

Uneven Recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean: Are Women Being Left Behind?

LAC High Frequency Phone Surveys
Phase II 2021

October 2022



Description of the HFPS

The HFPS gathered data to assess the impacts of COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean region

Phase I – 2020

13 countries (3 waves)

Phase II – 2021

24 countries (two rounds)

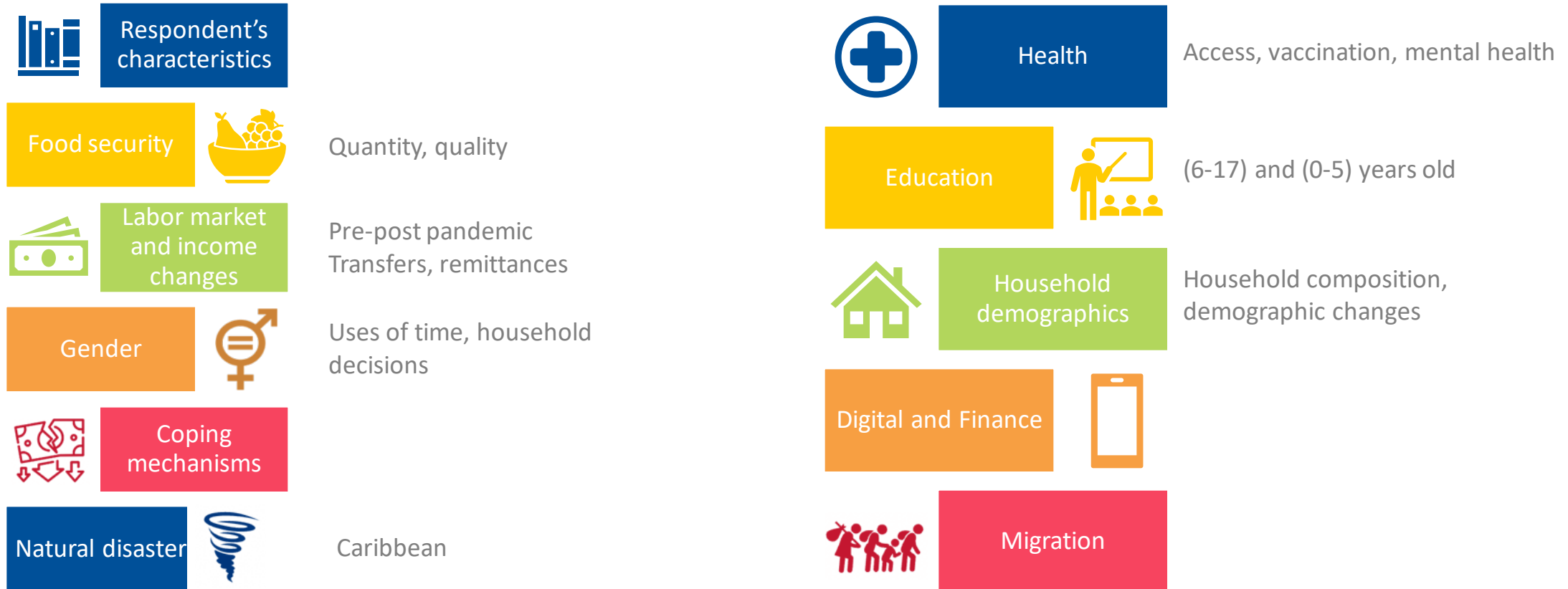


Argentina
Antigua & Barbuda
Belize
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Dominica
Ecuador
El Salvador
Guatemala

Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Jamaica
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Dominican Republic
St. Lucia
Uruguay

The LAC-HFPS gathers data to assess the impacts along several dimensions of household welfare

Follows a RDD sampling strategy.
Sample includes individuals 18+ with a cellphone.



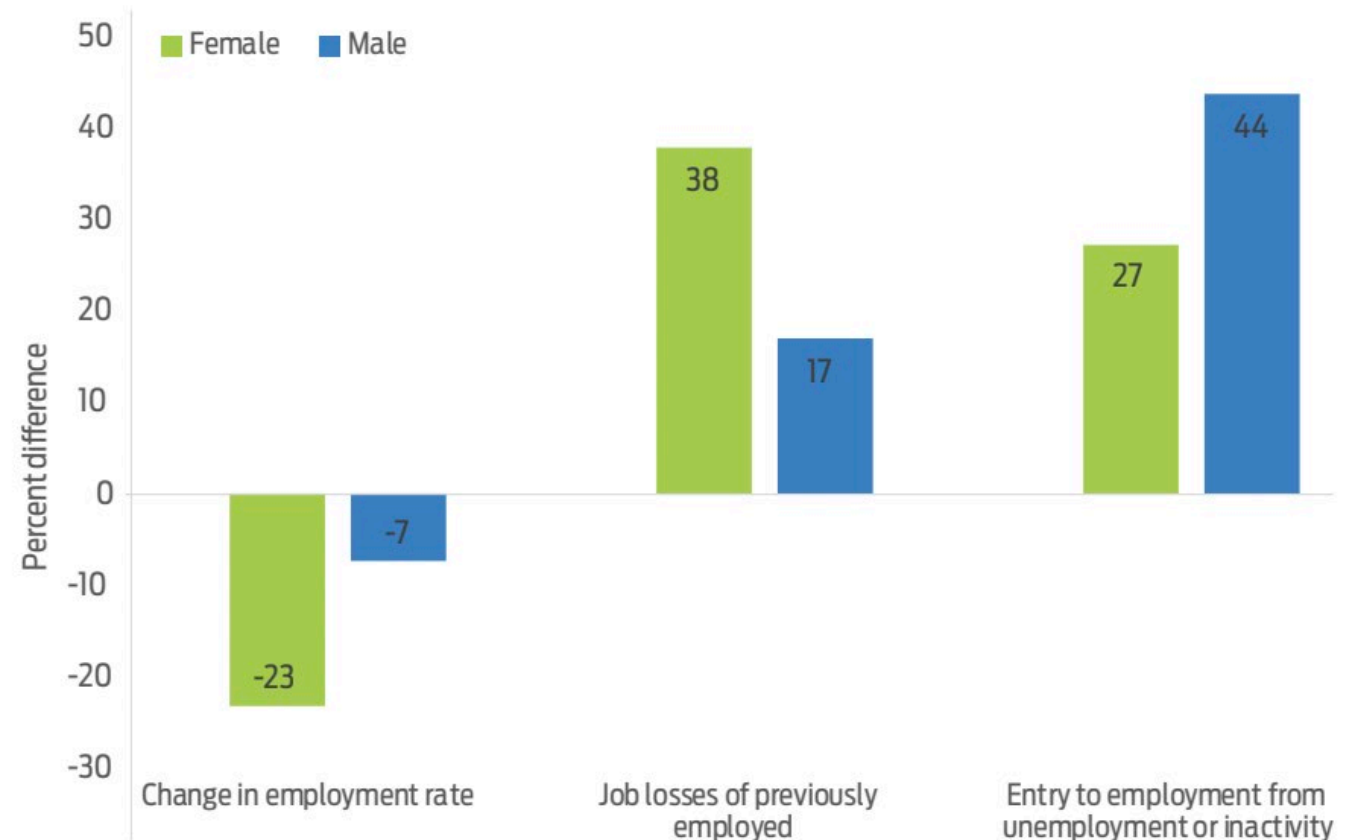
Gender and Labor Markets



By mid 2021, declines in employment were more pronounced for women than for men

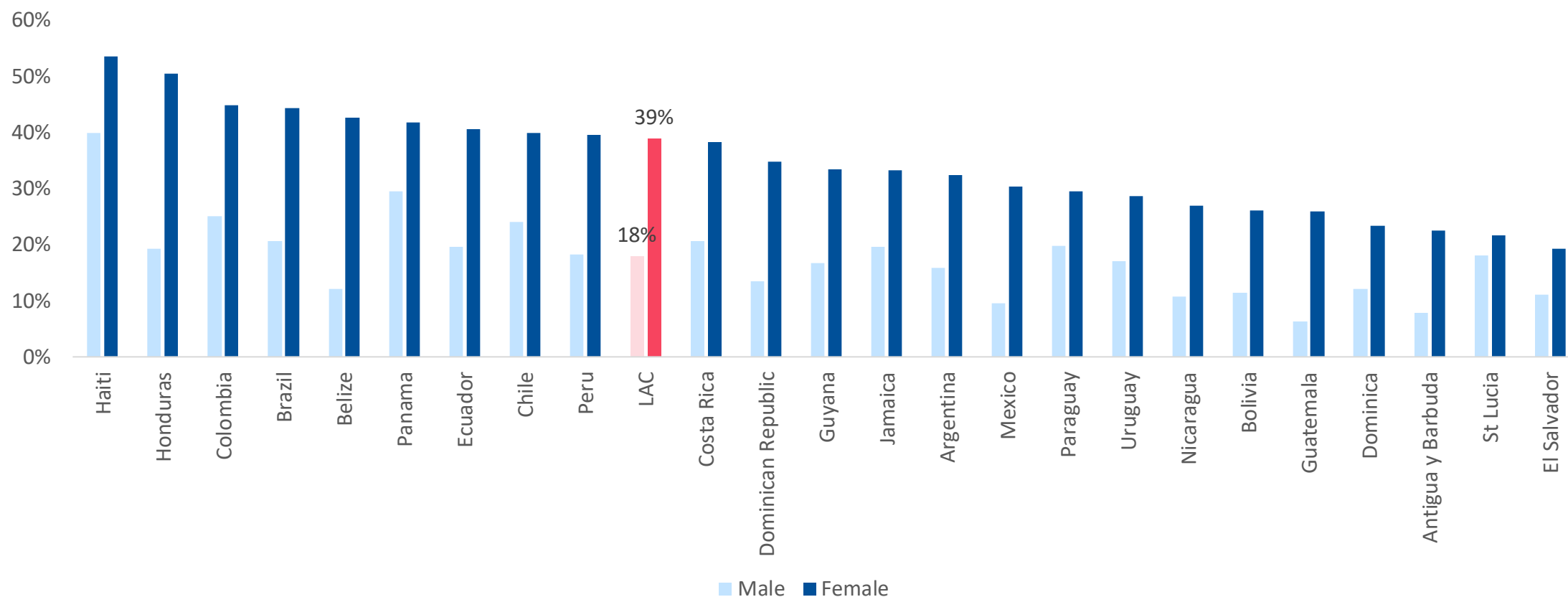
- Women who worked before the pandemic were **more likely to leave their employment** than men
- Women who were not employed before the pandemic were **less likely to enter employment** than men.

Changes in employment to population ratio from February 2020 to mid-2021



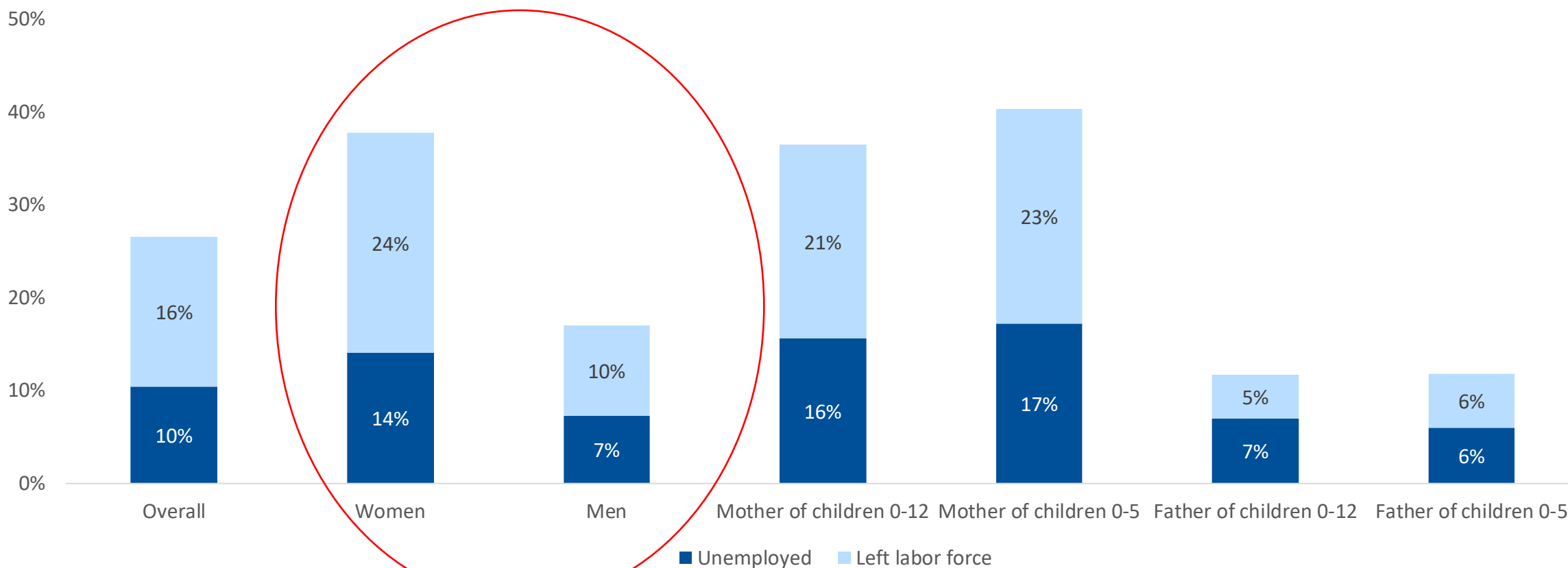
Gaps in JOB LOSS between men and women are observed for all countries in LAC

Population 18+ with pre-pandemic employment that report not having a job at the time of the survey, by country and gender



Women are twice as likely to have lost their jobs compared to men.
And over half left the labor force altogether.

Population 18+ with pre-pandemic employment that reports not having a job at the time of the survey
(LAC average)

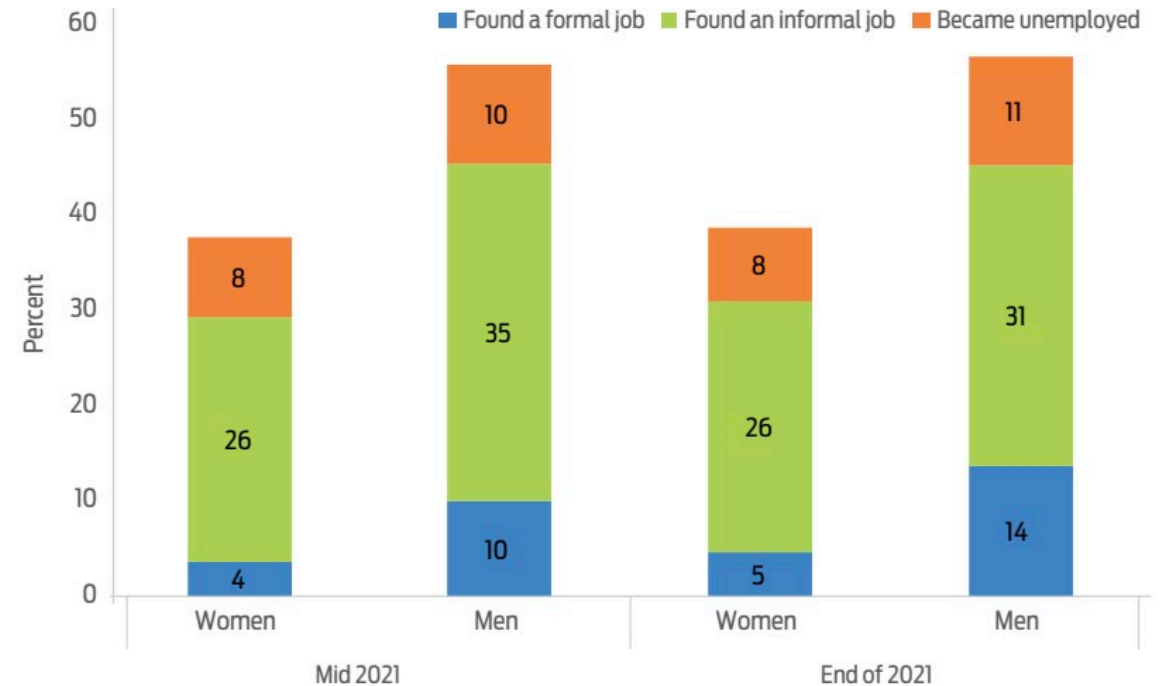


Gender gaps in job loss have narrowed, but job-loss rates are still much higher for women at the end of 2021

Share of previously employed who lost their job by gender

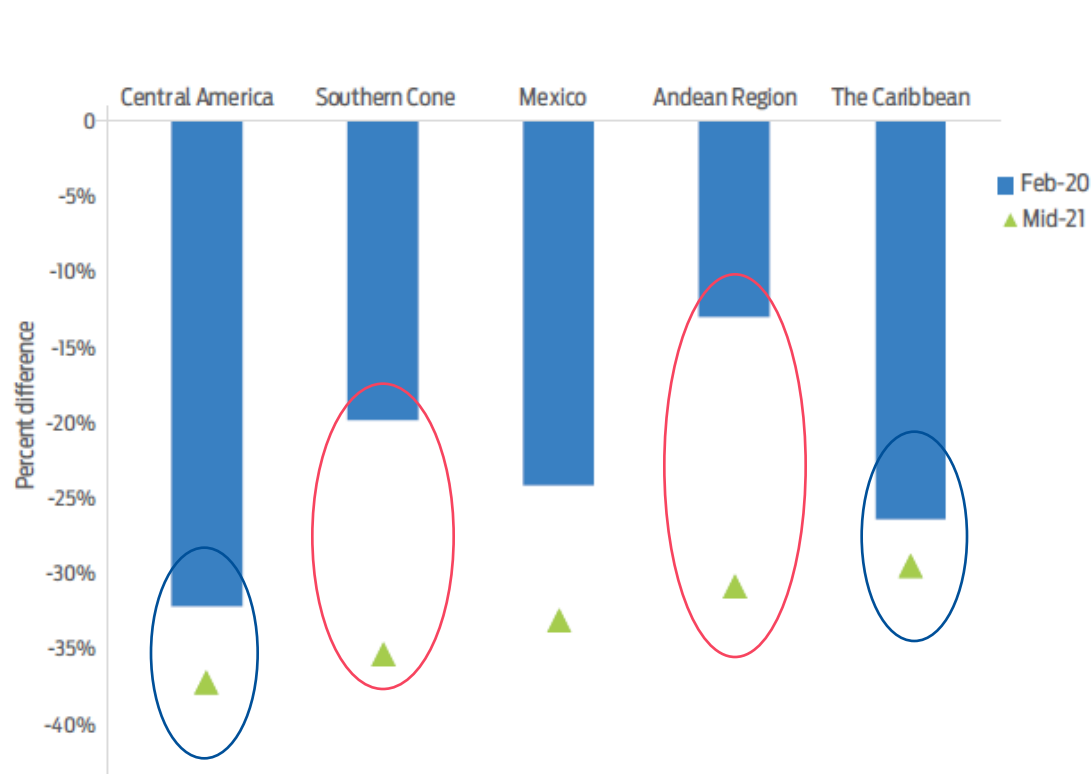


Share of previously inactive who entered the labor force by gender

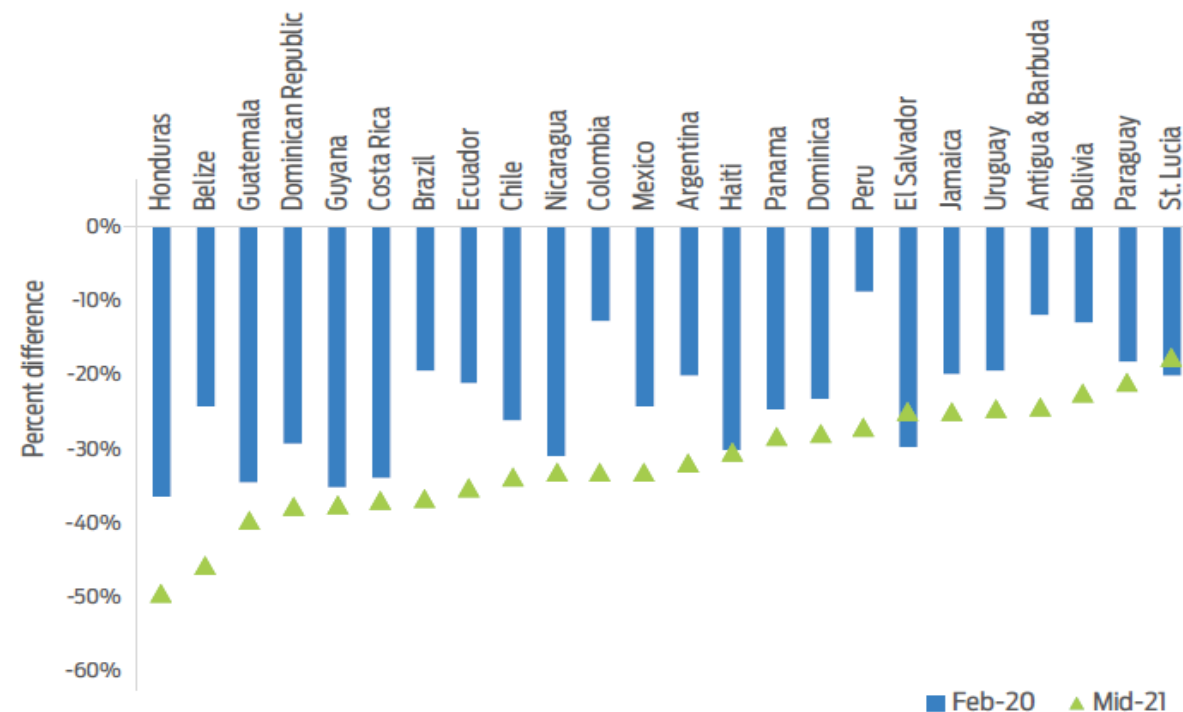


The gender gap in the employment rate increased in all sub-regions and almost all countries in the region

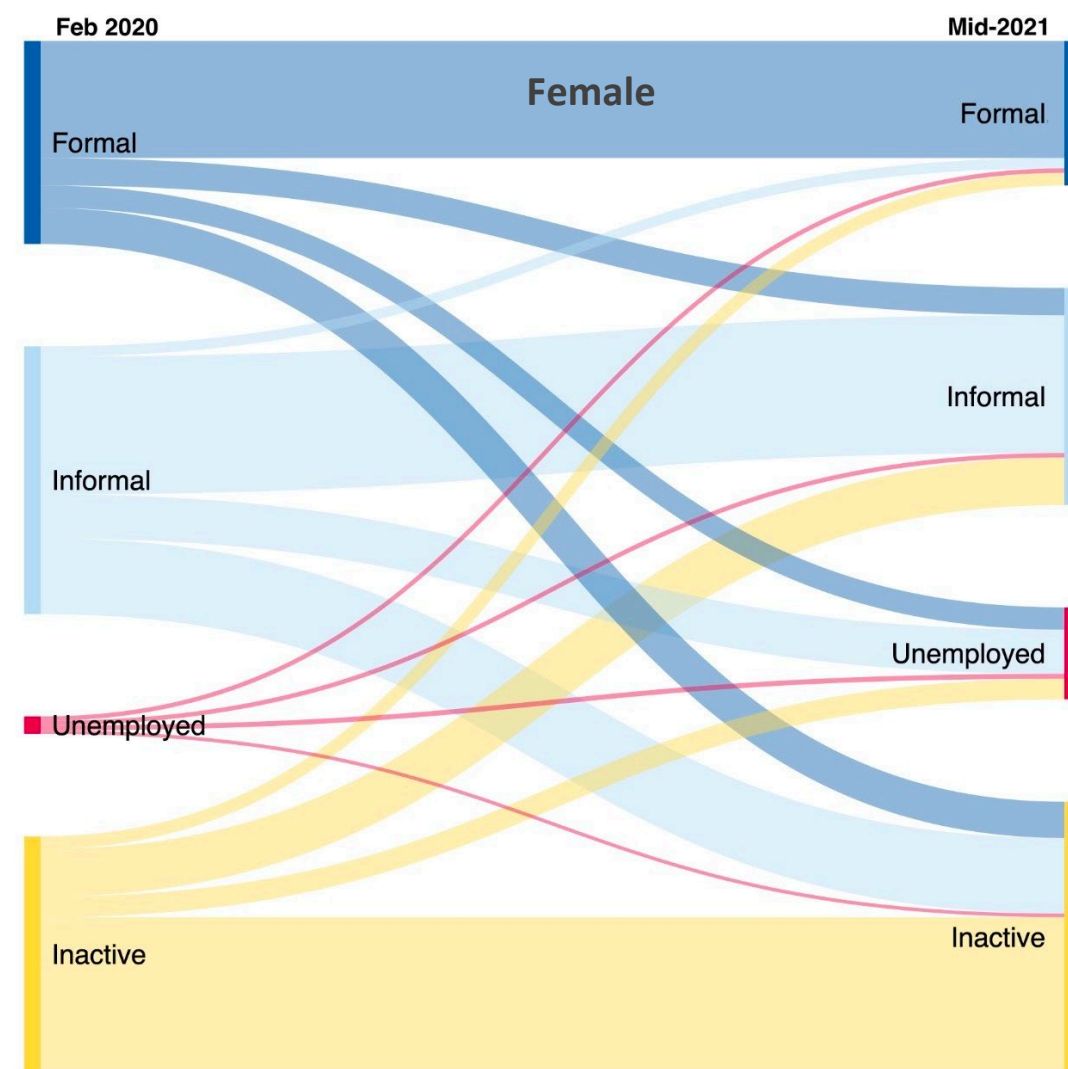
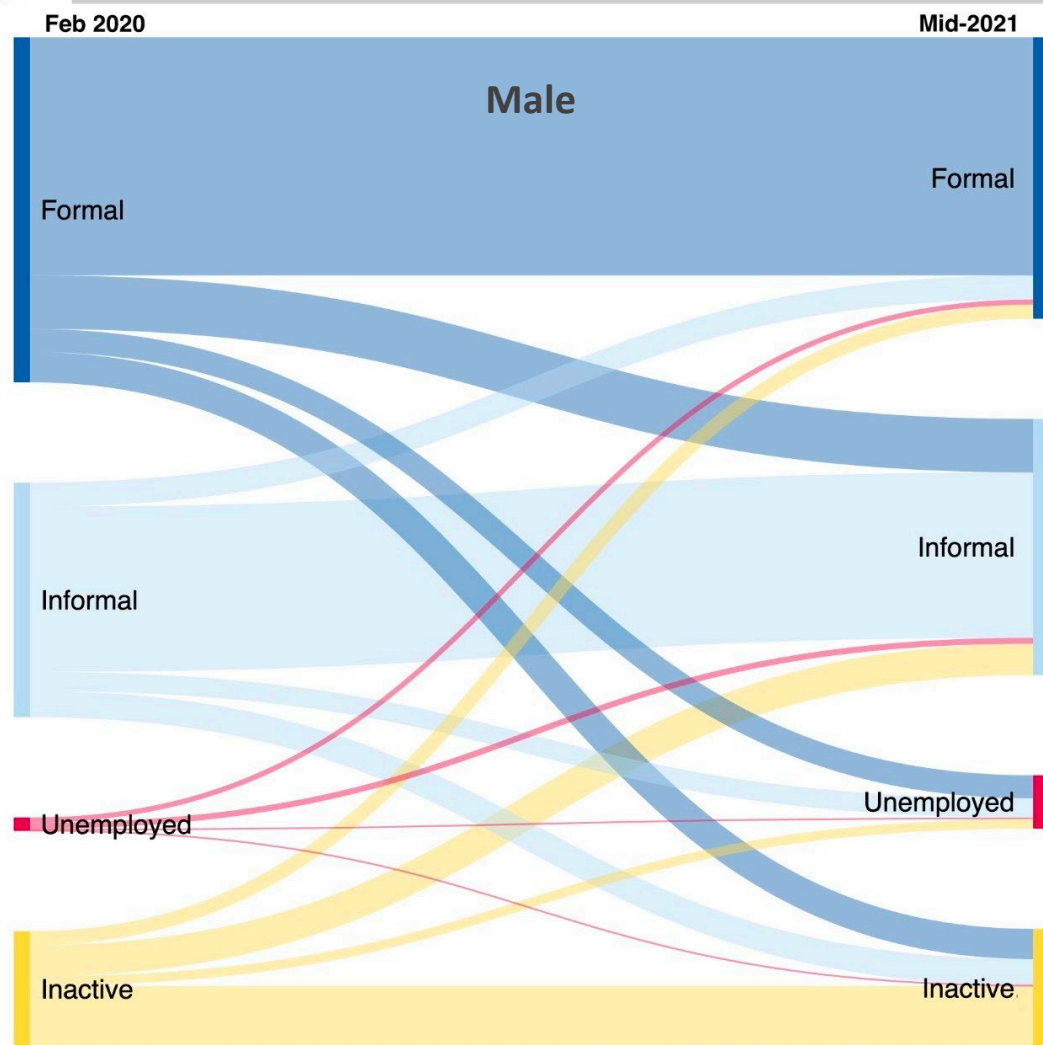
Gender gaps in employment in February 2020 and mid-2021, per sub-region (percent difference)



Gender gaps in employment in February 2020 and mid-2021, per country (percent difference)



Pronounced transitions into and out of the labor force, and into informality during the pandemic





Women experienced a smaller **net decline in formality** and a higher **increase in self-employment** in pp

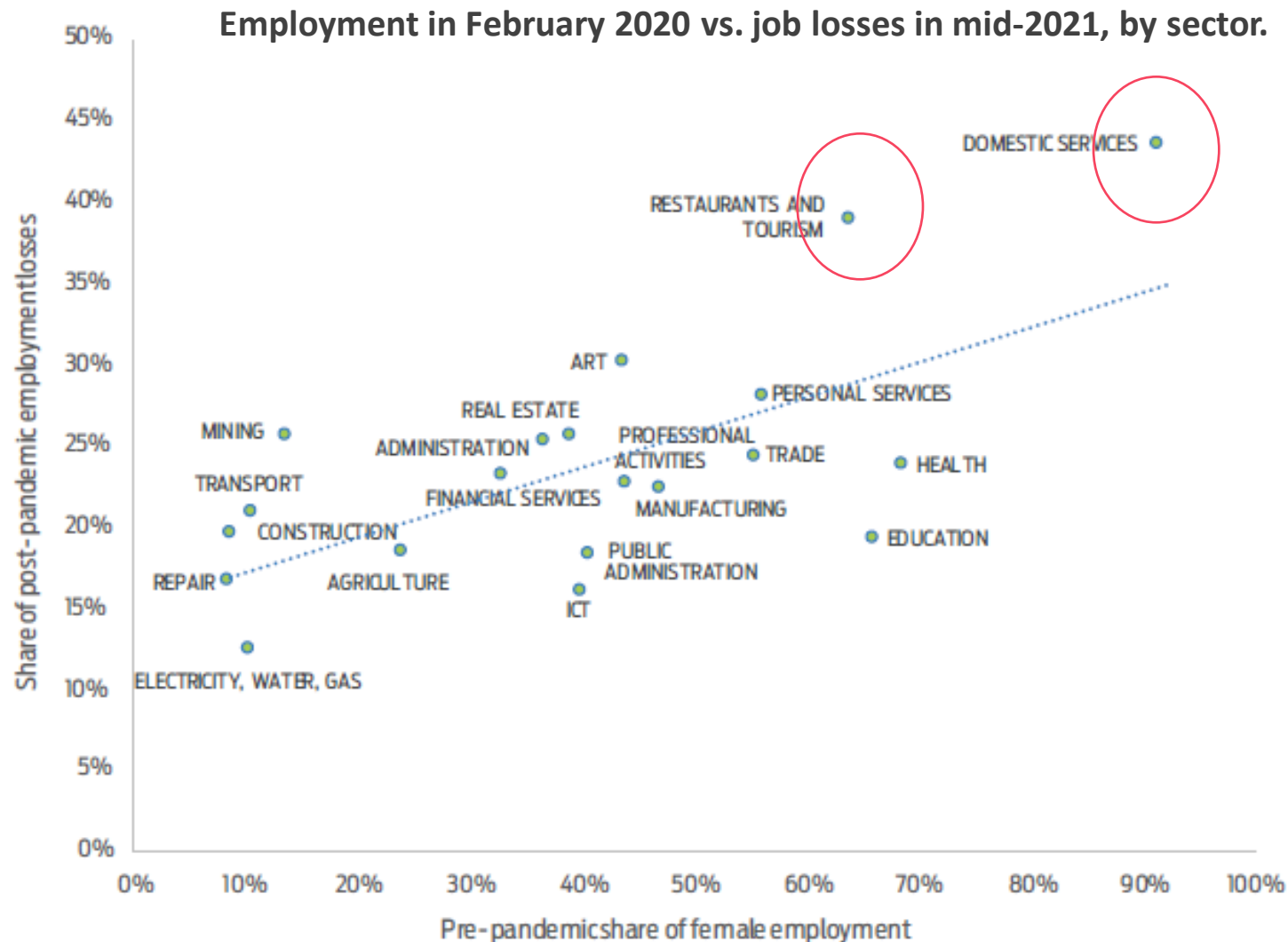
- This hides inequalities observed in transitions due to different initial levels of formality.

Change in the share of formal employment and self-employment by population groups (pp) Mid- 2021 vs. pre-pandemic





Employment in sectors that tend to predominantly employ women remained depressed



With the uneven recovery, the share of women employed by sector has changed



Latin America and the Caribbean

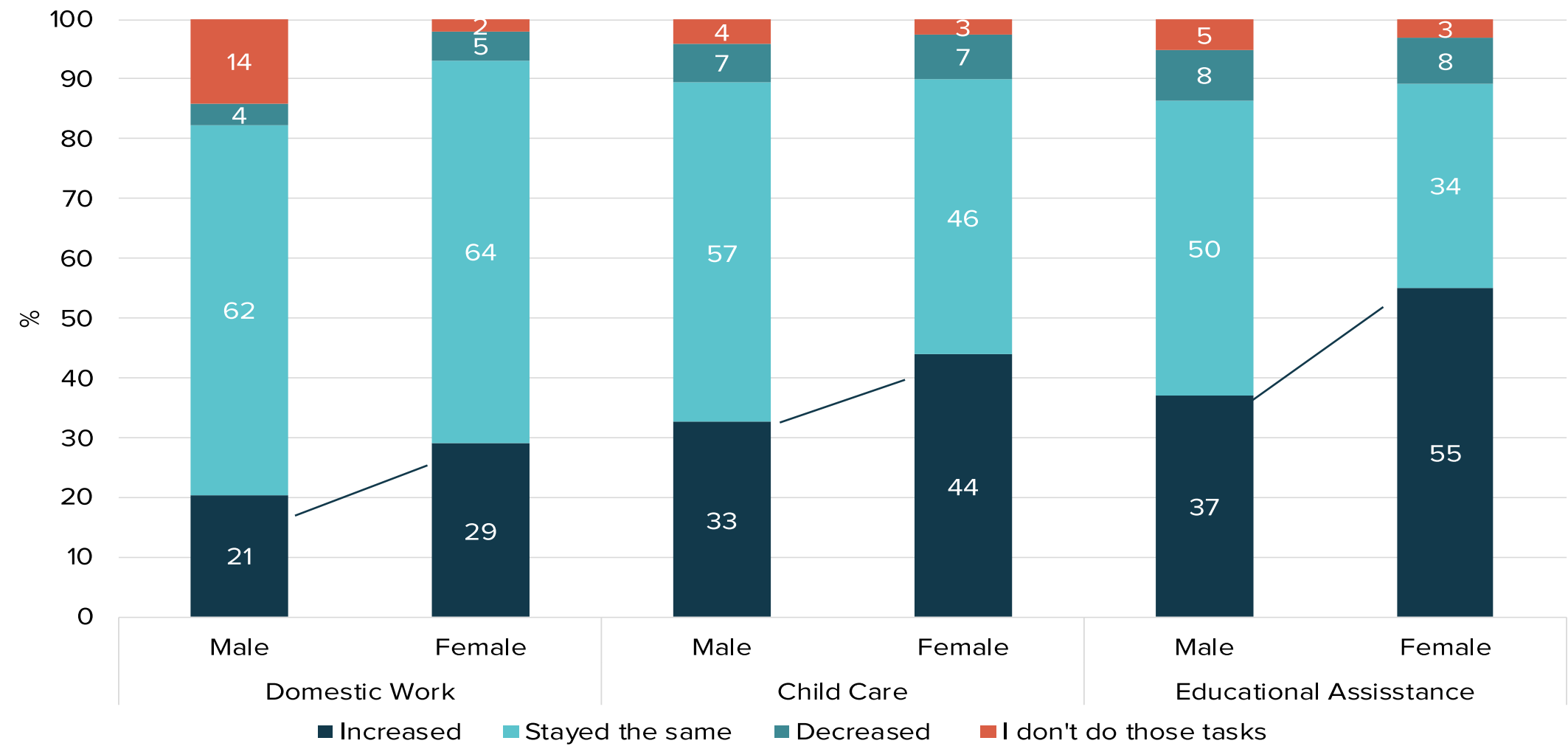
LAC High Frequency Phone Surveys

Phase II, Round 1 - 2021

Time use and gender

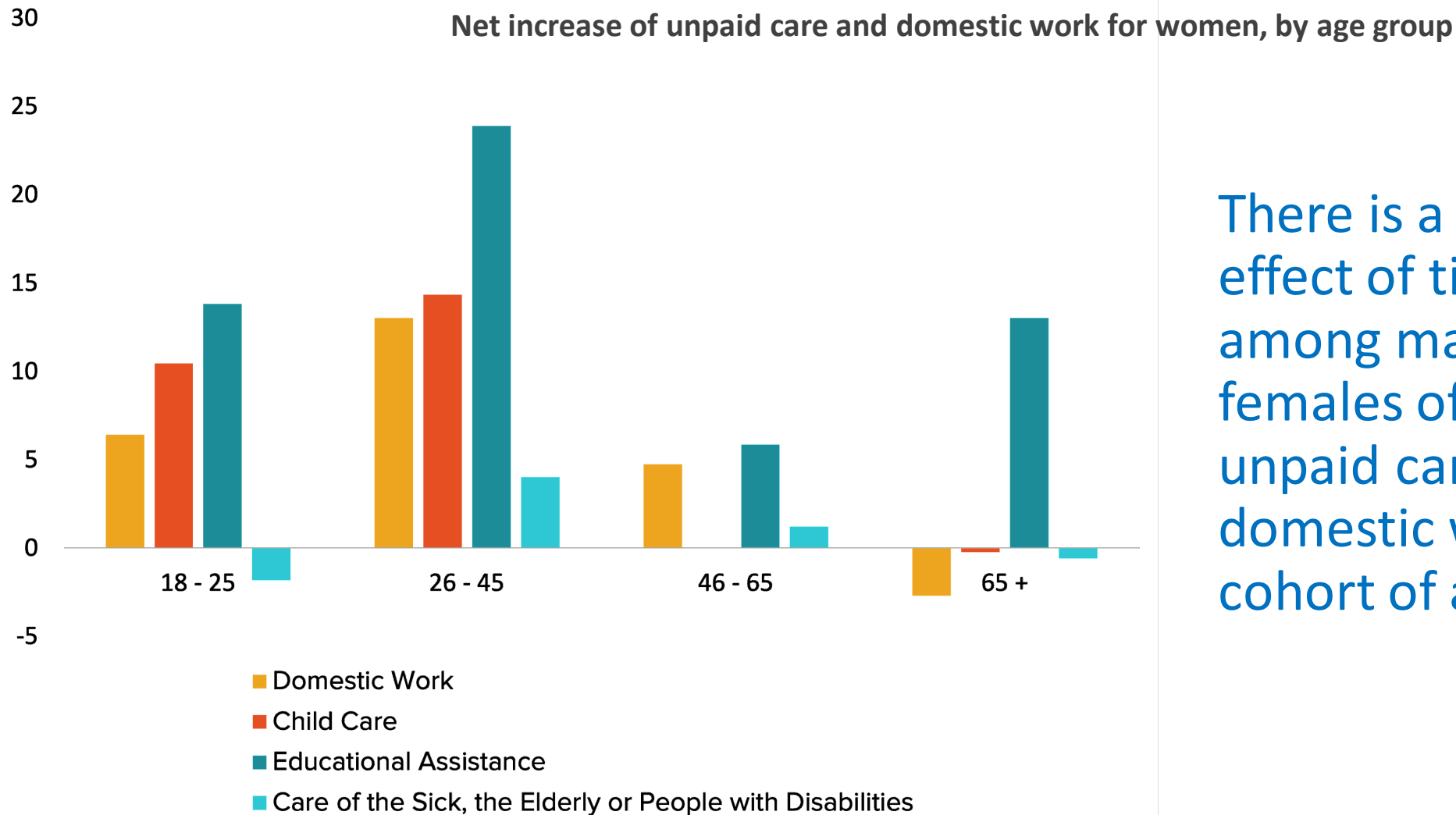
A larger share of women report spending more **time in care and domestic activities** during the pandemic (with lockdown and school closure), but the share of men also report an increase

Population 18+ that reports increases in domestic responsibilities, men and women



Source: LAC High-Frequency Phone Survey, Phase II, Round 1.

After the pandemic, female unpaid care and domestic work increased with respect to men in a higher proportion for women aged 26-45

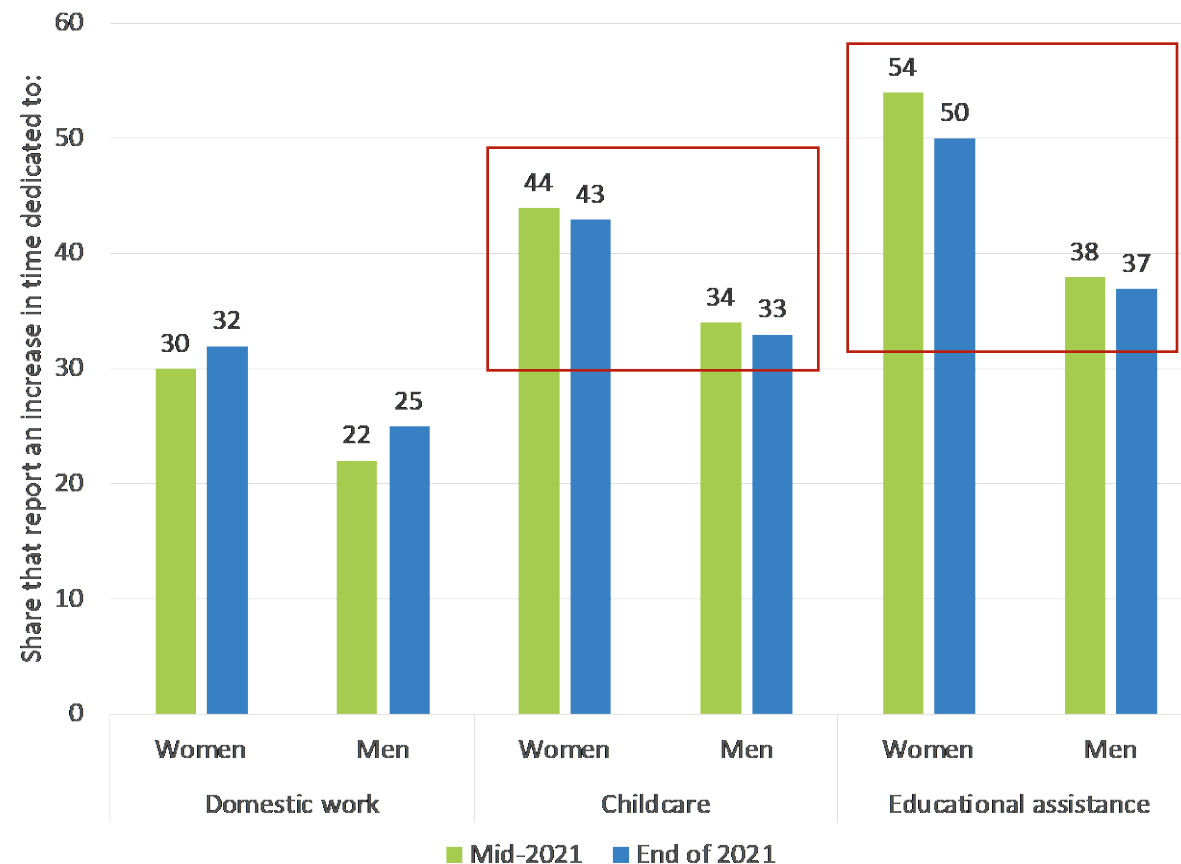


There is a differential effect of time use among males and females of types of unpaid care and domestic work by cohort of age



A larger share of women report spending more **time in care and domestic activities** during the pandemic, but the share of men also report an increase

Population 18+ that reports increases in domestic responsibilities, men and women

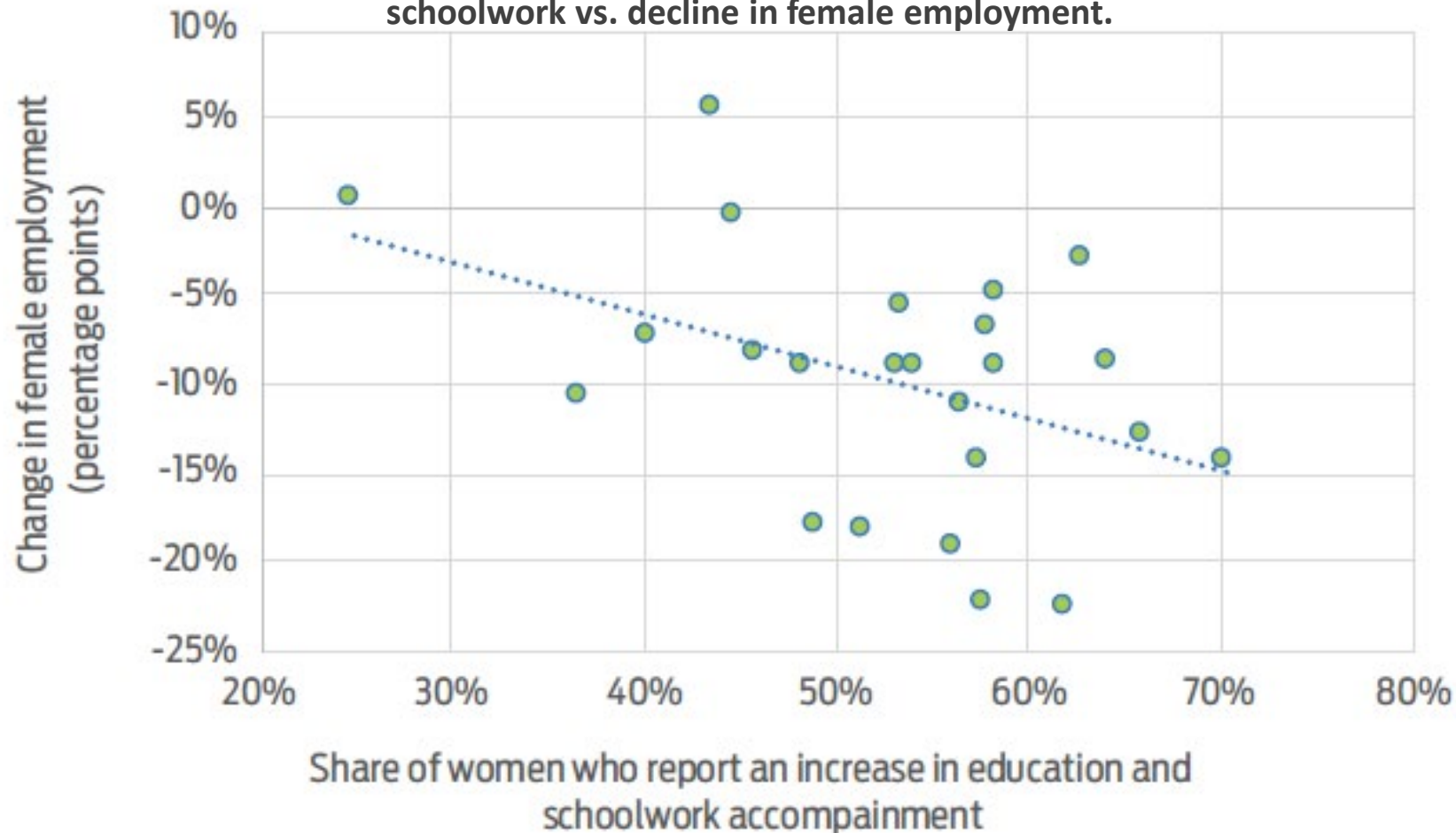


- There is a slight decline in time spent with children by the end of 2021.
- The increase in time spent supporting children's education was lower for countries where in-person schooling attendance was almost back to normal (Dominican Republic, Argentina, and Nicaragua).



Increased involvement in care work is negatively associated with declines in the employment of women than of men

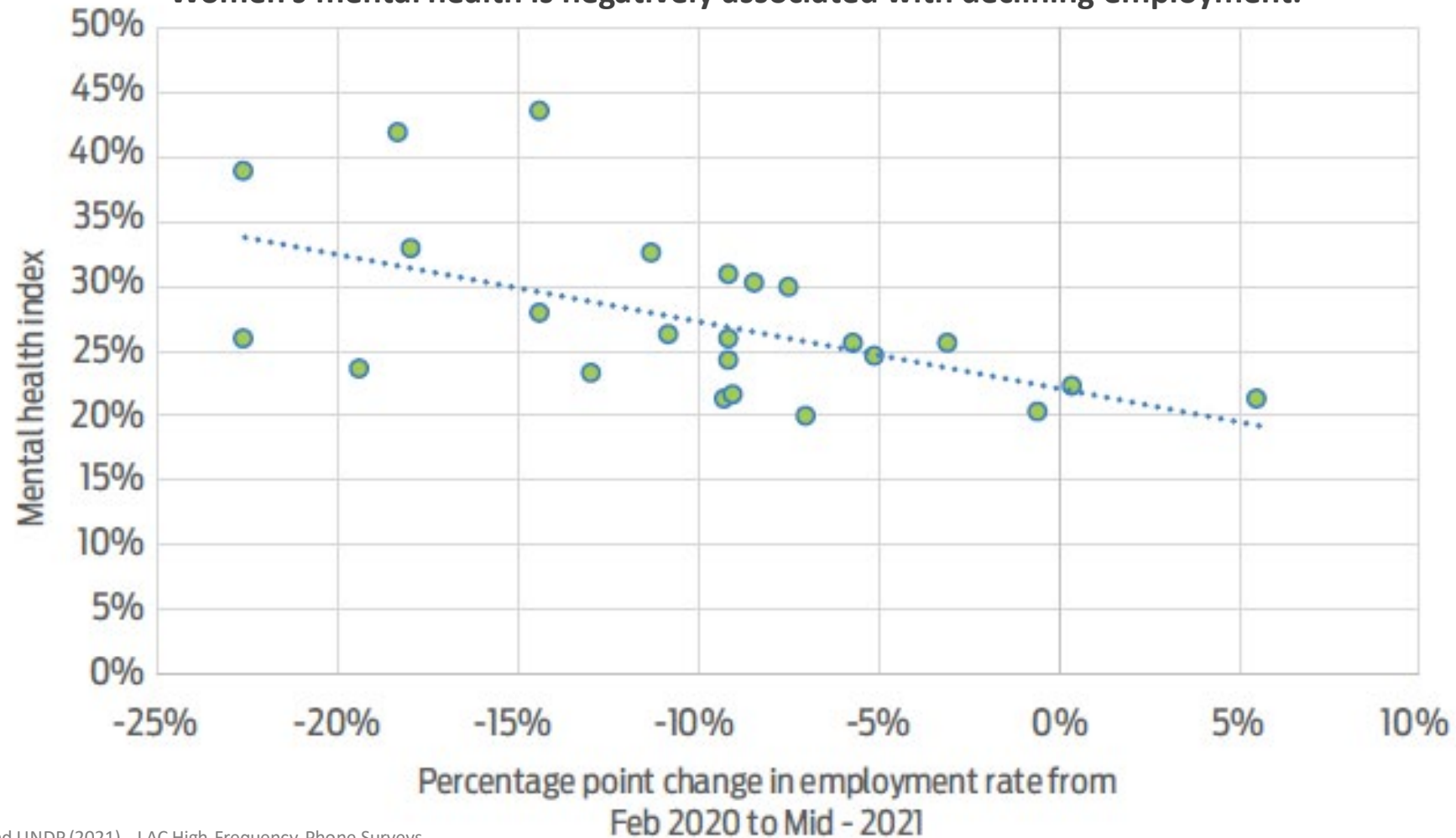
Share of women with increased time spent accompanying children's education and schoolwork vs. decline in female employment.





The declining labor market prospects of women have far-reaching consequences

Women's mental health is negatively associated with declining employment.





Access to data and documents



MicroData- Mid 2021



Overview, Country and Thematic Notes



<https://www.undp.org/latin-america/high-frequency-phone-surveys>



Thank you!