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## **Brazilian Public School Teachers On Strike**

*by John Neagle*

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On April 19, primary and secondary school teachers in 14 of Brazil's 27 states were on strike, affecting more than 10 million students. According to spokespersons for the National Education Workers Confederation, teachers in six states joined the walkout Wednesday, while teachers in four other states went on strike April 14. Teachers in Mato Gross state have been on strike for about two months. In mid-March, counterparts in Pernambuco and Santa Catarina states walked off the job, followed by teachers in Minas Gerais state last week. The Confederation reported that more than 730,000 teachers had joined the strike as of April 19. The number of teachers on strike in Sao Paulo, Brazil's most populous state, is estimated at 200,000. In Rio de Janeiro state, 95,000 teachers are participating in the action. The teachers are demanding a salary hike, and improved working conditions. (Basic data from Xinhua, 04/19/89)

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