Abstract:

The Dutch labor market has become more colorful over the last few years. More and more people belonging to ethnic minorities have joined the ranks of the working population, and slowly but surely some of them are climbing the social ladder. The dynamics of this process, until recently, have been studied mainly from a macro-perspective. Not much is known about career patterns of individuals belonging to ethnic minorities, or about the choices they make when they are confronted with constraints of a personal and institutional nature. In research into social stratification this process is usually indicated by the term status attainment. This study charts the status attainment of Surinamese in the Netherlands. The following research question has been formulated: How does the process of status attainment of Surinamese in the Netherlands take place, what differences occur among Surinamese - with regard to sex and ethnicity -, and between Surinamese and indigenous Dutch people, and how can these differences be explained?

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