

The Paradox of Female Education in Latin America 1995-2024

Women in Latin America are more educated but less employed



Key insights

- Women surpass men in tertiary education (+10.0%)
- But lag in labor force participation (-15.5%)
- This gap persists across 30 years and 22 countries

Data & Methodology



Data sources:

- LAC Socioeconomic data
- 22 LAC countries, 30-year span

Key Metrics Calculated:

- Education Gap = Female_Tertiary - Male_Tertiary
- Labor Gap = Female_Labor - Male_Labor

Processing:

- Python data cleaning & outlier handling
- Regional classification (4 LAC regions)
- Time-period aggregation for trend analysis



Dashboard Design Decisions

Narrative Flow:

- Start: The Educational Achievement (Map)
- Middle: The Persistent Gap (Trend Lines)
- Final: The Complex Reality (Scatter Plot)

UX Choices:

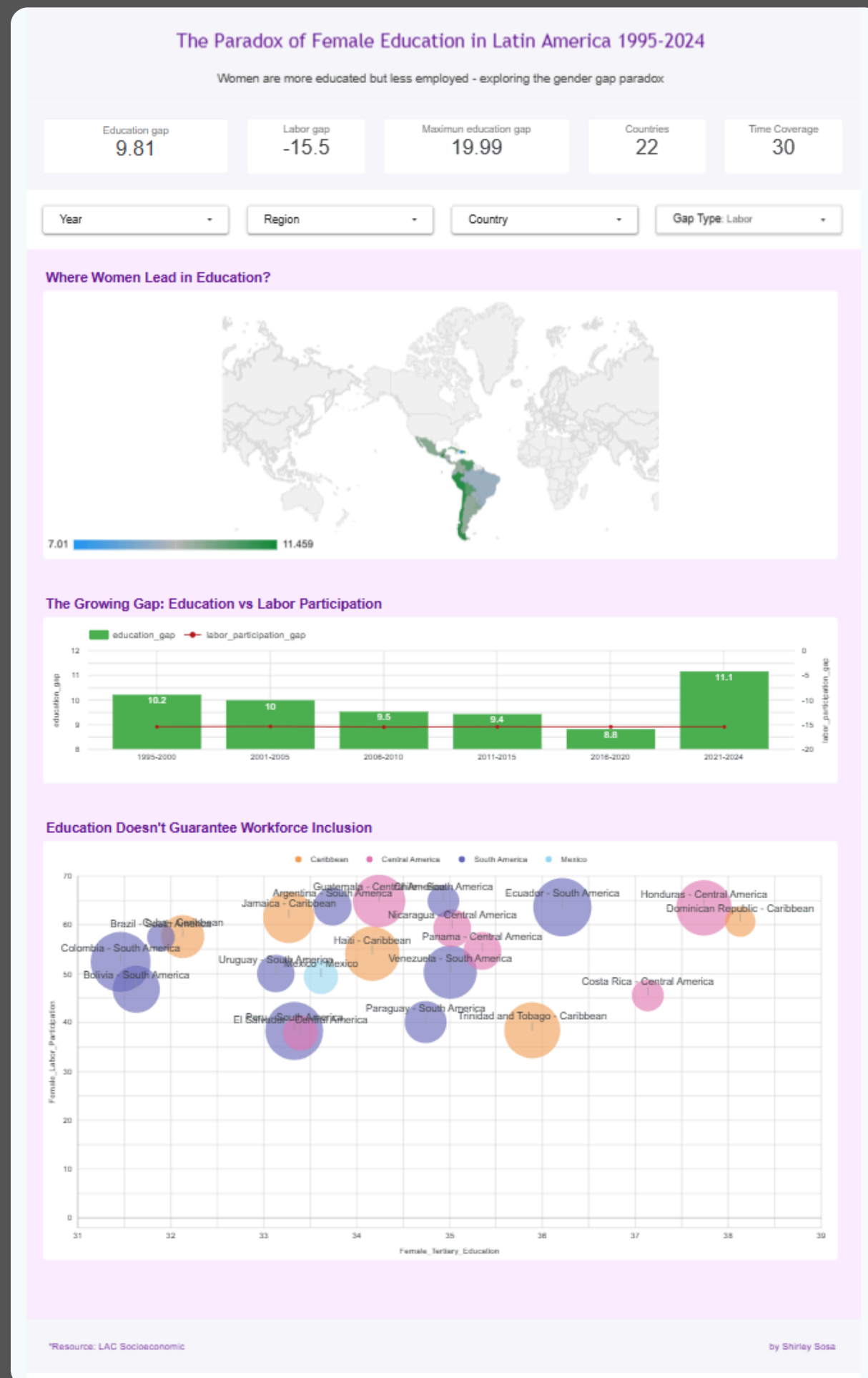
- Intuitive color coding (green=women ahead)
- Interactive filters for exploration
- Mobile-responsive design
- Progressive disclosure of insights



[Check dashboard](#)



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What the Data Reveals?



Consistent Trends:

- Education gap growing steadily (+8% to +12%)
- Labor gap stubbornly persistent (-16% to -15%)

Regional Patterns:

- Highest education gaps: South America
- Labor participation varies by economic development

Surprising Insight:

- No direct correlation between education and labor participation
- Cultural and structural barriers likely at play
- Need to measure unpaid work and care economy

The 24-Hour Question:

If women are more educated but less employed, what are they doing with their time?

- Suggests invisible labor: care work, domestic responsibilities, informal economy
- Educational investment \neq economic return due to structural barriers



Limitations & next steps

Current Limitations:

- Macro-level data (misses individual stories)
- Doesn't capture informal economy
- Limited cultural and social context variables

Recommended Next Steps:

- Add workforce composition analysis
- Include wage gap data
- Qualitative research on barriers
- Policy impact assessment

Conclusion:

- The Paradox of Female Education in Latin America 1995-2024 requires multi-dimensional solutions beyond education.