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Portraits of children and young people during the pandemic: education

PNAD Covid19 is an experimental IBGE survey aimed at "estimating the number of people with referred symptoms associated with flu syndrome and monitor the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Brazilian labor market."

In addition, the research raises some aspects of the development of educational activities not available in the Continuous PNAD, which enable identifying problems that can cause school dropout, as well as consequences for social mobility.

In the document presented the reader will find information on school enrollment, face-to-face lessons, availability and the carrying out of activities, in the case of remote lessons. This and other information are presented with sociodemographic and regional cutouts, and even according to the Unit of the Federation.

The main message of the collection that we present to our readers is that access to activities and students' engagement with the school and its activities are strongly correlated with variables associated with household income and the level of education of the head of household. This is shown by several indicators.

This matters, as access and engagement are predictors of future quantity and quality of schooling, which in turn is closely associated with future income. In this way, the PNAD COVID19 makes it possible to observe these indicators in more detail than other household questionnaires, associating them with factors that may indicate causal mechanisms of (low) social mobility.

With the available data, we were able to verify that in November 2020 the percentage of face-to-face classes in Brazil was only 8%. Classes either did not exist or were predominantly "remote". But there were considerable differences:

- The percentage of face-to-face classes was 6% for children who lived with a head of household with incomplete primary education or less, compared to 13% among those whose guardians had at least completed higher education;
- Among the poorest 10%, 7% had face-to-face classes, which is 10 percentage points less than that observed among the richest 10%, with 17;
- The percentage of 6-to-17-year-old students who received school activities, including online classes, was over 95% in the southern states, Federal District, Ceará or Rondônia and up to 70% in Bahia, Roraima, Pará and Amapá.

All these elements and many others can be found by looking at our latest publication.

Good reading!

Paulo Tafner

CEO

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