

PA16.02 Tourism, public spaces and urban cultures

# Mobilities around us: Social spatialities and new tourist surroundings in Barcelona The case of Poblenou

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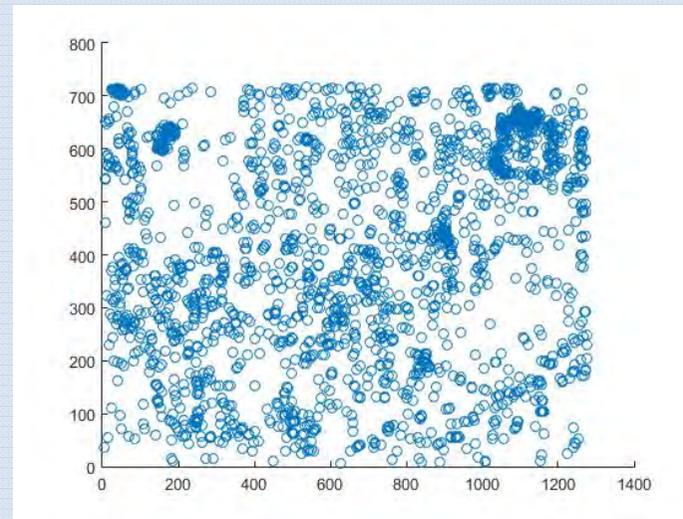
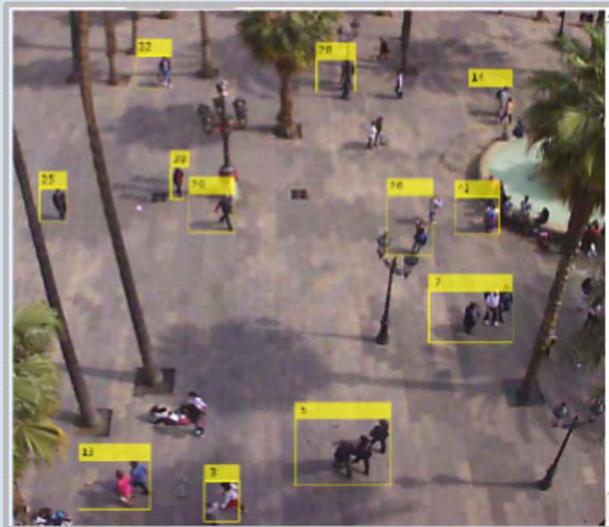
# Objectives of the research

## General objective

To assess the role of tourism in the neighbourhood social life with a focus on mobilities and relational processes;

## Thesis research project

1 stage - Focus on the supposed 'exclusionary' character of space related to certain tourism mobilities – physical clash how different human mobilities negotiate public space



2 stage - Focus on the relational practices which shape the spaces / to analyse the way in which tourism mobilities negotiate and transform the everyday social life of the neighbourhood

# Conceptual approach

This research excavates the shift in social relationships at the neighbourhood scale in the context of cities that are hubs of different mobilities, focusing on the agency of tourism mobilities.

## Mobility turn in social sciences and tourism studies

Cresswell, 2014

Williams & Hall, 2000

Sheller & Urry, 2006

Mobile spatialization  
Urry, 2000

Relational production  
of space Harvey, 2000,  
2006  
Massey, 1992, 1998,  
2005

Discuss the co-construction of society and mobility and in particular how mobilities are socially constitutive or disruptive

# Methodology

## INTEGRATED APPROACH

### Quantitative methods

#### Functional segmentation of Case study area

Aimed to identify tourist subdestinations (Hernández-Martín et al., 2016) and others functional surrounding to compare different public spaces located in different contexts

**Subjectivity of local population and authorities** (Coulton et al., 2001; Flowerdew et al., 2007; Sampson et al., 1997); **Physical and social barriers** (Cutchin et al., 2011; Flowerdew et al., 2007; Sampson et al., 1997; Suttles, 1972); **Enacted boundaries** (Chaskin, 1997; Suttles, 1972)

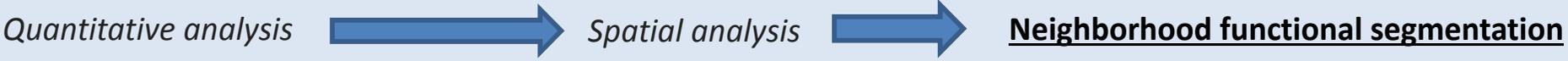
### Qualitative methods

#### Multi-sited fieldwork'

#### Structured interviews

Aim at further characterizing the spatial practices and interactions

Innovations in ethnography, in general terms, have developed monitoring practices such as 'walking with' or 'flânerie' (Ingold & Vergunst 2008; Jensen, 2009; Bairner, 2006), 'tandem ethnography' (Molland, 2013) and 'multi-sited fieldwork' (Marcus 1995),

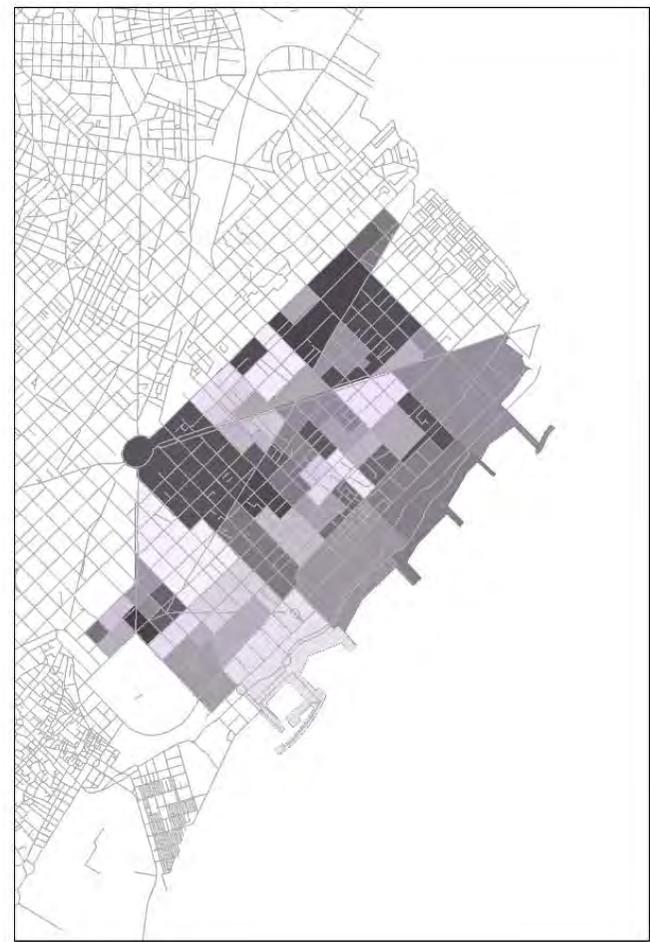


**OBJECTIVE STAGE 1**

**Determine different functions according to the dominant potential demand of mobilities which are observed. This step is motivated by the need to insert the public spaces which we will analyze from the relational perspective, in its spatial context, linking the mutation of the sociocultural landscape to the effects produced by different mobilities actuating (in) urban space.**



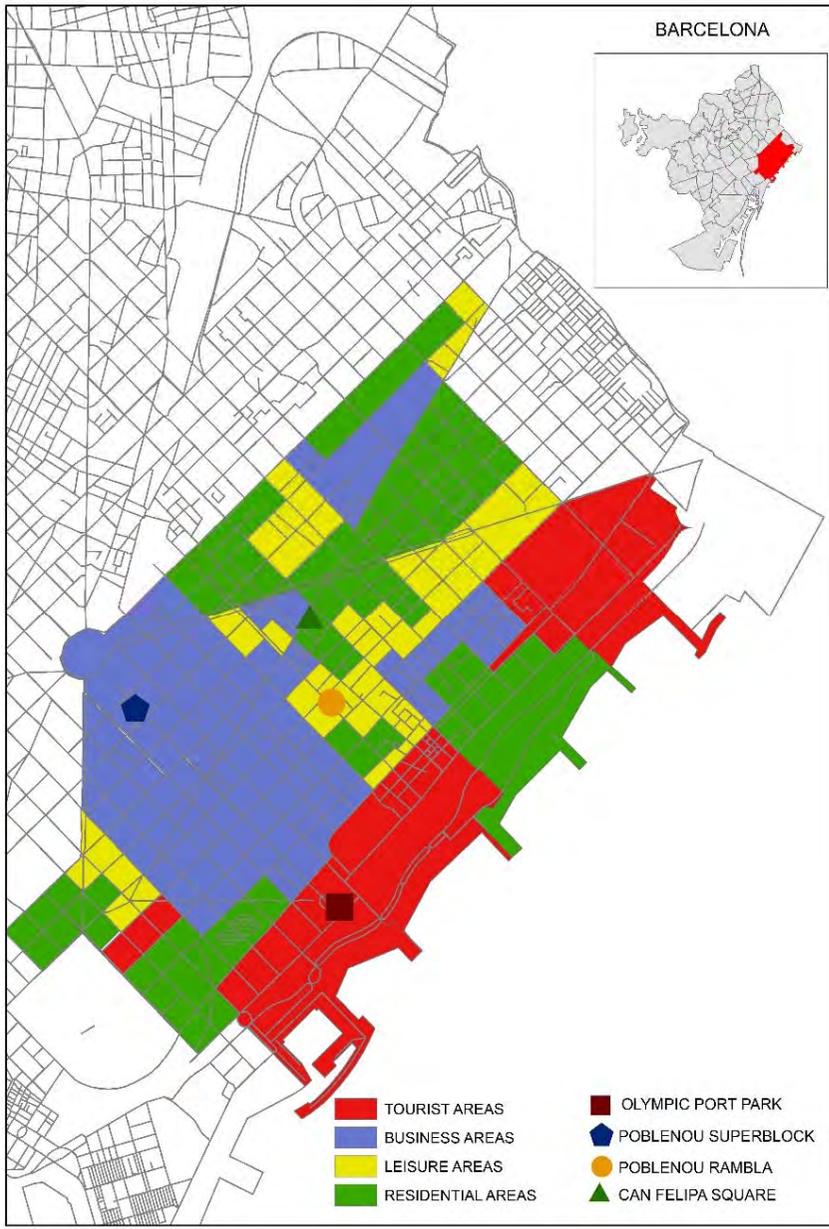
**Functional segmentation based on density of POIs**



# METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK *Quantitative analysis*



Zoning: the areas of the neighborhood have been classified on the basis of the identified dominant function.



FUNCTIONAL AREAS	POINTS OF INTEREST AGGREGATION	DENSITY INDEX	DENSITY INDEX
Tourist areas	Hotel	$(N. POINTs / Census area) / (N. POINTs / Neighborhood area)$	$(N. Hotels / Census division area) / (N. Hotels / Neighborhood area)$
	Tourist flats		$(N. Tourist Flats / Census division area) / (N. Tourist Flats / Neighborhood area)$
	Places of tourist interest		$(N. Places of tourist interest / Census division area) / (N. Places of tourist interest / Neighborhood area)$
Business areas	Services		$(N. Services / Census division area) / (N. Services / Neighborhood area)$
	Office		$(N. Office / Census division area) / (N. Office / Neighborhood area)$
	Institutions		$(N. Institutions / Census division area) / (N. Institutions / Neighborhood area)$
Leisure areas	Retail store		$(N. Shops / Census division area) / (N. Shops / Neighborhood area)$
	Restaurants and bars	$(N. Restaurants and bars / Census division area) / (N. Shops / Neighborhood area)$	
Residencial areas	Housing	$(N. Houses / Census division area) / (N. Houses / Neighborhood area)$	



**Gradient of specialization**

# SELECTION OF CASE STUDY AREAS



SUPERILLA



CAN FELIPA SQUARE



VILLA OLIMPICA GARDEN



RAMBLA POBLE NOU SQUARE



**OBJECTIVE STAGE 2**

Explore four spaces surrounded by different context with respect to its capacity of relational performance and its potentiality to accommodate/exclude different networks of relationships.

**3 sets of questions**

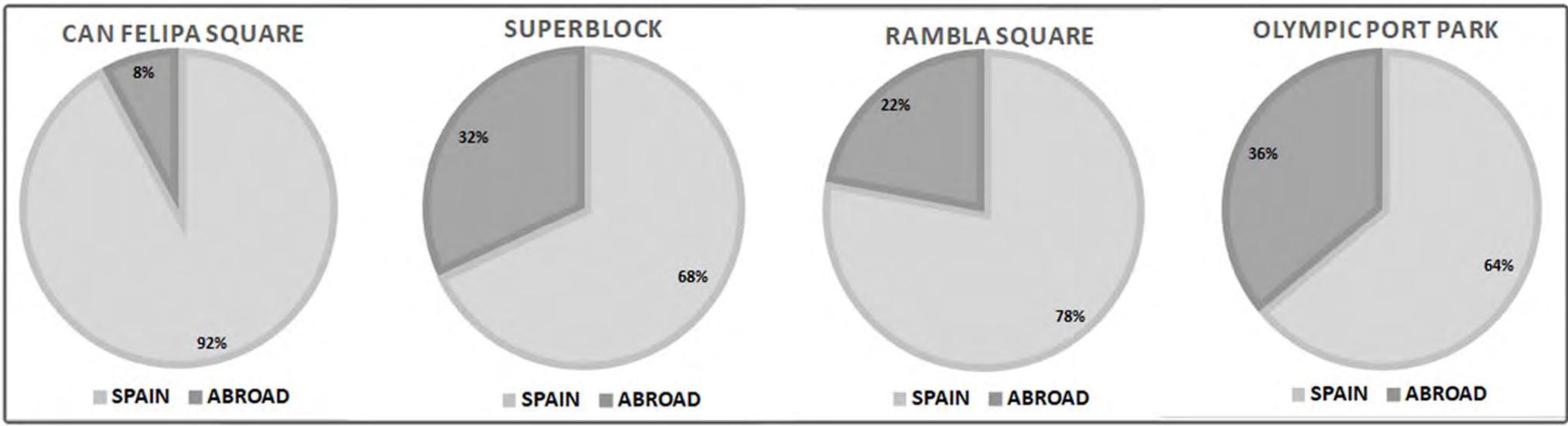
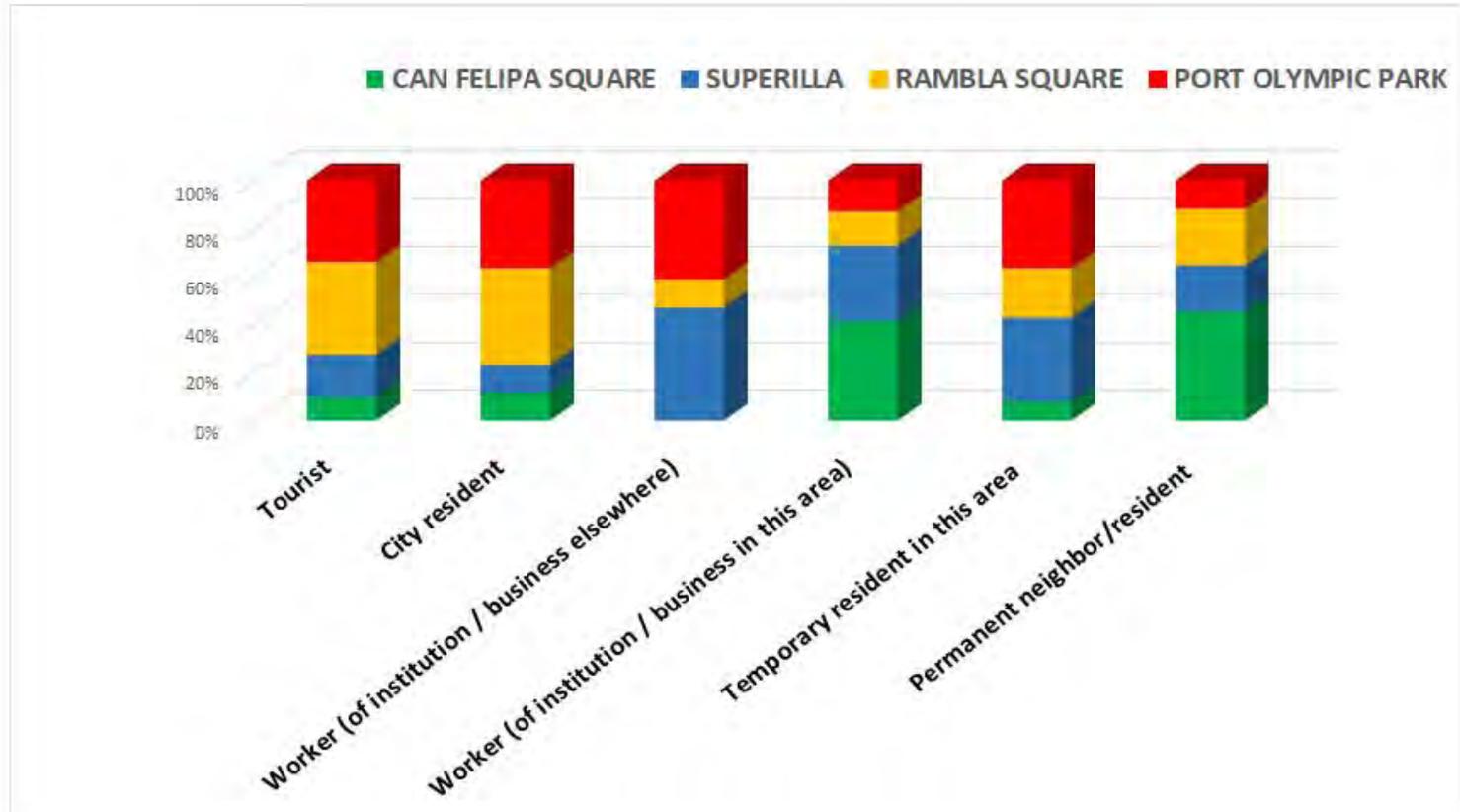
1) Questions used to contextualize the link that binds the respondents to the public space of reference in spatial terms (proximity to the place) or motivational terms;

2) Questions refers to the perception of the identity transformation of the neighborhood produced by the population remix that emerges from the implantation of new typologies of communities in general and tourist ones in particular.

3) Questions addresses the relational experiences that take place or have taken place in each of the spaces, the circumstances of the interactions and the capacity for producing more or less deep links between those who benefit from the spaces.

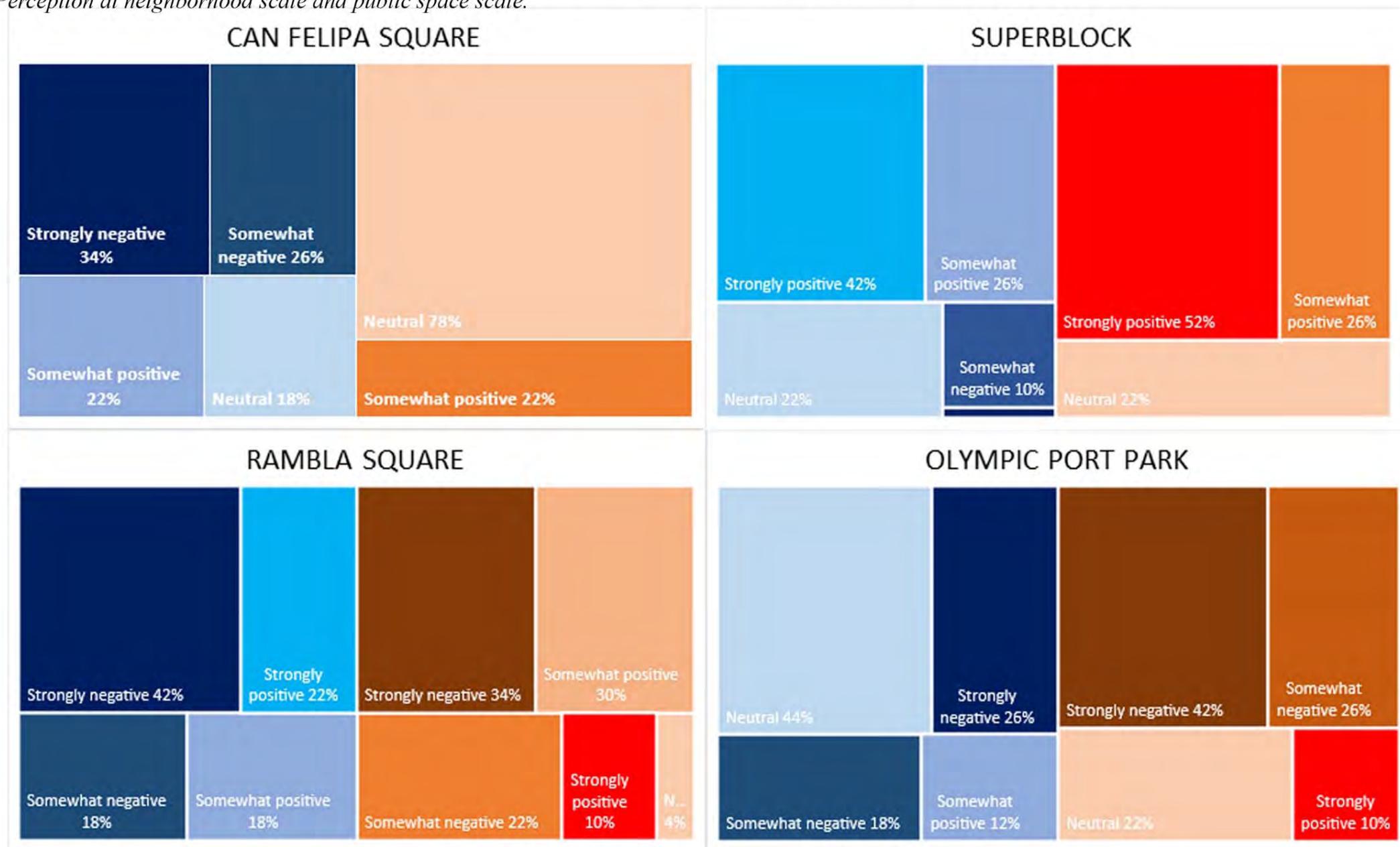


# WHO ARE THE USERS OF THE SQUARES?



# RESULTS RESIDENT PERCEPTION OF SOCIAL MIX ORIGINATING FROM TOURISM AND NEW MOBILE COLLECTIVES

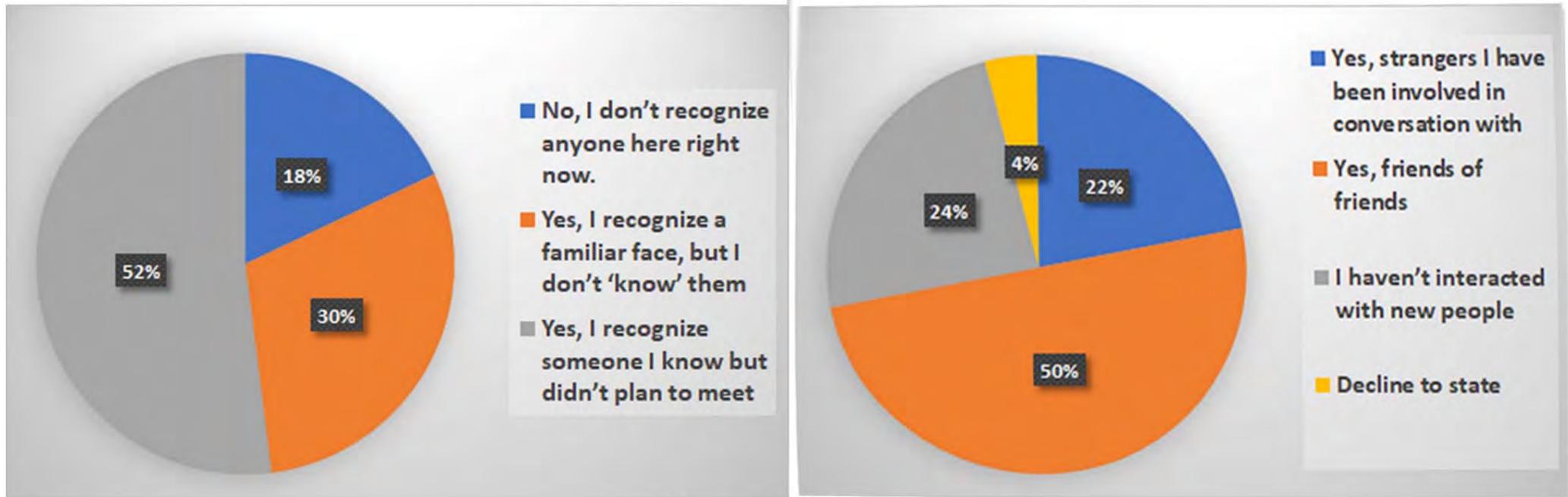
Figure 5 - Residents' perception of social mix originating from tourism and new mobile collectives. Perception at neighborhood scale and public space scale.



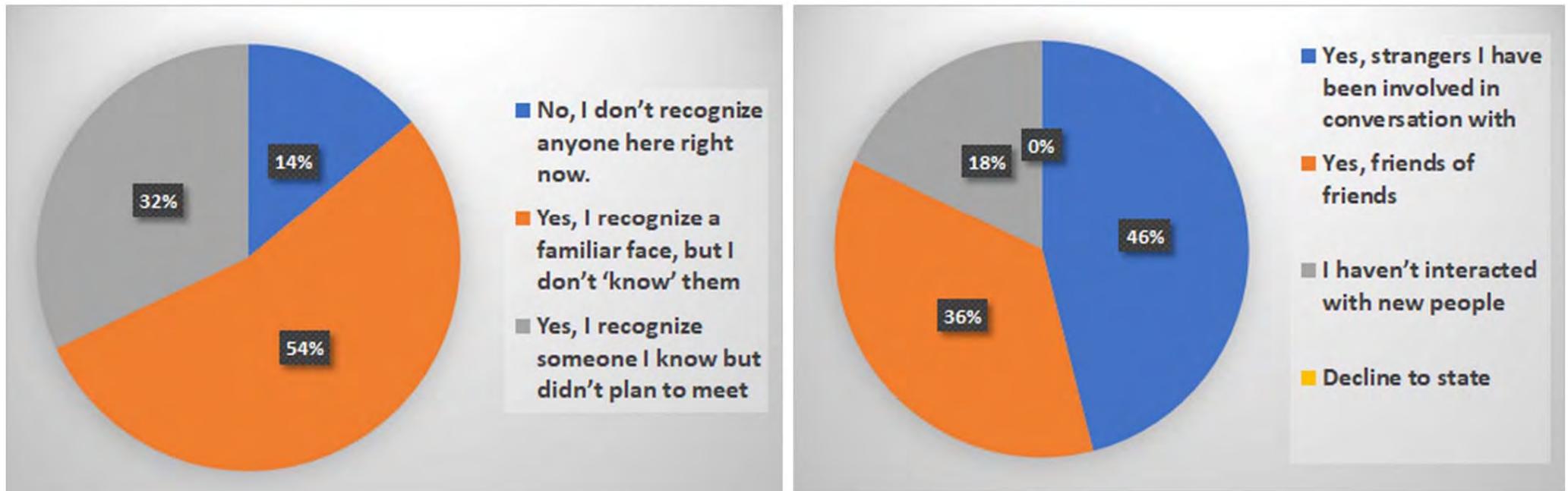
Notes. Percentage on total number of respondents

■ Neighborhood social mix
 ■ Public Space Social Mix

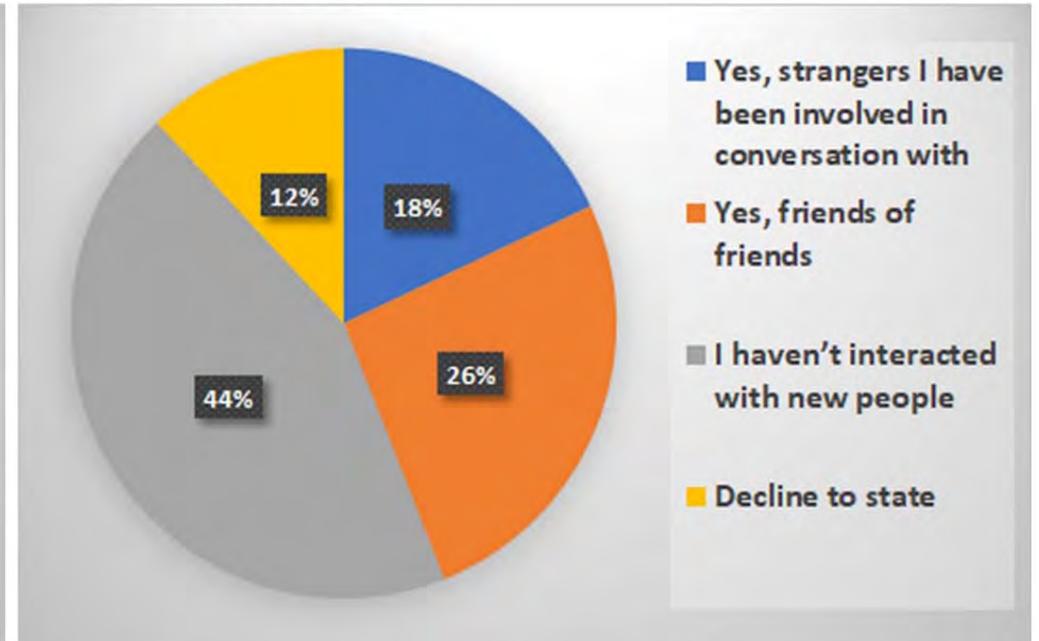
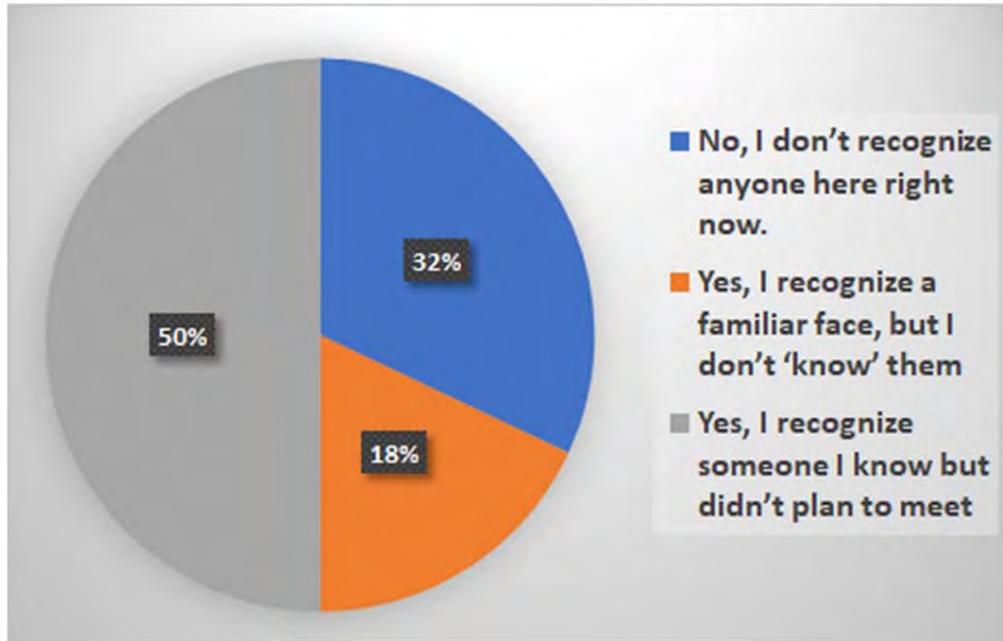
### CAN FELIPA SQUARE



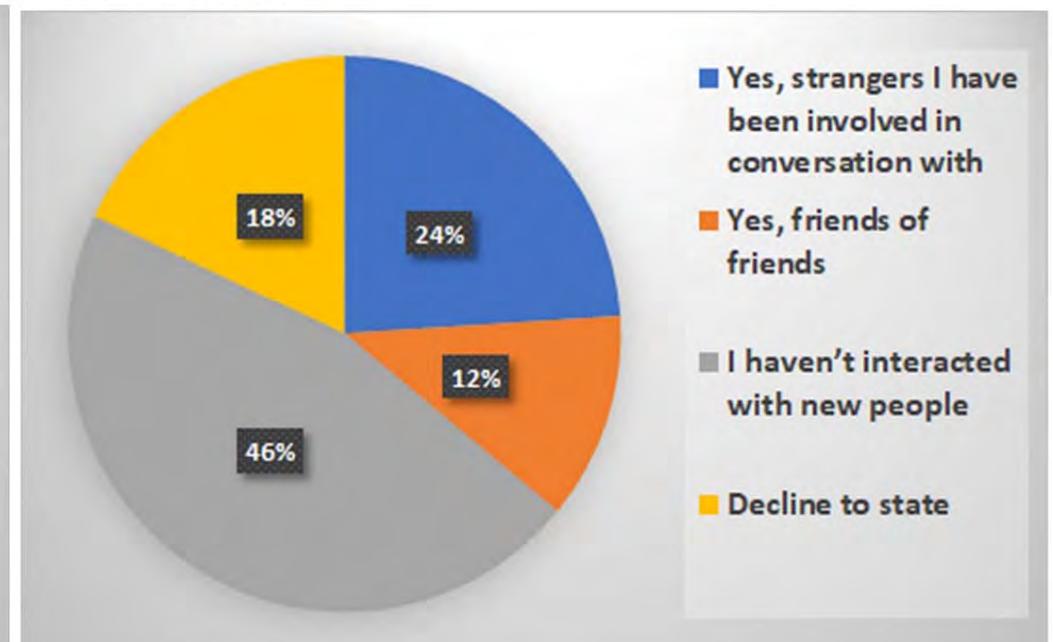
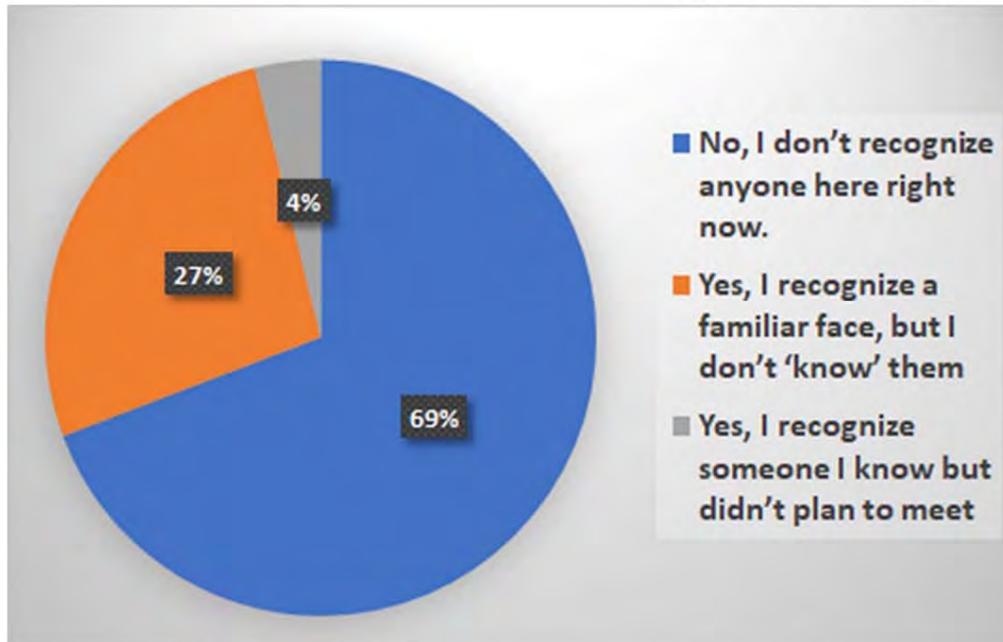
### SUPERILLA



**POBLE NOU RAMBLA SQUARE**



**OLYMPIC PORT PARK**



## IN SEARCH OF TYPOLOGIES OF SOCIAL MIXING

### CAN FELIPA SQUARE

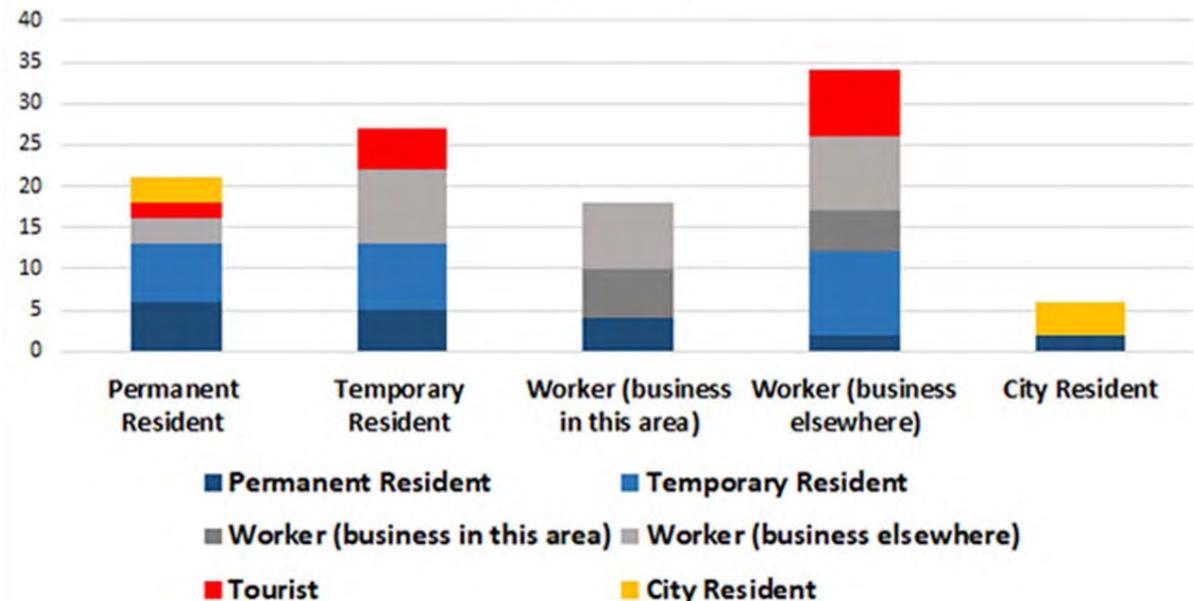


Most of interactions take place between residents and between the worker of the área and residents .

The number of interaction with tourist is very limited and takes place especially with the worker of the área and temporal residents.

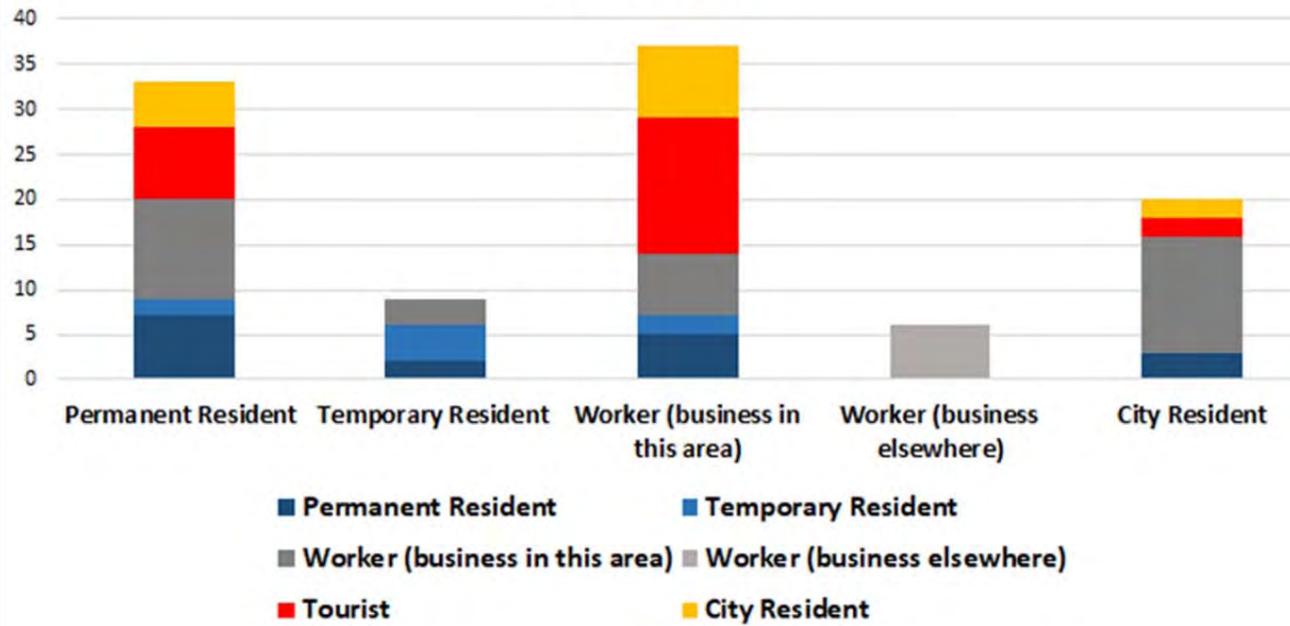
The volume of connections increases in general with a more varied distribution of the connections. It is noted a large presence of temporary workers and residents and that these are key in the interchange with tourists, foreign workers and temporary residents. In general, the space of the superblock seems to offer many opportunities for relationships.

### SUPERBLOCK



## IN SEARCH OF TYPOLOGIES OF SOCIAL MIXING

### RAMBLA SQUARE

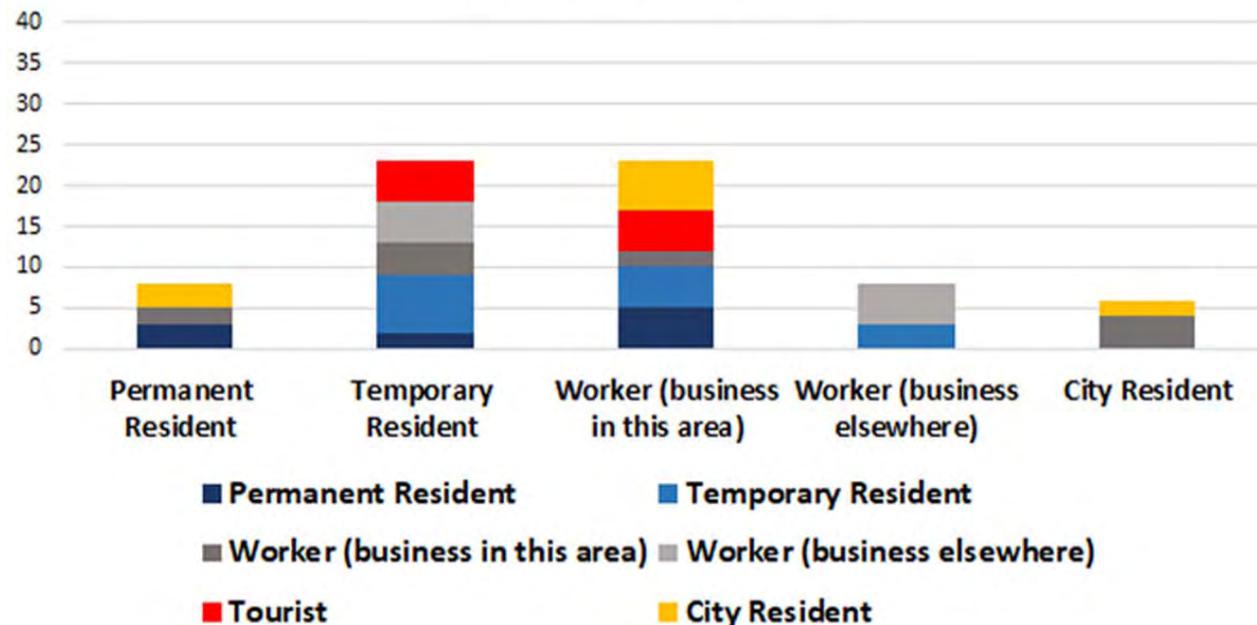


As expected, the total number of interactions with tourists increases, which in the majority of cases take place with permanent residents but mostly with local workers.

A similar situation is observed with regard to visitors from other areas of the city

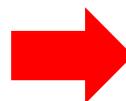


### OLYMPIC PORT PARK

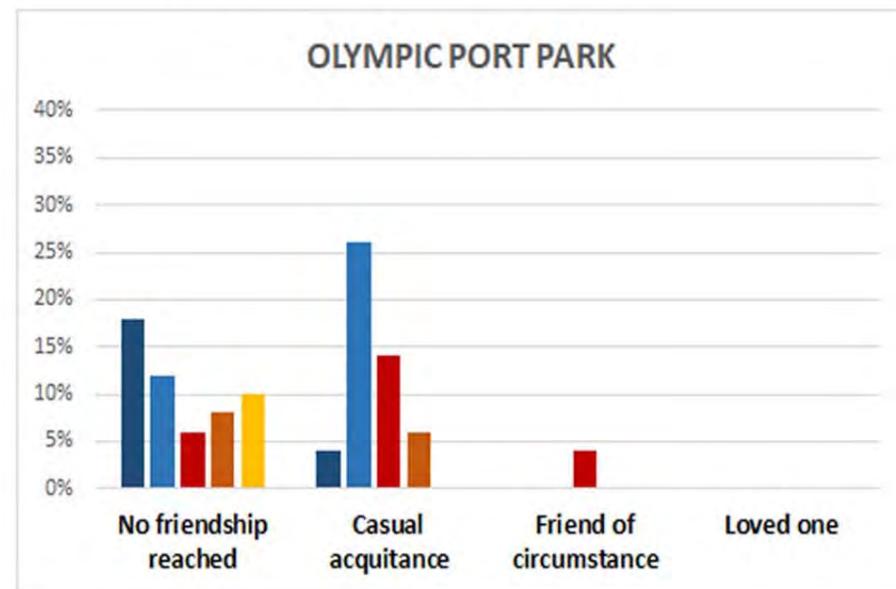
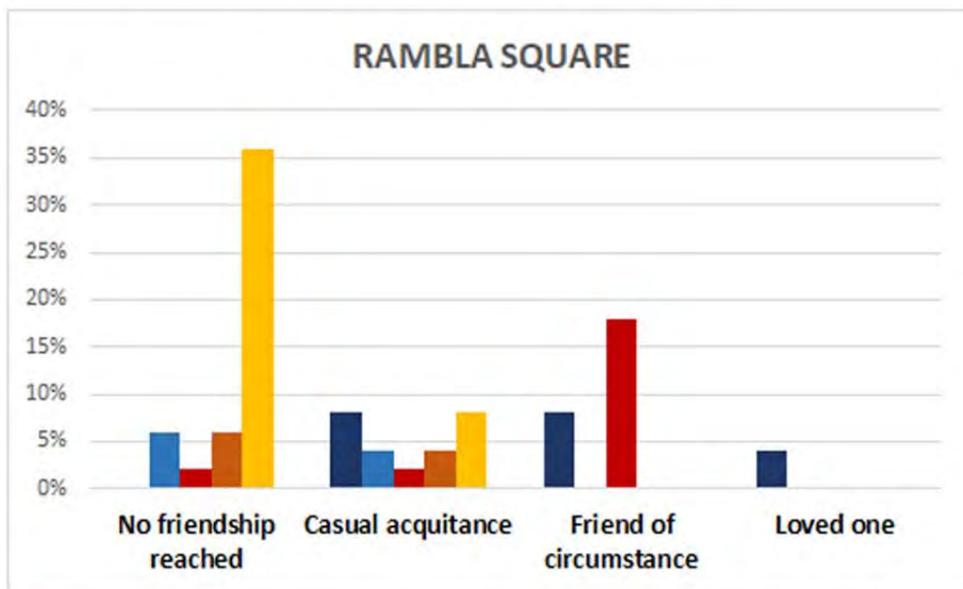
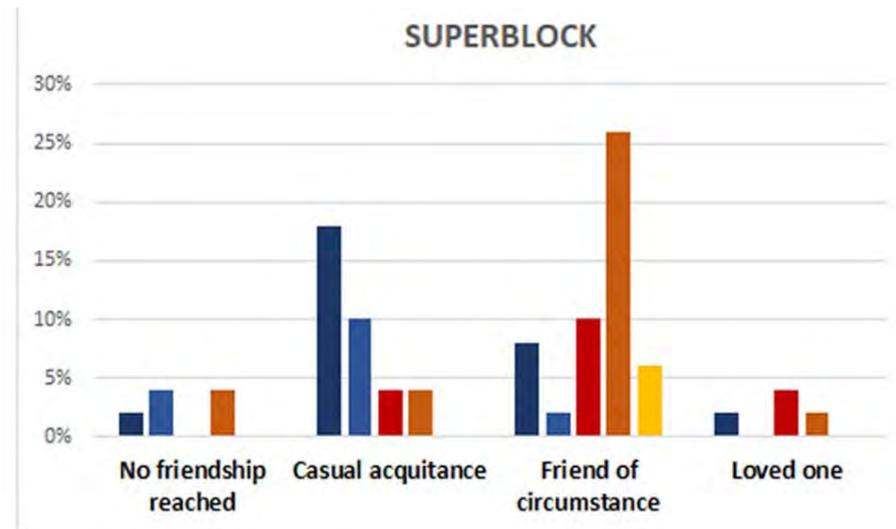
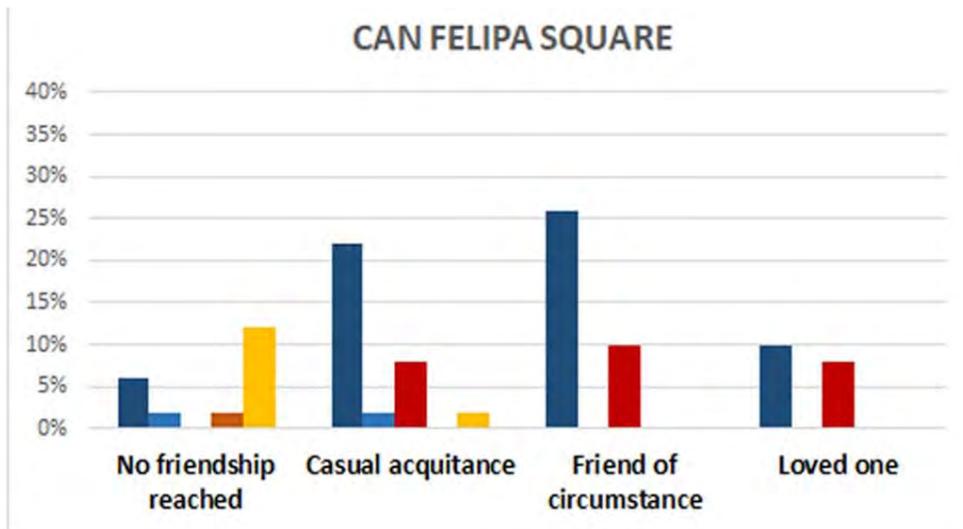


The relationships between permanent residents are clearly decreasing, while the number of connections between temporal residents and temporal residents and between temporal residents and foreign workers stands out. The categories that relate to the tourists and visitors are the residents and workers of the area developing a situation similar to that of the Rambla

The Interactions between people who don't know each other span a range of increasing reciprocity or not?



The level of connection has something to do with the human landscape of the place?



■ Permanent neighbor/resident   
 ■ Temporary resident in this area   
 ■ City resident  
■ Worker (of Institution/business in this area)   
 ■ Worker (of Institution/business elsewhere)

# Discussion and Conclusion

This article has examined the relational spatialities produced by the different daily mobilities that underlie the daily activities of an urban area through the analysis of its material aspects and the symbolic dimension that these are capable of causing in the immediate surroundings.

**Mobility systems largely determine the spatial and organizational structures of social relations**

**The differentiation by functions that characterize space constitutes specific mobility practices (rhythm, timetables, etc.)**

Complement each other in a positive way, providing mutual opportunities for encounter, exchange of knowledge and information....

Can generate processes of social exclusion where the consumption of the space is linked more to the consumption of goods privileging consumption over spontaneous sociality

Dynamic notion of relational networks in social space (Sheller & Urry 2006)



complementary to



The vision of urban space with perspectives linked to the dynamics of global processes as tourism (Sassen, 2010).

It is assumed that the dynamics of globalization at the urban level are not postulates but instead combine, in the places we have examined, their capacity of relational performance in terms of the cause and effect of the mobilities around them.

### CAN FELIPA SQUARE

Plays a role in welcoming and fostering the relational life of the neighborhood. The square continues to have a strong capacity to attract those seeking relationships linked to the network of connections rooted in the older neighborhood system

### OLYMPIC PORT PARK

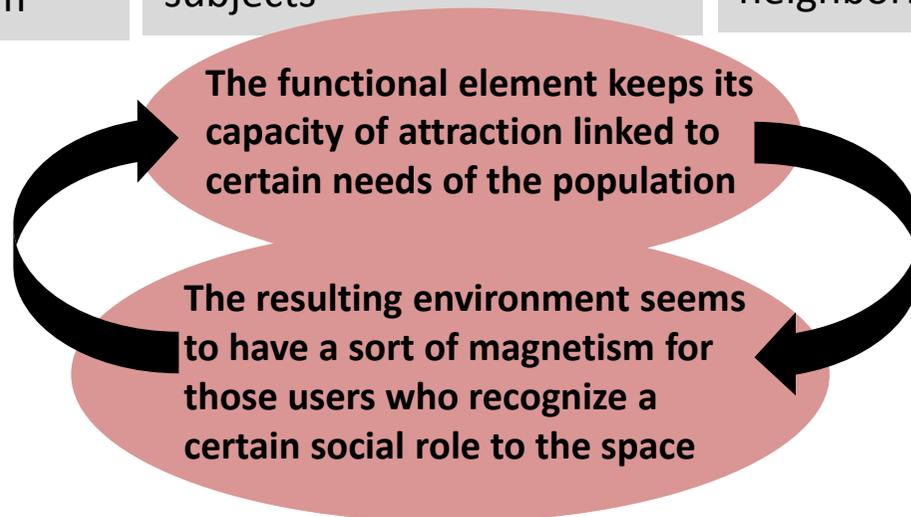
This lack of connections, suggested by the results of the surveys, seems to be related to the low familiarity of the space in the absence of a critical mass of individuals to serve as the social links necessary to generate a more interconnected network of subjects

### RAMBLA SQUARE

Located in an intermediate situation where its fame and its location leads it to be attractive on the one hand for its historical role by residents and workers of neighborhood and at the same time for tourists who visit the neighborhood.

### SUPERBLOCK

The dynamic social nature of the space, as observed through the surveys, is derived primarily from a relational proximity that is developing with a base of social capital linked to the territory (work, activities...). The only space capable of developing a liaison role with tourists as it is the only space in which there were significant contacts with this category of users of the territory.



# Thanks for your attention!

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