

Private Sector Commission

Technical Information Bulletin
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Employment Structure in Guyana

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Foreword

We are pleased to send you herein our Technical Information Bulletin No. 5 (May 2007) which focuses on the Employment Structure in Guyana. This follows on Bulletin No. 4 (April 2007) which dealt with Labour Force and Employment in the Guyana Economy.

These Bulletins are aimed at providing the business community and decision makers with baseline data for business planning and decision making.

We hope that so far you have found the series useful. Our main constraint has been the availability of reliable data on a timely basis.

Bulletins issued so far are as follows:

Bulletin 1 (Dec 2006) - The Guyana Economy June 2006

Bulletin 2 (Mar 2007) - Highlights of the Guyana National Budget 2007

Bulletin 3 (Mar 2007) - Recent Growth Trends in the Guyana Economy

Bulletin 4 (Apr 2007) – Labour Force and Employment in the Guyana Economy

We would be happy to provide you with e-copies of any of these on request.

We would appreciate your feedback, comments etc and your suggestions on the areas of focus for future bulletins.

With regards,

Bal Parsaud
Executive Director, PSC

Employment Structure and Utilization of Labour in Guyana, 2002

As a corollary to our Technical Bulletin #4 which examined the labour force and employment in Guyana, this bulletin looks at the manner in which the employed labour force was distributed across sectors and regions in 2002, the last year for which data is available.

Sectoral Distribution of Total Employment

The agriculture, hunting and forestry sector was the largest employer of labour, with 19.6% of the employed labour force being utilized in the sector.

Persons employed in wholesale or retail trade or engaged in motor vehicle or household repairs constituted the next largest sector with 38,000 persons or 16.31% of the total employed. This high percentage is in accord with the large share of GDP for which the distribution sector now accounts.

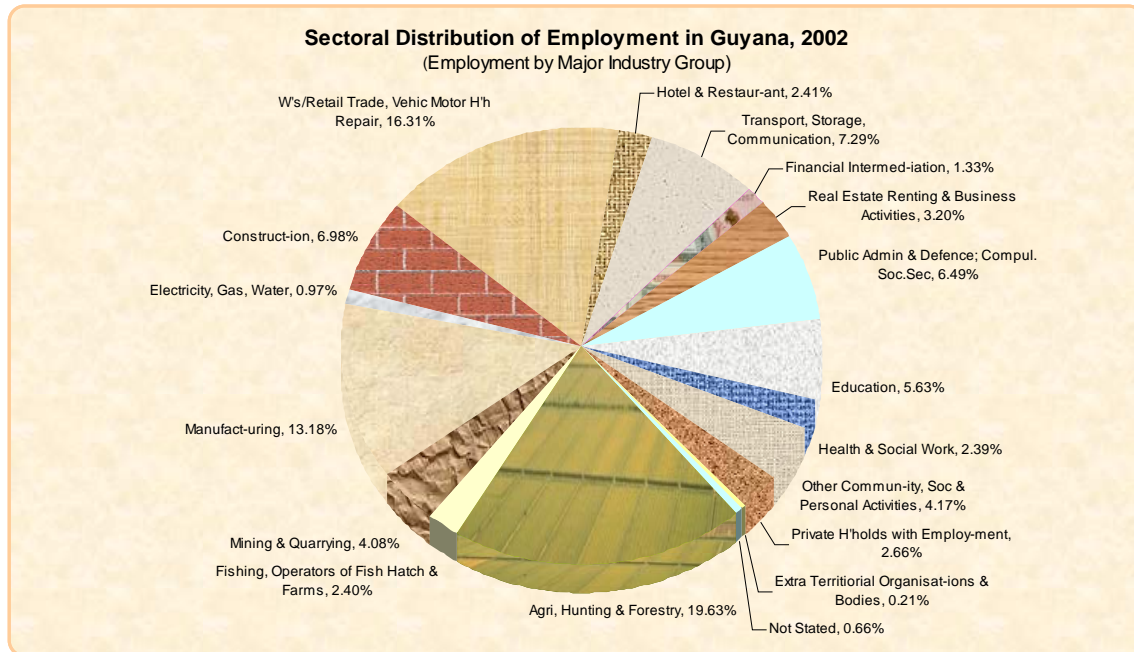
Table 1

Employment in Guyana by Major Industry Group, 2002
Total Number of Persons and Percentages of Total Employed Persons

Source: Bureau of Statistics, 2002 Census Table 15

Agri, Hunting & Forestry	Fishing, Operators of Fish Hatch & Farms	Mining & Quarrying	Manufacturing	Electricity, Gas, Water	Construction	W's/Retail Trade, Vehicle Motor Hh Repair	Hotel & Restaurant	Transport, Storage, Communication	Financial Intermediation	Real Estate Renting & Business Activities	Public Admin & Defence; Compul. Soc.Sec	Education	Health & Social Work	Other Community, Soc & Personal Activities	Private H'holds with Employment	Extra Territorial Organisations & Bodies	Not Stated
45,615	5,587	9,471	30,631	2,262	16,220	37,907	5,601	16,954	3,101	7,440	15,092	13,075	5,555	9,683	6,191	491	1,533
19.63%	2.40%	4.08%	13.18%	0.97%	6.98%	16.31%	2.41%	7.29%	1.33%	3.20%	6.49%	5.63%	2.39%	4.17%	2.66%	0.21%	0.66%

Chart 1



The manufacturing sector was the third largest employer of labour in 2002, utilizing 30,631 persons or 13.18% of total employed persons in 2002. Given the relatively small share of manufacturing in GDP in Guyana, the deployment of a large percentage of the labour force in

the sector indicates low labour productivity and/or a large number of persons employed in highly labour intensive manufacturing.

The mining and quarrying sector, important as a source of export earnings in Guyana, employed only 9,471 persons or 4.08% of the total employed in 2002.

Employment in the hotels and restaurants sector, taken as a proxy for the tourism sector, amounted to only 5,601 persons or 2.41% of total employed, reflecting the still fledgling nature of the sector. (Table 1; Chart 1)

Regional Distribution of Employment Across Sectors

Across the regions of the country, sectoral distribution of employment varied widely, with some regions relying almost totally upon the agricultural sub-sectors. With the significant exception of Regions 4 and 10, all other regions had more than the national average of 19.6% of their employed labour force in agriculture, forestry and fishing. In Regions 1, 5 and 6, persons employed in the sector averaged 35% of total employed while, in Region 9, 68.5% of total employed persons were employed in the sector.

Of particular note too is the fact that the ratio of persons employed in education was fairly constant across the regions, hovering around an average of 5% but not falling below 4%.

Since most education is publicly provided this serves as an indicator of the importance placed upon education by policy makers.

Regional Profiles 2002

Region 1

The largest sectoral employer in Region 1 was agriculture, hunting and forestry, utilizing 35.4% of the region’s workforce. Fishing and fish farming was also important to the region, employing 4.3% of the total employed. This ratio was the highest among the regions.

Mining and quarrying was also a significant employer accounting for 14.2% of the employed labour force. (Fig 1)

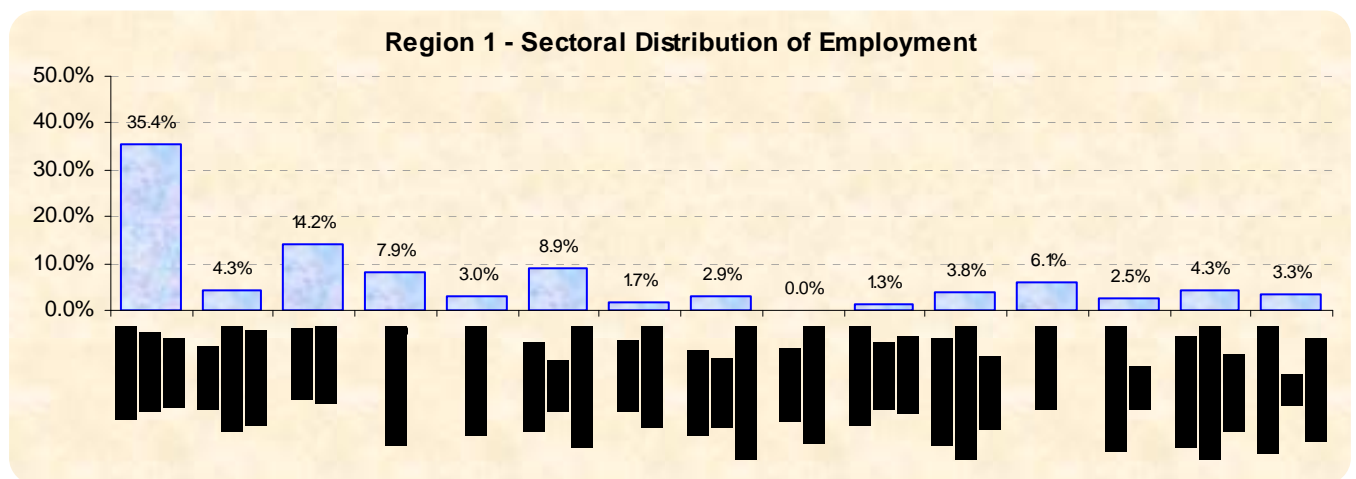


Figure 1

Region 2

The dominant sectors in region 2 were agriculture, hunting and forestry, manufacturing and distribution. The ratio of employment in education to total employment in region 2, at 7.3%, was one of the highest among regions. (Fig2)

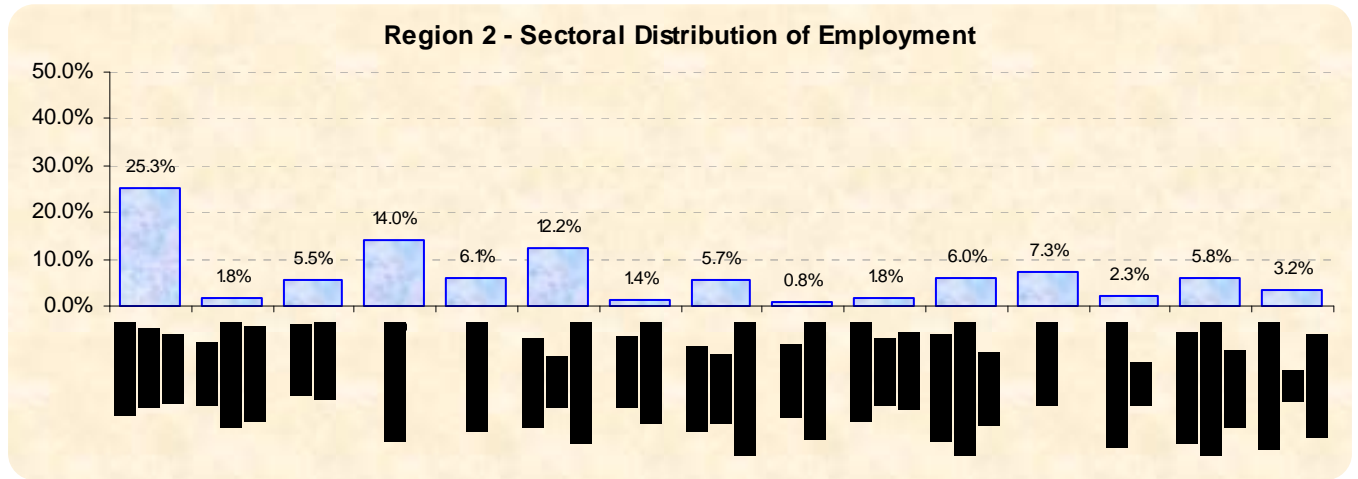


Figure 2

Region 3

The agriculture, hunting and forestry sector in region 3 employed 33,008 persons, or 24.3% of the region's employed labour force in 2002. This made the region the second most important supplier of agricultural labour in the country. (Fig 3)

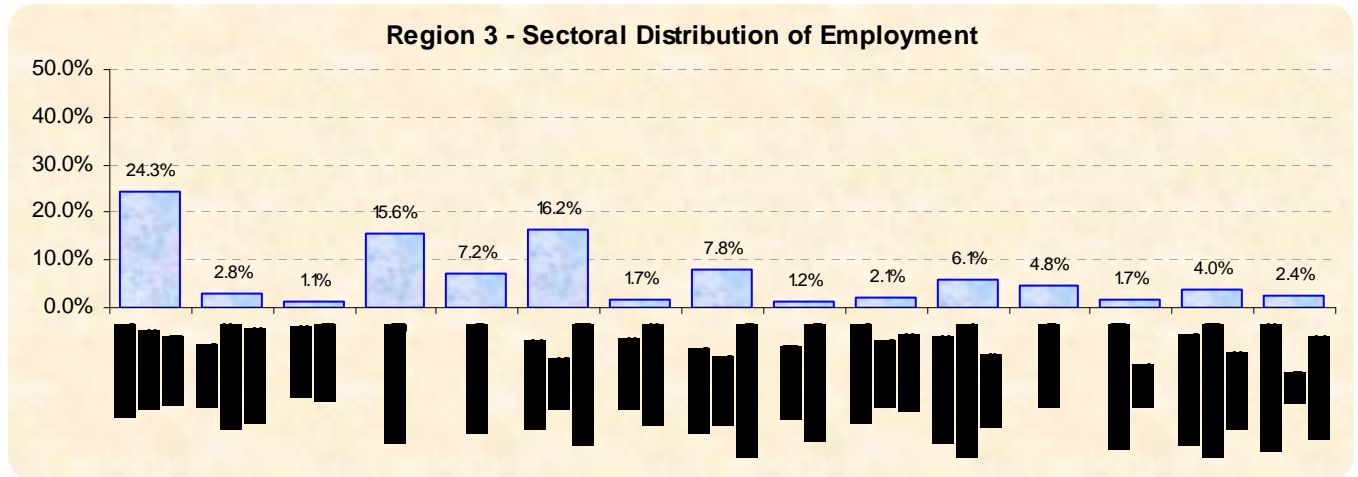


Figure 3

Region 4

In region 4, with its large urban population, employment in agriculture, hunting and forestry was the lowest in the country at 7.1% while manufacturing employed 14.4% of the labour force. Employment in distribution and repairs, at 19.9% of the workforce, was the highest for the sector across the regions. Employment was relatively distributed across the other

sectors. (Fig 4)

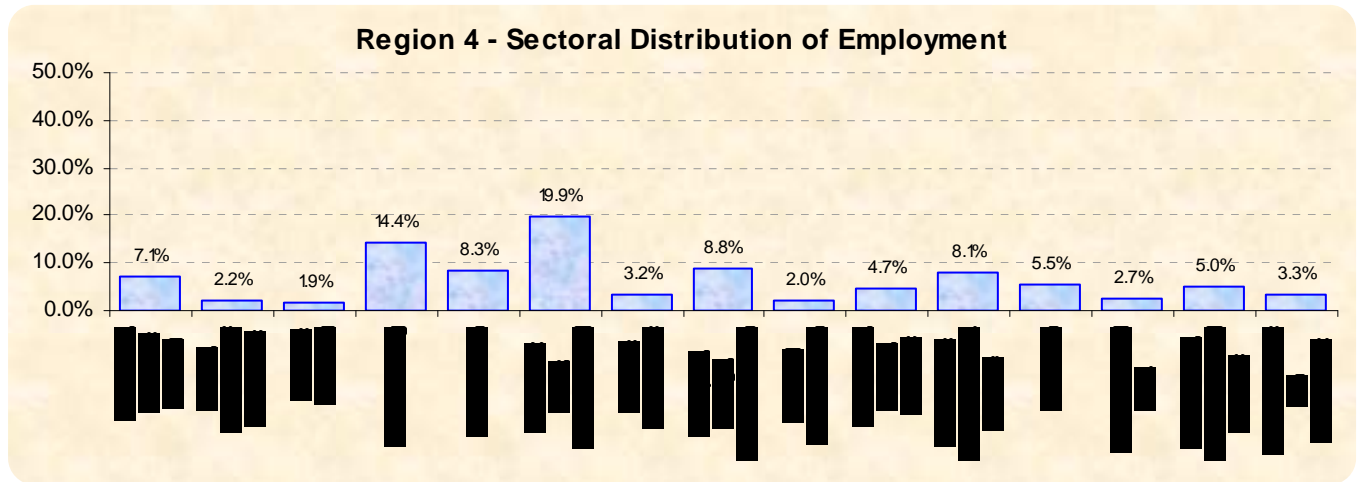


Figure 4

Region 5

The agriculture, hunting and forestry sector was the largest employer in region 5 with 4,538 persons or 33.4% of the employed labour force, while manufacturing accounted for 14.5%. The distribution and repairs sector was also a significant employer utilizing 11.6% of the workforce. (Fig 5)

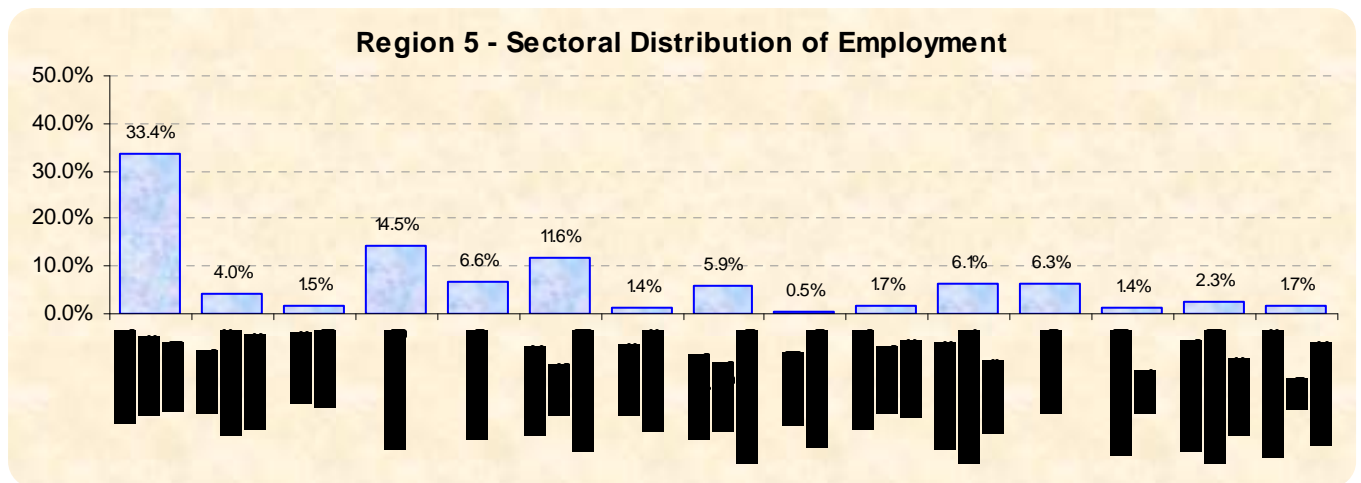


Figure 5

Region 6

Agriculture, hunting and forestry was the dominant sector in region 6, employing 34.2% or almost 12,000 persons, and making the region the largest supplier of agricultural labour. A significant 14.7% were also utilized in distribution and repairs while 13.2% were engaged in

manufacturing. (Fig 6)

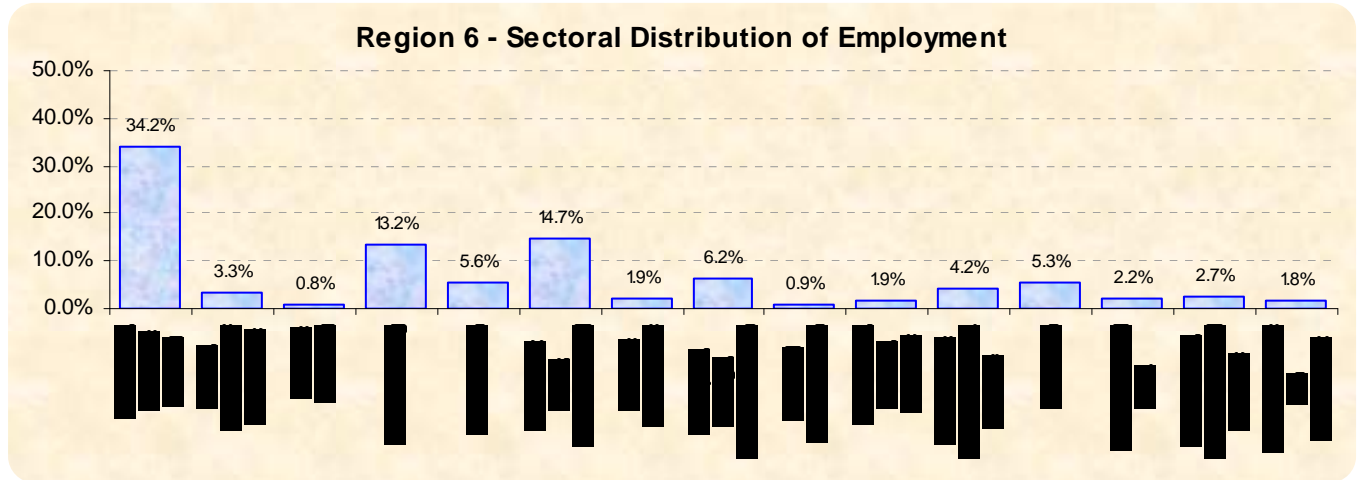


Figure 6

Region 7

In region 7, 24.8% of a total of 5,680 employed persons were employed in mining and quarrying. This was marginally exceeded by employment in agriculture, hunting and forestry which accounted for 1,528 persons or 26.9% of the employed labour force. (Fig 7)

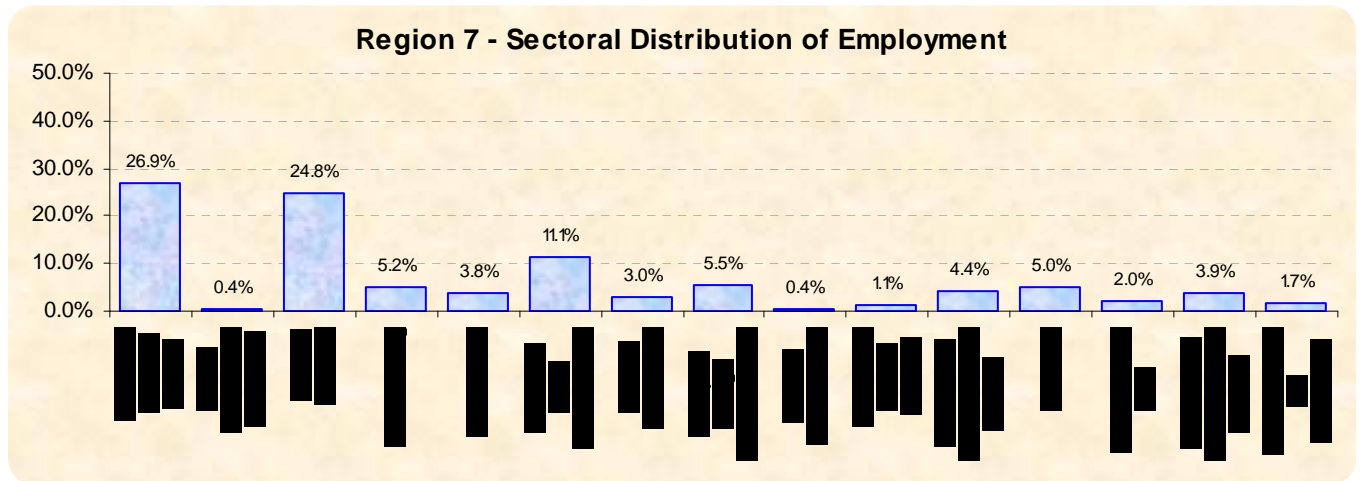


Figure 7

Region 8

The dominant employers of the small workforce in region 8 were mining and quarrying, accounting for 46.3% or 1,323 persons, and agriculture, hunting and forestry which employed 27.8% or 794 persons. This region, despite being the least populated, also had one of the smallest ratios of employment in education to total employment. Of a total of 2,860

employed persons, 4.1% or 118 persons were employed in education. (Fig 8)

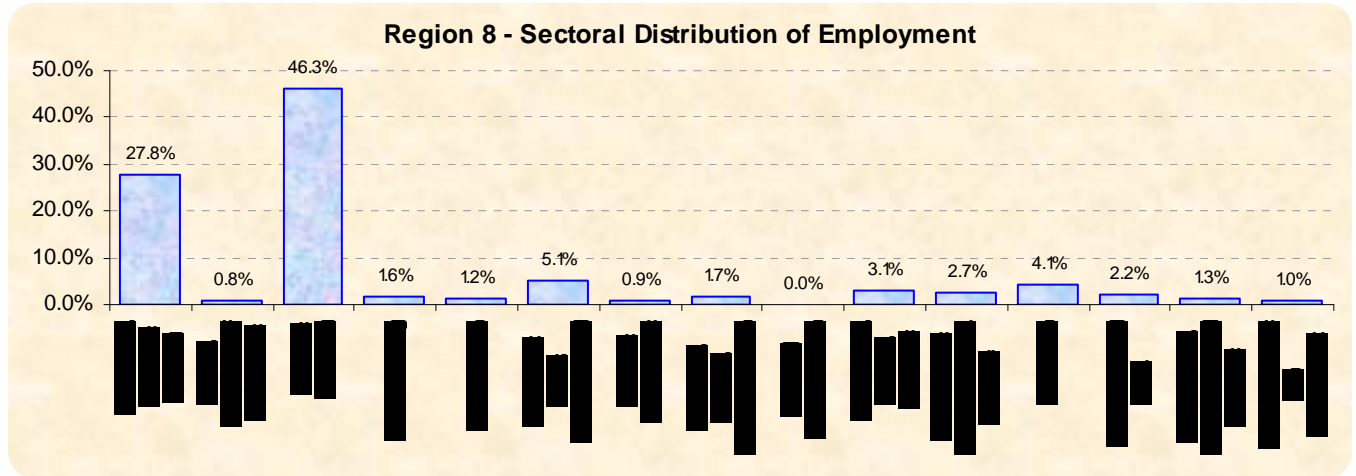


Figure 8

Region 9

Of region 9's small work force of 5,726 persons, 68.5% or 3,920 persons were employed in agriculture, hunting and forestry. This resulted in almost total dependence on the sector by the region. (Fig 9)

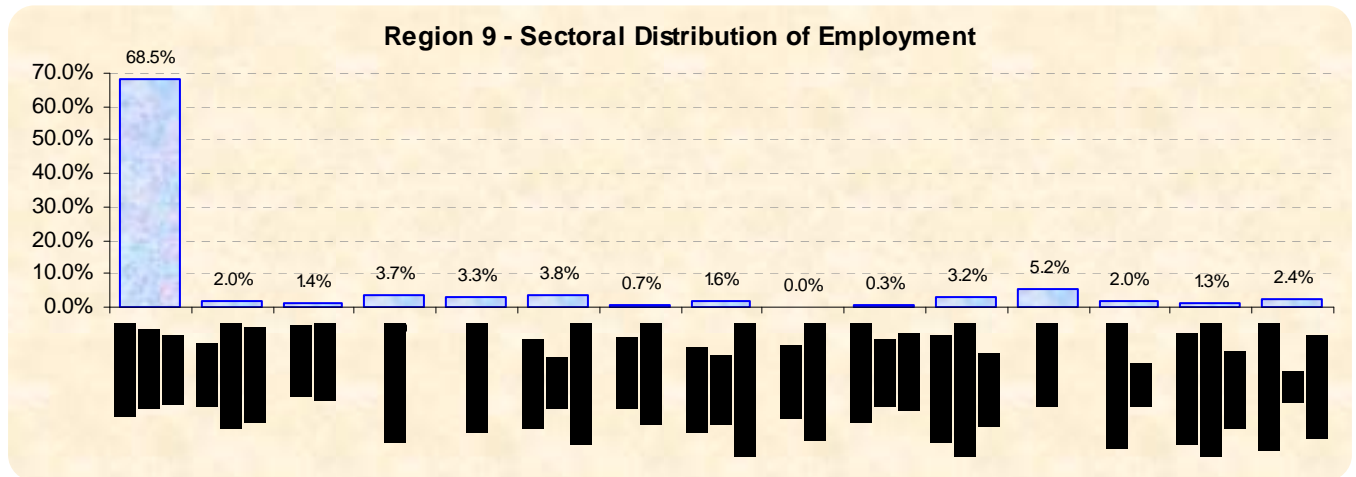


Figure 9

Region 10

The work force in region 10 was relatively evenly distributed with the mining and quarrying sector being the largest employer and utilizing 19.2% of the employed. Agriculture, hunting and forestry employed 1,932 persons or 16.1% while distribution and repairs accounted for

14.3%. Employment in education was relatively high at 8.0% or 956 persons. (Fig 10)

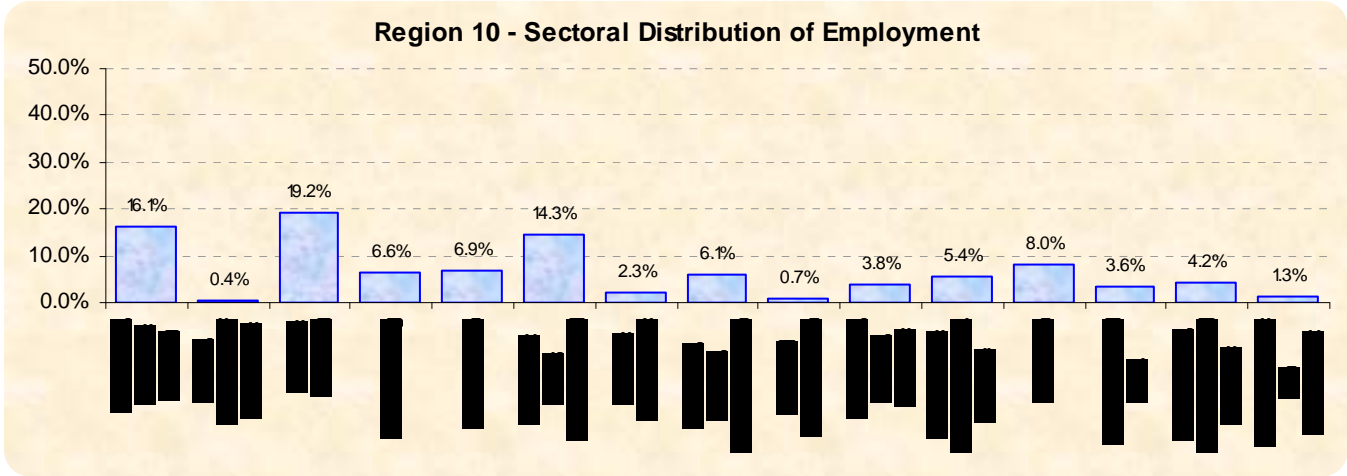


Figure 10

Changes in sectoral distribution of employment in Guyana from 1997 to 2002

For the purpose of comparing employment data for Guyana across time periods and with selected Caribbean countries, the data has been reclassified into categories utilized for the rest of the region by the International Labour Organization.

The categories public administration and defence, education, health and social work, and private household employment have been included in community, social and personal services, while fishing has been included with agriculture, hunting and forestry. Hotels and restaurants have been included with wholesale and retail trade.

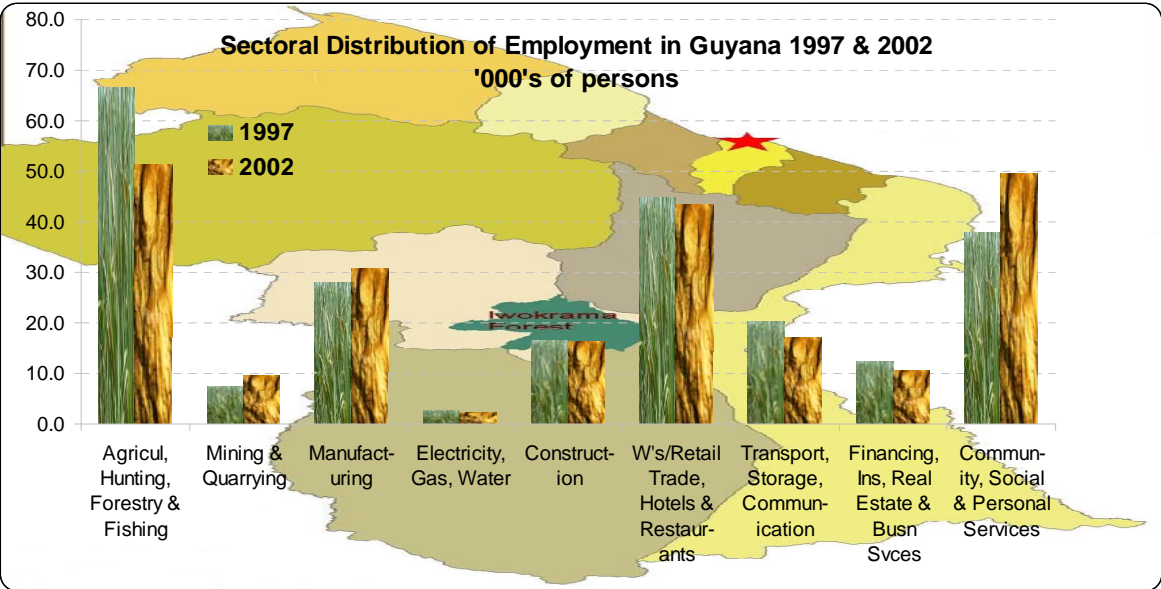


Figure 11

From 1997 to 2002, the structure of employment in Guyana changed significantly. Employment in agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing declined sharply by 23.4% to just over 51,000 persons, while employment in mining and quarrying increased by 29.7% to almost 9,500 persons. (Table 2; Fig 11)

Employment in manufacturing was up 9.8% to 30,631 persons while the number of persons utilized in the transport, storage and communication sector was down 16.1% to less than 17,000.

Most significant was a 31.2% increase in 2002 in persons employed in community, social and personal services to more than 49,000 persons from less than 38,000 in 1997.

Sectoral Distribution of Employment in Selected Caribbean Countries

As in Guyana, the structure of employment changed in Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago from 1997 to 2002 with significant decreases in employment in the agriculture sector being experienced in both Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago. (Table 2)

Table 2

Sectoral Distribution of Employment in Selected Caribbean Countries, 1997 & 2002												
Total Number of Persons and Percentages of Total Employed Persons												
(000's of persons)		Agricul, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing	Mining & Quarrying	Manufacturing	Electricity, Gas, Water	Construction	W's/Retail Trade, Hotels & Restaurants	Transport, Storage, Communication	Financing, Ins, Real Estate & Busn Svces	Community, Social & Personal Services	Activities Not Adequately Defined	Total Employed Labour Force
Barbados	1997 Number of Persons	6.2	-	10.8	1.5	10.3	15.9	4.6	8.3	46.9	12.3	116.8
	% of Employed	5.3%		9.2%	1.3%	8.8%	13.6%	3.9%	7.1%	40.2%	10.5%	
	2002 Number of Persons	5.2	-	9.0	1.9	13.2	19.6	4.7	10.9	49.5	14.2	128.2
	% of Employed	4.1%		7.0%	1.5%	10.3%	15.3%	3.7%	8.5%	38.6%	11.1%	
	% change 1997-2002	-16.1%	-	-16.7%	26.7%	28.2%	23.3%	2.2%	31.3%	5.5%	15.4%	9.8%
Guyana	1997 Number of Persons	66.8	7.3	27.9	2.5	16.5	44.7	20.2	12.2	37.8	4.0	239.9
	% of Employed	27.8%	3.0%	11.6%	1.0%	6.9%	18.6%	8.4%	5.1%	15.8%	1.7%	
	2002 Number of Persons	51.2	9.5	30.6	2.3	16.2	43.5	17.0	10.5	49.6	2.0	232.4
	% of Employed	22.0%	4.1%	13.2%	1.0%	7.0%	18.7%	7.3%	4.5%	21.3%	0.9%	
	% change 1997-2002	-23.4%	29.7%	9.8%	-9.5%	-1.7%	-2.7%	-16.1%	-13.6%	31.2%	-49.4%	-3.1%
Jamaica	1997 Number of Persons	202.7	5.4	87.4	5.8	79.5	206.2	54.3	66.5	246.5	2.0	956.3
	% of Employed	21.2%	0.6%	9.1%	0.6%	8.3%	21.6%	5.7%	7.0%	25.8%	0.2%	
	2002 Number of Persons	205.8	4.5	69.4	6.7	96.4	219.5	71.3	65.0	283.9	3.4	1,025.9
	% of Employed	20.1%	0.4%	6.8%	0.7%	9.4%	21.4%	6.9%	6.3%	27.7%	0.3%	
	% change 1997-2002	1.5%	-16.7%	-20.6%	15.5%	21.3%	6.5%	31.3%	-2.3%	15.2%	70.0%	7.3%
Trinidad & Tobago	1997 Number of Persons	43.7	17.6	46.8	6.1	50.8	81.0	31.8	38.8	143.1	0.3	460.0
	% of Employed	9.5%	3.8%	10.2%	1.3%	11.0%	17.6%	6.9%	8.4%	31.1%	0.1%	
	2002 Number of Persons	36.1	18.0	55.8	6.6	68.9	94.6	41.9	43.8	158.1	1.2	525.0
	% of Employed	6.9%	3.4%	10.6%	1.3%	13.1%	18.0%	8.0%	8.3%	30.1%	0.2%	
	% change 1997-2002	-17.4%	2.3%	19.2%	8.2%	35.6%	16.8%	31.8%	12.9%	10.5%	300.0%	14.1%

Sources: International Labour Organization, Statistical Division; Statistical Bureau, Guyana

Notes: Barbados - Quarrying included in Construction; Hotels, Restaurants & Other Tourism included in Activities not adequately defined; Armed Forces Excluded

Guyana - Vehicle & Oth Repairs incl. in W/R Trade; Public Admin & Defence, Educ, Health & Social Work, Private H'hold Empl, incl. in Community, Social & Personal Services

Jamaica - Armed Forces Excluded

Totals may be affected by rounding

In Barbados, a 16.1% decline in the agriculture sector was accompanied by a 28.2% increase in employment in construction, a 23.3% increase in distribution and tourism and a 31.1%

increase in financial and business services. In Trinidad & Tobago employment in agriculture declined by 17.4% while employment in construction increased by 35.6%, in tourism and distribution by 16.8%, and in transportation, storage and communication by 31.8%.

In Jamaica, employment in the agricultural sector increased marginally over the period while both the mining and quarrying and manufacturing sectors registered declines. Employment in construction and in transportation storage and communication increased significantly.

(Table 2)

Table 3

Sectoral Distribution of Employment in the Caribbean 2002
Percentages of Employed Labour Force

	Agricul, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing	Mining & Quarrying	Manufacturing	Electricity, Gas, Water	Construction	W's/Retail Trade, Hotels & Restaurants	Transport, Storage, Communication	Financing, Ins, Real Estate & Busn Svcs	Communi-ty, Social & Personal Services	Activities Not Adequat-ely Defined
Barbados	4.1%		7.0%	1.5%	10.3%	15.3%	3.7%	8.5%	38.6%	11.1%
Guyana	22.0%	4.1%	13.2%	1.0%	7.0%	18.7%	7.3%	4.5%	21.3%	0.9%
Jamaica	20.1%	0.4%	6.8%	0.7%	9.4%	21.4%	6.9%	6.3%	27.7%	0.3%
Trinidad & Tobago	6.9%	3.4%	10.6%	1.3%	13.1%	18.0%	8.0%	8.3%	30.1%	0.2%

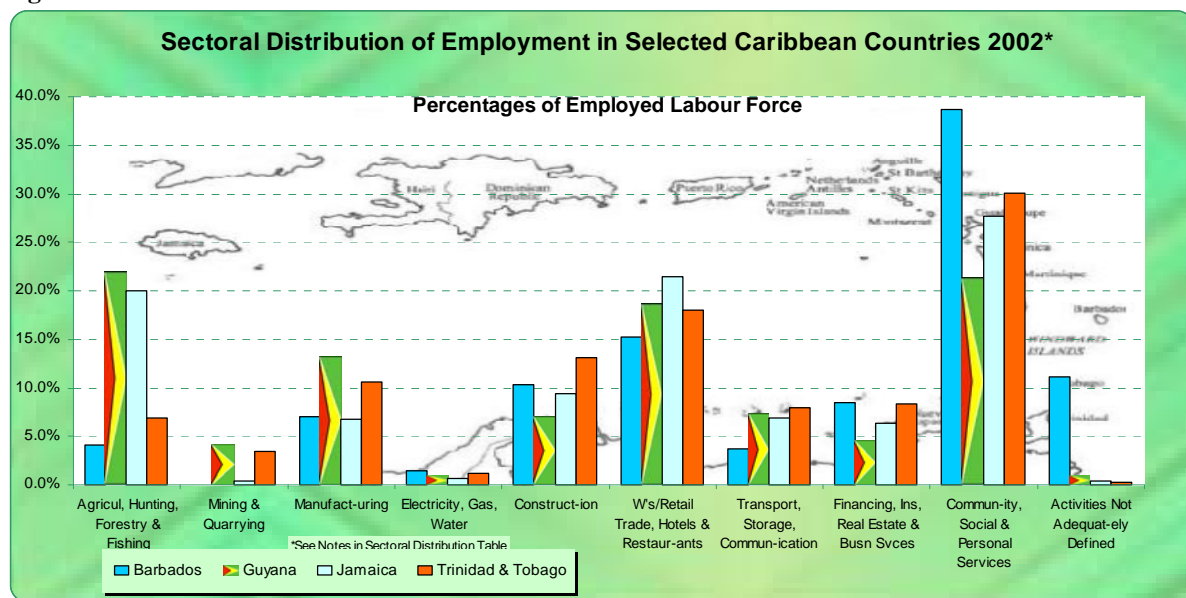
Sources: International Labour Organization, Statistical Division; Statistical Bureau, Guyana

Notes: **Barbados** - Quarrying included in Construction; Hotels, Restaurants & Other Tourism included in Activities not adequately defined; Armed Forces Excluded

Guyana - Vehicle & Oth Repairs incl. in W/R Trade; Public Admin & Defence, Educ, Health & Social Work, Private H'hold Empl, incl. in Community, Social & Personal Services

Jamaica - Armed Forces Excluded

Figure 12



By 2002, the percentage of the workforce employed in agriculture, hunting, forestry, fishing was highest in Guyana at 22% while in Jamaica the sector employed 20.1% of the employed population. Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago had only small percentages of their workforce still in the agriculture sector at 4.1% and 6.9% respectively.

The vibrant manufacturing sector in Trinidad & Tobago employed 10.6% of the workforce in 2002 while in Jamaica and Barbados the sector employed 6.8 and 7% respectively. In Guyana, 13.2% of the employed labour force reported jobs in manufacturing, a figure higher than in the rest of the Caribbean and at odds with the relatively low output of the sector. (Fig 12)

Table 4

Total Employment by Major Industry Group, Guyana 2002

COUNTRY TOTAL	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	
Total Employed Persons	232,409	5,544	13,786	33,008	105,270	13,582	34,935	5,680	2,860	5,726	12,018
Agriculture, Hunting & Forestry	45,615	1,963	3,485	8,017	7,490	4,538	11,948	1,528	794	3,920	1,932
% of Total Employed Persons	19.6%	35.4%	25.3%	24.3%	7.1%	33.4%	34.2%	26.9%	27.8%	68.5%	16.1%
Fishing, Operators of Fish Htch & Farms	5,587	241	243	921	2,264	543	1,168	25	23	112	47
% of Total Employed Persons	2.4%	4.3%	1.8%	2.8%	2.2%	4.0%	3.3%	0.4%	0.8%	2.0%	0.4%
Mining & Quarrying	9,471	786	760	353	1,958	203	293	1,410	1,323	82	2,303
% of Total Employed Persons	4.1%	14.2%	5.5%	1.1%	1.9%	1.5%	0.8%	24.8%	46.3%	1.4%	19.2%
Manufacturing	30,631	440	1,929	5,161	15,171	1,965	4,626	293	45	210	791
% of Total Employed Persons	13.2%	7.9%	14.0%	15.6%	14.4%	14.5%	13.2%	5.2%	1.6%	3.7%	6.6%
Electricity, Gas, Water	2,262	13	98	338	1,177	136	290	36	0	28	146
% of Total Employed Persons	1.0%	0.2%	0.7%	1.0%	1.1%	1.0%	0.8%	0.6%	0.0%	0.5%	1.2%
Construction	16,220	165	839	2,381	8,721	896	1,954	214	35	188	827
% of Total Employed Persons	7.0%	3.0%	6.1%	7.2%	8.3%	6.6%	5.6%	3.8%	1.2%	3.3%	6.9%
W'sale/Ret Trade; Veh/Mot/H'hld Repair	37,907	493	1,682	5,362	20,958	1,574	5,118	633	146	217	1,724
% of Total Employed Persons	16.3%	8.9%	12.2%	16.2%	19.9%	11.6%	14.7%	11.1%	5.1%	3.8%	14.3%
Hotels & Restaurants	5,601	96	191	563	3,368	192	676	171	27	41	276
% of Total Employed Persons	2.4%	1.7%	1.4%	1.7%	3.2%	1.4%	1.9%	3.0%	0.9%	0.7%	2.3%
Transport, Storage, Communication	16,954	159	792	2,570	9,287	808	2,162	311	48	89	728
% of Total Employed Persons	7.3%	2.9%	5.7%	7.8%	8.8%	5.9%	6.2%	5.5%	1.7%	1.6%	6.1%
Financial Intermediation	3,101	0	104	381	2,118	65	329	21	0	2	81
% of Total Employed Persons	1.3%	0.0%	0.8%	1.2%	2.0%	0.5%	0.9%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%
Real Estate, Renting, Business Activities	7,440	71	248	683	4,934	225	659	61	89	18	452
% of Total Employed Persons	3.2%	1.3%	1.8%	2.1%	4.7%	1.7%	1.9%	1.1%	3.1%	0.3%	3.8%
Pub Admin & Defence, Comp. Soc. Sec	15,092	213	825	2,006	8,578	830	1,481	250	76	185	648
% of Total Employed Persons	6.5%	3.8%	6.0%	6.1%	8.1%	6.1%	4.2%	4.4%	2.7%	3.2%	5.4%
Education	13,075	337	1,013	1,594	5,774	854	1,846	285	118	298	956
% of Total Employed Persons	5.6%	6.1%	7.3%	4.8%	5.5%	6.3%	5.3%	5.0%	4.1%	5.2%	8.0%
Health & Social Work	5,555	139	313	561	2,862	196	759	115	63	114	433
% of Total Employed Persons	2.4%	2.5%	2.3%	1.7%	2.7%	1.4%	2.2%	2.0%	2.2%	2.0%	3.6%
Other Comm, Soc. & Personal Activities	9,683	239	803	1,308	5,241	317	933	223	38	77	504
% of Total Employed Persons	4.2%	4.3%	5.8%	4.0%	5.0%	2.3%	2.7%	3.9%	1.3%	1.3%	4.2%
Private H'hlds with Employment	6,191	183	447	779	3,508	226	628	98	28	139	155
% of Total Employed Persons	2.7%	3.3%	3.2%	2.4%	3.3%	1.7%	1.8%	1.7%	1.0%	2.4%	1.3%
Extra Territorial Orgs. & Bodies	491	0	2	16	409	5	55	0	0	0	4
% of Total Employed Persons	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Not Stated	1,533	6	12	14	1,452	9	10	6	7	6	11
% of Total Employed Persons	0.7%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	1.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%

Source: Bureau of Statistics

* Data taken from 2002 census