

Child Labour in the Arab Region and Climate Change

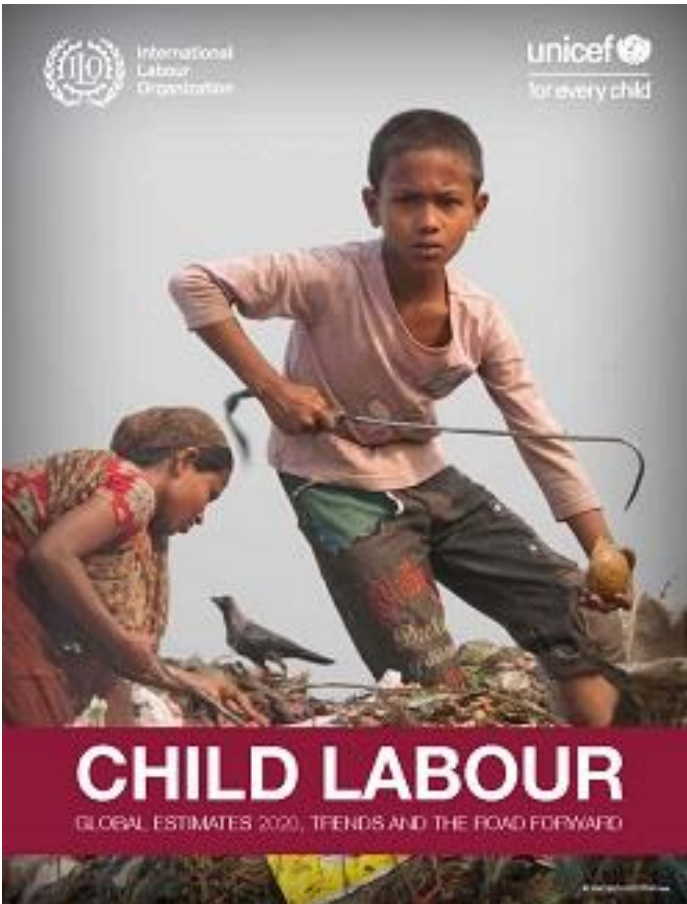
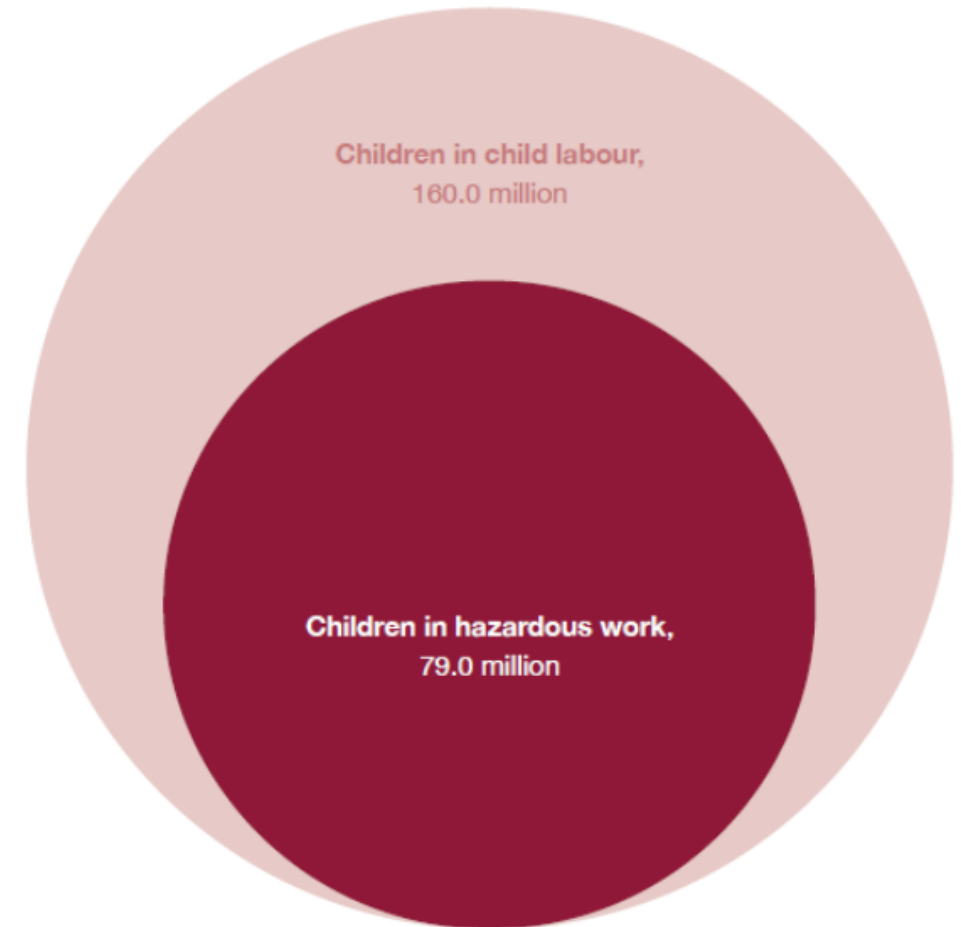
Date: 23 / Oct / 2022

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Child Labour: Global Estimates 2020

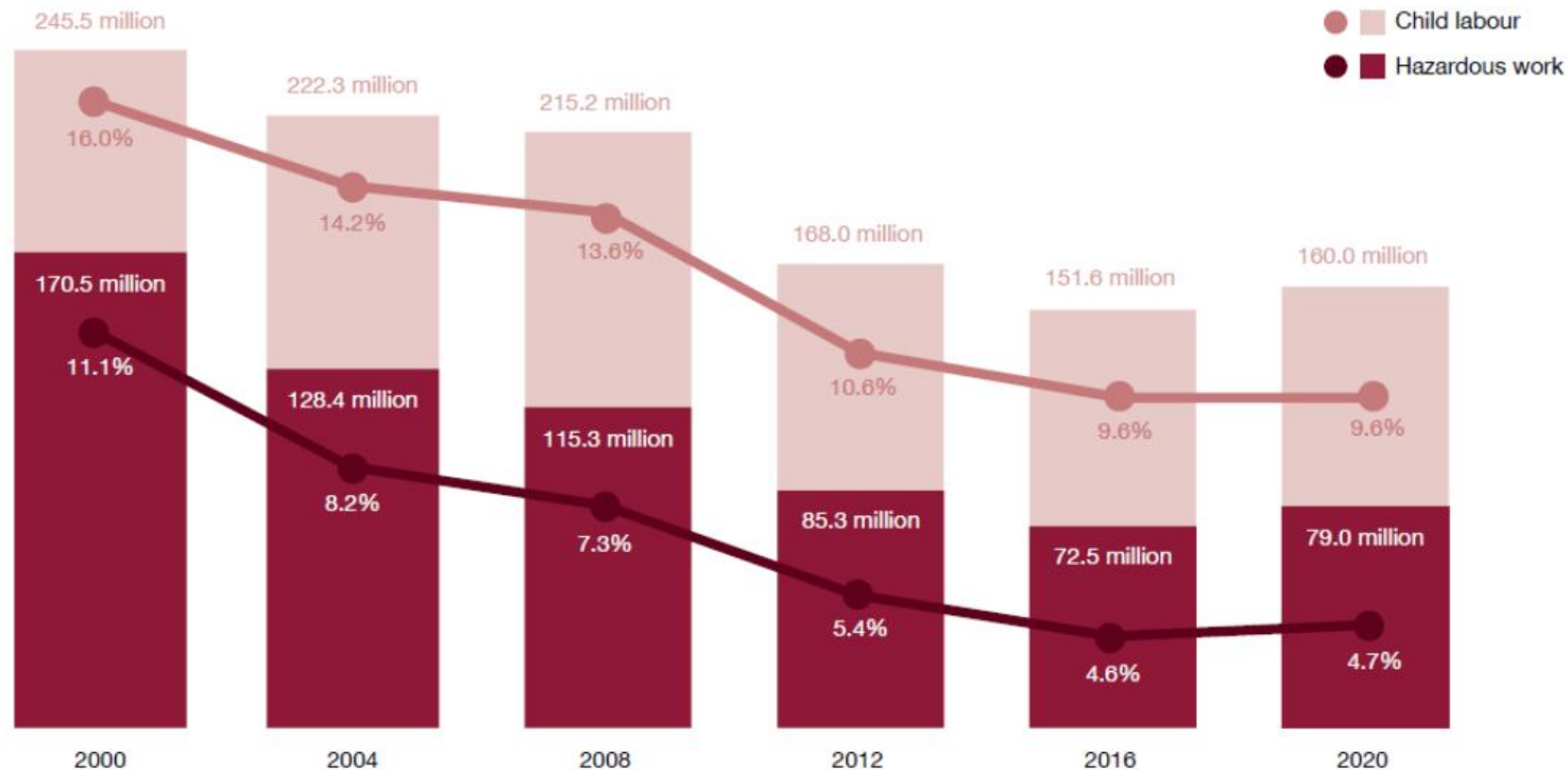
Number of children aged 5 to 17 years in child labour and hazardous work

160 million children are in child labour in the world today of which 79 million are in hazardous work



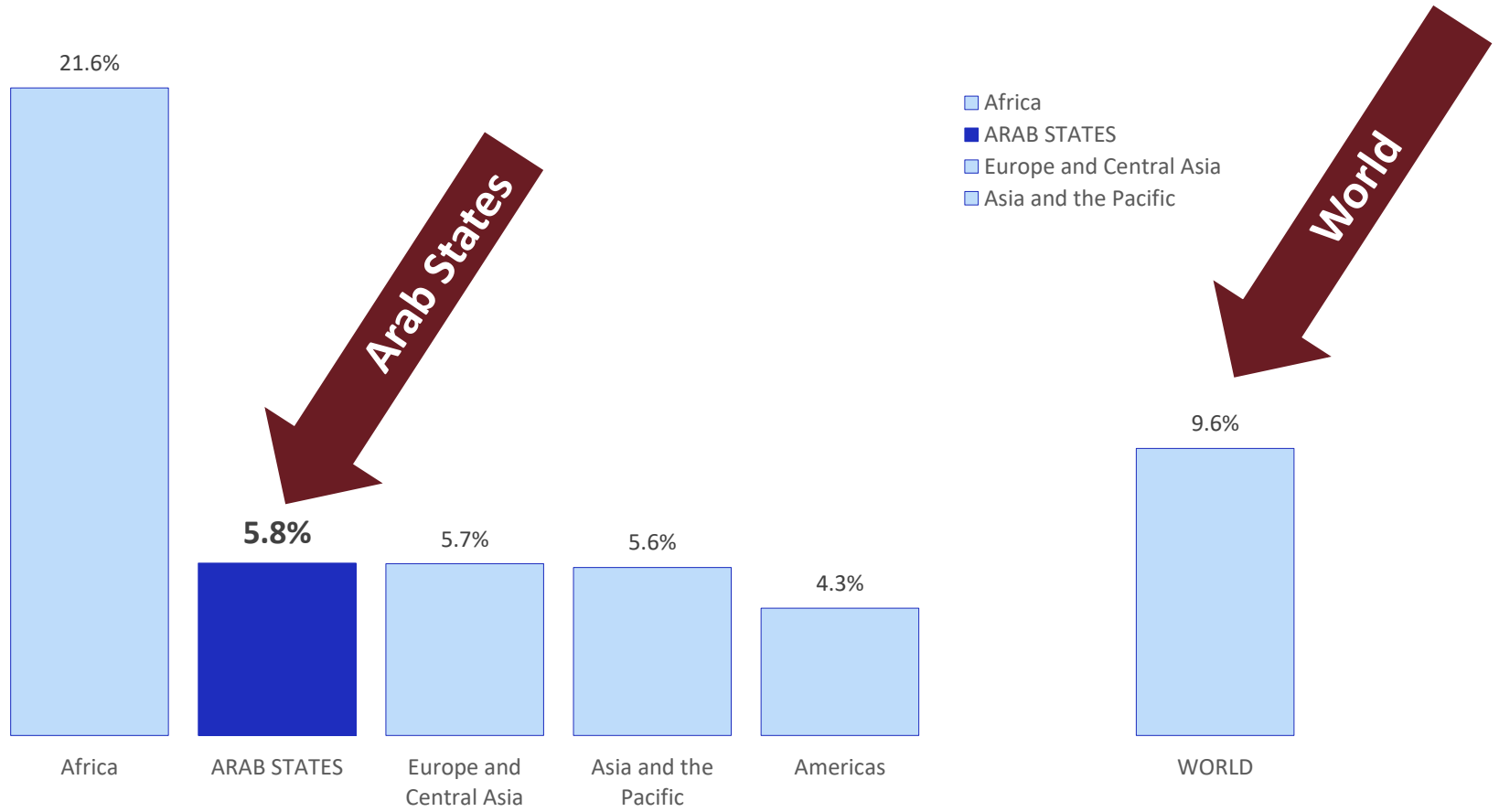
Global progress against child labour has stalled since 2016

- Percentage and number of children aged 5 to 17 years in child labour



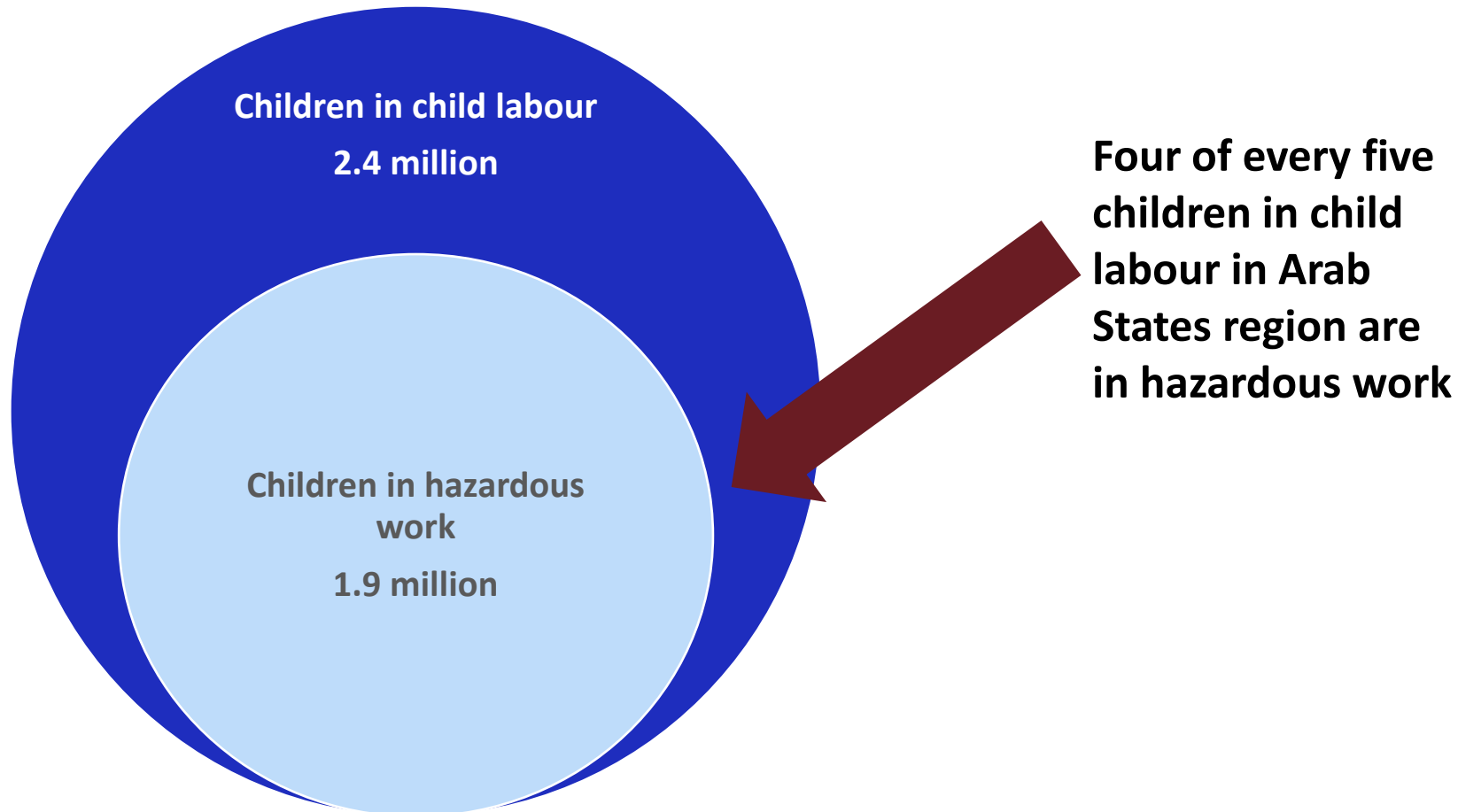
Child labour in world regions

Percentage of children in child labour, children aged 5-17 years, by world region



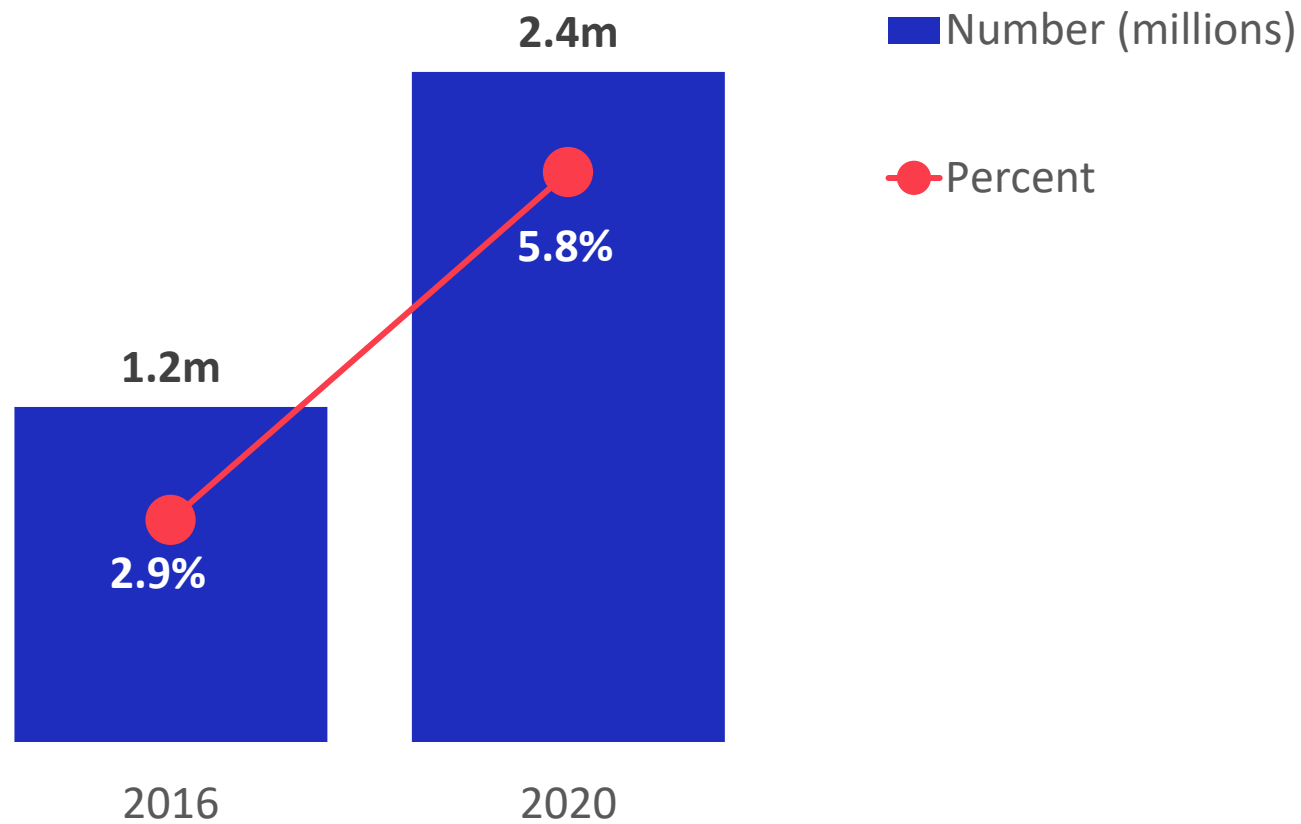
Involvement in child labour and hazardous work In the Arab States region

Number of children in child labour and hazardous work, children aged 5-17 years



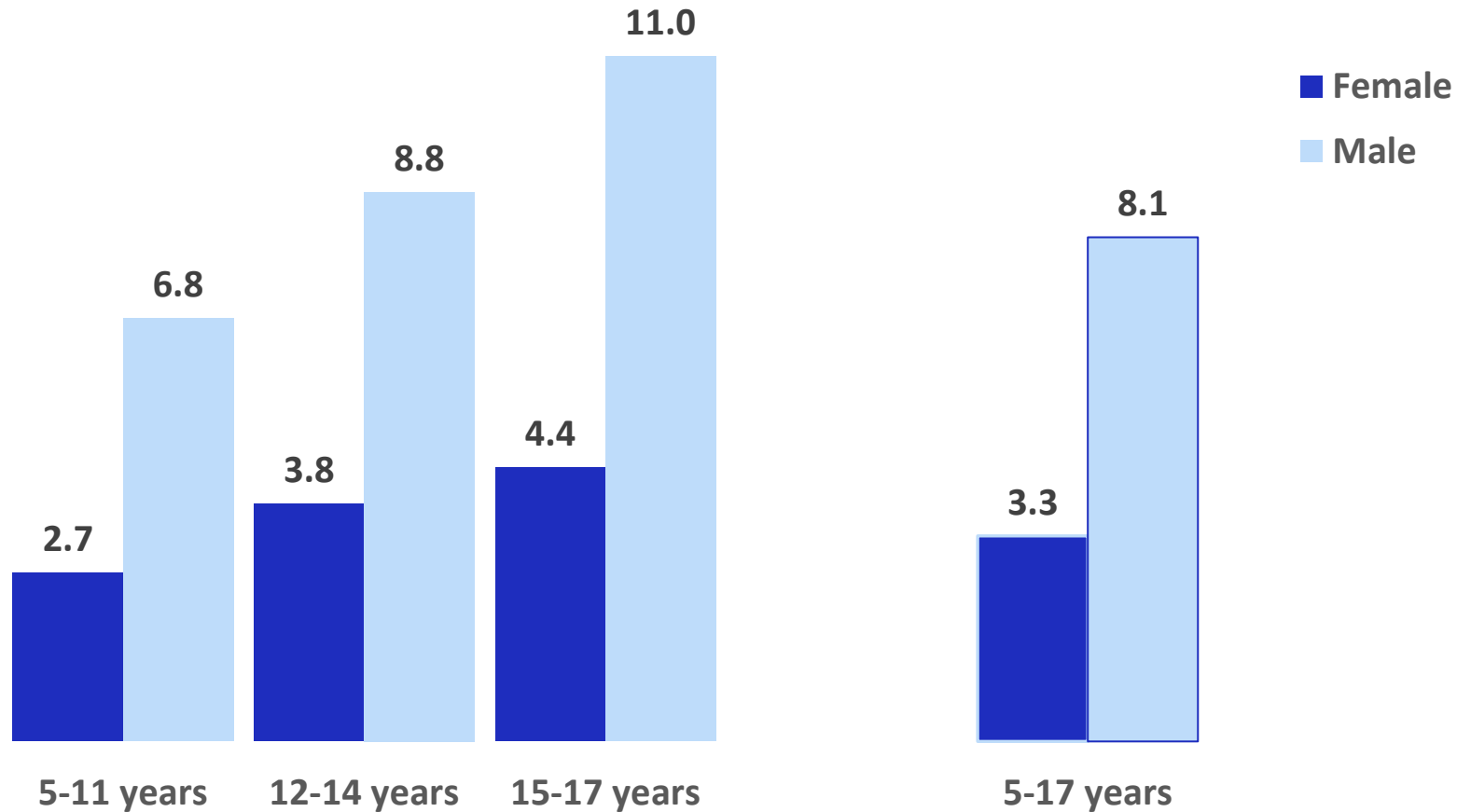
Trends in child labour: Arab States

Percentage and number of children in child labour, 2016 and 2020



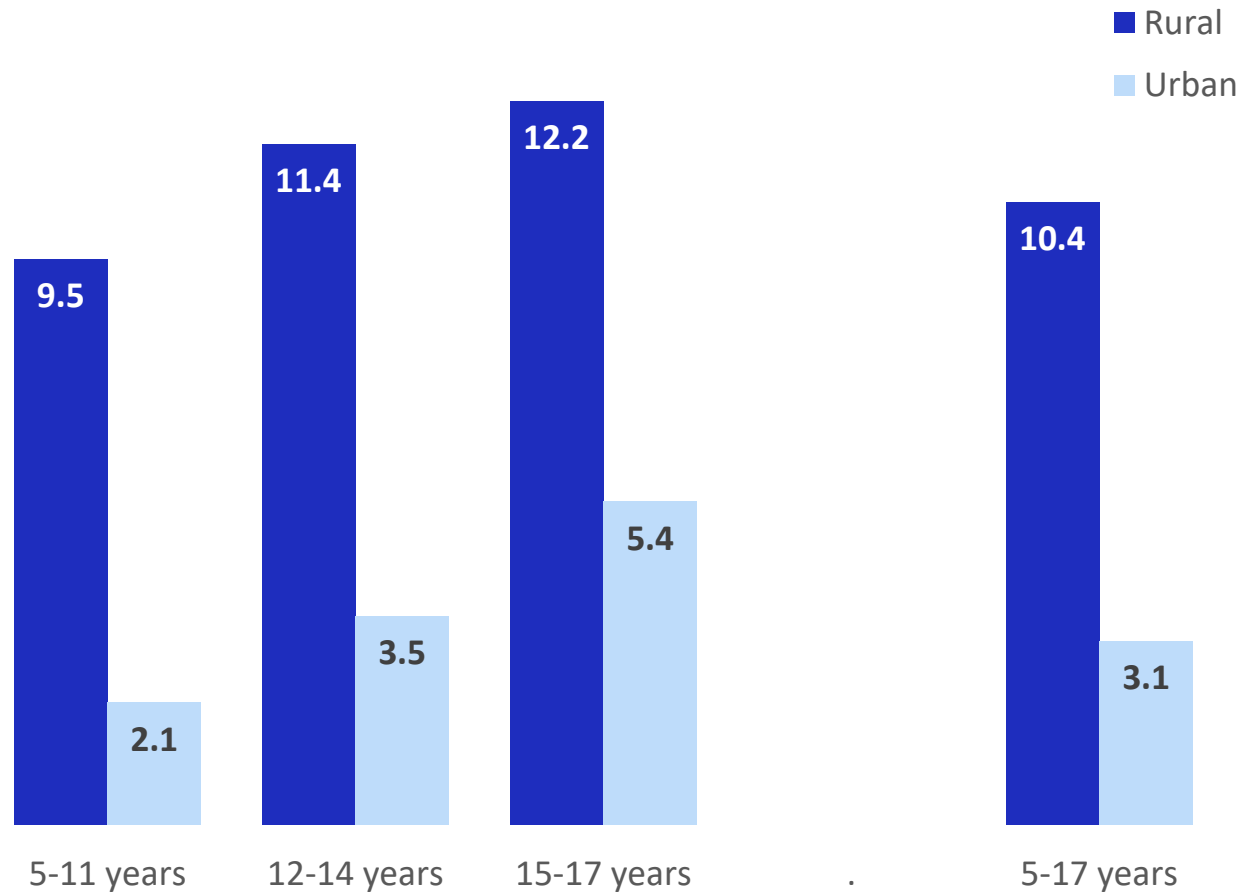
Age and gender profile of child labour in the region

Percentage of children in child labour by age group and sex



Child labour and residence

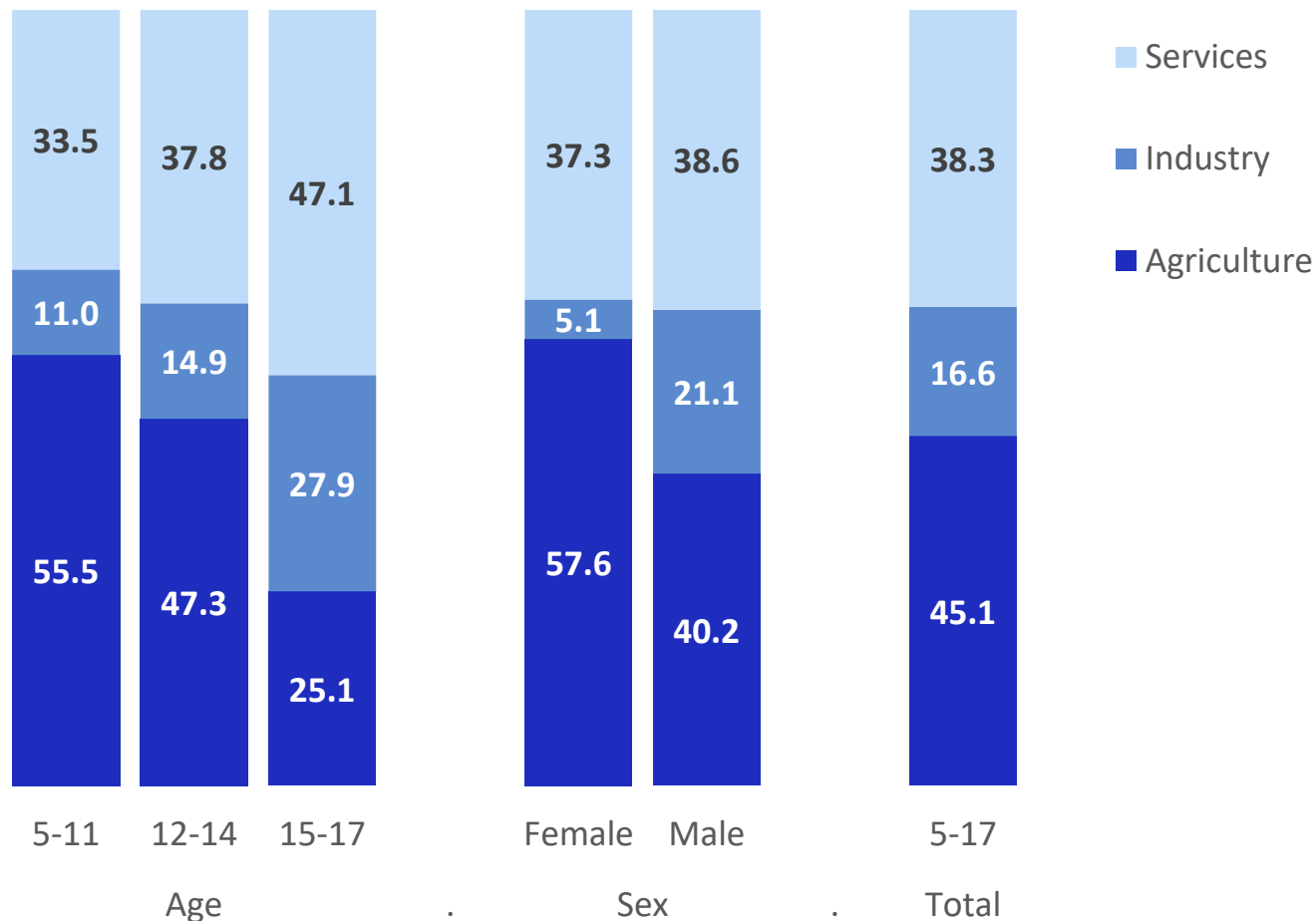
Percentage of children in child labour, by residence



Another striking feature of child labour in the Arab States is its heavy concentration in rural areas.

Child labour and branch of economic activity

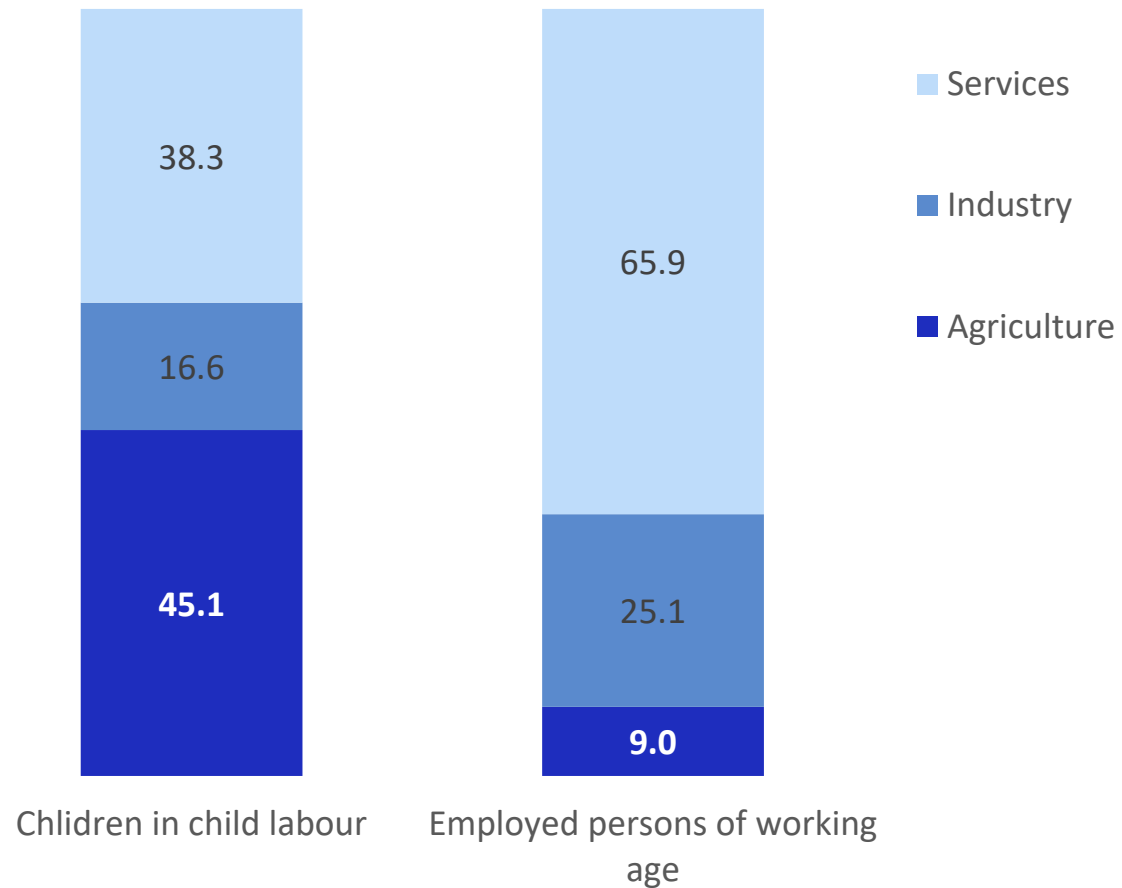
Percentage distribution of children in child labour, by branch of economic activity, age range and sex



Agriculture accounts for the largest share of children in child labour, but the composition of child labour is age- and gender-specific

Child labour and adult employment

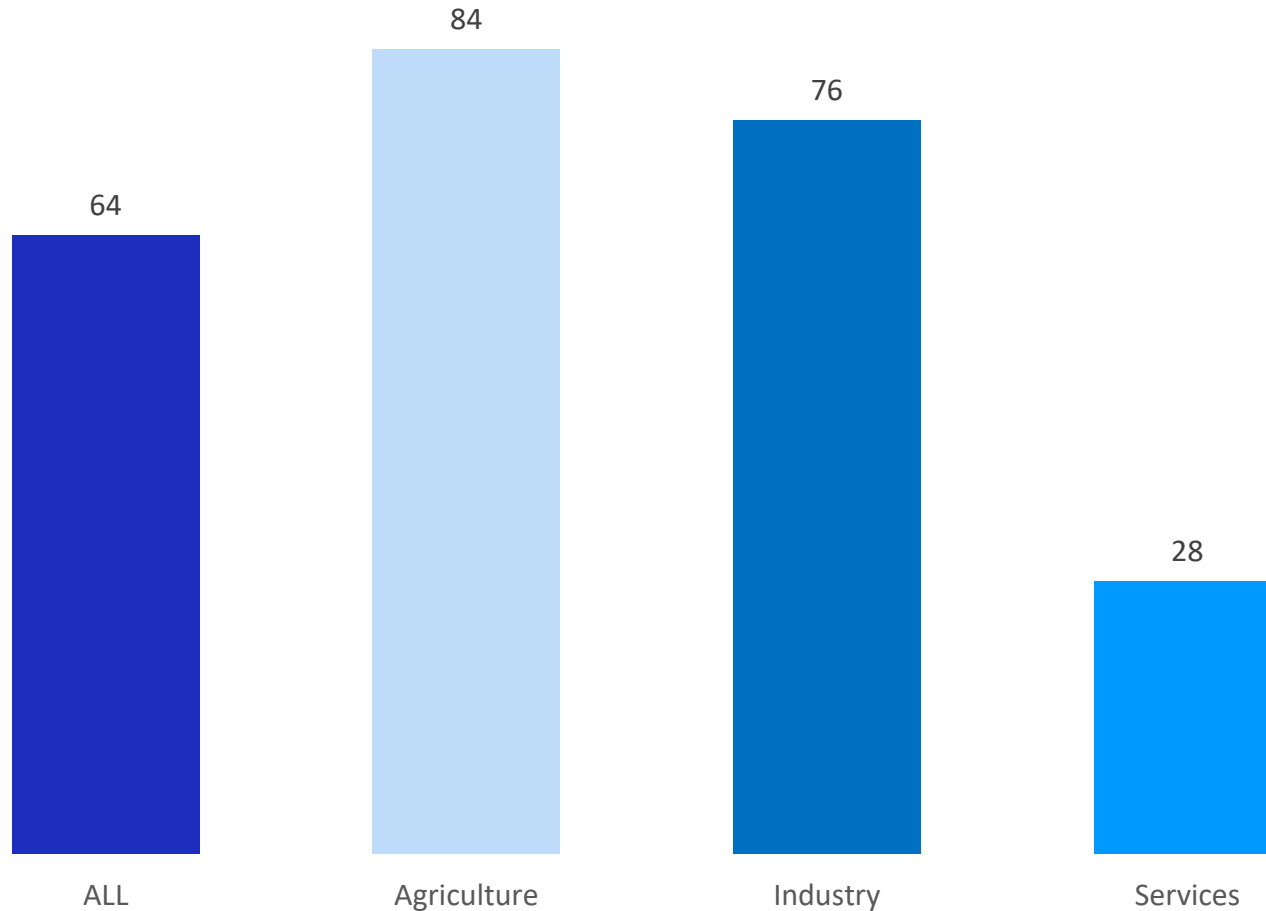
Percentage distribution of children in child labour and employed persons of working age, by branch of economic activity



The composition of child labour differs considerably from that of employed adults

Hazardous work and branch of economic activity

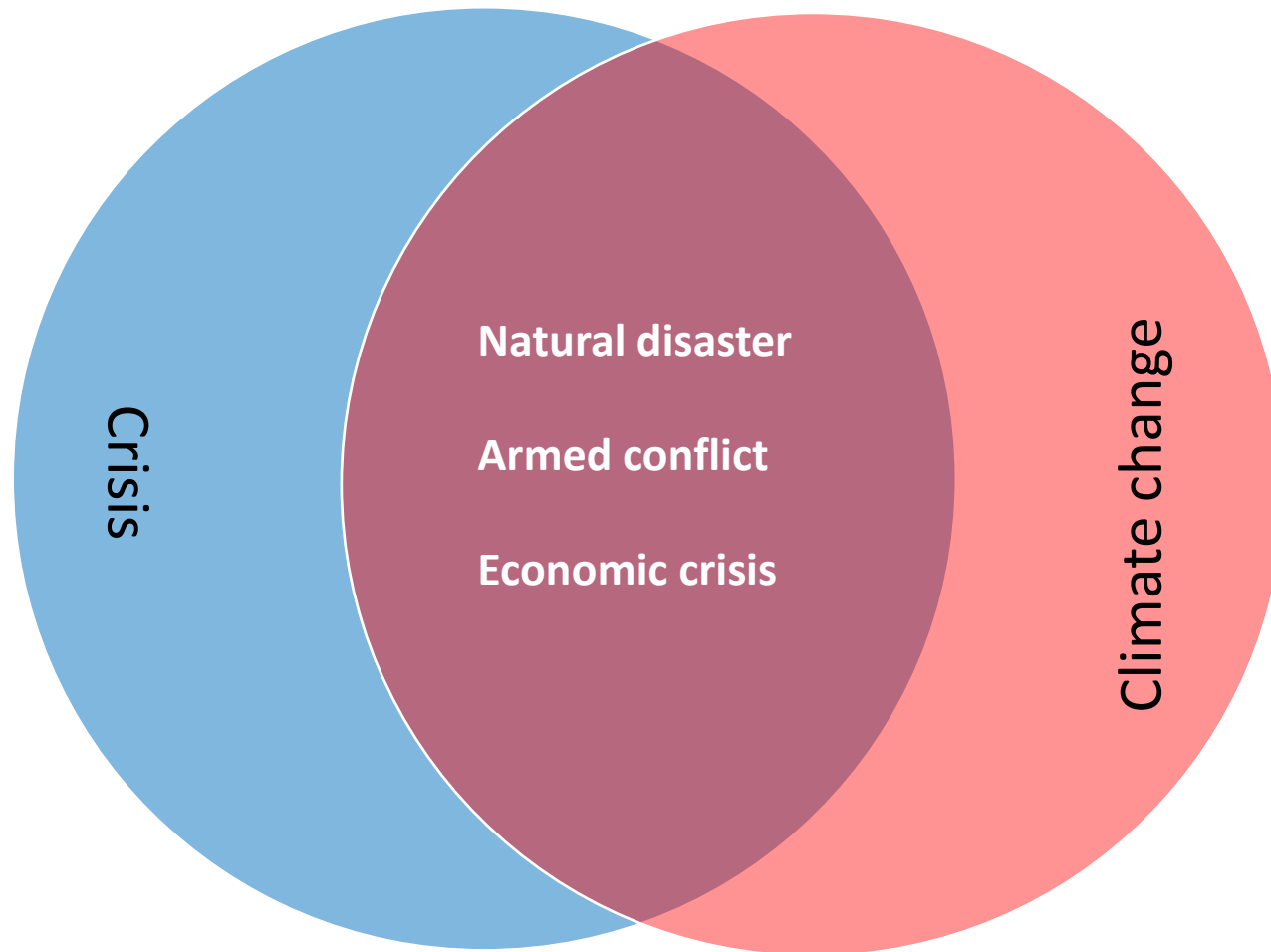
Percentage of child labour constituting hazardous work, by branch of economic activity



**A very high share of
child labour is
hazardous in nature**

Children aged 5-11 years

Climate change and crises are closely inter-related

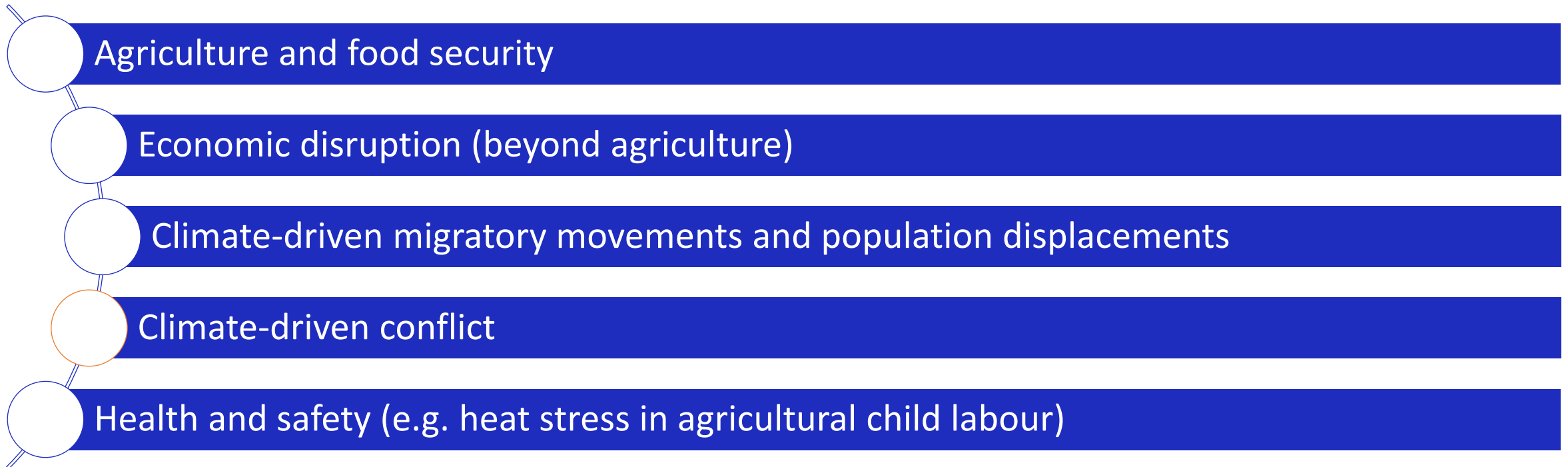


Climate Change:

- Arab States region one of the most affected by the climate crisis*
- Up to 84% of Agricultural Land in the Arab Region is Highly Vulnerable to Water Availability under Climate Change
- Temperatures rising faster than world average
- Renewable water sources increasingly stressed
- Climate-induced displacement becoming a real scenario
- Drought and changes to precipitation
- Irregular weather patterns
- Extremes of temperature

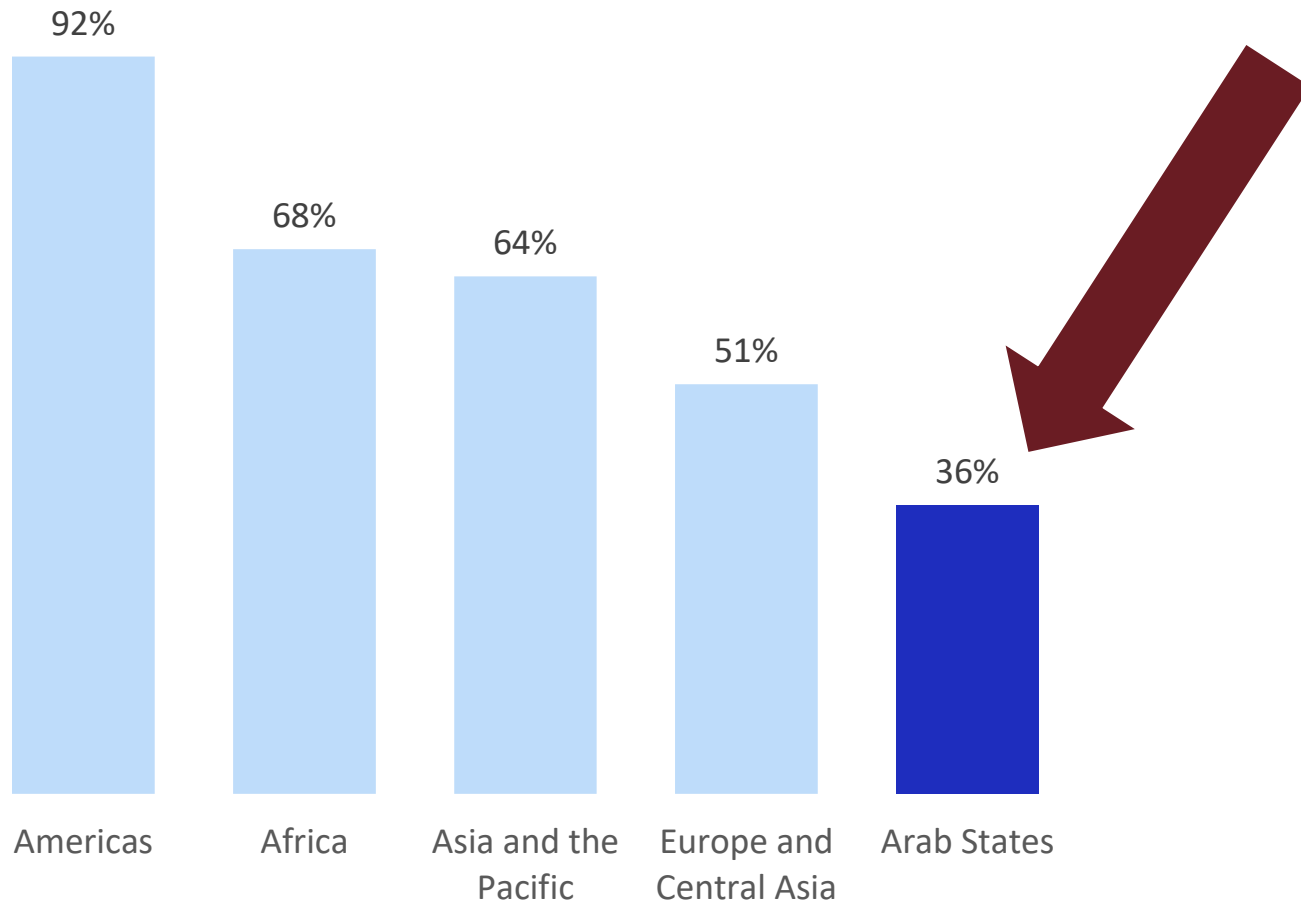
*[How is the Arab States region scaling up on climate action? | Climate Promise \(undp.org\)](#)
[RICCAR Arab Climate Change Assessment Report - ESCWA \(unesco.org\)](#)

Channels of impact of climate change on child labour



Coverage of child labour data

Percentage of child population for which representative data are available for the 2016 to 2020 period, by region



The timely collection of child labour data remains an important challenge in the region.

Problems

- High levels of informality within employment
 - 68% of all employment in Arab States region is informal Source: ILO (2018) <https://tinyurl.com/mr3kkpna>
- Need for Hazardous Work lists in the region to be updated AND to better take into account climactic hazards
- ◀ **Regional challenges to eliminating child labour are increasing**
 - Policy development not keeping pace with the changing scope of challenges.
- ◀ **Economic challenges, instability, conflict, and displacement**
 - Fundamental prerequisites to stability and economic capacity for social protection are under threat.
- ◀ **Full picture remains unknown**
 - Data collection efforts are insufficient to support strategic responses.

Ensure coherence between responses to climate change and to child labour

Mainstream child labour considerations into national debates and responses to climate change

Coordinate and ensure coherence across labour policies, social protection, climate and disaster risk management, development aid, international cooperation, corporate responsibilities, standard setting

Safeguards are needed so that public policies promoting the clean energy transition do not create labour market disruptions

Government incentives to promote green products must include measures to address the risk of child labour in the relevant supply chains and recycling activities

Joint consideration of climate risks and human rights, including prevention of child labour, at the corporate level

Child labour concerns to inform all phases of humanitarian action

Support households to build sustainable, resilient livelihoods to cope with future shocks

Special attention to the recruitment and use of children by armed forces and groups when conflict occurs

Minimize effect of crisis on public services (education, child protection, social protection)

Measures (prevention and responses) should help build social cohesion, resilience and peace, linking humanitarian, development and peace dimensions.

Reinforced labour protection for all young workers, not only those affected by crisis (resilient and responsive legal systems)

Thank You!