

Linked population to the territory and space of life in Spain

An approximation from the 2001 census

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Presentation

Today's society is characterized by a growing mobility: to carry out their activities, people we perform increasingly more displacement and a greater distance. This implies that our attachment depending on the place of residence lose value explanatory of the behavior residential, and that through his mobility, people come in contact with new territories, which make up the so-called space of life.

The aim of this communication, summary of a broader work done at the Center d'Estudis Demogràfics, is to determine the space of life of the Spanish population according to the Population and Housing Census 2001. This source provides information about four different spaces: place of residence, place of work, place of study and the second residence. Specifically, the analysis is developed from the two points of view with which it is possible to study the relationship between people and their territory: from the viewpoint of the territory, based on the concept of linked population; and from the point of the population, based on the concept of space of life.

First advance of results

The results show that 32.5% of the population over 15 years of age using more than one municipality for their daily activities, but the main feature is its proximity component, so that the vast majority of individuals who move to another usually township do the same province.

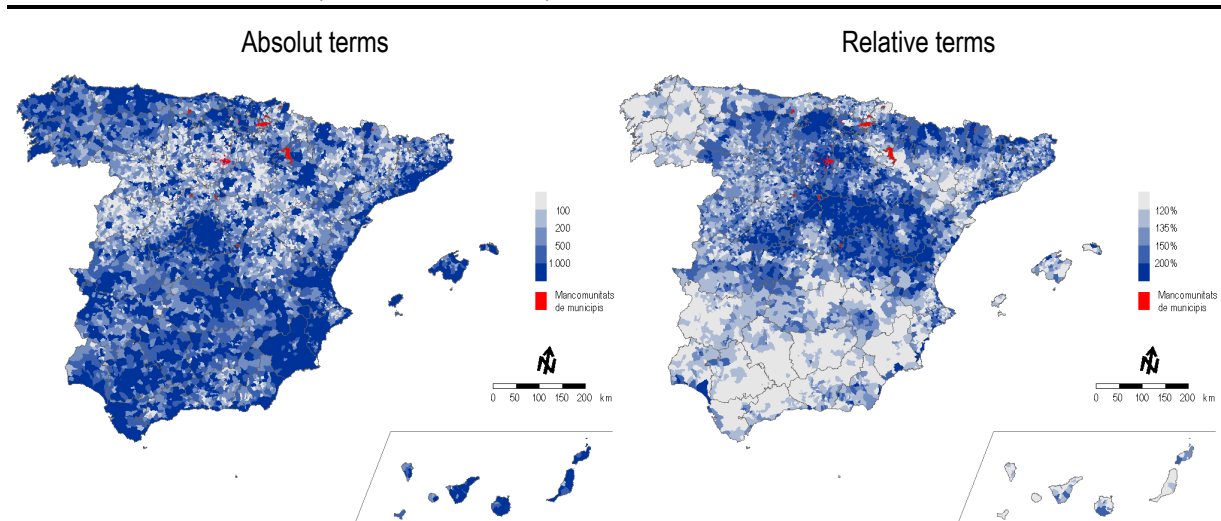
Seen from the perspective of the territory, it is possible to treat linked population either in absolute terms or relative terms. In absolute terms, the linked population to a territory that does not reside in it, has three clear explanatory factors:

- The «coast factor», so as to draw a narrow strip along almost the entire coastline Spanish;

- the «urban factor urban»: the urban areas are the second major pole of attraction for linked population;
- and the «emigration factor», so that in the southern mainland, it was during the second half of the last century an area characterized by strong migration to the rest of Spain, there is a relatively large presence of second homes with some of the older migrants manage to maintain a connection with their place of birth or origin.

If the analysis is conducted in relative terms, the resulting picture is completely different, disappearing, for example, the entire southern peninsula as a zone of attraction, and moving it to the north; being very important both near Madrid, as some municipalities of the east coast and the Pyrenees mountains.

Picture 1. Linked population (absolute and relative). Spain. 2001



Source: Population Census 2001.

In terms of space of live, the main results show the difference between the coastal and interior. The picture show three examples from the results of space of life of the residents of three provincial capitals: Avila, Alicante and Cordoba: the first is characterized by a capital clearly the interior peninsular; the second one by on the Mediterranean coast, and third one by its proximity on the coast.

Picture 2. The space of life in some provincial capitals: Alicante, Avila and Cordoba. Percentage of use of each of the provinces. People older than 15 years, 2001



Source: Population Census 2001.

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