SURMOB2012

Family and Social Inequality in Suriname 2011-2013

(includes ISSP MODULE 2009: Social Inequality IV)

Data documentation

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STUDY DESCRIPTION

Study title:	"SurMob2012: Family and Social Inequality in Suriname 2011-2013" *[De Familie- en Gezinssituatie van de Surinaamse Bevolking]*
Fieldwork dates:	August 2011–March 2013
PI:	Tamira E. Sno Harry B.G. Ganzeboom (Co-PI)
Funding:	NUFFIC, The Hague VU University, Amsterdam ADEK University, Paramaribo
Sample type	(A) Stratified random cluster sample of addresses (B) Random person within household (birthday method)
Response:	78%
Fieldwork agency	ADEK University Suriname
Fieldwork Methods	Face-to-face interviews
Sample size	3929
Language	Dutch
Weights	post-stratification (*)

(*) See further below.

The complete data file (described in this documentation), including all the collected information on demography and social background, as well as the standardized ISSP variables has been archived at DANS [Data Archiving and Networked Services] in The Hague, the successor to the Steinmetz Archive. The appropriate bibliographic reference to this file will be:

Sno, Tamira E. & Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. (2013a). "SurMob2012: Family and Social Inequality in Suriname 2011-2013" [machine-readable data file]. The Hague: DANS. To be archived.

Sno, Tamira E. & Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. (2014). "SurMob2012: Family and Social Inequality in Suriname 2011-2013" [data documentation]. Amsterdam: VU University.

Introduction

The SurMob2012 study collected data among 3929 inhabitants of Suriname. The survey covered the following topics:

- Social background, including ethnicity and migration. These items include all compulsory social background variables of the International Social Survey Programme and more.
- Social mobility, i.c. education and first and last occupation of respondents, nearest sibling and partners, as well as education and occupation of father and mother of the respondent.
- Attitudes in social inequality (60 items), as covered by the 2009 Social Inequality IV module of the International Social Survey Programme.

Translation of the ISSP attitudinal and social background items into Dutch was coordinated with the Netherlands and Flanders ISSP partners.

The data were collected to service three projects:

- Nuffic PhD project Social Stratification and Social Mobility in Suriname (Tamira E. Sno);
- Nuffic PhD project Dropout: a Waste of Human Resources? (Regien Riedewald);
- Suriname's participation in the ISSP. The present project is a pilot in this respect, formal participation has started in 2013.

Sample

The sample was obtained from ABS (Statistics Suriname). It consisted of the following steps:

- 63 PSU were randomly selected stratified proportional to size of Suriname's 10 districts * urban/rural subdistricts.
- For each PSU 80 addresses were obtained, using systematic random sampling within PSU (addresses are ordered by location). In the interior, where there is no proper address system, names of head of households substituted the addresses.
- Interviewers obtained a response form with the address / name head of household. In case an address was uninhabited, they were instructed to go for the nearest inhabited dwelling.
- Within household selection was random by a birthday method. Each response form contained a random date and interviewers were instructed to interview the household member whose birthday was first after this random date.

General information

Suriname is located at the north coast of South America, bordering Guyana (west), French Guyana (east) and Brazil (south). Its land surface is appr. 5 times larger than the Netherlands, its total population is appr. 0.54 million inhabitants. Despite being on the South-American continent, Suriname is better conceived of as part of the Caribbean islands than of Latin America, as there are essentially no overland connections to the neighbouring countries. Due to its colonial history, the demographic, linguistic and religious situation is extremely diverse, with no dominating ethnic group, language or religion. The official national language is

Dutch, and Dutch is the language of education, government and most mass media. Most of the population (>90%) lives in the coastal zone, 70% of the population lives in the capital Paramaribo and environs. Part of the scarcely populated interior can only be reached by boat or airplane.

Suriname's demographic situation can be understood best in terms of its migration history.

- Ameri-indians ('Natives') descend from the pre-colonial populations of South-America. There are several Ameri-indians tribes and they use partly unrelated indigenous languages.
- Marroons descend from run-away black slaves in early colonial times. Escape from the plantations in the coastal zone was structured by the rivers. The surviving tribal system and the main languages (all of which are creole languages derived from English, Dutch, Portuguese and African languages) are generated by these rivers.
- Creoles descend from mixtures of blacks and whites since early colonial times. While there is a skin color gradient, there is no substantial group of whites in Suriname.
- Hindustani descend from contract laborers imported from British India (at present India, Pakistan and Bangladesh) after the abolishment of slavery. Part is Muslim, part is Hindu. Hindustani have maintained their own Hindi language (Sarnami).
- Javanese descend from contract labourers from Dutch East India (at present Indonesia). Javanese have also maintained their language and are predominantly Muslim.
- Chinese partly descend from contract labourers imported after abolishment of slavery, but part of the Chinese are recent immigrants from mainland China. As a group, they strongly maintain Chinese identity and Chinese language.
- Other smaller groups include: Lebanese (Christian), Guyanese and Brazilians (recent immigrants from neighbouring countries), Jews and other Caribbean immigrants.

Furthermore, it is important to note that Suriname has known major emigration in the recent past, in particular around and since Independence in 1975. Some 350.000 persons of Surinamese descend live in the Netherlands and an estimated 100.000 in the US and elsewhere in the Caribbean.

Fieldwork

- Use of fieldwork coordinators.
- Substitution

Known problems

- A few interviewers have conducted very large portions of interviews. As a result, interviewer effects may be large. See evaluation of design effects below.
- Part (4%) of the response forms was lost in post-processing, mostly associated with non-response.
- Overrepresentation of women.

- Most occupations were asked with both a pre-coded and an open question format. The intention here was to produce a proper multiple indicator design, but in practice many interviewers have understood that the answers to the two questions were to be made consistent, which beats this purpose.

Post-stratification weights

The file contains three post-stratification weighs

www1 reflects response patterns and is proportional inverse to the response rate by stratum.

www2 reflects response patterns within households and is constructed using information from the household box: position in household, gender, age, education and main activity. The weight is the inverse of response rates per category, being 1 for households with only 1 eligible adult (or no information).

www3 reflects biases relative to known population characteristics, in particular gender, age, and participation in last election (??).

All weights are rescaled to an average of 1.00. The overall weight **www** is constructed as www1 * www2 * www3.

Design efficiency

The efficiency of the sampling design is conditioned by the following factors:
- Stratification by (sub-)district.
- Clustering by PSU.
- Clustering by interviewer effects.
- The post-stratification weights.

The design effect can be different for different characteristics, depending upon the degree of homogeneity with PSU's and biases by interviewers. Table xx provides design effects for 10 important demographics and 10 subjective (attitudinal) variables. Note that design effects are much larger for the attitudinal characteristics, which is primarily due to interviewer effects.

Post-processing

Response forms and completed questionnaires were collected and processed in the office. Questionnaires were entered by an experienced punch typist in SPSS. Response forms were separately entered in Excel and later added to the response file. All entered data were then checked for wild codes and impossible combinations and corrected in post-processing.

String variables were separated from the main data file and organized in 'long' coding files. There are three coding files:
- Occupations (open question) (22498 records)
- 'Other specify...' for education, employers, religion, main activities (1410 records)
- Reasons for dropping out (2472 records).

ISSP 2009

As Suriname seeks entry in the International Social Survey Programma, the questionnaire fully covered the ISSP 2009 module on Social Inequality. Translation of the ISSP questionnaire documents was conducted by ourselves, in consultation with our Belgian ISSP colleague Ann Carton. The translation for the items of both modules was copied from earlier issues of the modules in the Netherlands and Flanders, when appropriate.

Variables list with descriptives

Table 2: Representation by District				
District	Census 2012	Census 2012	Sampling frame	Sample
1 Paramaribo	240924	44.48%	49.4	44.4
2 Wanica	118222	21.83%	17.5	20.5
3 Commewijne	31420	5.80%	4.8	5.2
4 Saramacca	17480	3.23%	3.2	4.1
5 Coronie	3391	0.63%	1.6	1.8
6 Nickerie	34233	6.32%	7.6	8.8
7 Para	24700	4.56%	3.2	3.4
8 Brokopondo	15909	2.94%	3.2	4.0
9 Marowijne	18294	3.38%	3.2	3.6
10 Sipaliwini	37065	6.84%	6.4	4.2
		100%	100%	100%
Total N	541638		5021	3929

Table 3: Representation by Ethnicity			
Ethnicity	Census 2012	Census 2012	Sample
Amerindians	20344	3.76%	3.1
Marroons	117567	21.71%	17.9
Creoles	88856	16.41%	21.7
Hindustani	148443	27.41%	28.4
Javanese	73974	13.66%	15.1
Chinese	7885	1.46%	.8
Whites	1667	0.31%	-
Mixed	72340	13.36%	12.1
Other	10561	1.95%	1.0
		100%	100%
Total N	541637		3929