

Prevalence and Socio-Demographic factors related to Back Pain Among adults in Brazil: an analysis of the cross-sectional population-based study *National Health Survey* (2019)



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INTRODUCTION



*“An unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with, or resembling that associated with, **actual** or **potential** tissue damage.”;*

(Raja et al., 2020)

- ✓ It is the defining feature for many disease diagnosis;
(low back || neck pain)

(Henschke et al., 2015)

- ✓ Pain can lead to disability;
- ✓ Disability can be defined as “*any short term or long term health loss*”; (Vos et al., 2010)
- ✓ Back pain can cause disability;
- ✓ The **number of people** experiencing **low back and neck pain** in low-income and middle-income countries **is likely to increase** dramatically over the coming decades; (Hoy et al., 2014)
- ✓ The overall increase in the global burden of low back pain is almost entirely due to **population increase** and **ageing** in both high-income, low-income and middle-income countries. (Hoy et al., 2010)

✓ Disability can cause ↑ costs;



✓ In 2016 **in USA**, low back and neck pain occupied the first place in health care spending rank, consuming **134.5 billions dollars** (67.9 % was estimated for the age-group 20-64) (Dieleman et al., 2020)

✓ In Brazil, **low back and neck pain are the first cause of “Years Lived with Disability”** (GBD 2016 Brazil Collaborators ([Lancet 2018; 392: 760–75])



✓ People living with low back pain have diverse problems as *psychological, social, biophysical, comorbidities*, and *pain-processing mechanisms* that impact on both the pain experience and the associated disability; (Hartvigsen et al., 2018)

AIMS

The aims of this presentation is to provide an up-to-date descriptive

epidemiology of back pain in Brazilian adults

and to analyze

sociodemographic characteristics associated with back pain.





MATERIAL AND METHODS

- ✓ Cross-sectional study “National Health Survey – 2019” (NHS-2019-BR) in Brazil;
- ✓ NHS-2019-BR it's a research did by Brazilian Ministry of Health and the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics;
- ✓ NHS-2019-BR data collection took place between August 2019 and March 2020
(Stopa et al., 2020)
- ✓ The NHS-2019-BR was submitted to the National Research Ethics Commission (CONEP)/National Health Council and approved in August 2019 under No. 3,529,376 for the 2019 edition

([https:// www.pns.iciet.fiocruz.br/aspectos-eticos/](https://www.pns.iciet.fiocruz.br/aspectos-eticos/) accessed on 19/August/2021)



- ✓ In 2019, 108,525 households were selected, totaling a final sample of **90,846 individuals** aged 15 or over, and a response rate of 96.5%;
- ✓ Individuals included in **this presentation** are with **18 years +**

(<https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/composicao/vigilancia-em-saude-svs/inqueritos-de-saude/pesquisa-nacional-de-saude>)

- ✓ Participants were classified as having a Chronic Back Pain if they answered "YES" to the following question:

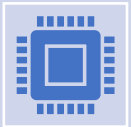


"Do you have any chronic back problems, such as chronic back or neck pain, low back pain, sciatica, vertebrae or disc problems?"

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS



Prevalence (%) and respective confidence intervals (95% CI) were estimated for participants classified as having a **chronic back pain problem**.



All analyzes were performed using the “R” software (RStudio), predominantly using the “PNSIBGE” package.

RESULTS



- ✓ In 2019, approximately 21.6% of people aged 18 or over (approximately 34.3 million) reported a chronic back pain in Brazil;
- The **mean age** of participants with chronic back pain (regardless of sex) was **51.18** years old (95% CI: 50.84 – 51.56)
 - ♂ 50.10 years (95% CI: 49.54 – 50.65)
 - ♀ 51.90 years (95% CI: 51.41 – 52.39)

Chronic Back Pain

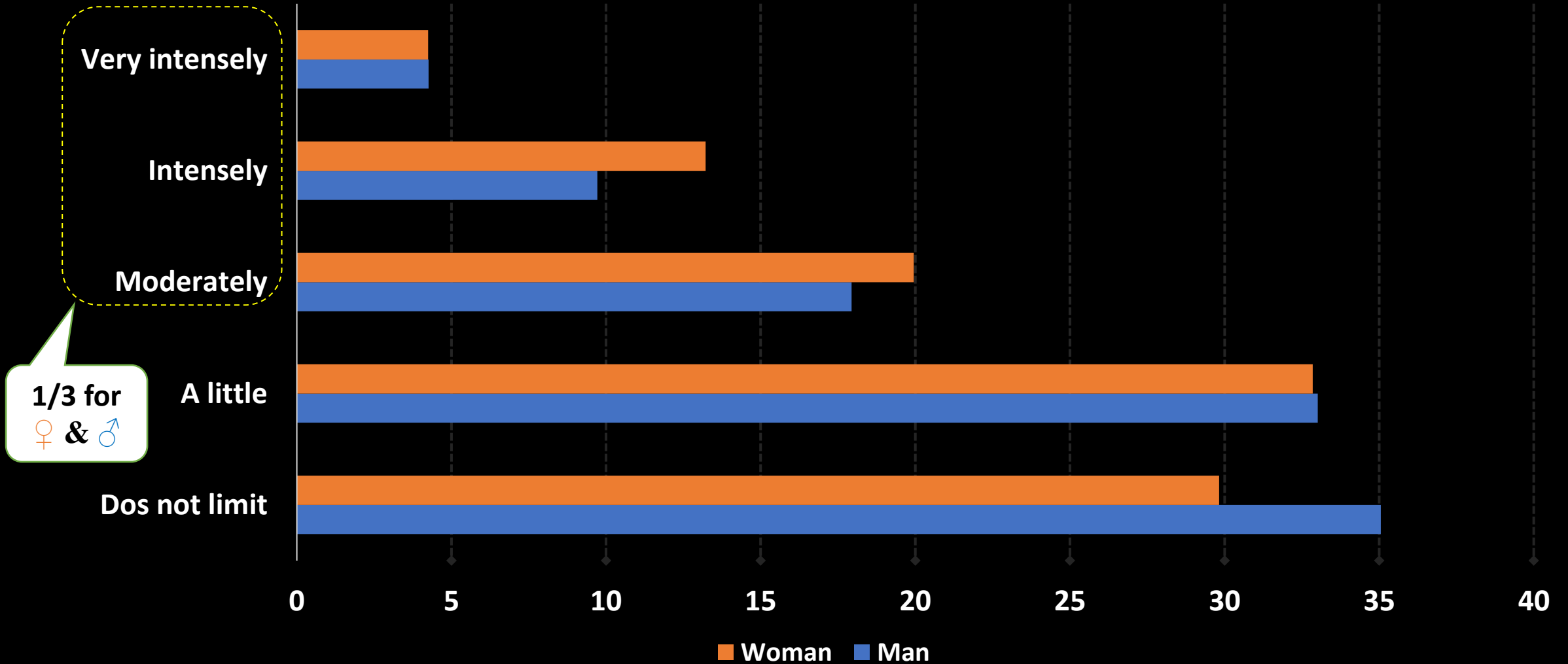
18.30%
(95%CI: 17.63-18.97)



24.46%
(95%CI: 23.74-25.18)



Functional Disability





| | | 2019 | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Man | Woman |
| Variables | Categories | Prevalence % (95% CI) | Prevalence % (95% CI) |
| Sex | | 18.30 (17.63-18.97) | 24.46 (23.74-25.18) |
| Age (years) | 18 a 24 | 7.80 (6.37-9.22) | 10.86 (9.36-12.36) |
| | 25 a 34 | 11.31 (9.93-12.69) | 14.58 (13.26-15.91) |
| | 35 a 44 | 16.50 (15.16-17.83) | 21.41 (19.82-23.01) |
| | 45 a 54 | 23.59 (21.96-25.23) | 28.69 (26.87-30.52) |
| | 55 a 64 | 27.59 (25.60-29.58) | 34.47 (32.61-36.33) |
| | 65 + | 25.10 (23.45-26.74) | 35.87 (34.13-37.61) |
| Race | White | 17.96 (16.90-19.01) | 25.47 (24.35-26.58) |
| | Black | 17.38 (15.76-19.00) | 24.26 (22.32-26.20) |
| | Yellow | 22.88 (11.66-34.10) | 22.13 (14.88-29.38) |
| | Brown | 18.78(17.78-19.79) | 23.59 (22.59-24.59) |
| Marital status | Unmarried | 14.34 (13.38-15.30) | 19.53 (18.55-20.52) |
| | Married | 20.98 (20.03-21.93) | 26.00 (24.79-27.21) |
| | Divorced/separated | 23.77 (20.89-26.66) | 28.64 (26.37-30.92) |
| | Widowed | 23.77 (20.00-27.53) | 34.14 (32.14-36.15) |
| Area | Urban | 17.61 (16.84-18.37) | 24.29 (23.51-25.08) |
| | Rural | 22.01 (20.75-23.28) | 25.68 (23.92-27.43) |

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| BMI categories | Underweight | 17.22 (0.67-33.76) | 11.50 (2.02-20.98) |
| | Normal weight | 17.69 (13.42-21.95) | 21.54 (16.99-26.09) |
| | Overweight | 18.90 (15.48-22.32) | 28.51 (22.93-34.10) |
| | Obese | 18.59 (12.42-24.77) | 28.84 (24.07-33.60) |
| Self-rated health | Very good | 9.65 (8.25-11.05) | 11.28 (9.81-12.75) |
| | Good | 14.18 (13.31-15.05) | 17.70 (16.80-18.60) |
| | Fair | 28.53 (27.09-29.96) | 34.83 (33.53-36.12) |
| | Poor | 44.48 (40.66-48.29) | 49.95 (46.79-53.11) |
| | Very poor | 39.79 (32.12-47.45) | 56.94 (51.01-62.88) |
| Educational level | No studies/ Incomplete Primary | 25.62 (24.41-26.82) | 32.40 (31.08-33.72) |
| | Full Primary / Incomplete Secondary | 15.65 (13.51-17.79) | 22.97 (20.56-25.39) |
| | Full secondary / Incomplete university | 11.50(9.23-13.77) | 17.41 (14.60-20.21) |
| | University | 16.06 (14.21-17.91) | 20.48 (18.94-22.01) |
| Physical activities or sports in the last 3 months | | 15.38 (14.45-16.31) | 23.23 (21.95-24.51) |
| Physical activities (150'/week) | Active | 17.60 (14.84-20.37) | 23.48 (20.78-26.19) |
| | Sedentary | 15.01 (14.01-16.03) | 22.87 (21.42-24.31) |

| | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Functional disability | Dos not limit | 35.05 (33.03-37.07) | 29.82 (28.18-31.47) |
| | A little | 33.01 (31.11-34.91) | 32.85 (31.25-34.45) |
| | Moderately | 17.94 (16.31-19.57) | 19.85 (18.46-21.24) |
| | Intensely | 9.72 (8.50-10.95) | 13.22 (12.08-14.37) |
| | Very Intensely | 4.26 (3.48-5.05) | 4.25 (3.62-4.88) |
| Depression | | 32.64 (29.23-36.04) | 43.19 (40.91-45.47) |
| Another mental diseases | | 26.10 (22.47-29.73) | 39.86 (36.92-42.80) |
| Diabetes | | 24.02 (21.37-26.66) | 36.43 (33.82-39.05) |
| Hypertension | | 26.67 (25.11-28.24) | 36.93 (35.35-38.50) |
| CPOD | | 31.31 (25.25- 37.38) | 45.02 (37.21-52.83) |
| Arthritis | | 49.18 (43.86- 54.49) | 56.71 (54.42-59.00) |
| Work-related musculoskeletal disorders | | 47.67 (40.78-54.57) | 52.33 (47.55- 57.12) |
| Hard physical activity at home | | 21.84(19.63-24.04) | 28.48 (26.80-30.15) |
| Hard physical activity at work | | 19.74(18.35-21.13) | 28.45 (26.01-30.88) |
| Chronic disease (physic or mental) + 6 months | | 24.98 (20.34-29.62) | 35.09 (31.30-38.87) |
| Health insurance | Yes | 17.74 (16.21-19.27) | 25.93 (24.54-27.33) |
| | No | 18.50 (17.77-19.23) | 23.90 (23.10-24.70) |

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION



✓ Among the main findings, we can mention:

- 1/5 (21.6%) of the adults 18 years + have Chronic Back Pain in Brazil;

“N” it is ↑

- Higher prevalence of chronic back pain in woman;

- High prevalence with increasing age;

Population is aging in low and middle-income countries

By 2050, it is estimated that 3.5 billion people 40 years of age or older will be living in low-income and middle-income countries compared to 645 million people living in high-income countries. (Kelly et al., 2008)

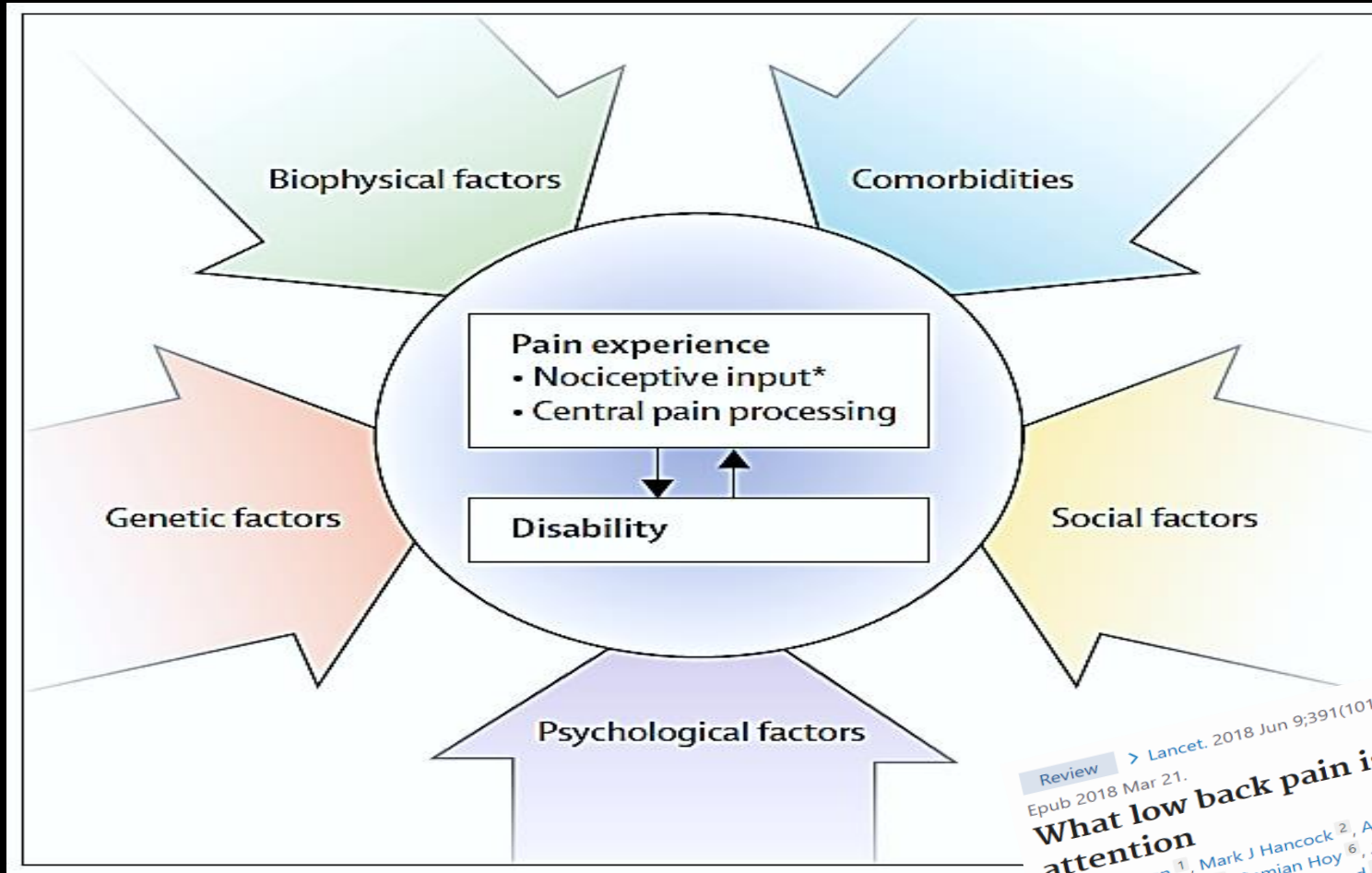


- Data show that $1/3$ of people affected by chronic back pain have **functional disability** ranging from moderate to very intense;
- In low and middle-income countries health promotion and treatment services do not receive the resourcing seen in high-income countries, and health insurance and social security do not commonly exist. A large proportion of those affected are in their most productive years of life

(Hoy et al., 2014)

- The study provide data for several age groups (18 to 65+ years old);
- Very poor self-rated health status has a high prevalence of chronic back pain;
- Low educational level has higher prevalence of chronic back pain;
- Depression, another mental diseases, arthritis, work-related musculoskeletal disorders and chronic diseases (physic or mental 6 months +) has higher prevalence of back pain.

Tackling back pain in Brazil need



Review > Lancet. 2018 Jun 9;391(10137):2356-2367. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(18)30480-X.
Epub 2018 Mar 21.
What low back pain is and why we need to pay attention
Jan Hartvigsen¹, Mark J Hancock², Alice Kongsted¹, Quinette Louw³, Manuela L Ferreira⁴,
Stéphane Genevay⁵, Damian Hoy⁶, Jaro Karppinen⁷, Glenn Pransky⁸, Joachim Sieper⁹,
Rob J Smeets¹⁰, Martin Underwood¹¹, Lancet Low Back Pain Series Working Group

Limitations:

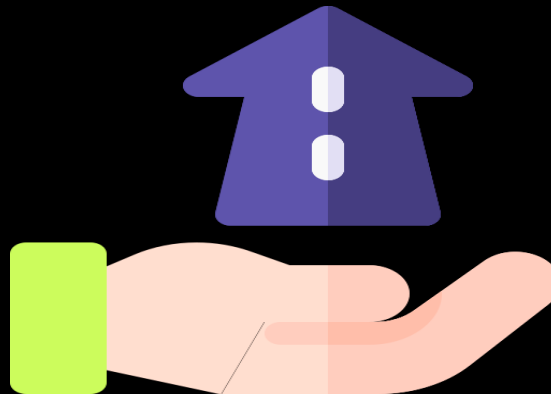
- ✓ This study considered the point prevalence (1 year or lifetime prevalence?);
- ✓ Although it was demonstrated the functional disability, it would be interesting investigate the work absence too;
- ✓ Pain intensity would be interesting for future studies;



Although methodological issues are inherent in population-based research on chronic back pain, this study provides data on prevalence estimated in the general population

Future directions:

- ✓ Do models of regression analyses for estimating the relationships between the 'outcome' chronic back pain and 'predictors' or 'features'.



Thank you !!!

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