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TEN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES DURING THE FIRST 12 MONTHS
OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Tulane University

Working Paper 114
September 2021

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CEQ Working Paper 114

SEPTEMBER 2021

ABSTRACT

Given the devastating health and economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Latin America, social protection responses have been crucial for safeguarding access to basic needs among vulnerable households. Yet policy design has varied widely across countries. In this working paper, we develop comparative measures to assess the breadth and sufficiency of the cash transfer responses of ten Latin American countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay) during the first twelve months of the pandemic, from April 2020 to March 2021. We assess it for two particularly vulnerable groups: children in existing cash transfer programs, and informal workers and households in new emergency programs.

Four broad types of responses emerge, detailed in Figures 1-4: the first group -Brazil and Chile- provided benefits with relatively high breadth and sufficiency. The second group -Argentina, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Peru and Bolivia- is more heterogeneous, but shares the characteristics of high breadth of benefits. Sufficiency of benefits varies from medium to low sufficiency, often with differences between programs. The third group - Colombia and Ecuador- is characterized both by low breadth and low sufficiency of benefits. The fourth type of response is a non-response, ie., no national-level pandemic cash transfer response, and comprises Mexico.

JEL Codes: I30, I31, I32, I38, I39

Keywords: Covid-19, social protection, children, informal workers, poverty, Latin America

* This working paper/policy brief expands on and updates a study we did for ECLAC last year (Blofield, Giambruno and Filgueira (2020). Policy expansion in compressed time: Assessing the speed, breadth and sufficiency of post-COVID-19 social protection measures in 10 Latin American countries. ECLAC Social Policy Series, September. It also forms part of a short monograph we are working on, to assess and explain cash transfer responses to COVID-19 in Latin America.

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This paper was prepared as part of the Commitment to Equity Institute's country-cases research program and benefitted from the generous support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. For more details, click here www.ceqinstitute.org.

Breadth and sufficiency of cash transfer responses in ten Latin American countries during the first 12 months of the COVID-19 pandemic¹

September 2021

Merike Blofield, Cecilia Giambruno and Jennifer Pribble²

COVID-19 has had devastating economic and health effects in Latin America. Though the region is home to just eight percent of the world's population, by mid-June, it had reported more than 30 percent of global COVID deaths.³ Latin America also experienced the most severe economic crisis of any region, with a seven percent GDP contraction, compared to the global contraction of 3.3 percent. In this context, social protection responses have been crucial for safeguarding access to basic needs, but policy design has varied widely across countries.⁴ Other authors and studies have documented the effects of cash transfer programs on poverty and material wellbeing.⁵ In this policy brief, we comparatively assess the breadth and sufficiency of the cash transfer responses of ten Latin American countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay) during the first twelve months of the pandemic, from April 2020 to March 2021.

When the pandemic hit in March 2020, governments faced the challenge of reaching three groups of individuals and households: first, those included in existing social security schemes; second, those included in non-contributory schemes/government assistance programs; and third, those in-between, who were not covered by existing benefits –informal laborers, including most self-employed, and their dependents. We refer to the group as ‘*informal households*.’

We focus on cash transfers to two especially socially vulnerable groups: children, and informal workers. Already pre-pandemic, 46 percent of children in the region lived in poverty, while the corresponding figure for those over 65 years was 15 percent (ECLAC 2019). The second group -

¹ This working paper/policy brief expands on and updates a study we did for ECLAC last year (Blofield, Giambruno and Filgueira (2020). *Policy expansion in compressed time: Assessing the speed, breadth and sufficiency of post-COVID-19 social protection measures in 10 Latin American countries*. ECLAC Social Policy Series, September. It also forms part of a short monograph we are working on, to assess and explain cash transfer responses to COVID-19 in Latin America.

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³ June 14, 2021, <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/cumulative-covid-deaths-region>.

⁴ Social protection systems are comprised of more than just cash transfer programs. Nevertheless, cash transfers are a central component, which is why we focus on that policy sector in this analysis. For an overview of other forms of subsidies in relation to COVID-19 in Latin America, see Luis M. Galindo, Fernando Filgueira, Merike Blofield and Carlos Francisco (2020), The fiscal cost of the provision of basic public services, subsidies for expenditure on food and basic citizen income per household in Costa Rica, Guatemala and El Salvador during the COVID-19 pandemic: An expenditure analysis, *Latin American Economic Review* 29:7s. Dec., and Fernando Filgueira, Luis M. Galindo, Cecilia Giambruno, and Merike Blofield (2020), *América Latina ante la crisis del COVID-19: vulnerabilidad socioeconómica y respuesta social*. Social Policy Series #238. Santiago: CEPAL/ECLAC. December.

⁵ Nora Lustig, Guido Neidhöfer and Mariano Tommasi. (2020). [Short and Long-run Distributional Impacts of COVID-19 in Latin America](#). CEQ Working Paper 96, Commitment to Equity Institute, Tulane University, October.

informal workers- are, by definition, excluded from contributory social security,⁶ but are disproportionately low-income. In our ten countries, pre-pandemic data indicate that 69 percent of employed workers in the lowest income quintile are informal, while the corresponding share for the highest income quintile is just 24 percent.⁷

In this policy brief, we assess the breadth and sufficiency of cash transfers toward families with children, and toward informals. We measure breadth as coverage of cash transfers among 1) the population under eighteen years old; and 2) informal workers. We measure sufficiency as the per capital value of the transfer as a share of each country's urban national extreme poverty line, in a prototypical family/household of four (two adults, two primary school-aged children).⁸

When the pandemic hit -in mid-March, 2020- the first 'wave' of cash transfer responses was relatively rapid. None of the countries we analyze cancelled existing non-contributory programs. By the end of March, seven out of ten governments had pledged additional cash assistance to recipients of these programs, including CCTs. By the end of April, as it became clear that the crisis would not abate quickly, nine out of ten governments (Mexico as the exception) also pledged some form of emergency income assistance to the broad sector of informal households, in the form of new emergency programs. The pandemic hit informal workers hard, due to a combination of lock-down measures that made it impossible to work, as well as the collateral damage from the large-scale economic fall-out. Of the nine countries that created emergency programs, seven established more inclusive, 'demand-driven' mechanisms where individuals who had lost their income could self-identify and apply for benefits (although they would still be evaluated by a government agency). Using this mechanism, the seven countries achieved relatively high coverage. Two countries -Ecuador and Colombia- maintained restrictive eligibility criteria that did not allow individuals to apply, and Mexico did not institute a national-level income assistance program in response to the pandemic.⁹

The sufficiency of cash transfer benefits also varied greatly. Some countries such as Argentina, Brazil, and Chile, established umbrella programs incorporating both CCT recipients and informals in the same emergency programs; others, such as Peru and Bolivia, provided relatively similar benefits to both groups, at least at first; and others, such as Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Uruguay, kept programs and benefit levels strictly separate. Some states provided one, two, or three-time transfers in the new emergency programs, while others provided them monthly, which influenced the sufficiency of transfers over time. In figures 1-4, below, we assess the breadth and sufficiency of cash transfer responses toward these two groups, for the duration of the first full year following pandemic onset: April 2020 to March 2021.

⁶ Policies toward the formal sector and toward small and medium-sized companies are very heterogeneous, also reflecting the complexity of each country's existing labor laws and social security systems. A systematic analysis of these policies deserves to be its own research project. For an overview of protection to formal sector workers during the pandemic, see: Blofield, Giamb Bruno and Filgueira 2020; Merike Blofield, Nora Lustig and Mart Trasberg, 2020, Social Protection During the Pandemic: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico, *CEQ Working Paper 104*, Tulane University, January.

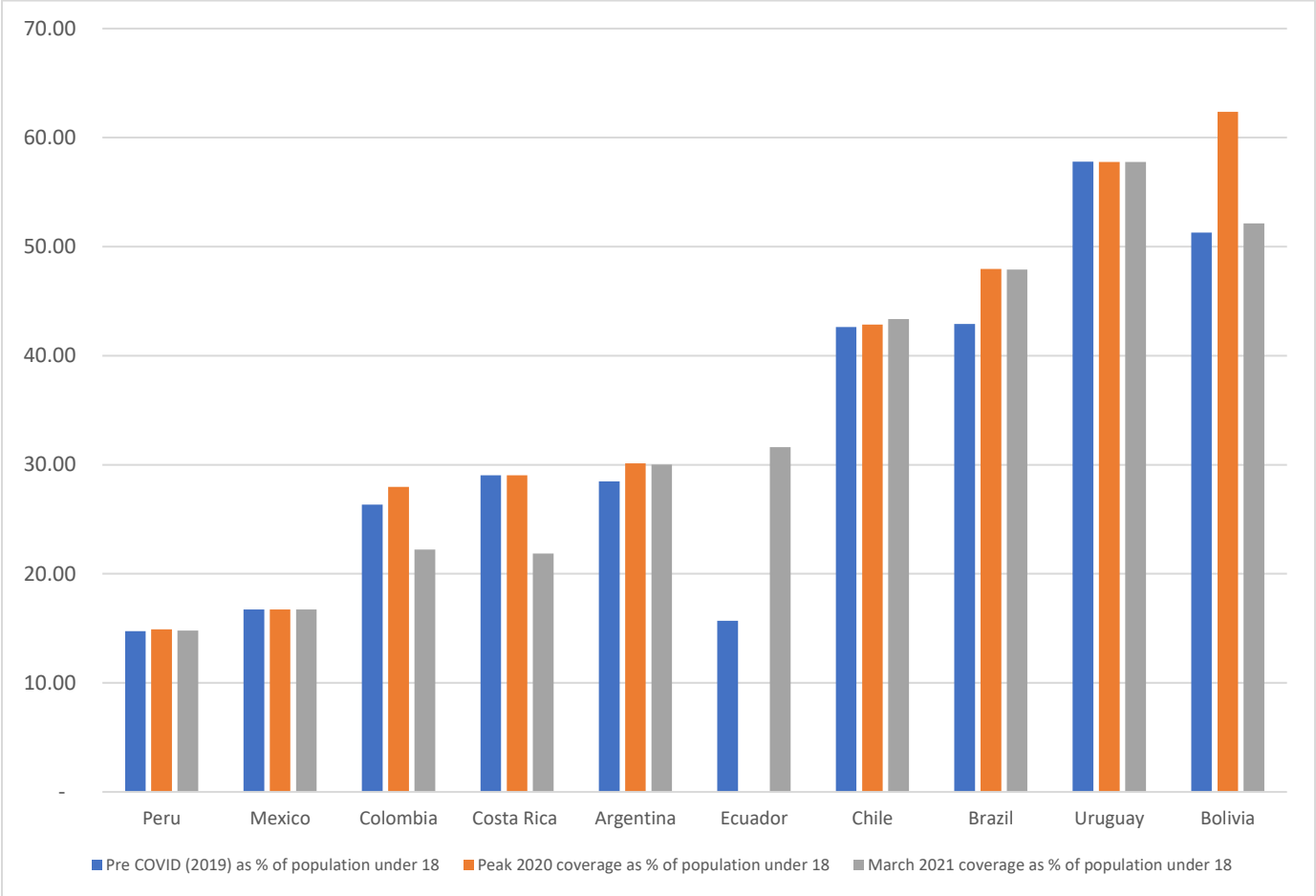
⁷ In addition, low-income households are more than twice as likely to have children compared to high-income households (our analysis based on Luxembourg Income Survey data for nine Latin American countries).

⁸ We use ECLAC 2019 poverty measures. See Blofield et.al. (2020) for sufficiency measurements toward single-parent households with three children during the first three months of the pandemic.

⁹ With the exception of a program for 190,000 fishermen.

For non-contributory cash transfers targeted at children, we measure breadth as share of the under-18 year old population that is covered in non-contributory CTs in each country, using the latest available population data. For sufficiency, we calculate the transfer amount as a per capita transfer for a recipient household. We assume a proto-typical household size in the lower income quintiles of two adults and two primary school-aged children. In order to calculate the proportion of the per capita extreme poverty line we divide the total amount of the monthly cash transfer by four (the number of persons living in the household). We then calculate the share the transfer covers of the national urban extreme poverty line for each country, based on ECLAC data.

Figure 1: Evolution of coverage of existing cash transfer programs to children before and during COVID-19



Notes: Please see tables A.1 and A.2 on Appendix for sources and calculations. For Mexico we only had one data point (late 2019). For Ecuador, we had a datapoint for 2019 and for 2021. Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay provide number of recipient households. To arrive at coverage among the under 18 population, we multiplied the number of households by the ratio between recipient households and recipients under 18, which was available for previous years in the Non-contributory Social Protection Programmes Database (ECLAC). For Argentina, Bolivia, Costa Rica, and Mexico, the official data is provided at the recipient level.

Figure 1 presents the evolution of existing CT breadth in each of our ten countries, with the leftmost (orange) bar showing coverage in 2019, the middle bar (dark blue) capturing the peak of coverage in 2020, and the rightmost bar (light blue) showing coverage in March of 2021. Figure 1

reveals that while cash transfers had become a virtually universal policy tool on the eve of the pandemic, coverage varied widely across countries, from a high of close to 60 percent coverage in Uruguay, and over 50 percent coverage in Bolivia, to coverage lows of less than 20 percent in Ecuador, Mexico, and Peru. (Sufficiency is addressed below). Brazil and Chile's existing programs reached just over 40 percent of children, and in Colombia, Costa Rica and Argentina, the policies covered between 26 and 30 percent.

Mexico had implemented a complete overhaul of the existing non-contributory cash transfer system in 2019, following the assumption of the presidency by Andrés Manuel Lopez Obrador. In late 2019, the program covered 17 percent of children, notably lower than during the Prospera program, which was in place from 2014 to 2019.¹⁰

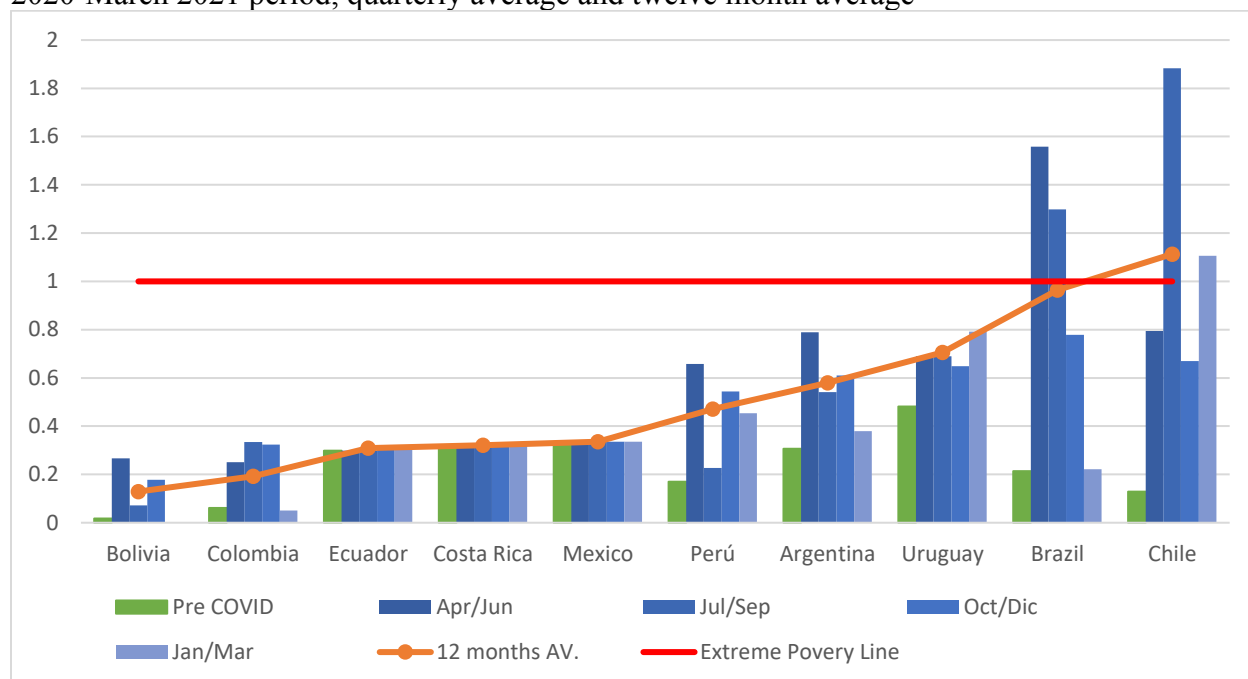
A handful of countries increased the breadth of existing CT programs during the pandemic, reaching peak coverage levels that exceeded 2019 levels. Specifically, Argentina, Colombia, and Chile all achieved slight expansions, whereas Brazil saw more significant growth and Bolivia achieved a dramatic but temporary increase in coverage. Brazil's increased breadth resulted largely from a decision in March 2020 to enroll families who had been placed on a waitlist following President Jair Bolsonaro's move to tighten eligibility criteria in 2019. In Bolivia, the temporary coverage boost was produced by the decision to provide a one-time payment to children in secondary public and in some private schools.

Figure 1 also reveals that the coverage gains achieved during the pandemic were maintained by some countries, notably, Brazil, and Chile, but declined slightly in Argentina, Colombia, and Peru. Bolivia saw a decline from the 2020 peak, but the program was still slightly broader in March of 2021 than it had been in 2019. Costa Rica saw a sharp decline in coverage and only in Ecuador do we see a notable increase in breadth. This followed an executive decision in late 2020 to expand coverage; we do not have a datapoint for Ecuador during the 2020 pandemic, but we expect that coverage fell somewhere between the pre-pandemic and March 2021 levels.

We measure sufficiency of the cash transfers toward children as the share of the national urban extreme poverty line that the transfer covers, per capita, for a family of four with two school-aged children. Figure 2 outlines pre-pandemic sufficiency and the increase in sufficiency in cash transfers toward children during the first full year of the pandemic. The red line represents the extreme poverty line in each country. The green bar represents the pre-pandemic sufficiency of cash transfers, while the blue bars represent quarterly averages of sufficiency for April-June, 2020; July-September, 2020; October-December, 2020, and January-March 2021. Finally, the orange line represents the 12 month average of per capita cash transfer sufficiency.

¹⁰ Non-contributory social protection programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean database, Social Development Division, ECLAC, at <https://dds.cepal.org/bpsnc/programme?id=92>

Figure 2. Sufficiency of existing cash transfers as a percent of the extreme poverty line, April 2020-March 2021 period, quarterly average and twelve month average



Notes: Please see tables A.3, A.4 and A.5 on Appendix for sources and calculations.

The leftmost, green bar in Figure 2 shows pre-pandemic sufficiency of the CCTs in each country. Here, Bolivia stands out for the low sufficiency of its benefit pre-COVID. The program provides public school children with an annual non-conditional transfer of about 30 USD, a meager amount once translated into a monthly value. In most other countries, transfers were also quite small in size, ranging from 15 percent of the extreme poverty line in Colombia to over 30 percent in Argentina, Costa Rica and Ecuador. The country with the highest pre-pandemic sufficiency (as well as breadth) is Uruguay, where the transfer meets half the extreme poverty line, and if we only include children as recipients, it meets the extreme poverty line, as the program was intended to do.

After COVID-19 struck, we see a range of policy responses, reflected by the four blue bars for each country. The unevenness of the bars per country over time is reflective of unevenness of transfers, in number and sufficiency, during the first year of the pandemic. Two countries stand out for having significantly increased cash transfer sufficiency: Brazil and Chile, with Chile going the furthest over time. Of particular note is that Chile's 12 month average exceeds the extreme poverty line, while Brazil's 12 month average is almost equivalent to that value (and exceeded it during the first nine months of the pandemic). Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Peru, and Uruguay also increased the sufficiency of their existing cash transfers, though not as much as Brazil and Chile and none of those countries provided sufficiency that met the extreme poverty line. Ecuador added a small, USD 7.50 monthly top-up at the end of 2020, for the duration of 12 months, but the increase is barely perceptible in Figure 2. Mexico and Costa Rica maintained the sufficiency of CCTs at pre-pandemic levels, although in Costa Rica some households in the existing CCT

program, if their existing transfer was below a certain threshold, were eligible to apply for the emergency benefit.

In the case of new emergency transfers, we do not have pre-pandemic coverage since the programs did not exist. For breadth of these new cash transfers, we assess coverage in relation to the size of the total employed and the informally employed population. For this, we draw on the most recent available data from the IADB (2019) on the size of the total employed population and the informally-employed population.¹¹ We tally the number of cash transfer recipients in the new programs, as compared to the total number of employed people in each country. To standardize these figures, we represent recipients as a share of the total employed population, per country, in the blue graphs. The orange marked line represents the share of the employed population in each country that is informal, serving as a rough proxy for need and therefore for the policy effort required to reach the uncovered population.¹²

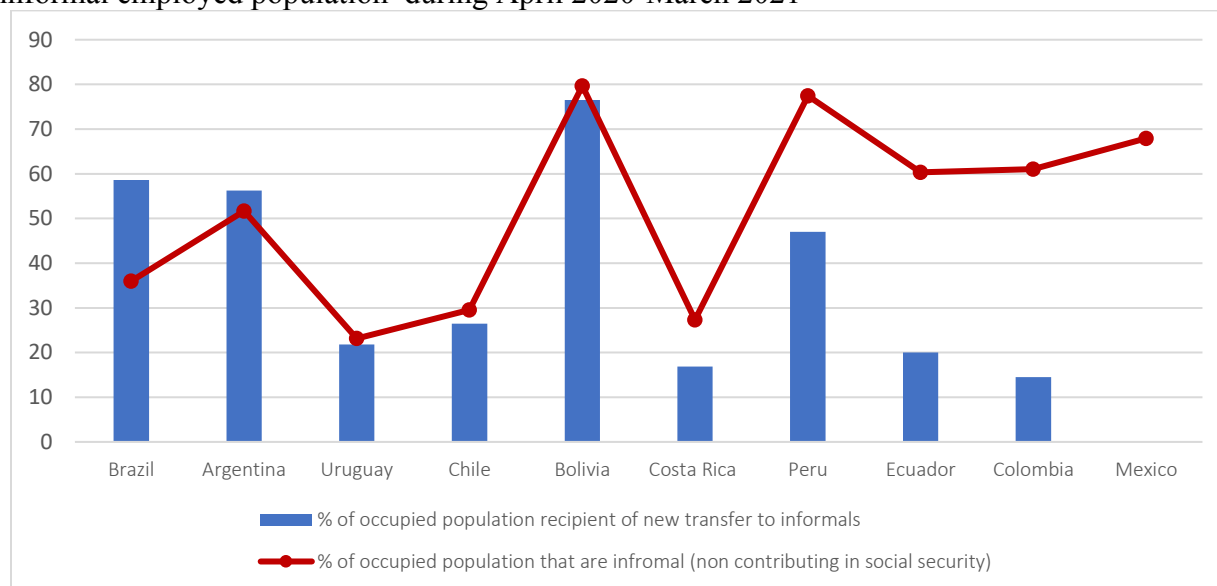
Figure 3 outlines the breadth of coverage in new cash transfer programs as a share of the total employed population (as of 2019), and in relation to the informal employed population.¹³ We measure coverage as peak coverage; i.e., the highest coverage that the emergency programs achieved during the period between April 2020 and March 2021. The blue bar represents the number of new cash transfer recipients as a share of the total employed population (as of 2019). We include the share of the employed population that is informal as a marked line. The marked line outlines the share of employed workers not contributing to social security in 2019, and serves as a marker of the extent of informality and thus of need. Figure 3, then, shows both the extent of social protection ‘need’ in each country, as represented by the marked line, as well as the extent of the cash transfer response, in relation to the total employed population. The closer the bar is to the marked line, the closer the number of new cash transfer recipients matches the number of informally employed workers pre-COVID. If the bar surpasses the marked line, it means that there were more recipients of the new cash transfers than there were informally employed workers in 2019. A gap between the bar and the line tells us that the breadth of the program was narrower than the total number of informal workers in the country.

¹¹ Of course, the pandemic itself has adversely influenced total employment and formal employment since 2020 in our ten countries; however, 2019 is the latest available comparable datapoint, and will therefore have to suffice for this measure.

¹² As mentioned, here we do not assess breadth and sufficiency of cash transfers to workers in the formal sector, and their families. We also recognize that need was likely felt beyond the informal sector. However, our measure provides a systematic threshold for comparing countries.

¹³ No transfer is double-counted across Figures 1 and 2. However, whether there is overlap in transfer recipients within a *household* is an empirical question which, given lack of available data, we cannot empirically assess. Also, in these figures we are measuring transfers to individuals, and their indirect reach to other members of the household is not reflected here. As mentioned in the text, this causes breadth of coverage to appear lower, for example, in Peru than Bolivia, as the former had transfers targeting households, and the latter transfers targeting individuals.

Figure 3. Peak Coverage in new emergency cash transfer programs in relation to total and informal employed population during April 2020-March 2021



Notes: Please see table A.6 on Appendix for sources and calculations.

Figure 3 reveals massive variation in the breadth of the new cash transfer programs.¹⁴ At one end, we find Brazil, where the new cash transfer program extended significantly beyond the share of the informally-employed population. The total number of new emergency cash transfer recipients represented almost 60 percent of the size of the total employed population, while informality was just 36 percent of the total employed population (as of 2019). It should also be remembered that Bolsa Familia recipients are not included in this bar as they are represented in Figure 2. At the other end of the spectrum, is Mexico, which did not institute any new national-level cash transfer programs in response to COVID-19.

The breadth outlined in the graphs can be assessed in two ways: a) absolute coverage, and b) coverage in relation to need, measured as informality. In terms of coverage as a share of the total employed population, Bolivia, Brazil, Argentina and Peru, in that order, have the broadest coverage. Chile and Uruguay fall in the middle, while coverage in Ecuador, Costa Rica, and Colombia falls below 20 percent of the total employed population. Examining Figure 4 in this way tells us about the extent of new policy effort made by each country.

¹⁴ Targeting mechanisms in these programs vary. In brief, Brazil allowed up to two transfers per household (and single mothers got double); Argentina targeted transfers per household but did not heavily enforce; Uruguay targeted individuals; Chile targeted households, adjusting amount by number of household members; Bolivia targeted individuals; Costa Rica targeted individuals; and Peru, Ecuador and Colombia allowed for only one transfer per household. For more details on the individual country programs, see Blofield, Giambruno and Filgueira (2020). It should also be noted here that Figure 3 does not tell us anything about whether the transfers reached the intended recipients -i.e., whether and to what extent there were errors of inclusion or exclusion- it just gives us the total recipient share in relation to the employed population.

Examining the relationship between the marked line and the blue bar, on the other hand, tells us about the relative *need* for new program coverage.¹⁵ From this angle, the policy effort required of Chile, Costa Rica, and Uruguay, given the higher level of formalization of the labor force, is lower than that required of other countries. In terms of meeting this need, in both Uruguay and Chile, the blue bars just about meet the red line. Also, in Uruguay transfers are targeted to the individual while in Chile, transfers are targeted to households. This means that there are more indirect recipients of these transfers in Chile. In the case of Costa Rica, a gap remains between the blue bar and red line, indicating coverage that is roughly the equivalent of two-thirds of the informally employed population.

Coverage in Brazil, and to a lesser extent, Argentina, on the other hand, exceeds the size of the informally employed population. Assuming low errors of exclusion, this indicates highly inclusive need-based eligibility criteria.

In Peru and Bolivia, the effort required to meet need is highest, with 80 percent informality in both countries, and Bolivia, impressively, just about covers the full group. Peru's coverage is lower, leaving a coverage gap of about 30 percent of the employed population. This, however, is partly a reflection of the targeting mechanism. In Bolivia, transfers were targeted at the individual, while in Peru, only one member of the household was eligible for the transfer. If we take into account indirect recipients -other members of the household- in Peru, coverage increases significantly, and likely eliminates the gap presented in Figure 3.

An important characteristic shared by all seven countries on the left of the graph (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Peru and Uruguay) is that they established more inclusive, 'demand-driven' mechanisms where individuals who had lost their income could self-identify and apply (although they would still be evaluated by a government agency).

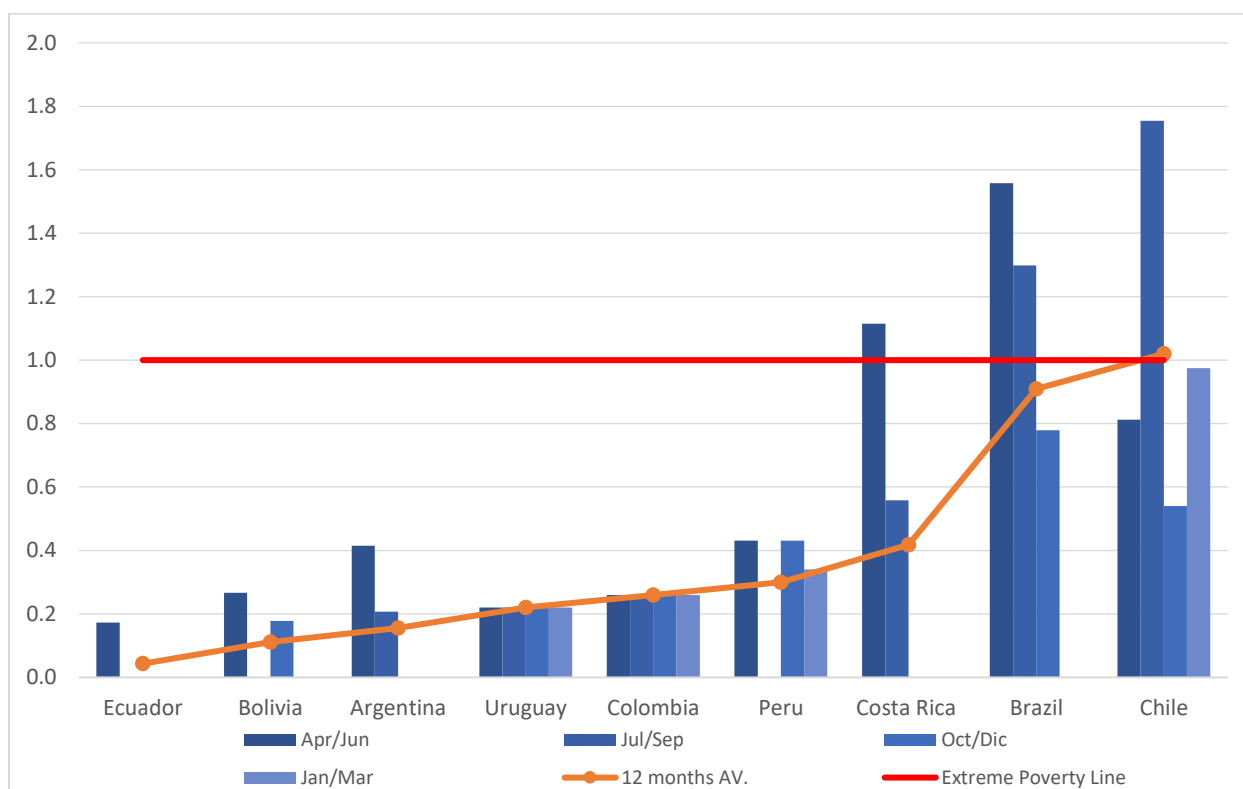
Finally, Figure 3 makes clear that while need in Colombia and Ecuador was high, with around 60 percent of the labor force working informally in both countries, coverage in the new programs was far below that need. In Ecuador, coverage in the new cash transfers during the first year reached a population the size of one-third of the informally employed population, through three one-time transfers to three mutually exclusive groups.¹⁶ In Colombia, the government instituted a monthly transfer to a population the size of just one-fifth of the informally employed population. Even if we assume one transfer per household and therefore many indirect recipients in both countries, coverage still remained limited. Both countries established programs that maintained restrictive eligibility criteria based on existing registries, and did not allow individuals to self-identify and apply for the benefit.

Figure 4 outlines, similarly to Figure 2, sufficiency of the transfers, per capita, for a four-person household. Again, the blue bars show the quarterly average for sufficiency for the periods April-June, 2020, July-September, 2020, October-December, 2020, and January-March 2021. The orange line is the average sufficiency for the full twelve month period and the red line is the value of the extreme poverty line for each country.

¹⁵ Again, whether or not formal and contributory protection measures were broad and sufficient enough to meet need among formal workers and their households is an important, but separate question not addressed here.

¹⁶ The government instituted a cash transfer to a fourth group in April 2021, beyond the time period of this analysis.

Figure 4: Sufficiency of emergency cash transfers as a percent of the extreme poverty line, April 2020-March 2021, quarterly average and twelve month average



Notes: Please see tables A.7, A.8 and A.9 on Appendix for sources and calculations.

Figure 4 shows that, as with the cash transfers to recipients in existing CCTs, Brazil and Chile emerge as having, by far, the most sufficient emergency cash transfers, with Chile's average sufficiency for the twelve month period slightly exceeding the value of the extreme poverty line. In Brazil, the twelve month average sufficiency is slightly below the extreme poverty line, as it reflects the program coming to an end in December 2020.¹⁷ Costa Rica's transfers emerge as a distant third, with a relatively high value benefit, but limited duration, thereby diluting the sufficiency over the twelve month period. Sufficiency in the rest of the other countries is close to 20 percent of the per capita extreme poverty line, per household member.

On the basis of Figures 1-4 and assessing both types of cash transfer responses, four broad types of responses emerge in terms of breadth and sufficiency of transfers, during the first twelve months of the COVID-19 pandemic. The first group provided benefits with relatively high breadth and sufficiency, and comprises Brazil and Chile. The second group is more heterogeneous, but shares the characteristics of high breadth of benefits. Sufficiency of benefits varies from medium to low sufficiency, often with differences between programs. This group includes Argentina, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Bolivia and Peru. The third group is characterized both by low breadth and low sufficiency of benefits, and comprises Colombia and Ecuador. Finally, the fourth type of response is a non-response, ie., no national-level pandemic cash transfer response, and comprises Mexico.

¹⁷ Another emergency assistance program -with lower breadth and sufficiency- was instituted later in 2021.

In this paper we have assessed how much income support households got, but not how long it took to receive benefits, i.e., *speed of delivery*, which is also relevant to households' wellbeing. The speed of delivery ranged quite significantly across this set of countries, especially in the case of the new cash transfer programs. In Chile and Uruguay, two countries with stronger existing databases and programs, delivery was relatively rapid. In Peru, by contrast, there were significant delays, with the final group of 2.5 million households only receiving their cash transfers in August, 2020.¹⁸

Conclusions and policy recommendations

The data presented in this policy brief reveal that all national governments except Mexico increased assistance to children by expanding the value of existing cash transfers and/or through the creation of new programs to cover sectors of the population that were excluded from existing benefits. Recent studies show that these policy efforts have had significant effects on limiting the growth of poverty during the pandemic.¹⁹

Our analysis underscores several important lessons. First, the pandemic may have presented an opportunity for Latin American states to create a broad social protection floor. While many governments moved in this direction, the gains have, for the most part, not been sustained. Indeed, most governments have not instituted longer-term cash transfers for individuals covered by the emergency programs. Moreover, most governments also failed to sustain increases in the coverage of existing CCT programs in the year following the onset of COVID-19. In some countries, coverage has even declined.

This missed opportunity is problematic, as poverty among children has increased from its already unacceptably high, pre-pandemic rate (ECLAC 2021). Moreover, the effects of the pandemic on children, due to school closures (which have been the longest in the world in Latin America)²⁰, to family material insecurity and mental stress, as well as limited access to healthcare, are devastating. As governments have ended -or begin to phase out- emergency assistance programs, they must urgently invest in expanding the breadth and sufficiency of cash transfers for families with children.

A second and perhaps more optimistic lesson is that pandemic-era social assistance has likely helped to boost the state's ability to delivery broader benefits. The efforts that governments have undertaken to update their databases, as they created the new emergency programs, could help in

¹⁸ El peruano, 11.8.2020, available at <http://www.elperuano.pe/noticia-bono-familiar-universal-hoy-empezo-pago-760-soles-a-25-millones-hogares-100992.aspx>.

¹⁹ Lustig et al. 2020

²⁰ For estimated effects on human capital and education, see Nora Lustig and Mariano Tommasi. (2020). "Covid-19 and Social Protection of Poor and Vulnerable Groups in Latin America: A Conceptual Framework." In Luis F. Lopez-Calva & Marcela Meléndez (Eds.), *The Economics of the COVID Pandemic in Latin America and the Caribbean: Ideas for Policy Action*. UNDP; Nora Lustig, Guido Neidhöfer and Mariano Tommasi. (2020). [Short and Long-run Distributional Impacts of COVID-19 in Latin America](#). CEQ Working Paper 96, Commitment to Equity Institute, Tulane University, October.

extending the reach of CCTs in the future. Moreover, citizen attitudes about the importance of state intervention may also have shifted. All of this creates a new window of opportunity for implementing a broad social protection floor in Latin American countries.

A third lesson relates to data availability. We lack systematic information about household composition in the region, and how it relates to access to contributory and non-contributory cash transfer programs. This makes it impossible to empirically assess the overlap between the two groups we examine -children and informal workers- at the level of the household. More detailed and systematic efforts to collect data on household composition, and access of household members to social protections, are urgently needed across the region. Such data will also help in formulating more efficient and equitable policies.

APPENDIX

General criteria:

- Benefits were calculated assuming a household with two parents and two children, with one child in primary school and one in lower secondary school.
- In cases where households can receive more than one benefit, we consider the maximum benefit (“maximum sufficiency”).
- We calculated each month according to the first day available for payment for at least some of the recipients, although not all beneficiaries were necessarily able to access the benefit on that date.

Table A.1: Evolution of coverage of existing cash transfer programs to children before and during COVID-19 (total recipients and as proportion of under 18 population)

Country	Program	Type	Pre covid (CEPAL DATA)	Peak coverage 2020	Mar-21	Total population 0-17	Pre COVID as % of population under 18	Peak 2020 coverage as % of population under 18	March 2021 coverage as % of population under 18
Argentina	AUH	Recipients (under 18)	4,154,652	4,394,376	4,377,273	14,583,177	28.49	30.13	30.02
Bolivia	Bono Familia + Bono Juancito Pinto + Juana Azarduy	Recipients (under 18)	2,391,808	2,907,048	2,431,259	4,662,280	51.30	62.35	52.15
Brazil	Bolsa Familia	Households	13,189,567	14,740,892	14,724,491	NA	NA	NA	NA
		Recipients (under 18)	25,851,551	28,892,148	28,860,002	60,237,359	42.92	47.96	47.91
Chile	Subsidio Único Familiar (SUF)	Recipients (under 18)	2,098,851	2,109,042	2,133,671	4,921,953	42.64	42.85	43.35
Colombia	Familas en Accion	Households	2,511,457	2,666,936	2,116,963	NA	NA	NA	NA
		Recipients (under 18)	4,093,675	4,347,106	3,450,650	15,534,034	26.35	27.98	22.21

Costa Rica	Avancemos & Crecemos	Recipients (under 18)	413,526	413,743	311,620	1,424,436	29.03	29.05	21.88
Ecuador	Bono de Desarrollo Humano	Households	418,215	NA	842,195	NA	NA	NA	NA
		Recipients (under 18)	1,003,716	NA	2,021,268	6,393,711	15.70	NA	31.61
Mexico	Progama Benito Juarez	Recipients (under 18)	7,455,527	7,455,527	7,455,527	44,519,713	16.75	16.75	16.75
Peru	JUNTOS	Households	693,980	698,080	692,254	NA	NA	NA	NA
		Recipients (under 18)	1,561,292	1,577,661	1,564,494	10,580,007	14.76	14.91	14.79
Uruguay	TUS / AFAM-PE	Households	203,742	203,675	203,675	NA	NA	NA	NA
		Recipients (under 18)	550,103	549,923	549,923	952,000	57.78	57.76	57.76

Table A.2: Evolution of coverage of existing cash transfer programs to children before and during COVID-19 (notes on calculations and sources)

Country	Program	Type	Notes coverage	Link to source
Argentina	AUH	Recipients (under 18)	Data pre-COVID (ECLAC). Data for Peak coverage 2020 corresponds to April 2020. Data on recipients based on report recipients by month. Source: Anses (2021): Boletín mensual de la asignación universal por hijo para protección social. Marzo 2021	http://observatorio.anses.gob.ar/publicacion
Bolivia	Bono Familia + Bono Juancito Pinto + Juana Azarduy	Recipients (under 18)	Data for pre-COVID considers Bono Juancito Pinto and Juana Azarduy recipients (ECLAC). For peak coverage 2020 total recipients of Bono Familia (Ministry of Finance). For March 2021 Bono Juancito Pinto (updated MINEDU (2021): Rendicion de Cuentas) and Juana Azarduy recipients.	https://www.economiayfinanzas.gob.bo/bono-universal-contador_b.html https://www.minedu.gob.bo/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4891:rendicion-publica-de-cuentas-final&catid=283&Itemid=1087
Brazil	Bolsa Familia	Households	Data Pre-COVID November 2019 (ECLAC). For Peak coverage 2020 and March 2021 data of total household recipients available at Portal Transparencia do Governo (2020 and 2021).	http://www.portaldatransparencia.gov.br/beneficios?ano=2020
		Recipients (under 18)	Total recipients (under 18) estimated based on household data. We use the ECLAC ratios to calculate number of persons living in recipient households; and the estimated the number of recipients under 18 based on under 18 as percentage of total people living in beneficiaries' households (49%), available on	

			http://www.sipi.siteal.iipe.unesco.org/sites/default/files/sipi_intervencion/bolsa_de_familia.pdf		
Chile	Subsidio Único Familiar (SUF)	Recipients (under 18)	Total recipients SUF. ECLAC (Non-contributory Social Protection Programs Database). Data available for 2019, 2020 and 2021 (may).	https://dds.cepal.org/bpsnc/programa?id=181	
Colombia	Familias en Accion	Households	Data pre-COVID (ECLAC). Data for Peak coverage correspond to the first payment: Departamento Nacional de Planeación (2020). For March 2021 data for July 2021 available on official page of Prosperidad Social.	https://socialprotection.org/sites/default/files/publications_files/e-conference%20Presentaton%20-%20Colombia.pdf	https://prosperidadsocial.gov.co/Noticias/tercer-ciclo-de-pagos-de-familias-en-accion-comienza-el-6-de-julio/
		Recipients (under 18)	Total recipients (under 18) estimated based on household data. Based on number of recipients household applying the ratio of beneficiaries by household available in ECLAC.		
Costa Rica	Avancemos & Crecemos	Recipients (under 18)	Data pre-COVID (ECLAC) recipients of Avancemos and Crecemos. For peak coverage data recipients 2020 available in IMAS (2021): Informe del Programa Protección y Promoción Social 2020 . For March 2021 recipients January - March 2021 available in IMAS (2021): Informe del Programa Protección y Promoción Social Trimestre I 2021.	https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/docs/Informe%20Programa%20de%20Promoci%C3%B3n%20y%20Protecci%C3%B3n%20Social%20%2002020.pdf	https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/docs/Informe%20PPP%20al%201%20Trimestre%202021.pdf
Ecuador	Bono de Desarrollo Humano	Households	For Pre-COVID El Comercio (2019). No data available for peak coverage 2020. Data for March 2021 corresponds to total households available in Portal Inclusion (July 2021).	https://www.elcomercio.com/actualidad/bono-desarrollo-lenin-moreno-reformas.html	https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/cobertura-ancusrext/bonos-y-pensiones-ancusrext
		Recipients (under 18)	Total recipients (under 18) estimated based on household data. Based on number of recipients household applying the ratio of beneficiaries by household available in ECLAC (2017).		
Mexico	Programa Benito Juarez	Recipients (under 18)	Total recipients Programa Benito Juarez 2019. ECLAC (Non-contributory Social Protection Programs Database). No updated data for 2020 or 2021.	https://dds.cepal.org/bpsnc/programa?id=175	
Peru	JUNTOS	Households	Data pre-COVID (ECLAC). For peak coverage 2020 (July 2020) and March 2021 data on paid households available in INFOMIDIS Statistics on Social Programs.	http://sdv.midis.gob.pe/Infomidis/#/	
		Recipients (under 18)	Total recipients (under 18) estimated based on household data. Based on number of recipients household applying the ratio of beneficiaries by household available in ECLAC.		
Uruguay	TUS / AFAM-PE	Households	Calculations for Pre-COVID based on number of households recipients of TUS and number of households recipients on AFAM-PE (and not TUS) available in report Ministerio de Desarrollo Social (February 2020). For coverage peak and March 2021 only one data point available (May 2020). Administrative register of Ministerio de Desarrollo Social.	https://www.gub.uy/ministerio-desarrollo-social/sites/ministerio-desarrollo-social/files/2020-06/respuesta-de-mides_1.pdf	
		Recipients (under 18)	Total recipients (under 18) estimated based on household data. Based on number of recipients household applying the ratio of beneficiaries by household available in ECLAC.		

Table A.3: Sufficiency of existing cash transfers as a percent of the extreme poverty line, April 2020-March 2021 (amounts of transfers by month, local currency)

Country	Program	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Argentina	AUH + Ingreso Familiar de Emergencia	17920	4920	15221	5221	15221	5664	5664	5664	18064	5946	5946	6427
Bolivia	Bono Familia & Bono Universal + Bono Juancito Pinto + Bono Contra el Hambre	1000	500	0	0	0	400	0	0	1000	0	0	0
Brazil	Auxílio emergencial do Governo Federal + Bolsa Família	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	600	600	600	600	171	171	171
Chile	Subsidio Familiar (SUF) + IFE 2020 + Bono COVID Navidad + IFE/Bono COVID 2021	36310	26310	426310	426310	426310	306802	246802	26802	139027	197302	231966	251409
Colombia	Familias en Acción	0	309950	0	309950	0	309950	0	309950	89950	0	0	93450
Costa Rica	Avancemos & Crecemos	48000	48000	48000	48000	48000	48000	48000	48000	48000	48000	48000	48000
Ecuador	Bono de Desarrollo Humano	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	84	69	84	69
Mexico	Programa Benito Juárez	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600
Peru	JUNTOS + Bono "Yo me quedo en casa" + Bono Universal Familiar (II) + Bono S/600	780	0	380	0	400	0	960	0	0	0	800	0
Uruguay	Tus + AFAM PE	7516.75	7516.75	7516.75	7516.75	7516.75	7516.75	6149.5	7516.75	7516.75	8623.5	8623.5	8623.5

Table A.4: Sufficiency of existing cash transfers as a percent of the extreme poverty line, April 2020-March 2021 period (quarterly average and twelve-month average and as proportion of national urban extreme poverty line)

Country	Program	AV. Apr/Jun	AV. Jul/Sep	AV. Oct/Dic	AV. Jan/Mar	AV. 12 months	Monthly extreme Poverty Line for 4-person household	AV. Apr/Jun as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line	AV. Jul/Sep as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line	AV. Oct/Dec as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line	AV. Jan/Mar as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line	AV. 12 months as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line
Argentina	AUH + Ingreso Familiar de Emergencia	12687	8702	9797	6106	9323	16072.0	0.789	0.541	0.610	0.380	0.580
Bolivia	Bono Familia & Bono Universal + Bono Juancito Pinto + Bono Contra el Hambre	500	133	333	0	242	1872.0	0.267	0.071	0.178	0.000	0.129
Brazil	Auxílio emergencial do Governo Federal + Bolsa Família	1200	1000	600	171	743	770.2	1.558	1.298	0.779	0.222	0.964
Chile	Subsidio Familiar (SUF) + IFE 2020 + Bono COVID Navidad + IFE/Bono COVID 2021	162977	386474	137544	226892	228472	205236.0	0.794	1.883	0.670	1.106	1.113
Colombia	Familias en Acción	154975	206633	199950	31150	118600	616916.0	0.251	0.335	0.324	0.050	0.192
Costa Rica	Avancemos & Crecemos	48000	48000	48000	48000	48000	149428.0	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.321
Ecuador	Bono de Desarrollo Humano	69	69	74	74	72	231.6	0.298	0.298	0.320	0.320	0.309
Mexico	Progama Benito Juarez	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	4776.1	0.335	0.335	0.335	0.335	0.335
Peru	JUNTOS + Bono "Yo me quedo en casa" + Bono Universal Familiar (II) + Bono S/600	387	133	320	267	277	588.2	0.657	0.227	0.544	0.453	0.470
Uruguay	Tus + AFAM PE	7517	7517	7061	8624	7680	10891.8	0.690	0.690	0.648	0.792	0.705

Table A.5: Sufficiency of existing cash transfers by month, April 2020-March 2021 period (notes on calculations and sources)

Argentina	
Apr-20	Monthly benefit AUH + exceptional transfer AUH + First payment IFE (\$10.000). Source: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/justicia/derechofacil/levsimple/emergencia-sanitaria-covid-19-ingreso-familiar-de-emergencia
May-20	Monthly benefit AUH
Jun-20	Monthly benefit AUH (6.11% increase) + Second payment IFE (\$10.000). Source: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/justicia/derechofacil/levsimple/emergencia-sanitaria-covid-19-ingreso-familiar-de-emergencia
Jul-20	Monthly benefit AUH
Aug-20	Monthly benefit AUH + Third payment IFE (\$10.000). Source: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/justicia/derechofacil/levsimple/emergencia-sanitaria-covid-19-ingreso-familiar-de-emergencia
Sep-20	Monthly benefit AUH (7.5% increase)
Oct-20	Monthly benefit AUH
Nov-20	Monthly benefit AUH
Dec-20	Monthly benefit AUH + Payment of regards 20%
Jan-21	Monthly benefit AUH
Feb-21	Monthly benefit AUH
Mar-21	Monthly benefit AUH (8.27% increase)
Bolivia	
Apr-20	Bono Familia (500b\$ per child). Source: https://www.la-razon.com/nacional/2020/04/14/el-bono-familia-se-paga-hasta-el-5-de-mayo-y-con-fotocopia-de-libretas-escolares-de-2017-2018-o-2019/
May-20	Bono Universal (500b\$ per household). Source: https://www.economiayfinanzas.gob.bo/este-martes-5-comienza-el-pago-del-bono-universal-en-todo-el-pais.html
Jun-20	-
Jul-20	-
Aug-20	-
Sep-20	Bono Juancito Pinto (200b\$ per child) Advance payment. Source: https://www.minedu.gob.bo/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4625:inicia-el-pago-del-bono-juancito-pinto&catid=182&Itemid=854

Oct-20	-
Nov-20	-
Dec-20	Bono Contra El Hambre (1000b\$ per household). Source: https://www.economiayfinanzas.gob.bo/el-presidente-luis-arce-catacora-inicia-pago-del-bono-contra-el-hambre-para-reactivar-la-economia-boliviana.html
Jan-21	-
Feb-21	-
Mar-21	-
Brazil	
Apr-20	Auxilio Emergencial (R\$600 per adult).
May-20	Auxilio Emergencial (R\$600 per adult)
Jun-20	Auxilio Emergencial (R\$600 per adult)
Jul-20	Auxilio Emergencial (R\$600 per adult)
Aug-20	Auxilio Emergencial (R\$600 per adult)
Sep-20	Auxilio Emergencial (R\$300 per adult)
Oct-20	Auxilio Emergencial (R\$300 per adult)
Nov-20	Auxilio Emergencial (R\$300 per adult)
Dec-20	Auxilio Emergencial (R\$300 per adult)
Jan-21	Monthly benefit Bolsa Familia. R89 corresponding to the basic benefit + R41 per child between 0 and 15 years old= Total R171. Source: https://www.caixa.gov.br/programas-sociais/bolsa-familia/Paginas/default.aspx
Feb-21	Monthly benefit Bolsa Familia. R89 corresponding to the basic benefit + R41 per child between 0 and 15 years old= Total R171. Source: https://www.caixa.gov.br/programas-sociais/bolsa-familia/Paginas/default.aspx
Mar-21	Monthly benefit Bolsa Familia. R89 corresponding to the basic benefit + R41 per child between 0 and 15 years old= Total R171. Source: https://www.caixa.gov.br/programas-sociais/bolsa-familia/Paginas/default.aspx
Chile	
Apr-20	Monthly benefit SUF (13.155 per child) + First payment IFE (260.000 for household of four). Source: https://bonosdelgobierno.com/quinto-y-sexto-pago-del-ife-beneficio-se-extendera-hasta-octubre/

May-20	Monthly benefit SUF (13.155 per child)
Jun-20	Monthly benefit SUF (13.155 per child) + Second payment IFE (400.000 for household of four; 100.000 by person). Source: https://bonosdelgobierno.com/quinto-y-sexto-pago-del-ife-beneficio-se-extendera-hasta-octubre/
Jul-20	Monthly benefit SUF (13.155 per child) + Third payment IFE (400.000 for household of four; 100.000 by person). Source: https://bonosdelgobierno.com/quinto-y-sexto-pago-del-ife-beneficio-se-extendera-hasta-octubre/
Aug-20	Monthly benefit SUF (13.155 per child) + Fourth payment IFE (400.000 for household of four; 100.000 by person). Source: https://bonosdelgobierno.com/quinto-y-sexto-pago-del-ife-beneficio-se-extendera-hasta-octubre/
Sep-20	Monthly benefit SUF (increase in amount 13.401 per child) + Fifth payment IFE (70% of previous IFE; 280.000 for household of four). Source: https://bonosdelgobierno.com/quinto-y-sexto-pago-del-ife-beneficio-se-extendera-hasta-octubre/
Oct-20	Monthly benefit SUF (13.401 per child) + Sixth payment IFE (55% of previous IFE; 220.000 for household of four). Source: https://bonosdelgobierno.com/quinto-y-sexto-pago-del-ife-beneficio-se-extendera-hasta-octubre/
Nov-20	Monthly benefit SUF (13.401 per child)
Dec-20	Monthly benefit SUF (13.401 per child) + Bono COVID Navidad (weighted average of the two amounts based on proportion of recipients). Source: https://www.chileatiende.gob.cl/fichas/84832-bono-covid-navidad
Jan-21	Monthly benefit SUF (13.401 per child) + IFE/Bono COVID 2021 (weighted average of the four types of transfers based on proportion of recipients). Source: https://www.desarrollosocialyfamilia.gob.cl/storage/docs/Informe_Metodologico_Trimestral_-_IFE_y_Bono_Covid_Enero-Marzo_2021.pdf
Feb-21	Monthly benefit SUF (13.401 per child) + IFE/Bono COVID 2021 (weighted average of the four types of transfers based on proportion of recipients). Source: https://www.desarrollosocialyfamilia.gob.cl/storage/docs/Informe_Metodologico_Trimestral_-_IFE_y_Bono_Covid_Enero-Marzo_2021.pdf
Mar-21	Monthly benefit SUF (13.401 per child) + IFE/Bono COVID 2021 (weighted average of the four types of transfers based on proportion of recipients). Source: https://www.desarrollosocialyfamilia.gob.cl/storage/docs/Informe_Metodologico_Trimestral_-_IFE_y_Bono_Covid_Enero-Marzo_2021.pdf
Colombia	
Apr-20	Bimonthly transfer Familias en Acción + Pago extraordinario (\$145.000) + VAT refund (\$75.000). Amounts for 2020: https://www.facebook.com/287363038027583/posts/2811569412273587/ . Pago Extraordinario: https://prosperidadsocial.gov.co/Noticias/mas-de-2-3-millones-de-colombianos-ya-tienen-en-sus-cuentas-de-ahorro-los-incentivos-de-familias-en-accion/ . VAT refund: https://prosperidadsocial.gov.co/Noticias/avance-de-entrega-de-incentivos-de-familias-en-accion-jovenes-en-accion-y-compensacion-del-iva-es-del-98/ .
May-20	Bimonthly transfer Familias en Acción + Pago extraordinario (\$145.000) + VAT refund (\$75.000). Amounts for 2020: https://www.facebook.com/287363038027583/posts/2811569412273587/ . For Pago extraordinario and VAT refund: https://prosperidadsocial.gov.co/Noticias/en-mayo-prosperidad-social-entregara-nuevas-ayudas-sociales-a-familias-y-jovenes-en-accion-en-el-marco-de-la-emergencia/
Jun-20	-
Jul-20	Bimonthly transfer Familias en Acción + Pago extraordinario (\$145.000) + VAT refund (\$75.000). Amounts for 2020: https://www.facebook.com/287363038027583/posts/2811569412273587/ . For Pago extraordinario and VAT refund: https://prosperidadsocial.gov.co/Noticias/directora-de-prosperidad-social-entrega-balance-los-programas-de-transferencias-monetarias-en-el-marco-de-la-emergencia-por-covid-19/
Aug-20	-
Sep-20	Bimonthly transfer Familias en Acción + Pago extraordinario (\$145.000) + VAT refund (\$75.000). Amounts for 2020: https://www.facebook.com/287363038027583/posts/2811569412273587/ . For Pago extraordinario and VAT refund:

	https://prosperidadsocial.gov.co/Noticias/beneficiarios-de-familias-en-accion-y-jovenes-en-accion-recibiran-nuevo-pago-ordinario-y-extraordinario-en-septiembre/
Oct-20	-
Nov-20	Bimonthly transfer Familias en Acción + Pago extraordinario (\$145.000) + VAT refund (\$75.000). Amounts for 2020: https://www.facebook.com/287363038027583/posts/2811569412273587/ . For Pago extraordinario and VAT refund: https://prosperidadsocial.gov.co/Noticias/inicia-el-quinto-pago-de-familias-en-accion/
Dec-20	Bimonthly transfer Familias en Acción. Amounts for 2020: https://www.facebook.com/287363038027583/posts/2811569412273587/ . NO Pago extraordinario or VAT refund for this payment: https://prosperidadsocial.gov.co/Noticias/prosperidad-social-inicia-ultimo-pago-del-ano-para-familias-y-jovenes-en-accion/
Jan-21	-
Feb-21	-
Mar-21	Bimonthly transfer Familias en Acción (increase in amount). Amounts for 2021: https://tramiteinformativo.com/subsidios/tabla-de-pagos-familias-en-accion/
Costa Rica	
Apr-20	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
May-20	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Jun-20	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Jul-20	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Aug-20	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Sep-20	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Oct-20	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Nov-20	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Dec-20	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Jan-21	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Feb-21	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf
Mar-21	Monthly benefit Avancemos (€30.000) & Creceemos (€18.000). Source: https://www.imas.go.cr/sites/default/files/content/Lo-que-usted-tiene-que-saber-del-programa-Creceemos.pdf

Ecuador	
Apr-20	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
May-20	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
Jun-20	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
Jul-20	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
Aug-20	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
Sep-20	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
Oct-20	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
Nov-20	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
Dec-20	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext + First payment of Bono Adicional (USD15). Source: https://www.comunicacion.gob.ec/usd-90-adicionales-recibiran-temporalmente-beneficiarios-de-bonos-de-proteccion-social/
Jan-21	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
Feb-21	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext + Second payment of Bono Adicional (USD15). Source: https://www.comunicacion.gob.ec/usd-90-adicionales-recibiran-temporalmente-beneficiarios-de-bonos-de-proteccion-social/
Mar-21	Monthly benefit Bono de Desarrollo Humano (50USD Bono de Desarrollo Humano + 19 Componente Variable per 2 children between 5 and 18). Amounts: https://info.inclusion.gob.ec/index.php/servicios-de-inclusion-economica-usrext/aseguramiento-no-contributivo-usrext
Mexico	
Apr-20	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
May-20	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Jun-20	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Jul-20	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Aug-20	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/

Sep-20	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Oct-20	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Nov-20	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Dec-20	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Jan-21	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Feb-21	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Mar-21	Monthly benefit Benito Juarez (800 per child). Source: https://becas-mexico.mx/2021/becas-benito-juarez-2021/
Peru	
Apr-20	First payment Bono "Yo me quedo en casa" (S/380) + payment JUNTOS corresponding to bimester II and III (advance payment bimester III)
May-20	-
Jun-20	Second payment Bono "Yo me quedo en casa" (S/380)
Jul-20	-
Aug-20	Benefit JUNTOS corresponding to bimester IV and V (advance payment bimester V)
Sep-20	-
Oct-20	Second Bono Universal Familiar (S/760) + benefit of JUNTOS bimester VI. Source: https://peru.as.com/peru/2020/12/19/actualidad/1608377113_868772.html
Nov-20	-
Dec-20	-
Jan-21	-
Feb-21	Bono S/600 + JUNTOS bimester I 2021
Mar-21	-
Uruguay	

Apr-20	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of TUS amount (COVID measure)
May-20	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of TUS amount (COVID measure)
Jun-20	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of TUS amount (COVID measure)
Jul-20	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of TUS amount (COVID measure)
Aug-20	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of TUS amount (COVID measure)
Sep-20	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of TUS amount (COVID measure)
Oct-20	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit)
Nov-20	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of TUS amount (COVID measure)
Dec-20	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of TUS amount (COVID measure)
Jan-21	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of AFAM-PE amount (change of criteria)
Feb-21	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of AFAM-PE amount (change of criteria)
Mar-21	Monthly benefit TUS + AFAM-PE (weighted average of amounts of TUS Simple and TUS Doble based on the proportion of beneficiaries of each type of benefit) + Half duplication of AFAM-PE amount (change of criteria)

Table A.6: Peak coverage in new emergency cash transfer programs April 2020-March 2021

Country	Program	Number of recipients	Occupied population (total)_IDB 2019	% of occupied population recipient of new transfer to informals	Notes on calculation number of recipients	Link to source number of recipients
Argentina	Ingreso Familia de Emergencia	6,467,299	11500000	56.23738261	Total recipients of IFE (not counting AUH beneficiaries); July 2020. Source: Consejo Nacional de Coordinación de Políticas Sociales (2021): Resumen de Indicadores y Programas Sociales. Presidencia de la Nación.	https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/resumen_indicadores_y_programas_sociales_al_18_de_febrero.pdf
Bolivia	Bono Universal	3,658,905	4781778	76.5176677	Total recipients Bono Universal. October 2020. Source: Official Page of Ministry of Finance	https://www.economiayfinanzas.gob.bo/bono-universal-contador_b.html
Brazil	Auxílio Emergencial do Governo Federal	53,484,341	91200000	58.64511075	Total Auxílio Emergencial recipients (not counting Bolsa Familia beneficiaries). Data 2020. Source: Porta Transparencia do Governo.	http://www.portaldatransparencia.gov.br/beneficios?ano=2020
Chile	IFE + Bono COVID Navidad + IFE / Bono COVID 2021	1,953,646	7375900	26.48688296	Total recipients IFE October 2020 (not counting SUF and elderly). Source: Ministerio de Desarrollo Social y Familia (2021): INFORME INGRESO FAMILIAR DE EMERGENCIA	https://www.desarrollosocialyfamilia.gob.cl/storage/docs/Informe_IFE_abril_2021.pdf
Colombia	Programa Ingreso Solidario	3,084,987	21300000	14.48350704	Total recipients of Programa Ingreso Solidario (March 2021). Source: Official Page Prosperidad Social	https://prosperidadsocial.gov.co/Noticias/ingreso-solidario-un-ano-atendiendo-a-3-millones-de-hogares-en-medio-de-la-pandemia/
Costa Rica	Bono Proteger	341,126	2022266	16.86850939	Recipients of Bono Proteger informals and informals self-employed (51% of the self-employed workers based on IDB data 2019). Source: Noveno Informe Mensual de Seguimiento a la Ejecución del Bono Proteger, January 2021.	https://www.mtss.go.cr/elministerio/despacho/covid-19-mtss/plan_proteger/archivos/noveno_informe_proteger.pdf
Ecuador	Bono de Protección Familiar por Emergencia	1,430,000	7147717	20.00638805	Recipients of Bono Protección Familiar por Emergencia corresponding to phase I, II and III (March 2021). Source: Ministerio de Inclusión Económica y Social	https://www.inclusion.gob.ec/gobierno-nacional-fortalece-ayudas-para-los-mas-afectados-por-la-pandemia/

Peru	Bono Familiar Universal	7,241,224	15400000	47.02093506	Total recipients of Bono Familiar Universal (not counting JUNTOS and PENSION65 beneficiaries) - Dato for Segundo Bono Familiar Universal. Source: Ministerio de Desarrollo Social	https://www.gob.pe/institucion/midis/noticias/294029-en-que-se-diferencian-el-tramo-2-del-bono-familiar-universal-y-el-segundo-bono-familiar-universal
Uruguay	Canasta de Emergencia TuApp	340,000	1561785	21.76996193	Total recipients of Canasta de Emergencia TuApp (December 2020). Source: Official Page Uruguay Presidencia.	https://www.gub.uy/presidencia/comunicacion/noticias/lacalle-pou-anuncio-medidas-sociales-laborales-economicas-para-segundo-ano

Table A.7: Sufficiency of emergency cash transfers April 2020-March 2021 (amount of transfer by month, local currency)

Pais	Program	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Argentina	Ingreso Familia de Emergencia	10000	0	10000	0	10000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bolivia	Bono Familia & Bono Universal + Bono Contra el Hambre	1000	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	1000	0	0	0
Brazil	Auxílio emergencial do Governo Federal	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	600	600	600	600	0	0	0
Chile	IFE 2020 + Bono Covid Navidad + IFE/Bono COVID 2021	100000	0	400000	400000	400000	280000	220000	0	112225	170500	205164	224607
Colombia	Programa Ingreso Solidario	160000	160000	160000	160000	160000	160000	160000	160000	160000	160000	160000	160000
Costa Rica	Bono Proteger	250000	250000	0	250000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ecuador	Bono de Proteccion Familiar por Emergencia	60	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peru	Bono "Yo me quedo en casa" + Bono Universal Familiar (II) + Bono S/600	380	0	380	0	0	0	760	0	0	0	600	0
Uruguay	Canasta de Emergencia TuApp	2400	2400	2400	2400	2400	2400	2400	2400	2400	2400	2400	2400

Table A.8: Sufficiency of emergency cash transfers April 2020-March 2021 (quarterly average and twelve month average: amount and as proportion of national urban extreme poverty line)

Country	Program	AV. Apr/Jun	AV. Jul/Sep	AV. Oct/Dec	AV. Jan/Mar	AV. 12 months	Monthly extreme Poverty Line for 4-person household	AV. Apr/Jun as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line	AV. Jul/Sep as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line	AV. Oct/Dec as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line	AV. Jan/Mar as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line	AV. 12 months as proportion of Extreme Poverty Line
Argentina	Ingreso Familia de Emergencia	6667	3333	0	0	2500	16072	0.41	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.16
Bolivia	Bono Familia & Bono Universal +Bono Contra el Hambre	500	0	333	0	208	1872	0.27	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.11
Brazil	Auxílio emergencial do Governo Federal	1200	1000	600	0	700	770	1.56	1.30	0.78	0.00	0.91
Chile	IFE + Bono Covid Navidad + IFE/Bono COVID 2021	166667	360000	110742	200090	209375	205236	0.81	1.75	0.54	0.97	1.02
Colombia	Programa Ingreso Solidario	160000	160000	160000	160000	160000	616916	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26
Costa Rica	Bono Proteger	166667	83333	0	0	62500	149428	1.12	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.42
Ecuador	Bono de Proteccion Familiar por Emergencia	40	0	0	0	10	232	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04
Peru	Bono "Yo me quedo en casa" + Bono Universal Familiar (II) + Bono S/600	253	0	253	200	177	588	0.43	0.00	0.43	0.34	0.30
Uruguay	Canasta de Emergencia TuApp	2400	2400	2400	2400	2400	10892	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22

Table A.9: Sufficiency of emergency cash transfers as a percent of the extreme poverty line, April 2020-March 2021 (notes on calculations and sources)

Country	Notes on calculations and sources
Argentina	For Argentina we computed 3 payments of IFE (\$10.000 per household). Payments computed on April, June and August 2020. Source: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/justicia/derechofacil/leysimple/emergencia-sanitaria-covid-19-ingreso-familiar-de-emergencia
Bolivia	For Bolivia we computed Bono Familia (April 2020); Bono Universal (May 2020) and Bono Contra el Hambre (December 2020). Bono Familia (500b\$ per child); source: https://www.la-razon.com/nacional/2020/04/14/el-bono-familia-se-paga-hasta-el-5-de-mayo-y-con-fotocopia-de-libretas-escolares-de-2017-2018-o-2019/ . Bono Universal (500b\$ per household); source: https://www.economiayfinanzas.gob.bo/este-martes-5-comienza-el-pago-del-bono-universal-en-todo-el-pais.html . Bono Contra El Hambre (1000b\$ per household); source: https://www.economiayfinanzas.gob.bo/el-presidente-luis-arce-catacora-inicia-pago-del-bono-contra-el-hambre-para-reactivar-la-economia-boliviana.html
Brazil	For Brazil we computed 5 payments of AE (R\$600 per adult; computing R\$1200 per household) corresponding to April - August and 4 payments of reduced AE (R\$300 per adult; computing R\$600 per household), corresponding to September - December. Source: https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/assistencia-social/2020/04/auxilio-emergencial-covid-19 ; https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/assistencia-social/2020/09/auxilio-emergencial-extensao-publicado-calendario-de-pagamento
Chile	For Chile we computed 6 payments of IFE (April and June-October 2020) + Bono Covid Navidad (December 2020) + IFE/Bono COVID 2021 (January - March 2021). Amounts for 6 payments of IFE are: 260.000 for household of 4 in April; 400.000 for household of 4 in June, July and August; 280.000 for household of 4 in September and 220.000 for household of four in October. Source: https://bonosdelgobierno.com/quinto-y-sexto-pago-del-ife-beneficio-se-extendera-hasta-octubre/ . For Bono COVID Navidad we computed a weighted average of the two amounts based on proportion of recipients of each type of transfer. Source: https://www.chileatiende.gob.cl/fichas/84832-bono-covid-navidad . For IFE/Bono COVID 2021 (January - March 2021) we computed a weighted average of the four types of transfers based on proportion of recipients of each type of transfer. Source: https://www.desarrollosocialyfamilia.gob.cl/storage/docs/Informe_Metodologico_Trimestral_-_IFE_y_Bono_Covid_Enero-Marzo_2021.pdf
Colombia	For Colombia we computed 12 payments of 160.000 (April 2020 - March 2021). Source: https://id.presidencia.gov.co/Paginas/prensa/2020/Presidente-Duque-anuncia-que-giros-de-Ingreso-Solidario-se-extenderan-hasta-diciembre-de-2020-200624.aspx ; https://id.presidencia.gov.co/Paginas/prensa/2020/Presidente-Duque-anuncia-que-Ingreso-Solidario-se-extendera-hasta-junio-de-2021-200720.aspx
Costa Rica	For Costa Rica we computed 3 payments of Bono Proteger (€125.000 per adult; computing €250.000 per household). First payment is computed in April 2020 (started on April 18th); second payment is computed in May 2020 (started on May 25th) and third payment is computed in July 2020 (started on July 9th). Source https://www.mtss.go.cr/elministerio/despacho/covid-19-mtss/plan_proteger/bono_proteger.html
Ecuador	For Ecuador we computed 2 payments of USD60 for the months of April and May, corresponding to beneficiaries of phase 1 of Bono Protección Familiar who received the transfer in two payments. For phases II, III and IV there was one transfer of USD120 (same amount per household in total). Source: https://www.inclusion.gob.ec/segunda-fase-del-bono-de-proteccion-familiar-por-la-emergencia-inicia-en-mayo-con-550-mil-beneficiarios-mas/
Peru	For Peru we computed two transfers of S/380 per household corresponding to Bono "Yo me quedo en casa" (April and June); source: https://www.yomequedoencasa.pe/ . Beneficiaries of Bono Universal Familiar, Bono Independiente and Bono Rural received one transfer of S/760 per household in May (same amount per household in total). For October we computed the second payment of Bono Universal Familiar (760) (for all the recipients in the four transfers before); source: https://www.gob.pe/10978 ; https://peru.as.com/peru/2020/12/19/actualidad/1608377113_868772.html . On February we computed bono S/600 (S/600 per household); source: https://bono600.gob.pe/ .
Uruguay	For Uruguay we computed 12 payments of Canasta de Emergencia TuApp (R\$1.200 per adult; computing R\$2.400 per household). Source: https://www.gub.uy/ministerio-desarrollo-social/comunicacion/comunicados/solicitud-canasta-emergencia-alimentaria