

Ethnic Diversity and Social Stratification in Suriname, Cohorts 1940 - 1990

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John Schuster

**Conference on Slavery, Indentured
Labour, Migration, Diaspora and
Identity Formation**

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“Now matter how we came together here, we are pledged to his ground”

- Suriname: History of ethnic diversity
- Result of import of enslaved from Africa and indentured labourers from India, Indonesia, China and free establishments of various others

Conclusions

- Suriname fits general picture of upgrading of educational and occupational stratification → all ethnic groups, different speeds
- Lower educated groups increase faster than higher educated → convergence of educational stratification by ethnicity
- Also convergence of occupational stratification
- Javanese have surpassed both Creoles and Hindustanis in terms of upward social mobility in education and occupation
- Comparison of 2 main groups: Hindustanis lower educated and have lower occupations than Creoles. Both between generations and cohorts

Ethnic diversity of Suriname in comparative perspective

	Fearon	Alesina
SURINAME	0.70 (*)	0.73
Guyana	0.62	0.62
Trinidad & Tobago	0.65	0.65
India	0.81	0.42
Indonesia	0.77	0.74
South-Africa	0.88	-
UK	0.32	0.12
Netherlands	0.08	0.11
* Own calculation		

Alesina, Alberto et al. 2003. "Fractionalization." *Journal of Economic Growth* 8(2): 155–94.

Fearon, James D. 2003. "Ethnic and Cultural Diversity by Country." *Journal of Economic Growth* 8(2): 195–222.

Data

- SurMob2012: ISSP-SR survey 2011-2013; (repeated in 2015-2016 and 2018).
- Nationally representative probability sample, response 79%; N=3929
- Main focus: education, occupation.

ETHNIC HOMOGENY

Table 1a: Ethnicity homogamy of respondents and their partner.

Respondents	Partners								Total
	1 Marroon	2 Natives	3 Hindostani	4 Javanese	5 Creole	6 Mixed	7 Chinese	8 Other	
1 Marroon	419	3	2	3	40	15	0	2	484
2 Natives	1	73	4	2	11	7	0	0	98
3 Hindostani	2	2	768	19	15	32	0	9	847
4 Javanese	4	2	18	418	5	41	0	2	490
5 Creole	27	15	16	12	398	78	2	5	553
6 Mixed	13	10	40	46	84	125	5	4	327
7 Chinese	0	0	0	3	1	3	18	0	25
8 Other	1	0	2	2	3	4	1	13	26
	467	105	850	505	557	305	26	35	2850

Cramers V= 0.689

Table 1b. Ethnicity of father and mother of respondents

Fathers	Mothers								Total
	1 Marroon	2 Natives	3 Hindostani	4 Javanese	5 Creole	6 Mixed	7 Chinese	8 Other	
1 Marroon	694	2	0	2	11	2	0	1	712
2 Natives	1	111	4	1	15	6	0	1	139
3 Hindostani	0	2	1105	8	10	16	1	0	1142
4 Javanese	0	2	4	585	4	14	2	0	611
5 Creole	8	20	26	12	778	58	1	4	907
6 Mixed	5	21	18	24	64	169	2	5	308
7 Chinese	0	1	0	3	3	8	31	1	47
8 Other	1	2	2	4	1	2	0	36	48
	709	161	1159	639	886	275	37	48	3914

Cramers V= 0.808

Table 1c: Ethnic background of respondents that consider themselves "Mixed"

Mothers	Fathers								Total
	1 Marroon	2 Natives	3 Hindostani	4 Javanese	5 Creole	6 Mixed	7 Chinese	8 Other	
1 Marroon	0	2	0	1	3	2	0	0	8
2 Natives	1	1	3	0	14	6	0	0	25
3 Hindostani	0	1	3	6	10	14	1	0	35
4 Javanese	0	1	4	1	4	14	2	0	26
5 Creole	2	18	20	12	4	36	0	1	93
6 Mixed	1	17	15	18	38	161	2	4	256
7 Chinese	0	1	0	3	3	8	1	0	16
8 Other	1	2	2	4	1	1	0	2	13
	5	43	47	45	77	242	6	7	472

Results on ethnic diversity

- There are 5 major ethnic groups and many smaller groups in Suriname
- No ethnic majority (plural society)
 - 29% Hindostani
 - 20% Creole
 - 19% Marroon
 - 16% Javanese
 - 12% regard themselves as “Mixed”
- Strongly endogamous, but this has decreased significantly between respondents and their parents.
- No clear ethnic hierarchy in heterogamy

Research question

- *To what extent is ethnic diversity an ethnic hierarchy?*
 - *Educational and occupational stratification*
- *Which changes are to be noticed here*
 - *comparison between parents and respondents*
 - *between early and later cohorts*
 - *(between first and most recent occupation)?*

Hassankhan et al., 1995 [1992]

- Hindostani have higher socio-economic status than Creoles and Javanese
 - Education
 - Income
 - Luxury good index

Schalkwijk & De Bruijne, 1999 [1992]

- Creoles are higher educated and have better material status than other ethnic groups.
- However, after 1992 Hindostani may have been more upwardly mobile than other group.

Measuring social hierarchies

- Education: measured between 0 (Illiterate) and 14 (University) (Ch2 of my dissertation)
- Occupation: Socio-Economic Index of Surinamese occupations [SR-SEI]. CH1 of my dissertation, published as Sno & Ganzeboom (2017). Ranges between 7 (Subsistence Farmers) and 68 (Professionals).

De Beroepenstratificatie van Suriname: Hotdog of Broodje Pom?

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Samenvatting

Volgens gangbare inzichten zijn beroepshierarchieën wereldwijd en historisch sterk gelijkend (de 'Treiman constante'). In dit paper onderzoeken wij of een landspecifieke schaling (SRSEI) van 39 beroepsgroepen in een in Suriname in 2011-2013 gehouden nationale survey (N=3929) afwijkt van de gangbare internationale schaling (ISEI). Wij vinden drie markante uitzonderingen op de Treiman regel: goudzoekers, hosselende marktverkopers en kostgrondbewerkers. Echter, alleen wat betreft kostgrondbewerkers is een Surinaamse schaling echt een verbetering. Voor marktverkopers gaat het om een classificatiefout en voor goudzoekers is de internationale schaling beter. Voor de overige beroepen vinden we dat de meting van hun sociaal-economische status ca. 5%-9% verbetert door een Surinaamse schaling.

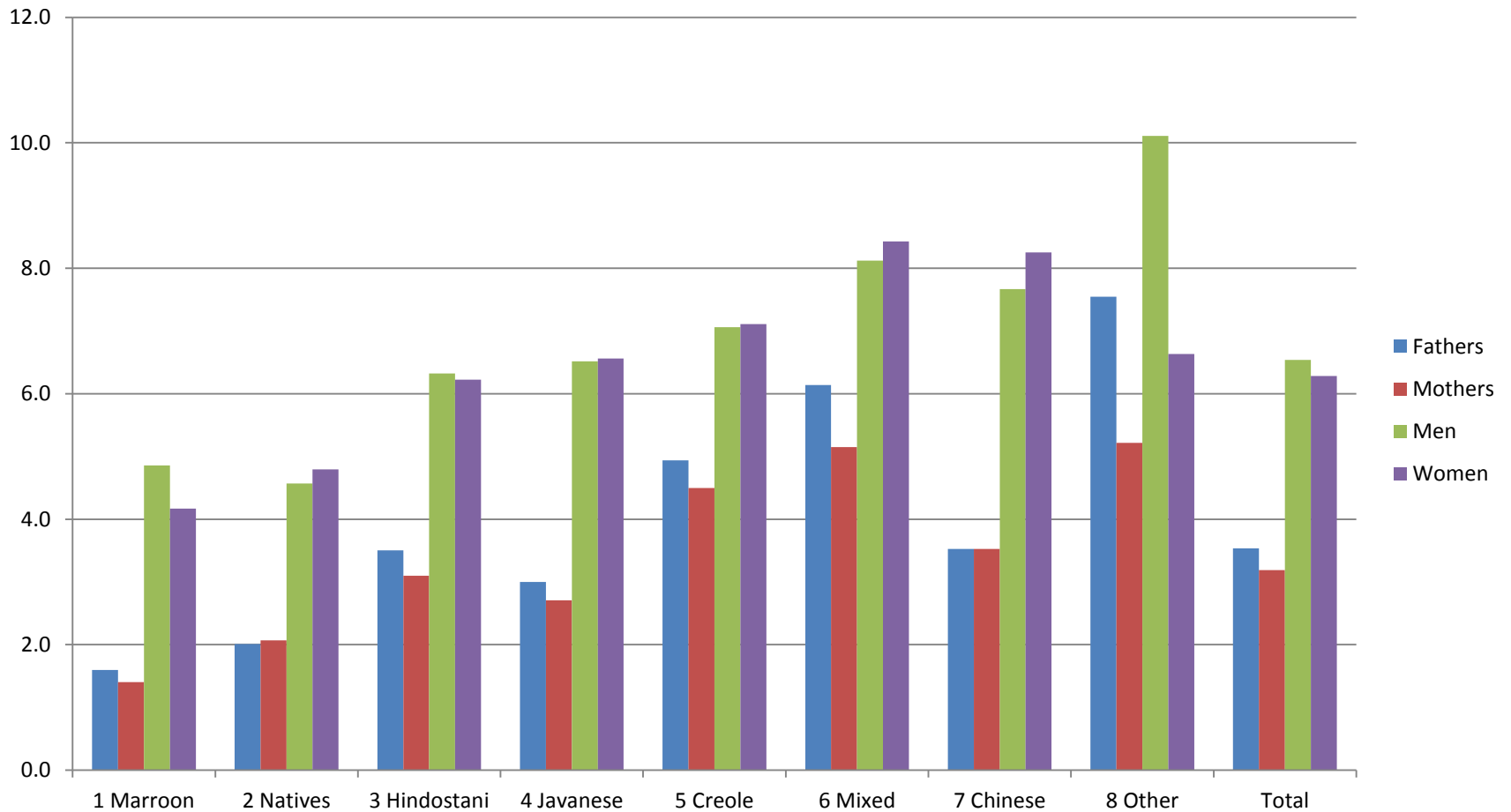
Kernwoorden: beroepenclassificatie, beroepenstratificatie, sociaal-economische status, MTMM-model

EDUCATION

Tabel 2: Education by Gender and Generation

	Men	Women	Fathers	Mothers
0 ILLIT	2.7%	6.0%	23.3	26.5
1 LIT	1.2%	1.2%	8.8	7.3
2 BO	.3%	.3%	.3	.3
3 GLO	24.4%	24.2%	34.4	36.4
4 EBO	.4%	2.0%	.3	1.6
5 LBGO	12.7%	16.6%	8.0	10.3
6 LTO	13.3%	.4%	7.1	.3
7 MULO	14.2%	17.8%	8.9	9.0
8 PI	2.5%	9.7%	1.5	4.4
9 NATIN	9.5%	1.1%	2.1	.5
10 IMEO	4.0%	5.3%	1.4	1.1
11 HAVO	3.2%	3.7%	.6	.5
12 VWO	3.4%	2.7%	.8	.4
13 HBO	3.8%	5.3%	1.5	1.0
14 WO	4.5%	3.8%	.9	.3
	100%	100%	100%	100%
Mean	6.5	6.3	3.5	3.2
Total N	1541	2377	2791	3160

Mean education by generation and gender, ethnic groups



Tabel 3: Mean education by Ethnicity, Generation, Gender and Cohort. Multiple regression pooled over generations of parents and respondents. Education varies between (0) Illiterate and (14) University.

	A	B	C	D	E
	Baseline: Father, cohort 1940	Generational Parents → Respondents	Gender Male → Female	Cohort 1940 → 1990	Result: Men, cohort 1990
Marroon 19%	-0.2	+2.9	-0.7	+3.4	6.1
Native 3%	0.4	+2.6	-0.3	+3.3	6.3
Hindostani 29%	1.4	+3.0	-0.7	+3.8	8.2
Javanese 16%	0.7	+3.7	-0.6	+4.7	9.1
Creole 20%	3.3	+2.5	-0.6	+3.0	8.7
Mixed 12%	4.6	+2.7	-0.8	+2.1	9.4
Chinese 1%	3.2	+4.5	-0.1	+0.2	8.0
Other 1%	7.2	+1.8	-3.3	+1.9	10.8
Average		+2.9	-0.7	+3.4	

Source: SurMob2012, N=3929

OCCUPATION

Tabel 4: Mean First Occupation by Ethnicity, Generation, Gender and Cohort. Multiple regression pooled over generations of parents and respondents. Occupation varies between (7) Subsistence Farming and (68) Professional.

	A	B	C	D	E
	Baseline: Father, cohort 1940	Generational Parents → Respondents	Gender Male → Female	Cohort 1940 → 1990	Result: Men, cohort 1990
Marroon 19%	23.3	+7.4	-12.7	+10.5	41.2
Native 3%	29.6	-0.6	-6.4	+11.1	40.2
Hindostani 29%	25.1	+7.4	-5.2	+10.4	42.9
Javanese 16%	25.5	+8.9	-5.4	+14.2	48.5
Creole 20%	35.0	+5.6	-8.4	+6.0	46.7
Mixed 12%	39.3	+3.4	-5.7	+3.3	46.1
Chinese 1%	46.7	+6.7	-4.0	-14.2	39.2
Other 1%	43.4	+8.5	-9.9	-9.2	42.7
Average		+6.5	-7.3	+8.6	

Source: SurMob2012, N=3929

Conclusions

- Suriname fits general picture of upgrading of educational and occupational stratification → all ethnic groups, different speeds
- Lower educated groups increase faster than higher educated → convergence of educational stratification by ethnicity
- Also convergence of occupational stratification
- Javanese have surpassed both Creoles and Hindustanis in terms of upward social mobility in education and occupation
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*Thank
you*



Comparison of 3 studies

Comparison	Sno	Hassankhan	Schalkwijk
Data collection	2011-2013	1995	1992
Sampling method	Systematic (cluster) stratified sample	Doorstep method	
Sample size	Appr. 4,000	620	Appr.4,000
Welfare level	First and last occupation Occupation of parents at age 12 of respondent Education	Education Occupation Income Possession of luxury goods	Education Occupation, Income, Possession of luxury goods

Comparison (continued)

Comparison	Sno	Hassankhan	Schalkwijk
Respondent	First birthday after a pre-determined date	Last birthday	Head of household
Substitution	In exceptional situations	Yes	Yes
Research area	All districts All ethnic groups	Greater Paramaribo 3 ethnic groups	Greater Paramaribo