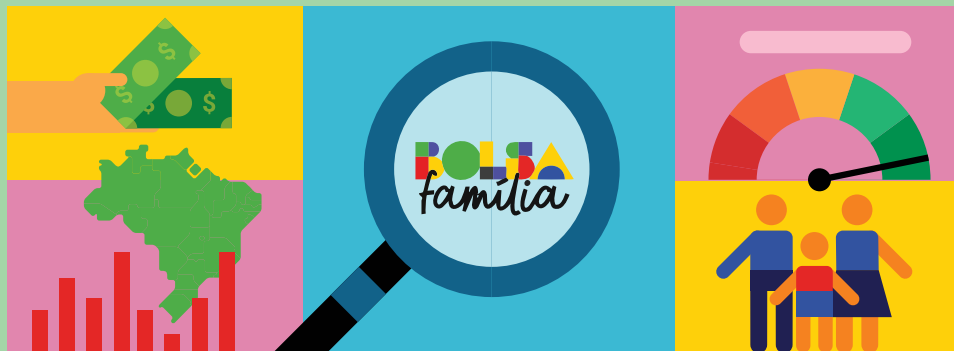


IGD STRENGTHENS LOCAL MANAGEMENT OF BOLSA FAMÍLIA

Index supports states and municipalities in program operations and updating the registration of eligible beneficiaries (CadÚnico)



Created in 2006, the Decentralized Management Index (IGD) promotes federal coordination and enhances the decentralized implementation of the Bolsa Família Program (PBF) and CadÚnico, a mandatory government database that identifies and records information on low-income families. It monitors the performance of municipal and state governments in managing these social policies and establishes financial incentives for their improvement. The evaluation conducted by CMAP shows that the IGD has been effective in achieving its objectives, helping to ensure that social policies effectively reach their target audience. It highlights, however, that the transferred funds do not cover all operational costs and that there is room for improvement in the training and technical support to municipalities.

POLICY EVALUATED

Decentralized Management Index (IGD)

RESOURCES INVOLVED

R\$ **877** MILLION

(2024)

EVALUATION CYCLE

2024-2025

KEY FINDINGS

-  Management got better, but there is room for improvement in training
-  Major challenges include intersectoral coordination and technological limitations
-  Identifying which municipalities should be prioritized contributes to lowering inequalities

Considered one of the world's leading conditional cash transfer programs, the Bolsa Família Program (PBF) relies on federal coordination for its success. For this reason, states and municipalities play a fundamental role in, among other things, identifying and enrolling beneficiaries, as well as in updating the Cadastro Único (CadÚnico), which is a Federal Government database that systematizes information on low-income families and is used to access the PBF and other programs.

To support states and municipalities in managing the program, the Decentralized Management Index (IGD) was created in 2006 by the federal government. It monitors the performance of municipal and state governments in managing these policies and establishes incentives for their improvement through the monthly transfer of financial resources proportional to the results achieved. The calculation takes into account: the degree of updates made to the CadÚnico database; compliance with health and education conditions; accountability for the expenditure of received funds; and the existence of elements of the Unified Social Assistance System, such as municipal and state Social Assistance Plans, Councils, and Funds.

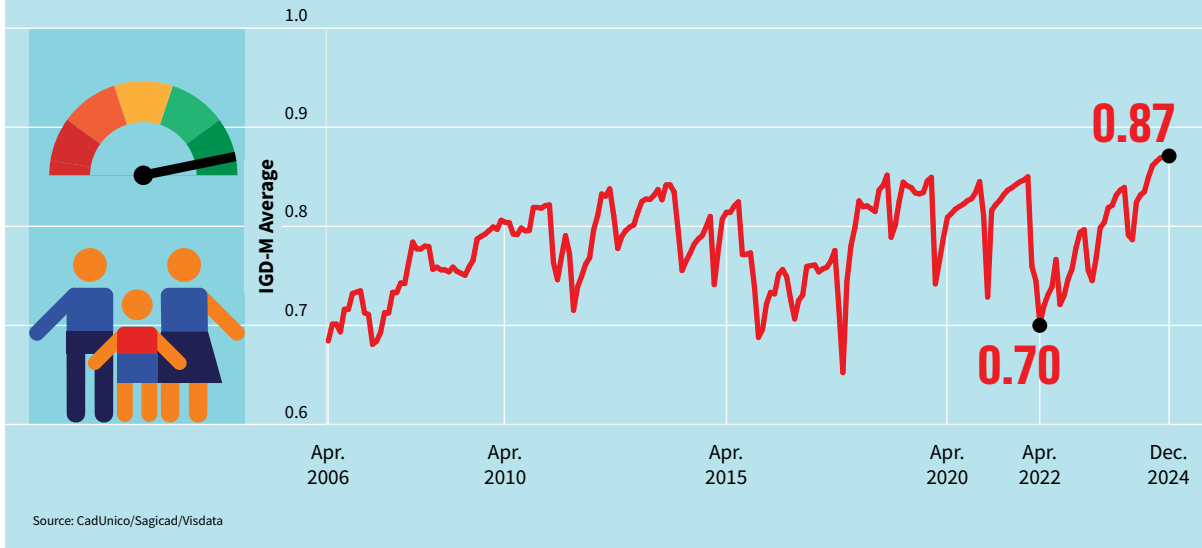
The transferred amount can be used for activities related to the program's management —such as public service, payment tracking, and active outreach—and for intersectoral coordination to carry out actions aimed at the development of families benefitted by the policy.

An evaluation conducted by the Council for Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Policies (CMAP) found that the IGD has proven effective, helping the most vulnerable population access their basic rights. On a scale of zero to one, the index ranged from 0.68 in 2006 to 0.87 in 2024, the highest level in the series, indicating improved management. The percentage of municipalities with an IGD above 0.9—a level indicating excellence—also increased: from 6% in April 2006 to 39% in November 2024.

Despite the overall trend of improvement, there were significant fluctuations during certain periods. The pandemic, for example, affected the three main rates that make up the index (Database Updates, School

EVOLUTION OF THE DECENTRALIZED MANAGEMENT INDEX (IGD)

Brazil: Monthly average by municipality (2006 to 2024)



Attendance Monitoring, and Health Agenda Monitoring), but, with the exception of School Attendance, the other indicators had already recovered to pre-COVID levels by 2024.

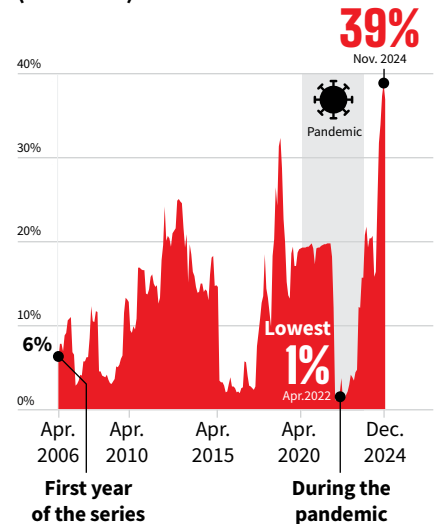
Despite these indications of progress, there are still significant challenges. Among them are the lack of infrastructure to serve families at the municipal level, the difficulty of intersectoral coordination to integrate services and retain qualified staff, as well as technological limitations.

In 2024, the total IGD transfer exceeded R\$ 860 million, with 98% allocated to municipalities. Since 2021, the volume of funds transferred through the index has corresponded to approximately 0.5% of the total paid to families by the PBF, a percentage below the 1% limit established by Law No. 14,601/2023. The estimate of the costs of registering the families, however, shows that the transfer only partially covers the municipalities' expenses.

The assessment also calls attention to the risk that the IGD may reinforce inequalities by rewarding

The pandemic affected the rates for Database Updates, School Attendance Monitoring, and Health Agenda Monitoring, which are part of the IGD

Percentage of municipalities with an excellent IGD (above 0.9)



municipalities with better performance at the expense of precisely those facing greater management difficulties. In this regard, identifying which municipalities should be prioritized, resumed in 2024, is an appropriate compensatory policy, as it prioritizes these local governments in the technical support activities carried out by state coordination offices.

Considering all these aspects, the CMAP recommended: the adoption of incentives for states to provide training and technical assistance to municipalities; the expansion of training initiatives offered by the federal government; technical support for municipalities facing difficulties; and an assessment of the adequacy of the funds transferred in relation to the costs incurred by municipalities in managing the policy.



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