

Torrential rains in Brazil leave at least six dead

November 19 2023



Credit: Pixabay/CC0 Public Domain

Flooding and landslides triggered by heavy rains in southern Brazil have claimed at least six lives over the past week, authorities said Sunday.

The fatalities occurred in the states of Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul, and major property damage in the latter was reported as thousands of people sheltered in gymnasiums, deputy governor Gabriel Souza said on X, the former Twitter.

Several towns in Rio Grande do Sul were flooded when the Taquari River overflowed its banks.

In one of them, Roca Sales, dozens of volunteers worked Sunday to clear streets blocked by a brown mess of mud and debris left by the river, an AFP journalist observed.

Some streets were completely covered with mud, and trees were torn down.

Southern Brazil has been hit hard in recent months by [extreme weather events](#) such as torrential rain and a cyclone in September that left more than 50 people dead. Experts say climate change is fueling many of these disasters.

In Santa Catarina state, [fatalities](#) were also reported from [heavy rains](#) that began on Tuesday, and the governor declared a [state of emergency](#) in 64 towns.

In the four hardest-hit cities, the rain that fell in three days was more than double what was expected for the entire month of November.

© 2023 AFP

Citation: Torrential rains in Brazil leave at least six dead (2023, November 19) retrieved 28 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2023-11-torrential-brazil-dead.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private

study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.