When Science Strikes Back

Tables and Figures

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Summary of Data Sources

Table 1: Summary of Data Sources

Data Source	Description
Base dos Dados (Dahis et al., 2022) and Tribunal Superior Eleitoral (TSE)	Information on mayors and elections.
RAIS (Brazilian Ministry of Labor database)	Occupation data.
SIVEPGripe	Epidemiological outcomes data (hospitalizations, deaths).
2010 Brazilian National Census	Demographic data.
IEPS Data Index	Public health data.
Power and Rodrigues-Silveira (2019)	Ideological measures.
De Souza Santos et al. (2021) and National Confederation of Municipalities (CNI)	Data on Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs) between May and July 2020.

Main Variables in the Study

Table 2: Main Variables in the Study

Variable	Description
Cases per 100k inhabitants	Number of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 inhabitants, based on municipal data.
Hospitalizations per 100k inhabitants	Number of hospitalizations due to COVID-19 per 100,000 inhabitants.
Deaths per 100k inhabitants	Number of deaths from COVID-19 per 100,000 inhabitants.
STEM candidate	Indicator for whether a candidate has worked in STEM for at least 6 months or holds a STEM degree.
STEM occupation	Defined as per CBO classification list by Machado et al. (2021).
STEM education	Based on data from Escavador, social media, and machine learning classification.
STEM winning margin	Vote margin between the first and second most-voted candidates, positive if a STEM candidate won.
Cohort	List of candidates registered in the 2016 local executive elections.
Tenure	Employment time in a STEM occupation, calculated using RAIS data.

Summary Statistics

	N	Min	Mean	Max	SD
Tenure.in.STEM.job	465	0.00	19.44	168.10	38.80
Female	465	0.00	0.09	1.00	0.29
Age	465	26.00	49.82	86.00	11.37
Education	465	2.00	6.90	7.00	0.49
Incumbent.when.elected	465	0.00	0.23	1.00	0.42
Party.ideology	465	-0.69	0.29	0.76	0.37
Deaths.per.100k.inhabitants	465	0.00	129.99	681.88	89.01
Hospitalizations.per.100k.inhabitants	465	13.48	421.09	1582.03	295.86
Cordon.sanitaire	138	0.00	0.48	1.00	0.50
Face.covering.required	135	0.00	0.95	1.00	0.22
Closure.of.non.essential.activities	136	0.00	0.76	1.00	0.43
Gathering.prohibition	136	0.00	0.99	1.00	0.12
Public.transport.restriction	134	0.00	0.51	1.00	0.50
Number.of.Non.Pharmaceutical.Interventions	133	1.00	3.69	5.00	0.90

	N	Min	Mean	Max	SD
Log.of.population.in.2010	465	7.28	9.98	14.49	1.22
Human.Development.Index	465	0.47	0.68	0.84	0.07
Per.capita.income	465	5.23	24.58	203.12	20.31
Population.density	465	0.68	139.99	6182.96	492.14
Urban.population.rate	465	-80.55	-27.09	1.00	20.53
Men.population.rate	465	46.37	50.00	61.78	1.58
Physicians.per.1k.inhabitants	465	0.00	0.92	6.18	0.76
Health.municipal.spending.rate	465	7.92	22.83	37.08	5.06
Community.health.agency.coverage.rate	465	0.00	84.94	100.00	22.74
Hospital.beds.per.100k.population	465	0.00	143.12	816.50	131.26

: Summary Statistics

Notes: This table aggregates the summary statistics of all the observations used in the study (465). Municipalities chosen were those that held ordinary elections in selected years (2016, 2020) whose mayor was elected in the first round and among the top two most voted was a STEM candidate and a Non-STEM one with college degree. NPI data has null values since not all the mayors responded to the survey.