



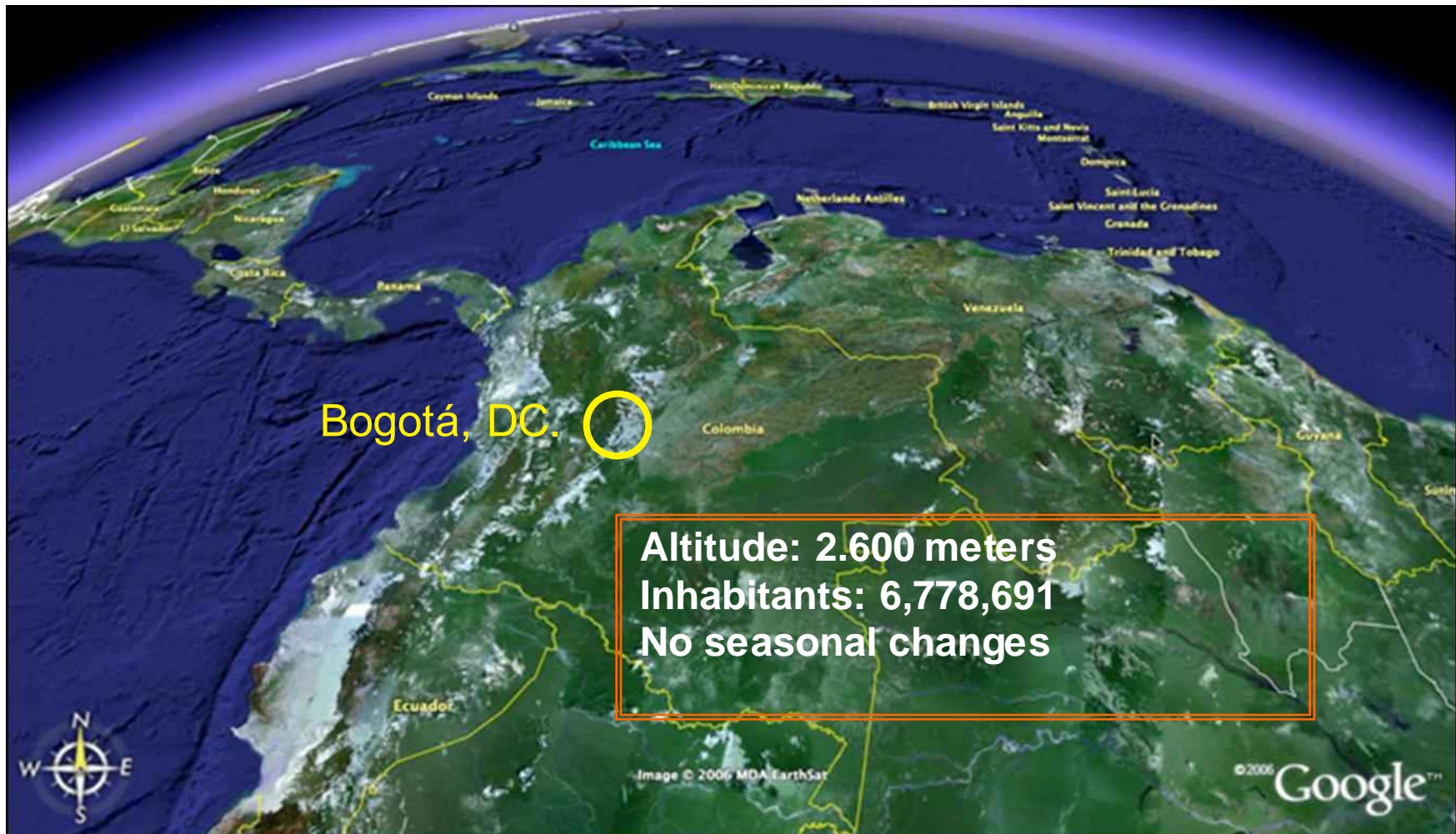
# Policy and Environmental Influences on Physical Activity in Bogota, Colombia

**Luis Fernando Gómez MD MPH**  
**Fundación FES Social**

APHA Annual Meeting, Washington 2007

**Influence of Built Environment on Physical Activity and Quality of Life in Bogotá**

# Background information of the city of Bogotá, location

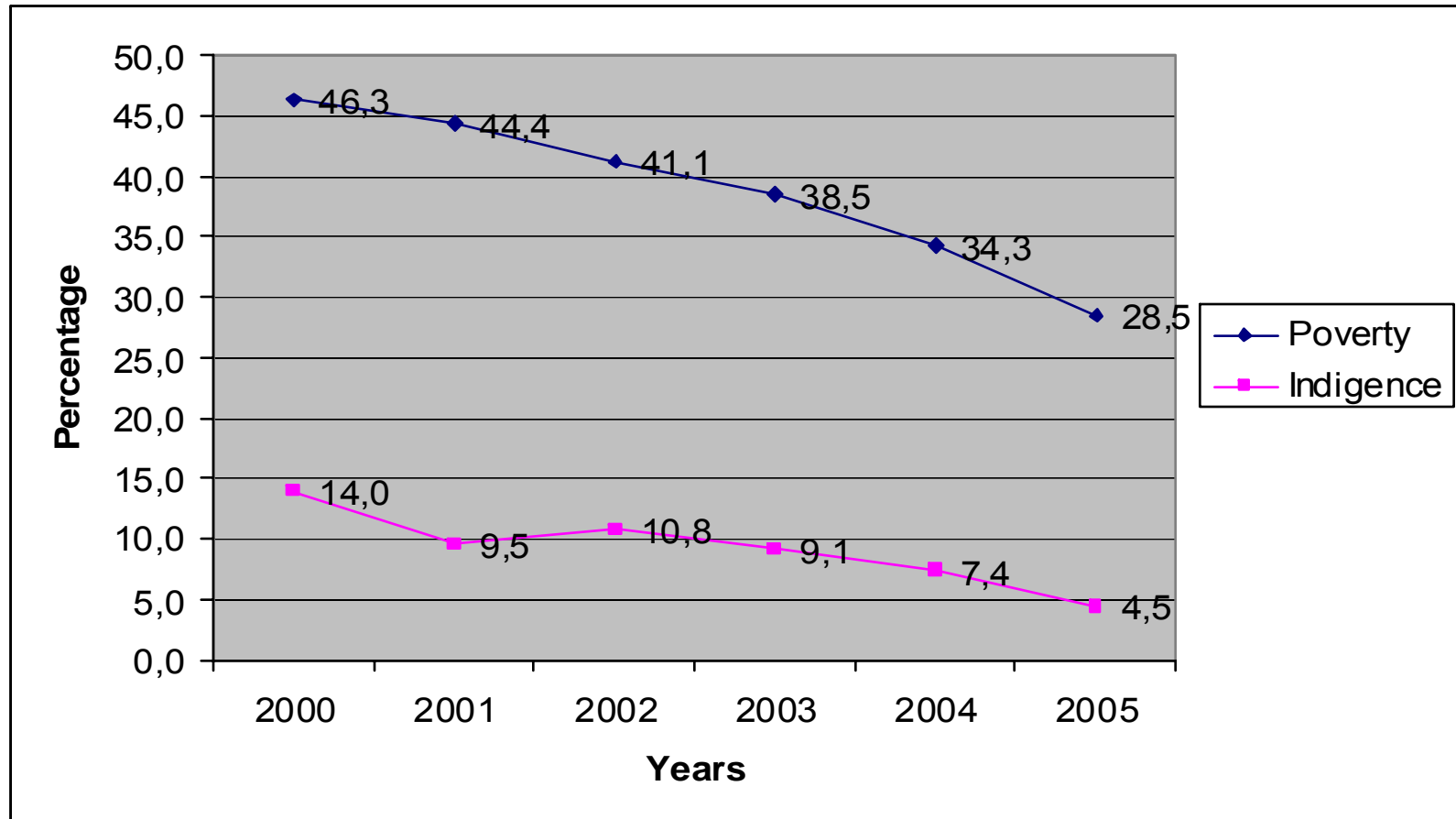


## Background information: some health indicators

80% of the mortality due to chronic diseases occurs in low and middle income countries (World Health Organization, 2005)

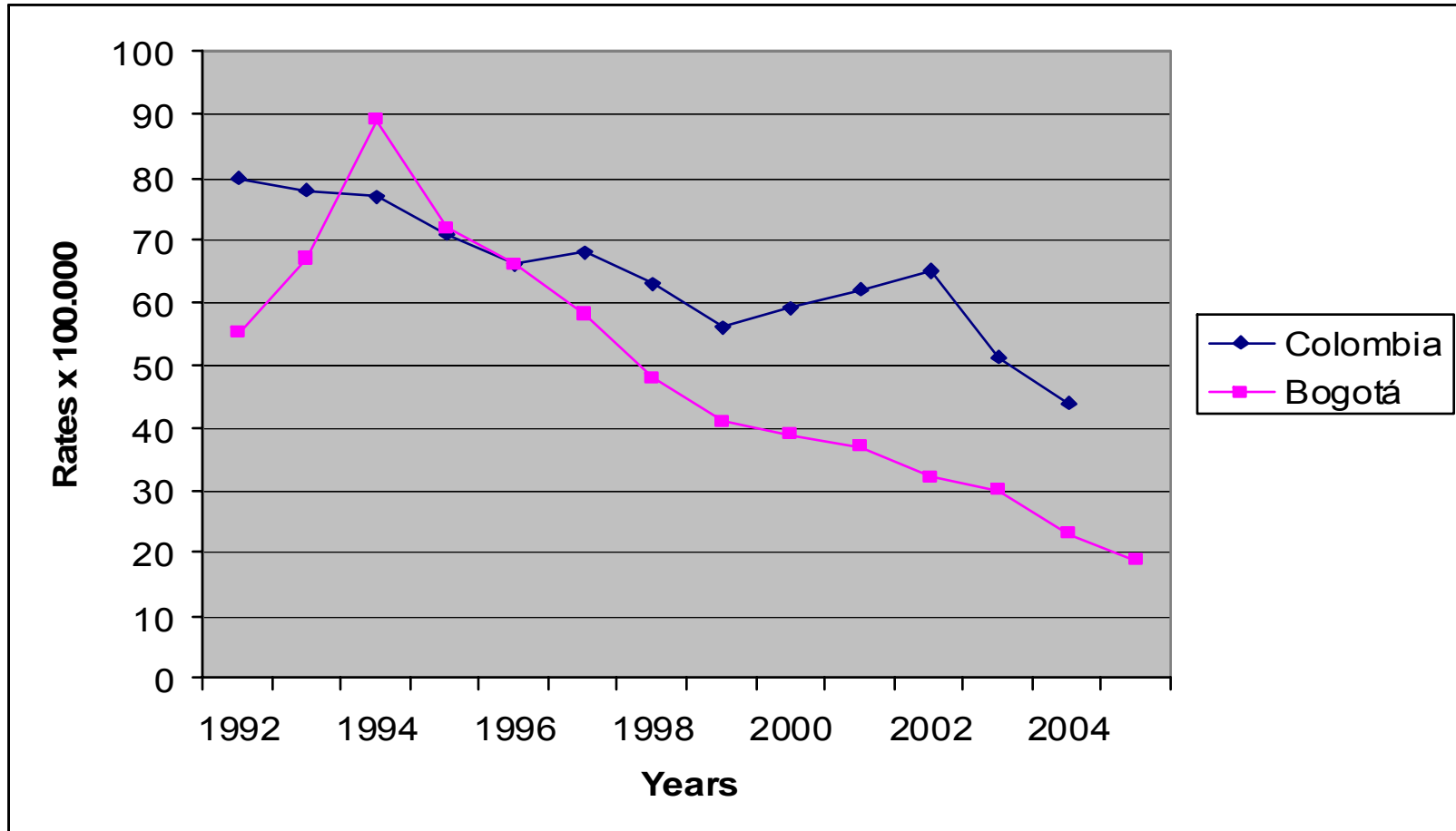
In Bogotá chronic diseases such as heart infarction, stroke, and cancer are the main causes of mortality (Gonzales M & De la Hoz F, 2002)

# Poverty and indigence: Bogota 2000-2005



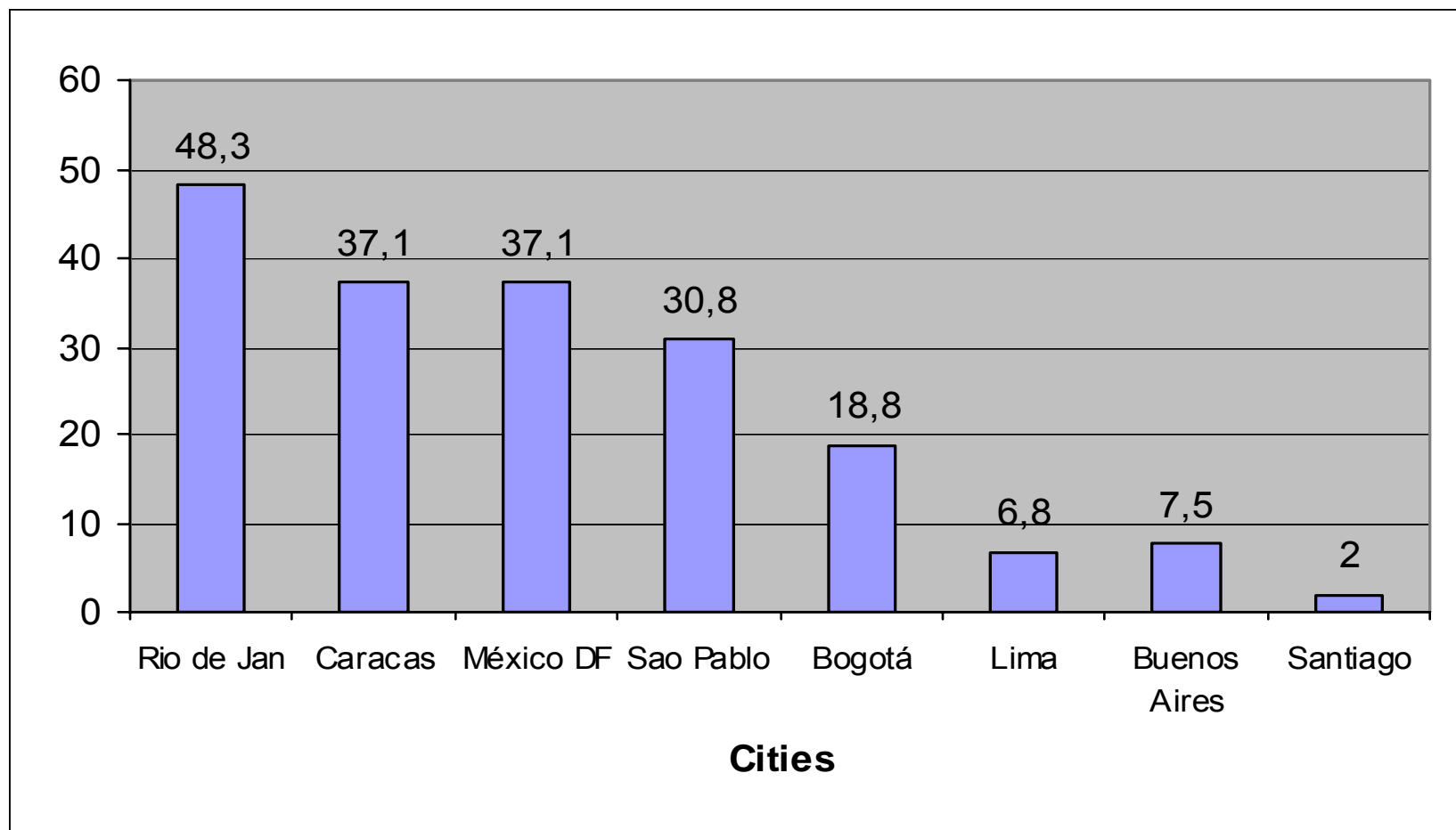
Source: DANE

# Homicide rates: National vs Bogota 1992-2005



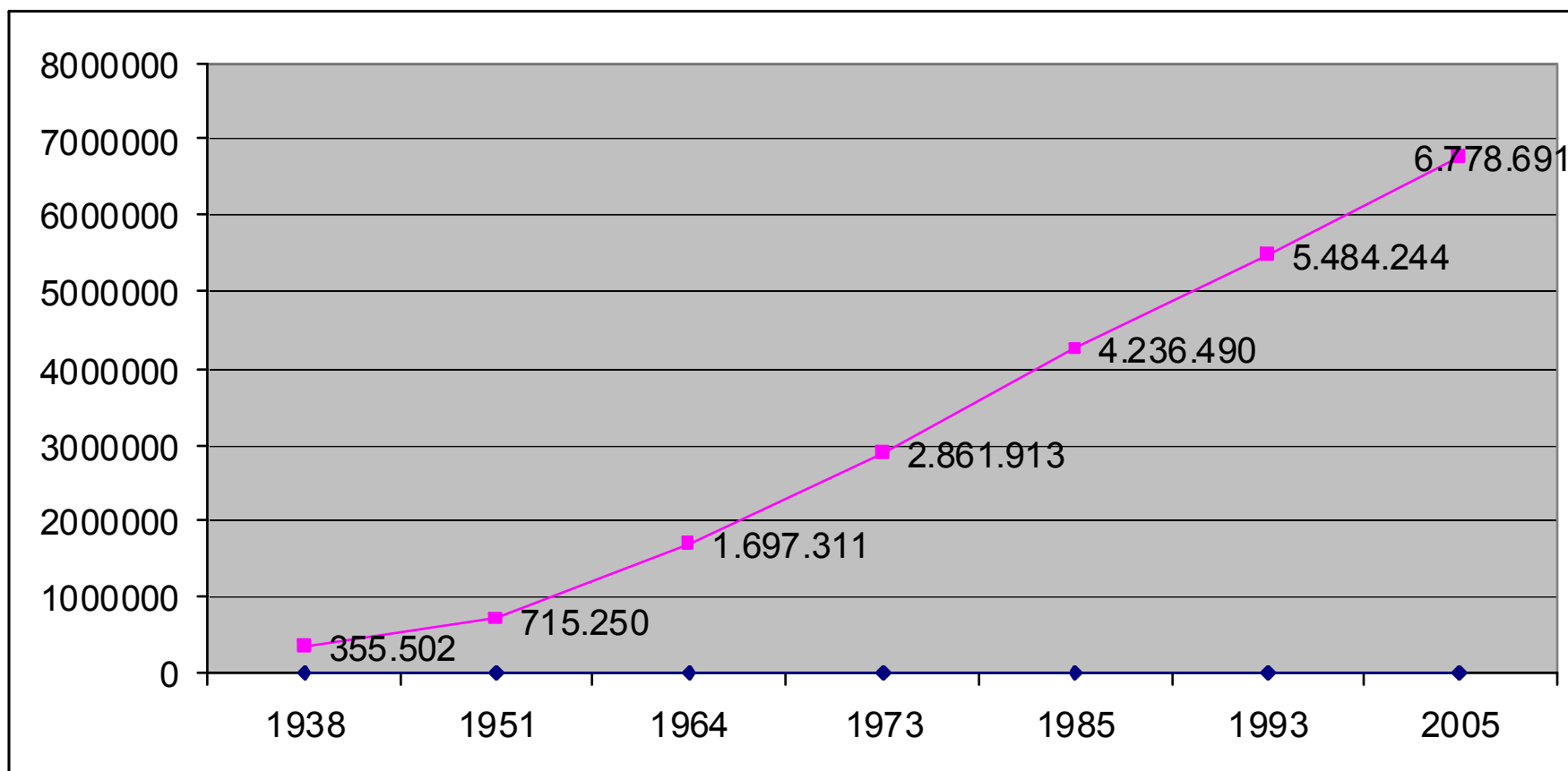
Source: Policia Nacional

# Homicide rates in different Latin America cities



Source: El Tiempo, DANE

# Demographic growth of Bogota



CELADE-CEPAL <http://www.eclac.org/publicaciones/xml/0/14000/lcl2013-P1.pdf> (accessed:10/10/2007)  
CENSO DANE 2005



# Bogotá, compact and dense city pattern





# INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT





# Transmilenio



Foto: M. Ardila, 2005

# Bike-ways



Foto: D. Parra, 2005



Foto: O. Sarmiento, 2005



Foto: M. Ardila, 2005



## Ciclovia / Recreovía



Foto: O Sarmiento, 2005



Foto: D. Parra, 2005

## Recovery of Public Space and Parks

# Challenges and aspects to be improved

- Despite the urban changes many social indicators are far from ideal.
- Transmilenio has not resolved the serious mobility problem of the city and people perceive that its quality has worsen. <sup>1</sup>
- Some tracks of bike-ways do not have appropriate designs and are scarcely used by bikers.

1) Bogotá cómo vamos. <http://www.bogotacomovamos.org/bogotacv/scripts/EncuestaPercepcion.php?men=28&con=33> (accessed 10/10/2007)

## Challenges and aspects to be improved

- The city has marginally increased the green area per inhabitant in the last 4 years.<sup>1</sup>
- Since the last 3 years citizens perceive that the invasion of public space by cars has increased.<sup>2</sup>
- The improvement of the quality of the air is a mayor challenge and Bogota is one the most polluted cities in Latin America.

1) Alcaldía Mayor de Bogotá. <http://www.bogota.gov.co/portel/libreria/php/decide.php?patron=01.020104> (accessed 10/10/2007)

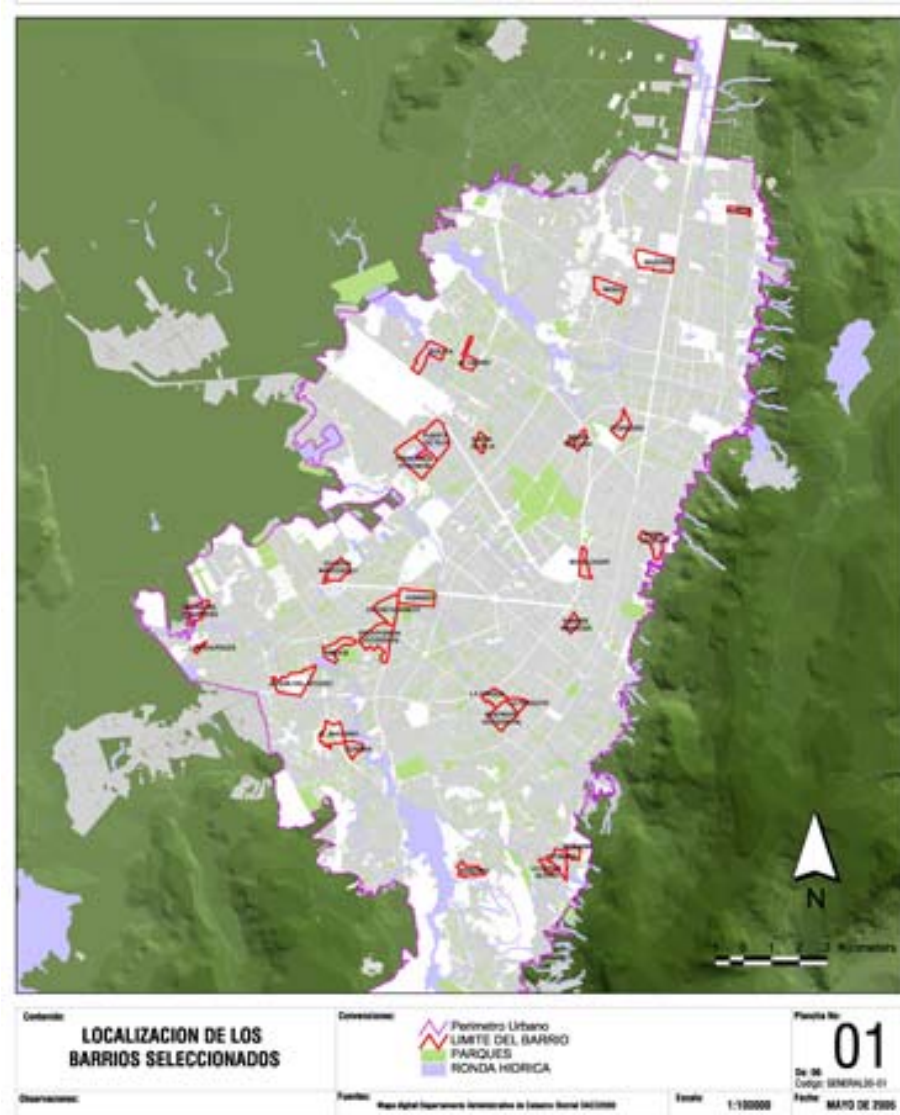
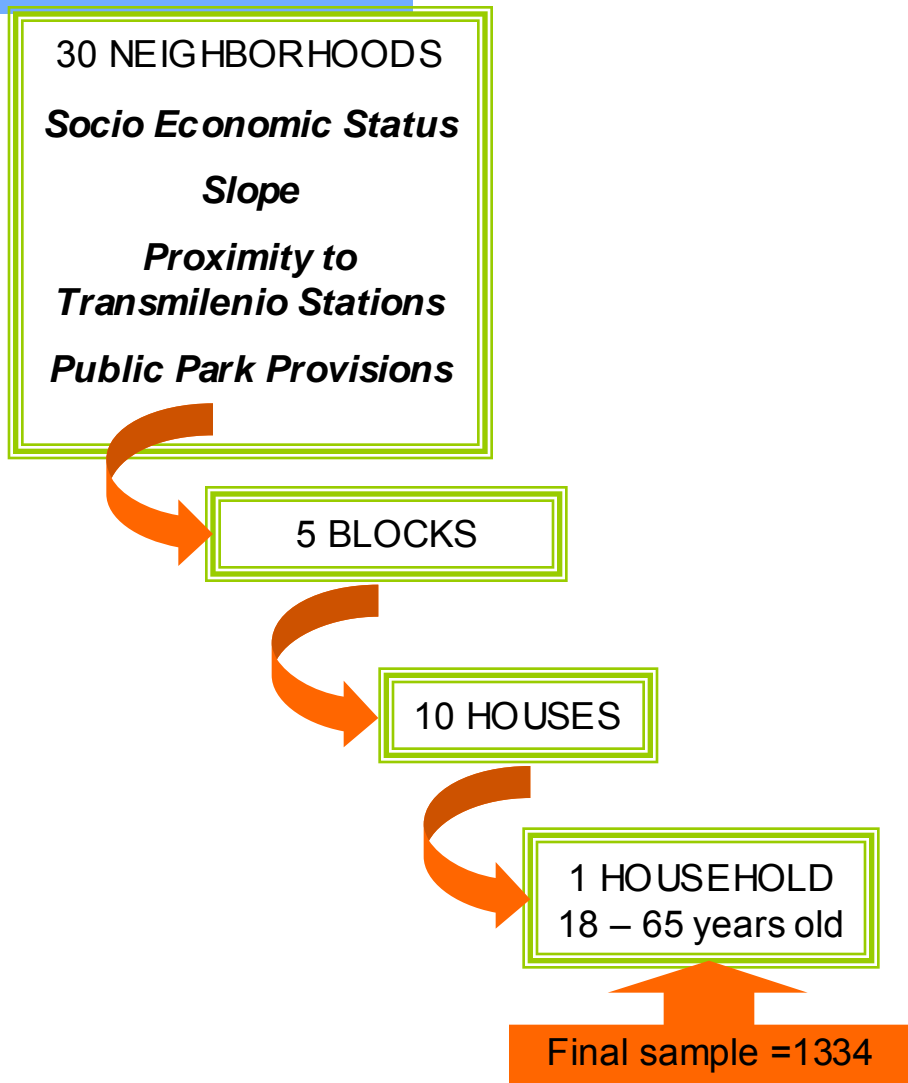
2) Bogotá cómo vamos. <http://www.bogotacomovamos.org/bogotacv/scripts/EncuestaPercepcion.php?men=28&con=33> (accessed 10/10/2007)

# OBJECTIVE

To assess the association between built environment characteristics and physical activity and quality of life among adult-residents of Bogotá.



# METHODS –Study Population



Influence of Built Environment on Physical Activity and Quality of Life in Bogotá

# Outcome Variables

- Utilitarian physical activity
  - Minutes of walking for transport during the last 7 days
    - <150 minutes vs.  $\geq 150$  minutes
  - Minutes of cycling for transport during the last 7 days
    - 30 minutes vs.  $\geq 30$  minutes
- Leisure physical activity
  - Meeting CDC recommendations of PA during leisure time
  - Ciclovía participation in the last 4 weekends for sports or recreational purposes
- Statistical analysis
  - Logistic Multi-level analysis using HLM 6.0 software
    - Fixed effects OR and 95%CI

# Density



Foto: J. Franco, 2005



# Diversity



Foto: M. Ardila, 2005



# Design



Foto: M. Ardila, 2005



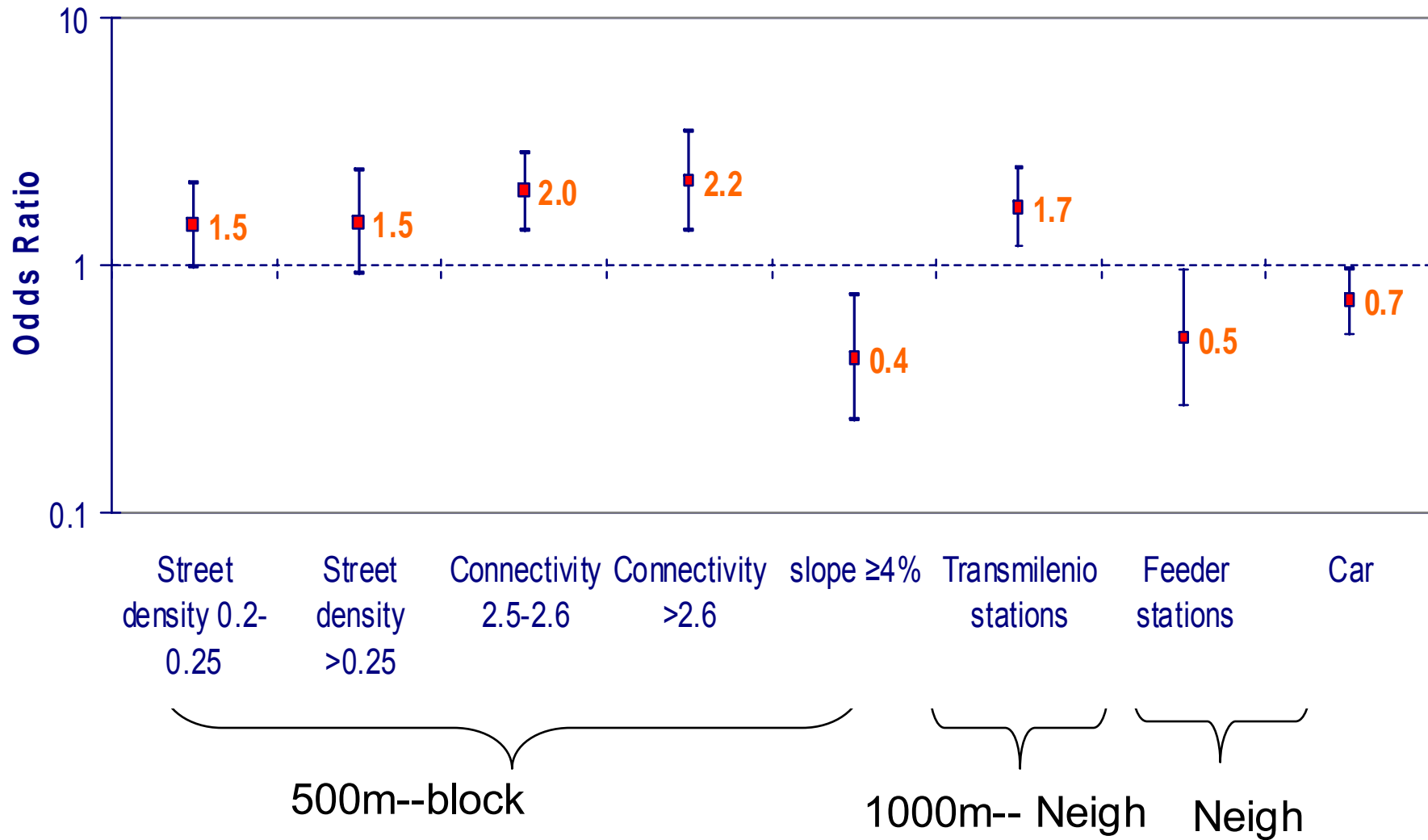
# Distance to transit and accessibility



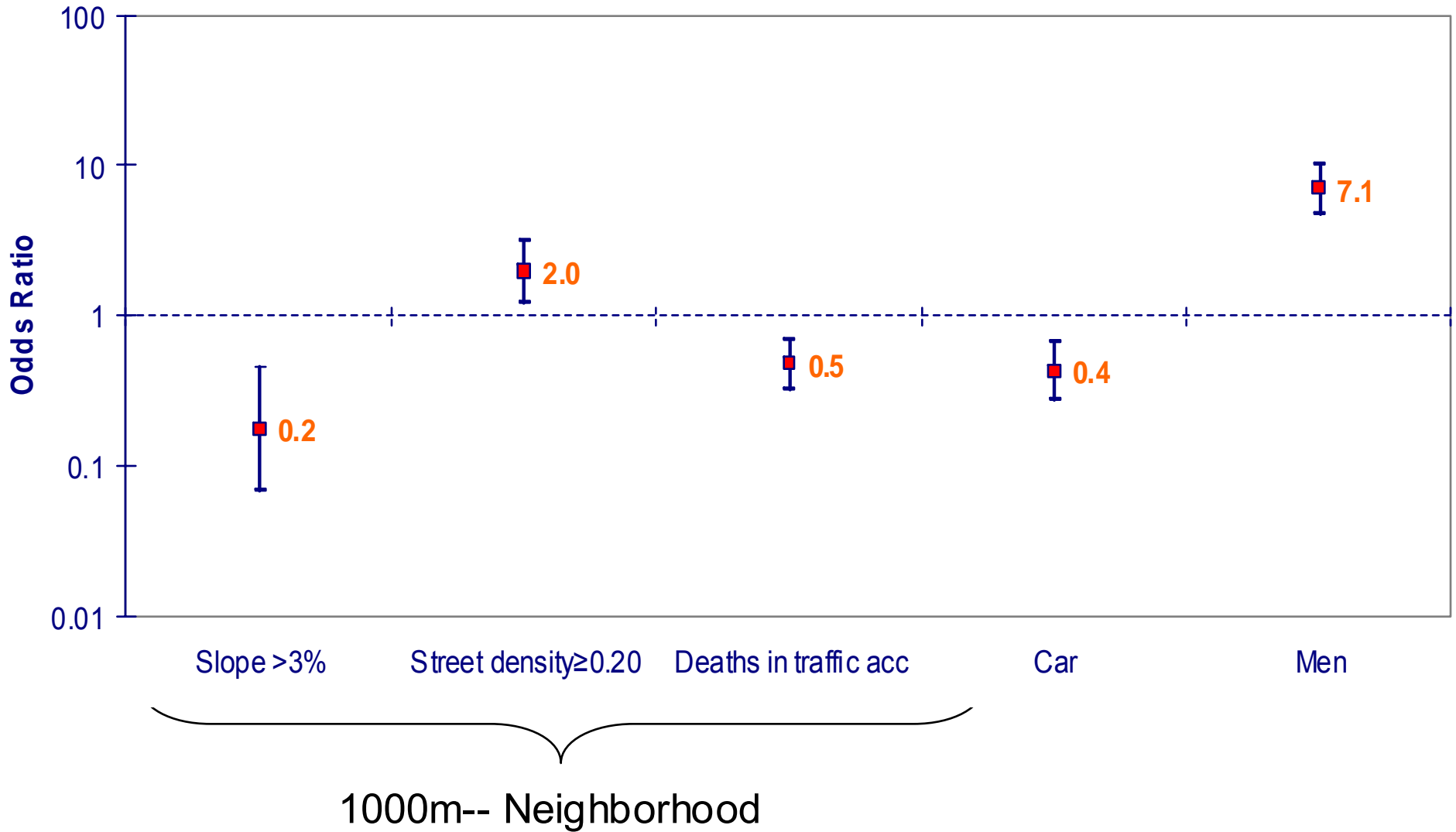
Foto: M. Ardila, 2005



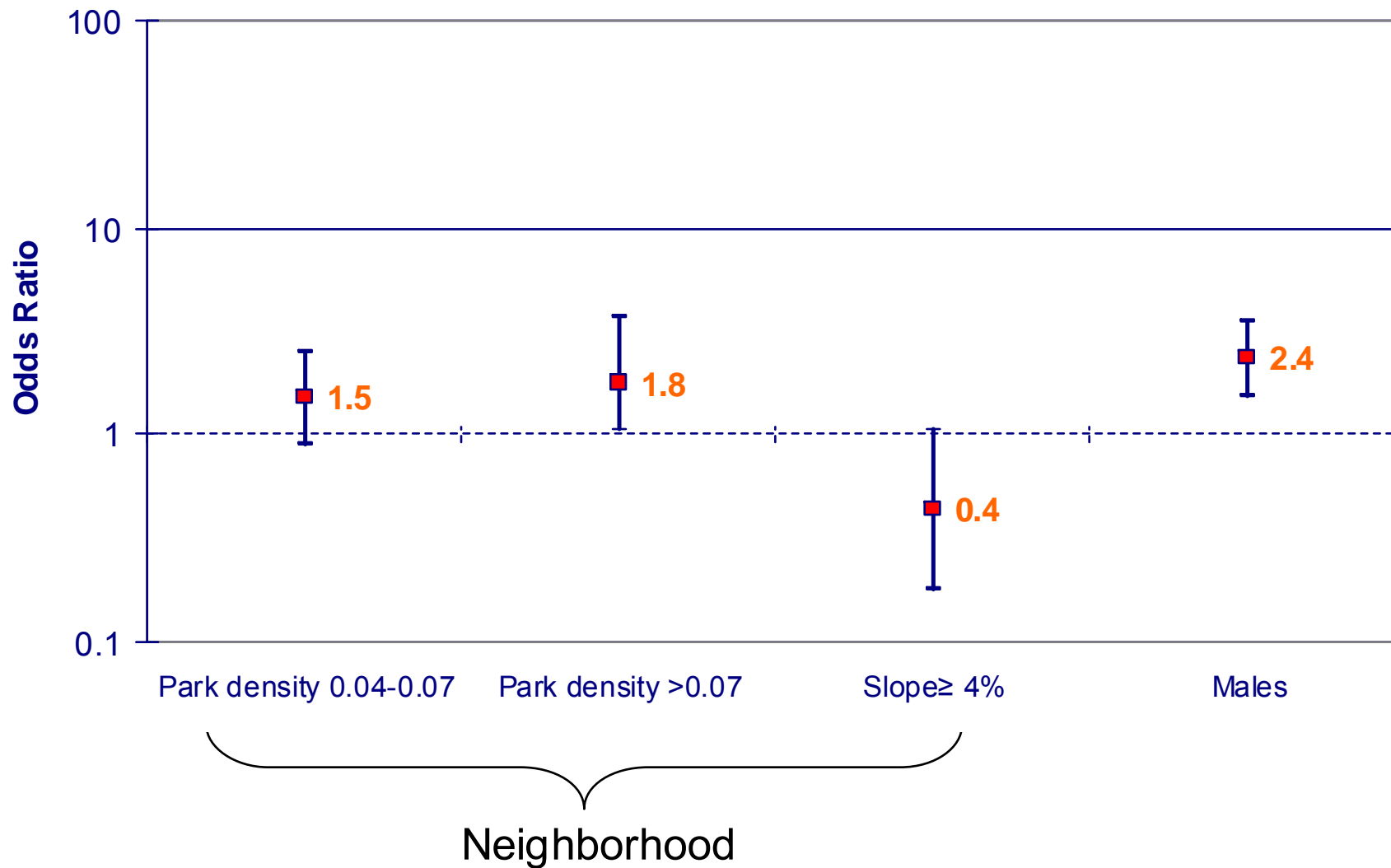
## Adjusted OR and 95% CI for the Association Between *Walking ≥ 150 Minutes for Transport* and BE Factors



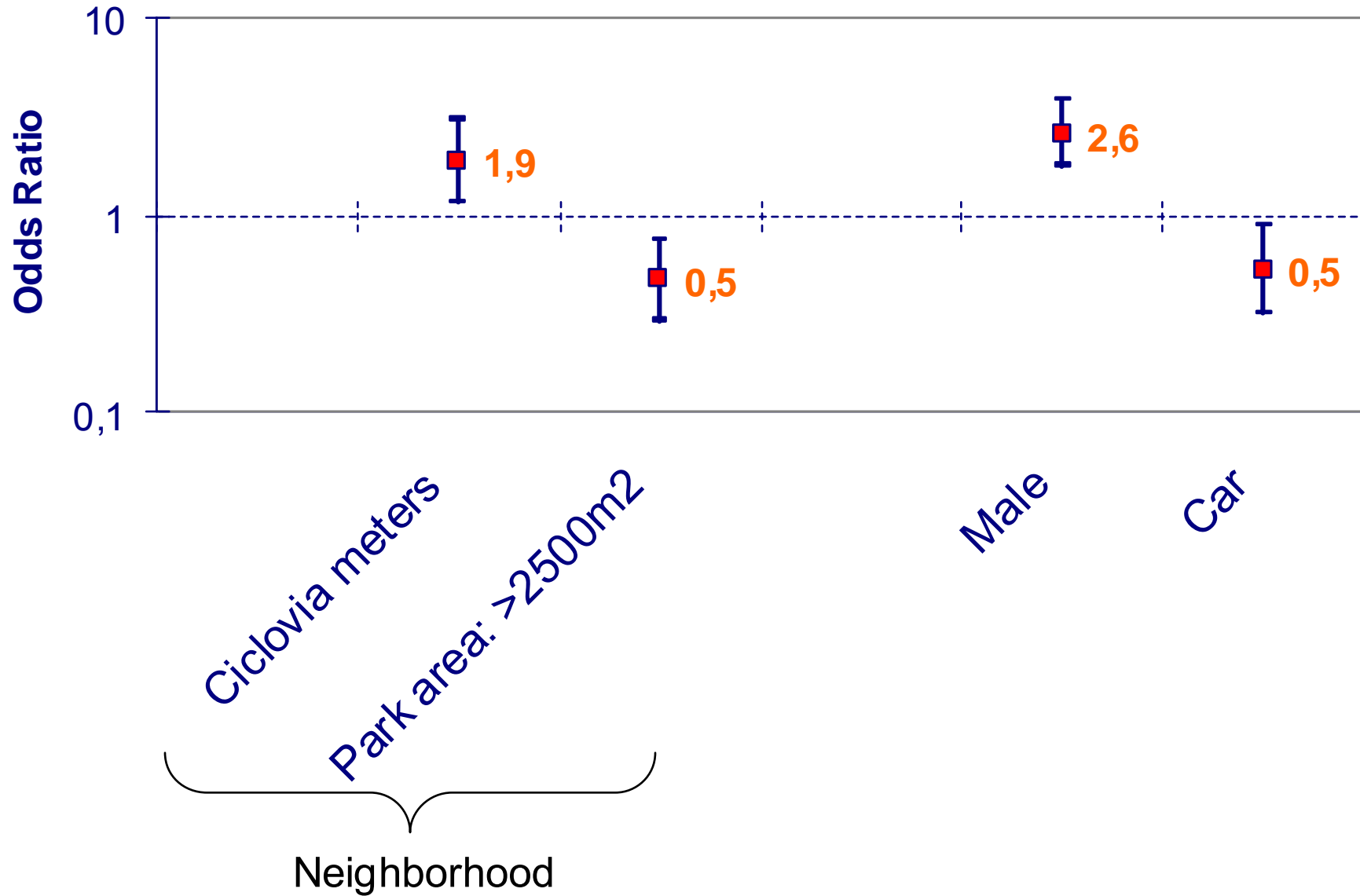
# Adjusted OR and 95% CI for the Association Between *Biking* $\geq 30$ Minutes for Transport and BE Factors



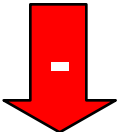
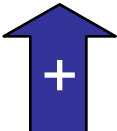
## Adjusted OR and 95% CI for the Association Between *Meeting CDC Recommendations for PA During Leisure Time* and BE Factors



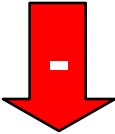
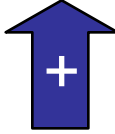
## Adjusted OR and 95% CI for the Association Between *Ciclovia* Participation and BE Factors



# Main results and implications

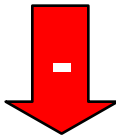
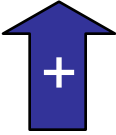
Variable	Main results		Implications
Walking for transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number of feeder bus stations</li><li>• Car ownership</li><li>• Slope</li></ul>		The importance of considering the design of transport and the natural attributes of the built environment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Existence of Transmilenio stations</li><li>• Street density</li><li>• Conectivity</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The importance of the design of transport systems and urban forms</li></ul>

# Main results and implications

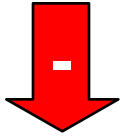
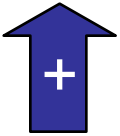
Variable	Main results		Implications
Bicycling for transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deaths in traffic accidents</li><li>• Car ownership</li><li>• Slope of the terrain</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traffic security as an strategy to increase the use of bike</li><li>• The importance of the design of transport systems</li><li>• Realistic strategies considering the slope of terrain</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Street density</li><li>• Men</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The importance of the design of urban forms</li><li>• Reduce gender inequities</li></ul>



# Main results and implications

Variable	Main results		Possible implications
LTPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perception of insafety</li><li>• Slope of the terrain</li> <li>• Park density</li><li>• Men</li></ul>	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve the security as an strategy to increase LTPA</li><li>• Realistic strategies considering the slope of terrain</li> <li>• Relevance of the parks in the promotion of LTPA</li><li>• Reduce gender inequities</li></ul>

# Main results and implications

Variable	Main results		Possible implications
Ciclovía	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Park areas</li><li>• Car ownership</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ciclovía as a relevant strategy in neighborhoods with low park provisions</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Men</li><li>• Existence of Ciclovía in the neighborhood</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diminish gender differences</li><li>• The importance to improve the access to Ciclovía</li></ul>

## What this study adds

- This is the first study to our knowledge that explores the links between the built environment characteristics with physical activity and quality of life in a city from Latin America.
- As in other cities from the world, Bogotá's built environment characteristics are associated with P.A. However these relationships varies depending of the domain especially for leisure time and transportation.
- The study has a multi-sectorial approach, drawing upon the knowledge and experience of experts from public health, transportation and urban design.

## Discussion and limitations

- Understand Bogota's cultural, economic, and urban characteristics
- The cross-sectional design did not allow us to infer causality.
- The survey was self report and may have induced recall bias.
- Selection bias by excluding high SES strata (5 and 6) and very low SES strata 1.
- The year of some BE variables.
- Small sample size for the biking model.

## Future research

- Identify other built environment characteristics that may be relevant for cities from developing countries.
- Conduct studies in subpopulations: older adults and children that could be more sensitive to the BE.
- Further studies should consider the influence that the BE outside the place of residency has on levels on physical activity.
- Refine the design of self reported instruments that measure physical activity in the context of studies that involve the links of BE with PA.

# Credits

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- **Robert Cervero**. PhD. Department of City and Regional Planning, University of Berkeley.
- **Olga L. Sarmiento**. MD MPH Ph.D. Facultad de Medicina. Universidad de los Andes
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- **Mauricio Ardila**, Arch. MA. UrbDes., Corporación Universidades del Centro de Bogotá.
- **José David Pinzón**, Arch., Corporación Universidades del Centro de Bogotá.
- **Diana Parra**, CPT, Fundación FES Social, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
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