



(<http://www.brazil.gov.br>)

An abstract for curious people on Brazil

I-History (main dates):

- “Discovered”: 21st of April of 1500 AD;
- Independence from Portugal: 7th of September of 1822;
- Slavery abolished: 13th of May of 1888;
- Proclamation of Republic: 15th of November of 1889.

II-Politics:

- Federate Republic;
- 26 states, and a Federal District;
- Capital: Brasília;
- Political regime: Presidential Democracy;
- Three independent and harmonious Federal powers:
 - ⇒ Executive (President & Secretaries);
 - ⇒ Legislative (Bicameral: Senate and House of Representative);
 - ⇒ Judiciary.





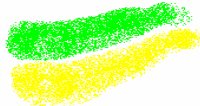
III- Geography:

- Surface: **8.547.403,5 Km²**
- Population: **157 079 573 inhabitants**
- Population density (1996): **18,38 hab/Km²**
- Language: **Portuguese**;
- Regions: North, Northeast, Southeast, Central-west and South;
- Number of cities (1997): **5.507**
- Amazon forest produces approximately, **25 %** of the oxygen on Earth;

IV-Economy:

- Currency: *Real* (R\$) divided in 100 *Centavos*;
- Eighth biggest economy in the world;
- Biggest problems: Unfair wealth distribution & Illiteracy (\pm 20 % pop.);
- Natural resources vary from almost every usual known commodities;

V- National Symbols:

			Southern-Cross Constellation 	Green & Yellow 
Flag	Republic Crest	Seal	Symbol	Colours



(<http://www.brazil.gov.br>)

An abstract for curious people on Brazil

VI-Brazilian people:

a) Highs:

- Warm & friendly;
- Happiness & optimism;
- Talkative & extrovert;
- Creative;

b) Lows:

- Unpunctual;
- Gossipy;
- Noisy;
- Naivety* (One may consider this as a highlight).

VII-Demography, Anthropology & Education figures:

a) Population statistics:

Growth rate	Urban pop.	Sex ratio	Active pop.
1.4 % / y	78.4 %	97.3 % (man/woman)	58.7 % (10-65 yo)

b) Life quality:

Life expectancy (at birth)		New-born death rate	Children death rate
Males	Females		
63.9 yo	71.4 yo	37.5 (per K- born)	60.7 (per K < 5 yo)

c) Ethnic composition:

White(w)	Black(b)	“Mulato” (w+b)	Asiatic	Indigenous
55.2 %	6.0 %	38.2 %	0.4 %	0.2 %

d) Education (years of school attendance):

3 years	4 – 7 years	8 – 10 years	11 years +
31.3 %	32.0 %	14.5 %	22.0 %

Source: IBGE – Brazilian Institute for Geography and Statistics - 1996. ([URL: http://www.ibge.gov.br](http://www.ibge.gov.br))

VIII-Touristic hot-spots: ([URL: http://www.embratur.gov.br](http://www.embratur.gov.br))

- Beaches: Maceió, Recife, Rio de Janeiro, Natal, Angra dos Reis, ...
- Natural sightseeing: Foz-do-Iguacú, Vila-Velha, Lençóis Bahianos, Chapada dos Guimarães, Pantanal Matogrossense, ...
- Biggest cities: São Paulo, Rio-de-Janeiro, Belo-Horizonte, Curitiba, ...
- Popular festivities: Carnaval, São João, Boi-bumba, Paixão de Cristo...
- Food: Feijoada, Pão-de-Queijo, Vatapá, Tapioca, Tucupi, ...
- Drink: Cachaça, Guaraná, Água-de-Côco, Chimarrão, ...
- Seasons/climates year-round (average):

Autumn (21 st March)	Winter (June)	Spring (September)	Summer (December)
Sun	Sun, rain on Mondays ☺	Sun	Sun