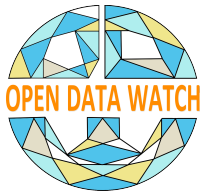
Bridging the Gap: Mapping Gender Data Availability in Latin America and the Caribbean



26 AUGUST 2020

Eric Swanson
Director of Research
Open Data Watch
ericswanson@opendatawatch.com

What is true for all of these women?

We lack data about key aspects of their lives.

Assessing four types of gender data gaps:

AVAILABILITY

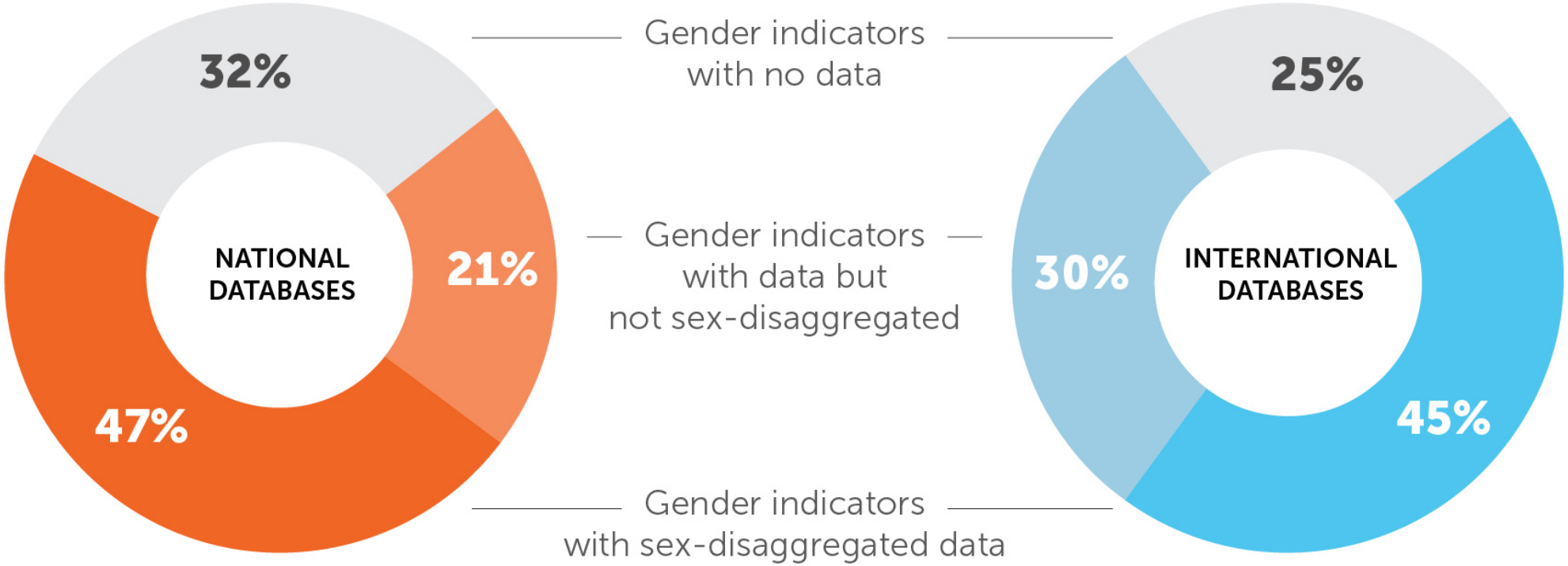
TIMELINESS

DISAGGREGATION

ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS

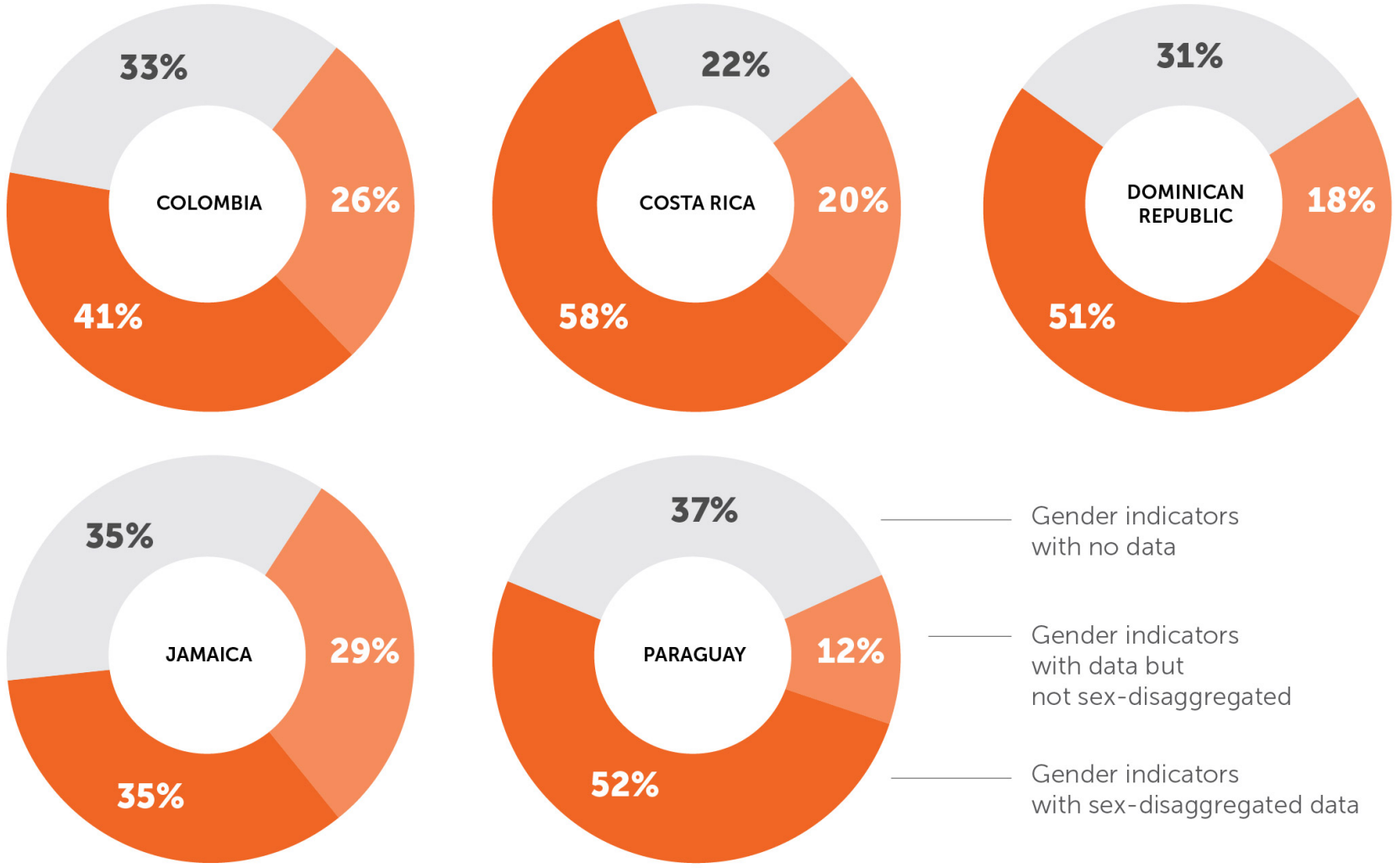
AVAILABILITY

Gender-relevant indicators available for five countries in Latin America and the Caribbean



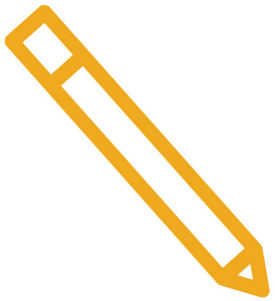
AVAILABILITY

Share of data gaps in national databases



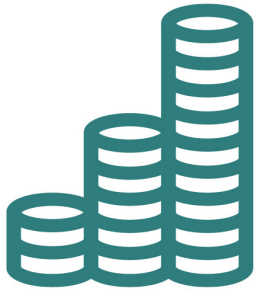
The 93 gender indicators were classified into 6 development domains

Health
28 indicators



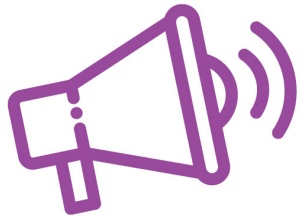
Education
12 indicators

Human security
15 indicators



Economic opportunties
20 indicators

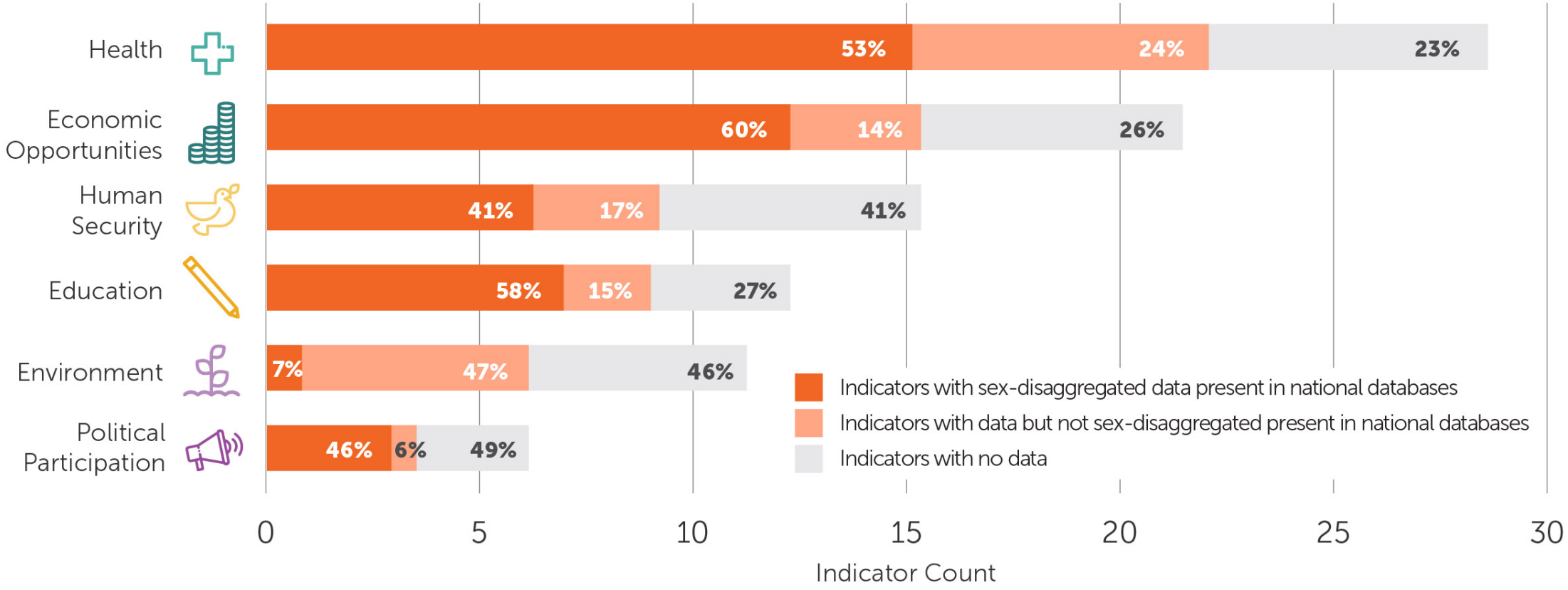
Environment
11 indicators



Political participation
7 indicators

DISAGGREGATION

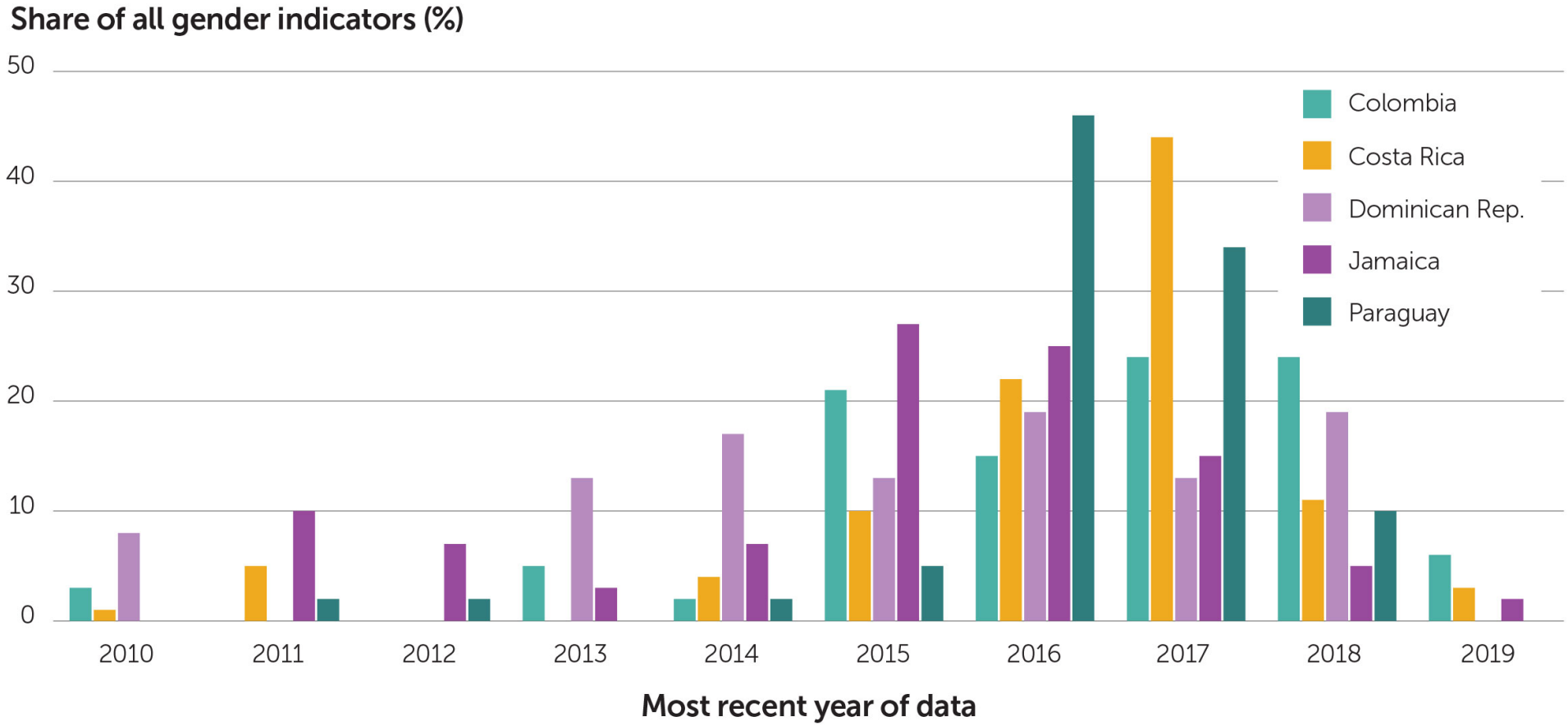
National gaps in 6 development domains



TIMELINESS

Lack of timely data impedes use and quality

Most countries experience a lag of at least two to three years.

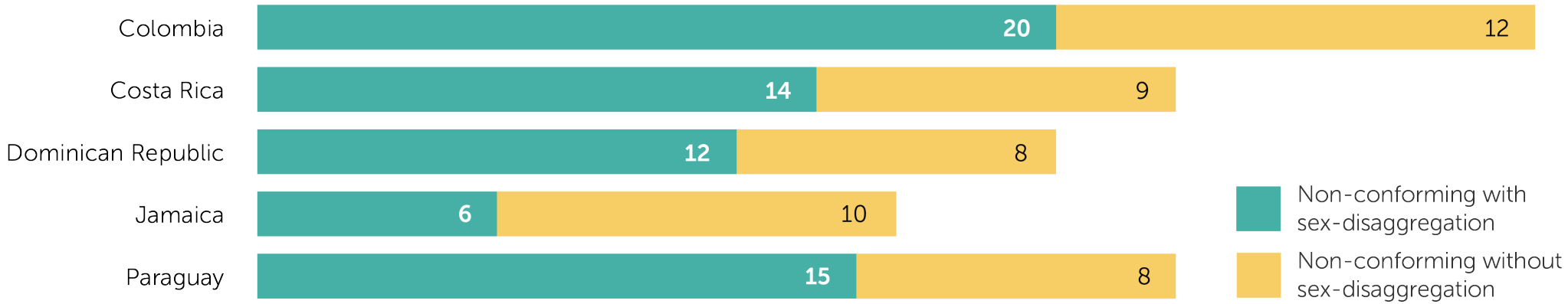


ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS

Adherence to Standards

Non-conforming indicators:

- On average: 13.4 non-conforming indicators with sex disaggregation
- On average: 9.4 non-conforming indicators with no sex disaggregation



Snapshot of Gender Policies:

Colombia: The National Development Plan 2018–2022 (Plan Nacional de Desarrollo)

Costa Rica: The National Policy for Effective Equality between Women and Men 2018–2030 (PIEG: Política Nacional para la igualdad efectiva entre mujeres y hombres)

The Dominican Republic: National Plan on Gender Equality and Equity 2020-2030 (Plan Nacional de Igualdad y Equidad de Género)

Jamaica: 2011–2015 National Policy for Gender Equality and *Vision 2030 Jamaica*: National Development Plan

Paraguay: IV National Equality Plan 2018–2024 (IV Plan Nacional de Igualdad 2018–2024)

What have we learned:

- Gaps in indicators are caused by gaps in their underlying sources: surveys and administrative data from which the indicators are built.
- Over half the gender indicators included in the SDGs are missing or lack sex disaggregation.
- Data are most complete for the health indicators, although a slightly higher proportion of economic and education indicators are available with sex disaggregation.
- Even where gender indicators are available, many are four or more years out of date.
- The gender policies and plans examined during the study point out the need for more and better gender data, but few contain substantive plans with time-bound targets for addressing data gaps.

Key Deliverables from Bridging the Gap

Major outputs from Bridging the Gap LAC

- Technical Report
  - **bit.ly/BridgingtheGapLAC**
- Methodology Report
  - **http://bit.ly/BridgingtheGapMethodology**
- Country Profiles
  - **bit.ly/BridgingtheGapCountryProfiles**
- Indicator Summary Sheets:
  - TBD

#BridgingtheGap

bit.ly/BridgingtheGapLAC