

# P2.37. Cesarean sections and social inequalities in urban agglomerations in Latin America.

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## Background

- Latin America → among the highest C-section rates (CSR) in the world.
- Latin America → higher rates within higher socioeconomic status (SES).
- Increase in CSR can be related to working process of health-care workers, cultural beliefs, socioeconomic, legal factors, among others.

## Aim

Describe the variability of CSR across sub-cities between and within countries in Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru and examine the relationship of city's SES with CSR.

Figure 1. C-section rate by sub-city in each country. 2014-2016.

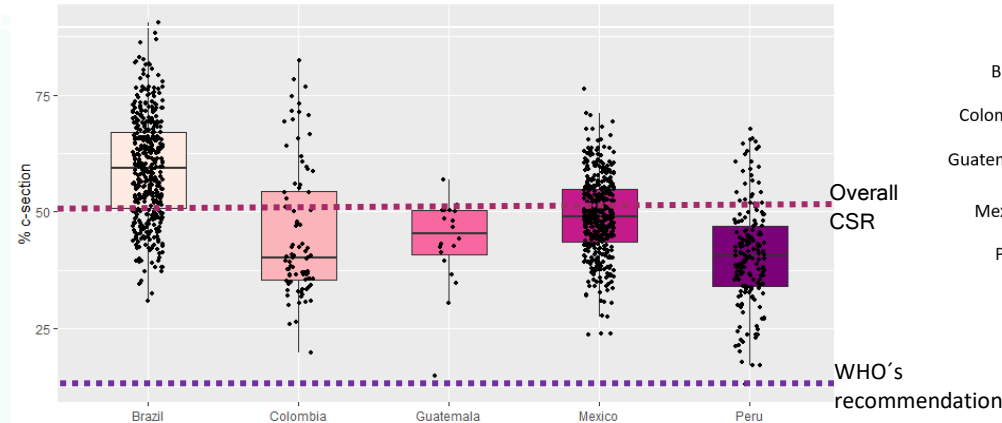


Figure 2. Percentage of c-section rate by mother's education in each country. 2014-2016.

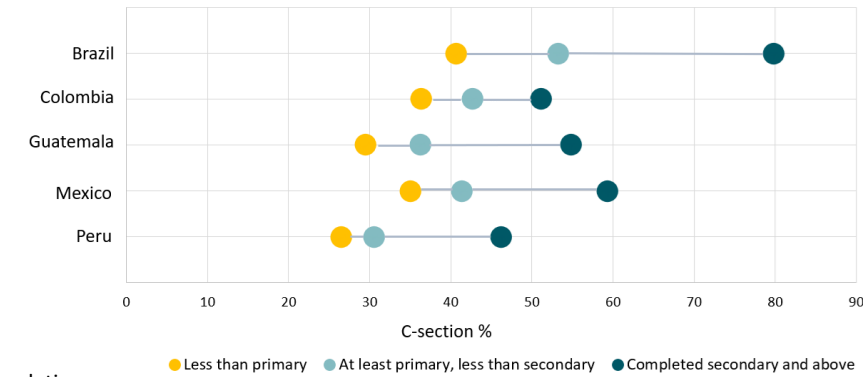


Table 1: Association of individual and sub-city level characteristics with C-section in Latin-American sub-cities of 5 countries. 2014-2016

	PRR (IC 95%)
<b>Mother's age</b>	
≤19 years	1,00
20-34 years	1,24 (1,23-1,25)
≥35 years	1,48 (1,47-1,49)
<b>Mother's education</b>	
Less than primary	1,00
At least primary, less than sec	1,24 (1,23-1,25)
Completed secondary and above	1,63 (1,62-1,65)
<b>Educational score (sub-cities)</b>	
Quartile 1	1,00
Quartile 2	1,05 (1,01-1,08)
Quartile 3	1,06 (1,02-1,09)
Quartile 4	1,09 (1,06-1,13)

Notes: PRR = prevalence-rate ratio. Model adjusted for education score and sub-cities as random effects, and for country as fixed effects.

## Highlights

- C-sections were more common than vaginal deliveries.
- Great heterogeneity between cities within countries → importance of local policies to address this gap.
- Higher SES among cities and women were associated with higher CSR.