POPULATION

1. Table Notes and Definitions

The population included in this analysis are only those who dwell in the three blocks. People living outside these blocks but who cultivate the land there have been excluded, since their inclusion would not bring out a true picture of the population of the blocks. It should also be mentioned that they are excluded so as not to incur double counting, since some of them would have been accounted for in other blocks.

"Ethnic Groups" is used to denote the various groups of the same race Malaysians (as defined in Census of population footnote). They are classified into three distinct groups based on place of birth or origin, and on language spoken. Thus, a person born in Malaya but speaks Javanese would be included under Javanese. A person born in Malaya but whose parents were born in Java would be classified as Javanese.[1] There are three ethnic groups: Malays, Javanese and Banjarese.

"Rows" means the alignment from north to south. Each block is divided into four rows by bunds and paths. The first row is the one on the outside, second following it and so on.

2. Distribution of Population

There are 1,045 persons living in Blocks A, B and C of Sawah Sempadan. Of this 545 are Malays, 359 Javanese and 141 Banjarese, as can be seen from TABLE 1.

Malays form the major ethnic group but on closer inspection only 8.25% of the total Malay population (45 persons) live in Block A. Block B has the most Malays the number being 309 persons or 56.7% of the total Malays. Block A is dominated by the Javanese with 134 persons or 37.32% of total Javanese population. The Banjarese form the minority of ethnic group with 37, 80 and 24 persons living in Blocks A, B and C respectively. Block C has an almost

[1] For purposes of analysis, Banjarese would include those born in Borneo and Sumatra, though the latter would be more appropriately classified under Sumatrans. But due to their small percentage, it was more convenient to classify them as Banjarese.

equal distribution of Malays and Javanese. The Javanese, however, form a minority group in Block B, where it has only 7.24% of total Javanese, or 26 persons.

TABLE 1

POPULATION BY ETHNIC GROUPS

Blocks	Malays No.	Malays %	Javanese No.	Javanese %	Banjarese No.	Banjarese %	Total No.	Total %
A	45	8.25	134	37.32	37	26.23	216	20.66
B	309	56.70	26	7.24	80	56.73	415	39.71
C	191	35.04	199	55.43	24	17.02	414	39.62
Total	545	100.00	359	100.00	141	100.00	1,045	100.00

There is thus an unequal distribution of population by ethnic groups in the three Blocks. Block A is less populated for two reasons: first the area is slightly smaller[2] than the other two blocks, and secondly some of the farmers do not live on the lots but in kampongs or in other blocks.[3] Blocks B and C share an equal distribution of population (approximately 40% each).

3. Demographic Distribution of Population

There is but a slight inequality between the male population (531) and female population (514). The age group of 0-9 years consists of an equal number of persons, 173 males and 174 females. From TABLE 2, we can see that the number of females double that of males in the 25-29 years age group, and also in the 35-39 years group. However, there are less females than males in the 40-65 and over age group.

The bulk of the population (47.73%) is concentrated

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[2]Block A has only 68 lots of three acres each (forming a total of 204 acres) while Blocks B and C have 103 and 117 lots or 309 and 351 acres respectively.

[3]Refer to Table 16 on page 29 for distribution of farms in Block A.

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TABLE 2

POPULATION BY AGE

Age	Number of Persons		Percentage		Total Number of Persons	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	No.	%
0-4	77	77	14.50	14.96	154	14.73
5-9	96	97	18.07	18.87	193	18.46
10-14	71	82	13.37	15.95	153	14.54
15-19	71	63	13.37	12.25	134	12.82
20-24	36	33	6.77	6.42	69	6.60
25-29	18	36	3.38	7.00	54	5.16
30-34	27	28	5.08	5.42	55	5.26
35-39	16	31	3.01	6.03	47	4.49
40-44	26	19	4.89	3.69	45	4.30
45-49	23	18	4.33	3.50	41	3.92
50-54	25	15	4.70	2.91	40	3.82
55-59	15	4	2.82	0.77	19	1.81
60-64	15	6	2.82	1.16	21	2.01
65 and over	15	5	2.82	0.97	20	1.91
Total	531	514	100.00	100.00	1,045	100.00

TABLE 3

POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND ETHNIC GROUPS

Age	Number of Persons						Percentage					
	Males			Females			Males			Females		
	Malays	Javanese	Banjarese	Javanese	Banjarese	Malays	Malays	Javanese	Banjarese	Malays	Javanese	Banjarese
0-4	40	30	7	20	11	46	14.65	15.38	11.11	16.91	12.19	14.10
5-9	44	40	12	35	14	48	16.11	20.51	19.04	17.64	21.34	17.94
10-14	38	25	8	22	10	50	13.91	12.82	12.69	18.38	13.41	12.82
15-19	46	18	7	22	11	30	16.84	9.23	11.11	11.02	13.41	14.10
20-24	16	14	6	15	3	15	5.85	7.17	9.50	5.51	9.14	3.84
25-29	12	3	3	15	5	16	4.35	1.53	4.76	5.88	9.14	6.41
30-34	18	5	4	6	2	20	6.59	2.56	6.34	7.35	3.65	2.56
35-39	11	3	2	12	3	16	4.02	1.53	3.17	5.88	7.31	3.84
40-44	14	12	0	6	5	8	5.12	6.15	0.00	2.94	3.65	6.41
45-49	11	11	1	4	6	8	4.02	5.64	1.56	2.94	2.43	7.69
50-54	10	12	3	5	2	8	3.66	6.15	4.76	2.94	3.04	2.56
55-59	5	8	2	1	1	2	1.83	4.10	3.17	0.73	0.60	1.28
60-64	5	6	4	1	3	2	1.83	3.07	6.34	0.73	0.60	3.84
65 and over	3	8	4	0	2	3	1.09	4.10	6.34	1.10	0.00	2.56
Total	273	195	63	164	78	272	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

DIAGRAM V

Histogram showing the distribution of population
by sex and ethnic groups
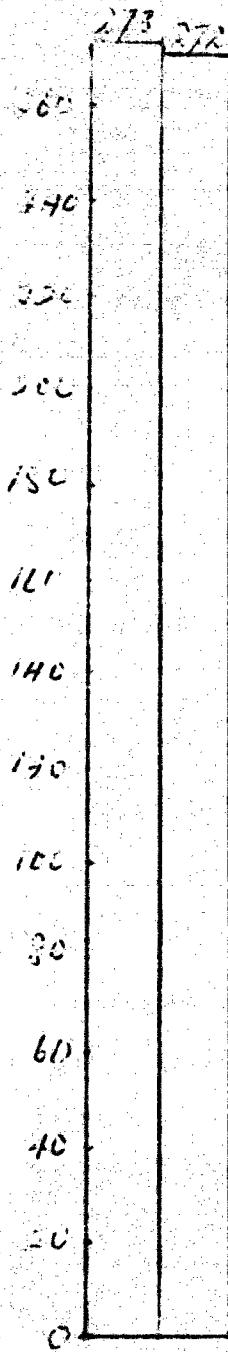
below 14 years of age. Of this Malays account for 266 persons, Javanese 172 and Banjarese 52. Therefore, we can say that almost half the population are below 20 years of age. This poses a problem on dependency as can be seen in our later discussion.

We also notice from TABLE 2 that there are more males than females above 40 years of age. There are 119 males and 67 females in this age group.

The Malay population is equally divided between males and females, being 272 and 273 persons respectively, as is shown in TABLE 3. The Javanese males, however, outnumber the females by 30 persons. Among the Banjarese the females exceed males by 15 persons. We can discern this from Figure 6 which is a histogram showing the distribution of population by sex and ethnic groups.

Though Malay males are more numerous in Block C, this is offset by the excess of females over males in Blocks A and B.

TABLE 4

POPULATION BY SEX, ETHNIC GROUPS AND BLOCKS

Blocks	Malays		Javanese		Banjarese		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
A	18	27	71	63	18	19	107	109
B	150	159	11	15	35	45	196	219
C	105	86	113	86	10	14	228	186
Total	273	272	195	164	63	78	531	514

In the older age bracket, i.e 60 years and over, the Banjarese have 12.7% of its total male population there

while the Javanese have 12.7% and Malays 3% of their respective totals.[4]

But in absolute figures, 14 Javanese males are above 60 years of age, Malays 8 and 8 Banjarese. The number of females belonging to this age group is less for all ethnic groups, viz: 5 Malays, 1 Javanese and 5 Banjarese, or 2%, 1% and 6% respectively of total female population of the ethnic groups. We can see therefore that the male population of all ethnic group have more chances of surviving to an old age. This is in direct contrast to the contention that the average life expectation is 56 years for males and 58 for females.[5] But we may not conclude males in rural areas have longer life spans. The life expectancy given in the Official Year Book is not confined to rural or urban population only. It is merely an average of the whole population of the Federation. And in any case our study is limited to so small an area, so that a conclusion as above would not be representative of the whole rural population. Perhaps the women in our case die earlier because of the hard work they have to perform, and also of child-rearing.

4. Inter-row study of Population Distribution

For this study, we refer to TABLE 5a and 5b and the maps of the 3 blocks together with the map of Sawah Sempadan. From TABLE 5a and 5b, Row ONE has the greatest number of persons (310) or 30% of the total population of 1,045. The other three rows have 21%. 26% and 23% respectively. It should be noted, however, that in this table I have added up all populations of all blocks combined. The main defect of this combination is that the population distribution would not be representative of each block. This defect is therefore offset by our reference to the block maps.

From the map of Sawah Sempadan, we see that Blocks A and B are separated by Drain 1, while Blocks B and C are separated by Distributary 2. Paths follow these 2 water channels.

The first row of Block A has 14 houses, while the other rows have 10, 12, and 3 houses respectively. In Block B, the first row has 18 houses and the fourth 23. And in Block C, the first row has 24 houses and another 17 houses are in the fourth row.

In the case of Block B, the fourth row is nearest the gravel path, which in turn is nearest the first row of Block C.

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[4]Refer to Introduction, calculation of percentages.

[5]See Federation of Malaya Official Year Book, Govt. Press, Kuala Lumpur, page 191.

That is why in these 2 blocks, the population is centered in Row 4 and 1 respectively. This is because the gravel path is an important line of communications and transport. These paths can be used by cars and jeeps.

Due to the geographical juxtaposition, the first row of Block B corresponds mostly to the third row of Block A, as can be seen from the map. Since a path runs through this division, these two rows have a linear concentration of houses (12 in A and 18 in B).

In Block C, the first row has the most number of houses (24) since this row is nearest the gravel path and main line of transport and communications.

The inner rows of each block are separated by bunds which are not accessible by motor vehicles but only by bicycles. In some places these bunds are overgrown with grass and shrubs, making communications difficult. The population is less densely concentrated here.

TABLE 5 (a)

POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND ROWS

Age	Row One						Row Two					
	No. of Persons		Percentage		Total No. of Persons		No. of Persons		Percentage		Total No. of Persons	
	M	F	M	F	No.	%	M	F	M	F	No.	%
0- 4	22	22	13.33	15.17	44	14.19	9	20	9.18	16.39	29	13.18
5- 9	35	32	21.21	22.06	67	21.61	22	21	22.44	17.21	43	19.54
10-14	26	18	15.78	12.41	44	14.19	8	20	8.16	16.39	28	12.72
15-19	24	16	14.54	11.03	40	12.90	9	16	9.18	13.11	25	11.36
20-24	10	4	6.06	2.75	14	4.51	10	7	10.20	5.73	17	7.72
25-29	2	16	1.21	11.03	18	5.80	6	7	6.12	5.73	13	5.90
30-34	11	10	6.66	6.89	21	6.77	7	7	7.14	5.73	14	6.36
35-39	6	7	3.63	4.82	13	4.19	6	6	6.12	4.91	12	5.45
40-44	12	4	7.27	2.75	16	5.16	4	6	4.08	4.91	10	4.54
45-49	4	6	2.42	4.13	10	3.22	6	5	6.12	4.09	11	5.00
50-54	5	6	3.03	4.13	11	3.54	2	3	2.04	2.45	5	2.27
55-59	1	0	0.60	0.00	1	0.32	4	0	4.08	0.00	4	1.81
60-64	5	2	3.03	1.37	7	2.25	3	3	3.06	2.45	6	2.72
64 & Over	2	2	1.21	1.37	4	1.29	2	1	2.04	0.81	3	1.36
Total	165	145	100.00	100.00	310	100.00	98	122	100.00	100.00	220	100.00

	Row Three						Row Four					
	No. of Persons		Percentage		Total No. of Persons		No. of Persons		Percentage		Total No. of Persons	
Age	M	F	M	F	No.	%	M	F	M	F	No.	%
0-4	30	15	21.12	11.62	45	16.60	16	20	12.69	15.94	36	14.75
5-9	21	24	15.19	18.60	45	16.60	18	20	14.26	16.94	38	15.57
10-14	13	24	12.67	18.60	42	15.12	19	20	15.07	16.94	39	15.98
15-19	18	20	12.67	15.50	38	14.02	20	11	15.37	9.32	31	12.60
20-24	10	12	7.04	9.30	22	8.11	6	10	4.75	8.47	16	6.55
25-29	4	5	2.81	3.87	9	3.32	6	8	4.7?	6.77	14	5.73
30-34	5	6	3.52	4.65	11	4.05	4	5	3.17	4.23	9	2.68
35-39	2	10	1.40	7.05	12	4.43	2	3	1.53	6.77	10	4.09
40-44	3	3	2.11	2.32	6	2.21	7	6	5.55	5.08	13	5.32
45-49	8	5	5.63	3.87	13	4.79	5	2	3.96	1.69	7	2.86
50-54	8	3	6.53	2.32	11	4.05	10	3	7.93	2.54	13	5.32
55-59	5	0	3.52	0.00	5	1.84	5	4	3.96	3.36	9	3.68
60-64	4	1	2.81	0.77	5	1.84	3	0	2.38	0.00	3	1.22
64 & over	6	1	4.22	0.77	7	2.58	5	1	?.96	0.84	6	2.45
Total	142	128	100.00	100.00	270	100.00	126	118	100.00	100.00	244	100.00