

# Find out what is **TRUE** ✓ and what is **FALSE** ✗ about the land entry of migrant people in Brazil during the pandemic of COVID-19.



After the pandemic, Brazil changed its migration policy and does not allow Asylum claims, even for people from Venezuela.



The entry through the Brazil-Paraguay land border guarantees the possibility of regularization.

Brazil has issued several regulations (administrative rules) that severely limit the entry of people by land, especially those coming from Venezuela. If you have entered by means of irregular forms such as trails or shortcuts, and have not gone through immigration control at the border to receive an entry card or a stamp, Brazil may immediately deport you to your country of origin. You will not be able to apply for refuge or any other form of residence permit. This is also true for Venezuelans, even though Brazil recognizes that they are victims of serious human rights violations.

The entry into Brazil from Paraguay, by land, must be regular and be registered in an official post at the border, only for people who were actually in Paraguay. In addition, preliminary admission interviews are being held, in which the person is expected to prove that he or she was actually in Paraguay and did not went to the border point just to obtain regular entry, being previously in Brazil. A false statement can lead to criminal liability, and the route can subject a person to risky situations.



All borders in Brazil are closed.

Entry into Brazil by air is possible, as long as the traveler performs RT-PCR testing prior to departure and presents a visa when required. However, almost all land borders are closed. The entry is only possible for Brazilian people, holders of previous residence permits (CRNM), Brazilian spouses, partners, and children, in very specific cases. Only one land border is as it was before: Brazil's border with Paraguay.



To be able to regularize myself in Brazil, I just need to have an entry stamp in my passport.

To regularize, at this point, a person needs a stamp proving regular entry. You may get the stamp, but if it is numbered 140 or 126, means that you have been notified for voluntary departure or deportation, respectively. If you are notified to leave the country, even if you got a stamp in your passport, you will not be able to regularize your situation because your entry into the country was not regular.



The deportation notice means that I have 60 days to go to the Federal Police to apply for asylum or residency.

The notification says that you have 60 days to leave the country voluntarily, under penalty of deportation. That is, if within 60 days you do not find some way to regularize your situation (through a lawsuit or other possible form of regularization), you may be subject to the compulsory removal procedure.



It is possible to ask for assistance from the Federal Public Defenders' Office (DPU) to regularize my stay in Brazil by means of a lawsuit.

The DPU has filed lawsuits requesting the permanence of immigrants who entered irregularly, and has questioned, in various ways, Brazil's stance in guaranteeing the right to refuge. DPU's assistance is free of charge. Look for the DPU in your region to find out the best way to proceed with your case.



If there is no DPU in my region, there is no way to request legal assistance for this issue.

If there is no DPU in your region, you can seek private counsel, the offices of law schools, or civil society entities for legal guidance and advice. Another possibility, in case you are in an irregular situation, is to file lawsuits directly without a lawyer, looking for the filing sector of the nearest Special Federal Court.



If I get in by plane, I can regularize myself in Brazil.

There are no impediments or restrictions regarding entry by air, other than the presentation of a visa, if necessary, and a negative RT-PCR test, all according to the Interministerial Administrative Rule No. 652/2021. This means that when you enter by plane, you will probably have a regular entry and will be able to apply for asylum or other forms of residence authorization before the Federal Police.



I can make my CPF having entered Brazil irregularly.

The CPF (Individual Taxpayer Identification Number) is very important in everyday life in Brazil for the exercise of basic rights. It can be issued at post offices or over the internet, even for people with irregular migration status. All you need to present is a passport or identity card from your country of origin, proof of residence, and fill out the registration form correctly, with the payment of a small fee. It is not necessary to have migratory regularization to obtain the CPF.



Irregular migrants have no basic rights in Brazil.

According to the Brazilian Constitution and the Migration Law, all people, even those who are not Brazilian and are irregular or without Brazilian documentation, have the right to life, freedom, health, education and social assistance, among others. Even if irregular, no one can deny enrollment of children in the school system, the access of any migrant to health services or the use of welfare facilities. If your basic rights are violated, seek help and report it!