



2010

POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

NORTH GONJA DISTRICT



Canada 

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK
DANIDA | INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE, OCTOBER, 2014

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

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

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

The District Analytical Report for the North 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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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS:	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ASCII:	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
CBR:	Crude Birth Rate
CDR:	Crude death Rate
CEB:	Children Ever Born
CEDAW:	Convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination
CERSCIS	Centre for remote and Geographical Information Systems
CHIPS	Community Health Planning Service
CIDA:	Canadian International Development Agency
CS:	Children Surviving
CWIQ:	Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaire
DA:	District Assembly
DANIDA:	Danish International Development Agency
DCD:	District Coordinating Director
DCE	District Chief Executive
DFID:	Department for International Development
DPCU:	District Planning and Coordinating Unit
EA:	Enumeration Area
ECOWAS:	Economic Commission of West African States
EMIS:	Education Management Information System
EU:	European Union
fCUBE:	Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education
GA:	General Assembly
GDHS:	Ghana Demography Health Survey
GDP:	Gross Domestic Product
GES:	Ghana Education Service
GETFund:	Ghana Education Trust Fund
GFR:	General Fertility Rate
GPRTU:	Ghana Private Road Transport Union
GPS:	Global Positioning System
GREDA:	Ghana Real Estate Developers Association
GSDP:	Ghana Statistics Development Plan
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
GYEEDA:	Ghana Youth Employment and Entrepreneurial Development Agency
HATS:	Health Assistants Training School
HIV:	Human Immune Virus
ICT:	Information Communication Technology
ICU:	International Communication Union
IMIS	Integrated Management Information System
ISCO:	International Standard Classification of Occupation
ISIC:	International Standard Classification of Industry

ISSER:	Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research
JHS:	Junior High School
JSS:	Junior Secondary School
LEAP:	Livelihood Empowerment against Poverty
LESDEP:	Local Enterprise and Skills Development
MDAs:	Ministries, Department and Agencies
MDGs:	Millennium Development Goals
MER:	Migration Effectiveness Ratio
MOE:	Ministry of Education
MOFA:	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MOTI:	Ministry of Trade and Industry
NCA:	National Communication Authority
NCTA:	National Census Technical Advisory Committee
NDPC:	National Development Planning Commission
NGD:	North Gonja District
NGDA :	North Gonja District Assembly
NGOs:	Non-governmental Organisations
NHIAGI:	Association of Ghanaian Industries
NHIS:	National Health Insurance Scheme
OIC:	Opportunities Industrialization Centres
PAS:	Population Analysis Spread sheet
PASEX:	Population Analysis System
PDA:	Portable Digital Device
PES:	Post Enumeration Survey
PHC:	Population and Housing Census
PNDC:	Provisional National Defense Council
PPP:	Public-Private Partnerships
PWDs:	Persons with Disabilities
SADA:	Savannah Accelerated Development Authority
SAP:	Structural Adjustment Programme
SHC:	Senior High School
SHEP:	Self Help Electrification Project
SHS:	Senior High School
SMAM:	Singulate Mean Age at Marriage
SSS:	Senior Secondary School
TBAs:	Trained Birth Attendants/Traditional Birth Attendants
UN:	United Nations
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA:	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF:	United Nations International Children's Education Fund
W.C:	Water Closet
WHO:	World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The 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 North Gonja District, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, is 43,547 representing 1.8 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute 49.6 percent and females represent 50.4 percent. Eighty five percent of the population is rural. The District has a sex ratio of 98.3. The population of the District is youthful (35.1%) of the 0-9 age group, depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of the 60 plus years (3.1%). The total age dependency ratio for the District is 107, the age dependency ratio for males is higher (113.9) than that of females (100.6)

Fertility, mortality and migration

The Total Fertility Rate for the District 5.3, the General Fertility Rate is 135.8 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 31 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the District is 6 per 1000. The death rate for males is highest for under five male children representing 15.7 deaths per 1000 population while for the females, the highest death rate of 12.5 deaths per 1000 population is also for under five female children. It is also higher for males (34%) and 5 percent for females for the 65 years and above. Out of the total population of 14,715, there had been 247 cases of deaths in the District. Almost half of the migrants (44.6%) living in the District were born in another region while 55.4 percent were born elsewhere in the Western. For migrants born in another region, those born outside Ghana constitute 48.3 percent followed by Upper East Region with 10.1percent.

Household Size, composition and structure

The District has a household population of 42,972 with a total number of 4,793 households. The average household size in the District is 9 persons per household. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household structure accounting for 55.2 percent. Head form about 9.5 percent. Extended Family constitutes 73.5 percent of the total number of households in the District.

Marital status

More than half (54.6) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 39.2 percent have never married, 0.9 percent are in consensual unions, 3.6 percent are widowed, 0.8 percent are divorced and 1.3 percent are separated. By age 25-29 years, more than eight out of ten females (82.6%) are married compared to 56.9 percent of males. At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 50.2 percent while widowed males account for only 7.2 percent. Among the married, 90.3 percent have no education while 53.1 percent of the unmarried have never been to school. Almost 84 percent of the married populations are

employed, 0.9 percent are unemployed and 15.8 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who widowed (56.3%) are economically not active...

Nationality

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the District is 89.8 percent. Those who have naturalized constitute 0.8 percent and while the non-Ghanaian population in the District is 5.6 percent.

Proportion of Moslems population in the North Gonja District is about 72.8 percent. Among the Christian groups, Catholics constitutes the majority of ten percent.

Literacy and education

Of the population 11 years and above, 24.9 percent are literate and 75.1 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (40.1%) than that of females (27.3%). Almost half of (49.8) indicated they could read and write both English and Ghanaian languages.

With reference to school attendance, of the population aged 3 years and above, out of 31,721 in the District, 68.2 percent has never attended school, 26.6 percent are currently attending and 5.2 percent have attended in the past.

Economic Activity Status

About 76.8 percent of the population aged 15 years and older is economically active while 23.2 per cent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 98.8 percent are employed while 1.2 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a larger percentage of them did home duties (43.1%), 29 percent are students and 19.1 percent are too old or too young to do any work. Almost seven out of ten (61.4%) of the unemployed are worked before, are seeking work or are available to work.

Occupation

Of the employed population, more than eight out of ten (82.8%) are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 6.9 percent in service and sales, 7.3 percent in craft and related trade, and 1.5 percent are engaged as managers, professionals and technicians.

Employment status and sector

Of the population 15 years and older, with respect to sex distribution, 61.4 percent males are self-employed without employees compare to 38.6 percent of females, almost 62 percent females are contributing family workers as compare to 38.1 percent of males, 58.3 percent females are casual workers with 42 percent constituting males. As high as 72 percent females are apprentice as compare to 28.1 percent of males. Overall, women constitute the highest proportion in each employment category except the employees' categories. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the District, employing 98 percent of the population, the private formal and public Government accounts for one percent each.

Information Communication Technology

Of the population 12 years and above, less than one out of ten people have mobile phones. Male who own mobile phones constitute 63.9 percent as compared to 36.1 percent of females. Less than one percent (0.3%) of the population 12 years and older use internet facilities in the District. Only 6 households representing 0.1 percent of the total households in the District have desktop/laptop computers.

Disability

About 1.6 percent (703) of the District's total population has one form of disability or the other. The proportion of the female and male population with disability is the same (1.6%). The types of disability in the District include sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, and emotion. Persons with sight disability recorded the highest of 31.3 percent followed by physical disability (27%) and hearing disability of 18.3. The disability pattern is the same for both urban and rural localities with sight, physical and hearing disabilities remaining the predominant cases. About 58.3 percent of the economically active and employed have various forms of disability with other forms of disability other than the ones mentioned accounting for 81.4 percent for the majority with disability. Of the population disabled, almost 77 percent have never been to school.

Agriculture

Almost nine out of every ten of the population (87.3%) of households in the District are engaged in agriculture, Crop farming is the main agricultural activity with more than nine out of ten (96.4%) households engage in it. Those in livestock rearing account for 35.6 percent and tree planting 0.4 percent. The same pattern is observed in both the rural and urban localities, more than nine out of every ten households (96.9%) are engaged in agricultural while in the rural localities and 91.9 percent households in the urban areas are into agriculture. Cattle, which accounts for 28 percent is the dominant animal reared in the District.

Housing

The housing stock of North Gonja District is 3,398 with 4,793 households. Households in the rural areas constitute 4,063 and the rest in the urban areas. The population per house in the District is 14 compared to 10 in the region.

Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

More than half (59.3%) of all dwelling units in the District are compound houses; only 9.6 percent are separate houses and 1.6 percent are semi-detached houses. More than 9 in 10 (93.8%) of the dwelling units in the District are owned by members of the household; 2.3 percent are owned by a relative who is not a member of the household, 1.8 percent are owned by other private individuals; and only 1.5 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 bricks or Earth accounting for 83 percent. More than nine out of every ten (91.2%) of outer walls of building in the rural localities are constructed with Mud bricks or Earth. However, 52 percent of outer walls of buildings in urban communities are constructed with cement block or concrete. Cement (85.2%) and mud/earth (13.6%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the District. Thatch, Palm leaf or Raffia are the main roofing material (70.1 %) for dwelling units in the District. A considerable number of houses (25.4%) in the District are constructed with Metal sheet.

Room occupancy

One room constitutes the highest percentage (75.9%) of sleeping rooms occupied by households in dwelling units in the District. About 15.5 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 (42.9%), Flashlight or Torch (41.1%) and electricity main (13.7%). The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the District is wood (93.9%). The proportion for rural (96.0%) is higher than that of urban (82.6%). The two main sources of water in the District are Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well and river stream. Almost seven out of every ten households (66.5%) drink water from Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well and 23.2 percent use River or Stream.

Majority of the households in the District (92.1%) have no toilet facility, they either use the bush or field. Only four percent each use KVIP or Public toilet. Almost a third of the households (23.5%) in the District own bathrooms for their exclusive use, 22.5 percent share separate bathrooms in the same house while 17 percent share open cubicle.

Waste disposal

The most widely method of solid waste disposal is by public dump in the open space accounting for 59 percent. More than a third (33.7%) of households dumps their solid waste indiscriminately. House to house waste collection accounts for less than one percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste onto the compound (31.2%) and onto street or outside (58.8 % each) are the two most common methods used by households in the District.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

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

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

The overall level of development and the demographic structure of the country conceal differences between and within regions, Districts, urban and rural localities. As such, there are bound to be differences in the population and development needs and priorities between and within Districts, urban and rural localities.

The report is with reference to the North Gonja District. Its objective is to make available to the general public analysis of data, the results of the 2010 Population and Housing Census and their full implications for policy and planning in the District.

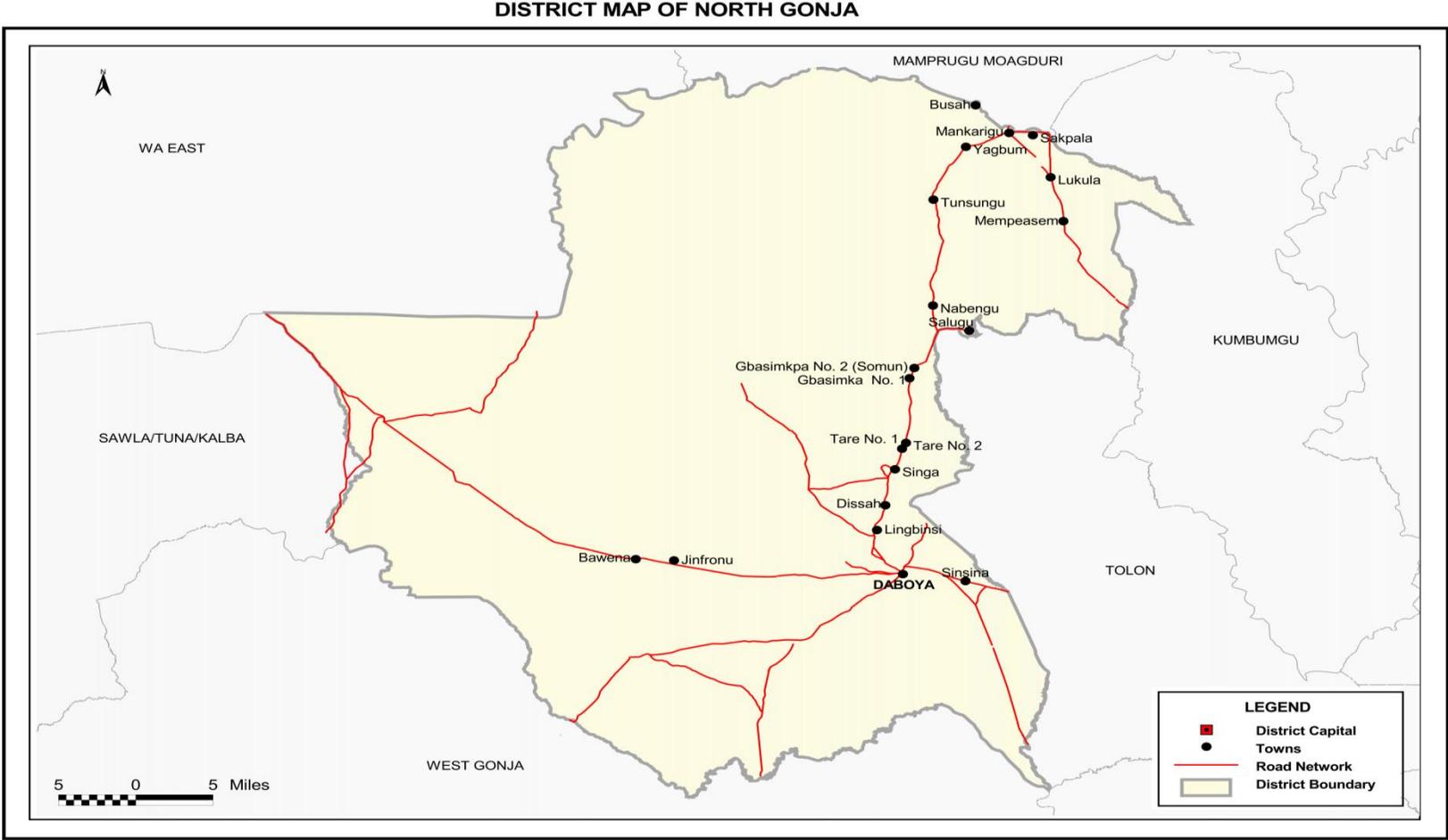
The North Gonja District Assembly was established by legislative instrument (LI) 2065 (2012). The district was inaugurated on Thursday, 28th June 2012 in Daboya, the capital town. The district was carved out of the West Gonja District in 2012 following the 2010 Population and Housing Census as part of the efforts to deepen decentralization processes in the country. There are about sixty-eight communities in the district. These include Lingbinsi, Tari, Singa, Disah, Kagbal, Lukula, Wawato, Bawena, Mankarigu and Daboya as the major localities.

1.2 Physical Features

1.2.1 Location and Size

North Gonja District is located in the western part of the Northern Region of Ghana. It lies within longitude $1^{\circ} 5^1$ and $2^{\circ} 58^1$ West and Latitude $8^{\circ} 32^1$ and $10^{\circ} 2^1$ North. It shares boundaries with West Gonja and Wa East districts to the West, Tolon District to the East, Mamprugu-Moagduri and Kumbungu districts to the North and Central Gonja to the South. The district has a total land mass of about 4,845.5sq km, representing 6.9 percent of the total land size of the Northern Region.

Figure 1.1: Map of North Gonja District



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

1.2.2 Climate

The district lies in the tropical continental western margin and characterized by a single rainfall pattern brought in by the rain bearing tropical maritime air mass (MT). This occurs between April and October every year. This is followed by the tropical continental air mass (CT) which brings about the dry season (Harmattan) which occurs from late November to March. The mean annual rainfall is between 1000mm and 1500mm with the peak occurring from July to September. The district experiences a prolonged dry season with the peak occurring between March and April.

Temperature is fairly high with the annual mean temperature ranging from 27.4°C to 35°C depending on the season. The highest temperature is recorded in the dry season while the lowest is experienced during the Harmattan season.

1.2.3 Vegetation

The natural vegetation is Guinea Savannah. Its richness is, however, determined by the soil types. The large 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 ebony. The Shea tree is of great economic value since it is a source of revenue and welfare for women who pick the nuts and process them into shea butter. These trees are mostly scattered except in few areas and most valleys where isolated wood land or gallery forest are found. Most trees are deciduous, shedding their leaves during the dry season in order to conserve water (North Gonja District Draft Medium Term Development plan, 2013).

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 Bawena, Yazori, kpulimbo and Anyanto areas. Bush fires, and illegal chainsaw activities have reached alarming proportions which need to be checked to avoid serious environmental problems in future.

1.2.4 Relief and drainage

The topography is generally undulating with altitude of between 150-200 metres above sea level. There are outcrops of weathered rocks around Daboya.

The White Volta River flows through the district and gets flooded during the peak of the rainy season. The flooding gets compounded when the Bagri Dam in Burkina Faso is spilled over each year. Other streams are Tarchali and Tari. The White Volta River and the streams are potentials for irrigation and fish farming in the district.

1.2.5 Soil and their suitability for agriculture

There are two major soil types in the district. These are the Savannah Ochrosols and Groundwater laterites. The Savannah Ochrosols which cover almost the entire district, is moderately drained and the upland soils developed mainly on Voltain sandstone. The texture of the surface soil is sandy to sandy loam with fairly good water retention. The Groundwater Laterites cover a smaller portion of the district and is mainly found in the southern part of the district. These are concretionary soils developed mainly from Voltain shale, mudstone and argillaceous sandstone materials. The texture of the soil is sandy loam which is suitable for the cultivation of annual food crops such as maize, millet, sorghum, watermelon, etc., and

tree crops with long gestation period such as sheanut, dawadawa, cashew, etc., which are of economic importance.

1.3 Political and Administrative Structure

The North Gonja District Assembly has a total number of 23 assembly members comprising 15 elected members, 7 Government appointees, one Member of Parliament, and a District Chief Executive (DCE). The DCE is the executive head of the district, while the District Coordinating Director (Administrative head) and his/her technical team constitute the technocrats and advisers of the DCE. The district has 3 Area Councils (Daboya, Lingbinsi and Mankarigu). It also has one Parliamentary Constituency, fifteen Electoral Areas and fifteen Unit Committees. The North Gonja District Assembly, like any other District Assembly in Ghana, functions through the Committee System and has in place the following committees:

1.4 Social Structure

Social structure is the organized pattern of social relationships and social institutions that together constitute a society. This is the unique and stable arrangement by which institutions and human beings in a society interact and live together. It can be the way social norms shape the behaviour of the societal actors within the social system. A social structure is comprised of a society's domestic economy, social organization, kinship, and its political economy comprising the political institutions as well as social hierarchies.

1.4.1 Chieftaincy

The Wasipe-wura is the overlord of the Wasipe traditional area with Daboya as both the traditional and administrative capital. The Wasipe traditional area is one of the five major divisional areas in the Gonja Kingdom (the other divisional areas are Kpembi, Bole, Kusawgu and Tulwe) The Wasipe-wura has 80 sub-chiefs, including Yazori-wura, Gbengben-wura, Mun-wura, Garima-wura who serve as Council of Elders and advise the overlord. There are also queen mothers in the chieftaincy set up such as Bru-wurche who is senior to the overlord (Wasipe-wura), Sey-wurche, and Nyankpani-wurche who help in the traditional administration of the area.

1.4.2 Languages, culture and ethnicity

The district is predominantly inhabited by the Gonja but there are also the Tampilma, Mamprusi, Hanga, Dagomba and Fulani. The people of the district celebrate a number of festivals, namely; Damba festival, Jintigi (Fire festival), Eidul-Fitri and Eidul-Adha. The main religious groups in the district are Islam, Traditional African Religion and Christianity.

1.5 Economy

The North Gonja District is well endowed with rich arable lands and so the major economic activities include farming, cattle rearing and trading. Major crops cultivated include maize, millet, groundnuts, soya beans, rice and sorghum. Fishing is done in the White Volta River.

The District is also noted for its rich smock weaving in Ghana which serves as a tourist attraction. There are salt deposits on the White Volta just around the District capital, but can only be mined during the dry season. The District has three functional markets at Mankarigu, Lingbinsi and Tarri which serve as sources of revenue generation for the District Assembly. The main means of transportation for the people is the use of motor bikes, bicycles and

tractor alongside some commercial vehicles. The tourist's sites in the district are the Bawena Range, Kpariya waterfall and the beautiful smock weaving in Daboya.

1.6 Census Methodology, Concepts and Definitions

1.6.1 Introduction

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

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

1.6.2 Pre-enumeration activities

Development of census project document and work plans

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

Census secretariat and committees

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

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

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

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

Selection of census topics

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

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

Census mapping

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

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

Development of questionnaire and manuals

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

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

Pre-tests and trial census

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

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

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

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

guided the planning of the recruitment process, the procedures for training of census field staff and the publicity and education interventions.

1.6.3 Census enumeration

Method of enumeration and field work

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

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

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

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

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

1.6.4 Post Enumeration Survey

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

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

1.6.5 Release and dissemination of results

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

1.6.6 Concepts and definitions

Introduction

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

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

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

Region

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

District

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

Locality

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

Population

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

Household

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

Head of household

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

Household and non-household population

Household population comprised of all persons who spent the census night in a household setting. All persons who did not spend the census night in a household setting (except

otherwise stated) were classified as non-household population. Persons who spent census night in any of the under listed institutions and locations were classified as non-household population:

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

Age

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

Nationality

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

Ethnicity

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

Birthplace

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

Duration of residence

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

Religion

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

Marital status

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

Literacy

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

Education

School Attendance

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

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

Level of Education

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

Activity status

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

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

- c. Were unemployed.

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

Occupation

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

Industry

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

Employment status

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

Employment sector

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

Disability

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

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

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 Report

The report is organized into nine (9) chapters. Chapter One discusses the profile of North Gonja District (NGD). This encompasses physical features, political administration, social and cultural structure, economy, organization of the report and concepts and definitions.

Chapter Two considers the demographic characteristics of the District such as population size and distribution. Chapter Three explains the social characteristics which include household size, household composition and headship. Chapter Four looks at the economic

characteristics of the District such as occupation, industry, and employment status and employment sector.

Chapter Five presents distribution of information, communication and technology (ICT) in the District. Chapter Six also discusses disability in the District. The seventh chapter covers agricultural activities such as types of farming and households in agriculture.

Housing conditions in the District are discussed in Chapter Eight and Chapter Nine considers the findings and conclusions drawn from the preceding chapters.

CHAPTER TWO

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

2.1 Introduction

Generally, a country's population size and age-sex composition has broad ranging consequences for a number of socio-economic indicators. The changes in a country's population are mainly through fertility, mortality and migration, which to a large extent, are influenced by age-sex composition. The 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC), like all other previous censuses undertaken in the country, was a "de-facto" count of each person present in Ghana irrespective of nationality.

Population size, age and sex composition/distribution of every society have varied implications for development planning such as health, education, transportation and overall welfare of the people. The objective of this chapter is to analyze the size, composition, and age and sex structure of the population of North Gonja District as captured by the 2010 PHC.

2.2 Population Size and Distribution

Table 2.1 shows the age and sex composition/distribution of the population in North Gonja District. The 2010 PHC indicates that the District has a total population of 43,547 made up of 49.6 percent males and 50.4 percent females. Out of the total population, a majority of the population, i.e., 37,037 (85.1%) resides in the rural areas with the remaining 6,510 (14.9%) in the urban areas.

2.3 Age-Sex Structure, Sex Ratio and Population Pyramid

Age and sex structure of a population are vital characteristics of a population which influence many demographic issues. Understanding the age and sex structure of a population yields insights into the dynamics of the population composition and highlights on socio-economic challenges

2.3.1 Age-sex structure

Table further shows that, male children age 0-4 years represent 18.6 percent while their female counterparts make up 17.6 percent. This implies that there are more males at birth than females. As the age increases, female populations tend to dominate from 20-39 years whilst the reverse is true between ages 40 and 79 years for the males. This pattern is, however, contrary to expectation, because in general females tend to live longer than their male counterparts. The number of people within age group 15-64 years is 21,041, representing 48.0 percent males and 52.0 percent females. The age group 65+ is also made up of 50.9 percent males and 49.1 percent females.

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

Age Group	Both Sexes		Male		Female		Sex Ratio
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All Ages	43,547	100.0	21,592	100.0	21,955	100.0	98.30
0 – 4	7,884	18.1	4,014	18.6	3,870	17.6	104.00
5 – 9	7,359	16.9	3,714	17.2	3,645	16.6	102.00
10 – 14	5,624	12.9	2,935	13.6	2,689	12.2	109.00
15 – 19	4,922	11.3	2,613	12.1	2,309	10.5	113.00
20 – 24	3,700	8.5	1,701	7.9	1,999	9.1	85.10
25 – 29	2,989	6.9	1,233	5.7	1,756	8.0	70.20
30 – 34	2,336	5.4	977	4.5	1,359	6.2	71.90
35 – 39	2,025	4.7	895	4.1	1,130	5.1	79.20
40 – 44	1,603	3.7	809	3.7	794	3.6	102.00
45 – 49	1,227	2.8	639	3.0	588	2.7	109.00
50 – 54	1,079	2.5	593	2.7	486	2.2	122.00
55 – 59	494	1.1	277	1.3	217	1.0	128.00
60 – 64	666	1.5	358	1.7	308	1.4	116.00
65 – 69	351	0.8	199	0.9	152	0.7	131.00
70 – 74	538	1.2	272	1.3	266	1.2	102.00
75 – 79	231	0.5	120	0.6	111	0.5	108.00
80 – 84	265	0.6	126	0.6	139	0.6	90.60
85+	0	0.0	117	0.5	0	0.0	88.40

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3.1 Sex ratio

Sex ratio is the ratio of males to females in a given population, usually expressed as the number of males for every 100 females. The District has a sex ratio of 98.3. This implies that for every 100 females, there are 98 males. Age group 0-4 years has a sex ratio of 103.7 which conforms with the biological expectation of more males than females at birth. As the Table indicates, age group 65-69 has the highest sex ratio of 130.9 whilst age group 25-29 recorded the least sex ratio of 70.2. For the 2010 Population and Housing Census, the expected pattern of steady decline in the sex ratios is not witnessed in the District but fluctuates throughout the various age groups.

2.3.2 Age dependency ratio

Dependency ratio is the ratio of persons in the “dependent” ages (generally under age 15 and over age 64) to those in the “economically productive” ages (15-64 years) in a population (Population Reference Bureau’s Handbook; 5th Edition). Data in Table 2.2 shows that, the District has a general dependency ratio of 107. Males register a higher dependency ratio of 113.9 compared to 100.6 for females. In terms of locality, the rural areas have a higher dependency ratio of 108.5 as against 98.5 in the urban areas, which may be due to the higher fertility recorded in the rural areas compared to the urban localities in the country.

Table 2.2: Age dependency ratio by sex and locality

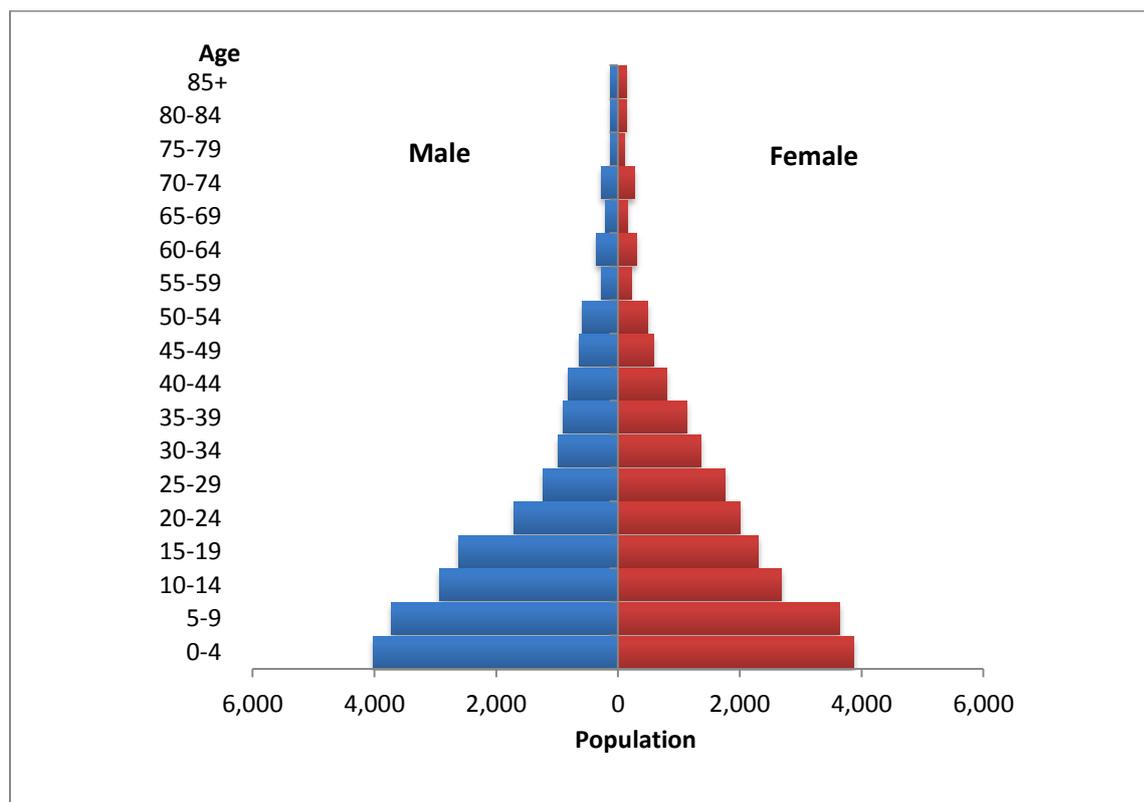
Age group	Both Sexes		Male		Female		Urban	Rural
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
All Ages	43,547	100.0	21,592	49.6	21,955	50.4	6,510	37,037
0-14	20,867	100.0	10,663	51.1	10,204	48.9	2,952	17,915
15-64	21,041	100.0	10,095	48.0	10,946	52.0	3,280	17,761
65+	1,639	100.0	834	50.9	805	49.1	278	1,361
Age-dependency ratio	107.0		113.9		100.6		98.5	108.5
Child dependency ratio	99.2		105.6		93.2		90.0	100.9
Old age dependency ratio	7.8		8.3		7.4		8.5	7.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3.3 Population pyramid

A population pyramid is a graphical representation of the population by age and sex. Figure 2.1 is a population pyramid of North Gonja District in 2010 based on the 2010 PHC. It depicts North Gonja District as having a youthful population structure with a broad base, consisting of large numbers of children and a conical top of a small number of elderly persons. It is important to note that the population witnesses decreasing numbers with each advancing age as in ages 0 to 59 years. The numbers, however, fluctuate from 59 to 69 years and assume no difference between males and females thereafter. It is also worthy of note that among the population less than 20 years, the male population out-numbers the female population. However, the reverse is the case within ages 20 to 44 years. This may be due to high levels of out-migration of the male population within these ages from the District to other Districts in the region or to other regions for educational or economic reasons.

Figure 2.1: Population pyramid



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4 Fertility, Mortality and Migration

Fertility, mortality and migration are factors that influence population growth at a particular point in time. Data on these three components are critical for planning the overall socio-economic development of the District. The interactions of these components determine the size and structure of population. While fertility causes an increase in the size of the population through births, mortality on the other hand leads to a reduction in the size of the population through deaths. However, unlike fertility and mortality, migration affects the population size and structure in two areas; the area of in-migration as well as the area of out-migration.

2.4.1 Fertility

Fertility is directly determined by a number of factors that, in turn, are affected by many social, cultural, economic, health, and other environmental factors. Therefore, the actual reproductive performance of an individual, a couple, a group, or a population is referred to as fertility. This is different from general fertility rate which is the number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years in a given year.

Table 2.3 reveals that, the North Gonja District has 9,935 women within the age group 15-49 years with number of live births in the last 12 months preceding the 2010 Population and Housing Census being 1,349 children. The TFR is the average number of children that would be born to a woman by the time she ends childbearing if she were to pass through all her childbearing years conforming to the age-specific fertility rates of a given year. The District has a TFR of 5.3 which is the highest in the Northern Region and GFR of 135.8 in the region which also the highest in the region. This implies that there are 135.8 births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 in the District and is higher than the regional average of 102. Birth rate is the number of live births per 1,000 people in a given year. CBR is, however, computed for the whole population. The North Gonja District has a CBR of 31.1 which is the highest in the region as well and higher than the regional average CBR of 24.

Table 2.3: 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	3.54	101.9	24
Bole	61,593	14,471	1,663	3.8	114.9	27
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	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	85.1	20
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
SaveluguNanton	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
BunkpuruguYonyo	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
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
Kumbungu	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

Table 2.4 indicates the total female population 12 years and older of the North Gonja District as 13,214 with 32,988 children ever born, comprising of 17,229 males and 15,759 females. Out of this number, 28,026 are surviving made up of 14,564 males and 13,462 females.

The data from Table 2.3 also show that, a total of 374 children were reported to be ever born to females of ages 12-14 and 15-19 years, representing 1.1 percent of all children ever born in the District. Generally, there are more male children ever born and surviving than female children in the District in all the age groups except the 12-14 year-group. The differences in the number of children ever born and children surviving by age group explain the pattern of mortality among the population.

The survival rate in the District is 85.0 percent with males' survival rate being 84.5 percent compared to 85.4 percent among the females. It is also shown that survival rate of children born to mothers less than 15 years is the lowest (77.8%). The comparison by sex indicates that the male children in these ages suffer from a higher mortality compared to their female counterparts as is demonstrated by the relatively lower survival rate for the males as opposed to the females. This can be attributed to the fact that females within 12-14 years are very young and physically not matured enough for child bearing, thereby exposing their infants and themselves to a higher risk of dying compared to those within the age group 25-29 years who have the highest child's survival rate of 90.0 percent.

Table 2.4: Female population 12 years and older by age, children ever born, children surviving and sex of child

Age	Number of Females	Children Ever Born			Children Surviving and Survival rate					
		Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Survival Rate		
								Both sexes	Male	Female
All ages	13,214	32,988	17,229	15,759	28,026	14,564	13,462	85.0	84.5	85.4
12 - 14	1,463	9	3	6	7	2	5	77.8	66.7	83.3
15 - 19	2,309	365	169	196	319	148	171	87.4	87.6	87.2
20 - 24	1,999	2,208	1,146	1,062	1,953	1,001	952	88.5	87.3	89.6
25 - 29	1,756	3,869	2,033	1,836	3,481	1,796	1,685	90.0	88.3	91.8
30 - 34	1,359	4,739	2,430	2,309	4,203	2,151	2,052	88.7	88.5	88.9
35 - 39	1,130	5,062	2,646	2,416	4,500	2,352	2,148	88.9	88.9	88.9
40 - 44	794	4,004	2,038	1,966	3,384	1,755	1,629	84.5	86.1	82.9
45 - 49	588	3,203	1,688	1,515	2,616	1,362	1,254	81.7	80.7	82.8
50 - 54	486	2,513	1,343	1,170	2,029	1,067	962	80.7	79.4	82.2
55 - 59	217	1,186	627	559	938	497	441	79.1	79.3	78.9
60 +	1,113	5,830	3,106	2,724	4,596	2,433	2,163	78.8	78.3	79.4

Source: Ghana statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4.2 Mortality

Data on mortality provide an indication of the health status of the population as well as measure of the living conditions of the people. It also provides information on the potential growth of the population in the future. Several interventions over the years, including enhancing access to quality health care services, improving food security and improving environmental conditions, among others have been done by government and development agencies to reduce the prevailing high levels of mortality. Mortality during the 2010 PHC took into consideration crude death rates and age specific death rate in the North Gonja district.

Alternatively, mortality refers to the incidence of death or the number of deaths in a population. Mortality Rates are generally expressed as the number of deaths per 1000 individuals per year

Death in the households

Table 2.5 shows that in 2010, the Northern Region recorded a total of 14,715 household deaths with a crude death rate of 5.9 per 1,000 population. The North Gonja District recorded 247 household deaths and a crude death rate of 5.7, which is slightly lower than the regional average.

Table 2.5: Total population, deaths in households and crude death rate by district

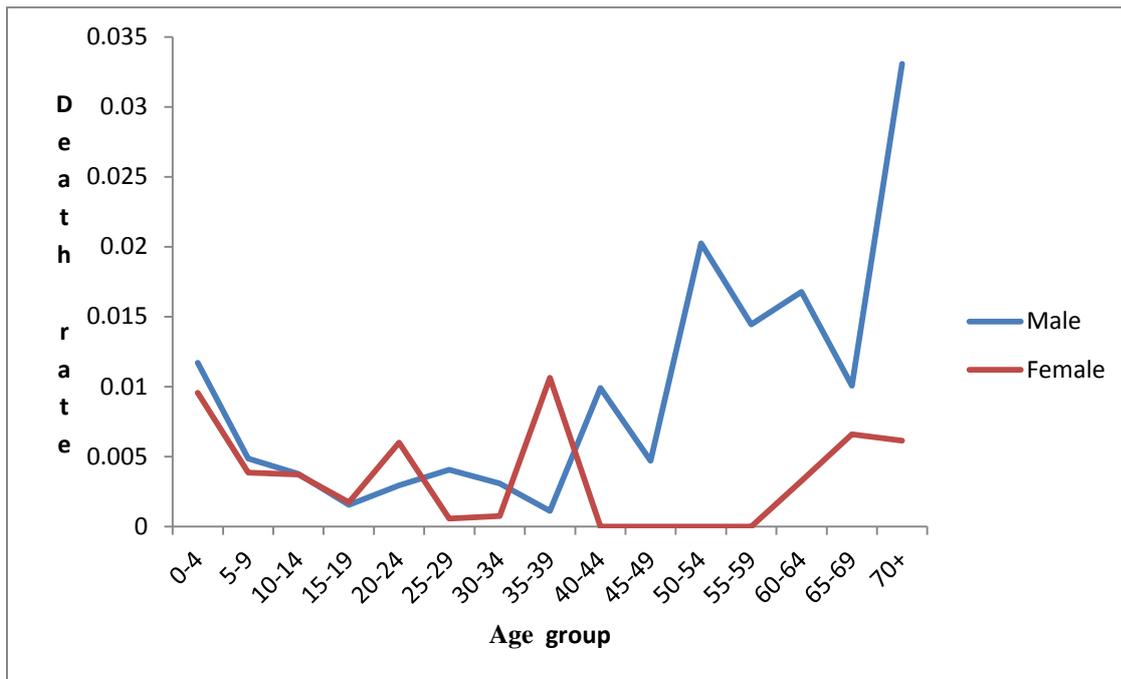
District	Total Population	Deaths in households	Crude death rate
All Districts	2,479,461	14,715	5.9
Bole	61,593	450	7.3
Sawla-Tuna-Kalba	99,863	722	7.2
West Gonja	41,180	197	4.8
Gonja Central	87,877	334	3.8
East Gonja	135,450	761	5.6
Kpandai	108,816	554	5.1
Nanumba South	93,464	542	5.8
Nanumba North	141,584	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
SaveluguNanton	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
BunkpuruguYonyo	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
Kumbungu	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

Age-specific death rate by sex

Death rates are calculated for specific age groups in order to compare mortality at different ages or at the same age over time. The age-specific death rate is computed as a ratio of deaths of people in a specified age group. The results, presented in Figure 2.2, show that the neonatal death rate among both males and females is high with the males recording a higher death rate than their female counterparts except at ages 15-24 and 35-39 where it is higher among the females than the males. This could be the effect of maternal mortality, which women within these age groups are likely to suffer from. Age-specific death rate for either males or females declines up to age 15-19 years and thereafter fluctuates. The variation in mortality between the sexes is, however, more visible at age 40 years and above where the males exhibit a much higher mortality compared with their female counterparts.

Figure 2.2: Age specific death rate by sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Distribution on causes of death

Table 2.6 presents information on the causes of death in North Gonja District, Northern Region and Ghana as a whole. Data collected on causes of death during the 2010 Population and Housing Census are grouped into two different categories: deaths caused by accident/violence/homicide/suicide and all other causes on one hand. The Table shows that accidents/violence/homicide/suicide accounted is 36 and 211 for all other cause of deaths in the North Gonja district.

Table 2.6: Causes of deaths in households

Region/District	Total deaths	Death due to	
		Accident/ violence/ homicide /suicide	All other causes
Northern	14,715	1,434	13,281
Bole	450	29	421
Sawla-Tuna-Kalba	722	65	657
West Gonja	197	21	176
Gonja Central	334	44	290
East Gonja	761	77	684
Kpandai	554	124	430
Nanumba South	542	49	493
Nanumba North	653	62	591
Zabzugu	196	25	171
Yendi Municipal	738	97	641
Tamale Metropolis	1,257	119	1,138
<i>Tamale South</i>	384	31	353
<i>Tamale Central</i>	873	88	785
Tolon	503	33	470
Savelugu Nanton	1,413	139	1,274
Karaga	501	67	434
Gushiegu	744	31	713
Saboba	235	23	212
Chereponi	288	25	263
Bunkpurugu Yonyo	575	62	513
Mamprusi East	619	59	560
Mamprusi West	955	74	881
North Gonja	247	36	211
Kumbungu	342	14	328
Sagnerigu Municipal	847	62	785
Mion	555	52	503
Tatale	210	28	182
Mamprugu Moagduri	277	17	260

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4.5 Migration

Migration is the spatial movement of people across a specified boundary resulting in permanent or semi-permanent change of residence. Along with fertility and mortality, migration is a component of population change. The terms “immigration” and “emigration” are used to refer to movements between countries (international migration). The parallel terms “in-migration” and “out-migration” are used for movement between areas within a country (internal migration).

Table 2.7 indicates that the District has a total migrant population of 2,576 out of which 1,426 were born elsewhere in the Northern Region where the District is located. Of the migrants who were born elsewhere in the region, 28.9 percent of the people have lived at their places of enumeration for 1-4 years and 15.6 percent for 20 years or more.

Table 2.7 also indicates that Upper East Region (144) is the major source of migrants born elsewhere in North Gonja District at the time of the 2010 PHC while Western Region (W/R) recorded the least number of these migrants. With regard to migrants born outside Ghana, 689 persons are recorded and out of this number, 38.6 percent reports of duration of residence in the District between one and four years and 10.2 percent for 20 years and above.

Table 2.7: Birthplace by duration of residence of migrants

Birthplace	Number	Percent	Duration of residence (%)				
			Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20+ years
Total	2,576	100.0	18.3	28.9	18.8	18.4	15.6
Born elsewhere in the region	1,426	55.4	23.3	25.4	17.2	17.1	17.0
Born elsewhere in another region:							
Western	2	0.1	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Central	17	1.2	82.3	5.9	11.8	0.0	0.0
Greater Accra	7	0.5	14.2	28.6	0.0	14.3	42.9
Volta	71	5.0	8.5	40.8	1.4	2.8	46.5
Eastern	13	0.9	69.2	0.0	7.7	23.1	0.0
Ashanti	67	4.7	31.4	20.9	13.4	17.9	16.4
Brong Ahafo	29	2.0	13.8	27.6	27.6	17.2	13.8
Northern	-						
Upper East	144	10.1	24.2	14.6	18.8	29.9	12.5
Upper west	111	7.8	18.0	36.0	10.8	17.1	18.1
Outside Ghana	689	48.3	4.2	38.6	26.1	20.9	10.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER THREE

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Introduction

There are two major types of family ties that inform household formation. These are the nuclear and extended family systems. The nuclear family is made up of the father, mother and children (adopted and/or biological). The extended family consists of the nuclear family, made up of parents, siblings and other relatives (Nukunya, 2003). The relationship becomes more complex when marital ties of all these relations, both matrilineal and patrilineal, are taken into consideration.

The basic objective of this chapter is to analyze household size, composition, structure and headships using data from the 2010 Population and Housing Census.

3.2 Household Size, Composition, and Structure

In the 2010 Population and Housing Census, a household is defined as “a person or a group of persons, who live together in the same house or compound, share the same house-keeping arrangements and recognize one person as the head of household” (Ghana Statistical Service, 2010: 26). A household, therefore, may consist of a man, his wife, children, distant relatives, or a housekeeper living with them. Visitors who spent the census night with the household were also enumerated as members of the household, as individuals were enumerated with respect to where they spent the census night, i.e., Midnight of 26th September, 2010.

3.2.1 Household Size

Household size refers to the total number of persons in a household irrespective of age, sex, or residential status. Household formation and distribution can form the basis for planning for economic and social services needed by the population. The demand for housing units, for instance, will have to be based on location and distribution of size of households. The distribution of households by urban-rural in each region also provides a useful information on how urbanized or ‘ruralized’ a region is becoming, for planning purposes

Table 3.1 shows that there are 4,793 households in the District comprising 730 (15.2%) households in the urban locality and 4,063 (84.8%) households in the rural localities. The average household size in the rural areas is 9.1 persons compared with 8.9 persons per household in urban areas in 2010.

Table 3.1: Household size by locality of residence

Categories	Total		District		
	country	Region	Total	Urban	Rural
Total household population	24,076,327	2,445,061	42,972	6,308	36,664
Number of households	5,467,054	318,119	4,793	730	4,063
Average households per house	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.4
Average household size	4.5	7.8	9.1	8.9	9.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.1 Household composition

Household composition refers to the patterns of relationships between the head of household and other members of the household. Table 3.2 shows that the total population in households of the District is 42,972 comprising 49.6 percent males and 50.4 percent females. The population of household heads is 4,793 with 20.6 percent male heads and 1.8 percent female heads. The composition of children (sons and daughters) in households is 23,717, comprising 59.6 percent males and 50.9 percent females, an indication that there are more male children than female children in the households. There are 169 adopted/foster children in the District, comprising 0.4 percent males and 0.4 percent females.

Table 3.2: Household population by composition and sex

Household composition	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	42,972	100.0	21,306	100.0	21,666	100.0
Head	4,793	11.2	4,396	20.6	397	1.8
Spouse (wife/husband)	4,079	9.5	99	0.5	3,980	18.4
Child (son/daughter)	23,717	55.2	12,688	59.6	11,029	50.9
Parent/Parent in-law	497	1.2	63	0.3	434	2.0
Son/Daughter in-law	350	0.8	24	0.1	326	1.5
Grandchild	2,356	5.5	1,218	5.7	1,138	5.3
Brother/Sister	2,013	4.7	1,256	5.9	757	3.5
Step child	480	1.1	241	1.1	239	1.1
Adopted/Foster child	169	0.4	78	0.4	91	0.4
Other relative	4,382	10.2	1,181	5.5	3,201	14.8
Non-relative	136	0.3	62	0.3	74	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.2 Household structure

Table 3.3 illustrates that 31,568 (73.5%) of the total household population (42,972) of North Gonja District live in extended family households with males representing 72.4 percent and females accounting for 74.5 percent. The nuclear family households have a total population of 11,404 people, accounting for 27.6 percent made up of 27.6 percent males and 25.5 percent females. Nuclear households with heads, spouse and children constitute the largest with 88.3 percent. There is an equal proportion of males and females among single parents in nuclear family households (10% each). On the other hand, single parents in extended family households represent 8 percent males and 8.7 percent females.

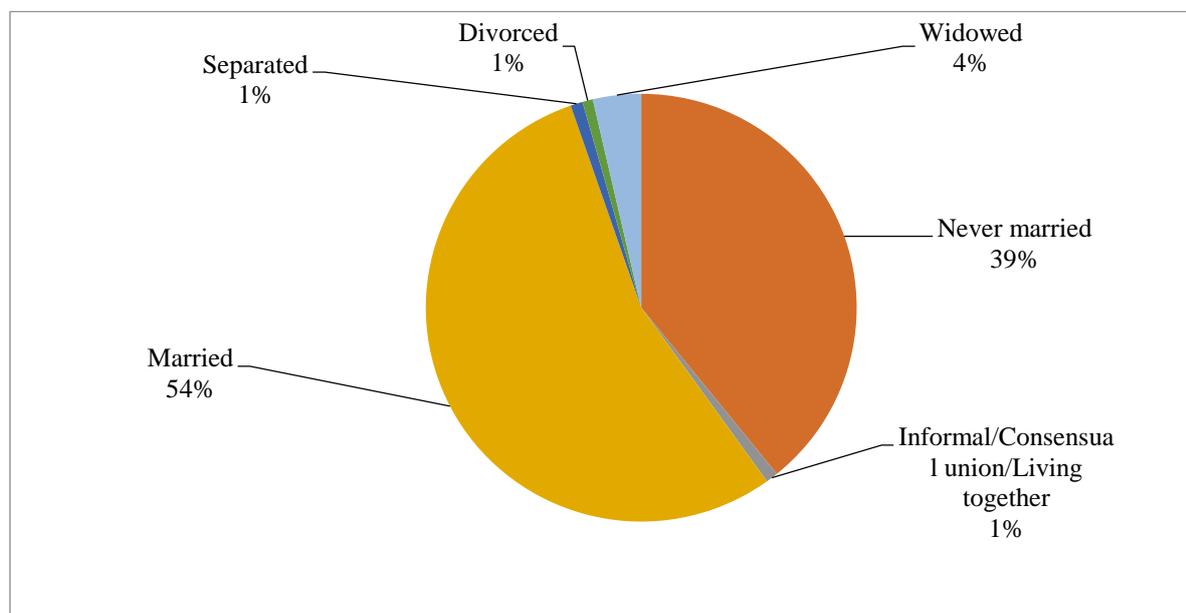
Table 3.3: Household population by structure and sex

Household structure	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	42,972	100.0	21,306	100.0	21,666	100.0
Nuclear family	11,404	26.5	5,872	27.6	5,532	25.5
Head only	54	0.5	38	0.6	16	0.3
Head and a spouse only	96	0.8	48	0.8	48	0.9
Nuclear (Head spouse(s) children)	10,074	88.3	5,196	88.5	4,878	88.2
Single parent Nuclear	1,180	10.3	590	10.0	590	10.7
Extended family	31,568	73.5	15,434	72.4	16,134	74.5
Extended (Head spouse(s) children Head's relatives)	26,580	84.2	13,042	84.5	13,538	83.9
Extended + non relatives	901	2.9	445	2.9	456	2.8
Head spouse(s) and other composition	444	1.4	232	1.5	212	1.3
Single parent Extended	2,638	8.4	1,242	8.0	1,396	8.7
Single parent Extended + non relative	330	1.0	152	1.0	178	1.1
Head and other composition but no spouse	675	2.1	321	2.1	354	2.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3 Marital Status

Figure 3.1 presents the distribution of persons 12 years and older by marital status in North Gonja District. It can be observed from the Figure that, more than half (54.6%) of persons 12 years and older are married while 39 percent is never married. On the other hand, persons in informal/consensual union/living together and those separated are the least in the District (one percent each). The high percentage of married people compared to those separated and divorced can be attributed to the religious and cultural inclination of the District which does not encourage divorce and promiscuity.

Figure 3.1: Marital status

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.1 Marital status, age and sex

Table 3.4 shows that, 8.5 percent of persons of age 12-14 years are married in North Gonja District. This shows that married is quite early in the District and falls far below the legal age at marriage in Ghana, which is 18 years. Again, within the age group 15-19, 14.4 percent are married, which further indicates how early marriage is in the District. As expected, a higher proportion of persons at age 50 years and above are widowed compared to persons of younger ages.

Males record a higher proportion of never married persons (46.9%) compared to females (31.8%). As shown in the Table, 59.1 percent of the females compared to the males (49.9%) are married. Again, the proportion of females that is divorced or widowed is higher than that among the males particularly at older ages. This clearly shows that re-marriage rates among the male population are higher compared to their female counterparts.

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

Sex/Age-group	Number	Total	Never married	Informal/ Consensual union/Living together	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed
Both Sexes								
Total	25,790	100.0	39.2	0.9	54.6	0.9	0.8	3.6
12 – 14	3,110	100.0	91.0	0.5	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	4,922	100.0	83.9	1.3	14.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
20 - 24	3,700	100.0	50.9	2.1	45.2	0.8	0.5	0.4
25 - 29	2,989	100.0	24.6	1.1	72.0	1.3	0.5	0.5
30 - 34	2,336	100.0	8.4	0.9	86.7	2.4	0.9	0.7
35 - 39	2,025	100.0	4.6	0.3	91.3	0.9	1.2	1.6
40 - 44	1,603	100.0	2.7	0.4	90.1	1.6	1.4	3.9
45 - 49	1,227	100.0	2.0	0.1	89.2	1.6	1.7	5.4
50 - 54	1,079	100.0	1.9	0.3	86.6	1.5	1.0	8.8
55 - 59	494	100.0	1.6	0.6	78.7	0.6	3.8	14.6
60 - 64	666	100.0	5.3	0.2	77.9	1.2	2.4	13.1
65+	1,639	100.0	6.1	0.2	63.0	0.7	1.6	28.3
Male								
Total	12,576	100.0	46.9	0.8	49.9	0.6	0.6	1.1
12 – 14	1,647	100.0	91.5	0.4	8.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	2,613	100.0	90.5	0.9	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
20 - 24	1,701	100.0	70.7	1.9	26.2	0.3	0.4	0.6
25 - 29	1,233	100.0	39.7	2.0	56.9	0.5	0.4	0.5
30 - 34	977	100.0	14.0	0.8	82.0	2.1	0.5	0.5
35 - 39	895	100.0	6.9	0.2	90.7	0.9	0.7	0.6
40 - 44	809	100.0	3.1	0.2	92.5	1.4	1.5	1.4
45 - 49	639	100.0	2.8	0.0	92.6	0.8	1.4	2.3
50 - 54	593	100.0	1.7	0.3	94.4	1.3	0.5	1.7
55 - 59	277	100.0	1.8	1.1	88.8	0.4	2.9	5.1
60 - 64	358	100.0	5.6	0.0	89.4	2.0	1.1	2.0
65+	834	100.0	6.6	0.2	83.7	0.4	1.9	7.2

Table 3.4: Persons 12 years and older by sex, age-group and marital status (cont'd)

Sex/Age-group	Number	Total	Never married	Informal/ Consensual union/Living together	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed
Female								
Total	13,214	100.0	31.8	1.0	59.1	1.2	1.0	6.0
12 – 14	1,463	100.0	90.4	0.7	8.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	2,309	100.0	76.5	1.7	21.1	0.3	0.3	0.2
20 - 24	1,999	100.0	34.2	2.3	61.3	1.3	0.7	0.3
25 - 29	1,756	100.0	14.0	0.5	82.6	1.9	0.5	0.5
30 - 34	1,359	100.0	4.3	1.0	90.1	2.5	1.2	0.9
35 - 39	1,130	100.0	2.8	0.4	91.8	0.9	1.7	2.5
40 - 44	794	100.0	2.3	0.5	87.7	1.9	1.3	6.4
45 - 49	588	100.0	1.2	0.2	85.4	2.6	2.0	8.7
50 - 54	486	100.0	2.1	0.2	77.0	1.6	1.6	17.5
55 - 59	217	100.0	1.4	0.0	65.9	0.9	5.1	26.7
60 - 64	308	100.0	4.9	0.3	64.6	0.3	3.9	26.0
65+	805	100.0	5.6	0.1	41.6	1.1	1.4	50.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.2 Marital status and level of education

Table 3.5 shows that out of the total population 12 years and older in the District, 75.7 percent has no education, 19.2 percent has basic education, 4.1 percent has secondary education and 0.1 percent has tertiary education. A little more than half (53.1%) of the never married has no education while 0.1 percent has attained tertiary education. This, however, compares with as high as 90 percent or higher of the married, separated, divorced or widowed with no education. This pattern is similar between the males and females where the male population by each of the marital status categories tends to have a higher level of education relative to their female counterparts. Table 3.4 further shows a higher proportion of females (79.2%) than males (72.0%) to have no education. Again, 21.2 percent and 17.4 percent of males and females respectively have basic education. Furthermore, 5.3 percent males and 2.9 percent females have secondary education while 0.2 percent of the males and 0.1 percent of females have tertiary education. This analysis suggests that there is a high school dropout in the District and may be attributed to early marriages, which constitute a major challenge towards retention of girls in schools as they progress on the educational ladder.

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

Sex/Marital status	Number	All levels	No Education	Basic ¹	Secondary ²	Voc/Tech/Comm	Post middle/secondary certificate/diploma ³	Tertiary ⁴
Both Sexes								
Total	25,790	100.0	75.7	19.2	4.1	0.2	0.7	0.1
Never married	10,101	100.0	53.1	37.8	7.9	0.3	0.8	0.1
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	235	100.0	70.6	17.4	11.5	0	0.4	0
Married	14,083	100.0	90.3	7.3	1.5	0.1	0.7	0.1
Separated	236	100.0	92.8	5.1	1.7	0	0.4	0
Divorced	203	100.0	88.7	8.4	1	0.5	0	1.5
Widowed	932	100.0	94.3	5	0.3	0	0.3	0
Male								
Total	12,576	100.0	72	21.2	5.3	0.2	1.2	0.2
Never married	5,895	100.0	53.5	36.3	8.7	0.2	1.1	0.1
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	106	100.0	70.8	17	11.3	0	0.9	0
Married	6,279	100.0	88.5	7.8	2.2	0.1	1.3	0.2
Separated	76	100.0	92.1	6.6	0	0	1.3	0
Divorced	76	100.0	93.4	5.3	0	0	0	1.3
Widowed	144	100.0	93.1	5.6	1.4	0	0	0
Female								
Total	13,214	100.0	79.2	17.4	2.9	0.2	0.3	0.1
Never married	4,206	100.0	52.6	39.9	6.8	0.4	0.4	0
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	129	100.0	70.5	17.8	11.6	0	0	0
Married	7,804	100.0	91.8	6.8	1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Separated	160	100.0	93.1	4.4	2.5	0	0	0
Divorced	127	100.0	85.8	10.2	1.6	0.8	0	1.6
Widowed	788	100.0	94.5	4.9	0.1	0	0.4	0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.3 Marital status and economic activity

Table 3.6 provides information on persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and economic activity status. The Table shows that overall, 73.1 percent of the population in the North Gonja District is employed, less than one percent is unemployed and 26.1 percent are declared economically not active. The Table further shows that in terms of marital status, the proportion reported to be employed is close to 70 percent or higher in each of the categories except among the widowed where the proportion that is employed is as low as 42.6 percent and more than half (56.3%) of them recorded to be economically not active. It is to be noted also that the never married population is next to the widowed as recording a low proportion of 61.5 percent as employed and this could be due to the fact that a good number of the never married may be younger and may most likely be in school. It is, thus understandable that more than a third of them are reported to be economically not active. In contrast, a higher proportion (83.3%) of the married population 12 years and older is employed, 0.9 percent is unemployed and 15.8 percent economically not active.

The analysis by sex also shows that a higher proportion of the male (78.8%) than the female (67.7%) population in the district is employed. Accordingly, a higher proportion of the females (31.3%) than the males (20.6%) are reported to be economically not active. This observation is also the case comparing the males and females at each of the marital status

groups where the males generally show a higher tendency to be employed compared to their female counterparts in the district (Table 3.5). For example, the proportion of married males who are employed is 91.5 percent compared to 76.7 percent of their female counterparts in the district.

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

Sex/Marital status	Total		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	25,790	100.0	18,847	73.1	211	0.8	6,732	26.1
Never married	10,101	100.0	6,213	61.5	70	0.7	3,818	37.8
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	235	100.0	176	74.9	4	1.7	55	23.4
Married	14,083	100.0	11,733	83.6	121	0.9	2,229	15.8
Separated	236	100.0	190	80.5	6	2.5	40	16.9
Divorced	203	100.0	138	68	0	0.0	65	32
Widowed	932	100.0	397	42.6	10	1.1	525	56.3
Male								
Total	12,576	100.0	9,907	78.8	75	0.6	2,594	20.6
Never married	5,895	100.0	3,883	65.9	33	0.6	1,979	33.6
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	106	100.0	88	83.0	0	0.0	18	17.0
Married	6,279	100.0	5,745	91.5	36	0.6	498	7.9
Separated	76	100.0	60	78.9	3	3.9	13	17.1
Divorced	76	100.0	57	75.0	0	0.0	19	25.0
Widowed	144	100.0	74	51.4	3	2.1	67	46.5
Female								
Total	13,214	100.0	8,940	67.7	136	1.0	4,138	31.3
Never married	4,206	100.0	2,330	55.4	37	0.9	1,839	43.7
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	129	100.0	88	68.2	4	3.1	37	28.7
Married	7,804	100.0	5,988	76.7	85	1.1	1,731	22.2
Separated	160	100.0	130	81.3	3	1.9	27	16.9
Divorced	127	100.0	81	63.8	0	0.0	46	36.2
Widowed	788	100.0	323	41.0	7	0.9	458	58.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.4 Nationality

Table 3.7 shows that Ghanaians by birth account for 89.8 percent of the population of the District in 2010. The proportion of the population with dual nationality is 4.0 percent and 4.6 percent of the population is made up of ECOWAS citizens. We also have less than one percent reported as other African nationals while Ghanaians by naturalization constitute 0.8 percent of the total population of the District. There is also not variation between the males and females.

Table 3.7: Population by nationality and sex

Nationality	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	43,547	100.0	21,592	100.0	21,955	100.0
Ghanaian by birth	39,104	89.8	19,344	89.6	19,760	90.0
Dual nationality (Ghanaian & Other)	1,721	4.0	809	3.7	912	4.2
Ghanaian by naturalisation	331	0.8	161	0.7	170	0.8
ECOWAS	2,007	4.6	1,077	5.0	930	4.2
African other than ECOWAS	212	0.5	110	0.5	102	0.5
Other	172	0.4	91	0.4	81	0.4

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. However, no attempt is made to find out if respondents actually practice the faith they professed.

Table 3.8 shows the distribution of the population of North Gonja District by religious affiliation. Islam (72.8%) is the dominant religion in the District, followed by Christianity (22.8%), Traditionalist (3.3%) and no religion (1.0%). Among the Christians, Catholics (9.5%) are the most dominant. There are only slight variations between the males and females by religious affiliation and this suggests that members of one household are more likely to be affiliated to the same religion.

Table 3.8: Population by religion and sex

Religion	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	43,547	100.0	21,592	100.0	21,955	100.0
No religion	415	1.0	219	1.0	196	0.9
Catholic	4,149	9.5	2,100	9.7	2,049	9.3
Protestants (Anglican Lutheran etc.)	2,274	5.2	1,190	5.5	1,084	4.9
Pentecostal/Charismatic	1,717	3.9	863	4.0	854	3.9
Other christian	1,813	4.2	875	4.1	938	4.3
Islam	31,722	72.8	15,581	72.2	16,141	73.5
Traditionalist	1,417	3.3	735	3.4	682	3.1
Other	40	0.1	29	0.1	11	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6 Literacy and Education

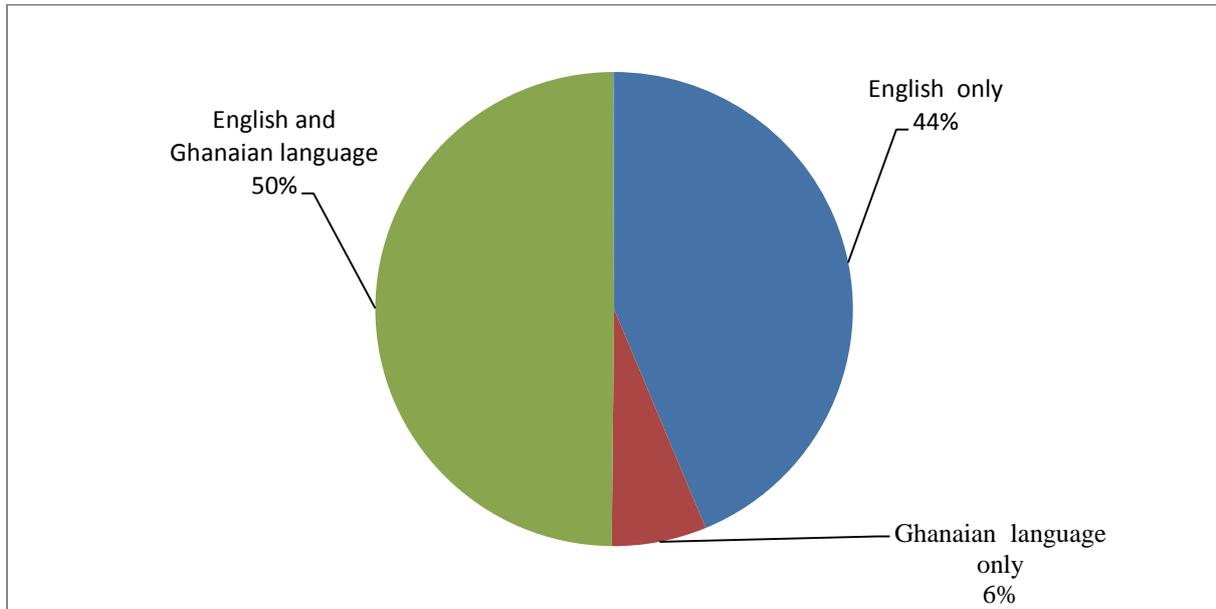
This section seeks to find out the literacy levels and educational attainment of all eligible persons captured by the 2010 Population and Housing Census in the District. Literacy is measured by ability to read and write a simple statement in any language with understanding for all persons 11 years and older

3.6.1 Literacy

Figure 3.1 presents information on literacy status of the population in the District in 2010. The results show that 44 percent of the population 11 years and older is literate (read and write) in English Language only, 50 percent can read and write English and Ghanaian Language and six percent is literate in Ghanaian Language only. The proportion of the population that is literate in

English language only is quite high in the District and may probably be due to the fact that there are many ethnic groups in the District, none of which may be distinctly dominant and, therefore, it may be easier for many of them to communicate in a language that is neutral to them in order to be understood with no difficulty.

Figure 3.1: Literacy and education



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.2 Population 11 years and older by sex, age and literacy status

Table 3.9 presents information on the population of the District 11 years and older by literacy in specific languages. From the information presented, it can be observed that three in four of the District’s population 11 years and older are not literate in any language. Not literate is higher among the females (78.6%) compared to the males (71.4%). The age pattern also suggests a relatively higher literacy among the younger age cohorts compared to the older. For example, 13.4 percent of the population 11-14 years are not literate and increases to 13.6 among the population 15-19 years. The Table further shows that, 53.9 percent of the population 11-14 years are literate in English only, 45.0 percent of the population within age 15-19 years and 35.5 percent of others 65 years and older can read and write in the English Language only. These percentages decrease generally with higher age among either the males or females, suggesting that the younger people are more likely to be literate in English only compared to the older people. However, the proportion of the male population 11-14 years who could read and write in English Language only is 51.1 percent compared to 57.0 percent among their female counterparts. Literacy in English and Ghanaian language is also higher compared to literacy in English language only at all ages except at the youngest age group 11-14 years either among the males or females in the District. The pattern of literacy by age also suggests that the older generation in the District is more likely than their younger counterparts to be able to read and write in a Ghanaian language only. Literacy in French is also very low (less than one percent) in the District.

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

	None (not literate)	Literate	Total	English only	Ghanaian language only	English and Ghanaian language	English and French	English, French and Ghanaian language
Both sexes								
Total	19,857	6,595	100.0	43.7	6.4	49.8	0.1	0.1
11-14	1,841	1,931	100.0	53.9	4.4	41.7	0	0
15-19	2,667	2,255	100.0	45	5.9	49.2	0	0
20-24	2,705	995	100.0	32.7	5.4	61.7	0	0.2
25-29	2,526	463	100.0	34.6	8.2	57	0	0.2
30-34	2,078	258	100.0	39.9	10.1	50	0	0
35-39	1,855	170	100.0	28.8	7.6	62.9	0.6	0
40-44	1,477	126	100.0	37.3	9.5	52.4	0	0.8
45-49	1,128	99	100.0	36.4	16.2	47.5	0	0
50-54	1,000	79	100.0	39.2	15.2	45.6	0	0
55-59	453	41	100.0	31.7	9.8	58.5	0	0
60-64	609	57	100.0	38.6	19.3	42.1	0	0
65+	1,518	121	100.0	35.5	17.4	47.1	0	0
Male								
Total	9,215	3,694	100.0	41.7	6.4	51.8	0	0.1
11-14	965	1,015	100.0	51.1	4.2	44.6	0	0
15-19	1,340	1,273	100.0	44.1	6	49.8	0	0
20-24	1,108	593	100.0	32.2	5.2	62.4	0	0.2
25-29	968	265	100.0	31.3	7.9	60.4	0	0.4
30-34	824	153	100.0	30.1	11.1	58.8	0	0
35-39	799	96	100.0	28.1	9.4	62.5	0	0
40-44	741	68	100.0	39.7	10.3	48.5	0	1.5
45-49	587	52	100.0	34.6	17.3	48.1	0	0
50-54	546	47	100.0	38.3	17	44.7	0	0
55-59	245	32	100.0	31.3	12.5	56.3	0	0
60-64	325	33	100.0	30.3	12.1	57.6	0	0
65+	767	67	100.0	41.8	11.9	46.3	0	0
Female								
Total	10,642	2,901	100.0	46.4	6.4	47.2	0	0
11-14	876	916	100.0	57	4.6	38.4	0	0
15-19	1,327	982	100.0	46	5.6	48.4	0	0
20-24	1,597	402	100.0	33.3	5.7	60.7	0	0.2
25-29	1,558	198	100.0	38.9	8.6	52.5	0	0
30-34	1,254	105	100.0	54.3	8.6	37.1	0	0
35-39	1,056	74	100.0	29.7	5.4	63.5	1.4	0
40-44	736	58	100.0	34.5	8.6	56.9	0	0
45-49	541	47	100.0	38.3	14.9	46.8	0	0
50-54	454	32	100.0	40.6	12.5	46.9	0	0
55-59	208	9	100.0	33.3	0	66.7	0	0
60-64	284	24	100.0	50	29.2	20.8	0	0
65+	751	54	100.0	27.8	24.1	48.1	0	0

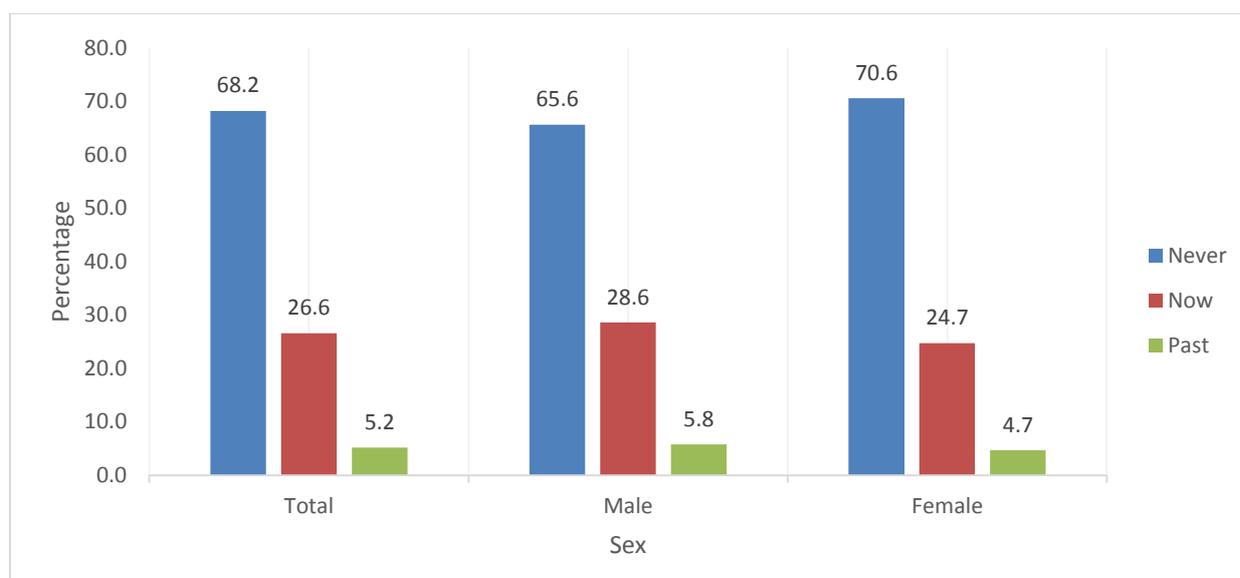
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.3 Education

Figure 3.2 presents the level of education among the population 3 years and older by sex and by school attendance. The data shows that, the District has a population of 10,506 which constitutes 26.6 percent of the total population currently attending school. This is made up of 28.6 percent male and 24.7 percent female. The Table also shows that, there are 5.2 percent of the populations have attended school in the past. This is made up of 5.8 percent males and 4.7 percent females

The figure further shows that there is a large proportion of the population who have never attended school (68.2%) with the percentage of females (70.6%) higher than males (65.6%).

Figure 3.2: School attendance by sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.3 Level of education and school attendance

Table 3.10 shows that the total number of people currently attending school in the District who are three years and older is 10,506. Out of this, 55.9 percent are in primary school, 17.6 percent are in Junior Secondary School/ Junior High School (JSS/JHS), 6.4 percent in Senior Secondary School/Senior High School (SSS/SHS), 6.3 percent in Kindergarten and 12.9 percent in Nursery. The proportion of males currently attending primary school is 53.7 percent and that of females is 58.3 percent. Thus 2,070 people in the District reported to have attended school in the past, of this number, 50.8 percent attended primary school, 18.0 percent JSS/JHS and 14.7 percent SSS/SHS. The proportion of males who attended primary school in the past is 44.5 percent compared to 58.5 percent for females. Generally, the level of education in the District is low with the average educational attainment being primary school. There is, therefore, the need for stakeholders in education in the District to put in place measures to ensure increased school enrolment and retention at all levels.

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	10,506	100.0	5,576	100.0	4,930	100.0	2,070	100.0	1,131	100.0	939	100.0
Nursery	1,356	12.9	701	12.6	655	13.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kindergarten	667	6.3	336	6.0	331	6.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Primary	5,868	55.9	2,993	53.7	2,875	58.3	1,052	50.8	503	44.5	549	58.5
JSS/JHS	1,851	17.6	1,062	19.0	789	16.0	372	18.0	191	16.9	181	19.3
Middle	-	-	-	-	-	-	106	5.1	69	6.1	37	3.9
SSS/SHS	676	6.4	422	7.6	254	5.2	305	14.7	198	17.5	107	11.4
Secondary			-	-	-	0.0	70	3.4	44	3.9	26	2.8
Vocational/Technical/Commercial	18	0.2	8	0.1	10	0.2	24	1.2	13	1.1	11	1.2
Post middle/secondary certificate	30	0.3	18	0.3	12	0.2	74	3.6	54	4.8	20	2.1
Tertiary	40	0.4	36	0.6	4	0.1	67	3.2	59	5.2	8	0.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FOUR

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

4.1 Introduction

Generally, the development of a District is based on the production of goods and services, and relevant to the production process is the human capital of the District. Although all persons irrespective of age and sex consume goods and services produced, only a section of the total population produces them. This is the working population often referred to as the “employed”. The type of economic activity pursued is influenced by the nature of the economy and level of socio-economic development (Hull, 2009). In sum, the larger the size of the employed population, the more wealth is created, leading to improvement in the general well-being of the population. Over the years, a number of job opportunities have been created in the public and private sectors through a wide range of economic activities and North Gonja District is no exception. Information on the economic activity status of the population is relevant for planning and decision-making at the District level. The 2010 Population and Housing Census provided data on the economic characteristics of the population in the North Gonja District for such analysis.

4.2 Economic Activity Status

Table 4.1 indicates that out of the total population of 22,680 aged 15 years and older in the North Gonja District, males are 48.2 percent while females are 51.8 percent. Of the economically active group, males constitute 52.1 percent while females make up the remaining 47.9 percent. Table 4.1 also shows that the employed population comprises 52.3 percent males and 47.7 percent females, indicating that the proportion of employed males is higher than that for employed females. With respect to the unemployed population, however, a higher proportion (64.8%) is made up of females than males (35.2%). This may be due to the fact that the major economic activities in the District such as farming, fishing and weaving are all male-dominated. Consistent with these results is the observation from Table 4.1 that a lower proportion of the males (35.3%) compared to the females (64.7%) is in the economically inactive. Among the economically not active population, Table 4.1 further shows that home duties are virtually dominated by females (80.6%) compared to males (19.4%), a situation which obviously arises from the cultural set-up of the people in this District where most females are relegated to attending to household chores including taking care of the kitchen.

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	22,680	100.0	10,929	100.0	11,751	100.0
Economically active	17,425	76.8	9,075	83.0	8,350	71.1
<i>Employed</i>	17,215	98.8	9,001	99.2	8,214	98.4
<i>Worked</i>	17,068	98	8,936	99.3	8,132	99.0
<i>Did not work but had job to go back to</i>	128	0.7	60	0.7	68	0.8
<i>Did voluntary work without pay</i>	19	0.1	5	0.1	14	0.2
<i>Unemployed</i>	210	1.2	74	0.8	136	1.6
<i>Worked before, seeking work and available</i>	129	61.4	37	50.0	92	67.6
<i>Seeking work for the first time and available</i>	81	38.6	37	50.0	44	32.4
Economically not active	5,255	23.2	1,854	17.0	3,401	28.9
Did home duties (household chore)	2,263	43.1	439	23.7	1,824	53.6
Full time education	1,523	29	869	46.9	654	19.2
Pensioner/Retired	23	0.4	15	0.8	8	0.2
Disabled/Sick	244	4.6	101	5.4	143	4.2
Too old/young	1,006	19.1	351	18.9	655	19.3
Other	196	3.7	79	4.3	117	3.4

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

4.2.2 Economic activity status by age

Table 4.2 illustrates that three in four of persons 15 years and older in the District are employed, less than one percent is unemployed and 23.2 percent is economically not active. In terms of sex, a higher proportion of the males (82.4%) than the females (69.9%) are employed. In contrast, the females (28.9%) are more likely to be economically not active compared to their male counterparts (17.0%). The pattern of employed people also varies somewhat by age where the very young population (15-19 years) and the elderly (65 year and older) are less likely to be employed but more likely to be economically not active compared to persons 20-59 years. This is similar either among the male or female population in the District such. Again, at all ages, the proportion of the male population that is employed is relatively higher than the females. In contrast, a higher proportion of females than males are economically not active within each age group in the district.

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	22,680	100.0	17,215	75.9	210	0.9	5,255	23.2
15-19	4,922	100.0	3,138	63.8	26	0.5	1,758	35.7
20-24	3,700	100.0	2,737	74	54	1.5	909	24.6
25-29	2,989	100.0	2,431	81.3	33	1.1	525	17.6
30-34	2,336	100.0	2,001	85.7	15	0.6	320	13.7
35-39	2,025	100.0	1,758	86.8	9	0.4	258	12.7
40-44	1,603	100.0	1,428	89.1	9	0.6	166	10.4
45-49	1,227	100.0	1,070	87.2	17	1.4	140	11.4
50-54	1,079	100.0	909	84.2	4	0.4	166	15.4
55-59	494	100.0	400	81	2	0.4	92	18.6
60-64	666	100.0	477	71.6	39	5.9	150	22.5
65+	1,639	100.0	866	52.8	2	0.1	771	47
Male								
Total	10,929	100.0	9,001	82.4	74	0.7	1,854	17
15-19	2,613	100.0	1,742	66.7	13	0.5	858	32.8
20-24	1,701	100.0	1,326	78	20	1.2	355	20.9
25-29	1,233	100.0	1,101	89.3	10	0.8	122	9.9
30-34	977	100.0	906	92.7	5	0.5	66	6.8
35-39	895	100.0	860	96.1	0	0	35	3.9
40-44	809	100.0	783	96.8	2	0.2	24	3
45-49	639	100.0	610	95.5	4	0.6	25	3.9
50-54	593	100.0	557	93.9	2	0.3	34	5.7
55-59	277	100.0	256	92.4	1	0.4	20	7.2
60-64	358	100.0	297	83	16	4.5	45	12.6
65+	834	100.0	563	67.5	1	0.1	270	32.4
Female								
Total	11,751	100.0	8,214	69.9	136	1.2	3,401	28.9
15-19	2,309	100.0	1,396	60.5	13	0.6	900	39
20-24	1,999	100.0	1,411	70.6	34	1.7	554	27.7
25-29	1,756	100.0	1,330	75.7	23	1.3	403	22.9
30-34	1,359	100.0	1,095	80.6	10	0.7	254	18.7
35-39	1,130	100.0	898	79.5	9	0.8	223	19.7
40-44	794	100.0	645	81.2	7	0.9	142	17.9
45-49	588	100.0	460	78.2	13	2.2	115	19.6
50-54	486	100.0	352	72.4	2	0.4	132	27.2
55-59	217	100.0	144	66.4	1	0.5	72	33.2
60-64	308	100.0	180	58.4	23	7.5	105	34.1
65+	805	100.0	303	37.6	1	0.1	501	62.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.3 Occupation

Occupation in the 2010 census is described as the job a person spent his/her time doing in the past 7 days preceding the census night. It looks at the main job/task a person is performing. Table 4.3 indicates that skilled agricultural and forestry is the dominant occupation in the District and employs about four in five of the employed persons enumerated in the District. It is followed by craft and related trade workers and services and sales workers. Each of the remaining occupational groups provides jobs for relatively small number of employed persons in the District. The distribution of employed persons, however, tends to vary by sex with males dominating in some of the occupations while in others the females are in the majority. The male-dominated occupations are clerical support workers (100%), plant and machine operators and assemblers (97.4%), professionals (68.0%) and skilled agricultural

forestry and fishery workers (56.1%), On the other hand, females dominate in service and sales workers (88.5%), elementary occupations (70.9%), managers (61.7%) and craft and related trades (52.2%).

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	17,215	100.0	9,001	100.0	8,214	100.0
Managers	60	0.3	23	0.3	37	0.5
Professionals	172	1.0	117	1.3	55	0.7
Technicians and associate professionals	28	0.2	14	0.2	14	0.2
Clerical support workers	9	0.1	9	0.1	0	-
Service and sales workers	1,193	6.9	137	1.5	1,056	12.9
Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers	14,257	82.8	8,003	88.9	6,254	76.1
Craft and related trades workers	1,261	7.3	603	6.7	658	8.0
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	39	0.2	38	0.4	1	0.0
Elementary occupations	196	1.1	57	0.6	139	1.7
Other occupations	0	-	0	-	0	-

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.4 Industry

As shown in Table 4.4, three industries of employment stand out as the major employers in the North Gonja District. These are agriculture forestry and fishing which employs more than 80 percent of all employed persons 15 years and older in the District; manufacturing engaging about six percent; and wholesale and retail, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles which also records about six percent of the employed persons in the District.

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	17,215	100.0	9,001	100	8,214	100.0
Agriculture forestry and fishing	14,218	82.6	7,942	88.2	6,276	76.4
Mining and quarrying	1	0.0	0	-	1	0.0
Manufacturing	1,088	6.3	565	6.3	523	6.4
Electricity gas stream and air conditioning supply	0	-	0	-	0	-
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	1	0.0	0	-	1	0.0
Construction	11	0.1	11	0.1	0	-
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	954	5.5	216	2.4	738	9.0
Transportation and storage	18	0.1	16	0.2	2	0.0
Accommodation and food service activities	276	1.6	18	0.2	258	3.1
Information and communication	6	0.0	5	0.1	1	0.0
Financial and insurance activities	1	0.0	1	0	0	-
Real estate activities	0	-	0	-	0	-
Professional scientific and technical activities	18	0.1	11	0.1	7	0.1
Administrative and support service activities	15	0.1	14	0.2	1	0.0
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	12	0.1	12	0.1	0	-
Education	134	0.8	100	1.1	34	0.4
Human health and social work activities	20	0.1	14	0.2	6	0.1
Arts entertainment and recreation	2	0.0	2	0	0	-
Other service activities	114	0.7	34	0.4	80	1.0
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods - and services - producing activities of households for own use	326	1.9	40	0.4	286	3.5
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0	-	0	-	0	-

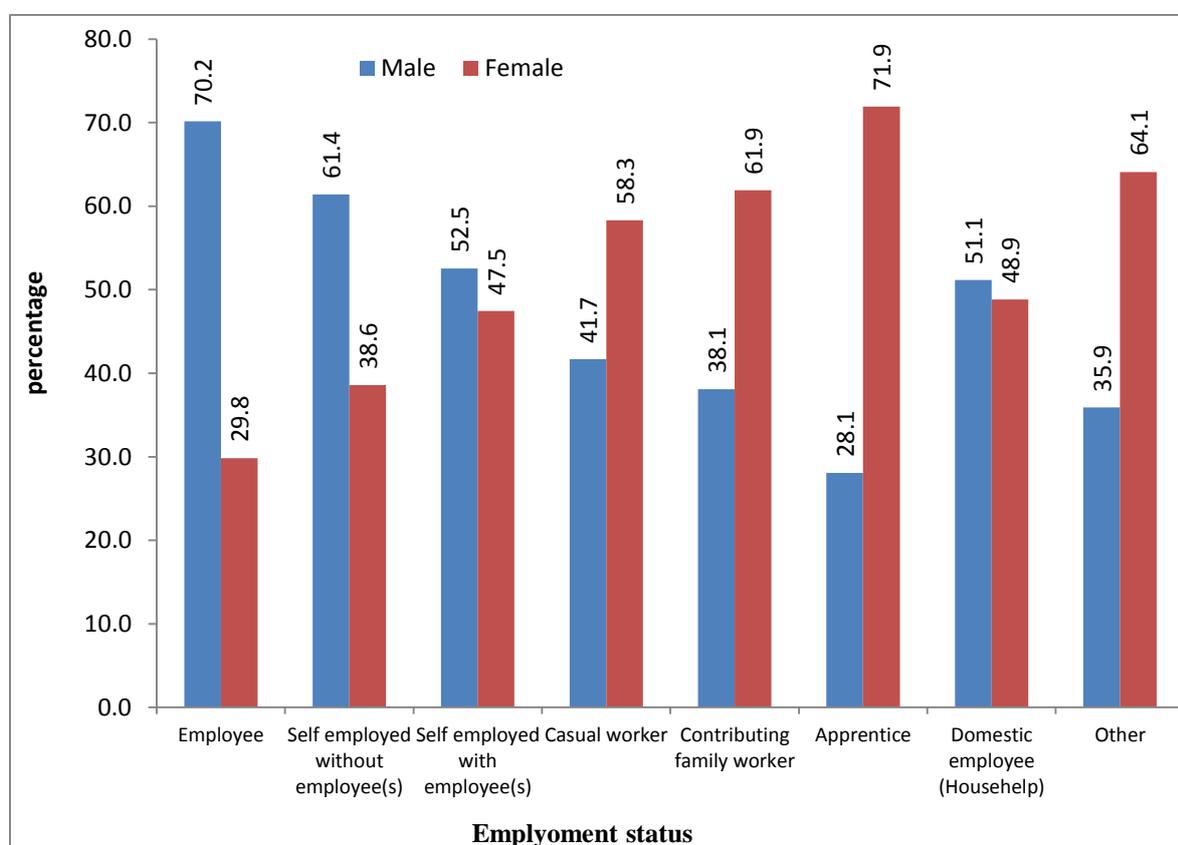
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The remaining industries engage quite small number of persons 15 years and older in the District. Table 4.4 further shows a situation of male-dominance in most of the industries of employment in the District. The few exceptions include accommodation and food service activities; activities of households as employers, undifferentiated goods - and services - producing activities of households for own use; and wholesale and retail, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles that respectively were dominated by 93.5 percent, 87.7 percent and 77.4 percent females in the North Gonja District.

4.5 Employment status

Figure 4.3 presents information on the employment status by sex of persons 15 years and older in the North Gonja district. The figure shows that 70.2 percent of the employees are males while 29.8 percent are females. The figure also reveals that more than half (58.3%) of the casual workers are females with less than half (41.7%) of them as males. The data further indicate that domestic employment is represented by 51.1 percent males and 48.9 percent females. The proportion of females in the contributing family worker category is 61.9 percent while their male counterparts make up 38.1 percent, which suggests that more females than males work for their families in the district.

Figure 4.3: Employment status by sex

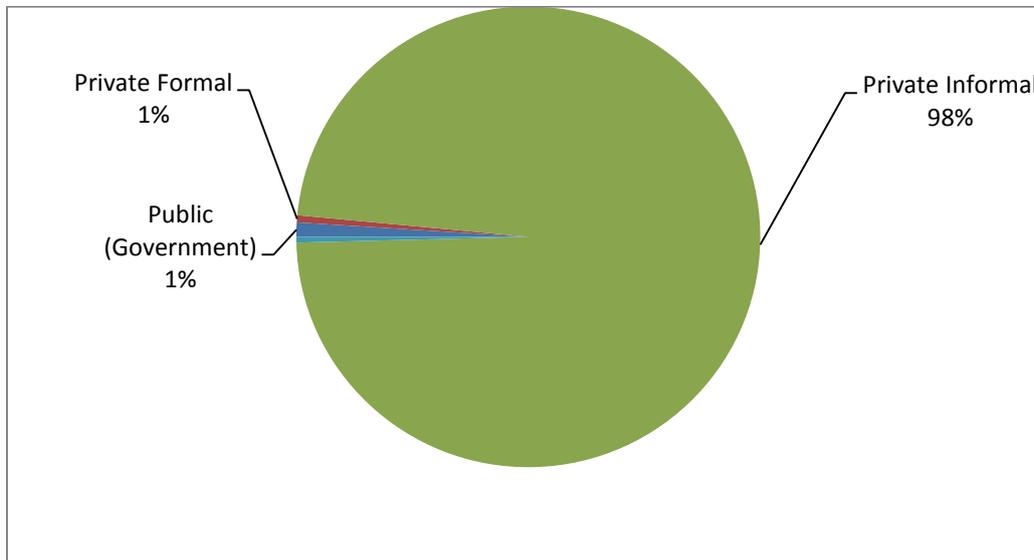


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census.

4.6 Employment Sector

Figure 4.4 illustrates that the private informal sector employs 98 percent of the population, with the public sector and private formal sector employing one percent each of the employed population of the North Gonja District. This clearly is an indication that the private informal sector is the single most important sector of employment in the North Gonja district.

Figure 4.4: Employment sector



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FIVE

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

Information Communication Technology (ICT) has become an important tool in today's knowledge-based economy. The role of ICT in an emerging economy such as Ghana's, has been widely recognized at various levels. The recognition is reflected in actions such as the development of a national ICT infrastructure, institutional and regulatory framework for managing the sector, promoting the use of ICT in all sectors of the economy, implementing e-governance in all government institutions and the construction of a National Data Centre as well as Regional Innovation Centres and District ICT centres across the country (GSS, 2010). In recognizing the critical role ICT plays in the development of the country, government has embarked on the free distribution of laptops to educational institutions and individuals in order to make the study and use of ICT accessible to Ghanaians.

To understand some of these developments, a module was included in the 2010 PHC on ownership and use of ICT facilities. This chapter, therefore, analyses access to ICT technologies/facilities by various socio-demographic characteristics such as age, sex, education, region, locality of residence, and economic activity status. In addition, the chapter looks at the availability of ICT in agricultural households.

5.2 Ownership of mobile phone.

This section provides information on persons 12 years and older who own mobile phones. Table 5.1 indicates that 25,790 persons in the District are 12 years and older and out of this number, 2,399 (9.3%) had mobile phones. Mobile phone ownership is made up of 63.9 percent males and 36.1 percent females.

5.3 Use of internet and Mobile Phone

Table 5.1 shows that 80 persons 12 years and older in the District use internet facility. This is an indication that less than one percent of the population 12 years and older uses the internet in the District. The use of the internet by sex, however, indicates a higher proportion of males (67.5%) compared to their female counterparts (32.5%).

Table 5.1: Population 12 years and older by sex, mobile phone 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	25,790	100.0	2,399	100.0	80	100.0
Male	12,576	48.8	1,534	63.9	54	67.5
Female	13,214	51.2	865	36.1	26	32.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.4 Household ownership of desktop or laptop computer

Table 5.2 further shows a near absence of household desktops/laptops in the District. The information shows that the households that own desktop/laptop computers in the District can easily be counted and represent 0.1 percent of all the households in the District with virtually no difference between households headed by males and others headed by females.

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

Sex	Number of households		Households having desktop/laptop	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	4,793	100.0	6	0.1
Male-headed	4,396	91.7	5	0.1
Female-headed	397	8.3	1	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SIX

DISABILITY

6.1 Introduction

Persons with disabilities (PWD) have been defined as those who are unable to or are restricted in the performance of specific tasks/activities due to loss of function of some parts of the body as a result of impairment or malformation (GSS, 2012). As a result, PWDs face a wide range of life challenges because disability, in whatever form, can reduce an individual's ability to function to his/her full potential. Disability can limit an individual's full participation in a number of activities in life.

The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana provides for the guarantee of the fundamental human rights of all persons including PWDs. In addition, Ghana has signed, ratified and adopted international agreements, such as the Convention on the Rights of PWDs and the African Decade of the Disabled Persons which seek to protect the fundamental freedoms and human rights of all PWDs and to promote and respect their inherent dignity.

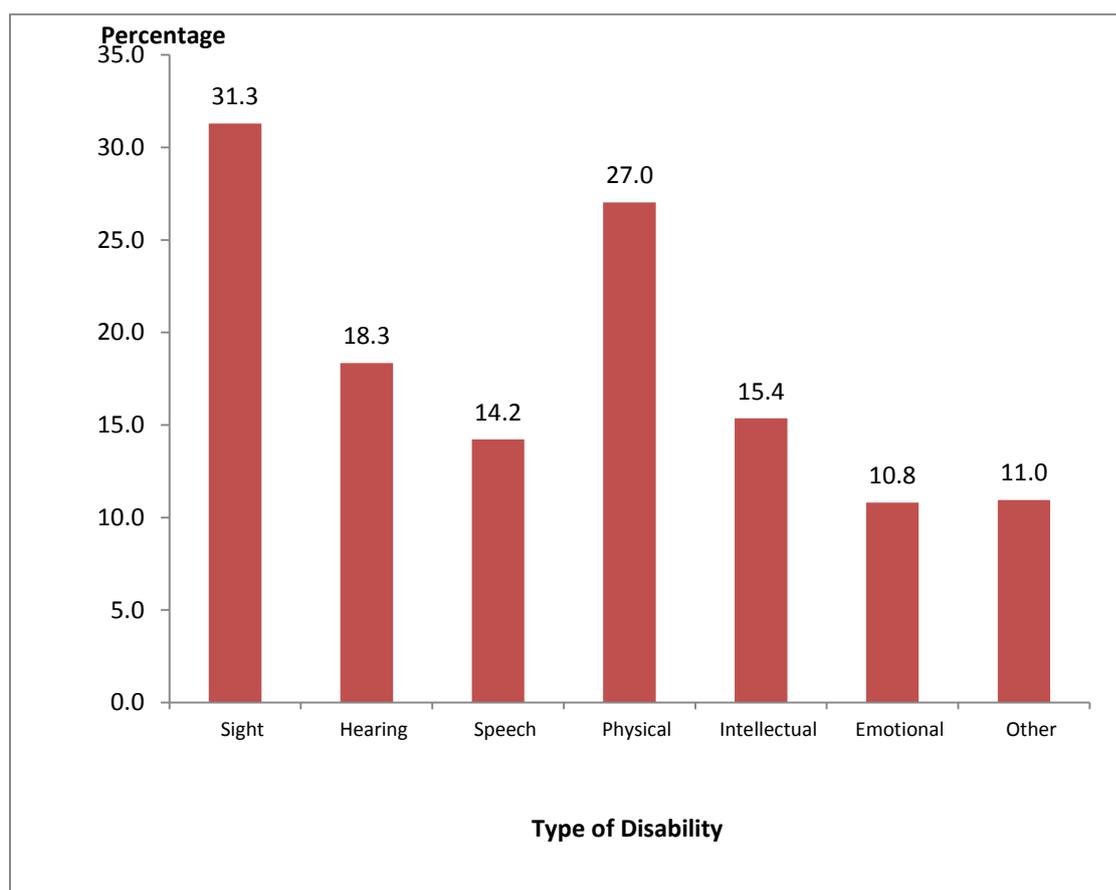
Disability is now considered a societal development issue because of its direct relationship with poverty. The development of a nation depends on the important contributions of not only a segment of the population but the collective contributions of every individual, including PWDs. To this extent, government and civil society organizations in recent years have made progress in addressing disability issues, resulting in some positive gains in improving the lives of PWDs in Ghana. Notable among these is the Persons with Disability Act, 2006, (Act 715). The Act deals with issues such as rights, employment, education, transportation, housing facilities, effective health care, adequate medical rehabilitation services, generation and dissemination of relevant information and participation of PWDs in all activities. Currently, activities concerning PWDs are allocated a three percent share of the District Assembly Common Fund. This has brought some relief to PWDs, particularly those outside the formal sector of employment.

In an attempt to understand the situation of PWDs as a guide for policy formulation, the Ghana Statistical Service, for the first time, collected specific data on PWDs in the 2010 Population and Housing Census. This chapter discusses the population with disability, type of disability, distribution by type of locality, disability and activity as well as disability, education and literacy.

6.2 Types of Disability

Figure 6.1 has information on disability by type in the North Gonja District. It shows that sight (31.3%) is the most common disability in the District and is followed by physical disability, which represents 27 percent of all persons with some disability in the District. The figure also shows hearing (18.3%), intellectual (15.4%), speech (14.2%) and emotional (10.8%) disabilities as important in the district.

Figure 6.1: Disability type



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.3 Population with Disability

Table 6.1 shows that the North Gonja District has 703 persons with some form of disability; this represents 1.6 percent of the total population of the district, which is the same among the male and female population in the district.

6.4 Disability and Type of Locality

The results in Table 6.1 show that disability varies by type of locality. The rural localities record a relatively higher disability rate of 1.7 percent compared to 1.2 percent for the urban localities. There is, however, no variation in the proportion of persons with some disability by sex in the rural areas as 1.7 percent of either males or females report some disability in the District. In contrast, disability prevalence is relatively higher among the males (1.3%) than among the females (1.1%). In the rural localities, sight as a form of disability records the highest proportion of 29.7 percent of all disabilities in the District and is followed by physical disability (27.6%) while emotional disability (10.9%) records the least proportion of persons with some disability. In the urban localities, sight once again records the highest proportion of persons with disability (44.2%), followed by hearing (23.4%), physical (22.1%) and speech (15.6%) disabilities.

Table 6.1: Population with disability by locality and sex

Disability Type	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Localities						
Total	43,547	100.0	21,592	100.0	21,955	100.0
No disability	42,844	98.4	21,244	98.4	21,600	98.4
With a disability	703	1.6	348	1.6	355	1.6
Sight	220	31.3	109	31.3	111	31.3
Hearing	129	18.3	49	14.1	80	22.5
Speech	100	14.2	50	14.4	50	14.1
Physical	190	27.0	88	25.3	102	28.7
Intellectual	108	15.4	57	0.3	51	0.2
Emotional	76	10.8	39	11.2	37	10.4
Other	77	11.0	32	9.2	45	12.7
Urban						
Total	6,510	100.0	3,109	100.0	3,401	100.0
No disability	6,433	98.8	3,069	98.7	3,364	98.9
With a disability	77	1.2	40	1.3	37	1.1
Sight	34	44.2	20	50.0	14	37.8
Hearing	18	23.4	9	22.5	9	24.3
Speech	12	15.6	5	12.5	7	18.9
Physical	17	22.1	9	22.5	8	21.6
Intellectual	8	10.4	4	0.1	4	0.1
Emotional	8	10.4	6	15.0	2	5.4
Other	4	5.2	1	2.5	3	8.1
Rural						
Total	37,037	100.0	18,483	100.0	18,554	100.0
No disability	36,411	98.3	18,175	98.3	18,236	98.3
With a disability	626	1.7	308	1.7	318	1.7
Sight	186	29.7	89	28.9	97	30.5
Hearing	111	17.7	40	13.0	71	22.3
Speech	88	14.1	45	14.6	43	13.5
Physical	173	27.6	79	25.6	94	29.6
Intellectual	100	16.0	53	0.3	47	0.3
Emotional	68	10.9	33	10.7	35	11.0
Other	73	11.7	31	10.1	42	13.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.5 Disability and Economic Activity

The 2010 Population and Housing Census reveals that the proportion of people with disability who are employed in the North Gonja District is 58.3 percent while those who are economically inactive represented 41.2 percent as shown in Table 6.2. The data also indicate that 52.4 percent of people with sight disability are employed and 47.1 percent as economically not active. Table 6.2 shows that more than 50 percent of persons suffering from the other disabilities listed are employed except persons with hearing and physical disabilities which record 47.9 percent and 38.8 percent as employed. It is further shown that more than half (62.4%) of the disabled males are employed while 37.1 percent are economically not active. This compares with 54.8 percent of disabled females that are employed and 44.8 percent as economically not active.

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

Sex/Disability type	All Status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically Not Active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	22,680	100.0	17,215	75.9	210	0.9	5,255	23.2
No disability	22,229	100.0	16,952	76.3	208	0.9	5,069	22.8
With disability	451	100.0	263	58.3	2	0.4	186	41.2
Sight	170	100.0	89	52.4	1	0.6	80	47.1
Hearing	96	100.0	46	47.9	1	1.0	49	51.0
Speech	56	100.0	31	55.4	1	1.8	24	42.9
Physical	121	100.0	47	38.8	1	0.8	73	60.3
Intellectual	51	100.0	31	60.8	1	2.0	19	37.3
Emotional	47	100.0	31	66.0	2	4.3	14	29.8
Other	43	100.0	35	81.4	1	2.3	7	16.3
Male								
Total	10,929	100.0	9,001	82.4	74	0.7	1,854	17.0
No disability	10,719	100.0	8,870	82.8	73	0.7	1,776	16.6
With a disability	210	100.0	131	62.4	1	0.5	78	37.1
Sight	86	100.0	50	58.1	0	0	36	41.9
Hearing	36	100.0	23	63.9	0	0	13	36.1
Speech	18	100.0	11	61.1	0	0	7	38.9
Physical	45	100.0	20	44.4	0	0	25	55.6
Intellectual	26	100.0	15	57.7	0	0	11	42.3
Emotional	25	100.0	18	72	1	4	6	24
Other	17	100.0	14	82.4	0	0	3	17.6
Female								
Total	11,751	100.0	8,214	69.9	136	1.2	3,401	28.9
No disability	11,510	100.0	8,082	70.2	135	1.2	3,293	28.6
With a disability	241	100.0	132	54.8	1	0.4	108	44.8
Sight	84	100.0	39	46.4	1	1.2	44	52.4
Hearing	60	100.0	23	38.3	1	1.7	36	60
Speech	38	100.0	20	52.6	1	2.6	17	44.7
Physical	76	100.0	27	35.5	1	1.3	48	63.2
Intellectual	25	100.0	16	64	1	4	8	32
Emotional	22	100.0	13	59.1	1	4.5	8	36.4
Other	26	100.0	21	80.8	1	3.8	4	15.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.6 Disability, Education and Literacy

Table 6.3 reveals that out of the total population of persons with disabilities in the District, more than half (76.5%) of them have never attended school, 12.4 percent of them have attended primary school while 1.6 percent has SSS/SHS level of education. The data indicate that less than one percent of them have attended post-secondary school. The table further indicates that a higher proportion of persons with disabilities (76.5%) have never attended school in comparison with their counterparts with no disabilities (68.0%). A similar pattern is shown by sex where persons with disabilities tend to have a higher proportion never attending school compared to their counterparts with no disabilities. It is, however, clear from the results presented that the proportion that has never attended school is higher among the females with (81.6%) or without (70.4%) disabilities compared to the males (71.0% and 65.6% respectively). A similar pattern is shown among persons suffering from each type of disability in the District where a higher proportion of the females than the males have never attended school. It is possible that disabilities act as barriers to schooling among persons suffering from any form of disability.

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

Sex/Disability type	Number					Percent				
	Total	Never	Pre-Prim	Basic	Sec/SHS and higher	Total	Never	Pre-Prim	Basic	Sec/SHS and higher
Both Sexes										
Total	39,487	26,911	2,023	9,249	1,304	100.0	68.2	5.1	23.4	3.3
No disability	38,849	26,423	2,000	9,141	1,285	100.0	68.0	5.1	23.5	3.3
With a disability	638	488	23	108	19	100.0	76.5	3.6	16.9	3.0
Sight	213	174	4	26	9	100.0	81.7	1.9	12.2	4.2
Hearing	126	103	2	15	6	100.0	81.7	1.6	11.9	4.8
Speech	85	59	6	20	0	100.0	69.4	7.1	23.5	0.0
Physical	166	129	3	29	5	100.0	77.7	1.8	17.5	3.0
Intellectual	82	57	3	19	3	100.0	69.5	3.7	23.2	3.7
Emotional	67	54	4	8	1	100.0	80.6	6.0	11.9	1.5
Other	70	52	7	9	2	100.0	74.3	10.0	12.9	2.9
Male										
Total	19,523	12,816	1,037	4,818	852	100.0	65.6	5.3	24.7	4.4
No disability	19,209	12,593	1,024	4,749	843	100.0	65.6	5.3	24.7	4.4
With a disability	314	223	13	69	9	100.0	71.0	4.1	22.0	2.9
Sight	105	82	2	16	5	100.0	78.1	1.9	15.2	4.8
Hearing	47	37	0	6	4	100.0	78.7	0.0	12.8	8.5
Speech	39	23	4	12	0	100.0	59.0	10.3	30.8	0.0
Physical	74	49	3	19	3	100.0	66.2	4.1	25.7	4.1
Intellectual	44	27	2	15	0	100.0	61.4	4.5	34.1	0.0
Emotional	38	29	2	6	1	100.0	76.3	5.3	15.8	2.6
Other	29	18	6	4	1	100.0	62.1	20.7	13.8	3.4
Female										
Total	19,964	14,095	986	4,431	452	100.0	70.6	4.9	22.2	2.3
No disability	19,640	13,830	976	4,392	442	100.0	70.4	5.0	22.4	2.3
With a disability	324	265	10	39	10	100.0	81.8	3.1	12.0	3.1
Sight	108	92	2	10	4	100.0	85.2	1.9	9.3	3.7
Hearing	79	66	2	9	2	100.0	83.5	2.5	11.4	2.5
Speech	46	36	2	8	0	100.0	78.3	4.3	17.4	0.0
Physical	92	80	0	10	2	100.0	87.0	0.0	10.9	2.2
Intellectual	38	30	1	4	3	100.0	78.9	2.6	10.5	7.9
Emotional	29	25	2	2	0	100.0	86.2	6.9	6.9	0.0
Other	41	34	1	5	1	100.0	82.9	2.4	12.2	2.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SEVEN

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

7.1 Introduction

The Ghanaian economy is largely regarded as agrarian due to the sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The sector contributes about 22.7 percent of GDP and employs about 50 percent of the labour force (*Daily Guide* newspaper, 14th February 2014). Data from the 2010 Population and Housing Census indicate that agricultural households were 13,366,340 accounting for 54.2 percent of the total population. However, there have been shifts in the age and sex composition of those involved in the agricultural sector over a period. For instance, there appears to be a decline in the proportion of young adult males in the agriculture labour force over the last three decades. This has resulted in a situation whereby the sector is dominated by children and the elderly. The focus of this chapter is to analyze households that are in agriculture as well as the types of farming activities these households are engaged in.

7.2 Households in Agriculture

In the 2010 PHC, an agricultural household was defined as one in which at least one person in the household was engaged in farming/fishing/animal husbandry. The number of agricultural households in the North Gonja District is 4,186 out of a total of 4,793 households in the District. This translates to about 87 percent of the total households in the District. Rural areas account for 90.6 percent of the agricultural households (Table 7.1). The high proportion of agricultural households in rural areas is basically due to the fact that agriculture is essentially a rural activity.

7.3 Types of Farming Activities

Four types of agricultural activities are identified in the census: crop farming, tree planting, livestock rearing and fish farming. Table 7.1 indicates that the highest proportion of agricultural households are into crop farming (96.4%), followed by livestock rearing (35.6%) while tree planting (0.4%) and fish farming (0.2%) do not receive high patronage in the District. In the urban areas, the proportion of households engaged in agriculture is 54.1 percent. Majority of the households in the urban areas engaged in agriculture are into crop farming (91.9%) while livestock rearing represents 32.4 percent of agricultural households. In the rural area, however, 92.6 percent of households engage in agriculture. In terms of the type of agricultural activities of the households, about 97.0 percent engage in crop farming while 40.0 percent is into livestock farming.

Table 7.1: Agricultural activity of household members by locality

Agricultural activity	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Households	4,793	100.0	730	100.0	4,063	100.0
Households engaged in Agriculture	4,186	87.3	395	54.1	3,791	92.6
Crop Farming	4,036	96.4	363	91.9	3,673	96.9
Tree Planting	16	0.4	0	0.0	16	0.4
Livestock Rearing	1,492	35.6	128	32.4	1,364	40.0
Fish Farming	8	0.2	3	0.6	5	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

7.4 Livestock and Livestock Keepers

The District has a total livestock of 73,967 with 3,094 individuals keeping them (Table 7.2). The average animal per keeper in the District is 24. The table also shows that cattle (20,738) are the most common livestock kept in the District with 553 keepers, representing an average of 38 cattle per keeper. This is followed by goats with an average of 16 goats per keeper. There are also three ostrich keepers in the District with an average of 11 ostriches per keeper.

Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock by keepers

	Animals		Keepers		Average animal per keeper
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All livestock	73,967	100.0	3,094	100.0	24
Beehives	47	0.1	3	0.1	16
Cattle	20,738	28.0	553	17.9	38
Chicken	19,247	26.0	762	24.6	25
Dove	232	0.3	9	0.3	26
Duck	562	0.8	12	0.4	47
Goat	14,830	20.0	943	30.5	16
Grass-cutter	220	0.3	9	0.3	24
Guinea fowl	5,885	8.0	182	5.9	32
Ostrich	34	0.0	3	0.1	11
Pig	1,529	2.1	53	1.7	29
Rabbit	20	0.0	2	0.1	10
Sheep	9,991	13.5	537	17.4	19
Silk worm	2	0.0	1	0.0	2
Snail	17	0.0	1	0.0	17
Turkey	4	0.0	1	0.0	4
Other	377	0.5	15	0.5	25
Fish farming	50	0.1	2	0.1	25
Inland fishing	55	0.1	3	0.1	18
Marine fishing	127	0.2	3	0.1	42

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER EIGHT

HOUSING CONDITIONS

8.1 Introduction

The 2010 Population and Housing Census captured comprehensively data on housing conditions in the country. The census provided an official count of all structures in Ghana for which North Gonja District is included. Among the issues covered were the number of occupied and unoccupied dwelling units, the type of dwelling and the main materials used in its construction, occupancy status, and methods of waste disposal, utilities and household facilities. Information obtained from the census on housing quality indicated by the materials used for constructing various housing units, and the availability of facilities such as water and sanitation will serve as important indicators of the quality of life of household members. Such information can aid the government in designing housing improvement programmes.

The information from housing censuses also serves as a basis for planning housing and human settlement programmes in addition to adopting policies and undertaking evaluation and monitoring of housing conditions and needs of the population within the context of the Millennium Development Goal Seven (MDG7- ensure environmental sustainability). It can also be used to determine the adequacy of housing stock and assessment of the need for additional housing.

8.2 Housing Stock

The District has a total population of 43,547 out of which 42,972 were enumerated from 4,793 households (Table 8.1). The number of houses is 3,398 with an average household size of 9.1. In addition, urban areas in the District are credited with a total household population of 6,308 from 730 households with an average household size of 8.9. On the other hand, the rural areas have a total household population of 36,664 from 4,063 households and an average household size of 9.1.

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

Categories	Total		District		
	Country	Region	Total	Urban	Rural
Total population	24,658,823	2,479,461	43,547	6,510	37,037
Total household population	24,076,327	2,445,061	42,972	6,308	36,664
Number of houses	3,392,745	257,311	3,398	481	2,917
Number of households	5,467,054	318,119	4,793	730	4,063
Average households per house	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.4
Population per house	7.3	9.6	12.8	13.5	12.7
Average household size	4.5	7.8	9.1	8.9	9.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, Population and Housing Census

8.3 Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement

Table 8.2 shows that there are 13,895 dwelling units in the District. The proportion of households which live in units owned by a household member is 93.8. Another 2.3 percent is owned by relatives who are not household members and 1.5 percent is publicly owned. The proportion of households headed by females in dwellings owned by a household member

(88.0%) is lower than their male-headed counterparts in similar dwellings (94.7%). At the locality level, 97.2 percent of households in rural areas reside in dwellings owned by a household member compared to 87.9 percent in the urban areas. The table further reveals some variations between the male- and female-headed households and again between urban and rural areas by ownership status of household dwelling units in the District. For example, ownership by a relative who is not a member of household and one by other private individual is higher in female-headed households (5.0% and 4.0% respectively) than male-headed households (1.9% and 1.4% respectively). Similarly, ownership of dwelling units by government or public is higher in the urban (3.4%) than rural (0.4%) areas in the district.

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

Ownership status	Total		District					
			Total		Male Headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
			Country	Region				
Total	5,467,054	318,119	13,895	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Owned by household member	2,883,236	267,538	13,038	93.8	94.7	88.0	87.9	97.2
Being purchased (e.g. mortgage)	45,630	1,352	40	0.3	0.2	0.8	0.5	0.1
Relative not a household member	851,630	16,460	321	2.3	1.9	5.0	3.3	1.7
Other private individual	1,439,021	24,310	246	1.8	1.4	4.0	4.3	0.3
Private employer	83,610	1,248	25	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1
Other private agency	21,123	431	11	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0
Public/Government ownership	118,804	5,863	208	1.5	1.5	1.6	3.4	0.4
Other	24,000	917	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.2.2 Type of occupied dwelling

Table 8.3 presents information on the type of occupied dwellings by sex of household head and type of locality in the District. Compound houses (rooms) account for 59.1 percent of all dwelling units in the North Gonja District. On the other hand, separate houses and huts/buildings (same compound) represent 9.6 percent and 27.9 percent respectively of dwelling units in the District. It is also noted that compound houses account for 59.3 percent of dwelling units with households headed by males. This compares with 56.7 percent among households headed by females. Another important observation is that a higher proportion of female-headed households (15.9%) reside in separate houses compared to the male-headed households (9.0%). In contrast, however, the proportion of households headed by males (28.1%) in huts/buildings in the same compound is relatively higher than those headed by females (24.9%). In the urban areas, 91.2 percent of households are in compound houses compared to 53.3 percent in the rural areas. However, 32.2 percent of households in the rural areas are resident in huts/buildings (same compound) as compared to just 3.7 percent in the urban areas in the District. Similarly, a higher proportion of rural (10.6%) households were resident in separate houses in the District compared to households in the urban areas which were represented by only 3.8 percent in separate houses.

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

Ownership status	Total		District					
			Total		Male Headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent				
Total	5,467,054	318,119	4,793	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Separate house	1,471,391	51,622	460	9.6	9.0	15.9	3.8	10.6
Semi-detached house	391,548	12,761	78	1.6	1.6	1.8	0.8	1.8
Flat/Apartment	256,355	3,360	11	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3
Compound house (rooms)	2,942,147	208,934	2,832	59.1	59.3	56.7	91.2	53.3
Huts/Buildings (same compound)	170,957	34,405	1,335	27.9	28.1	24.9	3.7	32.2
Huts/Buildings (different compound)	36,410	3,374	48	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.0	1.2
Tent	10,343	818	15	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3
Improvised home (kiosk/container etc.)	90,934	404	4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Living quarters attached to office/shop	20,499	619	8	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
Uncompleted building	66,624	1,428	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	9,846	394	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4 Construction Materials

8.4.1 Main construction material for outer wall

Table 8.4 presents information on the main construction materials for the outer walls of dwellings by locality in the District. Households living in dwelling units whose outer walls are constructed with mud brick/earth represent 83.0 percent and 9.8 percent of them are constructed with cement block/concrete. At the same time, wood is used in constructing 2.4 percent of household dwellings in the District. The same proportion is represented by bamboo palm leaf/thatch. The comparison by type of locality, however, shows that as high as 91.2 percent of the outer walls of household dwellings in the District are constructed with mud brick/earth compared to 40.7 percent in the urban areas. In contrast, 51.7 percent of urban household dwellings have cement blocks/concrete for their outer walls compared to only 1.8 percent of household dwellings in the rural areas. This variation between the urban and rural areas may be due to differences in poverty levels between the rural and urban localities in the District.

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

Material for Outer wall	Total		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	339,874	5,273	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud brick/Earth	1,991,540	247,754	4,379	83.0	40.7	91.2
Wood	200,594	5,389	129	2.4	1.9	2.6
Metal sheet/Slate/Asbestos	43,708	1,984	32	0.6	0.9	0.5
Stone	11,330	1,077	10	0.2	0.1	0.2
Burnt bricks	38,237	647	3	0.1	0.4	0.0
Cement blocks/Concrete	3,342,462	64,863	518	9.8	51.7	1.8
Landcrete	104,270	10,609	51	1.0	3.2	0.5
Bamboo	8,206	285	8	0.2	0.1	0.2
Palm leaf/Thatch (grass)/Raffia	38,054	5,894	127	2.4	0.7	2.7
Other	39,206	1,372	16	0.3	0.4	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.2 Main construction materials for the floor of dwelling unit

Table 8.5 indicates that a higher proportion of floors of dwellings are constructed with cement/concrete (85.2%), followed by earth/mud (13.6%). More than 80 percent of floors of dwellings in both rural (83.5%) and urban (94.7%) areas are constructed with cement/concrete. Though cement/concrete is widely used in both rural and urban areas, its use is much more extensive in the urban areas. The table further shows that earth/mud as a construction material for floors of dwellings is predominantly a rural phenomenon because the proportion of dwelling floors with earth/mud in the rural areas is 15.3 percent compared to 4.5 percent in the urban areas in the District.

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

Materials for the floor	Total		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	318,119	4,793	100.0	100.0	100.0
Earth/Mud	872,161	97,678	653	13.6	4.5	15.3
Cement/Concrete	4,255,611	214,535	4,083	85.2	94.7	83.5
Stone	32,817	1,358	8	0.2	0.1	0.2
Burnt brick	6,537	277	3	0.1	0.0	0.1
Wood	52,856	195	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vinyl tiles	57,032	510	1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ceramic/Porcelain/Granite/Marble tiles	88,500	2,091	26	0.5	0.4	0.6
Terrazzo/Terrazzo tiles	85,973	365	3	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other	15,567	1,110	16	0.3	0.3	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.3 Main construction materials for roofing

Table 8.6 indicates that the main materials for roofing of dwelling units in the District is thatch/palm leaf or raffia (70.1%), followed by metal sheet (25.4%) with mud/mud bricks/earth representing only one percent. The use of roofing materials varies between the urban and rural areas to the extent that while metal sheet is the most common material used in the urban areas (83.5%), thatch/palm leaf or raffia is used for 81 percent of rural household

dwellings. This shows how low the quality of roofing materials is in the rural areas in the District is, a situation that may be largely due to poverty that may be widespread in the rural areas.

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

Main Roofing material	Total		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	339,874	5,273	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud/Mud bricks/Earth	80,644	16,434	55	1.0	0.2	1.2
Wood	45,547	3,740	49	0.9	0.5	1.0
Metal sheet	4,152,259	192,412	1,339	25.4	83.5	14.2
Slate/Asbestos	759,039	2,091	6	0.1	0.2	0.1
Cement/Concrete	141,072	1,429	28	0.5	1.5	0.3
Roofing tile	31,456	761	47	0.9	0.0	1.1
Bamboo	71,049	1,137	24	0.5	0.0	0.5
Thatch/Palm leaf or Raffia	500,606	118,517	3,696	70.1	13.2	81.0
Other	35,935	3,353	29	0.5	0.8	0.5

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 metres, of a size large enough to hold a bed for an adult, that is, at least four square metres. 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. Information in the table shows that a higher proportion of the households sleep in four rooms (19.4%) while those who sleep in three rooms constituting 18.5 percent.

About 76.0 percent of one-person households sleep in a single room, while 11.1 percent sleep in two rooms. Furthermore, half of all households with four members have two sleeping rooms. Again, the table shows that 34.5 percent and 29.7 percent of households with six and seven members respectively are reported to use three sleeping rooms. The information presented further shows that the number of rooms available for sleeping purposes is not consistent with the size of households in the District. This means that overcrowding is common in households in the District with its likely negative implications on the health of the population.

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

Household size	Total households		Number of sleeping rooms								
	Number	Percent	One room	Two rooms	Three rooms	Four rooms	Five rooms	Six rooms	Seven rooms	Eight rooms	Nine rooms or more
Total	4,793	100.0	6.6	17.7	18.5	19.4	10.8	10.1	5.5	3.4	8.1
1	54	100.0	75.9	11.1	3.7	0.0	9.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2	97	100.0	42.3	44.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	6.2	1.0	4.1
3	222	100.0	29.7	46.4	11.3	4.5	0.9	1.4	2.3	1.4	2.3
4	320	100.0	15.9	50.0	19.4	7.2	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.6	4.1
5	356	100.0	9.6	41.9	30.3	9.6	1.7	1.1	2.0	1.7	2.2
6	417	100.0	4.1	27.6	34.5	16.5	6.5	3.8	2.4	1.2	3.4
7	454	100.0	4.0	18.7	29.7	26.2	7.7	7.7	1.5	0.4	4.0
8	475	100.0	3.4	12.6	23.8	27.4	12.4	11.2	4.8	1.5	2.9
9	466	100.0	2.4	7.9	21.7	29.6	17.0	9.7	4.7	4.5	2.6
10+	1,932	100.0	1.1	4.6	10.1	21.0	15.6	16.7	9.3	6.1	15.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population Housing Census

8.6 Access to Utilities and Household Facilities

Data in Table 8.8 shows that, in the urban areas, 86.8 percent of dwellings are connected to the national electricity grid while in the rural areas it is only 0.6 percent. This shows the low coverage of electricity in the District, considering that 85.1 percent of the District is rural. Again, in the urban areas, 6.4 percent of the households use kerosene lamp and 6.4 percent resort to flashlight/torch as their source of lighting. In the rural areas, 49.5 percent and 47.6 percent respectively rely on kerosene lamp and flashlight/torch.

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

Main source of light	District					
	Total		Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	318,119	4,793	100.0	100.0	100.0
Electricity (mains)	3,511,065	114,889	658	13.7	86.8	0.6
Electricity (private generator)	36,142	2,219	23	0.5	1.1	0.4
Kerosene lamp	971,807	134,656	2,058	42.9	6.4	49.5
Gas lamp	9,378	860	13	0.3	0.1	0.3
Solar energy	9,194	1,048	30	0.6	0.0	0.7
Candle	41,214	488	1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Flashlight/Torch	858,651	60,518	1,969	41.1	4.8	47.6
Firewood	13,241	2,257	28	0.6	0.7	0.6
Crop residue	4,623	759	12	0.3	0.0	0.3
Other	11,739	425	1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.1 Main source of cooking fuel for household

Table 8.9 indicates that wood (93.9%) serves as the main source of cooking fuel for households, followed by charcoal (3.4%). This means that 97.3 percent of households in the District depend on forest products as their main source of cooking fuel, a development with implications for forest depletion in the District. Less than one percent (0.3%) of households

in the District use gas for cooking in spite of the numerous campaigns to encourage increased use of gas by households in the country. In either the urban or rural areas, dependence on the environment for cooking fuel is high such that 82.6 percent and 15.2 percent of urban households depend on wood and charcoal. This compares with 96.0 percent and 1.3 percent use of wood and charcoal as cooking fuel in the rural areas in the District.

8.6.2 Cooking space used by household

Table 8.8 further shows that 15 percent of households in the District had separate rooms for exclusive use as cooking space and 65.7 percent cooks in open space in compound. The proportion of households in the urban areas that had separate rooms for exclusive use of their households is 2.2 percent while 78.4 percent cooks in open space in compound and 1.6 percent cooks in enclosure without roofs. On the other hand, in the rural areas, 1.5 percent of households cook in separate rooms made for their exclusive use, 63.5 percent cooks in open space in compound and 6.1 percent in enclosure without roof.

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

Cooking fuel/ cooking space	Total		District					
			Total		Urban		Rural	
			Country	Region	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Main source of cooking fuel								
Total	5,467,054	318,119	4,793	100.0	730	100.0	4,063	100.0
None no cooking	306,118	6,713	51	1.1	6	0.8	45	1.1
Wood	2,197,083	243,314	4,502	93.9	603	82.6	3,899	96.0
Gas	996,518	10,584	12	0.3	4	0.5	8	0.2
Electricity	29,794	1,396	7	0.1	0	0.0	7	0.2
Charcoal	1,844,290	52,124	164	3.4	111	15.2	53	1.3
Crop residue	45,292	1,804	37	0.8	4	0.5	33	0.8
Saw dust	8,000	515	1	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0
Animal waste	2,332	84	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other	7,759	469	1	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
Cooking space used								
Total	5,467,054	318,119	4,793	100.0	730	100.0	4,063	100.0
No cooking space	386,883	10,910	74	1.5	15	2.1	59	1.5
Separate room for exclusive use of household	1,817,018	82,024	720	15.0	16	2.2	704	17.3
Separate room shared with other household(s)	410,765	10,877	138	2.9	15	2.1	123	3.0
Enclosure without roof	117,614	11,245	259	5.4	12	1.6	247	6.1
Structure with roof but without walls	349,832	11,055	249	5.2	31	4.2	218	5.4
Bedroom/Hall/Living room)	74,525	1,403	33	0.7	1	0.1	32	0.8
Verandah	1,173,946	34,131	162	3.4	67	9.2	95	2.3
Open space in compound	1,115,464	155,651	3,153	65.8	572	78.4	2,581	63.5
Other	21,007	823	5	0.1	1	0.1	4	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 population and Housing Census

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

8.7.1 Main source of drinking water for household

The proportion of households using bore-hole/pump/tube well as the main source of drinking water is 66.5 percent of the total number of households in North Gonja District. The second most commonly used source of drinking water in the District is river/stream (23.2%). The urban areas record 37.3 percent of households using bore-hole /pump /tube well compared to 71.8 percent in the rural area.

8.7.2 Main source of water for other domestic use of household

As shown in Table 8.10 bore-hole/pump/tube well (57.8%) is identified as the main source for water for other domestic uses besides drinking. This is closely followed by river/streams (31.8%). In the urban areas, 63.3 percent of the households rely on river/stream as their main source of water for domestic use. This compares with 62.1 percent in rural areas that make use of bore-hole /pump/tube well for domestic chores.

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

Sources of water	Total Country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of drinking water						
Total	5,467,054	318,119	4,793	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	790,493	27,811	33	0.7	0.0	0.8
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,039,667	38,852	132	2.8	1.9	2.9
Public tap/Standpipe	712,375	21,798	10	0.2	0.4	0.2
Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well	1,267,688	111,650	3,188	66.5	37.3	71.8
Protected well	321,091	17,933	192	4.0	0.0	4.7
Rain water	39,438	2,066	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Protected spring	19,345	1,008	15	0.3	0.0	0.4
Bottled water	20,261	233	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sachet water	490,283	1,187	5	0.1	0.0	0.1
Tanker supply/Vendor provided	58,400	942	5	0.1	0.0	0.1
Unprotected well	112,567	13,517	68	1.4	0.1	1.6
Unprotected spring	12,222	1,109	5	0.1	0.0	0.1
River/Stream	502,804	55,470	1,112	23.2	60.0	16.6
Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal	76,448	24,308	26	0.5	0.1	0.6
Other	3,972	235	2	0.0	0.1	0.0
Main source of water for other domestic use						
Total	5,467,054	318,119	4,793	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	905,566	27,698	40	0.8	0.3	0.9
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,089,030	37,432	134	2.8	2.1	2.9
Public tap/Standpipe	704,293	19,390	7	0.1	0.1	0.1
Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well	1,280,465	101,815	2,768	57.8	33.7	62.1
Protected well	465,775	19,715	189	3.9	0.0	4.7
Rain water	39,916	2,182	10	0.2	0.0	0.2
Protected spring	18,854	927	4	0.1	0.0	0.1
Tanker supply/Vendor provided	100,048	1,214	6	0.1	0.0	0.1
Unprotected well	152,055	13,349	72	1.5	0.0	1.8
Unprotected spring	15,738	1,002	5	0.1	0.0	0.1
River/Stream	588,590	63,445	1,526	31.8	63.3	26.2
Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal	96,422	29,210	25	0.5	0.1	0.6
Other	10,302	740	7	0.1	0.4	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.8 Bathing and Toilet Facilities

8.8.1 Toilet facility used by household

Table 8.11 reveals that majority of households have no toilet facilities and, therefore, resort to using the bush/beach/field (92.1%). We also find that only 3.0 percent of the households use public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit, Pan etc.) and 3.8 percent uses KVIP. The proportion of households in the urban areas that have no toilet facilities is 78.9 percent compared to as high as 94.5 percent in the rural areas in the District. Public toilet use forms 16.8 percent in the urban areas and less than one percent in the rural localities. In addition, KVIP is used by 2.2 percent of households in the urban areas in comparison with 4.1 percent in the rural areas. It is also clear from the table that the most improved toilet facility (water closet) is almost absent in the District with only 0.1 percent of households making use of it either in the urban or rural areas.

8.8.2 Bathing facility used by household

Table 8.10 further indicates that 23.5 percent of the households have bathrooms for their exclusive use, 22.5 percent shares separate bathrooms in the same house and 17.0 percent also uses shared open cubicles. In the urban areas, 4.8 percent of the households have their own bathroom for their exclusive use, 2.0 percent share separate bathrooms in the same house and 3.1 percent share open cubicles. In the rural areas, however, 26.9 percent have bathrooms for their exclusive use, 24.1 percent share separate bathrooms in the same house and 16.4 percent share open cubicles.

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

Toilet/ bathroom facility	Total Country Region		District						
			Total		Urban		Rural		
			No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	
Toilet facility									
Total	5,467,054	4,793	4,793	100.0	730	100.0	4,063	100.0	100.0
No facilities (bush/beach/field)	1,056,382	4,415	4,415	92.1	576	78.9	3,839	94.5	
W.C.	839,611	4	4	0.1	1	0.1	3	0.1	
Pit latrine	1,040,883	37	37	0.8	11	1.5	26	0.6	
KVIP	572,824	182	182	3.8	16	2.2	166	4.1	
Bucket/Pan	40,678	1	1	0.0	-	-	1	0.0	
Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit/Pan etc)	1,893,291	142	142	3.0	123	16.8	19	0.5	
Other	23,385	12	12	0.3	3	0.4	9	0.2	
				0.0		0.0		0.0	
Bathing facility									
Total	5,467,054	4,793	4,793	100.0	730	100.0	4,063	100.0	100.0
Own bathroom for exclusive use	1,535,392	1,128	1,128	23.5	35	4.8	1,093	26.9	
Shared separate bathroom in the same house	1,818,522	1,080	1,080	22.5	99	13.6	981	24.1	
Private open cubicle	381,979	500	500	10.4	106	14.5	394	9.7	
Shared open cubicle	1,000,257	817	817	17.0	150	20.5	667	16.4	
Public bath house	140,501	353	353	7.4	239	32.7	114	2.8	
Bathroom in another house	187,337	21	21	0.4	14	1.9	7	0.2	
Open space around house	372,556	867	867	18.1	78	10.7	789	19.4	
River/Pond/Lake/Dam	14,234	9	9	0.2	2	0.3	7	0.2	
Other	16,276	18	18	0.4	7	1.0	11	0.3	

Source: Ghana statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.9 Method of Waste Disposal

Proper Waste disposal is important to every household and this section deals with method of waste, both solid and liquid disposal in North Gonja District.

8.9.1 Solid waste

Table 8.12 provides information on methods of solid and liquid waste disposal in the various localities in the District. It reveals that 59.0 percent of households use public dumping sites (open space), 33.7 percent dumps indiscriminately and 3.2 percent of them burn their waste. The proportion of households in the rural areas that dump their waste indiscriminately is 35.6 percent compared to 23.6 percent in the urban areas. There is also 56.2 percent of rural households that use public dumping sites (open space) and 3.7 percent burn by household. In the urban areas, 74.9 percent practice public dumping (open space), and 0.5 percent use public dump (container).

8.9.2 Liquid waste

From Table 8.12, majority of the households throw their waste onto the street or outside (58.8%), followed by those who throw onto the compound (31.2%) and drainage into a pit or soak away (5.7%). Some variations exist between the urban and rural areas where 62.3 percent of urban households in the District throw their liquid waste onto the street or outside compared to 58.2 percent in the rural localities. The table also shows that less than one percent of either the rural (0.2%) or urban (0.1%) households dispose their liquid waste through the drainage system into a gutter. The table further indicates that 32.9 percent of the urban households throw their waste on the compound, which compares with 30.9 percent of the rural households.

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

Waste disposal method	Total		Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
Method of rubbish disposal						
Total	5,467,054	4,793	4,793	100.0	100.0	100.0
Collected	785,889	19	19	0.4	0.1	0.4
Burned by household	584,820	153	153	3.2	0.1	3.7
Public dump (container)	1,299,654	84	84	1.8	0.5	2.0
Public dump (open space)	2,061,403	2,829	2,829	59.0	74.9	56.2
Dumped indiscriminately	498,868	1,617	1,617	33.7	23.6	35.6
Buried by household	182,615	67	67	1.4	0.3	1.6
Other	53,805	24	24	0.5	0.4	0.5
Method of liquid waste disposal						
Total	5,467,054	4,793	4,793	100.0	100.0	100.0
Through the sewerage system	183,169	10	10	0.2	0.0	0.2
Through drainage system into a gutter	594,404	10	10	0.2	0.1	0.2
Through drainage into a pit (soak away)	167,555	272	272	5.7	0.3	6.6
Thrown onto the street/outside	1,538,550	2,820	2,820	58.8	62.3	58.2
Thrown into gutter	1,020,096	169	169	3.5	4.2	3.4
Thrown onto compound	1,924,986	1,497	1,497	31.2	32.9	30.9
Other	38,294	15	15	0.3	0.1	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER NINE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Summary of Findings

9.1.1 Population size and Distribution

The 2010 PHC indicates that the North Gonja District has a total population of 43,547 out of which 49.4 percent is made up of males and 56.6 percent are females. The total land size of the District is 4,845.5 sq. km and population density of 9.0 persons per square kilometer. Out of the total population, a majority of the people (85.1%) reside in rural settlements with the remaining 14.9 percent resident in urban localities. The District has a sex ratio of 98.3. The District has a general dependency ratio of 107 with males registering the highest dependency ratio of 113.9 compared to 100.6 among the females. In terms of locality, the rural areas have the highest dependency ratio of 108.5 compared to 98.5 in the urban areas. Of people between 15 and 64 years is 21,041, made up of 48.0 percent males and 52.0 percent females.

9.1.2 Nationality

The Residence in the District are mainly Ghanaian (94.5%) as against a few non- Ghanaians (4.5%). Ghanaian by birth formed the majority (89.8%), followed by ECOWAS nationals (4.6%) and then dual Nationality (4.0%).

9.1.3 Fertility

North Gonja District has 9,935 women within the age group 15-49 years with the number of live births in the last 12 months preceding the 2010 Population and Housing Census amounting to 1,349. The District has a TFR of 5.3 which is the highest in the Northern Region which recorded an average TFR of 3.5. The District also has the highest GFR of 135.8 in the region. This implies that there are 136 births per 1,000 women of age 15-49 years in the District. This is higher than the regional average of 102. Again, the North Gonja District has a CBR of 31.1 which is once again the highest in the region whose average CBR is 24.

9.1.4 Mortality

The survival rate in the District is 85.0 percent which varies slightly between 84.5 percent among the males and 85.4 percent for the females. Females within the age group 12-14 years have the lowest child survival rate of 77.8 percent plausibly because females within these ages are still teenagers and may not be physically matured for child bearing. On the other hand, females within the age group 25-29 years have the highest child survival rate of 90.0 percent. The 2010 Population and Housing Census also reveals that the North Gonja District has a crude death rate of 5.7 which is slightly higher than the regional average of 3.1.

9.1.5 Migration

Data from the 2010 PHC indicate that Upper East Region (U/ER) is the main source region for migrants that were enumerated in the District with the Western Region (W/R) as the least important source of migrants into the North Gonja District. The large number of migrants

from the Upper East Region in the District may be as result of the close proximity of the region to the District. Their movement into the District could also be related to pull factors such as the availability of agricultural lands, as well as other economic opportunities in the District. There were also 689 persons enumerated in the District who were born outside Ghana.

9.1.6 Household Size, structure and Composition

The 2010 PHC data show that the total household population in the District is 42,972, comprising 49.6 percent males and 50.4 percent females. There are 4,793 household heads made up of 91.7 percent males and 8.3 percent females. Household headship in the District is, therefore, highly male-dominated. The nuclear family households have a total population of 11,404, which is composed of 51.5 percent of males and 48.5 percent of females. This is an indication that most people (73.4%) in the District live in extended family households.

9.1.7 Literacy

Generally, the level of education in the District is low with the average educational attainment being primary school. The District has a total labour force of 22,680 (52.1% of the entire population) among the population 15 years and older. Of this number, males are 48.2 percent while females represent 51.8 percent. In terms of the economically active group, however, males represent 52.1 percent while females make up the remaining 47.9 percent. The private informal sector employs 98 percent of the population, with the public and private formal sectors engaging one percent each of the employed population of the North Gonja District. The Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Sector is responsible for 55.9 percent of employed males and 44.1 percent of employed females in the District.

The District has 703 persons with various forms of disability (PWDs). These PWDs represent 1.6 percent of the total population of the District. The proportion of people with disability who are employed in the North Gonja District is 58.3 percent while those who are economically inactive make up 41.2 percent. Out of the total population of PWDs in the District, more than three-quarters (76.5%) of them have never attended school, 12.4 percent has attended primary school while 1.6 percent has attended SSS/SHS.

9.1.8 Agriculture

Agriculture plays a pivotal role in the socio-economic development of the people in the District. The 2010 PHC reveals that agricultural households number 4,186 out of the total households of 4,793 in the District. This translates to about 87 percent of the total number of households in the District. Rural areas have 90.6 percent of agricultural households.

9.1.9 Information communication technology

In general, about 9.3 percent of the population has mobile phones. There are, however, more males (63.9%) than females (36.1%), the percentage of male-headed households that own desktop/laptop computer is 0.1 percent as compared to their female-headed household counterparts with 0.3 percent. The very low ownership of desktop/laptop computers in the District could be due to lack of electricity in most parts of the District and the general high poverty level among the people.

9.1.10 Housing conditions

The information from housing censuses serves as a basis for planning housing and human settlement programmes and adopting policies to address any housing deficits. It also assists in

the evaluation and monitoring of housing conditions and needs of the population within the context of the United Nations Millennium Development Goal Seven. The census provided an official count of all structures in North Gonja District. The District has 3,398 houses with an average household size of 9.1 persons. In addition, the District urban settlements have a total of 730 households with an average household size of 8.9. On the other hand, 4,063 households are recorded with respect to the rural settlements with an average household size of 9.1. The proportion of households that live in owner-occupied units (owned by household member) is 93.8 percent, with 2.3 percent owned by relatives who are not household members and 1.5 percent are publicly owned.

Type of dwelling, holding and tenancy arrangement

There are 13,895 dwelling units in the District. Compound houses are the most common in the District and vary from a high of 91.2 percent in the urban areas to 53.3 percent in the rural localities. Again, a higher proportion of the rural households were in separate houses (10.6%) and huts (32.2%) compared to 3.8 percent and 3.7 percent respectively in the urban areas in the District.

Furthermore, 59.3 percent of households headed by males are in compound houses, 9.0 percent in separate houses and 28.1 percent in huts/buildings (same compound). In contrast, compound houses used by female-headed households represent 56.7 percent while 15.9 percent of them are in separate houses and 24.9 percent in huts/buildings.

Main Construction material

The main material for roofing of dwelling units in the District is thatch/palm leaf or raffia (70.1%), followed by metal sheet (25.4%). Use of kerosene lamps (43.0%) for lighting is the most common in the District, followed by 41.1 percent using flashlight/torch while electricity is used by 13.7 percent of the households in the District. Furthermore, households in the District depend largely on wood (93.9%) and charcoal (3.4%) as the main source of cooking fuel while less than one percent (0.3%) of them use gas for cooking. On the other hand, more than 66 percent of households use bore-hole/pump/tube well as the main source of drinking water in the District compared to 23.2 percent that depends on river/stream.

Toilet facility

A huge majority (92.1%) of households has no toilet facilities and resort to using the bush/beach/field. This is higher in the rural (94.5%) than in the urban (78.9%) localities in the District. The use of public toilet also varies between 16.8 percent in the urban areas and less than one percent in the rural localities in the District. The use of water closet toilet facility is, however, almost absent in the District with an insignificant proportion of 0.1 percent reporting its usage.

9.2 Conclusions

North Gonja District is highly rural; 85 percent of the total population lives in rural areas. Age dependency ratio is lower (98.5) in urban areas than in rural areas (108.5) urban areas.

The proportion of deaths by accidents/homicide/suicide in the District (8.3%) is quite high. Steps need to be taken to curb its incidence. The proportion of those who are economically inactive but married is 15.8 percent. Proportions of males and females in tertiary education, 0.6 percent and 0.1 percent respectively are too low.

Majority of the people living in the District (89.8%) are Ghanaians by birth. On religious affiliation, Muslims are in the majority (72.8%). The proportion of those literate in English and French (0.1%) is not commendable,

The role and contribution of the private sector (99%) in the provision of service to the employment sector cannot be overemphasized; is the main source of employment in the District. Efforts must be made to increase the proportion of the economically active (76.8%) and reduce unemployment. More job avenues must be opened to help address these issues. In this era of mobile phones, with 9.3% as proportion of people 12 years and above in the District having mobile phones, it can be said that the proportion is on the lower side. It is clear the use of desktop/laptop computers must be encouraged more, especially in schools. This could help improve the rather low ownership of computers (0.1%) in the District.

The fact that sight disability records the highest percentage for both urban (44.2%) and rural (29.7%), is a major problem which requires an urgent and immediate solution. The proportion of households that are engaged in agricultural activities (87.3%) clearly tells that, agriculture is the mainstay of the Districts' economy. It is commendable that, 96.4% of those in agriculture are into crop farming. Compound house (59%) is the predominantly occupied dwelling unit in the District, with main construction material for outer walls being Mud brick or Earth (83%). The main material for floor is cement/concrete (85.2%), and the main roofing material is Thatch/Palm leaf or Raffia (70.1%).

9.3 Policy Implications

The consequences of the results presented are critical and must, therefore, be given priority in the development planning processes of the District. Health infrastructure such as the Community Health Planning Services (CHIPS) compounds should be urgently provided to take care of the health needs of the children as well as the aged especially in the rural areas where a greater proportion of children and the elderly population is resident. Employment opportunities must also be created to absorb the youth.

In addition, the proportion of the elderly population 65 years and older (4.6%) is about the same as the average for Ghana which is 4.7 percent. We need to adopt innovative measures in order to tap into their experiences to advance the development of the District and Ghana as a whole. However, policies and programmes that will enhance the well-being of the aged population should be thought through. For example, the District Assembly could consider investing in care facilities for the aged in the communities (see UNPD (Ghana), 2007). Policy options for this segment of the population should include enhancement of social support systems of various kinds, both formal and informal, as well as employment opportunities for the elderly who are still capable of working.

More educational infrastructure such as classroom blocks should be provided to take care of the high proportion of the population that is represented by children in the District. In addition, programmes that promote female education and women empowerment should be intensified. This will ensure that female children are enrolled and retained in school to realize their full potentials in order that they can contribute to the development of the District. In the light of this, the District Assembly (DA), in collaboration with other development partners should endeavor to implement realistic policies and programmes geared towards the realization of this objective.

The District Assembly should make a strong effort to brand and repackage the tourist sites in the District in order that it could serve as a source of revenue for the District. The gold

deposits in the District should be exploited. This could be a public-private partnership (PPP) venture between the District Assembly and any private entity that is interested in exploiting these resources.

With regard to sanitation, the District Assembly should incorporate in its District Medium Term Development Plan (DMTDP) the sensitization on the Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) programme in communities across the District in order to curb the indiscriminate open defecation and its attendant complications.

The District Assembly should intensify the rural electrification project to ensure that many more localities in the District are hooked onto the national grid to enjoy the benefits that come with it.

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APPENDICES

Table A1: Household composition by type of locality

Household Composition	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Total	Percent	Urban	Percent	Rural	Percent
Total	42,972	100.0	6,308	100.0	36,664	100.0
Head only	54	0.1	11	0.2	43	0.1
Household with head and a spouse only	96	0.2	22	0.3	74	0.2
Household with head and biological/adopted children only	1,180	2.7	396	6.3	784	2.1
Household with head spouse(s) and biological/adopted children only	10,074	23.4	1,350	21.4	8,724	23.8
Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only	26,580	61.9	3,423	54.3	23,157	63.2
Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head	901	2.1	79	1.3	822	2.2
Household with head spouse(s) and other composition	444	1.0	29	0.5	415	1.1
Household with head biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only	2,638	6.1	753	11.9	1,885	5.1
Household with head biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head	330	0.8	84	1.3	246	0.7
Household with head and other composition but no spouse	675	1.6	161	2.6	514	1.4

Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

Sex/Disability type	Total	Educational level attained									
		Never attended	Nursery	Kinder garten	Primary	Middle /JSS/ JHS	Sec. /SSS /SHS	Voc./ Tech./ Comm.	Post sec	Bachelor degree	Post graduate (Cert. Diploma Masters PHD etc)
Total	39,487	26,911	1,356	667	6,920	2,329	1,051	42	185	26	0
No disability	38,849	26,423	1,342	658	6,841	2,300	1,038	41	180	26	0
With a disability	638	488	14	9	79	29	13	1	5	0	0
Sight	213	174	4	0	18	8	4	1	4	0	0
Hearing	126	103	0	2	14	1	4	0	2	0	0
Speech	85	59	3	3	15	5	0	0	0	0	0
Physical	166	129	3	0	18	11	4	0	1	0	0
Intellectual	82	57	2	1	13	6	3	0	0	0	0
Emotional	67	54	3	1	6	2	1	0	0	0	0
Other	70	52	5	2	8	1	2	0	0	0	0
Male											
Total	19,523	12,816	701	336	3,496	1,322	664	21	148	19	0
No disability	19,209	12,593	692	332	3,450	1,299	659	21	144	19	0
With a disability	314	223	9	4	46	23	5	0	4	0	0
Sight	105	82	2	0	9	7	2	0	3	0	0
Hearing	47	37	0	0	5	1	3	0	1	0	0
Speech	39	23	2	2	9	3	0	0	0	0	0
Physical	74	49	3	0	11	8	2	0	1	0	0
Intellectual	44	27	2	0	9	6	0	0	0	0	0
Emotional	38	29	1	1	4	2	1	0	0	0	0
Other	29	18	5	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0
Female											
Total	19,964	14,095	655	331	3,424	1,007	387	21	37	7	0
No disability	19,640	13,830	650	326	3,391	1,001	379	20	36	7	0
With a disability	324	265	5	5	33	6	8	1	1	0	0
Sight	108	92	2	0	9	1	2	1	1	0	0
Hearing	79	66	0	2	9	0	1	0	1	0	0
Speech	46	36	1	1	6	2	0	0	0	0	0
Physical	92	80	0	0	7	3	2	0	0	0	0
Intellectual	38	30	0	1	4	0	3	0	0	0	0
Emotional	29	25	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	41	34	0	1	5	0	1	0	0	0	0

Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

Households/ type of crop	Households	Population in occupied units			Population engaged in agricultural activities		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total households in occupied units	4,793	42,972	21,306	21,666	12,194	7,503	4,691
Households engaged in agricultural activities	4,186	38,406	19,138	19,268	12,194	7,503	4,691
Households engaged in crop farming or tree growing	4,042	37,210	18,543	18,667	11,746	7,249	4,497
Households engaged in crop farming	4,036	37,143	18,504	18,639	11,703	7,227	4,476
Households engaged in tree growing	16	125	67	58	62	35	27
Agro forestry (tree planting)	16	125	67	58	62	35	27
Alligator pepper	7	90	49	41	32	19	13
Apples	6	48	24	24	18	16	2
Asian vegetables (e.g. tinda, cauliflower)	22	182	95	87	66	41	25
Avocado	3	26	14	12	9	5	4
Banana	17	151	70	81	23	20	3
Beans	252	2,672	1,299	1,373	793	500	293
Black pepper	2	18	11	7	5	3	2
Black berries	3	31	15	16	14	8	6
Cabbage	1	12	7	5	1	1	0
Carrot	95	678	336	342	221	137	84
Cashew	83	778	402	376	255	162	93
Cassava	445	4,027	2,043	1,984	1,341	831	510
Citronella	24	152	86	66	61	40	21
Citrus	2	20	12	8	2	2	0
Cocoa	1	4	1	3	1	1	0
Coconut	1	4	2	2	1	1	0
Cocoyam	13	104	61	43	49	33	16
Cocoyam / Taro (koko)	5	76	29	47	41	22	19
Coffee	2	18	6	12	6	2	4
Cola	3	19	10	9	5	3	2
Cotton	6	63	25	38	11	7	4
Cucumber	56	565	297	268	186	101	85
Egg plant	1	10	3	7	6	3	3
Garlic	1	7	3	4	2	1	1
Garden eggs	26	274	143	131	100	55	45
Ginger	2	24	10	14	9	5	4
Groundnut	1,869	18,155	9,036	9,119	6,160	3,662	2,498
Guava	5	28	13	15	13	7	6
Kenaf	1	4	2	2	1	1	0
Lemon grass	1	6	4	2	2	1	1
Lettuce	5	45	20	25	14	8	6
Maize	3,452	32,532	16,160	16,372	10,388	6,387	4,001
Mango	29	325	171	154	80	51	29
Melon (agusi)	33	322	164	158	113	52	61
Millet	979	10,190	5,045	5,145	3,315	2,060	1,255
Mushroom	4	54	30	24	10	7	3
Nut meg	12	110	62	48	53	30	23
Oil palm	2	20	16	4	4	4	0
Okro	176	1,625	805	820	563	287	276

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

Households/ type of crop	Households	Population in occupied units			Population engaged in agricultural activities		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Okro	176	1,625	805	820	563	287	276
Pawpaw	1	9	4	5	3	2	1
Peas	1	12	7	5	8	7	1
Pepper	155	1,421	697	724	535	289	246
Pineapple	1	8	1	7	2	1	1
Plantain	5	39	23	16	20	11	9
Potatoes	2	14	2	12	2	2	0
Rice	61	618	320	298	183	111	72
Rubber	1	9	2	7	2	1	1
Sorghum	48	434	213	221	133	81	52
Soya beans	70	675	332	343	221	126	95
Sugarcane	6	54	30	24	16	12	4
Sun flower	1	7	5	2	4	3	1
Sweet pepper	1	5	3	2	1	0	1
Sweet potatoes	8	70	37	33	31	20	11
Tiger nut	3	26	13	13	7	6	1
Tobacco	108	779	397	382	252	159	93
Tomatoes	46	367	185	182	160	91	69
Water melon	2	14	7	7	6	3	3
Yam	442	4,025	2,099	1,926	1,634	943	691
Other (specify)	12	83	43	40	32	22	10

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

S/No.	Community Name	Sex			House holds	Houses
		Total	Male	Female		
1	Daboya	6,510	3,109	3,401	3,401	481
2	Lingbinsi	4,104	2,096	2,008	2,008	267
3	Mankarigu	3,163	1,516	1,647	1,647	243
4	Singa	2,880	1,440	1,440	1,440	139
5	Lukula	2,765	1,334	1,431	1,431	180
6	Yagbum	2,493	1,250	1,243	1,243	191
7	Tare No.2	1,513	763	750	750	125
8	Busah	1,370	659	711	711	77
9	Sakpala	1,242	631	611	611	77
10	Mempeasem	1,238	599	639	639	68
11	Tunsungu	1,127	572	555	555	84
12	Bawena	1,112	579	533	533	134
13	Tare No.1	1,016	518	498	498	56
14	Gbasimpa No.1	1,004	475	529	529	65
15	Gbasimpa No.2 (Somun)	969	496	473	473	55
16	Nabengu	919	449	470	470	57
17	Sinsina	766	367	399	399	86
18	Dissah	725	355	370	370	46
19	Salugu	707	377	330	330	34
20	Jinfronu	693	347	346	346	89

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

S/No.	Community Name	All ages	Age group															
			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	Daboya	6,510	1,151	975	826	835	636	421	336	273	243	209	145	80	102	44	90	144
2	Lingbinsi	4,104	707	699	571	505	396	258	277	176	182	100	79	28	53	30	21	22
3	Mankarigu	3,163	551	562	397	392	236	219	168	152	119	98	84	38	46	23	40	38
4	Singa	2,880	570	485	411	322	257	194	152	121	89	55	71	16	35	23	35	44
5	Lukula	2,765	557	487	308	247	229	205	147	103	104	53	70	38	60	23	48	86
6	Yagbum	2,493	451	432	305	264	183	171	146	102	106	87	71	20	46	22	49	38
7	Tare No.2	1,513	285	330	207	122	110	94	90	83	39	35	37	11	18	14	14	24
8	Busah	1,370	209	236	224	149	100	79	73	82	68	44	33	25	19	10	5	14
9	Sakpala	1,242	323	259	100	80	76	82	70	59	42	30	37	9	25	5	23	22
10	Mempeasem	1,238	218	266	173	137	88	86	65	58	29	28	20	19	17	9	9	16
11	Tunsungu	1,127	209	182	98	117	90	79	70	65	57	44	29	23	17	11	11	25
12	Bawena	1,112	176	185	138	157	99	73	36	22	26	27	30	30	29	19	30	35
13	Tare No.1	1,016	235	181	134	109	90	88	35	37	13	29	19	14	7	9	4	12
14	Gbasimpa No.1	1,004	151	197	168	113	62	65	50	94	34	14	21	3	13	3	3	13
15	Gbasimpa No.2 (Somun)	969	159	165	114	111	75	65	31	38	50	43	40	18	13	15	13	19
16	Nabengu	919	145	145	125	100	92	43	56	61	40	39	34	7	16	0	8	8
17	Sinsina	766	138	125	93	86	74	46	46	39	35	18	13	16	8	9	12	8
18	Dissah	725	100	126	127	78	78	52	33	35	12	19	10	4	15	8	8	20
19	Salugu	707	136	132	56	73	55	66	30	40	27	19	26	5	15	6	7	14
20	Jinfronu	693	221	65	98	58	40	41	50	11	29	22	9	6	7	0	23	13

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