The stage of Brazil's National Health Promotion Policy implementation through official document records



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Health Promotion (HP) policy has taken place in a procedural way in the different Brazilian national regions. **Territories that develop their own HP policies**, focusing on regional issues and demands generated by local reality, **achieved more successful results**.

BACKGROUND

Health Promotion (HP), based on the commitment established in the Alma-Ata Declaration (1978) and the Ottawa Charter (1986), emerged in recent years as a strategy to act in multiple problems that affect populations and their surroundings. Furthermore, 17 Sustainable Development Goals were established with concrete actions to protect life as a United Nations international agreement. To achieve some of those goals, countries have invested in HP approaches that can reduce health inequities and promote health. Brazil, for instance, established a National Health Promotion Policy in 2006, however little is known about its implementation stages. The objective of the present study was to understand, based on a corpus of documents, the stages of HP implementation in Brazil's five geopolitical regions.

METHODS

On the official websites of 10 states and 48 municipalities, situated in all Brazil's regions, 998 documents presenting significant elements about HP actions were identified and pre-analyzed. Of those, 291 became part of the in-depth analysis corpus, in which the type of document was correlated with the status of HP development.

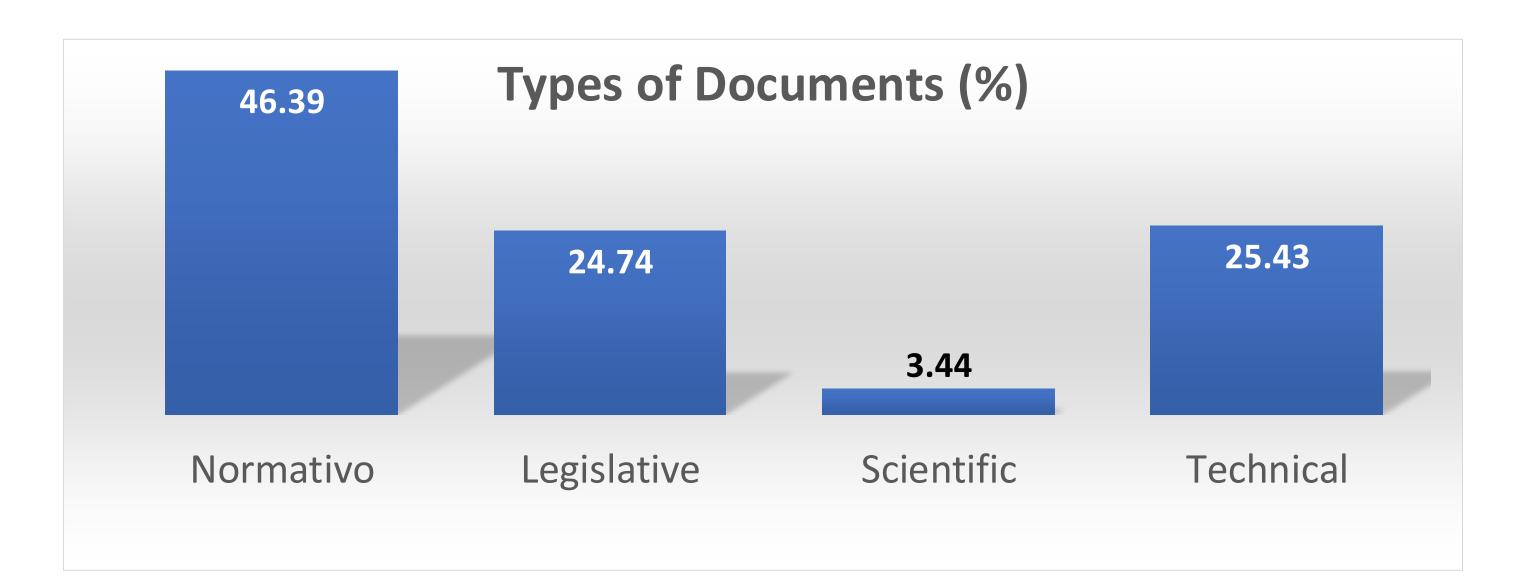
Figure 1: Location (states) of data collection in the 5 different regions of Brazil



RESULTS

The corpus was made up of normative (46.39%), legislative (24.74%), scientific (3.44%) and technical (25.43%) documents. Normative documents predominated in four out of the five regions - Northeast (41.9%), Central-West (71.4%), North (60%) and South (51%); while in the Southeast region, Technical Production (61.3%) was more prevalent.

RESULTS (continuation)



☐ The prevalence of normative documents





Are indicative of a directive status for the HP operationalization, which means that the HP policy is still on its initial stages of implementation.

- ☐ In the southeast (gray) region, a more advance stage of HP policy implementation can be noted. Notably, this is the region where some state HP policies have also been implemented in this century.
- □ It is possible to observe that the implementation of the HP policy has taken place in a procedural way in the different national territories. However, those territories that develop their own policies, focusing on regional issues and demands generated by local reality, seem to achieve more successful results than those that do not develop their own policies.
- ☐ The HP policy presents itself as a guide with a more theoretical than practical aspect, and if there are specific policies, they are centered on actions in accordance with the demand of the territory or aligned with the programs and actions of the Primary Care Calendar.

In conclusion, it was observed that, in Brazil, HP still occupies a space in the normative field, with guidelines on how to plan and organize activities related to its HP policy. It is important to rethink strategies and concentrate efforts to potentialize HP policy implementation.

ADDITIONAL KEY INFORMATION

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