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de Criminología

UNLAWFUL OCCUPATION OF HOUSING AS A PARADIGMATIC EXAMPLE OF THE FEMINIZATION OF POVERTY

A GENDER-BASED ANALYSIS IN ANDALUSIA (SPAIN)

CRISTINA PALOMINO JIMÉNEZ

Fellowship – Universidad de Málaga (Spain)



State of the art



- ① Crimes committed by women
 - Non-violent
 - Instrumental
 - Feminisation of poverty

- ② Feminisation of residential exclusion.
 - ↳ Increased inequalities in times of crisis.
 - ↳ Spain: *Housing crisis*.



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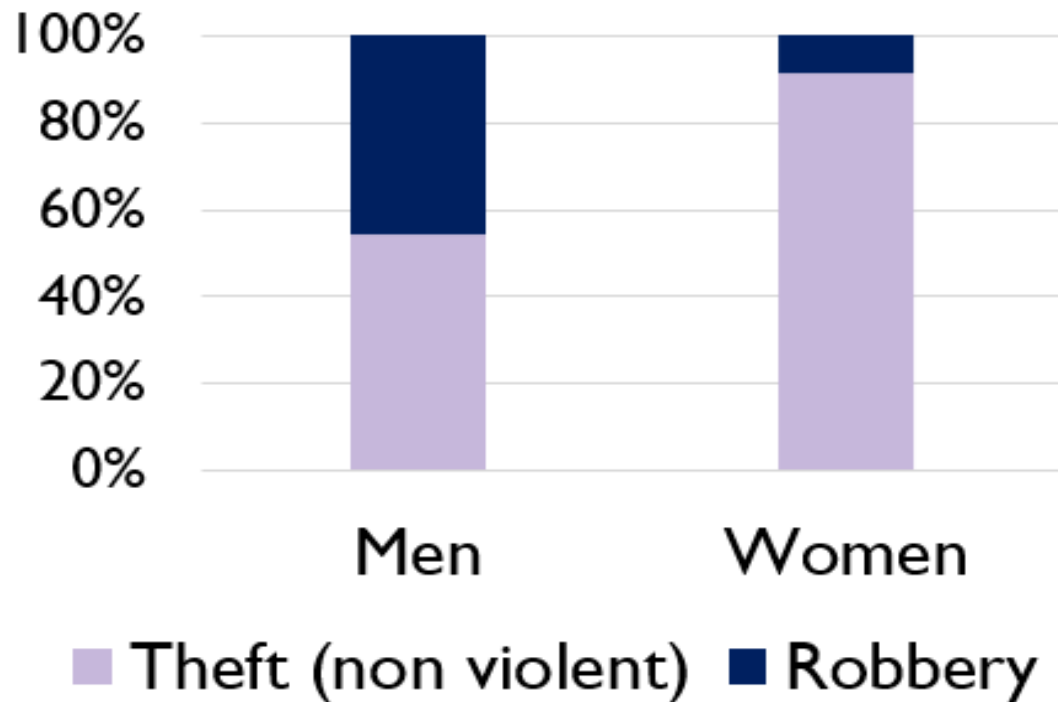
1 Crimes committed by women



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- ⇒ Crimes against property: robbery vs theft.
- ⇒ Crimes against public health: drug dealing.

Aimed at obtaining financial resources.



Data from INE, 2013-2023 period. Own elaboration.

- Incorporation into the public sphere.
→ Precarity.
- Feminisation of poverty.
→ Western countries.
- Anti-drug policies.



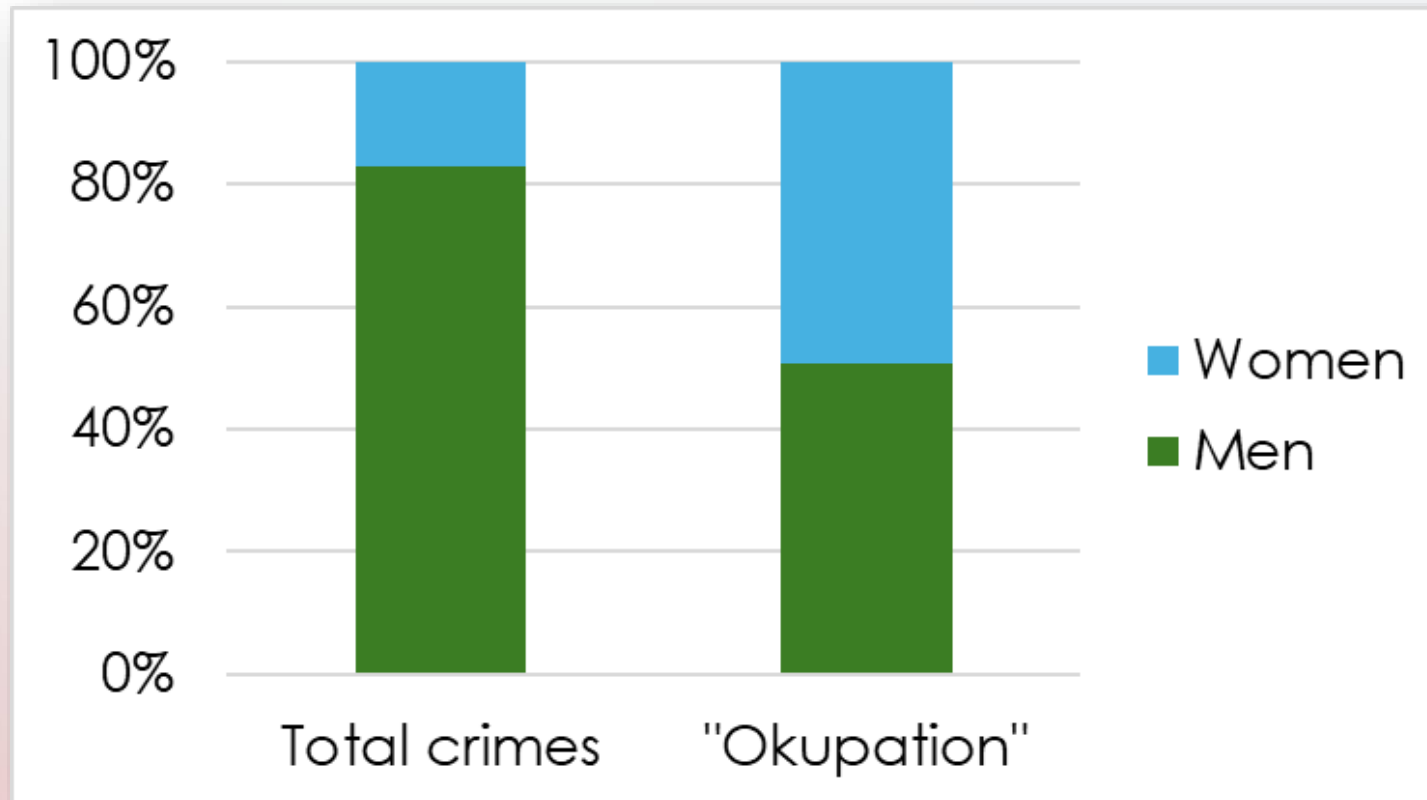
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1 Crimes committed by women



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➔ Unlawful occupation of housing ("okupation") as a paradigmatic case



Data from INE, 2013-2023 period. Own elaboration.



2 Feminisation of housing exclusion



A progressive, structural and multidimensional process.

Disconnection that a person may experience in different areas: relational, social, personal, residential and economic-labour.

Residential sphere: Changeable (life cycle, subjective, privacy).

Satisfying needs: accessibility, suitability, habitability, stability.

Inclusion of a gender perspective in housing matters (N/I).

👁️! Not enough



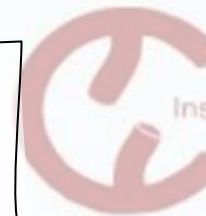
Unequal access to **basic resources** (health, education, housing).

Distance between the theoretical-declarative plane (**politics**) and the practical-political plane (**policy**)



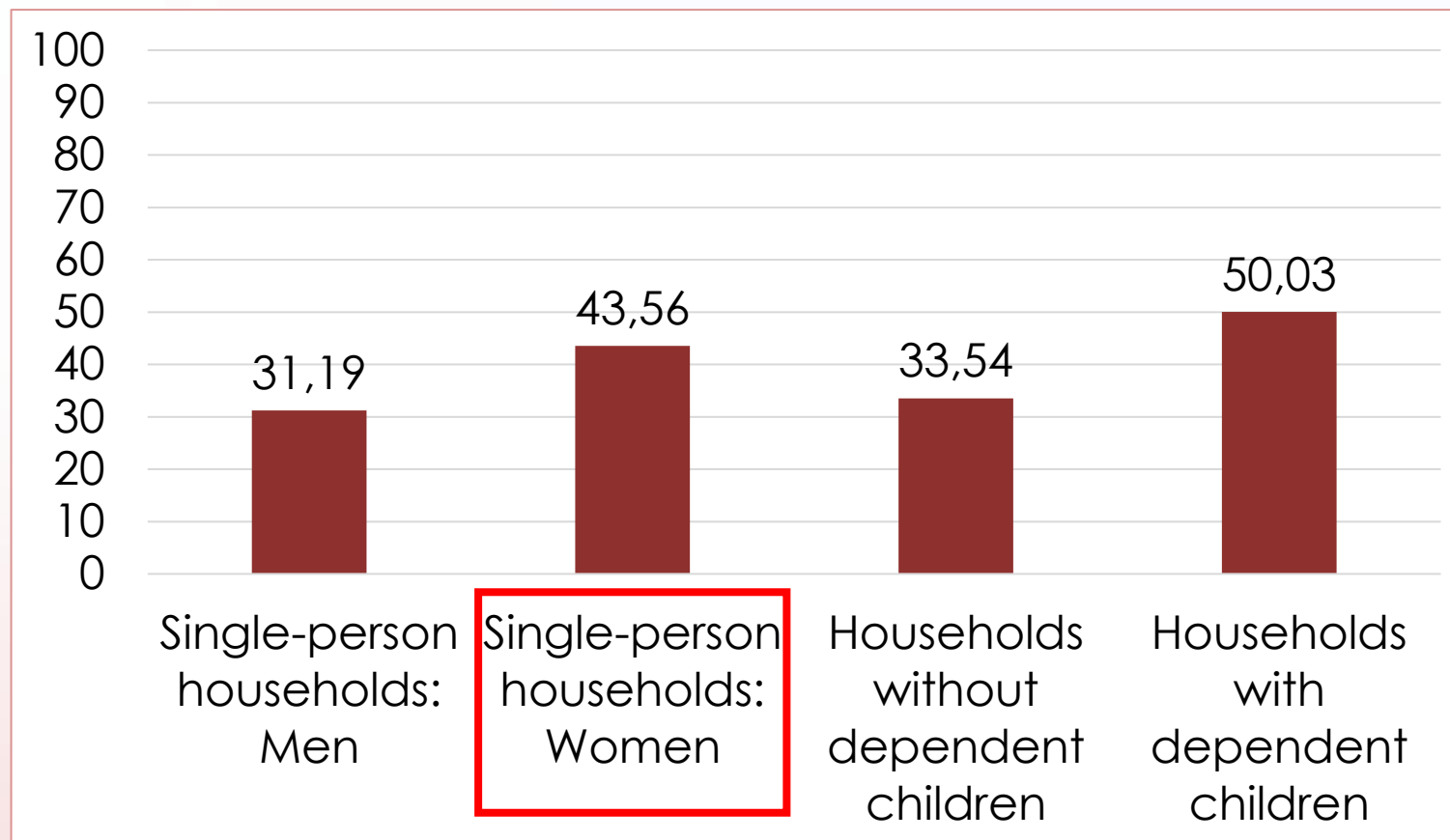
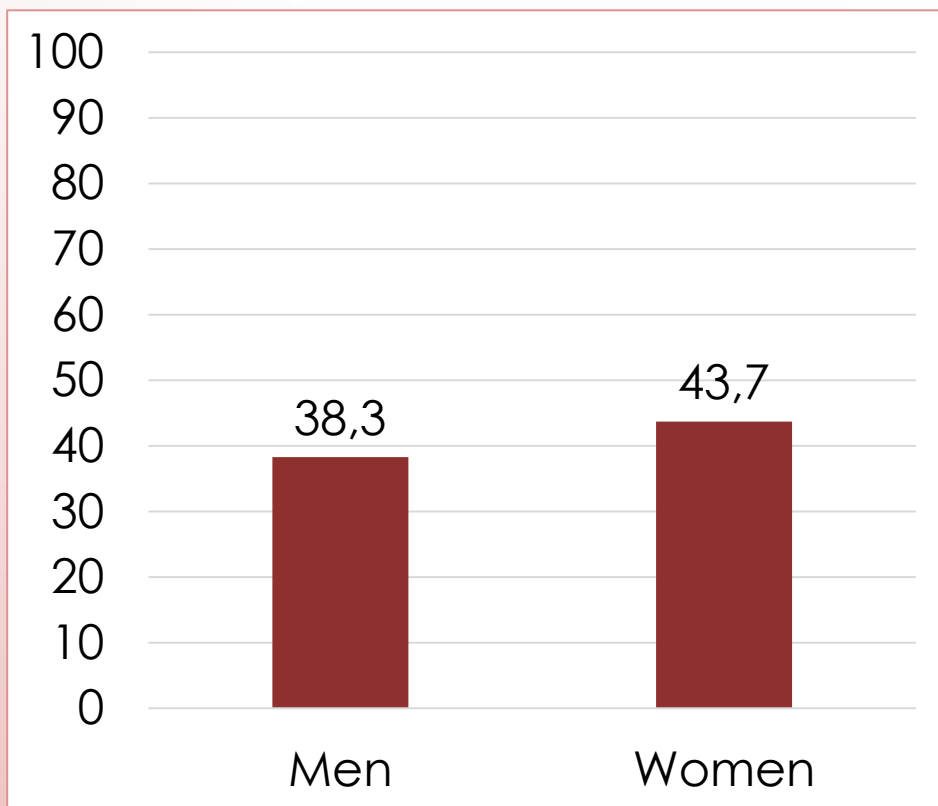
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What are Andalusian homes like? Survey on Living Conditions in Andalusia



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Consideration of household expenditure as a 'heavy burden' (2023):





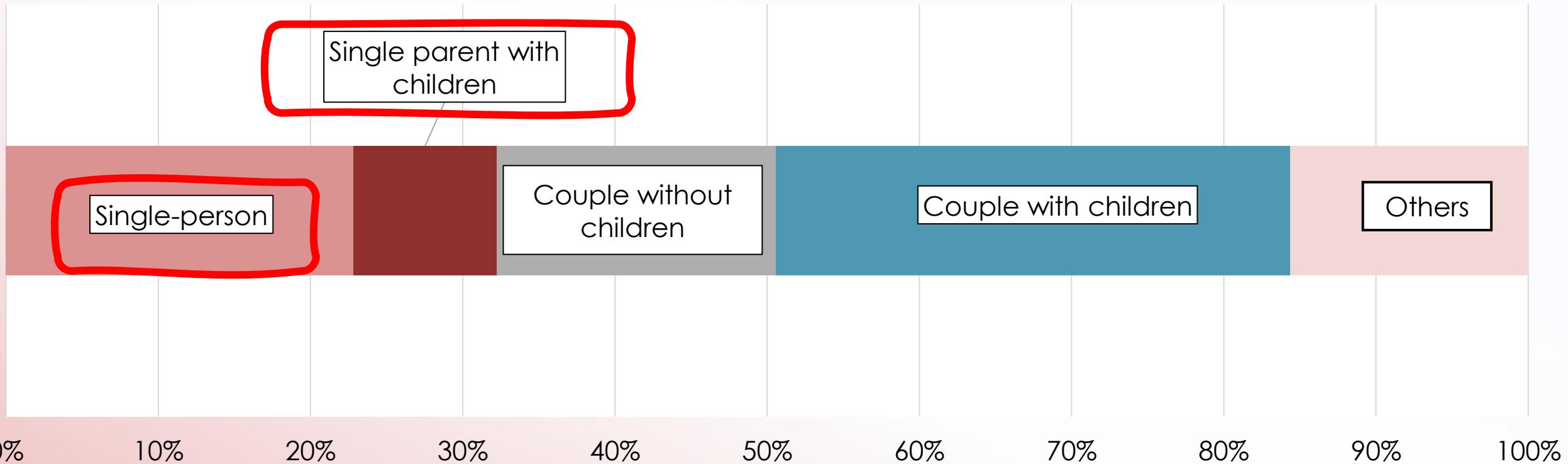
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Type of household(2021):





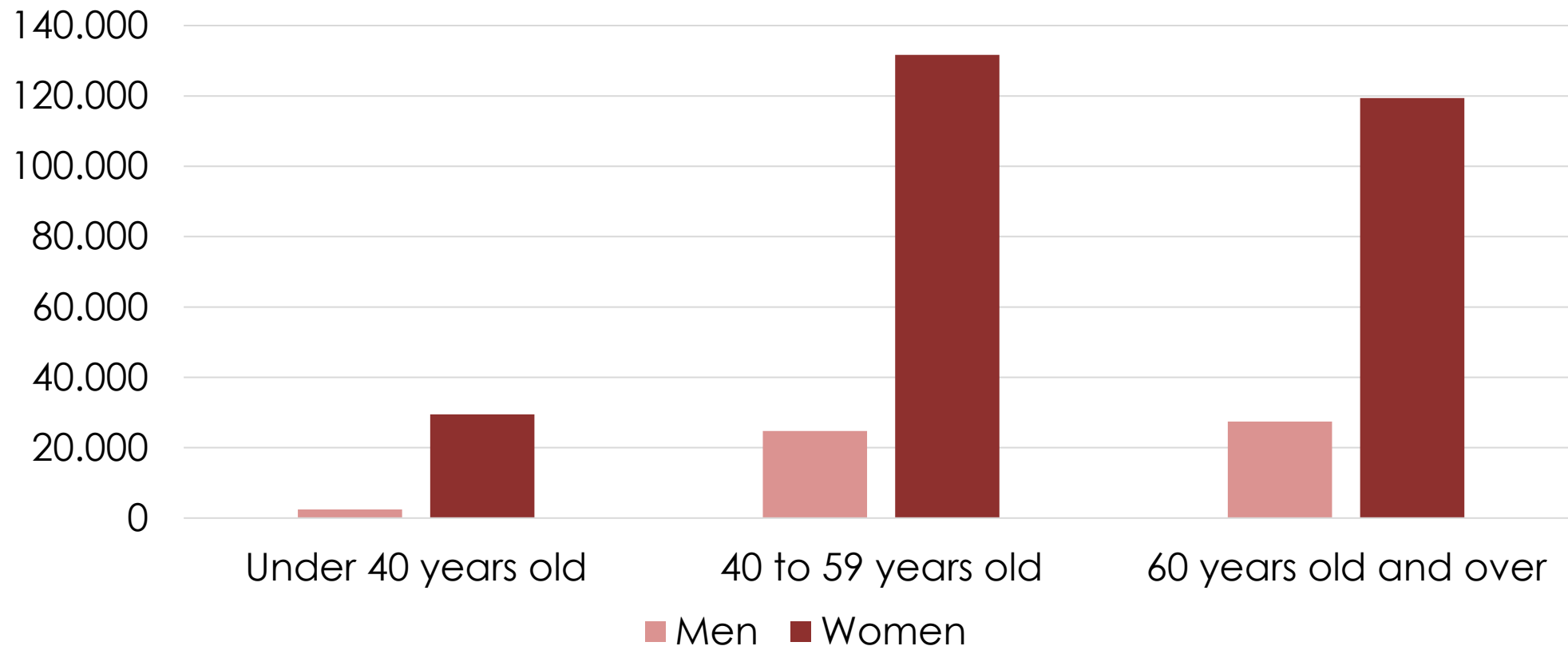
What are Andalusian homes like? Survey on Living Conditions in Andalusia



Single-parent households (2021).

↳ 84% single mothers.

↳ This trend is repeated throughout Andalusia.





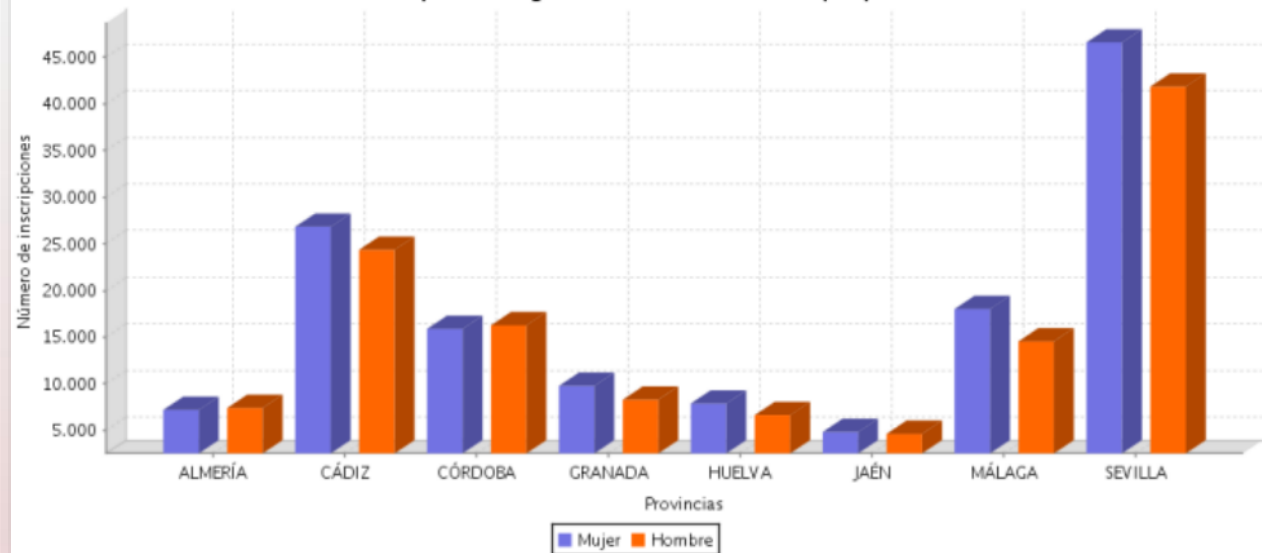
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Who are the applicants for social housing in Andalusia?

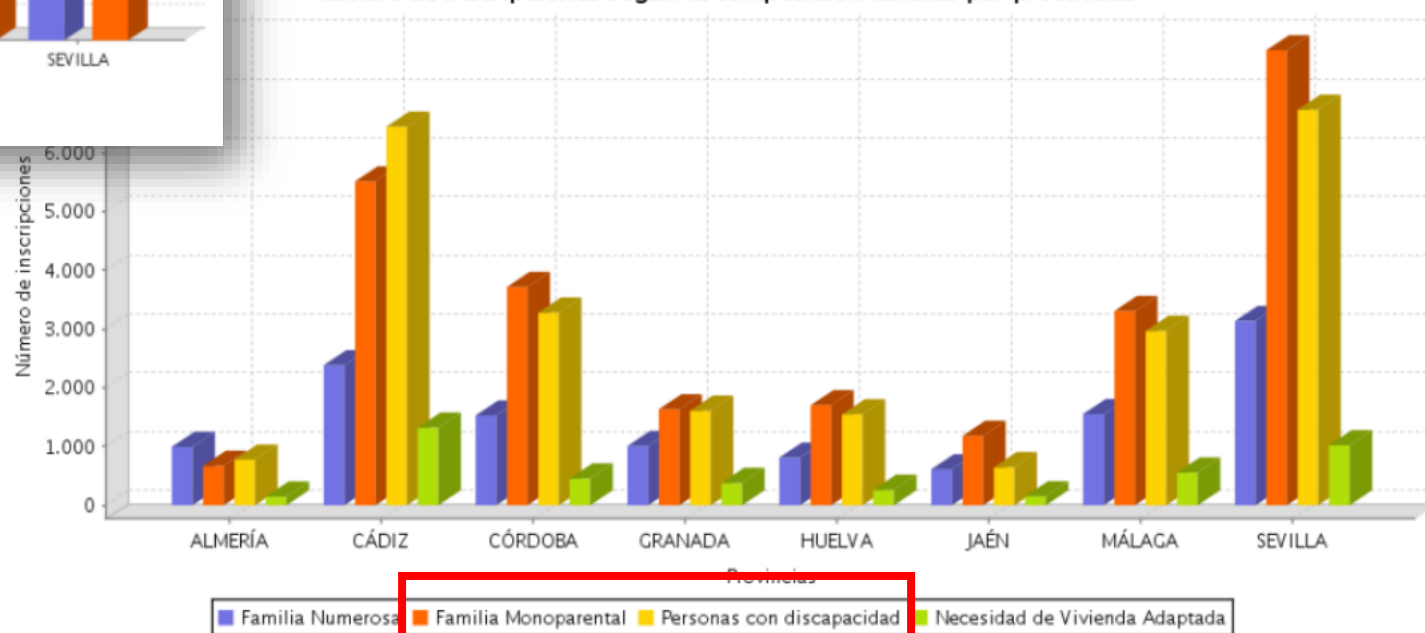


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Nº de inscripciones según el sexo del demandante por provincias



Número de inscripciones según la composición familiar por provincias



Annual statistics from the Regional Ministry of Development, Territorial Coordination and Housing (2009 – 2024).



Public housing: politics or policy?



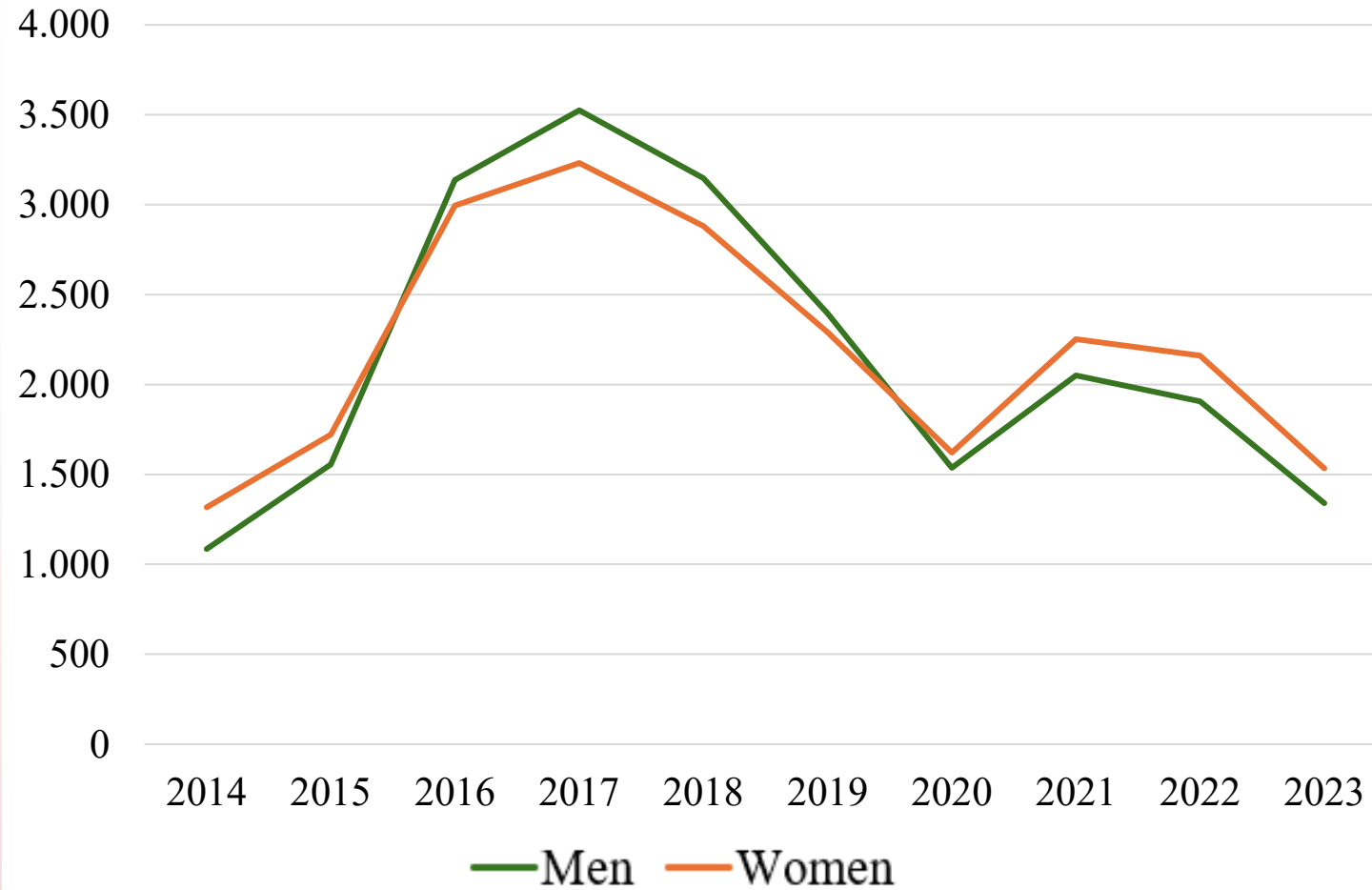
➔ The autonomous regions/provinces establish the selection and exclusion criteria.

➔ Andalusia: *Preliminary Draft of the Andalusian Housing Law 2024:*

In the **five years** prior to the application, applicants for social housing must not have been **convicted** by a final judgement for squatting or **unlawful occupation**, nor have been the subject of a final **administrative decision** in proceedings for recovery and/or eviction for occupation without title.



Public housing: politics or policy?



Persons **convicted** for unlawful occupation: **Spain** (INE).



Some conclusions

- 1 Female delinquency directly related to material conditions.
- 2 Housing as a cause of social exclusion:
 - For previous offences of unlawful occupation.
 - Women are in a peculiar situation: single parenthood, work, family responsibilities...
- 3 *Politics vs policy:*
 - Andalusian regulations on housing.
 - Need for more inclusive policies with a gender perspective, not “gender-blind”.