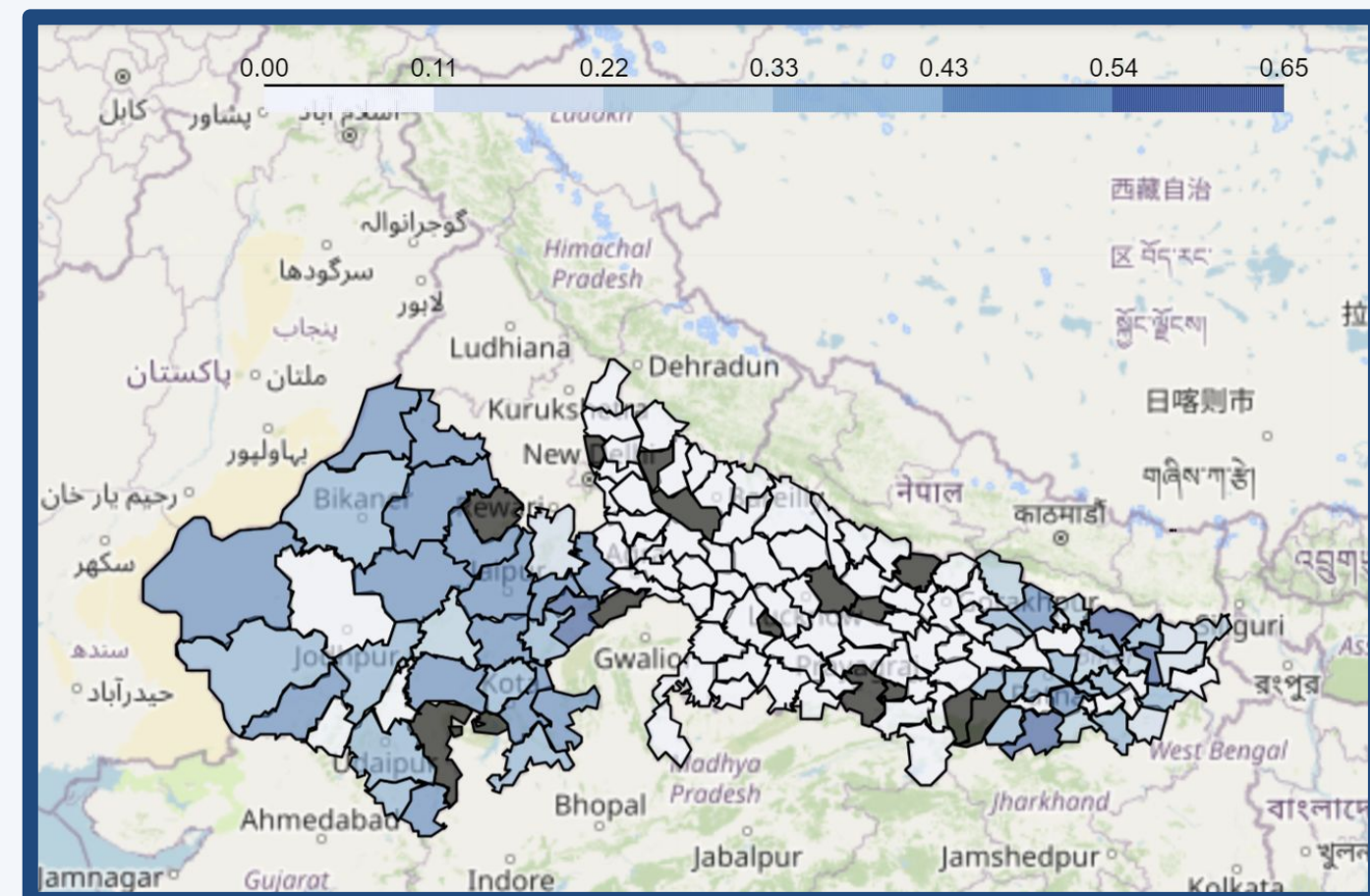
# Discrepancy In Data

National Family Health Survey has produced more accurate than the SBM government-produced data which led to the director of NFHS to be fired for contradicting data. Prime Minister Modi declared India "open defecation free" under SBM however, NFHS showed rural open defecation to be 25%

## NFHS Data



## SBM Data





# SQUAT Survey Highlights

- Government talks about using latrines is ineffective
- Fines for open defecation is ineffective
- Government's intentions for bringing awareness to latrines has been for wrong reasons and is ineffective

