

# **THE HEALTH CRISIS: FUTURE SCENARIOS AND STRATEGIES FROM THE HEALTH SECTOR TO CONTROL THE PANDEMIC**

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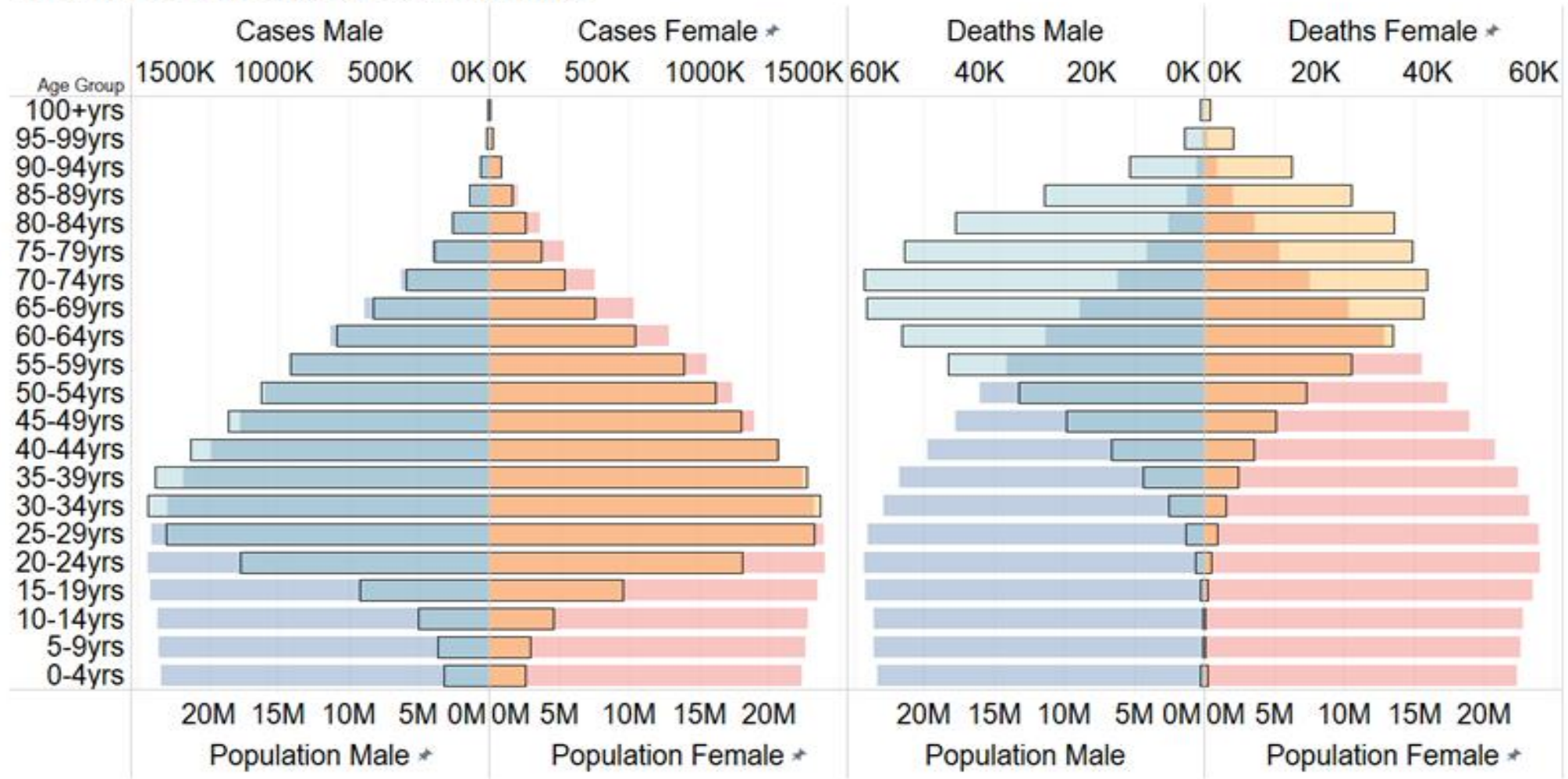
World Health  
Organization  
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Americas

# Background

- The pandemic has reaffirmed the link between **health, the economy, social development and the environment**
- The pandemic has worsen **existing inequities in health** and compromised public health gains
- The when and the how to finally overcome the pandemic remains highly **uncertain**
- The role of the State is crucial: in the comprehensive **response** and in leading the necessary **health system transformation** retaking the path to SDGs, including universal health.

# COVID-19 cases and deaths by sex and age-group

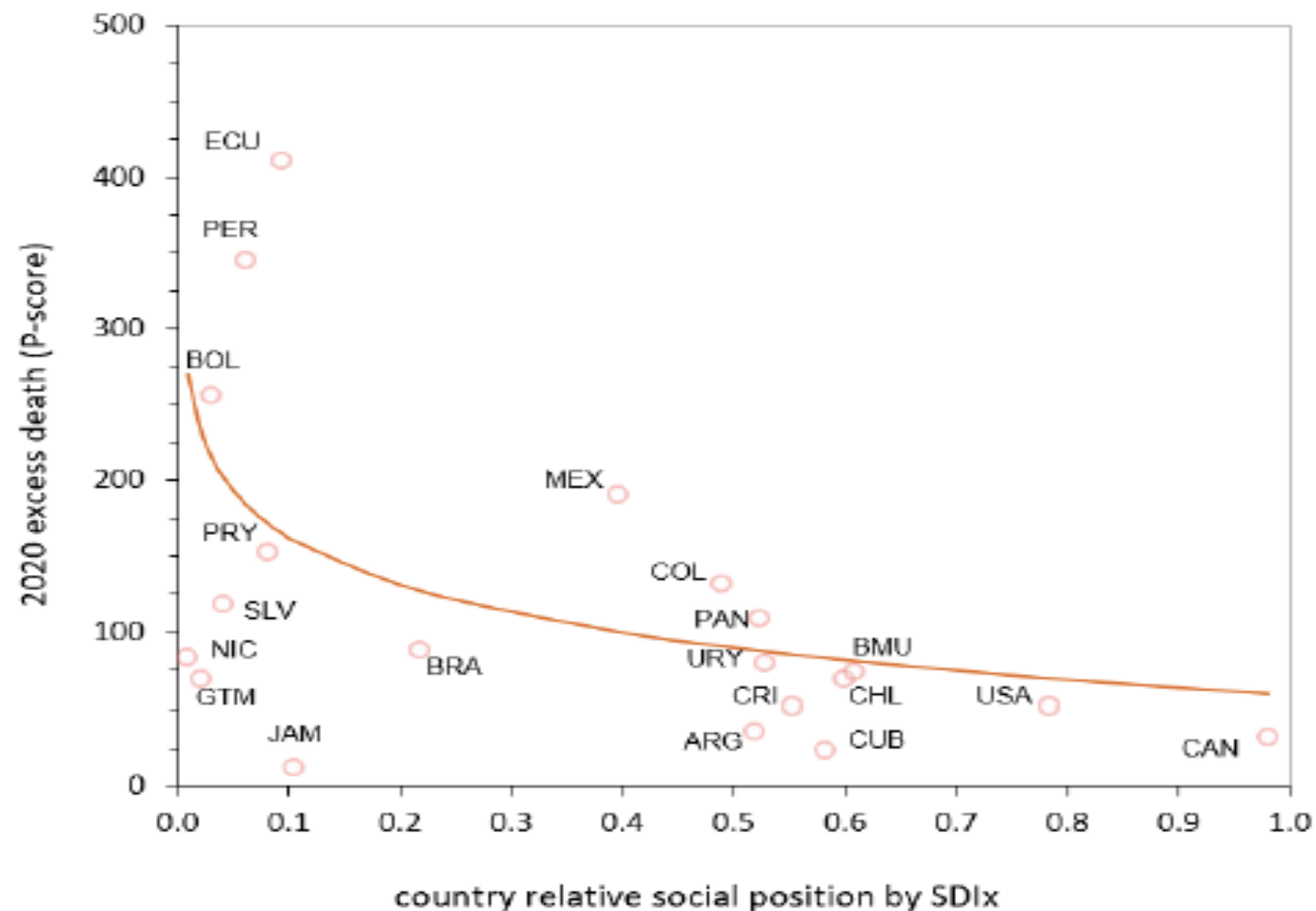
COVID-19 cases and deaths by sex and age-group



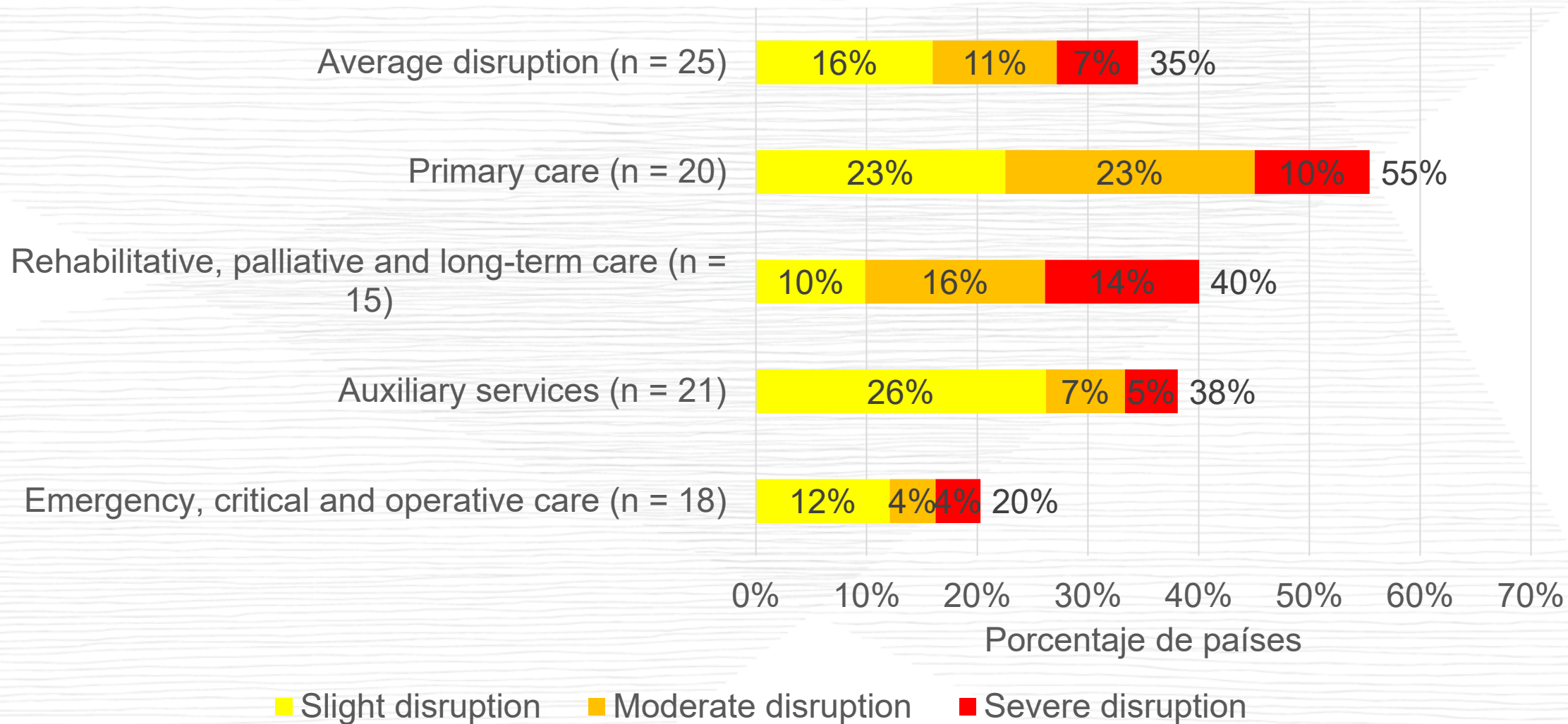
Source: PAHO/WHO



# Excess deaths and sustainable development

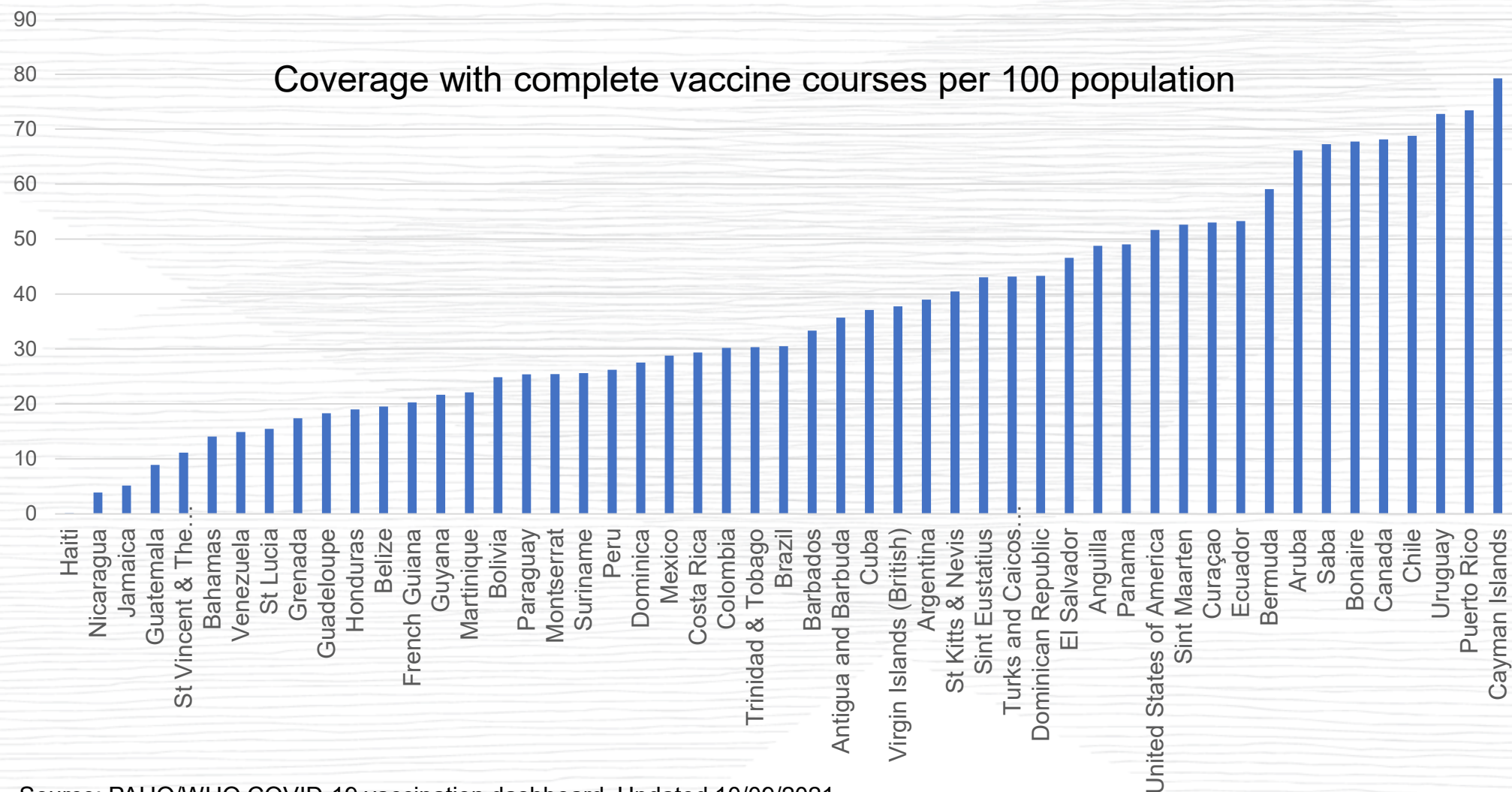


# Interruption of essential health services



# VACCINES DEPLOYMENT

# Inequities in vaccine coverage in LAC

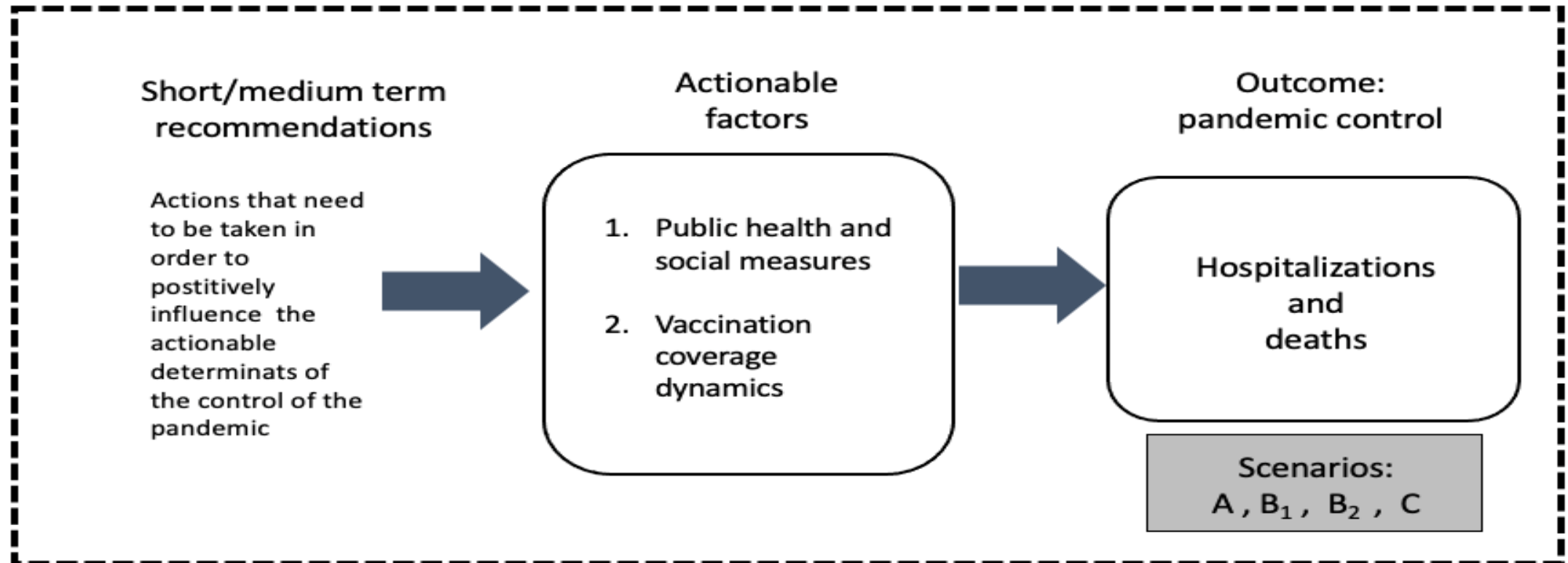


Source: PAHO/WHO COVID-19 vaccination dashboard. Updated 10/09/2021

# PROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS: PANDEMIC CONTROL



# Actionable factors, outcomes/impact



## Contextual conditions

1. Virological/epidemiological
2. Equitable, timely and affordable access to COVID-19 vaccines and related supplies
3. Programmatic aspects and strengthening national immunization programs
4. Structural conditions (socio-economic, political)
5. Socio-cultural and behavioral

# Short-term pandemic control scenarios

PHSM	+	Adequate PHSM Low coverage B <sub>1</sub>	Adequate PHSM High coverage C
	-	Low PHSM Low coverage A	Low PHSM High coverage B <sub>2</sub>
		VACCINATION COVERAGE DYNAMICS	
		-	+

Transitioning from A to B to C will be highly dependent of the contextual conditions affecting PHSM implementation and the vaccination coverage dynamics.

# Contextual conditions as determinants

1. **Virological/Epidemiological**
2. **Equitable, timely and affordable access vaccines and supplies**
3. **Capacity for effective implementation of immunization programs**
4. **Structural conditions (socio-economic, political)**
5. **Socio-cultural and behavioral aspects**

# RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE WAY FORWARD



# Accelerate vaccination and strengthen technology capacity

- Ensure effective and homogenous coverage of vaccines
  - HR training
  - Communication strategy/ Vaccine hesitancy
  - Cold chain / delivery capacity
  - Vulnerable population / barriers
- Increase Regional technological capacities
  - Regulatory capacities
  - Training programs for innovation in health
  - Creation or strengthening of health research institutes

# PHC-centered health systems transformation

- PHC strategy, financial sustainability and the role of the State
  - Increase public expenditure in health, and Invest in public health interventions
  - Strengthen the resolution capacity of the first level of care (aim at 30% of PEH)
  - Increase investments to develop capacities to implement the EPHF, including those related to IHR compliance and disaster risk reduction and management.
- Intersectoral focus toward health policy
  - Preparedness to implement emergency social protection and income security programs
  - Strengthen social, environmental, and economic protections related to health
  - Reduce inequities and accelerate recuperation of health gains
  - Intersectoral pandemic preparedness and response planning

# Regional and global collaboration in health

- Promote solidarity between countries with regards to vaccine procurement and other health technologies
- At the national level: stimulate dialogue between health, finance, international relations, industry
- Articulate and harmonize technical cooperation:
  - Between international, regional and national actors (PAHO/WHO, WB, IDB, ECLAC, Health Authorities, Financing Authorities, etc.)
- Strengthen regional and subregional governance mechanisms in health