

THE LUXCITIZENSHIP STUDY 2024

A STUDY OF THE LUXEMBOURGISH
DUAL NATIONALS IN THE AMERICAS



 **LuxCitizenship**

NOVEMBER
2024



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Opening Letter

Dear Readers,

Luxembourg is currently witnessing a phenomenon of global significance in just the last five years alone, our nation has gained



This remarkable development traces its roots back to 2008, when Luxembourg liberalized its Nationality Act to allow dual nationality for the first time. Among the new pathways to nationality was a temporary provision enabling descendants of any Luxembourgish national alive on 1 January 1900, to reclaim their ancestral nationality. No one could have predicted just how transformative this change would be.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Atz'.

Sincerely,

Daniel Atz, Founder, LuxCitizenship.com



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Methodology

INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

This research report presents the findings from LuxCitizenship's survey of 1,174 confirmed Luxembourgish dual nationals through ancestry born in the USA, Brazil, and Argentina. The survey aims to gather information about these individuals' demographic information and backgrounds, perceptions and the use of their newly claimed Luxembourgish nationality, as well as exploring their relationships with Luxembourg and the European Union.



As of 30 June 2024, the population in these three countries in the Americas has grown by an astonishing 420% to 45,272, increasing to 32% of the Luxembourgers abroad. At the same time, the population of Luxembourgers in the three border countries grew by 41% to 81,980, decreasing to 58% of the Luxembourgish nationals abroad.

¹ "Registre National Des Personnes Physiques RNPP: Nombre De Luxembourgeois Habitant À L'étranger." Data Public Luxembourg, www.data.public.lu/fr/datasets/registre-national-des-personnes-physiques-rnpp-nombre-de-luxembourgeois-habitant-a-letranger.html.

² Information provided by STATEC in an email to our organization dated January 24th, 2023.

Methodology

Our survey attempts to act as an initial comparative overview of the three populations. 1,174 adult Luxembourgish nationals through ancestry responded to our survey. Breaking it down, 124 Argentine-Luxembourgers (11%), and 634 Brazilian-Luxembourgers (54%), while 416 are American-Luxembourgers (35%). Although each participant is a Luxembourgish national, for facility of language, throughout this report we will refer to them as American, Argentine, and Brazilian survey "respondents."

OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



**LUXEMBOURGBROTHERHOOD
OF AMERICA**



**ASSOCIATION OF LUXEMBOURGISH
CITIZENS IN BRAZIL**



**ARGENTINE LUXEMBOURG
ASSOCIATION**

We couldn't find a way to confirm if respondents truly had Luxembourgish dual nationality without invading their privacy. As a result, we only accepted responses where information about the respondents Luxembourgish ancestor was provided and where we could verify the ancestor's information in the Luxembourgish civil records. We rejected approximately 100 additional responses. Because ancestry became an assessment basis, we contacted all respondents who did not provide ancestor information to

¹ "Sample Size Calculator." Raosoft, www.raosoft.com/samplesize.html.



Luxembourg Public Data Research

We leverage Luxembourg government data to
conduct in-depth analyses of the growth in the
Luxembourgish Dual National population and

Bierger-Center

LuxembourgPublicData Research

2024 NUMBERS

According to the Ministry of Justice¹, as of 1 January 2024, **40,641** adults had recovered their Luxembourgish nationality through an ancestor alive on 1 January 1900 (Article 89).



In 2022 and 2023, Brazilians more than any other country, accounted for the largest number of new Luxembourgish nationals across all nationality procedures.

EXCEPTIONS

These statistics do not include children under the age of 18, or those who have obtained nationality through other means.

Due to their direct male lineage to a Luxembourgish ancestor, many people have never legally lost their

LUXEMBOURGEOIS HABITANT À L'ÉTRANGER

Therefore, the best way to determine how many people have truly obtained nationality through ancestry is from the RNPP – National Registry of Physical Persons² statistics. According to the RNPP, as of 30 June 2024, there are:



16,111 Luxembourgish nationals living in the US

(+409 since 31.3.24)



28,574 Luxembourgish nationals living in Brazil

(+424 since 31.3.24)



587 Luxembourgish nationals living in Argentina

(+5 since 31.3.24)

¹ Luxembourg, Ministry of Justice. "Les Statistiques En Matière De Nationalité Luxembourgeoise." Luxembourg Ministry of Justice, www.mj.gouvernement.lu/fr/dossiers/2020/nationalite-luxembourgeoise.html.

² Article Seven Luxembourg Citizenship. "LuxCitizenship, www.luxcitizenship.com/article-seven-lux-citizenship/.

³ Nombre De Luxembourgeois Habitant À L'étranger.

LuxembourgPublicData Research

FOREIGN COUNTRIES WITH MOST LUXEMBOURGISH RESIDENTS

Q2 2024 saw below average growth in Luxembourgers living abroad compared to most quarters in the last five years.

Country	Luxembourgish Nationals
France	35,530 (+266 since 31.3.24)
Brazil	28,574 (+424 since 31.3.24)
Belgium	27,521 (+159 since 31.3.24)
Germany	20,929 (+232 since 31.3.24)
United States	16,111 (+409 since 31.3.24)



TREND COMPARISON

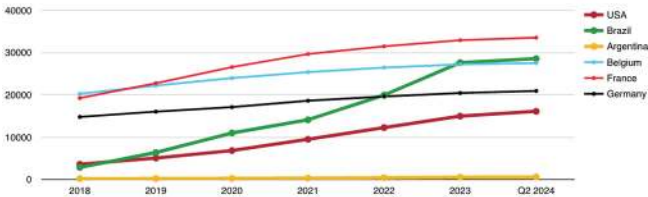
Historically, the largest concentration of Luxembourgers abroad was in Luxembourg's neighboring countries, Belgium, France, and Germany. However, in August 2023, Brazil overtook Belgium to become the second foreign country with the highest number of resident Luxembourg nationals.



Countries	Q2 2024	Q2 2019
Americas (AR, BR, US)	45,274 (32%)	8,712 (11.4%)
Neighbors (BE, DE, FR)	81,980 (58%)	58,015 (77%)
Worldwide	141,542	75,103

RAPID GROWTH

RNPP data* show that over the last five years, the population of Luxembourg in the Americas has increased by **420%**, while the population in Luxembourg's border countries has only increased by **41%**.



* "Nombre De Luxembourgais Habitant À L'étranger."

LuxembourgPublicData Research

POPULATION OF LUXEMBOURG 2024

Data on the Luxembourgish government's Open Data Platform provides ongoing updates about the population of Luxembourg as well as the total number of Luxembourgers living inside the country and abroad.



As of 1 July 2024:

Total population: 676,685¹

- Luxembourgers: 357,865 (53%)
-
-
-

Luxembourgish nationals in the Americas are now equivalent to **6.7%** of Luxembourg's population and **9%** of all Luxembourgish nationals worldwide.

PUTTING IT IN PERSPECTIVE

If the population of Luxembourgish nationals in the United States and Brazil were communes in Luxembourg, they would be almost equivalent to:



Brazil: Differdange

3rd Largest Commune

30,452 Inhabitants



United States: Hesperange

7th Largest Commune

16,936 Inhabitants

¹ "Nombre de Ressortissants par Nationalité et par Commune - Number of Citizens per Nationality and Municipality."

² "Nombre De Luxembourgeois Habitant À L'étranger."

³ Data Public Luxembourg. "Population par Commune - Population per Municipality." <https://data.public.lu/fr/datasets/registre-national-des-personnes-physiques-rnp-population-par-commune-population-per-municipality/>.

Image: EEJCC Differdange Centre, Wikimedia Commons, 2017.

Image: MMFE, Hesperange 02, Wikipedia, 2010.

LuxembourgPublicData Research

To put it another way, the increase in Luxembourgish nationals living in these the USA and Brazil in 2023 alone would be equivalent to the populations of the following communes:



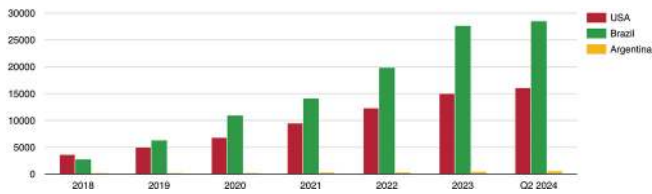
Brazil:Wiltz
19th LargestCommune



United States:Koerich
62nd LargestCommune

RECENTGROWTH

The number of people who have obtained Luxembourgish dual nationality in the last two years alone represents **37%** of all Luxembourgish nationals living in the US **49%** in Brazil.



OUR FORECASTSFOR 2025

By analyzing the growth per quarter of nationals in Brazil and the USA since 31 December 2018, we predict that by 31 December 2025, the population of Luxembourgers will be:



32,122 Luxembourgishnationals
livingin Brazil



19,909 Luxembourgishnationalsliving
in the US

Image: Ipiqott, Koerich Church 2, Wikipedia, 2009.
Image: Commune de Wiltz, Land of Memory.

History of Luxembourgish

We explore the evolution of the Luxembourgish Nationality Law over time & what led to the concept of dual nationality in Luxembourg.

History of Luxembourgish Nationality Law and Dual Nationality

HISTORY OF THE LAW

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg came into existence following the Treaty of Vienna in 1815. During the period immediately after, Luxembourg adhered to the Napoleonic or Civil Code inherited from the French Republic. Notably, it was not until 1841 that Luxembourg established its own Fundamental Law. The adoption of a constitution did not occur until 1848.

The Napoleonic Code represented a groundbreaking legal framework for its time, pioneering the concept of 'Jus sanguinis' or nationality by blood. This legal doctrine deviated from the prevailing 'Jus soli,' which conferred subjecthood to anyone born



Under its provisions, a child born to a Luxembourgish father, whether within Luxembourg's territorial bounds or abroad, would acquire Luxembourgish nationality based on 'Jus sanguinis'. Conversely, Article 12 of the Code stipulated that a woman who married a foreigner would assume her spouse's nationality, a condition compounded by the prohibition of dual or multiple nationality, resulting in the loss of her Luxembourgish nationality.

¹ Scuto, Denis. La Nationalité Luxembourgeoise (XIXe-XXIe Siècles) Histoire d'un Alliage Européen. Preface by Gérard Noiriel, Éditions de l'Université de Bruxelles, 2012.
Image Source: www.Delcampe.net

History of Luxembourgish Nationality Law and Dual Nationality

In 1986, another significant development occurred, granting women the ability to transmit their Luxembourgish nationality to their offspring, rather than it being solely contingent on the father's nationality. This change applied retroactively to all minor children born on or after 1 January 1969.

This situation would have left some valid applicants unable to complete the second step of the application, the in-person citizenship declaration, before the final cut-off date. To address this, the deadline for the first step in the



¹ Luxembourg, Ministry of Justice, "Les Statistiques En Matière De Nationalité Luxembourgeoise," Luxembourg Ministry of Justice, www.mj.gouvernement.lu/fr/dossiers/2020/nationalite-luxembourgeoise.html.

History of Luxembourgish Nationality Law and Dual Nationality

The Luxembourgish Nationality Law of 2017 also introduced an intriguing aspect in Article 23, affording individuals with a parent or grandparent who possesses or possessed Luxembourgish nationality the option to acquire Luxembourgish nationality through a procedure akin to that outlined in Article 89. Over the period from 2017 to December 31st, 2022, 27 Argentines, 254 Americans, and 180 Brazilians adults exercised this right and

Furthermore, it is worth noting that, at least since 2017, when some individuals initiated the application process for Luxembourgish nationality, the Ministry of Justice determined that they were,



In such instances, the individual was not applying for Luxembourgish nationality per se but was instead seeking their initial certificate of Luxembourgish nationality proving that they were already a national. Notably, the Ministry of Justice does not release statistics pertaining to these proceedings. However, our estimation suggests that from 2018 to 2022, this category encompassed 154 Argentines, 5,836 Americans, and 7,612 Brazilians¹.

¹ We state this number because outside the STATEC data on Luxembourgers emigrating and the Ministry of Justice's Statistics on Nationality Procedures Evacuated, no other public entity in Luxembourg publishes data justifying where how else RNPP data shows a huge increase in Luxembourgish nationals living in the Americas. In fact, the Ministry of Justice's statistics only concern adult applicants and not their minor children. We use our estimate of 32% minor children to estimate the number of minor children of adults acquiring Luxembourgish nationality under Articles 89 and 23. We therefore add an additional 32% to the Ministry of Justice's statistics to account for minor children and to therefore determine the remaining difference with the available public data sources, which would equal the number of people directly receiving Luxembourgish nationality certificates. If we don't estimate the number of minor children under



The American

The section "The American Luxembourgers" provides a comprehensive look at Luxembourgish nationals in the United States, both past and present. It explores the migration patterns of Luxembourgish ancestors who moved to America, and how their descendants today reconnect with their heritage. Luxembourgish



HELP

The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

About our dual nationals Luxembourgish ancestors who emigrated to the US.

LUXEMBOURG

FRIENDS OF LUXEMBOURG

The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

BACKGROUND

Our American-Luxembourger research study is based on survey responses from 416 dual nationals. This includes LuxCitizenship clients as well as non-clients who participated in an open survey of confirmed dual nationals through ancestry.

WHY DID SO MANY LUXEMBOURGERS MIGRATE?

The Napoleonic Code, a leftover from France, forced landowners to divide their properties equally among all their children for inheritance purposes.¹

By the 1840s, advances in medicine drastically reduced infant mortality. Families grew larger and larger, while

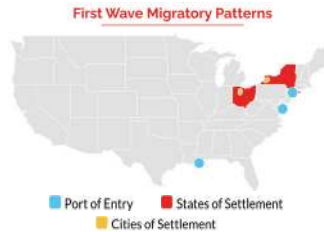


¹ Földes, György, "The Luxembourg Trail in America's Midwest," The Luxembourg Times, 7 Feb. 2018, www.luxtimes.lu/your-luxembourg/whats-happening/the-luxembourg-trail-in-america-s-midwest/1328364.html.
Image: "Luxembourg Brotherhood of America, New York 1930," Wikipedia, 2020.

The Luxembourgish-American Ancestors

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS: THE 1ST MIGRATORY WAVE (1830-40S)

Shortly after the first wave of Luxembourgish migrants to Brazil in 1828, different groups of Luxembourgish left for new opportunities in the United States in the 1830s.



The Luxembourgish would generally arrive through ports in Louisiana, New York, and Maryland. Many settled in Western New York state and another large group settled in Ohio.² As railroads developed, some of the Luxembourgish continued their migration inland.

PICKING UP STEAM: THE 2ND MIGRATORY WAVE (1846-60)

Up until the early 19th century, it took as long to travel from Luxembourg to Paris as from Luxembourg to the United States. Exactly at the same time as faster transport arrived, the news of free ground in the United States began to spread.

¹ "Luxembourgish in America." Library of Congress, <https://guides.loc.gov/luxembourgish-in-america>.

² Walker, Drew. "Luxembourgish Americans." Every Culture, www.everyculture.com/multi/Le-Pa/Luxembourgish-Americans.html.

³ "Luxembourgish in America." Library of Congress, <https://guides.loc.gov/luxembourgish-in-america>.

⁴ Wester, Kevin. "Luxembourgish Immigration to Chicago." RTL.lu, 23 Aug. 2024, <https://today.rtl.lu/luxembourg-insider/history/luxembourgish-immigration-to-chicago-1402165>.

End of preview

This preview contains the opening sections of
The LuxCitizenship Study 2024.

The full study — the American, Brazilian and Argentine
chapters, the survey results and the ancestor data —
is available on request.

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