

The **2030 Agenda** for **Sustainable Development** and the **Regional Gender** **Agenda** in **Latin America** and **the Caribbean**

Gender indicators up to **2024**



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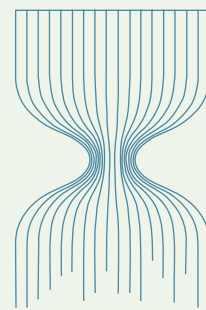
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This document was prepared jointly by the Division for Gender Affairs of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), under the leadership of Ana Gúezmes García, and by the Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), under the leadership of María-Noel Vaeza. The preparation of the document was coordinated by Karen García Rojas, Statistician in the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC, and Andrea Llerena, Statistics Specialist in the Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean of UN-Women. Also participating in the preparation of the document were Gustavo Salazar, Junior Statistics and Data Analysis Specialist, and Grace Armijos Bravo and Adriana Manna, statistics and data analysis consultants, in the Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean of UN-Women; and Javiera Ravest, Senior Research Assistant, and María Alejandra Lara, consultant, in the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC.

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This document will serve as an input for the eighth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development and as a background document for the sixteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean—to be held on the theme "Political, economic, social, cultural and environmental transformations as a means of advancing the care society and gender equality"—ahead of the sixty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which will focus on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

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Contents

Introduction	5
I. Gender indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Regional Gender Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean: summary results	9
II. Analysis of gender indicators for monitoring Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 17 in synergy with the Regional Gender Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean	13
GOAL 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere	13
GOAL 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	20
GOAL 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	25
GOAL 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	31
GOAL 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	43
GOAL 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	49
III. Conclusions	55
Bibliography	59
Annex A1	63

Introduction

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted 30 years ago, established a set of areas of particular concern in relation to gender equality and women's rights that called for urgent action. Since then, this road map has become the women's rights agenda with the greatest global support (UN-Women, 2024a). Latin America and the Caribbean has an ambitious, far-reaching and comprehensive Regional Gender Agenda that incorporates the agreements reached by the member States of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC, 2023a) at the meetings of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean held since 1977,¹ positioning it as the world's only region with its own guide for achieving gender equality, the safeguarding of the rights of women, adolescent girls and girls in all their diversity, the exercise of their autonomy and sustainable development. At the sixty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in December 2024, the participating countries reaffirmed "once again the commitment to take all necessary and progressive measures so that States, as duty bearers, will accelerate the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Regional Gender Agenda" (ECLAC, 2024i; UN-Women, 2024b).

In 2015, the Member States of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. The Agenda sets out 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 integrated and indivisible targets covering the economic, social and environmental spheres. The 2030 Agenda emphasizes the urgency of achieving gender equality through the 17 SDGs. Goal 5 is to "achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" as a goal in itself, while the achievement of gender equality is presented as cross-cutting and inseparable from the rest of the SDGs (United Nations, 2015; UN-Women, 2021; ECLAC/UN-Women, 2024; ECLAC, 2022a and 2025a).

Latin America and the Caribbean has made remarkable progress on the different SDGs related to the critical areas of concern in the Beijing Platform for Action, in synergy with the Regional Gender Agenda. The countries have recognized in their entirety the rights of women, adolescent girls and girls, adopted policy frameworks for equality, repealed discriminatory laws and strengthened the gender architecture in the State and gender information systems. However, no country in the region has achieved substantive equality. There are still gaps between gender inequalities and the capabilities, resources and information available for States to reduce them in a challenging and uncertain context (ECLAC, 2025b). To accelerate progress on gender equality, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women, 2024b) has proposed six priority areas for action linked to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action: gender parity in decision-making positions, ending violence against women, green economies and jobs centred on women and girls, reducing the digital gender gap, transforming the care economy, and issues related to the gender perspective in the women, peace and security agenda and humanitarian action (UN-Women, 2024b).

Given that inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean is structural in nature, achieving gender equality and ensuring women's rights means overcoming the development crisis facing the region. This crisis is characterized by three mutually reinforcing traps: low capacity for growth; high inequality and low social mobility and cohesion; and weak institutional capacities and governance (ECLAC, 2024d). These development traps are compounded by multiple cascading crises and multidimensional challenges at the global and regional levels which are jeopardizing progress towards gender equality. There is plainly a crisis of care, exacerbated by population ageing, changes in epidemiological trends and the effects

¹ Held by ECLAC as secretariat in coordination with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) since 2020, the Conference brings together governments, civil society organizations (particularly women's and feminist movements and organizations), academia, intergovernmental organizations, cooperation organizations and the United Nations system (ECLAC, 2023a).

of climate change, and this points to a sustained increase in the demand for labour in the care sector (ECLAC/UN-Women, 2024; ECLAC, 2024e).

Uncertainty and geopolitical instability are compounding the deterioration of the economic and social situation resulting from international crises in the health and care, energy, food and finance sectors and, in the context of a growing environmental crisis, from the impact of climate change, pollution and intensifying disasters, as well as the high level of public debt in many countries of the region (ECLAC, 2024b). The current economic system is exacerbating poverty, inequality and environmental deterioration, with disproportionate effects on women, especially those facing multiple forms of discrimination (UN-Women, 2024k).

ECLAC estimates that only 25% of the 2030 Agenda targets² are on track to be met by 2030 in the region, while the trend for 48% of the targets is in the right direction but not strong enough for them to be met, and for the other 27% of the targets the situation is actually worsening (ECLAC, 2025b).

Progress towards the targets of several SDGs has stalled or even gone into reverse in the region, something that directly affects the whole population, and particularly women (ECLAC/UN-Women, 2024).

As requested by the countries in the Quito Consensus (2007),³ the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean⁴ has produced a set of indicators in synergy with the Regional Gender Agenda. The indicators are organized around three dimensions of women's autonomy, namely economic, physical and decision-making autonomy. Prior to the 2030 Agenda, the region had experience in monitoring intergovernmentally determined strategic indicators to track progress towards gender equality. Some of them, such as those for femicide or feminicide and total workloads, were included in the set of indicators prioritized by the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean to follow up the Sustainable Development Goals in the region⁵ and classified as complementary indicators. This set, approved in 2017 by the Statistical Conference of the Americas, incorporates indicators which provide a deeper understanding of phenomena that are important for the region and need to be considered if gender equality is to be achieved (ECLAC/UN-Women, 2024; ECLAC, 2023a).

Indicators have been established to monitor progress towards the goals of each SDG,⁶ and national statistical offices are required to report on these in collaboration with other government sectors. The mainstreaming of the gender approach in the 2030 Agenda is reflected in a group of gender indicators⁷ that have to be disaggregated by sex or refer to gender equality as an underlying objective (UN-Women/DESA, 2023). On the basis of these and additional indicators, the current state of progress towards gender equality worldwide was presented in the report *Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The gender snapshot 2023* (UN-Women/DESA, 2023).

The present document is the regional version of this global report and is based on gender indicators prioritized for the monitoring of the SDGs and enhanced with indicators from the regional framework and the Gender Equality Observatory. It also incorporates disaggregated figures for intersectional analyses, so that results can be contextualized and each goal more thoroughly analysed.

² Those for which information is available.

³ Through the Quito Consensus, the governments of the countries participating in the tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, represented by ministers and machineries for the advancement of women at the highest level, requested the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean "together with other organizations in the United Nations system, to collaborate with member States that request them to do so in following up on the fulfilment of the agreements that have been adopted through the creation of an equality observatory that will help strengthen national gender machineries" (ECLAC, 2007).

⁴ Administered by ECLAC in cooperation with organizations that include UN-Women, the United Nations Population Fund, the Pan American Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Children's Fund, the International Labour Organization, the Ibero-American General Secretariat and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation.

⁵ See ECLAC (2018a) for more information.

⁶ Because of the difficulty of quantitatively delimiting certain issues and a lack of experience in measuring them, not all the SDG targets have statistical follow-up indicators or specific quantitative targets.

⁷ These indicators emerged from the proposal made by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics of the United Nations Statistical Commission, as mentioned in the report on the forty-fourth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission.

Carried out jointly by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and ECLAC, this analysis combines monitoring of the intergovernmental commitments of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Regional Gender Agenda, highlighting the interrelationship between these frameworks to advance and promote data-based gender equality.

This document includes an analysis of the results of six selected Goals (1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 17), four of which⁸ will be examined at the eighth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development in April 2025 and at the high-level political forum on sustainable development in July 2025, together with some promising action for achieving these Goals. Its purpose is to provide a reference tool for decision-making aimed at accelerating the achievement of equality and ensuring the full exercise of the rights of women, adolescent girls and girls in all their diversity and at removing the structural barriers to gender equality.

This report is the second publication in a series produced by the Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean of UN-Women and ECLAC. The first report, published in 2024, was a reference document for the sixty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (ECLAC/UN-Women, 2024).

The document is structured as follows. After this introduction, there is a summary of the results of the gender indicators of the 17 SDGs. This is followed by an analysis of the gender indicators for Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 17. Lastly, conclusions are presented.

⁸ Goals 3, 5, 8, 14 and 17 will be examined at the eighth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development in 2025.

I.

Gender indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Regional Gender Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean: summary results⁹



1 NO POVERTY

3 in every 10 women were poor and **1 in 10 extremely poor** in Latin America as of 2023.

In 2023, there were **121 women** aged 20–59 living in poverty and **120 in extreme poverty** in Latin America for every 100 men in the same situation.

The **incidence of poverty** has declined in Latin America over the last decade, while **the femininity index of poverty increased** from 105 in 2003 to 113 in 2013 and 121 in 2023.

Poverty disproportionately affects women, children, Afrodescendent and Indigenous women, rural populations and **young women** in Latin America.

26% of women in Latin America **had no income of their own at all** in 2023, compared with 10% of men.



2 ZERO HUNGER

17.1% of women aged 15–49 in Latin America and the Caribbean were **anaemic** in 2019, rising to **21.9%** in the case of pregnant women.

30.3% of women in Latin America and the Caribbean were **food insecure** in 2022, which was higher than the figure of **25.1%** for men.

The **average income** of **women** food producers was between **50%** and **82%** of their male counterparts' in 7 Latin American countries^a with data from between 2008 and 2021.



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

83.3% of **women** aged 15–49 met their **family planning needs** with **modern contraceptive methods** in Latin America and the Caribbean as of 2023.

The adolescent fertility rate in Latin America and the Caribbean was **50.6 per 1,000 women** aged 15–19 in 2024.

Most **new HIV transmissions** in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2022 affected men, with the male infection rate being **more than double** the female rate.



4 QUALITY EDUCATION

4.07 million girls and adolescent women in 21 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean^b were **outside the primary and secondary education system** in 2022.^c

Participation in **organized learning** before primary education **has fallen by more for girls** (2.6 percentage points, from 92.1% to 89.5%) **than for boys** (1.7 percentage points, from 93.8% to 89.9%) in Latin America and the Caribbean since 2020.

⁹ Most of the indicators presented are from United Nations (2024d).



Only **35.8%** of seats in **national parliaments** in Latin America and the Caribbean were held by **women** in 2024.

Only **27.2%** of elected seats in **local government** deliberative bodies were held by **women** in 2023.

70% of **machineries for the advancement of women** in Latin America (20 countries^d) are of **ministerial or equivalent rank**. In the Caribbean (18 countries^e), the proportion is **16.7%** (2024).^f

In Latin America, women spend between **12.0%** and **24.2%** of their time on **unpaid domestic and care work**. For men, the proportion ranges from **3.0%** (Honduras) to **12.5%** (Cuba), according to the latest available figures.

The **greater part** of women's total working time is spent on **unpaid** domestic and care work, while most of men's working time is spent on paid work.

1 in every 5 women aged 20–24 in Latin America and the Caribbean had been **married or in a union since before the age of 18** as of 2023.

At least **3,897 women** were victims of **femicide or feminicide** in 27 countries and territories^g of Latin America and the Caribbean in 2023.

8.3% of women and girls aged 15–49 in Latin America and the Caribbean have suffered **physical or sexual violence or both** from their current or former **partner** in the last 12 months (2018). These figures need to be collected more frequently to improve monitoring.

Only **72%** of women aged 15–49 make their **own informed decisions** about **sexual relations, contraceptive use** and **reproductive healthcare** in Latin America and the Caribbean (2024).

Only **31%** of Latin American and Caribbean countries have laws and regulations to ensure **access to voluntary termination of pregnancy services** and **57%** have laws and regulations for access to the **human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine** (2022).

Only **13%** of the region's countries^h have **systems for monitoring gender equality** and women's empowerment and for **allocating public funds** to this area (2021).



Equal participation by women in strategic sectors such as power generation is crucial, but in **18 countries** of Latin America and the Caribbeanⁱ there are **2.5 times as many men** as **women** employed in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply sector (2023).

In 2021, **Latin America and the Caribbean** had the world's **most female researchers** as a proportion of the total, at **44.4%**^j but parity has yet to be achieved.



51.6% of women of working age were participating in the **labour market** as of 2023, compared to **76.9%** of men.^k

24.1% of young women and **10.2%** of young men were **not in education, employment or training** in 2023.

Women's **labour income** ranged from **72.4%** to **98.8%** of men's in 12 countries of the region (2023).^l



In 2021, **70.6%** of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean applied **migration policies** that facilitated safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration and mobility.

In **14 countries and territories**^m of the region, **women reported suffering sex discrimination** up to **five times as much as men**.



By **2050, climate change** could push more than **13 million women** into **poverty** and more than **19.8 million women** into **food insecurity** in Latin America and the Caribbean.

6 out of 9ⁿ countries in Latin America received the highest score (1) for the degree to which **education for citizenship** and for **sustainable development** is integrated into student assessments (2020).

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Only **37%** of **women** in Latin America and the Caribbean **felt safe walking out alone** between 2020 and 2022, **compared to 52% of men**.

The **rate of intentional homicides** per 100,000 inhabitants remained **constant** for **women (3.8)**, between 2020 and 2021, but appeared to be **decreasing** for **men (35.9)**.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Commitments such as the **Pact for the Future**, the **Regional Gender Agenda** and the **Escazú Agreement** have charted a road map towards equality.

The transition to a care society requires partnerships to strengthen **technical, operational, political and prospective capacities**.

11 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean scored between **0.16** and **0.81** on

the **index** measuring national achievements and challenges in the production, accessibility and use of data with a gender perspective in 2024 (1 being the maximum).^o

As of 2023, **21 countries and territories** of Latin America and the Caribbean^p had national statistical legislation aligned with the **Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics**.

Source: Prepared by the authors on the basis of the referenced bibliography.

^a Ecuador (2014), Guatemala (2014), Mexico (2014), Nicaragua (2014), Panama (2008), Peru (2021) and the Plurinational State of Bolivia (2008).

^b Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Lucia and Uruguay.

^c UNESCO (2025).

^d Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Puerto Rico and Uruguay.

^e Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, the British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

^f ECLAC (2024i).

^g Anguilla, Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Uruguay.

^h The percentage was obtained on the basis of information from nine countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

ⁱ Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Lucia and Uruguay.

^j UN-Women/DESA (2024).

^k See ECLAC (2025b).

^l Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

^m Argentina (2019), Colombia (2023), Costa Rica (2018), Cuba (2019), the Dominican Republic (2019), Guyana (2019), Honduras (2019), Jamaica (2022), Mexico (2022), Peru (2019), the Plurinational State of Bolivia (2021), Suriname (2018), Trinidad and Tobago (2022) and the Turks and Caicos Islands (2020).

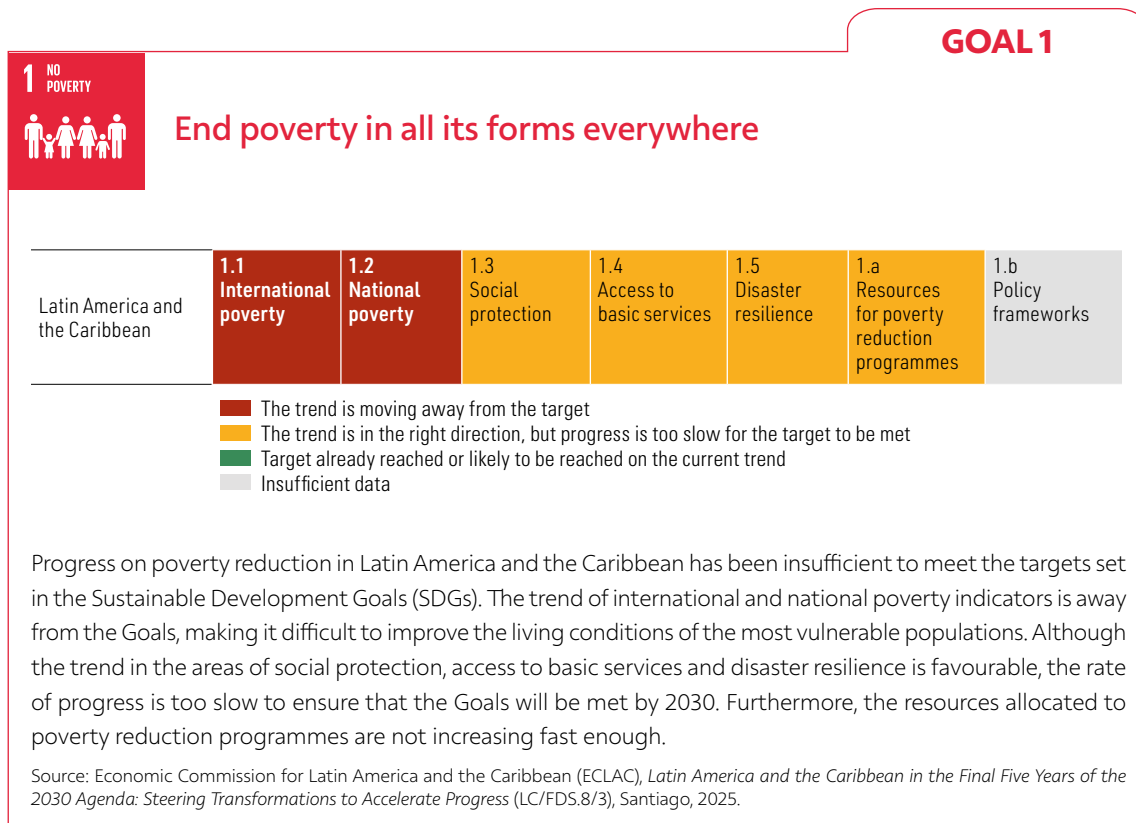
ⁿ Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

^o Antigua and Barbuda, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama and Suriname.

^p Argentina, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Honduras, Martinique, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Uruguay.

II.

Analysis of gender indicators for monitoring Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 17 in synergy with the Regional Gender Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean



The global extreme poverty rate in 2024 was 9.8% for women, compared to 9.1% for men,¹⁰ meaning that there were 24.3 million more women than men in extreme poverty¹¹ (UN-Women/DESA, 2023). At the current rate of progress, it will take another 137 years to end extreme poverty for women and girls worldwide (UN-Women/DESA, 2023).

¹⁰ Taking the poverty line as US \$2.15 per day.

¹¹ The methodology for calculating the global poverty and extreme poverty rates is not necessarily comparable with the regional methodology. For more details on the latter, see the methodological note (ECLAC, 2018b).

Latin America and the Caribbean is no exception: poverty affects women and girls to a greater extent, especially young, Indigenous and Afrodescendent women and those living in rural areas. The structural challenges to gender inequality, in particular the sexual division of labour and the unequal social organization of care, together with socioeconomic inequality and the persistence of poverty within a framework of uninclusive economic growth, are being reinforced in a context of cascading development crises that also include a crisis of care (ECLAC, 2024e).

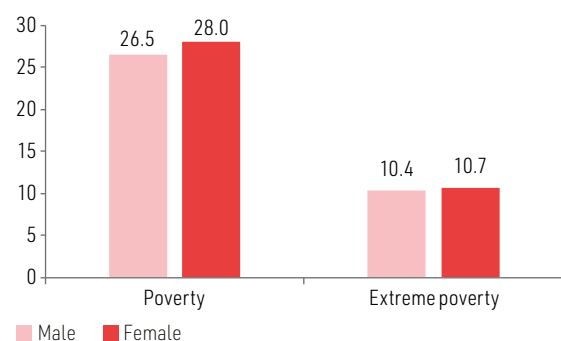
The greater burden of domestic and care work borne by women and girls means that they have less time and fewer opportunities to escape poverty (UN-Women, 2024d). Women in the region spend almost three times as much time on unpaid domestic and care work as men, which limits their participation in education and in the public or political sphere and their time for rest and leisure, and so entrenches inequalities in all their forms, something that especially affects their labour participation (UN-Women/UNOPS, 2024; UN-Women, 2024e; ECLAC, 2024e and 2025b). The ability of girls and adolescent girls in particular to stay on in the education system is affected by domestic and care work, particularly when they are in child marriages and early and forced unions. This impacts their life course and the exercise of their autonomy, and is aggravated by the still high levels of adolescent pregnancy and motherhood in the region (UN-Women/UNDP, 2015; ECLAC, 2024g). In addition, women's poverty is influenced by discriminatory cultural patterns and practices in the workplace, where women are overrepresented in low-paid jobs in both the formal and informal sectors (UN-Women, n.d.-a).

The charts and maps that follow show the results of the gender indicators for this SDG.

Target 1.1. Eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere

Figure II.1

Latin America: population in poverty and extreme poverty, by sex, 2023 (indicator P-11.1)
(Percentages)



3 in every 10 women in Latin America were **poor** and 1 in every 10 were **extremely poor** in 2023.

The incidence of **poverty was greater** among **women** than among **men**.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

- In 11 countries of Latin America,¹² the percentage of women living in **poverty** varies from country to country. In 2023, Uruguay registered the lowest rate (4.7%) and Honduras the highest (56.8%). The rate was between 14% and 19% in five countries¹³ and between 20% and 34% in the remaining four¹⁴ (see map II.1).

¹² The countries with information available for the latest period reported are Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

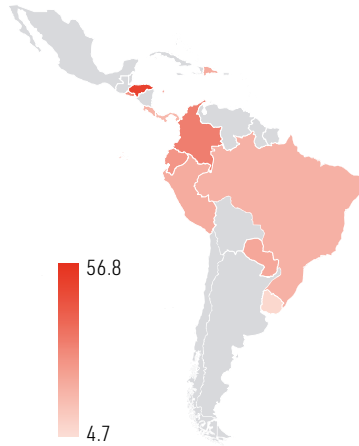
¹³ Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Panama and Peru.

¹⁴ Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador and Paraguay.

- The pattern is similar for **extreme poverty**. Uruguay had the lowest incidence (0.2%) and Honduras the highest (23.9%), followed by Colombia (16.5%). In the remaining eight countries,¹⁵ the rate ranged from 3% to 9% (see map II.2).

Map II.1

Latin America: women in poverty, 2023
(indicator P-1.1.1)
(Percentages)

**Map II.2**

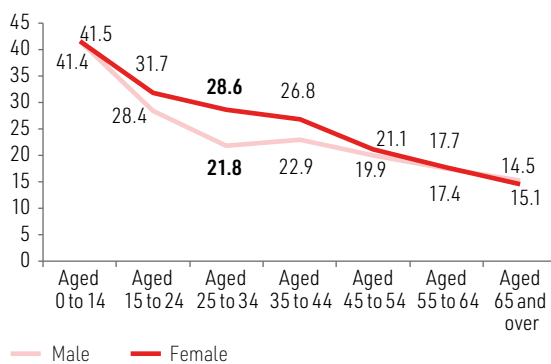
Latin America: women in extreme poverty, 2023
(indicator P-1.1.1)
(Percentages)



Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Figure II.2

Latin America: population in poverty, by sex and age group, 2023 (indicator P-1.1.1)
(Percentages)



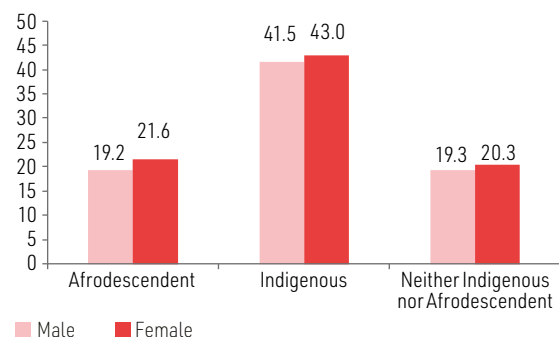
The **gender gap** in the incidence of poverty is **widest** between **the ages of 15 and 44**, peaking in the group aged **25 to 34**, with a difference of **6.8 percentage points**.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

¹⁵ Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama, Paraguay and Peru.

Figure II.3

Latin America: population in poverty, by sex and ethnicity, 2023 (indicator P-1.1.1)
(Percentages)

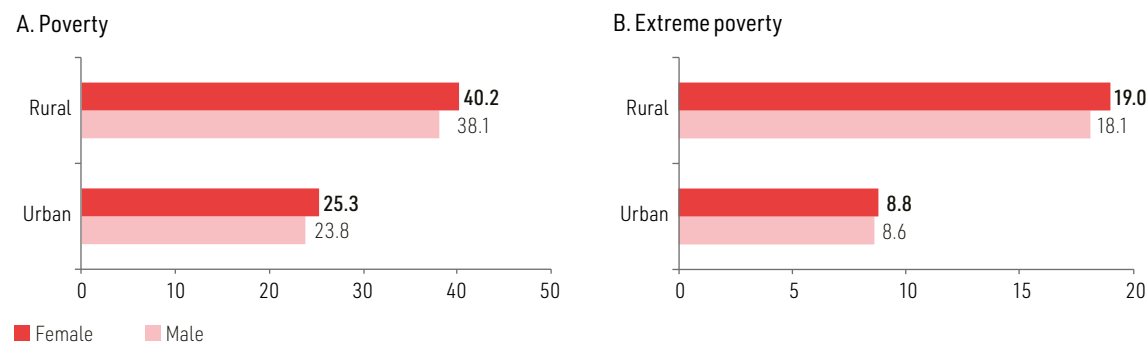


The proportion of **Indigenous women** in **poverty** (43.0%) is **around double** that of **non-Indigenous, non-Afrodescendent women** (20.3%).

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Figure II.4

Latin America: population in poverty and extreme poverty, by sex and geographical area, 2023 (indicator P-1.1.1)
(Percentages)

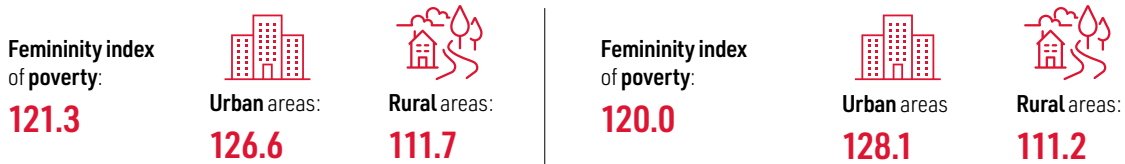


Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

- **40.2%** of **women** in **rural** areas are **poor**, which is **1.6 times the proportion** in **urban** areas (25.3%).
- Extreme poverty affects **19.0% of women in rural areas**, while in urban areas the figure is **8.8%**, a **gap of 10.2 percentage points**.
- In both urban and rural areas, **the incidence of poverty and extreme poverty is higher among women** than among **men**.

Latin America: feminization of poverty, 2023

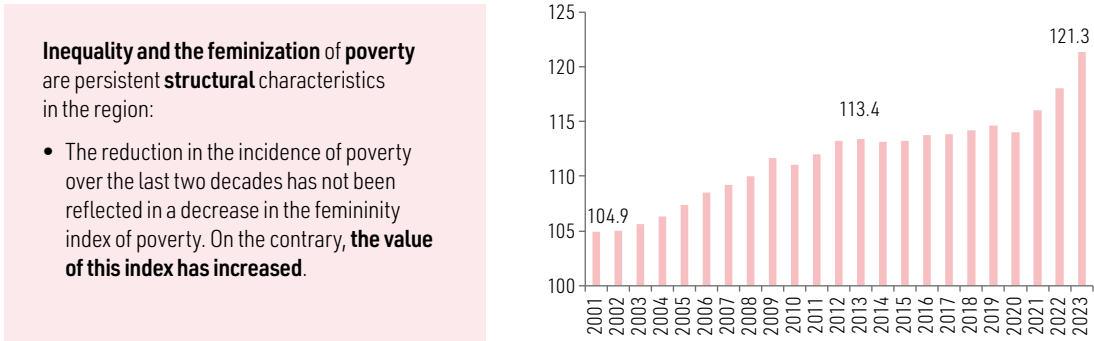
Poverty is feminized: in Latin America there were **121 women** in poverty and **120 women** in extreme poverty for **every 100 men** in the same situation (2023).



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Statistics and Indicators", CEPALSTAT [online] <https://statistics.cepal.org/portal/cepalstat/dashboard.html?theme=4&lang=en> and Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Figure II.5

Latin America (17 countries): femininity index of poverty, weighted averages, 2001–2023



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of CEPALSTAT [online database] <https://statistics.cepal.org/portal/cepalstat/index.html?lang=en> and Household Survey Data Bank (BADEHOG), 2025.

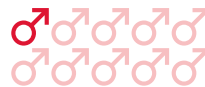
Note: Up until 2015, the weighted averages are based on data from 18 countries: Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay. From 2016, the averages do not include the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Whether or not women have their **own income** is a key indicator for the disadvantages they face in exercising economic autonomy.

A higher proportion of women than men have no income of their own in all household **income quintiles.**



1 in 4 women in Latin America **have no income of their own**

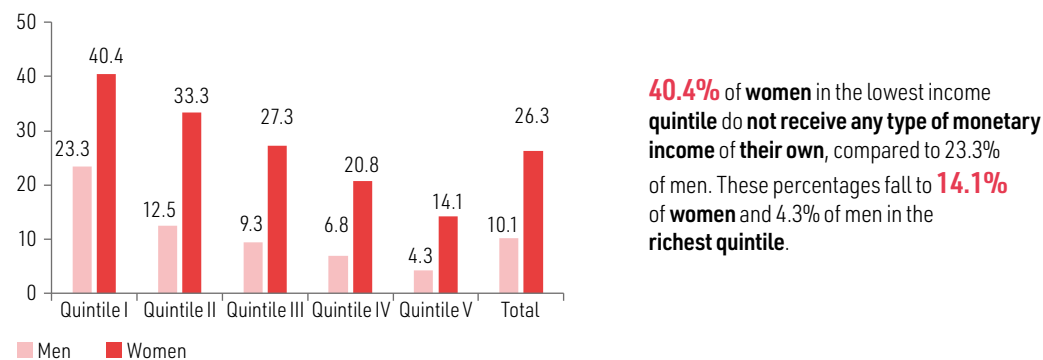


1 in 10 men

Figure II.6

Latin America: people aged 15 and over with no income of their own, by sex and household income quintile, simple averages, 2023

(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Statistics and Indicators", CEPALSTAT [online] <https://statistics.cepal.org/portal/cepalstat/dashboard.html?theme=4&lang=en> and Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Target 1.3. Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

Latin America and the Caribbean: Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex and other variables, 2023 (indicator 1.3.1)



57.4% of women with severe disabilities receive disability benefits in Latin America and the Caribbean, compared to **65.3%** of men with severe disabilities (2023).



29.6% of women aged 15 to 49 with newborn children receive cash maternity benefits in Latin America and the Caribbean (2023).



74.2% of women of retirement age (65 years and over) receive a pension in Latin America and the Caribbean, compared to **85.9%** of men (2023).



9.7% of unemployed women aged 15 and over receive cash unemployment benefits in Latin America and the Caribbean, compared to **10.3%** of unemployed men (2023).



43.5% of employed women aged 15 and over are covered in the event of a work-related accident in Latin America and the Caribbean, compared to **46.0%** of men (2023).

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.



Turning commitments into actions to end poverty in all its forms everywhere and achieve gender equality

The countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have identified socioeconomic inequality and the persistence of poverty in a context of uninclusive economic growth as a structural obstacle to gender equality. For this reason, within the framework of the Regional Gender Agenda, in synergy with the 2030 Agenda and the Pact for the Future, they have recognized the need to implement comprehensive poverty eradication strategies that identify and address the needs of women and girls. Accordingly, promising recommendations and practices have been identified in documents monitoring equality, such as the global report *Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The gender snapshot 2024* (UN-Women/DESA, 2024) and the report *Action for equality, development and peace in Latin America and the Caribbean: Regional report on the review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 30 years on, in synergy with the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda* (ECLAC, 2025b).

Some strategies:

It is essential to **establish comprehensive anti-poverty** strategies that are coordinated with labour inclusion policies and efforts to strengthen social protection systems, taking into account the differentiated needs and life paths of women and men. Changing the current **sexual division of labour** is one of the main challenges if women are to have access to paid work and not be constrained by the burden of care.

It is necessary to **promote access to decent work and education** and to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men, especially those living in rural areas and belonging to Indigenous Peoples and Afrodescendent populations. It is essential to foster the inclusion of women in the labour market in synergy with national care systems and measures to secure training, social protection and equal pay and incomes. In this context, **adopting SDG acceleration strategies** that strengthen access to essential services is vital for overcoming poverty.

These actions are crucial to **create the right conditions for the exercise of women's autonomy**, as are measures to promote universal access to comprehensive healthcare services and the full exercise of sexual and reproductive rights, along with women's access to drinking water; safe, nutritious and sufficient food; sanitation; renewable, non-polluting and affordable energy; public transport; and housing.



Food insecurity affected about 2.33 billion people worldwide in 2023, being more prevalent among women (26.7%) than men (25.4%), so that 47.8 million more women than men are food-insecure (UN-Women/DESA, 2024). In 2023, the gender gap for moderate or severe food insecurity was about 1 percentage point in all regions of the world except Latin America and the Caribbean, where the gap was much wider at 5.2 percentage points (FAO and others, 2024).

Although women do most of the food preparation at home, as shown by measures of time use in Latin America (ECLAC, 2023b), at times of crisis it is they and girls who are the first to reduce their food intake (UN-Women, n.d.-b). Likewise, women contribute in all stages of the food cycle, from growing to processing, preparation and distribution, whether their work is paid or unpaid. However, women earn less than men and face greater food insecurity (UN-Women, 2020) in a context of structural gender inequalities marked by discriminatory and patriarchal cultural patterns, the concentration of power and hierarchical relations (ECLAC, 2017).

The data suggest that prevailing gender norms and women's limited access to resources are the factors explaining why they are more affected by food insecurity (FAO and others, 2024). Furthermore, women in poor households are less likely to get the nutrients they need and to be able to meet the physical demands of pregnancy and breastfeeding (UN-Women, n.d.-a), and they continue to do care work at these stages and throughout their lives, even when they have health problems or high-risk pregnancies.

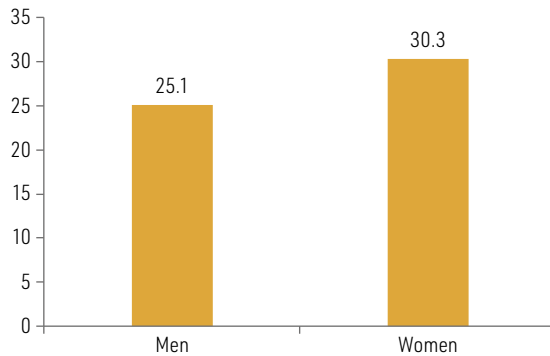
The results for the Goal 2 gender indicators are shown below.

Target 2.1. By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round

Figure II.7

Latin America and the Caribbean: prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population aged 15 and over, 2023 (indicator 2.1.2)

(Percentages)

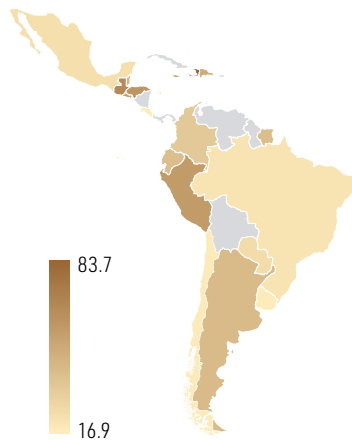


In 2023, **30.3%** of **women** in Latin America and the Caribbean suffered from **food insecurity**, a figure **5.2 percentage points higher** than that for **men (25.1%)**.

Map II.3

Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity among women (2022)

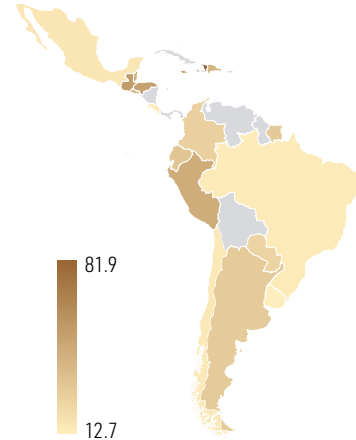
(Percentages)



Map II.4

Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity among men (2022)

(Percentages)



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and others, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, Rome, 2024*.

Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and others, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, Rome, 2024*.

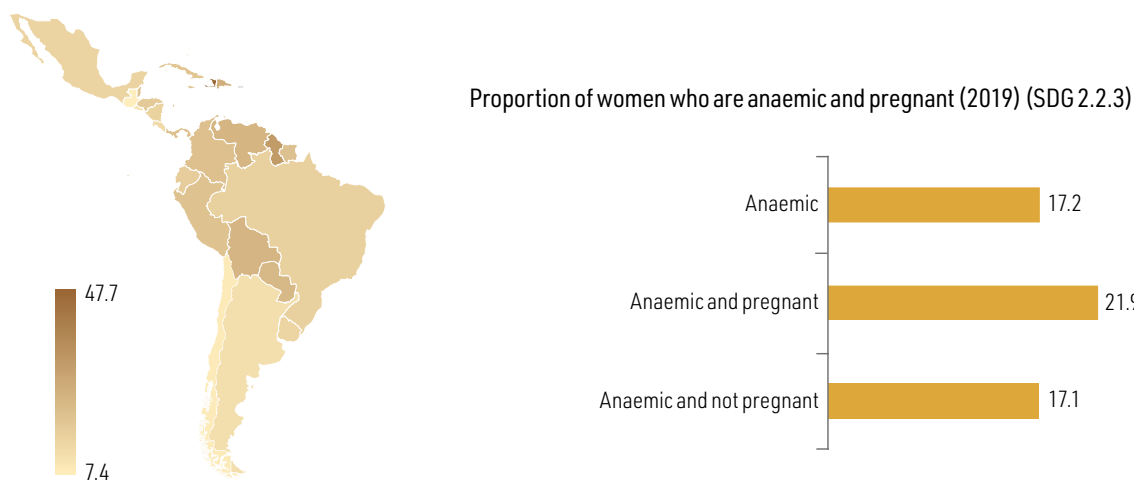


- The prevalence of moderate or severe **food insecurity** among **women** in Latin America and the Caribbean ranged from **16.9%** (the Bahamas) to **83.7%** (Haiti).
- The prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity among women was **over 30%** in **17 of 26** countries.¹⁶

Target 2.2. By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons

Map II.5

Latin America and the Caribbean: women aged 15 to 49 who are anaemic (2019) (indicator 2.2.3) (Percentages)



- The **proportion of women** who are **anaemic and pregnant (21.9%)** in Latin America and the Caribbean is **higher** than that of **women who are anaemic and not pregnant (17.1%)** (2019).
- The proportion of **women with anaemia** is **twice as high** in the **Caribbean** as in **Central America** and **1.7 times** as high as in **South America**.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

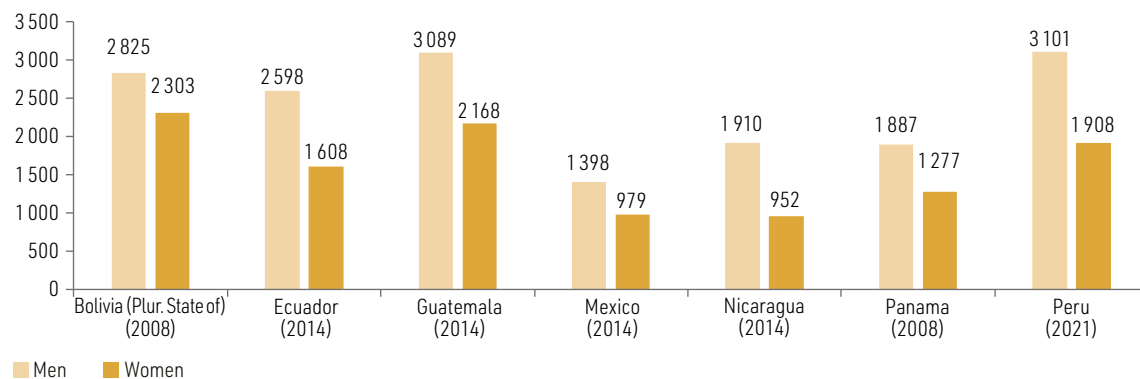
¹⁶ Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

Target 2.3. By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, Indigenous Peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment

Figure II.8

Latin America (selected countries): average income of small-scale food producers, latest year available (indicator 2.3.2)

(Purchasing power parity in constant 2017 international dollars)



The **average income** of **women** food producers is only **between 50% and 82%** of **men's** in seven countries of Latin America.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.



Turning commitments into action to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture with gender equality

To move towards a more inclusive and sustainable agricultural system, it is crucial to implement policies that promote gender equality. Initiatives focused on improving infrastructure, expanding access to resources and strengthening the economic autonomy of rural women and areas can help reduce inequalities and increase resilience to food crises (ECLAC, 2024a and 2025b; UN-Women/DESA, 2024; FAO and others, 2024; ILO, 2024b).

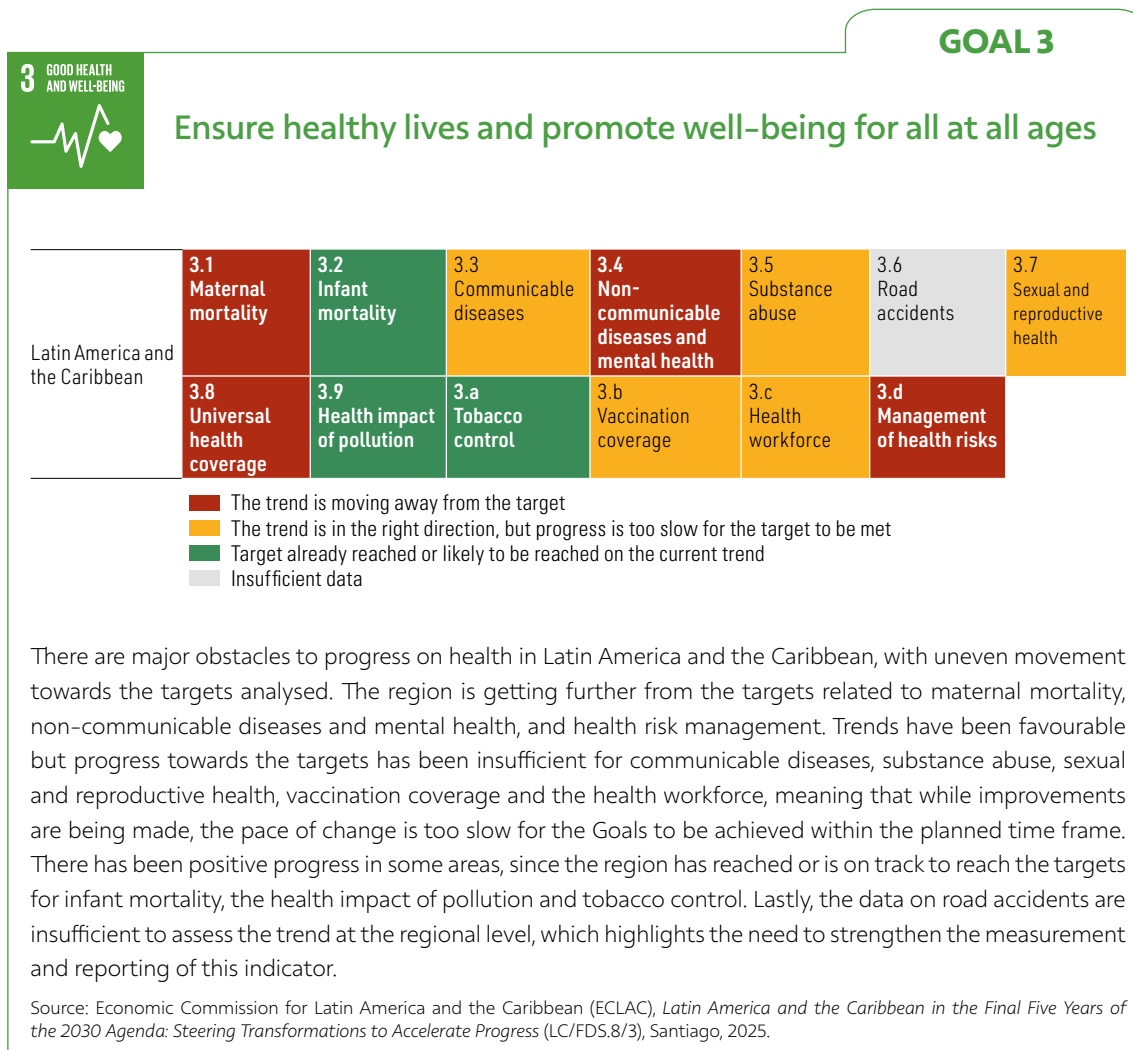
Some strategies:

It is vital to **invest in agricultural infrastructure** so as to optimize the sustainable management of natural resources such as water, increase soil fertility and facilitate access to modern agricultural technologies, ensuring that these investments benefit women and men equally and sustainably.

Food assistance programmes help to reduce nutritional inequality, boost local food production and protect livelihoods. It is essential to strengthen support for the most vulnerable populations, taking into account the nutritional needs of women and girls. Ensuring they have access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food will help to improve their well-being and reduce food insecurity.

It is necessary to **value ancestral knowledge and encourage the active participation of rural and Indigenous women and communities in agriculture**. Recognizing different types of knowledge and providing financial assistance, training and access to markets will boost small-scale agriculture, increase its productivity and sustainability and reinforce its key role in rural development.

Recognizing, reducing and redistributing unpaid care work, rewarding and representing unpaid care workers and promoting the economic autonomy of women are fundamental to food security and sustainable agricultural systems. Designing strategies that recognize and reward the work of women in family farming by facilitating their access to secure incomes of their own and to social security will make them more resilient to fluctuations in food prices and availability, thus enhancing economic and social stability.



Worldwide, the estimated maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births decreased by 34% between 2000 and 2020, but 800 women still die every day from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth (UN-Women/DESA, 2024). Progress continues to be limited by patriarchal cultural patterns, the low priority given to access to safe, affordable and high-quality sexual and reproductive health services, and inadequate healthcare systems in low- and middle-income countries (UN-Women/DESA, 2024).

In 2020, the maternal mortality ratio in Latin America and the Caribbean was 87.6 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, with a reduction of only 2.7% since 2000 (ECLAC/UN-Women, 2024).¹⁷ This highlights persistent public health challenges that include universal access to healthcare in the countries of the region and deficiencies in the quality and timeliness of care, which may be influenced by gender inequalities (United Nations/RCP LAC, 2024). In sexual and reproductive health services, women and girls may face barriers in accessing modern contraceptive methods and prenatal care, which is essential for reducing maternal mortality, among other challenges.

The results for the Goal 3 gender indicators are shown below.

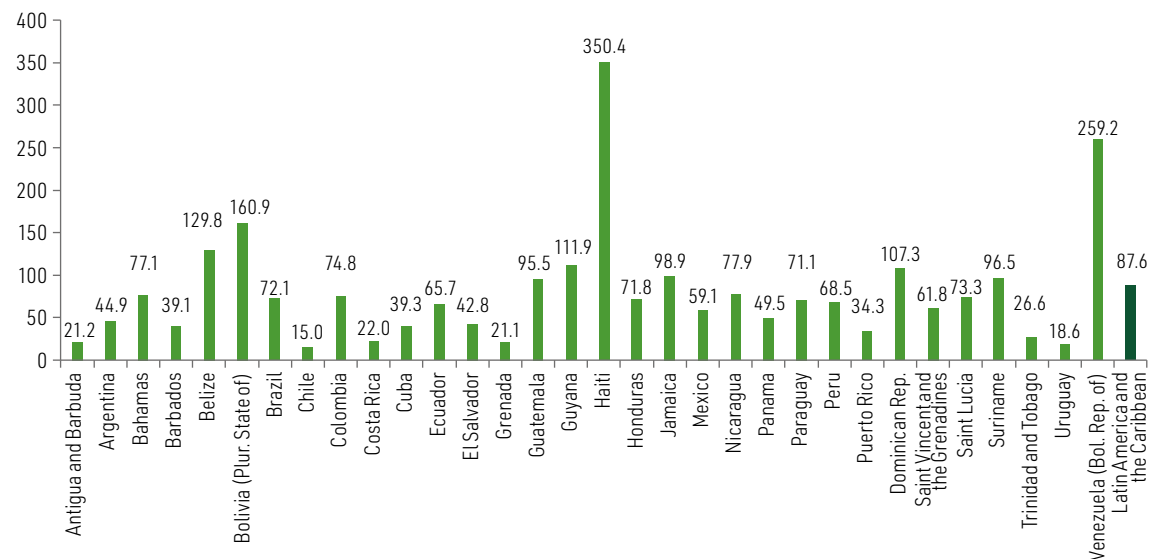
¹⁷ The maternal mortality ratio has fluctuated since 2015, with some increases and a jump in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Target 3.1. By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births

Figure II.9

Latin America and the Caribbean: maternal mortality ratio (indicator 3.1.1), 2020

(Per 100,000 live births)

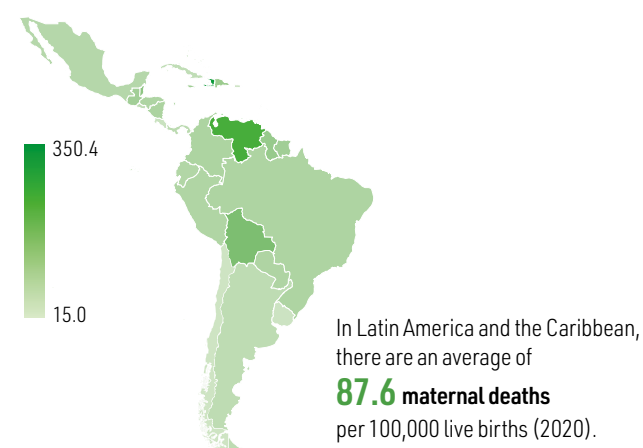


Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Map II.6

Latin America and the Caribbean: maternal mortality ratio, 2020 (indicator 3.1.1)

(Per 100,000 live births)



Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (indicator 3.1.2)

(Percentages)



94.3% of births were attended by **skilled personnel** in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2023.

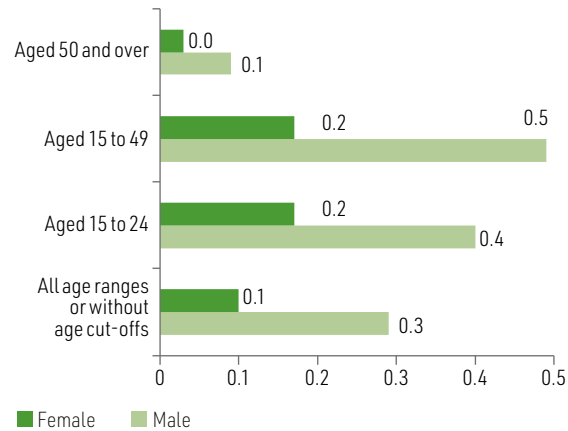
Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Target 3.3. By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

Figure II.10

Latin America and the Caribbean: new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, 2022 (indicator 3.3.1)

(Numbers)



The **bulk** of new HIV infections in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2022 were among **men**, with an infection rate **more than twice** that for **women**.

Prevalence is among the highest in the group **aged 15 to 24** for **both sexes**.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Target 3.4. By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being

Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease (indicator 3.4.1)



The **chance of dying between the ages of 30 and 70** from cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2019 was **12.6%** for women and **17.1%** for men.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Target 3.7. By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes

Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (indicator 3.7.1)



83.3% of women aged between 15 and 49 **had their need for family planning satisfied** with **modern methods** in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2023.

Adolescent birth rate (aged 15–19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group (indicator 3.7.2)



50.6 births were reported for every **1,000 adolescent girls** aged between 15 and 19 in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2024.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Note: Modern methods of contraception include female and male sterilization, the intra-uterine device (IUD), the implant, injectables, oral contraceptive pills, male and female condoms, vaginal barrier methods (including the diaphragm, cervical cap and spermicidal foam, jelly, cream and sponge), lactational amenorrhea method (LAM), emergency contraception and other modern methods not reported separately (e.g. the contraceptive patch or vaginal ring).

Target 3.8. Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential healthcare services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

Coverage of essential health services (indicator 3.8.1)



Latin America and the Caribbean scored **76** on the **universal health coverage index** in 2021.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Note: The indicator is an index reported on a scale of 0 to 100, where 100 is the highest value and denotes full coverage. It is defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population.

Target 3.9. By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination

Latin America and the Caribbean: mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning, 2019 (indicator 3.9.3)

(Numbers of deaths per 100,000 inhabitants)



Women: **0.2**

Men: **0.5**

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Target 3.a. Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate

Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older (indicator 3.a.1)



The **prevalence of tobacco consumption** in Latin America and the Caribbean was **higher among men** aged 15 or over (**18.3%**) than among **women** in the same age group (**8.1%**) in 2022, with a **difference** of about 10 percentage points.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.



Turning commitments into actions to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages with gender equality

Progress towards this Goal is essential if women, adolescent girls and girls in all their diversity are to exercise their physical autonomy, understood as the ability to live a life free from discrimination, harmful practices and violence, and to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights. The commitments of the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development underline the need for a gender perspective to be integrated into all health policies to ensure that the needs of women and girls are met and that the barriers they face in accessing healthcare are addressed. In addition, promising practices have been identified in the global report *Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The gender snapshot 2024* (UN-Women/DESA, 2024) and the report *Action for equality, development and peace in Latin America and the Caribbean: Regional report on the review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 30 years on, in synergy with the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda* (ECLAC, 2025b).

Some strategies:

Strengthen regulatory frameworks, public policies and budgets so that all people can exercise their sexual and reproductive rights without discrimination and access contraceptives, family planning services and quality maternal care.

Promote **health education with a gender perspective** through programmes that seek to banish gender stereotypes and inculcate healthy practices from an early age.

Integrate the gender perspective into health policies to recognize and address the needs of women and men at all stages of life, and seek to provide universal access to quality health services by closing structural gaps and ensuring timely medical care, especially in contexts of crisis and displacement. Introduce a **right to care** for all, including self-care, as a central plank of population health, and develop comprehensive care policies and systems that cater to growing demand in a context of population ageing.

Develop **psychosocial support programmes that address all-round health (including mental health)**, use mobile systems and telemedicine to ensure the continuity of essential services (including prenatal and postnatal care) and prioritize the **prevention of malnutrition among pregnant and lactating** women in situations of conflict, displacement or climate and food crises, with adequate and timely funding.

5 GENDER EQUALITY



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

GOAL 5

Latin America and the Caribbean	5.1 Legal frameworks for gender equality and non-discrimination	5.2 Violence against women and girls	5.3 Child marriage	5.4 Unpaid care and domestic work	5.5 Women in leadership positions
	5.6 Sexual and reproductive rights	5.a Land ownership and economic resources	5.b Technology for the empowerment of women	5.c Budgeting with a gender perspective	

- The trend is moving away from the target
- The trend is in the right direction, but progress is too slow for the target to be met
- Target already reached or likely to be reached on the current trend
- Insufficient data

In Latin America and the Caribbean, the gender-responsive budgeting target, which measures the “proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment” (indicator 5.c.1), is the only one on course to be met by 2030. Progress towards most of the targets is insufficient for the Goal to be achieved. Meanwhile, despite the efforts and progress made by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in establishing regulatory frameworks for equality (ECLAC, 2025b), the trend for “legal frameworks [...] to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex” (indicator 5.1.1) is away from the target, while in the case of the targets for violence against women and girls, child marriage, women in leadership positions and the use of technology for women’s empowerment, the trend is the right way but too slow for them to be reached by 2030.

For the remaining three targets, too little information is available for a regional average to be calculated. With regard to target 5.4, calculated globally from the “proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work” (indicator 5.4.1), it is important to emphasize that data for this have been deemed insufficient for all regions of the world (UN-Women/DESA, 2024). However, of the 98 countries that have reported on indicator 5.4.1 at some point, 17 are in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 13 of these have reported since 2015. Between 2021 and 2024, at least 10 countries (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay) conducted new time-use surveys that can be used to calculate the indicator, although not all of them have yet reported to the global database. Furthermore, at least 8 countries (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico and Uruguay) took more than one measurement between 2015 and 2025, allowing progress or reverses to be calculated (ECLAC, 2023b).

Although there is not yet enough information to monitor target 5.a in Latin America and the Caribbean as a whole, the region has made significant efforts to strengthen the measurement of indicators 5.a.1 and 5.a.2. In 2022, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) identified challenges and opportunities for measuring indicator 5.a.1 in eight countries' agricultural censuses and surveys (FAO, 2022), as well as undertaking experimental pilot studies in Chile, Panama and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Progress in the measurement of indicator 5.a.2 has also been identified for 17 countries of the region (FAO, 2023).

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Latin America and the Caribbean in the Final Five Years of the 2030 Agenda: Steering Transformations to Accelerate Progress* (LC/FDS.8/3), Santiago, 2025; ECLAC, *Action for equality, development and peace in Latin America and the Caribbean: Regional report on the review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 30 years on, in synergy with the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda* (LC/MDM.66/5), Santiago, 2025; ECLAC, *Repository on time use in Latin America and the Caribbean: "Information systems: transforming data into information, information into knowledge and knowledge into political decisions"*, Santiago, 2023 [online] https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/infographic/files/repository_on_time_use_in_latin_america_and_the_caribbean_2023.pdf; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), *Desafíos y oportunidades en América del Sur. Censos y encuestas agropecuarias para el cálculo de los indicadores de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible*, Santiago, 2022; FAO, *Tracking progress on food and agriculture-related SDG indicators 2023*, Rome, 2023; United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women/Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-Women/DESA), *Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The gender snapshot 2024*, New York, 2024.

Gender inequality remains one of the main global challenges, despite the progress made. Worldwide, women and girls continue to face social, cultural and economic barriers that limit their development and prevent them from participating fully in society. Progress has been insufficient owing to delays in aspects such as the implementation of gender-responsive laws, policies and budgets (UN-Women/DESA, 2024).

Multiple crises and development traps have reinforced the structural challenges to gender equality that need to be confronted: socioeconomic inequality and poverty; discriminatory, violent and patriarchal cultural patterns and the culture of privilege; the sexual division of labour and the unfair social organization of care; and the concentration of power and hierarchical relationships in the public sphere (ECLAC, 2017).

The targets of Goal 5 deal with fundamental issues such as the elimination of gender-based violence against women and girls, the recognition and redistribution of care work, the achievement of parity and the establishment of laws, plans and budgets for the achievement of equality, among others. The results of the indicators for monitoring the nine targets of Goal 5 show mixed progress in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Legal frameworks for gender equality and actions to incorporate this into national budgets play a key role in overcoming inequality. All countries and territories in Latin America and the Caribbean have laws to prevent and eradicate violence against women, 19 countries and territories¹⁸ have passed laws that criminalize and categorize femicide (ECLAC, 2024c) and 14 countries and territories¹⁹ have banned child marriage without exceptions. Since 2007, moreover, 14 Latin American countries²⁰ have adopted comprehensive laws on violence against women, although no Caribbean country has enacted this type of law (UN-Women, 2024i). Comprehensive laws represent a crucial step forward in naming and exposing the various forms of violence in each country. However, their main value lies in their comprehensive approach to tackling the problem, as they usually make provision for prevention, protection, support and assistance and aim to improve women's access to justice (UN-Women, 2024i).

¹⁸ The 19 countries and territories that have incorporated femicide or femicide into legislation through amendments to the Penal Code or specific laws are: Argentina (2012), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (2014), Brazil (2015), Chile (2010), Colombia (2015), Costa Rica (2007), the Dominican Republic (2014), Ecuador (2014), El Salvador (2012), Guatemala (2008), Honduras (2013), Mexico (2012), Nicaragua (2012), Panama (2013), Paraguay (2016), Peru (2013), the Plurinational State of Bolivia (2013), Puerto Rico (2021) and Uruguay (2017).

¹⁹ Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago.

²⁰ Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay.

In this context, it can be seen that the reproduction of patriarchal cultural patterns which perpetuate gender-based violence against women and girls remains one of the most stubborn structural challenges to equality, including as it does the proliferation of new forms of violence that remain invisible and are not being adequately responded to, such as violence facilitated by technology (UN-Women/MESECVI, 2021), so that greater efforts and commitment are required from the countries. Furthermore, the region faces challenges in effectively providing redress for the children and dependents of the victims of femicide or feminicide (UN-Women/MESECVI, 2022; ECLAC, 2024c).

Certain indicators associated with Goal 5 are not yet being measured or reported in some countries, which means that a regional average cannot be obtained to monitor the targets: the proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence (indicator 5.2.2), and the proportion of girls and women aged 15–49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation, by age (indicator 5.3.2), among others. These indicators reflect key aspects related to the physical and economic autonomy of women and girls, and they are difficult to address if they are not brought out in official statistics and reported on.

The results for the Goal 5 gender indicators are shown below.

Target 5.1. End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

Latin America and the Caribbean: whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex, by area, 2022 (indicator 5.1.1)
(Percentages of targets met)



68.4	Overarching legal frameworks and public life
79.6	Violence against women
75.2	Employment and economic benefits
86.2	Marriage and family

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Note: The indicator is based on an evaluation of legal frameworks using a questionnaire with 45 questions. The score for each area (on a scale of 0 to 100) represents the percentage achievement in that area, with 100 indicating that best practices have been followed in all components of the questionnaire.

Target 5.2. Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation



8.3% of women and girls aged between 15 and 49 in Latin America and the Caribbean **have been subjected to physical or sexual violence or both by a current or former** intimate partner in the previous 12 months (2018) (indicator 5.2.1).

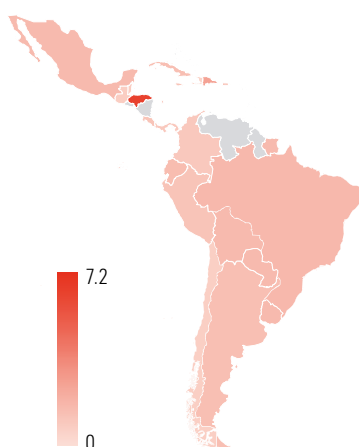
In the countries of the region, the proportion ranged from **4.3%** (Uruguay) to **18.3%** (Plurinational State of Bolivia) in 2018.

At least 3,897 women were victims of **femicide or feminicide in 28 countries** and territories of Latin America and the Caribbean²¹ in 2023. This represents at least **11 violent deaths** of women for gender reasons **every day**.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Map II.7

Latin America and the Caribbean (24 countries and territories): rate of femicide or feminicide (gender-based homicides of women aged 15 years and over), 2023 (indicator C-5.2) (Per 100,000 women)



Honduras (**7.2**), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (**4.0**) and the Dominican Republic (**2.4**) recorded the **highest rates of femicide or feminicide** in 2023. Rates in the other countries and territories were below **1.4**.

Map II.8

Latin America and the Caribbean (28 countries and territories): femicides or feminicides, 2023 (Numbers)



Brazil (**1,463**), Mexico (**852**) and Honduras (**380**) reported the largest numbers of **femicides or feminicides** in the region in 2023.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

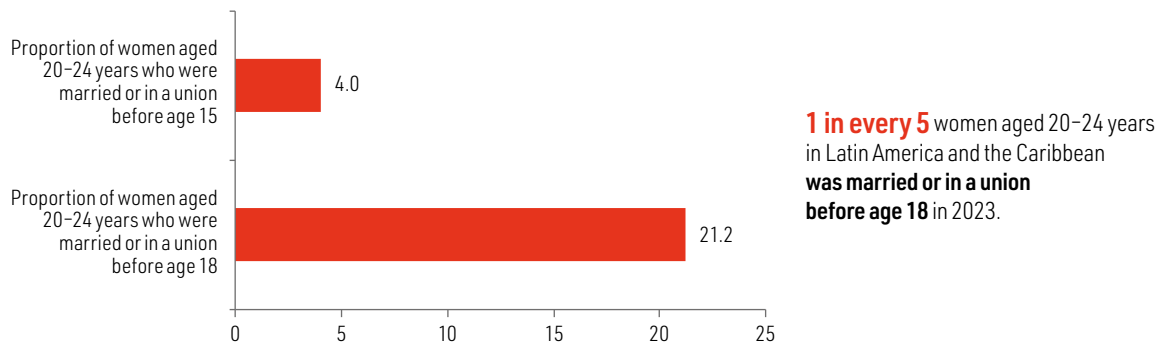
²¹ Argentina, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Uruguay. The 24 countries and territories included in map II.7 are the same as those included in map II.8 minus Anguilla, the Bahamas, Barbados and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Target 5.3. Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

Figure II.11

Latin America and the Caribbean: proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18, 2023 (indicator 5.3.1)

(Percentages)



Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Target 5.4. Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

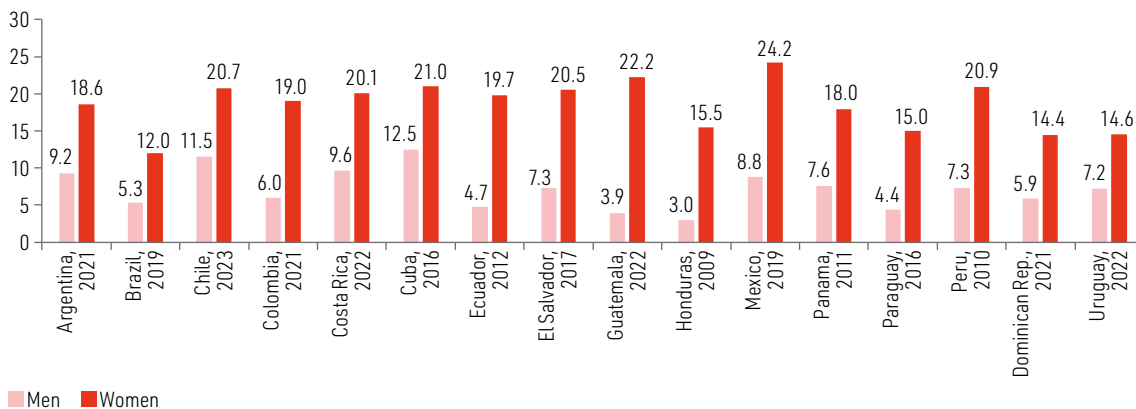


In Latin America, women spend between **12%** (Brazil) and **24.2%** (Mexico) of their time on unpaid domestic and care work, while men spend between **3%** (Honduras) and **12.5%** (Cuba) of their time on it.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex (SDG indicator 5.4.1)", Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, 20 September 2023 [online] <https://oig.cepal.org/en/indicators/proportion-time-spent-unpaid-domestic-and-care-work-sex-sdg-indicator-541>.

Figure II.12

Latin America: proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, population aged 15 years and over, latest year available (indicator 5.4.1)
(Percentages)



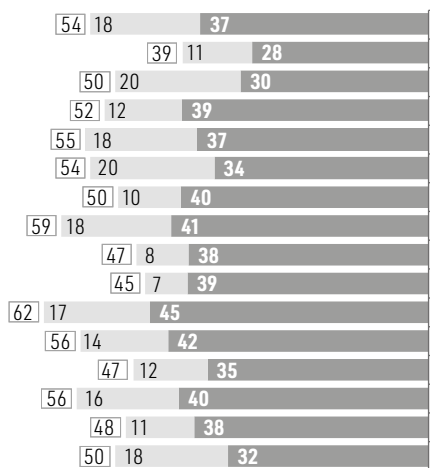
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex (SDG indicator 5.4.1)", Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, 29 September 2023 [online] <https://oig.cepal.org/en/indicators/proportion-time-spent-unpaid-domestic-and-care-work-sex-sdg-indicator-541>.

Note: The data are not comparable across countries owing to methodological differences in collection instruments, which is why no regional average is presented.

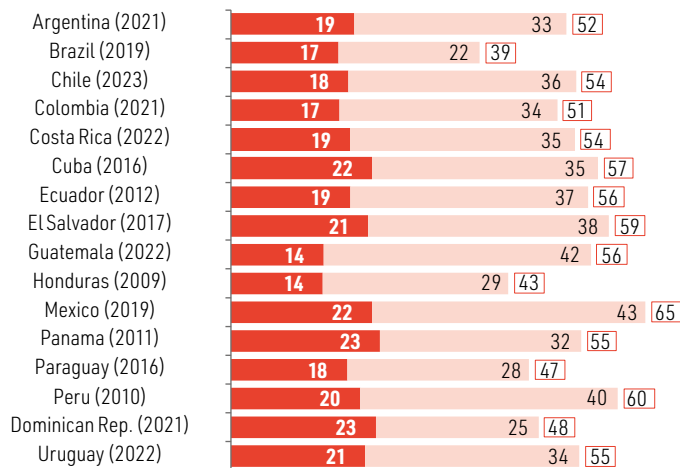
Figure II.13

Latin America: average hours a week spent on paid and unpaid work, by sex, population aged 15 years and over, 2023 (indicator C-5.4)
(Hours per week)

A. Men



B. Women



□ Total time worked ■ Unpaid work ■ Paid work

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Total work time", Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean [online] <https://oig.cepal.org/en/indicators/total-work-time>.

Men's and women's total working time (paid plus unpaid work) is **similar**. However, **most of women's working time is unpaid**, and they spend three times as much time on **unpaid work** on average as men.

Target 5.5. Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life



35.8% of seats in national parliaments were held by women in 2024 (indicator 5.5.1a). Globally, the proportion is 26.9%.



27.2% of elected seats in deliberative bodies of **local government** were held by women in 2023 (indicator 5.5.1b).

The representation of women in these local government seats **in the region (27.2%) was below** the world average (35.5%) in 2023 (indicator 5.5.1b).



In countries with parity measures that include robust mechanisms for their application, women account for an average of **45%** of **elected seats in deliberative bodies of local government**, compared to **32%** in countries without such measures (with other kinds of quota).



36.3% of **management positions** in the labour market were held by women in 2022 (indicator 5.5.2).

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.htm?lang=en> and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), "Global data on women's political participation" [online] https://localgov.unwomen.org/data?indicator=Value&year=current_year®ions=213&

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Notes for equality No.33: Women in local government in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023" [online] <https://oig.cepal.org/en/notes/notes-equality-no33-women-local-government-latin-america-and-caribbean-2023>



In **70.0%** of 20 countries and territories of Latin America, **machineries for the advancement of women are of ministerial or equivalent level**. In the Caribbean (18 countries and territories), the proportion is **16.7%**.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Level within governmental hierarchy of national Machineries for the Advancement of Women", Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean [online] <https://oig.cepal.org/en/indicators/level-within-governmental-hierarchy-national-machineries-advancement-women>

Note: The countries and territories of Latin America included are: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Peru (making up the 70% mentioned), together with Argentina, El Salvador, Guatemala, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Puerto Rico and Uruguay. The countries and territories of the Caribbean included are: Grenada, Haiti and Trinidad and Tobago (making up the 16.7% mentioned), together with Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname.

Target 5.6. Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences

Latin America and the Caribbean: proportion of women aged 15–49 years making their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive healthcare, 2024 (indicator 5.6.1)



72% of women aged 15–49 years made their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive healthcare.

90% of women made their own informed decisions regarding **sexual relations**.

91% of women made their own informed decisions regarding **contraceptive use**.

86% of women made their own informed decisions regarding **reproductive healthcare**.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Table II.1

Latin America and the Caribbean: countries with laws and regulations guaranteeing full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive healthcare, information and education, 2022 (indicator 5.6.2)
(Percentages)

Section	Component	Percentage
S1: Maternity care	C1: Maternity care	86
	C2: Life-saving commodities	86
	C3: Abortion	31
	C4: Post-abortion care	75
S2: Contraception and family planning	C5: Contraception services	77
	C6: Consent for contraceptive services	82
	C7: Emergency contraception	60
S3: Sexuality education	C8: Comprehensive sexuality education law	67
	C9: Comprehensive sexuality education curriculum	77
S4: HIV and human papillomavirus (HPV)	C10: HIV testing and counselling	84
	C11: HIV treatment and care	86
	C12: HIV confidentiality	94
	C13: HPV vaccine	57

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

In Latin America and the Caribbean in 2022:

31% of countries had the laws and regulations needed to ensure **access to abortion services**.

60% of countries had the laws and regulations needed to ensure **access to emergency contraception services**.

67% of countries had **laws on sexuality education in their curricula**.

57% of countries had the laws and regulations needed to ensure **access to the HPV vaccine**.

Target 5.a. Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

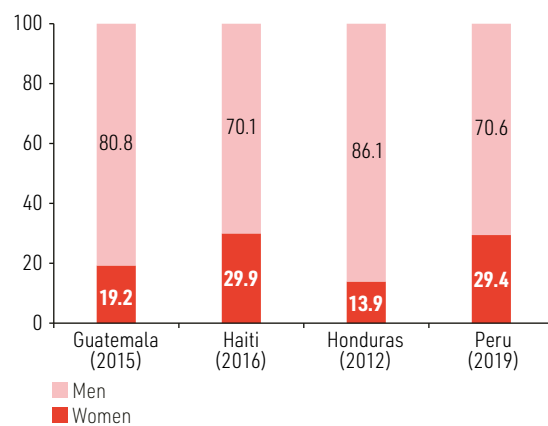
Figure II.14

Latin America (4 countries): ownership of agricultural land, by sex, latest year available (indicator 5.a.1) (Percentages)

A. Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex (latest year available)



B. Distribution by sex of owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land (latest year available)

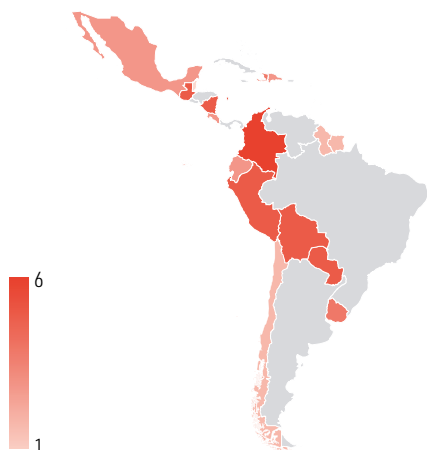


Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

- A **smaller proportion of women** than of men **in the agricultural population** have **secure rights over agricultural land** in the four countries reporting the indicator.
- **Women represent less than 30% of owners of agricultural land** in the four countries with data available.

Map II.9

Latin America and the Caribbean (18 countries):^a extent to which the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control (1 = no evidence, up to 6 = the strongest guarantees) (indicator 5.a.2), latest year available between 2019 and 2023



According to the indicator of the extent to which the legal framework guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control (measured on a scale of 1 to 6), out of 18 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, only Colombia achieved the maximum score (6), followed by Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Paraguay with scores of 5.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Note: The countries shaded in grey have no information available.

^a Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Uruguay.

Target 5.b. Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women



In Latin America and the Caribbean, **83.8% of women** and **83.7% of men** own a **mobile telephone** (indicator 5.b.1).

The proportion of **women using** the Internet **rose** from **74.7%** in 2020 to **80.4% in 2023**, while the proportion of **men** rose from **73.5%** to **81.6%** in the same period (indicator 17.8.1).

- As of 2023, the proportion of **men using** the Internet **exceeded** that of **women** by 1.2 percentage points.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Target 5.c. Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels



13% of countries²² have systems for monitoring gender equality and the empowerment of women and the allocation of public funds for this purpose (2021) (indicator 5.c.1).

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.



Turning commitments into actions to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Over the course of 48 years, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have agreed on a road map for attaining gender equality, and this is reflected in the commitments of the Regional Gender Agenda adopted at the Regional Conference on Women. This far-reaching and comprehensive agenda is cumulative in nature, being coordinated with and reinforced and complemented by other obligations accepted by the States.²³ The commitments in the Agenda are a contribution by the region to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to global discussions, especially those taking place in the framework of the Commission on the Status of Women. It calls for the removal of structural barriers to gender equality and a transition towards a new style of development and organization: the care society.

In line with this, promising practices have been identified in documents monitoring progress towards equality, such as the global report *Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The gender snapshot 2024* (UN-Women/DESA, 2024) and the report *Action for equality, development and peace in Latin America and the Caribbean: Regional report on the review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 30 years on, in synergy with the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda* (ECLAC, 2025b), among others.

Some strategies:

More urgent efforts are needed to **surmount the four structural challenges to gender equality**: (i) socioeconomic inequality and the persistence of poverty; (ii) discriminatory, violent and patriarchal cultural patterns and the predominance of a culture of privilege; (iii) the sexual division of labour and the unfair social organization of care; and (iv) the concentration of power and hierarchical relations in the public sphere.

There is a need for **measures to overcome the sexual division of labour and move towards a just social organization of care** as part of a new development model that promotes gender equality in the economic, social and environmental dimensions. It is essential to **create and implement comprehensive care policies and systems** with a focus on gender, human rights and intersectionality that can contribute to inclusive development, collective prosperity, decent employment and shared responsibility for care work.

²² The percentage is obtained on the basis of information from nine countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

²³ Such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, at the global level; the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará) and the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement), at the regional level; and other global and regional treaties and conventions.

There is a role for **programmes** to professionalize, certify and formalize **workers who are informally employed in the care and domestic work** sector (United Nations, 2024c; UN-Women/OISS/ILO, 2022). It is imperative to **introduce, finance and implement laws and policies aimed at eradicating gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls** with the aim of preventing, responding to and redressing all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls while transforming patriarchal cultural patterns and ensuring protection against harmful practices such as child marriage and early and forced unions.

There is a need to **promote parity and equal participation for women in decision-making** through the effective implementation of parity laws, ensuring an enabling environment for women's participation at all levels, including local government. Measures to raise awareness and facilitate access to funding (including public political funding) and training are also essential to lower structural barriers and ensure equal conditions for women's electoral candidacies. In addition, gender-based political violence must be investigated, punished and eradicated, especially in decision-making spaces and in the digital and social media spheres, including the adoption of protocols, regulations and guidelines that provide an institutional route for reporting, addressing and punishing this.

It is crucial to **adopt General recommendation No. 40 (2024) on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems** of the **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**, developing follow-up mechanisms to assess the representation of women at all levels of decision-making by regularly collecting and publishing data that are disaggregated by age, ethnicity and socioeconomic status, among other factors.

It is essential to guarantee access for women and youth to land ownership by creating and implementing legal norms for ownership, land registration, family law, inheritance law, etc., that take into account the different situations of women and men. Any land cadastre, titling and registration process should include differentiated strategies and affirmative gender and inclusion actions. There is a need to design and implement adequately funded policies and programmes that increase the number of women and youth who own land through measures such as individual, conjugal or collective titling programmes, land banks and reforms that reduce inequality in inheritance and property within marriage.

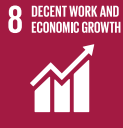
It is necessary to **close the gender digital divide**, looking beyond access to devices such as mobile telephones to guarantee equitable access for women to technology and digital literacy. It is vital to strengthen online security and develop digital skills that foster women's autonomy.

Budget transparency and oversight with a gender focus must be ensured through mechanisms to oversee the resources allocated to gender equality in the planning, implementation and evaluation of public policies, guaranteeing their effective implementation.

It is essential to **strengthen the capacity of national statistical systems** to deal with challenges in the collection of sensitive information and the incorporation of alternative data sources, while always guaranteeing the human rights of information providers. Progress must be made in the **production of statistics with a gender perspective**, which are essential for exposing inequalities, estimating hitherto unmeasured or unreported progress on the SDGs and designing data-based programmes and public policies for gender equality.

It is urgent for the region to transition towards the care society and towards a development style that fosters gender equality in the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

GOAL 8



Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Latin America and the Caribbean	8.1 Economic growth	8.2 Economic productivity	8.3 Formalization of MSMEs	8.4 Resource efficiency	8.5 Full employment and decent work	8.6 Youth not in education, employment or training
	8.7 Child and forced labour	8.8 Labour rights and safe and secure working environments	8.9 Sustainable tourism	8.10 Access to financial services	8.a Aid for trade	8.b Youth employment strategy

- The trend is moving away from the target
- The trend is in the right direction, but progress is too slow for the target to be met
- Target already reached or likely to be reached on the current trend
- Insufficient data

In Latin America and the Caribbean, although the trend is in the right direction for 7 of the 12 targets, the rate of progress is too slow for them to be achieved by 2030. Only for the targets related to economic growth and aid for trade is the trend favourable. There are also significant challenges when it comes to the targets for formalization of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and resource efficiency, as the trend is currently away from the Goal.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Latin America and the Caribbean in the Final Five Years of the 2030 Agenda: Steering Transformations to Accelerate Progress* (LC/FDS.8/3), Santiago, 2025.

The sexual division of labour continues to limit women's employment opportunities, as the excessive burden of domestic and care work reduces the time available to them for training and labour market participation. Globally, the unemployment rate in 2024 was higher for women (5.2%) than for men (4.8%). Furthermore, the global employment deficit rate, which captures all those who wish to work but cannot find employment, stood at 13% for women and 8.3% for men (UN-Women/DESA, 2024). This indicates that, even if women wish to work in paid employment, they have fewer opportunities than men to seek it or to be available to accept a job offer at short notice (UN-Women/DESA, 2024).

In the region, about half of all women aged 15 and over participated in the labour market in 2023, while three quarters of men did so. These differences in labour participation, together with occupational segregation, wage inequality and the greater likelihood that women will have part-time jobs because of care responsibilities, perpetuate gender gaps in the labour market and limit their ability to earn their own income and exercise autonomy. The female unemployment rate in Latin America and the Caribbean continues to exceed the male rate, and women's labour income continues to represent only a fraction of men's. Closing these gaps would not only boost women's economic autonomy, but also provide them with greater stability, access to social security and better opportunities for occupational development.

Women are also highly concentrated in economic activities related to the care sector, including healthcare, education and paid domestic work: this sector accounts for a third of female employment, compared to a tenth of male employment (ECLAC, 2022a; ECLAC/UN-Women, 2024). Paid domestic work in the region reflects profound inequalities of gender, class and ethnicity, and is characterized by high levels of casualization and informality (UN-Women/OISS/ILO, 2022). This situation demands action to consolidate comprehensive care systems and also the recognition of care as skilled work that boosts the economy (ECLAC, 2024d).

With the right investment, the care sector could become one of the most dynamic for job creation. According to data from the Care Policy Investment Simulator developed by ECLAC and ILO, the investment required to cover care needs in the region could generate 32 million direct jobs (81% of them for women) in universal early childhood and long-term care services by 2035, as well as leading to the creation of an additional 10.5 million indirect jobs (ECLAC, 2025b).

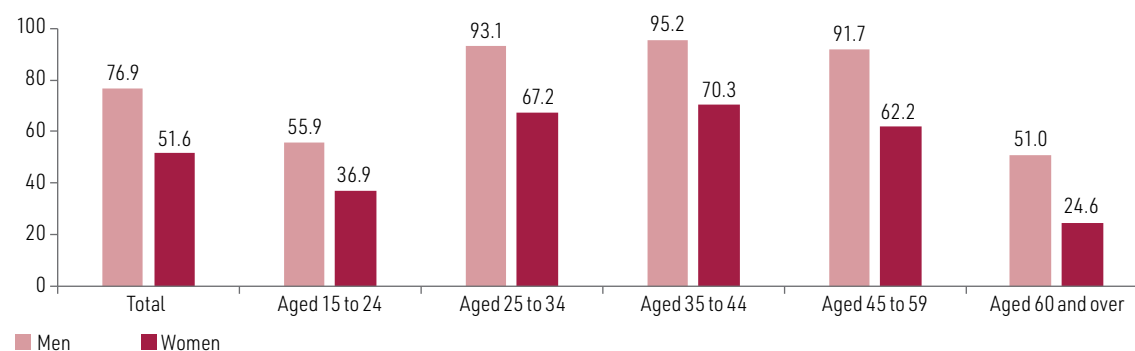
One example is investment in comprehensive care systems, which generates social and economic benefits by improving people's well-being, creating quality jobs and facilitating women's labour participation. It also increases household incomes and generates returns for the State through taxes and contributions (UN-Women/ECLAC, 2021; UN-Women, 2022b; ECLAC, 2024e).

The results for the Goal 8 gender indicators are shown below.

Target 8.3. Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services

Figure II.15

Latin America and the Caribbean: unemployment rate, by sex and age, 2023 (indicator 8.5.2)
(Percentages)



Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

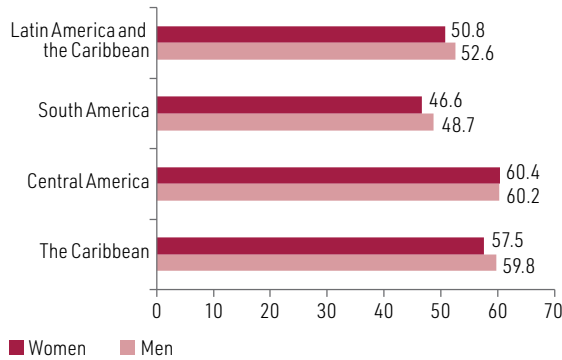


Just over half (**51.6%**) of all women aged 15 and over participated in the labour force in Latin America in 2023, compared to **76.9%** of men aged 15 and over.

The difference is **greatest** among those aged between **25 and 59**.

Figure II.16

Latin America and the Caribbean: proportion of informal employment, by sex, 2023 (indicator 8.3.1) (Percentages)



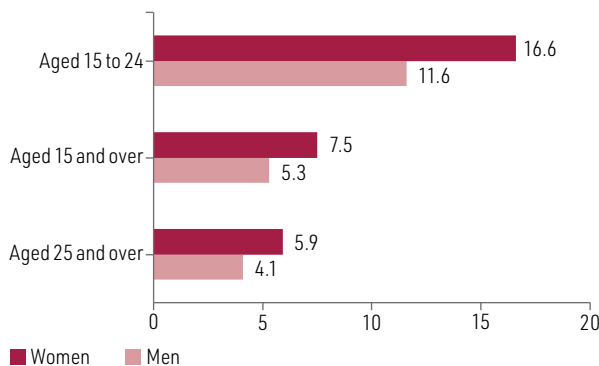
50.8% of women employed in the labour market worked **informally** in 2023. The proportion was **52.6%** for employed men in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of CEPALSTAT [online database] <https://statistics.cepal.org/portal/cepalstat/index.html?lang=en>.

Target 8.5. Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

Figure II.17

Latin America and the Caribbean: unemployment rate, by sex and age, 2023 (indicator 8.5.2) (Percentages)

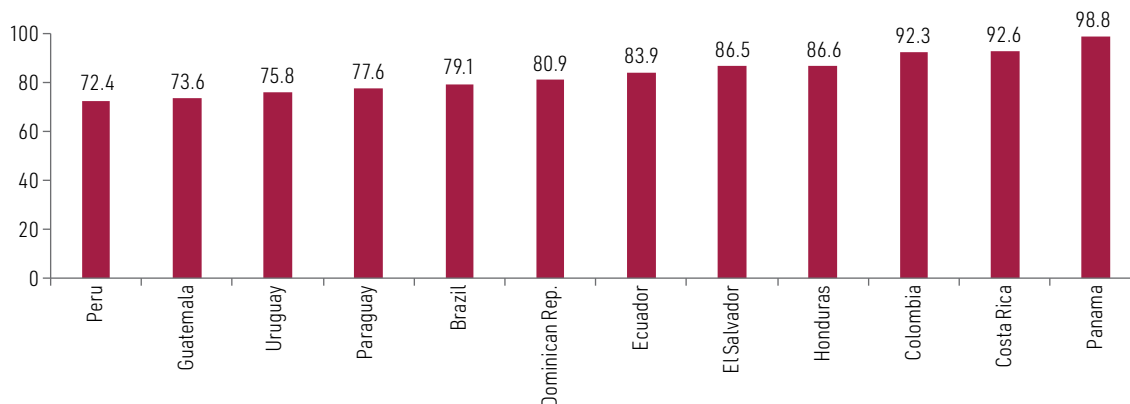


16.6% of young women (aged 15 to 24) in Latin America and the Caribbean were unemployed in 2023. This rate is 5 percentage points higher than that for men (11.8%) in the same age group.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Figure II.18

Latin America: average earnings ratio between women and men, 2023
(Supplementary indicator for indicator 8.5.1)



The wage gap persists in all countries with information available: **for every 100 monetary units that male employees received as labour income in 2023, female employees received 82.**

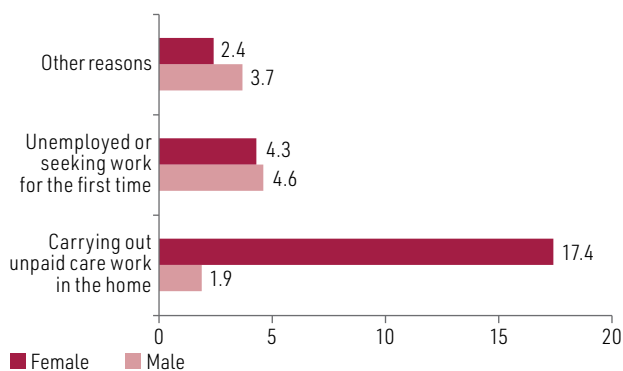
This value ranged from 72.4 (Peru) to 98.8 (Panama) in 12 Latin American countries.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of CEPALSTAT [online database] <https://statistics.cepal.org/portal/cepalstat/index.html?lang=en>.

Target 8.6. Substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training

Figure II.19

Latin America: proportion of youth aged 15–24 not in education, employment or training, by sex and reason, simple averages (indicator C-8.6)
(Percentages)



Of young people (aged 15 to 24) in 2023:

- **24.1% of women were not in employment, education or training. The figure was 10.2% for men,** a gap of 13.9 percentage points.
- **17.4% of women were not in employment, education or training** because of the **unpaid care work** they carried out at home, compared to **1.9% of men** (indicator C-8.6).

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030.lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Target 8.7. End child labour in all its forms



7.9% of boys and **4.0%** of girls (aged 5 to 17) **carried out child labour in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2020** (indicator 8.7.1).

- These percentages change if both child labour in activities included in the system of national accounts and unpaid domestic and care work are considered, with higher prevalence rates for girls:²⁴ in Colombia, for example, 9.9% of girls (aged 5 to 17) were engaged in child labour (paid and unpaid), compared to 4.5% of boys in the same age group as of 2022.

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

Target 8.10. Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all



63.4% of women and **72.1%** of men (aged 15 and over) **had an account at a bank** or other financial institution in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2021 (indicator 8.10.2).

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.



Turning commitments into actions to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all with gender equality

The sexual division of labour and the unfair social organization of care continue to be a structural obstacle to gender equality that limits the full participation of women in the labour market and their ability to obtain income of their own, affecting the exercise of their autonomy. The agreements of the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development include commitments to remove this obstacle and close the gaps, in synergy with the recent resolution on decent work and the care economy (ILO, 2024b).²⁵

In line with this, promising recommendations and practices have been identified in documents monitoring equality, such as *Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The gender snapshot 2024* (UN-Women/DESA, 2024) at the global level and the regional report *Action for equality, development and peace in Latin America and the Caribbean: Regional report on the review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 30 years on, in synergy with the implementation of the Regional Gender*

²⁴ Very few countries have reported on child labour, including unpaid care work, for the last few years, so it is not possible to calculate a regional average.

²⁵ Adopted at the 112th session of the International Labour Conference in Geneva, this marks a milestone as the first international tripartite agreement on the topic. The agreement establishes a common framework for the care economy together with a definition of this, its guiding principles and recommendations for public policy design.

Agenda (ECLAC, 2025c), the reports *Transforming Care Systems in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals and Our Common Agenda. UN System Policy Paper* (United Nations, 2024c), *Towards the construction of Comprehensive Care Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean: Elements for implementation* (UN-Women/ECLAC, 2021) and the ILO Maternity Protection Recommendation, 2000 (No. 191) and Workers with Family Responsibilities Recommendation, 1981 (No. 165), among others.

Some strategies:

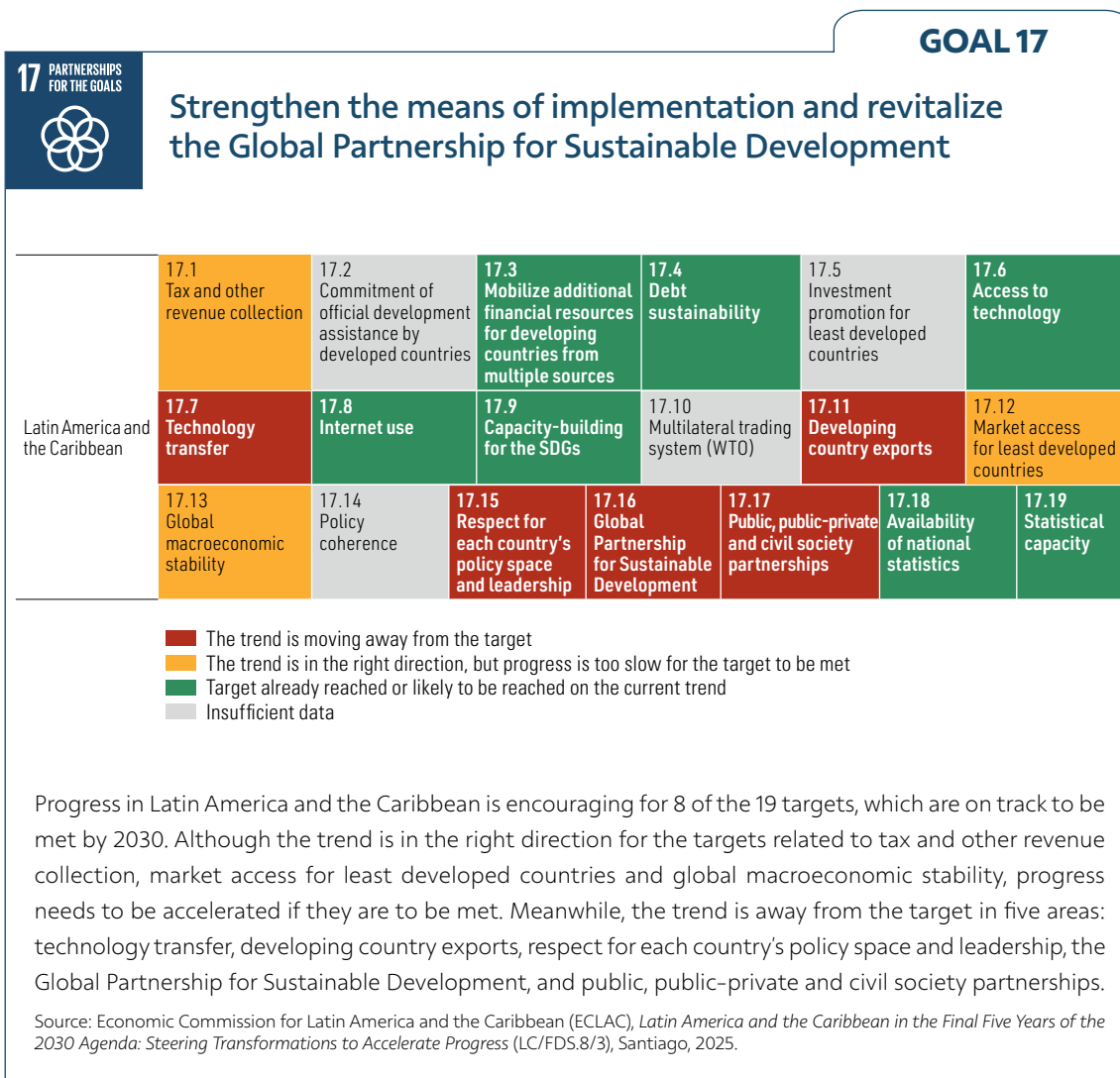
To guarantee **women's access to decent jobs and remove the structural barriers that limit their participation in the labour market**, it is essential to pursue measures that can help bring about the transition to a juster social organization of care, within the framework of a development model that promotes gender equality in its economic, social and environmental dimensions. This process requires the design and implementation of policies to promote equal opportunities and do away with the gender stereotypes that restrict women's employability and professional growth. Expanding access to productive and financial resources and creating workplaces free of violence and discrimination are essential conditions for building a more equitable and inclusive labour market.

It is essential to foster **social and gender co-responsibility in care work**, recognizing it as essential for collective well-being and equality. This recognition must be accompanied by the implementation of regulatory frameworks and comprehensive care systems with a gender and human rights approach. In addition to **recognizing, measuring and valuing unpaid care work**, there is a need for equitable redistribution of care work between households, the State, the market and communities, ensuring that it is valued and represented in public policymaking. The disproportionate burden of unpaid care work is a key factor in the wage and employment gaps affecting women, so recognizing it in economic and labour policies is essential for reducing these inequalities.

Recognize, reduce and redistribute unpaid care work and properly reward and represent paid care workers. It is vital to make progress in **recognizing and guaranteeing the rights of those who carry out paid domestic work**, the great majority of them women, and to this end the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) and Domestic Workers Recommendation, 2011 (No. 201) must be ratified and implemented.

Guaranteeing **equal pay and income and eliminating discrimination in the workplace requires laws and policies that ensure fair and equitable** wages. Wage transparency, effective application of the principle of equal pay for work of equal value and the strengthening of collective agreements with gender equality clauses are essential mechanisms for reducing these inequalities and building fairer labour markets.

Narrowing the gender digital divide and preparing women for the transformation of the labour market are key challenges in the digital age. **Investment in education and training with a gender perspective** is essential for women and girls to develop skills in strategic sectors where there is high demand, such as artificial intelligence and technology. These initiatives not only reduce the risk of job displacement, but also guarantee greater inclusion and participation in the digital economy, strengthening women's economic autonomy and their role in innovation and technological development.



Goal 17 is based on the recognition that achieving the 2030 Agenda requires multi-stakeholder partnerships involving all countries, together with collaboration between governments, the private sector and civil society, strong global partnerships and cooperation to ensure that no one is left behind.

The Regional Gender Agenda is the road map adopted by the countries within the framework of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is synergistic and cumulative in nature, being coordinated with and reinforced and complemented by other obligations accepted by the States.²⁶ The commitments in the Regional Gender Agenda are a contribution by the region to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and are in synergy with the Pact for the Future, which emphasizes the importance of guaranteeing fair access to education, healthcare and employment on the basis that gender equality is a fundamental human right. To this must be added the deliberations and declarations adopted within the framework of the Commission on the Status of Women, where each year the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean present a declaration agreed in consultations prior to the meetings of the Commission.

²⁶ The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, at the global level; the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará) and the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement), at the regional level; and other treaties and conventions at the global and regional levels.

The Regional Gender Agenda establishes agreements aimed at removing the structural barriers to gender equality and making the transition towards a new style of development and societal organization: the care society.

To this end, and in line with the targets of Goal 17, the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda involves the establishment of multi-stakeholder partnerships, financial, technological and human capacity-building in institutions and governance in this area, and monitoring of progress in implementation.

Another important partnership in the region is the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement): with 17 States parties, it is the region's first binding environmental treaty. At the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement, the countries adopted Decision III/4 Mainstreaming the gender perspective, which argues for the urgent need to integrate and reinforce this perspective and the full and effective participation of women in all their diversity, including Indigenous women, and to prevent discrimination and gender-based violence against women environmental and human rights defenders. This represents a significant milestone for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC, 2025b) and testifies to the joint coordination and advocacy efforts of the region's women environmental defenders working to defend the environment in civil society organizations and territories (UN-Women, 2024j).

Also important in the region are strategic partnerships between countries for the transition to a care society (see box II.1).

Box II.1

Strategic partnerships for the transition to a care society

- 1. The Buenos Aires Commitment:** Agreed by the member States of ECLAC in 2022 in the framework of the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, it is part of the Regional Gender Agenda. This intergovernmental commitment responds to the call for a transition to a care society, a new style of development which prioritizes gender equality and the sustainability of life and the planet and recognizes that care is a fundamental human right for the well-being of the population as a whole, guarantees the rights of people in need of care and of those providing it, and highlights the multiplier effects of the care economy for well-being (ECLAC, 2023).
- 2. The Global Alliance for Care:** This is a global multi-stakeholder community that facilitates and fosters spaces for dialogue, analysis, exchange of experiences and learning about care, its recognition as a need, as work, and as a right. It is an articulation between governments, civil society, union associations, the philanthropic sector, international organizations and academia. It was convened by the Government of Mexico and UN-Women as part of the Generation Equality Forum in 2021. Its members include governments, the EU-LAC Foundation, ECLAC, UN-Women, Oxfam and various national and international organizations (Global Alliance for Care, n.d.).

3. The biregional pact for care between Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union:

This is an initiative that aims to foster cooperation between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union in care policies and systems. Its importance lies in its promotion of a development model that places care at the centre of the public agenda, fostering gender equality and social justice. Through the sharing of good practices, comparative studies and cooperation programmes, the Pact seeks to narrow gender gaps in access to employment, wages and social protection and secure recognition for care work as a fundamental pillar of societies' well-being and the sustainability of life. Participants include government representatives from both regions, international organizations such as the EU-LAC Foundation, UN-Women and ECLAC, and civil society organizations. It also has the support of institutions such as the European Commission, the Government of Mexico and the Spanish Ministry of Equality.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Buenos Aires Commitment (LC/CRM.15/6)*, Santiago, 2023; Global Alliance for Care, "About us", n.d. [online] <https://www.globalallianceforcare.org/en/the-alliance/about-us.html>.

There are also global partnership efforts involving a wide range of actors that cover different aspects of care²⁷ (UN-Women, 2024g).

As regards efforts to strengthen the financial, technological and human capacities of national institutions and governance as a means to implement gender equality, ECLAC, in line with the components proposed by Goal 17, has sought to frame this strengthening of the countries' institutional capacities within the technical, operational, policy and prospective (TOPP) capacity-building approach. This highlights the need to enhance these capacities in order to manage the major transformations involved in the shift to a more productive, inclusive and sustainable development model (ECLAC, 2024d).

Table II.2 shows some of the TOPP capacities proposed for the transition towards a care society and thence the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda.

When it comes to monitoring the achievement of gender equality, and in line with the need for technical capacity-building, it is important to emphasize the fundamental importance of integrating the gender perspective into the production and generation of timely data so that the SDGs can be monitored from a cross-cutting perspective to identify opportunities for improvement and maximize resource use in areas requiring greater attention to gender equality (UN-Women/DESA 2024). This entails challenges for national statistics ecosystems, depending on the different levels of progress made in the countries of the region.

²⁷ Such as the Long-Term Care Policy Network in Latin America and the Caribbean (RedCUIDAR+) and the Global Tackling Childcare Working Group.

Table II.2

Technical, operational, political and prospective (TOPP) capacities needed in institutions to achieve the care society

Capacities	Characteristics
Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening of analytical frameworks, compilation of data and systematization of research on gender and women's autonomy. - Use of standardized methodologies such as the Classification of Time-Use Activities for Latin America and the Caribbean (CAUTAL), adapted to countries' own contexts. - Design of labour policies that consider the care dimension, such as flexible working hours and labour rights in relation to care. - Development of management tools, such as the incorporation of georeferenced information on the available supply of care and systematization of demand in digital platforms.
Operational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effective implementation of labour policies that consider the care dimension, with strategies for the professionalization of services and regulation of work through digital platforms. - Maintenance of financial sustainability for care policies, with adequate budgetary funding and fiscal policies with a gender and human rights approach.
Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening of democratic governance, involving the promotion of social dialogue and cooperation between key stakeholders. - Effective interaction and cooperation between government, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders. - Promotion of machineries of collaboration between the different levels of government for comprehensive care policies. - Development of an institutional structure that ensures intersectoral and inter-agency cooperation.
Prospective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A drive to create intergovernmental machineries for monitoring trends that affect regional development and making projections from these. - Fostering of a culture of regional dialogue that foments joint progress on issues such as gender equality, social co-responsibility, investment in care and its integration into macroeconomic policies, and gender mainstreaming.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Development Traps in Latin America and the Caribbean: Vital Transformations and How to Manage Them (LC/SES.40/3-PI-*)*, Santiago, 2024.

Number of countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (indicator 17.18.2)



21 countries and territories of Latin America and the Caribbean had national statistical legislation that **complied** with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in 2023

Source: United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online database] <https://agenda2030lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

The initiative and track record of the countries of the region should be highlighted. Almost 20 years ago, acting through their national statistical offices and within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, they set up the Working Group on Gender Statistics, a forum for ongoing dialogue and collective learning that sets targets every two years²⁸ with knowledge products and tools for technical improvement in the production and use of statistics from a gender perspective. The Working Group is coordinated by Mexico and involves some 15 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean. ECLAC and UN-Women are the technical secretariat of the Group. Its main products have been adopted as regional standards over the last few years, including the *Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production* (Working group on the preparation of a guide for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2024) and the

²⁸ Since 2019, the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas have been meeting every two years to develop products.

Methodological guide on time-use measurements in Latin America and the Caribbean (Working Group to Prepare a Methodological Guide on Time-use Measurement in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, 2022). The Group is currently working on a virtual toolbox for gender mainstreaming in statistical production.

Another important initiative within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC is the Community of Practice for the Measurement of the Care Society, which brings together both members of national statistical offices and machineries for the advancement of women and sectoral ministries involved in care policies, together with academia and civil society organizations (ECLAC, 2023e), and provides a multilateral space for ongoing technical dialogue (UN-Women, 2023).

At the global level, UN-Women and the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) jointly produce the Gender Data Outlook, which measures national achievements and challenges in the production, accessibility and use of gender-responsive data. The results at a global level show that countries are only halfway there when it comes to the planning, production, accessibility and use of gender data. The situation in Latin America and the Caribbean as regards the Gender Data Outlook index calculated in this publication is mixed, with information available for 11 countries (UN-Women/PARIS21, 2024).



Of **11** countries in the region, **almost half** have shown **encouraging results** on the 2024 Gender Data Outlook index.

Source: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women/Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (UN-Women/PARIS21) (2024), *Gender Data Outlook 2024: At a Glance. A global assessment of gender data capacity and use, 2024*, and World Bank, Statistical Performance Indicators (SPI).



Turning commitments into action to strengthen delivery mechanisms and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development with gender equality

Financial commitment, technology use and skills development are crucial to progress towards **sustainable development with gender equality**, as established in the Montevideo Strategy for the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda. In addition to this, the Strategy proposes three fundamental implementation pillars for the full and effective operationalization of public policies on equality and rights in Latin America and the Caribbean: participation, communication and cooperation.

It is crucial to promote and strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships for gender equality. The Buenos Aires Commitment reaffirms the fundamental role of non-governmental organizations, and particularly of women's and feminist organizations and movements and those of Indigenous women, women of African descent, rural women, women with disabilities, women living with HIV, migrant women, youth and LGBTI+ persons, and women human and environmental rights defenders. At the same time, it calls for dialogue and partnerships between these organizations and between them

and the State to secure progress towards the targets set in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Regional Gender Agenda by fostering the conditions for these organizations to participate, tackling cultural and language barriers and identifying and securing sources of funding.

It is vital to **strengthen international cooperation** in its different forms, including the promotion of subregional, regional and multilateral cooperation programmes through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, including among national machineries for the advancement of women, that promote gender equality, women's autonomy, the prevention and eradication of all forms of gender-based violence and the right to care.

Financing is required for measures to close gender gaps. There is an urgent need for multilateral financing and development agreements with an inclusive approach and for productive development strategies that are coordinated between countries, with a view to tackling structural gender inequalities and guarantee sustainable development with equality. This means, among other things, allocating specific resources within financing mechanisms to close gender gaps in access to economic opportunities and strategic sectors such as the energy transition and digitalization, ensuring that gender equality is a priority in public and private investment (ECLAC, 2025b; UN-Women, 2024c).

Likewise, to guide public policies and make investment efficient, it is essential to guarantee regular resources for the collection and use of gender statistics, incorporating them into the planning of national statistical systems with specific budgetary allocations and strengthening regulatory frameworks that require them to be produced regularly (UN-Women/DESA, 2024; Working group on the preparation of a guide for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2024).

Moving towards a Global Partnership for Sustainable Development also means progressing towards a care society in which people are guaranteed the right to care, be cared for and practise self-care. This requires a partnership for a profound transformation in the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development. The sixteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Mexico City in 2025 with the theme "political, economic, social, cultural and environmental transformations as a means of advancing the care society and gender equality", will provide a crucial space for exploring the necessary strategies and consolidating this approach throughout the region.

III.

Conclusions





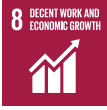

The countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have been steadily implementing measures to achieve gender equality, but the structural challenges to equality persist, and progress is under threat in the context of a development crisis. Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in synergy with the Regional Gender Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean, is proving challenging, and on the whole progress towards the targets remains slow and uneven. It is clear what needs to be done: efforts must be redoubled to ensure progress and bring about transformations that ensure substantive equality and the full exercise of the rights of women and girls in all their diversity.

Our review of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) reveals that the region continues to suffer from persistent inequalities that translate into the feminization of poverty (Goal 1), food insecurity that disproportionately affects women and girls, especially in rural areas (Goal 2), and a sexual division of labour and unfair social organization of care that entail an excessive burden of unpaid care work for women and limit their access to opportunities for participation in the labour market and decision-making spaces (Goal 5). Latin America and the Caribbean has not achieved parity, and this is an obstacle to the application of women's rights in all areas (Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 2024) and to the attainment of the objectives of equality, development and peace (United Nations, 1995). At the same time, the data show that gender-based violence against women and girls (Goal 5) continues to represent a critical violation of human rights, the most extreme expression of which is femicide or feminicide (Goal 5). Women continue to be excluded from participation on equal terms in the labour market (Goal 8) owing to patriarchal cultural norms and their excessive burden of unpaid care work that falls on them, limiting their time and their ability to earn their own income, among other things. Regional and global partnerships to advance substantive equality and make the transition to a care society are promising; this transition will require capacity-building in technical, operational, political and prospective capabilities in the countries (Goal 17).

This report presents progress towards the targets of six selected SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean (see table III.1). The region shows a favourable prognosis for 13 (19.1%) of the 68 targets considered in the analysis, which means that the trend and speed of progress is adequate in only a fifth of cases. For 25 of the targets (36.8%), the trend is positive but the pace of progress is too slow for the target to be achieved by the deadline, while for 19 of the targets (27.9%), the trend is actually away from fulfilment. Lastly, for the remaining 11 targets (16.2%), the overall progress in the region cannot be evaluated because data are lacking or are heterogeneous across countries, preventing calculation at the regional level.

Table III.1

Latin America and the Caribbean: progress towards fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030

SDG	Goals																		
 1 NO POVERTY	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.a	1.b												
 2 ZERO HUNGER	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.a	2.b	2.c											
 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.a	3.b	3.c	3.d						
 5 GENDER EQUALITY	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.a	5.b	5.c										
 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.8	8.9	8.10	8.a	8.b							
 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	17.1	17.2	17.3	17.4	17.5	17.6	17.7	17.8	17.9	17.10	17.11	17.12	17.13	17.14	17.15	17.16	17.17	17.18	17.19

- The trend is moving away from the target
- The trend is in the right direction, but progress is too slow for the target to be met
- Target already reached or likely to be reached on the current trend
- Insufficient data

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Latin America and the Caribbean in the Final Five Years of the 2030 Agenda: Steering Transformations to Accelerate Progress* (LC/FDS.8/3), Santiago, 2025.

As the Member States of the United Nations have established in the Pact for the Future adopted in 2024: “None of our goals can be achieved without the full, safe, equal and meaningful participation and representation of all women in political and economic life” (United Nations, 2024).

The agreements adopted by the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean have been fundamental in charting the road map towards sustainable development, whose implementation must be accelerated. The commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the region's commitment to the Regional Gender Agenda underscore the importance of accelerating implementation of effective public policies, with an intersectional approach and on the basis of official data and statistics. This analysis provides a diagnosis that can be used to accelerate progress towards gender equality, within the framework of the sixteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Mexico City in August 2025 with the theme “political, economic, social, cultural and environmental transformations as a means of advancing the care society and gender equality”. Moving towards a Global Partnership for Sustainable Development also means advancing towards a care society in which people are guaranteed the right to care, to be cared for and to practise self-care.

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Annex A1

Gender indicators of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for Latin America and the Caribbean

The following table lists the indicators of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for Latin America and the Caribbean analysed in this document, on the basis of available information at the regional and national levels.

Gender indicators are followed by an asterisk (*). Some gender indicators were not included in this report owing to a lack of sufficient data for calculation at the regional level (shown in red), although in some cases these data may be available at the country level.

Goal	Indicator
 1 NO POVERTY	1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural) ^{a*}
	1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age ^{b*}
	1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions*
	1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable*
	1.4.2 Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, (a) with legally recognized documentation and (b) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure*
 2 ZERO HUNGER	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)*
	2.2.3 Prevalence of anaemia in women aged 15-49 years, by pregnancy status
	2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status*
 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio*
	3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel*
	3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations*
	3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease
	3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods*
	3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group*
	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services*
	3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning
	3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older

Goal	Indicator
 5 GENDER EQUALITY	5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex*
	5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age*
	5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence*
	5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18*
	5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15–49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation, by age*
	5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location*
	5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments*
	5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions*
	5.6.1 Proportion of women aged 15–49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care*
	5.6.2 Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education*
	5.a.1 (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure*
	5.a.2 Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control*
	5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex*
	5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment*
C-5.2 Rate of femicide or feminicide (gender-related killings of women aged 15 years and older per 100,000 women)*	
C-5.4 Average hours per week spent on unpaid and paid work, combined (total workload), by sex*	
 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex*
	8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities*
	8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities*
	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training
	8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age*
	8.8.1 Fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries per 100,000 workers, by sex and migrant status*
	8.8.2 Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status*
	8.10.2 Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider
	C-8.6 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education or employment, by sex*
	17.18.2 Number of countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of United Nations, "Regional data bank for statistical follow-up to the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean" [online] <https://agenda2030lac.org/estadisticas/regional-data-bank-statistical-follow-up-sdg-1.html?lang=en>.

^a In lieu of indicator 1.1.1, calculated on the basis of the international poverty line, the indicator analysed in the report is P-1.1.1, which uses the regional poverty line.

^b Excluded for comparability reasons, as the indicator is measured against national poverty thresholds.



Latin America and the Caribbean has made considerable efforts to achieve gender equality. Now the region must consolidate advances and fulfil commitments by accelerating progress towards substantive equality and the full exercise of rights for all women and girls.

This document analyses the gender indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda, in synchrony with the Regional Gender Agenda of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. It focuses on Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 17.

Achieving more productive, inclusive and sustainable development in the region has been challenging, and progress towards the SDGs has been inadequate or too slow in most of the countries. They will need to work faster to overcome the four structural challenges of gender equality: (i) socioeconomic inequality and the persistence of poverty; (ii) discriminatory, violent and patriarchal cultural norms and the predominance of a culture of privilege; (iii) the sexual division of labour and the unfair social organization of care; and (iv) the concentration of power and hierarchical relations in the public sphere.

