



## SDG 1 NO POVERTY

# End poverty in all forms everywhere

Socioeconomic inequalities deepened during the Covid-19 pandemic in Brazil, making eradicating poverty in the country by 2030 a distant target. For the third consecutive year, none of the SDGs were ranked positive, and projections suggest increased extreme poverty in 2021. Official data is expected to be published in November 2022.

Despite progress on the national vaccination plan and a resumption of economic activity, poverty rates have remained stagnant. Low employability, combined with the highest inflation rates in Brazil since 2015<sup>1</sup> (graph 1) and reduced public policies for social assistance and income distribution, led to a

spike in poverty and hunger throughout the nation.

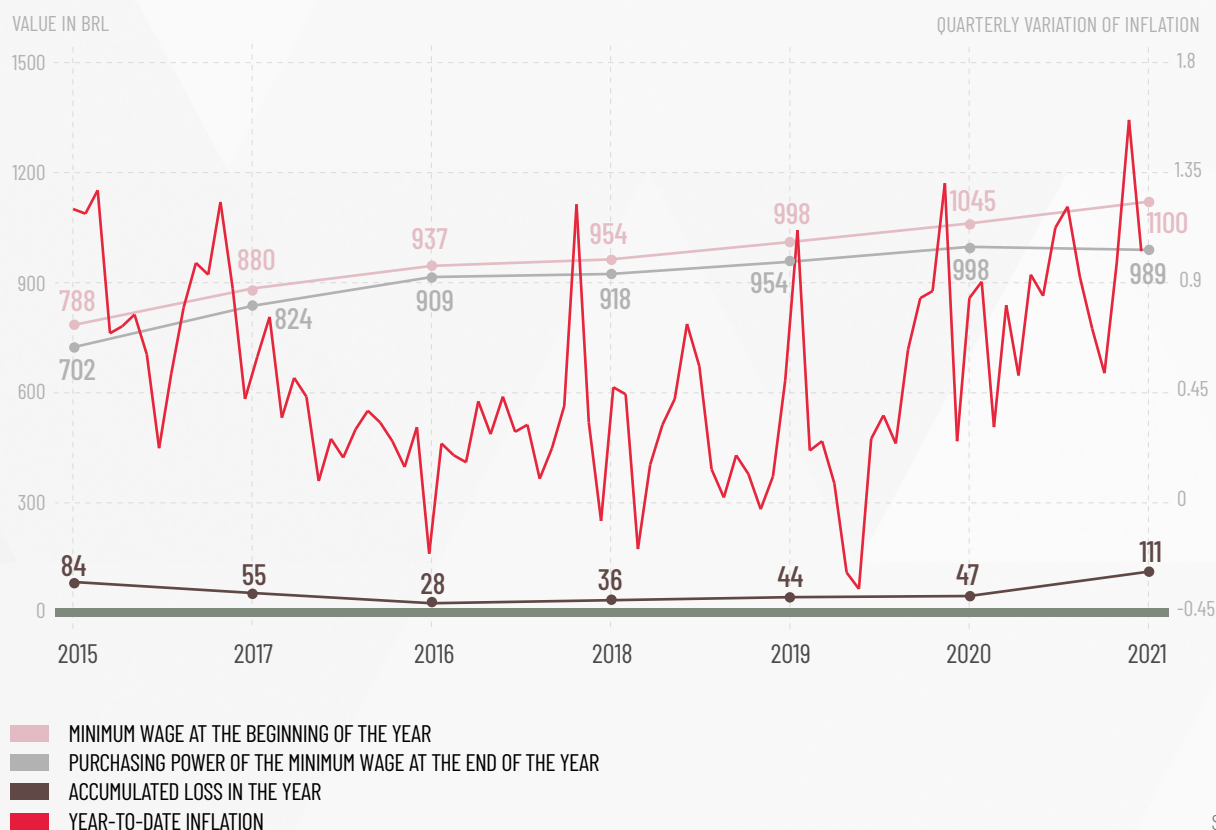
For the most impoverished of the population, the majority of whom are black people<sup>2</sup>, the right to social isolation during the pandemic was impossible, increasing contagion amongst this vulnerable demographic, and deepening the impact of the social inequality in Brazil.

When first offered in first quarter, 2020, the government quarantine stimulus package Auxílio Emergencial was in the amount of BRL 600.00 per beneficiary, per month (increased to BRL 1,200.00 for single mothers). In the final quarter of that year it was cut in half, then suspended entirely during

<sup>1</sup> Agência IBGE Notícias. In: <https://agenciadenoticias.ibge.gov.br/agencia-noticias/2012-agencia-de-noticias/noticias/33317-alimentos-puxam-alta-de-0-95-no-ipca-15-em-marco-a-maior-para-o-mes-desde-2015>

<sup>2</sup> Associação Brasileira de Saúde Coletiva (Abrasco). In: <https://www.abrasco.org.br/site/gtracismoesaude/2021/10/13/covid-19-e-a-populacao-negra/>

**GRAPH 1** QUARTERLY VARIATION OF INFLATION IN RELATION TO THE MINIMUM WAGE



Source: PNAD.

the first quarter of 2021, returning in April of that year through October, but for only BRL 217.00, after which it was eliminated. Along with it went the Bolsa Família, supplanted by Auxílio Brasil, a different income transfer programme with confusing access criteria, valued at just BRL 400.00 per family, per month, an insufficient amount for the most basic monthly needs. As a result **Target 1.1**<sup>3</sup> is setback.

**Target 1.2**<sup>4</sup> is setback. While no official data was available by the close of this report regarding monetary poverty in 2021, UNICEF published information<sup>5</sup> in regards to the increasing impoverishment

of people between birth and the age of 14. The slight reduction in general poverty rates verifiable between 2018 and early 2020, was interrupted by a rising impoverishment curve in the second quarter of 2020, with high unemployment being a fundamental cause. Two years into the Covid-19 pandemic, unemployment is still a result of the precarious working conditions which were furthered by 2017 Labour Reform. Although unemployment rates have fallen since mid-2021, there was no significant growth in employment<sup>6</sup>, and unemployment remains high (11.2%).

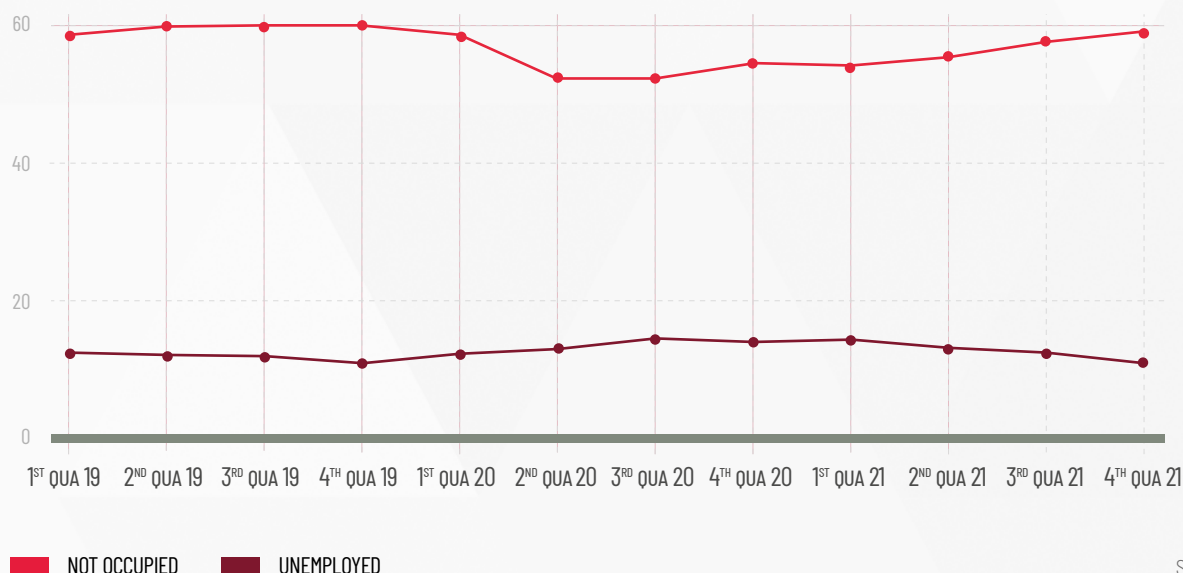
<sup>3</sup> **Target 1.1:** By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.90 a day

<sup>4</sup> **Target 1.2:** By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

<sup>5</sup> UNICEF. In: <https://www.unicef.org/brazil/comunicados-de-imprensa/criancas-e-adolescentes-foram-os-mais-afetados-pela-pobreza-monetaria-no-brasil-na-pandemia>

<sup>6</sup> Agência IBGE Notícias. In: <https://agenciadenoticias.ibge.gov.br/agencia-noticias/2012-agencia-de-noticias/noticias/33368-desemprego-recua-para-11-2-no-trimestre-encerrado-em-fevereiro>

**GRAPH 2** LABOUR MARKET IN BRAZIL (PERIODICITY: QUARTERLY; COVERAGE: BRAZIL, REGIONS, FEDERATION UNITS, METROPOLITAN REGIONS, CAPITAL CITIES)



Source: IBGE, PNAD

**Target 1.3<sup>7</sup>** remains at risk, and is likely to be setback, when data for 2021 becomes available. This is primarily due to an absence of effective employment and income generation policies, pension reductions of up to 40%, whilst also increasing contribution rates (under social security and pension reform introduced into the Federal Constitution)<sup>8</sup>, and serious errors and omissions in the Federal Government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Target 1.4<sup>9</sup>** remains setback due to suspension of the Agrarian Reform<sup>10</sup> and an 1,100% increase in

the number of murders in rural conflicts<sup>11</sup> in 2021. The dismantling<sup>12</sup> of Instituto Nacional de Colonização e Reforma Agrária (Incra) and an economic model favouring agribusiness<sup>13</sup> impacts indigenous peoples and quilombolas, amongst other demographics.

**Target 1.5<sup>14</sup>** was setback in 2020 and remains so to date, due to budgetary cuts in programmes for the prevention and containment of natural disasters<sup>15</sup>. Cepam, the national monitoring and alert centre for natural disasters, was given its lowest budget in ten

7 **Target 1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

8 Presidência da República: Emenda Constitucional nº 103, de 12/11/ 2019. In: [https://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil\\_03/Constituicao/Emendas/Emc/emc103.htm?msclid=a796f36ecee011ecb604a3374ac306e2](https://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/Constituicao/Emendas/Emc/emc103.htm?msclid=a796f36ecee011ecb604a3374ac306e2)

9 **Target 1.4:** By 2030, ensure that all people, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

10 Folha de S.Paulo. In: <https://www1.folha.uol.com.br/poder/2021/02/governo-bolsonaro-admite-ao-stf-paralisia-da-reforma-agraria-com-acumulo-de-diferentes-recordes-negativos.shtml>

11 Comissão Pastoral da Terra - CPT. In: <https://www.cptnacional.org.br/publicacoes/noticias/conflitos-no-campo/6002-cpt-divulga-relatorio-sobre-conflitos-no-campo-no-brasil-em-2021>

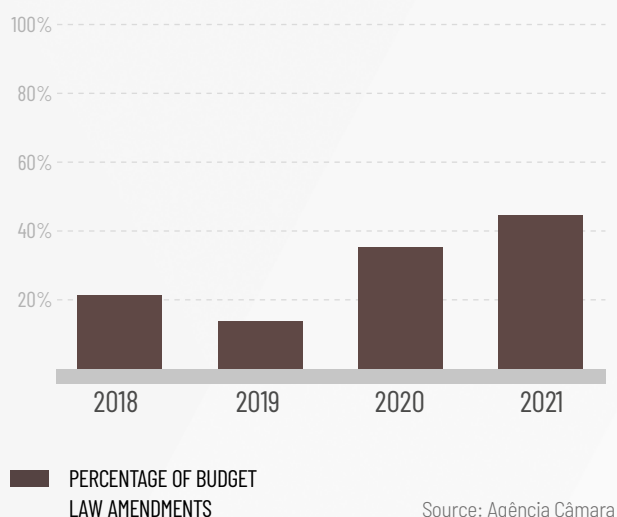
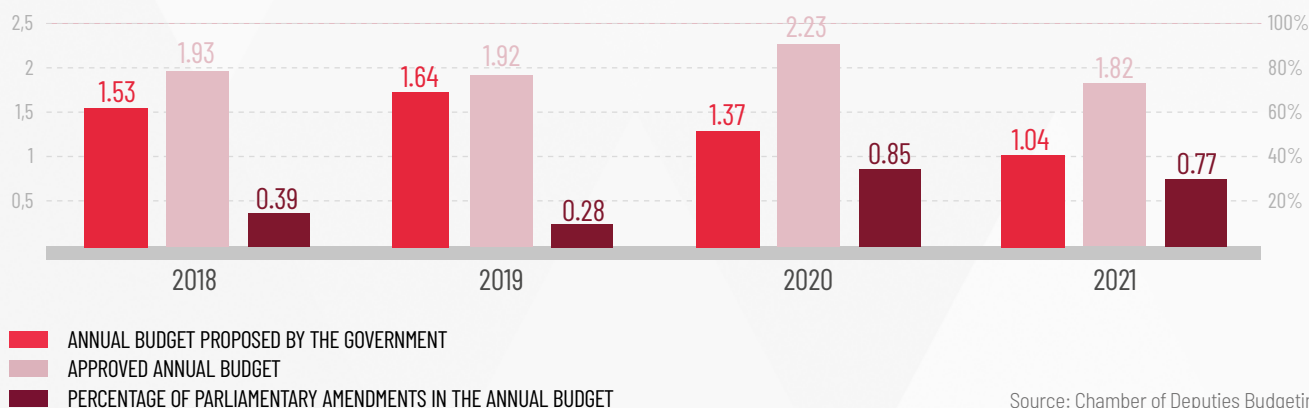
12 Presidência da República. Decreto nº 10.252, de 20/02/2020. In: [https://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil\\_03/\\_Ato2019-2022/2020/Decreto/D10252.htm?msclid=a265a991cee211ec9396d42a7ed4eb08](https://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_Ato2019-2022/2020/Decreto/D10252.htm?msclid=a265a991cee211ec9396d42a7ed4eb08)

13 Heinrich Böll Stiftung. In: <https://br.boell.org/pt-br/2021/11/29/desmonte-da-reforma-agraria-aprofundara-concentracao-fundiaria-no-pais>

14 **Target 1.5:** By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters

15 IstoÉ Dinheiro. In: <https://www.istoedinheiro.com.br/investimentos-do-governo-em-defesa-civil-caem-43-em-2021/>

**GRÁFICO 3 WELFARE BUDGET (IN BILLIONS)**



years. The budget for the containment of slopes in urban areas was slashed by more than 50% compared with 2020. This resulted in at least 380 lives lost to floods across eight states between November 2021 and the end of summer 2022, the highest total in a decade.

A total of 41,273,561 people were affected by floods in 2021, the damage totalling more than BRL \$60 billion<sup>16</sup>, disproportionately impacting black and indigenous people, who predominantly live in the most unstable regions, a direct result of environmental racism.

Paradoxically, as the pandemic, economic and environmental crises deepened, the Federal Government's social assistance programmes combating them continued to be cut (graph 3), worsening the country's poverty indicators, and ensuring **Target 1.a**<sup>17</sup> is setback.

Housing conditions also highlight Brazilian inequalities, and the multiple crises have led to a spike in the number of people living on the streets. The latest census in the city of São Paulo indicates that, over the last two years, the number of people living in the open increased 31%, and is now more than ever made up of women, children and entire families. **Target 1.b**<sup>18</sup> is therefore setback. Cuts in social programmes and the impoverishment data<sup>19</sup> demonstrate, once again, racism and misogyny are structural elements in inequality.

<sup>16</sup> Confederação Nacional de Municípios (CNM). Danos e prejuízos causados por desastres no Brasil entre 2013 a 2022. In: [https://www.cnm.org.br/cms/biblioteca/Danos%20e%20Preju%C3%ADzos%20causados%20por%20desastres\\_2013%20a%202022\\_atualizado%20em%20abril.pdf](https://www.cnm.org.br/cms/biblioteca/Danos%20e%20Preju%C3%ADzos%20causados%20por%20desastres_2013%20a%202022_atualizado%20em%20abril.pdf)

<sup>17</sup> **Target 1.a:** Ensure significant mobilisation of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions

<sup>18</sup> **Target 1.b:** Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions

<sup>19</sup> Centro de Pesquisa em Macroeconomia das Desigualdades/USP: Gênero e raça durante a pandemia no Brasil: o impacto do Auxílio Emergencial na pobreza e extrema pobreza. In: <https://madeusp.com.br/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/NPE-010-VF.pdf>



Finally, let us reinforce our concern regarding the lack of official government data available for monitoring this SDG. Data regarding Target 1.1 in the Brazil SDG Panel is from 2019; for Target 1.5, 2017; and the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), and Special Secretariat for Social Articulation, report data for Targets 1.2, 1.4, 1.a and 1.b are “under construction”. No data is available for Target 1.3.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Repeal Constitutional Amendment 95, thereby guaranteeing basic rights and dignified living conditions for all people;
2. Establish a viable Permanent Basic Income and improve the budgets of the Unified Social Assistance System (SUAS), Social Security and Health;
3. Restart the Bolsa Família programme, adjusting its eligibility criteria to ensure it is universally accessible and available to all vulnerable and marginalised groups;
4. Review labour and social security policies and restore social protection provisions removed from the national Labour Laws (CLT) and the Federal Constitution;
5. Build a progressive tax system through fair and solidary tax reform;
6. Subsidise, through effective public policy, at local and regional levels, groups bringing together governments, the private sector, universities and civil society to establish strategies promoting food security, employment and income generation, and reduce territorial socioeconomic vulnerability;
7. Establish programmes to prevent rural violence and protect traditional peoples and communities, and improve public policies combating inequality through the support of sustainable and innovative local production arrangements;
8. Allocate sufficient budgetary resources for climate adaptation and resilience, including risk management and disaster prevention and response, especially for populations of greater socio-economic vulnerability.

### Target Classification

Target 1.1	🔻	SETBACK
Target 1.2	🔻	SETBACK
Target 1.3	⚡	AT RISK
Target 1.4	🔻	SETBACK
Target 1.5	🔻	SETBACK
Target 1.a	🔻	SETBACK
Target 1.b	🔻	SETBACK