

Vulnerable groups within the population of Aruba





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## INTRODUCTION

There is no universal definition of what vulnerable groups in society are. The definition used by various organizations simply depends on their purpose of existence. For instance, an organization which is involved in disaster relief or support of refugees will use different criteria to define vulnerable groups than an organization involved in labor market planning. Our purpose with this paper is to make a description of vulnerable groups in general society, based on the data from the 2010 Aruba Population and Housing Census. In our opinion, the following definition from the Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG from the European Commission best suits this purpose: 'Groups that experience a higher risk of poverty and social exclusion than the general population. Ethnic minorities, migrants, disabled persons, the homeless, those struggling with substance abuse, isolated elderly people and children all face difficulties that can lead to further social exclusion, such as low levels of education and unemployment or underemployment'. This report is written to assist organizations, within the public sector and beyond, that are engaged in the protection of the most vulnerable in our society. The tables and figures are solely based on Census 2010 data. Therefore, no information can be provided about those groups for which no information is available in the Census (for instance drug addicts). The information we will present is certainly not the whole picture. After the 2010 Census, a number of publications take a closer look at specific groups in our society. The reader is referred to these publications for a more in-depth analysis of some vulnerable groups. In this report we will describe each of the following groups:

1. Children not attending school (ages 4-17 years)
2. Young unemployed persons (ages 15-24 years)
3. Persons with a disability
4. The elderly (60+ years)
5. Single parents (with children younger than 18 years)
6. Teenage mothers (ages 14-19 years)

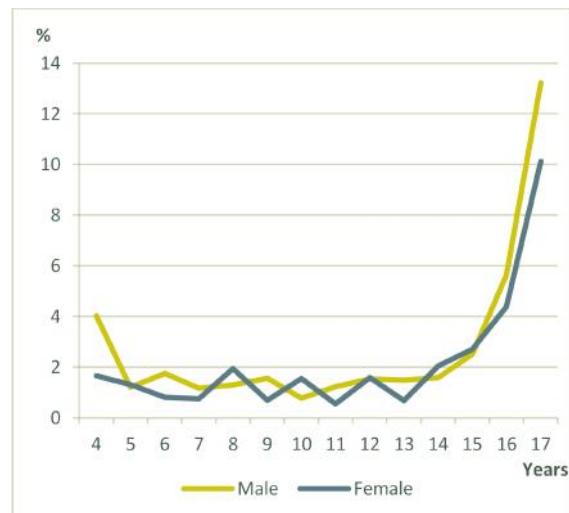
## CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL

Providing a child with the means to follow an education is an essential part of giving a child the best possible start in life. Children who do not attend school, or who do not attend school on a regular basis, face enormous disadvantages later in life. In December 2011, the Aruban Parliament unanimously approved the law on compulsory school attendance. Starting August 2012, all children between 4 and 17 years are obligated to attend school.

Table 1 shows the number of children between 0 and 17 years of age that at the time of the 2010 Census were attending school and those who were not. In the Census, the school attending population generally consists of persons who are following a *regular educational program*. Such a program normally spans a period of more than one year and leads to an accredited diploma. The program can be followed during the day or in the evening hours. A regular program is normally a full-time activity. However, to fulfill the need of information of various users of Census data, the Central Bureau of Statistics decided to also gather information on children attending kindergartens, playschools and day nurseries during the 2010 Census. Therefore, children attending pre-primary schools or nurseries were also considered to follow regular education.

In general, most children between ages 4 and 17 years were enrolled in school. Between the ages of 4 and 17 years a total of 20,054 school attending children were counted against 524 children (2.5 percent) who were not attending school. Figure 1 shows that at age 16 and 17 a significant number of children no longer attended school. Respectively 5.0 percent and 11.7 percent of young adolescents 16 and 17 years of age were not in school. In comparison, the percentage of children out of school between ages 5 and 14 years was well below 2 percent. Up to age 15 there was no difference between the percentage of boys and girls who were not attending school. At age 16 and 17 a slightly higher percentage of boys were not attending school.

**Figure 1: Percentage of children by age and sex, who do not go to school**



**Table 1: Children by age, sex and school attendance**

such as senility, depression, retardation, drug

Age	Male				Female				Total			
	Visited school		Total	% not attending	Visited school		Total	%	Visited school		Total	% not attending
	Yes	No		Yes	No			Yes	No			
0	68	489	557	87.8	56	499	555	89.9	124	988	1,113	88.8
1	225	438	664	66.1	220	405	625	64.8	445	843	1,288	65.5
2	351	307	658	46.7	347	288	635	45.3	698	595	1,293	46.0
3	551	195	746	26.1	487	147	634	23.2	1,038	342	1,380	24.8
4	668	28	696	4.0	713	12	725	1.6	1,381	40	1,421	2.8
5	743	9	751	1.2	682	9	691	1.3	1,424	17	1,442	1.2
6	673	12	685	1.7	617	5	622	0.9	1,290	17	1,308	1.3
7	677	8	684	1.1	659	5	665	0.8	1,336	13	1,349	1.0
8	688	9	697	1.2	706	14	720	2.0	1,394	23	1,417	1.6
9	757	12	769	1.5	724	5	730	0.7	1,481	17	1,498	1.2
10	774	6	780	0.8	702	11	713	1.5	1,476	17	1,494	1.2
11	725	9	734	1.2	738	4	743	0.6	1,463	13	1,476	0.9
12	705	11	715	1.5	749	12	761	1.6	1,454	23	1,476	1.5
13	794	12	806	1.5	733	5	738	0.7	1,527	17	1,545	1.1
14	745	12	757	1.6	719	15	734	2.1	1,463	27	1,490	1.8
15	813	21	833	2.5	753	19	773	2.5	1,566	40	1,606	2.5
16	719	41	760	5.4	687	28	715	3.9	1,406	69	1,475	4.7
17	682	104	786	13.2	660	55	715	7.7	1,342	159	1,501	10.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,357</b>	<b>1,722</b>	<b>13,079</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>10,954</b>	<b>1,540</b>	<b>12,494</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>22,311</b>	<b>3,262</b>	<b>25,573</b>	<b>12.8</b>

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

dependency, accidental injuries, and etcetera.

When looking at the number of children who were not attending school, one should keep in mind that a small number of children are not able to attend school because of serious physical or mental disabilities. Although some of these children may be taken care of in specialized institutions they do not follow regular education. Therefore, it is important to look into the number of children with one or more disabilities who were not attending school.

The 2010 Census questionnaire, in accordance with new recommendations issued by the United Nations (2008), included a set of 6 questions developed by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics. The Washington Group is a UN City Group that focuses on proposing international measures of disability. These questions focus on difficulties individuals experience in everyday life due to a physical or mental health problem. In this respect, health refers to a general condition of the body and mind with reference to soundness, vitality, and freedom from disease. 'Problem' refers to the individual's perception of a departure from physical, mental or emotional wellbeing. This includes specific health problems, such as a disease or chronic condition, a missing limb or organ or any type of impairment. It also includes disorders not always thought of as health-related,

The following questions asked about health-related difficulties in six core functional domains: seeing, hearing, walking, cognition, self-care, and communication:

- a. Do you have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses?
- b. Do you have difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid?
- c. Do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?
- d. Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating?
- e. Do you have difficulty (with self-care such as) washing all over or dressing?
- f. Using your usual (customary) language, do you have difficulty communicating, (for example understanding or being understood by others)?

To each of these questions the following four answer categories were used: 1) No problem, 2) Some problem, 3) A lot of problems and 4) Cannot do at all. In general persons who answer either 'A lot of problems' or 'Cannot do at all' on a particular question are considered to have a disability in that functional domain. With the exception of the questions on difficulty seeing and hearing, these

Table 2a: All children between 4 and 17 years of age by type of limitation and sex

	No problem	Some problem	A lot of problems	Cannot do this at all	Total	% with lots of problems or cannot do this at all
<b>Problems seeing</b>						
Male	9,781	582	90	-	10,454	0.9
Female	9,174	850	90	-	10,116	0.9
<b>Problems hearing</b>						
Male	10,331	91	28	-	10,453	0.3
Female	9,954	124	30	-	10,112	0.3
<b>Problems walking</b>						
Male	9,657	45	14	15	9,731	0.3
Female	9,289	61	15	8	9,373	0.2
<b>Problems memory</b>						
Male	9,464	195	67	12	9,738	0.8
Female	9,195	135	41	-	9,374	0.5
<b>Problems washing and dressing</b>						
Male	9,667	35	12	22	9,736	0.3
Female	9,328	29	9	8	9,374	0.2
<b>Problems communicating</b>						
Male	9,575	87	52	15	9,729	0.7
Female	9,263	70	28	9	9,370	0.4

Note: A mark is presented when the number of children is less than 5  
Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table 2b: Children between 4 and 17 years of age who do not go to school by type of limitation and sex

	No problem	Some problem	A lot of problems	Cannot do this at all	Total	% with lots of problems or cannot do this at all
<b>Problems seeing</b>						
Male	274	13	8	0	295	2.7
Female	196	24	9	-	230	4.3
<b>Problems hearing</b>						
Male	284	-	4	-	293	2.0
Female	222	-	-	-	229	1.7
<b>Problems walking</b>						
Male	247	9	2	9	267	4.1
Female	203	5	-	6	215	3.3
<b>Problems memory</b>						
Male	231	14	10	12	267	8.2
Female	198	9	9	-	218	5.0
<b>Problems washing and dressing</b>						
Male	241	-	8	14	266	8.3
Female	206	-	-	5	217	3.7
<b>Problems communicating</b>						
Male	234	-	17	11	266	10.5
Female	202	5	5	-	216	4.2

Note: A mark is presented when the number of children is less than 5  
Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

and older, as younger children are more likely to have difficulties with these functional domains because of their young age.

Table 2a shows the number of male and female children between 4 and 17 years of age by disability status for each of the six core functional domains. Among all children within this age bracket, the most common functional impairment was vision. Ninety-one boys and ninety-two girls indicated that they had either a lot of problems seeing, even if wearing glasses, or that they could not see at all. This number constituted 0.9 percent of all boys and girls. In comparison, 0.8 percent of all boys and 0.5 percent of all girls reported having difficulty remembering or concentrating. A total of 215 boys and 173 girls

reported having either a lot of problems in one or more of the functional domains, or not being able to do one or more of these functions/activities at all. This number amounts to 2.2 percent of all children.

In the 2010 Census we counted a total of 525 children who did not attend school, of which 59 indicated having a lot of problems in one or more functional domains. Among children with a disability, 14.2 percent did not attend school, against 2.3 percent of children without a disability. On the other hand, 11.2 percent of children who did not attend school had at least one disability. The percentage is slightly higher among boys (11.9 percent) than among girls (10.4 percent). The percentage of

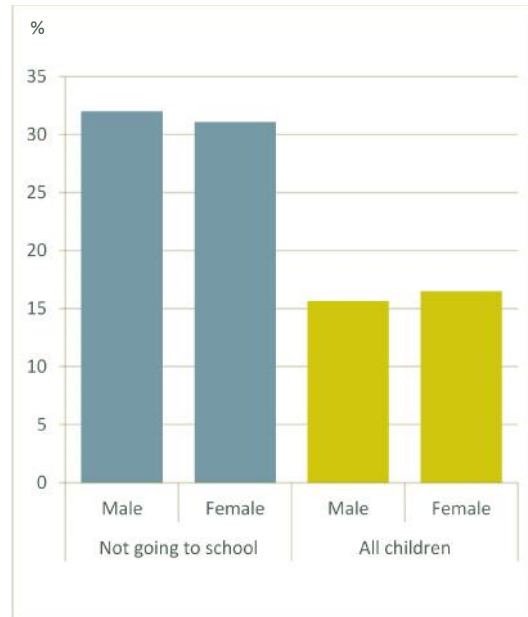
children with a disability among children who did not attend school (11.2 percent) was considerably higher than the percentage of children with a disability (2.2 percent) among all children. It is obvious that having a disability is a reason for not attending school. However, Census data also shows that the large majority of children (84.8 percent) with a disability were attending school.

In Figure 2, a comparison is made between the percentages of children who have a disability and who were not school attending and all children with disability, by type of disability. It is clear that for each functional domain, the percentage is much higher among those who do not attend school. The graph shows that the effect is largest among children who have problems washing and dressing, communicating and who have problems remembering or concentrating. It is interesting to see that, the proportion of boys who don't go to school and who have difficulties in these three functional domains is considerably higher for boys than for girls.

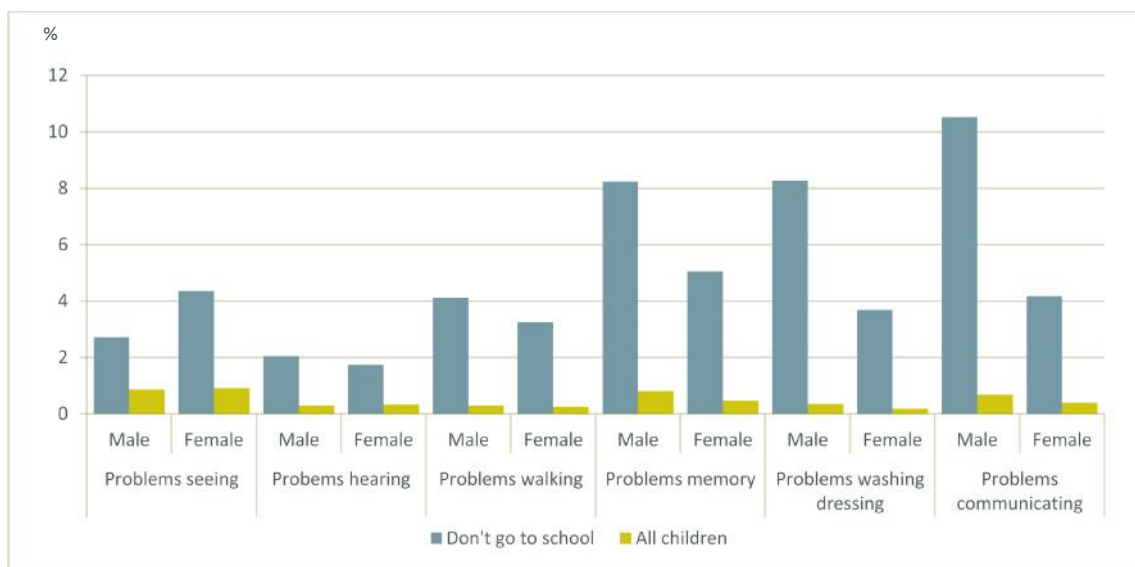
Next to disability there are some other factors that have an effect on whether children stay out of school. Country of birth of the child plays an important role in this. Since the late 1980's, a large group of foreign workers has come to Aruba to fill job positions in the tourism and construction sector. Many of these migrants have brought young children with them. Among the 20,586 children in the age group 4–17 years for which information was available, 17,280 children were born on Aruba and 3,306 were born abroad. Foreign born children made up 16.1 percent of all children in the age-group 4-17 years.

Figure 3 shows that a considerably higher proportion of foreign born children could be found among the group who was not attending school than among the general population. Among all children who did not go to school, 32.0 percent of boys and 31.1 percent of girls were foreign born. This is almost twice as high as among all children in age group 4-17 years.

**Figure 3: Percentage of foreign-born children between 4 and 17 years of age who were not attending school by sex, compared to the percentage of foreign-born children to all children in the same age category**



**Figure 2: Percentage of disabled children between 4 and 17 years of age by type of disability and sex, for those who did not go to school and for all children**





**Table 3: Children between 4 and 17 years of age who are not attending school by sex and country of birth**

	Not attending school			All children			% not attending school		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Girls	Boys	Total
Aruba	200	158	358	8,821	8,452	17,273	2.3	1.9	2.1
Colombia	32	25	57	391	391	782	8.2	6.4	7.3
USA	2	1	3	72	70	142	2.8	1.4	2.1
Dominican Republic	10	9	19	110	108	218	9.1	8.3	8.7
Venezuela	19	5	24	190	189	379	10.0	2.6	6.3
Curacao	2	2	4	98	79	177	2.0	2.5	2.3
The Netherlands	13	8	21	470	504	974	2.8	1.6	2.2
Other country	15	22	37	300	327	627	5.0	6.7	5.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>10,452</b>	<b>10,120</b>	<b>20,572</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table 3 shows a great variety in school attendance among foreign born children according to country of birth. The table shows the relative and absolute number of children not attending school by country of birth, for boys and girls. The country with the highest proportion of children staying out of school was the Dominican Republic. At the time of the Census, 8.7 of all children born in the Dominican Republic did not go to school.

Also Colombia (7.3 percent) and Venezuela (6.3 percent) scored relatively high. Children born in the Netherlands, Curacao and the USA had about the same percentage of non-attendance to school as did Aruba-born children. Children born in Spanish speaking countries had the lowest rate of school attendance, the language difference certainly being an important factor.

The fact that Dutch is the official language in the educational system of Aruba poses a difficulty for these children to follow an educational program. Moreover, some of these children were possibly undocumented migrants which pose an additional burden on their school attendance.

Not only country of birth of the child himself/herself, but also the country of birth of the father and the mother was a determining important factor in school attendance of the child. Table 4 shows the absolute and relative number of boys and girls who did not go to school, by country of birth of their parents. Children whose mother or father was born in the Netherlands had the lowest chance of not visiting a school. If the father of the child was born in the Netherlands only 0.8 percent of the children 4–17

**Table 4: Children between 4 and 17 years of age who are not attending school by sex and country of birth of parents**

Country of birth father	Not attending school			All children			% not attending school		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Girls	Boys	Total
Aruba	156	130	286	6,188	6,023	12,211	2.5	2.2	2.3
Colombia	30	27	57	871	826	1,697	3.4	3.3	3.4
Dominican Republic	27	19	46	482	478	960	5.6	4.0	4.8
The Netherlands	5	4	9	480	476	956	1.0	0.8	0.9
Other country	76	47	123	2,413	2,285	4,698	3.1	2.1	2.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>10,434</b>	<b>10,088</b>	<b>20,522</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>

Country of birth mother	Not attending school			All children			% not attending school		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Girls	Boys	Total
Aruba	139	116	255	5,631	5,354	10,985	2.5	2.2	2.3
Colombia	47	40	87	1,495	1,498	2,993	3.1	2.7	2.9
Dominican Republic	32	25	57	637	699	1,336	5.0	3.6	4.3
The Netherlands	3	4	7	461	442	903	0.7	0.9	0.8
Other country	74	44	118	2,229	2,111	4,340	3.3	2.1	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>10,453</b>	<b>10,104</b>	<b>20,557</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>

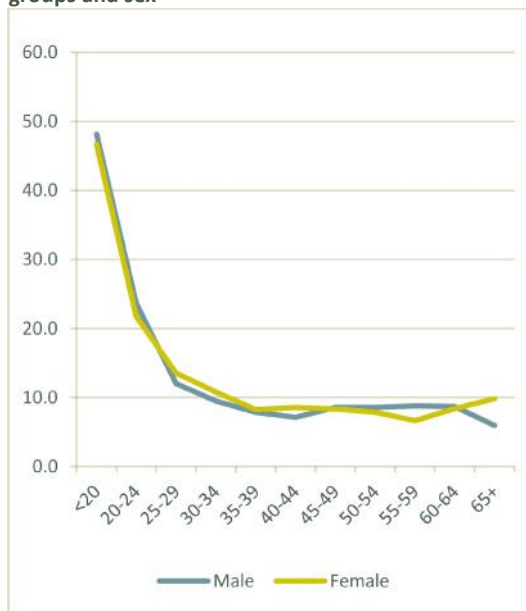
Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

years of age were not going to school against 0.9 percent if the mother was born in the Netherlands. Again the Dominican Republic had the highest proportions of children out of school. About two times more children stayed out of school if their father and mother were born in the Dominican Republic than if the parents were Aruban born, respectively 4.8 and 4.3 percent of children stayed out of school.

### YOUNG UNEMPLOYED PERSONS

At the time of the Census in September 2010, Aruba witnessed unemployment of 10.6 percent. Unemployment for males was slightly higher (10.8 percent) than for females (10.4 percent). Figure 4 shows that unemployment struck the younger people much harder than persons at a more advanced age.

**Figure 4: Unemployment rate by five-year age groups and sex**



To compare unemployment for youngsters with unemployment among the adult population, we calculated the unemployment rate for males and females under and above age 25 years. The unemployment rate for persons under age 25 years was 29.9 percent for males and 27.5 percent for females. The unemployment rate for persons older than 25 years was respectively 8.6 and 9.0 for males and females. In other words, on Aruba unemployment for persons below 25 years was almost three times as high as among persons above 25 years. Although the percentage of persons in the labor market in the age group below 25 years was only 9 percent, they constituted 24.4 percent of all the unemployed on the island.

Table 5 shows that among the 8,698 persons younger than 20 years, 1,138 were economically active; 595 were employed and 535 were unemployed. Among these economically active youngsters, no less than 47.5 percent were unemployed. Unemployment in the age-group 20–24 years of age was slightly lower, but still an impressive 22.8 percent. Considering these figures one should take into account that especially below age 20 years the participation in the labor market was low. As many young people were still in school, the participation rate was only 13.1 percent below age 20 years. Between ages 20 and 25 years, slightly more than two thirds of all persons were economically active.

**Table 5: Unemployment rate by five-year age groups and sex**

	Male	Female	Both sexes	Participation rate
<20	48.1	46.7	47.5	13.1
20-24	23.7	21.7	22.8	67.5
25-29	12.0	13.6	12.8	85.9
30-34	9.5	10.8	10.2	87.9
35-39	7.9	8.2	8.1	88.7
40-44	7.1	8.6	7.9	88.8
45-49	8.6	8.3	8.5	86.8
50-54	8.5	7.9	8.2	82.0
55-59	8.8	6.6	7.8	72.4
60-64	8.7	8.4	8.6	39.7
65+	6.0	9.8	7.4	11.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>64.1</b>

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

For policy making it is important to know the social composition of the young unemployed. We restrict the following tables to the age-group 15–24 years, as only very few children below age 15 years were economically active. Table 6 shows the activity status of young persons below age 25 years by sex. The table shows clearly a much higher unemployment rate among young persons who did not obtain a diploma after primary education than among those who did. It should come as no surprise that the percentage of youngsters who was inactive is much higher for those who did not obtain a diploma after primary education: most of them were still in school. Both for males and females, unemployment for those without a diploma was a bit more than 50 percent higher than among those who obtained a diploma. In 2010, 430 young males and 278 young females were unemployed and on the labor market without a diploma. The unemployment for these groups was respectively 35.5 percent for males and 33.1 for females.

**Table 6: Activity status of persons younger than 25 years by sex and whether they obtained a diploma after primary education**

Sex			Employed	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Total	Unemployment rate	% inactive
Male	Diploma after primary education	Yes	1,424	391	1,133	2,948	21.5	38.4
		No	782	430	2,691	3,903	35.5	68.9
	Total		2,206	821	3,824	6,851	27.1	55.8
Female	Diploma after primary education	Yes	1,278	359	1,426	3,063	21.9	46.6
		No	561	278	2,671	3,510	33.1	76.1
	Total		1,839	637	4,097	6,573	25.7	62.3
Total	Diploma after primary education	Yes	2,702	750	2,559	6,011	21.7	42.6
		No	1,343	708	5,362	7,413	34.5	72.3
	Total		4,045	1,458	7,921	13,424	26.5	59.0

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

**Table7: Activity status of persons younger than 25 years by sex and level of diploma**

Sex		Employed	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Total	Unemployment rate	% inactive
Male	0: Less than primary education	50	32	137	219	39.0	62.6
	1: Primary (special) education	789	409	2,619	3,797	34.7	69.0
	2: Lower vocational education (EPB)	647	214	293	1,154	24.9	25.4
	3: MAVO	384	110	625	1,119	22.3	55.9
	3: HAVO/High School/Bachillerato		41	130	319	21.7	40.8
	3: VWO	148	0	27	38	0.0	71.1
	5: Vocational education, Intermediate (Associate) level (MBO)	11	15	40	231	7.9	17.3
	5: Higher education (Bachelor, HBO)	176	8	14	67	15.1	20.9
	5: Higher education (WO, Master)	45	2	2	12	20.0	16.7
	Total		8	831	3,887	6,956	27.1
Female	0: Less than primary education	2,238	14	107	148	34.1	72.3
	1: Primary (special) education	27	273	2,611	3,430	33.3	76.1
	2: Lower vocational education (EPB)	546	121	235	656	28.7	35.8
	3: MAVO	300	132	739	1,308	23.2	56.5
	3: HAVO/High School/Bachillerato	437	55	247	496	22.1	49.8
	3: VWO	194	6	61	91	20.0	67.0
	5: Vocational education, Intermediate (Associate) level (MBO)	24	30	97	368	11.1	26.4
	5: Higher education (Bachelor, HBO)	241	10	38	119	12.3	31.9
	5: Higher education (WO, Master)	71	4	3	17	28.6	17.6
	Total		10	645	4,138	6,633	25.9
Total	0: Less than primary education	1,850	46	244	367	37.4	66.5
	1: Primary (special) education	77	682	5,230	7,227	34.2	72.4
	2: Lower vocational education (EPB)	1,315	335	528	1,810	26.1	29.2
	3: MAVO	947	242	1,364	2,427	22.8	56.2
	3: HAVO/High School/Bachillerato	821	96	377	815	21.9	46.3
	3: VWO	342	6	88	129	14.6	68.2
	5: Vocational education, Intermediate (Associate) level (MBO)	35	45	137	599	9.7	22.9
	5: Higher education (Bachelor, HBO)	417	18	52	186	13.4	28.0
	5: Higher education (WO, Master)	116	6	5	29	25.0	17.2
	Total		184,088	1,476	8,025	13,589	26.5

Table 7 gives some more detail about the connection between level of education and youth unemployment. In this table we present the activity status of persons younger than 25 years by level of education. To classify the level of diploma we used the International Standard Classification of Education. ISCED is an instrument for presenting statistics on education. It is important to note that the ISCED classification used during the 2010 Census differs in some respects to the one used during the 2000 Census.

Although almost sixty percent of all youngsters below age 25 were still inactive, we can observe a clear difference in the levels of unemployment between the various educational categories. Those who were economically active and who had no diploma or a diploma of only primary education had unemployment rates of well above thirty percent. They were clearly at a disadvantage compared to those who had successfully completed at least some further education. Students with a lower vocational diploma (EPB) already had a better chance to find employment, but still faced somewhat more difficulties than those with a MAVO or HAVO diploma. Young people who finished a vocational education at the intermediate level (MBO) had the lowest unemployment (9.7 percent for both sexes together). Persons with a higher educational attainment faced higher unemployment rates. However, as these training programs typically take much longer to complete, the number of persons younger than 25 who are economically active is quite small, moreover, it can be expected that most of them finished their studies only a short time before the Census.

In many countries country of birth is an important factor for acquiring a job. In many countries, foreign workers have a disadvantaged position on the labor market vis á vis local workers. This does not seem to be the case in Aruba. Among young people on Aruba, the unemployment among the foreign born was actually lower than among Aruban born for both males and females (see Table 8). For both sexes combined, the unemployment rate for Aruban born youngsters was 28.8 percent, while 22.5 percent of foreign born youngsters were unemployed. On the other hand, the number of young people who were still economically inactive was higher among the Aruban born than among the foreign born, both for males and females alike.

Tables 10a and 10b show that not only did a person's own country of birth have an effect on economic activity status, also the country of birth of a person's mother and father was related to the chances of finding employment. Having a father who was born in the Netherlands gave young persons an advantage on the labor market. The unemployment rate among this group was only 12.4 percent, which was more than 10 percent less than the group with the second lowest unemployment (Colombia 23.5 percent). Having an Aruban born father led to a slightly higher unemployment rate when compared to all other groups (28.3 percent). Country of birth of mother however did not have the same effect as country of birth of father. Here, unemployment was highest when the mother originated from the Dominican Republic (32.2 percent), followed by Aruban born mothers (28.3 percent). It is interesting that having a Dutch born mother seemed not to have much of an effect when compared to having a Dutch born father. However, one should keep in mind that some of the subgroups included in these analyses carried a relatively small number of cases.

**Table 8: Activity status of persons younger than 25 years by sex and whether born on Aruba or not**

Sex		Employed	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Total	Unemployment rate	% inactive	
Male	Yes	1,398	597	2,826	4,821	29.9	58.6	
	Born on Aruba	No	845	238	1,064	2,147	22.0	49.6
	Total		2,243	835	3,890	6,968	27.1	55.8
Female	Yes	1,138	431	2,897	4,466	27.5	64.9	
	Born on Aruba	No	713	215	1,247	2,175	23.2	57.3
	Total		1,851	646	4,144	6,641	25.9	62.4
Total	Yes	2,536	1,028	5,723	9,287	28.8	61.6	
	Born on Aruba	No	1,558	453	2,311	4,322	22.5	53.5
	Total		4,094	1,481	8,034	13,609	26.6	59.0

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table 9: Activity status of persons younger than 25 years by sex and language spoken at home

Sex		Employed	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Total	Unemployment rate	% inactive
Male	Papiamento	1,645	667	2,943	5,255	28.8	56.0
	Spanish	287	76	359	722	20.9	49.7
	Dutch	88	22	186	296	20.0	62.8
	English	123	66	302	491	34.9	61.5
	Chinese	58	2	39	99	3.3	39.4
	Doesn't speak	0	0	9	9	0.0	0.0
	Other	42	3	52	97	6.7	53.6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,243</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>3,890</b>	<b>6,969</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>55.8</b>
Female	Papiamento	1,375	489	3,151	5,015	26.2	62.8
	Spanish	210	79	413	702	27.3	58.8
	Dutch	77	22	183	282	22.2	64.9
	English	111	42	284	437	27.5	65.0
	Chinese	51	3	47	101	5.6	46.5
	Doesn't speak	0	0	4	4	0.0	0.0
	Other	27	11	61	99	28.9	61.6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,851</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>4,143</b>	<b>6,640</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>62.4</b>
Total	Papiamento	3,020	1,156	6,094	10,270	27.7	59.3
	Spanish	497	155	772	1,424	23.8	54.2
	Dutch	165	44	369	578	21.1	63.8
	English	234	108	586	928	31.6	63.1
	Chinese	109	5	86	200	4.4	43.0
	Doesn't speak	0	0	13	13	0.0	0.0
	Other	69	14	113	196	16.9	57.7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,094</b>	<b>1,482</b>	<b>8,033</b>	<b>13,609</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>59.0</b>

Table 10a: Activity status of persons younger than 25 years by sex and country of birth father

Sex		Employed	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Total	Unemployment rate	% inactive
Male	Aruba	1,337	553	2,469	4,359	29.3	56.6
	Colombia	232	65	325	622	21.9	52.3
	Dominican Republic	110	41	142	293	27.2	48.5
	The Netherlands	57	5	99	161	8.1	61.5
	Other	507	169	852	1,528	25.0	55.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,243</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>3,887</b>	<b>6,963</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>55.8</b>
Female	Aruba	1,120	417	2,626	4,163	27.1	63.1
	Colombia	178	61	338	577	25.5	58.6
	Dominican Republic	94	37	162	293	28.2	55.3
	The Netherlands	49	10	86	145	16.9	59.3
	Other	407	120	922	1,449	22.8	63.6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,848</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>4,134</b>	<b>6,627</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>62.4</b>
Total	Aruba	2,457	970	5,095	8,522	28.3	59.8
	Colombia	410	126	663	1,199	23.5	55.3
	Dominican Republic	204	78	304	586	27.7	51.9
	The Netherlands	106	15	185	306	12.4	60.5
	Other	914	289	1,774	2,977	24.0	59.6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,091</b>	<b>1,478</b>	<b>8,021</b>	<b>13,590</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>59.0</b>

Table 10b: Activity status of persons younger than 25 years by sex and country of birth mother

Sex		Employed	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Total	Unemployment rate	% inactive
Male	Aruba	1,340	567	2,338	4,245	29.7	55.1
	Colombia	273	76	475	824	21.8	57.6
	Dominican Republic	143	74	223	440	34.1	50.7
	The Netherlands	42	9	97	148	17.6	65.5
	Other	446	110	756	1,312	19.8	57.6
	<b>Total</b>		2,244	836	3,889	6,969	27.1
Female	Aruba	1,103	399	2,466	3,968	26.6	62.1
	Colombia	215	482	482	771	25.6	62.5
	Dominican Republic	127	268	268	450	30.2	59.6
	The Netherlands	49	87	87	151	23.4	57.6
	Other	355	838	838	1,296	22.5	64.7
	<b>Total</b>		1,849	4,141	4,141	6,636	25.9
Total	Aruba	2,443	4,804	4,804	8,213	28.3	58.5
	Colombia	488	957	957	1,595	23.5	60.0
	Dominican Republic	270	491	491	890	32.3	55.2
	The Netherlands	91	184	184	299	20.9	61.5
	Other	801	1,594	1,594	2,608	21.0	61.1
	<b>Total</b>		4,093	8,030	8,030	13,605	26.6

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

## PERSONS WITH LIMITATIONS

In the series of analytical reports based on the 2010 Aruba Population and Housing Census, a special report is fully dedicated to persons with limitations. In this report a full description is presented of the demographic and social characteristics of people with limitation on Aruba. To avoid duplicating the results of this study, we refer the interested reader to this publication. In this section, we will limit ourselves to some basic information about the number of persons on Aruba with a limitation. Table 11 (and Figure 5) shows the number of persons with at least one disability by age and sex.

Figure 5: Relative number of persons with disability by age and sex

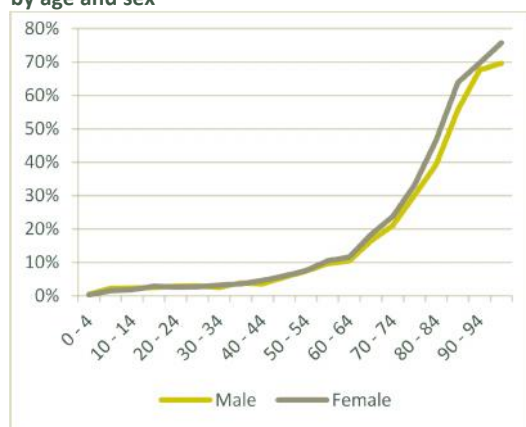


Table 11: Absolute and relative number of persons with a disability by age and sex

Age-group	Male	Female	Total	% Males	% Females	Total
0-4	13	9	22	0.4	0.3	0.3
5-9	80	51	131	2.2	1.5	1.9
10-14	87	65	152	2.3	1.8	2.0
15-19	93	100	193	2.5	2.8	2.6
20-24	77	67	144	2.8	2.6	2.7
25-29	75	78	153	2.9	2.7	2.8
30-34	74	109	183	2.5	3.1	2.9
35-39	135	142	277	3.9	3.6	3.7
40-44	139	205	343	3.6	4.6	4.2
45-49	244	289	533	5.6	5.9	5.8
50-54	286	341	627	7.4	7.5	7.5
55-59	306	385	692	9.6	10.4	10.0
60-64	246	324	569	10.5	11.6	11.1
65-69	284	370	654	16.5	18.3	17.5
70-74	262	402	664	21.1	23.8	22.6
75-79	245	388	632	30.2	33.3	32.0
80-84	161	318	480	39.2	46.6	43.8
85-89	95	209	304	55.7	63.9	61.1
90-94	38	111	149	67.7	69.7	69.2
95+	10	45	55	69.6	75.8	74.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,947</b>	<b>4,007</b>	<b>6,955</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>6.9</b>

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table 12: The prevalence of disability by type of disability, age, and sex

Sex	Age-group	Difficulty seeing	Difficulty hearing	Difficulty walking	Difficulty remembering or concentrating	Difficulty washing and dressing	Difficulty communicating
Males	0-4	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	5-9	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%	1.0%	0.5%	0.8%
	10-14	0.9%	0.3%	0.2%	0.8%	0.2%	0.5%
	15-19	1.2%	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.7%
	20-24	1.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.8%	0.3%	0.8%
	25-29	1.6%	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.8%
	30-34	1.0%	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%	0.3%	0.7%
	35-39	1.6%	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	1.0%
	40-44	1.5%	0.8%	1.0%	0.5%	0.1%	0.8%
	45-49	2.8%	0.9%	1.5%	1.1%	0.3%	0.9%
	50-54	3.1%	1.5%	2.4%	1.3%	0.6%	1.3%
	55-59	4.3%	1.7%	3.9%	1.2%	0.5%	0.9%
	60-64	3.7%	2.5%	4.1%	2.0%	1.1%	1.6%
	65-69	6.2%	4.2%	7.5%	3.9%	1.8%	2.1%
	70-74	9.3%	6.5%	9.7%	4.7%	4.1%	3.4%
	75-79	12.6%	7.9%	16.2%	7.2%	8.0%	5.1%
	80-84	15.5%	11.6%	22.1%	10.5%	14.0%	9.2%
	85-89	20.9%	18.4%	31.0%	18.4%	24.7%	12.7%
	90-94	38.7%	29.0%	46.4%	17.4%	29.0%	11.6%
	95+	38.7%	23.2%	46.4%	15.5%	38.7%	23.2%
	<b>Total</b>	2.6%	1.4%	2.2%	1.3%	0.9%	1.1%
Females	0-4	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	5-9	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%
	10-14	0.9%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.4%
	15-19	1.9%	0.5%	0.2%	0.5%	0.1%	0.4%
	20-24	1.7%	0.2%	0.3%	0.6%	0.1%	0.4%
	25-29	1.6%	0.2%	0.4%	0.6%	0.2%	0.4%
	30-34	1.7%	0.5%	0.5%	0.7%	0.2%	0.4%
	35-39	1.9%	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%	0.3%	0.6%
	40-44	2.6%	0.6%	1.2%	0.8%	0.1%	0.5%
	45-49	2.9%	0.8%	2.0%	1.0%	0.4%	0.6%
	50-54	4.2%	1.1%	2.6%	1.0%	0.1%	0.7%
	55-59	4.7%	1.1%	5.5%	1.2%	0.8%	0.8%
	60-64	5.5%	1.4%	5.9%	1.7%	0.9%	0.7%
	65-69	8.7%	3.1%	9.4%	2.3%	1.7%	1.4%
	70-74	10.4%	3.7%	13.6%	3.7%	3.2%	2.4%
	75-79	11.4%	5.9%	20.4%	8.1%	7.9%	4.7%
	80-84	16.6%	8.7%	30.6%	13.9%	17.3%	8.9%
	85-89	23.5%	13.9%	46.7%	28.1%	30.8%	17.5%
	90-94	24.4%	19.6%	51.4%	30.4%	37.9%	18.9%
	95+	39.7%	28.9%	61.3%	34.3%	54.1%	30.7%
	<b>Total</b>	3.5%	1.2%	3.5%	1.5%	1.2%	1.0%

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010



In the 2010 Population Census, a total of 6,955 persons indicated that they had one or more limitations, i.e. they answered affirmative to at least one of the questions in the six core functional domains: 2,947 men and 4,007 women. This corresponds to respectively 6.1 percent of males and 7.5 percent of females. Figure 5 clearly depicts the rapid rise in the relative number of limitations by age. After age 65 years, the number of persons who reported at least one limitation rises rapidly, both for males and females. For instance, between ages 80 and 85 years, no less than 39.2 percent of men and 46.6 percent of women reported a limitation.

The limitation which was most frequently mentioned by male respondents in the Census was 'difficulty seeing'; 2.6 percent of all males indicated that they had difficulties seeing, even if wearing glasses. Among women, 3.5 percent complained about their vision. An equally high percentage of females complained about problems walking. It is interesting to see that on five out of six core functional domains, females reported experiencing more limitations than males. Only where 'difficulty communicating' was concerned, about the same percentage of males and females reported experiencing a limitation (1.0, and 1.1 percent, respectively). Both for males and females, the relative number of each of the different types of disability increased sharply with age. Many studies on disability among males and females observe higher prevalence rates for women vis á vis, especially at older ages. According to Oman et al., the difference between the prevalence of disability among elderly males and females is caused by a longer duration of female disability related to higher age specific life expectancy and lower recovery rates because of worse risk factor profiles in females.

## ELDERLY POPULATION AGED 60 YEARS AND OVER

The concerns for the fast growing elderly population on Aruba have been portrayed numerous times in many previous publications of the Central Bureau of Statistics. Starting at a slow pace since 1960, but ever increasing, the aging of the Aruban population has been dormant for some years. However, since the Census in 1991 the group of elderly persons aged 60 years and over increased with 50.3 percent counting 10,098 persons in 2000. Their share dramatically increased in 2010, accounting for 15.4 percent of the total population, totaling 15,658 persons (see Figure 6).

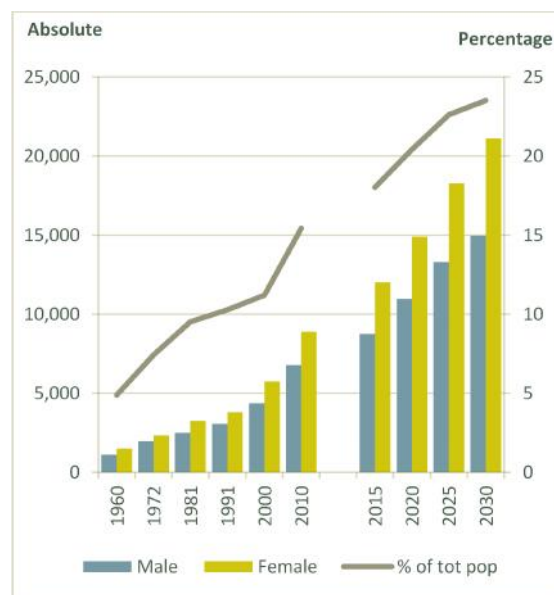
Assuming the medium scenario of the latest population projections, the population of Aruba will experience a rapid growth in the next twenty years; a growth of more than 50 percent. This rapid growth of the population will be indirectly caused by the rapid

aging of the population living on Aruba. As the current labor force will go into retirement and the rejuvenation of the population, the vacancies on the labor market would need to be filled by importing foreign workers. Alongside, the influx of foreign workers in their reproductive years will lead to a higher fertility rate.

*"Aging is more than a matter of numbers. Older people have more complex illnesses. They have different medical needs than younger adults, and they present unique healthcare challenges".*

Thus, with the prospective of an ongoing rapidly aging population it is all the more reason to present a profile of the current group of elderly as a vulnerable group in our society.

**Figure 6: Absolute and relative number of the elderly population**



### THE ELDERLY SUBGROUPS

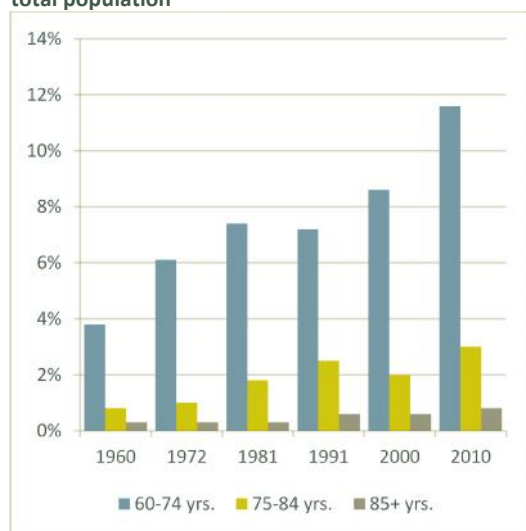
Most of the aging indicators use the age of 65 years as a cutoff point for the definition of 'elderly' or older person. At the moment, there is no United Nations' standard numerical criterion, but the UN agreed to a cutoff point of at 60+ years to refer to the older population. In Aruba, as in many other countries, turning 60 is still associated with retirement, the age at which one can begin to receive pension benefits.

Most of the indicators also take the group of 65 years and over all together as one group. It is by no means fair to compare a person who is 60 with someone who is 75. For the purpose of giving a proper description of the elderly population, the group of 60 plus years is further broken down by the 'Young Old'



(ages 60 through 74 years), the 'Old' (75 through 84 years) and the 'Oldest Old' (85 years and over). Where this breakdown is not possible the analysis will cover the total population of persons 60 years and older.

**Figure 3: Elderly subgroups as a percentage of the total population**



During all Censuses the largest group of elderly was the 'Young Old', being 11.6 percent of the total population in 2010. However, noteworthy is the percentage growth of each group individually, especially during the last ten years. The group of Young Old increased with 52.4 percent, while the group of Old persons increased with 72.8 percent. Even though still in small numbers, the group of Oldest Old showed an increase of 36.8 percent.

### MORE WOMEN THAN MEN

With an increasing life expectancy, and women living on average longer than men it is no surprise that in all old age groups, women outnumber men. In total there were 8,888 women and 6,771 men aged 60 years and over during the Census 2010. Life expectancy was calculated at 73.9 for men and 79.8 for women. In the group of Young Old the sex ratio stood at 82 men for every 100 women, while there were 66 men for every 100 women in the Old age

category. In the Oldest Old women outnumbered men by more than half (44 men for every 100 women). This same trend was observed during past Censuses (1960-2000): the older the population gets, the fewer men are present. Since the year 2000 however, there are by far more Oldest Old women than men.

### COUNTRY OF BIRTH

In the period 1991-2000 there has been a drastic change in the composition of the population of Aruba regarding place of birth of the inhabitants. In 1991, the share of persons born in Aruba was 76.1 percent of the total population. As of the Census in 2000, their share dropped to 66.5 percent. During the last intercensal years the proportion Aruba-born has remained the same and is currently at 66 percent. According to the latest population projections, this scenario will completely change if the current pace of population ageing is maintained. In 2030, the share of the foreign born population is projected to become almost half (45 percent) of the total population. This change will be mostly caused by the ageing of the population born in Aruba.

In 1991, the share of the Aruban born elderly (60 years and older) was 60 percent of the total elderly population. In 2000 this increased drastically to 79 percent, but dropped again in 2010 to 71 percent. This gives a clear indication that ageing is mostly affecting the Aruban born population.

Looking at the elderly subgroups, we see in table 13 that the group of Aruban born elderly and the earlier immigrants are growing old together. In 1991 about the same trend in aging was seen in all age subgroups, both the population born in Aruba and the foreign born are getting old. In 2000 however there was a clear shift, indicating that still the earlier immigrants are getting old (the Old and Oldest Old) and only a relatively small proportion of the new immigrants stay and get old on Aruba. In 2010 this trend is still visible as we see that the largest group of foreign born persons who are getting old are the Oldest Old, most probably the remainder of the earlier immigrants.

**Table 13: The elderly population by place of birth**

	1991		2000		2010	
	Born in Aruba	Foreign born	Born in Aruba	Foreign born	Born in Aruba	Foreign born
60-74 yrs.	59.9	40.1	71.1	28.9	72.9	27.1
75-84 yrs.	58.6	41.1	56.4	43.6	68.7	31.3
85+ yrs.	60.4	39.6	54.2	45.8	52.2	47.8
Total elderly population	59.6	40.4	67.6	32.4	71.0	29.0
As a percentage of the total population	76.1	23.9	66.5	33.5	66.0	34.0

## MARITAL STATUS

Results of the 2010 Census point to a big difference in the marital status of men and women aged 60 years and over (see Figure 4). In all three sub groups (60-74 years, 75-84 years, 85+ years) the percentage of never married women was higher than the percentage of never married men. In addition, the percentage of married men was considerably higher than the percentage of married women, in all three age categories. About 68 percent of men aged 60 years and over is married compared to 40 percent of women. Furthermore, as could be expected given the higher life expectancy of women, we see that the group of widowed older women was considerably larger than the group of widowed men. The chance of women experiencing the loss of their husband is larger than the other way around.

**Figure 4: Male and female population aged 60+ years by age and marital status**



Of the total elderly population only 4 percent indicated they were living together with a partner without being married. Of this group of elderly living together with a partner, 60.4 percent were men. The greater majority of these men (52 percent) were divorced and 26 percent had never been married. Where women living together with a partner were concerned, 41 percent were never married and an equal percentage was divorced. Men and women living together with a partner without being married to that person were mostly found in the group of Young Olds.

Women experience longer periods of being a widower than men, as women are expected to live longer than men. In 2010, at age 60 the life expectancy of women was 23.73 years, of which she could expect to live 4.01 years as a person who was

never married, 8.45 years as a wife, 3.12 years as a divorcee, and 8.15 years as a widower. For men, the life expectancy at age 60 was 19.03 years, of which on average he could expect to live 1.75 years as a person who was never married, 12.87 years as a husband, 2.08 years as a divorcee and 2.33 years as a widower. In conclusion, the older men become the expectancy of being married is much higher than that for women. The older women become the higher the expectancy of being a widow.

## LIVING ARRANGEMENT AND ECONOMIC STATUS

The living environment and economic status of the elderly is of great importance as it represents the ability of the elderly to live on their own without the help of others. However, it is important to keep in mind that an elderly person living on his/her own is not necessarily a person without need for assistance. In addition an elderly person living with other persons is not necessarily getting the help he/she needs.

According to the 2010 Census, only 1.9 percent of the elderly population of Aruba lived in an institutional facility for the elderly. The vast majority, 97.8 percent lived in a normal type of living quarter. A very small group (0.3 percent) lived in an unspecified type of living quarter.

Of the 34,852 non-collective households on Aruba 11,244 (32.3 percent) housed at least one elderly person. The elderly living alone in one person households represented 34.7 percent (2,587 households) of all single person households. It was more likely for the Young Old to be living in a one person household than the Old and the Oldest Old. However it is interesting to note that no matter the age, about 14 percent of all elderly men lived in a one person household. For the women this was 19.4 percent. Even in the age group of Oldest Old 18.8 percent of the women indicated living in a one person household. A large group of these elderly persons who lived alone (94.6 percent) indicated not needing any help with their personal care, especially the group of Young Old persons. Those indicating they needed help increased in number as age increased. About 3 percent of the Young Old indicated needing help. This percentage increased for the group of Old aged to 8.7 percent and to 26.1 percent for the Oldest Old. About 16 percent of the elderly who indicated needing help did not receive the help they need.

In addition, 1,846 households consisted of only elderly persons, whether in a nuclear, extended or composite household. A large group of elderly persons, 42.3 percent, indicated they had at least one of their children living in the same household. This

was most likely the case for the Young Old. In 10 percent of men in the Old and Oldest Old categories and in 13 percent of women in these categories, the elderly reported having at least one of their children living in their household.

With regards to homeownership, results showed that most of the elderly lived in an owned living quarter, 12.9 percent rented the living quarter and 2.9 percent lived in it for free. As for owning the living quarter Census 2010 data show that the older the person the larger the group who lived in an owned housing unit. The trend is reversed for the ones who rented. Most of the renters were the Young Old and the older they got the smaller this group became.

The greater majority of persons aged 60 or older was economically inactive (79.2 percent) and most of them were pensioned (89.7 percent). This was especially true for the elderly women of all ages compared to the elderly men. In total, 3.1 percent of the elderly reported being employed. Most of these employed elderly were found in the group of Young Olds.

The median personal income from main job for employed elderly men was calculated at Afls.2,500, in contrast to the working elderly women whose median income was Afls.1,750. Remarkable is that even though there is the general old-age insurance (AOV), 41.7 percent of the employed elderly indicated not having any other sources of income besides their income from main job. This may be explained by the fact that they may have just turned 60 and hadn't received AOV as yet. Or, in case of married couples, the AOV may only have been recorded for the partner who indicated having income from AOV. Other explanations include not being eligible to receive AOV, according to the conditions required by the Social Security Bank of Aruba (SVB).

There was a clear difference between the household income of the Young Old, the Old and the Oldest Old living in a one person household. The median household income for the Young Old living alone was Afls.1,300 and Afls.1,057 for both the Old and the Oldest Old living alone. This difference in household income may be explained by the fact that, as mentioned earlier, most of the employed elderly were found in the group of Young Old.

The median household income for all households with at least one elderly person was Afls.3,850. For a nuclear household consisting of a married couple without children where both partners were 60 years or older, the median household income was Afls.3,400. When only one of the partners was aged 60 or older, the median household income was Afls.4,000.

## HEALTH

Population aging could lead to an increase in the number of persons suffering from long-term health conditions and to a higher rate of persons with limitations. In the total group of elderly, 22.4 percent indicated having at least one difficulty. Overall, the elderly represented the largest group of persons with difficulties in functioning. For example, where difficulties seeing were concerned, the elderly represented 46 percent of the total group of persons with a difficulty seeing. Nonetheless on all but one domain of functioning (walking or climbing steps), less than 10 percent of persons 60 years plus reported having a difficulty. Where walking or climbing steps were concerned, 12.5 percent of persons 60 years plus reported having a difficulty (see Table 14).

**Table 14: The elderly population with a difficulty by type of difficulty, sex and age, as a percentage of the total male and female elderly population**

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Difficulty seeing</b>			
60-74 yrs.	5.8	7.8	6.9
75-84 yrs.	13.6	13.4	13.4
85+ yrs.	26.0	25.5	25.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Difficulty hearing</b>			
60-74 yrs.	4.0	2.5	3.2
75-84 yrs.	9.1	7.0	7.8
85+ yrs.	21.1	17.2	18.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.9</b>
<b>Difficulty walking or climbing steps</b>			
60-74 yrs.	6.5	9.0	7.9
75-84 yrs.	18.2	24.2	21.8
85+ yrs.	35.4	49.7	45.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>12.5</b>
<b>Difficulty remembering or concentrating</b>			
60-74 yrs.	3.2	2.4	2.8
75-84 yrs.	8.3	10.3	9.5
85+ yrs.	17.9	29.5	26.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.3</b>
<b>Difficulty washing or dressing</b>			
60-74 yrs.	2.0	1.7	1.9
75-84 yrs.	10.0	11.4	10.8
85+ yrs.	26.5	35.4	32.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.2</b>
<b>Difficulty communicating</b>			
60-74 yrs.	2.2	1.4	1.7
75-84 yrs.	6.5	6.3	6.3
85+ yrs.	13.0	19.4	17.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table 14 clearly shows that the older the persons get, the more difficulties they experience (or at least report). The percentage of persons with a difficulty almost doubles when reaching 'Old' age compared to the Young Olds. And the percentage doubles again for the Oldest Olds compared to the group of Olds.

According to international studies, hearing loss is more common in men than in women, 61 of hearing loss occurs in men. In addition older men experience hearing loss more frequently than senior-aged women. This sex difference was also observed during the 2010 Census where more men reported having difficulties hearing than women.

Of the elderly experiencing at least one difficulty, only 37.6 percent indicated they were in need of help due to a physical or mental limitation. The majority of these persons were found in the Oldest Old. A slightly higher percentage of women indicated needing help (39.9 percent) compared to men (34.1 percent). Only a relatively small percentage of those who indicated needing help, reported not receiving any (4.7%). Persons not receiving help were mostly women. With regards to the age distribution of those not receiving the help they needed, more Young Olds reported not receiving the help they needed. The majority of elderly who needed help (58%) received help from family members who either lived in the same household or in another household (see Table 15).

As mentioned before, in 2010, women lived on average six years longer than men. Of these six years, an average of 2.82 years was spent in good health and 3.05 years in poor health. At higher ages the percentages of years spent in poor health became

higher for both sexes and the difference between men and women in life expectancy became smaller. At age 60 men in Aruba were expected to live on average 19.03 more years, 12.94 in good health and 6.09 in poor health. Women had a life expectancy of 23.73, of which 15.80 in good health and 7.94 in poor health. At age 75, men were expected to live 9.35 more years and women 12.46 years. Men spent 3.27 of their remaining years in poor health and women 5.66 years. For men aged 85 years, the 4.94 years they were expected to continue living, 1.49 years were spent in poor health. In turn, women aged 85 years were expected to live 6.8 additional years of which 3.35 years were spent in poor health.

## REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION

During the 2010 Census, 5 homes for the elderly were visited, totaling 9 collective households and 314 persons. During the 2000 Census, San Nicolas South had the largest share of elderly persons who represented 15 percent of its population. In 2010, the share of the elderly in the population of San Nicolas South increased to 20 percent. This relative increase was mainly caused by a 15 percent decrease in the total population of San Nicolas South. In absolute numbers, the total number of elderly in San Nicolas South increased with only 106 persons. Compared to other regions, San Nicolas South experienced the smallest growth of elderly persons during the intercensal years. The overall picture shows substantial increases in the number of elderly persons living in Oranjestad East (81.4 percent) and in Noord/Tanki Leendert (78.8 percent). Even so, in these regions, the share of the elderly was the lowest

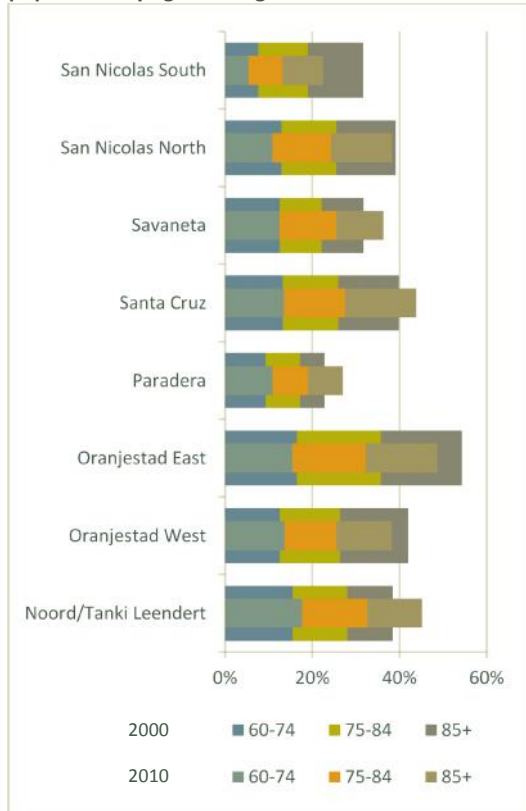
**Table 15: The elderly population with at least one limitation by help needed and by provider of help**

		Person gets no help	Help from family members in the household	Help from family members outside the household	Help from friend and neighbors	Help from private nurse	Admitted to an institution	Gets help in daycare center	Help from others paid	Needs help with personal care
Male	60-74 yrs.	5.9	54.0	10.2	2.7	2.7	22.5	0.5	5.9	202
	75-84 yrs.	3.4	52.0	8.0	1.7	4.6	25.1	0.6	6.3	189
	85+ yrs.	0.0	51.2	13.1	9.5	11.9	16.7	0.0	6.0	91
	<b>Total</b>	3.8	52.7	9.9	3.6	5.2	22.4	0.4	6.1	486
Female	60-74 yrs.	10.2	45.1	11.4	6.1	1.5	16.7	0.4	12.5	286
	75-84 yrs.	3.9	47.0	11.2	3.9	5.8	21.2	0.6	13.6	357
	85+ yrs.	1.2	41.4	9.6	6.0	6.0	26.5	0.4	12.4	270
	<b>Total</b>	5.1	44.7	10.8	5.2	4.5	21.4	0.5	12.9	912
Total	60-74 yrs.	8.4	48.8	10.9	4.7	2.0	19.1	0.4	9.8	488
	75-84 yrs.	3.8	48.7	10.1	3.2	5.3	22.6	0.6	11.1	547
	85+ yrs.	0.9	43.8	10.5	6.9	7.5	24.0	0.3	10.8	360
	<b>Total</b>	4.7	47.5	10.5	4.7	4.7	21.7	0.5	10.6	1395

Note: a person can have more than one provider of help, therefore cells do not add up to column totals

of all regions of Aruba (13.3 percent, and 12.0 percent, respectively). Previously we mentioned that the group of Old persons (aged 75-84 years) showed major increase in numbers between the 2000 Census and the 2010 Census. Looking at the regional distribution of persons in this age category, the results indicated that Savaneta experienced the largest growth in Old persons (121 percent). The next largest growth was observed in the Oldest Old in the zone of Paradera (163.9 percent; see Figure 5).

**Figure 5: Relative distribution of the elderly population by age and region**



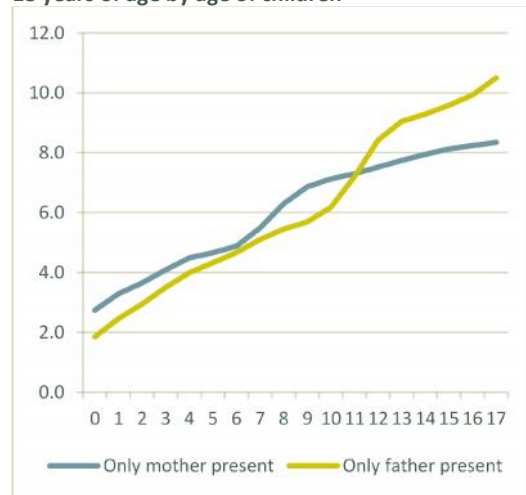
## SINGLE PARENTS

Raising a child (or more children) by your own is a challenge. Juggling child rearing responsibilities while maintaining a job and a household and a scale of other daily hassles, can be a constant struggle. In this section we will present a profile of the single parents on Aruba, with analysis of the age distribution, educational attainment and employment status of single parents. For the purpose of this analysis a single parent household is referred to as a one parent household with dependent children younger than 18 years. According to the 2010 Census, there were 2,420 single parent households, and these parents were responsible for raising 3,690 children under 18.

In 2010, the greater majority of single parent households with children under 18 were run by mothers (92%). These women represented 62 percent of all single mother households (when including children of all ages). Single father households with children under 18 accounted for 44 percent of all single father households.

In forty percent of single parent households only one child was present and in 36 percent there were two children. Overall, single fathers were more likely to have older sons living with them and single mothers lived with more of the younger children, regardless of their sex. In nuclear single parent households, both single fathers and single mothers were more likely to have older children in their household, with a relatively small group of single mothers and single fathers living with younger children. Though, overall there were more boys living with their fathers (122 boys for every 100 girls) than with their mothers (104 boys for every 100 girls).

**Figure 6: Single parents with children younger than 18 years of age by age of children**



Overall, single parents were more likely to be born in Aruba. Of all fathers born in Aruba 4.9 percent were single fathers compared to all foreign-born fathers of which 3.4 percent were single fathers. For all mothers born in Aruba, 38.6 percent were single mothers and for foreign-born mothers, 26.5 were single mothers. In addition, the majority of single parents who were living with only children younger than 18 years (55 percent) were born in Aruba.

Furthermore, the average age of single fathers was 44 years. However, when comparing the average age of single fathers born in Aruba to that of single fathers born elsewhere, a slight difference was observed. The majority of single fathers born in Aruba were between the ages of 45 and 59 years compared to foreign-born single fathers who were mostly between the ages of 30 and 44 years.



The average age of single mothers was 40 years and when considering their country of birth, both single mothers born in Aruba and those born elsewhere were between the ages of 30 and 44 years. The youngest single mother household was run by an 18 year old and the oldest by a 63 year old. The youngest single father household was run by a 24 year old and the oldest by a 75 year old.

Single fathers were more likely to be divorced than single mothers. Around 53 percent of single fathers were divorced compared to 40 percent of single mothers. A large group of single mothers, 46 percent, were never married. This was the case for only about a quarter of single fathers.

The greater majority of single parents (68 percent; 64.2 percent of single fathers, and 67.9 percent of single mothers) had completed no more than secondary education. When it comes to higher education, 17.3 percent of single fathers had an associate degree compared to 15.2 percent of single mothers. At the bachelor's degree level we found 13.4 percent of single mothers and 11.7 percent of single fathers. Noteworthy is that at the highest level of education (master's degree or doctorate) the percentage of single fathers was higher than that of single mothers, respectively 6.8 percent and 3.3 percent.

Eighty three percent of single parents were employed. Employed single parents followed the overall trend of the total population. About 23 percent of the employed single parents were working in the 'Hotels and Restaurant' sector followed by 16.5 percent who were working in the 'Trade' sector. This was mainly true for single mothers. More women than men were employed in the 'Hotels and Restaurant' sector, both in the total population as in the group of single mothers and single fathers. In contrast to single mothers, single fathers were mostly employed in the 'Trade' sector than the overall group of men who are active in the 'Hotels and Restaurant' sector. The unemployment rate was higher for single mothers than for single fathers, 8.8 percent against 6.5 percent. About 9 percent of single parents were not economically active of which 39 percent indicated being not economically active due to health reasons. This was mostly true for single mothers.

With regards to the type of job single parents performed, there was a similarity with the total employed population. Most single parents were employed in 'Service and Sales'. It is remarkable to note that single parents also followed the overall trend when it comes to top position jobs. About 41 percent of single fathers had a top position, being managers, professionals, technicians, or associate professionals. Where single mothers were

concerned, only 33.6 percent were in these top positions.

The median monthly gross income from main job was Afls.2,400 for employed single mothers compared to Afls.3,000 for employed single fathers. Of employed single parents only 16.9 percent indicated having income from other sources other than their main job. These included mostly income from side job(s) and/or alimony. Single mothers were more likely to have income from other sources than single fathers. Eighteen percent of single mothers indicated having an income from other sources against 10.5 percent of single fathers. Forty two percent of single parent households (43 percent of single mother households and 25 percent of single father households) indicated having a household income of less than Afls.2,000 a month. In most of these households only one child was present (in 61 percent of single father households and in 57.4 percent of single mother households).

About 70 percent of single fathers owned their housing unit, 25 percent were tenants and 6 percent indicated living for free in the housing unit they occupied. This compared to 48 percent of single mothers who owned their living quarter, 48 percent who were tenants and 4 percent who lived for free in the housing unit. Of the rented housing units occupied by single parents, 72.5 percent was owned by a private person.

Of the 3,960 children in one parent households, 262 (7.1%) indicated not attending school, of which the majority was younger than 4 years of age (69.4%). Most of the children in single parent households who were attending school were either in kindergarten (14.4%) or in primary school, including special education (42.5%). About 51 percent of these children indicated they stayed at home in the afternoon during schooldays, of which 64.4 percent stayed with either their mother or their father. Twenty eight percent indicated that they stayed at a childcare facility or center for homework guidance. Of those who stayed elsewhere, the majority stayed with other adult family members (73.8%) and 10.1 percent indicated they stay with either their mother or their father elsewhere.

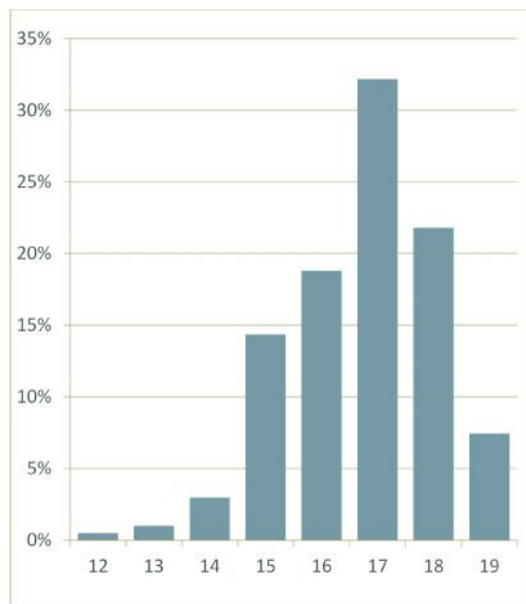
Results become more interesting when dividing the school attending children in subgroups of ages 0 thru 3 years, 4 thru 12 years and 13 thru 17 years. We see that as the age of the children increases so does the percentage of children who stayed at home in the afternoon during schooldays. Even the majority of those who indicated staying elsewhere, stayed with a parent. Of the children who stayed with other persons either at home or elsewhere (30.9 percent) only 14 percent indicated that the service was paid for.

## TEENAGE MOTHERS

In many studies teenage mothers are portrayed as being high school dropouts and poverty stricken single parents. Numerous other stereotyping expressions are used to describe teenage mothers. Even though they have a clear disadvantage compared to their peers, not all teenage mothers are alike. They may have different demographic, economic and social backgrounds, and the choices they make will ultimately determine the outcome of their lives. The following is a brief description of teenage mothers counted during the 2010 Census, their demographics, their economic status and their living arrangements. This is by no means a complete overview of the situation these teenagers face, but is a starting point for further in depth studies of teenage mothers in Aruba.

During the 2010 Census a total of 219 teenage mothers (6.2% of all girls aged 15-19 years) were counted, who mothered 250 children. Nearly three quarters of teenage mothers were either 18 or 19 years old, who were categorized as a young adult and who were already past high school age. More than 75 percent of all teenage mothers (irrespective of age) were born in Aruba and had the Dutch nationality. Seventy nine percent of teenage mothers younger than 18 years were born in Aruba and had the Dutch nationality and for the young adult teenage mothers (aged 18 or 19 years) this was 76 percent. In total, seventy three percent of both parents of teenage mothers were born in Aruba and had the Dutch nationality.

**Figure 7: Age of teenage mother at birth of fist child**



As seen in Figure 7, in 2010, the median and mode age of teenage mothers at the birth of their first child was 17 years, meaning that most of the teenage mothers get their first child at age 17. Some 25 percent of teenage mothers had given birth to two or more children before reaching the age of twenty. Notwithstanding that the legal age for marriage on Aruba is 18 years, up until the age of twenty, the majority of teenage mothers (93.1%) had never been married. One third of teenage mothers lived together with a partner at the time of the Census, regardless of their marital status. These partners were between 16 years and 39 years of age, of which one quarter were teenagers themselves, 48 percent were between 20 and 24 years of age and another 27 percent was older than 25 years of age.

A relatively small percentage of teenage mothers (7.4%) lived in a nuclear household. The vast majority (92.6%) lived in an extended or composite household. The average household size to which teenage mothers belonged was 5.5 persons. Thirty percent of teenage mothers lived with both their parents while in 36 percent of cases only their mother was present in the household and in 5 percent of cases only their father. Of those teenage mothers who did not live with any of their parents, 69 percent lived with one or both parents of their partner.

In total, 53 percent of teenage mothers indicated that they were attending school. About 86 percent reported being full time students and 6.5 percent indicated being unemployed, but attending school. Fourteen percent combined their studies with a job. Of the 116 school attending teenage mothers, 31.7 percent were MAVO students, 30.8 percent EPB students and 15.9 percent EPI students. Of those who were not attending school, 66.3 percent indicated having completed only primary education, about 23 percent had obtained at least a MAVO diploma and 3.2 percent indicated having less than primary education.

The personal median income from main job for employed teenage mothers was Afls.1,300. For teenage mothers who were not employed, 72 percent had no source of income. Of the 28 percent who indicated having a source of income, 56.5 percent received welfare. The median household income of households with a teenage mother was Afls.4,100.