

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF BRAZIL

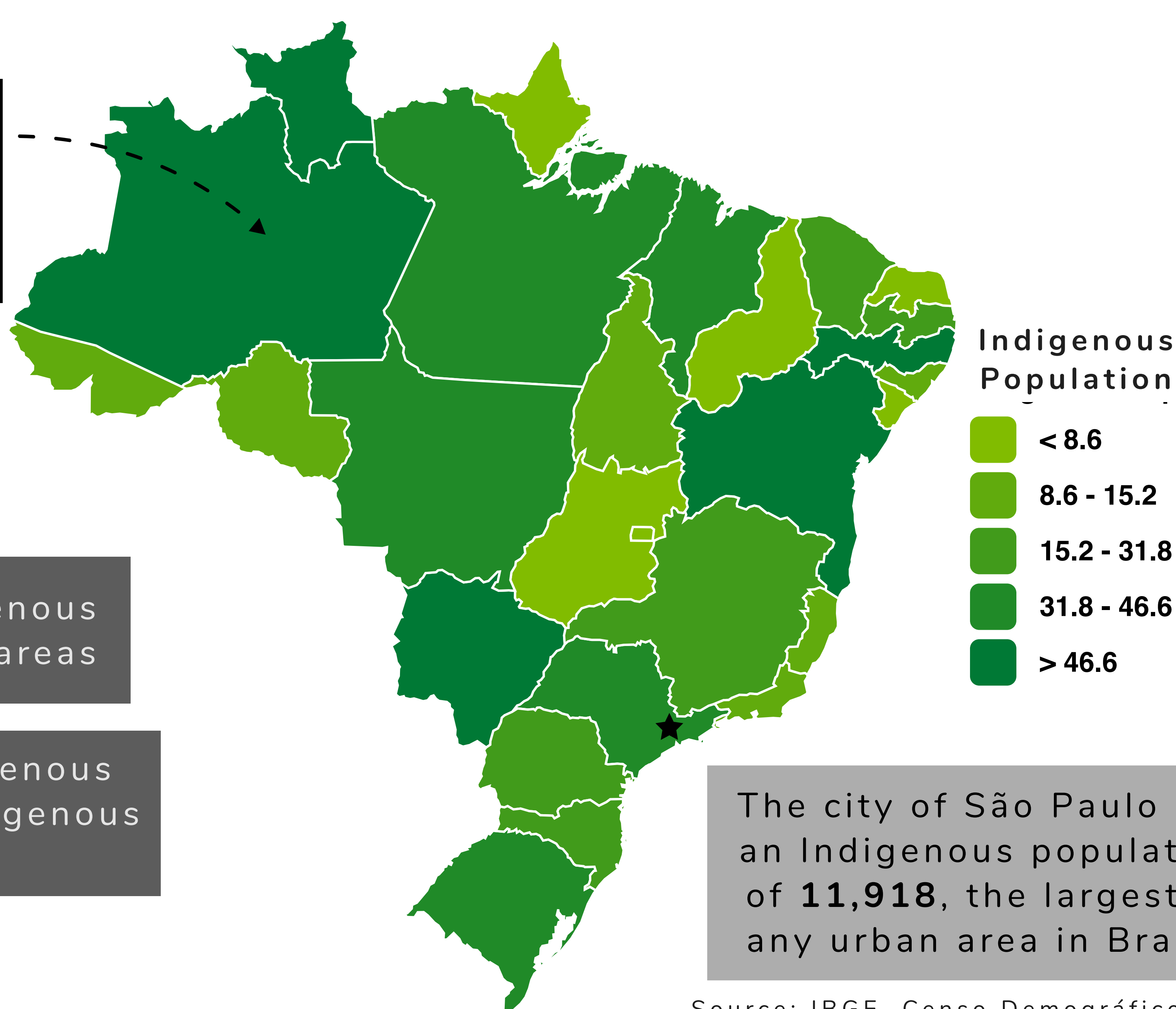
## DEMOGRAPHICS

In 1991, the Brazilian Institute for Geography and Statistics (IBGE) introduced "Indígena" as a category of self-identification to the national census.

Today, **817,963** Indigenous people live in Brazil, representing 0.4% of the nation's total population. Indigenous peoples in Brazil represent **305** different ethnic groups and speak more than **270** Indigenous languages.

### Where do Indigenous peoples live in Brazil?

The state of Amazonas is home to **20.6%** of the Indigenous population in Brazil.



61.5% of the total Indigenous population lives in rural areas

37.4% of the total Indigenous population speaks an Indigenous language

The city of São Paulo has an Indigenous population of **11,918**, the largest of any urban area in Brazil.

Source: IBGE, Censo Demográfico 2010

"Today, only 12.5 percent of Brazilian land remains in the possession of indigenous people." ("The Genocide of Brazil's Indians," *New York Times*. 29 May 2017.)

## HUMAN RIGHTS

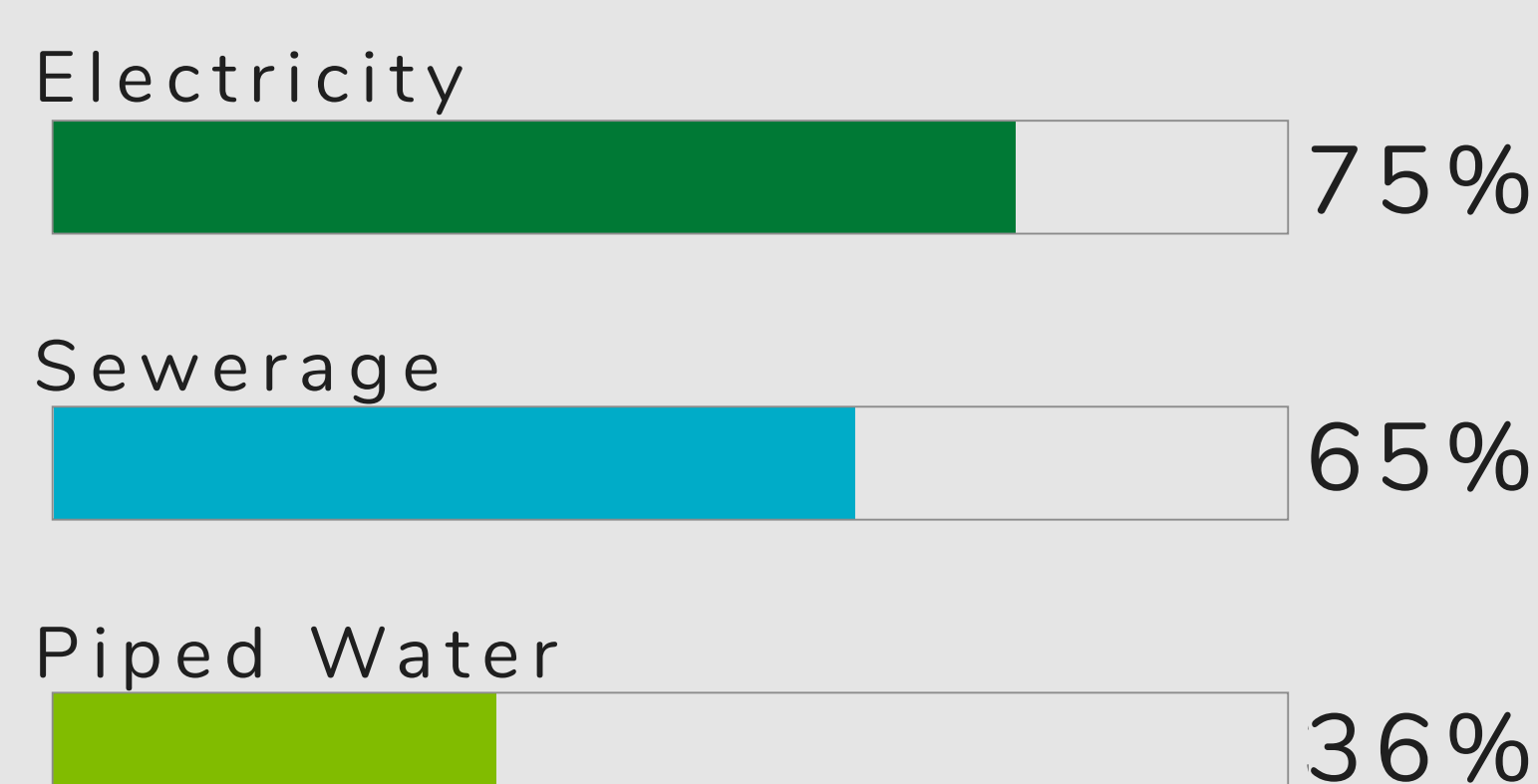
Despite the significant strides made by Indigenous peoples and their allies, Indigenous peoples in Brazil continue to struggle for national recognition and their rights as citizens and people.

### Rights & Citizenship

Brazilian citizens are guaranteed access to education, healthcare and self-determination.

However, only **73.7%** of Indigenous peoples are literate, compared to the national average of **89%**. Moreover, only **67.7%** of Indigenous peoples living in officially recognized Indigenous lands are literate.

#### Access to Services



Source: IBGE, Censo Demográfico 2010

### Mental Health

Mental health is a grave concern within the Indigenous community in Brazil and suicide is among one of the greatest health issues currently plaguing the community.

The suicide rate of Guaraní people of Mato Grosso do Sul is 12 times the national average. The suicide rate of Indigenous peoples is **6 times the national average**.

#### Suicide Rates

National Average:  
**5.7** per 100,000 people

Indigenous Average:  
**34.2** per 100,000 people

Source: WHO; Ministério da Saúde

### Land and Natural Resources

Research shows that access to ancestral lands is directly tied to the health and survival of Indigenous communities.

Only **12.5%** of land is demarcated for Indigenous peoples, and it remains a source of tension. Indigenous peoples continue to be forcibly removed and killed for access to their land and natural resources. The majority of these deadly land disputes go unresolved.

**833** Indigenous people have been murdered in Brazil since 2007.

Source: BBC Brasil; Ministério da Saúde