

Embassy of Brazil

Washington, D.C.

Brazil at a Glance



General Information

Official Name: Federative Republic of Brazil

Capital:
Brasília

Official Language: Portuguese



System of Government: A Federative Republic with a multi-party political system. Brazil holds democratic elections for president, senators, representatives, state governors and legislators, mayors and municipal counsels. Brazil is the world leader in electronic online voting (100 million voters.)

Area: 3,286,470 square miles

Population: 190 million

Geography: Brazil is in east-central South America and occupies nearly 50% of the South American continent.

Around 58% of Brazil is covered with forests, which include the largest rainforest in the world, located in the Amazon River basin.

The country has eight river systems, which carry approximately 20% of the world's fresh water.

Land Use: 58% forests, 22% pasture, 6% crops, 14% other use.

Biggest Cities: São Paulo (10.8 million), Rio de Janeiro (6 million), Salvador (2.8 million), Belo Horizonte (2.4 million), Brasília (2.4 million), Recife (1.5 million)

Demographics

Population Density: 58 persons per square mile

Urban/Rural: 81% urban, 19% rural

Sex Distribution: 48.8% male, 51.2% female

Age Breakdown: 27.6% under 15, 27.9% 15 to 29, 21.1% 30 to 44, 13.3% 45 to 59, 7.4% 60 to 74, 2.7% 75 and over

Economy

Money: The official currency is the real, which is divided into 100 centavos

Main Products: Aircraft, bauxite, beef, cellulose, cereals, coffee, cocoa, crude oil and petrochemicals, diamonds, furniture, gold, household appliances, hydroelectric power engines, iron ore, manganese, motor vehicles, nickel, orange juice, phosphates, platinum, processed food, quartz crystals, rubber, shoes, silver, soybeans, steel, sugar, textiles, timber, tin, titanium, uranium, and zinc.



Highlights

Actions and Programmes of the Federal Government of Brazil