



# 2010

## POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

### DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

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### TALENSI DISTRICT



Canada 

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK  
**DANIDA** | INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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## PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

No meaningful developmental activity can be undertaken without taking into account the characteristics of the population for whom the activity is targeted. The size of the population and its spatial distribution, growth and change over time, in addition to its socio-economic characteristics are all important in development planning.

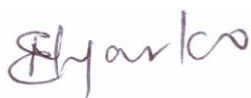
A population census is the most important source of data on the size, composition, growth and distribution of a country's population at the national and sub-national levels. Data from the 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) will serve as reference for equitable distribution of national resources and government services, including the allocation of government funds among various regions, districts and other sub-national populations to education, health and other social services.

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) is delighted to provide data users, especially the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies, with district-level analytical reports based on the 2010 PHC data to facilitate their planning and decision-making.

The District Analytical Report for the Talensi District is one of the 216 district census reports aimed at making data available to planners and decision makers at the district level. In addition to presenting the district profile, the report discusses the social and economic dimensions of demographic variables and their implications for policy formulation, planning and interventions. The conclusions and recommendations drawn from the district report are expected to serve as a basis for improving the quality of life of Ghanaians through evidence-based decision-making, monitoring and evaluation of developmental goals and intervention programmes.

For ease of accessibility to the census data, the district report and other census reports produced by the GSS will be disseminated widely in both print and electronic formats. The report will also be posted on the GSS website: [www.statsghana.gov.gh](http://www.statsghana.gov.gh).

The GSS wishes to express its profound gratitude to the Government of Ghana for providing the required resources for the conduct of the 2010 PHC. While appreciating the contribution of our Development Partners (DPs) towards the successful implementation of the Census, we wish to specifically acknowledge the Department for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) formerly the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) for providing resources for the preparation of all the 216 district reports. Our gratitude also goes to the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies, the Ministry of Local Government, Consultant Guides, Consultant Editors, Project Steering Committee members and their respective institutions for their invaluable support during the report writing exercise. Finally, we wish to thank all the report writers, including the GSS staff who contributed to the preparation of the reports, for their dedication and diligence in ensuring the timely and successful completion of the district census reports.



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## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ASDR	Age Specific Death Rates
CDR	Crude Death Rate
DA	District Assembly
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
ICT	Information Communication Technology
JHS	Junior High School
JSS	Junior Secondary School
NGOs	Non-governmental Organisations
PHC	Population and Housing Census
PWDs	Persons with disabilities
SHS	Senior High School
SSS	Senior Secondary School
TDA	Talensi District Authority
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
W.C	Water Closet



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Introduction

The district census report is the first of its kind since the first post-independence census was conducted in 1960. The report provides basic information about the district. It gives a brief background of the district, describing its physical features, political and administrative structure, socio-cultural structure and economy. Using data from the 2010 Population and Housing Census (2010 PHC), the report discusses the population characteristics of the district, fertility, mortality, migration, marital status, literacy and education, economic activity status, occupation, employment; Information Communication Technology (ICT), disability, agricultural activities and housing conditions of the district. The key findings of the analysis are as follows (references are to the relevant sections of the report):

## Population size, structure and composition

The population of Talensi District, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, is 81,194 representing 7.8 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute 49.7 percent and females represent 50.3 percent. Eighty four percent of the population is rural. The district has a sex ratio of 101.2. The population of the district is youthful (41.2%) depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of elderly persons (7.0%). The total age dependency ratio for the District is 99.0, the age dependency ratio for males is higher (96.7) than that of females (89.5).

## Fertility, mortality and migration

The Total Fertility Rate for the district 3.6. The General Fertility Rate is 104.4 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 22.4 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the district is 15.0 per 1000. Accident/violence/homicide/suicide accounted for 13.5 percent of all deaths while other causes constitute 86.5 percent of deaths in the district. Majority of migrants (68.2 percent) living in the district were born in the Upper West region while 29.5 percent were born elsewhere in another region. For migrants born in another region, those born in Ashanti Region constitute 40.3 percent followed by Northern Region with 25.9 percent and Greater Accra, 11.1percent.

## Household size, composition and structure

The district has a household population of 80,612 with a total number of 15,748 households. The average household size in the district is 5.2 persons per household. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household members accounting for 45.3 percent. Spouses form about 10.9 percent. Nuclear households (head, spouse(s) and children) constitute 24.6 percent of the total number of households in the district.

## Marital status

About five in ten (52.2%) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 35.6 percent have never married, 0.4 percent are in consensual unions, 10.3 percent are widowed, 0.8 percent are divorced and 0.7 percent are separated. By age 25-29 years, more than half of females (69.5%) are married compared to a little above twenty six percent for males (26.3%). At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 61.0 percent while widowed males account for only 19.9 percent. . Among the married, 77.9 percent have no education while about 22.4 percent of the unmarried have never been to school. More than

half of the married population (85.1%) are employed, 1.1 percent is unemployed and 13.8 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who have never married (51.0%) are economically not active with 1.2 percent unemployed.

### **Nationality**

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the district is 95.7 percent. Those who have naturalised constitute 0.6 percent and the non-Ghanaian population in the district is 2.1 percent.

### **Literacy and education**

Of the population 11 years and above, 42.0 percent are literate and 58.0 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (89.7 %) than that of females (58.4%). Only 14.0 percent indicated they could speak and write both English and Ghanaian languages. Of the population aged 3 years and above (74,708) in the district, 48.3 percent has never attended school, 39.1 percent are currently attending and 12.6 percent have attended in the past.

### **Economic activity status**

About 75.7 percent of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active while 24.3 per cent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 98.4 percent are employed while 1.6 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a large percentage of them are students (37.9%), 27.6% perform household duties and 7.8 percent are disabled or too sick to work. Four out of ten unemployed are seeking work for the first time.

### **Occupation**

Of the employed population, about 78.7 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 4.9 percent in service and sales, 4.7 percent in craft and related trade, and 0.7 percent are engaged as managers, professionals, and technicians.

### **Employment status and sector**

Of the population 15 years and older 57.4 percent are self-employed without employees, 32.1 percent are contributing family workers, 1.5 percent are casual workers and 0.5 percent are domestic employees (house helps). Overall, men constitute the highest proportion in each employment category except the contributing family workers and apprentices. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district, employing 96.1 percent of the population followed by the public sector with 2.4 percent.

### **Information Communication Technology**

Of the population 12 years and above, 19.4 percent have mobile phones. Men who own mobile phones constitute 23.8 percent as compared to 15.2 percent of females. A little over one percent of the population 12 years and older uses internet facilities in the district. Only 166 households representing 1.1 percent of the total households in the district have desktop/laptop computers.

### **Disability**

About 5.2 percent of the district's total population has one form of disability or the other. The proportion of the female population with disability is slightly higher (5.4%) than males

(4.9%). The types of disability in the district include sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, and emotion. Persons with sight disability recorded the highest of 42.8 percent followed by Hearing disability (22.3%). About 87.1 percent of the population with disability are in the rural localities. Of the population disabled, 71.1 percent have never been to school.

### **Agriculture**

As high as 90.7 percent of households in the district are engaged in agriculture. In the rural localities, eight out of ten households (83.7%) are agricultural households while in the urban localities, 15.5 percent of households are into agriculture. Most households in the district (96.5%) are involved in crop farming. Poultry (chicken) is the dominant animal reared in the district

### **Housing**

The housing stock of Talensi District is 9,079 representing almost eight percent of the total number of houses in the Upper East. The average number of persons per house is 8.9.

#### ***Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units***

Approximately forty percent of all dwelling units in the district are compound houses; 13.4 percent are separate houses and 2.8 percent are semi-detached houses. Almost 95.0 percent of the dwelling units in the district are owned by members of the household; one percent are owned by private individuals; 1.9 percent are owned by a relative who is not a member of the household and only 1.6 percent are owned by public or government. Less than one percent (0.1%) of the dwelling units is owned through mortgage schemes.

#### ***Material for construction of outer wall, floor and roof***

The main construction material for outer walls of dwelling units in the district is mud/mud bricks or earth accounting for 88.2 percent with cement/concrete constituting 8.9 percent of outer walls of dwelling units in the district. Cement (68.1%) and mud/earth (30.5%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the district. Metal sheets are the main roofing material (54.2%) for dwelling units in the district.

#### ***Room occupancy***

One room constitutes the highest percentage (84.1%) of sleeping rooms occupied by households in housing units in the district. About 1.6 percent of households with 10 or more members occupy single rooms.

#### ***Utilities and household facilities***

The three main sources of lighting in dwelling units in the district are kerosene lamp (54.3%), flashlight/torch (35.9%) and electricity (8.0%). The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the district is wood (77.2%). The proportion for urban (83.1%) is higher than that of rural 76.2 (58.8%). The four main sources of water in the district are borehole, protected well and river/stream. More than half of households (64.8%) drink water from boreholes.

Majority of the people in the district do not have toilet facilities (92.7%). public toilet (WC, KVIP constitute only 1.2 percent and pit latrines form about 2.4 percent.

A total of about 54.7 percent of the households Own bathroom for exclusive use, 18.1 percent bath in Private open cubicles and 11.3 percent use Shared separate bathroom in the same house.

### ***Waste disposal***

The most widely used method of solid waste disposal is through burning by households (34.5%) while Public dump in the open space accounts for 29.0 percent. About 16.0 percent of households (15.7%) dump their solid waste indiscriminately. House to house waste collection accounts for 13.1 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste onto the street or outside is the most common practice, accounting for as high as 73.8 percent while throwing onto the compound constitutes 11.7 percent.

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Introduction

The Government of Ghana recognises that the “Population of Ghana is the nation’s greatest resource. It is both the instrument and objective of national development. The protection and enhancement of its welfare is the Government’s first responsibility” (GSS, 2013, p.1). Government also recognises the reciprocal relationship between population and development (i.e., population affects development and development affects population). An understanding of the population characteristics and dynamics is therefore crucial for informed and realistic development planning.

The Government of Ghana has operated a decentralized system of development since 1988 with the District Assembly (DA) as the planning authority. The DA is expected to initiate and coordinate the processes of planning, programming, budgeting and implementation of district plans, programmes and projects. The Assembly together with other organs under it are expected to carry out medium to long term planning and integrate population policies and issues as they pertain to the needs of a particular district and communities.

The overall level of development and demographic structure of the country conceal differences between and within regions, districts, urban and rural localities. As such, there are bound to be differences in the population and development needs and priorities between and within regions, districts, and urban and rural localities. This report covers the Talensi district. The objective is to make available to the general public, analysed data, and the results of the 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) for policy, planning and implementation in the district.

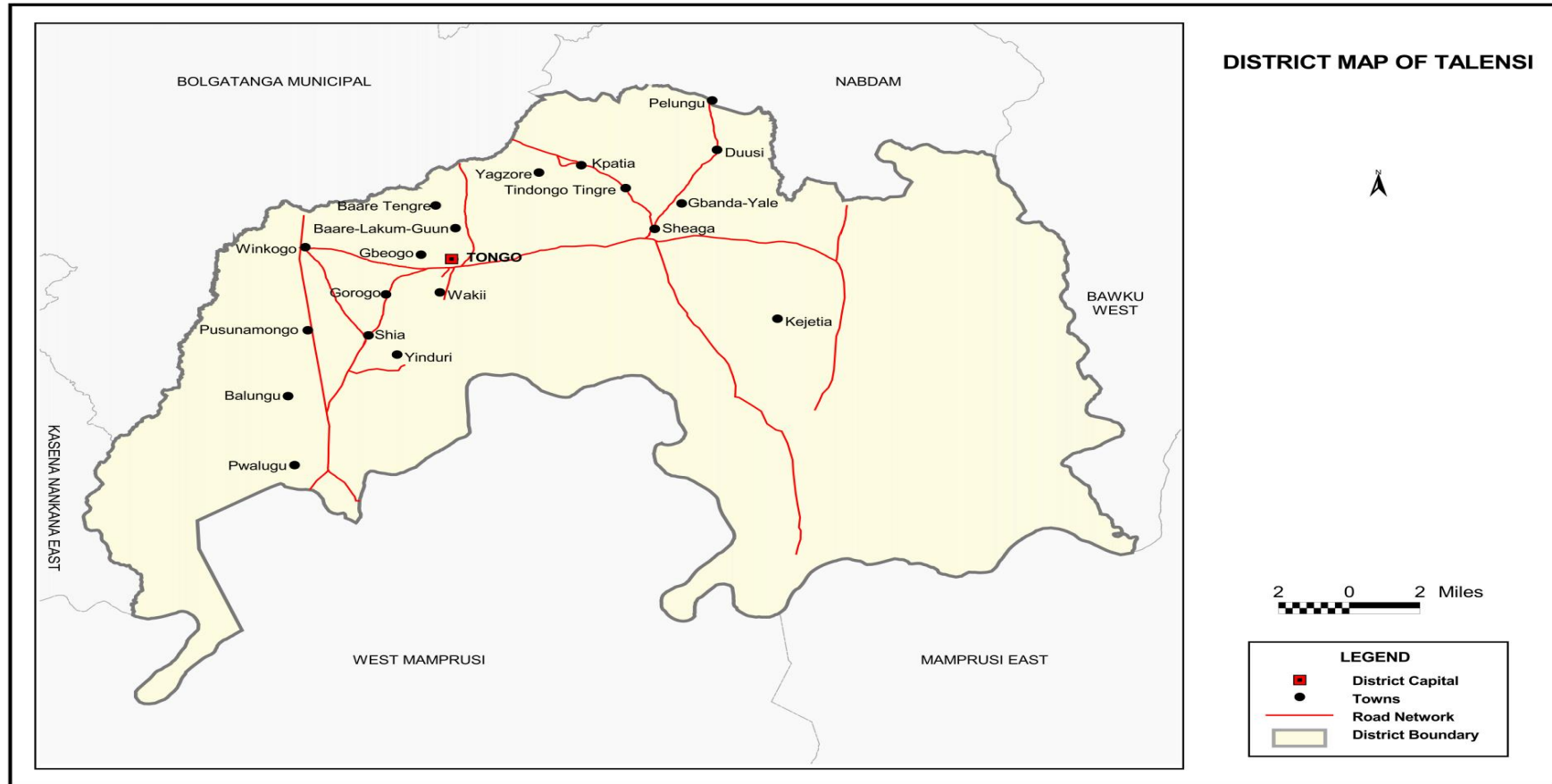
The Talensi district was part of the Talensi-Nabdam district in the Upper East region. The separate Talensi district was created in 2012 with Tongo as the capital. It is bordered to the north by the Bolgatanga Municipality, to the south by the West and East Mamprusi districts (both in the Northern Region), to the west by Kassena-Nankana district, and to the east by the Bawku West and Nabdam districts. The district lies between latitude 10° 15' and 10° 60' North of the equator and longitude 0° 31' and 1° 05' West of the Greenwich meridian. It has a land area of 838.4 km<sup>2</sup>

### 1.2 Physical Features

#### 1.2.1 Soil and drainage

The topography of the district is characterized by scattered rock-outcrops and upland slopes with relatively undulating lowlands with gentle slopes ranging from 1<sup>0</sup> to 5<sup>0</sup> gradient at the Tongo areas. The district’s soil is developed mainly from granite rocks, it is shallow and low in soil fertility, weak with low organic matter content, and predominantly coarse in texture. Erosion is a problem in the district. Valley areas have soils ranging from sandy loams to salty clays. They have rich natural fertility but are more difficult to till and are prone to seasonal water logging and flooding. The main river in the district is the -White Volta and its tributaries.

**Figure 1.1: Map of Talensi District**



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

### **1.2.2 Vegetation**

The vegetation is Guinea Savannah woodland consisting of sparse short deciduous trees and a ground flora of grass. The most common economic trees are sheanuts, dawadawa, baobab and acacia.

### **1.2.3 Climate**

The climate is tropical with two distinct seasons; a rainy season, which is erratic and runs from May to October, and a dry season that stretches from October to April. The mean annual rainfall for the district is 95mm and ranges between 88mm-110mm. The area experiences a maximum temperature of 45 degrees Celsius in March and April and a minimum of 12 degrees Celsius in December.

## **1.3 Political Administration**

The District Assembly (DA) is the highest legislative body in the district. The assembly is made up of 35 elected members, 11 appointed members including the District Chief Executive (DCE) and the Member of Parliament for Talensi Constituency. The DA has an Executive Committee of 13 members, responsible for the day to day administration of the district and 7 sub-committees to facilitate her functioning.

There are three Area Councils and 105 Unit Committees which coordinate and initiate development programmes at the community level. The DCE who is the political and administrative head of the district is appointed by the President of Ghana with the approval of the DA.

## **1.4 Social and Cultural Structure**

### **1.4.1 Chieftaincy**

There is one paramountcy (Talensi) under the Nabdam Traditional Council. The paramountcy and the traditional councils are supported by sub-chiefs who administer specific areas of jurisdiction. Each village/community has a chief. Apart from the chiefs, there are Tindanas who are the custodians of the sacred traditions as well as the administrators of the ancestral lands, which they hold in trust for the living and the dead.

### **1.4.2 Religion**

The population is dominated by people who practice traditional religion (46.6%), followed by Christianity (43.4%) and Islamic religion (3.7%) which is practiced in few communities particularly among migrants.

### **1.4.3 Festivals**

The district is blessed with rich cultural festivals such as Golbo, Daa, Tenlebgre and Tingan; which are laden with traditional rites and rituals that could be appealing to tourists. The Golbo festival occurs before crop planting season, while the other festivals occur after harvesting of crops. The district has a three day market cycle, the markets are held mostly in the evenings.

## **1.5 Economy**

Crop farming, animal rearing and hunting are the main economic activities in the district. Agriculture is mainly rain fed and little irrigation, and serves as the main source of employment and account for 90.0 percent of local Gross Domestic Products (GDP). The main agricultural produce are groundnuts, sorghum, millet, rice and maize.

Economic tree such as Shea and Dawadawa are extensively distributed in the wild. The harvesting and processes of the shea nuts and dawadawa fruits are dominated by women. The agro-processing industry includes the production of groundnut oil, sheabutter, dawadawa (food additive or ingredient), pito and parboiling and milling of local paddy rice.

### **1.5.3 Industry**

Industrial activity in the district is generally low. There are two main extractive activities in the district, namely, gold mining and quarrying. There is one commercial quarry in the district operated by Granites and Marbles Company Limited. The quarry produces cuts rocks for export. The gold mining industry is not very developed. Lately, small-scale gold mining activity, popularly known as “galamsey” (gather and sell) or “alakupiri” has become rampant in the district. This gives an indication that there is substantial gold mineral deposit in the district.

### **1.5.4 Tourism**

The district has many sites and scenes to attract tourists. There are beautiful mountains surrounded by rocks that provide aesthetic beauty, the Tongo Hills also provide a magnificent landscape that provides scenic beauty. The area also has whistling rocks, which serve as tourist attraction. These sites exist as customary edifices, religious craft, aesthetic scenery or geological impressions of the hills and rocks. The Tengzuk Shrine is noted as a source of good health and prosperity which attracts people from all over the world for spiritual interventions.

## **1.6 Census Methodology, Concepts and Definitions**

### **1.6.1 Introduction**

Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) was guided by the principle of international comparability and the need to obtain accurate information in the 2010 Population and Housing Census (2010 PHC). The Census was, therefore, conducted using all the essential features of a modern census as contained in the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for countries taking part in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses.

Experience from previous post independence censuses of Ghana (1960, 1970, 1984 and 2000) was taken into consideration in developing the methodologies for conducting the 2010 PHC. The primary objective of the 2010 PHC was to provide information on the number, distribution and social, economic and demographic characteristics of the population of Ghana necessary to facilitate the socio-economic development of the country.

### **1.6.2 Pre-enumeration activities**

#### **Development of census project document and work plans**

A large scale statistical operation, such as the 2010 Population and Housing Census required meticulous planning for its successful implementation. A working group of the Ghana Statistical Service prepared the census project document with the assistance of two



consultants. The document contains the rationale and objectives of the census, census organization, a work plan as well as a budget. The project document was launched in November 2008 as part of the Ghana Statistics Development Plan (GSDP) and reviewed in November 2009.

### **Census secretariat and committees**

A well-structured management and supervisory framework that outlines the responsibilities of the various stakeholders is essential for the effective implementation of a population and housing census. To implement the 2010 PHC, a National Census Secretariat was set up in January 2008 and comprised professional and technical staff of GSS as well as staff of other Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) seconded to GSS. The Census Secretariat was primarily responsible for the day-to-day planning and implementation of the census activities. The Secretariat had seven units, namely; census administration, cartography, recruitment and training, publicity and education, field operations and logistics management, data processing, and data analysis and dissemination.

The Census Secretariat was initially headed by an acting Census Coordinator engaged by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in 2008 to support GSS in the planning of the Census. In 2009, the Census Secretariat was re-organised with the Government Statistician as the National Chief Census Officer and overall Coordinator, assisted by a Census Management Team and a Census Coordinating Team. The Census Management Team had oversight responsibility for the implementation of the Census. It also had the responsibility of taking critical decisions on the census in consultation with other national committees. The Census Coordinating Team, on the other hand, was responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the Census programme.

A number of census committees were also set up at both national and sub-national levels to provide guidance and assistance with respect to resource mobilization and technical advice. At the national level, the committees were the National Census Steering Committee (NCSC), the National Census Technical Advisory Committee (NCTAC) and the National Census Publicity and Education Committee (NCPEC). At the regional and district levels, the committees were the Regional Census Implementation Committee and the District Census Implementation Committee, respectively.

The Regional and District Census Implementation Committees were inter-sectoral in their composition. Members of the Committees were mainly from decentralized departments with the Regional and District Coordinating Directors chairing the Regional Census Implementation Committee and District Census Implementation Committee, respectively. The Committees contributed to the planning of district, community and locality level activities in areas of publicity and field operations. They supported the Regional and District Census Officers in the recruitment and training of field personnel (enumerators and supervisors), as well as mobilizing logistical support for the census.

### **Selection of census topics**

The topics selected for the 2010 Population and Housing Census were based on recommendations contained in the UN Principles and Recommendations for 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses and the African Addendum to that document as well as the needs of data users. All the core topics recommended at the global level, i.e., geographical and internal migration characteristics, international migration, household characteristics, demographic and social characteristics such as age, date of birth, sex, and marital status,

fertility and mortality, educational and economic characteristics, issues relating to disability and housing conditions and amenities were included in the census.

Some topics that were not considered core by the UN recommendations but which were found to be of great interest and importance to Ghana and were, therefore, included in the 2010 PHC are religion, ethnicity, employment sector and place of work, agricultural activity, as well as housing topics, such as, type of dwelling, materials for outer wall, floor and roof, tenure/holding arrangement, number of sleeping rooms, cooking fuel, cooking space and Information Communication Technology (ICT).

### **Census mapping**

A timely and well implemented census mapping is pivotal to the success of any population and housing census. Mapping delineates the country into enumeration areas to facilitate smooth enumeration of the population. The updating of the 2000 Census Enumeration Area (EA) maps started in the last quarter of 2007 with the acquisition of topographic sheets of all indices from the Survey and Mapping Division of the Lands Commission. In addition, digital sheets were also procured for the Geographical Information System Unit.

The Cartography Unit of the Census Secretariat collaborated with the Survey and Mapping Division of the Lands Commission and the Centre for Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Services (CERSGIS) of the Department of Geography and Resource Development, University of Ghana, to determine the viability of migrating from analog to digital mapping for the 2010 PHC, as recommended in the 2000 PHC Administrative Report. Field cartographic work started in March 2008 and was completed in February 2010.

### **Development of questionnaire and manuals**

For effective data collection, there is the need to design appropriate documents to solicit the required information from respondents. GSS consulted widely with main data users in the process of the questionnaire development. Data users including MDAs, research institutions, civil society organizations and development partners were given the opportunity to indicate the type of questions they wanted to be included in the census questionnaire.

Documents developed for the census included the questionnaire and manuals, and field operation documents. The field operation documents included Enumerator's Visitation Record Book, Supervisor's Record Book, and other operational control forms. These record books served as operational and quality control tools to assist enumerators and supervisors to control and monitor their field duties respectively.

### **Pre-tests and trial census**

It is internationally recognized that an essential element in census planning is the pre-testing of the questionnaire and related instructions. The objective of the pre-test is to test the questionnaire, the definition of its concepts and the instructions for filling out the questionnaire.

The census questionnaire was pre-tested twice in the course of its development. The first pre-test was carried out in March 2009 to find out the suitability of the questions and the instructions provided. It also tested the adequacy and completeness of the responses and how respondents understood the questions. The second pre-test was done in 10 selected enumeration areas in August, 2009. The objective of the second pre-test was to examine the sequence of the questions, test the new questions, such as, date of birth and migration, and

assess how the introduction of 'date of birth' could help to reduce 'age heaping'. With regard to questions on fertility, the pre-tests sought to find out the difference, if any, between proxy responses and responses by the respondents themselves. Both pre-tests were carried in the Greater Accra Region. Experience from the pre-tests was used to improve the final census questionnaire.

A trial census which is a dress rehearsal of all the activities and procedures that are planned for the main census was carried out in October/November 2009. These included recruitment and training, distribution of census materials, administration of the questionnaire and other census forms, enumeration of the various categories of the population (household, institutional and floating population), and data processing. The trial census was held in six selected districts across the country namely; Saboba (Northern Region), Chereponi (Northern Region), Sene (Brong Ahafo Region), Bia (Western Region), Awutu Senya (Central Region), and Osu Klottey Sub-Metro (Greater Accra Region). A number of factors were considered in selecting the trial census districts. These included: administrative boundary issues, ecological zone, and accessibility, enumeration of floating population/outdoor-sleepers, fast growing areas, institutional population, and enumeration areas with scattered settlements.

The trial census provided GSS with an opportunity to assess its plans and procedures as well as the state of preparedness for the conduct of the 2010 PHC. The common errors found during editing of the completed questionnaires resulted in modifications to the census questionnaire, enumerator manuals and other documents. The results of the trial census assisted GSS to arrive at technically sound decisions on the ideal number of persons per questionnaire, number of persons in the household roster, migration questions, placement of the mortality question, serial numbering of houses/housing structures and method of collection of information on community facilities. Lessons learnt from the trial census also guided the planning of the recruitment process, the procedures for training of census field staff and the publicity and education interventions.

### **1.6.3 Census enumeration**

#### **Method of enumeration and field work**

All post-independence censuses (1960, 1970, 1984, and 2000) conducted in Ghana used the de facto method of enumeration where people are enumerated at where they were on census night and not where they usually reside. The same method was adopted for the 2010 PHC. The de facto count is preferred because it provides a simple and straight forward way of counting the population since it is based on a physical fact of presence and can hardly be misinterpreted. It is thought that the method also minimizes the risks of under-enumeration and over enumeration. The canvasser method, which involves trained field personnel visiting houses and households identified in their respective enumeration areas, was adopted for the 2010 PHC.

The main census enumeration involved the canvassing of all categories of the population by trained enumerators, using questionnaires prepared and tested during the pre-enumeration phase. Specific arrangements were made for the coverage of special population groups, such as the homeless and the floating population. The fieldwork began on 21st September 2010 with the identification of EA boundaries, listing of structures, enumeration of institutional population and floating population.

The week preceding the Census Night was used by field personnel to list houses and other structures in their enumeration areas. Enumerators were also mobilized to enumerate residents/inmates of institutions, such as, schools and prisons. They returned to the institutions during the enumeration period to reconcile the information they obtained from individuals and also to cross out names of those who were absent from the institutions on Census Night. Out-door sleepers (floating population) were also enumerated on the Census Night.

Enumeration of the household population started on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2010. Enumerators visited houses, compounds and structures in their enumeration areas and started enumerating all households including visitors who spent the Census Night in the households. Enumeration was carried out in the order in which houses/structures were listed and where the members of the household were absent, the enumerator left a call-back-card indicating when he/she would come back to enumerate the household. The enumeration process took off smoothly with enumerators poised on completing their assignments on schedule since many of them were teachers and had to return to school. However, many enumerators ran short of questionnaires after a few days' work.

Enumeration resumed in all districts when the questionnaire shortage was resolved and by 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, enumeration was completed in most districts. Enumerators who had finished their work were mobilized to assist in the enumeration of localities that were yet to be enumerated in some regional capitals and other fast growing areas. Flooded areas and other inaccessible localities were also enumerated after the end of the official enumeration period. Because some enumeration areas in fast growing cities and towns, such as, Accra Metropolitan Area, Kumasi, Kasafo and Techiman were not properly demarcated and some were characterized by large EAs, some enumerators were unable to complete their assigned tasks within the stipulated time.

#### **1.6.4 Post enumeration survey**

In line with United Nations recommendations, GSS conducted a Post Enumeration Survey (PES) in April, 2011 to check content and coverage error. The PES was also to serve as an important tool in providing feedback regarding operational matters such as concepts and procedures in order to help improve future census operations. The PES field work was carried out for 21 days in April 2011 and was closely monitored and supervised to ensure quality output. The main findings of the PES were that:

- 97.0 percent of all household residents who were in the country on Census Night (26<sup>th</sup> September, 2010) were enumerated.
- 1.3 percent of the population was erroneously included in the census.
- Regional differentials are observed. Upper East region recorded the highest coverage rate of 98.2 percent while the Volta region had the lowest coverage rate of 95.7 percent.
- Males (3.3%) were more likely than females (2.8%) to be omitted in the census. The coverage rate for males was 96.7 percent and the coverage rate for females was 97.2 percent. Also, the coverage rates (94.1%) for those within the 20-29 and 30-39 age groups are relatively lower compared to the coverage rates of the other age groups.

- There was a high rate of agreement between the 2010 PHC data and the PES data for sex (98.8%), marital status (94.6%), relationship to head of household (90.5%) and age (83.0%).

### **1.6.5 Release and dissemination of results**

The provisional results of the census were released in February 2011 and the final results in May 2012. A National Analytical report, six thematic reports, a Census Atlas, 10 Regional Reports and a report on Demographic, Social, Economic and Housing were prepared and disseminated in 2013.

### **1.6.6 Concepts and definitions**

#### **Introduction**

The 2010 Population and Housing Census of Ghana followed the essential concepts and definitions of a modern Population and Housing Census as recommended by the United Nations (UN). It is important that the concepts, definitions and recommendations are adhered to since they form the basis upon which Ghana could compare her data with that of other countries.

The concepts and definitions in this report cover all sections of the 2010 Population and Housing Census questionnaires (PHC1A and PHC1B). The sections were: geographical location of the population, Household and Non-household population, Literacy and Education, Emigration, Demographic and Economic Characteristics, Disability, Information Communication Technology (ICT), Fertility, Mortality, Agricultural Activity and Housing Conditions.

The concepts and definitions are provided to facilitate understanding and use of the data presented in this report. Users are therefore advised to use the results of the census within the context of these concepts and definitions.

#### **Region**

There were ten (10) administrative regions in Ghana during the 2010 Population and Housing Census as they were in 1984 and 2000.

#### **District**

In 1988, Ghana changed from the local authority system of administration to the district assembly system. In that year, the then existing 140 local authorities were demarcated into 110 districts. In 2004, 28 new districts were created; this increased the number of districts in the country to 138. In 2008, 32 additional districts were created bringing the total number of districts to 170. The 2010 Population and Housing Census was conducted in these 170 administrative districts (these are made-up of 164 districts/municipals and 6 metropolitan areas). In 2012, 46 new districts were created to bring the total number of districts to 216. There was urgent need for data for the 46 newly created districts for planning and decision-making. To meet this demand, the 2010 Census data was re-programmed into 216 districts after carrying out additional fieldwork and consultations with stakeholders in the districts affected by the creation of the new districts.

#### **Locality**

A locality was defined as a distinct population cluster (also designated as inhabited place, populated centre, settlement) which has a NAME or LOCALLY RECOGNISED STATUS. It

included fishing hamlets, mining camps, ranches, farms, market towns, villages, towns, cities and many other types of population clusters, which meet the above criteria. There were two main types of localities, rural and urban. As in previous censuses, the classification of localities into 'urban' and 'rural' was based on population size. Localities with 5,000 or more persons were classified as urban while localities with less than 5,000 persons were classified as rural.

### **Population**

The 2010 Census was a "de facto" count and each person present in Ghana, irrespective of nationality, was enumerated at the place where he/she spent the midnight of 26th September 2010.

### **Household**

A household was defined as a person or a group of persons, who lived together in the same house or compound and shared the same house-keeping arrangements. In general, a household consisted of a man, his wife, children and some other relatives or a house help who may be living with them. However, it is important to remember that members of a household are not necessarily related (by blood or marriage) because non-relatives (e.g. house helps) may form part of a household.

### **Head of household**

The household head was defined as a male or female member of the household recognised as such by the other household members. The head of household is generally the person who has economic and social responsibility for the household. All relationships are defined with reference to the head.

### **Household and non-household population**

Household population comprised of all persons who spent the census night in a household setting. All persons who did not spend the census night in a household setting (except otherwise stated) were classified as non-household population. Persons who spent census night in any of the under listed institutions and locations were classified as non-household population:

- a) Educational institutions
- b) Children's and old people's homes
- c) Hospitals and healing centres
- d) Hotels
- e) Prisons
- f) Service barracks
- g) Soldiers on field exercise
- h) Floating population: The following are examples of persons in this category:

- i. All persons who slept in lorry parks, markets, in front of stores and offices, public bathrooms, petrol filling stations, railway stations, verandas, pavements, and all such places which are not houses or compounds.
- ii. Hunting and fishing camps.
- iii. Beggars and vagrants (mentally sick or otherwise).

### **Age**

The age of every person was recorded in completed years disregarding fractions of days and months. For those persons who did not know their birthdays, the enumerator estimated their ages using a list of district, regional and national historical events.

### **Nationality**

Nationality is defined as the country to which a person belongs. A distinction is made between Ghanaians and other nationals. Ghanaian nationals are grouped into Ghanaian by birth, Ghanaian with dual nationality and Ghanaian by naturalization. Other nationals are grouped into ECOWAS nationals, Africans other than ECOWAS nationals, and non-Africans.

### **Ethnicity**

Ethnicity refers to the ethnic group that a person belonged to. This information is collected only from Ghanaians by birth and Ghanaians with dual nationality. The classification of ethnic groups in Ghana is that officially provided by the Bureau of Ghana Languages and which has been in use since the 1960 census.

### **Birthplace**

The birthplace of a person refers to the locality of usual residence of the mother at the time of birth. If after delivery a mother stayed outside her locality of usual residence for six months or more or had the intention of staying in the new place for six or more months, then the actual town/village of physical birth becomes the birthplace of the child.

### **Duration of residence**

Duration of residence refers to the number of years a person has lived in a particular place. This question is only asked of persons not born in the place where enumeration took place. Breaks in duration of residence lasting less than 12 months are disregarded. The duration of residence of persons who made multiple movements of one (1) year or more is assumed to be the number of years lived in the locality (town or village) since the last movement.

### **Religion**

Religion refers to the individual's religious affiliation as reported by the respondent, irrespective of the religion of the household head or the head's spouse or the name of the person. No attempt was made to find out if respondents actually practiced the faith they professed.

### **Marital status**

Marital status refers to the respondent's marital status as at Census Night. The question on marital status was asked only of persons 12 years and older. The selection of the age limit of

12 years was based on the average age at menarche and also on the practice in some parts of the country where girls as young as 12 years old could be given in marriage.

### **Literacy**

The question on literacy referred to the respondent's ability to read and write in any language. A person was considered literate if he/she could read and write a simple statement with understanding. The question on literacy was asked only of persons 11 years and older.

### **Education**

#### ***School attendance***

Data was collected on school attendance for all persons three (3) years and older. School attendance refers to whether a person has ever attended, was currently attending or has never attended school. In the census, school meant an educational institution where a person received at least four hours of formal education.

Although the lower age limit of formal education is six years for primary one, eligibility for the school attendance question was lowered to three years because pre-school education has become an important phenomenon in the country.

#### ***Level of education***

Level of education refers to the highest level of formal school that a person ever attended or was attending. This information was obtained for persons 3 years and older.

### **Activity status**

Activity status refers to economic or non-economic activity of respondents during the 7 days preceding census night. Information on type of activity was collected on persons 5 years and older. A person was regarded as economically active if he/she:

- a. Worked for pay or profit or family gain for at least 1 hour within the 7 days preceding Census Night. This included persons who were in paid employment or self-employment or contributing family workers.
- b. Did not work, but had jobs to return to.
- c. Were unemployed.

The economically not active were persons who did not work and were not seeking for work. They were classified by reasons for not being economically active. Economically not active persons included homemakers, students, retired persons, the disabled and persons who were unable to work due to their age or ill-health.

### **Occupation**

This referred to the type of work the person was engaged in at the establishment where he/she worked. This was asked only of persons 5 years and older who worked 7 days before the census night, and those who did not work but had a job to return to as well as those unemployed who had worked before. All persons who worked during the 7 days before the census night were classified by the kind of work they were engaged in. The emphasis was on the work the person did during the reference period and not what he/she was trained to do. For those who did not work but had a job to return to, their occupation was the job they would go back to after the period of absence. Also, for persons who had worked before and



were seeking for work and available for work, their occupation was on the last work they did before becoming unemployed. If a person was engaged in more than one occupation, only the main one was considered.

### **Industry**

Industry referred to the type of product produced or service rendered at the respondent's work place. Information was collected only on the main product produced or service rendered in the establishment during the reference period.

### **Employment status**

Employment status refers to the status of a person in the establishment where he/she currently works or previously worked. Eight employment status categories were provided: employee, self-employed without employees, self-employed with employees, casual worker, contributing family worker, apprentice, domestic employee (house help). Persons who could not be classified under any of the above categories were classified as "other".

### **Employment sector**

This refers to the sector in which a person worked. The employment sectors covered in the census were public, private formal, private informal, semi-public/parastatal, NGOs and international organizations.

### **Disability**

Persons with disability were defined as those who were unable to or were restricted in the performance of specific tasks/activities due to loss of function of some part of the body as a result of impairment or malformation. Information was collected on persons with visual/sight impairment, hearing impairment, mental retardation, emotional or behavioural disorders and other physical challenges.

### **Information Communication Technology (ICT)**

Information Communication Technology (ICT) questions were asked for both individuals and households. Persons having mobile phones refer to respondents 12 years and older who owned mobile phones (irrespective of the number of mobile phones owned by each person). Persons using internet facility refers to those who had access to internet facility at home, internet cafe, on mobile phone or other mobile device. Internet access is assumed to be not only via computer, but also by mobile phones, PDA, game machine and digital television.

Households having Personal Computers/Laptops refer to households who own desktops/laptop computers. The fixed telephone line refers to a telephone line connecting a customer's terminal equipment (e.g. telephone set, facsimile machine) to the public switch telephone network.

### **Fertility**

Two types of fertility data were collected: lifetime fertility and current fertility. Lifetime fertility refers to the total number of live births that females 12 years and older had ever had during their life time. Current fertility refers to the number of live births that females 12-54 years old had in the 12 months preceding the Census Night.

## **Mortality**

Mortality refers to all deaths that occurred in the household during the 12 months preceding the Census Night. The report presents information on deaths due to accidents, violence, homicide and suicide. In addition, data were collected on pregnancy-related deaths of females 12-54 years.

## **Agriculture**

The census sought information on household members who are engaged in agricultural activities, including the cultivation of crops or tree planting, rearing of livestock or breeding of fish for sale or family consumption. Information was also collected on their farms, types of crops and number and type of livestock.

## **Housing Conditions and Facilities**

The UN recommended definition of a house as “a structurally separate and independent place of abode such that a person or group of persons can isolate themselves from the hazards of climate such as storms and the sun” was adopted. The definition, therefore, covered any type of shelter used as living quarters, such as separate houses, semi-detached houses, flats/apartments, compound houses, huts, tents, kiosks and containers.

Living quarters or dwelling units refer to a specific area or space occupied by a particular household and therefore need not necessarily be the same as the house of which the dwelling unit may be a part.

Information collected on housing conditions included the type of dwelling unit, main construction materials for walls, floor and roof, holding/tenure arrangement, ownership type, type of lighting, source of water supply and toilet facilities. Data was also collected on method of disposal of solid and liquid waste.

## **1.7 Organization of the Report**

The report consists of nine chapters. Chapter one provides basic information about the district. It gives a brief background of the district, describing its physical features, political and administrative structure, social and cultural structure, economy and the methodology and concepts used in the report. Chapter two discusses the population size, composition and age structure. It further discusses the migratory pattern in the district as well as fertility and mortality.

In chapter three, the focus is on household size, composition and headship as well as the marital characteristics and nationality of the inhabitants of the district. The chapter also discusses the religious affiliations and the educational statuses of the members of the district. Chapter four focuses on economic characteristics such as economic activity status, occupation, industries and the employment status and sectors that the people are employed.

Information Communication Technology (ICT) is discussed in chapter five. It analyses mobile phone ownership, internet use and ownership of desktop/laptop computers while chapter six is devoted to Persons living with disabilities (PWDs) and their socio-demographic characteristics. Chapter seven concentrates on the agricultural activities of the households, describing the types of farming activities, livestock rearing and numbers of livestock reared.

In chapter eight, housing conditions such as housing stock, type of dwelling and construction materials, room occupancy, holding and tenancy, lighting and cooking facilities, bathing and toilet facilities, waste disposal and source of water for drinking or for other domestic use in the district are discussed and analyzed in detail. The final chapter, Chapter nine presents the summary of findings and conclusions. It also discusses the policy implications of the findings for the district.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

Population size, composition and age-sex structure are important determinants of a potential labour force and basic social services such as schools, health centres, housing, etc. needed to raise the standard of living of people. This chapter presents information on the population size and distribution, age-sex structure, migration, fertility and mortality of the Talensi district.

#### **2.2 Population Size and Distribution**

The total population of the district is 81,194 representing 50.3 percent males and 49.7 percent females. The population of the district constitutes 7.8 percent of the regional population which is 1,046,545. The district has a large rural population (84.1%) and a small urban population (15.9%).

#### **2.3 Age-Sex Structure**

Age and sex of population receive a lot of attention in demographic analysis. Many types of planning in both public and private sectors require separate population data for males and females. Table 2.1 shows the age and sex structure of the population in the district in 2010. The age and sex structure follows the regional pattern of a large proportion of the population below 15 years and a small proportion of elderly (65 years and above). The higher proportion of males (50.3%) compared to that of the females (49.7%) is a reverse situation of what obtains in the region (51.6% females and 48.4% males). The sex composition, however, varies by age. The proportion of males in the age group 0-14 years (42.6%) is higher than that of females (39.7%) in that age category. On the other hand, the percentage of females in the age group 15-64 years (52.8%) is higher than that of males in that age group (50.8%). Among the elderly (65 years and older), the proportion of females (7.5%) is higher than that of males (6.5%), which suggests that females live longer than males in the district.

There is relatively low dependency ratio (93.0) in the district compared to the regional estimate of 93.7. The rural locality has a more dependent population (94.1) than urban (87.8).

##### **2.3.1 Sex ratio**

The sex ratio is defined as the number of males per 100 females. At the national level, the sex ratio has made gradual but steady decline from 98.5 in 1970 to 97.9 in 2000 and to 95.2 in 2010 (GSS, 2010). The district has a higher sex ratio (101.2) than the ratio of the region (95.2)

In the Talensi District, available statistics indicate that there are more male births than of female's. This pattern however is not reflected at all ages. As shown in Table 2.1, the age cohorts below 25 years have a higher sex ratio compared to the age cohorts 25 years and above, an indication that more females than males below 25 years and vice versa at ages 25 years and above. The imbalance in the sex ratio may be due to a higher male mortality and many young men seeking employment outthsside the district.

**Table 2.1: Population in the district by age, sex and type of locality**

Age Group	Sex			Sex ratio	Type of locality	
	Both Sexes	Male	Female		Urban	Rural
All Ages	81,194	40,831	40,363	101.2	12,918	68,276
0 - 4	11,325	5,988	5,337	112.2	1,727	9,598
5 - 9	11,622	5,896	5,726	103.0	1,856	9,766
10 - 14	10,492	5,514	4,978	110.8	1,677	8,815
15 - 19	8,668	4,719	3,949	119.5	1,531	7,137
20 - 24	5,907	2,969	2,938	101.1	929	4,978
25 - 29	5,019	2,447	2,572	95.1	748	4,271
30 - 34	4,546	2,200	2,346	93.8	704	3,842
35 - 39	3,938	1,957	1,981	98.8	587	3,351
40 - 44	3,830	1,829	2,001	91.4	647	3,183
45 - 49	3,143	1,499	1,644	91.2	527	2,616
50 - 54	3,027	1,360	1,667	81.6	516	2,511
55 - 59	1,791	858	933	92.0	294	1,497
60 - 64	2,194	924	1,270	72.8	396	1,798
65 - 69	1,378	623	755	82.5	176	1,202
70 - 74	1,775	796	979	81.3	244	1,531
75 - 79	935	414	521	79.5	117	818
80 - 84	879	459	420	109.3	139	740
85 - 89	414	220	194	113.4	44	370
90 - 94	221	111	110	100.9	37	184
95 - 99	90	48	42	114.3	22	68
All Ages	81,194	40,831	40,363	101.2	12,918	68,276
0-14	33,439	17,398	16,041	108.5	5,260	28,179
15-64	42,063	20,762	21,301	97.5	6,879	35,184
65+	5,692	2,671	3,021	88.4	779	4,913
Age-dependency ratio	93	96.7	89.5		87.8	94.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 2.3.2 Population pyramid

Population Pyramid is a graphical presentation of a population sex and age structure. The age and sex pyramid (Figure 2.1) of the Talensi district depicts a broad base up to age 14 years, after which there is a sharp decline for males compared with females. Figure 2.1 indicates that a large number of the population is born every year as displayed at the bottom of the pyramid (ages 0-4 years). At the higher ages, the number inevitably reduces either through death, migration or both, resulting in a conical shaped pyramid, a typical characteristic of developing countries population. The pyramid also shows that the population aged 5-9 years is slightly more than that of the 0-4 years of age cohort. The reason is not clear but may be due to either migration or a decline in fertility resulting in fewer births. At age 14 years and below, there is a sharp decline in the number of females, hence males than females.

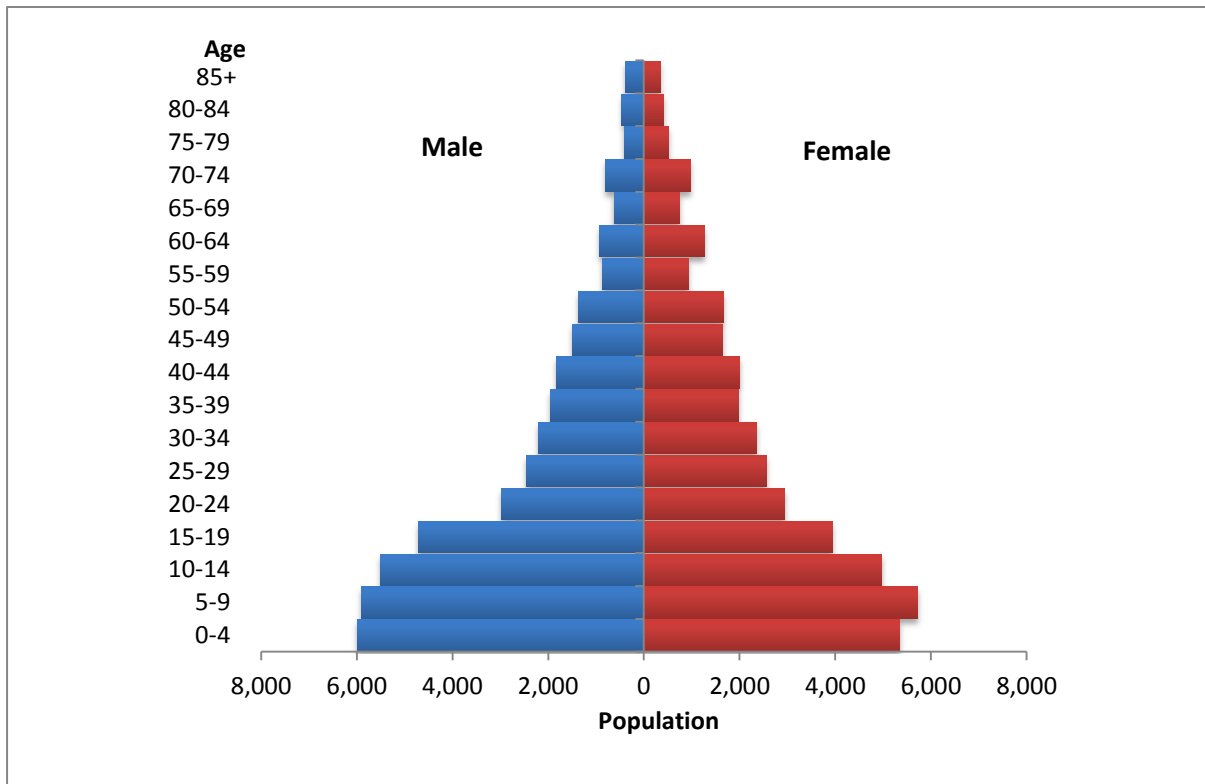
## 2.4 Fertility, Mortality and Migration

### 2.4.1 Fertility

Fertility refers to the number of live births that a woman gives during her reproductive life span usually from 15 years to 49 years. Fertility is determined by a number of factors, including the physiological capacity of the woman to reproduce. This in turn, is affected by a variety of social, cultural, health, economic and other environmental factors.

Birth registration data constitutes the most accurate source of data for the calculation of various fertility indices. This data, however, is neither complete, nor timely in the district in particular and the country as a whole.

**Figure 2.1: Population pyramid for Talensi District**



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

This section presents analysis on crude birth rate, general fertility rate and total fertility rate in the district in 2010 (Table 2.3).

### **Total fertility rate**

The total fertility rate (TFR) represents the average number of children that are born alive to a woman during her life time if she were to pass through all her child bearing years (15-49 years) conforming to the age-specific fertility rate of a given year.

Table 2.3 shows total fertility rate, general fertility rate and crude birth rate by district in the region. The TFR for the district is 3.6 births per woman. This rate is slightly higher than the regional estimate of 3.4 births per woman and higher also than the national average (3.3). Four districts in the region have higher TFR than the Talensi district. They are Builsa South (4.3), Garu Tempane (3.9), and Bawku West and Pusiga (3.7 each). The district with the lowest TFR is Kasena Nankana West (2.8), followed by Bolgatanga Municipal (3.0).

### **General fertility rate**

The general fertility rate (GFR) is the number of births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years in a given year. It differs from CBR in that, the denominator relates to women in the reproductive age group and not the total population. The GFR for the district is 104.4, This rate is higher than the regional estimate of 97.5.

The proportion of women of child bearing age 15-49 years in the district is 21.5 percent of the total population compared with 23.3 percent in the region. The general fertility rate (GFR) for Talensi district is 104.4, much higher than the regional estimate of 97.5. Only five districts in the region have GFRs that are higher than that of the Talensi district, namely, Builsa South (119.8), Bawku West and Garu Tempane (106.2 each), Nabdam (105.1) and Pusiga (104.6). The district with the lowest GFR is Kasena Nankana West (77.8).

### Crude birth rate (CBR)

The crude birth rate is the number of births per 1,000 population in a given year. It is 'crude' because it relates to the entire population rather than the section of the population capable of giving birth. The crude birth rate for the district (using "births in last twelve months" as numerator and the population count in the 2010 Census as denominator) is 22.4, lower than the regional rate of 22.7.

**Table 2.2: Reported total fertility rate, general fertility rate and crude birth rate by district**

District	Population	Number of women 15-49 years	Number of births in last 12 months	Total Fertility Rate	*General Fertility Rate	**Crude Birth Rate
All Districts	1,046,545	243,377	23,728	3.4	97.5	22.7
Builsa North	56,477	13,133	1,344	3.6	102.3	23.8
KasenaNankana West	70,667	16,820	1,309	2.8	77.8	18.5
KasenaNankana East	109,944	25,941	2,539	3.4	97.9	23.1
Bolgatanga Municipal	131,550	34,909	3,089	3	88.5	23.5
<b>Talensi</b>	<b>81,194</b>	<b>17,431</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>104.4</b>	<b>22.4</b>
Bongo	84,545	19,593	1,982	3.6	101.2	23.4
Bawku West	94,034	20,951	2,226	3.7	106.2	23.7
Garu Tempane	130,003	27,784	2,951	3.9	106.2	22.7
Bawku Municipal	98,538	24,496	2,004	2.9	81.8	20.3
Builsa South	36,514	8,438	1,011	4.3	119.8	27.7
Nabdam	33,826	7,355	773	3.6	105.1	22.9
Binduri	61,576	13,367	1,303	3.6	97.5	21.2
Pusiga	57,677	13,159	1,377	3.7	104.6	23.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Note: \* Number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years

\*\* Number of live births per 1,000 population

### 2.4.2 Children surviving

Data on children ever born and children surviving classified by age of mother can be used to determine probabilities of their surviving to specific ages. Table 3.4 represents female population 12 years and older by age, children ever born, children surviving and sex of child in the Talensi District. The table shows the trend in the proportions of children surviving by age of the mother. The number of children ever born to younger mothers aged 12 to 14 years and 15 to 19 years is low, constituting 0.02% and 0.6% respectively. This is probably due to circumstances that prevent females in these age groups from having children, these factors include education and eligibility of marriage. The number of children ever born increases steadily from age 20-24 years (3.9%) and age group 40-44 years (12.3%). It however declines from age 45-49 years, accounting for 10.5 percent to 50-59 years (6.3% of children). At older ages, factors that partly prevent women from having children include

menopause, divorce, widowhood and no marriage. At ages 20-44 years the fertility rate is higher and a higher proportion are in marriage and bearing children..

There is, generally, a higher proportion of males ever born to mothers in all the age groups (51.0%), compared to females (49.0%). About 75.7 percent of children ever born survive and among the sexes, female children survive better (76.9%) than male children (74.6%). Generally, there is a decline in the proportion of children surviving among all age groups of mothers compared to children ever born.

**Table 2.3: Female population 12 years and older by age, children ever born, children surviving and sex of child**

Age Group	Number of Females	Children Ever Born			Children Surviving		
		Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
All ages	27,238	85,867	43,765	42,102	65,024	32,643	32,381
12 - 14	2,916	15	5	10	11	5	6
15 - 19	3,949	531	275	256	459	234	225
20 - 24	2,938	3,355	1,722	1,633	2,941	1,487	1,454
25 - 29	2,572	6,104	3,157	2,947	5,270	2,682	2,588
30 - 34	2,346	8,764	4,493	4,271	7,503	3,789	3,714
35 - 39	1,981	9,072	4,653	4,419	7,640	3,904	3,736
40 - 44	2,001	10,561	5,428	5,133	8,357	4,226	4,131
45 - 49	1,644	9,025	4,577	4,448	7,021	3,490	3,531
50 - 54	1,667	9,409	4,816	4,593	6,971	3,519	3,452
55 - 59	933	5,360	2,771	2,589	3,779	1,923	1,856
60 +	4,291	23,671	11,868	11,803	15,072	7,384	7,688

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 2.4.3 Mortality

Mortality levels, patterns, trends and differentials are important indicators of the health status of the population. They provide information about the major causes of illness, disability and death. This information plays a vital role in development planning in general, and the planning, monitoring and evaluation of the expansion of and efficiency of healthcare delivery, in particular.

The conventional measurement of mortality requires information on the number of deaths, the socio-economic characteristics of the dead, and on the population at risk of dying. Data is obtained from responses to questions on “births and deaths in the last 12 months” and on survival of children. The mortality discussion in this report highlights crude death rate (CDR), total death rate (TDR) and pregnancy related deaths.

#### Deaths in households

Of the total population of the Talensi District, about 1.5 percent of deaths were recorded constituting 10.8 percent of all deaths in the region. The proportion of deaths in the region is only slightly lower than that of Bolgatanga Municipality. In many of the districts, the average proportions of deaths in the population less than 1.0 percent compared with what pertains in Talensi where the proportion is slightly higher.



## Cruse death rate

Crude death rate (CDR) refers to the number of deaths per 1,000 population in a given year. Table 2.5 shows that the crude death rate in the district is 15.0, much higher than the regional figure of 10.8. The crude death rate for the district is only lower than that of Bolgatanga Municipality (17.2). The districts with the lowest CDR is Pusiga (6.3).

**Table 2.4: Population, deaths in households and crude death rate by district**

District	Total Population	Deaths in households	*Crude death rate
All Disticts	1,046,545	11,339	10.8
Builsa North	56,477	478	8.5
KasenaNankana West	70,667	566	8
KasenaNankana East	109,944	1,217	11.1
Bolgatanga Municipal	131,550	2,269	17.2
Talensi	81,194	1,218	15
Bongo	84,545	1,093	12.9
Bawku West	94,034	838	8.9
GaruTempane	130,003	1,287	9.9
Bawku Municipal	98,538	691	7
Builsa South	36,514	337	9.2
Nabdam	33,826	473	14
Binduri	61,576	510	8.3
Pusiga	57,677	362	6.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Note: \* Number of deaths per 1,000 population

## Causes of deaths in households

Table 2.6 presents Causes of death in households by district in Upper East region. From the table, Talensi District recorded as many as 1,218 deaths, constituting 10.7 percent of all deaths in the region. About 13.5 percent of these death were due to Accident, violence, homicide or suicide while 86.5 percent were due to all other causes. Regarding accident related deaths, the district comes second only to Bolgatanga Municipality which whose proportion is as high as 41.4 percent. the proportion of pregnancy related deaths in the district is 0.5 percent.

## Age specific death rates

Figure 2.2 shows the age specific death rates (ASDRs) in the district. There is a relatively high rate of neo-natal deaths in infancy (0-4 years), the rates decline sharply through childhood (5-9 years) and stays low among the 15-19 years age group. The sharp decline in mortality at this stage could be due improvements in healthcare interventions against childhood killer diseases through immunization programs. Males aged below 20 years have the lowest age-specific death rates in the district. ASDRs begin to increase gradually from around 14 years of age for females and around 19 years of age for males, indicating that more females die around 14 years of age and males around the 19 years of age.

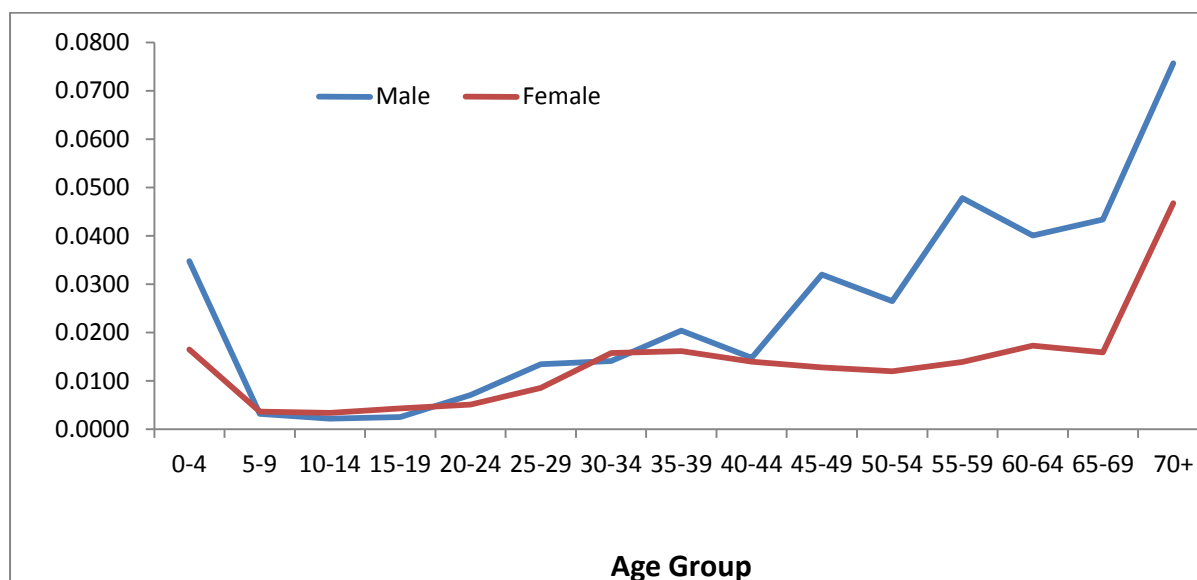
**Table 2.5: Causes of deaths in households by districts**

District	Total deaths		Accident/ violence/ homicide/ suicide deaths	All other causes	Pregnancy related deaths (female 15- 54 years)	Not pregnancy related deaths
	Number	Percent				
All Districts	11,339	100.0	15.2	84.8	1.7	98.3
Bolgatanga Municipal	2,269	100.0	41.4	58.6	3.9	96.1
GaruTempane	1,287	100.0	7.5	92.5	1.5	98.5
<b>Talensi</b>	<b>1,218</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>86.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>99.5</b>
KasenaNankana East	1,217	100.0	7.1	92.9	0.9	99.1
Bongo	1,093	100.0	5.6	94.4	1.5	98.5
Bawku West	838	100.0	5.1	94.9	1.8	98.2
Bawku Municipal	691	100.0	9.4	90.6	2.0	98.0
KasenaNankana West	566	100.0	8.3	91.7	0.7	99.3
Binduri	510	100.0	8.4	91.6	1.0	99.0
Builsa North	478	100.0	6.3	93.7	0.8	99.2
Nabdam	473	100.0	16.7	83.3	0.8	99.2
Pusiga	362	100.0	13.8	86.2	0.6	99.4
Builsa South	337	100.0	4.2	95.8	1.2	98.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Age-specific death rates for females increase gradually from age 15 years until around age 35-39 years, where the rates begin to decline gradually to the 50-54 years age group then ascend again. Age-specific death rates begin to increase sharply for males aged 15-19 years until 35-39, where the rates decline and begin to rise again at ages 40-44 years. Sharp increases and declines in male ASDRs are evident beyond 40-44 years of age and continue throughout the older age groups.

**Figure 2.2: Age specific death rates in Talensi District**



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 2.4.4 Migration

Migration refers to change in one's usual place of residence. A migrant is therefore defined as a person whose usual place of residence is different from his/her place of birth or previous residence. The importance of measuring migration lies in its impact on population size, structure and distribution.

The place of birth of a person is defined as the locality of usual residence of the mother at the time of birth. The usual place of residence is measured in terms of the district where the person resides, and refers to the place where the person spends most of his/her time. The difference between the place of birth and usual place of residents is an indication of individual migration. Such migration may be from one district to another within the same region, from a district in one region to a district in another region, and from a district to another country, altogether.

The place of birth and duration of residence is shown in Table 2.2. There are 16,107 migrants constituting 19.8 percent of the total population in the district. About 10,993 or 68.3 percent of the migrants are born elsewhere in the region, 29.5 percent are born in another region and the remaining 2.2 percent are born outside Ghana.. About 31.6 percent of the migrants have lived in the district for about 20 years and more, 36.9 percent have lived there for less than 5 years and the remaining 31.5 percent have lived there for between 5 years 20 years.

Of the migrants born in another region, Ashanti region has the highest proportion (40.4%), followed by Northern region (25.9%) and Greater Accra region (11.1%). Central region has the lowest proportion of the migrants (2.8%), followed by Volta region (3.2%) and Upper West region (3.1%). The migrants born outside Ghana, 53.1 percent have lived in the district for less than five years while 14.6 percent have lived for 20 years or more.

**Table 2.6: Birthplace by duration of residence of migrants in the district**

Birthplace	Number	Duration of residence (%)				
		Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20+ years
All	16,107	14.1	22.8	13.4	18.1	31.6
Born elsewhere in the region	10,993	13.1	20.5	11.4	16.6	38.4
<b>Born elsewhere in another region:</b>						
Western	212	14.2	22.6	6.6	34.0	22.6
Central	131	16.0	19.8	11.5	32.8	19.8
Greater Accra	529	16.4	26.5	20.8	17.2	19.1
Volta	154	18.8	33.1	14.3	16.2	17.5
Eastern	227	13.2	23.8	12.3	26.0	24.7
Ashanti	1,918	17.2	27.5	18.2	20.6	16.5
Brong Ahafo	197	16.2	38.1	20.8	14.7	10.2
Northern	1,233	13.5	26.2	18.7	25.1	16.5
Upper East	-	-	-	-	-	-
Upper West	151	21.2	29.8	21.9	15.2	11.9
Outside Ghana	362	20.2	32.9	18.2	14.1	14.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## CHAPTER THREE

### SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

#### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter on social characteristics of the Talensi District discusses household composition, structure and size. It also presents analysis on marital status, nationality, religious affiliation, literacy and education.

The 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) defined a household as a single person or a group of persons who live together in the same dwelling unit, house or compound, share housekeeping arrangements, and are catered for as one unit. Members of a household are not necessarily related by blood, since non-relatives are part a household.

The composition of a household is a reflection of the social structure and it is defined in terms of the relationship of the members of household to one person they accept and recognise as the head and who is responsible for their upkeep.

#### 3.2 Household Size, Structure, and Composition

##### 3.2.1 Household size

Table 3.1 shows the household size by locality of residence. From the table, total household population in the district is 80,612 with urban household population of 12,790 and that of rural standing at 67,822. In terms of number of households in the district, while the total number of household is 15,748 the urban proportion is 2,442 and rural 13,306. The average household size of district is 5.2, lower than the regional average of 5.9.

**Table 3.1: Household size**

Category	Total				
	country	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total household population	24,076,327	1,034,704	80,612	12,790	67,822
Number of households	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	2,442	13,306
Average household size	4.5	5.9	5.2	5.3	5.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

##### Nuclear and extended families

Table 3.2 shows the nuclear and extended families in households in the district. The proportion of nuclear family members (head, spouse(s), and children) in the household population is 24.6 percent and that of the extended family members (head, spouse/s, children and head's relatives) 37.7 percent. The lowest proportion of household composition in the district is the single parent extended with non-relative (0.5%), followed by extended plus non-relative (0.8%) and head and spouse only (1.0%). The proportions of the other compositions of household population range from 14.7 percent for single parent plus extended family, 10.3 percent for single parent nuclear, 6.1 percent for head and other composition but no spouse. 2.8 percent for head, spouses and other composition and 1.4 percent for heads only.

**Table 3.2: Household population by structure and sex**

Household structure	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All	80,612	100.0	40,501	100.0	40,111	100.0
Head only	1,150	1.4	627	1.5	523	1.3
Head and a spouse only	768	1.0	389	1.0	379	0.9
Nuclear (Head, spouse(s) and children)	19,867	24.6	10,637	26.3	9,230	23.0
Extended (Head, spouse(s) and children Head's relatives)	30,423	37.7	15,408	38.0	15,015	37.4
Extended + non relatives	651	0.8	325	0.8	326	0.8
Head spouse(s) and other composition	2,255	2.8	1,083	2.7	1,172	2.9
Single parent Nuclear	8,293	10.3	3,822	9.4	4,471	11.1
Single parent Extended	11,853	14.7	5,568	13.7	6,285	15.7
Single parent Extended + non relative	395	0.5	185	0.5	210	0.5
Head and other composition but no spouse	4,957	6.1	2,457	6.1	2,500	6.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.2.2 Household composition and structure

Table 3.3 shows household composition in Talensi district. The total household population is 80,612. Children constitute the highest proportion of 45.3 percent followed by household heads (19.5%), spouse (10.9%) and grandchildren (6.7%). The remaining 17.4 percent are the other members of households (parents, parents-in-law, son/son-in-law, brothers/sisters, step children, adopted/foster children, other relatives, and non-relatives).

Adopted/foster children account for the least proportion (0.1%) indicating that adoption is not a common practice in the district. There are more daughter-in-laws (2.7%) of the female household members than son-in-laws (0.3%) of the male household population. Non-relative household members are 0.8 percent of the household population, the male non-relative household members are 0.9 percent of the male household population while the female non-relative household population is 0.7 percent of the female household population.

**Table 3.3: Household population by composition and sex**

Household Composition	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	80,612	100.0	40,501	100.0	40,111	100.0
Head	15,750	19.5	11,179	27.6	4,571	11.4
Spouse (wife/husband)	8,813	10.9	276	0.7	8,537	21.3
Child (son/daughter)	36,540	45.3	20,363	50.3	16,177	40.3
Parent/parent in-law	2,818	3.5	711	1.8	2,107	5.3
Son/daughter in-law	1,238	1.5	139	0.3	1,099	2.7
Grandchild	5,431	6.7	2,889	7.1	2,542	6.3
Brother/sister	3,159	3.9	1,968	4.9	1,191	3.0
Step child	889	1.1	510	1.3	379	0.9
Adopted/foster child	108	0.1	61	0.2	47	0.1
Other relative	5,215	6.5	2,022	5.0	3,193	8.0
Non-relative	651	0.8	383	0.9	268	0.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.2.3 Household composition by type of locality

Table 3.4 shows household composition in the district by type of locality. About 25.9 percent of households consist of head, spouse (s), biological/adopted children and relative of the head only, followed by household with head, spouse(s) and biological/adopted children only (24.3%) and households with head and biological/adopted children only (14.6%).

In rural locality, the proportion of households with head, spouse(s) biological/adopted children and relatives of head only is 26.1 percent, higher than that of 24.5 percent in urban locality. Also higher proportions of rural households than their urban ones are heads only (7.5%) compared with 6.1 percent; households with head, spouse(s) and other composition 3.1 percent compared with 1.9 percent of urban households; and households with head and a spouse only 2.6 percent compared with 1.6 percent in urban locality. The proportion of households in urban locality with head, spouse/s, biological/adopted children only is 24.9 percent, slightly higher than the proportion in rural locality of 24.2 percent; and also, the proportions of urban households with head, biological/adopted children only (20.4%) and households with head, children/adopted children and relatives of the head only (14.4%) are higher than the proportions of the rural counterparts (13.3% and 12.8%, respectively),

**Table 3.4: Household composition by type of locality**

Household Composition	Total		District			
	Country	Region	Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
All	5,467,136	15,750	15,750	100.0	100.0	100.0
Household with head and a spouse only	208,340	384	384	2.4	1.6	2.6
Household with head and multiple spouse only	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Household with head spouse(s) and biological/adopted children only	1,337,416	3,821	3,821	24.3	24.9	24.2
Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only	762,847	4,075	4,075	25.9	24.5	26.1
Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head	47,570	76	76	0.5	0.2	0.5
Household with head spouse(s) and other composition	165,052	457	457	2.9	1.9	3.1
Head only	960,700	1,150	1,150	7.3	6.1	7.5
Household with head and biological/adopted children only	707,214	2,300	2,300	14.6	20.4	13.5
Household with head biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only	603,295	2,062	2,062	13.1	14.4	12.8
Household with head biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head	41,189	54	54	0.3	0.4	0.3
Household with head and other composition but no spouse	633,513	1,371	1,371	8.7	5.7	9.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.3 Marital Status

In the 2010 Population and Housing Census, questions on marital status were asked of persons 12 years and older Table 3.5 shows that 35.6 percent of the population 12 years and older have never married. The proportion is higher among males (43.4%) than among females (28.1%). The high proportion of males who have never married reflects the fact that

men are more likely to postpone marriage since traditional practices expect a man to initiate marriage by preparing the bride price and put himself in readiness for the responsibility of family upkeep and welfare.

The proportion of population 12 years and older that are married is 52.2 percent, the proportion is higher among females (53.4%) than among males (51.0%). The proportion of widowed persons in the district is 10.3 percent among both sexes but 16.7 percent among females and 3.7 percent among males.

The proportion of the population that has never married decreases steadily from 95.3 percent among the 12-14 years age group to 1.7 percent among the 50-54 years age group and the proportions do not change much as age increases. The trend is similar to the general trend among the male and female age groups.

the proportion of the married population increases steadily as age increases from 4.7 percent among the 12-14 year age group to 86.6 percent among the 35-39 year age group and decline as age increases. The increasing proportions of the married among females peaks at 87.6 percent at age 30-34 but for males the highest proportion of the married (89.7%) is noticed at age 45-49.

**Table 3.5: Marital status of population 12 years and older by sex and age-group**

Sex/Age-group	Total		Never married	Informal/consensual union/living together	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed
	Number	Percent						
<b>Both Sexes</b>								
Total	53,882	100.0	35.6	0.4	52.2	0.7	0.8	10.3
12-14	6,127	100.0	95.3	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	8,668	100.0	88.3	0.3	11.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
20 - 24	5,907	100.0	54.2	0.8	43.6	0.6	0.6	0.3
25 - 29	5,019	100.0	26.3	0.9	69.5	1.1	0.9	1.4
30 - 34	4,546	100.0	10.6	0.7	84.0	1.1	1.1	2.6
35 - 39	3,938	100.0	5.2	0.5	86.6	1.2	1.4	5.0
40 - 44	3,830	100.0	3.8	0.2	82.5	1.2	1.4	10.9
45 - 49	3,143	100.0	2.8	0.3	80.0	1.2	1.1	14.6
50 - 54	3,027	100.0	1.7	0.1	73.6	0.9	1.4	22.3
55 - 59	1,791	100.0	2.3	0.0	69.3	0.9	1.7	25.7
60 - 64	2,194	100.0	2.3	0.1	62.8	0.5	0.6	33.7
65+	5,692	100.0	2.5	0.1	54.2	0.6	0.9	41.7
<b>Male</b>								
Total	26,644	100.0	43.4	0.4	51.0	0.6	0.9	3.7
12-14	3,211	100.0	94.7	0.1	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	4,719	100.0	93.9	0.2	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
20 - 24	2,969	100.0	73.6	0.8	24.7	0.5	0.4	0.1
25 - 29	2,447	100.0	40.7	1.0	55.7	1.2	1.1	0.3
30 - 34	2,200	100.0	16.8	0.5	80.1	0.6	1.5	0.5
35 - 39	1,957	100.0	8.2	0.7	86.9	1.2	1.6	1.4
40 - 44	1,829	100.0	6.6	0.2	86.9	0.9	2.1	3.2
45 - 49	1,499	100.0	4.2	0.1	89.7	1.1	1.1	3.8
50 - 54	1,360	100.0	2.9	0.2	87.7	1.1	1.5	6.5
55 - 59	858	100.0	3.7	0.0	83.7	1.7	2.6	8.3
60 - 64	924	100.0	3.6	0.1	80.7	0.5	1.1	14.0
65+	2,671	100.0	3.2	0.1	75.1	0.8	0.9	19.9

**Table 3.5: Marital status of population 12 years and older by sex and age (cont'd)**

Sex/Age-group	Total		Never married	Informal/consensual union/living together	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed
	Number	Percent						
<b>Female</b>								
Total	27,238	100.0	28.1	0.4	53.4	0.7	0.7	16.7
14-Dec	2,916	100.0	95.8	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	3,949	100.0	81.5	0.5	17.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
20 - 24	2,938	100.0	34.5	0.9	62.7	0.6	0.8	0.5
25 - 29	2,572	100.0	12.5	0.8	82.7	1.0	0.7	2.3
30 - 34	2,346	100.0	4.7	0.9	87.6	1.5	0.9	4.5
35 - 39	1,981	100.0	2.2	0.3	86.4	1.2	1.3	8.6
40 - 44	2,001	100.0	1.1	0.1	78.5	1.5	0.7	18.0
45 - 49	1,644	100.0	1.5	0.4	71.1	1.2	1.2	24.5
50 - 54	1,667	100.0	0.7	0.1	62.1	0.7	1.2	35.3
55 - 59	933	100.0	1.0	0.0	56.2	0.2	1.0	41.7
60 - 64	1,270	100.0	1.3	0.1	49.8	0.5	0.3	48.0
65+	3,021	100.0	1.8	0.1	35.7	0.5	0.9	61.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.3.1 Marital status by sex and level of education

Table 3.6 shows that a very high proportion of the widowed persons (93.3%) have no formal education, followed by those married (77.9%), those separated (67.8%) and the divorced (65.6%). The lowest proportion of those with no education is among those with informal/consensual union/living together (40.8%). Among the married population, 17.4 percent have basic education, and 2.4 percent have secondary education. Of those who have never married, 64.8 percent have basic education and 10.2 percent have secondary education. 30.1 percent of those in informal/consensual union/living together, 30.1 percent have basic education while 19.4 percent have secondary education. With regards to the divorced and separated, 27.1 percent and 21.3 percent, respectively, have basic education.

A total of 18.4 percent have basic education compared with 16.5 percent of their female counterparts while Among the never married males, 60.3 percent have no education compared with 16.5 percent of the females

approximately 60.0 percent of the never married have basic education compared with 71.7 percent among females. In the case of males in informal/consensual union/living together, 23.7 percent have secondary education and 19.6 percent have basic education, compared with 15.6 percent and 39.4 percent, respectively, among their female counterparts.



**Table 3.6: Persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and level of education**

Sex/Marital status	Number	All levels	No Education	Basic <sup>1</sup>	Seco-ndary <sup>2</sup>	Vocational/ technical/ commercial	Post middle/ secondary certificate/ diploma <sup>3</sup>	Tertiary <sup>4</sup>
<b>Both Sexes</b>								
All	53,882	100.0	59.4	33.3	5.1	0.7	1.2	0.4
Never married	19,205	100.0	22.4	64.8	10.2	0.9	1.4	0.3
Informal/consensual union/living together	206	100.0	40.8	30.1	19.4	4.4	4.4	1.0
Married	28,144	100.0	77.9	17.4	2.4	0.6	1.2	0.4
Separated	367	100.0	67.8	21.3	5.7	2.5	1.9	0.8
Divorced	421	100.0	65.6	27.1	4.8	1.9	0.7	0.0
Widowed	5,539	100.0	93.3	5.9	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.0
<b>Male</b>								
Total	26,644	100.0	54.0	36.2	6.6	0.8	1.8	0.6
Never married	11,561	100.0	25.8	60.3	11.0	0.8	1.8	0.5
Informal/consensual union/living together	97	100.0	44.3	19.6	23.7	3.1	7.2	2.1
Married	13,594	100.0	74.9	18.4	3.2	0.8	1.9	0.8
Separated	173	100.0	62.4	23.7	6.4	3.5	3.5	0.6
Divorced	233	100.0	67.4	23.2	7.3	2.1	0.0	0.0
Widowed	986	100.0	92.7	6.0	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.1
<b>Female</b>								
All	27,238	100.0	64.6	30.4	3.6	0.5	0.6	0.1
Never married	7,644	100.0	17.3	71.7	9.1	1.0	0.8	0.1
Informal/consensual union/living together	109	100.0	37.6	39.4	15.6	5.5	1.8	0.0
Married	14,550	100.0	80.7	16.5	1.8	0.3	0.6	0.1
Separated	194	100.0	72.7	19.1	5.2	1.5	0.5	1.0
Divorced	188	100.0	63.3	31.9	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0
Widowed	4,553	100.0	93.4	5.9	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.3.2 Marital status by sex and economic activity status

Evidence or perception of ability to support a spouse financially is a key determinant in a man's decision to get married and whether he is allowed or not.

Table 3.7 shows persons 12 years and older by marital status, sex and economic activity status. From the table, about 69.7 percent of persons 12 years and older in the district are employed, 1.1 percent are unemployed and 29.2 percent are economically not active. Married persons are in the majority of those employed 85.6 percent, followed by those in informal/consensual union/living together who account for 80.6 percent. majority of the unemployed are those separated (1.6%) while widows with a proportion of 0.4 percent constitute the least proportion of the unemployed. For the economically not active, persons who are never married are in the majority constituting about 51.0 percent. With regard to the sexes, the proportion of males who are employed is 72.2 percent, higher than that of females who constitute 67.2 percent. The proportion of unemployed females is 1.2 percent higher than that of males (1.0%). Again, the proportion of females who ,are economically not active is higher among the never married (59.7%) than males in the same category (45.3%).

**Table 3.7: Persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and economic activity status**

Sex/Marital Status	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Both Sexes</b>								
Total	53,882	100.0	37,531	69.7	594	1.1	15,757	29.2
Never married	19,205	100.0	9,165	47.7	238	1.2	9,802	51.0
Informal/consensual union/living together	206	100.0	166	80.6	3	1.5	37	18.0
Married	28,144	100.0	23,937	85.1	322	1.1	3,885	13.8
Separated	367	100.0	288	78.5	6	1.6	73	19.9
Divorced	421	100.0	320	76.0	4	1.0	97	23.0
Widowed	5,539	100.0	3,655	66.0	21	0.4	1,863	33.6
<b>Male</b>								
Total	26,644	100.0	19,226	72.2	265	1.0	7,153	26.8
Never married	11,561	100.0	6,179	53.4	142	1.2	5,240	45.3
Informal/consensual union/living together	97	100.0	88	90.7	-	0.0	9	9.3
Married	13,594	100.0	12,093	89.0	116	0.9	1,385	10.2
Separated	173	100.0	131	75.7	5	2.9	37	21.4
Divorced	233	100.0	186	79.8	-	0.0	47	20.2
Widowed	986	100.0	549	55.7	2	0.2	435	44.1
<b>Female</b>								
Total	27,238	100.0	18,305	67.2	329	1.2	8,604	31.6
Never married	7,644	100.0	2,986	39.1	96	1.3	4,562	59.7
Informal/consensual union/living together	109	100.0	78	71.6	3	2.8	28	25.7
Married	14,550	100.0	11,844	81.4	206	1.4	2,500	17.2
Separated	194	100.0	157	80.9	1	0.5	36	18.6
Divorced	188	100.0	134	71.3	4	2.1	50	26.6
Widowed	4,553	100.0	3,106	68.2	19	0.4	1,428	31.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.4 Nationality

Nationality is defined as the country to which a person belongs or owes allegiance. Ghanaian nationals are grouped into Ghanaian by birth, Ghanaian with dual citizenship and Ghanaian by naturalization. Table 3.8 shows the population of the Talensi District by nationality and sex. From the table, a total of 97.9 percent of the Talensi district population are Ghanaians of various categories. 95.7 percent are Ghanaians by birth, 1.6 percent are Ghanaians of dual citizenship and 0.6 percent are Ghanaian by naturalization. About 1.1 percent of the population are from ECOWAS countries and the remaining 1.0 percent are from other African countries and elsewhere.

**Table 3.8: Population by nationality and sex**

Nationality	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All	81,194	100.0	40,831	100.0	40,363	100.0
Ghanaian by birth	77,715	95.7	39,073	95.7	38,642	95.7
Dual nationality (Ghanaian & Other)	1,273	1.6	629	1.5	644	1.6
Ghanaian by naturalization	467	0.6	231	0.6	236	0.6
ECOWAS	921	1.1	481	1.2	440	1.1
African other than ECOWAS	411	0.5	206	0.5	205	0.5
Other	407	0.5	211	0.5	196	0.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.5 Religious Affiliation

Table 3.9 shows the religious affiliations of the population in Talensi district. There is slightly higher proportion of Traditionalists (46.6%) than Christians (43.4%) in the district. Those with Islam affiliation are 3.7 percent and the proportion with no religion are 5.6 percent. Among the Christians, Catholics are 18.5 percent, followed by Pentecostal/Charismatic 17.3 percent, Protestants (6.3%) and other Christians 1.3 percent.

Table 3.9 also shows that a higher proportion of females (48.7%) are Christians compared with 38.3 percent of their male counterpart. The proportion of the male population who are Traditionalist (51.3%) is higher than that of females (41.9%) and the proportion of male muslims (4.1%) is slightly higher than that of female muslims who constitute 3.3 percent.

**Table 3.9: Population by religious affiliation and sex**

Religion	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All	81,194	100.0	40,831	100.0	40,363	100.0
No religion	4,565	5.6	2,318	5.7	2,247	5.6
Catholic	15,038	18.5	6,752	16.5	8,286	20.5
Protestants (Angelic Lutheran etc.)	5,122	6.3	2,297	5.6	2,825	7.0
Pentecostal/Charismatic	14,053	17.3	6,075	14.9	7,978	19.8
Other christian	1,087	1.3	518	1.3	569	1.4
Islam	2,979	3.7	1,664	4.1	1,315	3.3
Traditionalist	37,860	46.6	20,958	51.3	16,902	41.9
Other	490	0.6	249	0.6	241	0.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.6 Literacy and Education

Literacy refers to the ability of a person to read and write in a Ghanaian language, English or French. The question on literacy was asked of persons 11 years and older in the district. Table 3.10 shows that about 42.1 percent of the population are literate while the majority, 57.9 percent, are not literate. Among the literate population, 55.7 percent are males and 44.3 percent are females. Out of the literate population, those who can read and write English only is 84.4 percent and those who can read and write English and a Ghanaian language are 14.0 percent. A small proportion of the population (0.2%) is able to read and write English, French and a Ghanaian language.

Among the male population, 47.3 percent are literate compared to 37.0 percent of the female counterpart. The age group with the highest proportion of the literate population is 11-14, constituting 29.3 percent, followed by 15-19 age group with 29.2 percent.

**Table 3.10: Population 11 years and older by sex, age and literacy status**

Age Group	None (Not literate)	Literate	Total Percent	English only	Ghanaian language only	English and Ghanaian language	English and French	English, French and Ghanaian language
<b>Both Sexes</b>								
Total	32,222	23,376	100.0	84.4	1.2	14.0	0.1	0.2
11-14	991	6,852	100.0	91.5	1.0	7.4	0.0	0.1
15-19	1,836	6,832	100.0	88.4	0.8	10.4	0.1	0.2
20-24	2,663	3,244	100.0	81.2	1.0	17.3	0.2	0.4
25-29	3,080	1,939	100.0	75.3	1.3	22.8	0.3	0.3
30-34	3,352	1,194	100.0	75.2	1.9	22.5	0.3	0.1
35-39	3,111	827	100.0	76.1	3.3	20.2	0.2	0.2
40-44	3,196	634	100.0	71.1	2.4	25.4	0.6	0.5
45-49	2,668	475	100.0	74.1	1.1	24.4	0.0	0.4
50-54	2,564	463	100.0	70.6	1.3	27.0	0.6	0.4
55-59	1,493	298	100.0	63.4	4.0	31.9	0.0	0.7
60-64	1,981	213	100.0	73.2	1.9	24.4	0.0	0.5
65+	5,287	405	100.0	77.5	3.0	19.5	0.0	0.0
<b>Male</b>								
Total	14,526	13,024	100.0	82.0	1.5	16.1	0.2	0.3
11-14	623	3,494	100.0	90.5	1.3	8.2	0.0	0.1
15-19	1,019	3,700	100.0	88.3	0.8	10.5	0.2	0.3
20-24	1,127	1,842	100.0	79.6	1.4	18.5	0.2	0.3
25-29	1,329	1,118	100.0	72.5	1.4	25.5	0.3	0.4
30-34	1,505	695	100.0	71.7	1.9	25.9	0.4	0.1
35-39	1,420	537	100.0	72.3	4.1	22.9	0.4	0.4
40-44	1,405	424	100.0	63.2	3.1	32.1	0.9	0.7
45-49	1,185	314	100.0	70.7	0.6	28.0	0.0	0.6
50-54	1,069	291	100.0	66.7	1.4	31.3	0.3	0.3
55-59	631	227	100.0	59.0	4.4	35.7	0.0	0.9
60-64	786	138	100.0	66.7	2.9	29.7	0.0	0.7
65+	2,427	244	100.0	74.6	2.5	23.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Female</b>								
Total	17,696	10,352	100.0	87.3	0.9	11.5	0.1	0.2
11-14	368	3,358	100.0	92.7	0.7	6.5	0.0	0.1
15-19	817	3,132	100.0	88.5	0.8	10.3	0.1	0.2
20-24	1,536	1,402	100.0	83.3	0.4	15.6	0.2	0.5
25-29	1,751	821	100.0	79.3	1.1	19.2	0.2	0.1
30-34	1,847	499	100.0	80.2	2.0	17.8	0.0	0.0
35-39	1,691	290	100.0	83.1	1.7	15.2	0.0	0.0
40-44	1,791	210	100.0	87.1	1.0	11.9	0.0	0.0
45-49	1,483	161	100.0	80.7	1.9	17.4	0.0	0.0
50-54	1,495	172	100.0	77.3	1.2	19.8	1.2	0.6
55-59	862	71	100.0	77.5	2.8	19.7	0.0	0.0
60-64	1,195	75	100.0	85.3	0.0	14.7	0.0	0.0
65+	2,860	161	100.0	82.0	3.7	14.3	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

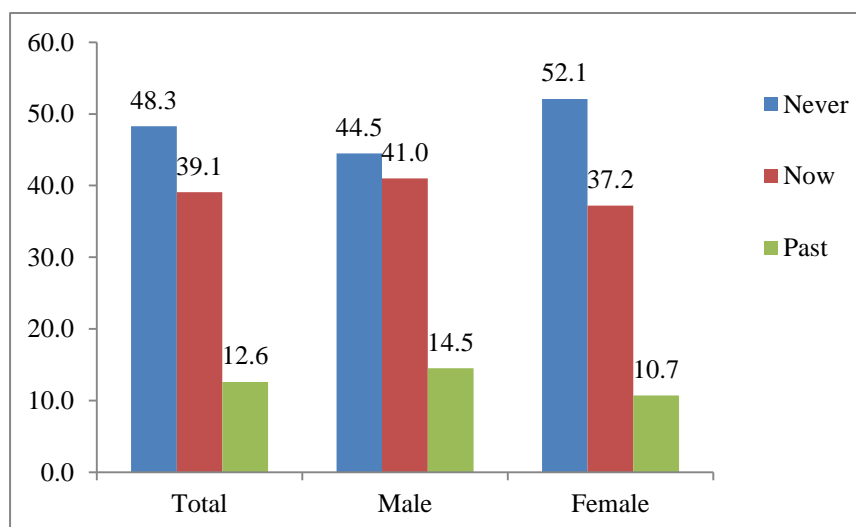
### 3.7 School Attendance

Information on school attendance provides an indication of formal schooling in society. In a society where few people have had formal education, there will be few people with requisite knowledge and skills needed for social and economic development.

Figure 3.2 presents information on school attendance in the Talensi District. From the figure 48.3 percent of the population have never attended school, 39.1 percent have attended school in the past while 12.6 percent are currently in school.

There are more females who have never attended school in the district (52.1%) than males (44.5%). Again, more males are currently in school (41.0%) than females whom constitute 37.2 percent.

**Figure 3.1: School attendance by sex**



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.8 Level of Education

Table 3.11 shows school attendance at the various levels of education in the district. From the table, of those those currently in school, 52.4 percent are males and 47.6 percent are females. Among those who attended in the past, 57.5 percent are males and 42.5 percent are females.

About 54.4 percent of the population 3 years and older who are currently attending are in primary school, 16.5 percent are in JSS/JHS and 14.5 percent are in nursery. The proportions of females currently attending in primary (55.3%) and nursery (15.0%) are higher than the male counterparts (53.5% and 13.9%) respectively.

Of those who attended in the past, 45.6 percent attended primary school, 20.7 percent in JSS/JHS, 11.1 percent in SSS/JHS and 10.0 percent in middle school. Among the sexes, the proportions of females who attended primary (51.1%) and JSS/JHS (24.5%) in the past are higher than that of their themale counterparts constituting (41.6% and 17.9%) respectively.

**Table 3.11: Population 3 years and older by level of education, school attendance and sex**

Level of education	Currently attending						Attended in the past					
	Both sexes		Male		Female		Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	29,189	100.0	15,301	100.0	13,888	100.0	9,422	100.0	5,416	100.0	4,006	100.0
Nursery	4,218	14.5	2,131	13.9	2,087	15.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Kindergarten	2,569	8.8	1,332	8.7	1,237	8.9	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Primary	15,867	54.4	8,188	53.5	7,679	55.3	4,301	45.6	2,255	41.6	2,046	51.1
JSS/JHS	4,805	16.5	2,556	16.7	2,249	16.2	1,951	20.7	971	17.9	980	24.5
Middle	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	945	10.0	666	12.3	279	7.0
SSS/SHS	1,413	4.8	883	5.8	530	3.8	1,049	11.1	665	12.3	384	9.6
Secondary	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	285	3.0	207	3.8	78	1.9
Vocational/technical/commercial	109	0.4	56	0.4	53	0.4	256	2.7	166	3.1	90	2.2
Post middle/secondary certificate	60	0.2	42	0.3	18	0.1	253	2.7	177	3.3	76	1.9
Tertiary	148	0.5	113	0.7	35	0.3	382	4.1	309	5.7	73	1.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## CHAPTER FOUR

### ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

#### 4.1 Introduction

The economic and social development of the district depends on the quality and quantity of its productive resources. As a result, the size and characteristics of the labour force and the activities they engage in to earn a living is vital for policy planning and interventions. This chapter discusses the economic activity status of the population, age and sex structure of the employed, employment status and sector and age and sex composition of the unemployed population.

#### 4.2 Economic Activity Status

Table 4.1 shows the economic activity of the population 15 years and older by sex. The economically active population constitutes 75.7 percent. Among the males, the proportion is 78.4 percent and among females it is 73.2 percent. About 98.4 percent of the economically active population are employed. The proportion of males who are employed is higher for males (98.6% than for females (98.2%). The proportion of the unemployed is slightly higher among females (1.8%) than among males (1.4%).

The proportion of the economically not active population is 24.3 percent. The proportion is higher among females (26.8%) compared to that of males (21.6%). Among females who are economically not active, 34.9 percent do home duties compared to 18.1 percent of the male counterpart; Also 29.4 percent of the females are in full time education compared to 48.9 percent of the male counterpart. approximately 32.9 percent of females are either disabled, too old or too young to work compared to 28.8 percent of their male counterparts.

**Table 4.1: Population in the district 15 years and older by activity status and sex**

Employment Status	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	47,755	100.0	23,433	100	24,322	100.0
<b>Economically active</b>	36,154	75.7	18,362	78.4	17,792	73.2
<i>Employed</i>	35,575	98.4	18,104	98.6	17,471	98.2
<i>Worked</i>	34,988	98.3	17,842	98.6	17,146	98.1
<i>Did not work but had job to go back to</i>	507	1.4	226	1.2	281	1.6
<i>Did voluntary work without pay</i>	80	0.2	36	0.2	44	0.3
<i>Unemployed</i>	579	1.6	258	1.4	321	1.8
<i>Worked before, seeking work and available</i>	317	54.7	131	50.8	186	57.9
<i>Seeking work for the first time and available</i>	262	45.3	127	49.2	135	42.1
<b>Economically not active</b>	11,601	24.3	5,071	21.6	6,530	26.8
Did home duties (household chore)	3,202	27.6	920	18.1	2,282	34.9
Full time education	4,399	37.9	2,481	48.9	1,918	29.4
Pensioner/retired	101	0.9	75	1.5	26	0.4
Disabled/sick	902	7.8	419	8.3	483	7.4
Too old/young	2,693	23.2	1,042	20.5	1,651	25.3
Other	304	2.6	134	2.6	170	2.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 4.3 Economic Activity Status by Age and Sex

Table 4.2 shows the economic activity status of the population 15 years and older in the Talensi District. According to the table, a total of 74.5 percent are employed, 1.2 percent are unemployed and the remaining 24.3 percent are economically not active. Among the males in the population, 77.3 percent are employed compared to 71.8 percent of the female counterpart, 1.1 percent of the males are unemployed compared to 1.3 percent of females and 21.6 percent of the males are economically not active compared to 26.8 percent of females.

Among the 5-year age groups, the proportion of the employed persons increases steadily from 46.6 percent among the 15-19 years age group to 92.6 percent among the 40-44 years age group and declines steadily to 56.0 percent among the 65 years and older age group.

**Table 4.2: Persons 15 years and older by age economic activity status and sex**

Sex/Age group	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Both Sexes</b>								
Total	47,755	100.0	35,575	74.5	579	1.2	11,601	24.3
15-19	8,668	100.0	4,037	46.6	84	1.0	4,547	52.5
20-24	5,907	100.0	4,194	71.0	148	2.5	1,565	26.5
25-29	5,019	100.0	4,213	83.9	125	2.5	681	13.6
30-34	4,546	100.0	4,025	88.5	77	1.7	444	9.8
35-39	3,938	100.0	3,614	91.8	40	1.0	284	7.2
40-44	3,830	100.0	3,545	92.6	20	0.5	265	6.9
45-49	3,143	100.0	2,890	92.0	19	0.6	234	7.4
50-54	3,027	100.0	2,704	89.3	12	0.4	311	10.3
55-59	1,791	100.0	1,546	86.3	12	0.7	233	13.0
60-64	2,194	100.0	1,622	73.9	29	1.3	543	24.7
65+	5,692	100.0	3,185	56.0	13	0.2	2,494	43.8
<b>Male</b>								
Total	23,433	100.0	18,104	77.3	258	1.1	5,071	21.6
15-19	4,719	100.0	2,339	49.6	33	0.7	2,347	49.7
20-24	2,969	100.0	2,144	72.2	61	2.1	764	25.7
25-29	2,447	100.0	2,148	87.8	67	2.7	232	9.5
30-34	2,200	100.0	2,045	93.0	34	1.5	121	5.5
35-39	1,957	100.0	1,838	93.9	23	1.2	96	4.9
40-44	1,829	100.0	1,733	94.8	11	0.6	85	4.6
45-49	1,499	100.0	1,447	96.5	1	0.1	51	3.4
50-54	1,360	100.0	1,271	93.5	2	0.1	87	6.4
55-59	858	100.0	761	88.7	2	0.2	95	11.1
60-64	924	100.0	709	76.7	19	2.1	196	21.2
65+	2,671	100.0	1,669	62.5	5	0.2	997	37.3
<b>Female</b>								
Total	24,322	100.0	17,471	71.8	321	1.3	6,530	26.8
15-19	3,949	100.0	1,698	43.0	51	1.3	2,200	55.7
20-24	2,938	100.0	2,050	69.8	87	3.0	801	27.3
25-29	2,572	100.0	2,065	80.3	58	2.3	449	17.5
30-34	2,346	100.0	1,980	84.4	43	1.8	323	13.8
35-39	1,981	100.0	1,776	89.7	17	0.9	188	9.5
40-44	2,001	100.0	1,812	90.6	9	0.4	180	9.0
45-49	1,644	100.0	1,443	87.8	18	1.1	183	11.1
50-54	1,667	100.0	1,433	86.0	10	0.6	224	13.4
55-59	933	100.0	785	84.1	10	1.1	138	14.8
60-64	1,270	100.0	913	71.9	10	0.8	347	27.3
65+	3,021	100.0	1,516	50.2	8	0.3	1,497	49.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census



Among the males and females the trends in the proportions of employed in the age groups are similar except that among males, the highest proportion (96.5%) is among the 45-49 years age group and among females, the highest proportion (90.6%) is among the 40-44 years age group.

Table 4.2 shows persons 15 years and older by age, sex and economic activity status. According to the table, 74.5 percent of all persons 15 years and older in the district are employed, 1.2 percent of them are unemployed while 24.3 percent are economically not active. The age group with the highest proportion of the employed population is the 40-44 year old group constituting 92.6 percent. Majority of the unemployed are those in the 20-29 year old group accounting for about five percent of the population while 52.5 percent of the economically not active are those in the 15-19 year old group probably because many of them are either in school or still learning a trade. There are more males (77.3%) who are employed than females (71.8) in the district. Between males and females in the age group 20-24, there are more females who are unemployed (3.0%) than males (2.1%). Again majority of the economically not active persons among both sexes falls within the 15-19. The proportion of males here is 49.7 percent, lower than the female proportion of 55.7 percent.

#### 4.4 Occupation of Employed Population

Occupation refers to the type of work of the employed and unemployed population during the seven days preceding the census night. Table 4.3 shows the occupations of the employed population 15 years and older in the Talensi district. About 78.7 percent of the employed population are in occupations related to agriculture, forestry and fishery, followed by those who work as plant machine operators and assemblers (7.2%) and service and sales workers (4.9%). Together, the three occupations account for 90.8 percent of the employed. There are variation in the proportions of male and female population whose occupations are agriculture/forestry/fishery and services/sales. About 80.6 percent of males are engaged in occupations related to agriculture/forestry/fishery while 76.8 percent is engaged in the same occupation. In service and sales occupation, the proportion of females (7.6%) is higher than that of males (2.4%).

**Table 4.3: Employed population 15 years and older by occupation and sex**

Occupation	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	35,575	100.0	18,104	100.0	17,471	100.0
Managers	263	0.7	69	0.4	194	1.1
Professionals	511	1.4	339	1.9	172	1.0
Technicians and associate professionals	153	0.4	103	0.6	50	0.3
Clerical support workers	66	0.2	45	0.2	21	0.1
Service and sales workers	1,759	4.9	436	2.4	1,323	7.6
Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers	28,011	78.7	14,596	80.6	13,415	76.8
Craft and related trades workers	1,671	4.7	474	2.6	1,197	6.9
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2,565	7.2	1,829	10.1	736	4.2
Elementary occupations	576	1.6	213	1.2	363	2.1
Other occupations	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.5 Industry of Employed Population

Industry refers to the type of product produced or service rendered at the place of work. Table 4.4 shows the industry of employed population in the district. The agriculture, forestry and fishing industry employs the majority (78.3%) of the population, followed by mining and quarrying (5.2%). In terms of sex, a higher proportion of males (80.1%) than females (76.4%) are engaged in agricultural /forestry/fishing industry. Also, a slightly higher proportion of males (6.9%) than female (6.3%) are in mining and quarrying industry.

**Table 4.4: Employed population 15 years and older by Industry of work**

Industry	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All	35,575	100.0	18,104	100.0	17,471	100.0
Agriculture forestry and fishing	27,854	78.3	14,500	80.1	13,354	76.4
Mining and quarrying	1,860	5.2	1,251	6.9	609	3.5
Manufacturing	1,435	4.0	327	1.8	1,108	6.3
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	7	0.0	7	0.0	0	0.0
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	34	0.1	18	0.1	16	0.1
Construction	146	0.4	128	0.7	18	0.1
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1,306	3.7	377	2.1	929	5.3
Transportation and storage	95	0.3	83	0.5	12	0.1
Accommodation and food service activities	717	2.0	87	0.5	630	3.6
Information and communication	16	0.0	15	0.1	1	0.0
Financial and insurance activities	23	0.1	21	0.1	2	0.0
Real estate activities	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Professional scientific and technical activities	57	0.2	20	0.1	37	0.2
Administrative and support service activities	666	1.9	530	2.9	136	0.8
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	216	0.6	164	0.9	52	0.3
Education	420	1.2	286	1.6	134	0.8
Human health and social work activities	130	0.4	82	0.5	48	0.3
Arts entertainment and recreation	52	0.1	15	0.1	37	0.2
Other service activities	394	1.1	121	0.7	273	1.6
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods-and services-producing activities of households for own use	147	0.4	72	0.4	75	0.4
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.6 Employment Status

Employment status refers to the status of the person in the establishment where he/she currently works or previously worked. Table 4.5 shows the distribution of population 15 years and older by employment status and sex. About 57.4 percent of the employed population are self-employed without employee(s), 32.1 percent are contributing family workers and 5.4 percent are employees. Among the employed males, the highest proportion (63.7%) are self-employed without employee/s compared with 50.9 percent of females in this category. The proportions of the employed males who are employees (7.3%) and self-

employed with employee/s (2.4%) are higher than those of female counterparts (3.4% and 1.6%, respectively). The proportions of employed females who are contributing family workers (40.7%) and apprentices (1.3%) are higher than those of their male counterparts (23.8% and 0.4%, respectively).

**Table 4.5: Population 15 years and older by employment status and sex**

Employment Status	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All	35,575	100.0	18,104	100.0	17,471	100.0
Employee	1,925	5.4	1,325	7.3	600	3.4
Self-employed without employee(s)	20,423	57.4	11,529	63.7	8,894	50.9
Self-employed with employee(s)	715	2.0	440	2.4	275	1.6
Casual worker	528	1.5	292	1.6	236	1.4
Contributing family worker	11,428	32.1	4,309	23.8	7,119	40.7
Apprentice	303	0.9	74	0.4	229	1.3
Domestic employee (House help)	194	0.5	101	0.6	93	0.5
Other	59	0.2	34	0.2	25	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.7 Employment Sector

Employment sector refers to the sector in which the individual works. Table 4.6 shows the distribution of the employed population in the district by employment sector and sex in the district. The private informal sector accounts for 96.1 percent of the employed population, followed by public (Government) sector (2.4%). A higher proportion of the employed females (97.3%) work in the private informal sector compared with 94.9 percent of their male counterpart. Higher proportions males work in the public (Government) sector (3.3%) and private formal sector (1.3%) than the proportions of females (1.5% and 0.8%) respectively.

**Table 4.6: Employed population 15 years and older in the district by employment sector and sex**

Employment Sector	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All	35,575	100.0	18,104	100.0	17,471	100.0
Public (Government)	868	2.4	601	3.3	267	1.5
Private Formal	376	1.1	243	1.3	133	0.8
Private Informal	34,188	96.1	17,188	94.9	17,000	97.3
Semi-Public/Parastatal	40	0.1	25	0.1	15	0.1
NGOs (Local and International)	102	0.3	46	0.3	56	0.3
Other International Organisations	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER FIVE

## INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

### 5.1 Introduction

Information Communication Technology (ICT) is an important tool in the socio-economic development of Talensi district. This chapter discusses ownership of mobile phones, the use of internet facility and ownership of desktop/laptop computers in the district.

### 5.2 Ownership of mobile phones

Table 5.1 shows the Population 12 years and older by mobile phone ownership, internet facility usage, and sex. The table indicates that, out of 53,882 persons, 10,467 (19.4 %) have mobile phones. Males with mobile phones constitute a higher proportion of (23.8%) than females (15.2%).

**Table 5.1: Population 12 years and older by mobile phone ownership, internet facility usage**

Sex	Population 12 years and older		Population having mobile phone		Population using internet facility	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both sexes	53,882	100.0	10,467	19.4	590	1.1
Male	26,644	49.4	6,330	23.8	419	1.6
Female	27,238	50.6	4,137	15.2	171	0.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 5.3 Use of Internet Facility

As part of the contemporary globalization phenomenon, internet has become a vital communication facility for people, businesses and organizations. Table 5.1 again indicates that only 1.1 percent of the population 12 years and older use internet facility in the district. The proportion of males in the district who use the internet is 1.6 percent, higher than the female proportion of less than one percent (0.6%).

### 5.4 Household Ownership of Computers

Table 5.2 shows the proportion of households with desktop or laptop computers in the district. The proportion of households that have desktop/laptop computers in the district is 1.1 percent. Among the male-headed households, the proportion is 1.2 percent slightly higher than the proportion of female-headed households constituting 0.6 percent.

**Table 5.2: Households having desktop/laptop computers by sex of head of household**

Sex	Number of households		Households having desktop/laptop computers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both	15,750	100.0	166	1.1
Male	11,179	71.0	137	1.2
Female	4,571	29.0	29	0.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER SIX

## DISABILITY

### 6.1 Introduction

Data on disability in the population is useful and will help initiate policy interventions to address the challenges. The 2010 Population and Housing Census collected information on persons with disability and types of disability. This chapter discusses the population with disability, types of disability and distribution of disability by type of locality.

### 6.2 Population with Disability

Table 6.1 shows the population with disability by type, sex and type of locality. About 5.2 percent of the population of the district have disability, however, the proportion is slightly lower than the regional proportion of 5.3 percent.

The proportion of persons with disability among the rural localities (5.4%) is higher than that of urban localities (4.2%).

Of the male population in the district, 4.9 percent have disability compared to 5.3 percent among the female population. Among the male population in urban locality, the proportion of persons with disability is slightly lower (4.2%) than that among the female population (4.3%). And in the rural locality, the proportion of persons with disability among the male population (5.1%) is also lower than the proportion among female population (5.7%).

There are more persons with disability among the rural male population (5.1%) than among the urban male population (4.2%). Also there are more persons with disability among the rural female population (5.7%) than among urban female population (4.3%).

In the district, the type of disability with the highest proportion is sight (42.8%), followed by hearing (22.3%), physical (18.4%) and speech (14.0%). In the urban and rural localities, the trend is similar.

**Table 6.1: Population with disability by type, sex and type of locality**

Disability/Locality	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>All Localities</b>						
Total	81,194	100.0	40,831	50.0	40,363	49.7
No disability	76,963	100.0	38,816	50.0	38,147	49.6
With a disability	4,231	100.0	2,015	47.6	2,216	52.4
Sight	1,812	42.8	817	45.0	995	54.9
Hearing	943	22.3	358	38.0	585	62.0
Speech	591	100.0	318	54.0	273	46.2
Physical	797	100.0	403	51.0	394	49.4
Intellectual	457	100.0	221	48.0	236	51.6
Emotional	428	100.0	236	55.0	192	44.9
Other	291	100.0	118	41.0	173	59.5
<b>Urban</b>						
Total	12,918	100.0	6,484	50.2	6,434	49.8
No disability	12,372	100.0	6,212	50.2	6,160	49.8
With a disability	546	100.0	272	49.8	274	50.2
Sight	242	100.0	115	47.5	127	52.5
Hearing	103	100.0	48	46.6	55	53.4
Speech	43	100.0	26	60.5	17	39.5
Physical	144	100.0	77	53.5	67	46.5
Intellectual	34	100.0	15	44.1	19	55.9
Emotional	33	100.0	15	45.5	18	54.5
Other	91	100.0	36	39.6	55	60.4
<b>Rural</b>						
Total	68,276	100.0	34,347	50.3	33,929	49.7
No disability	64,591	100.0	32,604	50.5	31,987	49.5
With a disability	3,685	100.0	1,743	47.3	1,942	52.7
Sight	1,570	100.0	702	44.7	868	55.3
Hearing	840	100.0	310	36.9	530	63.1
Speech	548	100.0	292	53.3	256	46.7
Physical	653	100.0	326	49.9	327	50.1
Intellectual	423	100.0	206	48.7	217	51.3
Emotional	395	100.0	221	55.9	174	44.1
Other	200	100.0	82	41.0	118	59.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 6.3 Disability and Economic Activity

Table 6.2 shows the economic activity status of persons with disability in the population 15 years and older by type of disability.

About 59.2 percent of persons with disability are employed, 0.8 percent are unemployed and the remaining 40.0 percent are economically not active. Among the males with disability, 62.4 percent are employed compared with 56.3 percent of the female counterpart, 0.6 percent are unemployed compared to 1.0 percent among females and 37.0 percent of the males with disability are economically not active compared with 42.8 percent among females.

**Table 6.2: Persons 15 years and older with disability by economic activity status and sex**

Sex/Disability type	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Both Sexes</b>								
Total	47,755	100.0	35,575	74.5	579	1.2	11,601	24.3
No disability	44,231	100.0	33,489	75.7	551	1.2	10,191	23.0
With a disability	3,524	100.0	2,086	59.2	28	0.8	1,410	40.0
Sight	1,693	100.0	890	52.6	11	0.6	792	46.8
Hearing	721	100.0	437	60.6	3	0.4	281	39.0
Speech	374	100.0	243	65.0	3	0.8	128	34.2
Physical	701	100.0	381	54.4	7	1.0	313	44.7
Intellectual	370	100.0	209	56.5	3	0.8	158	42.7
Emotional	347	100.0	227	65.4	6	1.7	114	32.9
Other	216	100.0	147	68.1	5	2.3	64	29.6
<b>Male</b>								
Total	23,433	100.0	18,104	77.3	258	1.1	5,071	21.6
No disability	21,761	100.0	17,060	78.4	248	1.1	4,453	20.5
With a disability	1,672	100.0	1,044	62.4	10	0.6	618	37.0
Sight	748	100.0	408	54.5	3	0.4	337	45.1
Hearing	265	100.0	175	66.0	1	0.4	89	33.6
Speech	217	100.0	157	72.4	0	0.0	60	27.6
Physical	356	100.0	201	56.5	3	0.8	152	42.7
Intellectual	183	100.0	113	61.7	1	0.5	69	37.7
Emotional	204	100.0	136	66.7	2	1.0	66	32.4
Other	87	100.0	59	67.8	3	3.4	25	28.7
<b>Female</b>								
Total	24,322	100.0	17,471	71.8	321	1.3	6,530	26.8
No disability	22,470	100.0	16,429	73.1	303	1.3	5,738	25.5
With a disability	1,852	100.0	1,042	56.3	18	1.0	792	42.8
Sight	945	100.0	482	51.0	8	0.8	455	48.1
Hearing	456	100.0	262	57.5	2	0.4	192	42.1
Speech	157	100.0	86	54.8	3	1.9	68	43.3
Physical	345	100.0	180	52.2	4	1.2	161	46.7
Intellectual	187	100.0	96	51.3	2	1.1	89	47.6
Emotional	143	100.0	91	63.6	4	2.8	48	33.6
Other	129	100.0	88	68.2	2	1.6	39	30.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 6.4 Disability, Education and Literacy

United Nation's convention on the rights of persons with disabilities indicate that persons with disabilities should be guaranteed the right to inclusive education at all levels, regardless of age, without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunity.

Table 6.3 shows population 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education. Out of a total population 4,148 PWDs three years and older, 71.1 percent have never attended school. Of the proportion with formal education, 22.1 percent have basic education (Primary/Middle/JHS/JSS) while 3.5 percent PWDs have attained secondary or higher education. PWDs with the highest proportion of basic education are those with speech disability accounting for 39.2 percent, followed by intellectual and emotional disabilities with 25.9 percent each. Approximately 4.5 percent of all male PWDs have attended Secondary or

Higher education compared with 3.6 percent females in the district. There are more female PWDs who have never attended school 52.1 percent as compared with their male counterparts whose proportion is 67.5 percent.

**Table 6.3: Population 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education**

Sex/Disability type	Number					Percent				
	Total	Never	Pre-Prim	Basic	Sec/SHS and higher	Total	Never	Pre-Prim	Basic	Sec/SHS and higher
<b>Both Sexes</b>										
Total	74,708	36,097	6,787	27,869	3,955	100.0	48.3	9.1	37.3	5.3
No disability	70,560	33,148	6,649	26,952	3,811	100.0	47.0	9.4	38.2	5.4
With a disability	4,148	2,949	138	917	144	100.0	71.1	3.3	22.1	3.5
Sight	1,800	1,501	24	229	46	100.0	83.4	1.3	12.7	2.6
Hearing	924	610	42	251	21	100.0	66.0	4.5	27.2	2.3
Speech	564	275	42	221	26	100.0	48.8	7.4	39.2	4.6
Physical	787	604	12	136	35	100.0	76.7	1.5	17.3	4.4
Intellectual	452	310	9	117	16	100.0	68.6	2.0	25.9	3.5
Emotional	413	276	15	107	15	100.0	66.8	3.6	25.9	3.6
Other	274	164	21	79	10	100.0	59.9	7.7	28.8	3.6
<b>Male</b>										
Total	37,361	16,644	3,463	14,636	2,618	100.0	44.5	9.3	39.2	7.0
No disability	35,390	15,313	3,394	14,154	2,529	100.0	43.3	9.6	40.0	7.1
With a disability	1,971	1,331	69	482	89	100.0	67.5	3.5	24.5	4.5
Sight	809	650	14	127	18	100.0	80.3	1.7	15.7	2.2
Hearing	348	218	18	102	10	100.0	62.6	5.2	29.3	2.9
Speech	307	146	21	121	19	100.0	47.6	6.8	39.4	6.2
Physical	399	286	9	75	29	100.0	71.7	2.3	18.8	7.3
Intellectual	218	136	5	65	12	100.0	62.4	2.3	29.8	5.5
Emotional	231	155	5	62	9	100.0	67.1	2.2	26.8	3.9
Other	110	59	9	35	7	100.0	53.6	8.2	31.8	6.4
<b>Female</b>										
Total	37,347	19,453	3,324	13,233	1,337	100.0	52.1	8.9	35.4	3.6
No disability	35,170	17,835	3,255	12,798	1,282	100.0	50.7	9.3	36.4	3.6
With a disability	2,177	1,618	69	435	55	100.0	74.3	3.2	20.0	2.5
Sight	991	851	10	102	28	100.0	85.9	1.0	10.3	2.8
Hearing	576	392	24	149	11	100.0	68.1	4.2	25.9	1.9
Speech	257	129	21	100	7	100.0	50.2	8.2	38.9	2.7
Physical	388	318	3	61	6	100.0	82.0	0.8	15.7	1.5
Intellectual	234	174	4	52	4	100.0	74.4	1.7	22.2	1.7
Emotional	182	121	10	45	6	100.0	66.5	5.5	24.7	3.3
Other	164	105	12	44	3	100.0	64.0	7.3	26.8	1.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census



## CHAPTER SEVEN

### AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

#### 7.1 Introduction

For the first time in a Population and Housing Census in the country in 2010, questions were asked on household agricultural activities (crop farming, tree planting, fish farming and livestock rearing). This chapter presents a discussion on the agricultural data in the 2010 PHC.

#### 7.2 Households in Agriculture

A household is an agricultural household if at least one member is engaged in any agricultural activity. Some households are engaged in multiple activities. Table 7.1 shows the agricultural households and activities engaged in in the district. of the total number of households into agriculture, as high as 84.5 percent are located in rural areas while 15.5 percent are located in the urban areas. About 96.5 percent of the agricultural households in the district are engaged in crop farming, 85.6 percent rear livestock, 0.3 percent are into fish farming and 0.2 percent are engaged in tree planting. Among the rural agricultural households, 83.7 percent are engaged in crop farming compared to 16.6 percent among urban agricultural households. The proportions among urban and rural agricultural households that rear livestock are 16.3 percent and 83.7 percent respectively. A higher proportion of the rural agricultural households is engaged in tree planting 96.9 percent than the urban households 3.1 percent. Fish farming in the district is relatively insignificant accounting for only 0.3 percent of agricultural households.

**Table 7.1: Agricultural households by activity and type of locality**

Activity	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total households	15,750	100.0	2,442	15.5	13,308	84.5
Agricultural households	14,291	90.7	2,329	16.3	11,962	83.7
Crop farming	13,784	96.5	2,282	16.6	11,502	83.4
Tree planting	32	0.2	1	3.1	31	96.9
Livestock rearing	12,232	85.6	1,993	16.3	10,239	83.7
Fish farming	41	0.3	0	0.0	41	100.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

#### 7.3 Distribution of livestock, animals reared and keepers

Livestock rearing is the second most important agricultural activity after crop farming in the district. Table 7.2 shows the types of livestock reared and their keepers. A total number of 344,229 livestock are reared in the district. There are 32,583 keepers with an average of 11 animals per keeper.

About 33.8 percent of the animals reared are chicken, followed by guinea fowl (26.8%), goats (18.8%), sheep (10.5%) and cattle (5.8%). The highest proportion of the keepers rear goats (28.4%), followed by chicken (26.4%).

The average number of animals per keeper is highest for guinea fowls (18), followed by doves (17), chicken and silkworm (13 each). The average number per keeper of important ruminants in the district are 8 for cattle, sheep (7) and goats (7).

**Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock, other animals and keepers**

Livestock	Animals		Keepers		Average Animal per Keeper
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All	344,229	100.0	32,583	100.0	11
Beehives	182	0.1	36	0.1	5
Cattle	19,858	5.8	2,405	7.4	8
Chicken	116,257	33.8	8,614	26.4	13
Dove	366	0.1	21	0.1	17
Duck	1,097	0.3	118	0.4	9
Goat	64,713	18.8	9,241	28.4	7
Grass-cutter	475	0.1	52	0.2	9
Guinea fowl	92,210	26.8	5,152	15.8	18
Ostrich	372	0.1	41	0.1	9
Pig	6,279	1.8	858	2.6	7
Rabbit	226	0.1	29	0.1	8
Sheep	36,002	10.5	5,364	16.5	7
Silk worm	166	0.0	13	0.0	13
Snail	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Turkey	2,017	0.6	222	0.7	9
Other	1,384	0.4	373	1.1	4
Fish farming	32	0.0	6	0.0	5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### HOUSING CONDITIONS

#### 8.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses housing stock in the district, types of dwelling units, holding and tenancy arrangement, construction materials, room occupancy, energy for lighting and cooking, solid and liquid disposal, water for drinking and for other domestic use, bathing and toilet facilities.

#### 8.2 Housing Stock

Table 8.1 shows the number of houses, households per house and population per house in the district by type of locality. About 84.5 percent of the 9,079 houses in the district are rural localities and the remaining 15.5 percent are urban localities. Average household per house in the district is 1.7 and is same for both the rural and urban localities. The population per house is 8.9 with the urban locality higher 9.2 than the rural 8.9.

**Table 8.1: Stock of houses and households by type of locality**

Category	Total				
	country	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total population	24,658,823	1,046,545	81,194	12,918	68,276
Total household population	24,076,327	1,034,704	80,612	12,790	67,822
Number of houses	3,392,745	114,034	9,079	1,403	7,676
Number of households	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	2,442	13,306
Average households per house	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7
Population per house	7.3	9.2	8.9	9.2	8.9
Average household size	4.5	5.9	5.2	5.3	5.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

#### 8.3 Types of Dwelling Unit, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement

A dwelling is one of the basic necessities of life. The types of dwelling unit and facilities affect the health, productivity, welfare and security of households.

##### 8.3.1 Types of dwelling unit

Table 8.2 shows types of dwelling unit in the district by sex of household head and type of locality. Majority majority of dwelling units are compound houses (rooms) accounting for (40.3%), followed by huts/building (different compound) (26.4%), huts/building (same compound) (16.1%), separate houses (13.4%) and semi-detached houses (2.8%). Other types of dwelling units in the district account for less than 0.5 percent each.

The proportions of huts/ building (same compound) and separate houses of male-headed households (16.6% and 14.2%) respectively are higher than the proportions of female-headed households (14.7% and 11.4%, respectively). The proportions of compound houses (rooms) and hut/building (different compound) of female-headed households are higher 40.9% and 28.9% respectively, than the proportions of male-headed households (40.1% and 25.3%) respectively.

The proportions of compound houses (rooms), hut/building (same compound) and separate houses in rural locality are (41.2%, 16.7% and 14.1%) respectively, higher than the proportions in urban localities (35.7%, 12.7% and 9.4%) respectively for same types of dwelling unit.

**Table 8.2: Types of dwelling units by sex of household head and type of locality**

Dwelling	Total		District					
	Country	Region	Total		Male-headed	Female-headed	Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent				
All	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Separate house	1,471,391	29,787	2,107	13.4	14.2	11.4	9.4	14.1
Semi-detached house	391,548	6,836	436	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.0	2.9
Flat/apartment	256,355	1,459	55	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.3
Compound house (rooms)	2,942,147	103,666	6,353	40.3	40.1	40.9	35.7	41.2
Huts/buildings (same compound)	170,957	22,735	2,528	16.1	16.6	14.7	12.7	16.7
Huts/buildings (different compound)	36,410	11,616	4,151	26.4	25.3	28.9	38.8	24.1
Tent	10,343	300	36	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2
Improvised home (kiosk/container, etc.)	90,934	183	17	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Living quarters attached to office/shop	20,499	348	37	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.2
Uncompleted building	66,624	554	18	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.1
Other	9,846	145	10	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 8.3.2 Ownership of dwelling units

Table 8.3 shows ownership status of dwelling units by sex of household head and type of locality. About 94.9 percent of the dwellings units are owned by household members, 1.9 percent are owned by relative not a household member, 1.7 percent are owned by public (government) and 1.1 percent are owned by other private individual.

**Table 8.3: Ownership of dwelling units by sex of household head and type of locality**

Ownership Status	Total		District					
	Country	Region	Total		Male-headed	Female-headed	Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent				
All	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	100.0	71.0	29.0	16.0	84.5
Owned by household member	2,883,236	154,016	14,948	94.9	71.4	28.6	16.0	84.2
Being purchased (e.g. mortgage)	45,630	721	15	0.1	66.7	33.3	47.0	53.3
Relative not a household member	851,630	6,035	298	1.9	53.4	46.6	1.0	99.0
Other private individual	1,439,021	12,181	164	1.0	57.9	42.1	6.0	93.9
Private employer	83,610	480	34	0.2	85.3	14.7	6.0	94.1
Other private agency	21,123	267	21	0.1	90.5	9.5	10.0	90.5
Public/Government ownership	118,804	3,686	259	1.6	71.0	29.0	20.0	80.3
Other	24,000	243	9	0.1	88.9	11.1	44.0	55.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Among the male-headed households, 95.5 percent of the dwelling units they occupy are owned by household member compared with 93.5 percent female-headed households which

are owned by females. About 3.0 percent of the dwelling units occupied by female-headed households are owned by relatives not household member and 1.5 percent are owned by other private individual. with respect to male-headed households, the proportions are 1.4 percent and 0.9 percent, respectively.

## 8.4 Construction Materials

### 8.4.1 Material for outer wall

Table 8.4 shows the materials for construction of outer walls of dwelling units in the district. The outer walls of 88.2 percent of the dwelling units are constructed with mud brick/earth and 8.9 percent constructed with cement blocks/concrete. In urban locality, outer walls of 85.0 percent of dwelling units are constructed with mud brick/earth and 12.0 percent constructed with cement block/concrete. In rural locality, 88.8 percent of outer walls of dwelling units are constructed with mud brick/earth and 8.8 percent constructed with cement block/concrete.

The outer walls of dwelling units that are constructed with wood in urban locality is 1.7 percent compared with 0.9 percent in rural locality.

**Table 8.4: Main construction materials for outer walls of dwelling units by type of locality**

Material	Total		District			
	Country	Region	Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
All	5,817,607	182,845	16,309	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud brick/earth	1,991,540	147,624	14,381	88.2	85	88.8
Wood	200,594	1,606	166	1.0	1.7	0.9
Metal sheet/slate/asbestos	43,708	855	56	0.3	0.6	0.3
Stone	11,330	372	24	0.1	0.2	0.1
Burnt bricks	38,237	233	13	0.1	0.0	0.1
Cement blocks/concrete	3,342,462	29,321	1,457	8.9	12	8.4
Landcrete	104,270	1,890	121	0.7	0.1	0.9
Bamboo	8,206	54	-	0.0		0.0
Palm leaf/thatch (grass)/raffia	38,054	435	36	0.2	0.1	0.2
Other	39,206	455	55	0.3	0.4	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 8.4.2 Construction material for floor

Table 8.5 shows the materials for the construction of floors of dwelling units in the district. The floors of 68.1 percent are constructed with cement/concrete and 30.5 percent constructed with earth/mud.

In urban locality, 72.7 percent of floors are constructed with cement/concrete and 25.6 percent constructed with earth/mud. In rural locality, floors of 67.3 percent of the dwelling units are constructed with cement/concrete and 31.5 percent constructed with earth/mud.

**Table 8.5: Main construction materials for floors of dwelling units by type of locality**

Material	Total		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
All	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
Earth/mud	872,161	56,272	4,811	30.5	25.6	31.5
Cement/concrete	4,255,611	116,911	10,730	68.1	72.7	67.3
Stone	32,817	1,623	50	0.3	0.5	0.3
Burnt brick	6,537	89	7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wood	52,856	49	4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vinyl tiles	57,032	196	10	0.1	0.1	0.1
Ceramic/porcelain/granite/marble tiles	88,500	1,181	68	0.4	0.6	0.4
Terrazzo/terrazzo tiles	85,973	401	18	0.1	0.2	0.1
Other	15,567	907	50	0.3	0.2	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 8.4.3 Construction materials for roof

Table 8.6 shows the materials for roofing dwelling units in the district by types of locality. About 54.2 percent of the dwelling units are roofed with metal sheets, 38.0 percent roofed with thatch/palm leaf/raffia, 3.9 percent roofed with mud/mud bricks/earth and 1.6 percent roofed with slate/asbestos.

**Table 8.6: Materials for roofing dwelling units by type of locality**

Material	Total		Type of locality			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
All	5,817,607	182,845	16,309	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud/Mud bricks/earth	80,644	22,227	636	3.9	2.9	4.1
Wood	45,547	3,085	112	0.7	0.5	0.7
Metal sheet	4,152,259	122,942	8,834	54.2	67.1	51.8
Slate/asbestos	759,039	646	254	1.6	0.3	1.8
Cement/concrete	141,072	879	70	0.4	0.2	0.5
Roofing tile	31,456	162	7	0.0	0.0	0.1
Bamboo	71,049	586	13	0.1	0.1	0.1
Thatch/palm leaf or raffia	500,606	30,722	6,193	38.0	27.9	39.8
Other	35,935	1,596	190	1.2	1.0	1.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

In urban locality, 67.1 percent of dwelling units are roofed with metal sheets as against 51.8 percent in rural locality. Thatch/palm leaf/raffia are used to roof 27.9 percent of dwelling units in urban locality as against 39.8 percent in rural locality. Also higher proportions of dwelling units in rural locality are roofed with mud/mud bricks/earth (4.1%) and slate/asbestos (1.8%) compared with the proportions in urban locality (2.9% and 0.3%) respectively.

## 8.5 Room Occupancy

Table 8.7 shows room occupancy in dwelling units in the district in 2010. About 25.7 percent of households occupy dwelling units with one room, 38.1 percent have two rooms, 21.4 percent have three rooms and the remaining 14.8 percent have four or more rooms.

Among single member households, 84.1 percent occupy dwelling units with one room, 13.5 percent have two rooms and 1.4 percent have three sleeping rooms. Among two member households, 50.0 percent have one room, 41.4 percent have two rooms and 6.3 percent have three rooms. Among three member households, 38.2 percent have dwelling units with one room, 46.0 percent have two rooms and 13.3 percent have three rooms.

Generally, the proportion of households in dwelling units with one room decreases as the number of household members increase from 84.1 percent among one member households to 1.6 percent among households with 10+ members. The proportion of households that have two room dwelling units increases from 13.5 percent among one member households to the highest proportion of 49.5 percent among four member households and declines steadily as the number of household members increase. However among households with five, six and seven members, the proportions occupying dwelling units with two rooms are highest. Among eight and nine member households, the highest proportions have three rooms in their dwelling units, and among households with 10+ members, the highest proportion is in four room dwelling units, followed by the proportion in three room dwelling units.

**Table 8.7: Household size and number of sleeping rooms occupied in dwelling unit**

Household size	Total		Number of rooms								
	Number	Percent	One room	Two rooms	Three rooms	Four rooms	Five rooms	Six rooms	Seven rooms	Eight rooms	Nine rooms or more
All	15,748	100.0	25.7	38.1	21.4	9.5	3.2	1.2	0.4	0.3	0.3
1	1,150	100.0	84.1	13.5	1.4	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
2	1,511	100.0	50.0	41.4	6.3	1.5	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1
3	1,878	100.0	38.2	46.0	13.3	1.9	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2
4	2,276	100.0	27.2	49.5	17.4	4.2	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2
5	2,415	100.0	19.4	46.2	25.3	6.4	2.3	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
6	2,126	100.0	12.7	42.1	29.9	11.2	2.6	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.0
7	1,721	100.0	8.7	37.4	31.6	16.7	3.3	1.4	0.5	0.2	0.1
8	1,110	100.0	5.2	29.5	34.3	21.1	6.7	2.0	0.8	0.2	0.2
9	668	100.0	3.1	20.5	34.7	25.4	9.9	4.0	0.9	0.6	0.7
10+	893	100.0	1.6	11.8	23.6	27.8	18.1	9.0	2.9	2.4	2.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.6 Household Utilities and Facilities

### 8.6.1 Sources of energy for lighting

Table 8.8 shows the sources of energy for lighting dwelling units in the district. About 54.3 percent of households use kerosene lamp. Majority of urban households (61.8%) use this against 53.0 percent for rural households. Flashlight/torch is used by 35.9 percent of the households in the district; the proportion is higher among rural households (37.3%) than among urban households (28.2%). The proportion of households that use electricity (main) in the district is 7.1 percent. the proportion in the urban households is 8.2 percent, higher than the rural households which constitute 6.9 percent.

**Table 8.8: Sources of energy for lighting dwelling units by type of locality**

Source of Energy	Total		Type of locality			
	Country	Region	Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
All	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
Electricity (mains)	3,511,065	42,866	1,124	7.1	8.2	6.9
Electricity (private generator)	36,142	1,009	136	0.9	0.2	1.0
Kerosene lamp	971,807	80,752	8,556	54.3	61.8	53.0
Gas lamp	9,378	412	21	0.1	0.2	0.1
Solar energy	9,194	612	70	0.4	0.1	0.5
Candle	41,214	293	13	0.1	0.1	0.1
Flashlight/torch	858,651	49,068	5,654	35.9	28.2	37.3
Firewood	13,241	1,191	75	0.5	0.7	0.4
Crop residue	4,623	830	56	0.4	0.3	0.4
Other	11,739	596	43	0.3	0.1	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 8.6.2 Source of cooking fuel

Table 8.9 shows the sources of fuel for cooking in households in the district by type of locality. The highest proportion of households (77.2%) use wood, followed by 10.4 percent that use crop residue. Charcoal is used by 7.7 percent and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) is used by 2.0 percent of households in the district. The proportion of households in the district that use wood as source of fuel for cooking (77.2%) is higher than the regional proportion of 60.4 percent.

In both rural and urban localities, higher proportions of households (76.2% and 83.1%, respectively) use wood as source of cooking fuel. About 10.7 percent of rural households use crop residue compared with 8.3 percent of urban households.

The use of firewood and crop residue has resulted in serious depletion of the vegetation cover (deforestation) in the district with the associated negative impact on the environment.

### 8.6.3 Cooking space in dwelling unit

Table 8.9 also shows cooking space in dwelling units in the district by type of locality. About 66.8 percent of households have separate room used exclusively for cooking, a total of 12.6 percent use enclosures without roof, 9.3 percent use open space in compound and 3.6 percent use veranda. While about 4.9 percent of households have no cooking space.

In rural localities, 68.5 percent of households have separate rooms used exclusively for cooking compared with 57.7 percent in urban households. Higher proportions of rural households also use open space in compound (10.3%), veranda (3.8%) and separate room shared with other households (2.0%) as cooking space than the proportions among urban households (3.8%, 2.6% and 1.5%) respectively. Again, a higher proportion of rural households (5.3%) have no cooking space compared with the proportion of households in urban locality (2.7%). The proportion of urban households who use enclosure without roof as cooking space (30.8%) is higher than the proportion among rural households (9.3%).



**Table 8.9: Main sources of cooking fuel and cooking space used by households by type of locality**

Cooking Fuel /Cooking space	Total		Type of locality			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
<b>Cooking fuel</b>						
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
None no cooking	306,118	3,272	316	2.0	0.5	2.3
Wood	2,197,083	107,310	12,163	77.2	83.1	76.2
Gas	996,518	8,735	294	1.9	2.1	1.8
Electricity	29,794	383	33	0.2	0.2	0.2
Kerosene	29,868	402	38	0.2	0.2	0.2
Charcoal	1,844,290	27,021	1,207	7.7	4.5	8.3
Crop residue	45,292	29,725	1,631	10.4	8.3	10.7
Saw dust	8,000	93	2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animal waste	2,332	124	16	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other	7,759	564	48	0.3	1.1	0.2
<b>Cooking space</b>						
All	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
No cooking space	386,883	6,822	776	4.9	2.7	5.3
Separate room for exclusive use of household	1,817,018	75,393	10,519	66.8	57.7	68.5
Separate room shared with other household(s)	410,765	4,664	304	1.9	1.5	2.0
Enclosure without roof	117,614	31,567	1,992	12.6	30.8	9.3
Structure with roof but without walls	349,832	1,788	68	0.4	0.7	0.4
Bedroom/hall/living room)	74,525	572	40	0.3	0.2	0.3
Verandah	1,173,946	18,444	569	3.6	2.6	3.8
Open space in compound	1,115,464	38,038	1,462	9.3	3.8	10.3
Other	21,007	341	18	0.1	0.0	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.7 Sources of Water for Drinking and other Domestic Use

Water is an important requirement in all spheres of human endeavour. It is believed that 70.0 percent of the human body consists of water. Adequate supply of water from improved sources for drinking and other domestic use is therefore necessary for healthy life.

### 8.7.1 Sources of drinking water

The various water sources are classified in this section by their quality level in relation to their health effects on the consumer. According to the Ghana Millennium Development Goal report (UNDP, 2012) an indicator referred to as 'improved water sources' measures the proportions of the population who use any of the following types of water supply for drinking: piped water, public tap, borehole or pump, protected well, protected spring or rain water. Improved water sources do not include vendor-provided water, bottled water, tanker trucks or unprotected wells and springs.

Table 8.10 shows sources of water for drinking and other domestic use in the district by type of locality. About 64.8 percent of households use borehole/pump/tube well as source of drinking water, 10.6 percent use protected well, 6.5 percent use unprotected well, 6.1 percent use river/stream, 4.0 percent use dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal and 3.4 percent use pipeborne outside dwelling unit. About 17.1 percent of the households use water from unimproved

sources (unprotected well 6.5%, river/stream 6.1%, dug out/pond/lake/dam/canal 4.0 and unprotected spring 0.5%).

**Table 8.10: Main source of water for drinking and other domestic use by type of locality**

Sources of water	Total		Type of locality			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
<b>Drinking water</b>						
All Sources	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	790,493	11,577	217	1.4	4.5	0.8
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,039,667	15,063	534	3.4	5.9	2.9
Public tap/standpipe	712,375	5,179	83	0.5	1.9	0.3
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,267,688	101,817	10,203	64.8	80.3	61.9
Protected well	321,091	22,805	1,667	10.6	3.8	11.8
Rain water	39,438	223	42	0.3	0.1	0.3
Protected spring	19,345	683	83	0.5	0.2	0.6
Bottled water	20,261	82	2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sachet water	490,283	694	222	1.4	0.0	1.7
Tanker supply/vendor provided	58,400	267	5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unprotected well	112,567	11,083	1,018	6.5	3.2	7.1
Unprotected spring	12,222	378	77	0.5	0.0	0.6
River/stream	502,804	4,452	960	6.1	0.1	7.2
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	76,448	3,175	634	4.0	0.0	4.8
Other	3,972	151	1	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Water for other domestic uses</b>						
All Sources	5,467,054	177,629	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	905,566	11,408	232	1.5	4.4	0.9
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,089,030	13,957	533	3.4	5.6	3.0
Public tap/standpipe	704,293	4,541	83	0.5	1.9	0.3
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,280,465	98,487	10,040	63.8	79.5	60.9
Protected well	465,775	24,798	1,710	10.9	4.0	12.1
Rain water	39,916	330	42	0.3	0.3	0.3
Protected spring	18,854	672	76	0.5	0.3	0.5
Tanker supply/vendor provided	100,048	301	8	0.1	0.0	0.1
Unprotected well	152,055	11,607	999	6.3	2.2	7.1
Unprotected spring	15,738	650	110	0.7	0.0	0.8
River/stream	588,590	6,125	1,228	7.8	1.3	9.0
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	96,422	4,518	678	4.3	0.6	5.0
Other	10,302	235	9	0.1	0.0	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The proportions of urban households who use pipe-borne water inside dwelling (4.5%), pipe borne water outside dwelling (5.9%), public tap/stand pipe (1.9%) and bore-hole/pump/tube well (80.3%) are higher than the respective proportions among rural households which account for (0.8%, 2.9%, 0.3% and 61.9%) respectively. The proportion of rural households that use protected well is higher (11.8%) than that of urban households.

### 8.7.2 Water for other domestic use

In the district, the same sources of water for drinking are also used for other domestic purposes except probably, bottled water and sachet water. The proportions of households that use the various sources of water for drinking are not very different from the proportions that use the sources for other domestic purposes. Table 8.10 shows the sources of water for other uses in households in the district by type of locality. About 63.8 percent of the

households use borehole/pump/tube well, 10.9 percent use water from protected well, 7.8 percent from river/stream and 6.3 percent collect water from protected wells.

In urban locality, 79.5 percent use water from bore-hole/pump/tube well compared with 60.9 percent of rural households that use water from this source. Higher proportions of urban households also use pipe borne outside dwelling unit (5.6%), pipe borne inside dwelling unit (4.4%) and public tap/standpipe (1.9%) than the proportions of rural households (3.0%, 0.9% and 0.3%,) respectively. Higher proportions of rural households use protected well (12.1%), for the unprotected well it is (7.1%) and river/stream (9.0%). For the urban households, the proportions are (4.0%, 2.2% and 1.9%) respectively.

## 8.8 Bathing and Toilet Facilities

### 8.8.1 Toilet facility

Table 8.11 shows the toilet facilities used by households in the district by type of locality. About 95.2 percent of households have no toilet facilities, 2.4 percent have access to pit latrine, 2.3 percent use KVIP, 1.2 percent use public toilet and 1.0 percent use WC. In urban localities the proportion of households that have no toilet facility is 95.2 percent, higher than that of rural households (92.3%). Also, a higher proportion of urban households use WC than the rural households (0.8%). In rural localities, higher proportions of households use pit latrine (2.7%) and KVIP (2.6%) compared with (0.9% and 0.6%) for urban households constituting (0.9% and 0.6%) respectively.

**Table 8.11: Bathing and toilet facilities used by households by type of locality**

Toilet facility/Bathing facility	Total		Type of locality			
	Country	Region	Number	Percent	Urban	Rural
<b>Toilet facility</b>						
All	5,467,054	15,748	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
No facilities (bush/beach/field)	1,056,382	14,600	14,600	92.7	95.2	92.3
W.C.	839,611	160	160	1.0	2.0	0.8
Pit latrine	1,040,883	384	384	2.4	0.9	2.7
KVIP	572,824	361	361	2.3	0.6	2.6
Bucket/Pan	40,678	11	11	0.1	0.2	0.1
Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit Pan etc.)	1,893,291	182	182	1.2	1.0	1.2
Other	23,385	50	50	0.3	0.1	0.4
<b>Bathing facility</b>						
All	5,467,054	15,748	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
Own bathroom for exclusive use	1,535,392	8,608	8,608	54.7	45.5	56.3
Shared separate bathroom in the same house	1,818,522	1,774	1,774	11.3	16.7	10.3
Private open cubicle	381,979	2,849	2,849	18.1	23.4	17.1
Shared open cubicle	1,000,257	1,106	1,106	7.0	6.8	7.1
Public bath house	140,501	66	66	0.4	0.7	0.4
Bathroom in another house	187,337	82	82	0.5	0.2	0.6
Open space around house	372,556	1,107	1,107	7.0	6.6	7.1
River/pond/lake/dam	14,234	118	118	0.7	0.0	0.9
Other	16,276	38	38	0.2	0.1	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.8.2 Bathing facility

Table 8.11 shows bathing facilities for households in the district by type of locality. About 54.7 percent of households have own bathroom for exclusive use, 18.1 percent use private open cubicle, 11.3 percent use shared separate bathroom in the same house. In rural localities, higher proportions of households have own bathroom for exclusive use (56.3%), shared open cubicle (7.1%) and open space around house accounts for (7.1%). for the urban households the proportions are (45.5%, 6.8% and 6.6%) respectively. Again in urban localities, higher proportions of households use private open cubicle (23.4%) and shared separate bathroom in the same house (16.7%) than the proportions among rural households (17.1% and 10.3%) respectively.

## 8.9 Method of Waste Disposal

### 8.9.1 Solid waste disposal

Table 8.12 shows solid waste disposal methods used by households in the district by type of locality. About 34.5 percent of households dispose of solid waste by burning, 29.0 percent dump in public places (open space), and 15.7 percent dump indiscriminately. In rural localities, higher proportions of households dispose of solid waste by burning (35.4%) and dumping indiscriminately continues 18.3 percent than proportions among urban households. In urban locality, higher proportions of households dispose of solid waste at public dump (open space) (31.0%) while 30.1 is collected. The rural proportions for these same methods of disposal in the rural areas are (28.6%, and 10.0%) respectively.

In urban localities, the three most common methods of solid waste disposal are public dump (open space), followed by collection and burning by household. Burning indiscriminately relatively common is rural localities.

**Table 8.12: Methods of rubbish and liquid waste disposal by households**

Method	Total		Type of locality			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
<b>Rubbish disposal</b>						
All	5,467,054	15,748	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
Collected	785,889	2,068	2,068	13.1	30.1	10.0
Burned by household	584,820	5,426	5,426	34.5	29.4	35.4
Public dump (container)	1,299,654	101	101	0.6	0.7	0.6
Public dump (open space)	2,061,403	4,560	4,560	29.0	31.0	28.6
Dumped indiscriminately	498,868	2,471	2,471	15.7	1.5	18.3
Buried by household	182,615	256	256	1.6	1.4	1.7
Other	53,805	866	866	5.5	5.9	5.4
<b>Liquid waste</b>						
All	5,467,054	15,748	15,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
Through the sewerage system	183,169	634	634	4.0	17.2	1.6
Through drainage system into a gutter	594,404	308	308	2.0	1.5	2.0
Through drainage into a pit (soak away)	167,555	932	932	5.9	1.8	6.7
Thrown onto the street/outside	1,538,550	11,627	11,627	73.8	59.4	76.5
Thrown into gutter	1,020,096	304	304	1.9	7.3	0.9
Thrown onto compound	1,924,986	1,839	1,839	11.7	12.6	11.5
Other	38,294	104	104	0.7	0.2	0.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### **8.9.2 Liquid waste disposal**

Table 8.12 shows liquid waste disposal methods used by households in the district by type of locality. Two main methods of liquid waste disposal are throwing onto the street/outside which accounts for (73.8%) and throwing onto compound (11.7%). In rural localities, higher proportions of households throw liquid waste onto the street/outside (76.5%) and through drainage into a pit (soak away) (6.7%) than proportions of urban households (59.4% and 1.8%) respectively. In urban localities, the proportions of households that dispose of liquid waste through the sewerage system is 17.2 percent, throwing onto compound accounts for 12.6% percent and throwing into gutter (7.3%) are higher than the proportions among rural households constituting (1.6%, 11.5% and 0.9%) respectively.

## **CHAPTER NINE**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Talensi district was created in 2012 and as a new district and several socio-economic parameters will change or need to change as development proceeds. Some of the changes will be natural and others will require informed policy interventions to be successful.

#### **Population**

While there is a natural process for population to increase, there are other factors that contribute to the increase. The population of Talensi district is 81,194, the lowest among the districts in the Upper East region. As a new district and a new public administration set up, skilled persons have migrated to the district to occupy positions in the District Assembly. Also as a new district, several service providers have come in to establish offices in the capital at Talensi. The situation is expected to bring in many skilled and other manpower. Migration therefore expected to proceed faster than before, adding to the population of the district in due course.

The new Talensi district is predominantly rural with 84.1 percent of the population. With expansion of socio-economic activities that will take place mostly in urban locality, for example, establishment of District Assembly and offices of service providers, the urban population will increase, this will put pressure on the existing facilities such as education infrastructure, housing stock, public toilets and public dumps for solid waste in the district. At the moment, toilet facilities are woefully inadequate in both urban and rural localities, 95.2 percent and 92.3 percent, respectively, of urban and rural households have no toilet facilities and therefore use the bush/field. There will be a need to provide KVIPs, as a matter of urgency, in several vantage points in both urban and rural locations. There will be a need to oblige households to provide toilet facilities in the existing dwelling units and a condition for building new dwelling units, to include toilet facilities in their plans before approval is given for construction.

The population in the district is quite youthful, 51.9 percent are below 20 years of age and cumulatively, 65.3 percent are below 30 years. Finding employment opportunities for the ever increasing educated youth in the young district remains a challenge. The educated youth with no employment have the tendency to migrate to places they perceive employment opportunities, such as, the cities and towns. If this happens, the district will lose the educated youth and persons with skilled training. Efforts should be made to retain the educated youth and skilled manpower in the district.

#### **Fertility**

The total fertility rate (3.6) in the district is quite high, only four districts in the region have rates higher than that of Talensi. A high total fertility rate has a positive effect on population increase. Uncontrolled population increase could put pressure on the migrate facilities such as housing, health, education infrastructure, toilet and disposal of solid waste in the district. Family planning programmes should be emphasised in order to stem rapid increase in the population and deterioration of the environmental quality (sanitation).

## **Literacy and education**

The proportion of literate population 11 years and older in the district is too low (42.1%). Changing the situation will be gradual by ensuring that all children in school going age are in school and stay in school till completion. Adult education programmes should also be promoted. Economic activity

About 75.7 percent of the population 15 years and older in the district are economically active and the remaining 24.3 percent are economically not active. About 78.3 percent of the employable population are in agriculture, forestry and fishery. This industry should be developed with the view to providing employment opportunities especially for the youth and a means to reducing poverty in the district. Disability

The type of disability with the highest proportion among persons with disability in the district is sight (42.8%), followed by hearing (22.3%) and physical (18.4%). Policies and programmes could be initiated to reduce the proportions of persons with sight and physical disabilities. For example, polio immunization and education on causes and prevention of river blindness and management of glaucoma should be emphasized.

## **Information Communication Technology (ICT)**

The proportions of population 12 years and older who own mobile phones (19.4%) and use internet facility (1.1%) and households that have desktop/laptop computers (1.1%) in the district are very low. The situation may be caused partly by low penetration of the required services in the district as the district was created only in 2012. The importance of ICT in socio-economic development of any district can not be overemphasized. The district assembly should endeavour to attract the telecommunication service providers to expand their activities in the district.

## **Fuel for cooking**

The dominant source of fuel for cooking in the district is wood used by 77.2 percent of households. Another 7.7 percent of households use charcoal, derived from wood. There is not enough trees in the mainly savannah zone of the district to support wood as a source of cooking fuel for a long time without seriously damaging the environment (deforestation). Other sources of fuel for cooking should be promoted, particularly, the use of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG).

## **Electricity (mains)**

Electricity (mains) is used by only 7.1 percent of households in the district for lighting dwelling units. The low level of dependence on electricity (mains) for lighting dwelling units is largely due to the extent of availability. As a new district, electricity (mains) supply is a prerequisite to attract many types of businesses to the area, a situation that will also enhance job opportunities for the educated youth and other skilled labour, particularly, in manufacturing. Rapid electrification of the district should be a top priority of the relatively young Talensi District Assembly.

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## APPENDICES

**Table A1: Total population, sex, number of households and houses in the 20 largest communities**

S/No.	Community Name	Sex			House holds	Houses
		Total	Male	Female		
1	Winkongo	6,817	3,373	3,444	1,330	689
2	Duusi	6,101	3,111	2,990	1,112	714
3	Tongo	4,413	2,137	2,276	802	382
4	Pwalugu	3,785	1,831	1,954	860	456
5	Gorogo	3,091	1,493	1,598	661	290
6	Gbeogo	2,924	1,411	1,513	552	272
7	Sheaga	2,601	1,355	1,246	484	187
8	Tindongo-Tingre	1,870	952	918	317	183
9	Balungu	1,769	851	918	329	198
10	Shia	1,631	822	809	313	260
11	Yinduri	1,466	714	752	268	129
12	Yagzore	1,411	725	686	249	151
13	Wakii	1,273	609	664	246	100
14	Pelungu	1,185	643	542	186	106
15	Baare Tengre	1,135	566	569	205	116
16	Baare-Lakum-Guun	1,093	554	539	241	104
17	Gbanda-Yale	1,060	544	516	216	115
18	Kejetia	1,028	652	376	316	400
19	Pusunamongo	1,022	487	535	192	137
20	Kpatia	976	490	486	189	114

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

**Table A2: Population by age groups in the 20 largest communities**

S/No.	Community Name	All ages																
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	
1	Winkongo	6,817	821	927	935	937	512	350	375	321	332	312	292	163	177	85	106	172
2	Duusi	6,101	906	929	742	594	417	398	329	266	315	215	224	131	219	91	138	187
3	Tongo	4,413	525	564	591	518	349	270	237	196	211	165	163	110	129	88	97	200
4	Pwalugu	3,785	489	472	495	455	290	285	244	202	169	153	127	87	88	46	79	104
5	Gorogo	3,091	406	401	433	364	205	122	128	109	117	144	149	112	115	66	72	148
6	Gbeogo	2,924	452	413	409	344	216	217	147	110	88	112	118	72	68	43	62	53
7	Sheaga	2,601	374	399	381	227	166	165	134	125	139	111	94	54	66	64	47	55
8	Tindongo-Tingre	1,870	322	323	222	155	98	89	138	85	102	66	70	28	56	21	42	53
9	Balungu	1,769	199	216	238	214	143	105	73	78	71	75	72	44	52	42	66	81
10	Shia	1,631	241	244	218	157	113	89	86	66	86	78	55	39	44	26	39	50
11	Yinduri	1,466	198	229	213	143	89	87	76	61	66	75	45	31	33	25	37	58
12	Yagzore	1,411	220	233	190	127	65	91	60	53	46	56	60	42	31	40	31	66
13	Wakii	1,273	224	195	170	116	63	69	77	67	46	32	43	19	33	30	34	55
14	Pelungu	1,185	204	175	171	111	71	83	61	69	53	44	42	32	17	15	11	26
15	Baare Tengre	1,135	125	163	167	165	82	46	38	57	65	47	57	22	23	21	29	28
16	Baare-Lakum-Guun	1,093	93	139	141	144	96	70	68	35	58	43	42	21	49	29	29	36
17	Gbanda-Yale	1,060	159	178	134	120	51	68	52	58	46	43	34	23	21	26	14	33
18	Kejetia	1,028	108	66	45	120	179	152	129	100	59	23	26	9	3	2	4	3
19	Pusunamongo	1,022	156	130	122	142	84	67	69	39	39	37	24	16	23	11	23	40
20	Kpatia	976	110	153	124	106	62	67	52	47	31	31	38	24	40	13	29	49

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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