Applied Demography Conference

Determinants of poverty in the elderly in Mexico: An analysis from a gender perspective

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Introduction

- The structure of the Mexican population shows an aging process. This demographic situation is permanent and imposes important challenges in economic matters.

- An important aspect to study is the deprival of economic security in old age.

- The purpose of this research aims to analyze determinants of poverty in the Mexican population aged 65 and over (P65+).

- This study considers the gender inequalities are intensified in old age and particularly adverse for women.
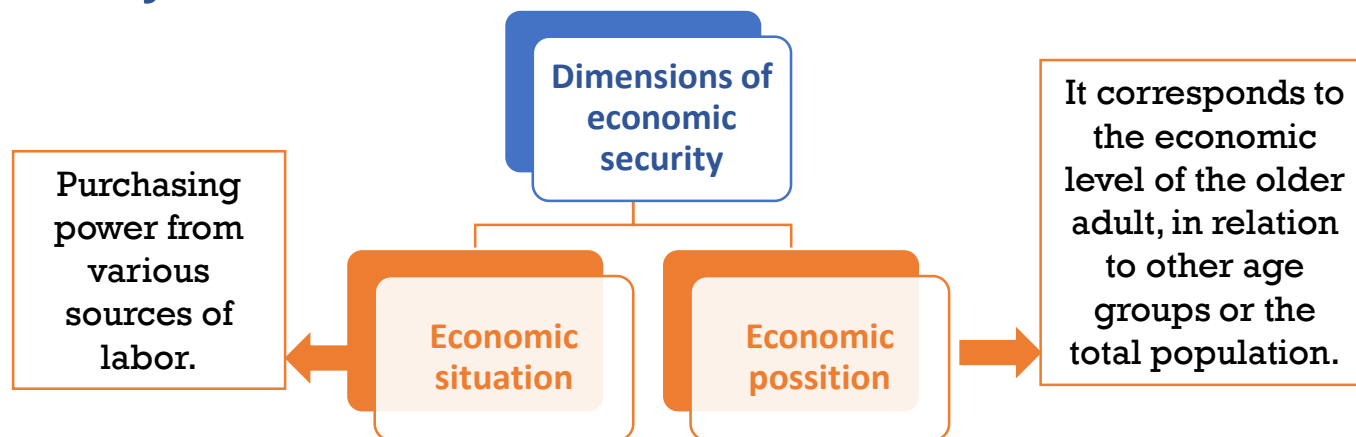
Introduction

- The analysis is performed from two logistic regression models on the factors that influence the lack of economic welfare.

- The database that is used comes from the Socioeconomic Conditions Module of the Survey of Income and Expenditures of Households (Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares-ENIGH) 2014.

- This survey is done by the Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI).

- Findings demonstrate that women 65+ have the greatest inequalities. Moreover, the most important explanatory factor on poverty among the female population is the absence of social security, while the male population is the absence of government programs.

Poverty

According to CONEVAL, an older adult person is in poverty when they have at least one social deprivation, considering the six indicators:

1. Educational gap
2. Access to health services
3. Access to social security
4. Quality and spaces of the dwelling
5. Access to basic services in the dwelling
6. Access to food

Economic security

- It refers to the ability t**o dispose and to use independently** a certain amount of regular economic resources and in sufficient amounts to ensure a good quality of life.

- Economic security is the other side of poverty.

- Economic security is a mechanism that provides elderly **quality to years of life in conditions of dignity and independence**, in addition, **to meeting basic needs and making decisions with autonomy.**

Purchasing power from various sources of labor.	←	Dimensions of economic security		It corresponds to the economic level of the older adult, in relation to other age groups or the total population.
		Economic situation	**Economic possition** →	

Phenomenon of poverty ...

- In the case of women, the probability of being in poverty would be resisted by opportunities for family support, and this is because it does not depend only on income from work or pensions; but also of social support networks and human resources available for their care and attention when levels of dependence (Huenchuan, 2004).

- Data from household surveys in Latin America show that women have profound inequalities in relation to men, mainly in income from work and transfers from the pension system.

- The poverty measurement uses two income lines: the minimum wellbeing line, equivalent to the food basket value per person per month; and the wellbeing line, equivalent to the total value of the food basket and the non-food basket per person per month.

Table 2. Poverty indicators by age groups and sex. Mexico, 2014
(Percentages)

Indicators	Population aged 65 and over			Population under 65 years		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Poverty						
Population living in poverty	46.3	45.5	45.9	46.3	46.0	46.2
Population living in moderate poverty	37.7	37.1	37.4	36.6	36.5	36.6
Population living in extreme poverty	8.5	8.4	8.5	9.7	9.5	9.6
Población vulnerable por carencias sociales	26.7	25.2	26.0	25.1	27.5	26.3
Población vulnerable por ingresos	7.1	8.3	7.7	7.5	6.5	7.0
Población no pobre y no vulnerable	19.9	21.0	20.4	21.0	20.0	20.5
Social deprivation						
Population with at least one social deprivation	73.0	70.7	71.9	71.5	73.5	72.5
Vulnerable population due to social deprivations	19.0	19.7	19.3	21.5	23.2	22.3
Indicators of social deprivation						
Educational gap	63.4	57.5	60.7	15.7	14.7	15.2
Access to health services	12.5	13.8	13.1	16.3	21.0	18.6
Access to social security	16.9	17.5	17.2	60.0	63.8	61.8
Quality and spaces of the dwelling	7.2	8.3	7.7	12.6	12.8	12.7
Access to basic services in the dwelling	20.7	23.1	21.8	20.9	21.4	21.2
Access to food	19.4	20.6	20.0	23.7	23.6	23.6
Wellbeing						
Population with income below the minimum wellbeing line	20.6	21.9	21.2	20.9	20.0	20.5
Population with income below the wellbeing line	53.4	53.8	53.6	53.9	52.5	53.2

Source: estimates from CONEVAL based on the MCS-ENIGH 2014.

Logistic model

Income below the welfare line (dependent variable)

- The estimation of income below the wellbeing line is based on a logistic model. An elderly person is below the wellbeing line when the monetary income is lower than the value of the food basket and non-food basket.

- This variable is a dichotomous value of 1 when the person has income below the economic wellbeing line and a value of 0 people have higher incomes.

Descriptive statistics

Dependent Variables		Population 65+				Gender gap
		Female		Male		
		Media	Des. Est.	Media	Des. Est.	
Education	Incomplete elementary studies or less	63.4	0.5	57.5	0.5	5.90
	Incomplete secondary school	19.5	0.4	20.7	0.5	-1.20
	Complete secondary or more	17.1	0.4	21.8	0.4	-4.70
Indígena persons		8.7	0.3	9.5	0.3	-0.71
Presents disability		37.5	0.5	34.5	0.5	3.07
Situación conyugal	Union	40.5	0.5	73.6	0.4	-33.08
	Single	14.0	0.3	9.4	0.3	4.58
	Widowhood	45.5	0.5	17.0	0.4	28.49
Employment		15.0	0.4	42.3	0.5	-27.30
Rural location		23.6	0.4	26.9	0.4	-3.30
Without social security		16.9	0.4	17.5	0.4	-0.60
Without to health services		12.5	0.3	13.8	0.3	-1.30
Without to basic services in the dwelling		20.7	0.4	23.1	0.4	-2.40
Government Programs		51.4	0.5	43.5	0.5	7.90
Retirement		20.1	0.4	39.1	0.5	-18.99
Support from other households		21.1	0.4	11.1	0.3	9.93
Remittances		4.22	0.2	2.9	0.2	1.35
Number of older adults (sample only)		8,660		7,359		1,301
Número personas adultas mayores (con factor de expansión)		4,935,765		4,126,724		809,041

Logit regression model

Model 1. Female population 65+

Marginal effects after the logit model

y = Pr(linea_bien) (predict)

= 0.55161303

Variable	dy/dx	Std. Err.	z	P>|z|	[95% C.I.]		X
Incomplete elementary studies or less	0.1016974	0.01513	6.72	0.000	0.072042	0.131353	0.659353
Complete secondary or more	-0.2175834	0.02036	-10.69	0.000	-0.257479	-0.177688	0.145150
Indígena persons	0.1087280	0.02121	5.13	0.000	0.067158	0.150298	0.100924
Presents disability	0.0090702	0.01227	0.74	0.460	-0.014973	0.033114	0.391917
Marital status: in union	0.0330376	0.01352	2.44	0.015	0.006548	0.059527	0.407968
Marital status:single	-0.0116712	0.01845	-0.63	0.527	-0.047839	0.024497	0.139954
Employment	-0.0481890	0.01634	-2.95	0.003	-0.080212	-0.016166	0.164203
Rural location	-0.1463380	0.01546	-9.46	0.000	-0.176641	-0.116035	0.270670
Without social security	0.2071024	0.01820	11.38	0.000	0.171430	0.242775	0.160508
Without to health services	0.0329903	0.01921	1.72	0.086	-0.00466	0.070641	0.119977
Without to basic services in the dwelling	0.1877509	0.01575	11.92	0.000	0.156879	0.218623	0.220785
Government Programs	0.1624341	0.01516	10.71	0.000	0.132721	0.192148	0.538222
Retirement	-0.1726885	0.01809	-9.54	0.000	-0.208153	-0.137224	0.193187
Support from other households	-0.0525757	0.01437	-3.66	0.000	-0.080732	-0.02442	0.214896
Remittances	-0.0569708	0.02530	-2.25	0.024	-0.10655	-0.007392	0.055658

Logit regression model

Efectos marginales despúes del modelo logit

    y = Pr(linea_bien) (predict)

        = 0.55347343

Variable	dy/dx	Std. Err.	z	P>|z|	[	95% C.I.]	X
Incomplete elementary studies or less	0.1142329	0.01660	6.88	0.000	0.081689	0.146777	0.608507
Complete secondary or more	-0.2214443	0.01990	-11.13	0.000	-0.260447	-0.182442	0.191466
Indígena persons	0.1185442	0.02126	5.58	0.000	0.076869	0.160219	0.112244
Presents disability	0.0576925	0.01391	4.15	0.000	0.03043	0.084955	0.368528
Marital status: in union	0.1557069	0.01739	8.95	0.000	0.121618	0.189795	0.730670
Marital status:single	0.0560646	0.02501	2.24	0.025	0.007051	0.105078	0.099334
Employment	-0.1441403	0.01492	-9.66	0.000	-0.173382	-0.114899	0.439870
Rural location	-0.1777612	0.01661	-10.70	0.000	-0.210311	-0.145211	0.305748
Without social security	0.1003493	0.02430	4.13	0.000	0.052723	0.147976	0.166327
Without to health services	0.0513108	0.02050	2.50	0.012	0.011129	0.091493	0.131947
Without to basic services in the dwelling	0.1694802	0.01671	10.14	0.000	0.136736	0.202224	0.252072
Government Programs	0.1012556	0.01970	5.14	0.000	0.062639	0.139873	0.469221
Retirement	-0.2098207	0.01934	-10.85	0.000	-0.247731	-0.171911	0.367169
Support from other households	-0.0530261	0.02094	-2.53	0.011	-0.094076	-0.011976	0.110885
Remittances	-0.0813737	0.03309	-2.46	0.014	-0.146225	-0.016522	0.038049

Gráfica 1. Efectos marginales de la probabilidad de estar debajo de la línea de bienestar económico
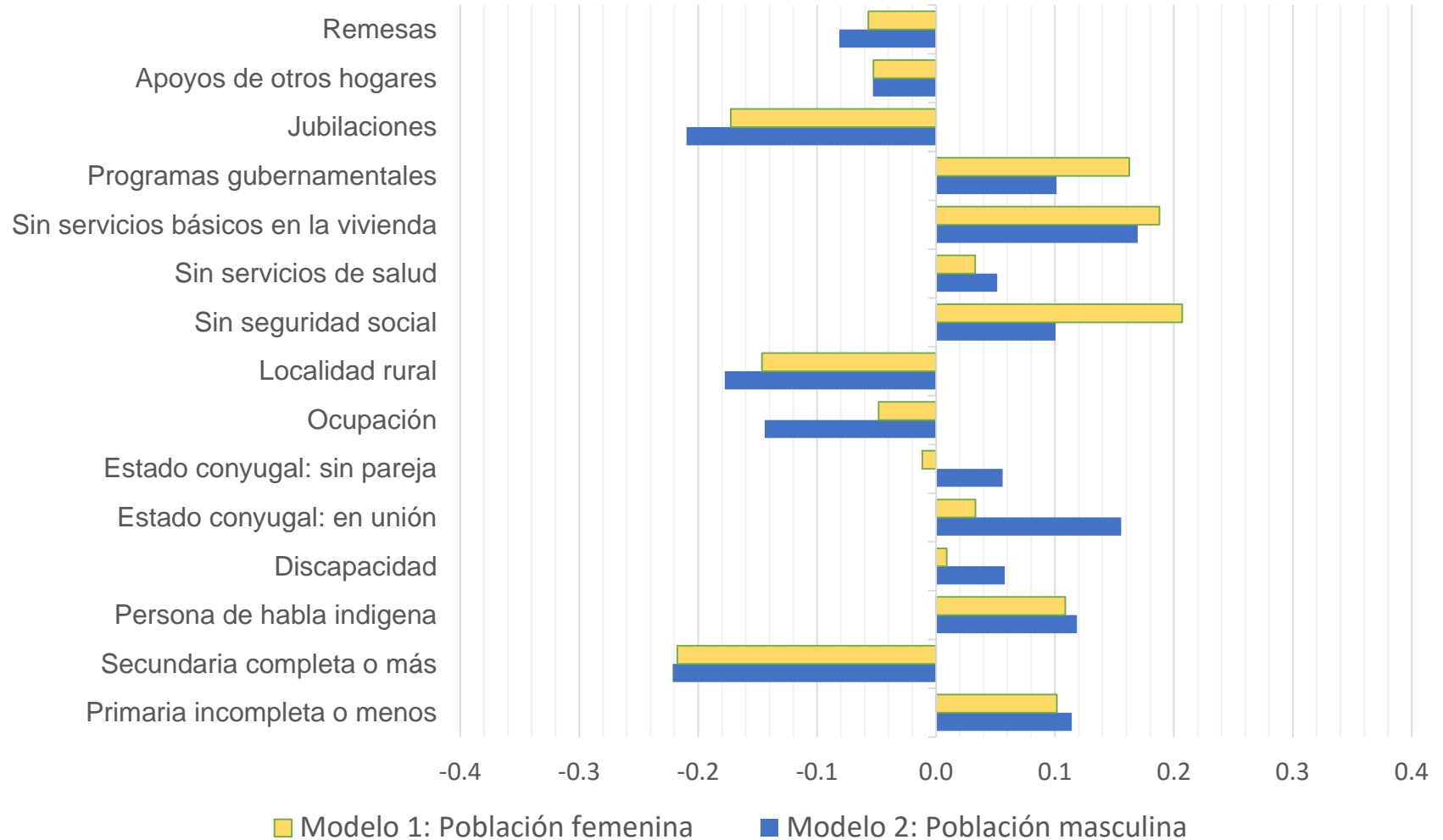
Fuente: elaboración propia con base en el Módulo de Condiciones Socioeconómicas de la Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares, INEGI, 2014.

Conclusiones

- The results show that the explanatory factor that most influences poverty among the female population is the absence of social security, while among the male population is the lack of basic services to housing.

- Also, it is confirmed that economic conditions have been unfavorable for the present generation of older women. In addition, the gender stereotypes that permeate society have placed women in the private sphere, where domestic activities and unpaid care are concentrated. In addition, it is found that the longer life expectancy of women does not necessarily translate into a better quality of life during old age.

Thanks for your attention!

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