

Trajectories of Latin American Migrant Women in Jaén Province in the 21st Century

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Abstract

This paper presents a research regarding the social and labor reality of Latin American women, as well as their difficulties and possibilities of becoming part of the economic system of Jaen province. The population involved refers to 65 women. From this total, 20 were selected as valid samples. From a qualitative approach and by means of a questionnaire, the trajectory of these women in Spain has been traced, allowing us to build up their profile. The results indicate that, on the one hand, there is a great variety of elements explaining the labor and social situation of these women and, on the other hand, important difficulties have been detected dealing with the satisfaction of these women when undertaking any labor activity.

Keywords: International migration, women entrepreneurs, trajectories, Latin American, Spain.

1. Introduction

Women have traditionally defined a crucial role within migratory flows, and a greater number of them can easily be found among migratory populations, not only as members of family reunification, but also as individual migrants. In this respect, social networks have been gradually pushing and enabling these types of movements (Mongui and Chicangana, 2014). Nowadays, the migrant woman does not only uphold family ties but, in many cases, she also maintains the home economy, being the one who finds work and supports the main economy of the family. She can even be responsible for paying contributions to social security, ensuring therefore the legal status of her spouse and children (Aboussi, 2012).

For Peñaherrera and Cobos (2009, 2011), the presence of the migrant woman has led to a turning point in the migration and sustainability of a family's migratory project. Along these lines, according to a research by "El Instituto de la Mujer" (Women's Institute) on the quantifying of remittances sent by migrant women from Spain published in 2009, migrant women transfer more money than men to their native countries: 60.3% against 39.7% , despite the fact that the number of migrant males is larger. Therefore, these transfers create a predominantly female economic flow, contributing in a significantly proportional way not only to an economic balance but also working "as the motor of social, economic and cultural dynamism within the welcoming communities" (Mongui and Chicangana, 2014:161)

The three prevailing nationalities of Latin American women in Jaen province are Ecuadorian, Colombian and Bolivian. As a group, these three nationalities constitute 63% and 73% of the Latin American population at a provincial and municipal level respectively (Table 1). The numbers and statements provided in some studies (Schramm, 2011) confirm that the migration flow from Latin America to Jaén is feminized, in a very similar way as to what occurs on a national level (Oso, 2007), where women first begin the migratory process and regroup other family members later. According to the same study (Schramm, 2011), the fact that the number of female migrants is still growing since 2009 is partly thanks to the need for female staff, which also indicates that women are less affected than men by the unemployment crisis. However, this also means that a whole familiar reunification is still difficult to attain.

Table I. Foreigners of Latin American Origin in the Province of Jaén (January 2010)

Nationality	Total	%
Mexico	93	2,1
CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	387	8,7
Cuba	104	2,3
Dominican Republic	191	4,3
Rest of Central America and Caribbean	92	2,1
SOUTH AMERICA	3967	89,2
Argentina	346	7,8
Bolivia	569	12,8
Brazil	206	4,6
Chile	53	1,1
Colombia	1095	24,6
Ecuador	1141	25,7
Paraguay	167	3,8
Peru	240	5,4
Uruguay	40	0,9
Venezuela	110	2,5
Total	4447	100%

Source: INE. Municipal Census of Inhabitants (Schramm, 2011)

In this respect, and referring to the matter in question, the main occupation of the immigrant women in Spain is displayed as much in the domestic area and care of the elderly and children, as in the sectors of commerce and hospitality. This is particularly visible among women originating from Latin America or Eastern Europe, which are highly feminized migrant communities (Courtisand Pacceca, 2010). Aiming to justify as much as possible the presence of this collective in the domestic sector, Herranz' (1997) and Martínez' (2006) work claim that this phenomena is reasoned by the question of language and cultural proximity. Those tasks carried out in the domestic area such as caring for people, "require a relationship between employees and employers based on a linguistic understanding" (Herranz, 1997: 83) a fact that places this migration group in a leading position in the sector, as much for the shared language as for the cultural link, displaying the relative ease for this collective to be hired compared to other groups. On the other hand, other authors (MonguiandChicangana,2014; Oslo, 2009) consider as a main reason for this high percentage of Latin American women in the domestic area, the fact that this sector works as an entrance door for this community into the Spanish job market.

Nevertheless, this does not mean that women are necessarily unskilled for performing other tasks that require higher qualifications, or that their education and training are lower. According to the studies reviewed (Gil y Domingo 2007; Martinez, 2006) the Latin American labor force has in general relatively higher qualifications than what is required for the activity carried out, revealing an over qualification in the workplace (Mongui and Chicangana, 2014). It is thus the characteristics of the job market in the destination country and, not those of the original country or the migrants themselves, which determine the characteristics of the migratory flows (Gil and Domingo, 2007). A qualitative approach of research by Solé et al, (2009:78) considers work paths of immigrant non-EU women, in which 45 women are interviewed in order to analyze their undertaken trajectories. This work concludes that migrant women occupy one after the other a series of social positions that explain the course of their social and working trajectory in Spain.

All that has been set forth above leads us to the issue presented regarding the working and social reality of the Latin American women in Spain. It also leads us to consider the qualitative study about their reality, providing data unknown until now to the scientific community in the context of Jaén province. In addition, according to data from September 2012, the Ministry of Labor and Social Security indicates that within eight out of the fifteen nationalities showing a higher number of residents under general regulations in Jaén province, a decrease in population has occurred, implying a necessity to reassess the size of these populations. On the other hand, the migration phenomenon has adopted new features and traits over recent years. As a consequence, the migratory patterns have also been altered, mainly due to the economic situation present in Spain during the period 2011-2013 (Valero-Matas et al., 2015:45)

Table II. External Migrations According to Migrant Gender in Spain (2011)

Immigrations			Emigrations			Migrator Flow		
Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
42.127	21.292	20.835	62.611	30.311	32.300	-20.484	-9.019	-11.465

Personal data compilation based on: Estimates of the Current Population. INE 2012.

As can be deduced in the shown data, the migratory flow in Spain is negative, meaning that nowadays, there are more people leaving the country than entering, which is a consequence of the present economic situation previously mentioned. The Andalusian population is not an exception to the general Spanish dynamics, in that the number of foreigners living in Andalusia is gradually decreasing. With the purpose of responding to the existing reality, we have exposed three main points of investigation that have been considered crucial when approaching the trajectories of Latin American women in Jaén province, and within the framework of a wider project which sketches a profile of these women:

1. What is the previous training of immigrant Latin American women in Jaén province?
2. What degree closeness to the social and labor reality does this collective have in Jaén province?
3. What are the levels of satisfaction of women migrants in Jaén regarding their trajectory in relation to that of their colleagues?

2. Methodology

This study belongs to biographic and narrative research, established from the personal testimonies and statements of participant voices. For this purpose, a qualitative methodology has been followed, based on the understanding that this was the best form to deal with our subject of study, using qualitative and quantitative interpretation processes such as the Aquad seven software (Huber y Gürtler, 2013), related to the construction of categories and quantification of results. An analysis of contents has been carried out, following a system of categories and codes, making different tests such as code compilation, tests on nested codes and lattice codes, with the objective of establishing relationships among the studied trajectories.

2.1. Tools

The tools used for the realization of this paper have been in-depth interviews, content analysis and bibliographic revision on the subject-matter, which have led us to reach the focus of our investigation. The interview, designed during the research, has been validated by six experts who have made their own suggestions and contributed with different points of interest – a few of which we later incorporated to our work, compiling a final version from a semi-structured script. The protocol of our interview was structured around the following dimensions:

- Social and demographic data about the personal and professional profile
- Previous training and relation to the current activity in Jaén.
- Level of satisfaction regarding working in Jaén.
- Difficulties faced in Jaén when performing work activities

The analysis of the interview contents has been carried out, on one hand, with a frequency and percentage analysis of contents (codes), based on the dimensions and sub-dimensions of the category system offered by A quad program. On the other hand, the Kappa coefficient of Cohen (1960) has been calculated in order to investigate the link between the category encoders and the assigned codes. Given the two encoders in $ncases$ and for m nominal, mutually exhaustive and exclusive categories, we can take into account the element of chance between investigators, thus ensuring consistency in the codification of each investigator. As we are dealing with a probability, the values of the coefficient k fall in the interval $[0,1]$.

2.2. Participants

The population that is subject of the study presents different features in relation to other types of more stable populations. Firstly, the people who arrived in Spain coming from Latin America were mainly women dedicated to the domestic service; these women are located throughout the whole province of Jaén and besides the live-in domestic service, they also work caring for children, the sick and the elderly. Subsequently, the arrival of a higher number of men has been witnessed. Regarding their location or positioning, Sanchez (2006:26) indicates that the migrant population is mainly settled in the surroundings of the capital and in the districts of La Loma, Las Villas, La Comarca Norte and La Sierra Sur – areas that coincide with the main municipalities of the province and where there is higher economic activity, and thus higher possibilities of work inclusion. According to the census of 2009, the districts with the greatest migrant population were: Jaén, Linares, Martos, Andújar, Alcalá la Real and Úbeda.

Seeking to access the population, Institutions and Associations working with immigrants were contacted. On the one hand, the Department of Equality and Social Politics of the Andalusia governing body in Jaén (“Consejería de Igualdad y Políticas Sociales de la Junta de Andalucía”). On the other hand, associations such as the Spanish Red Cross, the Bolivian Association, the Association for the Migrant Women in Jaén and other women on an individual level. In this way, the real contacted population makes reference to a total of 65 women, choosing 20 women as valid samples for the study. The final number of interviews or studied cases has been defined by using the element of saturation in the terms of Bertaux (1980), considering that a larger number of interviews would not provide any new information to the already known data and being the variation of minor importance, not having contributed new details on the trajectories of each of the interviewees.

3. Results

A general analysis of the data gives us a more introspective view of the Latin American women participating in the investigation when narrating their motivations, expectations and problems that directly affect them. Table III, shown below, presents the frequencies and percentages of the obtained code tables, once contents have been classified by encoders in interviewees' voices, following the dimensions and subdimensions of the established category system provided by the program Aquad seven. This information has been relevant in the extent that we studied its appearance in the discourse and thus its concerns, more than the frequency itself of data, reaching in this sense a high value of shown percentages.

Table III: Sequence of Codes by Dimensions, Subdimensions (f y %)

DIMENSIONS	SUBDIMENSIONS	CODES	F	%
Socio-demographic data	Country/Nationality	PNA	15	4,23
	Gender	SEX	15	4,23
	Age	EDA	9	2,54
	Family situation/children	SFH	13	3,66
Previous training	Level of studies	NES	55	15,49
	Professional Activity	ACP	16	4,51
	Courses	CUR	34	9,58
Worksituation in Jaén	Time in Jaén	TJA	24	6,76
	Work accessibility	ACL	22	6,20
	Work relations	REL	14	3,94
	Current activity in Jaén	ACT	23	6,48
	Problems	PRO	33	9,30
Degree of satisfaction	Level of satisfaction	NSA	24	6,76
	General satisfaction	STG	24	6,76
	Bureaucratic procedures	TBV	20	5,63
	Company startup	CRE	14	3,94
CODE TOTALS			355	100,00

In relation to the Kappa coefficient of Cohen, the obtained results were brought forth using as a basis 16 codes and 355 decoders over a total of 20 analyzed interviews. In this way, several kappas were found in the different processes of the analysis, reaching a coefficient Kappa of Cohen of 0.70.

This confirms, according to the consulted literature, that the obtained results would remain the same in the case of the analysis being performed by other researchers and in a different moment, due to the fact that the kappas between 0.61 and 0.75 are considered as valid, indicating a very high consistency. This consistency that measures agreement among different researchers is the result of the three Kappa coefficient that we have calculated, starting from weaker levels ($k=0,45$), until the valid one ($K=0,70$), according to Altman (1991). An approach to the results in terms of codes can be considered, observing that the codes obtaining a percentage higher than 10% make reference to a level of studies (15, 49%), that gathers 55 codes together. The codes obtaining higher percentage than 5% refer to courses (9, 58%), time living in Jaén (6, 76%), Working accessibility (6,20 %), Activity in Jaén (6,48%), problems (9,30%), general satisfaction (6,76%), bureaucratic procedures (5,63%) and general level of satisfaction (6,76%). Age, working networks in Jaén and business ventures are also outstanding codes that appear in the discourse of the interviewees.

The content analysis by dimensions is presented in tables IV and V, in which the distribution of the use of the codes gathered by dimensions and interviewees is shown. The percentage distribution of the different dimensions appears to be quite similar in both cases. With reference to the first dimension of socio-demographic data broken down by interviews, the frequencies present 52 codes in total. In relation to the countries of origin, the references expressed by the participants can be highlighted:

(quote_01, 2-5) ¹*I am Ecuadorian (PNA) my name is.... I came to Spain in 2003, so that's almost 11 years living here now.*

(quote_03, 1-2) *I was born in Colombia. (PNA).*

(quote_08, 1-2) *I'm Bolivian (PNA), I belong to the Bolivian Association (ACL).*

Regarding the family situation in Spain, the way in which the interviewees refer to family responsibilities stands out:

(quote_03, 5-6) *I'm married, I have two children, one is 12 years old and the other 21 and I have a granddaughter as well (SFH).*

(quote_08, 2-3) *I have three children, my husband, in the beginning it was fine for two years and then I brought them over (SFH).*

First question of the Investigation: ¿What is the previous training of them igrant Latin American women in Jaén Province?

When studying meaningful units extracted from the interviews, it is noticeable that the Dimension of Previous Training includes a total of 105 codes and 3 sub dimensions –prior professional activity having 16 codes, level of studies 55 codes and courses having a total of 34 codes.

Table IV: Code Frequency in the Second Dimension for Conducted Interviews.

PREVIOUS TRAINING				
	Previous Professional Training	Level of Studies	Training Courses	Σ
quote1	1	3	3	7
quote2	1	3	3	7
quote3	1	8	1	10
quote4	0	1	1	2
quote5	3	1	2	6
quote6	0	2	2	4
quote7	0	2	1	3
quote8	0	0	0	0
quote9	1	3	3	7
entre10	1	3	3	7
quote11	1	8	1	10
quote12	1	1	1	3
quote13	1	3	3	7
quote14	1	3	3	7
quote15	1	8	1	10
quote16	0	1	1	2
quote17	3	1	2	6
quote18	0	2	2	4
quote19	0	2	1	3
quote20	0	0	0	0
Tabla de data	16	55	34	105
%	15,24	52,38	32,38	100,00

¹ Code assigned to the interviewees and the line where the code can be found.

Within this dimension, the Level of Studies sub dimension stands out, as the interviewees' speeches outlined the following:

(quote_03, 140-315) *It was there where I finished my secondary school studies and I did a technical course in hairdressing and esthetics(NES).*

(quote_04, 1814-442) *I have all my studies there in hotel administration (ACP) and university studies (NES).*

(quote_05, 600-60) *I am a teacher and got my Bachelor's degree from the University of Paraguay (NES).*

Regarding previous professional activity, their activity in the country of origin stands out in terms of:

(quote_01, 8-8) *In my home town I am a professional tailor (ACP).*

(quote_06, 5-6) *I worked in the ministry of Agriculture, I came here as a tourist in the late 90s. (TIA)*

(quote_03, 20-23) *I worked there in the cleaning service, in government buildings and I also worked at toll roads.*

As for the sub dimension of training courses, a few voices stand out through the following:

(quote_01, 20-21) *I've done courses (CUR) on geriatrics, Alzheimer, in child caring...*

(quote_03, 4-6) *I also did the admission test for secondary education here, a vocational course in physiotherapy, and now I am taking another course (CUR) in Thai.*

(quote_04, 2318-649) *Vocational training when I was taking care of a person with Alzheimer who started screaming and I didn't know... (CUR).*

(quote_06, 25-26) *I participated in training courses offered by associations (CUR)*

To sum up, the dimension of previous training gathers the declarations of the participants regarding levels of studies, mainly related to their secondary school diploma "Bachillerato", hotel administration and University studies. Referring to their previous professional experience in their home countries, the interviewees seem to have developed their work activities in public Institutions and the service sector. The accomplished training courses were, among others, courses in geriatrics, child and elderly care and hospitality, presenting similar characteristics to the requirements in the market of their country of destination.

Second Question of the Investigation: ¿What is the real approach of these women to the social and working reality in Jaén province?

In the interviews, 116 codes have been obtained referring to the dimension of their Work Situation, a category which is distributed in the following sub dimensions: Time in Jaén has 24 codes, Work accessibility 22 codes, Work relations 14 codes, Work activity in Jaén 23 codes and Problems 33 codes, just as appear in the table.

Table V. Code Frequency of the Third Dimension by Interviews

WORK SITUATION IN JAÉN						
	Time in Jaén	Work Accessibility	Work Relations	Current Activity	Problems	Σ
quote1	2	1	1	1	3	8
quote2	3	1	1	1	4	10
quote3	1	1	1	1	0	4
quote4	2	1	1	2	0	6
quote5	0	2	0	2	3	7
quote6	0	0	0	2	0	2
quote7	0	3	1	0	3	7
quote8	0	0	0	0	0	0
quote9	2	1	1	1	3	8
quote10	3	1	1	1	4	10
quote11	1	1	1	1	0	4
quote12	2	1	1	2	0	6
quote13	2	1	1	1	3	8
quote14	3	1	1	1	4	10
quote15	1	1	1	1	0	4
quote16	2	1	1	2	0	6
quote17	0	2	0	2	3	7
quote18	0	0	0	2	0	2
quote19	0	3	1	0	3	7
quote20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Data table	24	22	14	23	33	116
%	20,69	18,97	12,07	19,83	28,45	100,00

Referring to the Work Situation in Jaén of the interviewees, Time spent in Jaén stands out, which is a dimension that shares its codes with others such as Country and Nationality (PNA) and Family Situations and Children (SFH).

The speeches uttered by the interviewees make reference to:

(quote_01,4-5) (...) *So it's been 11 years that we've had them here* (TJA).

(quote_03, 3-4) *I've been here in Spain for 3 years, last January marked 3 years in Jaén.* (TJA)

(quote_04, 25-110) (...) *I've been living in Spain for 14 years*(TJA).

Regarding the sub dimension of Work Accessibility, the following statements stand out in the interviews:

(quote_06, 8-11) *I found support in other countrymen, I started working with elderly people until I legalized my papers* (ACL).

(quote_06, 14-15) *I'm connected to immigrant women associations, Cáritas and Cruz Roja*(ACL).

The sub dimension of Work Relations produces information in the following terms, as a result of the interviewees' experience.

(quote_3,13-15) *I have been in a professional cleaning service company and have always been registered with Social Security*(REL).

(quote_05, 1183-221) *As I didn't have Spanish nationality, it was impossible for me to work in my professional field* (ACL) (ACP).

In relation to the sub dimension of Current Activity in Jaén, the interviewees stated:

(quote_03, 13-15) *Here it is what I'm saying, I've worked as a kitchen assistant, in the cleaning service, caring for elderly people* (ACT).

(quote_06,17-22) (...) *bureaucratic processes were the main impediment when developing any commercial activity as a freelance* (TBU), *accessing bank credits, rents, need of capital* (...)

(quote_08, 4-9) *Since I arrived, I've been working as a live-in maid. Later on, my husband and I set up a computing shop* (TBU), *and were able to open the small shop* (ACT).

Within the sub dimension of Problems, statements dealing with the current activity appear:

(quote_04, 6299-258) (PRO)*Today there's work (...) a lady has just called, asking me to take care of her two daughters, working from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and paying the same as for daycare, that is, € 190.*

(quote_06, 23-25) *Immigrant women who started their own business as freelancers, if it didn't go well, they had to close, some even lost their houses due to mortgages and finally had to go back to their country* (PRO).

(quote_08, 10-13) *Things went very badly, we did not meet our commitments and so we finally had to shut down* (...) (PRO) *we can't get back on our feet.*

(quote_05, 1732-207) *In this moment we are witnessing a massive movement of immigrant going coming back to their home countries as a consequence of the crisis* (PRO).

The results collected in this second question referring to the Work Situation in Jaén, encompass the codes of Time in Jaén, Work Accessibility, Work relations, Current Activity and Problems – all of these appearing connected to social and demographic codes as well as Country, Family Situation and Children. Among these, Time in Jaén is noticeable, which being an average of 7 years, has enabled us to analyze the trajectories of participants. Regarding Work Accessibility, they stress the support received from their countrymen, associations of immigrant women and other associations in general. The Work relation is focused on elderly care, domestic activities and the tertiary sector, coinciding with their current activity in Jaén. Within the code of Problems, difficulties related to the work situation appear, whether they be connected the family situation or general troubles when setting up their own businesses.

Third Question of the Investigation: ¿What is the level of satisfaction of these immigrant women in Jaén regarding their trajectories and those of other colleagues?

The results obtained in the dimension of Level of Satisfaction encompass the following sub dimensions: Degree of Satisfaction and General Satisfaction, both of them having 24 codes, bureaucratic processes with 20 codes and business startups 14 codes. This means a total of 82 codes for this dimension.

Within the dimension level or degree of satisfaction, the level the interviewees expressed is taken from these experiences:

(quote_13, 24-27) *No, (laughing) (NSA) Still...still not any satisfaction, because doing a job properly, one feels satisfied when it is well done and although you are working, it is not rewarding at all.*

(quote_09, 2-7) *What you need to feel satisfied is having access to credit (NSA) (ACT).*

General Satisfaction shown by the interviewees is expressed in the levels drawn up within the interviews:

(quote_03, 8508-485) *Next year is the celebration of my son's first communion and as my brother says, if things are not working out there and you have no food, you'd better come back, and this means missing one year (STG).*

(quote_15, 29-30) *No, I'd like something better, and the knowledge of what I am studying now, that's what I would like to do (STG).*

Referring to the bureaucratic processes that are needed in order to set up their own business, these appear under the label of other codes, Activity in Jaén and Problems:

(quote_16, 17-22) (...) *The main impediments to access a commercial activity as a freelance are the bureaucratic processes (TBU).*

(quote_08, 4-9) *Later on, my husband and I set up a computing shop (TBU), and were able to open the small shop (ACT).*

(quote_13, 39-42) *It is hard to launch your own business mainly because of legal processes (TBU) and money, most of all.*

(quote_07, 28-30) *Opening our own bar was all trouble (PRO), due to the legal processes (TBU), even with regards to paying rent.*

The creation of companies as freelancers is expressed in the voices of the interviewees:

(quote_03, 33-38) *There are already very many beauty, massage centers (CRE) and so on, but I also say that age (EDA) implies certain limitations.*

(quote_06, 29-39) *My dream was always to create a company (CRE), initially linked to the food industry, but the bureaucratic processes (TBU) (...) We are trying and we wish to present a new project along with other women for a soup kitchen (CRE) in cooperation with unemployed women.*

(quote_07, 28-30) *There are women with independent jobs such as hairdressers, manicurists, dressmakers, perfume sellers, but they are not actually freelancers, they do this kind of work out the legal regulations (CRE).*

As a summary of this third question, the results regarding the general level of Satisfaction of these women in Jaén in relation to other colleagues in Jaén or around Spain reflect a low Level of Satisfaction, as they are carrying out tasks that do not satisfy them in terms of their training, even if the work is properly done. The low levels of satisfaction stand out when launching a business or creating their own company due to the lack of capital and the bureaucratic processes –issues that may be solved or not in many cases, depending on the receiving communities (Di Castro, 2012:509).

4. Discussions And Conclusions

The present study has enabled us to get to know those factors that have explained the trajectories of Latin American women in the province of Jaén. If we look in detail at the data analysis through dimensions and interview codes, we can notice that the native countries are varied: Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Paraguay, for the most part. Motives for mobility are visible when considering expectations in Spain and returning to their home country, seeking an improvement in the quality of life of their relative, particularly regarding their children: education, health, safety, among others.

The trajectories of these women in the study carried out in Jaén agree with the trajectories of the results uncovered in Solé et al., (2009). The reality of the interviewees indicates that the selected sample of women shows high expectations and a medium-low rate of satisfaction in comparison with other fellows in similar situations. In most cases, working women were found in the domestic service, on occasion without legal contracts, and intending to change their situation from live-in to external. We have also encountered a subgroup of salaried employees in cleaning service companies, geriatrics or shop assistants. The last subgroup, constituted by two interviewed participants, deals with highly qualified occupations in temporary work and university projects.

Table VI. Trajectories and Work Position of Immigrant Women (adapted from Solé et al. 2009)

Trajectories	Final Work Position/Interviewees
Trajectory 1	8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 19, 20
Trajectory 2	1, 4, 16, 17
Trajectory 3	3, 7, 13, 15, 18
Trajectory 4	2
Trajectory 5	5, 6

The interviewed women can therefore be classified according to the research by Solé et al. (2009) into the types of trajectories that are brought forward according to final positioning: within trajectory 1, the interviewees 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 14, 19 and 20; trajectory 2, interviewees 01, 04, 16 and 17; Trajectory 3, interviewees 03, 07, 13, 15 and 18; trajectory 4, interviewee 02; Trajectory 5, interviewees 05 and 06, which confirms the saturation level of our study.

In relation to the three questions asked, (previous training, social and labor reality of the studied women and level of satisfaction), the following conclusions have been reached:

We have found that the standardization and recognition processes for academic and professional foreign certificates should be revised, as a facilitating mechanism for the incorporation of Latin American women into the Spanish labor market in order to obtain a flexible recognition of their previous training.

On the other hand, the satisfaction level, without it being low, and given the high expectations, is conditioned by leaving the crisis and the optimism of finding support in entrepreneurship, mainly when finding credits and other helpful resources. When launching their own business, the results obtained indicate the need to reduce bureaucratic processes for immigrants, which would allow them to create their own companies.

Clearly, significant difficulties for the immigrant population have been found when attempting to set up their own businesses, due to the lack of general help programs on an institutional level and oriented towards entrepreneurship –additionally, the interviewees themselves lack an individual migratory process. It should be said that our studied cases cover female migration processes in their integrity when they exist, or when they take place jointly at the heart of the family (Sánchez Flores et al., 2012).

5. Special Thanks

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