

ACCOUNTING, FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION AND ITS IMPACT ON THE ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC ENTITIES

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Abstract

A documentary review was carried out on the bibliographic production based on the study of the variables Accounting, Financial and Administrative Information and its incidence in the economic management of Public Entities in Latin America. The analyzed information was obtained thanks to a revision through the *Search* tool provided by the Scopus web page achieving the identification of a total of 67 publications which are organized by means of the main characteristics of the volume of publications, Year of Publication, Country of Origin, Area of Knowledge, Type of Publication. Similarly, the position of different authors with respect to the proposed topic was analyzed through a qualitative analysis of the information collected. The results show that, within the Latin American countries, Colombia is the one with the highest number of publications registered in Scopus with a total of 28 documents reported by Scopus during the period 2015-2020. The year within this period where more publications were made was 2020 when a total of 25 documents were reported. The area of knowledge that had the greatest contribution to scientific production was Business with 38 publications and 94% of the identified publications were Journal Articles.

Keywords: Accounting, Financial Information, Accounting Information, Public Entities, Public Entities

1. Introduction

The Accounting Information that is generated by public companies, represent the basis for decision making (Mora-Aristega, Uhsca-Cuzco, & Paredes-Tobar, 2017) which is framed in legal aspects that in large proportion for the case of Latin America, derived from international regulations that regulate the accounting movements in this type of institutions. Such as the International Accounting Standards for the Public Sector (IPSAS) which establish a minimum of conditions for the presentation of financial reports by governmental entities (Morán & Román, 2018) . The Economic Management of public entities are subjected to multiple evaluations to corroborate that their financial movements are within the established legal framework. Occasionally, they are called to an Accountability, a mechanism designed to exercise vigilance over the use of economic resources in public institutions. This exercise allows to decide whether or not to approve its management, if the diagnosis is negative, sanctions are executed to those who are found to have misused state resources (Franciskovic, 2013) .

The presentation of financial statements, balance sheets, accounting books, among others, by government entities, is a matter of public interest because they manage state resources that are aimed at meeting public policy objectives that seek to meet basic needs of the population, therefore, the management of such information is vital in making decisions regarding the investment of large amounts of money in the efficient search to alleviate complex situations such as unemployment, health, education, quality of life, poverty, among others. Therefore, it is of transcendental importance to know or study the management of governmental entities because through them, the socioeconomic development of the population in general is perceived (Álvarez & Chica, 2008) . This study develops a bibliometric and bibliographic review on the scientific production indexed in Scopus database regarding the proposed topic of study with the aim of answering the question How has been the production of scientific publications concerning the study of the variable Accounting, Financial and Administrative Information and its impact on Economic Management in Latin American Public Entities during the period 2015- 2020?

2. General Objective

To analyze from a bibliometric and bibliographic perspective, the production of high impact research papers on the variables Accounting, Financial and Administrative Information and its impact on the economic management of Public Entities during the period 2015-2020 in Latin America.

3. Methodology

Quantitative analysis of the information provided by Scopus is performed under a bibliometric approach on the scientific production concerning the variables Accounting, Financial and Administrative Information and its impact on the economic management of Latin American Public Entities. Also, it is analyzed from a qualitative perspective, examples of some research papers published in the area of study mentioned above, from a bibliographic approach to describe the position of different authors on the proposed topic.

The search is carried out through the tool provided by Scopus and the parameters referenced in Table 1 are established.

3.1 Methodological design.

Table 1 shows the methodological design proposed for this research.

	PHASE	DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION
PHASE 1	DATA COLLECTION	The data collection is carried out by means of the Search tool on the Scopus web page.	Published documents whose study variables are related to Accounting, Financial and Administrative Information and its impact on the economic management of Public Entities. Research papers published by authors affiliated with Latin American institutions. Research papers published during the period 2015-2020. Without distinction of area of knowledge. Without distinction of type of publication.
PHASE 2	CONSTRUCTION OF ANALYSIS MATERIAL	The information identified in the previous phase is organized. The classification will be done by means of graphs, figures and tables based on data provided by Scopus.	Word Co-occurrence. Year of publication Country of origin of the publication. Area of knowledge. Type of publication
PHASE 3	DRAFTING OF THE CONCLUSIONS AND FINAL DOCUMENT	After the analysis carried out in the previous phase, the drafting of the conclusions and the elaboration of the final document is completed.	

Table 1. Methodological design.

Source: Own elaboration (2021)

4. Results

The results of the proposed bibliometric analysis are presented below, as well as the development of the bibliographic review of some examples to determine the position of different authors on the topic referenced in this paper.

4.1 Co-occurrence of words.

Figure 1 shows the correlation between the keywords used in the research identified through the execution of Phase 1 of the methodological design.

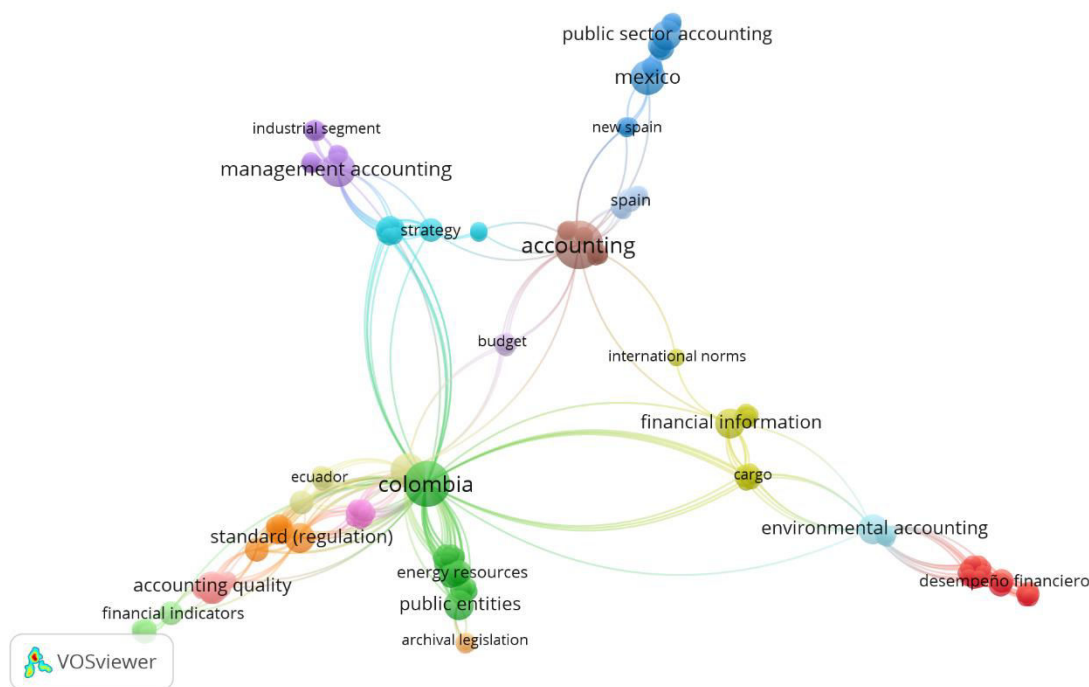


Figure 1. Co-occurrence of words

Source: Own elaboration (2021); based on data provided by Scopus.

The key words mostly used within the research referring to Accounting, Financial and Administrative Information and its Impact on the Economic Management of Latin American Public Entities were Accounting, Budget, International Standards, Financial Information, which allows inferring that what is related to the management in public entities is regulated by international laws with the purpose of managing transparent and reliable processes. The Accounting Information allows an efficient decision making process for the allocation of the budget for the different operations. Another group of words identified is headed by the word Accounting Management related to Strategy and Industry Segment. As well as the word Colombia, Energy Resources, Public Entities and Archives Legislation, Accounting Quality and Financial Indicators. All of the above keywords are closely related to the economic management of public entities through the effective management of financial and accounting information in the organization. Special mention is made

on what is related to the public sector and industrial sector, always with studies that clarify the international legislation concerning the management of accounting in such entities.

4.2 Distribution of scientific production by year of publication.

Figure 2 shows how the scientific production is distributed according to the year of publication, taking into account that the period studied includes the years between 2015 and 2020.

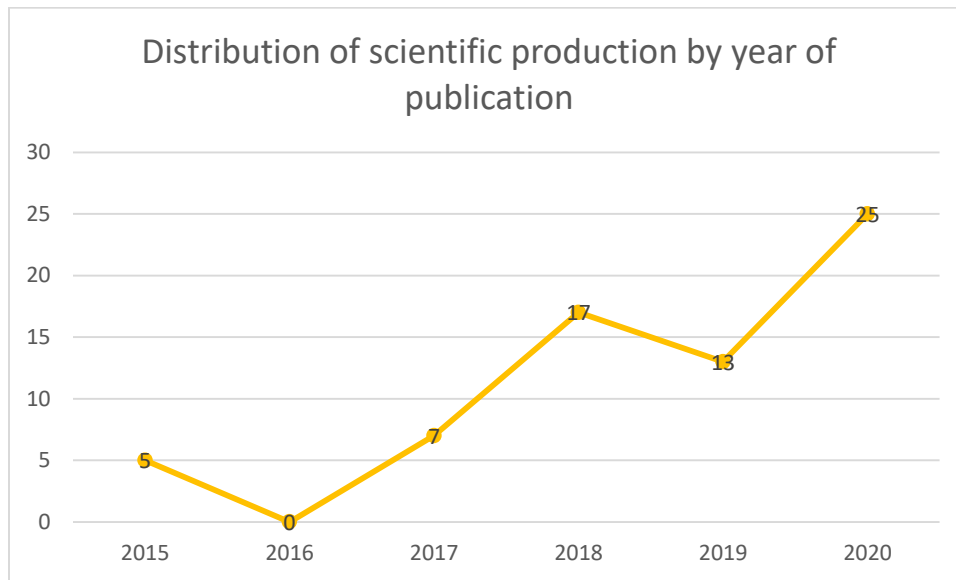


Figure 2. Distribution of scientific production by year of publication.

Source: Own elaboration (2021); based on data provided by Scopus.

The year with the highest number of records in Scopus was 2020, with a total of 25 documents, including the article entitled "*Communication, citizenship and transparency: Access to public information as a tool for citizen participation in administrative management*" (Morales, Toukoumidis, Guamán, & Caluguillin, 2020). whose objective was to establish citizens' knowledge on issues related to transparency in public information. Understanding that public entities are monitored by governmental actors that regulate financial movements to prevent the diversion of resources and possible cases of corruption. Citizens have the right to know this information because it is of general interest since its institutionalization is carried out with the purpose of generating welfare in society through the fulfillment of fundamental rights.

In 2019, the article "*Governmental accounting and international accounting standards for the Ecuadorian public sector*" (Reyes, Reyes-Cárdenas,, & Cárdenas, 2019). aims to analyze the convergence of governmental accounting of Decentralized Municipal Autonomous Governments of Ecuador with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, specifically in the Province of Cañar. Therefore, it is vital to know that the accounting information of public institutions are of general interest because thanks to transparency in financial movements, the risks of criminal acts such as misappropriation of resources, corruption, influence peddling, among others, are reduced. Similarly, there is a relationship between the economic management of public entities, and international standards that are adopted by governments to ensure transparency and legitimacy in the accounting movements of state entities.

4.3 Distribution of scientific production by country of origin.

Next, Figure 3 shows how the scientific production is distributed according to the nationality of the institutions to which the authors are affiliated, for the purposes of this article, Latin American institutions are taken into account.

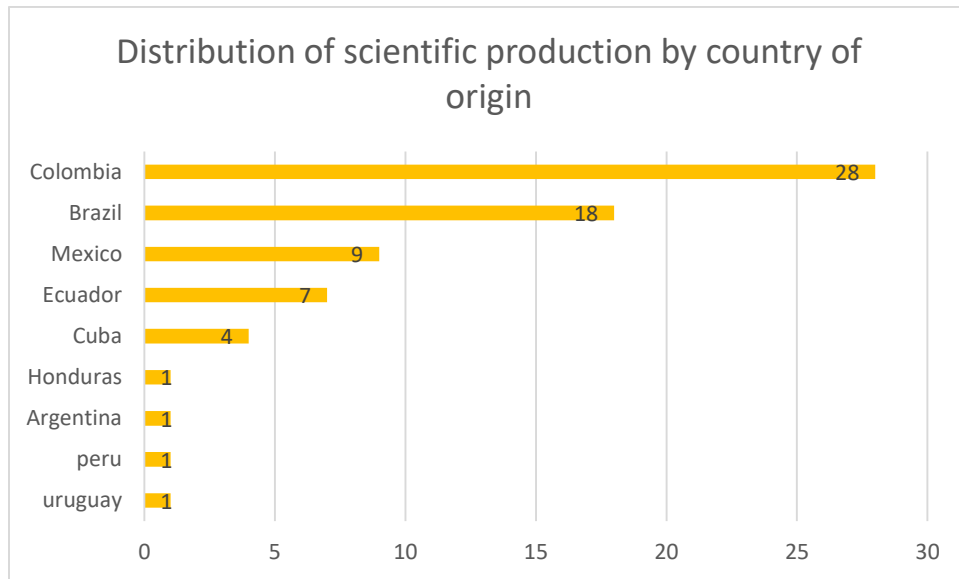


Figure 3. Distribution of scientific production by country of origin.

Source: Own elaboration (2021); based on data provided by Scopus.

Colombia is the Latin American country with the largest number of records in Scopus, in total 28 publications are presented within which is the one entitled "*Ethics and social responsibility of the accountant in front of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in Colombia. A prospective analysis*". (Gazabon, Cantillo, & Alvarez, 2017). whose objective is to analyze the main areas and topics related to the implementation of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) with respect to the ethics that should be handled within the economic management in government entities.

Brazil is in second place with 18 publications, followed by Mexico with 9 documents, including the article entitled "*Advances in the quantity of public sector financial information in Mexico following the LGCG*". (Sour, 2017) This paper evaluates the quantity, quality and harmonization of financial information published by Mexico City, the states and the Federal Government during the period 2008-2012, after the approval of the General Law of Governmental Accounting (LGCG). Among the main findings of the research is that public sector companies in Mexico, have increased the quality and transparency in their financial information which allows to evaluate as entities with minimal risk of corruption in terms of accounting fraud.

The classification by country of origin has a particularity. The same article can add to the production of one, two or more countries, depending on the participation of authors of different nationalities. Figure 4 shows the participation of authors from different countries.



Figure 4. Co-citations between countries.

Source: Own elaboration (2021); based on data provided by Scopus.

Figure 4 shows Colombia with a high participation in research with authors affiliated to institutions in Brazil. These, in turn, participate in research with authors from Italy. On the other hand, Mexico has registered publications in co-authorship with Ecuadorian authors. Ecuador occupies the fourth place with 7 publications, among which is the article entitled "*Governmental information security scheme EGSi and its application in the public entities of Ecuador*" (Muyón, Guarda, Vargas, & Quiña, 2019). which reviews the public entities in Ecuador that have integrated the Governmental Information Security Scheme into their processes and its impact on their performance.

4.4 Distribution of scientific production by area of knowledge.

Figure 5 shows how the scientific production is distributed according to the area of knowledge through which the research was developed.

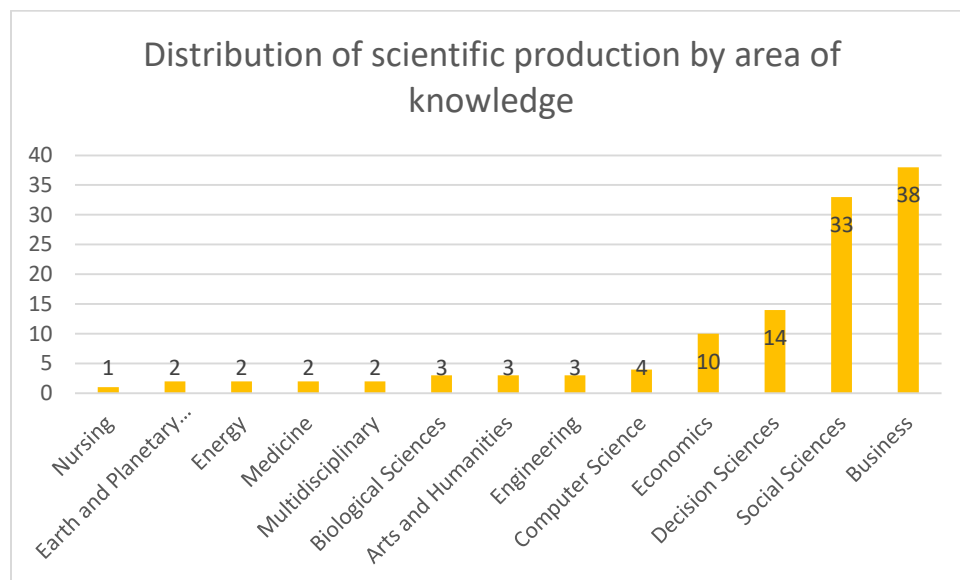


Figure 5. Distribution of scientific production by area of knowledge.

Source: Own elaboration (2021); based on data provided by Scopus.

Business is the area of knowledge with the highest number of publications managed, a total of 38 documents were published thanks to the findings obtained from research in this area. In second place, the Social Sciences report a total of 33 publications, among which is the article entitled "Organizational knowledge management: Archival treatment for the reuse of administrative information" (Dos Santos & Krawszuk, 2020) which aims to analyze document management within organizations and how archived documents can be support material for future applications as raw material in the process of feedback and support in decision making. Although the study is not aimed at public entities, it is possible to make a comparison of its findings and determine how advantageous knowledge management policies can be within the organization and economic management, as well as how the information is treated in terms of the accounting system of each of the functional aspects in each entity.

In third place is Decision Sciences, with 14 documents. It should be noted that the importance of studies in this area lies in the fact that the support material for the study and implementation of public policies is based on feedback processes and the adoption of both national and international regulations on the regulation of accounting behavior in public institutions. The next place is for Economic Sciences, through which a total of 10 documents were registered during the period 2015-2020, among which is the article entitled "*Foreign influences in the development and recent innovations in accounting and finance of the public sector in Latin America*" (de Aquino, Caperchione, Cardoso, & Steccolini, 2020). whose purpose is to analyze the international influence on the literature on accounting in the Latin American public sector. One of the first findings was the evidence of a high degree of influence by authors from the United Kingdom, Italy, the United States and New Zealand. However, it has been proven that the current state of accounting in Latin America has not been easy to interpret in terms of its influence, since the accounting and financial systems in the countries of that community have grown significantly to the point of being generators of their own background and knowledge. Research on economic management in public entities has strengthened the current literature on the management of financial information capable of foreseeing changes in them.

4.5 Type of publication.

Figure 6 shows how the bibliographic production is distributed according to the type of publication chosen by the authors. 94% of the publications identified through the execution of Phase 1 of the methodological design correspond to Journal Articles such as the one entitled "*Public Sector Accounting Reforms in Latin America and Epistemic Communities: An Institutional Perspective*" (Neves & Gómez-Villegas, 2020). which analyzes the trend among Latin American public entities in the adoption of international standards for the improvement and transparency of accounting processes carried out in the context of transparency. The analysis is made of the reforms adopted by institutions in Brazil and Colombia, which have been pressured by the public interest in the face of the numerous cases of corruption commonly known in both countries. In second place are the Reviews and Notes, each with 3% of the total production.

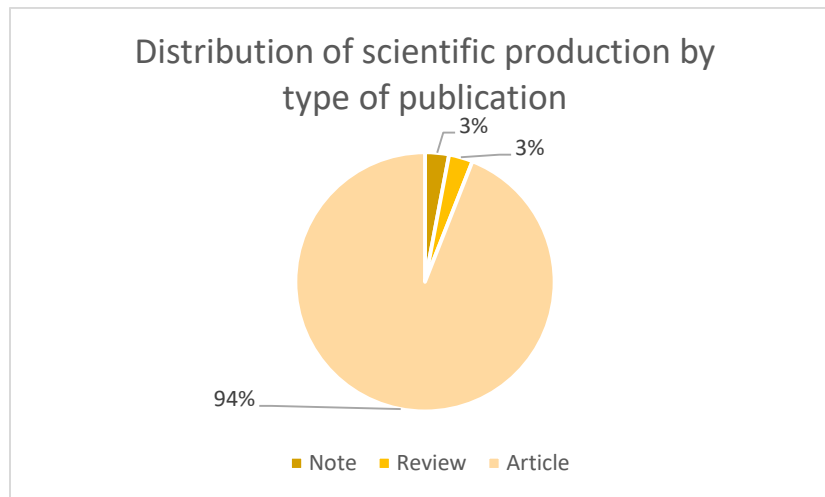


Figure 6. Distribution of scientific production by area of knowledge.
Source: Own elaboration (2021); based on data provided by Scopus.

5. Conclusions

Thanks to the bibliometric analysis proposed in this research, it can be determined that Colombia is the Latin American country with the highest number of publications concerning Accounting and Financial Information in Public Entities and its influence on the Economic Management of the same with a total of 28 documents published during the period 2015-2020 which implies for the accounting system of public institutions oversight by the different interest groups that exercise control and surveillance before the processes and movements of financial resources. It is important to emphasize that the economic management of public entities is based, according to the studies analyzed in this document, on an effective and transparent accounting system capable of showing background and records through which it can be determined whether or not there are failures or improper movements outside the legal framework. The importance of access to the financial information of entities in charge of managing public resources lies in the trust that is generated through policies designed to prevent cases of corruption in Latin American countries that historically have had numerous cases of diversion of resources, improper allocation of resources, among others. For citizens, having an efficient and reliable financial system generates a feeling of peace of mind, since this way it is possible to ensure the fulfillment of rights in sectors such as health, education, security, food, among others. Social investments in these areas must be controlled and monitored by government agencies.

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