

# Economic liberalization, changing livelihoods and gender dimensions in rural Mexico

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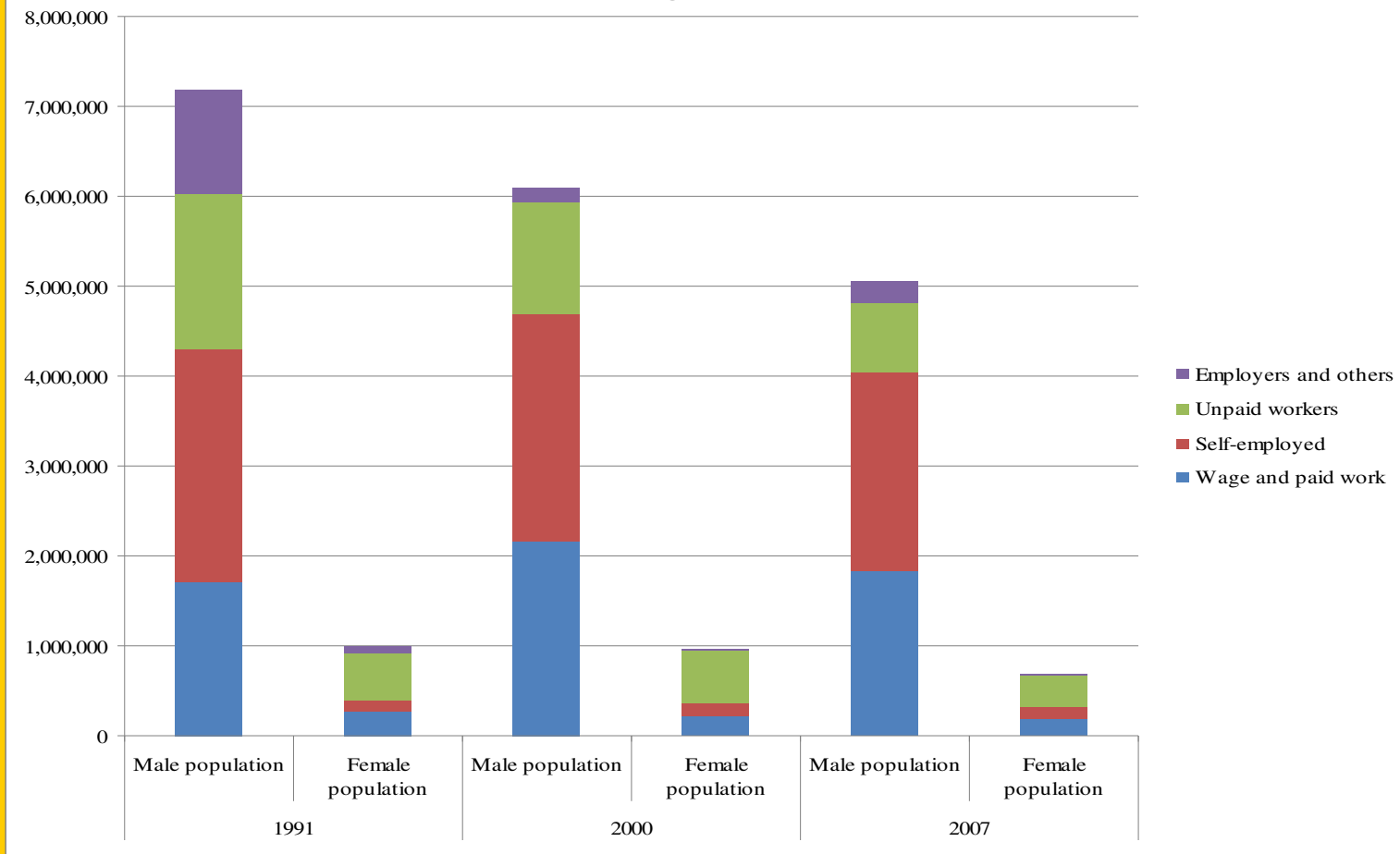


- “We don’t want our men to go North [to the US] we want employment in the village for them and for all of us”

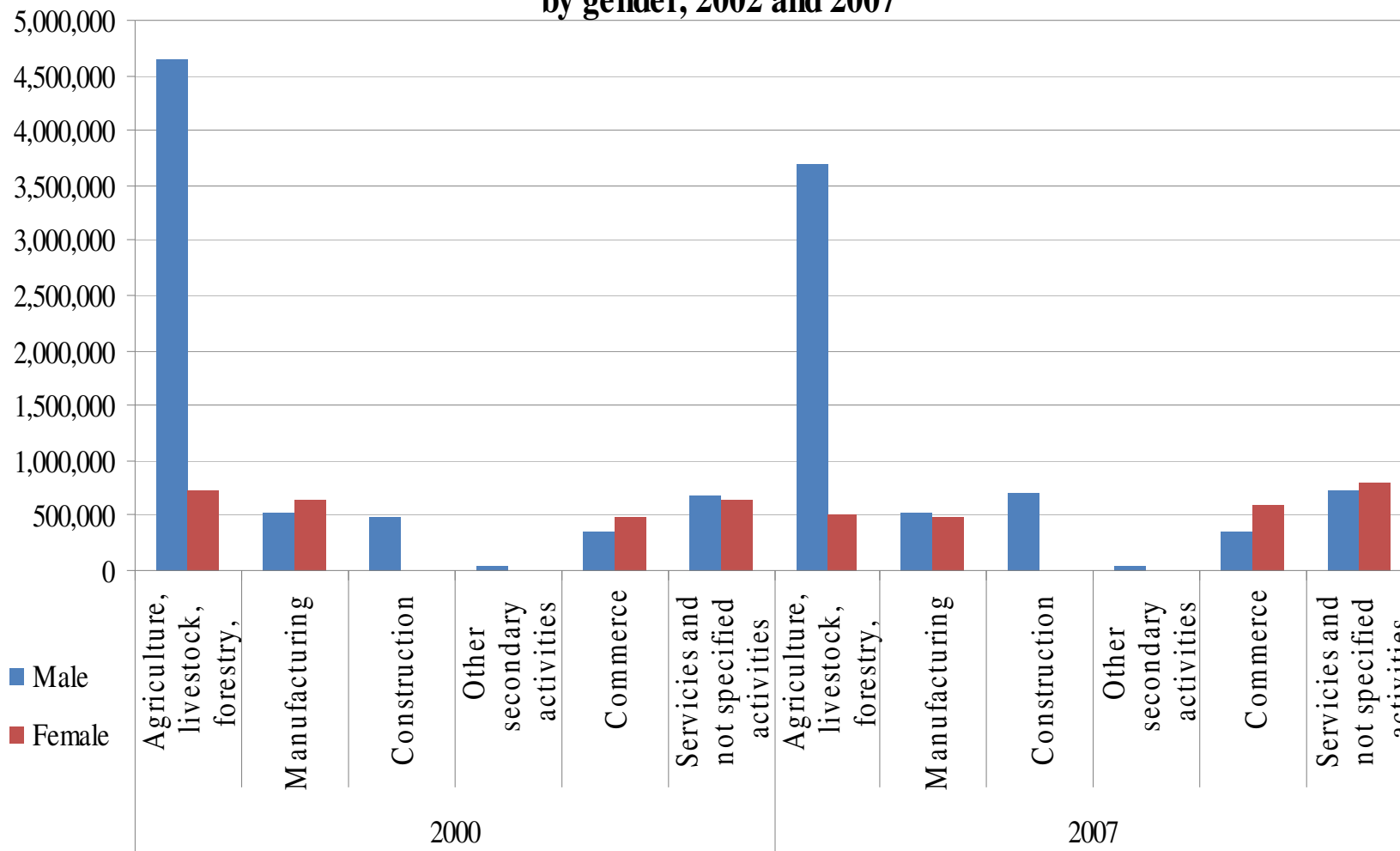
- (Focus Group women of B.H., 2003)

# National data

**Graph 2. Mexico. Population occupied in agricultural activities by occupational situation and gender.**



**Graph 3. Population occupied in rural localities by economic activity and subsector by gender, 2002 and 2007**



**Table 2. Households receiving income transfers**

Community	No. of households		Average annual pesos (2003)**
	receiving	%	
<b>Public transfers</b>			
<i>Procampo*</i>			
EPG	106	93	1,126
Boye	19	92	1,584
BH	26	93	2,862
<i>Oportunidades</i>			
EPG	71	62	3,258
Boye	43	54	3,888
BH	31	51	3,252
<i>Private transfers</i>			
EPG	13	11	25,723
Boye	22	28	33,260
BH	29	47	28,512

Source: 2003 Survey

\* Households with land. \*\* Ten pesos equal to one US dollar.

# Future research

- Change in land inheritance patterns associated with off-farm based livelihoods: towards gender equity?
- Non-farm occupations: type of jobs: non-quality jobs: are they 'empowering' women?
- Transfer payments and rural communities as consumption economies: are they drivers of growth?
- The impact of return migration in the context of international crisis: impact on gender relations

# Policy Implications

- Need to reactivate agricultural growth:
  - Rural employment
  - Food security
  - Build local and regional food markets
- Local programs for employment creation with ‘quality jobs’: farm and non-farm
- State supported educational programs beyond middle school: technical
- A regional and micro-regional approach to rural development