

Brazil's battered job market faces new foe: Coronavirus

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By MAURICIO SAVARESE AND DAVID BILLER , ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAO BERNARDO DO CAMPO, Brazil — At Ford Motor Companys shuttered factory in Sao Bernardo do Campo, a cradle of Brazils car industry, only a handful of bored-looking staffers remain in its few administrative offices. Within the gates, outsourced workers dismantle cables and wires that will be sent for storage.

Hope for new factory jobs was already in short supply in this part of metropolitan Sao Paulo. Now its growing smaller by the day amid the coronavirus outbreak, which is expected to inflict more damage on a country struggling to deliver quality employment three full years after the end of a devastating recession. Other industries have also stumbled, especially outside Sao Paulo.