REVISITING MIGRATION IN BRASIL’S MIDWEST: THE CASE OF LUCAS DO RIO VERDE (MT)

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Abstract

The purpose of this undergraduate research was to conduct an introductory study of the demographic variable “migration” in the municipality of Lucas do Rio Verde (MT). It is an important producer of soybeans and corn, and from the 2000s, also of products derived from poultry and pigs. It was observed that the migration has been expanded in recent years by changes in the productive context, which influences the dynamics of the region through urbanization, population growth and reorganization of the spaces in the municipality.

Key words: Migration, Agroindustry Meat-Grains, Brasil’s Midwest.

Introduction

Lucas do Rio Verde (LRV), emancipated in 1988, is a council member of the microrregion of Alto Teles Pires, Brazil’s recent expansion area of the agricultural frontier. In 2008, Brazil Foods SA settled in the municipality boosting the region’s economy. With an urban population annual growth rate of 10.15%, between 2000 and 2010, it was emphasized that this growth occurs mainly through migration.

Results and Discussion

Lucas do Rio Verde (LRV) fits the characteristics of “agribusiness city”. The accelerated urbanization of the municipality was linked to the concentration and attraction of capital and labor, Mato Grosso’s agricultural frontier expansion characteristic. Between 2004 and 2010, LRV increased by 198.5% in waves of formal jobs, with the manufacturing sector the largest employer in the location.

In 2010, LRV’s net migration rate was 5.05%, with a higher relative proportion of men between 19 and 44 years.

Conclusions

Attracted by a dynamic and expanding municipality, the oldest flows of migrants come from people born in the South. More recently flows came from the north and northeast. However, also highlight the residence migration observed inside Lucas do Rio Verde.

Acknowledgement

The Research Group on Population and Environment NEPO / UNICAMP conducted a survey on LRV’s 500 households in 2009 and a follow-up research in 2013. The results indicated that as the birthplace, migrants come in 62.3% of other states, particularly Brazil’s south (51.6%). However, qualitative research demonstrated that the new trend is a higher proportion of immigrants from the North and Northeast states.