

**INDEX OF HOME ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION IN BOLIVIA AGAINST COVID-19
ACCORDING TO WHO RECOMMENDATIONS**

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ABSTRACT

This work evaluates the capacity of households in Bolivia to follow the WHO recommendations and face COVID-19 based on the elaboration of an index proposed by Brown, Ravallion and Van de Walle. The results obtained from the index show that there has been a considerable improvement since 2012 with 72.8% of households having the protection conditions of the home compared to 77% of households in 2019. Most of the households in Bolivia can protect themselves from the virus with at least 5 of the 6 basic protection recommendations suggested by WHO. An important wealth effect can be observed, since in the urban area of the country the recommendations to protect against external shocks such as COVID-19 are more favorable compared to the rural area. Another result shows that people's age and chronic health conditions make them more vulnerable to the presence of COVID-19 and, unfortunately, only a third of the households can comply with the six recommendations of the WHO. In general, due to the conditions of home environments in Bolivia, flexible isolation and lockdown policies can be successful in protecting against the virus.

Keywords: Social Distancing, Hygiene, Learning, COVID-19, Social Protection.

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