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Non-Detained

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW
IMMIGRATION COURT
900 Market Street, Suite 504
Philadelphia, PA 19107**

In the Matter of)
Joao Lucas Rocha Silveira)
In Removal Proceedings)
_____)

File No. A 220-350-514

Immigration Judge: N/A

Next Hearing: N/A

**RESPONDENTS' COUNTRY CONDITIONS IN SUPPORT OF ASYLUM AND
WITHHOLDING OF REMOVAL**

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Exhibit 1

EXCERPTS FROM COUNTRY CONDITIONS

CC 1

Brazil 2023 - Human Rights Report - U.S department

Violence and Harassment: Violence against LGBTQI+ individuals was a concern. While such violence generally had declined since 2017, violence specifically targeting transgender individuals increased, according to Dial 100.

The Federal Public Ministry was responsible for registering reports of crimes committed based on gender or sexual orientation but reportedly was slow to respond. Transgender individuals were particularly at risk of being the victims of crime, including sex trafficking, or committing suicide.

Dial 100 registered 2,536 complaints from January to May, an increase of more than 300 percent compared with the same period in 2022. The states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, and Minas Gerais reported approximately one-half of the total registered in the country.

According to a survey by the NGO Gay Group of Bahia released on June 28, between January and June, 139 LGBTQI+ persons were victims of violent deaths. The survey recorded 256 deaths in all of 2022. Gay men and women were the main victims (48 percent), followed by transgender persons (42 percent). Half of the victims identified as Brown or Black, while White victims represented almost 12 percent.

In January a transgender woman was killed and her body dismembered in Vigario Geral neighborhood, Rio de Janeiro. The victim, a prostitute, left home to meet with a customer and disappeared. Her family discovered the customer's address, where they found the victim's body and the suspect, who escaped. Police were investigating the case.

NGOs cited lack of economic opportunity for LGBTQI+ persons as a concern. According to Grupo Gay da Bahia, 33 percent of companies avoided hiring LGBTQI+ employees, and 90 percent of transgender women engaged in commercial sex because they could find no employment alternative. Transgender women often paid human traffickers for protection and daily housing fees. When unable to pay, they were beaten and starved. Traffickers targeted transgender women, luring them with offers of gender reassignment surgery and later exploiting them in sex trafficking when they were unable to repay the cost of the procedure.

A 2022 report by All Out and Instituto Matizes identified 26 types of “gay cures” in the country, divided into four categories: religious, medical/psychological, familial, and academic. Of the 365 persons interviewed, 193 had been subjected to an attempted “gay cure.”

During the June Pride month, an evangelical pastor, André Valadão, from a church in the state of Minas Gerais, promoted “gay cure” practices through his cult entitled “God Hates Pride.” This practice and speech were common in evangelical churches. On October 12, digital influencer Karol Eller committed suicide in São Paulo, one month after she announced she would undergo a “gay cure” and that she became an evangelical. In September Eller stated in a post on social media that she had “renounced homosexual practice.”

Surgeries were commonly performed on newborns at the advice of medical doctors to “choose a gender.” There were no reports that medically unnecessary and irreversible “normalization” surgeries were performed on nonconsenting adult intersex persons.

CC 2

Brazil is the country that kills the most transvestites and transgender people in the world, warns a civil society report delivered to UNFPA - United Nations Brazil

To mark National Trans Visibility Day, January 29, the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (ANTRA) symbolically delivered the 'Dossier of Murders and Violence Against Brazilian Trans People 2020' to the United Nations

Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Norwegian Embassy, this Thursday (28), during a virtual event.

In its fourth edition, the document draws attention to the high murder rates that place Brazil at the top of the ranking for the murder of transgender people again in 2020.

According to the document, at least 175 murders of transgender people were mapped, all of them transvestites and transsexual women. In absolute numbers, São Paulo was the state that killed the most transgender people in 2020, with 29 murders and a 38% increase in cases compared to 2019, followed by Ceará (22 cases) which saw a 100% increase in the number of murders, Bahia (19) with a 137.5% increase, Minas Gerais (17) and Rio de Janeiro (10) with a 43% increase. The highest concentration of murders in 2020 was seen in the Northeast region, which showed a 6% increase with 75 murders (43% of cases).

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is committed to ensuring that LGBTQI people do not face discrimination. In this regard, the UNFPA Representative in Brazil, Astrid Bant, reinforced the role of the United Nations agency. "We have been making every effort to raise awareness of this issue, gathering information, building consultation agendas, producing diagnoses, and also supporting the publication of this dossier that is being presented."

Since 2017, the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (ANTRA) has been conducting this research to denounce cases of violence and human rights violations against the transvestite, transsexual women, trans men, and other transgender people. "For us at ANTRA, it is the only instrument we have to denounce these murders and this neglect of our population; therefore, this symbolic delivery to UNFPA, the representative of the United Nations, is precisely so that this study and these murders can resonate internationally," stated the president of ANTRA, Keila Simpson.

"Our main goal is to no longer need to conduct this study, but we know that it will still take time for Brazilian society to understand that the resurgence of violence – so often discussed and so prevalent – needs to end," added the president of ANTRA.

According to the report, Brazil remained the leading country in the world for the number of murders of transgender people in 2020. “In addition to the increase in murders, there was an increase of approximately 53% in attempted murders. It is worrying to consider that those who managed to survive face numerous other challenges in reintegrating into society,” stated Bruna G. Benevides, Secretary of Political Articulation at ANTRA and author of the Report on Murders and Violence against Transgender People in Brazil.

CC 3

Human Rights, Minorities and Racial Equality Committee - Chamber of Deputies of Brazil

In 2020, 175 transgender people were murdered in Brazil. The country leads the ranking of murders of transgender people in the world. This data comes from the “Dossier: murders and violence against Brazilian transvestites and transsexuals in 2020”, presented this Thursday (February 18th) during a meeting promoted by the President of the Human Rights and Minorities Commission, Helder Salomão (PT/ES), which was attended by parliamentarians, human rights activists, representatives from the United Nations and Amnesty International. The meeting was requested by Deputy Erika Kokay (PT-DF).

Bruna Benevides, secretary of political articulation for the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals of Brazil (ANTRA), presented a document compiled by the organization in partnership with the Brazilian Trans Institute of Education (IBTE), which reveals a 43% increase in the murder of transgender people in Brazil compared to 2019. Benevides highlighted the underreporting of cases and the lack of government data on violence against transgender people.

“2020 was an extremely violent year. It was the year with the highest number of murders of transgender people in the country's history, with a transgender person murdered every 48 hours. We are talking about hate crimes in which gender identity was a determining factor in the murder,” says Benevides.

Human Rights Observatory: Violence against transgender people requires mobilization from public authorities - National Council of Justice of Brazil (CNJ)

Another piece of data from the research concerns the total number of trans murders worldwide (4,639), recorded from 2008 to September 2022 in the international Trans Murder Monitoring (TMM) project. Brazil ranks first, responsible for 37.5% (1,741) of all deaths; Mexico has 649 (14%) and the USA 375 (8%). Between 2017 and 2022, the period in which Antra began conducting this research, there were a total of 912 murders against trans or non-binary people in Brazil. In 2022, there were 131 cases; 140 in 2021; 175 cases in 2020; 124 cases in 2019; 163 in 2018 and 179 cases in 2017 (the year with the highest number of murders of trans people in the historical series). For comparison purposes, the organization compiled the number of transgender people murdered in Europe over the past five years: a total of 12, across five countries (Italy, Portugal, France, Spain, and Belgium).

The report concludes with a series of suggestions aimed at guaranteeing rights for the trans population. Addressed to the National Council of Justice (CNJ), the text reinforces the importance of approving regulations mandating the periodic investigation and publication of data on violence against LGBTQIA+ individuals, including their respective qualifiers, and the correct completion of fields such as sexual orientation, gender identity, and social name – in the case of transgender individuals.

Beaten, Stabbed And Shot: 320 Trans People Killed In 2023 - New Monitoring Report - Forbes

The vast majority of those killed (94%) were trans women or trans-feminine people.

Most were Black, and many were sex workers too. 80% of those killed were trans people affected by racism, an increase of 15% from last year.

Many of the victims were young. The age group with the most victims was 19 to 25 years old. Overall, those between 19 and 40 years old made up three-quarters (77%) of those reported killed.

Almost three-quarters (73%) of those tracked happened in Latin America and the Caribbean, with the epicentre of the problem being in Brazil, where nearly one-third (31%) occurred.

CC 6

Reported murders, suicides of trans people soar in Brazil - Reuters

(Thomson Reuters Foundation) - The number of transgender people killed in Brazil this year has risen by 70% over last year, according to research underscoring the South American country's rank as the world's deadliest place for trans people.

The 129 trans people murdered since January already exceeds the total killings in 2019.

Despite the legal recognition, gay and trans Brazilians face prejudice and widespread violence in the socially conservative country where powerful Evangelical churches are highly critical of LGBT+ rights. The nation of some 200 million people regularly ranks as the deadliest country worldwide for trans people, according to the Trans Murder Monitoring research project.

CC 7

Brazil is the country that kills the most transgender and transvestite people, according to a report - CNN Brazil

Despite a 16% reduction in deaths in 2024, Brazil leads the global rates of murders against this population for the 16th consecutive year. The majority of victims are young, Black, transgender women from the Northeast region of Brazil, with crimes marked by extreme violence.

A report by the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (Antra) pointed out this Monday (27) that Brazil continues to be one of the most lethal countries for this community, given the 122 deaths recorded in 2024.

The survey indicated a 16% reduction compared to the previous year, but that for the 16th consecutive year, the country is the one that murders the most transgender and transvestite people in the world.

Among the common elements shared by these victims is that most of the deaths are of transgender women, the crimes occur predominantly in public places, such as deserted streets and at night. Furthermore, the cases mostly involve excessive violence and extreme cruelty.

Another point mentioned in the report is the difficulty in analyzing these cases, since authorities rarely officially classify the deaths as cases of transgender or transvestite individuals when identifying the victims.

CC 8

Brazil Continues To Be the Country with the Largest Number of Trans People Killed - Pulitzer Center

Although transphobia appears in Brazil's legislation as a crime since 2019, the country still has the largest number of transgender and queer people murdered in the world. In 2021, Brazil led the list for the 13th consecutive year.

The total number of trans women and queer people murdered is the largest since 2008, when the data recording began.

According to Transgender Europe (TGEU) 2021 report, which monitors data globally collected by trans and LGBTQIA+ institutions, 70% of all the murders recorded have happened in South and Central American countries, being that 33% of them took place in Brazil, Mexico (65), and USA (53), respectively.

The majority of transfemicide victims are women. According to TGEU's document, 96% of the people murdered in the world are trans women and transfeminized people, 58% of the trans people

murdered were sex workers. The average age of those murdered is 30. About 36% of the murders took place on the streets and 24% inside the victims' houses.

The data reunited by TGEU was obtained with trans organizations and civil society groups that carry out some sort of professional monitoring in their countries. However, these figures do not give the big picture of transphobia in Brazil.

CC 9

Healthcare for transgender people is under threat, researchers say - CNN Brazil

Recent restrictions on public policies and healthcare for transgender people applied in several countries, including Brazil, threaten to dismantle existing care structures for this population and may lead to setbacks. This warning is contained in an article published in the scientific journal *Nature Medicine* by a group of Brazilian researchers.

In addition to prohibiting the clinical use of hormone blockers in transgender youth, the Brazilian resolution also prevents research in this area. Hormone therapy involves administering sex hormones to promote physical changes consistent with gender identity. These procedures had been adopted based on the CFM's own previous resolution (No. 2,265), published in 2020.

According to the authors, in addition to creating an intimidating effect among healthcare professionals, these rules hinder the provision of adequate care and may increase the risk of depression , social isolation, and even suicide among transgender youth – those who do not identify with their birth sex. Regarding science, the group believes there is a brake, with limits or prohibitions on research and treatments specifically aimed at this group.

The article also calls upon professional bodies and the academic community – institutions, funding agencies, scientific journals, and researchers – to reaffirm their support for evidence-based care for transgender individuals.

According to Professor Bruno Gualano, president of the Lifestyle Medicine Center at USP and co-author of the article, the new CFM (Federal Council of Medicine) regulation hinders scientific production. “The resolution eliminates the possibility for doctors to prescribe, for example, hormone blockers, as was being done under the previous council regulation, which had specific rules. On the other hand, it demands more scientific evidence of the effects of this procedure on young people. But if it's prohibited, how are we going to produce evidence?” he asks.

The researchers highlight that the previous CFM resolution guided the care provided at Amtigos to 79 transgender adolescents using puberty blockers. “Adverse effects were rare, with few discontinuing the blockers and only one expressing a desire to detransition after hormone therapy, and this occurred without regret. These results align with international standards, showing detransition rates below 2% when appropriate assessment protocols are followed,” the group writes in Nature Medicine.

“In Brazil, the CFM resolution could lead these young people to seek out unqualified doctors or even to self-medicate, harming their health. Furthermore, these policies disproportionately affect low-income families, threatening important gains in rights and healthcare,” says Saadeh.

CC 10

Brazil remains the country that kills the most transgender people in the world for the 18th consecutive year, according to a report - O Globo

Brazil maintained its position as the country that kills the most trans people in the world for the 18th consecutive year in 2025. 80 murders motivated by transphobic crimes were recorded throughout the year, according to the Dossier Murders and Violence Against Brazilian Transvestites and Transsexuals, which will be released this Monday (26) by the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (Antra).

The number represents a 34% reduction compared to 2024, when 122 deaths were recorded. Despite the decrease, the survey indicates that violence against the trans population remains

serious. The report points to an increase in attempted homicides, which rose from 57 to 75 in one year, and highlights structural factors that hinder the fight against these crimes, such as underreporting, lack of official statistics, and poor journalistic coverage in many regions.

The survey also points to a process of internalization of violence. In 2025, 67.5% of murders occurred in inland cities, while 32.5% were recorded in capital cities. According to Antra, the displacement of crimes to areas with less state presence and support networks increases the risk of deaths going unnoticed.

In addition to mapping homicides, the report highlights the need for public policies focused on violence prevention, proper crime investigation, and the social inclusion of the transgender population.

Exhibit 2

Brazil 2023 Human Rights Report

Executive Summary

There were no significant changes in the human rights situation in Brazil during the year.

Significant human rights issues included credible reports of: unlawful or arbitrary killings, including extrajudicial killings; torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment by the government; harsh and life-threatening prison conditions; arbitrary arrest or detention; serious restrictions on freedom of expression and media freedom, including violence or threats against journalists; serious government corruption; extensive gender-based violence, including domestic or intimate partner violence, sexual violence, femicide, and other forms of such violence; crimes involving violence or threats of violence targeting Afro-Brazilians and Indigenous peoples; and crimes involving violence or threats of violence targeting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or intersex persons.

The government did not always take credible steps to identify and punish officials who may have committed human rights abuses.

Section 1. Respect for the Integrity of the Person

a. Arbitrary Deprivation of Life and Other Unlawful or

Politically Motivated Killings

There were numerous reports that state-level civil and military police committed arbitrary or unlawful killings, including extrajudicial killings, during the year.

The Rio de Janeiro Institute of Public Security reported that as of July, 651 persons died from incidents involving police violence, an 18 percent decline compared with the same period in 2022. According to the Rio de Janeiro Public Attorney's Office, as of May police conducted 612 raids in the state. Rio de Janeiro City was the focus of more than one-half of these operations. There was a persistent pattern of impunity for police operations, which often resulted in significant fatalities, accusations of excessive force, extrajudicial killings, and denial of medical care for injured criminal suspects, with accusations involving several different law enforcement entities.

In March the newspaper *O Globo* reported that a police raid conducted in the favela of Salgueiro, Niteroi, in Rio de Janeiro State, resulted in the death of 13 suspects. The raid was carried out by police officers, including from the Military Police Battalion of Special Operations and the Civil Police Coordination of Special Resources. There was no information regarding an investigation of the incident.

According to *O Globo*, on June 17, Federal Highway Police officers killed a woman while she and her husband were driving through a police checkpoint

on a highway in Rio de Janeiro State. The officer who fired the fatal shot was briefly arrested but later released.

Authorities stated the case regarding an operation in May 2022 to arrest Commando Vermelho gang members in the city of Rio de Janeiro remained open and no one had been charged or arrested. The joint operation, involving military police agents from Rio de Janeiro State's Special Operations Battalion and agents from the Special Operations Command of the Federal Highway Police, resulted in 23 deaths.

Investigations remained open, but no indictments or convictions were reported regarding the 2021 police operation in Rio de Janeiro City's Jacarezinho neighborhood. As of October, 10 of the 13 investigations into police abuses in the operation had been closed according to press reports, despite autopsy reports indicating at least four victims were shot in the back at less than three feet.

According to the São Paulo Public Security Secretariat, the number of deaths resulting from military and civil police operations in the state of São Paulo in the first semester of the year increased by 9 percent, compared with the same period in 2022. From 2020 to 2021, the total number of cases decreased by 30 percent, a result attributed by security experts in part to the use of body cameras by military police officers along with the implementation of new strategies and the use of nonlethal weapons, such as tasers.

In operations to combat criminal groups in the coastal area of Guarujá, São Paulo State, from the end of July to September 5, São Paulo military police killed 28 persons. Human rights organizations reportedly accused police of using excessive force, violating human rights, and committing extrajudicial killings. The Public Prosecutor's Office was investigating the deaths. On September 5, the São Paulo State Secretariat of Public Security, responsible for the operation, stated all deaths resulted from direct confrontations with criminals and added that two internal inquiries were underway.

On August 14, Minister of Justice and Public Security Flávio Dino announced that he had accepted the resignation of the three Federal Highway Police officers accused of asphyxiating and killing Genivaldo de Jesus Santos in Sergipe State in May 2022. The officers were to be tried for murder and torture. In September a court in Recife, Pernambuco State, authorized an indemnity of one million reais (\$200,000), to be paid to Genivaldo's son.

In July the nongovernmental organization (NGO) Brazilian Public Security Forum reported that police (including federal, state, and municipal) killed 6,429 persons nationwide in 2022, an increase of 284 persons compared with 2021. Afro-Brazilians represented 83 percent of victims. According to some civil society organizations, victims of police violence throughout the country were overwhelmingly young Afro-Brazilian men.

On April 5, the NGO Forum for Justice reported that fewer than one-half of the investigations of police homicides resulted in an indictment. The study

analyzed more than 4,500 cases from 2011 to 2021, noting that 39 percent resulted in indictments, while the rest were archived due to self-defense claims or lack of evidence. The study also highlighted the length of the process, with an average of four years for charges to be filed and eight years for cases to be closed.

b. Disappearance

There were no reports of disappearances by or on behalf of government authorities.

c. Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and Other Related Abuses

The constitution prohibited torture and inhuman or degrading treatment, but there were reports government officials sometimes employed such practices.

According to the newspaper *Folha de São Paulo*, on June 23, during an inspection conducted by the State Public Defender's Office in the Elias Alves da Silva Prison Unit in Itaitinga, located in Fortaleza, Ceará State, inspectors identified signs of torture techniques used against prisoners, including physical and psychological torment in which inmates were forced to balance on their heads and were then beaten when they fell. On June 26, the judge ordered the suspension of the prison's leadership for 90 days.

In February Rio de Janeiro's Court of Justice sentenced Alisson Pires Barreto, a male guard at the juvenile correctional facility DEGASE, to 43 years in prison for raping and sexually abusing two teenage girls in 2021 at his workplace in the city of Rio de Janeiro. Authorities dismissed the director and replaced all male guards with women.

Civil society organizations said impunity and a lack of accountability for security forces, particularly at the local level, was a problem. Most examples of impunity involved the military police and civil police, with some also reported to occur in the armed forces and Federal Highway Police. The law mandated that special police courts exercise jurisdiction over state military police except those charged with "willful crimes against life," primarily homicide. Police personnel often were responsible for investigating charges of torture and excessive force carried out by fellow officers. Delays in the special military police courts allowed many cases to expire due to statutes of limitations.

Prison and Detention Center Conditions

Prison conditions were poor and sometimes life threatening, mainly due to overcrowding and violence, according to the NGO National Security Forum. Abuse by prison guards continued, and poor working conditions and low pay for prison guards encouraged corruption, according to the NGO.

Abusive Physical Conditions: According to the National Penitentiary

Department, as of 2021 the number of incarcerated persons exceeded 204,185, which indicated that nationally the system was 45 percent above capacity, a decrease from the 67 percent recorded in 2020.

Minister Rosa Weber, president of the Federal Supreme Court, visited the Curado Prison Complex in Recife, Pernambuco State in April and noted the poor infrastructure and chaotic environment. The Pernambuco prison system had approximately 35,000 inmates in facilities designed for 14,400. The overcrowding led the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to denounce the government of Pernambuco.

Conditions in most prisons were inadequate, according to the National Security Forum. Prisoners often lacked access to potable water, adequate nutrition, clothing, and hygiene items. Rats and cockroaches infested many cells. In the Federal District's prison system, observers said problems included poor quality of food and hygiene conditions, overcrowding, lack of access to health care, and inadequate infrastructure.

Reports of abuse by prison guards continued. Prisoners convicted of petty crimes frequently were held with murderers and other violent criminals, according to the National Security Forum. Authorities attempted to hold pretrial detainees separately from convicted prisoners, but lack of space often required placing convicted criminals in pretrial detention facilities. In many prisons, including those in the Federal District, officials attempted to separate violent offenders from other inmates and keep convicted drug

traffickers in a wing apart from the rest of the prison population. Multiple sources reported adolescents were held with adults in poor and crowded conditions.

According to the publication *Metropoles*, on May 12, the National Council of Justice reported 112,000 deaths in prisons between 2017 and 2021. The report concluded that diseases accounted for 62 percent of deaths. Some of the most cited diseases included heart conditions, pneumonia, and tuberculosis. The likelihood of inmates contracting tuberculosis was 30 times higher than in the general population. The study also indicated underreporting of deaths and concluded that many instances of so-called natural deaths were, in fact, the result of a long process of illness and lack of assistance.

According to the National Security Forum, prisons suffered from insufficient staffing and lack of control over inmates. Violence was rampant in prison facilities. Poor administration of the prison system contributed to the violence, as did overcrowding, the presence of gangs, and corruption, according to the National Security Forum. Media reports indicated that incarcerated leaders of major criminal gangs continued to control their expanding transnational criminal enterprises from inside prisons.

Prison riots were common occurrences, according to media reports. On January 7, the news publication *Bahia 190* reported that a clash between members of the drug faction Red Command in the Penitentiary Conjunto

Penal in the municipality of Feira de Santana, Bahia State, resulted in a riot of inmates and the death of three inmates.

Administration: Authorities monitored prison and detention center conditions and conducted investigations of credible allegations of mistreatment.

Independent Monitoring: The government permitted monitoring by independent nongovernmental observers.

d. Arbitrary Arrest or Detention

The constitution prohibited arbitrary arrest and detention and provided for the right of any person to challenge the lawfulness of their arrest or detention in court. The government generally observed these requirements.

Arrest Procedures and Treatment of Detainees

Police were required to advise persons of their rights at the time of arrest or before taking them into custody for interrogation. The law prohibited use of force during an arrest unless the suspect attempted to escape or resisted arrest. According to human rights observers, some detainees complained of physical abuse while being taken into police custody.

Authorities generally respected the constitutional right to a prompt judicial determination of the legality of detention, according to observers. The law

permitted provisional detention for up to five days under specified conditions during an investigation, but a judge could extend this period. Judges were also authorized to order temporary detention for an additional five days for processing. Preventive detention for an initial period of 15 days was permitted if police suspected a detainee might flee the area.

Defendants arrested in the act of committing a crime were required to be charged within 30 days of arrest. The law required other defendants to be charged within 45 days, although this period could be extended. In cases involving heinous crimes, torture, drug trafficking, and terrorism, pretrial detention could last 30 days with the option to extend for an additional 30 days.

Often the period for charging defendants was extended because of court backlogs. The law did not provide for a maximum period of pretrial detention, which was decided on a case-by-case basis. Bail was available for most crimes, and defendants facing charges for all but the most serious crimes had the right to a bail hearing. Prison authorities generally allowed detainees prompt access to a lawyer. Detainees who were unable to pay for legal counsel had the right to a lawyer provided by the state. Detainees had prompt access to family members. If detainees were convicted, time in detention before trial was subtracted from their sentences.

Arbitrary Arrest: On April 11, the Niteroi Court of Justice acquitted Danilo Felix Vicente de Oliveira of all charges brought against him for a 2020 armed

robbery. The victims supposedly identified him from a photograph police obtained from Facebook. This was the third instance in which robbery victims wrongfully identified him for same crime through a photograph lineup.

On June 9, the Niteroi Court of Justice in Rio de Janeiro State acquitted Luiz Carlos da Costa Justino of all charges brought against him for a 2017 car theft. He was arrested in 2020 after, according to police, the robbery victim identified Justino from a photograph lineup in the police station. According to media outlets, Justino, an adolescent at the time of the robbery, had no criminal record and therefore police should not have had access to photographs of him. Video evidence showed that at the time of the crime, Justino, an Afro-Brazilian musician, was performing at an event four miles from the crime scene.

Pretrial Detention: Lengthy pretrial detention was a problem. The length of pretrial detention frequently equaled or exceeded the maximum sentence for the alleged crime, according to the National Security Forum. According to the Ministry of Justice's National Penitentiary, in 2021 there were approximately 900,000 incarcerated persons in the country, 25 percent of whom were awaiting trial.

e. Denial of Fair Public Trial

The constitution provided for an independent judiciary, and the government

generally respected judicial independence and impartiality. Local NGOs, however, argued that corruption within the judiciary, especially at the local and state levels, prevented fair trials.

Trial Procedures

The constitution provided for the right to a fair and public trial, and the judiciary generally enforced this right, although NGOs reported that in some rural regions – especially in cases involving land rights activists – police, prosecutors, and the judiciary were perceived to be susceptible to external influences, including fear of reprisals. Investigations, prosecutions, and trials in these cases often were delayed.

Although the law required trials be held within a set time, there were millions of backlogged cases at state, federal, and appellate courts, and cases often took many years to be concluded. While the law provided for the right to counsel, the Ministry of Public Security stated many prisoners could not afford an attorney. The court was required to furnish a public defender or private attorney at public expense in such cases, but staffing deficits persisted in all states, according to the National Security Forum.

Political Prisoners and Detainees

There were no reports of political prisoners or detainees.

f. Transnational Repression

Not applicable.

g. Property Seizure and Restitution

Authorities at times evicted persons from their places of residences or seized their properties without due process or adequate restitution, although this happened most frequently with traditional communities, such as Quilombolas (Afrodescendants of enslaved persons).

The government had no laws or mechanisms in place for Holocaust restitution, and NGOs and advocacy groups reported the government had not made progress on resolution of Holocaust-era claims, including for foreign citizens. The country endorsed the Terezin Declaration in 2009 and the Guidelines and Best Practices in 2010.

The Department of State's *Justice for Uncompensated Survivors Today (JUST) Act Report* to Congress, released publicly in July 2020, can be found on the Department's website: <https://www.state.gov/reports/just-act-report-to-congress/>.

h. Arbitrary or Unlawful Interference with Privacy, Family, Home, or Correspondence

The constitution prohibited arbitrary or unlawful interference with privacy,

family, home, or correspondence, but there were reports that the government failed to respect these prohibitions. NGOs reported that police occasionally entered homes without judicial or other appropriate authorization to conduct police operations against criminal activity. Human rights groups, other NGOs, and media reported incidents of excessive searches in poor neighborhoods during the operations. Police stopped and questioned persons and searched cars and residences without warrants.

Section 2. Respect for Civil Liberties

a. Freedom of Expression, Including for Members of the Press and Other Media

The constitution and law provided for freedom of expression, including for members of the press and other media, and the government generally respected this right. An independent media, an effective judiciary, and a functioning democratic political system combined to promote freedom of expression, including for media members.

Violence and Harassment: The broad use of social media facilitated hate speech online against journalists, citizens, and institutions, and courts were dealing with cases that took place completely online and often convicted persons who used fake names. On May 3, the NGO Reporters Without Borders reported that press freedom improved. According to the

organization, the improvement was attributed to the departure of former President Jair Bolsonaro, who verbally attacked journalists and media outlets.

Censorship or Content Restrictions for Members of the Press and Other Media, including Online Media: National laws prohibited politically motivated judicial censorship, but there were reports of censorship.

Libel/Slander Laws: Libel, slander, and defamation were criminal offenses. Penalties ranged from three months to two years plus a fine. The laws were enforced.

Nongovernmental Impact: Nongovernmental criminal elements at times subjected journalists to threats or violence due to the journalists' reporting on their criminal activities.

Internet Freedom

The government did not restrict or disrupt access to the internet or censor online content. Nonetheless, according to news reports, the online environment remained constrained by threats of violence against independent bloggers and websites, as well as criminal defamation laws and restrictive limits on content related to elections.

The electoral law regulated political campaign activity on the internet. The law prohibited paid political advertising online and in traditional media.

During the three months prior to an election, the law also prohibited online and traditional media from promoting candidates and distributing content that deliberately caused offense to a candidate.

b. Freedoms of Peaceful Assembly and Association

The law provided for the freedoms of peaceful assembly and association, and the government generally respected these rights.

c. Freedom of Religion

See the Department of State's *International Religious Freedom Report* at <https://www.state.gov/religiousfreedomreport/>.

d. Freedom of Movement and the Right to Leave the Country

The constitution provided for freedom of internal movement, foreign travel, emigration, and repatriation, and the government generally respected these rights.

e. Protection of Refugees

The government cooperated with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian organizations in providing protection and assistance to refugees, returning refugees, or asylum

seekers, as well as other persons of concern.

Access to Asylum: The law provided for the granting of asylum or refugee status, and the government had established a system for providing protection to refugees. By law, refugees were provided official documentation, access to legal protection, and access to public services. The law codified protections for asylum claimants and provided for a humanitarian visa and residency status that served as an alternative to refugee claims for some categories of regional migrants, particularly from Venezuela.

As of June, according to UNHCR, there were more than 460,000 Venezuelan refugees and migrants in the country, the majority of whom arrived in the northern state of Roraima. According to the International Organization for Migration and UNHCR, the government continued the process of resettling Venezuelan refugees and asylum seekers and migrants, voluntarily relocating more than 100,000 individuals from the border states in the north to other states to relieve pressure on the resource-strapped state of Roraima and provide increased opportunities for education and work.

Abuse of Refugees and Asylum Seekers: NGOs reported that refugees were susceptible to human trafficking for the purposes of forced commercial sex and forced labor.

Temporary Protections: As of December 2022, UNHCR reported the

government provided temporary protection to approximately 350,000 individuals who may not have qualified as refugees.

f. Status and Treatment of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

According to a report released in May by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, the country had approximately 708,000 internally displaced persons, due in large part to natural disasters such as storms and floods. The government promoted the safe return and resettlement of affected persons to the areas they were forced to leave. Additionally, in 2022, 5,600 persons were displaced due to violence related to land ownership by land-grabbers and farmers, mainly in the state of Goiás.

For further information regarding internally displaced persons in the country, please see the materials of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center: <https://www.internal-displacement.org>.

Section 3. Freedom to Participate in the Political Process

The law provided citizens the ability to choose their government in free and fair periodic elections held by secret ballot and based on universal and equal suffrage.

Elections and Political Participation

Abuses or Irregularities in Recent Elections: National elections were widely reported to be fair and free of abuses and irregularities.

In 2020, the Superior Electoral Court ruled that publicly provided funds for campaign financing and advertising time on radio and television had to be divided proportionally between Black and White candidates in elections. The decision was in effect for the October 2022 elections. Electoral authorities reported instances of political parties failing to adhere to the legal requirements.

The Organization of American States Electoral Observation Mission report noted complaints regarding electoral harassment in which “business owners and other authority figures allegedly tried to influence, intimidate, or coerce employees and subordinates into voting for a particular candidate.”

Observers also noted the Federal Highway Police increased inspections of public buses in the Northeast, causing voter delays and perceived harassment. Following meetings with the electoral authority, police ended the actions, and the electoral authority declared no voters had been prevented from voting because of the actions.

Voters shared on social media anecdotal accounts that militias and drug trafficking organizations interfered in electoral processes by using violence and intimidation to manipulate votes, influence candidate lists, and limit

rival candidates' ability to access and campaign in some neighborhoods. International and national observer missions, however, did not cite any negative trends in their reports.

On June 30, the Superior Electoral Court voted to bar former President Jair Bolsonaro from elected office until following the 2030 general election after determining statements he made in July 2022 to members of the diplomatic community suggesting electoral vulnerabilities violated electoral law.

Section 4. Corruption in Government

The law provided criminal penalties for convictions of corruption by officials and stipulated civil penalties for corruption committed by Brazilian citizens or entities overseas. There were numerous reports of corruption during the year at various levels of government, and delays in judicial proceedings against persons accused of corruption were common, often due to constitutional protections from prosecution for elected officials. This often resulted in de facto impunity for the accused.

Corruption: In May Rio de Janeiro's state attorney general alleged that from 2009 to 2018, Rio de Janeiro municipal Councilman Carlos Bolsonaro's chief of staff received payments of approximately two million reais (\$400,000) from six of his staff. The report stated the payments were evidence of a staffing kickback scheme within Bolsonaro's office. Investigators were investigating whether Bolsonaro, son of former President Jair Bolsonaro,

participated directly in the scheme, according to local media. Carlos Bolsonaro was already facing several civil and criminal investigations for alleged improprieties in his office dating back to 2019.

According to the publication *NSC Total*, in April Santa Catarina state police continued serving arrest and search-and-seizure warrants to mayors and other high-level public servants involved in a widespread corruption network. Police arrested 15 mayors in five months on suspicion of fraud in bidding and contracting services, which included bribes to criminal organizations and money laundering in trash collection contracts in Santa Catarina cities. The Public Ministry of Santa Catarina planned to serve municipal secretaries, businessmen, and civil servants with warrants as part of the corruption scandal.

For additional information about corruption in the country, please see the Department of State's *Investment Climate Statement* for the country, and the Department of State's *International Narcotics Control Strategy Report*, which includes information on financial crimes.

Section 5. Governmental Posture Towards International and Nongovernmental Monitoring and Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights

Many domestic and international human rights groups generally operated

without government restriction to monitor or investigate human rights conditions or cases and publish their findings. Government officials were cooperative and responsive to the views of these groups. Federal and state officials in many cases sought the aid and cooperation of domestic and international NGOs in addressing human rights problems.

Government Human Rights Bodies: The Chamber of Deputies and the Senate had human rights committees and subcommittees that operated without interference and participated in several activities nationwide in coordination with domestic and international human rights organizations. Most states had police ombudsmen, but their independence and effectiveness varied, depending on such factors as funding and outside political pressure, according to human rights groups.

Section 6. Discrimination and Societal Abuses

Women

Rape and Domestic Violence: The national law criminalized rape, including spousal rape and domestic or intimate partner rape and other forms of domestic and sexual violence. The law did not criminalize so-called corrective rape of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or intersex (LGBTQI+) persons. The law criminalized physical, psychological, and sexual violence against women, as well as defamation and damage to property or finances by someone with whom the survivor had a marriage, family, or

intimate relationship. The law defined femicide as homicide of a woman due to her gender, including but not limited to homicide that escalated from other forms of domestic violence, discrimination, or contempt for women. The law stipulated a sentence of 12 to 30 years in prison. The government did not enforce the law effectively.

Gender-based violence persisted and increased, according to observers. A study released on March 2 by the Brazilian Public Security Forum reported that one-third of women older than 16 suffered physical or sexual violence from partners or former partners in their lives. Also, in 2022, there was an increase in all forms of violence against women, such as beatings and threats with a knife or firearm. In 2022, more than 1,440 women were victims of femicides; 80 percent were killed by a current or former partner or a relative.

Each state secretariat for public security had police stations dedicated exclusively to addressing crimes against women. In March a police operation resulted in the arrest of more than 300 suspects accused of domestic violence in the state of Espírito Santo. State and local governments also operated reference centers and temporary women's shelters, and many states maintained domestic violence hotlines.

On International Women's Day, President Luis Inácio Lula da Silva presented a series of measures regarding women's rights. Among the measures announced were salary equivalence to promote equal pay between men

and women who performed the same function, free distribution of sanitary pads, the donation of 270 vehicles to the Maria da Penha Patrol in all states to combat gender-based violence, an 8 percent quota of the federal government workforce for women survivors of violence, and a declaration that Marielle Franco Day be commemorated every March 14 to raise awareness of political violence based on gender and race. Maria da Penha became an activist who campaigned against domestic violence because her husband tried to kill her, and she survived. Marielle Franco was an activist and a councilwoman in Rio de Janeiro who advocated against police violence; she was killed in 2018, allegedly by police.

Other Forms of Gender-based Violence or Harassment: Sexual harassment was a criminal offense, punishable by up to two years in prison. The law included actions performed outside the workplace. Perpetrators were infrequently held accountable, according to *O Globo*.

Discrimination: The law provided for the same legal status and rights for women as for men in all circumstances. A law passed during the year required equal pay for equal work but was not yet enforced. According to the International Labor Organization, women not only earned less than men but also had difficulties entering the workplace; 78 percent of men held paid jobs, compared with 56 percent of women.

Reproductive Rights: There were no reports of coerced abortion or involuntary sterilization on the part of government authorities.

The government provided access to sexual and reproductive health services for sexual violence survivors, including emergency contraception and postexposure prophylaxis as part of clinical management of rape. According to the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), persons in remote regions had trouble accessing reproductive health services. On March 2, a law came into effect allowing tubal ligation and vasectomy without the need for spousal consent. On April 20, President Lula sanctioned changes to the law to stipulate that emergency protective measures be immediately granted upon request. The law was not fully enforced or sufficiently funded.

The UNFPA reported that the adolescent birth rate per 1,000 girls between ages 15 to 19 averaged 53 births for the period 2003-18. The Ministry of Health reported the maternal mortality ratio was higher among Black women than among White women. Data published in 2021 by the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation found that the risk of death of pregnant Brown and Black women from COVID-19 was almost twice that of White women and noted that Black women were less likely to have gynecological and prenatal care and had to travel farther to reach a maternity ward.

In 2021, UNICEF and the UNFPA published a report on menstrual poverty experienced by girls who lived in conditions of poverty and vulnerability, sometimes without access to basic sanitation services, hygiene resources, and minimal knowledge about the body. More than 700,000 girls had no access to a bathroom or shower in their homes. More than four million girls

experienced at least one type of hygiene problem in schools, including lack of access to feminine care products and basic facilities such as toilets and soap. Nearly 200,000 of these students were completely deprived of the minimum conditions to handle menstruation at school. A study from Girl Up Brazil, a network aiming to end menstrual poverty in the country, found that one in four girls had missed school due to lack of access to feminine products.

Systemic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination

The law prohibited racial discrimination, specifically the denial of public or private facilities, employment, or housing to anyone based on race. The law also prohibited the incitement of racial discrimination or prejudice and the dissemination of racially offensive symbols and epithets, and it stipulated prison terms for such acts. The government did not enforce the law effectively.

According to the Brazilian National Institute of Geography and Statistics, Black and Brown citizens represented an estimated 57 percent of the population. These populations encountered disproportionate discrimination, according to media reports such as in *Folha de São Paulo* and civil society organizations such as the National Coordination of Quilombo Articulation. They also experienced a higher rate of unemployment and earned wages below those of White persons in similar positions. In

addition, there was a sizeable education gap. Afro-Brazilians were disproportionately affected by crime and violence.

The law provided for quota-based affirmative action policies in higher education, government employment, and the military. Nevertheless, Afro-Brazilians were underrepresented in the government, professional positions, and middle and upper socioeconomic classes, according to media reports.

Many government offices maintained internal committees to validate the self-declared ethnicity claims of public service job applicants by using phenotypic criteria, assessing “Blackness” to reduce abuse of affirmative action policies and related laws. University administrators regularly conducted investigations and expelled students for fraudulently claiming to be Black or Brown to claim racial quota places in universities.

According to the General Comptroller’s Office, in the first five months of Lula’s administration, there was a 94 percent increase in the number of racism complaints against the federal government, compared with the same period in 2022.

For the first time, Quilombolas, one of the country’s traditional communities, were included in the country’s census, released in July. According to the 2022 census, Quilombolas numbered 1.3 million, corresponding to 0.65 percent of the total population. Almost 70 percent of the Quilombolas resided in the northeastern states and almost one-third

resided in the Legal Amazon region. Many Quilombolas lived in rural communities known as *quilombos* and practiced subsistence agriculture. Although Quilombolas self-identified as a distinct group, they faced many of the same obstacles as other Afro-Brazilians, including lack of access to quality education, health care, and employment.

On April 27, at the Inter-American Court of Justice, the government apologized and recognized it had violated the rights of Quilombolas by displacing them during the construction of the Alcântara Air Force Base in Maranhão State in 1983.

On August 17, prominent Quilombola leader Maria Bernadete Pacífico was killed by unidentified persons, according to media reports. In 2017, her son Fábio Gabriel Pacífico was shot and killed in Pitanga dos Palmares quilombo, in the state of Bahia. Pacífico's remaining son Jurandir Wellington alleged in a nationwide broadcast on August 19 that both his mother and brother were killed by local farmers and land speculators intent on seizing Quilombola lands.

Indigenous Peoples

The constitution acknowledged that Indigenous peoples were the original inhabitants of the country and provided for the exclusive possession of their territories and respect for their social organizations, customs, languages, beliefs, and traditional lands.

President Lula established the first Ministry of Indigenous Peoples in the country. The government also re-established the National Council for Indigenous Policy and restructured the National Foundation of Indigenous Peoples. Approximately 14 percent of the country's land area was designated as Indigenous territory. Requests to exploit mineral and water resources, including ones with energy potential, on Indigenous lands required approval by congress, in consultation with the Indigenous communities. Despite several proposals, congress passed no legislation to regulate these activities. Illegal land occupations often resulted in violence and even death, according to the annual report from Land Pastoral Commission.

According to the report *Violence Against Indigenous Peoples in Brazil*, by the Indigenous Missionary Council, between 2019 and 2022, 795 Indigenous persons were killed, most in the states of Roraima (208), Amazonas (163), and Mato Grosso do Sul (146). In 2022, the number of land invasions and conflicts increased in Indigenous territories, with 467 cases of violence against properties, 158 cases of territorial conflicts, and 309 records of land invasions, illegal exploitation of resources, and damage to property.

Violence against Indigenous peoples increased to 416 cases in 2022, almost 10 percent more than in 2021. On average, these incidences of violence rose during the four years of President Bolsonaro's administration, when cases numbered an average of 374. NGOs claimed a lack of regulation and

attempts to create new legislation or change existing legislation to promote economic development, along with impunity in cases of illegal land invasions, resulted in the illegal exploitation of natural resources.

Children

Child Abuse: The law prohibited child abuse and neglect, but the government did not enforce the law effectively. Sexual abuse against children increased, according to 2022 data from the federal government's human rights hotline, Dial 100.

On May 19, a presidential decree created a commission to address sexual violence against children and adolescents, including updating the national plan to confront sexual violence against children and adolescents. The commission also served as an advisory, research, and coordination body for the child and adolescent protection network and was responsible for developing guidelines for government action in addressing sexual violence against children and adolescents.

According to the publication *A Gazeta*, in April a girl, age 2, died in a hospital in the municipality of Guarapari, Espirito Santo State. According to the hospital, the child displayed signs that she had been raped. The father was arrested as a suspect.

Child, Early, and Forced Marriage: The legal minimum age of marriage was 18, or 16 with parental or legal representative consent. The government did

not enforce the law effectively. The practice of early marriage was common, according to UNICEF. A study of child marriage in the northeastern states of Bahia and Maranhão found that pregnancy was the main motivation for child marriage in 15 of 44 cases.

Sexual Exploitation of Children: The law prohibited the sale, grooming, or sexual exploitation of children and other vulnerable persons and such acts were punishable by four to 10 years in prison. The law defined sexual exploitation as child sex trafficking, sexual activity, production of child sexual abuse material, and public or private sex shows. The law set a minimum age of 14 for consensual sex, with the penalty for statutory rape ranging from eight to 15 years in prison. The government enforced the law unevenly, according to the judiciary and executive branches.

The country was a destination for child sex tourism, according to the government and media reports. While no specific laws addressed child sex tourism, it was punishable under other criminal offenses. Girls from other South American nations were also exploited in sex trafficking in the country.

The law criminalized child sexual abuse material. The creation of child sexual abuse material carried a prison sentence of up to eight years and a fine. The penalty for possession of child sexual abuse material was up to four years in prison and a fine.

Antisemitism

According to the Brazilian Israelite Federation, there were approximately 120,000 Jewish citizens in the country, of whom approximately 70,000 lived in the state of São Paulo, according to 2021 data, and 34,000 in the state of Rio de Janeiro.

The law criminalized the manufacture, sale, distribution, or broadcast of symbols, emblems, ornaments, badges, or advertising that used the swastika for purposes of publicizing Nazism. The penalty was two to five years' imprisonment. Federal judge Claudia Dadico noted that legislation on hate speech lacked clarity and therefore made it difficult to enforce the law effectively.

On April 3, Santa Catarina Civil Police arrested 10 members of a neo-Nazi cell linked to the Hammerskins, a white supremacist and neo-Nazi group founded in the United States. Police alleged the individuals were responsible for recruiting and radicalizing youth online and in person in the state of Santa Catarina, where police made two additional arrests of men involved in organized crime and neo-Nazi activities.

For further information on incidents in the country of antisemitism, whether or not those incidents were motivated by religion, and for reporting on the ability of Jews to exercise freedom of religion or belief, please see the Department of State's *International Religious Freedom Report* at

<https://www.state.gov/religiousfreedomreport/>.

Trafficking in Persons

See the Department of State's annual *Trafficking in Persons Report* at

<https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/>.

Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics

Criminalization: No laws criminalized consensual same-sex sexual conduct between adults.

Violence and Harassment: Violence against LGBTQI+ individuals was a concern. While such violence generally had declined since 2017, violence specifically targeting transgender individuals increased, according to Dial 100.

The Federal Public Ministry was responsible for registering reports of crimes committed based on gender or sexual orientation but reportedly was slow to respond. Transgender individuals were particularly at risk of being the victims of crime, including sex trafficking, or committing suicide.

Dial 100 registered 2,536 complaints from January to May, an increase of more than 300 percent compared with the same period in 2022. The states

of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, and Minas Gerais reported approximately one-half of the total registered in the country.

According to a survey by the NGO Gay Group of Bahia released on June 28, between January and June, 139 LGBTQI+ persons were victims of violent deaths. The survey recorded 256 deaths in all of 2022. Gay men and women were the main victims (48 percent), followed by transgender persons (42 percent). Half of the victims identified as Brown or Black, while White victims represented almost 12 percent.

In January a transgender woman was killed and her body dismembered in Vigário Geral neighborhood, Rio de Janeiro. The victim, a prostitute, left home to meet with a customer and disappeared. Her family discovered the customer's address, where they found the victim's body and the suspect, who escaped. Police were investigating the case.

Discrimination: The Federal Supreme Court criminalized discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Offenders faced sentences of one to three years' imprisonment and a fine, or two to five years' imprisonment and a fine if the offender disseminated the incident via social media, thereby exposing the victim. The law did not explicitly recognize LGBTQI+ couples. In 2022, the Superior Court of Justice unanimously ruled that protective measures through the Maria da Penha Law, which aimed to reduce gender-based and domestic violence, were valid for a transgender woman, the first time such a ruling had taken place.

Same-sex marriage was available; same-sex couples had the legal rights and benefits afforded to different-sex spouses, including monetary rights such as inheritance and survivor rights, and medical rights including hospital visitation and medical decision making.

NGOs cited lack of economic opportunity for LGBTQI+ persons as a concern. According to Grupo Gay da Bahia, 33 percent of companies avoided hiring LGBTQI+ employees, and 90 percent of transgender women engaged in commercial sex because they could find no employment alternative. Transgender women often paid human traffickers for protection and daily housing fees. When unable to pay, they were beaten and starved. Traffickers targeted transgender women, luring them with offers of gender reassignment surgery and later exploiting them in sex trafficking when they were unable to repay the cost of the procedure.

On April 6, the federal government created the National Council for the Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transvestite, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and Other Persons. The council was a reformulation of the former National Council to Combat LGBT Discrimination, eliminated at the beginning of Jair Bolsonaro's government. The responsibilities of the council included monitoring legislative proposals that had implications for the LGBTQI+ population, promoting studies and debates, supporting campaigns, proposing ways to evaluate and monitor government actions, and collaborating with the national secretariat for the rights of LGBTQI+ persons

in the elaboration of parameters for actions and policies.

Availability of Legal Gender Recognition: A presidential decree standardized the use of a person’s social name (versus the name given to the person at birth) by bodies and entities of federal public administration. In federal institutions, respect for the social name was mandatory; persons had the right to be respected by the name and gender by which they identified themselves. This also applied to health-care units and hospitals. Many of these institutions reserved a field in forms and documents intended for social names.

Individuals were able to change their gender identity marker on legal and government identification documents to align with their gender identity. There were no options available for “nonbinary/intersex/ gender nonconforming.” Individual self-identification was usually sufficient, but sometimes judges required gender-affirming surgery.

Involuntary or Coercive Medical or Psychological Practices: The Federal Council of Psychology in Brazil prohibited any professional from applying so-called conversion therapy practices to LGBTQI+ persons. Nevertheless, there were many reports of conversion attempts conducted or recommended by evangelical and Catholic churches.

A 2022 report by All Out and Instituto Matizes identified 26 types of “gay cures” in the country, divided into four categories: religious,

medical/psychological, familial, and academic. Of the 365 persons interviewed, 193 had been subjected to an attempted “gay cure.”

During the June Pride month, an evangelical pastor, André Valadão, from a church in the state of Minas Gerais, promoted “gay cure” practices through his cult entitled “God Hates Pride.” This practice and speech were common in evangelical churches. On October 12, digital influencer Karol Eller committed suicide in São Paulo, one month after she announced she would undergo a “gay cure” and that she became an evangelical. In September Eller stated in a post on social media that she had “renounced homosexual practice.”

Surgeries were commonly performed on newborns at the advice of medical doctors to “choose a gender.” There were no reports that medically unnecessary and irreversible “normalization” surgeries were performed on nonconsenting adult intersex persons.

Restrictions of Freedom of Expression, Association, or Peaceful Assembly:

There were no restrictions of freedom of expression, association, or peaceful assembly regarding LGBTQI+ matters.

Persons with Disabilities

The law provided the right to education, employment, health services, public buildings, and transportation. The law prohibited discrimination against persons with physical and mental disabilities, and the federal

government generally enforced these provisions. The law required private companies with more than 100 employees to hire 2 to 5 percent of their workforce from persons with disabilities. While federal and state laws mandated access to buildings for persons with disabilities, states did not enforce them effectively, according to Grupo Globo's news media organization G1 and others.

The lack of accessible infrastructure and school resources significantly limited the ability of persons with disabilities to participate in the workforce, according to observers and advocates.

On July 7, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics reported that persons with disabilities encountered barriers to accessing studies and the job market, and when employed, they received a lower wage than persons without disabilities. Civil society organizations acknowledged monitoring and enforcement of disability policies remained weak and criticized a lack of accessibility to public transportation, weak application of employment quotas, and a limited medical-based definition of disability that often excluded learning disabilities.

Other Societal Violence or Discrimination

Followers of Afro-Brazilian religions such as Candomblé and Umbanda faced more discrimination and violence than other religious groups, according to BBC Brasil. Although less than 2 percent of the population was affiliated

with Afro-Brazilian religions, most of the religious persecution cases registered by the human rights hotline involved victims who were practitioners of Afro-Brazilian religions.

Followers of Afro-Brazilian religions faced physical attacks on and in their places of worship and other forms religious intolerance. According to one religious leader, these attacks resulted from a mixture of religious intolerance and racism (called “religious racism” by civil society and Afro-Brazilian religious communities), systemic societal discrimination, media’s perpetuation of harmful stereotypes, and attacks by public officials and members of other religious groups against these communities.

Drug-trafficking organizations and other groups contributed to societal violence, according to media reports and observers. There was evidence these heavily armed organizations participated in vigilante justice, holding “trials” and executing persons accused of wrongdoing. A victim was typically kidnapped at gunpoint and brought before a tribunal of gang members, who then tortured and executed the victim. In Rio de Janeiro City’s favelas, the practice of police-affiliated criminal organizations, known as militias, using violence to extort payments for protection was a common occurrence, according to media reports and observers. Militia groups, often composed of off-duty and former law enforcement officers, penitentiary officials, and firefighters, reportedly took policing into their own hands. Many militia groups intimidated residents and conducted illegal activities,

such as extorting protection money and providing pirated utility services, according to media reports and observers. The groups also exploited activities related to the real estate market and the sale of drugs and arms.

Militias were the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the state of Rio de Janeiro, according to a recent study conducted by the Instituto Fogo Cruzado, in partnership with the Grupo de Estudos de Novos Ilegalismos (a group dedicated to studying new illegal practices) at the Universidade Federal Fluminense. The study showed that militias controlled an area of almost one thousand square miles, mostly in the western part of the city and the adjacent Baixada Fluminense area.

Civil society organizations and the press reported discrimination against persons with HIV or AIDS.

Section 7. Worker Rights

a. Freedom of Association and the Right to Collective Bargaining

The law provided for freedom of association for all workers (except members of the military, military police, and firefighters), the right to bargain collectively with some restrictions, and the right to strike. The law prohibited antiunion discrimination, including the dismissal of employees who were candidates for, or holders of, union leadership positions, and it

required employers to reinstate workers fired for union activity.

New unions were required to register with the Ministry of Labor, which accepted the registration unless objections were filed by other unions. The law stipulated certain restrictions, such as *unicidade* (in essence, one union per occupational category per city), which limited freedom of association by prohibiting multiple, competing unions of the same professional category in a single geographical area. Unions that represented workers in the same geographical area and professional category could contest another union's registration.

The law stipulated that a strike could be ruled "disruptive" by the labor court, and the union could be subjected to legal penalties if the strike violated certain conditions, such as if the union failed to notify employers at least 48 hours before the beginning of a walkout or end a strike after a labor court decision. Employers were not allowed to hire substitute workers during a legal strike or fire workers for strike-related activity, provided the strike was not ruled abusive as defined in the law.

The law obliged a union to negotiate on behalf of all registered workers in the professional category and geographical area it represented, regardless of whether an employee paid voluntary membership dues. The law included collective bargaining rights, such as the ability to negotiate a flexible hourly schedule and work remotely. The law permitted the government to reject clauses of collective bargaining agreements that conflicted with government

policy.

Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining were generally respected, according to observers. Collective bargaining was widespread in establishments in the private sector.

In the view of NGO experts, the government usually effectively enforced applicable laws, and penalties were commensurate with those for other laws involving denials of civil rights, such as discrimination. Penalties were regularly applied against violators.

b. Prohibition of Forced or Compulsory Labor

See the Department of State's annual *Trafficking in Persons Report* at <https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/>.

c. Prohibition of Child Labor and Minimum Age for Employment

See the Department of Labor's *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/findings/>.

d. Discrimination (see section 6)

e. Acceptable Conditions of Work

Wage and Hour Laws: The law provided for a minimum wage, which was

higher than the official poverty income level. The law limited the workweek to 44 hours and specified a weekly rest period of 24 consecutive hours, preferably on Sundays. The law also provided for paid annual vacation, prohibited excessive compulsory overtime, limited overtime to two hours per workday, and stipulated that hours worked above the monthly limit had to be compensated with at least time-and-a-half pay; these provisions generally were enforced for all groups of workers in the formal sector. The constitution also provided for the right of domestic employees to work a maximum of eight hours per day and 44 hours per week, a minimum wage, a lunch break, social security, and severance pay.

According to *O Globo*, in March Federal Highway Police and the Labor Prosecutor's Office identified 82 persons in the state of Rio Grande do Sul working in unpaid and coerced labor harvesting rice. Those rescued included 11 children, ages 14-17, according to authorities. They were employed by BASF, a multinational company, which signed an agreement with the Ministry of Labor and Employment to compensate victims and pay fines.

Occupational Safety and Health: The Ministry of Labor set occupational safety and health (OSH) standards that were consistent with internationally recognized norms, although unsafe working conditions were prevalent throughout the country, especially in construction, according to media reports. The law required employers to establish internal committees for

accident prevention in workplaces. The government identified unsafe conditions and responded to worker complaints, but the number of inspections conducted was lower than necessary. It also provided for the protection of employees from being fired for their committee activities. Workers could remove themselves from situations that endangered their health or safety without jeopardy to their employment, although those in forced labor situations without access to transportation were particularly vulnerable to situations that endangered their health and safety.


Wage, Hour, and OSH Enforcement: The Ministry of Labor addressed problems related to nonpayment of wages and minimum wage, excessively long workdays, and OSH work conditions. In the view of NGO experts, officials effectively enforced OSH laws. Penalties for violations included fines that varied widely depending on the nature of the violation. Penalties were in general commensurate with similar crimes such as fraud or negligence. Penalties were regularly applied against violators. The number of labor inspectors was insufficient to enforce compliance, according to the Labor Inspectors Union. Inspectors had the authority to make unannounced inspections and initiate sanctions.

According to data collected by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics, the informal sector represented almost 40 percent of the workforce. Part-time workers were covered by wage, hour, OSH, and other labor laws and inspections.

Gig workers were not considered employees, and food delivery and ride-share companies did not consider the workers who provided services through their platforms to be employees. These workers were not protected by labor laws.

Exhibit 3

Brazil is the country that kills the most transvestites and transgender people in the world, warns a civil society report delivered to UNFPA.

 brasil.un.org/pt-br/110425-brasil-é-o-país-que-mais-mata-travestis-e-pessoas-trans-no-mundo-alerta-relatório-da

February 3, 2021

- To mark National Trans Visibility Day, January 29, the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (ANTRA) delivered the 'Dossier of Murders and Violence Against Brazilian Trans People 2020' to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Norwegian Embassy, this Thursday (28), during a virtual event.
- In its fourth edition, the document draws attention to the high murder rates that place Brazil at the top of the ranking for the murder of transgender people again in 2020. According to the report, 175 people were murdered in the country in 2020.

To mark National Trans Visibility Day, January 29, the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (ANTRA) symbolically delivered the 'Dossier of Murders and Violence Against Brazilian Trans People 2020' to the [United Nations Population Fund \(UNFPA\)](#) and the Norwegian Embassy, this Thursday (28), during a virtual event.

In its fourth edition, the [document](#) draws attention to the high murder rates that place Brazil at the top of the ranking for the murder of transgender people again in 2020.

According to the document, at least 175 murders of transgender people were mapped, all of them transvestites and transsexual women. In absolute numbers, São Paulo was the state that killed the most transgender people in 2020, with 29 murders and a 38% increase in cases compared to 2019, followed by Ceará (22 cases) which saw a 100% increase in the number of murders, Bahia (19) with a 137.5% increase, Minas Gerais (17) and Rio de Janeiro (10) with a 43% increase. The highest concentration of murders in 2020 was seen in the Northeast region, which showed a 6% increase with 75 murders (43% of cases).

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is committed to ensuring that LGBTQI people do not face discrimination. In this regard, the UNFPA Representative in Brazil, Astrid Bant, reinforced the role of the United Nations

agency. "We have been making every effort to raise awareness of this issue, gathering information, building consultation agendas, producing diagnoses, and also supporting the publication of this dossier that is being presented."

"The country has already made significant progress on this agenda. Recently, the Supreme Federal Court (STF) even classified homophobic and transphobic conduct as a crime under the Racism Law; however, it is not yet time to celebrate. Human rights are being violated daily, and people are dying. Much remains to be done, and it is urgently needed," said the UNFPA representative in Brazil.

Like UNFPA, the Norwegian Embassy in Brazil was also among the international organizations supporting the publication of the document. Ambassador Nils Martin highlighted the international community's situation: "Discrimination against LGBTI+ people is widespread in the world. Through cooperation with other countries and in partnership with various international organizations and networks such as UNFPA, Norway is working to place LGBTI+ issues on the international agenda. This is necessary because the focus is on the human rights of transgender people, and the legal recognition of gender must be considered a matter of principle under human rights."

Since 2017, the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (ANTRA) has been conducting this research to denounce cases of violence and human rights violations against the transvestite, transsexual women, trans men, and other transgender people. "For us at ANTRA, it is the only instrument we have to denounce these murders and this neglect of our population; therefore, this symbolic delivery to UNFPA, the representative of the United Nations, is precisely so that this study and these murders can resonate internationally," stated the president of ANTRA, Keila Simpson.

"Our main goal is to no longer need to conduct this study, but we know that it will still take time for Brazilian society to understand that the resurgence of violence – so often discussed and so prevalent – needs to end," added the president of ANTRA.

According to the report, Brazil remained the leading country in the world for the number of murders of transgender people in 2020. "In addition to the increase in murders, there was an increase of approximately 53% in attempted murders. It is worrying to consider that those who managed to survive face numerous other

challenges in reintegrating into society," stated Bruna G. Benevides, Secretary of Political Articulation at ANTRA and author of the Report on Murders and Violence against Transgender People in Brazil.


During the event, Bruna also mentioned the political landscape related to the municipal elections in Brazil. According to a survey conducted by ANTRA, out of a total of 294 candidates, [30 transgender people were elected](#) . This [represented a 226% increase compared to 2016](#) , when there were 89 candidates and 8 people elected during the municipal elections in the country. "The country that elects the most transgender people can no longer be the country that murders the most transgender people," she added.

The research and analysis of the document was conducted by Bruna G. Benevides and Sayonara Naidier Bonfim Nogueira, with support from the United Nations Population Fund in Brazil (UNFPA) and the Norwegian Embassy in Brazil.

Access the Dossier on Murders and Violence Against Transgender People in 2020 [here](#).

Exhibit 4

Report on murders and violence against transgender and transvestite people: Brazil leads the world ranking of murders.

 www2.camara.leg.br/atividade-legislativa/comissoes/comissoes-permanentes/cdhm/noticias/dossie-sobre-assassinatos-e-violencia-contra-trans-e-travestis-brasil-lidera-ranking-de-assassinatos-no-mundo

In 2020, 175 transgender people were murdered in Brazil. The country leads the ranking of murders of transgender people in the world. This data comes from the ["Dossier: murders and violence against Brazilian transvestites and transsexuals in 2020"](#), presented this Thursday (February 18th) during a meeting promoted by the President of the Human Rights and Minorities Commission, Helder Salomão (PT/ES), which was attended by parliamentarians, human rights activists, representatives from the United Nations and Amnesty International. The meeting was requested by Deputy Erika Kokay (PT-DF).

Bruna Benevides, secretary of political articulation for the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals of Brazil (ANTRA), presented a document compiled by the organization in partnership with the Brazilian Trans Institute of Education (IBTE), which reveals a 43% increase in the murder of transgender people in Brazil compared to 2019. Benevides highlighted the underreporting of cases and the lack of government data on violence against transgender people.

"2020 was an extremely violent year. It was the year with the highest number of murders of transgender people in the country's history, with a transgender person murdered every 48 hours. We are talking about hate crimes in which gender identity was a determining factor in the murder," says Benevides.

Councilwoman Erika Hilton (PSOL-SP), the first trans woman to hold a seat in the São Paulo municipal legislature, praised the work of ANTRA and the initiative of parliamentarians to give visibility to the report. "If it weren't for ANTRA, we might not even have this data to point out the serious situation of genocide against the trans population in our country," said the councilwoman, arguing that the Commission and parliamentarians should examine the data and seek answers to a scenario she described as "devastating."

Symmy Larrat, from the Brazilian Association of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, Transvestites and Intersex People (ABGLT), followed the same line of reasoning, pointing out the omission of the State and the legislature regarding the existence

of transgender people. "We are talking about a genocidal State that denies our existence and our humanity."

Larrat denounced that since the criminalization of LGBTphobia by the Supreme Federal Court (STF), most states have not adopted any measures to receive, investigate, and record complaints of LGBTphobia.

Angela Pires, representative of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, stated that the organization is monitoring the work developed by ANTRA and is very concerned that people are being murdered simply for being who they are. "We need to understand this data. Within the UN framework in Brazil, we are available to support and strengthen the trans movement to advance its rights."

Bolsonaro's government's hate politics are the cause of the increase in violence.

Among the parliamentarians present at the meeting, there was unanimous agreement that the increase in violence against transgender people and the LGBTI community is directly related to hate speech and the death policy implemented by Jair Bolsonaro's government. All expressed concern about the easing of access to weapons, given that women, Black people, the poor, and LGBTI individuals tend to be the primary targets of violence.

"Fascist violent practices have been gaining strength, and a reaction from institutions is necessary," said Helder Salomão.

According to councilwoman Erika Hilton, Bolsonaro's election has normalized violence against the trans population. "We are facing increasingly blatant and alarming violence. We need to transform this reality, which cannot be considered normal."

According to Paulo Mirante, a member of the National Council for Human Rights, Brazil has never been a paradise for LGBTI people, even during its most democratic periods, but the current situation has worsened considerably. "Since the military dictatorship, this is the first anti-human rights government. Education is a key point in combating hate speech. It is hate speech that arms the arm that will kill," he argues.

For Representative Maria do Rosário (PT-RS), advancing the agenda of human rights and diversity requires defeating fascism. "There is a very strong connection between democracy and human rights. The breakdown of democracy has generated a government averse to human rights, which treats women, Black people, the poor, trans and transvestite people as enemies to be eliminated."

Congresswoman Erika Kokay (PT-DF) also considers the current moment extremely serious. "We are facing a Ministry of Human Rights that is against human rights, a fundamentalist and denialist policy that seeks to normalize violence and render the bodies of transgender people invisible."

Congresswoman Fernanda Melchionna (PSOL-RJ) highlighted the importance of denouncing the ministry headed by Damares Alves. The congresswoman pointed out that despite the increase in violence, the ministry has cut funding for combating hate crimes to zero.

Referrals

To address this situation, parliamentarians intend to create a Parliamentary Front for the Lives of Transgender People in the National Congress, as well as a Subcommittee within the CDHM (Commission on Human Rights and Minorities) to monitor projects related to the topic and advance public policies aimed at the LGBTI community.

The CDHM presidency will send official letters to the State Public Security Secretariats requesting information on violence against the LGBTI population. It will also list priority projects affecting the community to present to the Speaker of the House, Arthur Lira.

Wanderson Mansur – Office of Representative Erika Kokay

Exhibit 5

Human Rights Observatory: Violence against transgender people requires mobilization from public authorities

 [cnj.jus.br/observatorio-dos-direitos-humanos-violencia-contra-pessoas-trans-exige-mobilizacao-do-poder-publico](https://www.cnj.jus.br/observatorio-dos-direitos-humanos-violencia-contra-pessoas-trans-exige-mobilizacao-do-poder-publico)

Thaís Machado Ciegliniski Lobo

Throughout last year, 131 deaths of transgender people were recorded in Brazil, with 65% of these deaths motivated by hate crimes with extreme cruelty. In addition, the country recorded 84 attempted homicides. The data is included in the [Dossier on Murders and Violence against Transvestites and Transsexuals in Brazil in 2022](#), delivered to the president of the National Council of Justice (CNJ) and the Supreme Federal Court (STF), Minister Rosa Weber, by the Secretary of Political Articulation of the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (Antra), Bruna Benevides, on Friday (March 10), during a meeting of the Observatory of Human Rights of the Judiciary (ODHPJ).

When presenting the study, Bruna Benevides used the neologism "necrotranspolitics" to classify actions taken in Brazil against transgender people. "It's an epidemic of violence and murders against Brazilian trans people, precisely because of this cycle of violence that continues in Brazil without effective responses," she stated.

[Access the Dossier on Murders and Violence against Transvestites and Transsexuals in Brazil in 2022.](#)

Bruna, one of the research coordinators, denounced that the words of public officials generate real consequences. "These are statements that unfold and institutionalize transphobia. We can no longer tolerate the normalization of this discourse." According to the representative from Antra, there have been several attempts to institutionalize an anti-trans agenda.

Among the rights violations suffered by transgender people are: denial of recognition and issuance of gender identity; denial of use of social name; denial of access to women's restrooms; cancellation of rides on transportation apps; derogatory insults; violence against sex workers; rape or sexual violence; degrading treatment in public spaces; medical negligence or failure to provide assistance; violations by public security agents; and dismissal motivated by gender identity.

According to the survey data, a transfeminine person (trans women or transvestites) is up to 38 times more likely to be murdered than a transmasculine or non-binary person (when the person does not identify with the male or female gender).

Another piece of data from the research concerns the total number of trans murders worldwide (4,639), recorded from 2008 to September 2022 in the international Trans Murder Monitoring (TMM) project. Brazil ranks first, responsible for 37.5% (1,741) of all deaths; Mexico has 649 (14%) and the USA 375 (8%). Between 2017 and 2022, the period in which Antra began conducting this research, there were a total of 912 murders against trans or non-binary people in Brazil. In 2022, there were 131 cases; 140 in 2021; 175 cases in 2020; 124 cases in 2019; 163 in 2018 and 179 cases in 2017 (the year with the highest number of murders of trans people in the historical series). For comparison purposes, the organization compiled the number of transgender people murdered in Europe over the past five years: a total of 12, across five countries (Italy, Portugal, France, Spain, and Belgium).

The report concludes with a series of suggestions aimed at guaranteeing rights for the trans population. Addressed to the National Council of Justice (CNJ), the text reinforces the importance of approving regulations mandating the periodic investigation and publication of data on violence against LGBTQIA+ individuals, including their respective qualifiers, and the correct completion of fields such as sexual orientation, gender identity, and social name – in the case of transgender individuals.

In general, the survey proposes the effective participation of transgender people in all government actions related to human rights. In the area of public security and justice, it highlights the importance of preventing arrests for engaging in activities related to sex work, avoiding the criminalization of the activity; it advocates for the inclusion of transvestites and transgender women in mechanisms and channels of care for women victims of violence and guides the guarantee of the use of social names and appropriate pronouns in the treatment of transgender people and their companions in health units, social assistance or interactions by public security agents, among others.

Currently, 53 bills are being processed in the National Congress with the aim of limiting or excluding the rights of this population, such as access to healthcare and the use of gender-neutral language. The report states that gender identity is a

determining factor in this type of violence. "We speak of death in order to generate life. It is necessary to make commitments and implement public policies to reverse this cycle of violence."

Case Law Notebooks

At the meeting, the Observatory's first in 2023, the ["Jurisprudence Notebook of the Federal Supreme Court: Realizing Human Rights – Women's Rights"](#) was also launched. The work is composed of a selection of 13 fundamental decisions for combating violence and discrimination against women.

[Access the full text of the "Jurisprudence Notebook of the Federal Supreme Court: Realizing Human Rights – Women's Rights".](#)

This publication is the result of cooperation established between the CNJ (through the Monitoring and Oversight Unit of the Inter-American Court of Justice), the STF (through the Secretariat of Advanced Studies), and the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. The initiative also benefited from the contribution of researchers from the ICCAL-Brazil Network.

Speaking about the work, Melina Fachin, a professor at the Federal University of Paraná and postdoctoral researcher in human rights at the University of Coimbra, who participated in coordinating the project, highlighted that it was developed from the perspective of feminist constitutionalism. "This collection is the result of a collaborative effort, and it couldn't be otherwise, because women's human rights are built in the plural," she emphasized.

Professor Patrícia Perrone Campos de Mello, who also participated in the scientific coordination of the Jurisprudence Notebooks, said that the work is a recognition of the importance of the Supreme Federal Court (STF) in the realization of fundamental rights, especially those of vulnerable groups. "The selection of decisions also shows the progressive trend in the Court towards dialogue with international jurisdiction," she pointed out.

The Secretary of Advanced Studies, Research and Information Management of the Supreme Court, Manuelita Hermes Rosa Oliveira Filha, spoke about the process of preparing and creating the work. "The results please us, as they reveal the dialogue between our country and the Inter-American system, and the dialogue between important institutions such as the STF, CNJ, the Max Planck Institute, and the ICCAL-Brazil network," she concluded.

Text: Jeferson Melo

Editing: Thaís Cieglinski

CNJ News Agency

Exhibit 6

320 Trans People Killed In 2023

F [forbes.com/sites/jamiewareham/2023/11/13/beaten-stabbed-and-shot-320-trans-people-murdered-in-2023](https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamiewareham/2023/11/13/beaten-stabbed-and-shot-320-trans-people-murdered-in-2023)

Jamie Wareham

November 13, 2023

Three hundred twenty trans and gender-diverse people were killed this year, says a new report.

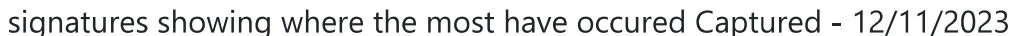
The Trans Murder Monitoring report tracks murders reported in the media each year, this year's report includes deaths between Oct 1 2022 and September 30 2023.

The vast majority of those killed (94%) were trans women or trans-feminine people.

Most were Black, and many were sex workers too. 80% of those killed were of trans people affected by racism, an increase of 15% from last year.

Many of the victims were young. The age group with the most victims was 19 to 25 years old. Overall, those between 19 and 40 years old made up three-quarters (77%) of those reported killed.

Almost three-quarters (73%) of those tracked happened in Latin America and the Caribbean, with the epicentre of the problem being in Brazil, where nearly one-third (31%) occurred.

A global map of all murders tracked by the project since 2008, with heat signatures showing where the most have occurred  Captured - 12/11/2023

TGEU's Trans Murder Monitoring

There were also murders in Armenia, Belgium, and Slovakia reported for the first time.

In the U.K., the high-profile murder of young 16-year-old teenager [Brianna Ghey](#) is included. She would have [turned 17 last week](#).

This year, the number of deaths is down from 2021's peak of 375 murders.

However, the report's authors say their analysis of the data continues to indicate concerning trends prevalent in previous years too. This is particularly acute when trans people live and are attacked because of the intersections of misogyny,

racism, xenophobia, and whorephobia.

Reading the data and name list, the violence against the victims is stark. Though almost half (46%) of victims were shot, many were beaten, stabbed and burned after.

The annual report released to mark the International Trans Day of Remembrance held annually on November 20, is compiled by Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide. Its release today marks the beginning of Trans Awareness Week.

LIVERPOOL, UNITED KINGDOM – FEBRUARY 14: People attend a candlelit vigil in memory of 16-year-old Brianna Ghey on February 14, 2023 in Liverpool, England. Candlelit vigils are being held across the UK this week for Brianna Ghey, 16, who was stabbed Linear Park in Culcheth, Cheshire last Saturday. Brianna was a transgender girl but police say there is no evidence to suggest the killing was a hate crime. A boy and girl, both 15, have been arrested on suspicion of murder. (Photo by Christopher Furlong/Getty Images)

Getty Images

The report tracks how many trans people get murdered each year

The Trans Murder Monitoring report has been released every year since 2008. Since the project began 15 years ago, they have recorded more than 4600 deaths.

The report monitors homicides that happen every year between the dates of between October 1 and September 30.

However, it is only able to track those reported in the media, meaning the figures likely represent only a tiny glimpse into the reality on the ground.

Many hate crimes and murders go unreported or, crucially, misreported in the media – meaning the actual number of deaths could be far higher.

The list is compiled by [Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide \(TvT\)](#), a TGEU project, by sourcing local and national news stories covering the deaths and murders.

The violence, horror and murders are catalogued by TvT, which has a complete list [of all those killed this year.](#)

Members of the transgender and LGBTQ community hold candles as they take part in the vigil of the Transgender day of Remembrance in order to pay tributes to victims of hate crimes in Uganda and all over the world, in Kampala, Uganda, on November 23, 2019. - The event comes after a number of attacks on the LGBTQ community in Uganda in recent months, and follows the arrest of 120 people in a raid on an LGBTQ-friendly nightclub in Kampala on November 10, 2019. A colonial-era law outlaws gay sex in the country, many LGBTQ people continue to be victims of violence from hate crimes. (Photo by Sumy SADRUNI / AFP) (Photo by SUMY SADRUNI/AFP via Getty Images)

AFP via Getty Images

Transgender Day of Remembrance 2023: The report is released annually to mark the event

Trans Day Of Remembrance (TDoR) is a day that remembers those trans and gender-diverse people who have been victims of homicide.

It was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998.

The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death and [began the annual tradition](#).

Though the event began in the US, TDoR now happens in many parts of the world.

The International Transgender Day Of Remembrance is held on November 20, 2023.

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Exhibit 7

Reported murders, suicides of trans people soar in Brazil

 [reuters.com/article/us-brazil-lgbt-murders-trfn/reported-murders-suicides-of-trans-people-soar-in-brazil-idUSKBN25Z31O](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-lgbt-murders-trfn/reported-murders-suicides-of-trans-people-soar-in-brazil-idUSKBN25Z31O)

(Thomson Reuters Foundation) - The number of transgender people killed in Brazil this year has risen by 70% over last year, according to research underscoring the South American country's rank as the world's deadliest place for trans people.

The 129 trans people murdered since January already exceeds the total killings in 2019, according to a report by the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (ANTRA), a local activist organization.

The number of trans people - 16 - who died by suicide in the first six months of 2020 is a third higher than last year as well, ANTRA said.

"The outlook is bleak," said Bruna Benevides, a trans activist and author of ANTRA's report, via messaging service WhatsApp.

"The death of trans people ... starts long before the trigger is pulled. It's in the insults, the evictions from home, the lack of job opportunities, it's at school where gender is never discussed," she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Brazil has made a number of strides in transgender rights in recent years, such as a Supreme Court ruling last year that transphobia and homophobia are criminal offences.

A 2018 ruling by the highest court allowed trans people to change their names and gender on official documents without undergoing surgery.

Despite the legal recognition, gay and trans Brazilians face prejudice and widespread violence in the socially conservative country where powerful Evangelical churches are highly critical of LGBT+ rights.

The nation of some 200 million people regularly ranks as the deadliest country worldwide for trans people, according to the Trans Murder Monitoring research project.

Activists say social prejudice has grown under right-wing President Jair Bolsonaro who regularly speaks out against "gender ideology," a conservative term used to condemn progressive ideas on sex and gender.

"People feel legitimized expressing the hate that has been encouraged in every speech, in every lack of action, in every manipulation of public opinion against the boogeyman of gender ideology," Benevides said.

The coronavirus pandemic has made matters worse, activists say, with trans people locked out of jobs or trapped in unsupportive or abusive home lives during lockdown measures.

A pandemic hot spot, Brazil has registered 4.15 million cases of the coronavirus and the official death toll has soared past 126,000 people, according to Health Ministry data.

A survey published in June found a quarter of unemployed gay and trans Brazilians had lost their jobs during the pandemic, and that joblessness among LGBT+ Brazilians was almost double the nation's overall rate.

"This whole scenario creates a process of sickness caused by the lack of public policies to prevent suicide and transphobic violence," Benevides said.

The report from ANTRA, published late on Monday, was based on reports of killings in local media, on social networks and from partner groups.


However, the authors said the true number of murders could be much higher than what has been reported.

Reporting by Oscar Lopez @oscarlopezgib; editing by Ellen Wulfhorst. Please credit the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the charitable arm of Thomson Reuters, that covers the lives of people around the world who struggle to live freely or fairly. Visit news.trust.org

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Exhibit 8

Brazil is the country that kills the most transgender and transvestite people, according to a report

 [cnnbrasil.com.br/nacional/brasil-e-o-pais-que-mais-mata-pessoas-trans-e-travestis-aponta-dossie](https://www.cnnbrasil.com.br/nacional/brasil-e-o-pais-que-mais-mata-pessoas-trans-e-travestis-aponta-dossie)

January 27, 2025

0:00 1.0x

A report by the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (Antra) pointed out this Monday (27) that Brazil continues to be one of the most lethal countries for this community, given the 122 deaths recorded in 2024.

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The survey indicated a 16% reduction compared to the previous year, but that for the 16th consecutive year, the country is the one that murders the most transgender and transvestite people in the world.

The research indicated that the victims are mostly young, Black, poor, and from the Northeast of Brazil. And that the life expectancy of this population is up to 35 years.

Among the common elements shared by these victims is that most of the deaths are of transgender women, the crimes occur predominantly in public places, such as deserted streets and at night. Furthermore, the cases mostly involve excessive violence and extreme cruelty.

Another point mentioned in the report is the difficulty in analyzing these cases, since authorities rarely officially classify the deaths as cases of transgender or transvestite individuals when identifying the victims.

Regional overview: where transphobia kills the most

The report details the number of deaths in each region of Brazil:


- São Paulo led the number of murders of transgender people in Brazil, with 16 cases registered.
- Followed by Minas Gerais, which occupied the 2nd position, with 12 occurrences.
- Then we have Ceará, which recorded 11 cases. And Rio de Janeiro, which came in 4th place, with 10 murders.

- Bahia, Mato Grosso, and Pernambuco each registered 8 cases, while Alagoas reported 6 occurrences.
- The states of Maranhão, Pará, and Paraíba each recorded 5 murders, followed by Piauí and Rio Grande do Sul, with 4 cases each.
- In Espírito Santo and Santa Catarina there were 3 murders each, while Goiás, Rondônia and Sergipe registered 2 cases each.
- The states of Amapá, Amazonas, the Federal District, Mato Grosso do Sul, and Paraná each recorded one murder.
- In the states of Acre, Rio Grande do Norte, and Roraima, no records of murders were found in 2024.
- There was also a murder abroad.
- In addition, one case was identified whose location could not be determined.
- Public policies to prevent new cases
- The president of Antra, Bruna Benevides, states that despite the decrease in homicides, more effective public policies are needed to combat violence against the trans community.

“We need concrete and effective actions to eradicate transphobia, including cross-cutting educational and political actions, allocation of resources, and mechanisms for reporting and access to justice. We want the state to start counting acts of violence and producing information about the trans community in public security departments and agencies, in the justice system, and for actions to be taken to strengthen social institutions and strategies to promote citizenship and trans rights,” she emphasized.

Exhibit 9

Brazil Continues To Be the Country with the Largest Number of Trans People Killed

 pulitzercenter.org/stories/brazil-continues-be-country-largest-number-trans-people-killed

Author:

Although transphobia appears in Brazil's legislation as a crime since 2019, the country still has the largest number of transgender and queer people murdered in the world. In 2021, Brazil led the list for the 13th consecutive year.

The total number of trans women and queer people murdered is the largest since 2008, when the data recording began.

According to Transgender Europe (TGEU) [2021 report](#), which monitors data globally collected by trans and LGBTQIA+ institutions, 70% of all the murders recorded have happened in South and Central American countries, being that 33% of them took place in Brazil, Mexico (65), and USA (53), respectively.

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The data also shows that in the last 13 years, at least 4,042 trans and gender diverse people were murdered between January 2008 and September 2021.

Between October 2020 and September 2021, 375 murders were recorded in the world. It represents a 7% rise compared to the previous year.

The report shows that Brazil had 125 deaths among this population. On the other hand, in 2020 alone, the country's National Association of Trans and Queer People recorded 175 transfemicides and mapped 80 murders in the first semester of 2021.

The majority of transfemicide victims are women. According to TGEU's document, 96% of the people murdered in the world are trans women and transfeminized people, 58% of the trans people murdered were sex workers. The average age of those murdered is 30. About 36% of the murders took place on the streets and 24% inside the victims' houses.

The data reunited by TGEU was obtained with trans organizations and civil society groups that carry out some sort of professional monitoring in their countries. However, these figures do not give the big picture of transphobia in Brazil.

According to the report, it must be considered the unreported cases and the unregistered deaths with transphobic motivation committed by governmental public security systems. That is a blatant reality in Brazil.

To trans man Kaio de Souza Lemos, coordinator of the Trans Studies Magazine and Transmaculinités Brazilian Institute (IBRAT, in Portuguese), the lack of police reports makes transphobia an invisible crime, making it difficult to map public policies.

He says that the increase in violence against trans people has been making part of the political environment, "marked by a fundamentalism of heteronormativity that makes itself present in the lack of data about violence against the queer population".

Journalist and producer of trans content Helena Vieira analyzes that the category of violence against trans people is still to be acknowledged in Brazil.

"We need to talk about genocide, because in Brazil the violence against trans people works like that, showing its numbers and, at the same time, hiding them as if it had a tacit agreement to silence about these deaths".

Right to exist and live

The study [*LGBTIfobia no Brasil: barreiras para o reconhecimento institucional da criminalização*](#) (LGBTIphobia in Brazil: hindrances to the institutional recognition of criminalization, in Portuguese), organized by All Out, coordinated by Matizes Institute and published in 2021, points out that two years after the Supreme Court's decision, the criminalization of LGBTIphobia is not yet a reality in the country.

"The difficulties in bringing about the accusations add to the resistance of the public security forces and the judicial system to acknowledge and apply the decision."

The survey points out 34 hindrances to recognizing the criminalization of LGBTphobia. Some of the institutional hindrances the survey lists include the lack of standardization of state systems to register the accusations and the

nonrecognition of the assumed name of trans and queer people in the accusation proceedings.

The lack of sexual orientation and gender identity fields in police report filling systems is pointed out as one of the hindrances that result in non-transparency and lack of clarity by governments.

Other obstacles are the low rate of filling information in the fields of sexual orientation and gender identity when they exist in police reports, and also the inexpressive filling in the fields of motivation for LGBTIphobic crimes in the police reports.

In October 2021, the TV news program *Jornal Hoje* investigated cases of homophobia and transphobia recorded in police stations. They required the data from all Brazilian federal units through Brazil's Law on Access to Information (LAI, in Portuguese), asking the public security state departments.

Only 15 states and the country's Federal District informed their numbers. Ten states said their systems do not allow users to calculate statistics on crimes against this population, and the state of Santa Catarina gave an inconclusive answer.

Of all the numbers informed to the news report, 135 crimes of homophobia and transphobia were recorded between June 2020 and June 2021. On the other hand, data from the National Association of Trans and Queer People (Antra, in Portuguese), referred to previously – which only considers transfemicide crimes – are larger than all the data on homophobia recorded in Brazil.

In 2020 alone, there were 175 murders against queer people and trans women. According to Antra, 89 trans people died in the first half of 2021 (80 murders and 9 suicides). In this same period, the association recorded 33 murder attempts and 27 human rights violations against this population.

Jornal Hoje journalists also asked the state public security departments for the total number of other crimes against the LGBT+ population.

Nine states did not answer the journalists' requests. Among them are Amazonas, Rio de Janeiro, and Minas Gerais. Of those who answered the request, the news report found a total of 1,726 registered crimes motivated by homophobia, which represents a 21% rise compared to 2019.

Of this total, 813 offenses (offense, defamation, and slander), 335 threats, and 237 physical aggressions were recorded.

The lack of official data about trans people causes problems for creating public policies. In Brazil, networks like the [Brazilian Trans Institute of Education](#) (IBTE, in Portuguese), [Antra](#), and [Trans Network](#) (Rede Trans, in Portuguese) are the ones who collect data on the trans population.

TransEmpregos is an online platform that connects trans people to the job market. To its cofounder, trans woman Maite Schneider, trans people are not acknowledged as legitimate citizens who make part of Brazilian society.

"We need to have a national census that identifies trans people. The erasing of this group is attractive to the government, so they don't need to invest in public policies", she states.

To saleswoman Lunna Pompeu, also known as Titia Chiba, the lack of data mirrors the neglect towards the trans population.

"We must demand policies of prevention and social care. The country's lack of data on trans people is a product of the omission of rights. In times like these calamitous ones, we are still unassisted".

According to Kaio Lemos, the neglect shows "Brazil's transfemicide character".

"See the behavior of the current federal government: their jokes, the number of [covid] deaths, the violence. The best tool we have against it is to resist," Lemos said.

We need to strengthen ourselves, said Lemos, "and search for the public policies to go forward."

There are specific public and social policies that can be adopted to improve the lives of trans people in Brazil. According to Belo Horizonte's councilor Duda Salabert, the first urgent area to look at is the job market.

"We must ensure that trans and queer people get jobs in the formal job market, because to us, prostitution is almost a compulsory activity. We need quotas in public services as well as campaigns to raise people's awareness and tax breaks in the private sector to hire transgender people".

Salabert is also a teacher and believes that deepening talks about transsexuality at schools in the medium and short terms is fundamental to combat the country's structural prejudice.

The Ministry of Women, Family, and Human Rights was asked about the lack of data on trans people, the lack of public policies, and the high numbers of transfemicide in the country. They did not respond at the time of publication.

Transphobia and intersectionality

The TGEU's report data points out a worrying trend when talking about the combination of misogyny, racism, xenophobia, and hate since most of the victims are black migrant women and trans sex workers.

In Brazil, data from Antra show that every 48 hours, one trans person dies. It is worth mentioning that 82% of trans victims are black people.

There were cruel practices, such as carbonization, stoning, and decapitation in 80% of the cases. Based on data collected in 2020, the [report](#) shows a systematic picture of dehumanization, as well as transfemicide in the country. They must be analyzed through class and race lens.

On July 2021, black-queer woman [Paloma Amaral](#) was tied and beaten inside a trunk in front of city guards at Teresina, Piauí's capital city.

Trans black woman Gilmara Cunha, raised in a favela, is a psychologist and LGBTQIA+ activist in poor communities. She says that, in favelas, trans-black women are not seen as women at all. The vulnerability there, she says, is even worse.

"Favelas are places where sexism, transphobia, and prejudice are repeated. If the number of trans women murdered isn't accurately quantified, in drug-controlled favelas, it's even worse", she points out.

"We are fighting for our right to exist, to live a worthy life. Because we resist, we have seen advances in public policies, but we are still a vulnerable group in society. In Brazil, to be trans means you fight to have something to eat. It means to be a disposable body in a heteronormative society, a society that kills our lives daily."

Cissexism

The murder, demonization, pathologization and stigmatization of trans bodies are managed by a process called cissexism, which, according to the researcher and transfeminist activist Viviane Vergueiro, consists of a set of silent and subtle norms that act as basis for the standardization of bodies.

Therefore, cissexism maintains cisgender as the normal/natural model of being, excluding queers, trans men and women through discriminatory notions and actions, as transphobia and homophobia.

Although most of the victims of cissexist violence in the country are trans women, trans men also suffer aggressions and from transphobia, especially in the public sphere, with the abuse of power by security agents.

According to the 2021 report by the Brazilian Institute of Transmasculinities (Ibrat), UN, Race and Equality Institute and Trans Studies Magazine, 85.9% of respondents said that the public security system had transphobic attitudes towards them.

Still according to the data, there is a high transphobia rate against trans men, mainly in public spaces (78.2%), but also in domestic spaces (63.8%).

“It’s not only verbal transphobic violence in every social sector but also actions that don’t include us on public policies promoted and legitimized by the government. We are afraid of this fundamentalist transphobia we currently live in in Brazil”, says Kaio Lemos, one of the people responsible for the mapping of data.

Pandemic

[Research by IE SOGI and UN](#), published in 2020, concluded that covid-19 has a disproportional impact on LGBT lives, and the [effects of the pandemic](#) propagate and expand the existing patterns of social exclusion and violence.

Likewise, the Antra report released in early 2021 and based on data from 2020 showed the worsening of these inequalities: about 70% of the queer and trans population did not have access to emergency policies.

To reduce the financial impact on the lives of transgender people, the NGO Transvest, coordinated by Duda Salabert, has created the Trans Minimum Income. The project distributed between BRL 100 to BRL 200 for 14 months to about 250 queer and trans people in the city of Belo Horizonte.

Maite Schneider states that the pandemic is a daily situation for trans people, because even before the pandemic, they did not have access to formal jobs, and society avoided them, keeping a certain distance from this population.

“Previously to the pandemic, trans people already were avoided. They weren’t invited to parties and events. Now, those who were beginning their careers in companies are being laid off en masse and ended up coming back to their

relatives' houses. Because some of them are not accepted as they are, they had to 'de-transition' ".

During lockdowns, Antra also highlighted the worsening of trans people's mental health. In the first semester of 2020, 16 suicides were recorded. It represents a 34% rise compared to the same period of 2019.

According to Cunha, there is a lack of social support for trans people living in favelas, a situation worsened by the pandemic. "The Brazilian population is unequal. When dealing with trans bodies, it's even worse. A lot of trans women couldn't access the emergency aid for not having documents".

Regarding suicides, the psychologist says prevention is the best tool, but there is difficulty in creating support networks for trans women.

"The issue is how can we can build a protection network for women being that the feminist movement does not acknowledge trans bodies as female bodies?"

Luana Pompeu states that some feminist groups do not accept trans women. "Many of them see us as a threat to feminism and its demands".

Job market

According to data recorded by Antra in 2020, only 4% of the trans population have formal jobs with the possibility of promotion and career progression. A total of 90% of the trans and queer population have prostitution as their main source of income.

To Helena Vieira, prostitution is not the problem. "The fact of trans women being sex workers isn't the problem. We must keep on fighting to professionalize and legalize this activity. Still, they should not have only prostitution as an option of work."

Despite the numbers, the insertion of this group in the job market improved, according to the job site [TransEmpregos](#). The platform confirmed that 794 trans people were employed and 1,419 job vacancies were opened.


One of the companies that have been registered on the site for seven years, there are 1,300 trans professionals.

Queer, transgender women, and intersex women can report and seek help by calling 180 in case of violence motivated by gender. They can also contact the nearest Women's Police Station DEAM (Delegacia Especializada de Atendimento à Mulher, or DEAM, in Portuguese).

Complaints against trans men and women can be made by calling 100, managed by the National Human Rights Ombudsman. The service is free and operates 24 hours a day, including holidays and weekends.

Exhibit 10

Healthcare for transgender people is under threat, researchers say

 [cnnbrasil.com.br/saude/assistencia-a-saude-para-pessoas-trans-esta-sob-ameaca-dizem-pesquisadores](https://www.cnnbrasil.com.br/saude/assistencia-a-saude-para-pessoas-trans-esta-sob-ameaca-dizem-pesquisadores)

July 2, 2025

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Recent restrictions on public policies and healthcare for transgender people applied in several countries, including Brazil, threaten to dismantle existing care structures for this population and may lead to setbacks. This warning is contained in an article published in the scientific journal *Nature Medicine* by a group of Brazilian researchers.

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The [text](#) highlights the new resolution ([no. 2,427](#)) from the Federal Council of Medicine (CFM), which, in April, [prohibited the use of hormone blockers in minors under 18 years of age in Brazil](#) , increased the minimum age for cross-sex hormone therapy from 16 to 18, and authorized gender transition surgeries only from the age of 21.

Read more

In addition to prohibiting the clinical use of hormone blockers in transgender youth, the Brazilian resolution also prevents research in this area. Hormone therapy involves administering [sex hormones](#) to promote physical changes consistent with gender identity. These procedures had been adopted based on the CFM's own previous resolution ([No. 2,265](#)), published in 2020.

According to the authors, in addition to creating an intimidating effect among healthcare professionals, these rules hinder the provision of adequate care and may increase the risk of [depression](#) , social isolation, and even suicide among transgender youth – those who do not identify with their birth sex. Regarding science, the group believes there is a brake, with limits or prohibitions on research and treatments specifically aimed at this group.

The article also calls upon professional bodies and the academic community – institutions, funding agencies, scientific journals, and researchers – to reaffirm their support for evidence-based care for transgender individuals.

“Public policies and health legislation need to be based on evidence and ethical principles, not ideology. Everyone, including transgender youth and their families, health professionals, and researchers, needs to participate, be heard, and understand what is happening,” psychiatrist Alexandre Saadeh, one of the authors of the article, who has worked in the field for over 35 years, told Agência Fapesp.

Saadeh is the coordinator of the Transdisciplinary Outpatient Clinic for Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation at the Institute of Psychiatry of the Hospital das Clínicas of the University of São Paulo (Amigios-IPq-HCFMUSP), a pioneer in the care of transgender youth in Brazil and a reference in the creation and application of care protocols during childhood and puberty. In ten years, Amigios has treated approximately 120 children and more than 350 adolescents out of a universe of 1,300 people who underwent screening.

Contacted by Agência Fapesp, the CFM cited Sweden, Norway, Finland, and England, in addition to the United States, as “countries that have revised their guidelines in recent years and restricted the use of puberty blockers and hormone therapy for minors, reflecting the need for more research and a more cautious approach in prescribing these medications.”

“The Federal Council of Medicine respects opposing opinions and reiterates that one of the objectives of the changes proposed in the resolution, based on more than 100 scientific studies published in recent years, is to protect children and adolescents from procedures that are often absolutely irreversible and can cause lifelong problems and sequelae,” the council informs through its press office, adding that the rule was approved in plenary session, composed of 28 federal councilors from all states, “of different ideological persuasions.”

Principle of progressive autonomy

According to Saadeh, [gender identity](#) has always existed. “It’s not an illness, it’s not a disorder, it’s a variation that happens to human beings in all cultures and in all countries. We have to look at these people, listen to them, and not try to prevent them from being who they are. Restricting rights is not how we will protect childhood and adolescence,” argues the psychiatrist.

The Statute of Children and Adolescents (ECA) guarantees young people participation in decisions about their health through the principle of progressive autonomy.

According to Professor Bruno Gualano, president of the Lifestyle Medicine Center at USP and co-author of the article, the new CFM (Federal Council of Medicine) regulation hinders scientific production. "The resolution eliminates the possibility for doctors to prescribe, for example, hormone blockers, as was being done under the previous council regulation, which had specific rules. On the other hand, it demands more scientific evidence of the effects of this procedure on young people. But if it's prohibited, how are we going to produce evidence?" he asks.

The researchers highlight that the previous CFM resolution guided the care provided at Amtigos to 79 transgender adolescents using puberty blockers. "Adverse effects were rare, with few discontinuing the blockers and only one expressing a desire to detransition after hormone therapy, and this occurred without regret. These results align with international standards, showing detransition rates below 2% when appropriate assessment protocols are followed," the group writes in *Nature Medicine*.

Currently, Gualano is the principal investigator of the project "Eating behaviors, symptoms of eating disorders and obesity in transgender youth: a proposal for assessment and intervention," developed by nutritionist Bruna Caruso Mazzolani, who is also a co-author of the text. Supported by FAPESP, the study aims, in addition to assessing eating behaviors and possible [eating disorders](#), to develop and implement a lifestyle intervention specific to this population.

Preliminary data obtained by Gualano's team indicate that Amtigos patients and their caregivers strongly disagree with the main changes brought about by the new CFM resolution. "Naturally, any proposal to alter the care of transgender people should take into account what they think," argues the researcher, hoping that the new data will shed light on the discussion.

Brazil lacks official statistics on the transgender population and has few studies and research involving these people, especially young people. A survey by the Botucatu Faculty of Medicine of the São Paulo State University (FMB-Unesp), [published](#) in *Scientific Reports* in 2021, showed that the country has 3 million people identified as transgender or non-binary, which corresponds to about 2% of the adult population.

The 2023 National Demographic and Health Survey (PNDS), conducted by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) in partnership with the Ministry of Health, included for the first time the collection of data on sexual orientation and gender identity of Brazilians aged 18 or older, but the results have not yet been released.

Other cases

In the United Kingdom, the National Health Service (NHS) has restricted access to puberty blockers to research settings only.

In the United States, following an Executive Order from President Donald Trump's administration ([published](#) in January of this year) prohibiting gender-affirming care for minors under 19, only 14 of the 50 states decided to maintain healthcare services for transgender people. The restriction was approved despite opposition from medical organizations such as the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Medical Association, which support care for this population based on evidence-based protocols.

For researchers, the new policies bring serious ethical implications, compromising everything from the right to health – “when indicated medical care is denied for political reasons” – to the possibility of transgender people seeking care from professionals who do not recognize their gender identity.

“In Brazil, the CFM resolution could lead these young people to seek out unqualified doctors or even to self-medicate, harming their health. Furthermore, these policies disproportionately affect low-income families, threatening important gains in rights and healthcare,” says Saadeh.

Customer service at Amtigos


The outpatient clinic receives individuals who spontaneously seek healthcare services. They fill out a registration form and then undergo triage. From the moment they enter, children and young people have access to follow-up care with psychiatric evaluation and a multidisciplinary team – speech therapy, social work, psychology, psychiatry, pediatrics, nutrition, physical education, and others. Families participate in the process and receive guidance. The clinic serves adolescents up to adulthood.

"This is a moment that proves medicine's commitment to evidence, above ideology. From AIDS to reproductive rights, the scientific community has defended health equity and integrity. (...) Medical care is necessary, ethically grounded, and widely supported by evidence. Its reversal is unjustifiable," the researchers conclude.

Read the full article " The [global](#) rollback of transgender care, science and rights" .

Exhibit 11

Brazil remains the country that kills the most transgender people in the world for the 18th consecutive year, according to a report.

 oglobo.globo.com/brasil/noticia/2026/01/26/brasil-segue-como-pais-que-mais-mata-pessoas-trans-no-mundo-pelo-18o-ano-consecutivo-diz-dossie.ghtml

26 de janeiro de 2026

Brazil maintained its position as the country that kills the most trans people in the world for the 18th consecutive year in 2025. 80 murders motivated by transphobic crimes were recorded throughout the year, according to the Dossier Murders and Violence Against Brazilian Transvestites and Transsexuals, which will be released this Monday (26) by the National Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals (Antra).

The number represents a 34% reduction compared to 2024, when 122 deaths were recorded. Despite the decrease, the survey indicates that violence against the trans population remains serious. The report points to an increase in attempted homicides, which rose from 57 to 75 in one year, and highlights structural factors that hinder the fight against these crimes, such as underreporting, lack of official statistics, and poor journalistic coverage in many regions.

The report shows that violence is concentrated in the Northeast region, with recurring occurrences in the Southeast, and that most victims are transvestites and transgender women, predominantly Black, young, and in situations of social vulnerability. In 2025, the murders mostly occurred in public spaces, peripheries, and urban streets.

The survey also points to a process of internalization of violence. In 2025, 67.5% of murders occurred in inland cities, while 32.5% were recorded in capital cities. According to Antra, the displacement of crimes to areas with less state presence and support networks increases the risk of deaths going unnoticed.

In addition to mapping homicides, the report highlights the need for public policies focused on violence prevention, proper crime investigation, and the social inclusion of the transgender population.

Some of the cases recorded in 2025

Among the homicides recorded last year is the murder of cook Danielly Rocha, 37, who was found dead in the early morning of May 2025 in a hallway of the building where she lived, on Rua do Riachuelo, in Lapa, central Rio de Janeiro.

Witnesses reported that Danielly, known as Danny, arrived home accompanied by a man, who remained in the apartment for several hours. The body was sent to the Forensic Medical Institute, and the case was registered at the 5th Police Station in Mem de Sá.

Another homicide occurred on December 9, 2025, in Bahia. A man presented himself at the Luís Eduardo Magalhães Territorial Police Station with the body of a transgender woman in his car and confessed to the crime.

The victim, identified as 18-year-old Ryana, died of strangulation during a trip between Barreiras and Luís Eduardo Magalhães.

PROOF OF SERVICE

On this day, I, Otavio Haverroth Silva, served a copy of the following documents:

**RESPONDENTS' COUNTRY CONDITIONS IN SUPPORT OF ASYLUM AND
WITHHOLDING OF REMOVAL**

To the following:

Office Location: Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, Philadelphia 900 Market Street, Suite 346 Philadelphia, PA 19107	Mailing Address: US Immigration and Customs Enforcement US Department of Homeland Security 900 Market Street, Suite 504 Philadelphia, PA 19107
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by:

- Through the EOIR Courts and Appeals System (ECAS), which will automatically send service notification to both parties that a new document has been filed.



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