

Title: Evolution of Urban and Rural Poverty in the Decade of 90

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ABSTRACT

The decade of 90 is characterized in Brazil as a period of great structural transformations in the economy. With the process of economic opening and the appearance of neoliberal politics changes and impacts are created that cause substantial alterations in the composition of the poor population. The rural areas presents a new dynamics in which other non agricultural activities start to play an important part. The impacts that these transformations accomplish about the level and composition of the poverty in the country are studied through the determination of the evolution of three indicators: the proportion of poors, the poverty gap and the index of Foster-Tornbeck. It was used the microdata from National Surveys of Household Sampling (PNADS) for the period 1992-1998 and the indexes were calculated for the level of units of the Federation, activity sections, census regions and census areas. It was also developed estimators and obtained its respective variances for these indexes objectifying statistical tests and the calculation of non lineal regressions for weighted least square, regarding the temporary variability of the sample precision. Results obtained indicate a convergence of Foster's Indexes, in elapsing of the decade, for the several census areas. The self-representative municipal districts (of larger size) are the ones that present smaller indexes, followed by the urban areas, metropolitan areas, non self-representative municipal districts (of smaller dimensions) and rural areas. The non agricultural activities in the rural zone showed smaller poverty indexes than the agricultural activities, but these divergences become also less accentuated in elapsing of the decade.