Provisional title:

Contextual determinants of the internal migration of Latin-Americans in Spain 1998-2010

Joaquín Recaño Valverde, jrecano@ced.uab.es
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Doris Cristina Quintero Lesmes, dquinterol@ced.uab.es
Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Abstract

In this paper we explore the contextual factors, at a provincial level, that determine the internal migration of Latin-Americans in Spain during the period 1998-2010. This group, divided according to major nationalities, is systematically compared with the behavior among the Spaniards and other nationality groupings (countries from Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia). The population data used in this study comes from the Municipal Register (Padrón Continuo) which provides the denominators for rate calculations and the Statistics of Residential Variations. The latter allows us to know the places of residence of the individuals in the period of study; while other sources, like the Labour Force Survey provides information on socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of the provinces (contextual factors). The methodology that has been applied is a panel regression analysis which permits to jointly examine both temporal and contextual effects that may influence internal migration differences between the various nationalities of Latin-Americans in relation to the Spanish and other groups of population.

Keywords: Internal migration, Latin-Americans, migration factors, Spain, International migration.

Background

In a little more than a decade, migration of foreigners has been consolidated as a structural pattern of the Spanish migration system in all its forms: immigration, internal mobility including long and short distance moves, and emigration abroad. Greater intensity and the existence of different structured geographic patterns by nationality are the causes of the increasing role of these populations and represent a new factor of complexity in the study of Spanish internal migration. To all this, the recent change in the economic cycle (economic crisis) is having a significant impact on the migration processes of foreign population in Spain: by reducing the volume and composition of recent migration flows, modifying the processes of territorial settlement, redefining internal mobility and increasing and diversifying the departure of the foreign population to their countries of origin and/or third countries.

Studies in Canada, United States of America, Germany, Belgium and Great Britain have identified a series of demographic, economic and social variables with contextual and individual nature. These constitute, nowadays, consolidated theoretical evidence on the role of geographic mobility of foreign population in the national migration systems. In Spain, early studies on geographical mobility of foreigners made during the explosion of the immigration phenomenon (Recaño and Roig, 2006) indicated its growing importance as well as its future consolidation as a determinant of structural changes in the system of internal migration. In recent work from Recaño and Miguel (2009), the authors suggest that the determinants of internal mobility of the foreign population are

strongly associated with the gender composition, age, nationality and the presence of family and social networks that act in a similar way in several countries; however, the intensity varies according to nationality and country of destination. In addition, these authors also suggest that the current economic downturn has had a significant impact on the number and composition by nationality of the newly arrived flows to Spain, which also affects the spatial distribution of immigration and the internal migration patterns of the foreign population.

Data and methodology

The data used in the present paper comes from the Municipal Register (Padrón Continuo), the Statistics of Residential Variations for the period 1998-2010, and the Labour Force Survey (using the second quarter of each year) between 1998 and 2010 that provides information on the labour market and other characteristics of the provincial socio-demographic contexts. Demographic indicators were computed regarding the intensity and timing of migration (Gross migraproduction rates, standardized rates, average age at migration). Moreover, we analyzed the distribution and territorial impact of new arrivals from abroad; residential changes of Latin-Americans at different geographical scales and types of mobility (short and long distance); their departures abroad; as well as the individual and contextual determinants that facilitated or inhibited the mobility of this group. All these processes were differentiated by nationality, place of birth and were compared with what happens in the Spanish population as it is considered as the reference group.

The following Latin American nationalities were analyzed in more detail: Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Brazil and others.

In Table 1, we list the explanatory variables used in our models, also taking into account those variables that one can find in the literature.

Table 1. Variables included in the models

Variables	Description
	GENERAL MODEL
POIR2003	Proportion of undocumented migrants (Recaño and Domingo, 2005)
CPR00_04	Increase in the number of residence permits from 31/12/2000 to 31/12/2004 (Migration Yearbook)
AGRI2003	% of workers in agriculture (II trimester of 2003) (EPA)
SERV2003	% of workers in services (II trimester of 2003) (EPA)
CROC0103	Employment growth (II trimester 2001- II trimester 2003) (EPA)
PARO2003	Total unemployment rate (II trimester 2003) (EPA)
RENT2002	Per capital income 2002 (National Accounts)
TALOCTON	% of Spaniards born in other provinces (t) Continuous Register
LTOT2003	Ln of total population in each group (t) Continuous Register
LEXT2003	Ln of foreign population (t) Continuous Register
	MODELS A/B
LN_DISTP_IJ	Ln of distance
PNAC_I	% of Spaniards born in i living in j
LN_NAC_2003	Ln of nationals from a certain region of origin in province i (fo foreigners only)

Three regression models were tested:
a. General model with migration standardized rates towards other provinces and intra-provincial migration crude rates, where the dependent variable is the rate of emigration.

b. Model A (push-type source / destination), in which the dependent variable is the standardized rate of emigration to the province j from other provinces (MJ) and the independent variables are the characteristics of the provinces of origin (push factors of i).

c. Model B (pull-type source / destination), where the dependent variable is the standardized rate of emigration from province i in the other provinces (mi.) and the independent variables are the characteristics of the provinces of destination (attraction towards j).

The mathematical formulation for the three models is the following:

General model

Rate of emigration to other provinces (mi..) = f(POIR2003i, CPR00_04i, AGRI2003i, SERV2003 i, CROC0103i, PARO2003i, RENT2002 i, TALOCTONi, LTOT2003i, LEXT2003i)

Model A

Rate of emigration to province j (m.jk) = f(LN_DISTIJ, POIR2003i, CPR00_04i, AGRI2003i, SERV2003i, CROC0103i, PARO2003i, RENT2002i, TALOCTONi, LTOT2003i, LEXTk2003 i)

Model B

Rate of emigration from province i (mi.k) = f(LN_DISTIJ, POIR2003j, CPR00_04j, AGRI2003j, SERV2003j, CROC0103j, PARO2003j, RENT2002j, TALOCTONj, LTOT2003j, LEXTk2003j)

Preliminary research results

Our investigation is still ongoing, but some of the preliminary results can be advanced in this point. First, among the Spanish, only two variables have a positive effect of the emigration to other provinces: the proportion of workforce in agriculture and the percentage of those born in other provinces (Table 2).

Table 2 Rate of emigration to other provinces by nationality. Spain (2003-2004)

	Nationals	Foreigners	Other OECD	Eastern Europe	Africa	Latinamerica	Asia
poir2003		-0,23 (-4,2)***	0,33 (2,44)**	-0,27 (-3,41)***			-0,22 (-1,81)*
cpr00_04		0,17 (3,15)***	0,32 (2,56)**		0,27 (2,77)***		0,37 (2,97)***
agri2003	0,45 (2,92)***	0,17 (2,81)***		0,40 (4,41)***	0,20 (1,73)*	0,25 (2,32)**	
serv2003			-0,25 (-1,97)*				
croc0103							-0,29 (-2,53)**
paro2003		0,18 (3,38)***			0,19 (1,94)*		0,27 (2,15)**
Rent2002						-0,17 (-1,99)*	
Talocton	0,54 (3,52)***						
Ln_nac_2003		-0,82 (-13,57)***	-0,53 (-3,68)***	-0,48 (-5,31)***	-0,60 (-5,2)***	-0,60 (-5,94)***	-0,44 (-3,62)***
R²	0,227	0,894	0,449	0,705	0,619	0,727	0,473
R²- corrected	0,194	0,882	0,401	0,686	0,585	0,709	0,413

*** signif ≤ 0,01
** signif≤ 0.05 but ≥0.01
* signif ≤0,10 but ≥ 0,05
In parenthesis, value of t statistic.

Table 3 shows the intra-provincial model. For the Spanish population, migration within the province is higher in provinces with higher income levels and a higher proportion of workers in the services sector. Among Latin-Americans and Asians, there is no positive association between the province, migration rate and the presence of persons of the same origin.

Table 3 Rate of migration within the province by nationality. Spain (2003-2004).

	Spaniards	Foreigners	Other OCDE	Eastern Europe	Africans	Latinamericans	Asians
poir2003			-0,32 (-2,44)**				
urb2001						-0,35 (-2)*	-0,28 (-1,73)*
cpr00_04							
agri2003					-0,32 (-2,43)**		
serv2003	0,52 (4,33)***						
croc0103							
paro2003					-0,31 (-2,38)**		
rent2002	0,32 (2,67)**	0,47 (3,73)***	0,33 (2,68)**	0,43 (3,35)***		0,25 (1,97)*	0,36 (3,01)***
Talocton							
Ln_nac_2003			0,51 (3,78)***			0,57 (3,14)***	0,74 (4,5)***
R^2	0,335	0,225	0,386	0,189	0,208	0,269	0,390
R^2- corrected	0,307	0,209	0,346	0,172	0,174	0,221	0,350

*** signif ≤ 0,01
** signif≤ 0.05 but ≥0.01
* signif ≤0,10 but ≥ 0,05
In parenthesis, value of t statistic.

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