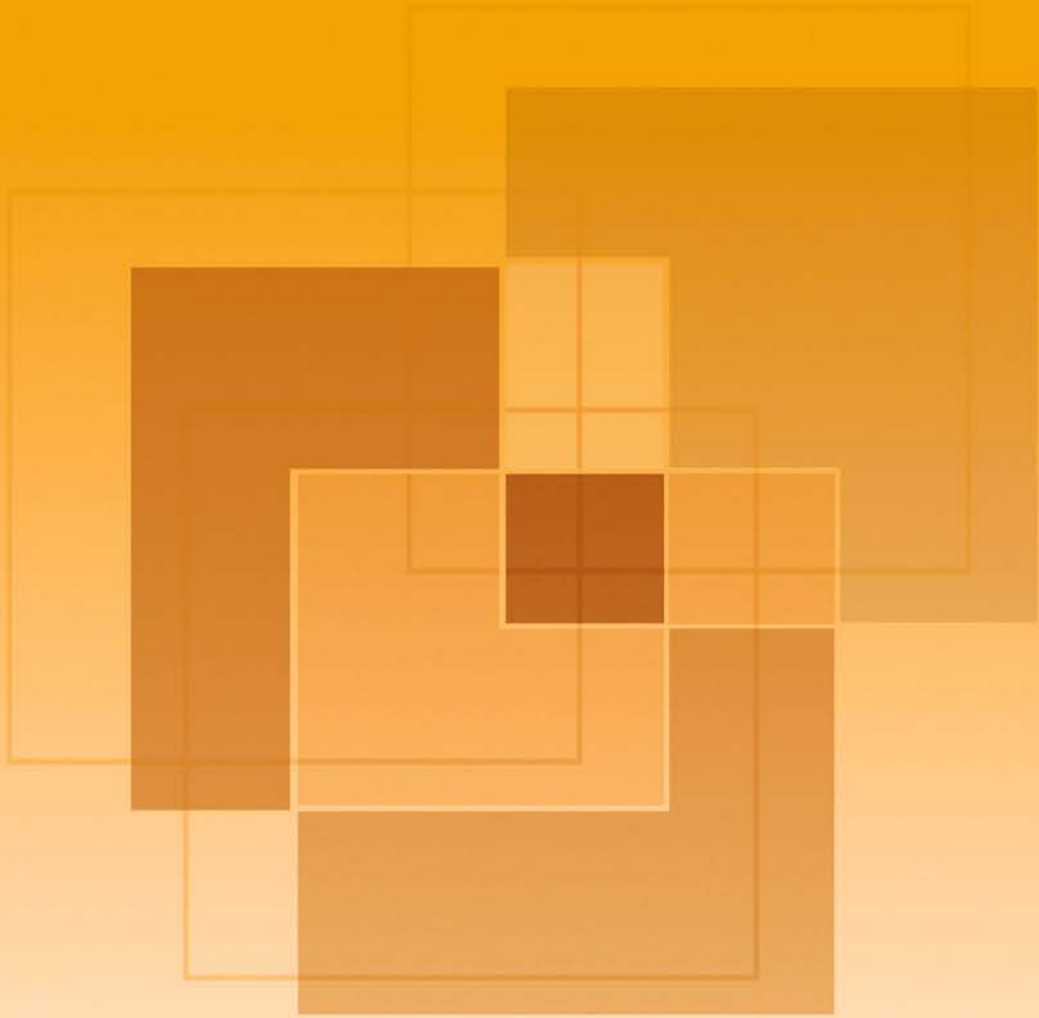


2006 Labour Overview

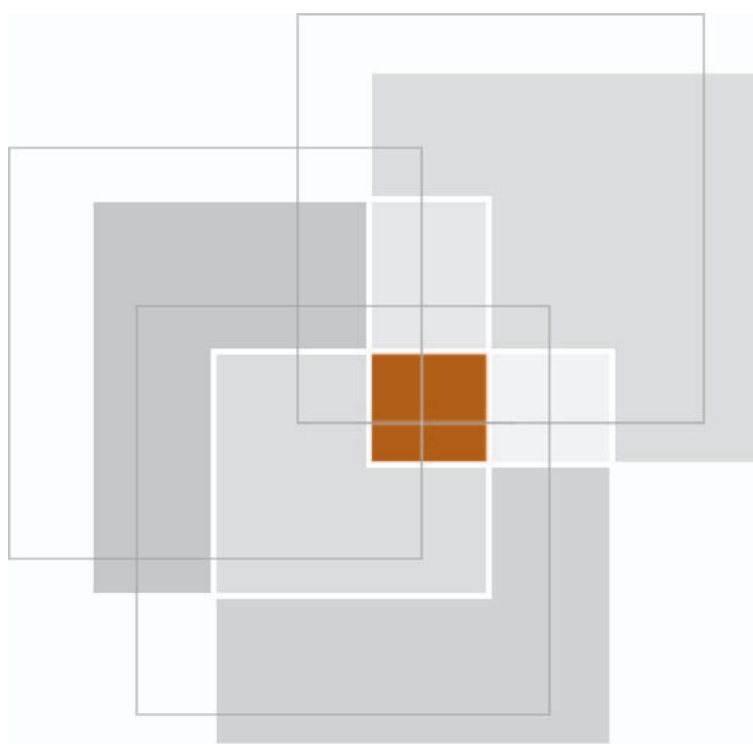
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



International Labour Office
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean

2006 Labour Overview

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Foreword

At the end of 2006, Latin America and the Caribbean will have experienced economic growth for the fourth consecutive year. Forecasts for 2007 indicate that this trend will continue, although at a more moderate pace, yielding five consecutive years of growth. As expected, the stability of economic growth over several years has produced a positive impact on the labour market in the countries of the region, as the pages of the *2006 Labour Overview* confirm: the unemployment rate declined and real wages increased during the first three quarters of 2006, as compared with the same period of 2005. Despite this positive trend, important gaps persist in key labour market indicators by sex and age, whereas informal sector employment remains high and workers' health insurance and pension coverage in the region remains deficient.

With a projected GDP growth rate of 5.1% for the region in 2006, the economy will have expanded by an average of 4.4% annually between 2003 and 2006. Three factors explain this performance, which is unprecedented in previous years characterized by volatile growth and cyclical crises. First, it was due to the growth in foreign demand – especially from China and the United States –, which also yielded better prices for regional export commodities. Second, it reflected stronger domestic economic activity in Latin America and the Caribbean, driven by low interest rates and increased public spending. Finally, growth occurred because of the macroeconomic balances – particularly in fiscal and price terms – the countries of the region have been able to achieve within a favourable international context.

The positive economic performance had a favourable impact on key labour market indicators in 2006. The regional urban unemployment rate fell from 9.5% in the first three quarters of 2005 to 9.0% in the same period of 2006, in a context of a 0.3 percentage point increase in the labour supply and an expansion of 0.6 percentage points in labour demand. Although this further decline in unemployment is very positive, it is still far from the rate of 7.3% reached in the early 1990s, as this edition of *Labour Overview* states. In 2006, an estimated 17.5 million people were unemployed in urban areas of the region.

Labour market performance was slightly more positive for women than for men in 2006, according to key indicators. Nevertheless, in the first three quarters of 2006, the female urban labour force participation rate was 30% lower than that of men in countries with available information. In addition, the youth unemployment rate decreased by almost two percentage points through the first three quarters of 2006. However, this improvement is insufficient considering that youth unemployment rates are between 1.7 and 2.2 times higher than the total unemployment rate.

Wages followed a similar trend. In 2006, real manufacturing wages rose in all countries with available information whereas real minimum wages increased 4.7%, a trend made possible by greater control of inflation. Nevertheless, not all countries have recovered the real wage levels they had in the early 1990s.



Moreover, the limited progress in income distribution reflects the region's high level of wage income inequality, which, as explained in a study in this edition of *Labour Overview*, derives from structural problems in the regional labour market, differences in human capital and a lack of current labour regulations and their enforcement, particularly of those associated with minimum wages and job discrimination. Current forecasts indicate that the region will not be able to reach the first Millennium Development Goal of eradicating extreme poverty by 2015, a phenomenon closely associated with insufficient job creation in terms of quantity and quality, as the study indicates.

These results corroborate ILO's conviction that economic growth is a necessary condition for achieving labour and social progress, but that it is not enough. Also urgently needed are economic and social policies to generate decent work as a mechanism for achieving the first Millennium Development Goal and for reducing inequality. The ILO has defined decent work as work that is productive, delivers fair pay and is exercised in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity.

There is growing consensus in the region regarding the need to create decent work. At the IV Summit of the Americas, held in Mar del Plata in 2005, the heads of state and government of 34 countries of the Americas agreed to «implement active policies to generate decent work with a view to creating the conditions for quality employment that imbue economic policies and globalization with a strong ethical and human component, putting the individual at the centre of work, the enterprise and the economy. We will promote decent work, that is to say: fundamental rights at work; employment; social protection and social dialogue.»

Along these lines, ILO Director-General Juan Somavia presented the report on Decent Work in the Americas: An Agenda for the Hemisphere, 2006-2015, which received unanimous approval at the Sixteenth American Regional Meeting of the ILO in Brasilia. This agenda proposes policies to respect fundamental rights at work, generate more employment through sustained growth, improve efficiency and coverage of social protection, and promote tripartism and social dialogue to legitimize policies that promote decent work. It establishes policies in 11 specific areas of intervention associated with these topics and prioritizes actions to develop and strengthen labour administration, as well as to promote national decent work programmes.

Moreover, in July 2006, the High-level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted the *Ministerial Declaration on Employment and Decent Work for All*. The Declaration proposes practical measures aimed at creating an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to addressing the structural crisis of unemployment.

In summary, this edition of *Labour Overview* demonstrates that Latin American and Caribbean countries have made progress in improving key economic and labour indicators in 2006, although they are still far from reaching the goal of well being and equality. These advances require economic and social policies to generate more decent work.



Social actors are committed to this ILO strategy. More so than in the past, there are reasons to address with optimism the enormous social and labour gaps hindering the region's development.

Jean Maninat,
*ILO Regional Director for Latin America
and the Caribbean*

Lima, December 2006



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The preparation of the *2006 Labour Overview* was coordinated by Mónica Castillo, who also helped in the preparation of different texts and oversaw the editing of the report, with the collaboration of Manuel Délano.

The study on *Extreme Poverty, Inequality and Decent Work*, which analyzes the role of employment and earnings in overcoming extreme poverty and inequality, was prepared by Mónica Castillo. The *Employment Situation Report*, which analyzes employment and wage trends in countries of the region in 2006, was prepared by Rosa Ana Ferrer.

The first box article, *Trends and Challenges in Measuring Informal Employment in Latin America and the Caribbean*, was prepared by Bolívar Pino. *Latin America and the Caribbean: Sectorial Composition of Urban Employment and Health and/or Pension Coverage*, the second box article, was prepared by Mónica Castillo. The third box article, the *Labour Market Situation in Central America*, was prepared by Leonardo Ferreira. The fourth box article, *The Caribbean: Commitment to Decent Work and Highlights of the Labour Market Situation*, was prepared by Reynold Simons. Rosa Ana Ferrer prepared the last box article, *Mexico's New Employment Survey and its Impact on Regional Estimates*.

Comments on the different texts of the *2006 Labour Overview* were provided by Mónica Castillo, Miguel Del Cid, Virgilio Levaggi and Jean Maninat. Ralf Hussmanns prepared comments on the box article, *Trends and Challenges in Measuring Informal Employment in Latin America and the Caribbean*, whereas Rosa Ana Ferrer provided comments on the study *Extreme Poverty, Inequality and Decent Work*.

The statistical information was updated by Rosa Ana Ferrer and Mónica Castillo, who prepared the *Statistical Annex* of the report based on official country information and information provided by the ILO/SIAL (Labour Analysis and Information System) team in Panama, whose members include Bolívar Pino, Manuel Córdoba and Rigoberto García.



The ILO/SIAL team also processed statistical information from the household surveys that served in the analysis of some topics discussed in *Extreme Poverty, Inequality and Decent Work* and in the box article *Labour Market Situation in Central America*. Rosa Ana Ferrer updated the *Explanatory Note* accompanying the *Statistical Annex*.

Gino Carlevarino was responsible for the graphic design. Rafael Fernández and Liz Guerrero designed the cover of the report.

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HEALTHY ECONOMIC GROWTH CONTINUES TO DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE LABOUR MARKET, BUT GAPS BY SEX AND AGE PERSIST

In the first three quarters of 2006, the labour market of Latin America and the Caribbean had a favourable performance in terms of job creation, as reflected in the change in key labour market indicators, based on official country information. The urban regional unemployment rate declined for the fourth consecutive year. Nevertheless, this trend must continue in order to achieve the rates recorded in the early 1990s.

Progress toward improving the quality of employment has been insufficient however, as indicated by the high rate of informal sector employment. Moreover, gender and age gaps remain, with youth being among the most vulnerable groups. Real manufacturing wages continued to increase although at a rate below that of the estimated increase in labour productivity. In addition, the increase in the real minimum wage varied among countries, in some cases remaining below the real minimum wage levels of 1990, and even of 1980.

Currently, possibilities of achieving the first Millennium Development Goal of reducing by half the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by 2015 in Latin America and the Caribbean are limited. As a study in this edition of *Labour Overview* suggests, the creation of decent work is the best strategy for overcoming poverty and inequality because employment and wages are closely linked to economic growth, savings and investment, and poverty and inequality.

Decent Work: Objective and Strategy for Overcoming Poverty and Inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean

- Indicators demonstrate that poverty is closely linked to the lack of employment opportunities for vulnerable sectors of the population.
- More than 80% of household income in the region originates from job earnings.
- Notwithstanding the progress made in wage income distribution between 2000 and 2005 for the urban area, considerable wage income inequality still exists in many countries of the region. In 2005, the average job earnings of the top decile was 100 times that of the lowest decile in five countries with available information.
- The marked wage income inequality in the region explains the significant inequality in total income distribution in the region, which is a major obstacle for reducing poverty.
- People living in poverty have more difficulty entering the labour market than do those with higher incomes. Poor populations have labour force participation rates consistently below those recorded for non-poor populations.
- The urban unemployment rate for the poor population was on average 2.9 times higher than the rate for the non-poor population for 12 countries of the region in 2005. The gap in the urban unemployment rate is even wider – 4.1 times, on average – if the situation of the population living in extreme poverty is compared with that of the non-poor population.



- Generating decent work should not only be the focus of policy approaches to reduce poverty and inequality, it should also become the crosscutting focus of economic and social policies in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- There is an increasing awareness of the importance of decent work for achieving development that is socially just and sustainable at both the global and the regional levels. In July 2006, the High-level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted the *Ministerial Declaration on Employment and Decent Work for All*. The Declaration proposes practical measures to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to addressing the structural crisis of unemployment.

The Global and Regional Context was More Favourable in 2006 than in 2005

- The world economy maintained its growth trend in 2006, largely due to the recovery of growth in developed nations. This enabled prices of non-petroleum raw materials to maintain favourable terms of trade for exporting countries, including those of the region. It is estimated that South American countries benefited most from this situation (especially Argentina and Venezuela).
- The GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean is expected to increase by 5.1% in 2006, a rate slightly higher than that of 2005 (4.6%). All countries of the region are expected to record positive growth in 2006. This expansion reflects greater domestic demand as a result of the decline in interest rates and the increase in public spending in some countries of the region, as well as the increase in foreign demand.

The Labour Market Continued to Improve in 2006

- Through the third quarter of 2006, rising productive activity in the region drove the increase of the employment-to-population ratio (labour demand) to an average of 0.3 percentage points higher than the increase in the labour force participation rate (labour supply), leading to a decrease in the unemployment rate of 0.5 percentage points.
- The urban unemployment rate fell from 9.5% for the period January-September 2005 to 9.0% in the same period in 2006.
- An estimated 17.5 million individuals in urban areas were unemployed and actively seeking work on average through the third quarter of 2006. Notwithstanding, the number of unemployed persons decreased by approximately 600,000 workers compared with the same period in 2005.
- The urban unemployment rate declined in almost all countries of the region through the third quarter of 2006. The largest decreases occurred in Venezuela (12.9% to 10.4%), Honduras (7.1% to 5.2%), Panama (12.1% to 10.4%), Argentina (12.1% to 10.7%), Colombia (14.6% to 13.3%) and Peru (10.1% to 8.8%). Countries with modest reductions included Ecuador (11.1% to 10.3%), Mexico (4.9% to 4.6%) and Chile (8.4% to 8.3%).
- The urban unemployment rate remained unchanged in Uruguay (12.2%) and increased slightly in Brazil (from 10.0% to 10.2%).
- Changes in employment and unemployment indicators varied by sex, being slightly more favourable for women. The female urban unemployment rate fell in eight of the 11 countries with available information,



whereas it remained unchanged in two countries and increased in one. The male urban unemployment rate decreased in nine countries but increased in two. The female employment-to-population ratio rose in 10 of the 11 countries while that of men rose in seven of these countries.

- The urban labour force participation rate and employment-to-population ratio of women in the region continued to improve, while the female unemployment rate has diminished in recent years. Notwithstanding, this rate continues to be approximately 1.5 times higher than that of men.
- The urban youth unemployment rate decreased in most of the seven countries with current information. Nevertheless, rates remain between 1.7 and 2.2 times higher than the total unemployment rate. In other words, no significant changes occurred in the structure of unemployment by age groups during the first three quarters of 2006 as compared with the same period in 2005.
- Real manufacturing wages in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela (countries representing 84% of the regional urban labour force) increased by 3.9% on average through the third quarter of 2006. The greatest increases occurred in Ecuador (18.1%), Argentina (15.4%) and Venezuela (12.8%).
- The estimated increase in real manufacturing wages (3.9%) was lower than the increase in the sector's labour productivity. Considering that labour productivity in the manufacturing sector is three times higher than the average for all sectors (estimated at 2.2% for January-September 2006), a gap exists between the increase in real manufacturing wages and labour productivity for that sector.
- The average real minimum wage for the region increased by 4.7% through the third quarter of 2006. This increase is partially explained by the moderate average inflation rate for the region (5.7%) and the fact that most countries recorded nominal minimum wage increases. The most significant increases in the real minimum wage occurred in Uruguay (17.2%), Brazil (13.0%), Argentina (12.4%) and Venezuela (12.2%). The real minimum wage fell in the Dominican Republic (-7.9%) and El Salvador (-3.0%).



Recent Trends in the Employment Structure Continue

- *Informal sector employment remains high.* In 2005, the region continued to demonstrate a segregated employment structure in which there were an almost equal proportion of employed persons in the formal and informal sectors: 51.5% and 48.5% of urban employment, respectively. As in the past, the percentage of women employed in the informal sector (51.4%) surpassed that of men (46.3%) in 2005. In the period 2000-2005, nearly five of every 10 newly employed persons were working in the informal sector. Informal employment, a new concept that includes informal employment in the informal and formal sectors, accounted for an estimated 60% of the urban employed in 2005 in five countries with available information.
- *Continuing trend toward privatization and employment growth in the service sector.* In 2005, 72.3% of urban employment in the region was in the service sector, an increase of one percentage point since 2000. Women (82.9%) outnumber men (64.7%) in the service sector. Of every 10 newly employed persons between 2000 and 2005, nine were incorporated into the private sector and eight into the service sector.
- *Health and pension coverage continued to be deficient among workers in the region.* In 2005, 58.9% of the urban employed population of Latin America had health and/or pension coverage. Health and pension coverage among employed men (58.5%) and women (59.6%) was similar. Only 33.4% of informal

sector workers had health and/or pension coverage. The least protected of this sector are domestic workers, whose coverage rate was just 5.0% of all informal sector workers.

Urban Unemployment and GDP Forecasts for 2006 and 2007

- The GDP for Latin America and the Caribbean is expected to grow approximately 5.1% in 2006.
- This increase reflects the widespread growth estimated for the countries of the region, although economic growth in Brazil (3.2%) and Mexico (4.4%) will have the most impact on this result given their importance in the region's economic activity.
- Growth forecasts for 2006 are highest for Trinidad and Tobago (12.5%), the Dominican Republic (9.0%), Argentina (8.0%), Venezuela (7.5%), Panama (7.2%) and Costa Rica, Peru and Uruguay (6.5%).
- Healthy economic growth in the region for the fourth consecutive year has favoured job creation. Consequently, regional urban unemployment is expected to fall from 9.3% in 2005 to 9.0% in 2006.
- For 2007, global economic growth is expected to decelerate slightly (4.9%) due to a possible slowing of the pace of growth in some of the leading economies. The GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean will grow approximately 4.4%, reflecting the deceleration of GDP growth in most countries of the region, as well as the continued decrease in the regional urban unemployment rate, which is projected at 8.8%.

Latin America and the Caribbean Should Redouble Efforts to Overcome the Decent Work Gap

- The global community of nations has assumed the ILO's decent work agenda. This is reflected in the different summits of heads of state worldwide and in the Americas, as well as in the ministerial forums, which have included the participation of worker and employer organizations in the Andean Community, in MERCOSUR, in the countries of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and in the countries of the Caribbean community (CARICOM).
- Today there is widespread consensus that achieving the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, particularly those associated with reducing extreme poverty by 2015, will only be possible if countries manage to generate decent work for the majority and especially for the poorest groups of the population.
- Decent work in the Americas: An Agenda for the Hemisphere, 2006-2015, adopted in Brasilia (Sixteenth American Regional Meeting of the ILO, May 2006), is a tool that the ILO provides to its constituents to promote decent work in the region. The agenda contains policy proposals that countries can adapt to their specific circumstances and priorities. The ministers of labour and employer and worker organizations of the Americas have expressed their agreement with the ILO regarding the need to develop national programmes for decent work. These programmes serve as a mechanism to promote respect for labour rights, the generation of quality employment, expanded coverage of social protection for the population and engagement in social dialogue for stability and equality of labour relations and the strengthening of democracy. Today, there is a sense that the multiple declarations of commitment are enough to make decent work a reality.



EXTREME POVERTY, INEQUALITY AND DECENT WORK

Poverty and income inequality are pressing problems in Latin America and the Caribbean, the region of the world with the most unequal income distribution. Although different development models have been adopted in recent decades, the region has not managed to significantly reduce the rate of extreme poverty and the level of income inequality remains little changed, frustrating the hopes of millions of people to achieve more dignified living conditions and threatening the opportunities for future generations. In effect, the weak performance of the regional economy during the so-called «lost decade» of the 1980s left 93 million people living in extreme poverty in 1990 (22.5% of the population), a figure which decreased, albeit insufficiently, to 88 million in 2000 (18.1% of the population). The incidence of poverty is higher among vulnerable groups – women and children – as well as among indigenous peoples, those of African descent and the rural population.

Such was the regional context in 2000 when the first target associated with the Millennium Development Goal of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger was established: *reduce by half, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people living on less than US\$ 1 per day*. In the six years since the heads of state and government of United Nations member states signed the *United Nations Millennium Declaration*, the region has undergone important economic changes. Latin America and the Caribbean began the new millennium with negative growth, almost -0.3% on average for 2001-2002. However, in the three subsequent years, it recorded positive growth (4.1% on average), which in part reflected the economic recovery of countries that had experienced a recession (Argentina and Uruguay since 2003; Venezuela since 2004).

In recent years, regional GDP growth has been driven by the extraordinary rise in exports, due especially to the strong demand in China and the United States for primary sector goods, as well as the improvement in the terms of trade. Although oil price increases in recent years have had a mixed impact on Latin America and the Caribbean, hurting crude oil-importing countries and benefiting exporting countries, overall, the domestic macroeconomic context has become more sound as reflected by several indicators, particularly low inflation rates, current account surplus (for the first time in 50 years) and stronger domestic demand and fiscal balances.

Although the macroeconomic context is healthier than in the past, the social reality in terms of poverty has

not improved sufficiently. While the percentage of Latin Americans whose income fell below the extreme poverty line decreased from 18.1% to 16.8% between 2000 and 2005, the estimated population living in extreme poverty at the end of this period was similar to that recorded at the beginning, that is, 88 million people, according to statistics of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). Although recent data are not available, in 2001 Haiti had the highest rate of extreme poverty in the region, approximately 56.0% of the population.

In this context, perspectives are not encouraging for achieving the target of reducing by half the incidence of extreme poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean by 2015. Progress in the region toward reaching the target stood at only 51% at the end of 2005, even though 60% of the time for reaching the target had passed since the base year of 1990. Less developed countries have made the least progress. This phenomenon, attributed to the heterogeneity of the region's economies, reflects the fact that countries with higher extreme poverty rates and a lower per capita GDP face greater difficulties for overcoming poverty than do others.

Links between Employment and Socioeconomic Well-being

The insufficient progress toward achieving the target of reducing the incidence of extreme poverty has been attributed to the region's weak and volatile economic growth since 1990, exacerbated by the profound inequality in the distribution of income. Although the role of creating decent work in overcoming extreme poverty has also been mentioned, it has been a minor focus whose consequences have not been explored thoroughly and comprehensively, that is, demonstrating the close ties between employment and earnings and economic growth, savings and investment, and poverty and inequality.

Both the *Millennium Declaration* and the objectives and reports that monitor its implementation have not taken sufficiently into account the need to create quality employment as a decisive objective and strategy for eradicating poverty and inequality. Generating decent work should not only be the focus of policy approaches to reduce poverty and inequality, it should also become the crosscutting focus of economic and social policies in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Strong, stable economic growth that favours weaker sectors and small businesses with low productivity will have a positive impact on reducing poverty. GDP



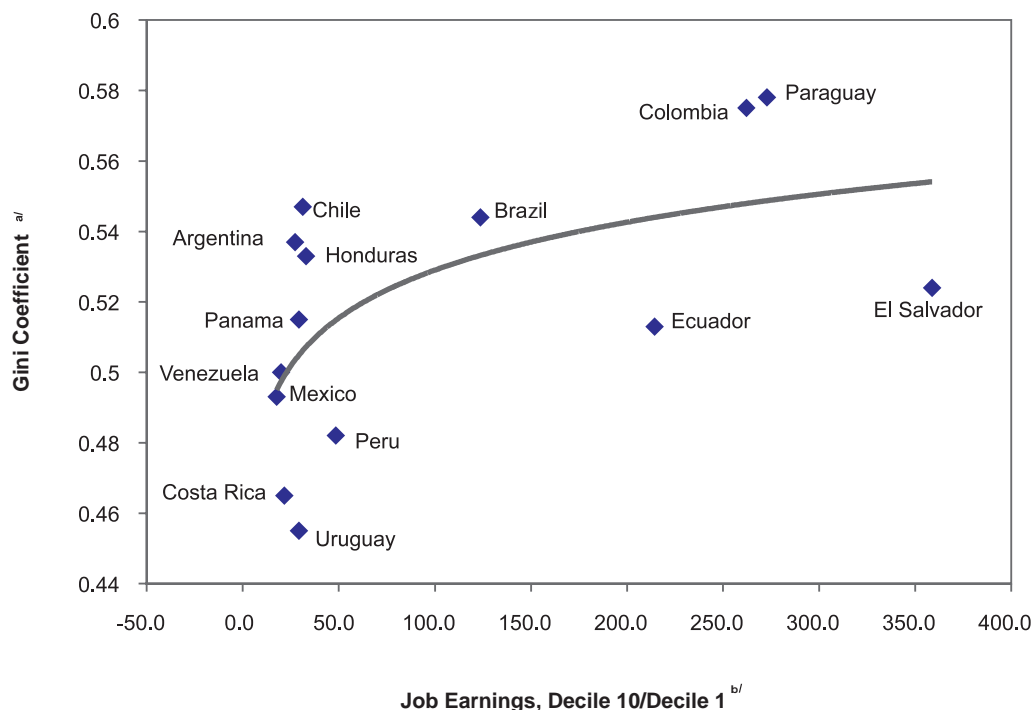
levels and its growth rate depend mainly on the quantity and quality of the labour force, as well as on capital resources and their utilization. A well-educated labour force has a greater capacity to create and adapt new technologies, which are crucial for increasing GDP and labour productivity, and in turn have a positive impact on real wages. The low labour productivity of the informal sector, which employs almost 50% of workers in the region, particularly those with low job earnings and social protection coverage, limits economic growth. Low job earnings limit possibilities for increased domestic consumption, which restricts GDP expansion.

In addition to its decisive role in the healthy functioning of the goods and services market, the labour market has an impact on the capital market since household savings are used for local and

national investment, which is essential for development and overcoming poverty. Household savings depend on monetary income (and to a lesser extent on the interest rate), derived mainly from job earnings. More than 80% of household income originates from job earnings in at least 11 countries of the region, according to ECLAC statistics. Both the volatility of foreign investment in recent decades, which was aggravated by the successive financial crises, as well as the limited household savings in Latin America and the Caribbean, underscore the importance of strengthening mechanisms for social dialogue to develop policies that promote labour productivity and wage increases among the most disadvantaged. This will permit increased savings and local and national investment, two important requirements for achieving higher growth and well being.

FIGURE 1

LATIN AMERICA (14 COUNTRIES): INEQUALITY OF JOB EARNINGS AND INCOME INEQUALITY IN URBAN AREAS, CIRCA 2005
(percentages)



Source: ILO, based on household surveys of the countries, ECLAC (2005), UNDP (2006) and IBGE (2006).

a/ Gini coefficient for Brazil: 2005; Argentina (28 urban clusters) and Mexico: 2004; Chile and Peru: 2003; Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Venezuela and Uruguay: 2002. National data are used for El Salvador and Paraguay.

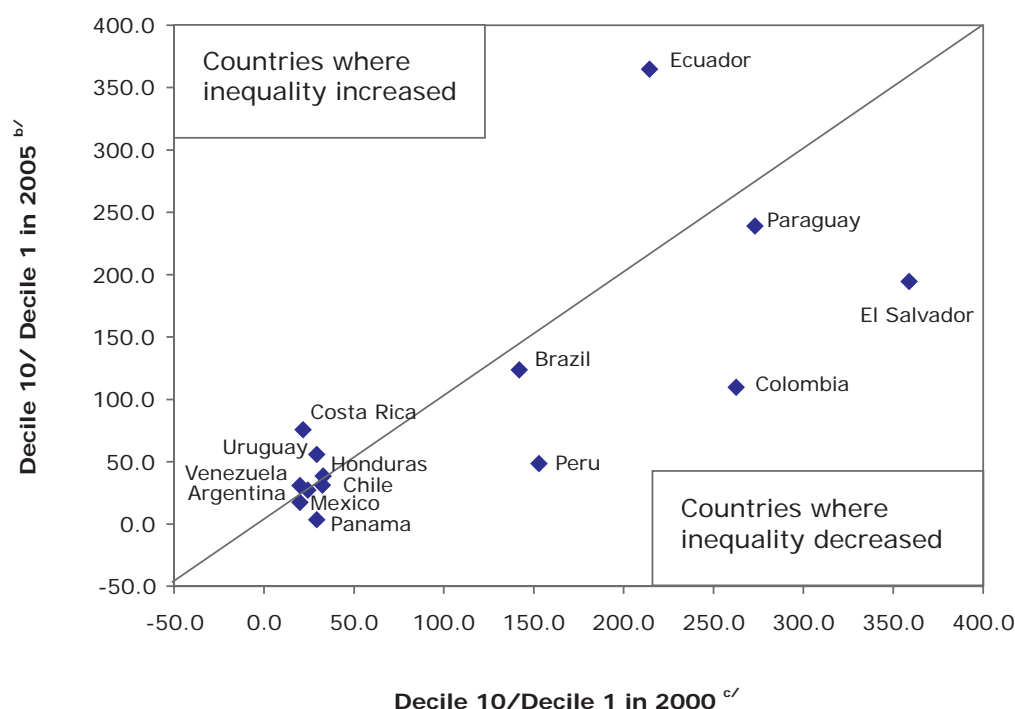
b/ Division of Decile 10 by Decile 1, based on the average distribution of job earnings by decile of the employed population. Data for Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Peru are for 2005; data for Chile are from 2003 while statistics for the other countries are from 2000.

The unequal distribution of income is a major obstacle to reducing poverty. Whereas income distribution has improved in some countries, for example, in Brazil, where, according to the Gini coefficient – which measures income inequality on a scale that ranges from 0, absolute equality, to 1, absolute inequality – inequality declined from 0.585 in 1995 to 0.544 in 2005 (Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics, IBGE). This indicator remains high in many Latin American and Caribbean countries, as indicated by recent reports of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). As several studies demonstrate, poverty forecasts under the same conditions of economic growth but with different levels of income distribution are much less favourable in conditions of increased inequality. In addition, the high concentration of income in Latin America and the Caribbean also reflects the highly unequal structure of job earnings in the region.

There is a positive relationship between the Gini coefficient and inequality in job earnings in the countries of the region, as Figure 1 indicates. This relationship is logical because, as mentioned, most household income originates from job earnings.

Figure 2 demonstrates that between 2000 and 2005, inequality in job earnings fell in eight of the 14 countries of the region with available information, which would be consistent with a lower income inequality in the region for the period. In Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Mexico and Paraguay, these favourable results reflected the greater increase in earnings of low-wage workers as compared with the increase of those with high wages. In Panama and Peru, it was associated with a decrease in earnings of high-wage workers and a parallel growth in earnings of low-wage workers.

FIGURE 2
LATIN AMERICA (14 COUNTRIES): INEQUALITY IN URBAN JOB EARNINGS, 2000 AND 2005 ^{a/}
 (Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on household surveys of the countries.

a/ Division of Decile 10 by Decile 1, based on the average distribution of job earnings by decile of the employed population. Argentina: 28 urban areas; Colombia: national urban areas, municipal capitals; Peru: Metropolitan Lima; Venezuela: total national.

b/ Data for Chile refers to 2003.

c/ Data for Brazil and Honduras are for 2001; for Colombia, 2002, and for Paraguay, the period September 2000-August 2001.

El Salvador is unique in that the reduction of earnings of high-wage workers exceeded the decrease in earnings of low-wage workers, yielding less inequality. Despite the regional trend toward reduced inequality in job earnings, strong inequality persists in many countries of the region, to the extent that in 2005, average earnings of the top decile were 100 times higher than those of the bottom decile in five countries of the region with available information (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador and Paraguay).

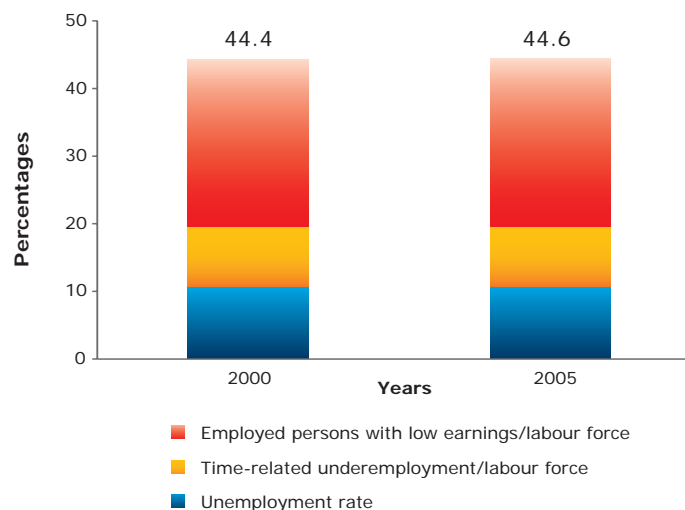
The region's marked inequality in job earnings reflects the structural problems of the regional labour market (the co-existence of segments of high and low productivity and a heterogeneous productive structure), differences in human capital (skilled and unskilled labour force), and a lack of labour regulations in force and/or full enforcement, especially those associated with real minimum wages and job discrimination by sex, race and ethnic group. Social dialogue and collective bargaining among social actors are the best mechanisms for fostering policies and agreements for the establishment of a dignified wage and greater wage income equality without raising unemployment. These policies contribute to

decreasing income inequality and consequently to reducing poverty.

The poverty level is closely linked to three labour market factors — unemployment, the number of employed persons with low earnings, and time-related underemployment (which in operational terms is defined as employed persons who work less than an established number of hours and who want to work more hours) — which are associated most frequently with the so-called «working poor». If the population affected by one or more of these three characteristics is added together and calculated as a proportion of the labour force, in what could be called the *deficit of employment and of employment with decent wages*, this indicator during the period 2000-2005 registered a slight increase, from 44.4% to 44.6% in the urban areas of the region (based on information from 11 selected countries). This result is a cause for concern considering that during the period 2000-2005, GDP increased an average of 2.6% annually in the countries of the region (it decreased only in 2002). This *deficit* increased during these years because the increase of two of its components, underemployment and employed persons with low earnings (the latter predominated in the composite indicator), offset the decline in the unemployment rate.

FIGURE 3

LATIN AMERICA (11 COUNTRIES): DEFICIT OF EMPLOYMENT AND OF EMPLOYMENT WITH DECENT WAGES AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE URBAN LABOUR FORCE, 2000 AND 2005^{a/}



Source: ILO, based on household surveys of the countries.

a/ The regional *deficit of employment and of employment with decent wages* was estimated based on information from 2000 and 2005 for 11 countries: Argentina, Brazil (data from 2001 and 2005), Colombia (data from 2002 and 2005), Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras (data from 2001 and 2005), Panama, Paraguay (data from 2000-2001 and 2005), and Peru and Uruguay (data from 2000 and 2005). This indicator was calculated by adding the unemployment rate, time-related underemployment as a proportion of the labour force, and employed persons with low earnings as a proportion of the labour force. The latter category is defined as employed persons who earn less than 50% of average job earnings; it includes employed persons with income equal to zero and excludes those who are classified as time-related underemployed.

Between 1999 and 2002, years of weak, volatile economic growth, the urban unemployment rate for the region increased from 11.3% to 11.4%, which had an impact on the urban poverty rate for the region, which rose from 37.2% to 38.4% in the period. The regional urban poverty rate has been on the rise since the 1980s, reflecting the effects of migration from rural to urban areas of countries of the region, as well as insufficient job creation in terms of quantity and quality.

Poor populations have more difficulty entering the labour market than do those with higher income levels. Labour force participation rates among poor populations consistently fall below those recorded for non-poor populations. This occurred in 12 selected countries of the region in 2005, with the exception of Uruguay (Table 1). Moreover, the average unemployment rate of the poor population was approximately 2.9 times higher than that of the non-

TABLE 1

LATIN AMERICA (12 SELECTED COUNTRIES): LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY CONDITION OF POVERTY IN URBAN AREAS, 2005
(Percentages)

Country and indicator	TOTAL POOR AND NON-POOR	POOR			NON-POOR ^{c/}	Poor/non-poor gap	Extremely Poor/non poor gap	UBN/non-poor gap
		Total	Extremely poor ^{a/}	Unsatisfied basic needs (UBN) ^{b/}				
Argentina								
Unemployment rate	10.9	20.6	27.4	16.5	7.6	2.7	3.6	2.2
Labour force participation rate	54.2	46.9	44.8	48.3	57.1	0.8	0.8	0.8
Brazil								
Unemployment rate	10.9	25.2	39.4	18.7	8.0	3.1	4.9	2.3
Labour force participation rate	61.1	52.0	48.0	54.1	63.4	0.8	0.8	0.9
Colombia								
Unemployment rate	14.0	20.3	26.4	17.3	10.1	2.0	2.6	1.7
Labour force participation rate	59.4	53.6	50.2	55.6	63.5	0.8	0.8	0.9
Costa Rica								
Unemployment rate	7.1	25.0	46.2	16.7	5.4	4.6	8.6	3.1
Labour force participation rate	62.0	45.9	42.6	47.4	64.2	0.7	0.7	0.7
Ecuador								
Unemployment rate	6.9	11.7	14.9	10.1	5.0	2.3	3.0	2.0
Labour force participation rate	58.7	50.3	46.2	52.5	62.9	0.8	0.7	0.8
El Salvador								
Unemployment rate	7.2	15.8	21.5	13.7	5.2	3.1	4.2	2.7
Labour force participation rate	61.3	54.1	50.1	55.7	63.4	0.9	0.8	0.9
Honduras								
Unemployment rate	6.0	9.5	12.0	8.0	4.6	2.1	2.6	1.7
Labour force participation rate	59.4	52.8	50.3	54.4	62.7	0.8	0.8	0.9
Mexico								
Unemployment rate	4.6	14.2	20.5	7.5	2.9	2.6	3.9	2.1
Labour force participation rate	58.5	38.0	31.1	49.8	64.5	0.6	0.5	0.8
Panama								
Unemployment rate	12.4	27.7	41.2	22.5	10.6	4.8	7.0	2.5
Labour force participation rate	63.3	50.8	49.0	51.5	65.1	0.8	0.8	0.8
Paraguay								
Unemployment rate	7.9	11.3	12.8	10.4	5.5	2.1	2.3	1.9
Labour force participation rate	59.7	53.0	48.7	55.7	65.7	0.8	0.7	0.8
Uruguay								
Unemployment rate	12.1	26.5	35.3	24.3	10.2	2.6	3.5	2.4
Labour force participation rate	59.5	63.2	62.8	63.4	59.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Venezuela								
Unemployment rate	11.3	18.9	25.1	15.2	7.9	2.4	3.2	1.9
Labour force participation rate	65.8	59.0	57.1	60.2	69.5	0.8	0.8	0.9
Simple average of selected countries								
Unemployment rate	9.3	18.9	26.9	15.1	6.9	2.9	4.1	2.2
Labour force participation rate	60.2	51.6	48.4	54.0	63.4	0.8	0.8	0.9

Source: ILO, based on household surveys of the countries.

a/ Households whose per capita family monthly income is up to US\$30.

b/ Households whose per capita family monthly income is up to US\$60.

UBN = Unsatisfied basic needs (income insufficient to satisfy basic needs).

c/ Households whose per capita family income exceeds US\$60.



poor population in these countries. The unemployment rate gap is even wider — 4.1 times, on average — if the situation of the extremely poor is compared with that of the non-poor. The largest gaps between unemployment rates for the poor with respect to those for the non-poor in 2005 were observed in Panama (4.8 times), Costa Rica (4.6 times) and Brazil (3.1 times), countries where the largest gaps in the unemployment rates between extremely poor and non-poor populations were also recorded. These indicators demonstrate that poverty is closely associated with the lack of employment opportunities for vulnerable segments of the population.

Toward the Creation of Decent Work

How can a real, positive and sustainable change take place to reduce poverty and inequality? In Latin America and the Caribbean and other regions of the world, the ILO is promoting the generation of decent work as the best strategy for economic growth with quality employment and well being. Decent work is defined as productive, fairly-paid work exercised in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity. The insufficient progress toward achieving the Millennium Development Goal of reducing extreme poverty by half in the region urgently requires labour policies to create decent work as a complement to social aid programmes carried out by the countries of the region, which target vulnerable populations.

There is growing awareness of the importance of decent work for achieving socially fair, sustainable development at the global level and in Latin America and the Caribbean. The 2005 Global Summit, celebrated during the 60th session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2005, incorporated the objectives of full employment and decent work in the United Nations Development Agenda. World leaders concluded at the Summit that it would be impossible to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 under current employment and labour market conditions. Subsequently, the High-level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted a *Ministerial Declaration on Employment and Decent Work for All* in July 2006 that proposes practical measures to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to addressing the structural crisis of unemployment.

In addition, in the *Declaration of Mar de Plata* and the Action Plan for its implementation, approved during the IV Summit of the Americas in November 2005, the heads of state and government of 34

countries of the Americas pledged their commitment to decent work as a means to overcome poverty and strengthen democratic governance: «We commit to implementing active policies to generate decent work with a view to creating the conditions for quality employment that imbue economic policies and globalization with a strong ethical and human component, putting the individual at the centre of work, the company and the economy. We will promote decent work, that is to say: fundamental rights at work; employment; social protection and social dialogue.»

During the Sixteenth American Regional Meeting of the ILO, held in Brasilia in May 2006, the Director-General presented the report: *Decent Work in the Americas: An Agenda for the Hemisphere 2006-2015*, which highlights five priority challenges in the region for generating decent work and overcoming extreme poverty:

- Ensure that economic growth promotes decent work.
- Ensure the effective application of fundamental principles and rights at work.
- Build confidence in democracy and social dialogue.
- Extend and strengthen systems for social protection of workers.
- Enhance social and labour inclusion to reduce inequality.

The Agenda for the Hemisphere to Create Decent Work, which was approved by representatives of workers and employers' organizations and governments, includes general policies in four strategic areas: (i) effective respect for worker rights, particularly basic principles and rights at work (freedom of association, the right to organize and the right to collective bargaining; elimination of forced labour; eradication of child labour; and non-discrimination and equality at work); (ii) sustained economic growth that promotes employment opportunities; (iii) increased efficiency and coverage of social protection systems; and (iv) promotion of tripartism and social dialogue among workers' organizations, employers' organizations and governments to ensure the social legitimacy of policies to promote decent work.

In addition, this agenda establishes policies in 11 specific areas that contribute to strengthening the general policies mentioned: international labour standards, gender equality, youth employment, micro- and small enterprises, the informal economy, the rural sector and local development, skills development, employment services, wages and



remuneration, occupational safety and health and migrant workers.

Finally, the Agenda for the Hemisphere prioritizes action in two institutional areas: (i) the development and strengthening of labour administration and of regional integration bodies responsible for overseeing labour issues; and (ii) the development of national strategies to generate decent work, in particular the implementation of decent work country programmes.

This new vision agreed upon and promoted by social actors of the region instils a renewed optimism in efforts to reduce extreme poverty and inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean and contributes to strengthening democratic governance. The Declaration of the Sixteenth American Regional Meeting of the ILO marks the beginning of a *Decade for the Promotion of Decent Work in the Americas*. This process will require ongoing social dialogue and leadership to define priorities and actions at the national and local levels, as well as technical assistance that international organizations – such as the ILO – and developed countries can provide, as well as continuous information flows within the region regarding successful initiatives developed to date.

The economic and labour context in 2006 in Latin America and the Caribbean also contributes to raising hopes. In effect, as this edition of *Labour Overview* demonstrates, the scenario is positive in terms of trends in unemployment and real wages, although notable decent work gaps persist, particularly among the most vulnerable groups. A marked concentration of informal sector employment persists. The analysis highlights the most important changes and trends in key labour market indicators. A new section of analysis by sex also is included, as this is a crosscutting issue in the Agenda for the Hemisphere to Create Decent Work.

THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CONTEXT IN 2006

Economic forecasts indicate that the global economy will continue to grow in 2006, despite projections of a possible slowing pace in the second semester. Global GDP growth in 2006 is projected at 5.1%, 0.2 percentage points higher than the 2005 rate.

Expansion of GDP of the world's leading economies is expected to average 3.1% in 2006, and emerging and developing countries are expected to continue to experience a positive growth trend, with a current forecast of 7.3%.

Despite some signs of risk for the global economy, forecasts are generally positive for 2006. Several

reports point out the deficit in the current account of the balance of payments of the United States, especially one of its components, the trade deficit, which has been sustained for several years with resources from countries with surpluses, such as Japan, China and countries that export oil and other primary sector goods. The concern is that these imbalances may lead to disorderly adjustments.

Another concern is the rise in oil prices, which, although moderating in recent months constitutes an inflation risk. The high price of crude oil partially reflects increased demand and the healthy global economy; however, it is also the result of geopolitical factors. Nevertheless, prevailing low long-term interest rates have offset the negative effects of high energy prices on economic growth. At the same time, investment is expected to increase in some countries (although not sufficiently), thereby preventing a decline in domestic demand, despite the rise in short-term interest rates as compared with 2005 in the United States, the euro zone and Canada. In addition, leading economies will have an inflation rate of approximately 2.6%, in a context of growing domestic demand. Prices of primary sector goods other than oil are expected to continue at levels that permit continued favourable terms of trade for exporting countries.

With respect to the world's leading economies, the **United States** economy, which has the largest impact on global production, has auspicious perspectives, with an expected growth of 3.6% in 2006 (Figure 4). Nevertheless, achieving this level of growth will depend on certain factors, including oil prices (which, after achieving high and volatile levels in the first semester, have slowed and become more stable in recent months) and the real estate market, which has experienced a cooling. In the meantime, short-term interest rates are expected to remain stable after rising to a five-year high of 5.25% in June. Although the fiscal deficit declined to less than 2% of GDP in 2005, it still constitutes a risk factor.

Despite the above, the growth in domestic demand led to a reduction in the idle capacity level, and contributed to the decrease in the unemployment rate in 2006. Projections indicate that the unemployment rate will be 4.8%, which is 0.3 percentage points below the 2005 level. The service sector (excluding computer services) was among those that generated the most employment. Real wages also rose in recent months.

In **Japan**, growth is expected to reach 2.7%, despite the slow recovery of domestic consumption (partially associated with wage and salary increases and



employment growth), but it will also be driven by the expansion of private investment and foreign demand. Thus, the country will continue to experience a surplus in the current account. Unlike in previous years, a low inflation rate of 0.3% is expected. Economic growth is expected to lead to a reduction of the unemployment rate from 4.4% in 2005 to 4.1% in 2006.

In the **euro zone**, moderate growth of 2.4% is expected in 2006, reflecting the performance of several of its leading economies. Projections indicate that the GDP of Germany will increase 2.0%; of France, 2.4%; and of Italy, 1.5%; whereas the Spanish economy will grow by 3.4%. These increases are driven by the expansion of exports, as well as by the growth in domestic demand reflecting the increase in household consumption. Nevertheless, European GDP performance is sensitive to changes in the global economy. These results are expected to lead to a decline of the unemployment rate from 8.6% in 2005 to 7.9% in 2006, one of the lowest rates to date.

China (whose main export markets are the United States and the European Union) will experience a growth rate of 10.0% in 2006, slightly less than the 10.2% recorded last year. In addition, its international reserves will continue to expand (approximately 38% of its GDP), as will investment (it is the third largest

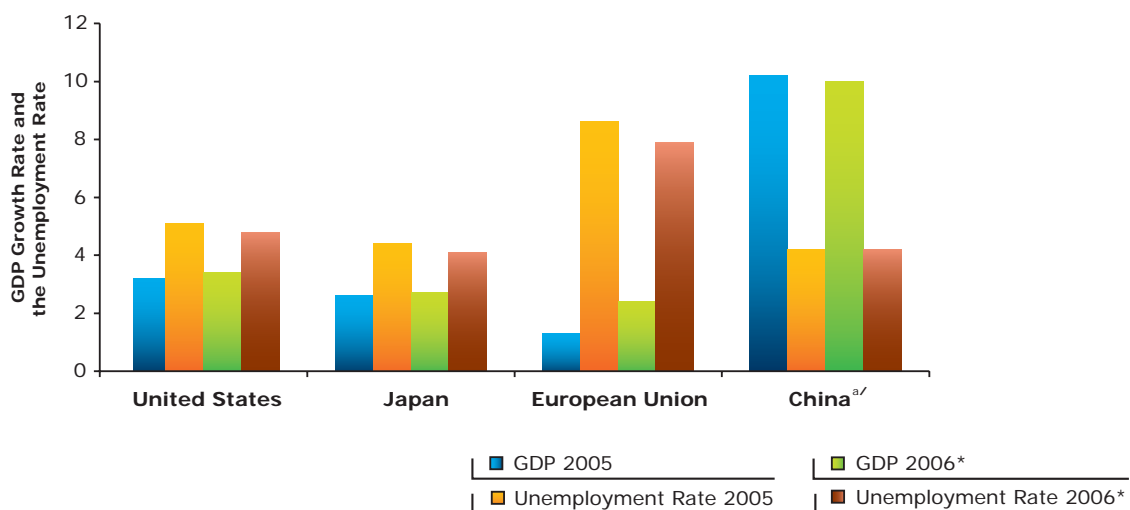
recipient of foreign investment in the world), particularly in the construction sector, driving increased demand on the global market and boosting the country's influence on international trade.

Likewise, **India**, one of the world's most dynamic economies, is expected to grow 8.3% in 2006. Growth will be driven by domestic demand, which has exerted inflationary pressure (prices are expected to rise 5.6%), and by export growth. Notwithstanding, India's current account deficit will rise slightly (from -1.5% in 2005 to -2.1% in 2006) in response to the higher relative growth of imports. In terms of the labour market, the unemployment rate fluctuated around 9% in 2006.

The growing presence of these two Asian countries in international trade could have a negative impact on some Latin American economic sectors in terms of competition (textiles, industrial and electronic equipment, and transportation). Nevertheless, they also present new possibilities for development of productive activities associated with primary sector goods and other economic sectors that could offer products in these new markets. In addition, other sectors could benefit, for example, tourism. In other words, the economic performance of China and India will continue to be a factor driving the global economy and will have a major impact on economies of the region in the coming years.

FIGURE 4

**GDP GROWTH RATES AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
IN THE WORLD'S LEADING ECONOMIES, 2005-2006***
(Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on information from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

a/ The unemployment rate was taken from *China Daily* (July 31, 2006). It refers to the unemployment rate in cities. 2005: year-end data; 2006: information from the first quarter. Refers to the unemployment rate in cities.

*Projected.



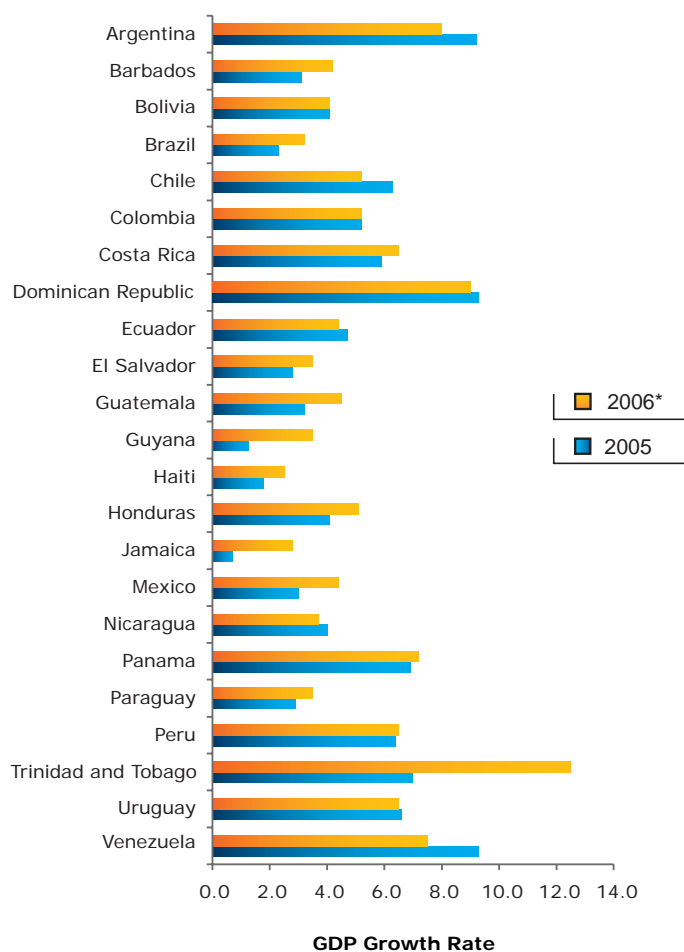
ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVES FOR THE REGION IN 2006

In 2006, the GDP growth forecast for Latin America and the Caribbean is 5.1%, slightly higher than the rate recorded in 2005 (4.6%). All countries of the region are expected to experience positive growth in 2006, from a minimum of 2.5% in Haiti to a maximum of 12.5% in Trinidad and Tobago. In addition to the strong growth expected in this last country, the positive performance of the region will be driven by growth in the Dominican Republic (9.0%), Argentina (8.0%), Venezuela (7.5%), Panama (7.2%) and Costa Rica, Peru and Uruguay (6.5%) (Figure 5). This expansion reflects the increased domestic demand stemming from the decrease in interest rates, as well

as increased fiscal spending in some countries of the region. Moreover, the growth in foreign demand played an important role in economic growth, sustaining the growing demand for the region's basic export commodities as well as relatively high prices. Terms of trade favoured the countries of the region to differing degrees, with the South American countries benefiting more (especially Argentina and Venezuela) than Mexico and the Central American countries.

Particularly noteworthy among countries that have benefited from strong global demand for basic commodities are the oil-exporting countries of the region — Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela — which increased their

FIGURE 5
**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (23 COUNTRIES):
 GDP GROWTH IN 2005 AND 2006***
 (Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on official information from the countries and the IMF.
 *Projected.

revenues thanks to petroleum exports during the year. Mexico further benefited from the expansion of the U.S. economy, its main trading partner and the destination for nearly 90% of its exports.

International conditions should enable the countries of the region to achieve positive current account balances. Therefore, if Latin American and Caribbean countries continue with the fiscal discipline demonstrated in 2006, they should be able to continue using these resources to reduce macroeconomic imbalances, particularly foreign debt commitments. Additionally, IMF forecasts point to increased investment for the 2006-2007 biennium as compared with the period 2002-2005, mainly due to the performance of Brazil and Mexico.

Furthermore, the remittances sent by migrant workers to their countries of origin had a positive effect. According to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), remittances to Latin America and the Caribbean will total US\$ 60 billion in 2006. Nearly 75% of remittances originate from migrants of the region living in the United States, and most of the remainder from Europe and Japan. This amount exceeds direct foreign investment and government aid earmarked for the region's development and represents a crucial source of resources for reducing poverty.

With regard to inflation, prices are expected to rise in Latin America and the Caribbean at a slower pace in 2006 (5.3%) than in 2005 (6.3%). Through the third quarter of 2006, inflation will be approximately 5.7%. The greatest price increases occurred in Argentina, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Uruguay. In addition, sound management of the real exchange rate was essential to avoid affecting the competitiveness of products of the region.

During the first three quarters of 2006, the improvement in the regional economy had a positive impact on the labour market. In particular, the regional unemployment rate declined and formal employment rose according to official information from some countries (Argentina, Brazil and Peru). Despite this performance, regional unemployment remains high compared with prevailing rates of the early 1990s.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN IN 2006

The region's sustained economic growth since 2003 is reflected in the positive change in some of the key labour market indicators of Latin America and the Caribbean, especially the urban unemployment rate,

which declined from 9.5% in the first three quarters of 2005 to 9.0% in the same period in 2006 (Table 1-A of the Statistical Annex).

This decrease was achieved in a context of slight expansion of the labour supply (the regional labour force participation rate rose 0.3 percentage points), surpassed by the moderate increase in labour demand (the employment-to-population ratio increased 0.6 percentage points) between the first three quarters of 2005 and the same period in 2006. Moreover, the unemployment rate decline in this period was accompanied by a modest recovery of real wages, mainly minimum wages, in a context of moderate inflation in most of the countries.

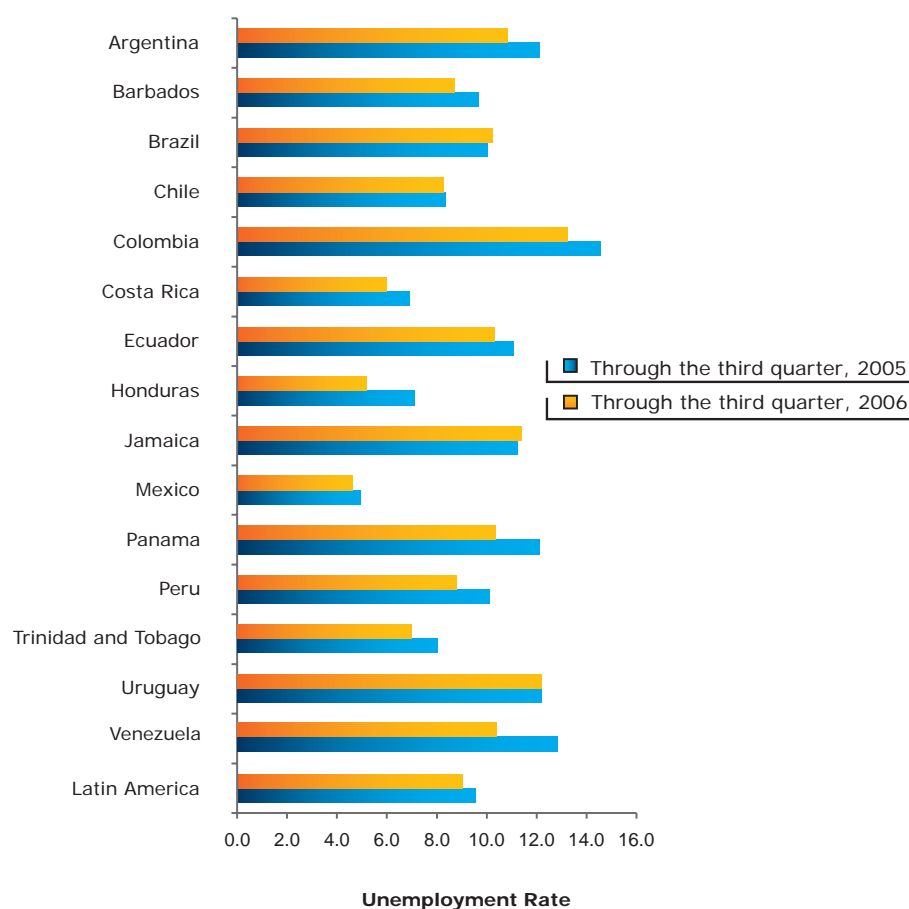
The labour force participation rate, which measures the proportion of the population of working age that is employed or seeking employment, increased 0.3 percentage points in the region during the first three quarters of 2006 (59.2%) with respect to the same period of 2005 (58.9%) (Table 4-A of the Statistical Annex). This means an increase of nearly 590,000 people, mainly reflecting the expansion of this indicator in six countries that concentrate 69% of the urban labour force of Latin America: Uruguay, which recorded the largest increase in the first three quarters of 2006 as compared with the same period in 2005 (58.3% to 60.6%), followed by Mexico (59.3% to 60.6%), Chile (53.6% to 54.5%), Argentina (59.5 to 60.3%), Ecuador (55.9% to 56.6%) and Brazil (56.6% to 56.7%). Brazil is particularly important because even though it experienced only a slight change in the labour participation rate, it had a major impact on the regional indicator as this country accounts for approximately 38% of the Latin American labour force. By contrast, the countries that experienced a decrease in the labour participation rate comparing the first three quarters of 2005 with the same period of 2006 included Honduras (53.8% to 52.1%), Panama (63.7% to 62.7%), Venezuela (66.3% to 65.5%), Colombia (62.5% to 61.6%) and Peru (67.3% to 66.7%), with less impact on the regional indicator.

The increased supply of workers reflects the strengthened labour demand, which increased in all countries of the region, except Honduras, during the first three quarters of 2006 as compared with the same period of 2005 (Table 5-A of the Statistical Annex). The increase partially reflects the sharp rise in demand for female employment observed in several countries, as discussed later, as well as the possible presence of newly active workers, that is, individuals who were initially outside the labour force but who were motivated to join the labour force by the possibilities of obtaining a job. The regional



FIGURE 6

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (15 COUNTRIES):
URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2005 AND 2006**
(Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on official country information (Table 1-A, Statistical Annex).

employment-to-population ratio increased from 53.3% to 53.9%, exceeding the growth in the labour supply by 0.3 percentage points. The following countries experienced increases of 1 to 2 percentage points in the employment-to-population ratio: Uruguay (51.2% to 53.2%), Argentina (52.1% to 53.8%), Mexico (56.4% to 57.8%) and Ecuador (49.7% to 50.7%). Brazil (50.9% to 51.0%) was among the countries that recorded slight increases.

As a result of these changes, the regional urban unemployment rate declined on average 0.5 percentage points in the first three quarters of 2006 compared with the same period of 2005. Unemployment in Latin America has been on the decline since 2003. Through the third quarters of 2005 and 2006, unemployment rates fell below those recorded in 2000, when 10.5% of the region's labour force was unemployed. Notwithstanding, the regional

urban unemployment rate corresponding to the first three quarters of 2006 exceeds that of the early 1990s (7.7%, on average, between 1990 and 1994).

A notable result is the decrease in the unemployment rate in the first three quarters of 2006 with respect to the same period of 2005 in nearly all countries of the region, except for Uruguay, where the rate remained unchanged, and Brazil, where it increased slightly (Figure 6). The greatest decline in the unemployment rate occurred in Venezuela (12.9% to 10.4%), followed by Honduras (7.1% to 5.2%), Panama (12.1% to 10.4%), Argentina (12.1% to 10.7%), Colombia (14.6% to 13.3%) and Peru (10.1% to 8.8%). Ecuador (11.1% to 10.3%), Mexico (4.9% to 4.6%) and Chile (8.4% to 8.3%) experienced smaller reductions, below 1 percentage point. In Uruguay, unemployment remained unchanged (12.2%); by contrast, Brazil reported an increase in the unemployment rate (from 10.0% to 10.2%).

The results in these last two countries reflect the fact that the increase in the labour supply slightly exceeded growth in labour demand. In most of the countries (except for Chile, Venezuela and Colombia), the decrease in the unemployment rate was produced by an increase in the employment-to-population ratio that exceeded the growth in the labour force participation rate, a favourable situation. In Chile, the two rates rose equally whereas in Venezuela, the increase in labour demand surpassed the decline in the labour supply. Colombia is a notable exception because the decline in the unemployment rate occurred in a context in which the labour force participation rate decrease exceeded the increase in the employment-to-population ratio, which means that the smaller labour supply (resulting from labour market outflows for reasons of retirement, education, discouragement or other reasons) was the key factor affecting the decline in the unemployment rate.

Regional Labour Market Changes with the Greatest Impact

In Venezuela, the strong growth in productive activity which occurred in both the petroleum and non-petroleum sectors (increasing 0.8% and 10.6%, respectively, during the first semester of the year), drove employment growth in the first three quarters of 2006. This reduced the number of unemployed individuals by approximately 270,000 on average, with respect to the same period of 2005. Thus, the unemployment rate decreased by 2.5 percentage points, to 10.4%, marking the third consecutive year of decline and the lowest rate since 1995, when it reached 10.3%. This change implied an average increase of nearly 480,000 employed individuals (between January and September 2005 and the same period in 2006), yielding an increase of 1 percentage point in the employment-to-population ratio in a context of a decline of 0.8 percentage points in the labour force participation rate. According to official information, the formal sector incorporated most of these workers.

In Mexico, whose labour market accounts for almost one of every five economically active individuals in urban areas of the region, the positive economic outlook in 2006 drove the increase in the labour force participation rate (1.3 percentage points) and the employment-to-population ratio (1.4 percentage points) in the first three quarters of 2006 compared with the same period of 2005. The slightly greater increase in labour demand with respect to the growth in labour supply led to the reduction (-0.3 percentage points) of the unemployment rate. By the end of 2006, an estimated 800,000 new jobs will be created. Among the most dynamic sectors in terms of job creation are construction, whose employment level

grew 4.4% between January and August 2006 compared with the same period of 2005. Likewise, employment in the *maquila* sector increased 3.3% from January to July 2006 with respect to the same period of 2005. Employment in the manufacturing sector was also noteworthy, recording a slight increase during the period January-September.

In Argentina, which represents approximately 9% of the urban labour force of the region, the economy expanded by an estimated 8.4% in the period January-June 2006 with respect to the same period in 2005, surpassing previous expectations. This performance drove the increase of the employment-to-population ratio above the growth in the labour force participation rate, producing a decrease of 1.4 percentage points in the unemployment rate, to 10.7% (through the third quarter). This rate has been declining since 2003, decreasing to levels recorded before the crisis (it is the lowest rate since 1993, when it was 9.6%), driven largely by increased domestic consumption, which strengthens sectors such as construction, manufacturing and trade.

An analysis of the impact of the Unemployed Heads of Household Programme (in effect since 2002) indicates that the unemployment rate would be 11.9% in the first three quarters of 2006 (compared with 13.8% for the same period in 2005), if persons employed under this Programme and who also were actively seeking employment were considered unemployed. By contrast, if all employed persons whose primary occupation derived from this Programme were considered unemployed, the rate would be 13.0% (as compared to the 15.5% it would have been in the same period of 2005). In other words, if the Programme did not exist, the unemployment rate would have been higher although the downward trend of the past three years would have continued.

Finally, analyzing Brazil's performance is important because the size of its labour market exerts a major influence on regional estimates. Unlike the cases mentioned above, GDP growth in Brazil slowed during the second and third quarters of 2006, and its projected annual growth is 3.2%. This performance contributed slightly more to growth in the labour supply (0.17 percentage points) than in labour demand (0.07 percentage points) through the third quarter of 2006 as compared with the same period of 2005. This small difference produced an increase in the unemployment rate (0.2 percentage points). In September 2006, the country will have an estimated 20.7 million employed persons and 2.3 million unemployed persons in the six largest metropolitan areas (Recife, Salvador, Belo Horizonte, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Porto Alegre).



Box 1

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES IN MEASURING INFORMALITY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The statistical measurement of informality has been the subject of debate for decades in academic, labour, business and government circles of Latin America and the Caribbean. Key issues of this debate include the criteria and definitions applied, as well as the tools and methods used to measure informality, aspects that influence the accuracy of the assessments made as well as the success of policies targeting this sector. This box briefly describes how the ILO and national statistics offices of the region have traditionally measured informality and discusses their experiences and challenges for contributing to enriching the methodology in this area.

During the 1960s, several Latin American countries began to carry out household surveys, which over time have become an effective tool for gathering information on the living conditions of the population, especially with respect to the labour market. A particularly relevant event in this regard was a workshop held in Mexico in 1965, organized by the Inter-American Statistics Institute and the U.S. Census Bureau, after which Latin American countries began to structure and conduct surveys based on the Atlantida programme, which contains a detailed methodology for implementing household surveys. Although this system enabled researchers to obtain diverse information on the socioeconomic characteristics of the population, a considerable proportion of the labour force was not adequately captured by this tool, for example, individuals employed in the informal sector.

To address this limitation and meet the need for information that enabled researchers to quantify and learn about the characteristics of informal sector workers, and thus improve sector policies and programmes, the Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PREALC) of the ILO, together with national statistics offices, developed a theoretical framework to study the informal sector in the 1970s and 1980s. This framework drew on the

analysis of the structural heterogeneity characterizing the economies of developing countries and examined how this characteristic led to labour market segmentation.

This approach focuses on the acknowledgement of the existence of dual production and employment systems in countries of the region. These systems differ in terms of levels of organization and capital, productivity and technology used in their productive processes. This duality is reinforced by the existence of an excessive labour supply that the formal sector of the economy cannot employ because it is insufficiently developed. Consequently, this excess labour supply must work in subsistence activities characterized by low income, capital and technology.

National statistics offices in Latin America began to incorporate informal sector statistics using this theoretical approach. To strengthen the systematic development of statistics, in 1982 Resolution I was approved at the Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS). In response to the dearth of informal sector statistics, the Resolution urged countries to develop appropriate methodologies and programmes for data collection on the non-structured urban sector and non-agricultural rural activities.

Drawing on these proposals, and in response to the need to obtain and/or improve informal sector statistics, the national statistics offices of the region began to introduce questions to refine information obtained on employment status and to determine the size of the production unit. This fostered the development of methodologies and concepts that made it possible to achieve an initial approximation to the population working in the informal sector based on the following status in employment categories: (a) self-employed or independent workers, excluding



occupational groups made up of professionals and technical workers; (b) unpaid family workers; (c) employers and wage and salaried workers of the private sector in establishments with five or fewer employees; and (d) domestic service workers, identified separately.

In 1993, the conceptual and technical development of statistics on informal sector employment was strengthened with the adoption, in the framework of the XV ICLS, of a resolution establishing the technical guidelines for the definition and classification of informal sector activities in terms of the production unit. This was defined as a group of production units that form part of the household sector, according to the System of National Accounts (SCN-93). In other words, they are unincorporated enterprises owned by households.

According to this resolution, for statistical purposes, questionnaires used by statistics institutes should include questions to determine the legal status of the businesses – according to the situation in each country – regardless of whether they belonged to self-employed workers or informal employers. In addition to the legal criteria, the XV ICLS also defines the informal sector based on whether the business keeps accounting records, whether production is destined for sale or bartering, whether the size of the enterprise is below a specified number of workers and/or whether these workers are registered. Drawing on these criteria, some countries of the region began to incorporate survey questions associated with legal regulations and/or accounting records to determine which household enterprises complied with some, several and/or all of these criteria and, depending on the response, started to include or exclude the enterprises from the informal sector.

During the 90th Meeting of the International Labour Conference (2002), the ILO presented its report *Decent Work and the Informal Economy*, which argues that the increased flexibility and informality of production and labour relations have led to the rapid rise in atypical employment in order to reduce costs.

The report also states that not all workers in this situation are informal from the perspective of the production unit.

Taking note of the situation and recommendations of the Delhi Group, comprised of experts from different countries who study informal sector statistics, the XVII ICLS, held in 2003, approved guidelines for a statistical definition of informal employment as a complement to the Resolution on statistics of informal sector employment. Informal employment is defined as the total number of informal jobs, regardless of whether they are carried out in informal or formal sector enterprises.

Some national statistics offices have followed these guidelines to introduce changes in their questionnaires in an attempt to identify wage and salaried workers of the formal and informal employment sectors whose labour contracts, either de facto or de jure, are not covered by specific social protection systems or regulations established under labour law.

In light of the above, and despite the limitations of the new concept, many Latin America national statistics offices have led the way in adapting concepts and methodology derived from the international definition for measuring informal employment. Despite the progress, the region still faces enormous challenges in identifying informality through statistics. On the one hand, some national statistics offices have still not adopted methodology consistent with the most recent international recommendations. On the other, further efforts are needed in the field to harmonize regional data, made necessary by the flexibility of the resolutions adopted by the ICLS and the wide variation in national criteria found in this area. These factors have an impact on the inclusion or exclusion of groups of employed individuals under the new concept. In this regard, renewed efforts to develop statistics that will accurately and regularly monitor the development and characteristics of informality are needed, for which reason the methodological work that the ILO is carrying out in several countries of the region is vital.



TABLE 1a

CHARACTERIZATION OF METHODOLOGIES FOR ESTIMATING INFORMAL SECTOR EMPLOYMENT

Characteristics	Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (ILO-PREALC)	XV International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) (Informal sector)	XVII International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) (informal employment)
Geographic Area and economic activity	Urban - Non-agricultural.	Should cover urban and rural areas. For practical reasons, can limit scope of economic activities of the informal sector to household enterprises engaged in non-agricultural activities.	Should cover urban and rural areas. Countries that exclude agricultural activities from informal sector statistics should develop appropriate definitions for types of non-wage informal employment in agriculture.
Employment situation	Independent or self-employed workers (excluding professionals and technical workers).	Informal enterprises of own-account workers (including professionals and technical workers if they do not meet criteria of formality, particularly registration in accordance with national legislation). These may include all own-account enterprises or only those that are not registered.	Self-employed workers who own in their own informal sector enterprises (including professionals and technical workers if they do not meet criteria of formality, particularly registration in accordance with national legislation). May include all own-account workers who are owners of their own informal enterprises or only those which are not registered.
	Employers or owners of establishments with a maximum of five employed persons.	Enterprises of informal employers in terms of one or more of the following criteria: (i) size of the unit is below a specified level of employment; and (ii) non-registration of the enterprise or its employees.	Employers who are owners of informal sector enterprises characterized by one or more criteria: (i) size of the unit below a specified level of employment; and (ii) non-registration of the enterprise or its employees.
	Wage or salaried workers in establishments with a maximum of five employed persons.	Wage and salaried workers in informal enterprises in terms of one or more criteria: (i) size of the unit below a specified level of employment; and (ii) non-registration of the enterprise or its employees.	Wage or salaried workers holding informal jobs, whether employed by formal or informal sector enterprises.
	Unpaid family workers or unpaid auxiliary workers.	Family workers or auxiliary workers employed in enterprises of informal employers or of informal enterprises of self-employed workers.	Contributing family workers or auxiliary workers, regardless of whether they work in informal or formal sector enterprises.
		Members of producers' cooperatives that are not incorporated as legal entities.	Members of producers' cooperatives that are not formally incorporated as legal entities.
	Domestic service workers.	Domestic service is excluded from the informal sector, and is identified separately.	Wage or salaried household workers with informal employment.
			Workers engaged in non specialized activities of production or goods exclusively for own final use by their household.
Observation unit	Employed persons.	Production units.	Jobs.

Source: ILO, based on information from PREALC and the XV and XVII ICLS.

Employment by Sex

Labour Force Participation Rate

The urban working age population of Latin America aged 15 years and over reached approximately 327 million people through the third quarter of 2006, the majority of which were women (51.1%). Although female labour force participation still lags behind that of men, recent estimates indicate that more women are entering the labour market because of changes in women's education levels, the increased awareness of family planning methods, changes in productive life expectations, the need to generate family income or a combination of these factors.

The urban female labour force participation rate was approximately 30% below that of men in 11 countries with available information for the first three quarters

of 2006 (Table 2). Chile has the lowest female labour force participation rate (38.2%) and a male labour force participation rate that is almost double that of women (71.5%), whereas Barbados has the highest female labour force participation rate (62.5%), with a smaller gap with respect to the male labour force participation rate (73.5%). The high wages of the latter country partially explain the high female labour force participation rate; in other words, women's opportunity cost for leaving their jobs is too high. Other contributing factors are the productive structure, which relies heavily on the tourism sector and other activities, such as the financial and service sectors, which more easily incorporate female workers, and the high percentage of households headed by women (a characteristic shared with other Caribbean countries). Although the majority of countries increased their female labour force participation rate, it decreased in Barbados, Peru and Venezuela.

TABLE 2

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (11 COUNTRIES):
LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE, EMPLOYMENT-TO-POPULATION RATIO AND OPEN URBAN
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, BY SEX, FIRST THROUGH THIRD QUARTER OF 2005 AND 2006**
(Average annual rates)

Countries	Labour force participation rate						Employment-to-population ratio						Unemployment rate					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Latin America																		
Argentina ^{a/}	72.7	73.0	47.9	49.2	59.5	60.3	64.8	66.3	40.8	42.6	52.1	53.8	10.8	9.1	14.8	13.3	12.6	10.9
Brazil	66.8	66.8	47.7	48.0	56.6	56.7	61.5	61.2	41.6	42.0	50.9	51.0	7.9	8.3	12.7	12.5	10.0	10.2
Chile	70.6	71.5	37.2	38.2	53.6	54.7	65.4	66.4	33.4	34.3	49.1	50.1	7.4	7.2	10.2	10.3	8.4	8.3
Colombia ^{b/}	72.2	72.2	54.2	54.2	62.3	62.4	62.5	64.1	44.2	44.8	52.5	53.6	13.4	11.2	18.4	17.3	15.8	14.1
Mexico	76.8	77.7	43.7	45.5	59.3	60.6	73.1	74.2	41.4	43.3	56.4	57.8	4.7	4.5	5.3	4.8	4.9	4.6
Peru	77.4	76.2	57.8	57.7	67.3	66.7	70.6	70.4	51.0	51.8	60.5	60.8	8.8	7.6	11.7	10.3	10.1	8.8
Uruguay ^{a/}	69.2	71.3	49.2	51.6	58.3	60.6	62.5	64.5	41.7	43.8	51.2	53.2	9.7	9.6	15.2	15.2	12.2	12.2
Venezuela	81.1	80.4	51.5	50.7	66.3	65.5	71.5	72.7	44.1	44.8	57.7	58.7	11.8	9.6	14.4	11.6	12.9	10.4
The Caribbean																		
Barbados ^{c/}	75.2	73.5	64.6	62.5	69.6	67.7	69.1	68.0	57.2	56.3	62.8	61.8	8.0	7.6	11.4	9.9	9.7	8.7
Jamaica ^{d/}	73.3	73.4	55.5	56.9	64.2	64.9	67.7	67.7	46.7	47.9	57.0	57.5	7.6	7.8	15.8	15.8	11.2	11.4
Trinidad and Tobago ^{c/}	75.2	74.9	52.4	53.2	64.1	64.0	70.8	71.1	46.7	48.0	58.9	59.5	5.9	5.1	11.0	9.6	8.0	7.0

Source: ILO, based on information from household surveys of the countries.

a/ Through the first semester.

b/ Through the first quarter.

c/ 2006 data are for the first semester.

d/ 2006 data are for April, preliminary data.



Although men have a higher labour force participation rate, ranging from 66.8% to 80.4%, this rate decreased slightly in four of the 11 selected countries, with Barbados having the greatest decline followed by Peru, Venezuela and Trinidad and Tobago.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

Analyzing the urban employment-to-population ratio by sex indicates that the rate for women is lower than that for men. During the first three quarters of 2006, this difference averaged 33% for the 11 countries analyzed, decreasing one percentage point with respect to the same period in 2005. This result represents a slight improvement in the gender gap with respect to the employment-to-population ratio considering that nearly all of the countries increased their female employment-to-population ratio, with the exception of Barbados, where it decreased by 0.9 percentage points. During the first three quarters of 2006, Chile (34.3%) had the lowest female employment-to-population ratio whereas Barbados (56.3%) had the highest, yielding results similar to those for the female labour participation rate.

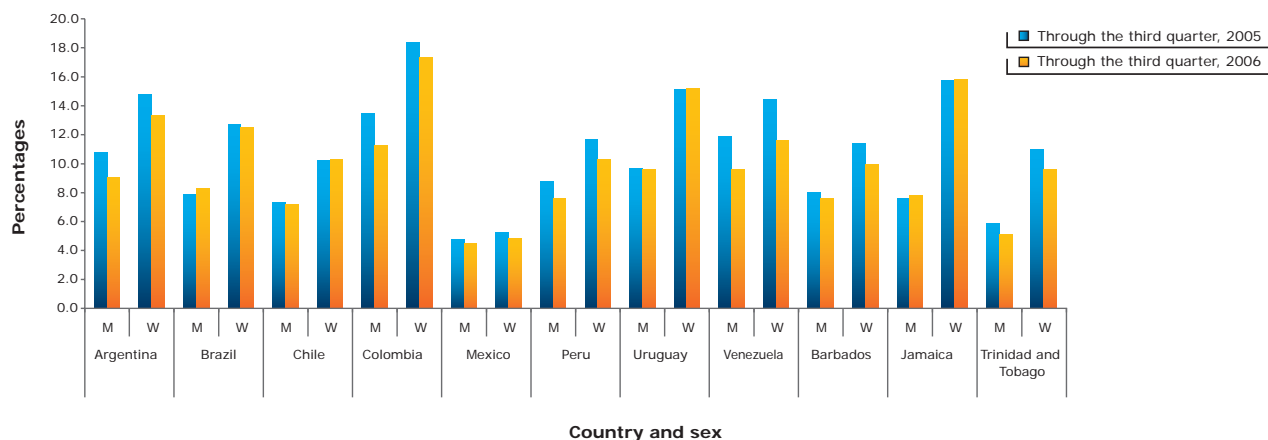
The male employment-to-population ratio decreased during the first three quarters of 2006 in three countries: Barbados (-1.1 percentage points), followed by Brazil and Peru, both of which experienced a decline of less than 0.5 percentage points. In the first three quarters of 2006, Brazil had the lowest male employment-to-population ratio (61.2%) whereas Mexico had the highest (74.2%).

Unemployment Rate

The dynamics of urban labour supply and demand by sex during the first three quarters of 2006 in the 11 countries of the region with available information demonstrate that the unemployment rate among women was, on average, 1.5 times higher than that for men. Since this proportion is similar to that recorded in the same months of 2005, little progress has been made in terms of reducing the gender gap in unemployment in this period. The countries with the largest gaps between male and female unemployment rates were Jamaica (2.0 times), Trinidad and Tobago (1.9 times) and Uruguay (1.6 times) (Figure 7).

FIGURE 7

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (11 COUNTRIES):
OPEN URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY SEX
FIRST THROUGH THIRD QUARTER OF 2005 AND 2006**
(Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on official country information (Table 2-A of the Statistical Annex).
Note: M = Men, W = Women.



Unemployment among men and women declined in seven countries: Venezuela, with the sharpest declines, followed by Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and Mexico. In five of these countries, the female unemployment rate declined more than that of men. Uruguay and Chile experienced a less positive performance. In Uruguay, while the unemployment rate among men declined, that of women remained unchanged. In Chile, the unemployment rate among women rose while it decreased among men. By contrast, in Brazil and Jamaica, unemployment rates among men rose slightly while unemployment among women decreased in Brazil and remained unchanged in Jamaica.

These figures indicate that despite the continued improvement of regional women's labour force participation rates and employment-to-population ratios, as well as the decline in female unemployment in recent years, women are still at a disadvantage in the labour market compared with men. Clearly, women have fewer possibilities of finding jobs than do men; in addition, they stand a greater chance of becoming unemployed. Generally, there are differences in the types of labour market participation (occupational groups, status in employment, structure of employment, earnings, and others), with women being at a disadvantage in terms of the average jobs held by men. Although gender inequality in the labour

market may reflect social factors and derive from economic structures (in other words, they may develop in the private sphere) measures to improve this situation depend on social actors of the private sector as well as public policies. On the one hand, this situation should be taken into account in the demands and proposals of workers' organizations in order to promote equality and non-discrimination among workers; on the other, it represents a public policy issue because it is in the interest of society as a whole that individuals fully exercise their right to equal opportunities.

In this regard, government interventions might want to consider the condition of the head of the household since some studies indicate that the disadvantages of heads of household are transferred to other household members. The experience of Argentina with the Unemployed Heads of Household Programme (which includes men and women) is a good example given that, along with other economic intervention measures, it has reduced unemployment rates and diminished the impact of the economic crisis that began in 2002 on beneficiary families. Another example is the PROJoven Programme of Peru, through which the government provides special subsidies to young mothers participating in this initiative whose objective is to facilitate access of poor youth to the formal labour market through skills development, employment information and job link services.



Box 2

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: SECTORIAL COMPOSITION OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND HEALTH AND/OR PENSION COVERAGE

Informal sector employment remains high in this decade and employment is increasingly concentrated in the service sector, a trend that has persisted since the 1990s in Latin America and the Caribbean. Moreover, in 2005, health and pension coverage among employed individuals in the region continued to be deficient as compared with coverage in developed countries.

In 2005, Latin America and the Caribbean continued to be characterized by a segregated employment structure in which an almost equal proportion of individuals were employed in the formal and informal sectors: 51.5% and 48.5% of urban employment, respectively, according to the traditional definition used in *Labour Overview* (developed by the Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the

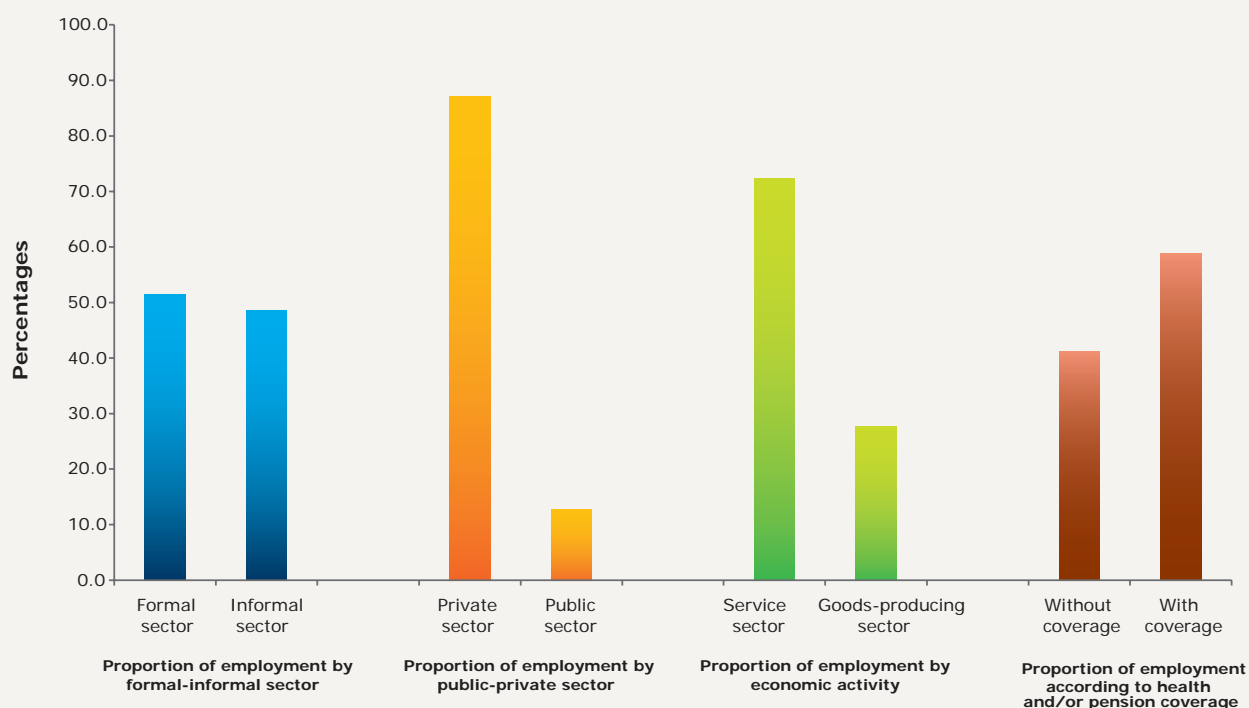
Caribbean, ILO-PREALC) for measuring employment in the informal sector (Figure 2a and Table 6-A of the Statistical Annex). Independent workers, that is, non-professional, own-account workers or unpaid auxiliary workers, make up the largest share of employment in the informal sector (25.1% of total employed individuals), followed by microenterprises (17.0%) and domestic service (6.3%). In addition, small, medium and large enterprises remain the major source of employment in the formal sector (36.5%) whereas the public sector absorbs 12.8% and own-account workers (administrators, professionals and technical workers) account for 2.3%.

As in the past, the proportion of women in the informal sector (51.4%) exceeded that of men (46.3%) in 2005.

This phenomenon reflects the greater difficulties women have in securing employment, thereby limiting possibilities for reducing poverty and income inequality in the region. Bolivia has the largest proportion of women in the informal sector (76.7% in 2002), followed by Paraguay, Nicaragua, Ecuador, El Salvador, Colombia and Peru, all with a rate exceeding 50% in 2005. Policies are urgently needed to address this situation, such as those presented in the Agenda for the Hemisphere to Create Decent Work. These include policies focusing on labour non-discrimination and equality in the workplace, in small and microenterprises, in employment services and in the informal economy. Likewise, gender should be incorporated into all stages of development of decent work policies: design, implementation, evaluation and monitoring.

FIGURE 2a

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: EMPLOYED URBAN POPULATION ACCORDING TO EMPLOYMENT STRUCTURE AND HEALTH AND/OR PENSION COVERAGE, 2005
(Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on official country information.



Usually, the informal sector is expected to absorb the surplus labour force, expanding when the unemployment rate increases, for example, during periods of GDP decline. Between 2000 and 2004, the slight rise in the regional urban unemployment rate (attributed to the lasting effects of the economic crisis of 2002, the year in which regional unemployment increased one percentage point with respect to 2001) was accompanied by a modest increase in the informal sector employment rate for the region. Between 2004 and 2005, both indicators experienced a moderate decline. Nevertheless, the high rate of informal sector employment has proved inflexible in a context of extraordinary economic growth since 2003. This suggests that healthy GDP performance has not managed to generate enough jobs in the formal sector, which is characterized by greater productivity, better wages and increased access to social protection. In the period 2000-2005, nearly five of every 10 newly employed individuals worked in the informal sector in Latin America.

For the first time, this edition of *Labour Overview* provides preliminary estimates of employment in the informal sector and informal employment, drawing on the recommendations of the Fifteenth and Seventeenth International Conferences of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), respectively (see concepts and definitions in Box 1). Information from household surveys of five selected countries of the region (Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Panama) was analyzed. These data demonstrated that informal employment, which includes informal employment in the informal and formal sectors, accounted for an estimated 60%, on average, of the urban employed population in the selected countries in 2005, declining slightly since 2003. This high rate suggests that labour reforms carried out in Latin America in the 1990s, particularly those associated with new, atypical forms of employment, led to an increase in labour precariousness, manifested in the high proportion of informal employment, in both the formal and informal sectors, among other results. In the five countries, the proportion of women in informal employment was higher than that of men in 2005, indicating that this phenomenon is especially prevalent in the female population.

Wage and salaried informal employment represents a key component of informal employment since it

represents nearly 52% of all informal employment, on average, in the five countries. While informal employment declined slightly between 2003 and 2005, this component experienced a modest increase. This is a cause for concern considering that the region experienced strong GDP expansion during these years, which benefited the formal sector of the economy. In addition, wage and salaried informal employment in the formal sector as a proportion of total informal employment reached approximately 25% in the selected countries, demonstrating that informal employment also affects wage and salaried workers of the formal sector. Using the definition of the XV ICLS as the measurement standard for these five countries, employment in the informal sector accounted for approximately 40% of total employment in 2005, decreasing slightly since 2003.

In 2005, 72.3% of urban employment was concentrated in the service sector, with an increase of one percentage point since 2000, continuing its growth trend, whereas employment in the goods-producing sector continued to decline (Table 7-A of the Statistical Annex). Nevertheless, there was an important methodological effect in the regional weighted estimate resulting from the introduction of the new Household Survey in Mexico in 2005, which yielded an increase of approximately 10 percentage points in service sector urban employment between 2000 and 2005 in that country. If Mexico were excluded from the analysis, Latin America and the Caribbean would experience a slight decrease in the service sector between 2000 and 2005, reflecting the fact that seven (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru) of the 13 countries of the region with available information to 2005 registered a modest decline in employment in this sector. Of every 10 newly employed individuals between 2000 and 2005, nine worked in the private sector and eight in the service sector.

The industries with the highest concentration of employment within the service sector were community, social and personal services (33.5%), followed by trade (25.3%), transportation, storage and communications (6.6%) and financial establishments (4.7%). Women's employment is more heavily concentrated in the service sector (82.9%) than men's (64.7%). This largely reflects the high concentration of women in community, social and



personal services, where the rate of female employment is double that of men. Of the countries with available information for 2005, Mexico had the highest concentration of employment in the service sector (80.1%) whereas Honduras recorded the highest proportion in the goods-producing sector (36.9%).

In 2005, 58.9% of the total urban employed population of Latin America had health and/or pension coverage (Table 8-A of the Statistical Annex). Nevertheless, informal sector workers continue to register a considerably lower level of social protection than that of the total employed population: only 33.4% of informal sector workers have health and/or pension coverage. Within the informal sector, the least protected are domestic service workers (only 5.0% of workers in this group had health and/or pension coverage). In the past, independent workers had lower coverage rates than did workers in microenterprises with a maximum of five workers, however, in 2005, coverage for both groups was 14.2%. In addition, health and pension coverage continued to be highest in the formal sector: 81.8% of formal sector workers had these types of social protection.

In 2005, health and pension coverage among men was 58.5% and 59.6% among women. This slightly higher coverage among women reflects the fact that they can be covered by protection schemes to which their direct family members contribute (fathers or husbands, for example), in addition to having their own coverage.

Of the 12 countries with available information, Ecuador (31.7%), Peru (33.0%) and Paraguay (33.3%) had the lowest health and/or pension coverage of the employed population in 2005. Compared with 2000, the rate in Peru declined 3.6 percentage points whereas it rose in Ecuador and Paraguay. Mexico had the lowest rate of health and/or pension coverage among informal sector workers (9.2%), followed by Ecuador (11.9%), Peru (12.0%) and El Salvador (14.5%). These last three countries, as mentioned, have an informal sector employment rate considerably higher than the average for the region, for which reason policies and programmes are needed to provide training and strengthen informal sectors with low productivity and earnings, with an emphasis on ensuring access of the most vulnerable workers to low-cost, subsidized health and pension schemes.



Youth Unemployment Declines in 2006

Approximately 43.7 million youths, 59% men and 41% women, belonged to the urban labour force in 2006. Youths represented a large percentage of total unemployment in most of the countries of the region: approximately 46% of the total unemployed population in Brazil, 43% in Peru and 35% in Venezuela. These figures underscore the difficulties youth face in joining the labour force, which are associated with their specific characteristics: they have not yet completed their school-to-work transition, they have little or no work experience and limited information on labour market requirements and characteristics. They may also lack the social networks that facilitate entry into the labour market, especially in the case of youths living in poverty.

In most of the countries with updated information, the youth unemployment rate declined by an average of approximately 2.0 percentage points. Nevertheless, these rates remained between 1.7 and 2.2 times higher than the total unemployment rate in seven countries with information from the first three quarters of 2006. In other words, no change occurred in the structure of unemployment by age groups.

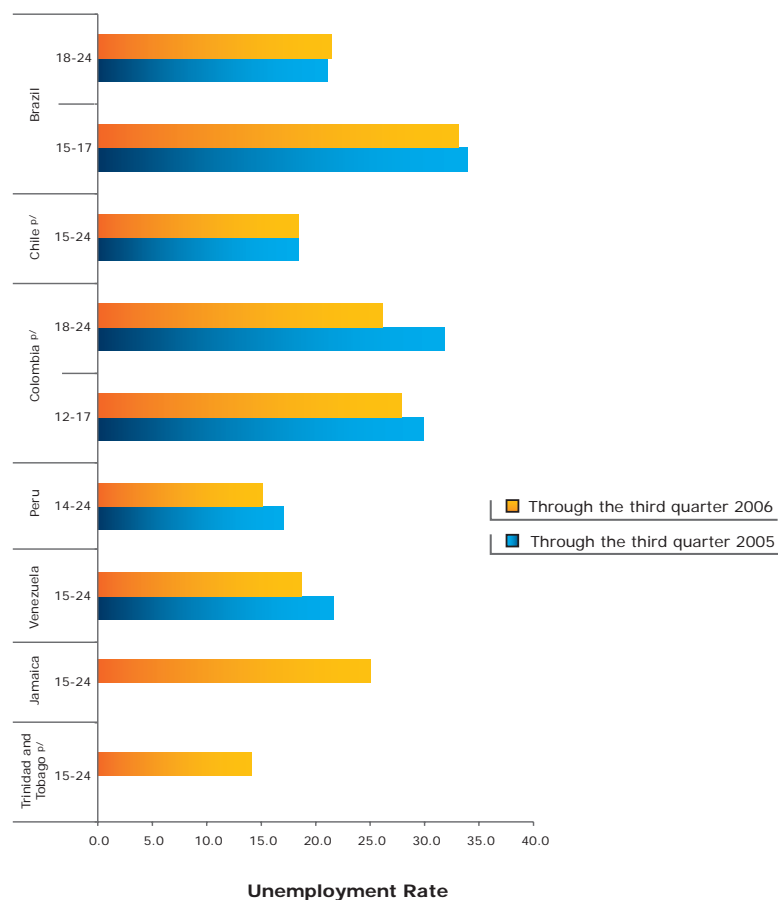
The youth unemployment rate declined in Colombia, Peru and Venezuela, whereas it remained largely unchanged in Chile compared with 2005 (Table 3-A of the Statistical Annex and Figure 8). In Brazil, the unemployment rate among youths aged 15 to 17 diminished (-0.9 percentage points) while it increased 0.4 percentage points among youths aged 18 to 24 at the same time as the total unemployment rate increased (0.2 percentage points).

The persistence and magnitude of youth unemployment, as well as the high proportion of youths who do not study or work in Latin America, have raised concerns among policymakers and social actors in most of the countries in the region today. Therefore, policy measures involving different sectors should be developed and applied to reduce school dropout rates and create more job

opportunities for everyone. At the same time, they should reduce the inherent disadvantages of young workers, for example, by promoting job training, development and dissemination of information on labour demand by improving the quality of employment services, among other measures, in an effort to reduce youths' vulnerability to unemployment and increase their job opportunities.

FIGURE 8

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (SEVEN COUNTRIES):
YOUTH URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2005 AND 2006**
(Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on official country information (Table 3-A of the Statistical Annex).
p/ Preliminary data.

Box 3

THE LABOUR MARKET SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA

The urban working age population of Central America and the Dominican Republic totalled more than 21 million in 2005. Of this population, 56.3% participated in the labour force, including approximately 10.7 million employed individuals and 1.1 million who were unemployed. The regional unemployment rate was 9.7% in 2005 (Table 3a).

The urban labour force participation rate among men was 1.5 times higher than that among women in Central America, with the largest gaps reported in Honduras and Costa Rica. At the same time, the male employment-to-population ratio of the sub-region was 1.5 times higher than the female ratio, with the greatest differences occurring in the Dominican Republic, followed by Costa Rica and Honduras. In addition, the urban unemployment rate was higher among women (12.1%) than among men (7.9%), being most pronounced in the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica.

The combined analysis of the urban labour force participation rate and the urban unemployment rate

(Figure 3a) indicates that the countries examined either have lower unemployment rates and lower labour force participation rates (El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua) than the sub-regional average, or record high unemployment rates associated with high labour force participation rates (Panama and the Dominican Republic). Costa Rica and Guatemala have more moderate urban unemployment rates despite their high labour force participation rates, a preferable situation. Nevertheless, the quality of employment should be evaluated.

Youth experience greater difficulties than do adults in joining the labour force. In 2005, the urban youth unemployment rate almost doubled the total urban unemployment rate, particularly in Costa Rica, Panama and El Salvador. In addition, youths registered lower labour force participation rates than those of adults. In 2005, despite the fact that this age group accounted for 25% of the urban labour force of the sub-region, it represented 45% of total urban unemployment.

TABLE 3a

CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE URBAN POPULATION, BY SEX AND COUNTRY IN 2005

(Percentages)

Activity condition	Costa Rica	Dominican Republic ^{a/}	El Salvador	Guatemala ^{a/}	Honduras	Nicaragua	Panama	Total Subregion
Labour force participation rate								
Total	58.2	57.4	54.3	58.4	50.3	53.7	63.7	56.3
Men	72.8	68.6	64.4	72.1	64.0	63.9	77.7	68.7
Women	44.7	47.0	45.8	46.0	38.7	44.7	51.2	45.4
Employment-to-population ratio								
Total	54.2	46.6	50.3	55.8	47.2	49.9	56.0	50.9
Men	68.8	60.6	58.4	69.0	60.6	59.0	69.9	63.2
Women	40.7	33.6	43.6	43.9	36.0	42.0	43.5	39.9
Unemployment rate								
Total	6.9	18.9	7.3	4.4	6.1	7.0	12.1	9.7
Men	5.6	11.7	9.4	4.3	5.4	7.8	10.0	7.9
Women	8.8	28.5	4.8	4.5	7.1	6.1	15.0	12.1
Youth ^{b/}	15.9	33.0	15.0	8.0	10.9	11.9	26.3	17.4

Source: ILO, based on household surveys of the countries.

a/ Data for Guatemala and the Dominican Republic are from 2004.

b/ Youth include individuals aged 10 to 24 years in Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic; 12 to 24 years in Costa Rica; and 15 to 24 years in El Salvador and Panama.



This indicates that youth participation in the labour market occurs largely through unemployment.

In the period 2000-2004, labour productivity experienced a sharp decline in Panama and moderate growth in Costa Rica, whereas in the preceding five-year period (1995-1999), these countries, especially Panama, experienced a strong upswing in this indicator. In Panama, the decrease in labour productivity in the period 2000-2004 reflected the sharp increase in employment driven by economic growth, while in the same period in Costa Rica, the expansion of employment with respect to GDP growth

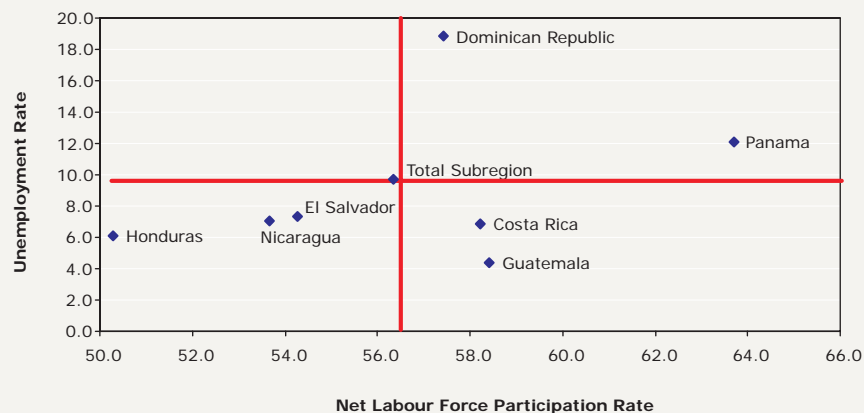
was accompanied by increased labour productivity. At the same time, El Salvador recorded a moderate decline in labour productivity, unlike the Dominican Republic, which experienced a rise in productivity. In the same period, Honduras moved from a situation of a sharp decline in productivity to one of moderate growth.

Quality of Job Creation

Central American labour markets suffer from structural weakness which limits the creation of decent work. This phenomenon is associated with a productive structure of limited diversity supported by

FIGURE 3a

URBAN LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE AND URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 2005 ^{a/} (Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on household surveys of the countries.

a/ Data for Guatemala and the Dominican Republic are from 2004.

a broad, traditional rural base, with low productivity and a large number of microenterprises that carry out non-agricultural activities, especially associated with trade and services. In 2003, 44% of employed individuals in the sub-region worked in rural areas, with 60% in Guatemala and 50% in Honduras.

Wage and salaried employment represented 58% (Table 3b) of total urban employment for the sub-

region in 2005, with the largest share in Costa Rica and Panama, whereas independent employment (own-account and employers) accounted for 33% of the total. The share of private enterprises in total urban employment was 55%, reaching 60% in Costa Rica. Microenterprises (establishments with a maximum of five workers) accounted for half of the urban jobs of the sub-region, exceeding 60% in Honduras and Nicaragua. If micro- and small enterprises (with a

maximum of 20 employees) are combined, the sub-regional percentage increases to 65%, being considerably higher in three countries: Guatemala and Nicaragua, where these enterprises accounted for approximately three of every four urban jobs, and Honduras, where micro and small enterprises were the source of 86% of urban employment.

These data underscore the limitations in the productive structure for generating employment in the sub-region, as well as the leading role of microenterprises in this structure. In a context of trade liberalization, the productive structure has a limited capacity to take advantage of the opportunities that global trade offers and is at a disadvantage for

competing successfully with imported goods from abroad.

To address this situation, policies should be adopted in a timely manner to promote productive employment, with fair pay and respect for fundamental rights at work, as proposed in the framework of the Sub-regional Tripartite Employment Forum of the ILO, held in Tegucigalpa (Honduras) in June 2005, and in the ILO's Agenda for the Hemisphere to Create Decent Work, presented in Brazil in May 2006. Specifically, the proposals associated with the development of National Decent Work Programmes should be considered, taking into account the realities, priorities and resources of each Central American country.

TABLE 3b

CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: URBAN EMPLOYMENT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, SITUATION IN EMPLOYMENT, TYPE OF EMPLOYER AND SIZE OF ESTABLISHMENT, 2005
(Percentage of total employed persons)

Indicators	Costa Rica	Dominican Republic ^{a/}	El Salvador	Guatemala ^{a/}	Honduras	Nicaragua	Panama	Total Subregion
Economic activity								
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	4.2	5.1	6.2	13.5	7.4	6.4	2.6	7.2
Industry and construction	22.3	25.2	25.7	25.6	28.6	25.1	17.6	24.8
Trade	24.4	25.5	32.4	34.5	29.6	30.1	28.6	29.6
Services	49.1	44.3	35.8	26.4	34.4	38.4	51.2	38.3
Situation in Employment								
Wage and salaried workers	68.7	56.5	55.8	53.4	59.7	57.2	66.6	58.2
Self-employed	17.9	31.2	27.8	27.7	28.4	31.0	21.5	27.5
Employers	7.3	5.4	5.2	5.6	3.4	4.9	3.6	5.2
Unpaid family worker	1.2	1.8	7.3	9.5	4.4	6.9	1.6	5.2
Domestic service	4.9	5.2	3.8	3.8	4.0	0.0	6.8	4.0
Type of employer ^{b/}								
Public sector	17.2	12.9	10.8	6.3	10.8	11.7	18.4	11.6
Private enterprises	60.0	50.7	57.6	52.7	56.7	57.3	53.4	54.8
Households	4.9	5.2	3.8	3.8	4.0	0.0	6.8	4.0
Self-employed	17.9	31.2	27.8	37.2	28.4	31.0	21.5	29.6
Size of the establishment ^{c/}								
Microenterprise	43.6	46.9	39.6	56.8	67.9	61.1	39.2	49.9
Small establishments	13.2	12.8	10.7	19.7	18.0	15.9	11.9	14.8
Medium and large establishments	43.3	40.3	49.7	23.5	14.1	23.1	48.9	35.4

Source: ILO, based on household surveys of the countries.

a/ Data for Honduras and the Dominican Republic are from 2004.

b/ Type of employer: Public sector: public sector; Private Enterprise: includes employers, wage and salaried workers, and unpaid family workers; Households: domestic service workers; Self-employment: own-account or independent worker.

c/ Size of the establishment: Microenterprise: maximum of five employees; Small establishments: 6-20 employees; Medium-sized and large establishments: 21 or more employees.



Change in Real Wages

During the first three quarters of 2006, the favourable economic environment of the region proved conducive for improving manufacturing wages, according to information from eight countries, which represent 84% of the Latin American labour force. The change in real manufacturing wages highlights key aspects of the regional labour market since this sector offers wages above the average in several countries, particularly in South America, largely because the productivity growth of the sector, while not the highest, is higher than the average for the economy (estimated at approximately 2% in recent years). Nevertheless, the importance of the manufacturing wage is relative since manufacturing employment accounts for approximately 16% of total employment in the region, a proportion that varies by country. In Panama, manufacturing represents approximately 9% of workers; in Honduras 21% and in the Caribbean nearly 10%.

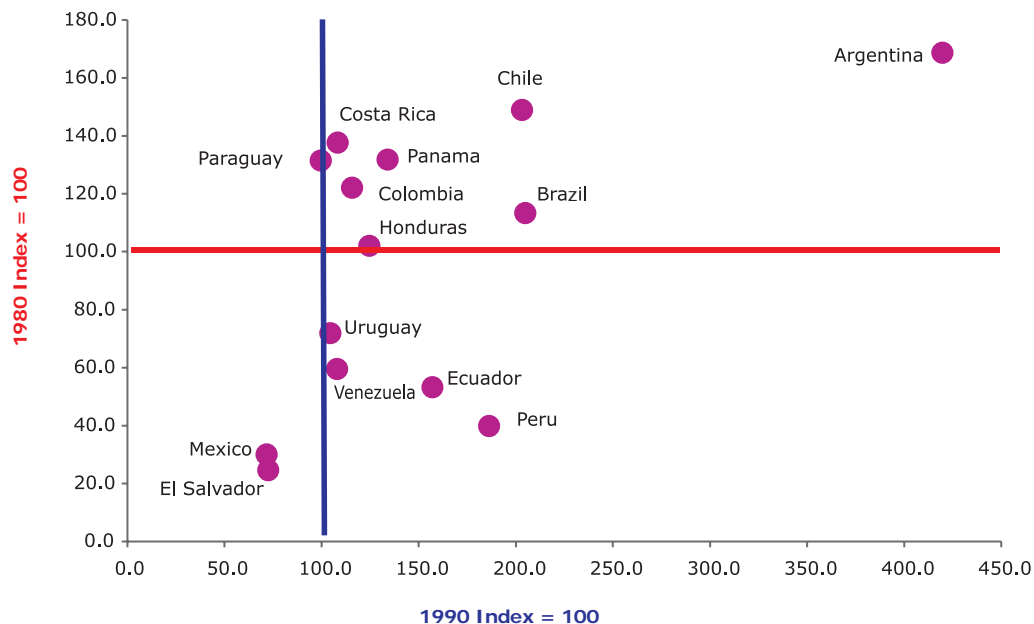
Real manufacturing wages rose during the first three quarters of 2006 as compared with the same period of 2005 in all countries with available information (Table 9-A of the Statistical Annex). They increased 3.9% on average, less than the increase in the sector's labour productivity. Considering that labour productivity in manufacturing is three times higher than the average productivity for all sectors (estimated at 2.2% for the period January-September 2006), a gap exists between the increase in real manufacturing wages and that of labour productivity for this sector.

Ecuador registered the largest increase (18.1%), followed by Argentina (15.4%) and Venezuela (12.8%). The remainder of the countries recorded smaller increases. Argentina experienced a wage recovery, whereas in Venezuela, although a similar process occurred, the pace of real manufacturing wage growth diminished as compared with the same period in 2005 (in that year it increased 16.2% with

FIGURE 9

LATIN AMERICA (14 COUNTRIES): REAL MINIMUM WAGES THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006

(1990 Index = 100 and 1980 Index = 100)



Source: ILO, based on official country information.

respect to 2004). In addition, in Ecuador the results reflect a statistical effect since there was a setback in real wages in 2005 (-9.7%). Argentina and Venezuela are the two countries with the highest rates of economic growth for the period. This was not the case in Ecuador, where wages nevertheless increased at a healthy rate of approximately 5%.

A slight expansion (1.1%) in manufacturing wages also occurred in Brazil during the first three quarters of 2006, in the context of a deceleration in the economic growth rate during the first semester of the year compared with the same period in 2005. In Mexico, despite GDP growth of approximately 5.1%, real wages rose only slightly (0.9%), barely offsetting the modest decline recorded in 2005 (-0.4%).

Given this performance, as well as GDP expansion and the change in prices in the countries of the region, average manufacturing wages are expected to continue their positive trend throughout the rest of the year.

The average real minimum wage of the region is also experiencing a recovery, following a growth trend that began in the early 1990s (except for the years 1992, 1996 and 2002), according to information from 17 countries (Table 10-A of the Statistical Annex). The real minimum wage rose 4.7% in the first three

quarters of 2006 with respect to the same period in 2005. The positive performance of minimum wages partially reflects the moderate average inflation rate characterizing Latin America and the Caribbean in recent years. In the first three quarters of 2006, the inflation rate was 5.7%, 0.8 percentage points below that of the same period in 2005.

The largest increases in the real minimum wage were recorded in Uruguay (17.2%), followed by Brazil (13.0%), Argentina (12.4%) and Venezuela (12.2%). These changes correspond to increases in nominal minimum wages (which surpassed the increases in inflation) established in February 2006 (Venezuela), April (Brazil), July (Uruguay) and August (Argentina). In addition, these countries have been raising minimum wage levels in periods of approximately 12 months or less, which has contributed to these results. By contrast, in the Dominican Republic (-7.9%) and El Salvador (-3.0%), the real minimum wage declined, reflecting rising inflation which more than offset the increases in nominal minimum wages.

Although the year-over-year change in real manufacturing and minimum wages through the third quarter of 2006 was encouraging, not all countries have re-established the wage indices they had in the early 1990s, for which reason social dialogue mechanisms are still needed to make progress in this area (Figure 9).



Box 4

THE CARIBBEAN: COMMITMENT TO DECENT WORK AND HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LABOUR MARKET SITUATION

At the ILO Tripartite Caribbean Employment Forum held in Barbados on 10-12 October 2006, government, employer and worker representatives of 13 countries and six territories in the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean discussed options to make the Decent Work Agenda part of their national development goals. On 12 October, delegates adopted the *Tripartite Declaration and Plan of Action for Realizing the Decent Work Agenda in the Caribbean* as the way forward in advancing decent work.

In the Tripartite Declaration the delegates reconfirmed their support for and commitment to the four

strategic objectives of the ILO Decent Work Agenda and recognized the importance of integrating, in a comprehensive and coherent manner, policies for achieving sustainable economic growth and development, full and productive employment, and decent work.

The delegates resolved to develop Decent Work Country Programmes based on the *Plan of Action* adopted, taking into account their national circumstances and priorities. They also undertook to place these programmes in the context of the implementation of the Caribbean Community Single

Market and Economy (CSME). The *Plan of Action* identifies specific action to be taken in the following areas:

- promoting standards and fundamental principles and rights at work;
- creating opportunities for women and men to secure decent employment and incomes;
- enhancing the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all;
- strengthening tripartism and social dialogue; and
- integrating cross-cutting issues in all policies (labour market information, gender equality, poverty reduction, information and communication technologies).

Following the Tripartite Caribbean Employment Forum, the Council for Human and Social Development of the Caribbean Community discussed the Declaration and Plan of Action at its Fifteenth Meeting held in Guyana on 19-21 October 2006, and decided to submit it for endorsement to the Conference of Heads of Government at its next meeting.

For the full text of the *Tripartite Declaration and Plan of Action for Realizing the Decent Work Agenda in the Caribbean*, please visit the Forum webpage at: <http://www.ilocarib.org.tt/oldwww/cef/index.html>

Highlights of the Labour Market Situation in the Caribbean

Moderate to strong GDP growth in the first half of 2006 in most English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean countries resulted in continued employment growth. This trend is expected to continue in the second half of 2006. Rising energy prices are a major challenge to the small economies in the region, causing inflation and having an impact on cruise ship arrivals in the tourism-based economies. The concern with the impact of energy prices on the general price level is genuine but inflationary pressures in many economies include domestic factors. In Trinidad and Tobago, the president of the Central Bank recently called for social dialogue on rising inflation and highlighted the need for a social pact to address it. In response to inflationary pressures, Barbados (2006), Jamaica (2006) and Trinidad (2005) adjusted their statutory minimum wages.

In Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, the two largest economies in the region, investment, GDP and employment continued to expand. In Trinidad and Tobago, the largest economy in the region, GDP growth for 2006 was estimated at 12%, fuelled mostly by buoyant energy (oil and gas) prices. Despite this strong GDP growth, expansion of employment was estimated at just 1.4% in first half of 2006. Despite



ILO Tripartite Caribbean Employment Forum, October 2006.

this low employment intensity of GDP growth, the long-term trend of employment growth and falling unemployment rates continues in this country as unemployment reached an all time low of 7.0%. Trinidad's share in the regional labour market is 17%. In Jamaica, GDP grew by 2.4% in the second quarter of 2006, compared with the same quarter in 2005. This trend, which is expected to continue, is largely driven by the agriculture and service sectors. Employment grew by 2.6% although the unemployment rate remained stable, averaging 11.4% over the first two quarters of 2006. This is also the average unemployment rate of the three previous years. Jamaica's share in the regional labour market was 41%.

The tourism economies of the region registered moderate GDP growth in 2006. Most countries where this sector continues to be the main factor driving

GDP growth increases in stay-over arrivals were registered in the first half of 2006: 4.2% in Bahamas, 1.6% in Barbados (GDP growth was 4.4% in first quarter 2006), 2.4% in the OECS countries. Countries' cruise ship arrivals were affected negatively by high energy prices, which prompted cruise liners to stay closer to the United States. This has depressed total arrivals in most countries. Considering the employment intensity of direct and indirect tourism, employment is expected to grow. Due to preparations for the 2007 Cricket World Cup to be held in the Caribbean, the construction sector has been another major sector driving employment and GDP growth in the small economies of the Windward Islands. Agricultural output continued to decline in the first six months of 2006 and is expected to have a negative impact on agricultural employment and total employment levels.

GDP AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FORECASTS, 2006-2007

Economic and Employment Trends in 2006



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Economic growth forecasts for the countries of the region indicate that GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean will increase approximately 5.1% in 2006 (Table 14-A of the Statistical Annex). Performance of the region's economies in the first semester of 2006 supports this forecast. During that period, average economic growth ranged from 2.2% (Brazil) to 9.6% (Venezuela), with a slight acceleration in most of the countries. Thus, average GDP of the region rose 5.2% during the first semester of 2006, exceeding the 5.0% registered in the same months of 2005.

Regional GDP growth during the second semester of 2006 (4.9%) is expected to continue at a higher rate than in the same period of 2005 (4.3%), especially in Brazil. In the case of oil-exporting countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (Ecuador, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela), preliminary growth forecasts were readjusted downward in response to the decrease in the price of oil in recent months,

although levels remain much higher than in the past. In addition, strong domestic and export demand may continue to fuel growth of these economies. Economic growth in the region in 2006 will mainly reflect the economic performance of Brazil (3.2%) and Mexico (4.4%) since GDP growth in these countries is expected to surpass that registered in 2005; these are the largest economies of the region (together they represent approximately 60% of the GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean).

This positive economic performance in the region for the fourth consecutive year has favoured job creation. Figures through the third quarter of 2006 indicate that while the labour supply has increased, employment increased at an even higher rate (the employment-to-population ratio was 0.3 percentage points higher than the labour force participation rate). Considering this trend, as well as GDP growth projections for the second semester of 2006, the regional unemployment rate is expected to decline from 9.3% in 2005 to 9.0% in 2006 (Table 13-A of the Statistical Annex).

During the first semester of 2006, the unemployment rate was 9.2%, which is expected to decrease to 8.8% in the second half of 2006 since a favourable seasonal trend occurs between October and December. During

this quarter, employment expands in most of the countries of the region because of the seasonal activity of some industries in urban areas (mainly trade, but also the food and beverage industry, restaurants and hotels, among others) due to year-end holiday celebrations. Notwithstanding, this rate will probably be slightly higher than that observed in the same period of 2005 (8.7%). Thus, in 2006, higher annual urban unemployment rates are projected in Colombia (12.7%), Uruguay (11.7%), Argentina (10.5%) and Brazil (10.1%), along with the grouping «rest of the countries» (10.3%); these rates are not comparable due to methodological differences.

Expected Outlook for GDP and Unemployment in 2007

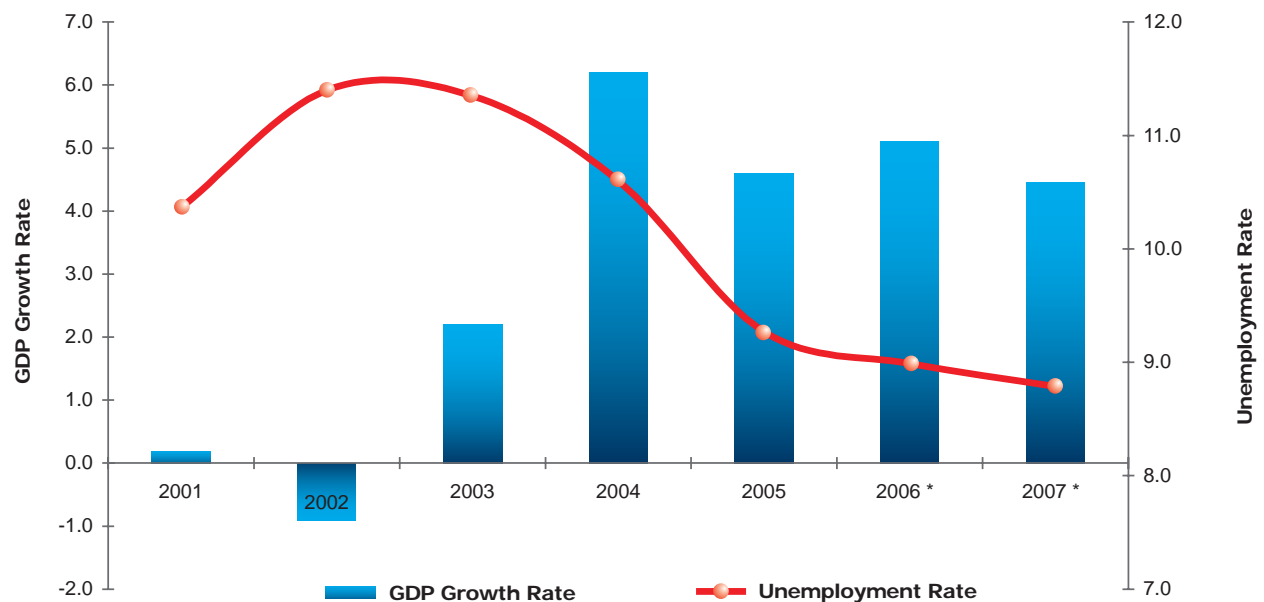
Global economic growth is expected to decelerate slightly (4.9%) in 2007, mainly due to the slower pace of growth in some developed countries, although growth will remain positive. As the economy of the United States is one of the driving forces of global economic activity, several reports have expressed

concern about the country's real estate market indicators, which suggest a weakening. Nevertheless, given the performance of other sectors and of the capacity for recovery of the U.S. economy, growth forecasts may be unaffected by this situation. The Latin America and Caribbean region is expected to achieve economic growth of nearly 4.4%, reflecting the diminished pace of GDP growth in most of the countries of the region, particularly Venezuela, Uruguay and Argentina (Table 14-A of the Statistical Annex). In addition, the potential stabilization of oil prices will affect growth in Venezuela.

Given that the GDP will continue its expansion in 2007, the downward trend in the regional urban unemployment rate is expected to continue, although at a more moderate pace. The regional unemployment rate is forecast at a rate of about 8.8% (-0.2 percentage points with respect to the rate projected for 2006), reflecting the slight decreases in the unemployment rates of the countries, particularly Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela.

FIGURE 10

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: GDP GROWTH AND THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OBSERVED ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS, 2001 - 2007* (Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on official country information.

* Projected.

Box 5

MEXICO'S NEW EMPLOYMENT SURVEY AND ITS IMPACT ON REGIONAL ESTIMATES

Mexico has extensive experience in using household surveys to study changes in the labour force. This experience has provided a solid base for an exhaustive revision and updating of the survey instruments, materials and processes and for the design of a national employment survey, the National Occupation and Employment Survey (*Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo, ENOE*), which was first carried out in 2005.

The transition from the National Urban Employment Survey (*Encuesta Nacional de Empleo Urbano, ENEU*) and the National Employment Survey (*Encuesta Nacional de Empleo, ENE*) to the ENOE involved several key modifications. The most relevant were, first, the modification of data collection tools; second, the use of two types of questionnaires at different times of the year, a basic questionnaire that included special supplements (for example, on child employment and job training), called the Basic Occupation and Employment Questionnaire (*Cuestionario de Ocupación y Empleo Básico*) and a second, more detailed questionnaire, which allows for a deeper analysis of the labour market situation, entitled the Expanded Occupation and Employment Questionnaire (*Cuestionario de Ocupación y Empleo Ampliado*). In addition, the sampling frame was redesigned and the accuracy of estimators was improved, despite a reduction in the sample size (from 136,000 to 120,000 households).

With respect to new definitions of concepts, the measurement of employment and unemployment was updated using criteria developed by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), following the general recommendations of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), which facilitates data comparisons. Two modifications were particularly important: first, the individuals who report that they are not employed or

seeking employment in the reference period because they will be starting a new job soon (job starters), and who in the former survey were considered employed, are classified as unemployed in the new survey. Second, individuals who report that they are independent workers, but who are not working or receiving income during the reference week, and who were considered employed in the former survey, are classified as unemployed in the new survey. Moreover, in the new survey, the minimum working age was set at 14, up from 12 years in the former survey. (For details on the modifications introduced, see the web page http://www.inegi.gob.mx/est/contenidos/espanol/metodologias/encuestas/hogares/sm_enoe.pdf?c=6110).

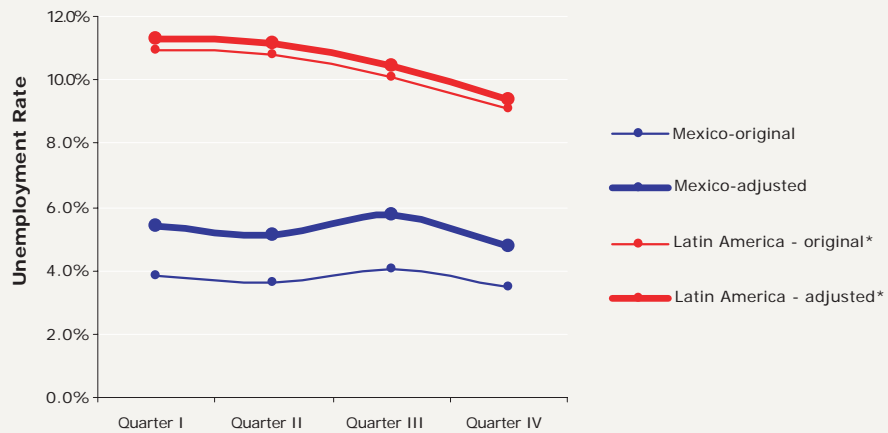
The introduction of the ENOE has led to a change in several urban labour indicators in Mexico, as the official retroactive estimates of that country demonstrate (from 1997 to 2005). As a result, in 2004, the projected increase from 10.3% to 10.6% of the weighted urban unemployment rate (based on 18 countries) for Latin America reflected the upward adjustment of 1.5 percentage points in the unemployment rate of Mexico. In other words, each percentage point of adjustment in Mexico's unemployment rate produced an adjustment of approximately 0.20 percentage points in the regional unemployment rate. (A similar outcome is produced using data for the nine major economies of the region; see figure 5a).

Likewise, the upward adjustment of 2.5 percentage points in Mexico's labour force participation rate increased the regional labour force participation rate from 58.6% to 59.1%. In the case of the employment-to-population ratio, the upward adjustment of 1.5 percentage points in the Mexican rate increased the regional employment-to-population ratio from 52.5% to 52.8%.



FIGURE 5a

LATIN AMERICA (NINE COUNTRIES) AND MEXICO: ORIGINAL AND ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, BY QUARTER, 2004
(Percentages)



Source: ILO, based on official information of Mexico and ILO regional estimates.

*Quarterly rates were estimated using information from nine Latin American countries representing 89% of the regional urban labour force.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The tables in the Statistical Appendix constitute the data source used in the analysis provided in the employment situation report of *Labour Overview*. The ILO prepares these tables using information from different national official sources of Latin America and the Caribbean. Below is an explanation of the concepts and definitions used, information sources, international comparability of the data, reliability of the estimates contained in the Statistical Appendix, and changes in the statistics presented. The statistical information contained in *Labour Overview* refers to urban areas unless otherwise indicated.

I. Concepts and Definitions

The national definitions of several concepts appearing in *Labour Overview* may differ from international standards adopted for these concepts in the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians. The definitions provided below are generally based on international standards, although some are defined according to standards developed for this publication.

Employed persons are those individuals above a certain specified age who, during the brief reference period of the survey, such as a week or a day: (1) had wage or salaried employment, working during the reference period for a wage or salary, or were employed but without work due to temporary absence during the reference period, during which time they maintained a formal attachment to their job, or (2) were independently employed or self-employed, working for profit or family income (includes unpaid family workers), or were not working independently due to a temporary absence during the reference period.

Labour Overview defines **employed persons in the informal sector** as employed individuals whose main employment activities are classified in one of the following categories: (1) independent workers (which include family workers and self-employed workers, except those in administrative, professional and technical occupations), (2) domestic service workers, and (3) workers employed in establishments with a maximum of five workers.

The term **unemployed persons** refers to individuals over a specified age who during the reference period were (1) without employment, (2) available for wage or salaried work or self-employment, and (3) actively seeking employment, having taken concrete action to obtain employment in a specific recent period.

The **economically active population** or the **labour force** includes all individuals who, being of at least a specified minimum age, fulfil the requirements to be included in the category of employed or unemployed individuals. In other words, it is the sum of the group of employed and unemployed individuals.

Inactive individuals are people of working age that do not belong to the labour force.

The **employment-to-population ratio** refers to the number of employed individuals divided by the working age population.

The **unemployment rate** refers to the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the labour force.

The **labour force participation rate** is the labour force as a percentage of the population of working age.

Labour productivity is defined in *Labour Overview* as increases (or decreases) of the average product per worker, which is calculated using series of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate and rates of total employment growth for the countries.

The concept of **wages** refers to payment in cash and/or in kind (for example foodstuffs or other articles) paid to workers, usually at regular intervals, for the hours worked or the work performed, along with pay for periods not worked, such as annual vacations or holidays.

Labour Overview defines **real manufacturing wages** as the average nominal wages paid to workers in the manufacturing sector, deflated using the national level Consumer Price Index (CPI) of each country, with some exceptions, such as Peru and Venezuela where the CPI of metropolitan Lima and the CPI for metropolitan Caracas are used, respectively. Some series refer to all wage and salaried workers in manufacturing, others strictly to labourers, as indicated in the notes of the corresponding table. The series of average manufacturing wages was obtained from establishment surveys of manufacturing industries in the countries, except in Central America, where the information was obtained from household surveys. The real manufacturing wage index was constructed using 1990 as the base year (1990 = 100).

Real minimum wages are defined in *Labour Overview* as the value of the average nominal



minimum wage deflated using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) of each country. The majority of the countries have a single minimum wage. Nonetheless, in some countries the minimum wage is differentiated according to industry and/or occupation. The real minimum wage index was constructed using 1990 as the base year (1990=100).

II. International Comparability

Progress toward harmonizing concepts and methodologies of statistical data that permit international comparisons is directly related to the particular situation of the statistical system in each country of the region, in terms of their institutional capacity, information needs, infrastructure and level of development of the data collection system (based primarily on labour force sample surveys), as well as available human and financial resources. The comparability of labour market statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean is mainly hampered by the lack of conceptual and methodological standardization of key labour market variables. This is also true of other variables associated with the world of work, since countries may have different concepts for geographic coverage and minimum working age thresholds, and may use different versions of international classification manuals.

III. Information Sources

Most of the information on employment indicators, real wages, productivity, and GDP growth (expressed in constant monetary units) for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean presented in *Labour Overview* originate from household surveys, establishment surveys or administrative records and can be found from the following institutions:

Argentina: Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas y Censos (INDEC) (www.indec.gov.ar).

Barbados: Ministry of Labour (<http://labour.gov.bb>) and the Central Bank of Barbados (www.centralbank.org.bb).

Bolivia: Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas (INE) (www.ine.gov.bo).

Brazil: Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia y Estadísticas (IBGE) (www.ibge.gov.br).

Chile: Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas (INE) (www.ine.cl), Banco Central de Chile (www.bcentral.cl) and Ministerio de Planificación y Cooperación (www.mideplan.cl).

Colombia: Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadísticas (DANE) (www.gov.dane.co)

and Banco de la República de Colombia (www.banrep.gov.co).

Costa Rica: Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas y Censos (INEC) (www.inec.go.cr), Banco Central de Costa Rica (www.bccr.fi.cr) and Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social (www.ministrabajo.co.cr).

Ecuador: Banco Central del Ecuador (BCE) (www.bcentral.fin.ec), Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censo (www.inec.gov.ec) and Ministerio de Trabajo y Empleo.

El Salvador: Ministerio de Economía (MINEC) (www.minec.gob.sv), Dirección General de Estadística y Censo and Ministerio de Trabajo y Previsión Social (www.mtps.gob.sv).

Guatemala: Instituto Nacional de Estadística (www.ine.gob.gt).

Honduras: Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE) (www.ine-hn.org), Banco Central (www.bch.hn) and Secretaría de Trabajo y Seguridad Social.

Jamaica: Statistical Institute of Jamaica (www.statinja.com) and Bank of Jamaica (www.boj.org.jm).

Mexico: Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática (INEGI) (www.inegi.gob.mx) and Secretaría de Trabajo y Previsión Social (www.stps.gob.mx).

Nicaragua: Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INEC) (www.inec.gob.ni) and Ministerio de Trabajo.

Panama: Contraloría General de la República de Panamá (www.contraloria.gob.pa) and Ministerio de Trabajo y Desarrollo Laboral (www.mitradel.gob.pa).

Paraguay: Banco Central del Paraguay (BCP) (www.bcp.gov.py) and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuesta y Censo (www.dgeec.gov.py).

Peru: Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas e Informática (INEI) (www.inei.gob.pe), Banco Central de Reserva del Perú (www.bcrp.gob.pe) and Ministerio de Trabajo y Promoción del Empleo (www.mintra.gob.pe).

Trinidad and Tobago: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (www.central-bank.org.tt) and Central Statistical Office (www.cso.gov.tt).

Uruguay: Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE) (www.ine.gub.uy).

Venezuela: Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE) (www.ine.gov.ve) and Banco Central de Venezuela (www.bcv.gov.ve).



The information on employment, earnings and productivity indicators of the countries not previously mentioned, as well as data on the employment structure indicators for Latin American countries presented in *Labour Overview*, were obtained from household surveys processed by the ILO project, Information System for Latin America (SIAL), and from administrative records of that entity. All indicators on employment, income, productivity and employment structure of the Caribbean countries presented in *Labour Overview* were obtained from official data from household surveys of those countries.

The household surveys that periodically collect data on the labour market situation in Mexico (2005), Argentina (2003), Brazil (2002), Colombia (2000), Ecuador (1999), Nicaragua (2003) and Peru (2001) underwent methodological changes or were newly established (Ecuador and Peru) such that the contents of the series changed and are not comparable with previous years. The most notable changes occurred in Mexico, Argentina and Brazil, making it necessary to adjust the national series in order to use the adjusted figures to calculate the regional series of the labour force participation rate, employment-to-population ratio, and unemployment rate. In Mexico, data were adjusted from 1990 to 1996 given that this country presented new estimates for the 1997-2005 period. In Argentina, data were adjusted from 1990 to 2003 whereas in Brazil, where data for these three indicators are derived from the Monthly Employment Survey (Pesquisa Mensal de Emprego), estimates were adjusted from 1990 to 2001.

Moreover, the open urban unemployment rate and labour force participation rate of Colombia (1990-2005), Ecuador (1990-2005) and Panama (1990-2002) were calculated by excluding hidden unemployment in order to use these adjusted rates in the calculation of the respective regional series, since official national information of these countries includes hidden unemployment in the labour force estimates.

IV. Reliability of Estimates

The data in the Statistical Appendix originating from household or establishment surveys of the countries are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. *Sampling errors* occur, for example, when a survey is conducted based on a sample of the population instead of a census, for which reason there is the possibility that these estimates will differ from the real values of the target population. The exact difference, called the sampling error, varies depending on the sample selected. Its variability is measured through the standard error of the estimate. In most countries of Latin America and the Caribbean,

estimates of the key labour market indicators presented in *Labour Overview* have a confidence level of 95%. This means that estimates of these indicators have a coefficient of variation of no more than 5% of the true value of the population caused by sampling errors.

Non-sampling errors can also affect estimates derived from household or establishment surveys. These may occur for a variety of reasons, including the lack of a sample of a population segment; the inability to obtain information for all people in the sample; the lack of cooperation on the part of some respondents to provide accurate, timely information; errors in the responses of survey respondents; and errors introduced during data collection and processing.

V. Changes in the Statistics Presented

In this edition of *Labour Overview*, some methodological modifications took place in the processing of data contained in Table 6-A (Structure of Urban Employment), Table 7-A (Urban Employment by Economic Activity) and Table 8-A (Urban Employed Population with Health and/or Pension Coverage) of the Statistical Annex, making them different from and noncomparable to the respective tables in previous editions. These changes were made in order to improve the homogeneity of data between countries, follow more closely the criteria and definitions approved at the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians, and provide data with the greatest accuracy and quality possible. Nonetheless, data between countries in these tables are not comparable.

These three tables have an urban geographic coverage and include agricultural and mining activities, unless some other geographic coverage is specified in the footnotes of the tables.

Table 6-A presents a greater disaggregation of the categories comprising the informal and formal sectors, detailing the subcategories which make up independent workers, as well as those employed in establishments.

Table 7-A also presents information with a greater level of disaggregation making it easier to identify workers in the manufacturing industries. It covers economic activities that were excluded in previous editions, namely agricultural and mining industries.

Table 8-A has undergone important changes. The category of employed persons covered by health and/or pension systems is disaggregated by type of risk (health or pension) and includes those covered by public systems or private schemes, either as title



policyholder, direct insured, contributing or non-contributing associate member, or non-title beneficiary (previously the proportion of wage and salaried worker contributors with social protection was calculated without distinguishing type of risk). Moreover, the disaggregation of employed persons in the informal sector with health and/or pension coverage has been improved, adding independent workers. The estimates for health and/or pension coverage presented for independent workers, microenterprises and domestic service

workers are calculated as a proportion of total employed in the informal sector, whereas estimates presented for workers in the informal sector (total), formal sector and total employed are calculated as a proportion of each respective category.

The table containing changes in the Consumer Price Index (Table 11-A) provides a weighted regional average using as weights GDP data at constant 2000 market prices from ECLAC.



STATISTICAL ANNEX

TABLE 1-A

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: OPEN URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT,
1990, 1995 - THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006**
(Average annual rates)

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005	2006
													Through the third quarter	
Argentina ^{a/}	7.5	17.5	17.2	14.9	12.9	14.3	15.1	17.4	19.7	17.3	13.6	11.6	12.1	10.7
Bolivia ^{b/}	7.3	3.8	3.8	3.7	4.1	7.2	7.4	8.5	8.7	9.2	...	...	...	...
Brazil ^{c/}	4.3	4.6	5.4	5.7	7.6	7.8	7.1	6.2	11.7	12.3	11.5	9.8	10.0	10.2
Chile ^{d/}	7.4	6.6	5.4	5.3	6.4	9.8	9.2	9.1	9.0	8.5	8.8	8.0	8.4	8.3
Colombia ^{e/}	10.5	8.8	11.2	12.4	15.2	19.4	17.3	18.2	17.6	16.7	15.4	13.9	14.6	13.3
Costa Rica ^{f/}	5.3	5.6	6.4	5.8	5.3	6.1	5.2	5.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.9 ^{r/}	6.0 ^{r/}
Cuba ^{d/}	5.4	8.1	7.6	7.1	6.2	6.2	5.4	4.1	3.3	2.3	1.9	...	...	...
Dominican Republic ^{g/}	...	15.8	16.7	16.0	14.4	13.9	13.9	15.6	16.1	17.0	18.9	17.9	...	...
Ecuador ^{h/}	6.1	6.9	10.4	9.2	11.5	15.1	14.1	10.4	8.6	9.8	11.0	10.7	11.1	10.3
El Salvador ^{f/}	7.5	7.0	7.7	7.5	7.6	6.9	6.7	7.0	6.2	6.2	6.5	7.3	...	...
Honduras ^{f/}	6.9	6.6	6.6	5.2	4.6	5.2	...	5.5	5.9	7.4	8.0 ^{s/}	6.1	7.1 ^{s/}	5.2 ^{s/}
Mexico ^{i/}	2.8	6.2	5.5	5.4	4.7	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.6	5.3	4.7	4.9	4.6
Nicaragua ^{j/}	7.6	16.9	16.0	14.3	13.2	10.7	9.8	11.3	12.1	10.2	8.5	7.0	...	...
Panama ^{k/}	20.0	16.4	16.9	15.4	15.6	13.6	15.3	17.0	16.5	15.9	14.1	12.1	12.1 ^{t/}	10.4 ^{t/}
Paraguay ^{l/}	6.6	5.3	8.2	7.1	6.6	9.4	10.0	10.8	14.7	11.2	10.0	7.6	...	...
Peru ^{m/}	8.3	7.1	7.2	8.6	6.9	9.4	7.8	9.2	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.6	10.1	8.8
Uruguay ^{f/}	8.5	10.3	11.9	11.4	10.1	11.3	13.6	15.3	17.0	16.9	13.1	12.2	12.2 ^{q/}	12.2 ^{q/}
Venezuela ^{d/}	10.4	10.3	11.8	11.4	11.3	15.0	13.9	13.3	15.9	18.0	15.3	12.3	12.9	10.4
Latin America ^{n/}	7.9	9.3	10.0	9.4	9.3	10.5	10.5	10.8	11.6	11.2	10.6	9.4	9.7	8.6
^{o/}	7.1	9.2	9.9	9.4	10.4	11.3	10.5	10.4	11.4	11.3	10.6	9.3	9.5	9.0
The Caribbean														
Barbados	15.0	19.7	15.5	14.4	12.3	10.4	9.3	9.9	10.3	11.0	9.8	9.7	9.7	8.7 ^{q/}
Jamaica	15.3	16.2	16.0	16.5	15.5	15.7	15.5	15.0	14.2	11.4	11.7	11.2	11.2	11.4 ^{u/} ^{p/}
Trinidad and Tobago	20.0	17.2	16.3	15.0	14.2	13.1	12.1	10.9	10.4	10.5	8.3	8.0	8.0	7.0 ^{q/}

Source: ILO, based on information from household surveys of the countries.

a/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 28 urban areas beginning in 2002. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.

b/ Departmental capitals and the city of El Alto. Beginning in 1999, urban area coverage.

c/ Six metropolitan areas. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.

d/ National coverage.

e/ Includes hidden unemployment. Seven metropolitan areas until 1999. Beginning in 2000, 13 metropolitan areas.

f/ Urban national coverage.

g/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage.

h/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage until 1998. Beginning in 1999, includes only Quito, Guayaquil and Cuenca.

i/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 32 urban areas beginning in 2003. New measurement beginning in 2005. Official country estimates based on the new methodology, 1997-2004.

j/ Urban national coverage. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.

k/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage.

l/ Metropolitan area of Asunción until 1993. Beginning in 1994, urban national coverage.

m/ Metropolitan Lima. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.

n/ Simple average. Calculated based on the new series of Brazil, Argentina and Mexico. Hidden unemployment in Colombia, Ecuador and Panama is excluded.

o/ Weighted average. Calculated based on the new series of Brazil, Argentina and Mexico. Hidden unemployment in Colombia, Ecuador and Panama is excluded.

p/ Preliminary data.

q/ First semester.

r/ Data from July.

s/ Data from May.

t/ Data from August.

u/ Data from April.



TABLE 2-A

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
BY SEX, 1990, 1995 - THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006**
(Average annual rates)

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005 2006	
													Through the third quarter	
Latin America														
Argentina ^{a/}	7.5	17.5	17.2	14.9	12.9	14.3	15.1	17.4	19.7	17.3	13.6	11.6	12.6 ^{o/}	10.9 ^{o/}
Men	7.2	15.6	15.8	13.0	11.8	13.3	14.1	17.5	20.2	15.5	11.9	10.0	10.8 ^{o/}	9.1 ^{o/}
Women	7.6	20.3	19.4	17.9	14.6	15.6	16.4	17.2	18.9	19.5	15.8	13.6	14.8 ^{o/}	13.3 ^{o/}
Bolivia ^{b/}	7.3	3.6	3.8	3.7	4.1	7.2	7.4	8.5	8.7	9.2	...	...	...	...
Men	6.8	3.3	...	3.7	...	6.2	6.2	7.3	7.3	7.0	...	...	...	...
Women	7.8	4.0	...	3.6	...	8.5	8.9	9.7	10.3	11.7	...	...	...	...
Brazil ^{c/}	4.3	4.6	5.4	5.7	7.6	7.7	7.1	6.2	11.7	12.3	11.5	9.8	10.0	10.2
Men	...	4.5	5.0	5.3	7.1	7.1	6.5	5.9	9.9	10.1	9.1	7.8	7.9	8.3
Women	...	4.8	6.1	6.3	8.3	8.3	8.0	6.7	13.9	15.2	14.4	12.4	12.7	12.5
Chile ^{d/}	7.4	6.6	5.4	5.3	6.4	9.7	9.2	9.1	9.0	8.5	8.8	8.0	8.4	8.3
Men	6.6	5.5	4.8	4.7	5.7	9.3	8.7	8.9	8.6	7.9	7.9	7.0	7.4	7.2
Women	9.2	8.9	6.7	6.6	7.6	10.5	10.0	9.7	9.6	9.7	10.5	9.8	10.2	10.3
Colombia ^{e/}	11.0	8.7	12.0	12.1	15.0	20.1	17.3	18.2	17.6	16.7	15.4	13.9	15.8 ^{q/}	14.1 ^{q/}
Men	8.3	6.8	9.6	9.8	12.6	17.1	15.0	16.0	15.3	14.0	13.0	12.2 ^{n/}	13.4 ^{q/}	11.2 ^{q/}
Women	14.7	11.3	15.1	15.1	18.8	23.3	19.9	20.7	20.1	19.6	18.1	17.1 ^{n/}	18.4 ^{q/}	17.3 ^{q/}
Costa Rica ^{f/}	5.3	5.6	6.4	5.8	5.3	6.1	5.2	5.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.9 ^{r/}	6.0 ^{r/}
Men	4.9	5.2	5.8	5.3	4.4	5.3	4.6	5.2	6.2	6.1	5.8	5.6	5.6 ^{r/}	4.5 ^{r/}
Women	6.2	6.3	7.6	6.7	6.7	7.4	6.3	6.7	7.7	7.6	8.2	8.8	8.8 ^{r/}	8.2 ^{r/}
Dominican Republic ^{g/}	...	15.8	16.7	15.9	14.3	...	15.3	16.4	17.2	17.7	18.9	17.9	...	...
Men	...	10.2	10.2	...	...	...	9.8	10.9	11.0	12.3	11.7	...	...	...
Women	...	26.2	28.7	...	...	...	22.8	24.2	25.7	25.0	28.5	...	...	...
Ecuador ^{h/}	6.1	6.8	10.4	9.2	11.5	14.4	9.0	10.9	9.2	11.5	8.6	10.7	...	...
Men	4.2	5.5	...	7.4	8.4	10.8	6.2	7.1	6.0	9.1	6.6	...	...	...
Women	9.2	8.9	...	12.1	15.9	19.6	13.1	16.1	14.0	15.0	11.4	...	...	...
El Salvador ^{f/}	7.5	7.0	7.7	7.5	7.6	6.9	6.7	7.0	6.2	6.2	6.5	7.3	...	...
Men	8.3	8.7	8.4	9.0	9.6	9.9	9.9	8.7	7.4	8.6	8.8	9.4	...	...
Women	6.6	5.9	6.5	5.5	6.1	5.8	3.7	4.9	3.4	3.1	3.7	4.8	...	...
Honduras ^{f/}	6.9	6.6	6.6	5.2	4.6	5.2	...	5.5	5.9	7.4	8.0 ^{s/}	6.1	...	...
Men	9.6	10.7	11.8	5.9	...	...	...	...	6.2	7.1	7.4 ^{s/}	5.4	...	...
Women	5.2	4.1	4.4	4.3	...	...	...	...	5.5	7.7	8.8 ^{s/}	7.1	...	...
Mexico ^{i/}	2.7	6.3	5.5	3.7	3.3	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.7	3.3	3.8	4.7	4.9	4.6
Men	2.6	6.1	5.3	3.5	3.0	2.4	2.1	2.4	2.6	3.2	3.5	4.5	4.7	4.5
Women	3.0	6.5	5.9	4.2	3.7	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.8	3.5	4.2	5.0	5.3	4.8
Nicaragua	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.3	12.1	10.1	8.5	7.0	...	...
Men	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.8	13.4	11.6	8.6	7.8	...	...
Women	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.4	10.5	8.3	8.4	6.1	...	...
Panama ^{j/}	...	16.4	16.9	15.4	15.6	13.6	15.3	17.0	16.1	15.9	14.1	12.1	12.1 ^{v/}	10.4 ^{v/}
Men	...	10.8	11.0	13.3	12.4	8.8	12.0	15.1	13.9	13.2	11.5	10.0	10.0 ^{v/}	8.5 ^{v/}
Women	...	20.1	20.0	18.2	19.7	16.7	18.1	19.8	19.3	19.6	17.6	15.0	15.0 ^{v/}	12.9 ^{v/}



TABLE 2-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
BY SEX, 1990, 1995 - THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006**
(Average annual rates)

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005 2006	
													Through the third quarter	
Paraguay ^{k/}	6.6	5.3	8.2	6.9	6.9	9.4	10.0	10.8	14.7	11.2	10.0	7.6	...	...
Men	6.6	5.1	7.8	6.2	6.2	9.6	9.9	10.5	14.0	10.5	8.7	7.1	...	...
Women	6.5	5.5	8.6	7.8	7.8	9.3	10.2	11.2	15.7	12.2	11.6	8.3	...	...
Peru ^{l/}	8.3	7.1	7.2	8.6	6.9	9.4	7.8	9.2	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.6	10.1	8.8
Men	6.5	6.0	6.2	7.0	5.0	8.7	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.5	8.1	8.3	8.8	7.6
Women	11.4	8.7	8.5	10.6	9.2	10.2	7.4	10.6	10.8	10.7	11.1	11.2	11.7	10.3
Uruguay ^{m/}	9.3	10.8	12.3	11.6	10.2	11.8	13.9	15.5	17.0	16.7	12.9	12.2	12.2 ^{o/}	12.2 ^{o/}
Men	7.3	8.4	10.5	9.2	8.1	9.2	10.9	11.5	14.0	14.0	10.8	9.6	9.7 ^{o/}	9.6 ^{o/}
Women	11.8	13.6	14.5	14.5	12.7	14.8	17.2	19.7	20.3	19.6	15.3	15.3	15.2 ^{o/}	15.2 ^{o/}
Venezuela ^{d/}	10.4	10.3	11.8	11.4	11.3	15.0	13.9	13.3	15.9	18.0	15.1	12.3	12.9	10.4
Men	10.4	8.9	10.3	10.3	9.9	13.6	13.2	13.6	14.4	16.3	13.1	11.3	11.8	9.6
Women	10.3	12.9	14.5	14.2	13.6	17.1	14.8	17.4	18.2	21.1	17.9	13.8	14.4	11.6
The Caribbean														
Bahamas														
Men	...	10.1	8.6	8.3	5.9	6.0	...	6.8	8.8	10.0	9.4	9.2	...	...
Women	...	11.8	14.7	11.3	9.6	9.7	...	7.1	9.4	11.7	11.0	11.2	...	...
Barbados														
Men	15.0	19.7	15.5	14.4	12.3	10.4	9.3	9.9	10.3	11.0	9.8	9.7	...	8.7 ^{o/}
Women	10.1	16.5	12.4	11.3	8.4	7.7	7.5	8.0	8.6	9.6	9.0	8.0	...	7.6
Belice														
Men	20.5	22.9	18.9	17.7	16.4	13.3	11.5	11.9	12.1	12.6	10.6	11.4	...	9.9
Women	...	9.9	11.7	8.9	10.6	9.0	...	5.8	7.5	8.6	8.3	...	...	...
Jamaica														
Men	...	17.9	18.6	20.3	21.3	20.3	...	15.4	15.2	20.7	17.4	...	...	...
Women	15.3	16.2	16.0	16.5	15.5	15.7	15.5	15.0	14.2	11.4	11.7	11.2	...	11.4 ^{u/ p/}
Trinidad and Tobago														
Men	...	22.5	23.0	23.5	22.1	22.4	22.3	21.0	19.6	16.0	16.4	15.8	...	15.8
Women	20.0	17.2	16.3	15.0	14.2	13.1	12.1	10.9	10.4	10.5	8.3	8.0	...	7.0 ^{o/}
Men	17.8	15.2	13.3	12.3	11.3	10.9	10.2	8.7	7.8	8.0	6.4	5.9	...	5.1
Women	24.2	20.5	21.0	19.4	18.8	16.8	15.1	14.5	14.5	13.8	11.2	11.0	...	9.6



Source: ILO, based on information from household surveys of the countries.

a/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 28 urban areas beginning in 2002. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.

b/ Departmental capitals and the city of El Alto. Beginning in 1999, urban area coverage.

c/ Six metropolitan areas. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.

d/ National coverage.

e/ Includes hidden unemployment. Seven metropolitan areas until 1999, September of each year. Beginning in 2000, 13 metropolitan areas, annual average.

f/ Urban national coverage.

g/ Includes hidden unemployment. National coverage.

h/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage.

i/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 32 urban areas beginning in 2003. New measurement beginning in 2005.

j/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage.

k/ Metropolitan area of Asunción until 1993. Beginning in 1994, urban national coverage.

l/ Metropolitan Lima. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.

m/ Montevideo.

n/ Through the third quarter.

o/ First semester.

p/ Preliminary data.

q/ First quarter.

r/ Data from July.

s/ Data from May.

t/ Data from August.

u/ Data from April.

TABLE 3-A

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: URBAN YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
1990, 1995 - THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006
(Average annual rates)

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005 Through the third quarter	2006 Through the third quarter
Latin America														
Argentina ^{a/}														
15-24	16.2	32.0	31.0	27.1	24.3	26.2	28.4	31.0	35.5	35.3	29.3	...	...	...
Bolivia ^{b/}														
10-19	13.3	5.0	7.0	...	...	16.1	14.7	14.2	20.0	...	...	...	...	...
20-29	9.5	5.4	...	...	...	9.9	10.8	10.9	10.7	...	...	...	...	...
Brazil ^{c/}														
15-17	...	11.0	13.0	14.3	18.8	17.8	17.8	29.8	33.9	38.2	35.4	33.3	34.0	33.1
18-24	...	9.3	10.5	11.4	14.0	14.5	14.0	12.5	21.3	23.4	22.5	20.6	21.1	21.5
Chile ^{d/}														
15-19	15.9	15.8	15.0	19.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20-24	12.0	10.1	12.2	13.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15-24	...	...	...	...	17.5	25.1	21.4	20.8	21.6	21.2	20.9	19.7	18.4 ^{p/}	18.4 ^{p/}
Colombia ^{e/}														
12-17	...	21.0	31.8	29.1	33.3	42.2	33.3	35.6	32.7	29.6	29.3	26.4	29.9 ^{p/}	27.9 ^{p/}
18-24	...	16.6	22.0	23.7	29.2	36.3	32.4	33.1	32.0	32.0	29.3	27.7	31.8 ^{p/}	26.1 ^{p/}
Costa Rica ^{f/}														
12 - 24	10.4	13.5	13.9	13.1	12.8	14.9	10.9	14.0	16.3	14.5	15.1	15.9	...	...
Dominican Republic														
10-24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27.0	29.3	31.8	33.0	...	...	...
Ecuador ^{g/}														
15-24	13.5	15.3	20.0	19.4	23.5	25.9	17.4	20.1	17.4	22.1	20.5 ^{n/}	...	...	...
El Salvador ^{f/}														
15-24	18.6	13.3	13.1	14.6	15.0	13.9	14.3	13.2	11.4	11.9	12.6	15.0	...	...
Honduras ^{f/}														
10 - 24	10.7	10.2	9.7	8.7	10.0	10.0	...	...	8.8	12.0	13.9 ^{o/}	10.9	...	...
Mexico ^{h/}														
12-19	7.0	13.1	11.4	8.4	6.9	5.8	5.3	5.6	6.6	8.5	9.5	...	...	...
20-24	...	9.9	8.8	6.5	5.7	4.4	4.1	4.6	5.2	6.6	7.4	...	...	...
Nicaragua														
10-24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.3	18.6	16.4	15.7	11.9	...	...
Panama ^{i/}														
15-24	...	31.9	34.8	31.5	31.7	29.5	32.6	35.4	34.1	33.7	30.0	26.3	...	...
Paraguay ^{j/}														
15-19	18.4	10.8	29.1	13.7	...	21.2	...	22.3	29.9	25.3	21.6	18.4	...	...
20-24	14.1	7.8	12.6	12.7	...	13.4	...	15.4	21.3	19.0	16.2	14.5	...	...
Peru ^{k/}														
14-24	15.5	11.3	13.8	14.2	12.7	12.8	15.4	14.2	15.1	14.8	15.8	16.1	17.1	15.1
Uruguay ^{l/}														
14-24	26.6	25.5	28.0	26.8	25.5	28.0	31.7	36.2	40.0	39.1	32.4	30.0	...	...

(continued...)

TABLE 3-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: URBAN YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
1990, 1995 - THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006**
(Average annual rates)

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005 Through the third quarter	2006
Venezuela ^{m/}														
15-24	18.0	19.9	25.4	23.1	21.9	26.6	25.3	23.2	27.3	30.3	25.1	20.8	21.7	18.7
The Caribbean														
Bahamas														
15 - 24	...	21.0	23.8	22.2	15.7	15.8	...	15.1	19.9	26.8	24.9	20.2	...	...
Barbados														
15-24	...	37.8	28.6	29.5	24.6	21.8	19.4	23.1	23.2	26.1	22.8	...	...	...
Belize														
15-24	...	23.4	25.6	23.7	25.1	22.5	...	15.5	19.2	22.3	18.9	...	...	...
Jamaica ^{n/}														
15-24	30.7	34.1	34.4	33.5	33.4	34.0	32.1	33.0	31.1	25.7	26.3	25.5	...	25.1
Trinidad and Tobago														
15-24	36.4	31.0	28.5	27.3	27.0	25.4	23.2	22.6	21.1	20.6	18.3	16.6	...	14.1 ^{p/}

Source: ILO, based on information from household surveys of the countries.

- a/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 28 urban areas beginning in 2003. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.
- b/ Departmental capitals and the city of El Alto. Beginning in 1999, urban area coverage.
- c/ Six metropolitan areas. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.
- d/ National coverage. Beginning in 1998, data refer to individuals aged 15 to 24 years.
- e/ Includes hidden unemployment. Seven metropolitan areas until 1999, September of each year. Beginning in 2000, 13 metropolitan areas, annual average.
- f/ Urban national coverage.

- g/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage.
- h/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 32 urban areas beginning in 2003.
- i/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage.
- j/ Metropolitan area of Asunción until 1993. Beginning in 1994, urban national coverage.
- k/ Metropolitan Lima. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.
- l/ Montevideo.
- m/ National coverage.
- n/ Corresponds to September.
- o/ Data from May.
- p/ First semester.



TABLE 4-A

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: URBAN LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES,
1990, 1995 – THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006**
(Average annual rates)

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005 Through the third quarter	2006 Through the third quarter
Latin America														
Argentina ^{a/}	53.6	55.2	55.0	55.8	56.1	56.7	56.4	56.1	55.6	60.3	60.2	59.9	59.5 ^{r/}	60.3 ^{r/}
Bolivia ^{b/}	51.2	55.0	56.5	52.5	...	55.9	56.1	60.6	58.0	60.4	...	...	...	...
Brazil ^{c/}	61.5	59.3	59.6	58.5	58.2	57.1	58.0	56.4	56.7	57.1	57.2	56.6	56.6	56.7
Chile ^{d/}	53.0	54.9	54.5	54.4	55.1	54.4	53.7	52.9	52.5	52.9	53.2	53.5	53.6	54.5
Colombia ^{e/}	58.4	59.9	59.7	59.9	62.2	63.1	63.5	64.2	64.2	64.5	62.9	62.7	62.5	61.6
Costa Rica ^{f/}	53.2	54.5	52.3	54.0	56.1	56.4	54.8	56.8	56.4	56.8	56.3	58.2	58.2 ^{s/}	58.2 ^{s/}
Cuba	...	...	...	...	...	70.2	69.9	70.7	70.9	70.9	71.0	...	...	...
Dominican Republic ^{g/}	...	51.9	53.2	54.1	52.6	56.5	55.2	57.0	57.0	56.4	57.4	55.9	...	...
Ecuador ^{h/}	52.3	55.7	55.8	56.6	55.8	56.3	56.8	55.6	54.1	53.8	55.8	56.1	55.9	56.6
El Salvador ^{f/}	55.0	54.1	52.9	53.0	55.7	54.0	54.5	54.8	53.1	55.4	53.9	54.3	...	...
Honduras ^{f/}	50.1	51.5	54.7	55.6	54.8	57.0	...	53.4	52.4	53.5	52.7 ^{p/}	50.3	53.8 ^{p/}	52.1 ^{p/}
Mexico ^{i/}	51.8	55.0	55.4	58.9	59.1	58.3	58.7	58.1	57.8	58.3	58.9	59.5	59.3	60.6
Nicaragua ^{j/}	...	48.7	46.9	52.2	48.8	...	...	49.8	49.3	53.0	52.6	53.7	...	...
Panama ^{k/}	56.7	63.1	61.7	63.1	63.9	61.2	60.9	61.4	63.4	63.5	64.2	63.7	63.7 ^{t/}	62.7 ^{t/}
Paraguay ^{l/}	60.9	70.5	66.0	63.7	60.6	58.5	60.6	60.6	60.5	59.2	62.4	60.4	...	...
Peru ^{m/}	59.6	62.4	59.7	64.5	64.6	65.7	63.4	67.1	68.5	67.4	68.0	67.1	67.3	66.7
Uruguay ^{f/}	57.0	59.0	58.2	57.6	60.4	59.3	59.6	60.6	59.1	58.1	58.5	58.5	58.3 ^{r/}	60.6 ^{r/}
Venezuela ^{d/}	59.4	61.6	62.2	63.8	65.1	66.3	64.6	66.5	68.7	69.1	68.5	66.2	66.3	65.5
Latin America ^{n/}	55.7	57.3	56.8	57.5	58.0	58.5	58.4	58.3	58.1	58.6	58.6	58.3	59.2	59.3 ^{w/}
^{o/}	57.6	58.1	58.1	58.3	58.5	58.2	58.5	58.0	58.7	59.1	59.1	58.8	58.9	59.2 ^{w/}
The Caribbean														
Bahamas	...	73.9	73.7	74.9	77.3	76.8	...	76.2	76.4	76.5	75.7	...	...	...
Barbados	67.3	68.2	67.4	67.5	67.7	67.7	69.3	69.5	68.5	69.2	69.5	69.6	...	67.7 ^{r/}
Belize	...	56.7	56.2	59.0	58.7	59.3	...	...	59.4	63.4	65.0	...	...	...
Jamaica	66.9	69.0	67.7	66.6	65.6	64.3	63.2	62.9	65.7	64.4	64.5 ^{q/}	64.2 ^{q/}	...	64.9 ^{v/}
Trinidad and Tobago	55.9	60.3	60.5	60.3	61.1	60.8	61.2	60.7	60.9	61.6	63.0	64.1	...	64.0 ^{r/}

Source: ILO, based on information from household surveys of the countries.

a/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 28 urban areas beginning in 2003. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.

b/ Departmental capitals and the city of El Alto. Beginning in 1999, urban area coverage. Survey was not conducted in 2004 or 2005.

c/ Six metropolitan areas. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.

d/ National coverage.

e/ Includes hidden unemployment. Seven metropolitan areas until 1999. Beginning in 2000, 13 metropolitan areas.

f/ Urban national coverage.

g/ Includes hidden unemployment. National coverage.

h/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage until 1998.

i/ Beginning in 1999, includes only Quito, Guayaquil and Cuenca.

j/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 32 urban areas beginning in 2003. New measurement beginning in 2005. Official country estimates based on the new methodology, 1997-2004.

k/ Urban national coverage. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.

k/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage.

l/ Metropolitan area of Asunción until 1993. Beginning in 1994, urban national coverage.

m/ Metropolitan Lima. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.

n/ Simple average. Calculated based on the new series of Brazil, Argentina and Mexico. Hidden unemployment in Colombia, Ecuador and Panama is excluded.

o/ Weighted average. Calculated based on the new series of Brazil, Argentina and Mexico. Hidden unemployment in Colombia, Ecuador and Panama is excluded.

p/ Data from May.

q/ Revised data.

r/ First semester.

s/ Data from July.

t/ Data from August.

u/ Projected.

v/ Data from April, preliminary.

TABLE 5-A

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: URBAN EMPLOYMENT-TO-POPULATION RATIOS, 1990, 1995 - THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006
(Average annual rates)

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005 2006		
													Through the third quarter		
Latin America															
Argentina ^{a/}	50.3	46.1	45.5	47.5	48.9	48.6	47.9	45.6	44.6	49.9	52.1	53.0	52.1 ^{r/}	53.8 ^{r/}	
Bolivia ^{b/}	47.5	53.0	54.2	50.2	...	51.9	51.9	55.4	53.0	54.9	...	...	...	...
Brazil ^{c/}	61.1	56.6	56.4	55.2	53.8	52.8	53.9	53.0	48.9	50.1	50.6	51.0	50.9	51.0	
Chile ^{d/}	49.1	51.2	51.6	51.5	51.6	49.1	48.8	48.1	47.8	48.4	48.5	49.2	49.1	50.0	
Colombia ^{e/}	52.3	54.6	53.0	52.5	52.7	50.9	52.6	52.5	52.9	53.7	53.2	54.0	53.4	53.5	
Costa Rica ^{f/}	50.3	51.4	48.9	50.8	53.1	52.8	51.9	53.5	52.6	53.0	52.5	54.2	54.2 ^{s/}	54.7 ^{s/}	
Dominican Republic ^{g/}	...	43.7	44.4	45.4	45.1	46.1	47.6	47.6	47.2	46.4	46.6	45.9	...	...
Ecuador ^{h/}	49.1	51.4	50.0	51.3	50.1	47.8	48.8	49.8	49.4	48.6	49.7	50.1	49.7	50.7	
El Salvador ^{f/}	49.5	50.3	49.8	49.0	51.5	50.3	48.9	51.0	49.8	52.0	50.4	50.3	...	...
Honduras ^{f/}	46.7	48.1	51.1	52.7	52.2	54.1	...	50.5	49.3	49.5	48.5 ^{p/}	47.2	50.9 ^{p/}	49.4 ^{p/}	
Mexico ^{i/}	50.3	51.6	52.4	55.7	56.3	56.1	56.8	56.0	55.5	55.6	55.8	56.6	56.4	57.8	
Nicaragua ^{j/}	...	40.5	39.4	44.7	42.4	...	...	44.9	43.3	47.6	48.0	49.9	...	...
Panama ^{k/}	45.4	52.8	51.3	53.4	53.9	52.9	51.6	51.2	53.2	53.4	55.1	56.0	56.0 ^{t/}	56.2 ^{t/}	
Paraguay ^{l/}	56.9	66.8	60.6	59.2	56.6	52.3	52.2	50.8	48.4	52.5	56.1	55.8	...	...
Peru ^{m/}	54.7	57.5	55.6	58.0	60.0	61.6	59.7	60.9	62.0	61.2	61.6	60.7	60.5	60.8	
Uruguay ^{f/}	52.1	53.0	51.3	51.1	54.3	52.6	51.6	51.4	49.1	48.3	50.9	51.4	51.2 ^{r/}	53.2 ^{r/}	
Venezuela ^{d/}	52.8	55.3	54.8	56.5	57.8	56.4	55.6	57.1	57.9	56.7	58.0	58.0	57.7	58.7	
Latin America ^{n/}	51.4	52.2	51.4	52.1	52.6	52.4	52.1	51.8	51.2	51.9	52.4	52.7	53.5	54.2 ^{u/}	
^{o/}	54.2	52.8	52.5	52.8	52.8	52.1	52.6	52.0	51.7	52.3	52.8	53.3	53.3	53.9 ^{u/}	
The Caribbean															
Barbados	54.7	54.7	56.9	57.7	59.4	60.7	62.9	62.7	61.4	61.6	62.7	62.8	...	61.8 ^{r/}	
Belize	...	49.6	48.5	51.5	50.3	51.7	...	...	53.4	55.2	57.5	...	...	...
Jamaica	50.2	57.8	56.9	55.6	55.4	54.4	53.8	53.5	56.4	57.1	57.0 ^{q/}	57.0 ^{q/}	...	57.5 ^{v/}	
Trinidad and Tobago	47.1	49.9	50.7	51.3	52.5	52.8	53.8	54.1	54.6	55.2	57.8	58.9	...	59.5 ^{r/}	

Source: ILO, based on information from household surveys of the countries.

- a/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 28 urban areas beginning in 2003. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.
- b/ Departmental capitals and the city of El Alto. Beginning in 1999, urban area coverage. Survey was not conducted in 2004 or 2005.
- c/ Six metropolitan areas. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.
- d/ National coverage.
- e/ Seven metropolitan areas until 1999. Beginning in 2000, 13 metropolitan areas. Includes hidden unemployment.
- f/ Urban national coverage.
- g/ National coverage.
- h/ Urban national coverage until 1998. Beginning in 1999, includes only Quito, Guayaquil and Cuenca. Includes hidden unemployment.
- i/ Progressive incorporation, reaching 32 urban areas beginning in 2003. New measurement beginning in 2005. Official country estimates based on the new methodology, 1997-2004.
- j/ Urban national coverage. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.

- k/ Includes hidden unemployment. Urban national coverage.
- l/ Metropolitan area of Asunción until 1993. Beginning in 1994, urban national coverage.
- m/ Metropolitan Lima. New measurement beginning in 2002; data are not comparable with previous years.
- n/ Simple average. Calculated based on the new series of Brazil, Argentina and Mexico.
- o/ Weighted average. Calculated based on the new series of Brazil, Argentina and Mexico.
- p/ Data from May.
- q/ Revised data.
- r/ First semester.
- s/ Data from July.
- t/ Data from August.
- u/ Projected.
- v/ Data from April, preliminary.



TABLE 6-A

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: STRUCTURE OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT, 1990 - 2005
(Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	INFORMAL SECTOR								FORMAL SECTOR					
	Total	Independent workers			Domestic service	Microenterprises ^{b/}			Total	Public Sector	Small, medium and large establishments ^{c/}			Self-employed
		Total	Self-employed ^{a/}	Unpaid		Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers			Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers	
Latin America														
1995 Total	50.1	26.2	22.2	4.0	6.5	17.4	3.6	13.8	49.9	13.2	34.7	1.3	33.3	2.0
Men	47.9	25.8	23.1	2.8	0.7	21.3	4.8	16.5	52.1	11.4	38.7	1.8	36.9	2.1
Women	53.5	26.6	20.8	5.8	15.4	11.4	1.9	9.6	46.5	16.2	28.4	0.6	27.8	1.9
2000 Total	48.6	25.4	22.1	3.3	6.3	17.0	3.5	13.5	51.4	12.8	36.4	1.3	35.1	2.2
Men	46.6	25.6	23.4	2.2	0.5	20.5	4.5	16.0	53.4	10.6	40.5	1.7	38.8	2.3
Women	51.5	25.0	20.1	4.9	14.7	11.9	2.0	9.9	48.5	16.2	30.2	0.6	29.6	2.0
2004 Total	49.2	25.7	22.3	3.4	6.4	17.2	3.6	13.6	50.8	12.8	35.8	1.2	34.6	2.2
Men	47.3	25.8	23.6	2.2	0.6	20.8	4.6	16.2	52.7	10.5	39.9	1.6	38.4	2.3
Women	51.9	25.4	20.4	5.0	14.3	12.1	2.1	10.0	47.9	16.0	29.8	0.6	29.2	2.1
2005 Total	48.5	25.1	22.0	3.1	6.3	17.0	3.6	13.4	51.5	12.8	36.5	1.3	35.2	2.3
Men	46.3	25.0	23.1	2.0	0.6	20.7	4.7	15.9	53.7	10.4	41.0	1.7	39.3	2.3
Women	51.4	25.1	20.4	4.7	14.2	12.1	2.2	9.9	48.4	16.0	30.2	0.7	29.5	2.2
Argentina ^{d/}														
1996 Total	49.6	23.6	21.8	1.8	5.9	20.1	3.5	16.6	50.4	8.7	38.9	1.3	37.6	2.8
Men	48.3	24.7	23.6	1.1	0.3	23.3	4.5	18.8	51.7	9.1	40.0	1.8	38.2	2.6
Women	51.8	21.8	18.9	2.9	15.1	14.9	1.9	13.0	48.2	7.9	37.2	0.6	36.7	3.1
2000 Total	47.7	21.8	20.5	1.3	6.0	19.9	3.5	16.4	52.3	16.7	33.1	1.2	31.9	2.5
Men	46.8	23.6	22.8	0.9	0.2	23.0	4.4	18.6	53.2	13.2	37.6	1.7	35.9	2.5
Women	49.0	19.1	17.2	1.9	14.5	15.4	2.3	13.1	51.0	21.9	26.7	0.6	26.0	2.4
2004 Total	44.5	18.1	16.7	1.4	7.2	19.2	3.0	16.2	55.5	19.2	31.6	1.2	30.3	4.8
Men	44.1	20.5	19.7	0.8	0.2	23.4	3.9	19.5	55.9	14.7	36.5	1.7	34.8	4.7
Women	44.9	14.9	12.6	2.3	16.5	13.5	1.8	11.7	55.1	25.3	24.9	0.6	24.3	4.9
2005 Total	43.6	17.8	16.5	1.3	7.5	18.3	2.9	15.4	56.4	17.6	34.2	1.3	32.9	4.6
Men	43.2	20.4	19.7	0.7	0.4	22.4	3.7	18.7	56.8	13.5	38.9	1.9	37.0	4.4
Women	44.1	14.4	12.3	2.0	17.0	12.7	1.9	10.8	55.9	23.0	28.0	0.6	27.4	4.9
Bolivia ^{e/f/}														
1990 Total	60.1	38.6	33.5	5.0	7.2	14.4	2.2	12.2	39.9	18.2	19.1	1.5	17.7	2.5
Men	50.5	30.8	27.0	3.8	0.7	19.1	3.0	16.0	49.5	20.1	26.3	2.1	24.1	3.0
Women	73.7	49.6	42.7	6.8	16.3	7.9	1.0	6.8	26.3	15.4	9.0	0.5	8.6	1.8
1995 Total	63.0	39.7	29.0	10.6	5.5	17.9	5.9	12.0	37.0	13.1	22.3	1.6	20.7	1.6
Men	53.7	28.3	21.3	7.0	0.6	24.7	8.6	16.2	46.3	14.0	30.3	2.4	27.9	2.0
Women	74.9	54.1	38.8	15.2	11.7	9.1	2.5	6.6	25.1	11.9	12.2	0.6	11.6	1.0
2000 Total	62.8	46.0	38.2	7.8	4.2	12.6	1.7	10.8	37.2	10.7	24.2	1.3	23.0	2.3
Men	55.5	37.8	32.7	5.1	0.2	17.5	2.2	15.3	44.5	11.2	30.3	1.9	28.4	3.0
Women	72.0	56.3	45.1	11.1	9.4	6.3	1.1	5.2	28.0	10.0	16.6	0.5	16.1	1.4
2002 Total	67.1	45.1	36.1	9.0	4.0	18.0	3.4	14.6	32.9	10.9	19.5	1.2	18.4	2.5
Men	59.1	35.7	29.3	6.4	0.2	23.1	4.4	18.7	40.9	10.7	27.2	2.0	25.3	3.0
Women	76.7	56.3	44.2	12.1	8.5	11.8	2.2	9.7	23.3	11.1	10.3	0.2	10.1	1.9
Brazil ^{g/}														
1990 Total	41.8	21.1	18.7	2.4	6.5	14.2	3.2	11.0	58.2	5.3	51.7	1.9	49.7	1.2
Men	38.3	20.8	18.9	1.9	0.4	17.1	4.3	12.9	61.7	4.2	56.4	2.6	53.8	1.1
Women	47.5	21.6	18.4	3.2	16.4	9.5	1.6	7.9	52.5	7.2	43.9	0.8	43.1	1.3
1995 Total	51.8	26.7	22.3	4.4	8.6	16.6	3.2	13.4	48.2	13.7	32.9	1.4	31.5	1.5
Men	49.0	27.3	23.8	3.5	0.8	20.9	4.2	16.7	51.0	11.1	38.4	1.8	36.6	1.5
Women	56.1	25.8	20.0	5.8	20.2	10.2	1.7	8.5	43.9	17.6	24.7	0.7	24.0	1.6
2001 Total	50.6	24.8	21.3	3.5	8.8	16.9	3.3	13.7	49.4	12.7	34.9	1.4	33.5	1.9
Men	48.3	26.6	24.1	2.5	0.8	20.8	4.2	16.7	51.7	9.9	40.1	1.8	38.3	1.7
Women	53.8	22.2	17.4	4.8	20.1	11.5	2.0	9.5	46.2	16.6	27.6	0.8	26.9	2.0
2004 Total	49.5	24.1	21.3	2.9	8.5	16.8	3.3	13.5	50.5	12.5	36.6	1.3	35.3	1.4
Men	47.3	25.9	23.8	2.1	0.8	20.6	4.1	16.4	52.7	9.9	41.6	1.7	40.0	1.2
Women	52.5	21.7	17.9	3.9	18.9	11.8	2.2	9.6	47.5	16.1	29.9	0.7	29.2	1.6
2005 Total	49.1	24.2	21.3	2.9	8.5	16.4	3.3	13.1	50.9	12.4	37.1	1.4	35.6	1.5
Men	46.6	25.7	23.7	2.1	0.8	20.0	4.1	16.0	53.4	9.6	42.6	1.8	40.7	1.3
Women	52.4	22.2	18.1	4.1	18.7	11.5	2.2	9.4	47.6	16.1	29.8	0.9	28.9	1.7

(continued...)

TABLE 6-A (continued)

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: STRUCTURE OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT, 1990 - 2005
 (Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	INFORMAL SECTOR								FORMAL SECTOR					
	Total	Independent workers			Domestic service	Microenterprises ^{b/}			Total	Public Sector	Small, medium and large establishments ^{c/}			Self-employed
		Total	Self-employed ^{a/}	Unpaid		Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers			Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers	
Chile ^{h/}														
1990 Total	38.7	20.9	19.8	1.2	6.7	11.0	0.8	10.2	61.3	1.1	58.3	1.7	56.6	1.9
Men	33.7	22.0	21.5	0.5	0.2	11.6	0.9	10.6	66.3	1.6	62.7	2.1	60.6	1.9
Women	47.7	19.1	16.7	2.4	18.5	10.1	0.5	9.5	52.3	0.2	50.4	0.9	49.5	1.8
1996 Total	34.3	16.1	15.2	0.8	6.1	12.2	2.0	10.1	65.7	10.9	51.2	1.9	49.3	3.6
Men	30.2	17.0	16.6	0.4	0.2	13.0	2.3	10.7	69.8	9.6	56.7	2.2	54.5	3.5
Women	41.5	14.5	12.8	1.7	16.3	10.7	1.5	9.2	58.5	13.2	41.5	1.3	40.2	3.8
2000 Total	31.9	14.8	13.7	1.2	6.2	10.9	2.4	8.5	68.1	13.2	49.9	2.0	47.9	5.0
Men	27.4	15.7	15.2	0.6	0.1	11.5	2.9	8.6	72.6	11.8	56.1	2.6	53.5	4.6
Women	39.2	13.4	11.3	2.1	16.0	9.8	1.6	8.2	60.8	15.3	39.9	1.0	38.9	5.6
2003 Total	31.9	15.0	13.8	1.2	6.5	10.3	2.4	7.9	68.1	11.6	51.3	1.7	49.6	5.2
Men	27.8	16.6	16.0	0.6	0.2	11.0	2.7	8.3	72.2	9.9	57.8	2.1	55.7	4.5
Women	38.2	12.6	10.3	2.3	16.3	9.3	1.9	7.4	61.8	14.1	41.3	1.1	40.2	6.4
Colombia ^{e/ v/}														
2000 Total	55.5	32.1	30.4	1.6	5.2	18.2	4.6	13.6	44.5	7.0	34.9	1.3	33.5	2.6
Men	54.6	32.4	31.5	0.8	0.5	21.8	6.0	15.8	45.4	6.1	36.1	1.7	34.3	3.2
Women	56.6	31.7	29.1	2.6	11.2	13.7	2.8	10.9	43.4	8.2	33.3	0.8	32.5	1.9
2002 Total	60.8	38.4	34.6	3.8	5.8	16.5	4.4	12.2	39.2	7.6	28.4	1.2	27.1	3.3
Men	58.9	38.6	36.8	1.8	0.3	20.0	5.8	14.2	41.1	6.5	31.0	1.8	29.2	3.5
Women	63.0	38.2	31.9	6.3	12.6	12.2	2.5	9.7	37.0	8.9	25.1	0.6	24.5	2.9
2004 Total	60.8	38.5	34.6	4.0	5.3	16.9	4.7	12.2	39.2	7.1	29.1	1.2	28.0	2.9
Men	59.6	39.1	36.8	2.3	0.4	20.1	6.2	13.9	40.4	6.4	30.8	1.5	29.3	3.2
Women	62.2	37.8	31.8	6.1	11.5	12.9	2.7	10.2	37.8	8.0	27.1	0.7	26.4	2.6
2005 Total	58.8	37.3	33.9	3.4	5.0	16.5	4.5	11.9	41.2	7.5	30.5	1.1	29.4	3.2
Men	57.6	37.7	35.9	1.8	0.3	19.5	5.8	13.7	42.4	6.8	32.3	1.5	30.8	3.3
Women	60.4	36.8	31.4	5.4	11.1	12.5	2.9	9.7	39.6	8.3	28.2	0.5	27.7	3.1
Costa Rica														
1990 Total	33.6	14.3	12.1	2.2	4.4	14.9	4.4	10.6	66.4	25.1	36.0	1.1	34.9	5.3
Men	31.8	14.7	13.6	1.2	0.2	16.8	5.7	11.1	68.2	23.0	39.4	1.6	37.8	5.8
Women	37.1	13.7	9.5	4.1	12.0	11.4	1.9	9.5	62.9	28.8	29.8	0.4	29.4	4.4
1995 Total	34.4	13.6	11.8	1.8	3.5	17.2	4.8	12.4	65.6	20.7	39.8	1.9	37.9	5.2
Men	33.3	13.4	12.4	0.9	0.3	19.6	6.0	13.7	66.7	18.4	43.1	2.4	40.7	5.2
Women	36.3	14.1	10.8	3.3	9.4	12.8	2.6	10.2	63.7	24.7	33.7	0.9	32.9	5.2
2000 Total	35.4	13.7	12.7	1.0	4.5	17.1	4.1	13.0	64.6	18.7	40.0	1.6	38.4	6.0
Men	34.0	15.0	14.5	0.5	0.4	18.6	5.1	13.5	66.0	15.7	44.3	2.0	42.3	6.0
Women	37.7	11.6	9.9	1.8	11.4	14.6	2.3	12.3	62.3	23.7	32.8	0.9	31.9	5.9
2004 Total	38.8	18.0	16.7	1.4	3.4	17.4	6.2	11.3	61.2	17.0	41.0	2.1	38.9	3.1
Men	36.6	16.5	15.7	0.8	0.3	19.8	7.9	12.0	63.4	13.2	46.9	2.9	44.0	3.3
Women	42.4	20.5	18.2	2.3	8.4	13.6	3.4	10.1	57.6	23.2	31.5	0.9	30.6	2.9
2005 Total	39.9	16.2	14.9	1.2	4.9	18.8	5.9	13.0	60.1	17.2	39.9	1.4	38.5	3.0
Men	36.7	15.0	14.3	0.7	0.4	21.3	7.3	13.9	63.3	13.8	46.1	1.9	44.3	3.4
Women	45.1	18.0	16.0	2.0	12.0	15.1	3.7	11.4	54.9	22.4	30.1	0.6	29.5	2.4
Dominican Republic ^{e/}														
2000 Total	46.0	31.4	29.7	1.7	4.1	10.4	2.0	8.4	54.0	13.2	39.3	1.2	38.1	1.5
Men	47.2	35.9	34.6	1.3	0.5	10.7	2.2	8.5	52.8	11.4	40.0	1.7	38.3	1.5
Women	43.9	24.1	21.8	2.3	9.9	9.9	1.6	8.3	56.1	16.3	38.3	0.4	37.9	1.5
2004 Total	49.0	32.1	30.3	1.8	5.2	11.7	4.1	7.6	51.0	12.9	37.2	1.3	36.0	0.9
Men	50.5	37.3	35.6	1.6	1.0	12.2	4.9	7.3	49.5	10.8	37.7	1.7	36.0	1.0
Women	46.4	23.4	21.4	2.0	12.2	10.8	2.8	8.0	53.6	16.4	36.4	0.5	35.9	0.8
Ecuador ^{3/}														
1990 Total	55.4	35.1	28.4	6.6	4.6	15.7	3.6	12.1	44.6	17.8	25.3	1.4	23.9	1.6
Men	51.8	32.3	28.4	3.9	0.6	18.8	4.3	14.5	48.2	17.7	28.8	1.9	26.9	1.7
Women	61.8	40.0	28.5	11.4	11.8	10.1	2.3	7.8	38.2	17.8	19.1	0.4	18.6	1.3

(continued...)

TABLE 6-A (continued)

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: STRUCTURE OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT, 1990 - 2005
 (Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	INFORMAL SECTOR								FORMAL SECTOR					
	Total	Independent workers			Domestic service	Microenterprises ^{b/}			Total	Public Sector	Small, medium and large establishments ^{c/}			Self-employed
		Total	Self-employed ^{a/}	Unpaid		Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers			Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers	
1995 Total	56.5	32.8	25.8	7.0	4.8	18.9	6.2	12.7	43.5	13.4	28.9	1.6	27.3	1.3
Men	52.2	28.5	25.0	3.5	0.6	23.1	7.7	15.4	47.8	12.9	33.6	2.3	31.3	1.3
Women	63.3	39.6	27.1	12.5	11.4	12.3	3.7	8.6	36.7	14.1	21.3	0.5	20.9	1.2
2000 Total	57.0	34.1	28.1	6.0	4.8	18.1	3.1	15.1	43.0	11.0	30.0	1.5	28.5	2.0
Men	54.1	31.3	28.0	3.3	0.7	22.0	3.9	18.1	45.9	9.9	33.7	2.0	31.6	2.4
Women	61.6	38.5	28.2	10.3	11.2	11.9	1.7	10.2	38.4	12.8	24.2	0.8	23.4	1.4
2004 Total	57.4	32.8	26.1	6.7	3.9	20.6	5.5	15.1	42.6	10.7	29.7	1.4	28.4	2.2
Men	52.6	27.0	23.3	3.7	0.3	25.3	6.6	18.7	47.4	10.2	34.6	1.7	32.9	2.6
Women	64.2	41.3	30.3	11.0	9.2	13.8	4.0	9.7	35.8	11.5	22.6	0.8	21.8	1.7
2005 Total	57.8	31.4	25.9	5.6	5.2	21.2	4.8	16.4	42.2	10.0	30.1	1.5	28.6	2.0
Men	53.8	27.5	24.5	3.0	0.9	25.4	5.7	19.7	46.2	9.4	34.4	1.9	32.4	2.5
Women	63.8	37.3	27.9	9.4	11.6	15.0	3.4	11.5	36.2	10.9	23.9	1.0	22.9	1.4
El Salvador ^{e/}														
1990 Total	55.6	33.4	26.9	6.5	5.9	16.4	2.7	13.7	44.4	13.8	30.2	0.7	29.5	0.4
Men	45.8	23.3	18.7	4.6	0.0	22.4	3.8	18.7	54.2	15.5	38.1	1.0	37.1	0.6
Women	67.7	45.9	37.1	8.8	13.0	8.9	1.4	7.5	32.3	11.8	20.4	0.2	20.2	0.1
1995 Total	51.0	31.1	25.7	5.4	4.4	15.6	4.9	10.7	49.0	12.5	35.7	1.3	34.4	0.8
Men	42.8	21.2	17.7	3.5	0.5	21.2	6.7	14.5	57.2	13.0	42.9	1.9	41.0	1.3
Women	60.9	43.0	35.3	7.7	9.1	8.9	2.8	6.1	39.1	11.8	27.0	0.5	26.5	0.3
2000 Total	53.3	30.3	25.7	4.6	4.1	18.9	4.9	14.0	46.7	12.5	33.1	0.9	32.2	1.0
Men	46.5	20.6	17.5	3.1	0.4	25.5	6.6	19.0	53.5	12.9	39.1	1.5	37.6	1.4
Women	60.9	41.2	35.0	6.3	8.2	11.5	3.1	8.4	39.1	12.1	26.5	0.3	26.2	0.5
2004 Total	55.7	33.1	27.6	5.5	3.9	18.7	4.4	14.2	44.3	10.7	33.6	0.5	33.1	0.0
Men	49.2	24.0	19.8	4.2	0.5	24.7	5.8	18.8	50.8	11.0	39.8	0.7	39.1	0.0
Women	63.0	43.4	36.3	7.1	7.8	11.9	2.9	9.0	37.0	10.4	26.6	0.2	26.4	0.0
2005 Total	56.0	34.0	26.7	7.3	3.8	18.2	4.7	13.5	44.0	10.8	32.1	0.6	31.5	1.1
Men	50.5	25.5	19.6	5.9	0.7	24.4	6.0	18.4	49.5	10.5	37.5	0.8	36.6	1.5
Women	62.1	43.5	34.6	9.0	7.2	11.3	3.2	8.1	37.9	11.1	26.1	0.3	25.8	0.8
Honduras														
1990 Total	53.3	31.5	26.5	5.0	6.7	15.1	1.0	14.0	46.7	14.4	31.2	0.5	30.7	1.1
Men	46.4	26.4	22.4	4.0	0.4	19.6	1.2	18.4	53.6	13.6	38.7	0.7	37.9	1.3
Women	63.6	39.2	32.7	6.5	16.0	8.4	0.8	7.6	36.4	15.5	20.1	0.1	20.1	0.7
1995 Total	52.3	29.5	23.7	5.8	5.4	17.5	4.9	12.6	47.7	12.3	34.3	1.3	33.0	1.1
Men	49.3	25.3	20.5	4.8	0.7	23.4	6.2	17.2	50.7	10.8	39.4	2.0	37.5	0.5
Women	56.7	35.6	28.3	7.3	12.2	8.9	2.9	5.9	43.3	14.5	26.8	0.4	26.5	1.9
2001 Total	52.0	31.7	25.8	6.0	4.3	16.0	3.9	12.1	48.0	10.9	36.0	1.2	34.8	1.1
Men	49.7	28.7	24.2	4.6	0.3	20.6	4.9	15.7	50.3	9.0	40.0	1.7	38.3	1.4
Women	55.1	35.7	27.8	7.9	9.5	9.9	2.5	7.5	44.9	13.4	30.7	0.6	30.1	0.8
2005 Total	50.1	31.5	27.1	4.4	4.0	14.6	3.4	11.2	49.9	10.8	37.7	0.0	37.7	1.4
Men	49.2	30.2	26.4	3.7	0.5	18.5	4.3	14.2	50.8	8.5	40.5	0.0	40.5	1.8
Women	51.4	33.3	27.9	5.3	9.0	9.2	2.2	6.9	48.6	14.1	33.8	0.0	33.8	0.7
Mexico ^{k/}														
1990 Total	38.8	19.4	14.7	4.7	4.5	14.9	3.5	11.5	61.2	19.2	40.3	1.0	39.3	1.6
Men	38.1	19.6	16.5	3.1	0.6	17.9	4.6	13.3	61.9	17.3	42.6	1.4	41.2	2.0
Women	40.0	18.8	11.1	7.7	12.0	9.2	1.2	8.0	60.0	23.0	36.0	0.3	35.8	1.0
1995 Total	43.4	21.1	15.3	5.8	5.2	17.1	3.6	13.5	56.6	16.1	38.5	1.2	37.3	2.0
Men	42.4	20.1	16.5	3.6	1.0	21.2	4.9	16.3	57.6	13.9	41.4	1.7	39.6	2.4
Women	45.2	22.7	13.0	9.7	12.6	9.9	1.4	8.5	54.8	20.1	33.4	0.3	33.1	1.4
2000 Total	39.4	18.6	14.7	3.8	3.6	17.2	3.6	13.6	60.6	14.5	44.2	1.2	43.0	1.9
Men	38.7	17.9	15.8	2.1	0.2	20.6	4.8	15.9	61.3	12.5	46.4	1.6	44.9	2.3
Women	40.5	19.7	12.9	6.8	9.6	11.3	1.7	9.7	59.5	17.9	40.4	0.5	39.9	1.2
2004 Total	42.8	20.4	15.9	4.5	4.3	18.2	3.8	14.3	57.2	13.7	41.3	1.0	40.3	2.2
Men	42.3	19.3	16.8	2.5	1.0	22.1	5.0	17.1	57.7	11.7	43.4	1.3	42.1	2.6
Women	43.7	22.1	14.5	7.7	9.9	11.7	1.9	9.8	56.3	17.0	37.7	0.3	37.4	1.6

(continued...)

TABLE 6-A (continued)

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: STRUCTURE OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT, 1990 - 2005
 (Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	INFORMAL SECTOR								FORMAL SECTOR					
	Total	Independent workers			Domestic service	Microenterprises ^{b/}			Total	Public Sector	Small, medium and large establishments ^{c/}			Self-employed
		Total	Self-employed ^{a/}	Unpaid		Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers			Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers	
2005 Total	42.6	20.0	16.1	3.9	4.6	18.1	4.1	14.0	57.4	14.6	40.6	1.0	39.6	2.2
Men	40.9	18.1	15.9	2.2	0.7	22.2	5.6	16.5	59.1	12.7	43.8	1.4	42.4	2.6
Women	45.1	22.9	16.4	6.4	10.4	11.9	1.8	10.1	54.9	17.6	35.8	0.4	35.4	1.5
Nicaragua ^{l/}														
1993 Total	52.7	30.9	28.0	2.9	0.0	21.8	1.0	20.8	47.3	25.0	16.6	0.9	15.7	5.7
Men	51.6	28.7	26.3	2.4	0.0	22.9	1.2	21.7	48.4	24.1	19.3	0.9	18.4	5.0
Women	54.3	33.9	30.2	3.7	0.0	20.3	0.7	19.6	45.7	26.3	12.8	1.0	11.9	6.6
1995 Total	73.0	32.7	29.4	3.3	0.0	40.3	0.8	39.6	27.0	18.4	2.6	0.4	2.2	6.0
Men	74.7	30.1	27.6	2.5	0.0	44.6	1.0	43.6	25.3	17.5	2.3	0.5	1.8	5.5
Women	70.8	35.9	31.7	4.2	0.0	34.9	0.4	34.5	29.2	19.5	3.0	0.3	2.7	6.7
2000 Total	66.4	45.1	32.7	12.3	0.0	21.3	1.3	20.0	33.6	8.1	24.2	0.8	23.4	1.3
Men	65.3	44.2	31.1	13.1	0.0	21.1	1.6	19.5	34.7	6.1	26.9	1.1	25.8	1.7
Women	68.2	46.6	35.6	11.0	0.0	21.6	0.8	20.8	31.8	11.6	19.6	0.3	19.4	0.5
2004 Total	58.0	37.7	31.2	6.5	0.0	20.3	3.3	17.0	42.0	12.2	27.4	1.0	26.4	2.4
Men	54.2	33.6	27.5	6.1	0.0	20.6	4.2	16.4	45.8	10.4	32.3	1.4	30.9	3.1
Women	62.8	42.9	35.9	7.1	0.0	19.9	2.1	17.8	37.2	14.5	21.3	0.4	20.8	1.4
2005 Total	58.8	35.8	28.9	6.9	0.0	23.1	3.9	19.2	41.2	11.7	27.3	1.0	26.4	2.1
Men	54.4	31.1	25.3	5.7	0.0	23.3	5.0	18.3	45.6	10.3	32.5	1.5	31.1	2.7
Women	64.3	41.6	33.2	8.3	0.0	22.7	2.5	20.2	35.7	13.4	21.0	0.4	20.5	1.3
Panama														
1991 Total	30.8	15.7	14.4	1.3	7.4	7.8	1.8	5.9	69.2	30.1	36.4	1.1	35.2	2.8
Men	31.1	21.3	20.0	1.2	0.8	9.0	2.4	6.6	68.9	26.8	39.8	1.6	38.2	2.3
Women	30.3	7.9	6.6	1.3	16.4	6.0	1.0	5.0	69.7	34.6	31.7	0.5	31.2	3.4
1995 Total	31.0	15.6	14.7	0.9	7.1	8.3	1.9	6.4	69.0	26.6	39.9	1.1	38.8	2.6
Men	30.7	20.3	19.6	0.6	0.9	9.5	2.6	6.9	69.3	23.7	43.5	1.5	42.0	2.1
Women	31.4	8.3	7.1	1.2	16.7	6.4	0.8	5.6	68.6	30.9	34.4	0.4	34.0	3.3
2000 Total	34.3	19.1	18.5	0.6	6.2	8.9	2.2	6.8	65.7	22.2	41.8	0.8	41.0	1.7
Men	34.1	22.8	22.4	0.4	1.4	9.9	2.7	7.2	65.9	19.4	44.5	1.1	43.3	2.1
Women	34.7	13.7	12.7	1.0	13.5	7.5	1.3	6.2	65.3	26.3	37.8	0.2	37.6	1.1
2004 Total	36.8	20.5	19.5	1.0	7.0	9.3	2.2	7.1	63.2	19.7	41.4	1.2	40.3	2.1
Men	35.3	23.3	22.8	0.5	1.1	10.9	3.0	7.9	64.7	16.8	45.5	1.7	43.7	2.4
Women	39.0	16.3	14.6	1.8	15.7	7.0	1.1	5.9	61.0	23.9	35.5	0.4	35.1	1.6
2005 Total	37.6	21.0	19.5	1.6	6.8	9.8	2.4	7.4	62.4	18.4	42.0	1.2	40.8	2.0
Men	36.0	23.2	22.5	0.7	1.2	11.6	3.1	8.5	64.0	15.2	46.4	1.8	44.6	2.4
Women	39.9	17.9	15.1	2.8	14.9	7.1	1.4	5.7	60.1	23.0	35.7	0.3	35.3	1.4
Paraguay ^{m/}														
1995 Total	58.1	31.6	29.0	2.6	7.0	19.6	5.8	13.8	41.9	12.2	27.6	2.3	25.3	2.1
Men	54.0	26.7	24.3	2.4	4.4	23.0	6.3	16.7	46.0	11.1	32.8	3.1	29.6	2.1
Women	65.0	39.7	36.8	2.9	11.3	14.0	5.0	9.0	35.0	14.0	18.9	0.9	18.0	2.1
2000-2001 Total	60.8	29.1	24.0	5.1	10.5	21.3	6.5	14.8	39.2	11.1	24.5	1.2	23.3	3.6
Men	55.2	25.6	21.5	4.1	1.6	28.0	8.6	19.4	44.8	9.9	31.3	1.7	29.5	3.6
Women	67.9	33.4	27.2	6.2	21.7	12.8	3.8	9.0	32.1	12.6	15.9	0.5	15.4	3.6
2004 Total	64.7	33.8	28.0	5.7	10.5	20.4	4.2	16.2	35.3	11.0	21.2	1.1	20.1	3.1
Men	59.6	30.8	26.0	4.8	1.9	27.0	5.7	21.3	40.4	10.1	27.1	1.5	25.6	3.2
Women	71.3	37.7	30.6	7.0	21.8	11.8	2.3	9.5	28.7	12.2	13.5	0.6	12.9	3.0
2005 Total	61.3	29.3	25.1	4.2	11.2	20.8	4.7	16.2	38.7	12.8	23.0	1.4	21.6	2.9
Men	56.7	25.9	23.0	3.0	1.5	29.3	6.5	22.8	43.3	11.7	28.1	1.8	26.2	3.5
Women	67.0	33.5	27.8	5.7	23.1	10.4	2.4	7.9	33.0	14.1	16.7	0.9	15.9	2.1
Peru ^{n/}														
1990 Total	60.2	34.7	29.5	5.1	5.3	20.2	4.6	15.7	39.8	15.3	22.3	0.3	21.9	2.2
Men	54.9	28.7	25.8	2.9	1.1	25.1	6.6	18.5	45.1	15.7	26.8	0.5	26.4	2.5
Women	68.1	43.6	35.1	8.4	11.5	13.0	1.6	11.4	31.9	14.7	15.4	0.1	15.2	1.8
1995 Total	63.8	33.6	28.7	4.9	4.8	25.4	5.5	19.9	36.2	10.2	23.7	0.3	23.4	2.3
Men	58.5	27.6	24.9	2.8	0.5	30.4	7.5	22.9	41.5	10.1	28.5	0.4	28.1	2.9
Women	71.6	42.5	34.5	8.0	11.1	18.1	2.7	15.5	28.4	10.3	16.6	0.1	16.5	1.5

(continued...)

TABLE 6-A (continued)

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: STRUCTURE OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT, 1990 - 2005
 (Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	INFORMAL SECTOR								FORMAL SECTOR					
	Total	Independent workers			Domestic service	Microenterprises ^{b/}			Total	Public Sector	Small, medium and large establishments ^{c/}			Self-employed
		Total	Self-employed ^{a/}	Unpaid		Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers			Total	Employers	Wage and salaried workers	
2000 Total	58.8	36.1	30.5	5.6	5.3	17.4	4.1	13.2	41.2	7.8	29.5	0.6	28.9	3.9
Men	52.7	31.4	27.9	3.5	0.4	20.9	5.2	15.7	47.3	7.7	35.0	1.0	33.9	4.6
Women	66.8	42.3	33.8	8.5	11.8	12.7	2.7	10.0	33.2	7.9	22.3	0.1	22.2	3.0
2004 Total	57.9	36.5	32.0	4.6	5.5	15.9	3.4	12.5	42.1	7.8	31.5	0.7	30.7	2.8
Men	53.0	34.4	31.8	2.6	0.4	18.2	4.8	13.4	47.0	8.5	35.4	1.1	34.3	3.1
Women	65.1	39.6	32.2	7.4	12.9	12.6	1.3	11.2	34.9	6.8	25.7	0.2	25.5	2.4
2005 Total	54.9	32.5	28.7	3.9	4.6	17.7	4.4	13.4	45.1	7.6	34.4	0.9	33.5	3.1
Men	51.1	29.9	28.3	1.6	0.3	20.9	5.8	15.0	48.9	6.9	38.4	1.3	37.1	3.6
Women	60.0	36.1	29.1	7.0	10.4	13.5	2.4	11.1	40.0	8.5	29.0	0.5	28.5	2.5
Uruguay ^{e/}														
1997 Total	39.8	20.7	18.7	2.0	6.9	12.2	2.5	9.7	60.2	17.6	40.3	1.9	38.4	2.3
Men	36.2	22.5	21.5	1.0	0.2	13.6	3.2	10.3	63.8	17.1	44.8	2.7	42.1	1.8
Women	44.8	18.2	14.9	3.3	16.3	10.3	1.4	8.9	55.2	18.1	34.0	0.9	33.1	3.0
2000 Total	40.3	19.1	17.5	1.5	8.7	12.6	2.2	10.4	59.7	17.4	38.3	1.8	36.5	3.9
Men	36.3	21.7	20.8	0.9	1.1	13.5	2.8	10.7	63.7	16.8	43.3	2.5	40.8	3.6
Women	45.8	15.6	13.1	2.5	18.9	11.3	1.3	10.0	54.2	18.2	31.7	1.0	30.7	4.4
2004 Total	42.4	20.4	19.0	1.4	4.8	17.2	2.5	14.7	57.6	17.5	35.1	1.5	33.6	5.0
Men	39.8	22.7	22.0	0.7	0.5	16.6	3.2	13.4	60.2	16.2	39.0	2.1	36.9	5.0
Women	45.7	17.4	15.0	2.4	10.3	18.0	1.5	16.5	54.3	19.1	30.1	0.7	29.4	5.0
2005 Total	44.6	22.7	21.5	1.3	1.8	20.0	2.7	17.4	55.4	17.0	36.3	1.5	34.8	2.1
Men	42.8	25.2	24.6	0.7	0.2	17.3	3.5	13.8	57.2	15.5	39.7	2.1	37.6	2.0
Women	46.9	19.6	17.6	2.1	3.8	23.5	1.7	21.8	53.1	18.9	32.0	0.7	31.3	2.2
Venezuela ^{e/ o/}														
1995 Total	48.1	30.5	29.2	1.2	2.1	15.6	4.0	11.5	51.9	17.7	32.3	1.7	30.6	1.9
Men	50.6	31.7	30.5	1.2	0.1	18.7	5.1	13.6	49.4	12.2	35.4	2.3	33.1	1.9
Women	43.0	27.9	26.5	1.4	6.2	8.9	1.7	7.2	57.0	29.1	25.8	0.4	25.3	2.1
2000 Total	52.9	35.4	33.7	1.7	2.1	15.4	3.8	11.6	47.1	14.8	30.9	1.3	29.6	1.5
Men	53.0	33.9	32.5	1.4	0.1	19.0	5.1	13.9	47.0	10.5	35.2	1.8	33.5	1.2
Women	52.7	38.2	35.9	2.3	5.6	8.9	1.5	7.4	47.3	22.3	23.2	0.4	22.7	1.9
2004 Total	52.8	31.9	29.9	2.0	2.4	18.5	3.7	14.9	47.2	15.7	30.3	1.2	29.2	1.2
Men	52.7	30.3	28.9	1.4	0.0	22.3	4.8	17.5	47.3	11.1	35.2	1.6	33.6	1.0
Women	53.0	34.4	31.5	2.9	6.2	12.4	1.8	10.7	47.0	22.9	22.6	0.5	22.1	1.5
2005 Total	50.0	29.6	28.0	1.6	1.9	18.6	3.7	14.8	50.0	16.0	32.3	1.2	31.2	1.6
Men	50.0	27.4	26.4	1.1	0.1	22.5	4.9	17.6	50.0	11.2	37.2	1.6	35.6	1.6
Women	50.1	33.0	30.5	2.5	4.9	12.2	1.8	10.4	49.9	23.7	24.4	0.4	24.0	1.8

Source: ILO estimates based on household surveys of the countries.

a/ Includes self-employed workers, except administrative, professional and technical workers.

b/ Employed persons working in establishments with a maximum of five workers.

c/ Includes establishments with six or more employed persons.

d/ 28 urban areas. Data from 1996 and 2000 refer to October; data from 2004 and 2005 correspond to the second semester. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.

e/ Microenterprises: establishments with a maximum of four employed persons.

f/ Data for 1990 and 1995 correspond to capital cities and El Alto. Other years refer to urban areas. Data for 1990 refer to the third round of the EIH Survey in September; 1995 data are from the eighth round of the EIH in June; 2000 data are from MECOVI (November); 2002 data are from MECOVI (November-December).

g/ PNAD Survey of September of each year.

h/ CASEN Survey. In 1996, microenterprises refer to establishments with a maximum of four employed persons. Public sector data from the 1990s includes only the Armed Forces and Police Forces.

i/ Data for 2000 correspond to 10 cities and metropolitan areas and are from April-June of the ENH Survey, Stage 1; data from 2002, 2004 and 2005 are from April-June of the ECH Survey.

j/ Data from 2004 and 2005 are for the fourth quarter.

k/ Data from 1990, 1995 and 2000 are for the third quarter; data from 2004 and 2005 are from the second quarter. Estimates for 2005 are from the ENOE Survey; data from 2004 are from the ENE Survey; data from previous years are from the ENEU Survey.

l/ Data from 1993 are for urban areas of eight municipalities; 1995: urban areas of 17 municipalities; 2001: urban areas of 31 municipalities; data for the remaining years are for urban areas. Data from 1993, 1995 and 2001: ENMEU Survey; Data from 2004 and 2005: EMEU-R Survey.

m/ Data from 1995 are for July-November; 2000-2001: September 2000- August 2001; 2004: August-November; 2005: October-December. EPE Survey.

n/ Metropolitan Lima.

o/ National coverage. Data from second semester.

TABLE 7-A

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (SELECTED COUNTRIES):
URBAN EMPLOYMENT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND SEX, 1990 - 2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	Total	Agriculture, fishing and mining	Electricity, gas and waterworks	Manufacturing industries	Construction	Trade	Transportation, storage and communications	Financial establishments	Community, social and personal services	Unspecified activities
Latin America										
1995 Total	100.00	6.0	0.9	17.0	6.8	23.9	5.8	4.0	35.2	0.4
Men	100.00	7.8	1.2	19.3	10.8	22.2	8.6	4.1	25.7	0.5
Women	100.00	3.3	0.5	13.4	0.6	26.4	1.5	3.9	50.4	0.2
2000 Total	100.00	5.2	0.8	16.5	6.8	24.2	6.2	3.9	36.0	0.3
Men	100.00	7.0	1.1	18.7	11.1	22.1	9.3	4.0	26.4	0.5
Women	100.00	2.6	0.3	13.4	0.6	27.3	1.7	3.8	50.2	0.2
2005 Total	100.00	5.6	1.9	16.1	5.9	25.3	6.6	4.7	33.5	0.5
Men	100.00	7.5	3.0	17.7	9.8	24.2	9.8	5.0	22.3	0.6
Women	100.00	2.8	0.4	13.8	0.5	26.9	2.1	4.3	48.9	0.3
Argentina ^{a/}										
1996 Total	100.0	1.0	0.9	16.4	7.6	20.3	7.8	9.2	36.3	0.5
Men	100.0	1.5	1.3	19.3	11.9	21.0	11.3	8.8	24.3	0.5
Women	100.0	0.2	0.4	11.4	0.5	19.2	1.9	9.8	56.0	0.6
2000 Total	100.0	0.8	0.6	13.9	7.7	20.9	8.1	9.6	37.9	0.5
Men	100.0	1.2	0.8	17.1	12.5	20.8	11.8	10.3	25.0	0.5
Women	100.0	0.3	0.2	9.0	0.6	21.0	2.7	8.7	57.0	0.5
2005 Total	100.0	1.4	0.5	14.1	8.5	23.5	6.7	9.4	35.5	0.3
Men	100.0	1.9	0.8	17.0	14.4	25.2	9.9	9.9	20.7	0.3
Women	100.0	0.8	0.1	10.1	0.5	21.3	2.5	8.7	55.6	0.3
Bolivia ^{b/}										
1990 Total	100.0	3.2	0.6	15.9	6.6	25.6	7.7	3.0	37.0	0.4
Men	100.0	5.1	1.0	19.6	10.9	13.8	12.4	3.5	33.4	0.4
Women	100.0	0.5	0.1	10.7	0.5	42.5	0.9	2.3	42.3	0.3
1995 Total	100.0	3.7	0.4	18.4	8.5	33.5	7.6	3.9	24.1	0.1
Men	100.0	5.4	0.5	20.9	14.7	23.3	12.6	4.5	18.0	0.1
Women	100.0	1.4	0.2	15.2	0.4	46.5	1.1	3.2	32.0	0.0
2000 Total	100.0	6.6	0.8	15.3	10.4	31.4	6.9	5.5	23.0	0.1
Men	100.0	8.7	1.2	17.5	17.9	20.4	11.2	7.2	15.8	0.1
Women	100.0	3.9	0.1	12.6	0.9	45.4	1.4	3.4	32.0	0.2
2002 Total	100.0	7.6	0.4	18.1	8.2	30.8	7.7	4.4	22.8	0.0
Men	100.0	10.5	0.6	20.3	14.1	19.8	12.9	5.1	16.7	0.0
Women	100.0	3.9	0.1	15.4	0.9	44.4	1.3	3.6	30.4	0.0
Brazil ^{c/}										
1990 Total	100.0	6.5	1.0	18.1	7.2	20.4	4.8	3.1	38.5	0.3
Men	100.0	9.2	1.3	21.3	11.3	20.3	7.2	3.2	25.7	0.5
Women	100.0	2.2	0.4	13.0	0.5	20.4	1.1	2.9	59.3	0.1
1995 Total	100.0	9.6	1.1	14.8	7.3	20.8	4.6	2.0	39.5	0.3
Men	100.0	11.6	1.4	18.1	11.9	20.8	7.0	2.1	26.7	0.5
Women	100.0	6.5	0.6	10.0	0.5	20.9	1.0	1.9	58.6	0.1
2001 Total	100.0	7.7	0.9	14.1	7.5	21.5	4.9	1.7	41.4	0.3
Men	100.0	9.8	1.3	17.0	12.5	20.9	7.7	1.6	28.7	0.5
Women	100.0	4.7	0.4	10.1	0.5	22.2	1.1	1.8	59.2	0.1
2005 Total	100.0	7.9	0.5	15.9	7.5	25.4	5.4	3.3	34.0	0.3
Men	100.0	10.0	0.7	17.5	12.7	26.7	8.2	3.6	20.1	0.4
Women	100.0	5.0	0.2	13.7	0.5	23.7	1.7	2.8	52.4	0.0
Chile ^{d/}										
1990 Total	100.0	8.1	0.0	19.7	8.3	20.0	8.3	8.7	26.4	0.6
Men	100.0	11.1	0.0	21.9	12.3	18.1	11.4	9.1	15.5	0.6
Women	100.0	2.9	0.0	15.8	0.9	23.4	2.6	7.9	46.0	0.4
1996 Total	100.0	8.5	0.7	16.3	9.4	20.6	7.8	7.3	28.8	0.6
Men	100.0	11.2	1.0	18.4	14.2	18.0	10.6	6.9	19.1	0.6
Women	100.0	3.6	0.2	12.6	1.1	25.3	2.7	7.9	45.8	0.7

(continued...)

TABLE 7-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (SELECTED COUNTRIES):
URBAN EMPLOYMENT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND SEX, 1990 - 2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	Total	Agriculture, fishing and mining	Electricity, gas and waterworks	Manufacturing industries	Construction	Trade	Transportation, storage and communications	Financial establishments	Community, social and personal services	Unspecified activities
2000 Total	100.0	8.7	0.9	14.7	8.6	20.4	8.0	8.3	30.2	0.3
Men	100.0	11.7	1.3	16.9	13.2	17.7	11.3	8.1	19.4	0.3
Women	100.0	3.9	0.2	11.0	1.0	24.8	2.8	8.6	47.4	0.3
2003 Total	100.0	7.8	0.6	14.4	9.1	21.5	8.3	7.7	30.3	0.3
Men	100.0	10.4	0.8	17.1	14.2	18.7	11.4	7.8	19.3	0.3
Women	100.0	3.8	0.3	10.2	1.1	25.8	3.6	7.5	47.5	0.2
Colombia^{e/}										
1991 Total	100.0	4.0	0.9	20.4	5.7	26.7	6.7	5.7	29.8	0.1
Men	100.0	5.9	1.2	20.0	9.0	25.2	10.0	6.2	22.4	0.1
Women	100.0	1.1	0.5	21.1	0.7	28.9	1.7	5.0	41.0	0.2
1995 Total	100.0	1.9	0.7	21.3	7.5	26.6	6.9	7.1	28.0	0.0
Men	100.0	2.8	1.0	21.1	12.0	24.6	10.7	7.5	20.3	0.0
Women	100.0	0.6	0.3	21.5	1.0	29.4	1.7	6.4	39.0	0.1
2000 Total	100.0	3.4	0.7	17.5	5.0	27.1	6.8	6.4	32.9	0.1
Men	100.0	5.0	1.1	17.8	8.7	25.5	10.7	6.8	24.3	0.1
Women	100.0	1.3	0.2	17.2	0.4	29.2	2.0	5.9	43.7	0.1
2005 Total	100.0	7.1	0.6	16.5	5.2	28.4	8.5	7.8	25.9	0.0
Men	100.0	11.5	0.8	16.1	8.9	27.8	12.8	8.0	14.1	0.0
Women	100.0	1.5	0.4	16.9	0.4	29.2	2.9	7.7	41.0	0.0
Costa Rica										
1990 Total	100.0	3.8	1.6	21.9	6.0	21.0	5.3	5.9	33.7	0.8
Men	100.0	5.5	2.3	21.9	9.0	20.1	7.7	7.2	25.5	0.9
Women	100.0	0.6	0.4	21.8	0.6	22.7	0.9	3.4	48.7	0.8
1995 Total	100.0	4.1	1.3	18.9	5.7	23.9	6.3	7.1	31.7	1.0
Men	100.0	5.9	1.6	19.0	8.7	22.6	8.5	8.4	24.2	1.1
Women	100.0	0.8	0.8	18.6	0.3	26.3	2.3	4.8	45.2	0.9
2000 Total	100.0	4.6	0.8	16.8	6.5	24.9	7.4	7.1	31.2	0.7
Men	100.0	7.0	1.1	18.0	10.1	23.5	10.1	7.8	21.8	0.7
Women	100.0	0.5	0.4	14.8	0.6	27.2	2.8	6.0	47.0	0.7
2005 Total	100.0	4.0	1.1	15.3	6.0	23.4	7.1	10.5	28.2	4.2
Men	100.0	5.7	1.6	17.6	9.6	21.2	10.0	11.8	16.4	6.2
Women	100.0	1.3	0.4	11.8	0.5	26.8	2.6	8.5	46.8	1.2
Dominican Republic										
2000 Total	100.0	4.3	0.9	20.2	6.7	24.9	6.6	6.3	25.0	5.2
Men	100.0	6.4	1.1	20.5	10.5	23.2	9.4	5.9	15.3	7.8
Women	100.0	1.0	0.6	19.6	0.5	27.6	2.0	6.9	40.7	1.0
2004 Total	100.0	4.8	1.0	17.2	6.9	24.3	7.7	6.0	27.6	4.5
Men	100.0	7.4	1.2	19.0	10.5	22.3	10.7	5.9	16.5	6.6
Women	100.0	0.6	0.7	14.2	0.8	27.7	2.7	6.3	46.0	1.0
Ecuador^{f/}										
1990 Total	100.0	7.5	1.0	18.0	7.2	27.1	5.7	4.6	28.9	0.0
Men	100.0	10.2	1.4	19.0	10.9	21.9	8.1	5.2	23.1	0.0
Women	100.0	2.5	0.3	16.0	0.6	36.5	1.2	3.5	39.3	0.0
1995 Total	100.0	6.7	0.6	14.6	6.1	31.7	5.5	4.5	30.1	0.1
Men	100.0	9.7	0.7	15.1	9.7	26.2	8.1	4.9	25.5	0.0
Women	100.0	2.1	0.5	13.7	0.5	40.6	1.3	3.9	37.4	0.1
2000 Total	100.0	9.1	0.6	15.6	7.1	30.9	6.3	5.1	25.3	0.0
Men	100.0	12.0	0.8	16.7	11.1	27.8	9.1	5.3	17.2	0.0
Women	100.0	4.5	0.3	13.8	0.6	35.9	1.7	4.7	38.3	0.0

(continued...)

TABLE 7-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (SELECTED COUNTRIES):
URBAN EMPLOYMENT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND SEX, 1990 - 2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	Total	Agriculture, fishing and mining	Electricity, gas and waterworks	Manufacturing industries	Construction	Trade	Transportation, storage and communications	Financial establishments	Community, social and personal services	Unspecified activities
2005 Total	100.0	8.6	0.5	13.8	6.6	33.1	7.2	6.5	23.6	0.0
Men	100.0	11.5	0.7	15.5	10.7	28.7	10.5	7.3	15.1	0.0
Women	100.0	4.3	0.2	11.2	0.6	39.7	2.3	5.2	36.4	0.0
El Salvador										
1990 Total	100.0	7.5	0.6	22.3	6.1	27.5	5.3	2.7	28.0	0.0
Men	100.0	11.4	1.1	22.6	10.8	18.2	9.0	3.1	23.8	0.0
Women	100.0	2.7	0.1	21.8	0.4	38.9	0.8	2.2	33.0	0.0
1995 Total	100.0	7.0	0.5	24.0	6.8	26.2	5.6	4.5	22.2	3.3
Men	100.0	11.4	0.7	22.1	12.0	17.9	9.4	4.9	15.8	5.8
Women	100.0	1.7	0.2	26.1	0.6	36.2	0.9	4.1	29.8	0.3
2000 Total	100.0	6.1	0.5	21.6	5.3	28.6	5.8	5.2	23.4	3.4
Men	100.0	10.7	0.9	19.6	9.7	19.6	10.0	6.6	16.9	5.9
Women	100.0	1.0	0.0	23.8	0.2	38.7	1.1	3.8	30.7	0.6
2005 Total	100.0	5.9	0.3	19.1	5.6	31.2	5.7	6.2	22.2	3.6
Men	100.0	9.7	0.5	17.8	10.4	22.2	9.6	7.5	16.1	6.2
Women	100.0	1.7	0.1	20.5	0.3	41.4	1.5	4.6	29.1	0.7
Honduras										
1990 Total	100.0	10.3	1.1	19.5	7.7	24.8	4.4	2.7	29.4	0.1
Men	100.0	15.8	1.6	19.6	12.5	19.3	6.9	2.9	21.2	0.1
Women	100.0	2.0	0.4	19.3	0.5	33.0	0.8	2.4	41.6	0.1
1995 Total	100.0	8.6	0.9	24.3	7.0	24.8	3.8	3.6	27.0	0.0
Men	100.0	13.4	1.3	23.8	11.4	19.1	5.7	4.2	21.1	0.1
Women	100.0	1.6	0.3	25.0	0.4	33.2	1.0	2.7	35.8	0.0
2001 Total	100.0	8.2	0.7	22.3	7.4	28.6	5.1	5.4	22.3	0.0
Men	100.0	13.3	1.1	20.5	12.7	24.9	7.9	5.7	13.8	0.0
Women	100.0	1.4	0.3	24.6	0.4	33.4	1.3	4.9	33.6	0.0
2005 Total	100.0	8.7	0.8	21.2	6.9	29.3	5.6	5.9	21.3	0.3
Men	100.0	13.6	1.1	19.0	11.6	26.8	8.4	6.5	12.7	0.3
Women	100.0	1.6	0.3	24.4	0.3	32.8	1.8	5.1	33.5	0.2
Mexico ^{g/}										
1990 Total	100.0	1.5	0.6	24.1	5.0	25.5	5.5	5.8	31.9	0.1
Men	100.0	2.0	0.8	26.3	7.1	23.3	7.3	5.7	27.3	0.1
Women	100.0	0.5	0.3	19.8	0.7	29.9	1.9	6.1	40.8	0.0
1995 Total	100.0	1.5	0.8	19.8	5.0	27.8	6.1	2.1	36.7	0.1
Men	100.0	2.2	1.0	21.7	7.5	25.0	8.4	2.1	31.9	0.2
Women	100.0	0.4	0.4	16.4	0.6	32.8	1.9	2.2	45.1	0.1
2000 Total	100.0	1.3	0.7	23.0	5.7	26.2	6.3	1.6	35.2	0.0
Men	100.0	1.8	0.9	24.4	8.5	22.9	8.9	1.4	31.1	0.1
Women	100.0	0.4	0.3	20.7	0.7	32.0	1.8	1.9	42.3	0.0
2005 Total	100.0	1.2	7.4	17.9	0.6	22.2	6.5	2.2	41.2	0.9
Men	100.0	1.6	11.6	19.5	0.9	19.9	9.3	2.1	34.2	1.0
Women	100.0	0.4	1.0	15.6	0.2	25.8	2.1	2.3	51.8	0.7
Nicaragua ^{h/}										
1993 Total	100.0	2.6	1.1	17.2	5.1	27.0	5.6	2.0	39.3	0.0
Men	100.0	4.1	1.6	19.7	8.5	20.5	8.7	2.1	34.8	0.0
Women	100.0	0.7	0.5	13.8	0.4	36.1	1.3	1.9	45.4	0.0
1995 Total	100.0	3.2	1.1	18.3	4.7	27.9	4.9	1.4	38.5	0.0
Men	100.0	5.4	1.5	20.9	8.1	21.7	7.7	1.3	33.4	0.0
Women	100.0	0.5	0.5	15.0	0.5	35.8	1.2	1.5	45.0	0.0
2001 Total	100.0	5.3	1.2	18.5	6.1	29.3	6.4	4.6	28.7	0.0
Men	100.0	8.5	1.6	19.3	10.9	25.3	10.4	5.5	18.6	0.0
Women	100.0	1.4	0.7	17.5	0.3	34.0	1.6	3.5	40.9	0.0

(continued...)

TABLE 7-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (SELECTED COUNTRIES):
URBAN EMPLOYMENT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND SEX, 1990 - 2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	Total	Agriculture, fishing and mining	Electricity, gas and waterworks	Manufacturing industries	Construction	Trade	Transportation, storage and communications	Financial establishments	Community, social and personal services	Unspecified activities
2005 Total	100.0	6.4	0.6	19.3	5.7	30.1	5.6	5.0	27.2	0.0
Men	100.0	10.6	0.8	19.2	10.2	25.6	9.2	6.1	18.3	0.0
Women	100.0	1.3	0.3	19.6	0.3	35.6	1.1	3.6	38.2	0.0
Panama										
1991 Total	100.0	4.6	1.7	11.4	3.2	26.3	8.6	6.7	37.5	0.1
Men	100.0	7.6	2.2	13.5	5.4	28.4	12.5	6.7	23.7	0.1
Women	100.0	0.4	1.0	8.4	0.3	23.3	3.3	6.8	56.4	0.1
1995 Total	100.0	3.5	1.3	12.1	6.7	25.3	9.3	8.0	33.7	0.0
Men	100.0	5.2	1.7	14.2	10.9	25.8	13.0	7.5	21.8	0.0
Women	100.0	0.8	0.8	9.0	0.4	24.6	3.7	8.7	52.0	0.0
2000 Total	100.0	2.7	0.8	10.3	7.8	26.4	9.1	9.6	33.3	0.0
Men	100.0	4.2	1.1	12.5	12.5	26.3	12.5	8.7	22.4	0.0
Women	100.0	0.4	0.4	7.1	0.9	26.5	4.1	11.0	49.5	0.0
2005 Total	100.0	2.6	0.8	9.0	8.7	28.6	9.3	9.7	31.5	0.0
Men	100.0	4.2	1.0	10.7	14.0	27.6	13.5	9.1	19.8	0.0
Women	100.0	0.4	0.3	6.5	0.9	30.0	3.2	10.5	48.3	0.0
Paraguay^v										
1995 Total	100.0	8.5	0.8	14.6	7.5	31.6	4.8	4.7	27.5	0.0
Men	100.0	7.8	1.2	18.1	13.1	27.5	7.4	5.3	19.4	0.0
Women	100.0	9.3	0.1	9.9	0.0	37.1	1.3	4.0	38.3	0.0
2000-2001 Total	100.0	4.5	0.8	14.2	5.4	34.6	5.3	5.6	29.5	0.0
Men	100.0	5.9	1.1	17.3	9.6	33.9	8.4	6.8	17.0	0.0
Women	100.0	2.9	0.4	10.4	0.2	35.5	1.3	4.1	45.2	0.0
2005 Total	100.0	5.8	1.1	12.7	7.1	31.1	5.0	6.2	31.0	0.0
Men	100.0	6.7	1.6	14.3	12.9	32.1	7.3	7.5	17.5	0.0
Women	100.0	4.7	0.4	10.7	0.0	29.9	2.0	4.6	47.6	0.0
Peru^{vi}										
1990 Total	100.0	1.6	0.7	21.3	5.0	31.3	5.8	5.0	29.4	0.0
Men	100.0	2.0	0.8	23.4	7.7	25.5	8.4	6.1	26.1	0.0
Women	100.0	1.0	0.4	18.1	0.8	40.2	1.7	3.3	34.5	0.0
1995 Total	100.0	1.4	0.2	19.9	5.2	31.8	7.5	7.7	26.3	0.0
Men	100.0	2.0	0.3	22.6	8.5	24.4	11.7	10.0	20.7	0.0
Women	100.0	0.5	0.1	15.9	0.3	42.7	1.3	4.4	34.7	0.0
2000 Total	100.0	1.0	0.5	16.2	4.3	32.5	9.8	8.5	27.2	0.0
Men	100.0	1.5	0.7	18.8	7.1	23.5	15.6	9.7	23.1	0.0
Women	100.0	0.3	0.2	12.9	0.6	44.3	2.1	6.9	32.7	0.0
2005 Total	100.0	1.0	0.1	18.4	5.2	31.5	9.9	7.7	26.2	0.0
Men	100.0	1.6	0.2	22.2	8.8	22.8	15.5	8.8	20.2	0.0
Women	100.0	0.2	0.0	13.2	0.3	43.4	2.3	6.2	34.4	0.0
Uruguay										
1997 Total	100.0	4.6	1.2	16.9	6.5	20.1	6.1	6.7	38.0	0.0
Men	100.0	6.6	1.6	18.6	10.8	20.0	9.0	6.5	26.8	0.0
Women	100.0	1.6	0.7	14.4	0.4	20.1	2.0	6.9	53.9	0.0
2000 Total	100.0	4.0	1.2	14.4	8.2	18.9	6.1	9.0	35.1	3.1
Men	100.0	6.1	1.5	16.4	13.9	18.4	8.9	8.7	21.2	4.8
Women	100.0	1.2	0.7	11.8	0.4	19.5	2.2	9.4	53.9	0.8
2005 Total	100.0	4.7	0.9	13.9	6.7	22.6	5.5	9.8	35.8	0.1
Men	100.0	7.2	1.1	15.7	11.8	24.3	7.9	10.7	21.3	0.1
Women	100.0	1.6	0.5	11.7	0.3	20.6	2.6	8.6	54.1	0.1

(continued...)

TABLE 7-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (SELECTED COUNTRIES):
URBAN EMPLOYMENT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND SEX, 1990 - 2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year and Sex	Total	Agriculture, fishing and mining	Electricity, gas and waterworks	Manufacturing industries	Construction	Trade	Transportation, storage and communications	Financial establishments	Community, social and personal services	Unspecified activities
Venezuela ^{k/}										
1995 Total	100.0	14.2	0.9	13.4	8.1	22.9	6.1	5.7	28.6	0.2
Men	100.0	20.0	1.1	14.0	11.4	20.6	8.2	5.1	19.4	0.1
Women	100.0	2.2	0.5	12.0	1.1	27.7	1.7	6.8	47.6	0.4
2000 Total	100.0	11.2	0.6	13.3	8.3	25.8	6.8	4.9	29.0	0.1
Men	100.0	16.5	0.9	14.4	12.4	21.4	9.7	4.8	19.8	0.1
Women	100.0	1.8	0.3	11.3	0.9	33.6	1.6	5.1	45.3	0.1
2005 Total	100.0	10.3	0.5	11.6	8.0	24.4	8.1	4.8	31.3	0.9
Men	100.0	15.3	0.7	12.7	12.4	19.7	11.6	5.1	21.5	0.9
Women	100.0	2.3	0.3	9.8	0.8	31.9	2.5	4.4	47.2	0.8

Source: ILO estimates based on household surveys of the countries.

- a/ 28 urban areas. Data from 1996 and 2000 are for October; data from 2005 correspond to the second semester. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.
- b/ Data for 1990 and 1995 correspond to capital cities and El Alto. Other years refer to urban areas. Data for 1990 correspond to the third round of the EIH Survey in September; 1995 data are from the eighth round of the EIH in June; 2000 data are from MECOVI (November); 2002 data are from MECOVI (November-December).
- c/ PNAD Survey of September of each year.
- d/ CASEN Survey.
- e/ Data from 1991, 1995 and 2000 are from the ENH Survey of September of each year; for 2005, they are from the ECH, second quarter (capital cities). Data from 2000 are for 10 cities and metropolitan areas; data are for June from the ENH Survey, Stage 1; data from 2005 are for April-June of the ECH Survey. Data from 1991 and 1995 are for 13 metropolitan areas.
- f/ Data for 2005 are for the fourth quarter.
- g/ Data from 1990, 1995 and 2000 are for the third quarter; data from 2005 are from the second quarter. Estimates for 2005 are from the ENOE Survey; data from previous years are from the ENEU Survey.
- h/ Data from 1993 are for urban areas of eight municipalities; 1995: urban areas of 17 municipalities; 2001: urban areas of 31 municipalities, EPE Survey. Data from 1993, 1995 and 2001: ENMEU Survey; data from 2005: EMEU-R Survey.
- i/ Data from 1995 are for July-November; 2000-2001: September 2000- August 2001; 2005: October-December.
- j/ Metropolitan Lima.
- k/ National coverage. Data from second semester.



TABLE 8-A

**LATIN AMERICA (SELECTED COUNTRIES): URBAN EMPLOYED POPULATION
WITH HEALTH AND/OR PENSION COVERAGE, 1995-2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year, Sex and Type of Risk	Informal sector				Formal sector	Total employed persons
	Independent workers	Microenterprises	Domestic service	Total		
Latin America						
1995						
Health and/or pension						
Total	9.8	12.1	3.8	25.7	80.0	53.0
Men	11.0	14.2	0.7	26.0	78.4	53.7
Women	8.2	9.2	8.0	25.5	82.6	52.1
2000						
Health and/or pension						
Total	9.1	11.9	4.4	25.3	79.4	53.6
Men	10.1	13.4	0.5	24.0	77.8	53.3
Women	7.8	9.9	9.4	27.0	81.9	54.2
2005						
Health and/or pension						
Total	14.2	14.3	5.0	33.4	81.8	58.9
Men	14.8	16.1	0.6	31.4	80.6	58.5
Women	13.7	12.0	10.3	36.0	83.6	59.6
Argentina ^{a/}						
2000						
Health						
Total	n.a.	10.9	0.8	11.7	73.0	44.6
Men	n.a.	12.2	0.0	12.2	71.8	44.9
Women	n.a.	9.2	1.8	11.0	74.9	44.1
Pension						
Total	n.a.	10.9	0.9	11.8	72.8	44.5
Men	n.a.	12.1	0.0	12.1	71.4	44.7
Women	n.a.	9.1	2.2	11.3	74.9	44.2
Health and/or pension						
Total	n.a.	11.2	1.0	12.2	73.7	45.2
Men	n.a.	12.4	0.0	12.4	72.3	45.3
Women	n.a.	9.5	2.4	11.9	75.9	45.0
2005						
Health						
Total	15.0	20.4	5.3	40.6	79.5	62.7
Men	14.7	22.1	0.3	37.1	79.2	61.2
Women	15.3	18.1	11.9	45.3	79.8	64.8
Pension						
Total	n.a.	9.6	1.1	10.7	66.4	42.6
Men	n.a.	10.5	0.1	10.6	67.4	43.5
Women	n.a.	8.4	2.4	10.8	65.0	41.4
Health and/or pension						
Total	15.0	20.7	5.5	41.2	80.6	63.6
Men	14.7	22.6	0.3	37.6	80.7	62.3
Women	15.3	18.3	12.3	45.9	80.4	65.4
Brazil ^{b/}						
1995						
Health and/or pension						
Total	14.6	14.1	4.5	33.2	84.0	57.6
Men	17.1	17.5	0.8	35.4	82.9	59.7
Women	11.4	9.7	9.2	30.3	85.9	54.7
2001						
Health and/or pension						
Total	12.8	14.8	6.2	33.8	83.3	58.3
Men	14.7	17.2	0.9	32.8	82.1	58.3
Women	10.4	11.8	13.0	35.2	85.1	58.2
2005						
Health and/or pension						
Total	13.2	15.5	6.4	35.1	84.7	60.4
Men	14.8	18.1	0.8	33.7	83.8	60.4
Women	11.4	12.5	12.9	36.7	86.2	60.3
Chile ^{c/}						
1996						
Health						
Total	31.3	30.7	15.5	77.4	90.6	86.1
Men	36.3	35.3	0.5	72.1	89.9	84.6
Women	24.9	24.8	34.4	84.1	92.1	88.8

(continued...)



TABLE 8-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA (SELECTED COUNTRIES): URBAN EMPLOYED POPULATION
WITH HEALTH AND/OR PENSION COVERAGE, 1995-2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year, Sex and Type of Risk	Informal sector				Formal sector	Total employed persons
	Independent workers	Microenterprises	Domestic service	Total		
Pension						
Total	10.7	21.7	8.6	41.0	83.7	69.0
Men	14.2	25.4	0.4	39.9	84.2	70.8
Women	6.2	17.1	19.0	42.3	82.6	65.9
Health and/or pension						
Total	32.5	32.2	16.0	80.7	94.4	89.7
Men	38.0	37.2	0.5	75.7	94.0	88.5
Women	25.5	25.9	35.6	87.1	95.4	91.9
	2000					
Health						
Total	34.7	28.4	17.5	80.5	92.2	88.4
Men	39.5	34.2	0.4	74.1	91.3	86.6
Women	29.2	21.9	36.7	87.8	93.7	91.4
Pension						
Total	8.2	18.7	8.9	35.8	77.3	64.0
Men	10.6	22.8	0.3	33.7	77.2	65.3
Women	5.5	14.1	18.5	38.2	77.5	62.1
Health and/or pension						
Total	34.9	28.8	17.6	81.3	93.5	89.6
Men	39.9	34.8	0.4	75.1	92.8	88.0
Women	29.3	22.1	36.9	88.4	94.7	92.2
	2003					
Health						
Total	38.3	27.7	19.2	85.2	94.7	91.7
Men	46.3	33.0	0.7	80.1	94.1	90.2
Women	29.2	21.7	40.1	91.0	95.8	94.0
Pension						
Total	10.5	17.4	10.3	38.2	81.1	67.5
Men	14.2	20.6	0.6	35.4	82.8	69.6
Women	6.3	13.8	21.3	41.4	78.1	64.1
Health and/or pension						
Total	38.9	28.3	19.5	86.7	96.2	93.2
Men	47.4	33.7	0.8	81.9	95.7	91.9
Women	29.4	22.1	40.7	92.2	97.1	95.2
	2005					
Colombia ^{d/}						
	2000					
Health						
Total	7.9	11.2	2.9	22.0	79.1	47.4
Men	9.2	12.8	0.3	22.3	76.8	47.0
Women	6.2	9.4	6.1	21.6	82.1	47.9
Pension						
Total	3.0	6.0	1.4	10.4	64.1	34.3
Men	3.6	6.6	0.2	10.3	60.9	33.3
Women	2.4	5.3	2.8	10.5	68.3	35.6
Health and/or pension						
Total	8.1	11.4	3.0	22.5	79.4	47.8
Men	9.5	13.0	0.3	22.7	77.2	47.4
Women	6.5	9.5	6.2	22.1	82.3	48.2
	2005					
Health						
Total	44.9	20.1	6.2	71.2	91.8	79.7
Men	43.9	23.4	0.4	67.7	90.6	77.4
Women	46.1	16.1	13.3	75.5	93.5	82.6
Pension						
Total	3.1	3.7	1.1	8.0	69.7	33.4
Men	3.6	3.9	0.1	7.6	66.3	32.5
Women	2.5	3.5	2.4	8.5	74.4	34.5
Health and/or pension						
Total	44.9	20.2	6.2	71.3	92.0	79.8
Men	43.9	23.5	0.4	67.8	90.8	77.5
Women	46.1	16.1	13.3	75.6	93.6	82.7
	1995					
Costa Rica						
Health and/or pension						
Total	25.1	36.1	6.6	67.7	92.6	84.1
Men	22.7	40.9	0.5	64.2	90.8	81.9
Women	28.9	28.1	16.5	73.6	96.1	87.9



TABLE 8-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA (SELECTED COUNTRIES): URBAN EMPLOYED POPULATION
WITH HEALTH AND/OR PENSION COVERAGE, 1995-2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year, Sex and Type of Risk	Informal sector				Formal sector	Total employed persons
	Independent workers	Microenterprises	Domestic service	Total		
2000						
Health and/or pension						
Total	24.9	32.3	9.1	66.3	89.0	81.0
Men	25.5	33.4	0.7	59.5	86.8	77.6
Women	23.9	30.7	21.9	76.6	92.8	86.7
2005						
Health and/or pension						
Total	25.5	28.8	8.0	62.2	91.0	79.5
Men	22.0	31.9	0.8	54.6	88.2	75.9
Women	30.0	24.7	17.2	71.9	96.1	85.2
Ecuador^{e/}						
1995						
Health and/or pension						
Total	5.6	5.7	2.1	13.4	62.7	34.9
Men	5.3	6.7	0.6	12.6	59.4	35.0
Women	5.9	4.4	4.1	14.5	69.5	34.7
2000						
Health and/or pension						
Total	5.1	4.4	1.4	10.9	51.4	28.5
Men	5.1	4.9	0.4	10.4	47.2	27.4
Women	5.0	3.9	2.8	11.7	59.3	30.2
2005						
Health and/or pension						
Total	4.6	6.0	1.3	11.9	58.9	31.7
Men	4.4	6.6	0.3	11.3	55.2	31.6
Women	4.9	5.2	2.5	12.6	66.0	31.9
El Salvador						
1995						
Health and/or pension						
Total	0.6	2.5	0.1	3.2	67.6	34.7
Men	0.8	3.2	0.0	4.1	63.8	38.2
Women	0.5	1.8	0.2	2.5	74.2	30.5
2000						
Health						
Total	8.1	7.0	0.6	15.6	77.9	44.8
Men	4.0	8.5	0.1	12.6	72.0	44.5
Women	11.4	5.2	1.0	17.6	84.1	43.8
Health and/or pension						
Total	8.1	7.2	0.6	15.8	79.1	45.5
Men	4.1	8.9	0.1	13.1	74.1	45.8
Women	11.5	5.7	1.0	18.2	86.8	45.2
2005						
Health						
Total	7.6	5.8	0.7	14.0	77.1	41.9
Men	4.7	6.4	0.5	11.7	71.6	41.5
Women	10.2	5.2	0.8	16.2	85.1	42.4
Health and/or pension						
Total	7.7	6.1	0.7	14.5	78.8	42.9
Men	4.8	7.0	0.5	12.3	73.6	42.8
Women	10.4	5.3	0.8	16.5	86.4	43.0
Mexico^{f/}						
1995						
Health						
Total	0.0	5.0	1.9	6.9	74.4	45.1
Men	0.1	5.1	0.6	5.7	72.3	44.1
Women	0.0	4.8	4.1	8.9	78.2	46.8
Pension						
Total	0.0	2.4	0.1	2.6	60.9	35.5
Men	0.0	2.4	0.2	2.5	58.5	34.7
Women	0.0	2.5	0.1	2.6	65.5	37.0
Health and/or pension						
Total	0.0	5.0	1.9	6.9	75.4	45.6
Men	0.1	5.1	0.6	5.7	73.0	44.5
Women	0.0	4.8	4.1	8.9	79.7	47.7

(continued...)

TABLE 8-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA (SELECTED COUNTRIES): URBAN EMPLOYED POPULATION
WITH HEALTH AND/OR PENSION COVERAGE, 1995-2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year, Sex and Type of Risk	Informal sector				Formal sector	Total employed persons
	Independent workers	Microenterprises	Domestic service	Total		
2000						
Health						
Total	0.1	5.1	1.1	6.2	76.6	48.9
Men	0.0	5.1	0.1	5.2	75.1	48.0
Women	0.1	5.1	2.7	7.9	79.3	50.4
Pension						
Total	0.0	3.8	0.1	3.9	71.5	44.9
Men	0.0	3.7	0.0	3.7	69.8	44.2
Women	0.1	4.1	0.1	4.2	74.6	46.1
Health and/or pension						
Total	0.1	5.1	1.1	6.3	78.0	49.7
Men	0.0	5.1	0.1	5.2	76.5	48.9
Women	0.1	5.2	2.7	8.0	80.8	51.3
2005						
Health						
Total	0.5	6.6	0.8	7.9	77.2	47.8
Men	0.5	6.9	0.3	7.7	75.8	48.2
Women	0.5	6.2	1.5	8.3	79.4	47.4
Pension						
Total	0.8	5.0	0.2	6.0	69.3	42.4
Men	1.1	4.8	0.2	6.2	67.8	42.7
Women	0.3	5.1	0.2	5.6	71.8	41.9
Health and/or pension						
Total	1.3	7.0	0.9	9.2	78.3	49.1
Men	1.7	7.4	0.4	9.5	77.0	49.6
Women	0.9	6.4	1.5	8.8	80.6	48.3
Panama						
2003						
Health and/or pension						
Total	14.2	11.9	6.0	32.0	87.0	65.9
Men	12.7	12.1	1.2	26.0	85.2	62.7
Women	16.3	11.5	12.9	40.7	89.6	70.6
2005						
Health and/or pension						
Total	12.8	9.1	6.3	28.1	85.5	63.9
Men	10.6	9.2	1.6	21.3	82.4	60.4
Women	15.7	8.9	12.5	37.1	90.3	69.0
Paraguay^{g/}						
1995						
Health						
Total	3.6	4.1	0.9	8.6	53.2	23.8
Men	2.7	4.5	0.4	7.7	49.4	25.6
Women	4.8	3.4	1.7	9.9	61.4	21.4
Pension						
Total	1.1	2.5	0.3	3.9	53.7	21.5
Men	0.8	3.1	0.1	4.0	49.9	23.9
Women	1.5	1.5	0.6	3.7	62.0	18.2
Health and/or pension						
Total	3.7	4.2	1.0	8.9	58.9	25.9
Men	2.8	4.5	0.4	7.8	54.6	27.8
Women	5.0	3.6	1.8	10.4	68.4	23.4
2000 - 2001						
Health						
Total	6.1	7.1	1.1	14.3	53.8	29.9
Men	3.8	7.6	0.4	11.9	48.9	28.6
Women	8.5	6.6	1.8	16.8	62.4	31.5
Pension						
Total	0.0	1.8	0.1	1.9	45.9	19.2
Men	0.0	2.4	0.1	2.5	41.2	19.9
Women	0.0	1.1	0.1	1.2	54.1	18.2
Health and/or pension						
Total	6.1	7.2	1.1	14.4	58.0	31.6
Men	3.8	7.7	0.4	12.0	51.9	30.1
Women	8.5	6.6	1.8	16.8	68.5	33.5

(continued...)

TABLE 8-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA (SELECTED COUNTRIES): URBAN EMPLOYED POPULATION
WITH HEALTH AND/OR PENSION COVERAGE, 1995-2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year, Sex and Type of Risk	Informal sector				Formal sector	Total employed persons
	Independent workers	Microenterprises	Domestic service	Total		
2005						
Health						
Total	7.7	6.1	1.5	15.3	58.5	32.1
Men	3.1	7.7	0.5	11.3	52.7	29.4
Women	12.4	4.5	2.5	19.5	67.8	35.5
Pension						
Total	0.2	1.8	0.4	2.3	46.7	19.6
Men	0.1	2.3	0.3	2.7	41.7	19.7
Women	0.3	1.2	0.4	1.9	54.8	19.4
Health and/or pension						
Total	7.7	6.3	1.5	15.4	61.3	33.3
Men	3.1	7.8	0.5	11.4	55.2	30.6
Women	12.4	4.6	2.5	19.6	71.2	36.6
Peru^{h/}						
1995						
Health						
Total	12.0	12.8	1.5	26.4	74.2	44.5
Men	9.6	15.6	0.1	25.3	74.8	46.6
Women	15.0	9.5	3.2	27.7	73.0	41.3
Pension						
Total	4.3	9.7	0.6	14.7	68.0	34.8
Men	5.8	12.1	0.0	18.0	70.0	40.3
Women	2.6	6.8	1.4	10.7	63.7	26.6
Health and/or pension						
Total	12.3	13.2	1.5	27.0	74.8	45.0
Men	9.8	16.2	0.1	26.0	75.4	47.3
Women	15.2	9.5	3.3	28.1	73.7	41.8
2000						
Health						
Total	10.0	5.2	1.5	16.7	62.7	35.7
Men	8.7	5.7	0.1	14.5	60.8	36.4
Women	11.4	4.6	3.0	19.0	66.4	34.8
Pension						
Total	3.1	2.9	0.5	6.5	56.3	27.0
Men	4.0	3.2	0.0	7.2	57.7	31.1
Women	2.2	2.6	0.9	5.7	53.7	21.7
Health and/or pension						
Total	10.3	5.5	1.5	17.3	64.1	36.6
Men	9.2	6.1	0.1	15.5	62.4	37.6
Women	11.4	4.8	3.0	19.2	67.5	35.3
2005						
Health						
Total	6.7	4.0	0.9	11.6	58.0	32.5
Men	3.7	4.8	0.0	8.5	58.2	32.8
Women	10.3	3.2	1.9	15.3	57.5	32.2
Pension						
Total	1.9	2.3	0.2	4.5	54.3	27.0
Men	2.4	2.9	0.0	5.2	54.9	29.5
Women	1.4	1.6	0.5	3.5	53.4	23.5
Health and/or pension						
Total	6.9	4.2	0.9	12.0	58.7	33.0
Men	3.8	4.9	0.0	8.8	58.6	33.1
Women	10.4	3.4	1.9	15.7	58.7	32.9
Uruguay						
1997						
Health						
Total	37.7	23.8	28.8	90.3	97.0	94.3
Men	44.0	29.3	14.4	87.6	96.7	93.4
Women	30.6	17.6	45.1	93.3	97.7	95.7
Health and/or pension						
Total	37.7	23.8	28.8	90.3	97.0	94.3
Men	44.0	29.3	14.4	87.6	96.7	93.4
Women	30.6	17.6	45.1	93.3	97.7	95.7

(continued...)

TABLE 8-A (continued)

**LATIN AMERICA (SELECTED COUNTRIES): URBAN EMPLOYED POPULATION
WITH HEALTH AND/OR PENSION COVERAGE, 1995-2005**
(Percentages)

Country, Year, Sex and Type of Risk	Informal sector				Formal sector	Total employed persons
	Independent workers	Microenterprises	Domestic service	Total		
2001						
Health						
Total	43.8	29.3	20.5	93.6	98.0	96.2
Men	51.7	37.8	2.6	92.1	97.8	95.6
Women	34.4	19.1	41.8	95.3	98.3	96.9
Pension						
Total	9.2	17.0	7.1	33.3	87.5	65.0
Men	10.9	20.6	1.7	33.2	86.5	65.6
Women	7.3	12.7	13.5	33.4	89.0	64.3
Health and/or pension						
Total	44.3	29.5	20.5	94.4	98.7	96.9
Men	52.4	38.2	2.6	93.1	98.4	96.3
Women	34.7	19.3	41.9	95.8	99.2	97.7
2005						
Health						
Total	47.1	42.0	4.5	93.6	98.1	96.1
Men	53.6	37.7	0.8	92.0	97.5	95.2
Women	39.7	47.0	8.7	95.4	98.8	97.2
Pension						
Total	10.6	18.8	1.3	30.7	86.8	61.9
Men	11.9	18.7	0.3	31.0	85.4	62.2
Women	9.0	19.0	2.4	30.3	88.6	61.6
Health and/or pension						
Total	47.4	42.2	4.5	94.0	98.7	96.6
Men	53.8	38.0	0.8	92.6	98.2	95.8
Women	39.9	47.1	8.7	95.7	99.3	97.6

Source: ILO estimates based on household surveys of the countries.

Notes:

- n.a. = not available.

- The estimates for health and/or pension coverage presented for independent workers, microenterprises and domestic service workers are calculated as a proportion of total employed in the informal sector, whereas estimates presented for workers in the informal sector (total), formal sector and total employed are calculated as a proportion of each respective category.

a/ 28 urban areas. Data from 2000 for the EPH Survey are from October; data from 2005 of the EPH Survey are from the second semester. New measurement beginning in 2003; data are not comparable with previous years.

b/ PNAD Survey of September of each year.

c/ CASEN Survey.

d/ Data for 2000 correspond to 10 cities and metropolitan areas and data are from April-June of the ENH Survey, Stage 1; data from 2005 are from April-June of the ECH Survey.

e/ Data for 2005 are for the fourth quarter.

f/ Data for 1995 and 2000 are through the third quarter; data for 2005 correspond to the second quarter. Estimates for 2005 are based on the ENOE Survey; ENEU survey for previous years.

g/ Data from 1995 are for July-November; 2000-2001: September 2000- August 2001; 2005: October-December. EPE Survey.

h/ Metropolitan Lima.



TABLE 9-A

**LATIN AMERICA: REAL MANUFACTURING WAGES,
1990, 1995 - THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006**
(1990 Index = 100)

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005	2006
													Through the third quarter ^{f/}	
Argentina ^{a/}	100.0	97.7	98.2	94.5	93.9	94.4	95.8	94.3	76.3	82.2	99.5	109.0	7.5	15.4
Bolivia ^{b/}	100.0	108.8	109.1	117.7	120.5	127.7	130.3	132.5	139.3	...	...	...	...	...
Brazil ^{c/}	100.0	128.4	132.8	137.4	140.3	135.3	133.2	135.1	132.6	127.8	137.5	140.8	2.1 ^{g/}	1.1 ^{g/}
Chile ^{c/}	100.0	128.5	132.9	138.8	142.0	143.7	144.2	144.8	146.6	148.1	150.0	153.0	1.8	1.7
Colombia ^{d/}	100.0	113.3	115.9	120.7	120.9	126.2	131.0	130.7	134.5	134.4	135.8	137.1	0.9 ^{h/}	3.0 ^{h/}
Costa Rica ^{c/}	100.0	112.0	110.2	115.0	119.1	124.3	137.0	137.2	146.7	144.5	147.1	175.9	...	...
Ecuador ^{c/}	100.0	152.9	161.2	157.5	151.2	138.7	132.1	134.7	161.0	151.7	160.8	151.4	-9.7	18.1
Honduras ^{c/}	100.0	100.7	93.9	96.5	99.7	119.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mexico ^{c/}	100.0	113.4	102.0	101.5	104.4	105.9	112.2	119.8	122.1	123.7	124.0	123.7	-0.4	0.9
Panama ^{c/}	...	101.9	112.8	109.6	116.5	121.5	138.3	139.5	137.3	134.9	148.1	145.7	...	...
Paraguay ^{a/}	100.0	98.5	99.1	99.0	99.2	95.3	98.8	103.1	98.4	95.9	93.0	...	...	...
Peru ^{e/}	100.0	126.4	123.1	123.0	116.4	115.2	118.8	116.2	110.3	119.3	119.1	...	...	...
Uruguay ^{c/}	100.0	104.2	103.0	102.6	103.6	103.5	102.2	100.4	89.0	78.8	78.3	82.4	4.0	5.6
Venezuela ^{c/}	100.0	80.7	68.1	85.5	90.1	81.5	83.2	84.6	77.9	64.5	61.0	59.7	16.2	12.8

Source: ILO, based on official country information.

a/ Non supervisory worker manufacturing wage.

b/ Non supervisory worker manufacturing wage, La Paz.

c/ Manufacturing industry earnings.

d/ Manufacturing industry earnings including coffee threshing.

e/ Non supervisory worker manufacturing wage, Metropolitan Lima.

f/ Corresponds to the annualized growth rate of the first three quarters.

g/ January-August.

h/ January-July.

TABLE 10-A

**LATIN AMERICA: REAL URBAN MINIMUM WAGES,
1990, 1995 - THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006**
(1990 Index = 100)

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005	2006
													Through the third quarter ^{g/}	
Argentina ^{a/}	100.0	195.5	195.2	194.2	192.4	194.7	196.6	198.7	160.0	165.1	255.1	336.3	34.4	12.4
Bolivia ^{a/}	100.0	193.2	185.8	191.0	222.6	232.4	246.5	273.4	291.2	288.3	276.1	262.5	...	...
Brazil ^{a/}	100.0	121.1	120.5	124.3	128.5	130.4	134.0	148.8	155.0	159.5	164.9	174.6	4.9	13.0
Chile ^{a/}	100.0	129.3	134.6	139.4	147.7	160.9	172.5	179.1	184.3	186.5	191.7	195.4	1.8	2.3
Colombia ^{a/}	100.0	96.9	95.1	97.1	97.0	101.4	102.1	104.0	105.7	106.0	107.9	109.5	1.4	2.6
Costa Rica ^{b/}	100.0	95.9	95.9	99.7	102.9	105.6	104.9	105.6	105.9	106.4	104.5	104.8	0.2	1.3
Dominican Republic ^{b/}	100.0	119.2	120.4	118.4	127.3	127.2	125.5	133.2	131.8	119.8	100.4	120.8	25.2	-7.9
Ecuador ^{a/}	100.0	137.5	150.8	145.6	134.9	120.5	116.2	129.5	131.1	138.9	142.1	146.5	3.3	3.2
El Salvador ^{b/}	100.0	90.3	86.1	82.5	85.2	87.2	85.2	81.9	80.5	82.2	81.1	77.4	-4.4	-3.0
Guatemala ^{b/ c/}	...	103.7	102.7	93.9	98.7	102.4	107.1	115.5	115.8	125.2	124.1	124.8	3.6	2.8
Haiti ^{a/}	100.0	81.2	67.3	57.9	51.4	47.3	41.7	43.0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Honduras ^{b/}	100.0	88.6	92.5	90.6	91.9	89.2	91.9	94.2	96.5	104.8	105.6	111.8	6.6	4.8
Jamaica	100.0	88.8	85.7	83.0	82.1	81.8	77.3	75.9	75.6	...	...	...	...	...
Mexico ^{a/}	100.0	79.3	72.2	71.4	71.8	69.4	69.8	70.1	70.6	70.6	70.3	70.6	0.2	0.7
Nicaragua ^{d/}	...	89.9	80.6	85.5	130.6	126.8	126.2	128.9	129.6	137.7	143.2	147.2	3.7	7.3
Panama ^{b/}	100.0	107.1	112.4	111.0	114.2	118.1	122.6	130.9	129.6	129.7	131.6	127.4	-2.9	2.4
Paraguay ^{a/}	100.0	85.4	87.2	91.9	90.7	86.5	90.3	93.5	93.1	95.7	92.5	94.3	2.3	2.4
Peru ^{a/}	100.0	68.7	71.0	127.6	145.5	140.7	156.2	158.4	158.1	160.0	167.2	164.5	-1.7	6.4
Trinidad and Tobago ^{c/}	...	74.1	71.6	69.1	122.2	118.1	114.0	108.1	103.8	...	...	...	...	...
Uruguay ^{a/}	100.0	62.4	60.3	59.0	61.4	61.7	60.6	59.8	53.7	47.1	47.0	80.0	66.0	17.2
Venezuela ^{a/}	100.0	97.3	83.5	73.9	76.1	76.4	78.8	78.1	75.9	67.2	76.6	85.8	13.0	12.2
Average^{e/}	100.0	109.0	108.2	110.9	117.8	118.4	121.5	126.9	126.0	127.3	132.3	140.8	9.3	4.7
^{f/}	100.0	113.7	111.6	115.3	118.8	119.7	122.4	129.8	129.2	131.3	142.2	153.1	...	...

Source: ILO, based on official country information.

a/ National minimum wage.

b/ Lowest minimum manufacturing wage.

c/ 1991 Index = 100.

d/ 1994 Index = 100.

e/ Simple average. Does not include Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

f/ Weighted average. Does not include Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

g/ Estimated based on the annualized growth rate of the first three quarters.

TABLE 11-A

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
CHANGES IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX,
1995 - THROUGH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006**
(Annual percentage change)

Country	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005	2006
												Through the third quarter	
Argentina	3.4	0.2	0.5	0.9	-1.2	-0.9	-1.1	25.9	13.4	4.4	9.6	8.9	11.2
Bahamas	2.1	1.4	0.5	1.3	1.3	1.6	2.0	2.1	2.8	0.9	...	...	...
Barbados	1.8	3.0	7.7	-2.1	0.7	2.4	3.1	1.4	1.6	1.4	6.0	...	...
Bolivia	10.2	12.4	4.7	7.7	2.2	4.6	1.6	0.9	3.3	4.4	5.4	5.5	4.1
Brazil	66.0	16.0	6.9	3.2	4.9	7.1	6.8	8.4	14.8	6.6	6.9	7.1	4.5
Chile	8.2	7.4	6.1	5.1	3.3	3.8	3.6	2.5	2.8	1.1	3.1	2.8	3.8
Colombia	20.8	20.8	18.3	18.6	10.2	9.3	7.8	6.3	7.1	5.9	5.0	5.0	4.3
Costa Rica	23.2	17.5	13.2	11.7	10.0	11.0	11.3	9.2	9.5	11.7	13.6	13.7	12.1
Dominican Republic	12.5	5.4	8.3	4.8	6.5	7.7	8.9	5.2	27.4	51.5	4.2	3.5	8.6
Ecuador	22.9	24.4	30.6	36.1	52.2	96.1	37.7	12.5	7.9	2.7	2.1	1.9	3.4
El Salvador	10.1	9.8	4.5	2.5	0.5	2.3	3.7	1.9	2.9	4.5	3.7	4.6	4.2
Guatemala	8.4	11.0	9.2	6.6	5.2	6.0	7.6	8.1	5.6	7.6	9.1	8.2	7.0
Haiti	30.2	21.9	16.2	12.7	8.1	11.5	16.8	8.7	32.5	21.2	15.8	...	...
Honduras	29.5	23.8	20.2	13.7	11.6	11.0	9.7	7.7	7.7	8.1	8.1	9.1	5.8
Jamaica	19.9	34.0	9.7	8.6	2.5	8.2	7.0	7.1	10.3	13.4	15.3	...	...
Mexico	35.0	34.4	20.6	15.9	16.6	9.5	6.4	5.0	4.5	4.7	4.0	4.3	3.5
Nicaragua	11.2	11.6	9.2	13.0	11.2	11.5	7.4	4.0	5.2	9.3	9.6	9.3	10.4
Panama	-1.2	1.3	1.3	0.6	1.3	1.4	0.3	1.0	1.2	0.5	2.9	3.0	2.6
Paraguay	13.4	9.8	7.0	11.6	6.8	9.0	7.3	10.5	14.2	4.3	6.8	5.5	9.4
Peru	11.1	11.5	8.5	7.3	3.5	3.8	2.0	0.2	2.3	3.7	1.6	1.7	2.2
Trinidad and Tobago	6.6	4.2	3.6	5.6	1.5	3.5	5.6	4.2	3.8	3.7	6.9	...	...
Uruguay	42.2	28.3	19.8	10.8	5.7	4.8	4.4	14.0	19.4	9.2	4.7	4.7	6.5
Venezuela	59.9	99.9	50.0	35.8	23.6	16.2	12.5	22.4	31.1	21.7	15.9	16.2	12.8
Average^{a/}	38.4	23.8	13.5	10.0	9.1	7.8	6.0	9.7	10.8	6.8	6.5	6.5	5.7
Average^{b/}	38.1	23.7	13.4	9.9	9.0	7.7	6.0	9.6	10.8	6.8	6.5	...	...

Source: ILO, based on information from the IMF and official country information.

a/ Weighted average. Does not include Caribbean countries.

b/ Weighted average. Includes Caribbean countries.

TABLE 12-A

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, 1995 - 2005** ^{a/}
(Average annual rates)

Country	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 ^{a/}
Latin America	0.4	3.8	5.5	2.5	0.3	4.0	0.3	-0.8	1.9	6.0	4.5
Argentina	-2.8	5.5	8.1	3.9	-3.4	-0.8	-4.4	-10.9	8.8	9.0	9.2
Bolivia	4.7	4.4	5.0	5.0	0.4	2.5	1.7	2.4	2.8	3.6	4.1
Brazil	4.2	2.7	3.3	0.1	0.8	4.4	1.3	1.9	0.5	4.9	2.3
Chile	10.6	7.4	6.6	3.2	-0.8	4.5	3.4	2.2	3.9	6.2	6.3
Colombia	5.2	2.1	3.4	0.6	-4.2	2.9	1.5	1.9	3.9	4.8	5.1
Costa Rica	3.9	0.9	5.6	8.4	8.2	1.8	1.1	2.9	6.4	4.1	5.9
Cuba	2.5	7.8	2.7	0.2	6.3	6.1	3.0	1.5	2.9	4.5	...
Dominican Republic	5.9	7.2	8.1	8.3	6.1	7.9	2.3	5.0	-0.4	2.7	9.2
Ecuador	1.7	2.4	4.1	2.1	-6.3	2.8	5.3	4.2	3.6	7.6	3.9
El Salvador	6.4	1.7	4.2	3.7	3.4	2.2	1.7	2.3	2.3	1.8	2.8
Guatemala	4.9	3.0	4.4	5.0	3.8	3.6	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.7	3.2
Haiti	9.9	4.1	2.7	2.2	2.7	0.9	-1.0	-0.3	0.4	-3.5	1.8
Honduras	4.1	3.6	5.0	2.9	-1.9	5.7	2.6	2.7	3.5	5.0	4.1
Mexico	-6.2	5.2	6.8	5.0	3.8	6.6	0.0	0.8	1.4	4.2	3.0
Nicaragua	5.9	6.3	4.0	3.7	7.0	4.1	3.0	0.8	2.5	5.1	4.0
Panama	1.8	7.4	6.4	7.4	4.0	2.7	0.6	2.2	4.2	7.6	6.9
Paraguay	5.5	1.3	3.0	0.6	-1.5	-3.3	2.1	0.0	3.8	4.1	2.9
Peru	8.6	2.5	6.9	-0.7	0.9	3.0	0.2	5.2	3.9	5.2	6.5
Uruguay	-1.4	5.6	5.0	4.5	-2.8	-1.4	-3.4	-11.0	2.2	11.8	6.6
Venezuela	4.0	-0.2	6.4	0.3	-6.0	3.7	3.4	-8.9	-7.7	17.9	9.3
The Caribbean											
Anguilla ^{b/}	-4.1	3.5	9.2	5.2	8.7	-0.3	3.3	-3.1	3.3	16.3	11.7
Antigua and Barbuda ^{c/}	-5.0	6.1	5.6	4.9	4.9	3.3	1.5	2.1	5.5	5.9	4.0
Aruba ^{d/}	2.5	1.3	7.8	6.7	1.1	3.7	-0.7	-2.6	1.4	3.6	...
Bahamas ^{e/}	4.4	4.2	4.9	6.8	4.0	1.9	0.8	1.4	1.9	2.8	3.5
Barbados ^{b/}	2.4	3.2	4.6	6.2	0.5	2.4	-3.4	-0.5	2.2	6.3	3.1 ^{h/}
Belize	0.3	1.7	3.6	3.2	8.7	13.0	4.2	4.4	9.4	3.6	2.2 ^{h/}
Bermuda	...	...	...	...	...	3.4	...	...	4.7	1.3	...
Dominica	1.6	3.1	2.0	2.8	1.6	1.3	-4.2	-5.1	0.0	3.9	2.7
Grenada ^{c/}	3.1	2.9	4.4	7.9	7.3	7.0	-4.4	-0.4	5.7	6.0	-1.1
Guyana ^{f/}	5.0	7.9	6.2	-1.7	3.0	-1.3	2.3	1.2	1.2	0.6	1.3
Jamaica	2.5	0.3	-1.1	-1.1	0.9	0.8	1.5	1.1	2.5	0.9	0.7
Saint Kitts and Nevis ^{c/}	3.5	5.9	7.3	1.0	3.9	6.5	1.7	-0.3	0.6	5.6	5.3
Saint Vicente and the Grenadines ^{c/}	8.3	1.2	3.1	5.7	3.6	2.0	-0.1	2.0	3.6	11.6	-5.5
Saint Lucia ^{c/}	2.3	1.1	0.6	3.4	3.8	-0.4	-4.3	0.5	3.6	5.1	8.2
Suriname ^{g/}	2.9	7.8	9.1	3.3	-1.4	1.8	4.6	2.1	5.4	7.8	4.4
Trinidad and Tobago ^{b/}	3.6	3.9	2.8	7.7	4.4	...	4.3	6.8	13.2	6.2	7.0 ^{h/}
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.5	3.8	5.5	2.6	0.4	3.9	0.3	-0.8	2.0	5.9	4.5

Source: ILO, based on ECLAC data and official country information.

a/ Preliminary data.

b/ Source: UN-ECLAC database

c/ Source: ECCB in the UN-ECLAC database

d/ Central Bureau of Statistics, Aruba

e/ Source: Bahamas Central Statistical Office, National Accounts Estimates 1989-2002 and 2003-2004

f/ Guyana Bureau of Statistics, GDP Data series, 2006

g/ General Bureau of Statistics (National Accounts Department) in UN-ECLAC database. 1999: ECCB in the UN-ECLAC database.

h/ Preliminary data.



TABLE 13-A

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: PROJECTED URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY SEMESTER, 2001 - 2007 (*)
(Percentages)

Country	2001			2002			2003			2004			2005			2006			2007*	
	I	II	Annual	I	II	Annual	I	II	Annual	I	II	Annual	I	II	Annual	I	II*	Annual*	Annual	Annual
Latin America and the Caribbean ^{a/}	10.5	10.4	10.4	11.7	11.1	11.4	11.7	11.0	11.3	11.3	10.0	10.6	9.9	8.7	9.3	9.2	8.8	9.0	8.8	8.8
Selected countries ^{b/}	10.4	10.3	10.4	11.9	11.0	11.4	11.6	11.2	11.4	11.2	9.9	10.6	9.8	8.6	9.2	9.0	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.7
Argentina	16.4	18.4	17.4	21.5	17.8	19.7	15.6	15.4	17.3	14.6	12.7	13.6	12.6	10.6	11.6	10.9	10.0	10.5	9.9	9.9
Brazil	6.3	6.2	6.2	7.3	7.1	7.1	12.2	12.5	12.3	12.3	10.7	11.5	10.3	9.3	9.8	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Chile	9.3	9.0	9.2	9.2	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.4	8.5	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.3	7.7	8.0	8.4	7.1	7.8	7.7	7.7
Colombia	19.2	17.3	18.2	18.5	16.9	17.6	17.5	15.9	16.7	16.5	14.4	15.4	15.0	12.9	13.9	13.5	12.0	12.7	12.2	12.2
Ecuador	11.3	9.6	10.4	8.8	8.5	8.6	10.1	9.6	9.8	11.3	10.7	11.0	11.1	10.3	10.7	10.4	9.8	10.1	9.8	9.8
Mexico	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.1	5.1	4.6	5.3	5.3	5.3	4.9	4.6	4.7	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4
Peru ^{c/}	9.2	9.2	9.2	10.3	8.6	9.4	9.7	9.2	9.4	10.1	8.8	9.4	10.5	8.7	9.6	9.0	8.5	8.8	8.7	8.7
Uruguay	15.5	15.2	15.3	15.2	18.8	17.0	18.1	15.7	16.9	13.5	12.7	13.1	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2	11.2	11.7	11.7	11.7
Venezuela	13.8	12.8	13.3	15.5	16.2	15.9	19.3	16.8	18.0	16.7	13.9	15.3	13.2	11.3	12.2	10.6	9.1	9.8	9.5	9.5
Other countries ^{d/}	11.4	11.3	10.1	10.0	11.9	11.1	12.5	9.4	10.9	12.1	10.8	10.8	10.6	9.5	9.8	10.8	9.7	10.3	9.7	9.7

Source: ILO, based on estimates of the countries and the IMF.

a/ Weighted averages.

b/ Selected countries represent nearly 89% of the urban labour force.

c/ Corresponds to Metropolitan Lima.

d/ Includes Bolivia, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic, Central American and Caribbean countries. These

countries represent approximately 11% of the regional urban labour force.

* Figures correspond to forecasts for a 'moderate' GDP growth scenario.

1/ Includes new data from Argentina, Brazil and Mexico.

TABLE 14-A

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: PROJECTED ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE BY SEMESTER, 2001 - 2007 (*)
(Annual percentage change)

Country	2001			2002			2003			2004			2005			2006			2007 *
	I	II	Annual	I	II	Annual	I	II	Annual	I	II	Annual	I	II	Annual	I	II	Annual	Annual
Latin America and the Caribbean ^{a/}	1.8	-0.9	0.2	-2.2	0.6	-0.9	1.2	2.7	2.2	6.4	6.3	6.2	5.0	4.3	4.6	5.2	4.9	5.1	4.4
Selected countries ^{b/}	1.7	-0.9	0.2	-2.1	0.6	-0.8	1.2	2.5	2.0	6.4	6.3	6.2	4.8	4.1	4.5	5.0	4.8	4.9	4.2
Argentina	-1.1	-7.7	-4.4	-14.9	-6.6	-10.8	6.6	10.9	8.8	9.2	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.2	9.2	8.4	7.6	8.0	6.0
Brazil	3.2	0.6	1.3	0.4	3.4	1.9	0.4	-0.3	0.5	4.6	5.3	4.9	3.4	1.2	2.3	2.2	4.2	3.2	4.0
Chile	4.3	2.4	3.4	1.5	2.8	2.2	4.2	3.6	3.9	5.2	7.1	6.2	6.9	5.8	6.3	4.9	5.5	5.2	5.5
Colombia	1.8	1.2	1.5	1.0	2.9	1.9	4.2	3.6	3.9	5.0	4.6	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.7	4.7	5.2	4.5
Ecuador	6.1	4.6	5.3	4.7	3.8	4.2	1.7	5.6	3.6	9.7	6.2	7.6	4.6	4.9	4.7	5.1	3.7	4.4	3.2
Mexico	1.1	-1.4	-0.2	-0.2	1.9	0.8	1.3	1.6	1.4	3.7	4.7	4.2	2.9	3.1	3.0	5.1	3.7	4.4	3.3
Peru	-2.6	3.0	0.2	4.6	5.7	5.2	5.0	2.9	3.9	4.4	6.1	5.2	6.0	7.0	6.4	6.4	6.7	6.5	5.5
Uruguay	-1.6	-5.0	-3.4	-8.3	-13.7	-11.1	-6.3	10.9	2.2	13.3	11.5	11.8	6.9	5.6	6.6	8.3	4.7	6.5	4.2
Venezuela	2.9	3.9	3.4	-6.6	-10.9	-8.9	-15.0	-0.3	-7.7	24.6	13.1	17.9	8.7	9.9	9.3	9.6	5.4	7.5	3.7
Other countries ^{c/}	3.4	-1.8	0.4	-4.3	1.2	-1.6	2.4	5.2	4.1	2.9	4.2	3.6	7.2	5.7	6.3	9.5	7.6	8.6	7.6

Source: ILO, based on official information and estimates, IMF and ECLAC.

a/ Weighted averages.

b/ GDP of the group of selected countries represents nearly 92% of the regional GDP.

c/ Includes Bolivia, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic, Central American and Caribbean countries. These countries represent approximately 8% of the regional GDP.

* Figures correspond to forecasts for a 'moderate' GDP growth scenario.

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