

Leaving no one behind in the labor market: a fuzzy multidimensional analysis of vulnerability in Brazil

Abstract

With the purpose of leaving no one behind, this paper proposes two fuzzy labor market vulnerability indexes (LMVI) that include people inside and outside the labor market. The first is an individual-based index to analyze to which extent a person is vulnerable in terms of the capacity of achieving full potential in work and career, finding and seizing employment opportunities, and having a decent job. The second index is a household-based measure to evaluate the share of vulnerable members in the labor market in each household. The intention of the second index is to understand if vulnerable people or people outside the labor force (e.g., dependents) can have support from members of their household that are working and are not vulnerable. Using the Continuous National Household Sample Survey (PNADC), the study applies the LMVIs to the Brazilian context and compares 2016 and 2019. The outcomes reveal that the average degree of vulnerability was high and had a slow change between the years. Although education levels improved, precarity and other labor deprivations did not make progress in the period. Within subgroups, the most vulnerable are people from rural areas, from the north and northeast states, Black, Brown, Indigenous people, and young adults, which corroborates the usual inequalities patterns in Brazil.

Keywords: Multidimensional indicators · Labor market · Vulnerability · Fuzzy-set approach · Latin America · Brazil