



2010

POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

BONGO DISTRICT



Canada 

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK
DANIDA | INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

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

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

The District Analytical Report for the Bongo 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.

Dr. Philomena Nyarko
Government Statistician

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	viii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	ix
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Physical Features.....	1
1.3 Political Administration	2
1.4 Cultural and Social structure	2
1.5 Economy.....	4
1.6 Census Methodology, Concepts and Definitions	5
1.7 Organization of the Report.....	15
CHAPTER TWO: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS	16
2.1 Introduction	16
2.2 Population Size and Distribution	16
2.3 Age and sex structure, sex and dependency ratios	16
2.4 Fertility, Mortality and Migration	18
CHAPTER THREE: SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS	24
3.1 Introduction	24
3.2 Household Size, Household Composition and Headship.....	24
3.3 Marital Status	26
3.4 Nationality.....	31
3.5 Religious Affiliation.....	31
3.6 Literacy and Education.....	32
CHAPTER FOUR: ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS	36
4.1 Introduction	36
4.2 Economic Activity Status.....	36
4.3 Occupation	38
4.4 Industry.....	39
4.5 Employment status	40
4.6 Employment sector.....	41
CHAPTER FIVE: INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY	42
5.1 Introduction	42
5.2 Ownership of Mobile Phones	42
5.3 Use of internet	42
CHAPTER SIX: DISABILITY	44
6.1 Introduction	44
6.2 Population with Disability.....	44
6.3 Type of Disability.....	44
6.4 Distribution by Type of Locality (urban/rural)	45
6.5 Disability and Economic Activity	46
6.6 Disability and Education	46
CHAPTER SEVEN: AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES	49
7.1 Introduction	49
7.2 Households in Agriculture	49
7.3 Types of Livestock and other Animals Reared	50

CHAPTER EIGHT: HOUSING CONDITIONS.....	52
8.1 Introduction	52
8.2 Housing Stock	52
8.3 Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement.....	53
8.4 Construction Materials	54
8.5 Room Occupancy	56
8.6 Access to Utilities and Household Facilities.....	57
8.7 Main source of water for drinking and for other domestic use	60
8.8 Bathing and Toilet Facilities	62
8.9 Methods of Waste Disposal.....	64
CHAPTER NINE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	66
9.1 Summary of Findings	66
9.2 Conclusions	69
9.3 Recommendations	70
REFERENCES.....	72
APPENDICES	73
LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS	75

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Population by age, sex and type of locality	17
Table 2.2: Reported total fertility rate, general fertility rate and crude birth rate by district .	19
Table 2.3: Children ever born and children surviving by age of woman and sex of child	20
Table 2.4: Total population, deaths in households and crude death rate by district	21
Table 2.5: Cause of death by district	21
Table 2.6: Birthplace by duration of residence of migrants.....	23
Table 3.1: Household size by locality of residence	24
Table 3.2: Household population by composition and sex	25
Table 3.3: Household population by structure and sex.....	26
Table 3.4: Persons 12 years and older by sex, age-group and marital status.....	28
Table 3.5: Persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and level of education	29
Table 3.6: Persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and economic activity status ...	30
Table 3.7: Population by nationality and sex.....	31
Table 3.8: Population by religion and sex	31
Table 3.9: Population 11 years and older by sex, age and literacy status.....	33
Table 3.10: Population 3 years and older by level of education, school attendance and sex ...	35
Table 4.1: Population 15 years and older by activity status and sex	37
Table 4.2: Economic activity status of population 15 years and older by sex and age	38
Table 4.3: Employed population 15 years and older by occupation and sex.....	39
Table 4.4: Employed population 15 years and older by industry and sex	40
Table 4.5: Employed population 15 years and older by employment status and sex	41
Table 4.6: Employed population 15 years and older by employment sector and sex.....	41
Table 5.1: Population 12 years and older by mobile phone ownership, internet facility usage, and sex.....	42
Table 5.2: Households having desktop/laptop computers and sex of head	43
Table 6.1: Population by type of locality, disability type and sex	45
Table 6.2: Persons 15 years and older with disability by economic activity status and sex...	46
Table 6.3: Population 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education	48
Table 7.1: Households by agricultural activities and locality	50
Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock, other animals and keepers.....	51
Table 8.1: Stock of houses and household by type of locality.....	52
Table 8.2: Type of occupied dwelling unit by sex of household head and type of locality ...	53
Table 8.3: Ownership status of dwelling by sex of household head and type of locality.....	54
Table 8.4: Main construction material for outer wall of dwelling unit by type of locality	55
Table 8.5: Main construction materials for the floor of dwelling unit by type of locality	55
Table 8.6: Main construction material for roofing of dwelling unit by type of locality.....	56
Table 8.7: Household size and number of sleeping rooms occupied in dwelling unit	57
Table 8.8: Main source of lighting of dwelling unit by type of locality.....	58
Table 8.9: Main source of cooking fuel, and cooking space used by households	60
Table 8.10: Main source of water of dwelling unit for drinking and other domestic purposes	61
Table 8.11: Type of toilet facility and bathing facility used by household by type of locality	64
Table 8.12: Method of solid and liquid waste disposal by type of locality	65
Table A1: Population by sex, number of Households and houses in the 20 largest communities.....	73
Table A2: Population by age group in the 20 largest communities.....	74

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Map of Bongo District.....	3
Figure 2.1: Population pyramid	18
Figure 2.2: Reported age specific death rates by sex.....	22
Figure 3.1: Marital status of persons 12 years and older	27
Figure 3.2: Reported literacy status of population 11 years and older	32
Figure 4.1: Economic activity status of the population 15 years and older	36
Figure 7.1: Households engaged in agriculture by locality	49
Figure 7.2: Distribution of heads of agricultural households by age and type of locality	50
Figure 8.1: Main source of lighting in dwelling unit.....	57
Figure 8.2: Main source of cooking fuel.....	59
Figure 8.3: Main sources of drinking water.....	61
Figure 8.4: Type of toilet facility use by households.....	63

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CHPS	Community-Based Health Planning and Services
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DHMT	District Health Management Team
DPs	Development Partners
EA	Enumeration Area
GDHS	Ghana Demography Health Survey
GSGDA	Ghana Shared Growth Development Agenda
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
ICT	Information Communication Technology
JHS	Junior High School
JSS	Junior Secondary School
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
MTDPF	Medium-Term Development Policy Framework
NCCE	National Commission on Civic Education
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission
PHC	Population and Housing Census
PWDs	Persons with disabilities
SHS	Senior High School
SSS	Senior Secondary School
UN	United Nations
WC	Water Closet

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 Bongo District is 84,545 representing 8.1 percent of the region's total population. Females constitute 52.4 percent and males represent 47.6 percent. Ninety four percent of the population is in the rural areas. The district has a sex ratio of 90 males per 100 females. The population of the district is youthful (42.7%) depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a fairly small number of elderly persons (9.7%) who are 60 years and older. The total age dependency ratio for the District is 99.2, the age dependency ratio for males is higher (113.6) than that of females (87.7).

Fertility, mortality and migration

The Total Fertility Rate for the district 3.6. The General Fertility Rate is 101 births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 23.4 per 1,000 population. The crude death rate for the district is 12.9 per 1,000. Accident/violence/homicide/suicide accounted for 5.6 percent of all deaths while other causes constitute 94.4 percent of deaths in the district. Majority of migrants (38.2%) living in the district were born in another region while 56.7 percent were born elsewhere in the Upper East Region. For migrants born in another region, those born in Ashanti constitute 19.6 percent followed by Brong Ahafo with 5.0 percent and Northern, 4.2 percent.

Household Size, composition and structure

There are total of 15,188 households in the District. The average household size in the district is 5.5 persons per household. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household structure accounting for 43.4 percent. Spouses form about 8.5 percent. Nuclear households (head, spouse(s) and children) constitute 17.2 percent of the household population in the district.

Marital status

About 46.0 percent of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 40.2 percent have never married, and 11.6 percent are widowed. More than fifty percent of females in the age groups between 20-54 years are married. Among the married, 75.0 percent have never been to school while 17.2 percent of the never married have never been to school. More than three quarters of the married population (85.1%) are employed, 2.0 percent are unemployed and 12.9 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who have never married (52.3%) are economically not active.

Nationality

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the district is 96.1 percent. Those who have naturalised constitute 0.6 percent and the non-Ghanaian population in the district is 1.6 percent.

Literacy and education

Of the population 11 years and older, 47.7 percent are literate and 52.3 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (53.1 %) than that of females (46.9%). Thirty six percent indicated they could read and write both English and Ghanaian languages. Of the population 3 years and above (77,722) in the district, 42.6 percent had never attended school, 44.2 percent are currently attending school and 13.2 percent had attended in the past.

Economic Activity Status

About 75.0 percent of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active while 25.0 per cent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 97.2 percent are employed while 2.8 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a larger percentage of them are in full time education (40.5%), 27.1% perform household duties and 8.1 percent are disabled or too sick to work. Four out of ten unemployed are seeking work for the first time.

Occupation

Of the employed population, about 72.6 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 5.3 percent in service and sales, 15.5 percent in craft and related trade, and 3.4 percent are engaged as managers, professionals, and technicians and associate professionals.

Employment status and sector

Of the population 15 years and older 59.5 percent are self-employed without employees, 31.0 percent are contributing family workers, 0.8 percent are casual workers and 1.0 percent are domestic employees (house helps). The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district, employing 95.5 percent of the population followed by the public sector with 3.2 percent.

Information Communication Technology

Of the population 12 years and older, 16.6 percent have mobile phones. Males who own mobile phones constitute 21.2 as compared to 12.7 percent of females. One percent of the population 12 years and older used internet facilities in the district. Only 191 households representing 1.3 percent of the total households in the district has desktop/laptop computers.

Disability

About 4.8 percent of the district's total population has one form of disability or the other. The proportion of the male population with disability is slightly higher (5.0%) than females (4.7%). The types of disability in the district include sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, and emotion. Persons with sight disability recorded the highest of 38.5 percent followed by physical disability (23.3%). About 5.6 percent of the population in urban localities are with disability. A high proportion of the population with disabilities (71.4%) had never been to school.

Agriculture

As high as 95.7 percent of households in the district are engaged in agriculture. In the rural localities, 97.3 percent of households are in agriculture while in the urban localities, 76.0 percent of households are into agriculture. Most households in the district (98.8%) are involved in crop farming. Poultry (chicken) is the most dominant livestock farming activity in the district.

Housing

The housing stock of Bongo District is 10,352 representing 9.1 percent of the total number of houses in the Upper East Region. The average number of persons per house is 8.1.

Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

More than fifty percent (50.3%) of all dwelling units in the district are compound houses; 27.1 percent are separate houses and 3.3 percent are semi-detached houses. Ninety-five percent of the dwelling units in the district are owned by members of the household and 2.1 percent are owned by private individuals. Only 1.5 percent of dwelling units are owned by public or government.

Material for construction of outer wall, floor and roof

The main construction material for outer walls of dwelling units in the district is mud/mud bricks or earth accounting for 91.7 percent with cement/concrete constituting 5.7 percent of outer walls of dwelling units in the district. Cement/concrete (63.0%) and mud/earth (34.5%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the district. Metal sheets are the main roofing material (74.3%) for dwelling units in the district.

Room occupancy

About 20.5 percent of households with two members occupy single rooms while 37.6 percent 26.3 percent occupy two and three sleeping rooms respectively. Four rooms constitute the highest percentage (22.7) of sleeping rooms occupied by households with 10 or more members.

Utilities and household facilities

The three main sources of lighting in dwelling units in the district are kerosene lamp (64.8%), flashlight/torch (20.3%) and electricity (11.5%). The two main sources of fuel for cooking for most households in the district is crop residue (53.7%) and wood (39.2%). The main source of drinking water in the district is borehole (80.3%), followed by protected well (8.0%), pipe borne outside dwelling (2.9%) and river/stream (2.4%).

Most households (89.9%) have no toilet facilities (bush/field etc.) in the district. Public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit, Pan) is used by 3.1 percent of households and 2.8 percent of households used KVIP. More than fifty percent of households (52.9%) have own bathrooms for exclusive use. Households which use open space around house account for 15.5 percent and private open cubicle, 14.7 percent.

Waste disposal

The various methods by which households in the District disposed of solid waste include, dumping in open space at public dumps (25.1%), burning (24.4%) and collected (17.9%). Households which dump solid waste indiscriminately account for 7.5 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste onto the street/outside (71.7%) and onto the compound (19.3%) are the two most common methods used by households in the district.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Bongo District is one of the 13 districts in the Upper East Region. It was created by Legislative Instrument 1446 (LI 1446) in 1988 with Bongo as its capital. The district lies between longitudes 0.45° W and latitude 10.50° N to 11.09 and has a total land area of 459.5 square kilometres. The Bongo District shares boundaries with Burkina Faso to the north, Kassena-Nankana East to the west, Bolgatanga Municipal to the south west and Nabdam District to south east. The district lies within the Oncho-cerciasis-freed zone.

1.2 Physical Features

1.2.1 Climate and vegetation

The climate of the district is similar to that experienced in other parts of the Upper East Region. Mean monthly temperature is about 21°C. Very high temperatures of up to 40°C occur just before the onset of the single rainy season in June and low temperatures of about 12°C can be experienced in December when desiccating winds from the Sahara dry up the vegetation. During the dry season ideal conditions are created for bush fires, which have become an annual phenomenon in the area. The district has an average of some 70 – rain days in a year with rainfall ranging between 600mm and 1400mm. The rains fall heavily within short periods of time, flooding the fields and eroding soils into rivers. However, the fields dry up soon after the rainy season.

1.2.2 Geology and minerals

Granite rocks lie under the entire Bongo District. They have well-developed fractures, which make the drilling of boreholes and wells possible. The granite rocks obtrude all over the landscape and could be a source of material for the construction industry. These granite rocks are coloured pink, coarse grained and potassium rich. Hornblende and a little biotite are some of the constituent primary minerals in the district.

The granite has a rectangular joining and weathers into large upstanding masses and blocky-perched boulders. The Bongo hill rises several hundreds of meters above the surrounding land with steep and craggy sides. The rocks could be a source of tourist attraction with revenue accruing to the district assembly and people.

1.2.3 Soil characteristics

The Bongo group of soils is developed from the Bongo granites. They are characterized by numerous groves of baobab trees. The parent materials of the soils have been known to be very productive due to the high potash and phosphate content. Human population densities are high in the district and owing to long periods of intensive farming accompanied by mismanagement of the land, soil exhaustion and erosion are prevalent.

Generally, the Bongo soils consist of about 3 inches of very slightly human stained, crumbly coarse sandy loam overlying reddish brown, fine blocky, very coarse sandy loam containing occasional incompletely weathered feldspar particles. It grades below into red, mottled pink and yellow coarse sandy clay loam of partially decomposed granite.

1.2.4 Ecological zone

The district lies within the Northern Savannah Zone with one rainy season. The amount of rainfall in the district is offset by the intense drought that precedes the rain and by the very high rate of evaporation that is estimated at 168 cm per annum. The vegetation is that of the Guinea Savannah type. Rivers and streams dry up during the dry season and the vegetation withers. During this period, farming activities are halted and livestock starve resulting in severe loss of animal weight, which in turn, affects household income.

1.3 Political Administration

The Bongo District Assembly was created by a Legislative Instrument (LI 1446) in 1988 with the mission to improve upon the quality of lives of its people through the creation of an enabling environment, harnessing of its resources, proper co-ordination and integration of its activities within the framework of national policies. The district has one constituency, seven (7) Area Councils and fifty-one (51) Unit Committees.

To promote and ensure efficient and effective performance of its functions, in line with its mission, the Assembly is headed by the District Chief Executive (DCE) who is nominated by the president and approved by a two-thirds majority of the Assembly Members present and voting. The Assembly has a total membership of fifty-four (54). Two-thirds of the members are directly elected. The other one-third is appointed by the Central Government. The Member of Parliament is an ex-officio member of the Assembly.

1.4 Cultural and Social structure

1.4.1 History

Historically, the people of Bongo trace their roots to the Mamprugu Kingdom in the Northern Region of Ghana. The district is multi-ethnic, with the Bossis and Gurunsis as major ethnic groups. The Bossis are heirs to the paramouncy and are enskined by the Nayiri, the overlord of the Mamprugu kingdom. There are also Tindanas who hail from Zorko, Namoo and other settlements. Two major languages are spoken in the district; these are Bonni which is spoken by the Bossis and Guruni which is spoken by the Gurunsis.

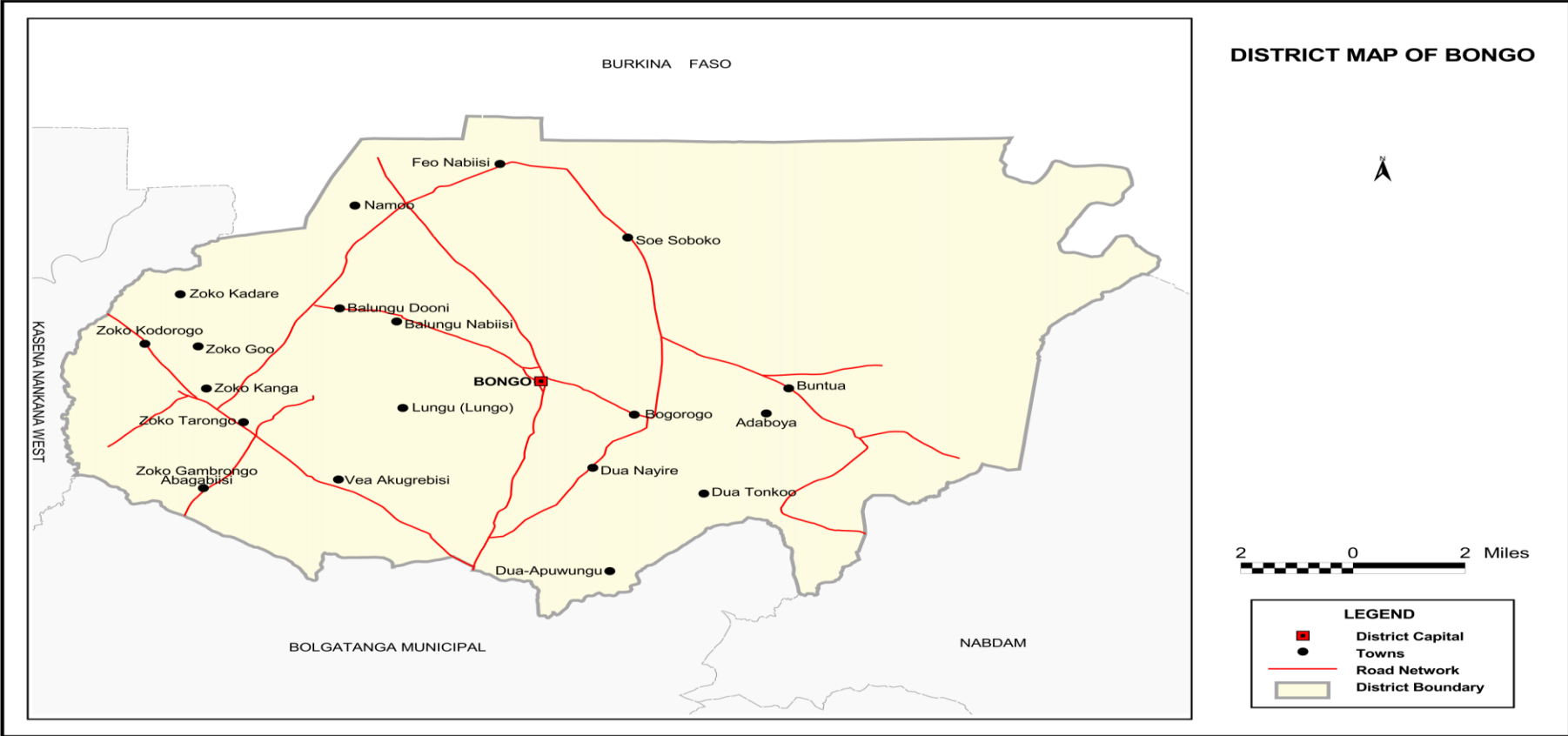
1.4.2 Traditional authority

The district has one paramouncy. The traditional authority of the district resides in the paramount chief known as Bonaba. There are 11 divisional chiefs and 31 sub-chiefs who support the Bonaba in the administration of the traditional area. There are also the Tindanas who are literally the land owners and are responsible for pacifying the gods in times of adversity. They also make sacrifices on behalf of the chiefs. There are currently no chieftaincy disputes in the district and the commendation goes to the traditional authorities and the people for ensuring peace in the district.

1.4.3 Religious composition

There are three major religious groups in the district. These are traditionalists (44.0%), Muslims (7.2%) and Christians (45.1%). Among the Christians, the Catholics are the majority (32.3%), followed by the Pentecostal/Charismatic (6.6%), Protestants (4.6%) and other Christians (1.6 %). Whereas the Christian population in the district experienced an increase over the 2000 figure of 34.2%, that of the traditionalists declined from 53.6% in 2000. There is peaceful co-existence among the various religious grouping and efforts must be made to consolidate the peace.

Figure 1.1: Map of Bongo District



Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

1.4.4 Ethnic group

The Bossis and the Gurunsis constitute about 95.1 percent of the district's population. Besides these two major ethnic groups are other settler ethnic groups like the Kusasi, Nankani, Builsa, Kasena, and Dargaba. The two major ethnic groups co-exist peacefully ostensibly because they have a common ancestry.

1.4.5 Festivals

The district has only one major festival known as *Azambene* which literally means 'Fire Festival'. The fire festival is also celebrated by the Mampurusi, Dagombas and Moshies. There is intense merry-making as well as drumming and dancing during the festival. There is also traditional pomp and pageantry with both the young and old actively participating.

1.5 Economy

1.5.1 Structure of the local economy

The local economy consist of three major sectors namely agriculture, service and industry. Agriculture is the most dominant sectors employing 72.2 per cent of the population in food crop farming, animal rearing and as fishing. The source of income for many households is sale of foodstuff, small ruminants and poultry.

The industrial sector employs 15.5 percent whilst the service sector engages 12.3 percent of the district's population of 15 years and older. Whereas a few women sell provisions, the majority are engaged in shea butter processing, groundnut oil extraction, dawadawa processing, malt making, pito brewing as well as handicraft production. Men on the other hand, are usually engaged in the sale of cattle, small ruminants and poultry.

1.5.2 Tourism

Tourism is undeveloped in the district though a lot of tourist sites abound. These include the following;

- 1) The Vea Irrigation dam
- 2) Beautifully formed rocks such as Aposerga and Azudoo rocks located in Bongo town
- 3) Apasepanga footprint, footprint of an ancient warrior located in Bongo town
- 4) Avea masera crocodile pond
- 5) Beautiful handicraft products such as baskets, hats, and mats which is district-wide
- 6) Leather works and smocks weaving at Sambolgo, Namoo, Feo and other communities in the district.

Among these tourist sites, the Vea Irrigation Dam site is fast becoming a holiday resort for holiday makers especially during festivities like Easter, Christmas and other public holidays.

1.5.3 Post and telecommunications

There are four mobile phone operators in the district; MTN, Tigo, Vodafone and Airtel. These operators provide mobile telephony services in district. Notwithstanding the presence of these operators in the district, the services they provide are still beyond the reach of the majority of the people. According to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, only 16.6 per

cent of the population of the district 12 years and older have mobile phones. Currently, the district has one postal service station and no fixed telephone lines.

1.5.4 School infrastructure

The district currently has three public Senior High Schools and two private SHS with plans to be absorbed by the government. The district also has 47 public and three private Junior High Schools, 72 public and four private primary schools and 71 public and four private kindergartens.

1.5.5 Health care

The District Health Management Team (DHMT) is responsible for the overall management of health services in the district. The DHMT is supported by six sub-districts Health Management Teams. The district has the following health infrastructure: one hospital, five health centres, one clinic, 36 functional CHPS Zones and 59 outreach points, 10 feeding centres and one rehabilitation centre.

1.5.6 Electricity and energy

The district is on the national grid. Fuel wood for cooking is rare. Crop residue such as dry stems of sorghum and millet are mostly used for cooking. Although the use of liquefied petroleum gas is being encouraged, constant shortages of the product remains a major obstacle to a significant shift from the stem of sorghum and millet to liquefied gas.

1.5.7 Housing

The majority of the people live in compound houses (50.3%) built of mud and roofed with straw or zinc. The main features of the predominantly traditional architecture are round huts with flat roofs and small windows that provide poor ventilation.

1.6 Census Methodology, Concepts and Definitions

1.6.1 Introduction

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

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

1.6.2 Pre-enumeration activities

Development of census project document and work plans

A large scale statistical operation, such as the 2010 Population and Housing Census required meticulous planning for its successful implementation. A working group of the Ghana Statistical Service prepared the census project document with the assistance of two consultants. The document contains the rationale and objectives of the census, census 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, Ksoa and Techiman were not properly demarcated and some were characterized by large EAs, some enumerators were unable to complete their assigned tasks within the stipulated time.

1.6.4 Post Enumeration Survey

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

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

1.6.5 Release and dissemination of results

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

1.6.6 Concepts and Definitions

Introduction

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

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

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

Region

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

District

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

Locality

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

persons were classified as urban while localities with less than 5,000 persons were classified as rural.

Population

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

Household

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

Head of Household

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

Household and Non-household population

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

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

Age

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

Nationality

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

Ethnicity

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

Birthplace

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

Duration of Residence

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

Religion

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

Marital Status

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

Literacy

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

Education

School Attendance

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

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

Level of Education

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

Activity Status

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

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

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

Occupation

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

Industry

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

Employment Status

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

Employment Sector

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

Disability

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

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

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

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

Fertility

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

Mortality

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

Agriculture

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

Housing Conditions and Facilities

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

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

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

1.7 Organization of the Report

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

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

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

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

CHAPTER TWO

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

2.1 Introduction

One of the most important indicators in assessing the changes in population is its demographic characteristics. The changes in a country's population are mainly through fertility, mortality and migration levels, which to a large extent, are influenced by age-sex composition. Population size, distribution, age and sex structure is vital for development planning, programme implementation and evaluation. The age and sex composition is of great importance in analysing the mortality, migration and fertility of the population. This chapter presents information on the distribution of the district's population by age and sex structure, its fertility, mortality and migration patterns.

2.2 Population Size and Distribution

The Bongo District has a population of 84,545, representing an increase of 8.6 percent of its population in the 2000 PHC (77,885). In terms of sex distribution, female constitute 52.4 percent of the population (44,461) and male 47.6 percent (40,084). The district is predominantly rural with about 94 percent (79,376) of its population residing in rural settlements. Table 2.1 further shows that the district has a relatively young population with about two out of every five persons in the population below 15 years. The aged, that is those 65 years and older, constitute only seven percent of the population. A similar pattern is observed among the male and female and urban and rural populations.

2.3 Age and sex structure, sex and dependency ratios

Understanding the age and sex structure of the population of the district is important for planning and equitable allocation of resources. The age and sex structure of the population of the district follow the region and the national pattern (Table 2.1). The age structure is that of a broad base and reduces gradually in the subsequent age groups and narrows in the older ages. Whiles more males than females are observed in the age group 0-14 years, females outnumber males in the economically productive age group of 15-64 years. Same proportions of males and females are found among the aged population 65 years and older.

The sex ratio is defined as the number of males per 100 females. With a sex ratio ranging from 61 males for every 100 females in the age group 40 to 44, to a ratio of 134 males per 100 females in the older age group of 85 and above; the Bongo District has an average sex ratio of 90 males per 100 females. Males dominate the population below 20 years with a ratio ranging from 101 to 112 males to every 100 females. With a sex ratio ranging from between 61 and 96 males per 100 females, the female dominance in the district population is observed among the adult population aged between 20 to 79 years. More males than females are observed among the aged population 80 years and older in the district. The fluctuations in the sex ratio could partly be due to age misreporting.

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

Age Group	Sex				Type of locality	
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio	Urban	Rural
All Ages	84,545	40,084	44,461	90.2	5,169	79,376
0 - 4	11,811	6,236	5,575	111.9	699	11,112
9-May	12,537	6,289	6,248	100.7	604	11,933
10-14	11,727	5,937	5,790	102.5	657	11,070
15 - 19	9,571	4,808	4,763	100.9	604	8,967
20 - 24	6,049	2,782	3,267	85.2	520	5,529
25 - 29	5,075	2,204	2,871	76.8	419	4,656
30 - 34	4,139	1,768	2,371	74.6	284	3,855
35 - 39	3,835	1,567	2,268	69.1	255	3,580
40 - 44	3,571	1,353	2,218	61	245	3,326
45 - 49	3,123	1,288	1,835	70.2	179	2,944
50 - 54	2,998	1,266	1,732	73.1	157	2,841
55 - 59	1,892	817	1,075	76	108	1,784
60 - 64	2,196	910	1,286	70.8	119	2,077
65 - 69	1,372	619	753	82.2	64	1,308
70 - 74	1,862	805	1,057	76.2	101	1,761
75 - 79	1,296	635	661	96.1	83	1,213
80 - 84	834	424	410	103.4	42	792
85+	657	376	281	133.8	29	628
All Ages	84,545	40,084	44,461	90.2	5,169	79,376
0-14	36,075	18,462	17,613	104.8	1,960	34,115
15-64	42,449	18,763	23,686	79.2	2,890	39,559
65+	6,021	2,859	3,162	90.4	319	5,702
Age dependency ratio	99.17	113.63	87.71		78.86	100.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Age dependency ratio

The age dependency ratio is conventionally defined as the population aged less than 15 years and 65 years and older divided by the population in the 15-64 years age group multiplied by 100. It indicates the potential effects of changes in population age structures for social and economic development, pointing out trends in social support needs. A high dependency ratio indicates that the economically active population and the overall economy face a greater burden to support and provide social services needed by children and older persons who are often economically dependent. The age dependency ratio assumes that all persons aged 0-14 years or 65 years and older do not work or cannot work and are therefore dependent on the economically active groups. It also assumes that all persons aged 15-64 years are working and therefore not dependent on others. Table 2.1 reveals that the Bongo District has a total dependency ratio of 99.2 implying that every 100 persons in the working age group have 99 persons in the dependent ages to support. The urban areas of the district have a relatively lower dependency ratio of 79.

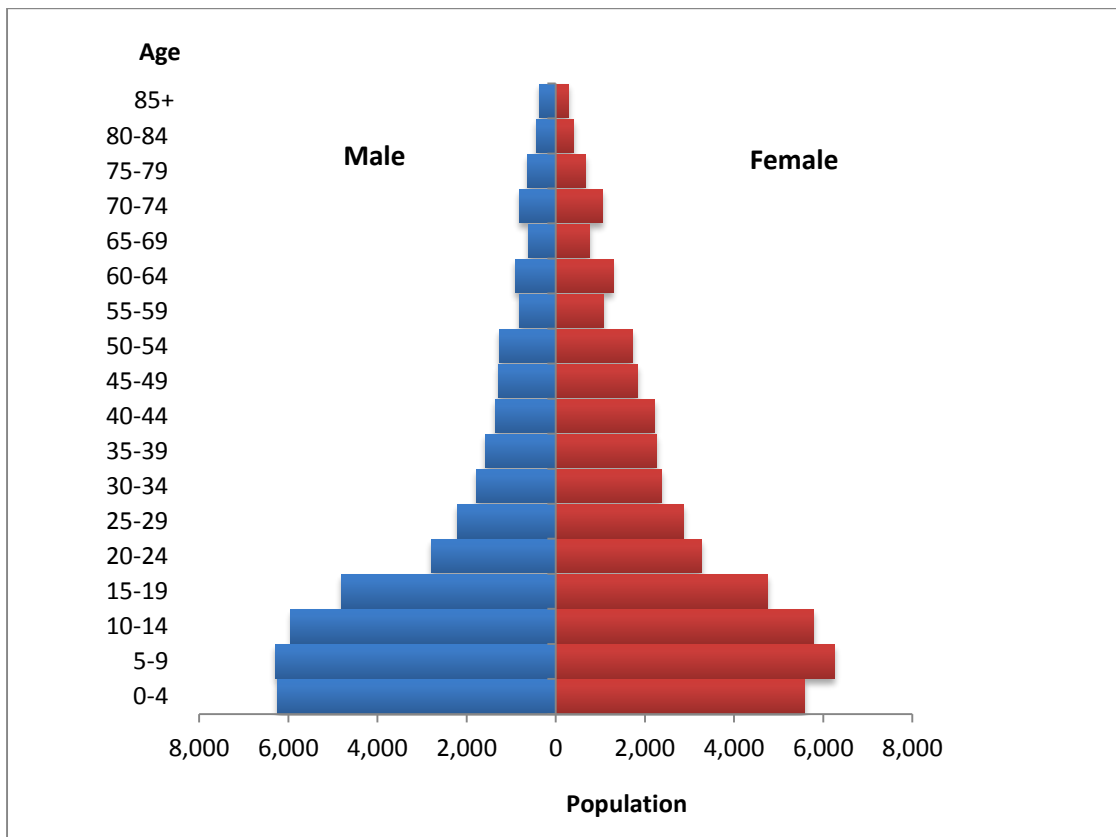
Population pyramid

The age and sex structure of the district is shown in the population pyramid (Figure 2.1). The pyramid has a relatively large base and tapers off towards the older ages. The Figure provides insightful lessons regarding current and future fertility and migration patterns to enhance policy formulation and infrastructure planning. The pyramid generally shows the expected pattern of declines in the length of the bars for each group with advancing age, except for the

population in 60 to 64 and 70 to 74 age groups. These may indicate age misreporting in the older ages. This may also be the case for the female children below five years beside

More than 50.0 percent of the population of the district is under 20 years. This has serious implication for policy planning and provision of social amenities such as educational facilities, recreational and health facilities. Also, the proportion of the aged population in the district should reflect in the provision of social infrastructure, especially health care

Figure 2.1: Population pyramid



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4 Fertility, Mortality and Migration

Fertility, mortality and migration are important in influencing population dynamics and development. Fertility and mortality are used to determine the natural increase or decrease of the population. The 2010 PHC collected data on fertility which is the natural capability of producing off-springs. Mortality refers to all deaths that occurred in the household during the 12 months preceding the Census Night, while migration refers to the physical movement of persons across geographical boundaries for a given period. This is measured by combining data on the place of birth with place of enumeration and duration of stay at place of enumeration.

2.4.1 Fertility

Fertility refers to the actual birth performance or childbearing among a population. Fertility is determined by a number of factors, including the physiological capacity of the woman to reproduce. These, in turn, are affected by a variety of social, cultural, health, economic and other environmental factors. Birth registration data constitute the most accurate source of data for the calculation of various fertility indices. Birth registration data, however, is neither

complete, nor timely in the district in particular and the country as a whole. Discussed in this section include Crude Birth Rate (CBR), General Fertility Rate (GFR) and Total Fertility Rate (TFR). Table 2.2 shows reported total fertility rate, general fertility rate and crude birth rate by district, in the Upper East Region.

Crude Birth Rate

The crude birth rate is the number of births per 1,000 populations in a given year (It is ‘crude’ because it relates to the entire population rather than the section of the population capable of giving birth). The crude birth rate for the district is 23.44 births per 1,000 populations. This means that there are about 23 births to every 1,000 persons in Bongo District. The district’s crude birth rate is slightly higher than the regional rate of 22.7 but lower than the national average of 24.9.

General Fertility Rate

The General Fertility Rate (GFR) is the number of births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years. Unlike the CBR, the GFR refers to births to women in the reproductive age group and not the total population. The general fertility rate for the district is 101.2; meaning that in the district, about 101 children are born in a year to every 1,000 women aged 15-49 years. This rate is higher than the average GFR of 97.5 in the Upper East Region.

Total Fertility Rate

The total fertility rate (TFR) which is widely used is the average number of live births per 1,000 women in the childbearing age (15-49 years). In other words, it is the average number of children a woman would give birth to by the end of her reproductive years if current fertility rates prevailed (IUSSP, 1982). The TFR for the district is 3.56 births per woman. It implies that on the average every woman in the reproductive age would have about four children by the end of their reproductive years if current fertility rates prevailed. The district’s TFR is slightly higher than the regional average TFR of 3.4 births.

Table 2.2: 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	1,046,545	243,377	23,728	3.4	97.5	22.7
Builsa North	56,477	13,133	1,344	3.6	102.3	23.8
Kasena Nankana West	70,667	16,820	1,309	2.8	77.8	18.5
Kasena Nankana East	109,944	25,941	2,539	3.4	97.9	23.1
Bolgatanga Municipal	131,550	34,909	3,089	3.0	88.5	23.5
Talensi	81,194	17,431	1,820	3.6	104.4	22.4
Bongo	84,545	19,593	1,982	3.6	101.2	23.4
Bawku West	94,034	20,951	2,226	3.7	106.2	23.7
Garu Tempane	130,003	27,784	2,951	3.9	106.2	22.7
Bawku Municipal	98,538	24,496	2,004	2.9	81.8	20.3
Builsa South	36,514	8,438	1,011	4.3	119.8	27.7
Nabdram	33,826	7,355	773	3.6	105.1	22.9
Binduri	61,576	13,367	1,303	3.6	97.5	21.2
Pusiga	57,677	13,159	1,377	3.7	104.6	23.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Children ever born and children surviving

The 2010 PHC collected information on lifetime fertility of all women 12 years and older. In all, 87,208 children are recorded to have been born to 30,222 women 12 years and older in the Bongo District. Table 2.3 shows that the number of children ever born increases with increasing age of women and peaks among those aged 40-44. Children surviving include all children (male and female) born alive by female 12 years and older who are still alive. Less than one percent (0.7%) of children ever born in the district is born to teenage mothers aged 12-19 years. Also, on the average only two-thirds (65,982) of children ever born to all females 12 years and older survive, with a slightly higher female survival rate than males.

Table 2.3: Children ever born and children surviving by age of woman and sex of child

Age	No of women	Children ever born			Children Surviving		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	30,222	87,208	43,783	43,425	65,982	32,696	33,286
12-14	3,374	24	10	14	19	8	11
15-19	4,763	597	316	281	515	267	248
20-24	3,267	3,141	1,583	1,558	2,772	1,370	1,402
25-29	2,871	6,030	3,069	2,961	5,342	2,658	2,684
30-34	2,371	8,095	4,024	4,071	7,005	3,443	3,562
35-39	2,268	9,676	4,833	4,843	8,191	4,034	4,157
40-44	2,218	11,099	5,631	5,468	8,821	4,451	4,370
45-49	1,835	9,731	4,957	4,774	7,528	3,808	3,720
50-54	1,732	9,530	4,817	4,713	6,976	3,505	3,471
55-59	1,075	5,828	2,865	2,963	4,119	2,007	2,112
60-64	1,286	6,952	3,479	3,473	4,659	2,278	2,381
65-69	753	3,863	1,951	1,912	2,538	1,277	1,261
70-74	1,057	5,543	2,724	2,819	3,369	1,647	1,722
75+	1,352	7,099	3,524	3,575	4,128	1,943	2,185

Source: Ghana Statistical Service 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4.2 Mortality

The quality of life in the district rests ultimately on the basic conditions which influence health, morbidity and mortality in the population. These factors include the biological make-up of individuals, prevalence and severity of specific diseases, social, economic and environmental conditions as well as the availability, accessibility, affordability and utilization of health care facilities. Mortality levels, patterns, trends and differentials are very important indicators of the health status of the population. Information on mortality plays a vital role in development planning in general, and the planning, monitoring and evaluation healthcare delivery systems in particular.

Crude Death Rate

Crude death rate is number of deaths per 1,000 populations in a given year. From Table 2.4, a total of 1,093 deaths were recorded in the 12 months preceding the Census Night, yielding a crude death rate of about 13 deaths (12.9) in every 1,000 population. This shows that the mortality experience in the district is relatively higher than the average of the region (10.8).

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

District	Total Population	Deaths in households	*Crude death rate
All Districts	1,046,545	11,339	10.8
Builsa North	56,477	478	8.5
Kasena Nankana West	70,667	566	8.0
Kasena Nankana East	109,944	1,217	11.1
Bolgatanga Municipal	131,550	2,269	17.2
Talensi	81,194	1,218	15.0
Bongo	84,545	1,093	12.9
Bawku West	94,034	838	8.9
Garu Tempene	130,003	1,287	9.9
Bawku Municipal	98,538	691	7.0
Builsa South	36,514	337	9.2
Nabdam	33,826	473	14.0
Binduri	61,576	510	8.3
Pusiga	57,677	362	6.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Causes of death

Table 2.5 presents the cause of death by district in the Upper East Region. Out of a total of 1,093 deaths recorded in the Bongo District, 5.6 percent are due to accident or violence or homicide or suicide while 94.4 percent are due to all other causes such as natural deaths. The district's percentage of deaths caused by either accident or violence or homicide or suicide is 5.6 percent, which is lower than the regional average of 15.2 percent.

Table 2.5: Cause of death by district

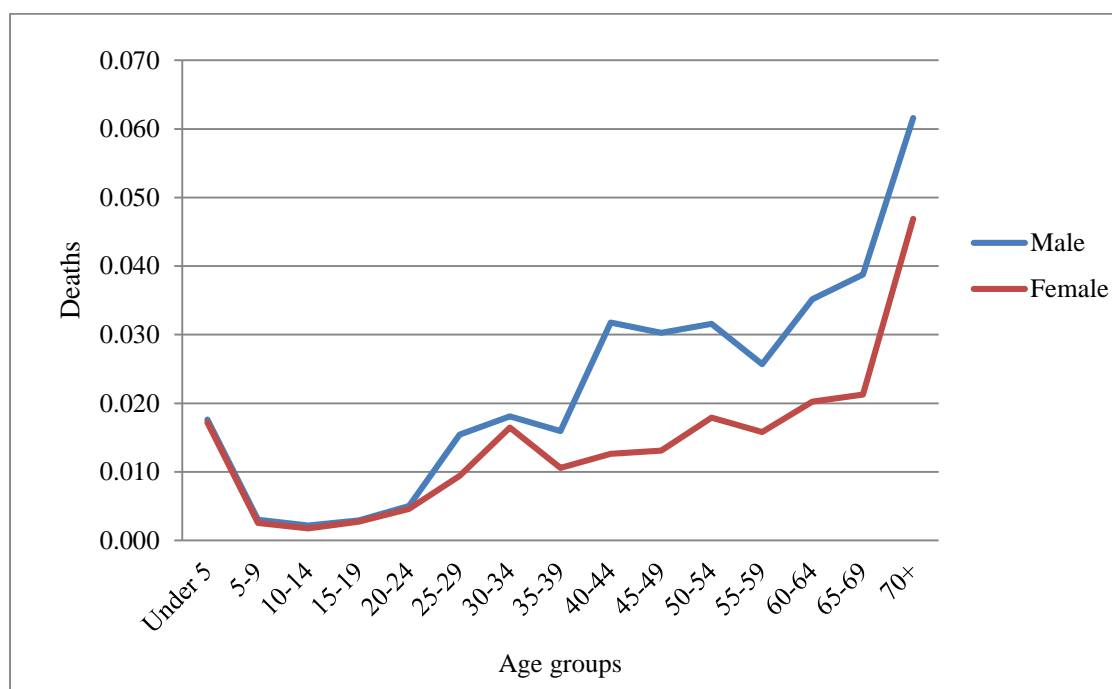
District	Total household deaths	Death due to			
		Accident / violence / homicide / suicide		All other causes	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Upper east	11,339	1,720	15.2	9,619	84.8
Builsa North	478	30	6.3	448	93.7
Kasena Nankana West	566	47	8.3	519	91.7
Kasena Nankana East	1,217	86	7.1	1,131	92.9
Bolgatanga Municipal	2,269	940	41.4	1,329	58.6
Talensi	1,218	165	13.5	1,053	86.5
Bongo	1,093	61	5.6	1,032	94.4
Bawku West	838	43	5.1	795	94.9
Garu Tempene	1,287	97	7.5	1,190	92.5
Bawku Municipal	691	65	9.4	626	90.6
Builsa South	337	14	4.2	323	95.8
Nabdam	473	79	16.7	394	83.3
Binduri	510	43	8.4	467	91.6
Pusiga	362	50	13.8	312	86.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Age specific death by sex

The age specific death rate (ASDR) is the number of deaths per year per 1,000 population of a given age group by sex. Mortality varies considerably by age and sex. Figure 2.2 shows the age specific death rates by sex in the Bongo District. The graph shows the expected “U” pattern with the lowest mortality rates occurring in the 10-14 year age group. Mortality is high in the first year of life, then falls sharply and reaches its minimum at age 10 to 14. Thereafter, it rises steadily with advancing age, however it is steeper among the male population after age 39 and remains higher through to the older ages. The rise in mortality among the female population is slow between 35 and 49 when it picks up momentum.

Figure 2.2: Reported age specific death rates by sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4.3 Migration

The census sought information on place of birth in relation to locality of enumeration. Birthplace and migratory pattern are, therefore, analysed by comparing locality of birth with locality of enumeration. Persons “born in the locality of enumeration” are assumed not to have had any migratory history. This may not necessarily be the case since some people who might have moved outside their locality of birth could have returned to that locality for the census or on visit or on retirement. Birthplace in relation to place of enumeration is, therefore, only a crude measure of migration.

Table 2.6 shows birth place of migrants in the district and how long they have lived in the district. Out of a total of 11,244 migrants in the Bongo District, 6,374 persons representing 56.7 percent were born elsewhere (in other localities) in the region, 38.2 percent are born in other regions of the country, and 5.2 percent are born outside Ghana. Nearly a fifth (2,199) of the migrants in the district are born in the Ashanti Region, five percent (563) are from the Brong Ahafo Region.

Whiles about one-third of the migrants have lived in the district for less than a year, 31.9 percent have lived in the district for 20 years or more. Most of the longest staying migrants

are persons who were either born in other parts of the region (46.3%) or those born outside Ghana (40.9%). The data further Data on household size, composition and structure forms the basis of family relations and social cohesion. The 2010 population and housing census collected data on these social characteristics of the population. This chapter discusses these characteristics which include household size and composition, marital status, nationality, religious affiliation, literacy and education for the reveals that persons born in the Brong Ahafo Region are the least likely to stay in the district for 10 years or more.

Table 2.6: Birthplace by duration of residence of migrants

Birthplace	Number	Percent	Duration of residence (%)				
			Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20+ years
Total	11,244	100.0	14.6	19.1	12.4	16.8	31.9
Different locality in this region	6,374	56.7	12.8	14.1	8.8	18.0	46.3
Born elsewhere in another region:							
Western	206	1.8	20.9	29.1	17.5	18.0	14.6
Central	52	0.5	26.9	23.1	21.2	11.5	17.3
Greater Accra	457	4.1	20.6	33.7	12.7	20.1	12.9
Volta	70	0.6	24.3	27.1	2.9	20.0	25.7
Eastern	154	1.4	21.4	29.2	14.3	22.1	13.0
Ashanti	2,199	19.6	18.8	28.8	22.2	15.9	14.2
Brong Ahafo	563	5.0	23.6	30.2	19.9	15.8	10.5
Northern	467	4.2	13.5	24.2	16.5	22.1	23.8
Upper East	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Upper west	122	1.1	17.2	37.7	17.2	13.1	14.8
Outside Ghana	580	5.2	10.7	15.7	15.3	17.4	40.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER THREE

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Introduction

Data on household size, composition and structure forms the basis of family relations and social cohesion. The 2010 population and housing census collected data on these social characteristics of the population. This chapter discusses these characteristics which include household size and composition, marital status, nationality, religious affiliation, literacy and education for the Bongo District.

3.2 Household Size, Household Composition and Headship

In the 2010 Population and Housing Census, a household was defined as consisting of a person or group of persons who live together in the same house or compound, share housekeeping arrangements and are cared for as one unit. Members of a household are not necessarily related by blood, since non-relatives may form part of a household. The composition of the Ghanaian household is a reflection of the social structure of the country. The household composition is therefore defined in terms of the relationship of members of the household to the one person they accept and recognize as the head and who is often responsible for the management and upkeep of the house and the household members.

3.2.1 Household Size

The household is the basic unit for demographic and economic analyses. Household size refers to the total number of persons in a household irrespective of age, sex, or relationship status. Table 3.1 presents the household size of the district by locality of residence. There are 15,188 households in the district of which only about 7.5 percent (1,145) reside in urban areas with the rest in rural settlements. The district has an average household size of 5.5 persons with more persons in the rural households (5.6) areas than the urban households (4.4).

Table 3.1: Household size by locality of residence

Categories	Total country	Region	District		
			Total	Urban	Rural
Total household population	24,076,327	1,034,704	83,996	5,074	78,922
Number of households	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	1,145	14,043
Average household size	4.4	5.8	5.5	4.4	5.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.2 Household Composition

Table 3.2 shows the composition of the household population by sex of the household members. The data show that there are 83,996 persons living in households in the district. Household heads constitute 18.1 percent of this population, with more male household heads (23.3%) than female household heads (13.4%). Spouse constitutes 8.5 percent whereas biological children constitute 43.4 percent. There are more male children (49.1%) than female children (38.2%) in the households. Grandchildren (11.5%) also constitute a significant percentage of the household members in the district with slightly more male than

female grandchildren. The data also show that there are more daughter in-laws (4.7%) than son in-laws (0.4%) among households in the district. Adopted or foster children are not a widespread phenomenon among households in the district.

Table 3.2: Household population by composition and sex

Household composition	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	83,996	100.0	39,847	100.0	44,149	100.0
Head	15,188	18.1	9,294	23.3	5,894	13.4
Spouse (wife/husband)	7,112	8.5	225	0.6	6,887	15.6
Child (son/daughter)	36,424	43.4	19,581	49.1	16,843	38.2
Parent/Parent in-law	1,786	2.1	376	0.9	1,410	3.2
Son/Daughter in-law	2,232	2.7	176	0.4	2,056	4.7
Grandchild	9,618	11.5	4,945	12.4	4,673	10.6
Brother/Sister	2,626	3.1	1,458	3.7	1,168	2.7
Step child	1,283	1.5	707	1.8	576	1.3
Adopted/Foster child	90	0.1	42	0.1	48	0.1
Other relative	6,994	8.3	2,768	7.0	4,226	9.6
Non-relative	643	0.8	275	0.7	368	0.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.3 Household Structure

Table 3.3 shows the household population by the household structure and the sex of its members. The structure of households in the district is dominated by the extended family system where more than two-thirds (69.5%) of household members live in an extended family. The extended family comprising the head, spouse, children and heads relatives constitute the largest family system with 36 percent of the household population. The data reveals a rather alarming situation where one-third (33.7%) of the household population reside either in single parent extended (21.8%) or single parent nuclear household (11.9%). Only 30.6 percent of the household population reside in nuclear families. This is an indication of the dominance of the extended family system arrangement in the district which reflects the communal system of the people of Bongo District.

Single person households are not a common phenomenon in the Bong District and not many households are found with the head and spouse only. Nuclear households comprising head, spouse(s) and children only is 17.2 percent, which further indicates the importance the population of the district places on the extended family system. The fact that children, grandchildren and other relatives of the head constitute more than 60.0 percent of household members supports the view that the traditional external family household composition has not changed much. It also reflects the extent of fostering in the living arrangements of households.

Table 3.3: Household population by structure and sex

Household structure	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	83,996	100.0	39,847	100.0	44,149	100.0
Nuclear						
Head only	911	1.1	517	1.3	394	0.9
Single parent Nuclear	10,006	11.9	4,358	10.9	5,648	12.8
Head and a spouse only	320	0.4	163	0.4	157	0.4
Nuclear (Head, spouse(s) and children)	14,418	17.2	7,502	18.8	6,916	15.7
Extended						
Extended (Head, spouse(s), children and Head's relatives)	30,252	36.0	14,919	37.4	15,333	34.7
Extended + non relatives	1,233	1.5	572	1.4	661	1.5
Head, spouse(s) and other composition	1,853	2.2	875	2.2	978	2.2
Single parent Extended	18,327	21.8	8,119	20.4	10,208	23.1
Single parent Extended + non relative	833	1.0	368	0.9	465	1.1
Head and other composition but no spouse	5,843	7.0	2,454	6.2	3,389	7.7

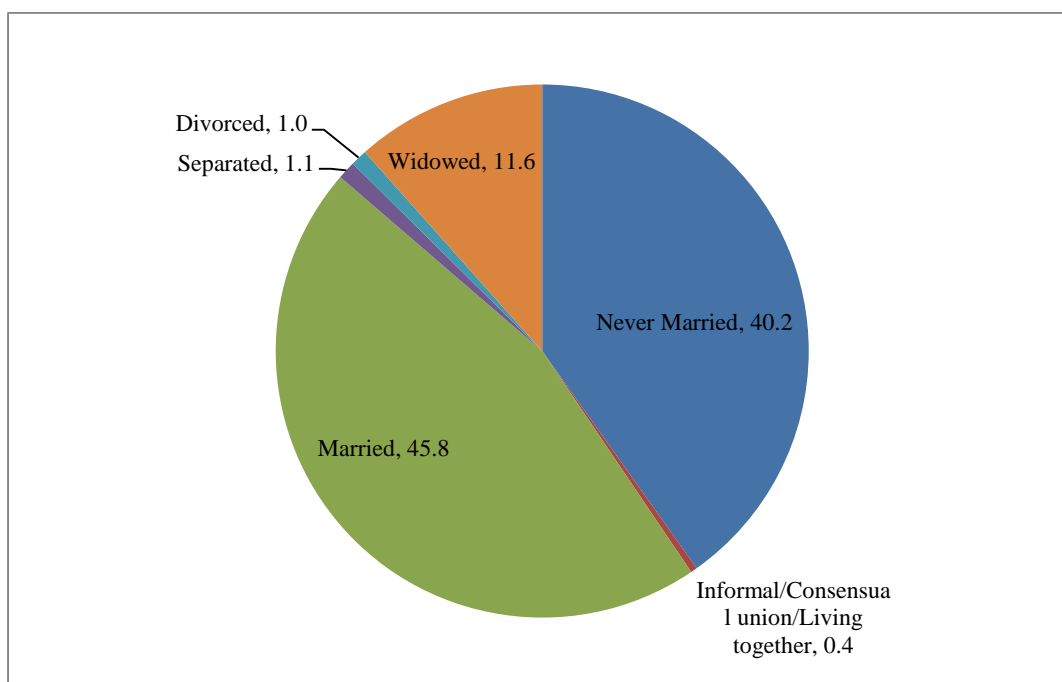
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3 Marital Status

Marriage may be defined as a social institution which establishes the legitimacy of children, (Gough, 1959). Marriage defined this way, thus, serves as a tool for procreation, mutual support and companionship. Marriage in Ghana includes both formal and informal unions. Formal unions are those sanctioned by law under the ordinance, by tradition/customary law, and by religion. Informal unions are cohabiting unions recognized in Ghana but not sanctioned by law, tradition or religion (Gaisie, 1976; Aryee, 1975).

Figure 3.1 shows that in the district, 40.2 percent of the population 12 years or older have never been married compared to 59.8 percent who have ever been married (married, widowed, divorced, and separated). Whiles about 46 percent of the population 12 years and older are currently married, one percent are either divorced or separated, whereas 11.6 percent are widowed. The data further reveals that the population in consensual union or living together as if married is not a phenomenon that is grounded in the Bongo District, as only one out of every 200 (0.4%) persons 12 years or older are in this type of union.

Figure 3.1: Marital status of persons 12 years and older



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.1 Marital status by sex and age

Table 3.4 shows that the highest proportion of married persons are in the age group of 35-39 years (78.6%), followed by those in 30-34 year age group (77.1%). Table 3.4 further shows that over 87.0 percent of the widowed in the district are 55 years and above. Furthermore, 5.3 percent of married females are in age group of 12-14 years which is slightly higher than married males (4.3%) of the same age group.

Whilst the highest proportion of male married persons is between the ages of 40-44 years (82.9%), the highest proportion of married females is between 30-34 years (80.0%). Furthermore, the proportion of females 65 years and older who are widowed (64.5%) is almost three times the proportion of males 65 years and older who are widowed (20.8%).

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

Sex/Age-group	Number	Total	Never married	Informal/Consensual union/Living together	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed
Both Sexes								
Total	55,311	100.0	40.2	0.4	45.8	1.1	1.0	11.6
12 - 14	6,841	100.0	95.1	0.1	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	9,571	100.0	90.4	0.3	8.9	0.1	0.1	0.2
20 - 24	6,049	100.0	59.7	0.8	37.7	0.8	0.3	0.6
25 - 29	5,075	100.0	31.2	0.7	64.3	1.3	0.8	1.7
30 - 34	4,139	100.0	14.5	0.5	77.1	1.9	1.5	4.5
35 - 39	3,835	100.0	8.6	0.5	78.6	2.4	1.6	8.3
40 - 44	3,571	100.0	7.1	0.3	73.4	2.4	1.6	15.3
45 - 49	3,123	100.0	5.0	0.4	73.1	1.4	1.8	18.3
50 - 54	2,998	100.0	5.2	0.2	67.1	1.9	1.7	24.0
55 - 59	1,892	100.0	4.5	0.0	63.4	0.9	1.7	29.4
60 - 64	2,196	100.0	3.5	0.2	59.4	1.3	2.0	33.7
65+	6,021	100.0	3.8	0.1	49.7	1.0	1.7	43.8
Male								
Total	25,089	100.0	47.9	0.3	45.5	1.0	1.1	4.2
12 - 14	3,467	100.0	95.6	0.1	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	4,808	100.0	94.4	0.1	5.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
20 - 24	2,782	100.0	77.2	0.5	21.2	0.6	0.1	0.5
25 - 29	2,204	100.0	44.6	1.0	52.4	0.8	0.6	0.7
30 - 34	1,768	100.0	21.5	0.2	73.2	2.0	2.0	1.1
35 - 39	1,567	100.0	11.6	0.4	81.7	2.4	1.9	2.0
40 - 44	1,353	100.0	9.6	0.2	82.9	2.4	2.1	2.8
45 - 49	1,288	100.0	6.0	0.4	84.5	1.7	2.7	4.7
50 - 54	1,266	100.0	5.8	0.2	83.3	2.4	2.2	6.2
55 - 59	817	100.0	5.1	0.0	81.4	1.0	2.1	10.4
60 - 64	910	100.0	4.4	0.1	79.7	1.2	2.4	12.2
65+	2,859	100.0	4.1	0.1	71.8	1.2	2.0	20.8
Female								
Total	30,222	100.0	33.8	0.4	46.1	1.1	0.9	17.7
12 - 14	3,374	100.0	94.6	0.1	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	4,763	100.0	86.4	0.4	12.6	0.2	0.1	0.4
20 - 24	3,267	100.0	44.8	1.1	51.8	0.9	0.5	0.8
25 - 29	2,871	100.0	20.9	0.5	73.5	1.8	0.9	2.4
30 - 34	2,371	100.0	9.3	0.7	80.0	1.9	1.1	7.0
35 - 39	2,268	100.0	6.6	0.5	76.5	2.3	1.5	12.6
40 - 44	2,218	100.0	5.5	0.4	67.6	2.3	1.4	22.9
45 - 49	1,835	100.0	4.3	0.4	65.1	1.2	1.1	27.8
50 - 54	1,732	100.0	4.7	0.2	55.2	1.5	1.3	37.0
55 - 59	1,075	100.0	4.1	0.0	49.8	0.8	1.5	43.8
60 - 64	1,286	100.0	2.9	0.2	45.0	1.3	1.7	48.8
65+	3,162	100.0	3.4	0.0	29.7	0.9	1.4	64.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.2 Marital status and level of education

Table 3.5 presents the marital status of the population 12 years and older in relation to their educational level in the district. The data show that 53.8 percent of persons 12 years and older in the district have no education, 37.9 have only basic education while less one percent (0.4%) have attained tertiary level education. Of the married population in the district, 75.0 percent have no education, 18.9 percent have attained basic education, while 0.6 percent having tertiary education. Among the population who have attained tertiary education, most of them are those in consensual union (3.1%).

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

Sex/Marital status	Number	All levels	No Education	Basic1	Secondary2	Voc/Tech/Com	Post middle/secondary certificate/diploma3	Tertiary4
Both Sexes								
Total	55,311	100.0	53.8	37.9	6.0	0.5	1.5	0.4
Never married	22,238	100.0	17.2	69.7	10.7	0.5	1.7	0.2
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	195	100.0	44.6	41.0	6.7	1.0	3.6	3.1
Married	25,343	100.0	75.0	18.9	3.3	0.5	1.8	0.6
Separated	589	100.0	76.2	19.5	2.9	0.5	0.5	0.3
Divorced	529	100.0	81.7	14.9	2.5	0.0	0.9	0.0
Widowed	6,417	100.0	93.4	6.0	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0
Male								
Total	25,089	100.0	45.8	42.7	7.9	0.5	2.3	0.7
Never married	12,028	100.0	17.7	67.5	12.0	0.5	2.0	0.4
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	66	100.0	31.8	40.9	10.6	0.0	7.6	9.1
Married	11,425	100.0	69.9	21.0	4.4	0.6	2.9	1.1
Separated	247	100.0	72.5	20.6	4.9	0.4	0.8	0.8
Divorced	270	100.0	80.0	16.3	3.3	0.0	0.4	0.0
Widowed	1,053	100.0	91.2	7.7	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.0
Female								
Total	30,222	100.0	60.5	33.8	4.3	0.4	0.9	0.1
Never married	10,210	100.0	16.6	72.3	9.2	0.6	1.2	0.0
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	129	100.0	51.2	41.1	4.7	1.6	1.6	0.0
Married	13,918	100.0	79.1	17.1	2.4	0.4	0.9	0.1
Separated	342	100.0	78.9	18.7	1.5	0.6	0.3	0.0
Divorced	259	100.0	83.4	13.5	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
Widowed	5,364	100.0	93.8	5.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

¹Basic: Primary, Middle and JSS/JHS

²Secondary: SSS/SHS and Secondary

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

⁴Tertiary: Bachelor's Degree and Post Graduate or higher

The proportion of married males with no education is lower (69.9%) than the proportion of married females without education (79.1%). Furthermore, the proportion of male married with tertiary education (1.1%) is almost ten times the proportion of married females with tertiary education (0.1%).

3.3.3 Marital status and economic activity status

Table 3.6 presents the marital status of the population 12 years and older by their economic activity. Status of economic activity significantly influences preference in marriage partner's selection. Evidence of ability to support a spouse financially or mere perception of ability to support a spouse financially, is a key determinant in a man's decision to get married whether he is allowed or not.

The table shows that 52.3 percent of persons who have never married are economically not active and 45.9 percent are employed. On the other hand, all the other categories of marital status have majority of persons employed. Of those married, more than 8 out of 10 persons (85%) are employed, while 7 out of 10 persons in Informal/consensual union/living together are employed. Table 3.6 further reveals that, for both male and female, marital status and economic activity follows the same pattern. However, of the never married category, more males (48.3%) than females (43.0%) are employed and of those married, more males than females are employed. Also, the proportion of females who are married and are economically not active is higher than their male counterparts (13.3% and 12.3% 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	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	55,311	100.0	37,432	67.7	1,024	1.9	16,855	30.5
Never married	22,238	100.0	10,204	45.9	413	1.9	11,621	52.3
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	195	100.0	142	72.8	9	4.6	44	22.6
Married	25,343	100.0	21,574	85.1	509	2.0	3,260	12.9
Separated	589	100.0	475	80.6	17	2.9	97	16.5
Divorced	529	100.0	406	76.7	20	3.8	103	19.5
Widowed	6,417	100.0	4,631	72.2	56	0.9	1,730	27.0
Male								
Total	25,089	100.0	16,706	66.6	533	2.1	7,850	31.3
Never married	12,028	100.0	5,809	48.3	250	2.1	5,969	49.6
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	66	100.0	48	72.7	3	4.5	15	22.7
Married	11,425	100.0	9,769	85.5	248	2.2	1,408	12.3
Separated	247	100.0	196	79.4	9	3.6	42	17.0
Divorced	270	100.0	216	80.0	10	3.7	44	16.3
Widowed	1,053	100.0	668	63.4	13	1.2	372	35.3
Female								
Total	30,222	100.0	20,726	68.6	491	1.6	9,005	29.8
Never married	10,210	100.0	4,395	43.0	163	1.6	5,652	55.4
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	129	100.0	94	72.9	6	4.7	29	22.5
Married	13,918	100.0	11,805	84.8	261	1.9	1,852	13.3
Separated	342	100.0	279	81.6	8	2.3	55	16.1
Divorced	259	100.0	190	73.4	10	3.9	59	22.8
Widowed	5,364	100.0	3,963	73.9	43	0.8	1,358	25.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.4 Nationality

Ghanaian nationals are classified as Ghanaian by birth and by naturalization. The composition of the population of the district by nationality is summarized in Table 3.7. A greater proportion of the residents in the district (97.7%) are Ghanaians with 96.1 percent being Ghanaians by birth. The rest of the population is made up of persons from ECOWAS countries (0.6%), other African countries (0.5%) and non-Africans (0.5%). There are slightly more naturalized Ghanaians female (0.7%) and female ECOWAS nationals (0.7%) than their male counterparts in the district.

Table 3.7: Population by nationality and sex

Nationality	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	84,545	100.0	40,084	100.0	44,461	100.0
Ghanaian by birth	81,288	96.1	38,579	96.2	42,709	96.1
Dual Nationality	1,323	1.6	637	1.6	686	1.5
Ghanaian by naturalization	540	0.6	219	0.5	321	0.7
ECOWAS	548	0.6	243	0.6	305	0.7
Africa other than ECOWAS	426	0.5	212	0.5	214	0.5
Other	420	0.5	194	0.5	226	0.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.5 Religious Affiliation

There are three main religious groupings found in the district. These are traditionalists (44.0%), Moslems (7.2%) and Christians (45.1%) as shown in Table 3.8. Considering the various Christian denominations, Catholics are the majority (32.3%) followed by the Pentecostal or Charismatic (6.6%), Protestants (4.6%), and all other type of Christians constituting 1.6 percent. There are also a significant number of persons (3.3%) who have no religious affiliations.

Christianity has seen an increment, thus overtaking the dominance of traditional religion as recorded in the 2000 Population and Housing Census (53.6% for traditionalists and 34.2% for Christians). Among Christians females are in the majority (48.8%) as against 41.0 percent males. Males on the other hand dominate (47.7%) the traditional religion.

Table 3.8: Population by religion and sex

Religion	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	84,545	100.0	40,084	100.0	44,461	100.0
No Religion	2,768	3.3	1,411	3.5	1,357	3.1
Catholic	27,273	32.3	11,662	29.1	15,611	35.1
Protestant (Anglican Lutheran etc.)	3,880	4.6	1,733	4.3	2,147	4.8
Pentecostal/Charismatic	5,605	6.6	2,405	6.0	3,200	7.2
Other Christians	1,384	1.6	622	1.6	762	1.7
Islam	6,091	7.2	3,005	7.5	3,086	6.9
Traditionalist	37,238	44.0	19,115	47.7	18,123	40.8
Other (Specify)	306	0.4	131	0.3	175	0.4

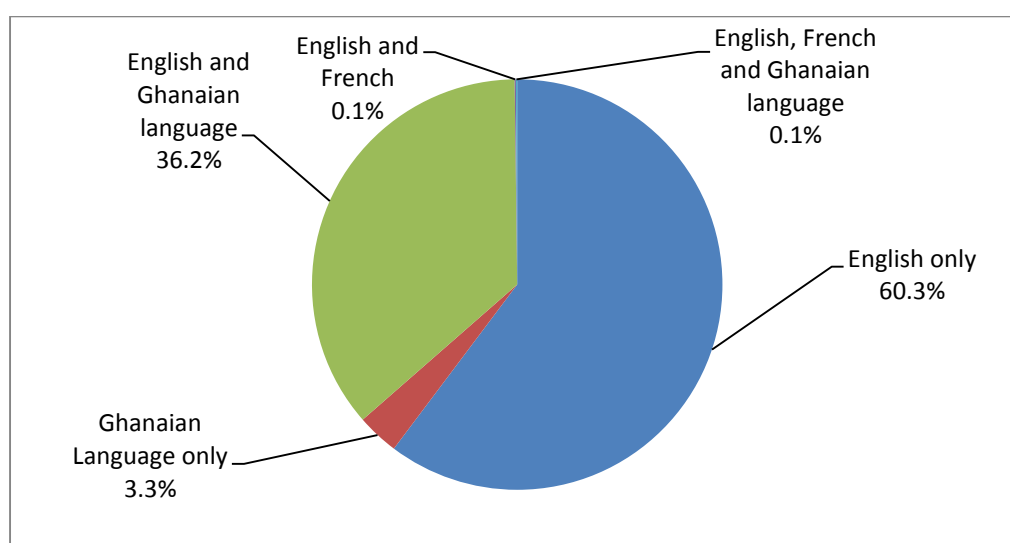
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6 Literacy and Education

3.6.1 Literacy

Much information is transmitted in written form and therefore the ability to read and write a simple sentence with understanding is very essential. Literacy is defined as the ability to read and write in any language and relates to those aged 11 years and older. Figure 3.2 and Table 3.9 present the literacy status of the population 11 years and older in the Bong District. As indicated in Table 3.9, 47.7 percent of population aged 11 years and older are literate while 52.3 percent are not literate (illiterates). Figure 3.2 further shows that out of the total literate population, 60.2 percent are literate in English only, 36.2 percent literate in English and a Ghanaian language, while only 3.3 percent are literate in a Ghanaian language only. Though the district shares a boundary with Burkina Faso, a French speaking country, not many persons are literate in French.

Figure 3.2: Reported literacy status of population 11 years and older



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Literacy status by age and sex

Table 3.9 show population 11 years and older by sex, age and literacy status. From the table, persons aged 11-44 years, the proportion who are literate in English only is highest followed by those who are literate in English and Ghanaian language. However, for those older than 44 years, the proportion of persons who are literate in English and Ghanaian languages is more than English only. This is an indication that Ghanaian language is more popular with the older generation; there is therefore the need to make Ghanaian language attractive and popular among the younger generation.

In terms of sex, Table 3.9 shows that in the district, 53.1 percent of the male populations aged 11 years and older are literate compared to 46.9 percent of their females counterparts. Also, 57.5 percent of the male population is literate in English only while 39.0 percent is literate in both English and Ghanaian Language. On the other hand, 63.3 percent and 33.0 percent of the female population are literate in English only and literate in English and Ghanaian Language respectively.

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

Sex groups	None (not literate)	Literate	Total	English only	Ghanaian language only	English and Ghanaian language	English and French	English, French and Ghanaian language
Both sexes								
Total	29,953	27,279	100.0	60.2	3.3	36.2	0.1	0.1
11-14	657	8,105	100.0	67.4	3.4	29.1	0.1	0.0
15-19	1,085	8,486	100.0	63.0	2.7	34.1	0.1	0.1
20-24	1,929	4,120	100.0	56.5	2.8	40.5	0.1	0.1
25-29	2,680	2,395	100.0	50.0	3.6	45.8	0.2	0.4
30-34	2,848	1,291	100.0	51.0	5.2	43.1	0.4	0.3
35-39	3,016	819	100.0	52.0	4.9	42.9	-	0.2
40-44	3,044	527	100.0	51.0	4.6	43.8	-	0.6
45-49	2,717	406	100.0	46.3	5.2	48.3	0.2	-
50-54	2,622	376	100.0	45.5	4.5	49.5	0.3	0.3
55-59	1,638	254	100.0	44.9	3.5	51.6	-	-
60-64	2,014	182	100.0	47.8	2.2	48.4	-	1.6
65+	5,703	318	100.0	56.9	5.0	38.1	-	-
Male								
Total	11,595	14,472	100.0	57.5	3.2	39.0	0.1	0.2
11-14	400	4,045	100.0	66.2	3.1	30.7	0.0	0.0
15-19	521	4,287	100.0	62.5	2.6	34.7	0.1	0.1
20-24	660	2,122	100.0	54.4	2.5	42.9	0.0	0.1
25-29	867	1,337	100.0	44.4	3.4	51.5	0.2	0.6
30-34	920	848	100.0	45.8	4.8	48.9	-	0.5
35-39	1,041	526	100.0	49.4	4.0	46.2	-	0.4
40-44	1,034	319	100.0	41.7	5.6	52.0	-	0.6
45-49	1,024	264	100.0	43.2	5.7	50.8	0.4	-
50-54	1,013	253	100.0	38.7	4.7	55.7	0.4	0.4
55-59	647	170	100.0	42.9	1.8	55.3	-	-
60-64	797	113	100.0	46.9	3.5	46.9	-	2.7
65+	2,671	188	100.0	55.3	5.9	38.8	-	-
Female								
Total	18,358	12,807	100.0	63.3	3.5	33.0	0.2	0.1
11-14	257	4,060	100.0	68.7	3.7	27.5	0.1	-
15-19	564	4,199	100.0	63.6	2.8	33.4	0.1	0.1
20-24	1,269	1,998	100.0	58.6	3.2	37.9	0.3	0.1
25-29	1,813	1,058	100.0	57.1	4.0	38.8	0.1	0.1
30-34	1,928	443	100.0	61.2	5.9	31.8	1.1	-
35-39	1,975	293	100.0	56.7	6.5	36.9	-	-
40-44	2,010	208	100.0	65.4	2.9	31.3	-	0.5
45-49	1,693	142	100.0	52.1	4.2	43.7	-	-
50-54	1,609	123	100.0	59.3	4.1	36.6	-	-
55-59	991	84	100.0	48.8	7.1	44.0	-	-
60-64	1,217	69	100.0	49.3	-	50.7	-	-
65+	3,032	130	100.0	59.2	3.8	36.9	-	-

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The Table shows that the proportion “not literate” increases with age. Those who can read and write are concentrated in the younger age groups 11 to 25 years. This is to be expected since they are more likely to be in schools than those in the older age groups. In addition, policies introduced by successive governments aimed at reducing illiteracy, especially amongst the youth might have accounted for this. The pattern is the same for the males and females. However, at the age groups 40-44 years to 60-64 years for males, “not literate”

decreases and later goes up at the age group 65 years and older. For females, “not literate decreases at age group 45-49 years and increase again at 60 years and older.

3.6.2 Education

Education forms an important determinant of the quality of manpower. As such, the educational level of the people of the district, to some extent, reflects the level of social and economic development of the communities. It is also well known that education constitutes one of the most important factors influencing demographic behaviour and the level of fertility of a population.

Table 3.10 shows the level of education and school attendance of males and females three years and older in the district. The total population currently in school is 34,328 including (51.0%) males and (49.0%) females. Out of this number, about one-half (56.7%) are in primary level, followed by 18.8 percent in Junior High School, while 10.4 percent are in nursery. Only a small proportion of the population are in vocational or technical or commercial school (0.2%), or post middle or secondary (0.3%), or tertiary (0.4%) levels of education.

For those who attended school in the past in the district, Table 3.10 shows that the highest level of schooling attended is primary (45.1%), J.S.S/J.H.S. (23.6%) and SSS/SHS (13.6%). This clearly affirms that primary education is the highest level of schooling attended in the district by most of the population.

In relation to educational attainment by sex, there is relatively higher proportion of females (88.8%) than that of the males (76.9%) with Primary, as well as JSS/JHS as the highest level of schooling. This suggests that, in the past, females were more likely than males to terminate schooling after the basic school level. That is, a small proportion of females (11.2%) than males (23.1%) progress to SSS/SHS, secondary and other higher levels. At each of these post-basic levels (SSS/SHS, Secondary, Vocational/Technical/Commercial, Post Middle/Post-Secondary Certificate, Post-Secondary Diploma, Bachelor Degree, and Post Graduate) the proportion for males is consistently higher than that for females.

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

Level of education	Currently attending						Attended in the past					
	Both sexes		Male		Female		Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	34,328	100.0	17,493	100.0	16,835	100.0	10,234	100.0	5,567	100.0	4,667	100.0
Nursery	3,561	10.4	1,791	10.2	1,770	10.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kindergarten	2,862	8.3	1,451	8.3	1,411	8.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Primary	19,400	56.5	9,878	56.5	9,522	56.6	4,620	45.1	2,333	41.9	2,287	49.0
JSS/JHS	6,448	18.8	3,156	18.0	3,292	19.6	2,419	23.6	1,102	19.8	1,317	28.2
Middle					-	-	662	6.5	473	8.5	189	4.0
SSS/SHS	1,745	5.1	1,018	5.8	727	4.3	1,389	13.6	848	15.2	541	11.6
Secondary	-	-	-	-	-	-	158	1.5	115	2.1	43	0.9
Vocational/Technical/Commercial	78	0.2	35	0.2	43	0.3	172	1.7	92	1.7	80	1.7
Post middle/ secondary certificate	101	0.3	65	0.4	36	0.2	346	3.4	228	4.1	118	2.5
Tertiary	133	0.4	99	0.6	34	0.2	468	4.6	376	6.8	92	2.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FOUR

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

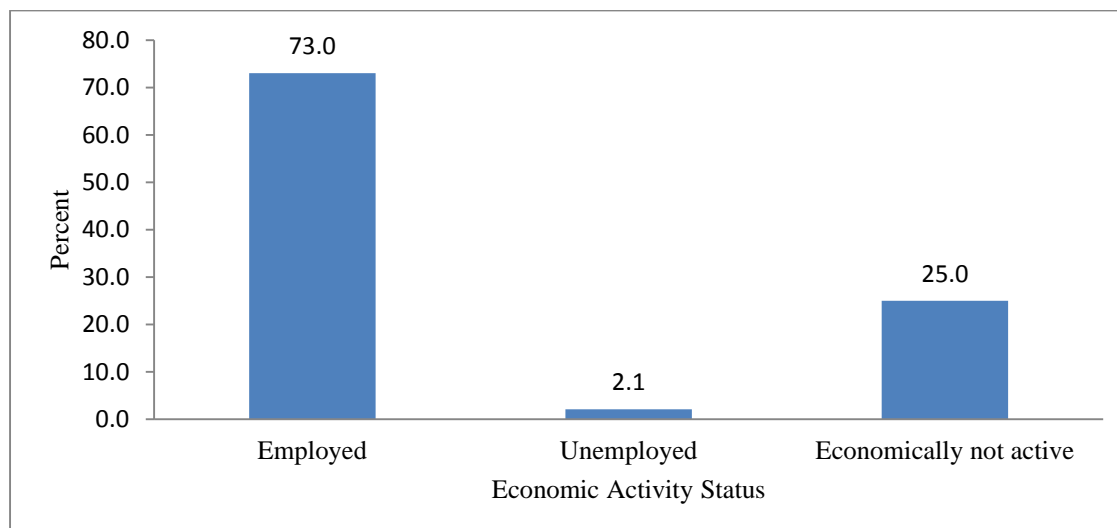
4.1 Introduction

Governments all over the globe at certain stage of the development of their countries seek to know how many people are employed and unemployed. It should be noted that the more the working population, the better the prospects for wealth creation leading to improved living conditions and poverty reduction. The nature, type and size of the labour force are critical factors in the production of goods and services. The information on labour force is also used to formulate employment policies, to determine training needs and to calculate the expected working lives of the male and female populations and the rates of accession to, and retirement from economic activity. The focus of this chapter is on the type of economic activity, occupation, industry, and employment status and employment sector. Although data was collected on the population five years and older, the analyses in this section are limited to the population 15 years and older.

4.2 Economic Activity Status

Figure 4.1 and Table 4.1 present information on the economic activity status of the population 15 years and older in the Bongo District. The figure shows that the proportion of the population economically active (75.0%) is three times higher than proportion of the population not economically active (25.0%). Whiles 73.0 percent of the population 15 years and older are employed, 2.1 percent are unemployed.

Figure 4.1: Economic activity status of the population 15 years and older



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 4.1 reveals that, of the total economically active population 15 years and older, 97.2 percent are employed while the remaining 2.8 percent are unemployed. Also, of the number employed, 96.6 percent worked within the reference period, 2.9 percent did not work but had a job to go back to whiles 0.5 percent did some voluntary work without pay. In relation to sex, the proportion of females employed is 97.6 percent while that of males is 96.8 percent. Of the employed population, the proportion of females who had work to go back to but did

not work during the reference period is 2.5 percent whilst the proportion of employed males who did not work during the reference period is 3.5 percent.

Table 4.1 further shows that among the unemployed population, 57.6 percent have ever worked but are currently seeking work, while 42.4 percent are seeking work for the first time. The proportion of females who worked before and are seeking work is 60.3 percent whilst those seeking work for the first time is 39.7. On the other hand, 54.8 percent of the male unemployed population had worked before but now seeking work whereas 45.2 percent are the first time job seekers.

The data further reveal that those who are involved in full time education, that is, students (40.5%) constitute the majority of economically not active population. The proportion of the economically not active population who did home duties are 27.1 percent. However, the proportion of females who did home duties is higher than their male counterparts. This could be due to the social norm where females usually keep the home.

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	48,470	100.0	21,622	100.0	26,848	100.0
Economically active	36,373	75.0	16,117	74.5	20,256	75.4
<i>Employed</i>	<i>35,365</i>	<i>97.2</i>	<i>15,596</i>	<i>96.8</i>	<i>19,769</i>	<i>97.6</i>
<i>Worked</i>	<i>34,164</i>	<i>96.6</i>	<i>14,968</i>	<i>96.0</i>	<i>19,196</i>	<i>97.1</i>
<i>Did not work but had job to go back to</i>	<i>1,031</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>539</i>	<i>3.5</i>	<i>492</i>	<i>2.5</i>
<i>Did voluntary work without pay</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>0.4</i>
Unemployed	1,008	2.8	521	3.2	487	2.4
<i>Worked before, seeking work and available</i>	<i>581</i>	<i>57.6</i>	<i>314</i>	<i>60.3</i>	<i>267</i>	<i>54.8</i>
<i>Seeking work for the first time and available</i>	<i>427</i>	<i>42.4</i>	<i>207</i>	<i>39.7</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>45.2</i>
Economically not active	12,097	25.0	5,505	25.5	6,592	24.6
Did home duties (household chore)	3,273	27.1	1,001	18.2	2,272	34.5
Full time education	4,895	40.5	2,666	48.4	2,229	33.8
Pensioner/Retired	100	0.8	77	1.4	23	0.3
Disabled/Sick	984	8.1	538	9.8	446	6.8
Too old/young	2,252	18.6	914	16.6	1,338	20.3
Other	593	4.9	309	5.6	284	4.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 4.2 provides data on the economic activity status of the employed population 15 years and older by age and sex. From Table 4.2, about 56 percent of persons aged 15-19 years are economically not active, however, quite a number (43.1%) of them are employed. Similarly, 65.9 percent of persons aged 20-24 years are employed. It is expected that these age groups should be in full time education, but to have these proportions employed calls for some policy intervention. From age 25 years, the proportion of persons employed within the age groups increase with increasing age, peaks at 49 years and thereafter starts to decrease. The proportion of persons who are unemployed is highest (4.0%) amongst those in the 20 to 29 age group. The same pattern is observed among the male and female populations.

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

Age group	All Status		Economically active				Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Employed		Unemployed		Number	Percent
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Both sexes								
Total	48,470	100.0	35,365	73.0	1,008	2.1	12,097	25.0
15 - 19	9,571	100.0	4,128	43.1	130	1.4	5,313	55.5
20 - 24	6,049	100.0	3,989	65.9	234	3.9	1,826	30.2
25 - 29	5,075	100.0	4,218	83.1	210	4.1	647	12.7
30 - 34	4,139	100.0	3,674	88.8	120	2.9	345	8.3
35 - 39	3,835	100.0	3,476	90.6	80	2.1	279	7.3
40 - 44	3,571	100.0	3,263	91.4	56	1.6	252	7.1
45 - 49	3,123	100.0	2,859	91.5	39	1.2	225	7.2
50 - 54	2,998	100.0	2,685	89.6	36	1.2	277	9.2
55 - 59	1,892	100.0	1,667	88.1	25	1.3	200	10.6
60 - 64	2,196	100.0	1,735	79.0	52	2.4	409	18.6
65+	6,021	100.0	3,671	61.0	26	0.4	2,324	38.6
Male								
Total	21,622	100.0	15,596	72.1	521	2.4	5,505	25.5
15 - 19	4,808	100.0	2,102	43.7	65	1.4	2,641	54.9
20 - 24	2,782	100.0	1,789	64.3	106	3.8	887	31.9
25 - 29	2,204	100.0	1,807	82.0	103	4.7	294	13.3
30 - 34	1,768	100.0	1,552	87.8	77	4.4	139	7.9
35 - 39	1,567	100.0	1,425	90.9	38	2.4	104	6.6
40 - 44	1,353	100.0	1,239	91.6	31	2.3	83	6.1
45 - 49	1,288	100.0	1,192	92.5	27	2.1	69	5.4
50 - 54	1,266	100.0	1,150	90.8	18	1.4	98	7.7
55 - 59	817	100.0	728	89.1	16	2.0	73	8.9
60 - 64	910	100.0	744	81.8	27	3.0	139	15.3
65+	2,859	100.0	1,868	65.3	13	0.5	978	34.2
Female								
Total	26,848	100.0	19,769	73.6	487	1.8	6,592	24.6
15 - 19	4,763	100.0	2,026	42.5	65	1.4	2,672	56.1
20 - 24	3,267	100.0	2,200	67.3	128	3.9	939	28.7
25 - 29	2,871	100.0	2,411	84.0	107	3.7	353	12.3
30 - 34	2,371	100.0	2,122	89.5	43	1.8	206	8.7
35 - 39	2,268	100.0	2,051	90.4	42	1.9	175	7.7
40 - 44	2,218	100.0	2,024	91.3	25	1.1	169	7.6
45 - 49	1,835	100.0	1,667	90.8	12	0.7	156	8.5
50 - 54	1,732	100.0	1,535	88.6	18	1.0	179	10.3
55 - 59	1,075	100.0	939	87.3	9	0.8	127	11.8
60 - 64	1,286	100.0	991	77.1	25	1.9	270	21.0
65+	3,162	100.0	1,803	57.0	13	0.4	1,346	42.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.3 Occupation

Table 4.3 shows the distribution of employed population 15 years and older by occupation and sex. From the table, the major occupation in the district is agriculture including forestry and fishing works (72.6%). Workers of craft and related trades constitute 15.5 percent while services and sales workers constitute 5.3 percent while professionals make up only 2.2 percent. Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers together with service and sales workers and craft and related trade workers constitute 93.4 percent of all occupations at the district. Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery work remains the dominant occupation for

both males (75.5%) and females (70.3%). However, service and sales has much higher proportion of females (6.3%) than males (4.0%). Similarly, females dominate the craft and related trade work.

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	35,365	100.0	15,596	100.0	19,769	100.0
Managers	239	0.7	100	0.6	139	0.7
Professionals	790	2.2	567	3.6	223	1.1
Technicians and associate professionals	186	0.5	139	0.9	47	0.2
Clerical support workers	94	0.3	68	0.4	26	0.1
Service and sales workers	1,877	5.3	623	4.0	1,254	6.3
Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers	25,676	72.6	11,771	75.5	13,905	70.3
Craft and related trades workers	5,492	15.5	1,717	11.0	3,775	19.1
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	407	1.2	206	1.3	201	1.0
Elementary occupations	597	1.7	401	2.6	196	1.0
Other occupations	7	0.0	4	0.0	3	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.4 Industry

Industry is defined as the type of activity carried out by the enterprise where a person is working or the type of product produced or services rendered at the respondent's workplace. Information was collected only on the main product produced or service rendered in the establishment during the reference period. Table 4.4 shows employed population 15 years and older by industry and sex. Agriculture, forestry and fishing, remains the largest industry, employing 72.2 percent of the economically active population aged 15 years and older in the district. The manufacturing (14.2%) and wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (4.6%) are the other major sectors of employment in the district. These three together engage nine out of every 10 employed persons in the district. Agriculture is the primary activity in the district for both males and females. But females (18.4%) are more into manufacturing activities than males (8.9%).

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	35,365	100.0	15,596	100.0	19,769	100.0
Agriculture forestry and fishing	25,550	72.2	11,714	75.1	13,836	70.0
Mining and quarrying	211	0.6	99	0.6	112	0.6
Manufacturing	5,011	14.2	1,383	8.9	3,628	18.4
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	6	0.0	6	0.0	0	0.0
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	40	0.1	33	0.2	7	0.0
Construction	249	0.7	208	1.3	41	0.2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1,612	4.6	742	4.8	870	4.4
Transportation and storage	73	0.2	67	0.4	6	0.0
Accommodation and food service activities	591	1.7	97	0.6	494	2.5
Information and communication	17	0.0	11	0.1	6	0.0
Financial and insurance activities	22	0.1	18	0.1	4	0.0
Real estate activities	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0
Professional scientific and technical activities	84	0.2	32	0.2	52	0.3
Administrative and support service activities	110	0.3	96	0.6	14	0.1
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	199	0.6	165	1.1	34	0.2
Education	670	1.9	505	3.2	165	0.8
Human health and social work activities	259	0.7	151	1.0	108	0.5
Arts entertainment and recreation	29	0.1	29	0.2	0	0.0
Other service activities	402	1.1	157	1.0	245	1.2
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods - and services - producing activities of households for own use	229	0.6	82	0.5	147	0.7
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.5 Employment status

The distribution of the workforce by employment status is often used as an indicator of progress in the modernization of employment and the economy. It also measures the relative capacity of the various sectors of the economy to create jobs. Table 4.5 shows employed population 15 years and older by employment status and sex. In the district as a whole, 59.5 percent of the employed population are self-employed without employees while an additional 1.3 percent of the self-employed have employees. Contributing family workers constitute 31.0 percent while employees make up only 4.9 percent. Employees and self-employed without employees are less than a tenth in the district. Such an employment structure poses a challenge for the effective mobilization of tax revenue as well as mobilization of capital for expansion and job creation. Similar patterns are observed among the male and female populations in the district.

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

Employment Status	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	35,365	100.0	15,596	100.0	19,769	100.0
Employee	1,738	4.9	1,231	7.9	507	2.6
Self-employed without employee(s)	21,059	59.5	9,508	61.0	11,551	58.4
Self-employed with employee(s)	468	1.3	201	1.3	267	1.4
Casual worker	291	0.8	174	1.1	117	0.6
Contributing family worker	10,973	31.0	4,157	26.7	6,816	34.5
Apprentice	404	1.1	124	0.8	280	1.4
Domestic employee (Househelp)	362	1.0	168	1.1	194	1.0
Other	70	0.2	33	0.2	37	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.6 Employment sector

Table 4.6 shows the employed population 15 years and older by employment sector and sex. The data shows that 95.5 percent of the employed population work in the private informal sector whilst only three percent are public sector workers. About 98 percent of the female employed population are in the private informal sector compared to 93 percent of the male population. Contrarily, the public sector also employs more males (5.5%) than females (1.5%). More males are also employed in the private formal sector than females.

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	35,365	100.0	15,596	100.0	19,769	100.0
Public (Government)	1,146	3.2	850	5.5	296	1.5
Private Formal	337	1.0	220	1.4	117	0.6
Private Informal	33,760	95.5	14,469	92.8	19,291	97.6
Semi-Public/Parastatal	9	0.0	7	0.0	2	0.0
NGOs (Local and International)	110	0.3	48	0.3	62	0.3
Other International Organisations	3	0.0	2	0.0	1	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FIVE

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

Information Communication Technology (ICT) can be defined to include a group of electronic technologies and techniques used to manage information and knowledge. Due to its importance in recent development arena, the 2010 Population and Housing Census for the first time sought information on the ownership of mobile phones, usage of desk top or laptop computers and internet facilities by individuals and households. ICT is recognized as an important knowledge-based tool necessary for socioeconomic developments. The role of ICT in the economy of Ghana has been widely recognized though it has not been fully experienced in all parts of the country. The recognition is reflected in the development of a national ICT infrastructure, institutional and regulatory framework for managing the sector, promoting the use of ICT in all sectors of the economy, implementing E-governance in all government institutions and the construction of a National Data Centre as well as regional and district information centers. This chapter presents the data on the use of ICT in the Bongo District.

5.2 Ownership of Mobile Phones

Table 5.1 presents information on the population 12 years and older and those amongst them who own mobile phones and those who use internet. The data reveals that only one out of every six (16.6%) persons 12 years and older in the Bongo District own mobile phones compared to a regional average of 24.2 percent. Whiles one out of every five (21.2%) of the male population 12 years and older own mobile phones, about one in every eight (12.7%) of their female counterparts own mobile phones.

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

Region/District/Sex	Population 12 yrs+		Population owning phone		Population using internet	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Upper East Region	690,901	100.0	167,421	24.2	15,777	2.3
Bongo District	55,311	100.0	9,172	16.6	535	1.0
Male	25,089	100.0	5,320	21.2	386	1.5
Female	30,222	100.0	3,852	12.7	149	0.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.3 Use of internet

Table 5.1 shows that, of the population 12 years and older in the Bongo District, only 535 representing 1.0 percent use the internet, which is lower than the regional average of 2.3 percent. Whiles nearly two out of every 100 male's aged 12 years and older use the internet, only one out of every 200 of their female counterparts use the internet.

The lower usage of internet facility in the district can be attributed to inadequacy of internet facilities, especially internet cafes in the district. In 2010 there was only one internet cafe at the district assembly ICT Centre with less than 15 computers connected to internet which was operational and opened to the public.

Table 5.2: Households having desktop/laptop computers and sex of head

District/Sex	Number of households		Households having desktop/laptop computers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Bongo District	15,188	100.0	191	1.3
Male headed	9,294	100.0	141	1.5
Female headed	5,894	100.0	50	0.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SIX

DISABILITY

6.1 Introduction

Evidence the world over indicates that persons with disability are people who can contribute to development. However, prejudice in cultures in certain parts of the world has discriminated against people with disabilities. Over the past few decades there has been an international consensus on the recognition of the rights of persons with disabilities with emphasis on the promotion of their dignity, and inclusive development. Evidence is needed to make informed decisions on policies and programmes. Knowing the characteristics and understanding the numbers of people with disabilities and their circumstances can enhance policies that address barriers that prevent persons with disabilities (PWDs) from participating more effectively in national development. In the Local Governance System in Ghana, one of the assessment for any other district to pass the Functional Organisation Assessment Tools (FOAT) is to make provision for PWDs in the design and construction of physical projects like toilets, schools, markets, office buildings, among others. The 2010 PHC for the first time sought information disability. This chapter presents data on the prevalence of disability, and the social-demographic characteristics of people with disabilities in the Bongo District.

6.2 Population with Disability

PWDs have been defined as: Persons who are unable to or are restricted in the performance of certain specific life tasks/activities due to loss or malfunction of some part of the body as a result of impairment or malformation (GSS, 2010). Disability questions were asked of all household members.

Table 6.1 presents information on the people with disability and the type of disability by sex. The data show about five out of every 100 (4.8%) of the population of the Bongo District have one form of disability or the other. Whiles 5.0 percent are males, 4.7 percent are females. Table 6.1 further provide information on the type of disabilities. It must be noted however that due to the fact that some persons have multiple disabilities, the types of disability may necessarily not add up to the reported number of persons with disability.

6.3 Type of Disability

The proportion with physical disability accounted for 23.3 percent of total disability and comes second after sight disability (38.5%). Hearing disability and emotional disability accounted for 21.8 percent and 12.9 percent respectively. The high proportion of sight disability is probably due to the fact that until somewhere in 1984 when the now onchocerciasis freed zone was rid of the vector that causes blindness, the Beo and Soe zones were at the mercy of the vector that made a lot of people in these communities rendered many blind.

From table 6.1, two out of every five (40.2%) female and 36.8 percent of the male PWDs suffer sight disability. Furthermore, 24.2 percent of the female PWDs suffer from hearing disability compared to 19.2 percent of male counterparts. More males (14.0%) than females (11.8%) suffer emotional disability. Though these percentages are lower than the other types of disability, it requires serious attention as such groups can sometimes be very dangerous to those around them especially at the least provocation.

6.4 Distribution by Type of Locality (urban/rural)

Table 6.1 presents population by type of locality, type of disability and sex. About 93.9 percent of the district population is classified as rural and 6.1 percent urban. The proportion of the urban population with disability is 5.6 percent compared to 4.8 percent of the rural population.

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	84,545	100.0	40,084	100.0	44,461	100.0
Without disability	80,482	95.2	38,089	95.0	42,393	95.3
With disability	4,063	4.8	1,995	5.0	2,068	4.7
Sight	1,566	38.5	735	36.8	831	40.2
Hearing	884	21.8	383	19.2	501	24.2
Speech	439	10.8	246	12.3	193	9.3
Physical	948	23.3	483	24.2	465	22.5
Intellect	462	11.4	249	12.5	213	10.3
Emotion	525	12.9	280	14.0	245	11.8
Other	243	6.0	117	5.9	126	6.1
Urban						
Total	5,169	100.0	2,291	100.0	2,878	100.0
Without disability	4,880	94.4	2,163	94.4	2,717	94.4
With disability	289	5.6	128	5.6	161	5.6
Sight	128	44.3	53	41.4	75	46.6
Hearing	66	22.8	22	17.2	44	27.3
Speech	35	12.1	17	13.3	18	11.2
Physical	76	26.3	38	29.7	38	23.6
Intellect	33	11.4	16	12.5	17	10.6
Emotion	49	17.0	21	16.4	28	17.4
Other	13	4.5	6	4.7	7	4.3
Rural						
Total	79,376	100.0	37,793	100.0	41,583	100.0
Without disability	75,602	95.2	35,926	95.1	39,676	95.4
With disability	3,774	4.8	1,867	4.9	1,907	4.6
Sight	1,438	38.1	682	36.5	756	39.6
Hearing	818	21.7	361	19.3	457	24.0
Speech	404	10.7	229	12.3	175	9.2
Physical	872	23.1	445	23.8	427	22.4
Intellect	429	11.4	233	12.5	196	10.3
Emotion	476	12.6	259	13.9	217	11.4
Other	230	6.1	111	5.9	119	6.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The proportion of the disable population with sight disability in the urban community is 44.3 percent, which is slightly higher (38.1%) than the proportion in the rural areas. Emotional disability among the urban communities is 17.0 percent which is higher than the 12.6 percent for rural areas. More (17.4%) female PWDs in the urban areas suffer emotional disability than their male (16.4%) counterparts in the urban areas. However in the rural areas more male PWDs (13.9%) persons suffer emotional disability than females (11.4%).

6.5 Disability and Economic Activity

Table 6.2, which present information on the economic activity status of persons with disability (PWDs), aged 15 years and older. Nearly one-third (61.9%) of all PWDs 15 years and older in the district are employed, 1.2 percent are unemployed while slightly more than one-third (36.8%) are economically not active. Although, unemployment among persons with disability remains generally low, the rates of those with intellectual (2.1%), speech (1.8%) and emotional disability (1.8%) are among the highest for unemployed persons with disability. More than two out of every five PWDs who have intellectual (46.7%), physical (42.3%), speech (42.3%), and sight (42.0%) disabilities are economically not active. There is not much variation among the sexes considering disability and economic activity status.

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

Sex/Disability type	All Status		Economically Active				Economically Not Active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	48,470	100.0	35,365	73.0	1,008	2.1	12,097	25.0
No disability	45,094	100.0	33,274	73.8	966	2.1	10,854	24.1
With disability	3,376	100.0	2,091	61.9	42	1.2	1,243	36.8
Sight	1,446	100.0	821	56.8	17	1.2	608	42.0
Hearing	656	100.0	416	63.4	8	1.2	232	35.4
Speech	272	100.0	152	55.9	5	1.8	115	42.3
Physical	827	100.0	471	57.0	6	0.7	350	42.3
Intellect	379	100.0	194	51.2	8	2.1	177	46.7
Emotion	453	100.0	305	67.3	8	1.8	140	30.9
Other	188	100.0	131	69.7	1	0.5	56	29.8
Male								
Total	21,622	100.0	15,596	72.1	521	2.4	5,505	25.5
No disability	19,999	100.0	14,588	72.9	497	2.5	4,914	24.6
With disability	1,623	100.0	1,008	62.1	24	1.5	591	36.4
Sight	672	100.0	401	59.7	12	1.8	259	38.5
Hearing	269	100.0	177	65.8	3	1.1	89	33.1
Speech	153	100.0	91	59.5	1	0.7	61	39.9
Physical	423	100.0	230	54.4	3	0.7	190	44.9
Intellect	199	100.0	105	52.8	4	2.0	90	45.2
Emotion	238	100.0	151	63.4	6	2.5	81	34.0
Other	91	100.0	61	67.0	1	1.1	29	31.9
Female								
Total	26,848	100.0	19,769	73.6	487	1.8	6,592	24.6
No disability	25,095	100.0	18,686	74.5	469	1.9	5,940	23.7
With disability	1,753	100.0	1,083	61.8	18	1.0	652	37.2
Sight	774	100.0	420	54.3	5	0.6	349	45.1
Hearing	387	100.0	239	61.8	5	1.3	143	37.0
Speech	119	100.0	61	51.3	4	3.4	54	45.4
Physical	404	100.0	241	59.7	3	0.7	160	39.6
Intellect	180	100.0	89	49.4	4	2.2	87	48.3
Emotion	215	100.0	154	71.6	2	0.9	59	27.4
Other	97	100.0	70	72.2	0	0.0	27	27.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.6 Disability and Education

Table 6.3 presents the population 3 years and older by sex, their disability type and level of education attained in the Bongo District. Only slightly more than one-fifth (22.5%) of

persons with disabilities in the district have attained basic level educations, 3.1 percent have attained secondary or higher education, whereas seven out of every 10 (71.4%) have never been to school. PWDs with sight (82.6%) and physical (74.9%) disabilities have the highest proportions that have never been to school while the least is recorded among those with other forms of disability (39.7%). The data show that only between two and five out of every 100 PWDs with any form of disability are able to attain secondary or higher education in the district.

Table 6.3 further reveals that more female PWDs (76.3%) than their male counterparts (66.4%) have never been to school, whereas about two percent (1.8%) females compared to 4.4 percent males have attained secondary or higher education. Female PWDs are therefore disadvantaged in relation to educational attainment. The highest proportion of male PWDs with secondary or higher education are those with other forms of disabilities not listed (10.6%), emotional (5.8%) and physical (5.0%) disabilities. Amongst the female PWDs however emotional (2.9%), hearing (2.0%) and sight (1.9%) have attained secondary or higher education.

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

Sex/Disability type	All Levels		Never		Pre-Primary		Basic		Sec/SHS and higher	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes										
Total	77,722	100.0	33,160	42.7	6,423	8.3	33,549	43.2	4,590	5.9
No disability	73,741	100.0	30,317	41.1	6,303	8.5	32,653	44.3	4,468	6.1
With a disability	3,981	100.0	2,843	71.4	120	3.0	896	22.5	122	3.1
Sight	1,544	100.0	1,275	82.6	22	1.4	199	12.9	48	3.1
Hearing	873	100.0	577	66.1	43	4.9	236	27.0	17	1.9
Speech	412	100.0	256	62.1	31	7.5	114	27.7	11	2.7
Physical	934	100.0	700	74.9	20	2.1	186	19.9	28	3.0
Intellectual	452	100.0	316	69.9	11	2.4	112	24.8	13	2.9
Emotional	518	100.0	352	68.0	7	1.4	136	26.3	23	4.4
Other	237	100.0	140	59.1	13	5.5	71	30.0	13	5.5
Male										
Total	36,368	100.0	13,308	36.6	3,242	8.9	16,942	46.6	2,876	7.9
No disability	34,421	100.0	12,016	34.9	3,177	9.2	16,438	47.8	2,790	8.1
With a disability	1,947	100.0	1,292	66.4	65	3.3	504	25.9	86	4.4
Sight	720	100.0	577	80.1	11	1.5	100	13.9	32	4.4
Hearing	378	100.0	229	60.6	23	6.1	119	31.5	7	1.9
Speech	230	100.0	134	58.3	18	7.8	69	30.0	9	3.9
Physical	477	100.0	327	68.6	11	2.3	115	24.1	24	5.0
Intellectual	244	100.0	155	63.5	7	2.9	71	29.1	11	4.5
Emotional	278	100.0	176	63.3	3	1.1	83	29.9	16	5.8
Other	113	100.0	62	54.9	3	2.7	36	31.9	12	10.6
Female										
Total	41,354	100.0	19,852	48.0	3,181	7.7	16,607	40.2	1,714	4.1
No disability	39,320	100.0	18,301	46.5	3,126	8.0	16,215	41.2	1,678	4.3
With a disability	2,034	100.0	1,551	76.3	55	2.7	392	19.3	36	1.8
Sight	824	100.0	698	84.7	11	1.3	99	12.0	16	1.9
Hearing	495	100.0	348	70.3	20	4.0	117	23.6	10	2.0
Speech	182	100.0	122	67.0	13	7.1	45	24.7	2	1.1
Physical	457	100.0	373	81.6	9	2.0	71	15.5	4	0.9
Intellectual	208	100.0	161	77.4	4	1.9	41	19.7	2	1.0
Emotional	240	100.0	176	73.3	4	1.7	53	22.1	7	2.9
Other	124	100.0	78	62.9	10	8.1	35	28.2	1	0.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SEVEN

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

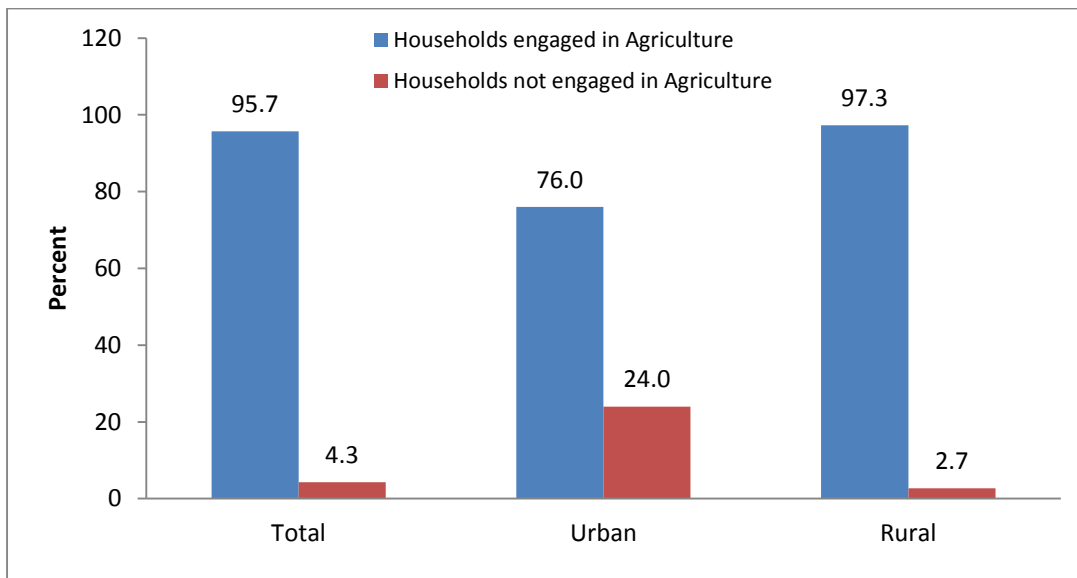
7.1 Introduction

Ghana’s economy is generally regarded as agrarian, largely due to the sector’s contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), labour absorption and to foreign exchange earnings. The 2010 PHC for the first time collected data on agricultural activities; namely, crop farming, tree growing, livestock rearing and fish farming. The data collected consisted of types of crops cultivated and trees crops grown, farm size and type of cropping; livestock types and their numbers, and the numbers of keepers. This chapter presents information on households that are into agriculture, the type of farming activities they practice and the number of livestock reared.

7.2 Households in Agriculture

Figure 7.1 shows the total number of households engaged in agriculture by locality. Out of 15,188 households, 14,537 households representing 95.7 percent are engaged in agriculture in the district. This suggests that nearly every household in the district are engaged in agricultural activities. A household is defined to be an agricultural household if, at least, one person in the household is engaged in any type of farming activity, namely crop farming, tree growing, livestock rearing and fish farming (GSS, 2012). In the urban areas 870 households representing 76.0 percent out of 1,145 households are engaged in agriculture while 97.3 percent of the total number of households in the rural localities is also engaged in agriculture.

Figure 7.1: Households engaged in agriculture by locality



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 7.1 shows that the majority of households are engaged in crop farming accounting for 98.8 percent of household in agriculture and 88.1 percent of the households are engaged in livestock rearing. Tree planting and fish farming have smaller proportions of households that were engaged in them, 0.4 percent and 0.1 percent respectively.

Table 7.1: Households by agricultural activities and locality

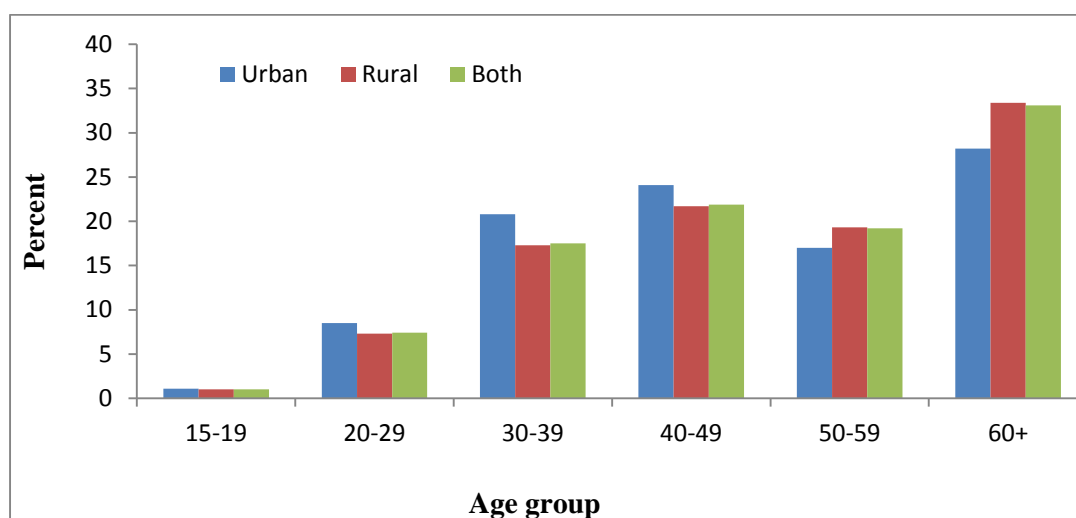
Agriculture Activity	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Households	15,188	100.0	1,145	100.0	14,043	100.0
Households engaged in Agriculture	14,537	95.7	870	76.0	13,667	97.3
Households not engaged in Agriculture	651	4.3	275	24.0	376	2.7
Crop Farming	14,357	98.8	838	96.3	13,519	98.9
Tree Planting	51	0.4	1	0.1	50	0.4
Livestock Rearing	12,802	88.1	665	76.4	12,137	88.8
Fish Farming	8	0.1	0	0.0	8	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Distribution of agriculture households by age of household head

Figure 7.2 shows the distribution of agricultural households by age of household head and locality of residence. The proportion of households in agriculture increase with increasing age of the head of household, except for those aged 50-59. For household heads below 50 years, the proportion of urban agriculture households exceed those in the rural areas. From age 50 however there are more rural households in agriculture than in the urban areas.

Figure 7.2: Distribution of heads of agricultural households by age and type of locality



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The proportion of heads of households in the age groups of 20-49 gives hope of future for agricultural activities in the district since the youth are not abandoning agriculture for only the aged. It is therefore necessary to provide the necessary agricultural incentives to keep them in agriculture since they will only stay if only they find it rewarding and not just a tradition handed down to them from their forefathers.

7.3 Types of Livestock and other Animals Reared

There are a number of farming activities that agricultural households in the district engage in, ranging from cattle rearing to fish farming. Table 7.2 shows the distribution of livestock and keepers in the district. The total number of livestock in the district as shown in Table 7.2 is 372,537 with a total number of 34,573 keepers and an average of 10.8 animals per keeper.

Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock, other animals and keepers

Livestock/Keepers	Animals		Keepers		Average Animal per Keeper
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	372,537	100.0	34,573	100.0	10.8
Beehives	141	0.0	25	0.1	5.6
Cattle	21,152	5.7	3,230	9.3	6.5
Chicken	151,216	40.6	9,788	28.3	15.4
Dove	628	0.2	39	0.1	16.1
Duck	1,684	0.5	125	0.4	13.5
Goat	68,259	18.3	10,037	29.0	6.8
Grass-cutter	1,204	0.3	92	0.3	13.1
Guinea fowl	82,296	22.1	4,473	12.9	18.4
Pig	6,203	1.7	773	2.2	8.0
Rabbit	235	0.1	26	0.1	9.0
Sheep	31,868	8.6	5,153	14.9	6.2
Silk worm	97	0.0	9	0.0	10.8
Snail	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Turkey	1,175	0.3	106	0.3	11.1
Other (specify)	5,437	1.5	643	1.9	8.5
Fish farming	149	0.0	8	0.0	18.6
Inland fishing	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Marine fishing	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 7.2 shows that there are 372,537 livestock in the district with guinea fowl and chicken being the most commonly kept birds. Similarly there are 151,216 chickens representing 40.6 percent of the total livestock in the district with an average of 15 birds per keeper. Guinea fowls constitute 22.1 percent of the livestock in the district with an average of 18 birds per keeper.

Among the four footed animals, goats have the largest number (68,259) representing 18.3 percent with an average of seven goats per keeper. The average number of sheep per keeper is 6 with a total of 31,868 sheep which is about 8.6 percent of the livestock in the district. Cattle constitute 5.7 percent of the livestock in the district with an average of seven cattle per keeper. Table 7.2 also show that, rabbits, grass-cutters are also reared in the district though in very small numbers. Snail farming, inland fishing and marine fishing are virtually none existent.

CHAPTER EIGHT

HOUSING CONDITIONS

8.1 Introduction

The policy framework of the Government of Ghana, the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda, emphasized the need for increased access of the population to safe, adequate and affordable housing and shelter (NDPC, 2010). Earlier frameworks also underscored the important role of housing in social development. In the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (2003-2005) policy framework, for instance, housing interventions were prescribed implicitly within the context of social development objectives. The achievement of health objectives was linked, among others, to the provision of safe water supply and sewerage, improved housing, and well planned settlements (NDPC, 2002). The provision of periodic information on housing and housing conditions is therefore important both to assess what has been achieved and to plan ahead. The information from housing censuses also serves as a basis for planning housing and human settlement programmes and policies. It can also be used to determine the adequacy of housing stock and assessment of the need for additional housing. It may also provide information on living conditions of those residing in temporary or substandard housing at the national, regional and local levels.

Information on the stock of houses, type of dwelling, holding and tenancy arrangements, ownership of dwelling units, construction materials, room occupancy, access to utilities and household facilities, main sources of water, bathing and toilet facilities and method of waste disposal in the Bongo District are presented in this chapter.

8.2 Housing Stock

A house is considered as any type of shelter used as living quarters such as flats, apartments, huts, kiosks, containers as well as tents which protects a household from the hazards of the weather. Table 8.1 shows that the district population of 84,545 live in a total of 10,352 housing units. This implies that on the average there are 1.5 households per house in the district, which translate into eight persons in a house. This figure is lower than the regional figure of nine persons per house. The majority (93.0%) of the housing stock in the district is found in the rural areas.

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

Categories	Total				
	country	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total population	24,658,823	1,046,545	84,545	5,169	79,376
Total household population	24,076,327	1,034,704	83,996	5,074	78,922
Number of houses	3,392,745	114,034	10,352	651	9,701
Number of households	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	1,145	14,043
Average households per house	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.4
Population per house*	7.1	9.1	8.1	7.8	8.1
Average household size	4.4	5.8	5.5	4.4	5.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.3 Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement

8.3.1 Type of dwelling

Table 8.2 presents types of occupied dwelling units by sex of household head and type of locality. It shows that compound houses are the predominant type of dwelling for the majority of households in the district constituting one out of every two dwelling units. Separate houses and huts or buildings (same compound) follow closely with 27.1 percent and 12.2 percent respectively. This situation is not different from what pertained in 2000. Less than 0.5 percent of households in the district live in somehow temporal structures like tents, kiosk and uncompleted buildings, whilst the rest live in permanent structures.

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		Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent				
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Separate house	1,471,391	29,787	4,119	27.1	28.4	25.2	22.3	27.5
Semi-detached house	391,548	6,836	496	3.3	3.4	3.1	7.8	2.9
Flat/Apartment	256,355	1,459	47	0.3	0.4	0.2	1.7	0.2
Compound house (rooms)	2,942,147	103,666	7,640	50.3	49.1	52.2	59.1	49.6
Huts/Buildings (same compound)	170,957	22,735	1,852	12.2	12.3	12.0	2.3	13.0
Huts/Buildings (different compound)	36,410	11,616	959	6.3	5.9	6.9	6.3	6.3
Tent	10,343	300	20	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Improvised home (kiosk/container etc)	90,934	183	10	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Living quarters attached to office/shop	20,499	348	15	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Uncompleted building	66,624	554	23	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1
Other	9,846	145	7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Compound houses remain the preferred dwelling type for both the urban and rural households; however, its use by households is slightly higher in the urban (59.1 %) than the rural (49.6%) areas. Also, compound houses are the most used type of dwelling for female headed households (52.2%) compared to male headed households (49.1%). Table 8.2 further shows that the use of uncompleted structures is generally low in the district, constituting 0.3 percent for urban and 0.1 percent for rural households.

3.3.2 Holding and tenancy arrangement

Dwelling ownership status in the district is shown in Table 8.3 which indicates that most (95.2%) households resides in dwellings owned by a member of the household, while 2.1 percent is owned by other private individuals. The proportion of households living in a dwelling owned by a member of the household is higher in the rural areas (97.4%) than the urban centres (67.4%); while more households live in dwellings owned by private individuals in the urban areas (19.0%) than rural areas (0.7%).

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

Ownership status	Total country	Region	District					
			Total		Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent				
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Owned by household member	2,883,236	154,016	14,454	95.2	95.2	95.1	67.4	97.4
Being purchased (e.g. mortgage)	45,630	721	10	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Relative not a household member	851,630	6,035	106	0.7	0.5	1.0	3.0	0.5
Other private individual	1,439,021	12,181	319	2.1	1.9	2.4	19.0	0.7
Private employer	83,610	480	21	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.1	0.1
Other private agency	21,123	267	11	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.0
Public/Government ownership	118,804	3,686	235	1.5	1.8	1.2	6.5	1.1
Other	24,000	243	32	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.2	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Though the number of households who reside in public or Government dwelling units increased from 0.8 percent in 2000 to 1.5 percent in 2010, which needs serious and urgent attention. Improving the situation will go a long way to reduce the large number of staff working in the district and commuting from Bolgatanga.

8.4 Construction Materials

8.4.1 Construction material for outer wall

The type of material used for the construction of a dwelling unit determines the quality and durability of a dwelling unit. Table 8.4 presents the types of construction materials used for the outer walls of dwelling units in the district. Mud bricks or earth account for 91.7 percent of the main materials used for outer walls of houses in the district. This is followed by cement blocks or concrete (5.7%). However, the proportion of houses whose outer walls are constructed with mud bricks or earth has reduced slightly from 97.3 percent in 2000 to 91.7 percent in 2010, while the proportion of households using cement blocks for the outer wall has also increased four folds from the 2000 figure of 1.6 percent.

Whiles about a quarters (24.7%) of urban households use cement blocks for the construction of the outer walls of their housing units, about four out of every 100 rural households use this construction material. Contrarily, 74.0 percent of urban households compared to 93.2 percent rural households use mud bricks or earth for the construction of the outer walls of their dwelling units.

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

Material for Outer wall	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	182,845	15,350	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud brick/Earth	1,991,540	147,624	14,080	91.7	74.0	93.2
Wood	200,594	1,606	88	0.6	0.3	0.6
Metal sheet/Slate/Asbestos	43,708	855	59	0.4	0.1	0.4
Stone	11,330	372	24	0.2	0.3	0.1
Burnt bricks	38,237	233	2	0.0	0.1	0.0
Cement blocks/Concrete	3,342,462	29,321	874	5.7	24.7	4.1
Landcrete	104,270	1,890	178	1.2	0.1	1.2
Bamboo	8,206	54	2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Palm leaf/Thatch (grass)/Raffia	38,054	435	15	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other	39,206	455	28	0.2	0.3	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.2 Main material for floor

Table 8.5 presents main construction materials used for the floor of dwelling unit by type of locality. Cement and earth or Mud together account for 97.5 percent of the materials used for floor as shown in Table 8.5. However, the proportion of households that use cement or concrete material for the floor is higher (63.0%) than those with earth or mud as main (34.5%) material for floor, 34.5. Table 8.5 further shows that cement or concrete floors is more common in the urban areas than in the rural areas, while the use of earth or mud as materials for floor is widely used in the rural areas than the urban areas.

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

Materials for the floor	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
Earth/Mud	872,161	56,272	5,246	34.5	9.3	36.6
Cement/Concrete	4,255,611	116,911	9,568	63.0	89.8	60.8
Stone	32,817	1,623	232	1.5	0.3	1.6
Burnt brick	6,537	89	2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wood	52,856	49	2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vinyl tiles	57,032	196	1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ceramic/Porcelain/Granite/Marble tiles	88,500	1,181	98	0.6	0.3	0.7
Terrazzo/Terrazzo tiles	85,973	401	4	0.0	0.3	0.0
Other	15,567	907	35	0.2	0.1	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.3 Main material for roof

Table 8.6 presents main construction material for roofing of dwelling by type of locality. Metal sheet, thatch or raffia and earth or muds are the three main roofing materials in the district accounting for 97.5 percent of all roofing materials. Metal sheet is the most preferred with three-quarters (74.3%) of households using it as their main roofing material in the district. The use of metal sheets is higher (92.6%) in the urban areas, than in rural areas (72.8%). However the use of earth or mud and thatch or raffia is higher in the rural areas accounting for 7.1 percent and 17.2 percent respectively. It is important to mention that there

is a phenomenal increase in the use of metal sheets in the district from 18.9 percent in 2000 to 74.3 percent in 2010.

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

Main Roofing material	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	182,845	15,350	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud/Mud bricks/Earth	80,644	22,227	1,025	6.7	1.0	7.1
Wood	45,547	3,085	103	0.7	0.5	0.7
Metal sheet	4,152,259	122,942	11,405	74.3	92.6	72.8
Slate/Asbestos	759,039	646	19	0.1	0.1	0.1
Cement/Concrete	141,072	879	30	0.2	0.6	0.2
Roofing tile	31,456	162	5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bamboo	71,049	586	102	0.7	0.1	0.7
Thatch/Palm leaf or Raffia	500,606	30,722	2,535	16.5	4.7	17.5
Other	35,935	1,596	126	0.8	0.4	0.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.5 Room Occupancy

Information on the number of sleeping rooms occupied by a household is an indication of the level of crowding and adequacy of dwelling stock available. The information on the number of rooms occupied by households and the number used for sleeping was collected. Room occupancy is further an indication of the socio-economic condition of the household. Table 8.7 presents data on household size and number of sleeping rooms occupied in a dwelling unit. The data show that more than three-quarter (78.7%) of households in the district use between one to four rooms for sleeping.

About one out of every 10 (9.4%) households in the district occupy only one sleeping room, slightly more than a fifth (22.2%) have two sleeping rooms, while 27 percent use three sleeping rooms. Two out of every five (45.0%) single person households occupy one sleeping room while 30.1 percent have two rooms. The proportion of households that occupy one sleeping room decreases with increasing household size. The data suggest that not many persons occupy few rooms that could be described as congestion. Less than 10 percent of nine or more member households in the district occupy one or two sleeping rooms.

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

Household size	Total		Number of sleeping rooms								
	Number	Percent	One room	Two rooms	Three rooms	Four rooms	Five rooms	Six rooms	Seven rooms	Eight rooms	Nine rooms or more
Total	15,188	100.0	9.4	22.2	27.0	20.1	9.9	5.4	2.5	1.5	1.9
1	911	100.0	45.0	30.1	16.4	5.2	1.4	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.1
2	1,127	100.0	20.5	37.6	26.3	10.0	3.3	0.8	1.0	0.2	0.4
3	1,669	100.0	14.7	33.0	30.0	14.3	5.3	1.0	0.8	0.2	0.7
4	2,160	100.0	10.6	29.6	30.3	18.4	6.0	3.2	0.8	0.6	0.5
5	2,382	100.0	5.8	25.5	32.6	21.3	7.9	3.9	1.6	0.8	0.5
6	2,121	100.0	4.9	20.0	31.8	23.9	10.8	4.7	1.7	0.9	1.3
7	1,575	100.0	2.9	14.5	29.5	26.6	14.4	6.5	3.0	1.3	1.1
8	1,115	100.0	1.3	10.9	23.2	28.7	17.1	9.4	3.9	2.8	2.7
9	769	100.0	1.8	7.0	19.9	26.3	20.7	13.5	4.4	4.0	2.3
10+	1,359	100.0	0.4	3.3	12.6	22.7	18.0	15.7	10.2	5.8	11.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

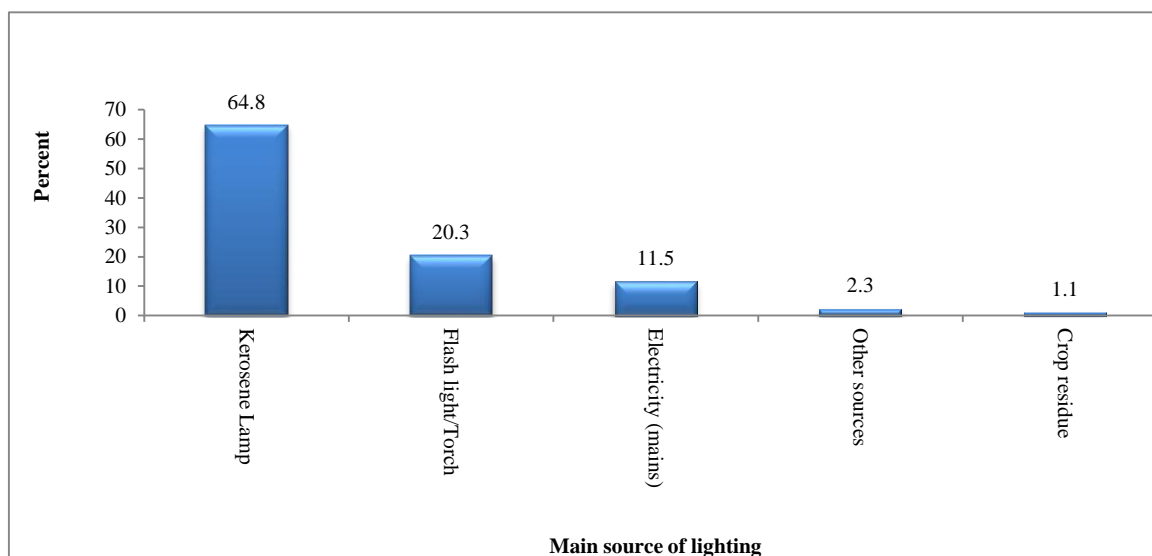
8.6 Access to Utilities and Household Facilities

Information on household facilities and access to utilities give clear indication of how accessible certain basic facilities and necessities are to communities in the district.

8.6.1 Main source of lighting

From figure 8.1, kerosene lamp is the major source of lighting for households in the district accounting for 64.8 percent. This proportion was 90.7 percent in 2000, implying there has been a reduction in the proportion of households who use kerosene lamp as their main source of lighting. However, there is an increase in proportion of households who use electricity (mains) as their main source of lighting increased from 4.5 percent in 2000 to 11.5 percent in 2010.

Figure 8.1: Main source of lighting in dwelling unit



Source: Ghana Statistical service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 8.1 further reveals that one out of every five households in the district depend on flashlight or torch for lighting. This could be attributed to the fact that their use is relative cheaper compared to other sources of lighting. Furthermore, the constant rise in the price of kerosene in recent times makes flashlight or torch light a more viable and better alternative.

Table 8.8 presents further information on the main source of lighting of dwelling unit by type of locality in the Bongo District. Though the use of electricity (mains) has increased, only 8.1 percent of the rural households are connected to the national grid. The rural electrification project needs to be given an added impetus to make it a reality since electricity is not only used for lighting but also for industrial purposes with the tendency to open and enhance economic opportunities for the rural people and thereby improve their social and economic wellbeing.

Table 8.8: 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	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
Electricity (mains)	3,511,065	42,866	1,748	11.5	53.5	8.1
Electricity (private generator)	36,142	1,009	84	0.6	0.6	0.5
Kerosene lamp	971,807	80,752	9,837	64.8	36.6	67.1
Gas lamp	9,378	412	49	0.3	0.3	0.3
Solar energy	9,194	612	34	0.2	0.2	0.2
Candle	41,214	293	13	0.1	0.3	0.1
Flashlight/Torch	858,651	49,068	3,087	20.3	7.2	21.4
Firewood	13,241	1,191	94	0.6	0.3	0.6
Crop residue	4,623	830	160	1.1	0.4	1.1
Other	11,739	596	82	0.5	0.6	0.5

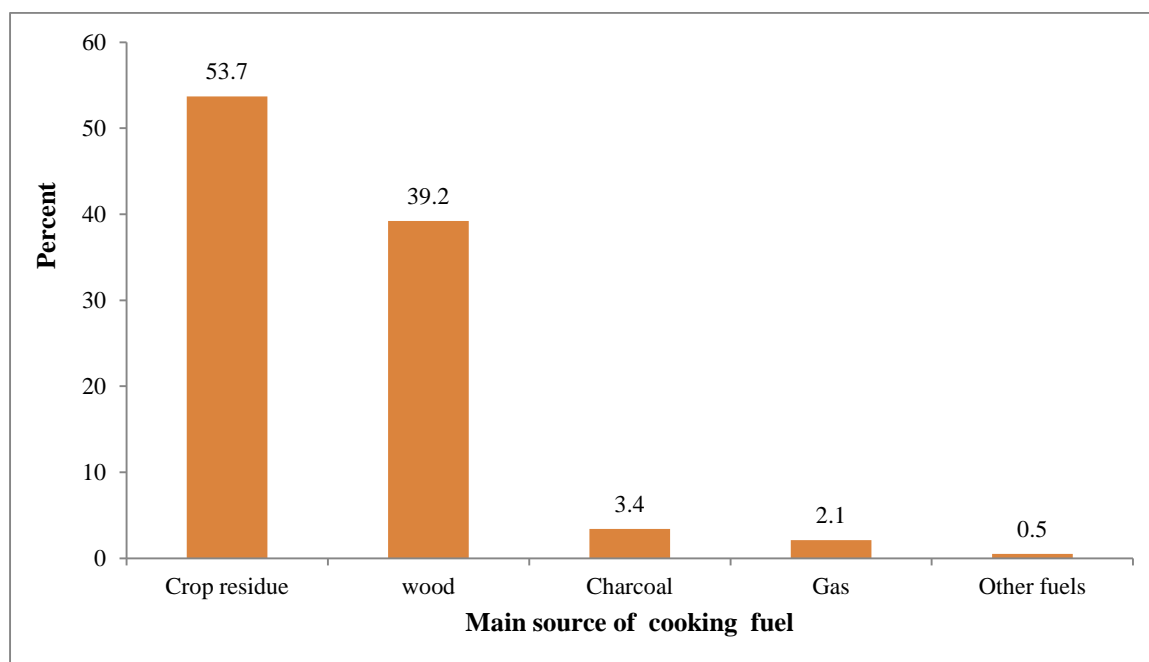
Source: Ghana Statistical service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 8.8 also show that although about half (53.5%) of urban households use electricity (mains) a significant proportion, 36.6 percent, of urban households use kerosene lamp as their main source of lighting. Two-thirds (67.1%) of the households in rural settlements of the district depend on kerosene lamp for lighting. This means that any price hikes in the price of kerosene will impact more on the rural dwellers than urban dwellers.

8.6.2 Main source of cooking fuel

Since food is an indispensable need for humans and it is most often needed to be cooked before eating, it is important to look at the main sources of cooking fuel. The major source of cooking fuel in the district is crop residue as shown in figure 8.2. This accounts for 53.7 percent of the various types of cooking fuel used in the district.

Figure 8.2: Main source of cooking fuel



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Generally, the use of wood fuel has significantly increased since 2000 as 39.2 percent of households now use it compared to 25 percent of households who reported wood as their main source of cooking fuel then.

Table 8.9 presents further details on the main sources of cooking fuel, and cooking space used by households. The table shows that 1.2 percent of households in the rural areas and 13.6 percent in urban areas use gas as their source of cooking fuel. This can also be an indication of the differences in socio-economic conditions of rural and urban dwellers besides availability.

The most common type of cooking space used by households in the district is enclosure without roof which accounts for 42.2 percent. This is a reduction from what pertained in 2000, where 77.2 percent of the households were using enclosure without roof. The proportion of households using their bedroom or hall as cooking space has also declined from 3.7 percent in 2000 to 0.2 percent in 2010. The use of veranda as cooking space is more prevalent in the urban areas, 18.5 percent which is more than eight times the proportion of households in the rural areas.

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

Source of cooking fuel/cooking space	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of cooking fuel for household						
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
None no cooking	306,118	3,272	157	1.0	3.7	0.8
Wood	2,197,083	107,310	5,959	39.2	22.6	40.6
Gas	996,518	8,735	326	2.1	13.6	1.2
Electricity	29,794	383	19	0.1	0.3	0.1
Kerosene	29,868	402	14	0.1	0.4	0.1
Charcoal	1,844,290	27,021	512	3.4	22.3	1.8
Crop residue	45,292	29,725	8,149	53.7	34.4	55.2
Saw dust	8,000	93	7	0.0	0.5	0.0
Animal waste	2,332	124	4	0.0	0.1	0.0
Other	7,759	564	41	0.3	2.0	0.1
Cooking space used by household						
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
No cooking space	386,883	6,822	495	3.3	5.0	3.1
Separate room for exclusive use of household	1,817,018	75,393	5,045	33.2	32.1	33.3
Separate room shared with other household(s)	410,765	4,664	151	1.0	1.9	0.9
Enclosure without roof	117,614	31,567	6,404	42.2	22.3	43.8
Structure with roof but without walls	349,832	1,788	53	0.3	0.5	0.3
Bedroom/Hall/Living room)	74,525	572	34	0.2	0.9	0.2
Veranda	1,173,946	18,444	523	3.4	18.5	2.2
Open space in compound	1,115,464	38,038	2,466	16.2	18.7	16.0
Other	21,007	341	17	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

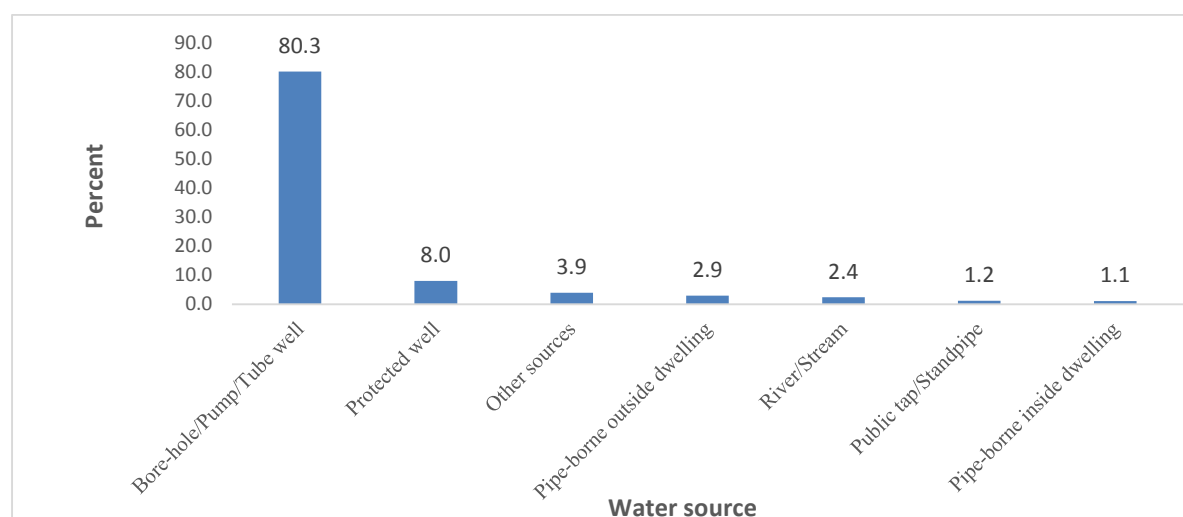
8.7 Main source of water for drinking and for other domestic use

8.7.1 Main source of drinking water

Improved source of water is assumed to be more likely to provide safe water. Unsafe water is in most cases the direct cause of many diseases, more especially in developing countries. Piped water, public tap, borehole/pump/tube well, protected well, protected spring or rain water are considered safe sources of drinking water. This does not include vendor water, bottled water, tanker water or unprotected wells and springs.

As shown by figure 8.3, four out of every five households (80.3%) in the district use borehole or pump or tube well as main source of drinking water. Protected well accounted for 8.0 percent of the main source of drinking water used in the district, followed by pipe borne outside the dwelling (2.9%). About 6.0 percent of the households drink from sources classified as unsafe sources.

Figure 8.3: Main sources of drinking water



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Furthermore, Table 8.10 presents detailed data on main sources of water used by households for drinking and other domestic purposes. It shows that 78.3 percent and 80.5 percent of households use borehole or pump or tube well in the urban and rural areas respectively for drinking.

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

Sources of water	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of drinking water for household						
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	790,493	11,577	160	1.1	8.7	0.4
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,039,667	15,063	436	2.9	9.3	2.3
Public tap/Standpipe	712,375	5,179	176	1.2	0.9	1.2
Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well	1,267,688	101,817	12,203	80.3	78.3	80.5
Protected well	321,091	22,805	1,219	8.0	0.6	8.6
Rain water	39,438	223	5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Protected spring	19,345	683	52	0.3	0.4	0.3
Bottled water	20,261	82	4	0.0	0.1	0.0
Sachet water	490,283	694	22	0.1	1.1	0.1
Tanker supply/Vendor provided	58,400	267	3	0.0	0.1	0.0
Unprotected well	112,567	11,083	356	2.3	0.1	2.5
Unprotected spring	12,222	378	61	0.4	0.0	0.4
River/Stream	502,804	4,452	364	2.4	0.2	2.6
Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal	76,448	3,175	126	0.8	0.2	0.9
Other	3,972	151	1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 8.10: Main source of water of dwelling unit for drinking and other domestic purposes (Cont'd)

Sources of water	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of water for other domestic use of household						
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	905,566	11,408	161	1.1	9.1	0.4
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,089,030	13,957	555	3.7	7.3	3.4
Public tap/Standpipe	704,293	4,541	103	0.7	1.0	0.6
Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well	1,280,465	98,487	11,549	76.0	75.5	76.1
Protected well	465,775	24,798	1,274	8.4	4.6	8.7
Rain water	39,916	330	12	0.1	0.0	0.1
Protected spring	18,854	672	56	0.4	0.4	0.4
Tanker supply/Vendor provided	100,048	301	3	0.0	0.2	0.0
Unprotected well	152,055	11,607	418	2.8	0.9	2.9
Unprotected spring	15,738	650	116	0.8	0.1	0.8
River/Stream	588,590	6,125	513	3.4	0.3	3.6
Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal	96,422	4,518	419	2.8	0.5	2.9
Other	10,302	235	9	0.1	0.0	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.7.2 Main source of water for other domestic use

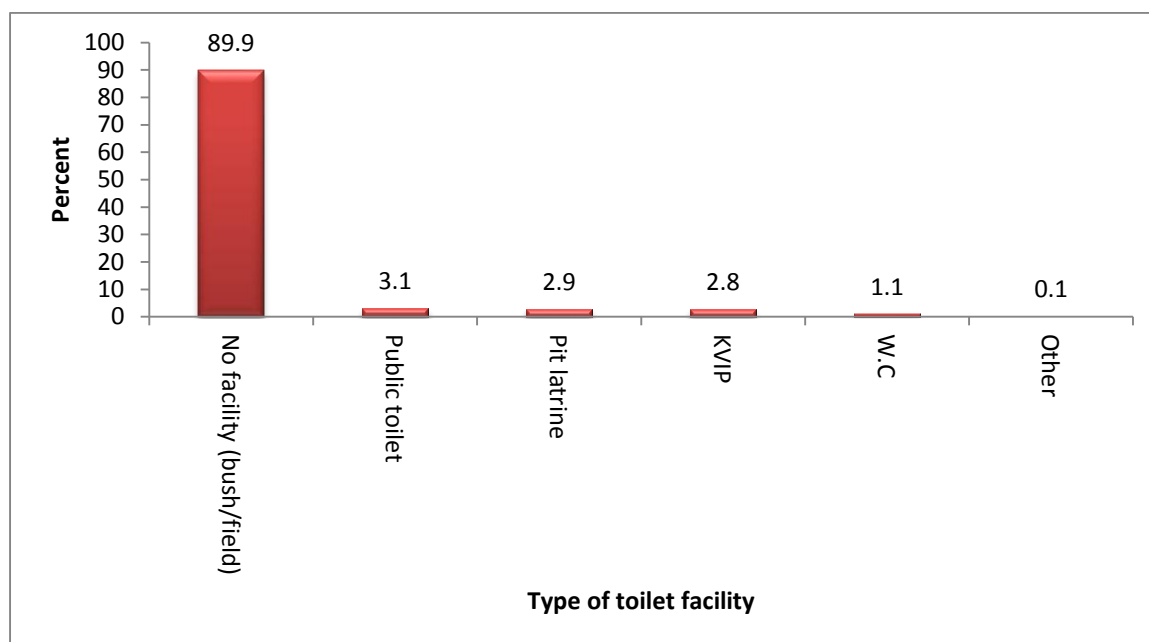
The pattern of the main source of water for other domestic use by households is not much different from the main source of drinking water. About 76.0 percent of the district households use borehole or pump or tube well for domestic purposes other than drinking. About an equal proportion of households in the urban and rural communities, 75.5 percent and 76.1 percent respectively, use borehole or pump or tube well water as the main source of water for other domestic use. The use of river/stream water as main source of water for other domestic use is more prevalent in the rural areas (3.6%) than in urban areas (0.3%).

8.8 Bathing and Toilet Facilities

8.8.1 Toilet facilities

Information on toilet facilities is also important for housing as well as public health policy and for planning the location of such facilities in areas they are most needed. Figure 8.4 and Table 8.11 shows type of toilet and bathing facilities used by households by type of localities. As shown by Figure 8.4, nine out of every 10 households in the district have no toilet facility and therefore use the bush or field. The use of the bush or fields for nature's call is certainly not good news for the district as it can have devastating consequence during outbreaks of diseases such as cholera. Household members are equally exposed to dangerous reptiles especially during raining season when the bushes are overgrown.

Figure 8.4: Type of toilet facility use by households



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Detail information about the use of toilet and bathing facilities by households is further presented in Table 8.11. The table shows that the situation of toilet facility usage in rural areas is not much different from what happens in the urban areas. Whereas, three out of every five households, (57.6%) in the urban areas indicated they have no facility and therefore use the bush or field, nine out of every 10 households, (92.6%) in the rural areas use the bush. The proportion of households who use public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit latrine) is 15.3 percent for urban compared to 2.1 percent for rural households. These figures are unacceptably low, especially that 89.9 percent of the households in the district use no facility.

8.8.2 Bathing facilities of households

Table 8.11 shows that one out of every two households in the district has their own bathroom for exclusive use and three out of every 20 households use open space around the house for bathing purposes. More households in the rural (54.4%) than urban (34.9%) areas own bathroom for exclusive use. The proportion of households that use shared separate bathroom in the same house is more typical of the urban areas (35.8%) than in rural areas (7.8%).

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

Toilet facility/Bathing facility	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Toilet facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
No facilities (bush/beach/field)	1,056,382	146,329	13,659	89.9	57.6	92.6
W.C.	839,611	6,050	165	1.1	7.9	0.5
Pit latrine	1,040,883	5,266	441	2.9	8.7	2.4
KVIP	572,824	6,196	429	2.8	10.1	2.2
Bucket/Pan	40,678	405	5	0.0	0.3	0.0
Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit latrine etc)	1,893,291	12,828	467	3.1	15.3	2.1
Other	23,385	555	22	0.1	0.1	0.1
Bathing facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
Own bathroom for exclusive use	1,535,392	73,345	8,035	52.9	34.9	54.4
Shared separate bathroom in the same house	1,818,522	33,370	1,502	9.9	35.8	7.8
Private open cubicle	381,979	26,114	2,240	14.7	10.0	15.1
Shared open cubicle	1,000,257	21,111	911	6.0	7.3	5.9
Public bath house	140,501	2,391	25	0.2	0.6	0.1
Bathroom in another house	187,337	479	43	0.3	1.1	0.2
Open space around house	372,556	19,987	2,347	15.5	10.0	15.9
River/Pond/Lake/Dam	14,234	437	52	0.3	0.1	0.4
Other	16,276	395	33	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

It is also true from Table 8.11 that more households in the urban areas use shared bathroom than those who have their own bathroom for exclusive use, which is the direct opposite of the case in the rural areas. Therefore a household member in the rural area is more likely to have his/her bath in a bath house that is exclusively meant for the use of the household, than someone in the urban areas. However, the proportion of households who use open space around the house for bathing purposes is greater (15.9%) in the rural areas, than in the urban areas (10.0%).

8.9 Methods of Waste Disposal

Methods of waste disposal are divided into two major categories i.e. liquid waste and solid waste disposals. Waste disposal, especially solid waste, has remained a challenge to many localities in Ghana. MMDAs in the last decade have resorted to the use private waste management companies to manage solid waste in communities, especially urban communities. Table 8.12 presents methods of solid and liquid waste disposal by type of locality.

8.9.1 Solid waste disposal

Table 8.12 shows the use of public refuse containers is very low as only 1.4 percent of household in the district use public container dumps compared to 25.1 percent for open public dump sites. This is probably because there are more open public dump sites than public refuse containers provided or it could also be that, due to their locations, fewer households patronise their usage as only 5.9 percent of households use them. About 7.5 percent of households dispose of solid waste indiscriminately, with no much difference in the

urban and rural areas. In general there is no significant difference in the pattern of solid waste disposal between urban and rural households.

8.9.2 Liquid waste disposal

Liquid waste refers to waste from kitchen, bathroom and washing of clothes produced by households. This may be done through the sewerage system or thrown onto the street or gutter or some other means.

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

Method of waste disposal	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Solid waste						
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
Collected	785,889	19,758	2,715	17.9	22.6	17.5
Burned by household	584,820	44,337	3,709	24.4	24.5	24.4
Public dump (container)	1,299,654	14,057	215	1.4	5.9	1.1
Public dump (open space)	2,061,403	55,459	3,812	25.1	24.7	25.1
Dumped indiscriminately	498,868	25,994	1,135	7.5	6.8	7.5
Buried by household	182,615	12,201	1,851	12.2	8.1	12.5
Other	53,805	5,823	1,751	11.5	7.4	11.9
Liquid waste						
Total	5,467,054	177,629	15,188	100.0	100.0	100.0
Through the sewerage system	183,169	4,062	186	1.2	0.8	1.3
Through drainage system into a gutter	594,404	7,676	268	1.8	3.1	1.7
Through drainage into a pit (soak away)	167,555	12,031	594	3.9	4.0	3.9
Thrown onto the street/outside	1,538,550	105,548	10,892	71.7	82.4	70.8
Thrown into gutter	1,020,096	6,029	142	0.9	2.5	0.8
Thrown onto compound	1,924,986	41,258	2,933	19.3	6.7	20.3
Other	38,294	1,025	173	1.1	0.4	1.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The use of the sewerage system, drainage into a gutter, and drainage into a pit (soak away) which may be considered more appropriate, account for only 6.9 percent. This is an indication that the district would have to take a second look at its drainage systems.

CHAPTER NINE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Summary of Findings

Introduction

The 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC), is the second (combining a population and housing) in the history of eleven censuses conducted in Ghana. It derived its basic features from the United Nations Principles and Recommendations (2010) for countries taking part in the 2010 round of census and experiences from previous censuses. This report is the first for Bongo District and is produced with the aim of providing useful information for planners, academics and policy makers. The characteristics analyzed include the demographic profile, social and economic characteristics, and housing conditions.

9.1.1 Demographic characteristics

The district has a total population of 84,545 which is made up of 47.4 percent male and 52.6 percent female. About 93.9 percent of the population of the district is classified as rural and 6.1 percent urban. The district's share of the regional population is 8.08 percent

The median age of the district is 18 years meaning half of the district's population is below 18 years. Children aged less than 5 years constitute 14.0 percent and those aged less than 15 years (0-14 years) are 42.7 percent. Thus, more than 50 percent of the district's population is under 20 years. This is an indication that the district has a very youthful population.

The crude birth rate for the district is 23.4 births per 1000 population. This is a decline from the 2000 figure of 46.6 births per 1000 population. The general fertility rate for the district is 101.2 which means that 101 children are born in the district in a year per 1000 women aged 15-49 years. The district also has a Total Fertility Rate of 3.7 births per woman. The district has a crude death rate of 12.93 per 1000 population. The district recorded 1,093 deaths, 12 months preceding the census. About 5.6 percent of these deaths were due to accident/violence/homicide/suicide and 94.4 percent due to other causes.

There are 10,664 migrants in the district. About 59.8 percent of these migrants are persons who live in the district but were born elsewhere in the region while 41.2 percent was born outside the region. The majority of migrants in the district, irrespective of where they were born, have lived in the district for 20 years or more.

9.1.2 Social characteristics

There is also a considerable proportion of single person or single parent households. However, the fact that children grandchildren and other relatives of the head constitute more than 60 percent of household members supports the view that the traditional external family household composition has not changed much. It also reflects the extent of fostering in the living arrangements of households. The phenomenon of step or adopted children is rare in the district

About 40.2 percent of the district's population aged 12 years or older have never been married compared to 59.8 percent that indicated to have ever married. Of those ever married, about 45.8 percent of the population is currently married, less than two percent are separated (1.1%) and only 1.0 percent are divorced, and a further 11.6 percent of the population are widowed.

On educational attainment, the findings show that 53.8 percent of persons 12 years and older in the district have no education, 37.9 percent only have attained basic education and 0.4 percent have tertiary level education.

Ghanaians by birth constitute 96.1 percent of the district's population. A little less than two percent (1.6%) are Ghanaians of dual citizenship (Ghanaian and other Nationality) and Ghanaians by naturalization constitute only 0.6 percent. These three categories of Ghanaians constitute 98.3 percent of the population with other nationals making up only 1.7 percent.

There are three major religious groupings in the district. These are Traditionalists (44.0%), Moslems (7.2%) and Christians (45.1%). About 47.7 percent of the population aged 11 years and older are literate while 52.3 percent is not literate (illiterates).

9.1.3 Economic characteristics

The economic activity status of the population 15 years and older reveals that the proportion of the economically active population (75.0%) is three times greater than the proportion of the population not economically active (25.0%). Of the total economically active population, 97.2 percent are employed and 2.8 percent unemployed.

The major occupations in the district are agriculture including forestry and fishing works (72.6%). Craft and related trades constitute 15.5 percent while services and sales workers constitute 5.3 percent and professionals make up 2.2 percent.

There are three major industrial activities in the district: agriculture, including forestry and fishing (72.2%), manufacturing (14.2%) and wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (4.6%). The majority of the employed population are in the private informal sector. The public sector employs only 3.2 percent. The public sector workers constitute less than 5.0 percent of the district's employed population.

9.1.4 Information Communication Technology

The use of information communication technology tools in the district is generally low, more especially computer ownership and internet facility usage. Of the population 12 years and older only 16.6 percent own mobile phones. While one out of every five (21.2%) of the male population 12 years and older own mobile phones, about one in every eight (12.7%) of their female counterparts own mobile phones. The use of internet is almost non-existent in the district as only one out of 100 persons 12 years or older use the facility. Similarly, only 1.3 percent households have a laptop or desktop computer.

9.1.5 Disability

There are 4,063 persons with disability in the district representing 4.8 percent of the population. The proportion of the district's male population who is disabled is five percent and that of female 4.7 percent. Sight disability accounts for about 38.5 percent of the various types of disabilities in the district, followed by physical disability, 23.3 percent. Emotional disability in the district is 12.9 percent.

Seven out of every 10 persons with disability in the district have never attended school. The highest educational level attained by the majority PWDs in the district (15.9%) is primary school. The proportion of PWDs in the district who are employed is 61.9 percent, while 36.5 percent of them are economically not active.

9.1.6 Agricultural activities

An agricultural household is one where at least one person in the household is engaged in farming. About 95.7 percent of the households in the district are engaged in agricultural activities. The majority of the households in agriculture are engaged in crop farming and livestock rearing representing, 98.8 percent and 88.1 percent respectively. The total number of livestock in the district is 372,519 and a total of 34,571 keepers with an average of 11 animals per keeper. Guinea fowl and chicken are the most common birds that are reared in the district, constituting 151,216 and 82,296 respectively. The district has an average of 15 birds and 18 birds per keeper.

9.1.7 Housing condition and amenities

The district's population of 84,545, live in a total of 10,352 houses, with an average of 8.1 persons per house. Compound houses are the most predominant dwelling units in the district, constituting one out of every two houses (50.3%). Furthermore 95.2 percent of households live in dwelling units owned by a member of the household. In the urban areas, this proportion is 67.4 percent compared to 97.4 percent for rural settlements. The percentage that live in dwelling units owned by other private individual is 19.0 percent for urban households and under one percent (0.7%) for rural ones.

The bulk of the material used for outer walls is mud bricks/earth (91.7 %) and only 5.7 percent of the materials used for outer walls constitute cement blocks/concrete. Conversely the proportion of households that use cement/concrete as main material for the floor is higher, (63.0%) than mud/earth 34.5 percent. Concrete floors are common in the urban areas than in rural areas.

Metal sheet, thatch or raffia and earth/mud are the three dominant main materials used for roofing in the district. These account for 97.5 percent of all material used for roofing. Also about 78.7 percent of households in the district use around one to four rooms for sleeping.

9.1.8 Access to utilities

Kerosene lamp is the major source (64.8%) of lighting for households in the district, followed by flashlight or torch, 20.3 percent and 11.5 percent for electricity (mains). About 53.7 percent of households use crop residue as main source of cooking fuel and 39.2 percent use wood. The use of gas (2.1%) and charcoal (3.4%) in the district is low.

Four out of every five households (80.3%) in the district use borehole or pump or well as the main sources of drinking water. The combined proportion of household that used pipe-borne inside dwelling, pipe-borne outside dwelling or public tap/standpipe is 5.2 percent. Similar patterns are observed for the main source of water for other domestic uses other than drinking. Sanitation is of great concern in the district as nine out of every 10 households resort to open defecation. Only 3.1 percent use public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit latrine) and 2.8 percent use pit latrine /KVIP.

Less than two percent (1.4 %) of households in the district use public refuse containers for the disposal of solid waste and 25.1 percent dispose of solid waste indiscriminately. Four out of every five households in urban areas dispose of liquid waste by throwing onto the

street/outside. The proportion of rural households that disposed of liquid waste by throwing onto the street/outside is 70.8 percent.

9.2 Conclusions

The district has a total population of 84,545 which is an increase of about 8.6 percentage points since the last census. The median age of the district is 18 years. More than 50 percent of the district's population is under 20 years, an indication that the district has a very youthful population. The district age dependency ratio has slightly declined from 107.4 in 2000 to 99.2 in 2010.

The reported Total Fertility Rate of the district has reduced from 7.5 births per woman in 2000 to 3.7 births in 2010. Though fertility decline is not the only factor that determines population change, its reduction somehow explains the slow growth of the district's population.

The extended family system arrangement though generally perceived to be fast eroding, is still very dominant in the district. The data reveals an alarming proportion of single parent households in the district. Since divorce is low among the population and just about one in 10 persons 12 years or older is widowed, the plausible reason among others, is out migration.

Although, education is said to be the bedrock of development, the findings show that 53.8 percent of persons 12 years and older in the district have no education and 37.9 percent have only basic education. This means that about 91.7 of the district's population who are 12 years and older have education below the secondary level. It is therefore not surprising that 52.3 percent of the district population who are 11 years and older cannot read and write simple sentences in any language.

The proportion of the population who are economically active (75.0%) is three times higher than those not economically active (25.0%). Of the total economically active population, 97.2 percent are employed and 2.8 percent unemployed. There are three major industrial activities at the district level: agriculture, including forestry and fishing (72.2%), manufacturing (14.2%) and wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (4.6%). This kind of employment structure does not lend itself for the mobilization of tax revenue as well as mobilization of capital for expansion and job creation.

Among the population 12 years and older only 16.6 percent own mobile phones. While one out of every five (21.2%) of the male population 12 years and older own mobile phones, about one in every eight (12.7%) of their female counterparts own mobile phones. The use of internet is almost non-existent in the district as only one out of 100 persons 12 years or older use the facility.

About five out of every 100 persons in the district suffer one form of disability or the other. Sight disability account for about 38.5 percent of the various types of disabilities in the district, followed by physical disability, 23.3 percent. Nearly three-quarters (71.4%) of the PWDs in the district have never attended school. This situation has serious implications for the development of their potentials and effective participation socio-economic activities.

The district's economy like the regional and national economies can be termed as an agrarian economy because over 95.0 percent of the households in the district are engaged in subsistence agricultural activities. The majority of the households in agriculture are engaged in crop farming (98.8%) and livestock rearing (88.1%). Information collected on livestock in

the district indicated that there were 372,519 livestock and a total of 34,571 keepers with an average of 11 animals per keeper in the district.

There are a total of about 10,352 houses, with an average of 8.1 persons per house. This is lower than the regional figure of 9.1 persons per house. Compound houses constitute the most predominant dwelling unit type in the district accounting for half of the housing stock. It is further revealed that 95.2 percent of households live in dwelling units owned by a member of the household. About 91.7 percent of the materials used for outer walls of dwelling units are constructed with earth or mud bricks which often are unable to withstand the floods which are fast becoming a yearly ritual in northern Ghana.

Kerosene lamp and the use of flashlights are the major source of lighting (64.8%) for households in the district while only about one out of every 10 households are connected to the national electricity grid. About 53.7 percent of households use crop residue as main source of cooking fuel and 39.2 percent use wood. The use of liquefied petroleum gas is yet to catch up with the population as only two out of every 100 households use it as their main source of cooking fuel. The sanitation status of the district is very serious as nine out of 10 households resort to open defecation, which can be described as a time bomb. It is however heart-warming to know that four out of every five households in the district depend on borehole as their main source of drinking water, irrespective of the time it might take them to access the water.

9.3 Recommendations

The Government of Ghana has operated the decentralized system of governance since 1988 with district assemblies as the planning authorities which are expected to initiate, coordinate the planning processes, budgeting and implementation of district plans and programmes. To do this it is important to have accurate, reliable and timely data. It is in this respect that the following recommendations are being made out of the findings of the 2010 Population and Housing Census.

Over 50.0 percent of the district population is under 20 years of age. It is therefore essential that in planning for the district this must be borne in mind to ensure that the requisite amenities like schools, recreational activities for the youth are provided. There is also the need to bring on board departments such as the National Population Council and the National Youth Authority to help fashion out youth policies that will help ensure that the youth grow up to be productive future leaders.

Although the Crude Birth Rate, General Fertility Rate and Total Fertility Rates have declined considerably, the population density of the district is still worrying. This is because the increasing numbers in population with fixed land with rocks covering some parts of it and thus further limiting the arable land available for cultivation. For a population that is predominantly agriculture the increase in population density cannot be ignored. There is therefore the need for innovation to ensure sustainable agriculture and food security.

The illiteracy rate in the district needs to be tackled. The findings show that 52.3 percent of the district population 11 years and older cannot read and write a simple statement in any language at all. This situation needs to be reversed; therefore agencies such as Non-Formal education will have to work with the district education service to reverse the trend.

Agriculture being the back bone of the district's economy and the fact that majority of the population are engaged in subsistence farming, there is the need to encourage the

establishment of agro-businesses besides improving the other sectors to ensure any meaningful revenue mobilisation in the district by way of taxes. Taxation is major source of revenue for both national and local authorities. It is therefore important to come out with policies to make the sector productive to be able to support revenue mobilisation.

Since the majority of the people in the district use kerosene lamps, price hikes are most likely to impact negatively on the district. It is recommended that the assembly makes kerosene available for sale to the people with little mark-ups. This will serve as a way of generating income for the district as well as catering for its people whilst efforts are being made to pursue rural electrification in the long term.

Private persons must be encouraged to go into the provision of ICT services in order to promote the use of ICT in the district. Furthermore, the assembly needs to resurrect the district ICT centre which is almost out of use.

Though 4.8 percent of the district's population is disabled, emotional disability seem to be rearing its head in the district and the health authorities in the district would have to work to check it before it assumes disproportionate proportions. Furthermore, efforts must be made to see to it that the proportion of people with disability who have never attended school is drastically reduced.

Sanitation is still a problem in the district and therefore the department of environmental health and sanitation and Zoom Lion need to work closely together. Perhaps, the National Commission on Civic Education (NCCE) needs to be brought on board to help in the sensitization for the need to use public toilet and public refuse containers to ensure a filthy free district.

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APPENDICES

Table A1: Population by sex, number of Households and houses in the 20 largest communities

S/No.	Community name	Sex			Households	Houses
		Total	Male	Female		
1	Bongo	5,169	2,291	2,878	1,145	651
2	Soe Soboko	2,794	1,324	1,470	530	396
3	Namoo	2,689	1,295	1,394	465	338
4	Lungu (Lungo)	2,597	1,237	1,360	439	322
5	Zoko Kodorogo	1,859	880	979	340	225
6	Adaboya	1,836	861	975	288	238
7	Zoko Goo	1,764	820	944	362	211
8	Zoko Kanga	1,730	807	923	306	220
9	Bogorogo	1,669	807	862	327	247
10	Balungu Dooni	1,516	713	803	255	172
11	Zoko Gambrongo Abagabiisi	1,515	724	791	297	200
12	Vea Akugrebiisi	1,485	698	787	272	202
13	Feo Nabiisi	1,459	658	801	252	145
14	Zoko Tarongo	1,457	656	801	283	200
15	Dua-Apuwungu	1,422	718	704	254	182
16	Dua Tonkoo	1,347	647	700	247	172
17	Balungu Nabiisi	1,303	644	659	225	163
18	Dua Nayire	1,290	666	624	188	138
19	Zoko Kadare	1,254	569	685	220	158
20	Buntua	1,224	621	603	187	146

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

Serial number	Community Name	All ages	Age group															
			0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+
1	Bongo	5,169	699	604	657	604	520	419	284	255	245	179	157	108	119	64	101	154
2	Soe Soboko	2,794	406	402	406	268	224	207	129	111	144	90	108	50	85	41	59	64
3	Namoo	2,689	354	382	361	305	195	196	130	135	120	124	88	56	41	52	55	95
4	Lungu (Lungu)	2,597	371	413	368	299	166	138	117	102	108	87	115	62	79	38	50	84
5	Zoko Kodorogo	1,859	243	239	288	213	131	109	69	90	85	100	76	72	49	36	32	27
6	Adaboya	1,836	276	315	209	180	102	112	87	90	76	61	59	46	64	41	33	85
7	Zoko Goo	1,764	249	272	265	214	122	77	84	84	54	60	66	30	48	34	25	80
8	Zoko Kanga	1,730	228	225	267	177	124	126	91	73	58	63	52	51	45	46	47	57
9	Bogorogo	1,669	235	256	222	189	85	102	78	75	65	63	55	51	50	37	33	73
10	Balungu Dooni Zoko Gambongo	1,516	225	265	207	143	91	97	68	64	60	48	46	42	49	43	25	43
11	Abagabiisi	1,515	208	236	221	169	96	86	56	81	47	56	45	50	45	24	45	50
12	Vea Akugrebiisi	1,485	197	211	192	154	115	85	67	56	48	79	47	29	55	38	64	48
13	Feo Nabiisi	1,459	176	222	217	181	95	78	73	89	74	48	52	22	32	30	31	39
14	Zoko Tarongo	1,457	208	220	194	174	99	87	70	63	57	58	49	29	33	17	21	78
15	Dua-Apuwungu	1,422	164	209	202	158	103	98	78	68	66	60	53	29	33	20	43	38
16	Dua Tonkoo	1,347	180	203	189	140	99	76	71	59	37	64	45	25	26	29	31	73
17	Balungu Nabiisi	1,303	196	190	182	161	81	89	62	73	52	40	35	33	24	22	30	33
18	Dua Nayire	1,290	248	204	165	124	77	75	77	63	57	50	43	15	22	10	29	31
19	Zoko Kadare	1,254	176	234	195	103	55	75	46	52	48	31	63	41	32	15	28	60
20	Buntua	1,224	189	206	145	130	69	55	71	56	53	44	43	29	28	26	30	50

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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