

A. C. Boldewijn/ H. E. Lamur/ R. A. Lamur: Life Table for Surinam, 1964 and 1970, and for Trinidad & Tobago, 1970 (Selected Age Group); *Nieuwe West-Indische gids*, 1977, 52(1-2), p. 53.

## LIFE TABLE FOR SURINAME 1964 - 1970

Between 1923 and 1962, the mortality rate of Surinam fell sharply from 24.4 to 8.8 per 1000 inhabitants. This downward trend continued after 1962, although its rate of decline was less pronounced than in the pre-1962 period: the deathrate decreased from 8.8 per 1000 in 1962 to 6.6 in 1973 (Lamur 1973: 96-98; 1974: 551). The small decline during the 1960s is related to the fact that as mortality drops, an optimum (saturation point) is reached. As a result, the rate of the continuing decline diminishes.

Table 1 indicates that the mortality decline is observable not only for Surinam.

TABLE 1

## Death Rates for Guyana, Surinam and Trinidad

<i>year</i>	<i>Guyana</i>	<i>Surinam</i>	<i>Trinidad</i>
1923	28.5	24.4	20.8
1930	23.2	16.0	18.9
1940	18.6	14.4	15.7
1950	14.6	11.6	12.1
1960	9.5	8.4	7.9
1970	6.8	7.4	6.7
1971	—	7.4	6.8
1972	—	6.8	—
1973	—	6.6	—

Countries whose socio-economic structure is roughly similar to that of Surinam, that is, Guyana and Trinidad, evince a similar declining trend in their death rates. This is shown by the figures published in the *Demographic Yearbook*. Guyana's mortality decreased from 28.5 per 1000 in 1923 to 6.8 per 1000 in 1970. The figures for Trinidad were 20.8 and 6.8 (in 1971). The substantial decrease in Surinam's death rate is closely connected with the de-

TABLE 2

Life Table for Surinam, 1964 and 1970, and for Trinidad &amp; Tobago, 1970 (Selected Age Group).

Age  X	Male				Female			
	Probability of dying within age interval $q_x$	Survivors to age X $l_x$	Deaths within age interval $d_x$	Life expectancy at age X $e_x^m$	Probability of dying within age interval $q_x$	Survivors to age X $l_x$	Deaths within age interval $d_x$	Life expectancy at age X $e_x^f$
<i>Suriname 1964</i>								
0-1	0.04390	100000	4390	61.0	0.04069	100000	4069	65.0
15-19	0.00455	92950	422	49.0	0.00460	93777	432	55.0
30-34	0.01910	90601	1730	35.0	0.01575	91326	1438	38.0
45-49	0.04785	84445	4040	22.0	0.03170	86493	2741	25.0
60-64	0.16080	69293	11142	10.0	0.11980	72362	8668	14.0
<i>Suriname 1970</i>								
0-1	0.03848	100000	3848	61.0	0.03334	100000	3334	65.0
15-19	0.00745	93665	697	48.0	0.00475	94631	449	52.0
30-34	0.01930	90438	1745	34.0	0.01310	92906	1217	36.0
45-49	0.04285	84323	3613	22.0	0.04125	88471	3649	24.0
60-64	0.16460	67398	11093	10.0	0.13000	73746	9586	13.0
<i>Trinidad &amp; Tobago 1970</i>								
0-1	0.03764	100000	—	64.0	0.03115	100000	—	69.0
15-19	0.00454	94753	—	52.0	0.00414	95742	—	56.0
40-44	0.01351	94544	—	39.0	0.01015	94129	—	42.0
45-49	0.03724	88136	—	25.0	0.02669	90195	—	28.0
60-64	0.12953	72840	—	14.0	0.10852	78381	—	16.0