

Causation vs. Correlation

Obj. 9.6: Differentiate a causative and correlative relationship between variables.



1. Causal Factors & Correlated Factors

- 1) What **causes** obesity?

- 2) What factors, health behaviors, and/or characteristics might be frequently found among individuals who are obese?

2. Words Imply Relationships

Circle the questions that imply a cause and effect relationship between variables.

- Do diesel fumes from school buses cause asthma?
- Does eating chocolate give people acne?
- Are males at higher risk of automobile accidents?
- Does immunization with the flu shot prevent H1N1?
- Does acupuncture result in pain relief?

3. Be Careful What You Imply

A news reporter reads the results of a study on coffee that state, "Coffee drinkers were three times more likely to report positive mental health than non coffee-drinkers." The reporter decides to write a news story on this study and titles it, "Drink Coffee for Better Mental Health." Is this an appropriate title? Why or why not?



Causation vs. Correlation

	Causation	Correlation
Explain		
Example		



Find Those Fraudulent Claims!

Find a news article in which the author makes a “correlation does not imply causality” error. Describe the article and the erroneous claim in the box below.