


Discover the power of **design**  
in our lives and the world around us


INTERNATIONAL  
**Herald Tribune** AMERICAS


SEARCH

HOME BUSINESS ▼ TECH TRAVEL STYLE CULTURE ▼ HEALTH/SCI SPORTS REGIONS ▼ OPINION

TODAY IN  
AMERICAS

 [In U.S., voting rights cut both ways](#)

 [A hitch in globalization of health care](#)

 [Iraqis pass federalism bill](#)

LANGUAGE TOOLS

Language Tools 

Powered by [Ultralingua](#)

YOUR VIEWS

[Send a letter to the editor](#)

ARTICLE TOOLS

» [CHANGE FORMAT](#)  
» [PRINT PAGE](#)  
» [EMAIL ARTICLE](#)

» [Save to Del.icio.us](#)

(+) FONT (-) FONT

Page 1 : 0

## Brazil's poverty rate at lowest level in 25 years, survey shows

The Associated Press

Published: September 22, 2006

**RIO DE JANEIRO** Poverty in Brazil has dropped to its lowest level in 25 years under President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's administration, boosting the president's popularity in the country's poorest sectors, according to a study released Friday.

The Getulio Vargas Foundation survey showed that under Silva the number of poor Brazilians dropped to about 42 million — or about 22.7 percent of the country's 185 million people.

The rate was 28.1 percent in 2003, when Silva took office.

The poverty rate is at the lowest level in 25 years, when the foundation began measuring it, said Marcelo Neri, head of the foundation's Center for Social Policy Studies.

The survey also showed that the number of Brazilians considered to be living in extreme poverty — or those earning less than US\$1 (€78) per day — dropped by 19.2 percent between 2003 and 2005. That translates to about 10 million people.

"The poor were the ones who made out best, because their income grew at an annual rate of 8.4 percent, almost double the 3.7 percent of the rich," Neri said.

He said the change can almost entirely be attributed to the Bolsa Familia program which provides monthly subsidies to Brazil's poorest families in exchange for a commitment to send their children to school or risk losing the benefits.

"Bolsa Familia is the big rising star of the fight against poverty," Neri said.

The program, a hallmark of Silva's administration, has also been an important factor in his continued popularity.

Polls show that Silva seems likely to be re-elected in the first round of the Oct. 1 presidential election, despite a wave of corruption scandals that have tarnished his administration but have so far failed to implicate him personally.

ADVERTISER LINKS

**AirGorilla Travel**

International and Domestic Flights Super Saver  
Airlines  
[www.AirGorilla.Com](http://www.AirGorilla.Com)

**Cheap Worldwide Flights**

Super Deals on Flights Worldwide. Fly For Less  
and Book Online.  
[www.shop-keeper.net/flights](http://www.shop-keeper.net/flights)

**A New World Order: Coming**

USA & Rome Behind it. Are you Ready for it?  
Learn Bible prophecy  
[www.worldslastchance.com](http://www.worldslastchance.com)

**Discounts for Disney**

Disney for \$25 a Day Guaranteed Disney,  
Universal, Sea World & More  
[www.cheaporlando.net](http://www.cheaporlando.net)

[Subscriptions](#) | [E-mail Alerts](#)

[Site Feedback](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Contributor Policy](#) | [Site Map](#)



[Subscribe to our RSS Feed](#)

Copyright © 2006