

Major Storm on the Horizon

Noncommunicable diseases and mental health conditions to cost South America trillions by 2050

GENERAL ARTICLE

<https://www.paho.org/en/news/15-7-2025-major-storm-horizon-ncds-and-mental-health-conditions-cost-south-america-trillions>

- according to Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) report
- Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and mental health conditions will cost South America over US\$ 7.3 trillion in lost productivity and healthcare spending between 2020 and 2050
- equivalent to the entire annual GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean
- Projections of NCDs and mental health for ten countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

MEDICAL ARTICLE

<https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/storm-noncommunicable-diseases-may-hit-south-america-2025a1000l3i>

- For every dollar invested in above interventions, the return on investment is estimated at between two and three dollars,”
- Every dollar invested in treating depression and anxiety generates at least four dollars in economic benefits.
- The question is not whether countries can afford to invest in mental health, but whether they can afford not to,
- There is only one health, not separating physical and mental health