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GOVERNMENT SPENDING EFFICIENCY IN LATIN AMERICA:
A FRONTIER APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

Government spending efficiency in providing education and health is evaluated across countries of the world, with a special emphasis on Latin American countries. Using stochastic frontier and data envelopment analysis, it is found that important inefficiencies are at hand. Those inefficiencies are only partly explained by environmental factors such as education of the adult population and GDP per head.

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EFICIENCIA DEL GASTO GUBERNAMENTAL EN AMÉRICA LATINA: UN ENFOQUE DE FRONTERA

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RESUMEN

En este estudio se evalúa la eficiencia del gasto del Gobierno en proveer educación y salud a partir de un “enfoque de frontera”. Tanto con el método de frontera estocástica y como con el de análisis envolvente de datos, se encontró ineficiencias importantes para América Latina. Esas ineficiencias se explican, sólo en parte, por factores ambientales tales como la educación de la población adulta y el PIB per cápita.

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