

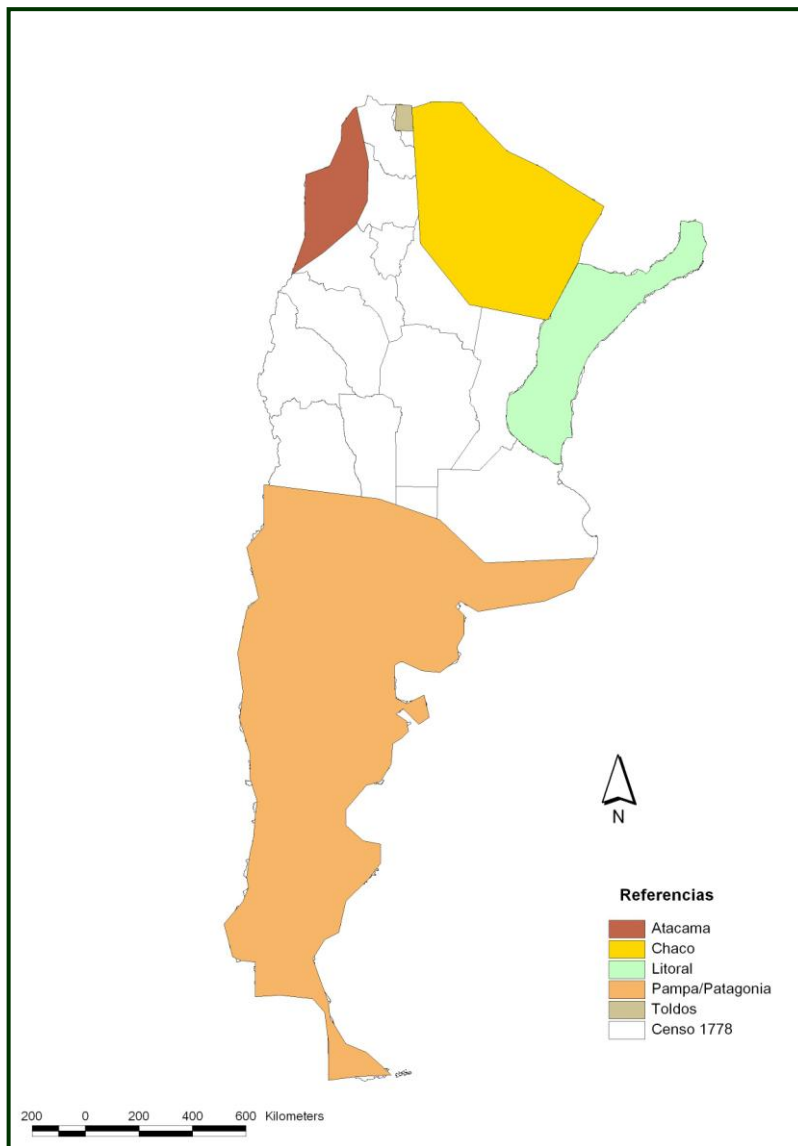
Methodological paper Argentina 1800-1900-2000

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Estimation of entire population

Argentina 1778

The 1778 data is based on a summary published by Larrouy (see Sources, no. 2). This summary included only part of the nowadays Argentina and excluded the north-east, the "war like indigenous" territories of Chaco, Pampa and Patagonia, and some territories' borders, like part of Atacama, part of nowadays Tarija and the littoral provinces. I have put these data in the database as "Quality total A". The total population (186.526) seems very low to me . So, I looked for other estimations and data in order to discuss this result.



Estimations for 1800 indicated a population of around 310.000 inhabitants (Maeder, 1969:22 see source table). These estimations also excluded the indigenous population of Chaco, Pampa and Patagonia. Alcides D'Orbigny calculated a population of 20.400 inhabitants for Chaco and 34.600 for Pampa and Patagonia between 1828 and 1833. Almost all of the estimates agree that at the time of the beginning of the independence war (1810) Argentina had half of the population of Bolivia: Argentina 527.000 (around 1818) and Bolivia 978.926 in 1825 (see Dalence, 1975: 197 and Argentina: II National Census, Primera Parte,

pag. XV). A traveler, Branckenridge, calculated a total population between 554.000 or 588.000 inhabitants for 1819, excluding indigenous people of Buenos Aires, Córdoba

and Tucumán. The authors of the publication of the second National Census, however, considered this data a bit exaggerated and proposed 527.000.

Argentina 1895

By 1895 the borders of Argentina were in theory like those in 2001 except for some territories annexed after this census (Territorio Nacional los Andes; Los Toldos). The first territory was part of Atacama (belonging at that time to Chile), with a population of about 1200 inhabitants, mostly indigenous.¹ The second was part of Tarija (Bolivia) annexed in 1938.² The conquest of part of the nowadays Argentina took place in the second half of the 19th century, which means that there were still territories where "war like indigenous" lived apart. The authorities who made the census calculated a population of around 90.000 that was not counted: 30.000 indigenous and other 60.000 (without details).

Population: Argentina 1895.

Population included in the 1895 census	3954911
Estimation (people who was not included, no reasons)	60000
Estimation indigenous population	30000
TOTAL ARGENTINA (Census 1895)	4044911
Estimation population in the Territory of the Andes (belonging to Chile at the time)	1200
Population of "Toldos" from the 1900 Bolivian Census	766
Total	4046877

For Argentina the most relevant demographic development at the end of the 19th century was the arrival of European immigrants. The population – included in the censuses - grew from 1.877.490 (first National Census, 1869) to 3.954.911 (second National Census, 1895). Between 1871 and 1895, 1,9 million foreigners arrived in the Río de la Plata (Zeberio, 1999: 321). In 1895, more than 25% of the total population consisted of immigrants, and 88% of the foreigners were from Europe. 87,8% of these migrants stayed in Central East Region (as we call it). According to the census, 63,6% of the total population lived in this region at that time. So there is an over representation of migrants in that region. Contemporary statisticians were fascinated by this issue, as well as historians. The immigration had consequences for the sex ratio, as more men than women migrated, and also for the age structure: immigrants were younger on average.

¹ The number of inhabitants is debatable: in 1901 were reported 1149 inhabitants by Carrasco, a political authority. Latter censuses reported a variable population:

Year	Population	Sources
1903	2095	Censo del Territorio de Los Andes (Ministerio del Interior, Memoria de 1901-1904).
1905	2508	Censo Territorios Nacionales 1905 (Ministerio del Interior, Memoria de 1904-1905).
1912	2348	Censo Territorios Nacionales, 1912.
1914	2455	Censo General, 1914.
1920	2539	Censo Territorios Nacionales, 1920.

Source: Benedetti, 2005.

² Fortunately there is a Census in Bolivia from 1900 with the total population of Los Toldos (766).

Sex Ratio per Age and Region, Argentina 1895.³

	Central East	NW and W	"New" territories
0-14	104,8	106,1	111,2
15-60	130,3	92,7	163,9
61+	115,5	91,1	139,9

In 1895 there were still many indigenous people outside of the control of the State. Although the State wanted to know the number of this population, the difficulties were not only technical, but also part of the ideology: they never talked about *population* (in the sense of sex, age and occupations): the indigenous were considered as "warriors": the authorities were counting the indigenous men that were able to fight.

One tends to think that the official number of indigenous is always less than the real number.

One finds the same problem with other types of rural population: the so called "gauchos": people with different ethnic backgrounds, mostly mestizos. They were independent workers, sometimes working for land owners, sometimes working for themselves (they were very good with horses). Another group was formed by indigenous people living inside the conquered territories. In the eyes of the government this group represented the other side (the dark one) of the ideal farmer, which was of European origin, preferably native of northern Europe. One finds only subtle traces from these (unwanted) rural population groups in the sources, although in many regions they formed the majority, like in the North West.

Regions 1895:

Central East Argentina: include the provinces of Buenos Aires, Santa Fe, Entre Ríos and Corrientes.

North West and West: provinces of Córdoba, San Luis, Santiago del Estero, Mendoza, San Juan, La Rioja, Catamarca, Tucumán, Salta and Jujuy.

"New" territories: include Misiones, Formosa, Chaco, La Pampa, Neuquén, Río Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz and Tierra del Fuego.

About urban and rural population: the criteria in the census were like those in Italy, that is "urban centers are those, that the authorities considered as urban". A town was labeled urban based on their importance for the region and their place within a bigger "urban network". A specialist on urbanization said that in this census many "cities" were considered not because of their real status, but because of their potential future characteristics (Otero, 1998) A large urban population was the ideal, so the authorities were not counting the real cities, but the potential cities, that is, villages that were important in terms of their function. For a calculation of the urban population, I added the population of all urban localities of all the provinces (see working table Urban population 1895).

The census numbers are very different from what we find when we apply another calculation of urban population i.e. an urban locality that consists of more than 5000 inhabitants. For the census authorities, 42,8% of the population was considered "urban", but only 34,2% of the population lived in urban centers with more than 5000 inhabitants. The numerical difference is relatively small because most centers with less than 5000 inhabitants had a very small population. The real difference is the quantity of

³ The age groups are possible per Region only as we did it, or 15-70; 71+. We chose 15-60 thinking that the difference in this age group is not really important.

these "urban centers" in each province. In many provinces (all of the region called North West and West except for Cordoba) the only urban center with more than 5000 inhabitants was the capital. Many capital cities contained just over 5000 and only one of them under 5000 (Jujuy). In the "New Territories" there were no urban centers.

Argentina 2001

The main source I used was the 2001 Census. Final data from the 2001 census are considered relatively good, although there were some difficulties because of a teachers strike (these teachers collected the census data) and because it was organized in the middle of an important economic crisis. The worst problems concerned the labour data, which will be explained below.

Estimation of the economically active population

Argentina 1778

There is no data on labour in the census, only information on the ethnic organization of the population in groups like "slaves", "indigenous people", and "Spaniards".

Argentina 1895

In order to know the number of non-working people, we have to know which part of the population is either too young (< 6) or too old to work (>75).

In the Census' summary, occupations were calculated for population older than 13 years (14 year and older). At the time there were most likely people working under the age of 14, but we lost data on this group.⁴ Therefore, I added some information calculated on the basis of two published tables given below: Population per age and population 14 years and more by occupation.

Population by age:

Age	Population
0-5	709023
65 and more	78157
Total	787180
No age data	21637

If we add this part of the population to label 1, the result is 19,9% of the total population is not able to work.(I am not including the "no age data").

Information from the "Occupation" table:

	Population	%
Without occupation ⁵	805931	20,4%
Affluent	28445	0,7%

⁴ In the original data of the census made for a Northern Province of Argentina, some people under 14 are listed with occupation. This data does not appear in the published census that I used to make the dataset.

⁵ These are people who was classified as "without occupation" in the table "Population 14 years old and more by occupation".

Students	8295	0,2%
Total population with occupation	2451761	62,0%
Total Census population	3954911	

Unemployed: It is very possible that this category is not correct. In the sources "sin profesión" [without occupation] can be house wives, people (old or very young) working in their own plot, etc. I have given them labour relations 5, which means they can work for the household (cooking, cleaning etc) but they can also perform reciprocal labour on a farm or in a family business.

Another problem is the under registration of peasants. The way authorities organized their published information tends to overestimate urban population and to underestimate "traditional" peasants and indigenous population. There were many regions inhabited by peasants but they are not clearly counted in the summary. I classified for this reason, some categories with two or three different labour relation codes: for example, some agricultural people can be small land owners who work for the market (like in the province of Buenos Aires), other workers (like those in northern Argentina) possibly performed reciprocal labor. I am not able to distinguish them in the summaries and there are no general data or estimations on this, only some regional works. This category (reciprocal labor) is for sure underestimated.

In sum, some groups are under-registered in the census: working children and working old people, working woman without salary (reciprocal labor), peasants occupation belonging to the groups "indios" and "gauchos", non-commodified labor mostly in rural areas.

Argentina 2001

Also in 2001 occupations are calculated only for the population older than 14 years. There are children (<14) working in Argentina but they are not in the census. Also there are retired people who work but as this is also not in the census we don't take them into account in this database.

In 2001 Argentina had an major crisis after 10 years of neo-liberal politics that had destroyed an important part of the jobs. The National Statistic Institute wrote a report on the unemployed, because of the high levels they found after the 2001 census. They compared the census data with the periodic questionnaire (unemployed rate) and found some important differences. The conclusions were the following: a) there is an important under-registration of employment data, and b) one could study employment better with the periodic questionnaires. Because those questionnaires are made only for the biggest cities in the country, I propose to compare the 2001 numbers with the numbers of the 1991 census, to have an idea of how Argentina's unemployment was in a "normal" period (not in a very critical one). The data from 1991 are therefore added to the data base.

Estimation of labour relations

In order to clarify the way I worked, I have made a working table in the database (Working table Argentina 2001 Branch) for the labour relations. One can see there, how I classified all the labour information.

Because the total numbers of population working in Argentina were so low, I add some information here that may help to understand or to complete the results:

The number of working children from 6 to 13 were estimated as follows:

Infantile work (in %)

Infantile work	Age 5 to 13		
	male	Female	Total
working	7,6 %	5,2 %	6,5 %
Self consumption	4,8 %	3,3 %	4,1 %
Domestic work	4,0 %	8,4 %	6,1 %

Source: Aparicio et al., 2007

The terms used in the census were linked up with the labour relations of the projects' taxonomy in the following way:

	Employment in the state	Wage earners	Employers	Self employed	Household kin producers WITH salary	Household kin producers without salary
Population according to the census	2.335.740	5.320.934	676.937	2.213.112	109.571	256.893
Labour relations according to the taxonomy of the Collaboratory	18	14	13	12	12	5

HISCO codes:

In 2001 Census the aggregation of occupations (or occupational activities) was divided into three major groups: self- employed workers, family workers and employers. I considered EMPLOYER of almost all sectors (with the exception of education) as HISCO Major group 2 = administrative and managerial workers. In the Working Table Argentina 2001 Branch one can see my criteria. The group "activities not very well specified" was not considered.

I did not find Major group 1 and 3 in this census aggregation.

Hidden information

Argentina 1895

When adding up all labrels (including 1), one has a total of 3.407.976 instead of 3.954.911. There is a gap of 546.935 people. I tried to find this exact number but this is impossible. Some possible explanations for the gap are:

The sum of all people with occupations or with some data on occupations is 2.451.761 (see Working Table Argentina 1895 Branch). This total number pertains to people 14 years and older. The gap 546.935 is a sum of different people, like people too old (>65) who did not answer, children between 6 and 14 years that are working and not studying and are not in the census, some women that did not answer (which I did encounter eg. in particular provincial data I am studying). One has people too young to work (709.023) and children in school (247192).

Argentina 2001

In the official data, the amount of people supposedly not working is high, especially amongst women: there are more female students (there is no information on possible working activities by students and I have assumed they are not working -though in practice some of them might) and there are more retired women. The surplus of women in the 'other' inactive category can partly be explained by the surplus of women in general, but probably also by the under registration of female reciprocal labour and female labour in the informal sector.

sex	population 14 and more	Working				Inactive			
		Total	only work	work and study	work and retired	Total	student	retired	other
Total	26681048	10913187	9536143	867990	509054	11416265	2971148	3021692	5423425
Male	12795165	6813031	6099458	440678	272895	3769358	1365668	1180078	1223612
Female	13885883	4100156	3436685	427312	236159	7646907	1605480	1841614	4199813