



Bible Access List

Where Bible access is most difficult, and Bible shortage is greatest

Brazil

Bible Restrictions Rank: **88**

MINIMAL ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

Bible shortage has been confirmed



An Overview of Bible access in Brazil

Brazil, the largest country in South America, is home to a vast Christian population, amounting to nearly 196 million people—90% of the total population. This includes a large Roman Catholic majority, along with a fast-growing evangelical movement. While Brazil enjoys full religious freedom under its constitution and faces virtually no legal barriers to Bible ownership or distribution, the actual access to Bibles tells a more complex story.

Despite the legal openness, currently less than half of Brazil's Christians have access to a Bible. Given the country's enormous Christian population, this translates to millions of believers who remain without personal copies of Scripture.

Barriers are seen mostly in the northern and northeastern regions, where extreme poverty continues to limit access. Even when Bibles are available for purchase, many families are forced to prioritize food and shelter over spiritual resources. To make matters worse, high taxation and corruption drive up the costs of printed materials, including Bibles.

On a hopeful note, Brazil's modern infrastructure offers significant opportunities for impact. Nearly all households have access to electricity, and around 84% of the population is connected to the internet. Digital Bible resources, audio versions, and Bible apps have enormous potential to close the gap, especially among the youth and urban populations.

Before we continue, would you take a pause to pray for Brazil?

How can I pray for Brazil?

- **Provision for Bible Needs.** Pray for the vast Christian community in Brazil, especially those in poverty-stricken areas where economic hardship makes Bible ownership difficult. Ask for practical solutions and generous provision to meet this spiritual need.
- **Global and Local Partnerships.** Pray for effective collaboration between Brazilian churches, local leaders, and international ministries to mobilize Bible printing, translation, and distribution efforts across all regions.
- **Spiritual Awakening and Engagement.** Ask the Lord to ignite a fresh hunger for His Word across Brazil. Pray that access to Bibles would not only increase, but that engagement with Scripture would bring transformation in families, churches, and society.

After praying for Brazil, continue reading on the next page to learn more.

Bible Access Restrictions

Minimal Access Restrictions

Other Limiting Factors

Some Other Factors

Bible Shortages Among Believers



Bibles are needed for believers and seekers

Main religion: Christianity

Country population: 217,637,000

Christian population:



196,608,000, 90.34% of total population

WHAT'S BLOCKING BIBLE ACCESS IN BRAZIL?

A Nation of Bibles, But Not for All

On paper, Brazil represents one of the most Bible-accessible countries in the world. With full constitutional protections for religious freedom, a robust Christian publishing industry, and status as the world's largest distributor of Bibles, Brazil offers a remarkably open environment for Christian faith and Scripture engagement. Bibles can be freely imported, printed, stored, owned, and distributed without restriction.

But this openness masks deeper, more localized challenges that leave millions of Brazilians, especially the poor, without personal access to God's Word.

The Poverty Gap: When Bibles Are Available but Unreachable

The clearest barrier to Bible access in Brazil isn't legal—it's economic. In the northern and northeastern regions, where poverty is deeply entrenched, the cost of purchasing a Bible remains out of reach for many families. Even with affordable production and free distribution programs available in parts of the country, inflation and government taxes raise the price of printed Bibles in ways that make them unaffordable for Brazil's most vulnerable.

One local respondent puts it this way:

"There are many very poor localities in Brazil...their limited economic resources reduce their ability to obtain their Bibles. And government corruption means there are too many taxes that make the price of Bibles even higher."

Regional Disparities and Literacy Challenges

Brazil's national infrastructure paints a picture of modern access: almost universal electricity and high internet penetration. But those offline still represent tens of millions of people, largely in rural or impoverished regions, who cannot benefit from digital Bible formats.

In these same regions, literacy rates tend to be lower, particularly among older adults and marginalized communities, partially due to lower educational performance compared to the rest of the country. This means even when Bibles are available, physically or digitally, engagement may still be limited without additional resources for literacy and discipleship.

The Language Barrier: 100+ Communities Still Waiting

Another hidden barrier is Brazil's linguistic diversity. While Bibles are available in Portuguese and several indigenous languages, **over 100 local languages still lack full Bible translations**. For many of Brazil's indigenous and tribal communities, access to Scripture isn't just about owning a Bible; it's about understanding it in the language of their heart.

Without continued translation efforts, these communities remain spiritually isolated from the Word of God.

Cultural and Social Tensions

While Brazil offers broad legal freedoms for Christians, some urban areas reflect growing ideological tension and polarization around public expressions of faith. In certain regions, especially where religion intersects with politics, Christians may face pushback not from the government, but from social or cultural opposition.

This doesn't block Bible access directly, but at times creates hesitation around public evangelism or open Scripture distribution, especially in settings where faith-based activities are viewed with skepticism or as politically charged. These subtle pressures, though less visible than legal restrictions, can still influence how freely believers engage with and share the Bible in their communities.

THE URGENT NEED FOR BIBLES IN BRAZIL

Despite Brazil's vibrant Christian identity and thriving Bible publishing industry, a staggering truth remains: less than half of Brazilian Christians have access to a Bible. This means millions are still waiting for their own copy of God's Word.

This needs urgent attention and renewed commitment to reach every believer, especially those in impoverished and overlooked regions.

Church growth in some denominations adds more pressure to supply Bibles, especially for rapidly expanding evangelical communities in Brazil's urban centers and remote villages alike. Without access to Scripture, the foundation for spiritual growth and outreach remains incomplete.

Bible Formats for Unique Needs

When it comes to formats, **printed Bibles remain the most essential resource**, especially in low-income and offline communities. **Audio Bibles** are the next most critical, bridging the gap for those who cannot read or prefer oral learning.

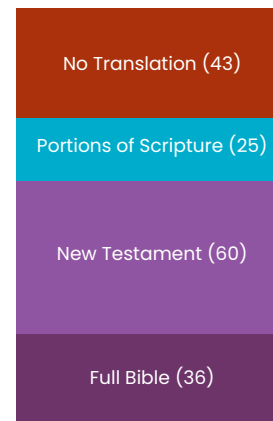
While digital Bibles are increasingly accessible in urban and connected areas, millions remain offline or without reliable access, making physical and audio resources a continued priority for effective Bible engagement.

The Urgent Language Gap

Brazil's remarkable linguistic diversity presents another layer of urgency. **Christians in Brazil speak at least 164 languages.** Of these languages:

- Only **36** have full Bible translations.
- **60** languages have only the New Testament.
- **25** have only limited Scripture portions.
- **43 languages still have no Bible translation at all**

These gaps represent entire communities who cannot yet encounter the fullness of God's Word in a language they truly understand. The need for continued translation work is as critical as distribution itself.



Spoken Languages with Believers in Brazil

THE CLARION CALL

This is the moment for the global Church to act. The need in Brazil is not just a numerical number to check off; it's missions to be fulfilled. From the favelas of the northeast to the indigenous tribes of the Amazon, a silent cry rises from those still waiting to hold Scripture in their hands, to hear it in their heart language, and to know that they are not forgotten.

Let us rise to meet this moment. Let's solve Bible access in Brazil once and for all by resourcing translation, mobilizing distribution, and equipping every believer in Brazil with the life-transforming power of God's Word.

