

Transitional poverty, new approaches from the economic crisis

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Abstract: The current economic crisis is revealing social and structural changes that entail a worsening of the levels of poverty and wellbeing of the population. In this line, the objective of this work is to deepen the knowledge of the situation of poverty in the municipality of Jerez de la Frontera, to be able to contribute to a better design and application of measures and actions of general and specific socioeconomic policies with greater guarantee of success. For this, an analysis methodology has been applied by age, sex, productive sectors and other characteristics based on surveys and interviews. Among the main conclusions of this work and as one of its contributions, the emergence of a new type of transitory poverty from the construction sector should be noted, establishing a new scenario derived from the impact of the crisis, which requires a specific response.

Key words: construction sector poverty, economic crisis, chronic poverty, recurrent transient poverty and non-recurrent transient poverty.

Resumen: La actual crisis económica está poniendo de manifiesto cambios sociales y estructurales, que conllevan un empeoramiento de los niveles de pobreza y de bienestar de la población. En esta línea, el objetivo de este trabajo es profundizar en el conocimiento de la situación de pobreza en el municipio de Jerez de la Frontera, para contribuir a un mejor diseño y aplicación de medidas y actuaciones de políticas socioeconómicas generales y específicas con mayor garantía de éxito. Para ello, se ha aplicado una metodología de análisis por edad, sexo, sectores productivos y otras características, basada en encuestas y entrevistas. Entre las principales conclusiones de este trabajo y como una de sus contribuciones, hay que señalar la aparición de un nuevo tipo de pobreza transitoria, proveniente del sector de la construcción, estableciéndose un nuevo escenario derivado del impacto de la crisis, el cual requiere de una respuesta específica.

Palabras clave: pobreza del sector de la construcción, crisis económica, pobreza crónica, pobreza transitoria recurrente y pobreza transitoria no recurrente.

Introduction

The current international crisis, started in 2007, has produced modifications in economic scenarios, causing drops in investments, destroyed the entrepreneurial fabric with the consequential loss of employment, reduction of available incomes, demand and consumption, as well as public spending cuts that have directly affected social welfare, thereby, the population's quality and conditions of life. All of the above expresses as a noticeable increase in current poverty indexes and also as a change in the sectoral and territorial structure and composition, which hinder economic growth and are the cause of a perceptible increment in inequality (Rocha, 2012; Conde *et al.*, 2016; Sánchez-López and Paz-Báñez, 2016).

In Spain, the impact of the crisis grew in intensity up to 2014, being noticeable in the rank At Risk of Poverty and Exclusion (AROPE),¹ going from 23,8% in 2008 to 29,2% in 2014. Ever since, this index has experienced a slight upturn, 27,9% in 2016 (EAPN, 2017), however, the changes brought about by the crisis remained.

Adding to the high levels of the indexes, the unequal distribution of the crisis impact on the territory makes the situation worse for autonomous communities, traditionally disfavored such as Andalusia, and for particularly sensitive municipalities in the province of Cadiz due to their nonconsolidated economic and social structure, as the case of Jerez de la Frontera² may be.

The goal of this work is to deepen into the knowledge of poverty, in general, and transitional poverty, in particular, putting forward –as a research question– whether the existence of a change in the composition of transitional poverty is to be considered, as defined by the presence of a new sort of poverty, not previously identified that comes from the crisis impact, mainly over period with the most intensity and effect on the indexes (2008-2014).

To develop this empirical and exploratory work, a series of surveys and interviews was carried out, in view of the lack of official information at local level, in order to answer the research question above.

1 AROPE rank includes the rate of poverty risk, low intensity in employment and acute material lack (Arnal, 2013; FOESSA, 2014; Malgesini and Candalija, 2014).

2 Unemployment data for Jerez de la Frontera were 29.13% in 2008; 38.95% in 2014; and, 36.26% in 2016 (SIMA, 2017).

The aim is to demonstrate the existence of a new sort of poverty in the municipality of Jerez de la Frontera, its characteristics and possible tendency, to contribute to develop support and structural measures, bearing the specificities of the territory in mind.

Concept and classification of poverty

It is difficult to establish a single definition for poverty because of the various approaches to this concept. However, for the purpose of having a full definition that responds to the objective of this research, three relevant criteria will be taken to determine the poverty situation. The first one, based on the impossibility to cover needs or insufficiency of resources, considers poverty in function of the income received that makes it essential to receive subsidies and social help to reach the welfare level that enables meeting basic needs (Feres and Mancero, 2001; Núñez, 2009).

The second approach relates poverty and lifestyle, an individual who cannot meet the social standards of life is considered poor (Townsend, 1979; Atkinson, 1987; Ruiz, 2012); Thus, incomes are key to attain such standards.

Third, from the capability approach,³ Sen (1999) matches poverty and lack of equality of capabilities of the individuals comprised in society. These capabilities define their income and deprivation levels, hence their social welfare. It is necessary to instrument institutional mechanisms to offer opportunities to transform capabilities into prospective improvements in human welfare (Townsend, 1970; Sen, 1999).

From these three approaches, poverty is defined as a situation in which individuals have neither sufficient opportunities nor capabilities that enable them to satisfy their needs, which makes them vulnerable with serious problems of social exclusion, and frequently they have to ask for subsidies or support.

As regard poverty typologies, the following classifications based on various analysis criteria in previous works can be pointed out: objective and subjective poverty (Feres and Mancero, 2001; Wagle, 2002; Aguado and Osorio, 2015); static or dynamical poverty (Figuroa, 1993; Cantó and Mercader, 2001; Benach and Amable, 2004; Casanova, 2006; García-Luque *et al.*, 2009; Pérez-Mayo, 2009; Pérez-Moreno, 2009); unidimensional and multidimensional poverty (Townsend, 1979; Mack and Lansley, 1985; Desai and Shah, 1988; Boltvinik, 1999; Atkinson, 2003; Morales, 2009; Portales,

3 Capabilities are understood as the skills an individual has to fully develop (Sen, 1992); some of them are fundamental such a health and education (PNUD, 2000).

2014); and chronic, transitional, recurrent and nonrecurrent poverty (Arranz and Cantó, 2010; Cantó *et al.*, 2012; Ayllón, 2013).

Since these typologies do not account for the existing reality after the crisis, in the present work, contributions by Cantó *et al.* (2012) as regards the types of poverty will be considered. In this way, individuals who live in poverty over the entire period from 2008 to 2014 are chronic poor. Transitional poor are those not considered chronic, though they experience periods of poverty. There are distinctions between recurrent transitional and nonrecurrent and recurrent. The former only experience an episode of poverty shorter than the period (2008-2014), while the latter, two or more poverty episodes, in this way a period of exit and another to reenter are identified (Cantó *et al.*, 2012).

In the literature, the treatment of transitional poverty in the context of the Global Financial Crisis and the new global scenario becomes especially relevant, this is why a special heading is devoted to it in this article.

Discussion on transitional poverty in the light of debates on the various forms of poverty in the world

Traditionally and along the lines of static poverty, every individual whose income was below a certain defined threshold or poverty line for a determinate period, for example, a year (Cantó *et al.*, 2012) was classified as poor. Though, the study by Bane and Ellwood (1986) on the methodology of the episodes guided Foster (2007) to later produce a classification of poverty into chronic and transitional. In Spain, works by Bárcena and Cowell (2006), and Cantó *et al.* (2012), among others, deepen into this topic.

From a dynamical standpoint, Bárcena and Cowell (2006), Ayllón (2008), and Arranz and Cantó (2010) established various typologies in function of the permanence in poverty, being distinguishable that by Cantó *et al.* (2012), who make a difference among the latter between those who experience episodes of poverty⁴ in a recurrent manner and those who do not. The proportion of the population that experiences chronic poverty v transitional is determined, plus the time they remain in this situation.

To identify the various poverty topologies, Cantó *et al.* (2012) resorted to two complementary criteria: one based on the methodology of components (Ravallion, 1988; Duncan and Rodgers, 1991; Rodgers and Rodgers, 1993;

⁴ According to Cantó *et al.* (2012), a poverty episode is understood as every uninterrupted interval of poverty regardless of the number of years and periods it comprises, a definition different from the one proposed by Bane and Ellwood (1986).

Jallan and Ravallion, 1998); the other, on the methodology of episodes (Paz, 2002; García-Luque *et al.*, 2008; Maurizio *et al.*, 2008; Cantó *et al.*, 2012).

According to the first approach –the methodology of components based on liquidity constraints– an individual is chronically or permanently poor if their income is below a poverty threshold during the entire period under analysis; while, a transitionally poor individual is someone who experiences income variations regarding this threshold over the same period (Ravallion, 1988; Duncan and Rodgers, 1991; Rodgers and Rodgers, 1993; Jallan and Ravallion, 1998).

This criterion is mainly characterized by its simplicity, as it allows finding out chronic poor by considering incomes. However, it is worth pointing out that lack of liquidity in households does not only come from financial markets, since they may save or ask for a loan to compensate the excess or lack of income in any period; nevertheless, this evidence seems unreasonable, since households with low incomes face restrictions for important credits⁵ (Cantó *et al.*, 2012).

Furthermore, it is worth considering, as pointed out by Foster (2009), that this approach does not pay much attention to the duration of poverty phenomena. Owing to this, the second criterion is resorted to, based on the methodology of episodes, assuming the existence of liquidity constraints and determining that a person is chronically poor below in function of the number of periods they remain under the corresponding poverty threshold. Bane and Ellwood (1986) use a concept of poverty episode different from these authors, defining it as a temporary interval over which an individual is below the poverty threshold.

According to the definition taken by Cantó *et al.* (2012), bearing in mind the episodes of poverty, chronic poor are those with an episode that lasts the entire period, while their income remains below the threshold. As regards transitional poor, it is necessary to differentiate those who experience more than one episode of poverty, called recurrent –according to Bane and Ellwood (1986), and Gardiner and Hills (1999)–, from those

5 In this sense, Jappelli (1990) affirms that incomes and revenues of the household as well as the age of the main breadwinner are conditioning factors to obtain a loan in the US. In Europe, Kepmson (1996) argues that households of young people with children may find greater difficulties to save or have financial assets, therefore to face periods of low revenues. In Spain, Azpitarte (2011) affirms that the households most affected by income variations are one individual younger than 45 years, given their lack of assets, including a home. In this way, when they recurrently experience periods of low incomes, it is expectable that they cannot cover it with accumulated financial assets. Cutanda (2003) indicates that a large part of the Spanish population may be affected by these restrictions.

who only experience a single episode in a period, called nonrecurrent (Cantó *et al.*, 2012).

OECD (2001) affirms that individuals who have overcome a poverty situation have great potential to return to poverty in the short term. With which, the nonrecurrent transitional poor at some time are able to experience episodes of poverty in a transitory recurrent manner (Cantó *et al.*, 2012). The difference in using this methodology on the basis of poverty episodes and not other, presupposes that it is not possible to compensate wage differences in a year with incomes from a different year, as a consequence of the existence of liquidity constraints (Cantó *et al.*, 2012).

Another way to identify chronic poor is the one by the European Union, which resorts to Laeken indicators to measure it, finding the percentage of people who are poor in a determinate year and in the previous two. That is to say, if a four-year time horizon is established, chronic poor are those who have been so, at least three out of four, supposing 75% of the final four years analyzed (Ayala, 2006; INE, 2006).

The approach to the methodology of the episodes, the one Cantó *et al.* (2012) resorted to, is applied by Torres and Guirao (2014) in their studies in Venezuela, where they classify chronic poor as those who remain under a determinate poverty threshold a certain number of times as regards those observed. Ayala (2008) affirms that this sort of poverty is characterized by being long term, therefore they require broader scope policies such as educational or health care.

In transitional poverty will be included all the individuals who experienced poverty at some time during the period, either because they were in this situation over the period or because they became poor, or because they were poor and then over the period they left.

To combat poverty, it is necessary to have new long- and short-term policies designed to address the most vulnerable groups (Carballo and Bongiorno, 2006); it is necessary to improve the stability of employment and ensure unemployment protection over the periods when they need it (Cantó *et al.*, 2009).

Poverty in Jerez de la Frontera

Jerez de la Frontera has been severely damaged by the consequences of the economic crisis that have negatively affected its production, employment and poverty levels (Arranz and Cantó, 2010; Laparra and Pérez, 2010; Colectivo Ioé, 2011; Arnal, 2013; FOESSA, 2014).

This expresses by means of the provincial GDPpm, which decreased 11,7% from 2008 to 2013 (INE, 2019) due to the reduction of the economic activity in the municipality –1.246 firms–, which for its part caused high unemployment rates, reaching 40,2% in 2013 (SIMA, 2017).

These grave consequences have been reflected also in the poverty levels of the population under study. Although there are no local indicators that may verify it, there are other variables that make it clear such as the increment of 97.2% (Cáritas, 2013) in the number of applications for shelter and support in the Diocese of Jerez⁶ over 2008-2012, and an increase of 92.3% in the expense of direct economic support; the most relevant allotments are food, housing support, clothing, education, training, transport and health care.

Adding to this significant increase in the number of applications, there was an increase in social support applications, particularly economic, submitted in the Units of Social Work (USW) from the program of primary attention of social services in Jerez de la Frontera in recent years. These social supports have reached an accumulative variation mean rate for 2008-2013 of 156,3%, whereas for 2008-2014, 163,2%, underscoring the noticeable increment in supports in 2014 (graph 1).⁷

Another significant aspect to bear in mind is the existence of a differential behavior between the various USW (Graph 1). On one side, it is worth pointing out that La Serrana, La Granja, Las Delicias and Downtown were neighborhoods not traditionally affected by poverty –as San Telmo or San Benito– which during the crisis experienced a noticeable increase in applications for economic support.

On the other, La Barca, a parish of Jerez de la Frontera, reaches the lowest levels due to their close ties with the agrarian sector and *Plan de Empleo Rural*, PER [Plan of Rural Employment]. The arrival of the crisis and the destruction of employment has entailed the transformation of the socioeconomic map of the territory object of study, mainly in the most affected areas.

From this analysis comes the appearance and identification of new areas that may be considered in the sphere of poverty in Jerez, which previously

6 The Diocese of Jerez comprises the municipalities of Jerez de la Frontera, Sanlúcar de Barrameda, El Puerto de Santa María, Chipiona, Rota, Trebujena, Arcos de la Frontera, Algar, Bornos, Espera, Villamartín, Prado del Rey, El Bosque, Ubrique, Puerto Serrano, Algodonales, Zahara de la Sierra, Villaluenga del Rosario, Grazalema, El Gastor, Olvera, Alcalá del Valle, Torre Alháuquime and Setenil de las Bodegas (Cáritas, 2013).

7 The graph and tables are at the end of the article in Annex (Editor's note).

were middle working class. This makes it clear the appearance of a new profile of *ad hoc* poverty from the crisis.

Well now, how can this population segment be considered poor if there is no threshold or poverty line defined for the territory? To address this problem, the *Indicador Público de Renta de Efectos Múltiples*, IPREM [Public Indicator of multiple-effect Income] was resorted to as a measurement unit of this research, as it is used as a scale and allotment of social supports from *Área de Bienestar Social del Ayuntamiento de Jerez* [Area of Social Welfare of the Town Council of Jerez], being below the national poverty line (Table 1). In this way, the population with the highest poverty incidence and also the most affected by it is considered.

From the listings based on IPREM, various modalities of help are established and applied for by the applicants –support, dependency and economic, among others–. Economic support may be money (bank and nominative checks) or in-kind. The former are periodical economic, specifically economic, and social wage.⁸ Among in-kind helps, it is worth mentioning pharmaceutical in-kind aid, a periodical support –the best known is the Carrefour check– and the rate-residues bonus, which may be periodic or one-time.⁹

Moreover, in parallel, *Área de Bienestar Social de Jerez* acts as an intermediary with certain agencies and institutions such as *Comedor Salvador*, Red Cross and *Cáritas*, processing their food and poverty support.

Methodology

From the review of the literature in the previous section, the scarcity of information necessary to measure or quantify poverty and its profile is noticed at territorial or national level, as it is the case of the municipality of Jerez. The public information provided by official databases such as *Instituto Nacional de Estadística* (INE) or *Área de Bienestar Social del Ayuntamiento de Jerez de la Frontera* is not enough to quantify such complex phenomenon. This verification has decided on the need to resort to an exploratory methodology to obtain the variables that determine a situation of poverty (such as household incomes, delays in payments within the last twelve

8 It is processed by *Junta de Andalucía* (Andalusia Board) and can be granted for a year at most. The sum depends on the income level of the family unit and its members.

9 Information provided in an interview with social workers with *Área de Bienestar Social* of Jerez de la Frontera Town council.

months, material lacks, basic consumption dimensions and indicators related to housing problems), by means of surveys and interviews.

On one side, a telephonic survey was designed¹⁰ following Alaminos and Castejón (2006), Báez (2007), Díaz de Rada (2009 and 2015), Ortiz and Izquierdo (2009), Pérez (2009), Albert and Davia (2011), Tezanos and Sotomayor (2013)–, aimed at the users of social services registered in *Área de Bienestar Social* of the town council of Jerez. On the other, the information obtained from requesters is complemented with the vision of those who offer goods, services and support in precarious situations, by means of online interviews with professionals directly or indirectly linked to population in this situation (Table 1).¹¹

In the case of the survey, the total population is 27.977 applicants for *Programa de Primera Atención en Jerez* [First Attention Program in Jerez], which by means of a stratified sampling –in which strata match the sorts of economic support in the program above– the sample in Table 2 was obtained. Given the weaknesses from the telephone survey (e.g., finding the respondents or having no answers), it was necessary to survey 250 people to obtain 103 answers at a confidence level of 95,76% ($\approx 96\%$), a sampling error ($p=q=0.5$), and, an accuracy error of 10% (0.1).

To carry out the surveys, the analysis of categorical variables was taken into consideration. Contingency tables were used, which enabled relating the poverty of construction industry with marital status, gender, number of household members, schooling level, parent's social status and employment status.

As regards gender, 70% of first-attention applicants in *Pobreza del Sector de la Construcción*, PSC [Poverty in Construction industry] are women. This fact does not indicate that women are the main breadwinners, since men are, but they are the ones that apply for support mainly due to cultural and social reasons.

In the case of the interview, to select the various agents an intentional sampling was carried out (Martínez, 2003), on the basis of the main associations, foundations and NOGs. In function of the size of the entities, consolidation in the territory, impact from their activities in the surroundings

10 This sort of survey was resorted to because it allows obtaining information in a short time, instantly, call again if necessary, and has the best rate of response at a low cost (Agudelo *et al.*, 2010). Moreover, it is the most suitable technique for the information in the present research, as we had the phonebook with the users under study, which was provided by the Town council under the strictest confidentiality.

11 All the tables and the graph are at the annex at the end of the present article (Editor's note).

and their relation with territorial institutions, the associations in Annex I were selected; namely: Asociación de la Comisión Católica Española de Migraciones, ACCEM [Association of the Catholic Spanish Commission on Migrations], *Cáritas diocesana* [Diocesan Cáritas], *Centro de día el Salvador* [El Salvador Daycare center], Red Cross, *Madre Coraje y Obra social San Juan Grande* [Courageous Mother and *San Juan Grande* Social Work], among others, as indicated by the population under study (37%).

Main results

The information from the process of surveys on the applicants of social support from Ayuntamiento de Jerez and the interviews with various public-private agents reflect the emergence of a demographic sector that responds to a “new profile of poor”, not typified before the crisis. This affirmation is based on the meaning of poverty offered in this research work, heeding and combining the three approaches to poverty previously stated, while the fact that 76.5% of the interviewed agents agreed that the appearance of this new poverty profile was motivated by the crisis.

In this sense, the set of individuals comprised in the sample of applicants for social support in Jerez stands out with particular incidence in a collective (which accounts for 25.4% of the sampled population), which is distinguished by presenting a determinate situation and status before the crisis –by and large, middle class– and after it, it exhibits characteristics that allow cataloging this demographic segment as poor, for instance:

- Being in situation of lack of basic needs coverage.
- Living in discordance with their society standards and life styles.
- Not being able, or being limited, to access opportunities or develop their capabilities.
- Need to ask for social support.

Additionally, this demographic sector that was not in poverty situation before the crisis shares homogenous characteristics that define its profile and restate the socioeconomic impact and rupture of the crisis in certain demographic layers. Therefore, people between 36 and 45 years of age are in this poverty situation due to the crisis, they had an employment before it –mainly in construction–, a partner (61% married and 20% *de facto* partners), and in almost 70% of the cases have one or two dependent children.

Most of those comprised in such collective (72%), with significant seniority, close to 15 years, had low schooling. Though, low education levels

do not become low wages, these are generally above average. We also have to point out the noticeable presence of underground economy in this sector.

In like manner, it is worth underscoring that part of this collective that appeared in the sphere of poverty after the crisis has lower education levels than their parents; that is to say, it expresses a certain “social involution” regarding education; an aspect that is determinant for upward social mobility and the capacity to generate and seize opportunities to leave the crisis behind.

This collective mainly comprises middle-class families (64.8%) and has a regular house in middle-working class neighborhoods in the municipality of Jerez, which were not considered in need, but experiencing economic and demographic growth.

In this way, by means of the present study, a situation of change or “displacement” of poverty in the USW municipalities is stressed. While before the recession, poverty concentrated in Zona Sur, San Benito and San Telmo, these same areas have been separated by the growing demand for first-attention social services in the neighbors *La Serrana*, *Delicias* and *La Granja*, which were not traditional users of such services (see Table 3).

However, a particular difference between these and those is noticed: these new zones of poverty are characterized by a new family profile called “normalized families” that do not present any de-structuring problem, but their main problem is lack of employment and economic resources to face basic needs such as food, mortgage, electricity, among others.¹² These normalized families are identified in a new typology of poverty in such territory with a great presence of construction sector, as previously noticed.

Two thirds of the sample (66.6%) in the construction sector are unemployed; this situation makes income sources concentrate social supports, unemployment insurance –if they are still eligible– and help from family and friends. Only 7.4% has an indefinite, declared job, whilst 25.9% is seasonally hired or has no contract, fostering an irregular economy in such area.

Concurring with the hardening of the crisis, according to the main indicators (GDP, unemployment, confiscations and evictions), 2013 was the year when the largest number of families in the sample became part of this new poor demographic poverty segment. Such situation can be justified by means of an important decrease in the economic activity of the construction sector, materialized in the closure of firms in the municipality (13,03% in 2010 and 16,74% in 2009), which made room for a new increment in unemployment rate and indebted population, matching with the end of

12 Information provided by workers with *Ayuntamiento de Jerez de la Frontera*.

support for families affected by the loss of employment in 2013 and who received an unemployment insurance when the crisis started.

This new sort of poverty responds to the stated research question, the crisis has brought about socioeconomic changes that particularly affect a determinate social segment, characterized by long periods of work before the crisis, lower levels of education and socioeconomic opportunities than their elders (generally, middle class), which produces a severe social involution process with repercussions in the mid- and long-term

Various interviewed political-private political agents notice that such collective has a tendency to remain in poverty, in spite of the improvement over the crisis. A half (50%) is of the opinion that they will have few opportunities. As regards people in poverty situation before the crisis, 61,8% considers they will find it more difficult to overcome it because of their own characteristics: poor education, middle aged, great difficulties to reconvert and adapt to new labor conditions, and mainly, labor market reinsertion, in addition to having to overcome complex economic situations such as loss of housing in numerous cases, and the high degree of indebtedness that many have acquired in the long term.

The scarcity of information in the municipality of Jerez de la Frontera prevents establishing a relation to find out the groups most affected by these lacks, and therefore, with the highest inequality levels. Such problem might have repercussions in the acting of institutions to remedy this issue. However, data from the survey indicate that 68,93% of the families comprise a member younger than 16 years¹³ –in this, this is child poverty– and 24,29% youths whose ages are between 16 and 24 years. These two age groups are the most hit by poverty an inequality.

It is worth mentioning that this sort of poverty entails an increase in child poverty, as almost 70% of the families in this situation is responsible for underage children. Moreover, in Spain these figures are higher than their corresponding means at the European Union, which makes matter worse, for the poverty risk and social exclusion rate is of 35.4% for individuals younger than 16, and 38.7% for the collective of people from 16 to 24 years; the values in UE are 27.5% and 31.5% for 2014, respectively (Eurostat, 2018). The worsening of this situation, from the aggravation of the crisis in Spain, makes it clear the severity and permanence of some of its socioeconomic impacts. The circumstance these minors experience may be accompanied by intergenerational poverty problems, in such manner

13 The same methodology as INE is used (2018) to classify age groups, applying it to the variable poverty risk and social exclusion: under 16 years, from 16 to 24 years, from 25 to 49 years, from 50 to 64 years and older than 65.

that it might turn into “structural poverty”, which is very difficult to leave behind in most of the cases.

As regards child and youth poverty, considering the severe material lacks, in 2015, deprivation levels in the group of 16 to 24 had the highest percentage (22,7%), followed by children under 16 (20,1%). In relation with severe material lack, the collective under 16 amounted to 9,1%, whereas 16 to 24 years, 8,3%.

The sort of households with material lacks, 31,9% comprised one adult with dependent children, and 21,3%, a single woman under 65 years. Whereas for households with severe material lacks, 12,5% comprises an adult and dependent children, and only 11,5%, a single woman under 65 years.

Some indications of this inequality manifests by means of material lacks or deprivation levels which, according to the results in this study, are the following:

As regards indicators of delays in payments within the last 12 months, it is worth pointing out that 88,89% of the respondents belong to PSC and cannot afford to reach the end of the month, 33,34% is delayed in their mortgages and rents; and 16,67%, in payment of installments. All these figures demonstrate the socioeconomic problem posed by poverty in the territory of Jerez de la Frontera.

Data for each of these indicators show an evolutive cycle in poverty, where PSC is in its initial phase, in function of the characteristics it has and the year –as of the crisis– when these individuals entered in this situation.

They are individuals in a sudden poverty situation and more recent than other sorts of poverty. This allows them to keep their house, even though partly because of family support, however, they already start to accumulate other delays in payments which gradually make it difficult to sustain the situation, leading them to the next part of the cycle, more serious poverty, which comprises other sorts of poverty, where the possibility of keeping their house is compromised. The importance of family supports for these collectives is noticeable.

As regards indicators of basic material needs, 100% of these individuals cannot have a vacation once a year, 68,5% does not have Internet access at home, 72% lack dishwasher and 31,49% does not have a car.

As regards the basic consumption need indicators, 44.5% of the respondents cannot afford to eat meat or chicken twice a week, while those who can is because their families provide them with – for 50% it entails a strong effort to buy medications without prescription, 62.90% cannot afford winter clothes once a year, 70% cannot afford new clothes every season,

68,50% cannot purchase new shoes once a year, and 83% is unable to afford unforeseen expenses. Previously, it was mentioned that most were not able to reach the end of the month, a fact that explains their incapability to afford sudden extraordinary expenses. Likewise, it is worth pointing out that the lack of incomes makes it difficult to use central heating in cold seasons, this is experienced by 64.81% of the households.

As regards indicators related to housing problems, considered a secondary dimension: 99% of the families cannot afford furniture when it wears out; 97% cannot afford appliances; 26% has leaks and dampness; and, 3% is stacked. From this it is deduced that they do not have sufficient liquidity to address these issues.

By relating this new type of poverty with the classification according to the traditional nomenclature used in the present job (chronic, transitional, recurring and nonrecurring poverty) (Cantó *et al.*, 2012), the following data were obtained: 5% PSC experiences chronic poverty; 50% transitional recurrent; and, 45%, transitional nonrecurrent, swinging between entering and moving out of it.

The present analysis allows offering a closer and actual vision of the poverty in Jerez and its multidimensional nature at present. Mainly for the population with such difficulties.

Conclusions

With this empirical and exploratory research, the goal stated in the introduction has been reached, by deepening into the knowledge of poverty in general, and particularly, of the factors that may exhibit the recent appearance of a new poverty profile in transitional poverty after the economic crisis.

From the analysis in this work, the existence of a new sort of poverty in the municipality of Jerez de la Frontera, its characteristics and possible tendency have been verified, which may help improve the establishment and execution of general and specific actions, with a closer integration of public and private sectors, being able to enrich the result of their application to the population and territory.

Those who experience this type of poverty are a collective that was not considered poor before, as it did not have any lack in its needs, it was not in disagreement with the life style standard and it had the possibility to access opportunities and develop their capabilities. However, the situation has

become a new sort of transitional poverty that, according to the interviewed territorial agents, will endure after the aspects that have caused the crisis disappear. The main factors and characteristics that configure the specific profile of this new collective are the following:

People between 36 and 45 years of age, with a partner (61% married and 20% *de facto* couples), in almost 70% of the cases with one or two children, which reflects the increase in child poverty in the territory, with an ample period hired before the crisis, mainly in construction (for more than 15 years), with wages over the municipal mean, and have committed to pay instalments, which they cannot afford after drastically lose their jobs. They have become long-term unemployed, with scarce training, from middle class families; in this way, social involution may be referred.

This new poverty group also lives in middle working-class neighbors not considered disfavored, but where applications for social supports have increased, and which up to their entrance in the new situation of lack of coverage for their needs did not need them.

This change in the socioeconomic panorama, identified and conceptualized in the present work, requires specific actuations and general measures as well to face short-, mid- and long-term repercussions for the conception of poverty and population welfare.

And this is the main contribution from the article: to ascertain the appearance of a new sort of transitional poverty in the municipality of Jerez de la Frontera and its specific profile to improve the application of public and private measures, not only mere assistance, to develop integrated structural actuations that foster economic, social and territorial cohesion, bearing in mind the actual and potential specificities of the context where they are carried out.

As future research lines, the main element to develop is the proposal design of measures to apply from the demographic diagnosis and the identification of the new collective in poverty situation. Plus, analyses may be extended and adapted to other territories so that one of the great current problems at global level could be dealt with in a rigorous manner: that is, poverty. Another very important research line on the basis of the present work is the analysis of the relationship between poverty and inequality, a priority topic for population welfare and territorial development.

Being aware of the limitations in the search for information related to poverty in the municipality and the lack of indicators that allow measuring exhaustively poverty in the territory under study, since the situation of the crisis has not receded, the empirical analysis of the present work is a first

approach or initial exploratory study. From here there is a new road to keep working on tracking the poverty situation before and after the crisis.

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Annex

Agencies that collaborate with poverty in Jerez de la Frontera

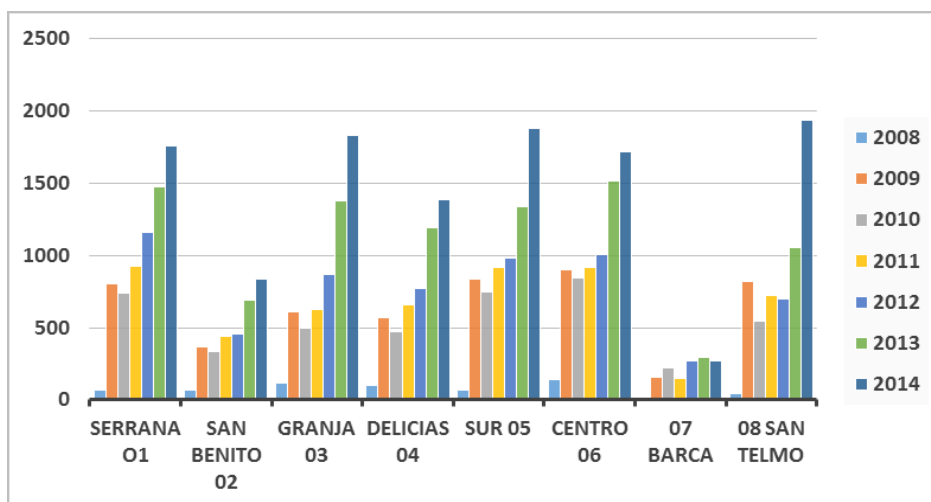
Consumption	-Asociación familiares y amigos Centro Español de Solidaridad Jerezana (AFACESJE), Asociación Brote de vida, Centro de Acogida la Salle, Fundación Hogar San Juan, Monasterio de Belén-La Cartuja. Convents: Las Mínimas, José Barja clarisas, Hermanas reparadoras, Madre de Dios, Santa María de la Gracia-Agustinas.
Delivery	Asamblea Cristiana de Jerez, Associations: Afectados por la hipoteca, Colectivo Tío Juane, Cristiana Evangélica la Granja, Chiquitín (elderly), Manos Abiertas (women), De Mujeres Igualdad y Progreso. Neighbor associations: El Mirador, el Portal, San Juan de Dios. Centro de Acogida de Inmigrantes (CEAIN).
Food consumption	Associations: Esperida, Voluntariado por otro mundo.
Food delivery	Associations: Voluntariado libre, Benéfica Obra Social Vida y Esperanza, El Samaritano, Iniciativa Solidaria Jerezana, Red Madre Coraje, Tharsis Bethel, Vida Abundante, Voluntariado Libre. Obra social Hospital San Juan Grande, Iglesia Cristiana Manos de Alfarero, Iglesia Puerta del Cielo. Neighbor associations: M ^a Auxiliadora, San Jerónimo y Barriada Las Flores.
Consumption + food delivery	Convent Hermanas de la Cruz. Associations: Me importas Jerez, Flores, Solidaridad Jerezana (Soje), Evangélica Vida Abundante, La Gran Comisión, Voluntarios por otro mundo, Esperida, Tío Juane, Brote de Vida Fundación escuelas y cocinas El Salvador, Comisión católica. Parochial Cáritas: Santiago, San Mateo, Andrés y los Albarizones, San Rafael y San Gabriel, Nuestra Señora del Pilar, San Pedro, San Juan de Ávila, Santa Ana, San Miguel Arcángel, El Salvador y San Dionisio, El Perpetuo Socorro, Los 4 evangelistas, San Juan Bosco de los Descalzos, Las Viñas. Escuelas y cocinas el Salvador, de San Enrique y Santa Teresa de Guadalcín, Corpus Christi, La Inmaculada-Torresoto, San Juan Grande y la Calendaria, Santa María Madre de la Iglesia de la Granja, San Juan Grande y la Candelaria, San Benito, Madre de Dios y Cocina Autogestiona.

Centers, social mess halls and institutions that help people in poverty situation	Asociación de la Comisión Católica Española de Migraciones (ACCEM), Comedor El Salvador, Centro de día El Salvador, De Rehabilitación y Reinserción Adonais, Centro de Acogida de Inmigrantes (CENAIN), Cruz Roja, Siloe, Cáritas Diocesana, Salud Mental Comunitaria, Unidad Hospitalaria, Distrito Sanitario, Hogar La Salle, Centro de Acogida San José.
Social centers that help people in poverty situation in Jerez	San Telmo, Montealegre, Madre de Dios, Jerez Centro, La Serrana, La Granja, San Benito, Las Delicias.
Social workers of the various USW that help people in poverty situation in Jerez	USW: 1. Serrama, 2. San Benito, 3. La Granja, 4. Las Delicias, 5. Sur, 6. Centro, 8. San Telmo.

Source: own elaboration.

Graph 1

Evolution of economic support per USW



Source: own elaboration from *Gestión de Usuarios de Servicios Sociales* (GUSS, 2016) of *Ayuntamiento de Jerez de la Frontera*.

Table 1
Comparison between IPREM 2008-2014 of Jerez de la Frontera and Poverty threshold 2009-2014 (€)

Years/ Member	IPREM				Threshold Poverty (UP)	
	1 member	2 members	3-4 mem- bers	5 + mem- bers	Household with 1 adult	Household with 2 adults and 2 children
IPREM 2008/ Up2009	6.208,80	6.823,08	7.450,56	8.071,44	8.763	18.402
IPREM 2009/ Up2010	6.326,86	6.959,55	7.592,23	7.668,16	8.358	17.551
IPREM 2010/ Up2011	6.390,13	7.029,14	7.668,16	8.307,17	8.321	17.473
IPREM 2011/ Up2012	6.390,13	7.029,14	7.668,16	8.307,17	8.114	17.040
IPREM 2012/2013	6.390,13	7.029,14	7.668,16	8.307,17	7.961	16.719
IPREM 2013/ Up2014	6.390,13	7.029,14	7.668,16	8.307,17	7.961	16.719

Source: own elaboration from INE (2018), IPREM (2016) and Gestión de Usuarios de Servicios Sociales (GUSS, 2016) of Ayuntamiento de Jerez.

Table 2
Sample detail 2008-2014

Strata	Total supports type	No. of applicants	SRS ¹⁴ without replacing
In-kind pharmacy	322	258	1
Salvador mess hall	512	453	2
Cáritas application	845	796	3
Social emergency	957	468	2
Food Red Cross	2.563	2.494	9
In-kind specific	3.002	1.987	7
Economic specific	4.770	2.237	8
In-kind recurrent	4.542	3.827	14
Bonification residue rate	5.314	2.592	10
Economic recurrent	7.957	4.900	18
Social wage	11.477	7.965	29
Total	42.261	27.977	103

Source: own elaboration.

Table 3
Zones affected by the poverty of construction sector

UTS/Sector	Construction
Downtown	22.22%
Serrana	20.37%
Las Delicias	14.56%
La Granja	14.56%
Sur	9.80%
San Telmo	9.25%
San Benito	5.50%
La Barca	3.74%
Total	100%

Source: own elaboration.

¹⁴ Simple random sampling.

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