

Brazil's income inequality hits highest since at least 2012[Clique aqui para ver a notícia no site](#)

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Brazil's income inequality in 2018 has reached its highest level since the start of the national statistics series in 2012, reflecting an economic downturn that's taken an outsized toll on the poor.

Data from the national statistics agency released Wednesday shows the so-called Gini coefficient used to measure inequality is at a level just above that registered in 2012. Marcelo Neri of the Getulio Vargas Foundation university says increases from 2015 to 2018 represent a reversal from prior years of "inclusive growth."

Brazil suffered a devastating recession in 2015 and 2016 that sent unemployment surging into the double digits. Since then, growth has averaged just over 1% annually, a far cry from the robust activity during the global commodities boom of the previous decade.