


## ECONOMIC DYNAMICS AND URBAN GROWTH IN ARIQUEMES-RO

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### ABSTRACT

The present study aims to analyze the development of the municipality of Ariquemes over time, since its emancipation, addressing its management and planning. Considering the actions of management of spatial planning, as this is seen as an important factor resulting from public decision-making and for the promotion of the urban sector, to better serve its population. From this perspective, to achieve the proposed objective, the methodological procedure of the study is supported by a literature review with a documentary research character, using historical sources consisting of materials prepared as books and articles, as well as resorting to primary sources, that are, reports from residents and empirical observation.

**Keywords:** Ariquemes. Development. Management. Planning.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Ariquemes is a municipality in the state of Rondônia in the Northeast region of Brazil, its foundation took place on November 21, 1977, and the name came in reverence to an ancient Indigenous tribe that is currently considered extinct called Arikeme. Its name is a tribute to the indigenous tribe called Ahôpôvo or Arikêmes (meaning —peoples of the river). The Indians spoke the Ariken, belonging to the Tupi linguistic group. These people were extinct in the first confrontations with the new inhabitants of the country and of sociocultural changes. Because they were a non-warlike people, the invasion of non-indigenous people was facilitated. The tribe lived surrounded by grandiose natural wealth because the place is located in a hydrographic basin that involves several rivers, the Jamari River being the main one, and an alternating tropical forest, with native cocoa trees, rubber trees, and Brazil nut trees, as well as cassiterite deposits.

Nowadays Ariquemes is the third largest city in Rondônia, it is one of the largest centers of higher education in the region. The city developed due to immigrants (MEIRA, 2017).

Ariquemes has specific characteristics in the context of the development of Rondônia, therefore, it aims to help identify these characteristics of the municipality's agricultural production and agroindustry in the context of local socioeconomic development.

The municipality of Ariquemes is located in the region of the Jamari Valley Territory, which has a very diverse socio-cultural dimension, Ariquemes is considered one of the most prosperous and important municipalities in Rondônia for its booming economy, highlighting agricultural products and intense mineral exploration activity.

Interpreting the territory from the perspective of regional development is essential for public policies aimed at greater national development, thus seeking greater social and economic cohesion and reducing concentration and socioeconomic inequalities to achieve the balance of regional development. The economic development of the city is like a continuous process of growth accompanied by qualitative changes in economic and social welfare indicators.

## **METHODOLOGY**

Based on a bibliographic review methodology, this research covers the theme of study and aims to put the researcher in direct contact with the subject, Gil (2007, p. 44),

emphasizes that bibliographic research "is developed based on material already prepared, consisting mainly of books and scientific articles". In short, its main advantage lies in the fact that it allows the investigator to cover a much wider range of phenomena.

The approach here will be based on the collection of data with a documentary research character, based on the documentary apparatus referring to the municipality of Ariquemes.

According to Lakatos and Marconi (2001), documentary research is the collection of data from primary sources, such as written or unwritten documents, belonging to public archives; private archives of institutions and households, and statistical sources.

## **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

### **THE URBANIZATION PROCESS OF ARIQUEMES**

According to historian Aleks Palitot (2021), the city of Ariquemes was created to house immigrants, in this case, workers who lived in an irregular situation in areas close to Br 364, called Vale do Jamari that emerged around the year 1794, as the heart of the municipality of Ariquemes, known for its richness of native spices, especially cocoa and latex. There were several rubber plantations in the area inhabited by extractivists and Indians, especially the Papagaios Rubber Plantation. In this period, there was no knowledge of the Amazon. The current name of the municipality is a tribute to the Arikeme tribe, the original inhabitants of this region.

The installation of the Jamari Valley took place around 1900 during the first rubber cycle, but its actual installation began in 1909 with the construction of the telegraph line from Cuiabá to Santo Antônio do Rio Madeira. In 1915, the area was designated by Resolution No. 735 and became known as the Third District of the City of Santo Antônio do Madeira (LOPEZ, 2013).

With the high population growth due to the high manufacture of rubber in Malaysia, the rubber plantations of the Amazon began to decline. They only recovered at the beginning of World War II in 1939, when the second economic cycle began. After the second war, rubber depreciated again, and the village only developed again in 1960, this development took place through the construction of Br 364 by Juscelino Kubitschek and also after the discovery and extraction of large cassiterite mines (ARIQUEMES-RO PREFEITURA, 2017).

Many were the miners who came to explore this area, causing a housing elevation, along with the name of the village of Ariquemes. However, on April 15, 1970, the Ministry of Mines and Energy prohibited the manual mining of cassiterite, arguing the great destruction of nature, defining that the extraction of cassiterites would be mechanical through companies, once again postponing Ariquemes from becoming a municipality (IBGE, 2017).

The transformations, according to Filho (2011), changed the environment and the economy of the region itself, when in 1972 the INCRA began studies in the expropriated regions, which resulted in the Burareiro and Marechal Dutra settlement projects. In early 1975, these projects moved to the implementation phase. Due to this project, population development increased thanks to INCRA and the Government of the Territory and the Municipality of Porto Velho in the formation of an urban structure, to plan a rational occupation of the area.

After this development, the then mayor of Porto Velho, Antônio Carlos Cabral Carpintero, prescribed the delegation from the headquarters of the District, located on the banks of the Jamari River, where the Marechal Rondon neighborhood was located, to another area close to the BR-364, giving the installation of the city designed and divided into sectors: Institutional, Industrial, Commercial, and Residential (LOPEZ, 2013).

On February 11, 1976, Nova Ariquemes began to emerge. The village is now called Vila Velha. There was an attempt to eradicate the initial village since it was cut in the center by the BR-364, which served as its axis. Despite the eviction attempts, the people who lived there dominated the area that was included in the urban plan that currently characterizes a historical reference of the municipality (MEIRA, 2017).

The following year, the long-awaited emancipation of Ariquemes arrived, specifically on October 11, 1977, through Law No. 6,448, the political installation of the municipality was on November 21. Due to its great extension, several laws were sanctioned for the creation of other municipalities such as Jarú, Machadinho D'Oeste, Jamari (current Itapuã do Oeste), Alto Paraíso, Cacaúlândia, Monte Negro, and Rio Crespo. There is also the Bom Futuro Mine, one of the districts of the municipality with approximately 2,500 inhabitants, located 95 km from Ariquemes. (COSTA, 2019).

After the emancipation of Ariquemes, the mission was handed over to Antônio Carlos Cabral Carpintero. The architect was the designer of the urban creation of Ariquemes (RO), the largest city in the Jamari Valley. In a report given to Diêgo Holanda

from the Globo Ariquemes News Portal (2017), the architect reported all the details and curiosities about the largest urbanization project of his career.

At the time called Vila Velha, with approximately 1.5 thousand residents, most were workers from the rubber cycles. Located in an irregular area between BR-364 and the Jamari River, it was when Captain Sílvio began to realize the urgency of new urban structures to serve the settlers who arrived, mainly from the south of the country, who arrived to occupy the region through projects such as Burareiro and Marechal Dutra (COSTA, 2019).

Captain Sílvio, who was responsible for INCRA, entrusted Carpintero with this urban project because it had to be resolved urgently to serve the population that already lived there, the area was already chosen, Carpintero evaluated the area and it was acceptable, so the great challenge began, the urbanization of Ariquemes, and quickly the urbanist designed the project right there. Although carried out in a hurry, it was cautious with the distribution of neighborhoods, which are currently the sectors of Ariquemes (HOLANDA, 2017).

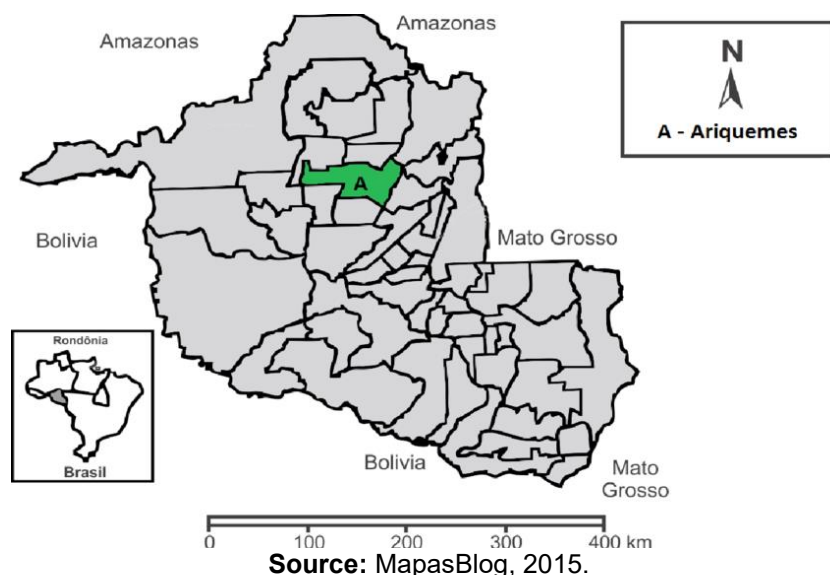
Another precaution he took was that the city center was not around the highway, so the center was managed well inside and the entire administrative area would be 3 kilometers from the highway. This administrative area mentioned by him is the Institutional Sector, a part of land in the center of the city that serves as the axis for urban growth. In this region, the main bodies were built, such as the city hall, City Council, Forum, Fire Department, Ceplac, schools, Municipal Fair, police station, Public Prosecutor's Office, Detran, and Federal University (HOLANDA, 2017).

The same was reported to Diêgo Holanda from the Globo Ariquemes News Portal (2017), who left the Industrial Sector close to BR, as a tactic for the influx of cargo, as it is where the largest flow of industries is concentrated. The sectors foreseen in the initial planning were 1, 2, 3, and 4, a space of approximately 10 meters was made between the backs of the land, called Alameda. These spaces were left to facilitate the cleaning of the cesspools, and the wells were on the opposite side to avoid contamination of the water with the cesspool.

## LOCATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ARIQUEMES

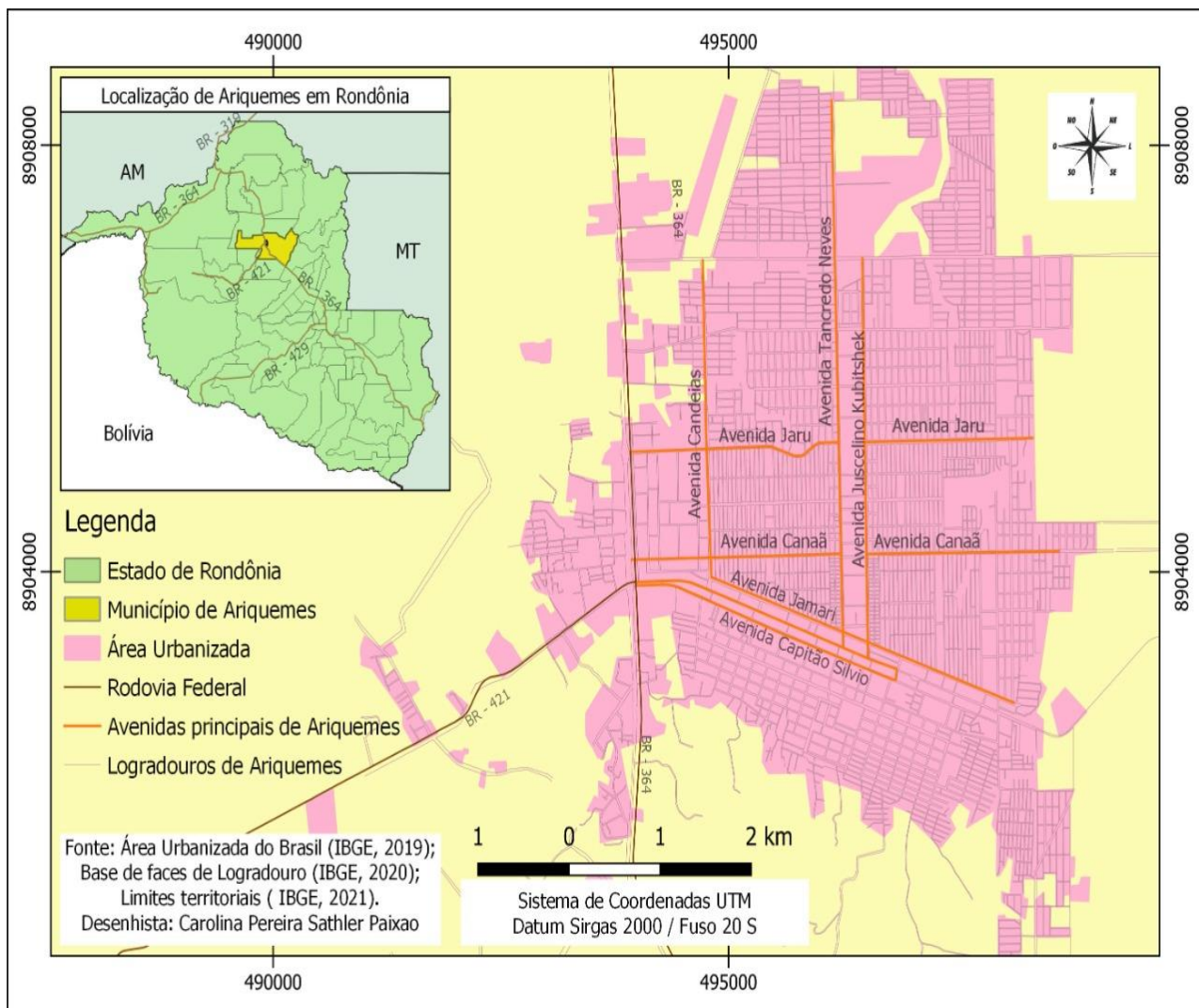
It is located at latitude 09°54'48" south and longitude 63°02'27" west, at an altitude of 142 meters. Its population is 96,833 inhabitants (IBGE/2022), being the third most

populous municipality in Rondônia and the second in demographic density. It has an area of 4,427 km<sup>2</sup>. It is located in the north-central portion of the state of Rondônia, 203 kilometers from the capital Porto Velho. The following is a map of the location of the Municipality of Ariquemes in the State of Rondônia.



Ariquemes has a set of roads and traffic signals, and its operation of 1,500 km of side roads, the BR-364 that connects the North to the South of the country and will connect to the Pacific, the BR-421 that will connect with Bolivia and the RO-257 planned to connect with the Trans-Amazonian (IBGE, 2014).

The city is assisted by three major rivers: the Jamari which is responsible for the water supply in the municipality, the Canaã, and the Rio Branco to the north of the city. Other small streams pass through sectors 2, 5, 6, 7 Jardim América and others (CÂMARA MUNICIPAL DE ARIQUEMES, 2022). Just below we have the map of some urban roads in the city of Ariquemes and the photo of the Municipality of Ariquemes currently taken by a Drone.



Source: Carolina Pereira Sather Paixão, 2022.



Source: Portal Amazônia (2022).

The Municipality of Ariquemes contains 54 sectors and neighborhoods in the consolidated urban area, areas of farms, urban centers, and the Bom Futuro District. The total number of lots identified was 27,653, of which 1,011 were considered urban voids.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Endowed with great economic potential and a restless development process, which highlights it in the leadership and as a center of convergence of the entire region of the Jamari Valley, with its installation on November 27, 1977, with a spectacular mark of growth and prosperity that places it among the four largest in the State of Rondônia.

The city grew and developed based on migration, with many migrants coming from Rio Grande do Sul and Paraná, the city has a rich history in the occupation and development of the Western Amazon. The city had 19 settlement projects between 1974 and 2015 and received 8,600 families. With most of them, it was possible to create new municipalities.

In its territory, the municipalities of Jaru, Machadinho d'Oeste, Itapuã do Oeste, Alto Paraíso, Cacaúlândia, Monte Negro and Rio Crespo were born. The territory of Ariquemes is also home to the district of Bom Futuro (Grimpo), which is home to about 2,500 inhabitants, including miners who took the city to the top of the country for mining between 1988 and 1990.

With a strong economy, based on agriculture, industry (agribusiness), and commerce, Ariquemes has about 500,000 head of cattle in pastures, in addition to producing about 30,000 tons of fish per year, which together with meat and milk form the basis of the economy, meeting domestic consumption and exporting the rest to the world, becoming a determining factor in the state's trade balance.

Equitably, the municipality is proud to be among the first in grain productivity, with a cultivated region of approximately 15 hectares, attributed to soybean crops, which alone covers an area of 5,661 hectares, and the rest is coffee, rice, beans, and cocoa, with great relevance to the Rondônia economy, with a GDP of R\$ 1,005,152.00 and GDP Per capita R\$ 11,883.90. (RIBEIRO, 2021). Below we have the socioeconomic indicators of Ariquemes.

The success of the development of Ariquemes is due to the managers who have succeeded each other over the years, but also to the people who are immensely proud of the city (city hall) and who work with dedication and love for the city.



According to the Portal of the Government of the State of Rondônia (2021), this year alone, Rondônia invested more than 200 million reais in works and services to meet the needs of municipalities and people to make them more prepared and economically competitive, in addition to allowing the city to be more functional and dynamic. The organization and signage of public roads provide good and safe traffic for vehicles and people, which makes it more beautiful.

Thus, the city of Ariquemes received other relevant works from the state government, such as the recovery and maintenance of roads and bridges, and the completion of the works of BR-421 on the Jamari River, landfill and other structures to be built in the area, replacing the old and dilapidated wooden structures with the final structures now in concrete and steel to better meet the transportation needs of the communities and municipalities involved and manage their production agricultural. Just below we have the bridge over the Jamari River on BR - 421; the new structure will benefit the region.



**Source:** Government of the State of Rondônia (2021)

One of the benefits that the bridge brought to residents and the population in general, was more safety for those who travel on the highway by reducing waiting time on both sides, valuing the region, and ensuring safer accessibility to the municipalities of Campo Novo, Monte Negro, and Bursitis. The new structure will also facilitate the flow of

agricultural products and raw materials, increasing the participation of our farmers and entrepreneurs in the regional and national markets.

The state government's investments in the municipality of Ariquemes are very diverse, targeting jobs and services in all areas, including social assistance and entrepreneurship. Another planning that makes Ariquemes have a very good development is the increase in small businesses, such as small businesses, micro-enterprises, and individual micro-entrepreneurs. According to a data survey carried out by the Sebrae Registry of Companies (CSE), in 2015 there were 4,727 formalized small businesses in Ariquemes (with an active National Registry of Legal Entities – CNPJ), of which about 8.8% concern small businesses (EPP), 35% were micro-enterprises and 56.2% were individual micro-entrepreneurs as we can see in graph 1. As for the economic sector, less than 1% belonged to agribusiness, more than 7% to civil construction, almost 12% were industries, 35% were services and 45% were trade, represented by graphs 01 and 02 below.

Chart 1 - Distribution of businesses by size

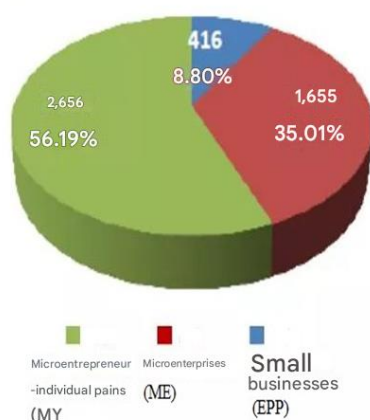
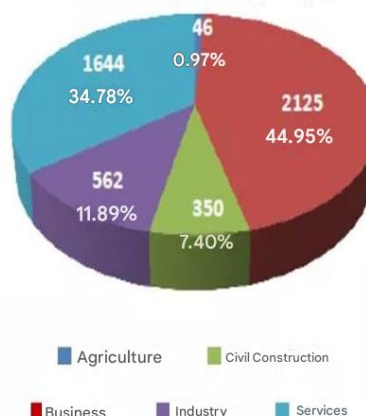


Chart 2 - Distribution of business by sector



**Source:** SEBRAE Adaptation (2017).

By August 2022, 256 new companies had been registered in Ariquemes, 35 of which operate over the internet. In the entire year of 2021, 321 companies were registered. In the last month, 42 new companies were established, 4 of which operate over the internet. This performance is higher than that of the previous month.

According to the FIRJAN Municipal Development Index (IFDM), a study by the FIRJAN system (Federation of Industries of the State of Rio de Janeiro), places Ariquemes at the top of the state of Rondônia. The index tracks the actions of Brazilian municipalities in three areas of activity: employment, income, education, and health. Among the seven states in the northern region of Brazil, Ariquemes ranks third, behind two cities in the state

of Tocantins, the first being Araguaína, and Palmas, which comes in second. These numbers are in line with the public policy applied to adding value to the productive sector, in which the Municipality of Ariquemes has invested and joined producers to advance and reach new levels of sustainability. The progress now achieved is the result of the collective historical work of the whole society, which also has the constant support of the public authorities that seek to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of the population, so we beat these national indicators.

Given the above, Ariquemes - RO is a municipality of great importance in the northern region that stands out for the high regularity of sales in the year. Economic performance and the small number of clear new business opportunities are the points of attention. Ariquemes is the third largest city in the state of Rondônia and also one of the largest centers of higher education in the region. The city stands out for its primary economy, based mainly on livestock.

## **CONCLUSION**

Ariquemes, from the beginning of its establishment to the process of its urbanization, is a city that is inserted both in a political construction of the period of the Military Dictatorship, whose development project foresaw the construction of cities and the expansion of the agricultural frontier in the state of Rondônia and in a sense of the construction of a regional network of medium-sized cities, in dialogue with other urban centers that were also expanded later.

Being highlighted for being a route for the flow of products, it is an essential city for the growth of the State of Rondônia as a whole, being in a strategic location on the banks of the BR-364.

Administratively, the management that was at the head of the public power over time, always had as its objective the full growth of the municipality, there were mistakes and successes in the process of its evolution until it reached the Ariquemes of today, the land of culture, sport, industry, commerce, land of cattle, soybeans, land of a solid economy, and constant development, of great relevance in the issue of exports from the State of Rondônia.

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