

Dandara Ramos

Epidemiologist (PhD), Psychologist (MSc, BSc)

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Brazil

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POSITIONS

Federal University of Bahia, Brazil — Associate Professor

NOVEMBER 2019 - PRESENT

Associate Professor at the Institute of Collective Health

<https://isc.ufba.br/>

Center for Data and Knowledge Integration for Health, Bahia, Brazil — Associate Researcher

JULY 2017 - PRESENT

<https://cidacs.bahia.fiocruz.br/>

Iyaleta Research Association, Bahia, Brazil — Senior Research Associate

NOVEMBER 2022 - PRESENT

<https://iyaleta.org/>

EDUCATION

Institute of Social Medicine, UERJ — PhD

MARCH 2013–JANUARY 2017

PhD in Collective Health/Epidemiology by the Institute of Social Medicine (IMS-UERJ). Dissertation title: Effect of Exposure to Violence and Other Contextual Variables on Risk Behaviours of Brazilian Adolescents.

State University of Rio de Janeiro, UERJ — MSc

MARCH 2010–JUNE 2012

Master's Degree in Social Psychology by the Graduate School of Social Psychology (PPGPS-UERJ). Thesis title: Achievement Goals and Future Expectations of Young People in Rio de Janeiro in Different Contexts.

State University of Rio de Janeiro, UERJ — BSc

AUGUST 2004–AUGUST 2009

Bachelor's degree and Licentiate in Psychology. Emphasis on Developmental Psychology.

SKILLS

Policy evaluation
(quasi-experimental designs)

Biostatistics

Child and Adolescent Health

AWARDS AND DISTINGUISHED POSITIONS

Science for Early Childhood Award (2022) – NCPI, Brazil
Prêmio Ciência pela Primeira Infância – NCPI

Science Academy of Bahia, Brazil – Member
(2021–Present)

Brazilian Association of Collective Health (ABRASCO)
– Vice President (2024–2027)

LANGUAGES

Portuguese (native), English (fluent), Spanish (intermediate)

PROJECTS

Teenage Fertility in Brazil: social policies, inequalities and gender violence — *Research and Public Engagement*

Brazil's adolescent fertility rate ranks third highest in Latin America, with persistent inequalities despite a national decline over the past three decades. Structural social determinants like chronic poverty, systemic racism, and sexual violence contribute to these inequities, along with barriers to legal abortion and access to reproductive healthcare. Such disparities disproportionately affect the most vulnerabilized groups, with gender violence exacerbating social and health disadvantages, perpetuating a cycle of vulnerability and inequality among young girls. Our project merges scientific innovation with community engagement to develop two main goals: investigate and document these inequities, their links to sexual violence and early marriages, and to co-design a communication and dissemination strategy with local stakeholders. By engaging the health, education, legal, and NGO sectors, we aim for our results to generate relevant advocacy tools that can empower adolescents, prevent violence, ensure equitable access to education, and promote reproductive health.

Funding: British Academy (2024-2025)

Role: Principal Investigator

NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Social and Environmental Determinants of Health Inequalities

Brazil and Ecuador are Latin American countries that show marked inequalities in health. Although there are many potential causes of health differences between different social groups, it is reasonable to assume that these are mainly due to the social determinants of health – the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, age and die. Our Unit will focus on discovering whether policies, when implemented, had any impact on health, whether they had a bigger impact on disadvantaged groups (defined by income, ethnicity, sex, geography, migrant status and deprivation), and the extent to which the health impacts have been modified by the provision and organisation of health services, particularly regarding coverage, access and quality.

Funding: National Institute for Health and Care Research (2022-2026)

"Mind The Gap" - Identifying Family Poverty Profiles and Designing Scenarios to Overcome Child Poverty in Post-Pandemic Years

The project will identify the poverty profiles of families with children under five enrolled in the Single Registry, using data from the Family Development Index, the Brazilian Deprivation Index, and the Municipal

Human Development Index. It will assess the amount needed to overcome the families' poverty gap and estimate the mortality rates in each of these profiles. The results will be disseminated through dashboards, forecasting scenarios for stakeholders and a workshop with stakeholders from the Ministry of Citizenship and stakeholders. The project will also provide forecast scenarios for COVID-19 associated crises with a high level of granularity.

Funding: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation - Grand Challenges Explorations – Brazil: Data Science Approaches to Improve Maternal and Child Health, Women's Health and Children's Health in Brazil (2020-2023)

Role: Principal Investigator

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (for full list see [Google Scholar](#))

Journal articles (chronological order)

Rebouças P, Paixão ES, [Ramos DO](#), Pescarini J, Pinto-Junior EP, Falcão IR, Ichihara MY, Sena S, Veiga R, Ribeiro R, Rodrigues LC. Ethno-racial inequalities on adverse birth and neonatal outcomes: a nationwide, retrospective cohort study of 21 million Brazilian newborns. **The Lancet Regional Health–Americas**. 2024 Sep 1;37.

Góes EF, Ferreira AJ, [Ramos DO](#). Anti-Black racism and maternal death from COVID-19: what have we seen in the Pandemic?. **Ciência & Saúde Coletiva**. 2023 Sep 4;28:2501-10.

Alves FJ, [Ramos DO](#), Paixão ES, Falcão IR, de Cássia Ribeiro-Silva R, Fiaccone R, Rasella D, Teixeira C, Machado DB, Rocha A, de Almeida MF. Association of conditional cash transfers with maternal mortality using the 100 Million Brazilian Cohort. **JAMA network open**. 2023 Feb 1;6(2):e230070-.

Menezes AA, [Ramos DO](#), Sanchez ZM, Miskolci R. Racial-based bullying and substance use: a Brazilian national cross-sectional survey among students. **Journal of racial and ethnic health disparities**. 2023 Jun;10(3):1441-54.

Rebouças P, Goes E, Pescarini J, [Ramos DO](#), Ichihara MY, Sena S, Veiga R, Rodrigues LC, Barreto ML, Paixão ES. Ethnoracial inequalities and child mortality in Brazil: a nationwide longitudinal study of 19 million newborn babies. **The Lancet Global Health**. 2022 Oct 1;10(10):e1453-62.

[Ramos DO](#), Goes EF, Ferreira AJ. Intersection of race and gender in self-reports of violent experiences and polyvictimization by young girls in Brazil. **Journal of racial and ethnic health disparities**. 2022 Aug;9(4):1506-16.

[Ramos DO](#), da Silva NB, Ichihara MY, Fiaccone RL, Almeida D, Sena S, Rebouças P, Júnior EP, Paixão ES, Ali S, Rodrigues LC. Conditional cash transfer program and child mortality: A cross-sectional analysis nested within the 100 Million Brazilian Cohort. **PLoS medicine**. 2021 Sep 28;18(9):e1003509.

Paixao ES, Cardim LL, Falcao IR, Ortelan N, Silva ND, Rocha AD, Sena S, Almeida D, [Ramos DO](#), Alves FJ, Bispo N. Cohort profile: Centro de Integração de Dados e Conhecimentos para Saúde (CIDACS) birth cohort. **International journal of epidemiology**. 2021 Feb 1;50(1):37-8.

Goes EF, [Ramos DO](#), Ferreira AJ. Racial health inequalities and the COVID-19 pandemic. **Trabalho, Educação e Saúde**. 2020 May 29;18:e00278110.

Machado DB, Pescarini JM, [Ramos DO](#), Teixeira R, Lozano R, Pereira VO, Azeredo C, Paes-Sousa R, Malta DC, Barreto ML. Monitoring the progress of health-related sustainable development goals (SDGs) in Brazilian states using the Global Burden of Disease indicators. **Population health metrics**. 2020 Sep;18:1-4.

Ali MS, Prieto-Alhambra D, Lopes LC, [Ramos DO](#), Bispo N, Ichihara MY, Pescarini JM, Williamson E, Fiaccone RL, Barreto ML, Smeeth L. Propensity score methods in health technology assessment: principles, extended applications, and recent advances. **Frontiers in pharmacology**. 2019 Sep 18;10:973.

Daly M, [Ramos DO](#), Perry G. The behavioural constellation of deprivation: Compelling framework, messy reality. **Behavioral and Brain Sciences**. 2017;40.

[Ramos DO](#), Daly M, Seidl-de-Moura ML, Nadanovsky P. The role of city income inequality, sex ratio and youth

mortality rates in the effect of violent victimization on health-risk behaviors in Brazilian adolescents. **Social Science & Medicine**. 2017 May 1;181:17-23.

Ramos DO, Daly M, Seidl-de-Moura ML, Jomar RT, Nadanovsky P. Inconsistent reports of risk behavior among Brazilian middle school students: National School Based Survey of Adolescent Health (PeNSE 2009/2012). **Cadernos de Saúde Pública**. 2017 May 18;33:e00145815.

Books and Book chapters

Ramos DO, Góes E, Nery J, Rodrigues O. Violence, structural racism, and their relation to health outcomes of black Brazilian youth. In: Racism and human development. Switzerland: Springer; 2022. p. 53-66.

Ramos DO, FIACCONE RL. Métodos baseados em escore de propensão e suas aplicações em avaliação de políticas de saúde. In: Avaliação de Impacto das Políticas em Saúde. Um Guia para o SUS. 1ed. Brasília, DF: Coordenação-Geral de Documentação e Informação. Brasília: Editora MS, 2023, v. 1, p. 307-328.

Dutra-Thomé L, Rabelo DF, Ramos DO, Góes EF (Orgs). Racism and Human Development. Springer International Publishing; 2022.