# 2010

# POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

# DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

## TOLON DISTRICT

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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 Tolon 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.
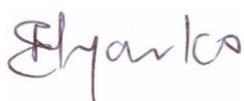
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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CEB          Children Ever Born

CIDA         Canadian International Development Agency

CS           Children Surviving

DANIDA       Danish International Development Agency

ECOWAS       Economic Community of West African States

GSS          Ghana Statistical Service

GES          Ghana Education Service

ICT          Information Communication Technology

JSS          Junior Secondary School

JHS          Junior High School

SSS          Senior Secondary School

SHS          Senior High School

MDGs         Millennium Development Goals

NGOs         Non-governmental Organisations

SDA          Seventh Day Adventist

LI           Legislative Instrument

DCE           District Chief Executive

DCD          District Coordinating Director

IMIS         Integrated Management information System

# 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 the Tolon District according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, is 72,990 representing about 2.9 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute 49.8 percent and females represent 50.2 percent. Almost ninety percent (88.4%) of the population is rural. The District has a sex ratio of 99.3. The population of the District is youthful (17.9%) of the 0-4 age group, depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of the 70 plus years (2.5%). The total age dependency ratio for the District is 96.5, the age dependency ratio for males is higher (103.2) than that of females (90.2)

**Fertility, mortality and migration**

The Total Fertility Rate for the District 3.2, the General Fertility Rate is 93.1 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 21.7 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the District is 6.9 per 1000. The death rate for males is highest for the age group 70 plus years representing more than 30 deaths per 1000 population while for the females; the highest death rate of 20 deaths per 1000 population is for the age group 70 plus years. Out of the total deaths in the region of 14,715, there had been 502 cases of deaths in the Tolon District. Majority of migrants (85.0%) living in the District were born in Northern Region while 15.0 percent were born elsewhere in another region. For migrants born in another region, those born in Ashanti Region constitute 35.7 percent followed by those born in Upper East Region (32.4), then outside Ghana with 16.5 percent.

**Household Size, composition and structure**

The District has a household population of 71,862 with a total number of 8,110 households. The average household size in the District is 9 persons per household which is higher than that of the region (7.8). Children constitute the largest proportion of the household members accounting for 46.5 percent. Heads form 11.3% with Spouses about 9.5 percent and other relatives (13.0%). Extended family system constitutes 68.5 percent of the total number of households in the District.

**Marital status**

About 6 in 10 (60.2 %) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 33.6 percent have never married, 4.4 percent are widowed, one percent are divorced and less than one percent are separated (0.6%). By age 25-29 years, almost ninety percent of females (86.7%) are married compared to over half of the male population (55.6%). At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 49.5 percent while widowed males account for only

5.9 percent. Among the married, 86.8 percent have no education while only 49.4 percent of the unmarried have never been to school. More than eight out of every ten of the married population (86.2%) are employed, 1.7 percent are unemployed and about 12.1 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who are widowed (5.2%) are economically not active with 1.1 percent unemployed.

## Nationality

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the District is 96.1 percent. Those who have naturalised constitute 0.6 percent and while the non-Ghanaian population in the District is 1.7 percent.

Proportion of the Muslim population in the Tolon District is about 94.1 percent. Among the Christian groups, the Catholics constitute the majority (1.1%) and Traditionalist 1.5 percent.

## Literacy and education

Of the population 11 years and above, 26.2 percent are literate with more than two-third (73.8%) of the population, not literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (63.3%) than that of females (36.7%). A little over seven out of ten people (72.9%) indicated they could read and write both English and Ghanaian languages.

With reference to school attendance, of the population aged 3 years and above, 81.4 percent are currently attending school and 18.6 percent have attended in the past.

## Economic Activity Status

More than eight out of ten (80.5%) of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active. Of the economically active population, 97.7 percent are employed while 2.3 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a larger percentage of them are students (37.2%), 28.3 percent perform household duties and 26.7 percent are disabled or too sick to work. Almost half (44.8%) of the unemployed are seeking work for the first time.

## Occupation

Of the employed population, about 88.8 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 4.7 percent in craft and related trades workers, 3.3 percent in service and sales, only 1.6 percent engaged as managers, professionals and Technicians.

## Employment status and sector

Of the population 15 years and older, 57.4 percent are self-employed without employees, 35.1 percent are contributing family workers, 2.7 self-employed with employees, 0.8 percent are casual workers. Only 0.9 percent are domestic employees (house helps). Overall, men constitute the highest proportion in each employment category except casual worker, contributing family worker and apprentice. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the District, employing 97.0 percent of the population followed by the private formal with less than two percent.

**Information Communication Technology**

Of the population 12 years and above, about 15.7 percent have mobile phones. Men who own mobile phones constitute 24.2 percent as compared to 7.5 percent of females. About 2.3 percent of the population 12 years and older use internet facilities in the District.

**Disability**

About 1.9 percent (1366) of the District's total population has one form of disability or the other. The proportion of the male population (2.0%) with disability is higher than female (1.8%). The types of disability in the District include sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, and emotion. Persons with sight disability recorded the highest of 41 percent followed by hearing disability (24.9%) and physical disability (19.7%). The disability trend is the same for both urban and rural localities with physical, hearing and sight disabilities remaining the predominant cases. About 65.9 percent of the economically active and employed have various forms of disability with speech disability accounting for the majority of 76.7 percent.

**Agriculture**

More than nine out of ten of the population (92.4%) of households in the District are engage in agriculture, Crop farming is the main agricultural activity with almost ten out of ten (97.5%) households engage in it. Those in livestock rearing account for 74.1 percent and tree planting 0.7 percent. In the rural localities, more than nine out of every ten (96.6%) of the households are agricultural households and 65.4 percent are in the urban localities. Poultry (chicken – 36.8%) is the dominant animal reared in the District.

**Housing**

The housing stock of Tolon District is 6,691 with 8,110 households. Households in the rural areas constitute 7,012 and the rest in the urban areas. The population per house in the District is 10.9 compared to 9.6 in the region.

*Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units*

More than nine in ten (94.8%) of the dwelling units in the District are owned by members of the household; 1.4 percent are owned by owned by other private individuals; 0.9 percent are owned by a relative who is not a member of the household and only 2.1 percent are owned by public or government. Less than one percent (0.2%) 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 block accounting for 85.1 percent. Slightly over eight in ten (80.5%) outer walls of building in rural localities are constructed with Mud bricks or Earth block. More than six in ten (64.4%) floors are constructed with cement or concrete in the District. Thatch/palm leaves/raffia is the main roofing material (74.1%) for dwelling units in the District.

*Room occupancy*

Three rooms constitute the highest percentage (20.3%) of sleeping rooms occupied by households in dwelling units in the District. Only 0.6 percent of households with 10 or more members occupy single rooms.

*Utilities and household facilities*

The three main sources of lighting in dwelling units in the District are kerosene (50.4%), electricity (39.2%) and flashlight/torch (8.3%).   The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the District is wood (92.3%). The proportion for rural (96.0%) is higher than that of urban (68.7%).  The four main sources of water in the District are borehole, river stream, public tap and Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal (81.4%). Almost 13.5 percent of the households drink water from river or stream, while 33.0 percent drink water from Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal.

The most common use toilet facility in the District is Bush/Field accounting for 78.8 percent followed by public toilet (12.5%).  Only 1.2 percent of the households in the District use WC toilet facility. Slightly over four in ten of the household (40.2%) in the District also share separate bathrooms in the same house while 23.0 percent own bathrooms for their exclusive use and 20.8 percent share open cubicle.

*Waste disposal*

The most widely used method of solid waste disposal is by public dump in open space, accounting for 58.6 percent. About 18.0 percent of the households also dump their solid waste indiscriminately. House to house waste collection accounts for 5.4 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste into the street/outside (63.3 %) and thrown onto the compound (22.9%) are the two most common methods used by households in the District.

# CHAPTER ONE
# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1    Background

The Tolon District Assembly came into existence in 2011 by LI. 2142 with Tolon as the district capital. Hitherto, the district was part of the Tolon/Kumbungu District; one of the 45 districts created by the then Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC) Law 207 in 1988. In order to enhance participation and development especially at the grass-root, the District was among the 42 inaugurated districts in 2012. The District was carved out from the then Tolon/Kumbungu District.

## 1.2    Physical Features

### 1.2.1   Location

The District lies between latitudes $9°$ $15˄$ and $10°^0$ $02`$ North and Longitudes $0°$ $53'$ and $1°$ $25'$ West.  It shares boundaries to the North with Kumbungu, North Gonja to the West, Central Gonja to the South, and Sagnarigu Districts to the East.

### 1.2.2   Rainfall

The district is characterised by a single rainy season, which starts in late April with little rainfall, rising to its peak in July-August and declining sharply and coming to a complete halt in October-November. The dry season starts from November to March with day temperatures ranging from 33°C to 39°C, while mean night temperature range from 20°C to 26°C. The Mean annual rainfall ranges between 950mm - 1,200mm. The area experiences occasional storms, which have implications for base soil erosion depending on its frequency and intensity especially when they occur at the end of the dry season. The situation also has an implication as staple crop farming for instance is highly restricted by the short rainfall duration.

### 1.2.3   Vegetation

The main vegetation is grassland, interspersed with guinea savannah woodland, characterised by drought-resistant trees such as acacia, (*Acacia longifolia*), mango (*Mangifera*), baobab (*Adansonia digitata* Linn), shea nut (*Vitellaria paradoxa), dawadawa, and neem (Azadirachta indica).* Major tree species include the sheanut, dawadawa, and mango, which are economic trees and form an integral part of livelihood of its people. There is also the neem which mostly has some medicinal use. The dense woodlands and forests along river valleys (especially areas along the basin of the White Volta and its tributaries) is gradually beginning to change due to the influx of people. The vegetation is also annually affected by bush fires, which sweep across the savannah woodland. There is therefore the need for education and stringent measures to reduce the bush-fires.

**Figure 1.1:  Map of Tolon District**

**DISTRICT MAP OF TOLON**



NORTH GONJA

Lungbunga

KUMBUMGU

Gundaa

Kasuliyili

Kunguri

Wantugu

Kpendua

Kpaligun

Chirifoyili

Yoggo

Gbanjong

Tali

TOLON

Nambulegu

SAO

Dimabi No.3 Yipala

Nyankpala

Gburimani

Tingoli

Tunayili

Yepelgu

Gbulahagu

WEST GONJA

GONJA CENTRAL

5          0          5  Miles

**LEGEND**
■  District Capital
●  Towns
—  Road Network
▢  District Boundary
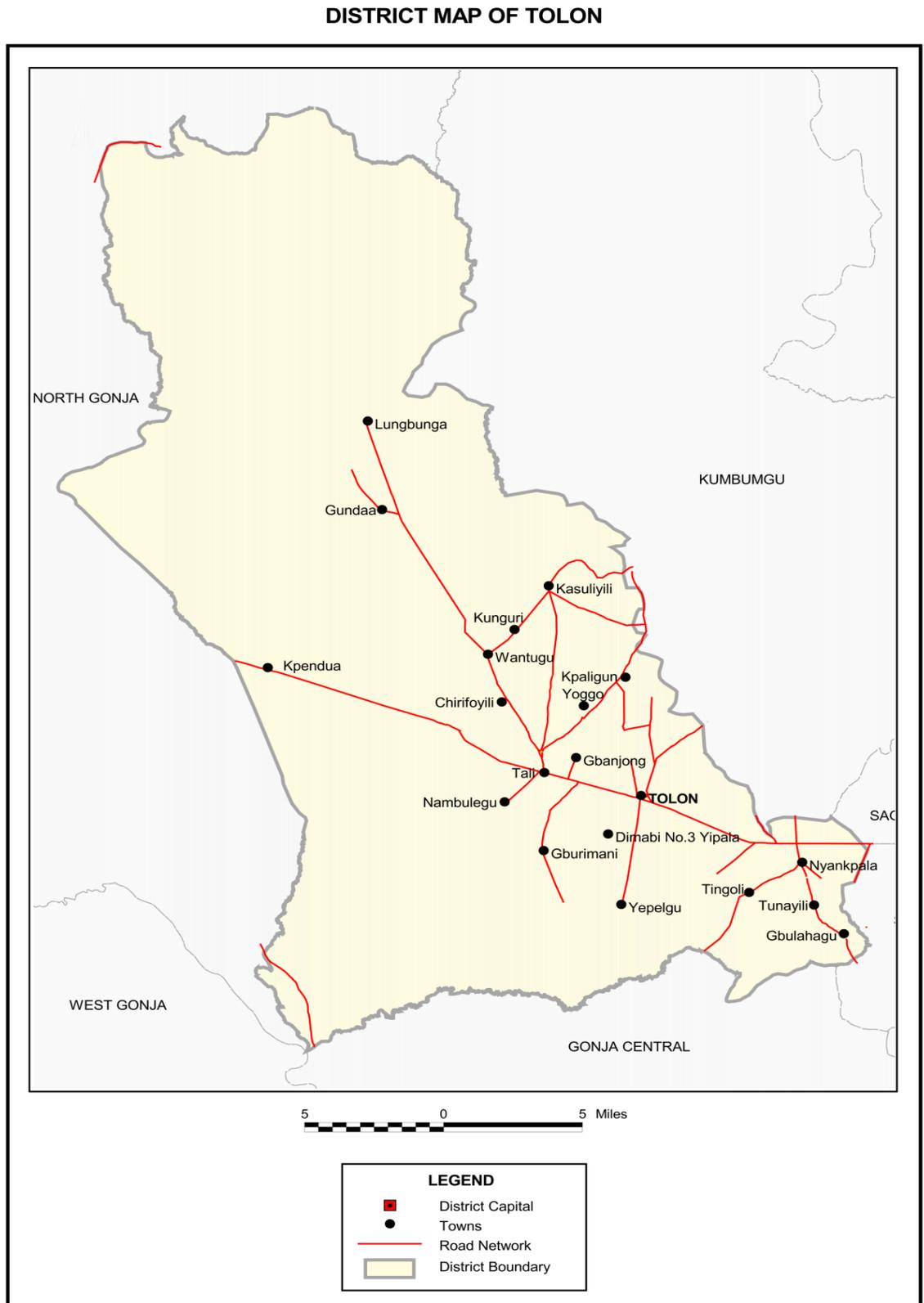
Source:  Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

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### 1.2.4 Topography and Drainage

Generally, the land is undulating with a number of scattered depressions. There are no marked high elevations throughout the district. The land is drained by a number of rivers and streams, most prominent being the White Volta. Among the major tributaries of the White Volta are Kulabong, Koraba, Salo, Bawa and Winibo. The major river and its tributaries exhibit dendrite drainage patterns. Most of these tributaries dry up during the dry season. Besides, there exist smaller dams and dug-out in some communities in the District.

### 1.2.5 Soil

The soil is generally of the sandy loam type except in the low lands where alluvial deposits are found. There are also deposits of gravel which are sold for economic value. The nature of the soil makes it highly vulnerable to sheet and gully erosion. This condition happens primarily because of the perennial burning of the natural vegetation, leaving the soils exposed to high weather intensity. The continuous erosion over many years has removed most of the top soils and depleted its organic matter content. This situation does not allow the soil fauna to thrive, leading to low agricultural yields.

## 1.3 Political Administration

### 1.3.1 Traditional Political System

There are nine Sub-Chiefs who pay allegiance to the "Yaa-Naa," the King of Dagbon. They include, Nyankpalana, Tolon-Naa, Waribugulana, Gburimanilana, Kasulana, Lingbunlana, Kpedulana, Dimabi-Naa, and Zantani-Naa. The structure of the traditional system does not only promote the culture of the people, but it enhances a peaceful and harmonious environment for development.

### 1.3.2 Political Establishment

The Tolon District Assembly has 24 elected members and 11 Government appointees; adding up to 35 members. The District Chief Executive and one Members of Parliament are also members but have no voting rights. There are other subcommittees that help with the decision making process of the Assembly; these include- the Executive committee, the Finance and Administration, Works, Development Planning subcommittee and Social Services, Public Relation and Complaint subcommittee. The district also has four (4) Area Councils and two (2) town councils. These are Nyankpala, Tolon, Tali, Ksuliyili, Lingbunga, and Yoggu. There are 24 Unit Committees and one (1) Parliamentary Constituency.

## 1.4 Social and Cultural Structure

### 1.4.1 Ethnicity

Though one can still find other tribes along the White Volta, Mole-Dagomba is the predominant ethnic group, accounting for 98.2% of the population. The Akan, Ga-Adangbe, Guan, Gurma are among other ethnic groups in the district. This implies the people of Tolon co-exist peacefully with varied ethnic groups, which serve as a very good ground for investment.

### 1.4.2 Religious Beliefs

People who profess Islam form 94.1 percent of the population. However it is worth mentioning that, there are pockets of other religious affiliations especially in the urban settlements. These include Christians (3.7%) and Traditional Believers (1.5%) (Ghana

Statistical Service, 2012). On the whole, the people of the District are religious and this can serve as a tool to strengthen peaceful co-existence among the people.

### 1.4.3 Festivals

The popular festivals that are celebrated in the Tolon District include the *Bugum* (fire) and *Damba* festivals. The *Bugum* festival is an annual festival celebrated by Dagomba who are the main ethnic group in the District.

## 1.5 Economy

### 1.5.1 Economic Potentials

The majority of the district's inhabitants are peasant and subsistent farmers who farm on subsistence basis (small scale) making it difficult to offer some of their produce for sale. This has culminated in most of the youth travelling to the South for non-existing jobs. A number of income generation groups have been trained in various skills to undertake small-scale business activities so as to generate income to support their families. But the scarcity and cost of credit or loans facilities prevent most of these groups from accessing bank loans.

### 1.5.2 Settlement and Road Network

Generally, the Tolon District has two main settlements patterns which include the linear, where most of the communities and houses are along the White Volta and the trunk road linking Tolon and Nyankpala; as well as nucleated where villages or houses are clustered.

The state of roads in the district is poor. The district can be accessed by various roads but the main one is the only tar road linking Tolon and Nyankpala to the regional capital Tamale. The rest of the network is made up of feeder roads which are dusty during the dry season but rendered almost impassable during the rainy season. During the rainy season, however, the northern part of the district (known as Overseas) across the White Volta is cut off, and canoes become the only means of transport during this period. This makes transportation of farm produce and other economic activities very difficult especially during raining period. It is therefore important to improve road infrastructure to boost the district's economy.

### 1.5.3 Tourism Potentials

A number of largely untapped tourist attractions abound in the District. These include, the Jaagbo Sacred Grove and Shrine. The Grove for instance, has been revered by the people all over Dagbon (the land of the Dagombas). It is located near Tali in the District and about 36 kilometres West, on the Tamale Daboya road. The Grove is approximately I1 kilometres square and is predominantly savanna reverie forest or woodland with a stream running East-West serving as source of water for some communities fringing it. The grove also has an amazing diversity of animals particularly birds and small mammals and insects which offer a unique opportunity for educational studies and eco-tourism. There is therefore an urgent need for investment in this area to attract tourist and enhance the income of the District Assembly.

### 1.5.4 Agriculture Production

Agriculture, forestry and fishery form 87.3 percent. The manufacturing subsector is 5.0 percent, followed by "wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles" with 3.5 percent; and "accommodation and food service activities" constitutes 1.4 percent among others (Ghana Statistical Service, 2010). Thus, Agriculture, forestry and fishery remains the major industry in the district. This provides a platform for modernization and improvement to make the industry not only attractive, but contribute significantly towards lifting the

livelihood of the majority in the district. It is equally interesting to note that, females seem to dominate in the second and third highest engaged industry in the Tolon district. These demand programmes that will help encourage and empower the women in order to enhance the economic status of women in the district.

## 1.6    Census Methodology and Definition of Concepts

### 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 organisation, a work plan as well as a budget. The project document was launched in November 2008 as part of the Ghana Statistics Development Plan (GSDP) and reviewed in November 2009.

**Census secretariat and committees**

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

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

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

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

**Selection of census topics**

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

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

**Census mapping**

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

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

**Development of questionnaire and manuals**

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

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

**Pre-tests and trial census**

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

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

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

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

### 1.6.3  Census enumeration

**Method of enumeration and field work**

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

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

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

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

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

### 1.6.4 Post enumeration survey

In line with United Nations recommendations, GSS conducted a Post Enumeration Survey (PES) in April, 2011 to check content and coverage error. The PES was also to serve as an important tool in providing feedback regarding operational matters such as concepts and procedures in order to help improve future census operations. The PES field work was carried out for 21 days in April 2011 and was closely monitored and supervised to ensure quality output. The main findings of the PES were that: 97 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: 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. Did not work, but had jobs to return to 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 disabilities were defined as those who were unable to or were restricted in the performance of specific tasks/activities due to loss of function of some part of the body as a result of impairment or malformation. Information was collected on persons with visual/sight impairment, hearing impairment, mental retardation, emotional or behavioural disorders and other physical challenges.

## Information Communication Technology (ICT)

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

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

**Fertility**

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

**Mortality**

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

**Agriculture**

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

**Housing conditions and facilities**

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

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

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

## 1.7    Organisation of the Report

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

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

Information Communication Technology (ICT) is discussed in chapter five. It analyses mobile phone ownership, internet use and ownership of desktop/laptop computers while

chapter six is devoted to Persons living with disabilities (PWDs) and their socio-demographic characteristics.  Chapter seven concentrates on the agricultural activities of the households, describing the types of farming activities, livestock rearing and numbers of livestock reared.

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

# CHAPTER TWO
# DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

## 2.1    Introduction

This chapter contains the analysis of demographic data of the district. It should be noted that, differences per the district's population are as a result of fertility, mortality and migration levels, which to a large extent, are influenced by age-sex composition. The 2010 Census, like all others, was a "de facto" count of each person present in district irrespective of nationality. This chapter has been designed to cover, population size and distribution; age-sex structure; and migration, fertility, mortality among others.

## 2.2    Population Size and Distribution

The total population of the Tolon District is 72,990. Males constitute 36,360 and females, 36, 630 as indicated in table 2.1. The population also varies in terms of locality as the data portrays a predominantly rural population of about 88.4 percent compared to the urban population (11.6%).

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

| Age Group | Both Sexes | | Male | | Female | | Sex ratio | Type of locality | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | | Urban | Rural |
| All Ages | 72,990 | 100.0 | 36,360 | 100.0 | 36,630 | 100.0 | 99.3 | 8,459 | 64,531 |
| 0 – 4 | 13,055 | 17.9 | 6,561 | 18.0 | 6,494 | 17.7 | 101.0 | 1,189 | 11,866 |
| 5-9 | 11,213 | 15.4 | 5,775 | 15.9 | 5,438 | 14.8 | 106.2 | 1,011 | 10,202 |
| 10-14 | 7,613 | 10.4 | 4,173 | 11.5 | 3,440 | 9.4 | 121.3 | 852 | 6,761 |
| 15 – 19 | 7,149 | 9.8 | 3,918 | 10.8 | 3,231 | 8.8 | 121.3 | 884 | 6,265 |
| 20 – 24 | 6,703 | 9.2 | 3,202 | 8.8 | 3,501 | 9.6 | 91.5 | 1,148 | 5,555 |
| 25 – 29 | 5,695 | 7.8 | 2,593 | 7.1 | 3,102 | 8.5 | 83.6 | 884 | 4,811 |
| 30 – 34 | 4,412 | 6.0 | 1,858 | 5.1 | 2,554 | 7.0 | 72.7 | 525 | 3,887 |
| 35 - 39 | 3,414 | 4.7 | 1,548 | 4.3 | 1,866 | 5.1 | 83.0 | 403 | 3,011 |
| 40 - 44 | 3,084 | 4.2 | 1,381 | 3.8 | 1,703 | 4.6 | 81.1 | 324 | 2,760 |
| 45 - 49 | 2,109 | 2.9 | 1,038 | 2.9 | 1,071 | 2.9 | 96.9 | 273 | 1,836 |
| 50 - 54 | 2,078 | 2.8 | 1,070 | 2.9 | 1,008 | 2.8 | 106.2 | 248 | 1,830 |
| 55 - 59 | 892 | 1.2 | 476 | 1.3 | 416 | 1.1 | 114.4 | 142 | 750 |
| 60 - 64 | 1,618 | 2.2 | 811 | 2.2 | 807 | 2.2 | 100.5 | 177 | 1,441 |
| 65 - 69 | 806 | 1.1 | 391 | 1.1 | 415 | 1.1 | 94.2 | 73 | 733 |
| 70 - 74 | 1,249 | 1.7 | 643 | 1.8 | 606 | 1.7 | 106.1 | 113 | 1,136 |
| 75 - 79 | 610 | 0.8 | 310 | 0.9 | 300 | 0.8 | 103.3 | 73 | 537 |
| 80 - 84 | 689 | 0.9 | 309 | 0.8 | 380 | 1.0 | 81.3 | 79 | 610 |
| 85 - 89 | 319 | 0.4 | 151 | 0.4 | 168 | 0.5 | 89.9 | 34 | 285 |
| 90 - 94 | 207 | 0.3 | 110 | 0.3 | 97 | 0.3 | 113.4 | 20 | 187 |
| 95+ | 75 | 0.1 | 42 | 0.1 | 33 | 0.1 | 127.3 | 7 | 68 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 2.3    Age-sex Structure

Accurate data on age-sex structure is required for efficient and effective social planning and decision-making. Data disaggregated by age and sex are crucial not only for demographic analysis of morbidity, mortality and fertility, but also for planning for the provision of

infrastructure and social amenities. Policy on educational needs, labour force participation and migration, for instance, cannot serve its purpose without information on age of the population. The structure of the district's population is depicted by figure 2.1.

### 2.3.1 Population Pyramid by Age and Sex

Figure 2.1 show that, the Tolon district's population structure has a broad base which constitutes a large number of children and a conical top of small number of elderly persons. The data thus, indicates that the population is youthful.

Higher proportions of the population are within the ages 0-4 years, 5-9 years, 10-14 years and 15-19 years. These characteristics definitely have some implications for policy makers with respect to the provision of education and social amenities for the development of children and adolescents. There are more males in the 10-14 years and 15-19 years age groups (11.5% and 10.8%) than females (9.4% and 8.8%) in the same age category. The male population in the 20-44 years age group declines sharply as compared to the female population in the same age group. The pyramid further shows that as the population ages, the proportion in the various age groups reduces for both ages, probably due to mortality. Further investigation is required to determine why the reduction in the female population in the 10-14 years and 15-19 years age group. The bulge

in the female age groups, 20-24 years, 25-29 years and 30-34 years also needs further investigation to understand the reason behind the shape since it does not follow the normal trend of population pyramid for developing countries. There is also a sharp decline in the age groups 55-59 years and 65-69 years as shown in the pyramid.

**Figure 2.1: Population pyramid by age and sex**
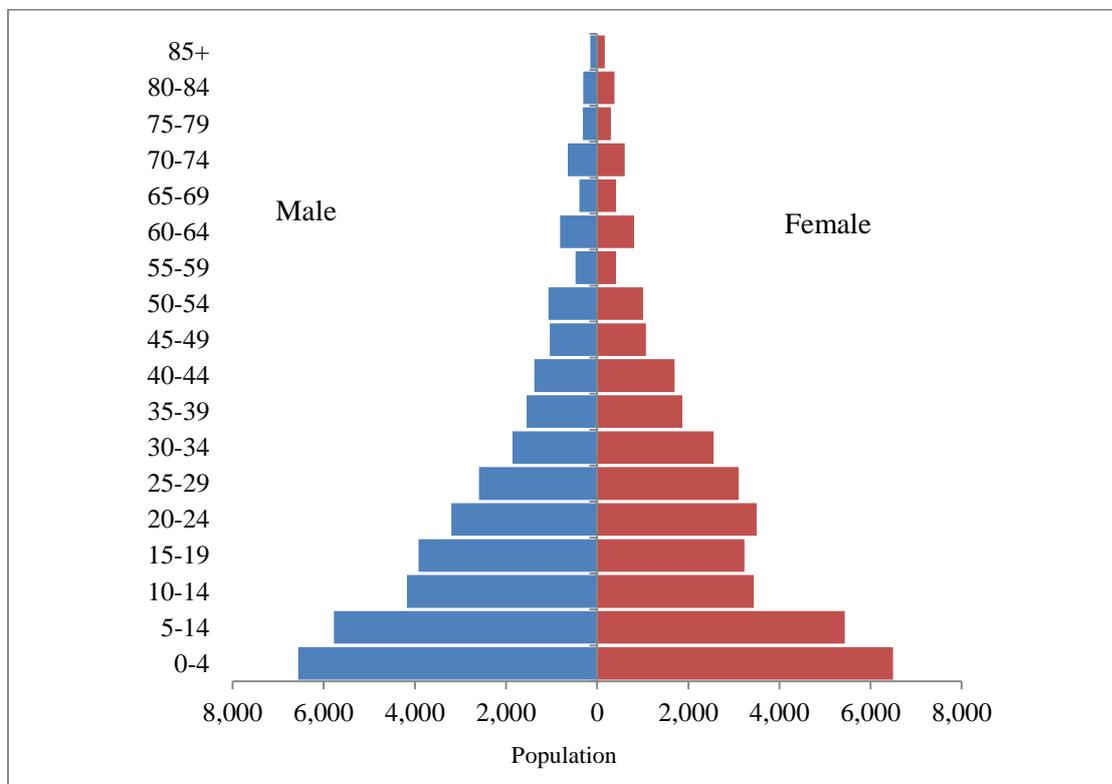


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 2.3.2 Sex Ratio

Sex ratio is a measure of a number of males per every 100 females. Table 2.1 indicates that, the district's sex ratio is 99.3, meaning for every 100 females, there are 99.3 males in the district. This implies the female population of the Tolon District is marginally more than the male. The relatively high sex ratios for the district could probably be due to migration, given that more males travel than females. The sex ratio however varies when it comes to the various age groups. Thus, table 2.1 shows that, eleven out of the twenty age groups had sex ratio figures above 100. This means, generally the district has more males than females, in these age groups.

### 2.3.3 Dependency Ratio

Table 2.2 shows age dependency ratio by sex, expressed as the ratio of persons in the dependent ages (persons aged less than 15 years and those above 64 years) to those in the economically productive ages (i.e. the population aged 15-64 years). "The age-dependency ratio is often used as an indicator of the economic burden the productive portion of a population must carry—even though some persons defined as "dependent" are producers and some persons in the "productive" ages are economically dependent" (Haupt & Kane, 2004:6). The age dependency ratio is 96.5 for the district. This implies that each person within this age group (15-64 years) has almost one person to take care of. The dependency ratio however, varies with sex and locality. Table 2.2 shows that, male age dependency ratio is 103.2 and this means that, the male working class has more than one person to take care of, compared to that of the female (90.2). The child dependency ratio, which is the ratio of persons under 15 years to those in the 15-64 years age group, is 85.8. The old age dependency ratio which represents the ratio of people in the 65+ year age group to those in the economically productive ages of 15-64 years is 10.6.

**Table 2.2: Age dependency ratio by sex**

| Age Group | Both Sexes | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| l Ages | 72,990 | 100.0 | 36,360 | 100.0 | 36,630 | 100.0 |
| 0-14 | 31,881 | 43.7 | 16,509 | 45.4 | 15,372 | 42.0 |
| 15-64 | 37,154 | 50.9 | 17,895 | 49.2 | 19,259 | 52.6 |
| 65+ | 3,955 | 5.4 | 1,956 | 5.4 | 1,999 | 5.5 |
| Total dependency ratio | | 96.5 | | 103.2 | | 90.2 |
| Child dependency ratio | | 85.8 | | 92.3 | | 79.8 |
| Old age dependency ratio | | 10.6 | | 10.9 | | 10.4 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 2.4 Migration, Fertility and Mortality

Population change is brought about by three variables, which include migration, fertility, and mortality. Migration is considered a socio-economic phenomenon which results from the complex interaction of social, psychological, economic, political and institutional determinants. It is viewed as a geographical movement involving a change from a usual place of residence over a defined territory beyond a defined period (United Nations, 2012). Fertility refers to the number of live children a woman has ever given birth to in her life time (Ghana Statistical Service, 2012). Information on migration, fertility, and mortality indicators is necessary for planning of social development programmes in the district.

### 2.4.1 Migration

The process of distribution and redistribution of a population occurs through natural growth and migration. The redistribution through migration is shaped by a variety of demographic, geographic and socio-economic factors. These include the distribution and utilisation of natural resources and infrastructural development, which results from local factors as well as policies, and programmes of government and non-government agencies.

Table 2.3 indicates birthplace by duration of residence of migrants for the district. A person's birthplace is defined as the locality of usual residence of the mother at the time of birth (Ghana Statistical Service, 2010). The number of migrants in the district is 12,105. Out of this number, 10,293 were born elsewhere within the region. The number of people who were born in other regions was 1,647. A total of 165 persons were born outside Ghana. It was also noted that, out of the total population of those born outside the district, a majority (357) originated from Ashanti region, and the least was from Central region (61).

In terms of the duration of residence, 28.4 percent of migrants have lived in the district for 20+ years, 22.9 percent for 1-4 years and the least (12.4%) lived in the district between 5-9 years. A greater percentage (30.9%) of migrants within the Northern Region has stayed for (20+ years) whiles less than 15 percent stayed for 5-9 years. About 30 percent of migrants from outside Ghana have lived in the Tolon District for 1-4 years.

**Table 2.3: Birth place by duration of residence of migrants**

| Birthplace | Total | | Duration of residence | | | | |
| | Number | Percent | Less than 1 year | 1-4 years | 5-9 years | 10-19 years | 20+ years |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total | 12,105 | 100.0 | 18.6 | 22.9 | 12.4 | 17.7 | 28.4 |
| Born elsewhere in the region | 10,293 | 100.0 | 18.0 | 19.3 | 12.9 | 19.0 | 30.9 |
| Born elsewhere in another region: | | | | | | | |
| Western | 92 | 100.0 | 34.8 | 55.4 | 1.1 | 5.4 | 3.3 |
| Central | 61 | 100.0 | 18.0 | 45.9 | 3.3 | 11.5 | 21.3 |
| Greater Accra | 181 | 100.0 | 22.1 | 57.5 | 4.4 | 3.3 | 12.7 |
| Volta | 129 | 100.0 | 21.7 | 39.5 | 7.0 | 12.4 | 19.4 |
| Eastern | 131 | 100.0 | 19.1 | 61.8 | 8.4 | 3.8 | 6.9 |
| Ashanti | 357 | 100.0 | 24.6 | 44.8 | 8.1 | 10.9 | 11.5 |
| Brong Ahafo | 234 | 100.0 | 20.9 | 42.3 | 11.5 | 9.0 | 16.2 |
| Northern | | - | | | | | |
| Upper East | 324 | 100 | 25.0 | 34.0 | 8.3 | 16.4 | 16.4 |
| Upper west | 138 | 100 | 17.4 | 44.2 | 15.9 | 8.0 | 14.5 |
| Outside Ghana | 165 | 100 | 13.3 | 29.7 | 19.4 | 14.5 | 23.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 2.4.2 Fertility

Table 2.4 shows that, there are 17,028 women in the 15-49 years age group in the District. Total Fertility Rate (TFR) for the District is 3.2. This implies 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 in the Tolon district is about 3. The General Fertility Rate (GFR) of the Tolon district indicates that the number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years in a given year is 93.1. This means that, for every 1,000 women in the population, there are about 93 births. Also the Crude Birth Rate (CBR) which provides the number of live births per 1,000 of the district's population in a given year is 21.7.

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

| District | Population | Number of women 15-49 years | Number of births in last 12 months | Total Fertility Rate | General Fertility Rate | Crude Birth Rate |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All Districts | 2,479,461 | 582,897 | 59,391 | 3.5 | 101.9 | 24.0 |
| Bole | 61,593 | 14,471 | 1,663 | 3.8 | 114.9 | 27.0 |
| Sawla-Tuna-Kalba | 99,863 | 22,207 | 2,230 | 3.6 | 100.4 | 22.3 |
| West Gonja | 41,180 | 9,806 | 924 | 3.3 | 94.2 | 22.4 |
| Gonja Central | 87,877 | 20,555 | 2,086 | 3.6 | 101.5 | 23.7 |
| East Gonja | 135,450 | 31,216 | 3,071 | 3.6 | 98.4 | 22.7 |
| Kpandai | 108,816 | 24,066 | 2,959 | 4.3 | 123.0 | 27.2 |
| Nanumba South | 93,464 | 21,210 | 2,542 | 4.2 | 119.8 | 27.2 |
| Nanumba North | 141,584 | 32,246 | 3,143 | 3.4 | 97.5 | 22.2 |
| Zabzugu | 63,815 | 15,591 | 1,016 | 2.4 | 65.2 | 15.9 |
| Yendi Municipal | 117,780 | 27,686 | 2,355 | 3.0 | 85.1 | 20.0 |
| Tamale Metropolis | 223,252 | 59,341 | 4,743 | 2.8 | 79.9 | 21.2 |
| **Tolon** | **72,990** | **17,028** | **1,585** | **3.2** | **93.1** | **21.7** |
| Savelugu Nanton | 139,283 | 33,942 | 4,300 | 4.3 | 126.7 | 30.9 |
| Karaga | 77,706 | 18,666 | 1,621 | 2.9 | 86.8 | 20.9 |
| Gushiegu | 111,259 | 26,349 | 2,868 | 3.7 | 108.8 | 25.8 |
| Saboba | 65,706 | 14,519 | 1,871 | 4.2 | 128.9 | 28.5 |
| Chereponi | 53,394 | 11,652 | 1,495 | 4.3 | 128.3 | 28.0 |
| Bunkpurugu Yonyo | 122,591 | 26,725 | 2,893 | 3.8 | 108.3 | 23.6 |
| Mamprusi East | 121,009 | 27,145 | 2,785 | 3.6 | 102.6 | 23.0 |
| Mamprusi West | 121,117 | 27,528 | 3,080 | 3.8 | 111.9 | 25.4 |
| North Gonja | 43,547 | 9,935 | 1,349 | 5.3 | 135.8 | 31.0 |
| Kumbumgu | 39,341 | 8,851 | 920 | 3.6 | 103.9 | 23.4 |
| Sagnerigu Municipal | 148,099 | 38,548 | 3,579 | 3.3 | 92.8 | 24.2 |
| Mion | 81,812 | 18,812 | 1,935 | 3.4 | 102.9 | 23.7 |
| Tatale | 60,039 | 14,108 | 1,307 | 3.5 | 92.6 | 21.8 |
| Mamprugu Moagduri | 46,894 | 10,694 | 1,071 | 3.4 | 100.1 | 22.8 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 2.4.3  Mortality

The health status and growth potential of a given population also depend on data on mortality. The table 2.5 portrays number of children ever born, children surviving, and their sexes in the district by females 12 years and older. The total female population 12 years and older was 23,009. Males and females ever born constitute 34,974 and 32,472 respectively. However, a child surviving for males is 28,060 and 26,212 for females. A closer analysis therefore indicates that the survival rate for female (80.7%) children is marginally higher than that of the male (80.2%) in the district. Thus, it can be inferred that male child mortality rate in the district is higher than the female child mortality rate.

Table 2.5 further indicates that the 60+ year age group recorded the highest number of children ever born (16,710) and children surviving (12,044). The age group which recorded the least number of children ever born (17) and children surviving (15) is 12-14 years. This is not surprising because, this age group also falls within the youthful population who are expected to be in school rather than giving birth. The number of children ever born to women in the 20-24 years age group is 3,020. Out of this number, 89.1 percent survived (males

[88.6%] and females [89.7%]). About 72.1 percent of children survived out of 16,710 children ever born to women who are 60 years and older.

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

| Age group | Number of Females | Children Ever Born | | | Children Surviving | | | Survival rate | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Both sexes | Male | Female | Both sexes | Male | Female | Both sexes | Male | Female |
| All ages | 23,009 | 67,446 | 34,974 | 32,472 | 54,272 | 28,060 | 26,212 | 80.5 | 80.2 | 80.7 |
| 12 - 14 | 1,751 | 17 | 10 | 7 | 15 | 9 | 6 | 88.2 | 90.0 | 85.7 |
| 15 - 19 | 3,231 | 348 | 168 | 180 | 297 | 144 | 153 | 85.3 | 85.7 | 85.0 |
| 20 - 24 | 3,501 | 3,020 | 1,532 | 1,488 | 2,692 | 1,357 | 1,335 | 89.1 | 88.6 | 89.7 |
| 25 - 29 | 3,102 | 6,277 | 3,242 | 3,035 | 5,490 | 2,826 | 2,664 | 87.5 | 87.2 | 87.8 |
| 30 - 34 | 2,554 | 8,726 | 4,494 | 4,232 | 7,542 | 3,852 | 3,690 | 86.4 | 85.7 | 87.2 |
| 35 - 39 | 1,866 | 8,462 | 4,455 | 4,007 | 7,111 | 3,742 | 3,369 | 84.0 | 84.0 | 84.1 |
| 40 - 44 | 1,703 | 9,161 | 4,787 | 4,374 | 7,493 | 3,899 | 3,594 | 81.8 | 81.4 | 82.2 |
| 45 - 49 | 1,071 | 6,080 | 3,212 | 2,868 | 4,884 | 2,576 | 2,308 | 80.3 | 80.2 | 80.5 |
| 50 - 54 | 1,008 | 6,085 | 3,103 | 2,982 | 4,781 | 2,410 | 2,371 | 78.6 | 77.7 | 79.5 |
| 55 - 59 | 416 | 2,560 | 1,336 | 1,224 | 1,923 | 1,001 | 922 | 75.1 | 74.9 | 75.3 |
| 60 + | 2,806 | 16,710 | 8,635 | 8,075 | 12,044 | 6,244 | 5,800 | 72.1 | 72.3 | 71.8 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The figure 2.2 depicts the trend of reported age specific death rate of the Tolon District by sex. It shows that, at age group 0-4 years the male deaths are higher than the female deaths. The male and female deaths declined sharply in the 5-9 years age group and then continued gradually to 10-14 years. Between age 15-19 years, 20-24 years and 35-39 years, female deaths were higher than male deaths probably due to child birth. The death rate for both sexes fluctuates between the 25-29 years and 50-54 years age groups. The pattern then changes with the rate for male having a sharp increase from 50-54 years, with a death rate of 0.005, to age group 55-59 years with a death rate of 0.015, whilst the rate for females fall to about 0.005 within the same range.

**Figure 2.2: Reported age specific death rate by sex**
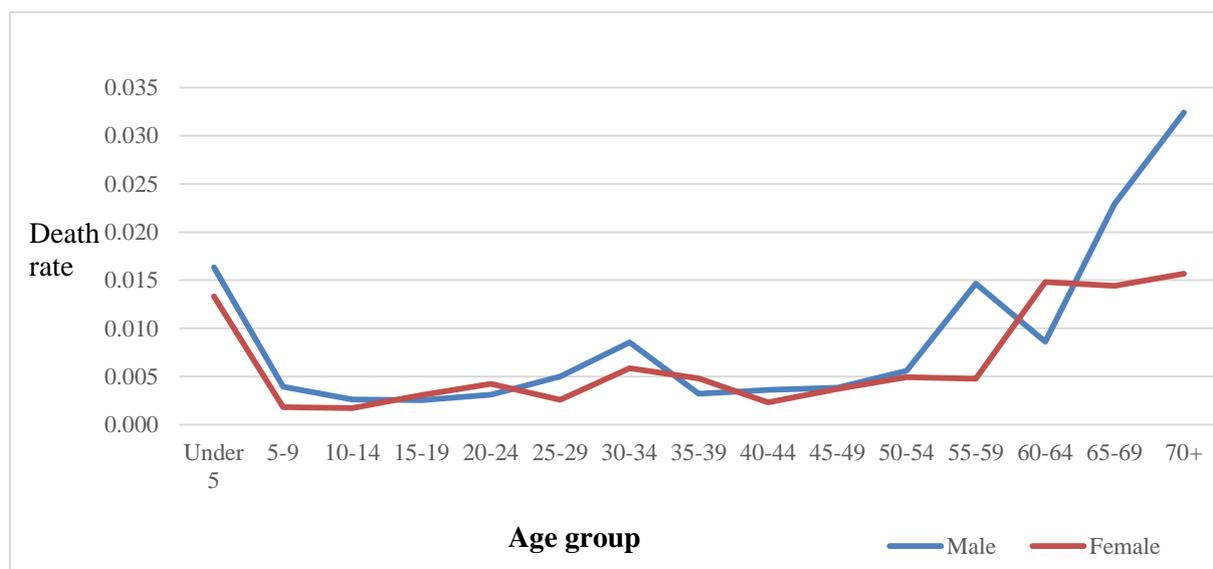


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 2.6 presents the causes of deaths in households. The table shows that the total death for the period under review is 503 in the District. Out of this, a greater proportion (93.4%) is related to causes other than accident-related death (6.6%). The data is further segregated in terms of pregnancy related and non-pregnancy related causes of deaths. The non-pregnancy related causes are the highest with 98.2 percent compared to pregnancy-related cause of deaths (1.8%).

**Table 2.6:  Causes of death in households**

| | | Death due to | | | | | Pregnancy related death (Female 15-54 years) | | Not pregnancy related | |
| | | Accident/ violence/ homicide /suicide | | All other causes | | | | | | |
| District | Total deaths | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Total deaths | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tolon | 503 | 33 | 6.6 | 470 | 93.4 | 503 | 9 | 1.8 | 494 | 98.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The death rate, also called the crude death rate is the number of deaths per 1,000 people in a given year. Table 2.7 shows that the Tolon District recorded a total of 502 household deaths relative to the Regional figure of 14,715. Savelugu Nanton registered the highest household deaths (1,413) followed by Tamale Metro (1,257), Yendi Municipal (737) and the lowest is Zabzugu Tatale (196).

Also, the District's crude birth rate is (6.9) compared to the Regional value of 5.9. Savelugu Nanton leads (10.14) in the crude death rates across the Region followed by Mamprusi West (7.9) and Zabzugu Tatale having the least (3.1) rate of all districts.

**Table 2.7: 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** |
| Savelugu Nanton | 139,283 | 1,413 | 10.1 |
| Karaga | 77,706 | 501 | 6.4 |
| Gushiegu | 111,259 | 744 | 6.7 |
| Saboba | 65,706 | 235 | 3.6 |
| Chereponi | 53,394 | 288 | 5.4 |
| Bunkpurugu Yonyo | 122,591 | 575 | 4.7 |
| Mamprusi East | 121,009 | 619 | 5.1 |
| Mamprusi West | 121,117 | 955 | 7.9 |
| North Gonja | 43,547 | 247 | 5.7 |
| Kumbumgu | 39,341 | 343 | 8.7 |
| Sagnerigu Municipal | 148,099 | 847 | 5.7 |
| Mion | 81,812 | 556 | 6.8 |
| Tatale | 60,039 | 210 | 3.5 |
| Mamprugu Moagduri | 46,894 | 277 | 5.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER THREE
# SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

## 3.1 Introduction

Socio-cultural factors to a very large extent influence living arrangements. There is therefore, a close relationship between family and household formation and the type of socio-cultural practices that are prevalent in a particular society. The family system in any human society, whether it is the nuclear or extended type, depicts the type of kinship ties that hold the people together.

## 3.2 Household size, composition and structure

The differences in the composition, size of households, headship, and marital status among the various ethnic groups especially in the Tolon District are based on the prevailing kinship. This section presents detail information on household size, structure as well as composition.

### 3.2.1 Household size

**Table 3.1: Household population and household size**

|  | Total | | District | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Categories | country | Region | Total | Urban | Rural |
| Total population | 24,658,823 | 2,479,461 | 72,990 | 8,459 | 64,531 |
| Total household population | 24,076,327 | 2,445,061 | 71,862 | 7,949 | 63,913 |
| Average household size | 4.5 | 7.8 | 9 | 7.7 | 9.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Majority of the population in the Tolon District live in households (98.4%). The average household in the District is 9 which is higher than the Northern region average of 7.8.

### 3.2.2 Household composition

Table 3.2 analyses household population by composition and sex. The data reveals that, the total number of people in households (71,862) comprises 35,636 males and 36,226 females. Children within the household form the highest (46.5%) percentage with "other relative" forming 13 percent and Non-relative being least represented (0.7 percent).

The table further shows that within the male proportion of the households, children form the highest (53.9%) percentage, followed by household heads (20.8%) and Sons/Daughters in law with the least (0.2%). The composition of the female household population shows that, female children constitute 39.2 percent. "Other relatives" represent 19.2 percent and female spouses form 17.8 percent. Non-relatives in female households constitute the lowest (0.4%) percentage.

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

| Household composition | Total Number | Total Percent | Male Number | Male Percent | Female Number | Female Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Both sexes | 71,862 | 100.0 | 35,636 | 100.0 | 36,226 | 100.0 |
| Head | 8,110 | 11.3 | 7,410 | 20.8 | 700 | 1.9 |
| Spouse (wife/husband) | 6,559 | 9.1 | 127 | 0.4 | 6,432 | 17.8 |
| Child (son/daughter) | 33,399 | 46.5 | 19,212 | 53.9 | 14,187 | 39.2 |
| Parent/Parent in-law | 941 | 1.3 | 91 | 0.3 | 850 | 2.3 |
| Son/Daughter in-law | 1,159 | 1.6 | 75 | 0.2 | 1,084 | 3.0 |
| Grandchild | 5,969 | 8.3 | 3,139 | 8.8 | 2,830 | 7.8 |
| Brother/Sister | 3,921 | 5.5 | 2,170 | 6.1 | 1,751 | 4.8 |
| Step child | 1,009 | 1.4 | 516 | 1.4 | 493 | 1.4 |
| Adopted/Foster child | 1,005 | 1.4 | 234 | 0.7 | 771 | 2.1 |
| Other relative | 9,320 | 13.0 | 2,355 | 6.6 | 6,965 | 19.2 |
| Non-relative | 470 | 0.7 | 307 | 0.9 | 163 | 0.4 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.3    Household Structure

Household structure presented in this section refers to the type of relationship (whether related or unrelated) among household members who were present on census night. Classification of households depend on whether it is a single person household, household that consists of head and spouse only, nuclear household (head, spouse(s) and their children) or nuclear extended among other combinations.

Table 3.3 depicts the structure of households in the district in terms of nuclear and extended family type. The data indicates that, about two-third (68.5%) of the entire household structures is the extended type. This means that, two out of every three persons in the district belongs to the extended family type. The nuclear (Head, spouse(s), children) is the next most common (14.9%) household, whereas the "Head and a spouse only" structure forms the least (0.2%) of the household structures across the district.

There exist variations in the males and females components of the household structure. For instance, 67.0 percent of the "Extended (Head, spouse(s), children, Head's relatives)" household is male. This is followed by the "Nuclear (Head, spouse(s), children)" with 16.3 percent and "Head only" trailing at 0.1 percent. The female on the other hand were the majority (70%) in the "Extended" household structure (Head, spouse(s), children, Head's relatives). The "Nuclear" household structure (Head, spouse(s), children) is next highest (13.5%), with "Head only" being least represented (0.1%). Across the district, single parent households accounted for (9.4%) of all types of household structures, which is far below the Northern Regional figure of 26.6 percent.

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

| Household structure | Total | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 71,862 | 100.0 | 35,636 | 100.0 | 36,226 | 100.0 |
| Head only | 211 | 0.3 | 174 | 0.5 | 37 | 0.1 |
| Head and a spouse only | 134 | 0.2 | 68 | 0.2 | 66 | 0.2 |
| Nuclear (Head spouse(s) children) | 10,688 | 14.9 | 5,798 | 16.3 | 4,890 | 13.5 |
| Extended (Head spouse(s) children Head's relatives) | 49,258 | 68.5 | 23,886 | 67.0 | 25,372 | 70.0 |
| Extended + non relatives | 1,764 | 2.5 | 831 | 2.3 | 933 | 2.6 |
| Head spouse(s) and other composition | 1,040 | 1.4 | 498 | 1.4 | 542 | 1.5 |
| Single parent Nuclear | 1,089 | 1.5 | 533 | 1.5 | 556 | 1.5 |
| Single parent Extended | 5,442 | 7.6 | 2,620 | 7.4 | 2,822 | 7.8 |
| Single parent Extended + non relative | 213 | 0.3 | 101 | 0.3 | 112 | 0.3 |
| Head and other composition but no spouse | 2,023 | 2.8 | 1,127 | 3.2 | 896 | 2.5 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.4 Marital Status

Marriage is a social union or legal contract between people called spouses that create kinship. It can also be defined socially to encompass formal traditional and religious unions that usually attract some sanctions in case of a breach by any of the parties involved. There is also the situation of two individuals cohabiting informally without the performance of any marital rites. There are norms governing marriage in human society; one of which is the socially and legally acceptable minimum age for marriage. However, the minimum age for marrying differs from one society to another.

In Ghana, 18 years is the minimum legal age for marriage. However, cultural practices in some ethnic groups allow much younger girls to be given out in marriage. In order to capture data on those who marry below age 18, the 2010 census solicited information from persons aged 12 years and above.

Figure 3.1 illustrates the distribution of marital characteristics across the district. It indicates married population as 60.2 percent, followed by those who had never been married (33.6%) and the least being people who are in other forms of marital status (0.8%).

**Figure 3.1: Marital Status of Persons 12 years and Older**
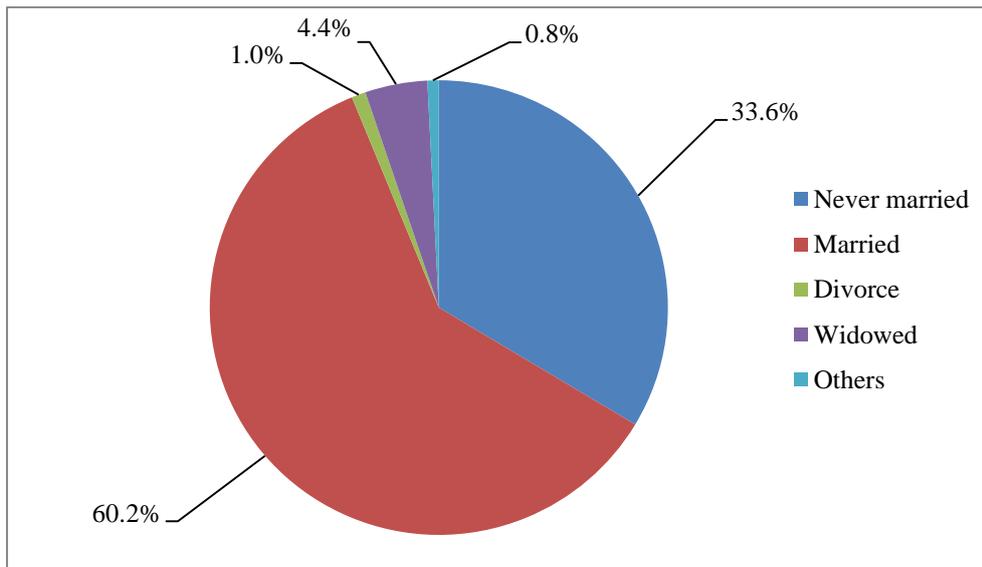


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.5 Marital Status by Age and Sex

The data in table 3.4 shows that, marital status of the population varies significantly in terms of age and sex. The age group of 15-19 years recorded the highest proportion (7,149) of married people, followed by ages 25-29 years (5,695), with the age group 55-59 years (892) having the lowest proportion of married people.

The data equally provides interesting information regarding age specific marital status pattern. There is a general fluctuation in the number of people with increasing age when it comes to marital status in the district. For instance, there is a decline from age group 12-14 years (87.6%) until age group 50-54 years (1.7%),followed by a rising pattern. It is however different in the case of the "married" segment of the population. That is to say, the percentages of the married population within the district increase markedly from age group 12-14 years (12.1%) and peaks at age group 35-39 years (91.5%) before falling again. This situation is normal because, the lower age group corresponds to people who are mostly the youth and are usually into schooling or skill acquisition to prepare them for the future. They therefore begin to married at the age when they think they are matured and have the needed resources to take care of a family.

The data further highlights that, there are predominantly more married males (54.1%) than those who have never married (43.2%). The remaining marital status for males within the district sums up to less than two percent (1.7%). Similarly, the proportion of married (66%) females is higher than the never married (24.3%), with the sum of the other status forming 9.7 percent.

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

| Sex/Age-group | Number | Never Married | Informal/ Consensual union/living together | Married | Separated | Divorced | Widowed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Both Sexes** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 45,020 | 33.6 | 0.4 | 60.2 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 4.4 |
| 12-14 | 3,911 | 87.6 | 0.3 | 12.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 15 - 19 | 7,149 | 82.3 | 0.3 | 17.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| 20 - 24 | 6,703 | 49.9 | 0.5 | 48.8 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 25 - 29 | 5,695 | 25.6 | 0.6 | 72.6 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.4 |
| 30 - 34 | 4,412 | 10.3 | 0.5 | 87.1 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.6 |
| 35 - 39 | 3,414 | 5.1 | 0.5 | 91.5 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 1.1 |
| 40 - 44 | 3,084 | 3.0 | 0.5 | 91.1 | 0.9 | 1.8 | 2.8 |
| 45 - 49 | 2,109 | 1.7 | 0.4 | 90.5 | 0.8 | 1.7 | 4.9 |
| 50 - 54 | 2,078 | 1.7 | 0.4 | 85.7 | 0.7 | 2.3 | 9.2 |
| 55 - 59 | 892 | 2.2 | 0.4 | 83.9 | 0.9 | 2.1 | 10.4 |
| 60 - 64 | 1,618 | 2.9 | 0.6 | 76.8 | 0.6 | 2.7 | 16.4 |
| 65+ | 3,955 | 3.7 | 0.5 | 64.4 | 0.9 | 2.6 | 28.0 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 22,011 | 43.2 | 0.4 | 54.1 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| 12-14 | 2,160 | 88.9 | 0.2 | 10.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 15 - 19 | 3,918 | 87.5 | 0.1 | 12.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| 20 - 24 | 3,202 | 72.3 | 0.3 | 27.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| 25 - 29 | 2,593 | 42.8 | 0.5 | 55.6 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| 30 - 34 | 1,858 | 19.9 | 0.5 | 77.6 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.3 |
| 35 - 39 | 1,548 | 8.2 | 0.8 | 88.3 | 0.6 | 1.4 | 0.7 |
| 40 - 44 | 1,381 | 4.9 | 0.7 | 90.9 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 1.1 |
| 45 - 49 | 1,038 | 2.7 | 0.4 | 94.0 | 0.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| 50 - 54 | 1,070 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 92.7 | 0.8 | 1.9 | 1.6 |
| 55 - 59 | 476 | 2.1 | 0.2 | 94.1 | 0.8 | 1.7 | 1.1 |
| 60 - 64 | 811 | 3.9 | 0.7 | 90.1 | 0.4 | 1.8 | 3.0 |
| 65+ | 1,956 | 4.3 | 0.7 | 85.9 | 0.7 | 2.4 | 5.9 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 23,009 | 24.3 | 0.5 | 66.0 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 7.6 |
| 12-14 | 1,751 | 86.0 | 0.3 | 13.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 15 - 19 | 3,231 | 75.9 | 0.5 | 23.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| 20 - 24 | 3,501 | 29.4 | 0.7 | 68.8 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| 25 - 29 | 3,102 | 11.3 | 0.6 | 86.7 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| 30 - 34 | 2,554 | 3.4 | 0.4 | 93.9 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| 35 - 39 | 1,866 | 2.6 | 0.3 | 94.2 | 0.4 | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| 40 - 44 | 1,703 | 1.4 | 0.4 | 91.3 | 0.8 | 1.9 | 4.2 |
| 45 - 49 | 1,071 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 87.0 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 8.4 |
| 50 - 54 | 1,008 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 78.3 | 0.5 | 2.7 | 17.3 |
| 55 - 59 | 416 | 2.4 | 0.7 | 72.1 | 1.0 | 2.6 | 21.2 |
| 60 - 64 | 807 | 1.9 | 0.4 | 63.3 | 0.9 | 3.6 | 30.0 |
| 65+ | 1,999 | 3.0 | 0.4 | 43.4 | 1.0 | 2.7 | 49.5 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.6    Marital Status and Level of Education

Table 3.5 shows the population aged twelve years and older by marital status, sex and level of education. It portrays a total population of 45,020 out of which 74.5 percent are not educated. For those who are educated, 18.3 percent attained basic education, 4.0 percent completed secondary, 1.1 percent has post middle/secondary/diploma, and less than one percent for both vocational/technical/commercial, and tertiary certificates.

Of the "never married" population, 49.4 percent have not had any form of schooling. For the "never married" population that were educated, majority (36.0 %) have basic education, followed by those with secondary (7.8%) with the least (0.2%) being vocational/technical/commercial. It was also observed that, a greater number (86.8%) of the married population were not educated and only 9.6 percent have basic schooling. Further, the married population has less than 3 percent each for the rest of the educational levels.

The situation is worst when it comes to population who fall within the separated, divorced or widowed. In each case, the percentage of the population declines with increasing levels of education as shown in the Table 3.4.

Also, of the 22,011 males in the population 66.8 percent have no form of education. Those with basic education sum up to 21.8 percent; secondary education is pegged at 5.9 percent, whilst less than one percent has attained vocational/technical/commercial education. Males who have never married and are without education form 46.5 percent. This is followed by those with basic education constituting 35.5 percent; and secondary education making up 9.0 percent. There is significant number of the married males with no education (82.2%). Only 11.5 percent has basic education; 3.5 percent has secondary; and the least (0.3%) linked with "Vocational/Technical/ Commercial".

The female proportion of the population is 23,009. The "never married" female without education is about half (54.2%). Those who have never married but have basic education constitute 36.7 percent; 5.9 percent of them has secondary education; and 0.3 percent represents those who pursued "Vocational/Technical/ Commercial".

**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] | Secon-dary[2] | Voc/ Tech/ Comm | Post middle/ secondary certificate/ diploma[3] | Tertiary[4] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Both sexes** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 45,020 | 100.0 | 74.5 | 18.3 | 4.0 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 2.0 |
| Never married | 15,116 | 100.0 | 49.4 | 36.0 | 7.8 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 5.1 |
| Informal/Consensual union/Living together | 202 | 100.0 | 74.8 | 21.8 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 0.0 |
| Married | 27,106 | 100.0 | 86.8 | 9.6 | 2.1 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.4 |
| Separated | 193 | 100.0 | 87.6 | 6.7 | 2.6 | 0.0 | 2.1 | 1.0 |
| Divorced | 436 | 100.0 | 89.0 | 8.3 | 3.4 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| Widowed | 1,967 | 100.0 | 93.7 | 5.2 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 22,011 | 100.0 | 66.8 | 21.8 | 5.9 | 0.3 | 1.9 | 3.3 |
| Never married | 9,519 | 100.0 | 46.5 | 35.5 | 9.0 | 0.2 | 2.1 | 6.6 |
| Informal/Consensual union/Living together | 91 | 100.0 | 71.4 | 22.0 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 3.3 | 0.0 |
| Married | 11,913 | 100.0 | 82.2 | 11.5 | 3.5 | 0.3 | 1.7 | 0.8 |
| Separated | 85 | 100.0 | 87.1 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 0.0 | 3.5 | 2.4 |
| Divorced | 184 | 100.0 | 84.2 | 9.8 | 2.7 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 0.5 |
| Widowed | 219 | 100.0 | 88.1 | 6.8 | 2.7 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.5 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 23,009 | 100.0 | 81.8 | 14.9 | 2.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| Never married | 5,597 | 100.0 | 54.2 | 36.7 | 5.9 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 2.5 |
| Informal/Consensual union/Living together | 111 | 100.0 | 77.5 | 21.6 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Married | 15,193 | 100.0 | 90.4 | 8.1 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Separated | 108 | 100.0 | 88.0 | 9.3 | 1.9 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| Divorced | 252 | 100.0 | 92.5 | 7.1 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Widowed | 1,748 | 100.0 | 94.5 | 5.0 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.7 Marital Status and Economic Activity

Table 3.6 depicts data on persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and economic activity status. While 77 percent is employed, 1.7 percent is unemployment and 21.5 percent is "economically not active". Among the never married group (15,116), the employed are in the majority (64.5%) compared to the unemployed population of less than two percent (1.7%). The "economically not active" is given as 33.8 percent. In the case of the married (27,361), more (86.2%) are employed compared to the unemployed (1.7%) and "economically not active" of 12.1 percent.

In the male category, the never married recorded 65.3 percent for those employed and 1.5 percent for the unemployed. There is also an indication of high employed value (89.3%) for married males. The percentages for "separated", "divorce", and "widowed" males who are employed are 90.6 percent, 76.6 percent, and 50.7 percent respectively. Also males who fall under "separated", "divorce", and "widowed and are "economically not active" recorded 9.4 percent, 22.8 percent and 47.9 percent respectively.

For the female population, the "never married" has 63.1 percent employed relative to "unemployed" and "economically not active" values of two percent and 34.9 percent respectively. In addition, the married females show an employed record of 83.7 percent compared to the "unemployed" and "economically not active" figures of 2.2 percent and 14 percent respectively.

**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 |
| **Both sexes** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 45,020 | 34,658 | 77.0 | 750 | 1.7 | 9,612 | 21.4 |
| Never married | 15,116 | 9,747 | 64.5 | 259 | 1.7 | 5,110 | 33.8 |
| Informal/Consensual union/Living together | 202 | 145 | 71.8 | 2 | 1.0 | 55 | 27.2 |
| Married | 27,106 | 23,361 | 86.2 | 461 | 1.7 | 3,284 | 12.1 |
| Separated | 193 | 153 | 79.3 | 2 | 0.0 | 38 | 19.7 |
| Divorced | 436 | 327 | 75.0 | 4 | 0.9 | 105 | 24.1 |
| Widowed | 1,967 | 925 | 47.0 | 22 | 1.1 | 1,020 | 51.9 |
| Total | 22,011 | 17,258 | 78.4 | 274 | 1.2 | 4,479 | 20.4 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | |
| Never married | 9,519 | 6,216 | 65.3 | 146 | 1.5 | 3,157 | 33.2 |
| Informal/Consensual union/Living together | 91 | 74 | 81.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 17 | 18.7 |
| Married | 11,913 | 10,639 | 89.3 | 124 | 1.0 | 1,150 | 9.7 |
| Separated | 85 | 77 | 90.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 8 | 9.4 |
| Divorced | 184 | 141 | 76.6 | 1 | 0.5 | 42 | 22.8 |
| Widowed | 219 | 111 | 50.7 | 3 | 1.4 | 105 | 47.9 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 23,009 | 17,400 | 75.6 | 476 | 2.1 | 5,133 | 22.3 |
| Never married | 5,597 | 3,531 | 63.1 | 113 | 2.0 | 1,953 | 34.9 |
| Informal/Consensual union/Living together | 111 | 71 | 64.0 | 2 | 1.8 | 38 | 34.2 |
| Married | 15,193 | 12,722 | 83.7 | 337 | 2.2 | 2,134 | 14.0 |
| Separated | 108 | 76 | 70.4 | 2 | 1.9 | 30 | 27.8 |
| Divorced | 252 | 186 | 73.8 | 3 | 1.2 | 63 | 25.0 |
| Widowed | 1,748 | 814 | 46.6 | 19 | 1.1 | 915 | 52.3 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.8 Nationality

A person's nationality is understood as the country to which he or she belongs. Table 3.7 differentiates between Ghanaians and other nationals, with Ghanaian nationals categorized 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.

The Table depicts Ghanaian by birth as the majority (96.1%). Ghanaians by dual nationality and those by naturalisation form less than three percent. Also, a relatively low proportion was

recorded for non-Ghanaians (1.7%) who are incidentally identified as the least represented in the Northern Region (Statistical Service, 2013).

The data also outlines nationality by sex. Ghanaians by birth account for equal percentages of 96.1 for males and females. The proportion of the Ghanaian population with dual nationality recorded less than two percent  for each case of the male and female and less than one percent each for Ghanaians by naturalisation. There is however, more male (0.8%) than female (0.7%) for ECOWAS citizens in the district.

**Table 3.7:  Population by nationality and sex**

| | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nationality | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 72,990 | 100.0 | 36,360 | 100.0 | 36,630 | 100.0 |
| Ghanaian by birth | 70,132 | 96.1 | 34,928 | 96.1 | 35,204 | 96.1 |
| Dual nationality (Ghanaian & Other) | 1,189 | 1.6 | 575 | 1.6 | 614 | 1.7 |
| Ghanaian by naturalisation | 423 | 0.6 | 205 | 0.6 | 218 | 0.6 |
| ECOWAS | 527 | 0.7 | 282 | 0.8 | 245 | 0.7 |
| African other than ECOWAS | 377 | 0.5 | 196 | 0.5 | 181 | 0.5 |
| Other | 342 | 0.5 | 174 | 0.5 | 168 | 0.5 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.9    Religious Affiliation

Over nine out of ten persons (94.1%) profess Islam as a religion in the district (table 3.8). Christians (Catholic, Protestant, Pentecostal/Charismatic and other Christian) represent 3.7 percent followed by Traditionalists (1.5%). Less than one percent (0.5%) indicated no religion.

The data equally provides proportion of male and female by religious affiliations. It suggests that, Islam attracts more females (94.9%) than males (93.3%). The same cannot be said of Christianity in general. The proportion of males (4.3%) is marginally higher than females (3.2%). This is equally true regarding Traditionalist as there are more males (1.7%) relative to females (1.3%).

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

| | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Religion | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 72,990 | 100.0 | 36,360 | 100.0 | 36,630 | 100.0 |
| No religion | 374 | 0.5 | 189 | 0.5 | 185 | 0.5 |
| Catholic | 823 | 1.1 | 463 | 1.3 | 360 | 1.0 |
| Protestants (Anglican Lutheran etc.) | 632 | 0.9 | 390 | 1.1 | 242 | 0.7 |
| Pentecostal/Charismatic | 765 | 1.0 | 435 | 1.2 | 330 | 0.9 |
| Other Christian | 502 | 0.7 | 266 | 0.7 | 236 | 0.6 |
| Islam | 68,675 | 94.1 | 33,925 | 93.3 | 34,750 | 94.9 |
| Traditionalist | 1,103 | 1.5 | 636 | 1.7 | 467 | 1.3 |
| Other | 116 | 0.2 | 56 | 0.2 | 60 | 0.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.10   Literacy and Education

The 2010 census classifies a literate person as someone who can read and write a simple statement with understanding.   If a person can only read but cannot write or can write but

cannot read, he or she cannot be considered as literate. Figure 3.2 is a graphical presentation of population 11 years and older by literacy status. It associates 72.9 percent of people can read and write English and Ghanaian Language only. This is followed up with those who can read and write English only (18.3%), Ghanaian language only (8.4%), and others (0.5%).

**Figure 3.2: Literacy status of population 12 years and older**
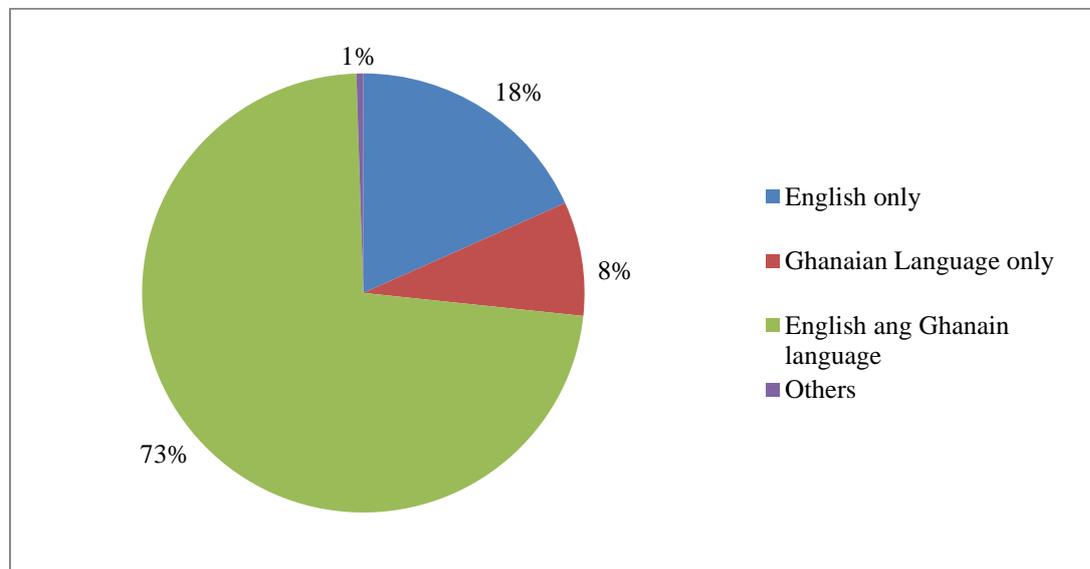


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 3.9 gives the district's population 11 years and older by sex, age and literacy status. It indicates none literate population of 33,955, of which 14,913 are males and 19,042 females. Those who can read and write are 12,065 out of which males form 63.3 percent (7,637) and females 36.7 percent (6,181).

In terms of age groups, the 15-19 years has the highest proportion of literates (3,443), out of which 71.8 percent read and write English and Ghanaian language, 25 percent read and write only English, whereas 7.2 percent read and write Ghanaian language only. The age group with the next highest proportion of literate is 11-14 years (2,761). It has 63.4 percent of literate population who can read and write English and Ghanaian language. This is followed by those who can read and write English only and Ghanaian language only, with 25 and 11.5 percent respectively. The age group with the lowest proportion of literates in the population is 55-59 years (98). Notwithstanding, 74.5 percent of this age group read and write English and Ghanaian language, 17.3 percent read and write English only, and 7.1 read and write Ghanaian languages only in the District.

The data is also segregated into males and females. Thus, out of a total of 7,637 literate males, 75.7 percent can read and write English and Ghanaian language and 16.2 percent can read and write English only whilst the rest of the categories for the males sum up to less than ten percent.

The pattern among females is similar to the males above. The data reveals that, 68 percent of the female population can read and write English and Ghanaian language, followed by those who can read and write English only with 21.9 percent, whilst the sum of the other categories forms 10.1 percent.

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

| Age group | None (not literate) | Literate | English only | Ghanaian language only | English and Ghanaian language | English and French | English, French and Ghanaian language |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Both sexes** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 33,955 | 12,065 | 18.3 | 8.4 | 72.9 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| 11-14 | 2,150 | 2,761 | 25.0 | 11.5 | 63.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 15-19 | 3,706 | 3,443 | 20.8 | 7.2 | 71.8 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| 20-24 | 4,413 | 2,290 | 12.0 | 5.9 | 80.8 | 0.2 | 1.1 |
| 25-29 | 4,390 | 1,305 | 12.0 | 5.9 | 81.5 | 0.2 | 0.5 |
| 30-34 | 3,726 | 686 | 12.5 | 7.4 | 79.2 | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| 35-39 | 2,994 | 420 | 15.7 | 11.7 | 72.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 40-44 | 2,789 | 295 | 17.6 | 14.2 | 68.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 45-49 | 1,914 | 195 | 11.3 | 12.3 | 75.4 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| 50-54 | 1,905 | 173 | 24.9 | 9.8 | 65.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 55-59 | 794 | 98 | 17.3 | 7.1 | 74.5 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| 60-64 | 1,509 | 109 | 27.5 | 4.6 | 67.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 65+ | 3,665 | 290 | 17.2 | 12.8 | 70.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **Male** | | | - | | | | |
| Total | 14,913 | 7,637 | 16.2 | 7.6 | 75.7 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| 11-14 | 1,099 | 1,600 | 23.5 | 12.3 | 64.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| 15-19 | 1,796 | 2,122 | 19.6 | 6.4 | 73.8 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| 20-24 | 1,679 | 1,523 | 9.5 | 4.1 | 84.9 | 0.2 | 1.4 |
| 25-29 | 1,673 | 920 | 10.0 | 5.2 | 84.2 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| 30-34 | 1,375 | 483 | 11.6 | 7.9 | 79.5 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| 35-39 | 1,268 | 280 | 14.3 | 9.6 | 76.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 40-44 | 1,202 | 179 | 15.1 | 11.2 | 73.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 45-49 | 917 | 121 | 10.7 | 14.9 | 72.7 | 0.0 | 1.7 |
| 50-54 | 964 | 106 | 20.8 | 7.5 | 71.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 55-59 | 405 | 71 | 16.9 | 2.8 | 78.9 | 0.0 | 1.4 |
| 60-64 | 738 | 73 | 26.0 | 2.7 | 71.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 65+ | 1,797 | 159 | 12.6 | 12.6 | 74.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 19,042 | 4,428 | 21.9 | 9.8 | 68.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| 11-14 | 1,051 | 1,161 | 27.1 | 10.5 | 62.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 15-19 | 1,910 | 1,321 | 22.8 | 8.4 | 68.4 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| 20-24 | 2,734 | 767 | 16.9 | 9.5 | 72.8 | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| 25-29 | 2,717 | 385 | 16.9 | 7.5 | 74.8 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| 30-34 | 2,351 | 203 | 14.8 | 6.4 | 78.3 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| 35-39 | 1,726 | 140 | 18.6 | 15.7 | 65.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 40-44 | 1,587 | 116 | 21.6 | 19.0 | 59.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 45-49 | 997 | 74 | 12.2 | 8.1 | 79.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 50-54 | 941 | 67 | 31.3 | 13.4 | 55.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 55-59 | 389 | 27 | 18.5 | 18.5 | 63.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 60-64 | 771 | 36 | 30.6 | 8.3 | 61.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 65+ | 1,868 | 131 | 22.9 | 13.0 | 64.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 3.10 displays the population three years and older by sex, level of education and school attendance. The data shows that, 18,524 of the population are currently in school while 4,224 had ever attended school. About half (51.2%) of the population still in school, are in primary, followed by JSS/JHS (15.1%), SSS/SHS (5.6%), with the lowest proportion in "Vocational/Technical/Commercial" (0.2%). It is also notable that, 22.2 percent are still attending pre-school (Nursery and Kindergarten). Among males who are in school, 49.5 percent are in primary school, whilst 15.8 percent attend JSS/JHS, and those in "Vocational/Technical/Commercial" form the least (0.1%). The female population currently attending school registered 53.5 percent for those at the primary level, followed by those in Nursery with 19.1 percent, and less than one percent for the "Post middle/secondary certificate".

For those who had attended school in the past, more than half (54%) had pursued only primary education. Those who had JSS/JHS and SSS/SHS are 14.9 percent and 14.5 percent respectively. The lowest proportion of the population had "Vocational/Technical/ Commercial" education in the past (1.5%).

In terms of males, 42.8 percent had primary education. SSS/SHS is the next highest attended with 18.3 percent; whilst those who had "Vocational/Technical/Commercial" recorded the lowest (1.7%). For females, a total of 72 percent acquired primary education; 10.5 percent had JSS/JHS, and 1.1 percent had "Post middle/secondary certificate" education.

**Table 3.10: Population three 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 |
| Both sexes | 18,524 | 100.0 | 10,753 | 100.0 | 7,771 | 100.0 | 4,224 | 100.0 | 2,601 | 100.0 | 1,623 | 100.0 |
| Nursery | 3,020 | 16.3 | 1,534 | 14.3 | 1,486 | 19.1 | - | 0.0 | - | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Kindergarten | 1,093 | 5.9 | 573 | 5.3 | 520 | 6.7 | - | 0.0 | - | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Primary | 9,482 | 51.2 | 5,322 | 49.5 | 4,160 | 53.5 | 2,283 | 54.0 | 1,114 | 42.8 | 1,169 | 72.0 |
| JSS/JHS | 2,789 | 15.1 | 1,699 | 15.8 | 1,090 | 14.0 | 628 | 14.9 | 457 | 17.6 | 171 | 10.5 |
| Middle | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0 | 213 | 5.0 | 164 | 6.3 | 49 | 3.0 |
| SSS/SHS | 1,046 | 5.6 | 722 | 6.7 | 324 | 4.2 | 611 | 14.5 | 476 | 18.3 | 135 | 8.3 |
| Secondary | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0 | 128 | 3.0 | 92 | 3.5 | 36 | 2.2 |
| Vocational/Technical/ Commercial | 30 | 0.2 | 16 | 0.1 | 14 | 0.2 | 64 | 1.5 | 44 | 1.7 | 20 | 1.2 |
| Post middle/secondary certificate | 50 | 0.3 | 40 | 0.4 | 10 | 0.1 | 124 | 2.9 | 106 | 4.1 | 18 | 1.1 |
| Tertiary | 1,014 | 5.5 | 847 | 7.9 | 167 | 2.1 | 173 | 4.1 | 148 | 5.7 | 25 | 1.5 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER FOUR
# ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

## 4.1    Introduction

The overall development of a country depends on the production of goods and services. Critical to the production process is the human capital of the country. Although all persons irrespective of age and sex consume goods and services produced, only a section of the total population produces them: a working population often referred to as the "employed'. The type of economic activity pursued is influenced by nature of the economy and level of socio-economic development (Hull, 2009). Generally, the larger the employed population, the more wealth is created leading to the general well-being of the population (Ghana Statistical Service, 2013a). The method by which people organize themselves around productive activity and the stratification processes that are associated with differentiation of labour are fundamental characteristics of a society.

This section focuses on several dimensions of work and the rewards of work (i.e., income and wealth). Productive capacity in any country and economic performance is mainly measured by the size of its productive workforce. The legal working age in Ghana is 15 years. However, it should be noted that, individuals below this age are often found in various areas engaging in economic activity. There is evidence that children below 15 years of age engage in a variety of economic enterprises.

This section analyzes economic characteristics of the population 15 years and older. It is recognized, however, that a substantial proportion of the country's potential workforce may be pursuing a variety of non-economic activities, such as going to school. Such persons are excluded from the active workforce, and are referred to as economically not active. There is a second group which includes individuals who are regarded as economically active, either employed or not working at the time of the census. They include individuals with jobs who were on leave, and those currently unemployed, but actively seeking employment (Ghana Statistical Service, 2013b).

## 4.2    Economic Activities

Table 4.1 shows population 15 years and older by activity status and sex. The activity status involves "economically active", employed, unemployed, and "economically not active". The total population is 41,109. Out of this, proportion of the economically active population that is gainfully employed is 97.7 percent as against the unemployed figure of 2.3 percent. The "economically not active" population recorded 19.5 percent.

The table also shows that, of males who fall within the economically active population, about nine out of ten (98.3%) are employed and those who are unemployed are less than two percent (1.7%). The "economically not active population among males is 18.3 percent. There is a marginal difference when it comes to females within the economically active. The female employed population also recorded a high percentage of 97.2 percent as compared to the unemployed figure of 2.8 percent. The "economically not active" among the female population is 20.7 percent.

**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** | 41,109 | 100.0 | 19,851 | 100.0 | 21,258 | 100.0 |
| **Economically active** | **33,088** | **80.5** | **16,222** | **81.7** | **16,866** | **79.3** |
| *Employed* | *32,340* | *97.7* | *15,948* | *98.3* | *16,392* | *97.2* |
| *Worked* | *31,897* | *98.6* | *15,701* | *98.5* | *16,196* | *98.8* |
| *Did not work but had job to go back to* | *372* | *1.2* | *212* | *1.3* | *160* | *1.0* |
| *Did voluntary work without pay* | *71* | *0.2* | *35* | *0.2* | *36* | *0.2* |
| *Unemployed* | *748* | *2.3* | *274* | *1.7* | *474* | *2.8* |
| *Worked before, seeking work and available* | *413* | *55.2* | *126* | *46.0* | *287* | *60.5* |
| *Seeking work for the first time and available* | *335* | *44.8* | *148* | *54.0* | *187* | *39.5* |
| **Economically not active** | 8,021 | 19.5 | 3,629 | 18.3 | 4,392 | 20.7 |
| Did home duties (household chore) | 2,271 | 28.3 | 523 | 14.4 | 1,748 | 39.8 |
| Full time education | 2,981 | 37.2 | 2,044 | 56.3 | 937 | 21.3 |
| Pensioner/Retired | 47 | 0.6 | 23 | 0.6 | 24 | 0.5 |
| Disabled/Sick | 267 | 3.3 | 128 | 3.5 | 139 | 3.2 |
| Too old/young | 2,018 | 25.2 | 691 | 19.0 | 1,327 | 30.2 |
| Other | 437 | 5.4 | 220 | 6.1 | 217 | 4.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 4.1 describes the pattern of economic activity status of ages 15 years and older by sex and age group. It could be noticed that as age increases, there is a decrease in employment levels but gradually fluctuates from ages 50-54 years. In the 15-19 years age group more males are employed than females, but this suddenly changes from age 20-44 years to 40-44 years where the employed females outnumber their male counterparts in the district. The males later gain their lead as age continues to increase.

**Figure 4.1: Employed population 15 years and older by sex, age and activity status**
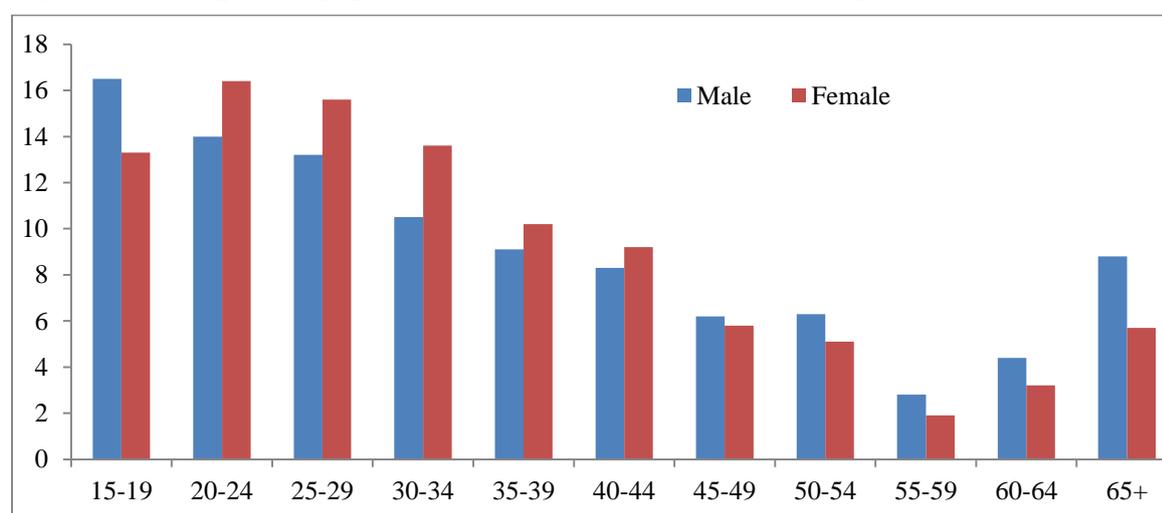


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 4.2 shows the activity status of the employed population 15 years and older by sex and age. Of 7,149 persons in the 15-19 years age group, 67.2 percent are employed, 1.5 percent are unemployed and 31.3 percent are economically not active. About 41 percent of persons in the 65+ year age group are economically not active while the employed constitute 59 percent.

The data also displays employed population in terms of sex. It indicates a total of 19, 851 males, out of which 80.3 percent are employed compared to 1.4 percent unemployed and 18.3 percent "economically not active" males. The females sum up to 21,258, of whom 77.1 percent are employed compared to 2.2 percent unemployed and 20.7 percent "economically not active".

**Table 4.2: 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 |
| **Both sexes** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 41,109 | 32,340 | 78.7 | 748 | 1.8 | 8,021 | 19.5 |
| 15-19 | 7,149 | 4,806 | 67.2 | 108 | 1.5 | 2,235 | 31.3 |
| 20-24 | 6,703 | 4,914 | 73.3 | 205 | 3.1 | 1,584 | 23.6 |
| 25-29 | 5,695 | 4,655 | 81.7 | 171 | 3.0 | 869 | 15.3 |
| 30-34 | 4,412 | 3,906 | 88.5 | 81 | 1.8 | 425 | 9.6 |
| 35-39 | 3,414 | 3,114 | 91.2 | 50 | 1.5 | 250 | 7.3 |
| 40-44 | 3,084 | 2,832 | 91.8 | 32 | 1.0 | 220 | 7.1 |
| 45-49 | 2,109 | 1,936 | 91.8 | 17 | 0.8 | 156 | 7.4 |
| 50-54 | 2,078 | 1,842 | 88.6 | 16 | 0.8 | 220 | 10.6 |
| 55-59 | 892 | 768 | 86.1 | 7 | 0.8 | 117 | 13.1 |
| 60-64 | 1,618 | 1,235 | 76.3 | 49 | 3.0 | 334 | 20.6 |
| 65+ | 3,955 | 2,332 | 59.0 | 12 | 0.3 | 1,611 | 40.7 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 19,851 | 15,948 | 80.3 | 274 | 1.4 | 3,629 | 18.3 |
| 15-19 | 3,918 | 2,633 | 67.2 | 47 | 1.2 | 1,238 | 31.6 |
| 20-24 | 3,202 | 2,229 | 69.6 | 70 | 2.2 | 903 | 28.2 |
| 25-29 | 2,593 | 2,099 | 80.9 | 64 | 2.5 | 430 | 16.6 |
| 30-34 | 1,858 | 1,672 | 90.0 | 30 | 1.6 | 156 | 8.4 |
| 35-39 | 1,548 | 1,446 | 93.4 | 20 | 1.3 | 82 | 5.3 |
| 40-44 | 1,381 | 1,316 | 95.3 | 9 | 0.7 | 56 | 4.1 |
| 45-49 | 1,038 | 991 | 95.5 | 3 | 0.3 | 44 | 4.2 |
| 50-54 | 1,070 | 1,010 | 94.4 | 6 | 0.6 | 54 | 5.0 |
| 55-59 | 476 | 449 | 94.3 | 3 | 0.6 | 24 | 5.0 |
| 60-64 | 811 | 706 | 87.1 | 19 | 2.3 | 86 | 10.6 |
| 65+ | 1,956 | 1,397 | 71.4 | 3 | 0.2 | 556 | 28.4 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 21,258 | 16,392 | 77.1 | 474 | 2.2 | 4,392 | 20.7 |
| 15-19 | 3,231 | 2,173 | 67.3 | 61 | 1.9 | 997 | 30.9 |
| 20-24 | 3,501 | 2,685 | 76.7 | 135 | 3.9 | 681 | 19.5 |
| 25-29 | 3,102 | 2,556 | 82.4 | 107 | 3.4 | 439 | 14.2 |
| 30-34 | 2,554 | 2,234 | 87.5 | 51 | 2.0 | 269 | 10.5 |
| 35-39 | 1,866 | 1,668 | 89.4 | 30 | 1.6 | 168 | 9.0 |
| 40-44 | 1,703 | 1,516 | 89.0 | 23 | 1.4 | 164 | 9.6 |
| 45-49 | 1,071 | 945 | 88.2 | 14 | 1.3 | 112 | 10.5 |
| 50-54 | 1,008 | 832 | 82.5 | 10 | 1.0 | 166 | 16.5 |
| 55-59 | 416 | 319 | 76.7 | 4 | 1.0 | 93 | 22.4 |
| 60-64 | 807 | 529 | 65.6 | 30 | 3.7 | 248 | 30.7 |
| 65+ | 1,999 | 935 | 46.8 | 9 | 0.5 | 1,055 | 112.8 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.3    Occupation

Occupation largely focuses on specific economic activities that people engage in for their livelihood. In the 2010 PHC, occupation was considered as economic activities that individuals engaged in to earn a living in cash or in kind (Ghana Statistical Service, 2013).

The district's total population in various occupations, as indicated in table 4.3, is 32,340, with more female (16,392) than males (15,948). The main occupation of employed persons in the district is "skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers" constituting almost 88.8 percent, followed by craft and related workers" (4.7%), "Service and sales workers" (3.3%) and "Other occupations" having the lowest is.

It is also revealed that, among males, the most occurring occupation is "Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers" (92.5%). The rest of the occupations for males form less than five percent. There is no significant variation when it comes to the females as majority is in the "skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers" sector (85.3%). The remaining set of occupations for females in the Tolon District is below 14 percent.

**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 | 32,340 | 100.0 | 15,948 | 100.0 | 16,392 | 100.0 |
| Managers | 85 | 0.3 | 32 | 0.2 | 53 | 0.3 |
| Professionals | 331 | 1.0 | 268 | 1.7 | 63 | 0.4 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 112 | 0.3 | 61 | 0.4 | 51 | 0.3 |
| Clerical support workers | 33 | 0.1 | 21 | 0.1 | 12 | 0.1 |
| Service and sales workers | 1,069 | 3.3 | 206 | 1.3 | 863 | 5.3 |
| Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers | 28,721 | 88.8 | 14,744 | 92.5 | 13,977 | 85.3 |
| Craft and related trades workers | 1,530 | 4.7 | 413 | 2.6 | 1,117 | 6.8 |
| Plant and machine operators and assemblers | 180 | 0.6 | 87 | 0.5 | 93 | 0.6 |
| Elementary occupations | 279 | 0.9 | 116 | 0.7 | 163 | 1.0 |
| Other occupations | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.4    Industry

The major industry in which employed persons work, as shown in table 4.4, is "agriculture, forestry and fishery" (87.4%).  This is high compared to that of the Northern Region value of 73.5 percent in the same sector. The next is manufacturing (5.0%), followed by "wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles" with 3.5 percent; and "accommodation and food service activities" (1.4%).  The proportion of the rest of the industries is below two percent.

The Agriculture, forestry and fishery remains the major industry in the District for both males (90.8%) and females (84.2%). Other industries sum up to less than ten percent for males and fifteen percent for females.

**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 | 32,340 | 100.0 | 15,948 | 100.0 | 16,392 | 100.0 |
| Agriculture forestry and fishing | 28,272 | 87.4 | 14,476 | 90.8 | 13,796 | 84.2 |
| Mining and quarrying | 1 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Manufacturing | 1,610 | 5.0 | 388 | 2.4 | 1,222 | 7.5 |
| Electricity gas stream and air conditioning supply | 1 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities | 6 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.0 |
| Construction | 39 | 0.1 | 33 | 0.2 | 6 | 0.0 |
| Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 1,131 | 3.5 | 379 | 2.4 | 752 | 4.6 |
| Transportation and storage | 46 | 0.1 | 44 | 0.3 | 2 | 0.0 |
| Accommodation and food service activities | 446 | 1.4 | 32 | 0.2 | 414 | 2.5 |
| Information and communication | 10 | 0.0 | 9 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 6 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.0 |
| Real estate activities | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Professional scientific and technical activities | 41 | 0.1 | 35 | 0.2 | 6 | 0.0 |
| Administrative and support service activities | 27 | 0.1 | 16 | 0.1 | 11 | 0.1 |
| Public administration and defense; compulsory social security | 140 | 0.4 | 112 | 0.7 | 28 | 0.2 |
| Education | 338 | 1.0 | 278 | 1.7 | 60 | 0.4 |
| Human health and social work activities | 40 | 0.1 | 24 | 0.2 | 16 | 0.1 |
| Arts entertainment and recreation | 12 | 0.0 | 12 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other service activities | 95 | 0.3 | 69 | 0.4 | 26 | 0.2 |
| Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods - and services - producing activities of households for own use | 76 | 0.2 | 31 | 0.2 | 45 | 0.3 |
| Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies | 3 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.5    Employment Status

Employment status is understood to mean the status of a person in the establishment where he/she currently works or previously worked (Ghana Statistical Service, 2010). The employment status categories identified include employee, self-employed without employees, self-employed with employees, casual worker, contributing family worker, apprentice, and domestic employee (house help).

Table 4.5 presents an analysis of the employment status of persons 15 years and older in the Tolon District. Persons who are "self-employed without employee(s)" is the highest (57.4%), followed by "contributing family workers" (35.1%), "Self-employed with employee(s)" (2.7%) with the lowest being other forms of employment (0.3%).

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Table 4.5 further highlights that, the highest employment status is recorded by "Self-employed without employee(s)" in both the males (61.6%) and the females (53.3%), followed by "Contributing family worker" in both cases (Males [29.5%] and females [40.5%]), and identifies "other employment" as the least (0.3%) in each case of the sexes.

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

| Employment Sector | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 32,340 | 100.0 | 15,948 | 100.0 | 16,392 | 100.0 |
| Employee | 833 | 2.6 | 636 | 4.0 | 197 | 1.2 |
| Self-employed without employee(s) | 18,552 | 57.4 | 9,821 | 61.6 | 8,731 | 53.3 |
| Self-employed with employee(s) | 876 | 2.7 | 469 | 2.9 | 407 | 2.5 |
| Casual worker | 258 | 0.8 | 71 | 0.4 | 187 | 1.1 |
| Contributing family worker | 11,340 | 35.1 | 4,709 | 29.5 | 6,631 | 40.5 |
| Apprentice | 115 | 0.4 | 49 | 0.3 | 66 | 0.4 |
| Domestic employee (House help) | 279 | 0.9 | 147 | 0.9 | 132 | 0.8 |
| Other | 87 | 0.3 | 46 | 0.3 | 41 | 0.3 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.6 Employment Sector

Employed population 15 years and older by employment sector and sex is analyzed in Figure 4.2. The private informal sector constitutes about 97 percent of the employed population, followed by the public sector (Government) with less than two percent, and other sectors recording below one percent. Each of the other sectors forms less than one percent. This means that the strength of the district's economy lies in the informal private sector. There is therefore the need to design programmes and strategies that will not only help boost activities in that sector, but also capture those people in the Assembly's tax net so as to enhance revenue.

**Figure 4.2: Employed population 15 years and older by employment sector**
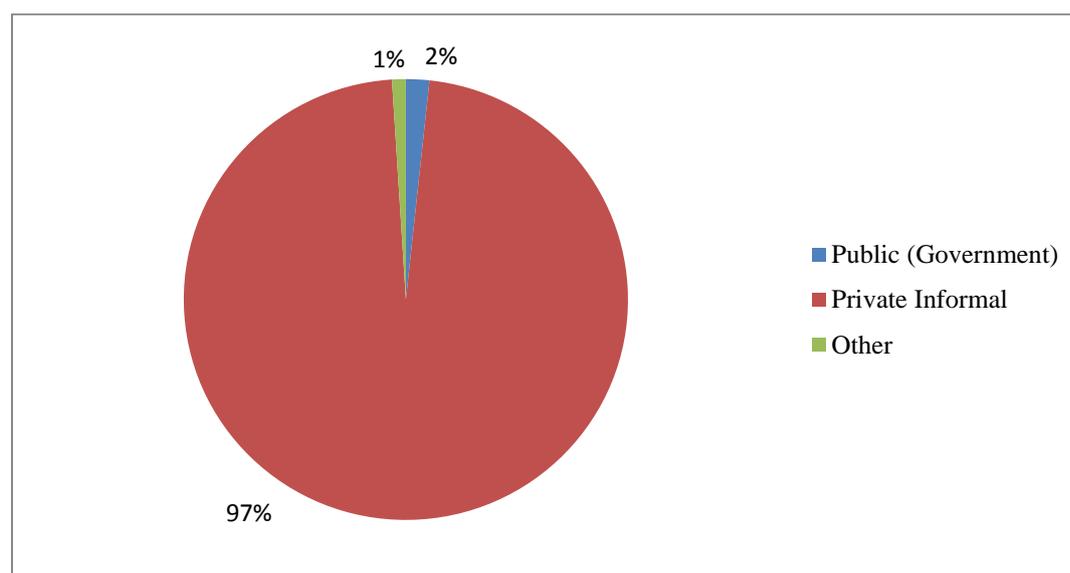


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The Table 4.6 also gives the employed population 15 years and older by employment sector and sex. The data shows that, the private informal sector is the highest for both sexes (male [98.2%] and female [96.2%]). The public sector (government) is the next highest in both cases of the male (2.8%) and female (0.7%). It can therefore be seen that, male public sector workers are than public sector female workers.

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

| Employment Sector | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 32,340 | 100.0 | 15,948 | 100.0 | 16,392 | 100.0 |
| Public (Government) | 565 | 1.7 | 450 | 2.8 | 115 | 0.7 |
| Private Formal | 184 | 0.6 | 99 | 0.6 | 85 | 0.5 |
| Private Informal | 31,446 | 97.2 | 15,345 | 96.2 | 16,101 | 98.2 |
| Semi-Public/Parastatal | 10 | 0.0 | 6 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.0 |
| NGOs (Local and International) | 130 | 0.4 | 47 | 0.3 | 83 | 0.5 |
| Other International Organisations | 5 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER FIVE
# INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

## 5.1 Introduction

Information Communications Technology (ICT) have become important tools in today's knowledge-based information society and economy. It is one of the new areas introduced in the 2010 census questionnaire. Questions pertaining to ICT were asked of households and individuals aged 12 years and above. These questions covered ownership of mobile phones (irrespective of the number of phones an individual has), accessibility and usage of internet (at home, office, café, phones and other mobile devices), and ownership of fixed telephone lines. Other questions asked were household or individual ownership of personal computers/ laptops.

The chapter focuses on the analysis of the usage of information and communication technology in the district. It analyses the ownership and usage of mobile phones and internet facility usage by sex. The chapter also discusses household ownership and usage of desktop/laptop computers, household possession of fixed telephone lines and sex of the household head.

## 5.2 Ownership of Mobile Phones

Table 5.1 shows the total population 12 years and older in Tolon District to be 45,020, out of which 48.9 percent are males and 51.1 percent are females. The table also indicates the total population having mobile phones as 7,061, with 75.5 percent representing males and 24.5 percent females. This shows that thrice as many males own mobile phones as females. Mobile phone ownership and usage  has formally became the most widely-used telecommunication tool in the world and has been spreading around the world faster than any telecommunication technology  (Castells et al., 2004).

## 5.3 Use of Internet

With regards to internet users in Tolon district, table 5.1 indicates that, the total number of people that use internet facility is 1,054 people, out of which males form the largest percentage (79.9%) and females (20.1%). The low numbers of internet users could be linked to low levels of education and awareness on the role and importance of internet as a tool for development in the district.

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

|       | Population 12 years and older | | Population having  mobile phone | | Population using internet facility | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sex | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 45,020 | 100.0 | 7,061 | 100.0 | 1,054 | 100 |
| Male | 22,011 | 48.9 | 5,328 | 75.5 | 842 | 79.9 |
| Female | 23,009 | 51.1 | 1,733 | 24.5 | 212 | 20.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 5.4    Households Ownership of Desktop or Laptop Computers

Table 5.2 shows that the total households having desktop/laptop computer is 7,061 with 5,328 being male-headed and 1,733 female-headed. The table indicates that only one percent of the total households in the district have desktop/laptop computer. Male-headed households owning desktop computers constitute 75.5 percent and female-headed households (24.5%).

**Table 5.2: Households having desktop/laptop computers**

| Sex | Number of households | | Households having desktop/laptop computers | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 45,020 | 100.0 | 7,061 | 100.0 |
| Male | 22,011 | 48.9 | 5,328 | 75.5 |
| Female | 23,009 | 51.1 | 1,733 | 24.5 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER SIX
# DISABILITY

## 6.1    Introduction

Persons with disability as defined by the 2010 Population and Housing Census refers to persons who were unable to or were restricted in the performance of specific tasks/activities if despite the use of assistive device or supportive environment (such as eye glasses and hearing aids) the limitation/restriction cannot be improved. This chapter discusses types of disabilities, the locality, type and sex.

## 6.2    Population with Disability

Table 6.1 presents people with disability in Tolon district. Out of the total population of 66,028, 1,300 representing 1.9 percent of the populace have one form of disability or the other. In terms of sex, there are slightly more males (695) with disabilities than females (604)

## 6.3    Type of Disability

Figure 6.1 indicates the various type of disability in the district. The figure indicates that out of a total population of 1,366 persons with disabilities, 41 percent has sight disability, 24.9 percent have hearing and 19.7 percent have physical disability. In terms of sex, more females have difficulties with sight (41.8%), hearing 41%), physical (19.7%), intellectual (11.5%), emotional (11.3%) and speech (14.6%) than males as indicated in Table 6.1.

**Figure 6.1: Population by disability type**
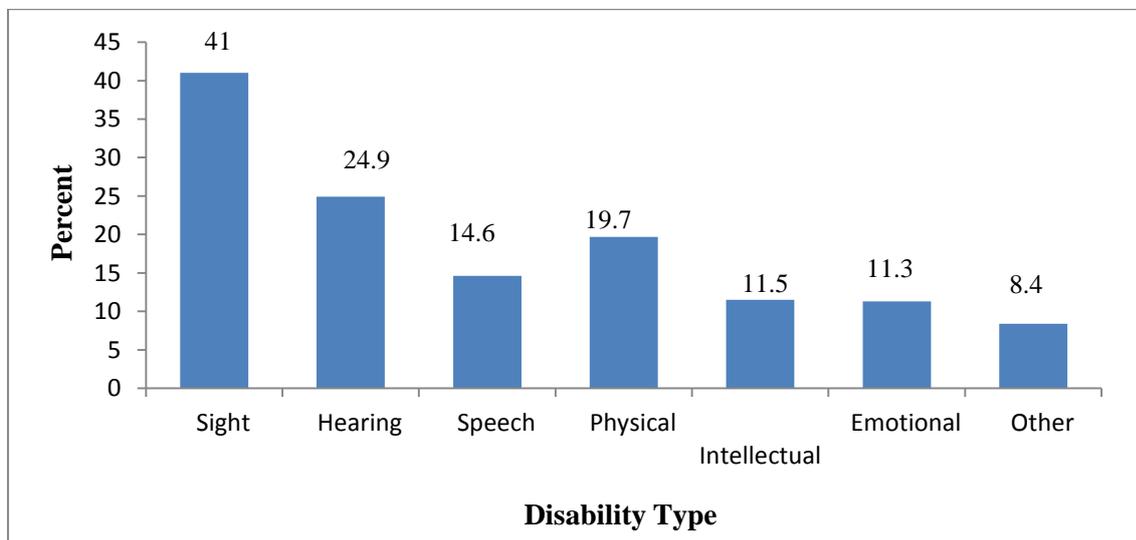


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 6.4    Disability by Type of Locality

Table 6.1 gives a distribution of the population with disability by type of locality, disability type and sex. Out of a total population of 72,990, the number of persons with various forms of disability is 1,366. Among the disabled population, a greater percentage has sight disability

(41%). The next highest is hearing disability (24.9%), whereas the least disabled population is those with other forms of disability (8.4%).

As regards sex, both male and female recorded the highest values for sight 40.3 percent and 41.8 percent respectively. The second common disability type among male and female is hearing with male (24.6%) and female (25.2%). The least for both sexes is intellect with each sex recording 0.2 percent.

In urban areas, sight and hearing disabilities continue to be the first (33.9%) and second (22%) highest respectively. Emotional disability is the lowest (11.8%). Similarly, in rural areas, sight and hearing disabilities which are most common stand at 41.7 percent and 25.2 percent respectively, whilst the least is other forms of disability (8.4%).

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

| Disability Type | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| **All localities** | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 72,990 | 100.0 | 36,360 | 100.0 | 36,630 | 100.0 |
| Without Disability | 71,624 | 98.1 | 35,640 | 98.0 | 35,984 | 98.2 |
| With disability | 1,366 | 1.9 | 720 | 2.0 | 646 | 1.8 |
| Sight | 560 | 41.0 | 290 | 40.3 | 270 | 41.8 |
| Hearing | 340 | 24.9 | 177 | 24.6 | 163 | 25.2 |
| Speech | 199 | 14.6 | 116 | 16.1 | 83 | 12.8 |
| Physical | 269 | 19.7 | 144 | 20.0 | 125 | 19.3 |
| Intellect | 157 | 11.5 | 87 | 0.2 | 70 | 0.2 |
| Emotion | 154 | 11.3 | 77 | 10.7 | 77 | 11.9 |
| Other | 115 | 8.4 | 68 | 9.4 | 47 | 7.3 |
| **Urban** | | | | | | |
| Total | 8,459 | 100.0 | 4,480 | 100.0 | 3,979 | 100.0 |
| Without disability | 8,332 | 98.5 | 4,411 | 98.5 | 3,921 | 98.5 |
| With disability | 127 | 1.5 | 69 | 1.5 | 58 | 1.5 |
| Sight | 43 | 33.9 | 27 | 39.1 | 16 | 27.6 |
| Hearing | 28 | 22.0 | 15 | 21.7 | 13 | 22.4 |
| Speech | 24 | 18.9 | 12 | 17.4 | 12 | 20.7 |
| Physical | 31 | 24.4 | 21 | 30.4 | 10 | 17.2 |
| Intellect | 21 | 16.5 | 11 | 0.2 | 10 | 0.3 |
| Emotion | 15 | 11.8 | 7 | 10.1 | 8 | 13.8 |
| Other | 16 | 12.6 | 9 | 13.0 | 7 | 12.1 |
| **Rural** | | | | | | |
| Total | 64,531 | 100.0 | 31,880 | 100.0 | 32,651 | 100.0 |
| Without disability | 63,292 | 98.1 | 31,229 | 98.0 | 32,063 | 98.2 |
| With disability | 1,239 | 1.9 | 41651 | 2.0 | 588 | 1.8 |
| Sight | 517 | 41.7 | 263 | 40.4 | 254 | 43.2 |
| Hearing | 312 | 25.2 | 162 | 24.9 | 150 | 25.5 |
| Speech | 175 | 14.1 | 104 | 16.0 | 71 | 12.1 |
| Physical | 238 | 19.2 | 123 | 18.9 | 115 | 19.6 |
| Intellect | 136 | 11.0 | 76 | 0.2 | 60 | 0.2 |
| Emotion | 139 | 11.2 | 70 | 10.8 | 69 | 11.7 |
| Other | 99 | 8.0 | 59 | 9.1 | 40 | 6.8 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 6.5　Disability by Economic Activity

Table 6.2 gives a detail analysis of persons with disability 15 years and older by economic activity status in the district. The table shows that the total population with disability in the district (15 years and older) is 1,000 with 65.7 percent being employed, 0.9 percent unemployed and 33.2 percent not economically active. The number of male disabled persons 15 years and older is 535, out of which 68 percent are employed, 0.7 percent unemployed and 31.2 percent economically not active. As regards female disabled persons 15 years and older, there are 465 persons, out which 63.4 percent are employed, 1.1 percent unemployed and 35.5 percent not economically 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 |
| **Both Sexes** | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 41,109 | 32,340 | 78.7 | 748 | 1.8 | 8,021 | 19.5 |
| Without disability | 40,109 | 31,681 | 79 | 739 | 1.8 | 7,689 | 19.2 |
| With disability | 1,000 | 659 | 65.9 | 9 | 0.9 | 332 | 33.2 |
| Sight | 447 | 287 | 64.2 | 1 | 0.2 | 159 | 35.6 |
| Hearing | 237 | 154 | 65 | 5 | 2.1 | 78 | 32.9 |
| Speech | 133 | 102 | 76.7 | 3 | 2.3 | 28 | 21.1 |
| Physical | 209 | 123 | 58.9 | 3 | 1.4 | 83 | 39.7 |
| Intellect | 109 | 70 | 64.2 | 1 | 0.9 | 38 | 34.9 |
| Emotion | 113 | 82 | 72.6 | 1 | 0.9 | 30 | 26.5 |
| Other | 77 | 57 | 74 | 0 | 0.0 | 20 | 26.0 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 19,851 | 15,948 | 80.3 | 274 | 1.4 | 3,629 | 18.3 |
| Without disability | 19,316 | 15,584 | 80.7 | 270 | 1.4 | 3,462 | 17.9 |
| With disability | 535 | 364 | 68 | 4 | 0.7 | 167 | 31.2 |
| Sight | 238 | 164 | 68.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 74 | 31.1 |
| Hearing | 123 | 82 | 66.7 | 3 | 2.4 | 38 | 30.9 |
| Speech | 78 | 63 | 80.8 | 1 | 1.3 | 14 | 17.9 |
| Physical | 113 | 69 | 61.1 | 1 | 0.9 | 43 | 38.1 |
| Intellect | 61 | 35 | 57.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 26 | 42.6 |
| Emotion | 57 | 42 | 73.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 15 | 26.3 |
| Other | 44 | 32 | 72.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 12 | 27.3 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 21,258 | 16,392 | 77.1 | 474 | 2.2 | 4,392 | 20.7 |
| Without disability | 20,793 | 16,097 | 77.4 | 469 | 2.3 | 4,227 | 20.3 |
| With disability | 465 | 295 | 63.4 | 5 | 1.1 | 165 | 35.5 |
| Sight | 209 | 123 | 58.9 | 1 | 0.5 | 85 | 40.7 |
| Hearing | 114 | 72 | 63.2 | 2 | 1.8 | 40 | 35.1 |
| Speech | 55 | 39 | 70.9 | 2 | 3.6 | 14 | 25.5 |
| Physical | 96 | 54 | 56.3 | 2 | 2.1 | 40 | 41.7 |
| Intellect | 48 | 35 | 72.9 | 1 | 2.1 | 12 | 25 |
| Emotion | 56 | 40 | 71.4 | 1 | 1.8 | 15 | 26.8 |
| Other | 33 | 25 | 75.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 8 | 25.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 6.6    Disability, Education and Literacy

Education is an important aspect of societal development. It is the process of acquiring knowledge, skills, values and attitudes to fully develop individual capacities for societal well-being. There is a relationship between education, human resource development and economic growth. Table 6.3 shows the population of three years and older by sex, disability type and level of education. Tolon district has a total of 1,300 disabled persons, out of which 696 are males and 604 females. About 75 percent  of all the disables have never attended school, three  percent  had only pre- primary level education, 118 percent  had Basic education, 0.5 had only Senior High School level education, 2.0 percent  had Vocational education and 0.3 percent  tertiary level education.

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

| Sex/Disability type | Total | Never attended | | Pre-Primary[1] | | Basic[2] | | Sec. /SSS /SHS | | Voc./ Tech./ Comm. | | Post Sec[3]. | | Tertiary[4] | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| **Both sexes** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 66,028 | 42,280 | 64.0 | 4,113 | 6.0 | 15,182 | 23.0 | 213 | 0.3 | 1,657 | 3.0 | 128 | 0.2 | 268 | 0.4 |
| No disability | 64,728 | 42,300 | 65.0 | 4,076 | 6.0 | 14,947 | 23.0 | 207 | 0.3 | 1,633 | 3.0 | 123 | 0.2 | 264 | 0.4 |
| With disability | 1,300 | 980 | 75.0 | 37 | 3.0 | 235 | 18.0 | 6 | 0.5 | 24 | 2.0 | 5 | 0.4 | 4 | 0.3 |
| Sight | 528 | 428 | 81.0 | 14 | 3.0 | 78 | 15.0 | 3 | 0.6 | 7 | 1.0 | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.2 |
| Hearing | 324 | 261 | 81.0 | 11 | 3.0 | 46 | 14.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 1.0 | 2 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Speech | 187 | 133 | 71.0 | 11 | 6.0 | 35 | 19.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 6 | 3.0 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Physical | 259 | 198 | 76.0 | 8 | 3.0 | 43 | 17.0 | 2 | 0.8 | 7 | 3.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Intellectual | 147 | 119 | 81.0 | 5 | 3.0 | 19 | 13.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 1.0 | 1 | 0.7 | 1 | 0.7 |
| Emotional | 147 | 114 | 78.0 | 5 | 3.0 | 22 | 15.0 | 1 | 0.7 | 3 | 2.0 | 1 | 0.7 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 111 | 68 | 61.0 | 3 | 3.0 | 32 | 29.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 4.0 | 1 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 32,809 | 19,455 | 59.0 | 2107 | 6.0 | 8,592 | 26.0 | 164 | 0.5 | 1,198 | 4.0 | 92 | 0.3 | 206 | 1.0 |
| No disability | 32,113 | 18,948 | 59.0 | 2085 | 6.0 | 8,462 | 26.0 | 158 | 0.5 | 1,180 | 4.0 | 88 | 0.3 | 204 | 1.0 |
| With a disability | 696 | 507 | 73.0 | 22 | 3.0 | 130 | 19.0 | 6 | 0.9 | 18 | 3.0 | 4 | 0.6 | 2 | 0.0 |
| Sight | 281 | 217 | 77.0 | 8 | 3.0 | 39 | 14.0 | 3 | 1.1 | 7 | 2.0 | 1 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Hearing | 171 | 137 | 80.0 | 6 | 4.0 | 24 | 14.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 1.0 | 2 | 1.2 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Speech | 109 | 82 | 75.0 | 4 | 4.0 | 18 | 17.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 4.0 | 1 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Physical | 142 | 103 | 73.0 | 2 | 1.0 | 29 | 20.0 | 2 | 1.4 | 6 | 4.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Intellectual | 83 | 66 | 80.0 | 2 | 2.0 | 12 | 14.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 | 1.2 | 1 | 1.0 |
| Emotional | 74 | 55 | 74.0 | 3 | 4.0 | 12 | 16.0 | 1 | 1.4 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 | 1.4 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 67 | 38 | 57.0 | 3 | 4.0 | 22 | 33.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 3.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

**Table 6.3: Population 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education (cont'd)**

| Sex/Disability type | Total | Never attended | | Pre-Primary[1] | | Basic[2] | | Sec. /SSS /SHS | | Voc./ Tech./ Comm. | | Post Sec[3]. | | Tertiary[4] | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 33,219 | 23,825 | 72.0 | 2006 | 6.0 | 6,590 | 20.0 | 49 | 0.1 | 459 | 1.4 | 36 | 0.1 | 62 | 0.0 |
| No disability | 32,615 | 23,352 | | 1991 | 6.0 | 6,485 | 20.0 | 49 | 0.2 | 453 | 1.4 | 35 | 0.1 | 60 | 0.0 |
| With a disability | 604 | 473 | | 15 | 2.0 | 105 | 17.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 6 | 1.0 | 1 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.0 |
| Sight | 257 | 211 | | 6 | 2.0 | 39 | 15.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hearing | 153 | 124 | | 5 | 3.0 | 22 | 14.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1.0 |
| Speech | 78 | 51 | | 7 | 9.0 | 17 | 22.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 2.6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1.0 |
| Physical | 117 | 95 | | 6 | 5.0 | 14 | 12.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Intellectual | 64 | 53 | | 3 | 5.0 | 7 | 11.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 1.6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Emotional | 73 | 59 | | 2 | 3.0 | 10 | 14.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 2.7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 44 | 30 | | 0 | 0.0 | 10 | 23.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 4.5 | 1 | 2.3 | 0 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

*Pre-school (Nursery, KG)*
[2] *Basic (Primary, JSS/JHS, Middle)*
[3] *Post Secondary (Post middle/Diploma: Teacher training, University Diploma, HND etc.)*
[4] *Tertiary (Bachelor degree/Post Graduate or higher)*

# CHAPTER SEVEN
# AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

## 7.1    Introduction

Agriculture plays a crucial role in the economy of Ghana as it provides the main source of food, income and employment to most rural household within the country. Ghana's economy is regarded as agrarian, largely due to the sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) generally, labour absorption and to foreign exchange earnings. The contribution of agriculture to foreign exchange earnings averaged 45 percent in the 1990s but dropped to 40 percent in the 2000s (ISSER 2000, 2011).

This chapter analyses the households that are engaged in various agriculture activities, such as; crops cultivation and trees grown, type of cropping and acreages, type of livestock reared and fish farming in the Tolon District. Information collected on agriculture for the 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) was based on households.

## 7.2    Households in Agriculture

Table 7.1 shows the analysis of households by agricultural activities and locality. It indicates that, the Tolon district has 8,110 households. Out of the 7,495 total households engaged in agriculture, 97.5 percent are into crop farming, 74.1 percent into livestock rearing and the least are into fish farming (0.1%). The data is equally segregated in terms of locality. Thus, out of urban household population of 718 engaged in agriculture in the district, majority of these households are into crop farming (90.4%), followed by livestock rearing (59.3%). In the rural areas, majority are into crop farming (98.2), whilst the least are into fish farming (0.1%); and only 9.6 percent of such households are in the urban areas.

**Table 7.1: Households by agricultural activities and locality**

| Agricultural activities | Total | | Urban | | Rural | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total Households | 8,110 | 100.0 | 1,098 | 100.0 | 7,012 | 100.0 |
| Households in Agriculture | 7,495 | 92.4 | 718 | 65.4 | 6,777 | 96.6 |
| Crop Farming | 7,304 | 97.5 | 649 | 90.4 | 6,655 | 98.2 |
| Tree Planting | 51 | 0.7 | 6 | 0.8 | 45 | 0.7 |
| Livestock Rearing | 5,556 | 74.1 | 426 | 59.3 | 5,130 | 75.7 |
| Fish Farming | 4 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 7.3    Types of Farming Activities

Table 7.2 shows the distribution of livestock and keepers within the district. The total number of livestock in the district is 265,570. There are 13,759 keepers of these livestock giving an average of 19 per keeper. Ownership of chicken is the highest (97,855) with 3489 keepers, giving an average of 28 per keeper. The next highest category of livestock is goat (47,466) with 3,824 keepers and an average of 12 per keeper. Snail and marine fishing recorded

nothing. Goat rearing stands at (3,824), followed by sheep rearing (3,296), chicken rearing (3,489), cattle rearing (1,426), pig rearing (29) and guinea fowl rearing (1,359).

**Table 7.2:  Distribution of livestock and keepers**

| Type of animal | Number of livestock | Number of keepers | Average livestock per Keeper |
|---|---|---|---|
| All livestock | 265,570 | 13,759 | 19 |
| Beehives | 430 | 23 | 19 |
| Cattle | 29,655 | 1,426 | 21 |
| Chicken | 97,855 | 3,489 | 28 |
| Dove | 902 | 33 | 27 |
| Duck | 1,345 | 74 | 18 |
| Goat | 47,466 | 3,824 | 12 |
| Grass-cutter | 398 | 25 | 16 |
| Guinea fowl | 38,739 | 1,359 | 29 |
| Ostrich | 923 | 45 | 21 |
| Pig | 641 | 29 | 22 |
| Rabbit | 719 | 44 | 16 |
| Sheep | 45,162 | 3,296 | 14 |
| Silk worm | 346 | 35 | 10 |
| Snail | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Turkey | 104 | 11 | 9 |
| Other | 778 | 42 | 19 |
| Fish farming | 67 | 2 | 34 |
| Inland fishing | 40 | 2 | 20 |
| Marine fishing | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER EIGHT
# HOUSING CONDITIONS

## 8.1    Introduction

The 2010 Ghana Population and Housing Census is the second national census, following the 2000 census, which included a comprehensive housing census. The two censuses provided an official count of all structures (permanent and temporary) within the nation. Among the issues covered were the number of occupied and unoccupied dwelling units, the type of dwelling and the main materials used in house construction, occupancy status, and methods of waste disposal, utilities and household facilities. This chapter therefore discusses in detail the stock of houses and households by type of locality, households and their sizes, ownership status of dwellings by sex of household head, and type of occupied dwellings in the Tolon district. Toilet and bathing facilities and method of waste disposal are looked at in this chapter.

## 8.2    Housing Stock

Table 8.1 shows the stock of houses by type of locality. The total number of houses in Tolon district is 6,691 out of which 952 are located in the urban and 6,691 in the rural areas. The total household population in the district is 71,862 of which 7,949 are in the urban areas and 63,913 in the rural areas. The population per house is 10.9, which is higher than both regional (9.6) and National (7.3) averages. The population per house in the rural settlements is 11.2 and this is higher than that of the urban population per house (8.9). Also, the average household size in rural areas (9.2) is greater than that of the urban (7.7).

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

| Categories | Total country | Region | District Total | District Urban | District Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total population | 24,658,823 | 2,479,461 | 72,990 | 8,459 | 64,531 |
| Total   household population | 24,076,327 | 2,445,061 | 71,862 | 7,949 | 63,913 |
| Number of houses | 3,392,745 | 257,311 | 6,691 | 952 | 5,739 |
| Number of households | 5,467,054 | 318,119 | 8,110 | 1,098 | 7,012 |
| | | | | | |
| Average households per house | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Population per house | 7.3 | 9.6 | 10.9 | 8.9 | 11.2 |
| Average household size | 4.5 | 7.8 | 9.0 | 7.7 | 9.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.3    Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement

The analysis of the ownership status of dwellings by sex of household head and type of locality is shown in Table 8.2. There are 8,110 dwelling units in the district, out of which 94.8 percent are owned by a household member, 0.9 percent by relatives who are not household members. Among the male-headed households 95.2 percent of the dwelling units are owned by a household member compared to 90.4 percent in the case of the female-headed households. The houses being purchased on mortgage constitute 0.2 percent of the district's total dwelling units. Less than one percent of the district's dwellings units are owned by private employer, with 0.4 percent owned by other private agencies and 2.1 percent owned by public/government.

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

| Type of dwelling | Total Country | Region | District Total Number | Percent | Male headed Number | Percent | Female headed Number | Percent | Urban Number | Percent | Rural Number | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** | 5,467,054 | 318,119 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 7,410 | 100.0 | 700 | 100.0 | 1,098 | 100.0 | 7,012 | 100.0 |
| Owned by household member | 2,883,236 | 267,538 | 7,686 | 94.8 | 7,053 | 95.2 | 633 | 90.4 | 822 | 74.9 | 6,864 | 97.9 |
| Being purchased (e.g. mortgage) | 45,630 | 1,352 | 13 | 0.2 | 13 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 10 | 0.9 | 3 | 0.0 |
| Relative not a household member | 851,630 | 16,460 | 76 | 0.9 | 64 | 0.9 | 12 | 1.7 | 21 | 1.9 | 55 | 0.8 |
| Other private individual | 1,439,021 | 24,310 | 112 | 1.4 | 101 | 1.4 | 11 | 1.6 | 80 | 7.3 | 32 | 0.5 |
| Private employer | 83,610 | 1,248 | 6 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 6 | 0.1 |
| Other private agency | 21,123 | 431 | 36 | 0.4 | 26 | 0.4 | 10 | 1.4 | 33 | 3.0 | 3 | 0.0 |
| Public/Government ownership | 118,804 | 5,863 | 173 | 2.1 | 142 | 1.9 | 31 | 4.4 | 131 | 11.9 | 42 | 0.6 |
| Other | 24,000 | 917 | 8 | 0.1 | 6 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.1 | 7 | 0.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.4 Construction Materials

Table 8.3 gives a vivid description and analysis of the materials being used for the outer walls of the various dwelling units in the district. About 85 percent of all dwelling units in the district are either made up of mud brick or earth, with the remaining units made up of blocks or concrete outer walls (8%), and landcrete outer walls (4.2%). The use of metal sheets, slates or asbestos, stones and burnt bricks is less than three percent.

Dwellings with mud bricks/earth outer walls are more prevalent in the rural areas (80.5%) than in the urban centers (51.6%). Also outer walls constructed of cement blocks or concrete are more common in the urban centers (36%) than in the rural areas (3.5%).

**Table 8.3: Main construction material for outer wall of dwelling unit by type of locality**

| Material for outer wall | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | District Urban | District Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 5,817,607 | 339,874 | 8,320 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Mud brick/Earth | 1,991,540 | 247,754 | 7,079 | 85.1 | 51.6 | 80.5 |
| Wood | 200,594 | 5,389 | 123 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.5 |
| Metal sheet/Slate/Asbestos | 43,708 | 1,984 | 30 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| Stone | 11,330 | 1,077 | 18 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.1 |
| Burnt bricks | 38,237 | 647 | 4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Cement blocks/Concrete | 3,342,462 | 64,863 | 669 | 8.0 | 36.0 | 3.5 |
| Landcrete | 104,270 | 10,609 | 356 | 4.3 | 9.2 | 3.5 |
| Bamboo | 8,206 | 285 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Palm leaf/Thatch (grass)/Raffia | 38,054 | 5,894 | 24 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Other | 39,206 | 1,372 | 17 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 8.4 on the other hand indicates the type of material used for constructing the floors of the dwellings in the district. Out of a total dwelling unit of 8,141, cement and concrete floor accounted for 64.4 percent, being the dominant material used for constructing the floor of most dwellings. Dwelling floors constructed with mud and Earth constitutes (34.2%). However, a greater proportion of all dwellings using cement or concrete for flooring are in the urban centers (77.4%).

**Table 8.4: Main construction materials for the floor of dwelling unit by type of locality**

| Materials for the floor | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | District Urban | District Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 5,467,054 | 318,119 | 8,141 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Earth/Mud | 872,161 | 97,678 | 2,784 | 34.2 | 19.7 | 36.5 |
| Cement/Concrete | 4,255,611 | 214,535 | 5,240 | 64.4 | 77.4 | 62.3 |
| Stone | 32,817 | 1,358 | 13 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| Burnt brick | 6,537 | 277 | 9 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Wood | 52,856 | 195 | 2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Vinyl tiles | 57,032 | 510 | 1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Ceramic/Porcelain/Granite/Marble tiles | 88,500 | 2,091 | 60 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 0.7 |
| Terrazzo/Terrazzo tiles | 85,973 | 365 | 13 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| Other | 15,567 | 1,110 | 19 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 |

Table 8.5 illustrates the main material for roofing of dwelling unit by type of locality. Thatch/palm leaf or raffia is the widely used material for roofing (74.1%), followed by metal sheets (17.3%). Less than five percent used mud/mud bricks/earth for roofing in the district but about 1.7 percent used wood as material for roofing. However, 58.5 percent of all dwellings roofed with metal sheets are found in the urban areas and about 10.6 percent in rural areas. Thatch is the most accessible and widely used roofing material with 81.4 percent in the rural areas and 29.8 percent for those in urban.

**Table 8.5: Main construction material for roofing of dwelling unit by type of locality**

| Main Roofing material | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 5,817,607 | 339,874 | 8,320 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Mud/Mud bricks/Earth | 80,644 | 16,434 | 385 | 4.6 | 5.8 | 4.4 |
| Wood | 45,547 | 3,740 | 144 | 1.7 | 0.5 | 1.9 |
| Metal sheet | 4,152,259 | 192,412 | 1,438 | 17.3 | 58.5 | 10.6 |
| Slate/Asbestos | 759,039 | 2,091 | 60 | 0.7 | 4.7 | 0.1 |
| Cement/Concrete | 141,072 | 1,429 | 19 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Roofing tile | 31,456 | 761 | 31 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| Bamboo | 71,049 | 1,137 | 14 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Thatch/Palm leaf or Raffia | 500,606 | 118,517 | 6,167 | 74.1 | 29.8 | 81.4 |
| Other | 35,935 | 3,353 | 62 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.8 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 8.6 gives an analysis of household size and the number of sleeping rooms per dwelling unit. The relationship between the number of rooms and the number of persons give the space available per person. The number of 'sleeping rooms' provides an indication of the extent of overcrowding in households. Overcrowded rooms have health implications arising from, among others, disturbed sleep. More importantly, crowded living conditions increase the risk of the spread of infectious diseases, such as meningococcal disease, tuberculosis and respiratory infections (Whiteford, 1997).

 Considering the hot and humid conditions, overcrowding can lead to psychological distress; lack of tolerance, reduced levels of concentration and can affect mental health. There are 8,110 household in the district. Households with membership of one and two use one sleeping room (48.8 and 24.6 percent respectively). A greater number of seven-member households (30.3% and 25.1%), use three to four sleeping rooms. Similarly, eight and nine member households use three to four sleeping rooms, whilst household with 10 members or more use five sleeping rooms.

**Table 8.6:  Household size and number of sleeping rooms occupied in dwelling unit**

| House-hold size | Households | | Number of sleeping rooms | | | | | | | | Nine rooms or more |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | One room | Two rooms | Three rooms | Four rooms | Five rooms | Six rooms | Seven rooms | Eight rooms | |
| Total | 8,110 | 100.0 | 4.8 | 15.3 | 20.3 | 17.5 | 12.6 | 9.7 | 5.6 | 4.7 | 9.5 |
| 1 | 211 | 100.0 | 48.8 | 14.2 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 5.7 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 1.9 | 7.1 |
| 2 | 224 | 100.0 | 24.6 | 38.8 | 11.2 | 6.7 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 2.2 | 3.1 | 4.0 |
| 3 | 438 | 100.0 | 19.6 | 38.8 | 18.7 | 6.4 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.1 | 5.0 |
| 4 | 517 | 100.0 | 11.0 | 37.3 | 24.4 | 8.1 | 6.2 | 4.6 | 1.4 | 2.7 | 4.3 |
| 5 | 710 | 100.0 | 4.1 | 34.2 | 30.1 | 16.1 | 6.6 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 0.8 | 3.5 |
| 6 | 726 | 100.0 | 2.9 | 25.8 | 32.1 | 18.5 | 8.1 | 5.2 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 3.2 |
| 7 | 765 | 100.0 | 1.7 | 16.3 | 30.3 | 25.1 | 11.6 | 7.1 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 4.1 |
| 8 | 712 | 100.0 | 0.3 | 11.1 | 31.2 | 24.0 | 14.2 | 8.1 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 4.8 |
| 9 | 682 | 100.0 | 0.3 | 6.2 | 24.2 | 28.0 | 14.4 | 12.9 | 3.5 | 4.1 | 6.5 |
| 10+ | 3,125 | 100.0 | 0.6 | 2.6 | 10.7 | 16.7 | 17.9 | 15.1 | 10.5 | 8.5 | 17.4 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.6    Access to Utilities and Household Facilities

This session discuses household access to main source of lighting, household characteristics including type of housing and fuel used for cooking, water and sanitation facilities. Table 8.7 shows that the district is generally rural and businesses such as milling machines, communication centres, internet cafés, and financial institutions among others that thrive on electricity are limited in most parts of the district. With a total of 8,110 household dwellings, only 3,180, representing 39.2 percent are connected to the national grid and as high as 50.4 percent of all the dwelling types use kerosene lamps. A total of 8.3 percent use

**Table 8.7:  Main source of lighting of dwelling unit by type of locality**

| Main source of light | Total country | Region | District | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Total | | Urban | Rural |
| | | | Number | Percent | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 318,119 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Electricity (mains) | 3,511,065 | 114,889 | 3,180 | 39.2 | 72.5 | 34.0 |
| Electricity (private generator) | 36,142 | 2,219 | 45 | 0.6 | 1.3 | 0.4 |
| Kerosene lamp | 971,807 | 134,656 | 4,089 | 50.4 | 22.9 | 54.7 |
| Gas lamp | 9,378 | 860 | 27 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Solar energy | 9,194 | 1,048 | 14 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Candle | 41,214 | 488 | 2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Flashlight/Torch | 858,651 | 60,518 | 676 | 8.3 | 2.4 | 9.3 |
| Firewood | 13,241 | 2,257 | 57 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.7 |
| Crop residue | 4,623 | 759 | 20 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Other | 11,739 | 425 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 8.8 depicts the materials used for cooking and the cooking arrangements in the Tolon district. About 92.3 percent of all the households use fuel wood for cooking, and as low as 0.3 percent depend on electricity for cooking. Use of charcoal constitutes 2.7 percent while gas is only used by 2.2 percent of all the dwellings in the district. The table also shows the cooking space used by households by type of locality. Households with no cooking space account for 1.4 percent of all dwelling units. However, most (72.8%) of the dwelling units

cook in open space within their compound and only 0.5 percent have structures for cooking which are roofed but without walls.

**Table 8.8: Main source of cooking fuel, and cooking space used by households by type of locality**

| Source of cooking fuel/cooking space | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | Urban Number | Urban Percent | Rural Number | Rural Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Main source of cooking fuel** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 318,119 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 1,098 | 100.0 | 7,012 | 100.0 |
| None no cooking | 6,713 | 70 | 0.9 | 23 | 2.1 | 47 | 0.7 |
| Wood | 243,314 | 7,487 | 92.3 | 754 | 68.7 | 6,733 | 96.0 |
| Gas | 10,584 | 182 | 2.2 | 141 | 12.8 | 41 | 0.6 |
| Electricity | 1,396 | 21 | 0.3 | 12 | 1.1 | 9 | 0.1 |
| Kerosene | 1,116 | 47 | 0.6 | 11 | 1.0 | 36 | 0.5 |
| Charcoal | 52,124 | 218 | 2.7 | 148 | 13.5 | 70 | 1.0 |
| Crop residue | 1,804 | 76 | 0.9 | 5 | 0.5 | 71 | 1.0 |
| Saw dust | 515 | 7 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.3 | 4 | 0.1 |
| Animal waste | 84 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 469 | 2 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.0 |
| **Cooking space used** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 318,119 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 1,098 | 100.0 | 7,012 | 100.0 |
| No cooking space | 10,910 | 111 | 1.4 | 44 | 4.0 | 67 | 1.0 |
| Separate room for exclusive use of household | 82,024 | 1,401 | 17.3 | 159 | 14.5 | 1,242 | 17.7 |
| Separate room shared with other household(s) | 10,877 | 253 | 3.1 | 11 | 1.0 | 242 | 3.5 |
| Enclosure without roof | 11,245 | 73 | 0.9 | 5 | 0.5 | 68 | 1.0 |
| Structure with roof but without walls | 11,055 | 42 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.1 | 41 | 0.6 |
| Bedroom/Hall/Living room) | 1,403 | 36 | 0.4 | 17 | 1.5 | 19 | 0.3 |
| Verandah | 34,131 | 238 | 2.9 | 149 | 13.6 | 89 | 1.3 |
| Open space in compound | 155,651 | 5,904 | 72.8 | 708 | 64.5 | 5,196 | 74.1 |
| Other | 823 | 52 | 0.6 | 4 | 0.4 | 48 | 0.7 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.7 Main Source of Water for Drinking and for Other Domestic use

Table 8.9 presents the percentage distribution of households by source of household drinking water. About 49 percent of all households in the District have access to an improved source of drinking water, with majority of access in the urban areas. The most common improved source of drinking water for urban dwellers is piped water. About 1.7 percent of households use water that is piped into their living area and about 10.8 percent use a public tap. The most used source of water for the urban areas is pipe-borne outside dwelling (41.8%).

On the other hand, less than one percent of households in rural areas have access to piped water. Most households (27.4%) in rural areas use borehole/pump/tube well source. However, about 1.2 percent of rural households get their drinking water from unprotected wells or springs.

**Table 8.9: Main source of water of dwelling unit for drinking and other domestic purposes by type of locality**

| Sources of water | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Main source of drinking water** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 318,119 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Pipe-borne inside dwelling | 790,493 | 27,811 | 137 | 1.7 | 11.9 | 0.1 |
| Pipe-borne outside dwelling | 1,039,667 | 38,852 | 579 | 7.1 | 41.8 | 1.7 |
| Public tap/Standpipe | 712,375 | 21,798 | 876 | 10.8 | 19.1 | 9.5 |
| Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well | 1,267,688 | 111,650 | 1,951 | 24.1 | 2.6 | 27.4 |
| Protected well | 321,091 | 17,933 | 408 | 5.0 | 5.3 | 5.0 |
| Rain water | 39,438 | 2,066 | 87 | 1.1 | 2.8 | 0.8 |
| Protected spring | 19,345 | 1,008 | 11 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Bottled water | 20,261 | 233 | 11 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Sachet water | 490,283 | 1,187 | 41 | 0.5 | 2.7 | 0.2 |
| Tanker supply/Vendor provided | 58,400 | 942 | 72 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 1.0 |
| Unprotected well | 112,567 | 13,517 | 104 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 1.2 |
| Unprotected spring | 12,222 | 1,109 | 63 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.9 |
| River/Stream | 502,804 | 55,470 | 1,095 | 13.5 | 1.8 | 15.3 |
| Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal | 76,448 | 24,308 | 2,673 | 33.0 | 9.2 | 36.7 |
| Other | 3,972 | 235 | 2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **Main source of water for other domestic use** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 318,119 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Pipe-borne inside dwelling | 905,566 | 27,698 | 130 | 1.6 | 11.1 | 0.1 |
| Pipe-borne outside dwelling | 1,089,030 | 37,432 | 446 | 5.5 | 31.6 | 1.4 |
| Public tap/Standpipe | 704,293 | 19,390 | 600 | 7.4 | 12.3 | 6.6 |
| Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well | 1,280,465 | 101,815 | 1,779 | 21.9 | 4.4 | 24.7 |
| Protected well | 465,775 | 19,715 | 501 | 6.2 | 10.0 | 5.6 |
| Rain water | 39,916 | 2,182 | 74 | 0.9 | 2.3 | 0.7 |
| Protected spring | 18,854 | 927 | 9 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| Tanker supply/Vendor provided | 100,048 | 1,214 | 12 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| Unprotected well | 152,055 | 13,349 | 151 | 1.9 | 4.3 | 1.5 |
| Unprotected spring | 15,738 | 1,002 | 47 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.6 |
| River/Stream | 588,590 | 63,445 | 1,094 | 13.5 | 2.0 | 15.3 |
| Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal | 96,422 | 29,210 | 3,259 | 40.2 | 20.9 | 43.2 |
| Other | 10,302 | 740 | 8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.8 Bathing and Toilet Facilities

Table 8.10 shows the distribution of bathing and toilet facilities used by household in the district. Majority (78.8%) of households in the district and the Northern Region (72.6%) have no toilet facility. This could have a serious implication on the ability of the district in attaining a Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS). At the heart of CLTS lies the need to provide toilets, a guarantee of their use, and in overall, improve sanitation and hygiene. The proportion of households without any toilet facility is much greater in rural areas (82.2%) than in urban areas (56.6%). Overall, 8.3 percent of households have toilet facilities that are improved and not shared with any other.

**Table 8.10: Bathing facility and toilet facilities used by household**

| Toilet facility /Bathing facility | Total Country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Toilet facility** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 318,119 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No facilities (bush/beach/field) | 1,056,382 | 230,852 | 6,387 | 78.8 | 56.6 | 82.2 |
| W.C. | 839,611 | 7,736 | 96 | 1.2 | 7.7 | 0.2 |
| Pit latrine | 1,040,883 | 9,218 | 212 | 2.6 | 1.7 | 2.8 |
| KVIP | 572,824 | 14,587 | 368 | 4.5 | 8.9 | 3.9 |
| Bucket/Pan | 40,678 | 1,248 | 17 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 0.0 |
| Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit/Pan etc.) | 1,893,291 | 52,704 | 1,011 | 12.5 | 23.1 | 10.8 |
| Other | 23,385 | 1,774 | 19 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 |
| **Bathing facility used by household** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 318,119 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Own bathroom for exclusive use | 1,535,392 | 108,283 | 1,869 | 23.0 | 29.7 | 22.0 |
| Shared separate bathroom in the same house | 1,818,522 | 95,261 | 3,259 | 40.2 | 26.4 | 42.3 |
| Private open cubicle | 381,979 | 22,044 | 530 | 6.5 | 8.3 | 6.3 |
| Shared open cubicle | 1,000,257 | 48,531 | 1,684 | 20.8 | 25.1 | 20.1 |
| Public bath house | 140,501 | 12,409 | 247 | 3.0 | 8.3 | 2.2 |
| Bathroom in another house | 187,337 | 2,646 | 12 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| Open space around house | 372,556 | 27,210 | 489 | 6.0 | 1.2 | 6.8 |
| River/Pond/Lake/Dam | 14,234 | 1,001 | 10 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Other | 16,276 | 734 | 10 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.9    Method of Waste Disposal

As indicated in Table 8.11 about 58.6 percent of household dump their waste in the open and 18 percent of all dwelling units in the district dump their solid waste indiscriminately. Only 1.5 percent of all household dwellings have improved waste disposal method. The 58.6 percent and 18 percent of households that dump waste openly and indiscriminately respectively are found in the rural areas of the district.

The situation is not very different with regard to liquid waste disposal. About 89 percent of households dispose of their liquid waste indiscriminately including, those who throw liquid waste onto the street/outside, those who throw them into gutters and those who throw them on their compounds. About 9.6 percent of total households dispose their waste properly either through the sewage system, drains or soak away.

**Table 8.11: Method of solid and liquid waste disposal by type of locality**

| Waste disposal method | Total country | Total | | District Urban | | District Rural | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| **Solid  waste disposal** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 1,098 | 100.0 | 7,012 | 100.0 |
| Collected | 785,889 | 438 | 5.4 | 156 | 14.2 | 282 | 4.0 |
| Burned by household | 584,820 | 1,013 | 12.5 | 224 | 20.4 | 789 | 11.3 |
| Public dump (container) | 1,299,654 | 122 | 1.5 | 35 | 3.2 | 87 | 1.2 |
| Public dump (open space) | 2,061,403 | 4,752 | 58.6 | 493 | 44.9 | 4,259 | 60.7 |
| Dumped indiscriminately | 498,868 | 1,456 | 18.0 | 113 | 10.3 | 1,343 | 19.2 |
| Buried by household | 182,615 | 200 | 2.5 | 26 | 2.4 | 174 | 2.5 |
| Other | 53,805 | 129 | 1.6 | 51 | 4.6 | 78 | 1.1 |
| **Liquid waste disposal** | | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 8,110 | 100.0 | 1,098 | 100.0 | 7,012 | 100.0 |
| Through the sewerage system | 183,169 | 167 | 2.1 | 43 | 3.9 | 124 | 1.8 |
| Through drainage system into a gutter | 594,404 | 147 | 1.8 | 25 | 2.3 | 122 | 1.7 |
| Through drainage into a pit (soak away) | 167,555 | 459 | 5.7 | 87 | 7.9 | 372 | 5.3 |
| Thrown onto the street/outside | 1,538,550 | 5,135 | 63.3 | 690 | 62.8 | 4,445 | 63.4 |
| Thrown into gutter | 1,020,096 | 279 | 3.4 | 23 | 2.1 | 256 | 3.7 |
| Thrown onto compound | 1,924,986 | 1,860 | 22.9 | 228 | 20.8 | 1,632 | 23.3 |
| Other | 38,294 | 63 | 0.8 | 2 | 0.2 | 61 | 0.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER NINE
# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

## 9.1    Introduction

The 2010 population and housing census is one of the core sources of data for many important developmental issues. It supports public and private sector planning and policy formulation, particularly in areas such as education, housing, transport, medical and social services. This report presents an analysis of the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of the Tolon district of the Northern Region. This chapter provides the summaries of findings, conclusions and policy implications of the 2010 PHC on Tolon District.

## 9.2    Summary of Findings

### 9.2.1    Demographic Characteristics

The 2010 Population and Housing Census, pegs Tolon District's population at 72,990, representing about 2.9 percent of the total population of the Northern Region. The district's sex ratio is 99.3, which implies, for every 100 females, there are 99.3 males in the district. This means the female population is marginally above that of the male. The data also varies in terms of locality as it portrays a predominantly rural population of about 88.4 percent compare to the regional value (69.7%).

The structure of the population is broad base which constitutes a large numbers of children and a conical top making a small number of the aged. This indicates a youthful population with a proportion of the population aged less than 15 years and 20 years assuming 38.1 and 53.5 percent respectively. The proportion of the population under five (17.9%) is significant high as it is made up of infants and children which places  huge burden on the government and the Tolon District Assembly in terms of the provision of health care facilities and drugs for childhood killer diseases such measles, polio and whooping cough. The aged constitute 5.4 percent of the district's population, a value that is relatively high compared to 4.4 percent for the region.

The 2010 PHC also indicates that, the workforce (15-64 years) recorded a little above half (50.9%) of the Districts population whiles the dependents form 49.1%. Thus, the district has a general dependency rate of 96.5 compare to the Northern Region's value of 96.8. This implies that each person within the labour force has almost one person to care for. The dependency ratio however, varies with sex and locality. A high proportion of the migrant population (85%) of the District is born within Northern Region. The number of people who are born in other regions is 13.6 percent and those who are born outside Ghana are 1.4 percent.

In terms of fertility, the District's total female population 12 years and older is 23,009, with a general child survival rate of 80.5 for both sexes. The District has a total fertility rate (TFR) of 3.3, general fertility rate of 93.1 and a crude birth rate of 21.7. These are relatively low compared to the Regional values of 3.5 (TFR), 101.9 (GFR), and 24 (CBR) respectively.

### 9.2.2 Social Characteristics

Headship of households in the district is predominantly male. The total household heads is 8,110 with the proportion of 20.8 percent forming male heads and less than two percent of female heads. The census equally depicts a total household structure of 17,862, where majority (68.5%) of the entire household structures in the District is the extended type. Most of the people (60.2%) within the marital age are married. The never married are 33.6 percent, widows make up 4.4 percent and divorced, one percent. Equally important, more (67.4%) of the employed population of the District are married.

With regards to nationality, the Ghanaians in the District are in the majority (96.2). Also relatively low proportion was recorded for non-Ghanaians (1.7%) which are incidentally identified as the least in the Northern Region.

Additionally, the majority of the literate population (72.9%) can read and write English and Ghanaian Language, which is far higher than the Regions value of 19.2 percent. This is followed by those who speak English only (18.3%), Ghanaian language only (8.4%), English, French, and Ghanaian language (0.4%) with English and French as the least (0.1%).

### 9.2.3 Economic Characteristics

The proportion of the economically active population that is gainfully employed is 97.7 percent as against the unemployed figure of 2.3 percent. Also, the proportion of male is slightly higher (98.3%) than the female (97.2%) in the employed category. The skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery employ most of the people (88.8%), followed by craft and related workers" (4.7%); "Service and sales workers" (3.3%) and the lowest occupation falling within the "Other occupations" category.

The main industry in which employed persons work is identified as "agriculture, forestry and fishery" (87.3%). The proportion of males is however, about six and half percent higher than the female in that industry. The next is manufacturing (5.0%), followed by "wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles" with 3.5 percent; and "accommodation and food service activities" (1.4%). The rest of the industries, have their values fall below two percent.

The District has 57.4 percent of its employed population in the "self-employed without employees". Within this category however, the proportion of males is higher (61.6%) relative to the females (53.3%). The next majority is "contributing family workers" (35.1%). The proportion of the "self-employed with employees" is less than three percent, whiles in each case of "casual workers", "apprentice", "domestic employees (house-helps)" and "others" fell below one percent. The private informal sector constitutes about 97 percent of the employed population, followed by the public sector (Government) with only two percent, and the private formal forms one percent. Each of the other sectors forms less than one percent.

Majority (90.4%) of the households within the district engaged in agriculture were mostly in the rural areas and of all the agricultural households in the district, 97.5 percent were engaged in crop farming with the rest into livestock rearing, tree planting and fish farming.

### 9.2.4   Information Communication Technology

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) have become important tools in today's knowledge-based information society and economy and this is reflected in the observed numbers and proportions of the population with access to mobile phones and internet facilities as well as household ownership of computers and fixed telephone lines. The district records 15.7 percent of the population aged 12 years and older owning mobile phones. Mobile phone ownership for males is higher than females. Only 2.3 percent of households in the district had fixed telephone lines, and have access to internet facility. The low rate of usage of internet facilities in the district in general could be due to low penetration of these services in the district and the rural nature of the district.

### 9.2.5   Disability

People with Disabilities (PWDs) accounted for 1.9 percent of the district's total population. Majority of these Persons with Disabilities were in the rural areas of the district accounting for about 91 percent of the total disable population. Thus, proportionately, there are more PWDs in rural than urban areas. Visual or sight impairment accounted for 41 percent of all the disability reported.

The educational attainment of the PWDs is generally low. While 75 percent of PWDs cannot read or write in any language, 25 percent is literate. Less than five percent of all PWDs, district wide, have an education beyond secondary school. Most of the PWD (65%) in the District are employed, only 0.9 percent of them are unemployed and 33.2 percent of them not economically active. There more employed male disable than female. Visual impairment is the highest form of disability in the district.

### 9.2.6   Housing Condition

The number of households per house was 1.2, and the average number of persons per house was 10.9 persons which is higher than that of the national figure of 7.3. One-half (54.4%) of dwellings had only one sleeping room. 94.8 percent of dwelling units were owned by a member residing in the household while 1.4 percent  was owned by a private individual who was not a member of the household.

Thirty nine percent reported using electricity as the main source of power for lighting. The proportions were 72.5 percent for urban areas and 34.5 percent for rural. This disparity between rural and urban areas in access to electricity has had implications for the access to and use of other facilities and services. For instance, the lack of electricity could be partly responsible for the low proportion of households in rural areas who use computers and the internet. The proportion with exclusive cooking space in the household was about 32%. The three main sources of energy for household cooking were firewood, charcoal, and gas. Furthermore, 19.6 percent of dwelling units had access to pipe-borne water as the main source of drinking water. Sanitation and the availability of toilet facilities were reported to be either poor or inadequate. For instance, 1.2 percent of dwelling units had access to WC and 12.5 percent use public toilet.

The main modes of solid waste disposal were public dump site (58.6%) and by burning (12.5%). Eighteen percent of dwelling units dumped their solid waste indiscriminately. The housing stock, quality of materials used for building houses and the provision of utilities is far short of the needs of the growing population in both urban and rural areas. Generally, the district's housing conditions were poor in nearly all areas including, poor access to improved water sources, poor or non-existent drainage and poor sanitation reflected in inadequate,

cooking, bathing and toilet facilities. Most of the district's households still relied on wood or charcoal for cooking. The high cost of gas and occasional shortages of the product have undermined a decisive shift away from charcoal to gas as the dominant source of energy for cooking especially in the urban areas of the district. The reliance on fuel wood and charcoal for cooking, especially in the savannah zone has implications for the environment.

## 9.3    Conclusion

The population in the District is largely youthful with the potential of further growth in the near future. Migration to the district is predominantly of persons born elsewhere in the region. Level of education in the district is relatively higher than that of the Region. Households in the district are predominantly male-headed. Household sizes are fairly large in the district with larger households in the rural areas than the urban areas. The common type of household in both the urban and rural localities of the district is the extended type. Access to ICT is extremely low in the district in all aspects of ownership of mobile phone, use of the internet, access to telephone lines and ownership of computers and laptops. The prevalence of disability is quite low in the district. The major forms of disability are visual impairment and hearing disability. Persons with disability are highest among men.

Majority of the people are self-employed without employee. Such employment hardly creates employment for others. Levels of unemployment are low in the district and more characteristic of the urban localities. The higher rate of unemployment is among younger age groups.  Agricultural is the predominant economic activity in the district. Over 90.4 percent of households in the district are engaged in agricultural activities mostly crop farming producing mainly crops like maize, rice, yams groundnut and livestock rearing. It means that this sector of the local economy, if well-resourced and effectively managed could provide job opportunities for the youth.

The common type of dwelling is the compound house and the majority of households occupy one to two rooms.  Majority of houses in the district are of poor quality, built mainly of mud bricks/earth. Access to utility facilities such as water and electricity is limited. Similarly household facilities such as toilet and bath facilities as well as the disposal of solid and liquid waste are also limited.

## 9.4    Policy Implications

The district has a predominantly rural population of about 88.4 percent compared to the Regional value (69.7%). This situation calls for serious attention as it could be one of the reasons behind the migration of the youth especially girls to cities such as Accra in search non-existing jobs and better lives. It therefore, requires a deliberate policy by the Government and the Tolon District Assembly to help bridge the rural-urban gap through the provision of infrastructure and social amenities such as better roads, school, portable water, rural electrification among others.

The youthful nature of the district's population and the subsequent high dependency ratio (96.5%) implies that the Tolon District has a relatively low labour force. Stakeholders such as the Government, in collaboration with the Tolon District Assembly need to increase the number of schools, especially at the secondary level, and also create job opportunities to accommodate the youthful population in order to enhance their effective contribution to the economic growth of the District and the Country at large.

The significant proportion of infants and children (17.9%) places huge burden on the government and the Tolon District Assembly in terms of the provision of health care facilities and drugs for childhood killer diseases such as measles, polio and whooping cough. The government in collaboration with other stakeholders need to double their efforts towards providing educational and recreational facilities such as school infrastructure in order to meet the demands of the Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE) policy as well as the Millennium Development Goal two (MDG$_2$). The aged constitutes 5.4 percent of the district population, a value that is relatively high compared to 4.4 percent of the regional figure. This condition equally calls for social protection and health improvement polices to enhance the lives of the old in the district.

The district has very low literacy levels (35.5%). This could negatively impact development generally, and the use of Information Communication Technology such as the internet in particular. The Ministry of Education, the District Education Directorate and other relevant stakeholders should work together to create an enabling environment for the improvement of education in the district. People should be encouraged to send their children to school and ensure that they complete at least secondary education. The establishment of more secondary schools is key to enhancing continuity in the educational ladder as most people tend to end at the basic level (54%).

One worrying issue is about single parenthood. The census recorded a sum above nine percent. This could be a sign of increasing divorce cases or rising teenage pregnancy problem. Educating people through the Traditional Authorities, mosques and churches on the negative consequences of divorce and teenage pregnancy, and irresponsible parenting could help reduce this menace.

Huge numbers of the economically active population in the district live in the rural areas mostly working in the area of agriculture, forestry and fishery (87.3%) and own-account sector. Own account workers and contributing family workers have been described by the International Labour Organisation as vulnerable employment. The insecurity in these sectors has served as push factors forcing the youth to migrate to the southern part of the country in search of greener pastures. The Government and the District Assemblies should be encouraged to go into partnership with the private sector to set up agro-based industries and other manufacturing industries to help reduce poverty. As regards crops that are cultivated in the region, it is interesting to note that the number of sheanut farms is nothing to write about. This is to say that most of the sheanuts are picked from the wild. It is therefore recommended that the cooperative organizations should organize the women not only to pick the nuts from the wild but also to go into the cultivation of the sheanut plant.

Internet usage is linked first and foremost to the availability and regular supply of electricity. To increase the use of Internet and its coverage within the district, government, especially the District Assembly need to improve upon the rural electrification project currently ongoing to ensure that most communities are connected to the national grid and also ensure a business friendly environment in the district.

Access to education is key to national and personal development for all persons. Efforts must be made to improve the educational attainment of PWDs. This should include the establishment of special schools for children with disability, giving support services to persons with disabilities. The government needs to ensure that more Skill Development Training Centres are built and well equipped.

Agricultural growth and development require investment and technology. With them huge productivity gains are possible. According to the Ghana Living Standards Surveys, people involved in agriculture and rural communities are poorer than any other group (Ghana Statistical Service, 2007). Any policy to deal with poverty will need to target rural areas where the majority of the agricultural population resides. That is, government must continue to subsidize agriculture inputs for the rural farmer as well as reduce the cost of credit given for agriculture purposes.

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# APPENDICES

**Table A1: Household Composition by type of locality**

| | | | District | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | | Urban | | Rural | |
| Household Composition | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 8,110 | 100.0 | 1,098 | 100.0 | 7,012 | 100.0 |
| **Nuclear family** | | | | | | |
| Head only | 211 | 2.6 | 91 | 8.3 | 120 | 1.7 |
| Household with head and biological/adopted children only | 238 | 2.9 | 61 | 5.6 | 177 | 2.5 |
| Household with head and a spouse only | 67 | 0.8 | 12 | 1.1 | 55 | 0.8 |
| Household with head and multiple spouse only | - | 0.0 | - | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Household with head spouse(s) and biological/adopted children only | 1,764 | 21.8 | 180 | 16.4 | 1,584 | 22.6 |
| **Extended family** | | | | | | |
| Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only | 4,447 | 54.8 | 400 | 36.4 | 4,047 | 57.7 |
| Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head | 114 | 1.4 | 23 | 2.1 | 91 | 1.3 |
| Household with head spouse(s) and other composition | 167 | 2.1 | 20 | 1.8 | 147 | 2.1 |
| Household with head biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only | 670 | 8.3 | 133 | 12.1 | 537 | 7.7 |
| Household with head biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head | 20 | 0.2 | 3 | 0.3 | 17 | 0.2 |
| Household with head and other composition but no spouse | 412 | 5.1 | 175 | 15.9 | 237 | 3.4 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

| S/No | Community Name | Sex | | | House holds | Houses |
|------|----------------|-------|------|--------|-------------|--------|
| | | Total | Male | Female | | |
| 1 | Nyankpala | 8,459 | 4,480 | 3,979 | 1,098 | 952 |
| 2 | Tolon | 3,753 | 1,848 | 1,905 | 476 | 437 |
| 3 | Kasuliyili | 2,531 | 1,201 | 1,330 | 310 | 215 |
| 4 | Gundaa | 2,401 | 1,120 | 1,281 | 236 | 147 |
| 5 | Kpendua | 2,311 | 1,057 | 1,254 | 285 | 174 |
| 6 | Lungbunga | 2,117 | 999 | 1,118 | 217 | 181 |
| 7 | Wantugu | 2,071 | 1,040 | 1,031 | 211 | 177 |
| 8 | Tali | 1,868 | 900 | 968 | 209 | 184 |
| 9 | Yoggo | 1,805 | 936 | 869 | 184 | 161 |
| 10 | Gburimani | 1,804 | 811 | 993 | 164 | 145 |
| 11 | Chirifoyili | 1,779 | 866 | 913 | 201 | 156 |
| 12 | Gbulahagu | 1,454 | 769 | 685 | 173 | 144 |
| 13 | Tingoli | 1,406 | 759 | 647 | 181 | 140 |
| 14 | Yepelgu | 1,364 | 700 | 664 | 119 | 109 |
| 15 | Dimabi No.3 Yipala | 1,236 | 587 | 649 | 122 | 101 |
| 16 | Nambulegu | 1,155 | 557 | 598 | 101 | 80 |
| 17 | Tunayili | 1,112 | 595 | 517 | 105 | 79 |
| 18 | Kpaligun | 1,000 | 561 | 439 | 105 | 101 |
| 19 | Kunguri | 973 | 470 | 503 | 107 | 74 |
| 20 | Gbanjong | 905 | 459 | 446 | 116 | 87 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

| S/No. | Community Name | All ages | 0-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | 50-54 | 55-59 | 60-64 | 65-69 | 70-74 | 75+ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Age Group | |
| 1 | Nyankpala | 8,459 | 1,189 | 1,011 | 852 | 884 | 1,148 | 884 | 525 | 403 | 324 | 273 | 248 | 142 | 177 | 73 | 113 | 213 |
| 2 | Tolon | 3,753 | 641 | 557 | 406 | 363 | 380 | 238 | 236 | 194 | 148 | 132 | 95 | 67 | 78 | 49 | 69 | 100 |
| 3 | Kasuliyili | 2,531 | 489 | 420 | 244 | 273 | 195 | 189 | 156 | 121 | 109 | 71 | 85 | 23 | 51 | 29 | 42 | 34 |
| 4 | Gundaa | 2,401 | 427 | 383 | 269 | 259 | 185 | 198 | 123 | 122 | 96 | 79 | 38 | 28 | 31 | 33 | 51 | 79 |
| 5 | Kpendua | 2,311 | 394 | 393 | 234 | 244 | 229 | 142 | 165 | 116 | 104 | 54 | 74 | 16 | 68 | 13 | 29 | 36 |
| 6 | Lungbunga | 2,117 | 398 | 369 | 222 | 176 | 132 | 169 | 106 | 123 | 91 | 50 | 55 | 25 | 38 | 41 | 39 | 83 |
| 7 | Wantugu | 2,071 | 341 | 354 | 222 | 219 | 185 | 165 | 134 | 100 | 91 | 47 | 47 | 19 | 30 | 40 | 35 | 42 |
| 8 | Tali | 1,868 | 321 | 264 | 207 | 188 | 164 | 134 | 109 | 97 | 68 | 62 | 67 | 24 | 51 | 26 | 40 | 46 |
| 9 | Yoggo | 1,805 | 335 | 259 | 163 | 173 | 149 | 136 | 103 | 97 | 80 | 46 | 57 | 24 | 41 | 20 | 40 | 82 |
| 10 | Gburimani | 1,804 | 350 | 302 | 187 | 155 | 162 | 151 | 97 | 87 | 73 | 56 | 45 | 15 | 35 | 17 | 23 | 49 |
| 11 | Chirifoyili | 1,779 | 334 | 281 | 182 | 186 | 164 | 149 | 79 | 57 | 79 | 43 | 82 | 21 | 34 | 16 | 21 | 51 |
| 12 | Gbulahagu | 1,454 | 278 | 243 | 187 | 121 | 99 | 93 | 95 | 71 | 70 | 42 | 46 | 18 | 22 | 16 | 21 | 32 |
| 13 | Tingoli | 1,406 | 212 | 197 | 197 | 140 | 133 | 100 | 118 | 47 | 58 | 49 | 35 | 16 | 48 | 9 | 19 | 28 |
| 14 | Yepelgu | 1,364 | 260 | 212 | 150 | 126 | 126 | 94 | 85 | 63 | 64 | 39 | 26 | 22 | 26 | 15 | 23 | 33 |
| 15 | Dimabi No.3 Yipala | 1,236 | 240 | 204 | 129 | 106 | 99 | 94 | 82 | 55 | 45 | 25 | 32 | 7 | 29 | 21 | 36 | 32 |
| 16 | Nambulegu | 1,155 | 256 | 185 | 112 | 102 | 105 | 114 | 63 | 46 | 31 | 34 | 35 | 17 | 20 | 15 | 6 | 14 |
| 17 | Tunayili | 1,112 | 282 | 153 | 112 | 98 | 80 | 65 | 61 | 43 | 60 | 18 | 29 | 8 | 32 | 9 | 25 | 37 |
| 18 | Kpaligun | 1,000 | 149 | 163 | 111 | 106 | 101 | 49 | 46 | 54 | 45 | 27 | 32 | 22 | 22 | 16 | 26 | 31 |
| 19 | Kunguri | 973 | 217 | 157 | 91 | 101 | 66 | 77 | 62 | 57 | 31 | 21 | 24 | 5 | 22 | 5 | 16 | 21 |
| 20 | Gbanjong | 905 | 169 | 130 | 87 | 104 | 77 | 68 | 67 | 43 | 32 | 29 | 24 | 15 | 12 | 8 | 14 | 26 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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