

## 2.03 The interrupted time series design: Sicily dataset

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In January 2005, Italy introduced regulations to ban smoking in all indoor public places, with the aim of limiting the adverse health effects of second-hand smoke.

### **Sicily dataset**

Barone-Adesi F, Gasparrini A, Vizzini L, Merletti F, Richiardi L. Effects of Italian Smoking Regulation on Rates of Hospital Admission for Acute Coronary Events: A Country-Wide Study. *PLoS ONE*. 2011;6(3):e17419. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0017419 <sup>3</sup>

# Sicily dataset

**Objective**—Effects of Italian Smoking Regulation on Rates of Hospital Admission for Acute Coronary Events

**Design**—Time series study using data on hospital admissions for ACEs from the Italian population after the implementation of a national smoking regulation in January 2005.

**Setting**—The 20 Italian regions from January 2002 to November 2006.



What do you think about the  
choice of study design



What would an appropriate impact model be

# Exercise 1: Sicily dataset

# Sicily dataset

1. Load Sicily dataset in R

```
sicily <- read_csv("C:/... /sicilyDataset.csv")
```

2. Load required packages

```
library("tidyverse")
```

```
library("season")
```

```
library("zoo")
```



# Sicily dataset

1. Familiarise yourself with the dataset. Outcome variable is count of hospital admissions for acute coronary events (**aces**) and exposure variable is pre-post smoking ban (**smokban**)
2. Investigate the series of ACE admissions prior to the smoking ban (produce some time series plots)

## Exercise 2: Sicily dataset

# Sicily dataset

1. Estimate the effect of the smoking ban on admissions using a level change impact model