

# Trade Disruptions and Reshoring

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  - Internationally (Boehm et al., 2019)
  - Within-country (Barrot & Sauvagnat, 2016; Carvalho et al., 2021)

# Background

- Firms are frequently exposed to delays in input sourcing and sales
  - Natural disasters, labor disputes and conflicts among others
  - 74 percent of the surveyed firms experience at least one disruption in their trade network (Alcantara & Riglietti, 2015)
- Current work– output losses for firms having linkages to regions affected by such disruptions
  - Internationally (Boehm et al., 2019)
  - Within-country (Barrot & Sauvagnat, 2016; Carvalho et al., 2021)
- How firms withstand such shocks (do they reorient trade to mitigate losses?)

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  - How do firms adjust?
- Setting: Domestic trade across 35 regions within a country (India)
  - Intra-country trade costs as high as inter-country trade costs (Atkin & Donaldson 2015)



# Shock: COVID-19 National Lockdown India (March 2020)



# Domestic Trade Collapse in India: Post COVID-19 Lockdown

Figure: Inter-State Sales to Intra-State Sales Ratio Growth (YoY)



# What we do

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  - Similar results for inputs
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  - Reshoring accounts for 7.6% growth in sales in Oct-Dec 2020
- Why reshoring?
  - Uncertainty about state border closure
  - Scope for home expansion (local demand + local production)

- Electronic-way (E-way) Bills collected by the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) in India
- Legal requirement to generate an E-way bill before transporting goods above INR 50,000  $\approx$  USD 700 (not services)
- Period: January 2019–December 2020
- Two unique administrative datasets at state level
  - Plant Data
  - Product Data

- Monthly Sales Data (B2B+B2C):
  - Two distinct datasets: inter-state and intra-state sales
  - Top 1000 plants at state $\times$ month level
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- Similar datasets on the input (B2B) side (inter- and intra-state inputs)
- Keep balanced set of plants for which we observe total sales for all 24 months



# Plant Data: Summary Stats

- Monthly plant sales and inputs

Plant Data (Sales and Receipts, INR million)						
	2019			2020		
	Obs.	Mean	S.D.	Obs.	Mean	S.D.
(1) Number of plants (Sales data)	408	272.1	151.9	408	272.1	151.9
(2) <b>Total Sales</b>	111024	<b>355.8</b>	1342.6	111024	<b>337.1</b>	1410.3
(3) Inter-state Sales	81092	309	1238.5	81983	285.4	1368.5
(4) Intra-state Sales	80685	179.1	493.9	81041	173.1	460.1
(5) Number of plants (Inputs data)	408	265.6	85.1	408	265.6	85.1
(6) Total Inputs	108348	223.9	802.6	108348	212.2	982.4
(7) Inter-state Inputs	81883	200.8	597.3	83113	187.2	913.1
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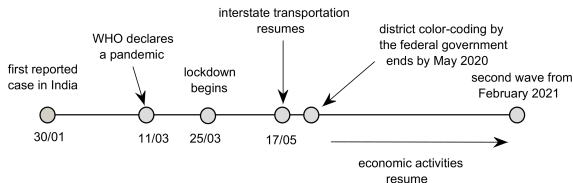
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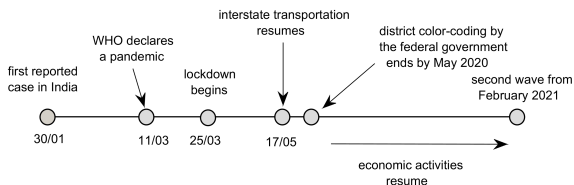
- January 2019–December 2020, product inter-state sales, intra-state sales and inter-state receivables (HSN 4-digit level)
- Monthly data for the top 1000 products in each of the three
- Summary statistics for a balanced set of products: total production (sales) data (*Intra-state Sales*+*Inter-state Sales*)

# Timeline: COVID-19 and Policy response in 2020



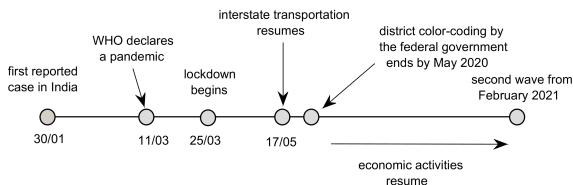
- March 25: Lockdown (movement of goods and people)

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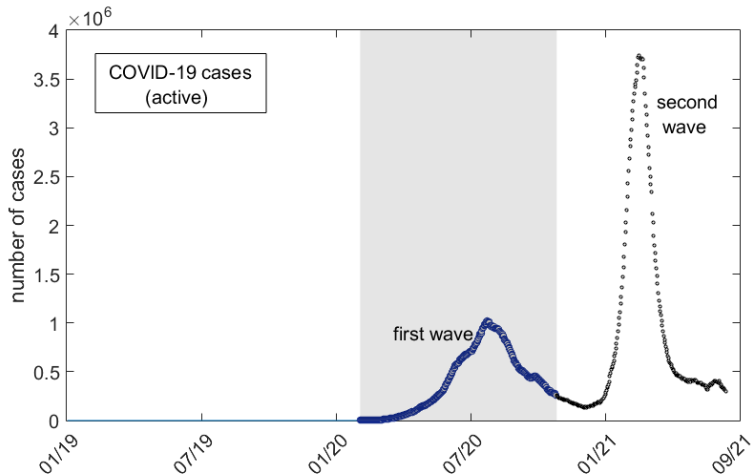
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# Timeline: COVID-19 and Policy response in 2020



- March 25: Lockdown (movement of goods and people)
- May 17: inter-state transportation easing began
- By July: All restrictions on transportation lifted
- By September, economic indices back to the pre-pandemic level

# Timeline: Active COVID cases





# Empirical Strategy: Inter-state dependence

- Using Gopinath and Neiman (2014) framework show that firms more exposed to inter-state trade are likely to shift sourcing from inter to intra state
- Measure Pre-pandemic Inter-state dependence (using 2019 data):

$$f_{ir}^c = \frac{C_{ir}^{inter}}{C_{ir}^{inter} + C_{ir}^{intra}}$$

$f_{ir}^c$ : fraction of inter-state sales (input) over total sales (input) for a given category  $c \in \{sales, input\}$  in 2019.

High  $f_{ir}^c \rightarrow$  higher likelihood to shift to intra-state sales

Inter-State Dependence (2019)						
	Obs.	Mean	Median	S.D.	Min	Max
(1) Plants: Inter-state Sales Fraction	9252	0.53	0.59	0.40	0.00	1.00
(2) Plants: Inter-state Inputs Fraction	9029	0.64	0.84	0.40	0.00	1.00

# Reshoring: Empirical strategy

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(z_{ijr,my}^c) = & \gamma_0^c + \sum_{\tau \in (m2020)} \gamma_1^{\tau,c} (\mathbf{1}_m \times \mathbf{1}_{2020}) + \sum_{\tau \in (m2020)} \gamma_2^{\tau,c} (\mathbf{1}_m \times \mathbf{1}_{2020} \times f_{ir}^c) \\ & + \mathbf{1}_{2020} \times f_{ir}^c + \mathbf{1}_{2020} + \delta_{ir,m}^c + \delta_{j,my}^c + X_{ir,my}^c + \varepsilon_{ijr,my}^c \end{aligned}$$

- $z_{ijr,my}^c$ : outcome variable for a plant  $i$  belonging to sector  $j$  in state  $r$  in month  $m$  and year  $y$  and category  $c \in \{\text{Sales, Inputs}\}$ .
- $z \in \{\text{Inter-state Sales, Intra-state sales, Inter-state inputs, Intra-state inputs}\}$

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- $\delta_{ir,m}^c$ : Plant level unobserved heterogeneity and plant month seasonality
- $\delta_{j,my}^c$ : Sector  $\times$  month  $\times$  year fixed-effects (Demand and Price effects)

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- $X_{ir,my}^c$ : Other controls ( $\sum_{\tau \in (m2020)} \phi^{\tau,c} (\mathbf{1}_m \times \mathbf{1}_{2020} \times X_{ir}^c)$  and the relevant double interactions)

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# Reshoring: Empirical strategy

$$\ln(z_{ijr,my}^c) = \gamma_0^c + \sum_{\tau \in (m2020)} \gamma_1^{\tau,c} (1_m \times 1_{2020}) + \sum_{\tau \in (m2020)} \gamma_2^{\tau,c} (1_m \times 1_{2020} \times f_{ir}^c) \\ + 1_{2020} \times f_{ir}^c + 1_{2020} + \delta_{ir,m}^c + \delta_{j,my}^c + X_{ir,my}^c + \varepsilon_{ijr,my}^c$$

- For  $c = \text{Sales}$ ,  $z = \text{Inter-state}$
- $\gamma_2^{\tau, \text{sales}}$ : Impact of inter-state sales dependence on plant inter-state sales in month  $m$  in 2020 (Heterogeneous DID treatment effects)
- Change in plant inter-state sales in month  $m$  in year 2020 relative to January 2020, over and above the change in inter-state sales between month  $m$  in 2019 and January 2019, as a function of plants' inter-state sales dependence

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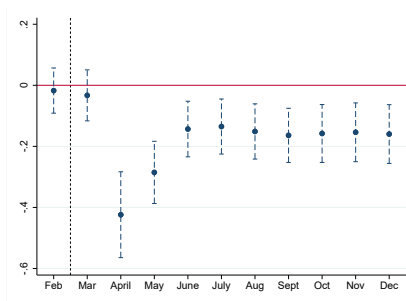
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- For Reshoring:  $\gamma_2^{\tau, \text{sales}}$  negative for inter and positive for intra-state sales



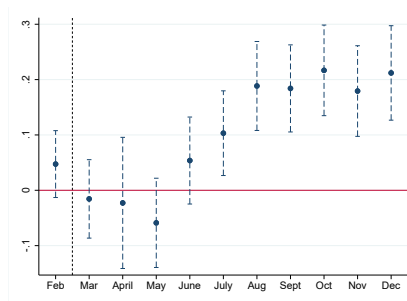
# Results: Reshoring (Sales)

## Impact on Inter- and Intra-state Sales

Dependent Variable: Inter-state Sales,  
Heterogeneity: By Sales Fraction



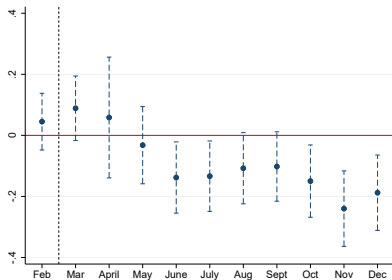
Dependent Variable: Intra-state Sales,  
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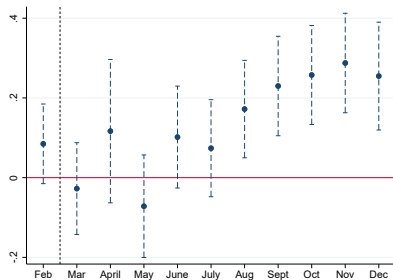
# Results: Reshoring (Inputs)

## Impact on Inter- and Intra-state Inputs

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Heterogeneity: By Inputs Fraction

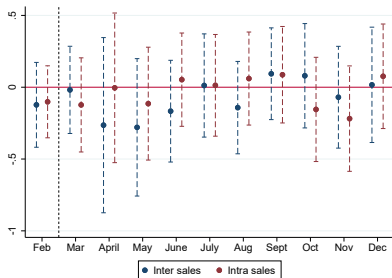


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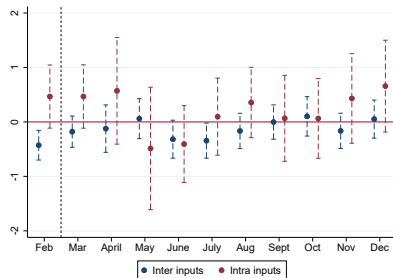


# Results: Plants' Financial Condition do not Matter

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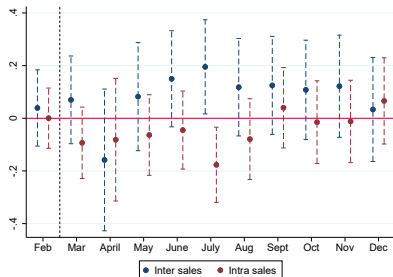


- Plants that suffer more in total output post-lockdown reshore their sales or inputs home-ward [Click](#)
- Decline in Quantity: Count of E-way Bills as proxy
- Similar reshoring in product-level data
- Robustness
  - Longer pre-trends when not controlling for plant-monthly seasonality
  - Alternate Plant Sample – unbalanced sample
  - District level Variation in lockdown Stringency
  - Remove plants that engage in international trade

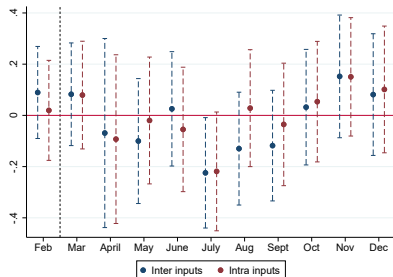
# What explains reshoring? Salience of State Administrative Border

Reshoring is similar for border and inland plants

Sales: By Inter-state Sales Fraction  $\times$  Border



Inputs: By Inter-state Inputs Fraction  $\times$  Border



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- If state  $r$  does not buy  $k$  from other states before the pandemic, then  $SHE_{kr} = 0$
- When both these fractions are large, outside state receipts for product  $k$  in state  $r$  can be substituted by home production [▶ Grubel-Loyd Index?](#)

# Empirical Strategy: Reshoring by SHE

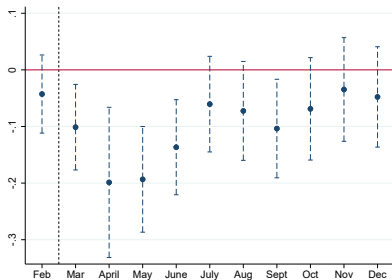
$$\ln(z_{kr,my}) = \pi_0 + \sum_{\tau \in (m2020)} \pi_1^\tau (\mathbf{1}_m \times \mathbf{1}_{2020}) + \sum_{\tau \in (m2020)} \pi_2^\tau (\mathbf{1}_m \times \mathbf{1}_{2020} \times SHE_{kr}) \\ + \mathbf{1}_{2020} \times SHE_{kr} + \mathbf{1}_{2020} + \delta_{kr,m} + \delta_{k,my} + X_{kr,my} + \varepsilon_{kr,my}$$

- $z_{kr,my}$ : outcome variable (Inter-state Sales, Intra-state sales) for product  $k$  produced in state  $r$ , in month  $m$  and year  $y$
- $\delta_{kr,m}$ : Product-state level unobserved heterogeneity and seasonality
- $\delta_{k,my}$ : Variation over time in product demand at 4-digit HSN code level
- $X_{kr,my}$ : Other controls (Inter-state Receivables Fraction)
- $\pi_2^\tau$ : Impact of  $SHE$  on product outcomes in month  $m$  in 2020

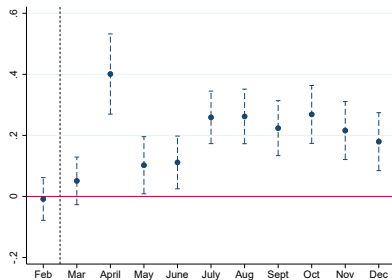
# Results: High SHE → More Reshoring

## Impact on Inter- and Intra-state Sales

Dependent Variable: Inter-state Sales,  
Heterogeneity: By  $SHE_{kr}$



Dependent Variable: Intra-state Sales,  
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# Summary: *SHE* Results

- Scope for Home Expansion matters:
  - Larger reduction in inter-state product sales immediately after the lockdown by 5% for one S.D. increase in  $SHE_{kr}$
  - Larger increase in intra-state product sales by 10% after the lockdown which persist at 6.5% (July-December 2020) for one S.D. increase in  $SHE_{kr}$
- Total sales recover for products with high SHE [▶▶ Click](#)
- Product Differentiation: Other product attributes don't matter (Rausch classification)

# Conclusion

- Causal evidence for reshoring after a temporary trade disruption
  - New channel to explain trade collapse
  - Evidence for a home-ward shift at plant and product level
    - Final and intermediate goods
    - Higher for plants that were more dependent on outside state sales and inputs before the pandemic
- Reshoring is:
  - Salient along state administrative borders
  - Dominant for products with high SHE
- Reshoring can aid recovery after shocks (7.6% of the sales growth in Oct-Dec 2020)
  - states exporting “less specific” products rebound faster

# APPENDIX

# Theoretical Setup

- Consider a home-region firm  $i$ , manufactures a unique good  $i$  using production technology:

$$Y_i = A_i L_{p,i}^{1-\mu} X_i^\mu \quad (1)$$

where  $A_i$  is the productivity of firm  $i$ ,  $L_{p,i}$  is the labor used for production and  $X_i$  is the intermediate input.



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- $X_i$  combines intra-region inputs  $Z_i$  and inter-region inputs  $M_i$ :

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# Theoretical Setup

- Consider a home-region firm  $i$ , manufactures a unique good  $i$  using production technology:

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$$Z_i = \left[ \int_j z_{ij}^\theta dj \right]^{\frac{1}{\theta}}, \quad M_i = \left[ \int_{k \in \Omega_i} m_{ik}^\theta dk \right]^{\frac{1}{\theta}}. \quad (3)$$

- $Z_i$  and  $M_i$  aggregate intra-region and inter-region varieties; elasticity of substitution same over the bundles
- $z_{ij}$  is the set of intra-region inputs  $j$ ;  $m_{ik}$  the set of inter-region inputs  $k$ .

# Theoretical Setup

- Firm  $i$  only imports a set  $\Omega_i$  of the available inter-region varieties.
- fixed costs increasing in number of inter-region varieties imported:

$$F(|\Omega_i|) = f|\Omega_i|^\lambda \quad (4)$$

where  $f > 0, \lambda > 0$ ;

- Output from each firm  $i$ : final good production and intermediate input

$$Y_i = g_i + z_i = g_i + \int_j z_{ji} dj. \quad (5)$$

- Final good  $G = \left[ \int_j g_i^\theta di \right]^{\frac{1}{\theta}}$

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$$P_{X_i} = \left[ P_Z^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}} + P_{M_i}^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}} \right]^{\frac{\rho-1}{\rho}}. \quad (7)$$

- Home-region and inter-region input price indices:

$$P_Z = \left[ \int_j p_i^{\frac{\theta}{\theta-1}} di \right]^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}}, \quad P_{M_i} = \left[ \int_k p_m^{\frac{\theta}{\theta-1}} dk \right]^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}} = p_m |\Omega_i|^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}}. \quad (8)$$

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- Price charged:  $C_i/\theta$  and chooses the optimal  $\Omega_i$  to maximize its profits.
- Inter region prices ( $p_m$ ): same for all varieties, includes iceberg trade cost and price increase to accommodate uncertainty in arrival of good
  - Uncertainty goes up,  $p_m$  goes up

- Proposition 1 (Trade collapse): *Under certain parametric restrictions, an increase in uncertainty captured by an increase in inter-region input price  $p_m$ , increases the share of domestic inputs in total inputs for firm  $i$  ( $\gamma_i$ ).*

$$\frac{\partial \ln \gamma_i}{\partial \ln p_m} = \frac{\rho(1 - \gamma_i)}{1 - \rho} \left[ 1 - \frac{\partial \ln P_Z}{\partial \ln p_m} + \frac{\theta - 1}{\theta} \frac{\partial \ln \Omega_i}{\partial \ln p_m} \right] > 0. \quad (9)$$

# Propositions

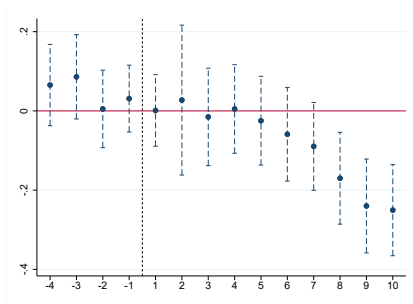
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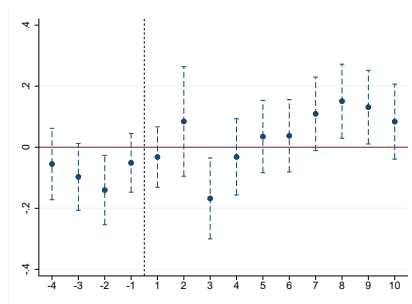
- Proposition 2: *When trade collapse occurs, and  $\partial(\frac{\partial \ln \Omega_i}{\partial \ln p_m})/\partial \gamma_i > 0$ , the shift to intra-region inputs is larger for firms with a higher dependence on inter-region intermediate inputs after an increase in uncertainty*  
 $(\frac{\partial(\frac{\partial \ln \gamma_i}{\partial \ln p_m})}{\partial \gamma_i} < 0)$

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# Appendix: Plant Inputs, Single difference pre-trends



Inter-Region Inputs: By Inputs Fraction



Intra-Region Inputs: By Inputs Fraction



# Robustness (Plants)

- Alternate Plant Sample – unbalanced sample
- Regional Variation in Stringency – local lockdowns
- Export-import status

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# Why not Grubel-Loyd Index?

- For the  $i$ -th product, it is given by  $GL_i = 1 - \frac{|X_i - M_i|}{X_i + M_i}$  where  $X$  and  $M$  represents export and import



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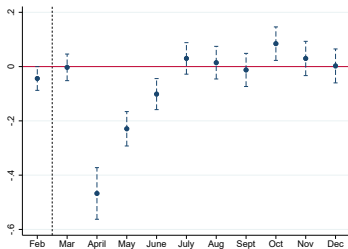
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- Eg 2: export-import pairs with values  $\{5, 5\}$  and  $\{100, 100\}$ ; with same intra-region sales value, say 10

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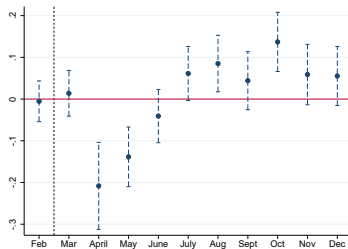
# Results: Total Product Sales (By $f_{kr}$ and $SHE_{kr}$ )

Figure: Impact on Total Product Sales

By Inter-Region Sales Fraction



By Scope for Home Expansion



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