



The Health of Brazilian mothers and children, 1970-2010



The situation in the 1970s

- Military dictatorship
- Rapid economic growth
- One of world's highest income concentration
- IMR > 100
- MMR > 150
- Three tiered health care:
 - private / social security / charity



Underlying trends

- Urbanization
 - $-56\% (1970) \rightarrow 83\% (2010)$
- Marked drop in fertility
 - TFR 4.8 (1960s) \rightarrow 1.8 (2000s)
 - CPR 67% (1986) \rightarrow 79% (2007)
- Increased coverage
 - ANC: 75% (1981) \rightarrow 99% (2007)
 - Hospital delivery: 80% (1981) → 98% (2007)



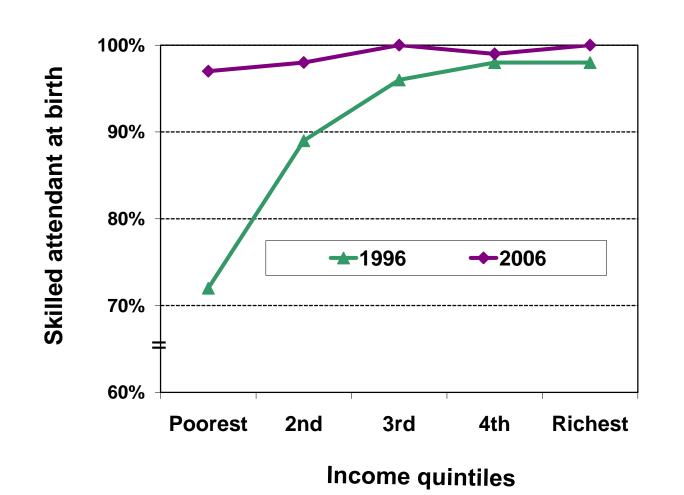
REDUCTION IN SOCIOECONOMIC INEQUITIES

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Indicator (among all women or	Pre-1985 data	Survey results				
children unless otherwise stated)		1986	1996	2006/7		
Modern contraceptive use rate		57.0	72.0	78.5		
Pregnancy and delivery care (5 years before the survey)						
Any antenatal care	74.7 (1981)	74.0	85.7	98.7		
Antenatal care (6+ visits)	40.5 (1981)	-	75.9	80.9		
Started ANC in first trimester	-	-	66.0	83.6		
Tetanus toxoid during pregnancy	-	-	58.5	76.9		
Hospital delivery	79.6 (1981)	80.5	91.5	98.4		
Vaccine coverage for children aged 12-23 months (informed plus confirmed doses)						
Measles vaccine	16 (1975)*	79.4	87.2	100		
	56 (1980)*					
DPT/tetravalent	20 (1975)*	68.9	80.8	98.2		
	37 (1980)*					
Other child health and related indicators (all children under 5 years)						
Oral rehydration solution or	0 (not yet	10.9	53.6	52.1		
recommended home fluids	implemented)					
Careseeking for cough/fever	-	_	18.2	52.0		
Public water supply	32.8(1975)	_	78.7	81.8		



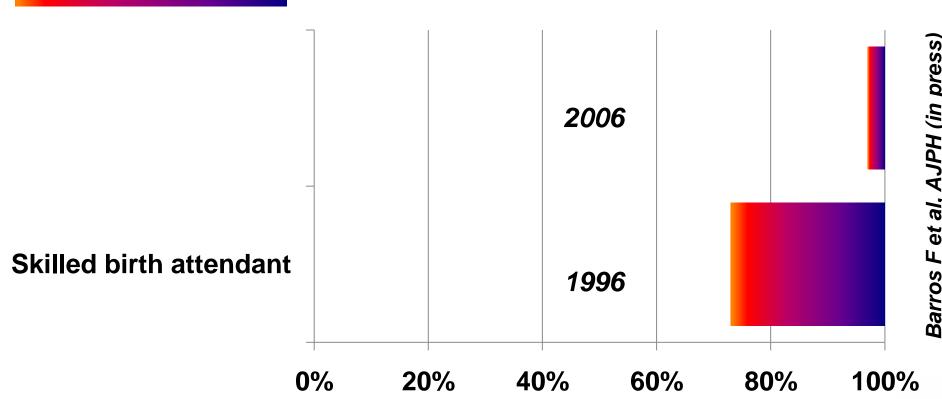
Skilled birth attendance by income quintiles, 1996-2006





Skilled birth attendance: Inequity gaps, 1996-2006

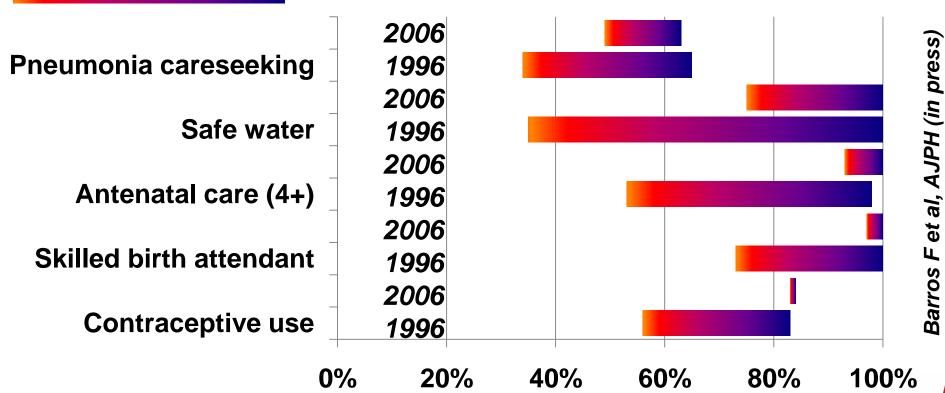






Inequity gaps in coverage, 1996-2006

Poorest | Richest

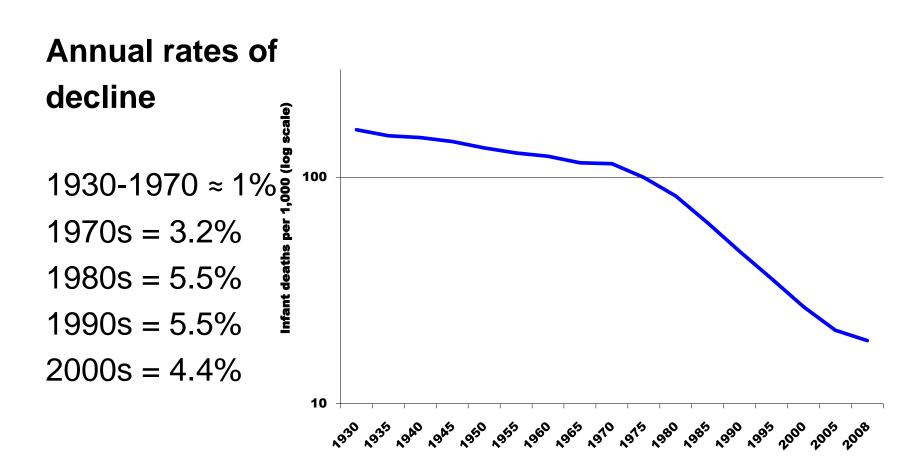




PROGRESS AGAINST INFANT AND UNDER-FIVE MORTALITY

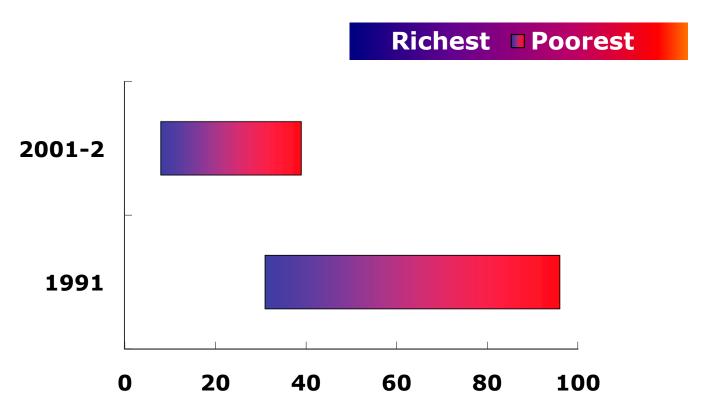


Infant mortality trends





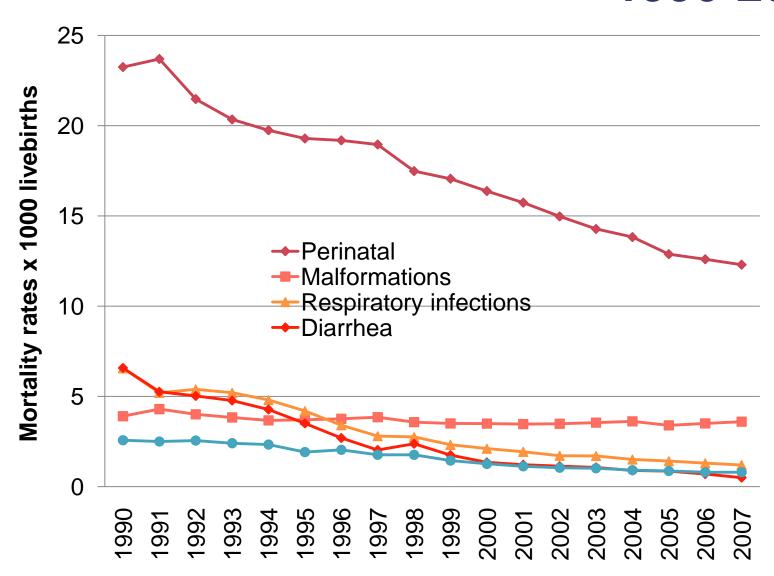
Poor-rich gaps in under-five mortality, 1991 and 2001-2



Under-five mortality gap between the poorest (red) and richest (blue) quintiles (%)

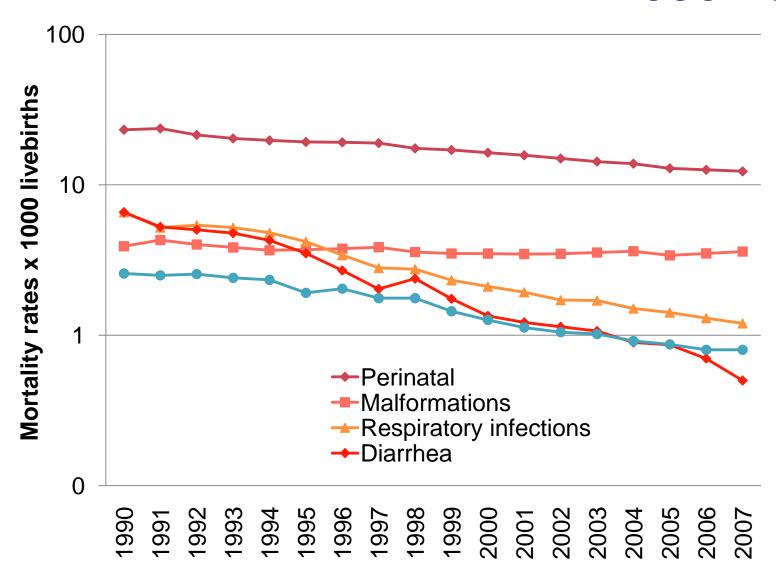


Infant deaths by cause 1990-2007





Infant deaths by cause 1990-2007



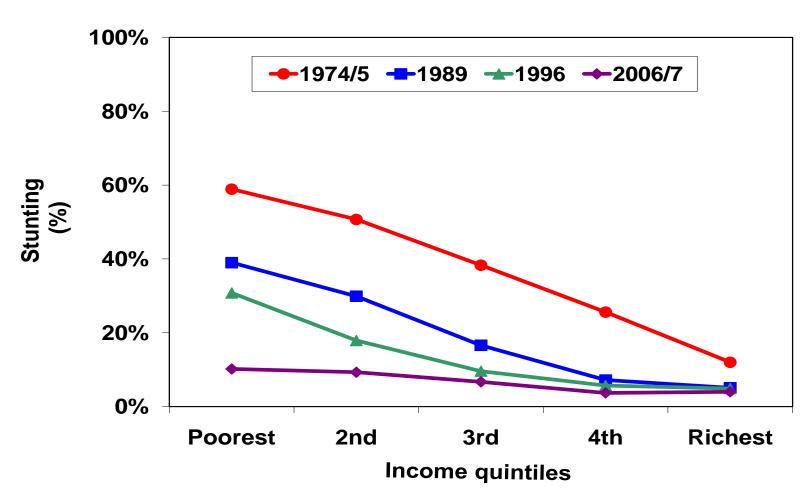


Undernutrition prevalence 1989-2006

Year of	Stunting	Underweight	Wasting	Overweight/
survey				obesity
1989	19.9	5.6	2.2	8.4
1996	13.5	4.6	2.5	7.4
2006/7	7.1	2.2	1.6	7.3

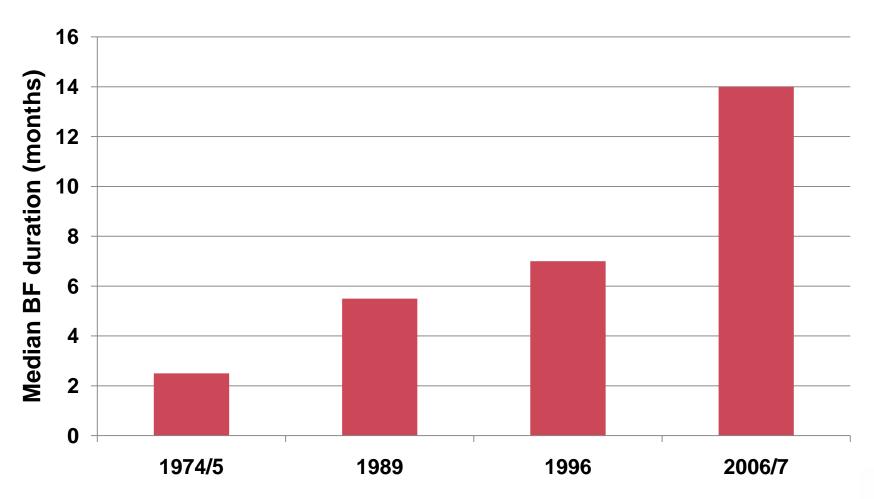


Child nutrition: stunting by income





Median duration of any breastfeeding (months)

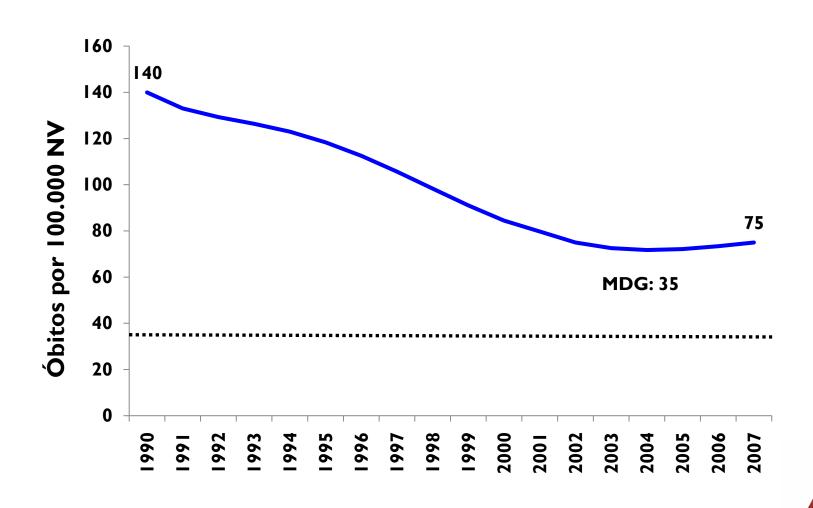




ANY SUCCESS IN REDUCING MATERNAL MORTALITY?



Maternal mortality trends





C-sections: time trends

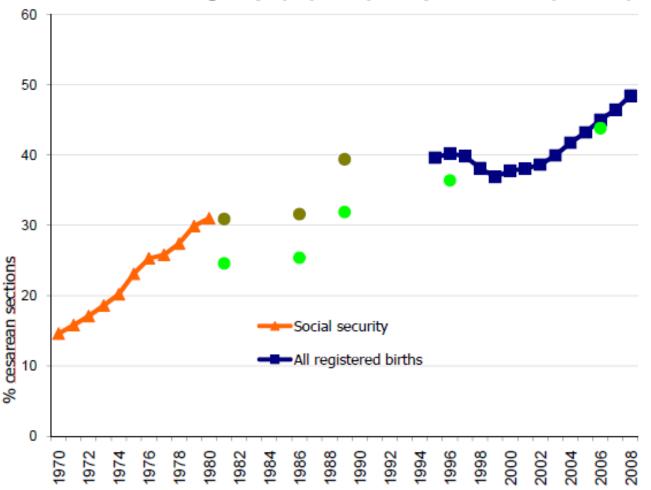


Figure 1.1. C-section trends according to hospital information systems (lines) and to national surveys (green dots: % of all births; brown dots: % of hospital births).



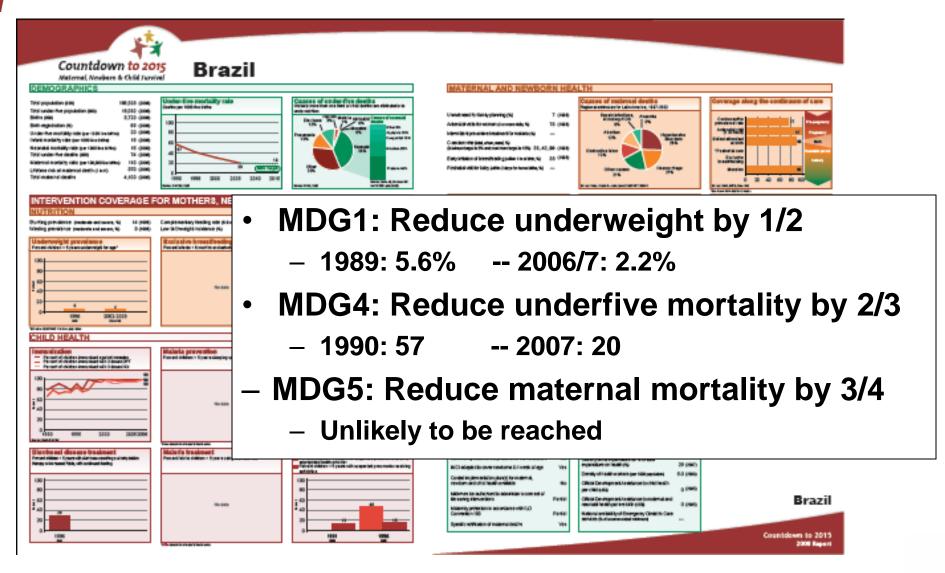
What about maternal mortality?

- Why does mortality seem to have stabilized at relatively high levels, in spite of increased access and coverage to antenatal, delivery and post-partum care?
 - Improved reporting?
 - Poor quality of services?
 - Too many C-sections?



HOW TO EXPLAIN THE OBSERVED IMPROVEMENTS?







Reasons for Brazil's progress

- Socioeconomic and demographic factors
 - Moderate economic growth
 - Reduction of socioeconomic inequalities (>2000)
 - Improved maternal education
 - Sharp decline in fertility
 - Urbanization
- Non health-sector interventions
 - Huge conditional cash transfer program
 - Marked improvement in water supply
 - Rural social security



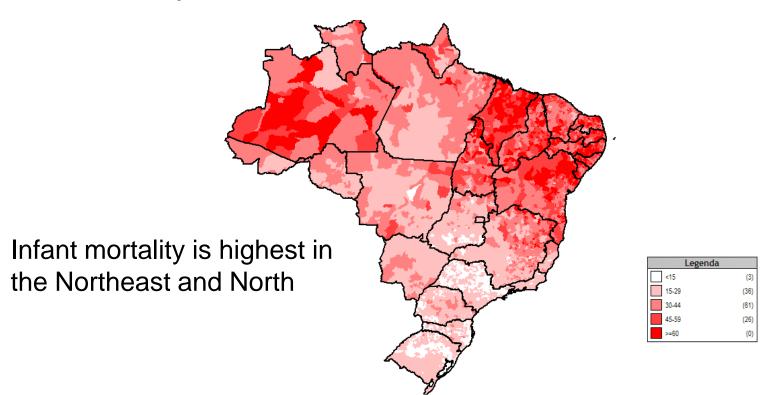
Reasons for Brazil's progress

- Health sector interventions
 - Vertical programs in the 1980s-1990s
 - Oral rehydration
 - Immunizations
 - Breastfeeding promotion
 - Creation of a national health system in 1989
 - Strong popular participation at all levels of the NHS
 - Family health program with geographical targeting
 - High visibility of child health



Infant mortality by region

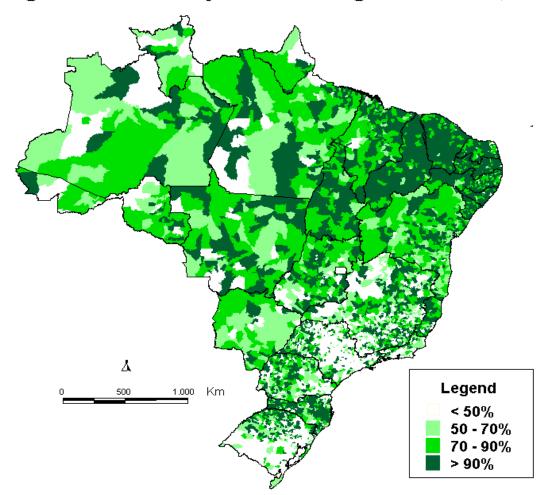
Infant mortality rate, 2000





Family health program

Coverage of the Family Health Program. Brazil, 2002-04







But most and foremost:

Reducing inequities of all types is a central component of governmental policies