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Indigenous Suffering: Panorama of the Pandemic in the Pernambucan Community

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: To present the current panorama of the distribution of cases of COVID-19 among the indigenous population in the state of Pernambuco. **Methods:** This is a retrospective study conducted on secondary electronic databases in the public domain, reflecting the exemption of appreciation by the Ethics Committee. The database consulted was of the Center for Strategic Information on Health Surveillance (CIEVS) in the State of Pernambuco. The reference period for collection was from April 1st to October 2nd, 2020. Epidemiological bulletins and virtual monitoring reports, available on the CIEVS website, were analyzed. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistical techniques based on obtaining absolute and percentage frequencies. **Results:** According to the last Census, Pernambuco corresponds to the 4th state with the largest self-declared indigenous population (53,284 people), with twelve ethnic groups spread across the state territory. Related to the distribution of cases of infection by COVID-19, a data from the last Bulletin (No. 215/2020) indicated that among the most affected indigenous ethnic groups with confirmed cases, Funi-Ô stands out with 214 confirmed cases and five deaths while the Xucuru group had 110 confirmed cases and one registered death. **Conclusion:** The results showed that the COVID-19 pandemic is a serious Public Health problem among the indigenous population of the state of Pernambuco. Thus, the responsibility of the state health management to define strategies that minimize the transmission of the disease in the indigenous population is reinforced, together with the development of health promotion and prevention and infection control actions.

Keywords: Coronavirus Infections. Access to Information. Indigenous Population.

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