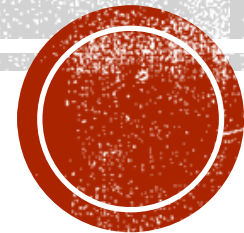


GIVING AID TO THOSE MOST IN NEED: ASSESSING BRAZIL'S COVID-19 EMERGENCY INCOME BENEFIT FOR WORKERS

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COVID-19 PANDEMIC CRISIS IN BRAZIL

- Federal Government's absence from a coordinated and centralized response to the pandemic.
- Law #13.979/2020: sanitary and social distancing measures.
- Law 14.020/2020: emergency program, aimed at maintaining jobs and income for formal workers.
- Law #13.982 in March 2020: emergency income benefit (*auxílio emergencial*) to alleviate the loss of income for informal, self-employed and unemployed workers.



EMERGENCY INCOME BENEFIT

- Between April 7 and May 15/2020: 118,291,454 EIB applications were made, of which 59,291,753 (50%) were granted.
- In 2020, the number of beneficiaries reached almost 67 million.
- If we include the beneficiaries' family members, more than half of the Brazilian population, or around 126.2 million people, benefitted from the EIB.
- It reduced extreme poverty from 6.5 % to 3.3 % of the population (seven million people).



- This paper uses qualitative analysis of court rulings to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of this policy response.

- Data from the Federal Court decisions within the State

of Ceará during April 2020 to March 2021.

- 3 Parts:
 - EIB's main Legal Features
 - Flaws in the Program
 - The Data.



EMERGENCY INCOME BENEFIT MAIN LEGAL FEATURES

- Cumulative requirements, among them, work as an individual self-employed microentrepreneur (MEI), or an individual contributor to the General Social Security System, or an informal worker.
- Unified Registry for Social Programs of the Federal Government (CadÚnico)
- Digital platform in a federal public bank (CAIXA | Auxílio Emergencial)



In May 2020, 19,2 million beneficiaries of the emergency benefit were registered in CadÚnico and were already receiving Bolsa Família; 10,4 million beneficiaries were also registered in CadÚnico, but did not receive Bolsa Família; and 29,3 million beneficiaries registered through Caixa/Auxílio Emergencial online platform and were never registered in CadÚnico.



FLAWS IN THE EMERGENCY INCOME BENEFIT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

- Discontinuity from January to March 2021;
- Reduction of its value, from April 2021 onwards;
- Unjustified inclusion of beneficiaries (7.3m);
- Exclusion of potential worthy recipients (3.3m).

Combination of both traditional methods, i.e., human-based, as well as new technologies, such as digital apps, for identifying vulnerable individuals.



THE DATA

- 50 court decisions from Federal Courts in the state of Ceará from April 2020 to March 2021
- Website of the Federal Justice in Ceará – www.jfce.jus.br.

Table 1: Questions asked of the 50 Cases in our analysis

1. Court's Location
2. What is the plaintiff 's sex?
3. Did the applicant benefit from the EIB receive any other aid before the request of the EIB?
4. Did the applicant receive unemployment insurance?
5. Did the claimant who was denied EIB have annual taxable income above R\$28,559.70?
6. Did the applicant have an employment relationship prior to requesting EIB?
7. Was the applicant a member of a family benefiting from the *Bolsa Família* Program?
8. In the decision of the Special Federal Court, were there inconsistencies in the composition of the family group?
9. Did the family have a member registered in the CadÚnico who had already received the EIB?
10. Does the plaintiff have dependents in his/her family composition?
11. Is there any discrepancy between the information in the Single Registry and the self-declaration signed by the plaintiff?
12. Did the decision attribute a greater degree of confidence to the Federal Government's Single Registry for Social Programs system (Cadúnico) or to the request for emergency aid made in the Caixa Econômica Federal application (Solic.)?
13. What document or information on the EIB plaintiff 's record generated the controversy in the case?
14. Is the EIB plaintiff a public official?
15. Did the plaintiff present evidence for the denial of the information that he/she was a civil servant?
16. Was there extinction without resolution of merit?
17. Was the EIB granted?

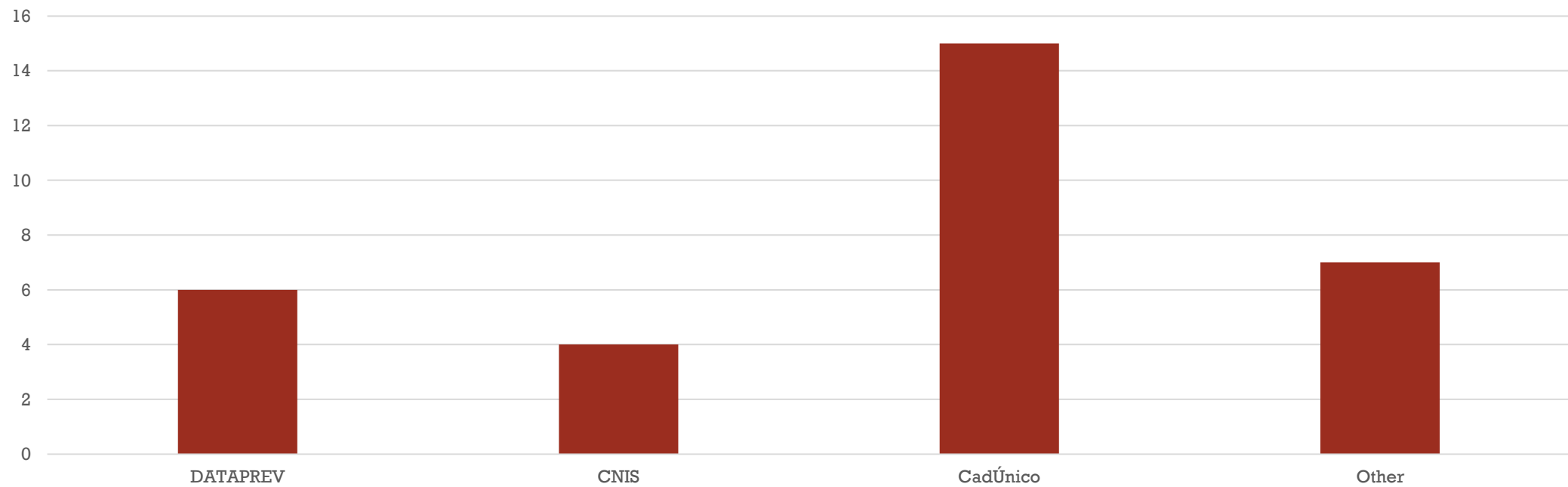


SUMMARY FEATURES

Case Characteristics	Results
1. Location	22% Fortaleza 78% Interior
2. Plaintiff Sex	42% Female
3. The applicant received another type of assistance before the request of the EIB	14%
4. The applicant received unemployment insurance	4%
5. Did the claimant who was denied emergency aid have annual taxable income above R\$28,559.70?	2%
6. The applicant had an employment relationship prior to requesting emergency aid.	14%
7. The applicant was a member of a family benefiting from the Bolsa Família Program.	16%
8. Inconsistencies in the composition of the family group found in the decision of the Special Federal Court.	38%
9. Did the family have a member registered in the CadÚnico who had already received the aid?	32%
10. Applicants with dependents in his/her family.	2%
11. The court decision placing confidence on the Federal Government's Single Registry for Social Programs system (CadÚnico) or on the request for emergency aid made through the Caixa Econômica Federal application (Solic.)	Solic. 58% CadÚnico: 8%
12. Discrepancy found between the information in the Single Registry and the self-declaration signed by the applicant?	38%
14. The emergency aid applicant was a public official.	4%
15. Did the applicant present evidence for the denial of the information that he was a civil servant?	2%
16. Extinction without resolution of merit?	24%
17. Aid granted by the Court	46%



Which document or information on the aid applicant's record generated the controversy in the case?



Citizenship Basic Income from 2022?

