



## Neves, Aécio

Senator  
Brazilian Senate



Governor of Minas Gerais until 2010, Aécio was born in 1960 in Belo Horizonte. He is the son of former federal deputy Aécio Ferreira da Cunha and Inês Maria Neves, and is father of Gabriela, born in 1992. Aécio's first steps into politics were at the age of 22, when he became personal assistant of his maternal grandfather, the then governor of Minas, Mr. Tancredo Neves. Aécio graduated in Economics from Pontifícia Universidade de Minas Gerais (PUC-Minas). His parliamentary experience comprises four consecutive terms, totaling 16 years in Congress. Elected President of the Chamber of Deputies for the biennium 2001-2002, initiated a period of greater transparency in the activities of Parliament. Aécio Neves was elected Governor of Minas Gerais in 2002. Around him gathered a large number of the main social and economic entities and political leaders of the state. In Aécio's first term, the government of the state promoted the "Management Shock" (Choque de Gestão). In 2006, Aécio was re-elected governor in the first round of elections. In April 2007, the model of public management of Minas Gerais was chosen by the World Bank as reference of good governance among all countries related to the institution. The state now leads economic growth, attracts investment and creates jobs in Brazil, and has recorded major progress in all social indicators and quality of life. Minas Gerais has nowadays the most outstanding set of social and economic indicators of all the Brazilian states, and is the only one to set working targets for the whole government. When he started his second term in 2007, Aécio Neves implemented the "State for Results" (Estado para Resultados). The objective of the new model is to reach high quality in public services. The results are goals to be achieved in schools, hospitals and health units, the police, state enterprises and energy generation, environmental monitoring and others. The state of Minas Gerais stands out in job creation, in the reduction of poverty and violence, improvements in health and education, and the preservation of green areas, among others. The performance of Aécio Neves as deputy stood out in 1997, when he was chosen leader of the PSDB in the Congress. He is therefore one of the main interlocutors of the party and one of the youngest politicians to occupy a position of importance. In the following year he was elected leader by acclamation, the same occurring in 1999. After this third term in leadership, he achieved an unprecedented fact in the PSDB: was reappointed to the position of leader for the fourth time, in 2000. In the two years that he was President of the Chamber of Deputies, he was elected by his parliamentary colleagues the most influential of the National Congress in a poll carried out by the Department of Inter Parliamentary Advisor (Departamento Intersindical de Assessoria Parlamentar – Diap). The "Package of Ethics" (Pacote Ético) adopted under the management of Aécio Neves, impacted public opinion strongly with the end of Deputies' immunity for ordinary crimes, and the creation of the Code of Ethics and Council's Ethics Board. Another innovation was the introduction of measures to facilitate the access of ordinary people to parliamentary figure through the internet. Aécio renounced the government in March 2010 to run and be elected as federal senator.