



Research Article

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Analysis of the Entrepreneurial Immigrant Profile in Spain

Genoveva Millán Vázquez de la Torre

*Titular Professor,
Department of Management and Quantitative Methods,
Universidad Loyola Andalucía, Córdoba, Spain*

Virginia Navajas-Romero

*PhD Assistant Professor,
Department of Statistics, Econometrics, Operations Research,
Business Organization and Applied Economics,
Universidad de Córdoba, Córdoba, Spain*

Ricardo Hernández Rojas

*PhD Assistant Professor,
Department of Financial Economics,
Universidad de Córdoba, Córdoba, Spain*

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Abstract

Although the immigrant population in Spain has decreased due to the economic crisis of the past five years, few studies have analysed this group. The objective of this research has been to profile the immigrant who decides to start a business in Spain. In order to learn about the probability of immigrant workers being entrepreneurs as a function of their socio-demographic characteristics, data from the Spanish National Institute of Statistics from 2005 to 2016 have been analysed and fieldwork carried out during August and September 2016 on immigrants who are self-employed. The results show a lower rate of entrepreneurship in the immigrant population vis-a-vis the native population and the fact that creating their own business begins at an earlier age for immigrants when compared to the national average.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship, immigration, Spain, logit models, crisis*

1. Introduction

Currently, uncontrolled immigration pose problems for developed countries that their governments must solve. The European Union and the United States of America are the main destinations for people who leave their place of origin in search of peace and freedom.

Today, whether immigration is beneficial or harmful to a country is a topic of discussion in international forums. In Spain, which is facing population ageing and a low birth rate, labour is needed to maintain the current pension system and the welfare state, but how many immigrants is the labour market capable of absorbing? What professional qualifications should immigrants have? What jobs will they perform? Are they going to start their own companies? These are some of the questions that have to be answered in order to have a stable marketplace and avoid immigration being perceived of as a threat by a country's residents.

Migrations have been constant in recent years as people leave their place of origin, and international migration is a feature of the new economic context (Spohn and Morawska, 2018). A person's decision to emigrate to a particular country may be due, among other things, to 1) escaping from a conflict zone or being politically persecuted; 2) finding a job that will improve the quality of life and sending money to the origin country; 3) family reunification; and 4) improving training.

For the host country, immigration is advisable for several reasons: 1) requiring labour for regional development and to repopulate geographical areas (Froschauer, 2001); 2) compensating the ageing of the native population (Lutz, W. et al., 2003; Bos and Von Weizsäcker, 1989) is considered both as a resource for economic revival and social regeneration; 3) a phenomenon called "new geography of migration" that is characterized by marking new geographical patterns, for example in labour markets (Jones, Johnson, et al., 2017). The forming of ethnically owned enterprises facilitates the creation of ethnic territories. Members of these ethnic associations tend to retain their culture even though they live in their host country, where those traits are different. At a global level, migrant settlement is predominantly concentrated in areas that are demographically attractive, usually in metropolitan cities (Waldinger, 1989). The European continent is a favourite destination for migrants..

Immigrants look for self-employment opportunities in specific areas due to their special business characteristics (Schuetze, 2010). This viewpoint is seen in some articles that describe entrepreneurship by immigrant populations (Chaganti, Watts, et al., 2008). Self-employed immigrants provide employment for themselves and often employ other immigrants who normally have a lower level of education. This entrepreneurship has also influenced the immigrants' level of understanding of the language of the host country (Hou, 2009; Yuengert, 1995). In an equivalent way, Lofstrom (2011) has analysed the level of skill of immigrants [[okay?]] in the United States. Language is important, as is the number of self-employed people in the ethnic group (Mora and Davila, 2005). Finally, there are studies that examine and quantify the ethnic composition of the networks that the Indian and Chinese organize in host countries [[okay?]]. By choice or by need, immigrants tend to have higher rates of self-employment than nationals (Li, 1997; Lofstrom, 2006; Borjas, 1986; Andersson and Wadensjö, 2004; Hammarstedt, 2001).

There has been an increase in migration at the international level and this has had consequences for the growth of countries and the development of various regions. A large number of articles analyzing the labour market have emerged from the perspective of the entrepreneur (Wong and Primecz, 2011; Head and Ries, 1998; Dana, 1993; Wong, 2003). As a result, interest in this area by academics, NGOs, and politicians has been considerable (Waldinger, Aldrich, and Ward, 1990; Collins, 2003; Kloosterman and Rath, 2003).

The literature on international immigrant entrepreneurship defines entrepreneurial immigrants as people who have recently moved to a foreign country and started a business as a way to make a living (Chaganti and Greene, 2002). In addition, an immigrant is a person who has been permanently away from his/her homeland for at least a year (Sasse and Thielemann, 2005). It is important to distinguish immigrant entrepreneurs from groups such as those that correspond to ethnic or internal migration, which is a comparable concept but with significant differences (Ndofor and Priem, 2011). The term immigrant only includes those who belong to the first generation of people who have moved to a new country, and implies that they have features they obtained in other countries. This concept differentiates immigrants from co-ethnics, people of the same ethnicity who were born in their parents' host country (Achidi and Priem, 2011).

Self-employment is an important aspect of the economic development of the person and the host country. Some immigrants are faced with problems when entering the labour market so they choose to start a business (Fairlie and Meyer, 1996), while other immigrants decide to undertake entrepreneurship in order to fulfill their dreams, realize themselves, have more flexibility, and obtain higher incomes (Hou and Wang 2011).

This paper will analyse the evolution of immigrant entrepreneurship in Spain as well as the personal socioeconomic variables that characterize immigrant entrepreneurs.

2. Theoretical Framework

Researchers analyse various aspects of immigrant entrepreneurship such as the influence of some institutions and its institutional culture on migration policy and how they affect the ethnic enterprise's formation. Immigrants' importance as a source of entrepreneurs is reflected in immigration policies. For example, policies are developed in Canada to attract entrepreneurs and investment funds, leading to the development of a means of facilitating economic activity (Hou et al., 2013). A growing percentage of immigrants choose to work on their own. However, there is a gap in the literature regarding immigrant entrepreneurs since immigration has been analyzed from the perspective of non-immigrant entrepreneurs's account (Frenette 2004).

Immigrant entrepreneurship has been analysed from many perspectives. For example, there are studies that focus on the level of training and salaries (Georgarakos and Tatsiramos, 2009; Gold et al., 2006) of self-employed immigrants. Another point of view is the policies carried out by the state to support immigrant entrepreneurs (Collins, 2003). Another aspect analyzed by scholars is control of the location from the viewpoint of the support networks that are created among Asian immigrants to create their businesses (Dai, Wang, and Teo, 2011).

Since immigrants have a specific human rights configuration, there are studies that analyse the spirit of immigrant entrepreneurship or entrepreneurs from minority ethnic populations and/or minorities (Masurel and Nijkamp, 2004). Immigrant entrepreneurship has been recognized as important. It is accepted that information and employment opportunities are obtained from the co-ethnic community (Raijman and Tienda, 2003). The social capital and behaviour carried out by the immigrant entrepreneur have been studied because they influence the start-up activities of the company, especially when compared with host country entrepreneurs (Ndofor and Priem, 2011). The resources that Iranian and Korean immigrants in Los Angeles use have been reviewed (Min and Bozorgmehr, 2000; and Kim and Hurh, 1985; respectively). Motivation is another aspect—there have been studies that evaluate the motivations of Hispanic immigrants who are entrepreneurs in Las Vegas (Shinnar and Young, 2008), but from a pull rather than a push factor point of view. Other authors have formulated a background in order to understand immigrant entrepreneurship internationally (Yang et al., 2012; Chand and Ghorbani, 2011).

The entrepreneurial spirit has been analysed from many points of view. There are studies that focus on the features of immigrants in others countries (Li, 2001) such as Chinese, Hispanic, Indian, Korean, Iranian, and Filipinos, people who were among the groups of immigrants in North America, or those of entrepreneurial immigrants who entered Canada from Asia and Europe in the latter half of the 20th century. For the latter, analyses were performed that took into account the immigrants' experience as entrepreneurs (Froschauer, 2001).

Being an immigrant adds challenges to entrepreneurship such as limitations due to differences in culture, experiences between the country of origin and the recipient country, and knowledge. Raijman and Tienda (2003) analyzed the circumstances that help and obstruct entrepreneurship among Mexican entrepreneurs. Immigrants also have different challenges and barriers in their host country (Teixeira, Lo, and Truelove, 2007).

Finally, studies have analysed women's empowerment and immigrants within the framework of biotechnology companies in Massachusetts and New England (McQuaid, Smith-Doerr, and Monti, 2010). There are empirical studies that concentrate on certain women's characteristics (Shim and Eastlick, 1998) related to entrepreneurship in biotechnology companies (McQuaid et al., 2010) and the motivations of a self-employed person (Shinnar and Young, 2008).

Immigrant entrepreneurship research in Europe is most notable in studies done in the Netherlands and Germany. In the Netherlands, articles focusing on a concept related to ethnic women recognized the meaning of womanhood for Muslim women entrepreneurs (Essers, Benschop, and Doorewaard, 2010). Further, the role of human capital in self-employed immigrants has been analysed, including characteristics that were acquired in the countries of origin and of destination (Kanas, van Tubergen, and van der Lippe, 2009). Self-employment promotion policy has also been studied by researchers. The objective was to analyse the effects that immigrants had on starting a business, taking into account future business opportunities (Kloosterman, 2003). There is also a review comparing various support programs and urban policies in some European

areas (Delft et al., 2000).

There are studies in Germany that compare groups of Polish and Turkish immigrants in Berlin (Miera, 2008). Other research has focused on the characteristics of entrepreneurial immigrants in Norway; thus, we find a study on the effects of immigrants' cultural baggage on self-employment (Vinogradov, 2011). In Spain, there is a paper that focuses on the analysis of the business behaviour of immigrant women in Andalusia (González-González, Bretones, Zarco, and Rodríguez, 2011).

Researchers have also focused on theories that explain immigrant entrepreneurship. They are mainly based on the capital theory, which is used as a background for studying the main aspects of immigrant entrepreneurship (Kanas et al., 2009). This line of research is concerned with identifying Chinese immigrants in the West host countries—for example, the influence of society in relation to the pursuit of opportunities in business (Dai, Wang and Teo, 2011). There are also studies that explore characteristics of immigrant entrepreneurs in Amsterdam and in Fairfax, Virginia (Sahin, Nijkamp, and Stough, 2011).

The analysis of entrepreneurship in immigrants has involved focusing on theories of culture. The cultural theory holds that immigrants demonstrate their cultural characteristics when they are overrepresented in a society. This entrepreneurship is culturally accepted by several ethnic groups (Teixeira, Lo and Truelove, 2007; Kim and Hurh, 1985). Vinogradov and Kolvereid (2010) utilize the concept of intellectual/mental capacity as a theoretical background because they say that this skill will encourage the decision to become an entrepreneur as well as helping identify business opportunities.

There are theories that show that, due to cultural differences, immigrants experience a business disadvantage (Li 2001) or blocked mobility (Raijman and Tienda, 2000). This theory shows that immigrant entrepreneurs in the early stages of entrepreneurship are at a disadvantage compared to nationals. These limitations may include idiomatic, educational credentials, and discrimination, among others.

Some articles have used theories such as the perspective of rooting to investigate entrepreneurship and self-employment in a particular area. Immigrant entrepreneurship cannot be understood by analyses on the micro and macro level because of the decisions of them (Kloosterman, 2003, 2010; Kloosterman and Rath, 2001).

A wide range of methodologies have been used in the study of entrepreneurial immigrants. Empirical work has mostly been employed; non-empirical, or qualitative, work has been used, to a lesser extent. The data used in the documents referenced in this study are characterized as either being from institutional organizations or auto-collected. For example, some articles have used statistics from institutions like Danish administrative records and contain information on immigrant residents in Denmark (Blume et al., 2009).

The survey is also used to collect data from an institutional database. This method is used when the research focuses on a sector or type of population (Hart and Acs, 2011; Raijman and Tienda, 2000). The snowball sampling method has also been used to find a sample of immigrant entrepreneurs (Essers et al., 2010; Collins and Low, 2010). Personal relations were also used as mediators for data compilation; the intermediary used entails immigrants from the same country and the objective is to locate compatriot entrepreneurs (Yang et al., 2011).

In qualitative studies, data were collected through semi-structured interviews, telephone, e-mail, web page, and snowball, among others (Kim et al., 2000; Miera, 2008; Teixeira, Lo, and Truelove, 2007).

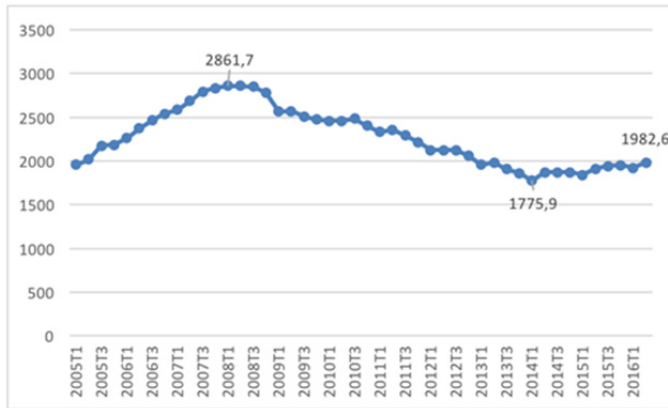
The quantitative techniques include dependent variables such as self-employment, which has been used as an evaluation of entrepreneurship (Constant and Zimmermann, 2006; Vinogradov and Kolvereid, 2007, 2010); and efficiency (Sahin et al., 2011). The characteristics of immigrants were used as independent and control variables.

Regarding data analysis techniques, a different type of technique was observed. On the one hand, there is a description of the statistics and, on the other, a more econometric analyse. Some tests were done using econometric techniques to facilitate model adjustment. The multicollinearity test was used (Ndofor and Priem, 2011). Finally, data envelopment analysis (DEA) was used as a performance indicator and has been used to evaluate the effectiveness of companies (Sahin et al., 2011).

3. Methodology

This research analyses immigrants entrepreneurship in Spain. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), this country is the fourth power of the European Union (formed by 28 countries), and European growth leader in 2015 and 2016, on the other hand it is the ninth country in minimum inter-professional wage but, despite this, it continues to be a country that receives immigrants who desire to work, although this group has been seriously affected by the crisis.

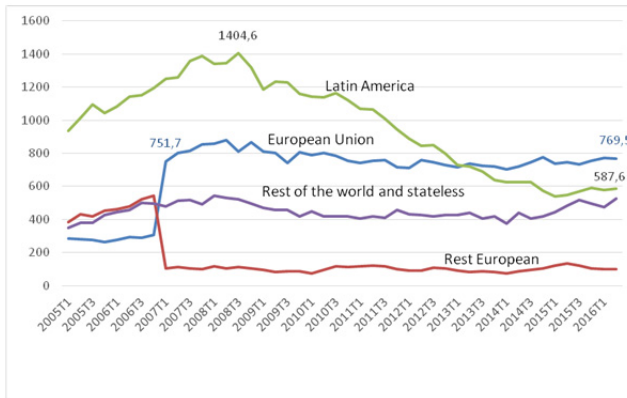
According to the National Institute of Statistics (INE) there were 2861.7 thousand immigrant workers in Spain in the first quarter of 2008 and only 1775.9 thousand immigrant workers, six years later, in the same quarter of 2014; so, they were lost more than one million jobs in this group because of the crisis in this period (figure 1).



Graph 1. Evolution of the number of immigrant workers (First quarter 2015 to second quarter 2016 in thousands)

Source: Own elaboration, based on INE data.

Regarding places of origin, the main group of immigrants were workers from Latin America a decade ago (1404.5 thousand people, 2008 third quarter), due to culture and language affinity, but from the crisis immigrants from the European Union are the collective with more jobs, with the largest number of 769.5 thousand people in the second quarter of 2016 compared to 587.6 thousand employed persons from Latin America, having been jobs reduced by more than half in this group.



Graph 2. Evolution of the number of immigrant workers by place of origin (First quarter 2015 to second quarter 2016 in thousands). Blue Union European

Source: Own elaboration based on INE data

Table 1 shows the disparity in the work performed among the different groups of immigrants, most of them perform elementary occupations. The female group is the most disadvantaged one because it occupies low qualification positions, on the contrary the managerial and technical positions in the immigrants coming from the European Union there is hardly any discrimination on gender basis, being occupied in a greater proportion than those coming from Latin America.

Table 1. Foreign European Union and Latin American.

	Foreign: European Union		Foreign: Latin America
	Men	Women	Men
1 Directors and Managers	19,3	14,0	3,5
2 Scientific and Intellectual Technicians and Professionals	52,2	52,7	14,3
3 Technicians; Support professionals	35,5	20,1	7,6
4 Accounting, administrative and other clerical employees	19,0	25,5	4,8
5 Workers in catering, personal, protection and vendors services	51,8	120,7	68,7
6 Skilled workers in agriculture, livestock, forestry and fisheries	11,3	0,4	12,2
7 Artisans and skilled workers in manufacturing and construction (except plant and machinery operators)	93,9	8,3	54,1
8 Plant and machinery operators and assemblers	54,4	6,0	26,0
9 Elementary occupations	61,8	122,5	60,4
0 Military occupations	0,0	0,0	0,0

Source: Own elaboration based on INE data

Regarding professional situation of the nearly two million (1,982) immigrants working in Spain in the second quarter of 2016, 84.7% were employed workers (1676.3 thousand people), the remaining 15.3% were entrepreneurs (305.7 thousand people) of which 83.2 thousand people were entrepreneurs with dependents and 205.5 thousand workers without employees, this group increased in the crisis years.

The profile of entrepreneurial immigrants who decide to set up their own business is interesting because of its low percentage. For this, there was carried out a survey during August and September of 2016 to 100 immigrants, who are working and are between 16 and 65 years old, to know the probability of being an entrepreneur according to their socio-demographic characteristics. The most relevant variables were: age, marital status, level of education, number of children, place of origin, type of work (self-employed or employee), type of contract (temporary or indefinite), workday (half or full), position in the company, working sector and monthly net salary.

With the information provided by the survey, a Logit model has been developed with the objective of calculating the probability of being an entrepreneur for immigrants who reside in Spain according to their socio-economic characteristics, being "Entrepreneur" the variable object of study, tabulated with the Value 1 if the immigrant interviewed is, and, with the value 0 if the interviewed is employed by a third party,

The main predetermined variables handled in this survey were the following:

- Place of origin: European Union (ue), Rest of Europe (re), Latin America (al), Rest of the world (rm) reference variable.
- Gender. Being the female the benchmark variable.
- Marital status: single (ecs), married (ecc), separated (ecse), other (ot) reference variable.
- Age: between 16 and 19, between 20 and 24, between 25 and 35, between 36 and 45 and over 45. There have been established different categories to the ones of the EPA, and similar to the fomentation laws to see the incidence of these.
- Academic level: 6.9% without studies (nase) variable reference, 72.4% basic and secondary studies (naebm), 12.3% university studies, 8.4% high university studies (naus).
- Number of children (nh)

- Workers: Signed up Social security (ta), black economy (tes) variable of reference.
- Type of work: Self-employed (cp), employee (ca) variable reference.
- Type of contract: Temporary (ct), fixed (cf) variable reference.
- Workday: Full (jlc), half (jlm), other modality (otm) variable reference.
- Position in the company: agricultural employee (ea), housekeeper (eh) labourer or similar (eo), administrative or similar (ead), intermediate command (emi), managerial position (ed), other (otc) variable reference.
- Sector in which your company is located: Primary sector (sp), secondary sector (ss) variable reference, tertiary sector (st).
- Net salary per month (sam): Less than 500 €, between 501 and 1000 €, 1001 to 1500 €, 1501 to 2000, more than 2000 €.

4. Discussion and Results

A descriptive analysis was carried out with the selected variables and the following results have been obtained:

1) Most immigrants come from the European Union, 38,8%, due to the legal facility to find a job according to the provision of free movement of people belonging to the European Union, followed by Latin America with a 26.51% due to the similarity of culture and language, people of the rest of Europe only have a 5.03%.

- Marital status: 46% single (cs), 27% married (ecc), 17% separate (ecse), 10% other (ot) reference variable.
- Age: 12% between 16 and 19, 16% between 20 and 24, 28% between 25 and 35, 32% between 36 and 45 and 28% more than 45. There have been established different categories to the ones of the EPA, and similar to the fomentation laws to see the incidence of these.
- Academic level: 6.9% without studies (nase) variable reference, 72.4% basic and secondary studies (naebm), 12.3% university studies, 8.4% high university studies (naus).
- Number of children (nh): 2.3 on average for immigrants over 35, and 1.1 for those between 25 and 34 years.
- Workers: Signed up in the social security 86.4%, black economy 13.6%.
- Type of work: Self-employed 86% (cp), employee 14% (ca) variable reference.
- Type of contract: Temporary 83.6% (ct), fixed 16.4% (cf) variable reference.
- Workday: Full (jlc) 79.1%, half (jlm) 12.3%, 8.6% other modality (otm) variable reference.
- Position in the company: Agricultural employment (ea) 26,8%, housekeeper (Eh) (37.2%) labourer or similar (eo) 14.6%, administrative or similar (ead) 12.1%, intermediate command 4.8% (emi) , Managerial position (ed) 3.9%, other 4.5% (otc) variable reference.
- Sector in which your company is located: Primary sector 33.2% (sp), secondary sector (ss) 3.3% Reference variable, tertiary sector (st) 63.5%.
- Net salary per month (sam): Less than 500 € 36.8%, between 501 and 1000 € 49.5%, 1001 to 1500 € 11.5%, 1501 to 2000, more than 2000 € 2.2%.

In addition, with the information provided by the questionnaire, there was developed a logit model to explain the probability of being an immigrant entrepreneur taking into account the personal characteristics. For qualitative variables (level of studies, position in the company, sector where the company is located, labour status, civil status, place of origin, etc.) dummy variables were used (assigning the value 1 to the category that is being analysed and 0 to the others). Numeric variables were treated as such.

The designed model of the estimate:

$$\text{Entrepreneurship} = 1 / (1 + e^{-(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{ue} + \beta_2 \text{re} + \beta_3 \text{al} + \beta_4 \text{naebm} + \beta_5 \text{naum} + \beta_6 \text{naus} + \beta_7 \text{ecs} + \beta_8 \text{ecc} + \beta_9 \text{ecse} + \beta_{10} \text{nh} + \beta_{11} \text{edad} + \beta_{12} \text{ct} + \beta_{13} \text{sam} + \beta_{14} \text{sp} + \beta_{15} \text{st} + \beta_{16} \text{ea} + \beta_{17} \text{eo} + \beta_{18} \text{eh} + \beta_{19} \text{ead} + \beta_{20} \text{emi} + \beta_{21} \text{ed} + \beta_{22} \text{sexo})}) + \epsilon$$

Table 2. Statistical results.

Dependent Variable: Sep		
Method: ML - Binary Logit (Quadratic hill climbing)		
Included observations: 100		
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error
Ordered	B ₀ = 0.062	0.009
European Union Origin EU	B ₁ = 0.567	0.213
Rest of Europe Origin RE	B ₂ = - 0.112	0.002
Latin America Origin AL	B ₃ = 0.856	0.143
Basic academic level and means NAEBM	B ₄ = 1.356	0.476
Academic level. Middle university NAUM	B ₅ = 0.256	0.033
Academic level. Univer. Superior NAUS	B ₆ = 0.278	0.012
Civil status single ECS	B ₇ = 0.785	0.257
Marital status Married ECC	B ₈ = 1.359	0.346
Separate civil status ECSE	B ₉ = 0.112	0.027
Number of children NH	B ₁₀ = 0.967	0.287
Age	B ₁₁ = 1.354	0.356
Temporary contract type CT	B ₁₂ = 2.548	0.458
Net salary per month SAM	B ₁₃ = - 8.675	0.876
Secondary sector SP	B ₁₄ = -4.526	1.329
Third sector ST	B ₁₅ = 6.475	1.135
Agricultural occupation EA	B ₁₆ = -0.356	0.021
Labourer occupation EO	B ₁₇ = -0.438	0.024
Household employee occupation EH	B ₁₈ = -0.124	0.014
Administrative occupation EAD	B ₁₉ = 0.217	0.036
Intermediate job position EMI	B ₂₀ = 0.678	0.542
Manager occupation ED	B ₂₁ = 4.576	0.156
Gender	B ₂₂ = 6.784	0.322

R2McFadden =0.62. LR (Ratio of likelihood) = 72, with probability limit of zero indicating good predictive capacity of the model.*Significant coefficients $\alpha=0,05$, the positive value of the coefficients indicates greater probability of being enterprising with respect to the reference variable.

The following results are obtained from the previous model:

The variable that most influences to be enterprising is gender, men are more entrepreneurial than women (B₂₂ = 6.784), as can be seen by the value of the coefficient and its positive sign.

Immigrants from Latin America are more entrepreneurial than those from the European Union. This result is consistent with studies by Sanders and Nee (1996); in this field and according to these authors, ethnic groups constitute a growing minority within the labour force in many developed countries, showing marked differences with respect to their preferences for self-employment, due to several reasons among which we can cite: the belief that entrepreneurship offers a way out of poverty, especially for immigrants.

People with basic education B₄ = 1.356 are more entrepreneurial than those with a higher academic level B₆ = 0.278, as these are usually employed.

However, the immigrant group is less entrepreneurial than the national one, since only 15.3% are entrepreneurs versus the national ones with a rate of 20.91%, these results are different of those obtained from the studies by Clark and Drinkwater (1998) which show that Chinese, Pakistani, Bengali and Indian immigrants in Britain had higher self-employment rates than those of the country's origin. In contrast, INE's self-employment statistics indicate similar results to those

obtained by Fairlie and Meyer (1996) in the United States, which found that self-employment rates for Hispanics were lower than nationals.

The main characteristics of the entrepreneurial immigrant in Spain are being male, middle-aged (35-40 years), married and with children (more children equal greater probability of being an entrepreneur), this is due to the jobs he could get as an employee are too poorly paid that, in order to be able to carry out his family, he must become his own employer, work in the tertiary sector, mainly in the retail and managerial positions, as chief manager of his own company.

5. Conclusion

This study contributes with an analysis of the construction of the identity or profile creation of the entrepreneur in Spain. Immigration and identity research is now beginning to go beyond particular country studies to observe this phenomenon in a diversity of national contexts. The proof we have so far points to the difficulty of the issues nearby ethnic identity, immigration and adaptation.

The crisis experienced in Spain since 2009 has shown that the most vulnerable group to job losses has been that of immigrants, especially those from Latin America who have been reduced to more than half in just over a five-year period. To alleviate this situation, many have left the country and those who stayed have decided to start their own business being men the most enterprising, but they have faced some difficulties such as financial institutions discrimination to obtain resources and setting up their business as well as little support from local institutions because of administrative obstacles.

Regarding our study, Spain is the fourth power in the European Union, which places it in a position of immigrant receiving country, despite having the ninth position due to the low minimum wage it offers. The profile presented by the immigrant entrepreneur is male, a similar result to studies on entrepreneurship in Spain where it is shown that men undertake more than women in line with studies by Brush (1992); Buttner and Moore, (1997) and Fischer et al., (1993). Regarding the analysis of the entrepreneurs origin (Goffee and Scase, 1983, Scott, 1986, Kaplin, 1988, Buttner, 1993), it is observed that they come from the European Union and from Latin America, it is mainly due to the call effect (Abad, 2001), language (Wallerstein, 1982) and same cultural tradition (Phinney et al., 2001).

However, the entrepreneurs who, in this turbulent economic period, have set up their businesses have invested more hours of work than the residents in order to make the business profitable, it is therefore the immigrant community an important part of the Spanish labour market, even when there are not many entrepreneurs, this group has grown with the crisis with respect to the employees workers contributing wealth to the national economy in addition to cultural diversity and generational relief that makes a country grow, being therefore the immigrant entrepreneurship a factor to take into account and support from the public administrations, as their achievements will be reverted in Spanish society in general.

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