

# **BRAZIL**









# INTRODUCTION

Following more than three centuries under Portuguese rule, Brazil gained its independence in 1822. By far the largest and most populous country in South America, Brazil underwent more than a half century of populist and military government until 1985, when the military regime peacefully ceded power to civilian rulers.

# **GOVERNMENT**

#### **Chief of State**

President Jair BOLSONARO

#### **Head of Government**

President Jair BOLSONARO

# **Government Type**

federal presidential republic

# Capital

Brasilia

## Legislature

bicameral National Congress or Congresso Nacional consists of the Federal Senate or Senado Federal (81 seats) and the Chamber of Deputies or Camara dos Deputados (513 seats)

# **GEOGRAPHY**

# Area

Total: 8,515,770 sq km Land: 8,358,140 sq km Water: 157,630 sq km

## Climate

mostly tropical, but temperate in south

#### **Natural Resources**

alumina, bauxite, beryllium, gold, iron ore, manganese, nickel, niobium, phosphates, platinum, tantalum, tin, rare earth elements, uranium, petroleum, hydropower, timber

# **ECONOMY**

#### **Economic Overview**

industrial-led economic growth model; recovering from 2014-2016 recession when COVID-19 hit; industry limited by Amazon rainforest but increasing deforestation; new macroeconomic structural reforms; high income inequality; left UNASUR to join PROSUR

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$2.989 trillion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$14,100 (2020 est.)
Industries - textiles, shoes, chemicals, cement, lumber, iron ore, tin, steel, aircraft, motor vehicles and parts, other machinery and equipment

**Agricultural products -** sugarcane, soybeans, maize, milk, cassava, oranges, poultry, rice, beef, cotton

**Exports** \$239.2 billion (2020 est.)

soybeans, crude petroleum, iron, corn, wood pulp products (2019)

partners: China 28%, US 13% (2019)

Imports \$227.4 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, vehicle parts, crude petroleum, integrated circuits, pesticides (2019)

partners: China 21%, US 18%, Germany 6%, Argentina 6% (2019)

# **PEOPLE & SOCIETY**

# **Population**

213.4 million (July 2021 est.)

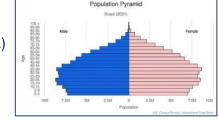
# **Population Growth**

0.65% (2021 est.)

# **Ethnicity**

White 47.7%, Mulatto

(mixed White and Black) 43.1%, Black 7.6%, Asian 1.1%, Indigenous 0.4% (2010 est.)



# Language

Portuguese (official and most widely spoken language); note: less common languages include Spanish (border areas and schools), German, Italian, Japanese, English, and a large number of minor Amerindian languages

# Religion

Roman Catholic 64.6%, other Catholic 0.4%, Protestant 22.2%, other Christian 0.7%, Spiritist 2.2%, other 1.4%, none 8%, unspecified 0.4% (2010 est.)