



## RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

[New Search](#) | [About RIRs](#) | [Help](#)

### The Board

[About the Board](#)[Biographies](#)[Employment](#)[Legal and Policy  
References](#)[Organization Chart](#)[Publications](#)

### Tribunal

[Decisions](#)[Forms](#)[Immigration Appeal  
Division](#)[Immigration Division](#)[Refugee Protection  
Division](#)[Statistics](#)

### Research

[Research Program](#)[National  
Documentation  
Packages](#)[Issue Papers and  
Country Fact Sheets](#)[Responses to  
Information Requests](#)[Recent Research](#)

### Media Centre

[News](#)[Information Sheets](#)[Media Relations](#)[Proactive Disclosure](#)

15 June 2009

**ZZZ103186.FE**

Brazil/Mexico: Whether a Mexican citizen whose father is Brazilian can obtain residency or citizenship in Brazil, and the process for acquiring that status  
Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa

Article 12 of the Brazilian Constitution states that a child born abroad to a Brazilian parent obtains citizenship [translation] "if it is demonstrated that one of the child's parents is in the service of the Federative Republic of Brazil or that the parents reside in Brazil and the child will opt for Brazilian citizenship" (Brazil 1988).

In an 11 June 2009 telephone interview with the Research Directorate, an officer with the Consular Section of the Embassy of Brazil in Ottawa explained that the parent of Brazilian origin must register the child with the Brazilian embassy or consulate in the child's country of birth before the child reaches the age of 12 years. If the child is not registered before the age of 12 years, the child may be registered only in Brazil (Brazil 11 June 2009.). The information in the following paragraphs was obtained during this telephone interview.

The Brazilian parent is responsible for submitting the documents required to register the child with Brazilian authorities (see also Brazil 2008). The Brazilian parent is also responsible for sending the document to the Civil Registry of Brazil (Cartório do Registro Civil) in order to have the child legally registered. When a minor child who has been registered with the Brazilian authorities reaches the age of majority (18 years), the child must decide whether he or she wishes to retain Brazilian citizenship.

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim for refugee protection. Please find below the list of sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

### References

Brazil. 11 June 2009. Embassy of Brazil in Ottawa. Telephone interview with a consular officer.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2008. Consulate of Brazil in Toronto. "Consular Services."  
<[http://www.consbrastoronto.org/menu\\_services.php](http://www.consbrastoronto.org/menu_services.php)> [Accessed 11 June 2009]

\_\_\_\_\_. 1988. *Federative Republic of Brazil 1988 Constitution*. (Political Database of

the Americas, PDBA).

<<http://pdba.georgetown.edu/Constitutions/Brazil/esp88.html#mozTocId444234>>

[Accessed 11 June 2009]

Additional Source Consulted

**Internet sites, including:** Website of the Consulate of Brazil in Toronto.

---

 [Top of Page](#)

[Important Notices](#)

The attached reproduction is a copy of an official work that is published by the Government of Canada. The reproduction has not been produced in affiliation with, or with the endorsement of the Government of Canada.