

More than a third of Brazilian families are food insecure

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Rio de Janeiro, May 25 (EFE) . – The percentage of Brazilian families who reported food distrust reached 36% last year, the highest point since surveys began in 2006, according to a report released Wednesday through the Getulio Vargas Foundation.

The renowned expert group noted that Brazil had made significant progress in reducing famine during the 2003-2011 period of President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

In 2006, the first year of the Gallup World Poll to assess the extent of hunger, 20% of Brazilians reported suffering to put food on the table.

By 2014, the occurrence of lack of food confidence in this giant South American country had fallen to 14% and Brazil left the United Nations world hunger map.

But the recession of 2015-2016 and the consequences of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic have wiped out all the progress made over the past 14 years.

Last year, Gallup surveyed 125,000 families in some 160 countries and asked them if at any point in the past 12 months they had lacked the means for a good enough food supply.

Compared to other Latin American countries, Brazil's food distrust rate is the same as Argentina's and particularly lower than that of Venezuela (72%), Ecuador (62%), Peru (56%), Bolivia (55%) and Colombia (52%). %).

The best performing countries in the region are Chile, with an 18 percent rate, and Uruguay, where 30 percent of families complain of food insecurity.

Among the poorest 20% of Brazilians, the point of lack of food confidence last year was 75%. Gender also played a role, as women had a much higher rate than men, 47% vs. 26%.

The Vargas Foundation noted that the scenario has worsened since Gallup's research, which preceded the start of the war in Ukraine and the global rise in food prices.