

Dynamics of employment and human development in the municipality of Porto Nacional – TO: Perspectives and realities¹

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ABSTRACT

This article is the result of a scientific initiation research. The theoretical analysis was based on a literature review and the empirical analysis was based on fieldwork with the application of interviews and the collection of statistical data on employment in the database of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics and in the Atlas of Human Development of 2000 and 2013. It aims to analyze, evaluate the dynamics of employment, evolution and human development in Porto Nacional – TO. The empirical investigation was developed based on statistical data collected in the IBGE and UNDP databases and interviews with union leaders. The results of this research are presented in the form of tables and graphs in the text.

Keywords: Employment, Work, Human development.

INTRODUCTION

The municipality of Porto Nacional is one of the oldest in Tocantins. According to Oliveira (2009), the village of Porto Nacional had its origin around the last decade of the eighteenth century and the beginning of the nineteenth century, with the formation of a small village known as Arraial Novo do Porto Real do Pontal. By 1810, it had become a regional center in the region. The village of Porto Real was surrounded by other important gold settlements, arousing the Royal Power great interest in the mineral wealth (gold) of the region. Although Porto Real (Porto Nacional) did not have gold, it was a place of embarkation and disembarkation of miners, to strategic locations on the banks of the Tocantins River. The transportation of mineral production was carried out by the Tocantins River to Belém-PA. Currently, the municipality of Porto Nacional is located in the Eastern Mesoregion and in the Microregion of Porto Nacional do Tocantins, 52 km from the capital Palmas and comprises an area of approximately 4,449.918 km² distributed in an approximate population of 52,828 inhabitants (IBGE, 2017). Map 01, below, shows the geographical location of Porto Nacional.

In its history, Porto Nacional has had several names in its daily life, that is, at the time of colonization (being called Porto Real), in the empire (Porto Imperial) and in the republic (Porto

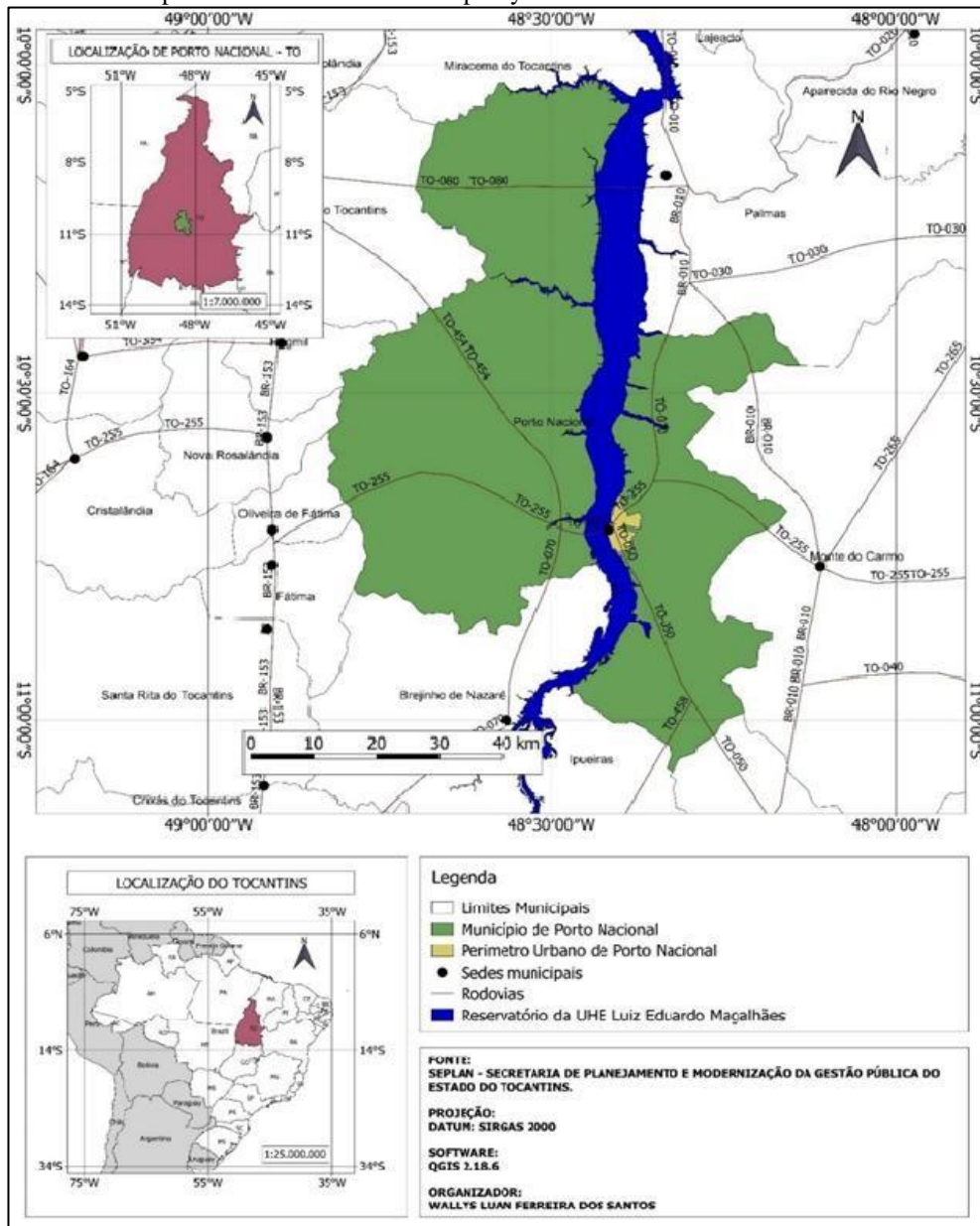
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Nacional). The city of Porto Nacional, in its centennial history, has its identity linked to the Tocantins River, where for a long time it was the main route for the arrival of goods and people. The navigation of the Tocantins River enabled the city to become an economic reference center for the south-central region of Tocantins. But after the construction of the BR-153 highway, which runs through the state of Tocantins from north to south, the river ended up losing its importance. Road transport began to overlap the waterway, and the city of Porto Nacional also ended up losing its economic and geographical importance in the regional context.

Map 1 – Location of the municipality of Porto Nacional- Tocantins-Brazil



Source: Secretariat of Planning and Public Management of Tocantins.



Currently, the rail transport traced by the North-South Railway that passes through the municipality, has great economic influence for the region. Mainly, with the creation of the multimodal yard, located on the TO-080 highway, near the village of Luzimangue, 12 km from Palmas, with a total area of approximately 70 hectares, where types of cargo of agricultural *commodities*, fertilizers, liquid/fuel bulk are accommodated. It is expected that the economy of Porto Nacional will have a new boost with the installation of the Multimodal integration yard of the North-South Railway (inaugurated in 2010) that interconnects the modalities of road, rail and river transport. With this, it also accelerates the process of economic and regional development around the municipality.

On the other hand, it is important to note that the modernization of agriculture, more precisely, from 1980 onwards, allowed a greater strength of the municipality's economy. Another important fact for the municipality was the construction of Palmas in 1989, with only 63 kilometers away from the city of Porto Nacional, which began to show a new panorama in the economy of the municipality. In other words, the proximity of the city of Porto Nacional to the capital Palmas allowed the regional development axis to relatively shift from the BR-153 axis to the East in the south-central portion of the state, benefiting the micro-region of Porto Nacional. Directly or indirectly, these facts stimulated economic development for the municipality. However, these are specific facts that contributed to development in a limited way, affecting regional and human development for the municipality.

The economy of Tocantins stands out for three sectors, that is, according to IBGE (2010), the services sector corresponds to 58.1% of the GDP, followed by the industry sector with 24.1% and finally the agriculture sector which corresponds to 17.8% of the state GDP. It can be seen that the state and, consequently, the municipality of Porto Nacional, still has a poorly diversified economy, which represents an unconsolidated economy. But if we compare the ranking of the municipality in the state context and, especially in the context of the micro-region of Porto Nacional, we can see that the situation of the municipality in these spheres is comfortable. That is, according to IBGE data, in the ranking among the 5,570 municipalities in the country. Porto Nacional is in the position of 1166th, and in the state ranking among the 139 municipalities, Porto Nacional is in the position of 11th. In the micro-region of Porto Nacional among the 11 municipalities, Porto Nacional is in the position of 3rd place.

The municipality's economy, which is not diversified and is still developing, does not create much expectation for the creation and evolution of employment and for human development.

This thesis needs to be empirically verified through the empirical and theoretical data collected. The following text seeks to discuss theoretically and empirically, in order to have an understanding of the evolution and dynamics of employment and human development in Porto Nacional. The text seeks to raise theoretical questions that enable an understanding of the theme - dynamics and evolution of employment and human development in Porto Nacional - TO: perspectives and realities. The research explores the



geographical approaches that focus on the relationships between employment and human development and highlights the elements that constitute the dynamics and evolution of employment in Porto Nacional.

The research on this theme is justified by the need to know the territory of employment, the dynamics and its evolution of the municipality of Porto Nacional. In this context, it is necessary to have a discussion about the concept of employment and work, based on authors who can give theoretical support to the debated theme. The empirical investigation was developed based on statistical data collected in the IBGE and UNDP databases and interviews with union leaders. The results of this research are presented in the form of tables, graphs in the text. The methodological procedures of the research are based, above all, on primary and secondary sources in order to provide theoretical and empirical subsidies for the analysis of the topic in question.

THEORETICAL-METHODOLOGICAL ASSUMPTIONS OF THE RESEARCH

A literature review was carried out on the research theme - dynamics and evolution of employment and human development in Porto Nacional - TO. The search for supporting documents enabled the theoretical conceptualization of employment and the critical analysis of the dynamics, evolution and development of employment in Porto Nacional - TO. Through the analysis of the statistical data collected in the IBGE and UNDP databases, it enabled the good progress of the research and direction of the successive stages of fieldwork and empirical investigation. This methodological procedure allowed the authors to observe the dynamics and evolution of employment in Porto Nacional - TO.

In the fieldwork, visits were made to the trade unions of commercial sector workers in Porto Nacional to conduct interviews with union leaders. From the literature review and the fieldwork, it was possible to proceed with the verifiability of the observed facts. With this methodological procedure, it was possible to prepare tables and graphs in Excel in order to visualize the dynamics, evolution and development of employment in Porto Nacional. The analysis of the dynamics and evolution of employment and human development in Porto Nacional-TO aims to provide subsidies for the understanding and broad and in-depth theoretical discussion between 1995 and 2014.

The key central concept in our analysis is the notion of employment and its spatiality. There is a confusion between employment and work. These concepts, however, are quite distinct. To provide greater clarity, the text first deals with the notion of work, and then with the notion of employment. According to Santos (1999), the period called feudalism inaugurated new ways of relating to work; based on the needs of each feudal cell: the disappearance of practically all professions (exercised by free men) and artisans, the maintenance of trades (which were passed from father to son, for example: blackmaker, baker, etc.) and *status quo* - the former slave becomes a serf.



With the French Revolution, new ideas (liberty, fraternity and equality) were inaugurated, which, far from modifying the system of real autocratic domination, which since the emergence of the first civilizations became the human maxim, replaced it by a new class (of old free men), called the bourgeoisie, as oppressive or more oppressive than the one that succeeded. This new class, supported by science, began to determine a differentiated social relationship, no longer only based on the creation of techniques for survival or even the ownership of land and people, but also on the management and formation of capital - profit. It is the revolution of ideas, attitudes, beliefs, values, mixed with the emergence of industries, of the idea of employment. People are no longer defined by what they are, but by what they do. It was necessary to understand and master new skills, in addition to assimilating fixed schedules and adapting to the rigidity of the task, that is, with industrialization the worker was transformed into a worker.

According to Marx (1983, p.149), "[...] The work reveals the way in which man deals with nature, the process of production by which he sustains his life, and thus lays bare the mode of formation of his social relations and the ideas that flow from them." Work is a social activity, necessary for the material and moral progress of humanity. Work is as old as humanity. It can be imagined that, from the moment that man has become conscious of his individuality, he has also become aware of work as an indispensable activity for his survival and progress. Work is an activity inherent to the human condition and has always existed, regardless of the prevailing mode of production.

For Albornoz (1988), work is the activity corresponding to the artificiality of human existence, an action corresponding to the human condition. It is through work that man creates things from what he extracts from nature, converting the world into a space of shared objects. The first is a process of transformation of nature for the satisfaction of man's vital needs. The second is a process of transformation of nature to respond to the needs of human beings. Work is an activity of the individual that can be confused with occupation. The use of the term occupation in Social Sciences follows the common sense, which is that of employment, business or profession. A person's occupation is the kind of work done by him, regardless of the industry in which that work is performed and the *status* that the employment confers on the individual. According to Ramos (1989), work is not an occupation, all social classes have their form of occupation, and all people maintain their occupation. Like the peasant, the proprietor, in so far as he retains a function, has his occupation. What characterizes the worker or worker, in the narrowest sense, is that he works for someone else.

According to Bridges (1995), the word employment, in the English language, has its origin in 1400 A.D. Until the beginning of the eighteenth century, it referred to some task or certain undertaking; It never referred to a role or a position in an organization. From the nineteenth century onwards, it came to be understood as work carried out in factories or in the bureaucracies of nations undergoing industrialization.



Employment is a phenomenon of modernity. Employment is a specific consequence of capitalism. It is the formal link between the worker and the capitalist mode of production. On the other hand, unemployment is characterized as the non-possibility of salaried work in organizations (enterprises) in general. We can say that unemployment means the condition of the person without some acceptable means of earning a living and the unemployed are people who are able to work to satisfy their needs but without income.

The modern connotation of the term employment reflects the relationship between the individual and the organization where a productive task is performed, in which the worker (individual) receives payment for the activities performed (by the work) in a market economy. From the twentieth century onwards, jobs became more common and important due to the fact that they became the almost only and available path to security and satisfaction of the worker's survival needs, in life in general. However, in today's world when it comes to employment, what we see most often is unemployment, triggered by the technological revolution and, above all, by legislation passed by the National Congress, such as the Outsourcing Law and Labor Reform. Bridges (1995, p.36-37) reinforces this reasoning, stating that, "(...) Now, however, they are disappearing from the economic landscape.

Like many species caught in the ebb and flow of evolution, jobs emerged under one set of conditions and have now begun to fade under another.

In short, we have the terms employment, unemployment, unemployed and employer, which are different expressions of the notions of work and worker. Employment is a concept that emerged within the context of the Industrial Revolution. Employment means a relationship between men who sell their labour power for a value to the owners of the means of production (entrepreneurs). It is a kind of contract in which the owners of the means of production pay for the labor of someone else – the worker. Unemployment indicates the lack of jobs. Unemployed refers to the worker who does not have an employment relationship - no income. And employer refers to the owners of the means of production – the entrepreneurs. Work is the energy and action that the individual performs on a given paid task. The worker refers to and represents a social class within capitalist society that sells its labor power to the capitalists or businesswoman. That is, the only commodity that the worker has to sell within capitalist society is his labor power. Its value is conditioned by the logic of the market.

Marx (1961) states that:

(...) Labor power, then, was the ability to work or potential labor. When labour-power was sold as a commodity, its use-value was simply the performance of labour—that which was incorporated into the commodity, thus giving it value. Therefore, the only possible source of surplus-value was the difference between the value of labour-power as a commodity (or potential labour) and the value of the commodity produced, which embodied the labour realised (or consumed use-value of labour-power). Labour-power was an absolutely unique commodity: its consumption or use created new value, which sufficed not only to replace its original value, but also to generate surplus-value. (...) The existence of labour-power as a commodity depended on two essential conditions. In the first place, labour-power can appear on the market as a commodity only to the extent that its owner, the



individual who has this labour-power, offers it for sale as a commodity. In order for him to be able to do this ... he will have to be, without any hindrance, the owner of his capacity for labour, that is, of his person ... the owner of labour-power must sell it only for a certain time, for if he had to sell it totally and forever, he would be selling himself, transforming himself from a free man into a slave. The second essential condition is that the labourer, instead of being in a position to sell commodities in which his labour is embodied, is obliged to offer for sale as a commodity his own labour-power, which he alone has. (MARX, 1961, 168-169).

In the words of Marx (1961), it is labor that generates surplus value for the owners of the means of production to whom the workers sell their labor power. Labor power is a commodity like any other, which can be sold. The worker sells his labour-power, therefore it is a commodity. The worker will have time to sell his labour-power, because if he sells forever, he will not be a free man, he will become a slave. This social condition of the worker makes him subordinate to the logic of capital and capitalist interests. That is, if labor power is a commodity, then the capitalist buys this commodity at the lowest price within the logic of the market economy. If there are a lot of unemployed workers, then the labor force can become cheaper.

With regard to the theoretical debate on the concept of human development, especially in the social sciences, as a rule, it should be based on an interdisciplinary view. Silva; Panhoca (2007) state that the concept of human development is based on the assumption that in order to measure the advancement of a population, one should not only consider the economic dimension, but also other social, cultural and political characteristics and other dimensions such as sexual, psychosocial and cognitive. Moura and Pereira (2017) state that for the United Nations Human Development Program (UNDP), development emerges as a process of expanding people's freedoms, in relation to their capacities and the opportunities available to them, so that they can choose the life they want to have. This perspective encompasses economic, environmental, political and social factors, considered relevant in the realization of many possibilities for people, accompanied by the existence of a context that promotes the full exercise of their potential.

The UNDP points out that although income and financial resources are relevant, economic growth is no longer paramount and becomes a mediator, being surpassed by the human factor. This conception reinforces the idea of income and resources conceived as means of development, no longer configuring their own end. However, the UNDP developed the Human Development Index (HDI) as an alternative to the economic indicator based on Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which for many years was the only measure of development. (MOURA; PEREIRA, 2017)

It is important to remember that the Municipal Human Development Index, in the Brazilian case, is prepared based on statistical data provided by the IBGE. This process of accounting and organizing UNDP statistical data is carried out through a partnership with the IBGE. The HDI represents a set of social indicators for the evaluation of human development. We have the Gender Inequality Index (GDI)



which measures inequalities based on gender in three dimensions – reproductive health, autonomy and economic activity. Reproductive health is measured by maternal mortality and fertility rates among adolescent girls; autonomy is measured by the proportion of parliamentary seats held by each gender and the attainment of secondary or tertiary education by each gender; and economic activity is measured by the labor force participation rate for each gender.

In 1997, the Human Poverty Index (HPI) appeared in the Human Development Report (RDH) to assist in the process of assessing the situations of multidimensional poverty and deprivation with access to health, nutrition or housing, as situations of obstacle to human development, especially at the level of the States of the Southern Hemisphere. The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) identifies multiple deprivations in education, health and standard of living in the same households. All the indicators needed to prepare the MPI for a household are obtained from the same household survey. The HPI seeks to compute both the number of people who are multidimensionally poor and the intensity of their poverty.

MPI is defined according to ten indicators, each of which is equally related to its respective size. There are three dimensions: health, education and standard of living. For the health dimension, indicators related to the infant mortality rate and nutrition are counted. For the education dimension, the indicators of the years of schooling and the number of children enrolled. For the dimension of the standard of living, six indicators concur: access to electricity; access to clean drinking water; access to appropriate sanitation; access to fuel for cooking; access to a house with an earthen floor; and, if they do not have a car, the ownership of a maximum of two of the following assets: bicycle, motorcycle, radio, telephone and television, (UNDP, 2013).

Another widely used social indicator is the Gini Index, created by the Italian mathematician Conrado Gini. It is an instrument to measure the degree of concentration of income in a given group. He points out the difference between the incomes of the poorest and the richest. Numerically, it ranges from zero to one (some have from zero to one hundred). The zero value represents the situation of equality, that is, everyone has the same income. The value one (or a hundred) is at the opposite extreme, that is, one person holds all the wealth. In practice, the Gini Index usually compares the poorest 20% with the richest 20%.

The IBGE uses other variables to assess the degree of development of a region or country, such as: per capita income per municipality; family income - per capita - average - minimum wage; school dropout - people in the age group of 10 to 14 years working (%); life expectancy at birth - year; infant mortality (per thousand live births); Municipal GDP; households with electric lighting - in urban and rural households; rural and urban resident population - inhabitant; rural and urban economically active population, etc. These indicators, in fact, indicate or point to a certain trend in the evolution of social



conditions and work with abstract statistical data and with a mean coefficient that may not reflect the real one.

Regarding the spatial issue of work, Moreira (2000) states that each era of work implies a certain form of "arrangement of space" that regulates it. Technique is the dynamic element of this change. Every time the technical period changes, the form of spatial regulation correspondingly changes, and so does the world of work. This kind of spatial law has been the norm for the organization of space, society, and the world of work in the history of capitalism.

For Thomaz Junior and Gonçalves (2002), the order of the movement of reproduction of capital builds a society of the most varied spatial and territorial expressions based on the dynamics of work. For these geographers, the organization/reorganization of society for production implies, in addition to a resizing of work, in a spatial and territorial reorganization of society. This spatial and territorial reorganization of the labor market translates into the territorial division of labor at the most varied spatial scales, from the classical International Division of Labor to the local scale.

The territorial division of labor brought about by capital is linked both to the expansive need of capital and to capital's own geography. This means that by expanding, it reproduces spatial inequalities, with appreciation in some places and devaluation in others. This logic of capital, that is, the geographical mobility of capital, is what draws the various regions considered developed, underdeveloped, rich and poor, thus redesigning the territorial division of labor. The uneven development of capitalism fosters transformation and creates regionally differentiated labor markets.

According to Carvalhal (2008), unemployment and job insecurity are not technically neutral variables that cannot be analyzed under the sieve of the class struggle. The selective adoption of the technical and organizational paradigms of productive restructuring unequally affects the economic sectors and places of capitalist accumulation, constructing the territoriality of capital. Such territoriality has in the scalar and temporal displacement, assets that it uses to exert its domination over the social totality, sometimes unifying the countryside and the city under the paradigm of salaried labor, sometimes promoting differentiations in labor relations, such as the subordination of family labor through integration contracts.

With the arrival of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, technological advances lead to the replacement of workers by machines in activities that require physical and non-physical efforts, causing "technological unemployment". It is an undesirable situation for the worker, as it causes unemployment and those who are rehired return to work with a salary, on average, 30% lower than the previous salary. Faced with this situation, the challenge is great for workers. The question is: how can people's survival in such conditions be ensured? One of the alternatives would be possible through the struggle and politically organized mobilization of the working class.



According to Woleck (2002, p. 10), contemporary capitalism has, in recent decades, engendered profound changes in the labor market. These changes are mainly expressed by the globalization of finance, the growing precariousness of labor relations, high unemployment rates, the geographic displacement of productive and labor-absorbing organisms, and the elimination of jobs in industry and services. These changes place the capitalist mode of production as a very dynamic, but also very perverse, capitalist society.

The capitalist mode of production, in order to continue surviving, must constantly restructure its bases of production in geographical space. This restructuring is commonplace in moments of crisis in the mode of production. The crises of capitalism are constant, they just change from place to place. In order to circumvent the crises and continue the reproduction of the process of capitalist accumulation, there is a need to restructure the bases of production. Restructuring can arise in two ways: through the geographical mobility of capital, that is, in this mobility capital needs to occupy new spaces and new markets. And technological restructuring, which is more common, has a direct impact on the labor market.

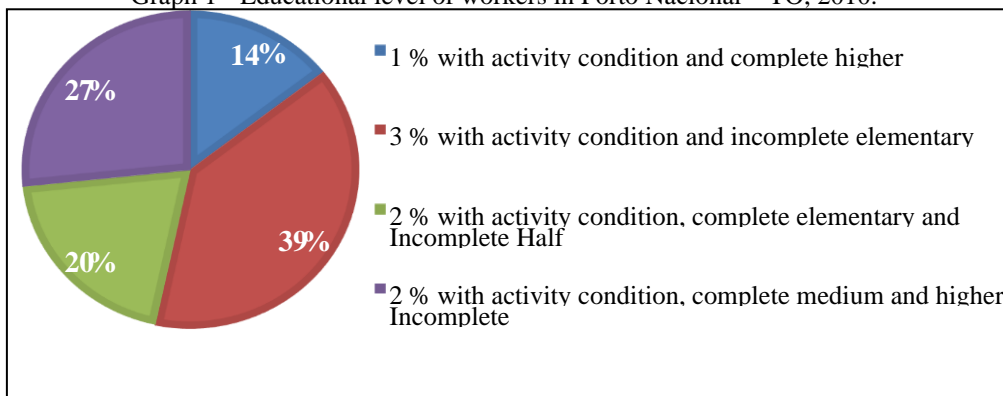
In other words, the labor market becomes a variable, which can have its dynamics according to the crises and restructuring of the capitalist means of production. It is from this theoretical framework that the analysis of the dynamics and performance of employment in Porto Nacional-TO is made.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

During the research it was possible to verify some trends and performance of social indicators in Porto Nacional-TO. Porto Nacional occupies the 764th position among the 5,565 Brazilian municipalities according to the MHDI. In this ranking, the highest MHDI is 0.862 (São Caetano do Sul) and the lowest is 0.418 (Melgaço-PA) according to data from UNDP (2013). In other words, it is a reasonable position of the municipality, in the national context with regard to human development indicators compared to other Brazilian municipalities. The HDI of the municipality has improved significantly in the last three decades, evolving from 0.424 in 1991 to 0.740 in 2010 (IBGE, 2010).

According to the 2010 IBGE Demographic Census, the municipality had 49,146 inhabitants, 42,435 urban and 6,711 rural, which characterizes a municipality with a high rate of urbanization. According to data from the IBGE Demographic Census, Porto Nacional has 13,774 permanent private households, of which 3,495 households with nominal monthly household income classes of 1 to 2 minimum wages. If we establish an estimate that each household has 5 people, then we will have a total of 8,430 people, which represents another 1/5 of the urban population for the year 2010, with an income between half and one minimum wage. That is, it is a scenario that indicates a poor performance for human development for the municipality.

Graph 1 - Educational level of workers in Porto Nacional – TO, 2010.

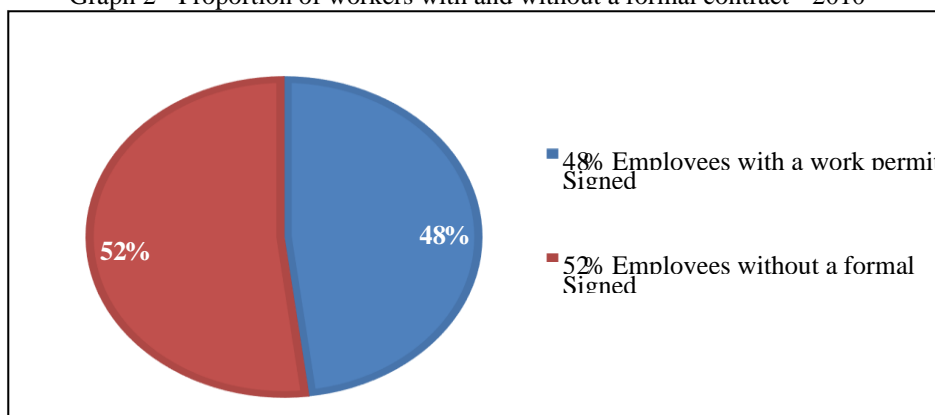


Source: IBGE, Demographic Census 2010 Org. MOURA. 2017

The analysis of the statistical data collected in the *online* databases of IBGE and UNDP on employment and work, which we used as a sample of data from the 2010s, allowed us to have an empirical knowledge of the social and economic reality of the object in question. According to the surveys carried out by the IBGE, 2010 Census, people aged 10 years or older who were in an active condition, that is, they were working, had from incomplete elementary school to complete higher education. However, people with incomplete primary education were the majority in the labor market, thus representing a total of 35% of the workers, and only 13% of the workers had completed higher education, as shown in Graph No. 1.

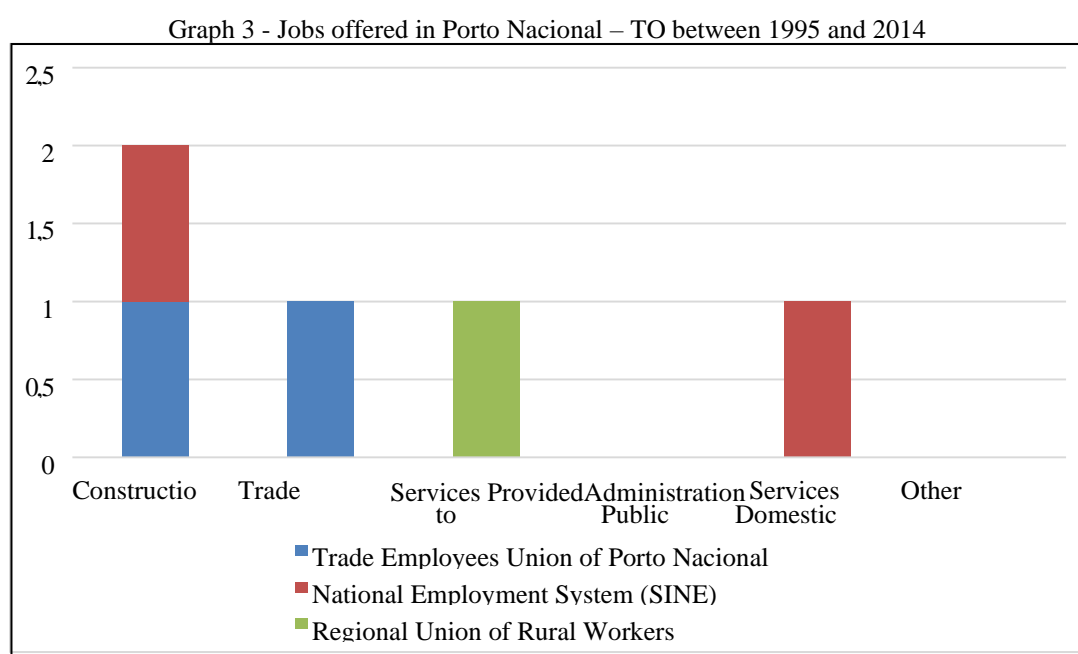
Graph 2 shows that the number of workers with a formal contract has an undesirable index, according to data from the IBGE - 2010 Demographic Census, representing only 48% of the total. And with regard to workers without a formal contract, the numbers correspond to 52% of the total. This finding is a discouraging fact, that is, having fewer workers with a formal contract than without a formal contract, this fact represents negative trends for the labor market and for the human development indices in the municipality.

Graph 2 - Proportion of workers with and without a formal contract - 2010



Source: IBGE, 2010 Demographic Census. Org. MOURA, 2017.

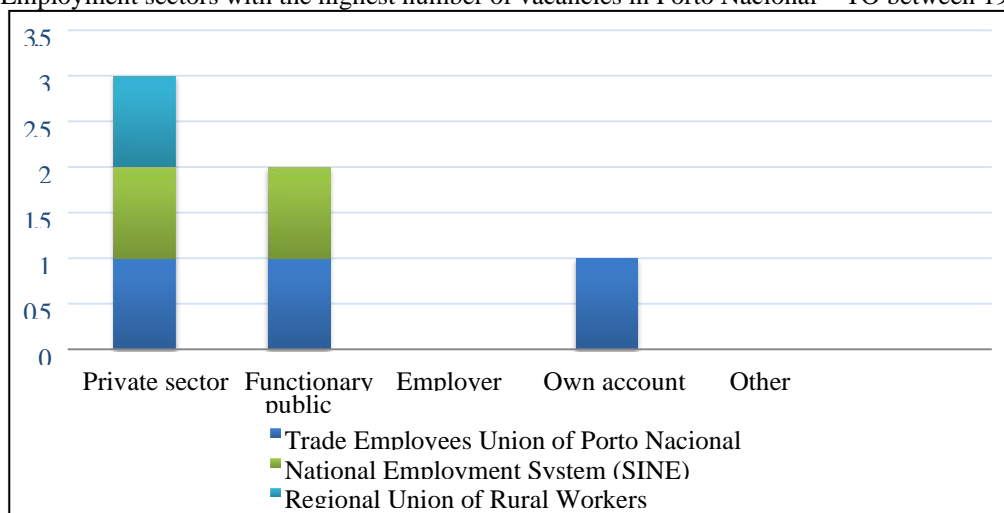
Analyzing the trends in the supply of formal employment in Porto Nacional-TO, according to an interview conducted in the unions of the municipality under study, it was possible to observe the dynamics and performance of formal employment. According to the Regional Union of Rural Workers, the services provided to companies were one of the areas of formal employment that offered the most jobs in the period from 1995 to 2014. The National Employment System (SINE) considered the area of civil construction and domestic services. The Trade Employees Union also considered the areas of construction and commerce as the areas that produced the highest number of jobs offers in the city of Porto Nacional in the period from 1995 to 2014, as described in graph no. 3.



Source: Trade Unions of Porto Nacional – TO, 2016. Org. MOURA, 2017

Regarding the sectors that offered formal employment to the population in the period from 1995 to 2014, according to the Regional Union of Rural Workers and the National Employment System (SINE), it was the private sector that offered the most formal employment. The Trade Employees Union also considered the private sector as the one that offered the most jobs to the population, and also highlighted the sector of public and self-employed employees as sectors that offered jobs in the period analyzed, as described in graph 04. The private sector is the one that offered the most formal employment, but also informal employment. All interviewees were unanimous in stating that the private sector was the one that offered the most formal employment in the period analyzed.

Graph 4 - Employment sectors with the highest number of vacancies in Porto Nacional – TO between 1995 and 2014

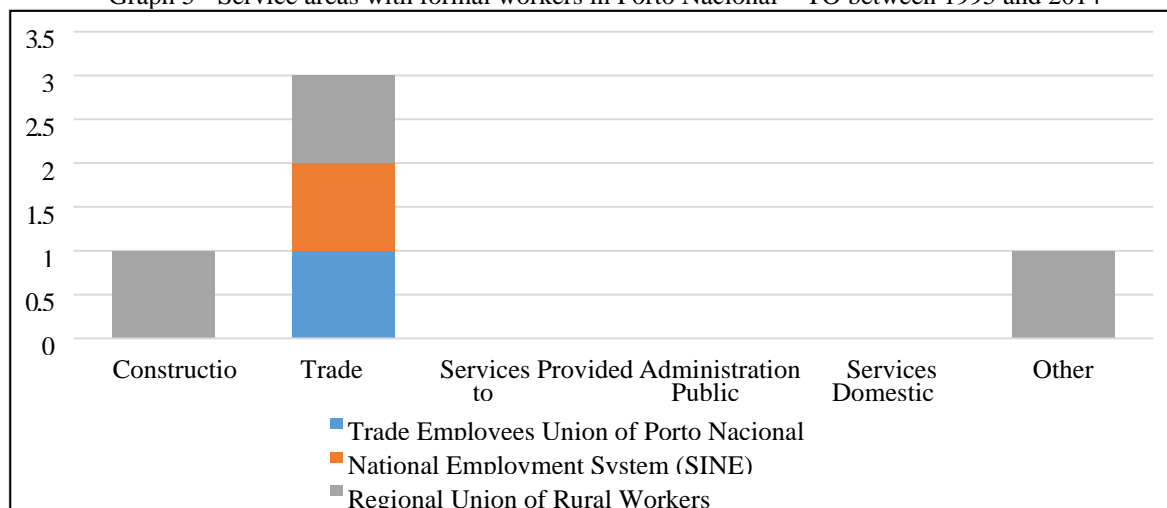


Source: Trade Unions of Porto Nacional – TO, 2016. Org. MOURA, 2017.

The Regional Union of Rural Workers, in an interview, highlighted that the areas of construction, commerce and others, such as the trade of soybeans and corn, continued to grow in the number of workers with a formal contract. The National Employment System (SINE) and the Trade Employees Union were unanimous in stating that commerce is one of the sectors with the largest number of workers with a formal contract, as shown in chart 05. All interviewees were unanimous in stating that the trade sector was the one that offered the most formal jobs in the period analyzed. In Porto Nacional, the trade sector is one of the economic activities that offers the most labor, the industrial and agro-industrial sectors are still incipient. In recent years, the economic activity based on agribusiness has been expanding in the municipality, especially the cultivation of soybeans.

The employment sectors that continued to grow in the period from 1995 to 2014 in the city of Porto Nacional, according to the Regional Union of Rural Workers, were only the construction sector. The National Employment System (SINE) considered the construction and trade services sector and others such as the soybean and corn sectors, which remained on the rise. The Trade Employees Union highlighted the construction, trade and public administration sectors as sectors that continued to grow in the same period, as shown in Chart No. 6. All interviewees were unanimous in stating that the construction sector was the one that grew the most in the period analyzed.

Graph 5 - Service areas with formal workers in Porto Nacional – TO between 1995 and 2014



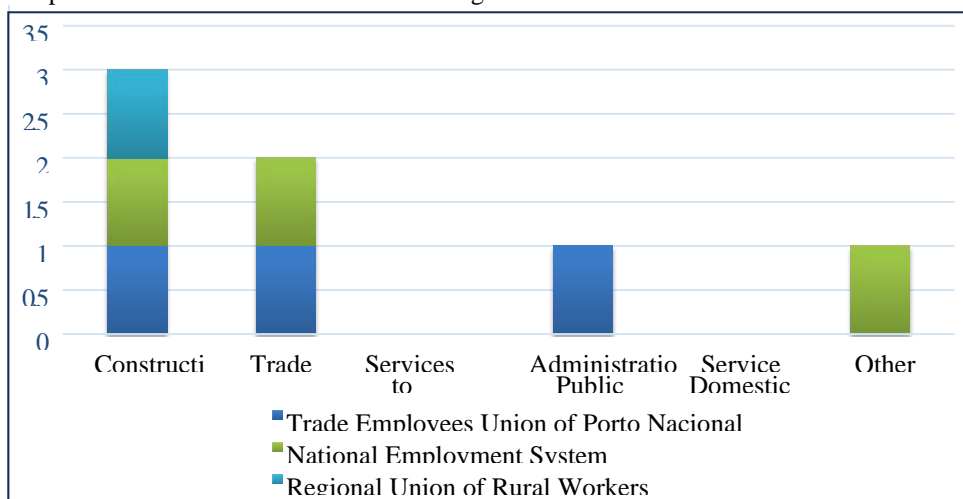
Source: Trade Unions of Porto Nacional – TO, 2016. Org. MOURA, 2017

Also, according to the offer of jobs by sectors, 12.70% of the employed persons aged 18 years and over in the municipality worked in the agricultural sector, 0.10% in the mining and quarrying industry, 5.46% in the manufacturing industry, 9.76% in the construction sector, 0.83% in the public utility sectors, 13.49% in commerce and 46.70% in the services sector. Trade and the services sector together represent more than half of the job offer for the year 2010, that is, they are the sectors of economic activity that stood out the most in the period analyzed (UNDP, 2013).

In terms of workers' professional qualification, the sectors of economic activity that showed growth in the period analyzed, according to the Regional Union of Rural Workers, were the civil construction and trade sectors. The National Employment System (SINE) considered both construction and commerce as well as public administration. And the Trade Employees Union of Porto Nacional considered the construction sector and services provided to the company, which had a growth in professional qualification, as shown in graph number 07 below.

All interviewees were unanimous in stating that the civil construction sector was the one with the highest professional qualification of workers.

Graph 6 - Service sectors that continued to grow in Porto Nacional – TO from 1995 to 2014



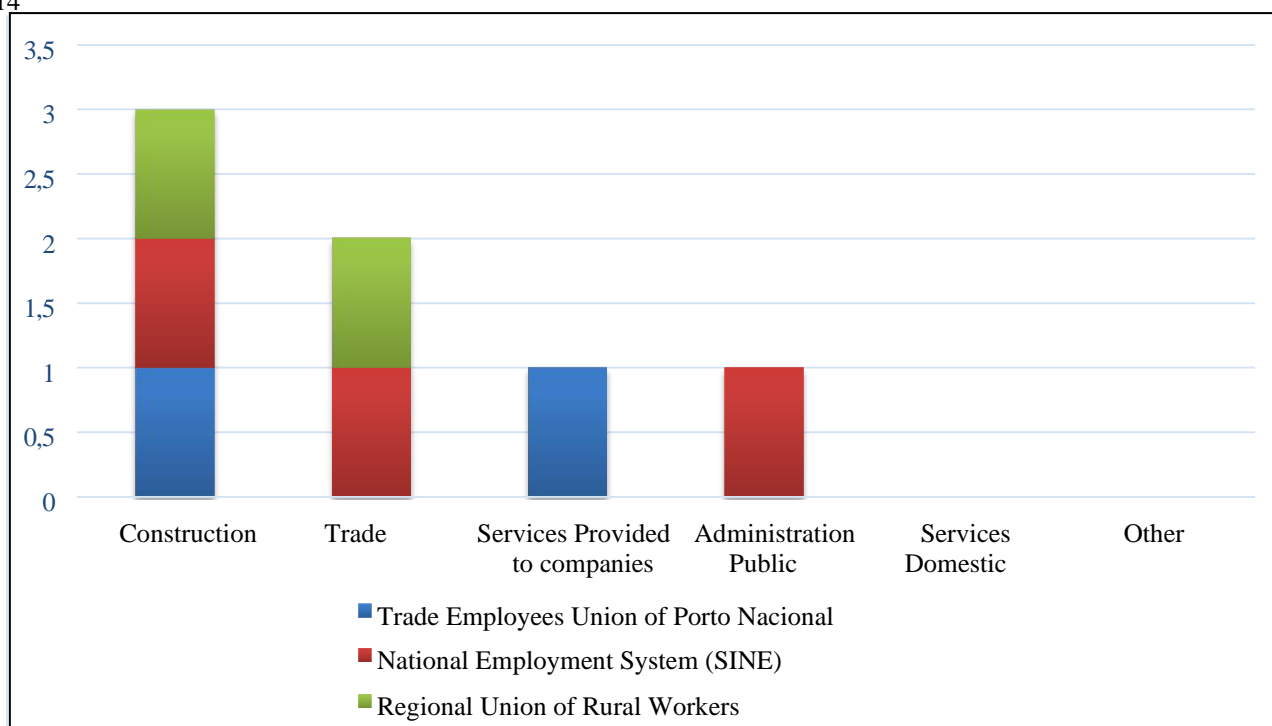
Source: Trade Unions of Porto Nacional – TO, 2016. Org. MOURA, 2017.

As for human development, what is observed is that if working conditions are improved and the supply of more formal jobs are increased, there will usually also be improvements in human development indexes. But what has been happening in recent years in capitalist society is the precariousness of the social conditions of work. It should be noted that, over the years, there have been transformations in the labor market in Brazil, as is the case of informal work, especially with the new order dictated by globalized capital, which has affected the lives of workers, reinforcing the rates of precariousness of work in the country. There is a large contingent of workers who are forced to subject themselves to increasingly precarious conditions, with low wages, poor working conditions, loss of labor rights, extension of the working day, among others, in order to survive. Therefore, these facts contribute to the low human development indexes.

In Porto Nacional, between 2000 and 2010, the MHDI went from 0.562 in 2000 to 0.740 in 2010 - a growth rate of 31.67%. The human development gap, i.e., the distance between the municipality's MHDI and the maximum limit of the index, which is 1, was reduced by

59.36% between 2000 and 2010. In this period, the dimension with the highest growth index in absolute terms was education (with an increase of 0.295), followed by longevity and income. Between 1991 and 2000, the MHDI went from 0.424 in 1991 to 0.562 in 2000 - a growth rate of 32.55%. The human development gap was reduced by 76.04% between 1991 and 2000. During this period, the dimension with the highest growth index in absolute terms was education (with an increase of 0.203), followed by longevity and income (UNDP, 2013)

Graph 07 - Sectors of economic activity with growth in professional qualification in Porto Nacional – TO between 1995 and 2014



Source: Trade Unions of Porto Nacional – TO, 2016. Org. MOURA, Jaciara Araújo, 2017.

The average per capita income of Porto Nacional has grown 100.23% in the last two decades, from R\$ 310.20 in 1991 to R\$ 375.93 in 2000 and to R\$ 621.10 in 2010 (UNDP, 2013). This equates to an average annual growth rate over that period of 3.72%. The average annual growth rate was 2.16% between 1991 and 2000 and 5.15% between 2000 and 2010, as shown in Table 01 below. The proportion of poor people, i.e., with per capita household income of less than R\$ 140.00 (at August 2010 prices), increased from 43.94% in 1991 to 37.54% in 2000 and to 13.79% in 2010, i.e., there was a significant evolution, especially between 2000 and 2010. The evolution of income inequality in these two periods can be described through the Gini Index, which went from 0.58 in 1991 to 0.60 in 2000 and to 0.54 in 2010, as shown in Chart 1. In this regard, we can see that in the municipality of Porto Nacional there was a desirable dynamic of the social indicators listed in Chart 1.

Between 2000 and 2010, the activity rate of the population aged 18 and over (i.e., the percentage of this population that was economically active) increased from 66.62% in 2000 to 70.65% in 2010. At the same time, its unemployment rate (i.e., the percentage of the economically active population that was unemployed) increased from 14.40% in 2000 to 6.17% in 2010. Regarding the degree of formalization of employed persons aged 18 and over, there was a slight evolution and, in relation to the educational level of the employed persons, there was also an evolution, especially in the percentage of employed persons with complete secondary education aged 18 or over, which is desirable.

Table 1 - Income, Poverty and Inequality - Municipality - Porto Nacional - TO

Social indicators	Years		
	1991	2000	2010
Make Per Capita	310,10	375,93	621,10
% of extremely poor	19,94	15,44	4,03
% of poor	43,94	37,54	13,79
Gini index	0,58	0,60	0,54

Source: Atlas of Human Development, UNDP, Ipea and FJP 2010. Org. Santos, 2018.

Regarding the average income, there was a decrease in the percentage of employed persons with an average income of up to one minimum wage, and in the percentage of employed persons with an average income of up to 2 minimum wages, there was also a decrease. And in the item of 5 minimum wages, there was also a smaller drop, as shown in Table No. 02 below. The drop in the average income represents a negative fact, remembering that the biggest drop was in the average income of up to 1 minimum wage, which is very bad news for the worker in Porto Nacional.

Table 2 - Occupation of the population aged 18 years and over in the Municipality of Porto Nacional – TO

Social indicators	Years	
Activity rate – 18 years or older	2000	2010
Unemployment rate – 18 years and older	66,62	70,65
Degree of formalization of employed persons – 18 years or older	14,40	6,17
Educational level of the employed		
% of employed persons with complete primary school - 18 years or older	45,92	65,59
% of employed persons with complete high school – 18 years or older	27,38	49,74
Average Yield		
% of employed persons with an income of up to 1 s.m. – 18 years or older	55,66	21,34
% of employed persons with an income of up to 2 s.m. – 18 years or older	80,38	73,33
% of employed persons with an income of up to 5 s.m. – 18 years or older	94,59	91,54

Source: Atlas of Human Development, UNDP, Ipea and FJP 2010. Org. MOURA, 2018.

When it comes to the issue of gender, the data recorded on monthly income between men and women point to a discouraging situation for the year 2010. According to the data in chart 3, we can see that as the nominal monthly income based on the minimum wage increases, the tendency is for the demographic contingent of men to increase. While with regard to the monthly income of women, the trend is the same, but not proportional to the nominal monthly income of men.

On the other hand, there are more women with an average income of up to 1/4 of the minimum wage (a total of 1,680) than men, which is in the order of 610, while in the income level of more than 1 to 2 minimum wages, the total of men jumps to 4,221, while for women, the total is of the order of 2,679. In other words, to get a more comprehensible idea about it, as the average income increases, the number of men increases geometrically, while with regard to the number of women, the increase occurs arithmetically (Chart 3).



Table 3 - Monthly nominal income classes according to gender

Sample Results - Income: People aged 10 years and over with nominal monthly income classes in 2010 in Porto Nacional – TO.		
Up to 1/4 of the minimum wage	Men - 610	Women - 1,680
From more than 1/4 to 1/2 minimum wage	Men - 432	Women - 1,024
From more than 1 to 2 minimum wages	Men - 4,221	Women - 2,679

Source: 2010 Demographic Census: sampling by municipalities. Organization. (SAINTS; MOURA, 2016).

The old social conditions are still present in Porto Nacional, such as social inequalities in the labor market and the indices that represent regional poverty within the national context, although, in recent years, this reality has been falling. The old inequalities between genders are still present in the municipality among workers. As was crystal clear in chart 03, in which the difference in pay between men and women is still large, that is, women still continue to have lower pay than men in the world of work. The empirical data reveal a reality that, unfortunately, still perpetuates in our capitalist society. The geography of the rich and poor regions continues even here in the Amazon at the various spatial scales, between the political-administrative units as is the case of Porto Nacional.

FINAL THOUGHTS

We believe that the relevance of the research can contribute significantly to the knowledge about the dynamics of employment in Porto Nacional. It was possible to verify that the different sectors of the economy conditioned the employment situations and inequalities between the categories of workers. Among the service sectors, we can see that among these, the professional qualification of workers happens in a differentiated way. The analyzed data reveal that the labor market in Porto Nacional faces a great challenge to have a satisfactory performance for the improvement of the social conditions of workers.

The results of the analysis of the statistical data of the UNDP and IBGE and of the interviews, allow us to conclude that in Porto Nacional the trade and civil construction sectors were the ones that offered the most labor. In the extremely poor percentage and the percentage of poor people, there was a considerable reduction, which leaves the municipality in a reasonable position in the ranking of social indicators. However, what we can expect for workers is not good news for the future, especially with the approval of the new labor legislation.

After the approval of the "reform for entrepreneurs" – the so-called Labor Reform of 2017, and officially known as Law No. 13,467, of July 13, 2017, will allow a greater precariousness of the social conditions of workers. A law that legally guarantees intermittent work and that the agreement between employer and employee is above the current labor legislation is news that scares any worker. And to make the workers more indignant, the Outsourcing Law (Law No. 13,429, of March 31, 2017) was also approved, which definitively contributes to the precariousness of the social conditions of workers.



The structuring of the local and regional labor market in Tocantins is no exception to the rule of the territorial division of labor within the Brazilian context. We know that the social, technical and especially territorial division of labor is one of the forms of reproduction of the capitalist mode of production. The territorial division of labor creates differentiated regional spaces, such as the classical division – International Division of Labor, which creates a global space in the center-periphery format. This logic is also reproduced at the various scales of the process – national, regional and local. The municipality of Porto Nacional is a spatial cutout that materializes the territorial and regional division of labor. The sectors of economic activity such as commerce, construction and agriculture have a greater presence in the municipality, a fact that reveals the low qualification of the workforce. The municipality is not yet an industrial hub, having a large presence of the primary and tertiary sector in the local and regional economy.

Social indicators indicate and signal the degree of development or not that, in principle, we need to reflect more critically on the analysis of their methodology. The concept of development and underdevelopment is something that can be created from criteria that represent the dominant ideology of rich countries. The geographer Yves Lacoste (1990) asserts that these concepts are constructed and organized by these countries, as a geopolitical strategy to discipline and seek the geopolitics of the control of development and investment policies in the periphery of capitalism.

For the author, underdevelopment is often assessed on the basis of the evaluation of national products per inhabitant and per year with GNP per capita values. The criterion would be based on GNP per capita values that are significantly lower than those of developed countries. These statistical indices, which measure the conditions of development or not of nations, are one of the ways for rich countries to have a map of global social and economic conditions to articulate their geopolitics of territorial investments.

On the other hand, we need to reflect a little more on social indicators, which actually represent an average of national/annual income and do not represent a real social distribution of a country's income. The UN and the rich countries of the West have established parameters and criteria for the non-developed countries based on the criteria of the developed countries. The interpretation of underdevelopment has also been based on an equivalence of a so-called "backward", "arranged", "traditional" economic and social situation, compared to the situation in Europe and the absence of industrial development.

The idea of qualifying the level of underdevelopment of the population as a multidimensional methodology or calling a number of people considered multidimensionally poor is to mask and, above all, a procedure without a deeper reflection on the real reality in front of us in the poorest countries. It is to deny the class society in every corner of the planet. Within the capitalist mode of production, our society is composed of different social classes. There is no grouping of individuals considered rich or poor. What



there is, in fact, are the social classes in their most varied social levels of income, present in the center or in the periphery of capitalism. The

The "remedies" of the public policies of the richest countries will not end or radicalize poverty.

Poverty and social contradictions in space are fruits and developments of the contradictory logic of the capitalist mode of production. The term multidimensional indicates several items that make up poverty. And not all items that are needs of capitalist society are needs of other societies and ethnicities. The needs of Europeans are not the same as those of Africans and Latin Americans.



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