

Title.

Probability of divorce and separations in the Mexico City

Introduction.

In spite of the speed of changes in demographic trends compared to Europe, Latin America has not still finished its first demographic transition. However, we do see some changes from the second demographic transition occurring at the same time in many Latin American countries. New trends on divorce and separation rates are among these changes. The increase in the prevalence of marital dissolutions has not been sufficiently studied in the region. The aim of this research is to explore about some socioeconomic and demographics factors associated to the probability of experiencing a divorce or any kind of marital dissolutions.

The setting.

Mexico City is the capital of the country, it is among the largest cities in the world already 25 millions inhabitants. Its population is cosmopolitan and the increased of the divorce and dissolutions unions is evident. The causes of these demographics events have not been defined very well yet. The main determinants can be economics, social and cultural, however we have little information that could help us generalize regarding the determinants.

Data and Methods

In order to calculate the probabilities of the divorce and of marital dissolutions among the population in Mexico City, I used census information (Censo de Población y Vivienda,

México 2000). The last census included, for the first time, an extended questionnaire which was asked to 10% of the total population. This questionnaire included questions about personal and socioeconomic characteristics. With that information, I identify the characteristics of population that has experienced a marital dissolution. I used a logit model to explore the determinants of this process, estimating the models separately for men and women.

The socio economics, socials and cultural variables included were:

- Birthplace
- Children ever born
- Personal income
- Education
- Religion
- Type of household

In summary, the main goal of my research is to calculate the determinants and identify some characteristics associated to the divorce and dissolutions unions for the population in Mexico City. My research compares whether the determinants differ by sex.