

Mind the (Evidenced based Policy) Gap

Jim Walker, Walk21

Manchester, 21 May, 2026

ADDRESSING TRANSPORT INEQUALITIES IN GLOBAL SOUTH



LEADING
THE WALKING
MOVEMENT



AWARENESS



KNOWLEDGE



ACTION



IMPACT









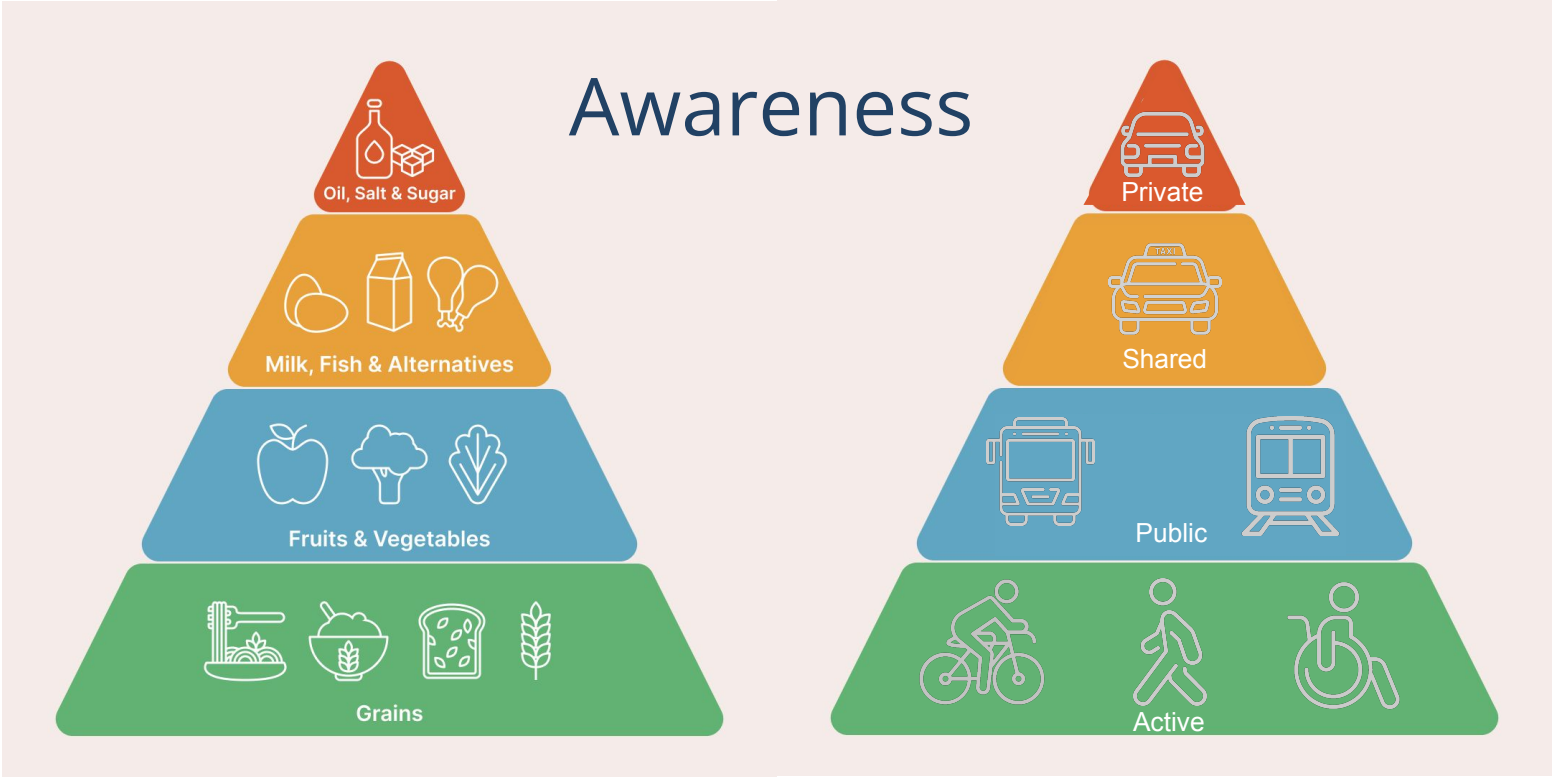








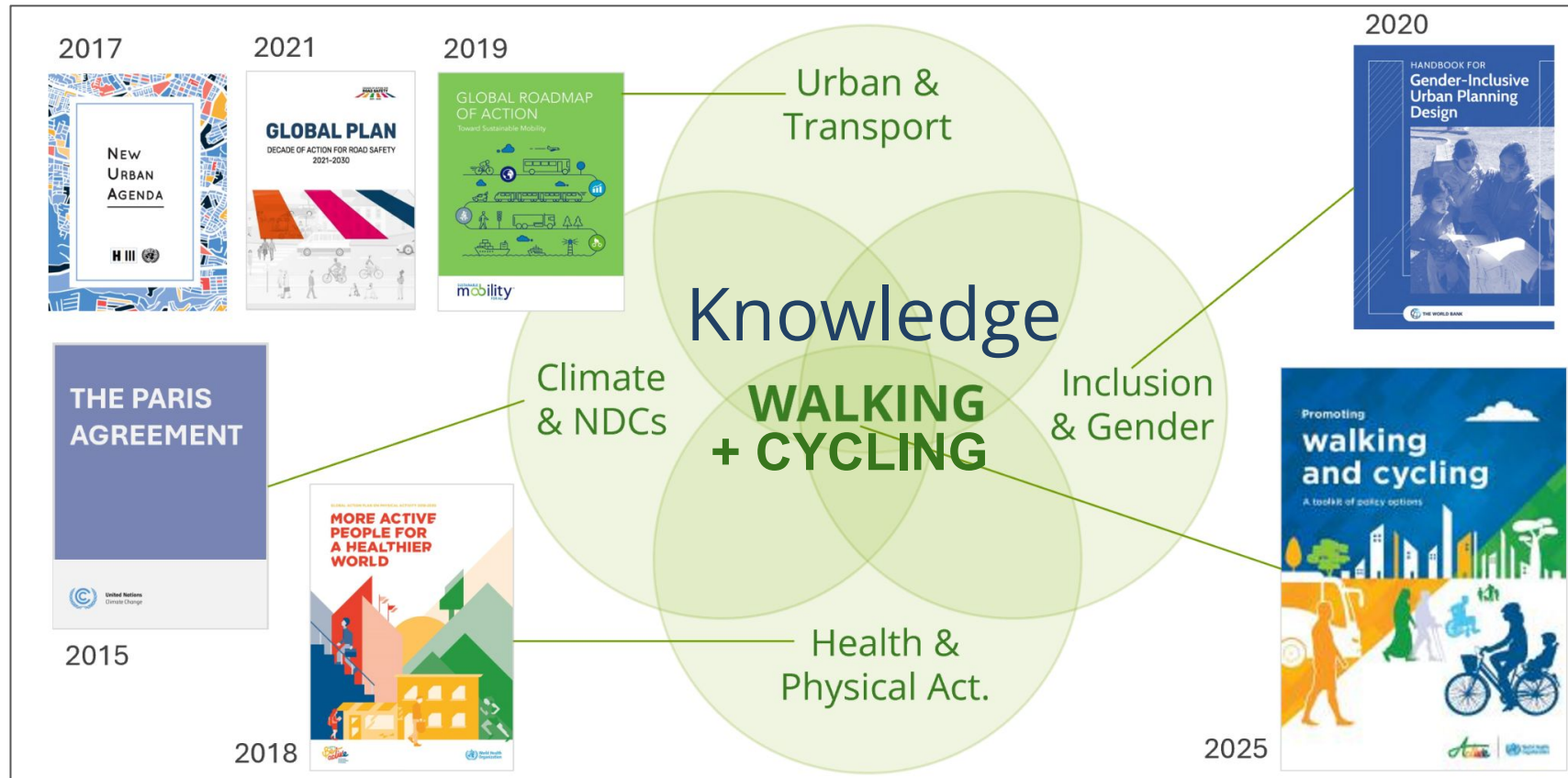
ADDRESSING TRANSPORT INEQUALITIES IN GLOBAL SOUTH



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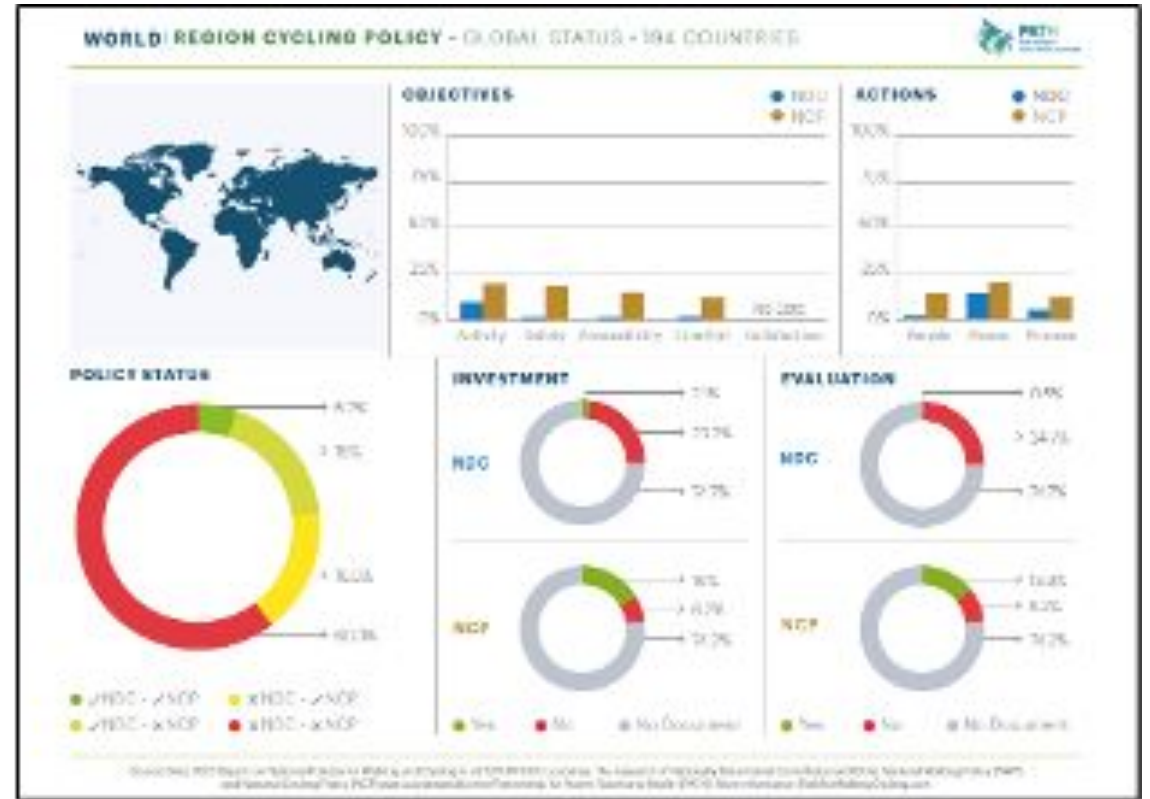
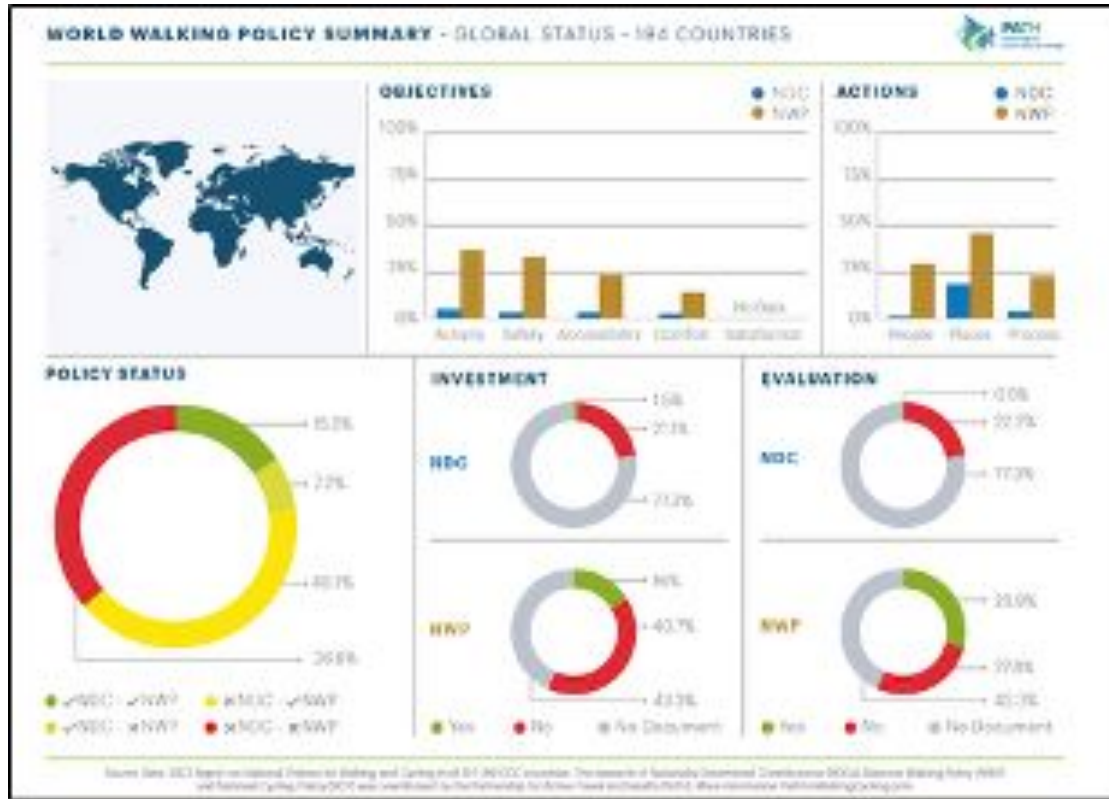


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Action



PATH, 2023: <https://pathforwalkingcycling.com/report/>

Impact?



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PATH Active Travel Policy Template

ADOPT THIS POLICY TO MAXIMISE THE POTENTIAL OF ACTIVE TRAVEL

VISION

We want everyone to have a safe, easy and enjoyable walking and cycling experience to mitigate climate change, support public transport, reduce pollution, save lives, benefit public health and create vibrant, inclusive and equitable societies.

ACTIVITY	SAFETY AND SECURITY	ACCESSIBILITY	COMFORT	SATISFACTION
We want everyone to walk or cycle regularly	We want all people walking and cycling to be free from risk of being hurt.	We want everyone to be able to reach public transport and other key destinations on foot or by bike.	We want all people walking and cycling to have space and facilities to support their needs.	We want everyone to perceive walking and cycling as positive experiences.

OBJECTIVES

We will increase the number of minutes walked and cycled per day	We will reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured per km walked and cycled per million inhabitants	We will increase the % of the population that has good walking and cycling access to transport, everyday services, public spaces, bike sharing and sustainable local tourism.	We will increase the percentage of urban roads that are three stars or better for pedestrians and cyclists.	We will increase the satisfaction of people walking and cycling.
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ACTIONS

Actions 1-4: We will support and encourage people to walk and cycle by delivering six key actions	Actions 5-14: We will create safe, easy and enjoyable places to walk and cycle by delivering nine key actions	Actions 15-20: We will embed walking and cycling into the policy process by delivering six key actions
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MEASURES

We will measure the average minutes walked / cycled per day per person.	We will measure the number of pedestrians/cyclists killed or injured in traffic and the % of people that feel safe walking alone after dark in the area where they live.	We will measure the share of the population within 500m of public transport.	We will measure the % of urban roads that are classified by MAP as 3* or better for pedestrians and cyclists.	We will measure the share of the population that perceives walking/cycling as a positive experience.
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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

OUTCOMES

3.6	3.6	3.9	5c	8.9	9d	10.2	11.2	11.3	11.6	11.7	12.2	13.3	16.1a
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PATH Active Travel Policy Template

ACTIVE TRAVEL
POLICY TEMPLATE

Download the full template at: [path.org.uk/active-travel](#)

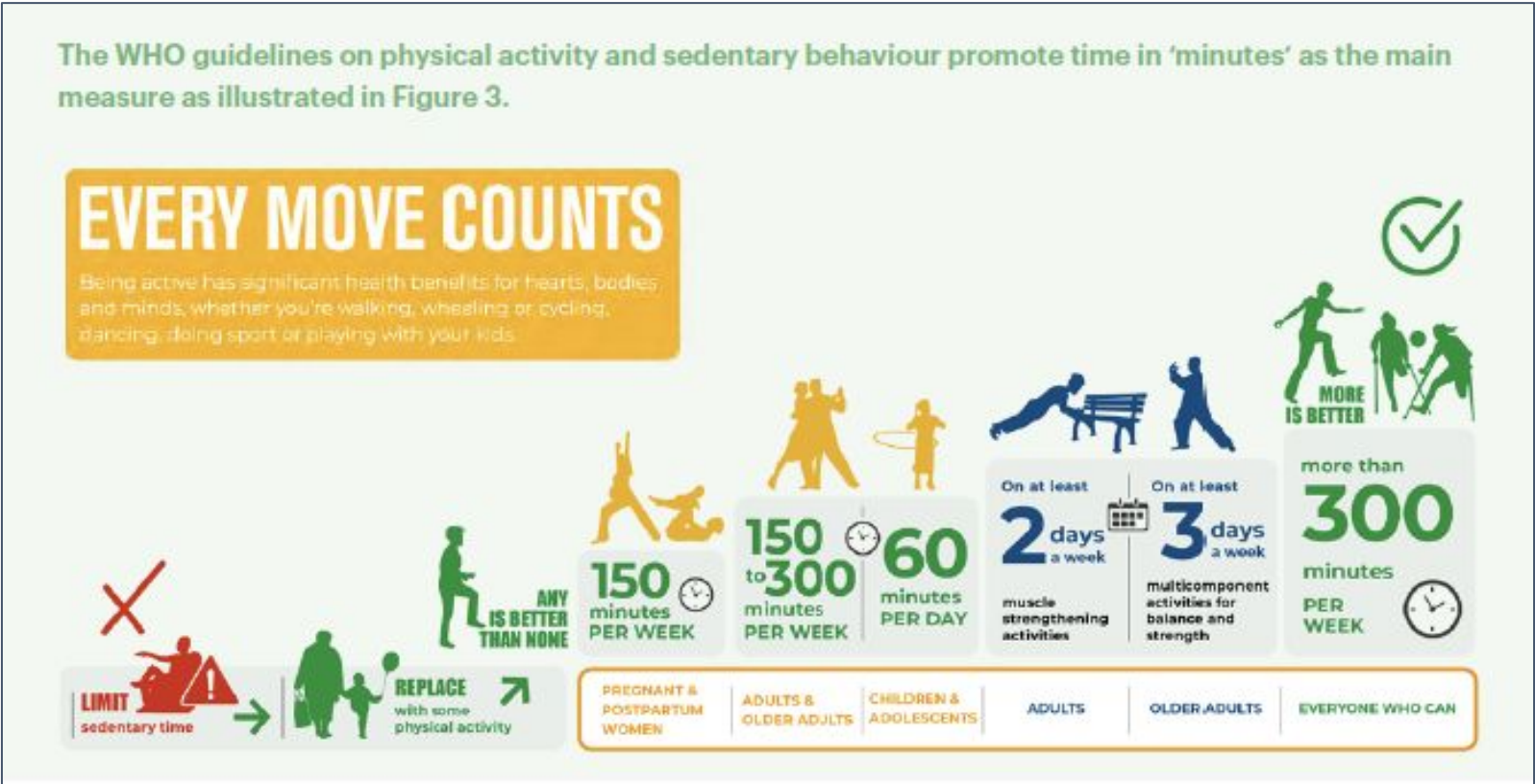
Find more at: [path.org.uk/active-travel](#)



1. Activity

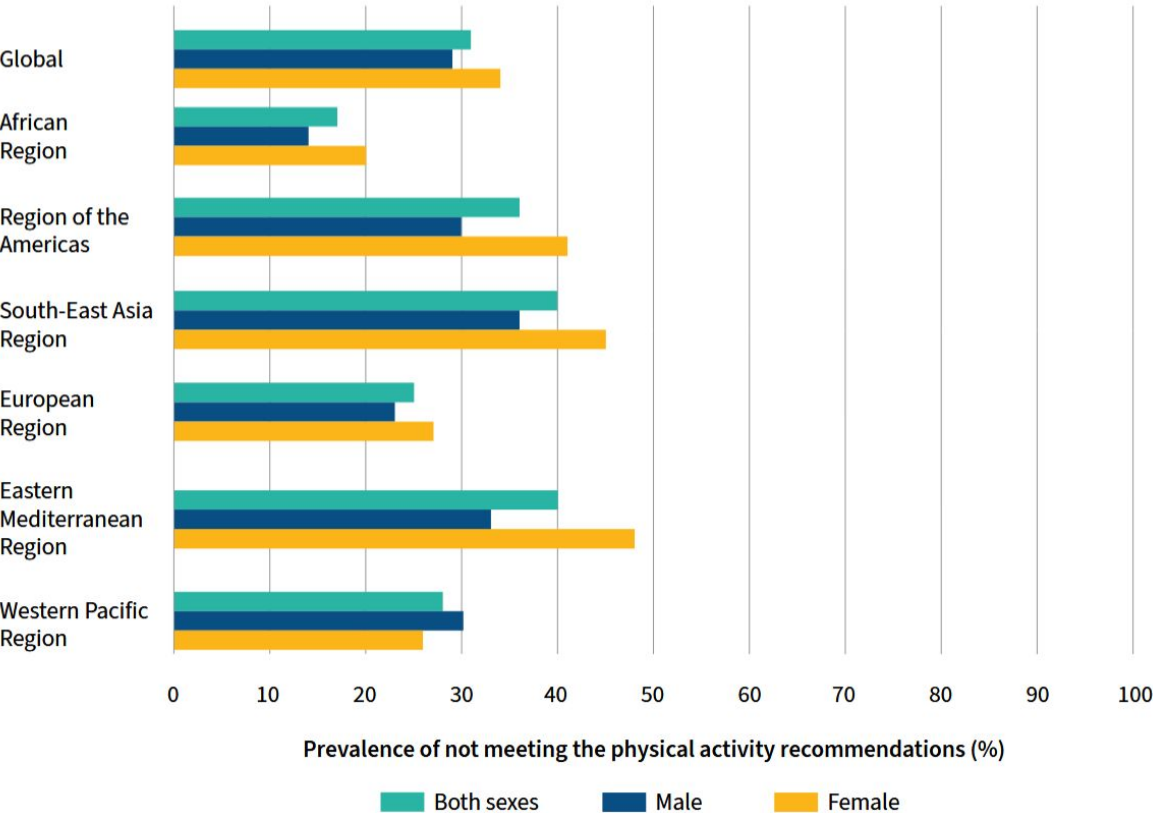
Does everyone walk or cycle regularly for transport / leisure?

Average minutes walked or cycled per day per person

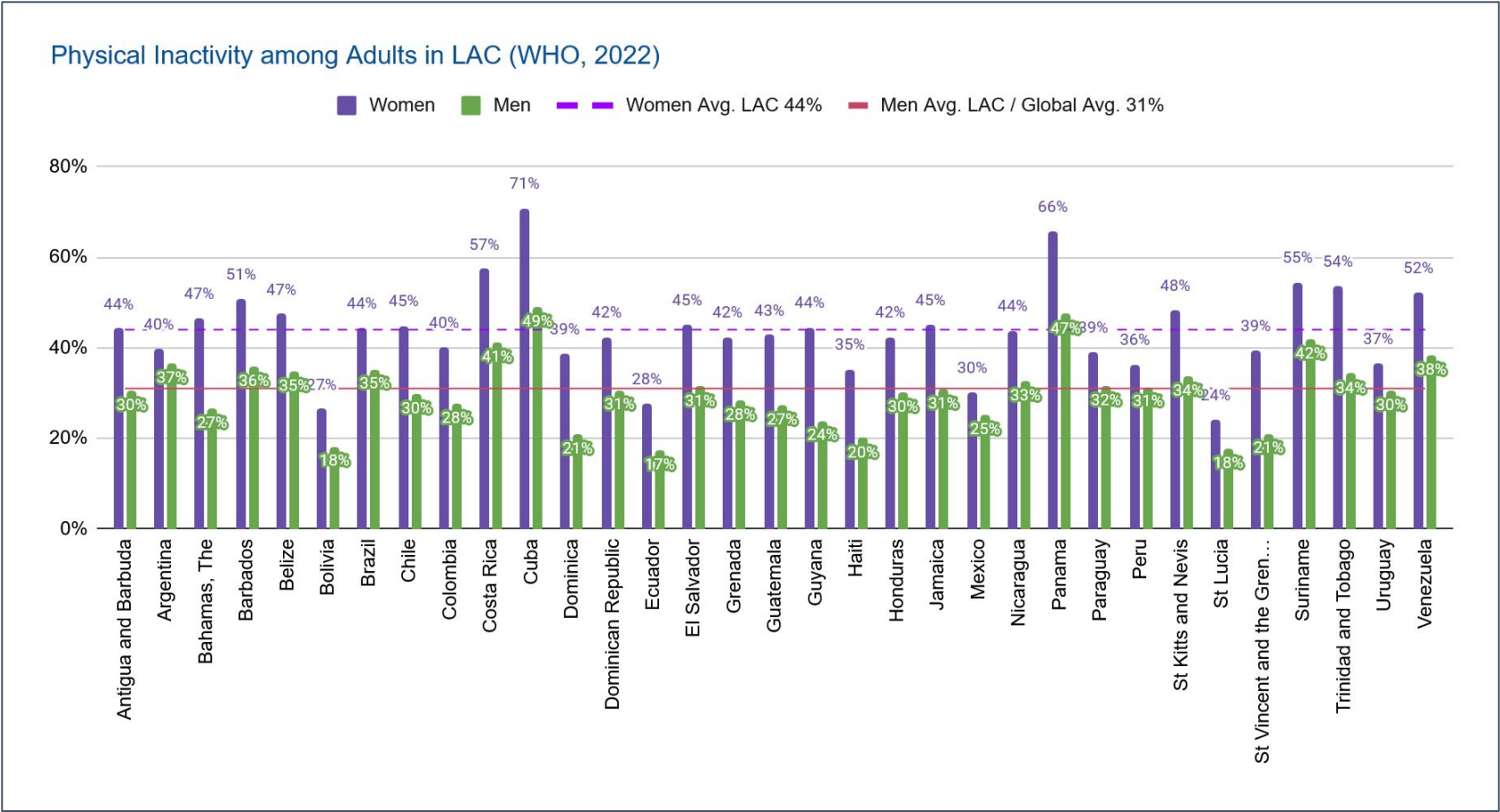


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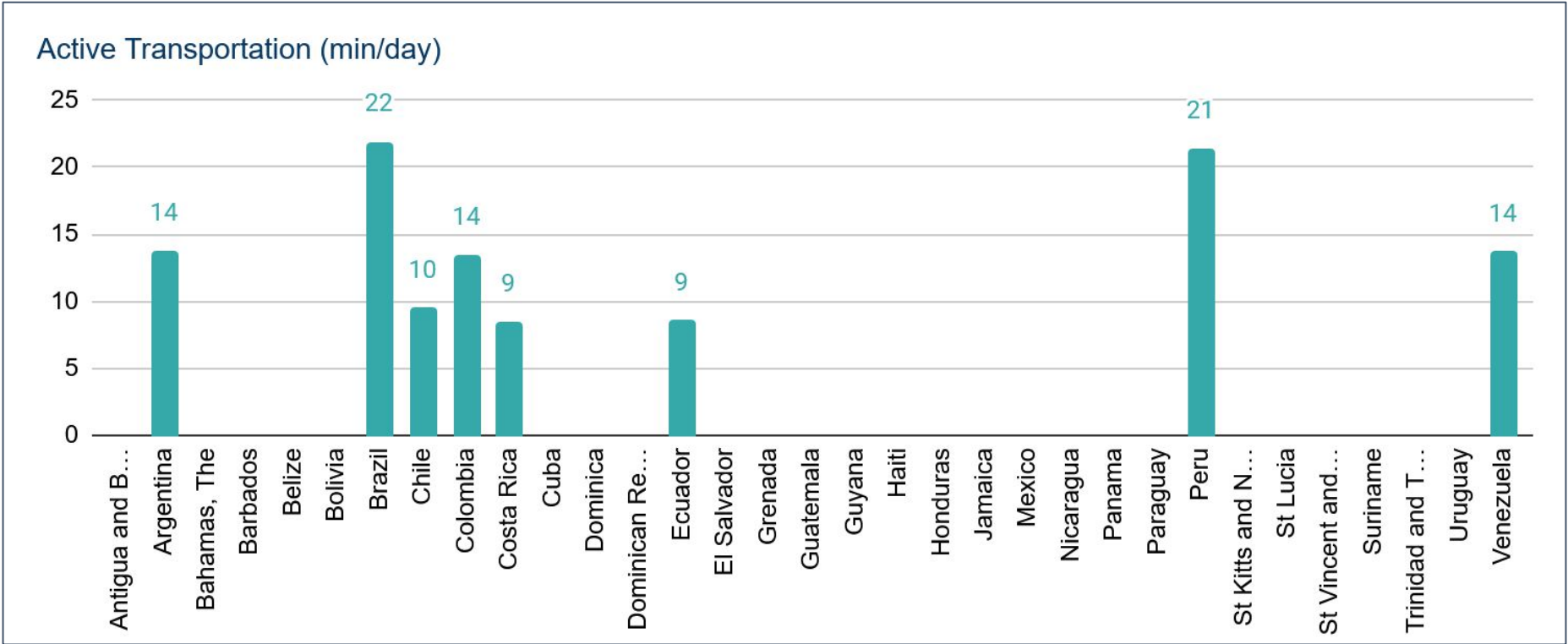
Fig. 1. Prevalence of physical inactivity by WHO region, globally, and by sex, 2022



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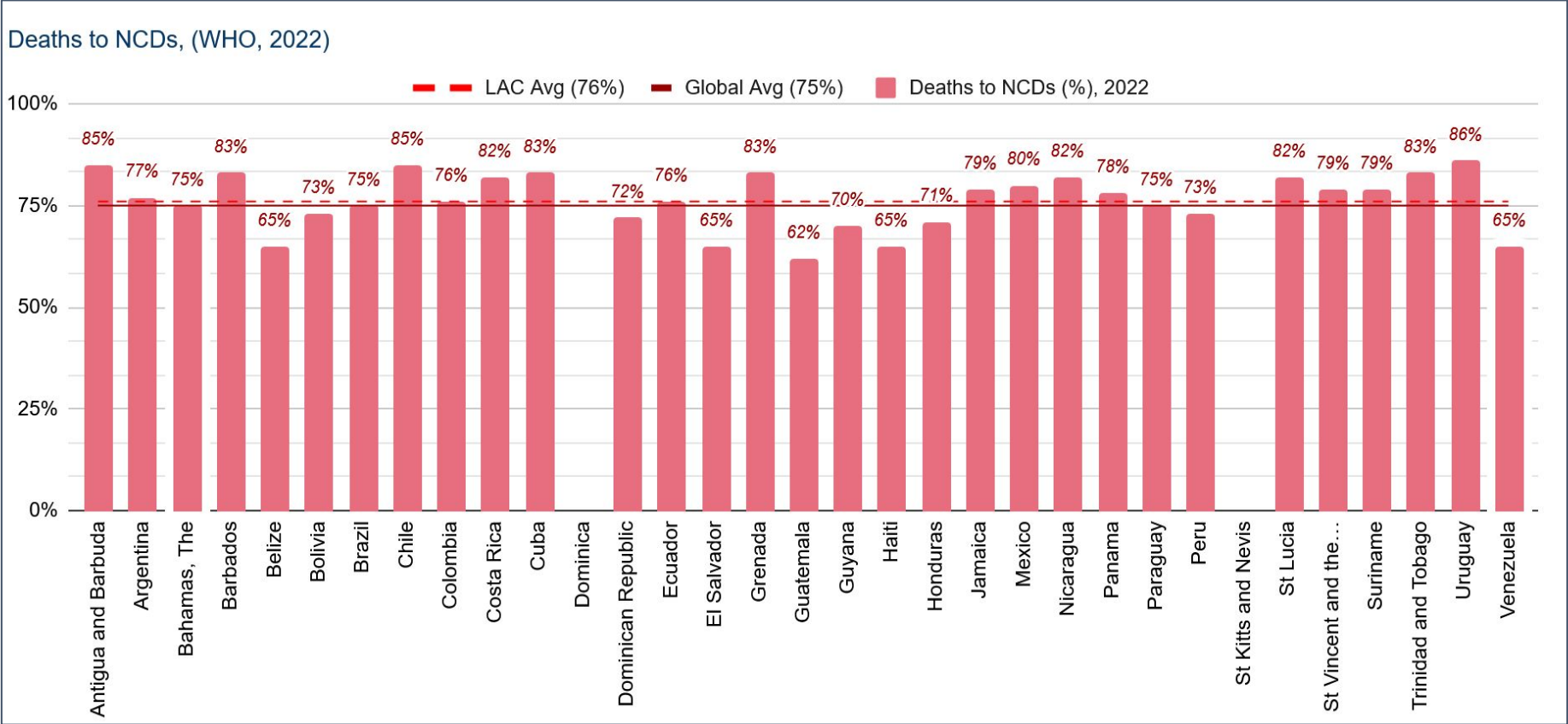


Fuente: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12939-021-01524-0>

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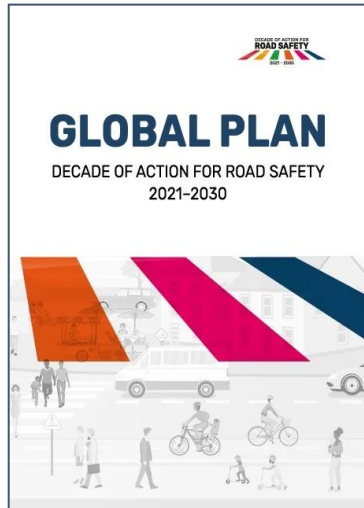


2. Safety

Is anyone who is walking and cycling at risk of being hurt by other road users?

Number of pedestrians/cyclists killed or injured in traffic

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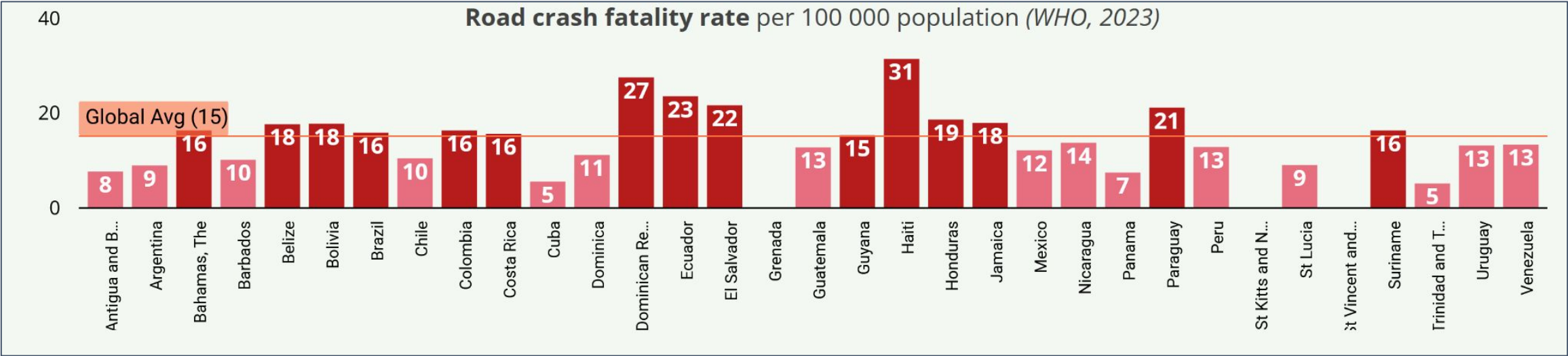


- It is estimated that **21,700,744 people** are road crash casualties while walking or cycling every year.
- More than a quarter of all road deaths are people walking or cycling.
- Pedestrians represent **23% + cyclists 6%** of the 1.19 million annual road traffic deaths around the world.

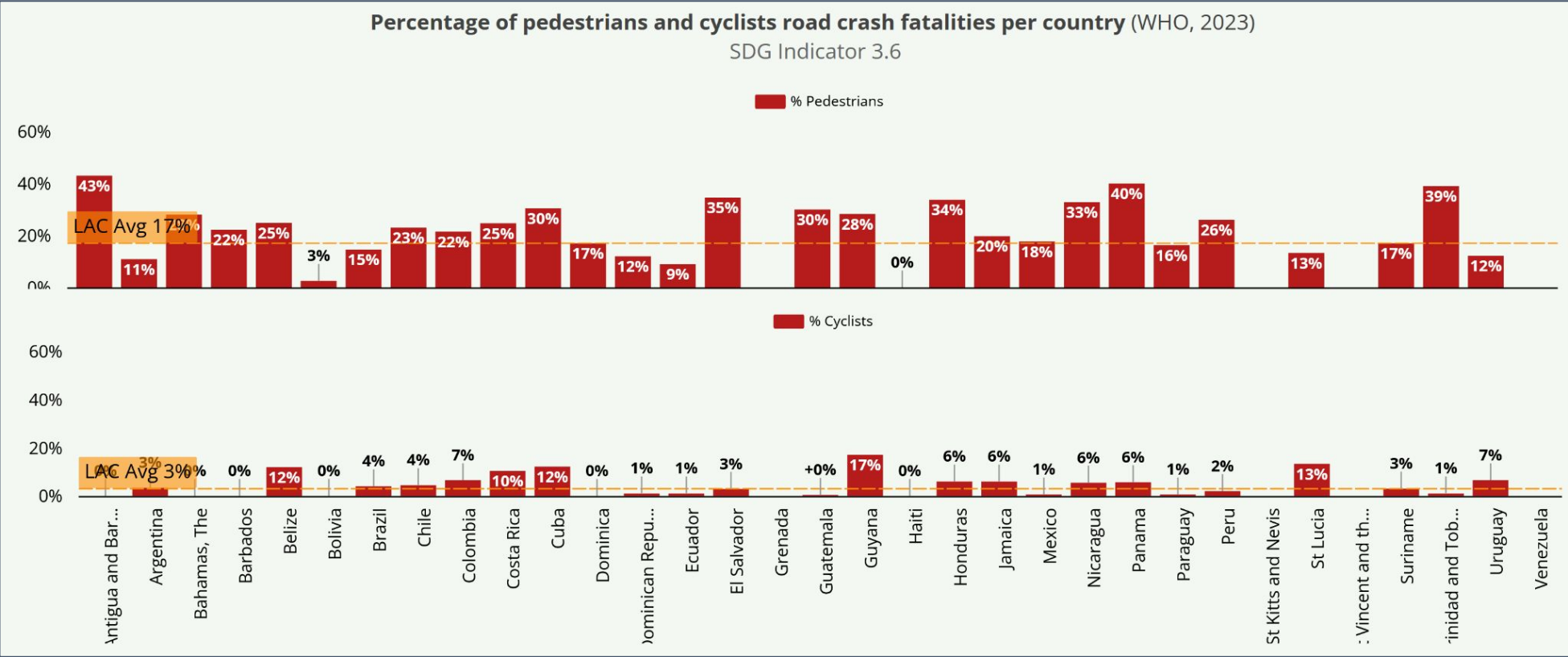
Globally pedestrian deaths rose 3% and cyclists deaths 20% between 2010 and 2021.

PATH, 2025: <https://pathforwalkingcycling.com/wp-content/uploads/PATH-SAFER-ACTIVE-TRAVEL-Addressing-a-Global-Blind-Spot.pdf>

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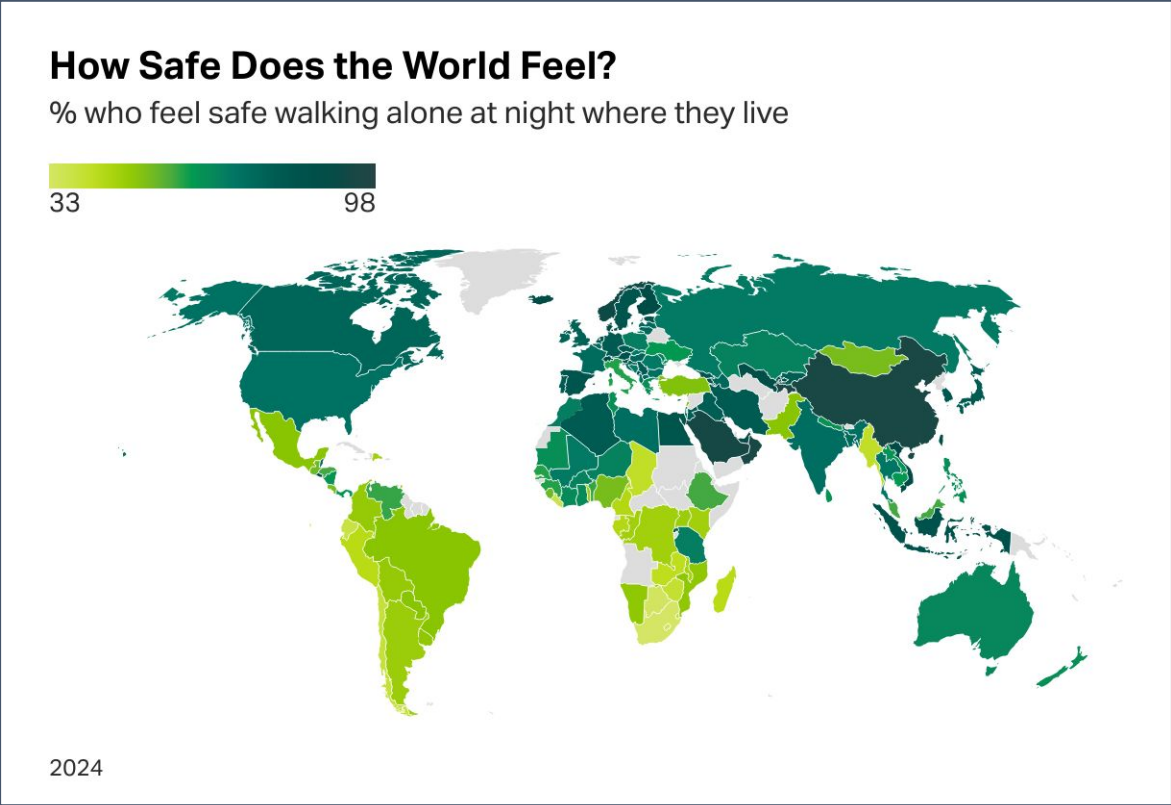
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3. Security

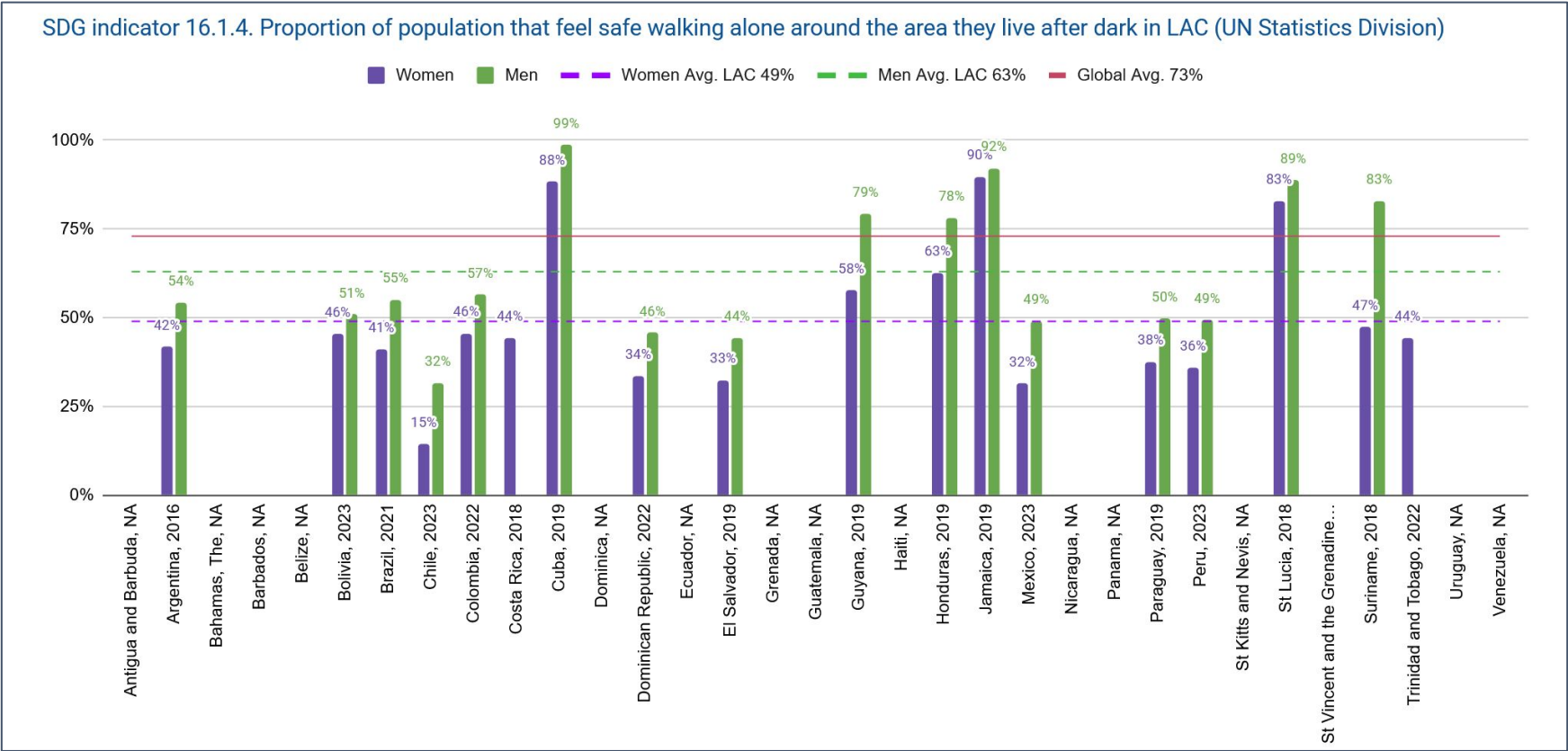
Is anyone who is walking and cycling at risk of being a victim of crime?

Percentage of people that feel safe walking alone after dark in the area where they live



Fuente: [The Global Safety Report | A Safer World in Unsafe Times?](#), Gallup, 2025.

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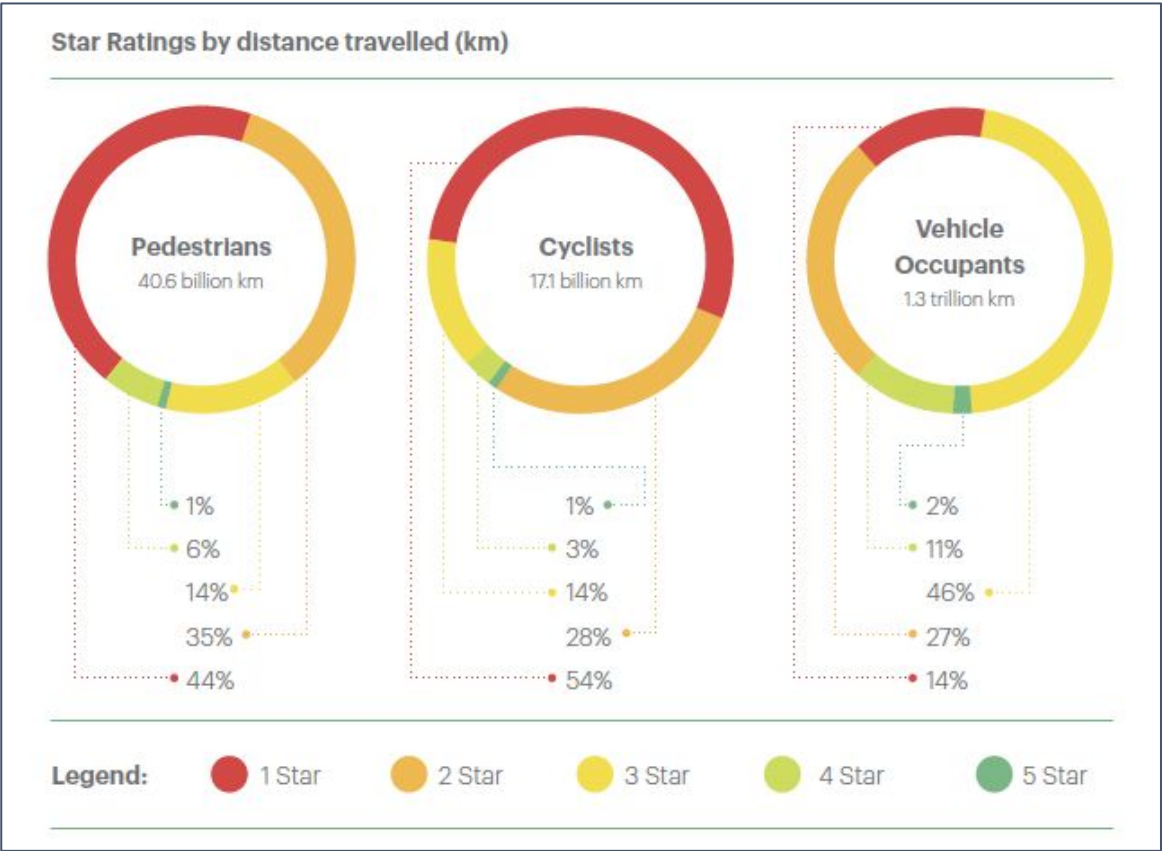


4. Comfort

Does everyone who is walking and cycling have sufficient space and facilities to support their needs?

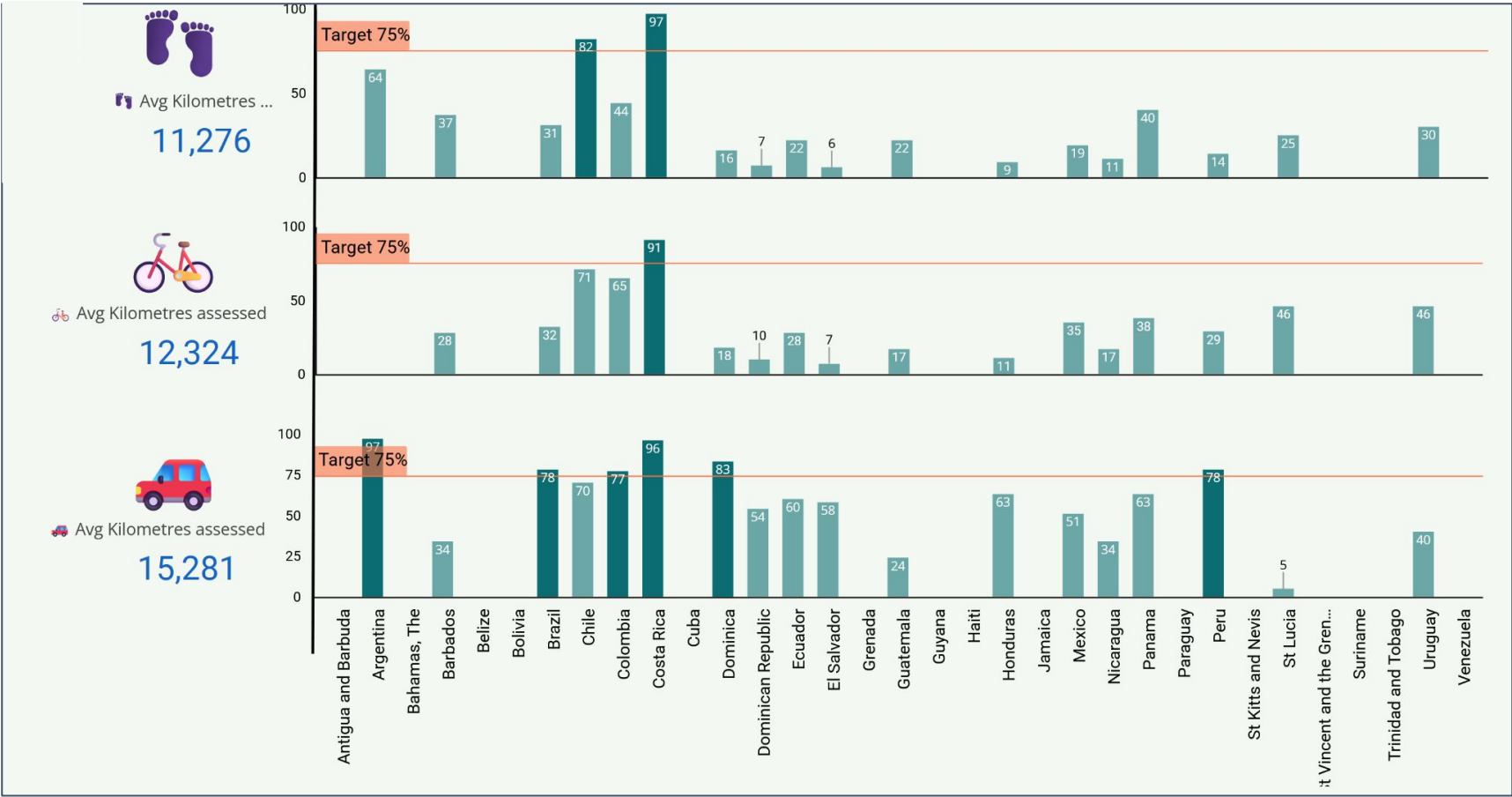
Percentage of urban roads that are classified by iRAP as three stars or better for pedestrians and cyclists

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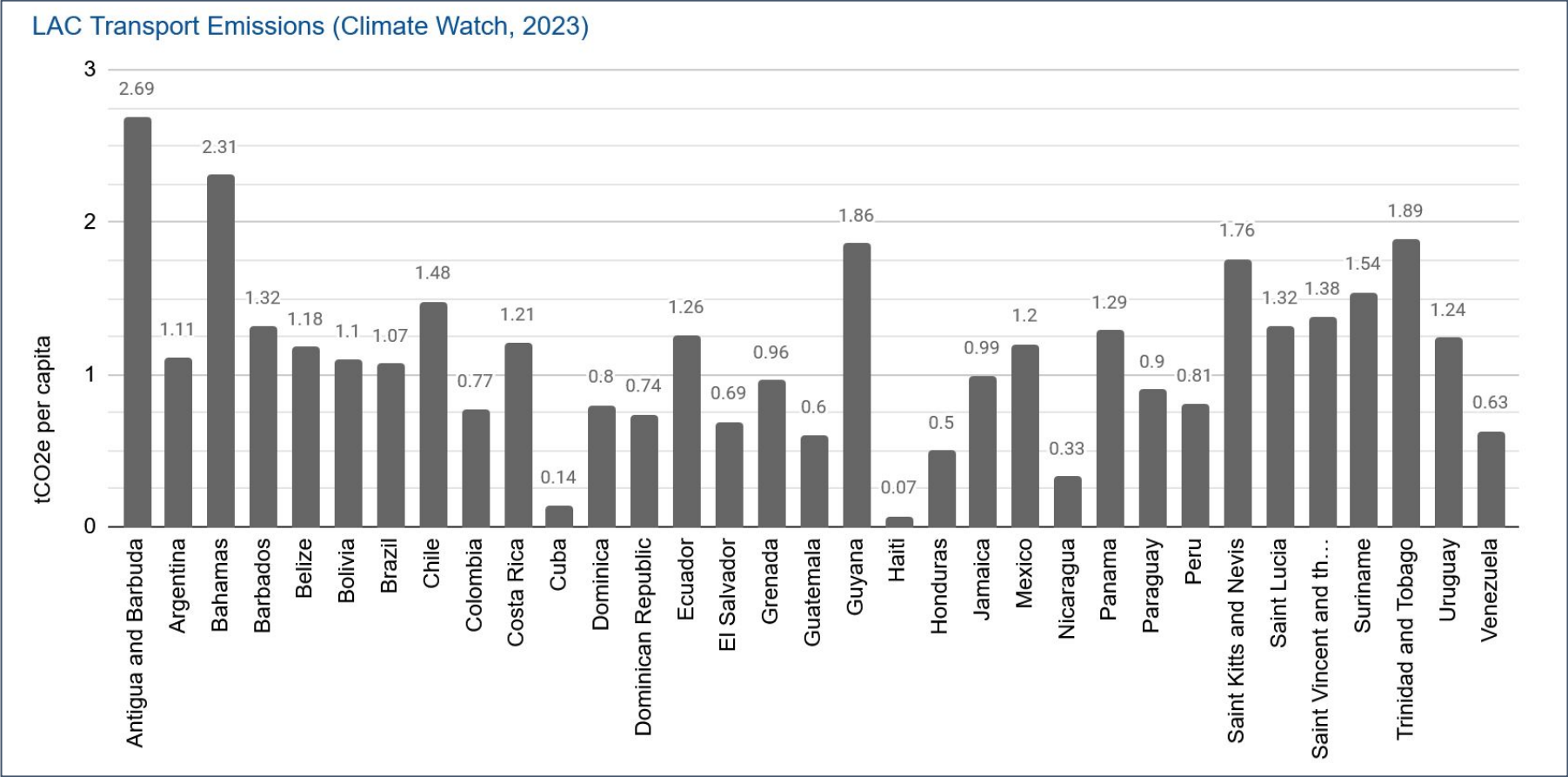


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Percentage of **urban roads rated 3 stars or more** by road user (*iRAP*, 2021)



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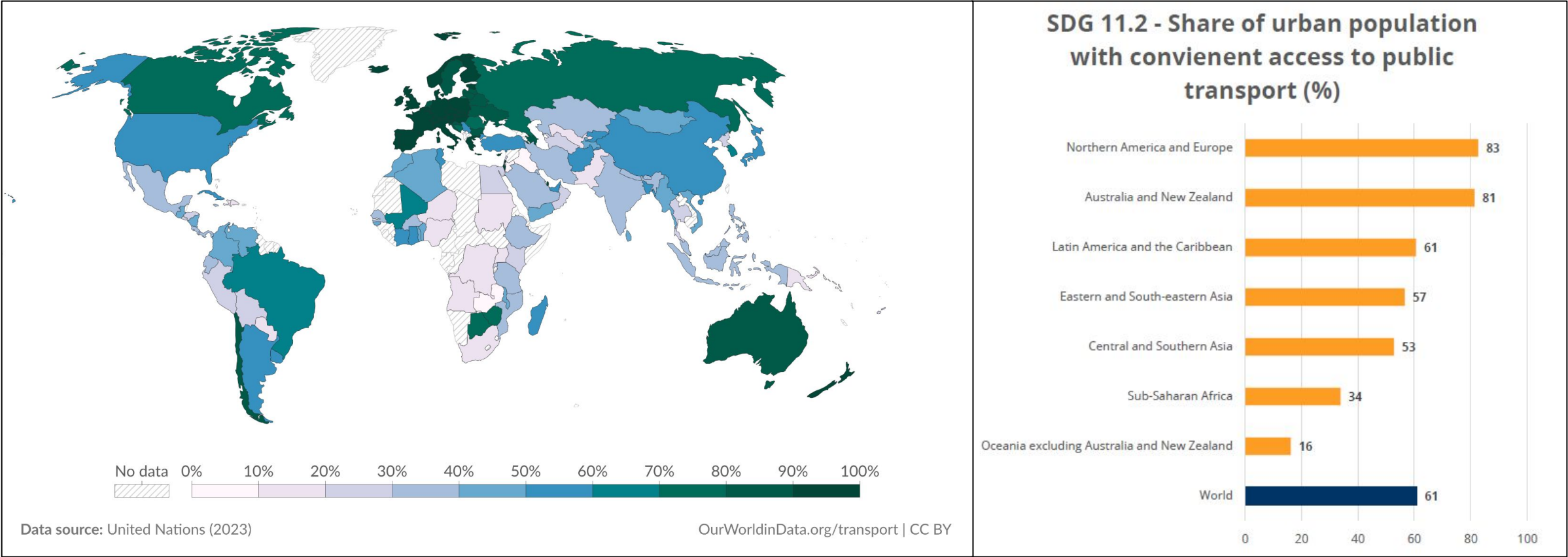


5. Accessibility

Is everyone able to conveniently reach public transport and other key destinations on foot and by bike?

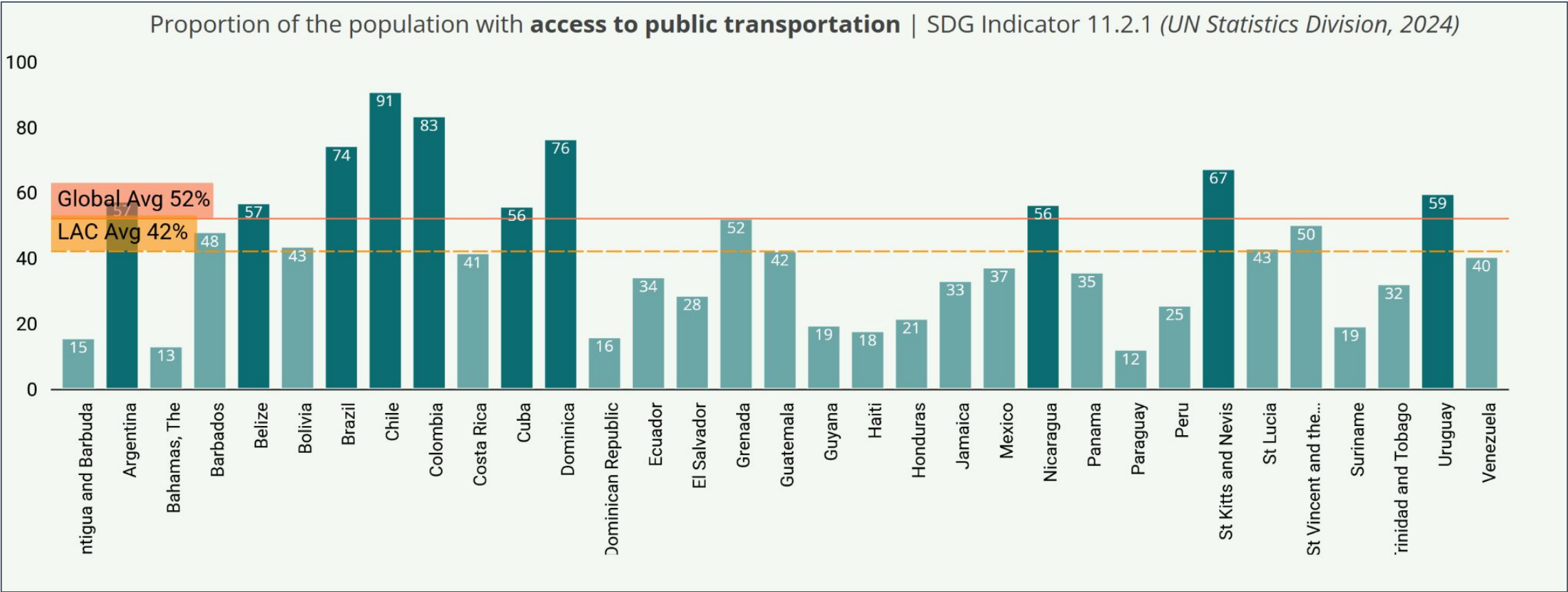
Share of the population within 500m of public transport

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Source: UN Habitat (Reportt under development, 2026)

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6. Satisfaction

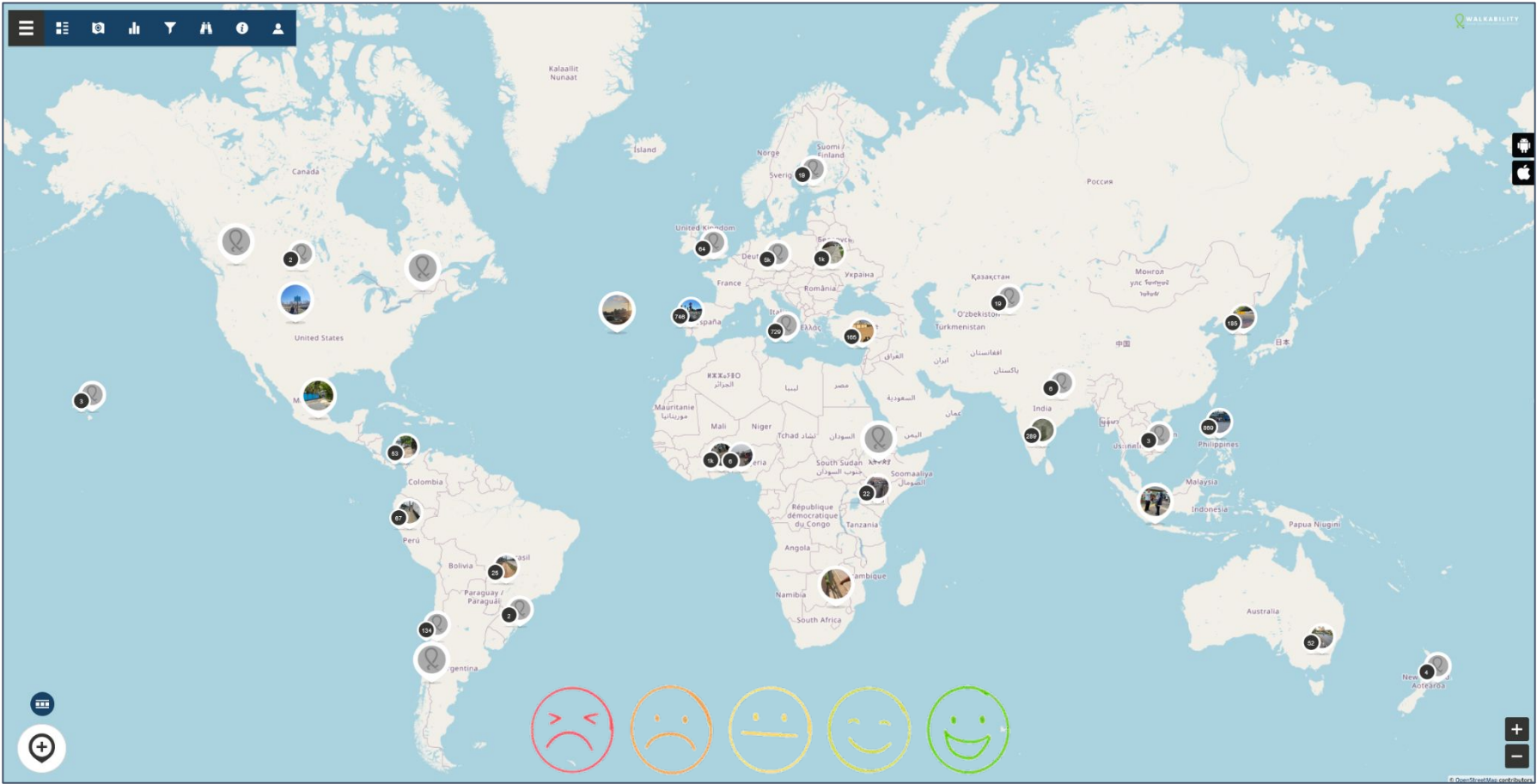
Does everyone perceive walking and cycling as a positive experience?

Share of the population that perceive walking/cycling as a positive experience

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SOURCE: <https://www.spotteron.com/walkability/info>

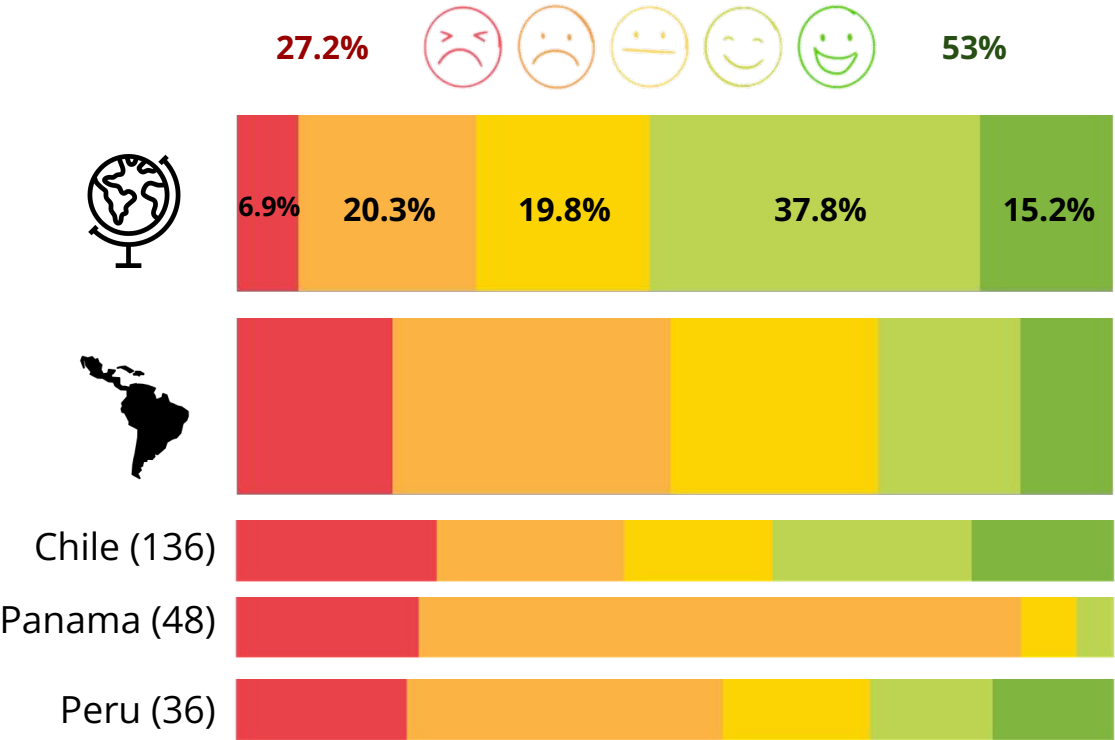


Walkability App Data 2026

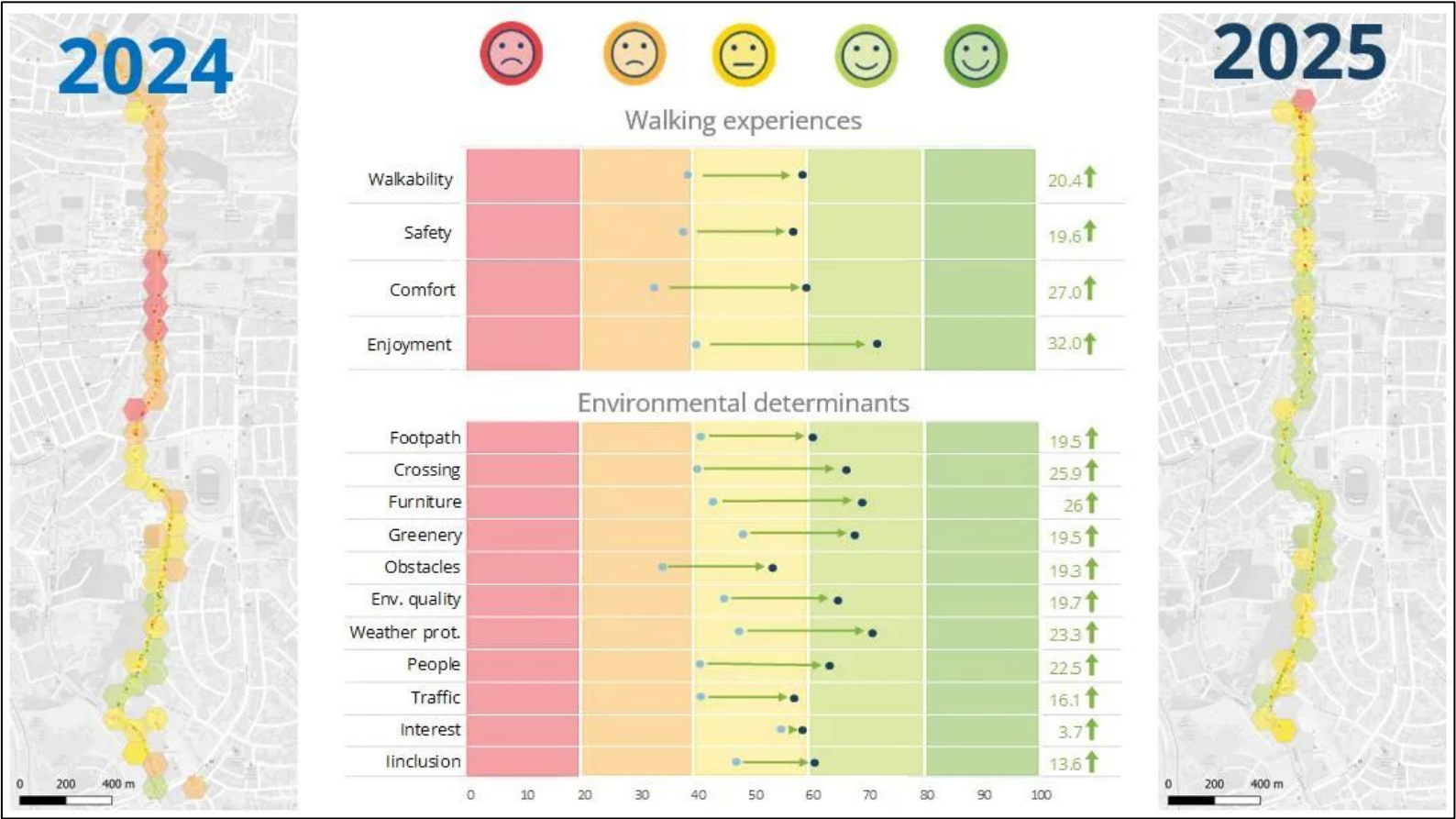
WORLD: 10,580 experiences

LAC: 283 experiences

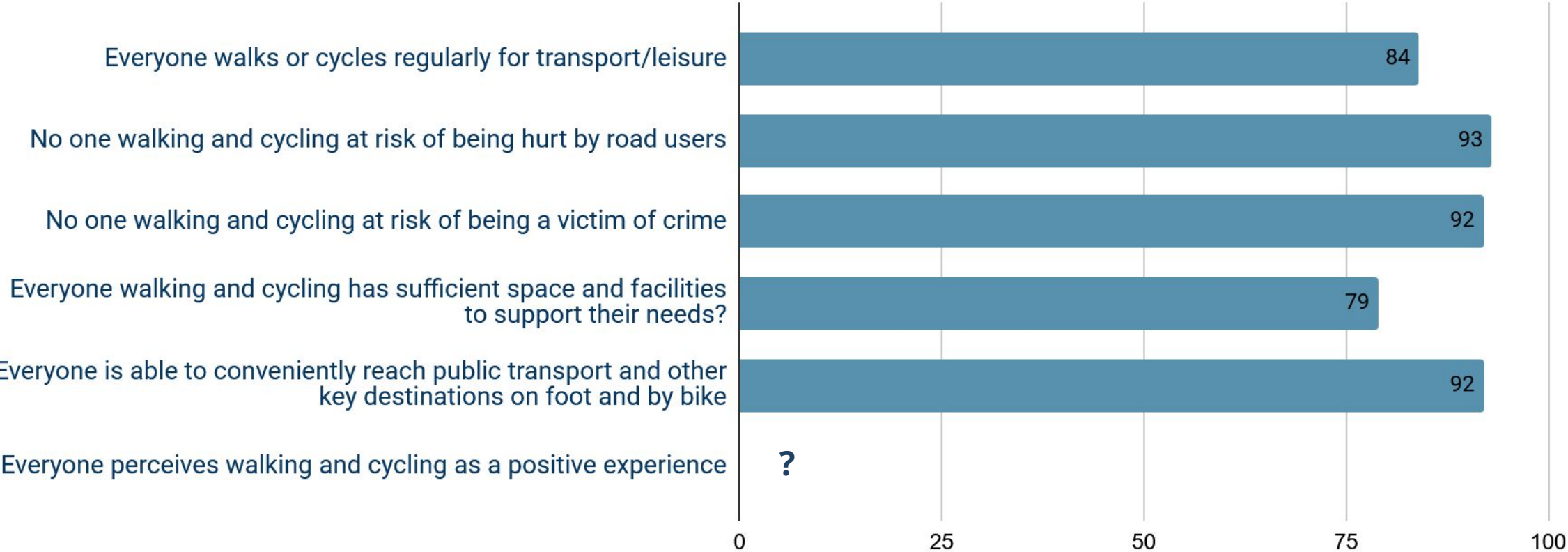
Chile, Panamá, Perú, Ecuador,
Brazil, Colombia, México, Argentina



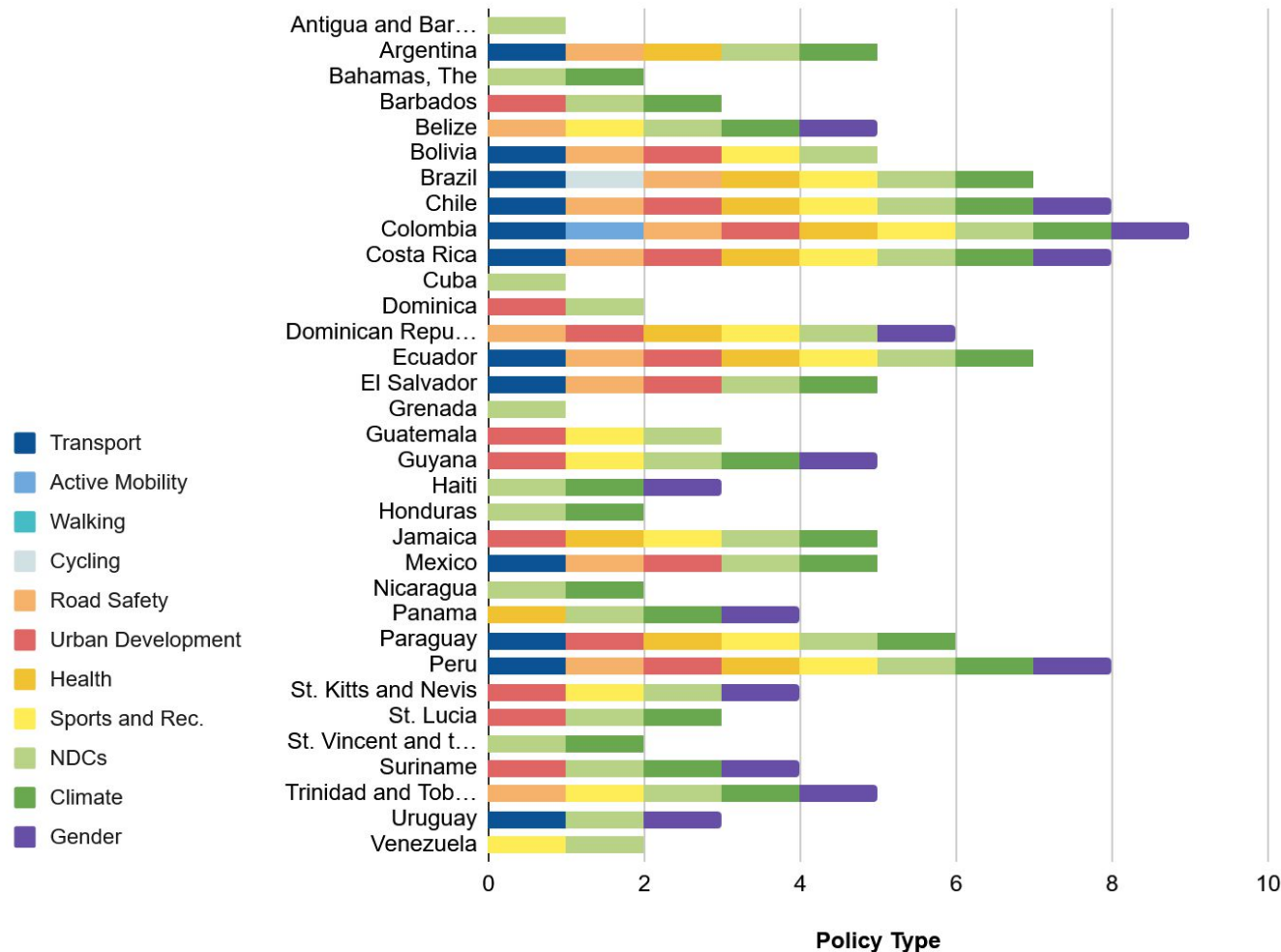
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Reported Priorities in the LAC Region



Políticas Públicas en ALC

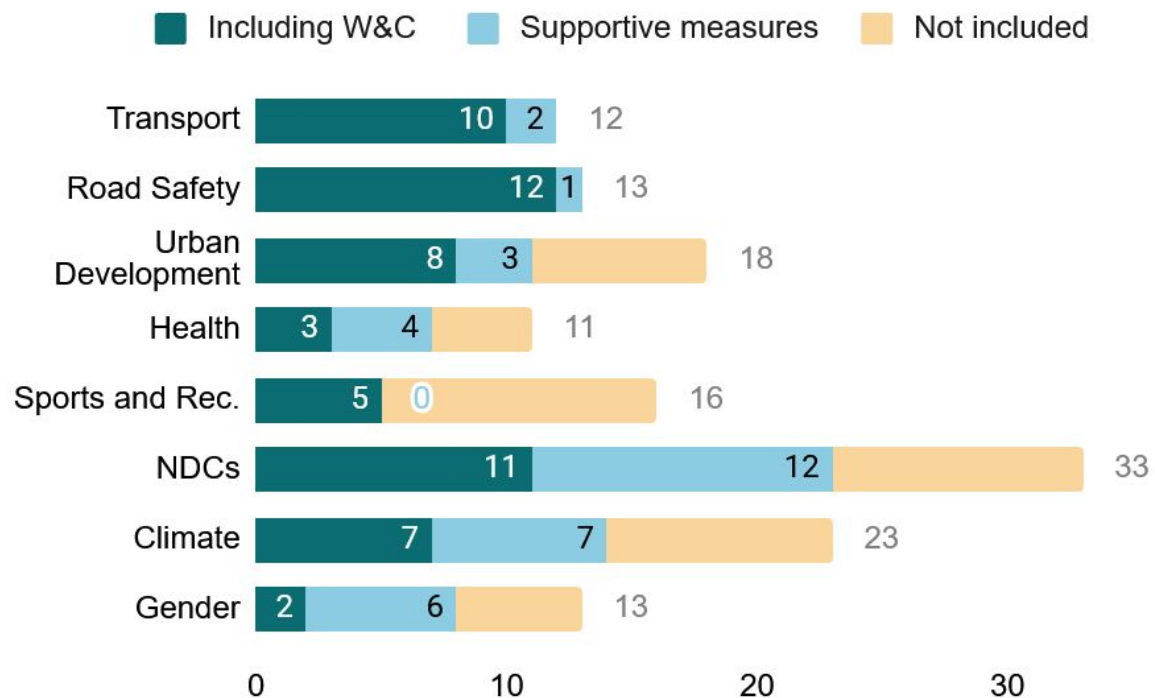


Fuente: Inspirando Acción en ALC, [Informe en desarrollo], Walk21 & CAF, 2026

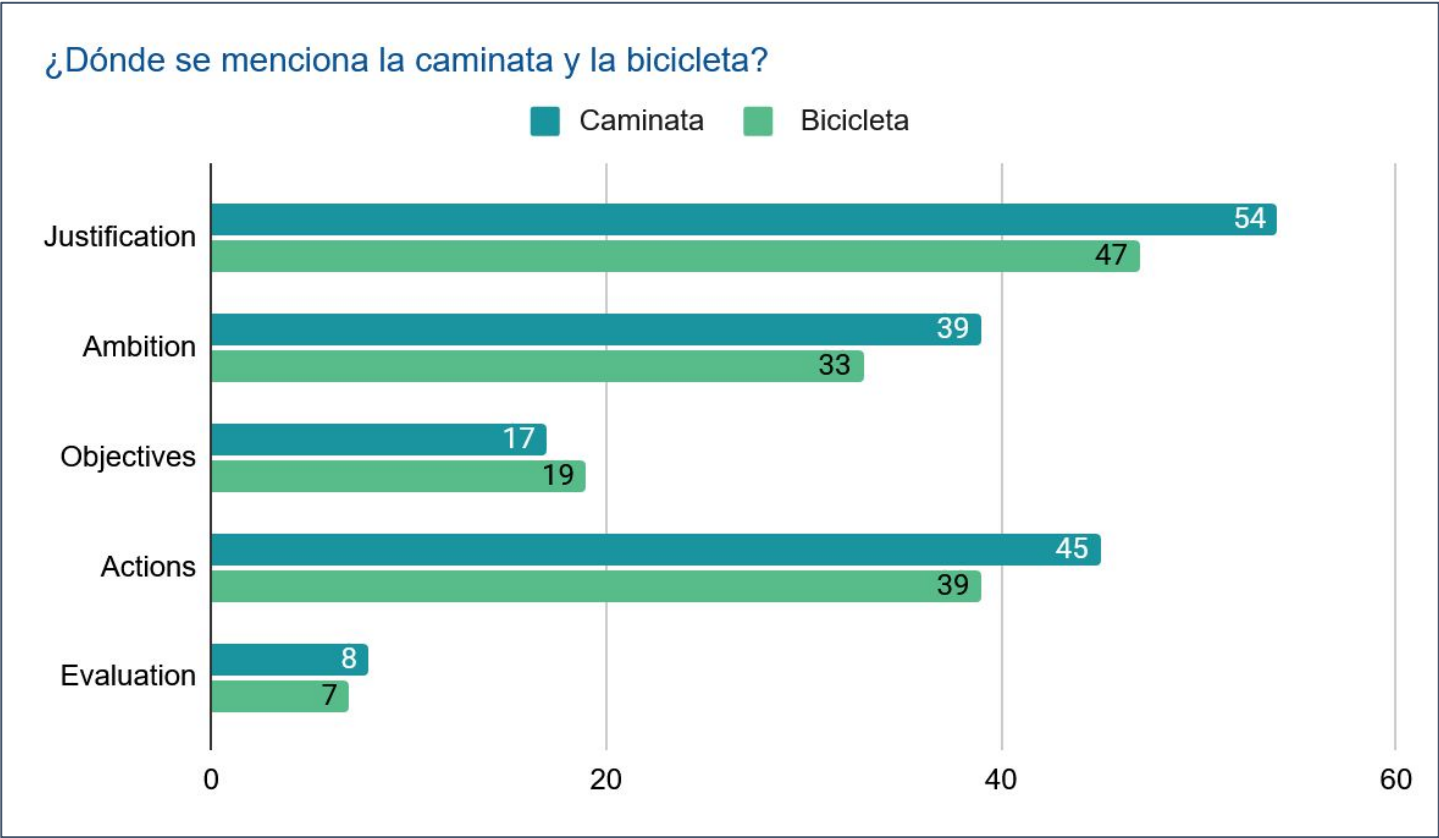
- **141** políticas públicas.
- **Contribuciones determinadas a nivel nacional (NDC) (100%)**
(25/Ene = 23 países)
- **70%** Clima (23)
- **55%** Desarrollo Urbano (18)
- **48%** Deporte y recreación (16)
- **39%** Género (13)
- **39%** Seguridad Vial (13)
- **36%** Transporte (12)
- **33%** Salud (11)
- **6%** Movilidad activa (2)

Políticas que integran la caminata y la bicicleta en ALC

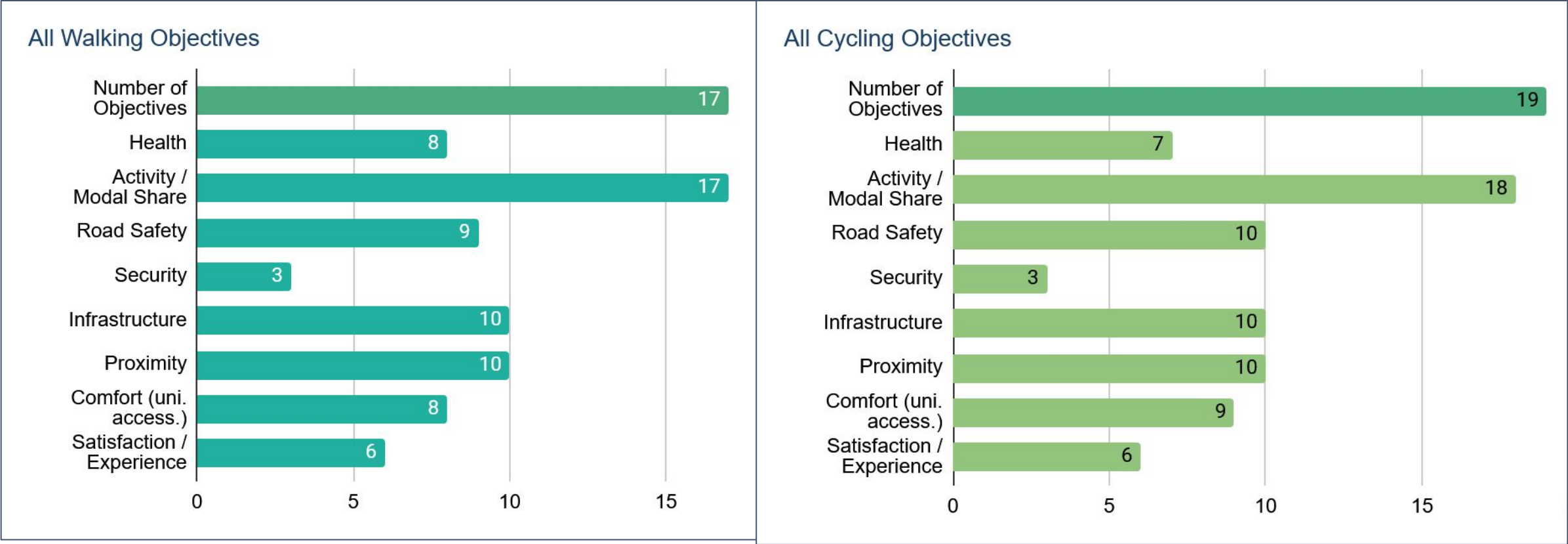
Policies Including Supportive Active Mobility Measures n=139



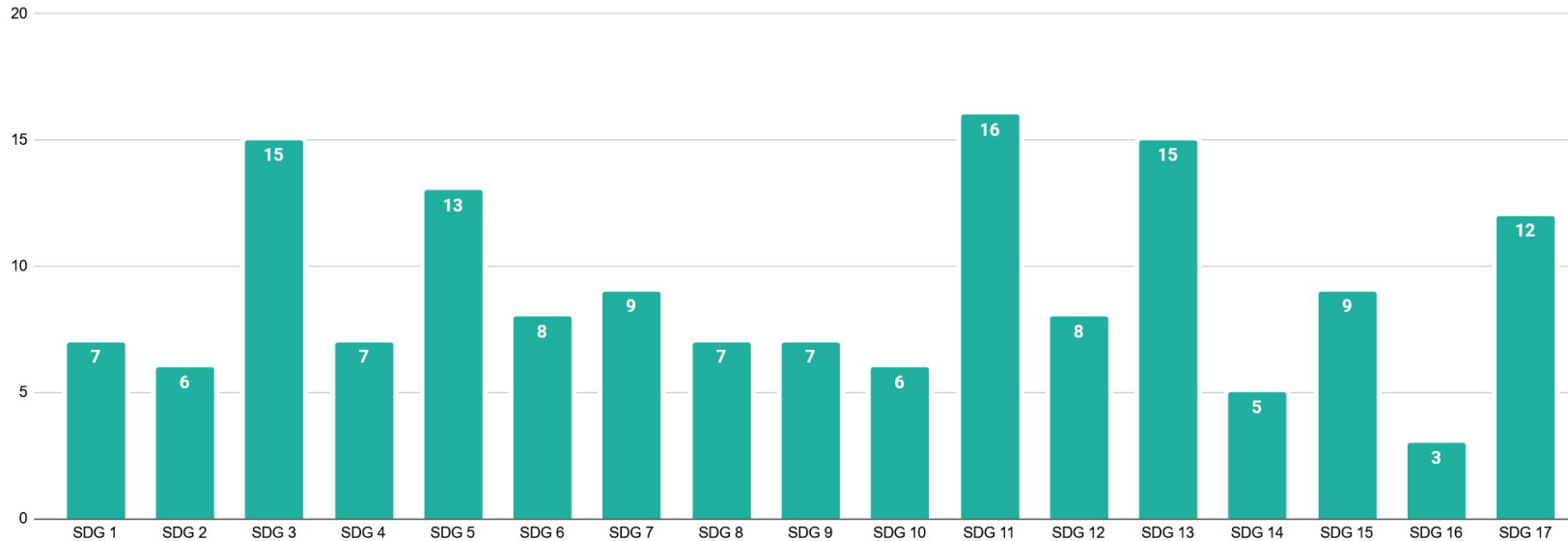
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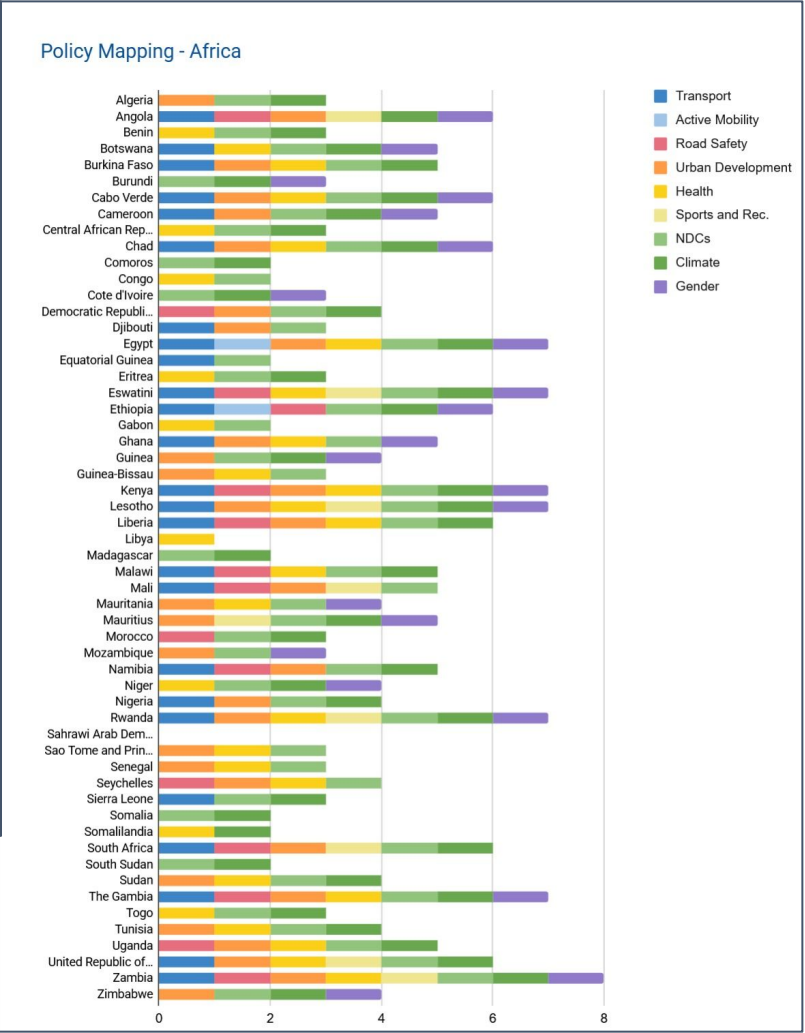
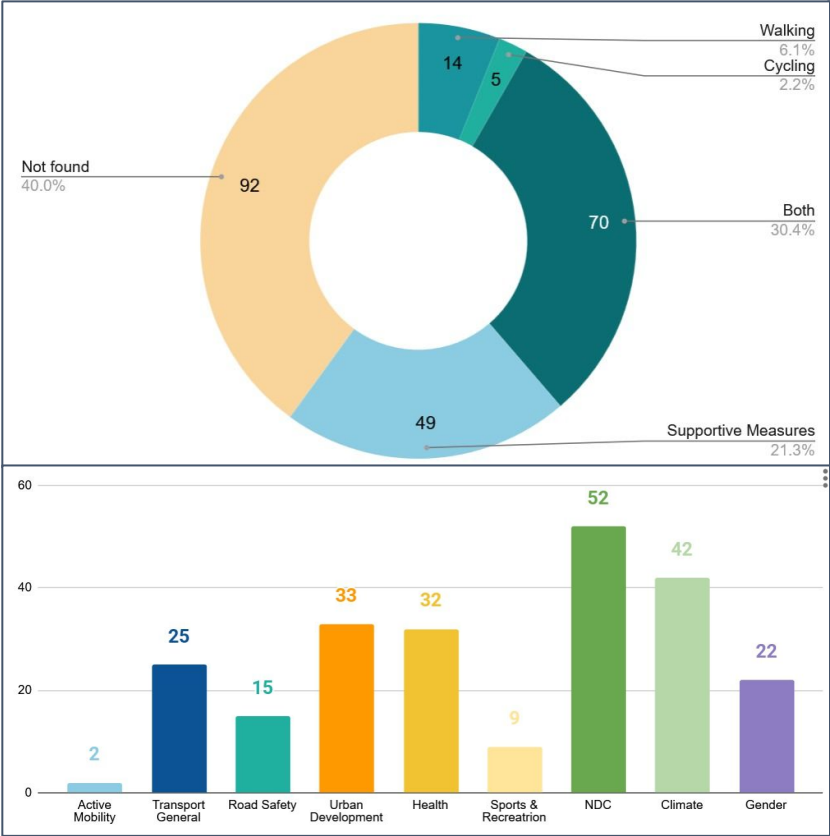
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1. Fin de la pobreza
2. Hambre cero
3. **Salud y bienestar** ✓
4. Educación de calidad
5. **Igualdad de género** ✓
6. Agua limpia y saneamiento
7. Energía asequible y no contaminante.
8. Trabajo y crecimiento económico
9. **Industria, innovación e infraestructura**
10. **Reducción de desigualdades**
11. **Comunidades sostenibles** ✓
12. Producción y consumo responsable
13. **Acción por el clima** ✓
14. Vida submarina
15. Vida de ecosistemas terrestres
16. **Paz, justicia e instituciones sólidas**
17. Alianzas para lograr objetivos

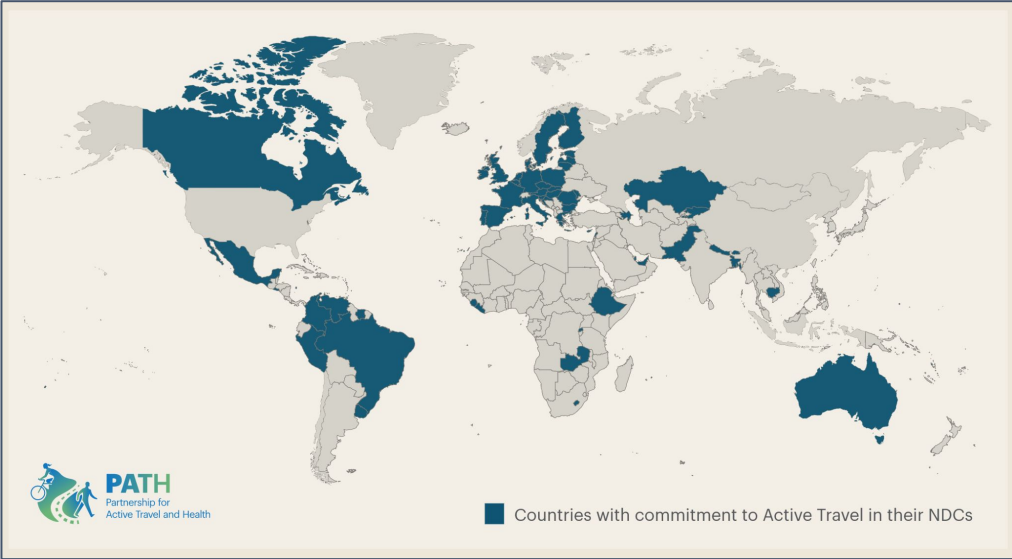
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WORK IN PROGRESS!



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2026 NDCs



CATEGORY	COUNTRIES	No.
New countries with commitments for walking	Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Nauru, Netherlands, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela and Zambia.	43 (22%)
Countries with previous commitments for walking (reaffirmed in new NDCs)	Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Cambodia, Canada, Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nepal, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Suriname, and Tonga.	20 (10%)
TOTAL: 63 (32%)		

Countries with removed commitments for walking in New NDCs	Andorra, Bahamas, Burundi, Cabo Verde, China, Costa Rica, Jordan, Nicaragua, Panama, Seychelles, and Sri Lanka.	11 (6%)
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CATEGORY	COUNTRIES	No.
New countries with commitments for cycling	Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, and Zambia.	44 (23%)
Countries with previous commitments for cycling (reaffirmed in new NDCs)	Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Cabo Verde, Canada, Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Mexico, Monaco, Nauru, Nepal, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Suriname, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Venezuela	21 (11%)
TOTAL: 65 (34%)		

Countries with removed commitments for cycling in New NDCs	Andorra, Bahamas, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Jordan, Panama, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, and Türkiye.	12 (6%)
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PATH
Partnership for
Active Travel and Health



ACTIVE TRAVEL

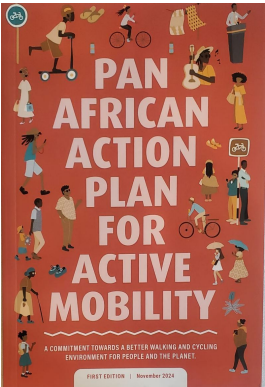
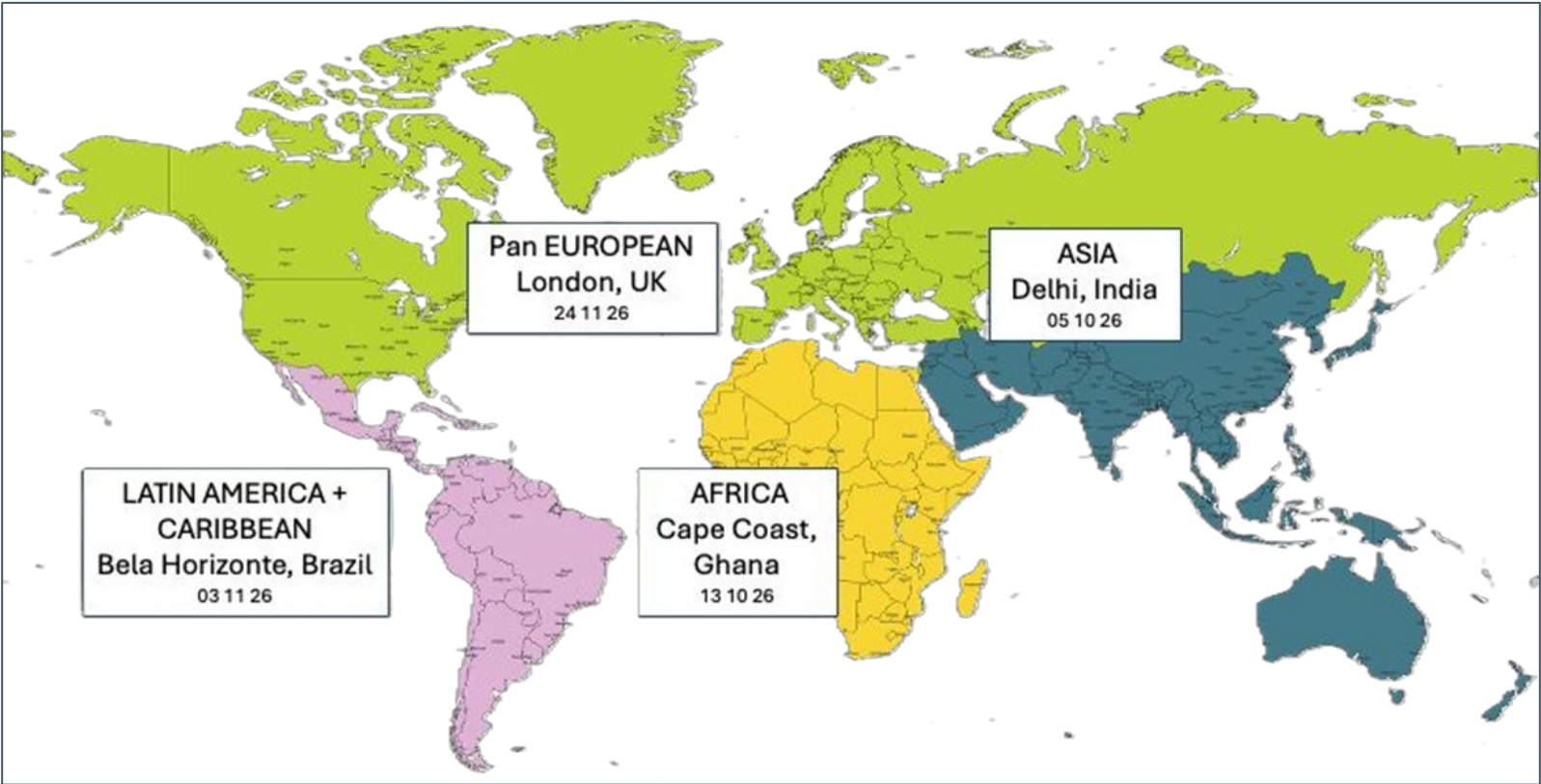
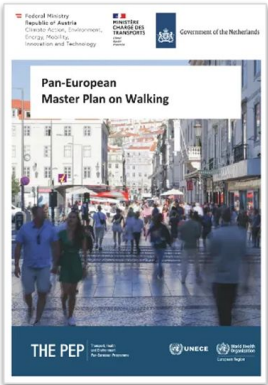
National Case Study Actions

Policy commitments and funding for active travel are both critical to determining whether the world can get on the right path with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Read more at
PathForWalkingCycling.com



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Thank you Karen!

jim.walker@walk21.com

