

Immunization and health insurance in Mexico: lessons from a fragmented system



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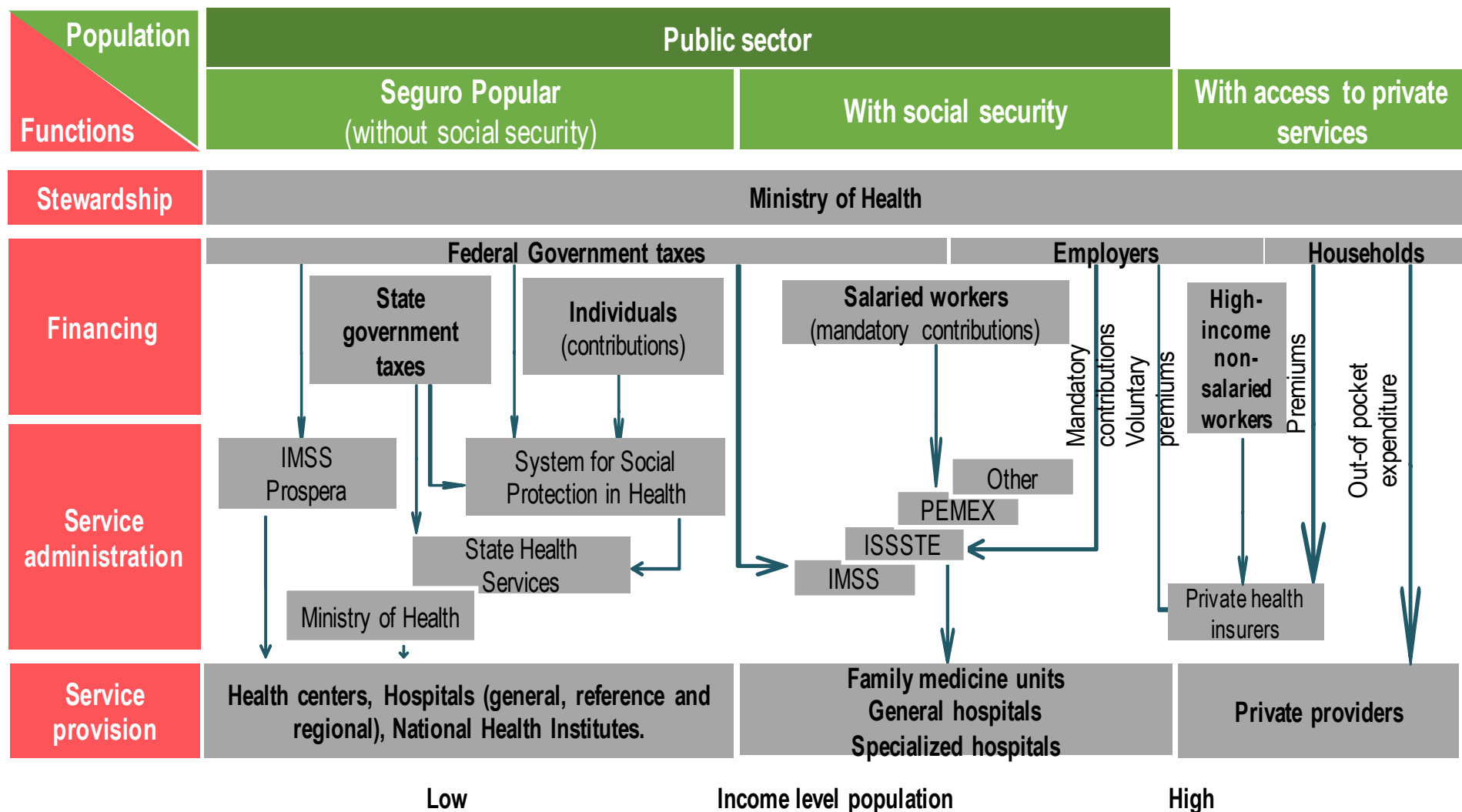
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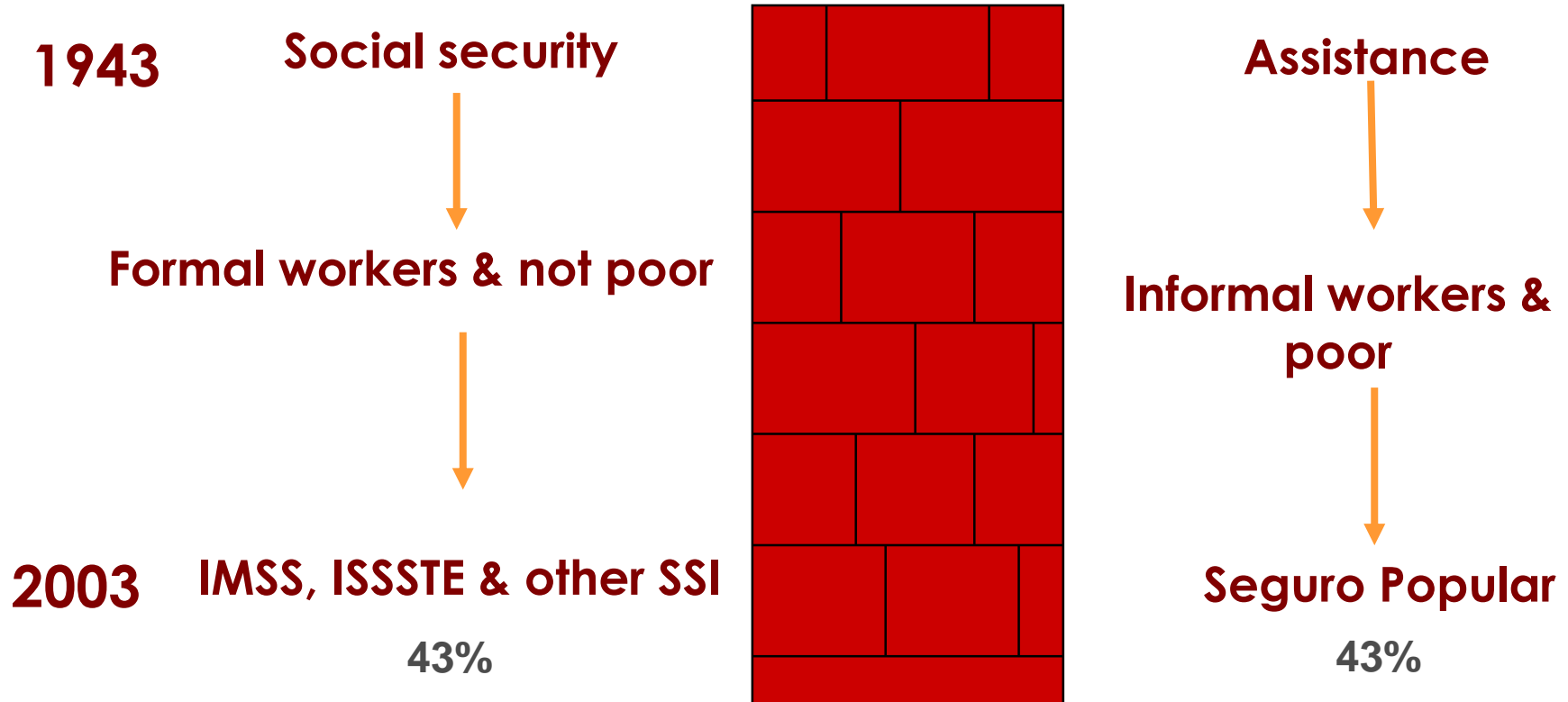
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1. Overview of the fragmented health system

Six separate insurance institutions vertically integrated, provide differential access, coverage, and prices to its segmented population based on their employment status

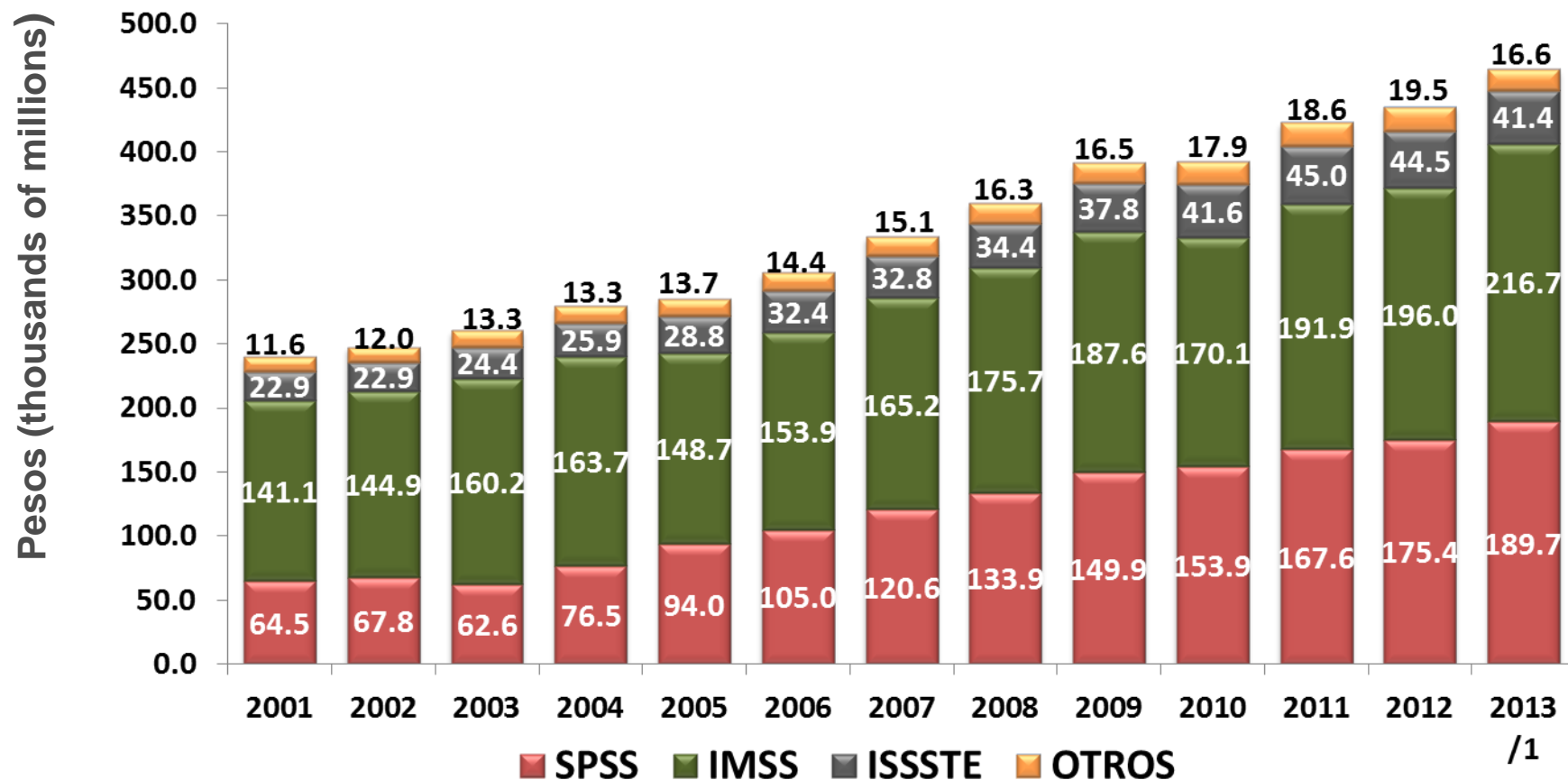


Seguro Popular was created because it was unfair that half of the population was not protected by a public insurance scheme

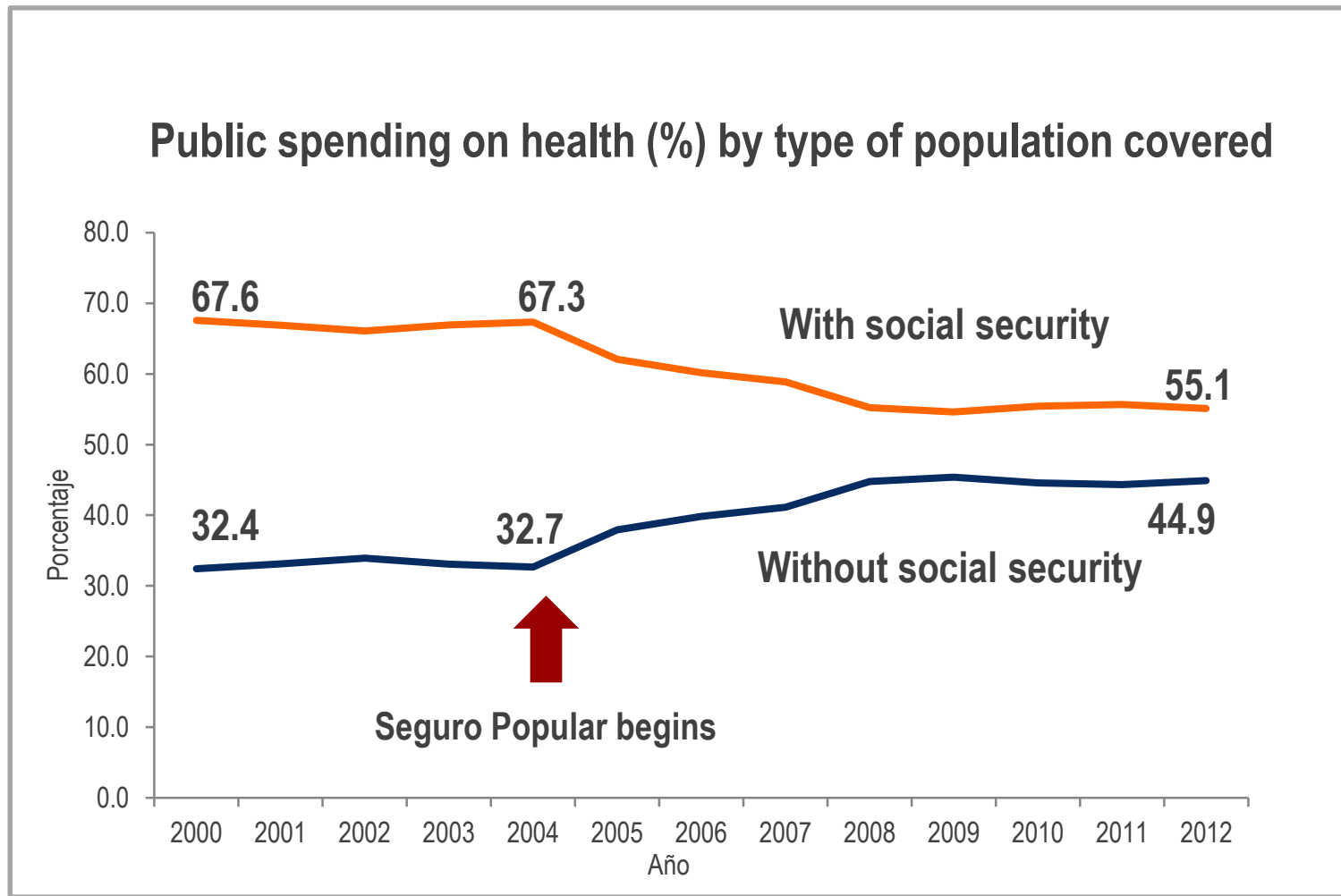


The 12% not covered by any public health insurance scheme is either young people who don't affiliate or people living in highly deprived areas with no access to health care services

Seguro Popular increased public expenditures on health for its targeted population



It also reduced financial health inequities with social security insurance schemes



Nota: *Para 2012 las cifras son preliminares

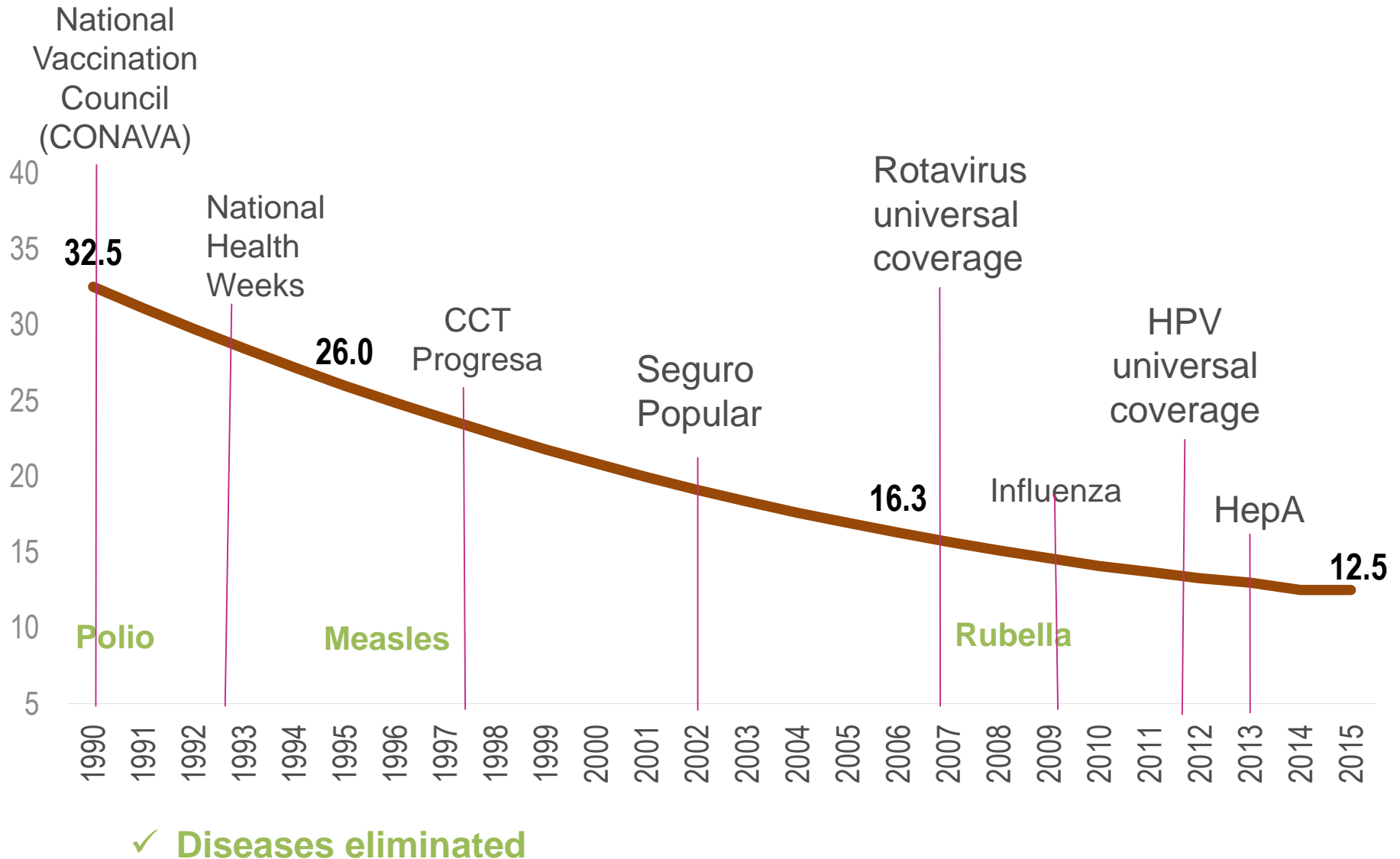
Fuente: Secretaría de Salud, DGIS, SICUENTAS, 2012

However, it has not reached its target population and has not addressed the fragmented structure of the health system

Without social security		With social security		Private insurance	Ministry of Health
Population	Uninsured	Seguro Popular	Private job	Federal job	
Stewardship			IMSS	ISSSTE	Capacity to pay
Financing					
Delivery					
Affiliated population(%)	12	43	33	5	2
Spending per capita	>\$100	\$170	\$180	\$200	<\$500

2. Immunization, a national health policy

Immunization has had an important contribution in reducing infant mortality in the past 25 years



All Mexicans are entitled to routine vaccines free of charge

Pediatric

BCG
DTP +Hib +IPV
DTP
HepB
Influenza
MMR
MR
OPV
PCV
Rotavirus
HepA

Adolescent

HPV
Td

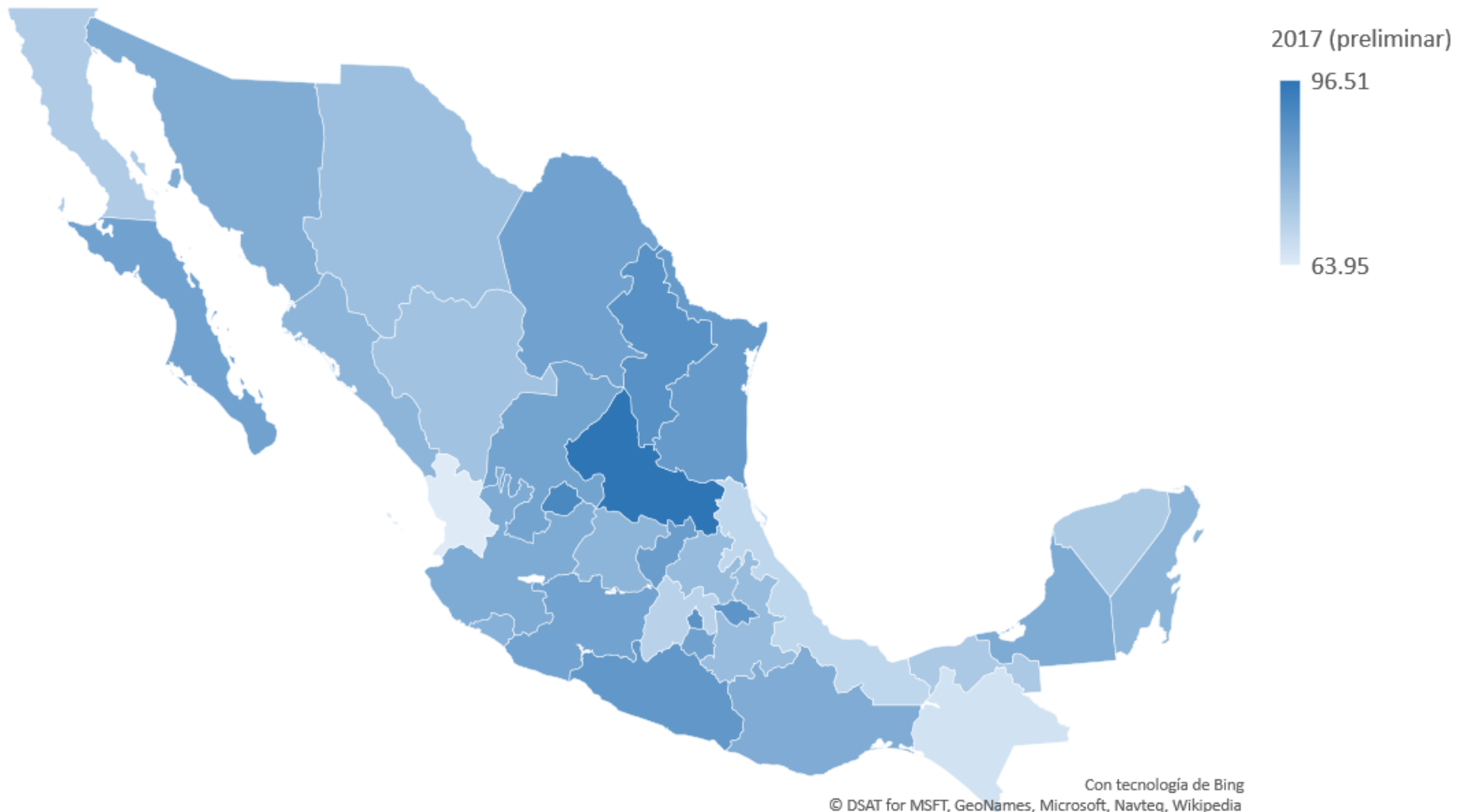
Lifespan

HepB
Influenza
PPV
Tdap

- ☐ Immunization is a national health policy
- ☐ All plans provide the same vaccines
- ☐ Currently, it includes 17 vaccines that protect against 15 diseases

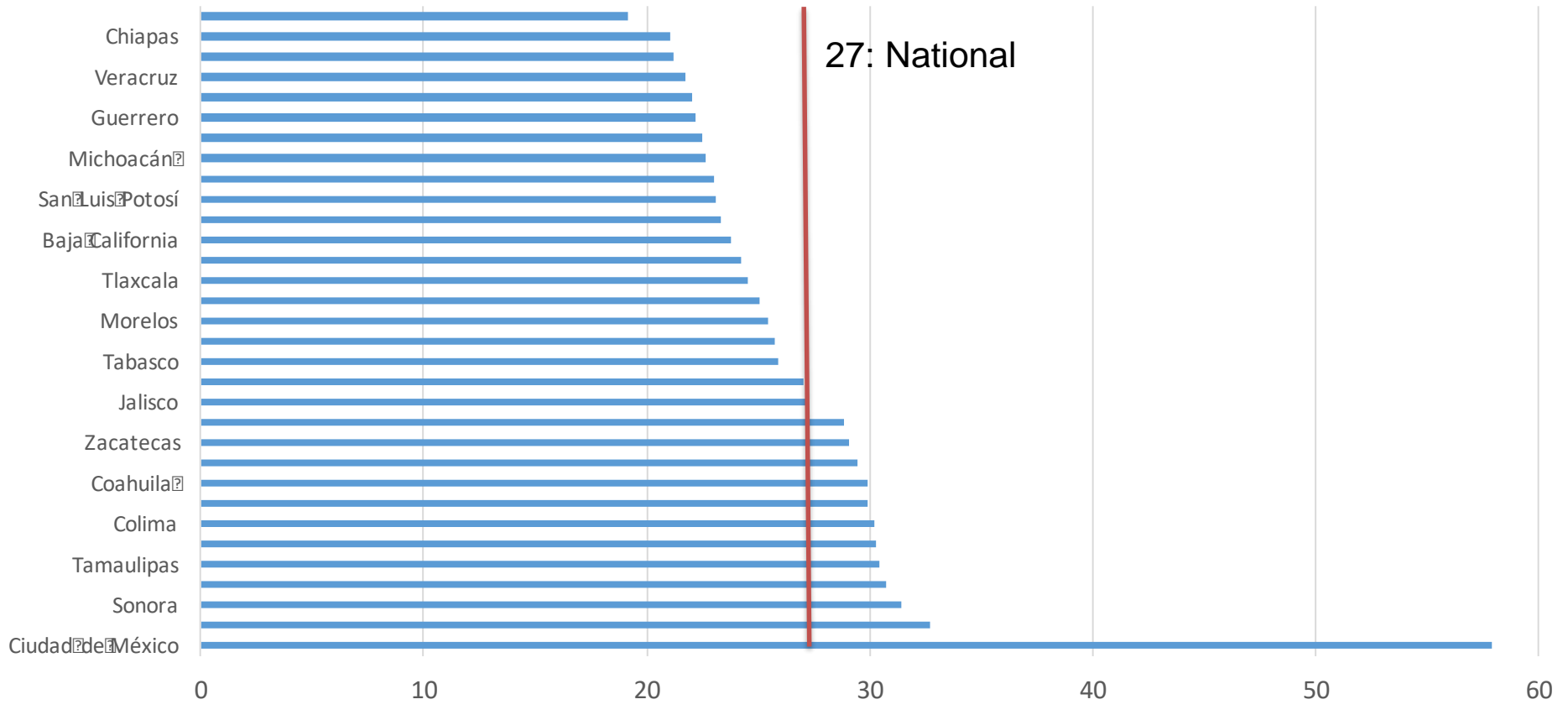
Coverage ranged from 96 to 64 percent in 2017 across the 32 Mexican states due to varying degrees of operational capacity, resources allocated and accurate information

Cobertura de Vacunación con Esquema Completo en Niños menores de 1 año

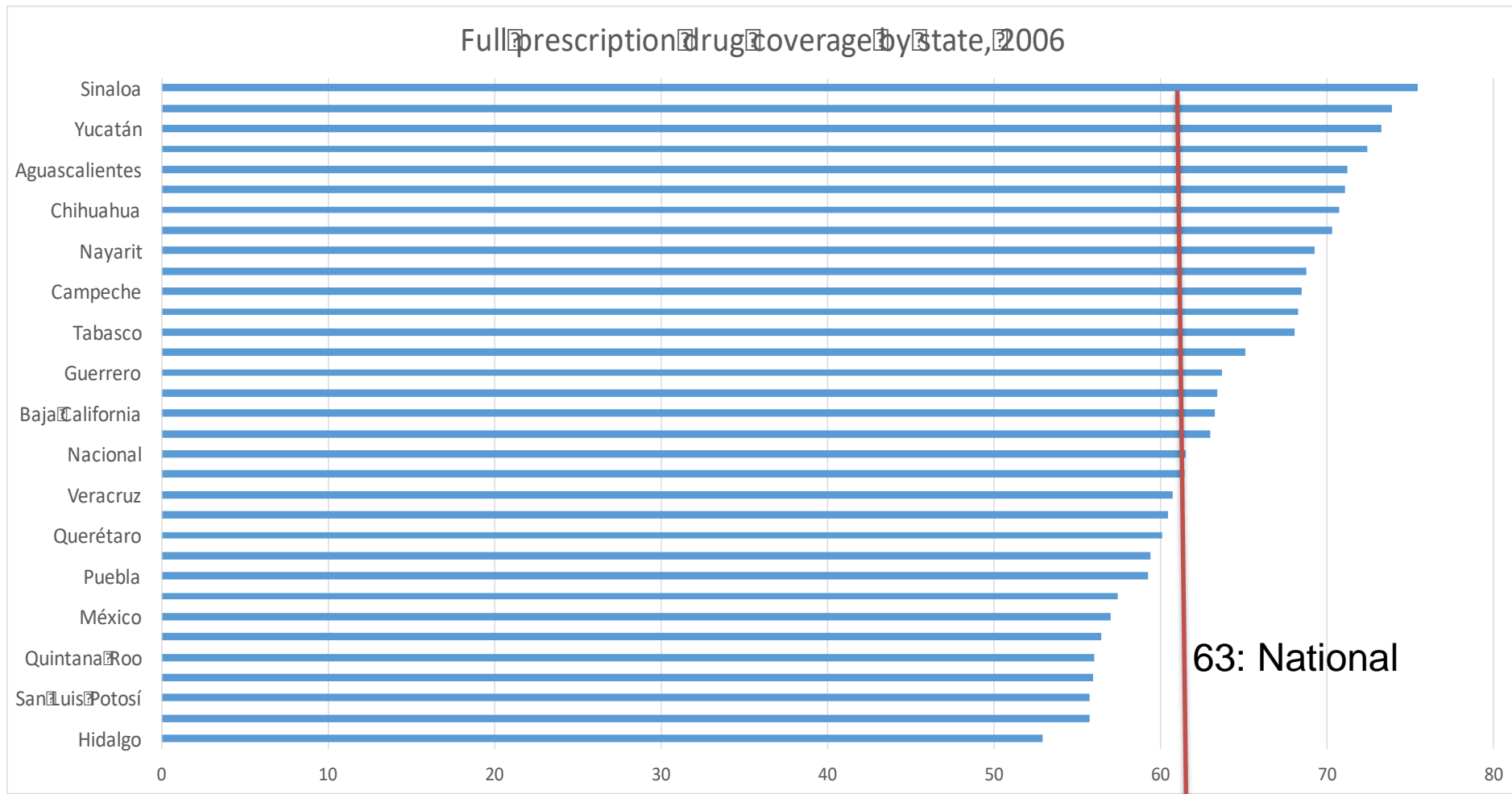


Except for some exceptions, states with fewer nurses were the same with lower immunization rates

Nurses per 10,000 population by State, 2014

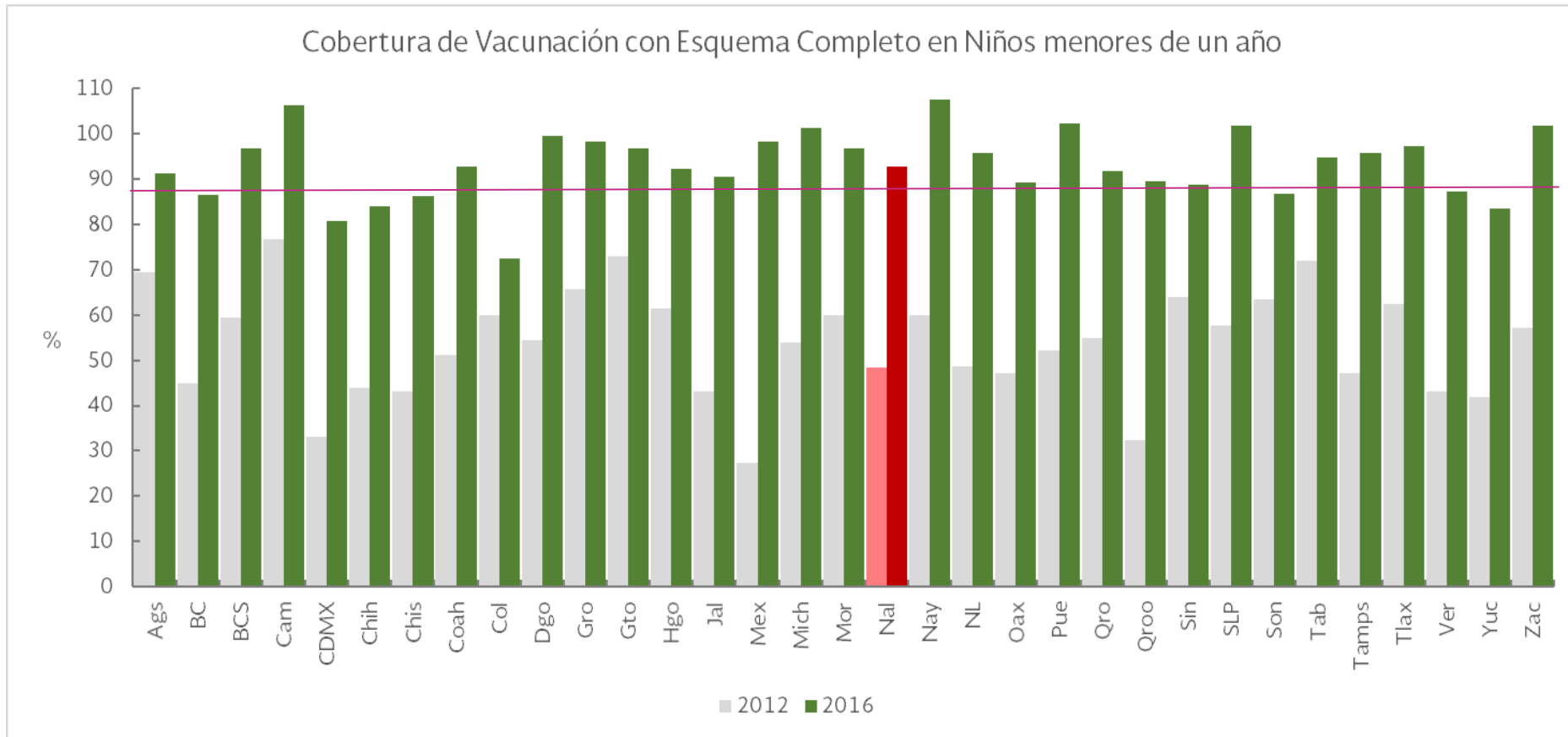


States with lower fully covered drugs were not necessarily those with lower immunization rates



Between 2012 & 2016, 10 states failed to reach the national goal of 90 percent coverage

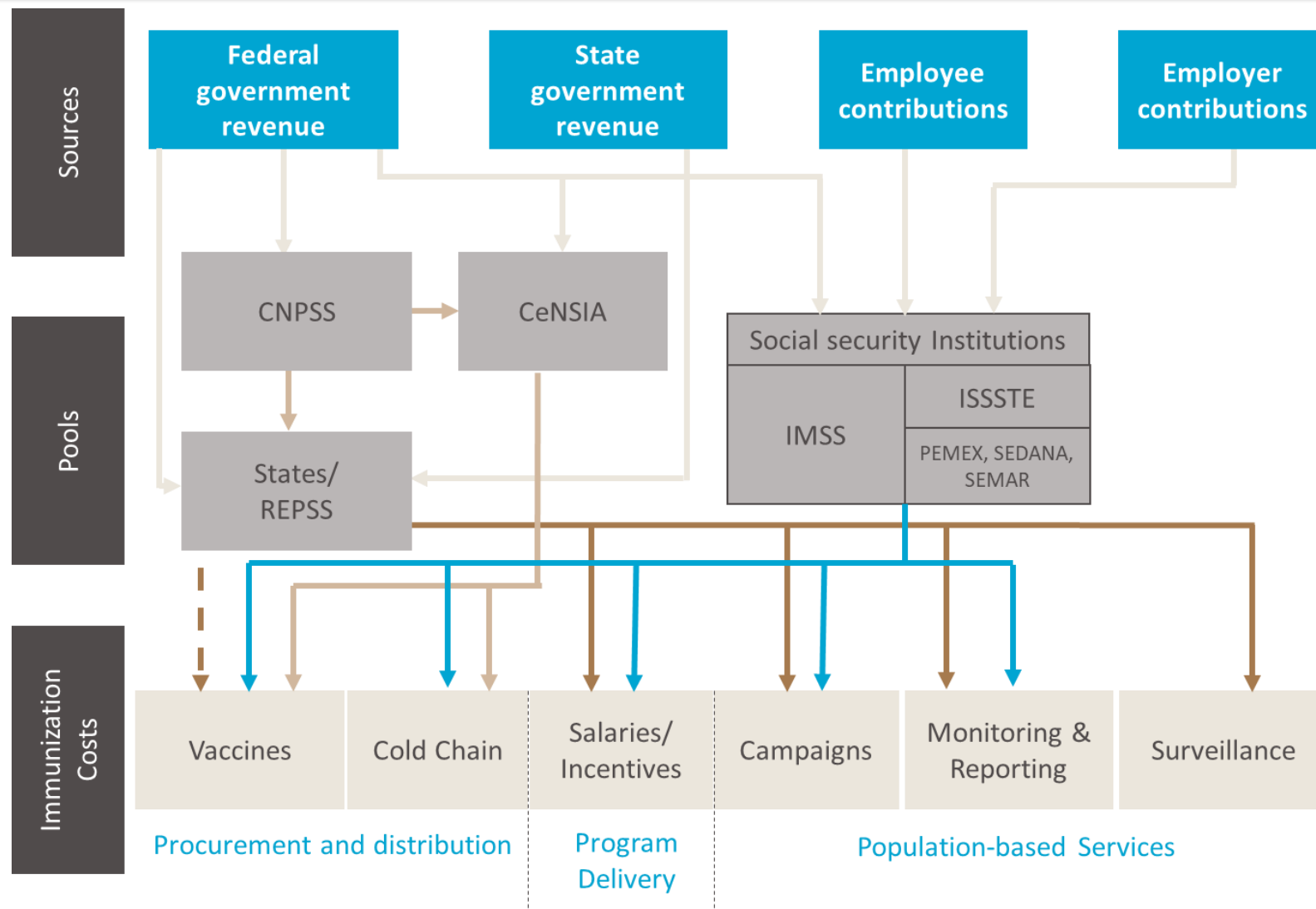
Full scheme coverage rates for children less than 1 year old



Source: Health of the Mexican Population, MOH, 2016

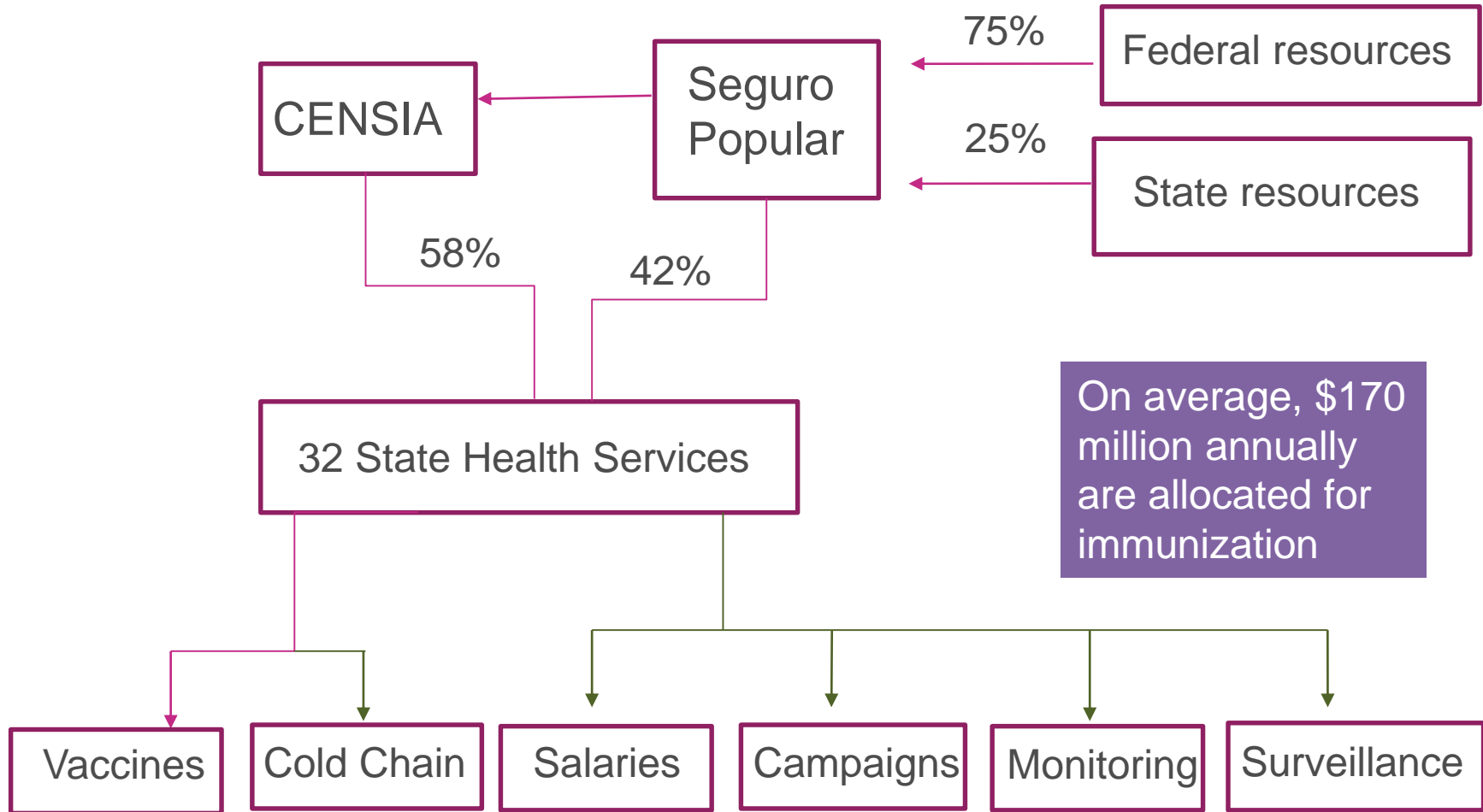
3. Key functions for immunization

Each public health insurance finances, procures, and delivers immunization services separately



Source: Wilkason et al, "Mexico Country Profile". Sustainable Immunization Financing. DC: ThinkWell.

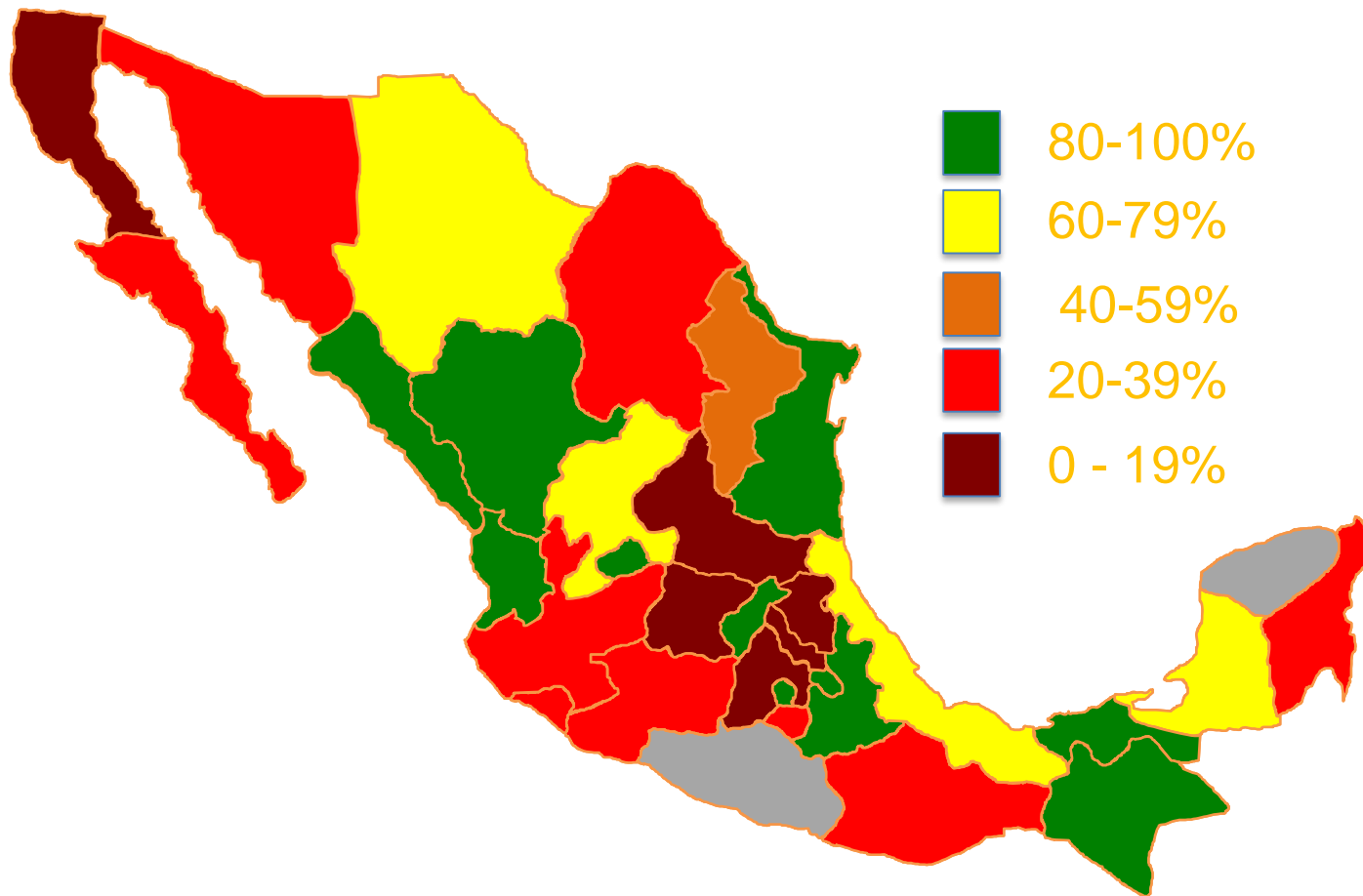
Seguro Popular finances, CENSIA procures vaccines & the 32 State Health Services delivers them



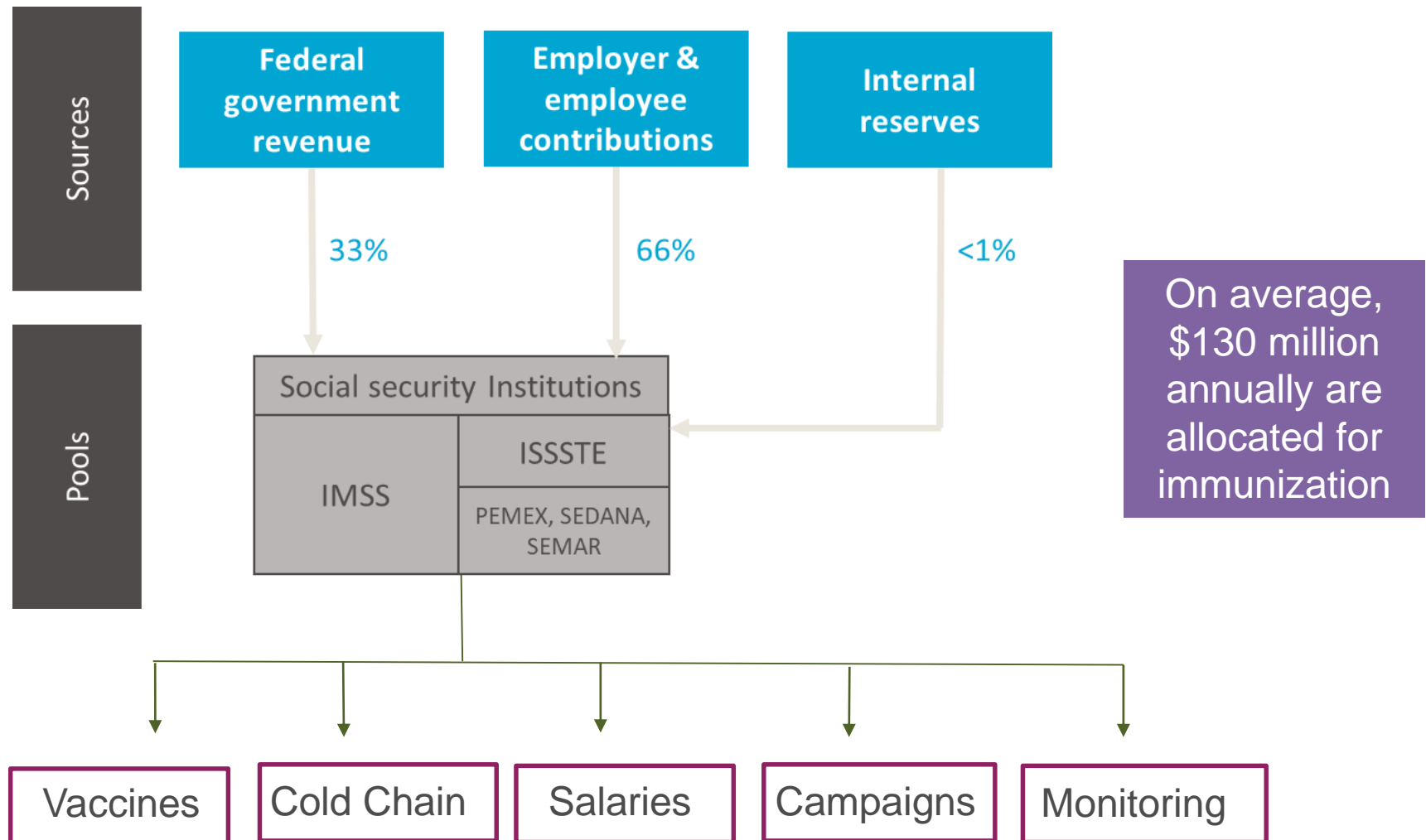
CENSIA: MOH federal agency the stewards and finances immunization

Despite having an instrument for monitoring resource allocation for immunization, outcome indicators suggest underperformance in several states

Operating cold chains (%) by state, 2014



Although the procurement process is led by IMSS, each of the five social security institutions (SSI) finance & deliver immunization in their own facilities



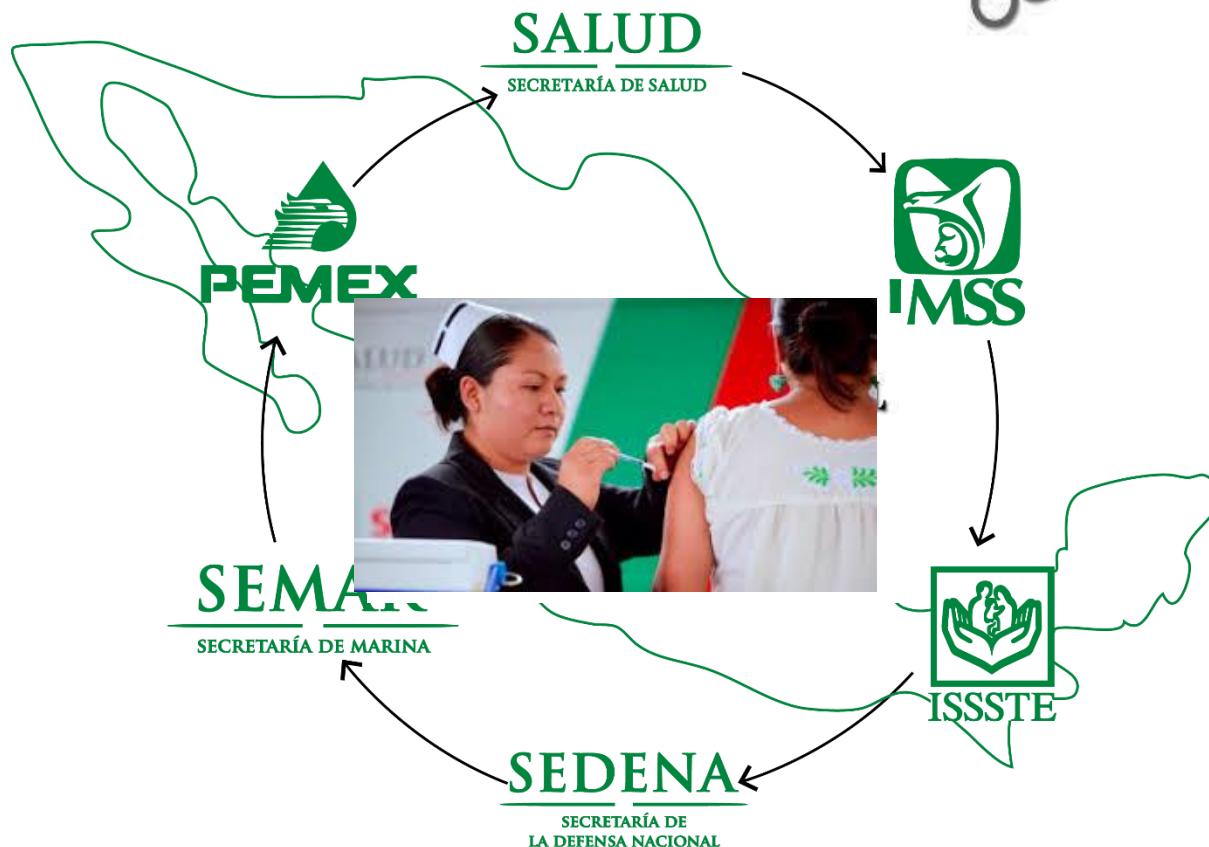
Different coverage rates between insurance schemes are due to higher stockouts on state health services financed by Seguro Popular

2013	National	Seguro Popular	IMSS	ISSSTE
FS >1 year	84	81	96	94
FS <1 year	85	88	94	102
DTP3	98	99	95	104

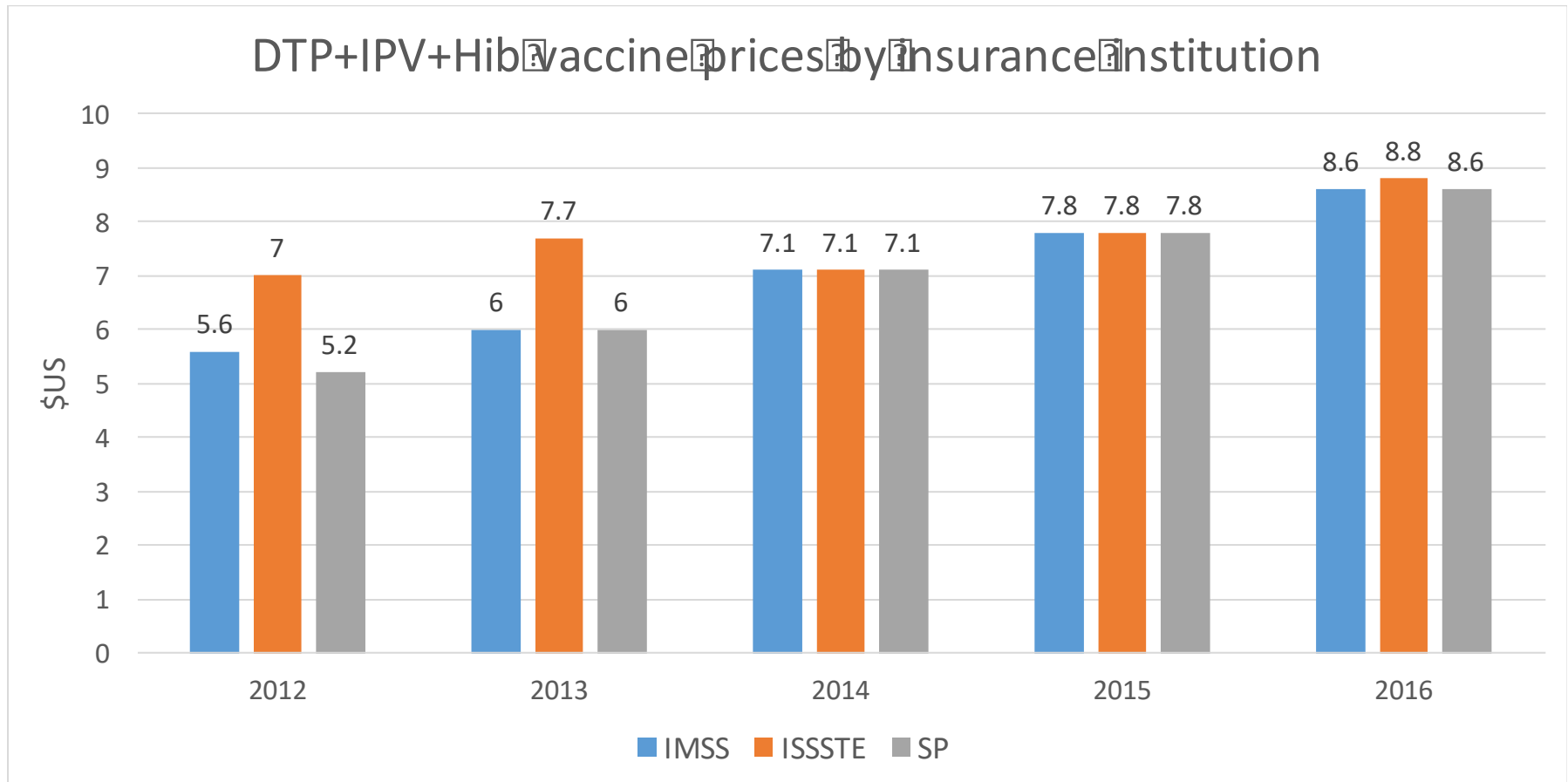
FS: Full Scheme

Source: CENSIA, Secretaría de Salud

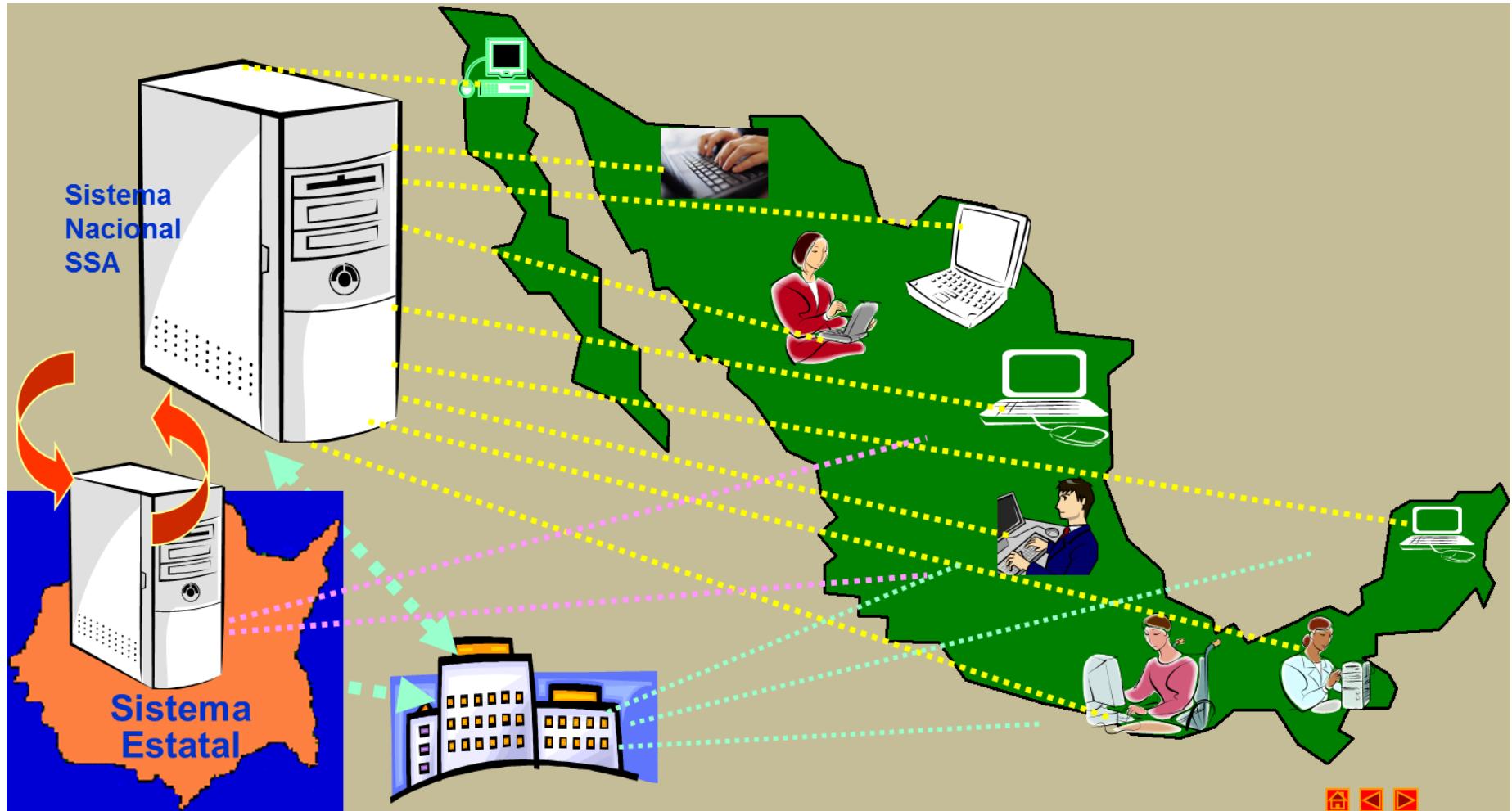
Current governance and stewardship instruments are insufficient to ensure effective and timely coverage immunization rates



Since 2013, the Federal Government through IMSS has implemented a national procurement process paying lower prices and saving money



An integrated system is needed to have complete, reliable and timely information for planning, M&E, and coordinating better the system as a whole



4. Challenges for improving performance

Challenges of a fragmented system

Stewardship

Lack of an integrated information system provide unreliable coverage rates

Ineffective monitoring & evaluation

Diversity & number of purchasers hinders effective planning

Financing

- Ineffective resource tracking mechanism to fully understand expenditures
- Diversity & number of purchasers hinders effective financing
- Lack of accountability provide no incentives to invest in cold chain infrastructure

Delivery

- Multiple and diverse purchasers challenge effective procurement and distribution of vaccines
- Diversity & number of purchasers hinders effective procurement & distribution
- Global shortage of vaccines
- Reaching the most deprived zones

Windows of opportunity for improving performance

Stewardship

Scale-up the electronic immunization card may provide reliable and the complete information needed

A 2017 immunization law seeks to guarantee vaccination as a universal right & protect immunization from budget cuts

Timely planning process based on demographic and epidemiological needs, as well as the international market conditions, including exchange rates and vaccines production capacity

Financing

Participating in the PAHO revolving fund may increase the negotiating power in the international vaccine market and save important financial resources

A recent centralization strategy may help to be more efficient for the procurement, financing and delivery of vaccines

Delivery

New vaccines could be introduced and coverage expanded due to increased financing with the new law and a more efficient procurement integrated strategy

4. Lessons from Mexico

Lessons from Mexico

- Despite being an example worldwide in immunization, you should keep up with your performance on all key functions: stewardship, financing, and delivery
- Fragmentation is not good for immunization: too many unaligned purchasers hinder effective procurement & distribution
- Investing in an integrated reliable and accurate information system is key for planning, monitoring and evaluation
- To address global vaccine shortages, countries need to participate in global funds to have more negotiating power in the international vaccine market

Thank you!



Dr. Adolfo Martínez Valle

Professor & researcher

Research Center for Policy, Population and Health, UNAM

adolfo martinez valle@gmail.com