

IRSA - CONGRESSO MUNDIAL DE SOCIOLOGIA RURAL (01/10/2025 A 20/01/2026) - IRSA 23 - RURAL YOUTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE: IDENTITIES, TERRITORIAL RESISTANCE, AND THE DILEMMA OF WORK OR MIGRATION

YOUTH REPRESENTATION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF FAMILY FARMING IN RIO GRANDE DO SUL

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In Rio Grande do Sul, family farming accounts for 293,892 agricultural establishments, or 80% of all establishments in the state (IBGE, 2017). Its main socioeconomic challenges include the lack of generational succession and the aging of farm managers. This study aims to analyze the representativeness of young managers (up to 35 years old) within family farming in Rio Grande do Sul, in comparison with adults (36 to 64 years old) and older adults (65 years or over). The data used for the analysis are drawn from the 2017 Agricultural Census and segmented according to the eight intermediate geographic regions: Porto Alegre, Pelotas, Santa Maria, Uruguaiana, Ijuí, Passo Fundo, Caxias do Sul, and Santa Cruz do Sul–Lajeado. The results show that, in the Porto Alegre

region, 8.39% of farms are managed by young people, 62.8% by adults, and 28.78% by older adults; in Pelotas, the percentages are 9.86% young, 65.7% adults, and 24.45% older adults; in Santa Maria, 7.92% young managers, 60.9% adults, and 31.7% older adults. The Uruguaiana region presents the following distribution: 7.92% young, 57.6% adults, and 34.4% older adults. In Ijuí, 5.81% are young managers, 68.22% adults, and 25.97% older adults. In Passo Fundo, the scenario is 7.48% young, 68.14% adults, and 24.39% older adults; while in Caxias do Sul, 4.38% are young, 63.54% adults, and 32.09% older adults. Finally, in the Santa Cruz do Sul–Lajeado region, 9.84% are young managers, 65.43% adults, and 24.73% older adults. Overall, young people represent a smaller share of managers compared with the other age groups, and the proportion of older adults is nearly three times that of young managers. This highlights the aging of family farm managers in Rio Grande do Sul and the need for public policies that support generational succession.

Palavras-chave: rural youth; generational succession; management; family farming establishments; rio grande do sul.