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PLATFORM
LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN

Youth in Latin America and the Caribbean and the 2030 Agenda Challenges in the current context

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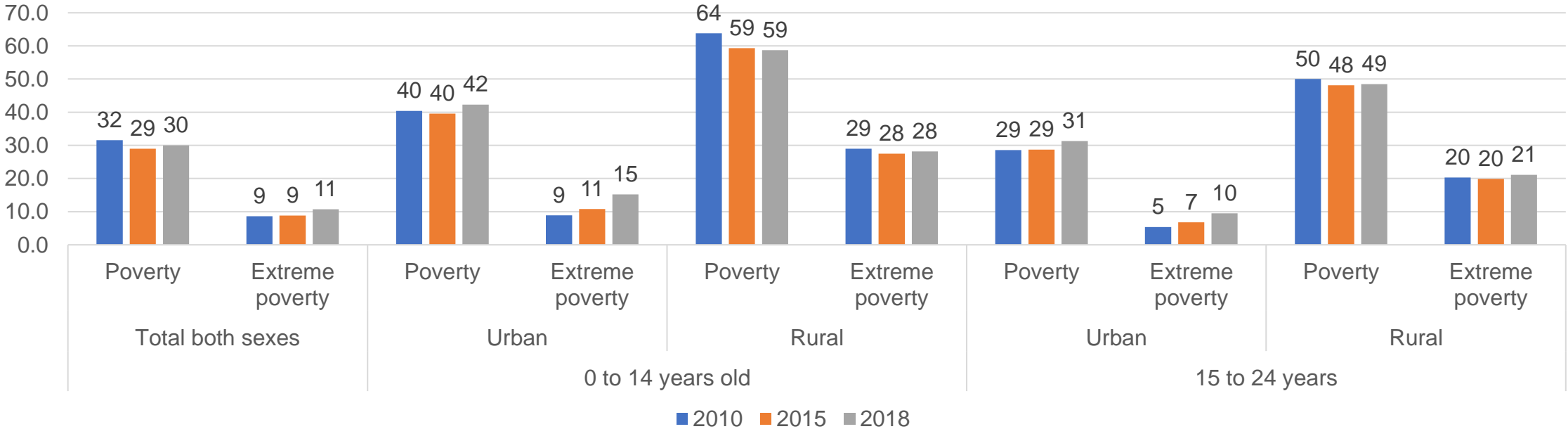
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CRITICAL NODES IN TIMES OF PANDEMIC: HEALTH, EDUCATION AND CARE

- Latin America and the Caribbean is the developing region most affected by the pandemic.
- Deepened structural inequalities with high informality, lack of social protection, and low productivity, exposing critical issues in health, education, and care.
- Risk factors: population density, overcrowding, lack of access to essential services.
- School closures and inequalities in online education. Risk of school dropout among young people.
- Overload of unpaid care work for women. Setback in labor inclusion of women and young people.

After sustained improvements during the 1990s and at the beginning of the 21st century, the pace of poverty reduction has slowed down since 2015, and by 2018, increases in poverty among youth are already observed

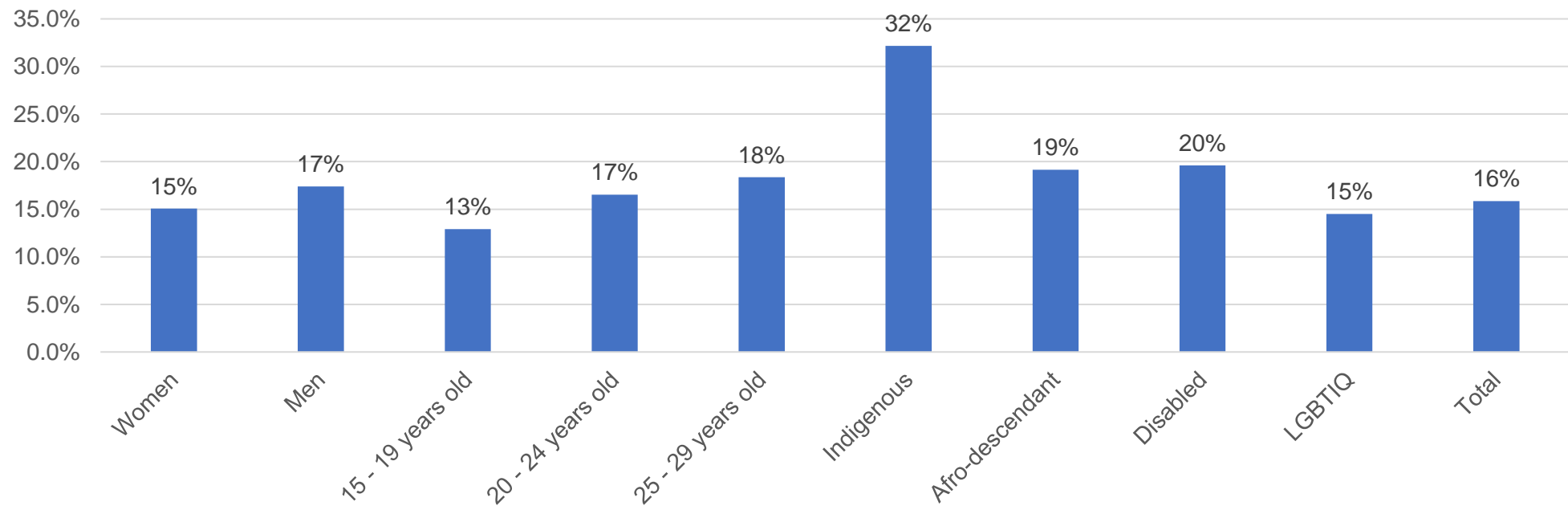
Latin America (18 countries): poverty and extreme poverty by age group, 2010, 2015 and 2018. (Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean - Based on household surveys of the countries. Household Survey Data Bank (BADEHOG).

In the current context of the pandemic, the closure of school feeding programs, significant declines in household income, and restrictions on mobility are factors that would lead to less nutritious, less fresh and less expensive diets for young people.

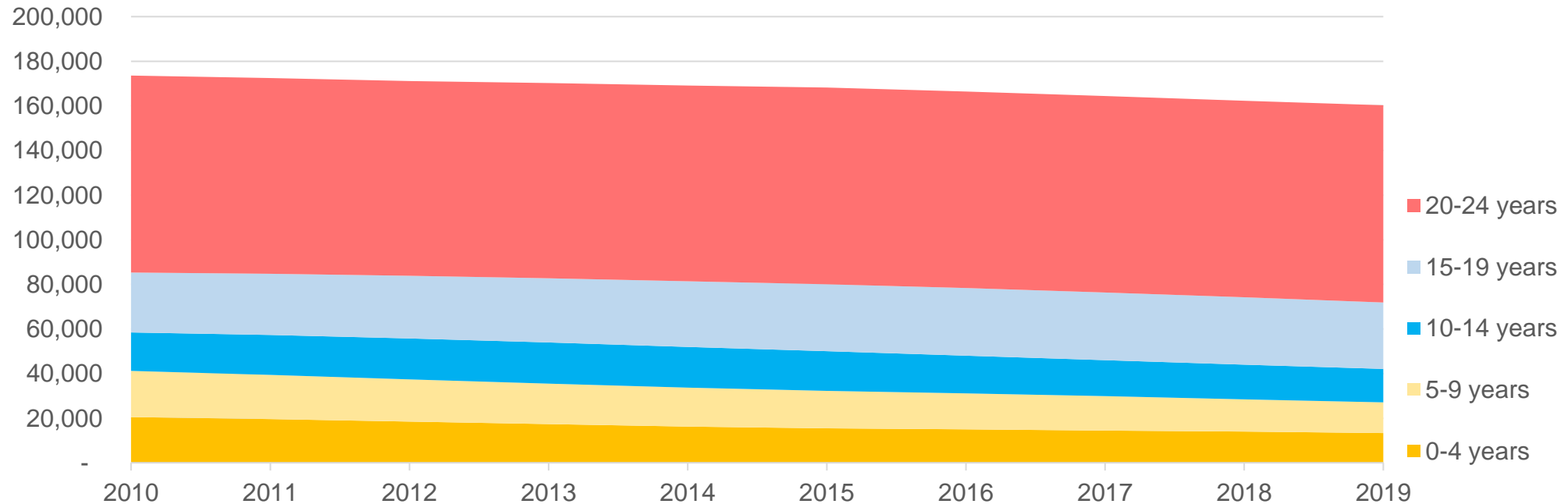
Latin America and the Caribbean (39 countries): young people who say they do not have the resources to buy food, 2020
(Percentages)



Source: United Nations Survey of Youth in Latin America and the Caribbean within the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Despite progress, HIV remains a threat to the young population: one of the major barriers they face is the lack of comprehensive sex education, and during the pandemic, access to antiretrovirals has been limited.

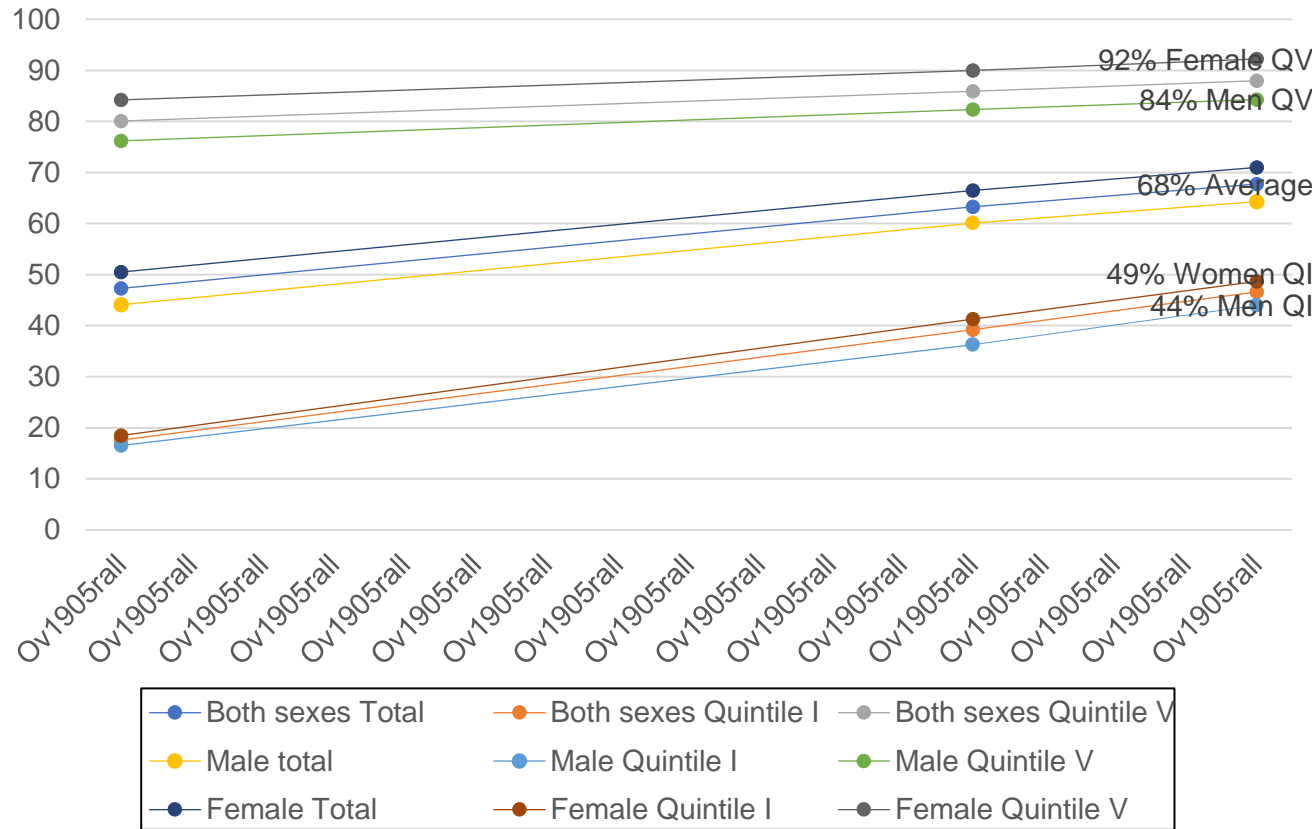
Number of children, adolescents and young people aged 0-24 years living with HIV (by thousands), by 5-year age group, 2010-2019.



Source: Prepared by UNICEF, based on UN AIDS estimates, 2020.

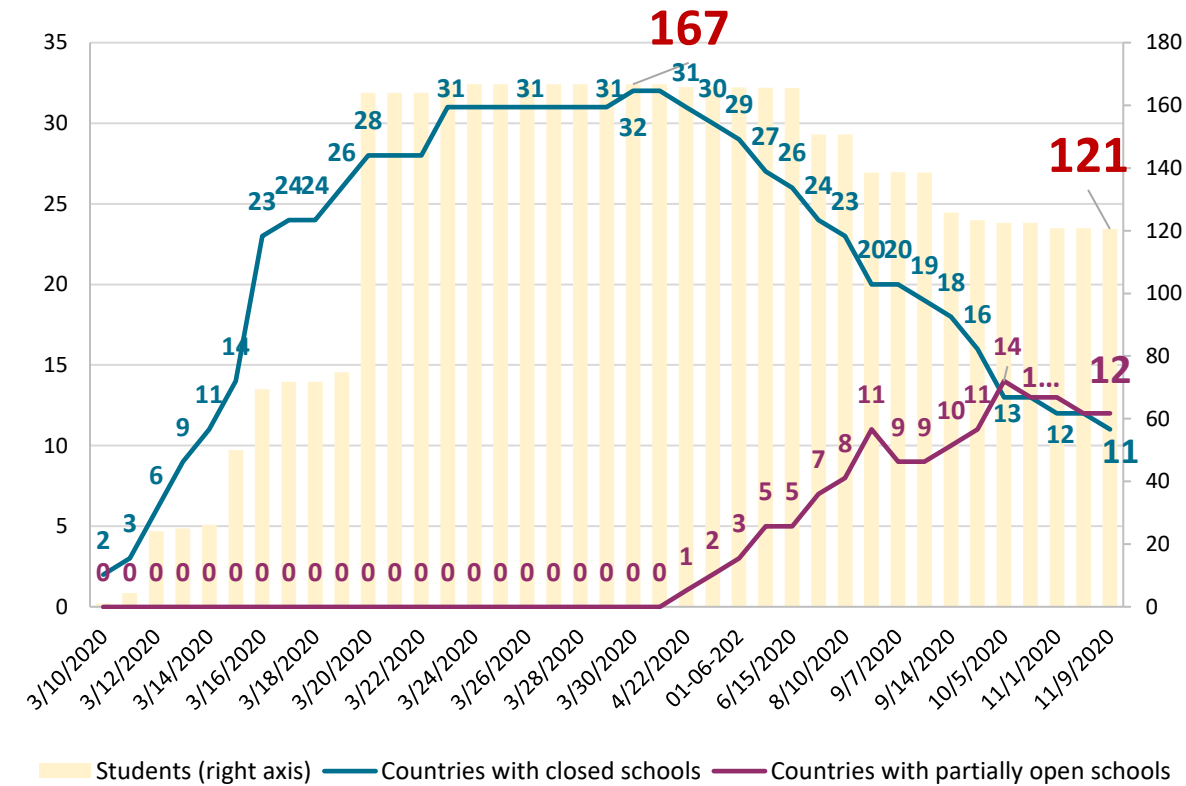
Access to and completion of secondary education has increased significantly over the past 20 years, but significant gaps remain, possibly widened by the prolonged closure of schools during the pandemic.

Latin America (18 countries): secondary school completion among 20-24 year-olds by income quintile and sex, 2002-2018 (Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean - Based on household surveys of the countries. Household Survey Data Bank (BADEHOG).

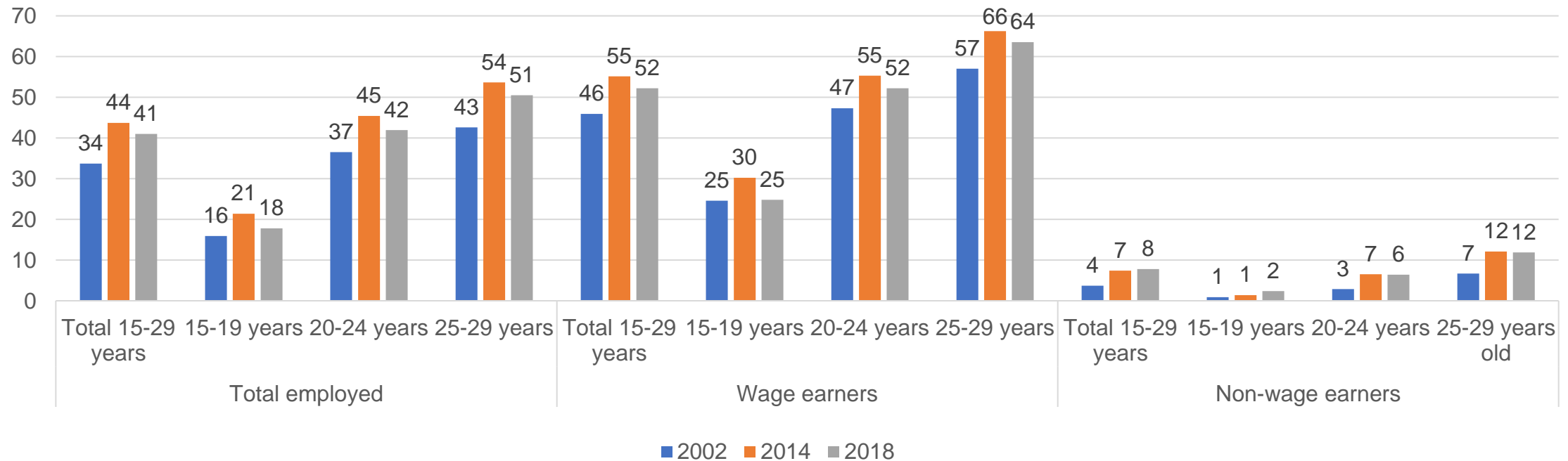
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (33 COUNTRIES): ADOPTION OF CLASS SUSPENSION MEASURES AND STUDENTS AFFECTED BY DATE, 2020^a
(In number of countries and millions of students)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), based on United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Youth employment is characterized by being more unstable and informal, without access to social security. Young people are a "bottleneck" of the contributory social protection system.

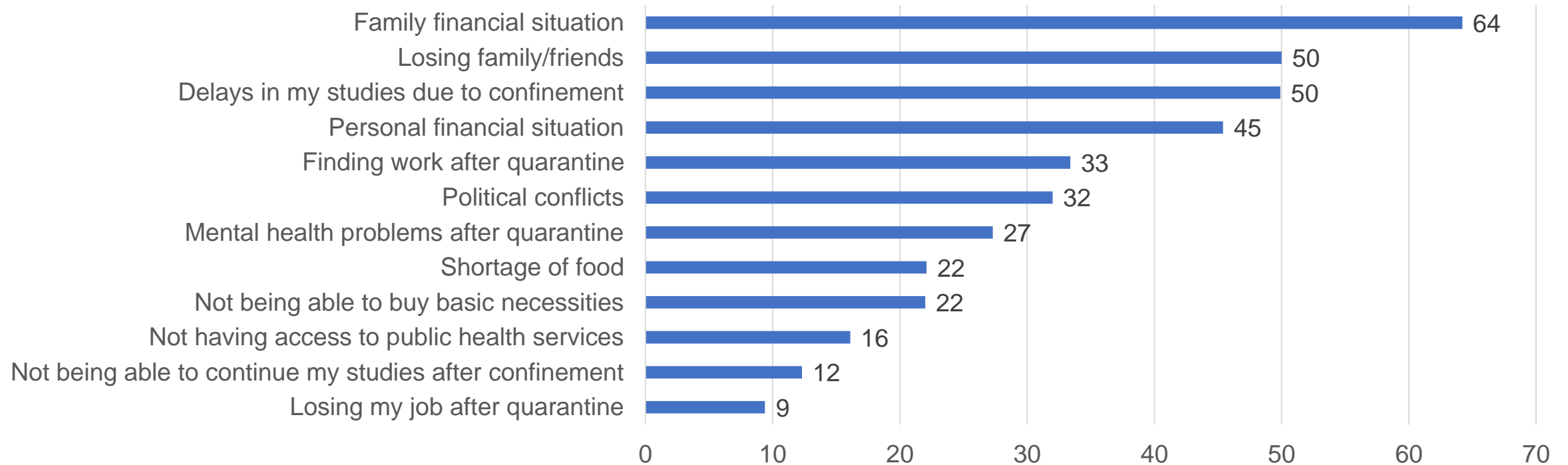
Latin America (18 countries): young people aged 15-29 years who are enrolled in or contributing to the pension system, 2002-2018
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean - Based on household surveys of the countries. Household Survey Data Bank (BADEHOG).

In the pandemic context, the alarming projections of economic contraction and increases in unemployment foresee a profound effect of the deterioration of well-being in the region. This situation is already worrying young people.

Latin America and the Caribbean: major concerns of young people aged 15 to 29 for the future, 2020
(Percentages)



Source: United Nations Survey of Youth in Latin America and the Caribbean within the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Question: What are your greatest concerns for the future?
Select maximum 5

Post-pandemic reconstruction and advancing the 2030 Agenda must include youth diversity - so that no one is left behind.

- A comprehensive and multidimensional recovery that recognizes, includes, and prioritizes the diversity of youth.
- Importance of multisectoral and intergenerational dialogue forums
- Integrality of the three pillars of development: social, economic in a context of environmental protection.
- Importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships and international cooperation
- Redouble efforts to invest in youth
- Make visible the positive contributions of young people in the context of the pandemic.
- Universal, comprehensive and sustainable protection systems.