Greater Boston* has one of the highest concentrations of immigrants from Brazil in the U.S., alongside New York City and Miami. Immigrants from Brazil make up the fifth-largest immigrant group after, in order, China, Dominican Republic, India and Haiti and ahead of El Salvador, Vietnam, Canada, Guatemala and Cape Verde. Data from 2017.

**AT-A-GLANCE**

- **48,921** Total population in Greater Boston
- **5th** Fifth-largest immigrant group in Greater Boston
- **85.7%** Those in prime working age (25-64)

**SELF-EMPLOYMENT**

Immigrants from Brazil have the highest self-employment** rates of the 10 largest immigrant groups in Greater Boston. This is consistent with self-employment rates for Brazilian immigrants across the U.S. at 24.4 percent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Brazilians</th>
<th>All Immigrants</th>
<th>U.S.-Born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-employment rate</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VOTER ELIGIBILITY**

More than one-quarter of immigrants from Brazil in Greater Boston are eligible to vote. (Eligible voters are adult U.S. citizens.)

- **Brazilians** 26.7%
- **All Immigrants** 49.3%

**ENGLISH PROFICIENCY**

Less than half of immigrants from Brazil in Greater Boston speak English well or very well. This is lower compared to immigrants from Brazil across the U.S. at 62.7 percent.

- **Brazilians** 26.7%
- **All Immigrants** 56.4%

**HOME OWNERSHIP**

Fewer immigrants from Brazil in Greater Boston own their homes compared to immigrants overall. Immigrants from Brazil in the U.S. have higher home ownership at 41.9 percent.

- **Brazilians** 22.5%
- **All Immigrants** 44.8%
- **U.S.-Born** 65.5%

**HEALTH INSURANCE**

Immigrants from Brazil are the least likely to have health insurance out of the 10 largest immigrant populations in Greater Boston.

- **Brazilians** 18.9%
- **All Immigrants** 7.3%
- **U.S.-Born** 3.0%

**EMPLOYMENT**

Immigrants from Brazil have one of the highest rates of labor-force participation and lowest rates of unemployment.

- **Labor Force Participation**
  - **Brazilians** 83.9%
  - **All Immigrants** 69.8%
  - **U.S.-Born** 68.8%

- **Unemployment**
  - **Brazilians** 5.5%
  - **All Immigrants** 6.8%
  - **U.S.-Born** 6.1%

* All populations referenced in graphs (Brazilians, all immigrants, U.S.-born) are residents of the Boston-Cambridge-Newton Metropolitan Statistical Area including New Hampshire
** Includes incorporated and unincorporated businesses
**Median Income**

Median incomes for immigrants from Brazil in Greater Boston are lower compared to immigrants overall and the U.S.-born.

- **Personal Income**
  - Brazilians: $35,000
  - All Immigrants: $45,000
  - U.S.-Born: $63,796

- **Total Family Income**
  - Brazilians: $42,580
  - All Immigrants: $55,000
  - U.S.-Born: $73,217

**Top 3 Occupations**

Immigrants from Brazil play significantly outsized roles in Building Maintenance, Construction and Food occupations.

- **Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance**
  - Brazilians: 26.4%
  - All Immigrants: 5.2%
  - U.S.-Born: 5.6%

- **Construction & Extraction**
  - Brazilians: 17.5%
  - All Immigrants: 4.9%
  - U.S.-Born: 15.8%

- **Food Preparation & Serving**
  - Brazilians: 8.4%
  - All Immigrants: 7.9%
  - U.S.-Born: 6.0%

**Top 3 Industries**

Immigrants from Brazil are crucial to the Construction, Waste Management, and Other industries such as Personal Service and Repairs.

- **Construction**
  - Brazilians: 19.9%
  - All Immigrants: 5.2%
  - U.S.-Born: 5.6%

- **Professional, Scientific Management, Administrative & Waste Management Svcs**
  - Brazilians: 19.8%
  - All Immigrants: 14.9%
  - U.S.-Born: 16.1%

- **Other**
  - Brazilians: 6.0%
  - All Immigrants: 4.1%

**Education**

About 84 percent of Brazilian immigrants in Greater Boston have at least a high school diploma, which is higher than for immigrants overall.

- **High School Diploma**
  - Brazilians: 4.8%
  - All Immigrants: 14.9%
  - U.S.-Born: 20.7%

- **Some College/Associate Degree**
  - Brazilians: 3.8%
  - All Immigrants: 15.3%
  - U.S.-Born: 23.6%

- **BA/BS College Degree**
  - Brazilians: 2.0%
  - All Immigrants: 7.9%
  - U.S.-Born: 17.3%

- **Graduate, MA, or Professional Degree**
  - Brazilians: 2.0%
  - All Immigrants: 4.9%
  - U.S.-Born: 23.9%

- **Doctoral Degree**
  - Brazilians: 1.2%
  - All Immigrants: 3.9%
  - U.S.-Born: 17.8%

**Contributions of Immigrants in Greater Boston 2020**

References:

- “Brazilian Immigrants in the United States,” Migration Policy Institute, 2019.