

CHAPTER II

POPULATION

The total population described here relates only to those households which reside and operate the lots in blocks C,J,O. Those who own and operate the lots in any of these three blocks but stay in the kampongs or in areas other than these blocks are not accounted for in this study. In this respect it is found that the total population for blocks C,J,O, is 1017. This may be broken down into their respective blocks namely, 400 in block C, 336 in block J and 281 in block O. The percentage figures are shown in Table 1 as 39.3 %, 33 %, and 22.8 % respectively.

TABLE 1

POPULATION BY BLOCK NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE

Block	C		J		O		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
	400	39.3	336	33.0	281	22.7	1017

Table 2 gives us a breakdown of the population into male and female. Out of a total population of 1017 persons, 543 are males. This represents about 54 % of the population. The ratio of male to female tells us that there are 54 males to every 47 females. This ratio may be broken down into ethnic groups. In the Malay group there are 23 males to every 21 females; in the Javanese group there are 31 males to every 26 females.

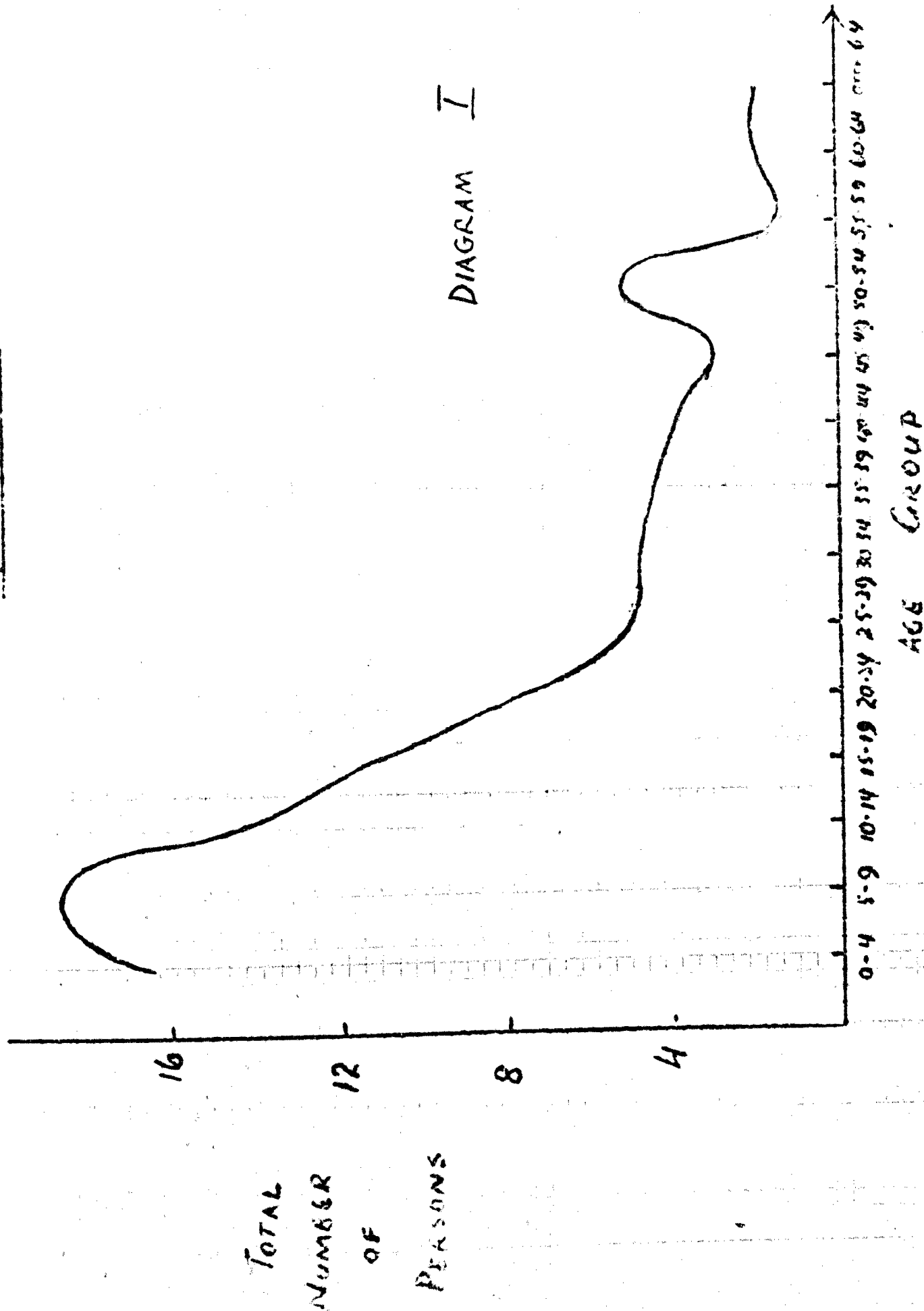
The group classified as Javanese include those persons born in Java and the children of parents born in Java. The Banjarese being too few in number have also been classified under this group.

TABLE 2

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX FOR BLOCKS C, J, O.

Age (1)	No. of persons		%		Total no. of persons	
	Male (2)	Female (3)	Male (4)	Female (5)	No. (6)	% (7)
0-4	92	75	8.1	7.4	167	16.2
5-9	111	77	10.9	7.6	188	18.5
10-14	75	74	7.4	7.2	149	14.6
15-19	53	63	5.2	6.2	116	11.4
20-24	40	39	3.9	3.8	79	7.8
25-29	18	33	1.3	3.2	51	4.9
30-34	23	25	2.3	2.5	48	4.7
35-39	13	26	1.3	2.6	44	4.3
40-44	23	17	2.3	1.7	40	3.9
45-49	14	15	1.4	1.5	29	2.9
50-54	35	17	3.4	1.7	52	5.1
55-59	12	2	1.2	0.2	14	1.4
60-64	13	7	1.3	0.7	20	2.0
Over 64	16	4	1.6	0.4	20	2.0

Graph showing the Distribution of Persons
by Age Group



The sex ratio or the ratio of males to females can also be obtained by dividing the total number of males to the total number of females.¹ Sex ratio at different ages follow a rather different pattern.² This is also exemplified in blocks C,J,O. It is also a typical pattern in many countries that young boys are more numerous than girls because male births are slightly more frequent than female births.³ Males suffer higher death rates with the result that they generally fall short of the numbers of females at higher ages. This feature is generally true for the blocks C,J,O, as the figures in Table 2 tell us.

The distribution of population in blocks C,J,O, is not normal throughout the age groups. Graphically represented the distribution would be given by the curve askewed to the left.⁴ The curve would have its peak vertically above the '5 - 9' age group and thereafter falls relatively steeply until it reaches the '25 - 29' age group. Beyond this age group the curve slopes gently and continue to slope gradually until it forms another peak at very much lower level than the first peak (indicating fewer number of persons), in the region '50 - 54' age group. Beyond this point the curve slopes gradually forming a tail to the end. This would roughly correspond with Diagram I. The Diagram tells us that the bulk of the population in blocks C,J,O, consists of those persons below the age of 20. This indeed is the case for Table 2 tells us that approximately 62 % of the total population falls into this categorial group.⁵ This implies among other things the prevalence of the crucial problems related to dependency and social amenities like health education, entertainment etc.

Another interesting feature relates to the fact that in the marriageable age group, '15 - 24' the number of females exceeds the number of males by 9.

¹Barclay, 'Techniques of population analysis' (John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1953).... Pg. 22.

²Barclay,..... pg. 23.

³op. cit. pg. 23

⁴See Diagram I . . . Pg. 3a

⁵This type of composition almost corresponds with the age structure of the whole of Malaya, 1957 Census of the Federation of Malaya, Statistics Department, Kuala Lumpur, 1960.

TABLE 3

POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND ETHNIC GROUP (C, J, O, COMBINED)

Age (1)	Number				%			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Malay (2)	Jav. (3)	Malay (4)	Jav. (5)	Malay (6)	Jav. (7)	Malay (8)	Jav. (9)
0-4	42	50	35	40	4.1	5.0	3.4	4.0
5-9	32	59	44	33	5.1	5.3	4.3	3.2
10-14	23	47	23	51	2.3	4.6	2.3	4.9
15-19	20	33	33	30	2.0	2.3	2.3	3.0
20-24	19	21	19	20	1.3	2.1	1.3	2.0
25-29	12	6	14	19	1.2	0.5	1.4	1.8
30-34	13	10	12	13	1.3	0.9	1.2	1.3
35-39	11	7	12	14	1.1	0.7	1.2	1.4
40-44	12	11	7	10	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.9
45-49	5	9	4	11	0.4	0.9	0.4	1.1
50-54	10	25	6	11	0.9	2.5	0.5	1.1
55-59	3	9	1	1	0.3	0.9	0.1	0.1
60-64	2	11	2	5	0.2	1.1	0.2	0.4
Over 64	4	12	1	3	0.4	1.2	0.1	0.3

Table 4 is important when sex ratio needs to be computed. Given the figures in columns (6) and (7) in Table 4, the sex ratios for the three blocks C, J, O, can be computed. The computations give a ratio of 1.0 in block C, 1.0 in block J and 1.1 in block O. Except in block C the sex ratio varies only very slightly. There is also a balance between the sexes in blocks J and O.

The sex composition of the population can also be shown by proportions....the proportion male and the proportion female. The proportion male is obtained by dividing the total male population by the total population.

Another ratio of significance which can be related to the population is the child-woman ratio. The child-woman ratio for blocks C, J, O, has been computed and found to be equal to 322.6. It follows that in blocks C, J, O, there are 322 children under 5 years of age for every 1,000 women of 'childbearing age'. This is a very high ratio that demands concern.

TABLE 4
POPULATION BY SEX ETHNIC GROUP AND BLOCK.

Block	Ethnic Group and Sex					
	Malay		Javanese		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
C	105	79	121	90	326	169
J	32	34	113	111	196	195
O	45	50	76	60	121	110

The child-woman ratio is used to measure the incidence of childbearing in the population of adult women. Specifically it is the number of children under 5 years of age per 1,000 women of childbearing age (i.e. between ages 15 and 44, sometimes 15 and 49). Refer Barclay, Techniques of population analysis, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1953.....Pg 24.

The study on population would not be complete without looking at the two important sections of the population namely the 'young age' group and the 'old age' group. The 'young age' group or the younger section of the population as is normally called, consists of those persons below the age of 20. Of the total population, 620 persons fall into this group, corresponding to about 62 % of the total population. Three hundred and nineteen of these are to be found in the outer rows. This represents about 31.1 % of the total population. The difference in number and in percentage terms between the outer and the inner rows is not therefore very significant. Moreover there is no definite and clearly distinguishable trend that could help to facilitate significant comparison between the inner and the outer rows on the basis of population.

Going back to the two major sections of the population we find that out of the 620 persons below the age of 20 years, 233 are females representing about 23 % of the total population. These figures could undoubtedly mean that the population if unchecked, is likely to increase at a relatively faster rate in the near future and would continue to increase at that rate or even exceed it.¹ A larger proportion of the population concentrated in the 'young age' group (below 20 years of age) could mean that there would be acute population pressure in the near future. This likely phenomenon would further add to the series of economic and social problems that already prevail.

As regards the Sarawak Sempadan case, population pressure could lead to mass movement of people in the 'young age' group out of the area into developing urban areas in the neighbourhood, looking for jobs and employment opportunities and attracted by the 'adventures' of the urban ways of life. This could be an unhealthy phenomenon because it could affect the balance in the composition of the population in both the urban and rural areas. It is most likely that the greater proportion of those who would move out of the area and areas similar to it in circumstances would be young men at marriageable age. Whatever the consequences it seems evident that they are

¹The situation as depicted above is true not only of this area but of Malaya as a whole. 1957 Population Census of the Federation of Malaya, Report No. 14 (Kuala Lumpur : Department of Statistics, 1960).

TABLE 5

POPULATION BY AGE SEX AND ROW (ALL BLOCKS COMBINED)

Age Group (1)	No. of persons				Total No of pers.		Row (9)
	Male (2)	Female (3)	Male (4)	Female (5)	No. (6)	% (7)	
0-4	27	25	2.6	2.5	52	5.1	1
	20	20	2.0	2.0	40	3.9	2
	30	15	3.0	1.5	45	4.4	3
	15	15	1.5	1.5	30	2.9	4
5-9	39	18	3.3	1.3	57	5.6	1
	24	20	2.4	2.0	44	4.3	2
	25	23	2.5	2.3	48	4.7	3
	23	16	2.3	1.6	39	3.8	4
10-14	22	23	2.2	2.3	45	4.4	1
	16	16	1.6	1.6	32	3.1	2
	19	17	1.9	1.7	36	3.5	3
	13	13	1.3	1.3	26	2.5	4
15-19	17	13	1.7	1.3	30	2.9	1
	11	13	1.1	1.3	24	2.3	2
	13	19	1.3	1.9	32	3.1	3
	12	15	1.2	1.5	27	2.6	4
20-24	12	10	1.2	1.0	22	2.1	1
	9	15	0.9	1.5	24	2.3	2
	11	4	1.1	0.4	15	1.5	3
	9	10	0.9	1.0	19	1.9	4

TABLE 5 (CONT'D)

(1)	No of persons		%		Total no of pers.		
	Male (2)	Female (3)	Male (4)	Female (5)	No. (6)	% (7)	Row (8)
25-29	4	10	0.4	1.0	14	1.4	1
	6	4	0.6	0.4	10	1.0	2
	4	10	0.4	1.0	14	1.4	3
	4	9	0.4	0.9	13	1.3	4
30-34	7	9	0.7	0.9	16	1.6	1
	6	6	0.6	0.6	12	1.2	2
	4	7	0.4	0.7	11	1.1	3
	6	4	0.6	0.4	10	1.0	4
35-39	6	7	0.6	0.7	13	1.3	1
	5	5	0.5	0.5	10	1.0	2
	2	4	0.2	0.4	6	0.6	3
	4	10	0.4	1.0	14	1.4	4
40-44	11	6	1.1	0.6	17	1.7	1
	3	5	0.3	0.5	8	0.8	2
	4	2	0.4	0.2	6	0.6	3
	5	4	0.5	0.4	9	0.9	4
45-49	6	5	0.6	0.5	11	1.1	1
	1	4	0.1	0.4	5	0.5	2
	4	4	0.4	0.4	8	0.8	3
	3	2	0.3	0.2	5	0.5	4

TABLE 5 (CONT'D)

(1)	No of persons		%		Total No of Pers.		
	Male (2)	Female (3)	Male (4)	Female (5)	No. (6)	% (7)	Row (8)
50-54	6	7	0.6	0.7	13	1.3	1
	9	4	0.9	0.4	13	1.3	2
	9	2	0.9	0.2	11	1.1	3
	11	4	1.1	0.4	15	1.5	4
55-59	1	-	0.1	-	1	0.1	1
	4	-	0.4	-	4	0.4	2
	4	-	0.4	-	4	0.4	3
	3	2	0.3	0.2	5	0.5	4
60-64	3	4	0.3	0.4	7	0.7	1
	2	-	0.2	-	2	0.2	2
	4	2	0.4	0.2	6	0.6	3
	5	1	0.5	0.1	6	0.6	4
Over 64	3	2	0.3	0.2	5	0.5	1
	4	-	0.4	-	4	0.4	2
	2	1	0.2	0.1	3	0.3	3
	3	-	0.3	-	3	0.3	4

not going to be beneficial. On the contrary greater social and economic problems are most likely to arise from it.

It has been noted that there is no linear relationship between the number of persons and the rows namely the outer and the inner rows. However except for the age groups ranging from 50 years of age and over 64 years of age, there is almost a balanced composition of the population in the outer and the inner rows with respect to sex ratio and the total number of persons. Table 5 however has brought about information that is rarely available for the study of any agricultural operation and the population thereof by classifying the population by age group, sex, ethnic group and row.

Table 6 has been derived from Table 5 and it tells us that the outer rows have a larger number of persons than the inner rows.....533 in the former and 479 in the latter.

TABLE 6
POPULATION BY ETHNIC GROUP AND ROW.

Row	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 and 4..Outer	276	27.1	262	25.9	533	53.0
2 and 3..Inner	267	26.6	212	20.4	479	47.0

The population composition has been significantly divided into two namely, those in the 'young age' group and those in the 'old age' group. In the 'old age' group are those persons who are above 60 years of age. A total number of 36 persons are classified under this group, corresponding to about 3.6 % of the total population. It is interesting to note that the dependency problem is not intensified by this phenomenon since only

2 persons out of the 36 who are economically inactive.¹ Twenty-one persons out of the total number of 36 are to be found in the outer rows. This corresponds to about 21 % of the total population. Table 5 also tells us that in the inner rows there are only 1.5 % of those persons who are above the age of 60 years.

An important aspect related to the composition of the population relates to the 'young age' group with particular reference to those persons who are between the ages of 5 and 14 years. The information as gathered from the 1962 and 1963 questionnaires reveals that formal education starts with those children above the age of 5 years and continues until the age of 14 years. It follows that this type of formal education relates to no other than the primary type of education which very seldom brings them to a higher level of education due to economic and social factors, and which very rarely benefit them in their capacity as would be farmers.

The significant implications arising from this group need not be overemphasized, nor should it be viewed with very little concern since a total of 337 persons corresponding to 33 % of the total population falls into the categorial group. Of these 177 persons are residents in the outer rows, of which 102 are males and 75 females. Of the remainder who reside in the inner rows 64 persons or about 8.3 % are males and 76 persons corresponding to 7.5 % of the total population are females. These then portray some of the significant aspects of the two types as contained in the composition of the population in Sawah Sempadan area.

It would seem appropriate to end up this part of the study on age and population with a significant fact....'that the average age of the whole population in the three blocks C, J, O, in Sawah Sempadan area in Tanjong Karang is 16 years. This figure reflects on the 'youthful' nature of the population. This could partly be explained by the fact that Sawah Sempadan is a 'new' padi area and the settlers there are mainly migrants. It is a typical feature in cases of migration that those who migrate are normally persons belonging to the ages ranging from 15 years and 35 years.² This would mean that the majority

¹This term will be dealt with in the aspect on population.

²This information has been derived from Estimation of Net Migrants to Federal District in Brazil, based on 1940-1950 census data. Barclay's book, pg. 233.

of those who migrate are those in the marriageable age and in the case of the female group, those who belong to the period of high reproduction potentiality.

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