

**SUB-REGIONAL MEETING, GENDER EQUALITY
OBSERVATORY
FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
St.Lucia, 14 June 2010**

**Indicators on Economic Autonomy for the Gender
Equality Observatory**

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Economic autonomy, in the sense of women's capacity to generate income and personal financial resources, based on access to paid work under conditions of equality with men. This parameter takes account of time use, and of women's contribution to the economy.



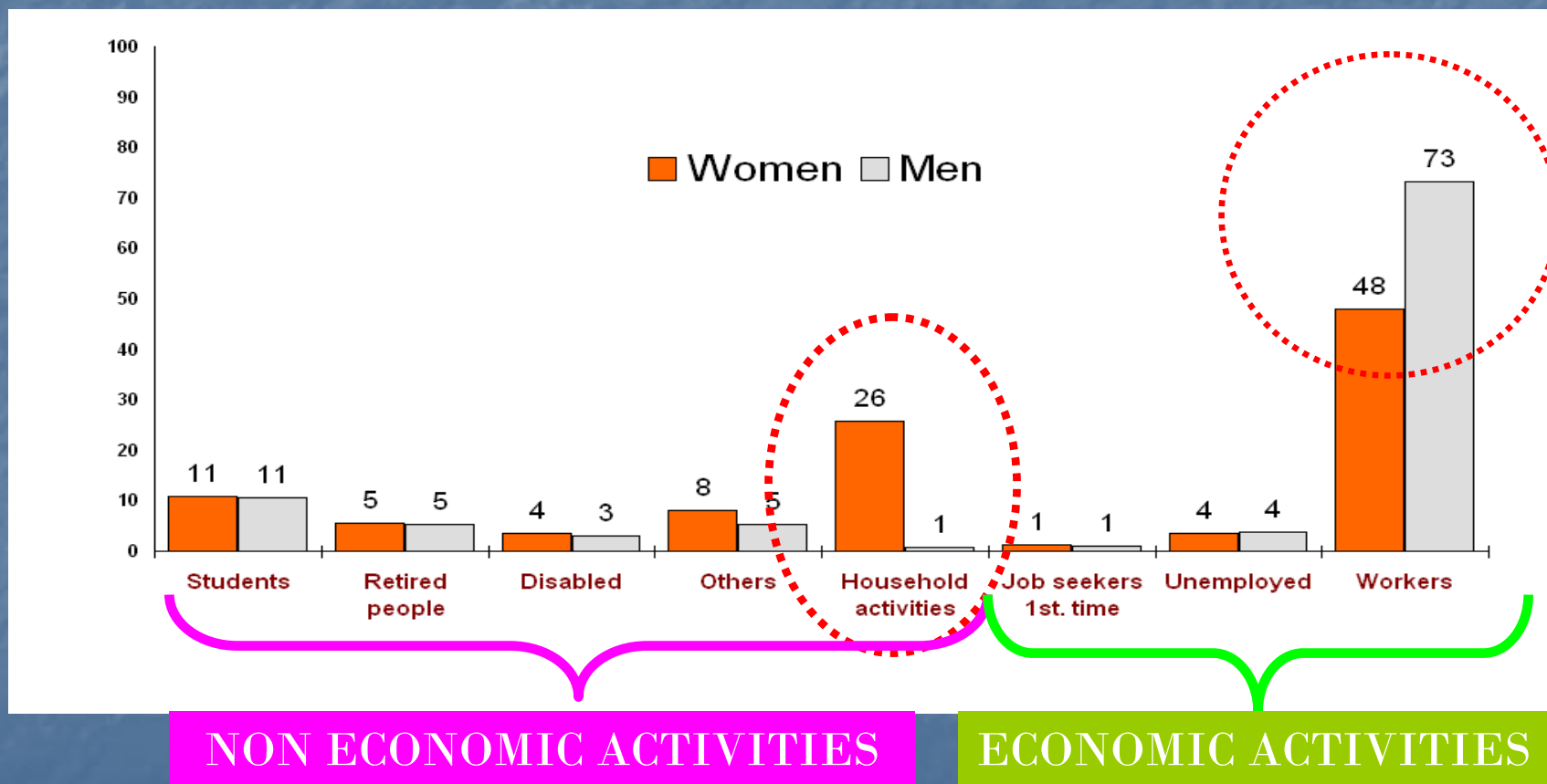
Economic autonomy



REGIONAL INDICATORS

- **People without incomes of their own:** percentage of the total female and male population aged 15 and above with no incomes of their own and who are not studying, in relation to the total female or male population aged 15 or over
- **Total work time:** total number of hours per day (or week) of paid and unpaid work, disaggregated by sex, among people aged 15 and above

MALE AND FEMALE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CONDITION, LATIN AMERICA (SIMPLE AVERAGE 16 COUNTRIES) URBAN AREAS, 15 YEARS AND MORE



Most women cannot earn their own income because their main activities are housework and care tasks

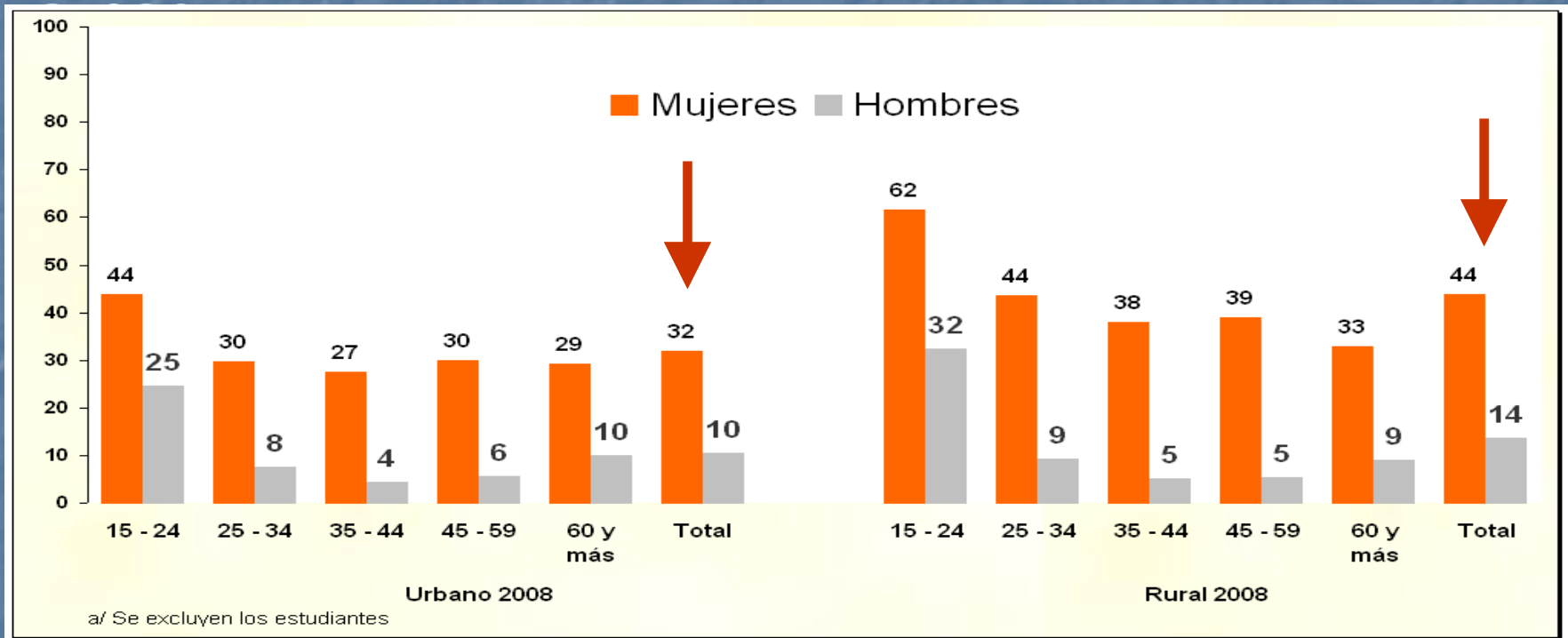
Being a wage earner gives individuals the power to make decisions on how their earnings should be spent, whether on household needs or personal expenditure.

Dependants, who are most frequently children, older persons and women, do not have the same decision-making power in relation to income.

This situation highlights the persistent vulnerability of women to poverty and inequality.

POPULATION WITHOUT INCOMES OF THEIR OWN, BY SEX

The proportion of women who cannot support themselves is still considerable: a little over a third of all women in urban areas and about 44% in rural



**WOMEN LACK ECONOMIC AUTONOMY
MORE OFTEN THAN MEN**

POPULATION WITHOUT INCOMES OF THEIR OWN, BY SEX

Definition

This indicator measures the percentage of the female/male populations aged 15 and over receiving no individual monetary income and not attending school, as a percentage of the total female/male populations 15 and over not attending school.

The indicator is disaggregated by age group and area of residence. Household surveys are its principal source of data.

POPULATION WITHOUT INCOMES OF THEIR OWN, BY SEX

Method of calculation

Individual income is obtained by summing the following income sources: wages, salaries and income of own-account workers in the labour market, retirement and pension payments, transfers between households and from other countries, and social benefits provided by Government. Fixed-term investments and income from property, as well as other income sources, are also included.

Source : Household surveys

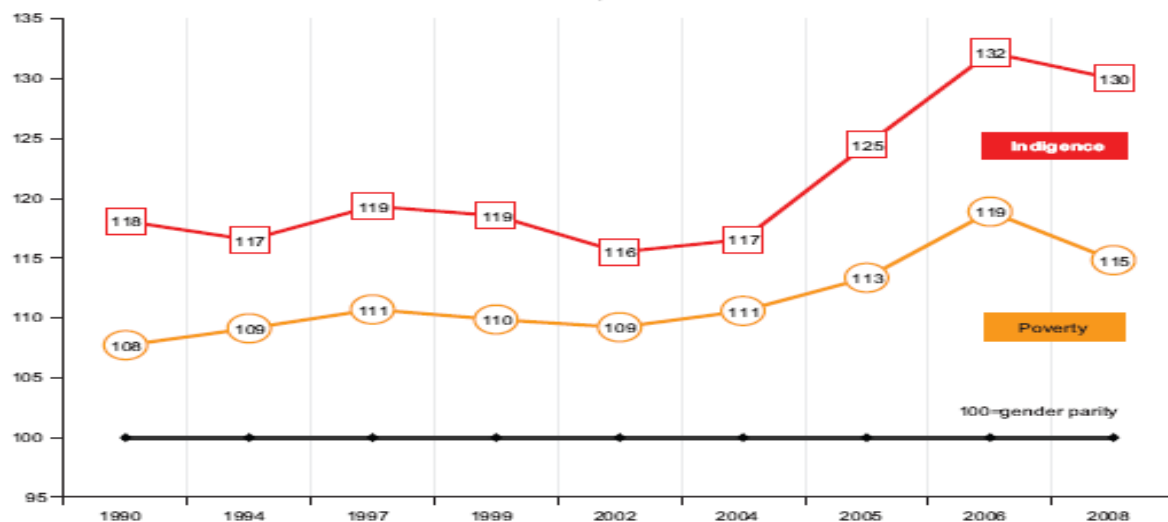
Lack of economical autonomy and poverty vulnerability

Without their own income, women lack economic autonomy, which means that they depend on others, usually the partner or spouse. A separation or widowhood can put women at risk of poverty, even if they do not come from poor households. The fact that they have no earnings of their own is part of a vicious cycle in which a low family income, together with the sexual division of labour that prevails in society, restricts women to carrying out domestic tasks in their homes and prevents them from joining the labour market.

More poor women

Poverty affects women to a greater extent than men and in the majority of countries in the region the femininity index among the poor exceeds 100. Information for 2008 shows that the 1990s there are more women than men living in poverty and indigence, even though there has been an improvement of 7 and 12 percentage points, respectively.

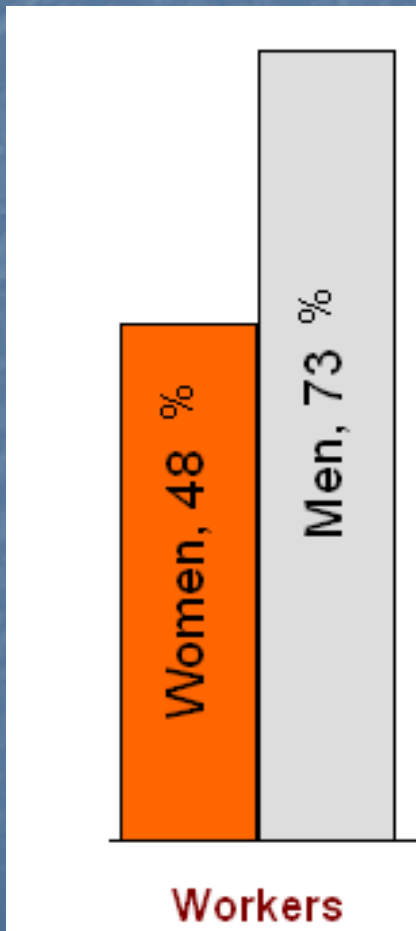
Figure III.12
LATIN AMERICA (SIMPLE AVERAGE): FEMININITY INDEX OF POVERTY AND INDIGENCE, ADULT POPULATION AGED 20 TO 59 YEARS, URBAN AREAS, 1990 TO 2008^a



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

^a The femininity index shows the number of women per 100 men living in poverty and indigence. The index has already been adjusted according to the sex structure of the population.

Paid & Unpaid Works

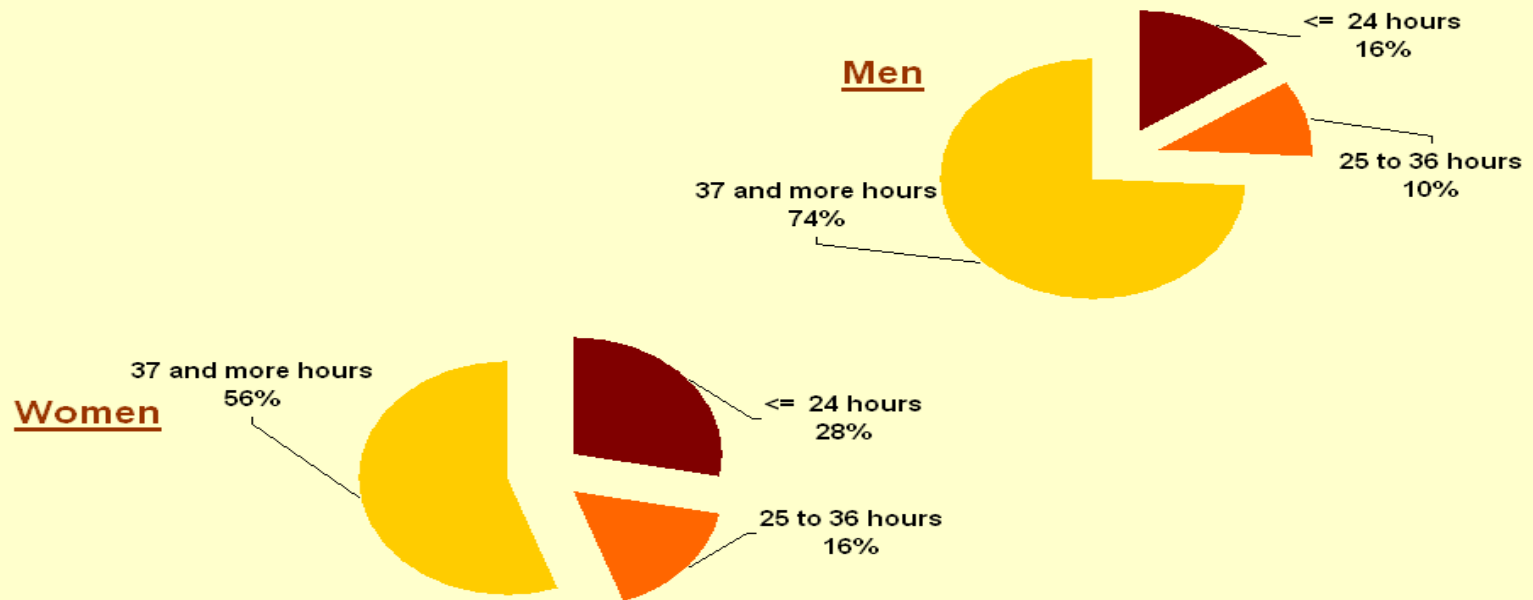


- Men do not have the same restrictions or limitations on access to paid work.

The work of women have two kind of working hours: the paid and unpaid domestic. So total working time is longer for women.

Women seek to combine both responsibilities with shorter working hours, but unfortunately these are mostly jobs that are more precarious and informal.

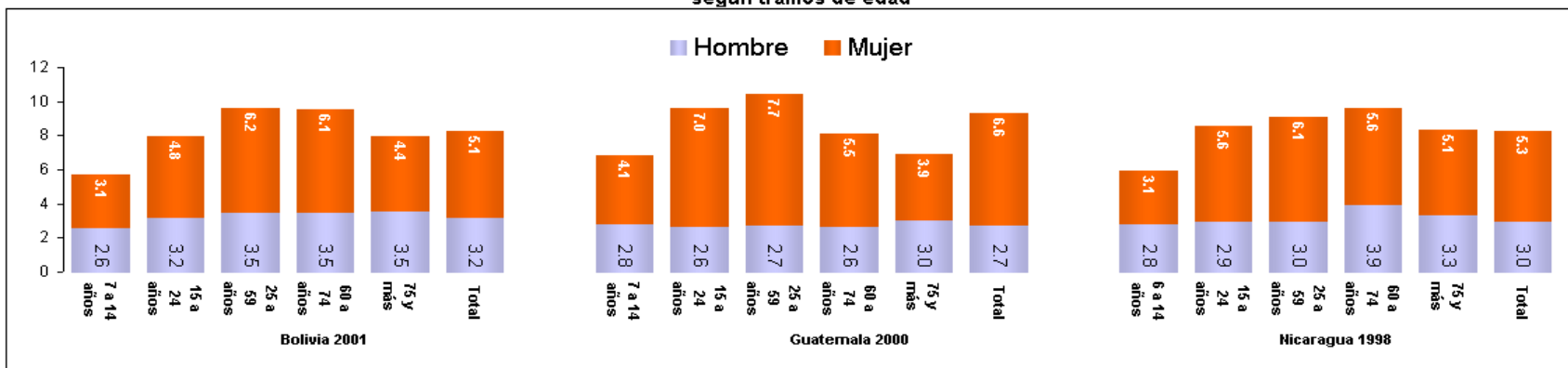
Latin America (simple average 15 countries):
Working hours per week of urban workers 15 years and more, circa 2008



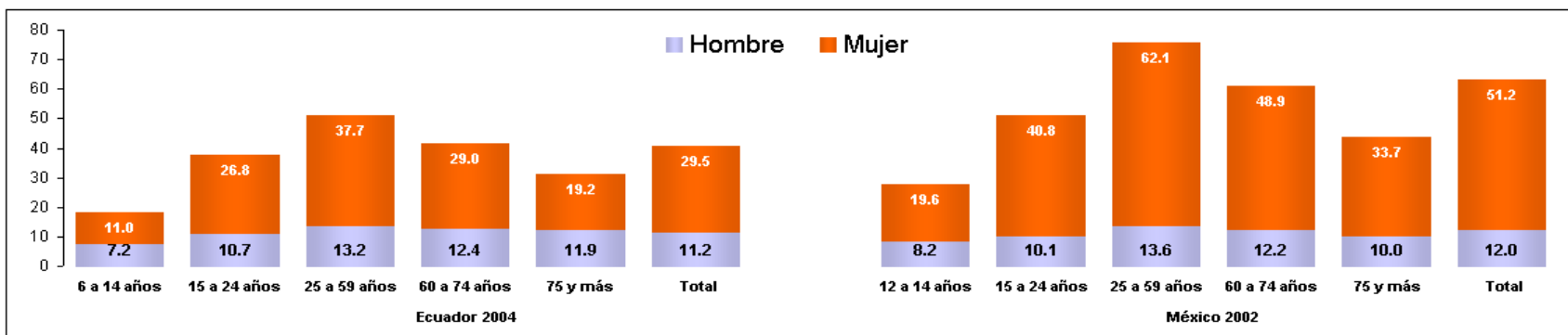
For women, the time allocation decision is not simply labor vs. leisure, but is three-part—work at home, work in the market and leisure (Mincer, 1962).

AVERAGE DAILY HOURS TO HOUSEWORK ACTIVITIES ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS AND SEX

PROMEDIO DE HORAS DIARIAS DESTINADAS A LOS QUEHACERES DOMÉSTICOS según tramos de edad



PROMEDIO DE HORAS SEMANALES DESTINADAS A LOS QUEHACERES DOMÉSTICOS

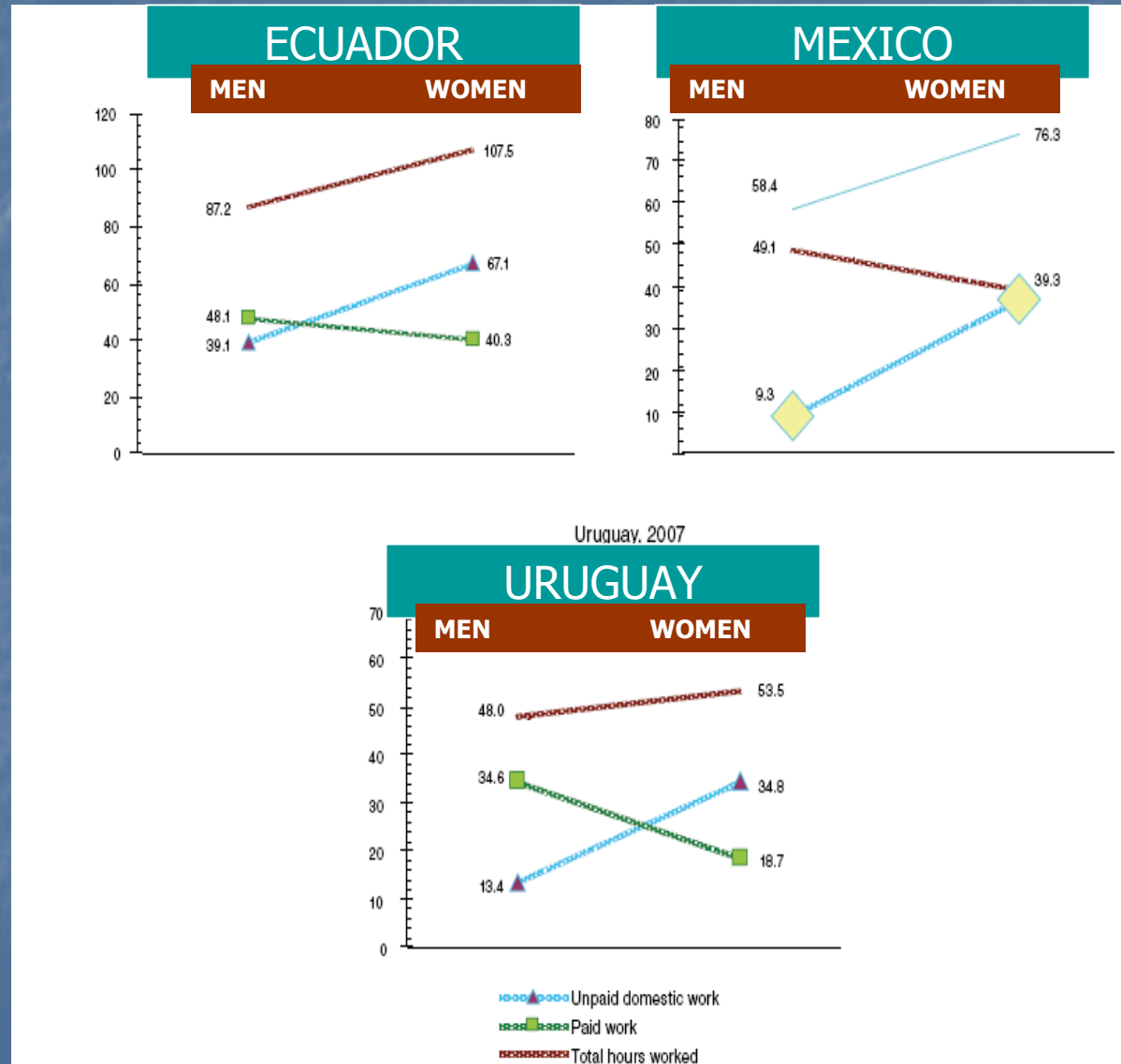
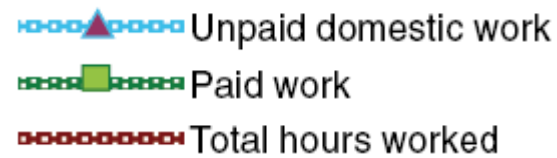


Nota: Las encuestas de las cuales se obtiene esta información no son coincidentes ni comparables tanto cuanto a las actividades consignadas en cada cuestionario, como a sus procedimientos metodológicos, los tiempo de referencia y la cobertura geográfica; no obstante, se buscó utilizar un parámetro común, que se obtuvo de la sumatoria del conjunto de las actividades domésticas consideradas en cada módulo en los países analizados.

Studies measuring the total workload (paid and unpaid) of men and women in different countries in the region reveal the same pattern in all countries for which information is available.

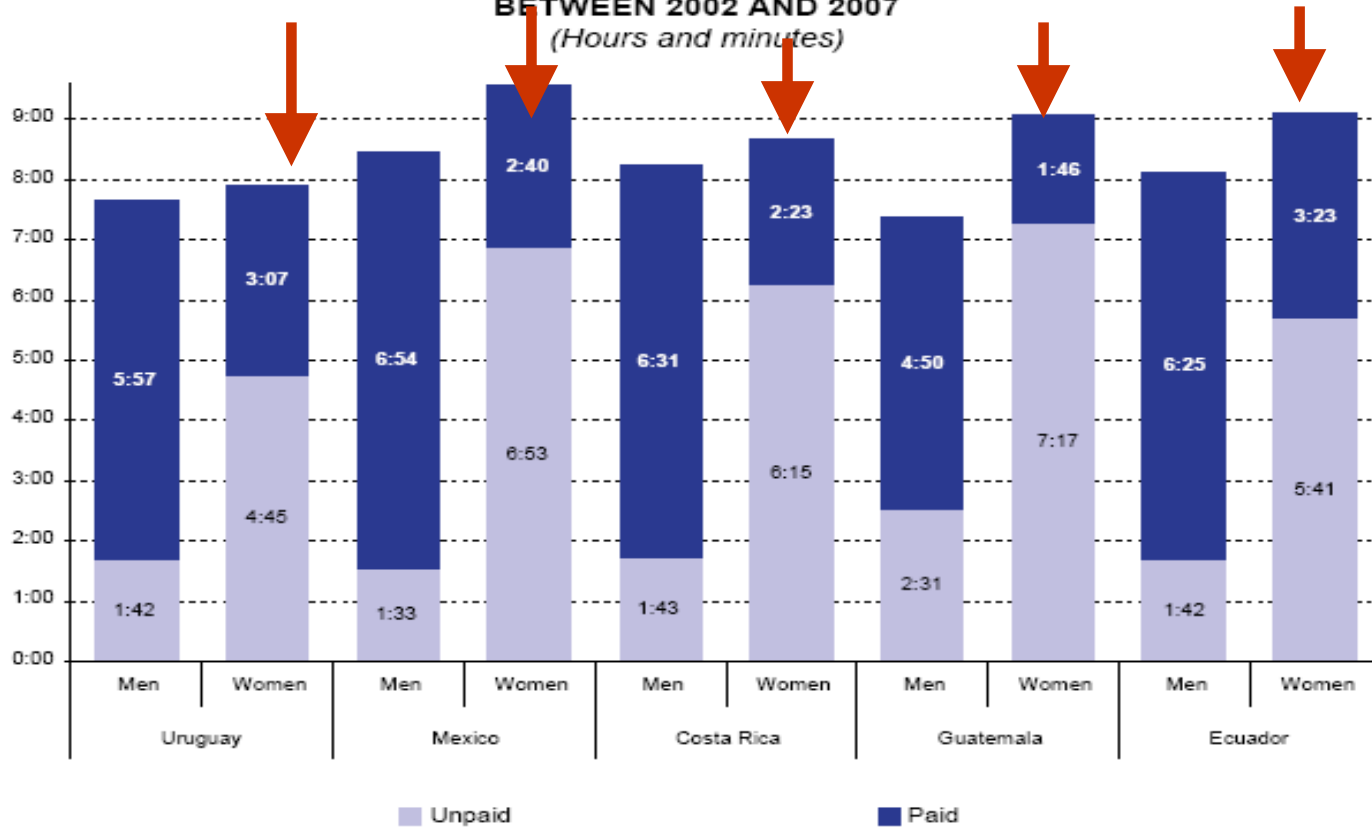
Even though the total number of hours women and men devote to unpaid domestic work and paid work may vary widely

from one country to another, there are two fundamental trends: (i) in all cases, women work more hours overall than men, and (ii) in all cases, women devote more of their time to unpaid work



Total work time = paid + unpaid

LATIN AMERICA (SELECTED COUNTRIES): WORKLOAD BY GENDER, DIFFERENT YEARS
BETWEEN 2002 AND 2007
(Hours and minutes)



Men do more paid work and women more domestic work in all the selected countries

Total work time

This indicator shows the total number of hours spent in paid work and unpaid domestic work, disaggregated by sex.

PAID WORK comprise: Remunerated working and work-related activities

Domestic work Activities usually comprises:

Household maintenance, management and shopping for own household
Care for children, the sick, elderly and disabled for own household

One important input for constructing this indicator in the medium term will be the regional classifiers of time use activities for Latin America and the Caribbean (CAUTAL). This is a tool for planning, processing, presenting and analyzing time use surveys. It will provide the concepts and definitions (metadata) needed to process data and harmonize time use surveys in Latin America and Caribbean, and will aid in making international comparisons

Time Use Surveys

Time-use data are quantitative summaries of what women and men do over the course of a day, a week, and across seasons over a year. The basic building blocks of

time-use data are: (1) activity and (2) time.

Main activities: Paid work, Housework, Personal care, Family tasks, Leisure activities

Time-use surveys are the most important tool available to measure daily unpaid work loads in the countries. Until very recently, information on unpaid work —which for centuries has been performed by women— was invisible in the countries' societies and economies.

Currently, surveys are conducted in a number of Latin American; in some cases, time use modules are incorporated in household surveys. The information is systematized by the ECLAC Division for Gender Affairs in the document “Tiempo total de trabajo (remunerado y no remunerado). Recopilación experiencias encuestas uso del tiempo en los países”, which can be found on the website in reports and studies on economic autonomy.

Type of survey

These surveys may be categorized as follows:

1. Independent time-use surveys
2. Time-use module in a multi-purpose household survey
3. Time-use questions within a household survey questionnaire

TIME DIARY METHOD

SIMULTANEITY

With whom?

Where?

Figure 1. A Principle diary

Diary/ person id	Starting time	Ending time	Main activity	Parallel activity	Who with:				Where/mod e of tranport
					Alone	Spouse	Small child	Other pers.	
A	04:00	07:20	Sleep						At home
a	07:20	07:50	Shower						At home
a	7:50	08:30	Had breakfast	Read newspaper			Ch		At home
a	08:30	08:40	Walked to bus		A				By foot
a	08:40	09:00	Bus to job					OP	By bus
a	09:00	11:20	Paid work					OP	At work
a	11:20	11:50	Lunch break: meal	Talked with colleag.				OP	At work
a	11:50	12:00	Lunch break: walk	Talked with colleag.				OP	By foot
a	12:00	12:30	Lunch break: walk		A				By foot
a	12:30	16:30	Paid work					OP	At work
a	16:30	16:50	Bus to home	Read newspaper	A				By bus
a	16:50	17:00	From bus by foot		A				By foot
a	17:00	17:40	Cooked supper	Talked with children			Ch		At home
a	17:40	18:20	Had supper	Talked with family		Sp	Ch		At home
a	18:20	19:10	Dish washing	Listened to radio	A				At home
a	19:10	21:00	TV			Sp	Ch		At home
a	21:00	22:10	Took a walk	Talked with spouse		Sp			By foot
a	22:10	22:20	Shower						At home
a	22:20	04:00	Sleep						At home

Fuente: Harmonised European Time Use Survey

<https://www.testh2.scb.se/tus/tus/introduction2.html##Guide4>

Examples of additional modules on household Surveys

REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY
INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTADISTICA

ENCUESTA CONTINUA DE HOGARES

Río Negro 1520 - Montevideo

I - USO DEL TIEMPO

MUT 1 ALIMENTACIÓN

¿Cuánto tiempo le dedicó el último...(día de referencia)

	Sí	No	Día laborable		Fin de semana	
			Horas	Minutos	Horas	Minutos
1. a preparar o cocinar alimentos?	1	2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2. a servir la comida, poner la mesa, levantar y/o lavar los platos?	1	2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

MUT 2 LIMPIEZA DE LA VIVIENDA

¿Cuánto tiempo le dedicó el último...(día de referencia)

	Sí	No	Día laborable		Fin de semana	
			Horas	Minutos	Horas	Minutos
3. a hacer la limpieza o el arreglo general de la casa?	1	2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

MUT 3 LIMPIEZA Y CUIDADO DE ROPA

¿Cuánto tiempo le dedicó el último...(día de referencia)

	Sí	No	Día laborable		Fin de semana	
			Horas	Minutos	Horas	Minutos
			<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Nº de Persona:

Edad:

Nº de Persona que informa:

Indique el día por el que se refiere a las actividades:

LABORABLE

NO LABORABLE

MUT 6 CONSTRUCIÓN Y REPARACIÓN

10. a hacer alguna reparación sanitaria, trabajos de albañilería para este hogar?

MUT 7 GESTIÓN DE PAGOS

11. a realizar algún pago relacionado con las cuentas de la vivienda?

Uruguay	2007
Ecuador	2007
Ecuador	2005
México	2002
Argentina	2005
Costa Rica	2004
Colombia	2008
El Salvador	2005
Nicaragua	1998
Guatemala	2000
Guatemala	2006