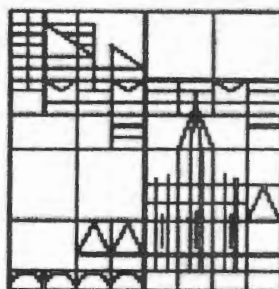


**INVESTIGATION OF THE HISTORY OF
MERCURY CONTAMINATION IN THE BALBINA
RESERVOIR, AMAZON, BRAZIL**

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DE PESQUISAS DA AMAZÔNIA

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GGH

hair segments (equivalent to 4 months) were considered, which included data from 18 women (BI 10.1 / 10.2 / 12, BM 5 / 7 / 11, CM 7.1; B 191 / 192 / 193 / 194 / 195 / 196 / 197 / 198 / 199 / 200 / 300). A new ANOVA was also carried out, using the 4 month values for individual women as the dependent variable and decimal years as the independent factor (results in Table 5).

Table 5: One way ANOVA indicating the effect of 4-months time intervals on total Hg concentration in the hair of fish eating women from the Vila of Balbina during the period 1995-2000. The 4 month values were used as the dependent variable and decimal years as the independent factor. SS being the sum of squares, df = degree of freedom, MS = mean squared deviations from the mean, F distribution and p being the probability factor

SS Effect	df Effect	MS Effect	SS Error	df Error	MS Error	F	p
276,99	15	18,47	1605,24	167	9,61	1,92	0,024240

The new ANOVA again showed a significant change in total mercury concentration over time ($p = 0,024240$).

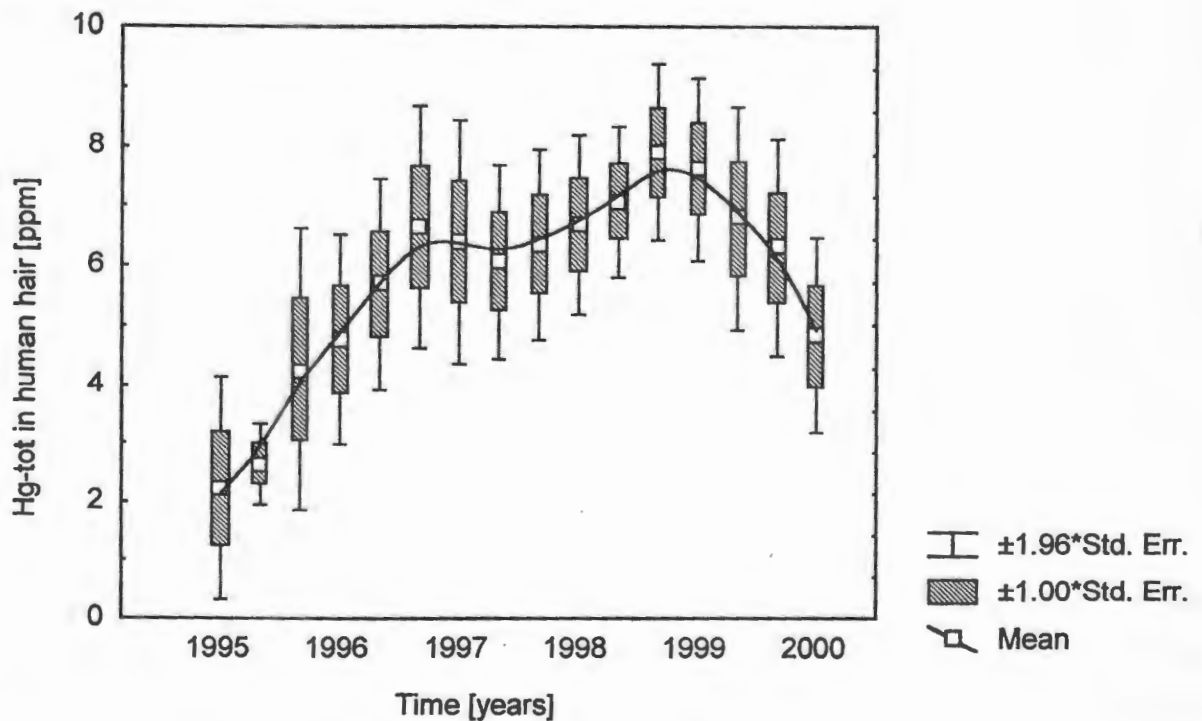


Figure 6: Means of total mercury concentrations [ppm] from hair of fish eating women from the Vila of Balbina, which represent a 4 months time period, were plotted against time. The boxes represent the standard error (standard deviation of the mean) and the bars the standard error times 1.96. The number of the year was set for the middle of each year (e.g. 1999 = 1999,5).