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Barbara Khol

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On Taxes Paid By Middle-income Brazilians

by Barbara Khol

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According to a report published June 2 by daily newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo, the average middle class head of household works 120 days per year to pay federal, state and municipal taxes. The report was prepared by tax specialist Elisabeth Regina Libertucci, of the local Stroeter, Trench and Veirano firm. Tax deductions for a head of household earning 1 million cruzeiros per month (US $3,145) come to 212,342 cruzeiros ($669). Income taxes account for 199,630 cruzeiros ($629), and social security contributions, 12,712 cruzeiros ($40). In addition, the average head of household earning 1 million cruzeiros per month pays the equivalent of 9.9% of his/her income for indirect taxes (e.g., sales taxes on goods and public services). All taxes paid total the equivalent of 10 days work per month, or 120 days per year. (Basic data from AFP, 06/02/91)

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