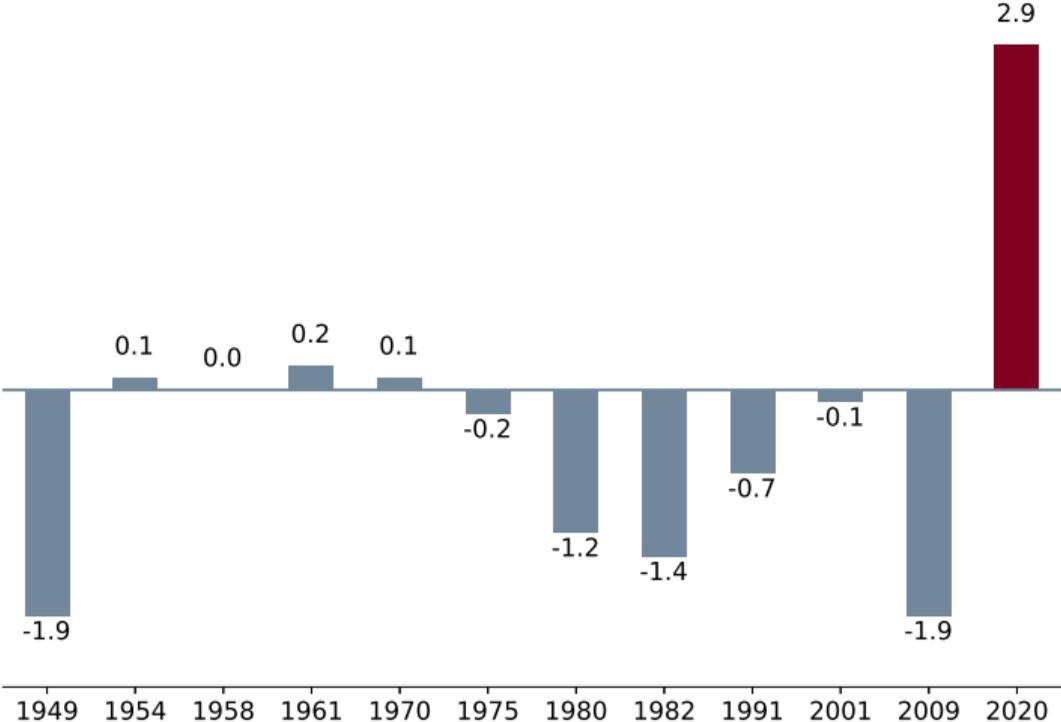


Gendered Impacts of Covid-19 in Developing Countries

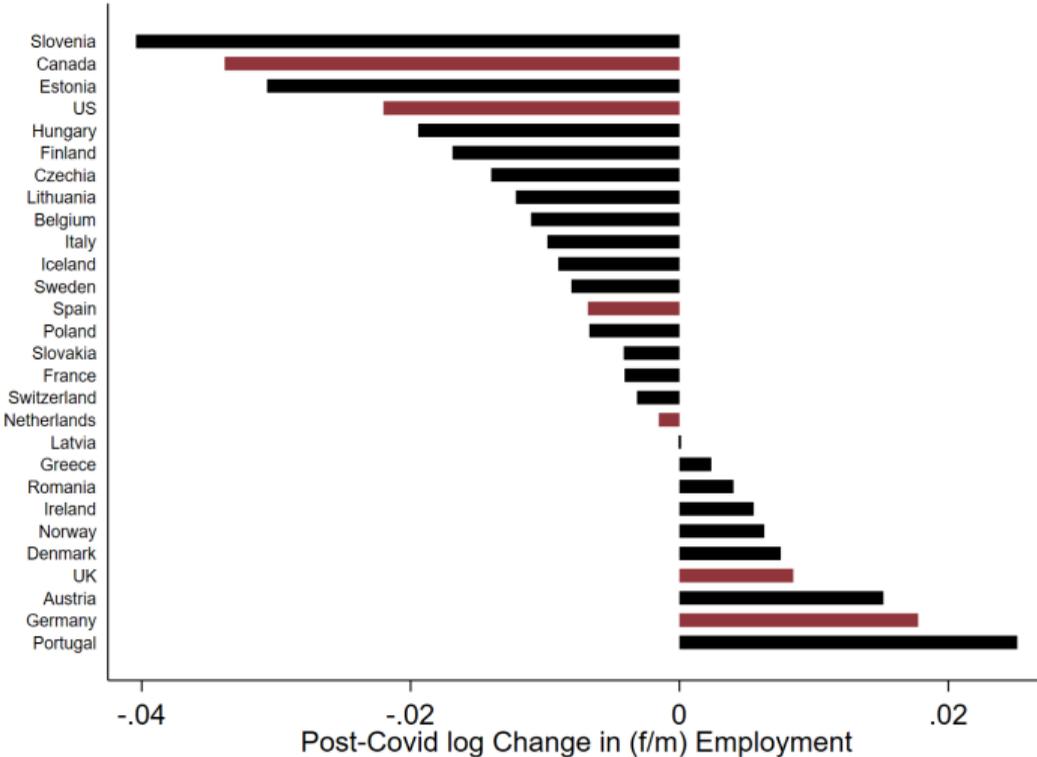
Titan Alon, Matthias Doepke, Kristina Manysheva, and Michèle Tertilt

A Recession Like No Other

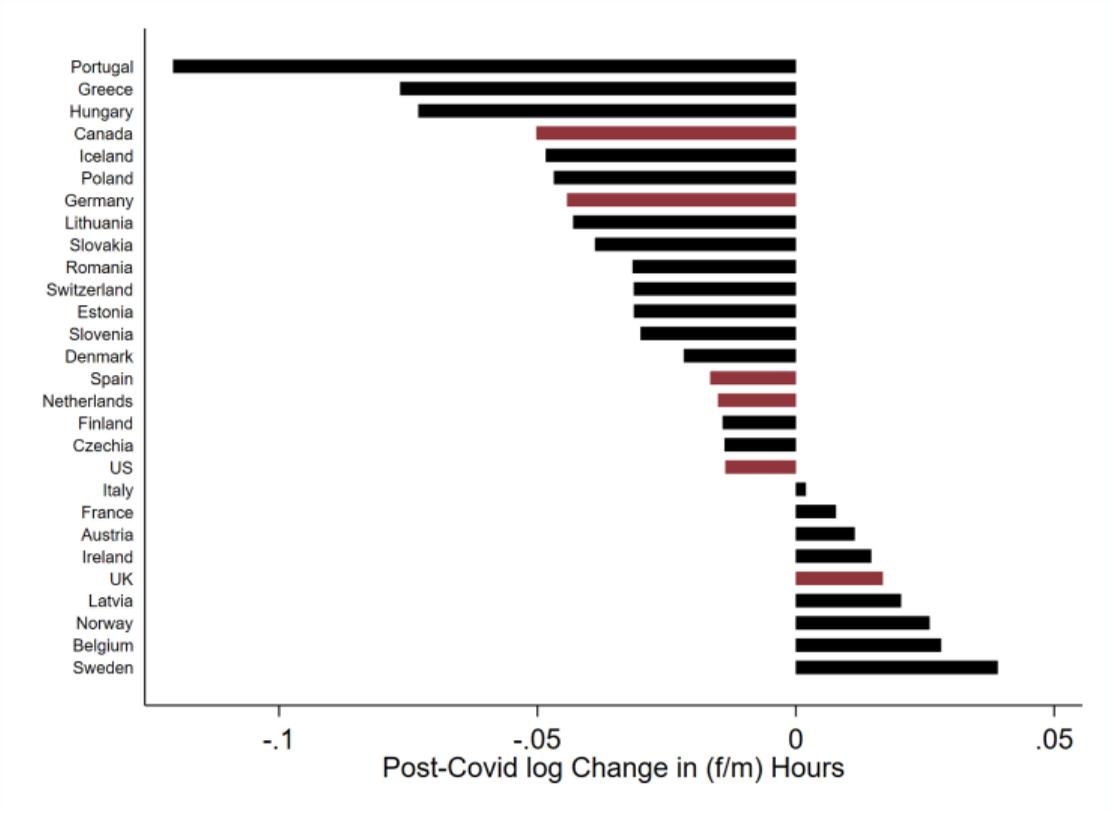
Difference between rise in women's and men's unemployment, US recessions 1948–2020:



A Recession Like No Other



A Recession Like No Other



What About Developing Countries?

Key difference to high-income countries:

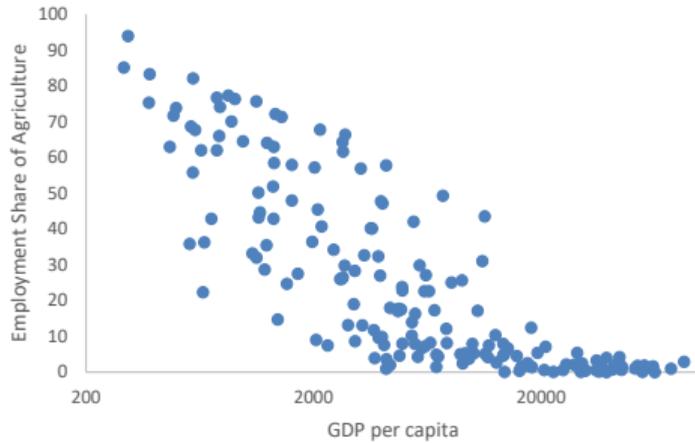
Role of contact-intensive service sector.

Key similarity to high-income countries:

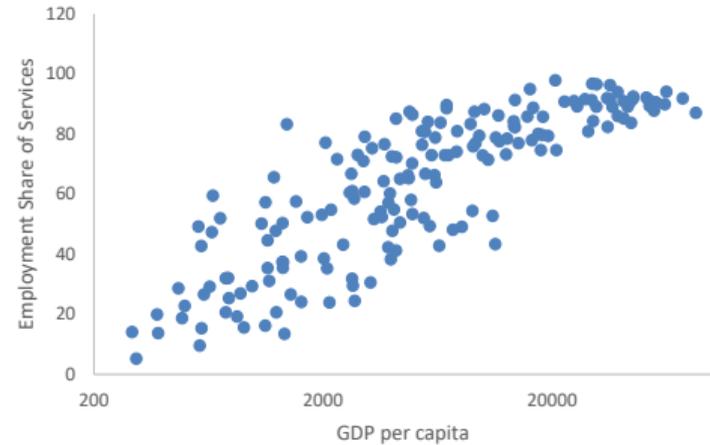
Role of school closures and childcare.

Illustrate differences using micro data from most-populous African country: [Nigeria](#).

Women's Sectoral Employment Shares across Countries



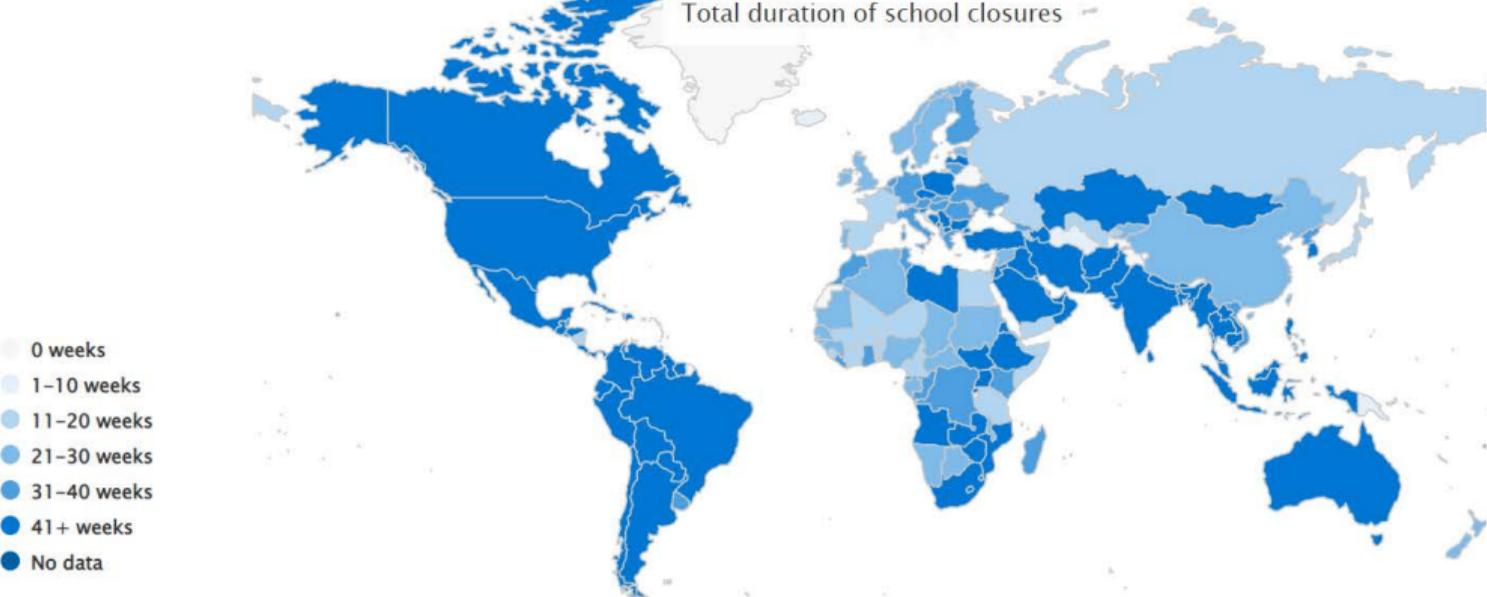
(a) Women's Employment Share in Agriculture



(b) Women's Employment Share in Services

→ **Impact on service sector plays negligible role in low-income economies**

School Closures across Countries



→ **Similar impact of school closures in low- and high-income countries**

Zooming in on Nigeria

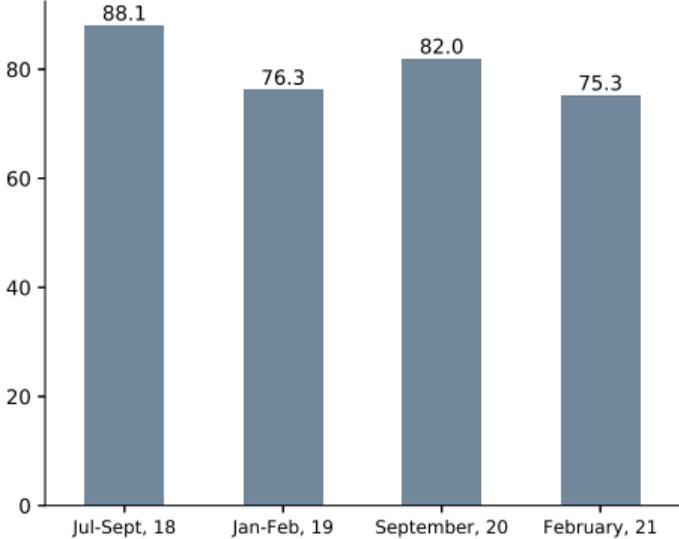
Sharp economic downturn during pandemic.

Schools fully closed from April to September 2020, partial closures throughout fall 2020.

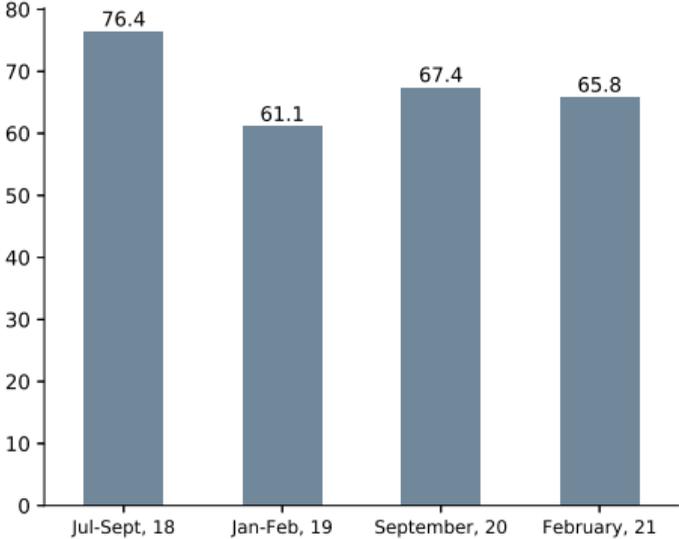
Use micro data from Nigeria COVID-19 National Longitudinal Phone Survey and General Household Panel Survey to assess impact.

Compare September 2020 to August-September 2018 and February 2021 to January-February 2019.

Adult Employment Rate: Downturn and Recovery



(a) Men



(b) Women

→ **Women experience sharper downturn and stronger recovery**

Impact of Covid-19 on Employment and Hours

	Employment Status				Weekly Working Hours			
	Sept.	Sept.	Febr.	Febr.	Sept.	Sept.	Febr.	Febr.
Covid	-0.045 (0.013)	-0.025 (0.014)	0.036 (0.031)	0.004 (0.033)	-2.766 (0.969)	-4.136 (1.228)	4.859 (2.272)	3.197 (2.224)
Covid × Female		-0.035 (0.018)		0.058 (0.024)		2.784 (1.264)		3.242 (1.210)
# Obs	12,229	12,229	12,444	12,444	9,634	9,634	8,519	8,519

Role of Childcare

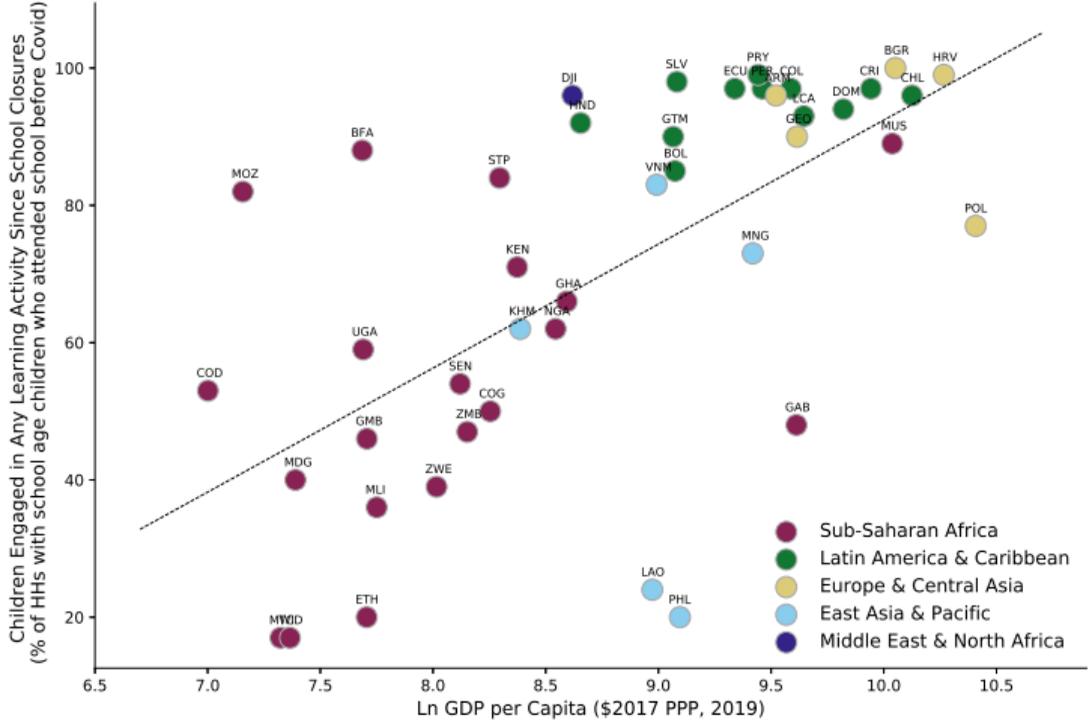
	Employment Status		Weekly Working Hours	
	Sept.	Febr.	Sept.	Febr.
Covid × Female × Young Kids	0.028 (0.029)	0.070 (0.035)	0.374 (1.975)	-3.007 (2.102)
Covid × Female × School-Age Kids	-0.058 (0.028)	0.031 (0.035)	2.768 (1.542)	6.701 (2.134)
Covid × Female × No kids	-0.035 (0.048)	-0.025 (0.052)	1.137 (2.196)	-0.878 (3.093)
# Obs	12,229	12,444	9,634	8,519

Why Did Women's Employment Recover so Quickly?

Conjectures:

- ▶ Opposite income effects on employment in low- and high-income economies.
- ▶ Larger impact on women due to lower baseline labor supply.
- ▶ Also: impact of school closures disappeared quickly.

Learning During School Closures across Countries



Outlook

Need to learn more about role of income effects and other factors during the employment recovery . . .

. . . and then turn to a much bigger story: **The impact of Covid-19 on education and human capital in developing countries.**