# Suriname Migrant Situation Analysis

# Baseline Assessment 2023

# MAIN REPORT

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# Foreword/preface MSA

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) implements the Western Hemisphere Program (WHP), generously funded by the United States Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, to strengthen the capacities of governments and key actors in migration management to facilitate orderly, regular, and safe migration and thereby reduce the vulnerabilities of migrants. The WHP's work focuses on four areas: a) migration governance, b) partnerships and cooperation, c) migration emergencies and crises, and d) communication for development.

In context of migration governance, the Ministry of Home Affairs of Suriname requested the support of IOM Suriname to conduct the "Migrant Situation Analysis: Baseline Assessment" project. This project is focused on researching the migrant's situation in Suriname by conducting a baseline assessment of existing data and collection mechanisms in the country.

The Migration Situation Analysis is part of a series of projects aimed at establishing a national migration policy. The data obtained through the Migration Situation Analysis together with other existing documents such as the Needs Assessment on Migration Governance will enable the government of Suriname to formulate a people centered and evidence-based migration policy.

IOM is thankful to the consultant Dr. Rosita Sobhie and her research team for conducting this research as well as to all participants and stakeholders involved.

# Content

# List of Abbreviations

| | |
|---|---|
| AR | Alien Registration |
| AWJ | Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs |
| BIBIS | Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation |
| BMS | Border Management System |
| CARICOM | Caribbean Community |
| CONZA | Administrative Services and Consular Affairs |
| CPA | Central Population Administration |
| CRC | Convention on the Rights of the Child |
| CRO | Civil Registry Office |
| CSME | CARICOM Single Market & Economy |
| DTM | Displacement Tracking Matrix |
| DNV | Directorate for National Security |
| EU | European Union |
| FIBOS | Federation of Special Education Institutions Suriname |
| GB | Gouvernementsblad (Government Gazette) |
| GBS | General Bureau of Statistics |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| HBS | Household Budget Survey |
| IADB | Inter-American Development Bank |
| ICT | Information and Communication Technology |
| ICRMW | International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families |
| IOM | International Organization for Migration |
| ILO | International Labour Organization |
| ILP | Inner Line Permit |
| MICS | Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys |
| MGI | Migration Governance Indicators |
| MiGOF | Migration Governance Framework |
| JUSPOL | Ministry of Justice & Police |
| KV | Short stay (maximum 90 days) |
| LAC | Latin America and the Caribbean |
| LAPOP | Latin American Public Opinion Project |
| MKV | Authorization for Short Stay (more than 90 days) |
| MOP | Multi-Annual Development Plan |
| NCCR | National Coordination Center for Disaster Management |
| OECD | Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| OWC | Ministry of Education, Science and Culture |
| PSA | Persons of Surinamese Origin |
| PAX | Passenger |
| SB | Staatsblad (State Gazette) |
| SDG | Sustainable Development Goals |
| SSLC | Suriname Survey of Living Conditions |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| UNICEF | United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| USA | United Stated of America |

# List of Figures and List of Tables

## List of Figures

## List of Tables

# Chapter 1  Introduction

## 1.1  Objective and scope of the study

The Government of Suriname is committed to improving collection and maintenance of reliable migration data to understand the international migration flows in the country, and further develop policy on migrants in Suriname. It has been noted that information gaps exist in variables such as economic status, educational level, nationalities, language capacities, geographical distribution, vulnerable populations, challenges to accessing basic services, purpose of travel and the extent of irregular migration.

The Government is executing this study with assistance of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Suriname. This study will focus on understanding international migration flows in Suriname through conducting a baseline assessment of existing data and collection mechanisms, but also to determine the scope and scale for the execution of a migrant situation survey as the next step.

In this study, the emphasis will be on the situation of migrants living in Suriname, and the results will include:

1) Findings from the analysis of secondary data about migrant populations in Suriname with georeferenced locations of such populations, background characteristics, identified patterns from historical data and new movements.
2) Situation analysis based on the analyzed administrative and secondary data which includes information about the living conditions, the economic activities and reasons for mobilizing, availability of housing accommodation and support services and, whenever possible, identification of each population's primary needs.
3) Presentation of georeferenced maps including the main locations where migrant populations have been identified.
4) Findings from data collected from (Government) stakeholders through consultations, focus groups and interviews to validate findings from the desk review/data analysis and/or gain insights on displacement patterns and other information.
5) Findings from data collected from migrants through consultations, focus groups and interviews to validate and/or gain insights on settlements, living conditions, economic activities and primary needs.

## 1.2  Stakeholders and contributing partners

The stakeholders and contributing partners identified for this study are:
- Public and private institutions:
    o Ministry of Home Affairs - Civil Registry Office
    o General Bureau of Statistics
    o Ministry of Education, Science and Culture
    o Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation
    o Ministry of Justice and Police (e.g. Counter-Trafficking in Persons Unit, Aliens Affairs department)
    o Ministry of Transportation, Tourism and Communication
    o Ministry of Defense - Military Police Corps
    o Ministry of Health - Bureau of Public Health
    o Ministry of Labour, Employment Opportunities and Youth Affairs - sub-directorate Labour Market

- o Cabinet of the President - Directorate National Security
- o The Medical Mission Primary Healthcare Suriname
- o Planning Office Suriname
- o UN Agencies: IOM/UNICEF/UNFPA/UNDP/UNHCR

- Key informants and migrants to present key findings on living conditions, primary needs and main settlements and concentration of migrant groups.

## 1.3    Methodology and population of interest

The research was carried out by a <u>mixed-method approach</u>, consisting of:

i.    Desk review to get an overview of the existing research reports on Migration in Suriname and for comparison purposes, the Caribbean.

ii.   Quantitative analysis using administrative data and secondary data from surveys and Census population databases.

iii.  Qualitative analysis based on focus groups and in-depth interviews with stakeholders (public and private), key informants and migrants to present key findings on living conditions, primary needs and main settlements and concentration of migrant groups.

The information on the traditional migrant groups was primarily gathered through administrative and secondary data sources, with a quantitative approach in order to establish generalized facts about migrants in Suriname, and present descriptive statistics on relevant variables. On the other hand, the qualitative approach was used for the 'new waves' of migrants by executing in-depth interviews and conducting focus groups to gain insights in opinions, intentions and attitudes from stakeholders and key informants.

The <u>data sources</u> that were used are:

1) Secondary data:
   - Census 2004 and 2012
   - Suriname Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) 2018
   - Suriname Survey of Living Conditions (SSLC) 2016
   - Household Budget Survey (HBS) 2013/2014
   - Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) 2012 and 2014
2) Administrative data from:
   - Civil Registry Office - Ministry of Home Affairs of 2009, 2020 and 2022 by matching 'Central Population Administration database' (CPA) with 'Foreigners database', 'Discharged persons database (Afgevoerdenbestand)' and 'Nationality database'.
   - Statistics from the General Bureau of Statistics such as Annual Demographic Statistics, Traffic and Transport Statistics specifically tourism data received through the Border Management System (BMS) of the Corps Military Police
   - Administrative data collected by key ministries such as:
     - o Ministry of Education, Science and Culture
     - o Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation
     - o Ministry of Justice and Police
     - o Ministry of Transportation, Tourism and Communication
     - o Ministry of Defense
     - o Ministry of Health
     - o Ministry of Labour, Employment Opportunities and Youth Affairs

# Chapter 2  Migration studies and policy framework

This chapter provides a brief overview of migration related studies in the region (Latin America and the Caribbean) and the findings for Suriname in these studies; findings of studies done specifically in Suriname and an overview on how migration is taken up in Suriname's national policy, with the focus on the Multi-Annual Development Plan (MOP).

The studies that have been reviewed for abovementioned purposes are:
1. International/regional studies:
   a. Migration flows in Latin America and the Caribbean: Statistics on Permits for Migrants (IADB, 2021)
   b. Migration, Integration and Diaspora in the Caribbean (IADB, 2023)
2. Studies and data on migration in Suriname:
   a. Suriname Migration Profile: a study on emigration from and immigration into Suriname (IOM, 2015)
   b. Suriname Needs Assessment on Migration Governance (IOM, 2021)
   c. Suriname Migration Governance Indicators (IOM, 2022)
   d. Migration statistics from the General Bureau of Statistics in Suriname (GBS)
3. Policy documents and national reports:
   a. Multi-Annual Development Plan 2022-2026
   b. Suriname's Voluntary National Review on the SDGs, 2022
   c. International Conventions

## 2.1  Migration flows in Latin America and the Caribbean and Suriname in particular

According to the study 'Migration flows in Latin America and the Caribbean', executed by the Migration Unit of the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB, 2021) in collaboration with the Migration Division of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), migration patterns have drastically been changing in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) over the past decade.

Statistics from this study, executed in the period 2014-2019[1], indicate that in 15 LAC countries the traditional migrant movements and motives have changed. The current migration patterns show that there is a sizable and expanding community of various migrants in South America, particularly Haitians. It was also noted that in the period 2014-2019, over one million permits have been issued each year to persons who requested to reside in one of the fifteen countries, which was about 50% more than previous years.

Key findings from this study are:
- Emigration from LAC to OECD countries has increased. Total emigration to regional OECD nations increased by 45% in 2018 (the most recent year for which data are available) compared to 2015. The United States of America, Canada, Spain, Portugal, and the United Kingdom are among the most popular destinations.
- Reorientation of migrant destinations in LAC: non-Latin American immigration fell from 26% to 14% of all immigrants, with the lowest rate of 9% in 2018.

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[1] Data from Inter-American Development Bank and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development about 15 LAC countries (IADB, 2021)

- Total migrants from outside the region decreased by more than 40,000 each year, from almost 250,000 in 2015 to less than 208,000 in 2019. Immigrants from Europe declined the most, by almost 25,000 per year, as well as drops in immigration from other countries. In absolute terms, Asia and North America contribute about 15% each. This reorientation of regional migration patterns shows that LAC is transitioning from a largely emigrant-source area to one that is more mixed, with increased intraregional movements.

It was noted that most statistics of this study are available from administrative records, namely residence permits and visas. Studying migrant patterns based on these data sources will not capture the irregular situations and movements of migrants that are not registered fully. The primary source of data on legal immigration of foreign nationals are the statistics on visas and residence permits. Persons moving across international borders are subject to regulations everywhere and leave a paper trail. These movements include traveling, looking for a job, studying, visiting family, escaping persecution, conflict or unrest in the political or economic system, and relocating. Permission to enter and remain in a country for a predetermined period of time and for a predetermined cause is granted by a visa.

The administrative techniques used in this study to define, and consequently measure immigration, have a number of <u>inherent limitations</u>:
1. The first is, obviously, that immigrants who enter through illegal means are not included in the statistics. Although it would be ideal to include this demographic in a definition of "immigration," few sources can capture it with any precision, and it is at best unhelpful to hold on to a definition of immigration, in order to fulfill the need of including this population.
2. The admission of immigrants and their rights in their current place of residence are plainly dependent on their legal manner of entrance and status; this information is especially relevant for examining how successfully immigrants have been integrated in the labour market and society. Therefore, the characterization of 'illegal' reflects the host country of residents' perspective on immigration rather than that of the immigrants.

The results of this study also show that the number of issued permits is relative compared to population size and varies greatly and, on average, remains low in comparison to OECD levels of issuance. Barbados and Chile had the highest numbers, with 18 and 19 per 1,000 on average for the period (Chile is also an OECD member). None of the other countries in the database have a rate more than 10 per 1,000, and only Panama and Suriname have a rate greater than 5 per 1,000. For OECD nations, the average in the period 2010-2018 was 8 per 1,000, considering only permanent licenses.

The data available for Suriname that are presented in this study are presented in table 1. The percentage of residence permits issued by Suriname was on average 54%. Because the data of the study combines permanent and temporary permits, unless otherwise noted, the totals cannot be properly equated to a migrant flow. The study also indicates that most of the irregular migrants enter Suriname through regular pathways such as visa-free entry and tourist visas.

**Table 1: Statistical overview by type of permits for Suriname**

| Type of permits | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | Average per 1000 pop 2015-2019 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total number of permits (not just permanent residence permits in Suriname) | 3,052 | 3,053 | 6,745 | 2,355 | 2,844 | 6.21 |
| Percentage of total residence permits that are permanent in Suriname | 53% | 53% | 71% | 36% | 35% | 54% |
| Total number of permits granted to extra-regional migrants Suriname | 1,672 | 1,674 | 4,391 | 1,441 | 1,294 | |
| Total number of permits granted to nationals of LAC countries by destination (Suriname) | 1,380 | 1,379 | 2,354 | 914 | 1,550 | |
| Total number of permits granted to nationals of LAC countries | 34 | 26 | 136 | 38 | 27 | |
| Emigration from Latin America and the Caribbean to selected OECD countries | | | | 2,090 | | 2015-2018: 45% |
| **Permits granted by Suriname to citizens of LAC countries** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | |
| Argentina | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Barbados | 1 | - | - | - | - | |
| Brazil | 759 | 759 | 901 | 574 | 488 | |
| Chile | - | - | 2 | - | - | |
| Columbia | 8 | 8 | 10 | 3 | 4 | |
| Ecuador | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | - | |
| Mexico | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | |
| Panama | 5 | 5 | 5 | - | - | |
| Paraguay | | | | 1 | | |
| Peru | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | |
| Uruguay | | | 1 | 1 | | |

Source: IADB Data MIG database, 2021

Another study executed by the IADB in 2023 regarding 'Migration, Integration and Diaspora engagement in the Caribbean' also indicates that migration patterns in the Caribbean changed significantly partly due to factors such as climate change, natural disasters, and also shifts in global mobility patterns. In this study, where Suriname is also part of the analysis, it has been noted that 63% of all immigrants in 2020 are immigrants from other Caribbean countries. The Haitians and Guyanese were the largest immigrant groups within the Caribbean.

Motives for migration according to this study are better living standards and employment opportunities related to higher incomes. Besides these reasons, climate change and natural disasters are also mentioned as important motives of internal, intraregional and extra-regional migration in the Caribbean.

Important findings mentioned in this study regarding the Surinamese situation are:

- Suriname is often used by migrants as a transit point to countries such as Brazil and other South American countries but also the United States of America.
- In the period 2012-2014 on average 54,900 migrants overstayed their visas or other means of legal entry. Almost one third of them were Brazilian nationals and the others had the Dutch, French and Guyanese nationality.
- Guyanese migrants got about 700 new legal residence permits in Suriname between 2015 and 2019, and are therefore the largest immigrant population in Suriname for that period.
- The largest group of immigrants in Suriname are the Guyanese (48%), while immigrants from Brazil, China and the Netherlands are represented in a somewhat smaller percentage.
- The majority of the work permits (78%) in Suriname were granted to migrants from the Netherlands and China.
- The total number of immigrants in Suriname was 28,045, the number of intraregional immigrants was 13,557 and the intraregional share of immigrants and immigrant share of the total population were respectively 48.34% and 4.78%.
- Suriname is mentioned as one of the top 3 countries with the highest numbers (1,988) of asylum seekers.
- The total number of refugees under UNHCR mandate are 19 for Suriname (12 from Venezuela and 7 from Cuba).
- As a member of the CARICOM's Single Market and Economy (CSME), the implementation of the free mobility provisions resulted in 17,464 registered outflows from Suriname in 2017.
- Suriname recruited both Cuban and Philippine health-care professionals to support this sector.
- The permanent residency requirement for Suriname is 5+ years of residence, and the citizenship requirement is: 5+years of residence, but also those who turn 18 years, if they had resided in Suriname for the three years immediately preceding, except in the case of children of foreign diplomats.
- Migrant children with an irregular status must have legal residence to enroll them in school. For these children it becomes more difficult to attend the secondary and tertiary school level.
- The National Basic Health Insurance of Suriname is not available for migrants with an irregular status; they have to pay for health services even though they may fall in the category of free insured under the law (those under 16 years and above 60 years).

## 2.2    Studies and data related to migration in Suriname

Migration Governance Framework: Suriname profile 2022

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) developed the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF) in 2022. The inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the approval of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration, emphasized the need to take advantage of the potential and address the problems that mobility presents.

With the inclusion of objective 10.7 in the 2030 Agenda, it became necessary to describe 'planned and well-managed migration policies'. This Framework enables countries to decide what it may require in order to effectively regulate migration. The Migration Governance Indicators (MGIs) are a standard collection of over 100 indicators designed to help States in evaluating the accuracy of their migration governance frameworks.

The main objectives of this tool are:
   a. The MGI's aim to help Governments, upon request, to take stock of their migration policies and strategies to identify best practices and areas with potential for further development.
   b. The MGI's open dialogues with Governments and other relevant stakeholders to identify priorities on the way forward. With a focus on Government ownership of the process, the MGIs offer support at the national and local levels to gradually improve migration management systems.'

The MGIs are grouped under six dimensions of migration, namely:
   1. Migrants' rights
   2. Whole-of-Government approach
   3. Partnerships
   4. Wellbeing of migrants
   5. Mobility dimensions of crises
   6. Safe, orderly and regular migration

In Suriname, the assessment of the migration governance situation, based on the MiG was coordinated by IOM Suriname and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Development.

Regarding trends in migration the following can be said:
   - In 2013 the majority of the registered foreign-born migrants (41,670) in Suriname were Guyanese, Dutch, Brazilian and Chinese.
   - About 347,631 persons of Surinamese origin emigrated to the Netherlands. French Guiana also became a country of interest as migration destination.
   - Since the start of the twenty-first century the migration balance of Suriname remained positive.
   - The largest groups of Surinamese emigrants are in the Netherlands, followed by French Guiana and the United States of America. Family unification is mentioned as a primary motive to leave Suriname. Besides, a lot of emigrants also leave the country for employment purposes.

With regard to the institutional and regulatory framework it is mentioned in the assessment that Suriname has no clear outlined migration policy. The existing legal framework on migration consists of regional treaty laws, bilateral treaty laws and national laws. Also, Suriname has bilateral agreements with 37 countries whose citizens are eligible for a tourist card and a visa waiver agreement with 28 countries. Most registered labour migrants were Chinese, Guyanese and Dutch, with more male applicants. Most of the work permits were for jobs in large and small commerce, restaurants, and hotels.

According to this assessment, irregular migration or uncontrolled situations, as well as visa overstays occurred frequently. Migrants (irregular) enter Suriname via airflights as well as through the East and West borders of Suriname. In the period 2013 - 2015, most of the overstayers were Brazilians (15,921), Dutch (12,845) and French (10,338) migrants. The number of human traffic cases reported in the period 2009 - 2013 was 18 cases with a total of 38 victims.

This assessment also pointed out that migrant children have free and easy access to primary and junior secondary school. Senior secondary and tertiary education is more difficult to attend, because of the documents that are needed for enrollment e.g. residence permit, registration at the Civil Registry Office.

Regarding access to health care migrants living in Suriname should have access to the National Basic Health Insurance, because the law states that '*every resident of Suriname is responsible for financing the expenses of personal health care, and is for this matter obliged to at least obtain the basic health insurance*'[2]. Migrants have to arrange private health insurance and are not provided health insurance of which the premium is covered by the Government.

Suriname Needs Assessment on Migration Governance 2021

This study was supported by IOM Suriname and provides information on the structures and policies regulating migration governance, and identifying priority areas to strengthen Government capacity to manage migration in Suriname in an effective way.

The results of this report are structured in six sections, namely:

1. Migration Policies and Adherence to International Standards
2. Migration and Border Management
3. Migration Management in Situations of Emergencies and Disasters
4. Migrant Protection and Assistance
5. Migration and Health
6. Labour Migration and Human Development

Based on the key findings, the following recommendations were made:

i. Adopt advanced border control tools, including e-passports and the collection of biometric data.
ii. Develop an inter-institutional coordination mechanism for border management and safety.
iii. Create an integrated system for the data collection and analysis of migration data.
iv. Support in the development and promotion of training across all ministries on key concepts and trends related to migration in Suriname and in the region.
v. Develop legislation, policies and procedures related to refugees to ensure refugee identification and protection.
vi. Collect data to determine migrants' access to and use of the public health system and the specific health needs of migrants.
vii. Revise the legislation on compulsory education to include requirements for all children, including migrant children, irrespective of migration status, to attend school until they are at least age of 16 years.
viii. Develop a comprehensive migration policy that includes specific division of tasks regarding migration crises and disaster management.
ix. Collect data on migrant populations in conditions of vulnerability.
x. Develop a national labour policy to manage the supply and demand of skilled and unskilled foreign labour in the country, following ethical recruitment principles.
xi. Establish an inter-ministerial committee for labour migration.
xii. Strengthen the Labour Market Information System to identify the type of skills and occupations in the labour market, and develop mechanisms to conduct regular labour market analyses on skills supply and demand, including for foreign labour.
xiii. Conduct a labour assessment to identify the type of missing skillsets and occupations in the labour market in order to engage with the diaspora to attract those skills.
xiv. Develop specific guidelines or conduct a baseline study on how to reduce migration irregularity and transition to formality.

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[2] National Basic Health Insurance law, S.B. 2014, No. 114, Article 3, Section 2

xv. Conduct research on the number of migrants with an irregular status participating in the labour market to determine the scope of the irregular labour force.

xvi. Develop mechanisms to provide reception and reintegration assistance to forced returnees with a Surinamese nationality.

National migration data from the General Bureau of Statistics

According to the country's official immigration and emigration figures from 1972 to 2013 (table 2a), the substantial negative migration balance in 1974, 1975, 1979, and 1980 was the primary reason of the population drop at the time. The population decreased by 24,300 people according to the Census of 1972 and 1980, from 379,607 to 355,240. There was a significant departure excess in that time compared to previous years. With the exception of 1982, the last time there was a settlement surplus, there was a positive migration balance from 2006 to 2013. With 7,183 immigrants in 2010, immigration was at an all-time high. Immigration played a significant role in Suriname's economic growth since 2000. Looking at Suriname's current migration statistics, we observe a positive migration balance from 2018 to 2021. As a result, more individuals have moved to Suriname than have left. The balance was significantly smaller in 2020 and 2021 (the so-called 'Covid-19 years').

**Table 2a: Immigration, emigration and net migration, 1972-2013**

| Year | Immigration | Emigration | Net Migration | Year | Immigration | Emigration | Net Migration |
|------|-------------|------------|---------------|------|-------------|------------|---------------|
| 1972 | 2,615 | 8,490 | -5,875 | 1993 | 2,007 | 9,083 | -7,076 |
| 1973 | 2,442 | 11,098 | -8,656 | 1994 | 1,393 | 3,909 | -2,516 |
| 1974 | 3,066 | 17,902 | -14,836 | 1995 | 1,316 | 2,691 | -1,375 |
| 1975 | 3,959 | 39,699 | -35,740 | 1996 | 1,618 | 3,640 | -2,022 |
| 1976 | 5,345 | 5,757 | -412 | 1997 | 2,074 | 3,481 | -1,407 |
| 1977 | 2,981 | 4,786 | -1,805 | 1998 | 2,045 | 4,622 | -2,577 |
| 1978 | 2,323 | 7,388 | -5,065 | 1999 | 2,499 | 3,139 | -640 |
| 1979 | 1,916 | 18,162 | -16,246 | 2000 | 1,446 | 3,801 | -2,355 |
| 1980 | 2,282 | 18,988 | -16,706 | 2001 | 1,074 | 3,607 | -2,533 |
| 1981 | 2,858 | 4,432 | -1,574 | 2002 | 1,403 | 3,517 | -2,114 |
| 1982 | 3,605 | 3,431 | 174 | 2003 | 1,696 | 3,555 | -1,859 |
| 1983 | 2,805 | 5,225 | -2,420 | 2004 | 1,590 | 3,078 | -1,488 |
| 1984 | 3,393 | 3,488 | -95 | 2005 | 2,175 | 2,360 | -185 |
| 1985 | 1,902 | 5,321 | -3,419 | 2006 | 2,639 | 1,920 | 719 |
| 1986 | 2,129 | 5,311 | -3,182 | 2007 | 2,484 | 2,072 | 412 |
| 1987 | 1,660 | 6,547 | -4,887 | 2008 | 4,183 | 2,332 | 1,851 |
| 1988 | 1,738 | 4,130 | -2,392 | 2009 | 3,863 | 2,279 | 1,584 |
| 1989 | 2,386 | 5,653 | -3,267 | 2010 | 7,183 | 2,050 | 5,133 |
| 1990 | 2,182 | 8,416 | -6,234 | 2011 | 4,917 | 2,135 | 2,782 |
| 1991 | 2,297 | 8,288 | -5,991 | 2012 | 4,284 | 1,881 | 2,403 |
| 1992 | 2,905 | 8,328 | -5,423 | 2013 | 4,153 | 1,729 | 2,424 |

Source: Adjusted data from the Civil Registry Office Suriname

**Table 2b: Migration data for Suriname, 2013-2021**

| Year | Immigration | Emigration* | Net migration | Gross migration | Ratio net migration to gross migration |
|------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| **2013** | 4,153 | 1,729 | 2,424 | 5,882 | 0.4121 |
| **2014** | 3,984 | 1,809 | 2,175 | 5,793 | 0.3754 |
| **2015** | 4,774 | 1,801 | 2,973 | 6,575 | 0.4522 |
| **2016** | 3,276 | 2,061 | 1,215 | 5,337 | 0.2277 |
| **2017** | 2,367 | 1,905 | 462 | 4,727 | 0.1081 |
| **2018** | 4,850 | 2,335 | 2,515 | 7,185 | 0.3500 |
| **2019** | 5,054 | 2,481 | 2,573 | 7,535 | 0.3415 |
| **2020** | 2,956 | 2,175 | 781 | 5,131 | 0.1522 |
| **2021** | 2,772 | 2,337 | 435 | 5,109 | 0.0851 |

Sources: General Bureau of Statistics (Demographic data), Civil Registry Office Suriname and Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) Netherlands

*With corrections from CBS Netherlands

## 2.3    Suriname's policy framework on migration

### 2.3.1. Migration laws and conventions

According to the Suriname Needs Assessment on Migration Governance (2021), Suriname has ratified six out of nine human rights treaties. The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families; the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances for example have not been ratified by the Surinamese Government.

In the Needs Assessment, the main migration-related legislation in Suriname has been ~~listen~~ listed:

    i.    Aliens Act (1992),
   ii.    Aliens Decree (1995),
  iii.    Work Permit Aliens Act (1981),
  iv.    Penal Code (2015),
   v.    Persons of Surinamese Descent Act (2014),
  vi.    Law Safety and Security Civil Aviation (2002) and the
 vii.    Passenger and Crew List Transfer Act (2016)

The table below provides an overview of the international conventions regarding migration that have been ratified by Suriname:

**Table 3: International conventions ratified in Suriname**

| | Convention Name | Ratified (yes/no) + year |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | International Labour Organization (ILO) Migration for Employment Convention (revised), 1949 (no. 97) | No |
| 2 | United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (also known as the Refugee Convention), 1951 | Yes, 1987 |
| 3 | United Nations Convention on Statelessness, 1954 and 1961 | No |
| 4 | ILP Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (no. 143) | No |
| 5 | Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC), 1989 | Yes (1993) |
| 6 | International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW),1990 | No |

Besides these conventions, Suriname is party to the following labour migration mechanisms:

1. The Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (ratified 2003), to reflect the new community structures, and to move CARICOM from a Common Market to a Single Market and Economy.
2. The Agreement between CARICOM and the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica (signed 2005), regarding the labor-related clauses to facilitate the temporary entry of workers in countries party to the agreement.
3. Economic Partnership Agreement between the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) member states and the European Union (EU), signed and entered into force in 2008.

### 2.3.2 Multi-Annual Development Plan 2022-2026

In the Multi-Annual Development Plan 2022-2026, the following is taken up regarding Migration:

'There is almost no movement in the birth and death rates. The natural increase in the years 2017-2019 was almost stationary at about 6,000 persons, while the birth rate was about 10,000 over the same period. It can therefore be concluded that the growth of the population was mainly supported by migration developments. In the period 2012-2019, there was a strong increase in migrants, immigration figures increased by approximately 18% in 2019 compared to 2012, and emigration figures also increased by approximately 32%. Regarding migration policy, it is necessary to take measures regarding the immigration flow of people with low education. Policymakers should encourage that higher educated people share their knowledge and experience with the Surinamese people. Statistics in the area of migrants should be improved, it is still not known how many irregular migrants live and work in the country.'

In Suriname, sectors that make the largest contribution to foreign exchange earnings and GDP, have a very small contribution to employment opportunities. A primary development and employment challenge is the underutilization of labour, including unemployment of women, people from the Interior and dropouts. People skilled at management level leave the country due to lack of suitable jobs and the (deteriorated) socio-economic conditions. An increasing group of irregular immigrants such as Guyanese, Haitians, Brazilians, Cubans and suchlike enter the country and usually find work in the informal sector.

Strategic actions mentioned regarding migrants are:

i. Shorter procedures (including for work permits) for high skilled migrants who are employable in various manufacturing sectors and in higher education institutions.
ii. Introduction of the 'citizenship by investment' model.
iii. Promoting the sustainable integration of immigrants through introducing and implementing compulsory civic integration courses for migrants who do not speak the Dutch language.

### 2.3.3 Cooperation with the International Organization for Migration

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is one of the main organizations working on the migrant situation in Suriname. There is a close collaboration with Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation (key counterpart), and active engagement with other ministries and institutions e.g. Ministry of Justice and Police, Ministry of Defense, Directorate National Security and the National Coordination Center for Disaster Management (NCCR). Suriname has been a member of IOM since 2014 and has carried out several projects with this organization, including: (i) drafting the Suriname Migration Profile; (ii) Mapping of the Diaspora Engagement, Skills Gap Assessment Report; (iii) Effective and Sustainable Diaspora Engagement in the Caribbean; (iv) organizing the Remittance Workshop; (v) drafting the Migration Governance Needs Assessment Suriname and (vi) executing the Displacement

Matrix Tool: flow monitoring survey during COVID-19.[3]

As mentioned before, migration is a complex area of work. Main challenges and bottlenecks in the cooperation and implementation with regard to Government institutional and implementation capacity, endorsement of policy and data availability are limited due to insufficient technical capacity and human resources. Because migration management is with the Government institutions, a migration management training was provided by IOM to Government stakeholders. Migration also has multi-sectoral aspects and therefore impacts the capacity of the sector ministries. The IOM Suriname made efforts to mobilize more funds for Suriname and has been successful. It has also worked on building working relations with the different sector ministries and identifying focal points in the respective ministries.

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[3] The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a methodology developed by IOM and used in emergency situations and disasters when migrants are on the move. The DTM is anonymous and looks into the migration trajectory of migrants and if they will move on or stay where they are.

# Chapter 3    Responsible Ministries and other (public) Institutions

In this section an overview is presented of the ministries and (public) institutions working on migration policy or (in)directly involved with processes and procedures for migrants. This section provides insight in the responsibilities of the ministries and institutions regarding migrants and migration policy, what data are collected and how data are used or shared with other stakeholders. The information in this chapter was gathered through review of available documents and interviews with officials from the various ministries and institutions.

## 3.1    Coordination of migration policy in Suriname

As mentioned before, migration has multi-sectoral aspects and therefore has an impact on the capacity of different ministries. In April-May 2023, the Government of Suriname established an 'Inter-ministerial Commission for International Migration' with representatives of the key Ministries and semi-government Institutions namely:

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation, who chairs the Commission
2. The Ministry of Justice and Police
3. The Ministry of Defense
4. The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture
5. The Ministry of Home Affairs
6. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing
7. The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs
8. The General Bureau of Statistics
9. The Anton de Kom University of Suriname
10. The Public Prosecution Office
11. The Directorate for National Security (Office of the President)

Furthermore, representatives of the following Ministries/semi-government Institutions take part in working groups that support the work of the Commission:

a. The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
b. The Ministry of Natural Resources
c. The Ministry of Regional Affairs and Sports
d. The Ministry of Finance and Planning
e. The Ministry of Health
f. The Ministry of Economic Affairs, Entrepreneurship and Technological Innovation
g. The Suriname Coast Guard

In the following paragraphs, the responsibilities of the Ministries and Institutions related to migration policy will be elaborated on.

## 3.2 Ministry of Education, Science and Culture

The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (OWC) is responsible for the development and implementation of policies related to education, science and culture in Suriname. One of the primary objectives of the Ministry is to ensure that all Surinamese citizens have access to quality education, regardless of their social-economic background. The education system in Suriname is run by the Government (owner of 90% of all educational facilities), followed by religious denominations-organized under the umbrella foundation 'Federation of Special Education Institutions Suriname' (FIBOS), and private educational organizations and institutions. The curriculum in the FIBOS schools is the same as in the public schools.

In Suriname, the education system consists of pre-primary, primary, junior and senior secondary schools, which also includes technical and vocational education as well as higher or tertiary (technical/ vocational) education. Pre-primary school (grades 1 and 2) is a two-year program for children aged four and five and is part of primary school. Currently, pre-primary school is not compulsory.

The Ministry ensures:

i. the design and evaluation of the curriculum for primary and secondary education, as well as the development of educational standards, competencies and the curriculum framework is based on the renewed educational vision of the Ministry.
ii. the guidance of and support for teachers, and where necessary, in the implementation of the educational curriculum.
iii. the development, supervision of the implementation and evaluation of the curriculum for special education.
iv. the monitoring of the implementation of education. Data from the education field are collected and processed and the conclusions are presented in research reports.
v. organization of education in nationwide.
vi. monitoring of the quality of education and compliance with UNESCO-standards.

**Key findings related to migrants and migration policy:**

1. The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has a policy that every school aged child should have access to education. The Ministry guarantees education to in such a way that no one is left behind and all school-aged children, both nationals and migrant children, are enrolled in the school system. The education policy underlines that children in the age group 6-11 years old are compulsory to attend school.
2. Children with a migrant background are registered through the Inspectorate and the teachers in the schools' support and facilitate the children because they cannot speak Dutch at the beginning.
3. Most of the time the child is enrolled in schools around the residential area, unless the parents make a request for a school in the area where the parents work. In that case, the Inspectorate gives permission.
4. The documents needed to enroll a migrant child are:
a. A civil registry form issued by the Civil Registry Office. If the child or the child's parents are non-resident or are not registered at the Civil Registry Office, the schools will accept at least the family book;
b. a passport of the migrant child(ren) who do(es) not have a civil registry form;
c. an old report card from their previous school, even if that report is not a grade list from a Surinamese school;
d. a family book;
e. a photo of the child(ren);
f. a vaccination card;
g. a depreciation letter (afschrijvingsbrief) from the previous school if the child is older than 4 years old; and
h. a completed registration form for enrollment.

5. In case the migrant child has none of the documentations mentioned above, the school principal is still obliged to register the child, but with the agreement that within a certain time period the parent will provide the school with the needed documentation.
6. According to the Ministry, if the parents are unable to provide the documentation, the continuation of education starting from senior secondary level becomes challenging because the documentation such as residence permit and registration at the Civil Registry Office is needed. Migrant parents can be late in requesting the residence permit due to lack of information and/or a language barrier.
7. Most of the migrant children do not have their vaccination card with them and usually indicate that they left it in their country of origin. It also happens that the children do not have a medical insurance.
8. Most of the primary schools where children of migrants are enrolled are located in the districts Paramaribo (North and South), Saramacca, Wanica, Nickerie and Marowijne. Some examples of these schools where for example children from Brazilian families have been enrolled are:
   - OS Tourtonne 3 at Max Woiskistraat, Blauwgrond, Paramaribo
   - Renckewitzschool at Wicherstraat, Combe, Paramaribo
   - OS Maretraite at Wilhelminastraat, Maretraite, Paramaribo.
   - In the areas of Kwatta, Sophia's Lust and the district Saramacca, children from Haitian families have been identified. Children of Guyanese families are enrolled in Nickerie, Paramaribo South and Wanica.
9. Collaboration between Ministry's departments and schools: there is a good collaboration between the Inspectorate, the Research and Planning department, Curriculum Development department and the schools. There are also teachers who translate for migrant children until these children are able to understand and speak some Dutch or Sranan Tongo. During parents' information days, the parents come with someone who is proficient in the Dutch language and who can translate for the parents.
10. Other departments of the Ministry namely the Literacy and Adult Education department have a program in which non-Dutch speakers can attend a course in the Dutch language for a year.
11. It has been recommended that the Ministry of OWC works closely with the Ministry of Health to determine how to deal with the circumstance of the migrant child who is unable to provide the vaccination card.
12. Regarding the legal status of a migrant child, there should also be a collaboration with the Alien Affairs department of the ministry of Justice and Police.
13. For the civil registration form, family book and/or passport and even the marital status of the parents, there should be close collaboration with the Civil Registry Office.
14. Collaborating with the various embassies and the ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation is important also.
15. Although the Research and Planning department does not publish any data regarding the nationality of migrant children, the Inspectorate does have this information, because they receive the information from the schools. The Research and Planning department is making efforts to include this information in their database. The secondary (junior and senior) schools are more active in digitizing the data, but primary schools have challenges. The data could be obtained from the Inspectorate, but the willingness of the primary schools to provide data is not optimal.

**Variables from the enrollment data of migrant children that can be retrieved are:**
   1. Family name
   2. First name
   3. Birth date
   4. Birthplace
   5. Nationality
   6. Religion
   7. Address
   8. Neighborhood

9. Name of the father and or the mother
10. Telephone number
11. Occupation
12. Employer of both mother and father
13. Family composition
14. -Mother language

**Summary of interviews with teachers at primary school level**

Information gathered from two teachers from a primary school in Paramaribo-North provided insights about migrant children that have been enrolled in their school. Most of these children are Brazilians, Guyanese, Cubans (in the last 3 years this group has been increasing), Venezuelans and Haitians. Some of these children are born in Suriname, or these children have one parent who is Surinamese. Some of the children do not understand Dutch or even Sranan Tongo.

Besides the fact that the documents that need to be submitted for enrollment are incomplete, the teachers also mentioned that sometimes the parents of the migrant children go for work in the Interior or return to their country of origin for a certain period, but do not inform the school about the child's absence. It is a rule of the ministry of OWC that if a child does not attend school for 2 weeks straight without a notice from the parents, the child is expelled. What happens is that when the parents return to Suriname or come back from the Interior, they bring their children back to school but are then informed that their child is not enrolled anymore.

In these cases, the parents approach the Inspectorate to request their child to be enrolled again. This system just does not work according to the teachers. Ultimately the periods of absence of the child lead to the child not finishing the class and dropping out of school.

It should be noted that there are no separate classes for migrant children, they are in the same class as the Surinamese children, making it very hard for them to attend the classes in the beginning of their enrollment. Most of the time, the teacher supports the child using google translate, but this is extra work for the teachers, and this works for some subjects, but not for all e.g. this is not working for the subject Language. It has been recommended that all migrant children should take a mandatory Dutch class, before they can be enrolled. Both teachers highlighted the importance of having clear procedures for enrolling migrant children. The school reports information about migrant children is provided annually to the Inspectorate.

In the schoolyear 2022/2023, the OS Tourtonne 3 primary school, enrolled 17 migrant children in kindergarten level A (Kleuter A), and 12 in kindergarten level B (Kleuter B), and there are many more in the other classes; these 29 children were new enrollments. Since the schoolyear 2022/2023, the Renckewitz primary school, enrolled 15 new migrant children of different ages who are mostly Cubans and Brazilians. Some of the children do speak Dutch or Sranan Tongo.

It was noted by the teachers that if children are older than 4 or 5 years, it takes more time for them to learn the language.

**Key points for future migration surveys**

If information on nationality of migrant children is needed for the migrant survey, this is available and can be provided with permission of the Inspectorate. Based on the information from the Inspectorate or the schools e.g. the addresses and areas where migrant children stay can be determined.

## 3.3    Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs

### 3.3.1 Key findings related to migrants and migration policy

The mission of the ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs (Ministry of Labour) is to ensure sustainable development by establishing a healthy, productive, development-oriented and safe labour market within the framework of the democratic constitutional State, in which employers, employees and their national and international counterparts can fully contribute and fulfill their role.

Since it is the task of every Government to ensure that there are sufficient conditions for creating and/or promoting employment, the current policy is to offer continuous education and training to acquire knowledge and skills to meet the national and international demands and standards of a changing world. The ministry has the following departments related to migration policy:

1.  sub-directorate Labour Market: this sub-directorate has an Employment department, which in turn is divided in the Labour Mediation section and the Foreigners Work Permit section. Furthermore, the Labour Market Development, Labour Statistics and Labour Market Analysis departments also fall under this sub-directorate.
2.  sub-directorate for Legal & International Affairs:
    a.  The sub-directorate Legal and International Affairs has three departments: Labour Law, International Affairs and Collective Labour Agreement Registration.
    b.  The Labour Law department is in charge, among other things, with the preparation and design of national labour laws and regulations and continuous evaluation of the application of labour law as a feedback function for the legislative activity.

The policy of the ministry of Labour (2022-2026), has the following focus areas:

i.    Modernization of laws, regulations and compliance regulations
ii.   Inclusiveness in the labour market
iii.  Promoting entrepreneurship
iv.   Upgraded and operationalize a functional Labour Market Information System
v.    Promoting cooperatives
vi.   Combatting unemployment, child labour and social insecurity

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**Key findings from ministry of Labour related to migrants and migration policy:**

1.  Special attention is given by the Ministry of Labour to 'leave no one behind', especially minority and vulnerable groups, which **migrants** are considered to be part of. Efforts are made for these groups, especially to facilitate participation in the labour market. Within this framework, policy areas have been identified, and long and short-term goals have been proposed for these groups.
2.  Some of the expected achievements from the policy of the Ministry regarding inclusive growth, employment, and decent work within the scope of SDG 8, <u>which are related (indirectly) to migrants, are</u>:
    -   Regionally distributed and inclusive development to guarantee employment and entrepreneurship
    -   Increase tourists by 50,000, resulting in the creation of 9,000 new jobs
    -   Modest estimates show that in 2025, approximately 12,328 jobs will have to be filled compared to 2019, and in 2050 at least 38,489 jobs compared to 2025.
3.  Draft effective labour legislation to ensure job security, decent jobs and equal payments.

4. The policy areas of the Multi-Annual Development Plan 2022-2026 call for the following actions to keep up with the upcoming demand for employment and are directly related to labour migrants:
   - Promoting and providing geographically dispersed socio-economically acceptable employment (so-called 'decent work') that can achieve sufficient upward mobility.
   - Due to the offshore oil discoveries, an influx of foreign expats is expected. In order to ensure that all employment in this sector is not filled in by only foreign workers but also by locals, it is advisable to substantially invest in sector-related education and training for nationals.
   - Shorter procedures (e.g. for work permits) for high skilled migrants and expats who can be deployed in various production sectors and in higher education institutions.
   - Implementing a mechanism to allow the so-called 'citizenship by investment' to enter the Surinamese system. Through this model an individual can acquire Surinamese citizenship by making a specific investment in Suriname. The investment must meet at least a few predefined conditions, such as the level of investment, the sector in which investments are made and the technology that is imported.

5. The main tasks of the ministry of Labour are to develop and implement inclusive labour market policies, regulate and monitor compliance by legal provisions on labour disputes and labour protection. Furthermore, the Ministry develops wage policies and regulations to ensure just and decent payment for all, and supervise that employers have a safe working environment.

6. For migrants there is a special unit where they can submit their request for a work permit as well as be part of the training courses that are offered by the Foundation for Productive Work Units (SPWE) of the Ministry.

7. The migration policy of the ministry of Labour relates to the following legislation:
   a. the Aliens Work Permit Act (S.B. 1981 No. 162)
   b. the Ministerial Decision regarding determination work permit request form (S.B. 1982 No. 60)
   c. the Ministerial Decision regarding documentary evidence to be submitted (S.B. 1982 No. 59)
   d. the Ministerial Decision regarding powers of the headquarters work permits (S.B. 1983 No. 107)
   e. the Minimum Decision Test Basic Language Knowledge and Society (S.B. 2021 No.14) or as of 2023 known as the Induction Foreign Workforce with the aim to protect Aliens against Human Trafficking
   f. the Ministerial Decision regarding groups of aliens "exempted" from a work permit (S.B. 1983 No. 108)
   g. the Law on determination of costs for the application of the work permit (S.B. 2002 No. 23)
   h. the State Decree regarding CARICOM citizens 'exempt' from work permits (according to Treaty of Chaguaramas) (S.B. 2003 No. 38) and
   i. the Resolution related to determination of Special rate for Foreign nationals working in the Gold, Wood and Oil sector (S.B. 2015 No. 115)

8. Some of the ratified international conventions that guide the policies of the ministry of Labour are[4]:
   a. the International Labour Organization (ILO) Migration for Employment Convention (revised), 1949
   b. the United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, 1951
   c. the United Nations Convention on Statelessness, 1954 and 1961
   d. The ILP Migrant Workers (supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975
   e. the Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC), 1989
   f. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, 1990

9. In the context of the implementation of Article 8 paragraph 2 of the ILO Convention on Private Employment Agencies, 2000 (no. 181), Suriname is required to maintain contacts with the sending countries who are sending migrant workers to Suriname. The aim is to prevent exploitation and illegality. Contact has now been made with the Philippine ministry of Labour to enter into a 'labour cooperation agreement'.

   Similar agreements will be considered with situation relevant countries in the coming period. In this regard, the Parliament has already approved the adjustment of the Aliens Work Permit Act, namely the Work by Aliens Act.

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[4] Information provided by the Legal Department of the ministry of Labour

10. Due to intensified activities of transnational organized crime and migration movements, forced labour has changed its face through modern slavery, smuggling and human trafficking. The ministry of Labour is regarded as one of the most important policy actors that must take measures against this form of crime. Policy management takes place through policy participation in the inter-ministerial Working Group Trafficking in Persons chaired by the ministry of Justice and Police.
    Enforcement progress will be monitored on the basis of the Procedure and Guidelines for Reporting Suspected Cases of Human Trafficking. The Ministry will provide tailored-made training in the field of forced labour and human trafficking through peer-to-peer education.
11. The Work Permit department of the Ministry of Labour has two sections, namely the Section Work Permit for Aliens and the Section Labour Mediation. These sections are separated, whereas the first section supports aliens looking for work and the second section is for all Surinamers looking for work. There is also the Labour Statistics department which provides data on migrants for the Labour Statistics report. Furthermore, the Legal department is responsible for policy related issues regarding migrants and the Labour Inspection department assists in the investigations at the companies which apply for work permits.
12. Regarding the migrants there is a very good collaboration between the Work Permit department and the Inspection department of the ministry of Labour, the Aliens Affairs department of the ministry of Justice and Police, the employees and employers. The documents necessary to apply for a work permit are the first residence permit (verblijfsvergunning) of the migrant that they receive from the Aliens Affairs department (Vreemdelingenzaken) of the ministry of Justice and Police. For the first resident request, the migrant will not have a job yet, but once they live in Suriname for a while, they do require a work permit. The Alien Affairs department often calls the Work Permit department to ask about the work status of the migrant, when they have received a request for a resident permit.

**The work permit consists of the following variables/information:**
1. Family name and First name
2. Birth date
3. Birth place
4. Country of birth
5. Sex
6. Marital status
7. Nationality
8. Passport number, Country of issue and Expiration date
9. Educational level (highest)
10. Place of origin
11. Date of arrival
12. Address
13. Do you have a residence permit
14. Did you request for a residence permit
15. Information about the employee (company)
16. Name, type of company, address and telephone number
17. Information about the workplace
18. Position
19. What work is done
20. Gross salary
21. Other compensations
22. Date and entry

**Variables (data) that are not available or not collected:**

1. Family status: there are no data available regarding the family status of the migrant, so it is unknown if they came to Suriname with their family or alone. However, their marital status is asked.
2. Medical insurance: there are also no data available about the medical insurance of the migrant.
3. Bank accounts or Credit cards: data regarding the salaries and the way the migrant receives their payment are collected, but information if the migrants have a bank account or credit card is not available. The way they received their monthly salary (in cash or by bank submission) is not registered.
4. Living conditions of the migrants: the Work Permit department collects information about the employer, the type of business, but not about the living situation of the migrants. As reported by the interviewed officials, this part is covered by the ministry of Justice and Police since this is part of their research for granting a residence permit.

**Summary focus group with Work Permit department: employment procedures for alien workers**

The work permit is a tool to organize employment in Suriname. The basis for implementing the policy for the admission of alien workers to the Surinamese labour market is the Aliens Work Permits Act, which makes it compulsory to have a work permit for the employment of alien workers.

The purpose of this law is to regulate the influx of foreigners by establishing specific criteria for admission. One of these, the most common, is not having or expecting local supply for specific functions or professions.

According to the officials of the Ministry, the current situation on the labour market is one where there is a shortage of workers in sectors where high technical skills are needed. The shortage is attributed to the fact that local workers primarily do not have the required skills and/or experience for certain functions or professions. These shortages are experienced in many economic sectors, which means that companies have an increasing need to fill the shortage with foreign workers. The statistics produced by the Ministry support the aforementioned and identifies the main sectors where there is a shortage. Tables 4a/b and 5a/b provide a breakdown by occupation and sector.

The shortage concerns, among others, the areas of:

- Technical workforce for the building and construction sector and the mining sector
- Nurses for the health sector
- Workers for the agricultural sector, especially agriculture and fishing
- Top and middle management for the casino industry and call centers.

The objectives of the policy of the Ministry regarding the employment of alien workers are:

- The protection of jobs for Surinamese workers
- The provision of workers where the Surinamese supply falls short.

Specific criteria/considerations are used for an efficient and effective implementation of the policy and the monitoring of an assessment and decision-making**.**

The Work Permits department provides two types of work permits, a long-term work permit of 1 or 2 years and a short-term work permit of 3 months. Applications done by foreign nationals who will stay in Suriname for more than 6 months or a year, get a permit for one year. There are also cases for short-term application for only 3 months especially in the Mining sector. For every application shorter than 3 months, the Ministry works with a permission to stay document with a stamp of Police Force. Most of the time a residence permit is given for 2 years. If a migrant asks for a work permit for more than 5 years, he will be exempted from this. For alien workers who want to work in Suriname, exceptions aside, the procedure starts with a request from the employer.

The aforementioned exceptions refer to the following:
1. foreigner who is married to a Surinamese
2. remigrant of Surinamese origin
3. foreign nationals with a PSA card (Persons of Surinamese Origin)
4. foreigner with refugee status
5. foreigner who will be employed as a national servant
6. foreigner with the status of CARICOM able citizen.

These foreign nationals do not need a work permit, but they must register with the Aliens Work Permit department for a statement. The procedure is as follows:
- the employer who wishes to employ the foreign national must submit the application work permit application form fully completed and signed by the employer and a passport photo of the foreign national must be submitted.
- a photocopy of the foreign national's valid residence permit or proof of the application for a residence permit. The original must be submitted for inspection.
- photocopies of business license, Chamber of Commerce extract, or articles of association, showing that the company operates legally.
- photocopies of diplomas and certificates of the foreign national. Diplomas and certificates translated into Dutch or English must be legalized.
- a photocopy of the foreign national's passport. The original must be submitted for inspection.
- a proof of payment of the fee of SRD 75 per application, with the exception of employment of foreigners at companies in the Interior that operate in goldmining. In that case, the levy is: USD 300 or the equivalent in SRD.

The ministry of AWJ has a brochure and a copy of the work permit form available on their website: https://gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-arbeid-werkgelegenheid-en-jeugdzaken/aanvraagformulier-werkvergunning/

There is no limit for applications for a work permit per employer. The Work Permit department in collaboration with the Inspection department will also investigate these companies, regarding their legal status, their address etc., before the permits are granted. Sometimes after the investigation, it is determined that the applying company does not exist.

According to the observation and information collected, the general view of the officials of the Ministry is that the reason for moving to Suriname is different for the groups. The Guyanese migrants move to Suriname to work and most of time travel back and forth between Suriname and Guyana. Most of the time they stay because they have family in Suriname. The Chinese come to Suriname, but after a while leave Suriname to go French Guyana, Guyana, USA or other countries. The Cubans do not come to Suriname to stay, but to eventually move on to the United States of America, where they have family. The Haitians come to Suriname and use Suriname as a hub to French Guyana.

To approve the work permits, the Work Permit department looks at the type of education, the diplomas and experience of the migrants and make sure that the requested job type is in line with the person's educational level. They verify that the migrants are working in a field that complies with their background, mainly due to the fact that this is the reason why foreigners are hired in Suriname. For example, the specific skills of Brazilians working in the mining field and construction branch, supports their request for the work permit that is applied for them by the gold and construction companies.

### 3.3.2 Data availability on labour migrant statistics

The information of the migrant work permits is available in a database at the Labour Statistics department of the ministry of Labour. Company data is available per sector and district. Most of the companies are registered in Paramaribo and Wanica, whereas none is registered in the districts Brokopondo, Sipaliwini and Coronie. The reason for this is that the headquarters of these companies are registered in Paramaribo e.g. Newmont and Rosebel mining activities are in Brokopondo, Marowijne and Sipaliwini, but their headquarters are in Paramaribo. Migrant data is disseminated by sex, age, sector, occupation and district.

Although the work permit request form has a field for the current address of the migrant, and this can be processed in the system, this information is not available in the statistics that are published by the Labour Statistics department. There are only data on labour migrants available at district level.

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**Findings from available statistics of Ministry of Labour, 2015-2022**

1. In 2019, there were 1699 work permit requests, in 2020 this was 924, in 2022 this was 800, and until March 2023, there were about 300 requests for work permits. In the past 5 years, there has not been much change in the number of applications. Before COVID-19, there was no big change in the groups that requested a permit and the number of requests. From 2020-2021, a significant decline was observed due to COVID-19. Regarding the migrants, the variables sex, age, sector, occupation and residence are available and published annually by the Ministry.
2. The top 6 nationalities for which companies requested a work permit are:
   a. Brazilians
   b. Chinese
   c. Philippines
   d. Guyanese
   e. Indians
   f. Haitians
3. It is notable that the Cubans are not in the top 5. The reason for this could be that the Cubans mostly do not have a residence permit, so they cannot apply for a work permit. Most of the time the Cubans and Venezuelans have a UNHCR certificate.
4. The ministry of Labour only has information of migrants living and working in Suriname with a legal status. The information of irregular migrant, the migrants who do not have their residence permit, and who do not work legally for a company, is not available at the ministry of Labour.
5. The sectors in which migrants are employed are:
   a. Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, mostly by Guyanese and Philippines
   b. Mining by Americans and Australians
   c. Construction by Brazilians
   d. Trade by Chinese and Brazilians
   e. Transport by Dutch and Brazilians
   f. Food industry by Chinese
   g. Education by Americans and Dutch.
   A more detailed distribution by nationality and occupation sector is in table 5a.
6. The tables 4-6 provide data published by the ministry of Labour.
   a. Table 4 shows a distribution of work permit requests by male and female. In 2022, about 420 men and 176 women requested a permit. This indicates that twice as much male migrants are formally looking for work. Please note that the statistics for the earlier years (2018-2021) have almost the same number of requests as well as the same distribution between men and women. The majority of the migrants requesting a permit are men and women are between 25-59 years of age. There are relatively less women in the age group 25-30 compared to men.

b. Table 5a presents a detailed overview of the approved work permits for males by nationality and economic sector. The highest frequencies for work permits are from Brazilians, Philippines, Chinese and Guyanese. The majority of the Brazilian males are employed in categories wholesale and retail trade (G) and professional, scientific and technical activities (M), as well as goldmining. The Chinese are mainly in the mining and quarrying (extraction) sector (B), wholesale and retail trade (G), and accommodation and food service activities (I) sectors. Guyanese and Haitians are mainly employed in the agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishing (A) sector. All of Americans and Australian male migrants are employed in the mining and quarrying (extraction) (B) sector. The distribution of the female migrants by sector is quite different than their male peers. The Brazilian female migrants are employed in the wholesale and retail trade (G) sector.

The Guyanese and the Philippines are in the agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishing sector (A), the wholesale and retail trade (G) sector and the accommodation and food service activities (I) sector. The Chinese females are in the wholesale and retail trade sector (G), the accommodation and food service activities sector (I) and the education sector (P).

c. Tables 6a and b present a detailed overview by occupation for male and female migrants. The tables present the figures of 2022-2023, however also in this case the situation for 2018-2021 was quite the same. Table 6a shows that the occupation type for Brazilian males is almost equally distributed between the occupation groups 1-9 expect for category 5-7[5], where they are not employed at all. The Chinese are mainly (68%) in group 5 (lower service & commercial occupations), Canadians more in group 1 (managerial professions), Cubans are more in groups 1-3 that are managerial professions, scientific professions and higher & secondary technicians and subject specialists. Haitians are mainly in group 5 and 6, respectively lower service & commercial occupations and skilled workers in agriculture & fisheries. Guyanese are more in group 1 (managerial professions), 5 (lower service & commercial occupations) and 9 (elementary professions). Venezuelans in group 1 (managerial professions), 3 (higher & secondary technicians and subject specialists) and 8 (operators of factory installations, machines and assembly workers).

d. Table 6b shows that for females the picture is quite different. Brazilian female migrants tend to work in lower service & commercial occupations (group 5), Chinese in group 1 (managerial professions) and 5 (lower service & commercial occupations), Dutch in group 1 (managerial professions) and 2 (scientific professions) and Venezuelans in administrative professions (group 4). Guyanese females work mainly in group 4 (administrative professions). Overall, the impression is that female migrants are working as managers, in lower service & commercial occupations and administrative functions (groups 1, 4 and 5).

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[5] See Annex 3 for occupations/professional groups

**Table 4: The number of work permit applications for foreign nationals by age group, sex and result over the period 2022 and January-April 2023**

| 2022 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Age group | Male | | | Female | | |
| | *Approved* | *Denied* | *Total* | *Approved* | *Denied* | *Total* |
| 15-19 | 1 | | **1** | | | |
| 20-24 | 6 | 2 | **8** | 9 | | **9** |
| 25-29 | 22 | | **22** | 21 | | **21** |
| 30-34 | 51 | 2 | **53** | 28 | 1 | **29** |
| 35-39 | 73 | 4 | **77** | 39 | 1 | **40** |
| 40-44 | 65 | 1 | **66** | 24 | | **24** |
| 45-49 | 75 | | **75** | 21 | | **21** |
| 50-54 | 47 | | **47** | 7 | 1 | **8** |
| 55-59 | 33 | | **33** | 10 | | **10** |
| 60-64 | 21 | | **21** | 6 | | **6** |
| 65> | 17 | | **17** | 4 | | **4** |
| **Total** | **411** | **9** | **420** | **169** | **3** | **172** |

| January-April 2023 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Age group | Male | | | Female | | |
| | *Approved* | *Denied* | *Total* | *Approved* | *Denied* | *Total* |
| 15-19 | | | | | | |
| 20-24 | 1 | | **1** | 2 | | **2** |
| 25-29 | 8 | | **8** | 9 | | **9** |
| 30-34 | 24 | | **24** | 10 | | **10** |
| 35-39 | 22 | 1 | **23** | 6 | | **6** |
| 40-44 | 23 | | **23** | 8 | | **8** |
| 45-49 | 32 | | **32** | 11 | | **11** |
| 50-54 | 27 | | **27** | 5 | | **5** |
| 55-59 | 21 | | **21** | 2 | | **2** |
| 60-64 | 9 | | **9** | 2 | | **2** |
| 65> | 8 | | **8** | | | |
| **Total** | **175** | **1** | **176** | **55** | | **55** |

Source: Labour Statistics department of the ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs

**Table 5a: The number of work permit applications granted for male foreign nationals by nationality and economic sector**

| Male | 2022 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nationality/Economic Sector[2] | A | B | C | F | G | H | I | M | N | Q | R | Other[3] | Total |
| American | - | 87.5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 12.5 | - | - | 8 |
| Australian | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 11 |
| Brazilian | - | 5.3 | 2.6 | 10.5 | 39.5 | - | - | 34.2 | - | - | - | 7.9 | 38 |
| Canadian | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100.0 | 0 |
| Chinese | - | 22.9 | 2.9 | - | 25.7 | - | 42.9 | - | - | - | - | 5.7 | 35 |
| Cuban | - | - | - | - | 35.3 | - | - | - | - | 41.2 | 11.8 | 11.8 | 17 |
| Dutch | - | 4.8 | 4.8 | 23.8 | - | 9.5 | 4.8 | 19.0 | 4.8 | 4.8 | - | 23.8 | 21 |
| French | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 |
| Guyanese | 61.0 | 2.4 | - | 4.9 | 9.8 | 4.9 | 12.2 | - | - | - | 4.9 | - | 41 |
| Haitian | 81.0 | - | - | - | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.8 | - | - | - | - | 4.8 | 21 |
| Indian | - | 9.5 | 4.8 | 14.3 | 38.1 | - | 9.5 | - | 14.3 | - | 4.8 | 4.8 | 21 |
| Indonesian | - | 46.7 | 53.3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 15 |
| Peruvian | - | 60.0 | - | - | - | - | 10.0 | 10.0 | - | - | 20.0 | - | 10 |
| Philippine | 18.8 | 1.6 | 12.5 | 3.1 | 31.3 | - | 10.9 | - | 7.8 | 9.4 | 4.7 | - | 64 |
| Trinidadian | - | 40.0 | - | 10.0 | 10.0 | 20.0 | - | 20.0 | - | - | - | - | 10 |
| Turkish | - | - | - | - | - | - | 51.9 | - | - | - | 44.4 | 3.7 | 27 |
| Venezuelan | - | 16.7 | - | - | 16.7 | 16.7 | 8.3 | 25.0 | 8.3 | - | - | 8.3 | 12 |
| Other[1] | - | 50.0 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 10.0 | 11.7 | 11.7 | 8.3 | - | - | 3.3 | 1.7 | 60 |
| Total | 54 | 82 | 21 | 18 | 72 | 16 | 54 | 28 | 10 | 15 | 25 | 16 | 411 |

| Male | January-April 2023 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nationality/Economic Sector[2] | A | B | C | F | G | H | I | M | N | Q | R | Other[3] | Total |
| American | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 |
| Australian | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Brazilian | - | - | - | 12.5 | - | - | - | 75.0 | - | - | - | 12.5 | 8 |
| Canadian | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 11 |
| Chinese | - | - | - | - | 66.7 | - | 33.3 | - | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Cuban | 20.0 | - | 20.0 | - | - | - | 60.0 | - | - | - | - | - | 5 |
| Dutch | - | 6.7 | 6.7 | 20.0 | 6.7 | - | - | 13.3 | - | - | 13.3 | 33.3 | 15 |
| French | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 10 |
| Guyanese | 62.5 | - | - | - | 25.0 | - | 6.3 | - | - | - | 6.3 | - | 16 |
| Haitian | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 |
| Indian | - | - | 6.3 | 68.8 | 18.8 | - | 6.3 | - | - | - | - | - | 16 |
| Indonesian | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Peruvian | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100.0 | - | 1 |
| Philippine | 8.3 | - | 8.3 | 33.3 | 41.7 | - | 8.3 | - | - | - | - | - | 12 |
| Trinidadian | - | 85.7 | - | - | - | - | - | 14.3 | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| Turkish | - | - | - | - | - | - | 81.3 | - | - | - | 18.8 | - | 16 |
| Venezuelan | - | - | - | - | 85.0 | - | - | 10.0 | - | - | - | 5.0 | 20 |
| Other[1] | 0.0 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | - | 0.3 | 0.2 | - | - | 0.2 | 97.8 | 23 |
| Total | 12 | 50 | 20 | 35 | 4 | 22 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 1 | 7 | 175 |

Source: Labour Statistics department of the ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs

[1] Includes the following nationalities: Argentinian, Azerbaijani, Belizean, British, Chilean, Columbian, Finnish, Ghanaian, Hungarian, Irish, Jamaican, Malaysian, Mexican, New-Zealander, Nigerian, Pakistani, Panamanian, Romanian, Vietnamese, South-African, Swiss. Males with these nationalities range between 1-7, and on average 2.

[2] See Annex 3 for occupations/professional groups

[3] Males working within these economic sectors range between 0-6, and on average 1.

**Table 5b: The number of work permit applications granted for female foreign nationals by nationality and economic sector**

| Female Nationality/ Economic Sector[2] | 2022 | | | | | | | | | January-April 2023 | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | A | G | I | M | P | Q | R | Other[3] | Total | A | G | I | M | P | Q | R | Other[3] | Total |
| Brazilian | - | 75.0 | 8.3 | - | - | - | - | 16.7 | 12 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100.0 | 1 |
| Chinese | - | 38.9 | 33.3 | - | 11.1 | - | 5.6 | 11.1 | 18 | - | 28.6 | 57.1 | - | - | - | 14.3 | - | 7 |
| Columbian | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100.0 | 0 | - | - | 50.0 | 16.7 | - | - | 33.3 | - | 6 |
| Cuban | - | 10.5 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 52.6 | 15.8 | 5.3 | 19 | - | - | 60.0 | - | - | 40.0 | - | - | 5 |
| Dutch | - | 10.5 | 10.5 | 5.3 | 52.6 | 5.3 | - | 15.8 | 19 | - | 16.7 | 16.7 | 16.7 | 16.7 | - | - | 33.3 | 6 |
| Guyanese | 27.6 | 3.4 | 34.5 | 3.4 | - | - | 13.8 | 17.2 | 29 | 25.0 | - | 12.5 | - | - | 12.5 | 37.5 | 12.5 | 8 |
| Philippine | 10.3 | 27.6 | 13.8 | 3.4 | - | 3.4 | 10.3 | 31.0 | 29 | 14.3 | 14.3 | - | 14.3 | - | - | - | 57.1 | 7 |
| Trinidadian | - | - | - | 66.7 | - | - | - | 33.3 | 3 | - | - | - | 50.0 | - | - | - | 50.0 | 4 |
| Venezuelan | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100.0 | - | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100.0 | - | 4 |
| Other[1] | 23.3 | 6.7 | 23.3 | 3.3 | - | 3.3 | 13.3 | 26.7 | 30 | - | - | 14.3 | 14.3 | - | - | 14.3 | 57.1 | 7 |
| Total | 18 | 31 | 31 | 7 | 13 | 13 | 25 | 31 | 169 | 4 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 13 | 55 |

Source: Labour Statistics department of the ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs

[1] Includes the following nationalities: American, Australian, Barbadian, Belgian, Canadian, Dominican, Greek, Haitian, Indian, Jamaican, Malaysian, Romanian, Turkish, Vietnamese and South-African. Females with these nationalities range between 1-7, and on average 2.

[2] See Annex 3 for occupations/professional groups

[3] Females working within these economic sectors range between 0-6, and on average 2.

**Table 6a: The number of work permit applications granted for female foreign nationals by nationality and occupational group**

| Female Nationality/ Occupational Group[2] | 2022 | | | | | | | | January-April 2023 | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 9 | Other[3] | Total | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 9 | Other[3] | Total |
| Brazilian | 8.3 | - | 16.7 | 8.3 | 66.7 | - | 0.0 | 12 | - | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Chinese | 11.1 | 5.6 | 5.6 | 16.7 | 55.6 | 5.6 | - | 18 | - | - | - | 14.3 | 71.4 | 14.3 | - | 7 |
| Columbian | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | 16.7 | 83.3 | - | - | - | 6 |
| Cuban | 10.5 | 52.6 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 15.8 | 10.5 | 0.0 | 19 | - | 20.0 | 20.0 | - | 60.0 | - | - | 5 |
| Dutch | 36.8 | 36.8 | 10.5 | 10.5 | - | 5.3 | 0.0 | 19 | 66.7 | - | - | 33.3 | - | - | 0.0 | 6 |
| Guyanese | 10.3 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 27.6 | 24.1 | 24.1 | 6.9 | 29 | - | - | 25.0 | 37.5 | 25.0 | 12.5 | - | 8 |
| Philippine | 44.8 | 6.9 | 20.7 | 3.4 | 17.2 | - | 6.9 | 29 | 42.9 | - | 28.6 | - | 14.3 | 14.3 | 0.0 | 7 |
| Venezuelan | - | - | 20.0 | 80.0 | - | - | - | 10 | - | - | 25.0 | 75.0 | - | - | - | 4 |
| Other[1] | 30.3 | 6.1 | 21.2 | 6.1 | 15.2 | 3.0 | 18.2 | 33 | 45.5 | 9.1 | 9.1 | 9.1 | 18.2 | - | 9.1 | 11 |
| Total | 38 | 23 | 22 | 26 | 38 | 12 | 10 | 169 | 12 | 2 | 9 | 15 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 55 |

Source: Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs, Statistics department

[1] Includes the following nationalities: American, Australian, Barbadian, Belgian, Canadian, Dominican, Greek, Haitian, Indian, Jamaican, Malaysian, Romanian, Turkish, Trinidadian, Vietnamese and South-African. Females with these nationalities range between 1-7, and on average 2.

2 See Annex 3 for occupations/professional groups.

[3] Females of these occupations range between 0-6, and on average 2.

**Table 6b: The number of work permit applications granted for male foreign nationals by nationality and occupational group**

| Male | 2022 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nationality/ Occupational Group[2] | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | Total |
| Australian | 54.5 | - | 18.2 | - | - | - | - | 27.3 | - | **11** |
| Brazilian | 10.5 | 15.8 | 23.7 | 18.4 | - | - | 13.2 | 10.5 | 7.9 | **38** |
| Canadian | 85.7 | - | 14.3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | **7** |
| Chinese | 8.6 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 2.9 | 68.6 | - | 2.9 | - | 5.7 | **35** |
| Cuban | 17.6 | 35.3 | 23.5 | 11.8 | 11.8 | - | - | - | - | **17** |
| Dutch | 57.1 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 4.8 | - | 4.8 | - | 4.8 | **21** |
| French | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | **0** |
| Guyanese | 29.3 | - | 2.4 | - | 17.1 | - | 14.6 | 7.3 | 29.3 | **41** |
| Haitian | - | - | - | - | 14.3 | 23.8 | - | 4.8 | 57.1 | **21** |
| Indian | 57.1 | 9.5 | 19.0 | - | 4.8 | - | 4.8 | 4.8 | - | **21** |
| Indonesian | 13.3 | - | 13.3 | - | - | - | 13.3 | 60.0 | - | **15** |
| Peruvian | 40.0 | - | 20.0 | 10.0 | - | - | - | 20.0 | 10.0 | **10** |
| Philippine | 21.9 | 7.8 | 10.9 | 6.3 | - | - | 10.9 | 31.3 | 10.9 | **64** |
| Trinidadian | 60.0 | 10.0 | - | - | - | - | - | 10.0 | 20.0 | **10** |
| Turkish | 88.9 | - | 11.1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | **27** |
| Venezuelan | 25.0 | 8.3 | 33.3 | - | - | - | 8.3 | 25.0 | - | **12** |
| Other[1] | 54.1 | 6.6 | 18.0 | 1.6 | 6.6 | - | 6.6 | 6.6 | - | **61** |
| **Total** | **144** | **29** | **54** | **18** | **42** | **5** | **28** | **51** | **40** | **411** |

| Male | January-April 2023 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nationality/ Occupational Group[2] | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | Total |
| Australian | 33.3 | - | 33.3 | - | - | - | - | 33.3 | - | **3** |
| Brazilian | 50.0 | 12.5 | 12.5 | - | - | - | - | - | 25.0 | **8** |
| Canadian | 54.5 | 9.1 | 27.3 | - | - | - | - | 9.1 | - | **11** |
| Chinese | - | - | - | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | **6** |
| Cuban | 20.0 | - | 40.0 | - | 20.0 | 20.0 | - | - | - | **5** |
| Dutch | 73.3 | - | 6.7 | 6.7 | - | - | 6.7 | 6.7 | - | **15** |
| French | 50.0 | 10.0 | 30.0 | - | - | - | - | 10.0 | - | **10** |
| Guyanese | 31.3 | 6.3 | - | - | 6.3 | - | 12.5 | 6.3 | 37.5 | **16** |
| Haitian | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | **0** |
| Indian | 56.3 | 12.5 | 18.8 | - | 6.3 | - | - | - | 6.3 | **16** |
| Indonesian | - | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | **1** |
| Peruvian | - | - | 100.0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | **1** |
| Philippine | 25.0 | - | 8.3 | 16.7 | - | - | 8.3 | 33.3 | 8.3 | **12** |
| Trinidadian | 57.1 | - | - | 14.3 | - | - | 14.3 | 14.3 | - | **7** |
| Turkish | 81.3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 18.8 | - | **16** |
| Venezuelan | 5.0 | - | 15.0 | - | - | - | 5.0 | 75.0 | - | **20** |
| Other[1] | 57.1 | 7.1 | 21.4 | - | 3.6 | - | 3.6 | 7.1 | - | **28** |
| **Total** | **79** | **8** | **26** | **4** | **10** | **1** | **7** | **30** | **10** | **175** |

Source: Labour Statistics department of the ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs

[1] Includes the following nationalities: American, Angolese, Argentinian, Azerbaijani, Belizean, Bolivian, British, Chilean, Columbian, Dominican, Finnish, Ghanaian, Hungarian, Ivorian, Irish, Jamaican, Malaysian, Mexican, New-Zealander, Nigerian, Pakistani, Panamanian, Romanian, Vietnamese, Serbian, South-African, Swiss. Males with these nationalities range between 1-8, and on average 2.

[2] See Annex 3 for occupations/professional groups.

**Key points for future migration surveys**

For conducting a migrant survey, it is very important to determine in which areas of Suriname most of the migrants live. Although migrant data is available by district, data on a lower level (sub-district) are not available in the ministry of Labour's database. For the upcoming migration survey, the data at resort level could be requested, since this information is available in the primary sources.

**Other variables that could be incorporated in a migration survey are**

a) family status of the migrants. There are no data available regarding the family status of the migrant who applies for a work permit, so it is not known if they came here with their family or if they came alone.

b) medical insurance. There are also no data available regarding the medical insurance of the migrants.

c) bank accounts or credit cards

d) living conditions of the migrants: the ministry of Labour has information about the companies, but not about the living situation of the migrants. The ministry of Justice and Police, the Police department executes field visits to check the living status of the migrants.

## 3.4 Ministry of Home Affairs - Civil Registry Office

The civil administration database originates from a variety of sources, including the Civil Registry Office of the ministry of Home Affairs, and other relevant authorities. The Office also publishes some of this migrant data in their annual Demographic Statistics publication.

Central Population Administration/Population Register

The Population Register administrates persons who are legally in Suriname, regardless of their nationality. The persons are registered and a card system is used to record the address and place of residence. In addition, there is also an automated system, the Central Population Administration (CPA). A birth certificate is the primary document required for registration in the Population Register (Bevolkingsregister, 2022).

Foreigners' file

The Foreigner's file contains data from the department Alien Registration (AR) of the Civil Registry Office. The tasks of this department are, among others:

a. Registering all foreign nationals with a residence permit for temporary or permanent residence. The passport and permit are stamped and provided with the necessary notes.
b. Registering all persons who have a valid PSA (Persons of Surinamese Origin) document and wish to settle in Suriname. The passport is stamped and provided with the necessary notes.
c. Creating a personal card for each registered person and processing it in an automated file.
d. Updating the data on the personal card (and in the automated file) of the registered person in case of renewal of the residence permit or when obtaining a permanent permit or when obtaining a new passport. The permit and passport are stamped and provided with the necessary notes.
e. Updating data on the personal card (and in the automated file) of the registered person who has received the Surinamese nationality, pursuant to any provision of the Nationality and Residency Act.

Inspection file

The Inspection department is responsible for keeping track of and registering the following statements: the registration, history, marital status, nationality, in case former Dutch nationality, renewal of Surinamese driving license and identity card statement. The inspection file therefore also consists of these data.

Discharged file

Individuals who are removed from the CPA due to different reasons are placed in the Discharged file. Removals due to death (mutation code AS) or having a foreign nationality (mutation code AV) are the most common reasons for people being placed in the Discharged file. Furthermore, people can be removed if they leave for a foreign country or have an unknown address.

Nationalities file

The Nationality department is charged with determining and recording the nationality of citizens of Suriname living in or outside Suriname in the Nationalities file. This is mainly done based on the Nationality and Residency Act (G.B. no. 171 of November 24, 1975 as last amended by S.B. no. 121 of 2014).

**Key findings from database assessment and statistics from the Civil Registry Office**
1. According to the Ministry's officials, the number of registration of migrants is about 2,000 each year. From January - April 2023 there were about 800 new cases. The majority of cases are migrants with a Dutch nationality and former Surinamese returning to Suriname.
2. Although the registration form for migrants has a field for recording the address of the migrant, generally the district where the migrant resides is noted. In the publications, the information is presented at district level. For a more detailed overview of all registered migrants with a resident permit, the ICT department can provide this information since they register all the primary/entry data.
3. Based on the data retrieved in February 2021, the CPA has 562,000 registered persons.
4. The migration database - which has a historical collection of all registrations-, has a total of 42,000 registered migrants. This is about 7% of the total population. An overview of the migrants by nationality and year of registration is presented in tables 7 and 8 and figure 1.
5. The migrants in the CPA can be identified by their identification number which starts with 'ZX'. Surinamese nationals have another type of coding. Table 9 presents an overview of ZX-ID-numbers given to migrants by nationality over the period 2010-2020.
   As illustrated, until 2019 the average of ZX-IDs was about 200-400, but in 2019 about 5000 ZX-IDs were issued and 199 in 2020. The nationalities with a relatively higher frequency in 2019 and 2020 are migrants from French Guyana and Guyana.

**Figure 1: Number of registrations of foreigners per year**
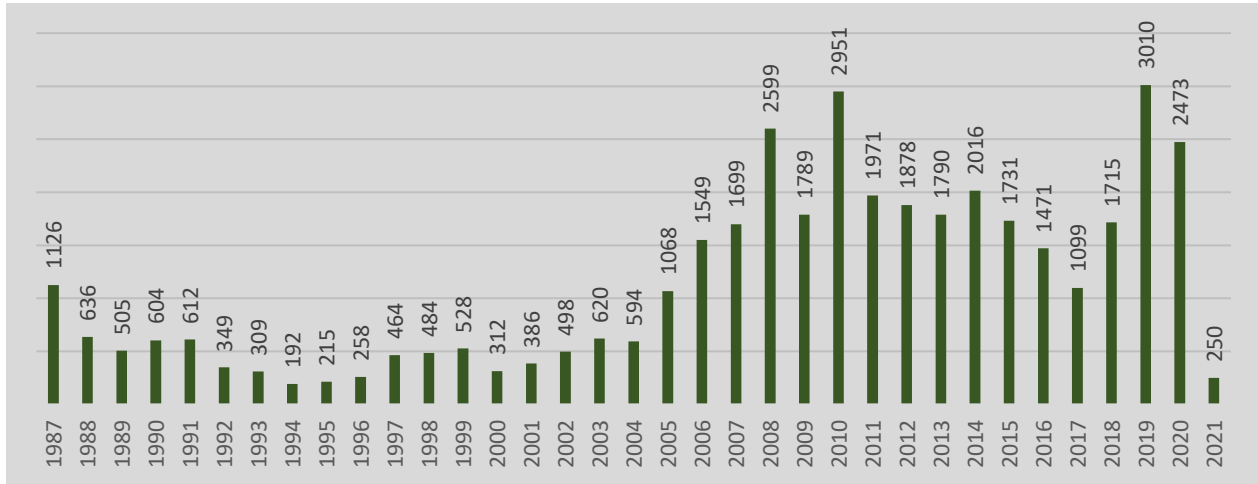


Source: authors calculation using Civil Registry Office (CRO) data, 2021

**Table 7: Number of registration of migrants by year, 1987 - February 2021**

| Year of registration | Frequency | in % of total |
|---|---|---|
| 1987 | 1,126 | 2.83 |
| 1988 | 636 | 1.60 |
| 1989 | 505 | 1.27 |
| 1990 | 604 | 1.52 |
| 1991 | 612 | 1.54 |
| 1992 | 349 | 0.88 |
| 1993 | 309 | 0.78 |
| 1994 | 192 | 0.48 |
| 1995 | 215 | 0.54 |
| 1996 | 258 | 0.65 |
| 1997 | 464 | 1.16 |
| 1998 | 484 | 1.21 |
| 1999 | 528 | 1.33 |
| 2000 | 312 | 0.78 |
| 2001 | 386 | 0.97 |
| 2002 | 498 | 1.25 |
| 2003 | 620 | 1.56 |
| 2004 | 594 | 1.49 |
| 2005 | 1,068 | 2.68 |
| 2006 | 1,549 | 3.89 |
| 2007 | 1,699 | 4.26 |
| 2008 | 2,599 | 6.52 |
| 2009 | 1,789 | 4.49 |
| 2010 | 2,951 | 7.41 |
| 2011 | 1,971 | 4.95 |
| 2012 | 1,878 | 4.71 |
| 2013 | 1,790 | 4.49 |
| 2014 | 2,106 | 5.29 |
| 2015 | 1,731 | 4.34 |
| 2016 | 1,471 | 3.69 |
| 2017 | 1,099 | 2.76 |
| 2018 | 1,715 | 4.30 |
| 2019 | 3,010 | 7.56 |
| 2020 | 2,473 | 6.21 |
| Feb-21 | 250 | 0.63 |
| **Total** | **39,841** | **100.00** |

Source: authors calculation using Civil Registry Office data, 2021

**Table 8: Number of registrations in Foreigner database by nationality**

| Nationality | Frequency | in % of total |
|---|---|---|
| Dutch | 20,494 | 49.8 |
| Chinese | 8215 | 19.9 |
| Guyanese | 5517 | 13.4 |
| Haitian | 2248 | 5.5 |
| Brazilian | 2235 | 5.4 |
| Cuban | 127 | 0.3 |
| Dominican | 682 | 1.7 |
| American | 424 | 1.0 |
| Philippine | 267 | 0.6 |
| Indian | 253 | 0.6 |
| French | 211 | 0.5 |
| Indonesian | 149 | 0.4 |
| Malaysian | 144 | 0.3 |
| Venezuelan | 110 | 0.3 |
| Belgian | 103 | 0.3 |
| **Total** | **41,179** | **100.0** |

Source: authors calculation using Civil Registry Office data, 2021
Note: only groups of 100 and more are listed.

Regarding the total number of migrants presented in table 7, this is not equal to the total presented in figure 2, since table 7 presents the number of 'new' registered migrants, whereas figure 2 presents the number of 'active' and still registered migrants in the year 2021. The difference is caused by exclusion due to removal because of death or moving out of the country.

**Figure 2: Number of registrations of foreigners per nationality for 2021**
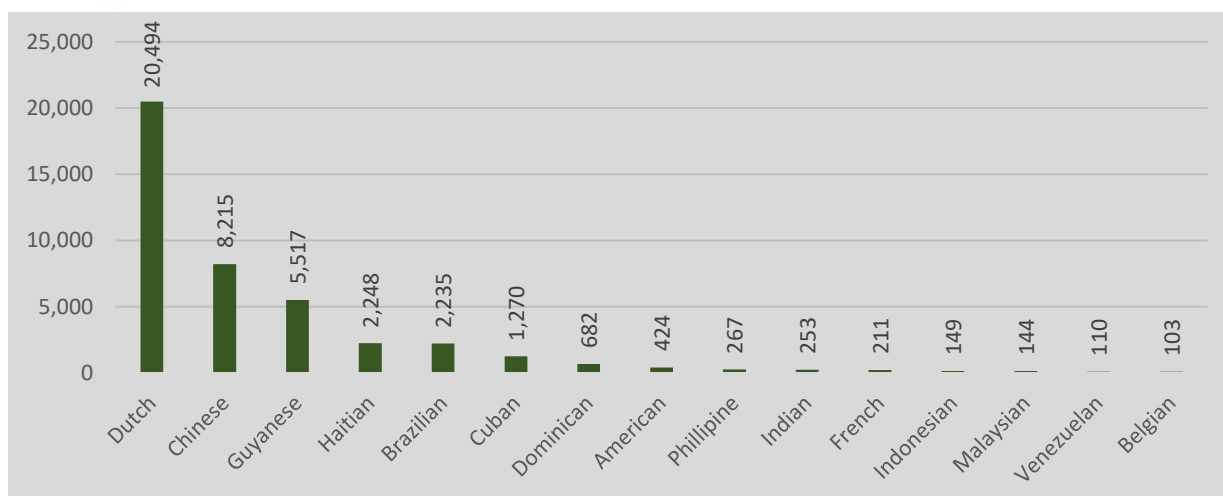
Source: authors calculation using Civil Registry Office data, 2021

**Table 9: ZX-ID numbers by place of birth and year of ID card issuance**

| Place of Birth | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| China | 102 | | | 119 | | 100 | 135 | | 128 | 768 | 222 | **1,574** |
| Dominican Republic | | | | | | | | | | 161 | | **161** |
| French-Guyana | | | | | 111 | 110 | 101 | 155 | 158 | 589 | 288 | **1,512** |
| Guyana | 127 | 113 | 118 | 179 | 144 | 198 | 167 | 201 | 349 | 3,045 | 781 | **5,422** |
| Haiti | | | | | | | | | | 277 | | **277** |
| Netherlands | | | | | | | | | | 146 | | **146** |
| **Total** | **229** | **113** | **118** | **298** | **255** | **408** | **403** | **356** | **635** | **4,986** | **1,291** | **9,092** |

Source: authors calculation using Civil Registry Office data, 2021

Table 10 presents an overview of Foreigners with an ZX-ID card as of 2021 based on the information in the ID-card database (all groups with more than 100 are listed).

**Table 10: Count of foreigners with a ZX-card per 2021 according to the ID-card database**

| Nationality | Number | in % of total |
|---|---|---|
| **American** | 146 | 0.9 |
| **Brazilian** | 1,100 | 6.5 |
| **Chinese** | 3,497 | 20.7 |
| **Dominican** | 384 | 2.3 |
| **Guyanese** | 1,937 | 11.5 |
| **Haitian** | 445 | 2.6 |
| **Dutch** | 9,406 | 55.6 |
| **Total** | **16,915** | **100.0** |

Source: authors calculation using Civil Registry Office data, 2021

Please note that the number of migrants in the ZX-ID card database is smaller than the number of migrants in the foreigners' database, since the last one has also those without a ZX-ID.

**Figure 3: Number of registrations of foreigners per nationality**
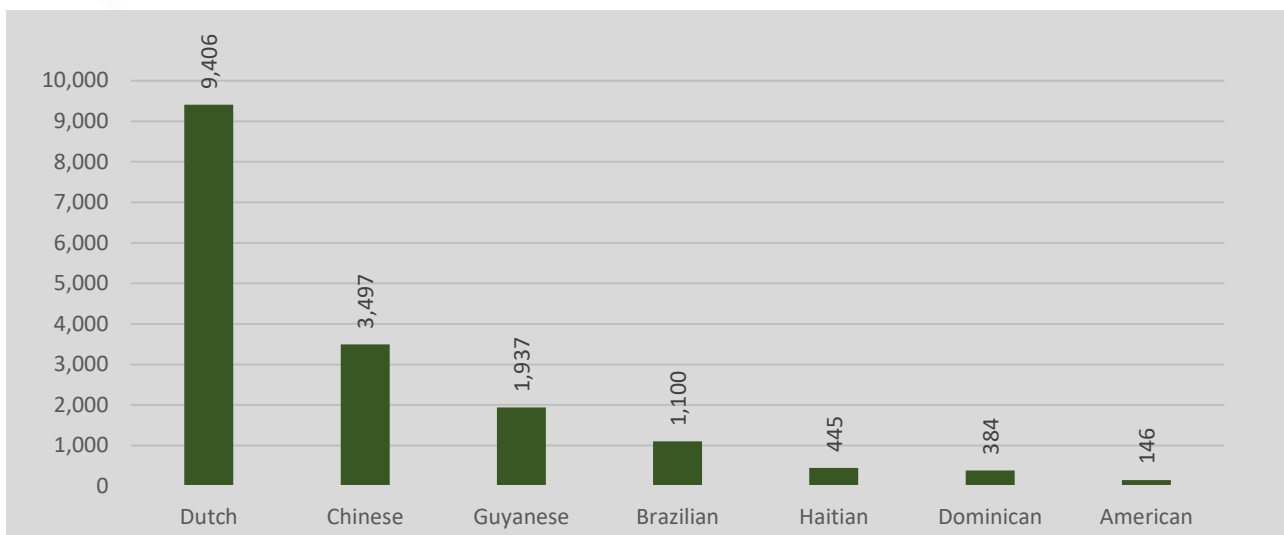
Source: authors calculation using Civil Registry Office data, 2021

Note: only nationalities with more than 100 are listed

## 3.5 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation (BIBIS)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation (BIBIS) is responsible for establishing and maintaining relationships with the different countries and organizations in the world.

The Ministry's policy focuses on the following areas:

1. Neighboring countries politics
2. Regional integration
3. Bilateral relations
4. Multilateral relations
5. Migration and passenger traffic
6. Surinamese Diaspora
7. Development cooperation and International trade
8. Developmental diplomacy and
9. National High-Level Dialogue

**Key findings from the ministry of BIBIS related to migrants and migration policy**

1. The department that is directly involved with migrants at the ministry of BIBIS is the sub-directorate Administrative Services and Consular Affairs (CONZA).
2. The CONZA department is responsible for
   - providing effective and efficient consular assistance to Surinamese nationals and companies abroad
   - promoting the Diaspora contribution to national development and
   - the further regulation of passenger traffic in the context of tourism-respective national development
3. Types of Visas: different types of visas are taken up in the State Decree 2022 No. 68. Visa is issued for a single entry (single) or several entries (multiple). The types of visas are as follows: business visa, transit visa, short stay, and the diplomatic visa.
4. VFS Global is the only official and authorized partner for the Government of Suriname/Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation through which a

Suriname E-Visa/E-Tourist Card can be applied for. The Ministry of BIBIS reserves the right to decide about the visa application later than 72 hours.

5. PSA (Persons of Surinamese Origin) application: PSA entitlement is based legislation (article 2 of the PSA Act, S.B. 2014, No. 8), for every person who does not have Surinamese nationality but

- was born in Suriname, with the exception of those whose parents or they themselves are not of Surinamese origin, were temporarily staying in Suriname, or in foreign service, or for a study or any further matter at the birth of that person

- was not born in Suriname, but at least one parent is of Surinamese origin on the basis of paragraph 1 of article 2

- was not born in Suriname, but has at least one grandparent who is of Surinamese origin on the basis of paragraph 1 of article 2.

- Family members:

  - The PSA beneficiary who activates his/her status can request a 'PSA document for family members' for his/her legal partner if he/she is not entitled to the status and/or for each of his/her minor(s) (committed children who belong to the PSA family).
  - A minor can be entitled to the PSA status under the PSA Act, while the parent/guardian does not have this right him-/herself. The parent/guardian can then activate the PSA status for the minor based on article 5 paragraph 5 of the PSA Act as a legal representative. In addition, he/she can also apply for the PSA document for family members, if belonging to the family of which the minor is part of.

6. Visa process: short stay (KV) (less than 90 days). The request for short stay visa is registered at the VFS Global. There is a digital system in which the applications are registered, where the CONZA department and the Directorate for National Security (DNV) of the Cabinet of the President have access to. The application then goes via the CONZA department to the ministry of Justice and Police, sub-directorate Immigration Affairs and the ministry of Labour for respectively the residence and work permit. Based on advice from these two authorities, the CONZA department informs VFS Global if the KV has been approved. For the final assessment, advice from the ministry of Justice and Police is decisive. The persons involved or the company who has requested the KV is informed, if the request has been approved. It is important to know if the visa is approved, or else the person cannot travel to Suriname, because this visa is one of the required documents to travel to Suriname. If the person has a short stay visa, he can apply for a residence permit and then register at the Civil Registry Office.

7. Twenty-one (21) countries have been declared risk countries. If someone from such a country does an application, DNV will be deployed since they do background screening and provide written advice, after which the CONZA department approves based on advice. The admission requirements are observed by the CONZA department based on article 6 of the Aliens Act. For those 21 countries, the recommendation have been to reintroduce the tourist card (single entry) and visa (for entry and exit). Depending on the purpose of the person's travel, the application will be considered. The assessment takes into account where the person will stay, who is the sponsor or guarantor, who pays for the ticket and the hotel or place of residence.

8. Criteria for Haitians to get KV:

- Although, Suriname follows the CARICOM agreements, Haitians are excluded to travel visa free (Haiti is included in the list of 21 countries).

- A Presidential decree has been issued allowing the airline Fly Always to operate a scheduled flight to Haiti from Suriname v.v., twice a month.

- The CONZA department gets the PAX list of the flights from Haiti, which is sanctioned in collaboration with the Haitian Consulate (documents are translated into English or Dutch). The Haitians do not request a visa - the Consulate does the screening and that list comes to the CONZA department.

- The condition for the Haitians to get a KV visa would be if they come to Suriname for family reunification (for minors both parents must sign) e.g. for the wife/husband or children. The CONZA department has

proposed an evaluation of the Presidential decree. The Haitians in Suriname who apply for family reunification must have a residence permit or have submitted an application.

9. One of the main roles of the Ministry regarding migration is to coordinate relations with foreign countries. Because of an insufficient structured and strategic migration policy, it is hard to take efficient actions towards migrant related issues, especially the migrants in Suriname with an irregular status.

10. In the past few years, the Migration department of the Ministry has been working closely with IOM Suriname, and is working on mapping the gaps regarding migration issues and drafting a long-term Migration. The Ministry will be doing this in collaboration with the Inter-ministerial Commission for International Migration.

11. The CONZA department is also responsible for coordinating consular activities which includes the following tasks in accordance with the Consular Law of 16 January 1992:

- complying with international rules, regulations, provisions with regard to consular matters (including consular law, consular manual (Convention of Vienna and the Chancellery Rights Act).

- Ensuring matters regarding rights, duties and personal interests of Surinamese abroad.

- The handling of applications for admission of nationals of countries with which there is no free movement of persons, stateless people, refugees and asylum seekers in Suriname.

**Data collection system and statistics**

12.    VFS Global manages the visa request system and it can retrieve the data from the system, but it must be clear which data are needed, e.g. who has entered and who has left; also which port or entry.

13.    The data is in the system, but it is not yet converted into reports because no decisions have been made about the type of data that is needed.

14.    The countries from which applications for a holiday/tourist visas were requested the most in the last year are: the Netherlands, the United States of America (USA), Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti.

15.    Applications for labour visa are from:
   -   Bangladesh (catering/shops)
   -   China
   -   Haiti (agriculture)
   -   Dominican Republic (boutique, cosmetics) and
   -   Philippines (medical sector)

16.    Data per year disaggregated by nationality can be used to identify who entered the country and who left the country. This information can also be used for information regarding the diaspora from the Netherlands and the USA.

17.    It is important to have more detailed and disaggregated immigration data for the policy development, especially to know who is entering the country and what is the main reason for coming to Suriname.

18.    Some of the nationalities that come for professions that Surinamese do not want to do are for example:
   -   India and Bangladesh for the textile sector
   -   Haiti for the agriculture sector
   -   Cuba for the textile and boutique sector
   -   Venezuela for the textile and boutique sector.

19.    The Immigration Forms used by the Military Police/Immigration Service can also be a source of information.

---

**The e-visa form contains the following questions:**
1.    Family name, first name and other names
2.    Birth date
3.    Birth place
4.    Country of birth
5.    Sex
6.    Marital status
7.    Nationality (at birth and current nationality)
9.    Educational level (highest)
10.   Place of origin
11.   Date of arrival
12.   Adress (number etc)
15.   Profession or occupation
16.   Name employer, address and telephone number
17.   Travel document
17.   Passport number, country of issue and expiration date

18. Have you ever applied for a Suriname visa (where, when, what type of visa, visa was issued or visa was denied)?
19. Have you ever been to Suriname (when, how long, reference)?
20. What is the purpose of your trip?
21. How long do you plan to stay?
22. What is your ticket number and the period valid for your ticket?
23. What will be your financial support during your stay?
24. At what address will you stay in Suriname?
25. What reference do you have in Suriname?
26. Are you planning to visit the region during your visit in Suriname?
27. Have you ever been on vacation here? Which place(s), where and when?
28. Will you be accompanied by your spouse or children? If yes, what are their facts, names and dates of birth etc.
29. Mention all the countries you have been staying the last 5 years, longer than 6 months, beginning with your recent stay?
30. Can you prove that on leaving the republic of Suriname, you will be allowed to return to your home country or enter another country? Please describe any return, visitor or transit visas you hold for this purpose?

**Figure 4: Process of Consular Services**
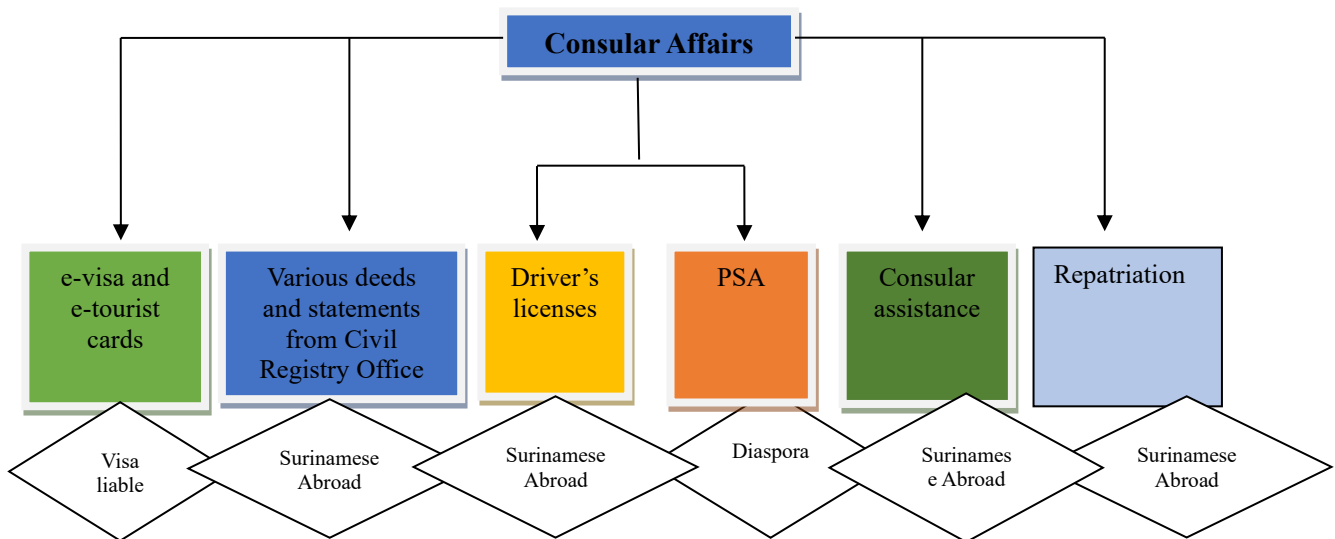
**Figure 5: MKV[6] process: residence and working for longer than 90 days**



```
Online via          →    Min of           →    Gives           →    If the
VFS Global               Justice &             advice to             advice is
website:                 Police                Min BIBIS,            positive ->
suriname.                (JUSPOL),             department            E=KV will
vfsevisa.                department            CONZA                 be provided
com                      Alien Affairs                               online

                              ↕
                         Ministry of Labour for advice
Submission               regarding labour matters                   Registration        MIN
of MKV                                                              online via the       JUSPOL
application                    ↕                                    website of           application
                                                                    the Aliens           (Alien
                                                                    Affairs              Affairs) and
In the          →  Min     →  Min of       →  Gives        →  Embassy/  department:      Min Home
conventional       BIBIS,     JUSPOL,         advice to       Consulate  online          Affairs
way (all           depart-    department       Min BIBIS      for        registration    (Civil
foreign            ment       Alien Affairs   department      providing  after arrival   Registry
mission of         CONZA                       CONZA          Short Stay                 Office)
the Republic                                                  (KV) - visa
of Suriname)
```

The MKV relaxation policy applies to certain target groups as stated in accordance with decision SB 2017 no. 75, whereby the foreign missions may immediately issue the KV visas if, in their assessment, they meet the requirements.

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[6] The MKV-procedure applies to all foreign nationals (with the exception of the Surinamese Origin category and Caricom nationals) who intend to stay in Suriname for longer than three months. The MKV-procedure does not apply to foreigners who travel to Suriname for the purpose of tourism or business.

## 3.6 Ministry of Transport, Communication and Tourism

The Ministry has four (4) directorates with their aligning parastatal institutes:

1. Transport: National Transport Company, Canawaima Ferry Service, Maritime Authority Suriname, Port Management, Shipping Company Suriname, Civil Aviation Safety Authority Suriname, Airport Management and the Surinamese Aviation Company.
2. Communication: Telecommunications Authority Suriname and Telesur (Telecom provider Suriname)
3. Tourism: Tourism Board Suriname, Foundation Suriname Hospitality and Tourism Training Center and the Waterfront Management Council, and
4. General and Administrative Affairs.

The directorates Transport and Tourism have a direct and indirect relation with migration which can be linked to the tourism activities in Suriname. The directorate Tourism is responsible for the tourism policy and the directorate Transport, especially the three parastatals Airport management, Civil Aviation Safety Authority Suriname and Canawaima are directly involved with the tourist arrivals and departures in Suriname. The Tourism directorate collaborates with the ministry of Defense, the Directorate for National Security, the Standards Bureau and the ministry of Regional Development and Sports.

3. The Immigration Forms that passengers fill in when they arrive in Suriname are a valuable source and have information on:
   a. Flight number or Vessel number
   b. Port of boarding
   c. Port of entry
   d. Family name, maiden name, first name and other names
   e. Birth date
   f. Birth place
   g. Country of birth
   h. Sex
   i. Nationality
   j. Marital status
   k. Occupation
   l. Passport number
   m. Date of issue of passport
   n. Country of issue of passport
   o. Home address
   p. City
   q. Street
   r. Town
   s. Postcode
   t. Country
   u. Countries visited during the last 6 weeks
   v. Intended address in Suriname (hotel/apartment/address)
   w. City
   x. Length of stay in day(s)
   y. Abroad visitor or resident of Suriname
   z. Purpose of visits (visitors only)
   aa. Accommodation

**Key findings from ministry of Transport, Communication and Tourism related to migrants and migration policy**

1. According to statistics, the inbound data are much more available compared to the outbound data. There is a large number of Cubans arriving in Suriname, but they travel to Suriname with another country as their final destination. Some also visit Suriname for shopping and go back to their country. Some of the Cubans also leave for Guyana. In the past few years, it has been observed that some of the Cubans stay to live and work in Suriname and their children attend school. However, it is not clear what their migration status is, legal or irregular.

8. There was a time when there were a lot of travelers from the Dominican Republican coming to Suriname. Due to travel restrictions (being on the list of 21 countries), this trend is decreasing. Instead of paying for the e-visa entree free, they need to apply for a visa and to do that they have to travel to Curacao.

9. Since last year, a wave of Indians (circa 1,000 persons) has been coming to Suriname. However, many of them have been sent back or not allowed to enter Suriname. Approximately 60 persons were sent back, because most of their documents and passport were not valid.

10. Haitians primarily come to Suriname for family reunification and request their visa with support of the Haitian consulate and the Ministry of BIBIS. there is a charter flight option for them twice a month.

11. There have also been trends of Africans (e.g. Somalia) coming to Suriname. Just like some of the Indians, they were travelling with false documents.

One of the reasons they travel to Suriname is to continue on to Guyana or further to the United States of America. Some of the irregular migrants would even travel by foot or with a car to Brazil via French-Guyana, and then they take a boat to Peru.

12. In the past 2-3 months, fewer Brazilians have been traveling to Suriname than a few years ago.
13. Flights from the United States of America have become fewer since American Airlines has stopped flying to Suriname. Regarding the oil and gas activities in Suriname, it is foreseen that when there will be an increase in activities, American Airlines may start flying to Suriname again.
14. It has also been observed that many Asians travel to Suriname with KLM e.g. the Chinese, Malaysians (for the oil sector), Koreans and Philippines for the fisheries sector.
15. According to the officials that were interviewed, the areas where most of the migrants live are in the northern part of Paramaribo, where there are Brazilians and Cubans; in the Kwatta area there are Indians, that work in manufacturing. This group does not come to Suriname to stay permanently, but work for a certain period on contract basis and send money to their families. It was also observed that in the Kwatta area, Haitians are not only working in the agriculture sector, but also do jobs in security or cleaning. This group does not speak Dutch but a little bit of Sranan Tongo. There are also Haitians living at Sunny point area. In general, it has been noted that migrants work long hours and mostly stay in groups apartments, probably to share the rent. There are also Philippine women that work as maids and the men work in the fisheries sector. Most of them send money for their family also.

## 3.7. The General Bureau of Statistics: Census data

The motives behind migration can be very different. Sometimes the desire for a better life drives this movement. Because it impacts so many different aspects, including the economy, demographic change, politics, national security, culture, language, and religion, the issue of migration, especially international migration, is important. Data from the 2004 and 2012 Censuses were used to evaluate the nationality of the Surinamese population. The table below shows that the major groups among migrants are Dutch (1.9%), Guyanese (1.5%), and Brazilian (0.9%), in addition to Surinamese (93.3%).

**Table 11: Population of Suriname by nationality based on Census 2004 and Census 2012[7]**

| Nationality | | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | French | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other Nationalities | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2004 | Number | 460,173 | 8,738 | 9,401 | 2,705 | 5,838 | 748 | 3,664 | 1,562 | 492,829 |
| | Percentage | 93.4 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 100 |
| 2012 | Number | 508,380 | 10,312 | 8,329 | 3,597 | 5,058 | 705 | 3,781 | 1,476 | 541,638 |
| | Percentage | 93.3 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 100 |

Source: GBS data - Census 2012

Demographically, the most significant elements in migration studies are the age and gender of the migrants. It's critical to understand how the distribution of female migrants is across age groups (especially 15-44 years) and affects fertility studies.

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[7] Population data by nationality are, for example, important for measuring long-term migration or conducting indicative studies of the extent and speed of the naturalization of foreigners. (Quote I. Sno at First GBS/UNDP/SBC Social Data Seminar, July 2010); Note: nationality unknown is split proportionally over all nationalities.

There were 15,206 female immigrants and 18,112 male immigrants between 2004 and 2012, making a ratio of 54% male to 46% female. The CBB publications' emigration statistics show a ratio of 47% men to 53% women. According to the 2012 Census data more women (55%) than males (45%) left the country. The Netherlands was the top destination for emigrants (67%) after Germany.[8]

The modal age of immigrants from Brazil and China in 2012 was 30-34 years, but the model age of immigrants with a Dutch nationality was substantially younger at 20-24 years. A closer examination of the data by nationality and district of residence of the Civil Registry Office, reveals that immigrants from the Netherlands, Brazil, and China chose to live in Paramaribo, while those from Haiti are mainly residents in Saramacca.

Returning migrants (e.g. those of Surinamese origin) were questioned about their reasons for returning to Suriname during the Census of 2012. Therefore, not all immigrants were intended for this question. Both men and women cited 'Suriname is fatherland' as their primary motivation for returning. The reunion of families and the completion of studies are the next two crucial factors, however males returned more frequently after finishing their studies than women did. The primary motivation for emigrating was study (27%), followed by family reunion (16%), employment (14%) and marriage (12%).[9]

The table below offers a breakdown of immigrants by country of origin who settled in Suriname between 2004 and 2012. One of the important migratory considerations for harmonizing immigration policy is this. We can see that a total of 33,318 immigrants, or an average 3,702 every year, have come to Suriname from different countries. A minimum of 1,590 immigrants entered the country in 2004 and the total was 7,183 in 2010. People of Dutch nationality make up the biggest group of immigrants (36%), hence this might include people of Surinamese origin who have a Dutch passport. There is also the sizable immigrant population with Surinamese passports, including returning students who have finished their studies overseas. Chinese immigrants also make up a sizable population; many of them run small businesses.

On the other hand, the number of immigrants with Brazilian nationality is rising. Undoubtedly, this type of (temporary) migrant labourers is drawn to the gold sector. In the years 2004 to 2007, the number of Guyanese immigrants stayed small, but after that, it gradually grew and reached a height in 2010. The year 2010 has been observed as a high year for immigration. The number of 'other' immigrants has also increased during the past several years. People from the Dominican Republic, Haiti, the Philippines, the United States of America, India, and French Guiana are among those who have immigrated.

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[8] GBS 2013, pp. 88-90. The data were collected via the household module in the Census 2012 of 2241 emigrants who had left in the period 2004 to 2012.
[9] GBS 2013, page 89

**Table 12: Number of immigrants by nationality, 2004-2012**

| Year | Nationality | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Netherlands | Suriname | China | Guyana | Brazil | Other | |
| 2004 | 888 | 242 | 199 | 83 | 30 | 148 | 1,590 |
| 2005 | 1,172 | 291 | 513 | 35 | 23 | 141 | 2,175 |
| 2006 | 1,212 | 317 | 795 | 72 | 30 | 213 | 2,639 |
| 2007 | 1,159 | 318 | 691 | 80 | 42 | 194 | 2,484 |
| 2008 | 1,398 | 24 | 1,637 | 220 | 128 | 776 | 4,183 |
| 2009 | 1,147 | 832 | 728 | 161 | 568 | 427 | 3,863 |
| 2010 | 1,752 | 1,154 | 745 | 1,404 | 1,515 | 613 | 7,183 |
| 2011 | 1,741 | 529 | 493 | 402 | 1,342 | 410 | 4,917 |
| 2012 | 1,509 | 417 | 576 | 290 | 925 | 567 | 4,284 |
| Total | 11,978 | 4,124 | 6,377 | 2,747 | 4,603 | 3,489 | 33,318 |

Source: CBB-data

The figure below shows that the Dutch nationality grows significantly each year. With the exception of 2008, the group of people with Surinamese nationality is fairly represented. In the subsequent years, the population of Chinese immigrants has fluctuated as additional people have immigrated. From 2009 on, we primarily see Brazilians. The group of additional immigrants, to which Guyanese have been included, is at the top.

**Figure 6: Immigrants by nationality 2004-2021[10]**
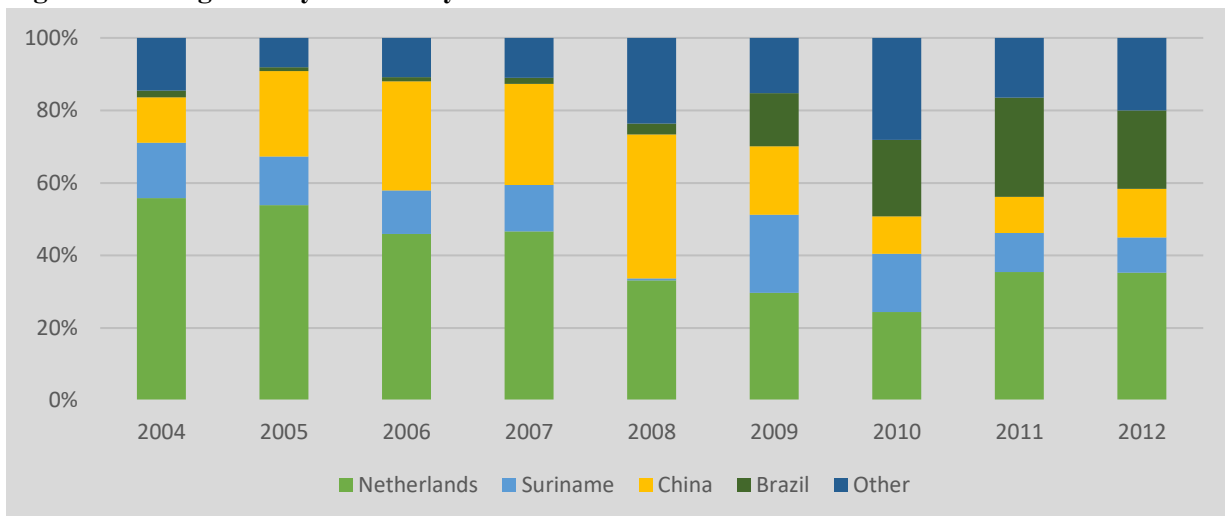


Despite the fact that there appeared to be a sizable number of immigrants - 33,318 during the seventh and eighth Censuses - the majority (93%) of the population was made up of Surinamese nationals. Only 7% of the population had a different nationality, according to both Censuses. There appears to be only a slight change among the non-Surinamese when the distribution of nationalities between the Censuses in 2004 and 2012 is taken into account.

Guyanese nationals made up the largest group of foreigners in 2004 (1.9%), whereas the Dutch made up the largest group in 2012 (1.9%). Brazilians made up less, namely decreased from 1.2% to 0.9%.

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[10] Mozaïek van het Surinaams volk: volkstellingen in demografisch, economisch en sociaal perspectief

About 6,377 Chinese immigrants arrived between 2004 and 2012, yet only 3,781 people of Chinese origin[11] were counted in the Census of 2012. The reason might be that a lot of Chinese people have left, or maybe some of them already held the Surinamese citizenship.

Both natural growth (measured as Births minus Deaths) and migration (calculated as Immigration minus Emigration) can cause a nation's population to increase or decrease. The table below shows these numbers. A negative migration balance is seen in 2004, which moderately reduces population growth. In that year, there were 492,829 people in the Census, therefore an increase of 4,255 people barely represents a growth rate of 0.8%. Higher emigration has significantly decreased population growth since growth through natural increase would have been 1.16% without the negative net migration.

The Census population was 541,638 in 2012, an increase of 8,854 people, or 1.6%, over the previous year. It should be noted that the natural rise was 1.21%, growth was boosted by 0.4% thanks to the positive migration balance. Although these growth rates are modest, the last column in the table below indicates the proportion of net migration to natural growth. The migration balance is always less than the rate of natural increase, although in 2010, the ratio was 0.82, coming the closest to that rate. We may draw the conclusion that while migration did not directly contribute to population increase between 2004 and 2012, it did have some influence. Migration ratios are another method to illustrate this. There was hardly any impact of foreign migration on the total population size, according to the level of the migration ratios.

**Table 13: The effect of net migration on natural growth, 2004-2021**

| Year | Birth | Death | Natural growth | Immigration | Emigration | Net migration | Growth Population | Ratio net migration: Natural growth |
|------|-------|-------|----------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2004 | 9,062 | 3,319 | 5,743 | 1,590 | 3,078 | -1,488 | 4,255 | -0.26 |
| 2005 | 8,657 | 3,392 | 5,265 | 2,175 | 2,308 | -133 | 5,132 | -0.03 |
| 2006 | 9,311 | 3,247 | 6,064 | 2,639 | 1,920 | 719 | 6,783 | 0.12 |
| 2007 | 9,769 | 3,347 | 6,422 | 2,484 | 2,072 | 412 | 6,834 | 0.06 |
| 2008 | 10,097 | 3,357 | 6,740 | 4,183 | 2,309 | 1,874 | 8,614 | 0.28 |
| 2009 | 9,792 | 3,293 | 6,499 | 3,863 | 2,279 | 1,584 | 8,083 | 0.24 |
| 2010 | 9,712 | 3,484 | 6,228 | 7,183 | 2,050 | 5,133 | 11,361 | 0.82 |
| 2011 | 9,703 | 3,441 | 6,262 | 4,917 | 2,159 | 2,758 | 9,020 | 0.44 |
| 2012 | 10,217 | 3,687 | 6,530 | 4,284 | 1,960 | 2,324 | 8,854 | 0.36 |

Source: CBB birth-and death rates and immigration data (GBS)

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[11] In 2010, the Surinamese nationality was granted to 515 persons, in 2011 this concerned 612 persons and in 2012 to 399 persons (www.dna.sr under approved laws).

## 3.8 Ministry of Justice and Police - Aliens Affairs department

The Alien Affairs is responsible for:

1. Handling applications for residence, extension of residence and establishment
2. Handling applications regarding the status of minor children
3. Processing applications for naturalization granted by legislation
4. Refusing applications, revoking permits and declaring that aliens should not stay in Suriname
5. Preparing for the deportation of foreign nationals who are not allowed to stay in Suriname.

The request for a residence permit happens online, where this information is available in the request book-database. Only people who come to Suriname to stay can be eligible for a residence permit. Tourists cannot request a permit.

**Key findings from interviews with officials**

The people who are eligible are:

- Persons from visa required countries need to ask a MKV
- Persons from CARICOM do not need to ask for a MKV
- People from Surinamese origins can ask for residence permit

**Process for a residence permit request**

The request for a residence permit starts when the person is already in Suriname. The request for a MKV starts when the person is still abroad. CARICOM nationals and persons of Surinamese origin need a stamp in their passport. This stamp is provided at the airport by the Immigration Service. It is not possible to request a residence permit if you are a tourist. If a tourist stays longer than 90 days, the Aliens Department of the Suriname Police Force has the authority to make this tourist leave the country. There is always good communication between the Aliens Affairs department of the Ministry and the Aliens department, but unfortunately, due to lack of finances, the supervision and control to determine if tourists overstay is somewhat insufficient, with the consequence that some tourists stay longer in Suriname.

In case a tourist decides to stay longer than the 90 days in Suriname, he would have to leave the country first, apply for a MKV, come back to Suriname, and within 14 days apply online for a residence permit. Without a MKV no tourist can apply for a residence permit. They will need a MKV stamp of 6 months. It should be noted that all CARICOM nationals and persons of Surinamese origin automatically have the right to stay for 6 months and even work.

**The DECOS database**

This database is about 11 years old and has variables from the request system e.g. name, sex, nationality etc. All the applications are taken up in the 'request book'. If all the relevant documents and information been entered, the requests are assessed, granted and assigned and subsequently processed. The database only contains people for who a residence permit has been granted.

**The groups that are mostly applying for a residence permit are:**

a. Brazilians: for them there is a no visa required rule. They receive an immigration stamp when they arrive in Suriname.
b. Haitians who can come to Suriname for family reunification, but must apply for a visa because of the fact that Haiti is on the list of 21 countries.

c. Chinese: this group is getting smaller. The Chinese need a MKV to come to Suriname. Chinese mostly come when they have business opportunities. In 2005-2014 a lot of Chinese came to register, because of or reasonably good economy back then, but after 2015 and especially now this group is getting very small.

d. Guyanese: this group requests the Surinamese nationality. This number of requests has been decreasing in the past years.

e. Dominicans: they are less than 100, at least legally registered for a residence permit. There are more women who work in the Interior or Paramaribo.

f. Philippines: some of them, who work as nurses, mostly live in Paramaribo.

g. Indians: do not come for a residence permit, but work in the manufacturing or food sector. Most Indians come to Suriname as a tourist, and leave before the end of their 3 months.

h. Nigerians who work in the restaurant business and stay in Paramaribo.

**Figure 7a: Schematic overview residence permit request**
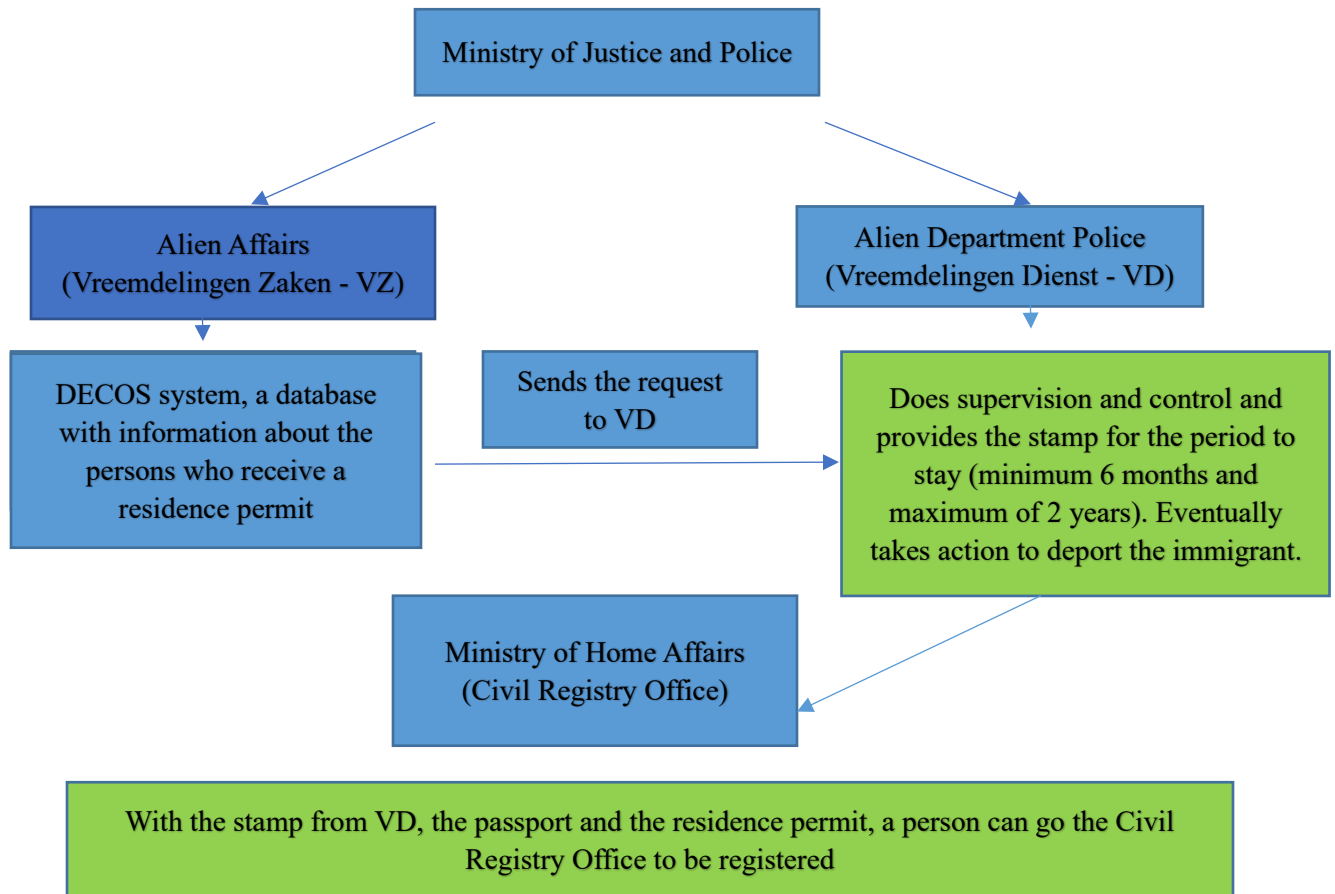
## 3.9 Ministry of Defense and Directorate for National Security

**Key findings from interviews with officials**

The information received from the Immigration Service of the Military Police Corps (Ministry of Defense) and the Directorate for National Security (DNV) is as follows. The national legislation that guides the policy is the Aliens Decree. International treaties that are applicable are the Treaty of Chaguaramas and the Geneva Conventions (1949).

The Immigration Services works closely together with the DNV, the Aliens Affairs department of the ministry of Justice and Police, the Aliens department of the Suriname Police Force and the ministry of BIBIS.

The Immigration Service is responsible for providing a stamp in the passport of the person entering Suriname at the 5 ports (Johan Adolf Pengel airport, Canawaima Ferry port, Zorg & Hoop airport, Nieuwe Haven and Albina. Two new ports will be established namely the 'back track' at Zeedijk/Nickerie and at Nieuw Amsterdam/Commewijne, where the passengers of small boats dock.

The Ministry of Defense and the Directorate for National Security coordinate the Border Management System (BMS). This database contains data from all passengers. This database was updated in 2020, resulting in more disaggregated data being available e.g. data by sex, age, address, residence type, and other information from the passport and the immigration (ED) form. Every passenger needs to fill out the ED form (white) and provide that to the immigration officers at the port, before they can get a stamp. The variables that are in the BMS are:

    a. Flight statistics
    b. Address details
    c. Age ranges by nationality
    d. All locations, addresses (this information would be very useful for the migration survey)
    e. Document issuing countries
    f. Nationality
    g. Travel reasons
    h. Passenger on secondary inspection
    i. Summary person crossing
    j. Transport movement

**The tourists that are mostly traveling to Suriname are:**

1. Dutch, mostly of Surinamese's origin.
2. Brazilians, they come as tourists, but end up working in the gold sector. When they are deported, they get a red stamp.
3. French: they mostly come to shop or to visit family in Suriname.
4. Haitians: this group is decreasing due to the Presidential decision of 2022 that a Haitian can only travel from Haiti to Suriname with permission from the ministry of BIBIS. In addition, they cannot travel as easily as before, when they were using their CARICOM status.
5. Chinese: this group is also getting smaller.
6. Guyanese.
7. Dominican Republicans.
8. Indians, Venezuelans and Cubans.

**Figure 7b: Schematic overview responsibilities Military Police Corps and Directorate for National Security**

```
┌──────────────────────────┐          ┌──────────────────────────┐
│    Ministry of Defense   │          │  Cabinet of the President │
└──────────────────────────┘          └──────────────────────────┘
             │                                       │
             ▼              ◄─────────►              ▼
┌──────────────────────────┐          ┌──────────────────────────┐
│    Military Police (MP)  │          │ Directorate for National │
│    Immigration Services  │          │     Security (DNV)       │
└──────────────────────────┘          └──────────────────────────┘
             │                                       │
┌──────────────────────────┐                        ▼
│  Handling of departing   │          ┌──────────────────────────┐
│ and arriving passengers  │          │ DNV provides equipment   │
│      at the 5 ports      │          │ and support.             │
└──────────────────────────┘          │ The DNV has the mandate  │
             │                        │ to deport the illegal    │
             ▼                        │ passengers.              │
┌──────────────────────────┐          └──────────────────────────┘
│ BMS system: a database   │
│ with information about   │
│ the tourist arrivals and │
│ departures               │
└──────────────────────────┘
```

**Collaboration with**

- **Ministry of BIBIS:** they work with the list of 21 countries where a visa is required
- **Ministry of TCT** (Pengel airport, Canawaima, Zorg & Hoop etc)
- **Ministry of Health – Bureau Public Health** (yellow fever vaccination, COVID vaccine)
- **Ministry of JUSPOL** (Aliens Affairs and Aliens department Police)

## 3.10 The Ministry of Health

The Ministry of Health's vision is to guarantee access to quality health care and its mission is 'to reach an integrated and sustainable system of good quality and effective health care, which is accessible to everyone living on Surinamese territory and work towards a continuous increase in the health benefits for the entire population'. The Ministry of Health has identified the following main objectives as priority areas:

1. Primary Care
2. Secondary Care
3. Tertiary Care
4. Healthcare restructuring based on a review of the entire healthcare system
5. Restructuring the Ministry of Health
6. COVID-19 Controls and Policies
7. Quality

**Key findings from interviews with officials and private practitioners**

Within the policy documents of the Ministry, no specific policy interventions have been proposed regarding the position of persons with another nationality and specific conditions regarding their access to health care. However, the general principle is that health care should be provided to every person living in Suriname when there is an emergency, irrespective of having their documentation in order or not to stay in Suriname. This has been acknowledged by the different health care providers, either primary or secondary.

According to the Basic Health Insurance Law (2014), basis health insurance is mandatory for all living in Suriname, including foreign ones, and every resident is responsible for covering the costs. The access to health insurance can be through the person paying for a private health insurance, health insurance through the employer or health insurance as a social provision provided by the Government of Suriname. The latter relates to the provision made in the Basic Health Insurance Law which states that the Council of Ministers may grant dispensation to certain groups, regarding the payment of insurance premiums. In case the person does not have health insurance, the out-of-pocket payment is done.

There have been cases where persons with a foreign nationality did not have an insurance and needed urgent medical care; in those cases, the medical care was provided nevertheless. Usually, a payment arrangement is done with the person, however, there have been cases where this payment does not take place because the person is able to make the payments.

**Departments within the Ministry of Health**

For the health services, the Ministry has a few departments that are responsible. In the Bureau of Public Health (BOG), the National Tuberculosis Programme, the National Immunization Programme and the Environmental Inspection are providing services regarding the general public health.

The National Tuberculosis (TB) Programme provides services and treatment to the general public who have been infected by TB. There is surveillance data available (2000-2019) of the number of TB patients by age, gender, ethnicity and district of residence. Specific data on nationality as such has not been presented yet.

The National Immunization Programme of the Bureau of Public Health coordinates the programmes for immunization of children in Suriname. The administrative data are kept on the number of vaccinations per vaccine and by gender. As far as the information was retrieved, the nationality of the children is not recorded.

The Malaria Programmea for Suriname does have information and data available on malaria by nationality, namely:

a. Tested by age and gender
b. Tested to test location and result malaria
c. Tested by type of malaria and treatment (medication)
d. Tested to positive malaria and contamination site
e. Number tested by travel history (place they have been 2 weeks ago before having symptoms)
f. Number of women tested who are pregnant

The Medical Mission Primary Health Care Suriname, or the Medical Mission for short, is currently the only organization that provides primary health care in the interior of Suriname. The health care provided by the Medical Mission is based on Primary Health Care principles. This entails a health care system aimed at preventing and treating disease and promoting the well-being of communities. This system meets standardized quality requirements and is offered decentralized as much as possible, encouraging community participation. The basis of this system are healthcare assistants, who receive a thorough training recognized by the Ministry of Health. These healthcare assistants (GZAs) are in all cases the first point of contact within the healthcare system and in many cases can act independently according to protocol. Due to the decentralized nature of the service, the assistants are supported, whether or not remotely, by other parts of the system such as doctors, medical specialists, microscopists, outpatient assistants and other support staff. After reviewing some of the year reports of the Medical Mission, there data presented on the number of consultations at a medical post, live births, child and infant mortality, immunization rate and some other administrative data. As far as the information was retrieved, there is no specific registration of nationality.

The Regional Health Service (RGD) in Suriname is a health institution responsible for primary health care in the coastal area of Suriname. Important for this institute is the provision of healthcare and related services, in the broadest sense of the word, to eligible persons and institutions; making themselves subservient to medical and paramedical education and to the further development of medical science.

After consulting with one of the doctors working at one of health centers of the RGD, it was determined that the intake does not register the nationality of the patient. This makes it difficult to track how many persons of another nationality than the Surinamese are registered at the RGD health center. One of the important aspects of the intake is noting what medical insurance the patient has.

It was noted that after consulting with a private general practitioner that also at the private health clinics, registering nationality is not done.

Within at least two hospitals in Suriname, one in Nickerie and one in Paramaribo a review was done on if and how medical care is provided to migrants and what specific information is recorded that relates to the migrant status. At both hospitals it was indicated that acute care is always provided. The social services departments of the hospitals then provide further guidance, because the migrant is then counted as an own account patient and will have to pay the treatment costs himself. The latter is the case when it has been determined that the migrant does not have any medical insurance. The Medical Registration Department of the hospital in Nickerie indicated that they have records of persons who have to pay on their own account and in that case the nationality is registered of the patient that sought treatment. This is also the case for the hospital in Paramaribo, where the Medical Registration Department has some information on nationality and these data can be extracted from their files per year. However, to actually access the data, a formal request from an institution such as the General Bureau of Statistics should be done. It should be noted that in the administration of the specialized doctors that work in the hospitals, nationality is not recorded in the intake.

## 3.11 United Nations Development Programme Suriname

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Suriname focuses on finding solutions for global and national development challenges and therefore support Suriname in building its own national capacity

to improve sustainable human development. UNDP Suriname works on four main pillars: (i) Democratic Governance, (ii) Poverty Reduction, (iii) Energy and Environment and (iv) Crisis Prevention and Recovery[12]. An interview was conducted with the Governance Programme Officer in the Suriname office and the role of UNDP regarding migration in Suriname was discussed. A brief summary of the main findings is provided below.

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**Key findings from an interview with the Governance Programme Officer**

The Democratic Governance programme ensures that laws and justice are respected and guaranteed. The UNDP also cooperates with the Government on democracy and to ensure that all citizens can enjoy their right of democracy. The UNDP also provides (technical) assistance to the drafting and implementation of national legislation and support in establishing the Human Rights Institute with capacity building, awareness, engagement of the society including young people and Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. Suriname is party to Human Rights Conventions and as part of that, the UNDP periodically reports on how all conventions are being implemented at the national level.

UNDP uses the global strategy from the United Nations as policy regarding migrants. UNDP also provides support to migrants (i.e., refugees who are asylum seekers) and support the Government in implementing their immigration policy in such a way that the rights of migrants are guaranteed and they can have access to basic needs (education, shelter, healthcare, etc.). Hereby the UNDP helps to develop tailored programmatic responses on migration and displacement.

As stated in the UNDP Global report 2016-2018, development approaches to migration and displacement, the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals are the overall framework for implementation of the migration and displacement agenda.

The four specific areas the UNDP's development approach to migration and displacement focuses are:
1. Addressing the root causes of displacement and mitigating the negative drivers of migration and factors compelling people to leave their homes.
2. Supporting Governments to integrate migration and displacement issues in national and local development plans, including as part of localizing the SDGs, and strengthening positive impacts of migrants/diaspora.
3. Supporting refugees, migrants, and host communities to cope, recover and sustain development gains in crisis and post crisis situations ('resilience-based development').
4. Supporting national and local authorities to achieve sustainable community based re/integration.

International conventions that are used when it comes to the rights of migrants are:
1. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (this is not ratified by Suriname)
2. Individual complaints procedure under the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
3. 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol
4. Guiding principles such as the Guiding Principles for Internally Displaced Persons, among others.

Some useful recent migration studies done by UNDP in our region are:
1. Crossing Borders: The Unprecedented Growth of Migration within Latin America and the Caribbean (UNDP, 2023)
2. A Better World for Migrants in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNDP, 2023)

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[12] https://www.undp.org/suriname/about-us

UNDP Suriname has a more technical and policy supporting role towards the Government to guarantee the rights of migrants. They do not work directly with migrants and the Governance officer also mentioned that UNDP has done research on migrants in the region, but not yet in Suriname. Furthermore, the UNDP Governance programme works closely with the Ministry of Justice and Police. Much capacity building and technical assistance has been provided to ministries (Justice and Police and Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation) to support policy, for example campaigns on youth crime prevention, protection of women's rights, awareness campaigns, but also strengthening of the national human rights institute and training in human rights-based approach and results-based management.

When it comes to improving the interests of migrants in Suriname, UNDP Suriname is willing to provide the necessary technical support if it turns out that there are many migrants in Suriname who have no access to the labour market, health care and education. In addition, they will help to ensure that the international commitments to which Suriname must adhere (UN guidelines) are always taken into account. It is also important to have a good overview of the capacity of migrants (for example their education level, their living conditions), to allow this group to contribute to the Surinamese economy. UNDP can provide support in developing policy and also assist the Government in providing sessions/training with migrants.

During the interview, the following key characteristics of the different migrant groups in Suriname were identified:

a. Brazilians: they live mostly in Paramaribo-North; there are also Brazilians living in Brokopondo and Sipaliwini because they are working in gold mines, pharmacies and the women mainly in beauty salons and some as prostitutes.
b. Cubans: live mostly in the Northern part of Paramaribo in rented houses; mostly living with families.
c. Chinese: are almost everywhere to be found; most of them own supermarkets, work in the trade sector, logging, as mechanic, and are production company owners (toilet paper, chips, soy sauce, etc.). Most of the time they live with their family and later on some of them send their children back to China. It is difficult to tell if their houses are owned by them or not. Most Chinese are legal in Suriname and also registered as citizen.
d. Dominicans and Venezuelans work mostly in beauty salons and as hairdressers.
e. Haitians: more men are seen. They work mainly as farmers (agricultural sector).
f. Guyanese: more men, most of them are fishermen and some are farmers.
g. Venezuelans: there are more families; they work in beauty salons and some in construction.
h. Turkish: most of them are working in hotels; a lot of Turkish migrants don't stay for too long in Suriname (approximately 5-6 years).

## 3.12 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Suriname

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Office in Suriname is, as stated on their official website, mandated to 'lead and co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide'.[13] In order to do so, the UNHCR office has to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. The work of UNHCR (Suriname) is guided by the 1951 Convention relating to the Status

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[13] https://www.refworld.org/publisher,UNHCR,,SUR,,,0.html

of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. The national legislation recognizes refugees namely in the Aliens Act 1991 and the Law of 16 January 1992 concerning the Admission and the Expulsion of Aliens where refugees may be granted residency permits[14]. According to this 1951 Convention: 'every person entering has the right to seek asylum' and 'every person that fears prosecution in their country of origin has the right to seek asylum in a third country'. Suriname does not yet have its own procedures regarding refugees and asylum seekers, so the 1951 Convention is used as guideline.

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**Key findings from an interview with UNHCR person in charge**

Based on the interview with the representative of the UNHCR office in Suriname, the following key findings can be mentioned:

1. UNHCR ensures that every refugee and asylum seeker that applies for international protection is registered; their core focus is to 'recognize them as an asylum seeker/refugee'.
2. In certain cases, UNHCR also does the follow up, namely protection and consultation, for example:
   a. where to go if they want to enroll their children in school (arrange the enrollment process)
   b. which ministry to visit
   c. where to go in case they are ill
   d. what are the next steps if they have their asylum seeker certificate and want to stay legally in the country?
3. There is a legal article stating that with an asylum seeker certificate, people can have access to apply for a residence permit, perhaps as an asylum seeker, for one year.
4. The abolition of visa requirements last year has also been a pull factor to Suriname. Suriname is one of the few countries that did not have a visa requirement.
5. UNHCR Suriname only registers the people that indicate they are an asylum seeker/refugee, and they process personal information such as their documentation, name, address, education level, date of birth, marital status, work experience, travel information and so on. These data are-kept in order to know how to reach these migrants. In case people come who do not seek or apply for asylum or are not refugees, they are accompanied by the other authorities where they apply for residency or register themselves. On a yearly basis, the head office produces an annual report in which relevant information from all countries is processed, including Suriname.
6. According to own observations of the UNHCR representative, Venezuelans and Cubans are the largest migrant groups that seek asylum or can be identified as refugees in Suriname. After visiting UNHCR, they receive a certificate for one year and if they are still in the country after that year, they apply for an extension, after which UNHCR updates their data in the system.
7. UNHCR registers mainly people from Venezuela, Dominican Republic, Cuba and Haiti. 'The last three nationalities really need consideration'. Venezuela is in an economic crisis, and they left the country because they have no food and work and a shortage of many facilities. Besides, also people from Ukraine and Afghanistan come to Suriname, because their country is not safe.

8. As part of the main tasks of the UNHCR they provide a safe place for refugees/asylum seekers. If things improve in the country of origin, they voluntarily return to the country. Depending on the situation, they stay in Suriname or return to their country or choose somewhere else. That is also one of the UNHCR missions 'Voluntary repatriation and return'. UNHCR wishes to improve the situation of asylum seekers and refugees, by working on the national legislation and procedures, so that Suriname has its own legislation for asylum seekers. In addition, it would be useful to have an own integration policy, where for example an integration course is required for each migrant.

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[14] https://www.refworld.org/publisher,UNHCR,,SUR,572855764,0.html

9. At the end of the interview the following key characteristics of the different migrant groups in Suriname were identified:

a. Venezuelans: they are mainly living in North-Paramaribo (Prinsessestraat, Gonggrijpstraat, Gomperstraat) and are often women (with children). When they first enter the country, they are mostly located in Nickerie (they have no passport yet). Some of them are also working in the goldmines, in service sectors such as salons, hotels, restaurants and casinos.

b. Cubans: they are also more likely in Paramaribo, in locations where they can find cheaper houses for rent (for example Hoogestraat and the center of Paramaribo). A smaller group is resident in Commewijne. Most of them are working as salesman or in the hospitality sector and there are more often mixed groups (men, women and children). Others work in restaurants, in Chinese shops, as mechanist, and a small group in the medical sector. Cuban women sometimes also work as maids and in prostitution.

c. Haitians: they are mainly living in Saramacca (Kwatta, 4e/5e Rijweg) and working in the agriculture and fish industry. In most cases, those who apply for a residence permit do have health insurance. They stay in rented houses, rented apartments and rooms.

d. Brazilian: they reside more in the Northern part of Paramaribo and in the goldmines in Marowijne, Brokopondo and Sipaliwini. They also work in service sectors, salons and hospitality.

e. Guyanese: mainly living in Commewijne (Marienburg) and Coronie, because of the fish industry they work in.

f. Chinese: these are a really closed community. The Chinese migrants mainly work in the trade, timber and gold sector.

# Chapter 4   Key findings qualitative research

In this chapter an overview of the main characteristics and living conditions of migrants is presented based on primary data from qualitative research. For each main migrant group, the demographics and other background variables are presented, using information collected from interviews, focus groups and field visit. Also, the georeferenced mapping of migrants is presented.

## 4.1   Key findings Focus groups, Interviews and Field visits

### Haitian Migrants (focus group)

**1. General Information & Context of migration**
- Between 4 and 43 years in Suriname
- Most participants do not have the Surinamese nationality
- Mostly living in rented houses
- In most cases they where invited by family/friends to move to Suriname

**2. Living Conditions & Family Structure**
- Overall, their quality of life weakens in Suriname.
- In Suriname there is a sense of safety (push factor of migration) and a home feeling

**3. Working Conditions**
- Because of their language barriers, it is difficult to find a suitable job in Suriname
- The majority work in Agriculture. Some of them work as masons, security guards, carpenters, mechanics, medics, technicians and artists
- Haitians are often self-sufficient and have their own business
- They are undervalued and discriminated against at work

**4. Integration and Assistance**
- Most of the assistance is provided by family/friend, but not by the government.
- Some Haitians go to a language institute and others speak English or Sranan tongo.
- There is a need for a government institution that makes learning the Surinamese language compulsory.

**5. Concentrations in Suriname**
- Paramaribo (Centrum)
- Wanica: Kwatta (3e rijweg, Wayambo, Sophia's lust, Leiding)
- Saramacca (Uitkijk), Commewijne and Para

**6. Main obstacles/wishes**
- Housing: No regulations and controls regarding rental costs
- Education: enrollment in school/Education for adults
- Health: Better access to healthcare (insurance)
- Respect: Equal treatment, without discrimination
- Free movement: Reasonable ticket prices
- Land: Domain land for practicing agriculture

> *"It is difficult to find the right jobs, even if they have studied for it in Haiti.*
> *There are surgeons from Haiti who work under the market."*
>
> *"Il est difficile de trouver les bons emplois, même s'ils ont étudié pour cela en Haïti.*
> *Il y a des chirurgiens d'Haïti qui travaillent sous le marché."*

# Brazilian Migrants (focus group)

## 1. General Information & Context of migration

- Overall most of the participants live in Suriname for a long time (8-33 years) and have their family here

- They are still facing a language barrier (some speak Dutch/Sranan Tongo)

- Living in Suriname is pleasant because of the weather, the education system and Suriname is safe for safety reasons

## 2. Living Conditions & Family Structure

- Although the economic situation worsened, life in Suriname is still better because of the lower crime and violence rates.

- They still prefer to live in Suriname, because their family/kids are here.

Other challenges are the language barrier, which make the process to become a citizen or have a permit stay difficult.

- House rent is too high and they are discriminated as migrants.

## 3. Working Conditions

-All participants are working (mostly for other Brazilians) or run their own business.

- They sometimes feel discriminated, mostly because of the language barrier.

- Most of them are paid in cash, because they do not have a bank account in SRD's. They also send money to their family via Western Union, Moneygram and also via cambio's.

## 4. Integration and Assistance

- The process of getting their permit stay is very slow

- The Surinamese Embassy is more helpful than the Brazilian Embassy

- The Alien Affairs online form is only in English/Dutch, which make it difficult to process and it cost a lot of money to translate the document (US 100,0)

- They have their permit stay, some have their ID card and almost half of the participants have their drivers license.

## 5. Concentrations in Suriname

- Mostly in Paramaribo North (Clevia, Anamoestraat, Jozef Israelstraat, Prinsessestraat)

- Commewijne

- Interior (Sipaliwini /Brokopondo), because of the gold mines

- Para

## 6. Main obstacles/wishes

- No one receive social benefits and there is also lack of knowledge regarding their rights (they pay their own medical insurance)

- The economic crisis (basic needs, transportation, house rent expensive)

- Translation of papers, websites, application forms in Portugese

- Improvement of immigration policy: quicker/easier process for citizenship/legalisation

- Some of them would like to buy a piece of land or real estate

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*"It is easier to survive here for everyone who wants to work.*
*There are a lot of options here to be able to survive".*

*"Aqui é mais fácil sobreviver para quem quer trabalhar.*
*Há muitas opções aqui para poder sobreviver".*

# Cuban Migrants (focus group)

**1. General Information & Context of migration**

- The participants are less than 1 year in Suriname; they came from Havana, Camaguey and Las Tunas (Cuba)

- Overall Suriname is experienced as: a pleasant country (nice society), better economic situation than Cuba; less crime and they feel like home and adapt quite well in Suriname

**2. Living Conditions & Family Structure**

- Their life quality in Suriname depends mainly on their economic/work situations; It is difficult to save or send money to relatives in Cuba

- They have better facilities in Suriname and they chose for Suriname because of the easy accessibility (online visa)

- They came alone to Suriname (without their family)

**3. Working Conditions**

- Most of the time they are being discriminated at work. Because of their language barrier their employers also take advantage of them and sometimes even exploit them.

- They work in construction, in a sawmill, carpentry as a mechanic and as a babysitter, without a contract/work permit

- In Suriname these migrants usually do a less valued job than what they studied for in Cuba
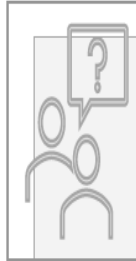
**4. Integration and Assistance**

- There is no support from authorities or the government regarding integration and the language barrier obviously plays an important role

- Only one respondent knew the Cuban embassy; Cubans try to support each other in Suriname

- Access to healthcare and discrimination are major problems

**5. Concentrations in Suriname**

- Paramaribo (North, South)

- Interior (working in construction and gold fields)

**6. Main obstacles/wishes**

- Affordable housing

- Getting papers in order (residence permit)

- Good working conditions (no discrimination and better wages)

- Improving the language barrier

- Optimal access to health care

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*"Suriname is a pleasant country. Here and there you have cases of crime, but compared to Cuba and other countries, Suriname is not that bad."*

*"Surinam es un país agradable. Aquí y allá tienes casos de delincuencia, pero comparado con Cuba y otros países, Surinam no está tan mal."*

# Guyanese Migrants (focus group & interviews)



**1. General Information & Context of migration**

- Participants are a family with parents and six children (two are born in Guyana)

- They live for more than 44 years in Suriname; they came from Corantijn village (Guyana)

- The main reason they came to Suriname, was because they could not survive living in Guyana (too expensive)

- In Suriname there is more security and back then, the economy was far healthier in Suriname, and there is less racial discrimination than Suriname

**2. Living Conditions & Family Structure**

- Surinamese people are friendly and there is less crime compared to Guyana

- The kids go to school and teach Dutch language to their parents

- Most Guyanese come to Suriname because they struggled

- The participants want to stay in Suriname because their kids/grandkids are here

**3. Working Conditions**

- They work in construction, building houses, as mechanic/hydraulic and as pastor; the wife worked as maid. Children have government jobs.

- In the beginning it was not easy to find a job and they were discriminated and being underpaid

- Most of the Guyanese in general work also in agriculture and fisheries (most of them own their own boats)

**4. Integration and Assistance**

- They arranged their own accommodation and bought a piece of land; they also build churches (the father is also a pastor)

- They got their residence stay after 10 years and their Surinamese nationality after 20 years living in Suriname

- In the beginning there were some language barriers, but along the way they learned Sranan tongo and Dutch

**5. Concentrations in Suriname**

- Nickerie

- Commewijne: Marienburg, Pomona, Braamspunt

- Paramaribo: Pomona, Abrobroki, Leonsberg, Charlesburg

**6. Main obstacles/wishes**

- Difficulties with getting permits/process of naturalization

- Guyanese are often underpaid and sometimes discriminated for being Indians that did not speak Hindi

- Some of them face language barriers

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*"I love Suriname because I came here young, and it has been 40 years of living here. I love here."*

# Chinese Migrants (interviews)

## 1. General Information & Context of migration
- Overall the respondents live for more than 20 years in Suriname
- They came from Kenton and Hainan (China)
- All these migrants live with their family in Suriname and were also accomodated by family when they came to Suriname
- Live in Suriname is free and easy

## 2. Living Conditions & Family Structure
- According to some participants living in China is better (technology and less expensive)
- Economic independence after 10-30 years working and they achieved their goal
- All of them had family in Suriname; some came alone
- They won't go back to live in China, mainly because their family lives here

## 3. Working Conditions
- They own their own business (supermarket/restaurant)
- For some it was difficult to find work in the beginning and other worked for their family
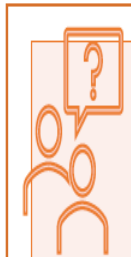
## 4. Integration and Assistance
- For some learning Dutch was difficult, while other learn it in school/at work (in the shop)
- They live with their family in Suriname and their children go to Dutch/English schools, so learning is not difficult for them

## 5. Concentrations in Suriname
Most Chinese live in Paramaribo, because there are more people living there (better for doing business)

## 6. Main obstacles/wishes
- Assistance with medical insurance and permits
- Overall help from the government is needed regarding health/financial assistance

*"It is better living here. If you have everything here, your family and your friends, you are used to living here, then living here is better."*

# Summary interviews Guyanese Migrants
## (fieldvisit Nickerie)

## Context of migration to Suriname

The participants live for respectively 16 years and 40 years in Suriname. They came with their family from Berbice and Bartica (Guyana). In Suriname they had to arrange their accommodation by themselves.

## Working conditions

They worked in various jobs, namely as allrounder (supermarket), as mason, in the rice sector, farming, fisherman, in construction and much more. In the beginning it was for some of the respondents difficult to work, because of their language barriers, but nevertheless there was very little discrimination experienced. Although it wasn't difficult to find a job, most of the time the Guyanese migrants were underpaid.

## Living conditions

Overall, their life in Suriname is better and they want to stay here.

## Integration and assistance

In general, they had to find out everything regarding amenities (health insurance, residence permit, etc.) by themselves. The government didn't help or give information. In some cases, family/friends/employers helped with their integration process.

## Concentrations

Most of the Guyanese live scattered throughout Nickerie.

## Family structure

One of the Guyanese migrants lives with his family (wife and children) in Suriname, while the others have family in Guyana (parents, children, siblings). It was not difficult for the children to adjust to Surinamese schools. They speak Dutch and have good jobs.

# Summary interviews Brazilian Migrants
# (fieldvisit Brokopondo)

Summary Interviews Brazilian Migrants (fieldvisit Brokopondo)

## Context of migration to Suriname

- The Brazilian migrants in Brokopondo have been living between 4 months and 5 years in Suriname. They came from Marajo (Brazil).
- Living in Suriname is pleasant, because it is calmer and easier to survive/find work compared to Brazil.
- All respondents indicate that they came alone to Suriname to work in the goldmines.

## Working conditions

The Brazilian migrants working as 'Garimpeiro's' work for a boss or rent the area/camp of the mine. They don't experience any discrimination or language barriers.

## Living conditions

Overall living in Suriname is better compared to Brazil, because there is more work (higher incomes), and they prefer to stay in Suriname.

## Integration and assistance

- In general, they don't have medical insurance, residence permits or other amenities.
- They are also not familiar with the role of the government. Some have friends in the city who help them if needed.

## Concentrations

The respondents are only familiar with Brazilians working in the gold mines in Brokopondo, namely the areas 'Vila Brazil' and 'Mama Ndyuka'.

## 4.2 Georeferenced mapping using administrative population data, secondary data and qualitative data

**Figure 8a: Georeferenced mapping by resort over district**

| | Resort of residence | Aruba AB | Antillen AN | Brazilië BR | China CN | Curaçao CW | Dominica DO | Frans Guyana GF | Guyana GY | Hong Kong HK | Haïti HT | Indonesia ID | India IN | Nederland NL | USA US |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Paramaribo** | Blauwgrond | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Munder | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Centrum | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Beekhuizen | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Rainville | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Latour | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Livorno | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pontbuiten | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Tammenga | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Flora | 67 | 73 | 185 | 1,700 | 134 | 534 | 2,351 | 2,374 | 110 | 95 | 40 | 64 | 626 | 207 |
| **Wanica** | Houttuin | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | De Nieuwe Grond | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Lelydorp | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Kwatta | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Domburg | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Saramacca Polder | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Koewarasan | | 13 | 33 | 180 | 24 | 52 | 884 | 848 | | 227 | 22 | | 111 | 19 |

| District | Subdistrict | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Para | Noord | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Oost | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Zuid | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Carolina | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Bigi Poika | 4 | 4 | 8 | 15 | 3 | 3 | 220 | 121 | 3 | 7 | 28 | 7 |
| Commewijne | Nieuw-Amsterdam | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Bakie | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Meerzorg | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Alkmaar | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Tamanredjo | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Margaretha | | | 9 | 38 | | 7 | 125 | 606 | 16 | 23 | 31 | |
| Saramacca | Tijgerkreek | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Groningen | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Jarikaba | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Wayamboweg | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Kampong Baroe | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Calcutta | | | 3 | 27 | 3 | | 18 | 184 | 87 | 2 | 15 | 2 |
| Nickerie | Wageningen | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Groot Henar | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Oostelijke Polders | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Nieuw-Nickerie | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Westelijke Polders | | | 11 | 43 | | 29 | 22 | 1,167 | | | 12 | |
| Coronie | Welgelegen | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Totness | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Johanna Maria | | | | | | | | 4 | | | | |

| District | Resort | Aruba? | Antillen | Brazilië | China | Curaçao | Dominica | Frans Guyana | Guyana | Hong Kong | Haïti | Indonesia | India | Nederland | USA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Marowijne | Albina | | | | ███ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Galibi | | | | ███ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Moengo | | | | ███ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Wanhatti | | | | ███ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Patamacca | | | | ███ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Moengo Tapoe | | | | ███ | | | 5 | 2,483 | | | | | | |
| Brokopondo | Kwakoegron | | | ███ | | | ███ | | | | | | | ███ | |
| | Marshallkreek | | | ███ | | | ███ | | | | | | | ███ | |
| | Klaaskreek | | | ███ | | | ███ | | | | | | | ███ | |
| | Brownsweg | | | ███ | | | ███ | | | | | | | ███ | |
| | Sarakreek | | | ███ | | | ███ | | | | | | | ███ | |
| | Centrum | | | ███ | | | ███ | 2 | 54 | | | | | ███ | |
| Sipaliwini | Tapanahoni | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Boven-Suriname | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Boven-Saramacca | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Boven-Coppename | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Kabalebo | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Coeroeni | | | | | | | 1204 | 327 | | | | | | |

| Aruba? | Antillen | Brazilië | China | Curaçao | Dominica | Frans Guyana | Guyana | Hong Kong | Haïti | Indonesia | India | Nederland | USA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

**Note:** This figure represents the migrant groups living in each resort. A Resort is the smallest unit of residence captured in administrative population data. Suriname is 'divided' in 64 resorts over 10 districts. If the migrant group is represented by more than 1%, it is colored according to the color assigned to that group. There are more nationalities in Suriname than listed above, only they are very small in number. The 'larger' migrant groups are listed above. The blank cells refer to less than 1% of a specific migrant group living in that area. Please note that about 5% of the population has a migrant background. For example: Paramaribo: in all resorts you can find the migrant groups listed. But in district Wanica, there are almost no migrants from e.g. Aruba, Hong Kong and India.

**Figure 8b: Georeferenced mapping by resort over district: figures by resort and total**

| Resort of residence | Aruba? AB | Antillen AN | Brazilie BR | China CN | Curcao CW | Dominica DO | Frans Guyana GF | Guyana GY | Hong Kong HK | Haiti HT | Indonesia ID | India IN | Nederland NL | USA US |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Blauwgrond | 16 | 15 | 24 | 240 | 21 | 98 | 369 | 387 | 11 | 17 | 8 | 14 | 111 | 35 |
| Munder | 15 | 19 | 35 | 461 | 35 | 111 | 414 | 485 | 33 | 28 | 8 | 18 | 126 | 65 |
| Centrum | 16 | 14 | 41 | 372 | 27 | 118 | 482 | 396 | 35 | 12 | 4 | 7 | 95 | 36 |
| Beekhuizen | 9 | 10 | 45 | 252 | 24 | 92 | 373 | 416 | 17 | 26 | 7 | 14 | 107 | 47 |
| Rainville | 7 | 14 | 23 | 356 | 22 | 80 | 333 | 365 | 13 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 107 | 19 |
| Latour | 2 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 24 | 170 14 | 101 14 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 24 | 4 |
| Livorno | 2 | 0 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 50 | 1 |
| Pontbuiten | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tammenga | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Flora | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Houttuin | 1 | 2 | 2 | 22 | 2 | 3 | 54 | 63 | 0 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 2 |
| De Nieuwe Grond | 2 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 17 | 69 | 102 | 0 | 28 | 6 | 1 | 12 | 2 |
| Lelydorp | 2 | 2 | 6 | 17 | 3 | 6 | 52 | 123 | 1 | 51 | 5 | 3 | 23 | 0 |
| Kwatta | 0 | 2 | 7 | 70 | 0 | 8 | 63 | 82 | 8 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 22 | 3 |
| Domburg | 1 | 0 | 4 | 56 | 10 | 5 | 87 | 124 | 1 | 27 | 3 | 3 | 23 | 7 |
| Saramacca Polder | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 253 | 87 | 0 | 17 | 1 | 0 | 13 | 1 |
| Koewarasan | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 183 | 147 | 0 | 51 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 2 |
| Noord | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 1 | 3 |
| Oost | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 1 | | 4 | 0 |
| Zuid | 1 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 71 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | 6 | 0 |
| Carolina | 1 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 44 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 4 | | 8 | 0 |

Paramaribo

| | C1 | C2 | C3 | C4 | C5 | C6 | C7 | C8 | C9 | C10 | C11 | C12 | C13 | C14 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bigi Poika | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Nieuw-Amsterdam | | 1 | 4 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 105 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 4 | 2 |
| Bakie | | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 36 | 0 | 4 | 2 | | 0 | 0 |
| Meerzorg | | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 64 | 0 | 1 | 7 | | 1 | 0 |
| Alkmaar | | 1 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 18 | 101 | 0 | 1 | 9 | | 8 | 1 |
| Tamanredjo | | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 15 | 57 | 1 | 3 | 3 | | 2 | 0 |
| Margaretha | | 1 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 39 | 54 | 0 | 3 | 1 | | 2 | 0 |
| Tijgerkreek | | | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 37 | 0 | 20 | 0 | | 9 | 2 |
| Groningen | | | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Jarikaba | | | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 29 | 0 | 33 | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Wayamboweg | | | 0 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 1 | 14 | 2 | | 4 | 0 |
| Kampong Baroe | | | | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Calcutta | | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 0 | 5 | 0 | | 2 | 0 |
| Wageningen | 0 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 174 | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| Groot Henar | 3 | 1 | 2 | 18 | 0 | 13 | 9 | 266 | 1 | | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Oostelijke Polders | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 67 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Nieuw-Nickerie | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 105 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Westelijke Polders | 1 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 174 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Welgelegen | | | | 0 | | | 0 | 13 | | 0 | | | 0 | |
| Totness | | | | 0 | | | 1 | 11 | | 0 | | | 0 | |
| Johanna Maria | | | | 0 | | | 1 | 7 | | 0 | | | 0 | |
| Albina | 0 | | | 2 | 0 | 1 | 460 | 5 | 0 | | | | 0 | |
| Galibi | 0 | | | 13 | 0 | 1 | 187 | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | |
| Moengo | 0 | | | 11 | 1 | 1 | 696 | 5 | 0 | | | | 0 | |
| Wanhatti | 1 | | | 4 | 0 | 0 | 576 | 2 | 0 | | | | 0 | |
| Patamacca | 0 | | | 1 | 0 | 2 | 266 | 2 | 0 | | | | 1 | |

| Resort | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Moengo Tapoe | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Kwakoegron | | 4 | | | 2 | 19 | 1 | | | 0 |
| Marshallkreek | | 1 | | | 0 | 8 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Klaaskreek | | 0 | | | 0 | 2 | 1 | | | 0 |
| Brownsweg | | 0 | | | 0 | 19 | 1 | | | 1 |
| Sarakreek | | 0 | | | 0 | 1 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Centrum | | 0 | | | 0 | 4 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Tapanahoni | | | 0 | | 0 | 205 | 118 | | 1 | |
| Boven-Suriname | | | 0 | | 1 | 321 | 4 | | 0 | |
| Boven-Saramacca | | | 1 | | 0 | 323 | 18 | | 0 | |
| Boven-Coppename | | | 0 | | 0 | 160 | 35 | | 0 | |
| Kabalebo | | | 0 | | 0 | 193 | 60 | | 0 | |
| Coeroeni | | | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | | 0 | |

**Note:** This figure represents the migrant groups living in each resort. A Resort is the smallest unit of residence captured in administrative population data. Suriname is 'divided' in 64 resorts over 10 districts. If the migrant group is represented by more than 1%, it is colored according to the color assigned to that group. There are more nationalities in Suriname than listed above, only they are very small in number. The 'larger' migrant groups are listed above. The blank cells refer to less than 1% of a specific migrant group living in that area. Please note that about 5% of the population has a migrant background. For example: according to statistics of the district Paramaribo, resort Blauwgrond has 16 persons from Aruba, 240 from China etc, who are registered at the Civil Registry Office (2021). Other findings from the research indicate that indeed in Paramaribo, there are Chinese migrants living in resort Blauwgrond.

**Figure 9: Overall georeferenced mapping by resort over district: figures by resort and total and percentages of migrants**

| | Country of birth / nationality | Aruba? | Antillen | Brazilie | China | Curcao | Dominica | Frans Guyana | Guyana | Hong Kong | Haiti | Indonesia | India | Nederland | USA | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Resort of residence | | AB | AN | BR | CN | CW | DO | GF | GY | HK | HT | ID | IN | NL | US | | | |
| Blauw-grond | A | 16 | 15 | 24 | 240 | 21 | 98 | 369 | 387 | 11 | 17 | 8 | 14 | 111 | 35 | 1440 | 0.03 | 41,590 |
| Munder | B | 15 | 19 | 35 | 461 | 35 | 111 | 414 | 485 | 33 | 28 | 8 | 18 | 126 | 65 | 1936 | 0.04 | 48,462 |
| Centrum | C | 16 | 14 | 41 | 372 | 27 | 118 | 482 | 396 | 35 | 12 | 4 | 7 | 95 | 36 | 1722 | 0.04 | 39,967 |
| Beekhui-zen | D | 9 | 10 | 45 | 252 | 24 | 92 | 373 | 416 | 17 | 26 | 7 | 14 | 107 | 47 | 1489 | 0.03 | 43,522 |
| Rainville | E | 7 | 14 | 23 | 356 | 22 | 80 | 333 | 365 | 13 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 107 | 19 | 1448 | 0.04 | 34,862 |
| Latour | F | 2 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 24 | 17014 | 10114 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 24 | 4 | 89 | 0.01 | 10,013 |
| Livorno | G | 2 | 0 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 50 | 1 | 107 | 0.01 | 12,462 |
| Pontbui-ten | H | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0.00 | 1513 |
| Tammen-ga | I | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 34 | 0.01 | 2775 |
| Flora | J | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0.02 | 551 |
| | d | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 17 |
| Total migrants | total | 67 | 73 | 185 | 1,700 | 134 | 534 | 2,351 | 2,374 | 110 | 95 | 40 | 64 | 626 | 207 | 8944 | 0.04 | 235,734 |
| % migrants by nationality | % tot migr.pop.D1 | 1% | 1% | 2% | 19% | 1% | 6% | 26% | 27% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 7% | 2% | 100% | | |
| % total pop | % tot pop.D2 | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 4% | | |

Paramaribo

| Country of birth /nationality | | | Brazilie | Chi na | Curac ao | | | | | | | | | | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Resort of residence | | AB | AN | BR | CN | CW | DO | GF | GY | HK | HT | ID | IN | NL | US | | | |
| Houttuin | A | 1 | 2 | 2 | 22 | 2 | 3 | 54 | 63 | 0 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 189 | 1% | 12,815 |
| De Nieuwe Grond | B | 2 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 17 | 69 | 102 | 0 | 28 | 6 | 1 | 12 | 2 | 260 | 1% | 20,564 |
| Lelydorp | C | 2 | 2 | 6 | 17 | 3 | 6 | 52 | 123 | 1 | 51 | 5 | 3 | 23 | 0 | 303 | 1% | 21,496 |
| Kwatta | D | 0 | 2 | 7 | 70 | 0 | 8 | 63 | 82 | 8 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 22 | 3 | 293 | 2% | 14,109 |
| Domburg | E | 1 | 0 | 4 | 56 | 10 | 5 | 87 | 124 | 1 | 27 | 3 | 3 | 23 | 7 | 359 | 2% | 22,292 |
| Sarama-cca Polder | F | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 253 | 87 | 0 | 17 | 1 | 0 | 13 | 1 | 391 | 2% | 16,898 |
| Koewara-san | G | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 183 | 147 | 0 | 51 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 2 | 424 | 3% | 15,179 |
| 02H | H | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 34 | 47 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 109 | 2% | 5,587 |
| 02I | I | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 81 | 58 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 2 | 162 | 2% | 8,042 |
| 02J | J | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 26 | 2% | 1,570 |
| total migrants | | 6 | 13 | 33 | 180 | 24 | 52 | 884 | 848 | 10 | 227 | 22 | 10 | 131 | 19 | 2516 | 2% | 138,552 |
| % migrants by nationa-lity | | 0% | 1% | 1% | 7% | 1% | 2% | 35% | 34% | 0% | 9% | 1% | 0% | 5% | 1% | 100% | | |
| % total pop | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 2% | | |

| Resort of residence | Country of birth/nationality | AB | AN (Antillen) | BR (Brazilian) | CN (China) | CW | DO (Dominican) | GF (Fr. Guyana) | GY (Guyana) | HK (Hong Kong) | HT (Haiti) | ID (India) | JM | NL (Netherlands) | US (USA) | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Noord | 03A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 29 | 1% | 2,520 |
| Oost | 03B | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 52 | 2% | 2,824 |
| Zuid | 03C | 1 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 71 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 105 | 1% | 7,001 |
| Carolina | 03D | 1 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 44 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 99 | 1% | 6,941 |
| Bigi Poika | 03E | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 1% | 1,490 |
| 03F | 03F | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 40 | 2% | 2,363 |
| 03G | 03G | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 22 | 1% | 2,851 |
| 03H | 03H | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% | 20 |
| 03I | 03I | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 39 | 1% | 2,830 |
| 03J | 03J | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 29 | 2% | 1,448 |
| total migrants | | 4 | 4 | 8 | 15 | 3 | 3 | 220 | 121 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 28 | 7 | 432 | 1% | 30,288 |
| % migrants by nationality | | 1% | 1% | 2% | 3% | 1% | 1% | 51% | 28% | 0% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 6% | 2% | 100% | | |
| % total pop | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | | 0% | 1% | | | |
| | Country of birth / nationality | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |

| Resort of residence | | AN | BR | CN | CW | DO | GF | GY | HK | HT | ID | JM | NL | US | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nieuw-Amsterdam | 04A | 1 | 4 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 105 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 141 | 3% | 4,638 |
| Bakie | 04B | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 36 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 53 | 2% | 2,520 |
| Meerzorg | 04C | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 64 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 92 | 3% | 2,900 |
| Alkmaar | 04D | 1 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 18 | 101 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 159 | 2% | 7,993 |
| Tamanredjo | 04E | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 15 | 57 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 92 | 3% | 3,051 |
| Margaretha | 04F | 1 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 39 | 54 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 108 | 2% | 6,161 |
| 04G | 04G | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 34 | 3% | 992 |
| 04H | 04H | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 14 | 147 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 183 | 5% | 3,491 |
| 04I | 04I | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1% | 1,047 |
| 04J | 04J | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 4% | 266 |
| total migrants | | 4 | 9 | 38 | 4 | 7 | 125 | 606 | 1 | 16 | 23 | 2 | 31 | 4 | 883 | 3% | 33,059 |
| % migrants by nationality | | 0% | 1% | 4% | 0% | 1% | 14% | 69% | 0% | 2% | 3% | 0% | 4% | 0% | 100% | | |
| % total pop | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 2% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 3% | | |
| | Country of birth / nationality | | Brazilians | China | | Dominican | Fr. Guyana | Guyana | Hong Kong | Haiti | | India | | Netherlands | USA | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
| Resort of residence | | | BR | CN | CW | DO | GF | GY | HK | HT | ID | JM | NL | US | | | Total |

| | | AB | AN | BR | CN | CW | DO | GF | GY | HK | | ID | IN | JM | NL | US | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tijger-kreek | 05A | | | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 37 | 0 | | 20 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 2 | 80 | 2% | 4,844 |
| Gronin-gen | 05B | | | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 0 | | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 1% | 1,455 |
| Jarikaba | 05C | | | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 29 | 0 | | 33 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 85 | 3% | 2,464 |
| Wayambo weg | 05D | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 1 | | 14 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 40 | 1% | 2,847 |
| Kampong Baroe | 05E | | | | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 1% | 728 |
| Calcutta | 05F | | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 0 | | 5 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 37 | 1% | 3,182 |
| 05G | 05G | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2% | 105 |
| 05H | 05H | | | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 50 | 0 | | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 61 | 5% | 1,262 |
| 05I | 05I | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 17% | 23 |
| 05J | 05J | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 5% | 200 |
| total migrants | total | | | 3 | 27 | 3 | 1 | 18 | 184 | 1 | | 87 | 2 | 2 | 15 | 2 | 347 | 2% | 17,110 |
| % migrants by nationality | | | | 1% | 8% | 1% | 0% | 5% | 53% | 0% | | 25% | 1% | 1% | 4% | 1% | 100% | | |
| % total pop | | | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% | | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 2% | | |
| | Country of birth / nationality | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
| Resort of residence | | AB | AN | BR | CN | CW | DO | GF | GY | HK | | ID | IN | J M | NL | US | | | Total |
| Wagenin-gen | 06A | 0 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 174 | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 202 | 4% | 5,088 |

| Resort | Code | | | | China | | | Fr. Guyana | Guyana | | | | | Netherlands | | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Groot Henar | 06B | 3 | 1 | 2 | 18 | 0 | 13 | 9 | 266 | 1 | | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 329 | 4% | 7,500 |
| Oostelijke Polders | 06C | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 67 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 71 | 5% | 1,438 |
| Nieuw-Nickerie | 06D | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 105 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 113 | 3% | 3,812 |
| Weste-lijke polders | 06E | 1 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 174 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 196 | 4% | 4,428 |
| 06F | 06F | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 5% | 493 |
| 06G | 06G | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 173 | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 189 | 5% | 3,771 |
| 06H | 06H | 6 | 1 | 11 | 43 | 2 | 29 | 22 | 1,167 | 1 | | 3 | 4 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 1,323 | 4% | 31,683 |
| 06I | 06I | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 168 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 176 | 4% | 4,819 |
| 06J | 06J | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 6% | 334 |
| total migrants | | 6 | 1 | 11 | 43 | 2 | 29 | 22 | 1,167 | 1 | | 3 | 4 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 1,323 | 4% | 31,683 |
| % migrants by nationa-lity | | 0% | 0% | 1% | 3% | 0% | 2% | 2% | 88% | 0% | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 100% | | |
| % total pop | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 4% | 0% | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 4% | | |
| | Country of birth / nationality | | | | Chi na | | | Fr. Guya na | Guya na | Hai ti | | | | Netherla nds | | Total migr. Pop | % migran t pop. | Total pop |
| Resort of residence | | | | | CN | | | GF | GY | HT | | | | NL | | Total | | |
| Welgele-gen | A | | | | 0 | | | 0 | 13 | 0 | | | | 0 | | 13 | 2% | 669 |

| | | | China | | Dominican | France Guyana | Guyana | Hong kong | Netherlands | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
| | | AB | CN | CW | DO | GF | GY | HK | NL | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Totness | B | | 0 | | | 1 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 2% | 798 |
| Johanna Maria | C | | 0 | | | 1 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 3% | 280 |
| 07D | D | | 1 | | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1% | 239 |
| 07E | E | | 1 | | | 1 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 15 | 3% | 593 |
| 07F | F | | 0 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 33% | 12 |
| 07G | G | | 0 | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3% | 102 |
| 07H | H | | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% | 157 |
| total migrants | | | 1 | | | 4 | 43 | 1 | 4 | 53 | 2% | 2850 |
| % migrants by nationality | | | 2% | | | 8% | 81% | 2% | 8% | 100% | | |
| % total pop | | | 0% | | | 0% | 2% | 0% | 0% | 2% | | |
| | Country of birth / nationality | | China | | Dominican | France Guyana | Guyana | Hong kong | Netherlands | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
| Resort of residence | | AB | CN | CW | DO | GF | GY | HK | NL | | | Total |
| Albina | A | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 460 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 468 | 10% | 4,922 |
| Galibi | B | 0 | 13 | 0 | 1 | 187 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 205 | 13% | 1,530 |
| Moengo | C | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 696 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 716 | 13% | 5,531 |
| Wanhatti | D | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 576 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 585 | 10% | 5,694 |
| Patama-cca | E | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 266 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 273 | 13% | 2,139 |

| Resort | code | | Brazilian | | Dominican | France Guyana | Guyana | | | | Netherlands | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Moengo Tapoe | F | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 4 | 11% | 35 |
| 08G | G | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 12 | 13% | 96 |
| 08H | H | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 235 | 2 | 0 | | | 0 | 237 | 23% | 1,022 |
| 08I | I | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0% | 14 |
| 08J | J | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 47 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 47 | 24% | 199 |
| total migrants | | 1 | 31 | 1 | 5 | 2,483 | 17 | 2 | | | 2 | 2547 | 12% | 21,182 |
| % migrants by nationality | | 0% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 97% | 1% | 0% | | | 0% | 100% | | |
| % total pop | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 12% | 0% | 0% | | | 0% | 12% | | |

| | Country of birth / nationality | | Brazilian | | Dominican | France Guyana | Guyana | | | | Netherlands | Total migr. Pop | % migrant pop. | Total pop |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Resort of residence | code | | BR | | DO | GF | GY | | | | NL | | | |
| Kwakoegron | A | | 4 | | 2 | 19 | 1 | | | | 0 | 26 | 1% | 4,179 |
| Marshallkreek | B | | 1 | | 0 | 8 | 0 | | | | 0 | 9 | 1% | 1,777 |
| Klaaskreek | C | | 0 | | 0 | 2 | 1 | | | | 0 | 3 | 0% | 1,502 |
| Brownsweg | D | | 0 | | 0 | 19 | 1 | | | | 1 | 21 | 1% | 2,285 |
| Sarakreek | E | | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | | | | 0 | 1 | 0% | 3,108 |
| Centrum | F | | 0 | | 0 | 4 | 0 | | | | 0 | 4 | 0% | 1,902 |

| Resort of residence | code | China (CN) | Dominican (DO) | French Guyana (GF) | Gyana (GY) | India (ID) | | total migrants | migr.pop% | Total population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 09G | G | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 2% | 45 |
| Total | | 5 | 2 | 54 | 3 | | 1 | 65 | 0% | 14,798 |
| % of total migr Pop | | 8% | 3% | 83% | 5% | | 2% | 100% | | |
| % of tot. pop | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | | 0% | 0% | | |
| | Birth place/ nationa-lity | China | Domini can | French Guyana | Gyan a | Ind ia | | total migra nts | migr.po p% | Total populat ion |
| Resort of residence | code | CN | DO | GF | GY | ID | | | | |
| Tapana-honi | A | 0 | 0 | 205 | 118 | 1 | | 324 | 5% | 7,025 |
| Boven-Suriname | B | 0 | 1 | 321 | 4 | 0 | | 327 | 3% | 10,745 |
| Boven-Saramac-ca | C | 1 | 0 | 323 | 18 | 0 | | 342 | 6% | 6,190 |
| Boven-Coppe-name | D | 0 | 0 | 160 | 35 | 0 | | 195 | 3% | 7,734 |
| Kabalebo | E | 0 | 0 | 193 | 60 | 0 | | 253 | 6% | 4,034 |
| Coeroeni | F | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | 1 | 1% | 174 |
| 10G | G | 0 | 0 | 0 | 75 | 1 | | 76 | 10% | 737 |
| 10H | H | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | | 4 | 5% | 82 |
| 10I | I | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0% | 65 |
| 10J | J | 0 | 0 | 1 | 13 | 0 | | 15 | 9% | 167 |
| total migr pop | | 1 | 1 | 1,204 | 327 | 2 | | 1537 | 4% | 36,953 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **% migr by nationa- lity** | | | | | 0% | | 0% | 78% | 21% | | | 0% | | | 100% | |
| **% migr tot pop** | | | | | 0% | | 0% | 3% | 1% | | | 0% | | | 4% | |

**Note:** This figure represents the migrant groups living in each resort. A resort is the smallest unit of residence captured in administrative population data. Suriname is 'divided' in 64 resorts over 10 districts. In each cell the number of migrants living in that resort is mentioned. If the migrant group is represented by more than 1%, it is colored according to the color assigned to that group. There are more nationalities in Suriname than listed above, only they are very small in number. The 'larger' migrant groups are listed above. The blank cells refer to less than 1 % of a specific migrant group living in that area. Please note that about 5% of the population has a migrant background. For example: according to statistics of district Paramaribo, resort Blauwgrond has 16 persons from Aruba, 240 from China etc, who are registered at the Civil registry Office (2021). Other findings from the research indicate that indeed in Paramaribo, there are Chinese migrants living in resort Blauwgrond. The figures in the last columns and rows also have the distribution of migrants per group, as well as the distribution of migrants (in %).

# Chapter 5   Living conditions of migrants in Suriname

In this chapter an overview of the main characteristics and living conditions of migrants is presented based on secondary data as well as primary data from the qualitative research. For each main migrant group, the demographics and other background variables are presented and discussed, by using the data of the 2016 Suriname Survey of Living Conditions, the 2014 Household Budget Survey and the 2014 Latin American Public Opinion Project. To update and validate these findings, qualitative research through in-depth interviews and focus group sessions have been carried out. In this case the snowball method was used to decide upon the number of interviews.

## 5.1 Main findings of the 2016 Suriname Survey of Living Conditions

The Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) conducted the Suriname Survey of Living Conditions (SSLC) 2016-2017 in close collaboration with the Government of Suriname (the Energy company of Suriname (EBS) and the Central Bank of Suriname (CBvS). The SSLC was carried out to assess the living circumstances and provide crucial data necessary to examine the incidence and living standards of migrants in Suriname.

*For this study, it is noteworthy that the analysis of the SSLC data is based on the variable 'country of birth', because there are no other questions regarding the nationality of the respondents. This variable is used to give an indication of people who were not born in Suriname. Respondents from this group are certainly migrants or have a migrant background.*

*Nevertheless, it must be recognized that although Surinamese citizens have been excluded, there might be people with a migrant background who became Surinamese at a later stage. Only the respondents living shorter than 10 years in Suriname are included in this analysis since the chance that they might be a migrant is high. For analyzing the variables 'employment' and 'income', the respondents of 18 years and older have been included.*

The SSLC data indicate that most of the respondents (95%) were born in Suriname and about 5% in another country. The indicated 5% of 'migrant population' is in line with the statistics from the Census 2012 and the Civil Registry Office (6-7%). The persons born in Guyana make up about 2%, followed by persons born in French Guyana of about 1%. Other countries of birth that were mentioned concerned the Netherlands, Brazil, China and Haiti. Only a few respondents (0.5%) were born in countries such as Argentina, Belgium, Colombia, Curacao, Germany, France, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Trinidad, USA, Venezuela, Cuba and the Dominican Republic.

Based on the years residing in Suriname (see table 14), 95% of the respondents have been residing more than 20 years in Suriname, 3% for less than 10 years and a small group (2%) has been living in Suriname between 10-20 years. The group that has been living less than 10 years in Suriname, can be identified as the main migrant group and comprises 2% of the Surinamese population (n=6461), of which 58% are Brazilian migrants (n=19), 39% are migrants from the Netherlands (n=52) and 22.6% are Guyanese migrants (n=159). The migrant groups that mainly have resided more than 20 years in Suriname are those from the Netherlands (42.3%; n=52), Guyana (65%; n=159), French Guyana (82%; n=96) and Haiti (67%; n=12).

**Table 14: Country of birth by years residing in Suriname**

| Country of birth | Years residing in Suriname | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | <10 years (%) | 10-20 years (%) | >20 years (%) | Total (N) |
| Suriname | 2 | 1 | 97 | 6461 |
| Netherlands | 38 | 19 | 42 | 52 |
| Guyana | 23 | 13 | 65 | 159 |
| Brasil | 58 | 26 | 16 | 19 |
| French Guyana | 18 | 0 | 82 | 96 |
| China | 8 | 62 | 31 | 13 |
| Haïti | 17 | 17 | 67 | 12 |
| Other | 48 | 4 | 48 | 25 |
| **Total** | **3** | **2** | **95** | **6837** |

Source: SSLC, 2016

Note: the groups that are marked 'grey' are not included in the analysis of migrants in the following part of this section. The group that is marked 'yellow' is included in the migrant's analysis since these Surinamese remigrated to Suriname.

**Table 15: Demographics of migrants using SSLC data, 2016**

| Demographic variables | Surinamese Migrants < 10 years | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | French Guyanese | Chinese | Haitian |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Sex** | | | | | | | |
| Male | 55 | 58 | 38 | 37 | 46 | 54 | 58 |
| Female | 45 | 42 | 62 | 63 | 54 | 46 | 42 |
| **Total (n) = 100%** | **114** | **52** | **159** | **19** | **96** | **13** | **12** |
| **Highest level of education attended** | | | | | | | |
| Primary | 13 | 8 | 39 | 17 | 21 | 20 | 42 |
| Junior Secondary (LTS, MULO, LBO, ULO) | 37 | 32 | 42 | 42 | 43 | 40 | 33 |
| Senior Secondary (IMEAO, NATIN, AMTO, HAVO, VWO, CPI, SPI, ACI) | 13 | 11 | 11 | 33 | 29 | 20 | 25 |
| Tertiary (HBO/University/ College) | 26 | 41 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 20 | 0 |
| Masters/PhD | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 9 | 5 | 7 | | | | 0 |
| **Total (n) = 100%** | **93** | **37** | **135** | **12** | **14** | **10** | **12** |

| Age | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0-14 | 9 | 14 | 4 | 32 | 81.3 | 0.0 | 0 |
| 15-29 | 15 | 25 | 16 | 16 | 11.5 | 0.0 | 0 |
| 30-44 | 21 | 21 | 22 | 26 | 5.2 | 38.5 | 33 |
| 45-59 | 26 | 21 | 40 | 21 | 1.0 | 46.2 | 25 |
| 60-64 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 32 | 0.0 | 7.7 | 33 |
| 65+ | 21 | 12 | 9 | | 1.0 | 7.7 | 8 |
| Total (n) = 100% | 114 | 52 | 159 | 19 | 96 | 13 | 12 |
| District | | | | | | | |
| 01 Brokopondo | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| 02 Commewijne | 53 | 8 | 10 | | | | |
| 03 Coronie | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | |
| 04 Marowijne | 2 | 0 | | | 50 | 15 | |
| 05 Nickerie | 4 | 6 | 35 | 16 | | | |
| 06 Para | 0 | 0 | 0.6 | | | | |
| 07 Paramaribo | 62 | 56 | 43 | 68 | 12 | 46 | 8 |
| 08 Saramacca | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | | 75 |
| 09 Sipaliwini | 3 | 4 | | | 22 | 8 | |
| 10 Wanica | 20 | 25 | 9 | 11 | 16 | 31 | 17 |
| Total (n) = 100% | 114 | 52 | 159 | 19 | 96 | 13 | 12 |

Source: SSLC, 2016 (modified by author)


### I. Surinamese remigrants

The Surinamese remigrants residing less than 10 years in Suriname are almost equally distributed, namely 55% male and 45% female. Their highest education level is lower secondary (37%), followed by the tertiary level (26%). About half of the population is in the age group 30 to 59 years (47%). Their main occupation is in the tertiary economic sector[15] (58%) and the most common employment status at the main job is private employee (39.2%) or self-employed (25.5%). This migrant group lives mostly in Paramaribo (62.3%) with about 16.7% in the resort Munder, in Nieuw Nickerie (12.5%), in Meerzorg (12.5%) and in Welgelegen (12.5%), all areas with a more urban setting (see table 15).


### II. Dutch migrants

About 60% of the Dutch migrants living in Suriname (see table 15) are men, with on average a tertiary education level and an age range between 15 and 59 years (85%). Their main occupation is in the tertiary economic sector and the most common employment status at the main job is private employee. The group that has been living longer than 10 years in Suriname includes an equal number of men and women.

The Dutch migrants who have been living between 10-20 years in Suriname are mainly between 15 and 29 years and those living longer than 20 years in Suriname are between 45 and 59 years. All Dutch migrants are living mostly in Paramaribo and Wanica, the urban areas. The migrant groups living <10 years and between 10 - 20 years in Suriname, reside mostly in the resort Munder and the group that has been living longer than 20 years in Suriname, mostly in the resort Blauwgrond.


### III. Guyanese migrants

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[15] The tertiary economic sector regards the commercial service sector such as trade, restaurants, transport, communication, financial institutions etc

About 62% of the Guyanese migrants is female (see table 15). These migrants have a relatively low educational level. About 80% only has a primary or lower secondary education level. Also, their age level is the highest in the category 45 - 59 years (around 30 - 40%). Almost 70% of this migrant group is living in Paramaribo and Nickerie. The main occupation for the group living <10 years in Suriname is the primary economic sector[16] and the group who has been living longer than 10 years in Suriname are employed in both the secondary[17] and tertiary economic sectors. Most of the Guyanese migrants are working as private employees (around 60%). The migrant group who lives <10 years in Suriname, resides in the resorts Meerzorg and Nieuw Nickerie, those living between 0 - 20 years in Suriname live mostly in the resorts Nieuw Nickerie and Tammenga, and the group that has been living longer than 20 years in Suriname resides mostly in the resort Nieuw Nickerie.

### IV.    Brazilian migrants

The Brazilian migrants are mainly female (60%) and the highest education levels are the primary and secondary level. The respondents have different age levels: the group less than 10 years in Suriname are in the age group 30 - 44 years and between 60 - 64 years. The group living between 10 and 20 years in Suriname was under 29 years and between 45 - 64 years. The group who has been living longer than 20 years in Suriname is between 45 - 59 years. The Brazilian migrants live mostly in the districts Nickerie, Paramaribo, Saramacca and Wanica. About 60% of the Brazilian migrants living less than 10 years in Suriname live in Paramaribo. They are mainly working in the tertiary economic sector, mainly gold mining and are both self-employed and private employees.

### V.    French-Guyanese migrants

The French Guyanese migrants have slightly more male respondents (53%). The highest education level is the primary and junior secondary level. The majority of the respondents were younger than 29 years. These respondents are mainly employed in the tertiary economic sector and are Government employees, self-employed and private employees. The migrants living less than 10 years in Suriname are living mostly in Paramaribo (47.1%) and Marowijne (29.4%), and those living longer than 20 years in Suriname live mostly in Marowijne (54.4%). The resorts they live in are Moengo, Albina, Tapanahony, Munder, and a small group (around 10%) in Boven Suriname and de Nieuwe Grond (see table 15).

### VI.    Chinese migrants

The Chinese migrants are equally distributed by gender (see table 15). The education levels are diverse, but mainly the primary and secondary levels. The age groups of the migrants living >10 years in Suriname are between 30 and 59 years (around 80%). They work mostly in the secondary economic sector, a small percentage (33.3%) of the group living longer than 20 years in Suriname works in the tertiary economic sector. Most of them are employers or self-employed and a small number are family worker and private employee. These migrants are living in Brokopondo, Marowijne, Paramaribo, Sipaliwini and Wanica. The resorts they live in are Brokopondo centrum, Albina, Tapanahony, and in Blauwgrond and Weg naar Zee.

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[16] The primary economic sector regards agriculture, stock breeding, fisheries, forestry and mining
[17] The secondary economic sector regards: industry, gas, water, electricity and construction

## VII.     Haitian migrants

The Haitian migrants were a small group of 12 respondents both male and female. Their highest education level is at primary and secondary level, and their age group is between 30 and 64 years. The Haitian migrants live in Paramaribo, Saramacca and Wanica. They are working in all economic sectors, but the group that has been living longer than 20 years in Suriname is mainly working in the secondary economic sector (75%). The group living less than 10 years in Suriname is working in the primary and tertiary economic sectors. The Haitians are working as self-employed and private employees.

## 5.2 Main findings of the Household Budget Survey

The Household Budget Survey (HBS) data shows that about 4.2% of the households did not have the Surinamese nationality, of which about 1.5% are Dutch, 1.5% are Guyanese, 0.2% are Haitians, 0.3% are Brazilian and 0.3% are Chinese.

**Table 16: Households by nationality Surinamese versus non-Surinamese**

| Nationality | Number | % |
|---|---|---|
| Surinamese | 2,763 | 95.83 |
| Non- Surinamese | 120.4 | 4.17 |

Source: Household Budget Survey, 2013-2014

**Table 17: Households by nationality, 2013/2014**

| Nationality | Number | % |
|---|---|---|
| Surinamese | 2,769 | 94.57 |
| Dutch | 45 | 1.54 |
| Guyanese | 45 | 1.54 |
| French | 1 | 0.03 |
| Brazilian | 7 | 0.24 |
| Haitian/French | 6 | 0.20 |
| Chinese | 8 | 0.27 |
| Other | 5 | 0.17 |
| Don't know/ No answer | 42 | 1.43 |
| **Total** | **2928** | **100** |

Source: Household Budget Survey, 2013-2014

Tables 18a until 18f present households by nationality and selected demographic variables, whereas the main findings about the various nationalities are presented in the box below.

**Main findings about the migrant heads of households using Household Budget Survey data (2014) (see table 18a-f for the statistics)**

**I. Dutch migrants**

The Dutch that were interviewed live mostly in Paramaribo (64.7%) and Wanica (18%), and the most common household size is between 2-4 persons (57.8%) per household. The heads of the households are mainly male (74.2%) and the ethnicity of most of the Dutch who are resident in Suriname is Creole (31.57%), followed by Hindustani (26.6%) and Mixed (22.3%). Regarding the marital status, most Dutch are married (39.11%), with about 32.7% being unmarried and 22.2% being divorced. If we look at the activity status it shows that 37.9% of the Dutch are employed, followed by 29% being houseworkers and 14.4% being retired persons living in Suriname. Most Dutch have a junior secondary education level (40/59%) or a University/Higher vocational education (32.8%) level.

**II. Guyanese migrants**

The Guyanese that were interviewed live mostly in Paramaribo (42.5%) and Nickerie (25.1%), and the most common household size is between 2-4 persons (47.1%) and 5-7 persons (40%). The heads of the households are mainly male (79.4%) and the ethnicity of most of the Guyanese who are residents in Suriname are Hindustani (57.3%), followed by the Creole (23.6%). Regarding the marital status, most Guyanese are unmarried (67.01%), and about 29% are married and 4% widowed. If we look at the activity status it shows that 76.6% are employed, followed by 14.5% of Guyanese who are not employed. Most Guyanese have no education or a primary education level (61%).

**III. Brazilian migrants**

The Brazilians that were interviewed are living in Paramaribo (97.1%) and Para (2.9%). Brazilians are also living in Brokopondo and Sipaliwini and are working in goldmining. Most the households have 2-4 persons (83.6%), followed by 5-7 persons (16.4%). Males (66.7%) are mainly the head of the household and the ethnicity of most of the Brazilians is Mixed (47.5%), Other (35.6%) and Indigenous (16.9%). In the category Mixed, there are also Caucasian and Creole. Regarding the marital status, most Brazilians are unmarried (64.4%), about 19.2% are married and 16.41% are divorced. If we look at the activity status it shows that 100% of the Brazilians are employed. Most Brazilians have no education or have a primary education (79.8%).

**IV. Haitian migrants**

The Haitians that were interviewed are all living in Saramacca (100%), where most Haitians are living (49.5%). The household size is between 5-7 persons (34%). The heads of the household are mostly male (83.5%) and the ethnicity of most of the Haitians is Creole (82.6%), followed by Other (17.5%). Regarding the marital status, most Haitians are unmarried (82.6%) and if the activity status is considered, 100% of the Haitians are employed. The Haitians have no education or primary education.

**V. Chinese migrants**

The Chinese that were interviewed live mostly in Paramaribo (50.1%), followed by Commewijne (29.8%), Wanica (16.9%) and Nickerie (8.3%). The Chinese household size is 2-4 persons. The head of the household is usually male (92.1%) and the ethnicity of most of the Chinese were Other (96.4%), where in the categories 'Other' is also one of the ethnicities. Regarding the marital status, most Chinese are married (84.8%) and if the activity status is considered, 95% of the Chinese are employed. Most Chinese have a junior secondary education (86.9%).

**Table 18a: Nationality by district (%)**

| District | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Paramaribo | 51.3 | **64.69** | **42.46** | **97.10** | | **50.09** | **84.79** | **66.71** |
| Wanica | 22.98 | **18.03** | 14.60 | | | **16.89** | | **15.76** |
| Nickerie | 8.09 | 3.30 | **25.12** | | | 8.27 | 10.17 | 5.77 |
| Coronie | 1.63 | 1.26 | 0.95 | | | | | 10.86 |
| Saramacca | 2.222 | 1.83 | 2.02 | | 100 | | | 0.89 |
| Commewijne | 7.99 | 8.45 | 9.89 | | | 20.79 | | |
| Para | 5.79 | 2.43 | 4.96 | 2.90 | | 3.96 | 5.05 | |

**Table 18b: Nationality by household size (%)**

| District | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 person | 9.42 | **42.64** | 12.14 | | **49.53** | | 10.17 | 4.82 |
| 2-4 persons | 57.79 | **48** | **47.13** | **83.59** | 6.51 | 100 | **84.79** | **39.79** |
| 5-7 persons | 26.5 | 9.36 | **39.97** | 16.41 | **33.96** | | 5.05 | **45.47** |
| 8 + persons | 6.30 | | 0.76 | | | | | 9.92 |

**Table 18c: Nationality by gender of head of household (%)**

| District | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Male | 67.57 | **74.20** | **79.39** | **66.69** | **83.49** | **92.09** | **94.95** | **73.48** |
| Female | 32.43 | 25.80 | 20.61 | 33.31 | 16.51 | 7.91 | 5.05 | 26.52 |

**Table 18d: Nationality by ethnicity (%)**

| District | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indigenous | 2.46 | | 0.76 | 16.91 | | | 5.05 | 4.26 |
| Maroon | 10.31 | | 3.51 | | | 3.96 | | 15.02 |
| Creole | 19.98 | **31.57** | **23.62** | | **82.55** | | **22.27** | **29.44** |
| Hindustani | 29.58 | **26.60** | **57.30** | | | | **28.65** | **25.55** |
| Javanese | 19.88 | | | | | | | 18.24 |
| mixed | 14.64 | 22.25 | 9.54 | **47.54** | | | | 3.36 |
| other | 3.15 | 19.59 | 5.28 | 35.55 | 17.45 | 96.04 | 44.04 | 4.13 |

**Table 18e: Nationality by marital status (%)**

| District | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Unmarried | 43.03 | **32.74** | **67.01** | **64.36** | **82.55** | 29.38 | 15.21 | 1.41 |
| Married | 43.10 | **39.11** | 29.03 | 19.23 | 17.45 | **70.62** | **84.79** | |
| Divorced | 4.23 | **22.20** | | 16.41 | | | | |
| Widowed | 9.26 | 5.45 | 3.96 | | | | | |
| No answer | 0.37 | 0.50 | | | | | | 98.59 |

**Table 18f: Nationality by economic status (%)**

| District | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Employed | 67.06 | **37.86** | **76.59** | 100 | 83.49 | 100 | 94.95 | |
| Unemployed | 2.83 | 3.91 | 14.53 | | | | 5.05 | |
| House worker | 17.41 | 29.03 | 5.27 | | | | | |
| Disable | 1.40 | | | | | | | |
| Discourage | 0.69 | | | | 16.51 | | | |
| Retired | 9.06 | 13.41 | | | | | | 0.69 |
| Other | 0.78 | 0.88 | | | | | | |
| Unknown | 0.07 | | | | | | | 3.57 |
| No answer | 0.70 | 14.92 | 3.61 | | | | | 95.74 |

**Table 18g: Nationality by educational status (%)**

| Educational Status | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No or Primary | **32.30** | 12.86 | **60.97** | 20.23 | 100.00 | 13.09 | 34.68 | |
| VOJ | **44.24** | **40.59** | 39.03 | **79.77** | | **86.91** | **65.32** | |
| VOS | 16.52 | 13.75 | | | | | | |
| University/HBO | 6.94 | **32.80** | | | | | | |

**Table 19: Comparing Migrant households with Surinamese households (%)**

| Characteristic | Surinamese | Migrant households | Characteristic | Surinamese | Migrant households |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **District** | | | **Marital status (%)** | | |
| Paramaribo | 51.30 | **59.10** | **Unmarried** | **43.03** | **7.73** |
| Wanica | 22.98 | **14.27** | **Married** | **43.10** | **34.85** |
| Nickerie | 8.09 | **10.50** | **Divorced** | **4.23** | **13.40** |
| Coronie | 1.63 | 0.89 | Widowed | 9.26 | 3.80 |
| Saramacca | 2.22 | 3.26 | No answer | 0.37 | 0.23 |
| Commewijne | 7.99 | 8.63 | **Economic Status (%)** | | |
| Para | 5.79 | 3.36 | Employed | 67.06 | 64.20 |
| **Household size (%)** | | | Unemployed | 2.83 | 6.69 |
| 1 person | 9.42 | 25.84 | House worker | 17.41 | 14.65 |
| 2-4 persons | 57.79 | 53.91 | Discourage | 0.69 | 0.29 |
| 5-7 persons | 26.50 | 19.99 | Retired | 9.06 | 5.49 |
| 8 + persons | 6.30 | 0.26 | Other | 0.78 | 0.69 |
| | | | Unknown | 0.07 | |
| **Ethnicity (%)** | | | No answer | 0.72 | 7.84 |
| Indigenous | 2.46 | 2.07 | | | |
| Maroon | 10.30 | 1.46 | **Sex HH (%)** | | |
| Creole | 19.98 | 23.37 | Male | 67.57 | 75.40 |
| Hindustani | 29.58 | 31.26 | Female | 32.43 | 24.60 |
| Javanese | 19.88 | | | | |
| mixed | 14.64 | 18.37 | | | |
| other | 3.15 | 23.18 | | | |

**Immigrants and Poverty**

The nationalities that experience the most poverty are the Guyanese (65.95 %), the Haitians (66.98%) and the Chinese (83.11%), compared to the Dutch (14.9%) and the Brazilians (19.31%). If we would compare the poverty rates of the Surinamese versus the non-Surinamese, we see that the Surinamese poverty rate is approximately 47% and the non-Surinamese poverty rate is about 38%, which is a difference of about 19%. Surinamese are experiencing more poverty than the combined non-Surinamese populations.

**Table 20: Poverty by nationality (%)**

| District | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know | All migrant | All household |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Not Poor | 53.33 | 85.61 | 34.05 | 80.69 | 33.02 | 16.89 | 84.79 | 33.01 | 62.21 | |
| Poor | **46.67** | 14.39 | **65.95** | 19.31 | **66.98** | **83.11** | 15.21 | **66.99** | 37.79 | |
| Total (N) | | | | | | | | | | |

Table 21 shows that the Brazilians, Haitians and Chinese are all employed; this is the case for the poor and non-poor households. This could indicate that immigrants come to Suriname to work. Only in the group of Dutch and Guyanese, there are persons that are unemployed and houseworkers. The table also illustrates that only the Dutch have some retired persons who come to Suriname, where one of their income is their pension from the Netherlands.

**Table 21: Poor and Non-poor households by nationality and activity status**

| | Non-Poor | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| District | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
| Employed | 69.69 | 44.12 | 84.21 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | |
| Unemployed | 2.63 | 5.88 | 10.53 | | | | | |
| House worker | 16.68 | 32.35 | 5.26 | | | | | |
| Retired | 10.30 | 14.71 | 0 | | | | | 100 |
| Other | 0.70 | 2.94 | 0 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Poor | | | | | | | |
| District | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
| Employed | 64.55 | 100 | 84 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 50 | |
| Unemployed | 4.07 | | 12 | | | | 50 | |
| House worker | 20.56 | | 4 | | | | | |
| Retired | 10.33 | | | | | | | |

| Other | 0.50 | | | | | | | |
|-------|------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

**Table 22: Poor and Non-poor households by nationality and educational level**

| Educational Status | Non-Poor | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
| No or Primary | 30.95 | 11.43 | 61.54 | 20.00 | | 50 | | |
| VOJ | 45.00 | 45.71 | 38.46 | 80.00 | | 50 | | |
| VOS | 17.65 | 17.14 | | | | | | |
| University/HBO | 6.40 | 25.71 | | | | | 100 | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Educational Status | Poor | | | | | | | |
| | Surinamese | Dutch | Guyanese | Brazilian | Haitian | Chinese | Other | Don't know |
| No or Primary | 52.43 | 25.00 | 68.42 | | 100 | | | |
| VOJ | 39.85 | 75.00 | 31.58 | | | 100 | | |
| VOS | 6.51 | | | | | | | |
| University/HBO | 1.21 | | | | | | | |

## 5.3 Main Findings of the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) 2014

To analyze the living conditions and social economic status and opinions of migrants, data from the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) 2014 database has been used. LAPOP's primary project is the Americas Barometer, a democratic polling and behavior survey that captures residents' experiences, evaluations, and preferences. This project was carried out in 34 countries across the Americas, Asia and Africa. With use of a probability (cross-sectional) sample design of adults of voting age, the sample size (N) was 4,000. Furthermore, for this study in each household, a random person was interviewed and not necessarily the head of the household (reference person of the household). Since there was an over-representation of people living in the district of Paramaribo, for this study the data have been reweighted based on the Census 2012 statistics to reflect representative national results.

*Profile migrants*

The sample of migrants in Suriname was obtained using the variable 'citizen' as selection criteria. In total there were 192 migrants (non-citizens) in this sample of which 51% were male and 49% were female. The most common household sizes are 2-4 members (47.9%), followed by 5-8 household members (41.0%).

They were mainly living in Paramaribo (44.9%), Sipaliwini (26.2%) and Wanica (13.0%). Almost 58% were living in the urban area and 31.7% in the interior. Approximately 57.0% of this group had a senior secondary or higher education level. About 37.4% is single, while 28.3% is married. The majority of the respondents who are not Surinamese citizens were Christians (71.8%) and the largest ethnicity groups were Afro-Surinamese (25.6%), Maroons (23.0%) and Mixed (16.0%). Based on the common languages spoken, most of the migrants spoke Dutch/Sranan Tongo (71.9%), followed by English/Guyanese (19.1%).

**Figure 10: Migrant groups based on mother tongue (source LAPOP 2014 data)**
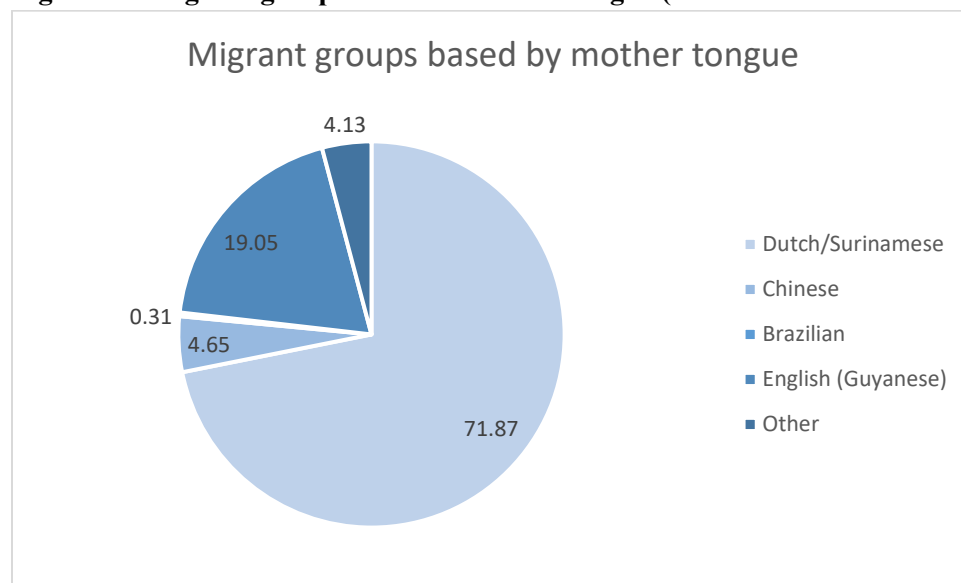


*Social economic situation*

These migrant groups were mainly working (39.6%) or students/housewives (32.3%). Most of them (81.1%) are salaried workers/employees in the private sector and their personal monthly income during the time of the survey was between SRD1300-1500 for 21.5% of this group. About 63.5% lived in owned houses, while 36.5% were living in rented, borrowed or shared homes.

*Life satisfaction and perceptions on the Surinamese situation*

Almost half of the migrant group indicated that their financial situation is good enough and they can save (55.3%), and 44.7% was facing a relatively hard time due to financial stress. Regarding their life satisfaction the majority of the respondents are very to somewhat satisfied (91.5%). They also stated to be very to somewhat satisfied with the health services (82.1%) and also very to somewhat satisfied with the roads in Suriname (82.8%). Approximately 88.9% was also very to somewhat satisfied with the education services provided in Suriname. The top three problems for people in the urban area were crime (26.7%), corruption (7.5%) and housing (10.9%). In the rural and interior areas, besides the aforementioned problems, unemployment and in a smaller proportion the economic situation were also in the top most common problems that the migrants had to deal with. The most important problems from the LAPOP survey as experienced by the migrants (see table below) shows similarities with the data collected during the recent interviews and focus group sessions, namely *cost of living, housing, increasing crime and working conditions.*

**Table 23: Most important problems during the last 2 years (LAPOP, 2014)**

| Most Important Problem | Freq. | Percent | Cum. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Economy, problems with, crisis of | 4 | 2.31 | 2.31 |
| Unemployment | 16 | 9.25 | 11.56 |
| Poverty | 15 | 8.67 | 20.23 |
| **Crime** | **46** | **26.59** | 46.82 |
| Popular protests (strikes, blocking roads, work stoppages, etc.) | 2 | 1.16 | 47.98 |
| Land to farm, lack of | 1 | 0.58 | 48.55 |
| Credit, lack of | 3 | 1.73 | 50.29 |
| Environment | 1 | 0.58 | 50.87 |
| Drug addiction, consumption of drugs | 2 | 1.16 | 52.02 |
| Drug trafficking | 2 | 1.16 | 53.18 |
| **Corruption** | **19** | **10.98** | 64.16 |
| Gangs | 1 | 0.58 | 64.74 |
| Bad government | 3 | 1.73 | 66.47 |
| Roads in poor condition | 2 | 1.16 | 67.63 |
| Water, lack of | 4 | 2.31 | 69.94 |
| Education, lack of, poor quality | 2 | 1.16 | 71.10 |
| Health services, lack of | 2 | 1.16 | 72.25 |
| Discrimination | 7 | 4.05 | 76.30 |
| External debt | 1 | 0.58 | 76.88 |
| Armed conflict | 5 | 2.89 | 79.77 |
| **Housing** | **17** | **9.83** | 89.60 |
| Human rights, violations of | 2 | 1.16 | 90.75 |
| Violence | 1 | 0.58 | 91.33 |
| Inequality | 2 | 1.16 | 92.49 |
| Politicians | 2 | 1.16 | 93.64 |
| Transportation, problems of | 1 | 0.58 | 94.22 |
| Other | 10 | 5.78 | 100.00 |
| Total | 173 | 100.00 | |

## 5.4 Findings based on an interview with a resource person

**Interview with Mr. Antoine Elias, former Minister of Health and migrant**

**Migrants and religion**

Mr. Elias informed us about two Afghan families (consisting of 12 persons) who came to Suriname through the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rotterdam, which works with the Roman Catholic Diocese Suriname. The Suriname Roman Catholic Diocese considered and approved the request to come to Suriname, as an exception. The spiritual leader who made this request to Suriname is acquainted with the Afghan migrants. These migrants were not able to find residency in the Netherlands and hence came to Suriname in November 2022. The adults work in a production company, and some of the children have been enrolled in school.

When asked if the schools take into account the fact that the children speak a different language, he replied that the children receive Dutch lessons from someone who teaches Dutch to the foreign nuns pf the Catholic Diocese who are working in Suriname.

He noted that pastors and nuns are not always brought to Suriname because the number of interested persons is limited, but they can be placed anywhere in the world through congregations. Currently there is African Father who performs services in a church in Paramaribo North affiliated to a Brazilian congregation. Also, Father Kumar from India is providing services at the Drie Koningen Church in Paramaribo.

When migrants arrive in Suriname, they want to attend church. The church Obra de Maria at the Jozef Israelstraat is a well-known example. They preach in Dutch, but services are occasionally held in Portuguese. The Cathedral also occasionally preaches in Portuguese. Services are also held in English, for example by Father Woei.


**Migrants in the labour market**

Mr. Elias stated that during his office as Minister of Health, he had 50 Cubans migrate to Suriname twice, in accordance with an agreement with Cuba, which stated that the Cubans could stay in Suriname for a maximum of three years. The main goal of this policy was to reduce the pressure on the healthcare system in Paramaribo, which required more doctors. Cuba usually wants their citizens to return, but this does not always happen. He also hired eight Cubans and two Venezuelans health workers to work in Nickerie, one of whom had a Surinamese father and was legally recognized.

The first 50 Cuban health workers were mostly assigned to work in the Interior and at distant clinics of the Regional Health Services. Nurses and Dutch medical specialists were also permitted to work in Nickerie. The Dutch stayed for six weeks, whereas the Cubans and Venezuelans mostly wanted to stay permanently.

According to Mr. Elias, Cubans and Venezuelans work in trade as well. They can even be well-educated, but might have difficulties with employment in Suriname. Certain types of jobs are few or in no demand among Surinamese. As a result, businesses prefer a faster solution that allows them to hire foreigners.


However, this provides no assurance to employers because some persons of this group depart as soon as their papers are ready, which is usually Miami for Cubans. They choose to migrate to Suriname first because it is welcoming to Cubans. He implies that this group also works in Chinese supermarkets, and that the Chinese entrepreneurs do so to maintain their competitive position on the market. He indicates that there are also young Cuban and Venezuelan ladies in Nickerie who work in both legal and unregistered brothels.


The number of Lebanese migrants to Suriname is small. The interviewed knows of three Lebanese men who have settled in Suriname, one of whom has stated that he no longer wishes to live in Lebanon because of the war. Suriname is visa-free for Lebanese, and there are regular transit flights from Paramaribo-Amsterdam to Beirut, lowering the bar for migration.

**Healthcare for migrants**

Suriname does provide migrants with a variety of services in health care. According to the World Health Organization, no one should be denied access to healthcare, which also applies to Suriname. During the COVID-19 pandemic, no distinction was made between residents and non-residents when treating and isolating infected people. When immigrants work for Surinamese businesses, they occasionally qualify for health insurance through their employer.

# Chapter 6 Conclusions and Recommendations

This study focused on understanding international migration flows in Suriname by conducting a baseline assessment of existing data and collection mechanisms, but also to determine the scope and scale for the execution of a migrant situation survey as the next step.

## 6.1 Conclusions

Based on the assessment results, the following can be stated.

1. According to the information of the Civil Registry Office of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the number of registration of migrants is about 2,000 each year. From January - April 2023 there were about 800 new cases. The majority of cases are migrants with a Dutch nationality and former Surinamese returning to Suriname again.
2. Although the registration form for migrants has an address for the current residence of the migrant, this information is changed into the district where the person is living. In the publications, the information is presented at district level. However, there is more detailed information in the administration files since the Office registers all the primary/entry data.
3. The migration database - which has a historical collection of all registration -, has a number of 42,000 registered migrants. This is about 7% of the total population.
4. The main migrant groups in Suriname are Surinamese nationals living abroad and remigrating to Suriname (Surinamese migrants), migrants of Dutch, Brazilian, Cuban, Haitian, French Guyanese, Guyanese, and Chinese origin.
5. The urban region has almost all of the main groups, whereas the rural and interior consist mostly of French Guyanese, Chinese, Guyanese and Brazilian migrants. Guyanese, French Guyanese and Chinese have been living longer than 3 decades in Suriname and are mostly registered at the Civil Registry Office.
6. In the last 2 - 4 years there has been a huge influx of Cuban and Haitian migrants, mostly for work purposes. The Surinamese remigrants residing less than 10 years in Suriname are almost equally distributed, namely 55% male and 45% female. Their highest education level is junior secondary (37%), followed by the tertiary level (26%). Their main occupation is in the tertiary economic sector. This migrant group lives mostly in Paramaribo (62.3%) and in the resorts Munder (16.7%), Nieuw Nickerie (12.5%), Meerzorg (12.5%) and Welgelegen (12.5%), all areas with a more urban setting.
7. About 60% of the Dutch migrants living in Suriname are men, with on average a tertiary education level and an age range between 15 and 59 years (85%). Their main occupation is in the tertiary economic sector and the most common employment status at their main job is private employee.
8. About 62% of the Guyanese migrants is female. About 80% only has a primary or junior secondary education level. Almost 70% of this migrant group is living in Paramaribo and Nickerie. The main occupation for the group living <10 years in Suriname is the primary economic sector, and the group that has been living longer than 10 years in Suriname is in both the secondary and tertiary economic sectors. Most of the Guyanese migrants are working as private employees (around 60%). The migrant group that has been living <10 years in Suriname, resides in the resorts Meerzorg and Nieuw Nickerie, those residing between 0-20 years in Suriname live mostly in the resorts Nieuw Nickerie and Tammenga, and the group that has been living longer than 20 years in Suriname is mostly in the resort Nieuw Nickerie.

9. The Brazilian migrants' highest education level is primary and secondary level. The respondents have different age levels: for the group that has been living less than 10 years in Suriname, the persons are in the age group 30 - 44 years and between 60 - 64 years. About 60% of the Brazilian migrants living less than 10 years in Suriname live in Paramaribo. They are mainly working in the tertiary economic sector, mainly gold mining and are both self-employed and private employees.

10. The French Guyanese migrants have slightly more males (53%). The highest education levels are the primary and junior secondary level. The majority of the respondents were younger than 29 years. These respondents are mainly employed in the tertiary economic sector and as Government employees, self-employed and private employees. The migrants living less than 10 years in Suriname are living mostly in Paramaribo (47.1%) and Marowijne (29.4%), and those living longer than 20 years in Suriname live mostly in Marowijne (54.4%). The resorts they live in are Moengo, Albina, Tapanahony, Munder and a small group (around 10%) in Boven Suriname and the Nieuwe Grond.

11. The Chinese migrants are equally distributed by gender. The education levels are diverse, but mainly the secondary level. The age groups of the migrants living >10 years in Suriname are mainly between 30 and 59 years (around 80%). They are mostly working in the secondary economic sector, a small percentage (33.3%) of the group living longer than 20 years in Suriname works in the tertiary economic sector.

12. The Haitian migrants' highest education level is at primary and secondary level, and their age group is mostly between 30 and 64 years. The Haitian migrants live in Paramaribo, Saramacca and Wanica. They work in all sectors, but the group that has been living longer than 20 years in Suriname is mainly working in the secondary economic sector (75%). The group living less than 10 years in Suriname works in the primary and tertiary economic sectors. The Haitians are working as self-employed workers and private employees.

13. In 2019, there were 1,699 work permit applications, in 2020 this was 924 and in 2022 this was 800. Until March 2023, about 300 requests for work permits have been submitted.

14. The top 6 nationalities for which companies requested a work permit are:
    a. Brazilians
    b. Chinese
    c. Philippines
    d. Guyanese
    e. Indians
    f. Haitians

15. The sectors in which migrants are employed are:
    a. Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, mostly by Guyanese and Philippines
    b. Mining by Americans and Australians
    c. Construction by Brazilians
    d. Trade by Chinese and Brazilians
    e. Transport by Dutch and Brazilians
    f. Food industry by Chinese
    g. Education by Americans and Dutch.

16. The studies that have been executed regarding migration and migrants in Suriname provide a minimum of data analysis from the Censuses and surveys and even less is available from administrative data. However, based on the interviews with the Government institutions, it can be determined that there is a lot of potential migrant data being collected through forms, but the staff has insufficient technical capacity to analyze and compile the data.
    Through administrative data it could also be identified if migrants in Suriname work legally with a work permit from the ministry of Labour, if migrants have applied for a residence permit is also

processed in the data of the Ministry of Labour regarding a work permit, if the migrant's children who are enrolled in school have a residence permit and are registered at the Civil Registry Office.

17. Therefore, it is important to develop an integrated database There are data available, but the need to link all these databases is of high importance to make better policy.

18. There is good collaboration between the main ministries such as the ministry of BIBIS, the ministry of Defense, the Directorate for National Security, the ministry of Transport, Communication and Tourism, the ministry of Labour and the respective Embassies of the migrants that are in Suriname, however there is a need to establish more structured collaboration and consultation mechanisms.

19. Most of the migrants come to Suriname for work and because Suriname is much safer than their country. Some come with their families, or eventually let their families come here. The language barriers, some cases of discrimination, low paying jobs, high prices for rent and the long process for residence permit and permanent stay are the major challenges many of them face.

## 6.2 Recommendations

1. For conducting a migrant survey, it is very important to identify in which areas of Suriname, most of the migrants live. The data collected by the Civil Registry Office presents the best sample opportunities for future survey. The sample can be drawn at resort level by main migrant groups. The data collected by VFS Global could also provide a good overview of the people applying for a short stay visa or a long stay visa by types of nationalities, by address, reason for visits and other variables. The information in the Border Management System must also be looked into to identify what the place of residence is that the persons entering Suriname have given up. The georeferenced maps using administrative population data, secondary data and qualitative data presented in paragraph 4.2 of this report are also a valuable source of information at resort level to identify the areas where migrant populations are residing.

2. If the migrants survey will be conducted it is important to know who the irregular immigrants are, where they are staying (which areas of Suriname), and how the Surinamese economy can maximize the value of what these migrants are investing/spending in Suriname. It is also very important to protect this group of migrants. Because of the lack of a structured and strategic migration policy, it is hard to take actions quickly regarding this group.

3. Strengthening and improving the currently two main data systems used for registration of immigrants namely the Border Management System (BMS) coordinated by the Ministry of Defense and the Directorate for National Security, and the DECOS system, coordinated by the Ministry of Justice and Police for registering the requests for residence permits.

4. There is an urgent need for capacity building starting with the human resources working in the Government institutions (both at policy and operational level) on developing and monitoring migration policy, but also statistical capacity training, on how to collect, compile, disaggregating, analyze and report on the data. Provide more statistical training regarding Migration data

5. Inform and educate the society but in particular the migrant populations about the procedures and processes in Suriname and provide information through the media, in collaboration with migrants' organizations and embassies which are represented, as well as in schools.

6. Develop a long-term migration policy which is based on the data and information analysis.

7. Have a system where every migrant (person who travels to Suriname to stay longer than 90 days), gets a social security number or special ID number, through which Government can know their status, if they work, where they work, if their children attend school and other aspects.

8. Have specific schools or at least for children who speak Portuguese and Spanish, through collaboration with the Embassies of Brazil and Cuba. Teachers from those countries can then teach these children.

9. For requesting the residence permit and other services, have the information available in more languages than just Dutch and English, e.g. add Spanish and Portuguese and French.

10. Conduct more household surveys and Censuses that include questions regarding migration. At this moment, the data is outdated or covers selected areas in Suriname.
11. Conduct a migration survey in Suriname.
12. Provide additional ICT equipment but also training to the Government institutions to maintain and expand their current systems e.g. the Border Management System (BMS) and the DECOS system.
13. Establish data exchange among the key Government stakeholders e.g. link the BMS with the relevant stakeholders based on tasks and authorities and providing information to other relevant stakeholders based on supply and demand.

# Annexes

## Annex 1 Overview of reports on migration in Suriname

| | Reports |
|---|---|
| | **Anton de Kom University of Suriname and General Bureau of Statistics** |
| **2016** | ***Mozaïek van het Surinaamse volk: Volkstelling in Demografische, Economisch en Sociaal Perspectief***<br><br>Chapter 5: Binnenlandse en buitenlandse migratiepatronen 2004-2012<br><br>Fallon K. Lambert, J. Marten W. Schalkwijk en Edith j. Ritfeld<br><br>Available at: https://www.statistics-suriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/mozaiek-van-het-surinaamse-volk-versie-5.pdf |
| | |
| | **La Cimade** |
| **2020** | ***De situatie van vreemdelingen in Suriname:***<br>***Analyse van het legale kader en de impact van de samenwerking met Frankrijk aan de grens Frans Guyana-Suriname***<br><br>Available at: https://www.lacimade.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Note-Analyse-Cimade-Suriname-NL-Def-Ecran.pdf |
| | |
| | **Academic Yournals** |
| **1995** | ***Surinamese Migration and Development – Vernon Domingo***<br>Domingo, Vernon (1995). Surinamese Migration and Development. *Bridgewater Review,* 14(1), 7-10.<br>Available at: https://vc.bridgew.edu/br_rev/vol14/iss1/5/ |
| **2015** | ***The role of Suriname in Haitian migration to French Guyana. Identities on the move and border crossing***<br><br>Maud Laëthier. « The role of Suriname in Haitian migration to French Guyana. Identities on the move and border crossing ». E. B. Carlin, I. Léglise, B. Migge, P. Tjon Sie Fat *In and out of Suriname: language, mobility and identity, Brill*, pp.229-251, 2014, In and out of Suriname: language, mobility and identity. ⟨hal-01421306⟩<br><br>Available at: https://hal.science/hal-01421306 |
| **2004** | ***Gold, "Garimpeiros" and Maroons: Brazilian Migrants and Ethnic Relationships in Post-War Suriname*** |

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|---|---|
| | Hoogbergen, W., & Kruijt, D. (2004). Gold, "Garimpeiros" and Maroons: Brazilian Migrants and Ethnic Relationships in Post-War Suriname. *Caribbean Studies, 32*(2), 3–44.<br><br>Available at: https://www.jstor.org/stable/25613440 |
| **2003** | **Challenges to Sustainable Small-Scale Mine Development in Suriname**<br><br>Heemskerk, M., & Van Der Kooye, R. (2003). Challenges to sustainable small-scale mine development in Suriname. *The Socio-Economic Impacts of Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining in Developing Countries*, 661–677. doi:10.1201/9780203971284.ch36<br><br>Available at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/237707335_Challenges_to_Sustainable_Small-Scale_Mine_Development_in_Suriname |
| | |
| | **International Migration Institute in collaboration with University of Oxford** |
| **2011** | **How the Dutch Government stimulated the unwanted immigration from Suriname**<br>van Amersfoort, H. (2011). (working paper). *How the Dutch Government stimulated the unwanted immigration from Suriname*. Oxford, UK: e International Migration Institute.<br>Available at: file:///C:/Users/user/Downloads/WP47%20How%20the%20Dutch%20Government.pdf |
| | |
| | **Integrational Catholic Migration Commision (ICMC)** |
| **2012** | **Suriname Mission Report: In the Face of Adversity Keep Silent**<br>Hamcha, B. (2012). (publication). *Suriname Mission Report: In the Face of Adversity and Keep Silent.* Geneva, Switzerland: International Catholic Migration Commission.<br>Available at: https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/55af8bd14.pdf |
| | |
| | **IDB** |
| **2021** | **Migration Flows in Latin America and the Caribbean: Statistics on Permits for Migrants.**<br>Inter American Development Bank. (2021). (publication). *Migration Flows in Latin America and the Caribbean: Statistics on Permits for Migrants.* Inter American Development Bank.<br><br>Available at: Migration Flows in Latin America and the Caribbean: Statistics on Permits for Migrants (iadb.org) |
| | |
| | **IOM** |

| Year | Reference |
|---|---|
| 2015 | ***Suriname Migration Profile: A study on emigration from, and immigration into Suriname***<br><br>Heemskerk, M., & Duijves, C. (2014.). (publication). *Suriname Migration Profile: A study on emigration from, and immigration into Suriname.* Paramaribo, Suriname: International Organization for Migration.<br><br>Available at: https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mp_suriname2015.pdf |
| 2021 | ***Suriname Needs Assessment on Migration Governance***<br><br>IOM. (2021). (publication). *Suriname Needs Assessment on Migration Governance.* San Jose, Costa Rica: International Organization for Migration.<br><br>Available at: https://publications.iom.int/books/suriname-needs-assessment-migration-governance |
| 2021 | ***Planning for Prosperity: Labour Migration and Guyana's Emerging Economy***<br><br>IOM. (2021a). (publication). *Planning for Prosperity: Labour Migration and Guyana's Emerging Economy*. San Jose, Costa Rica: International Organization of Migration.<br><br>Available at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/357867032_Planning_for_Prosperity_Labour_Migration_Guyana%27s_Emerging_Economy |
| 2023 | ***Migration Governance Indicators Profile 2022 \| Republic of Suriname***<br><br>IOM. (2023). (publication). *Migration Governance Indicators Profile 2022: Republic of Suriname.* Geneva, Switzerland: International Organization for Migration.<br><br>Available at: https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/MGI-Suriname-2022_3.pdf |
| 2017 | ***Migration in the Caribbean: current trends, opportunities and challenges***<br><br>IOM. (2017). (working paper). *Migration in the Caribbean: current trends, opportunities and challenges*. San Jose, Costa Rica: International Organization of Migration.<br><br>Available at: https://kmhub.iom.int/sites/default/files/2022-02/working_papers_en_baja_20.06.17.pdf |
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| | GBS |
|---|---|
| **2013** | *Eighth General Population and Housing Census in Suriname Volume I, Demographic and Social Characteristics and Migration.* |
| | General Bureau of Statistics. (2013). (rep.). *Demographic and Social Characteristics and Migration*. (8th ed., Vol. 1). Paramaribo, Suriname: General Bureau of Statistics. |
| | Available at https://statistics-suriname.org/nl/censusstatistieken-2012-2/. |
| **2021** | *Households in Suriname 2015-2018* |
| | General Bureau of Statistics. (2021). (rep.). *Huishoudens in Suriname PARWAN 2015-2018.* Paramaribo, Suriname: General Bureau of Statistics. |
| | Available at Household Surveys in Suriname - Algemeen Bureau voor de Statistiek in Suriname (statistics-suriname.org) |
| **2022** | *Population Statistics* |
| | Available at: https://statistics-suriname.org/population-statistics-2/ |
| **2022** | *Demographic Data 2017–2019 (Tables)* |
| | General Bureau of Statistics. (2022). Demographic Data 2017–2019 (Tables). |
| | Available atBevolkingsstatistieken - Algemeen Bureau voor de Statistiek in Suriname (statistics-suriname.org) |
| | *Statistical Papers ABS: Chapter Migration- Author: Iwan Sno* |
| | Available at: https://statistics-suriname.org/statistical-papers-3/ |
| **2023** | *Gender Statistics* |
| | Available at: https://statistics-suriname.org/genderstatistieken/ |
| **2022** | *Traffic and Transport Statistics* |
| | Available at: https://statistics-suriname.org/verkeers-en-vervoerstatistieken/ |
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| | ECLAC | |
|---|---|---|
| **2005** | ***Migration in the Caribbean- What do we know?: an overview of data, politics and programmes at the international and regional levels to address critical issues*** | |
| | NU. CEPAL. Sede Subregional para el Caribe. (2005). (publication). *Migration in the Caribbean- What do we know?: an overview of data, politics and programmes at the international and regional levels to address critical issues.* Port of Spain, Trinidad &amp; Tobago: Caribbean Expert Group Meeting on Human Rights.<br><br>Available at: https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/38805/1/LCCARL054_en.pdf | |
| **2017** | ***International Migration Report 2017*** | |
| | United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017). *International Migration Report 2017* (ST/ESA/SER.A/403)<br><br>https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/publications/migrationreport/docs/MigrationReport2017.pdf | |

| | OAS | |
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| **2023** | ***Op het spoor van clandestiene goudopbrengsten: Versterking van de strijd tegen clandestiene mijnbouwpraktijken*** | |
| | Organization of American States. (2023). (publication). O*p het spoor van clandestiene goudopbrengsten: Versterking van de strijd tegen clandestiene mijnbouwpraktijken.* Organization of American States. Secretariat for Multidimensional Security. Department against Transnational Organized Crime.<br>Availabe at: https://www.oas.org/en/sms/dtoc/docs/suriname-dutch-digital.pdf | |

| | IADB | |
|---|---|---|
| **2021** | ***Migration Flows in Latin America and the Caribbean: Statistics on Permits for Migrants.*** | |
| | IADB. (2021). *Migration Flows in Latin America and the Caribbean: Statistics on Permits for Migrants.* Inter American Development Bank<br>Available at: https://publications.iadb.org/publications/english/viewer/Migration-Flows-in-Latin-America-and-the-Caribbean-Statistics-on-Permits-for-Migrants.pdf | |

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| **2023** | *Migration, Integration, and Diaspora Engagement in the Caribbean: A Policy Review* |
| | IADB. (2023). *Migration, Integration, and Diaspora Engagement in the Caribbean: A Policy Review.* Inter American Development Bank. |
| | Available at: https://publications.iadb.org/publications/english/viewer/Migration-Integration-and-Diaspora-Engagement-in-the-Caribbean-A-Policy-Review.pdf |
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| **CARICOM** | |
| **2001** | *Revised Treatery of Chaguraramas* |
| | Available at: Caribbean Community 2001 Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas. Available at https://treaty.caricom.org/. |
| | |
| **Government of the Republic of Suriname** | |
| **1962** | *Personnel Act.* |
| | Available at https://dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/geldende-teksten-tm-2005/ personeelswet/. |
| **1965** | *Law on Primary Education.* |
| | Available at www.dna.sr/media/17829/de_lager_onderwijswet_1960.pdf |
| **1975** | *Nationality and Residency Act.* |
| | Available at www.dna.sr/media/78594/SB_2014__no_121_wijz._Surinamerschap_en_Ingezetenschap.pdf |
| **1981** | *General Old-Age Pension Act.* |
| | Available at https://dna.sr/media/17926/aov.pdf |
| **1982** | *Law on the General Child Benefit Scheme.* |
| | Available at www.dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/geldende-teksten-tm-2005/algemene-kinderbijslagregeling-1973/ |
| **1987a** | *Constitution of the Republic of Suriname.* |
| | Available at https://dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/geldende-teksten-tm-2005/grondwet-suriname/ |
| **1987b** | *Electoral Law.* |
| | Available at https://pdba.georgetown.edu/Electoral/Sur/suriname.html |

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| **1992** | *Aliens Act.* | |
| | Available at https://dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/geldende-teksten-tm-2005/vreemdelingenwet-1991/ | |
| **1995** | *Aliens Decree.* | |
| | Available at https://dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/geldende-teksten-tm-2005/vreemdelingenbesluit-1995/ | |
| **2002a** | *Foreign Nationals Work Permit Act.* | |
| | Available at www.dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/geldendeteksten-tm-2005/wet-werkvergunning-vreemdelingen/ | |
| **2002b** | *Law on Safety and Security of Civil Aviation.* | |
| | Available at https://dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/geldende-teksten-tm-2005/wet-veiligheid-en-beveiliging-burgerluchtvaart/ | |
| **2006** | *Law Containing Provisions Relating to the Recognition of Qualified Citizen Status of the Caribbean Community.* | |
| | Available at https://dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/wetten-na-2005/wet-bekwameburgers-van-de-caraibische-gemeenschap/. | |
| **2014a** | *Basic Health Insurance Law.* | |
| | Available at Suriname - National Basic Health Insurance Law (No. 114 of 2014). (ilo.org) | |
| **2014b** | *General Pension Act.* | |
| | Available at Suriname - General Pensions Law 2014 (No. 113 of 2014). (ilo.org) | |
| **2014c** | *Persons of Surinamese Descent Act.* | |
| | Available at www.dna.sr/media/50202/SB_2014__no_8_Wet_PSA.pdf. | |
| **2015** | *Penal Code.* | |
| | Available at WET van (dna.sr) | |
| **2016** | *Passenger and Crew List Transfer Act.* | |
| | Available at https://dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/wettenna-2005/wet-overdracht-passagiers-en-bemanningslijsten/. | |
| | *Employment by Intermediaries Act.* | |
| | Available at www.dna.sr/wetgeving/surinaamse-wetten/wettenna-2005/wet-ter-beschikking-stellen-arbeidskrachten-door-intermediairs/. | |
| **2019a** | *Family Employment Protection Act.* | |

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| | Available at www.dna.sr/media/259817/SB_2019___64.pdf. |
| **2019b** | *Law on Minimum Wages .* |
| | Available at Suriname - Law on Minimum Wages 2019 (2019, No. 101). (ilo.org) |
| | |
| | **Ministry of Home Affairs** |
| **2019** | *Gender Plan of Action 2019–2020.* |
| | Bureau Gender Affairs, *Gender Plan of Action 2019-2020* (2019). Paramaribo, Suriname: Ministry of Home Affairs. |
| | Available at: 3-juli-engelse-printversie-genderactieplan-2019-2020-1.pdf (gov.sr) |
| **2019** | *Gendervision Policy Document 2021-2035* |
| | Bureau Gender Affairs, *Gender Vision Policy Document 2021-2035* (2019). Paramaribo, Suriname: Ministry of Home Affairs. |
| | Available at 3-juli-engelse-printversie-gender-vision-policy-document-2021-2035-1.pdf (gov.sr) |
| **2018** | *Suriname Progress report in the Implementation of MCPD 2018-2022* |
| | Ministry of Home Affairs, *Suriname Progress Report on the implementation of the Monevideo Consensus 2013-2018* (2018). Paramaribo, Suriname: Government of Suriname |
| | Available at: https://crpd.cepal.org/3/sites/crpd3/files/national_report_suriname.pdf |
| | *Central Civil Office : Demographic Statistics Report* |
| | |
| | **Planning Office Suriname** |
| **2017** | *National Development Plan of Suriname 2017–2021* |
| | Planning Office, S. (2017). *National Development Plan of Suriname 2017-2021.* Paramaribo: Planning Office Suriname. |
| | Available at: www.planningofficesuriname.com/wpcontent/uploads/2017/05/OP-2017-2021-Ontwikkelingsprioriteiten-van-Suriname-1.pdf |

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| **2022** | *Multi-Annual Development Plan 2022-2026* |
| | Planning Office, S. (2022). *Multi-Annual Development Plan 2022-2026.* Paramaribo: Planning Office Suriname. |
| | Available at: www.planningofficesuriname.com/meerjarenontwikkelingsplan-2022-2026-van-suriname-volledig-final/. |
| | |
| | **US Embassy** |
| **2016** | *Suriname Tier 3* |
| | Available at: https://sr.usembassy.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/115/2016/07/SURINAME-narrative-Dutch.pdf |
| **2019** | *Suriname Tier 2* |
| | Available at: https://sr.usembassy.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/115/Suriname-2019-TIP-Report-Country-Narrative-Dutch-version.pdf |
| **2022** | *Trafficking in Persons Report: Suriname* |
| | Available at: https://www.state.gov/reports/2022-trafficking-in-persons-report/suriname/ |

## Annex 2 Overview news articles regarding migrants in Suriname

| Year | Title/Description | Link |
|------|------------------|------|
| 2003 | Dying to leave: Human Trafficking in Suriname. | https://www.pbs.org/wnet/wideangle/uncategorized/human-trafficking-worldwide-suriname/1462/ |
| | Popular market and transit country for sex trade victims from Brazil and other Latin American countries. | |
| 2019 | Wat is het migratiebeleid van Suriname? | https://www.srherald.com/ingezonden/2019/09/10/wat-is-het-migratiebeleid-van-suriname/ |
| 2019 | Migrant in Suriname? Zoek het zelf maar uit. | HTTPS://WWW.ONEWORLD.NL/LEZEN/POLITIEK/MIGRATIE/MIGRANT-SURINAME-ZOEK-HET-MAAR-UIT/ |
| 2019 | Suriname waakzaam voor Venezolaanse vluchtelingen | https://dagbladdewest.com/2019/01/29/suriname-waakzaam-voor-venezolaanse-vluchtelingen/ |
| 2020 | Suriname to assist hundreds of Cuban migrants stranded at border | https://news.trust.org/item/20201204184345-akl0z/ |
| 2022 | Nationale strategie moet leiden tot ordelijke migratie | https://www.srherald.com/suriname/2022/07/31/nationale-strategie-moet-leiden-tot-ordelijke-migratie/ |
| 2022 | Overheidsfunctionarissen worden aangescherpt in nationaal migratiebeleid | https://www.srherald.com/suriname/2022/07/27/overheidsfunctionarissen-worden-aangescherpt-in-nationaal-migratiebeleid/ |
| 2022 | Regionale coördinator Migratie op werkbezoek in Suriname | https://cds.gov.sr/de-boodschap/regionale-coordinator-migratie-op-werkbezoek-in-suriname/ |
| 2022 | Suriname toont belangstelling voor afgewezen Afghanen | https://www.groene.nl/artikel/suriname-toont-belangstelling-voor-afgewezen-afghanen |
| 2023 | Migranten en beleid inzake vestiging in Suriname | https://www.dbsuriname.com/2023/03/09/migranten-en-beleid-inzake-vestiging-in-suriname/ |
| 2023 | Buitenlandse vrouwen gedwongen tot prostitutie; RBTP houdt Nederlander en Cubaanse aan | https://surinamenieuwscentrale.com/buitenlandse-vrouwen-gedwongen-tot-prostitutie-rbtp-houdt-nederlander-en-cubaanse-aan |

## Annex 3. Overview of Economic Sectors (ISIC-groups)

| Economic Sectors |
|---|
| A = Agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishing |
| B = Extraction of minerals |
| C = Processing/producing/manufacturing |
| D = Production and distribution of electricity and gas |
| E = Extraction, purification and distribution of drinking water |
| F = Construction |
| G = Trade |
| H = Transport and storage |
| I = Accommodation and food service activities |
| J = Information and communication |
| K = Financial and insurance activities |
| L = Activities related to real estate |
| M = Professional, scientific and technical activities |
| N = Administrative and support services |
| O= Policy of the state and the economic and social policy of the community |
| P = Education |
| Q = Health and social services |
| R = Arts, entertainment and recreation |
| S = Other service activities |
| T = Activities of households as employers |
| U = Activities of extraterritorial organizations and legal personality |

| Occupation / Professional Groups |
|---|
| 0 = Armed Forces |
| 1 = Managerial professions |
| 2 = Scientific professions |
| 3 = Higher & Secondary technicians and subject specialists |
| 4 = Administrative professions |
| 5 = Lower service & commercial occupations |
| 6 = Skilled workers in agriculture & fisheries |
| 7 = Craftsmen and craftsmen |
| 8 = Operators of factory installations and machines and assembly workers |
| 9 = Elementary professions |
| 99 = Unknown |

Source: General Bureau of Statistics

# Annex 4 Conventions and Protocols regarding migrants

| Year | Convention | |
|------|-----------|---|
| | | **Refugees** |
| 1951 | Convention relating to the Status of Refugees* | The 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees are the central elements in the international regime of refugee protection. The 1951 Convention defines the term "refugee", enumerates the rights of refugees and establishes the legal obligation of States to protect refugees. The Convention prohibits the expulsion or forcible return of refugees or asylum seekers. In accordance with the principle of "nonrefoulement", a person cannot be returned to a country or territory in which his or her life or freedom would be threatened on account of race, religion, nationality, social affiliation or political opinion. |
| 1967 | Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees* | The 1967 Protocol extended the application of the 1951 Convention to persons who became refugees after 1 January 1951, without any geographic limitation. |
| | | **Migrant workers** |
| 1949 | ILO Convention concerning Migration for Employment (Revised 1949) (No. 97) | The International Labour Organization (ILO) has adopted three legally-binding instruments that are directly relevant for the protection of migrant workers: the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97), the Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions), 1975 (No. 143), and the Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers, 2011 (No. 189). All three instruments have complementary non-binding recommendations. The 1949 Convention (No. 97) covers recruitment and promotes standards regarding the working conditions of migrant workers. It establishes the principle of equal treatment of migrant workers and nationals with regard to laws, regulations and administrative practices concerning living and working conditions, remuneration, social security, employment, taxes and access to justice. |
| 1975 | ILO Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) (No. 143) | The 1975 Convention (No. 143) was the first multilateral attempt to address irregular migration and to call for sanctions against traffickers of human beings. It emphasized that Member States are obliged to respect the basic human rights of all migrant workers, including irregular migrants.It also provided that lawfully present migrant workers and their families are entitled not only to equal treatment but also to equality of opportunity, e.g. equal access to employment and occupation, the right to join trade unions, cultural rights, and individual and collective freedoms. |

| Year | Convention | |
|------|------------|---|
| **1990** | International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families | The 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants Workers and Members of Their Families is the most comprehensive, international treaty on migrant rights. It establishes international definitions for categories of migrant workers and formalizes the responsibility of States in upholding the rights of migrant workers and members of their families. |
| **2011** | ILO Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers (No. 189) | The 2011 Convention (No. 189), which entered into force in 2013, was the first multilateral instrument to establish global labor standards for domestic workers, guaranteeing them the same basic rights as other workers. The Convention established that domestic workers, regardless of their migration status, have the same basic labor rights as other workers, including reasonable hours of work, a limit on payment inkind and clear information on the terms and conditions of employment. Employers of domestic workers must respect the fundamental principles and rights at work, including freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining. |
| **Smuggling and trafficking** | | |
| **2000** | Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children* | The two protocols seeking to stem irregular migration concern human trafficking and migrant smuggling, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. The 2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children took effect in 2003 and, as of September 2017, had been ratified by 171 United Nations Member States. The Protocol defines human trafficking as the acquisition of people by improper means, such as force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them. The Protocol aims to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, to protect and assist victims of such trafficking, in particular women and children, to prosecute perpetrators of such crimes, and to promote cooperation among States Parties. |
| **2000** | Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air* | The 2000 Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air took effect in 2004 and had been ratified by 145 United Nations Member States as of September 2017. As set out in the Protocol, smuggling of migrants involves the procurement, for sake of financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State of which the person is not a national or permanent resident. The Protocol seeks to combat and prevent the smuggling of "human cargo". It reaffirms that migration in and of itself is not a crime, and that migrants may be victims in need of protection. |

Sources: UNFPA international migration report and United Nations Treaty Collection (http://treaties.un.org, accessed 25 September 2017); NORMLEX Information System on International Labour Standards (http://www.ilo.org/normlex, accessed 25 September 2017).

* Does not include ratifications by the European Union