



2010

POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

AGONA WEST MUNICIPALITY



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.

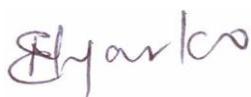
A population census is the most important source of data on the size, composition, growth and distribution of a country's population at the national and sub-national levels. Data from the 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) will serve as reference for equitable distribution of national resources 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 Agona West Municipality 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

AGI	Association of Ghanaian Industries
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
CBR	Crude Birth Rate
CDR	Crude death Rate
CEB	Children Ever Born
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination
CERSCIS	Centre for remote and Geographical Information Systems
CHPS	Community-based Health Planning Services
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CS	Children Surviving
CWIQ	Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaire
DA	District Assembly
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DCD	District Coordinating Director
DCE	District Chief Executive
DFID	Department for International Development
DPCU	District Planning and Coordinating Unit
EA	Enumeration Area
ECOWAS	Economic Commission of West African States
EMIS	Education Management Information System
EU	European Union
FCUBE	Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education
GA	General Assembly
GDHS	Ghana Demography Health Survey
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GES	Ghana Education Service
GETFund	Ghana Education Trust Fund
GFR	General Fertility Rate
GPRTU	Ghana Private Road Transport Union
GPS	Global Positioning System
GREDA	Ghana Real Estate Developers Association
GSDP	Ghana Statistics Development Plan

GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
GYEEDA	Ghana Youth Employment and Entrepreneurial Development Agency
HIV	Human Immune Virus
ICT	Information Communication Technology
ICU	International Communication Union
ISCO	International Standard Classification of Occupation
ISIC	International Standard Classification of Industry
ISSER	Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research
JHS	Junior High School
JSS	Junior Secondary School
LEAP	Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty
LESDEP	Local Enterprise and Skills Development
MDAs	Ministries, Department and Agencies
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MER	Migration Effectiveness Ratio
MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MOTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
NCA	National Communication Authority
NCTA	National Census Technical Advisory Committee
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission
NGOs	Non-governmental Organisations
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
OIC	Opportunities Industrialisation Centres
PAS	Population Analysis Spread sheet
PASEX	Population Analysis System
PDA	Portable Digital Device
PES	Post Enumeration Survey
PHC	Population and Housing Census
PNDC	Provisional National Defense Council
PPP	Public-Private Partnerships
PWDs	People Living with Disabilities
PWDs	Persons With Disabilities
SADA	Savannah Accelerated Development Authority

SAP	Structural Adjustment Programme
SHC	Senior High School
SHEP	Self Help Electrification Project
SHS	Senior High School
SMAM	Singulate Mean Age at Marriage
SSS	Senior Secondary School
TBAs	Trained Birth Attendants/Traditional Birth Attendants
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Education Fund
W.C	Water Closet
WHO	World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The Municipal 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 Municipality. It gives a brief background of the Municipality, 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 Municipality, 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 Municipality. 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 Agona West Municipality, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, is 115,358 representing 5.2 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute 46.9 percent and females represent 53.1 percent. The Municipality is predominantly urban with a little over three quarters of the population (76.6%) residing in urban localities. The Municipality has a sex ratio of 88.5. This Municipality depicts extremely expansive youthful population with 25.7 percent in the age group of 0-9 years, depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number (1-2 %) in the 60 plus age groups. The total age dependency ratio for the Municipality is 79.1 with the total dependency ratio for rural higher (95.3) than that of urban (74.7).

Fertility, mortality and migration

The Total Fertility Rate for the Municipality 3.1. The General Fertility Rate is 90.6 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years and is among the lowest rate in the region. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 23.2 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the Municipality is 7.7 per 1000. The death rate for males is highest for age 70 and above representing over 60 deaths per 1000 population while for the females, the highest death rate of 48 deaths per 1000 population is for ages 65-69. Majority of migrants (58.1%) living in the Municipality were born in elsewhere in Central region while 41.9 percent were born elsewhere in another region. For migrants born in another region, those born in Eastern region constitute 14.0 percent followed by Greater Accra region with 7.0 percent and Ashanti 5.4 percent.

Household Size, composition and structure

The Municipality has a household population of 111,447 with a total number of 29,478 households. The average household size in the Municipality is 3.8 persons per household. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household structure accounting for 41.1 percent. Grandchildren constitute 10.3 percent of household population. Spouses form about 9.9 percent. Nuclear households (head, spouse(s) and children) constitute 28.1 percent of the total number of households in the Municipality.

Marital status

Close to four in every ten (38.9%) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 41.3 percent have never married, 6.2 percent are in consensual unions, 6.1 percent are widowed, 5.5 percent are divorced and 1.9 percent are separated. By age 25-29 years, more than half of

females (51.4%) are married compared to about a third of males (29.5%). At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 58.5 percent while widowed males account for only 12.1 percent. . Among the married, 21.4 percent have no education and 4 percent of the unmarried have never been to school. More than eight out of every ten of the married population (85.4%) are employed, 2.4 percent are unemployed and 12.2 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who have never married (60.4%) are economically not active with 4.6 percent unemployed.

Nationality

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the Municipality is 95.2 percent. Those who have naturalised constitute 0.7 percent and the non-Ghanaian population in the Municipality is 2.1 percent. A proportion of 83 percent of the population living in the Municipality are Christians with 5.7 of them with no religion. Islam constitutes 9.7 percent and traditional religion is 0.5 percent

Literacy and education

Of the population 11 years and above, 77.2 percent are literate and 22.8 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (90.8 %) than that of females (77.2%). Almost seven out of ten people (62.6%) indicated they could read and write both English and Ghanaian languages. Of the population aged 3 years and above (106,222) in the Municipality, 14.8 percent has never attended school, 41.6 percent are currently attending and 43.6 percent have attended in the past.

Economic activity status

About 72.2 percent of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active while 27.8 percent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 94.6 percent are employed while 5.4 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a larger percentage of them are students (50.3%), 18.5 percent perform household duties and 6.3 percent are disabled or too sick to work. Almost seven out of ten unemployed are seeking work for the first time.

Occupation

Of the employed population, about 34 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 27.3 percent in service and sales, 16.9 percent in craft and related trade, and about 11 percent are engaged as managers, professionals, and technicians.

Employment status and sector

Of the population 15 years and older 66.0 percent are self-employed without employees, 8.2 percent are contributing family workers, 1.3 percent are casual workers and 0.5 percent are domestic employees (house helps). Overall, men constitute the highest proportion in each employment category except the self-employed without employee(s) and contributing family workers. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the Municipality, employing 88.1 percent of the population followed by the public sector with 6.7 percent.

Information and communication technology

Of the population 12 years and above, more than half (50.9%) have mobile phones. Men who own mobile phones constitute 55.9 percent as compared to 46.5 percent of females. A little over six percent of the population 12 years and older use internet facilities in the

Municipality. Only 1,978 households representing 6.7 percent of the total households in the Municipality have desktop/laptop computers with three percent having fixed telephone lines.

Disability

About 3.6 percent of the Municipality's total population has one form of disability or the other. The proportion of the female population with disability is slightly higher (3.8%) than males (3.4%). The types of disability in the Municipality include sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, and emotion. Persons with sight disability recorded the highest of 39.9 percent followed by physical disability (28.2%). About 3.3 percent of the population with disability are in the urban localities and 3.4 in the rural localities. There are more females with sight, physical and emotional disabilities than males in both the urban and rural localities. Of the population disabled, 52 percent attained basic level education and 15.4 percent is observed for Sec/SHS and higher education. More males (17.2%) than females (6.6%) with sight disability have attained higher education.

Agriculture

Almost half (49.4%) of the households in the Municipality are engaged in agriculture. In the rural localities, more than eight out of ten households (86.1%) are agricultural households while in the urban localities, 39.4 percent of households are into agriculture. Most households in the Municipality (97.0%) are involved in crop farming. Poultry (chicken) is the dominant animal reared in the Municipality

Housing

The housing stock of Agona West Municipality is 14,201 representing 4.1 percent of the total number of houses in the Ashanti Region. The average household size is 3.8 and the population per house is 7.8.

Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

Almost seven out of ten (67.4%) of all dwelling units in the Municipality are compound houses; 19.3 percent are separate houses and 4.2 percent are semi-detached houses. Almost half (43.4%) of the dwelling units in the Municipality are owned by members of the household; 28.9 percent are owned by private individuals; 24.7 percent are owned by a relative who is not a member of the household and only 1.4 percent are owned by public or government. Less than one percent (0.6%) 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 Municipality is Cement blocks/Concrete accounting for 60.6 percent with Mud brick/Earth constituting 32 percent of outer walls of dwelling units in the Municipality. Cement (87.5%) and mud/earth (8.9%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the Municipality. Metal sheets are the main roofing material (93.5%) for dwelling units in the Municipality.

Room occupancy

One room constitutes the highest percentage (60.2%) of sleeping rooms occupied by households in dwelling units in the Municipality. About 9.7 percent of households with 10 or more members occupy single rooms.

Utilities and household facilities

The three main sources of lighting in the dwelling units in the Municipality are electricity (65.7%) and kerosene lamp (21.4%) flashlight/torch (11.0%). The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the Municipality is wood (39.9%). The proportion for rural (81.7%) is higher than that of urban (28.5%). The four main sources of water for drinking in the Municipality are public tap, pipe borne water and borehole. About a third of the households (32.95) drink water from Public tap or Standpipe.

The most toilet facility used in the Municipality is public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit, Pan) representing 43.2 percent followed by pit latrine (22.6%). About 7.3 percent of the population in the Municipality has no toilet facility. Four out of ten households (40.5%) in the Municipality share separate bathrooms in the same house while 17.2 percent own bathrooms for their exclusive use.

Waste disposal

The most commonly method of solid waste disposal is by public dump in the open space accounting for 40.1 percent. About 3.1 percent of the households dump their solid waste indiscriminately. House to house waste collection accounts for 2.8 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste onto the compound (24.4%) and onto the street or gutter (29.1%) are the two most common methods used by households in the Municipality.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

As far back as 1969, the Government of Ghana recognized that the “Population of Ghana is the nation’s greatest resource. It is both the instrument and objective of national development. The protection and enhancement of its welfare is the Government’s first responsibility”. (Government of Ghana, 1969) Government also explicitly recognized the reciprocal relationship between population and development (i.e. population affects development even as development affects population.). In all these, the population and its characteristics are of primary importance because development is by people, for people and of people. An understanding of the population, its characteristics and dynamics, is therefore crucial for realistic development planning.

The Government of Ghana has operated the decentralized system of development since 1988 with the District Assembly, as the planning authority. The District is expected to initiate and coordinate the processes of planning, programming, budgeting and implementation of Municipality plans, programmes and projects. The District Assemblies and the various organs are expected to carry out medium and long term planning including integration of population policies and issues, as they pertain to the needs of particular Districts and communities.

The overall level of development and demographic structure of the country conceals differences between and within Regions, Districts, and Urban and Rural localities. As such, there are bound to be differences in the population and development needs and priorities between and within Districts, Urban and Rural localities.

The report deals with the Agona West Municipality. Its objective is to make available to the general public, analysis of the results of the 2010 Population and Housing Census and their full implication for policy and planning in the Municipality. This chapter gives a brief description of the Agona West Municipality with respect to political and administrative structure, physical characteristics, political administration, social and cultural structure and the economy.

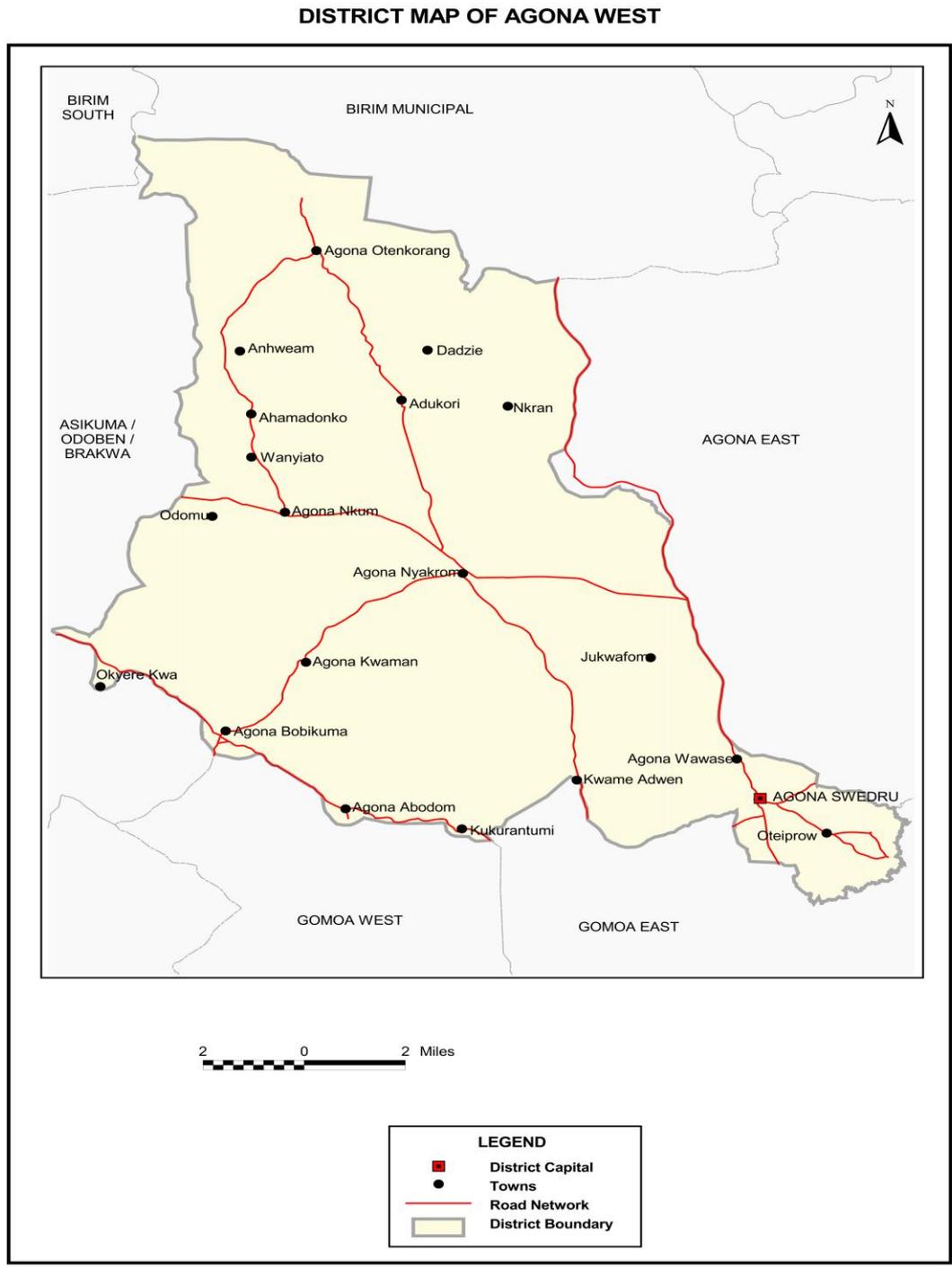
1.2 Physical Features

The physical features of the Agona West Municipality is made up of natural environment namely climate, vegetation, relief and drainage, location and size, the social and cultural environment in which the people live. The physical features are therefore essential elements or factors affecting the socio-economic development of the Municipality.

1.2.1 Location and area

The Agona West Municipality is situated in the eastern corner of the Central Region within latitudes 5⁰30’ and 5⁰50’N and between longitudes 0⁰35’ and 0⁰55’W. It has a total land area of 356.16 square kilometers and it is home to about 5.1 percent of the region’s population. It is bordered to the north by Agona East, to the south by Gomoa East and to the northwest and west by Asikuma-Odoben-Brakwa and Ajumako-Enyan-Essiam Districts. The Municipal capital, Swedru, is at a nodal point of roads radiating to the rich cocoa growing areas of the Central Region.

Figure 1.1: Map of Agona West Municipality



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

1.2.2 Relief

The Agona West Municipality has a diversified relief with altitudes varying between 75-150 meters above sea level with the highest point being 350 meters. It has a sloppy topography from north to south with isolated hillocks in the north- east, most of which are made up of granite rocks. The main river which primarily drains through the Municipality is Akora River. There are other small rivers like Abena, and Enchiwi.

1.2.3 Climate and vegetation

Generally, the Municipality lies in the wet semi-equatorial climate zone. It has two main crop growing seasons: a bio-modal pattern of rainfall with the maxima occurring in May/June and September/October. The annual rainfall figure lies within the range of 1000mm - 1400mm. The dry season starts in December and ends in March with the highest mean monthly temperature of 33.8⁰ occurring between March/April and the lowest of about 29.4⁰ C in August.

The area falls within the Moist Tropical and Semi-deciduous forest with a lot of valuable timber trees like Mahogany, Sapele, Silk cotton, Wawa and Odum. Due to over logging, most of the timber trees are no more. The most predominant and giant tree left is the silk cotton. Afforestation, particularly the cultivation of teak and other forest trees would become very important economic ventures in future.

The major soil type found in the Municipality is classified as forest ochrosols. These soils are alkaline and richly supplied with nutrients which make them suitable for cultivating varied agricultural crops like cocoa, citrus and coconut. Typical forest food crops like plantain, banana, cassava, cocoyam and maize are also cultivated. Vegetable and sugar cane cultivation is widespread. Agriculture occupies most of the land use; however, certain areas are devoted to forestry and community settlements.

1.3 Political Administration

Agona West Municipality was created out of the former Agona District on 25th February, 2008 by LI 1920. Agona West Municipality is one of the twenty (20) political and administrative districts in the Central Region of Ghana. It has one Urban Council - Nyakrom Urban Council (LI 1967) and five Zonal Councils.

1.4 Social and Cultural Structure

The indigenous people of the Municipality are the 'Agonas'. Over the years they have co-existed with other prominent minority migrants such as Obutus, Gomoas, Ewes, Effutus, Fantis, Kwahus, Atakpames, Kontokoris and several ethnic groupings of Northern Ghana origin.

Apart from Swedru (the Municipal capital) where people are attracted to due to the existence of public and private sector business activities, Otsenkorang Area Council also have a number of migrant populations due to the cocoa industry. Despite the high number of different ethnic groups, the Municipality has a strong social integration from the diverse ethnic groups. The groups intermarry and participate in shared cropping arrangements under the existing land tenure systems, especially the 'Abunu' and 'Abusa' which are commonly practised. This has promoted solid social bonds and economic ties between migrant tenants and their indigenous landlords. It also makes it easier for tenants to acquire land for farming.

1.4.1 Festivals

Festivals are important in the social life of the people in Agona West Municipality. The “Akwambo” festival is the most important traditional festival instituted for the spiritual reunion of the people. It is celebrated every year between August and October. As a social festivity, it is also an occasion where communities plan their developmental activities including strategies for mobilizing funds for project implementation.

1.4.2 Marriage and inheritance

The people of Agona practice the matrilineal inheritance system. Female children in the extended family under this system are considered important for the survival of the family as a unit. Inheritance is therefore passed on from brothers to their sisters’ children (nephews and nieces).

1.4.3 Religion

The inhabitants of Agona West Municipality are affiliated to various religious groups. The dominant religion is Christianity. Other religions such as Islam and Traditional worship also exist but are in the minority. Religious groups found in the Municipality co-exist peacefully. The larger Christian population in all Urban, Town and Area Councils makes the church a possible forum for information dissemination on community/group mobilization for development in the Municipality.

Irrespective of the rules and regulations guiding the various religions, the religious groups observe the taboos in the Municipality. These taboos which are considered to have socio-economic and spiritual importance include regulation of farming days, land use, water resources use and control and adherence to some social norms. There are non-farming taboo days in every Urban, Town and Area Council. Taboos in Agona West Municipality also help in the protection of the forests and the fragile ecosystem through the creation of *sacred grooves*, which are known popularly as “Nananom Mpow” in the Municipality. Taboo days also assist in fixing community dialogue meetings.

1.4.4 Education

There has been an increase in enrolment in basic schools in the Municipality. The general increase in enrolment in response to Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education has been tremendous. Reasons for the increase in enrolment of school going age pupils could be based on the following interventions:

Improvements in infrastructure like public buildings and furniture through Social Investment Fund (SIF), Ghana Education Trust Fund (GETFund) and European Union (EU).

The challenges of education in the Municipality are school information improvement; teacher development, deployment and supervision, reforms management and special partnership programmes with non-state actors.

1.5 Economy

The Agona West Municipality has a lot of economic potentials in the form of both natural and man-made. The most spectacular is the presence of markets in most major towns to promote trade and commerce. The Municipality produces large quantities of cassava, maize, plantain, cocoyam and vegetables. Cocoa, palm oil and coffee are also produced.

Granite for the production of quarry stone for all types of construction abound. Mining of sand occurs in several parts of the Municipality, particularly, Swedru. Palm kernel oil is processed into local soap in several of the large communities. Distillation of local gin is predominant in the Abodom and Kukurantumi areas. Swedru is home to a number of hotels of international status where workshops and conferences are held. There are important second cycle educational institutions. The Municipality is well served by major trunk roads and health facilities.

Agriculture is the mainstay of the Municipality's economy. Cash crop production dominates all farming activities in the Municipality e.g. cocoa, citrus, oil palm and coconut.

1.6 Census Methodology, Concepts and Definitions

1.6.1 Introduction

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

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

1.6.2 Pre-enumeration activities

Development of census project document and work plans

A large scale statistical operation, such as the 2010 Population and Housing Census required meticulous planning for its successful implementation. A working group of the Ghana Statistical Service prepared the census project document with the assistance of two consultants. The document contains the rationale and objectives of the census, census organization, a work plan as well as a budget. The project document was launched in November 2008 as part of the Ghana Statistics Development Plan (GSDP) and reviewed in November 2009.

Census secretariat and committees

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

The Census Secretariat was initially headed by an acting Census Coordinator engaged by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in 2008 to support GSS in the planning of the Census. In 2009, the Census Secretariat was re-organized with the Government Statistician

as the National Chief Census Officer and overall Coordinator, assisted by a Census Management Team and a Census Coordinating Team. The Census Management Team had oversight responsibility for the implementation of the Census. It also had the responsibility of taking critical decisions on the census in consultation with other national committees. The Census Coordinating Team, on the other hand, was responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the Census programme.

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

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

Selection of census topics

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

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

Census mapping

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

The Cartography Unit of the Census Secretariat collaborated with the Survey and Mapping Division of the Lands Commission and the Centre for Remote Sensing and Geographic

Information Services (CERSGIS) of the Department of Geography and Resource Development, University of Ghana, to determine the viability of migrating from analog to digital mapping for the 2010 PHC, as recommended in the 2000 PHC Administrative Report. Field cartographic work started in March 2008 and was completed in February 2010.

Development of questionnaire and manuals

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

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

Pre-tests and trial census

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

The census questionnaire was pre-tested twice in the course of its development. The first pre-test was carried out in March 2009 to find out the suitability of the questions and the instructions provided. It also tested the adequacy and completeness of the responses and how respondents understood the questions. The second pre-test was done in 10 selected enumeration areas in August, 2009. The objective of the second pre-test was to examine the sequence of the questions, test the new questions, such as, date of birth and migration, and assess how the introduction of 'date of birth' could help to reduce 'age heaping'. With regard to questions on fertility, the pre-tests sought to find out the difference, if any, between proxy responses and responses by the respondents themselves. Both pre-tests were carried in the Greater Accra Region. Experience from the pre-tests was used to improve the final census questionnaire.

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

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

1.6.3 Census enumeration

Method of enumeration and field work

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

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

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

Enumeration of the household population started on Monday, 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 were listed and where the members of the household were absent, the enumerator left a call-back-card indicating when he/she would come back to enumerate the household. The enumeration process took off smoothly with enumerators poised on completing their assignments on schedule since many of them were teachers and had to return to school. However, many enumerators ran short of questionnaires after a few days' work.

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

1.6.4 Post enumeration survey

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

- 97.0 percent of all household residents who were in the country on Census Night (26th September, 2010) were enumerated.
- 1.3 percent of the population was erroneously included in the census.
- Regional differentials are observed. Upper East region recorded the highest coverage rate of 98.2 percent while the Volta region had the lowest coverage rate of 95.7 percent.
- Males (3.3%) were more likely than females (2.8%) to be omitted in the census. The coverage rate for males was 96.7 percent and the coverage rate for females was 97.2 percent. Also, the coverage rates (94.1%) for those within the 20-29 and 30-39 age groups are relatively lower compared to the coverage rates of the other age groups.
- There was a high rate of agreement between the 2010 PHC data and the PES data for sex (98.8%), marital status (94.6%), relationship to head of household (90.5%) and age (83.0%).

1.6.5 Release and dissemination of results

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

1.6.6 Concepts and definitions

Introduction

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

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

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

Region

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

District

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

Locality

A locality was defined as a distinct population cluster (also designated as inhabited place, populated centre, settlement) which has a NAME or LOCALLY RECOGNISED STATUS. It included fishing hamlets, mining camps, ranches, farms, market towns, villages, towns, cities and many other types of population clusters, which meet the above criteria. There were two main types of localities, rural and urban. As in previous censuses, the classification of localities into 'urban' and 'rural' was based on population size. Localities with 5,000 or more persons were classified as urban while localities with less than 5,000 persons were classified as rural.

Population

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

Household

A household was defined as a person or a group of persons, who lived together in the same house or compound and shared the same house-keeping arrangements. In general, a household consisted of a man, his wife, children and some other relatives or a house help who may be living with them. However, it is important to remember that members of a household

are not necessarily related (by blood or marriage) because non-relatives (e.g. house helps) may form part of a household.

Head of household

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

Household and non-household population

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

- a) Educational institutions
- b) Children's and old people's homes
- c) Hospitals and healing centres
- d) Hotels
- e) Prisons
- f) Service barracks
- g) Soldiers on field exercise
- h) Floating population: The following are examples of persons in this category:
 - i. All persons who slept in lorry parks, markets, in front of stores and offices, public bathrooms, petrol filling stations, railway stations, verandas, pavements, and all such places which are not houses or compounds.
 - ii. Hunting and fishing camps.
 - iii. Beggars and vagrants (mentally sick or otherwise).

Age

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

Nationality

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

Ethnicity

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

Birthplace

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

Duration of residence

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

Religion

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

Marital status

Marital status refers to the respondent's marital status as at Census Night. The question on marital status was asked only of persons 12 years and older. The selection of the age limit of 12 years was based on the average age at menarche and also on the practice in some parts of the country where girls as young as 12 years old could be given in marriage.

Literacy

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

Education

School Attendance

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

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

Level of education

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

Activity status

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

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

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

Occupation

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

Industry

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

Employment status

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

Employment sector

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

Disability

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

Information communication technology (ICT)

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

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

Fertility

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

Mortality

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

Agriculture

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

Housing conditions and facilities

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

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

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

1.7 Organization of the Report

The report consists of nine chapters. Chapter one provides basic information about the district. It gives a brief background of the district, describing its physical features, political and administrative structure, social and cultural structure, economy and the methodology and concepts used in the report. Chapter two discusses the population size, composition and age structure. It further discusses the migratory pattern in the district as well as fertility and mortality. In chapter three, the focus is on household size, composition and headship as well as the marital characteristics and nationality of the inhabitants of the district. The chapter also discusses the religious affiliations and the educational statuses of the members of the district. Chapter four focuses on economic characteristics such as economic activity status, occupation, industries and the employment status and sectors that the people are employed.

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

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

CHAPTER TWO

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

2.1 Introduction

The age and sex structure of a population is one of the most important characteristics of a nation's population. This chapter discusses the structure of the population, its distribution and migration, fertility and mortality patterns in the Municipality.

2.2 Population Size and Distribution

Table 2.1 indicates that Agona West Municipality has a total population of 115,358 with the female population constituting 53.1 percent. The Municipality is predominantly urban with a little over three quarters of the population (76.6%) residing in urban localities.

Sex ratio is the number of males per 100 females. Sex ratios that are higher than 100 indicate that there are more males than females but sex ratios under 100 indicate the reverse, i.e., more females than males. The sex ratio (88.5) presented in Table 2.1 shows that there are about 88 males to 100 females in the Municipality. This is demonstrated in the predominance of females in all age group except ages 0-19. After age group 20-24, more females are found in the Municipality than males. A similar trend is observed with increasing age. In the older ages of 80 years and above, there are two times more females than males, which confirm that females live longer than males.

Table 2.1: Population by age, sex and type of locality

Age Group	Both Sexes		Males		Females		Sex Ratio
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All Ages	115,358	100.0	54,159	100.0	61,199	100.0	88.5
0 - 4	15,399	13.3	7,839	14.5	7,560	12.4	103.7
5 - 9	14,344	12.4	7,210	13.3	7,134	11.7	101.1
10 - 14	14,916	12.9	7,583	14.0	7,333	12.0	103.4
15 - 19	12,742	11.0	6,270	11.6	6,472	10.6	96.9
20 - 24	9,733	8.4	4,477	8.3	5,256	8.6	85.2
25 - 29	8,177	7.1	3,560	6.6	4,617	7.5	77.1
30 - 34	6,827	5.9	3,038	5.6	3,789	6.2	80.2
35 - 39	6,414	5.6	2,761	5.1	3,653	6.0	75.6
40 - 44	5,586	4.8	2,440	4.5	3,146	5.1	77.6
45 - 49	4,718	4.1	2,071	3.8	2,647	4.3	78.2
50 - 54	4,565	4.0	1,983	3.7	2,582	4.2	76.8
55 - 59	3,088	2.7	1,419	2.6	1,669	2.7	85.0
60 - 64	2,555	2.2	1,095	2.0	1,460	2.4	75.0
65 - 69	1,775	1.5	739	1.4	1,036	1.7	71.3
70 - 74	1,857	1.6	756	1.4	1,101	1.8	68.7
75 - 79	1,042	0.9	405	0.7	637	1.0	63.6
80 - 84	814	0.7	259	0.5	555	0.9	46.7
85 +	806	0.7	254	0.5	552	0.9	137.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.2.1 Dependency ratio

Table 2.2 presents the dependency ratio of the population. The dependency ratio is the number of persons in the “dependent” ages (population under 15 years and 65 years and older) to those in the “economically productive” ages of 15-64 years. The dependency ratio for Agona West Municipality is 79.1 comprising 69.3 for child dependency ratio and 9.8 for old age dependency ratio. This implies that every 100 working persons are supporting about 79 persons in the dependent age. However, the dependency ratio in the rural locality is higher (95.3%) as compared to the urban locality figure of 74.7 percent.

Table 2.2: Age dependency by locality

Age group/ratio	Total	Urban	Rural
All Ages	115,358	88,351	27,007
0-14	44,659	32,850	11,809
15-64	64,405	50,575	13,830
65+	6,294	4,926	1,368
Total dependency ratio	79.1	74.7	95.3
Child dependency ratio	69.3	65.0	85.4
Old age dependency ratio	9.8	9.7	9.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.2.2 Population by size and locality of residence

Table 2.3 shows that there are three times more residents in the urban (76.6%) than the rural (23.4%). The urban population has more females (53.8%) than males (46.2%). Likewise, the population of females (50.7 %) in the rural areas is more than that of males. The proportion of Agona West Municipality’s population from the regional population is 7.2 with those in the urban localities constituting 14.8 percent while 2.7 percent resides in the rural localities.

Table 2.3: Population by sex, size by locality

Region/District/ Sex	All Localities		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Central	1,593,823	100.0	598,405	37.5	995,418	62.5
District total	115,358	100.0	88,351	76.6	27,007	23.4
Male	54,159	46.9	40,844	46.2	13,315	49.3
Female	61,199	53.1	47,507	53.8	13,692	50.7
Percent of regional population		7.2		14.8		2.7

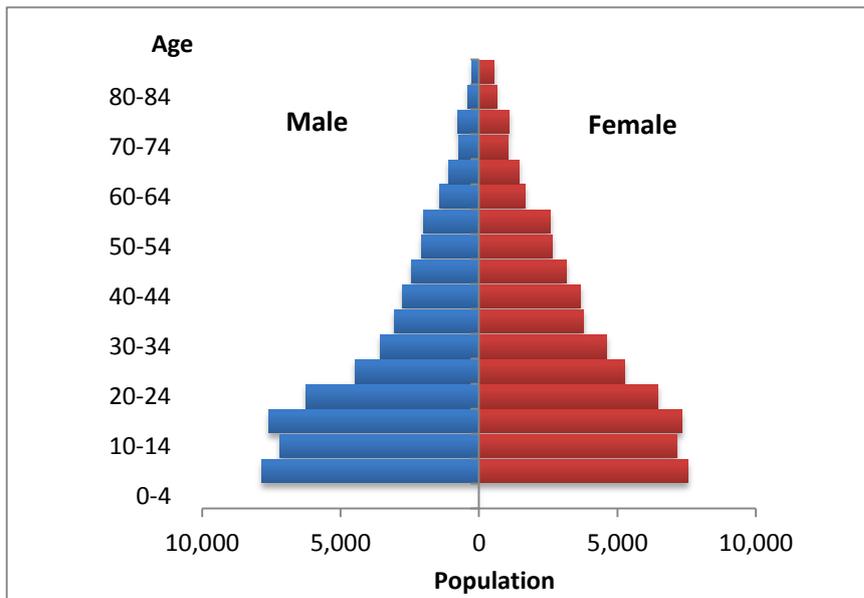
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3 Age-Sex Structure

Population pyramid is a graphical illustration that shows the distribution of various age groups in an area which forms the shape of a pyramid when the population is growing. It is also used to determine the overall age distribution of a population; an indication of the reproductive capabilities and likelihood of the continuation of a species. Population pyramid whether expansive or depicting otherwise tends to display many demographic trends. A population structure, in terms of age and sex, shows the dynamics of population composition and highlights both social and economic challenges. The population pyramid of the municipality has a broad base. Figure 2.1 shows that a large new cohort is born every year as displayed at the bottom of the pyramid (ages 0-4 years). This however, depicts extremely expansive youthful population. As the cohorts age, they inevitably lose members either through death, migration or both. The trend after age 15 and above depicts proportion of more females than males right up to 79 years and older. This is shown by the gradual

narrowing of the population pyramid as it peaks. The peaking of the population tends to be faster among males after age 19 years while that of the females decreases gradually after age 14 years. Another feature of the population pyramid is that females in the oldest age groups form the substantial majority than the males.

Figure 2.1: Population pyramid



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4 Fertility, Mortality and Migration

2.4.1 Fertility

The total fertility rate (TFR) is the average number of children that would be born to a woman by the time she completes childbearing if she were to experience the prevailing age-specific fertility rates. It is an indicator that shows the potential for population change in a country. The Municipality registered a TFR of 3.1 which is lower than the regional TFR of 3.6. This means that, if the age-specific fertility rates were to continue, women in Central Region on the average would give birth to about four children during their child-bearing years. However women in Agona West Municipality would on the average give birth to three children throughout their child-bearing years.

There are fertility measures such as the general fertility rate (GFR) and crude birth rate (CBR). The general fertility rate expresses the birth rate of women of childbearing age (15-49). It is calculated by dividing the total number of births in a given year by the number of women aged 15-49 years per by 1000 women.

A general fertility rate of 90.6 births per 1000 women in the reproductive age is recorded for the Municipality. This is lower than the regional average GFR of 106.6 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 and it indicates that there were 91 births per 1000 women of child bearing age within the Municipality (Table 2.4).

Table 2.4: Reported total fertility rate, general fertility rate and crude birth rate by district

District	Population	Number of women 15-49 years	Number of births in last 12 months	Total Fertility Rate	*General Fertility Rate	**Crude Birth Rate
All Districts	2,201,863	553,384	58,292	3.6	105.3	26.5
Komenda-Edina-Egyafo-Abirem Municipal	144,705	33,902	3,561	3.6	105.0	24.6
Cape Coast Metropolis	169,894	51,308	3,009	2.2	58.6	17.7
Abura-Asebu-Kwamankese	117,185	27,603	3,308	4.1	119.8	28.2
Mfantseman	144,332	39,462	3,537	3.4	89.6	24.5
Ajumako-Enyan-Essiam	138,046	31,419	3,600	4.0	114.6	26.1
Gomoa West	135,189	32,740	3,657	3.8	111.7	27.1
Effutu Municipal	68,597	19,261	1,629	2.9	84.6	23.7
Gomoa East	207,071	54,787	6,159	3.7	112.4	29.7
Ewutu Senya	86,884	21,749	2,496	3.9	114.8	28.7
Agona East	85,920	20,368	2,408	4.0	118.2	28.0
Agona West Municipality	115,358	29,580	2,679	3.1	90.6	23.2
Asikuma-Odoben Brakwa	112,706	25,731	3,470	4.7	134.9	30.8
Assin South	104,244	23,709	2,986	4.3	125.9	28.6
Assin North Municipal	161,341	38,331	4,687	4.1	122.4	29.1
Twifo Ati Morkwa	61,743	15,283	1,822	4.1	119.2	29.5
Upper Denkyira East Municipal	72,810	18,690	1,972	3.5	105.5	27.1
Upper Denkyira West	60,054	13,789	1,862	4.5	135.0	31.0
Twifo Heman Lower Denkyira	55,131	13,308	1,411	3.6	106.0	25.6
Ekumfi	52,231	11,594	1,290	4.0	111.3	24.7
Awutu Senya East Municipal	108,422	30,770	2,749	3.0	89.3	25.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

** Number of live births per 1,000 population

The crude birth rate (CBR) is the simplest and most frequently used measure of fertility. It is easy to calculate because it requires only the total number of births and the total population and is always expressed per 1000 population. This measures the number of births in a year per 1,000 of the population. The CBR shows that, there were 26.5 births per 1,000 populations in the Central region. Agona West Municipality has a CBR of 23.2 births per 1,000 populations which is lower than the regional average of 26.5 births as presented in Table 2.4. The TFR, GFR and CBR tend to be lower than the regional averages partly due to the level of the urbanisation of the municipality.

2.4.2 Children surviving

Table 2.5 provides information on children ever born and children surviving in Agona West Municipality as at the census night of 2010. The age of a woman at the time of her first birth is one of the factors that influence fertility. In Agona West Municipality, 119,639 children were born to 43,486 females aged 12 years and older. This could be expressed that on the whole, about three children were born to a woman. Age 60 years and above have the highest proportion of children ever born (6.3) as against 0.1 for aged 19 years and below.

Of the children ever born, aged 60 years and above had the highest proportion of 28.1 percent. Ages 35-54 had a total proportion of 45.2 percent while the least proportion of 0.7 percent for 19 years and below.

Survivals from Table 2.5 also show the survival rate of 82.7 percent (49.1% males and 50.9 % females). This figure was unevenly distributed along the various age cohorts with the least 69 percent being children surviving to 4,314 females aged 12-14.

The age group 12-14 had the lowest children survival of 69 percent with the highest male chance survival of 6 males in ten babies born. The highest children surviving age occurred in the age group 25-29 with nine in ten babies surviving but with a female chance of 51 percent. Close to two children are born to these women. Females aged 60 years and above have 70 percent of their CEB surviving.

Table 2.5: Female population 12+ years by age, children ever born, children surviving and sex of child

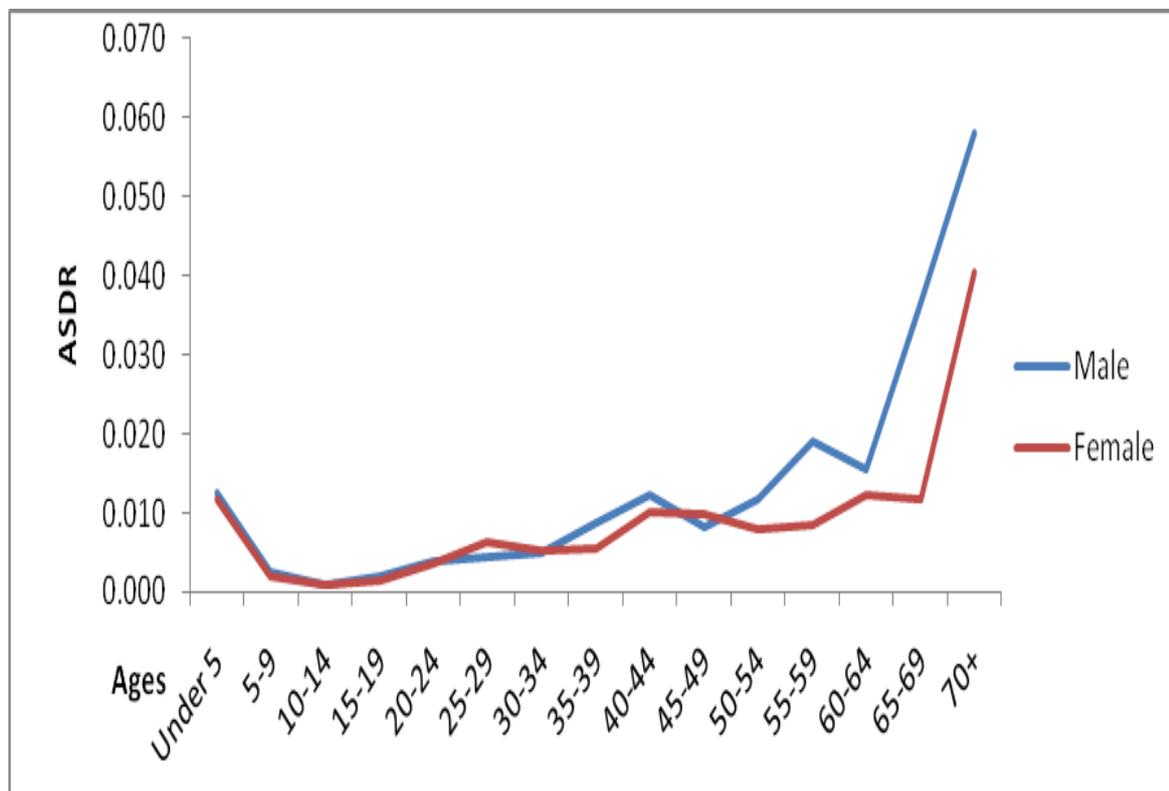
Age Group	Number of Females Percent		CEB per woman	Children Ever Born						Children Surviving				
				Both Sexes	Male		Female		Both Sexes		Male		Female	
					Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All	43,486	100.0	2.8	119,639	59,490	49.7	60,149	50.3	98,948	82.7	48,605	49.1	50,343	50.9
12-14	4,314	9.9	0.0	29	15	51.7	14	48.3	20	69.0	11	55.0	9	45.0
15-19	6,472	14.9	0.1	791	379	47.9	412	52.1	700	88.5	324	46.3	376	53.7
20-24	5,256	12.1	0.7	3,721	1,933	51.9	1,788	48.1	3,295	88.6	1,662	50.4	1,633	49.6
25-29	4,617	10.6	1.7	7,693	3,869	50.3	3,824	49.7	6,972	90.6	3,416	49.0	3,556	51.0
30-34	3,789	8.7	2.8	10,458	5,188	49.6	5,270	50.4	9,387	89.8	4,608	49.1	4,779	50.9
35-39	3,653	8.4	3.7	13,501	6,661	49.3	6,840	50.7	12,066	89.4	5,887	48.8	6,179	51.2
40-44	3,146	7.2	4.5	14,191	7,126	50.2	7,065	49.8	12,358	87.1	6,145	49.7	6,213	50.3
45-49	2,647	6.1	4.9	12,865	6,484	50.4	6,381	49.6	11,009	85.6	5,544	50.4	5,465	49.6
50-54	2,582	5.9	5.2	13,480	6,722	49.9	6,758	50.1	11,186	83.0	5,497	49.1	5,689	50.9
55-59	1,669	3.8	5.6	9,289	4,627	49.8	4,662	50.2	7,536	81.1	3,718	49.3	3,818	50.7
60+	5,341	12.4	6.3	33,621	16,486	49.0	17,135	51.0	24,419	72.6	11,793	48.3	12,626	51.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.5 Mortality Rate

Mortality rate is a measure of the number of deaths (in general, or due to a specific cause) in a population, scaled to the size of that population, per unit of time. The reported age specific death rate (ASDR) for the under-five is slightly higher for males than for the females. The high ASDRs fall sharply to age 10-14 but rises gradually till adulthood (15 years and older). With the exception of the age cohorts "25-49" and "45-49", all ASDRs for males are generally higher compared to females, thus implying lower life expectancy for males than females.

Figure 2.2: Age-Specific death rate (ASDR), 2010



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.5.1 Crude death rate

Crude death rate (CDR) is the number of deaths per 1000 population in a given year. Agona West Municipality recorded 889 deaths in households of which the CDR constitute 7.7 deaths per 1,000 population (Table 2.6).

Table 2.6: Total population of deaths in households and crude death rate

District	Total Population	Deaths in households	*Crude death rate
All Districts	2,201,863	16,694	7.6
Komenda-Edina-Egyafo-Abirem Municipal	144,705	1,321	9.1
Cape Coast Metropolis	169,894	881	5.2
Abura-Asebu-Kwamankese	117,185	974	8.3
Mfantsiman	144,332	994	6.9
Ajumako-Enyan-Essiam	138,046	1,828	13.2
Gomoa West	135,189	1,341	9.9
Effutu Municipal	68,597	502	7.3
Gomoa East	207,071	1,121	5.4
Ewutu Senya	86,884	653	7.5
Agona East	85,920	668	7.8
Agona West Municipality	115,358	889	7.7
Asikuma-Odoben Brakwa	112,706	1,114	9.9
Assin South	104,244	753	7.2
Assin North Municipal	161,341	1,080	6.7
Twifo Ati Morkwa	61,743	339	5.5
Upper Denkyira East Municipal	72,810	542	7.4
Upper Denkyira West	60,054	414	6.9
Twifo Heman Lower Denkyira	55,131	455	8.3
Ekumfi	52,231	559	10.7
Awutu Senya East Municipal	108,422	266	2.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Note: * Number of deaths per 1,000 population

2.6 Migration

Migration is one of the factors that influence population change. It influences the socio-demographic structure by influencing population growth by directly affecting fertility and mortality as well as labour force of the areas of origin and destination (GSS, 2010). Table 2.7 shows the birthplace of migrants and the duration of residence at their current locations. About six in ten persons (58.1%) of persons enumerated in the Municipality are born elsewhere in Central Region but outside the place of enumeration. For migrants born elsewhere in the region other than their place of enumeration, 14.2 percent had stayed less than a year in the place of enumeration, 26.2 percent had stayed between 1-4 years, 17.9 percent had stayed between 5-9 years and 41.8 percent had lived more than ten years. The Table further shows that 58.1 percent of the people enumerated in the Agona West Municipality were born elsewhere in the region while 49.1 percent were born elsewhere in another region and 2.6 percent were born outside Ghana.

Table 2.7: Birthplace by duration of residence of migrants

Birthplace	Number	Percent	Duration of residence (%)				
			Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20+ years
Total	38,287	100.0	13.9	28.2	18.1	19.9	19.9
Born elsewhere in the region	22,244	58.1	14.2	26.2	17.9	20.3	21.5
Born elsewhere in another region:							
Western	2,138	5.6	11.3	34.4	18.7	20.3	15.3
Central	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Greater Accra	2,691	7.0	17.3	35.6	19.8	15.9	11.3
Volta	1,611	4.2	13.8	30.1	17.1	19.4	19.7
Eastern	5,378	14.0	11.6	29.0	18.1	20.1	21.2
Ashanti	2,084	5.4	15.7	31.0	19.0	19.7	14.5
Brong Ahafo	632	1.7	16.0	30.1	20.6	19.0	14.4
Northern	292	0.8	9.6	29.8	20.5	19.9	20.2
Upper East	124	0.3	10.5	25.0	15.3	15.3	33.9
Upper west	116	0.3	12.9	27.6	17.2	21.6	20.7
Outside Ghana	977	2.6	11.8	27.3	16.5	21.6	22.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER THREE

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Introduction

Households constitute important units in planning for goods and services. They are also central to the study of income, maintenance, economic dependency, savings, fertility, migration and social welfare. Knowledge of household structure, composition, and headship provides important statistical tool for social and economic planning. A study of households also provides the basis for a reasonable projection of the future size of population, and planning of housing needs.

Closely linked to the family is the formation of households in which members are not necessarily related by blood but live together and belong to a single consumption unit. Understanding the dynamics of household is fundamental to the understanding of the characteristics of a country's population. The size, composition, and structure of households are influenced by socio-economic, and demographic factors such as age at first marriage and birth, length of time spent in school, cultural practices, occupation, material or financial abilities, capabilities of parents and couples, fertility and mortality rates, and migration. The total size of a country's population and its characteristics is therefore, largely a reflection of what pertains within households. This chapter examines household's size, composition and headship, marital status, nationality, religious affiliation, literacy and education.

3.2 Household Size, Composition and Structure

3.2.1 Household size

The 2010 PHC defined a household as a person or group of persons who live together in the same house or compound and share the same house keeping arrangements. Members of a household are not necessarily related by blood or marriage. The household has a defined structure and has a head recognized by all members.

Table 3.1 indicates that the total household population in the Municipality is 111,447. The majority (76.6 %) live in urban areas. The number of households is 29,478. Of this, 23,125 (78%) is urban. Compared to the regional figure (3.8), the average household size for the District is 3.8. Similarly, 3.7 and 4.1 are the average household size for both urban and rural localities respectively.

Table 3.1: Household size by type of locality

Categories	Region	Municipality	Urban	Rural
Total household population	2,113,766	111,447	85,097	26,350
Number of households	526,763	29,478	23,125	6,353
Average households per house	1.5	2.1	2.5	1.3
Average household size	4	3.8	3.7	4.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.2 Household composition

Biological children to the head (41.1%) constitute the largest proportion of the household with the largest proportion being male children constituting 43.4 percent followed by their female children with 39.1 percent. Less than 2.0 percent of the household members are not

related to the head of the household. Grandchildren constitute 10.3 percent of household population. Other female relatives constitute about six percent compared with four percent male relations. In-laws (son or daughter) constitute 0.4 percent. Equal proportions (1.6 %) of both sexes of the household composition are non-relative (Table 3.2).

Table 3.2: Household population by composition and sex

Household composition	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	111,447	100.0	52,215	100.0	59,232	100.0
Head	29,478	26.5	17,111	32.8	12,367	20.9
Spouse (wife/husband)	1,075	9.9	773	1.5	10,302	17.4
Child (son/daughter)	45,793	41.1	22,635	43.4	23,158	39.1
Parent/Parent in-law	949	0.9	109	0.2	840	1.4
Son/Daughter in-law	430	0.4	158	0.3	272	0.5
Grandchild	11,522	10.3	5,697	10.9	5,825	9.8
Brother/Sister	3,379	3.0	1,700	3.3	1,679	2.8
Step child	607	0.5	305	0.6	302	0.5
Adopted/Foster child	402	0.4	155	0.3	247	0.4
Other relative	6,052	5.4	2,728	5.2	3,324	5.6
Non-relative	1,760	1.6	844	1.6	916	1.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.3 Household structure

Household structure is defined as classification of ties of affiliation of persons who constitute households. Household structure in this context refers to the relationship (whether related or unrelated) between household members who were present on census night. The household listed by the census excluded the population in group quarters and the outdoor sleepers. Humans in transit could not be said to be household other than the former. Table 3.3 shows that 46.9 percent are males while 53.1 percent are females. A slight majority of households (50.5%) consist of the nuclear family made up of the head only, head and a spouse, and with a single parent nuclear. Nuclear (head, spouse(s) and children) comprises 28.1 percent. The extended family system is quite extensive in the Municipality consisting of 49.5 percent of the total household population.

Table 3.3: Household population by structure and sex

Household Structure	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	111,447	100.0	52,215	100.0	59,232	100.0
Nuclear family	56,274	50.5	27,959	53.5	28,315	47.8
Head only	6,610	5.9	4,230	8.1	2,380	4.0
Head and a spouse only	2,356	2.1	1,176	2.4	1,180	2.0
Nuclear (Head, spouse(s) and children)	31,328	28.1	15,969	30.6	15,359	25.9
Single parent Nuclear	15,980	14.3	6,584	12.6	9,396	15.9
Extended family	55,173	49.5	24,256	46.5	30,917	52.2
Extended (Head, spouse(s), children and Head's relatives)	17,458	15.7	8,495	16.3	8,963	15.1
Extended + non relatives	1,427	1.3	688	1.3	739	1.3
Head, spouse(s) and other composition	3,721	3.3	1,802	3.5	1,919	3.2
Single parent Extended	20,154	18.1	7,509	14.4	12,645	21.4
Single parent Extended + non relative	1,745	1.6	732	1.4	1,013	1.7
Head and other composition but no spouse	10,668	9.6	5,030	9.6	5,638	9.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The single parent extended household structure forms about 18 percent of the total households which is the highest proportion within the extended family structure followed by the extended family (head, spouse(s) children and head's relatives) with 16 percent.

3.3 Marital Status

Marriage and marital status of a population play an important role in every society by influencing population growth. The 2010 Census classified "marital status" into married, living together/Informal/Consensual union, separated, divorced, widowed and never married. The definition of marriage includes persons in any of the following types of marriages: civil, traditional and common law/consensual. Distribution of marital status has implications for size of household as well as the demand for housing unit and residential related services.

3.3.1 Marital status of persons 12 years and older

The marital status of persons 12 years and older (Table 3.4) shows that close to 39 percent of the population 12 years and older are married, and about 6 percent are living informally together in consensual unions. The proportion never married is 41.3 percent and about 13.5 percent have ever been married. The ever married group consists of the separated (1.9%), divorced (5.5%) and widowed (6.1%).

The disaggregation by age and sex structure shows that 69.8 percent of persons aged 20 to 24 years have never been married. The age groups 30-34 years up to 65 years and above registered very low proportions in this category.

Good policy interventions may be keeping the under 25 years in schooling or perhaps learning some trade. The percentages of persons in unions both formal (married) and informal/consensual unions increase with age and reaches the peak between 35-39 age group and 40- 44 years age bracket just as those of separation, divorces and widowhood increase with increasing age. Among persons 30-34 years, only 17.8 percent have never married. It is important to note that 3.1 percent and 4.4 percent of children aged 12-14 years and persons aged 15-19 years, are married.

A further 0.6 percent and 2.8 percent of 12-14 years and 15-19 years are living in informal/consensual unions respectively. As expected, the proportions of persons widowed increases with age. At age 60-64 years one in five persons (22.5%) are widowed, but the proportion increases to 40.7 percent at age 65 years and older. In addition, while only 28.3 percent of females aged 25-29 years have never married , the proportion for males is slightly over one half (56.5%). For all age groups, the proportions divorced or widowed are consistently higher for females than males. For example, only 12.1 percent of males aged 65 years and older are widowed compared with 58.5 percent females. The differentials may be explained by the fact that women tend to marry relatively older men, and have a longer life expectancy than men (Table 3.4).

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	79,442	100.0	41.3	6.2	38.9	1.9	5.5	6.1
12 – 14	8,743	100.0	96.3	0.6	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	12,742	100.0	92.4	2.8	4.4	0.3	0.1	0.1
20 - 24	9,733	100.0	69.8	10.7	17.4	1.0	0.7	0.3
25 - 29	8,177	100.0	40.6	13.1	41.9	1.7	2.4	0.4
30 - 34	6,827	100.0	17.8	11.0	62.2	2.6	5.3	1.1
35 - 39	6,414	100.0	8.4	8.5	71.9	2.8	6.5	2.0
40 - 44	5,586	100.0	4.7	6.8	71.9	2.9	9.5	4.2
45 - 49	4,718	100.0	3.6	5.0	70.2	4.1	11.4	5.7
50 - 54	4,565	100.0	2.0	4.7	65.2	4.1	13.8	10.2
55 - 59	3,088	100.0	1.8	3.1	62.6	3.9	14.4	14.1
60 - 64	2,555	100.0	1.9	2.4	54.4	3.6	15.3	22.5
65+	6,294	100.0	2.5	1.8	39.4	2.7	12.9	40.7
Male								
Total	35,956	100.0	49.1	5.6	39.1	1.2	3.4	1.6
12 – 14	4,429	100.0	96.1	0.6	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	6,270	100.0	96.3	0.7	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
20 - 24	4,477	100.0	85.0	6.4	8.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
25 - 29	3,560	100.0	56.5	12.0	29.5	0.6	1.2	0.3
30 - 34	3,038	100.0	25.1	12.4	57.9	1.4	2.9	0.4
35 - 39	2,761	100.0	11.5	9.5	73.2	1.2	4.0	0.5
40 - 44	2,440	100.0	5.8	7.5	77.3	2.6	5.5	1.3
45 - 49	2,071	100.0	5.0	5.2	77.8	2.9	6.8	2.4
50 - 54	1,983	100.0	3.2	5.8	76.2	3.1	8.9	2.7
55 - 59	1,419	100.0	2.5	4.6	75.8	2.9	10.1	4.1
60 - 64	1,095	100.0	3.2	3.3	75.9	2.6	9.3	5.8
65+	2,413	100.0	3.4	3.1	67.9	2.6	10.9	12.1
Female								
Total	43,486	100.0	34.9	6.7	38.7	2.6	7.3	9.8
12 – 14	4,314	100.0	96.5	0.5	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	6,472	100.0	88.6	4.8	5.9	0.5	0.1	0.1
20 - 24	5,256	100.0	56.9	14.5	25.3	1.6	1.2	0.5
25 - 29	4,617	100.0	28.3	13.9	51.4	2.5	3.3	0.6
30 - 34	3,789	100.0	12.0	10.0	65.6	3.6	7.1	1.8
35 - 39	3,653	100.0	6.0	7.7	70.9	3.9	8.3	3.1
40 - 44	3,146	100.0	3.8	6.3	67.6	3.2	12.6	6.5
45 - 49	2,647	100.0	2.5	4.8	64.3	5.1	14.9	8.4
50 - 54	2,582	100.0	1.1	3.8	56.7	4.8	17.7	15.9
55 - 59	1,669	100.0	1.3	1.9	51.4	4.8	18.0	22.6
60 - 64	1,460	100.0	0.9	1.7	38.2	4.3	19.8	35.1
65+	3,881	100.0	1.9	1.0	21.6	2.7	14.2	58.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.2 Marital status and level of education

The highest (62.6%) of persons 12 years and older have basic level of education (Table 3.5). Persons with no education recorded 17.1 percent while tertiary recorded 1.9 percent as the least proportion. More than half (61.2%) of the Municipality's population who are widowed have no education. The Table further shows that 59.6 percent of the people married have basic education while 0.9 percent of those married have tertiary education. A proportion of 70.4 percent of the never married have attained basic level of education. Basic education has the largest proportion across all the marital status categories. In terms of sex composition, equal proportions (20.1% males and 19.9% females) of the never married have attained

secondary level of education whilst 49.7 percent and 30.1 percent of those widowed have no education.

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	79,442	100.0	17.1	62.6	12.7	2.2	3.5	1.9
Never married	32,848	100.0	4.0	70.4	20.0	1.5	2.7	1.4
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	4,916	100.0	15.4	68.6	10.4	2.4	2.4	0.9
Married	30,909	100.0	21.4	59.6	8.6	2.8	4.7	2.9
Separated	1,546	100.0	25.6	61.4	6.4	2.7	2.6	1.2
Divorced	4,399	100.0	35.3	53.3	4.3	3.2	3	0.9
Widowed	4,824	100.0	61.2	32.5	1.9	1.6	2.4	0.5
Male								
Total	35,956	100.0	9.4	65.6	15.2	2.5	4.4	2.9
Never married	17,656	100.0	3.6	70.1	20.1	1.5	2.8	1.8
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	2,004	100.0	9.3	69.7	12.5	3.3	3.6	1.6
Married	14,074	100.0	14.1	60.5	10.8	3.3	6.4	4.8
Separated	426	100.0	16.7	63.6	9.2	3.1	4.9	2.6
Divorced	1,212	100.0	23.2	61.2	6	4	4.1	1.5
Widowed	584	100.0	35.1	49.7	3.9	2.7	7	1.5
Female								
Total	43,486	100.0	23.5	60.2	10.7	2.0	2.7	1.0
Never married	15,192	100.0	4.3	70.7	19.9	1.6	2.6	0.9
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	2,912	100.0	19.5	67.9	9.0	1.8	1.4	0.4
Married	16,835	100.0	27.6	58.8	6.6	2.4	3.3	1.4
Separated	1,120	100.0	29.0	60.6	5.4	2.6	1.7	0.7
Divorced	3,187	100.0	39.9	50.3	3.6	2.9	2.6	0.7
Widowed	4,240	100.0	64.7	30.1	1.7	1.4	1.8	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

1 Basic: Primary, Middle and JSS/JHS

2 Secondary: SSS/SHS and Secondary

3 Post Middle/Sec. Cert/Diploma, Teacher training/College of education, Agric, Nursing, University Diploma. HND etc.

4 Tertiary: Bachelors, Degree and Post Graduate or higher.

The proportion of the married with tertiary level of education is 2.9 percent. This is followed by the married with post middle or diploma constituting 4.7 percent. The married proportion with the secondary level is 8.6 percent. Significant proportions of male groups are in education more than their female counterparts. The proportions of male married (60.5 percent) with basic level of education out number their female (58.8 percent) counterparts. Of those married, females (27.6 %) and males (14.1 %) have no education.

3.3.3 Marital status by sex and economic activity status

The economic activity status of persons in the population is helpful in understanding the categories into which people are placed in the country when discussing marital status. In some cultures or religions, ability to support a spouse financially is a key determinant of

whether one could marry or not. Table 3.6 indicates that out of 79,442 populations aged 12 years and older, 30,909 (38.9%) are married while 32,848 (41.3%) have never married. Those living in informal/consensual union/living together (4,916), separated (1,546), divorced (4,399) and widowed (4,824) all together accounted for 19.7 percent. Of the total married population aged 12 years and older, majority (85.4%), are employed while 15.8 percent are economically not active and 2.4 percent being unemployed. Among those who are never married, 35 percent are employed and 34.3 percent are economically not active. In terms of sex composition, more married males are employed compared to their female counterparts across all the marital status categories.

Table 3.6: Marital status of persons 12 years and older by sex and economic activity status

Sex/Marital status	Total		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	79,442	100.0	49,388	62.2	2,770	3.5	27,284	34.3
Never married	32,848	100.0	11,509	35.0	1,498	4.6	19,841	60.4
Informal/consensual union/living together	4,916	100.0	3,938	80.1	285	5.8	693	14.1
Married	30,909	100.0	26,391	85.4	756	2.4	3,762	12.2
Separated	1,546	100.0	1,204	77.9	65	4.2	277	17.9
Divorced	4,399	100.0	3,504	79.7	111	2.5	784	17.8
Widowed	4,824	100.0	2,842	58.9	55	1.1	1,927	39.9
Male								
Total	35,956	100.0	22,180	61.7	1,256	3.5	12,520	34.8
Never married	17,656	100.0	6,500	36.8	892	5.1	10,264	58.1
Informal/consensual union/living together	2,004	100.0	1,774	88.5	76	3.8	154	7.7
Married	14,074	100.0	12,292	87.3	242	1.7	1,540	10.9
Separated	426	100.0	325	76.3	12	2.8	89	20.9
Divorced	1,212	100.0	944	77.9	24	2.0	244	20.1
Widowed	584	100.0	345	59.1	10	1.7	229	39.2
Female								
Total	43,486	100.0	27,208	62.6	1,514	3.5	14,764	34.0
Never married	15,192	100.0	5,009	33.0	606	4.0	9,577	63.0
Informal/consensual union/living together	2,912	100.0	2,164	74.3	209	7.2	539	18.5
Married	16,835	100.0	14,099	83.7	514	3.1	2,222	13.2
Separated	1,120	100.0	879	78.5	53	4.7	188	16.8
Divorced	3,187	100.0	2,560	80.3	87	2.7	540	16.9
Widowed	4,240	100.0	2,497	58.9	45	1.1	1,698	40.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.4 Nationality

Nationality is defined as the country to which a person belongs. Ghanaian nationals are classified as Ghanaian by birth or naturalisation (Table 3.7). Almost all the people in the Municipality (95.9 %) are Ghanaians either by birth (95.2%) or Ghanaian by naturalization (0.7%). Non-Ghanaians constitute 4.1 percent (Dual nationality, ECOWAS, Africa other than ECOWAS and others). The proportion of male Ghanaian population is 95.8 percent and 4.3 percent for Non-Ghanaians while that of females is 96 percent for Ghanaians and 3.9 percent for non- Ghanaians.

Table 3.7: Population by nationality and sex

Nationality	Both Sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	115,358	100	54,159	100	61,199	100
Ghanaian by birth	109,853	95.2	51,510	95.1	58,343	95.3
Dual Nationality	2,306	2	1,072	2	1,234	2
Ghanaian by Naturalisation	800	0.7	375	0.7	425	0.7
ECOWAS	1,441	1.2	741	1.4	700	1.1
Africa other than ECOWAS	539	0.5	267	0.5	272	0.4
Other	419	0.4	194	0.4	225	0.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.5 Religious Affiliation

A total of 6,631 representing 5.7 percent for both sexes are affiliated to no religion as at the Census night (Table 3.8). A proportion of 83 percent of the population living in the Municipality are Christians with a higher proportion of females (86%) than males (80.4%). Among this group, the Pentecostals/charismatic formed the largest group with 35.5 percent followed by the Protestant sect (21.2 %). One in five (20.4 %) belonged to Other Christian sects. Predominantly, females constitute 22 percent in Protestant, 36.9 percent in Pentecostals and 20.8 percent in Other Christians while males constitute 20.4 percent in Protestant, 33.9 percent in Pentecostals and 19.9 percent in Other Christian. Islam constitutes 9.7 proportions with 10.5 percent males and 9 percent females. The practice of traditional religion is low among both males (0.5 %) and females (0.4%) with 0.4 percent. It is worth noting that there are more females affiliated to Christian religion than males. On the contrary males dominate the females in the rest of the religions. This may be due to the fact that females are more attracted to Christianity than the other religions

Table 3.8: Population by religion and sex

Religion	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	115,358	100.0	54,159	100.0	61,199	100.0
No Religion	6,631	5.7	4,223	7.8	2,408	3.9
Catholic	7,216	6.3	3,377	6.2	3,839	6.3
Protestant (Anglican Lutheran etc.)	24,511	21.2	11,074	20.4	13,437	22.0
Pentecostal/Charismatic	40,946	35.5	18,363	33.9	22,583	36.9
Other Christians	23,510	20.4	10,753	19.9	12,757	20.8
Islam	11,200	9.7	5,713	10.5	5,487	9.0
Traditionalist	482	0.4	259	0.5	223	0.4
Other (Specify)	862	0.7	397	0.7	465	0.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6 Literacy and Education

Literacy and education levels of a population are two indivisible components which influence the social outlook of the people in terms of the appreciation and understanding of issues affecting them. Literacy is defined as the ability to read and write with understanding if any language. This section discusses a look at the levels of literacy and education in the District.

3.6.1 Literacy

Table 3.9 illustrates that 68,499 (83.4%) of the total population of the Municipality (11 years and older) are literate. Overall, the majority (62.6%) of the literate population are those who can read and write in both English and Ghanaian language with the least (0.3%) being those

who are literate in both English and French. Persons within group 65 and above constitute the majority (71.4%) of the literate population in English and Ghanaian language whilst for persons in group 35-39; only 11 percent are literate in English and Ghanaian language only.

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

Sex/Age group	Literacy Status							
	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	13,667	68,499	100.0	29.4	7.0	62.6	0.3	0.7
11-14	217	11,250	100.0	38.7	4.9	55.3	0.4	0.8
15-19	379	12,363	100.0	28.9	3.6	66.2	0.3	1.0
20-24	526	9,207	100.0	29.5	5.2	64.4	0.3	0.6
25-29	788	7,389	100.0	31.5	7.4	60.1	0.3	0.7
30-34	932	5,895	100.0	30.1	8.4	60.4	0.4	0.6
35-39	1,115	5,299	100.0	28.7	11.0	59.4	0.4	0.5
40-44	1,280	4,306	100.0	26.7	10.4	61.8	0.5	0.6
45-49	1,218	3,500	100.0	25.2	10.2	63.9	0.1	0.6
50-54	1,303	3,262	100.0	22.2	9.0	68.1	0.2	0.4
55-59	939	2,149	100.0	19.8	8.8	70.5	0.2	0.6
60-64	1,121	1,434	100.0	18.9	9.5	70.8	0.2	0.6
65+	3,849	2,445	100.0	16.7	11.2	71.4	0.2	0.4
Male								
Total	3,425	33,904	100.0	27.0	5.6	66.3	0.3	0.7
11-14	116	5,686	100.0	38.5	4.3	56.4	0.2	0.5
15-19	144	6,126	100.0	27.0	3.5	68.5	0.2	0.8
20-24	146	4,331	100.0	26.4	4.6	68.0	0.3	0.6
25-29	183	3,377	100.0	28.8	5.8	64.2	0.2	1.0
30-34	246	2,792	100.0	27.7	6.5	64.7	0.5	0.6
35-39	267	2,494	100.0	24.8	8.4	65.7	0.6	0.5
40-44	280	2,160	100.0	24.3	7.5	66.6	0.7	0.9
45-49	301	1,770	100.0	21.9	7.9	69.2	0.1	0.9
50-54	341	1,642	100.0	19.5	6.1	73.1	0.5	0.8
55-59	241	1,178	100.0	19.1	7.0	72.8	0.3	0.8
60-64	256	839	100.0	16.1	6.8	75.8	0.2	1.1
65+	904	1,509	100.0	14.0	8.2	77.0	0.2	0.5
Female								
Total	10,242	34,595	100.0	31.7	8.4	58.9	0.3	0.7
11-14	101	5,564	100.0	38.9	5.5	54.1	0.5	1.0
15-19	235	6,237	100.0	30.8	3.8	63.9	0.3	1.3
20-24	380	4,876	100.0	32.1	5.7	61.2	0.3	0.7
25-29	605	4,012	100.0	33.8	8.7	56.6	0.3	0.5
30-34	686	3,103	100.0	32.3	10.2	56.6	0.4	0.5
35-39	848	2,805	100.0	32.2	13.4	53.7	0.2	0.6
40-44	1,000	2,146	100.0	29.1	13.2	57.0	0.2	0.4
45-49	917	1,730	100.0	28.5	12.7	58.4	0.1	0.3
50-54	962	1,620	100.0	24.9	11.9	63.1	0.0	0.1
55-59	698	971	100.0	20.7	10.9	67.8	0.2	0.4
60-64	865	595	100.0	22.9	13.3	63.7	0.2	0.0
65+	2,945	936	100.0	21.0	16.1	62.3	0.2	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Females constitute the majority (50.5%) of the literate population with the remaining 49.5 percent being males. Majority of literate males (66.3%) can read and write in both English and Ghanaian language whilst 58.9 percent of literate females are literate in both English and Ghanaian language. About thirty nine percent (38.9%) of males in the age group 11-14 years

are literate in English language only. Only 13.4 percent of females in the age group 35-39 years are literate in Ghanaian language only whilst 63.9 percent of females in the age group 15-19 are literate in English and Ghanaian language only.

3.6.2 School attendance by sex

Table 3.10 provides information on school attendance of the population three years and older by sex. It shows that 14.8 percent of the Municipality's population 3 years and older have never attended school whilst 43.6 percent have also attended in the past. Nearly forty two percent (41.6%) are now attending at the time of the 2010 Census. In terms of sex differentials, there are more males females who are now attending school or attended in the past. Of those who have never attended school, there are more females (19.8%) than males (9.2%).

Table 3.10: School attendance by sex

School attendance	Number			Percent		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	106,222	49,517	56,705	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never	15,745	4,541	11,204	14.8	9.2	19.8
Now	44,209	22,689	21,520	41.6	45.8	38.0
Past	46,268	22,287	23,981	43.6	45.0	42.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.3 Level of education and school attendance

The highest percentage (48%) of the population currently attending school is in primary school. Equal proportions of males (47.6%) and females (48.5%) currently attending school are in primary school. With respect to school attendance in the past, JSS/JHS recorded the highest (31.9%) for the Municipality. Similarly, males (29.6%) and females (34%) who attended school in the past, attained up to JSS/JHS (Table 11).

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

Level of education	Currently attending						Attended in the past					
	Both sexes		Male		Female		Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	44,209	100	22,689	100	21,520	100	46,268	100	22,287	100	23,981	100
Nursery	2,407	5.4	1,241	5.5	1,166	5.4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kindergarten	6,821	15.4	3,474	15.3	3,347	15.6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Primary	21,224	48	10,795	47.6	10,429	48.5	8,037	17.4	2,759	12.4	5,278	22
JSS/JHS	8,804	19.9	4,587	20.2	4,217	19.6	14,754	31.9	6,599	29.6	8,155	34
Middle	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,336	26.7	6,536	29.3	5,800	24.2
SSS/SHS	3,857	8.7	1,998	8.8	1,859	8.6	4,674	10.1	2,476	11.1	2,198	9.2
Secondary	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,576	3.4	990	4.4	586	2.4
Vocational/technical/ commercial	161	0.4	80	0.4	81	0.4	1,592	3.4	801	3.6	791	3.3
Post middle/secondary certificate	154	0.3	56	0.2	98	0.5	820	1.8	422	1.9	398	1.7
Tertiary	781	1.8	458	2	323	1.5	2,479	5.4	1,704	7.6	775	3.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FOUR

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

4.1 Introduction

The overall development of a country is based on the production of goods and services. Critical to the production process is the human capital of the country. Although all persons irrespective of age and sex consume goods and services produced, only a section of the total population produces them: a working population often referred to as the employed. The type of economic activity pursued is influenced by nature of the economy and level of socio-economic development (Hull, 2009). Generally, the larger the employed population, the more wealth is created leading to the general well-being of the population. The population census results for Agona West Municipality provide data on the labour force and economic characteristics of the population. This chapter analyses the economic activities status of the population, classified as economically active and economically not active. The occupation, employment status and industry of employment are analysed by age, sex, and locality of residence.

4.2 Economic Activity Status

The economic activity status as presented in Table 4.1 is for persons 15 years and older. The total number of persons in this age group in Agona West Municipality is 70,699 amounting to 61.3 percent of the entire population of the Municipality. The economically active population constitutes 72.2 percent while those who are not economically active are 27.8 percent. Ninety five percent of the economically active population are employed, 5.4 percent are unemployed. Females (41.3%) who have worked before are more likely than their male (29.8%) counterparts to be employed. On the contrary, more males (70.2%) than females (58.7%) are seeking work for the first time.

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

Activity status	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	70,699	100.0	31,527	100.0	39,172	100.0
Economically active	51,039	72.2	22,876	72.6	28,163	71.9
Employed	48,281	94.6	21,622	94.5	26,659	94.7
<i>Worked</i>	44,932	93.1	20,335	94.0	24,597	92.4
<i>Did not work but had job to go back</i>	3,239	6.7	1,242	5.7	1,997	7.5
<i>Did voluntary work without pay</i>	110	0.2	45	0.2	65	0.2
Unemployed	2,758	5.4	1,254	5.5	1,504	5.3
<i>Worked before, seeking work and available</i>	995	36.1	374	29.8	621	41.3
<i>Seeking work for the first time and available</i>	1,763	63.9	880	70.2	883	58.7
Economically not active	19,660	27.8	8,651	27.4	11,009	28.1
Did home duties (household chore)	3,629	18.5	975	11.3	2,654	24.1
Full time education	9,892	50.3	5,249	60.7	4,643	42.2
Pensioner/Retired	750	3.8	520	6.0	230	2.1
Disabled/Sick	1,240	6.3	538	6.2	702	6.4
Too old/young	2,342	11.9	561	6.5	1,781	16.2
Other	1,807	9.2	808	9.3	999	9.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 4.1 further shows that economically inactive females are slightly higher than their male counterparts. Among the economically inactive population, a greater proportion of males (60.7%) are in full time education as compared to the females (42.2%).

On the other hand, the proportion of female (24.1 %) who did not work because of household chores is two times higher than their male counterparts (11.3%). More males than females reported retirement as their main reason for not working while more females than males cited their age as their reason.

4.2.1 Economic activity status by sex and age

Overall, 68.3 percent of the population aged 15 years and older is employed whilst 3.9 percent are unemployed and the rest 27.8 percent are economically not active. In terms of sex distribution, 68.6 percent of males are employed but 4.0 percent are not while 27.4 percent are economically not active. The Table further shows that 68.1 percent of females are employed females, whilst 3.8 percent are unemployed and 28.1 percent are economically not active. Age groups 35-49 have the highest proportions of those employed ranging from 90.1 percent to 91.6 percent (Table 4.2).

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

Age group	All Status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both sexes								
Total	70,699	100.0	48,281	68.3	2,758	3.9	19,660	27.8
15 - 19	12,742	100.0	3,025	23.7	400	3.1	9,317	73.1
20 - 24	9,733	100.0	5,606	57.6	894	9.2	3,233	33.2
25 - 29	8,177	100.0	6,508	79.6	586	7.2	1,083	13.2
30 - 34	6,827	100.0	6,001	87.9	270	4.0	556	8.1
35 - 39	6,414	100.0	5,812	90.6	180	2.8	422	6.6
40 - 44	5,586	100.0	5,095	91.2	120	2.1	371	6.6
45 - 49	4,718	100.0	4,320	91.6	93	2.0	305	6.5
50 - 54	4,565	100.0	4,092	89.6	82	1.8	391	8.6
55 - 59	3,088	100.0	2,725	88.2	46	1.5	317	10.3
60 - 64	2,555	100.0	1,907	74.6	53	2.1	595	23.3
65+	6,294	100.0	3,190	50.7	34	0.5	3,070	48.8
Male								
Total	31,527	100.0	21,622	68.6	1,254	4.0	8,651	27.4
15 - 19	6,270	100.0	1,484	23.7	175	2.8	4,611	73.5
20 - 24	4,477	100.0	2,477	55.3	439	9.8	1,561	34.9
25 - 29	3,560	100.0	2,871	80.6	277	7.8	412	11.6
30 - 34	3,038	100.0	2,722	89.6	110	3.6	206	6.8
35 - 39	2,761	100.0	2,558	92.6	68	2.5	135	4.9
40 - 44	2,440	100.0	2,282	93.5	52	2.1	106	4.3
45 - 49	2,071	100.0	1,938	93.6	37	1.8	96	4.6
50 - 54	1,983	100.0	1,811	91.3	33	1.7	139	7.0
55 - 59	1,419	100.0	1,266	89.2	24	1.7	129	9.1
60 - 64	1,095	100.0	821	75.0	26	2.4	248	22.6
65+	2,413	100.0	1,392	57.7	13	0.5	1,008	41.8

Table 4.2: Economic activity status of population 15 years and older by sex and age (cont'd)

Age group	All Status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female								
Total	39,172	100.0	26,659	68.1	1,504	3.8	11,009	28.1
15 - 19	6,472	100.0	1,541	23.8	225	3.5	4,706	72.7
20 - 24	5,256	100.0	3,129	59.5	455	8.7	1,672	31.8
25 - 29	4,617	100.0	3,637	78.8	309	6.7	671	14.5
30 - 34	3,789	100.0	3,279	86.5	160	4.2	350	9.2
35 - 39	3,653	100.0	3,254	89.1	112	3.1	287	7.9
40 - 44	3,146	100.0	2,813	89.4	68	2.2	265	8.4
45 - 49	2,647	100.0	2,382	90.0	56	2.1	209	7.9
50 - 54	2,582	100.0	2,281	88.3	49	1.9	252	9.8
55 - 59	1,669	100.0	1,459	87.4	22	1.3	188	11.3
60 - 64	1,460	100.0	1,086	74.4	27	1.8	347	23.8
65+	3,881	100.0	1,798	46.3	21	0.5	2,062	53.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

In terms of sex, males in age 15-19 also has the highest percentage (73.5%) of economically not active population followed by age 65+ (41.8 %). Similarly, females in age groups 35-49 are employed ranging from 89.1percent to 90 percent. Also 8.7 percent of females in age bracket 20-24 are unemployed.

4.3 Occupation of the Employed Population

Table 4.3 presents the occupation of employed persons 15 years and older by sex in the Agona West Municipality. Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers form the highest proportion of 33.9 percent with more males (39.3%) than females (29.4 %). Service and sales workers constitute the dominant occupation for females. Nearly four out of every 10 females (39.3%) are service or sales workers compared to slightly above one in 10 males (12.2%). Craft and related trade workers are the third largest occupation of the people in the Municipality with more males (20.8%) than the females (13.7%). In all, the proportion of males in the various occupational categories is higher than that of the females. More females than males are recorded as managers and elementary occupation workers.

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	48,281	100.0	21,622	100.0	26,659	100.0
Managers	1,272	2.6	509	2.4	763	2.9
Professionals	3,153	6.5	1,788	8.3	1,365	5.1
Technicians and associate professionals	847	1.8	674	3.1	173	0.6
Clerical support workers	808	1.7	503	2.4	305	1.1
Service and sales workers	13,161	27.3	2,628	12.2	10,533	39.5
Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers	16,344	33.9	8,498	39.3	7,846	29.4
Craft and related trades workers	8,136	16.9	4,489	20.8	3,647	13.7
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	1,781	3.7	1,737	8.0	44	0.2
Elementary occupations	2,761	5.7	780	3.6	1,981	7.4
Other occupations	18	0.0	16	0.1	2	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.4 Industry of Employed Population

Table 4.4 shows the various industrial activities of persons 15 years and older. About one-third (34.4%) of the employed population are engaged in agriculture, forestry, and fishing industry whiles nearly a quarter (23.6%) are in wholesale and retail trade. The manufacturing industry constitutes a tenth (10%) of the employed population. The male dominance is mostly felt in the physical jobs like construction (7.7%) and transportation and storage (7.2%). The female population dominates in wholesale and retail, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles with 31.5 percent compared with only 14 percent for males. In the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry four out of 10 males as against three out of 10 females are engaged. Comparatively, the proportion of males engaged in most industries is higher than for females. The only exceptions

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	48,281	100.0	21,622	100.0	26,659	100.0
Agriculture forestry and fishing	16,599	34.4	8,715	40.3	7,884	29.6
Mining and quarrying	38	0.1	36	0.2	2	0.0
Manufacturing	4,845	10.0	2,077	9.6	2,768	10.4
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	50	0.1	43	0.2	7	0.0
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	51	0.1	30	0.1	21	0.1
Construction	1,691	3.5	1,659	7.7	32	0.1
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	11,413	23.6	3,027	14.0	8,386	31.5
Transportation and storage	1,614	3.3	1,563	7.2	51	0.2
Accommodation and food service activities	3,881	8.0	350	1.6	3,531	13.2
Information and communication	159	0.3	126	0.6	33	0.1
Financial and insurance activities	350	0.7	215	1.0	135	0.5
Real estate activities	2	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0
Professional scientific and technical activities	843	1.7	358	1.7	485	1.8
Administrative and support service activities	235	0.5	173	0.8	62	0.2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	608	1.3	458	2.1	150	0.6
Education	2,427	5.0	1,278	5.9	1,149	4.3
Human health and social work activities	520	1.1	219	1.0	301	1.1
Arts entertainment and recreation	300	0.6	281	1.3	19	0.1
Other service activities	2,357	4.9	912	4.2	1,445	5.4
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods - and services - producing activities of households for own use	294	0.6	97	0.4	197	0.7
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	4	0.0	3	0.0	1	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.5 Employment Status of the Employed

Table 4.5 shows the employment status of employed persons 15 years and older in the Agona West Municipality. About two-thirds of the workforce is self-employed without employees. The corresponding proportions of males are 58.4 percent and 72.1 percent for females confirming the usual observation that females are likely to be self-employed without employees than males in the country (GSS, 2005).

The proportions of the employed population who are employees constitute 16.5 percent. Relatively, large proportions of employees are males (23.8%) as compared with females (10.6%). Self-employed with employees also account for only 4.3 percent with 5.4 percent males and 3.3 percent females. Casual workers recorded 1.8 percent of males and 0.8 percent females making. The proportion of females (9.5%) contributing to family work is higher than that of males (6.5%).

Table 4.5: Employed population 15 years and older by employment status and sex

Employment Status	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	48,281	100.0	21,622	100.0	26,659	100.0
Employee	7,970	16.5	5,156	23.8	2,814	10.6
Self-employed without employee(s)	31,855	66.0	12,624	58.4	19,231	72.1
Self-employed with employee(s)	2,053	4.3	1,168	5.4	885	3.3
Casual worker	617	1.3	395	1.8	222	0.8
Contributing family worker	3,942	8.2	1,415	6.5	2,527	9.5
Apprentice	1,534	3.2	729	3.4	805	3.0
Domestic employee (House help)	241	0.5	95	0.4	146	0.5
Other	69	0.1	40	0.2	29	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.6 Employment Sector of the Employed

Table 4.6 presents the employment sector of the employed persons 15 years and older by sex. The private informal sector is the largest employment sector in Agona West Municipality, with the sector engaging more females (91.9%) than males (83.4%). The private informal sector is the dominant employment sector for the working force and this could be attributed to the fact that this sector may not require high levels of formal education or training.

The public sector engages a relatively small proportion of the workforce (6.7%) in the Municipality. Nearly twice more males (9.2%) than females (4.7%) are employed by government institutions Private formal, constituting 4.8 percent of the working force employed more than twice the proportion of males (6.9 %) to females (3.1%). The semi-public/parastatal and NGOs (local and international) however recorded rather insignificant figures in the district.

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	48,281	100.0	21,622	100.0	26,659	100.0
Public (Government)	3,251	6.7	1,996	9.2	1,255	4.7
Private Formal	2,332	4.8	1,496	6.9	836	3.1
Private Informal	42,536	88.1	18,029	83.4	24,507	91.9
Semi-Public/Parastatal	48	0.1	39	0.2	9	0.0
NGOs (Local and International)	108	0.2	59	0.3	49	0.2
Other International Organisations	6	0.0	3	0.0	3	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FIVE

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

Information Communication Technology (ICT) refers to technologies that provide access to information through telecommunications. Modern information communication technologies have transformed the world into a "global village," in which people can communicate with others across the world as if they were living next door. This has provided Ghana with a vast array of new communication capabilities of which Agona West Municipality is of no exception. Numerous benefits ranging from social, economic, political, cultural, education, health and most importantly greater access to information, communication and fast business transactions are derived from ICT. The 2010 Population and Housing Census collected data on ownership and use of mobile phones, , desktop/laptop computers and fixed telephone lines and internet facility by households and persons 12 years and older. This Chapter examines the extent to which persons 12 years and above in Agona West Municipality access ICT.

5.2 Ownership of Mobile Phones

A mobile phone is a device that can make and receive telephone calls over a radio link while moving around a wide geographic area. It does so by connecting to a cellular network provided by a mobile phone operator, allowing access to the public telephone network. In addition to telephony, mobile phones also support a wide variety of other services such as text messaging, email, surfing the internet, short-range wireless communications, business applications, gaming, photography and others.

Table 5.1 shows the proportion of the population 12 years and older owning mobile phones and internet facility usage by sex. The Table reveals that the proportion of the population 12 years and older who own mobile phones is 50.9 percent. More males (55.9%) own mobile phones than females (56.5%).

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

Sex	Population 12 years and older		Population having mobile phone		Population using internet facility	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	79,442	100.0	40,449	50.9	4,952	6.2
Male	35,956	45.3	20,216	55.9	3,394	9.4
Female	43,486	54.7	20,233	46.5	1,558	3.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.3 Use of Internet

In relation to the use of mobile phone is the internet facility. Internet is increasingly becoming a market information tool and is helping to change people's lives in considerable ways with the combination of the mobile usage in the Municipality lately. Table 5.1 further reveals that a lower proportion of the population 12 years and use internet (6.2%). More males (9.4%) compared to females (3.6%) use internet in the Municipality.

5.4 Household Ownership of Fixed Telephone Lines

In recent years, the landline telephone has seen major decline due to the advancement of mobile network technology. Table 5.2 reveals that only 2.5 percent of households in Agona West Municipality have fixed telephone lines. This indicates that the use of wireless technology (mobile phone and internet) has surpassed the landline phone which in the coming years may make landline phone uncommon. The same proportion (2.5%) is observed for both male-headed and female headed households having fixed telephone lines.

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

Sex	Number of households		Households having desktop/computers		Households having fixed telephone lines	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	29,478	100.0	1,978	6.7	745	2.5
Male	17,111	58.0	1,503	8.8	431	2.5
Female	12,367	42.0	475	3.8	314	2.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.5 Household Ownership of Desktop or Laptop

With reference to Table 5.2, the ownership of desktop/ laptop computers by households in Agona West Municipality is low at 6.7 percent. This low proportion may be due to the cost of purchasing it and low level of knowledge in it usage. A high proportion of 8.8 percent male headed households own desktop/laptop computers as compared to 3.8 percent female headed households.

CHAPTER SIX

DISABILITY

6.1 Introduction

Persons with disabilities (PWDs) have been 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 (Ghana Statistical Service, 2012). A person is considered disabled if despite the use of assistive device or supportive environment (such as eye glasses and hearing aids), the limitation/restriction cannot be improved. This chapter discusses the proportion, types, distribution by type of locality, education and literacy and the activity status of PWDs in Agona West Municipality.

6.2 Population with Disability

Table 6.1 shows that 3.6 percent of the population of Agona West Municipality has disabilities as compared to 96.4 percent persons without disability. The proportion of PWDs is slightly higher among females (3.8%) than males (3.4%).

6.3 Type of Disability

Table 6.1 presents the various types of disability among the PWDs in Agona West Municipality. The type of disability varies across the entire municipality with sight (39.9%) being the most common disability type. Comparatively, there is a higher proportion of females (42.5 %) with sight disability than males (36.7%). The proportion of the population with physical disability for both sexes constitutes 28.2 percent. Emotional disability which is characterized by behavioural and emotional responses and sometimes affect other people and impose undue stress on them recorded 17 percent. A proportion of 15.8 percent and 14.5 percent of the population are disabled in intellect and hearing disabilities respectively. All other types of disabilities that are otherwise not stated constitute a low proportion of 8.4 percent.

6.4 Distribution of Disability by Type of Locality

As reported in the regional analysis the disparity of disability within the urban and the rural localities, Table 6.1 indicate a higher proportion of persons with disability in rural areas (4.6%) than in urban areas (3.3%). In both localities, the proportion of PWD's with sight disability is high across all types of disabilities with 40.9 percent in urban areas and 37.7 percent in the rural areas. The proportion of females with disability in both urban (3.4%) and rural (5.1%) is higher as compared with the males with disability in urban (3.2%) and rural (4.1%) 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	115,358	100.0	54,159	100.0	61,199	100.0
Without disability	111,212	96.4	52,320	96.6	58,892	96.2
With disability	4,146	3.6	1,839	3.4	2,307	3.8
Sight	1,655	39.9	675	36.7	980	42.5
Hearing	601	14.5	252	13.7	349	15.1
Speech	575	13.9	317	17.2	258	11.2
Physical	1,169	28.2	522	28.4	647	28.0
Intellect	656	15.8	302	16.4	354	15.3
Emotion	704	17.0	316	17.2	388	16.8
Other	349	8.4	181	9.8	168	7.3
Urban						
Total	88,351	100.0	40,844	100.0	47,507	100.0
Without disability	85,458	96.7	39,556	96.8	45,902	96.6
With disability	2,893	3.3	1,288	3.2	1,605	3.4
Sight	1,182	40.9	492	38.2	690	43.0
Hearing	411	14.2	170	13.2	241	15.0
Speech	386	13.3	209	16.2	177	11.0
Physical	811	28.0	377	29.3	434	27.0
Intellect	454	15.7	212	16.5	242	15.1
Emotion	425	14.7	195	15.1	230	14.3
Other	261	9.0	137	10.6	124	7.7
Rural						
Total	27,007	100.0	13,315	100.0	13,692	100.0
Without disability	25,754	95.4	12,764	95.9	12,990	94.9
With disability	1,253	4.6	551	4.1	702	5.1
Sight	473	37.7	183	33.2	290	41.3
Hearing	190	15.2	82	14.9	108	15.4
Speech	189	15.1	108	19.6	81	11.5
Physical	358	28.6	145	26.3	213	30.3
Intellect	202	16.1	90	16.3	112	16.0
Emotion	279	22.4	121	22.0	158	22.5
Other	88	7.0	44	8.0	44	6.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.5 Disability and Activity Status

Table 6.2 shows persons 15 years and older with disability by economic activity status and sex. Overall, 56.8 percent of the population 15 years and older with disability are employed, 2.3 percent is unemployed and 41.9 percent is also economically not active. There is not much variations in the proportions observed for both sexes with disability and activity status. The proportion of males who are employed (58.0%) is slightly higher than employed females (55.8%) with disability. Almost about the same proportion is observed for both sexes that are either unemployed or economically not active. Considering the disability types, sight (61.4%) disability recorded the highest for those employed. Emotional disability (2.8%) also accounted for the highest of the unemployed category whilst 56.5 percent was also recorded for those with physical disability and who are economically not active. Across the sexes, sight disability (63.8%) and (59.8%) is observed for both males and females who are employed. Emotional and other disabilities also recorded 3.3 percent and 3.5 percent respectively for those who are unemployed. Other disabilities (46.3%) and physical disability (58%) accounted for persons 15 years and older and who are economically not active.

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

Sex/Disability type	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	70,699	100.0	48,281	68.3	2,758	3.9	19,660	27.8
No disability	67,116	100.0	46,247	68.9	2,681	4.0	18,188	27.1
With a disability	3,583	100.0	2,034	56.8	77	2.1	1,472	41.1
Sight	1,506	100.0	925	61.4	28	1.9	553	36.7
Hearing	497	100.0	270	54.3	10	2.0	217	43.7
Speech	426	100.0	228	53.5	7	1.6	191	44.8
Physical	1,037	100.0	438	42.2	13	1.3	586	56.5
Intellectual	533	100.0	247	46.3	14	2.6	272	51.0
Emotional	609	100.0	331	54.4	17	2.8	261	42.9
Other	292	100.0	157	53.8	10	3.4	125	42.8
Male								
Total	31,527	100.0	21,622	68.6	1,254	4.0	8,651	27.4
No disability	29,987	100.0	20,729	69.1	1,223	4.1	8,035	26.8
With a disability	1,540	100.0	893	58.0	31	2.0	616	40.0
Sight	603	100.0	385	63.8	6	1.0	212	35.2
Hearing	187	100.0	117	62.6	2	1.1	68	36.4
Speech	227	100.0	130	57.3	4	1.8	93	41.0
Physical	458	100.0	203	44.3	5	1.1	250	54.6
Intellectual	240	100.0	107	44.6	5	2.1	128	53.3
Emotional	276	100.0	147	53.3	9	3.3	120	43.5
Other	149	100.0	75	50.3	5	3.4	69	46.3
Female								
Total	39,172	100.0	26,659	68.1	1,504	3.8	11,009	28.1
No disability	37,129	100.0	25,518	68.7	1,458	3.9	10,153	27.3
With a disability	2,043	100.0	1,141	55.8	46	2.3	856	41.9
Sight	903	100.0	540	59.8	22	2.4	341	37.8
Hearing	310	100.0	153	49.4	8	2.6	149	48.1
Speech	199	100.0	98	49.2	3	1.5	98	49.2
Physical	579	100.0	235	40.6	8	1.4	336	58.0
Intellectual	293	100.0	140	47.8	9	3.1	144	49.1
Emotional	333	100.0	184	55.3	8	2.4	141	42.3
Other	143	100.0	82	57.3	5	3.5	56	39.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.6 Disability and Educational Level

Table 6.3 highlights the population three years and older with disability disaggregated by level of education and disability type. On the whole, the Municipality's population 3 years and older with disability who attained basic level education is 52 percent whilst 15.4 percent is observed for Sec/SHS and higher education. The proportion of persons 3 years and older who have never attended school accounted for 14.8 percent. Concerning males 3 years and older with disability, the highest (60.2%) have attained basic level education and the least (2.7%) have attained pre-primary education. Similarly, for female's aged 3 years and older with disability, 46.9 percent have never attended school and 1.6 percent have attained pre-primary education. Of those with hearing disability, the highest (46.7%) have never attended school and the least (25.7%) is observed for those with other disabilities who have never attended school. Of those with other disabilities, 63 percent have attained basic education. An equal proportion is observed for those with sight (50.2%) and intellectual (50.2%) disabilities

that have attained basic education. Again of the population 3 years and older with sight disability, 10.9 percent have attained Sec/SHS and higher education. In terms of sex distribution, 35.9 percent of males with intellectual disability and 56.1 percent of females with hearing disability have never attended school. Males and females with other disabilities recorded 67.8 percent and 57.8 respectively of those who have basic education. The proportion of males with sight (17.2%) and females with emotional (6.9%) disabilities is recorded for the population 3 years and older with disability who have attained Sec/SHS and higher educational level.

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

Total	Number					Percent				
	Never	Total	Pre-Prim	Basic	Sec/SHS and higher	Total	Never	Pre-Prim	Basic	*Sec/SHS and higher
Both Sexes										
Total	106,222	16,094	15,745	9,228	65,155	100.0	14.8	8.7	61.3	15.2
No disability	102,160	15,712	14,261	9,144	63,043	100.0	14.0	9.0	61.7	15.4
With a disability	4,062	382	1,484	84	2,112	100.0	36.5	2.1	52.0	9.4
Sight	1,627	178	613	19	817	100.0	37.7	1.2	50.2	10.9
Hearing	591	46	276	15	254	100.0	46.7	2.5	43.0	7.8
Speech	560	49	225	21	265	100.0	40.2	3.8	47.3	8.8
Physical	1,146	100	491	25	530	100.0	42.8	2.2	46.2	8.7
Intellectual	638	47	262	9	320	100.0	41.1	1.4	50.2	7.4
Emotional	683	71	236	10	366	100.0	34.6	1.5	53.6	10.4
Other	338	26	87	12	213	100.0	25.7	3.6	63.0	7.7
Male										
Total	49,517	8,985	4,541	4,715	31,276	100.0	9.2	9.5	63.2	18.1
No disability	47,713	8,741	4,115	4,667	30,190	100.0	8.6	9.8	63.3	18.3
With a disability	1,804	244	426	48	1,086	100.0	23.6	2.7	60.2	13.5
Sight	662	114	133	8	407	100.0	20.1	1.2	61.5	17.2
Hearing	247	34	83	12	118	100.0	33.6	4.9	47.8	13.8
Speech	310	40	100	13	157	100.0	32.3	4.2	50.6	12.9
Physical	513	77	136	15	285	100.0	26.5	2.9	55.6	15.0
Intellectual	295	30	106	6	153	100.0	35.9	2.0	51.9	10.2
Emotional	308	45	84	5	174	100.0	27.3	1.6	56.5	14.6
Other	177	15	35	7	120	100.0	19.8	4.0	67.8	8.5
Female										
Total	56,705	7,109	11,204	4,513	33,879	100.0	19.8	8.0	59.7	12.5
No disability	54,447	6,971	10,146	4,477	32,853	100.0	18.6	8.2	60.3	12.8
With a disability	2,258	138	1,058	36	1,026	100.0	46.9	1.6	45.4	6.1
Sight	965	64	480	11	410	100.0	49.7	1.1	42.5	6.6
Hearing	344	12	193	3	136	100.0	56.1	0.9	39.5	3.5
Speech	250	9	125	8	108	100.0	50.0	3.2	43.2	3.6
Physical	633	23	355	10	245	100.0	56.1	1.6	38.7	3.6
Intellectual	343	17	156	3	167	100.0	45.5	0.9	48.7	5.0
Emotional	375	26	152	5	192	100.0	40.5	1.3	51.2	6.9
Other	161	11	52	5	93	100.0	32.3	3.1	57.8	6.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

*Sec./SSS SHS, Voc./Tech, Bachelor and Postgraduate

CHAPTER SEVEN

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

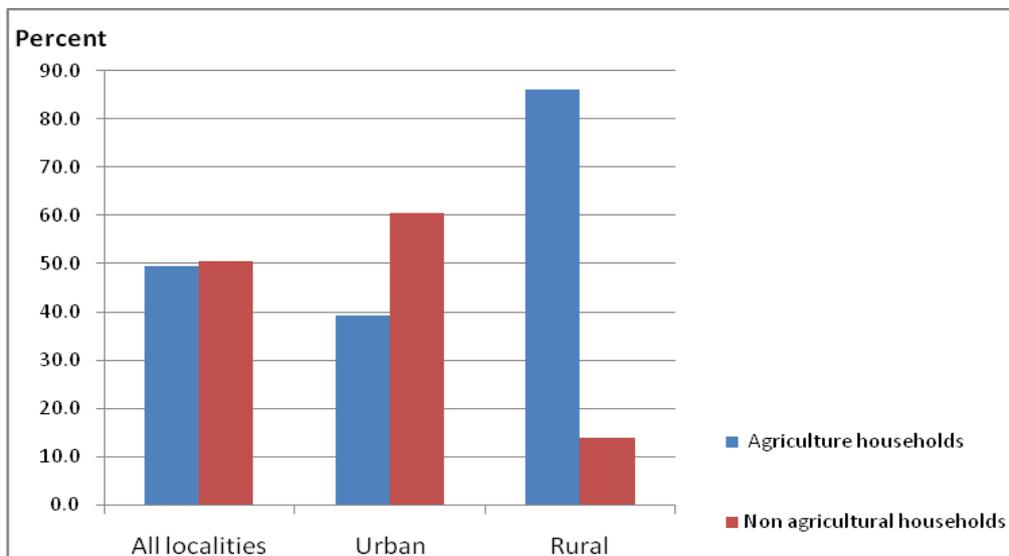
7.1 Introduction

A household is defined as an agricultural household if at least one person in the household is engaged in any type of farming activity, namely crop farming, tree planting, livestock rearing and fish farming. In view of this, information gathered on households farming activities include crop farming, tree planting, livestock rearing and fish farming.

7.2 Households in Agriculture

Figure 7.1 shows that nearly the same proportion of households are either into agricultural or non-agricultural activities. The agricultural households in Agona West Municipality account for 49.4 percent of the total households. Agricultural households in the urban areas constitute 39.4 percent while the rural areas account for 86.1 percent.

Figure 7.1: Households in agriculture by locality



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

7.3 Types of Farming Activities

Table 7.1 shows the distribution of the types of agricultural activities engaged in by households in the Municipality. The highest proportion of 99.2 percent and 95.7 percent of the agriculture households are engaged in crop farming in both rural and urban areas respectively. Crop farming becomes the predominant farming activity engaged by agriculture households. The second most engaged agricultural activity is the rearing of livestock which account for 27.5 percent in the rural areas and 16.7 percent in the urban areas. Tree planting and fish farming has low patronage by the households. The proportion of households engaged in tree planting and fish farming is relatively low with 0.4 percent and 0.1 percent respectively. Consequently, the activity of tree planting and fish farming is less than 1 percent in both the urban and rural localities in the district.

Table 7.1: Households by agricultural activities and locality

Type	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total households	29,478	100.0	23,125	100.0	6,353	100.0
Households engages in Agriculture	14,573	49.4	9,103	39.4	5,470	86.1
Crop farming	14,140	97.0	8,716	95.7	5,424	99.2
Tree planting	61	0.4	48	0.5	13	0.2
Livestock rearing	3,023	20.7	1,521	16.7	1,502	27.5
Fish farming	17	0.1	13	0.1	4	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

7.4 Distribution of Livestock Animal Reared and Keepers

Two thirds of all livestock reared in the Municipality are chicken which are kept by 53 percent of persons involved in livestock rearing with an average of 28 chickens per keeper (Table 7.2). Among the ruminant, the proportion of persons into goats (14%) rearing is 29.2 percent with an average of about 11 goats per keeper. Sheep rearing follows with 7.9 percent by 12.1 of the livestock keepers with an average of about 14 sheep per keeper. Cattle are the least reared ruminants accounting for only 2.4 percent of the livestock with an average of 117 cattle per keeper. Pig rearing constitutes only 2 percent of the livestock reared in the Municipality with an average of about 23 pigs per keeper. Though fish farming is not widespread in the Municipality, it constitutes 3.2 percent with an average of 190 fish per farmer.

Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock, other animals and keepers

Type	Animals		Keepers		Average Animal per Keeper
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	89,426	100.0	4,070	100.0	22.0
Beehives	45	0.1	3	0.1	15.0
Cattle	2,105	2.4	18	0.4	116.9
Chicken	59,908	67.0	2,159	53.0	27.7
Dove	22	0.0	4	0.1	5.5
Duck	176	0.2	20	0.5	8.8
Goat	12,540	14.0	1,188	29.2	10.6
Grass-cutter	207	0.2	12	0.3	17.3
Guinea fowl	113	0.1	12	0.3	9.4
Ostrich	84	0.1	5	0.1	16.8
Pig	1,751	2.0	77	1.9	22.7
Rabbit	205	0.2	15	0.4	13.7
Sheep	7,090	7.9	494	12.1	14.4
Silk worm	1,544	1.7	5	0.1	308.8
Snail	152	0.2	5	0.1	30.4
Turkey	49	0.1	8	0.2	6.1
Other (specify)	175	0.2	25	0.6	7.0
Fish farming	2,848	3.2	15	0.4	189.9
Inland fishing	412	0.5	5	0.1	82.4
Marine fishing	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER EIGHT

HOUSING CONDITIONS

8.1 Introduction

In 2010, the policy framework of the Government of Ghana, the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda, emphasized the need for increased access of the population to safe, adequate and affordable housing and shelter (NDPC, 2010). Earlier frameworks also underscored the important role of housing in social development. In the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (2003 - 2005) policy framework, for instance, housing interventions were prescribed implicitly within the context of social development objectives (NDPC, 2002). The achievement of health objectives was linked, among others, to the provision of safe water supply and sewerage, improved housing, and well planned settlements. The provision of periodic information on housing and housing conditions is therefore important both to assess what has been achieved and to plan ahead. This chapter provides an overview of housing and housing conditions in the Agona West Municipality. This chapter highlights on housing stock and type of dwelling, ownership, construction material, room occupancy and housing conditions with particular reference to water and sanitation as well as information on cooking space and household energy sources.

8.2 Housing Stock

Table 8.1 presents the housing stock in the Municipality as well as the average household size and households per house. Agona West Municipality recorded a total of 14,201 houses of which 65.2 percent are in the urban localities. The Municipality accounts for 4.1 percent of the regional total housing stock. With an average household size of 2.1 households per house, the Municipality has 29,478 households and a total household population of 111,447 persons. The population of 7.8 persons per house is higher than the regional (6.1) and national (7.1) average persons per house.

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

Categories	Total country	Region	Municipality	Urban	Rural
Total population	24,658,823	2,201,863	115,358	88,351	27,007
Total household population	24,076,327	2,113,766	111,447	85,097	26,350
Number of houses	3,392,745	346,699	14,201	9,252	4,949
Number of households	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	23,125	6,353
Average households per house	1.6	1.5	2.1	2.5	1.3
Population per house	7.1	6.1	7.8	9.2	5.3
Average household size	4.4	4	3.8	3.7	4.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.3 Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement

Table 8.2 shows the national, regional and district ownership of dwelling unit by sex of household. In Agona West Municipality, 58 percent of male headed households own dwelling units. Less than half (43.4%) of the dwellings in Agona West Municipality are owned by household members. Houses owned by household member account for 57.4 percent of male headed household which is higher than females headed household (42.6%).

Other private individual ownership follows with 28.9 percent with 61.9 percent males and 38.1 percent female household heads. Relative not a household member recorded 24.7 percent comprising 53.2 percent male heads and 46.8 percent female heads. A large percentage of 78.9 of this dwelling are located in the urban. The other type of dwelling unit which is owned either by a private employer recorded less than one percent. With record of 0.6 percent houses being purchased, males constitute 54.6 percent while female heads recorded 45.4 percent. A little over 90 percent of the houses being purchased are located in the rural areas while 9.8 percent are in the urban. Houses owned by the public / government constitute 1 percent with 73.4 percent males heads and 26.6 percent female heads. A proportion of 89.9 percent of the public houses are located in the urban areas with 31 percent in the rural areas. Other houses which their ownership was not known and those owned by other private agency recorded below one percent.

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

Ownership status	Total		District				
	country	Region	Total	Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	58.0	42.0	78.4	21.6
Owned by household member	52.7	51.6	43.4	57.4	42.6	70.7	29.3
Being purchased (e.g. mortgage)	0.8	0.7	0.6	54.6	45.4	90.2	9.8
Relative not a household member	15.6	22.0	24.7	53.2	46.8	78.9	21.1
Other private individual	26.3	22.5	28.9	61.9	38.1	88.9	11.1
Private employer	1.5	1.0	0.7	76.0	24.0	71.0	29.0
Other private agency	0.4	0.3	0.3	63.4	36.6	92.5	7.5
Public/Government ownership	2.2	1.4	1.0	73.4	26.6	89.9	10.1
Other	0.4	0.4	0.4	73.7	26.3	85.1	14.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.3.1 Occupied dwelling unit

Table 8.3 shows there are 29,478 occupied dwelling units in Agona West Municipality. From the Table, greater proportions (67.4 percent) of the households dwell in compound houses. Sixty five percent of male headed households live in compound houses compared to 72 percent for female headed households. This makes the compound house the most dwelling unit in Agona West Municipality. A little over 19 percent (19.3%) live in separate houses with 20.7 males recognized as household heads in separate houses while 17.3 percent is recorded for female household heads. Flats/apartments constituted 4.5 of dwelling units. The percentages for male and female headed households are 4.2 and 4.1 respectively. Further, the proportion of dwelling units that is semi-detached is 4.2 percent with 4.2 percent males and 4.1 percent females as household heads.

The Table further shows that the proportion of compound houses is higher in the urban areas (72.2%) than the rural areas (50.1%). Conversely, the proportion of separate houses is higher in the urban areas (37 percent) than in rural areas (14.4 percent).

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	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Separate house	1,471,391	158,608	5,679	19.3	20.7	17.3	14.4	37.0
Semi-detached house	391,548	36,734	1,225	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.3
Flat/Apartment	256,355	22,889	1,318	4.5	4.9	3.9	5.4	0.9
Compound house (rooms)	2,942,147	286,740	19,873	67.4	64.5	71.5	72.2	50.1
Huts/Buildings (same compound)	170,957	8,432	581	2.0	2.4	1.3	0.9	5.9
Huts/Buildings (different compound)	36,410	1,817	87	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.9
Tent	10,343	937	34	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Improvised home (kiosk/container etc.)	90,934	3,674	306	1.0	1.3	0.7	1.3	0.2
Living quarters attached to office/shop	20,499	1,559	210	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.3
Uncompleted building	66,624	4,370	130	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.2
Other	9,846	1,003	35	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4 Construction Materials

Generally houses are constructed using various kinds of materials. The 2010 PHC collected information on construction materials used for outer walls, floor and roof for both occupied and vacant structures.

8.4.1 Outer wall

Table 8.4 shows that the main construction materials for outer walls of dwelling unit are cement blocks/concrete, mud brick/earth landcrete and wood. From the Table, cement block (60.6 %) is the main construction material used for outer walls with 70.9 percent of its usage predominant in the urban areas and 26.3 percent in the rural areas. Mud brick/earth (32%) is the second main construction material used for outer wall in the Municipality.

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

Material for Outer wall	Total country	Region	Municipality			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	567,051	30,695	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud brick/earth	1,991,540	206,207	9,832	32.0	22.2	64.8
Wood	200,594	10,461	614	2.0	1.9	2.4
Metal sheet/slate/asbestos	43,708	2,698	169	0.6	0.6	0.3
Stone	11,330	942	43	0.1	0.2	0.1
Burnt bricks	38,237	5,389	164	0.5	0.5	0.7
Cement blocks/concrete	3,342,462	325,673	18,605	60.6	70.9	26.3
Landcrete	104,270	10,996	1,189	3.9	3.4	5.4
Bamboo	8,206	766	17	0.1	0.1	0.0
Palm leaf/thatch (grass)/ raffia	38,054	1,295	7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	39,206	2,624	55	0.2	0.2	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

A higher proportion of dwelling units in the rural areas (64.8 percent) than urban areas (22.2 percent) use mud brick/earth for outer walls. The usage of landcrete for outer wall is 3.9 percent with a higher proportion of 5.4 percent used in the rural areas as compared with 3.4 percent in the urban areas.

8.4.2 Material for the floor

The type of materials used for the floor of a house affects the appearance, quality and health status of a house. Some floors are easily contaminated and are difficult to clean or disinfect. As shown in Table 8.5, more than three quarters of the material for the floor of dwelling units are constructed from cement/concrete (87.5 %). In terms of locality of residence, 91.6 percent and 72.8 was recorded for both the urban and rural areas respectively in the use of cement/concrete as the main construction material for floor. Earth/mud is mainly used in the rural areas (26 percent) compared with 4.2 percent for the urban areas. Ceramic/porcelain/granite/marble tiles constitute 1.2 percent with 1.4 percent in the urban areas and 0.5 percent in the rural areas.

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

Materials for the floor	Total country	Region	Municipality			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
Earth/Mud	872,161	59,543	2,628	8.9	4.2	26.0
Cement/Concrete	4,255,611	448,599	25,800	87.5	91.6	72.8
Stone	32,817	2,192	122	0.4	0.4	0.3
Burnt brick	6,537	718	22	0.1	0.1	0.0
Wood	52,856	1,924	139	0.5	0.5	0.2
Vinyl tiles	57,032	3,378	161	0.5	0.7	0.0
Ceramic/Porcelain/Granite/ Marble tiles	88,500	5,534	354	1.2	1.4	0.5
Terrazzo/Terrazzo tiles	85,973	3,669	216	0.7	0.9	0.1
Other	15,567	1,206	36	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.3 Material for roof

Table 8.6 shows that in Agona West Municipality, 93.5 percent of the dwelling units are roofed with metal sheet. Higher proportions of dwelling units 96 percent and 85.2 percent in the urban and rural areas respectively use metal sheet as their main roofing material. Thatch/palm leaf or raffia (7.7%) is widely used as the main roofing material in the rural areas of the Municipality as compared to its usage in the urban (0.4 %). A proportion of 1.3 percent of dwelling units use bamboo as roofing material with 4.9 percent and 0.2 using it in the rural areas and urban areas respectively. The other roofing materials have a low proportion in respect of its usage in the urban and rural areas.

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

Main Roofing material	Municipality					
	Total country	Region	Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	567,051	30,695	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud/mud bricks/earth	80,644	2,568	82	0.3	0.2	0.6
Wood	45,547	3,047	123	0.4	0.4	0.4
Metal sheet	4,152,259	369,829	28,705	93.5	96.0	85.2
Slate/asbestos	759,039	146,526	302	1.0	1.2	0.4
Cement/concrete	141,072	10,824	315	1.0	1.2	0.4
Roofing tile	31,456	1,892	21	0.1	0.1	0.0
Bamboo	71,049	9,912	386	1.3	0.2	4.9
Thatch/palm leaf or raffia	500,606	19,317	630	2.1	0.4	7.7
Other	35,935	3,136	131	0.4	0.5	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.5 Room Occupancy

Table 8.7 shows that one to six household sizes have more people occupying one sleeping room ranging from 39.7 percent to 89.7 percent. It is also inferred that with the household size one to six, the number of household reduces with increasing sleeping rooms occupied in dwelling unit. Again, with household sizes seven to ten and above, there are more people (36.6%, 36.7%, 34.2% and 22.2%) in two sleeping rooms occupied in dwelling unit than the other sleeping room dwelling units. With the exception of nine number household size whose number of people in sleeping rooms increases from 0.3 percent (8 rooms) to 0.6 percent (10 rooms and more), the remaining household sizes have fewer occupants in sleeping rooms as the number of sleeping room increases.

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

Household size	Total		Number of sleeping rooms								
			One room	Two rooms	Three rooms	Four rooms	Five rooms	Six rooms	Seven rooms	Eight rooms	Nine rooms or more
	Number	Percent									
Total	29,478	100.0	60.2	26.1	7.3	3.4	1.5	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.2
1	6,610	100.0	89.7	8.7	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
2	4,409	100.0	73.2	23.0	2.4	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
3	4,265	100.0	64.1	27.5	6.0	1.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2
4	4,138	100.0	54.2	33.3	8.0	2.8	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
5	3,582	100.0	47.3	36.0	10.0	3.7	1.7	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.1
6	2,515	100.0	39.7	37.5	12.8	5.8	2.5	1.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
7	1,619	100.0	31.6	36.6	16.2	9.0	3.2	2.0	0.7	0.6	0.0
8	937	100.0	24.2	36.7	16.9	12.5	4.8	3.0	1.0	0.3	0.6
9	544	100.0	18.0	34.2	21.9	14.2	6.8	2.8	1.3	0.4	0.6
10+	859	100.0	9.7	22.2	22.2	16.3	11.9	6.5	4.5	3.4	3.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6 Access to Utilities and Household Facilities

This section analyses household's amenities, cooking space and sanitation issues in the Agona West Municipality.

8.6.1 Main source of lighting of dwelling unit by type of locality

In the Agona West Municipality (Table 8.8), 65.7 percent of dwelling units use electricity (mains) as against 0.5 percent of electricity (private generator) for lighting. This indicates a total percentage electricity usage of 66.2 percent in the Municipality for lighting. The next highest main source of lighting for dwelling unit is kerosene lamp with a percentage of 21.4 percent and the least main source of lighting being gas lamp, solar energy, and firewood and crop residue with a percentage of 0.1 percent. As expected, 76.8 percent of dwelling units use electricity (both mains and private generator) as their main source of lighting in urban localities compared with 27.8 percent in rural localities. Comparatively, 35.2 percent dwelling units in rural localities use kerosene lamp for lighting with 17.6 percent in urban localities using same. Also, flashlight/torch is more patronised in rural than in urban localities with 34.9 percent and 4.4 percent respectively.

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

Main source of light	Total country	Region	Municipality			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
Electricity (mains)	3,511,065	347,998	19,374	65.7	76.3	27.2
Electricity (private generator)	36,142	3,806	156	0.5	0.5	0.6
Kerosene lamp	971,807	109,111	6,310	21.4	17.6	35.2
Gas lamp	9,378	817	28	0.1	0.1	0.1
Solar energy	9,194	592	38	0.1	0.1	0.4
Candle	41,214	2,796	157	0.5	0.6	0.3
Flashlight/torch	858,651	59,233	3,236	11.0	4.4	34.9
Firewood	13,241	822	35	0.1	0.1	0.2
Crop residue	4,623	357	25	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other	11,739	1,231	119	0.4	0.2	1.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.2 Main source of cooking fuel

Despite all efforts to discourage the use of wood and charcoal, a percentage of 74.3 percent of households use both wood (39.9%) and charcoal (34.3%) for cooking (Table 8.9). The situation is not different in both urban and rural localities. In the urban localities, 28.5 percent and 41.3 percent use wood and charcoal respectively. Not surprisingly however, 81.7 percent of households in rural localities use wood with 9.3 percent using charcoal. Gas usage in the Municipality far exceeds electricity usage for cooking with 21.5 percent and 0.2 percent respectively.

8.6.3 Main cooking space used by households

Twenty nine percent of households use separate room exclusively for cooking (Table 8.9%). The percentages are 38.8 and 26.4 for rural and urban areas respectively. Next to separate room for kitchen is the use of open space in the compound which is used for cooking constituting 24 percent. The open space in the compound is used more in the urban areas (25.2 %) than in the rural areas (19.6%).

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

Source of cooking fuel/cooking space	Total country	Region	Municipality			
			Total Number	Percent	Urban	Rural
Main source of cooking fuel for household						
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
None no cooking	306,118	26,767	2,053	7.0	7.5	5.0
Wood	2,197,083	232,964	11,772	39.9	28.5	81.7
Gas	996,518	65,955	5,126	17.4	21.3	3.1
Electricity	29,794	1,221	59	0.2	0.2	0.1
Kerosene	29,868	2,935	179	0.6	0.7	0.3
Charcoal	1,844,290	194,256	10,151	34.4	41.3	9.3
Crop residue	45,292	1,477	93	0.3	0.3	0.4
Saw dust	8,000	514	24	0.1	0.1	0.0
Animal waste	2,332	209	9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	7,759	465	12	0.0	0.1	0.0
Cooking space used by household						
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
No cooking space	386,883	34,823	2,436	8.3	8.6	6.9
Separate room for exclusive use of household	1,817,018	176,215	8,572	29.1	26.4	38.8
Separate room shared with other household(s)	410,765	35,850	3,016	10.2	10.3	9.8
Enclosure without roof	117,614	8,635	532	1.8	1.9	1.5
Structure with roof but without walls	349,832	34,193	1,927	6.5	4.7	13.3
Bedroom/hall/living room)	74,525	8,387	377	1.3	1.4	0.8
Verandah	1,173,946	108,346	5,331	18.1	20.7	8.6
Open space in compound	1,115,464	117,661	7,081	24.0	25.2	19.6
Other	21,007	2,653	206	0.7	0.7	0.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.4 Main source of water for drinking

Water has always been an important and life-sustaining drink to humans and is essential to the survival of most other organisms. Drinking water or potable water is safe enough to be consumed by humans or used with low risk of immediate or long term harm. In order to ensure the consumption of safe water, Ghana has adopted the Millennium Development Goal (MDG 7, Target 7c) which is to: "Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without

sustainable access to safe drinking-water and basic sanitation" relating to drinking-water and sanitation

Table 8.10 presents the main source of drinking water and water for other domestic purposes. A higher percentage of 32.1 percent is recorded for drinking water from public tap/standpipe which is used more in the urban areas (34.9%) than the rural areas (21.9%). Drinking water from pipe borne as the main source of water is next to public tap/standpipe. Pipe borne water located outside dwelling is mostly consumed with 24.2 percent than pipe borne water inside dwelling (19.2 %). Furthermore, pipe borne outside dwelling is used more in the urban areas (27.9 percent) than in the rural areas (10.6 percent). The urban localities recorded a high percentage 23.8 percent for the consumption of pipe borne inside dwelling compared to 2.5 percent for rural localities. As low as 0.1 percent of households in urban areas use unprotected well and spring as drinking water with 8.9 percent in rural areas doing same.

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

Sources of water	Total country	Region	Municipality			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of drinking water for household						
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	790,493	48,916	5,658	19.2	23.8	2.5
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,039,667	109,946	7,133	24.2	27.9	10.6
Public tap/standpipe	712,375	122,845	9,458	32.1	34.9	21.9
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,267,688	96,113	1,708	5.8	1.8	20.2
Protected well	321,091	22,615	533	1.8	1.1	4.5
Rain water	39,438	8,361	110	0.4	0.3	0.6
Protected spring	19,345	1,530	59	0.2	0.2	0.0
Bottled water	20,261	1,482	74	0.3	0.3	0.1
Sachet water	490,283	42,729	1,705	5.8	6.8	2.0
Tanker supply/vendor provided	58,400	15,072	9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unprotected well	112,567	10,210	570	1.9	0.1	8.5
Unprotected spring	12,222	1,041	33	0.1	0.0	0.4
River/stream	502,804	41,341	2,058	7.0	2.5	23.3
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	76,448	4,197	366	1.2	0.1	5.4
Other	3,972	365	4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Main source of water for other domestic use of household						
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	905,566	54,888	6,084	20.6	25.6	2.7
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,089,030	109,873	6,884	23.4	27.0	10.2
Public tap/standpipe	704,293	117,824	8,985	30.5	34.1	17.5
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,280,465	101,438	2,097	7.1	3.8	19.0
Protected well	465,775	37,995	1,408	4.8	3.7	8.7
Rain water	39,916	6,583	106	0.4	0.3	0.6
Protected spring	18,854	1,725	78	0.3	0.3	0.1
Tanker supply/vendor provided	100,048	20,059	22	0.1	0.1	0.0
Unprotected well	152,055	15,523	753	2.6	0.8	9.1
Unprotected spring	15,738	1,783	74	0.3	0.1	0.9
River/stream	588,590	52,309	2,530	8.6	3.9	25.6
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	96,422	5,823	437	1.5	0.4	5.5
Other	10,302	940	20	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The use of river/stream as main source of water for drinking in rural localities (23.3%) is much higher than in urban localities (2.5%). The consumption of sachet water constitutes 5.8 percent with 6.8 percent for the urban areas while 2 percent is the proportion for the rural areas.

8.6.5 Main source of water for other domestic use

Table (8.10) further shows that a higher percentage (30.5%) of households resort to public tap/standpipe as the main source of water for other domestic use with 34.1 percent and 17.5 percent usage in the urban and rural areas respectively. Pipe borne water inside and outside dwelling which together constitute 44 percent is the main source of water for other domestic purposes. In the urban areas, this together (pipe borne water inside and outside dwelling) constitutes (52.6%) as the main source of water for other domestic uses compared to the rural areas (12.9%). River/stream is widely used more in the rural areas with 25.6 percent than all the other source of water for other domestic uses.

8.6.6 Toilet facility used by households

Table 8.11 registered a higher proportion of 43.2 percent for households using public toilet (WC, KVIP, P in pan etc.) with 43.7 percent and 41.4 percent for the urban and rural areas respectively. More so, Pit latrine (22.6%), W.C (14.2%), KVIP (12%) are also used both in the urban and rural areas. Pit latrine is the second toilet facility mostly used in the rural areas with 38.2 percent and 18.3 percent in the urban areas. In addition, 7.3 percent of households in the Municipality have no access to any toilet facility and therefore resort to the use of bush, beach or field. The proportion of households that have do not have toilet facilities is higher in rural localities (14%) than in the urban areas (5.5%).

8.6.7 Bathing facilities used by households

More households in the Municipality (40.5%) use shared separate bathrooms in the same house (Table 8.11). The percentages are 45.3 and 22.9 for the urban and rural areas respectively. The usage of shared open cubicle constitutes 24.8 percent. This facility is used more in the rural areas (31.2%) than in the urban areas (23.1%). About 17 percent of households use exclusive bathroom facility and there is not much difference concerning it usage in both the urban (17.2%) and rural areas (17.5%). Bathing in open space around house may be talked of as the thing of the past but 6.8 percent of households use this facility. Twice more households in the rural (10.7%) than the urban (5.7 %) use this facility for bathing.

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
			Number	Percent		
Toilet facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
No facilities (bush/beach/field)	1,056,382	80,936	2,149	7.3	5.5	14.0
W.C.	839,611	48,303	4,182	14.2	17.5	2.0
Pit latrine	1,040,883	121,805	6,654	22.6	18.3	38.2
KVIP	572,824	62,088	3,532	12.0	14.3	3.4
Bucket/Pan	40,678	2,729	99	0.3	0.4	0.2
Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit Pan etc.)	1,893,291	208,323	12,733	43.2	43.7	41.4
Other	23,385	2,579	129	0.4	0.3	0.9
Bathing facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
Own bathroom for exclusive use	1,535,392	121,297	5,078	17.2	17.2	17.5
Shared separate bathroom in the same house	1,818,522	160,291	11,933	40.5	45.3	22.9
Private open cubicle	381,979	36,157	1,711	5.8	5.3	7.7
Shared open cubicle	1,000,257	118,153	7,315	24.8	23.1	31.2
Public bath house	140,501	12,895	192	0.7	0.4	1.5
Bathroom in another house	187,337	38,394	1,135	3.9	2.7	7.9
Open space around house	372,556	35,703	1,994	6.8	5.7	10.7
River/pond/lake/dam	14,234	1,773	63	0.2	0.1	0.5
Other	16,276	2,100	57	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.8 Solid waste disposal

Table 8.12 shows the different methods of disposing waste by households. The most common method of dumping solid waste by households is dumping in public container (45.3%) followed by dumping in open space (40.1%). More than half of the households in the urban areas (56.1%) dump their solid waste in public dump container compared with the rural areas (5.8%). About seven out of 10 (72.9%) in the rural areas dump their solid waste in open space as compared to three out of 10 in urban areas. A total of six percent of the solid waste are burned by households. Dependence on agencies that collect waste is almost three percent and this method is adopted more in the urban areas (3.3%) than the rural areas (0.7%). Again, 3.1 percent of households dump solid waste indiscriminately. This is higher in rural localities (9.8 %) than in urban localities (1.3%).

8.6.9 Liquid waste disposal

Generally, disposing of liquid waste (through the sewerage system, through drainage system into a gutter and through drainage into a pit (soak away) is lower (16.8%) in the Municipality than disposing of it through inappropriate channels (thrown onto the street/outside, thrown into gutter, thrown onto compound and other) which all together account for 83.2 percent. Households' throwing of liquid waste is done onto the street/outside (29.1%), into gutter (29.1%), and onto the compound (24.4 %). The use of "through" appropriate channels (through the sewerage system, through drainage system into gutter and through drainage into pit) is higher in urban localities (19.5%) than in rural localities (7%). The level of throwing of

liquid waste is higher in both urban and rural localities with a total of 80 percent and 92.4 percent respectively (Table 12).

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

Method of waste disposal	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Solid waste						
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
Collected	785,889	20,490	813	2.8	3.3	0.7
Burned by household	584,820	70,553	1,756	6.0	5.8	6.5
Public dump (container)	1,299,654	98,454	13,350	45.3	56.1	5.8
Public dump (open space)	2,061,403	283,454	11,824	40.1	31.1	72.9
Dumped indiscriminately	498,868	28,334	920	3.1	1.3	9.8
Buried by household	182,615	17,727	648	2.2	2.1	2.7
Other	53,805	7,751	167	0.6	0.3	1.6
Liquid waste						
Total	5,467,054	526,763	29,478	100.0	100.0	100.0
Through the sewerage system	183,169	6,670	338	1.1	1.4	0.3
Through drainage system into a gutter	594,404	35,183	3,763	12.8	14.6	6.2
Through drainage into a pit (soak away)	167,555	9,059	847	2.9	3.5	0.5
Thrown onto the street/outside	1,538,550	163,838	8,567	29.1	27.8	33.8
Thrown into gutter	1,020,096	89,199	8,577	29.1	34.1	11.0
Thrown onto compound	1,924,986	216,209	7,196	24.4	18.1	47.5
Other	38,294	6,605	190	0.6	0.6	0.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER NINE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Introduction

This report is organized under seven thematic areas, namely: demographic characteristics, social, economic activities, ICT, disability, agricultural activities and housing conditions. This report brings into focus the conditions of living of the people in of the Municipality. It highlights the inadequacies in facilities such as education, ICT, housing and the amenities available to the households and the social and economic characteristics of the people in the Municipality. The 2010 Census has therefore provided a wealth of detailed information for evidence based planning and decision making.

9.2 Summary of Findings

9.2.1 Demographic characteristics

A total population of 115,358 people was enumerated during the 2010 Population and Housing Census. Out of this, females accounted for 53.1 percent reflecting a sex ratio of 88.5. This ratio indicates that there are about 89 males to every 100 females. A dependency ratio of 79.1 was reported with the rural areas accounting for a higher dependency ratio of 95.3 percent compared to 74.7 for the urban areas.

Total fertility rate and crude birth rate of the Municipality is 3.1 and 23.4 births respectively. Migration being one of the factors for population change recorded 39.1 for those born elsewhere other than the place of enumeration and 29.1 are those born outside Ghana. Migrant from the Eastern region form the largest migrant population in the Municipality.

9.2.2 Social characteristics

Household composition reveals a higher proportion of nuclear family and biological children forming the highest proportion of household members. The single parent extended household structure is the most common. For persons 12 years, 39 percent are married whilst about 6 percent are living informally together in consensual unions. The proportion never married is 41.3 percent and about 13.5 percent have ever been married. The ever married group consists the separated (1.9%), divorced (5.5%) and widowed (6.1%). Among persons age 30-34 years, only 17.8 percent have never married. In the Municipality, 95.9 percent are Ghanaians. A proportion of 83 percent of the Municipality's population are Christians with a higher proportion of females (86%) than males (80.4%).

9.2.3 Economic characteristics

Generally, seven out of every ten persons (72 %) are economically active (i.e. those employed or unemployed). Thus, for both sexes, 27.8% percent are not economically active (i.e. not working and not looking for work). Of the unemployed, the first time job seekers are twice more than those who have worked before.

In terms of types of occupation of persons 15 years and older, employed skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers form the largest occupation group employing 33.9 percent of all employed persons. The second largest group is service and sales workers (27.3%). About seventeen percent (16.9 %) of employed persons are engaged in crafts and related trades.

Two-thirds of employed persons in the Municipality (66.0 %) are self-employed without employee(s), and 16.5 percent are employees. Nearly one in ten (8.2%) of employed persons are contributing family workers', 1.3 percent are casual workers while 3.2 percent are apprentices.

9.2.4 Information communication technology

The proportion of persons 12 years and older who own mobile phone in Agona West Municipality is 50.9 percent. As expected, mobile phone ownership is highest in the urban than the rural localities. Furthermore, 6.2 percent of the population 12 years and older use the internet. There are only 2.5 percent households with fixed telephone lines in the Municipality. A total of 6.7 percent households own desktop or laptop computers.

9.2.5 Disability

PWDs account for 3.6 percent of the total population of Agona West Municipality. Visual or sight disability accounted for 39.9 percent of all disability types reported in the Municipality. Sight and physical disabilities were highest among the elderly PWDs, while emotional, intellectual and physical disabilities were most common among those aged 15–64 years. The status of employment of PWDs was generally low. While only 4.2 percent of PWDs are employed, the proportion was 1.9 percent for the employed population with sight disability.

9.2.6 Agriculture

Agricultural households in Agona West Municipality account for 49.4 percent of the total households. Urban agricultural households constitute 39.4 percent. Over 60 percent of the heads of agricultural households are males (63.6 %) and 59.7 percent are in rural areas. Of the agricultural households, 97 percent are engaged in crop farming, 20.7 percent are in livestock rearing.

9.2.6 Housing conditions

Total housing stock stood at 14,201 with about 65.2 percent located in the urban localities. The average household size is 3.8 percent. Ownership of dwelling units in the Municipality is mainly by household member. Cement blocks/concrete is the main construction material used for other wall. Compound houses are a common phenomenon in the Municipality. Metal sheet is the main roofing material for dwelling units. Six out of ten dwellings had only one sleeping room. Sixty-six percent of the population use electricity (mains) as the main source of power for lighting. The proportion with exclusive cooking space in the households within the Municipality is 29.1 percent (26.4% urban; 38.8% rural).

About seventy six percent (75.5%) of dwelling units have access to pipe-borne water as the main source of drinking water (pipe-borne inside dwelling, pipe-borne outside dwelling, and public tap/standpipe). In urban areas, only 6.8 percent are using sachet water as the main source of drinking water. Seven percent dwelling units had no toilet facilities and household members either use open fields, the beach or other open areas. Over 80 percent of dwelling units do not have exclusive use of bathrooms for the household. Notwithstanding, the main modes of solid waste disposal are public dump site (31.1%) and dumping in a public container with periodic collection (56.1%).

9.3 Policy Implications

Policy formulation and implementation are often data-driven. Data enrich the goals and objectives of policies, the targets to be achieved and the strategies for achieving such targets. The generation of a new set of data therefore has policy implications that may require changing strategies and setting new goals or the data might call for the introduction of new policies with new sets of goals and objectives.

As a result of the youthful nature of the population, there is the urgent need for more target intervention programmes for the youth.

Most women do not have control over their reproductive health especially when it comes to regulating fertility and using contraceptives. There is therefore to intensify fertility education programmes that target child spacing and contraceptive practices which are necessary to prevent the current fertility level from increasing.

The need to use ICT for development in today's global economy cannot be over emphasized. It is therefore strongly recommended that the Government should intensify ICT education at various levels of education in the Municipality.

Modernizing agriculture by appropriate technologies such as irrigation would go a long way to increase productivity throughout the year. The government should create the enabling environment for the manufacturing sector such as aiding access to the requisite capital and offering of tax waivers in order to encourage the population to venture into manufacturing.

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APPENDICES

Table A1: Household population by composition

Household Composition	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Total	Percent	Urban	Percent	Rural	Percent
Total	111,447	100.0	85,097	100.0	26,350	100.0
Head only	6,610	5.9	5,482	6.4	1,128	4.3
Household with head and a spouse only	2,356	2.1	1,814	2.1	542	2.1
Household with head and biological/adopted children only	15,980	14.3	12,542	14.7	3,438	13.0
Household with head spouse(s) and biological/adopted children only	31,328	28.1	22,596	26.6	8,732	33.1
Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only	17,458	15.7	12,411	14.6	5,047	19.2
Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head	1,427	1.3	1,164	1.4	263	1.0
Household with head spouse(s) and other composition	3,721	3.3	2,748	3.2	973	3.7
Household with head biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only	20,154	18.1	16,187	19.0	3,967	15.1
Household with head biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head	1,745	1.6	1,530	1.8	215	0.8
Household with head and other composition but no spouse	10,668	9.6	8,623	10.1	2,045	7.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Service

Table A2: Population by 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education

Sex/Disability type	Educational level attained										
	Total	Never attended	Nursery	Kinder garten	Primary	Middle/ JSS/ JHS	Sec./ SSS/ SHS	Voc./ Tech./ Comm.	Post sec	Bachelor's degree	Post graduate (Cert. Diploma Master's PHD etc.)
Both Sexes											
Total	106,222	15,745	2,407	6,821	29,261	35,894	10,107	1,753	2,743	1,277	214
No disability	102,160	14,261	2,393	6,751	28,492	34,551	9,914	1,678	2,660	1,251	209
With a disability	4,062	1,484	14	70	769	1,343	193	75	83	26	5
Sight	1,627	613	4	15	250	567	80	31	44	20	3
Hearing	591	276	2	13	122	132	25	7	10	4	0
Speech	560	225	4	17	119	146	35	4	7	3	0
Physical	1,146	491	5	20	181	349	46	27	22	3	2
Intellectual	638	262	1	8	165	155	24	7	14	2	0
Emotional	683	236	1	9	138	228	41	13	16	1	0
Other	338	87	0	12	79	134	11	8	7	0	0
Male											
Total	49,517	4,541	1,241	3,474	13,554	17,722	5,464	881	1,581	887	172
No disability	47,713	4,115	1,235	3,432	13,219	16,971	5,336	840	1,530	867	168
With a disability	1,804	426	6	42	335	751	128	41	51	20	4
Sight	662	133	0	8	105	302	51	18	28	15	2
Hearing	247	83	2	10	54	64	17	4	9	4	0
Speech	310	100	3	10	67	90	29	2	6	3	0
Physical	513	136	2	13	74	211	39	19	14	3	2
Intellectual	295	106	1	5	63	90	16	2	11	1	0
Emotional	308	84	0	5	55	119	26	5	13	1	0
Other	177	35	0	7	33	87	7	3	5	0	0
Female											
Total	56,705	11,204	1,166	3,347	15,707	18,172	4,643	872	1,162	390	42
No disability	54,447	10,146	1,158	3,319	15,273	17,580	4,578	838	1,130	384	41
With a disability	2,258	1,058	8	28	434	592	65	34	32	6	1
Sight	965	480	4	7	145	265	29	13	16	5	1
Hearing	344	193	0	3	68	68	8	3	1	0	0
Speech	250	125	1	7	52	56	6	2	1	0	0
Physical	633	355	3	7	107	138	7	8	8	0	0
Intellectual	343	156	0	3	102	65	8	5	3	1	0
Emotional	375	152	1	4	83	109	15	8	3	0	0
Other	161	52	0	5	46	47	4	5	2	0	0

Table A3: Distribution of households engaged in tree growing or crop farming by type of crop and population engaged

Households/ Type of crop	House-holds	Population in occupied units			Population engaged in agricultural activities		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total households in occupied units	29,478	111,447	52,215	59,232	27,451	13,841	13,610
Households engaged in agricultural activities	14,573	62,689	30,197	32,492	27,451	13,841	13,610
Households engaged in crop farming or tree growing	14,152	60,771	29,316	31,455	26,478	13,382	13,096
Households engaged in crop farming	14,140	60,731	29,295	31,436	26,452	13,369	13,083
Households engaged in tree growing	61	267	124	143	116	52	64
Agro forestry (tree planting)	61	267	124	143	116	52	64
Alligator pepper	13	74	39	35	31	16	15
Apples	16	54	29	25	28	16	12
Asian vegetables (e.g. tinda, cauliflower)	13	56	25	31	32	18	14
Avocado	4	26	13	13	10	4	6
Banana	8	30	15	15	15	9	6
Beans	47	239	117	122	118	64	54
Black pepper	5	28	10	18	16	9	7
Cabbage	38	136	86	50	54	43	11
Carrot	115	531	242	289	202	105	97
Cashew	51	240	110	130	113	55	58
Cassava	9,644	42,409	20,189	22,220	18,281	8,925	9,356
Citronella	40	216	87	129	83	34	49
Citrus	686	3,280	1,656	1,624	1,464	832	632
Cloves	15	73	32	41	21	10	11
Cocoa	8,838	38,872	19,072	19,800	17,317	8,929	8,388
Coconut	258	1,189	588	601	520	303	217
Cocoyam	707	3,163	1,525	1,638	1,461	736	725
Cocoyam /Taro (koko)	102	445	206	239	205	87	118
Coffee	2	2	0	2	2	0	2
Cola	2	14	4	10	3	2	1
Cucumber	32	156	78	78	63	29	34
Egg plant	2	13	6	7	3	1	2
Garden eggs	129	567	277	290	258	142	116
Ginger	2	5	4	1	2	2	0
Groundnut	46	241	133	108	114	66	48
Guava	9	49	22	27	11	6	5
Lemon grass	1	4	2	2	3	2	1
Lettuce	5	26	10	16	9	4	5
Maize	4,191	18,788	9,068	9,720	7,911	4,005	3,906
Mango	6	22	8	14	13	5	8
Melon (agusi)	1	10	4	6	1	1	0
Millet	18	88	44	44	38	19	19
Mushroom	1	2	0	2	1	0	1
Nut meg	7	33	16	17	7	6	1
Oil palm	2,535	12,098	6,032	6,066	5,329	2,869	2,460
Okro	78	327	166	161	177	98	79
Onion	8	30	12	18	17	9	8

Table A3: Distribution of households engaged in tree growing or crop farming by type of crop and population engaged (cont'd)

Households/ Type of crop	Households	Population in occupied units			Population engaged in agricultural activities		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Pawpaw	13	51	27	24	21	14	7
Peas	1	2	1	1	2	1	1
Pepper	460	2,137	1,037	1,100	948	473	475
Pineapple	43	160	70	90	67	37	30
Plantain	5,582	24,558	11,688	12,870	10,884	5,238	5,646
Potatoes	14	61	25	36	31	15	16
Rice	19	92	49	43	48	31	17
Rubber	3	16	6	10	13	5	8
Shallot	1	5	1	4	2	1	1
Shea tree	1	2	1	1	2	1	1
Soya beans	5	29	14	15	10	4	6
Sugarcane	177	767	414	353	356	219	137
Sweet pepper	3	7	4	3	4	3	1
Sweet potatoes	5	24	15	9	9	6	3
Tiger nut	5	20	13	7	12	10	2
Tobacco	2	12	5	7	4	2	2
Tomatoes	378	1,876	925	951	810	401	409
Water melon	7	39	23	16	16	11	5
Yam	391	1,705	848	857	775	414	361
Other (specify)	220	1,025	517	508	431	232	199

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Service

Table A4: Population by sex, number of households and houses in the 20 largest communities

S/No.	Community Name	Sex			House	
		Total	Male	Female	Holds	Houses
1	Agona Swedru	54,417	25,107	29,310	14,437	5,121
2	Agona Nyakrom	18,745	8,638	10,107	4,721	2,009
3	Agona Bobikuma	8,457	3,979	4,478	2,146	1,217
4	Agona Abodom	6,732	3,120	3,612	1,821	905
5	Agona Kwaman	4,021	1,890	2,131	1,036	642
6	Agona Nkum	3,197	1,488	1,709	822	391
7	Agona Wawase	1,411	730	681	309	157
8	Agona Otengkorang	1,234	603	631	275	204
9	Oteiprow	921	432	489	231	93
10	Anhweam	896	472	424	197	161
11	Odomu	877	416	461	187	132
12	Ahamadonko	800	418	382	178	141
13	Adukori	769	413	356	151	129
14	Dadzie	769	398	371	158	175
15	Nkran	709	351	358	174	165
16	Wanyiato	676	341	335	169	175
17	Kukurantumi	608	294	314	146	102
18	Okyere Kwa	591	317	274	141	176
19	Jukwafom	552	269	283	88	90
20	Kwame Adwen	546	273	273	109	83

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Service

Table A5: Population by age group in the 20 largest communities

S/No.	Community Name	Age Group																
		Total	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	Agona Swedru	54,417	6,466	6,026	6,622	6,446	5,541	4,650	3,844	3,302	2,652	2,154	2,080	1,333	1,009	698	670	924
2	Agona Nyakrom	18,745	2,446	2,408	2,612	2,053	1,344	1,057	922	925	892	742	784	586	478	398	439	659
3	Bobikuma	8,457	1,182	1,170	1,108	869	602	493	396	397	396	384	373	271	224	154	176	262
4	Agona Abodom	6,732	1,021	878	911	633	422	330	278	333	343	325	295	218	199	136	174	236
5	Agona Kwaman	4,021	637	554	515	401	223	224	187	206	207	203	155	104	110	74	80	141
6	Agona Nkum	3,197	525	469	395	294	247	205	170	169	161	115	120	83	73	40	59	72
7	Agona Wawase	1,411	164	164	329	184	133	105	90	70	56	32	31	8	18	10	9	8
8	Agona Otengkorang	1,234	191	194	172	123	66	73	71	63	43	49	52	42	37	21	10	27
9	Oteiprow	921	179	128	117	96	70	79	53	44	27	24	20	18	15	11	15	25
10	Anhweam	896	140	153	132	77	55	50	38	58	45	42	31	26	15	12	11	11
11	Odomu	877	136	134	108	109	62	51	31	47	49	30	27	26	17	14	19	17
12	Ahamadonko	800	138	130	132	59	46	47	42	45	37	28	41	12	13	8	8	14
13	Adukori	769	128	128	101	77	47	61	40	43	32	32	18	20	14	5	1	22
14	Dadzie	769	139	106	112	94	42	38	31	45	33	31	29	15	12	20	13	9
15	Nkran	709	102	114	92	78	49	45	33	38	30	33	23	14	18	16	11	13
16	Wanyiato	676	113	101	101	72	36	33	44	35	32	19	25	21	21	6	13	4
17	Kukurantumi	608	122	92	83	52	39	39	28	34	31	23	26	14	6	5	6	8
18	Okyere Kwa	591	84	82	73	49	24	27	23	44	32	31	33	25	20	10	11	23
19	Jukwafom	552	101	69	67	61	39	40	26	27	27	27	16	20	16	11	1	4
20	Kwame Adwen	546	116	76	58	36	44	40	37	29	18	16	22	11	17	7	10	9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Service

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