

Geographies of Access:

A Spatial Analysis of Access to
Public Obstetric Services for
Migrant Populations in Buenos
Aires

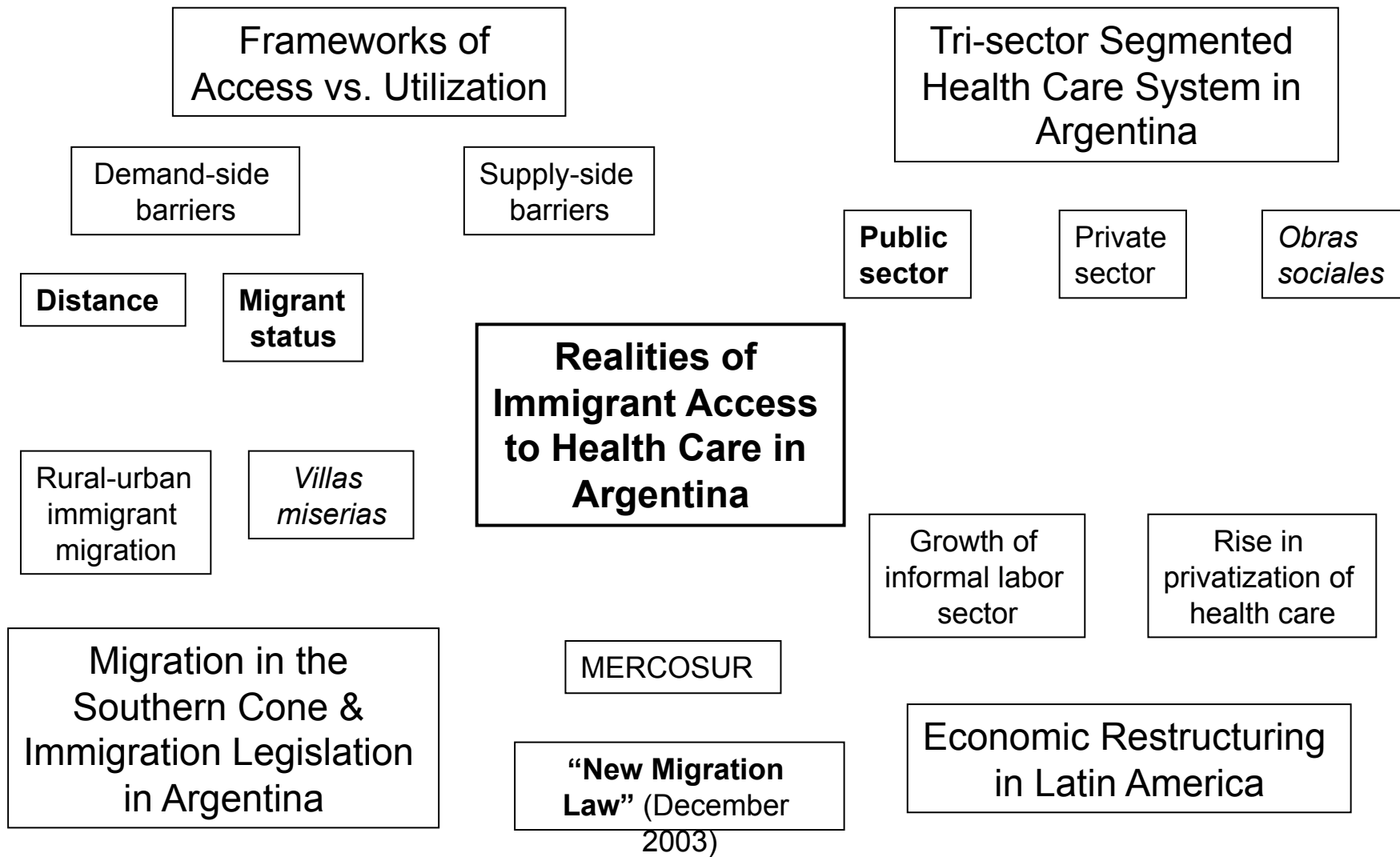
Research Questions

1. Is the percentage of migrant patients utilizing public obstetric services at Hospital Rivadavia proportional to the percentage of migrants in the total population of each partido?
2. Is utilization of public obstetric services at Hospital Rivadavia geographically equitable for migrant patients compared to native Argentines?

And the implicit...

- Who is actually using the public health care sector in Argentina?
- How does the geographic distribution and migrant status of patients at Hospital Rivadavia inform our understanding of this demographic?
- How can these spatial observations inform both immigration and health care policy at municipal, national, and regional scales?

Framing the Issues

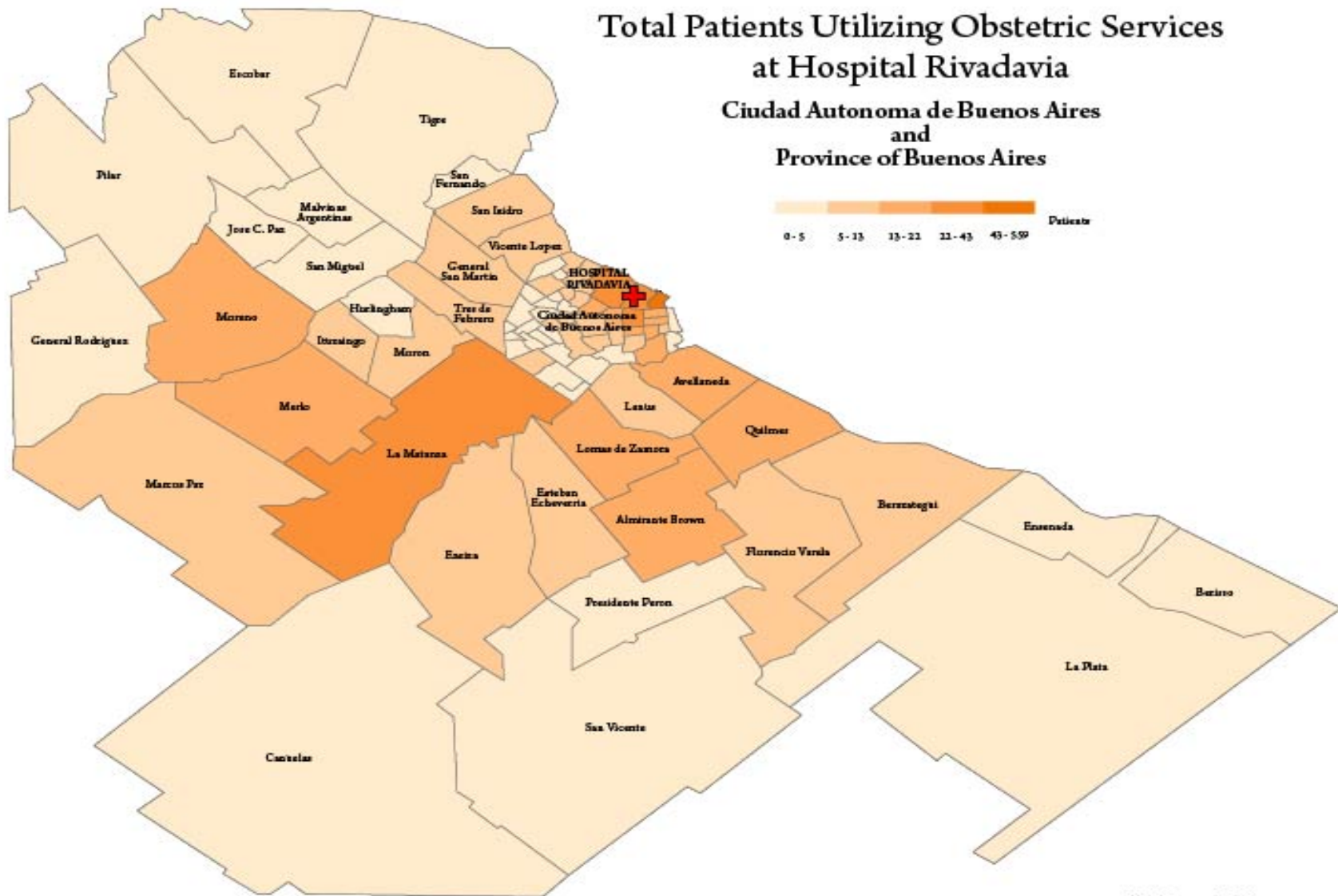


Case Study Methodology

- Geocode patient data
 - 722 female patients receiving obstetric care at Hospital Rivadavia between January 2009 - November 2009
- Analysis of patient data at 2 scales
 - Neighborhood level within the Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires
 - Partido level (county level) within the Province of Buenos Aires or “Gran Buenos Aires”
- Nearest Neighbor analysis to determine clustering
- Network distance analysis
 - Using roads network of Buenos Aires, with an impedance of 50 km/h
- Creation of service areas
 - 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 45, 60 minute intervals

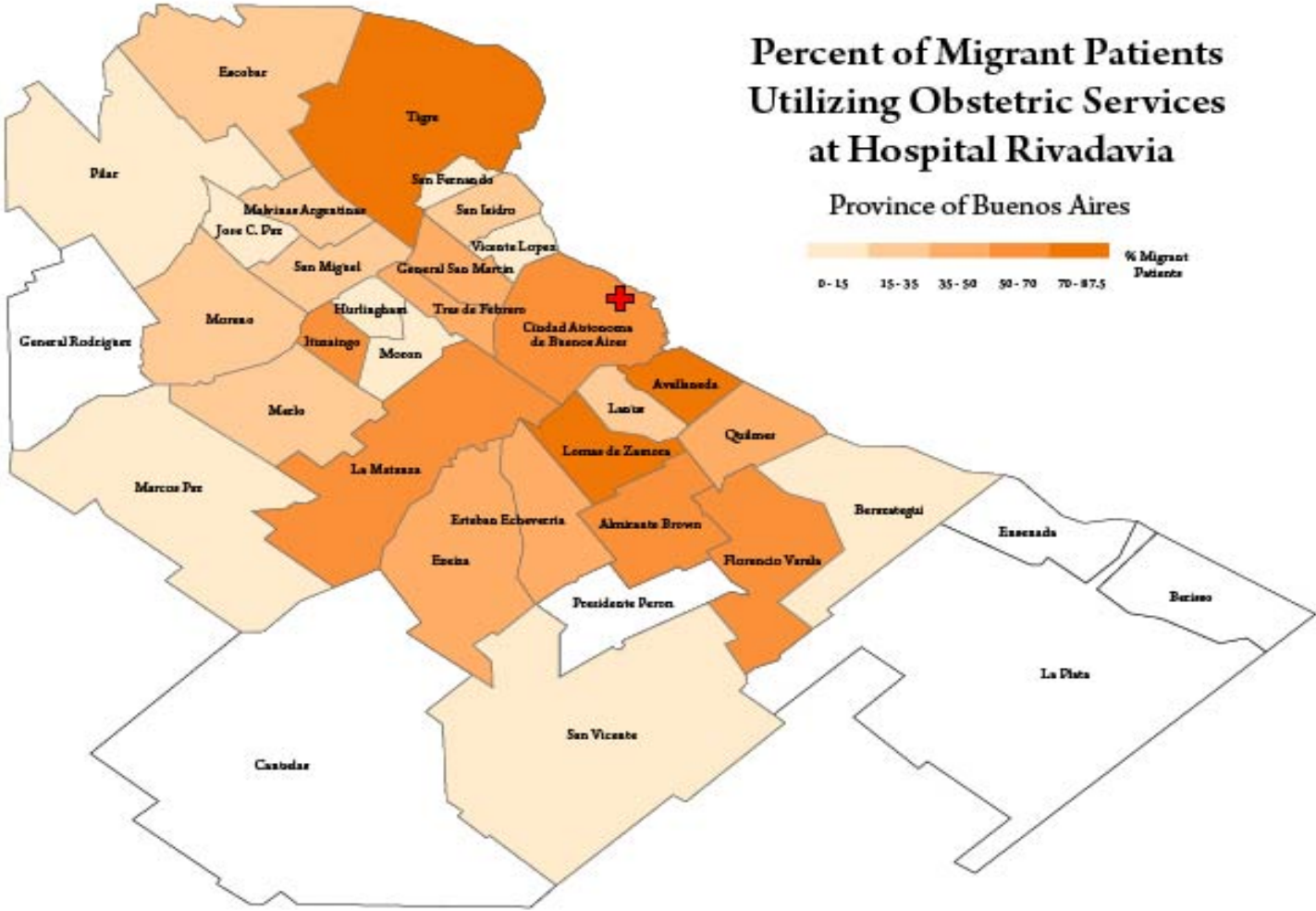
Total Patients Utilizing Obstetric Services at Hospital Rivadavia

Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires
and
Province of Buenos Aires



Percent of Migrant Patients Utilizing Obstetric Services at Hospital Rivadavia

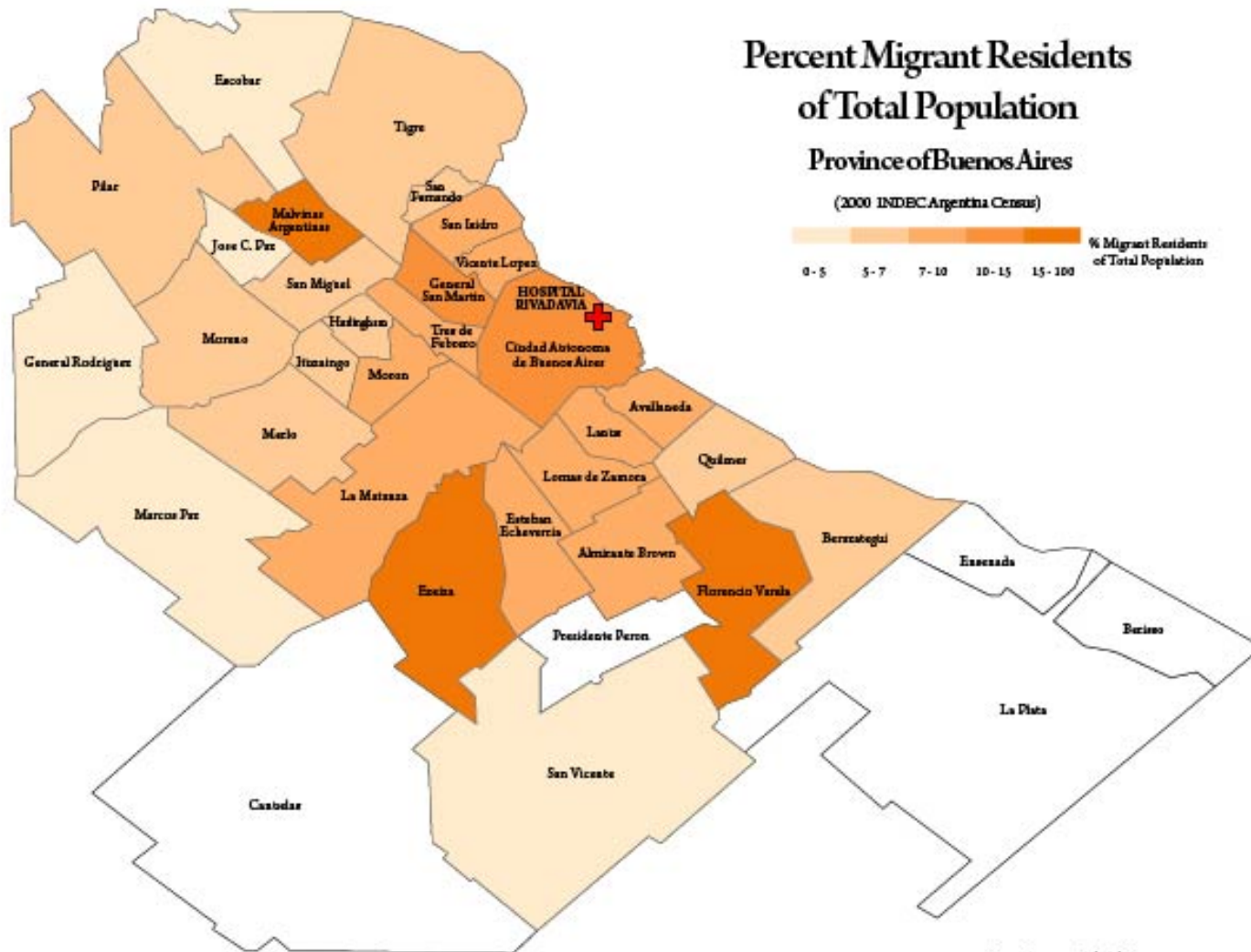
Province of Buenos Aires

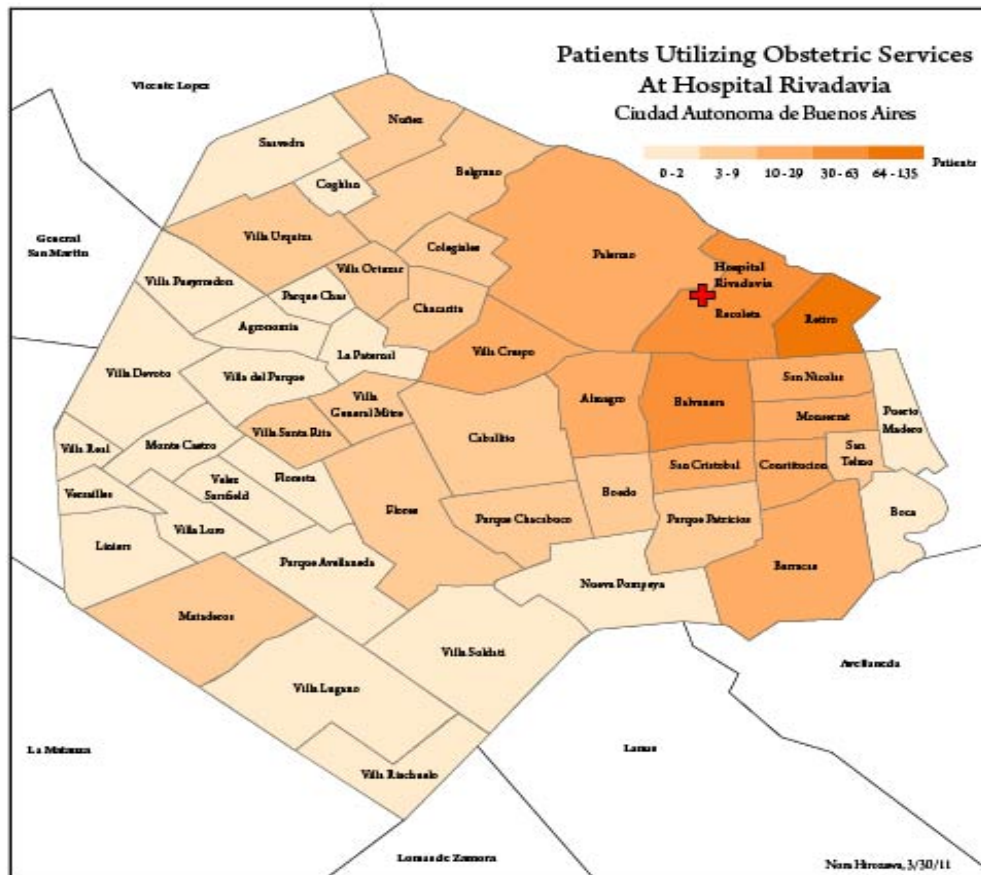


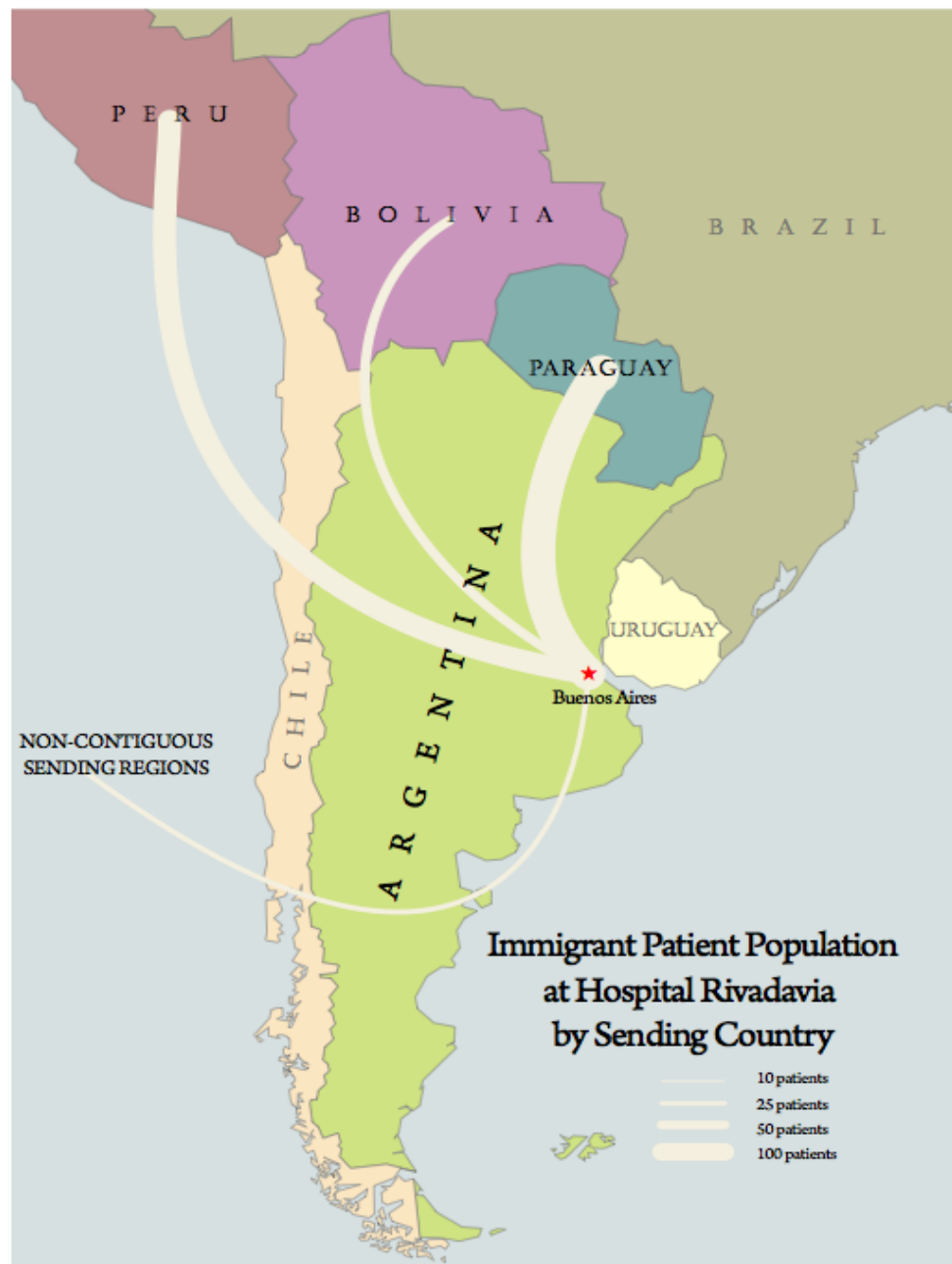
Percent Migrant Residents of Total Population

Province of Buenos Aires

(2000 INDEC Argentina Census)

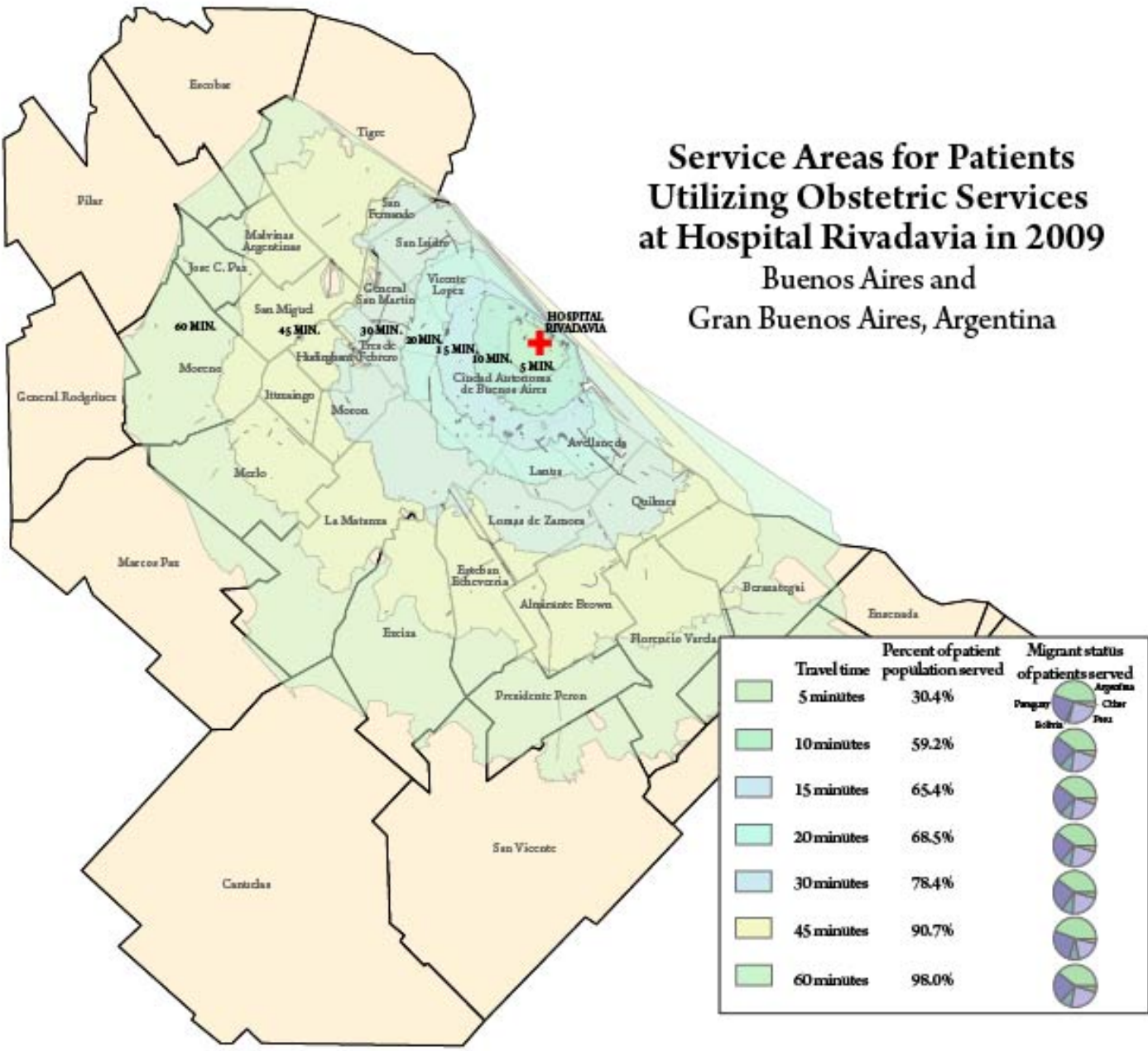






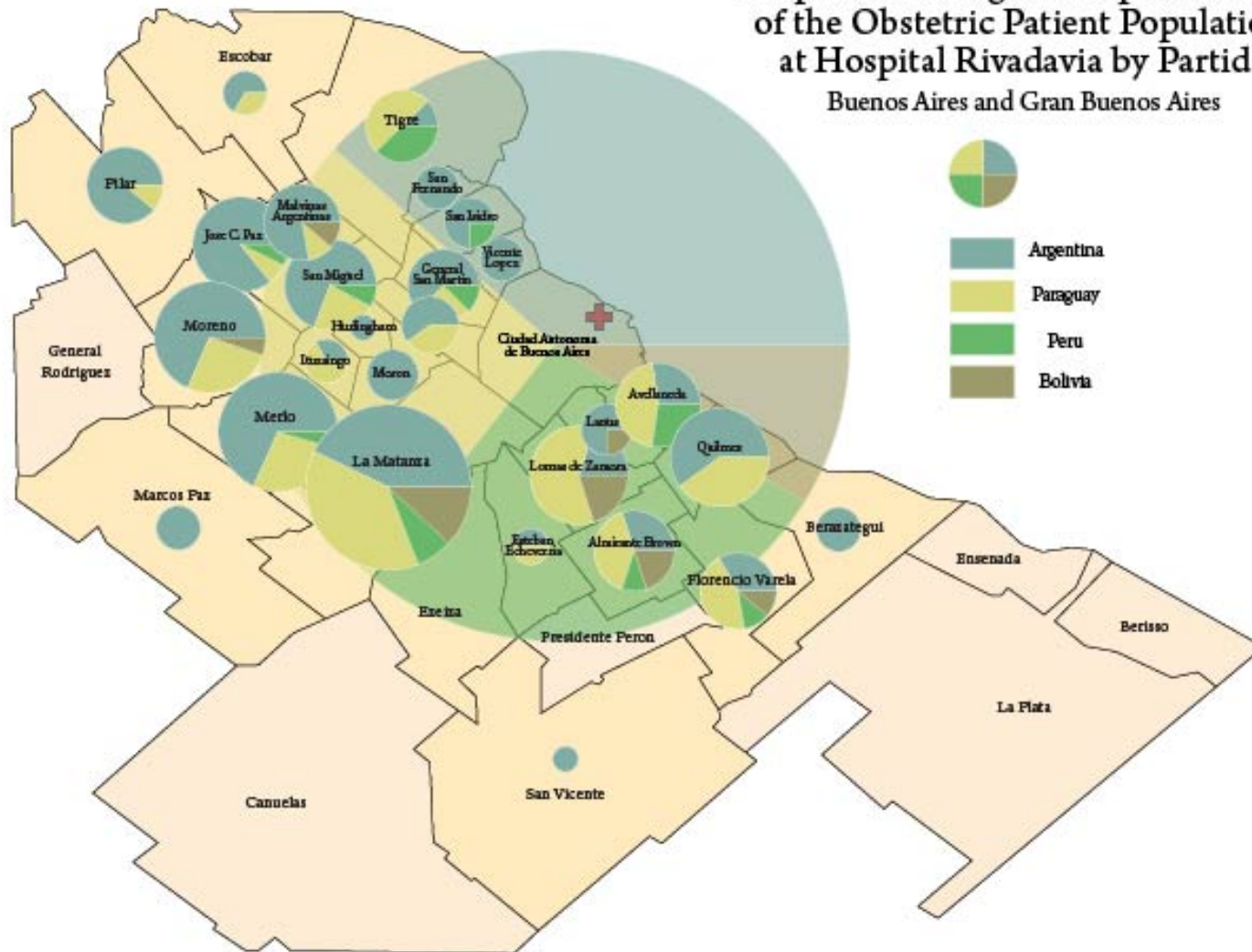
Service Areas for Patients Utilizing Obstetric Services at Hospital Rivadavia in 2009

Buenos Aires and Gran Buenos Aires, Argentina



Proportional Migrant Representation of the Obstetric Patient Population at Hospital Rivadavia by Partido

Buenos Aires and Gran Buenos Aires



Conclusions

- Disproportionate utilization of public health care by immigrant populations- what are the implications?
 - Success of the New Migration Law (December 2003) on expanding access to health care for immigrant populations
 - Segmentation of the Argentine health care system
 - Reflective of the increased divisions in the health care system driven by privatization; how can equity in the quality of services be preserved across all 3 sectors?
- Trends among different immigrant populations suggest the importance of migrant identity, geographic residence, and information networks to the utilization of public health services
- Significant percentage of patients traveling from outside CABA suggests the existence of supply-side barriers to access