

TEXT 01:

Telework, production and public expenditure: what have we learned from Covid-19?

(Rocha, AB et al. Revista do Serviço Público, 2021)

The work investigate the behavior of variables associated with production and public spending at the State Secretariat of Finance, Espírito Santo, Brazil, between March and July 2020, considering the broad adherence to teleworking in the period - which reached 93.2% of the total workers of the institution.

The phenomenon was one of the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic, which as a choice of local public policy involved social isolation and the need to adapt to not interrupt the provision of services. The research is quantitative, using a database extracted from institutional records of the main electronic systems used by the agency, with items of expenses analyzed using the Holt-Winters method and values at constant prices.

The results show that the production levels maintained an average behavior after the initial adaptation period and that the number of employees allocated in the period remained stable, with a slight downward trend. There was a reduction in spending items (water, electricity and travel) in relation to their historical values.

The work contributes to research in the area by presenting an empirical study involving teleworking and public administration, in a unique context provided by the pandemic, collaborating with quantitative information on public spending and production, which corroborate with perceptions identified in previous qualitative research. Regarding the identification of evidence that can support the development of public policies, there are indications that a robust planning to rationalize the use of physical environments and structures could have caused a reduction in other items of public expenditure.

Use the text above to answer the questions 01 and 02:

QUESTION 01: Mark the correct item:

- a) o trabalho investiga o comportamento de variáveis associadas à não produção e ao aumento do gasto público.
- b) houve baixa adesão ao teletrabalho no período chegou a alcançar 93,2% do total de trabalhadores do setor privado.
- c) o fenômeno, do teletrabalho, foi uma das consequências da pandemia de covid-19.**
- d) A escolha de política pública local, envolveu o não isolamento social e a necessidade de adaptação para interrupção da prestação de serviços.

QUESTION 02: Analyze the items below and mark the correct item:

I - Os resultados evidenciam que os níveis de produção mantiveram comportamento médio após período inicial de adaptação e que o número de servidores alocado no período manteve-se estável, com ligeira tendência de queda.

II - Houve redução de gastos em itens como água, energia elétrica e deslocamentos, em relação aos seus valores históricos.

III - O trabalho contribui com as pesquisas na área, ao apresentar um estudo empírico envolvendo teletrabalho e administração pública na pandemia, colaborando com informações quantitativas sobre gastos públicos e produção.

IV - Há indícios de que um planejamento robusto para racionalização da utilização dos ambientes e estruturas físicas pode ocasionar redução de outros itens de gasto público.

a) Todas as alternativas estão corretas

b) Todas as alternativas estão erradas

c) As alternativas I e II estão corretas; III e IV estão incorretas

d) As alternativas I e II estão incorretas; III e IV estão corretas

TEXT 02:

Does Ecological Sustainability Really Matter? Evaluation of Its Mediating Role in the Relationship between Innovation and Competitiveness

(Jacomossi, RR et al. Brazilian Administration Review, 2021)

Organizational studies highlight the role of innovation for competitiveness, but few of them address ecological sustainability as one of the variables in this relationship. The traditional model only considers economic growth to be anchored in the dimension of innovation, disregarding the environment.

Thus, the purpose of this study was to analyze the influence of ecological sustainability on the relationship between innovation and global competitiveness. To reach the goal of the manuscript, a database was used that included indicators from 119 countries present in the Global Competitiveness Report of WEF and the Global Innovation Index. The data were treated using regression analysis with mediation techniques.

The results suggest significant mediation of ecological sustainability in the relationship between innovation and global competitiveness. This work shows the importance of ecological sustainability to increase country's innovative activity and consequently its competitiveness. Additionally, it draws attention to the gap in studies that present these relationships at the country level.

In terms of practical contributions, the findings support the recommendation for companies to focus on actions to environmental and innovation management improving sustainability and increasing organizational performance and long-term survival. Finally, this research also draws attention to the lack of an important indicator of ecological sustainability in a report addressing countries' competitiveness.

Use the text above to answer the questions 03 and 04:

QUESTION 03: Mark the correct item:

a) o modelo inovador considera apenas o crescimento econômico ancorado na dimensão da inovação, desconsiderando o meio ambiente.

b) os estudos organizacionais destacam o papel da inovação para a competitividade, mas poucos abordam a sustentabilidade ecológica como uma das variáveis dessa relação.

c) o objetivo deste estudo foi analisar a influência da sustentabilidade ecológica na relação entre desmatamento e competitividade global.

d) os resultados não sugerem mediação significativa da sustentabilidade ecológica na relação entre inovação e ausência de competitividade .

QUESTION 04: Analyze the items below and mark the correct item:

I-Este trabalho mostra a importância da sustentabilidade ecológica para diminuir a atividade inovadora do país e conseqüentemente a sua competitividade.

II-Além disso, o trabalho, chama a atenção para a lacuna, entre inovação e gestão local, de estudos que apresentam essas relações em nível de municípios.

III-Em termos de contribuições práticas, os resultados apóiam a recomendação para que as empresas se concentrem em ações de gestão ambiental e de inovação, piorando a sustentabilidade e diminuindo o desempenho organizacional e a sobrevivência a curto prazo.

IV-Finalmente, esta pesquisa também chama a atenção para a grande quantidade de indicadores de sustentabilidade ecológica em um relatório sobre a competitividade dos países e municípios.

a)As alternativas I e II estão corretas; III e IV estão incorretas

b)As alternativas I e II estão incorretas; III e IV estão corretas

c)Todas as alternativas estão corretas

d)Todas as alternativas estão erradas

TEXT 03:

Here is a response to a debate on patents and medicine:

Mr. Przemek Kordasiewicz,

I agree wholeheartedly with your recommendation of a ban on all patents on all life saving medical discoveries. Again, I would take it a step further. I think that the virtues of a purely capitalist system seem to have fallen apart at this point.

In this literal life-and-death issue, ethics take priority over everything else. Just as Congress stepped forward to place a ban on the patenting of surgical procedures, they need to step forward and place a similar ban on these new medical patents (drugs, procedures and human genome work) which are having the identical effect. Additionally, Congress need to heavily legislate in favor of patients worldwide to keep drug patents limited, short, and drug prices at an affordable level.

Something in the system is wrong when drug companies are the most profitable of all publicly traded companies and huge populations across the world are living in pain and dying because they are unable to afford the sky-high drug prices, inflated by the patent holders' monopoly.

The government needs to look into the situation independently and take a stand for the well-being of the taxpayers and citizens they suppose to be representing.

Thank you,

Benjamin (Mako) Hill.

(Intellectual Property in Cyberspace 2000)

Use the text above to answer the questions 05 - 08:

QUESTION 05 - As regards capitalist policies for drug patents, the author:

- a) supports them;
- b) criticizes them;
- c) defines them;
- d) advertises them;

QUESTION 06 - The author thinks that patents on medical discoveries should be:

- a) guaranteed;
- b) adjusted;
- c) increased;
- d) forbidden

QUESTION 07 - “I agree wholeheartedly” means that Benjamin Hill agrees:

- a) entirely;
- b) emotionally;
- c) enticingly;
- d) enquiringly;

QUESTION 08 - The underlined expression in “to look into the situation” can be replaced by:

- a) alter;
- b) control;
- c) clarify;
- d) investigate;

TEXT 04

Trips Abroad When I was a little boy, I had a passion for maps. I looked for hours at South America or Africa or Australia, and lost myself in all the glories of exploration. At that time, there were many blank spaces on the earth, and when I saw one that looked particularly inviting on a map (but they all look like that) I put my finger and dreamt and said: “When I grow up I will go there”.

The North Pole was one of these places, I remember. Well, I haven’t been there yet, and will not try now. The glamour’s gone. But, nowadays it was not a blank space anymore. It had got filled since my boyhood with rivers and lakes and names. It had ceased to be a blank space of delightful mystery. A white patch for a boy to dream gloriously over. It had become a new place, a new world.

(Adapted from the Book Heart of Darkness, by Joseph Conrad).

Use the text above to answer the questions 09 and 10:

QUESTION 09: The author states in the text that:

- a) Most ships would not reach unknown lands at that time.
- b) His parents would not allow him to travel abroad.
- c) His enthusiasm towards exploration was only slight.
- d) Most blank spaces on maps looked inviting him.

QUESTION 10: By using the expression “The glamour’s gone”, the author means:

- a) The beauty of his youth is still with him in adult life.
- b) He discovered that he was wrong to like trips and exploration.
- c) Far and unknown lands no longer appeal him.
- d) The North Pole has already been conquered by the other explorers.