

Economic and Social Panorama of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, 2013



UNITED NATIONS



Alicia Bárcena
Executive Secretary

Antonio Prado
Deputy Executive Secretary

Ricardo Pérez
Chief, Publications and Web Services Division

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Contents

Foreword	7
I. Economic panorama	11
A. Growth	13
B. Employment	15
C. Terms of trade	16
D. Central government expenditure	18
E. Fiscal revenue	19
II. Foreign direct investment	21
A. Overview of foreign direct investment in Latin America and the Caribbean	23
B. Transnational company profits: repatriation and reinvestment	25
C. Foreign direct investment in the agricultural and agro-industry sector in Latin America and the Caribbean	26
III. Social panorama	27
A. Income poverty	29
B. Income distribution	30
C. Child poverty	31
D. Paid and unpaid work	32
IV. Population	35
A. Demographic structure and dynamics	37
V. Gender equality	39
A. Women's deaths at the hands of their intimate partner or former partner	41
B. Reproductive health indicators	42

C. Teenage mothers	44
D. Sexual and reproductive health of women	45
E. Wage gap.....	46
F. Women over 60 without independent income.....	49

Figures

Figure I.1	Latin America and the Caribbean: GDP growth rates, 2013.....	13
Figure I.2	Real GDP growth by region and selected country groupings, 2010-2014	13
Figure I.3	Latin America and the Caribbean: GDP growth projections, 2014.....	14
Figure I.4	Latin America and the Caribbean (15 countries): year-on-year variation in the participation, employment and unemployment rates by sex, average for the first to third quarters of 2013 compared with the same period of the previous year.....	15
Figure I.5	Latin America (selected countries): year-on-year variation in formal employment, first quarter 2012 to third quarter 2013.....	15
Figure I.6	Latin America: price indices for export commodities and manufactured goods, 2009-2013.....	16
Figure I.7	Latin America: estimated variation in the terms of trade, 2009-2013.....	17
Figure I.8	Latin America and the Caribbean: central government spending, 2012- 2013	18
Figure I.9	Latin America (19 countries): central government fiscal indicators, 2000-2013.....	19
Figure I.10	Latin America and the Caribbean: total fiscal income and tax income of the central government, by subregion and country grouping, 2012-2013.....	19
Figure II.1	Latin America and the Caribbean: foreign direct investment flows, 1990-2012.....	23
Figure II.2	Latin America and the Caribbean (selected countries): inward foreign direct investment, 2011-2012.....	24
Figure III.1	Latin America: poverty and indigence, 1980-2013.....	29
Figure III.2	Latin America (15 countries): annual variation of Gini coefficient, 2002-2008 and 2008-2012.....	30
Figure III.3	Latin America (17 countries): rates of extreme and overall child poverty, and percentage of children in indigent and poor households (according to income method), around 2011.....	31
Figure III.4	Latin America (18 countries): working hours of the economically active population aged 15 years and over, around 2002 and 2011.....	32
Figure III.5	Latin America (selected countries): time spent by the employed population in paid work, unpaid work and free time.....	32
Figure III.6	Latin America (7 countries): time spent on total work, paid and unpaid, by the unemployed population aged 15 and over, by sex, around 2010.....	33

Figure III.7	Latin America (6 countries): time spent on unpaid domestic work, by sex and age group	33
Figure IV.1	Selected regions: life expectancy at birth, both sexes, estimated and projected, 1950-2015.....	37
Figure IV.2	Latin America: infant mortality rate, 1950-2015	38
Figure V.1	Latin America (11 countries) and Spain: deaths of women at the hands of an intimate partner or former intimate partner, 2011	41
Figure V.2	Latin America (20 countries) and the Caribbean (8 countries): maternal mortality rates, 1990-2010	42
Figure V.3	Latin America (20 countries), the Caribbean (8 countries), Portugal and Spain: maternal mortality rates, 2005 and 2010.....	43
Figure V.4	Latin America (17 countries) and the Caribbean (2 countries): women between the ages of 15 and 19 who are mothers, baseline and most recent figure available.....	44
Figure V.5	Latin America (5 countries): women between the ages of 15 and 19 who are mothers or are pregnant, by income quintiles, around 2010	44
Figure V.6	Latin America (12 countries) and the Caribbean (3 countries): unmet demand for family planning services.....	45
Figure V.7	Latin America (simple average for 16 countries): femininity index of poverty and indigence, around 1994 to 2011.....	46
Figure V.8	Latin America (17 countries): women's wages as a proportion of men's wages, around 2011	46
Figure V.9	Latin America (16 countries): population without incomes of their own, by sex, urban areas, around 2010.....	47
Figure V.10	Latin America (15 countries): people without incomes of their own, by sex, rural areas, around 2010	47
Figure V.11	Latin America (simple average for 14 countries): women aged 15 and over without incomes of their own, by poverty status, urban areas, 1994-2010.....	48
Figure V.12	Latin America (simple average for 14 countries): people without incomes of their own by sex, age group and poverty status, urban areas, around 2010	48
Figure V.13	Latin America (15 countries): persons aged 65 and over with no pension or retirement benefit, by sex, around 2010	49

Foreword

This issue of the *Economic and Social Panorama of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States* is a contribution by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) to the second Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), to be held in Havana in January 2014.

This document is based on excerpts from some of the annual flagships published by the Commission in 2013: *Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean 2012* (LC/G.2554-P); *Demographic Observatory 2012* (LC/G.2569-P); *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean 2013* (LC/G.2574-P); “Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean 2013. Briefing Paper”, *Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean 2012* (LC/G.2571-P); “Social Panorama Social of Latin America 2013. Briefing Paper”; and *Gender Equality Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean. Annual Report 2012* (LC/G.2561/Rev.1).

ECLAC has been present since CELAC was first conceived, having attended the meetings in Costa de Saúpe, Brazil; Montego Bay, Jamaica; and Riviera Maya, Mexico, where it took shape, as well as at its inception in Caracas in 2011. Indeed, we view its creation as a historic event of the utmost importance for the region. The *Economic and Social Panorama of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States* is expected to be published annually to coincide with each CELAC Summit and the different editions will follow each other chronologically to form a continuous series.

We are committed to forging the development of Latin America and the Caribbean from within the region itself, hence our enthusiasm for these efforts and the conviction we share with the Heads of State and Government, gathered in Caracas, who declared “that the unity and political, economic, social and cultural integration of Latin America and the Caribbean constitute both a fundamental aspiration of the peoples [...] and a requirement for the Region to successfully confront the challenges before us”.

CELAC is the most significant political achievement in the region in recent times and ECLAC, by means of these contributions, renews its commitment to the consolidation and success of this Community.

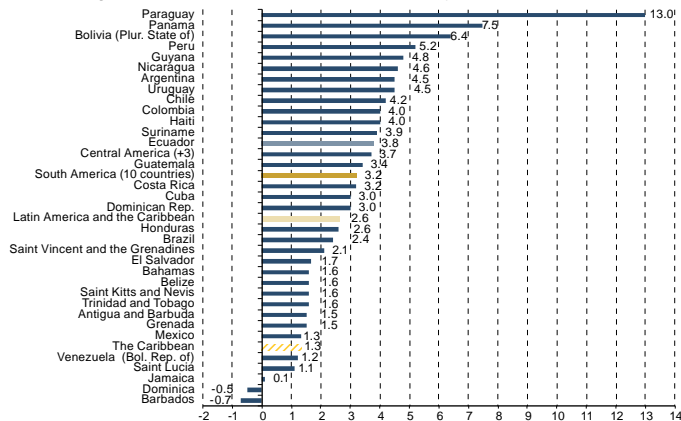
Alicia Bárcena
Executive Secretary
Economic Commission for Latin America
and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

I. Economic panorama

A. Growth

- The Latin American and Caribbean region recorded GDP growth of 2.6% in 2013, down from 3.1% in 2012, testifying to the continuation of the economic slowdown apparent in the region since 2011. The countries' growth rates differed significantly, however.
- Sluggish regional growth in 2013 partly reflects the lacklustre performance of the two largest economies in Latin America and the Caribbean: Brazil (2.4%) and Mexico (1.3%).¹ Excluding these two countries, the region's GDP rose by 4.1%. Economic growth was most robust in Paraguay (13%), followed by Panama (7.5%), the Plurinational State of Bolivia (6.4%) and Peru (5.2%). The economies of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Guyana, Haiti, Nicaragua and Uruguay grew at between 4% and 5%.
- The region's modest performance is linked to a global economic growth rate that stood at 2.1%, down from 2.4% in 2012, although the outlook for next year is for economic growth to pick up speed.
- Forecasts for 2014 place the global economy's growth rate at 2.9%, with growth picking up in both developed and developing countries. GDP growth in Latin America and the Caribbean is expected to rally somewhat and the region could post a rate of around 3.3%, on the assumption of improving external conditions driving export growth. An upturn in the regional growth rate will depend, in part, on continued recovery in Mexico and better growth performance in Brazil, both of whose growth rates lagged the regional average in 2013.

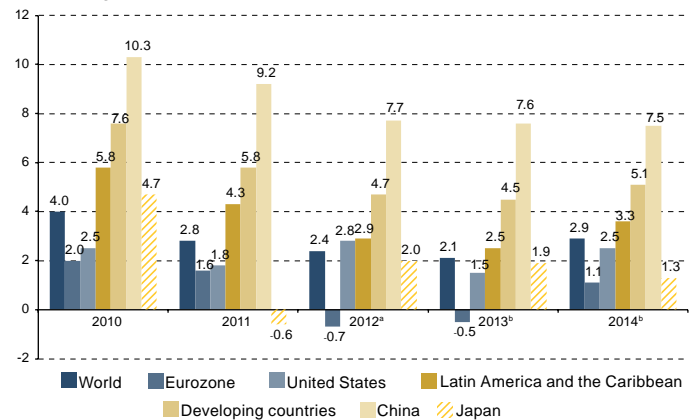
■ **Figure I.1** ■
Latin America and the Caribbean: GDP growth rates, 2013
(Percentages based on dollars at constant 2005 prices)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on the basis of official figures.

¹ These two economies account for about 63% of the total GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean.

■ **Figure I.2** ■
Real GDP growth by region and selected country groupings, 2010-2014
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of United Nations "World Economic Situation and Prospects. Monthly Briefing", New York, October 2013.

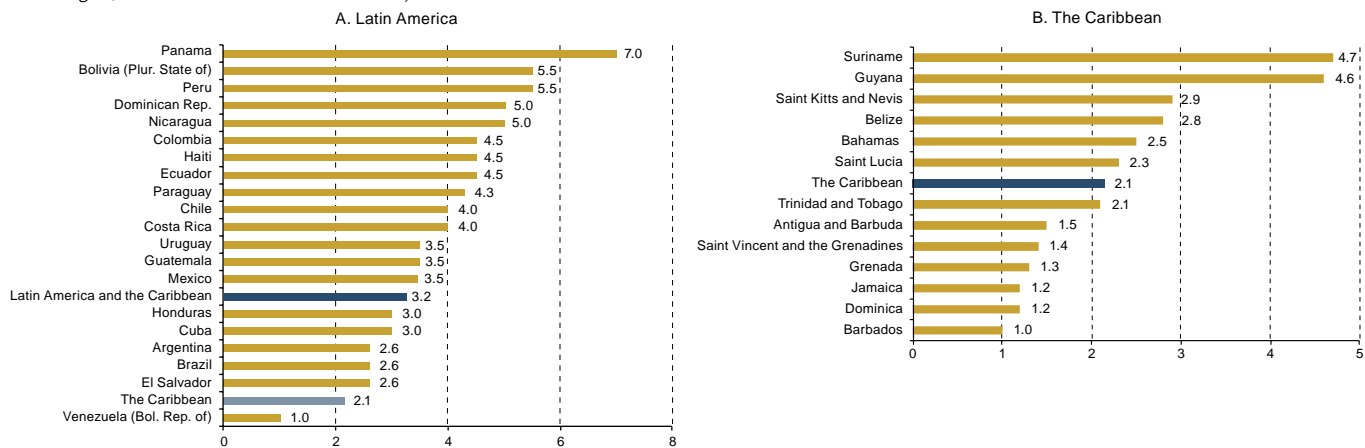
^a Estimates.

^b Projections.

■ Figure I.3 ■

Latin America and the Caribbean: GDP growth projections, 2014

(Percentages, based on constant 2005 dollars)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.

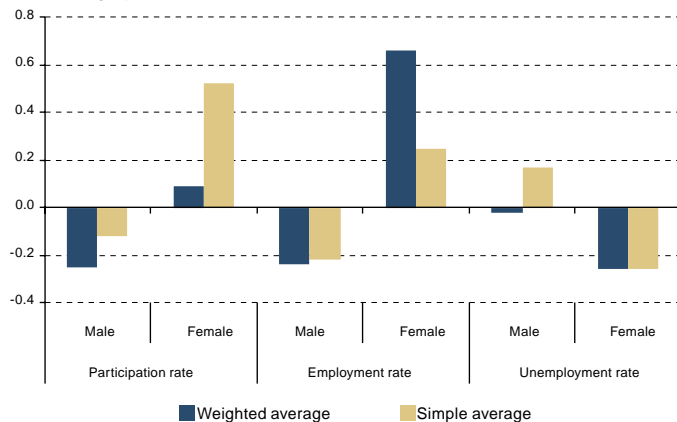
B. Employment

- Preliminary information shows that unemployment fell once again in the region, albeit edging down very slightly from 6.4% in 2012 to 6.3% in 2013. Contrasting with the robust performance of the labour market in 2012, however, in 2013 the dip in unemployment was not due to job creation but rather to a reduction in the labour supply, expressed as a lower overall participation rate.
- Job creation lost momentum during 2013. After a steady climb from 2002 (with a rate of 51.8%) to 2012 (55.9%), interrupted only by the outbreak of the economic and financial crisis in 2009, the rate tailed off, albeit by just 0.1 of a percentage point. This slight fall-off contrasts with the 0.4 percentage-point rise recorded in 2012, despite a similar economic growth rate in both years.
- The economically active population expanded more slowly, reflecting a lower labour market participation rate. Even so, at the regional level, the long-term rise in the female participation rate has clearly continued, whereas the male

participation rate has diminished. The gaps between the male and female employment and unemployment rates have narrowed.

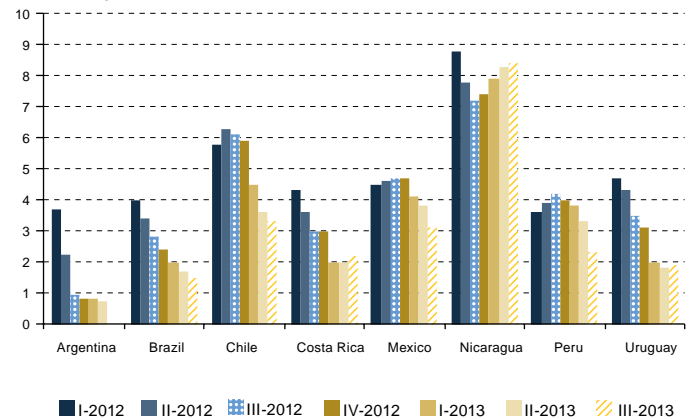
- Slackening job creation seems to have impacted young people the most, with the employment rate falling and unemployment rising for young people practically throughout the region. Conversely, the adult employment rate rose slightly and the unemployment rate declined in most countries. In some countries, including Brazil, Chile and Peru, the fall in the employment rate also reflected lower participation by young people in the labour market, contrasting with zero growth in the adult participation rate in these countries.
- The slowdown in job creation also reflects the trend in formal employment. In 2013 growth rates for this type of better-quality employment were down on the 2012 figure in almost all countries. Moreover, formal employment generation slowed noticeably in many countries throughout the year.

■ **Figure I.4** ■
Latin America and the Caribbean (15 countries): year-on-year variation in the participation, employment and unemployment rates by sex, average for the first to third quarters of 2013 compared with the same period of the previous year
(Percentage points)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.

■ **Figure I.5** ■
Latin America (selected countries): year-on-year variation in formal employment, first quarter 2012 to third quarter 2013
(Percentages)



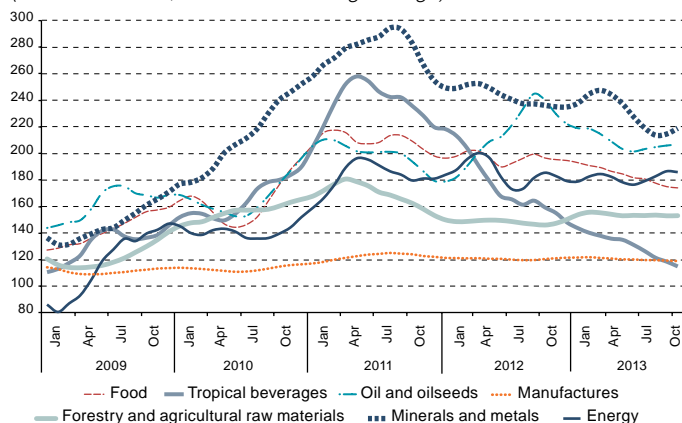
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.

C. Terms of trade

- Since mid-2011 the prices of several export commodities in the region have trended downwards, which may be viewed as part of a medium-term stagnation or even a gradual decline in the prices of these goods, caused by, among other factors, more moderate growth in China (the main destination for several of the region's primary products), sluggish growth in the developed economies and an increase in global supply of commodities.
- Food prices fell by a year-on-year average of 7.8% in the first 10 months of 2013, while the price of tropical beverages dropped by 27.8%. The lower food prices were attributable mainly to the sharp drop (19.0% year-on-year) in the price of sugar (owing to overproduction and the withdrawal of speculative funds) and, to a lesser extent, the price of bananas

■ **Figure 1.6** ■
Latin America: price indices for export commodities^a
and manufactured goods, 2009-2013

(Index: 2005=100, three-month moving average)



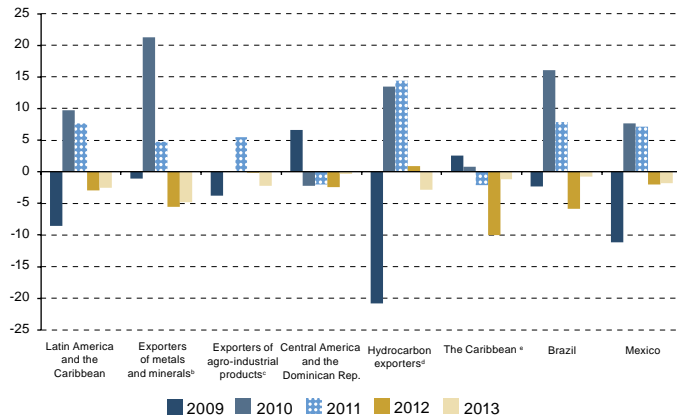
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of figures from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Netherlands Bureau of Economic Policy Analysis (CPB).

^a The commodity groups are weighted by their share of Latin American exports.

(down 6.6%) and maize (down 7.5%). A 30% fall in coffee prices caused the decline in the price of tropical beverages. Certain Central American countries and Colombia were hardest hit by these price reductions.

- Mineral and metal prices picked up initially in 2013, following their fall in 2012, only to subsequently relapse. Year-on-year price declines were recorded for copper (7.6%), a major export product for Peru and Chile, and for gold (13.1%). The price of iron, a key product for Brazil, recorded a small 1.1% increase.
- The price of oil and oilseeds also started the year down owing to the good harvest of 2012/2013, but picked up subsequently, while prices of forestry and agricultural raw materials and energy held steady during 2013. Oil prices also remained relatively stable during 2013 (with some minor fluctuations) despite certain geopolitical tensions and the increasing use of gas in the United States.
- The region as a whole is expected to see a 2.5% decline in its terms of trade in 2013. That deterioration will be sharper than average in South America (-2.8%) owing mainly to the downward trend in the prices of minerals and metals, which will cause the terms of trade for Chile and Peru to fall by 4.6%. The exporters of agro-industrial products (Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay) will see a 2.3% decline. The hydrocarbon-exporting countries (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Plurinational State of Bolivia and Trinidad and Tobago) experienced a 2.8% deterioration due to lower export prices. Brazil's terms of trade worsened only slightly (-0.7%) as the moderate rise in the prices of its imports was partially offset by the higher price of iron (the country's main export product).

■ **Figure I.7** ■
Latin America: estimated variation in the terms of trade, 2009-2013^a
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.

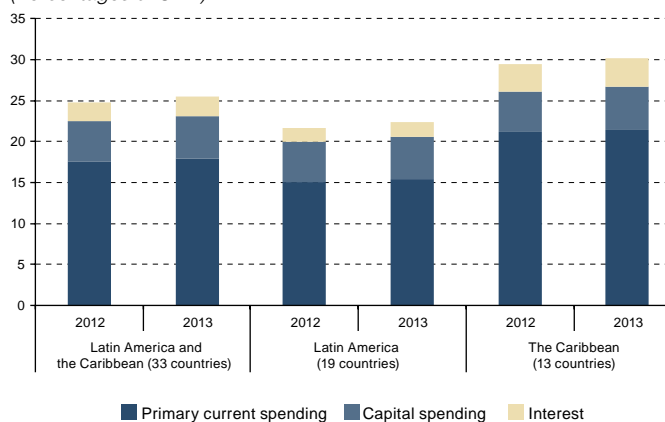
^a The figures for 2013 are projections.

- Falling prices for food and fuel, of which the Caribbean countries are net importers, should improve the terms of trade for these countries and, in the case of the Central American countries, will partially offset the effect of lower export prices. Mexico is a case apart, because of its unique export structure, largely based on manufactured goods, which meant that falling prices for its main export commodities (gold, copper, silver, steel products and oil) did not have a major impact on its terms of trade.

D. Central government expenditure

- In Latin America spending rose by almost one percentage point of GDP on average, from 21.6% of GDP in 2012 to 22.4% in 2013. The largest rises occurred in Argentina, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. In the Caribbean, spending rose by over 3 percentage points in Antigua and Barbuda, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago, financed by revenues from raw materials exports and grants.

■ **Figure 1.8** ■
Latin America and the Caribbean: central government spending, 2012- 2013
(Percentages of GDP)



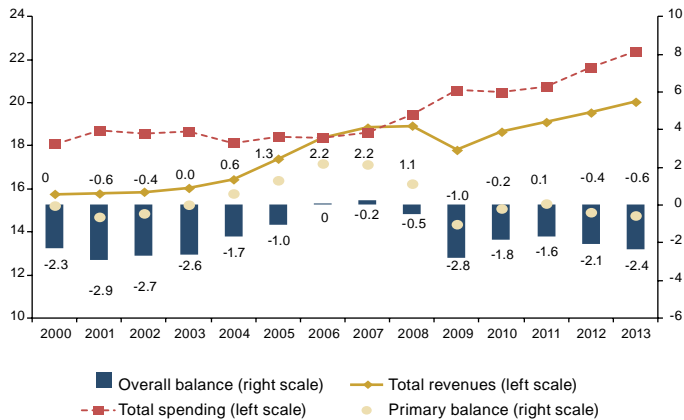
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures and budgets and estimates.

E. Fiscal revenue

- Overall, fiscal revenues in the region rose by 0.8% of GDP in 2013. In Latin America, the rise was 0.5% of GDP, driven by the performance of the hydrocarbon-exporting economies, some Central American countries (Guatemala

and Nicaragua) and the Dominican Republic. Tax income edged up (0.2% of GDP) in the Caribbean, as well, but here the 1 GDP point rise in fiscal revenues was due mainly to a hefty rise in grants.

Figure I.9
Latin America (19 countries): central government fiscal indicators, 2000-2013^a
(Percentages of GDP)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures and budgets and estimates.

^a Simple averages. The data for 2013 are estimates.

Figure I.10
Latin America and the Caribbean: total fiscal income and tax income of the central government, by subregion and country grouping, 2012-2013^a
(Percentages of GDP)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures and budgets and estimates.

^a The data for 2013 are estimates. The country groupings are as follows: hydrocarbon exporters: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Plurinational State of Bolivia, and Trinidad and Tobago; exporters of minerals and metals: Chile and Peru; food exporters: Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay; services exporters: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

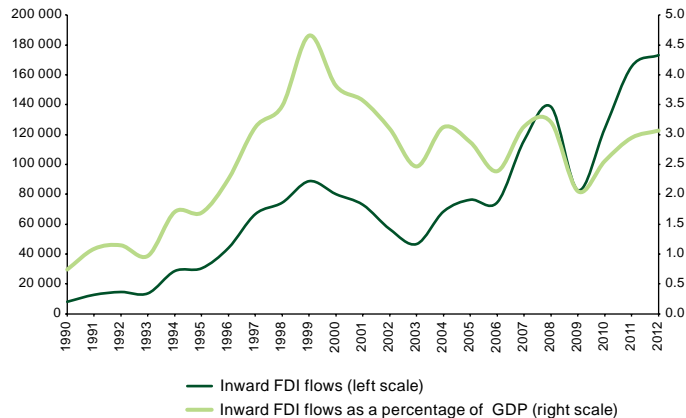
II. Foreign direct investment

A. Overview of foreign direct investment in Latin America and the Caribbean

- In 2012 FDI flowing into Latin America and the Caribbean hit a new record high of US\$ 174.546 billion. This is 5.7% above the level posted in 2011 and confirms a consistent uptrend that began in 2010. These figures were set in an international context marked by uncertainty in which global FDI flows were down by 13% on those of 2011 and reached levels close to those recorded in 2009.
- The economic crisis and uncertainty in the developed economies have been displacing investment towards emerging markets. Local conditions in Latin America have been favourable and particularly attractive to global investors. Natural resources, especially metals, are enjoying a long price boom, while the region's domestic markets have seen several

■ **Figure II.1 ■**
Latin America and the Caribbean: foreign direct investment flows, 1990-2012^a

(Millions of current dollars and percentages of GDP)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of estimates and official figures as at 29 April 2013.

^a FDI figures indicate inflows of foreign direct investment, minus disinvestments (repatriation of capital) by foreign investors. The FDI figures do not include flows into the main financial centres of the Caribbean. These figures differ from those set out in the 2012 editions of the *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean* and the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean* because they show the net balance of foreign investment, that is, direct investment in the reporting economy (FDI) minus outward FDI.

years of steady growth and offer business opportunities for services development (telecommunications, commerce and financial services).

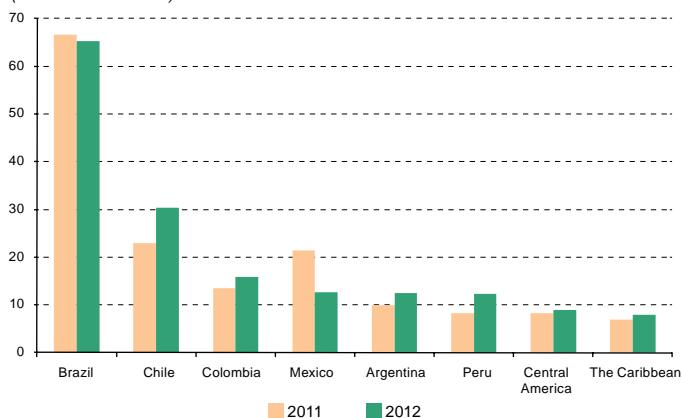
- Although the United States and the countries of the European Union continue to be the largest investors in Latin America, investments made by firms from Latin American countries increased substantially in 2012, to 14% of all FDI entering the region in that year.
- FDI flows to South America and the Caribbean both climbed (by 12% and 39%, respectively). Flows to Central America were up as well, by a more modest 7%. The largest increases were in Peru (49%) and Chile (32%). Inward FDI also rose significantly in Colombia (up 18%) and Argentina (a 27% increase). Mexico saw a marked 38% downturn in inward FDI, to the lowest figure since 1999. Brazil again received the largest share of FDI flowing into the region (38%), and Chile became the second largest recipient in 2012.
- The sectoral distribution of FDI for the region as a whole was similar to the average for the past five years, although the share going to services (the largest destination sector) edged up to 44% of the total in 2012. Manufacturing slid slightly but continues to represent 30% of the total. The proportion going to sectors based on natural resources was the same in 2012 (26%) as during 2007-2011.
- In South America (excluding Brazil), the pattern has been one of increasing concentration of FDI in natural-resource-based sectors (in particular mining), which are the prime FDI destination (51% in 2012), while manufacturing and services accounted for 12% and 37%, respectively.
- Natural resources account for a smaller share of FDI in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean and have tended to hold steady: 10% in 2012 and over the previous five years. Manufacturing, conversely, despite the decline in absolute values in Mexico, was again the largest recipient of FDI (48% of the total). As for services, their share dropped sharply from 55% in 2007-2011 to 42% in 2012.

- In 2012, the region captured flows equivalent to 3% of GDP (slightly more than in 2011). Chile stands out with an FDI-to-GDP ratio of 11.3% in 2012.
- Transnational corporations have consolidated their presence in Latin America and the Caribbean over the years, especially in capital-intensive sectors, and have built up capital stocks that generate large income flows.
- The expansionary phase of the business cycle, along with high prices for raw material exports, has boosted returns on foreign direct investment. Insofar as a proportion of those earnings are reinvested, they help to feed foreign investment growth.

■ **Figure II.2** ■

Latin America and the Caribbean (selected countries): inward foreign direct investment, 2011-2012

(Billions of dollars)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of preliminary figures and official estimates at 25 April March 2013.

- Investments in expanding production capacity alone are estimated to have created three jobs directly for every US\$ 1 million invested in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2003-2012 (no estimates are available on indirect job creation).
- Mining (including oil) creates one job for every US\$ 2 million. Labour-intensive manufacturing creates seven jobs per US\$ 1 million invested; and engineering-intensive manufacturing (including the automobile industry) creates four, similarly to the food industry. Other natural-resource-intensive activities (excluding food) are less employment-intensive, creating two jobs per US\$ 1 million invested.
- The service sector is also quite heterogeneous. Tourism-related activities (transport and personal services) have a higher employment component than more modern ones such as financial services and information and communications technologies (ICTs).
- Outward FDI by Latin American and Caribbean economies expanded in 2012 (18%) to an all-time high of US\$ 49.133 billion, following historically high figures for the three preceding years. These investments have come mainly from Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico, but in 2012 came almost exclusively from Mexico and Chile.
- In 2012, amid shrinking global FDI flows, trans-Latin firms expanded, some thanks to business opportunities that arose as a result of asset divestments by European firms. In fact, 7 of the 10 largest acquisitions by trans-Latins in 2012 consisted of assets bought from European companies.

B. Transnational company profits: repatriation and reinvestment

- The profits made by transnational corporations operating in Latin America and the Caribbean have increased by a factor of 5.5 in nine years, swelling from US\$ 20.425 billion in 2002 to US\$ 113.587 billion in 2011. This surge in profits —also known as FDI income— tends to cancel out the positive impacts of FDI inflows on the balance of payments.
- The evidence for Latin America and the Caribbean shows, in fact, that in the past few years outflows registered as FDI income were almost as high (92%) as inflows in the form of FDI.

C. Foreign direct investment in the agricultural and agro-industry sector in Latin America and the Caribbean

- Agriculture and agro-industry are currently the focus of a global debate on food security, energy security and climate change. The world population is expected to reach 9 billion by 2050; to meet the demand for food, agricultural production will need to increase by 70% over 2006 levels. All of these changes are creating challenges and opportunities in the agricultural and agro-industry sector, particularly in the case of grains, oilseeds, sugar cane and other flex-crops that can be used for human consumption, animal feed or making biofuels but compete for the same basic inputs: land and water.
- Although national statistics on FDI in the agricultural and agro-industrial sectors of the region vary widely in terms of availability, the information which it has been possible

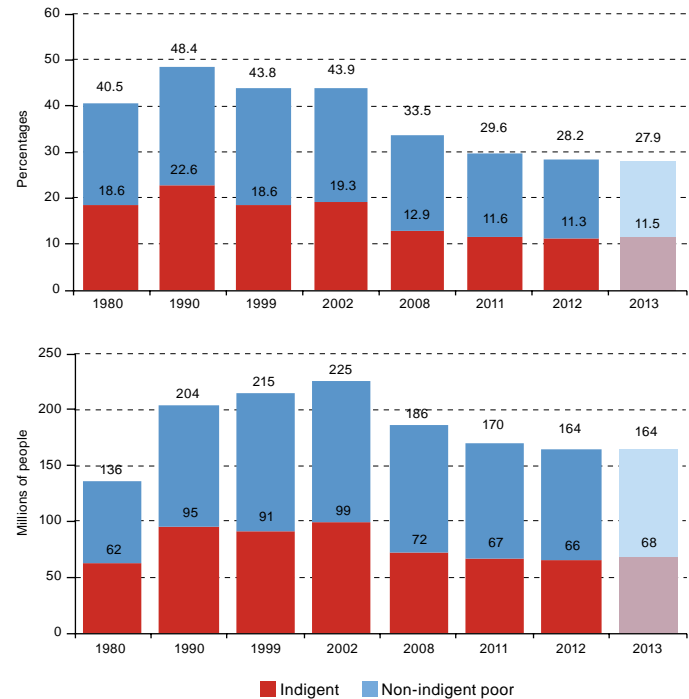
to obtain for 10 countries of the region indicates that US\$ 9.255 billion in FDI entered the primary agricultural sector between 2005 and 2010, which is 2% of this group's combined total inward FDI. The amount of agricultural FDI varies greatly from one economy to another. In Uruguay it accounted for nearly 22% of total inward FDI between 2005 and 2010. It also makes up a substantial proportion in Guatemala (12.5%), Costa Rica (6.7%) and Ecuador (7.3%). The data for FDI in agro-industry, referring to just six countries, total US\$ 48.4 billion for 2005-2011. Most of these flows went to Brazil (37.9%), Mexico (35.9%) and Argentina (15.5%). FDI targeting the agro-industry sector in these six countries averaged 8.3% of total inward FDI between 2005 and 2010.

III. Social panorama

A. Income poverty

- Some 28.2% of the population of Latin America were living in poverty in 2012, with 11.3% in extreme poverty or indigence. In absolute numbers, 164 million people were poor, of whom 66 million were extremely poor.
- These figures represent a fall of about 1.4 percentage points in the poverty rate with respect to 2011 (29.6%). The extreme poverty rate varied little, with the 2012 figure just 0.3 percentage points down on 2011 (11.6%). The number of poor persons fell by approximately 6 million in 2012, while the number of indigents remained practically unchanged.
- The changes reported in countries with larger populations weigh heavily in the regional poverty rate. Poverty reductions in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Brazil significantly influenced the 2012 results, as they represented 6 million fewer poor. The poverty rise in Mexico also carried significant weight, adding about 1 million additional individuals to the numbers of poor.

Figure III.1
Latin America: poverty and indigence, 1980-2013^a
(Percentages and millions of people)

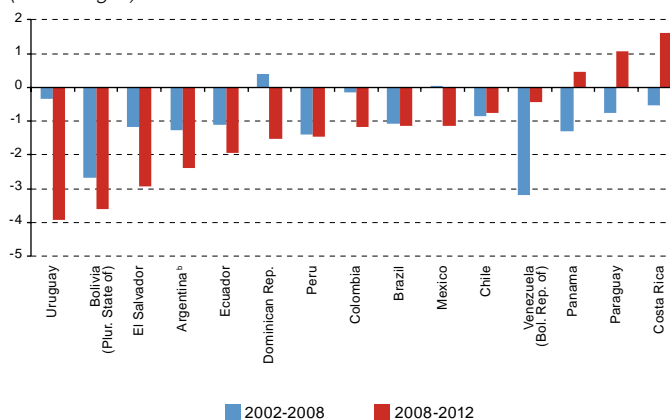


Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.
^a Estimate for 18 countries of the region plus Haiti. The figures above the bars are the percentages and total numbers of poor (indigent plus non-indigent poor). The figures for 2013 are projections.

B. Income distribution

- Highly uneven income distribution is one of Latin America's hallmarks. The most recent available data indicated that the poorest income quintile on average accounted for 5% of total income, with the figure varying between under 4% (in the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Paraguay and the Plurinational State of Bolivia) and 10% (in Uruguay). Meanwhile, the wealthiest income quintile accounted for an average of 47% of total income, ranging from 35% (in Uruguay) to 55% (in Brazil).
- Income distribution has tended to improve slowly over the past 10 years. These changes have occurred gradually and are barely noticeable from one year to the next; however they are evident in comparisons over longer periods.
- Of the 13 countries with information available in 2011 or 2012, 12 reported a fall in their Gini coefficient, the simple average of which fell by 1% per year. Inequality narrowed by more than 1% per year in Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Peru and Uruguay, and by at least 0.5% per year in Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Panama.
- Inequality eased slightly more quickly in the last four years of the period reviewed.

■ **Figure III.2**
Latin America (15 countries): annual variation of Gini coefficient, 2002-2008 and 2008-2012^a
 (Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys in the respective countries.

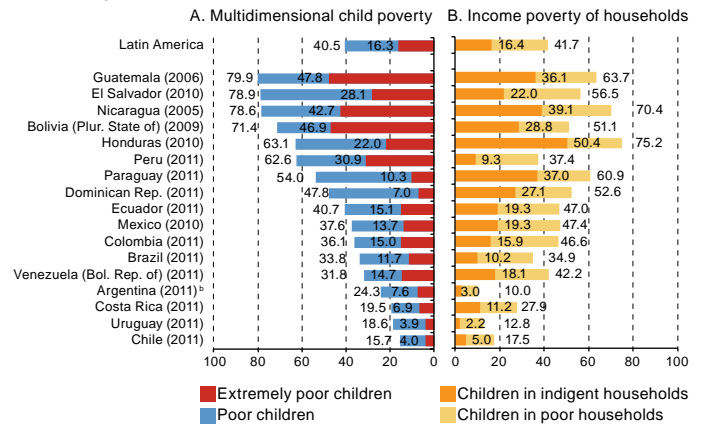
^a Includes only countries with data available for 2011 or 2012. Countries are ordered by variation in the second subperiod (2008-2012).

^b Urban areas.

C. Child poverty

- One aspect of concern relating to monetary poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean is that it has a greater impact on households with high dependency rates, which worsens the situation of children and adolescents.
- Thus, 40.5% of children and adolescents in Latin America are either moderately or extremely poor. This means that overall child poverty in the region affects 70.5 million individuals under the age of 18. Of this total, 16.3% of children and adolescents live in extreme poverty. The scourge of extreme poverty thus affects one in six minors or more than 28.3 million minors.
- The situation differs significantly between groups of countries. In the countries with the highest overall child poverty (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia), on average 72% of children were living in extreme poverty. In the countries with the lowest overall child poverty (Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Uruguay) only 19.5% of children were poor.

Figure III.3
Latin America (17 countries): rates of extreme and overall child poverty, and percentage of children in indigent and poor households (according to income method), around 2011^a
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

^a Uses the UNICEF definition, which encompasses the population aged 0 to 17 years. Figures for poor children include extremely poor children, and figures for children in poor households include children in indigent households. The figures shown may differ from those in the text, which examine trends between 2000 and 2011 and only refer to 14 countries.

^b Urban areas.

D. Paid and unpaid work

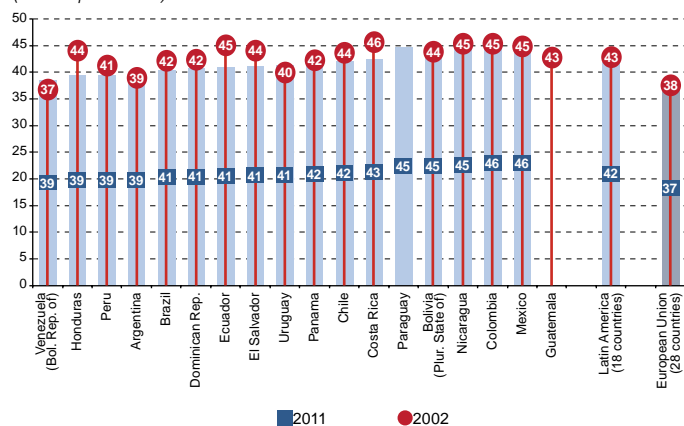
- Time spent in gainful employment, whose purpose is to generate monetary resources to provide for a wide range of needs, is an essential part of most people's lives. The more time people spend at work, the less they have for other activities, such as family responsibilities and rest.
- The length of the working day varies greatly according to such factors as workers' age and gender as well as the type of employment. However, average working hours in Latin America remain very long. Unlike in most European

countries, where workers spend an average of 37 hours per week at work, weekly working hours in Latin American remain well above 40, and show no signs of shortening.

- Women spend many more hours a day performing unpaid domestic work than men. Women's increasing incorporation into the labour force has not been offset by greater participation by men in household work. Thus, in Latin America the sexual division of labour has remained partial and uneven.

■ Figure III.4 ■

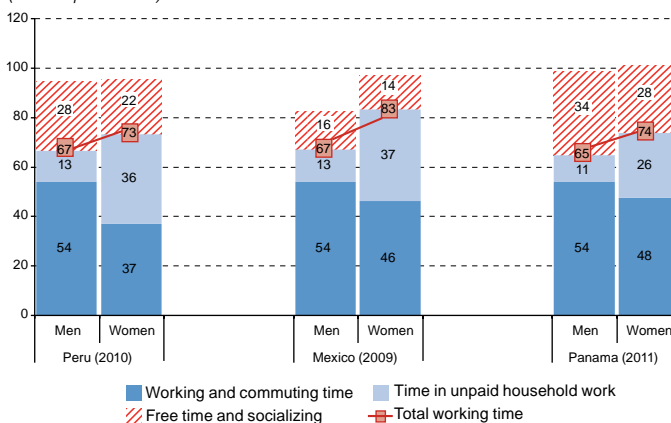
Latin America (18 countries): working hours of the economically active population aged 15 years and over, around 2002 and 2011
(Hours per week)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

■ Figure III.5 ■

Latin America (selected countries): time spent by the employed population in paid work, unpaid work and free time^a
(Hours per week)

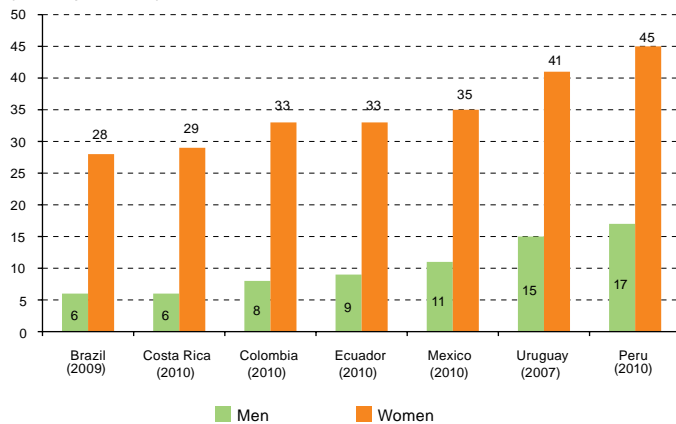


Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from time-use surveys conducted in Mexico, (2009), Panama (2011) and Peru, 2010.

^a Time-use surveys conducted in Latin America differ from country to country in terms of design and implementation. What is more, there is no standardized indicator for comparisons between surveys. Time-use surveys from Mexico, Panama and Peru have been selected as they encompass a similar range of activities, including working hours, free time, and time spent in unpaid household work, socializing, covering personal needs and volunteering.

- The data show that women in employment shoulder a greater total work burden than men. This excess burden seriously affects the well-being of employed women, particularly those living with a partner and who have preschool-aged children. Women who are heads of households also carry a high workload. All such women can be said to be “time-poor”, which means that they have scant time for rest, leisure, recreation, family life and socializing.
- Comparison of the time that men and women of different age groups spend on domestic work shows that in all the countries girls aged under 18 carry a heavier burden of domestic work than boys of the same age. This shows that the sexual division of labour within the household prevails over age differences and that, regardless of their role or the place they occupy in the family group, women shoulder the burden of unpaid and care work.

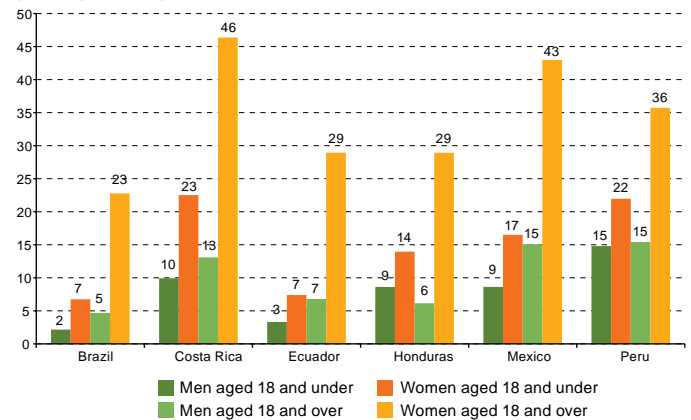
■ **Figure III.6** ■
Latin America (7 countries): time spent on total work, paid and unpaid, by the unemployed population aged 15 and over, by sex, around 2010^a
(Hours per week)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from time-use surveys or questions on time spent weekly on paid and unpaid activities in seven countries: Brazil (2009), Colombia (2010), Costa Rica (2010), Ecuador (2010), Mexico (2010), Peru (2010) and Uruguay (2007).

^a The countries do not use the same classification of activities to define unpaid work. In addition, the data are not comparable owing to the type of questionnaire used and the methodologies employed to capture information. The data are intended to be illustrative, rather than to compare magnitudes, with a view to portraying similarities in the behaviours of men and women in the variables analysed.

■ **Figure III.7** ■
Latin America (6 countries): time spent on unpaid domestic work, by sex and age group
(Hours per week)



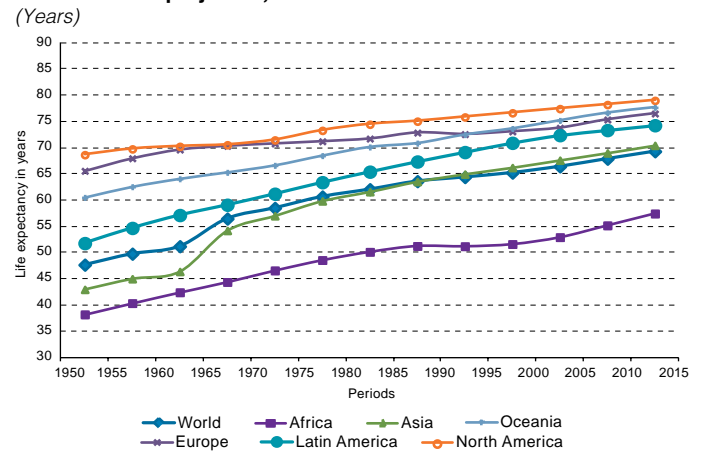
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from time-use surveys or modules on weekly time use in six countries: Brazil (2009), Costa Rica (2010), Ecuador (2010), Honduras (2009), Mexico (2010) and Peru (2010).

IV. Population

A. Demographic structure and dynamics

- According to population estimates and projections produced by ECLAC, Latin America and the Caribbean had 609 million inhabitants in 2013.
- The region's population growth rate for the period 2010-2015 is 1.10, meaning that the total population is expected to rise to 622 million in 2015. It is projected that Latin America and the Caribbean will be home to 700 million people in 2030.
- Over the past 60 years, the average lifespan of the population of Latin America has risen by 22.5 years, reaching 74.3 years in the five-year period from 2010 to 2015. This means that the life expectancy is closer to that observed in more developed regions and further from that of the less developed regions and it remains higher than the global average (see figure IV.1). This change has been widespread and for 2012 the life expectancy at birth was estimated at over 75 years for both sexes in several countries in the region (Argentina, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico and Uruguay). Although the differences between countries in life expectancy at birth are tending to narrow, there are still significant inequalities. In the five-year period 1950-1955, the maximum difference was 28.5 years between life expectancies in Uruguay (66.3 years) and Haiti (37.6 years), while in the period 2010-2015 the maximum difference was 17 years between Cuba (79.2 years) and Haiti (62.1 years).
- The Latin American and Caribbean region has an ageing population. In 2010, 27.9% of the population was aged between 0 and 14, and this age group will account for 21.2% of the population in 2030. Meanwhile, the proportion of those aged 50 to 64 will rise from 11.9% in 2010 to 16.2% in 2030.
- The demographic dependency ratio, i.e. the older adult population (aged over 65 years), divided by the number of people aged 15 to 64, is expected to rise from 10.6% in 2010 to 23.7% in 2040. The ratio is set to stand at 18.2% in 2030.

■ **Figure IV.1** ■
Selected regions: life expectancy at birth, both sexes, estimated and projected, 1950-2015



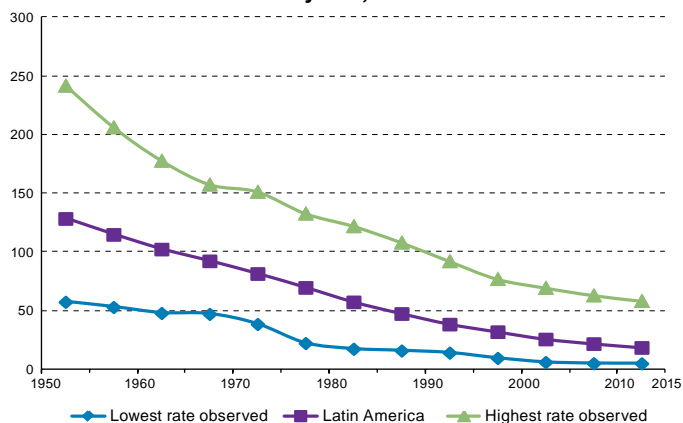
Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision [CD-ROM], New York, Population Division, 2011 and Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC, population estimates and projections, 2012 revision.

- In 2010, the urban population accounted for 78.8% of the total, and is projected to rise to 83.4% in 2030.
- In all the countries of Latin America, female mortality is lower than male, which is expressed in the growing difference between the life expectancy at birth for women and men. This difference is associated with the sex-based differential in the prevalence of diseases or circumstances that cause deaths. In addition to biological differences between the sexes, there are diseases specific to women, such as complications in pregnancy and childbirth, which have been controlled more successfully than those that mostly affect men, such as those related to cardiovascular problems, external causes such as violence, and certain types of malignant tumours.

- The infant mortality rate in Latin America has been reduced from an average of 128.4 deaths in infants under the age of one per 1,000 live births in 1950–1955, to 18.6 deaths in 2010–2015, which represents an 85.5% fall in 60 years. The rate of decline varied within the region.
- During the periods 1950-1955 and 2010-2015, the steepest relative declines (by over 90%) were observed in Chile, Costa Rica and Cuba. Those countries currently have the lowest infant mortality rates in the region. Haiti and the Plurinational State of Bolivia have the highest infant mortality rates and, together with Paraguay, show the lowest relative decline in these rates (70%). In 1950-1955, the highest rate observed (Haiti's) was four times the lowest rate (Uruguay's), and the highest rate at present (again Haiti's) is 12 times as high as the lowest (Cuba's), which shows that the relative differences have increased considerably. This also shows that the decline in infant mortality is taking place at different rates in the countries of the region.

■ Figure IV.2 ■

Latin America: infant mortality rate, 1950-2015 ^a



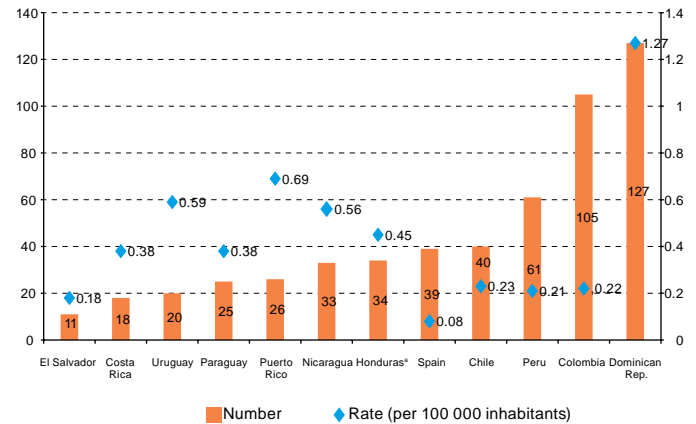
Source: Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC, population estimates and projections, 2012 revision.
^a Deaths of infants under the age of one per 1,000 live births.

V. Gender equality

A. Women's deaths at the hands of their intimate partner or former partner

- Violence against women continues to be a serious problem in the region. In 2011, 466 women were killed by their intimate partner or former intimate partner in 10 nations of the region (Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Peru and Uruguay).
- During that same year, 1,139 gender-based homicides were committed in eight countries of the region (Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), and 29.4% of all gender-based murders of women in those countries were committed by those women's boyfriends or former boyfriends, husbands or former husbands, or live-in partners or former live-in partners.
- Although gender-based violence cannot be said to have increased in the region because the data are not fully comparable and information is not available for all of the countries, intimate-partner violence is clearly a persistent problem.

Figure V.1
Latin America (11 countries) and Spain: deaths of women at the hands of an intimate partner or former intimate partner, 2011
(Absolute numbers and rates)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of data provided by national machineries for the advancement of women.

* Data for 2010.

B. Reproductive health indicators

- Of the 28 Latin American and Caribbean countries for which information is available, 15 have a maternal mortality rate that is above the regional mean (81 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2010) and, although the rate decreased, to varying extents, in more than half of the countries, it rose in another six of them. The persistence of high rates in some countries (which do not show up in the regional average) reflects a lack of access to health services and problems in terms of the quality of medical care provided during childbirth, in emergency obstetrical cases and in pre- and post-natal monitoring.
- The positive effect of increases in the percentage of deliveries attended by specialized personnel is reflected in maternal mortality rates. Peru, for example, which had an above-average maternal mortality rate in 2005, had reduced that rate to 67 deaths per 100,000 live births by 2010 – 14 points below the regional average. During that same period, the percentage of births attended by specialized personnel rose by 15 points. A similar situation can be found in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, where an increase in the percentage of births attended by specialized personnel has brought about a steep drop in the maternal mortality rate, which —although it is still above the regional average— fell by 50 points in five years (from 240 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2005 to 190 in 2010).
- In the Dominican Republic, on the other hand, 97% of all births are attended by qualified personnel and yet the maternal mortality rate remains fairly high (150 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2010). This can be attributed to improved record-keeping.

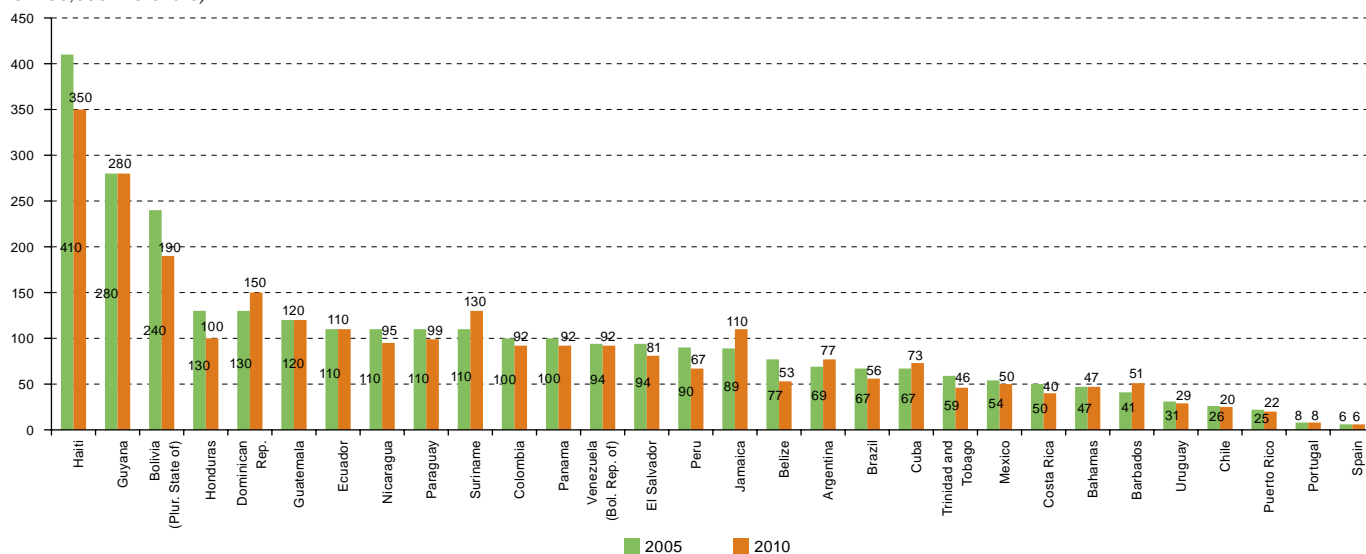
■ **Figure V.2** ■
Latin America (20 countries) and the Caribbean (8 countries):
maternal mortality rates, 1990-2010

(Per 100,000 live births)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of World Health Organization (WHO), *Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2010*. Estimates developed by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and the World Bank [online] http://www.childinfo.org/files/Trends_in_Maternal_Mortality_1990_to_2010.pdf.

■ Figure V.3 ■

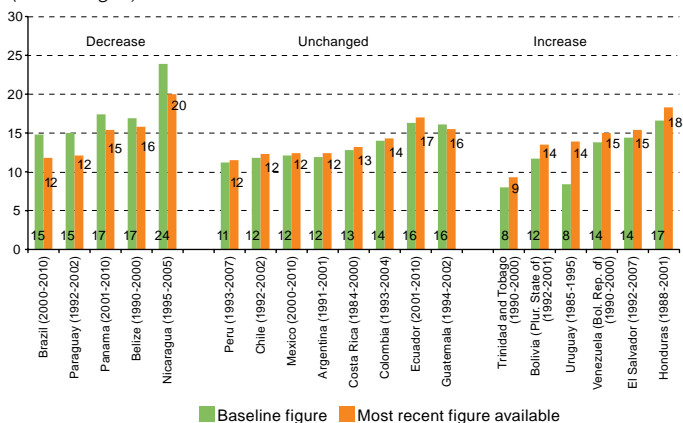
Latin America (20 countries), the Caribbean (8 countries), Portugal and Spain: maternal mortality rates, 2005 and 2010*(Per 100,000 live births)*

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of World Health Organization (WHO), *Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2010*. Estimates developed by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and the World Bank [online] http://www.childinfo.org/files/Trends_in_Maternal_Mortality_1990_to_2010.pdf.

C. Teenage mothers

- The fertility rate among adolescent women points to an area of sexual and reproductive rights in which a great deal remains to be done. This rate attests to the fact that younger women are at a disadvantage in terms of their access and use of sexual and reproductive health resources.
- Nicaragua has the highest figure for this indicator (20% of women between 15 and 19 years of age are mothers). The figure is also high in Honduras (18%), Ecuador (17%) and Belize and Guatemala (16% in both cases). The trend has levelled off somewhat in four countries that had witnessed moderate increases in the preceding decade: Brazil and Panama recorded slight declines (of 3 and 2 percentage points, respectively), Mexico's 12% rate remained unchanged, and Ecuador registered a moderate increase.

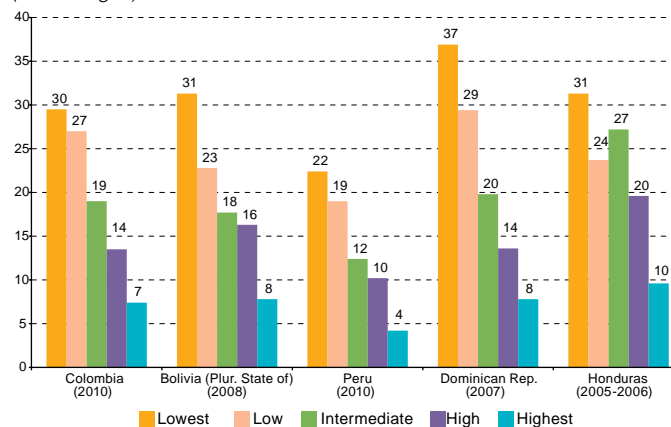
■ **Figure V.4 ■**
Latin America (17 countries) and the Caribbean (2 countries): women between the ages of 15 and 19 who are mothers, baseline and most recent figure available
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of official figures.

- Latin America and the Caribbean, the region that has the greatest income inequality in the world, also displays a sharp differential between the fertility rates of adolescents in the poorest and richest income quintiles (and between the rates for the least-educated young quintiles (and between the rates for the least-educated young women and their more educated counterparts).
- An analysis of the distribution by income quintile of adolescents between the ages of 15 and 19 who are mothers or pregnant shows that in most countries this segment of the population is concentrated in the poorest sectors. In the Dominican Republic, 37% of the young women in this age group who are mothers or are pregnant belong to the bottom income quintile. In Honduras and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, 31% of them are in that quintile, while the corresponding figures for Colombia and Peru are 30% and 22%, respectively.

■ **Figure V.5 ■**
Latin America (5 countries): women between the ages of 15 and 19 who are mothers^a or are pregnant,^b by income quintiles, around 2010
(Percentages)



Source: Demographic and Health Surveys [online] <http://www.measuredhs.com/>. Final report for each country.

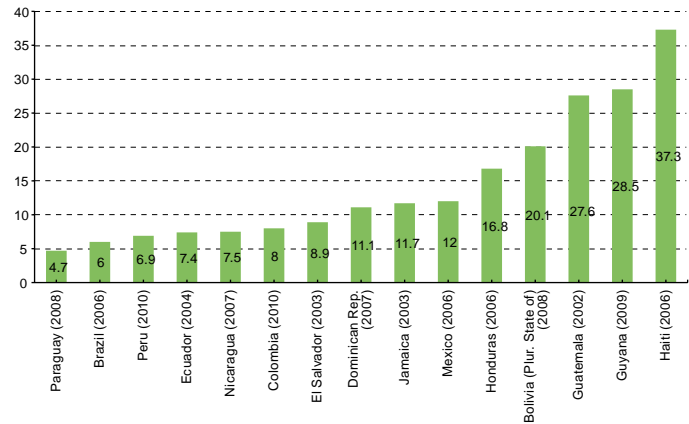
^a Women who have given birth to a live-born child.

^b Women who are pregnant with their first child.

D. Sexual and reproductive health of women

- Haiti heads up the list of countries with the greatest unmet demand for family planning services, with an indicator of 37.3%, which means that nearly 4 out of every 10 women who would like to use family planning services have no access to them. High levels of unmet demand are also found in Guyana (28.5%), Guatemala (a steady ratio over time of 27.6%), the Plurinational State of Bolivia (20.1%) and Honduras (16.8%).
- These figures notwithstanding, the level of unmet demand for family planning services has declined in most of the countries. In both Haiti and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the indicators of access to family planning methods have improved in recent years; now, one out of every five adult Bolivian women do not have access to family planning methods, whereas one out of every four women who were married or in a consensual union lacked such access in 2004.
- Other countries have witnessed a slight decrease in the level of unmet demand for family planning services, but the unmet demand for contraceptives has risen in Honduras and Mexico, while in Brazil unmet demand decreased sharply between 1996 and 2006. Unmet demand has been falling steadily in Paraguay, where a steep drop between 1998 and 2004 (20%) was followed by another decrease of nearly 2 points (from 6.6% to 4.7%) in 2008.
- The reasons why a portion of the demand for family planning services has not been met include the expansion of the overall demand for such services, supply shortfalls, a lack of support for the use of family planning methods on the part of some spouses, and the cost and difficulty of obtaining contraceptives in some countries.

■ **Figure V.6 ■**
Latin America (12 countries) and the Caribbean (3 countries):
unmet demand for family planning services
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of the United Nations database of indicators for the Millennium Development Goals [online] <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Default.aspx>.

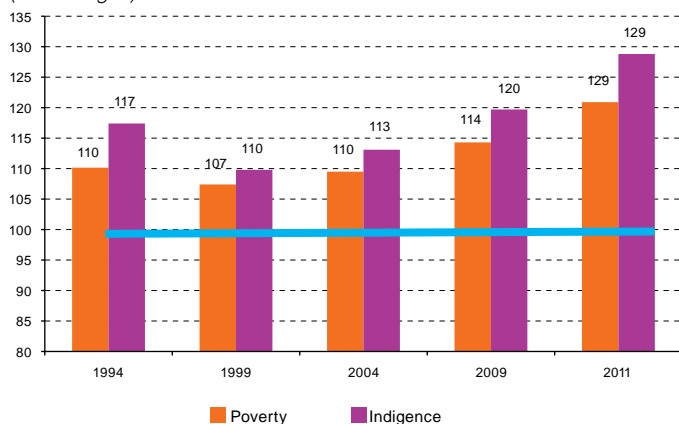
E. Wage gap

- The wage gap persists in Latin America and varies widely: for Peruvian women, wages are lower than those of men by 25.1%; for Venezuelan women, the gap is just 2%. This is in addition to growing time poverty, as a result of the difficulty in stretching women's work to cover both the need for monetary income and the care and reproductive needs of households.
- The proportion of urban women lacking independent income has persisted in the region in the past few years.

From 31.8% of women without their own incomes in 2008, the proportion has edged down to 30.4%. There are still large differences between countries, as well. Disparities are also evident in the availability of independent income to women by age group: 57% of women aged 15 to 24 had no income of their own, falling to 33% in the 35-44 age group. One piece of good news, however, is that between 1990 and 2010 the proportion of women without an independent income has fallen faster among the poorest than among the non-poor.

■ Figure V.7 ■

Latin America (simple average for 16 countries):^a femininity index of poverty and indigence, around 1994 to 2011
(Percentages)

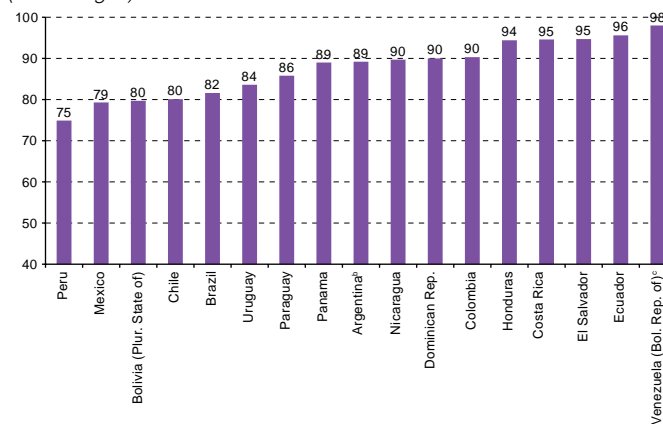


Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

^a Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay.

■ Figure V.8 ■

Latin America (17 countries): women's wages as a proportion of men's wages, around 2011^a
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

^a Corresponds to the average wage of female urban wage earners aged 20 to 49 years, working 35 hours or more per week, as a proportion of the wages of men in the same situation. The data refer to 2011, except in the cases of El Salvador, Honduras and Mexico, where they refer to 2010, and Nicaragua and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, where they refer to 2009. No recent data are available for Guatemala.

^b Refers to 31 conurbations.

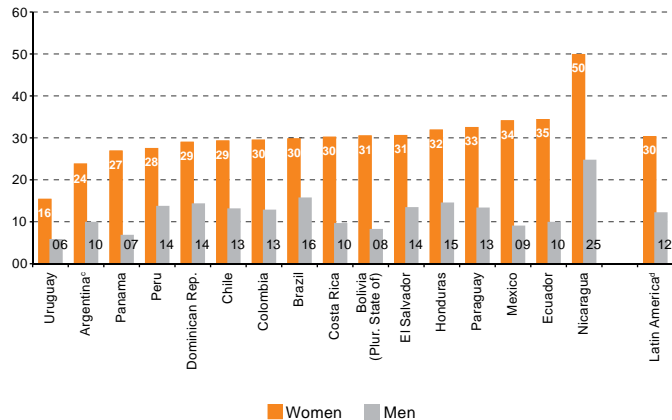
^c National total.

- Around 2010, 30.4% of women in Latin American urban areas had no income of their own, whereas only 12.3% of men were in this situation. The disparities between countries are considerable: in Nicaragua 50% of women lack their own income, while the figure is 32% for Honduras, 32.6% for Paraguay, and 30.6% for the Plurinational State of Bolivia, compared with a much lower 15.5% for Uruguay. In rural areas, in 2010 the proportion of women lacking independent income was 41.4%, compared with 14.9% for men. Here, the differences between countries were even larger. In Nicaragua 72.9% of rural women have no income of their own, and in the Plurinational State of Bolivia the

figure is 52.2%. These two critical cases contrast with Uruguay, where the proportion is just 21.2%, which is partly attributable to the fact that Uruguay is the country with the broadest pension system coverage for women aged 65 and over (85.1% in 2007).

- One positive aspect is that the percentage of women lacking independent income fell more quickly among the poor than among the non-poor between 1994 and 2010. Throughout this period, the proportion of indigent women without independent income came down from 64% to 45% (i.e. 19 percentage points), contrasting with a drop from 35.7% to 25.7% (10 percentage points) among non-poor women.

■ **Figure V.9** ■
Latin America (16 countries): population without incomes of their own, by sex,^a urban areas, around 2010^b
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

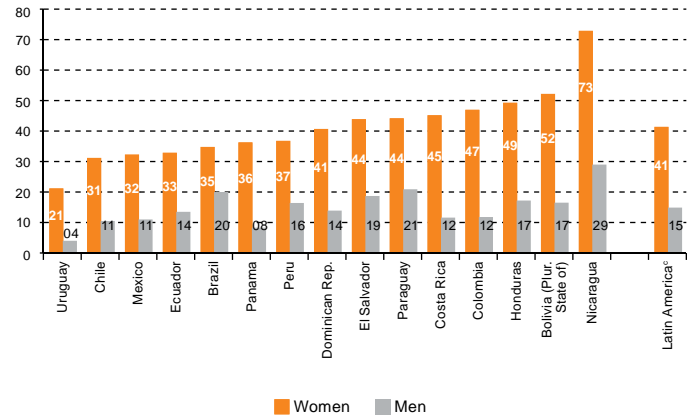
^a People aged 15 and above who are not studying and have no monetary income of their own.

^b Census round of 2010. The data correspond to household surveys conducted in 2010, except for Brazil and Chile, where they refer to surveys conducted in 2009.

^c Refers to 31 conurbations.

^d Simple average of the data for the closest year available in each country.

■ **Figure V.10** ■
Latin America (15 countries): people without incomes of their own, by sex,^a rural areas, around 2010^b
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

^a People aged 15 and over who are not studying and have no monetary income of their own.

^b Census round of 2010. The data correspond to household surveys conducted in 2010, except for Brazil and Chile, where they refer to surveys conducted in 2009.

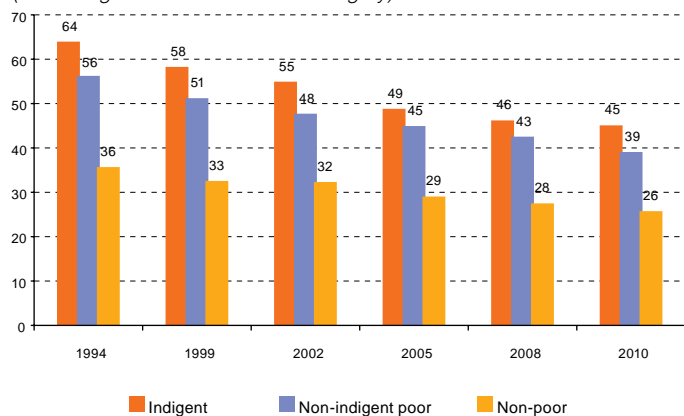
^c Simple average of the data for the closest year available in each country.

- The decrease in the proportion of women without an independent income between 1994 and 2010 may be attributed to the growing incorporation of women into paid work in both urban and rural areas, and to changes in the social security systems in some countries, such as Chile, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay. In 2008, urban female labour market participation averaged 52%, 10 percentage points higher than the rate in 1990. Labour-market participation also increased among rural women between 1990 and 2005.

■ Figure V.11 ■

Latin America (simple average for 14 countries): women aged 15 and over without incomes of their own, by poverty status, urban areas, 1994-2010^a

(Percentages of the total in each category)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

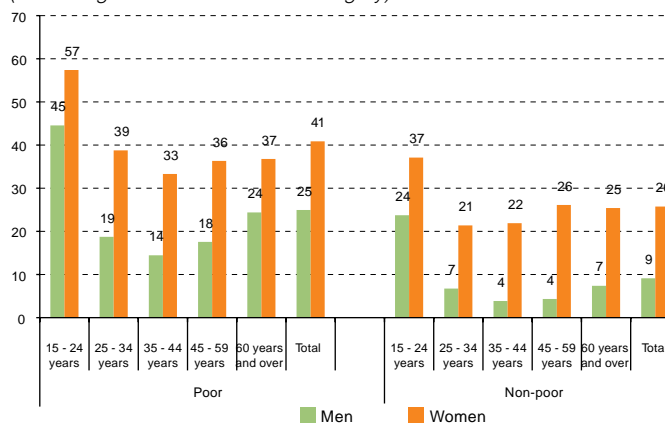
^a Not including students. The countries included in the average are: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

- Around 2010, the gap between the poor and non-poor women without independent income was 20 percentage points in the 15-24 age group, and 18 percentage points in the 25-34 age group, falling sharply to 10 percentage points, approximately, in the following age groups. The fact that 57% of women aged 15 to 24 lack their own income shows how hard it is for younger women to enter the labour market and reflects the persistent and growing rate of youth unemployment, which is twice the rate for the rest of the population and is highest among low-income youth.

■ Figure V.12 ■

Latin America (simple average for 14 countries): people without incomes of their own by sex, age group and poverty status, urban areas, around 2010^a

(Percentages of the total in each category)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

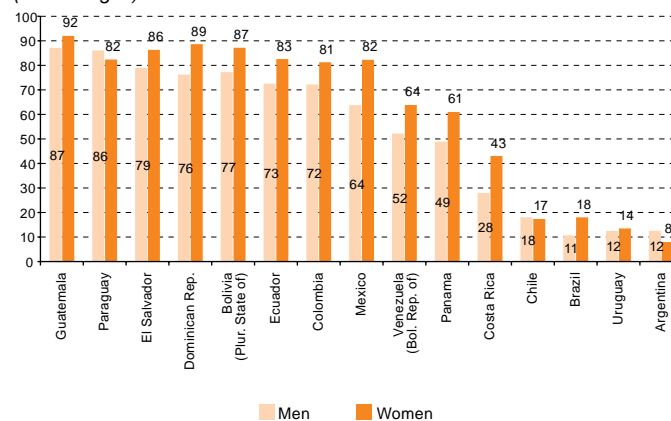
^a Not including students. The countries included in the average are: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

F. Women over 60 without independent income

- A large proportion of women aged over 60 have no independent income. This is because the working trajectory of many women takes place in the sphere of care work or unpaid work, because many women's labour trajectories are associated with non-contributory labour systems, which generate very small pensions or deliver benefits for only a limited period and are not guaranteed throughout old age, or because they have worked in the informal sector and have not contributed to a pension fund.
- Around 2010, among women aged over 60, 27% in urban areas, and 30% in rural areas had no income of their own. The crudest situation was in Nicaragua, where 78% of older women in urban areas had no independent income, and a worrisome proportion of older women were in this situation in Paraguay (39%), Mexico (35%), Colombia (34.5%), Ecuador (32.6%), the Dominican Republic (30%), Honduras (26.2%) and Peru (24.3%). In other countries of the region the figures for older women with no independent income are lower, but it is nevertheless necessary to address large gender differences, such as in Chile, (17.9%), Brazil (15.8%), Panama (15.8%), Uruguay (12.1%) and Argentina (7.7%).

■ Figure V.13 ■

Latin America (15 countries): persons aged 65 and over with no pension or retirement benefit, by sex, around 2010^a
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.
^a The data refer to 2010, except for the Plurinational State of Bolivia, where they refer to 2007, and Brazil and Chile, where they refer to 2009.



Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
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