

## Location and Background

Rio is a coastal city situated in the South East region of Brazil within the continent of South America. It is the second most populated city in the country (6.5 million) after Sao Paulo.



## City's Importance

- Has the second largest GDP in Brazil It is headquarters to many of Brazil's main companies, particularly with Oil and Gas.
- Sugar Loaf mountain is one of the seven wonders of the world.
- One of the most visited places in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Hosted the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Summer Olympics.

## Migration to Rio De Janeiro

The city began when Portuguese settlers with slaves arrived in 1502. Since then, Rio has become home to various ethnic groups.

However, more recently, millions of people have migrated from rural areas that have suffered from drought, lack of services and unemployment to Rio. People do this to search for a better quality of life.

This expanding population has resulted in the rapid urbanisation of Rio de Janeiro.



## City's Opportunities

**Social:** Standards of living are gradually improving. The Rio Carnival is an important cultural event for traditional dancing and music.

**Economic:** Rio has one of the highest incomes per person in the country. The city has various types of employment including oil, retail and manufacturing.

**Environmental:** The hosting of the major sporting events encouraged more investment in sewage works and public transport systems.

## City Challenges

**Social:** There is a severe shortage of housing, schools and healthcare centres available. Large scale social inequality, is creating tensions between the rich and poor.

**Economic:** The rise of informal jobs with low pay and no tax contributions. There is high employment in shanty towns called Favelas

**Environmental:** Shanty towns called Favelas are established around the city, typically on unfavourable land, such as hills.

## Self-help schemes - Rocinha, Bairro Project

- The authorities have provided basic materials to improve peoples homes with safe electricity and sewage pipes.
- Government has demolished houses and created new estates.
- Community policing has been established, along with a tougher stance on gangs with military backed police.
- Greater investment in new road and rail network to reduce pollution and increase connections between rich and poor areas.

