

THE RAPID AGING PROCESS OF BRAZILIAN POPULATION: CHALLENGES FOR PUBLIC POLICIES

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This presentation aims to show how Brazil has been going through its demographic transition, from a regime of high population growth in the twentieth century to a phase of moderate and even negative growth in the middle of the 21st. This demographic setting is established according to the latest revision of projections released by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (*Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística - IBGE*) - the official governmental institute responsible for national statistics. The growth of young adult population and the relatively low participation of the elderly in the total population - demographic bonus – contribute for diverse opportunities for economic development in the country. It's up to the government to consider the Brazilian population as an important variable in the complex equation of the country's economic development in the upcoming decades. This approach can be addressed through implementation of policies that enhance intergenerational transfers, targeting the overcome of accumulated social problems and managing future demands, taking advantage of the opportunity given by the population dynamics.