



CARICOM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CCDP)

2000 ROUND OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS SUB-PROJECT

NATIONAL CENSUS REPORT

SURINAME



**CARICOM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
(CCDP)**

In collaboration with the

**CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
(CIDA)**

**2000 ROUND OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS DATA
ANALYSIS SUB-PROJECT**

**NATIONAL CENSUS REPORT
SURINAME**

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SURINAME**

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FOREWORD

The Caribbean Community Council of Ministers, acting on the advice and recommendations of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS), in February 2000, approved the use of a regionally coordinated approach for the 2000 Round of Population and Housing Censuses. The strategy included an activity on the **Analysis and Dissemination of Census Data and Results**, which comprised the preparation of National Census Reports (NCRs) and Regional Special Topic Monographs (RSTMs).

Fourteen Member States and four Associate Members participated in the programme. The participation of these countries in the Regional Census programme was in recognition of the value and economy of regional co-operation and coordination in executing the Censuses and for the production of comparable, high quality socio-economic data, useful in planning, and improving the quality of life and in achieving overall progress of the peoples of the Region.

The NCRs were undertaken by writers from the Region with experience in Demography, with two reviewers from the University of the West Indies (UWI) ensuring the soundness of the quality of the publications. On the basis of the review and comments by the respective National Statistical Offices and consultation with the writers and reviewers, the Reports were finalised by the CARICOM Secretariat.

The first and final drafts of this publication, “**2000 Round of Population and Housing Census of the Caribbean Community: National Census Report, Suriname**” were prepared by Dr. Jack Menke of Suriname and reviewed by Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies (SALISES), UWI, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. The tables for the Report were generated by the staff of the General Bureau of Statistics, Suriname as well as by the staff of the CARICOM Secretariat, specifically with respect to the RSTMs. The final draft was extensively reviewed by the Secretariat, including technical and language review and general formatting.

The analysis of the Census was funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) through the CARICOM Capacity Development Programme (CCDP). **The CCDP was designed as a strategic response to key trends and emerging priorities in the CARICOM environment with the objective of promoting the economic and social development of CARICOM through the deepening of the regional integration process. The overall aim of the CCDP was the strengthening of the institutional capacity of CARICOM to provide leadership in the regional integration process, and the enhancing of the implementation capacity of the CARICOM Secretariat to achieve clear results in core programme areas.**

Specifically, the outputs of the Census Statistics Sub-Project under the CCDP were to lead to improved development planning in Member Countries and in the Region through the use of the census data and information. The deliverables anticipated are eighteen (18) National Census Reports; five (5) Regional Special Topic Monographs; a volume of Basic Tables; training of personnel in demographic analysis through a seven-week workshop facilitated by UWI; and the establishment of an online facility to enable access to census data by users for analysis, research, policy formulation and decision-making.

The Census Data Analysis project was aimed at filling the gap existing in the Region and specifically within the national statistical systems in the area of demographic and population analysis, thereby enabling its use in policy and decision-making. Statisticians are in short supply in the Region and the area of demography is even more severely affected. The Census Data Analysis project provided a *common framework* for enabling comparability of the demographic transition and population characteristics across Member States based on the elements outlined in the content of the National Census Report. Additionally the reports are able to highlight trends in the demographic transition of the population of Member Countries from youthful to ageing populations; to make significant linkages with respect to education, training and economic activity; or economic activity with gender and fertility. The process of preparing the reports also allowed for quality checks on data, with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (UNECLAC).

A major challenge that persists is that of having clean data sets for analysis. To mitigate these data challenges, a series of four training courses is being undertaken to train personnel in the Region, with the first one funded out of the CCDP and the remaining three from a multi-programme technical assistance project, with funds received from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). In addition, a short course for senior officials from statistical officers is planned with CDB funding.

It is hoped that these Reports will benefit the countries through providing the analysis with regard to their age, sex, education, occupation, economic activity and other critical characteristics that are important to aid the formulation of policy and decision-making, both public and private, such as government officials, researchers, academics, members of the business community and civil society. Furthermore, the experience gained, together with the efforts to strengthen capacity, will equip the Region to analyse the results of the 2010 Census.

The CARICOM Secretariat takes this opportunity to thank all persons and organisations who have been associated with this Statistics project.

**EDWIN W. CARRINGTON
SECRETARY-GENERAL
CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY**

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Appreciation is also expressed to Mr. Iwan Sno, Director, General Bureau of Statistics, Suriname and to the other Staff of the General Bureau of Statistics, Suriname who provided invaluable support in the preparation of this report. The CARICOM Secretariat also wishes to acknowledge the tremendous support provided by a number of persons including government officials from Suriname who provided critical assistance in enabling the preparation of the First and Final Drafts of the publication by Mr. Iwan Sno.

The support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in contributing to the printing of the publication is highly appreciated.

The CARICOM Secretariat acknowledges the hard work and commitment displayed by the Staff of the Regional Statistics, Programme, past and present as well as by other staff of the Secretariat, throughout the preparation of this publication.

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ACRONYMS

CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CCDP	Caribbean Capacity Development Programme
CDAC	Census Data Analysis Consultant
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CSME	CARICOM Single Market and Economy
NCR	National Census Report
RSTM	Regional Special Topic Monograph
SALISES	Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies
SZF	State health Insurance Fund
UECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UWI	University of the West Indies

Chapter 1

National Population Trends: Size Distribution, Growth and Age Composition

1.1 Introduction

This Chapter describes the national population structure and how it has changed over time, as well as addresses the significance of this change. The last two censuses were held in 2004 and 1980. Therefore most analyses with respect to time will focus on the 1980-2004 period. Special attention is given to intercensal comparisons that detect changes in age composition, and identify and decompose growth into components. Redistribution patterns for major levels of geography will be described and their demographic meaning discussed. An in-depth exploration will be done in Chapter 3.

1.2 National Trends: Population Size, Age Structure and Growth

Over more than four decades, from 1950-2004, Table 1.1 shows that significant changes occurred in the growth of the population of Suriname. Historical trends in the development of the total population can be seen from intercensal changes. The 1950-1964 period is characterized by a high growth rate of 4.48 percent annually. The second period, which runs from 1964 to 1972, shows a slight reduction to an annual growth of 3.9 percent. From 1972-1980, the population decreased significantly.

Table 1.1 National Population Size and Growth: 1950 -2004

Census Year	Population Size	Growth 1950 – 2004		Annual Growth (%)
		Number	Percent (%)	
1950	177788			
1964	289282	111494	62.71	4.48
1972	379607	90325	31.22	3.90
1980	355240	-24367	-6.42	-0.80
2004	492829	137589	38.73	1.61

This was due to increasing emigration from the end of the 1960s and also because of a declining fertility rate. For the 1972-1980 period, a negative growth of - 0.8 percent is calculated. Nevertheless, this negative growth was reversed in the 1980-2004 period, when there was a slow, positive population growth by 1.61 percent annually.

Between the 1950 and 2004 censuses, there was an overall change in the sex ratio from 98.6 males per 100 females in 1950 to 101.3 males per 100 females in 2004 (General Bureau of Statistics 2005). From 1980 to 2004, the population of the country increased by 137,589 persons. Over a period of 24 years the relative growth was 38.8 percent. This change is decomposed so that the contribution of males and females can be measured. According to Table 1.2, the male population increased at a faster rate than the female population increasing by 1.71 percent over the period compared to 1.52 percent in the case of the female population. Moreover, the number of males added to the population outnumbered the number of females by just under 7,000.

Table 1.2. Total Population and Change in Size by Sex, 1980 - 2004

Sex	2004	1980	Growth 1980 – 2004		Annual Growth (%)
			Number	Percent (%)	
Total	492464	354860*	137604	38.8	1.61
Male	247846	175634	72212	41.1	1.71
Female	244618	179226	65392	36.5	1.52

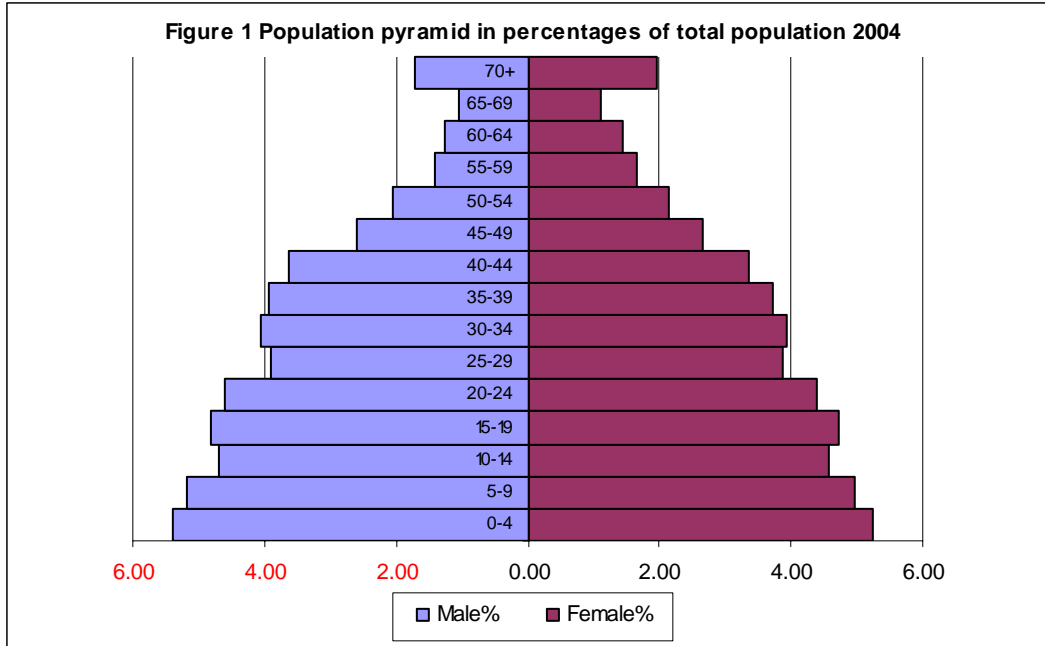
Source: General Bureau of Statistics- Suriname, Suriname Census 2004 Volume 1 (2005)

**The 1980 population total in Table 1.1 differs from the population total in Table 1.2 which is due to 380 persons for whom the sex is unknown. The same holds true for differences concerning 2004 between the total populations in the Table 1.1 and Table 1.2 which is due to 365 persons for whom the sex is unknown.*

With respect to males and females, data from the two most recent censuses were analyzed and decomposed into its age components to show changes in age composition over the 1980- 2004 period. The percentage distribution for the total male and female populations show significant intercensal changes (Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2). Overall it was found that the population is aging from 1980 – 2004, which can be seen in the relative increase of those aged 25 years and over. On the other hand, there is a large percentage decrease of the population aged 24 years or less (Figure 1.3). This is mainly due to the decreasing natural increase which will be dealt with in Chapter 2.

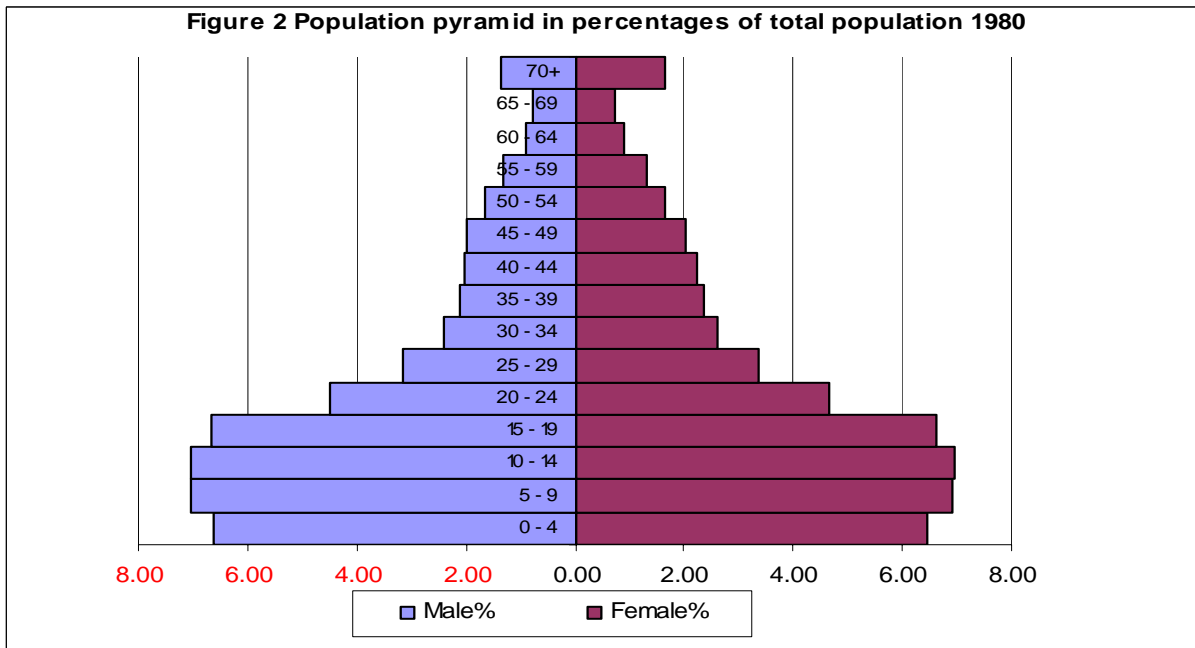
An examination of the population pyramids also indicates that males 20-44 years constitute a larger share of the total population than their female counterparts, in 2004. The opposite is true in 1980 as males 20-44 constitute a smaller share of the total population than their female counterparts.

Figure 1.1. Population Pyramid in Percentages of Total Male and Female Populations, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

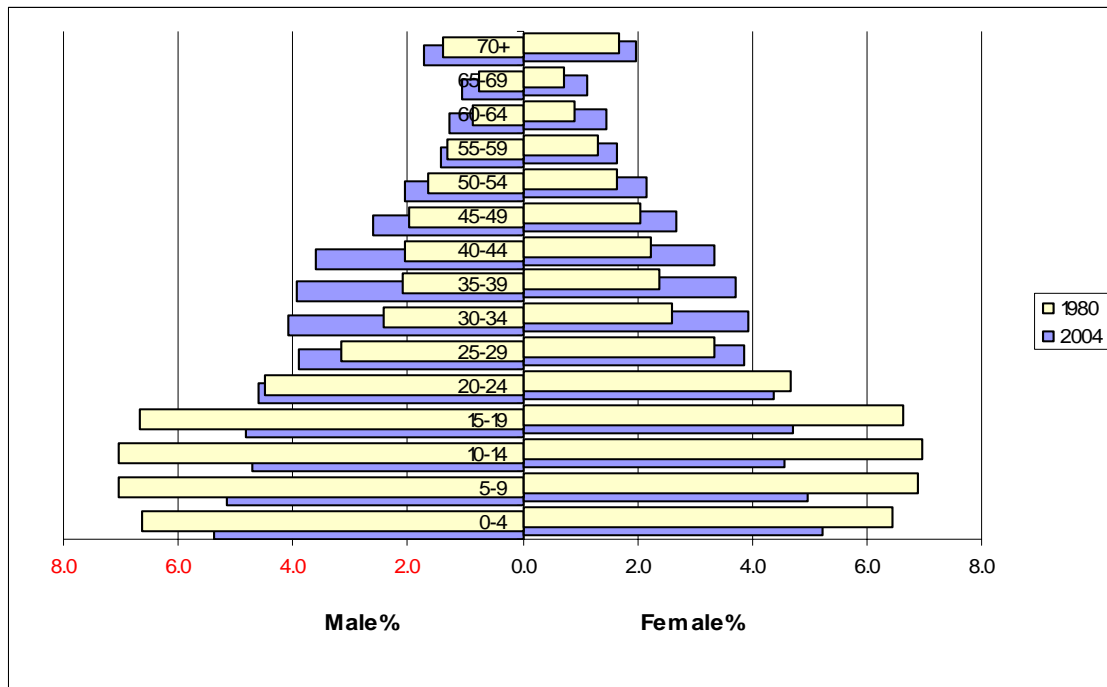
Figure 1.2. Population Pyramid in Percentages of Total Male and Female Populations, 1980



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

The aging of the population is evident by the increase of the 60+ population. From 1980-2004 the males aged 60+ years as a proportion of all males grew from 3.1 percent to 4.1 percent, with the corresponding increase in the female population being from 3.3 percent to 4.5 percent (Figure 1.3). Analysis of the combined population pyramids also indicates a large increase of female and particularly male populations aged 30-44 years. The share of males increased from 6.5 percent to 11.6 percent and females' share from 7.3 percent to 10.9 percent.

Figure 1.3. Population Pyramids of 2004 and 1980 in Percentages of Total Male and Female Populations



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

1.3 Population Characteristics by Major Administrative Division

In 1984 the major administrative divisions (districts) of Suriname were changed. This meant that the boundaries of the nine existing districts were changed and a tenth district (Sipaliwini) was added, that coincides by and large with the interior.

The administrative and boundary changes influenced the population size of the districts with implications for making comparisons over time. It is therefore not justified to compare the major

administrative divisions in 1980 and 2004 because of the different administrative boundaries in the two census years with the exception of Coronie of which the change in land area did not affect the population size.

Table 1.3. Districts by Population Size, Population Density and Land Area, 1980

District	Population Size	Population density	Area Squared Km
Total	355240	2.17	163820
Paramaribo	68005	2125.16	32
Suriname	166655	102.37	1628
Nickerie	34497	35.20	980
Commewijne	14355	0.67	21440
Marowijne	23443	5.70	4110
Saramacca	10348	0.44	23420
Para	14890	9.19	1620
Brokopondo	20268	0.31	64610
Coronie	2779	0.06	45980

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname

Table 1.4. Districts by Population Size, Population Density and Land Area 2004

District	Population Size	Population density	Area Squared Km*
Total	492829	3.01	163820
Paramaribo	242946	1327.6	183
Wanica	85986	194.1	443
Nickerie	36639	6.8	5353
Coronie	2887	0.7	3902
Saramacca	15980	4.4	3636
Commewijne	24649	10.5	2353
Marowijne	16642	3.6	4627
Para	18749	3.5	5393
Brokopondo	14215	1.93	7364
Sipaliwini	34136	0.26	130566

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname

The new Sipaliwini district covers approximately 80 percent of the total land area, which went at the expense of most of the existing districts prior to 1984. Paramaribo, the capital city, and Coronie are the only existing districts of which the land area became larger. In the case of Paramaribo, Table 1.3 and Table 1.4 show that the increase is over 500 percent.

For the male and female populations respectively, Table 1.5 and Table 1.6 highlight deviations in some interior and rural districts relative to the national pattern with regard to the distribution of the respective populations by five-year age groups in 2004. The districts with major deviations are the interior districts of Brokopondo, Marowijne and Sipaliwini. These have a very large share of the 0- 9 year age groups when compared with the other districts. Coronie stands out by its large share of the aged, particularly the 70+ age group. This seems to be a continuation of the 1980 situation (Figure 1.3 and Figure 1.4).

Table 1.5. Percentage Distribution of Male Population by Five-Year Age Group and District, 2004

Age Group	Paramaribo	Wanica	Nickerie	Coronie	Saramacca	Commewijne	Marowijne	Para	Brokopondo	Sipaliwini	Total
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00
0 - 4	9.9	9.5	8.2	10.5	9.1	8.7	15.7	12.4	14.5	17.8	10.58
5 - 9	9.4	10.0	10.2	11.0	10.4	9.0	13.4	11.2	11.5	14.5	10.17
10 - 14	8.7	9.2	9.1	8.9	9.7	8.8	12.2	10.5	9.0	11.3	9.23
15 - 19	9.8	9.9	9.1	9.5	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.8	7.5	7.4	9.46
20 - 24	9.8	9.6	7.7	7.1	7.0	7.9	8.2	8.6	8.7	6.4	9.05
25 - 29	7.8	7.8	7.3	6.0	7.2	8.0	6.3	7.1	9.4	6.9	7.66
30 - 34	7.9	8.6	8.2	7.0	9.3	10.0	6.9	7.3	7.6	6.2	8.00
35 - 39	7.6	8.5	8.8	7.0	9.4	8.8	5.3	6.6	8.3	5.7	7.73
40 - 44	6.9	8.0	8.6	6.9	8.3	8.3	4.7	6.2	6.4	4.9	7.12
45 - 49	5.1	5.5	6.3	7.0	5.3	6.0	3.5	4.9	4.1	3.0	5.10
50 - 54	4.4	3.9	4.2	5.6	3.9	3.7	3.0	3.9	3.1	2.6	4.01
55 - 59	3.0	2.7	3.2	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.6	1.7	2.1	2.81
60 - 64	2.9	2.1	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.3	1.8	2.50
65 - 69	2.3	1.7	2.2	2.0	2.3	2.5	1.9	1.8	1.2	1.6	2.08
70+	3.6	2.6	3.5	6.2	3.6	3.9	2.8	3.6	1.7	3.5	3.37
Unknown	0.9	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	2.6	1.4	4.0	4.3	1.13

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

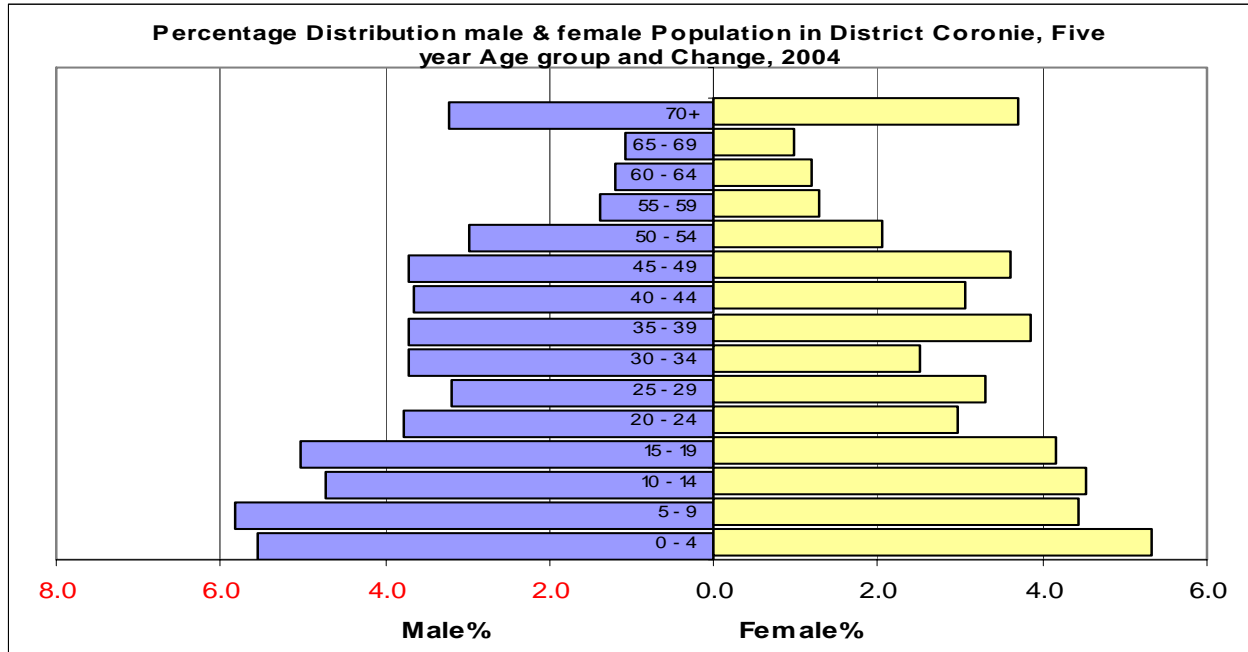
Table 1.6. Percentage Distribution of Female Population by Five-Year Age Groups and District, 2004

Age Group	Parmaribo	Wanica	Nickerie	Coronie	Saramacca	Commewijne	Marowijne	Para	Brokopondo	Sipaliwini	Total
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 – 4	9.2	9.8	8.2	11.3	10.7	9.7	15.3	14.2	16.8	16.2	10.5
5 – 9	9.0	10.1	9.7	9.4	10.0	9.2	13.6	11.4	13.0	12.6	9.9
10 – 14	8.5	9.5	9.6	9.6	10.1	9.3	11.4	9.8	9.7	9.5	9.1
15 – 19	9.3	10.1	10.3	8.8	9.2	9.0	11.0	9.9	8.3	7.8	9.4
20 – 24	9.1	9.1	7.3	6.3	7.7	8.7	7.4	9.4	9.0	8.0	8.7
25 – 29	8.0	7.8	7.3	7.0	7.6	7.8	6.9	7.1	8.2	6.8	7.7
30 – 34	7.9	8.5	7.6	5.3	9.1	8.6	6.6	7.2	7.2	6.4	7.8
35 – 39	7.4	8.3	7.9	8.2	8.2	8.2	5.5	6.4	6.3	5.7	7.4
40 – 44	6.9	7.3	7.7	6.5	6.7	7.4	4.0	5.7	5.1	4.6	6.7
45 – 49	5.8	5.4	5.4	7.6	4.7	5.5	4.0	4.5	3.1	3.7	5.3
50 – 54	4.8	3.9	5.3	4.3	3.6	3.8	3.1	3.3	2.6	3.2	4.3
55 – 59	3.7	2.9	3.5	2.7	3.3	2.8	2.4	2.7	2.3	2.9	3.3
60 – 64	3.1	2.4	3.3	2.5	3.1	2.9	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.5	2.9
65 – 69	2.3	2.0	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.9	2.0	1.9	1.6	2.5	2.2
70+	4.5	2.8	4.1	7.9	3.6	4.1	2.8	3.8	2.9	4.6	4.1
Unknown	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	1.6	0.6	1.8	3.0	0.7

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

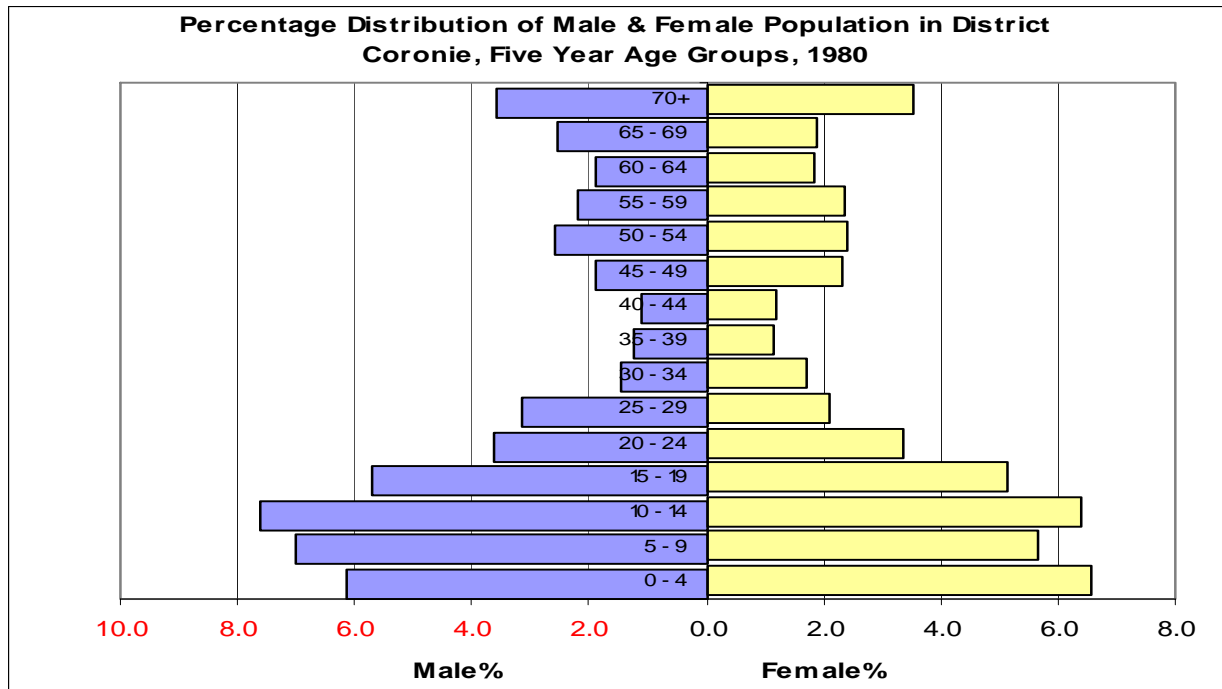
Population pyramids clearly show the percentage distributions of respective male and female populations by five-year age groups for interior and rural districts highlighting deviations between 1980 and 2004 (Figure 1.4, Figure 1.5, Figure 1.6 and Figure 1.7). A subgroup analysis shows the nature of the demographic development in these districts

Figure 1.4. Population Pyramid of Coronie in Percentages of Total Male and Female Populations, 2004



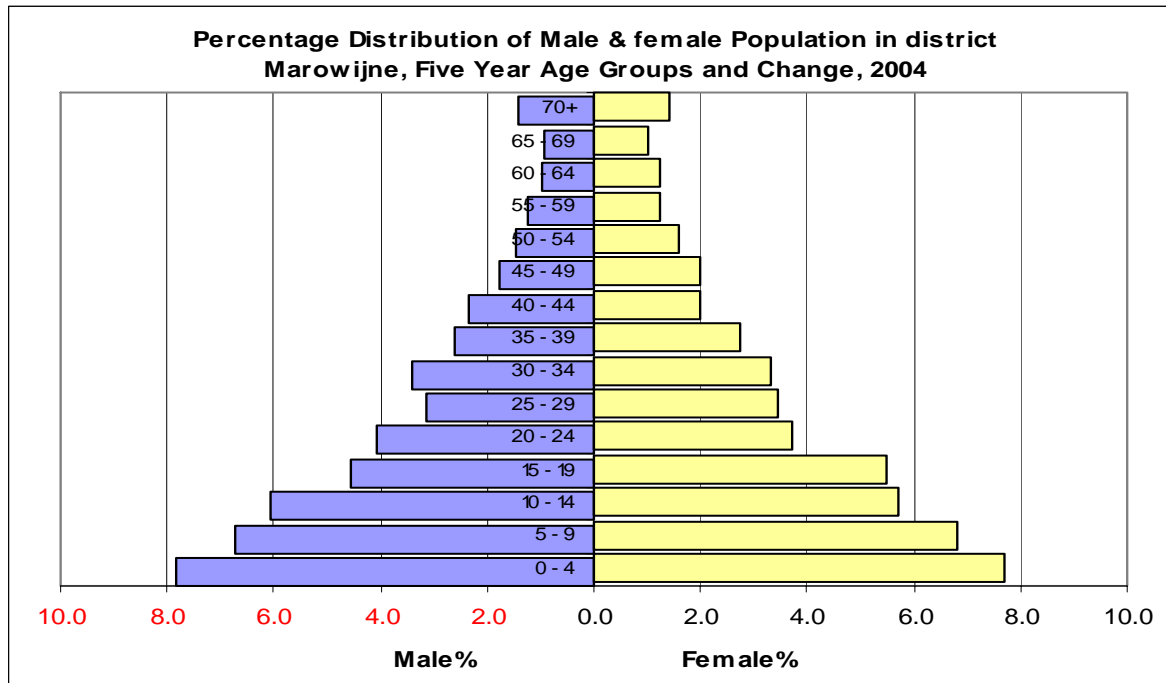
Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Figure 1.5. Population Pyramid of Coronie in Percentages of Total Male and Female Populations, 1980



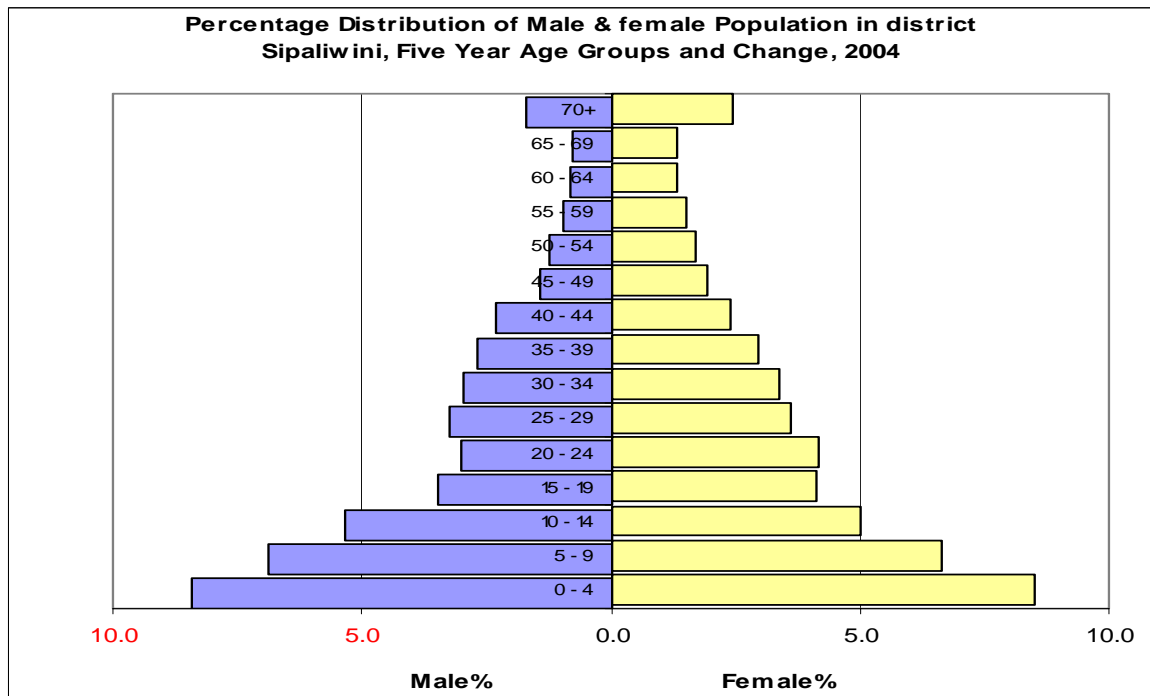
Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname

Figure 1.6. Population Pyramid of Marowijne in Percentages of Total Male and Female Populations, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Figure 1.7 Population Pyramid of Sipaliwini in Percentages of Total Male and Female Populations, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

In 2004, three districts were identified with a female surplus: Paramaribo, Marowijne and Sipaliwini. Comparisons with the situation in 1980 are not justified because of changes in district boundaries, the exception being Coronie. In 1980 and in 2004, the male surplus in this district remained by and large the same (Figures 1.4, 1.5, 1.8 and 1.9).

Figure 1.8. Population Size by District and Sex 1980

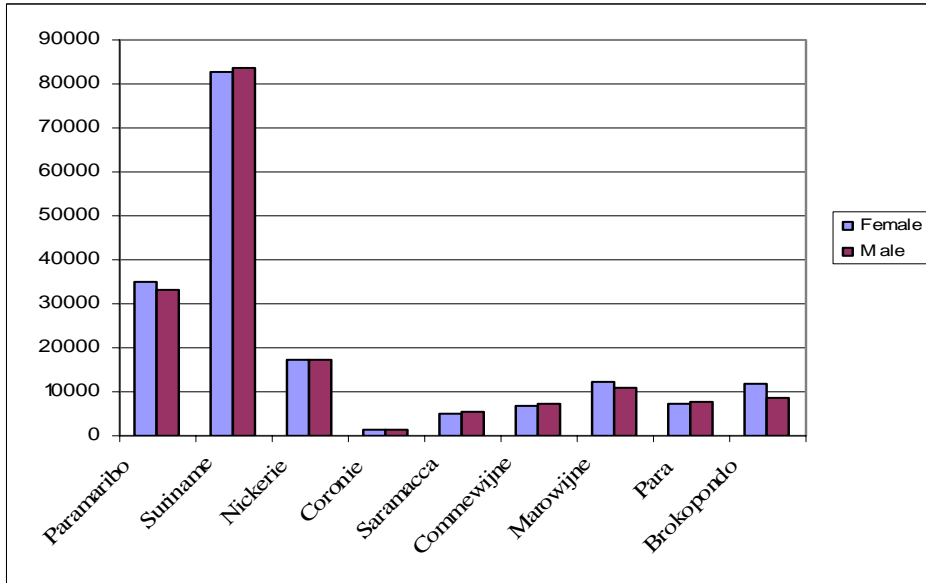
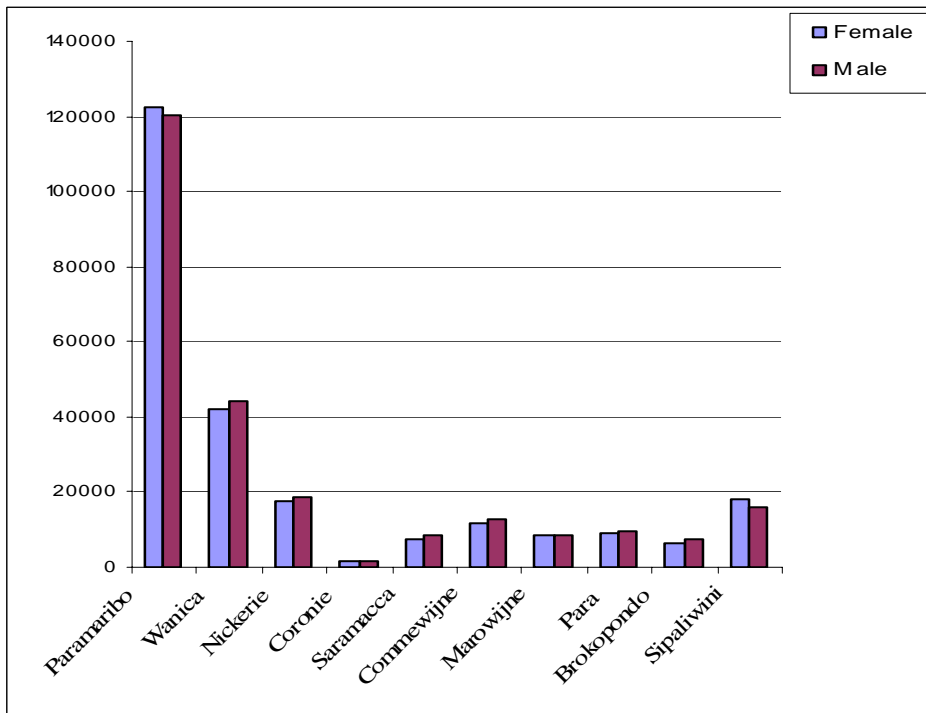


Figure 1.9. Population Size by District and Sex, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

In the 1950-2004 period, Table 1.7 shows that the national sex ratio increased from 98.6 males per 100 females in 1950 to 99.7 males per 100 females in 1964.

While further increases were evident towards 1972, the decline during the intercensal period 1972-1980 was due to the mass emigration to the Netherlands resulting in a female surplus in 1980 when the national sex ratio stood at 98.0 males per 100 females. By 2004, however, the sex ratio again increased being 101.3 males per 100 females.

Table 1.7 Population by Sex and Sex-Ratio in Census Years 1950 - 2004

Census Year	Male	Female	Total*	Sex-ratio**
1950	88,284	89,504	177,788	98.6
1964	161,855	162,356	324,211	99.7
1972	190,497	189,110	379,607	100.7
1980	175,634	179,226	354,860	98.0
2004	247,846	244,618	492,464	101.3

*Total = male + female + persons for which sex is not known

** male per 100 female

Table 1.8 Sex Ratios (Males per 100 Females) by Five Year Age Groups by District, 2004

Age Group	Paramaribo	Wanica	Nickerie	Coronie	Saramacca	Commewijne	Marowijne	Para	Brokopondo	Sipaliwini
Total	98.3	104.9	106.3	112.1	112.3	111.8	99.6	107.3	114.3	89.7
0 - 4	105.5	101.9	107.2	103.9	95.7	100.2	101.7	93.6	98.7	98.8
5 - 9	102.1	103.7	111.8	131.3	116.4	109.5	98.6	105.3	100.5	103.8
10 - 14	100.7	101.4	101.2	103.8	108.3	105.8	106.7	115.3	106.5	106.6
15 - 19	104.2	102.4	94.7	120.8	110.5	113.0	82.7	106.1	103.5	84.5
20 - 24	106.6	110.2	112.0	126.7	103.3	101.1	110.0	98.0	109.7	71.8
25 - 29	96.3	105.4	106.6	96.8	106.9	115.1	91.2	107.7	130.4	90.1
30 - 34	98.0	105.2	114.3	148.6	114.8	130.1	103.4	109.9	121.3	87.6
35 - 39	100.3	107.8	118.3	96.4	128.1	120.4	95.0	111.3	151.9	90.0
40 - 44	98.7	115.1	119.9	119.3	139.5	126.3	118.2	117.2	144.8	95.6
45 - 49	86.7	107.9	124.3	102.9	127.9	121.8	87.9	116.4	150.5	71.6
50 - 54	89.8	105.1	84.5	145.8	121.0	109.9	93.5	127.6	136.8	73.1
55 - 59	80.3	100.7	97.6	108.1	93.9	105.5	99.5	106.2	85.9	64.7
60 - 64	90.7	90.7	84.8	102.9	86.3	85.0	80.3	110.1	68.3	62.8
65 - 69	99.6	94.0	94.5	110.7	114.5	94.9	92.8	98.3	86.4	55.7
70+	78.8	93.5	90.2	86.9	111.2	106.7	100.4	100.9	68.8	69.8

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

According to Table 1.8, the 2004 age-sex composition of populations by district shows important deviations from the national pattern. Six of the ten districts – Nickerie, Coronie, Saramacca Commewijne, Para and Brokopondo – have sex ratios greater than 106, indicating a surplus of males over females. In most of these districts, the male surpluses are very high in the 30 – 54 age groups. The most extreme deviation is observed in Brokopondo, a district located in the interior, with a sex ratio of 114. Here the sex ratios for the 35 – 49 age groups are greater than 144. Conversely, the sex ratios for the 55 + five-year age groups are very low with ranging between 68 and 87. There is one district (Sipaliwini) with an extremely low sex ratio of 89.7 indicating a great surplus of female. Low sex ratios are also evident in the 15-19 age group as well as in all of the older five-year age groups.

Table 1.9. Sex Ratios (Males per 100 Females) by Five Year Age Groups by District, 1980

Age Group	Paramaribo	Suriname	Nickerie	Coronie	Saramacca	Commewijne	Marowijne	Para	Brokopondo
Total	94.9	101.0	102.1	108.6	104.0	108.2	89.2	107.8	73.2
0 - 4	101.2	104.4	106.7	93.4	101.2	100.1	98.0	100.4	96.9
5 - 9	101.6	102.4	97.4	124.2	99.6	108.0	102.8	111.0	92.5
10 - 14	98.8	102.8	101.3	119.1	103.9	104.1	99.7	104.3	89.4
15 - 19	99.2	104.7	103.4	110.5	112.4	109.7	77.9	111.8	61.7
20 - 24	95.8	101.2	101.6	108.6	110.6	114.0	58.3	118.2	46.5
25 - 29	101.7	96.6	92.2	151.7	102.4	111.1	71.8	95.5	51.5
30 - 34	92.7	97.6	108.1	83.3	86.7	112.0	65.7	84.7	53.8
35 - 39	93.2	92.2	86.2	106.3	84.7	89.2	76.9	97.1	54.9
40 - 44	91.9	92.1	100.1	93.9	105.8	98.3	75.8	121.1	54.3
45 - 49	86.7	101.0	110.7	80.0	98.8	118.5	82.0	106.2	66.3
50 - 54	84.0	106.5	116.9	107.5	96.8	110.2	108.7	125.6	60.7
55 - 59	86.5	103.2	117.2	92.4	130.4	141.9	108.8	117.5	64.2
60 - 64	87.6	104.4	113.6	103.9	151.4	100.0	79.1	131.7	69.3
65 - 69	82.3	122.8	118.2	136.5	138.0	136.6	107.9	141.8	78.5
70+	69.5	79.0	98.6	101.0	100.4	119.7	114.1	94.8	57.8

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Chapter 2

National Population Trends: Social and Economic Characteristics

2.1 Introduction

With respect to social and economic characteristics of individuals in Suriname, this chapter describes the composition of the national population in 2004 and how it has changed since 1980. As far as the availability of data for 1980 would permit, changes across the 1980-2004 period are discussed and an effort has been made to address the implications of such changes. Some of the principal social and economic characteristics that form the basis of this discussion include nativity, ethnicity, religion, living arrangements, education and economic activity.

2.2 Place of Birth

Table 2.1 presents the total population by place of birth and shows some changes that have occurred between 1980 and 2004. The foreign-born population increased by approximately 14,500 persons, which in relative terms means that its share changed from 5.8 percent to 7.1 percent in the 1980-2004 period.

Table 2.1. Distribution of Total Population by Place of Birth, 2004 and 1980

Place of Birth	2004		1980	
	Number	Percent (%)	Number	Percent (%)
Total	492829	100.0	355240	100.0
Local	454246	92.2	332170	93.5
Foreign	34933	7.1	20519	5.8
Unknown	3650	0.7	2038	0.6
Non-response	-	-	513	0.1

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 2.2 shows that from 1980 to 2004 foreign-born male grew from 5.9 percent to 7.3 percent of the total male population, while foreign-born females grew from 5.7 percent to 6.9 percent of the total female population.

Table 2.2. Percentage Distribution of Total Population by Place of Birth and Sex, 2004 and 1980

Place of Birth	Male		Female	
	2004	1980	2004	1980
Total Number	247846	175634	244618	179226
Total Percentage	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.1
Local	91.9	93.4	92.5	93.7
Foreign	7.3	5.9	6.9	5.7
Unknown	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6
Non-response		0.1		0.1

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Note: Male plus Female does not tally to Total in Table 2.1. In 2004 and 1980 there were difference of 365 and 380 respectively which may have been due to persons unclassified by sex.

2.3 Ethnicity

Except for the 1980 census, all censuses since the first in 1921 included ethnicity as a variable of interest. For unknown reasons, the government did not allow the Census Bureau to include this variable.¹ In the other censuses (1921, 1950, 1964, 1971 and 2004) respondents could state their ethnicity by self identification. It is important to note that censuses are not consistent in the way ethnic categories are defined, operationalized and reported. The categories of ethnicity are not always identical in the respective censuses, and there are inconsistencies as regards the ethnic categories used in data gathering and reporting practices.² Taking these limitations into consideration, this section analyses the ethnic composition at different points in time, and describes any intercensal changes. As ethnicity is an important variable in social, cultural and political life, we will focus on sub-groups.

Table 2.3 is indicative of significant changes in the composition of the population by ethnicity between 1972 and 2004. The Creole population, after increasing between 1950 and 1972, decreased drastically in the 1972-2004 period. This is mainly due to the changes in the definition of Creole insofar as the Mixed group that was included among the Creole population in previous censuses,

¹ *Though ethnicity was not included in 1980 there are indications of the distribution by ethnic group based on indicators such as religion and spoken languages.*

² *In the censuses of 1921, 1950, 1964 and 2004 the 'mixed' group was included in the questionnaire as a separate category. A distinction was made between the mixed group and the blacks. However, in 1964 and 1971 the mixed group was not reported as a separate category in the census publications. The Creole category included the mixed group and blacks in the urban and rural areas.*

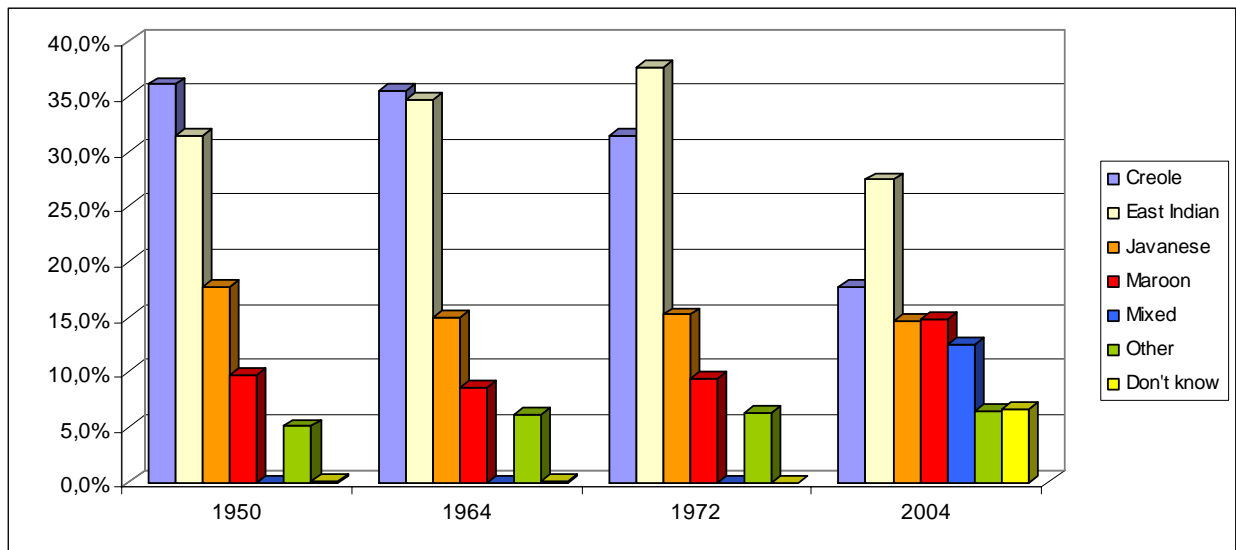
became a separate category in the 2004 census. In addition to the change in the definition of Creole, the reduced natural increase contributed to the decreased share of this group in the total population. A significant feature characterizing the ethnic composition of Suriname's population is the high growth of the Maroon population whose share in total population increased in the 1972-2004 period from 9.4 percent to 14.7 percent (Figure 2.1). In contrast, the Javanese population's share decreased from 15.2 percent to 14.6 percent (Figure 2.1). Hence, the Javanese were replaced by the Maroon population as the third largest ethnic group in Suriname between 1972 and 2004.

Table 2.3 Population by Ethnicity in Census Years, 1950-2004

Ethnic group	1950	1964	1972	2004
Total	198668	324211	379607	492829
Creole	71657	114961	119009	87202
East Indian	62280	112633	142917	135117
Javanese	35270	48463	57688	71879
Maroon	19180	27698	35838	72553
Mixed	0	0	0	61524
Other	10095	19934	24155	31975
Don't know	186	522	0	32579

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Statistical papers 3, Suriname in cijfers no 215, October 2005

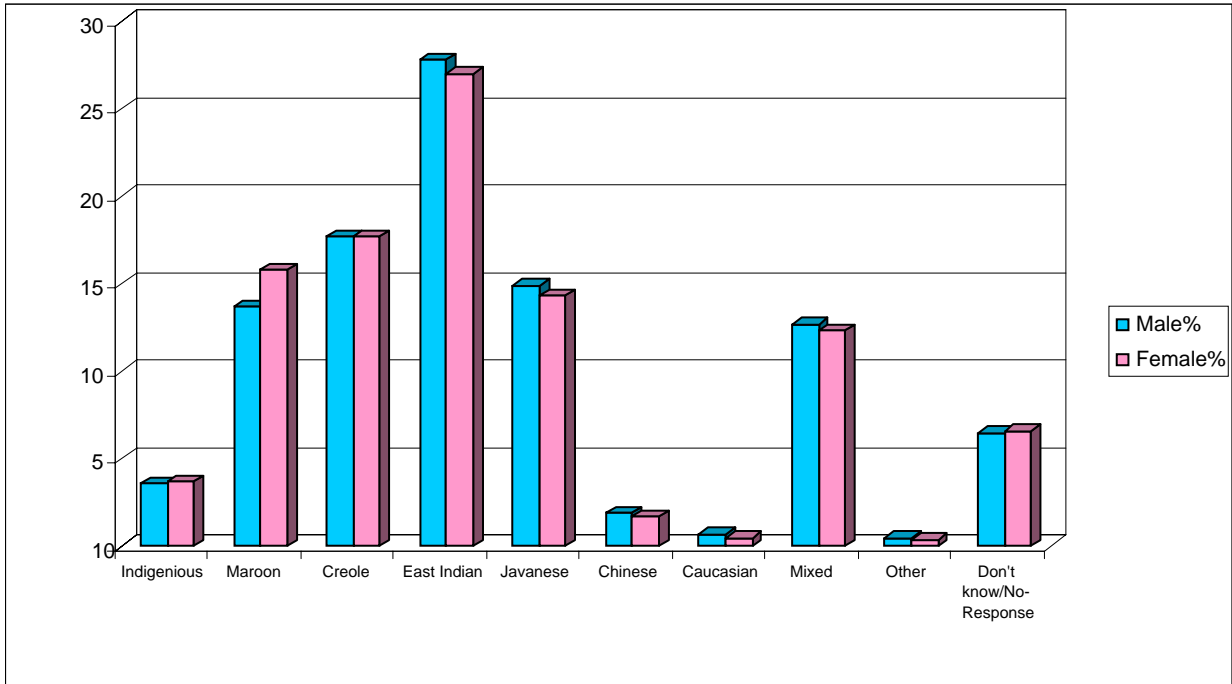
Figure 2.1 Percentage Distribution of Population by Ethnicity in Census Years, 1950-2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Statistical papers 3, Suriname in cijfers no 215, October 2005

When classified by ethnicity and sex, the 2004 population shows an important deviation from the national pattern. According to Figure 2.2, there was a large surplus of females over males in the Maroon population in 2004 to the extent that males and females accounted for 13.7 percent and 15.8 percent respectively of the total population in 2004.

Figure 2.2 Percentage of Total Population by Ethnicity and Sex, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

2.4 Religion

With respect to religious affiliation, Table 2.4 shows that Christianity accounts for the largest share of the population in 2004 followed by Hinduism and Islam that respectively that account for the second and third largest shares. In general, Table 2.4 also indicates that the pattern of religious affiliation across the sexes is similar.

Table 2.4. Distribution of the Total Population by Religious Affiliation and Sex, 2004

Religious Affiliation	Male		Female		Unknown		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	247846	100.0	244618	100.0	365	100.0	492829	100.0
Christianity	99324	40.1	101387	41.4	33	9.0	200744	40.7
Hinduism	50151	20.2	48086	19.7	3	0.8	98240	19.9
Islam	34744	14.0	31545	12.9	18	4.9	66307	13.5
Traditional	7402	3.0	8889	3.6	0	0.0	16291	3.3
Other	6116	2.5	6141	2.5	1	0.3	12258	2.5
None	10933	4.4	10851	4.4	1	0.3	21785	4.4
Don't know/No-response	39176	15.8	37719	15.5	309	84.7	77204	15.7

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

2.5 Education

While data on the highest level of educational attainment are available, the national census did not permit the collection of data on the educational attainment of the adult population by highest examination passed. However, the operationalisation of the 1980 and 2004 censuses differs on some categories which make a comparison over time difficult. The first difference is the reference population which consists of persons 13 years and over in 1980 and persons 15 years and over in 2004. The second difference is on some educational categories which can be seen in Table 2.5 and Table 2.6. A third factor affecting comparisons across time is the relatively high number of responses assuming the form of “don’t know” or “no answer”.

In 2004, Table 2.5 shows that 8.2 percent of the population 15 years and over had attained no education whatsoever, this being more likely to be so among females than among males. While females appear much more likely than males to have attained teacher training college (6.5 percent as opposed to 1.1 percent), males appear more likely than females to have attained senior secondary/vocational and technical education (7.4 percent as opposed to 4.4 percent).

Table 2.5. Distribution of the Population aged 15 years and over by Highest Level of Educational Attainment and Sex, 2004

Level of Education	Male		Female		Unknown		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	173538	100.0	172599	100.0	303	100.0	346440	100.0
No education	10252	5.9	18081	10.5	1	0.3	28334	8.2
Kindergarten	295	0.2	327	0.2	0	0.0	622	0.2
Special Education	1157	0.7	871	0.5	0	0.0	2028	0.6
Primary	47267	27.2	42445	24.6	6	2.0	89718	25.9
Lower Vocational Education	7009	4.0	3309	1.9	3	1.0	10321	3.0
Other Junior Secondary Education	61458	35.4	60364	35.0	10	3.3	121832	35.2
Senior Secondary Vocational & Technical	12837	7.4	7671	4.4	8	2.6	20516	5.9
Teacher Training College	1865	1.1	11275	6.5	0	0.0	13140	3.8
Senior Secondary General	7631	4.4	7848	4.5	1	0.3	15480	4.5
Higher Vocational Education	3185	1.8	4048	2.3	0	0.0	7233	2.1
University	5145	3.0	4615	2.7	3	1.0	9763	2.8
don't know/no answer	15437	8.9	11745	6.8	271	89.4	27453	7.9

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 2.6. Distribution of the Population aged 13 years and over by Highest Level of Educational Attainment and Sex, 1980

Level of Education	Male		Female		Unknown		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	103816	100.0	104213	100.0	131	100.0	208163	100.0
Kindergarten	53	0.1	13	0.0	3	2.3	69	0.0
Interior education (Boslandonderwijs)	38	0.0	204	0.2	48	36.6	290	0.1
Special Education	394	0.4	26937	25.8	0	0.0	27331	13.1
Primary	29733	28.6	22	0.0	0	0.0	29755	14.3
Lower Vocational Education	5608	5.4	12541	12.0	20	15.3	18172	8.7
Other Junior Secondary Education	17994	17.3	12400	11.9	2	1.5	30396	14.6
Senior Secondary Vocational and Technical	1199	1.2	1470	1.4	2	1.5	2671	1.3
Teacher Training College	1125	1.1	2248	2.2	0	0.0	3373	1.6
Senior Secondary General	1770	1.7	2465	2.4	5	3.8	4240	2.0
Higher Vocational Education	211	0.2	2268	2.2	0	0.0	2479	1.2
University	662	0.6	295	0.3	7	5.3	964	0.5
Unknown	4478	4.3	43343	41.6	44	33.7	47865	23.0
Non-response	40551	39.1	7	0.0	0	0.0	40558	19.6

2.6 Household Head

The data contained in Table 2.7 and Table 2.8 suggest that the number of households is approximately 2.5 times higher in 2004 than in 1980. Between 1980 and 2004, the number of male and female heads increased, though at a faster pace in the case of female heads. In 1980 and in 2004, the number of male heads exceeded the number of female heads despite a closing of the gap between 1980 and 2004. Thus, while the share of female-headed households relative to the total number of households increased from 20.3 percent to 31 percent between 1980 and 2004, the corresponding figures for male-headed households were consistent with a declining share from 79.7 percent to 69 percent during the same period.

Table 2.7 and Table 2.8 show that in the 65+ age group, the number of household heads is approximately 4 times greater in 2004 than in 1980. With respect to such household heads, there was an increase in the proportion that was female from 22.5 percent in 1980 to 41.5 percent in 2004. In contrast, declining proportions were observed with respect to the proportion of such household heads that was male, declining from 77.5 percent in 1980 to 58.5 percent in 2004.

Table 2.7. Number and Percentage of Households by Age Group and Sex of Household Head, 1980

Age Group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	39959	79.7	10204	20.3	50163	100.0
< 15	82	60.7	53	39.3	135	100.0
15 - 19	258	61.1	164	38.9	422	100.0
20 - 24	3226	81.3	741	18.7	3967	100.0
25 - 29	5391	84.9	960	15.1	6351	100.0
30 - 34	5135	83.6	1005	16.4	6140	100.0
35 - 39	4702	80.3	1157	19.7	5859	100.0
40 - 44	4668	79.5	1205	20.5	5873	100.0
45 - 49	4608	77.9	1304	22.1	5912	100.0
50 - 54	3906	79.0	1039	21.0	4945	100.0
55 - 59	3025	77.1	900	22.9	3925	100.0
60 - 64	1097	65.8	571	34.2	1668	100.0
65+	3631	77.5	1055	22.5	4686	100.0
Unknown	230	82.1	50	17.9	280	100.0

Table 2.8 Number and Percentage of Households and Change by Sex and Age of Household Head, 2004

Age Group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	85245	69.0	38218	31.0	123463	100.0
< 18	110	37.4	184	62.6	294	100.0
18 - 24	2635	58.1	1897	41.9	4532	100.0
25 - 29	5822	70.1	2480	29.9	8302	100.0
30 - 34	9930	74.9	3332	25.1	13262	100.0
35 - 39	12260	75.1	4073	24.9	16333	100.0
40 - 44	13237	74.4	4561	25.6	17798	100.0
45 - 49	10522	71.4	4224	28.6	14746	100.0
50 - 54	8131	69.5	3567	30.5	11698	100.0
55 - 59	6225	65.9	3221	34.1	9446	100.0
60 - 64	5229	64.1	2923	35.9	8152	100.0
65+	10794	58.5	7665	41.5	18459	100.0
Unknown	350	79.4	91	20.6	441	100.0

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Turning to Table 2.9, the proportion of heads aged 60 years and over appears to have increased between 1980 and 2004. In contrast, the proportion of heads in younger age groups appears to have decreased over the same period. The observed increase with respect to the proportion of female heads who were 65 years and over is especially marked.

Table 2.9. Percentage Distribution of Households Heads by Five-Year Age Group and Sex of Household Head, 1980 and 2004

<i>1980</i>			<i>2004</i>		
Age Group	Male	Female	Age Group	Male	Female
Total	100.0	100.0	Total	100.0	100.0
< 15	0.2	0.5			
15 – 19	0.6	1.6	< 18	0.1	0.5
20 – 24	8.1	7.3	18 – 24	3.1	5.0
25 – 29	13.5	9.4	25 – 29	6.8	6.5
30 – 34	12.9	9.9	30 – 34	11.7	8.7
35 – 39	11.8	11.3	35 – 39	14.4	10.7
40 – 44	11.7	11.8	40 – 44	15.5	11.9
45 – 49	11.5	12.8	45 – 49	12.3	11.1
50 – 54	9.8	10.2	50 – 54	9.5	9.3
55 – 59	7.6	8.8	55 – 59	7.3	8.4
60 – 64	2.6	5.6	60 – 64	6.1	7.6
65+	9.0	10.3	65+	12.8	20.1
Unknown	0.5	0.5	Unknown	0.5	0.2

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Chapter 3

Population Redistribution and Patterns of Migration

3.1 Introduction

For Suriname as a whole, this chapter describes the local-born population of 2004 focusing specifically on how such populations within the various districts of residence, are distributed according to their district of birth. Specifically, it provides a basis for determining the major areas of concentration for local-born populations in some of the major districts in Suriname. For the foreign-born population, changes in its age-sex structure are discussed and population pyramids are indicative of its changing age structure. Due to the changes that affected the boundaries and configuration of administrative districts, it is impossible to properly evaluate intercensal changes in population sizes across and within districts.

3.2 Local-Born Populations in Surinamese Districts

Table 3.1 shows that in 2004 the number of local born was 457,896. This is approximately 93 percent of the total population size of 492,829 as presented in Table 1.1 of Chapter 1. Table 3.2 shows that of the ten districts, Nickerie, Paramaribo, Coronie and Marowijne have the highest percentages of local-born population who resided in the respective districts. The percentages are 89.2 percent, 73.2 percent, 62.2 percent and 61.8 percent respectively.

Table 3.1 Number of Local-Born Population by District of Birth and District of Residence, 2004

District of Residence	District of Birth									
	Paramaribo	Wanica	Nickerie	Coronie	Saramacca	Commewijne	Marowijne	Para	Brokopondo	Sipaliwini
Total	255879	6616	41485	4207	11152	21895	25704	5626	17775	18912
Paramaribo	165221	1563	7162	1944	4485	8655	9211	1760	4881	2216
Wanica	49395	4176	1686	220	1505	2419	1851	976	1892	734
Nickerie	2286	94	29997	166	164	209	148	36	23	119
Coronie	750	3	183	1700	18	22	8	6	4	1
Saramacca	7744	82	483	59	3871	791	126	51	56	55
Commewijne	10537	208	387	29	206	8781	554	57	84	63
Marowijne	4233	33	118	22	88	383	9054	56	88	208
Para	9435	402	376	51	561	534	511	2518	885	606
Brokopondo	2582	24	31	5	37	23	193	72	6944	776
Sipaliwini	3696	31	1062	11	217	78	4048	94	2918	14134

(Cont'd Table 3.1)

Table 3.1 Number of Local-Born Population by District of Birth and District of Residence, 2004

District of Residence	District of Birth			
	District of Suriname	Other	Don't know	Total
Total	43931	1064	3650	457896
Paramaribo	16009	447	2133	225687
Wanica	18003	248	462	83567
Nickerie	253	91	38	33624
Coronie	24	7	5	2731
Saramacca	1688	16	43	15065
Commewijne	2281	74	85	23346
Marowijne	213	14	135	14645
Para	2108	37	257	18281
Brokopondo	1179	43	126	12035
Sipaliwini	2173	87	366	28915

*Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004**Note: Total local born population in Table 3.1 (457896) differs to that in Table 2.1 (454246) by 3650.*

Table 3.2 Percentage of Local-Born Population by District of Birth and District of Residence, 2004

District of Residence	District of Birth									
	Paramaribo	Wanica	Nickerie	Coronie	Saramacca	Commewijne	Marowijne	Para	Brokopondo	Sipaliwini
Paramaribo	73,2	0,7	3,2	0,9	2,0	3,8	4,1	0,8	2,2	1,0
Wanica	59,1	5,0	2,0	0,3	1,8	2,9	2,2	1,2	2,3	0,9
Nickerie	6,8	0,3	89,2	0,5	0,5	0,6	0,4	0,1	0,1	0,4
Coronie	27,5	0,1	6,7	62,2	0,7	0,8	0,3	0,2	0,1	0,0
Saramacca	51,4	0,5	3,2	0,4	25,7	5,3	0,8	0,3	0,4	0,4
Commewijne	45,1	0,9	1,7	0,1	0,9	37,6	2,4	0,2	0,4	0,3
Marowijne	28,9	0,2	0,8	0,2	0,6	2,6	61,8	0,4	0,6	1,4
Para	51,6	2,2	2,1	0,3	3,1	2,9	2,8	13,8	4,8	3,3
Brokopondo	21,5	0,2	0,3	0,0	0,3	0,2	1,6	0,6	57,7	6,4
Sipaliwini	12,8	0,1	3,7	0,0	0,8	0,3	14,0	0,3	10,1	48,9

(Cont'd Table 3.2)

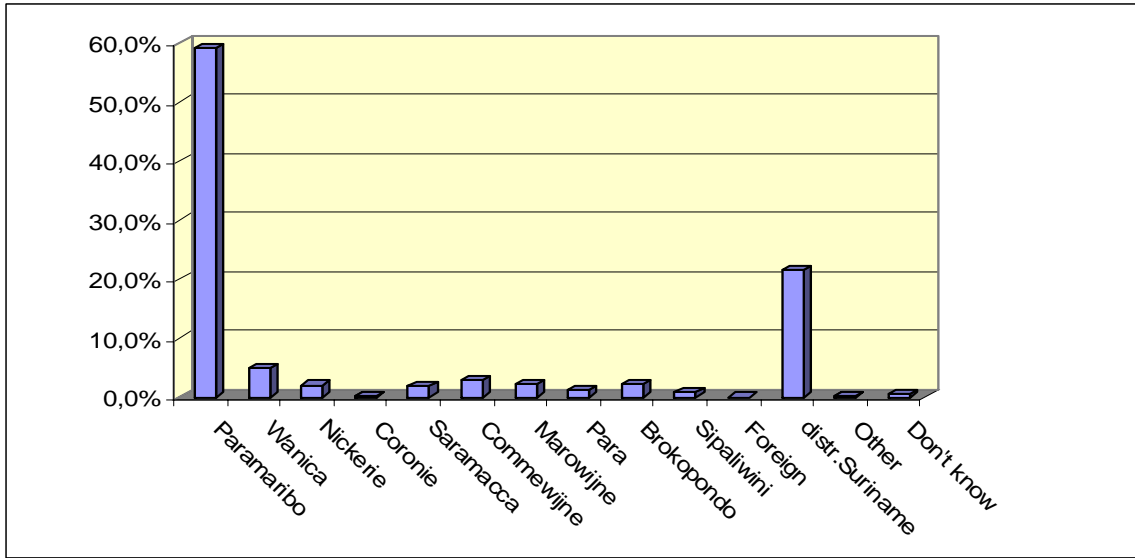
Table 3.2 Local-Born Population by District of Birth and District of Residence, 2004

District of Residence	District of Birth			Total
	District of Suriname	Other	Don't know	
Paramaribo	7,1	0,2	0,9	100,0
Wanica	21,5	0,3	0,6	100,0
Nickerie	0,8	0,3	0,1	100,0
Coronie	0,9	0,3	0,2	100,0
Saramacca	11,2	0,1	0,3	100,0
Commewijne	9,8	0,3	0,4	100,0
Marowijne	1,5	0,1	0,9	100,0
Para	11,5	0,2	1,4	100,0
Brokopondo	9,8	0,4	1,0	100,0
Sipaliwini	7,5	0,3	1,3	100,0

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Compared to the corresponding proportions in other districts in Suriname, the 2004 census data reveal that the proportion of the population deemed to be local-born is lowest in Wanica where it is 5 percent. In Para, the proportion is slightly higher being 13 percent. The majority (59 percent) of those born in Wanica lived in Paramaribo at the time of the census while another 21.5 percent lived in the district of Suriname, a previous major administrative division that included the present district of Wanica (Figure 3.1).

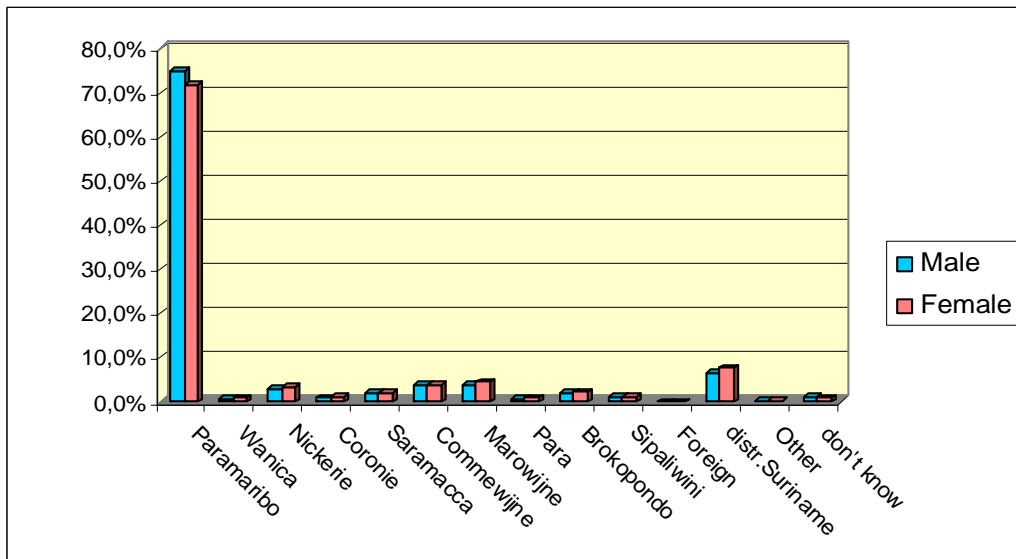
Figure 3.1. Population Born in Wanica by District of Residence, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

With respect to persons born in Paramaribo, Figure 3.2 presents the proportions among males and among females respectively that lived in the different districts that are spread across Suriname. Accordingly, males and females who lived in Paramaribo constituted much greater proportions of the local-born population when compared to corresponding proportions for local-born persons who lived in other districts. Just under 10 percent respectively among males and among females were resident in the district of Suriname.

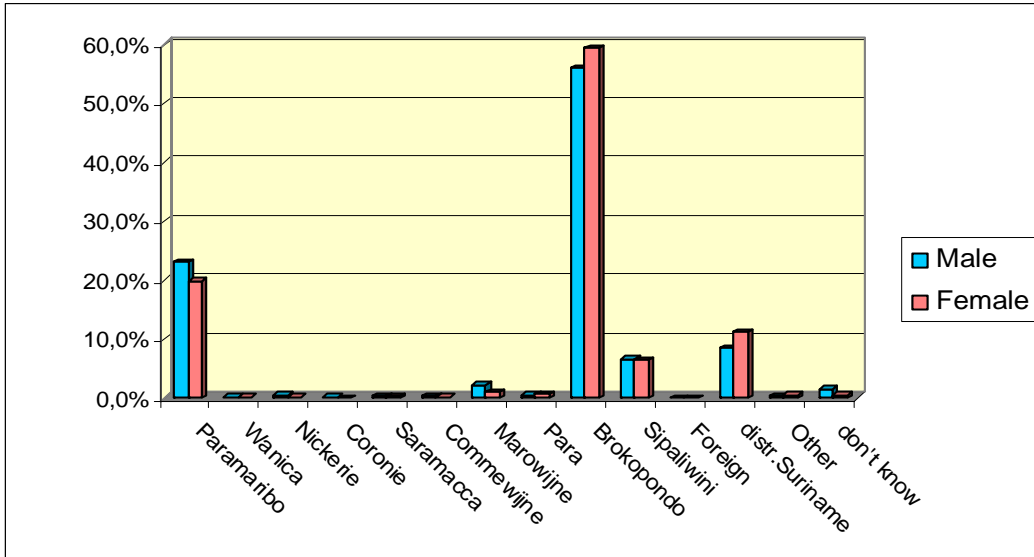
Figure 3.2 Population Born in Paramaribo by Sex and District of Residence, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

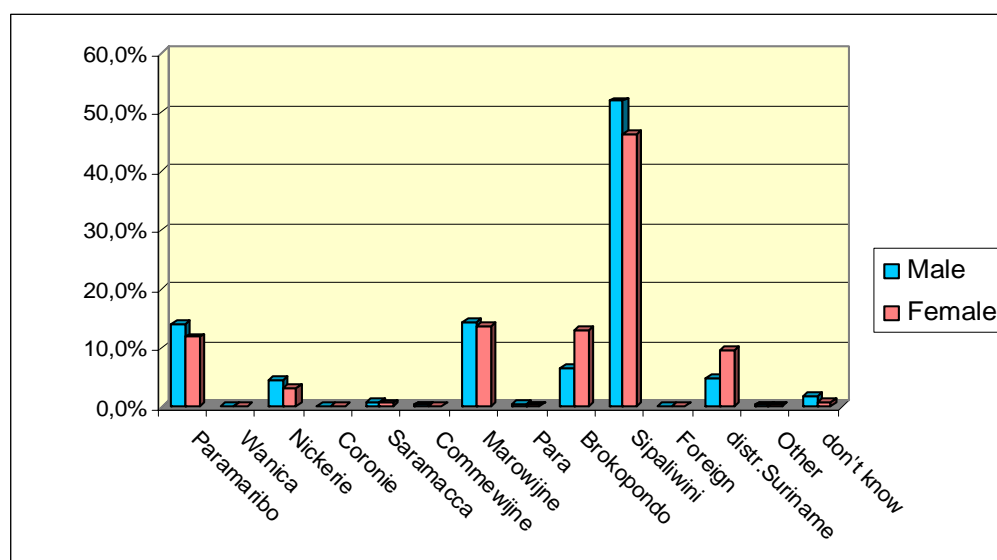
The interior districts of Brokopondo and Sipaliwini have approximately half of their respective local-born populations still residing within their respective boundaries and as such, show typical patterns of population redistribution. A relatively large share of approximately 21.5 percent of the local-born population of Brokopondo live in Paramaribo.

Figure 3.3 Population Born in Brokopondo by Sex and District of Residence, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Districts such as the district of Suriname and the two interior districts of Sipaliwini and Marowijne feature prominently as places of residence for persons born in Brokopondo. A similar pattern is evident across the sexes (Figure 3.3).

Figure 3.4 Population Born in Sipaliwini by Sex and District of Residence, 2004

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

As indicated earlier, the Sipaliwini district has almost half of the local born population still residing there. However, persons born in Sipaliwini have also been living mainly in Paramaribo, district Suriname and the interior interior districts of Brokopondo and Marowijne. Among males and among females born in Sipaliwini, Figure 3.4 shows that relatively more males live in Sipaliwini and Paramaribo whereas relatively more females live in District Suriname and Brokopondo.

3.3 Foreign-Born Population in Suriname

The number of foreign-born persons increased in the 1980-2004 period from 20,519 to 34,933, which is a growth by a factor of 1.7. According to Table 3.3, the number of foreign-born males increased in this period from 10,322 to 18,083, which is a growth by a factor of 1.75. The number of foreign-born females increased in the same period from 10,152 to 16,809, which is an increase by a factor of 1.65. In general, the number of foreign-born males exceeded the number of foreign-born females though such a differential has not been evidently obvious when the age of foreign-born persons is taken into account.

Figure 3.5 and Figure 3.6 display population pyramids for the foreign-born populations of 1980 and 2004. A comparison of the population pyramids indicates a broader base as well as a larger share of middle age groups in 2004. However, the respective pyramids are also indicative of a far greater

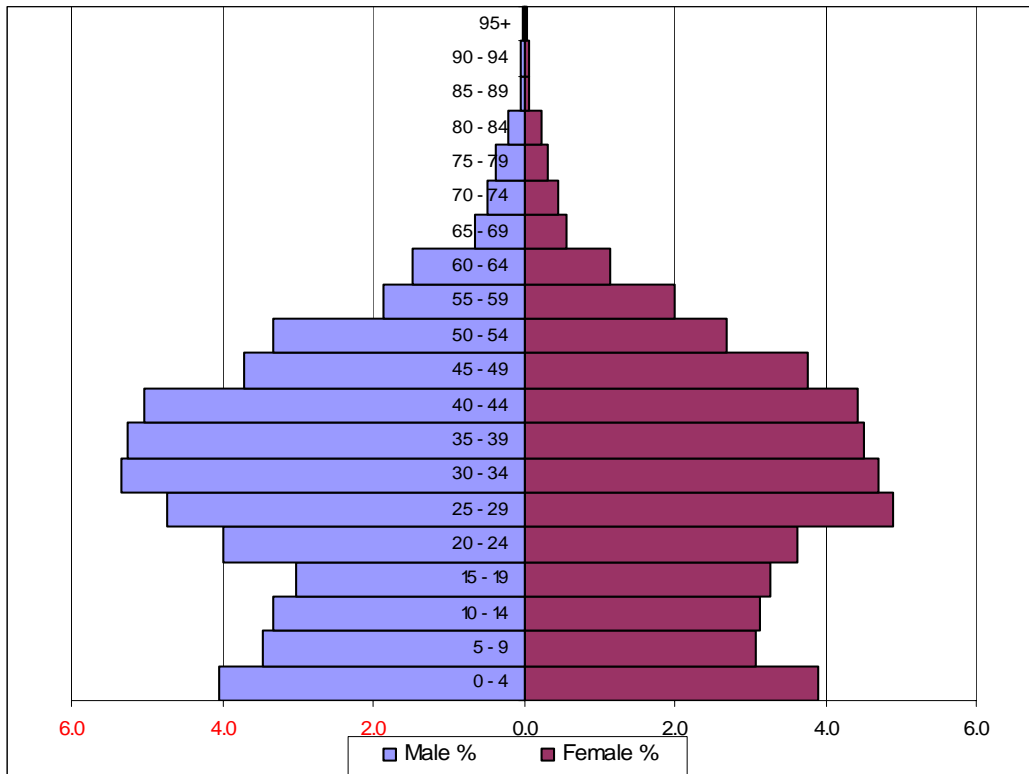
share of the persons 60 years or older in the foreign-born population of 1980 when compared with the foreign-born population of 2004.

Table 3.3, Foreign-born Population by Sex and Five-year Age Groups, 1980 and 2004

Age Group	1980				2004			
	Male	Female	Unknown	Total	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Total	10322	10152	45	20519	18083	16809	41	34933
0 – 4	505	509	2	1016	1411	1367	0	2778
5 – 9	919	886	1	1806	1210	1077	0	2287
10 – 14	795	793	1	1589	1158	1091	0	2249
15 – 19	759	768	4	1531	1057	1138	0	2195
20 – 24	924	909	3	1836	1388	1268	0	2656
25 – 29	954	983	1	1938	1650	1708	0	3358
30 – 34	869	858	1	1728	1867	1644	20	3531
35 – 39	641	597	3	1241	1837	1579	21	3437
40 – 44	499	475	0	974	1756	1542	0	3298
45 – 49	392	379	6	777	1296	1317	0	2613
50 – 54	368	382	0	750	1160	939	0	2099
55 – 59	304	288	4	596	654	696	0	1350
60 – 64	208	237	0	445	511	400	0	911
65 – 69	510	347	2	859	225	200	0	425
70 – 74	504	507	3	1014	166	160	0	326
75 – 79	416	437	4	857	127	112	0	239
80 – 84	381	418	2	801	69	79	0	148
85 – 89	210	213	4	427	10	28	0	38
90 – 94	42	48	0	90	18	22	0	40
95+	15	13	3	31	4	14	0	18
Unknown	107	105	1	213	509	428	0	937

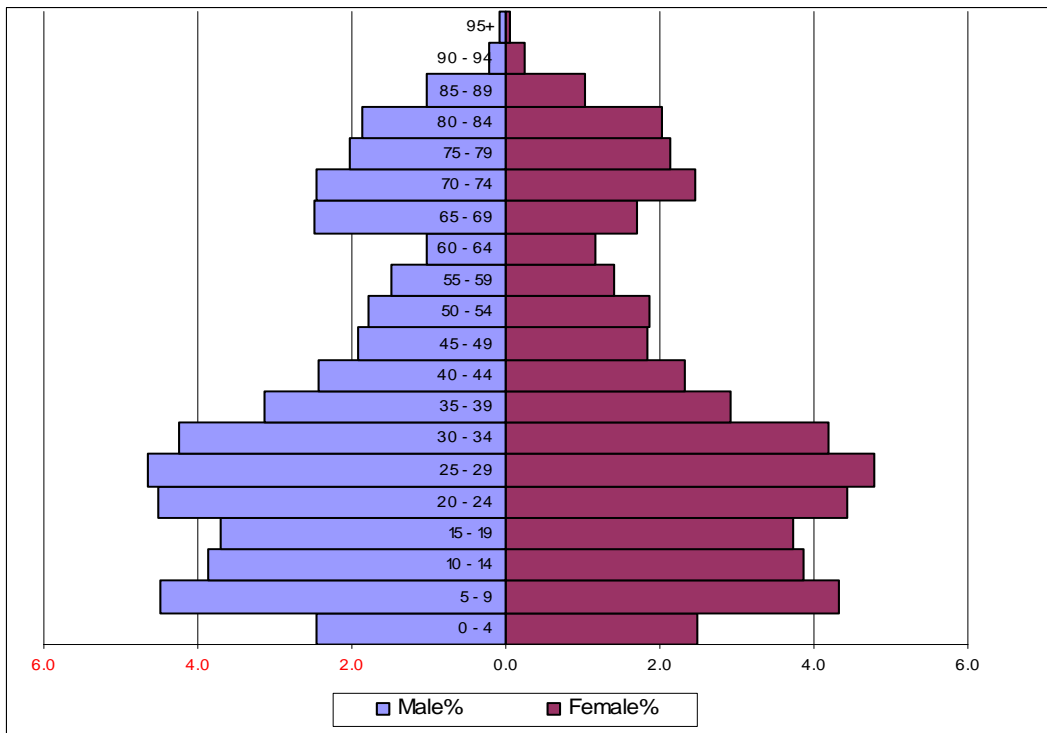
*Source: Fifth General Population and Housing Census 1980, General Bureau of Statistics Suriname
General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004*

Figure 3.5 Foreign-born by Sex and Five-year Age Groups, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Figure 3.6 Foreign-born by Sex and Five-year Age Groups,



Source: Fifth General Population and Housing Census 1980, General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, 1980

Chapter 4

Education and Training

4.1 Introduction

This Chapter aims to determine the educational attainment of the population 15 and over according to five-year age group and sex in Suriname. Patterns of pre-school and school attendance are not addressed as the relevant data are not available. With reference to educational attainment, emphasis will be placed on identifying variations in patterns according to individuals' sex and the major administrative divisions. The analysis is restricted to data from the 2004 census as data from the 1980 census are not available.³

4.2 Educational Attainment

According to Table 4.1, the 2004 census enumerated a total number of 346,440 persons aged 15 years and over (inclusive those with age unknown) by highest level of educational attainment.

Table 4.1 Persons (15 and over) by Highest Educational Attainment, 2004

Educational Attainment	Number	%
Total	346440	100.0
No education	28334	8.2
Kindergarten	622	0.2
Special education	2028	0.6
Primary	89718	25.9
Lower Vocational Education	10321	3.0
Other Junior Secondary education	121832	35.2
Senior Secondary Vocational and Technical	20516	5.9
Teacher training college	13140	3.8
Senior Secondary General	15480	4.5
Higher Vocational Education	7233	2.1
University	9763	2.8
Unknown/No answer	27453	7.9

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

³ Due to the fire that destroyed the building of the General Bureau of Statistics in 2003 most data of the 1980 census are not available. The 2004 census has only limited data on persons aged 15 and over. Data on persons aged 5 years and over are not available.

Relatively speaking, the majority of persons amounting to 35.2 percent attained a maximum level of education equivalent to and classified as “Other Junior Secondary Education” while another 25.9 percent attained primary level education as their highest. Table 4.1 also shows that approximately 8 percent has no education.

Table 4.2 shows that the residents of Paramaribo are far better off than the residents of the rural and interior districts with regard to educational attainment. In Paramaribo, consistently higher proportions of persons 15 years and over have attained education at higher levels such as senior secondary vocational and technical (7.8 percent), senior secondary general (6.4 percent), teacher training college (4.7 percent), higher vocational education (3.1 percent), and university (4.4 percent) when compared to corresponding proportions among their counterparts from other districts. As regards the rural districts, the highest levels of educational attainment with respect to the latter set of categories is evident in the district of Wanica.

Table 4.2 Percentage Distribution of Persons (15 and over) by District and Highest Educational Attainment, 2004

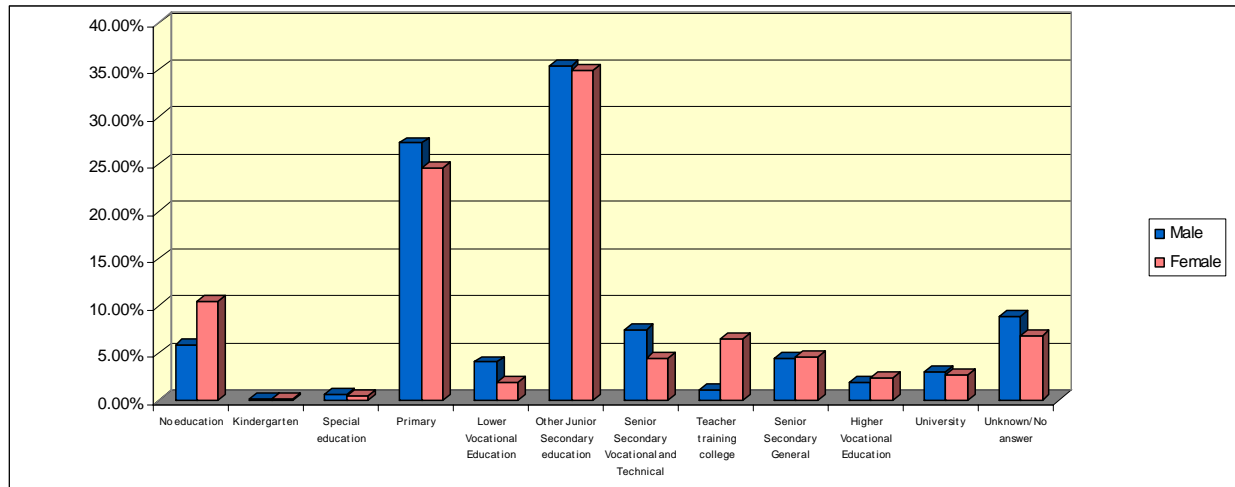
Level of Education	Para-maribo	Wanica	Nickerie	Coronie	Sara-macca	Comme-Wijne	Maro-wijne	Para	Broko-pondo	Sipa-liwini	Suriname perc.
Total	176514	60987	26573	2010	11189	17921	9859	12230	8936	20221	346440
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No education	4.5	5.7	5.1	1.7	6.2	7.0	14.3	9.2	22.3	45.1	8.2
Kindergarten	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.2
Special education	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.1	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.6
Primary	19.2	29.7	38.8	33.2	36.8	32.6	35.2	27.1	41.3	30.9	25.9
Lower Vocational Education	3.3	2.9	3.1	7.3	2.8	2.4	2.3	5.0	1.0	0.5	3.0
Other Junior Secondary education	38.2	39.0	34.6	36.2	34.2	37.5	30.5	35.9	16.9	6.2	35.2
Senior Secondary Vocational and Technical	7.8	6.2	2.2	1.8	3.8	4.7	2.0	5.3	0.7	0.4	5.9
Teacher training college	4.7	3.5	3.5	2.9	2.7	3.4	2.5	2.5	1.0	0.6	3.8
Senior Secondary General	6.4	3.4	3.8	1.1	2.3	2.7	0.7	2.2	0.4	0.2	4.5
Higher Vocational Education	3.1	1.5	1.0	0.7	1.2	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.1	0.1	2.1
University	4.4	2.1	0.5	0.2	0.9	1.0	0.2	1.1	0.3	0.1	2.8
Unknown/No answer	7.6	5.1	6.7	14.1	8.6	7.0	11.4	9.5	15.7	14.7	7.9

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

With respect to persons 15 years and over, the highest proportions with *no education* are in the interior districts Brokopondo (22.3 percent) and Sipaliwini (45.1 percent). Table 4.2 also shows that these districts also have the lowest proportions attaining educational at the highest educational institutions.

Figure 4.1 displays a comparative account of variation in highest educational attainment according to individuals' sex. Accordingly, noteworthy differentials are evident with respect to persons having no formal education and those attaining training at Teachers' Training College. In both instances, females appear more likely than males to have displayed such educational characteristics. Otherwise, the difference in the likelihood of attaining any given level of education is similar for males and females or marginally greater among males.

Figure 4.1. Percentage Distribution of Male and Female (15 and over) by Highest Educational Attainment, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

There is a ranking by urban, rural and interior districts with regard to the highest educational attainment of males aged 15 years and over. Table 4.3 provides such evidence and supports the view that Paramaribo, the only urban district, has the highest percentages on all educational types except ‘no education’, Kindergarten and primary education. The interior districts Brokopondo and Sipaliwini rank lowest as these have the highest percentages of persons with no education and the lowest percentages on higher levels of education. The rural districts are in between the urban and interior districts. Wanica has a remarkable position among the rural districts with the highest percentages on most educational levels.

With respect to the highest educational attainment of females aged 15 years and over, Table 4.4 permits a similar ranking by urban, rural and interior districts. As such, a similar ranking, as observed for males, is observed for females with the highest educational attainment in being evident among females in the principal urban district of Paramaribo, followed by the rural districts and finally the interior districts. With respect to the attainment of education classified as “*other junior secondary education*”, however, Table 4.4 reveals that higher percentages of females were observed in most rural districts when compared with Paramaribo, the principal urban district in Suriname. This outcome differs from that for males as seen in Table 4.3 which shows that rural districts as having lower levels of male attainment than in Paramaribo with respect to persons classified as attaining “*other junior secondary education*”.

Table 4.3 Percentage Distribution of Male (15 and over) by District and Highest Educational Attainment, 2004

Level of Education	Para-maribo	Wanica	Nickerie	Coronie	Sara-macca	Comme-wijne	Maro-wijne	Para	Broko-pondo	Sipa-liwini	Total
Total	86622	31368	13682	1062	5974	9559	4877	6382	4921	9091	173538
Percent Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No education	3.5	3.9	3.3	1.3	5.0	5.2	9.7	6.3	18.4	32.2	5.9
Kindergarten	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.1	0.2
Special education	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.1	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.7
Primary	19.4	31.0	40.5	37.8	37.8	34.3	35.8	27.1	44.9	39.5	27.2
Lower Vocational Education	4.2	4.2	5.0	9.9	4.7	3.1	2.5	6.6	1.1	0.7	4.0
Other Junior Secondary education	38.8	38.6	32.6	29.8	32.1	37.2	32.7	35.7	17.2	8.6	35.4
Senior Secondary Vocational and Technical	9.7	7.8	3.5	2.1	5.1	5.8	3.1	6.5	1.0	0.6	7.4
Teacher training college	1.3	0.9	1.5	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	1.1
Senior Secondary General	6.4	3.3	3.5	1.1	2.2	2.5	0.8	1.8	0.4	0.2	4.4
Higher Vocational Education	2.8	1.3	1.0	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.1	1.8
University	4.7	2.1	0.8	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.3	1.2	0.3	0.2	3.0
Unknown/No answer	8.4	6.0	7.6	15.6	9.8	8.3	13.7	11.9	15.6	16.3	8.9

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

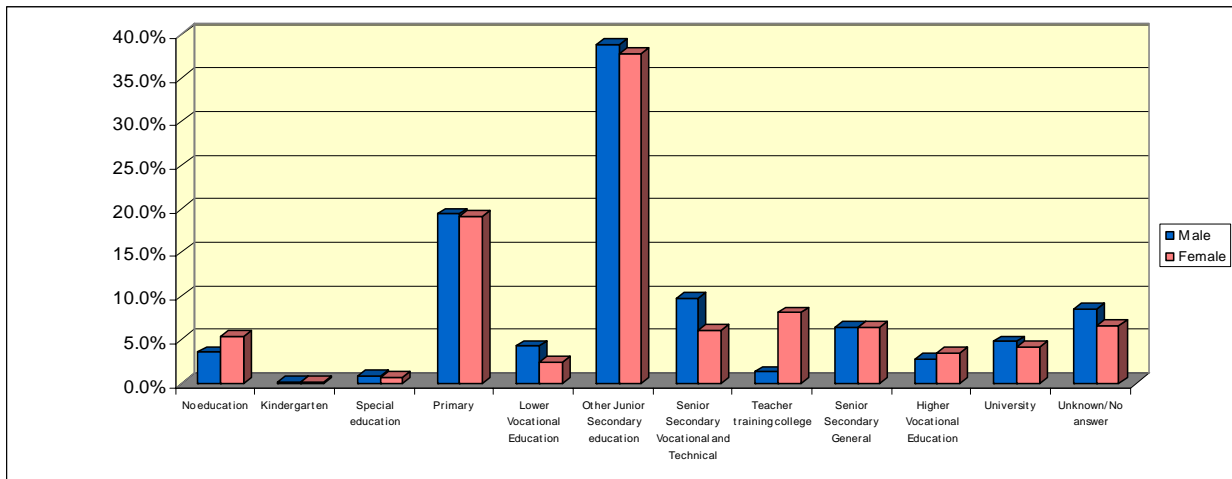
Table 4.4 Percentage Distribution of Female (15 and over) by District and Highest Educational Attainment, 2004

Level of Education	Para-maribo	Wanica	Nickerie	Coronie	Sara-macca	Comme-wijne	Maro-wijne	Para	Broko-pondo	Sipa-liwini	Total
Total	89664	29619	12891	948	5200	8356	4980	5832	4003	11106	172599
Percent Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No education	5.4	7.6	7.0	2.1	7.7	9.1	18.8	12.5	27.2	55.8	10.5
Kindergarten	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.2
Special education	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5
Primary	19.1	28.5	37.0	28.2	35.8	30.6	34.6	27.1	36.9	24.0	24.6
Lower Vocational Education	2.4	1.5	1.0	4.3	0.7	1.7	2.1	3.4	0.8	0.4	1.9
Other Junior Secondary education	37.7	39.4	36.8	43.2	36.7	37.8	28.4	36.2	16.6	4.3	34.9
Senior Secondary Vocational and Technical	6.1	4.5	0.9	1.5	2.4	3.5	0.9	4.1	0.4	0.1	4.4
Teacher training college	8.1	6.2	5.7	5.5	4.9	6.2	4.2	4.6	1.6	0.8	6.5
Senior Secondary General	6.3	3.6	4.0	1.1	2.3	2.9	0.6	2.6	0.3	0.2	4.6
Higher Vocational Education	3.5	1.8	1.0	0.6	1.4	1.2	0.7	0.9	0.1	0.1	2.4
University	4.2	2.0	0.3	0.1	0.9	1.1	0.1	0.9	0.2	0.1	2.7
Unknown/No answer	6.6	4.2	5.7	12.4	6.9	5.5	9.1	6.7	15.5	13.2	6.8

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

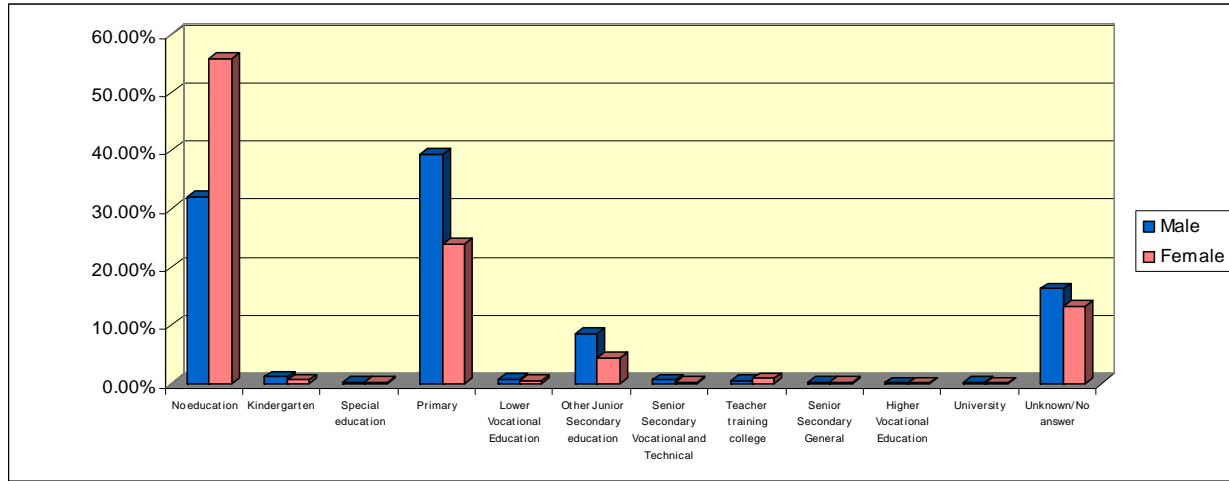
Figure 4.2 and Figure 4.3 reinforce differences in the pattern of highest educational attainment between urban spaces and district in the interior. Moreover, they reveal interesting interaction effects that become apparent as one considers the sex of persons 15 years and over. In accordance with Figure 4.2, Paramaribo has been used to reflect the urban pattern and reinforces the fact that the majority of persons in such spaces have attained a maximum classified as “*other junior secondary education*” and to a somewhat lesser extent, primary level education. Moreover, there is evidence of persons attaining variable levels of education across the full spectrum of educational levels. Figure 4.3, on the other hand, displays the corresponding pattern for Sipaliwini, indicating that the majority of females had attained no formal education while the majority of males had attained a maximum of primary education. In fact, the vast majority of the population had either attained no formal education or primary level education, this being the case irrespective of individuals’ sex. However, it is worth noting that a small proportion of persons, less than 10 percent, had attained a maximum level of education classified as “*other junior secondary education*” though a higher proportion is observed among males than among females,

Figure 4.2. Percentage Distribution of Persons (15 yrs and over) in District Paramaribo by Sex and by Highest Level of Educational Attainment, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Figure 4.3. Percentage Distribution of Persons (15 yrs and over) in District Sipaliwini by Sex and by Highest Level of Educational Attainment, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Chapter 5

Economic Activity

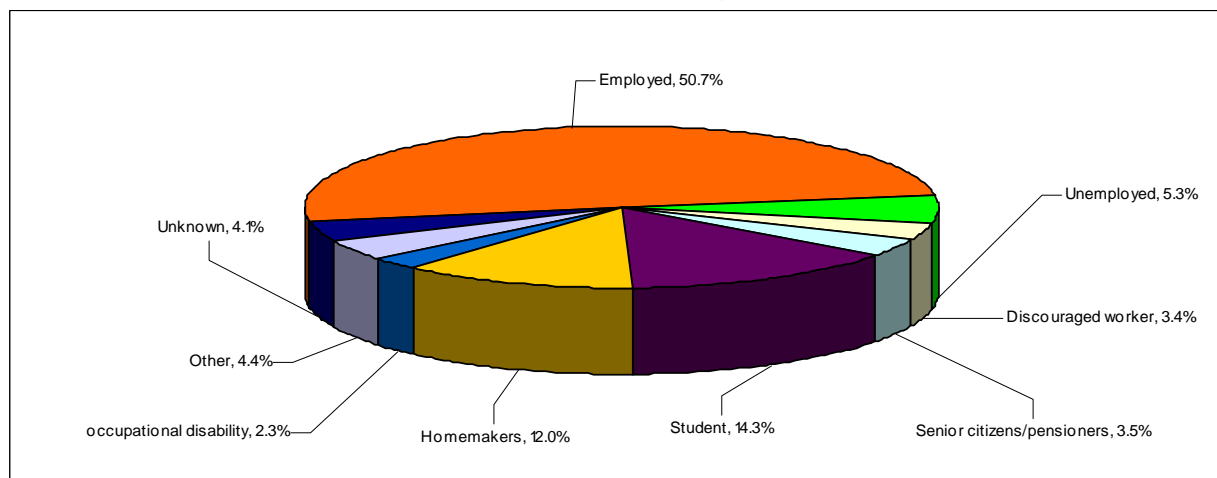
5.1 Introduction

This Chapter addresses the economic activity status of the population. The labour force is explored particularly in the context of its characteristics and their relationships to other important attributes such as age, sex, economic sector and occupation. The analysis is restricted to the 2004 census. A comparison between 1980 and 2004 is not addressed, as data from the 1980 census are not available.⁴

5.2 Economic Activity Status

In 2004, the size of the working-age population was 309,015 persons, which is 62.7 percent of the total population. For the purposes of this chapter, the labour force can be considered to be persons 15-64 years who are employed, unemployed or among the ranks of discouraged workers during the past week. According to Figure 5.1, approximately half of the working age population are employed while unemployed persons and discouraged workers constitute 5.3 percent and 3.4 percent respectively, of the working age population.

Figure 5.1 Population aged 15-64 years (non institutional) by Economic Activity in the Past Week, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

⁴ Data of the 1980 census are not available because of the fire that destroyed the building of the General Bureau of Statistics in 2003.

A relatively sizeable proportion of the working age population have been engaged in home duties, the respective proportion amounting to 12 percent. In terms of the labour force, the employed constitute 50.7 percent while the unemployed including discouraged workers constitute 8.7 percent.

Table 5.1 provides a summary of the working age population consisting of persons 15-64 years and permits assessments of variations in the pattern of economic activity for males as opposed to females.

While the majority of males and females are employed, a much larger proportion among males 15-64 years are employed when compared to the corresponding proportion observed among their female counterparts. In fact, males are nearly twice as likely to be employed when compared to females. Females are more likely than males to be unemployed, be a pensioner, be a discouraged worker, a student and especially be a homemaker, the latter being the exclusive domain of females.

Table 5.1. Percentage Distribution of the Population Aged 15 - 64 years (non-institutional) by Economic Activity in the Past Week Sex, 2004

Economic Activity	Male	Female
Total	154836	154179
Percent Total	100.0	100.0
Employed	65.8	35.5
Unemployed	5.0	5.7
Discouraged worker	2.8	4.0
Senior citizens/pensioners	3.3	3.8
Student	13.2	15.4
Homemakers	0.4	23.7
Occupational disability	2.3	2.2
Other	3.3	5.5
Unknown	3.9	4.2

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 5.2 and Table 5.3 reveal some important differences between the distributions of males and females by age group and economic activity. With respect to working age males, Table 5.2 shows that overwhelmingly large proportions are employed when one considers the five-year age groups from the 25-29 age group to the 55-59 age group. With respect to working age females, Table 5.3 shows that relatively larger proportions are employed when one considers the five-year age groups from the 30-34 year olds to the 55-59 year olds. As expected, however, the respective proportions among the females are not as large as those observed among their male counterparts. In every five

year age group, females are more likely to be students than their male counterparts. Table 5.2 and Table 5.3 also reveal that females are generally more likely than males to be unemployed or among the ranks of discouraged workers.

Table 5.2 Percentage Distribution of Males by Five-Year Age Group and Economic Activity, 2004

Age Group	Employed	Unemployed	Discouraged worker	Senior citizens/pensioners	Student	Home makers	Occupational disabled	Other	Unknown	%	Total
Total	65.8	5.0	2.8	3.3	13.2	0.4	2.3	3.3	3.9	100	154836
15 - 19	20.1	5.1	3.8	0.0	60.6	0.3	0.9	3.6	5.6	100	23108
20 - 24	53.6	8.6	4.6	0.0	22.6	0.3	1.2	4.0	5.1	100	21988
25 - 29	73.1	6.7	3.6	0.0	7.2	0.3	1.6	3.1	4.4	100	18638
30 - 34	83.5	5.0	2.7	0.0	0.5	0.3	1.9	2.7	3.4	100	19493
35 - 39	85.6	4.3	2.0	0.0	0.2	0.5	2.3	2.3	2.8	100	18877
40 - 44	85.4	3.8	1.9	0.0	0.1	0.4	2.8	2.5	3.1	100	17394
45 - 49	84.4	3.2	1.9	0.3	0.1	0.4	3.7	3.1	2.9	100	12473
50 - 54	80.1	2.9	1.8	1.4	0.0	0.6	5.0	4.9	3.3	100	9824
55 - 59	69.1	2.3	2.0	10.3	0.0	0.6	6.7	5.7	3.3	100	6896
60 - 64	22.7	1.3	0.7	67.9	0.0	0.3	2.3	1.5	3.3	100	6145

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 5.3 Percentage Distribution of Females by Five-Year Age Group and Economic Activity, 2004

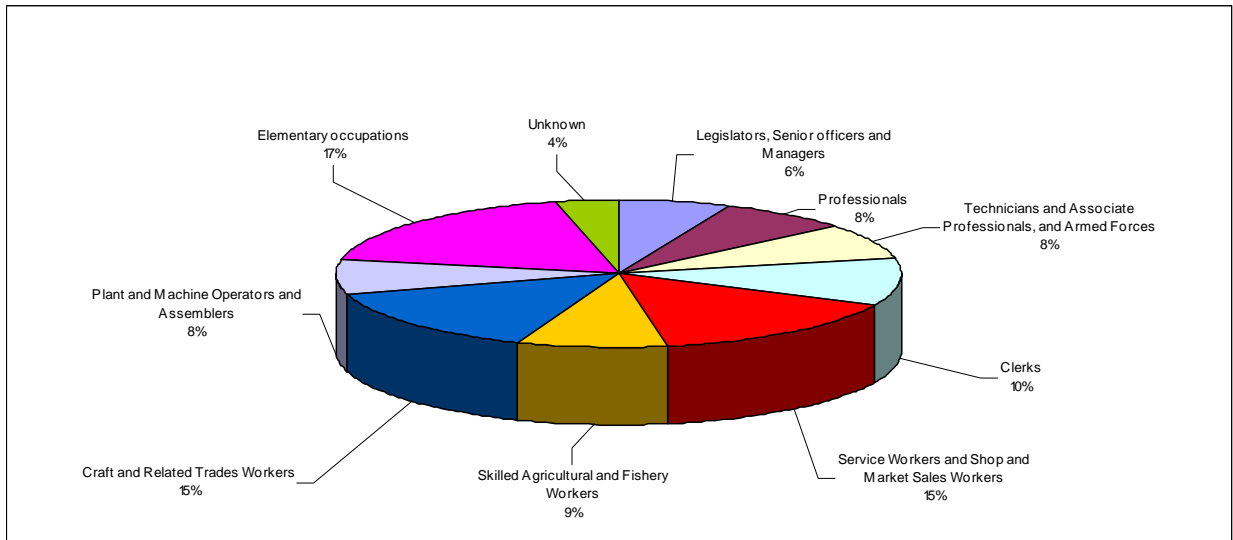
Age Group	Employed	Unemployed	Discouraged worker	Senior citizens/pensioners	Student	Home makers	Occupational disabled	Other	Unknown	%	Total
Total	35.5	5.7	4.0	3.8	15.4	23.7	2.2	5.5	4.2	100	154179
15 - 19	6.9	4.8	4.3	0.0	65.2	6.5	0.7	5.9	5.6	100	22713
20 - 24	22.4	9.8	6.3	0.0	29.8	18.3	0.9	7.3	5.2	100	21096
25 - 29	37.6	8.7	4.8	0.0	11.1	26.4	1.2	5.7	4.5	100	18726
30 - 34	47.1	7.0	4.1	0.0	1.3	30.6	1.6	4.7	3.7	100	19049
35 - 39	50.2	5.5	3.5	0.0	0.8	30.6	1.9	4.2	3.2	100	17977
40 - 44	52.2	4.7	3.1	0.0	0.5	29.3	2.6	4.3	3.3	100	16246
45 - 49	50.5	3.4	3.3	0.1	0.6	29.5	4.0	5.0	3.6	100	12928
50 - 54	46.5	2.2	3.3	0.5	0.5	30.9	5.2	7.0	4.0	100	10444
55 - 59	37.9	1.4	2.8	10.3	0.1	29.1	6.4	7.7	4.2	100	7991
60 - 64	7.7	1.0	0.8	71.4	0.0	10.9	2.0	2.2	4.0	100	7009

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

5.3 Occupational Group

Figure 5.2 shows the percentage distribution of the population aged 15 - 64 years who worked during the last week preceding the census by main occupation. The three largest categories consist of persons engaged as workers in elementary occupations, service workers and shop and market sales, and craft and related trades.

Figure 5.2 Population aged 15-64 who Worked last week by Main Occupation, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

For persons 15-64 years who worked during the week preceding the census, Table 5.4 is indicative of variations in occupational activities according to individuals' sex. As expected, males were much more likely than females to be engaged as workers in skilled agriculture and fisheries, and as craft and related workers as well as plant and machine operators and assemblers.

Table 5.4. Percentage Distribution of the Population (15 – 64) Who Worked Past Week by Occupational Group and Sex, 2004

Occupational Group	Male	Female
Total	101919	54768
Percent Total	100.0	100.0
Legislators, Senior officers and Managers	6.6	6.1
Professionals	3.6	14.8
Technicians and Associate Professionals, and Armed Forces	6.8	9.1
Clerks	6.2	17.7
Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers	11.5	22.2
Skilled Agricultural and Fishery Workers	11.5	4.0
Craft and Related Trades Workers	21.2	2.2
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	11.2	0.6
Elementary occupations	18.2	18.6
Unknown	3.0	4.7

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Females, on the other hand, appear much more likely than males to be engaged as professional workers, as clerical workers and as service workers and shop and market sales workers. Male and female workers are equally likely to be engaged as legislators, senior officials and managers, and as workers in elementary occupations.

5.4 Industrial Group

Table 5.5 is indicative of the industrial sectors that provide employment for persons 15-64 years who worked during the week preceding the census. It shows that the principal industrial sectors were public administration, wholesale, and retail trade which were responsible for employing the largest proportions of persons. Taken together, the two sectors employ approximately one third of those who worked during the last week. Table 5.6 reinforces the view that male workers are much more likely than their female counterparts to be employed in primary and secondary sectors. In contrast, female workers are much more likely than their male counterparts to be employed in tertiary sector industries.

Table 5.7 throws light upon the distribution of persons who worked in the week preceding the census according to industrial sector and five-year age group. Interestingly, the different five-year age groups show that their respective population and mainly concentrated in different industrial

sectors. For example, persons in younger five-year age groups (i.e. 15-19 years, 20-24 years and 25-29 years) are more likely than their older counterparts to be employed in the construction sector and in wholesale and retail trades. In contrast, persons in five-year age groups between the ages of 30 years and 59 years are more likely than their younger and older counterparts to be employed in public administration and defense. In successive five year age groups, however, it is worth noting that such persons are more likely than their counterparts in preceding five-year age groups to be employed in public administration and defense. Finally, persons 60-64 years have been observed to be more likely than their younger counterparts to be employed in agriculture, fishing, hunting and forestry.

Table 5.5 Percentage Distribution of the Population (15 – 64) (non-institutional) Who Worked Past Week by Industrial Group, 2004

Industrial Group	Percentage
Total	156705
Percent Total	100
Agriculture, Fishing, Hunting and Forestry	8.0
Mining and Quarrying	5.9
Manufacturing	7.0
Electricity	1.1
Construction	9.0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	16.0
Hotels, Restaurants and Bars	3.1
Transport, Storage and Communications	5.6
Financial intermediation	1.7
Real Estate, Renting and Business activities	4.1
Public Administration and Defence	17.9
Education	5.3
Health and Social Work	4.3
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	6.3
Unknown	4.8

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 5.6. Percentage Distribution of the Population (15 -64) Who Worked Past Week by Industrial Group and Sex, 2004

Industrial Group	Male	Female
Total	101919	54768
Percent Total	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Fishing, Hunting and Forestry	9.9	4.5
Mining and Quarrying	8.2	1.7
Manufacturing	7.9	5.3
Electricity	1.4	0.5
Construction	13.3	0.9
Wholesale and Retail Trade	15.4	17.0
Hotels, Restaurants and Bars	1.9	5.3
Transport, Storage and Communications	7.5	2.0
Financial intermediation	1.4	2.4
Real Estate, Renting and Business activities	4.4	3.5
Public Administration and Defence	16.0	21.4
Education	1.8	12.0
Health and Social Work	1.5	9.6
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	4.9	9.0
Unknown	4.7	4.9

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 5.7. Percentage Distribution of the Population (15 – 64) (Non-Institutional) Who Worked Past Week by Industrial Group and Five-Year Age Group, 2004

Industrial Group	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 - 44	45 - 49	50 - 54	55 - 59	60 - 64	Total
Total	6234	16514	20685	25247	25178	23338	17057	12726	7791	1935	156705
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Fishing, Hunting & Forestry	9.6	7.6	7.2	7.7	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.3	13.9	8.0
Mining and Quarrying	6.0	7.3	7.3	6.4	6.4	5.4	5.0	4.8	2.6	3.2	5.9
Manufacturing	9.8	8.2	7.3	6.8	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.2	6.5	10.1	7.0
Electricity	0.4	0.6	0.7	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.8	0.5	1.1
Construction	16.1	14.7	11.4	9.7	8.0	7.2	6.0	5.0	4.1	5.4	9.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.3	22.5	18.3	16.0	14.8	13.7	12.8	12.1	11.4	21.0	16.0
Hotels, Restaurants & Bars	3.8	4.1	3.4	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.4	2.5	2.0	4.6	3.1
Transport, Storage & Communications	4.1	5.8	6.8	5.9	5.8	5.4	5.2	4.6	4.1	4.2	5.6
Financial intermediation	0.8	1.1	1.6	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.2	1.7
Real Estate, Renting & Business activities	2.4	3.7	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.2	3.8	3.9	3.9	6.0	4.1
Public Administration & Defence	3.5	5.6	10.6	15.1	18.8	23.5	26.6	27.4	30.7	9.3	17.9
Education	1.5	2.6	5.5	5.7	5.9	4.4	5.9	7.4	8.9	4.4	5.3
Health and Social Work	1.7	3.0	3.9	4.7	4.4	4.9	4.8	5.2	4.7	4.0	4.3
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	6.7	6.9	6.6	6.6	6.9	6.6	5.6	5.1	4.9	6.8	6.3
Unknown	9.3	6.3	5.3	4.8	4.2	4.3	3.8	4.1	4.0	5.4	4.7

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Note: Total differs by 18 persons as compared to the corresponding total in Table 5.6

For male and female workers respectively, Table 5.8 and Table 5.9 examine the distribution of 15-64 year olds who worked during the week preceding the census by industrial sector. Irrespective of individuals' sex, a similar age-determined pattern emerges with respect to differences in the likelihood of working in specific industrial sectors. Accordingly, younger males and younger females appear more likely than their respective older counterparts to be employed in the wholesale and retail trade sector. In addition, younger males are more likely than their older counterparts to be employed in the construction sector. Older persons 60-64 years, whether male or female, are more likely than their respective younger counterparts to be employed in agriculture, fishing, hunting and forestry. For persons in five-year age groups between the age of 30 years and 59 years, males and

females appear more likely than their respective older and younger counterparts to be engaged in public administration and defense. Interestingly, females in their fifties appear more likely than any other group of females to be working in the education despite relatively high levels of likelihood that have been observed among females in their late twenties and early thirties.

Table 5.8. Percentage Distribution of the Male Population (15 – 64) (Non-Institutional) Who Worked Past Week by Industrial Group and Five-Year Age Group, 2004

Industrial Group	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 - 44	45 - 49	50 - 54	55 - 59	60 - 64	Total
Total	4656	11785	13632	16282	16151	14853	10529	7872	4765	1394	101919
Percent Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Fishing, Hunting & Forestry	9.7	8.4	8.9	9.9	10.3	10.5	10.7	10.3	10.7	14.3	9.9
Mining & Quarrying	7.8	9.1	9.8	8.9	8.8	7.6	7.4	7.3	3.8	4.0	8.2
Manufacturing	10.7	8.9	8.0	7.6	7.0	7.2	7.9	7.9	7.9	11.3	7.9
Electricity	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.5	0.6	1.4
Construction	21.3	20.0	16.6	14.5	12.0	10.9	9.3	7.6	6.6	7.2	13.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	22.2	20.2	17.2	15.5	14.2	13.5	12.8	12.0	11.2	19.1	15.4
Hotels, Restaurants & Bars	2.1	2.4	2.0	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.2	3.5	1.9
Transport, Storage & Communications	5.1	7.3	9.1	8.0	7.8	7.3	7.2	6.5	5.9	5.7	7.5
Financial intermediation	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.8	1.4	1.4
Real Estate, Renting & Business activities	2.4	3.8	4.0	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.9	4.8	7.1	4.4
Public Administration and Defence	3.2	5.4	9.2	13.3	17.4	21.4	23.9	25.3	29.9	9.4	16.0
Education	0.6	0.6	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.5	2.3	3.4	4.4	3.9	1.8
Health and Social Work	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.5	2.1	2.3	1.5
Other Community, Social & Personal Service Activities	6.1	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.3	4.5	3.6	3.8	3.9	6.1	4.9
Unknown	7.5	6.0	5.3	4.8	4.2	4.3	3.7	3.5	3.2	4.0	4.7

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 5.9. Percentage Distribution of the Female Population (15 – 64) (Non-Institutional) Who Worked Past Week by Industrial Group and Five-Year Age Group, 2004

Industrial Group	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 - 44	45 - 49	50 - 54	55 - 59	60 - 64	Total
Total	1578	4725	7040	8965	9027	8485	6528	4853	3026	541	54768
Percent Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, Fishing, Hunting & Forestry	9.1	5.5	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.2	5.0	4.5	12.8	4.5
Mining & Quarrying	0.4	2.6	2.4	1.9	2.0	1.7	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.7
Manufacturing	7.1	6.5	6.2	5.5	5.4	5.2	4.9	3.4	4.2	7.0	5.3
Electricity	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.5
Construction	1.0	1.6	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.9
Wholesale & Retail Trade	30.6	28.2	20.2	16.8	15.8	14.2	12.8	12.2	11.8	26.1	17.0
Hotels, Restaurants & Bars	9.1	8.1	6.0	5.3	5.4	5.1	4.0	4.1	3.1	7.4	5.3
Transport, Storage & Communications	1.1	2.3	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.5	1.3	0.6	2.0
Financial intermediation	1.5	2.2	2.7	3.1	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.5	0.9	2.4
Real Estate, Renting & Business activities	2.3	3.6	4.2	3.9	3.8	3.4	2.9	2.4	2.5	3.1	3.5
Public Administration and Defence	4.4	6.2	13.3	18.4	21.3	27.2	31.0	30.9	32.0	8.9	21.4
Education	4.4	7.7	13.7	13.5	13.2	9.6	11.5	14.0	16.1	5.7	12.0
Health & Social Work	5.5	8.7	9.7	10.7	9.6	10.1	9.2	9.7	8.7	8.5	9.6
Other Community, Social & Personal Service Activities	8.4	10.0	8.8	8.9	9.7	9.9	8.9	7.0	6.4	8.7	9.0
Unknown	14.7	6.6	5.0	4.7	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.8	5.4	8.9	4.9

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Chapter 6

Housing and Household Characteristics

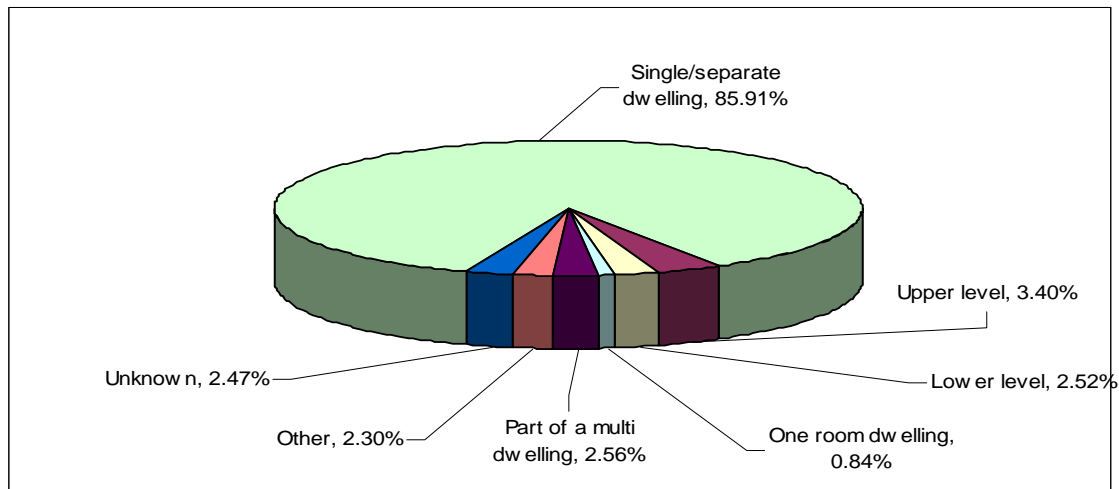
6.1 Introduction

This chapter provides a detailed description of the stock and quality of housing in sub-areas of Suriname in 2004. Particular attention is given to examining characteristics such as the type of housing, the quality of housing, the characteristics of occupants, and the relating housing redistribution of the population. As most of the 1980 census data were not available, changes in the period 1980-2004 have not been addressed.

6.2 Type of Dwelling Units

According to the 2004 census the total number of dwelling units in Suriname amounted to 120,157. Figure 6.1 reveals that the overwhelming majority (85.9 percent) are single/separate dwellings. The urban district Paramaribo and the adjacent semi-urban Wanica district account for 77,871 or approximately two thirds of all dwelling units.

Figure 6.1. Percentage distribution of dwelling units in Suriname by type, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 6.1 shows that Paramaribo stands out by the over-representation of the upper level and lower level houses. The interior districts of Brokopondo and particularly Sipaliwini have a relatively high

percentage of other types, which include dwellings of traditional material with floors from sand or dirt and roofs from straw or leaves.

Table 6.1 Percentage Distribution of Dwelling Units by Type and District, 2004

District	Single/ separate dwelling	Upper level	Lower level	One room dwelling	Part of a multi dwelling	Other	Unknown	Percent Total	Total Dwellings
Total	103221	4089	3033	1006	3071	2765	2972		120157
Percent	85.9	3.4	2.5	0.8	2.6	2.3	2.5	100.0	
Paramaribo	85.4	5.3	4.0	0.9	2.7	0.3	1.4	100.0	57300
Wanica	94.0	1.6	1.0	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.8	100.0	20571
Nickerie	85.7	5.1	3.4	0.4	2.7	0.4	2.3	100.0	9228
Coronie	84.0	2.2	1.2	2.4	0.5	2.4	7.4	100.0	925
Saramacca	91.2	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.3	4.4	100.0	4244
Commewijne	86.0	0.7	1.5	0.2	9.3	0.3	2.0	100.0	6293
Marowijne	86.8	1.7	0.5	1.1	4.7	1.1	4.1	100.0	3944
Para	87.2	0.8	0.6	2.4	2.1	3.5	3.4	100.0	4338
Brokopondo	77.6	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.4	8.9	11.9	100.0	3656
Sipaliwini	72.0	0.4	0.2	0.7	1.1	19.0	6.6	100.0	9658

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

6.3 Ownership of Dwelling Units

According to Table 6.2, findings emerging out of the 2004 census indicate that approximately two thirds (65.5 percent) of the total number of 120,157 dwelling units in Suriname were owned and that a much smaller proportion amounting to 15.3 percent were rented. An analysis of tenure according to district shows that dwelling units in Paramaribo and Coronie are less likely to be owned when compared to all of the other districts in Suriname. In Paramaribo, approximately 59 percent of all dwellings in this district are owned, which is lower than the 65.5 percent in the country as a whole. However, dwelling units in Paramaribo are more likely to leased/ rented than in all of the other districts. In Wanica, dwelling units are more likely to be sublet/ rented or acquired through hire-purchase arrangements than in any of the other districts. It is also worth noting that compared to other districts; there is a relatively high occurrence of “Official Company residence” in some rural districts (Commewijne, Nickerie, Para Saramacca and Coronie) and in interior districts (Brokopondo and Marowijne).

Table 6.2. Percentage Distribution of Dwelling Units by Type of Tenure and District, 2004

District	Owned	Lease/ rented	Sublet/ rented	Hire- purchase	Official/ company residence	Other	Unknown	Percent	Total
Total	65.5	15.2	0.1	0.7	2.9	12.8	2.8	100.0	120157
Paramaribo	59.0	22.9	0.1	0.6	1.3	14.3	1.8	100.0	57300
Wanica	72.8	11.2	0.1	2.0	1.1	11.7	1.1	100.0	20571
Nickerie	63.0	12.6	0.0	0.3	5.7	15.7	2.7	100.0	9228
Coronie	51.1	16.1	0.1	0.1	5.8	18.8	7.9	100.0	925
Saramacca	70.1	5.8	0.0	0.0	5.2	14.2	4.7	100.0	4244
Commewijne	72.4	6.4	0.0	0.4	11.0	7.4	2.4	100.0	6293
Marowijne	63.8	7.8	0.1	0.1	6.8	17.1	4.4	100.0	3944
Para	72.3	7.3	0.1	0.1	5.4	11.0	3.9	100.0	4338
Brokopondo	74.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	5.9	6.1	12.2	100.0	3656
Sipaliwini	80.3	1.8	0.0	0.0	3.4	7.5	7.1	100.0	9658

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

6.4 Overcrowding in Dwelling Units

The United Nations puts the threshold for overcrowding at a density of three persons per room.⁵

According to this criterion, Table 6.3 reveals that there is overcrowding in 45.1 percent of the one-room dwellings, 23.5 percent of the two-room dwellings, and 8.9 percent of the three-room dwellings in Suriname.

In district Wanica, Table 6.4 shows that in 2004 more than half (52.3 percent) of the one-room dwellings with one-room is overcrowded as opposed to 21.3 percent among the two-room dwellings. The district Para has the most serious overcrowding with 55.4 percent of the one-room dwellings are overcrowded. For two- room dwellings and three-room dwellings, the respective proportions are 31.9 percent and 13.3 percent.

⁵ United Nations, *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (1998)*

Table 6.3. Number and Percentage of Dwelling Units by Household Size and Number of Rooms, 2004

Number of Rooms	Household Size										Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10>=	
Total	18030	19439	19826	21807	16723	10083	5697	3265	1802	3485	120157
Percent	15.0	16.2	16.5	18.1	13.9	8.4	4.7	2.7	1.5	2.9	100.0
1	1971	940	748	566	456	261	153	79	42	88	5304
	37.2	17.7	14.1	10.7	8.6	4.9	2.9	1.5	0.8	1.7	100.0
2	2860	1944	1655	1327	961	599	347	222	81	175	10171
	28.1	19.1	16.3	13.0	9.4	5.9	3.4	2.2	0.8	1.7	100.0
3	2477	2345	2230	2114	1486	900	489	259	167	222	12689
	19.5	18.5	17.6	16.7	11.7	7.1	3.9	2.0	1.3	1.7	100.0
4	3629	4719	5061	5365	3810	2126	1120	678	313	606	27427
	13.2	17.2	18.5	19.6	13.9	7.8	4.1	2.5	1.1	2.2	100.0
5	4059	5884	6560	8002	6211	3390	1833	997	563	1082	38581
	10.5	15.3	17.0	20.7	16.1	8.8	4.8	2.6	1.5	2.8	100.0
6	1154	1910	2009	2719	2348	1688	1012	615	335	675	14465
	8.0	13.2	13.9	18.8	16.2	11.7	7.0	4.3	2.3	4.7	100.0
7	375	612	599	773	695	563	387	193	167	312	4676
	8.0	13.1	12.8	16.5	14.9	12.0	8.3	4.1	3.6	6.7	100.0
8	133	209	228	239	254	202	147	87	61	144	1704
	7.8	12.3	13.4	14.0	14.9	11.9	8.6	5.1	3.6	8.5	100.0
9	52	88	97	105	107	80	61	34	25	59	708
	7.3	12.4	13.7	14.8	15.1	11.3	8.6	4.8	3.5	8.3	100.0
10>=	41	72	72	78	65	53	49	32	23	72	557
	7.4	12.9	12.9	14.0	11.7	9.5	8.8	5.7	4.1	12.9	100.0
Unknown	1279	716	567	519	330	221	99	69	25	50	3875
	33.0	18.5	14.6	13.4	8.5	5.7	2.6	1.8	0.6	1.3	100.0

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 6.4. Number and Percentage of Dwelling Units by Household Size and Number of Rooms, District Wanica, 2004

Number of Rooms	Household Size										Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10>=	
Total	1890	2965	3393	4481	3581	1962	1029	529	279	462	20571
Percent	9.2	14.4	16.5	21.8	17.4	9.5	5.0	2.6	1.4	2.2	100.0
1	132	86	77	67	54	18	7	8	2	6	457
	28.9	18.8	16.8	14.7	11.8	3.9	1.5	1.8	0.4	1.3	100.0
2	195	193	164	158	91	58	20	12	4	7	902
	21.6	21.4	18.2	17.5	10.1	6.4	2.2	1.3	0.4	0.8	100.0
3	330	428	413	439	281	134	74	35	18	20	2172
	15.2	19.7	19.0	20.2	12.9	6.2	3.4	1.6	0.8	0.9	100.0
4	494	905	1037	1210	879	430	197	117	54	76	5399
	9.1	16.8	19.2	22.4	16.3	8.0	3.6	2.2	1.0	1.4	100.0
5	491	919	1214	1804	1471	767	353	154	89	159	7421
	6.6	12.4	16.4	24.3	19.8	10.3	4.8	2.1	1.2	2.1	100.0
6	127	257	306	555	561	364	246	131	70	96	2713
	4.7	9.5	11.3	20.5	20.7	13.4	9.1	4.8	2.6	3.5	100.0
7	32	76	96	132	155	110	92	42	29	52	816
	3.9	9.3	11.8	16.2	19.0	13.5	11.3	5.1	3.6	6.4	100.0
8	18	27	20	39	44	33	19	16	5	18	239
	7.5	11.3	8.4	16.3	18.4	13.8	7.9	6.7	2.1	7.5	100.0
9	7	6	14	9	8	12	7	8	3	12	86
	8.1	7.0	16.3	10.5	9.3	14.0	8.1	9.3	3.5	14.0	100.0
10>=	3	10	5	13	6	8	4	3	3	9	64
	4.7	15.6	7.8	20.3	9.4	12.5	6.3	4.7	4.7	14.1	100.0
Unknown	61	58	47	55	31	28	10	3	2	7	302
	20.2	19.2	15.6	18.2	10.3	9.3	3.3	1.0	0.7	2.3	100.0

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 6.5 Number and Percentage of Dwelling Units by Household Size and Number of Rooms, District Para, 2004

Number of Rooms	Household Size										Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10>=	
Total	643	620	611	724	545	435	262	218	114	166	4338
Percent	14.8	14.3	14.1	16.7	12.6	10.0	6.0	5.0	2.6	3.8	100.0
1	90	37	48	32	27	20	15	5	4	7	285
	31.6	13.0	16.8	11.2	9.5	7.0	5.3	1.8	1.4	2.5	100.0
2	94	69	95	59	43	40	24	22	10	9	465
	20.2	14.8	20.4	12.7	9.2	8.6	5.2	4.7	2.2	1.9	100.0
3	87	103	83	108	65	64	39	28	13	13	603
	14.4	17.1	13.8	17.9	10.8	10.6	6.5	4.6	2.2	2.2	100.0
4	140	157	166	186	134	112	65	47	27	38	1072
	13.1	14.6	15.5	17.4	12.5	10.4	6.1	4.4	2.5	3.5	100.0
5	112	139	143	223	160	109	66	60	27	46	1085
	10.3	12.8	13.2	20.6	14.7	10.0	6.1	5.5	2.5	4.2	100.0
6	33	49	34	71	53	54	31	33	17	36	411
	8.0	11.9	8.3	17.3	12.9	13.1	7.5	8.0	4.1	8.8	100.0
7	11	24	12	22	35	22	10	9	11	12	168
	6.5	14.3	7.1	13.1	20.8	13.1	6.0	5.4	6.5	7.1	100.0
8	3	1	3	3	5	7	5	5	1	1	34
	8.8	2.9	8.8	8.8	14.7	20.6	14.7	14.7	2.9	2.9	100.0
9	2	1	1	1	5	0	0	0	0	3	13
	15.4	7.7	7.7	7.7	38.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.1	100.0
10>=	0	3	4	1	0	1	0	3	2	0	14
	0.0	21.4	28.6	7.1	0.0	7.1	0.0	21.4	14.3	0.0	100.0
Unknown	71	37	22	18	18	6	7	6	2	1	188
	37.8	19.7	11.7	9.6	9.6	3.2	3.7	3.2	1.1	0.5	100.0

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

The absolute and percentage distributions by household size and number of bedrooms were analyzed for the 1980 and 2004 censuses in Table 6.6a and Table 6.6b respectively. In 2004, a total of 1,453 dwellings were registered without a single bedroom. This, however, is much less than the 13,291 dwellings that were classified as not having a single bedroom in 1980. If the threshold for overcrowding is a density of three persons per bedroom, then, according to Table 6.6a, 50.9 percent of the one-bedroom dwellings are overcrowded in 2004 while Table 6.6a would suggest that approximately 72 percent of the one-bedroom dwellings were overcrowded in 1980.

Table 6.6a Number and Percentage of Dwelling Units by Household Size and Number of Bedrooms, 1980

Number of Bedrooms	Household Size										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10>=	Total
Total	7787	9101	8905	9649	8499	7112	5753	4087	2719	5639	69251
%	11.2	13.1	12.9	13.9	12.3	10.3	8.3	5.9	3.9	8.1	100
0	3877	2654	1847	1604	1100	736	471	282	146	574	13291
	29.2	20.0	13.9	12.1	8.3	5.5	3.5	2.1	1.1	4.3	100
1	2008	3047	2791	2729	2273	1771	1354	843	475	819	18110
	11.1	16.8	15.4	15.1	12.6	9.8	7.5	4.7	2.6	4.5	100
2	1390	2620	3255	3848	3437	2941	2331	1668	1080	1799	24369
	5.7	10.8	13.4	15.8	14.1	12.1	9.6	6.8	4.4	7.4	100
3	269	560	756	1129	1259	1225	1161	921	697	1370	9347
	2.9	6.0	8.1	12.1	13.5	13.1	12.4	9.9	7.5	14.7	100
4	85	111	152	217	269	304	312	250	226	527	2453
	3.5	4.5	6.2	8.8	11.0	12.4	12.7	10.2	9.2	21.5	100
5	23	19	27	47	80	76	76	78	60	172	658
	3.5	2.9	4.1	7.1	12.2	11.6	11.6	11.9	9.1	26.1	100
6	5	8	6	10	13	10	12	15	17	57	153
	3.3	5.2	3.9	6.5	8.5	6.5	7.8	9.8	11.1	37.3	100
7 >=	2	2	5	6	5	7	7	5	4	23	66
	3.0	3.0	7.6	9.1	7.6	10.6	10.6	7.6	6.1	34.8	100
Unknown	128	80	66	59	63	42	29	25	14	298	804
	15.9	10.0	8.2	7.3	7.8	5.2	3.6	3.1	1.7	37.1	100

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 6.6b. Number and age of Dwelling Units by Household Size and Number of Bedrooms, 2004

Number of Bedrooms	Household Size										Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 >=	
Total	18030	19439	19826	21807	16723	10083	5697	3265	1802	3485	120157
%	15.0	16.2	16.5	18.2	13.9	8.4	4.7	2.7	1.5	2.9	100.0
0	495	247	214	172	136	97	30	28	7	27	1453
	34.1	17.0	14.7	11.8	9.4	6.7	2.1	1.9	0.5	1.8	100.0
1	5745	3789	3160	2513	1763	1042	601	347	153	291	19404
	29.6	19.5	16.3	13.0	9.1	5.4	3.1	1.8	0.8	1.4	100.0
2	4059	4952	5104	5114	3769	2137	1162	665	335	551	27848
	14.6	17.8	18.3	18.4	13.5	7.7	4.2	2.4	1.1	2.0	100.0
3	4794	7063	7869	9612	7135	3938	2070	1122	650	1236	45489
	10.5	15.5	17.3	21.1	15.7	8.7	4.6	2.5	1.4	2.7	100.0
4	1245	2045	2224	3034	2721	1905	1183	696	382	765	16200
	7.7	12.6	13.7	18.7	16.8	11.8	7.3	4.3	2.4	4.7	100.0
5	284	449	497	613	628	528	386	223	170	330	4108
	6.9	10.9	12.1	14.9	15.3	12.9	9.4	5.4	4.1	8.1	100.0
6	80	107	129	131	165	156	118	69	52	140	1147
	7.0	9.3	11.3	11.4	14.4	13.6	10.3	6.0	4.5	12.2	100.0
7 >=	35	47	53	72	62	50	44	38	26	89	516
	6.8	9.1	10.3	14.0	12.0	9.7	8.5	7.4	5.0	17.2	100.0
Unknown	1293	740	576	546	344	230	103	77	27	56	3992
	32.4	18.5	14.4	13.7	8.6	5.8	2.6	1.9	0.7	1.4	100.0

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

6.5 Type of Toilet Facilities

Of all households in Suriname, Table 6.7 shows that 86,671 or 70.2 percent have toilet facilities that assume the form of a water closet. In three districts, at least three quarters of the households have such toilet facilities: Paramaribo (87 percent), Nickerie (83 percent) and Wanica (75 percent). In three districts - Para and the interior districts Brokopondo, Marowijne, the greatest proportions of households use a loo⁶ as their toilet facility. The Sipaliwini district stands out by the high percentage (39 percent) with no toilet facility.

⁶ In English this is a term for a toilet period.

Table 6.7 Percentage Distribution of Households by Type of Toilet Facilities and District, 2004

District	Water Closet	Loo	River or Creek	Open well/ Hole in the Ground	No Toilet Facility, Bush, Field	Unknown	Percent	Total
Total	70.2	19.9	1.6	0.9	4.7	2.7	100.0	123463
Paramaribo	87.3	10.5	0.0	0.1	0.3	1.8	100.0	59392
Wanica	74.5	23.5	0.0	0.4	0.4	1.2	100.0	20928
Nickerie	82.6	14.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	2.5	100.0	9488
Coronie	55.0	36.2	0.0	0.1	1.4	7.3	100.0	932
Saramacca	61.1	33.8	0.0	0.2	0.1	4.8	100.0	4309
Commewijne	58.4	38.9	0.1	0.1	0.5	2.0	100.0	6363
Marowijne	39.9	48.1	1.5	2.3	3.9	4.3	100.0	3987
Para	46.4	48.6	0.3	0.2	0.9	3.6	100.0	4400
Brokopondo	9.2	39.4	1.6	3.5	34.3	12.0	100.0	3749
Sipaliwini	5.7	22.8	18.9	6.7	39.4	6.5	100.0	9915

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

6.6 Source of Lighting

Table 6.8 is indicative of the distribution of dwelling units by source of lightning across the different districts in Suriname and shows that 8.5 percent of the dwelling units have no lightning. Table 6.8 also shows that in the vast majority of dwelling units in the Sipaliwini district, some 49.3 percent, have no lightning, this proportion being higher than corresponding proportions observed for the other districts. In Paramaribo, only 1.5 percent of the dwelling units have no lightning. The most important supplier of electricity is the Energie Bedrijven Suriname (Electricity Company Suriname), through which 78.6 percent of the dwellings have a direct connection. Based upon direct connection with this company, Paramaribo is the district with the highest proportion of dwelling units having such access to electricity, with a proportion amounting to 94.5 percent. The Wanica district had the next highest proportion amounting to 85.3 percent.

For dwelling units accessing electricity, the second most popular source of lighting was to obtain electricity from neighbours. Overall, 3.5 percent of all dwellings obtained lighting through electricity supplied by neighbours with relatively higher percentages being evident in Para, Marowijne, Saramacca and Wanica than in any of the other districts.

Table 6.8. Percentage Distribution of Dwelling Units by Source of Lightning and District, 2004

District	Direct Connection Energy Company Suriname	Direct Connection via Ministries	Electricity From the Neighbors	Own Generator	Other	No Electricity	Un-known	Total	Total
Total	78.6	2.7	3.5	0.9	3.5	8.5	2.4	100.0	120157
Paramaribo	94.5	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.6	1.5	1.3	100.0	57300
Wanica	85.3	0.5	6.1	0.3	0.8	6.4	0.8	100.0	20571
Nickerie	81.3	0.1	1.1	0.0	9.4	5.8	2.3	100.0	9228
Coronie	81.8	0.1	1.0	1.2	2.2	6.6	7.1	100.0	925
Saramacca	76.0	0.4	6.7	0.3	1.2	11.0	4.5	100.0	4244
Commewijne	88.9	0.3	3.2	0.4	1.3	4.0	2.0	100.0	6293
Marowijne	53.1	15.0	9.2	1.6	1.8	14.9	4.3	100.0	3944
Para	51.4	3.6	12.0	1.2	11.7	16.7	3.4	100.0	4338
Brokopondo	33.6	22.9	3.7	8.1	1.4	18.2	12.0	100.0	3656
Sipaliwini	1.4	15.2	1.6	5.3	20.8	49.3	6.4	100.0	9658

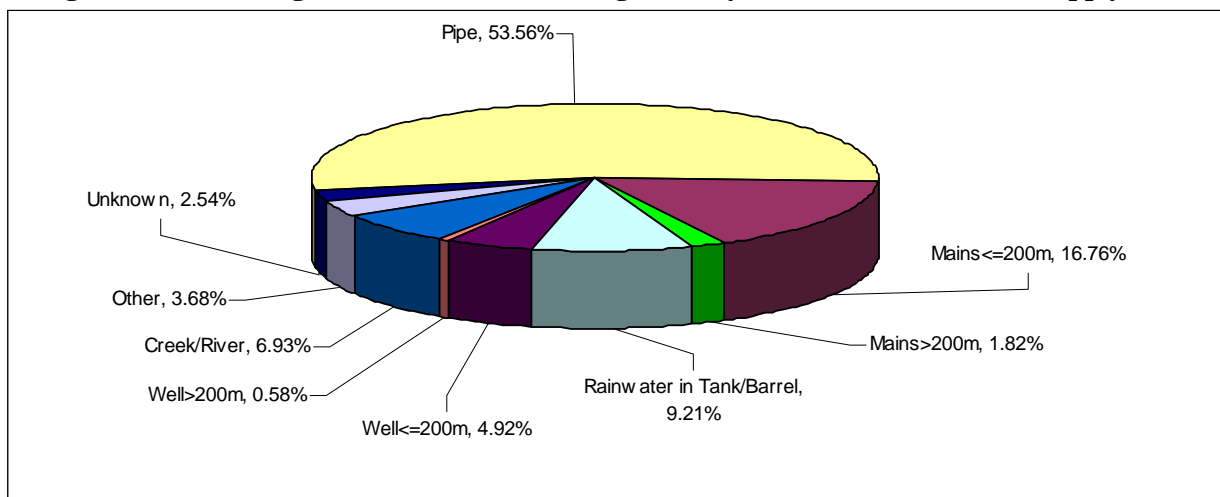
Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

* Ministries of Natural Resources/Regional Development

6.7 Main Source of Water Supply

According to Figure 6.2, slightly more than half of all dwellings in Suriname, have pipe-borne water supply. The second most popular means of water supply is mains, reported for approximately 19 percent of all dwellings while just under 10 percent of dwelling units relied upon rainwater in a tank or barrel.

Figure 6.2. Percentage Distribution of Dwelling Units by Main Source of Water Supply, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 6.9 is indicative of the distribution of dwelling units by main source of water supply for the different districts in Suriname. Paramaribo and Nickerie have a relatively high percentage of dwelling units with a pipe-borne water supply. Mains, wells or rainwater in tanks or barrels are the main source of water supply in more than half of the dwellings in Wanica. Sipaliwini stands out by the very high percentage of dwelling units, some 67 percent, that obtain water from a creek or river.

Table 6.9. Percentage Distribution of Dwelling Units by Main Source of Water Supply and District, 2004

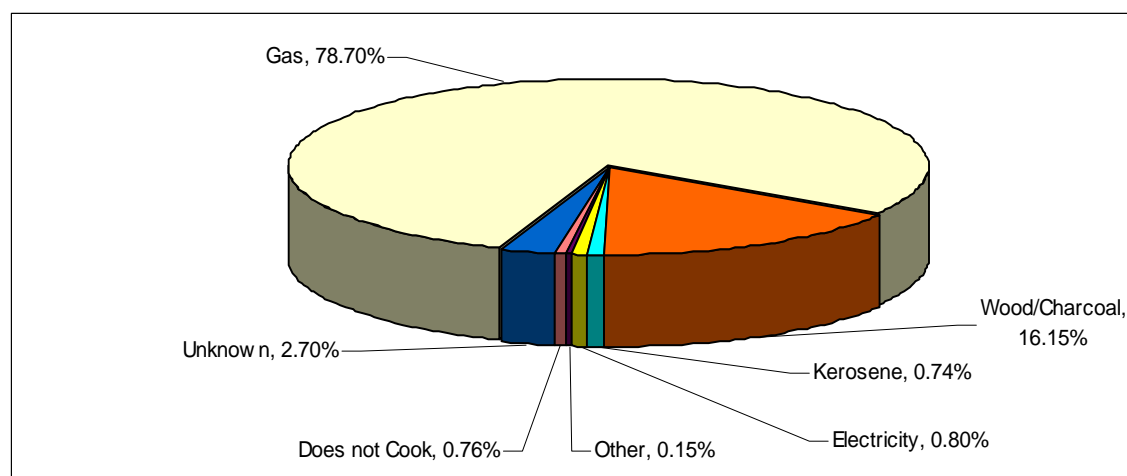
District	Pipe	Mains <=200m	Mains >200m	Rain- water in Tank/ Barrel	Well <=200m	Well >200m	Creek/ River	Other	Un- known	Percent	Total
Total	53.6	16.8	1.8	9.2	4.9	0.6	6.9	3.7	2.5	100.0	120157
Paramaribo	78.6	13.1	1.0	3.0	1.2	0.1	0.0	1.6	1.4	100.0	57300
Wanica	39.5	20.7	3.5	15.0	13.6	1.2	0.4	5.1	1.0	100.0	20571
Nickerie	61.4	27.3	1.8	3.4	0.1	0.0	0.6	3.1	2.3	100.0	9228
Coronie	44.8	38.6	1.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2	7.3	100.0	925
Saramacca	27.7	32.2	1.6	17.1	14.3	0.6	1.0	0.9	4.6	100.0	4244
Commewijne	16.0	17.5	1.3	33.6	12.5	1.2	0.3	15.6	2.0	100.0	6293
Marowijne	32.2	17.2	4.1	10.7	6.1	2.6	16.9	6.2	4.0	100.0	3944
Para	32.0	30.2	4.7	8.9	9.9	1.2	4.3	5.4	3.4	100.0	4338
Brokopondo	4.1	19.2	2.1	23.2	5.7	3.0	22.2	8.3	12.2	100.0	3656
Sipaliwini	1.5	3.9	1.3	14.8	1.5	0.3	67.0	3.3	6.4	100.0	9658

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

6.8 Type of Cooking Fuel

Figure 6.3 shows that approximately 79 percent of the households used gas for cooking, and that 16 percent used wood or charcoal. Table 6.10 provides a basis for discerning variations in the distribution of dwelling units by type of fuel used mostly for cooking by households in the different districts in Suriname. In Paramaribo, for instance, 91 percent of households use gas for cooking, this proportion being higher than those observed for any of the other districts. The lowest proportion is observed in the interior district Sipaliwini where just under a quarter of the households (24 percent) use mostly gas for cooking. Just over 16 percent of all households in Suriname use charcoal for cooking, the highest proportion being evident in Sipaliwini where 66 percent of all households use wood/charcoal.

Figure 6.3 Percentage Distributions of Households by Type of Fuel Used Most for Cooking, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 6.10 Percentage Distribution of Households by Type of Fuel used Most for Cooking and District, 2004

District	Gas	Wood/Charcoal	Kerosene	Electricity	Other	Does not Cook	Unknown	Percent	Total
Total	78.7	16.2	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.8	2.7	100.0	123463
Paramaribo	91.3	4.4	0.6	1.3	0.1	0.6	1.7	100.0	59392
Wanica	74.7	22.7	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.5	1.1	100.0	20928
Nickerie	80.0	15.2	1.2	0.4	0.0	0.6	2.5	100.0	9488
Coronie	82.2	6.3	1.5	0.6	0.3	1.5	7.5	100.0	932
Saramacca	65.6	27.9	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.7	4.7	100.0	4309
Commewijne	84.3	12.2	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.5	2.1	100.0	6363
Marowijne	78.6	13.7	1.3	0.5	0.2	1.2	4.5	100.0	3987
Para	74.9	17.8	1.8	1.0	0.2	0.7	3.7	100.0	4400
Brokopondo	51.3	32.8	1.1	0.4	0.3	2.2	12.0	100.0	3749
Sipaliwini	24.3	65.9	1.0	0.0	0.1	1.9	6.8	100.0	9915

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Chapter 7

Children

7.1 Introduction

This Chapter focuses on children 0-14 years Household headship will be examined by sex and age group, this being relevant in assessing the service demands related to children and their economic dependency. In this chapter, analyses are restricted to the 2004 census insofar as relevant 1980 census data are not available. As such, it is not possible to address changes between 1980 and 2004.

7.2 Children in Households

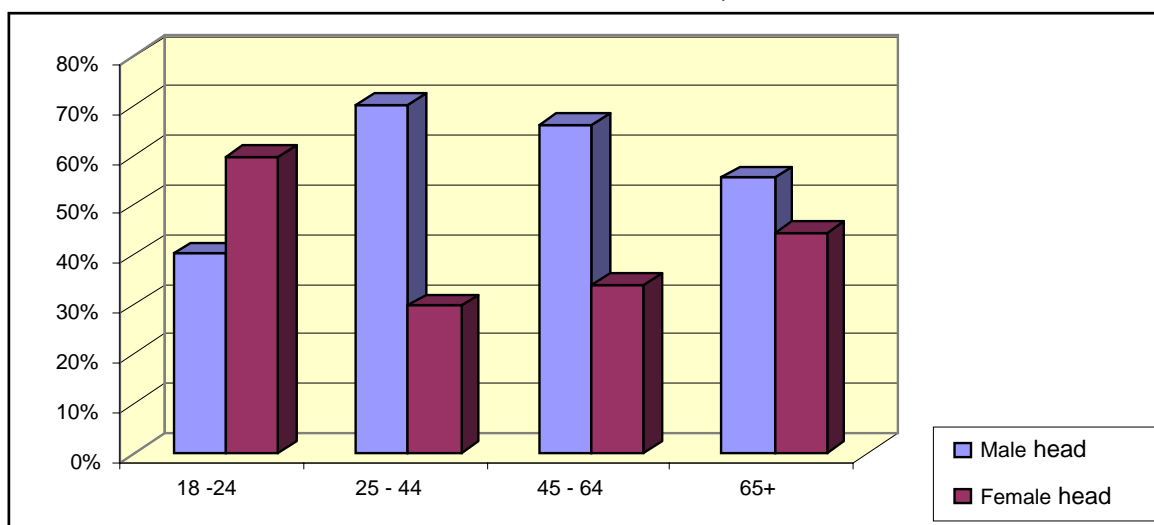
Based on the 2004 census, Table 7.1 shows that the total number of children 0-14 years in male-headed households is more than twice the number of children in female-headed households. Figure 7.1 permits an analysis of children according to the sex and age group of household heads. Specific reference is made to household heads in the following age cohorts, those aged 18-24 years, 25-44 years, 45-64 years and 65 years or older. Except in the case of households headed by young persons aged 18-24 years, the number of children found in female-headed households exceeds the number of children found in male-headed households. In the case of households headed by persons 25-44 years and 45-64 years, there are at least twice as many children in male-headed household when compared to female-headed households. In contrast, households headed by persons 18-24 years consisted of a larger number of children in female-headed households than in male-headed households.

From another standpoint, Figure 7.1 also shows that there is a greater likelihood of finding children in female-headed households among heads 18-24 years and 65 years or older than among heads aged 25-44 years or 45-64 years. These observations have implications for the living arrangements and well being of children in household headed by youthful females and their elderly counterparts, phenomena that should be explored in subsequent studies targeting living conditions in Suriname.

Table 7.1 Percentage Distribution of Children in Households by Sex of Head of Household, 2004

Sex of Head	Number of Children	Percentage Distribution of Children by Sex of Head
Total	145149	100.0
Male	97509	67.18
Female	47640	32.82

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Figure 7.1 Percentage Distribution of Children by Sex and Age Group of Head of Household, 2004

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

7.3 Child Dependency

The Child dependency ratio is calculated by dividing the population aged 0-14 years by the population aged 15-59 years. Table 7.2 shows that the districts in the interior have a higher dependency ratio than the urban and rural districts, particularly the Sipalwini and Marowijne districts with ratios of 0.87 and 0.81 respectively. This is very high compared with the urban and rural districts which have ratios ranging from 0.43 to 0.53. This means that the interior districts have a far younger population with a high dependence on the persons in productive age groups (aged 15-59 years).

The ratio of children to actual number of workers in households also indicates the service demands related to children and their economic dependency on the productive population. As has been observed earlier in the case of the child dependency, Table 7.3 also shows that the districts in the interior have a higher ratio of children to the actual number of workers when compared with corresponding ratios in urban

and rural districts. The Sipaliwini and Marowijne districts in the interior stand out with ratios of 2.40 and 1.71 respectively, which are more than twice the ratio of the urban district of Paramaribo.

Table 7.2 Child Dependency Ratio by District, 2004

District	0 – 14	15 – 59	60+	Unknown	Dependency Ratio	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6) = (2)/(3)	(7)
Total	146389	299547	42189	4704	0.49	492829
Paramaribo	66432	151804	22804	1906	0.44	242946
Wanica	24999	54892	5901	194	0.46	85986
Nickerie	10066	23053	3300	220	0.44	36639
Coronie	877	1670	328	12	0.53	2887
Saramacca	4791	9785	1369	35	0.49	15980
Commewijne	6728	15562	2277	82	0.43	24649
Marowijne	6783	8348	1159	352	0.81	16642
Para	6519	10606	1431	193	0.61	18749
Brokopondo	5279	7744	755	437	0.68	14215
Sipaliwini	13915	16083	2865	1273	0.87	34136

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 7.3 Ratio of Children to Actual Number of Workers in Households by District, 2004

District	Number Children	Number of Workers	Ratio
Total	146389	156705	0.93
Paramaribo	66432	84127	0.79
Wanica	24999	28048	0.89
Nickerie	10066	11373	0.89
Coronie	877	791	1.11
Saramacca	4791	4764	1.01
Commewijne	6728	8701	0.77
Marowijne	6783	3962	1.71
Para	6519	4908	1.33
Brokopondo	5279	4225	1.25
Sipaliwini	13915	5806	2.40

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

The difference between the total number of children in Suriname of 145,149 as shown in Table 7.1, and the figure of 146389 as shown in Table 7.2 and Table 7.3 is due to the fact that the first only makes reference to children in households while the rest make reference to all children whether in households or institutions.

Chapter 8

Youth

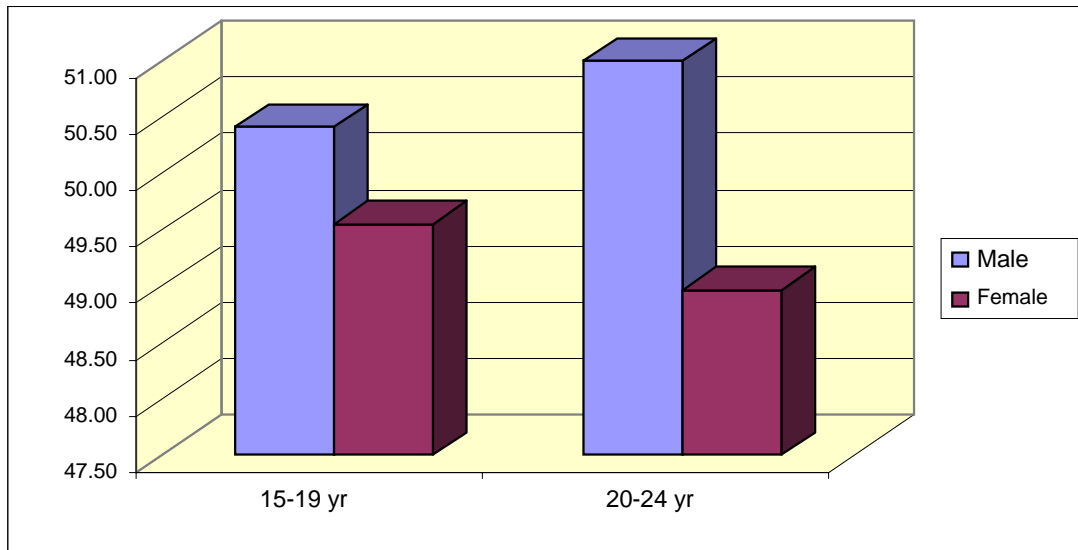
8.1 Introduction

This Chapter focuses on the status of young people 15-24 years in Suriname paying attention to characteristics associated with their level of educational attainment and their labour force participation. As had been the case in the previous chapter that focused on children, the analysis in this chapter is restricted to the 2004 census as relevant data from the 1980 census are not available.

Chapter 5 indicated major differences between males and females according to their economic activity. Among males of working age, a far higher percentage was observed to be employed when compared with the corresponding percentage observed among females. In contrast, home makers were almost exclusively females. Furthermore, there were some differences between the distributions of males and females with respect to their economic activity when age was taken into account. For example, females in five-year age groups between 15 years and 24 years were more likely to be students than any other group of persons irrespective of age group and sex. Moreover, unemployment and the “discouraged worker” syndrome were disproportionately high among females aged 20-49 years and 20-59 years respectively.

In 2004, the total population of youths aged 15-24 years amounted to 89,178, which is 18.1 percent of the total population of 492,829. Of the total youths aged 15-24 years, the percentage distributions by sex in Figure 8.1 indicate a slightly higher percentage of male in the 20-24 age group compared to the 15-19 age group.

Figure 8.1. Percentage Distribution of Youths aged 15-19 and 20-24 by Sex, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

8.2 Age Cohort and Economic Activity

Of the total youths aged 15-24 years in 2004, the number of male is slightly higher than the number of female. With respect to employed youths, however, Table 8.1 shows that the number of males is as much as 2.5 times the number of females. With respect to youths in general, females are slightly more likely than males to be unemployed or be a discouraged worker, and much more likely than males not to be economically active.

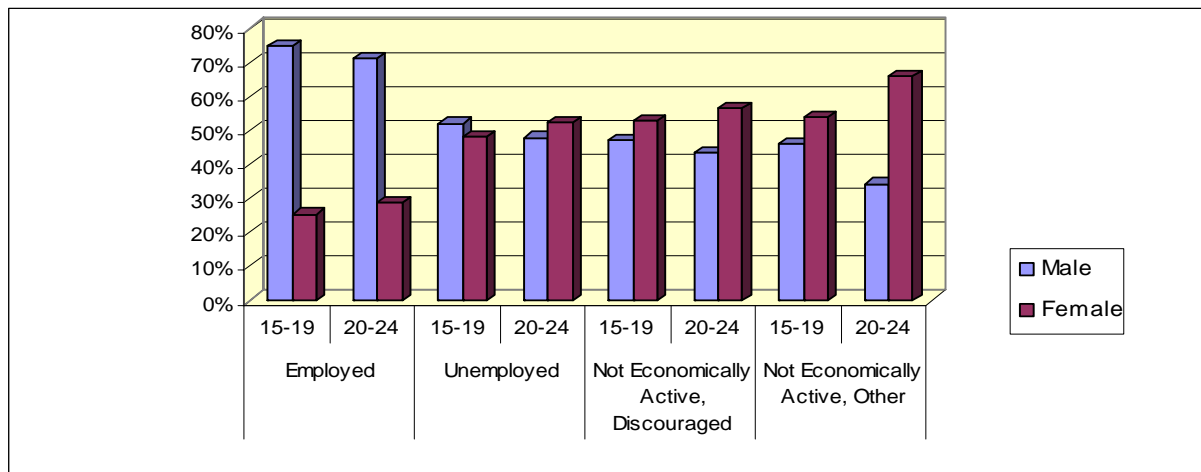
Table 8.1. Number and age Distribution of Youths aged 15-24 by Sex and Economic Activity, 2004

Economic Activity	Male		Female		Unknown		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	45211	100.0	43934	100.0	31	100.0	89176	100.0
Employed	16480	36.5	6342	14.4	4	12.9	22826	25.6
Unemployed	3079	6.8	3159	7.2	0	0.0	6238	7.0
Discouraged workers	1894	4.2	2312	5.3	0	0.0	4206	4.7
Not economically active	21312	47.1	29693	67.6	9	29.0	51014	57.2
Unknown	2446	5.4	2428	5.5	18	58.1	4892	5.5

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

On comparing the population of employed young persons 15-19 years with those 20-24 years, Figure 8.2 is indicative of a slightly greater imbalance across the sexes among those aged 15-19 years than among those aged 20-24 years. For youths in the two age groups, the imbalance was more favourable to males. For youths who were not economically active, whether being discouraged workers or otherwise, the imbalance was not as great and deemed more favourable to females. The smallest imbalance across the sexes is evident among youths who were unemployed being slightly more favourable to males in the case of youths 15-19 years and more favourable to females in the case of youths 20-24 years. These observations reinforce the less favourable position that is characteristic of young women when compared with young men in terms of economic activity and in particular, being employed.

Figure 8.2 Percentage Distribution of the Youth's Economic Activity by Age Group and Sex, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

8.3 Economic Activity and Educational Attainment

Compared with the level of formal education attained by the total population of 15 years or older (Table 2.5 in chapter 2), a higher level of attainment is evident among youths. This is supported upon examining the respective percentages with ‘no education’, 4 percent in the case of youths 15-24 years and 8 percent for the total population aged 15 and over.

With respect to employed persons 15-24 years, Table 8.2 indicates that much higher percentages of female than male attained higher educational levels, namely the Teacher Training College, Senior Secondary General, Higher Vocational Education and the University.

Table 8.2 Number and Percentage Distribution of Employed Youths 15-24 years by Level of Educational Attainment and Sex, 2004

Educational level	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	16480	100.0	6342	100.0	22822	100.0
No Education	588	3.6	326	5.1	914	4.0
Kindergarten	14	0.1	6	0.1	20	0.1
Special Education	133	0.8	37	0.6	170	0.7
Primary	4991	30.3	949	15.0	5940	26.0
Lower Vocational Education	1073	6.5	216	3.4	1289	5.6
Other Junior Secondary Education	6621	40.2	2520	39.7	9141	40.1
Senior Secondary Vocational and Technical	1320	8.0	511	8.1	1831	8.0
Teacher Training College	92	0.6	547	8.6	639	2.8
Senior Secondary General	639	3.9	503	7.9	1142	5.0
Higher Vocational Education	117	0.7	219	3.5	336	1.5
University	198	1.2	231	3.6	429	1.9
Unknown/No answer	694	4.2	277	4.4	971	4.3

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 8.3 shows that the differences in educational attainment between employed females and employed males are larger for youth 20-24 years than for all youths 15-24 years. Compared with the percentages observed among employed males, those observed for employed females are far higher. For the Teacher Training College, this is almost 15 times higher, for the Senior Secondary General almost twice as high.

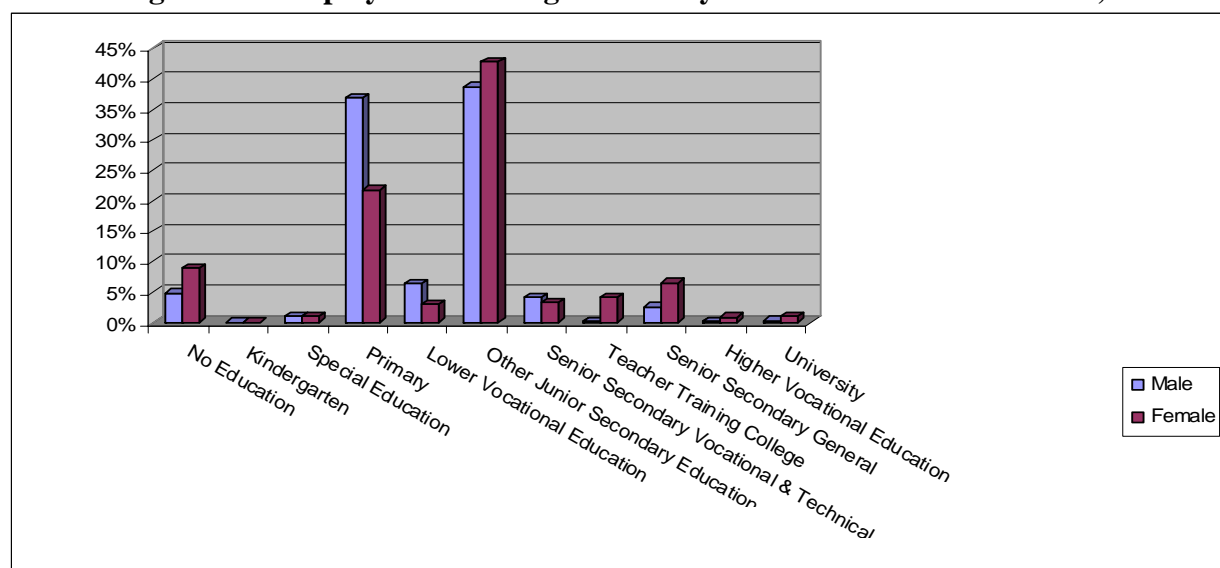
Table 8.3 Number and Percentage of Employed Youths (20-24) by Level of Education and Sex, 2004

Educational level	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	11820	100.0	4761	100.0	16581	100.0
No Education	363	3.1	186	3.9	549	3.3
Kindergarten	12	0.1	5	0.1	17	0.1
Special Education	90	0.8	22	0.5	112	0.7
Primary	3269	27.7	605	12.7	3874	23.4
Lower Vocational Education	777	6.6	170	3.6	947	5.7
Other Junior Secondary Education	4817	40.8	1842	38.7	6659	40.2
Senior Secondary Vocational and Technical	1128	9.5	460	9.7	1588	9.6
Teacher Training College	83	0.7	482	10.1	565	3.4
Senior Secondary General	518	4.4	400	8.4	918	5.5
Higher Vocational Education	107	0.9	205	4.3	312	1.9
University	185	1.6	216	4.5	401	2.4
Unknown/No answer	471	3.8	168	3.5	639	3.8

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

With respect to employed females, proportions with Higher Vocational Education and the University level education is approximately three times higher than those of their male counterparts. Figure 8.3 reveals that a similar pattern emerges in the case of employed persons 15-19 years.

Figure 8.3. Employed Youths aged 15-19 by Sex and Level of Education, 2004



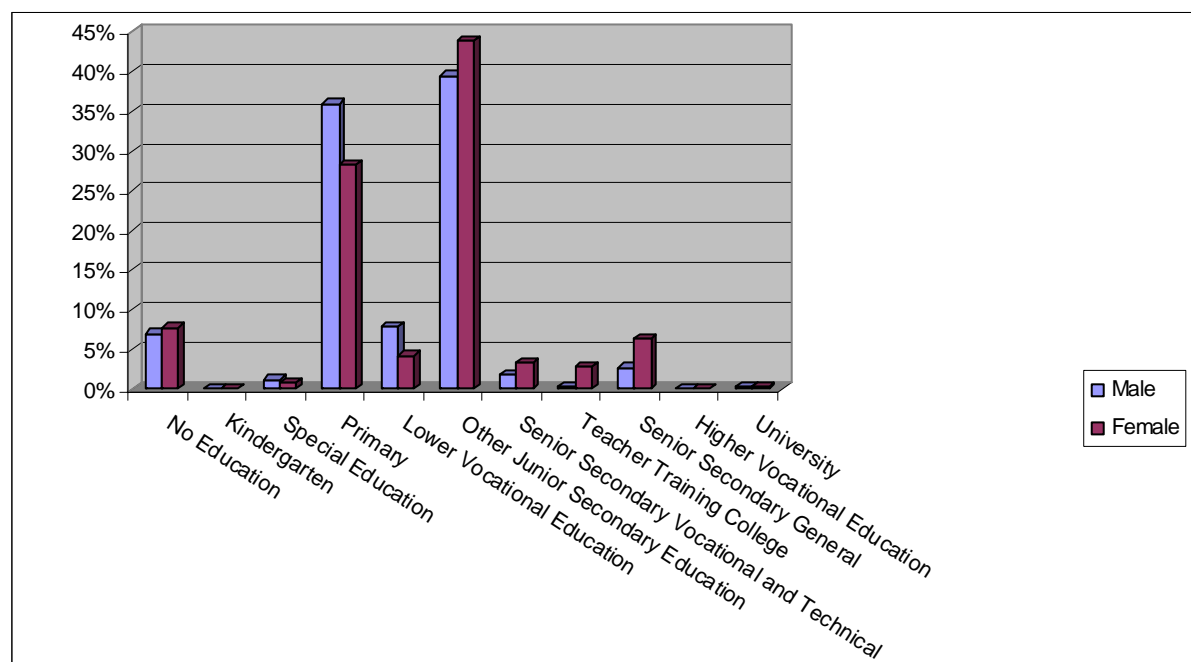
Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 8.4. Number and Percentage of Unemployed Youths 20-24 years by Level of Educational Attainment and Sex, 2004

Educational level	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	1895	100.00	2066	100.00	3961	100.00
No Education	81	4.28	121	5.86	202	5.10
Kindergarten	0	0.00	1	0.05	1	0.03
Special Education	17	0.90	12	0.58	29	0.73
Primary	561	29.60	378	18.30	939	23.71
Lower Vocational Education	156	8.23	117	5.66	273	6.89
Other Junior Secondary Education	718	37.89	844	40.85	1562	39.43
Senior Secondary Vocational and Technical	167	8.81	138	6.68	305	7.70
Teacher Training College	23	1.21	217	10.50	240	6.06
Senior Secondary General	84	4.43	121	5.86	205	5.18
Higher Vocational Education	12	0.63	39	1.89	51	1.29
University	26	1.37	34	1.65	60	1.51
Unknown/No answer	50	2.65	44	2.12	94	2.37

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Among unemployed youths, Table 8.4 shows that at higher educational levels, there are also higher relative frequencies among female than among male youths. This holds particularly true for unemployed youth 20-24 years with respect to the following educational categories: the Teacher Training College, Senior Secondary General, Higher Vocational Education and the University. Figure 8.4 is indicative of a similar pattern among unemployed youth 15-19 years.

Figure 8.4. Unemployed Youths aged 15-19 by Sex and Level of Education, 2004

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

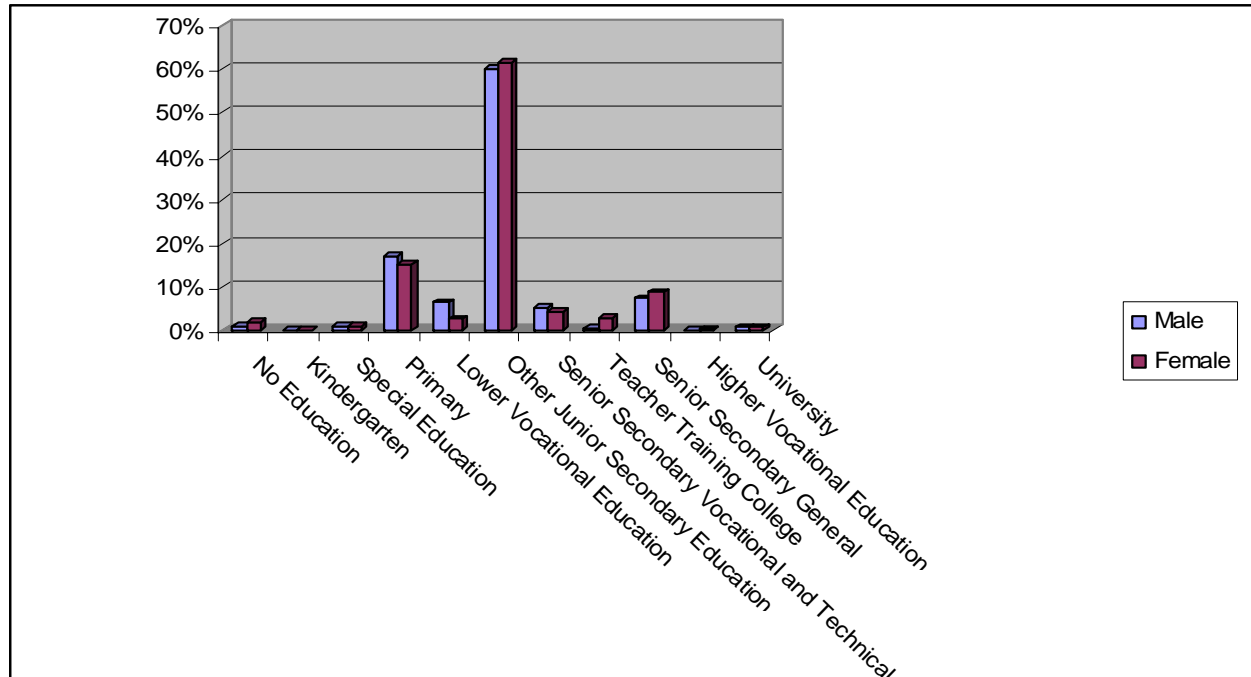
There are a number of reasons that render youths who were not economically active to be of interest. Firstly, the absolute numbers are high which make it important in terms of the economic potential. With respect to young persons 15-24 years, Table 8.1 has shown that 57 percent were not economically active. In Table 8.5, secondly, there is a larger share of females than males among the youth 20-24 years who were not economically active. Almost twice as many females when compared to males, amounting to 11,896 females and 6,194 males, have been observed among youth who were not economically active. This observed differential is associated with the fact that relatively more young females than males have been attending school full-time or engaging in home duties. Moreover, in the 20-24 age group, females have much higher absolute and relative frequencies than males with respect to the attainment of Teacher Training College and Higher Vocational Education. In the case of young persons 15-19 years who were not economically active, Figure 8.5 is indicative of a similar pattern of variation in educational attainment across the sexes.

Table 8.5. Number and Percentage of Youths (20-24) who were not Economically Active by Level of Educational Attainment and Sex, 2004

Educational level	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	6194	100.0	11896	100.0	18090	100.0
No Education	128	2.07	499	4.19	627	3.47
Kindergarten	2	0.03	10	0.08	12	0.07
Special Education	69	1.11	86	0.72	155	0.86
Primary	666	10.75	1918	16.12	2584	14.28
Lower Vocational Education	280	4.52	288	2.42	568	3.14
Other Junior Secondary Education	2162	34.90	4225	35.52	6387	35.31
Senior Secondary Vocational and Technical	1274	20.57	991	8.33	2265	12.52
Teacher Training College	134	2.16	1470	12.36	1604	8.87
Senior Secondary General	766	12.37	1075	9.04	1841	10.18
Higher Vocational Education	90	1.45	273	2.29	363	2.01
University	524	8.46	853	7.17	1377	7.61
Unknown/No answer	99	1.60	208	1.75	307	1.70

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Figure 8.5 Percentage of Youths (15-19) Who Were not Economically Active by Sex and Level of Education, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Chapter 9

The Elderly

9.1 Introduction

The objective of this Chapter is to address the status of elderly persons 60 years or older. The status of this critical sub-population is addressed from the standpoint of their union status, economic activity and insurance coverage focusing specifically upon variations in such attributes across the sexes. The analysis is restricted to 2004 as data of the 1980 census were not available.⁷

9.2 Marital Status of The Elderly

In 2004, the total number of elderly persons 60 years or older was 42,189, which is 8.6 percent of the total population of 492,829 in the same year. Approximately 53.3 percent of the elderly is female and 46.7 percent male. The overall percentage of married persons is 37.5 percent. Table 9.1 shows that there are vast differences in the marital status by sex. Most remarkable is the relatively high percentage of married male compared with female, 48.7 percent as opposed to 27.7 percent. On the other hand, the percentage widowed among females is almost three times larger than among males, 29.5 percent as opposed to 11.5 percent.

Table 9.1 Percentage Distribution of Elderly Persons (60+ years) by Marital Status and Sex, 2004

Marital Status	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Total	19712	22463	14	42189
Percent Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	23.3	26.0	0.0	24.7
Married	48.7	27.7	7.1	37.5
Divorced	3.8	4.1	0.0	4.0
Widowed	11.5	29.5	0.0	21.1
Doesn't Know/No Answer	12.7	12.7	92.9	12.7

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

⁷ In addition, the 2004 census has only limited data on elderly that fit into the required format for analysis.

9.3 Economic Activity

Table 9.2 shows that approximately 9 percent of the elderly are employed. There is a difference by sex, indicating that elderly males are three times as likely to be employed when compared to elderly females. On the other hand, elderly females are almost 26 times as likely to be homemakers when compared to elderly males, the respective proportions engaging in such activities being 6.4 percent among females and 0.25 percent among males. Such outcomes could be associated with cohort-related experiences that may have introduced gendered responses to elderly persons' lifetime participation or non-participation in the labour force.

Table 9.2. Percentage Distribution of Elderly Persons (60+ years) by Economic Activity and Sex, 2004

Economic Activity	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Total	19712	22463	14	42189
Percent Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	13.7	4.5	0.0	8.8
Unemployed	1.0	0.7	0.0	0.8
Discouraged Worker	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.4
Senior citizens/Pensioners	77.0	78.7	7.1	77.9
Student	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Homemakers	0.3	6.4	0.0	3.5
Unable to work	1.5	1.3	0.0	1.4
Others	1.1	1.4	0.0	1.3
Unknown	3.4	3.9	92.9	3.8
Not applicable	1.6	2.7	0.0	2.1

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

9.4 Insurance Coverage

According to Table 9.3, the majority of elderly persons 60 years or older indicated that they had some form of *State Health Insurance*, the respective proportion being 32.4 percent. Observations also suggest that there is virtually no difference in the likelihood of male and female elderly persons being covered by *State Health Insurance*. Table 9.3 also shows that approximately 25 percent of the elderly persons 60 years or older are covered by the *State Social Insurance* for poor or near-poor persons, with female having a notably higher proportion of poor insurance coverage than male. On

the other hand, among elderly males, there is a higher percentage that claimed to have coverage from a business/firm, Insurance Company and on the basis of personal payments for such coverage.

Table 9.3. Percentage Distribution of Elderly Persons (60+ years) by Insurance Coverage and Sex, 2004

Insurance Coverage	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Percent Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
State health Insurance Fund (SZF)	32.4	32.4	7.1	32.4
State health Insurance Fund Volunteers (SZF)	4.2	3.8	0.0	4.0
Medical Mission	5.3	7.9	0.0	6.7
State Social Insurance for poor (onvermogen)	14.6	20.1	0.0	17.5
State Social Insurance for near poor (minvermogen)	7.4	7.8	0.0	7.6
Business/Firm	11.2	7.7	0.0	9.3
Insurance Company	2.3	1.8	0.0	2.0
Own payment	9.1	5.4	0.0	7.1
Others	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.5
Doesn't Know/No Answer	12.9	12.7	92.9	12.9

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Chapter 10

Gender and Development Issues

10.1 Introduction

This Chapter focuses on gender and development. We will examine the adults aged 15 years and over in specific activities by sex and age, as well as their employment by economic sector. The analysis is restricted to the 2004 census as the relevant 1980 census data are not available.⁸

10.2 Specific Economic Activities

In 2004, the total labor force of 337,107 comprised 167989 males, 168969 females and 149 persons for whom sex was unknown. Of the 47 percent employed, approximately two-third were males and one-third females.

Table 10.1 Percentage Distribution of Adults Aged 15+ years by Specific Economic Activities, Sex and Age Group. 2004

Age Group	Sex	Employed	Unemployed	Discouraged Worker	Senior Citizen/Pensioner	Student	Home makers	Others/Unknown	Percent	Total
Total 15+	Male	61.44	4.66	2.63	9.55	12.20	0.36	9.16	100.0	167989
	Female	32.68	5.21	3.68	10.98	14.07	22.01	11.37	100.0	168969
	Unknown	12.08	0.00	0.00	0.67	6.04	0.00	81.21	100.0	149
15-24	Male	36.46	6.82	4.20	0.00	42.08	0.28	10.16	100.0	45096
	Female	14.39	7.20	5.27	0.00	48.14	12.19	12.81	100.0	43809
	Unknown	12.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.03	0.00	58.07	100.0	31
25-44	Male	81.88	4.98	2.56	0.00	2.01	0.36	8.21	100.0	74402
	Female	46.55	6.54	3.91	0.00	3.55	29.21	10.24	100.0	71998
	Unknown	12.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	87.13	100.0	101
45-64	Male	69.50	2.62	1.66	14.31	0.04	0.50	11.37	100.0	35338
	Female	38.96	2.22	2.74	15.36	0.35	26.41	13.96	100.0	38372
	Unknown	33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.67	100.0	3
65 & older	Male	9.84	0.87	0.22	83.49	0.01	0.25	5.32	100.0	13153
	Female	3.10	0.64	0.22	85.62	0.01	4.53	5.88	100.0	14790
	Unknown	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.14	0.00	0.00	92.86	100.0	14

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

⁸ In addition, the 2004 census has limited data on gender and development issues according to the required format for analysis.

Table 10.1 shows that females are absolutely and relatively a majority in most of the other labour force categories such as the unemployed, the discouraged worker, pensioners, students and homemakers. For females 15-24 years and 25-44 years, the distribution according to specific economic activities is indicative of an over-representation of females who were unemployed, discouraged workers or students. For females 25-44 years and 45-64 years, there appears to be an over-representation of homemakers.

Adults 15-44 years, who are engaged in specific activities, were analyzed according to educational attainment and sex. The overall data indicate that females are over-represented in secondary and tertiary levels of education. The over-representation of female at the secondary and tertiary levels is larger among the employed, unemployed and students than among discouraged workers and homemakers. These observations are evident in Table 10.2a and have implications for pursuing links between individuals' gendered attitudes, behaviour and responses and the fortunes or misfortunes of different individuals dependent upon their sex and other possible explanatory factors.

Table 10.2a Percentage Distribution of Adults 15-24 years by Level of Educational Attainment, Sex and Specific Economic Activities, 2004

Economic Status	Sex	No Education/ Kindergarten	Primary incl. Special Education	Secondary/ Tertiary	Unknown	Percent	Total
Total	Male	3.51	24.74	64.91	6.84	100.00	119498
	Female	6.12	20.19	68.57	5.12	100.00	115807
	Unknown	0.00	3.03	18.18	78.79	100.00	132
Employed	Male	3.09	26.18	65.23	5.49	100.00	77359
	Female	3.73	14.76	77.44	4.07	100.00	39820
	Unknown	0.00	23.53	76.47	0.00	100.00	17
Unemployed	Male	6.00	32.14	57.35	4.51	100.00	6783
	Female	9.22	24.36	63.87	2.54	100.00	7864
Discouraged worker	Male	12.16	39.50	42.89	5.45	100.00	3800
	Female	31.92	31.67	32.55	3.86	100.00	5125
Student	Male	0.04	13.10	85.97	0.88	100.00	20474
	Female	0.06	9.15	89.99	0.80	100.00	23646
	Unknown	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	9
Homemakers	Male	10.41	25.13	60.15	4.31	100.00	394
	Female	5.95	33.11	58.38	2.56	100.00	26373
Other/unknown	Male	8.22	26.65	35.06	30.07	100.00	10688
	Female	12.79	23.68	40.08	23.45	100.00	12979
	Unknown	0.00	0.00	1.89	98.11	100.00	106

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

For instance, to what extent might the over-representation of females among the unemployed be functions of gender discrimination that precipitate the greater levels of unemployment among females. There might also be subtle gender nuances that result in contemporary women seeking higher educational qualifications to make valid claims for employment, an outcome that may not be characteristic of their male counterparts who may readily obtain jobs without the qualifications.

10.3 Educational Attainment and Specific Economic Activities

By controlling for age, one can obtain greater insight about female and male adults engaged in specific activities. Therefore, Table 10.2a and Table 10.2b were constructed, controlling for age. To this end the 15-24 and the 25-44 age groups were included in the analysis.

Table 10.2b Percentage Distribution of Adults 25-44 years by Level of Educational Attainment, Sex and Specific Economic Activities, 2004

Economic Activity	Sex	No Education Kindergarten	Primary	Secondary/Tertiary	Unknown	Percent	Total
Total	Male	3.77	25.16	63.20	7.87	100.00	74402
	Female	6.80	21.79	65.92	5.49	100.00	71998
	Unknown	0.00	3.96	10.89	85.15	100.00	101
Employed	Male	2.95	24.85	66.36	5.84	100.00	60918
	Female	3.45	14.63	77.91	4.01	100.00	33517
	Unknown	0.00	30.77	69.23	0.00	100.00	13
Unemployed	Male	6.50	31.38	56.10	6.02	100.00	3706
	Female	10.98	25.65	60.48	2.89	100.00	4709
Discouraged worker	Male	12.22	34.89	47.11	5.78	100.00	1906
	Female	35.40	27.88	32.67	4.05	100.00	2816
Student	Male	0.00	11.30	87.30	1.40	100.00	1496
	Female	0.20	8.14	89.87	1.79	100.00	2556
Homemakers	Male	12.64	28.25	53.16	5.95	100.00	269
	Female	5.66	32.81	58.90	2.63	100.00	21034
Other/Unknown	Male	8.25	24.73	35.47	31.55	100.00	6107
	Female	13.98	22.85	39.26	23.91	100.00	7366
	Unknown	0.00	0.00	2.27	97.73	100.00	88

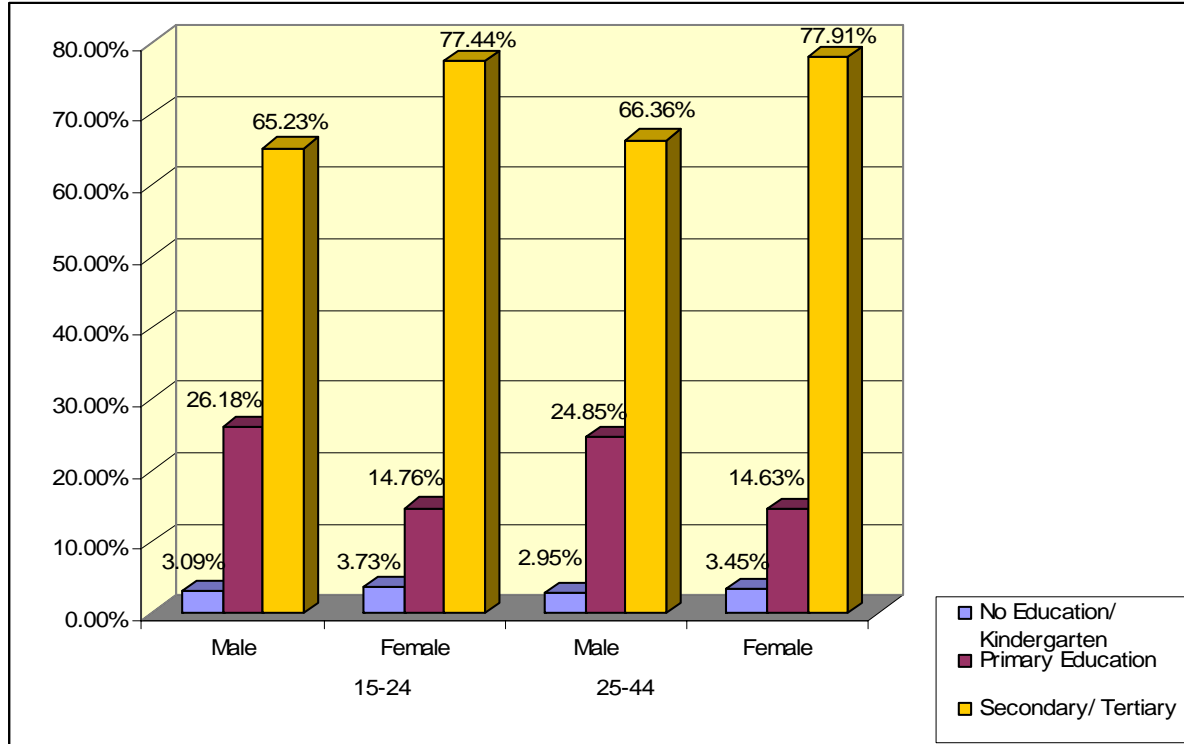
Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

As regards the unemployed and discouraged workers, the 25-44 age group shows larger differences between male and female with no education, than the 15-24 age group.

Further analysis by controlling for age gives more insights about employed female and male adults. For such adults, Figure 10.1 indicates that irrespective of their sex and whether they were 15-24 years or 25-44 years, much greater proportions had attained secondary/tertiary level education and thus, had been employed. Such proportions are generally higher among females than among males irrespective of age cohort. Though relatively fewer persons had attained primary level education as their highest level, such proportions are generally higher among males than among females irrespective of age cohort. These findings observations pave the way for the pursuit of research that explores whether such perceived gender inequalities and gender inequities persist when one considers links between workers educational attainment, educational qualifications, occupational pursuits and income.

This could be especially relevant research if it is explored taking individuals' sex and gendered responses that may reflect traditional or egalitarian attitudes, behaviour and responses in different social institutional settings.

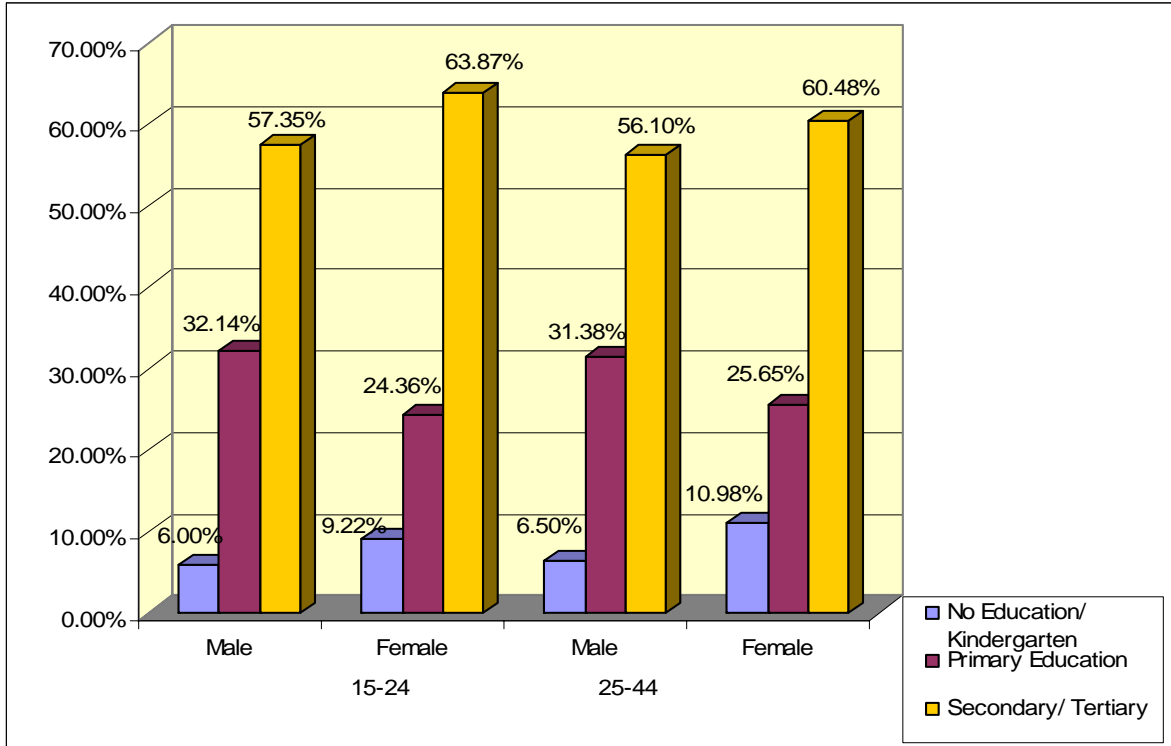
Figure 10.1. Employed Adults by Sex and Educational Attainment by Age Group, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

For unemployed adults, a similar analysis is undertaken to observed variation in their levels of educational attainment after controlling for age cohort. According to Figure 10.2, the vast majority of unemployed persons had attained secondary/tertiary level of education irrespective of their sex and age cohort. Again, higher proportions are generally observed among females than among males irrespective of age cohort. Higher proportions attaining a maximum of kindergarten education are observed among unemployed persons than among employed persons irrespective of sex and age cohort. With respect to unemployed persons, however, Figure 10.2 reveals that slightly greater proportions among females attained a maximum of kindergarten education when compared to corresponding proportions of males in each of the two cohorts. These results show that among unemployed females, the likelihood of attaining a maximum of kindergarten education or secondary/tertiary level of education is greater than that observed among unemployed males irrespective of age cohort. Among the ranks of the unemployed, these observations may have gender implications insofar as females appear more likely than males to have the better as well worse educational characteristics

Figure 10.2. Unemployed Adults by Sex, Educational Attainment and Age Group, 2004

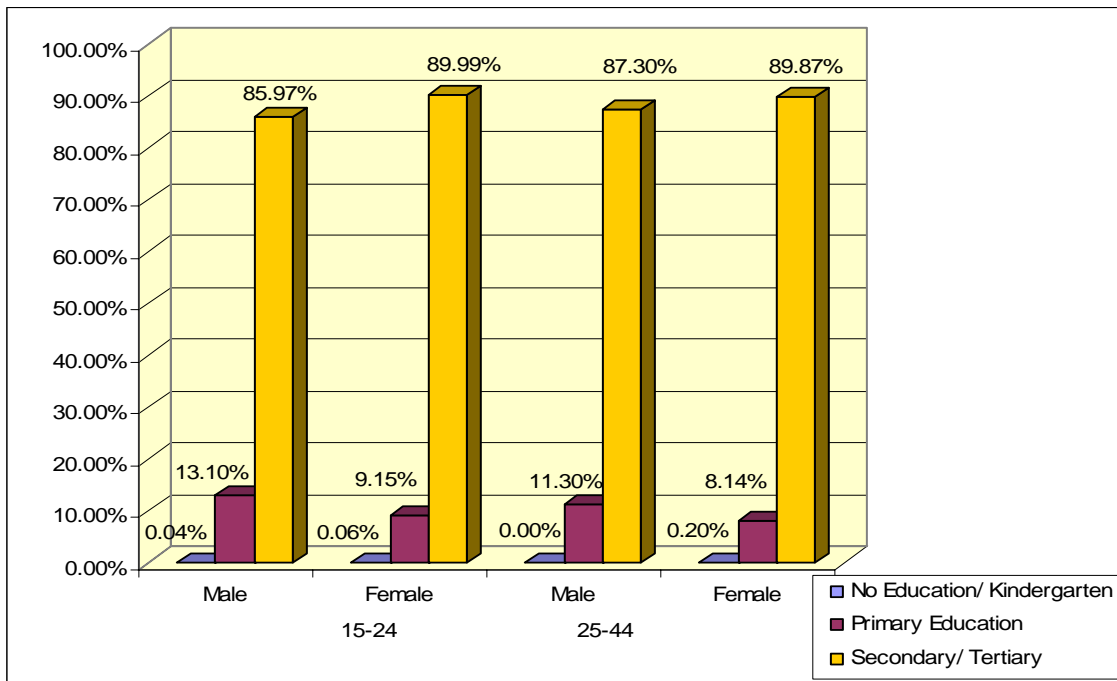


Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

In particular, there are implications for further studies targeting gender discrimination, gendered perceptions regarding participation in the labour market, and the consequences of low educational achievement women’s as well as men’s capacity to sustain their livelihood.

With respect to students, Figure 10.3 reveals that approximately 90 percent of the female students 15-24 years have attained secondary/ tertiary education as against 85.86 percent among their male counterparts. With respect to the 25-44 year olds, though the differences are smaller, a greater proportion of female students have attained secondary/ tertiary education when compared to their male counterparts. Considering that the absolute numbers of females are almost twice the numbers of males as shown earlier in Table 10.2b, one can conclude that in comparison to males, a much larger number of females have attained secondary/ tertiary level education when compared to their male counterparts. From a gender perspective, such observations reinforce the need to delve further in order to understand the gendered nuances that might be associated with differential outcomes regarding the attainment of higher levels of education among females not only in the students but also in the general population.

Figure 10.3. Students by Sex, Educational Attainment and Age Group, 2004



Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

10.4 Employment in Agriculture and Other Industrial Sectors

Based upon data emanating from the 2004 Census, Table 10.3 shows that the number of males employed in agriculture is approximately four times the number of females. There is hardly any difference in this pattern within the different age cohorts and irrespective of sex, more than half of the adults employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, are 25-44 years old. There are likely to be strong gender stereotypes that preclude fuller participation of females in such activities. These and other gender-related concerns ought to be explored in light of the fact that higher levels of unemployment and discourage worker syndrome seem characteristic of females who could be absorbed at different levels and in innovative ways in agricultural and related pursuits. However, a deeper appreciation of gender dynamics, both from the standpoint of men and women in different age cohorts, has to be embraced in addressing this particular concern.

Table 10.3. Percentage Distribution of Adults (15 yrs. and over) Employed in Agriculture, Fishing, Hunting and Forestry by Age Group and Sex, 2004

Age group	Male		Female		Unknown		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	10333	100	2538	100	3	100	12874	100
15-24	1443	13.96	406	16.00	0	0.00	1849	14.36
25-44	6038	58.43	1335	52.60	2	66.67	7375	57.29
45-64	2643	25.58	725	28.57	1	33.33	3369	26.17
65 & older	209	2.03	72	2.83	0	0.00	281	2.18

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

In accordance with the 2004 Census, Table 10.4 shows that the number of males employed in the non-agricultural sectors was almost twice the number of females employed in such sectors. However, in other sectors such as hotels, restaurants and bars, financial intermediation, public administration, education, health and other service activities, the proportion of number of females was greater than the proportion of number of males. By controlling for age, Table 10.5 permits one to gauge variation in the main non-agricultural sectors that attract male and female workers in the different age cohorts. With respect to females 25-44 years and 45-64 years, there is a greater likelihood of being employed in public administration, education, health and wholesale sectors than in any of the other sectors. With respect to younger females 15-24 years, there is a greater likelihood of being in the wholesale sector than in any other sector. Turning to males, there is a greater

likelihood of males aged 15-24 years being employed in the construction and wholesale sectors, males aged 45-64 years being employed in Transport and Public Administration.

Table 10.4. Percentage Distribution of Adults (15 yrs. and over) Employed in Non-Agricultural Activities by Sector and Sex, 2004

Sector	Male		Female		Unknown		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	92880	100	52689	100	15	100	145584	100
Mining	8386	9.03	935	1.77	0	0.00	9321	6.40
Manufacturing	8209	8.84	2948	5.60	0	0.00	11157	7.66
Electricity, Gas and Water	1421	1.53	249	0.47	0	0.00	1670	1.15
Construction	13610	14.65	507	0.96	1	6.67	14118	9.70
Wholesale	15970	17.19	9452	17.94	8	53.33	25430	17.47
Hotels, Restaurants & Bars	1940	2.09	2957	5.61	2	13.33	4899	3.37
Transport	7655	8.24	1115	2.12	0	0.00	8770	6.02
Financial Intermediation	1390	1.50	1343	2.55	1	6.67	2734	1.88
Real Estate	4558	4.91	1900	3.61	1	6.67	6459	4.44
Public Administration	16437	17.70	11750	22.30	2	13.33	28189	19.36
Education	1820	1.96	6581	12.49	0	0.00	8401	5.77
Health	1590	1.71	5266	9.99	0	0.00	6856	4.71
Other Service Activities	5077	5.47	4946	9.39	0	0.00	10023	6.88
Unknown	4817	5.19	2740	5.20	0	0.00	7557	5.19

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

Table 10.5 Percentage Distribution of Adults (15 yrs. and over) Employed in Non-Agricultural Activities by Sector, Sex and Age Group, 2004

Sector	15 – 24			25 – 44			45 - 64		65 & older	
	Male	Female	Unknown	Male	Female	Unknown	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total	14998	5897	4	54880	32182	11	21917	14223	1085	387
Percent Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mining	9.62	2.19	0.00	9.74	2.06	0.00	7.24	1.01	1.20	0.00
Manufacturing	10.33	7.09	0.00	8.24	5.76	0.00	9.05	4.54	14.29	8.01
Electricity, Gas & Water	0.77	0.29	0.00	1.48	0.42	0.00	2.22	0.67	0.83	0.52
Construction	22.30	1.56	0.00	14.92	1.02	9.09	9.08	0.61	7.93	0.26
Wholesale	22.79	30.80	50.00	16.72	17.32	54.55	14.12	13.54	25.90	35.40
Hotels, Restaurants & Bars	2.55	8.94	50.00	2.06	5.63	0.00	1.77	4.16	3.50	7.24
Transport	7.30	2.12	0.00	8.88	2.29	0.00	7.44	1.74	5.07	1.03
Financial Intermediation	0.69	2.14	0.00	1.65	2.68	9.09	1.70	2.47	0.74	0.78
Real Estate	3.71	3.49	0.00	4.97	4.00	9.09	5.34	2.81	9.40	1.81
Public Administration	5.23	6.12	0.00	17.17	21.18	18.18	27.68	31.91	14.75	8.79
Education	0.62	7.31	0.00	1.68	12.99	0.00	3.55	13.72	2.58	4.65
Health	0.67	8.43	0.00	1.66	10.46	0.00	2.48	9.70	3.32	5.94
Other Service Activities	6.33	10.29	0.00	5.66	9.75	0.00	4.33	8.14	6.44	10.85
Unknown	7.09	9.23	0.00	5.17	4.44	0.00	4.00	4.98	4.05	14.72

Source: General Bureau of Statistics Suriname, Database Census 2004

These outcomes are likely to be functions of gender bias and gender differences that pervade systems of education and labour markets in several country settings and may also be instrumental in shaping differences in disparate labour force characteristics across the sexes. In concluding, the issues constitute a basis for the formulation of problems that facilitate prospective research interventions in gender and development issues.



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