

AGING, LONGEVITY AND LONELY HOUSEHOLDS IN THE SOUTH OF EUROPE: THE SPANISH CASE¹.

Data to be used and Metodology:

The starting point is the study of the aging of the Spanish population to address a more detailed analysis of the regional distribution of the older-old. This will be carried out using a transversal analysis for the period 1900-2001. The main sources have been the “Censos de la Población y viviendas en España de 1900, 1940, 1950, 60, 70, 81, 91 y 2001” from the Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE). The older-old populations have been studied by age and sex to define the evolution of their structure in the framework of a spatial approach.

Some life conditions of the older-old people in the last decades will be measured using social and environmental indicators for each province, mainly the dependency level of the older-old population respect to the active-age population, and older-old living in single-person households. The data for this analysis were obtained from the three last Census (1981, 1991, 2001).

Outcomes or indication of envisaged outcomes:

Using the framework of the increasing aging in Spain during the second half of the XXth Century, we have focus our analysis in the aging of the older people², with special emphasis in some consequences and socio-demographic relationships of this process.

We have shown in previous studies that the older ages are responsible for the higher contributions to the gains in the Spanish life expectancy during the last three decades³. This older people mortality decrease by economic, scientific and technical progress, as well as by environmental and social context. Consequently, this context conditions the possibility to reach a new stage in the increase of longevity process.

We analyze the spatial distribution of the older-olds, as well as other life conditions (living alone and the low level of young and adult population, family or employed, able to take care of dependent population). We will try to develop a geographical description of the older-old in Spain by age 85+ and sex, in a comparative analysis between those living alone, with those living in households with two or more members (by age, sex and civil status). Also, we will address the relationship of this population with the age-active population by province.

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² Zamora, F., Cámara, N. and Parant, A. “Dynamiques régionales du vieillissement démographique en Espagne, 1950-2001”. Population et Avenir. *Viellissement et Territoires*. Colloque européen Université Paris-Sorbonne, Paris, 13-15 Septembre 2005.

³ Gómez Redondo, R. and Boe, C., 2004, "Tendencias de mortalidad en la población española: Longevidad creciente, juventud recuperada y hacia la convergencia por sexo", en *Informe sobre la Situación Demográfica en España*. Madrid: Fundación Fernando Abril Martorell-Fundación ICO, pp. 105-134. Gómez Redondo, R. and Boe, C., 2005, "Decomposition Analysis of Spanish Life Expectancy at Birth", *Demographic Research*, vol. 13-20: 521-546.