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International Women's Day (March 8<sup>th</sup>) brings the opportunity to discuss in more depth the current and expected role of women in society, the persistent inequalities between men and women in different dimensions of analysis, exercise of rights and equalization of opportunities, regardless of sex. As the organ responsible for official Brazilian statistics, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics - IBGE, with the publishing of its study *Estatísticas de gênero*:

indicadores sociais das mulheres no Brasil<sup>1</sup> ("Gender statistics: social indicators for women in Brazil"), reinforces the importance of producing gender indicators with a dual objective: enriching the discussion, providing highlighted information on the subject, and corroborating the importance of maintaining a permanent public agenda which places gender equality as one of the axes to structure the formulation of public policies in Brazil<sup>2</sup>.

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Source: IBGE, Department of Surveys, Sector of Population and Social Indicators.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The complete tables, technical notes and other information on this study are available on the IBGE website on the internet at: <https://www.ibge.gov.br/estatisticas-novoportal/multidominio/ genero/20163-estatisticas-de-genero-indicadores-sociais-das-mulheres-no-brasil.html?=&t=publicacoes>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In 2014, IBGE, within the scope of the National System of Gender Information ("*Sistema Nacional de Informações de Gênero*", together with the Secretariat of Policies for Women, elaborated a study on gender statistics based on the results of the 2010 Demographic Census. For more detailed information, please refer to the publication: *ESTATÍSTICAS de gênero: uma análise dos resultados do censo demográfico 2010*. Rio de Janeiro: IBGE, 2014. 162 p. (*Estudos e pesquisas. Informação demográfica e socioeconômica*, n. 33). Above the title: *Sistema Nacional de Informações de Gênero*. Available at <htps://biblioteca.ibge.gov.br/index.php/biblioteca-catalogo?view=detalhes&id=288941>. Access in: Feb. 2018.



According to information from the Gender Manual of the United Nations Statistics Division - UNSD)<sup>3</sup>, gender statistics should reflect questions related to aspects of the lives of women and men, including their specific needs, opportunities or contributions to society. In all societies there are differences between what is expected, allowed and valued in women and what is expected, allowed and valued in men. These differences have a specific impact on women and men in all phases of life, and may determine, for example, differences in health, education, work, family life and everyone's general well-being. Therefore, production of gender statistics involves splitting up of individual data by sex and other characteristics, in order to reveal these differences and inequalities and investigate specific issues affecting one sex more than the other. In the case of Brazil, these "other characteristics" assume an important role to the extent that the historical series of social indicators, made available by the IBGE, show that color or race, being a person with disability, living in urban or rural area among other factors, may have significant impacts on the statistics and reinforce inequalities. The debate is therefore structural. It is to understand, based on the data presented, the social conditions which will allow or prevent certain groups from exercising their rights equitably, regardless of their origin, starting points, social contexts and/or individual characteristics.

In most societies there are differences and inequalities between women and men in the functions and responsibilities attributed to them, the activities they perform, their access and control over resources, as well as their opportunities to make decisions. These differences and inequalities between sexes have been shaped throughout the history of social relations, changing over time and in different cultures. It is important to underline the differences between statistics broken down by sex and gender statistics. The word "sex" refers here to the biological differences between men and women. "Gender", on the other hand, refers to the socially-constructed differences in attributes and opportunities associated with the feminine or masculine sex and the interactions and social relations between men and women. Questions related to sexual orientation and new gender identities which go beyond "woman/feminine" and "man/ masculine" are not in the scope of this study, notwithstanding the growing relevance of this subject and the need to participate in the technical and conceptual discussions related to development of instruments for data analysis and collection, which IBGE has been following at the domestic and international levels in order to define and provide visibility to the broad spectrum of gender diversity in its still non-consensual identity categories.

The parameters used to construct national indicators are based on the Minimum Set of Gender Indicators - MSGI, organized by the United Nations Statistical Commission<sup>4</sup> in 2013, to be used by countries and regions for domestic production and international harmonization of gender statistics. The indicators have been organized into five domains:

- 1. Economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources;
- 2. Education;
- 3. Health and related services;
- 4. Public life and decision making; and
- 5. Human rights of women and girls.



Each domain is related to one or more areas of concentration of the Beijing Platform for Action of 1995<sup>5</sup>. Within the framework of the current discussion on the indicators to be used to monitor the agendas of the Sustainable Development Goals - SDG (also known as the 2030 Agenda) and the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, the MSGI has found a fundamental role in formulating methodologies proposed by multilateral organisms, capable of promoting harmonization and adequate comparability among countries at a global and regional level. MSGI's list contains 52 quantitative indicators and 11 qualitative indicators related to national norms. The indicators are classified in three levels aimed at measuring gender equality and/or female empowerment. The Level 1 indicators are conceptually clear and have established international methodologies; data are regularly produced by countries with sufficient coverage to allow tracking of their progress over time. In Level 2, the indicators are also conceptually clear and present an established international methodology, but the data is not regularly produced by countries. In the third level, the indicators do not present an established international methodology or standardization, nor are data regularly produced by countries. Of the total of 63 indicators, 46 are classified as Level 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> INTEGRATING a gender perspective into statistics. New York: United Nations Statistics Division, 2016. 206 p. (Studies in methods. Series F, n. 111). Available at: <a href="https://www.un.org/development/desa/capacity-development/tools/tool/integrating-a-gender-perspective-into-statistics/">https://www.un.org/development/desa/capacity-development/tools/tool/integrating-a-gender-perspective-into-statistics/</a>. Access in Feb. 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The United Nations Statistics Division - UNSD, as well as the Secretariat of Inter-agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics - IAEG-GS, are in charge of collecting and compiling data and metadata of leading agencies and make these data available on the Internet. For more detailed information, please visit: <a href="https://genderstats.un.org">https://genderstats.un.org</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Beijing Platform for Action was the consolidation of the results of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, where a set of strategic objectives was formulated in areas defined as being priorities and the actions necessary to achieve gender equality. For more detailed information, please visit: <a href="http://www.un.org/womenwatch/confer/beijing/reports/">http://www.un.org/womenwatch/confer/beijing/reports/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Based on the classification update which took place on 12/15/2017. For more detailed information, please visit: <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/tier-classification/>">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/tier-classification/></a>.



Based on data from the Continuous National Household Sample Survey – "PNAD Contínua", of the National Household Sample Survey - PNAD, the Population Projection by Sex and Age ("Projeção da População por Sexo e Idade"), Civil Registry Statistics, the National Health Survey - PNS and the Basic State Information Survey - ESTADIC, within the scope of the IBGE; and also from external sources from the Health Ministry, the Brazilian President's Office, the Congress, Supreme Electoral Court - TSE, and the Anísio Teixeira National Institute for Educational Studies and Research - INEP, it was possible to construct 38 of the MSGI indicators, in line with the methodology presented in the metadata provided by UNSD<sup>7</sup>, part of which is highlighted in this study, organized so as to emphasize each one of the five domains<sup>8</sup>.

# Economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources

The indicator **average number of hours spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex** (MSGI 1), which, when split by age and geographic location, also provides information for monitoring the SDG 5 (achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), is extremely important to give visibility to non-remunerated work performed chiefly by women.

In Brazil, in 2016, women dedicate close to 73% more time to domestic and care work than men (18.1 hours vs. 10.5 hours). When broken out by region, it was found that the greatest inequality in the distribution of hours dedicated to these activities is in the Northeast Region, where women dedicated close to 80% more time than men, reaching the level of 19 hours a week. Breakdown by color or race indicates that black or mulatto women are those who dedicate the most time to domestic and care work, with 18.6 hours a week in 2016. It was noted that the indicator showed little variation for men when color or race or region of residence factors were considered.

Even in the midst of so many social transformations which have taken place over the last century in the perspective of gender (greater participation of women in the work force, increased educational level, reduction in the birth rate, dissemination of contraceptive methods, greater access to information), women continue to dedicate relatively more time to household activities and care, regardless of the age group under observation. However, the differences increase among the older age groups.



Source: IBGE, 2016 Continuous National Household Sample ("PNAD Contínua 2016").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> To get around the lack of information necessary to construct some indicators, some adaptations were made in the methodology proposed by UNSD. Description of the calculation methodology for these indicators is available on the IBGE website: <a href="https://www.ibge.gov.br/estatisticas-novoportal/multidominio/genero/20163">https://www.ibge.gov.br/estatisticas-novoportal/multidominio/genero/20163</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Tables containing the 38 selected indicators can be found on the IBGE website at: <a href="https://www.ibge.gov.br/estatisticas-novoportal/multidominio/genero/20163>">https://www.ibge.gov.br/estatisticas-novoportal/multidominio/genero/20163></a>.



The question of workload seems to be a fundamental factor in the differential of insertion in the work force between men and women determined by the division of work by sex. Women who need to reconcile paid work with household activities and personal care, in many cases wind up working in jobs with fewer work hours. The indicator **proportion of employed working part-time, by sex** (MSGI 14), shows a higher percentage of women who work part time, up to 30 hours a week, when compared to men. When these data are split spatially (by region), once again, we can conclude that regional differences are significant, with a greater proportion of women working part-time concentrated in the North and Northeast Regions. Another aggravating factor of gender inequality became clear with a split by color or race. In this split, the 2016 data showed that black, brown or mixed race (*pardas*) women were those with the highest percentage of part-time work, reaching 31.3% of the total while 25.0% of white women were so occupied in 2016. Among men, only 11.9% of white men were employed part-time while the proportion among black, brown or mixed race males reached 16.0%.

With regard to **average usual monthly earnings of employees** (MSGI 13), women continue to earn roughly three-quarters of what men earn. Contributing to explain this result is the very nature of the jobs occupied by women, in particular the largest proportion of part-time work.



Source: IBGE, 2016 Continuous National Household Sample ("PNAD Continua 2016").



Controlling the difference by hours worked, the ratio changes to 86.7%. Persistence of this gender gap, even if at a lower level, could be related to occupational segregation and salary discrimination of women in the labor market, according to vast literature and indicators published regarding inequalities in the occupational insertion of women. In this comparison, results split up by educational level indicate that the difference in remuneration is higher in the category of college education or above, where women received 63.4% of what men received in 2016. Analyzing the degree of female autonomy, one can determine gender inequalities based on measurement of access to and use of new technologies by men and women, based on the indicator **proportion of individuals using mobile/cellular telephones, by sex** (MSGI 18). Within the scope of SDG 5, related to gender equality, this indicator has the same calculation methodology utilized to track goal 5.b: "enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women"<sup>9</sup>. Ownership of cell phones is understood to be important in tracking gender equality, as this device offers a degree of independence and autonomy, including for professional use. In this regard, ownership of cell phones and empowerment and productivity growth are linked.

Results tabulated for 2016 indicate that the proportion of men and women owning mobile cell phone devices in Brazil is almost equal, being slightly higher for women. Regionally, the highest percentages of cell phone ownership are in the Central West, South and Southeast Regions: above 80%. The Northeast and North Region have lower percentages. Except in the South Region, more women have mobile cell phones than men.







Source: IBGE, 2016 Continuous National Household Sample ("PNAD Contínua 2016").

### Education

The slow process of change in the cultural stereotypes of gender has lowered the traditional barriers to the entry of woman into the labor market, reduced the fertility rate and continually increased the educational level of women over the last three decades. Several indicators confirm this general trend of increase in educational level of women in relation to men, despite the fact that the occupational structure of men and women remains quite unequal<sup>10</sup>.

According to data from the 2016 PNAD *Continua* Survey, there were no discrepancies in attendance to primary and lower secondary education between men and women to the extent that access to school for the age bracket from 6 to 14 is practically universal. Similarly, **school attendance**  for persons between the ages of 15 and 17 regardless of academic level, in other words, gross school attendance rate (MSGI 22), also showed virtually identical values for women and men, of 87.1% and 87.4%, respectively. For the **age group be**tween 18 and 24, the percentage of women in school is higher than that for men by 2.5 percentage points (MSGI 23).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> UNITED NATIONS ("NAÇÕES UNIDAS"). Sustainable Development Goals. Brasília, DF: Ministry of Foreign Relations, 2016. p. 6. Translated by the United Nations Information Center for Brazil - UNIC Rio and revised by the General Coordinator's Office for Sustainable Development ("*Coordenadoria-Geral de Desenvolvimento Sustentável*") of the Ministry of Foreign Relations. Available at: <http:// www.itamaraty.gov.br/images/ed\_desenvsust/ODSportugues12fev2016.pdf>. Access in: Feb. 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> MARUANI, M.; HIRATA, H. (Org.). As novas fronteiras da desigualdade: homens e mulheres no mercado de trabalho. ("The new frontiers of inequality: men and women in the labor Market") São Paulo: Ed. Senac, 2003. 368 p.



The educational advantage of women becomes evident based on the evaluation of indicators which measure over-age school attendance and the educational level of the adult population. One way to measure over-age school attendance is using the **adjusted net school attendance rate** (MSGI 21). This indicator measures the proportion of people attending school attending school at a level in line with their age group, including those who have already concluded this level, in relation to all people in the same age group. Thus, the complement of this indicator represents the percentage of the population in question which is behind the school level for their age group, because of grade retention and/or school dropout.



Source: IBGE, 2016 Continuous National Household Sample ("PNAD Contínua 2016").

Adjusted net school attendance rate at



Source: IBGE, 2016 Continuous National Household Sample ("PNAD Contínua 2016").

In 2016, according to data from the PNAD Continua, the adjusted net school attendance rate at the upper-secondary education for males between the ages of 15 and 17 was 63.2%, 10.3 percentage points below the rate for females (73,5%). Therefore, the level of over-age school attendance can be measured by the complement of this indicator; in other words, the percentage of people who do not attend the expected educational level of their age group. Considerable inequality is observed among women on the basis of color or race, while 30.7% of black, brown or mixed race females between the ages of 15 and 17 are behind their expected educational level, 19.9% of white females in this age group are in the same situation. However, the greatest difference encountered for the complement of this indicator is among white females and black, brown or mixed race males to the extent that the percentage of black, brown or mixed race males behind their expected educational level (42.7%) was more than double that for the white females (19.9%) in this case.

As a result of this unequal academic performance, related to the gender roles and the early entry of males in the labor market, women have, on average, higher **educational attainment** than men (MSGI 31). The greatest percentage difference by sex can be found at the tertiary level, especially among persons in a younger age group, from age 25 to 44, in which the percentage of males completing college was 15.6%, while that for women was 21.5%, 37.9% higher than that for men.



Source: IBGE, 2016 Continuous National Household Sample ("PNAD Contínua 2016").

Once again we find inequality between women on the basis of color or race. The percentage of white women who have completed tertiary education is more than twice that for black, brown or mixed race women; to be specific 2.3 times greater. Comparison with black, brown or mixed race men shows an even more unfair situation to the extent that the percentage of white women who have completed tertiary education is more than triple that for black, brown or mixed race men. The lower education level for men together with the inequalities based on color or race makes the group of black, brown or mixed race men the worst in terms of educational results.



In summary, the results show that, on average, women surpass men in the educational indicators analyzed. However, there is considerable inequality among white women and black, brown or mixed race women, which shows that color or race is an important factor in educational disadvantage, even among women who have most benefited from the increase in educational level: the difference between white men and black, brown or mixed race women who were able to graduate from college is still 10 percentage points higher. Despite the fact that women achieved the best results on average, they still did not achieve results compatible with their qualifications in the labor market (see the topic **Economic structure, participation in productive activities and access to resources**).

### Health and related services

MSGI's indicators for health and related services aim to contribute to reduce the impacts of inequalities, norms and gender expectations on health conditions of women and men, assuring a healthy life and well-being for all. These are indicators which cover the life of women from birth until old age and give special attention to women in reproductive age.

The reduction in the **under-five annual mortality rate** (MSGI 33) between 2011 and 2016 in Brazil suggests improvement in health conditions in early childhood. This reduction was observed both for boys and for girls, with the rate for girls decreasing from 17.2 to 14.1 for every 1,000 live births. The mortality for children under age 5 is also one of the indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, one of whose goals is to eradicate preventable deaths of children in this age group.

It is important to point out that the United Nations Children's Fund – UNICEF in 2015 identified that 45% of the deaths of children under age 5 around the world occurred during the neonatal period, in other words, from birth to the 27<sup>th</sup> day of life<sup>11</sup>. Thus, the importance of the fact that the 2013 National Health Survey - *PNS 2013* found that, in Brazil, 99.0% of the childbirths of women between the ages of 18 and 49, occurring between 7/28/2011 and 7/27/2013<sup>12</sup>, were **attended by skilled health professional** (MSGI 36). This indicator also is part of the 2030 Agenda, within the scope of monitoring the goal to reduce the global maternal mortality rate.

For women in reproductive age, MSGI covers, in addition to childbirths, pregnancy and the use of contraceptive methods. The PNS 2013 revealed that, among women between the ages

## Population aged 25 and over who have completed tertiary education by sex and color or race (%)



Source: IBGE, 2016 Continuous National Household Sample ("PNAD Contínua 2016").



Source: IBGE, Projection of Brazilian Population by Sex and Age for the Period 2000-2060, 2013 Revision and Projection of the Population of the States by Sex and Age for the Period 2000-2030, 2013 Revision.

of 18 and 49, 97.4% had had **at least one antenatal natal visit with skilled health professional** in the latest pregnancy resulting in a childbirth occurring between 7/28/2011 and 7/27/2013 (MSGI 35a). However, women in this age group who had **at least four visits** represented 93.9% of the total (MSGI 35b). In this regard, it is important to observe that recently the World Health Organization - WHO increased its number of recommended visits in its antenatal care model from four to eight, aiming to reduce the level of perinatal mortality and improve to experience of medical care to women<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> COMMITTING to child survival: a promise renewed: progress report 2015. New York: United Nations Children's Fund - Unicef, 2015. 96 p. Available at: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/publications/index\_83078.html">https://www.unicef.org/publications/index\_83078.html</a>. Access in: Feb. 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> For women who had more than one childbirth during this period only the last one was investigated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> PAN-AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION ("ORGANIZAÇÃO PAN-AMERICANA DA SAÚDE"). Regional Office for the Americas. Mulheres grávidas devem ter acesso aos cuidados adequados no momento certo, afirma a OMS. "Pregnant women should have access to proper care at the right moment, says WHO" Brasília, DF: OPAS, 2016. News published on Nov. 7, 2016. Available at: <http://www.paho.org/bra/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=5288:mulheres-gravidas-devem-ter-acesso-aos-cuidados-adequados-no-momento-certo-afirma-oms&Itemid=820>. Access in: Feb. 2018.



For a more comprehensive understanding of these results and considering the motto of the 2030 Agenda "leaving no one behind", the indicators addressing access to basic health care services deserve to be analyzed using demographic splits to allow for diagnosis of inequalities among the groups making up the population of each country. Thus, it can be observed that the indicators on antenatal medical visits are lower for black, brown or mixed race women than for white women. While 98.6% of white women had a least one visit with a specialized health care professional in their latest pregnancy, among black, brown or mixed race women this percentage was 96.6%. When the parameter is having had at least four antenatal visits, this percentage was 95.4% for white women and 92.8% for black, brown or mixed race women. In the North Region, the percentage of white women who had at least four prenatal visits (98.5%) was higher than that for black, brown or mixed race women (87.9%) by more than ten percentage points.

Women having at least one antenatal visit or at least 4 antenatal visits with skilled health professional in their latest pregnancies, by color or race, according to major regions (%)



Source: IBGE, National Health Survey ("Pesquisa Nacional de Saúde") 2013.

With regard to the use of contraceptive methods, the United Nations Statistics Division - UNSD indicates that little access to information, early marriage and the lack of decision-making power among married women or those in a stable union exposes women to the risk of contracting sexually-transmitted diseases, undesired pregnancies and insecure abortions<sup>14</sup>. For these reasons, this is a subject dealt with by the MSGI, as well as by the 2030 Agenda and the Montevideo Consensus. In Brazil, according to the PNS 2013, 72.3% of women between the ages of 18 and 49, married or in stable unions, who had sexual relations in the last 12 months and who were not in menopause, utilized some **method to avoid pregnancy** (MSGI 32); in other words, over one-fourth of the women in this age group did not use any contraceptive method. The North and Northeast Regions showed percentages below the national average (68.4% and 71.5%, respectively).

Two other MSGI indicators allow monitoring of the health of adult women: **smoking prevalence among persons aged 18 or over** (MSGI 37) and the **proportion of persons aged 20 or over who are obese** (MSGI 38). The results of the PNS 2013 split up by sex indicate that Brazil follows the global trend of a higher incidence of tobacco use among men and obesity among women<sup>15</sup>. In fact, while 18.9% of men answered saying that they smoked some sort of tobacco product, this percentage was 11.0% for women, with the percentage of men smoking higher than that for women in all age groups. In addition, the PNS 2013 found a percentage of 17.5% of obese men and 25.2% of obese women. Tobacco usage and obesity are identified as risk factors for cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes and others which constitute common causes of death among the elderly<sup>16</sup>.

With regard to elderly women, their **life expectancy at age 60** (MSGI 41) was higher than that for men and increased between 2011 and 2016. In 2011, the life expectancy for a woman aged 60 in Brazil was 23.1 years and this increased to 23.9 in 2016. The life expectancy for men of this age increased from 19.6 to 20.3 years. In this context, with the reduction in the fertility rate, the proportion of senior citizens increased in the Brazilian population, which demands greater attention to subjects such as social security, protection in the labor market, accessibility, elderly care, among others.

### Public life and decision making

Assuring women equality of access to decision making processes is also one of the goals MSGI intends to track. In other words, women should have opportunities and effectively participate in public life, in the civic and political spheres, assuming leadership positions both in the public and private sectors.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> THE WORLD'S women 2015: trends and statistics. New York: United Nations Statistics Division, 2015. Available at: <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/worldswomen.html">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/worldswomen.html</a>. Access in: Feb. 2018.
<sup>15</sup> See Note 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> See Note 11.



Since 1995, Brazil has legislation which calls for electoral quotas, reserving a percentage of candidacies in proportional elections for women. However, it was only with the enactment of Law n. 12.034, of 9/29/2009 that these quotas became mandatory, so that, in proportional elections, there are at least 30% and no more than 70% of candidates of each sex for each party or party coalition. Some Brazilian political parties also have quotas defined in their respective by-laws, both for candidates for public office as well for positions within the party's organizational structure. The presence of both types of quota are qualitative indicators for MSGI.

Despite the existence of quotas, on 12/20/2017, the percentages of seats occupied by women in office in the Brazilian Congress was 11.3%. In the Brazilian Senate, whose members are chosen by majority elections, 16.0% of the senators were women and, in the Chamber of Deputies, whose members are chosen by proportional elections, only 10.5% of the federal deputies were women. The States of Paraiba, Sergipe and Mato Grosso had no women exercising the office of federal deputy on the date in question. The proportion of women in national parliaments and also at the head of local government (municipal governments) is among the 2030 Agenda, in the scope of Objective 5: "achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls".

It is important to point out that the quotas described in Law n. 12.034 refer to candidates in proportional elections, not to seats in the legislative bodies, and there are no sanctions defined for any party failing to comply with this requirement. In 2014, according to data from the Supreme Electoral Court - TSE, 31.8% of the candidates running for the office of federal deputy were women; however, among those candidates "apt" to run, this percentage fell to 29.3%<sup>17</sup>. According to electoral studies, the discrepancy between the proportion of female candidates and female deputies in office can be attributed to factors such as the lack of material support for female candidates, including in the heart of the political parties and to the greater electoral success of incumbent congresspersons<sup>18</sup>.

On the international scene, in December 2017, Brazil occupied 152<sup>th</sup> place among the 190 countries reporting to the Inter-Parliamentary Union - IPU<sup>19</sup> in terms of the **percentage of seats in its lower chambers (chamber of deputies) or unicameral parliament occupied by women in office** (MSGI 44), with 10.5%. It was the worst result among South American countries<sup>20</sup>. Worldwide, women occupied 23.6% of the seats in lower chambers or unicameral parliaments.



Note: On December 20, 2017.

Proportion of women members of Congress in office is the lower chamber or unicameral parliament for the selected countries (%)



Source: Women in national parliaments: situation as of 1st December 2017. Geneva: Inter-Parliamentary Union - IPU, 2017. Available at: <http://archive.ipu.org/wmn-e/arc/classif011217.htm>. Access in: Feb. 2018.

Note: In addition to Brazil, the three countries with the highest percentage of women occupying seat in the lower chamber or unicameral parliament on each continent, with three countries selected for each region of the Americas (North America, Central America and the Caribbean, South America).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Information on candidates may be obtained on the TSE website on the Internet, at: <http://www.tse.jus.br/>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> ARAÚJO, C.; BORGES, D. O "género", os "elegíveis" e os "não-elegíveis": uma análise das candidaturas para a Câmara Federal em 2010 ("Gender", "eligible" and "non-eligible": an analysis of candidate to the Chamber of Deputies"). In: ALVES, J. E. D.; PINTO, C. R. J.; JORDÃO, F. (Org.). Mulheres nas eleições 2010 ("Women in the 2010 Elections"). 1. ed. Rio de Janeiro: Associação Brasileira de Ciência Política - ABCP; Brasília, DF: Secretaria de Políticas para as Mulheres, 2012, p. 337-385. Available at: <a href="http://bibliotecadigital.tse.jus.br/xmlui/bitstream/handle/bdtse/3337/mulheres\_elei%C3%A7%C3%B5es\_2010\_alves.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>. Access in: Feb. 2018.</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Global organization made up of 178 national parliament effective members and 12 associate members, whose work is observed by 70 international organizations, including the United Nations, the International Labour Organization - ILO) and the World Bank. For more detailed information, please visit: <a href="https://www.ipu.org/">https://www.ipu.org/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> There was no information for Chile.



Another MSGI indicator which monitors the participation of women in a country's political life is the **women's share of government ministerial positions** (CMIG 43). On 12/13/2017, of the 28 federal government ministers, only two were women, or 7.1%. Among the two ministries occupied by women, one is really a ministry (Human Rights) and the other has ministerial status - Federal Attorney General ("Advocacia-Geral da União").

Still in the area of public life and decision making, MSGI recommends as an indicator the share of female police officers (MSGI 46). According to information of Estadic 2014, women represented 13.4% of the active force of state military and civil police on 12/31/2013. The state with the lowest percentage of women in the total of officers on the military and civil police forces was Rio Grande do Norte, with 5.1%, and the one with the highest percentage was Amapá, with 23.4%. In all states, the participation of women was lower in the military police as compared to the civil police, which is why it is worth mentioning the existence of civil service exam notifications to fill positions on the military police force which establish the maximum percentage of openings for women candidates.

It is important to highlight that, in addition to meeting the goal of integrating women into public life, the presence of women on the police force is included among the measure of assistance to women in cases of domestic and family violence. Specifically, Article 10-A of Law n. 11.340, of 8/7/2006 states that "it is the right of women in situations of domestic and family violence to receive specialized and continuous police and investigative services from civil servants, preferably women, previously trained to provide such services". As these services are provided within the scope of the civil police, it should be pointed out that the proportion of women on the state civil police forces was 26.4% on 12/31/2013.

Last but not least important, the indicator **women's share of managerial positions** (MSGI 45) covers the insertion of women in leadership positions both in the public



Women police officers on the active military and civil police forces (%)



Source: IBGE, 2014 Basic State Information Survey ("Pesquisa de Informações Básicas Estaduais 2014").



sector – such as, for example, directors of government organs –, as well as in the private sector – such as in director or manager positions in private-sector companies. In the public sector, it is important to remember that many managerial positions are not filled by civil servant exams or internal selection, but at the discretion of the Public Administration. This is an indicator which, in addition to addressing the issue of participation of women in public life and decision making and being included in the 2030 Agenda, helps to understand certain characteristics of the labor market, such as the gender gap in wages.

In Brazil, 60.9% of managerial positions<sup>21</sup> were occupied by men and 39.1% by women in 2016. In all age groups there was a higher proportion of men occupying managerial positions, which is more pronounced in the higher age groups. In addition, the inequality between black, brown or mixed race women and black, brown or mixed race men was greater than that between white women and white men.

Thus, even though women represent over half of the Brazilian population, the fact that they are underrepresented in so many spheres of public life in the country reinforces the need for policies aimed at reducing the abovementioned gender inequalities.

### Human rights of women and girls

The last of MSGI's topics is focused on eliminating harmful practices, such as forced, early and child marriage, mutilation of feminine genital organs and all forms of violence against women and girls. These issues were also included in the 2030 Agenda and the Montevideo Consensus. There is not sufficient official information on violence against women to build the quantitative indicators proposed by the MSGI, which require splits by specific types of violence. The indicator about mutilation of female genital organs does not apply to Brazil.

Regarding violence against women, it is important to emphasize that the existence of legislation against domestic violence is part of the framework of MSGI's qualitative indicators on the human rights of women and girls. As mentioned earlier, Brazil has a Law on domestic and family violence against women: Law n. 11.340, of 8/7/2006 known as the *Maria da Penha* Law. Among the measures defined for police support for women in situations of violence, the Law establishes the creation of specialized civil police stations and teams trained to investigate and deal with this type of violence. The Basic Municipal Information Survey - MUNIC 2014 and ESTADIC 2014 provide information about these measures, having identified

# Managerial position by sex, according to age group and color or race (%)



Source: IBGE, 2016 Continuous National Household Sample ("PNAD Contínua 2016").

Note: Consolidation of first interviews.

that 7.9% of Brazilian municipalities had specialized police stations to serve women in 2014 and that in 11 of the 27 States (including the Federal District), the subject of domestic and gender violence had been addressed in the continuous training program offered to professionals in the preceding years<sup>22</sup>.

Moving on to the subject of early marriage, according to Brazilian legislation, civil marriage is only permitted for persons aged 16 and above, and for young people aged 16 and 17 not yet emancipated, this requires the permission of their parents or legal guardians. Even so, according to the National Survey on Demography and the Health of Children and Women - PNDS 2006, of the Ministry of Health, 35.6% of women between the ages of 20 and 24 responded that they had been **married or in a union before age 18** (MSGI 51). The legal provision of a minimum age for marriage is one of MSGI's qualitative indicators.

Another indicator which permits monitoring the protection of women's childhood, adolescence and youth is the specific fertility rate of females between the ages of 15 and 19, also known as **ado-lescent birth rate** (MSGI 52).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Considered as managerial positions are all those classified in Level 1 (directors and managers) of the Classification of Occupations for Household Surveys – COD, except for the positions classified in Level 1.4 – managers of hotels, restaurants, shopping and other services.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> For more detailed information, please consult the publication: *PERFIL dos estados e dos municípios brasileiros* 2014 "The 2014 Profile of Brazilian States and Municipalities"). Rio de Janeiro: IBGE, 2015. 123 p. Above the title: *Pesquisa de Informações Básicas Estaduais* ("Survey of Basic State Information"), *Pesquisa de Informações Básicas Municipality* Information"). One CD-ROM is included. Available at: <a href="https://www.ibge.gov.br/estatisticas-novoportal/sociais/administracao-publica-e-participacao-politica/16770-pesquisa-de-informacoes-basicas-estaduais.html?&t=publicacoes>. Access in: Feb. 2018.



In 2016 in Brazil, according to the Projection of the Brazilian Population by sex and age for the period from 2000 to 2060 (2013 Revision), this rate was 56.0 births for every 1,000 females between the ages of 15 and 19.

The difference between the major Brazilian regions deserves to be highlighted: The Southeast and South Regions have a teenage fertility rate of 45.4 and 45.6 respectively, while the Central West and Northeast Regions 55.6 and 64.9, respectively. In the North Region, this rate was 85.1 for every 1,000 females between the ages of 15 and 19. The highest teenage fertility rate was encountered in the State of Acre (97.8) and the lowest in the Federal District (38.6).

Thus, it is possible to identify that, alongside gender inequalities, racial and geographic inequalities affecting women are challenges to be faced to reach the objectives and goals considered by MSGI, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development.

### Final comments -

Men and women are not homogeneous groups, and to better understand their dynamics, the interaction with other dimensions, groups and categories is of the utmost importance. Age, schooling, race/ethnic origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, migration and citizenship status, as well as living in urban and rural areas, are intersections which affect gender analysis and must be considered whenever available data and information allow such breakdowns to be made.



Source: IBGE, Projection of the Brazilian Population by Sex and Age: 2000-2060, 2013 Revision; Projection of Population by State by Sex and Age: 2000-2030, 2013 Revision.

The effort we have made here in this study was to show the persistence of gender inequality between men and women in Brazil, using a system of international indicators designed to monitor the agendas of development and comparability among countries. At the same time, considering the motto of the 2030 Agenda: "leaving no one behind", in addition to the proposed indicators, possible breakdowns of the existing data bases were made to reflect the situation in Brazil in which the inequalities are structured around accumulated historical disadvantages. In general, the path to be taken toward gender equality, in other words, a scenario where men and women enjoy the same rights and all the dimensions analyzed here, is still a long one for women and even more difficult if the woman involved is black, brown or mixed race and lives outside of the urban centers in the South and Southeast Regions.

### Credits

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