



2010

POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

BIA WEST



Canada 

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK
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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 Bia West 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.

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

APED	Association of Progressive Entrepreneurs in Development
CBD	Central Business District
CBR	Crude Death Rate
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African State
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFR	General Fertility Rate
GREL	Ghana Rubber Estate Limited
GSGDA	Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ISSER	Institute of Scientific, Social and Economic Research
LEAP	Livelihood Empowerment against Poverty Programme
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
PHC	Population and Housing Census
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
STMA	Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Authority
TFR	Total Fertility Rate

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 Bia West District is 88,939 representing 3.7 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute 51.4 percent and females represent 48.6 percent. There are more people living in the rural (73.4%) areas than in the urban (26.6%) areas. The district has a sex ratio of 105.8. The population of the district is youthful depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of elderly persons. The total age dependency ratio for the District is 79.1, the dependency ratios for the males and females are 79.0 and 79.2 respectively.

Fertility, mortality and migration

The Total Fertility Rate for the district is 3.8. The General Fertility Rate is 118.0 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 29.2 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the district is 6.7 per 1000. From age 5 to age 54 years, more female deaths are observed than males. There is a higher male death rate (40 per 1000) than females (22 per 1000) among the age group 70 years and over. The 60-64 age group also recorded 15 deaths per 1000 females to 19 per 1000 males. Majority (89.1%) of the migrants in the district were born outside the Western Region. Out of the migrants who were born outside the Western Region, 4,091 were born in the Central Region compared to 117 born in the Upper West Region.

Household Size, composition and structure

The district has a household population of 88,204 with total number 19,809 households. The average household size in the district is 4.5 persons per household. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household structure accounting for 46.7 percent. Heads form about 22.5 percent. Nuclear households (head, spouse(s) and children) constitute 38.3 percent of the total household population in the district.

Marital status

About five in ten (46.7%) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 37.9% percent have never married, 2.3 percent are widowed, 2.9 percent are divorced and 1.7 percent are separated. By age 25-29 years, more than half of females (63.5%) are married compared to a little below half of males (38.6%). At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 39.1 percent as compared to widowed males account for only 4.5

percent. . Among the married, 46.1 percent have no education while about 14.2 percent of the unmarried have never been to school. More than half of the married population (89.2%) are employed, 1.8 percent are unemployed and 9.1 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who have never married (62.7%) are economically not active with 3.0 percent unemployed.

Nationality

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the district is 94.1 percent. Those who have naturalized constitute 0.6 percent and the non-Ghanaian population in the district is 2.8 percent.

Literacy and education

Considering the population 11 years and above, 67.2 percent are literate and 32.8 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (72.8 %) than that of females (61.2%). Seven out of ten people (68.3%) indicated they could read and write both English and Ghanaian languages.

Economic Activity Status

About 76.9 percent of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active while 23.1 percent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 96.4 percent are employed while 3.6 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a larger percentage of them are students (55.6%), 30.2 percent perform household duties and 2.9 percent are disabled or too sick to work

Occupation

With respect to the employed population, about 74.7 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 9.0 percent in service and sales, 6.5 percent in craft and related trade, and 1.1 percent are engaged as managers, professionals, and technicians.

Employment status and sector

Considering the population 15 years and older 54.3 percent are self-employed without employees, 13.7 percent are employees, 18.5 percent are contributing family workers, 4.8 percent are casual workers and 1.1 percent are domestic employees (house helps). Men constitute the highest proportion in each employment category except the contributing family workers and apprentices and self-employed without employees. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district, employing 94.1 percent of the population followed by the public sector with 3.2 percent.

Information Communication Technology

Considering the population 12 years and above, 42.9 percent have mobile phones. Men who own mobile phones constitute 51.1 percent as compared to 34.0 percent of females. About two out of every 100 (1.5%) of the population 12 years and older use internet facilities in the district. Only 353 households representing 1.8 percent of the total households in the district have desktop/laptop computers.

Disability

About one percent of the district's total population has one form of disability or the other. The proportion of the male population with disability is slightly higher (1.1%) than females (1.0%). The types of disability in the district include sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, and emotion. Persons with sight disability recorded the highest of 36.1 percent followed by physical disability (26.8%). There are more females with physical, intellectual and sight disabilities than males in both the urban and rural localities. Of the population disabled, 39.1 percent have never been to school.

Agriculture

As high as 78.2 percent of households in the district are engaged in agriculture. In the rural localities, 8 out of ten households (82.8%) are agricultural households while in the urban localities six out every 10 (63.8%) of households are into agriculture. Over 90 percent of households in the district are involved in crop farming. Poultry (chicken) is the dominant animal reared in the district

Housing

The stock of houses in the Bia west District is 15,420 representing less than four percent of the total number of houses in the Western region. The average number of persons per house is 5.8

Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

Close to half (48.5%) of all dwelling units in the district are compound houses; 36.4 percent are separate houses and 6.1 percent are semi-detached houses. About half (57.5%) of the dwelling units in the district are owned by members of the household; 17.9 percent are owned by private individuals; 11.4 percent are owned by a relative who is not a member of the household and only 0.8 percent are owned by public or government. Less than one percent (0.7%) 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 brick/Earth accounting for 77.9 percent with cement blocks/concrete constituting 14.0 percent of outer walls of dwelling units in the district. Cement (68.4%) and mud/earth (27.7%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the district. Metal sheets are the main roofing material (89.3 %) for dwelling units in the district.

Room occupancy

One room constitutes the highest percentage (48.9%) of sleeping rooms occupied by households in housing units in the district. About 10.0 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 electricity (33.8%), flashlight/torch (53.2%) and kerosene lamp (11.7%). The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the district is wood (77.9%). The proportion for rural (86.9%) is higher than that of urban (50.1%). The four main sources of water in the district are unprotected

well, river stream, boreholes and protected well. About a third of households (31.7%) drink water from rivers and streams.

The most widely used toilet facility in the district is pit latrine representing 69 percent followed by public toilet (17.4%). About 10 percent of the population in the district have no toilet facility. Two out of five households (37.2%) in the district share separate bathrooms in the same house while 33.2 percent own bathrooms for their exclusive use.

Waste disposal

The most widely used method of solid waste disposal is by public dump in the open space accounting for 56.5 percent. About 16 in 100 households (16.4%) dump their solid waste indiscriminately. House to house waste collection accounts for 2.9 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste onto the compound (63.0%) and onto the street (27.6%) are the two most common methods used by households in the district.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Bia West District was carved out of the erstwhile Bia District in 2012 by the Legislative Instrument (LI) 2014 with Essam-Dabiso as the administrative capital. The district shares boundaries with the Bia East District to the north and East, the Republic of La Cote d'Ivoire to the west, and Juaboso District to the south (Figure 1.1). The district capital, Essam-Debiso is located 420km to the northwest of Sekondi-Takoradi and 250km to Kumasi. The district has a total surface area of 1,287.265 square kilometres.

1.2 Physical Features

1.2.1 Relief and Drainage

The district forms part of the country's dissected plateau. The greater proportion of this plateau is between 240m and 300m above sea level. There are few valleys that do not exceed 150m above sea level. The district is endowed with a number of rivers and streams, the most important of which is the Bia River. The streams and rivers exhibit a dendritic pattern, which forms the Bia basin. The relief and drainage systems favour the development of fish farming, and cultivation of valley bottom rice, sugarcane and dry season vegetables.

1.2.2 Geology and Mineral Deposits

The Bia West District is endowed with a combination of phyllite, schist, tuff and greywacke which contain the mineral bearing rocks. There are also granite rocks and deposits of minerals like gold have been discovered in Yawmatwa, Oseikojokrom and Essam Debiso.

1.2.3 Climate

The Bia West District forms part of the wet semi-equatorial climatic zone. The area experiences two main seasons namely wet and dry seasons. The wet season occurs between April and October while the dry season is between November and March. Mean annual rainfall figures ranges from 1,250mm - 2,000mm. The mean annual temperature of the district is between 25.5°C and 26.5°C. The area records high relative humidity figures ranging from 75% - 90% during the wet season to 70% - 80% during the dry season. The climate of the district is suitable for the growing of various cash and food crops. This is the reason why the district is one of the leading producers of the cash crop like cocoa in Ghana.

1.2.4 Soils

The district being largely part of the forest zone of the country has a wide area covered with the forest ochrosols. The rich forest ochrosols and oxysols soils contribute to the cultivation of cash crops such as cocoa, palm tree, cola, coffee and cashew and food crops like plantains, cocoyam, cassava and maize.

Figure 1.1: Map of Bia West District



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

1.2.5 Vegetation

The district's vegetation is of the moist semi-deciduous (equatorial rain forest) type. The forest vegetation is made up of many different tree species including wawa (Triplochitonselelexylon), mahogany (Khayainvorensis), esa (Celtis), ofram (Terminaliasuperba), edinam (Entandrophragmaivorensio), onyina (Ceibapetandra), kyenkyen (Antiaris Africana) and odum (Miliciaexelsa). There are two forest reserves in the district: Bia North and Bia South forest reserves. The former is a protected reserve while the latter is a productive reserve where timber harvesting is done.

1.3 Political Administration

The district is headed by the District Chief Executive as the political head, and supported by the District Co-ordinating Director, the chief administrative officer. The Bia West District is made up of elected members from twenty-eight (28) Electoral Areas and thirteen (13) appointees. In addition, the Member of Parliament of the Constituency and the District Chief Executive are co-opted members. The district has six (6) Area Councils namely, Adjoafua, Elluokrom, Essam Debiso, Yawmatwa, Oseikojokrom and Akaatiso)

1.4 Social and Cultural Structure

1.4.2 Culture

The major ethnic groups in the district include Sefwis, Bonos, Ashantis, people of the Northern origin and Fantes. The entire Bia West District falls under the jurisdiction of the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area with its overlord (Omanhene) residing at Sefwi Wiawso. The district has divisional and sub chiefs in the major and minor communities respectively. Elluoe is a major festival of the chiefs and people of Sefwi in the district. Traditionally it symbolizes the first or minor harvest of new yam usually around July and August, which is celebrated annually in November-December.

1.5.1 Agricultural Activities

Agriculture, the major economic activity in the district is rain fed and characterized by traditional methods of farming. Even though a number of the working population in the agricultural sector are involved in the production of cocoa, the district also has a comparative advantage in the cultivation of food crops. Rice cultivation in low-lying areas of the district has gained prominence due to the implementation of the Inland Valley Rice Development Project (IVRDP) in the district.

1.5.2 Tourist Attraction

The district has quite a number of potential tourist attractions including the Bia National Park, Monumental Stones, the Adjoafua Stream, Agbozome Market and the Yam Festival (Alluoe).

1.5.3 Mining

The district has granite rocks and deposits of minerals like gold have been discovered in Yawmatwa, Oseikojokrom and Essam Debiso area of the district. Prospecting for minerals deposits is still in progress in some communities in the district.

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.

An acting Census Coordinator engaged by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in 2008 to support GSS in the planning of the Census initially headed the Census Secretariat. 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 are 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 are 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 are the Regional Census Implementation Committee and the District Census Implementation Committee, respectively.

The Regional and District Census Implementation Committees are inter-sectoral in their composition. Members of the Committees are 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 are 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 are included in the census.

Some topics that are not considered core by the UN recommendations but which are found to be of great interest and importance to Ghana and are, 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 are 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 are 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

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. 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 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 are 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 Klotey Sub-Metro (Greater Accra Region). A number of factors are 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 fieldwork

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 are 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 are 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 are 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 are absent from the institutions on Census Night. Out-door sleepers (floating population) are also enumerated on the Census Night.

Enumeration of the household population started on Monday, 27th 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 are listed and where the members of the household are 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 are 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 17th October, 2010, enumeration was completed in most districts. Enumerators who had finished their work are mobilized to assist in the enumeration of localities that are yet to be enumerated in some regional capitals and other fast growing areas. Flooded areas and other inaccessible localities are 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, Ksoa and Techiman are not properly demarcated and some are characterized by large EAs, some enumerators are 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 are that:

- 97.0 percent of all household residents who are in the country on Census Night (26th September, 2010) are 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%) are 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 are 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 are 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 are: geographical location of the population, Household and Non-household population, Literacy and Education, Emigration, Demographic and Economic Characteristics, Disability, Information and 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 are ten (10) administrative regions in Ghana during the 2010 Population and Housing Census as they are 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 are demarcated into 110 districts. In 2004, 28 new districts are created; this increased the number of districts in the country to 138. In 2008, 32 additional districts are 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 are 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 are 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 are classified as urban while localities with less than 5,000 persons are 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) are classified as non-household population. Persons who spent census night in any of the under listed institutions and locations are 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 are in paid employment or self-employment or contributing family workers.
- b. Did not work, but had jobs to return to.
- c. Are unemployed.

The economically not active are persons who did not work and are not seeking for work. They are classified by reasons for not being economically active. Economically not active persons included homemakers, students, retired persons, the disabled and persons who are 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 are classified by the kind of work they are 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 are 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 are 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 are classified as “other”.

Employment Sector

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

Disability

Persons with disability are defined as those who are unable to or are 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)

ICT questions are 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 are 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 are 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

Chapter One provides physical features, political and administrative structures, cultural and social structure, economy and demographic characteristics of the district. Chapter Two elucidates the demographic characteristics including population size, population distribution, migration patterns, fertility and mortality. The social characteristics of the district are discussed in Chapter Three. It focuses on the household composition and structure, marital status, religious affiliation, nationality, educational status and literacy levels.

Chapter Four examines the economic characteristics such as type of economic activity, occupation, industry and employment status. Chapter Five presents the use of information and communication technology. This includes ownership of mobile phones, use of Internet, household ownership of fixed telephone lines and household ownership of desktop or laptop computer. Chapter Six focuses on the issues of disability, that is, population with disability, type of disability, distribution by type of locality, economic activity status and education and literacy. Agricultural activities in the district are highlighted (e.g. households in agriculture and types of farming activities) in Chapter Seven. Housing stock, type of dwelling, holding and tenancy arrangements, construction materials, room occupancy, access to utilities and household facilities, main source of water for drinking, bathing and toilet facilities and method of waste disposal are presented in Chapter Eight. Chapter Nine is devoted to summary of findings, conclusions and policy implications.

CHAPTER TWO

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

2.1 Introduction

Demographic characteristics including population size, distribution and age-sex structure are necessary inputs for effective planning for socio-economic development. These characteristics are influenced by the components of population change i.e. fertility, mortality and migration. The dynamics of the components of population change have numerous demographic and socio-economic implications for development. The objective of this chapter is to analyse the population size and distribution, sex ratio and the population pyramid of the Bia West District. The dynamics of the components of population change of the district are also discussed.

2.2 Population Size and Distribution

District has a total population of 88,939 consisting of 45,717 males and 43,222 females as shown in Table 2.1. The district is predominantly rural with 65,586 (73.7 per cent) of the residents living in villages. The percentage of rural dwellers in the district is higher than the average for the Western Region (57.6 per cent) as well as the national average (49.1 per cent).

2.3 Age-Sex Structure

The age-sex structure which is useful for population projections is presented in Table 2.1. The 0-14 age group accounts for 41.45 per cent of the total population of the district. The percentage of the 0-14 years in the district is higher than the proportions for the Western Region (39%) and Ghana (39.9%). The aged (65+ years) in the district constitute 2.7 per cent of the population which is lower than the national average (4.7 per cent).

The district has a sex ratio of 105.8 compared to 100.0 and 95.2 for Western Region and Ghana respectively (GSS, 2013). The sex ratio for the people in the 15-64 age group and 65+ is more than 100. For instance the sex ratio for the 65+ is 133.6 which means that there are more males than females among those in the age group.

2.4 Age-Dependency Ratio

Age-dependency ratio is a measure of the dependent population made up of those below 15 years and 65+ years, to the independent population, that is, those in the 15-64 years. The ratio is used to measure the burden borne by those in the working age group. The total dependency ratio for the district is 79.1 compared to 74.8 and 76 for Western Region and Ghana respectively. The ratio is higher for females (79.2) than males (79.0) and in the rural (81.2) than the urban (73.5) areas in the district. Child and old age dependency ratios are 74.3 and 4.9 respectively. The total and child dependency ratios for the district are higher for females than males and in the rural than the urban areas.

Table 2.1: Population size by sex

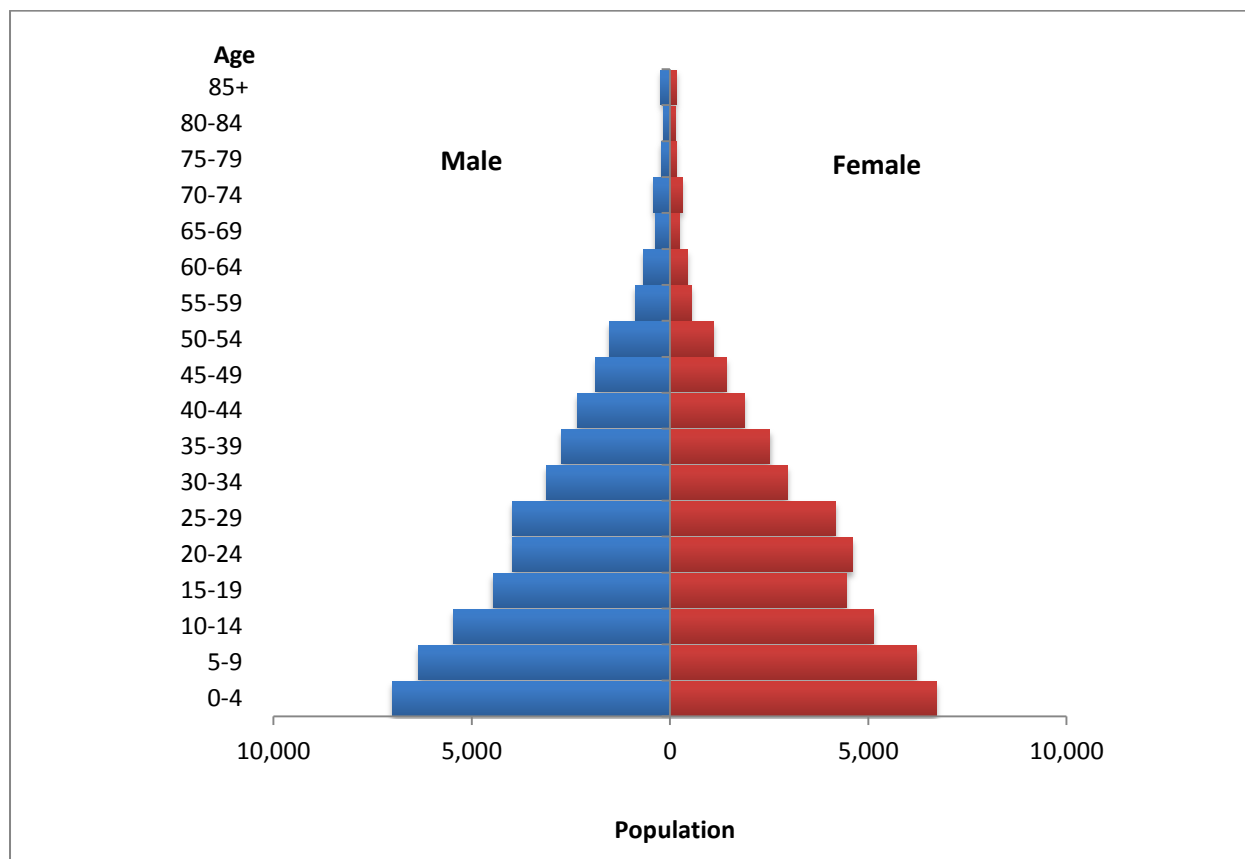
Age Group	Sex						Sex ratio	Type of locality			
	Both Sexes		Male		Female			Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Ages	88,939	100.0	45,717	100.0	43,222	100.0	105.8	23,353	100.0	65,586	100.0
0 - 4	13,719	15.4	6,992	15.3	6,727	15.6	103.9	2,973	12.7	10,746	16.4
5-9	12,562	14.1	6,349	13.9	6,213	14.4	102.2	3,165	13.6	9,397	14.3
10-14	10,587	11.9	5,457	11.9	5,130	11.9	106.4	3,159	13.5	7,428	11.3
15 - 19	8,907	10.0	4,460	9.8	4,447	10.3	100.3	2,818	12.1	6,089	9.3
20 - 24	8,569	9.6	3,970	8.7	4,599	10.6	86.3	2,334	10.0	6,235	9.5
25 - 29	8,155	9.2	3,973	8.7	4,182	9.7	95.0	2,074	8.9	6,081	9.3
30 - 34	6,084	6.8	3,110	6.8	2,974	6.9	104.6	1,451	6.2	4,633	7.1
35 - 39	5,265	5.9	2,743	6.0	2,522	5.8	108.8	1,286	5.5	3,979	6.1
40 - 44	4,217	4.7	2,340	5.1	1,877	4.3	124.7	1,118	4.8	3,099	4.7
45 - 49	3,287	3.7	1,867	4.1	1,420	3.3	131.5	920	3.9	2,367	3.6
50 - 54	2,638	3.0	1,531	3.3	1,107	2.6	138.3	737	3.2	1,901	2.9
55 - 59	1,423	1.6	878	1.9	545	1.3	161.1	431	1.8	992	1.5
60 - 64	1,104	1.2	662	1.4	442	1.0	149.8	294	1.3	810	1.2
65 - 69	614	0.7	369	0.8	245	0.6	150.6	141	0.6	473	0.7
70 - 74	719	0.8	411	0.9	308	0.7	133.4	173	0.7	546	0.8
75 - 79	383	0.4	221	0.5	162	0.4	136.4	100	0.4	283	0.4
80 - 84	304	0.3	153	0.3	151	0.3	101.3	90	0.4	214	0.3
85 - 89	184	0.2	112	0.2	72	0.2	155.6	37	0.2	147	0.2
90 - 94	146	0.2	77	0.2	69	0.2	111.6	37	0.2	109	0.2
95 - 99	72	0.1	42	0.1	30	0.1	140.0	15	0.1	57	0.1
All Ages	88,939		45,717		43,222		105.8	23,353		65,586	
0-14	36,868		18,798		18,070		104.0	9,297		27,571	
15-64	49,649		25,534		24,115		105.9	13,463		36,186	
65+	2,422		1,385		1,037		133.6	593		1,829	
Total dependency ratio	79.1		79		79.2			73.5		81.2	
Child dependency	74.3		73.6		74.9			69.1		76.2	
Old age dependency	4.9		5.4		4.3			4.4		5.1	

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.5 Population Pyramid

Population pyramid is a graphical representation of the age-sex composition of a population. Figure 2.1 shows the population pyramid of the Bia West District. The pyramid which has a broad base and tapers off with increasing age depicts a youthful population similar to the population pyramid of the country. As shown in Figure 2.1 there are marked differences in the number of males and females aged 40 years and above with the exception of the 80-84 age group.

Figure 2.1: Population pyramid



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.6 Fertility, Mortality and Migration

This section examines the components of population change – fertility, mortality and migration. The interactions of these components determine the population size, population growth and population distribution.

2.6.1 Fertility

Table 2.2 presents various fertility measurements including Crude Birth Rate (CBR), General Fertility Rate (GFR) and Total Fertility Rate (TFR). Fertility level in the district is higher than the average for the Western Region. For instance, the TFR for the district is 3.8 compared to 3.6 for the Western Region.

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

District	Population	Women 15-49 years	Births in last 12 months	TFR	*GFR	**CBR
All Districts	2,376,021	602,769	63,769	3.6	105.8	26.8
Jomoro	150,107	38,145	4,245	3.7	111.3	28.3
Ellembelle	87,501	22,148	2,381	3.6	107.5	27.2
Nzema East	60,828	15,155	1,734	3.7	114.4	28.5
Ahanta West	106,215	26,356	3,112	3.9	118.1	29.3
Sekondi Takoradi Metropolis	559,548	158,170	12,883	2.8	81.5	23.0
Shama	81,966	20,778	2,371	3.9	114.1	28.9
Wassa East	81,073	18,717	2,509	4.5	134.0	30.9
Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal	90,477	22,852	2,278	3.2	99.7	25.2
Prestea/Huni Valley	159,304	39,035	4,898	4.2	125.5	30.7
Wassa Amenfi East	83,478	19,368	2,481	4.4	128.1	29.7
Wassa Amenfi West	92,152	22,124	2,387	3.7	107.9	25.9
Aowin	117,886	28,511	3,253	3.9	114.1	27.6
Sefwi Akontombra	82,467	19,026	2,158	3.6	113.4	26.2
Sefwi Wiawso	139,200	34,406	3,668	3.7	106.6	26.4
Sefwi Bibiani-Ahwiaso Bekwai	123,272	30,844	2,919	3.2	94.6	23.7
Juabeso	58,435	14,521	1,792	4.2	123.4	30.7
Bia west	88,939	22,021	2,598	3.8	118.0	29.2
Mpohor	42,923	10,324	1,299	4.3	125.8	30.3
Wassa Amenfi Central	69,014	15,867	1,895	4.1	119.4	27.5
Suaman	20,529	5,141	482	3.2	93.8	23.5
Bodi	53,314	12,708	1,556	4.1	122.4	29.2
Bia East	27,393	6,552	870	4.2	132.8	31.8

Source: Computed from the 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

**Number of live births per 1,000 population

Further analysis of the fertility dynamics of the female population 12 years and older in the Bia West District is presented in Table 2.3. There are 28,035 females 12 years and older in the district with the highest number (4,599) and the lowest number (545) in the 20-24 and 55-59 age groups respectively. Children ever born to females 12+ years is 70,176 consisting of 35,379 males and 243,797 females. The 35-39 and the 12-14 age groups registered the highest and the lowest number of children ever born respectively. There is no discernible pattern of the children ever born by sex. The number of reported surviving children in the district is a reflection of the number of children ever born as shown in Table 2.3. About 90 percent of the children ever born in the district survived. The percentage of males (89.72) who survived is slightly lower than the females (91.00).

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

Age	Females	Children Ever Born			Children Surviving		
		Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
All ages	28,035	70,176	35,379	34,797	63,432	31,745	31,687
12 - 14	2,883	24	12	12	20	8	12
15 - 19	4,447	645	313	332	576	269	307
20 - 24	4,599	4,558	2,294	2,264	4,241	2,081	2,160
25 - 29	4,182	8,733	4,467	4,266	8,154	4,123	4,031
30 - 34	2,974	9,597	4,882	4,715	8,919	4,499	4,420
35 - 39	2,522	10,655	5,402	5,253	9,935	4,991	4,944
40 - 44	1,877	9,304	4,656	4,648	8,541	4,256	4,285
45 - 49	1,420	7,969	3,981	3,988	7,219	3,616	3,603
50 - 54	1,107	6,663	3,418	3,245	5,909	3,021	2,888
55 - 59	545	3,423	1,698	1,725	2,952	1,447	1,505
60 +	1,479	8,605	4,256	4,349	6,966	3,434	3,532

Source: Computed from the 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.6.2 Mortality

The probability of dying during a given time period is linked to many factors, such as age, sex, occupation, and economic status. The incidence of death can reveal much about a population's standard of living and health care. Mortality, as one of the three components of population growth, plays an important role in determining the growth of a population. The crude death rate can be particularly affected by age structure. Death rates are calculated for specific age groups in order to compare mortality at different ages or at the same age over time. From Table 2.4 the district recorded a death rate of 6.7 which is greater than the region and some districts figures. Compared to districts like Wassa East (11.4), Jomoro (9.7) and Shama (7.2), Bia West recorded the least death rate in households. The death rate (also called the crude death rate) is the number of deaths per 1,000 population in a given year.

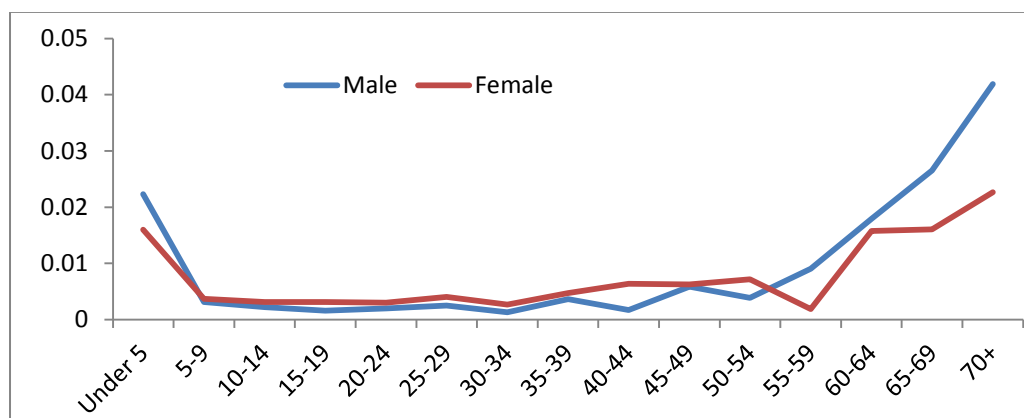
Table 2.4: Total population, deaths in households and crude death rate by District

District	Total Population	Deaths in households		*Crude death rate
		Number	Percent	
All Districts	2,376,021	14,825	0.62	6.2
Jomoro	150,107	1,452	0.97	9.7
Ellembelle	87,501	471	0.54	5.4
Nzema East	60,828	425	0.7	7
Ahanta West	106,215	683	0.64	6.4
Sekondi Takoradi Metropolis	559,548	2,721	0.49	4.9
Shama	81,966	590	0.72	7.2
Wassa East	81,073	926	1.14	11.4
Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal	90,477	351	0.39	3.9
Prestea/Huni Valley	159,304	974	0.61	6.1
Wassa Amenfi East	83,478	589	0.71	7.1
Wassa Amenfi West	92,152	530	0.58	5.8
Aowin	117,886	551	0.47	4.7
Sefwi Akontombra	82,467	316	0.38	3.8
Sefwi Wiawso	139,200	890	0.64	6.4
Sefwi Bibiani-Ahwiaso Bekwai	123,272	1,053	0.85	8.5
Juabeso	58,435	355	0.61	6.1
Bia west	88,939	595	0.67	6.7
Mpohor	42,923	390	0.91	9.1
Wassa Amenfi Central	69,014	375	0.54	5.4
Suaman	20,529	98	0.48	4.8
Bodi	53,314	364	0.68	6.8
Bia East	27,393	126	0.46	4.6

Source: Computed from the 2010 Population and Housing Census

Note: * Number of deaths per 1,000 population

Figure 2.2 shows reported age specific death rates by sex. Infant mortality and under-five mortality rates are higher among males than females in the Bia West District. However, the death rates among females aged 5-54 years are higher than males. Figure 2.2 further shows that the age specific death rates for males aged 55 years and above are higher than that of females in the same age groups.

Figure 2.2: Reported age specific death rates by sex

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.6.3 Migration

Table 2.5 shows birthplace by duration of residence of migrants in the Bia West District. The district registered 14,570 migrants. Majority (89.1 per cent) of the migrants in the district were born outside the Western Region. Out of the migrants who were born outside the Western Region, 4,091 were born in the Central Region compared to 117 born in the Upper West Region.

The highest proportion (28.8 per cent) of migrants has stayed in the district for 1-4 years. The duration of residence varies by the region of birth. For instance the highest proportion (24.7 per cent) of the migrants who were born in the Central Region has stayed for 1-4 years while 30.7 per cent of those born in the Eastern Region have stayed for 20+ years.

Table 2.5: Birthplace by duration of residence of migrants

Birthplace	Number	Duration of residence (%)				
		Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20+ years
Total	38,508	10.0	29.6	18.0	20.1	22.2
Born elsewhere in the region	4,206	12.9	32.9	18.1	17.2	18.8
Born elsewhere in another region:						
Western	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central	1,907	7.9	20.4	15.9	17.9	37.9
Greater Accra	712	9.6	23.9	14.2	15.9	36.5
Volta	1,302	10.3	19.7	13.7	23.2	33.1
Eastern	2,386	7.4	17.1	13.0	21.4	41.2
Ashanti	5,129	9.5	23.9	14.6	22.0	29.9
Brong Ahafo	10,543	9.8	30.7	17.4	20.8	21.4
Northern	2,975	9.2	35.0	20.4	17.8	17.5
Upper East	3,918	9.1	33.3	22.2	23.3	12.1
Upper West	3,776	10.6	37.5	22.9	20.0	9.0
Outside Ghana	1,654	223.0	564.0	371.0	247.0	249.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER THREE

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Introduction

This chapter comprehensively deals with the social characteristics of the Bia West District. The section also analyses household composition, marital status, and nationality of residents in the district at the time of the census, religious affiliation, educational attainment and literacy.

3.2 Household Size, Composition and Structure

The social structure of Ghana is reflected in the country's household composition. The main components of this structure are the household, household heads, spouses, children and other relatives. Even though there has been modernization well across the country, migration and the traditions of the extended family still persist as in several households; extended family members co-live with nuclear family members.

3.2.1 Household size

Table 3.1 provides information on household size by locality in the Bia West District. The district has a household population of 88,204 with a total number of 19,809 households. The average household size from the 2010 PHC data in the district is 4.5 persons per household. The average household per house is 1.3 with urban dwellers having a higher proportion than rural dwellers.

Table 3.1: Household size by locality

Categories	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total household population	2,307,395	88,204	23,087	65,117
Number of houses	380,104	15,420	3,059	12,361
Number of households	553,634	19,809	4,853	14,956
Average households per house	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.2
Average household size	4.3	4.5	4.8	4.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.2 Household composition

Household composition is defined in terms of the relationship of members of the household to the person they accept and recognize as the head and who is responsible for the management and upkeep of the 'house' (GSS, 2000; GSS, 2005, p. 23). Further, it refers to the patterns of relationships between the head of household and other members of the household. This includes relationships such as spouse (wife/husband), child (son/daughter), grandchild, parent/parent-in-law, brother/sister, other relative and non-relative. A head of household is a member of the household recognized as such by the other members of the household. The head of a household is generally the person who has economic and social responsibility for the household. All relationships are defined with reference to the head.

Table 3.2 shows that there are 88,204 members in all households in the district. Out of this, 22.5 per cent are heads. When household membership is decomposed by sex, there are 34.2 and 10.0 per cent of males and females respectively who are heads. Also, there are thinly more male children (47.2%) as compared to female children 46.2%). Children (46.7%) represent the highest in the household composition. Largely, households in the district comprise heads (22.5%), spouse (wife/ husband) (12.9%) and child (son/daughter) (46.7%), given an indication that households in the district are mainly nuclear. Less than one-fifth (17.9%) of household members are from extended backgrounds.

Table 3.2: Household population by composition and sex

Household composition	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	88,204	100.0	45,304	100.0	42,900	100.0
Head	19,809	22.5	15,502	34.2	4,307	10.0
Spouse (wife/husband)	11,409	12.9	376	0.8	11,033	25.7
Child (son/daughter)	41,183	46.7	21,372	47.2	19,811	46.2
Parent/Parent in-law	246	0.3	44	0.1	202	0.5
Son/Daughter in-law	431	0.5	144	0.3	287	0.7
Grandchild	4,389	5.0	2,220	4.9	2,169	5.1
Brother/Sister	3,209	3.6	1,941	4.3	1,268	3.0
Step child	726	0.8	368	0.8	358	0.8
Adopted/Foster child	319	0.4	154	0.3	165	0.4
Other relative	4,545	5.2	2,045	4.5	2,500	5.8
Non-relative	1,938	2.2	1,138	2.5	800	1.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.3 Household structure

Household structure is the classification of ties of affiliation of persons who constitute households. It refers to a kind of bonding among or type of relationship (whether related or unrelated) between household members who were present on census night.

Table 3.3 shows that out of a total of 88,204 household population 38.3 percent is nuclear family structure (head, spouse(s), and children). Extended household structure (heads, spouse(s), children, head's relatives constitute 23.4 percent and the lowest is the single parent extended plus non-relatives. Among male and female-headed households, the trend is similar. Thus, the extended family system has being ignored in spite of modernization today. The extended family has been a source of support for the immediate family in terms of conflict resolution and other activities (Kwatei & Kwakye, 2009). The proportion of single parent nuclear household structure is higher in female-headed households (10.0%) than in male-headed households (8.2%), and this is repeated in the single extended. Thus there are more women involved in single parenting in the District than men.

Table 3.3: Household population by structure and sex

Household structure	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	88,204	100.0	45,304	100.0	42,900	100.0
Head only	3,189	3.6	2,451	5.4	738	1.7
Head and a spouse only	2,048	2.3	1,047	2.3	1,001	2.3
Nuclear (Head spouse(s) children)	33,811	38.3	17,331	38.3	16,480	38.4
Extended (Head spouse(s) children Head's relatives)	20,612	23.4	10,393	22.9	10,219	23.8
Extended + non relatives	2,142	2.4	1,112	2.5	1,030	2.4
Head spouse(s) and other composition	3,912	4.4	2,019	4.5	1,893	4.4
Single parent Nuclear	7,985	9.1	3,706	8.2	4,279	10.0
Single parent Extended	8,606	9.8	3,847	8.5	4,759	11.1
Single parent Extended + non relative	881	1.0	416	0.9	465	1.1
Head and other composition but no spouse	5,018	5.7	2,982	6.6	2,036	4.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3 Marital Status

Marriage is a social institution which establishes the legitimacy of children (Gough, 1959). In Ghana, marriages provide companionship for couples engaged in such contracts. Marriage includes formal unions that are either by ordinance or are traditionally or religiously sanctioned. There are also informal unions known as cohabitation with no legal binding. It is generally recognized as a union between a man and a woman with the knowledge and consent of both families. It also means lending support for each other, and a legitimate avenue for sexual satisfaction and reproduction. The 2010 Census collected information on the marital status of persons aged 12 years and older.

3.3.1 Population 12 years and older by marital status and sex

Table 3.4 shows that there are 58,071 persons aged 12 and older in the district. From this, 37.9 per cent have never married with 46.7 per cent currently married. It is worthy of note that 8.5 per cent of persons in 12 years or older are in informal relationships and are predominantly within the age cohort of 25- 29 years. This phenomenon is widespread among persons within ages 20 to 39 in the district. About (4.6%) are either divorced (2.9%) or separated (1.7%). Majority of the population 65 years and over are widowed, which imply high adult dependency, especially where the surviving partner is not meaningfully engaged in any economically self-sustaining activities. Also, about 45.2 per cent of females are married compared to 46.7 per cent of males in this category. There is high risk of divorce or separation by age 40 – 46 or higher.

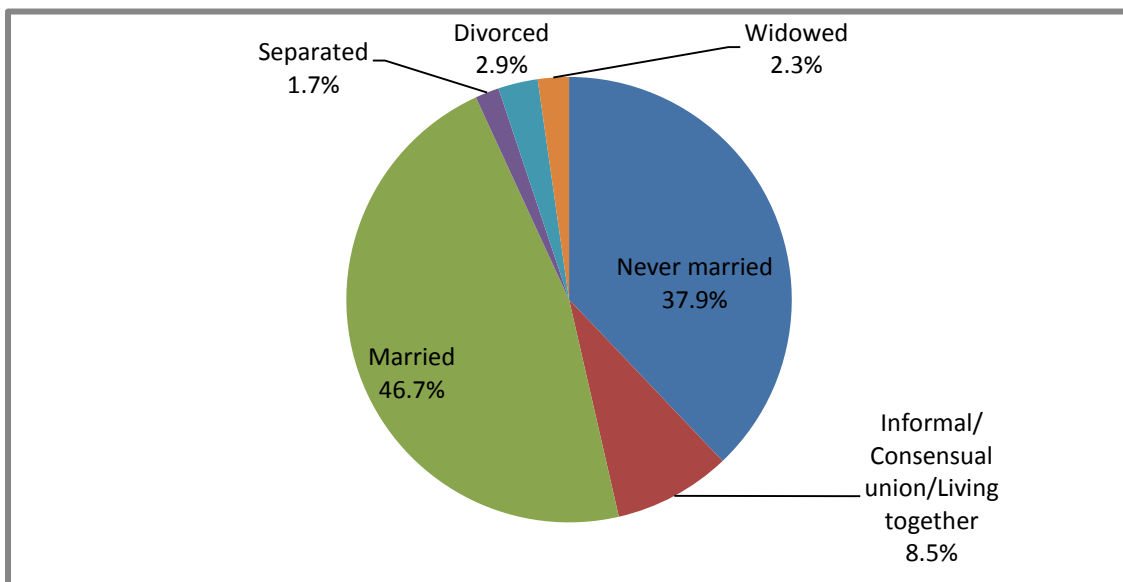
Table 3.4: Persons 12 years and older by sex, age-group and marital status

Sex/Age-group	Number	Total	Never married	Informal / Consensual union/ Living together	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed
Both Sexes								
Total	58,071	100.0	37.9	8.5	46.7	1.7	2.9	2.3
12-14	6,000	100.0	95.6	0.7	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	8,907	100.0	88.0	3.9	7.7	0.3	0.1	0.0
20 - 24	8,569	100.0	54.7	12.9	29.6	1.6	1.1	0.2
25 - 29	8,155	100.0	28.4	15.5	51.4	2.0	2.3	0.4
30 - 34	6,084	100.0	11.5	13.0	68.4	2.7	3.5	1.0
35 - 39	5,265	100.0	5.1	10.5	76.8	2.1	4.0	1.4
40 - 44	4,217	100.0	3.1	7.6	77.3	3.4	5.6	3.0
45 - 49	3,287	100.0	2.5	6.4	79.8	2.1	5.4	3.8
50 - 54	2,638	100.0	1.6	4.6	78.3	2.8	6.6	6.1
55 - 59	1,423	100.0	1.1	3.7	76.7	2.3	7.2	9.0
60 - 64	1,104	100.0	3.4	4.1	68.5	3.7	9.0	11.3
65+	2,422	100.0	6.0	3.7	61.8	2.2	6.9	19.3
Male								
Total	30,036	100.0	43.2	7.8	45.2	1.3	1.9	0.6
12-14	3,117	100.0	95.5	0.8	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	4,460	100.0	94.5	1.3	4.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
20 - 24	3,970	100.0	77.0	7.0	14.8	0.7	0.4	0.1
25 - 29	3,973	100.0	43.2	15.5	38.6	1.5	1.2	0.1
30 - 34	3,110	100.0	16.6	14.9	64.0	2.1	2.3	0.2
35 - 39	2,743	100.0	7.3	12.2	75.6	1.4	3.0	0.4
40 - 44	2,340	100.0	4.2	9.9	78.7	2.7	3.5	0.9
45 - 49	1,867	100.0	3.1	6.6	84.7	1.5	3.1	1.0
50 - 54	1,531	100.0	1.9	5.4	84.1	2.5	4.4	1.8
55 - 59	878	100.0	1.3	4.6	86.1	1.6	4.8	1.7
60 - 64	662	100.0	3.0	3.0	82.0	3.2	5.7	3.0
65+	1,385	100.0	5.7	5.0	79.1	1.6	4.1	4.5
Female								
Total	28,035	100.0	32.2	9.3	48.3	2.2	4.0	4.0
12-14	2,883	100.0	95.7	0.6	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	4,447	100.0	81.5	6.4	11.4	0.4	0.2	0.1
20 - 24	4,599	100.0	35.4	18.0	42.3	2.3	1.7	0.2
25 - 29	4,182	100.0	14.4	15.6	63.5	2.4	3.3	0.7
30 - 34	2,974	100.0	6.2	11.1	72.9	3.3	4.7	1.8
35 - 39	2,522	100.0	2.8	8.7	78.2	2.8	5.2	2.4
40 - 44	1,877	100.0	1.7	4.7	75.7	4.3	8.2	5.5
45 - 49	1,420	100.0	1.8	6.2	73.3	2.8	8.5	7.5
50 - 54	1,107	100.0	1.1	3.4	70.3	3.3	9.7	12.2
55 - 59	545	100.0	0.9	2.4	61.5	3.5	11.0	20.7
60 - 64	442	100.0	4.1	5.7	48.2	4.5	13.8	23.8
65+	1,037	100.0	6.4	2.0	38.8	3.1	10.7	39.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The Figure 3.1 is a pie chart to illustrate graphically, the marital status of persons 12 years and older in the District

Figure 3.1: Persons 12 years and older by marital status



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.2 Population 12 years and older by marital status and Education

In Table 3.5 is shown persons 12 years and older by their sex, marital status and level of education in the Bia West District. Out of 58,071 persons in this category, 33.6 per cent have no education whilst 55.1 per cent have basic level education and 9.1 per cent secondary. Only 0.2 per cent in the category has tertiary education.

Among the female population of 13,543, 53.8 per cent women in marriages have no education and a proportion of 41.5 per cent have up to basic level. This has implications for maternal and child health. Generally, education is higher among males category than females, a trend that need to be improved as it is critical for attaining maternal health care in the District.

Table 3.5: Persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and level of education

Sex/Marital status	Number	All levels	No Education	Basic ¹	Secondary ²	Voc/ Tech/ Comm	Post middle/ secondary certificate/ diploma ³	Tertiary ⁴
Both Sexes								
Total	58,071	100.0	33.6	55.1	9.1	0.6	1.5	0.2
Never married	22,005	100.0	14.2	68.8	15.1	0.3	1.3	0.2
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	4,947	100.0	37.1	54.6	6.8	0.6	1.0	0.1
Married	27,129	100.0	46.1	45.7	5.4	0.8	1.7	0.3
Separated	1,006	100.0	39.1	52.7	6.0	0.4	1.7	0.2
Divorced	1,673	100.0	44.7	49.7	3.4	0.9	1.1	0.2
Widowed	1,311	100.0	69.3	27.8	1.9	0.1	0.9	0.0
Male								
Total	30,036	100.0	27.8	57.8	11.2	0.7	2.2	0.4
Never married	12,977	100.0	14.8	67.1	15.9	0.3	1.6	0.3
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	2,344	100.0	32.3	55.7	9.1	0.9	1.8	0.1
Married	13,586	100.0	38.4	50.0	7.4	1.0	2.7	0.5
Separated	383	100.0	38.4	49.6	7.3	0.3	3.9	0.5
Divorced	559	100.0	37.6	52.8	6.3	1.6	1.3	0.5
Widowed	187	100.0	53.5	42.2	2.7	0.5	1.1	0.0
Female								
Total	28,035	100.0	39.8	52.1	6.8	0.5	0.7	0.1
Never married	9,028	100.0	13.4	71.2	14.0	0.5	1.0	0.1
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	2,603	100.0	41.3	53.6	4.6	0.3	0.2	0.0
Married	13,543	100.0	53.8	41.5	3.4	0.6	0.7	0.1
Separated	623	100.0	39.5	54.6	5.1	0.5	0.3	0.0
Divorced	1,114	100.0	48.3	48.1	2.0	0.5	1.1	0.0
Widowed	1,124	100.0	71.9	25.4	1.8	0.0	0.9	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing

3.3.3 Population 12 years and older by marital status and economic activity status

Table 3.6 shows information on persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and economic activity status. The table indicates that out of 58,071, 67.5 per cent are employed, 2.5 per cent unemployed and 30.0 per cent economically not active. Out of the employed, 89.2 per cent are married whilst 1.8 are not. It is rational that 89.2 per cent of persons 12 years and above who are employed are in marital union. It is relatively easier for such individuals to provide for their families than the unemployed. Again, 62.7 per cent of those who never got married are economically not active and 3.0 per cent are actually unemployed. A chunk of this group may be in school striving to better their lots for the future.

Table 3.6: Persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and economic activity status

Sex/Marital status	Total		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active*	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	58,071	100.0	39,209	67.5	1,450	2.5	17,412	30.0
Never married	22,005	100.0	7,554	34.3	662	3.0	13,789	62.7
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	4,947	100.0	4,244	85.8	227	4.6	476	9.6
Married	27,129	100.0	24,190	89.2	475	1.8	2,464	9.1
Separated	1,006	100.0	787	78.2	30	3.0	189	18.8
Divorced	1,673	100.0	1,440	86.1	47	2.8	186	11.1
Widowed	1,311	100.0	994	75.8	9	0.7	308	23.5
Male								
Total	30,036	100.0	21,106	70.3	599	2.0	8,331	27.7
Never married	12,977	100.0	5,090	39.2	408	3.1	7,479	57.6
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	2,344	100.0	2,165	92.4	66	2.8	113	4.8
Married	13,586	100.0	12,876	94.8	104	0.8	606	4.5
Separated	383	100.0	315	82.2	11	2.9	57	14.9
Divorced	559	100.0	506	90.5	7	1.3	46	8.2
Widowed	187	100.0	154	82.4	3	1.6	30	16.0
Female								
Total	28,035	100.0	18,103	64.6	851	3.0	9,081	32.4
Never married	9,028	100.0	2,464	27.3	254	2.8	6,310	69.9
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	2,603	100.0	2,079	79.9	161	6.2	363	13.9
Married	13,543	100.0	11,314	83.5	371	2.7	1,858	13.7
Separated	623	100.0	472	75.8	19	3.0	132	21.2
Divorced	1,114	100.0	934	83.8	40	3.6	140	12.6
Widowed	1,124	100.0	840	74.7	6	0.5	278	24.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010, Population and Housing Census

*The economically not active include pensioners/retired; disabled/too sick to work, too old/too young, students

3.4 Nationality

Nationality is defined as the country to which a person belongs. Ghanaian nationals are classified as Ghanaian by birth and by naturalization. Table 3.7 shows the nationality of the population enumerated in the District during the 2010 Population and Housing Census. Table 3.6 shows that 94.1 per cent of the total population in the District are Ghanaians by birth. By sex, there are relatively less (93.5%) males born in District and by virtue of that Ghana than there are females (94.3%). Ghanaians by naturalization have a proportion of 0.6 per cent and a few Ghanaians who carry dual citizenship (2.3%) in the District. Among other nationals, there are more males than females which is consistent with international migration patterns.

Table 3.7: Population by nationality and sex

Nationality	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	88,939	100.0	45,717	100.0	43,222	100.0
Ghanaian by birth	83,650	94.1	42,886	93.8	40,764	94.3
Dual nationality (Ghanaian & Other)	2,027	2.3	1,037	2.3	990	2.3
Ghanaian by naturalisation	578	0.6	288	0.6	290	0.7
ECOWAS	1,957	2.2	1,111	2.4	846	2.0
African other than ECOWAS	435	0.5	250	0.5	185	0.4
Other	292	0.3	145	0.3	147	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census.

3.5 Religious Affiliation

Table 3.8 shows the religious affiliation of the people of Bia West District by sex. The Pentecostal/Charismatic (24.5%) dominates followed Catholics (21.3%) with Traditionalists (1.1%) and “Others” (0.6%) reporting the least religious groups in the District. The population of Christians grouped together command 76.2 per cent of the District population. About 5.6 per cent have no religion and there are more men (6.7%) in this category than women (4.3%).

Table 3.8: Population by religion and sex

Religion	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	88,939	100.0	45,717	100.0	43,222	100.0
No religion	4,956	5.6	3,084	6.7	1,872	4.3
Catholic	18,951	21.3	9,547	20.9	9,404	21.8
Protestants (Anglican Lutheran etc.)	17,570	19.8	8,870	19.4	8,700	20.1
Pentecostal/Charismatic	21,826	24.5	10,703	23.4	11,123	25.7
Other Christian	9,463	10.6	4,784	10.5	4,679	10.8
Islam	14,694	16.5	7,876	17.2	6,818	15.8
Traditionalist	969	1.1	588	1.3	381	0.9
Other	510	0.6	265	0.6	245	0.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6 Literacy and Education

3.6.1 Literacy

As shown in Table 3.9, 40,285 representing 67.2 per cent of persons 11 years and older are literate. Out of the literate group, 68.3 per cent are literate in both English and Ghanaian language and 19.9 per cent are literate in English only and 10.6 per cent in Ghanaian language only. An insignificant proportion of 0.7 per cent is literate in English and French and 0.4 per cent in English, French and Ghanaian Language despite the closeness of the District to the border of La Cote D’Ivoire. Among males, a higher proportion (71.3%) is literate in English and Ghanaian language than their female counterparts (64.5%). The reverse occurs with regards to literacy in English where females have better (22.4%) outcomes than males (18.0%). There were slight differences in the proportion of the population who are literate in English, French and Ghanaian language between males and females as shown in Table 3.8.

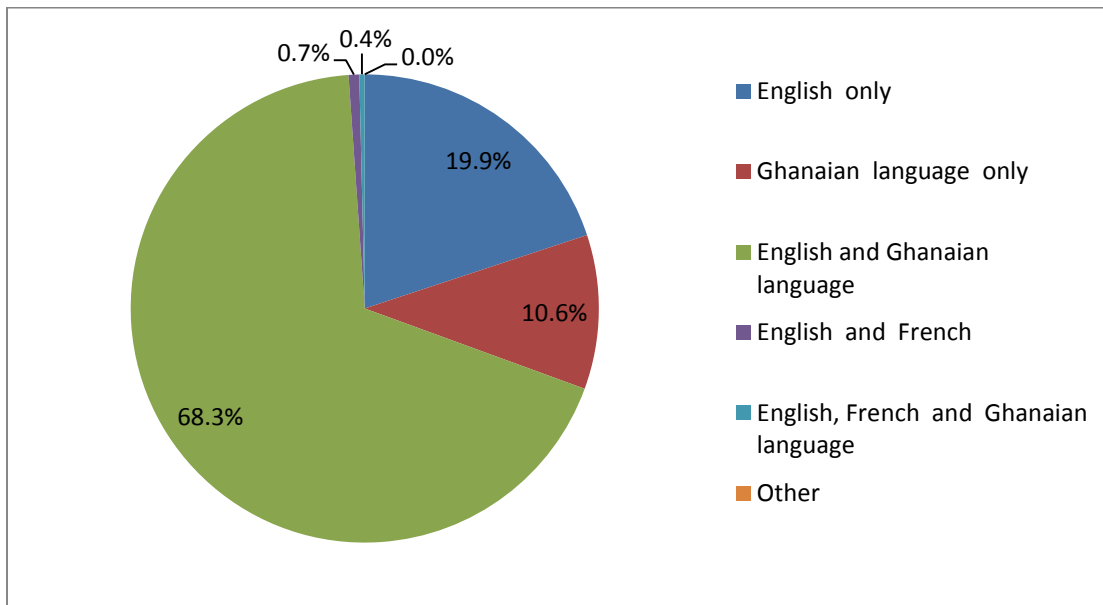
Table 3.9: Population 11 years and older by sex, age and literacy status

Age group	None (not literate)	Literate	Total	English only	Ghanaian language only	English and Ghanaian language	English and French	English, French and Ghanaian language
Both sexes								
Total	19,623	40285.0	100.0	19.9	10.6	68.3	0.7	0.4
11-14	436	7401.0	100.0	31.6	7.8	60.3	0.2	0.1
15-19	1,270	7637.0	100.0	21.2	6.7	71.3	0.5	0.3
20-24	2,675	5894.0	100.0	17.4	9.5	72.1	0.8	0.3
25-29	3,008	5147.0	100.0	17.8	12.0	68.7	1.0	0.5
30-34	2,612	3472.0	100.0	16.6	14.4	67.1	1.4	0.4
35-39	2,294	2971.0	100.0	16.1	15.3	67.7	0.6	0.3
40-44	1,892	2325.0	100.0	15.8	15.1	67.3	1.1	0.8
45-49	1,475	1812.0	100.0	12.8	14.3	71.7	0.8	0.4
50-54	1,176	1462.0	100.0	13.9	12.8	71.7	1.0	0.6
55-59	583	840.0	100.0	11.5	10.1	76.3	1.0	1.1
60-64	602	502.0	100.0	11.2	12.4	73.7	2.0	0.8
65+	1,600	822.0	100.0	14.4	15.2	69.0	0.7	0.7
Male								
Total	8,408	22559.0	100.0	18.0	9.4	71.3	0.8	0.5
11-14	175	3873.0	100.0	30.9	7.2	61.5	0.2	0.2
15-19	480	3980.0	100.0	20.0	6.3	72.7	0.7	0.3
20-24	980	2990.0	100.0	15.5	7.9	75.5	0.8	0.3
25-29	1,242	2731.0	100.0	16.1	9.8	72.2	1.1	0.8
30-34	1,179	1931.0	100.0	14.7	12.0	71.6	1.2	0.6
35-39	988	1755.0	100.0	13.1	13.9	72.0	0.6	0.5
40-44	842	1498.0	100.0	14.5	12.1	70.9	1.3	1.2
45-49	681	1186.0	100.0	11.1	13.0	74.4	0.9	0.6
50-54	515	1016.0	100.0	11.9	11.0	75.5	0.8	0.8
55-59	258	620.0	100.0	10.6	7.7	79.2	1.0	1.5
60-64	281	381.0	100.0	10.2	9.4	76.9	2.4	1.0
65+	787	598.0	100.0	12.2	13.0	73.1	1.0	0.7
Female								
Total	11,215	17726.0	100.0	22.4	12.3	64.5	0.6	0.2
11-14	261	3528.0	100.0	32.3	8.4	59.0	0.2	0.1
15-19	790	3657.0	100.0	22.5	7.2	69.8	0.3	0.2
20-24	1,695	2904.0	100.0	19.3	11.1	68.5	0.7	0.3
25-29	1,766	2416.0	100.0	19.8	14.6	64.7	0.8	0.2
30-34	1,433	1541.0	100.0	19.1	17.5	61.5	1.6	0.3
35-39	1,306	1216.0	100.0	20.5	17.4	61.4	0.7	0.0
40-44	1,050	827.0	100.0	18.1	20.3	60.7	0.8	0.0
45-49	794	626.0	100.0	16.0	16.8	66.6	0.6	0.0
50-54	661	446.0	100.0	18.4	16.8	63.0	1.6	0.2
55-59	325	220.0	100.0	14.1	16.8	68.2	0.9	0.0
60-64	321	121.0	100.0	14.0	21.5	63.6	0.8	0.0
65+	813	224.0	100.0	20.1	21.0	58.0	0.0	0.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 3.2 is to emphasize, in a pie chart, the data presented in the Table 3.8. It indicates that among the population 11 years and older, literate in both English and Ghanaian language constitutes 68.3 per cent and followed by those who are literate in English only (19.9%).

Figure 3.2: Population 11 years and older by literacy status and the type of language



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.2 Education

From the Table 3.10, about 49.2 per cent of the population 3 years and older who are currently in school are in Primary school; 18.5 per cent in Kindergarten and 16.7 per cent in JSS/JHS. Among the sexes, the trend is the same; 48.2 per cent males and 50.3 per cent females are in the Primary school. There are however higher proportions of females (19.1%) in kindergarten than males (18.0%) and the reverse is true at the JSS/JHS level; making males out-number females at the higher levels of education in the district.

About 37.2 per cent of 25,544 have completed the JSS/JHS grade whilst 25.1 per cent have completed Middle with 21.7 per cent who completed primary school grades. In terms of the sexes, more females (43.3% out of 11,094) completed the JSS/JHS grade than the males (32.6% out of 14,450). More males (2.6%) however have completed tertiary as opposed to females (0.6%).

Table 3.10: 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	32,622	100.0	17,269	100.0	15,353	100.0	25,544	100.0	14,450	100.0	11,094	100.0
Nursery	2,598	8.0	1,378	8.0	1,220	7.9	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Kindergarten	6,033	18.5	3,103	18.0	2,930	19.1	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Primary	16,048	49.2	8,323	48.2	7,725	50.3	5,536	21.7	2,489	17.2	3,047	27.5
JSS/JHS	5,444	16.7	3,002	17.4	2,442	15.9	9,509	37.2	4,705	32.6	4,804	43.3
Middle	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	6,416	25.1	4,405	30.5	2,011	18.1
SSS/SHS	2,168	6.6	1,233	7.1	935	6.1	2,366	9.3	1,554	10.8	812	7.3
Secondary	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	733	2.9	569	3.9	164	1.5
Vocational/Technical/ Commercial	26	0.1	13	0.1	13	0.1	302	1.2	183	1.3	119	1.1
Post middle/secondary certificate	124	0.4	77	0.4	47	0.3	242	0.9	176	1.2	66	0.6
Tertiary	181	0.6	140	0.8	41	0.3	440	1.7	369	2.6	71	0.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FOUR

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter seeks to analyse data on economic activities undertaken in the Bia West District. The main focus of the analysis is on five areas, economic activity status, occupation, industry, employment status, and employment sector. There is also information on the economically active population and economically not active population, the employed and unemployed. Although data was collected on population five years and older, most of the analyses in this section will be on the population 15 years and older.

4.2 Economic Activity Status

The question on economic activity was asked of all persons five years and older who engaged in any activity for pay (cash or kind) or profit or family gain for at least one hour during the seven days preceding census night. A person was regarded as economically active population if that person:

Work for pay or profit or family gain for at least one hour within the seven days preceding census night; this category of persons included those who were in paid employment or self-employment or contributing family workers; did not work, but had jobs to go back to; and are unemployed and actively looking for work.

The overall development of a district is based on the production of goods and services. Consumption patterns of all persons enumerated are captured, irrespective of their ages and sexes. The results show that only a portion of the population produces these goods and services in the district.

On the other hand, economically not active persons were those who did not work and were not seeking for work. This category includes homemakers, full time students, retired persons, the disabled and persons who were unable to work because of their age or ill-health.

Table 4.1 presents information on the population 15 years and older by activity status and sex. From the table, 76.9 percent of the population 15 years and older are economically active, while those economically not active constitute 23.1 per cent. Among the economically active population, 96.4 per cent are employed and 3.6 per cent are unemployed in the district.

The table further shows that the proportion of females (25.9%) is more than the proportion of males (20.5%) who are economically not active. Among those who perform home duties (household chores), females predominate males, perhaps due to gender/sex stereotyping. The proportion of economically not active males in full time education (68.1%) is higher than females (45.0%). This could be due to the stereotype system where males go to school while females stay at home and help with household chores.

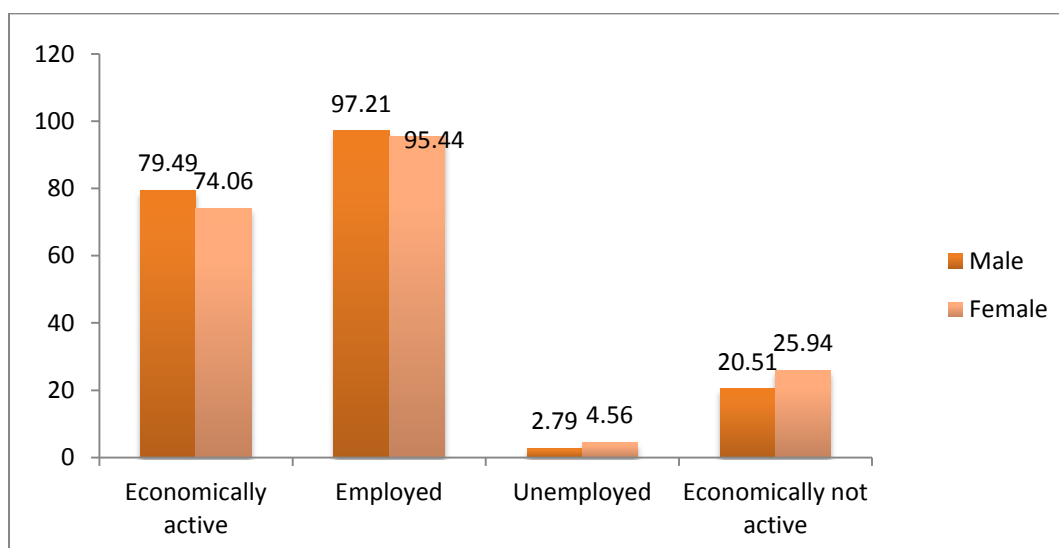
Table 4.1: Economic activity status of population 15 years and older by sex and age

Activity status	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	52,071	100.0	26,919	100.0	25,152	100.0
Economically active	40,027	76.9	21,399	79.5	18,628	74.1
Employed	38,580	96.4	20,801	97.2	17,779	95.4
<i>Worked</i>	37,380	96.9	20,285	97.5	17,095	96.2
<i>Did not work but had job to go back to</i>	1,143	3.0	489	2.4	654	3.7
<i>Did voluntary work without pay</i>	57	0.1	27	0.1	30	0.2
Unemployed	1,447	3.6	598	2.8	849	4.6
<i>Worked before, seeking work and available</i>	536	37.0	173	28.9	363	42.8
<i>Seeking work for the first time and available</i>	911	63.0	425	71.1	486	57.2
Economically not active	12,044	23.1	5,520	20.5	6,524	25.9
Did home duties (household chore)	3,635	30.2	1,060	19.2	2,575	39.5
Full time education	6,696	55.6	3,761	68.1	2,935	45.0
Pensioner/Retired	80	0.7	49	0.9	31	0.5
Disabled/Sick	355	2.9	151	2.7	204	3.1
Too old/young	636	5.3	241	4.4	395	6.1
Other	642	5.3	258	4.7	384	5.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

In Figure 4.1, there are slight variations in all the activity status among males and females in the district. From the chart, it is observed that majority of the population 15 years and older are employed, with males (97.2%) marginally higher than females (95.4%). Among the economically not active, there was a higher proportion of females (25.94%) than males (20.51%).

Figure 4.1: Population 15 years and older by activity status and sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 4.2 shows that most of the people employed are in the age range of 20-44 years, together constituting 68.6 per cent and is more pronounced among those aged 25-29 years (17.4%). It is observed that unemployment is more pronounced in the age range 20-29 compared to those in other age groups. Among the economically not active population,

almost 52.1 per cent are aged 15-19 years and the least is noted among the population 55-59 years (0.8%).

Out of the employed population of 38,580, roughly 54 per cent are males while the rest (46%) are females. This means that, more males are employed than females. But among the unemployed and the economically not active populations, females dominate males.

Table 4.2: Economic activity status of population 15 years and older by sex

Sex/Age group	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	52,669	100.0	39,061	74.2	1,488	2.8	12,120	23.0
15-19	8,971	100.0	2,422	27.0	224	2.5	6,325	70.5
20-24	8,676	100.0	5,563	64.1	522	6.0	2,591	29.9
25-29	8,276	100.0	6,815	82.3	362	4.4	1,099	13.3
30-34	6,170	100.0	5,549	89.9	161	2.6	460	7.5
35-39	5,332	100.0	4,933	92.5	95	1.8	304	5.7
40-44	4,269	100.0	3,990	93.5	25	0.6	254	5.9
45-49	3,324	100.0	3,158	95.0	19	0.6	147	4.4
50-54	2,661	100.0	2,521	94.7	17	0.6	123	4.6
55-59	1,429	100.0	1,325	92.7	7	0.5	97	6.8
60-64	1,115	100.0	966	86.6	49	4.4	100	9.0
65+	2,446	100.0	1,819	74.4	7	0.3	620	25.3
Male								
Total	27,239	100.0	21,075	77.4	602	2.2	5,562	20.4
15-19	4,493	100.0	1,154	25.7	102	2.3	3,237	72.0
20-24	4,010	100.0	2,505	62.5	219	5.5	1,286	32.1
25-29	4,034	100.0	3,466	85.9	146	3.6	422	10.5
30-34	3,159	100.0	2,979	94.3	66	2.1	114	3.6
35-39	2,775	100.0	2,693	97.0	24	0.9	58	2.1
40-44	2,377	100.0	2,306	97.0	10	0.4	61	2.6
45-49	1,888	100.0	1,843	97.6	6	0.3	39	2.1
50-54	1,547	100.0	1,501	97.0	8	0.5	38	2.5
55-59	883	100.0	852	96.5	2	0.2	29	3.3
60-64	670	100.0	613	91.5	18	2.7	39	5.8
65+	1,403	100.0	1,163	82.9	1	0.1	239	17.0
Female								
Total	25,430	100.0	17,986	70.7	886	3.5	6,558	25.8
15-19	4,478	100.0	1,268	28.3	122	2.7	3,088	69.0
20-24	4,666	100.0	3,058	65.5	303	6.5	1,305	28.0
25-29	4,242	100.0	3,349	78.9	216	5.1	677	16.0
30-34	3,011	100.0	2,570	85.4	95	3.2	346	11.5
35-39	2,557	100.0	2,240	87.6	71	2.8	246	9.6
40-44	1,892	100.0	1,684	89.0	15	0.8	193	10.2
45-49	1,436	100.0	1,315	91.6	13	0.9	108	7.5
50-54	1,114	100.0	1,020	91.6	9	0.8	85	7.6
55-59	546	100.0	473	86.6	5	0.9	68	12.5
60-64	445	100.0	353	79.3	31	7.0	61	13.7
65+	1,043	100.0	656	62.9	6	0.6	381	36.5

4.3 Occupation

Table 4.3 shows that the highest proportion of the population aged 15 years and older in Bia West District are skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers, with males having a proportion of 78.0 per cent compared to females 71.0 per cent in their respective populations. It can further be seen from the table that service and sales workers form the next occupation

with high population of 9.0 per cent. Only a small proportion of the population 15 years and older are managers (1.1%) and clerical support workers (0.4%). Among the service and sales workers, females are more (15.1%) than males (3.8%); this is due to the dominance of females in that field. Males also dominate in plants and machine operators and assembling (2.7%) and among females, it is 0.1 per cent. The reason may be because such occupation requires physical strength and specific skills, which are attributed to males.

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	38,580	100.0	20,801	100.0	17,779	100.0
Managers	427	1.1	196	0.9	231	1.3
Professionals	956	2.5	666	3.2	290	1.6
Technicians and associate professionals	654	1.7	560	2.7	94	0.5
Clerical support workers	149	0.4	101	0.5	48	0.3
Service and sales workers	3,476	9.0	799	3.8	2,677	15.1
Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers	28,835	74.7	16,218	78.0	12,617	71.0
Craft and related trades workers	2,491	6.5	1,229	5.9	1,262	7.1
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	564	1.5	553	2.7	11	0.1
Elementary occupations	1,027	2.7	478	2.3	549	3.1
Other occupations	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.4 Industry

Industry refers to the type of product produced or services rendered at the respondent's workplace. Information was collected only on the main product produced or service rendered in the establishment during the reference period. Table 4.4 describes employed population 15 years and older by industry and sex. Majority (74.4%) of the population 15 years and older are in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry and have more males (77.9%) in this industry than females (70.3%). This is followed by wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (9.3%) and among the sexes, there 10.3 per cent and males 8.4 per cent females in the sector.

Table 4.4: Employed population 15 years and older by Industry and sex

Industry	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	38,580	100.0	20,801	100.0	17,779	100.0
Agriculture forestry and fishing	28,718	74.4	16,212	77.9	12,506	70.3
Mining and quarrying	13	0.0	8	0.0	5	0.0
Manufacturing	1,797	4.7	574	2.8	1,223	6.9
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	12	0.0	6	0.0	6	0.0
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	28	0.1	11	0.1	17	0.1
Construction	325	0.8	308	1.5	17	0.1
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	3,580	9.3	1,752	8.4	1,828	10.3
Transportation and storage	471	1.2	453	2.2	18	0.1
Accommodation and food service activities	1,003	2.6	113	0.5	890	5.0
Information and communication	29	0.1	26	0.1	3	0.0
Financial and insurance activities	92	0.2	68	0.3	24	0.1
Real estate activities	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Professional scientific and technical activities	54	0.1	43	0.2	11	0.1
Administrative and support service activities	22	0.1	19	0.1	3	0.0
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	219	0.6	191	0.9	28	0.2
Education	800	2.1	530	2.5	270	1.5
Human health and social work activities	177	0.5	89	0.4	88	0.5
Arts entertainment and recreation	72	0.2	71	0.3	1	0.0
Other service activities	1,111	2.9	308	1.5	803	4.5
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use	57	0.1	19	0.1	38	0.2
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.5 Employment Status

Employment status referred to the status of a person in the establishment where he/she currently works or previously worked. From Table 4.5, out of a total number of 38,580 of the population 15 years and older, the proportion of the population who are self-employed without employee(s) is 54.3 per cent. However, the proportion for males is higher (57.4%) than females (50.7%). This means that, the district's employment status is dominated by self-employed without employees. Also for the employee population of 5,301, males are 74.1 per cent while females are 25.9 per cent. Obviously, these data reveal that more males are employed than females in the Bia West District. A proportion of females (29.1%) who are contributing family workers are higher than their male counterparts (9.5%). The table further shows a slight difference in proportions on domestic employee (house help) for males and females.

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

Employment Sector	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	38,580	100.0	20,801	100.0	17,779	100.0
Employee	5,301	13.7	3,929	18.9	1,372	7.7
Self employed without employee(s)	20,952	54.3	11,933	57.4	9,019	50.7
Self employed with employee(s)	1,857	4.8	1,048	5.0	809	4.6
Casual worker	1,869	4.8	1,359	6.5	510	2.9
Contributing family worker	7,147	18.5	1,979	9.5	5,168	29.1
Apprentice	952	2.5	276	1.3	676	3.8
Domestic employee (Househelp)	419	1.1	233	1.1	186	1.0
Other	83	0.2	44	0.2	39	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.6 Employment Sector

Employment sector refers to the sector in which a person works. Table 4.6 shows employed population 15 years and older by employment sector and sex. From the Table, the proportion of population who are employed in private informal sector is 94.1 per cent. Similar pattern is seen in both sexes where majority of both males and females are employed in the private informal. However, it is higher for females (96.5%) than males (92.0%). The proportion of people working in the private formal sector is 3.1 per cent as against 1.4 per cent for females. The public sector accounts for 3.2 per cent of the people employed.

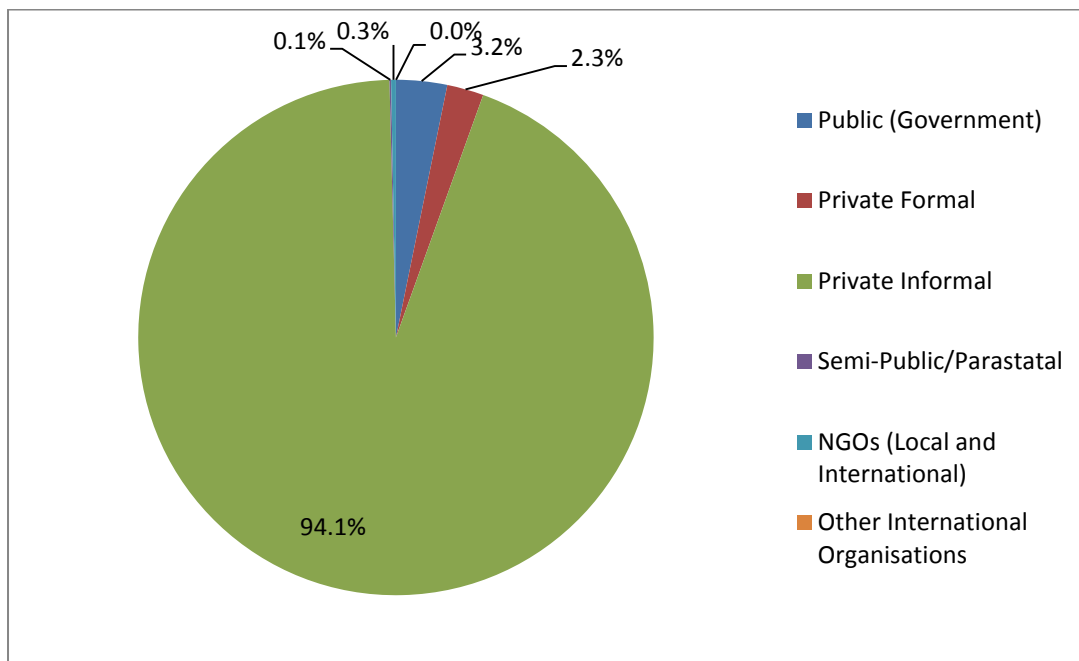
Table 4.6: Employed population 15 years and older by employment sector and sex

Employment Sector	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	38,580	100.0	20,801	100.0	17,779	100.0
Public (Government)	1,216	3.2	897	4.3	319	1.8
Private Formal	894	2.3	648	3.1	246	1.4
Private Informal	36,298	94.1	19,135	92.0	17,163	96.5
Semi-Public/Parastatal	37	0.1	28	0.1	9	0.1
NGOs (Local and International)	132	0.3	93	0.4	39	0.2
Other International Organisations	3	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

From Figure 4.3, the per cent of population who are employed in the private informal sector have the highest proportion – 94.1 per cent closely followed by the public (Government) sector (3.2%) and private formal (2.3%). There are virtually no persons in the district who work in Other International Organisations.

Figure 4.3: Employed population 15 years and older by employment sector



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FIVE

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses patronage of ICT facilities namely mobile phones and use of Internet facilities by persons aged 12 years and older in the Bia West District. The chapter further analyses other important characteristics as sex, locality, ownership of computers (Desktop and Laptop) and also the presence of fixed line telephone facilities to the households.

5.2 Ownership of Mobile Phones

Table 5.1 depicts that out of the population of 58,071 (persons 12 years and older), 42.9 percent own mobile phones in the district. The proportion of males (51.1%) having mobile phones is higher than that of the females (34.0%).

Table 5.1: Population 12 years and older by mobile phone ownership and Sex

	Population 12 years and older		Population having mobile phone		Population using internet facility	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	58,071	100.0	24,897	42.9	863	1.5
Male	30,036	51.7	15,364	51.1	633	2.1
Female	28,035	48.3	9,533	34.0	230	0.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

In the area of coverage, the District has limited access relative to mobile telephone service. Thus, the low usage of mobile phones in the district may be attributed to the inaccessibility to the networks in the district.

5.3 Use of Internet

In Table 5.1, it is noted that only 1.5 per cent of the population 12 years and older in district use Internet, about three times lower than the regional average (6.4%). The proportion of males using this facility is 2.1 per cent compared with less than one per cent (0.8%) for the females.

5.4 Household ownership of Fixed Telephone Lines

Where people cannot use the mobile phone facility, the use of fixed telephone line is the alternative. From Table 5.2, about 0.2 per cent of households in the Bia West District have fixed telephone lines. The proportion of male-headed households owning fixed telephone lines is 0.2 per cent compared to 0.3 per cent of female-headed households.

Table 5.2: Households having desktop/laptop computers, fixed telephone lines and sex of head

Sex	Number of households		Households having desktop/laptop computers		Households having fixed telephone lines	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	19,809	100.0	353	1.8	45	0.2
Male	15,502	78.3	288	1.9	31	0.2
Female	4,307	21.7	65	1.5	14	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.5 Household ownership of Desktop or Laptop computer

As shown in Table 5.2, 1.8 per cent of households in the Bia West District have a desktop or laptop computer and only 1.5 percent of the female-headed households have access to desktop or laptop computers.

CHAPTER SIX

DISABILITY

6.1 Introduction

People with disabilities in Ghana are often regarded as unproductive and incapable of contributing in a positive way to society and rather, are seen as constituting an economic burden on the family and the society at large, which leaves them in a vicious cycle of poverty. In Ghana, there are well strong disability movements actively working to improve the living conditions for people living with disabilities. Disabled persons are often poorly represented in civil society and Ghana is no exception. A number of national policies and strategies have been targeting and including the needs of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), either individually in the different sectors or as crosscutting issues in national programs. PWDs in Ghana are subject to various forms of exclusion, discrimination, and stigmatization. A combination of culture and political economy has ensured that PWDs must contend with barriers that are not faced by the general public. This chapter analyses disability in the district by type of locality, disability type and sex and by activity status.

6.2 Population with Disability

Table 6.1 shows the population by disability type and sex. One per cent of the population in the Bia West District have disabilities of different forms. Among the disable population in the district, 36.1 per cent has sight disability; 26.8 per cent has physical disability, 25.4 per cent has speech disability while 20.0 per cent have hearing impairment. There are slight disparities between males and females with disability. Table 6.1 also indicates that, males report higher disabilities more than females. Disability in urban localities is 1.2 per cent, which is higher than that of rural localities (0.9%). Sight disability is predominant among females in urban than those in rural localities.

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

Disability Type	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Localities						
No disability	88,047	99.0	45,236	98.9	42,811	99.0
With a disability	892	1.0	481	1.1	411	1.0
Sight	322	36.1	180	37.4	142	34.5
Hearing	178	20.0	110	22.9	68	16.5
Speech	227	25.4	132	27.4	95	23.1
Physical	239	26.8	125	26.0	114	27.7
Intellectual	138	15.5	79	16.4	59	14.4
Emotional	166	18.6	92	19.1	74	18.0
Other	105	11.8	64	13.3	41	10.0

Table 6.1: Population by type of locality, disability type and sex (cont'd)

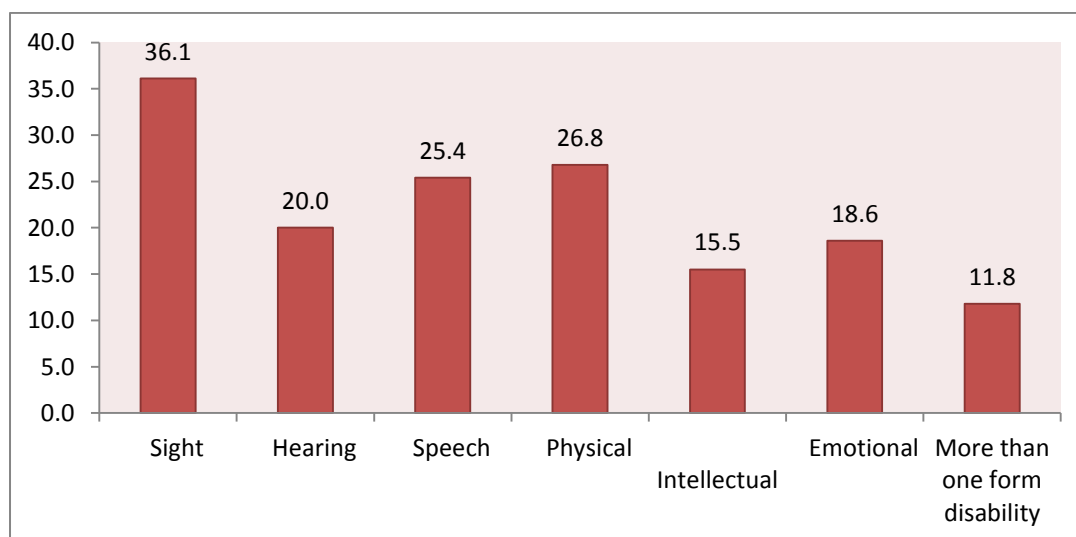
Disability Type	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Urban						
Total	23,353	100.0	11,623	100.0	11,730	100.0
No disability	23,075	98.8	11,475	98.7	11,600	98.9
With a disability	278	1.2	148	1.3	130	1.1
Sight	103	37.1	52	35.1	51	39.2
Hearing	50	18.0	28	18.9	22	16.9
Speech	53	19.1	30	20.3	23	17.7
Physical	62	22.3	35	23.6	27	20.8
Intellectual	40	14.4	19	12.8	21	16.2
Emotional	32	11.5	16	10.8	16	12.3
Other	26	9.4	16	10.8	10	7.7
Rural						
Total	65,586	100.0	34,094	100.0	31,492	100.0
No disability	64,972	99.1	33,761	99.0	31,211	99.1
With a disability	614	0.9	333	1.0	281	0.9
Sight	219	35.7	128	38.4	91	32.4
Hearing	128	20.8	82	24.6	46	16.4
Speech	174	28.3	102	30.6	72	25.6
Physical	177	28.8	90	27.0	87	31.0
Intellectual	98	16.0	60	18.0	38	13.5
Emotional	134	21.8	76	22.8	58	20.6
Other	79	12.9	48	14.4	31	11.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.3 Type of Disability

Figure 6.1 shows the pictorial distribution of population by disability type and sex. A proportion (36.1%) of the population has disability with sight, followed by those with physical disability (26.8%), speech (25.4%), and hearing (20.0%). Persons with more than one form of disability constitute 11.8 per cent.

Figure 6.1: Population by Disability type



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.4 Distribution by type of locality

As shown in table 6.1, disability by type of locality speech disability among males in rural areas is greater than their counterparts in urban localities. A high proportion of males (23.6%) in urban localities are with physical disability than their female counterparts (20.8%). This may be as a result of lack of access to quality health care, living conditions and other strenuous activities in the rural areas.

6.5 Disability and Activity Status

Table 6.2 shows that of persons with disability in the district, 61.6 percent are employed, 1.4 percent unemployed and 37.0 percent are economically not active. For all the disability types reported in the table, those unemployed constitute less than 10.0 percent. Table 6.2 further illustrate that there is varying differences in the data relating to males and females. For the male population disabled, 64.4 percent are employed, 0.6 percent unemployed and 35.0 percent economically not active. Of the various categories of disability, sight, hearing, speech and other forms of disability not elsewhere classified has more than fifty percent of their population employed, while physical, intellect and emotional has more than fifty percent of their population in the economically not active group. For the female population disabled, 58.2 percent are employed, 2.4 unemployed and 39.5 percent economically not active.

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

Sex/Disability type	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	52,669	100.0	39,061	74.2	1,488	2.8	12,120	23.0
No disability	52,021	100.0	38,662	74.3	1,479	2.8	11,880	22.8
With a disability	648	100.0	399	61.6	9	1.4	240	37.0
Sight	247	100.0	170	68.8	2	0.8	75	30.4
Hearing	120	100.0	89	74.2	0	0.0	31	25.8
Speech	137	100.0	88	64.2	1	0.7	48	35.0
Physical	190	100.0	101	53.2	4	2.1	85	44.7
Intellectual	88	100.0	46	52.3	1	1.1	41	46.6
Emotional	117	100.0	63	53.8	2	1.7	52	44.4
Other	78	100.0	48	61.5	0	0.0	30	38.5
Male								
Total	27,239	100.0	21,075	77.4	602	2.2	5,562	20.4
No disability	26,885	100.0	20,847	77.5	600	2.2	5,438	20.2
With a disability	354	100.0	228	64.4	2	0.6	124	35.0
Sight	138	100.0	101	73.2	0	0.0	37	26.8
Hearing	76	100.0	59	77.6	0	0.0	17	22.4
Speech	80	100.0	49	61.3	1	1.3	30	37.5
Physical	93	100.0	51	54.8	1	1.1	41	44.1
Intellectual	49	100.0	24	49.0	0	0.0	25	51.0
Emotional	63	100.0	35	55.6	0	0.0	28	44.4
Other	45	100.0	27	60.0	0	0.0	18	40.0

Table 6.2: Persons 15 years and older with disability, economic activity status and sex (Cont'd)

Sex/Disability type	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female								
Total	25,430	100.0	17,986	70.7	886	3.5	6,558	25.8
No disability	25,136	100.0	17,815	70.9	879	3.5	6,442	25.6
With a disability	294	100.0	171	58.2	7	2.4	116	39.5
Sight	109	100.0	69	63.3	2	1.8	38	34.9
Hearing	44	100.0	30	68.2	0	0.0	14	31.8
Speech	57	100.0	39	68.4	0	0.0	18	31.6
Physical	97	100.0	50	51.5	3	3.1	44	45.4
Intellectual	39	100.0	22	56.4	1	2.6	16	41.0
Emotional	54	100.0	28	51.9	2	3.7	24	44.4
Other	33	100.0	21	63.6	0	0.0	12	36.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.6 Disability and Education

Table 6.3 presents data on population 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education in the district. Of the population disabled, 39.1 percent have never been to school. Those in pre-primary constitute only 6.5 percent with 45.7 percent in basic school. From the table people with disability who have attended secondary or higher levels of education constitute 8.7 percent. For the male and female distribution, more females (47.6%) have never attended school compared to their male counterpart where only 32.0 percent have never attended school. On the other hand, there are more males (48.3%) in basic school compared to females (42.7%) who have basic education.

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
Both Sexes										
Total	81,769	23,100	8,744	43,308	6,617	100.0	28.3	10.7	53.0	8.1
No disability	80,918	22,767	8,689	42,919	6,543	100.0	28.1	10.7	53.0	8.1
With a disability	851	333	55	389	74	100.0	39.1	6.5	45.7	8.7
Sight	316	116	22	142	36	100.0	36.7	7.0	44.9	11.4
Hearing	181	80	15	75	11	100.0	44.2	8.3	41.4	6.1
Speech	209	93	18	83	15	100.0	44.5	8.6	39.7	7.2
Physical	242	103	10	113	16	100.0	42.6	4.1	46.7	6.6
Intellectual	141	57	15	62	7	100.0	40.4	10.6	44.0	5.0
Emotional	166	54	10	88	14	100.0	32.5	6.0	53.0	8.4
Other	106	24	9	58	15	100.0	22.6	8.5	54.7	14.2
Male										
Total	42,118	10,120	4,537	23,124	4,337	100.0	24.0	10.8	54.9	10.3
No disability	41,658	9,973	4,501	22,902	4,282	100.0	23.9	10.8	55.0	10.3
With a disability	460	147	36	222	55	100.0	32.0	7.8	48.3	12.0
Sight	179	59	17	81	22	100.0	33.0	9.5	45.3	12.3
Hearing	111	44	13	46	8	100.0	39.6	11.7	41.4	7.2
Speech	123	49	14	47	13	100.0	39.8	11.4	38.2	10.6
Physical	127	39	8	66	14	100.0	30.7	6.3	52.0	11.0
Intellectual	82	30	10	36	6	100.0	36.6	12.2	43.9	7.3
Emotional	93	23	8	51	11	100.0	24.7	8.6	54.8	11.8
Other	64	11	7	35	11	100.0	17.2	10.9	54.7	17.2
Female										
Total	39,651	12,980	4,207	20,184	2,280	100.0	32.7	10.6	50.9	5.8
No disability	39,260	12,794	4,188	20,017	2,261	100.0	32.6	10.7	51.0	5.8
With a disability	391	186	19	167	19	100.0	47.6	4.9	42.7	4.9
Sight	137	57	5	61	14	100.0	41.6	3.6	44.5	10.2
Hearing	70	36	2	29	3	100.0	51.4	2.9	41.4	4.3
Speech	86	44	4	36	2	100.0	51.2	4.7	41.9	2.3
Physical	115	64	2	47	2	100.0	55.7	1.7	40.9	1.7
Intellectual	59	27	5	26	1	100.0	45.8	8.5	44.1	1.7
Emotional	73	31	2	37	3	100.0	42.5	2.7	50.7	4.1
Other	42	13	2	23	4	100.0	31.0	4.8	54.8	9.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SEVEN

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

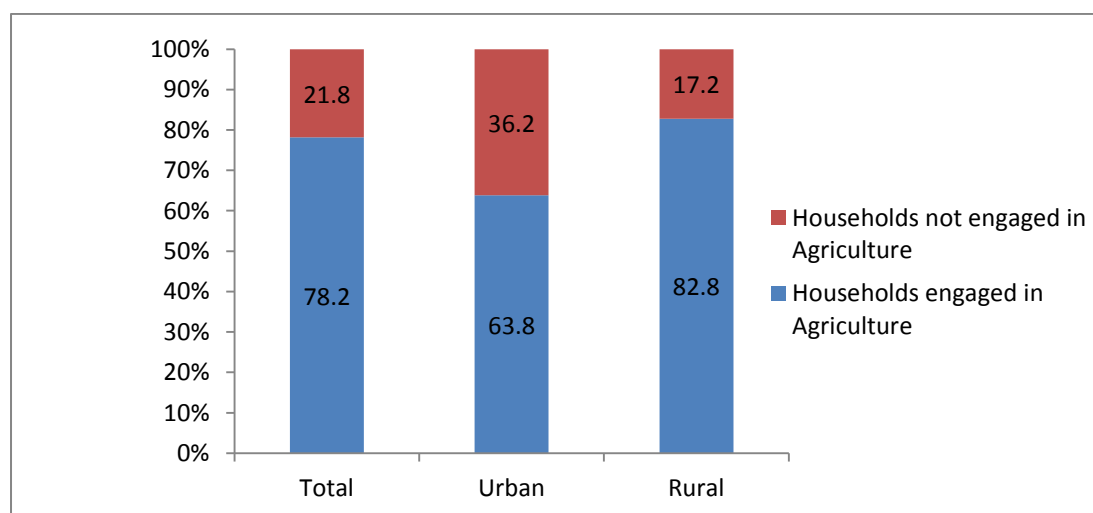
7.1 Introduction

Agriculture serves as one of the backbones to the development of the economy of the country and represents the major economic activity in the Bia West District in terms of employment and income generation. This chapter analyses the characteristics of agricultural households in the district. An agricultural household was defined as where, at least, one person in the household was engaged in any type of farming activity, namely crop farming, tree growing, livestock rearing and fish farming.

7.2 Households in Agriculture

Figure 7.1 shows that, the Bia West District has a total of 19,809 households, of which 78.2 per cent are engaged in agriculture and the remaining 21.8 per cent do not engage in agriculture. In urban localities, 63.8 per cent of households are engaged in agriculture but in the rural localities, 82.8 per cent are into agriculture. Households not engaged in agriculture for both urban and rural localities are 36.2 per cent and 17.2 per cent respectively.

Figure 7.1: Households in agriculture



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 7.1 shows that of the total households (15,482) engaged in agriculture, 20 per cent are in the urban and the remaining (80%) is in rural localities. Total households engaged in crop farming in the district is 14,796 with 80.1 per cent are in rural while 19.9 per cent in the urban localities. With regards to tree planting, 25.7 per cent and 74.3 per cent are in urban and rural localities respectively. There are 7,346 households, which rear livestock in the district with 86.2 per cent in rural localities and 13.8 per cent in urban localities. One hundred and twenty-six (126) households are involved in fishing farming with 70.6 per cent in rural localities and the remaining (29.4%) being in urban localities. In general, more households in

rural localities are engaged in various forms of agricultural activity than their counterparts in urban localities.

Table 7.1: Households by Agricultural Activities and Locality

Agricultural activity	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Households	19,809	100.0	4,853	24.50	14,956	75.5
Households engaged in Agriculture	15,482	100.0	3,094	20.00	12,388	80.0
Crop Farming	14,796	100.0	2,949	19.90	11,847	80.1
Tree Planting	144	100.0	37	25.70	107	74.3
Livestock Rearing	7,346	100.0	1,017	13.80	6,329	86.2
Fish Farming	126	100.0	37	29.40	89	70.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

7.3 Types of Livestock and other Animals reared

Out of a total number of 278,372 animals and fishes (livestock), the majority of all livestock (68.5%) is chicken. Fish farming which is 12.7 per cent follows this; dove, grass-cutter, ostrich and snail are among the least of the animals reared in the Bia West District.

About 61.4 per cent of the number of keepers rear chicken; this has the highest, which is most common among the keepers. It can also be seen in Table 7.2 that 15.5 per cent of the keepers rear goats, while 13.4 per cent rear sheep. The average animal per keeper is 291 for fish fishing, snail (273) and marine fishing (133). The least average animal per keeper is five for other and 11 for goat and grass-cutter.

Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock, other animals and keepers

Livestock/other animals	Livestock/Other animals		Keepers		Average per Keeper
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	278,372	100.0	10,546	100.0	26
Beehives	1,648	0.6	12	0.1	137
Cattle	2,311	0.8	102	1.0	23
Chicken	190,816	68.5	6,470	61.4	29
Dove	815	0.3	29	0.3	28
Duck	2,877	1.0	206	2.0	14
Goat	17,570	6.3	1,637	15.5	11
Grass-cutter	199	0.1	18	0.2	11
Guinea fowl	2,120	0.8	183	1.7	12
Ostrich	755	0.3	37	0.4	20
Pig	1,796	0.6	147	1.4	12
Rabbit	573	0.2	47	0.4	12
Sheep	17,835	6.4	1,411	13.4	13
Silk worm	371	0.1	18	0.2	21
Snail	1,090	0.4	4	0.0	273
Turkey	707	0.3	36	0.3	20
Other	297	0.1	59	0.6	5
Fish farming	35,488	12.7	122	1.2	291
Inland fishing	663	0.2	5	0.0	133
Marine fishing	441	0.2	3	0.0	147

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER EIGHT

HOUSING CONDITIONS

8.1 Introduction

This chapter examines such issues as relevant as the housing stock, type of dwelling, holding and tenancy arrangements, construction materials, room occupancy, access to utilities and household facilities, main source of water for drinking and for other domestic use, bathing and toilet facilities and method of waste disposal are treated in the District. Data on housing include the physical structure used as shelter, housing characteristics, and availability of basic facilities in the dwelling unit, such as potable water and electricity.

8.2 Housing Stock

Table 8.1 shows the stock of houses and households in the district. The 2010 Population and Housing Census recorded a total household population of 24, 076,327 in the country, out of which 2,307,395 are in found in the Western Region and 88,204 in the Bia West District. The District has a total of 15,420 houses occupied by 19,809 households. From Table 8.1, 26.2 per cent households live in urban localities whereas the rest are found in rural areas of the District. With an average household of 1.3 per house, the urban houses have an average of 1.6 and with 1.2 households per house in rural areas.

Table 8.1 further shows that the average population per house in rural localities is 5.3 and that for urban localities is 7.6. The average population per house for the District is lower than that of the region (8.2%).

The District is typically rural but pressures of urbanization is gradually emerging as reflected in the number of people occupying housing units in the urban areas as compared to the rural part of the District.

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

Categories	Total country	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total population	24,658,823	2,376,021	88,939	23,353	65,586
Total household population	24,076,327	2,307,395	88,204	23,087	65,117
Number of houses	3,392,745	380,104	15,420	3,059	12,361
Number of households	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	4,853	14,956
Average households per house	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.2
Population per house	7.3	6.3	5.8	7.6	5.3
Average household size	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.8	4.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

**This excludes homeless and institutional population*

8.3 Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangements

This section examines type of dwelling, holding and tenancy arrangements in the District. In Table 8.2, household members own 11,396 out of 19,809 dwelling units, representing (57.5%) whereas other private individuals own 3,543 (17.9%), a relative who is not a household member own 2,265 (11.4%) and private employers own 2,167 (10.9%). A limited number of dwelling units are either purchased (e.g. mortgaged) (0.7%) or given out by any other private agency (0.4%) in the District.

8.3.1 Type of Ownership

About 57.6 per cent household heads occupy dwelling units owned by household. This is followed by other private individuals with 17.9percent and 11.4 percent is owned by a relative who is not a household member. Ownership of dwelling units by public/government and other private agency constitute only 0.8 The sex distribution shows that a slightly lower proportion of male headed households (57.4%) live in dwelling units owned by household member compared to 57.9 percent of their female counterparts. In addition, more female heads of household (1.0%) live in public/government buildings compared to the males heads (0.8%). By urban-rural distribution, 59.8 percent of rural dwellers live in dwelling units owned by a household member while the proportion is 50.6 percent in urban areas.

Table 8.2: Ownership status of dwelling by sex of household head and type of locality

Ownership status	Total		District					
			Total		Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent				
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Owned by household member	2,883,236	313,579	11,396	57.5	57.4	57.9	50.6	59.8
Being purchased (e.g. mortgage)	45,630	5,093	141	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.8
Relative not a household member	851,630	71,742	2,265	11.4	10.4	15.0	12.4	11.1
Other private individual	1,439,021	123,401	3,543	17.9	16.5	22.8	33.5	12.8
Private employer	83,610	15,343	2,167	10.9	13.4	1.9	0.9	14.2
Other private agency	21,123	2,689	87	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5
Public/Government ownership	118,804	19,307	166	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.4	0.7
Other	24,000	2,480	44	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.3.2 Type of Occupied Dwelling

Table 8.3 displays that 48.5 per cent of dwelling units being occupied by households are compound houses (rooms) while 36.4 per cent are separate houses in the District. Thus, about 15.1 per cent of the households occupy the other type of dwelling. Most female-headed households (55.7%) live in the compound houses compared to their male counterparts (46.4%).

In the urban areas of the District, 62.4 per cent of the households are in compound house (rooms) and 28.4 per cent in separate house. About forty-four per cent (43.9%) occupied units in rural localities of the District are compound house (rooms) and 38.9 per cent in separate house.

Whereas the third most commonly occupied units among urban households is semi-detached house (7.9%), that for the rural areas are hut/ buildings (same compound) (9.5%).

Table 8.3: Type of occupied dwelling unit by sex of household head and type of locality

Type of dwelling	Total country	Region	District					
			Total		Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent				
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Separate house	1,471,391	185,809	7,203	36.4	37.6	31.9	28.4	38.9
Semi-detached house	391,548	48,683	1,218	6.1	5.9	6.9	7.9	5.6
Flat/Apartment	256,355	33,980	172	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.5	1.0
Compound house (rooms)	2,942,147	259,471	9,598	48.5	46.4	55.7	62.4	43.9
Huts/Buildings(same compound)	170,957	13,962	1,419	7.2	8.1	3.8	0.1	9.5
Huts/Buildings(different compound)	36,410	2,158	86	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.5
Tent	10,343	1,120	49	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
Improvised home (kiosk/container etc.)	90,934	3,707	20	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Living quarters attached to office/shop	20,499	1,743	34	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Uncompleted building	66,624	2,049	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	9,846	952	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4 Construction Materials

8.4.1 Materials for outer walls

This section focuses on the main material for construction of outer walls, floor and roofing in the district is discussed in this section of the report. As detailed in Table 8.4, a high proportion of materials used for building outer wall is mud brick/earth (77.9%). This is trailed by cement blocks/concrete (14.0%), landcrete (3.6%) and wood (3.3%). The use of construction materials like bamboo, bricks, stones and palm leaf/thatch (grass)/raffia are not popular in the District, as such, only about 0.2 per cent of the 21,090 dwelling units have the outer walls constructed with these materials. The use of cement in the construction of outer wall is 29.1 per cent in the urban localities and only 9.4 per cent for the rural localities.

Mud Brick/ Earth is the dominant construction material for outer wall in both urban (68.0%) and rural (80.9%) localities. Again, in the rural areas 4.4 per cent of the outer walls are in landcrete, whilst it is 0.7 per cent in urban areas. Similarly, the use of wood constitutes 4.0 per cent for rural houses as opposed to 1.3 in the urban localities. Burnt bricks have limited use in both rural and urban Bia West District despite the huge development potential it offers the local economy of the District.

Table 8.4: Main construction material for outer wall of dwelling unit by type of locality

Material for Outer wall	Total		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	594,292	21,090	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud brick/Earth	1,991,540	241,414	16,424	77.9	68.0	80.9
Wood	200,594	19,221	704	3.3	1.3	4.0
Metal sheet/Slate/Asbestos	43,708	3,170	90	0.4	0.2	0.5
Stone	11,330	835	36	0.2	0.2	0.2
Burnt bricks	38,237	5,273	22	0.1	0.1	0.1
Cement blocks/Concrete	3,342,462	297,909	2,960	14.0	29.1	9.4
Landcrete	104,270	9,463	752	3.6	0.7	4.4
Bamboo	8,206	1,957	12	0.1	0.0	0.1
Palm leaf/Thatch (grass)/Raffia	38,054	11,618	34	0.2	0.1	0.2
Other	39,206	3,432	56	0.3	0.3	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.2 Main construction Material for floor

The use a material in the construction of a house is not only influenced by the cost but the aesthetic value an individual attaches to the particular material. Table 8.5 shows the main construction materials for floors of dwelling unit by type of locality. In Bia West District, majority of the dwelling units have the floor constructed with cement /concrete (68.4%) which is followed by earth/mud (29.7%). The scenario is not different in terms of the rural urban divide. Whilst 96.3 per cent use cement /concrete and only 2.0 per cent make use of earth/mud, the rural structures are 59.3 per cent and 38.7 per cent floored respectively with cement/concrete and earth/mud. The use of Terrazzo/Terrazzo tiles and Vinyl tiles are the least popular in the district.

Table 8.5: Main construction material for the floor of dwelling unit by type of locality

Materials for the floor	Total		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	100.0	100.0
Earth/Mud	872,161	77,859	5,883	29.7	2.0	38.7
Cement/Concrete	4,255,611	450,286	13,542	68.4	96.3	59.3
Stone	32,817	2,432	66	0.3	0.4	0.3
Burnt brick	6,537	569	22	0.1	0.0	0.1
Wood	52,856	2,848	85	0.4	0.1	0.5
Vinyl tiles	57,032	4,158	24	0.1	0.1	0.1
Ceramic/Porcelain/Granite/Marble tiles	88,500	6,608	111	0.6	0.5	0.6
Terrazzo/Terrazzo tiles	85,973	7,055	17	0.1	0.2	0.0
Other	15,567	1,819	59	0.3	0.3	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.3 Main construction material for roofing

Table 8.6 shows the main construction material used for roofing of dwelling unit in the Bia West by type of locality. Metal sheet constitutes the dominant material utilised for roofing dwelling units in the District for both urban (96.3%) and rural (87.2%) localities. Bamboo and Thatch/Palm leaf of raffia are also used not only in rural localities but in the urban areas as well.

In the urban areas, 1.3 per cent and 0.3 per cent use Thatch/Palm leaf or Raffia and Bamboo respectively whereas 5.7 per cent and 3.5 per cent of the rural structures are roofed with thatch/palm leaf or raffia and bamboo, in that order. Slate/asbestos and roofing tiles are the least popular among the people of the District.

Table 8.6: Main construction material for roofing of dwelling unit by type of locality

Main Roofing material	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	594,292	21,090	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud/Mud bricks/Earth	80,644	4,795	193	0.9	0.4	1.1
Wood	45,547	4,333	250	1.2	0.4	1.4
Metal sheet	4,152,259	375,579	18,840	89.3	96.3	87.2
Slate/Asbestos	759,039	90,669	10	0.0	0.1	0.0
Cement/Concrete	141,072	35,736	79	0.4	0.5	0.3
Roofing tile	31,456	2,538	32	0.2	0.0	0.2
Bamboo	71,049	32,363	579	2.7	0.3	3.5
Thatch/Palm leaf or Raffia	500,606	43,836	987	4.7	1.3	5.7
Other	35,935	4,443	120	0.6	0.7	0.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.5 Room Occupancy

Information on rooms available to households is useful in determining whether or not the space available to households is considered overcrowded or otherwise. Many people in a room have its own health ramifications, especially in relation to infectious or contagious diseases.

For 19,809 households in the District, Table 8.7 details the number of ‘sleeping rooms’ per household. It is indicated that households that have a size of one to six and having one sleeping room have the highest proportion and households with a size of six to nine having two sleeping rooms had a high proportions compared to those who have four and more. As shown in Table 8.7, 48.9 per cent of households in the District occupy one sleeping room while (28.2%) households use two sleeping rooms.

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

Household size	Total		Number of Sleeping Rooms								
	Number	Percent	One room	Two rooms	Three rooms	Four rooms	Five rooms	Six rooms	Seven rooms	Eight rooms	Nine rooms or more
Total	19,809	100.0	48.9	28.2	11.2	5.3	2.5	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.9
1	3,189	100.0	82.7	9.2	3.1	1.9	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.8
2	2,516	100.0	64.4	27.0	4.1	1.8	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6
3	2,867	100.0	59.4	27.2	7.6	1.7	1.2	1.1	0.3	0.7	0.8
4	2,779	100.0	51.1	31.5	9.8	4.1	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.7
5	2,233	100.0	42.4	35.3	12.7	4.9	2.3	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.9
6	1,959	100.0	32.4	39.2	15.4	7.2	3.2	1.2	0.9	0.4	0.2
7	1,493	100.0	23.0	38.9	19.6	10.0	4.2	1.9	1.2	0.5	0.8
8	932	100.0	16.7	40.7	20.9	11.3	5.5	2.0	1.4	0.3	1.2
9	613	100.0	16.6	33.4	22.5	15.0	5.7	3.4	1.1	0.5	1.6
10+	1,228	100.0	10.1	19.0	26.1	15.3	10.7	7.1	5.0	2.9	3.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6 Access to Utilities and Household facilities

8.6.1 Source of Light

Table 8.8 shows that more households use flashlight/torch (53.2%) as their main source of light in the District with 33.8 per cent using electricity (mains) and the remaining (11.7%) relying on kerosene lamp. Among the urban settlers however, electricity (mains) records 87.9 per cent and flashlight/torchlight has only 6.1 per cent. In the rural Bia West flashlight/ torch, electricity and kerosene lamp have 68.8 per cent, 16.2 per cent and 13.9 per cent in that order. Only 17 out of 19,809 households use crop residue as their source of light in the District.

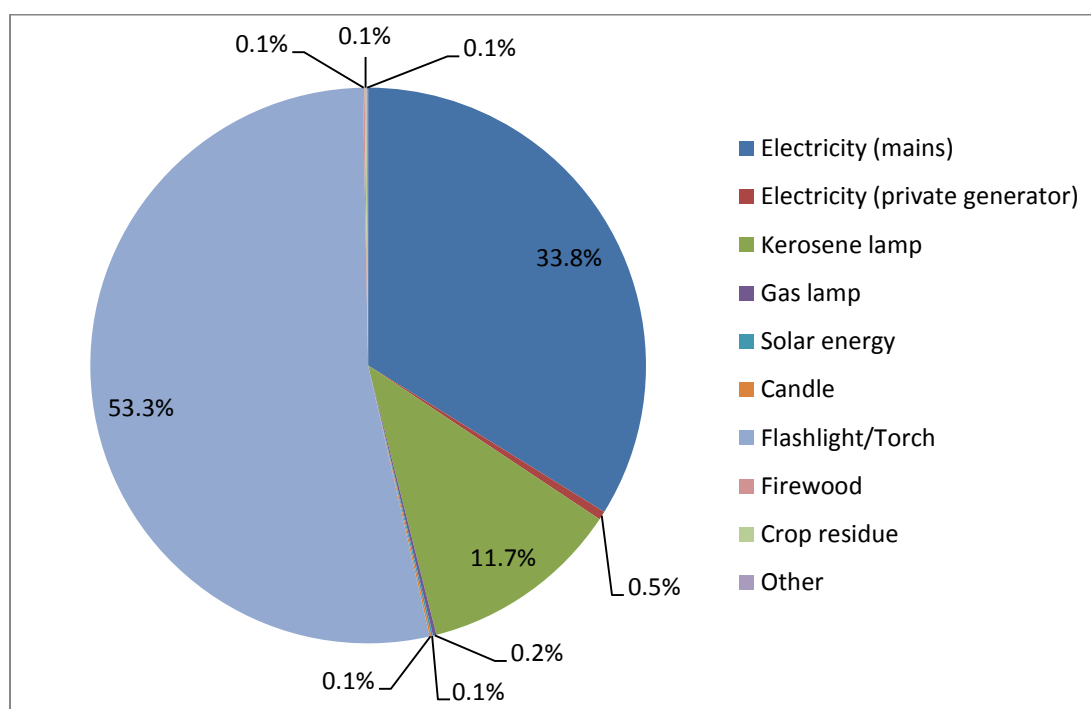
Table 8.8: Main source of lighting of dwelling unit by type of locality

Main source of light	District					
	Total		Total		Urban	Rural
	country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	100.0	100.0
Electricity (mains)	3,511,065	360,079	6,692	33.8	87.9	16.2
Electricity (private generator)	36,142	4,931	102	0.5	0.5	0.5
Kerosene lamp	971,807	67,662	2,319	11.7	4.9	13.9
Gas lamp	9,378	915	43	0.2	0.1	0.2
Solar energy	9,194	928	29	0.1	0.1	0.2
Candle	41,214	2,085	26	0.1	0.1	0.1
Flashlight/Torch	858,651	114,514	10,540	53.2	6.1	68.5
Firewood	13,241	1,055	22	0.1	0.1	0.1
Crop residue	4,623	315	17	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other	11,739	1,150	19	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 8.1 is a graphical illustration of the source of lighting among households of the District. Flashlight (53.3%) is the most widely used as source lighting followed by electricity (mains) 33.8 per cent and kerosene (11.7%).

Figure 8.1: Main source of lighting of dwelling unit



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.2 Source of fuel for cooking

The main source of fuel for cooking in the District as captured in the Table 8.9 is wood (77.9%) followed by charcoal (14.7%) and the use of animal waste records the least. In the urban areas of the District, about half the households use wood for cooking while 36.0 per cent rely on charcoal and patronize gas (7.1%) as fuel for cooking their meals. Again, charcoal is the second preferred fuel for cooking in the rural areas of the District. It should however be noted that only 7.8 per cent rely on charcoal in the rural localities but in the urban areas, it is 36.0 per cent of the households that use this fuel used for cooking.

8.6.3 Cooking Space

In Table 8.9, while 50.5 per cent of households have separate room reserved as cooking space, 13.4 per cent use open space in the compound, 11.7 per cent cook on verandas. It is shown that 23.5 per cent urban households cook on their veranda while for the rural households; only 7.9 per cent use their veranda as cooking space.

Table 8.9: Main source of cooking fuel and cooking space used by households

Cooking fuel/ Cooking space	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of cooking fuel for household						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	100.0	100.0
None no cooking	306,118	29,196	683	3.4	5.7	2.7
Wood	2,197,083	267,976	15,424	77.9	50.1	86.9
Gas	996,518	82,912	539	2.7	7.1	1.3
Electricity	29,794	3,314	21	0.1	0.2	0.1
Kerosene	29,868	2,413	53	0.3	0.4	0.2
Charcoal	1,844,290	164,627	2,915	14.7	36.0	7.8
Crop residue	45,292	1,864	144	0.7	0.3	0.9
Saw dust	8,000	597	17	0.1	0.1	0.1
Animal waste	2,332	211	6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	7,759	524	7	0.0	0.1	0.0
Cooking space used by household						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	100.0	100.0
No cooking space	386,883	38,816	1,123	5.7	7.2	5.2
Separate room for exclusive use of household	1,817,018	258,116	9,998	50.5	39.3	54.1
Separate room shared with other household(s)	410,765	43,983	1,502	7.6	7.1	7.7
Enclosure without roof	117,614	6,279	284	1.4	0.9	1.6
Structure with roof but without walls	349,832	26,140	1,861	9.4	6.7	10.3
Bedroom/Hall/Living room)	74,525	3,685	24	0.1	0.2	0.1
Verandah	1,173,946	115,053	2,321	11.7	23.5	7.9
Open space in compound	1,115,464	60,015	2,661	13.4	14.8	13.0
Other	21,007	1,547	35	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.7 Main Source of Water for drinking and for other Domestic Use

Table 8.10 shows that 20.6 per cent of households in the Bia West District take their drinking water from protected well, 19.1 per cent however rely on unprotected well, 18.9 per cent on boreholes and 10.6 per cent use public/standpipes as the main source of water for drinking.

Public tap/standpipe tends to be commonly used by the urban households for drinking. The rural households stand the high risk of being inflicted with waterborne ailment as they rely heavily on the unprotected sources as their drinking water. The data show that out of every 100 households, 22.5 per cent take their drinking water from rivers or streams, 24.5 per cent rely unprotected well, 2.7 per cent on unprotected spring and 1.8 drink from dugouts, ponds, lake, dam or canals. The trend is not different for the sources of water other domestic use in District.

Table 8.10: Main source or water of dwelling unit for drinking and other domestic purposes

Sources of water	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of drinking water for household						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	790,493	58,258	134	0.7	0.9	0.6
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,039,667	108,321	1,366	6.9	20.6	2.4
Public tap/Standpipe	712,375	90,198	2,105	10.6	33.5	3.2
Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well	1,267,688	100,915	3,750	18.9	25.0	17.0
Protected well	321,091	39,026	4,090	20.6	12.1	23.4
Rain water	39,438	707	43	0.2	0.1	0.3
Protected spring	19,345	1,857	79	0.4	0.3	0.4
Bottled water	20,261	1,734	41	0.2	0.6	0.1
Sachet water	490,283	30,053	350	1.8	4.5	0.9
Tanker supply/Vendor provided	58,400	3,328	2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unprotected well	112,567	22,976	3,780	19.1	2.3	24.5
Unprotected spring	12,222	1,850	412	2.1	0.0	2.7
River/Stream	502,804	90,453	3,375	17.0	0.1	22.5
Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal	76,448	3,517	269	1.4	0.0	1.8
Other	3,972	441	13	0.1	0.0	0.1
Main source of water for other domestic use of household						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	905,566	61,523	173	0.9	0.7	0.9
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,089,030	100,763	1,318	6.7	19.3	2.5
Public tap/Standpipe	704,293	85,182	2,155	10.9	34.0	3.4
Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well	1,280,465	104,503	3,711	18.7	25.7	16.5
Protected well	465,775	61,075	4,219	21.3	13.5	23.8
Rain water	39,916	1,171	55	0.3	0.1	0.3
Protected spring	18,854	1,860	97	0.5	0.3	0.6
Tanker supply/Vendor provided	100,048	3,467	12	0.1	0.1	0.0
Unprotected well	152,055	30,543	3,903	19.7	5.7	24.2
Unprotected spring	15,738	1,885	348	1.8	0.0	2.3
River/Stream	588,590	96,641	3,526	17.8	0.3	23.5
Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal	96,422	3,644	268	1.4	0.0	1.8
Other	10,302	1,377	24	0.1	0.0	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.8 Bathing and Toilet Facilities

Table 8.11 is a presentation of data on the type of toilet and bathing facilities used by households by type of locality in the district.

8.8.1 Type of toilet facility

An efficient and hygienic method of human waste disposal available in a dwelling unit is a critical indicator of sanitary condition of the unit and is crucial indicator under MDG7. Sixty-nine per cent of households in the district use pit latrine; 17.4 per cent use public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit, Pan etc.) while 10.0 percent have no toilet facility and therefore defecate indiscriminately in the bush or field. In the urban localities, 17.1 per cent of households do not have toilet facilities as compared to 7.6 per cent for the rural folks. Approximately 21 per cent of rural dwellers tend to rely on public toilet as against 7.2 per cent in urban localities of the district. W.C. has limited use in the district as only 2.1 per cent and 0.7 per cent in the urban and rural households respectively use the facility.

8.8.2 Type of bathing facility

With respect to bathing facilities, 37.2 per cent households in the District share separate bathroom in the same house and 33.2 per cent use own exclusive bathroom. For the urban households, 44.2 per cent share separate bathroom in the same house and 32.4 per cent have exclusive facilities. Among the rural households in the District, 10.9 per cent use open space around the house as bathing facilities.

Table 8.11: Type of toilet facility and bathing facility used by household by type of locality

Toilet facility/ bathing facility	Total country	Region	District					
			Total		Urban		Rural	
			No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Toilet facility used by household								
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	4,853	100.0	14,956	100.0
No facilities (bush/beach/field)	1,056,382	65,781	1,971	10.0	828	17.1	1,143	7.6
W.C.	839,611	74,100	200	1.0	102	2.1	98	0.7
Pit latrine	1,040,883	166,530	13,660	69.0	3,338	68.8	10,322	69.0
KVIP	572,824	34,822	432	2.2	209	4.3	223	1.5
Bucket/Pan	40,678	2,263	42	0.2	7	0.1	35	0.2
Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit Pan etc.)	1,893,291	207,221	3,443	17.4	350	7.2	3,093	20.7
Other	23,385	2,917	61	0.3	19	0.4	42	0.3
Bathing facility used by household								
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	4,853	100.0	14,956	100.0
Own bathroom for exclusive use	1,535,392	172,397	6,578	33.2	1,574	32.4	5,004	33.5
Shared separate bathroom in the same house	1,818,522	184,496	7,360	37.2	2,144	44.2	5,216	34.9
Private open cubicle	381,979	29,430	1,024	5.2	291	6.0	733	4.9
Shared open cubicle	1,000,257	81,605	1,420	7.2	251	5.2	1,169	7.8
Public bath house	140,501	12,880	148	0.7	92	1.9	56	0.4
Bathroom in another house	187,337	32,531	1,418	7.2	321	6.6	1,097	7.3
Open space around house	372,556	34,738	1,798	9.1	164	3.4	1,634	10.9
River/Pond/Lake/Dam	14,234	4,159	31	0.2	7	0.1	24	0.2
Other	16,276	1,398	32	0.2	9	0.2	23	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.9 Method of Waste Disposal

8.9.1 Solid waste Disposal

According to Table 8.12, 56.5 per cent of households in the Bia West District throw their solid waste onto public dump or open space. About 16.4 per cent dump their solid waste indiscriminately while 13.7 per cent use public dump (containers). In the District, the least preferred method of solid waste disposal is by collection (2.9%). Households of urban localities extensively rely on either public dump (open space) (44.2%) or public dump (container) (44.1%). In the rural areas however, it is mostly public dump (open space) or indiscriminate dumping constituting 60.5 per cent and 21.2 per cent respectively.

Table 8.12: Method of solid and liquid waste disposal by type of locality

Method of waste disposal	Total country		District					
			Total		Urban		Rural	
	Region	Number.	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Method of rubbish disposal by household								
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	4,853	100.0	14,956	100.0
Collected	785,889	45,630	571	2.9	182	3.8	389	2.6
Burned by household	584,820	32,348	600	3.0	224	4.6	376	2.5
Public dump (container)	1,299,654	116,994	2,718	13.7	2,138	44.1	580	3.9
Public dump (open space)	2,061,403	280,109	11,194	56.5	2,145	44.2	9,049	60.5
Dumped indiscriminately	498,868	53,725	3,255	16.4	77	1.6	3,178	21.2
Buried by household	182,615	19,641	942	4.8	79	1.6	863	5.8
Other	53,805	5,187	529	2.7	8	0.2	521	3.5
Method of liquid waste disposal by household								
Total	5,467,054	553,634	19,809	100.0	4,853	100.0	14,956	100.0
Through the sewerage system	183,169	14,000	87	0.4	19	0.4	68	0.5
Through drainage system into a gutter	594,404	60,735	131	0.7	40	0.8	91	0.6
Through drainage into a pit (soak away)	167,555	11,486	254	1.3	49	1.0	205	1.4
Thrown onto the street/outside	1,538,550	131,104	5,471	27.6	1,371	28.3	4,100	27.4
Thrown into gutter	1,020,096	119,736	1,256	6.3	405	8.3	851	5.7
Thrown onto compound	1,924,986	211,768	12,471	63.0	2,968	61.2	9,503	63.5
Other	38,294	4,805	139	0.7	1	0.0	138	0.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.9.2 Liquid waste Disposal

In the case of liquid waste disposal, 63.0 percent of households throw their waste onto compounds while 27.6 percent throw them onto streets/outside. A little over one-fourth (28.3%) of urban households dispose liquid waste onto streets while among the rural folks, 27.4 per cent dispose liquid waste on compounds. Roughly 64 per cent of rural households throw liquid waste on compounds whereas for urban households, 61.2 per cent throw liquid waste on compounds. The use of sewerage system is the least (0.5%) used in the District for solid waste disposal.

CHAPTER NINE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Summary of Findings

The 2010 Population and Housing Census data for Bia West District provides relevant information needed to inform policy makers, planners, academia and the general public to make informed decisions aimed at socio-economic development of the district. This section focuses on the key findings on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics, Information Communication Technology (ICT), disability, agricultural activities and housing conditions in the district.

9.1.1 Demographic Characteristic

The total population (88,939) of Bia West District form 3.7 per cent of the population of the Western Region. The proportion of males and females to the total population is estimated at 51.4 per cent and 48.6 per cent respectively. With land area of 1,287.265 square kilometres, the District has a population density of 69.1 persons per square kilometre. Natural dynamics (high fertility and low mortality) basically shapes the population of the district.

About 51 per cent of the population of the district fall within the age group of 0-19 years, with those within the age group of 0-14 forming 41.1 per cent and those within 15- 24 years who form 18.5 per cent. Those in age group 65 years and older constitute only 2.7 per cent of the population, making the population of the district a youthful one. The high proportion of children and youths in the district could put much pressure on the district's scarce resources in the provision of educational and health facilities.

The district's total fertility rate (TFR) is (3.8) and this is higher than the regional rate (3.6) and the national (3.3) total fertility rates respectively. The crude birth rate (CBR) for the district is 29.2, which is also higher than the regional average of 26.8.

The total number of deaths reported during 12 months preceding the census night is 595 with a CDR of about 7 per 1000 births of the population. Mortality, as one of the three components of population growth, plays an important role in determining the growth of the District population.

Out of a total number of 38,508 migrants, 4,206 were born elsewhere in the region, while the remaining (89.1%) were born elsewhere in another region. About 27.4 per cent of migrants were born in the Brong-Ahafo Region. Most of these migrants have come as settler farmers.

9.1.2 Social Characteristics

Child (son/daughter) constitutes 46.7 per cent of population in households' composition of the district population. Heads of households are about 22.5 per cent while spouse (wife/husband) are 12.9 per cent. Household composition in the district is highly of the nuclear family type with 38.3 per cent being nuclear family structure (Head, spouse(s), and children). About 46.7 per cent of persons 12 years and older are currently married; 37.9 per cent have

never married, while 8.5 per cent are in informal relationships and are predominantly within the age bracket of 25- 29 years.

While 94.1 per cent of the population of the district are Ghanaians by birth, those by naturalization form 0.6 per cent and 2.3 per cent hold dual citizenship. Other nationals altogether constitute 3.0 per cent of the district's population. About 5.6 per cent of people in the district do not subscribe to any religious group. The Christian population is 76.2 per cent; Muslims are 16.5 per cent and Traditional religion, 1.1 per cent.

The literate population of the district is 40,285 representing 67.2 per cent of persons 11 years and older. Out of the literate population, 68.3 per cent are literate in both English and Ghanaian language and 19.9 per cent are literate in English only, 10.6 per cent in Ghanaian language only. An insignificant proportion of 0.7 per cent is literate in English and French and 0.4 per cent in English, French and Ghanaian Language. For the population 3 years and older, 49.2 per cent are currently attending school; 18.5 per cent are in kindergarten; 16.7 per cent are attending JSS/JHS. There are however higher proportions of females (19.1%) in kindergarten than males (18.0%) but at the JSS/JHS, Secondary and tertiary levels males outnumber females.

9.1.3 Economic Characteristics

Approximately 77 per cent of persons 15 years and older are economically active, while those economically not active constitute 23.1 per cent. Among the economically active population, 96.4 per cent are employed and 3.6 per cent are unemployed in the district. Most of the employed are in the age range of 20-44 years.

About 74.7 per cent of the population aged 15 years and older in Bia West District are skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers, 9.0 per cent are engaged in service and sales and 6.5 per cent are into craft and related trades. Of the population 15 years and older, 74.4 per cent are in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry and the proportion of males (77.9%) outweigh that of females (70.3%). Out of 38,580 population 15 years and older, 54.3 per cent of the population are self-employed who are without employee(s). About 94 per cent of the district's population is employed in private informal sector while the private formal draws 2.3 per cent and public sector accounts for 3.2 per cent of the people employed. The proportion of females (96.5%) in the informal sector is more than that for males (92.0%).

9.1.4 Information Communication Technology

Considering the population 12 years and above, 42.9 percent have mobile phones. Men who own mobile phones constitute 51.1 percent as compared to 34.0 percent of females. About two out of every 100 (1.5%) of the population 12 years and older use internet facilities in the district. Only 353 households representing 1.8 percent of the total households in the district have desktop/laptop computers.

9.1.5 Disability

A proportion of 1 per cent of the population in the Bia West District is with disability in different forms. Among the disability population in the district, 36.1 per cent has sight disability, 26.8 per cent are those with physical disability, 25.4 per cent are with speech and 20.0 per cent are with hearing disability. A high proportion of males 23.6 per cent in the urban locality are with physical disability than their female counterparts 20.8 per cent. Out of the total population of 52,071 aged 15 years and older, 1.2 per cent is PWDs. Of the total employed population of 38,580, 1 per cent is PWDs. This means that, 99% of the employed

population is persons without disability. 36.8 per cent have never attended school and for those who have attended or currently attending school, their number reduces as the academic ladder progresses.

9.1.6 Agricultural Activities

Out of total households of 19,809, 78.2 per cent are engaged in agriculture. In the urban localities households, 63.8 per cent are engaged in agriculture but in the rural localities, 82.8 per cent are into agriculture. (68.5%) livestock kept by farmers are chicken while 6.3 are goats.

9.1.7 Housing Conditions

The Bia West District has 19,809 households constituting 88,204 household population dwelling in 15,420 houses. The average population per house in the rural locality is 5.3 persons and that for urban is 7.6. Households members own the majority (57.5%) of dwelling units in the district; private individuals own 17.9 per cent; other relatives not household members own 11.4 per cent; private employer owns 10.9 per cent; 0.7 per cent are purchased (e.g. mortgaged) and 0.4 per cent given out for occupancy by other private agencies in the district. In urban areas, household members own 12.4 per cent of dwelling units whereas 45.1 per cent is the case in rural areas.

As high as 77.9 per cent of dwelling units are mud brick/earth; 14.0 per cent are of cement blocks/concrete; 3.6 per cent are landcrete and 3.3 per cent are made of wood. Mud brick/earth remains the dominant construction material for outer wall in both urban (68.0%) and rural (80.9%) localities.

With regards to flooring materials, 68.4 per cent of dwelling units have floors constructed with cement/concrete. In urban localities, about 96.3 per cent used cement and 2.0 per cent used earth to construct their floors. In the case of rural and urban areas, 59.3 per cent and 38.7 per cent of floors are constructed with cement/concrete and earth/mud respectively.

Metal sheet constitutes the dominant material utilised in roofing dwelling units in the District in both urban (96.3%) and rural (87.2%) localities. About 48.9 per cent of households in the district occupy one sleeping room while 28.2 per cent households use two sleeping rooms.

More households use flashlight/torch (53.2%) as their main source of light in the District. Closely 34 per cent of households use electricity (mains) and (11.7%) rely on kerosene lamp as source of lighting of dwelling units. Among urban households however, electricity (mains) records 87.9 per cent and flashlight/torch has only 6.1 per cent. About 78 per cent of households use wood as fuel for cooking; 14.7 per cent use charcoal and only 2.7 per cent use gas. Slightly more than half (50.5%) of households have separate room exclusively for cooking; 11.7 per cent of households cook on verandas.

In Bia West District, 19.1 per cent rely on unprotected well. Rural households stand a high risk of being inflicted with waterborne ailment as 51.5 per cent rely on unprotected sources for drinking water. Thus, 22.5 per cent obtain drinking water from rivers or streams, 24.5 per cent rely unprotected wells, 2.7 on unprotected spring and 1.8 drink from dugouts, ponds, lake, dam or canals.

A high proportion (69.0%) of households in the district use pit latrine, 17.4 per cent use public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit, Pan etc.) while 10.0 per cent have no toilet facility and therefore defecate indiscriminately in the bush or field. In urban localities, 17.1 per cent of

households do not have toilet facilities as compared to 7.6 per cent for the rural folks. About one-fourth (20.7%) of rural dwellers tend to rely on public toilet as against 7.2 per cent in the urban localities of the District. Again, 37.2 per cent households in the district share separate bathroom in the same house and 33.2 per cent have exclusive bathroom. For urban households, 44.2 per cent share separate bathroom in the same house and 32.4 per cent have exclusive facilities.

In the Bia West District, 56.5 per cent of households throw solid waste onto public dump or open spaces. About 16.4 per cent dump solid waste indiscriminately while 13.7 per cent use public dump (containers). Also, the least preferred method of solid waste disposal is by collection, practiced by 2.9 per cent households

9.2 Conclusions

Results from the 2010 PHC provide holistic information on the demographic, social, and economic and other indicators of the district. The report shows the status of key demographic and socio-economic indicators in the district. It highlights the dynamics of the households' characteristics and challenges in other social and economic issues such as education, information communication technology, disability, agriculture, housing and the amenities available to the households. These issues include the youthful nature of the population, high age dependency ratio, low level of educational attainment, low ICT usage, incidence of disability, dominance of agriculture in the economy of the district with crop farming being the dominant agriculture activity, poor water and sanitation conditions as well as over reliance on wood and charcoal as main source of cooking fuel. The data from the 2010 Census thus provides a wealth of information to inform policy decision-making and planning.

9.3 Policy Implications

The youthful population of the district requires the development of youth related infrastructure such as schools, recreational centres and hospitals to cater for their needs.

The Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE), free exercise books, school feeding programme in the districts need to be invigorated in order to reduce the proportions of the illiterates. It will be helpful to design effective measure to retain boys and girls in the school system beyond the JHS level. Retention of girls in schools would improve and enhance rapid socioeconomic development. The non-formal education division of the Ghana Education Service should scale up the adult literacy programme in the District. This offers opportunities for family health education among those who missed out on formal education.

Early marriage and the high fertility rate in the district contribute to women's inability to achieve their full potential as many years are spent in child bearing and childcare. Education on family planning issues should be intensified.

Limited access to Internet facilities and fixed telephone lines can have negative implications for business start-up and growth. This is an indispensable tool if businesses are to flourish in the district since road and other transport infrastructures are yet to be comprehensively developed. Telephone and the Internet provide access to quick and easy information for development purposes. The district and government should improve access to these facilities by creating more public Internet centres and making computers accessible – in respect of availability and affordability.

The District Assembly should intensify sanitation campaigns so as to improve the quality of environmental sanitation in the district. Also, early child health practices such as immunization should be given the necessary attention to minimize if not eliminate the menace of disability. Furthermore, skill development training centres should be built and equipped to train PWDs in various skills that will make them employable.

The District needs to work with the Water and Sanitation Department to improve facilities in order to reduce negative sanitation practices such as open defecation. To achieve this, the assembly could provide incentives to house owners to construct sanitary facilities in their households. Coupled with this, the District Assembly should enforce laws and byelaws on sanitation such as ensuring maintenance and clean public toilet facilities, a must for every house to have a toilet facility and also punish those who defecate in the open.

Access to portable water supply especially in the rural areas should remain the priority to the district so as to cover those currently draw drinking water from unprotected sources. This will help bring down the incidence of water borne diseases in the district.

Rural electrification projects should be intensified as a significant proportion of households in these areas are still without electricity. Also, the use of solar energy should be intensified. Since the district is endowed with bamboo, the use of bamboo as a construction material should be encouraged and made attractive. This would reduce construction cost and make housing more affordable.

The fact that about 63 per cent of the unemployed are between the ages of 20-34 and most of them are first time job seekers indicate the unavailability of jobs for the youth in the labour market. Necessary steps must be taken to create the enabling environment for job creation particularly self-employment.

Agriculture should be modernized and access provided for improved seeds, credit, and other farm inputs. Roads and transportation facilities should be improved to facilitate agricultural activities.

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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	Adjoafua	6,871	3,609	3,262	917	710
2	Oseikojokrom	5,698	2,845	2,853	1,319	749
3	Old Debiso	5,542	2,659	2,883	1,341	828
4	Essam	5,242	2,510	2,732	1,276	772
5	Akaatiso	3,925	2,040	1,885	903	647
6	Yawmatwa	3,497	1,829	1,668	772	709
7	Elluokrom	2,182	1,094	1,088	490	369
8	Kwamebikrom	2,097	1,009	1,088	451	309
9	New Abesim	2,094	1,113	981	493	363
10	Kojoaba	1,878	934	944	387	317
11	Nkrabea	1,794	975	819	414	358
12	Asuontaa	1,641	816	825	343	275
13	Hene Nkwanta	1,627	868	759	349	258
14	Kofi Krah	1,321	694	627	332	247
15	Kakanabo	1,316	714	602	281	252
16	Asuopiri	1,295	635	660	286	206
17	Jericho	1,236	656	580	339	267
18	Asikrom (Ensonyameye)	1,216	664	552	267	170
19	Osumanikrom	1,206	663	543	308	244
20	Pramprase	1,205	649	556	274	192

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table A2: Population by age group in the 20 largest communities

S/No	Community Name	Age group																
		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	Adjoafua	6,871	854	1,010	1,056	870	747	634	369	311	269	234	204	93	83	26	47	64
2	Oseikojokrom	5,698	772	766	762	657	492	472	372	316	303	247	178	121	74	49	42	75
3	Old Debiso	5,542	699	678	690	692	615	511	376	344	277	223	154	102	67	14	33	67
4	Essam	5,242	648	711	651	599	480	457	334	315	269	216	201	115	70	52	51	73
5	Akaatiso	3,925	599	564	494	407	391	351	292	242	186	117	119	47	38	21	23	34
6	Yawmatwa	3,497	581	490	409	363	335	284	259	236	165	112	104	42	27	28	21	41
7	Elluokrom	2,182	288	296	264	236	254	205	155	120	81	69	66	37	39	14	23	35
8	Kwamebikrom	2,097	223	306	296	275	190	144	154	95	87	102	59	34	31	23	32	46
9	New Abesim	2,094	441	267	586	172	209	230	138	119	80	66	50	36	16	11	5	67
10	Kojoaba	1,878	280	236	229	238	198	155	107	103	98	73	52	34	17	14	21	23
11	Nkrabea	1,794	334	257	192	155	158	168	247	115	77	53	55	29	24	13	10	28
12	Asuontaa	1,641	230	227	212	187	162	142	107	90	60	58	51	28	30	12	20	25
13	Hene Nkwanta	1,627	268	212	139	141	170	206	126	101	72	61	51	23	13	13	6	25
14	Kofi Krah	1,321	230	174	148	74	124	136	102	89	73	55	44	27	15	16	12	2
15	Kakanabo	1,316	234	190	126	109	130	120	96	87	57	55	32	29	24	6	10	11
16	Asuopiri	1,295	177	180	194	160	123	127	76	53	40	35	45	26	14	8	13	24
17	Jericho	1,236	243	180	102	68	127	144	100	74	50	57	33	15	14	17	6	6
18	Asikrom (Ensonyameye)	1,216	226	172	127	108	111	118	67	84	62	43	27	14	16	12	13	16
19	Osumanikrom	1,206	185	140	149	102	134	105	77	71	65	43	47	25	17	15	8	23
20	Pramprase	1,205	193	193	121	99	146	95	75	67	54	47	29	19	15	13	20	19

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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