2010

POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT
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CENTRAL GONJA DISTRICT

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.
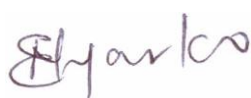
A population census is the most important source of data on the size, composition, growth and distribution of a country's population at the national and sub-national levels. Data from the 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) will serve as reference for equitable distribution of national resources 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 Central Gonja District is one of the 216 district census reports aimed at making data available to planners and decision makers at the district level. In addition to presenting the district profile, the report discusses the social and economic dimensions of demographic variables and their implications for policy formulation, planning and interventions. The conclusions and recommendations drawn from the district report are expected to serve as a basis for improving the quality of life of Ghanaians through evidence-based decision-making, monitoring and evaluation of developmental goals and intervention programmes.

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

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

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Government Statistician

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASDR   Age-Specific Death Rate

CBR   Crude Birth Rate

CGD   Central Gonja District

CIDA   Canadian International Development Agency

DANIDA   Danish International Development Agency

DCE   District Chief Executive

DFID   Department for International Development

ECOWAS   Economic Community of West African States

EU   European Union

GFR   General Fertility Rate

GSGDA   Ghana Share Growth and Development Agenda

GSS   Ghana Statistical Service

ICT   Information Communication Technology

KVIP   Kumasi Ventilated Improve Pit

MDGS   Millennium Development Goals

MMDAS   Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies

MP   Member of Parliament

NRCC   Northern Regional Coordinating Council

PBC   Produce Buying Company

PES   Post Enumeration Survey

PHC   Population and Housing Census

PHC   Population and Housing Census

SAVACEN   Savannah Cement

TFR   Total Fertility Rate

UK   United Kingdom

UNDP   United Nation Development Programme

UNFPA   United Nations Population Fund

UNICEF   United Nation Children's Fund

WC   Water Closer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

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

Population size, structure and composition

The population of Central Gonja District, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, is 87,877 representing 3.5 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute 49.9 percent and females represent 50.1 percent. About eighty percent of the population is rural. The district has a sex ratio of 99.6. The population of the district is youthful (0-14 years) (46.3%) depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of elderly persons (3.7%). The total age dependency ratio for the District is 100.27, the age dependency ratio for males is higher (106.3) than that of females (94.4).

Fertility, mortality and migration

The Total Fertility Rate for the district 3.6. The General Fertility Rate is 101.5 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years which is the second highest for the region. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 23.7 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the district is 3.8 per 1000. Accident/violence/homicide/suicide accounted for 13.2 percent of all deaths in the district. Majority of migrants (64.2%) living in the district were born elsewhere in the region while 26.4 percent were born elsewhere in another region and 9.4 were born outside Ghana. For migrants born elsewhere in another region, those born in the Volta region are the highest and constitute 27.6 percent.

Household Size, composition and structure

The district has a household population of 86,432 with a total number of 11,413 households. The average household size in the district is 7.6 persons per household. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household members accounting for 50.8 percent. Extended households (head, spouse(s), children and head's relative) constitute 51.2 percent of the total households population in the district.

Marital status

A little over half (53.1%) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 39.3 percent have never married, 1.3 percent are in consensual unions, 3.6 percent are widowed, 1.4 percent are divorced and 1.3 percent are separated. More than half of females 12 years and older are married, with about fifty percent (49.4%) of males counterparts also married. At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 49.6 percent while widowed males account for only 6.7 percent. About nine in every ten (86.0%) of the married population are employed, 1.0 percent are unemployed and 13.0 percent are economically not active.

Nationality

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the district is 92.4 percent. Those who have naturalised constitute 1.3 percent and the non-Ghanaian population in the district is 3.3 percent.

Literacy and education

Of the population 11 years and above, 28.7 percent are literate and 71.3 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males (32.9 %) is higher than that of females (24.7%). Five out of ten people (49.3%) indicated they could speak and write both English and Ghanaian languages. Of the population aged 3 years and above (79,524) in the district, 62.6 percent has never attended school, 29.7 percent are currently attending and 7.7 percent have attended in the past.

Economic Activity Status

About 78.7 percent of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active while 21.3 percent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 97.8 percent are employed while 2.2 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, 39.1 percent are students, 33.5 percent perform household duties and 4.5 percent are disabled or too sick to work.

Occupation

Of the employed population, about 77.7 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 7.6 percent in service and sales, 9.5 percent in craft and related trade, and 2.3 percent are engaged as managers, professionals, and technicians.

Employment status and sector

Of the population 15 years and older 59.0 percent are self-employed without employees, 32.9 percent are contributing family workers, 0.6 percent are casual workers, 3.3 percent are employees and 0.9 percent are domestic employees (house helps). Overall, men constitute the highest proportion in each employment category except the contributing family workers, apprentices and domestic employee. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district, employing 97.1 percent of the population followed by the public (government) sector with 1.6 percent.

Information Communication Technology

Of the population 12 years and above, 15.9 percent have mobile phones. Men who own mobile phones constitute 21.6 percent as compared to 10.5 percent of females. Less than one percent (0.5%) of the population 12 years and older use internet facilities in the district. For desktop/laptop computers, only 2.9 percent of the total households in the district have the device.

Disability

About 3.6 percent of the district's total population has one form of disability or the other. The proportion of the male population with disability is slightly higher (3.6%) than females (3.5%). The types of disability in the district include sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, and emotion. Persons with emotional disability recorded the highest of 40.1 percent followed by sight disability (12.7%). There are more females with emotional disability than males in both the urban and rural localities. Of the population disabled, 63.6 percent have never been to school.

Agriculture

As high as 74.2 percent of households in the district are engage in agriculture. In the rural localities, eight out of ten households (83.3%) are agricultural households while in the urban localities, 58.3 percent of households are into agriculture. Most households in the district (92.3%) are involved in crop farming. Cattle are the dominant animals reared in the district followed by chicken.

Housing

The housing stock of Central Gonja District is 12,041 representing 4.7 percent of the total number of houses in the Northern Region. The average household size in the district is 7.6.

Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

About two-fifths (38.2%) of all dwelling units in the district are compound houses; 23.8 percent are huts/buildings (same house), 22.3 percent are separate houses and 11.5 percent are semi-detached houses. About nine out of every ten (91.5%) of the dwelling units in the district are owned by members of the household; 3.9 percent are owned by private individuals; 2.6 percent are owned by a relative who is not a member of the household and only 1.1 percent are owned by public or government. Less than one percent (0.3%) of the dwelling units is owned through mortgage schemes.

Material for construction of outer wall, floor and roof

The main construction material for outer walls of dwelling units in the district is mud/mud bricks or earth accounting for 73.1 percent with cement/concrete constituting 16.6 percent of outer walls of dwelling units in the district. Cement (72.7%) and mud/earth (25.8%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the district. Thatch/Palm leaf or Raffia (53.4%) is the main roofing material with metal sheets constituting 41.5 percent as roofing material for dwelling units in the district.

Room occupancy

One room constitutes the highest percentage (79.7%) of sleeping rooms occupied by single person households in the district. About 1.8 percent of households with 10 or more members occupy single rooms.

Utilities and household facilities

The three main sources of lighting in dwelling units in the district are kerosene lamp (51.0%), flashlight/torch (30.6%), electricity (15.8%) and. The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the district is wood (88.4%). The proportion for rural households using wood as fuel (95.8%) is higher than that of urban (62.0%). The four main sources of water in the district are river/stream, dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal, borehole, public tap and pipe borne water. About two-fifths of households (41.7%) drink water from river/stream.

About nine out of ten (91.4%) of households has no facility and resort to the use of the bush/beach/field as places for toilet. Other toilet facility used in the district is public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit, Pan) representing 5.5 percent followed by KVIP with 1.1 percent. Nearly a fifth of households (16.9%) in the district share separate bathrooms in the same house while 29.0 percent own bathrooms for their exclusive use.

Waste disposal

The most widely method of solid waste disposal is by public dump in the open space accounting for 50.2 percent. About a quarter of households (26.9%) dump their solid waste indiscriminately. House to house waste collection accounts for 7.5 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing onto the street and (49.6%) waste onto the compound (38.5%) are the two most common methods used by households in the district.

CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Central Gonja District (CGD) was created in 2004 under LI 1750. It was carved out of the West Gonja District. The district is an infant one but with vast human and other natural resources. One of the advantages of the CGD is that it is one hour drive to the capital of the Northern Region Tamale which is endowed with rapid developments especially in the service and hospitality industries in the northern regions.

1.2 Physical Features

1.2.1 Location and size

The Central Gonja District is located at the south-western part of the Northern Region of Ghana. CGD lies within longitude 1˚5'and 2˚ 58' West and latitude 8˚32'and 10˚2' North. The district shares boundaries with the Kintampo District in the Brong Ahafo Region to the south, the West Gonja District to the west, Tamale Metropolis to the north, Tolon District to the north-west and the East Gonja District to the east. The district is strategically located because it links the Northern Regions to the rest of the Southern Regions. The District covers approximately 7,555km² which represent 11.0 percent of the total land area of the region.

1.2.2 Relief and drainage

The Topography is generally undulating with altitude of between 150-200 meters above sea level. The rivers and streams found in the District are the Black and White Volta, which lies at the south of the West Gonja District and joins the Black Volta around Tuluwe and Mpaha area in the District. The confluence of the Black and White Volta Rivers is at Sheri which is a potential site for tourist attraction. Both the Black and White Volta which drains the district has good potential for small-scale irrigation schemes along their valleys. They also provide good waterways from Buipe and Yapei respectively to Akosombo via the Volta Lake in Yeji. There is an inland harbour at Buipe on the Black Volta. These rivers have good potentials for fishing in the District.

1.2.3 Climate and temperature

The District experiences extreme temperatures during some months in the year. The annual temperatures range from 17˚C to 35˚C. The district experiences the North East Trade Winds popularly known as the Harmattan Winds from the months of December to February which are characterised by cold nights and dry winds during the day time. The mean monthly temperature is 27˚C. The rains begin around May and ends in October. The rainfall is seasonal and is characterized by a single maximum. The mean annual rainfall is about 1,144mm. The rainfall pattern is erratic, beginning in late April to late October. The months of June, July and August generally record the highest rainfall and also the greatest number of rainy days. The rainfall is characterized by thunder storms or sharp showers. Erosion and floods are common due to the torrential nature of the rains. The irregular distribution and short duration of the rainfall are a great limitation to crops and vegetative growth.

Figure 1.1: Map of Central Gonja

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

1.2.4   Soil and vegetation

The district is situated in an old geological area. The rocks are mainly of the Voltaian formation with isolated Cambrian rocks which contain valuable minerals such as gold and diamond. Limestone occurs between the lower and middle Voltaian formation around Buipe, the capital of the District. Generally, the soils in the District are fertile for agriculture purposes.

The natural vegetation is Guinea Savannah. Its richness is however determined by the soil types. The large mass of vegetation cover is dissected by human activities such as shifting cultivation, slash and burn methods of land preparation for farming and housing. The major tree species are Sheanut, dawadawa, baobab, acacia, neem and some ebony. These trees are scattered except in most valleys where isolated wood land or gallery forest are found. Most trees are deciduous, shedding their leaves during the dry season.

Grass which grows in tussocks may reach 2.7m during the rainy season. This indicates that the area is suitable for crops such as millet, sorghum, maize and groundnuts.

Yam is also cultivated in the District especially around Mpaha Area. The original vegetation in major settlements such as Buipe, Yapei, Mpaha and Kusawgu has been destroyed by human activities. Bush fires, charcoal burning and fetching of, in particular, firewood have reached alarming proportions which must, therefore, be checked to avoid environmental problems in future. The only forest reserve the District is endowed with is the Yakumbo Forest Reserve. This forest is located at the western part of the District capital. It has an area of about 1,200 hectares.

1.3   Political Administration

1.3.1   Administration

The district has its administrative capital at Buipe. The District Assembly has a total membership of 30 comprising 22 elected members, 8 government appointees (including the DCE and the MP). Area Council centres are at Buipe, Tuluwe, Yapei, Kusawgu and Mpaha. All the eleven decentralised departments are present but minimally functional due to challenges of inadequate staffing, logistics and office space. These generally hinder or impede effective district governance.

1.4   Cultural and Social Structure

1.4.1   Cultural and religious traits

There are about 20 ethnic groups in the district. The major groups are; Gonja, Dagomba, Hanga, Mamprusi and Dagarbas. Others include Ewes, Akans, Chekosi and Konkombas. The lack of ethnic homogeneity tends to constrain socio-cultural organization and development. There are inter-tribal marriages and peaceful co-existence which enhances unity in diversity.

There are four major religious groups in the Central Gonja District. These include Islam, Christianity, Traditionalist and others with Islam dominating.

1.4.2   Traditional governance

The Central Gonja District forms part of the Gonja Traditional Council with its King (the Yagbonwura) as President, and the headquarters of Council at Damongo in the West Gonja District. There are five paramountcies in Gonjaland which normally ascend to the position of

the King (Yagbonwura) on rotational basis. Two of such paramountcies are located in the Central Gonja District that is, the Kusawguwura and Tuluwewura. There are also some Divisional Chiefs who are answerable to the Yagbonwura. Among them are; Mankpanwura, Buipewura and Debrewura as well. All the divisional chiefs have sub-chiefs under them. Chieftaincy is another institution in the Central Gonja District which needs serious attention. It is an important institution which could be harnessed to champion the development agenda of the district. Every citizen of the district is aligned to a particular ethnic group or chief.

1.5   Economy

1.5.1   Economic features

The main economic activity of the people is agriculture involving crop production, livestock and fish farming. The land is extremely fertile for agriculture and farming is normally intensive. Some of the crops cultivated are maize, sorghum, millet, groundnut, cowpea, soy beans, yam, rice, as well as cassava. Fishing and livestock are considered supplementary activities to crop farming. Large scale fishing is carried on at Yapei and Buipe on the White and Black Volta lakes. The major animals reared including cattle, sheep, goats, fowls, guinea fowls etc. and birds are practically reared in every home, but large scale ranching is non-existence in the district.

1.5.2   Manufacturing industries

Economic activities undertaken in the district are large and small- scale agro-based industries such as Shea butter processing, rice milling, groundnut oil extraction and gari processing. The district can boast of two major industries such as Produce Buying Company (PBC) and SAVACEM which employ a good number of the youth in the district. PBC produce Shea butter in commercial quantities for export while SAVACEM produces cement in commercial quantities.

1.5.3   Natural resources

There are only a few potential natural resources in the district. However, some of these resources are yet to be exploited. The known resources include deposit of gold, marble stone, and limestone. Other resources include arable lands, the White and Black Volta rivers, and also available are large deposits of sand for construction.

1.5.4   Tourism

The district abounds in many tourism attractions though these are largely undeveloped. The attractions range from natural features such as the confluence of the White and Black Volta at Sheri, the Mpaha hills and the clean beaches, to historical such as the Jakpa Grave site and Regalia at Old Buipe and Nyanwuripe respectively. The development of some of these tourist sites has been constrained by poor road infrastructure and inadequate recreational and accommodation facilities in the district.

1.6   Census Methodology, Concepts and Definitions

1.6.1   Introduction

Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) was guided by the principle of international comparability and the need to obtain accurate information in the 2010 Population and Housing Census (2010 PHC). Therefore, the Census was 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 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 organisation, 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 was essential for the effective implementation of the 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). The Census Secretariat was primarily responsible for the day-to-day planning and implementation of the census activities. The Secretariat had seven units, namely; census administration; cartography; recruitment and training; publicity and education; field operations and logistics management; data processing; and data analysis and dissemination.

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

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

The Regional and District Census Implementation Committees were inter-sectoral in their composition. Members of the Committees were mainly from decentralized departments with the Regional and District Coordinating Directors chairing the Regional Census Implementation Committee and District Census Implementation Committee respectively. The Committees contributed to the planning of the 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 the 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 analogue 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 Enumerators' Visitation Record Book, Supervisors' 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, Kasoa 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 were 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 were 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 ill 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 illness, emotional or behavioural disorders and other physical impairments.

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

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 is in nine Chapters and provides detailed information on the nature and characteristics of the population of Central Gonja District from the 2010 PHC. The first chapter gives a brief profile of Central Gonja District taking into account physical features, political administration, cultural and social structure, the economy and a background to the chapters. Chapter Two focuses on demographic characteristics, which encompasses introduction, population size and distribution, age-sex structure as well as migration, fertility and mortality. Chapter three focuses on social characteristics of the population taking into consideration household size, household composition and headship, marital status, nationality, religious affiliation, literacy and education. Chapter Four is devoted to the analyses of economic characteristics which is segmented into economic activity status, occupation, industry, employment status and employment sector of the employed in the district.

Information and communication technology usage in the district taking cognizance of mobile phone ownership, use of internet, household ownership of desktop/laptop computers of the population are examined in Chapter Five. Chapter Six focuses on disability which further analyses the population disabled and the disability types. Chapter seven captures agricultural activities in the district. It discusses the proportion of households in agriculture as well as types of farming they engage in.

Housing became an important ingredient in the 2010 population and housing census. Chapter eight, deals with the analysis of the housing condition in the district. It touches on housing stock, type of dwelling, holding and tenancy agreement, construction materials, room occupancy, access to utilities and household facilities, main source of water for drinking and for other domestic use, bathing and toilet facilities as well as method of waste disposal. Chapter nine which is the last chapter deals with summary of findings, conclusions and policy implications.

CHAPTER TWO
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

2.1   Introduction

A country's population size and age-sex composition have broad ranging consequences for a number of socio-economic indicators such as the welfare of the people. The changes in a country's population are mainly through fertility, mortality and migration levels, which to a large extent, are influenced by age-sex composition. The 2010 Census, like all other Censuses undertaken in the country, was a "de facto" count of each person present in Ghana irrespective of nationality. The objective of this chapter is to analyze the size, composition, age and sex structure of the 2010 Census of the Central Gonja District.

2.2   Population Size and Distribution

The total population of Central Gonja District is 87,877 comprising 43,860 males representing 49.9 percent and 44,017 females constituting 50.1percent.

Table 2.1 shows that a higher proportion of the population (80.2%) reside in the rural areas as compared with 19.8 percent in the urban areas.

2.3   Age and Sex Structure

Age and sex are the most basic characteristics of a population. Every population has a different age and sex composition the number and proportion of males and females in each age group and this structure can have considerable impact on the population's social and economic situation. Table 2.1 provides analysis on age, sex and type of locality in Central Gonja. The population aged 0-4 years is the largest number persons in the district (15,440) while the 95-99 year-olds constitute   the least.

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

Age group	Both Sexes	Percent	Male	Female	Sex ratio	Urban	Rural
All ages	87,877	100.0	43,860	44,017	99.6	17,415	70,462
0 - 4	15,440	17.6	7,859	7,581	103.7	2,498	12,942
5 – 9	14,056	16.0	7,122	6,934	102.7	2,452	11,604
10-14	11,232	12.8	5,911	5,321	111.1	2,295	8,937
15 - 19	9,034	10.3	4,823	4,211	114.5	2,228	6,806
20 - 24	7,156	8.1	3,260	3,896	83.7	1,612	5,544
25 - 29	6,835	7.8	2,854	3,981	71.7	1,324	5,511
30 - 34	5,538	6.3	2,434	3,104	78.4	1,126	4,412
35 - 39	4,352	5.0	1,999	2,353	85	868	3,484
40 - 44	3,588	4.1	1,831	1,757	104.2	837	2,751
45 - 49	2,704	3.1	1,451	1,253	115.8	547	2,157
50 - 54	2,323	2.6	1,272	1,051	121	500	1,823
55 - 59	1,046	1.2	600	446	134.5	253	793
60 - 64	1,328	1.5	737	591	124.7	257	1,071
65 - 69	717	0.8	382	335	114	140	577
70 - 74	945	1.1	485	460	105.4	185	760
75 - 79	477	0.5	274	203	135	101	376
80 - 84	537	0.6	270	267	101.1	96	441
85+	569	0.6	296	273	108.4	96	473
All ages	87,877	100.0	43,860	44,017	99.6	17,415	70,462
0-14	40,728	46.3	20,892	19,836	105.3	7,245	33,483
15-64	43,904	50.0	21,261	22,643	93.9	9,552	34,352
65+	3,245	3.7	1,707	1,538	111.0	618	2,627
Age-dependency ratio	**100.2**		**106.3**	**94.4**		**82.3**	**105.1**

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3.1 Population pyramid

A population pyramid is a graphical representation of age and sex data. In figure 2.1, Central Gonja's population has a youthful structure with a broad base consisting of large numbers of children and a conical top of a small number of elderly persons. The pyramid (figure 2.1) shows the expected pattern of declines in each age group with increase in age except a few age groups (60-64, 70-74 and 80-84 years) that exhibit higher proportions than their preceding age groups. This is a clear indication of age misreporting due to digit preference.

Figure 2.1: Population pyramid
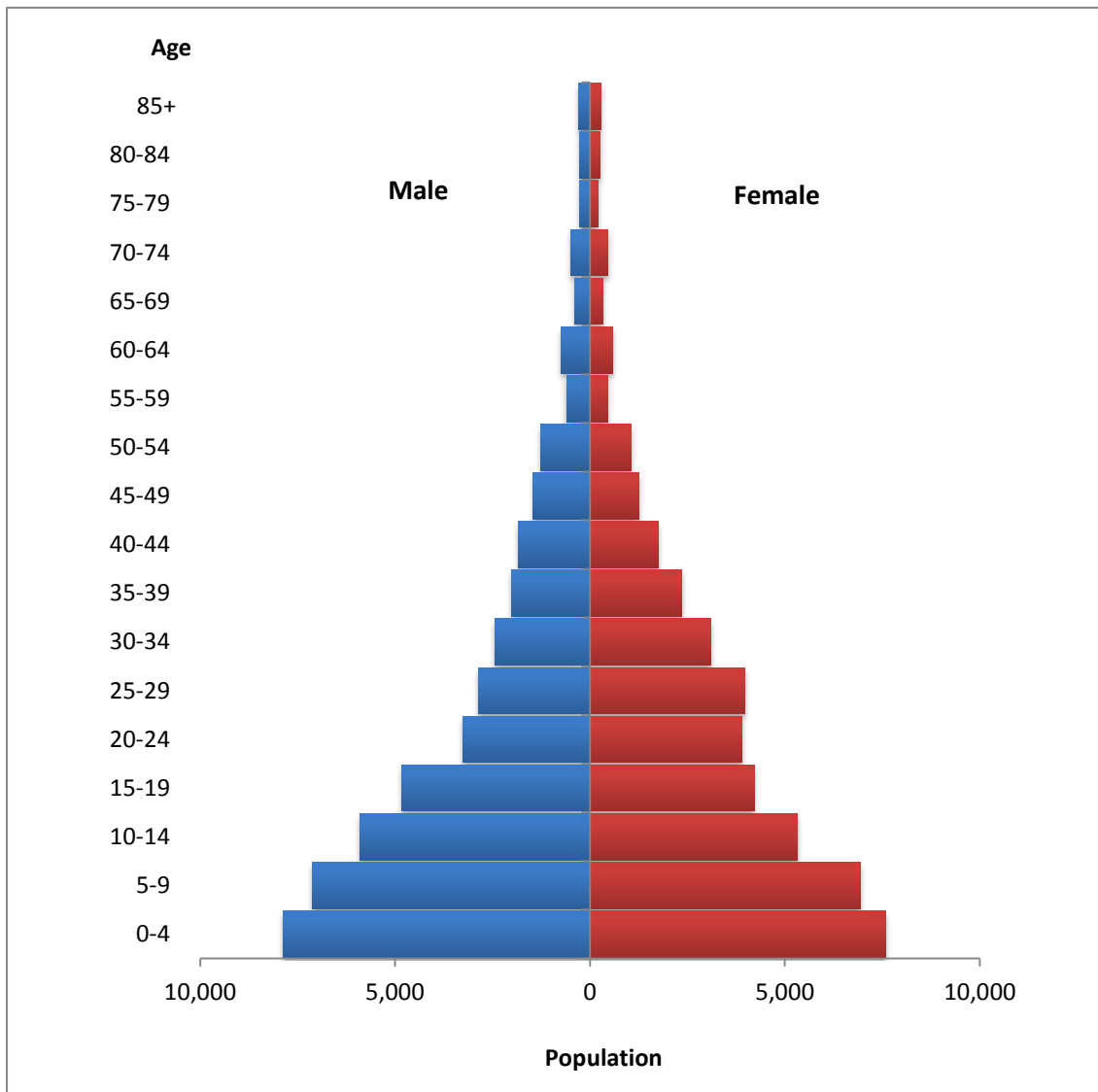
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3.2 Sex ratio

The sex ratio is the ratio of males to females in a given population, usually expressed as the number of males for every 100 females. From the 2010 PHC, the sex ratio of the district is 99.6 which translate almost into equal number of males to females. Biologically, there is an expectation of more males than females at birth (UN Population Handbook). Throughout life, it is also expected that at every age mortality rates of the females would be lower than that of the males. Therefore, the sex ratio for any population should decline from one age group to the other with advancement in age. For the 2010 Census, Central Gonja experiences the expected pattern of decline in the sex ratios except from the age group 20 to 39 years.

2.3.3 Age dependency ratio

It is the ratio of persons in the "dependent" ages (less than 15 and above 64 years) to those in the "economically active" ages (15-64 years) in a population. Central Gonja has a relatively concise age dependency ratio of 100.2, implying almost every member of the working class

has at least one person to cater for. The female category is slightly different from this in terms of sex with females recording a relatively lower ratio (94.4) as compared with that of their male counterparts (106.3).This could also imply the pivotal role played by men in most of our traditional settings, where we have so many women with so many children to a man. The district has a higher dependency in the rural areas (105.1) than in urban areas. (82.3) probably due to lack of knowledge on family planning, the desire to give birth for agricultural purposes or the continue practice of extended family system and lack of education.

2.4   Fertility, Mortality and Migration

Population change is largely influence by three components (Fertility, Mortality and Migration). People move, die as well as procreate and these cause changes in population. This section deals with the analysis of these three components.

2.4.1   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 aged 12 years and older have ever had during their life time. Current fertility refers to the number of live births that females aged 12-54 years have had in the 12 months preceding the Census Night.

Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is the average number of children that would be born to a woman by the time she ended childbearing if she were to pass through all her childbearing years conforming to the total fertility rates of a given year.

Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is defined as the number of births in a given year divided by the number of people in the population in the middle of that year.

General Fertility Rate (GFR) is the number of births in a given year divided by the mid-year population of women in the age groups 15-49 years.

From Table 2.2, total fertility rate of Central Gonja District is 3.58, slightly higher than the regional average of 3.54 e. This implies that, if 2010 total fertility rates remain unchanged, women in Central Gonja would, on average, reproduce 3.58 children each during their childbearing years. The general fertility rate of the district is 101.5, meaning 101.5 live births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years in a year.

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

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	2,479,461	582,897	59,391	3.5	101.9	24.0
Bole	61,593	14,471	1,663	3.8	114.9	27.0
Sawla-Tuna-Kalba	99,863	22,207	2,230	3.6	100.4	22.3
West Gonja	41,180	9,806	924	3.3	94.2	22.4
Gonja Central	**87,877**	**20,555**	**2,086**	**3.6**	**101.5**	**23.7**
East Gonja	135,450	31,216	3,071	3.6	98.4	22.7
Kpandai	108,816	24,066	2,959	4.3	123.0	27.2
Nanumba South	93,464	21,210	2,542	4.2	119.8	27.2
Nanumba North	141,584	32,246	3,143	3.4	97.5	22.2
Zabzugu	63,815	15,591	1,016	2.4	65.2	15.9
Yendi Municipal	117,780	27,686	2,355	3.0	85.1	20.0
Tamale Metropolis	223,252	59,341	4,743	2.8	79.9	21.2
Tolon	72,990	17,028	1,585	3.2	93.1	21.7
Savelugu Nanton	139,283	33,942	4,300	4.3	126.7	30.9
Karaga	77,706	18,666	1,621	2.9	86.8	20.9
Gushiegu	111,259	26,349	2,868	3.7	108.8	25.8
Saboba	65,706	14,519	1,871	4.2	128.9	28.5
Chereponi	53,394	11,652	1,495	4.3	128.3	28.0
Bunkpurugu Yonyo	122,591	26,725	2,893	3.8	108.3	23.6
Mamprusi East	121,009	27,145	2,785	3.6	102.6	23.0
Mamprusi West	121,117	27,528	3,080	3.8	111.9	25.4
North Gonja	43,547	9,935	1,349	5.3	135.8	31.0
Kumbumgu	39,341	8,851	920	3.6	103.9	23.4
Sagnerigu Municipal	148,099	38,548	3,579	3.3	92.8	24.2
Mion	81,812	18,812	1,935	3.4	102.9	23.7
Tatale	60,039	14,108	1,307	3.5	92.6	21.8
Mamprugu Moagduri	46,894	10,694	1,071	3.4	100.1	22.8

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 populations*

2.4.2 Children ever born and children surviving

Table 2.3 shows that out of a total number of 71,869 children ever born, 62,332 survived. There is a persistent increase in the number of births with a corresponding increase in the number of deaths from ages 12-14 to 30-34 years but the numbers declines from 35-39 years and above. Age group 12-14 experiences the least while those 30-34 years has the highest children ever born dying.

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

Age	Number of Female	Children Ever Born			Children Surviving		
		Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
All ages	27,037	71,869	36,770	35,099	62,332	31,604	30,728
10-14	2,856	13	10	3	12	9	3
15-19	4,211	452	231	221	402	197	205
20-24	3,896	3,758	1,934	1,824	3,455	1,751	1,704
25-29	3,981	8,531	4,341	4,190	7,802	3,936	3,866
30-34	3,104	10,860	5,587	5,273	9,943	5,053	4,890
35-39	2,353	10,722	5,513	5,209	9,673	4,943	4,730
40-44	1,757	9,394	4,873	4,521	8,255	4,274	3,981
45-49	1,253	7,097	3,599	3,498	6,155	3,113	3,042
50-54	1,051	6,393	3,236	3,157	5,255	2,635	2,620
55-59	446	2,784	1,388	1,396	2,299	1,145	1,154
60+	2,129	11,865	6,058	5,807	9,081	4,548	4,533

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4.3 Mortality

Mortality refers to deaths that occur within a population. Mortality, as one of the three components of population growth, plays an important role in determining the growth of a population. The level and pattern of mortality is a reflection of the health status of a population. Thus, indices of mortality have been used as indicators of socio-economic development. Crude Death Rate is the number of deaths per 1,000 populations in a given year.

The crude death rate of the Central Gonja District is 3.8 per 1,000, which is lower than the regional average of 5.9. That is, for every 1,000 persons of the population in the district, four people die in a year. The district's death rate is the third lowest after that of the Zabzugu, Tatale and Saboba districts (Table 2.4). This could be due to a better health and environmental conditions in the district as compare to other districts in the region.

Table 2.4: Total population, deaths in a household and crude death rate by district

District	Total Population	Deaths in households	*Crude death rate
All Districts	2,479,461	14,715	5.9
Bole	61,593	450	7.3
Sawla-Tuna-Kalba	99,863	722	7.2
West Gonja	41,180	197	4.8
Gonja Central	**87,877**	**334**	**3.8**
East Gonja	135,450	761	5.6
Kpandai	108,816	554	5.1
Nanumba South	93,464	542	5.8
Nanumba North	141,584	653	4.6
Zabzugu	63,815	196	3.1
Yendi Municipal	117,780	737	6.3
Tamale Metropolis	223,252	1,257	5.6
Tolon	72,990	502	6.9
Savelugu Nanton	139,283	1,413	10.1
Karaga	77,706	501	6.4
Gushiegu	111,259	744	6.7
Saboba	65,706	235	3.6
Chereponi	53,394	288	5.4
Bunkpurugu Yonyo	122,591	575	4.7
Mamprusi East	121,009	619	5.1
Mamprusi West	121,117	955	7.9
North Gonja	43,547	247	5.7
Kumbumgu	39,341	343	8.7
Sagnerigu Municipal	148,099	847	5.7
Mion	81,812	556	6.8
Tatale	60,039	210	3.5
Mamprugu Moagduri	46,894	277	5.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census
*Note: * Number of deaths per 1,000 population*

2.4.4 Causes of death

Table 2.5 shows the causes of deaths in households by district. From the table, there were 334 deaths in the district. Out of the total deaths in the district, 13.2 percent is caused by accident/violence/homicide/suicide whiles the remaining 86.8 percent deaths are by other causes.

Table 2.5: Causes of death in households by district

District	Total deaths	Accident/ violence/ homicide /suicide	All other causes
		Death due to	
All districts	**14,715**	**9.7**	**90.3**
Bole	450	6.4	93.6
Sawla-Tuna-Kalba	722	9.0	91.0
West Gonja	197	10.7	89.3
Gonja Central	**334**	**13.2**	**86.8**
East Gonja	761	10.1	89.9
Kpandai	554	22.4	77.6
Nanumba South	542	9.0	91.0
Nanumba North	653	9.5	90.5
Zabzugu	196	12.8	87.2
Yendi Municipal	738	13.1	86.9
Tamale Metropolis	1,257	9.5	90.5
Tamale South	*384*	8.1	91.9
Tamale Central	*873*	10.1	89.9
Tolon	503	6.6	93.4
Savelugu Nanton	1,413	9.8	90.2
Karaga	501	13.4	86.6
Gushiegu	744	4.2	95.8
Saboba	235	9.8	90.2
Chereponi	288	8.7	91.3
Bunkpurugu Yonyo	575	10.8	89.2
Mamprusi East	619	9.5	90.5
Mamprusi West	955	7.7	92.3
North Gonja	247	14.6	85.4
Kumbumgu	342	4.1	95.9
Sagnerigu Municipal	847	7.3	92.7
Mion	555	9.4	90.6
Tatale	210	13.3	86.7
Mamprugu Moagduri	277	6.1	93.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Age specific death rate

Death rates can also be calculated for specific age groups in order to compare mortality at different ages or at the same age over time. Because mortality varies greatly by sex and race, age-specific death rates (ASDR) are often given separately for males and females and for different racial groups in a population.

Figure 2.2 shows reported age-specific death rate by sex in the district. From the figure, death among children below 5 years is high and drops to about age 9 for both sexes. From age 19, deaths among females are higher compared to males but begin to drop at age 49, where it rises and falls till age 54 where the male deaths rises sharply above that of females.

Figure 2.2: Age-specific death rates
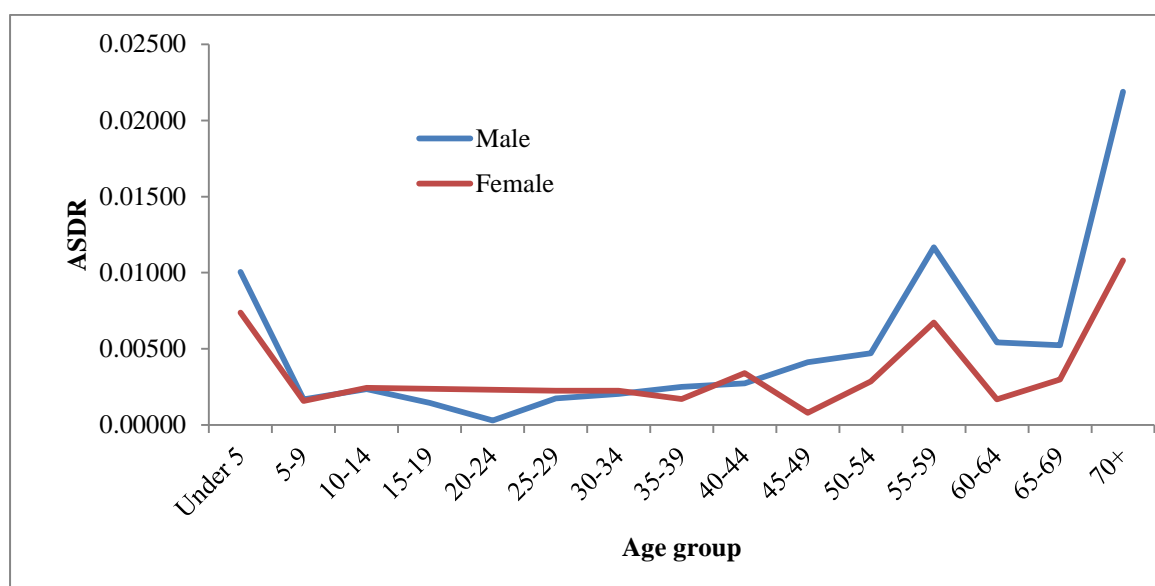
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4.3   Migration

Migration is the geographic movement of people across a specified boundary for the purpose of establishing a new permanent or semi-permanent residence. Along with fertility and mortality, migration is also a component of population change.

Table 2.6 provide information on the migration status of persons enumerated in the district. There are 20,423 migrants in the Central Gonja district of which 13,116 are born elsewhere in the region and 7,307 are born in another region and outside Ghana. More than half (60.2%) of migrants in the district have stayed more than five years in the district.   Migrants from the Volta region (2,016) constitute the highest proportion of migrants not born in the district, with the Eastern region recording the lowest.

Table 2.6: Birthplace of migrants by duration of stay at current residence

Birthplace	Number	Duration of residence (%)				
		Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20+ years
Total	20,423	12.8	27.0	21.5	22.6	16.1
Born elsewhere in the region	13,116	13.2	25.2	23.1	24.2	14.4
Born elsewhere in another region:						
Western	82	8.5	37.8	24.4	23.2	6.1
Central	269	11.2	42.0	12.6	13.4	20.8
Greater Accra	248	16.1	26.6	15.7	22.2	19.4
Volta	2,016	12.1	28.0	9.4	18.5	31.9
Eastern	60	18.3	30.0	8.3	15.0	28.3
Ashanti	438	25.3	26.7	19.4	15.1	13.5
BrongAhafo	888	16.3	28.8	16.6	23.2	15.1
Northern	0	0	0	0	0	0
Upper East	462	18.6	23.4	24.0	21.4	12.6
Upper west	923	9.5	31.2	36.9	18.9	3.5
Outside Ghana	1,921	6.8	33.8	19.9	21.8	17.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER THREE
SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

3.1   Introduction

The status of households in any community gives an understanding of the general characteristics of that community. The total size of the population and its characteristics are largely a reflection of what happens at the household level. Demographic, social and economic factors have significant influence on the size, structure and composition of households in the District. This chapter examines the household's size, composition, headship, marital status, nationality and religion in the District. Again, the chapter presents information on literacy and education of the population.

3.2   Household Size and Locality of Residence

The composition and size of households distinguish one household from the other. Demographic factors like age, household composition, employment status and others are all significant in assessing the welfare of the members of the household. A household is 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. The total household population in the District is 86,432. The average household size in the District is 7.6 compared to the regional average of 7.7. (Table 3.1)

Table 3.1: Household size by type of locality

Category	Total country	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total household population	24,076,327	2,445,061	86,432	16,839	69,593
Number of households	5,467,054	318,119	11,413	2,508	8,905
Average households per house	1.6	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.9
Average household size	4.5	7.7	7.6	6.7	7.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.1   Household composition and headship

The household head is defined as a male or female member of the household recognised as such by the other household members. The head of household is generally the person who has economic and social responsibility for the household. All relationships are defined with reference to the head. Table 3.2 presents information on the population by composition and sex. The proportions of the population who are heads constitute 13.2 percent, with 22.6 percent of males being heads compared to 3.8 percent of females. A little over half (50.8 %) of household members are children. The least number of   the household members are adopted/foster child (0.5%).

Table 3.2: Household population by composition and sex

Household composition	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	86,432	100.0	43,202	100.0	43,230	100.0
Head	11,413	13.2	9,751	22.6	1,662	3.8
Spouse (wife/husband)	8,427	9.8	182	0.4	8,245	19.1
Child (son/daughter)	43,938	50.8	23,619	54.7	20,319	47.0
Parent/parent in-law	799	0.9	109	0.3	690	1.6
Son/daughter in-law	999	1.2	88	0.2	911	2.1
Grandchild	6,249	7.2	3,023	7.0	3,226	7.5
Brother/sister	4,094	4.7	2,355	5.5	1,739	4.0
Step child	1,148	1.3	606	1.4	542	1.3
Adopted/foster child	455	0.5	194	0.5	261	0.6
Other relative	8,220	9.5	2,842	6.6	5,378	12.4
Non-relative	690	0.8	433	1.0	257	0.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.2 Household structure

Table 3.3 shows that majority of the household population are of the extended family type (68.8%) compared with those in the nuclear family households (31.2%).The extended family comprising head, spouse(s) and children constitute 51.2 percent extended and non-relatives (2.6%), head, spouse(s) and other composition (1.8%), single parent extended (8.8%) and single parent extended with non-relatives (0.6%). Majority of the population in the nuclear family are made up of head, spouse(s) and children (26.1%).

Table 3.3: Household population by structure and sex

Household structure	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	86,432	100.0	43,202	100.0	43,230	100.0
Nuclear family	**26,923**	**31.2**	**14,071**	**32.6**	**12,852**	**29.7**
Head only	521	0.6	396	0.9	125	0.3
Head and a spouse only	348	0.4	177	0.4	171	0.4
Nuclear (head, spouse(s) and children)	22,525	26.1	11,771	27.3	10,754	24.9
Single parent nuclear	3,529	4.1	1,727	4.0	1,802	4.2
Extended family	**59,509**	**68.8**	**29,131**	**67.4**	**30,378**	**70.3**
Extended (head, spouse(s), children and Head's relatives)	44,214	51.2	21,711	50.3	22,503	52.1
Extended + non relatives	2,229	2.6	1,122	2.6	1,107	2.6
Head, spouse(s) and other composition	1,591	1.8	837	1.9	754	1.7
Single parent extended	7,641	8.8	3,483	8.1	4,158	9.6
Single parent extended + non relative	686	0.8	326	0.8	360	0.8
Head and other composition but no spouse	3,148	3.6	1,652	3.8	1,496	3.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3   Marital Status

Generally, marriage in Ghana is recognized as a union between a man and a woman with the knowledge of both families. In Ghana, the purpose of marriage is to provide companionship for the couple, the means to offer support for each other, and a legitimate avenue for sexual satisfaction and reproduction. Marriage includes formal unions that are legal, traditional or religiously sanctioned, and informal cohabitating unions. The 2010 PHC collected

information on the marital status of persons 12 years and above. Figure 3.1 shows persons aged 12 years and older by marital status in the Central Gonja district. More than half (53.1%) of persons aged 12 and older are married, 39.3 percent are never married, with those in informal/consensual union/living and separated constituting less than two percent each. The proportion divorced constitutes 1.4 percent while widows make up 3.6 percent.

Figure 3.1: Persons aged 12 years and older by marital status
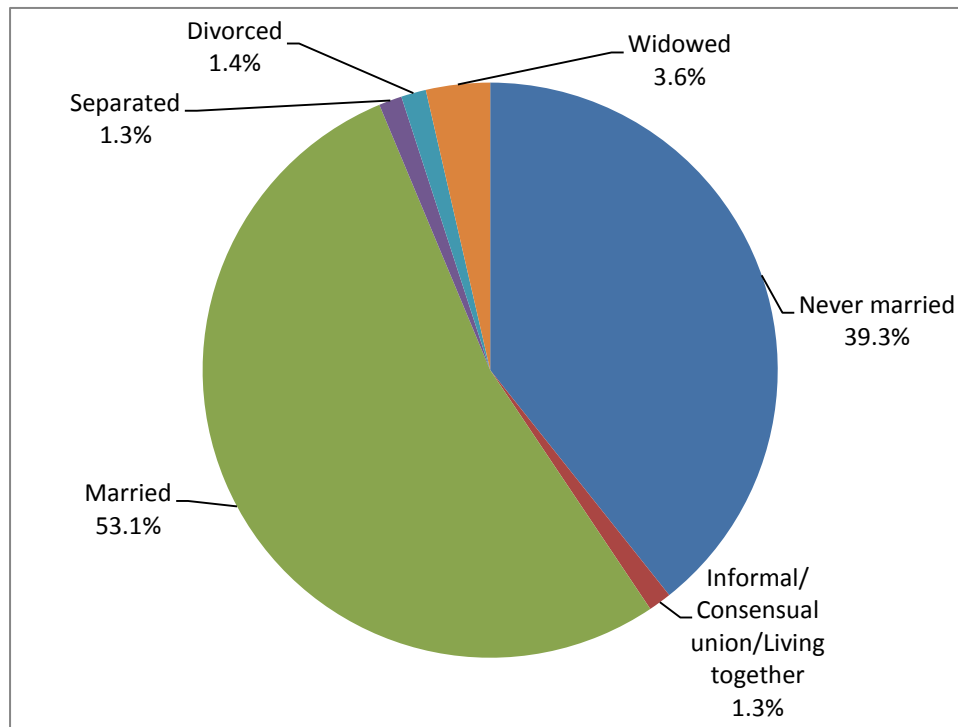
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.1   Marital status, age and sex

Table 3.4 shows that 91.0 percent of the population aged 12- 14 years   have never married while 8.9 percent of the population 12 years and older within the same age group are married. A higher proportion of those aged 12-24 years   have never married compared with those married in the same age group, while the reverse is the case among those aged between 25 and 65 years and above. The proportions of those separated, divorced and widowed are relatively higher between ages 24 and 60years and above

 The proportion of males who have never married (46.1%) is higher than that of females (32.8%). On the other hand, a higher proportion of females are married (56.5%) compared to 49.4 percent of males.

Table 3.4: Population 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	53,110	100.0	39.3	1.3	53.0	1.3	1.4	3.6
10 - 14	5,961	100.0	91.0	0.2	8.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	9,034	100.0	88.4	0.5	10.9	0.2	0.0	0.1
20 - 24	7,156	100.0	57.0	2.2	39.0	0.7	0.6	0.4
25 - 29	6,835	100.0	29.0	2.9	65.3	1.3	0.9	0.6
30 - 34	5,538	100.0	12.0	2.0	82.0	1.4	1.7	0.9
35 - 39	4,352	100.0	5.2	1.2	87.6	2.4	2.3	1.3
40 - 44	3,588	100.0	3.3	1.1	87.2	2.8	3.2	2.3
45 - 49	2,704	100.0	2.5	0.8	86.4	2.5	3.0	4.8
50 - 54	2,323	100.0	2.1	0.7	79.6	2.8	3.7	11.0
55 - 59	1,046	100.0	1.6	1.2	78.9	2.5	3.3	12.5
60 - 64	1,328	100.0	3.3	1.1	70.9	2.5	3.7	18.4
65+	3,245	100.0	6.8	0.7	60.4	2.2	2.9	27.1
Male								
Total	26,073	100.0	46.1	1.2	49.4	1.1	1.2	1.0
10 - 14	3,105	100.0	91.0	0.1	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	4,823	100.0	91.3	0.2	8.5	0.1	0.0	0.0
20 - 24	3,260	100.0	75.8	1.8	21.5	0.4	0.4	0.1
25 - 29	2,854	100.0	47.2	3.1	47.4	1.5	0.7	0.1
30 - 34	2,434	100.0	19.0	2.5	75.3	1.2	1.4	0.5
35 - 39	1,999	100.0	7.4	1.4	86.5	2.2	1.9	0.7
40 - 44	1,831	100.0	4.5	0.8	89.0	2.3	2.8	0.5
45 - 49	1,451	100.0	3.8	0.8	89.8	2.1	2.2	1.4
50 - 54	1,272	100.0	2.8	0.6	88.8	2.0	2.6	3.1
55 - 59	600	100.0	2.2	1.3	88.5	2.2	3.3	2.5
60 - 64	737	100.0	4.3	1.4	85.3	1.5	2.0	5.4
65+	1,707	100.0	8.3	0.6	79.8	1.5	3.0	6.7
Female								
Total	27,037	100.0	32.8	1.4	56.5	1.5	1.7	6.1
10 - 14	2,856	100.0	90.9	0.2	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	4,211	100.0	85.1	0.7	13.6	0.3	0.0	0.2
20 - 24	3,896	100.0	41.3	2.6	53.6	1.0	0.8	0.6
25 - 29	3,981	100.0	15.9	2.8	78.2	1.1	1.1	0.9
30 - 34	3,104	100.0	6.6	1.5	87.2	1.6	1.9	1.3
35 - 39	2,353	100.0	3.3	1.1	88.5	2.6	2.7	1.7
40 - 44	1,757	100.0	2.1	1.4	85.3	3.2	3.6	4.3
45 - 49	1,253	100.0	1.0	0.9	82.4	3.0	3.8	8.9
50 - 54	1,051	100.0	1.2	0.9	68.5	3.7	5.0	20.6
55 - 59	446	100.0	0.9	1.1	65.9	2.9	3.1	26.0
60 - 64	591	100.0	2.0	0.8	53.0	3.7	5.8	34.7
65+	1,538	100.0	5.1	0.8	38.9	2.9	2.7	49.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.2   Marital status and level of education

Out of a total of 53,110 persons aged 12 years and above, 72.0 percent have no education while less than one percent have tertiary education (Table 3.5). The proportion by each educational level kept declining as one advance to the tertiary level. For example, those with basic education constitute 22.6 percent and this decline to 3.8 percent for those with secondary education to 0.1 for those with tertiary level education. From the table, it is

observed that males have a higher level of educational attainment in all the categories compared to that of females

Table 3.5: Marital status of persons 12 years and older by sex 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	53,110	100.0	72.0	22.6	3.8	0.4	1.0	0.1
Never married	20,877	100.0	50.5	40.8	7.0	0.5	1.1	0.1
Informal/consensual union/living together	701	100.0	62.9	28.7	6.0	1.1	1.3	0.0
Married	28,158	100.0	86.2	10.7	1.7	0.3	0.9	0.2
Separated	700	100.0	80.7	13.6	3.1	1.1	1.4	0.0
Divorced	765	100.0	86.3	10.3	2.0	0.3	1.2	0.0
Widowed	1,909	100.0	93.5	5.4	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.2
Male								
Total	26,073	100.0	67.9	24.7	5.1	0.5	1.6	0.3
Never married	12,016	100.0	50.6	39.4	7.8	0.5	1.5	0.2
Informal/consensual union/living together	312	100.0	60.3	27.2	8.7	1.3	2.6	0.0
Married	12,883	100.0	83.1	12.0	2.6	0.4	1.6	0.3
Separated	281	100.0	76.5	14.2	5.0	1.4	2.8	0.0
Divorced	309	100.0	87.7	8.7	2.6	0.0	1.0	0.0
Widowed	272	100.0	89.7	7.4	1.1	0.4	1.5	0.0
Female								
Total	27,037	100.0	76.0	20.6	2.6	0.3	0.4	0.0
Never married	8,861	100.0	50.4	42.6	5.9	0.5	0.5	0.0
Informal/consensual union/living together	389	100.0	65.0	29.8	3.9	1.0	0.3	0.0
Married	15,275	100.0	88.8	9.7	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.0
Separated	419	100.0	83.5	13.1	1.9	1.0	0.5	0.0
Divorced	456	100.0	85.3	11.4	1.5	0.4	1.3	0.0
Widowed	1,637	100.0	94.1	5.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.3 Marital status and economic activity

Table 3.6 shows marital status by economic activity among the population aged 12 years and older. About three-quarters (73.3%) of the population 12 years and older are employed, 1.5 percent are unemployed with 25.2 percent are economically not active. More than half of those who have never married (57.4%) are economically not active with 2.2 percent unemployed. In many cultures and religions in Ghana, the ability of the man to take care of the wife and kids (entire household) is a key determinant of whether one could marry or not. It is therefore not surprising that Table 3.6 revealed that the proportion of married men who are employed (90.9%) is higher than that of married females who are employed (81.8%). On the other hand, more married females are unemployed compared to their male counterparts who are unemployed.

Table 3.6: Marital status of persons 12 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	53,110	100.0	38,929	73.3	805	1.5	13,376	25.2
Never married	20,877	100.0	11,986	57.4	453	2.2	8,438	40.4
Informal/consensual union/living together	701	100.0	585	83.5	14	2.0	102	14.6
Married	28,158	100.0	24,214	86.0	293	1.0	3,651	13.0
Separated	700	100.0	572	81.7	9	1.3	119	17.0
Divorced	765	100.0	595	77.8	18	2.4	152	19.9
Widowed	1,909	100.0	977	51.2	18	0.9	914	47.9
Male								
Total	26,073	100.0	19,929	76.4	357	1.4	5,787	22.2
Never married	12,016	100.0	7,277	60.6	242	2.0	4,497	37.4
Informal/consensual union/living together	312	100.0	281	90.1	4	1.3	27	8.7
Married	12,883	100.0	11,717	90.9	99	0.8	1,067	8.3
Separated	281	100.0	240	85.4	0	0.0	41	14.6
Divorced	309	100.0	250	80.9	8	2.6	51	16.5
Widowed	272	100.0	164	60.3	4	1.5	104	38.2
Female								
Total	27,037	100.0	19,000	70.3	448	1.7	7,589	28.1
Never married	8,861	100.0	4,709	53.1	211	2.4	3,941	44.5
Informal/consensual union/living together	389	100.0	304	78.1	10	2.6	75	19.3
Married	15,275	100.0	12,497	81.8	194	1.3	2,584	16.9
Separated	419	100.0	332	79.2	9	2.1	78	18.6
Divorced	456	100.0	345	75.7	10	2.2	101	22.1
Widowed	1,637	100.0	813	49.7	14	0.9	810	49.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.4 Nationality

This section provides information on Ghanaians and non-Ghanaians of the population in the Central Gonja District. Table 3.7 shows that 96.7 percent of the population in Central Gonja are Ghanaians while a little over three percent are non-Ghanaians. The proportion of the females who are Ghanaians (96.9%) is slightly higher than that of the males (96.5%). In contrast, the proportion of the males who are non-Ghanaians (3.5%) is higher than that of the females (3.1%). Over 9 in 10 of the population are Ghanaians by birth while three percent and a little over one percent are Ghanaians by dual nationality and naturalization respectively. ECOWAS nationals constitute 2.5 percent of the population.

Table 3.7: Population by nationality and sex

Nationality	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	87,877	100.0	43,860	100.0	44,017	100.0
Ghanaians	**84,987**	**96.7**	**42,327**	**96.5**	**42,660**	**96.9**
Ghanaian by birth	*81,203*	*92.4*	*40,477*	*92.3*	*40,726*	*92.5*
Dual Nationality	*2,666*	*3.0*	*1,291*	*2.9*	*1,375*	*3.1*
Ghanaian by naturalization	*1,118*	*1.3*	*559*	*1.3*	*559*	*1.3*
Non-Ghanaians	**2,890**	**3.3**	**1,533**	**3.5**	**1,357**	**3.1**
ECOWAS	*2,187*	*2.5*	*1,182*	*2.7*	*1,005*	*2.3*
Africa other than ECOWAS	*429*	*0.5*	*209*	*0.5*	*220*	*0.5*
Other	*274*	*0.3*	*142*	*0.3*	*132*	*0.3*

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.5   Religious Affiliation

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.

Table 3.8 shows the distribution of the population of Central Gonja with regards to religious affiliation. Islam is the predominant religion in the District with 84.3 percent, followed by Christianity (12.1%), traditionalist (1.8%) and those who have no religion (1.6%). Among the Christians, Pentecostal/charismatic (4.7%) and Catholic (3.3%) are in majority.

Table 3.8: Population by religion and sex

Religion	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	87,877	100.0	43,860	100.0	44,017	100.0
No religion	1,434	1.6	734	1.7	700	1.6
Catholic	2,866	3.3	1,497	3.4	1,369	3.1
Protestants (Anglican, Lutheran etc.)	2,534	2.9	1,287	2.9	1,247	2.8
Pentecostal/Charismatic	4,125	4.7	2,097	4.8	2,028	4.6
Other Christian	1,044	1.2	515	1.2	529	1.2
Islam	74,094	84.3	36,773	83.8	37,321	84.8
Traditionalist	1,571	1.8	842	1.9	729	1.7
Other	209	0.2	115	0.3	94	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6   Literacy and Education

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

Data was also collected on school attendance for persons 3 years and older. School attendance refers to whether a person has ever attended, is 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.

3.6.1 Literacy status of population 11 years and older

Figure 3.2 provide information on the population aged 11 years and older by literacy status. Persons literate in English and Ghanaian language constitute the highest proportion in the district (49.3%). Persons who are literate in French and any language constitute less than 0.5 percent in the district.

Figure 3.2: Literacy status of population 11 years and older
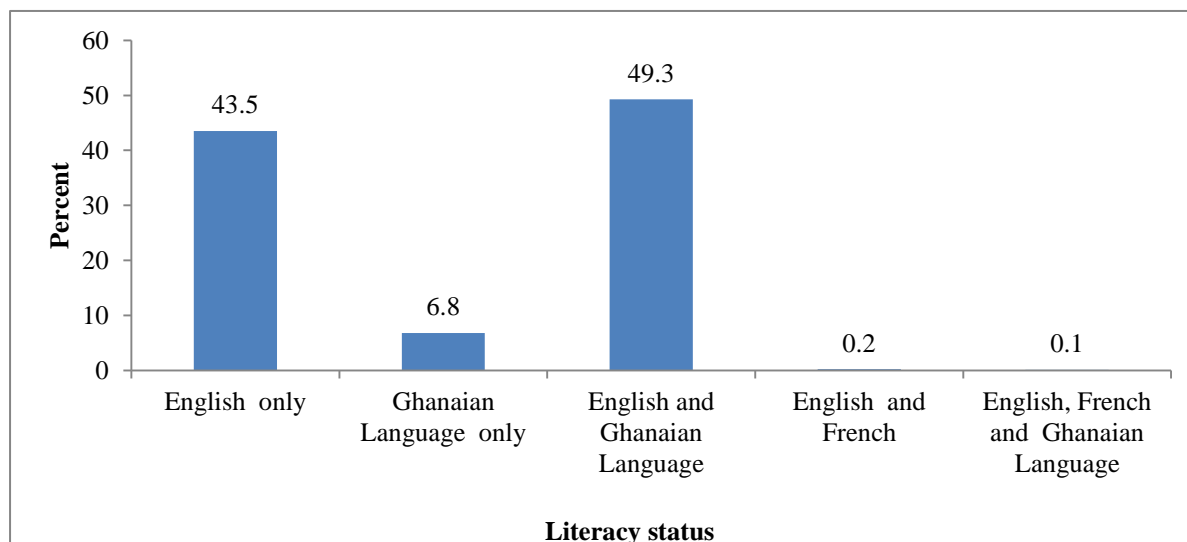
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.1 Literacy status by age group and sex

Table 3.9: shows that 15,726 (28.7%) of the population 11 years and older is literate. Of the literate population, nearly half (49.3%) are literate in English and Ghanaian language and 43.5 percent are literate in English only. The proportion of literate males is 32.9 percent (8,859) and that of females is 24.7 percent (6,867). A little above six in ten males (67.1%) are non-literate whilst about seven in ten (75.3%) females are also non-literate. The population within the age group11-14 years recorded a higher proportion of literacy in English only (51.4%) than those literate in both English and Ghanaian languages (41.6%). Overall, the older age group have lower literacy rates compared with the younger cohort. The highest group of literates are age group 11-14 years and this decreased steadily up to age 60-64. The pattern remains the same for both sexes except at age 65 and older where there are slight increases for both sexes

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

Sex/age	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	38,997	15,726	100.0	43.5	6.8	49.3	0.2	0.1
10-14	3,260	4,314	100.0	51.4	6.9	41.6	0.1	0.0
15-19	4,504	4,530	100.0	44.3	5.3	50.4	0.1	0.0
20-24	4,833	2,323	100.0	40.0	6.7	52.9	0.3	0.1
25-29	5,394	1,441	100.0	36.5	8.0	54.9	0.4	0.2
30-34	4,634	904	100.0	37.8	8.0	53.1	0.4	0.7
35-39	3,803	549	100.0	39.0	6.9	53.7	0.4	0.0
40-44	3,141	447	100.0	39.4	7.6	52.1	0.7	0.2
45-49	2,372	332	100.0	38.9	12.0	48.2	0.3	0.6
50-54	2,041	282	100.0	30.5	5.3	63.5	0.7	0.0
55-59	904	142	100.0	33.1	8.5	57.0	0.7	0.7
60-64	1,188	140	100.0	42.1	14.3	42.9	0.7	0.0
65+	2,923	322	100.0	36.3	10.9	52.8	0.0	0.0
Male								
Total	18,099	8,859	100.0	41.4	6.7	51.4	0.3	0.2
10-14	1,697	2,293	100.0	50.6	7.0	42.3	0.1	0.0
15-19	2,354	2,469	100.0	43.1	5.1	51.7	0.1	0.0
20-24	1,973	1,287	100.0	39.2	6.4	54.2	0.2	0.1
25-29	2,053	801	100.0	32.3	7.0	59.8	0.5	0.4
30-34	1,898	536	100.0	32.3	8.0	57.8	0.7	1.1
35-39	1,649	350	100.0	34.9	8.6	56.0	0.6	0.0
40-44	1,540	291	100.0	37.1	5.8	55.7	1.0	0.3
45-49	1,229	222	100.0	41.4	9.0	48.6	0.0	0.9
50-54	1,084	188	100.0	24.5	5.9	68.6	1.1	0.0
55-59	488	112	100.0	30.4	8.9	58.9	0.9	0.9
60-64	638	99	100.0	39.4	13.1	46.5	1.0	0.0
65+	1,496	211	100.0	32.2	11.8	55.9	0.0	0.0
Female								
Total	**20,898**	**6,867**	100.0	46.3	7.0	46.6	0.1	0.0
10-14	1,563	2,021	100.0	52.3	6.9	40.8	0.0	0.0
15-19	2,150	2,061	100.0	45.7	5.5	48.8	0.0	0.0
20-24	2,860	1,036	100.0	41.1	7.0	51.4	0.4	0.1
25-29	3,341	640	100.0	41.7	9.2	48.8	0.3	0.0
30-34	2,736	368	100.0	45.9	7.9	46.2	0.0	0.0
35-39	2,154	199	100.0	46.2	4.0	49.7	0.0	0.0
40-44	1,601	156	100.0	43.6	10.9	45.5	0.0	0.0
45-49	1,143	110	100.0	33.6	18.2	47.3	0.9	0.0
50-54	957	94	100.0	42.6	4.3	53.2	0.0	0.0
55-59	416	30	100.0	43.3	6.7	50.0	0.0	0.0
60-64	550	41	100.0	48.8	17.1	34.1	0.0	0.0
65+	1,427	111	100.0	44.1	9.0	46.8	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.2 School attendance

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

The school attendance profile for the district's population 3 years and older is presented in Figure 3.3. Of the 110,282 persons aged 3 years and above in the district, 62.6 percent has

never attended school, 29.6 percent are currently attending and 7.7 percent have attended in the past. From the chart, females have a lower level of school attendance compared to males.

Figure 3.3: Population 3 years and older by school attendance and sex
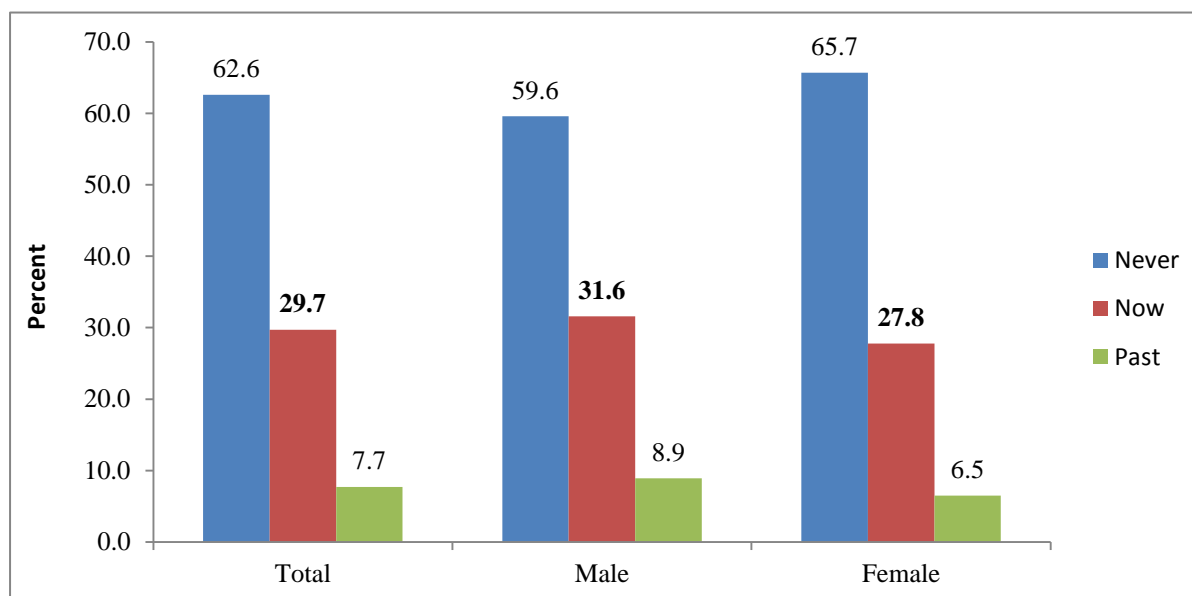
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 3.10 present the population aged 3 years and older by school attendance and educational level. Out of the total population aged 3 years and older, 23,609 are currently attending school with, 12,498 and 11,111 being males and females respectively. . A total of 6,118 attended school in the past, out of which 3,522 are males and 2,596 are females. Generally there is a decline in figures as people move up on the educational ladder, more especially from SSS/SHS and above. This is more pronouncing among the female population.

Table 3.10 presents the population 3 years and older by level of education, school attendance and sex and it shows that 23,609 people aged 3 years and above are currently in school whilst 6,118 attended in the past. The table shows that a higher proportion 51.7 percent of the population 3 years and older currently attending school are in primary school. This is followed by those in JSS/JHS with 15.8 percent, Kindergarten (14.0%), Nursery (12.7 %) and SSS/SHS (4.9%). Those attending Tertiary, Vocational/Technical and Post middle/Secondary institutions have values less than one percent. Current school attendance by sex shows that there are slight differences between males and females in the various categories. Whiles females are in the lead at lower levels of education, males dominate from JHS/JSS and higher.

For those who have attended school in the past, those with primary education constitute the highest proportion with 39.7 percent. JSS/JHS graduates constitute of 23.9 percent, followed by those with Middle school education (12.5%). The proportion that has attended SSS/SHS is 11.0 percent while those who have attended Tertiary are (4.0%). The table further shows that more females (48.3%) and (27.3%) have attended primary and JSS/JHS than their male counterparts (33.4%) and (21.4%) respectively. A general observation is that, with respect to current and past school attendance, the number of persons in the various categories reduces as the level of education increases. Furthermore, school attendance among males is relatively higher than among females from the secondary level and above compared to those in the lower categories.

Table 3.10: Population 3 years and older by level of education, school attendance and sex

Level of education	Currently attending						Attended in the past					
	Both sexes		Male		Female		Both Sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	23,609	100.0	12,498	100.0	11,111	100.0	6,118	100.0	3,522	100.0	2,596	100.0
Nursery	2,995	12.7	1,514	12.1	1,481	13.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Kindergarten	3,297	14.0	1,677	13.4	1,620	14.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Primary	12,207	51.7	6,376	51.0	5,831	52.5	2,429	39.7	1,175	33.4	1,254	48.3
JSS/JHS	3,730	15.8	2,084	16.7	1,646	14.8	1,465	23.9	755	21.4	710	27.3
Middle	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	766	12.5	518	14.7	248	9.6
SSS/SHS	1,155	4.9	687	5.5	468	4.2	671	11.0	470	13.3	201	7.7
Secondary	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	210	3.4	163	4.6	47	1.8
Voc./Tech./ Commercial	62	0.3	34	0.3	28	0.3	141	2.3	85	2.4	56	2.2
Post middle/Secondary Certificate	58	0.2	43	0.3	15	0.1	190	3.1	152	4.3	38	1.5
Tertiary	105	0.4	83	0.7	22	0.2	246	4.0	204	5.8	42	1.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FOUR
ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

4.1   Introduction

The overall development of a district 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. Information on these indicators is relevant for planning and decision making in the district, more especially the district quest in improving the economy.

4.2   Economic Activity Status

Table 4.1 presents the economy activity status of the population of Central Gonja District. In 2010, 78.7 percent of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active within the seven days preceding the census night, and 21.3 percent are economically not active. Figure 1.1 shows that of the economically active population, 97.8 percent of persons aged 15 years and older are employed while 2.2 percent are unemployed within the seven days preceding the census night.

Figure 4.1: Employed population 15 years and older by employment status and sex
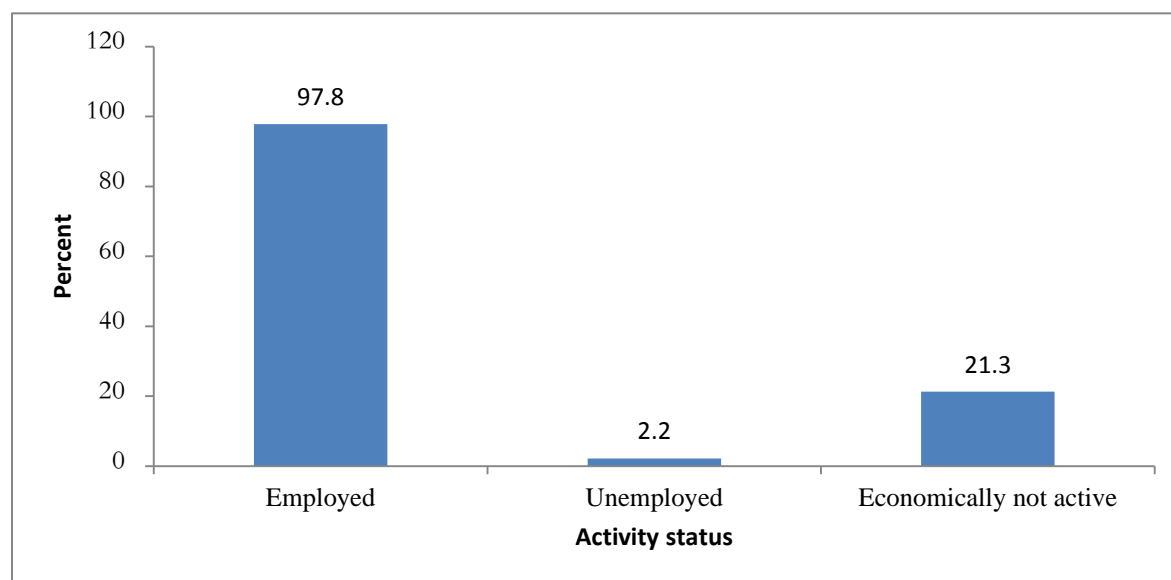
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.2.1   Economic activity status by sex

Table 4,1further shows that 98.1 percent of the population did work within the seven days preceding the census night and 0.7 percent did voluntary work. Among the non-economically active population, 39.1 percent   are in full time education while 0.7 percent are pensioners or retired. The same trend is observed among both males and females except that a higher

proportion of the females (44.2) are engaged in home duties (household chore) portraying a typical traditional or Muslim community.

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	47,149	100.0	22,968	100.0	24,181	100.0
Economically active	**37,096**	**78.7**	**18,805**	**81.9**	**18,291**	**75.6**
Employed	**36,298**	**97.8**	**18,450**	**98.1**	**17,848**	**97.6**
Worked	*35,591*	*98.1*	*18,144*	*98.3*	*17,447*	*97.8*
Did not work but had job to go back to	*462*	*1.3*	*192*	*1.0*	*270*	*1.5*
Did voluntary work without pay	*245*	*0.7*	*114*	*0.6*	*131*	*0.7*
Unemployed	**798**	**2.2**	**355**	**1.9**	**443**	**2.4**
Worked before, seeking work and available	*440*	*55.1*	*164*	*46.2*	*276*	*62.3*
Seeking work for the first time and available	*358*	*44.9*	*191*	*53.8*	*167*	*37.7*
Economically not active	**10,053**	**21.3**	**4,163**	**18.1**	**5,890**	**24.4**
Did home duties (household chore)	*3,372*	*33.5*	*769*	*18.5*	*2,603*	*44.2*
Full time education	*3,928*	*39.1*	*2,260*	*54.3*	*1,668*	*28.3*
Pensioner/retired	*75*	*0.7*	*46*	*1.1*	*29*	*0.5*
Disabled/sick	*451*	*4.5*	*230*	*5.5*	*221*	*3.8*
Too old/young	*1,784*	*17.7*	*662*	*15.9*	*1,122*	*19.0*
Other	*443*	*4.4*	*196*	*4.7*	*247*	*4.2*

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.2.2   Activity status, sex and age of persons 15 years and older

The economic activity status of the population 15 years and older by age and sex is presented in Table 4.2. Of the age groups 15-19 years, the employed constitute 55.7 percent, the unemployed, 1.7 percent with the economically not active forming 42.5 percent. Of the age groups 25-59 years, more than eighty percent are employed. As expected persons in younger age groups are expected to have a larger proportion of the population in the economically not active group as most of them are normally in school. It is normally expected that as age increases, the proportion of the population who are economically not active decreases whereas those in the employed category increases.

Not much difference exists between the sexes with respect to their economic activity status in the district. For almost all the age groups, the proportion of employed males is higher than that of the females and hence for the economically not active group females exceeds their male counterparts.

Table 4.2: Employed population 15 years and older by sex, age and activity status

Age group	All Status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both sexes								
Total	47,149	100.0	36,298	77.0	798	1.7	10,053	21.3
15 - 19	9,034	100.0	5,030	55.7	168	1.9	3,836	42.5
20 - 24	7,156	100.0	5,214	72.9	213	3.0	1,729	24.2
25 - 29	6,835	100.0	5,647	82.6	146	2.1	1,042	15.2
30 - 34	5,538	100.0	4,888	88.3	76	1.4	574	10.4
35 - 39	4,352	100.0	4,004	92.0	46	1.1	302	6.9
40 - 44	3,588	100.0	3,319	92.5	22	0.6	247	6.9
45 - 49	2,704	100.0	2,493	92.2	18	0.7	193	7.1
50 - 54	2,323	100.0	2,047	88.1	22	0.9	254	10.9
55 - 59	1,046	100.0	874	83.6	10	1.0	162	15.5
60 - 64	1,328	100.0	986	74.2	64	4.8	278	20.9
65+	3,245	100.0	1,796	55.3	13	0.4	1,436	44.3
Male								
Total	22,968	100.0	18,450	80.3	355	1.5	4,163	18.1
15 - 19	4,823	100.0	2,744	56.9	95	2.0	1,984	41.1
20 - 24	3,260	100.0	2,390	73.3	84	2.6	786	24.1
25 - 29	2,854	100.0	2,453	85.9	64	2.2	337	11.8
30 - 34	2,434	100.0	2,271	93.3	30	1.2	133	5.5
35 - 39	1,999	100.0	1,914	95.7	17	0.9	68	3.4
40 - 44	1,831	100.0	1,747	95.4	11	0.6	73	4.0
45 - 49	1,451	100.0	1,398	96.3	9	0.6	44	3.0
50 - 54	1,272	100.0	1,202	94.5	8	0.6	62	4.9
55 - 59	600	100.0	559	93.2	1	0.2	40	6.7
60 - 64	737	100.0	621	84.3	31	4.2	85	11.5
65+	1,707	100.0	1,151	67.4	5	0.3	551	32.3
Female								
Total	24,181	100.0	17,848	73.8	443	1.8	5,890	24.4
15 - 19	4,211	100.0	2,286	54.3	73	1.7	1,852	44.0
20 - 24	3,896	100.0	2,824	72.5	129	3.3	943	24.2
25 - 29	3,981	100.0	3,194	80.2	82	2.1	705	17.7
30 - 34	3,104	100.0	2,617	84.3	46	1.5	441	14.2
35 - 39	2,353	100.0	2,090	88.8	29	1.2	234	9.9
40 - 44	1,757	100.0	1,572	89.5	11	0.6	174	9.9
45 - 49	1,253	100.0	1,095	87.4	9	0.7	149	11.9
50 - 54	1,051	100.0	845	80.4	14	1.3	192	18.3
55 - 59	446	100.0	315	70.6	9	2.0	122	27.4
60 - 64	591	100.0	365	61.8	33	5.6	193	32.7
65+	1,538	100.0	645	41.9	8	0.5	885	57.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.3   Occupation

Table 4.3 categorises the employed population 15 years and older by their occupation and sex. Nearly eight in ten (77.7%) of workers are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers. This is followed by craft and related trade workers (9.5%), service and sales workers (7.6%), High skills work such as managers, professionals, and technicians accounts for less than 5.0 percent of the employed persons.

There are higher proportions of male workers in all the occupation categories than females with the exception of managers, service and sale workers, craft and related trade workers and elementary occupations where females dominate. For both males and females, skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers account for the highest proportions of workers constituting 86.2 percent and 68.9 percent respectively.

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	36,298	100.0	18,450	100.0	17,848	100.0
Managers	235	0.6	78	0.4	157	0.9
Professionals	428	1.2	316	1.7	112	0.6
Technicians and associate professionals	181	0.5	152	0.8	29	0.2
Clerical support workers	37	0.1	17	0.1	20	0.1
Service and sales workers	2,754	7.6	650	3.5	2,104	11.8
Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers	28,213	77.7	15,913	86.2	12,300	68.9
Craft and related trades workers	3,444	9.5	756	4.1	2,688	15.1
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	270	0.7	260	1.4	10	0.1
Elementary occupations	734	2.0	306	1.7	428	2.4
Other occupations	2	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.4   Industries

Table 4.4 shows the industry of the employed population by sex. Agriculture, including forestry and fishing, constitute the largest industry employing 77.0 percent of the workforce aged 15 years and above in 2010. The next two major industries are wholesale (8.9%) and manufacturing (7.5%).

About eight in ten (85.4%) and 68.4 percent of employed males and females respectively are in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry. Though, the next major industry men are engaged in is the manufacturing industry (2.9%) and wholesale and retail for women (12.9%), the proportion of women in the manufacturing industry (12.2%) is higher than that of men representing. Women also dominate in certain industries such as wholesale and retail, accommodation and food service activities, other service activities and activities of households as employers.

Compared to females, higher proportions of the male workforce are engaged in the agriculture, construction, transport and storage, financial and insurance, public administration and defence, education, information and communication and scientific and technical activities.

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	36,298	100.0	18,450	100.0	17,848	100.0
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	27,963	77.0	15,750	85.4	12,213	68.4
Mining and quarrying	10	0.0	9	0.0	1	0.0
Manufacturing	2,711	7.5	537	2.9	2,174	12.2
Electricity gas stream and air conditioning supply	4	0.0	4	0.0	0	0.0
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	13	0.0	8	0.0	5	0.0
Construction	225	0.6	205	1.1	20	0.1
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	3,220	8.9	911	4.9	2,309	12.9
Transportation and storage	292	0.8	218	1.2	74	0.4
Accommodation and food service activities	723	2.0	87	0.5	636	3.6
Information and communication	36	0.1	30	0.2	6	0.0
Financial and insurance activities	12	0.0	9	0.0	3	0.0
Real estate activities	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Professional scientific and technical activities	54	0.1	32	0.2	22	0.1
Administrative and support service activities	93	0.3	66	0.4	27	0.2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	108	0.3	87	0.5	21	0.1
Education	354	1.0	283	1.5	71	0.4
Human health and social work activities	76	0.2	50	0.3	26	0.1
Arts entertainment and recreation	10	0.0	10	0.1	0	0.0
Other service activities	264	0.7	105	0.6	159	0.9
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	128	0.4	47	0.3	81	0.5
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	2	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.5 Employment Status

Table 4.5 depicts the employment status of the population 15 years and older in the Central Gonja District. Fifty-nine percent (59.0%) of the employed population are self-employed without employees, 32.9 percent being contributing family workers with 3.3 percent being employees. The table further shows that the majority of the workforce for both males and females are self-employed without employees representing 64.4 percent and 53.5 percent respectively. Overall, men constitute the highest proportion of all the categories with the exception of the contributing family workers, apprentices and domestic employees where females dominate.

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	36,298	100.0	18,450	100.0	17,848	100.0
Employee	1,206	3.3	912	4.9	294	1.6
Self-employed without employee(s)	21,417	59.0	11,875	64.4	9,542	53.5
Self-employed with employee(s)	917	2.5	502	2.7	415	2.3
Casual worker	202	0.6	129	0.7	73	0.4
Contributing family worker	11,939	32.9	4,785	25.9	7,154	40.1
Apprentice	245	0.7	65	0.4	180	1.0
Domestic employee (house help	311	9.0	150	8.0	161	9.0
Other	61	2.0	32	2.0	29	2.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.6   Employment Sector

Table 4.6 presents the employed population 15 years and older by employment sector. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district employing 97.1 percent of the employed population. The second largest employer is the public sector with 1.6 percent followed by the private formal (1.0%). The rest of the categories cumulatively, account for less than one percent. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district irrespective of sex (males 96.0% and females 98.3%). Thus the proportion of females employed in the private informal sector is higher than males. The second largest employer for both males and females is the public sector followed by the private formal with males dominating the two sectors (2.4% and 1.3%) as against females (0.7% and 0.7%).

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

Employment sector	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	36,298	100.0	18,450	100.0	17,848	100.0
Public (Government)	564	1.6	442	2.4	122	0.7
Private Formal	362	1.0	240	1.3	122	0.7
Private Informal	35,250	97.1	17,710	96.0	17,540	98.3
Semi-Public/Parastatal	5	0.0	2	0.0	3	0.0
NGOs (Local and International)	107	0.3	48	0.3	59	0.3
Other International Organizations	10	0.0	8	0.0	2	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FIVE
INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

5.1   Introduction

Information Communication Technology (ICT) plays an important role in the development of an economy. This chapter analyses data on access to and use of ICT by individuals and households in the Central Gonja District. For individuals, persons who are 12 years and older were asked if they had access to and used mobile phones internet facilities (at home, internet café or on their phones). Questions relating to desktop/laptop computers were asked of households.

5.2   Ownership Mobile phones

An examination of the distribution of mobile phone ownership by sex in Table 5.1 shows that in Central Gonja, out of a total population of 53,110 12years and older, only 15.9 percent own mobile phones. Of the male population 12years and older, 21.6 percent own mobile phones while 10.5 percent of the females within the same age category won the device.

5.3   Use of internet

The Internet has become a very useful communication facility for people, businesses and organizations. Some of the common uses of the Internet include electronic mailing, accessing information, conducting business transactions, social networking and shopping.

From Table 5.1, only 264 are users of internet facilities out of a total population of 53,110 12 years and above in the Central Gonja District. This indicates that only 0.5 percent of the population 12 years and older have access to the internet. As shown in Table 5.2, there are marked differentials in access to internet facilities by sex. A higher proportion of the males (0.7%) use the internet compared to 0.3 percent of females.

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

Sex	Population 12 years and older		Population having mobile phone		Population using internet facility	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	53,110	100.0	8,453	15.9	264	0.5
Male	26,073	100.0	5,622	21.6	195	0.7
Female	27,037	100.0	2,831	10.5	69	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.4   Household Ownership of Desktop/Laptop Computer

For the district as a whole, only 2.9 percent of households own a desktop/laptop computer. There are more female heads having desktop/laptop computers than female heads. Approximately 3.9 percent of households with desktop/laptop computers are headed by females whilst 2.8 percent are male headed households.

Table 5.2: Household ownership of desktop/laptop computers by sex of head

Sex of head	Households		Households having desktop/laptop computers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	318,119	100.0	9,312	2.9
Male	270,488	100.0	7,459	2.8
Female	47,631	100.0	1,853	3.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SIX
DISABILITY

6.1   Introduction

The development of a nation depends on the important contributions of not only a segment of the population but on the collective contributions of every individual, including persons with disabilities (PWDs). Even though they are considered to be in the minority, information about them helps policy-makers legislate for their special needs so that their lives would be improved. For instance the government has enacted the Disability Act, 2006 , Act 715 to address issues of high poverty among PWDs due to low levels of education and lack of employable skills; inaccessibility to public transport; and unfriendly environmental facilities such as the widespread absence of ramps for PWDs and uncovered drains and gutters. This chapter delves into the knowledge on prevalence and selected characteristics of persons with disability in the district.

6.2   Population with Disability

Table 6.1 presents data on the population with disability in the district by type of locality. The 2010 Population and Housing Census recorded a total of 3,151 persons with disability in the district representing 3.6 percent of the district's total population. The proportion of the male population with disability (3.6%) is slightly higher than females (3.5%). It must however be noted that some persons with disability had multiple disabilities and these were all considered. There is not marked variation among the sexes in relation to the type of disability.

6.3   Type of Disability

Figure 6.1 shows the types of disability in the district. There were six main types of disability enumerated. These included those associated with sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, emotion and any other form of disability. Persons with other forms of disability not classified recorded the highest count of 51.9 percent of all the disabilities followed by emotional disability (40.1%). Disability by speech recorded the lowest representing (5.6%).

Figure 6.1: Type of disability
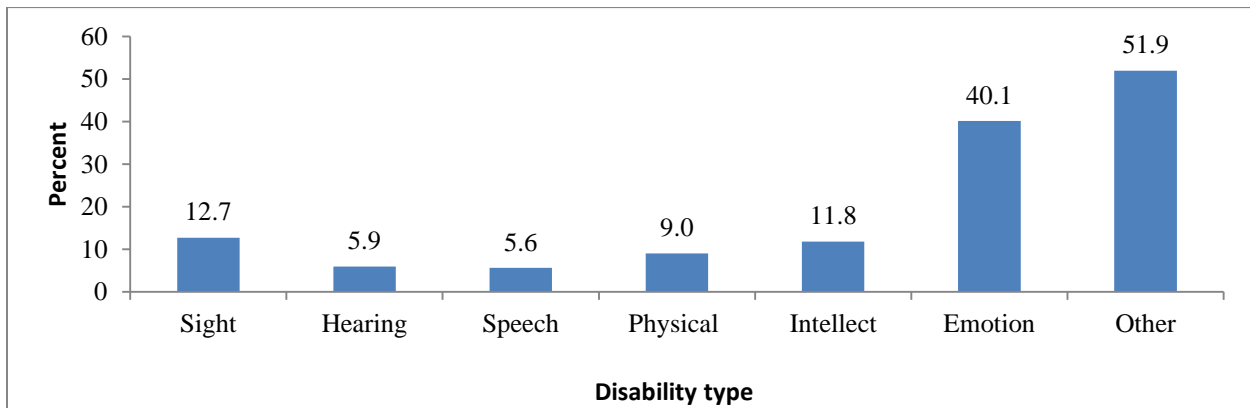
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.4   Disability by Type of Locality

The type of locality a person with disability resides has an impact on their ability to access social services and other facilities. Table 6.1 shows the distribution of disability by type of locality. Of the total disabled persons in the district, the proportion with disability in the urban locality is about 23.1 percent (727). With the exception of sight, hearing and speech disabilities, all the other forms of disability are higher in the urban localities than in rural localities.

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

Disability type	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All localities						
Total	87,877	100.0	43,860	100.0	44,017	100.0
Without disability	84,726	96.4	42,266	96.4	42,460	96.5
With disability	3,151	3.6	1,594	3.6	1,557	3.5
Sight	401	12.7	236	14.8	165	10.6
Hearing	186	5.9	103	6.5	83	5.3
Speech	178	5.6	104	6.5	74	4.8
Physical	285	9.0	144	9.0	141	9.1
Intellect	373	11.8	190	11.9	183	11.8
Emotion	1,263	40.1	609	38.2	654	42.0
Other	1,636	51.9	806	50.6	830	53.3
Urban						
Total	17,415	100.0	8,585	100.0	8,830	100.0
Without disability	16,688	95.8	8,231	95.9	8,457	95.8
With disability	727	4.2	354	4.1	373	4.2
Sight	68	9.4	39	11.0	29	7.8
Hearing	32	4.4	16	4.5	16	4.3
Speech	38	5.2	21	5.9	17	4.6
Physical	61	8.4	35	9.9	26	7.0
Intellect	80	11.0	44	12.4	36	9.7
Emotion	293	40.3	131	37.0	162	43.4
Other	499	68.6	235	66.4	264	70.8
Rural						
Total	70,462	100.0	35,275	100.0	35,187	100.0
Without disability	68,038	96.6	34,035	96.5	34,003	96.6
With disability	2,424	3.4	1,240	3.5	1,184	3.4
Sight	333	13.7	197	15.9	136	11.5
Hearing	154	6.4	87	7.0	67	5.7
Speech	140	5.8	83	6.7	57	4.8
Physical	224	9.2	109	8.8	115	9.7
Intellect	293	12.1	146	11.8	147	12.4
Emotion	970	40.0	478	38.5	492	41.6
Other	1,137	46.9	571	46.0	566	47.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.5   Disability and Activity Status

The economic activity status of persons 15 years and older with disability is displayed in Table 6.2. The data shows that of persons with disability in the district, 66.6 percent are employed, 2.2 percent unemployed and 31.2 percent are economically not active. The data shows that but for sight (48.3%) and physical (35.3%), the percentage employed is higher compared to those who are economically not active. For all the disability types reported in the table, those unemployed constitute less than 10.0 percent. Table 6.2 further illustrate that there is varying differences in the data relating to males and females. For the male population disabled, 68.9 percent are employed, 2.0 percent unemployed and 29.1 percent economically not active. Of the various categories of disability, apart from physical disability which has 38.9 percent all other forms of has more than fifty percent of their population employed. For the female population disabled, 64.2 percent are employed, 2.4 percent unemployed and 33.4 percent being economically not active. Of the various disability categories, apart from speech, intellect, emotions and other forms of disability not classified which has more than fifty percent of its population employed, all other categories has higher percentages in the economically not active group.

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

Sex/disability	All Status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	47,149	100.0	36,298	77.0	798	1.7	10,053	21.3
Without disability	45,195	100.0	34,997	77.4	755	1.7	9,443	20.9
With disability	1,954	100.0	1,301	66.6	43	2.2	610	31.2
Sight	329	100.0	159	48.3	1	0.3	169	51.4
Hearing	136	100.0	78	57.4	1	0.7	57	41.9
Speech	113	100.0	73	64.6	5	4.4	35	31.0
Physical	221	100.0	78	35.3	3	1.4	140	63.3
Intellect	207	100.0	122	58.9	5	2.4	80	38.6
Emotion	685	100.0	509	74.3	18	2.6	158	23.1
Other	924	100.0	707	76.5	25	2.7	192	20.8
Male								
Total	22,968	100.0	18,450	80.3	355	1.5	4,163	18.1
Without disability	21,968	100.0	17,761	80.8	335	1.5	3,872	17.6
With disability	1,000	100.0	689	68.9	20	2.0	291	29.1
Sight	193	100.0	104	53.9	0	0.0	89	46.1
Hearing	87	100.0	57	65.5	0	0.0	30	34.5
Speech	65	100.0	42	64.6	2	3.1	21	32.3
Physical	113	100.0	44	38.9	1	0.9	68	60.2
Intellect	114	100.0	67	58.8	3	2.6	44	38.6
Emotion	337	100.0	260	77.2	10	3.0	67	19.9
Other	457	100.0	359	78.6	13	2.8	85	18.6

Table 6.2: **Persons 15 years and older with disability by economic activity status and sex (cont'd)**

Sex/disability	All Status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically Not Active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female								
Total	24,181	100.0	17,848	73.8	443	1.8	5,890	24.4
Without disability	23,227	100.0	17,236	74.2	420	1.8	5,571	24.0
With disability	954	100.0	612	64.2	23	2.4	319	33.4
Sight	136	100.0	55	40.4	1	0.7	80	58.8
Hearing	49	100.0	21	42.9	1	2.0	27	55.1
Speech	48	100.0	31	64.6	3	6.3	14	29.2
Physical	108	100.0	34	31.5	2	1.9	72	66.7
Intellect	93	100.0	55	59.1	2	2.2	36	38.7
Emotion	348	100.0	249	71.6	8	2.3	91	26.1
Other	467	100.0	348	74.5	12	2.6	107	22.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.6   Disability Type and Level of Education

Table 6.3 presents data on population 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education in the district. Of the population disabled, 62.6 percent have never been to school. Those in pre-primary constitute only 7.9 percent with 25.9 percent in basic school. From the table people with disability who have attended secondary or higher levels of education constitute 3.6 percent. From the table, over sixty percent of disabled persons have either never attended school or are in basic school except for emotional and other forms not classified. For the male and female distribution, slightly more females (64.1%) have never attended school compared to their male counterpart where 63.1 percent have never attended school. On the other hand, there are more males (27.5%) in basic school compared to females (24.3%) who have basic education. From the table, it could be said that more disabled males are in school compared to their female counterparts.

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

Sex/disability type	Total		Never		Pre-Prim		Basic		Sec/SHS and higher	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes										
Total	79,524	100.0	49,797	62.6	6,292	7.9	20,597	25.9	2,838	3.6
No disability	76,602	100.0	47,939	62.6	6,077	7.9	19,855	25.9	2,731	3.6
With a disability	2,922	100.0	1,858	63.6	215	7.4	742	25.4	107	3.7
Sight	386	100.0	319	82.6	11	2.8	44	11.4	12	3.1
Hearing	181	100.0	142	78.5	11	6.1	24	13.3	4	2.2
Speech	168	100.0	106	63.1	10	6.0	47	28.0	5	3.0
Physical	272	100.0	201	73.9	13	4.8	43	15.8	15	5.5
Intellectual	345	100.0	214	62.0	34	9.9	88	25.5	9	2.6
Emotional	1,153	100.0	677	58.7	100	8.7	340	29.5	36	3.1
Other	1,495	100.0	828	55.4	131	8.8	471	31.5	65	4.3
Male										
Total	39,610	100.0	23,590	59.6	3,191	8.1	10,908	27.5	1,921	4.8
No disability	38,126	100.0	22,654	59.4	3,085	8.1	10,549	27.7	1,838	4.8
With a disability	1,484	100.0	936	63.1	106	7.1	359	24.2	83	5.6
Sight	229	100.0	187	81.7	6	2.6	27	11.8	9	3.9
Hearing	103	100.0	84	81.6	1	1.0	16	15.5	2	1.9
Speech	99	100.0	60	60.6	8	8.1	27	27.3	4	4.0
Physical	137	100.0	97	70.8	7	5.1	24	17.5	9	6.6
Intellectual	178	100.0	110	61.8	18	10.1	44	24.7	6	3.4
Emotional	557	100.0	331	59.4	46	8.3	151	27.1	29	5.2
Other	739	100.0	399	54.0	66	8.9	221	29.9	53	7.2
Female										
Total	39,914	100.0	26,207	65.7	3,101	7.8	9,689	24.3	917	2.3
No disability	38,476	100.0	25,285	65.7	2,992	7.8	9,306	24.2	893	2.3
With a disability	1,438	100.0	922	64.1	109	7.6	383	26.6	24	1.7
Sight	157	100.0	132	84.1	5	3.2	17	10.8	3	1.9
Hearing	78	100.0	58	74.4	10	12.8	8	10.3	2	2.6
Speech	69	100.0	46	66.7	2	2.9	20	29.0	1	1.4
Physical	135	100.0	104	77.0	6	4.4	19	14.1	6	4.4
Intellectual	167	100.0	104	62.3	16	9.6	44	26.3	3	1.8
Emotional	596	100.0	346	58.1	54	9.1	189	31.7	7	1.2
Other	756	100.0	429	56.7	65	8.6	250	33.1	12	1.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SEVEN
AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

7.1   Introduction

This chapter presents analysis of agricultural activities in the Central Gonja District, with a main focus on households that are into agriculture and the types of farming activities engaged in. The agricultural activities looked at comprises crops, livestock and fisheries. Ghana's agricultural sector has and continues to be the largest sector of the Ghanaian economy since independence.

7.2   Households in Agriculture

A household is classified as an agricultural household if at least one of its members engages in agricultural production even if not earning from agricultural activity alone.

Figure 7.1 shows the number of households in agriculture by type of locality. A total of 74.2 percent of households are engaged in agriculture in the Central Gonja District. Out of the total household in the rural locality, more than eight in ten households (83.3%) are agricultural households while in the urban locality, 58.3 percent of households are into agriculture.

Figure 7.1: Agricultural activity of household members by locality
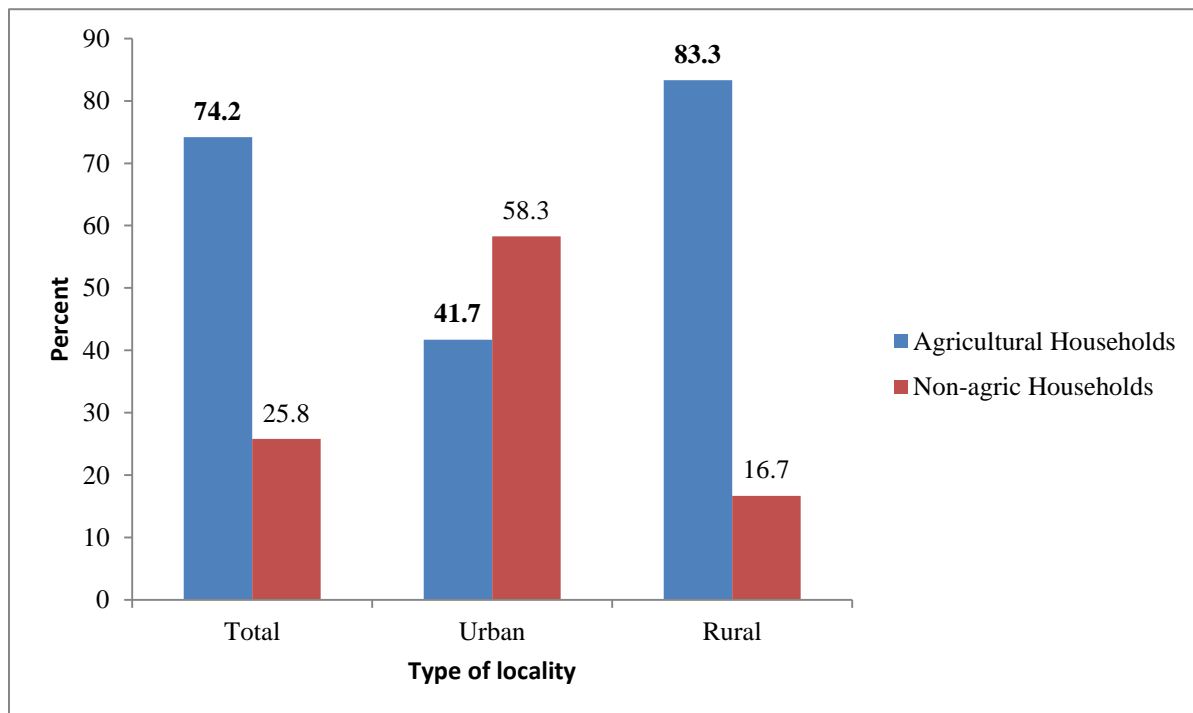
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

7.3 Types of Farming Activities

Table 7.1 shows the distribution of households by agricultural activities and locality in Central Gonja district. About 9 out of 10 (92.3%) agricultural households are into Crop farming with livestock rearing engaging 47.5 percent of agricultural households, tree planting (2.2%) and fishing farming (0.7%) being the least. In the rural areas, 93.2 percent of households engage in crop farming while 49.7 percent rear livestock. A sizeable proportions of the households also plant trees (2.1%) and 0.8 percent undertake fish farming. In the urban areas, majority of the households engaged in crop farming (85.9%) followed by livestock rearing (32.0%) and tree planting (3.1%). It must be noted here that most households are engaged in more than one activity.

Table 7.1: Households by agricultural activities and type of locality

	Total		Urban		Rural	
Agricultural activity	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total households	11,413	100.0	2,508	100.0	8,905	100.0
Households engaged in agriculture	8,465	74.2	1,045	41.7	7,420	83.3
Crop farming	7,812	92.3	898	85.9	6,914	93.2
Tree planting	187	2.2	32	3.1	155	2.1
Livestock rearing	4,020	47.5	334	32.0	3,686	49.7
Fish farming	62	0.7	1	0.1	61	0.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

7.3.1 Types of livestock reared

The information in Table 7.2 shows the distribution of livestock and their keepers in the district. The total number of livestock in the district is 270,417 kept by 8,919 keepers which give an average number of 30 animals per keeper. The dominant type of livestock raised is Cattle representing 30.6 percent of all the animals and being kept by 24.8 percent of animal keepers having an average of about 57 animals per keeper. The second and third dominant livestock raised are the Chicken and goats accounting for 21.6 percent and 16.4 percent respectively. The least number of livestock kept is Turkey. This is kept by only seven people in the district.

Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock and keepers

Livestock	Livestock/other animals		Keepers		Average animal per keeper
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All livestock	270,417	100.0	8,919	100.0	30.3
Beehives	375	0.1	14	0.2	26.8
Cattle	82,640	30.6	1,461	16.4	56.6
Chicken	58,341	21.6	2,213	24.8	26.4
Dove	2,354	0.9	35	0.4	67.3
Duck	1,725	0.6	73	0.8	23.6
Goat	44,364	16.4	2,356	26.4	18.8
Grass-cutter	1,589	0.6	31	0.3	51.3
Guinea fowl	29,477	10.9	799	9.0	36.9
Ostrich	764	0.3	20	0.2	38.2
Pig	1,637	0.6	51	0.6	32.1
Rabbit	35	0.0	5	0.1	7.0
Sheep	40,630	15.0	1,760	19.7	23.1
Silk worm	476	0.2	21	0.2	22.7
Snail	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Turkey	7	0.0	1	0.0	7.0
Fish farming	391	0.1	7	0.1	55.9
Inland fishing	3,247	1.2	14	0.2	231.9
Marine fishing	20	0.0	1	0.0	20.0
Other	2,345	0.9	57	0.6	41.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER EIGHT
HOUSING CONDITIONS

8.1   Introduction

A house is defined by the United Nations as a "structurally separate and independent place of abode such that a person or group of persons can isolate themselves from the hazard of climate, such as storms and the sun".   By this definition, therefore, any form of shelter that is used as living quarters such as a hut or group of huts enclosed by a compound, a kiosk, a metal cargo container, a tent) is considered as a house. The number of rooms available to members of a household, relative to the number of individuals in the household, is an indicator of relative crowding. A crowded house puts additional pressure on available household resources such as water, toilet facilities, food, etc.   Overcrowding leads to reduced distances between individuals leading to increased contact and contamination, which provide a fertile ground for the spread of diseases. This chapter analyses the stock of houses, the type of dwelling and tenancy arrangements, the main materials used in the construction of houses, room occupancy, access to utilities and household facilities, sources of water for drinking and other domestic use and methods of waste disposal.

8.2   Housing Stock

Table 8.1 shows the stock of houses and the number of households by type of locality. There are 12,041 houses in the district representing 4.7 percent of the total stock of houses in the region. There are more houses in the rural (9,631) than the urban areas (2,508). The total number of households in the district is 11,413 with majority of them being in the rural areas. The average number of households per house for the district is about 1 while the national figure is 1.7.   The average household size (7.6) is almost the same as the regional figure of 7.7 members.

Table 8.1 also shows the distribution of the population per house by district. For the district as a whole, the average population per house is 7.2 as compared with the regional figure of 9.5. The indications are that at the household level, the district is slightly less crowded than the region as a whole.

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

Categories	Total country	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total population	24,658,823	2,479,461	87,877	17,415	70,462
Total household population	24,076,327	2,445,061	86,432	16,839	69,593
Number of houses	3,392,745	257,311	12,041	2,410	9,631
Number of households	5,467,054	318,119	11,413	2,508	8,905
Average households per house	1.6	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.9
Population per house*	7.1	9.5	7.2	7.0	7.2
Average household size	4.4	7.7	7.6	6.7	7.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.3 Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement

8.3.1 Type of dwelling units

Table 8.2 provides information on the type of dwelling in the district. There are eleven main types of dwelling units covered during the 2010 PHC. The commonest type of dwelling unit in the district is the compound house with rooms (38.2%). The second most common type of dwelling unit is huts/buildings on same compound (23.8%), followed by separate house (22.3%) and semi-detached house (11.4%).

Table 8.2: Type of occupied dwelling unit by sex of household head and type of locality

Type of dwelling	Total country	Region	District Total Number	District Total Percent	Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
Total	5,467,054	318,119	11,413	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Separate house	1,471,391	51,622	2,543	22.3	21.2	28.7	27.5	20.8
Semi-detached house	391,548	12,761	1,310	11.5	11.4	12.1	15.2	10.4
Flat/apartment	256,355	3,360	92	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8
Compound house (rooms)	2,942,147	208,934	4,363	38.2	37.2	44.2	53.8	33.8
Huts/buildings (same compound)	170,957	34,405	2,715	23.8	25.9	11.4	1.0	30.2
Huts/buildings (different compound)	36,410	3,374	270	2.4	2.4	2.0	0.2	3.0
Tent	10,343	818	33	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3
Improvised home (kiosk/container etc)	90,934	404	43	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.4
Living quarters attached to office/shop	20,499	619	29	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.2
Uncompleted building	66,624	1,428	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Other	9,846	394	11	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.3.2 Holding and tenancy arrangement

Table 8.3 shows that dwelling units occupied by households are owned mostly by a household member (91.5%), other private individual (3.9%) and relative not a household member (2.6%). The proportion of households headed by males (92.9%) who live in dwelling units owned by a household member is higher than that of female headed households (82.7%). The proportion of female headed (8.0%) households who live in dwelling units owned by other private individuals is higher than that of the households headed by males (3.1%). At the locality of residence, there are variations in the ownership of dwelling units. While in the rural households about 97.0 percent of the households live in dwelling units owned by a household member the proportion of households in the urban is 72.4 percent. On the other hand, 16.0 percent of households in the urban areas live in dwelling units owned by other private individual as compared with only 0.5 percent in the rural areas.

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

Ownership status	Total country	Region	District Total Number	District Total Percent	Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
Total	5,467,054	318,119	11,413	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Owned by household member	2,883,236	267,538	10,438	91.5	92.9	82.7	72.4	96.8
Being purchased (e.g. mortgage)	45,630	1,352	38	0.3	0.3	0.7	1.0	0.1
Relative not a household member	851,630	16,460	297	2.6	1.9	6.8	6.7	1.4
Other private individual	1,439,021	24,310	440	3.9	3.1	8.0	15.7	0.5
Private employer	83,610	1,248	25	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.1
Other private agency	21,123	431	24	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1
Public/Government ownership	118,804	5,863	130	1.1	1.1	1.4	2.8	0.7
Other	24,000	917	21	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4   Construction Materials

8.4.1   Materials for outer wall of dwelling unit

The distribution of the main material used for the construction of outer wall of dwelling unit in Central Gonja is presented in Table 8.4 by type of locality. A variety of building materials are used in the construction of walls in the district. The major ones include mud-bricks or earth (73.1%), cement blocks or concrete (16.6%), thatch/ grass (5.1%) and landcrete (2.0%).In the urban areas, two main materials, cement blocks / concrete (57.2%) and mud brick / earth (36.8%) constitute 94.0 percent of the main material used for the outer wall. On the other hand, in the rural areas, the commonest main material used for construction of outer wall is mud or mud-brick/ earth (83.0%), followed by thatch or grass (6.4%) and cement blocks / concrete (5.5%).

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

Material for outer wall	Total country	Region	District Total Number	District Total Percent	Urban	Rural
Total	5,817,607	339,874	13,455	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud brick/earth	1,991,540	247,754	9,833	73.1	36.8	83.0
Wood	200,594	5,389	288	2.1	1.0	2.5
Metal sheet/slate/asbestos	43,708	1,984	42	0.3	0.6	0.2
Stone	11,330	1,077	21	0.2	0.1	0.2
Burnt bricks	38,237	647	15	0.1	0.3	0.1
Cement blocks/concrete	3,342,462	64,863	2,234	16.6	57.2	5.5
Landcrete	104,270	10,609	273	2.0	3.6	1.6
Bamboo	8,206	285	13	0.1	0.0	0.1
Palm leaf/thatch (grass)/raffia	38,054	5,894	686	5.1	0.2	6.4
Other	39,206	1,372	50	0.4	0.2	0.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.2 Materials for floor

Table 8.5 shows the distribution of materials used for the floor construction by district. The main construction materials used for the floor in the district are cement or concrete (72.7%) and earth or mud brick (25.8%). Similarly, in both the urban (87.2%) and rural (68.6%) areas, the main construction material used for the floor is cement / concrete. The proportion of the households in the rural areas (30.1%) that live in dwelling units where the main material used for the floor is earth / mud is higher   than that in the urban areas (10.5%).

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

Materials for the floor	Total country	Region	District Total Number	District Total Percent	Urban	Rural
Total	5,467,04	318,19	11,413	100.0	100.0	100.0
Earth/mud	872,161	97,678	2,948	25.8	10.5	30.1
Cement/concrete	4,255,611	214,535	8,301	72.7	87.2	68.6
Stone	32,817	1,358	39	0.3	0.5	0.3
Burnt brick	6,537	277	6	0.1	0.0	0.1
Wood	52,856	195	4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vinyl tiles	57,032	510	10	0.1	0.4	0.0
Ceramic/porcelain/granite/marble tiles	88,500	2,091	61	0.5	1.0	0.4
Terrazzo/terrazzo tiles	85,973	365	9	0.1	0.2	0.0
Other	15,567	1,110	35	0.3	0.2	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.3 Main material for construction (roof)

Table 8.6 shows the distribution of the main construction materials for roofing of dwelling units in the District. Over half of all households live in dwelling units roofed with thatch / raffia (53.4%) as compared with 41.5 percent of metal sheet. A higher proportion of households in urban areas use metal sheet (77.5%) for roofing while in the rural areas it is thatch/palm leaf or raffia (64.1%). Again, in the rural areas, only about a third of the households live in dwelling units roofed with metal sheet (31.6%).

Table 8.6 indicates that the most commonly materials use for construction is thatch/palm leaf/raffia.

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

Main roofing material	Total country	Region	District Total Number	District Total Percent	Urban	Rural
Total	5,817,607	339,874	13,455	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud/Mud bricks/earth	80,644	16,434	219	1.6	1.0	1.8
Wood	45,547	3,740	118	0.9	0.6	1.0
Metal sheet	4,152,259	192,412	5,581	41.5	77.5	31.6
Slate/asbestos	759,039	2,091	7	0.1	0.1	0.0
Cement/concrete	141,072	1,429	76	0.6	1.4	0.3
Roofing tile	31,456	761	36	0.3	1.0	0.1
Bamboo	71,049	1,137	40	0.3	0.1	0.4
Thatch/palm leaf or raffia	500,606	118,517	7,191	53.4	14.7	64.1
Other	35,935	3,353	187	1.4	3.7	0.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.5   Room Occupancy

A room is defined as a space in the housing unit, or other living quarters, enclosed by walls, reaching from the floor to the ceiling or roof, covering at least a height of two meters, of a size large enough to hold a bed for an adult, that is, at least four square meters. Information on the number of sleeping rooms occupied by the household provides an indication of the level of crowding and the adequacy of the housing stock. The higher the socio-economic status of the household, the larger the number of rooms it occupies. Hence, the number of rooms occupied is also a measure of the socio-economic status of the household.

Table 8.7 shows the distribution of the number of rooms occupied by households, in the district. The district has a total household population of 86,432 and 11,413 households. A higher proportion of the households sleep in two rooms (29%), followed by those who sleep in three rooms (21.7%), one room (15.0%) and four rooms (14.5%). About 8 out of 10 of household size of one sleep in single room while 15.7 sleep in two rooms. Majority of household size of two sleeps in one room (54.7%) and in two rooms is 37.7percent. Again, majority of household size between 3 and 7 use two sleeping rooms. On the other hand, a household size of 8 and 9 are more likely to use three rooms while a higher proportion of household size of ten or more use four rooms.

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

House-hold size	Total	Percent	One room	Two rooms	Three rooms	Four rooms	Five rooms	Six rooms	Seven rooms	Eight rooms	Nine rooms or more
					Number of sleeping rooms						
Total	11,413	100.0	15.0	29.0	21.7	14.5	8.1	4.6	2.4	2.0	2.8
1	521	100.0	79.7	15.7	2.3	1.0	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0
2	477	100.0	54.7	37.7	4.6	2.3	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
3	749	100.0	39.5	47.3	10.3	1.7	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.0
4	1,029	100.0	22.0	54.1	17.8	4.0	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.1
5	1,223	100.0	17.3	46.0	23.2	8.3	3.2	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.2
6	1,270	100.0	9.4	38.8	33.9	13.0	3.1	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3
7	1,139	100.0	5.7	34.4	33.1	17.6	6.6	1.3	0.4	0.4	0.5
8	1,011	100.0	4.0	24.8	31.8	22.1	10.4	3.9	2.1	0.7	0.3
9	852	100.0	2.8	19.1	29.1	24.8	12.9	6.1	2.8	1.6	0.7
10+	3,142	100.0	1.8	8.7	16.6	21.6	17.2	12.0	6.8	5.9	9.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6   Access to Utilities and Household Facilities

8.6.1   Source of lighting of dwelling units

Figure 8.1 represents the main source of lighting of dwelling units in the district. On average, a little over half (51.0%) of households in the district rely on kerosene lamp as a source of lightning their homes. Nearly a third (30.6%) uses flashlight/torch, with 15.8 percent using electricity (mains/generator) The use of crop residue, gas lamps, candle and other lighting systems(all other sources) recorded less than 2.0 percent.

Figure 8.1: Main source of lighting of dwelling units
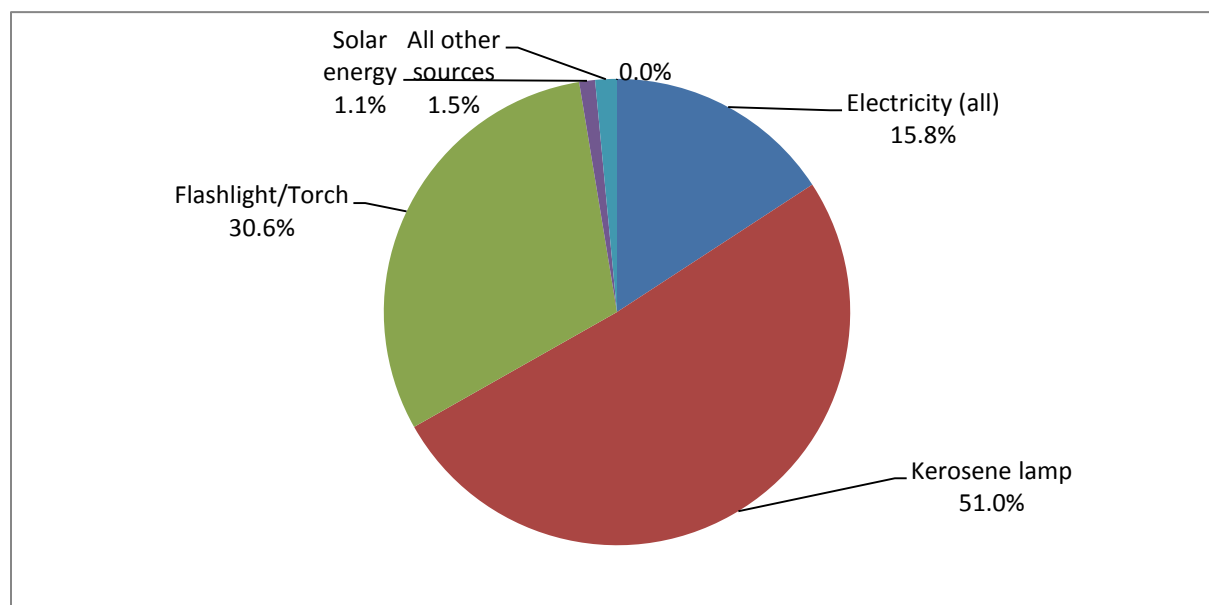
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.2 Source of lighting of dwelling units by type of locality

Table 8.8 provides information on the main source of lighting of dwelling unit by type of locality. In the urban areas, the percentage of households which use electricity from the mains is 53.3 percent while kerosene lamp is 40.6 percent. A little over half of the households in the rural areas use kerosene lamp (54.9%) as their main source of lighting while only 4.7 percent have access to electricity from the mains. Also, 38.1 percent use flashlight or torch for lighting.

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

Main source of light	Total country	Region	District Total Number	District Total Percent	Urban	Rural
Total	5,467,054	318,119	11,413	100.0	100.0	100.0
Electricity (mains)	3,511,065	114,889	1,751	15.3	53.3	4.7
Electricity (private generator)	36,142	2,219	62	0.5	1.1	0.4
Kerosene lamp	971,807	134,656	5,816	51.0	40.6	53.9
Gas lamp	9,378	860	19	0.2	0.2	0.1
Solar energy	9,194	1,048	127	1.1	0.1	1.4
Candle	41,214	488	4	0.0	0.1	0.0
Flashlight/torch	858,651	60,518	3,496	30.6	3.9	38.1
Firewood	13,241	2,257	90	0.8	0.6	0.9
Crop residue	4,623	759	23	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other	11,739	425	25	0.2	0.0	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.3 Source of cooking fuel and cooking space

As regards cooking fuel, Table 8.9 indicates that about 88.4 percent of households use wood as the major source, followed by charcoal (8.0%) and gas (0.8%). The district distribution shows that a greater proportion of households use wood as their main cooking fuel in the district.

Table 8.9 again presents data on cooking space used by households in the district. From the table, 17.0 percent of households have separate rooms for exclusive use as cooking space, with 60.2 percent cooking open space in compound and 1.4 percent use separate room shared with other households. In the urban localities, the use of open space is more common (49.9%), the same being the highest (60.1%) in rural localities.

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

Source of cooking fuel/cooking space	Total country	Region	District Total Number	District Total Percent	Urban	Rural
Main source of cooking fuel for household						
Total	5,467,04	318,19	1143	100.0	100.0	100.0
None no cooking	306,118	6,713	184	1.6	3.6	1.1
Wood	2,197,03	243,34	1009	88.4	62.0	95.8
Gas	996,518	10,584	97	0.8	2.8	0.3
Electricity	29,794	1,396	19	0.2	0.3	0.1
Kerosene	29,868	1,116	32	0.3	0.6	0.2
Charcoal	1,844,20	52,124	912	8.0	30.3	1.7
Crop residue	45,292	1,804	68	0.6	0.3	0.7
Saw dust	8,000	515	4	0.0	0.1	0.0
Animal waste	2,332	84	3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	7,759	469	5	0.0	0.0	0.1
Cooking space used by household						
Total	5,467,04	318,19	1141	100.0	100.0	100.0
No cooking space	386,883	10,910	276	2.4	4.3	1.9
Separate room for exclusive use of household	1,817,08	82,024	1,92	17.0	18.3	16.7
Separate room shared with other household(s)	410,765	10,877	156	1.4	0.9	1.5
Enclosure without roof	117,614	11,245	133	1.2	1.6	1.0
Structure with roof but without walls	349,832	11,055	1,240	10.9	6.1	12.2
Bedroom/hall/living room)	74,525	1,403	66	0.6	0.4	0.6
Veranda	1,173,96	34,131	702	6.2	18.3	2.7
Open space in compound	1,115,44	155,61	6,89	602.0	49.9	63.1
Other	21,007	823	29	0.3	0.1	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.7 Main Source of Water for Drinking and for Other Domestic Use

The availability, accessibility, affordability and reliability of improved drinking water is an important aspect of the health of household members in the district. From Table 8.10, about two fifths (41.7%) of households reported that their main source of drinking water is from a river/stream. The proportion of the households in the urban locality that rely on river/streams as their main source of drinking water (37.0%) is lower than that in the rural locality (43.0%). Access to pipe-borne water still remains a major challenge in the district with only 0.3percent of household's access pipe-borne water inside the dwelling unit while 5.2 percent access pipe-borne outside the dwelling unit. Notable in the table, is the fact that, pipe-borne water distribution is dominant in the urban centres.

The main source of water for drinking and other purposes is presented in Table 8.10. The main source of drinking water in the district is river and stream which constitute 41.7 percent. About a fifth of households use dugouts (21.3%) as their main source of water for drinking purposes while 16.7 percent use bore-hole/pump/tube well. In the urban areas, majority of households use river/stream (37.0%), pipe-borne outside the dwelling unit (20.0%), protected well (11.9%) and

public tap / standpipe (8.3%). On the other hand, 43.0 percent of households in the rural areas use river/stream and 26.4 percent uses dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal as their main source of drinking water. A sizeable proportion (18.9%) in the rural areas also use bore-hole / pump / tube well

A relatively high proportion of the households use river/streams (43.6%) for domestic purposes as and for the urban and rural distribution, the proportions are 44.1 percent and 41.8 percent respectively. Tanker supply/Vendor provides only 0.1 percent of the households with water for domestic purposes.

Table 8.10: Main source of water of dwelling unit for drinking and other domestic purposes by type of locality

Sources of water	Total country	Region	District		Urban	Rural
			Total			
			Number	Percent		
Main source of drinking water						
Total	5,467,054	318,119	11,413	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	790,493	27,811	32	0.3	1.2	0.0
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,039,667	38,852	599	5.2	20.0	1.1
Public tap/standpipe	712,375	21,798	394	3.5	8.3	2.1
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,267,688	111,650	1,903	16.7	8.7	18.9
Protected well	321,091	17,933	621	5.4	11.9	3.6
Rain water	39,438	2,066	247	2.2	3.3	1.9
Protected spring	19,345	1,008	15	0.1	0.5	0.0
Bottled water	20,261	233	4	0.0	0.1	0.0
Sachet water	490,283	1,187	63	0.6	2.4	0.0
Tanker supply/vendor provided	58,400	942	4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unprotected well	112,567	13,517	299	2.6	3.5	2.4
Unprotected spring	12,222	1,109	35	0.3	0.1	0.4
River/stream	502,804	55,470	4,761	41.7	37.0	43.0
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	76,448	24,308	2,430	21.3	3.0	26.4
Other	3,972	235	6	0.1	0.0	0.1
Main source of water for other domestic use						
Total	5,467,054	318,119	11,413	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	905,566	27,698	52	0.5	1.5	0.2
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,089,030	37,432	615	5.4	20.1	1.2
Public tap/standpipe	704,293	19,390	355	3.1	7.7	1.8
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,280,465	101,815	1,315	11.5	8.2	12.5
Protected well	465,775	19,715	729	6.4	12.0	4.8
Rain water	39,916	2,182	120	1.1	1.0	1.1
Protected spring	18,854	927	17	0.1	0.4	0.1
Tanker supply/vendor provided	100,048	1,214	4	0.0	0.1	0.0
Unprotected well	152,055	13,349	279	2.4	3.3	2.2
Unprotected spring	15,738	1,002	30	0.3	0.2	0.3
River/stream	588,590	63,445	4,975	43.6	41.8	44.1
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	96,422	29,210	2,895	25.4	3.1	31.6
Other	10,302	740	27	0.2	0.6	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.8   Toilet and Bathing Facilities

8.8.1   Toilet facilities.

Table 8.12 shows the distribution of bathing and toilet facilities of households in the district. About ninety-one percent of households have no toilet facilities while only 5.5 percent of the households use the public toilet. The use of the water closets (WCs) and the KVIP is very limited. About 0.5 percent of households in the district use water closets, while 1.1 percent uses the KVIP. The pit and other types of latrine are relatively uncommon in the district. Members of households with inadequate toilet facilities or with no toilet facility at all, are compelled to rely on alternatives such as the bush, farms, etc. This has significant implications for the transmission of infection, and consequently, for the health and well-being of communities, which, in turn, may affect productivity negatively.

8.8.2   Bathing facilities

A bathing facility refers to a place where members of the household take their bath.   It distinguishes between the availability of a separate room for bathing in the living quarters, an open cubicle for bathing in the house, a public bathhouse and other forms of bathing space.   In the district as a whole, the shared separate bathroom constitutes 16.9 percent of bathing facilities; own bathroom for exclusive use of households is 29.0 percent and the shared open cubicle is 14.3 percent. The private open cubicle and the open space constitute 13.8 percent and 16.7 percent of bathing facilities .respectively

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

Toilet facility/bathing facility	Total country	Region	District Total Number	District Total Percent	District Urban	District Rural
Toilet facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	318,119	11,413	100.0	100.0	100.0
No facilities (bush/beach/field)	1,056,382	230,852	10,436	91.4	77.3	95.4
W.C.	839,611	7,736	59	0.5	2.2	0.1
Pit latrine	1,040,883	9,218	109	1.0	1.0	0.9
KVIP	572,824	14,587	122	1.1	3.1	0.5
Bucket/pan	40,678	1,248	1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit/Pan/etc)	1,893,291	52,704	623	5.5	15.6	2.6
Other	23,385	1,774	63	0.6	0.8	0.5
Bathing facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	318,119	11,413	100.0	100.0	100.0
Own bathroom for exclusive use	1,535,392	108,283	3,305	29.0	34.8	27.3
Shared separate bathroom in the same house	1,818,522	95,261	1,931	16.9	13.4	17.9
Private open cubicle	381,979	22,044	1,577	13.8	13.8	13.8
Shared open cubicle	1,000,257	48,531	1,631	14.3	20.1	12.7
Public bath house	140,501	12,409	620	5.4	5.6	5.4
Bathroom in another house	187,337	2,646	219	1.9	2.0	1.9
Open space around house	372,556	27,210	1,908	16.7	8.4	19.1
River/pond/lake/dam	14,234	1,001	174	1.5	1.6	1.5
Other	16,276	734	48	0.4	0.3	0.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.9   Method of Waste Disposal

Table 8.13 shows that 50.2 percent of households dispose of their solid waste in open space at public dumps and 2.3 percent dispose of their solid waste into public containers. A higher proportion of households either have their solid waste dumped indiscriminately (26.9%) or burned (10.4%).

Table 8.13 again shows that a little less than half (49.6%) of households throw their liquid waste onto the street/outside.   Another 38.5 percent of households throw their liquid waste onto the compound, while 3.7 percent of households throw their liquid waste into gutters. Only 0.5 percent of households dispose of their liquid waste through plumbing systems into gutters.

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

| Method of waste disposal | Total country | Region | District | | Urban | Rural |
| | | | Total | | | |
			Number	Percent		
Solid waste						
Total	5,467,04	318,19	11,43	100.0	100.0	100.0
Collected	785,889	19,674	858	7.5	11.1	6.5
Burned by household	584,820	34,594	1,183	10.4	13.4	9.5
Public dump (container)	1,299,64	47,222	299	2.6	9.6	0.7
Public dump (open space)	2,061,43	123,18	5,74	50.2	50.6	50.0
Dumped indiscriminately	498,868	83,889	3,05	26.9	13.1	30.8
Buried by household	182,615	7,140	166	1.5	1.0	1.6
Other	53,805	2,412	108	0.9	1.1	0.9
Liquid waste						
Total	5,467,04	318,19	1143	100.0	100.0	100.0
Through the sewerage system	183,169	6,636	178	1.6	3.9	0.9
Through drainage system into a gutter	594,404	13,949	58	0.5	1.5	0.2
Through drainage into a pit (soak away)	167,555	16,152	596	5.2	12.1	3.3
Thrown onto the street/outside	1,538,50	178,61	5,657	49.6	33.8	54.0
Thrown into gutter	1,020,096	19,931	423	3.7	8.0	2.5
Thrown onto compound	1,924,986	81,195	4,397	38.5	40.4	38.0
Other	38,294	1,585	104	0.9	0.3	1.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER NINE
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9.1   Introduction

The formulation and implementation of development policies are often driven by data. The main objective for conducting the 2010 PHC was to provide the country with up-to-date socio-economic data for planning and for evaluating the various government policy intervention programmes at national, regional and district levels.

9.2   Summary of Main Findings

9.2.1   Demographic characteristics

Population size and structure

The total population of the district from the 2010 PHC is 87,877 persons. Males constitute 50.8 percent and females make up 49.9 percent. The district is predominantly rural with 80.2 percent of the total population. The sex ratio (the number of males per 100 females) of the district is 99.6. This means there is almost the same number of males to females in the district. The age dependency ratio of the district is 100.2 which mean that there is one person in the dependency ages for every one person in the working ages in the district. About 6 out of 10 (56.6%) of the population of the district fall within the aged cohort of 0-19 years, with those within the age cohort of 0-14 forming 46.3 percent and those in 15- 24 years constituting 48.4 percent. This implies that those within the age bracket of 0-24 constitute about 64.8 percent of the population of the district. Those in age group 60 years and older constitute only 3.7 percent of the population, making the population of the district a youthful one. The distribution by sex also reveals a similar pattern where most of the population is concentrated in the age group 0-14 years. The high proportion of children and youths constituting the population could put much strain on the district's resources in the provision of educational and social amenities.

Fertility

The Total Fertility Rate for the district is 3.6 children per woman. The crude birth rate for the district is 23.7 per 1000 and the general fertility rate is 101.5 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years.

Mortality

Total deaths reported in households in the district are 334 with a crude death rate of 3.8. Deaths caused by accidents/violence/homicide/suicide constitute 9.7 percent of all deaths in the district.

Migration

The district has a migrant population of 20,423 persons out of which 35.8 percent were born in another region. Migrants from the Volta region constitute the majority of migrants from other regions. Nearly two-fifths (39.8 %) of migrants spends less than five years in the district.

9.2.2 Social characteristics

Household composition and structure

The total household population in the district is 86,432 with 16,839 households in the district. Average household size is 7.6 persons. Children constitute the highest component of households with 50.8 percent with male children dominating. The most common household structure is the extended type consisting of the head, spouse(s), children and relatives of the head which constitute 33.1percent.

Marital status

More than half (53.1%) of persons 12 years and older are married with 39.3 percent who are never married. The data show that a higher proportion of persons in the lower age group have never married and as age increases, the number decreases to about 6.8 percent for those 65 years and above. About half (50.5%) persons who are never married have attained basic education compared to the married with about 8 out of 10.

Nationality

Ghanaians constitute 96.7 percent of the population in the district of which Ghanaians by birth constitute 92.4 percent.

Religion

Islam (84.3%) is the dominant religion in the district. About 1 in 10 people adhere to the Christian faith with 1.6 percent having no religion. More males adhere to religion compared to females.

Literacy and education

According to Article 25 (1) of the 1992 Constitution, all persons shall have the right to equal educational opportunities and facilities. Dropout rates increase as people climb the academic ladder to higher education. However, females dominate at the pre-school and primary school levels and begin to drop from the JSS/JHS to the tertiary level with a substantial difference. The results point to the known lower female participation in education at the higher levels.

Despite efforts made by governments in terms of informal education, only 28.7 percent of the population aged 11 years and older are literate. Ghana is surrounded by Francophone countries and one would have expected that a significant proportion of the population in the district will be literate in French. However, the level of French literacy is less than one percent in the District. Also, for a district in Ghana, it is surprising that only 6.8 percent are literate in at least one Ghanaian language.

9.2.3 Economic characteristics

Economic activity

The economically active persons in the district constitute 78.7 percent of the population 15 years and older. About 97.8 percent are employed with males being more employed than females. As expected, those in lower age groups are mostly economically not active while the employed are in the higher age groups.

Occupation

The main occupation of the people is skilled agricultural forestry and fisheries which employs 77.7 percent of the economically active persons. There are more males (86.2%) in skilled agricultural forestry and fishery than females (68.9%). On the contrary, females have the highest proportion (11.8%) in the service and sales workers as against 3.5 percent of males.

Industry

Most of the people of Central Gonja are predominantly farmers and fishermen constituting 77.0 percent of the workforce aged 15 years and above, with both sexes having a higher proportion of their population in this industry. Whereas the females dominate in the wholesale and retail repair of motor vehicle with a proportion of 12.9 percent, manufacturing (12.2%) and accommodation and food service activities (3.6%), males outnumber them in education, construction and transportation and storage.

Employment status

Majority of the population 15years and older are self-employed without employees (59.0%) followed by contributing family workers with 32.9 percent and those who are employees constitute 3.3 percent.

Employment sector

The private informal sector has the highest number of the employed population (97.1%) with the public sector employing less than five percent. More females are in the private sector compared to males.

9.2.4   Information, Communication Technology.

Of persons aged 12 years and older in the district, nearly 15.9 percent own mobile phones and 21.6 percent of males compared to 10.5 percent of females own mobile phones. Also, only 0.5 percent uses the internet facility and as in the case of mobile phone ownership, more males (0.7%) have access to the internet facility compared to the females' proportion of 0.3 percent. Furthermore, only 2.9 percent of households in the district own desktop/laptop computers.

9.2.5   Disability

A total of 3,151 persons with disability were recorded in the district representing 3.6 percent of the district's total population. People with emotional disability recorded the highest of all the disability types. Urban disabled persons constitute 4.2 percent of the urban population of 17,415 and for the rural population of 70,462, only 3.4 percent are disabled. About two-thirds (66.6%) of persons with disability are employed with 31.2 percent being economically not active. With regards to education, 63.6 percent of people with disability have never been to school and 3.7 percent have secondary or a higher level education. More disabled males are in school compared to their female counterparts.

9.2.6 Agriculture

Every seven in ten households in the district are engage in an agricultural activity. In rural households 83.3 percent are into agriculture while 41.7 percent of urban households are into agriculture. Crop farming and livestock rearing are the two main agricultural activity households engage in the district. Of all livestock kept, chicken is the preferred livestock reared.

9.2.7 Housing

The quality of life of the people in the district depends largely on the type of houses they live in, access to potable water, education, health, electricity, and adequate sanitary facilities among others. The district recorded a total housing stock of 12,041. There are more houses in rural localities than in urban areas. Average household size is 7.6 persons. In the Central Gonja District, a little over seventy percent of households use mud for constructing their outer wall. About seven in ten households use cement/concrete for the floor of their dwelling units. About nine out of ten dwelling units are owned by household members and again, more than half of households use kerosene as their main source of lighting. About two-fifths of households rely on water from river/stream for drinking and other domestic purposes. Over 9 in 10 households have no toilet facilities in the urban locality and therefore resort to the use of the bush. As much as 88.4 percent of households use wood as energy for cooking, with a further 8.0 percent using wood. About half of households dispose their solid waste in the open space.

9.3   Policy Recommendation

The district specific demographic and socio-economic information from the 2010 PHC is to help inform the goals and objectives of policies, targets to be achieved and strategies adopted for achieving such targets. With reference to the findings of the report, the following recommendations are made.

There is the need to create jobs for the economically active group since they form a majority of the population in the district. There should also be efforts to implement social interventions that will target the dependent persons since they are economically not active so that their standard of living would be improved.

The Total Fertility Rate of the district though is not the highest in the Northern Region, it is considered high It is recommended that much attention be paid by the district assembly on sexual and reproductive health as well as family planning programmes. This will have a direct positive effect on maternal and child health as well as on birth rates.
Government should intensify and encourage the teaching of French as well as Ghanaian languages in schools right from the basic education level. The compulsory teaching of the French language will help deepen our relationship with our French neighbours.

Education has a potential for providing employment opportunities for the teeming youth as well as reduction in family sizes. It is therefore recommended that the government should come out with interventions that would help retain females in school and increase completion rates throughout their educational cycle.

Government should beef up its functional literacy programmes in order to improve the literacy rate in the district. This is important for development as it facilitates easy dissemination of

information. For instance if a farmer can read and understand basic instructions on agro-chemicals, they can apply them correctly in order to improve upon their products.

The Central Gonja District Assembly should make conscious effort to set up, at least, an internet café in the district to begin with. This would improve access and use of the internet in the district.

People with emotional disability recorded the highest of all the disability types. Since education is a key factor to national and personal development for all persons, efforts must be made by the district assembly to support persons with disability to enrol in special schools learning facilities. Skill development training centres should be built and equipped to train persons with disabilities in various skills so that their vulnerability will be reduced and will be able to live decent and quality lives.

Efforts aimed at modernizing agriculture using appropriate technologies especially in the rural areas to increase productivity in the sector need to be intensified. For instance strategies should be developed to process and package agricultural produce for export. Farmers in agriculture need to be supported to acquire implements and small-to medium scale irrigation equipment that will facilitate farming activities throughout the year. The linkage between agriculture related activities and local industries need to be strengthened to create employment and ensure efficiency in both sectors.

It is recommended that the District Assembly in collaboration with Non-governmental organizations operating in the water sector, target underserved communities to extend potable water or construct bore-holes. This will improve access to potable water for those communities.

The District Assemblies should enforce by-laws regarding the issue of building permit such that all dwelling units would have the required facilities (Toilet, Sewerage etc.) before permits are issued for putting up such structures. In addition, the District Assembly should ban the use of the bush as defecating grounds in order to prevent or reduce the spread of some communicable diseases. The Assembly should ensure the proper management or collection of solid waste to ensure good sanitary conditions in the district.

An important concern is the use of wood as the main source of fuel for cooking by households with its attendant impact on deforestation in the district. There is the need to devise strategies for households to cut down on the use of wood for cooking and encourage the use of gas as replacement.

9.4   Conclusion

These findings present an opportunity for the government to formulate policies and strategies to deal with the issues identified. Overall, areas of impact include economic growth, effective resource allocation and the general welfare and well-being of the people of the Central Gonja District including those with disabilities. If appropriate programmes are effected to tackle these issues, collectively, Ghana's aim of becoming a higher middle-income country will be realised.

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Central Gonja District Profile

www.centralgonja.ghanadistricts.gov.gh

APPENDICES

Table A1: Distribution of households engaged in tree growing or crop farming by type of crop and   population engaged

Activity/type of crop	Households	Population in occupied units			Population engaged in agricultural activities		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total households in occupied units	11,413	86,432	43,202	43,230	24,449	14,323	10,126
Households engaged in agricultural activities	8,465	68,939	34,568	34,371	24,449	14,323	10,126
Households engaged in crop farming or tree growing	7,827	63,992	31,976	32,016	22,386	13,135	9,251
Households engaged in crop farming	7,812	63,859	31,916	31,943	22,310	13,102	9,208
Households engaged in tree growing	187	1,545	752	793	515	279	236
Agro forestry (tree planting)	187	1,545	752	793	515	279	236
Alligator pepper	11	99	50	49	44	22	22
Apples	10	89	51	38	16	13	3
Asian vegetables (e.g. tinda, cauliflower)	32	294	134	160	103	65	38
Avocado	7	65	30	35	27	14	13
Banana	23	194	105	89	77	40	37
Beans	288	2,925	1,467	1,458	1,200	662	538
Black pepper	21	156	75	81	46	29	17
Black berries	3	28	12	16	6	3	3
Cabbage	5	42	22	20	14	10	4
Carrot	541	4,142	2,064	2,078	1,477	845	632
Cashew	106	918	460	458	303	187	116
Cassava	2,330	19,808	9,975	9,833	7,192	4,221	2,971
Citronella	22	214	116	98	78	43	35
Citrus	8	69	41	28	56	34	22
Cloves	2	15	7	8	3	2	1
Cocoa	10	48	24	24	31	16	15
Coconut	25	198	103	95	64	42	22
Cocoyam	16	110	51	59	42	21	21
Cocoyam /taro (kooko)	10	96	45	51	40	20	20
Coffee	4	42	27	15	13	7	6
Cola	2	12	7	5	4	2	2
Cotton	9	77	44	33	23	14	9
Cucumber	92	993	477	516	386	226	160
Egg plant	3	27	13	14	9	5	4
Gallic	3	26	14	12	9	6	3
Garden eggs	20	169	83	86	70	38	32
Ginger	5	89	42	47	21	9	12
Groundnut	2,991	26,468	12,812	13,656	9,747	5,271	4,476
Guava	13	105	59	46	35	25	10
Kenaf	6	60	31	29	16	10	6
Lemon grass	5	32	17	15	14	7	7
Lettuce	30	199	112	87	67	45	22
Maize	5,846	49,509	24,854	24,655	16,958	10,106	6,852
Mango	64	473	254	219	152	78	74
Melon (agusi)	41	325	151	174	97	54	43
Millet	569	5,312	2,696	2,616	2,046	1,162	884
Mushroom	1	6	2	4	2	1	1

Table A1: Distribution of households engaged in tree growing or crop farming by type of crop and population engaged (cont'd)

Activity/type of crop	Households	Population in occupied units			Population engaged in agricultural activities		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Nut meg	13	118	53	65	36	25	11
Oil palm	5	58	28	30	27	15	12
Okro	1,107	9,687	4,685	5,002	3,802	1,914	1,888
Onion	6	52	28	24	18	11	7
Pawpaw	12	131	57	74	52	28	24
Peas	64	541	264	277	212	116	96
Pepper	830	6,948	3,416	3,532	2,542	1,294	1,248
Pineapple	4	26	16	10	7	3	4
Plantain	15	148	73	75	40	23	17
Potatoes	4	61	30	31	20	13	7
Rice	642	6,826	3,247	3,579	2,281	1,337	944
Rubber	12	109	52	57	43	22	21
Shallot	1	2	2	0	1	1	0
Shea tree	6	50	26	24	29	13	16
Sorghum	185	1,581	794	787	526	306	220
Soya beans	132	1,152	543	609	347	196	151
Spinach	7	51	23	28	17	9	8
Sun flower	1	3	3	0	3	3	0
Sweet pepper	3	56	28	28	5	3	2
Sweet potatoes	1	15	7	8	1	1	0
Tiger nut	40	472	236	236	159	101	58
Tobacco	7	66	35	31	28	13	15
Tomatoes	134	1,280	611	669	503	270	233
Water melon	11	76	41	35	33	20	13
Yam	4,486	38,283	19,369	18,914	13,667	8,132	5,535
Other	117	993	498	495	266	176	90

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table A2: Population by sex, number of households and houses in the 20 largest communities

S/No.	Community name	Total	Male	Female	House Holds	Houses
1	Buipe	11,653	5,756	5,897	1,781	1,712
2	Yapei	5,762	2,829	2,933	727	698
3	Sankpala	3,204	1,506	1,698	345	368
4	Mpaha	2,971	1,532	1,439	349	455
5	Fufulso	2,323	1,135	1,188	302	296
6	Lito	2,126	1,108	1,018	339	338
7	Yipala	2,004	984	1,020	254	231
8	Kpabuso-Kingbigi	1,981	1,000	981	300	306
9	Kusawgu	1,798	864	934	213	202
10	Chama	1,432	670	762	179	202
11	Kigbripe	1,408	728	680	180	187
12	Bulubon	1,175	556	619	149	66
13	Kpantinya	1,144	538	606	111	110
14	Sheri	1,118	545	573	157	392
15	Kpalangase & Chokosipe	1,078	529	549	151	155
16	Kekale No.4	1,056	547	509	169	155
17	Tuluwe Agage And Bator	1,023	555	468	161	151
18	Dabope	993	502	491	159	103
19	Gbungbunto	993	491	502	162	160
20	Kpansera	920	441	479	114	117

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table A3: Population by age group in the 20 largest communities

S/No.	Community Name	All ages	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+
1	Buipe	11,653	1,655	1,627	1,516	1,502	1,107	906	775	572	575	366	349	172	169	88	102	172
2	Yapei	5,762	843	825	779	726	505	418	351	296	262	181	151	81	88	52	83	121
3	Sankpala	3,204	570	583	375	294	257	276	167	160	104	94	66	60	52	40	37	69
4	Mpaha	2,971	441	428	401	373	276	223	185	163	103	129	69	31	54	17	30	48
5	Fufulso	2,323	347	386	286	263	180	135	184	120	115	66	62	21	48	22	39	49
6	Lito	2,126	407	341	260	188	112	182	134	97	91	93	66	38	43	23	10	41
7	Yipala	2,004	350	313	213	208	156	157	126	106	80	74	73	29	28	31	37	23
8	Kpabuso-Kingbigi	1,981	422	391	245	154	123	118	101	92	74	69	45	37	18	19	18	55
9	Kusawgu	1,798	327	287	225	171	117	127	112	106	57	61	52	18	33	31	27	47
10	Chama	1,432	248	219	186	161	135	132	67	56	43	47	41	25	17	17	10	28
11	Kigbripe	1,408	313	239	160	127	113	118	88	58	39	32	26	14	13	5	21	42
12	Bulubon	1,175	331	189	130	69	57	75	75	76	63	24	38	10	8	10	8	12
13	Kpantinya	1,144	211	223	153	83	96	133	83	47	42	15	21	5	5	4	15	8
14	Sheri Kpalangase &	1,118	219	182	142	121	91	72	58	56	51	27	25	8	16	13	11	26
15	Chokosipe Kekale	1,078	113	200	213	136	96	86	102	42	43	10	15	2	5	4	3	8
16	No.4 Tuluwe	1,056	219	159	132	108	76	81	65	48	40	35	23	18	19	9	11	13
17	Agage and Bator	1,023	179	155	128	108	120	95	59	48	32	30	21	10	9	12	4	13
18	Dabope	993	197	167	93	81	77	63	36	68	35	52	43	7	21	10	15	28
19	Gbungbunto	993	175	218	143	77	38	70	43	68	39	43	19	10	15	13	5	17
20	Kpansera	920	181	182	135	97	51	50	38	43	36	29	24	18	11	6	5	14

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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