# 2010

## POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

## DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

## SISSALA WEST DISTRICT

**GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE, OCTOBER, 2014**

# 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 Sissala West 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**

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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASFR:        Age Specific Fertility Rate

CBR:        Crude Birth Rate

CDR:        Crude Death Rate

DFID:        Department for International Development

DPs:        Development Partners

ECOWAS:    Economic Community of West African States

EU:        European Union

GFR:        General Fertility Rate

GSS:        Ghana Statistical Service

ICT:        Informationon and communication technology

JHS:        Junior High School

$Km^2$:        Kilometers Square

L.I:        Legislative Instrument

PHC:        Population and Housing Census

PPP:        Public Private Partnership

SHS:        Senior High School

SWDA:       Sissala West District Assembly

TFR:        Total Fertility Rate

UNFPA:      United Nation Population Fund

# 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 Sissala West District, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, is 49,573 representing 7.06 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute of 48.7 percent and females represent 51.3 percent. The population in Sissala West District lived in rural areas. The district has a sex ratio of 94.5. The population of the district is youthful (45.2%) depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of elderly persons (population aged 60 years and above). The total age dependency ratio for the district is 102.4.

**Fertility, mortality and migration**

The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) for the District is 4.3 which is higher than the Regional average of (3.5). The General Fertility Rate (GFR) is 124.0 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years which is the second highest for the region. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 28.2 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the district is 7.5 per 1000. Accident/violence/homicide/suicide accounted for 3.8 percent of all deaths while other causes constitute 96.2 percent of deaths in the district. Majority of migrants 20.8 percent living in the District were born in another region while 79.2 percent were born elsewhere in the Upper West Region. For migrants born in another region, those born in Greater Accra constitute 30.2 percent followed by Ashanti region with 28.3 percent and Brong- Ahafo, 22.3 percent.

**Household Size, composition and structure**

The District has a household population of 49,021with a total number of 7,116 households. The average household size in the District is 1.4 persons. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household structure accounting for 48.4 percent. Spouses form about 9.7 percent. Nuclear households (head, spouse(s) and children) constitute 18.1 percent of the total number of households in the district.

**Marital status**

Overall, a little above half (52.7%) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 38.9 percent have never married, 0.5 percent are in consensual unions, 6.2 percent are widowed, 0.6 percent are divorced and 1.2 percent are separated. By age 25-29 years, over eight in ten of females (83.6%) are married compared to married males (50.6%). At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 53.9 percent while widowed males account for 6.6 percent. Among the married, 82.5 percent have no education while about 27.3 percent of the unmarried have never been to school. More than eight in ten of the married

population (85.9 %) is employed, 1.1 percent are unemployed and 13 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who have never married (52.7%) are economically not active with 1.2 percent unemployed.

**Nationality**

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the District is 92.8 percent. Those who have naturalised constitute one percent and non-Ghanaians 0.9 percent.

**Literacy and education**

Of the population 11 years and older, 40.0 percent are literate and 60.0 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (47.1 %) than that of females (36.0%). About two out of ten people (19.3%) indicated they could read and write both English and Ghanaian languages.  Of the population aged 3 years and above 18,145 in the District, 50.7 percent have never attended school, 40.1 percent are currently attending and 9.2 percent have attended in the past.

**Economic Activity Status**

About 74.7 percent of the population aged 15 years and older is economically active while 25.3 percent are economically not active.  Of the economically active population, 98.3 percent are employed whilst less than two (1.7 %) percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a larger percentage of them are students (48.5%), 20.3% perform household duties and 7.1 percent are disabled or too sick to work. Less than four in ten (37.6 %) percent of the unemployed population are seeking work for the first time.

**Occupation**

Of the employed population, about 82.3 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 5.0 percent in service and sales, 7.2 percent in craft and related trade, and 2.5 percent are engaged as managers, professionals, and technicians.

**Employment status and sector**

Of the population 15 years and older 55.8 percent are self-employed without employees, 36.6 percent are contributing family workers, 1.1 percent are casual workers and 0.4 percent are domestic employees (house helps). Overall, men constitute the highest proportion in each employment category except the contributing family workers and apprentices. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the District, employing 96.3 percent of the population followed by the public sector with 2.6 percent.

**Information Communication Technology**

Of the population 12 years and above, 14.4 percent have mobile phones. Men who own mobile phones constitute 22.3 percent as compared to 7.4 percent of females.  Less than one (0.5%) percent of the population 12 years and older use internet facilities in the District. Only 51 households representing 0.7 percent of the total households in the District have desktop/laptop computers.

**Disability**

About 3.5 percent of the District's population has one form of disability or the other. The proportion of the male population with disability is slightly higher (3.6%) than females (3.5%). The types of disability in the District include sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, other and emotion. Persons with 'other' disability recorded the highest of 27.6

percent followed by Sight disability (25.7%). About 30 percent of the population with disability is in the rural localities. There are more females with other, sight, physical and emotional disabilities than males in the rural locality. Of the population disabled, 68.2 percent have never been to school, with 39.4 percent not economically active.

## Agriculture

As high as 91.8 percent of households in the District are engaged in agriculture while 8.2 percent representing are households not engaged in any agricultural activity. Most households in the District (98%) are involved in crop farming. Poultry (chicken) is the dominant animal reared in the District.

## Housing

The housing stock of Sissala West District is 5,185 representing 6.3 percent of the total number of houses in the Upper West Region. The average number of households per house is 1.4.

### Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

Rooms in compound houses are the most dominant type of dwelling unit occupied by households and this constitute more than half of all dwellings in the District (58.6%) with separate houses constituting 27.4 percent of all dwelling types. More than three quarters (94.3 %) of the dwelling units in the District are owned by members of the household; 1.8 percent is owned by private individuals; 1.7 percent is owned by a relative who is not a member of the household and only 1.1 percent is owned by public or government. Less than one percent (0.7%) of the dwelling units is owned through mortgage schemes.

### Material for construction of outer wall, floor and roof

The main construction material for outer walls of dwelling units in the District is mud/mud bricks or earth accounting for 83.8 percent with cement/concrete constituting 9.7 percent of outer walls of dwelling units in the District. Cement (63.5 %) and mud/earth (34.1%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the District. Metal sheets are the main roofing material (66.7%) for dwelling units in the district.

### Room occupancy

One room constitutes the highest percentage (55.0%) of sleeping rooms occupied by households in housing units in the District. About 87.5 percent of households with 10 or more members occupy single rooms.

### Utilities and household facilities

The three main sources of lighting in dwelling units in the District are flashlight/torch (46.5 %), electricity (41.9%) and kerosene lamp (5.9 %). The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the district is wood (87.5 %). The four main sources of water in the district are borehole, river stream, public tap and pipe borne water. More than eight in ten of households (87.5 %) drink water from boreholes. A great proportion, (74.8 %) of households in the district does not have toilet facility. They either use the bush or field for such purposes. In effect, pit latrine (14.2 %) public toilet (3.7 %), KVIP (5.2 %) and the WC (0.8 %) are the main types of toilet facilities used by households.. On the other hand more than three-quarters (79.9 %) of households has one kind of bathing facility or the other. These are: own bathroom for exclusive use (42.9 %), shared separate bathroom in the same house (19.2 %), private open cubicle (7.3 %), and private shared cubicle (10.7 %). The proportions of households

who use public bathhouse are 2.4 percent and those who use bathroom in another house are 1.3 percent.

## *Waste disposal*

The most widely method of solid waste disposal is by public dump in the open space accounting for close to 50 percent (46.6%). About three in ten households (35.2%) dump their solid waste indiscriminately. House to house waste collection accounts for 1.1 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste onto the street/ outside 58.7%) and onto the compound (25.3%) are the two most common methods used by households in the district.

# CHAPTER ONE
# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1    Background

Sissala West district is located in the northern part of Upper West Region. It lies approximately between Longitude 213w to 2:36w and Latitude 10:00N 11:00N. The district forms part of the eleven (11) District/Municipal areas in the region. The district shares boundaries with the Jirapa and Lambusia Kaani districts to the west, Sissala East district to the east, Daffiama-Bussie-Issah to south-west, Burkina Faso to the north and Wa East District to the south. It covers a land area of approximately 2050.4 square kilometres which is about 10.8 percent of the total landmass of the Upper West Region. The Sissala West district was established in 2004 by the Legislative Instrument, LI 1771 (Sissala West District Assembly, 2013). It was carved out of the then Sissala district. The district has Gwollu as its administrative capital. Figure 1.1 depicts the district and some selected towns.

## 1.2    Physical features

### 1.2.1    Relief and drainage

The district's land is basically low lying but quiet undulating at altitudes ranging between 150m and 600m above sea level. The main river that passes through the district is the Kulpawn and its tributaries (Sissala West District Assembly, 2010). The relatively low lying nature of the land couple with the existence of many tributaries of the Kulpawn and other streams imply that dams can be constructed on these rivers especially the major ones to supplement the water requirement of farmers particularly during the dry season. The rivers also support inland fishing activities in the district.

### 1.2.2    Geology and Soils

The types of rock that underlie the district include the Birimian, granite and the basement complex. These rocks hold considerable amount of water. This implies that boreholes and hand-dug wells can easily be sunk to make water available for domestic and other purposes.

There are various kinds of soils in the district that support plant growth. The major ones are the savanna ochrosols, the tropical brown earth and the terrace soils. The savanna ochrosols are generally poor in organic matter and nutrient. This is as a result of the absence of dense vegetation caused by bush burning, overgrazing and poor farming practices in the district. However, good farm yields can be obtained with the application of chemical fertilizers and farm yard manure. The tropical brown earth is suitable for the cultivation of maize, beans, yam, millet and groundnuts. It also supports mechanized and plough farming. Thus, supporting farmers with these methods of farming will help improve their production and productivity. The terrace soils occur along rivers and are suitable for grain crops and tobacco. However, with the emergence of river blindness, farmers were compelled to move from the rivers. Though this may have sustainability advantage to the rivers, the immediate economic lives of the people remain at stake.

**Figure 1.1:  Map of Sissala West District**
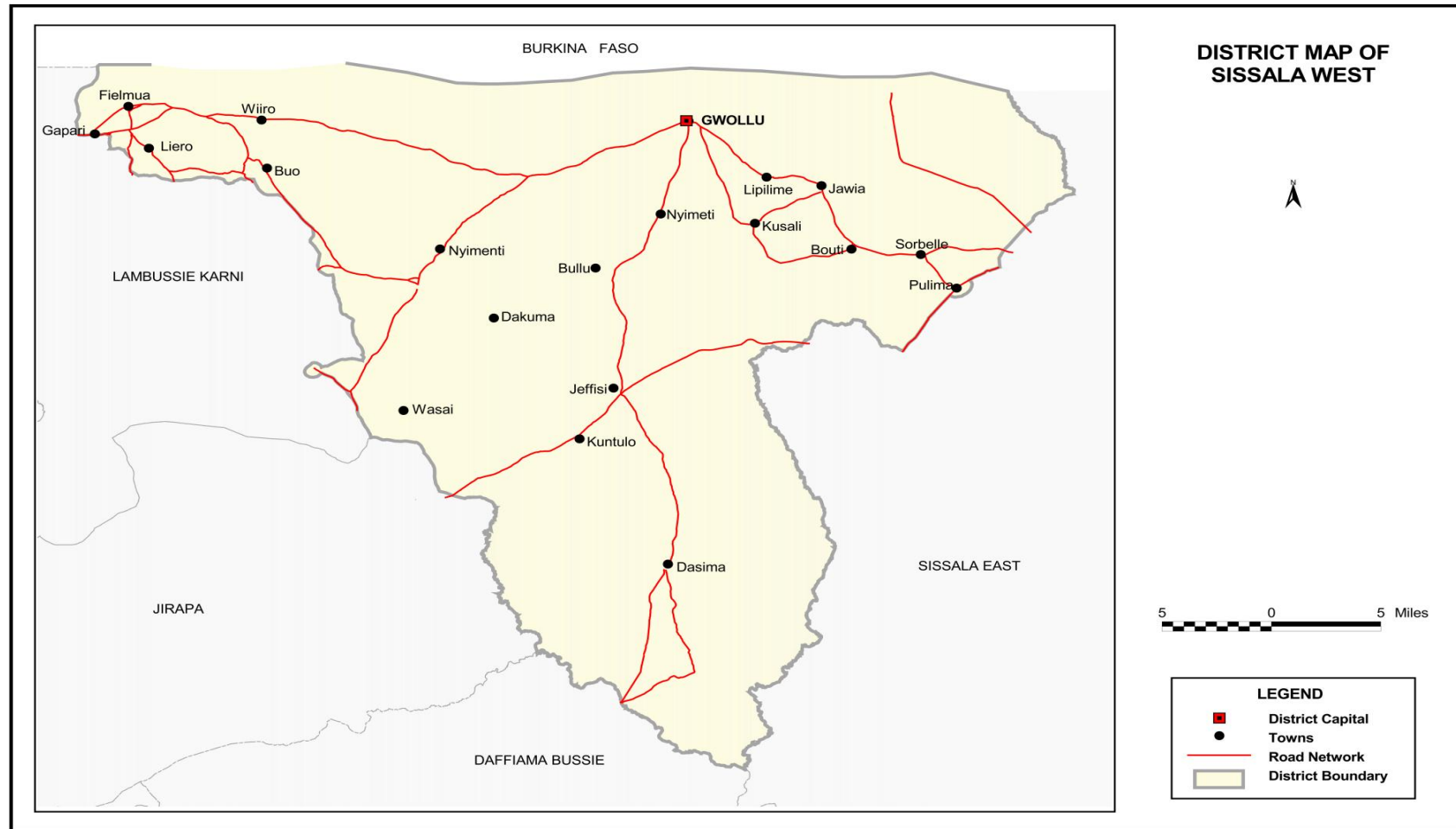


Source: Ghana Statisticial Service, GIS

### 1.2.3 Vegetation and climate

The Sissala West district lies within the Guinea Savannah vegetation belt. This vegetation consists mainly of short grasses with scattered drought resistant trees such as the shea, the baobab, *dawadawa*, acacia and neem trees. The heterogeneous collection of trees supports domestic requirements for cooking fuel, construction of houses, cattle kraals and fencing of gardens. Again, the shorter shrubs and grass provide fodder for livestock.

The climate of the district is one that is common to the three northern regions of Ghana which is relatively dry for parts of the year. There are two main seasons, the dry and the wet seasons. The wet season commences in April and ends in October. The dry season also starts from early November and ends in March. The area also has the cold and hot seasons. The cold season which is characterized by hazy harmattan weather begins in December and ends in late February or early March. This is immediately followed by the hot weather. However, probably due to changes in climatic conditions there are sometimes variations in the occurrences of these seasons.

The mean annual rainfall is about 1100mm and it reaches its peak in August. Relative humidity is between 70 and 90 percent in the rainy season but is as low as 20 percent in the dry season. The long period of dry season requires the establishment of irrigation facilities to support agricultural activities (Sissala West District Assembly, 2010).

### 1.2.4 Natural environment and land use

Human activities, notably annual routine bush burning, inappropriate farming practices and indiscriminate felling of trees for fuel wood and charcoal as well as poor animal husbandry practices have led to the loss of the vegetative cover in the district. These have resulted in the loss of soil fertility and its adverse effects on crop cultivation. Again, the location of the district serves as an entry point to the Fulani herdsmen. Their activities have adversely affected the vegetation.

The land use in this district is mainly for crop production, especially the faraway lands, while the lands near settlements are reserved for pasture for livestock. The district has the largest natural game reserve in the country as well as other patches of forest reserves in the district. However, of late infrastructural development such as schools and residential accommodation has started to compete for lands reserved for animals pasture in the district.

## 1.3   Political and Administration Structure

The district has four political administrative units (Area Councils), 22 Unit Committees and three paramouncies to enhance effective and easy political governance. It has 32 Assembly

Members; out of which 22 are elected, 8 appointed, the District Chief Executive and the Member of Parliament. Assembly women form the minority; they are only five members - two were elected and three appointed. The Member of Parliament is an ex-officio member of the Assembly but without voting rights. The district has four area councils - Gwollu, Pulima, Zini and Fielmua. These Area Councils are constituted by their respective Assembly Members, Unit Committee Members and the secretariat.

The Assembly also has eleven subcommittees: Public Relations and Complaints, Justice and Security, Mother and Child, Social Services, Finance and Administration, Disaster, Works, Rural Industries Development, District Planning Committee Unit, Education oversight and the Executive Committee. Also, the following committees (District Water and Sanitation

Management Committee, District Environmental Committee and District Disaster Management Committee) help in the district development process

Decentralized Departments, which are presently in the District, include Ghana Education Service, Environmental Health Department, Social Welfare and Community Development, Health, Information Services Department, District Agriculture Development Unit, and Audit Service. The following are non-decentralized department in the district: - National Commission for Civic Education, National Health Insurance, Birth and Death Registry, and Centre for National Culture. Also, the following departments oversee the District from Sissala East District: Department of Feeder Roads, Forestry Department, Land Valuation Department, Ghana National Fire Service, Town and Country Planning Department, Immigration Services, Ghana Revenue Authority and Ghana National Fire Service.

## 1.4    Social and Cultural Structure

The District has two major indigenous ethnic groups namely the Sissala and the Dagaaba. Nevertheless there are other relatively minor ethnic groups mainly of northern and southern origin scattered around in the district. The major languages spoken by the people are Sissali and Dagaare with a myriad of dialects.

Chieftaincy is an important traditional institution that the people highly value. All communities are therefore organized under their respective chiefs who serve as a main medium of community mobilization for popular participation in development activities, conflict resolution and law enforcement. The Sissala and Dagaaba use the title Kuoro and Na for chiefs respectively. The District has three traditional paramountcies (Pulima, Gwollu and Zini) with each community having its own traditional administrative authority.

The indigenous people of Sissala West district practice the patrilineal inheritance system. Males dominate while women have a relatively low status in the district. The people generally practice polygamous (polygyny) marriage and the extended family systems. The extended family system has resulted in the people having common pool of resources which are shared among all members of the family.

In terms of religion, there are three predominant types of religious groups namely; the Muslims, Christians and Traditional worshipers. The notable festivals celebrated in the district are the Gandawii Nabahilme among the people of Gandawii traditional area, Mondei in Gwollu paramountcy, Kukur Baghr, by the people of Fielmuo and Kalwie by the people of Buwa. These festivals are of historical significance to the people as some portrays their struggles and challenges they went through in migrating to the present day settlement. It is worth noting that in spite of the diversity in religious affiliation, cultural beliefs and ethnicity, there is a peaceful co-existence among the people in the district.

Architecturally, the people construct their houses mainly with mud and predominantly in the rectangular shapes. These houses are largely compounds houses. Mostly, the walls of these houses are plastered with mud while cement is used for the floors. Those who cannot afford the cement use cow dung to plaster the outer walls of their houses and use gravel for the floor. Most houses are roofed with iron sheets or thatch. Mud roofing, especially, is common among the poor.

## 1.5    Economy

The economic activities of the district can be classified into three main industries or sectors – agriculture, services and manufacturing. These sectors play a very crucial role in the living conditions of the people.

### 1.5.1    Agriculture

The agricultural sector is primarily characterized by crop farming and livestock production. In spite of various efforts to boost the sector, production still remains at subsistence level in the District. The 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) revealed that agriculture sector employs 82.3 percent of the district's work force (GSS, 2010[1]). Farmers mainly depend on rain fed (single maximum rainfall that occurs mostly between April and October every year) agriculture. They rely on the use of traditional methods of farming using simple tools such as hoe and cutlass for cultivation. However, few farmers use tractor services and animals' traction.

The major food crops grown are maize, groundnuts, beans (white), millet, sorghum (Guinea Corn), cowpea, yam and sweet potato. Cash crops such as cotton, cashew, shea-nut and *dawadawa* are also found in the district though the latter two grow in the wild. With the exception of cotton, the other cash crops received little attention due to market uncertainties. It is worth noting that though economic trees such as the shea contribute substantially to household income in the district, this tree species is threatened by the activities of charcoal burners and poor farming practices.

### 1.5.2    Services

The service sector of the district's economy relates to activities such as the integrated marketing system and tourism. In the district, there are four markets: Gwollu, Fielmua, Jeffisi and Zini. The Gwollu and Fielmua markets serve as international (cross border) markets, serving neighbouring Burkina Faso.

The district is blessed with tourist sites. These include the Gwollu Slave Defense Wall, the tomb of the late President, Dr Hilla Limann and the Traditional Bone Setting Centre. Other sites include the grave of King Tanjia (the King who mobilized the people to build the slave defense wall), the impotency clinic, the shrines that were used during the slave trade war and the crocodile's ponds. Also, the district's festivals especially the traditional dances such as the 'Yong-Daasi' (the slave-stick dance) by the people of Pulima also serve as tourist attraction activities. However, the tourism sector is yet to be properly developed to enable it impact meaningfully in the district's development.

### 1.5.3    Manufacturing

The industrial sector is characterized by small scale manufacturing; which is characterized by reliance on indigenous resources, family ownership and the use of labour intensive technologies. The people are engaged in cottage industries such as shea butter and other oil and fat extraction industries, brewing of local drinks (pito), blacksmithing, metal/wood works, weaving, and pottery. The manufacturing sector, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census employs a small proportion of 7.1 percent of the economically active population in the district (GSS, 2010[1]).

## 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, Kasoa and Techiman were not properly demarcated and some were characterized by large EAs, some enumerators were unable to complete their assigned tasks within the stipulated time.

### 1.6.4 Post Enumeration Survey

In line with United Nations recommendations, GSS conducted a Post Enumeration Survey (PES) in April, 2011 to check content and coverage error. The PES was also to serve as an

important tool in providing feedback regarding operational matters such as concepts and procedures in order to help improve future census operations. The PES field work was carried out for 21 days in April 2011 and was closely monitored and supervised to ensure quality output. The main findings of the PES were that:

97.0 percent of all household residents who were in the country on Census Night (26th September, 2010) were enumerated. 1.3 percent of the population was erroneously included in the census.

Regional differentials 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

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:

Worked for pay or profit or family gain for at least 1 hour within the 7 days preceding Census Night. This included persons who were in paid employment or self- employment or contributing family workers.

Did not work, but had jobs to return to.

Were unemployed.

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

**Occupation**

This referred to the type of work the person was engaged in at the establishment where he/she worked. This was asked only of persons 5 years and older who worked 7 days before the

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

**Industry**

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

**Employment Status**

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

**Employment Sector**

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

**Disability**

Persons with 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

The demographic characteristics of a population analyses the size, composition, growth, distribution, density, and age-sex structure and any vital statistics related to the population. Population size, composition and age-sex structures are critical in understanding the components of population change (fertility, mortality and migration dynamics) of any geographic area. The age-sex structures are useful for population projections and socioeconomic development planning. The objective of this chapter is to analyse the size/distribution, composition and age-sex structure of the Sissala West District's population based on the 2010 Population and Housing Census.

## 2.2    Population Size and Distribution

According to Lebreton *et al* (1992), the most fundamental demographic parameter is the number of individuals within a population. This is because large populations have their own problems. It means that as a population approaches the maximum sustainable size, known as carrying capacity, there is much competition for resources.

Table 2.1 shows the population of the Sissala West District by age, sex and sex ratio. The table revealed that Sissala West District has a total population of 49,573 made up of 48.7 percent males and 51.3 percent females. Age group 5-9 years old has the highest population representing 16.2 percent, followed by 0-4 year age group (15.5%). The district accounts for 7.1 percent of the region's total population. The age groups 0-19 years have more males than females. On the contrary, from the age groups 30 years and older, the population of the females is higher than males. The implication is that at birth there are more males than females until they reach age group 20-24 years where both sexes contribute equal proportions (7.7%) to the population.

The median age of the district's population is 16 years. The median age of females was 18 years and that of males was 15 years. This implies that females live longer than males. It also reveals a young population implying that policies that meet the needs and aspirations of the young people are required.

**Sex Ratio**

The sex ratio which is the number of males per 100 females shows that there are more females than males for all age groups except age groups 0-19 years. The sex ratio for the district is 95 males per every 100 females which is almost same (94.5 males per every 100 females) as that of the Upper West Region.

Under normal circumstances, the population is supposed to decrease with an increasing age. But the fluctuations in the figures especially at the higher age groups (55-79) could be the result of inaccuracies in age reporting. Heaping occurred at the terminal digit Zero. This plausibly could be due to overstatement of ages ending in preferred digit-zero and the corresponding understatement of ages ending in the remaining digits. As shown in Table 2.1, the heaping occurred on ages ending in Zero (age 60 and 70) resulting in the fluctuations at those age groups.

**Table 2.1: Population by age group and sex**

| Age Group | Both Sexes | | Males | | Females | | Sex Ratio |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| All Ages | 49,573 | 100.0 | 24,151 | 100.0 | 25,422 | 100.0 | 95.0 |
| 0 - 4 | 7,661 | 15.5 | 3,916 | 16.2 | 3,745 | 14.7 | 104.6 |
| 05-09 | 8,049 | 16.2 | 4,142 | 17.2 | 3,907 | 15.4 | 106 |
| 10-14 | 6,720 | 13.6 | 3,563 | 14.8 | 3,157 | 12.4 | 112.9 |
| 15 - 19 | 5,504 | 11.1 | 2,957 | 12.2 | 2,547 | 10.0 | 116.1 |
| 20 - 24 | 3,822 | 7.7 | 1,856 | 7.7 | 1,966 | 7.7 | 94.4 |
| 25 - 29 | 3,201 | 6.5 | 1,392 | 5.8 | 1,809 | 7.1 | 76.9 |
| 30 - 34 | 2,862 | 5.8 | 1,238 | 5.1 | 1,624 | 6.4 | 76.2 |
| 35 - 39 | 2,358 | 4.8 | 1,029 | 4.3 | 1,329 | 5.2 | 77.4 |
| 40 - 44 | 2,009 | 4.1 | 844 | 3.5 | 1,165 | 4.6 | 72.4 |
| 45 - 49 | 1,438 | 2.9 | 614 | 2.5 | 824 | 3.2 | 74.5 |
| 50 - 54 | 1,435 | 2.9 | 603 | 2.5 | 832 | 3.3 | 72.5 |
| 55 - 59 | 806 | 1.6 | 398 | 1.6 | 408 | 1.6 | 97.5 |
| 60 - 64 | 1,056 | 2.1 | 467 | 1.9 | 589 | 2.3 | 79.3 |
| 65 - 69 | 542 | 1.1 | 233 | 1 | 309 | 1.2 | 75.4 |
| 70 - 74 | 798 | 1.6 | 312 | 1.3 | 486 | 1.9 | 64.2 |
| 75 - 79 | 557 | 1.1 | 237 | 1 | 320 | 1.3 | 74.1 |
| 80 - 84 | 420 | 0.8 | 197 | 0.8 | 223 | 0.9 | 88.3 |
| 85 + | 335 | 0.7 | 153 | 0.6 | 182 | 0.7 | 84.1 |
| Median age | | 16 | | 15 | | 18 | |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, Population and Housing Census

## 2.3 Age-Sex Structure

Largely, the two demographic characteristics of population that receive most attention in population analyses are age and sex. Age and sex are two attributes that largely influence an individual's role in society (Riyaza, 2000).The age-sex structure of a population indicates the relative number of males and females and the relative numbers at each age group. This is of prime importance as it informs planning of all kinds and also measures potentials in school, voting, and manpower populations. The balance of the sexes affects social and economic relationships within a community.

Figure 2.1 presents the age-sex structure of Sissala West District. The pyramid have a broad base indicating a large proportion of children (45.2%) who are 14 years and younger and a thin apex indicating a small proportion of the aged (5.3%) who are 65 years and older.

**Age dependency ratio**

The age dependency ratio is an important development planning tool for developing countries such as Ghana hence Sissala West District. The ratio of children 14 years and younger plus persons aged 65 years and older to adults aged 15-64 years is referred to as the dependency ratio of a population. The ratio indicates the relative predominance of persons in the dependent' ages in relation to those in the productive ages.

**Figure 2.1: Population pyramid**
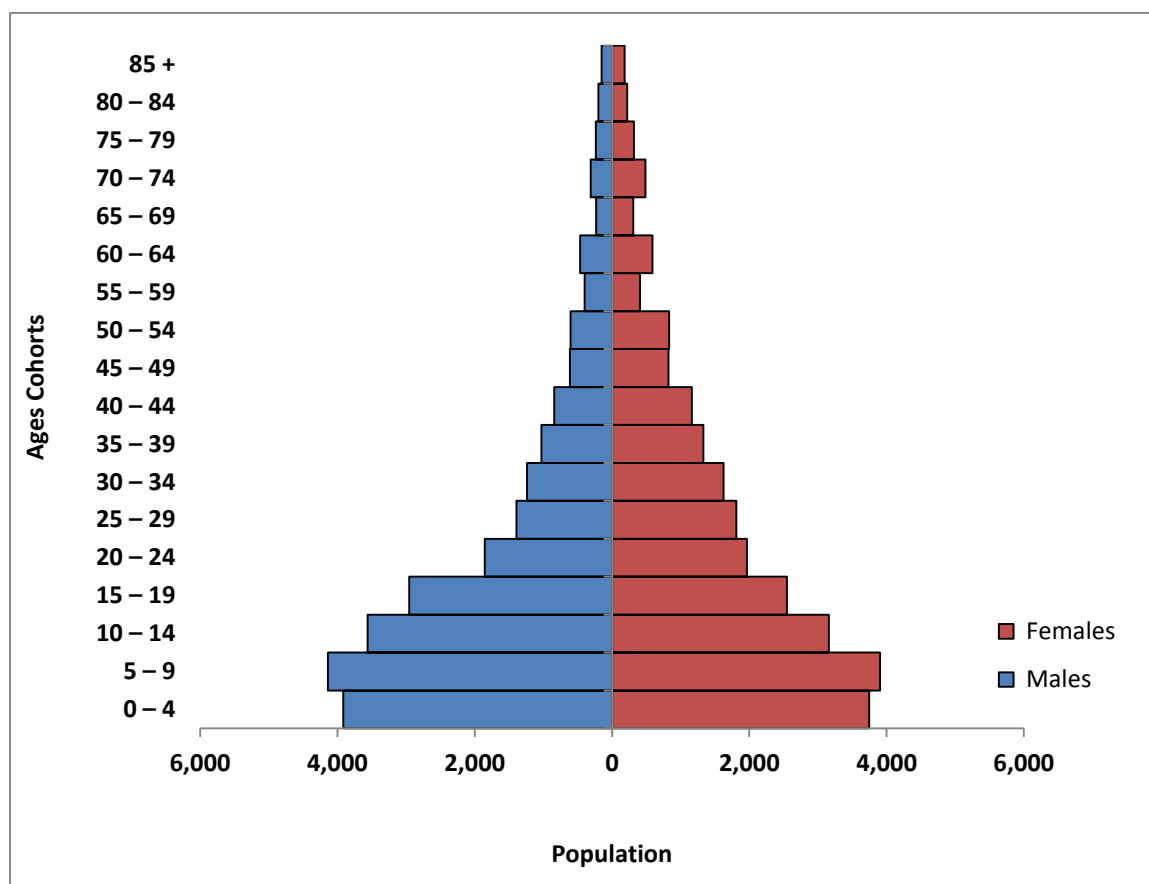


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The dependency ratio for Sissala West District as shown in Table 2.2 is 102.4, meaning per every 100 persons in the 15-64 age group there are approximately 103 dependents. The table also reveals that, child (0-14 years) dependency ratio is 91.6 and old age (65 years and older) dependency ratio is 10.8. The dependency index stresses the economic implications on the labour force and living conditions of household members.

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

| Age group/ratio | Total | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|
| All Ages | 49,573 | - | 49,573 |
| 0-14 | 22,430 | - | 22,430 |
| 15-64 | 24,491 | - | 24,491 |
| 65+ | 2,652 | - | 2,652 |
| Total dependency ratio | 102.4 | - | 102.4 |
| Child dependency ratio | 91.6 | - | 91.6 |
| Old age dependency ratio | 10.8 | - | 10.8 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 population and housing Census

**Population by locality type**

Table 2.3 presents the population size by locality. In Ghana, the minimum population that acts as a threshold requirement for a settlement to qualify as an urban area is 5,000. Based on this, Sissala West District is an entirely rural district. This is because there is no locality in the district that meets the urban classification criterion. The table shows that, the Sissala West District has 7.1 percent of the total Upper West region population. Also, the district

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contributed 8.4 percent of the total rural population in the region. The table shows clearly that there are more females than males in the district.

**Table 2.3: Population size by locality of residence**

| Region/District/ Sex | All Localities | | Urban | | Rural | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Upper West | 702,110 | 100.0 | 114,653 | 100.0 | 587,457 | 100.0 |
| Sissala West | 49,573 | 100.0 | _ | _ | 49,573 | 100.0 |
| Male | 24,151 | 48.7 | _ | _ | 24,151 | 48.7 |
| Female | 25,422 | 51.3 | _ | _ | 25,422 | 51.3 |
| Percent of regional population | | 7.1 | | | | 8.4 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 population and housing Census

## 2.4    Fertility, Mortality and Migration

Fertility, mortality and migration are the components of population change of any kind. They either add or contribute to a reduction in the population of an area. This section examines how these components of population change impact the population of the district under discussion.

### 2.4.1   Fertility

Fertility refers to the frequency of childbearing among a population. The methods of fertility analysis and measures of reproduction are examined in Table 2.4. Some of the fertility measures analyzed here are:

**Crude Birth Rate (CBR)**

This refers to the number of live births in a year per 1,000 populations. The crude birth rate for the district is 28.2 as shown in Table 2.4. This is calculated by dividing the count of live births occurring in 2010 (12 months preceding the census) by the estimated mid-year population of the district.

**General Fertility Rate (GFR)**

This is the measure of the yearly number of live births per 1,000 women of reproductive age (usually considered to be 15-49 years). The GFR for the district is 124.0. As indicated in Table 2.4 is calculated by dividing the number of births in the last 12 months preceding the census (1,397) by the number of women in the 15-49 years age group (11,264). It is important to indicate that the GFR is a more refined measure because it relates births to the age-sex group at risk of giving birth (usually defined as women ages 15-49). This helps eliminate distortions that might occur because of different age and sex distributions among populations. The GFR provides a better basis to compare fertility levels among populations than the crude birth rate.

**Total Fertility Rate (TFR)**

This measures the number of children a woman would have from age 15 to age 49 if she were to bear children at the prevailing age- specific rates. The TFR of 4.3 for the district means a woman would have on average 4.3 children by the time she ends her child bearing age if she were to conform to prevailing age-specific fertility rates.

The CBR, GFR, and the TFR  as shown in Table 2.4 for all the districts in the Upper West region significantly reveals that   Sissala West District recorded the highest for all three indicators.

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

| District | Population | Number of women 15-49 years | Number of births in last 12 months | Total Fertility Rate | *General Fertility Rate | **Crude Birth Rate |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All Districts | 702,110 | 166,230 | 16,193 | 3.5 | 97.4 | 23.1 |
| Wa West | 81,348 | 17,796 | 1,978 | 4.1 | 111.1 | 24.3 |
| Wa Municipal | 107,214 | 29,396 | 2,429 | 3.3 | 82.6 | 22.7 |
| Wa East | 72,074 | 15,523 | 1,776 | 3.9 | 114.4 | 24.6 |
| Sissala East | 56,528 | 14,216 | 1,219 | 2.9 | 85.7 | 21.6 |
| Nadowli-Kaleo | 61,561 | 14,432 | 1,238 | 3.2 | 85.8 | 20.1 |
| Jirapa | 88,402 | 20,604 | 2,064 | 3.5 | 100.2 | 23.3 |
| **Sissala West** | **49,573** | **11,264** | **1,397** | **4.3** | **124.0** | **28.2** |
| Lambussie Karni | 51,654 | 11,990 | 1,339 | 3.9 | 111.7 | 25.9 |
| Lawra | 54,889 | 12,692 | 1,038 | 2.9 | 81.8 | 18.9 |
| Daffiama Bussie | 32,827 | 7,463 | 760 | 3.7 | 101.8 | 23.2 |
| Nandom | 46,040 | 10,854 | 955 | 3.2 | 88.0 | 20.7 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census
*Note: * Number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years*
*    ** Number of live births per 1,000 population*

## Children ever born /surviving

Female population 12 years and older by age, children ever born, children surviving and sex of child are presented in Table 2.5. It is clear from the table that the survivor rate of children ever born is higher for mothers in the age group 15-34 years (89.0%).This fell to 87.0 percent for ages 35-39 years and further to 70.0 percent for those 60 years and older compared to 57.0 percent for age 12-14 years which is below the average proportion of children surviving (80.2%) for the entire District

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

| Age | Number of female | Children ever born | | | Children surviving | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Both sexes | Male | Female | Both sexes | Male | Female |
| All ages | 16,324 | 50,821 | 26,044 | 24,777 | 40,774 | 20,616 | 20,158 |
| 12-14 | 1,711 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 15-19 | 2,547 | 318 | 163 | 55 | 283 | 139 | 144 |
| 20-24 | 1,966 | 2,304 | 1,163 | 1,141 | 2,047 | 1,009 | 1,038 |
| 25-29 | 1,809 | 4,251 | 2,207 | 2,044 | 3,799 | 1,949 | 1,850 |
| 30-34 | 1,624 | 6,074 | 3,089 | 2,985 | 5,376 | 2,710 | 2,666 |
| 35-39 | 1,329 | 6,315 | 3,265 | 3,050 | 5,477 | 2,784 | 2,693 |
| 40-44 | 1,165 | 6,531 | 3,342 | 3,189 | 5,427 | 2,734 | 2,693 |
| 45-49 | 824 | 4,731 | 2,434 | 2,297 | 3,748 | 1,908 | 1,840 |
| 50-54 | 832 | 5,015 | 2,528 | 2,487 | 3,893 | 1,943 | 1,950 |
| 55-59 | 408 | 2,667 | 1,429 | 1,238 | 1,948 | 1,041 | 907 |
| 60+ | 2,109 | 12,608 | 6,421 | 6,187 | 8,772 | 4,397 | 4,375 |

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.

**Deaths in Households/crude death rates**

Like birth, the simplest and commonest measure of mortality is the crude death rate. This expresses the number of deaths in a year per 1,000 of the mid-year population. In Table 2.6, the crude death rate is estimated by dividing the reported deaths in households by the total population multiplied by 1,000. The crude death rate for the district is 7.5 per 1000 population. The districts with the highest crude rate in Upper West region are Nadowli District (11.74%), Lambussie Karni (11.42%), and Jirapa District (10.61%). Wa Municipal however recorded the lowest death rate of 5.02 percent which is far below the average for the region.

**Table 2.6: Total population, deaths in households and crude death rate by district**

| District | Total Population | Deaths in households | *Crude death rate |
|---|---|---|---|
| All Districts | 702,110 | 6,346 | 9.0 |
| Wa West | 81,348 | 738 | 9.1 |
| Wa Municipal | 107,214 | 538 | 5.0 |
| Wa East | 72,074 | 761 | 10.6 |
| Sissala East | 56,528 | 346 | 6.1 |
| Nadowli-Kaleo | 61,561 | 732 | 11.9 |
| Jirapa | 88,402 | 938 | 10.6 |
| **Sissala West** | **49,573** | **373** | **7.5** |
| Lambussie Karni | 51,654 | 590 | 11.4 |
| Lawra | 54,889 | 523 | 9.5 |
| Daffiama Bussie | 32,827 | 376 | 11.5 |
| Nandom | 46,040 | 431 | 9.4 |

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

**Age Specific Death Rates (ASDR)**

Death rates are calculated for specific age groups in order to compare mortality at different ages or at the same age over time. The age specific death rate is computed as a ratio of deaths of people in a specified age group, for example deaths among the 25-29 year-age group to the population in that age group (25-29 years) multiplied by 1,000. The results in Figure 2.2 shows that at all the age-groups the rates for females were higher than males. From age 20-49 years, the female rates continued to rise above the male. This is a possible indication of high maternal mortality experience in the reproductive age group among women.

**Figure 2.2: Age specific death rate by sex**
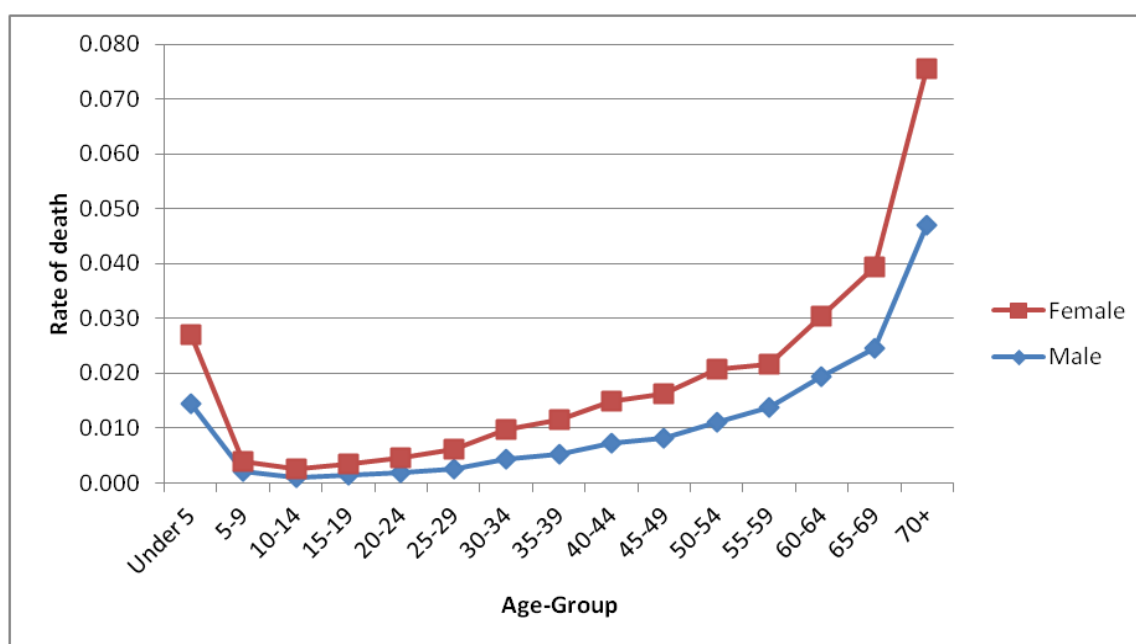


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

**Cause of death**

Table 2.7 shows causes of death by district. The table reveals that 3.8 percent of total deaths in the district are due to accident/violence/homicide/suicide, while 96.2 percent of all deaths are due to other causes. Table 2.7 substantiates the fact that Wa East recorded the highest proportion (10.2%) of deaths that resulted from accidents, violence, homicide, or suicide. For the Upper West as a region, the proportion of such deaths is 6.6 percent and 93.4 percent were due to all other causes.

**Table 2.7:  Cause of death by district**

| | | Death due to | | | |
| | | Accident/violence/ homicide/suicide | | All other causes | |
| Region/District | Total deaths | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All districts | 6,346 | 422 | 6.6 | 5,924 | 93.4 |
| Wa West | 738 | 75 | 10.2 | 663 | 89.8 |
| Wa Municipal | 538 | 40 | 7.4 | 498 | 92.6 |
| Wa East | 761 | 42 | 5.5 | 719 | 94.5 |
| Sissala East | 346 | 15 | 4.3 | 331 | 95.7 |
| Nadowli-Kaleo | 734 | 41 | 5.6 | 693 | 94.4 |
| Jirapa | 938 | 73 | 7.8 | 865 | 92.2 |
| **Sissala West** | **373** | **14** | **3.8** | **359** | **96.2** |
| Lambussie Karni | 590 | 32 | 5.4 | 558 | 94.6 |
| Lawra | 534 | 16 | 3.0 | 518 | 97.0 |
| Daffiama Bussie | 374 | 41 | 11.0 | 333 | 89.0 |
| Nandom | 420 | 33 | 7.9 | 387 | 92.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 2.4.3  Migration

The geographic or spatial mobility of a population is a topic of direct interest to the population analyst because of its effects upon the distribution of the population and because of its interaction with other demographic forces as well as with other aspects of social and economic change and differentiation. The type of mobility that involves a sustained or permanent sojourn in the place of destination is what the concept, 'migration' refers to. The essential character of migration is thus that it involves a change in place of abode, or place of "usual" residence-a taking-up of life in a new or different place.

Information on migration are analyzed by comparing locality of birth with locality of enumeration. On the basis of the answer to the place-of-birth question, it is possible to classify the population enumerated into two groups:

*Migrants,* defined as persons who were enumerated in a place different from the place where they were born;

*Non-migrants,* defined as persons who were enumerated in the place where they were born.

Table 2.8 shows birthplace by duration of residence of migrants. It reveals that a total of 8,832 persons who lived and were enumerated in the Sissala West District were not born in the district hence referred to as migrants. Out of this number, 6,996 were born   elsewhere in the Upper West region and the rest were born in other regions of the country. Of those born elsewhere in the Upper West region but enumerated in the Sissala West district, a proportion of 41.2 percent of them lived in the district for 20 years and over and 10.6 percent lived there for less than a year preceding the census.

Greater Accra contributed the largest amount of in-migrants to the district (555 persons) and Central Region the least (17 persons). It is important to indicate that this measure is a crude method of calculating migration within the country.

**Table 2.8:  Birthplace by duration of residence of migrants**

| Birthplace | Number | Duration of residence (%) | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | | Less than 1 year | 1-4 years | 5-9 years | 10-19 years | 20+ years |
| Total | 8,832 | 11.1 | 21.5 | 16.7 | 18.6 | 32.1 |
| Born elsewhere in the region | 6,996 | 10.6 | 15 | 13.6 | 19.6 | 41.2 |
| **Born elsewhere in another region:** | | | | | | |
| Western | 52 | 13.5 | 11.5 | 9.6 | 28.8 | 36.5 |
| Central | 17 | 23.5 | 23.5 | 23.5 | 17.6 | 11.8 |
| Greater Accra | 555 | 11.7 | 35.9 | 22.5 | 18.2 | 11.7 |
| Volta | 34 | 11.8 | 41.2 | 20.6 | 5.9 | 20.6 |
| Eastern | 85 | 23.5 | 25.9 | 12.9 | 16.5 | 21.2 |
| Ashanti | 519 | 19.3 | 33.9 | 19.1 | 14.3 | 13.5 |
| Brong Ahafo | 409 | 13.9 | 27.1 | 22.5 | 20.5 | 15.9 |
| Northern | 96 | 8.3 | 16.7 | 28.1 | 32.3 | 14.6 |
| Upper  East | 69 | 42 | 21.7 | 5.8 | 14.5 | 15.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER THREE
# SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

## 3.1 Introduction

Generally, social characteristics deal with all the information regarding the relationship that people have with one another individually, or as part of a group. This section presents comprehensive and detailed social and cultural characteristics of Sissala West District. Households' composition, structure and size are discussed in this chapter.

The household, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC), consists 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. It indicates that the person or group of persons may occupy the whole or part of a housing unit and share resources to cover living expenses. Also, it further points out that household members are not necessarily blood relatives as non-relatives (for example servants and adopted children) may form part of a household.

## 3.2 Household Size, Household Composition and Headship

### 3.2.1 Household size

Sissala West District has a total of 7,116 households with an average household size of 6.9 persons. This is greater than both the regional and national household sizes. The district has an average households per house of 1.4, this figure though greater than the regional average of 1.3, it lower than the national average of 1.6.

**Table 3.1: Household size by type of locality**

| Categories | Total country | Region | District | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total household population | 24,076,327 | 688,333 | 49,021 | - | 49,021 |
| Number of households | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | - | 7,116 |
| Average households per house | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.4 | - | 1.4 |
| Average household size | 4.4 | 6.2 | 6.9 | - | 6.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 3.1 presents information on the distribution of households according to the size of the household in the district.

Data in Figure 3.1 revealed that 1-3 persons households in the district accounts for the lowest proportion of 19.7 percent of total households in the district whereas households with a size of 4-6 persons' constitutes the highest proportion of 31.6 percent of all households.

The higher proportion of households with sizes of 4 or more persons is a reflection of the dominance of the extended household system in the district. This might have also been accounted for by the rural nature of the district and the socio-cultural practices of the people.

**Figure 3.1: Percentage distribution of households by size**
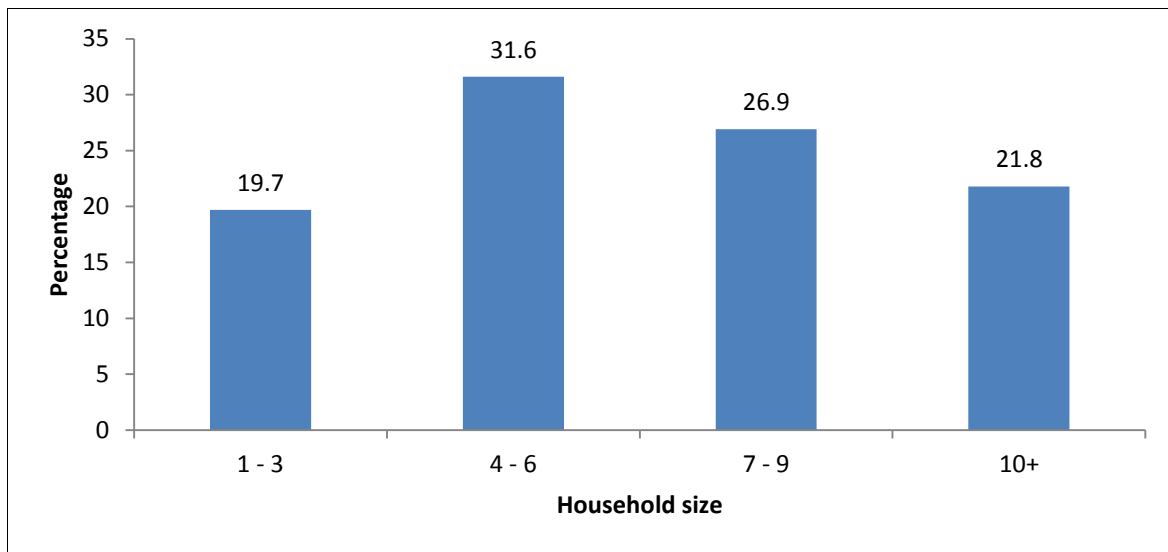


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.2.2 Household composition

The composition of households reflects the socio-cultural structure of the people under study. Household composition hence portrays the association or relationship of other household members to the head.

The composition and structure of households in Sissala West District remain basically traditional where most of these households are headed by males. The complexity and size of the household depends largely on the socio-cultural system within which the household is found and to some extent the socioeconomic status and gender of the household head.

In the traditional setting of the extended family system, relatives of the head such as grandchildren, nieces/nephews, brothers/sisters etc., form the greater proportion of household members. Household heads are mostly males and most decisions are taken by male head of the household.

Figure 3.2 shows the composition of households in the district. The figure shows that households in the district can be categorized into five major components – the head, spouses, children, relatives and non-relatives. The figure reveals that the proportion of children (son/daughter) form almost half (48.4%) of the various groups of persons who constituted the composition of households compared to relatives of the head (24.5%). Non-relative members of the households in the district accounts for the least proportion of 2.9 percent of the household population.

**Figure 3.2: Household composition**
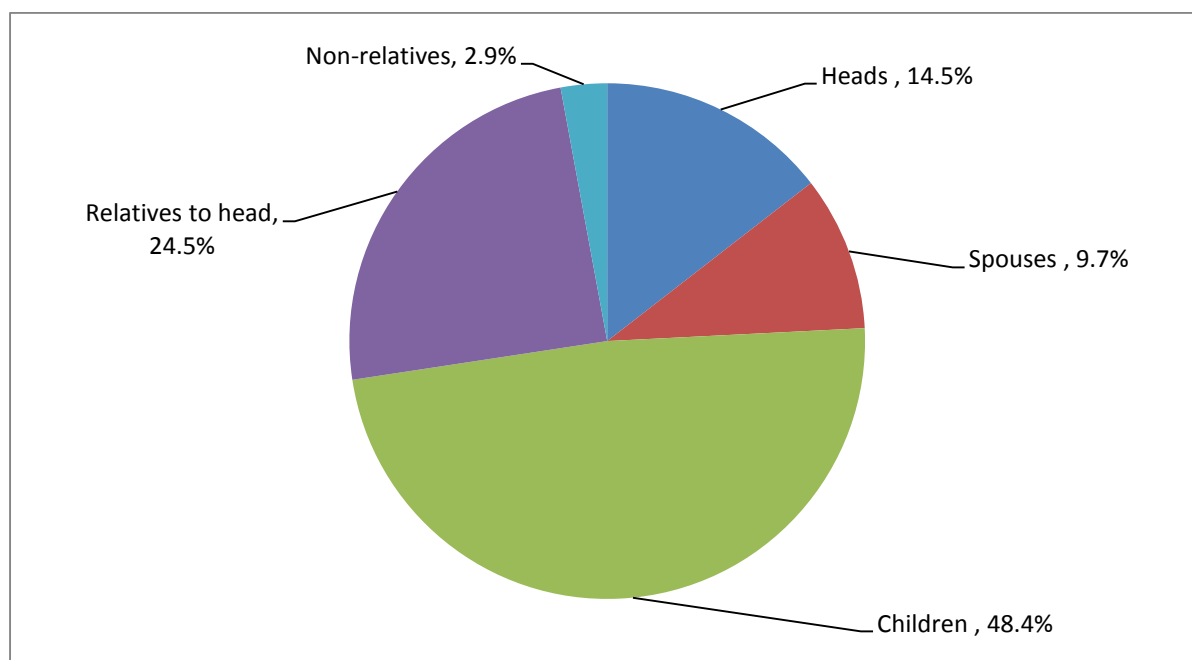


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 3.2 shows households population by composition and sex of household members in the district. Out of a total household population of 49,021, 48.7 percent are males and 51.3 percent females. This shows that there are more females than males. From the table, the proportion of males who are household heads (23.6%) far outweighs the proportion of household heads that are female (5.9%). The proportion of male children (53.6%) in the household is more than that of the female children who constituted 43.4 percent.

About 5.8 percent of the heads have no spouse. Males are less like to be spouse to female household heads than females. For instance, only 0.5 percent of the male household population are spouse to female household heads compared to 18.5 percent of the female household population that are spouse to male household heads (Table 3.2).

A higher proportion of other relatives of the household are females (14.2%) compared to the males (4.7%). In addition, a greater proportion of female parents or parents' in-law (4.1%) live in the household of their wards as compared to male parents or parents' in-law (0.8%) in the district.

The data indicates that households are largely composed of the extended family system in the Sissala West District. This stems from the fact that relatives constitute 24.5 of the household population in the district of which other relatives is the largest (9.6%), followed by brothers/sisters (6.1%) and grandchildren (5.1%).

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

| Household composition | Total | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 49,021 | 100.0 | 23,879 | 100.0 | 25,142 | 100.0 |
| Head | 7,116 | 14.5 | 5,645 | 23.6 | 1,471 | 5.9 |
| Spouse (wife/husband) | 4,772 | 9.7 | 110 | 0.5 | 4,662 | 18.5 |
| Child (son/daughter) | 23,704 | 48.4 | 12,800 | 53.6 | 10,904 | 43.4 |
| Parent/Parent in-law | 1,212 | 2.5 | 186 | 0.8 | 1,026 | 4.1 |
| Son/Daughter in-law | 599 | 1.2 | 30 | 0.1 | 569 | 2.3 |
| Grandchild | 2,495 | 5.1 | 1,274 | 5.3 | 1,221 | 4.9 |
| Brother/Sister | 2,987 | 6.1 | 1,939 | 8.1 | 1,048 | 4.2 |
| Step child | 883 | 1.8 | 471 | 2.0 | 412 | 1.6 |
| Adopted/Foster child | 357 | 0.7 | 182 | 0.8 | 175 | 0.7 |
| Other relative | 4,697 | 9.6 | 1,124 | 4.7 | 3,573 | 14.2 |
| Non-relative | 199 | 0.4 | 118 | 0.5 | 81 | 0.3 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.2.3 Household structure

Table 3.3 presents information on household's population by structure and sex. Overall, the extended family system ((head, spouse(s), children and head's relatives) is the most predominant (56.4%) household system followed by the nuclear (head, spouse(s) and children) household system while single parent extended and non-relatives been the lowest with 0.3 percent. The extended family served as a conduit to establishing standards, clan identification and socioeconomic development.

It is evident from the table that the proportion of males in the extended (Head, spouse(s), children and head's relatives) household system is slightly lower (55.6%) than that of the female (57.2%). Also, almost one-fifth of the male proportion (19.5%) are found in the nuclear household structure while that of the female is 16.8 percent. It also reveals that the proportion of male head only (1.3%) is greater than the proportion of female head only (0.4%) households.

Single parent extended family or household system which accounts for 9.5 percent is the third overall largest household structure in the district. The proportion of the female in this household structure is higher (10.4%) as compared to the male (8.5%).

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

| Household structure | Total | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 49,021 | 100.0 | 23,879 | 100.0 | 25,142 | 100.0 |
| Head only | 400 | 0.8 | 307 | 1.3 | 93 | 0.4 |
| Head and a spouse only | 232 | 0.5 | 115 | 0.5 | 117 | 0.5 |
| Nuclear (Head, spouse(s) and children) | 8,885 | 18.1 | 4,657 | 19.5 | 4,228 | 16.8 |
| Extended (Head, spouse(s), children and Head's relatives) | 27,651 | 56.4 | 13,277 | 55.6 | 14,374 | 57.2 |
| Extended + non relatives | 683 | 1.4 | 310 | 1.3 | 373 | 1.5 |
| Head, spouse(s) and other composition | 1,030 | 2.1 | 496 | 2.1 | 534 | 2.1 |
| Single parent Nuclear | 3,086 | 6.3 | 1,385 | 5.8 | 1,701 | 6.8 |
| Single parent Extended | 4,654 | 9.5 | 2,036 | 8.5 | 2,618 | 10.4 |
| Single parent Extended + non relative | 156 | 0.3 | 72 | 0.3 | 84 | 0.3 |
| Head and other composition but no spouse | 2,244 | 4.6 | 1,224 | 5.1 | 1,020 | 4.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The fact that the extended household system constituted more than half of the proportion of households has reaffirmed the existence and practice of the extended family system in Ghana and Sissala West District in particular. It might have been accounted for by the socio-cultural believes of the people where the extended household system is respected and considered wealthier than the nuclear system.

## 3.3 Marital Status

In Ghana and Sissala West District in particular, marriage is recognized as an important traditional social institution that is highly valued by the people. Marriage is a socially recognized and approved union between individuals, who commit to one another with the expectation of a stable and lasting intimate relationship. Marriage is then considered as the bedrock of family foundation and a union between two families either then individuals.

Figure 3.3 presents the population distribution of marital statuses in the District. The proportion of the population 12 years and older that are married are the highest (52.7%). This was followed by those who have never married (38.9%) with the least (0.5%) been those in informal/consensual union/living together.

**Figure 3.3: Population distribution of marital status**
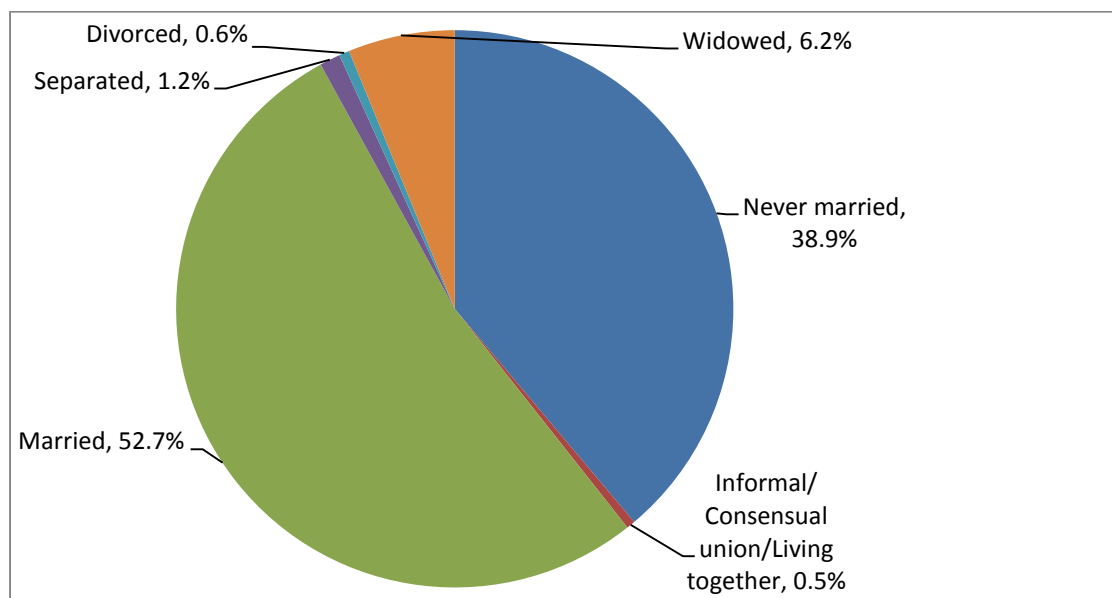


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.3.1 Marital status by age and sex

Data was gathered on the marital status of all persons aged 12 years and older in the 2010 Population and Housing Census. Six mutually exclusive categories (never married, informal/consensual union/ living together, married, separated, divorced and widowed) were identified and used in the 2010 Census data collection.

Table 3.4 presented data on the distribution of persons 12 years and older by sex, age-group and marital status. Overall, a little above half (52.7%) are married while 38.9 percent were never married. Also, the data reveals that the proportion of those never married is highest (93.9%) among the age group of 12-14 years while consensual or informal union is highest (1.0%) for age group 20 – 24 years.

**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 | 30,808 | 100 | 38.9 | 0.5 | 52.7 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 6.2 |
| 12 - 14 | 3,665 | 100 | 93.9 | 0.2 | 5.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 15 - 19 | 5,504 | 100 | 87.2 | 0.6 | 11.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| 20 - 24 | 3,822 | 100 | 54.0 | 1.0 | 43.6 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| 25 - 29 | 3,201 | 100 | 27.6 | 0.8 | 69.2 | 1.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 |
| 30 - 34 | 2,862 | 100 | 11.4 | 0.4 | 83.5 | 2.4 | 0.9 | 1.4 |
| 35 - 39 | 2,358 | 100 | 5.6 | 0.7 | 87.7 | 2.2 | 1.0 | 2.7 |
| 40 - 44 | 2,009 | 100 | 4.4 | 0.2 | 86.5 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 5.4 |
| 45 - 49 | 1,438 | 100 | 3.2 | 0.3 | 82.4 | 2.5 | 1.0 | 10.6 |
| 50 - 54 | 1,435 | 100 | 3.1 | 0.3 | 78.8 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 15.1 |
| 55 - 59 | 806 | 100 | 2.1 | 0.4 | 78.4 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 15.8 |
| 60 - 64 | 1,056 | 100 | 2.8 | 0.5 | 70.0 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 23.7 |
| 65+ | 2,652 | 100 | 4.2 | 0.1 | 59.8 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 33.7 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 14,484 | 100 | 50.0 | 0.4 | 47.1 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 1.2 |
| 12 - 14 | 1,954 | 100 | 93.3 | 0.3 | 6.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 15 - 19 | 2,957 | 100 | 93.1 | 0.3 | 6.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| 20 - 24 | 1,856 | 100 | 77.9 | 0.5 | 21.1 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| 25 - 29 | 1392 | 100 | 47.2 | 1.1 | 50.6 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| 30 - 34 | 1238 | 100 | 20.4 | 0.6 | 76.0 | 1.8 | 0.8 | 0.4 |
| 35 - 39 | 1,029 | 100 | 9.2 | 0.7 | 87.4 | 1.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| 40 - 44 | 844 | 100 | 7.6 | 0.4 | 88.2 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 0.5 |
| 45 - 49 | 614 | 100 | 4.7 | 0.2 | 90.4 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 2.0 |
| 50 - 54 | 603 | 100 | 5.0 | 0.3 | 89.2 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 3.2 |
| 55 - 59 | 398 | 100 | 3.0 | 0.3 | 91.5 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 3.8 |
| 60 - 64 | 467 | 100 | 3.9 | 0.4 | 86.7 | 1.5 | 2.4 | 5.1 |
| 65+ | 1,132 | 100 | 5.3 | 0.1 | 85.6 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 6.6 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 16,324 | 100 | 29.1 | 0.5 | 57.6 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 10.6 |
| 12 - 14 | 1,711 | 100 | 94.6 | 0.1 | 5.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 15 - 19 | 2,547 | 100 | 80.4 | 0.9 | 18.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| 20 - 24 | 1,966 | 100 | 31.5 | 1.5 | 64.9 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 0.7 |
| 25 - 29 | 1,809 | 100 | 12.5 | 0.5 | 83.6 | 1.9 | 0.3 | 1.2 |
| 30 - 34 | 1,624 | 100 | 4.6 | 0.2 | 89.2 | 2.8 | 1.0 | 2.2 |
| 35 - 39 | 1,329 | 100 | 2.9 | 0.7 | 88.0 | 2.6 | 1.4 | 4.4 |
| 40 - 44 | 1,165 | 100 | 2.1 | 0.1 | 85.3 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 9.0 |
| 45 - 49 | 824 | 100 | 2.1 | 0.4 | 76.5 | 3.2 | 0.8 | 17.1 |
| 50 - 54 | 832 | 100 | 1.8 | 0.2 | 71.3 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 23.7 |
| 55 - 59 | 408 | 100 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 65.7 | 2.7 | 2.5 | 27.5 |
| 60 - 64 | 589 | 100 | 2.0 | 0.5 | 56.7 | 1.7 | 0.7 | 38.4 |
| 65+ | 1,520 | 100 | 3.4 | 0.1 | 40.7 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 53.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

From the table, the proportion of males who are never married is half (50.0%) while those married are slightly below half (47.1%). On the contrary, the proportion of those married among the female is above half (57.6%) while the proportion of those never married is slightly below a third (29.1%). Also, the proportion of females who are widowed (10.6%) is comparatively far above that of the male (1.2%).

The data further show that the proportion never married is highest (93.3% and 94.6%) for males and females in the age group 12-14 years respectively. The proportion of those never married declined more sharply to 12.5 percent for females as compared with the male (47.2%) for those in the age group of 25-29 years.

As the population ages, higher proportions of widows are recorded, peaking at 65+ years' age-groups for both the female (53.9%) and the male (6.6%) populations.

### 3.3.2   Marital status and education

Education plays a key role in determining the age at which people get married. This is largely due to the number of years that people spend in their quest to achieve a certain level of education.

Table 3.5 presents information on persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and level of education. Generally, the proportion of those never married is highest (61.1%) among those with Basic education followed by those with no education (27.3%) and the least (0.3%) being those who had attained tertiary education. Consequently, there are higher proportions of separated and divorced cases (83.0% and 87.8% respectively) among those who had no education. These cases are however not common among those who had tertiary education.

A little over half (55.3%) of those who received Basic education were never married while those who had tertiary education recorded the least (0.4%). Similarly, higher proportions of those in informal or consensual union (53.1%), married (77.7%), separated (78.9%), divorce (83.5%) and widowed (89.8%) are among those who had no education and decreases with increasing level of education. It follows a similar trend for the female population.

Separated and divorced incidence was almost non-existent for both sexes aged 12 years and older who attained tertiary level of education. This implies that once people attained higher level of education, they are more likely to have stable marriages hence decrease the incidence of single parenting resulting from broken homes or marriages.

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

| Sex/Marital status | Number | All levels | No Education | Basic[1] | Secon-dary[2] | Voc/ Tech/ Comm | Post middle/ secondary certificate/ diploma[3] | Tertiary[4] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Both Sexes** | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 30,808 | 100 | 61.7 | 31.2 | 4.8 | 0.5 | 1.5 | 0.3 |
| Never married | 11,987 | 100 | 27.3 | 61.1 | 8.7 | 0.6 | 1.9 | 0.3 |
| Informal/ Consensual union/ Living together | 153 | 100 | 56.2 | 27.5 | 10.5 | 1.3 | 3.9 | 0.7 |
| Married | 16,221 | 100 | 82.5 | 12.9 | 2.4 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 0.3 |
| Separated | 359 | 100 | 83.0 | 11.4 | 3.6 | 0.6 | 1.4 | 0.0 |
| Divorced | 188 | 100 | 87.8 | 8.5 | 2.1 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 0.0 |
| Widowed | 1,900 | 100 | 94.3 | 5.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 14,484 | 100 | 55.2 | 35.0 | 6.4 | 0.4 | 2.4 | 0.5 |
| Never married | 7,238 | 100 | 32.4 | 55.3 | 9.1 | 0.5 | 2.2 | 0.4 |
| Informal/ Consensual union/ Living together | 64 | 100 | 53.1 | 21.9 | 15.6 | 3.1 | 4.7 | 1.6 |
| Married | 6,822 | 100 | 77.7 | 14.9 | 3.7 | 0.4 | 2.6 | 0.7 |
| Separated | 114 | 100 | 78.9 | 14.0 | 2.6 | 0.9 | 3.5 | 0.0 |
| Divorced | 79 | 100 | 83.5 | 11.4 | 3.8 | 0.0 | 1.3 | 0.0 |
| Widowed | 167 | 100 | 89.8 | 7.8 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 16,324 | 100 | 67.5 | 27.9 | 3.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.0 |
| Never married | 4,749 | 100 | 19.6 | 70.0 | 8.1 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 0.1 |
| Informal/ Consensual union/ Living together | 89 | 100 | 58.4 | 31.5 | 6.7 | 0.0 | 3.4 | 0.0 |
| Married | 9,399 | 100 | 86.0 | 11.5 | 1.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| Separated | 245 | 100 | 84.9 | 10.2 | 4.1 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| Divorced | 109 | 100 | 90.8 | 6.4 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 1.8 | 0.0 |
| Widowed | 1,733 | 100 | 94.7 | 4.7 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census
[1] Basic: Primary, Middle and JSS/JHS
[2] Secondary: SSS/SHS and Secondary
[3] Post Middle/ Sec. Cert./Diploma: Teacher training/ College of education, Agric, Nursing , University Diploma, HND, etc.
[4] Tertiary: Bachelor's Degree and Post Graduate or higher

### 3.3.3 Marital Status by Economic Activity Status

Marriage is a union of two persons which comes along with numerous responsibilities including financial responsibility. It is worth noting that the evidence of a man's ability to support his spouse financially is central in determining his decision to either get married or not to marry. Table 3.6 provides data on marital status of persons aged 12 years and older by sex and economic activity status.

It can be seen from the table that there are 30,808 persons 12 years and older. Of that number, 68.6 percent are employed, 1.1 percent are unemployed and 30.3 percent are economically not active. Of those married, 85.9 percent are employed and 13.0 percent are economically not active. Also, majority of the never married are economically not active (52.7%), while 46.1 percent are employed. Those in consensual unions have most of them employed (78.4%), but 20.3 percent of them are economically not active.

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

| Sex/Marital status | Total Number | Total Percent | Employed Number | Employed Percent | Unemployed Number | Unemployed Percent | Economically not active Number | Economically not active Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Both Sexes** | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 30,808 | 100.0 | 21,147 | 68.6 | 340 | 1.1 | 9,321 | 30.3 |
| Never married | 11,987 | 100.0 | 5,530 | 46.1 | 142 | 1.2 | 6,315 | 52.7 |
| Informal/ Consensual union/ Living together | 153 | 100.0 | 120 | 78.4 | 2 | 1.3 | 31 | 20.3 |
| Married | 16,221 | 100.0 | 13,931 | 85.9 | 174 | 1.1 | 2,116 | 13.0 |
| Separated | 359 | 100.0 | 290 | 80.8 | 9 | 2.5 | 60 | 16.7 |
| Divorced | 188 | 100.0 | 143 | 76.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 45 | 23.9 |
| Widowed | 1,900 | 100.0 | 1,133 | 59.6 | 13 | 0.7 | 754 | 39.7 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 14,484 | 100.0 | 9,986 | 68.9 | 175 | 1.2 | 4,323 | 29.8 |
| Never married | 7,238 | 100.0 | 3,703 | 51.2 | 103 | 1.4 | 3,432 | 47.4 |
| Informal/ Consensual union/ Living together | 64 | 100.0 | 54 | 84.4 | 1 | 1.6 | 9 | 14.1 |
| Married | 6,822 | 100.0 | 5,986 | 87.7 | 64 | 0.9 | 772 | 11.3 |
| Separated | 114 | 100.0 | 85 | 74.6 | 6 | 5.3 | 23 | 20.2 |
| Divorced | 79 | 100.0 | 56 | 70.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 23 | 29.1 |
| Widowed | 167 | 100.0 | 102 | 61.1 | 1 | 0.6 | 64 | 38.3 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 16,324 | 100.0 | 11,161 | 68.4 | 165 | 1.0 | 4,998 | 30.6 |
| Never married | 4,749 | 100.0 | 1,827 | 38.5 | 39 | 0.8 | 2,883 | 60.7 |
| Informal/ Consensual union/ Living together | 89 | 100.0 | 66 | 74.2 | 1 | 1.1 | 22 | 24.7 |
| Married | 9,399 | 100.0 | 7,945 | 84.5 | 110 | 1.2 | 1,344 | 14.3 |
| Separated | 245 | 100.0 | 205 | 83.7 | 3 | 1.2 | 37 | 15.1 |
| Divorced | 109 | 100.0 | 87 | 79.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 22 | 20.2 |
| Widowed | 1,733 | 100.0 | 1,031 | 59.5 | 12 | 0.7 | 690 | 39.8 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.4 Nationality

Nationality is a condition or status of belonging to, or having legal identity with, a nation or state. Thus, it is the country to which a person belongs or owes allegiance. The 2010 Population and Housing Census classified Ghanaian nationals into three groups - Ghanaian by birth, Ghanaian with dual citizenship and Ghanaian by naturalization. It further classified non Ghanaians into three broad categories consisting of those from countries that constitute the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Africa other than ECOWAS and others.

Table 3.7 reveals the distribution of Sissala West District's population by nationality and sex. It is apparent from the table that the overwhelming majority (92.8%) of the District's population are Ghanaians by birth, followed by Dual Nationals (2.8%) and those from ECOWAS (2.5%). Non Ghanaians (Africa other than ECOWAS and others) accounted for 0.9 percent of the district's total population.

The proportion of males who are Ghanaians by birth is slightly higher (92.8%) than that of the female (92.7%). On the contrary, the proportion of female dual nationals are a little higher (2.9%) than the male (2.7%) counterparts. This higher proportion of female dual nationals might have been greatly accounted for by the inter marriages that exists in the district especially along the border communities.

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

| Nationality | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 49,573 | 100.0 | 24,151 | 100.0 | 25,422 | 100.0 |
| Ghanaian by birth | 45,979 | 92.8 | 22,410 | 92.8 | 23,569 | 92.7 |
| Dual Nationality | 1,406 | 2.8 | 664 | 2.7 | 742 | 2.9 |
| Ghanaian by naturalisation | 500 | 1.0 | 251 | 1.0 | 249 | 1.0 |
| ECOWAS | 1,229 | 2.5 | 599 | 2.5 | 630 | 2.5 |
| Africa other than ECOWAS | 267 | 0.5 | 132 | 0.5 | 135 | 0.5 |
| Other | 192 | 0.4 | 95 | 0.4 | 97 | 0.4 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 3.5    Religious Affiliation

Religion is an important social institution in Ghana and the world as a whole. The people way of life is largely influenced to an extent by their religious affiliations, believes and practices. In terms of religion, there are three major types of religious groups namely; the Islam, Christianity and Traditionalist.

Table 3.8 shows the population distribution of Sissala West District by religion and sex. Islam is the most predominant religion with the highest proportion of 70.4 percent, followed by Traditionalist (14.4%) and Christianity (Catholic, Protestant, Pentecostal/Charismatic and other Christians) (13.6%). Males in Islam formed the largest proportion of 72.2 percent compared to 12.5 percent affiliated to Christianity. On the other hand, the proportion of female affiliated to Traditionalist (15.1%) and Christianity (14.6%) are greater as compared to male affiliated to Traditionalist (13.6%) and Christianity (12.5%) respectively.

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

| Religion | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 49,573 | 100.0 | 24,151 | 100.0 | 25,422 | 100.0 |
| No Religion | 681 | 1.4 | 308 | 1.3 | 373 | 1.5 |
| Catholic | 5,838 | 11.8 | 2,641 | 10.9 | 3,197 | 12.6 |
| Protestant (Anglican Lutheran etc.) | 347 | 0.7 | 178 | 0.7 | 169 | 0.7 |
| Pentecostal/Charismatic | 471 | 1.0 | 200 | 0.8 | 271 | 1.1 |
| Other Christians | 66 | 0.1 | 26 | 0.1 | 40 | 0.2 |
| Islam | 34,875 | 70.4 | 17,430 | 72.2 | 17,445 | 68.6 |
| Traditionalist | 7,129 | 14.4 | 3,286 | 13.6 | 3,843 | 15.1 |
| Other (Specify) | 166 | 0.3 | 82 | 0.3 | 84 | 0.3 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 3.4 shows the percentage of population distribution of literacy status in Sissala West District. The figure reveals that English language is the most dominant language in the district accounting for 77.7 percent. The proportion literate in both English and Ghanaian language was 19.3 percent, while that of Ghanaian language only 2.5 percent. English, French and Ghanaian language recorded the least (0.1%).

## 3.6    Literacy and Education

### 3.6.1    Literacy

Since the invention of letters of the alphabets and the formation of words with these letters, literacy became an essential trait in human society. Increasingly, the written communication gain prominence over the years. Many have therefore seen the ability to read and write a simple statement with understanding as an opportunity to gaining new possibilities which no other skills can provide. Literacy has therefore been considered a crucial factor to national development.

Table 3.9 shows the percentage distribution of population 11 years and older by literacy level and sex. Out of 32,030 persons aged 11years and above, 60.0 percent are not literate (cannot read and write simple statement with understanding).

Also, the level of illiteracy increases with age, thus the proportion not literate is higher for older ages than it is for younger ages. It is also observed that while English only literate population (11 years and older) decrease as age increases, that of Ghanaian language only increases. Similarly, the sex segregated data on literacy follow equivalent trend for the males and females population.

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

|  | None (not literate) | Literate | Total | English only | Ghanaian language only | English and Ghanaian language | English and French | English, French and Ghanaian language |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Both sexes** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 19,231 | 12,799 | 100.0 | 77.7 | 2.5 | 19.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| 11-14 | 872 | 4,015 | 100.0 | 82.8 | 2.4 | 14.6 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 15-19 | 1,505 | 3,999 | 100.0 | 80.1 | 2.6 | 17.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 20-24 | 2,017 | 1,805 | 100.0 | 75.2 | 1.3 | 23.0 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| 25-29 | 2,163 | 1,038 | 100.0 | 72.1 | 2.2 | 25.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| 30-34 | 2,277 | 585 | 100.0 | 67.2 | 3.9 | 27.7 | 0.9 | 0.3 |
| 35-39 | 1,967 | 391 | 100.0 | 72.4 | 4.1 | 22.5 | 1.0 | - |
| 40-44 | 1,788 | 221 | 100.0 | 68.3 | 3.2 | 28.5 | - | - |
| 45-49 | 1,278 | 160 | 100.0 | 66.9 | 3.8 | 28.1 | 1.3 | - |
| 50-54 | 1,271 | 164 | 100.0 | 62.2 | 6.7 | 31.1 | - | - |
| 55-59 | 686 | 120 | 100.0 | 60.8 | 4.2 | 34.2 | 0.8 | - |
| 60-64 | 949 | 107 | 100.0 | 61.7 | 1.9 | 36.4 | - | - |
| 65+ | 2,458 | 194 | 100.0 | 73.7 | 3.6 | 22.7 | - | - |

**Table 3.9:  Population 11 years and older by sex, age and literacy status (cont'd)**

| | None (not literate) | Literate | Total | English only | Ghanaian language only | English and Ghanaian language | English and French | English, French and Ghanaian language |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Male** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 8,123 | 7,024 | 100.0 | 74.8 | 2.5 | 22.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 11-14 | 540 | 2,077 | 100.0 | 80.5 | 2.4 | 16.9 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 15-19 | 840 | 2,117 | 100.0 | 78.9 | 2.2 | 18.6 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 20-24 | 815 | 1,041 | 100.0 | 73.9 | 1.2 | 24.8 | 0.2 | - |
| 25-29 | 808 | 584 | 100.0 | 66.4 | 3.1 | 30.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| 30-34 | 908 | 330 | 100.0 | 60.3 | 4.5 | 34.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| 35-39 | 783 | 246 | 100.0 | 67.9 | 4.1 | 28.0 | - | - |
| 40-44 | 700 | 144 | 100.0 | 63.2 | 2.1 | 34.7 | - | - |
| 45-49 | 516 | 98 | 100.0 | 68.4 | 4.1 | 25.5 | 2.0 | - |
| 50-54 | 493 | 110 | 100.0 | 61.8 | 5.5 | 32.7 | - | - |
| 55-59 | 300 | 98 | 100.0 | 55.1 | 4.1 | 39.8 | 1 | - |
| 60-64 | 397 | 70 | 100.0 | 50.0 | 2.9 | 47.1 | - | - |
| 65+ | 1,023 | 109 | 100.0 | 68.8 | 2.8 | 28.4 | - | - |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 11,108 | 5,775 | 100.0 | 81.3 | 2.6 | 15.6 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| 11-14 | 332 | 1,938 | 100.0 | 85.3 | 2.5 | 12.0 | 0.2 | - |
| 15-19 | 665 | 1,882 | 100.0 | 81.5 | 3.0 | 15.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 20-24 | 1,202 | 764 | 100.0 | 77.0 | 1.4 | 20.5 | 0.9 | 0.1 |
| 25-29 | 1,355 | 454 | 100.0 | 79.3 | 1.1 | 19.2 | 0.4 | - |
| 30-34 | 1,369 | 255 | 100.0 | 76.1 | 3.1 | 19.2 | 1.2 | 0.4 |
| 35-39 | 1,184 | 145 | 100.0 | 80.0 | 4.1 | 13.1 | 2.8 | - |
| 40-44 | 1,088 | 77 | 100.0 | 77.9 | 5.2 | 16.9 | - | - |
| 45-49 | 762 | 62 | 100.0 | 64.5 | 3.2 | 32.3 | - | - |
| 50-54 | 778 | 54 | 100.0 | 63.0 | 9.3 | 27.8 | - | - |
| 55-59 | 386 | 22 | 100.0 | 86.4 | 4.5 | 9.1 | - | - |
| 60-64 | 552 | 37 | 100.0 | 83.8 | - | 16.2 | - | - |
| 65+ | 1,435 | 85 | 100.0 | 80.0 | 4.7 | 15.3 | - | - |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 3.6.2  Education

Education in the 2010 census is, on the other hand, referred to full time education in an educational institution where a person spends or has spent at least four (4) hours a day receiving general education in which the stress is not on trade training.

Table 3.10 shows the percentage distribution of the population 3 years and older by level of education, school attendance and sex. Out of a total of 18,145 persons aged 3 year and older who are in school, 55.8 percent are in primary school compared to Senior Secondary School (SSS)/Senior High School (SHS) (4.9%) and tertiary (0.8%). The table reveals that out of the females who are currently in school, 57.1 percent are in primary school compared to the males (54.7%).

The proportions of males who are currently in pre-school and primary school are slightly lower at all the stages than the females though the gap narrows as they climb higher. In contrast, the proportion of females currently in SSS/SHS (3.8 %) and tertiary (0.5%) levels is lower compared to the males (5.8 %) and (1.1%) respectively.

Table 3.10 further shows that of those who attended school in the past, over a third (44.8%) had ever received primary school education, whereas slightly over one-fifth (22.3) had Junior Secondary School (JSS)/ Junior High School (JHS) education with only 5.3 percent attaining tertiary education.

Out of those who attended school in the past, the proportion of female (49.2%) who attained primary education as their highest level of education is higher than that of the male (41.2%). Similarly, higher percentage (3.2%) of female attained Vocational/Technical/Commercial education as their highest level than the male (2.1%). On the contrary, the proportion of males (8.2%) who had tertiary education is almost five times that of the female (1.7%). Generally, more males had higher levels of education than 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 | 18,145 | 100.0 | 9,546 | 100.0 | 8,599 | 100.0 | 4,141 | 100.0 | 2,291 | 100.0 | 1,850 | 100.0 |
| Nursery | 1,326 | 7.3 | 659 | 6.9 | 667 | 7.8 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Kindergarten | 2,531 | 13.9 | 1,350 | 14.1 | 1,181 | 13.7 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Primary | 10,128 | 55.8 | 5,219 | 54.7 | 4,909 | 57.1 | 1,854 | 44.8 | 943 | 41.2 | 911 | 49.2 |
| JSS/JHS | 3,029 | 16.7 | 1,608 | 16.8 | 1,421 | 16.5 | 922 | 22.3 | 404 | 17.6 | 518 | 28.0 |
| Middle | - | - | - | - | - | - | 313 | 7.6 | 230 | 10.0 | 83 | 4.5 |
| SSS/SHS | 885 | 4.9 | 555 | 5.8 | 330 | 3.8 | 480 | 11.6 | 302 | 13.2 | 178 | 9.6 |
| Secondary | - | - | - | - | - | - | 114 | 2.8 | 76 | 3.3 | 38 | 2.1 |
| Vocational/Technical/ Commercial | 48 | 0.3 | 18 | 0.2 | 30 | 0.3 | 106 | 2.6 | 47 | 2.1 | 59 | 3.2 |
| Post middle/ secondary certificate | 54 | 0.3 | 36 | 0.4 | 18 | 0.2 | 131 | 3.2 | 100 | 4.4 | 31 | 1.7 |
| Tertiary | 144 | 0.8 | 101 | 1.1 | 43 | 0.5 | 221 | 5.3 | 189 | 8.2 | 32 | 1.7 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER FOUR
# ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

## 4.1    Introduction

The level of economic development of a country the world over is an important determinant of the nation's classification as a developed or developing country. The basic aim of all economic activities worldwide is to provide a secured and regular income to the population. It is vital indicating that high rate of unemployment can result in social vices, especially among the youth. This level of economic development is therefore measured using certain indicators including employment by sector and unemployment rates.

Various governments across the world at certain stage of their countries development seek to know the number of people who are employed and those unemployed. Statistics on labour and labour-related issues such as the rate of employment and unemployment, dependency ratio, economically active and economically not active populations are crucial for informed policy decisions.

## 4.2    Economic Activity Status

Table 4.1 shows the distribution of population 15 years and older by activity status and sex. It is evident from the table that out of a total population (27,143) aged 15 years and older, 74.7 percent are economically active while 25.3 percent are economically not active. Out of the economically active population of 19,932, 98.3 percent are employed with only 1.7 percent are unemployed. Of the employed population, 95.9 percent had worked with the least (0.5%) been people who did voluntary work without pay.

Also, it is evident from the table that a higher proportion of the unemployed (62.4%) population had worked before, seeking work and are available for work while, a little above a third (37.6%) are seeking work for the first time and are available for work. A higher proportion of those who had work before and are seeking and available for work might have been largely accounted for by casual and seasonal workers.

Table 4.1 further revealed that almost half (48.5%) of the economically not active population are accounted for by people in full time education, followed by people who did home duties (20.3%), and the pensioners or retired as expected formed the least (0.8%). This implies that a higher number of people in the economically not active population would move into the labour market in the next five to 10 years.

The proportion of economically active male is slightly higher (75.3%) compared to the female (74.1%). The proportion of employed population who worked is the same for both male and female (95.9%), while those who did voluntary work without pay been the least for both sexes as shown in Table 4.1.

The proportion of economically active male population unemployed is slightly greater (1.9%) than the female (1.5%). The proportion of the unemployed female who worked before, seeking work and are available for work is higher (66.7%) compared to the male (58.3%). This implies that more females are probably into casual work or are affected by job insecurity. On the other hand, the proportion of males seeking work for the first time is higher (41.7%) than females (33.3%).

The proportion of the economically not active female population is a little higher (25.9%) compared with the male (24.7%). This is due to the fact that more females are engaged in domestic chores. The proportion of males in full time education (62.6%) is almost twice that of the females (37.0%). This indicates that more males are likely to be educated hence effective measures need to be put in place to ensure gender parity in education.

**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 | 27,143 | 100.0 | 12,530 | 100.0 | 14,613 | 100.0 |
| **Economically active** | **20,272** | **74.7** | **9,437** | **75.3** | **10,835** | **74.1** |
| *Employed* | *19,932* | *98.3* | *9,262* | *98.1* | *10,670* | *98.5* |
| *Worked* | *19,112* | *95.9* | *8,880* | *95.9* | *10,232* | *95.9* |
| *Did not work but had job to go back to* | *728* | *3.7* | *347* | *3.7* | *381* | *3.6* |
| *Did voluntary work without pay* | *92* | *0.5* | *35* | *0.4* | *57* | *0.5* |
| *Unemployed* | *340* | *1.7* | *175* | *1.9* | *165* | *1.5* |
| *Worked before, seeking work and available* | *212* | *62.4* | *102* | *58.3* | *110* | *66.7* |
| *Seeking work for the first time and available* | *128* | *37.6* | *73* | *41.7* | *55* | *33.3* |
| **Economically not active** | **6,871** | **25.3** | **3,093** | **24.7** | **3,778** | **25.9** |
| Did home duties (household chore) | 1,393 | 20.3 | 349 | 11.3 | 1,044 | 27.6 |
| Full time education | 3,332 | 48.5 | 1,935 | 62.6 | 1,397 | 37.0 |
| Pensioner/Retired | 54 | 0.8 | 31 | 1.0 | 23 | 0.6 |
| Disabled/Sick | 489 | 7.1 | 223 | 7.2 | 266 | 7.0 |
| Too old/young | 1,351 | 19.7 | 431 | 13.9 | 920 | 24.4 |
| Other | 252 | 3.7 | 124 | 4.0 | 128 | 3.4 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 4.2.1   Economic activity status and age

Table 4.2 shows the distribution of employed population 15 years and older by sex, age and activity status. A little over one-fifth (20.3%) of the population aged 15 years and older in the district are in the age-group of 15-19 years, followed by 20-24 years age-group (14.1%) with the least (3.0%) been persons aged 55-59 years old.

From Table 4.2, about 53.6 percent of persons aged 15-19 years are economically not active, however, quite a number (45.7%) of them are employed. Similarly, 69.0 percent of persons aged 20-24 years are employed, while 29.0 percent are economically not active

From age 25 years, the proportion of persons employed within the age groups increase with increasing age till age 39 years and decreases marginally for age group 40-44 and then reaches a maximum of 92.5 at age 45-49 years and thereafter starts to decrease. Unemployed is generally low among the population, but it is high for the following age groups of 25-29 years (2.4%), 20-25 years (1.9%) and 30-34 years (1.4%). The same pattern is observed for both males and females. However, employment figures for males are relatively higher than that of females. More females are economically not active than males for all age groups.

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

| Age group | All Status | | Employed | | Unemployed | | Economically not active | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Both sexes | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 27,143 | 100.0 | 19,932 | 73.4 | 340 | 1.3 | 6,871 | 25.3 |
| 15 - 19 | 5,504 | 100.0 | 2,513 | 45.7 | 42 | 0.8 | 2,949 | 53.6 |
| 20 - 24 | 3,822 | 100.0 | 2,638 | 69.0 | 74 | 1.9 | 1,110 | 29.0 |
| 25 - 29 | 3,201 | 100.0 | 2,692 | 84.1 | 78 | 2.4 | 431 | 13.5 |
| 30 - 34 | 2,862 | 100.0 | 2,567 | 89.7 | 40 | 1.4 | 255 | 8.9 |
| 35 - 39 | 2,358 | 100.0 | 2,171 | 92.1 | 22 | 0.9 | 165 | 7.0 |
| 40 - 44 | 2,009 | 100.0 | 1,814 | 90.3 | 16 | 0.8 | 179 | 8.9 |
| 45 - 49 | 1,438 | 100.0 | 1,330 | 92.5 | 17 | 1.2 | 91 | 6.3 |
| 50 - 54 | 1,435 | 100.0 | 1,247 | 86.9 | 11 | 0.8 | 177 | 12.3 |
| 55 - 59 | 806 | 100.0 | 696 | 86.4 | 5 | 0.6 | 105 | 13.0 |
| 60 - 64 | 1,056 | 100.0 | 821 | 77.7 | 31 | 2.9 | 204 | 19.3 |
| 65+ | 2,652 | 100.0 | 1,443 | 54.4 | 4 | 0.2 | 1,205 | 45.4 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 12,530 | 100.0 | 9,262 | 73.9 | 175 | 1.4 | 3,093 | 24.7 |
| 15 - 19 | 2,957 | 100.0 | 1,396 | 47.2 | 23 | 0.8 | 1,538 | 52.0 |
| 20 - 24 | 1,856 | 100.0 | 1,221 | 65.8 | 39 | 2.1 | 596 | 32.1 |
| 25 - 29 | 1,392 | 100.0 | 1,149 | 82.5 | 46 | 3.3 | 197 | 14.2 |
| 30 - 34 | 1,238 | 100.0 | 1,139 | 92.0 | 22 | 1.8 | 77 | 6.2 |
| 35 - 39 | 1,029 | 100.0 | 972 | 94.5 | 10 | 1.0 | 47 | 4.6 |
| 40 - 44 | 844 | 100.0 | 784 | 92.9 | 9 | 1.1 | 51 | 6.0 |
| 45 - 49 | 614 | 100.0 | 581 | 94.6 | 2 | 0.3 | 31 | 5.0 |
| 50 - 54 | 603 | 100.0 | 549 | 91.0 | 3 | 0.5 | 51 | 8.5 |
| 55 - 59 | 398 | 100.0 | 369 | 92.7 | 1 | 0.3 | 28 | 7.0 |
| 60 - 64 | 467 | 100.0 | 393 | 84.2 | 19 | 4.1 | 55 | 11.8 |
| 65+ | 1,132 | 100.0 | 709 | 62.6 | 1 | 0.1 | 422 | 37.3 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 14,613 | 100.0 | 10,670 | 73.0 | 165 | 1.1 | 3,778 | 25.9 |
| 15 - 19 | 2,547 | 100.0 | 1,117 | 10.5 | 19 | 0.7 | 1,411 | 55.4 |
| 20 - 24 | 1,966 | 100.0 | 1,417 | 13.3 | 35 | 1.8 | 514 | 26.1 |
| 25 - 29 | 1,809 | 100.0 | 1,543 | 14.5 | 32 | 1.8 | 234 | 12.9 |
| 30 - 34 | 1,624 | 100.0 | 1,428 | 13.4 | 18 | 1.1 | 178 | 11.0 |
| 35 - 39 | 1,329 | 100.0 | 1,199 | 11.2 | 12 | 0.9 | 118 | 8.9 |
| 40 - 44 | 1,165 | 100.0 | 1,030 | 9.7 | 7 | 0.6 | 128 | 11.0 |
| 45 - 49 | 824 | 100.0 | 749 | 7.0 | 15 | 1.8 | 60 | 7.3 |
| 50 - 54 | 832 | 100.0 | 698 | 6.5 | 8 | 1.0 | 126 | 15.1 |
| 55 - 59 | 408 | 100.0 | 327 | 3.1 | 4 | 1.0 | 77 | 18.9 |
| 60 - 64 | 589 | 100.0 | 428 | 4.0 | 12 | 2.0 | 149 | 25.3 |
| 65+ | 1,520 | 100.0 | 734 | 6.9 | 3 | 0.2 | 783 | 51.5 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.3    Occupation

The distribution of employed population 15 years and older by occupation and sex is presented in Table 4.3. Data in the table shows that overwhelming majority of the population 15 years and older in the district are skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers (82.3%). This implies that the economy of the district is basically agrarian. This might be as a result of the typical rural nature of the district. The table further reveals that less than one-tenth (7.2%) are craft and related trade workers while 0.3 percent of the people are clerical support workers. The high proportion of agricultural, forestry and fishery related workers is largely accounted for by crop and animal farmers.

A similar trend is observed in the distribution of males and females by type of occupation. From the table, the proportion of the male population working as agricultural, forestry and fishery workers (86.1%) is higher than that of females (79.0%). On the contrary, the proportion of females engaged in craft and related work is significantly higher (11.0%) than that of males (2.7%). Also, the proportion of employed females (7.1%) as service and sales workers are more than twofold that of the males (2.6%) while the opposite is true for males professionals (2.4%) compared to the females (0.8%) professionals.

**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 | 19,932 | 100.0 | 9,262 | 100.0 | 10,670 | 100.0 |
| Managers | 109 | 0.5 | 70 | 0.8 | 39 | 0.4 |
| Professionals | 312 | 1.6 | 224 | 2.4 | 88 | 0.8 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 84 | 0.4 | 58 | 0.6 | 26 | 0.2 |
| Clerical support workers | 57 | 0.3 | 37 | 0.4 | 20 | 0.2 |
| Service and sales workers | 995 | 5.0 | 242 | 2.6 | 753 | 7.1 |
| Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers | 16,404 | 82.3 | 7,971 | 86.1 | 8,433 | 79.0 |
| Craft and related trades workers | 1,428 | 7.2 | 254 | 2.7 | 1,174 | 11.0 |
| Plant and machine operators and assemblers | 72 | 0.4 | 68 | 0.7 | 4 | 0.0 |
| Elementary occupations | 466 | 2.3 | 334 | 3.6 | 132 | 1.2 |
| Other occupations | 5 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.4    Industry

Table 4.4 provides information on industry of employed persons, 15 years and older by sex. Table 4.4 shows that 82.4 percent of the employed population in the district are engaged in the agriculture, forestry and fishery sector of the economy. Also, 6.1 percent are employed in the manufacturing industry while 4.3 percent are employed in the wholesale and retail and motor repairs sector.

**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 | 19,932 | 100.0 | 9,262 | 100.0 | 10,670 | 100.0 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 16,417 | 82.4 | 7,993 | 86.3 | 8,424 | 79.0 |
| Mining and quarrying | 8 | 0.0 | 5 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.0 |
| Manufacturing | 1,222 | 6.1 | 139 | 1.5 | 1,083 | 10.1 |
| Electricity gas stream and air conditioning supply | 3 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities | 28 | 0.1 | 21 | 0.2 | 7 | 0.1 |
| Construction | 141 | 0.7 | 131 | 1.4 | 10 | 0.1 |
| Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 865 | 4.3 | 370 | 4.0 | 495 | 4.6 |
| Transportation and storage | 42 | 0.2 | 41 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Accommodation and food service activities | 293 | 1.5 | 32 | 0.3 | 261 | 2.4 |
| Information and communication | 5 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.0 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 15 | 0.1 | 10 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.0 |
| Real estate activities | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Professional scientific and technical activities | 64 | 0.3 | 29 | 0.3 | 35 | 0.3 |
| Administrative and support service activities | 22 | 0.1 | 17 | 0.2 | 5 | 0.0 |
| Public administration and defence; compulsory social security | 120 | 0.6 | 99 | 1.1 | 21 | 0.2 |
| Education | 282 | 1.4 | 217 | 2.3 | 65 | 0.6 |
| Human health and social work activities | 54 | 0.3 | 30 | 0.3 | 24 | 0.2 |
| Arts entertainment and recreation | 9 | 0.0 | 5 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.0 |
| Other service activities | 144 | 0.7 | 54 | 0.6 | 90 | 0.8 |
| Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods - and services - producing activities of households for own use | 198 | 1.0 | 63 | 0.7 | 135 | 1.3 |
| Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The proportion of females (10.1%) in the manufacturing sector is six times more than that of the males (1.5%). Similarly, 3.0 percent of males are employed in the Electricity gas stream and air conditioning supply sector. It is also worth indicating that real estate activities and activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies are conspicuously absent in the district.

## 4.5    Employment Status

Table 4.5 shows the distribution of employed population 15 years and older by employment status and sex. Overall, more than half (55.8%) of the employed population are self-employed without employees, while only 1.1 percent are self-employed with employees. It is worth noting that 36.6 percent are contributing family workers while 0.4 percent constitutes domestic employees (House helps).

**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 | 19,932 | 100.0 | 9,262 | 100.0 | 10,670 | 100.0 |
| Employee | 814 | 4.1 | 637 | 6.9 | 177 | 1.7 |
| Self- employed without employee(s) | 11,121 | 55.8 | 5,877 | 63.5 | 5,244 | 49.1 |
| Self- employed with employee(s) | 218 | 1.1 | 94 | 1.0 | 124 | 1.2 |
| Casual worker | 222 | 1.1 | 149 | 1.6 | 73 | 0.7 |
| Contributing family worker | 7,297 | 36.6 | 2,420 | 26.1 | 4,877 | 45.7 |
| Apprentice | 145 | 0.7 | 32 | 0.3 | 113 | 1.1 |
| Domestic employee (House- help) | 77 | 0.4 | 38 | 0.4 | 39 | 0.4 |
| Other | 38 | 0.2 | 15 | 0.2 | 23 | 0.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 4.1 shows the percentage distribution of employment status by sex in the district. Among the male employed population, 63.5 percent are self-employed without employees while the females' proportion is a little below half (49.1%). The proportion of males self-employed with employees (6.9%) is four times higher than that of the females (1.7%). On the contrary, the proportion of females' domestic employees (45.7%) is twice more than the males (26.1%). It is evident that only about one (1) percent of employed males and females are self-employed with employees.

**Figure 4.1:  Percentage distribution of employment status by sex**
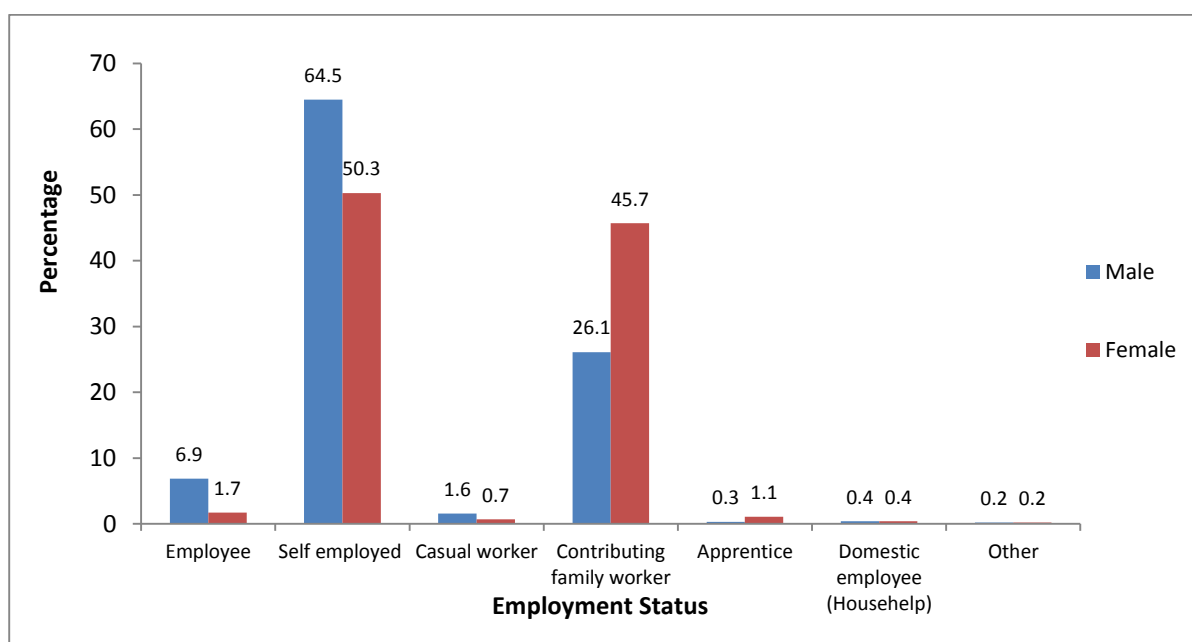


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 4.6    Employment Sector

The sector of employment is an important determinant of government policy decision especially in the sustainability of small and medium scale enterprises. Table 4.6 shows the distribution of employed population 15 years and older by employment sector and sex. From the Table, over 96.3 percent of the employed population aged 15 years and older are in private informal, with 2.6 percent in government sector and 0.7 percent in private formal sector.

A similar trend is observed for the males and females. However, the proportion of females in private informal is higher (97.9%) than the males (94.4%). On the contrary, the proportion of males employed in the public sector is higher than the 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 | 19,932 | 100.0 | 9,262 | 100.0 | 10,670 | 100.0 |
| Public (Government) | 519 | 2.6 | 405 | 4.4 | 114 | 1.1 |
| Private Formal | 138 | 0.7 | 74 | 0.8 | 64 | 0.6 |
| Private Informal | 19,193 | 96.3 | 8,746 | 94.4 | 10,447 | 97.9 |
| Semi-Public/Parastatal | 11 | 0.1 | 8 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.0 |
| NGOs (Local and International) | 71 | 0.4 | 29 | 0.3 | 42 | 0.4 |
| Other International Organisations | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER FIVE
# INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

## 5.1    Introduction

Communication is an essential part of human interaction. The benefits of effective communication are many and obvious as they enhance all aspects of our personal, social, economic and professional lives. The commercial landscape has changed dramatically since the beginning of the 21$^{st}$ century. In a technology-driven society, getting information rapidly is essential for both the sender and the receiver. Information Communication Technologies have made it possible to quickly access and/or dispense information.

In the 2010 Census, information on ownership of mobile phone, computers and internet facility were collected for individuals or persons aged 12 years and older and households while that of fixed telephone lines was for the household. Annan (2002) noted that the information society is a way for the capacity of individuals to be expanded, built up, nourished, and liberated by giving people access to tools and technologies, with the education and training to use them effectively.

## 5.2    Ownership of Mobile Phones

In Table 5.1, of the 30,808 of the population who are 12 years or older in the Sissala West District, 3,236 (22.3 %) males and 1,213 (7.4%) females owned mobile phones. In totality, the proportion of the population who are 12 years and older and owned mobile phones are only14.4 percent in the district. This implies that males are more likely to get access to information in time than females sharing through mobile phone.

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

| Sex | Population 12 years and older | | Population having mobile phone | | Population using internet facility | |
|-----|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 30,808 | 100.0 | 4,449 | 14.4 | 160 | 0.5 |
| Male | 14,484 | 100.0 | 3,236 | 22.3 | 108 | 0.7 |
| Female | 16,324 | 100.0 | 1,213 | 7.4 | 52 | 0.3 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 5.3    Use of Internet

Table 5.1 shows the proportion of persons 12 years and older who use internet facilities in the Sissala West District. Out of a total population of 30,808 aged 12 years or older, 160 people representing only 0.5 percent use internet facilities in the district. Among the males, 0.7 percent use the internet facility, while among the female population, only 0.3 percent use the internet. This implies that the great benefits that are associated with the internet (as a tool for freedom, commerce, connectivity, and other societal benefits) are limited to just a few.

## 5.4    Household Ownership of Desktop or Laptop Computer

The ownership of computers (Desktop or Laptop) remains a preserve of only few households in the district. This is evident in Table 5.2 which reveals that only 0.7 percent of the 7,116 households in the district own either Desktop or Laptop computers. In absolute terms there are only 51 households of which 38 are headed by males and 13 headed by females who own computers.

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

| Sex | Number of households | | Households having desktop/laptop computers | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 7,116 | 100.0 | 51 | 0.7 |
| Male | 5,645 | 100.0 | 38 | 0.7 |
| Female | 1,471 | 100.0 | 13 | 0.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 population and housing census

# CHAPTER SIX
# DISABILITY

## 6.1    Introduction

Disability is an important social phenomenon in policy decisions making in all countries worldwide. This is because persons with disabilities (PWDs) are confronted with a variety of challenges of individual's perception and its direct linkage to poverty. This is because persons with disability are seen as people who are not capable of or are restricted in the performance of specific tasks/activities due to loss of function of some part of the body as a result of impairment or malformation.

Generally, due to the nature of impairment, some sections of people with disability find themselves more marginalized than others simply because of functional limitations due to the type of impairment. This marginalization is created by the denial of certain basic rights that enable people to be seen as part of a society and function within it. People with disability are therefore socially excluded to the extent that they fall short to contribute effectively to the welfare of other individuals or the entire social group to which they belong because they are perceived to be ineffectual or incompetent.

## 6.2    Population with Disability

About three percent of Ghana's total population are persons with disabilities of which 40 percent had multiple disabilities. For instance, one person may have both hearing impairment and intellectual disorder. This means that he/she would be counted among persons with hearing impairment and those with intellectual disorder. This indicates that the occurrence of disability types would be higher than that of the total number of people with disability.

Population distribution of persons with disability by sex in the Sissala West District is presented in Table 6.1. Out of a total population of 49,573 in the district, 1,745 persons representing 3.5 percent are with disability. About 30 percent of persons with disability in the district had multiple forms of disability. Also, of the male population, 3.6 percent are with disability while 3.5 percent of the female population are with disability.

**Table 6.1:  Population with disability by sex**

| Disability Type All localities | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | percent | Number | percent | Number | percent |
| Total | 49,573 | 100.0 | 24,151 | 100.0 | 25,422 | 100.0 |
| Without disability | 47,828 | 96.5 | 23,285 | 96.4 | 24,543 | 96.5 |
| With disability | 1,745 | 3.5 | 866 | 3.6 | 879 | 3.5 |
| Sight | 448 | 25.7 | 194 | 22.4 | 254 | 28.9 |
| Hearing | 232 | 13.3 | 105 | 12.1 | 127 | 14.4 |
| Speech | 166 | 9.5 | 95 | 11.0 | 71 | 8.1 |
| Physical | 277 | 15.9 | 147 | 17.0 | 130 | 14.8 |
| Intellect | 232 | 13.3 | 129 | 14.9 | 103 | 11.7 |
| Emotion | 428 | 24.5 | 240 | 27.7 | 188 | 21.4 |
| Other | 482 | 27.6 | 235 | 27.1 | 247 | 28.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 6.3    Type of Disability

There are various forms of disability ranging from inner to physical. These forms or types of disability therefore include sight/visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech impairment, mental retardation, emotional challenges, physical challenges and other forms of disability.

Table 6.2 shows the distribution of persons with disability by type of disability. From the Table, it is evident that people with sight (25.7%) disability is the highest form of disability in the district, while those with speech disability have the least proportion of 9.5 percent. It is important to indicate that people with emotional disorders are second highest (24.5%) after sight hence issues that has to do with people's emotions should be treated carefully.

Among the sexes, emotional disability is the highest (27.7%) form or type of disability among the males with the least being speech (11.0%). Also, the proportion of females with sight disability is the highest (28.9%) while speech account for the lowest with 8.1 percent of the population. The proportion of males with emotional disorders (27.7%) and intellectual disability (14.9%) are higher than the females (21.4 % and 11.7 % respectively).

**Table 6.2:  Population distribution of people with disability by type and sex**

| Disability type/sex | Total | | Male | | Female | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total | 1,745 | 100.0 | 866 | 100.0 | 879 | 100.0 |
| Sight | 448 | 25.7 | 194 | 22.4 | 254 | 28.9 |
| Hearing | 232 | 13.3 | 105 | 12.1 | 127 | 14.4 |
| Speech | 166 | 9.5 | 95 | 11.0 | 71 | 8.1 |
| Physical | 277 | 15.9 | 147 | 17.0 | 130 | 14.8 |
| Intellectual | 232 | 13.3 | 129 | 14.9 | 103 | 11.7 |
| Emotional | 428 | 24.5 | 240 | 27.7 | 188 | 21.4 |
| Others | 482 | 27.6 | 235 | 27.1 | 247 | 28.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Data in Table 6.3 revealed that the population aged zero to nine years old has the highest percentage (19.0%) of persons with disability, followed by 10 to 19 years old age-group with 16.2 percent. The proportion of persons with disability decreases as the age increases except for those aged 70-79 years old with a high proportion of 10.5 percent.

The highest proportion of persons with sight/visual (24.3%) and hearing (14.7%) impairments are in the age-group of 70-79 years old. Also, those in the age-group 30-39 years has the highest proportion (14.4%) of persons with physical challenges while 0-9 year age-group has the highest proportion of persons with intellectual (32.8%) and emotional (27.8%) disorders.

**Table 6.3: Distribution of people by type of disability and age**

| Disability type | Total | Percent | Age-Group | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90+ |
| Total | 1745 | 100.0 | 19.0 | 16.2 | 11.9 | 10.9 | 10.5 | 7.7 | 7.2 | 10.5 | 4.6 | 1.3 |
| Sight | 448 | 100.0 | 8.5 | 8.3 | 4.2 | 5.8 | 12.5 | 9.4 | 14.1 | 24.3 | 9.8 | 3.1 |
| Hearing | 232 | 100.0 | 13.4 | 10.3 | 10.8 | 11.6 | 10.8 | 10.3 | 8.6 | 14.7 | 6.9 | 2.6 |
| Speech | 166 | 100.0 | 23.5 | 21.7 | 16.9 | 10.2 | 10.2 | 8.4 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.4 | 0.6 |
| Physical | 277 | 100.0 | 11.9 | 9.4 | 10.5 | 14.4 | 10.4 | 8.3 | 8.7 | 13.0 | 10.1 | 3.2 |
| Intellectual | 232 | 100.0 | 32.8 | 19.8 | 15.5 | 13.4 | 6.5 | 4.3 | 1.7 | 3.9 | 1.3 | 0.9 |
| Emotional | 428 | 100.0 | 27.8 | 21.3 | 17.3 | 11.2 | 8.2 | 5.1 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 1.6 | 0.2 |
| Others | 482 | 100.0 | 22.8 | 19.7 | 17.2 | 12.2 | 10.2 | 8.1 | 3.5 | 4.1 | 1.9 | 0.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 6.4    Disability and Activity status

Hitherto disability was synonymously used to mean a persons' inability. However, due to various strives made by some persons with disability to better their living conditions and to enhance society's wellbeing; disability is no longer seen as inability.

Figure 6.1 shows the proportions of persons 15 years and older with disability by economic activity status and sex. Overall, more than half (60.0%) of the population with disability in the district are employed while less than one percent (0.6%) are not employed. The proportion of employed males with disability is higher than that of the females (57.5%). Less than one percent of economically active persons with disability are not employed for both the males and females respectively.

A total of 39.4 percent of persons aged 15 years and above with disability are economically not active. The proportion of males with disability that are not economically active constituted 36.8 percent while that of the females is 41.8 percent.

**Figure 6.1: Persons 15 years and older with disability by activity status and sex**
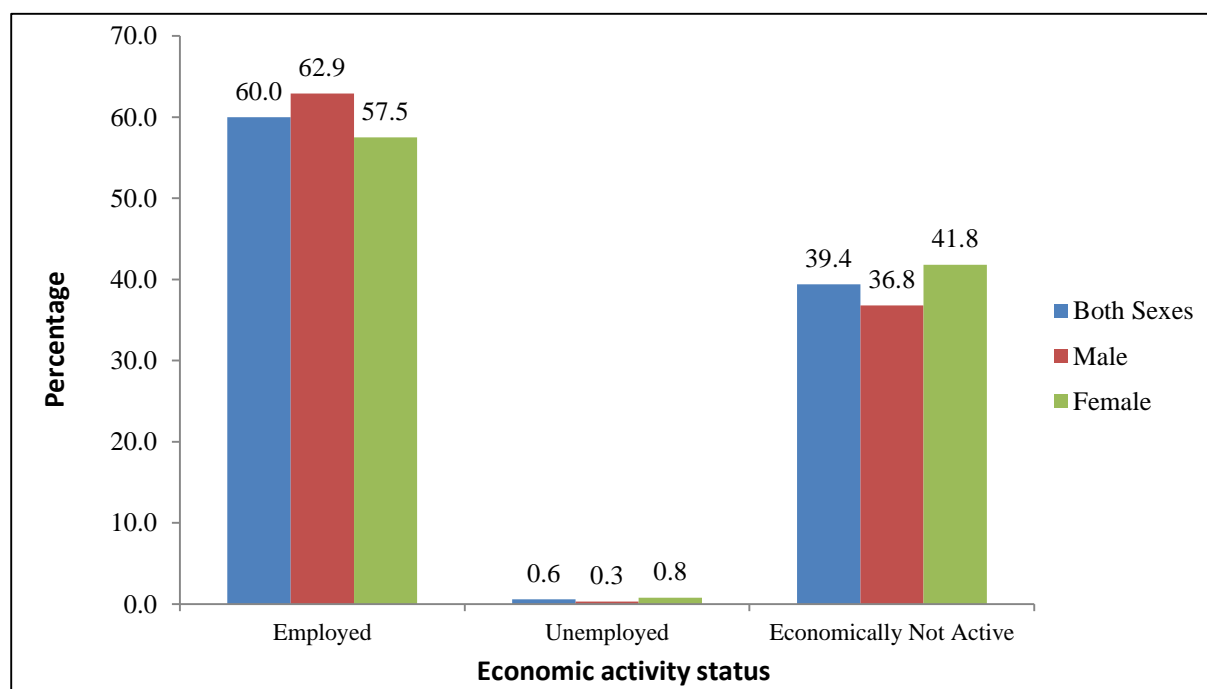


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 6.4 reveals that out of a total population of 27,143 persons aged 15 years and older, 1,264 representing 4.7 percent are persons with disability. Out of the total proportion of employed persons in the district, 3.8 percent were persons with disability and 2.1 percent of the total unemployed population was persons with disability. On the other hand, 7.2 percent of the economically not active population was with disability.

Majority of persons with disabilities (for most type of disabilities) are employed. However, those with Emotional disability (67.0%) are the highest employed persons with disabilities in the district. Unemployment is very low among persons with disabilities, yet proportions for persons with speech (2.8%) and physical (0.9%) are relatively high compared with other forms of disabilities.

**Table 6.4:  Persons 15 years and older with disability by economic activity status and sex**

| Sex/Disability type | All Status | | Employed | | Unemployed | | Economically Not Active | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| **Both Sexes** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 27,143 | 100.0 | 19,932 | 73.4 | 340 | 1.3 | 6,871 | 25.3 |
| Without disability | 25,879 | 100.0 | 19,173 | 74.1 | 333 | 1.3 | 6,373 | 24.6 |
| With disability | 1,264 | 100.0 | 759 | 60.0 | 7 | 0.6 | 498 | 39.4 |
| Sight | 387 | 100.0 | 175 | 45.2 | 1 | 0.3 | 211 | 54.5 |
| Hearing | 187 | 100.0 | 110 | 58.8 | 1 | 0.5 | 76 | 40.6 |
| Speech | 108 | 100.0 | 62 | 57.4 | 3 | 2.8 | 43 | 39.8 |
| Physical | 228 | 100.0 | 92 | 40.4 | 2 | 0.9 | 134 | 58.8 |
| Intellect | 138 | 100.0 | 83 | 60.1 | 1 | 0.7 | 54 | 39.1 |
| Emotion | 264 | 100.0 | 177 | 67.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 87 | 33.0 |
| Other | 316 | 100.0 | 224 | 70.9 | 2 | 0.6 | 90 | 28.5 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 12,530 | 100.0 | 9,262 | 73.9 | 175 | 1.4 | 3,093 | 24.7 |
| Without disability | 11,929 | 100.0 | 8,884 | 74.5 | 173 | 1.5 | 2,872 | 24.1 |
| With disability | 601 | 100.0 | 378 | 62.9 | 2 | 0.3 | 221 | 36.8 |
| Sight | 159 | 100.0 | 82 | 51.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 77 | 48.4 |
| Hearing | 82 | 100.0 | 53 | 64.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 29 | 35.4 |
| Speech | 69 | 100.0 | 42 | 60.9 | 1 | 1.4 | 26 | 37.7 |
| Physical | 119 | 100.0 | 53 | 44.5 | 2 | 1.7 | 64 | 53.8 |
| Intellect | 72 | 100.0 | 40 | 55.6 | 1 | 1.4 | 31 | 43.1 |
| Emotion | 141 | 100.0 | 96 | 68.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 45 | 31.9 |
| Other | 145 | 100.0 | 99 | 68.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 46 | 31.7 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 14,613 | 100.0 | 10,670 | 73.0 | 165 | 1.1 | 3,778 | 25.9 |
| Without disability | 13,950 | 100.0 | 10,289 | 73.8 | 160 | 1.1 | 3,501 | 25.1 |
| With disability | 663 | 100.0 | 381 | 57.5 | 5 | 0.8 | 277 | 41.8 |
| Sight | 228 | 100.0 | 93 | 40.8 | 1 | 0.4 | 134 | 58.8 |
| Hearing | 105 | 100.0 | 57 | 54.3 | 1 | 1.0 | 47 | 44.8 |
| Speech | 39 | 100.0 | 20 | 51.3 | 2 | 5.1 | 17 | 43.6 |
| Physical | 109 | 100.0 | 39 | 35.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 70 | 64.2 |
| Intellect | 66 | 100.0 | 43 | 65.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 23 | 34.8 |
| Emotion | 123 | 100.0 | 81 | 65.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 42 | 34.1 |
| Other | 171 | 100.0 | 125 | 73.1 | 2 | 1.2 | 44 | 25.7 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

However, the proportions of the disabled how are economically not active are relatively high and among the various types of disabilities, those with physical disability (58.8%), sight disability (54.5%) and hearing (40.6) are among those with high proportions of the economically not active population.

## 6.5   Disability, Education and Literacy

Information on the educational level of persons with disability is presented in Table 6.5. Just about two-thirds (68.2%) of persons three (3) years and older with disability in the district have never attended school. It is evident from the table that only 23.0 percent had basic school education. Also, less than five (5) percent of the population with disability had post-secondary education.

Table 6.5 further shows that out of a total of 1,655 persons with disability, 527 representing 31.8 percent had attained some level of education. The data show that none of those with disability aged 3 years and older had attained tertiary level of education.

**Table 6.5:  Population 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education**

| Disability type/sex | Number | | | | | Percent | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Never | Pre-Prim | Basic | Sec/SHS and higher | Total | Never | Pre-Prim | Basic | Sec/SHS and higher |
| **Both sexes** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 45,231 | 22,945 | 3,857 | 16,246 | 2,183 | 100.0 | 50.7 | 8.5 | 35.9 | 4.8 |
| No disability | 43,576 | 21,817 | 3,786 | 15,865 | 2,108 | 100.0 | 50.1 | 8.7 | 36.4 | 4.8 |
| With a disability | 1,655 | 1,128 | 71 | 381 | 75 | 100.0 | 68.2 | 4.3 | 23.0 | 4.5 |
| Sight | 432 | 366 | 11 | 52 | 3 | 100.0 | 84.7 | 2.5 | 12.0 | 0.7 |
| Hearing | 228 | 182 | 8 | 32 | 6 | 100.0 | 79.8 | 3.5 | 14.0 | 2.6 |
| Speech | 160 | 96 | 13 | 45 | 6 | 100.0 | 60.0 | 8.1 | 28.1 | 3.8 |
| Physical | 266 | 199 | 5 | 46 | 16 | 100.0 | 74.8 | 1.9 | 17.3 | 6.0 |
| Intellectual | 212 | 122 | 12 | 68 | 10 | 100.0 | 57.5 | 5.7 | 32.1 | 4.7 |
| Emotional | 391 | 223 | 22 | 116 | 30 | 100.0 | 57.0 | 5.6 | 29.7 | 7.7 |
| Other | 447 | 272 | 21 | 127 | 27 | 100.0 | 60.9 | 4.7 | 28.4 | 6.0 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 21,941 | 10,104 | 2,009 | 8,404 | 1,424 | 100.0 | 46.1 | 9.2 | 38.3 | 6.5 |
| No disability | 21,125 | 9,577 | 1,971 | 8,203 | 1,374 | 100.0 | 45.3 | 9.3 | 38.8 | 6.5 |
| With a disability | 816 | 527 | 38 | 201 | 50 | 100.0 | 64.6 | 4.7 | 24.6 | 6.1 |
| Sight | 187 | 147 | 8 | 29 | 3 | 100.0 | 78.6 | 4.3 | 15.5 | 1.6 |
| Hearing | 102 | 77 | 4 | 17 | 4 | 100.0 | 75.5 | 3.9 | 16.7 | 3.9 |
| Speech | 91 | 58 | 4 | 25 | 4 | 100.0 | 63.7 | 4.4 | 27.5 | 4.4 |
| Physical | 140 | 101 | 2 | 26 | 11 | 100.0 | 72.1 | 1.4 | 18.6 | 7.9 |
| Intellectual | 117 | 66 | 6 | 41 | 4 | 100.0 | 56.4 | 5.1 | 35.0 | 3.4 |
| Emotional | 216 | 122 | 13 | 64 | 17 | 100.0 | 56.5 | 6.0 | 29.6 | 7.9 |
| Other | 216 | 112 | 12 | 70 | 22 | 100.0 | 51.9 | 5.6 | 32.4 | 10.2 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 23,290 | 12,841 | 1,848 | 7,842 | 759 | 100.0 | 55.1 | 7.9 | 33.7 | 3.3 |
| No disability | 22,451 | 12,240 | 1,815 | 7,662 | 734 | 100.0 | 54.5 | 8.1 | 34.1 | 3.3 |
| With a disability | 839 | 601 | 33 | 180 | 25 | 100.0 | 71.6 | 3.9 | 21.5 | 3.0 |
| Sight | 245 | 219 | 3 | 23 | 0 | 100.0 | 89.4 | 1.2 | 9.4 | 0.0 |
| Hearing | 126 | 105 | 4 | 15 | 2 | 100.0 | 83.3 | 3.2 | 11.9 | 1.6 |
| Speech | 69 | 38 | 9 | 20 | 2 | 100.0 | 55.1 | 13.0 | 29.0 | 2.9 |
| Physical | 126 | 98 | 3 | 20 | 5 | 100.0 | 77.8 | 2.4 | 15.9 | 4.0 |
| Intellectual | 95 | 56 | 6 | 27 | 6 | 100.0 | 58.9 | 6.3 | 28.4 | 6.3 |
| Emotional | 175 | 101 | 9 | 52 | 13 | 100.0 | 57.7 | 5.1 | 29.7 | 7.4 |
| Other | 231 | 160 | 9 | 57 | 5 | 100.0 | 69.3 | 3.9 | 24.7 | 2.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Persons with sight disability (15.3%) form the least of those who had attained some level of education while those with emotional disability formed the largest (33.0%). Considering those who have attained Post-secondary education 16 representing 6.0 percent are with physical disability followed by emotional disability (30) representing 7.7 percent.

The sex segregated data followed a similar trend. However, the number of males with disability (aged 3 years and older) who attended school is higher compared with the females.

# CHAPTER SEVEN
# AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

## 7.1    Introduction

Agriculture plays a central role in promoting growth and poverty reduction in Ghana. Ghana therefore needs an agricultural revolution based on sustained growth in order to raise Ghanaians from poverty and improve livelihoods significantly. This chapter presents analysis of data on agricultural activities in the Sissala West District, with the main focus on households in agriculture and types of farming activities.

## 7.2    Households in Agriculture

Data on households engaged in agriculture were collected in the 2010 Population and Housing Census. All household members counted at the time of the census with at least one member of the household engaged in agriculture constitute an agricultural household. Thus, if only the household head is engaged in agriculture then all other household members (for example; spouse, children, parents, brothers and sisters, parents/in-laws, among others) were counted as agricultural household members). This implies that all and not only members who are engaged in agricultural activities were considered.

Table 7.1 shows household engaged in agricultural activity. Information on the table shows that out of a total of 7,116 households in the district, 91.8 percent are households engaged in agricultural activities while 8.2 percent representing are households not engaged in any agricultural activity.

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

| Agricultural Activities | Total | | Urban* | | Rural | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total Households | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | - | 7,116 | 100.0 |
| Households engaged in Agriculture | 6,535 | 91.8 | - | - | 6,535 | 91.8 |
| Households not engaged in Agriculture | 581 | 8.2 | - | - | 581 | 8.2 |
| | | | | | | |
| Crop Farming | 6,402 | 98.0 | - | - | 6,402 | 98.0 |
| Tree Planting | 107 | 1.6 | - | - | 107 | 1.6 |
| Livestock Rearing | 3,943 | 60.3 | - | - | 3,943 | 60.3 |
| Fish Farming | 8 | 0.1 | - | - | 8 | 0.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The 1.6 percent of agricultural households engaged in tree planting might have been largely accounted for by the plantation programmes introduced by various governments under the National Youth Employment Programme (NYEP) now known as GYEEDA (Ghana Youth Employment and Entrepreneurial Development Agency) and through the District Agricultural Development Unit (DADU) in the district.

To improve the vegetation cover, more efforts are needed to improve the proportion of households engaged in tree planting. This will counteract the negative effects of poor farming practices and the commercial charcoal burning canker which has attracted the attention of the authorities in the district.

## 7.3    Types of Farming Activities

From the Table 7.1, majority (98.0%) of the households engaged in agriculture are engaged in crop farming while approximately three out of every five households are engaged in livestock farming (60.3%). Fishing constitutes the lowest (0.1%) proportion of households engaged in agriculture.

The principal agricultural activity in the Sissala West District is crop farming. The major crops grown in the district are maize, guinea corn, yam, millet, rice, groundnut, beans, sweet potatoes, cotton and plantain. Also, there are a wide range of vegetables such as tomatoes, pepper, okro and garden eggs are grown.

It is imperative to note that only few individuals are engaged in commercial farming (such as soya beans and cashew cultivation) while the majority of these crops are cultivated on small-scale subsistence basis. The district however has the potentials to produce these crops in commercial quantities as there are high-quality arable soils and large farmlands available for the cultivation of these crops on larger scales.

## 7.4    Types of livestock and other animals reared

Poultry keeping is one of the indigenous farming activities among the people of Sissala West District. This is not only because of the nutritional value but probably also due to its dominant use for medicinal and other purposes. The district can also boast of the presence of large-variety of domestic animals or livestock's reared by farmers. These small-scale livestock include goats, cattle, sheep, pigs and grass cutter. It is however worth noting that most of these small-scale livestock rearing activities are meant to supplement nutritional requirements and to earn additional income for family up keeping.

**Table 7.2:  Distribution of animals reared and keepers**

| Livestock/ | Animals | | Keepers | | Average Animal |
| Animals | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | per Keeper |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 131,088 | 100.0 | 8,380 | 100.0 | 15.6 |
| Beehives | 1,420 | 1.1 | 25 | 0.3 | 56.8 |
| Cattle | 21,932 | 16.7 | 1,178 | 14.1 | 18.6 |
| Chicken | 39,334 | 30.0 | 2,009 | 24.0 | 19.6 |
| Dove | 571 | 0.4 | 21 | 0.3 | 27.2 |
| Duck | 567 | 0.4 | 38 | 0.5 | 14.9 |
| Goat | 33,074 | 25.2 | 2,770 | 33.1 | 11.9 |
| Grass-cutter | 2,093 | 1.6 | 40 | 0.5 | 52.3 |
| Guinea fowl | 11,622 | 8.9 | 542 | 6.5 | 21.4 |
| Ostrich | 386 | 0.3 | 21 | 0.3 | 18.4 |
| Pig | 2,839 | 2.2 | 367 | 4.4 | 7.7 |
| Rabbit | 1,486 | 1.1 | 25 | 0.3 | 59.4 |
| Sheep | 14,699 | 11.2 | 1,164 | 13.9 | 12.6 |
| Silk worm | 79 | 0.1 | 11 | 0.1 | 7.2 |
| Snail | 4 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 4 |
| Turkey | 177 | 0.1 | 22 | 0.3 | 8 |
| Other (specify) | 748 | 0.6 | 138 | 1.6 | 5.4 |
| Fish farming | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Inland fishing | 47 | 0.0 | 7 | 0.1 | 6.7 |
| Marine fishing | 10 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 10 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The distribution of the various types of livestock and keepers is shown in Table 7.2 above. Overall, a total of 131,077 animals were kept by 8,378 persons as at the reference period for the 2010 Population and Housing Census. Chicken recorded the highest (30.0%) proportion of animals reared in the district, followed by goats (25.2%) and cattle (16.7%). More than three-quarters of the chicken, guinea fowls and cattle are reared on free range.

Fishery activities (fish farming, inland and marine fishing) and snails rearing are not prominent among the populace of the district. The complete absence of fish farming in the area might be as a result of lack of technical knowhow and the high initial investment cost associated with fish farming.

The proportion of people rearing goats is the highest (33.1%), followed by chicken (24.0%) and cattle (14.1%). On the contrary, the average number of animals per keeper is highest (59.4) among rabbit keepers, followed by beehives (56.8) and grass-cutter (52.3). Snails recorded the least average of four snails per keeper in the district. Snail is not a traditional food delicacy of the people hence might have accounted for the low figure.

# CHAPTER EIGHT
# HOUSING CONDITIONS

## 8.1    Introduction

Housing is a basic necessity of life and performs a vital role in the economic development of any country. Living in satisfactory housing conditions is one of the most important aspects of people's lives. Housing is essential to meet basic needs, such as shelter, but it is not just a question of four walls and a roof. Housing should offer a place to sleep and rest where people feel safe and have privacy and personal space; it should be somewhere they can raise a family. All of these elements help make a house a home. This chapter focuses on housing stock and conditions, type of dwelling, holding and tenancy arrangement. It discusses issues of construction materials, room occupancy, access to utilities and household facilities, main sources of water for drinking and for other domestic uses and bathing and toilet facilities that exist in the district.

## 8.2    Housing Stock

The physical number of dwellings is referred to as the housing stock. It includes both occupied and unoccupied dwellings. Table 8.1 shows the stock of houses and households for the country, the Upper West region, and the Sissala West District. It is evident in the table that of the 49,573 people in the Sissala West District, 49,021 live in households. There are a total of 7,116 households identified in the district who live in 5,185 houses. This means that more than a household (1.4) live in a house and the average size of a household for the district is about 7.0 persons compared to about 6.2 for the region and 4.4 for the country. The district also recorded the highest number of people living in a house (9.5) as compared to 8.4 for the region and 7.1 for the country as a whole.

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

| Categories | Total country | Region | District | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total population | 24,658,823 | 702,110 | 49,573 | - | 49,573 |
| Total household population | 24,076,327 | 688,333 | 49,021 | - | 49,021 |
| Number of houses | 3,392,745 | 82,293 | 5,185 | - | 5,185 |
| Number of households | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | - | 7,116 |
| Average households per house | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.4 | - | 1.4 |
| Population per house* | 7.1 | 8.4 | 9.5 | - | 9.5 |
| Average household size | 4.4 | 6.2 | 6.9 | - | 6.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.3    Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement

Dwelling is one of the basic necessities for human wellbeing and survival. The type of dwelling and facilities used by households affect their health, productivity, welfare and security. Information was therefore collected on the type of dwelling, holding and tenancy arrangement.

### 8.3.1   Type of dwelling

Table 8.2 shows the various types of dwelling units found in the Sissala West District. Rooms in compound houses are the most dominant type of dwelling unit occupied by households and this constitute more than half of all dwellings in the District (58.6%) with separate houses

constituting 27.4 percent of all dwelling types. A situation whereby households live in uncompleted buildings is almost absent in the District.

In terms of type of dwelling by sex of household head in the district, more male headed households dwell in compound houses (58.9%) than female headed households (57.4%). However, more female headed households (28.5%) reside in separate houses than that of females headed households (27.2%). Similarly, many more female headed households (10.8%) reside in semi-detached house type compared to males headed households (8.1%).

**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 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100 | 100.0 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Separate house | 1,471,391 | 33,704 | 1,952 | 27.4 | 27.2 | 28.5 | - | 27.4 |
| Semi-detached house | 391,548 | 9,993 | 616 | 8.7 | 8.1 | 10.8 | - | 8.7 |
| Flat/Apartment | 256,355 | 1,400 | 52 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | - | 0.7 |
| Compound house (rooms) | 2,942,147 | 58,161 | 4,168 | 58.6 | 58.9 | 57.4 | - | 58.6 |
| Huts/Buildings (same compound) | 170,957 | 3,715 | 142 | 2 | 2.3 | 0.7 | - | 2.0 |
| Huts/Buildings (different compound) | 36,410 | 1,853 | 149 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.2 | - | 2.1 |
| Tent | 10,343 | 283 | 18 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.4 | - | 0.3 |
| Improvised home (kiosk/container etc) | 90,934 | 39 | 4 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | - | 0.1 |
| Living quarters attached to office/shop | 20,499 | 261 | 10 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | - | 0.1 |
| Uncompleted building | 66,624 | 611 | 3 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Other | 9,846 | 154 | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 8.3.2 Holding and tenancy arrangement

With holding and tenancy arrangement as shown in Table 8.3, a substantial proportion of households in the District (96%) live in houses owned by either a household member or a relative. Of this proportion, 94.3 percent are owner occupied and only about 1.1 percent of households live in houses belonging to the Public/Government. It is worthy to note that due to the rural nature of the district only 1.8 percent of households live in rented houses.

The majority of dwelling units owned by a household member in the district belong to male headed households (95.4%), compared to 89.7 percent of female headed households.

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

| Ownership status | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | Male headed | Female headed | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 0 | 100.0 |
| Owned by household member | 2,883,236 | 91,264 | 6,708 | 94.3 | 95.4 | 89.7 | 0 | 94.3 |
| Being purchased (e.g. mortgage) | 45,630 | 608 | 50 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 1.2 | 0 | 0.7 |
| Relative not a household member | 851,630 | 5,362 | 122 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 3.6 | 0 | 1.7 |
| Other private individual | 1,439,021 | 9,534 | 130 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 3.6 | 0 | 1.8 |
| Private employer | 83,610 | 353 | 10 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.1 |
| Other private agency | 21,123 | 273 | 2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Public/Government ownership | 118,804 | 2,410 | 81 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0 | 1.1 |
| Other | 24,000 | 370 | 13 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.4 Construction Materials

### 8.4.1 Outer walls

Information on the type of materials used for construction of outer walls in the District is shown in Table 8.4. On the whole, mud brick/earth is the most commonly used materials in the construction of outer walls of houses. They constitute about 83.8 percent of all materials used in this regard. The next most commonly used materials are cement blocks/concrete, which have a proportion of about 9.7 percent of all materials used. The use of bamboo in the construction of outer walls of houses is very minimal with a proportion of 0.1 percent.

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

| Material for Outer wall | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 5,817,607 | 118,292 | 7,625 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Mud brick/Earth | 1,991,540 | 88,739 | 6,389 | 83.8 | - | 83.8 |
| Wood | 200,594 | 883 | 83 | 1.1 | - | 1.1 |
| Metal sheet/Slate/Asbestos | 43,708 | 568 | 20 | 0.3 | - | 0.3 |
| Stone | 11,330 | 230 | 16 | 0.2 | - | 0.2 |
| Burnt bricks | 38,237 | 408 | 30 | 0.4 | - | 0.4 |
| Cement blocks/Concrete | 3,342,462 | 24,924 | 739 | 9.7 | - | 9.7 |
| Landcrete | 104,270 | 1,159 | 157 | 2.1 | - | 2.1 |
| Bamboo | 8,206 | 87 | 5 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| Palm leaf/Thatch (grass)/Raffia | 38,054 | 888 | 162 | 2.1 | - | 2.1 |
| Other | 39,206 | 406 | 24 | 0.3 | - | 0.3 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 8.4.2 Material for floor

The material for the construction of the floor of a house as shown in Table 8.5 reveals that 63.5 percent of households in the district have their floors constructed with cement. Aside this, earth/mud is the second common material use for floor construction (34.1%) in the district. The use of tiles for flooring is very minimal. It is important to point out that the use of tiles is largely accounted for by government residential units.

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

| Materials for the floor | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | District Urban | District Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Earth/Mud | 872,161 | 42,447 | 2,424 | 34.1 | - | 34.1 |
| Cement/Concrete | 4,255,611 | 65,714 | 4,519 | 63.5 | - | 63.5 |
| Stone | 32,817 | 310 | 20 | 0.3 | - | 0.3 |
| Burnt brick | 6,537 | 67 | 7 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| Wood | 52,856 | 8 | 1 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Vinyl tiles | 57,032 | 176 | 2 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Ceramic/Porcelain/Granite/Marble tiles | 88,500 | 700 | 34 | 0.5 | - | 0.5 |
| Terrazzo/Terrazzo tiles | 85,973 | 238 | 9 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| Other | 15,567 | 514 | 100 | 1.4 | - | 1.4 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 8.4.3 Material for roof

The roof of a house protects the individuals/households from the vagaries of the weather. In view of this, it is imminent that the material used as construction material for a roof should withstand the test of time as it protects the household from either a rainy or sunny weather conditions. In Table 8.6, corrugated metal sheet (66.7%), thatch (15.3%), and mud/earth (14.0%) emerge as the most dominant materials used as materials for the roofing in the district. The use of roofing tiles is very minimal in the district.

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

| Main Roofing material | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | District Urban | District Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 5,817,607 | 118,292 | 7,625 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Mud/Mud bricks/Earth | 80,644 | 14,910 | 1,068 | 14.0 | - | 14.0 |
| Wood | 45,547 | 1,399 | 177 | 2.3 | - | 2.3 |
| Metal sheet | 4,152,259 | 91,046 | 5,083 | 66.7 | - | 66.7 |
| Slate/Asbestos | 759,039 | 245 | 9 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| Cement/Concrete | 141,072 | 717 | 22 | 0.3 | - | 0.3 |
| Roofing tile | 31,456 | 362 | 2 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Bamboo | 71,049 | 283 | 13 | 0.2 | - | 0.2 |
| Thatch/Palm leaf or Raffia | 500,606 | 8,394 | 1,165 | 15.3 | - | 15.3 |
| Other | 35,935 | 936 | 86 | 1.1 | - | 1.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.5 Room Occupancy

The number of sleeping rooms occupied by household members in their dwellings determine whether there is overcrowding or not in a particular household. Table 8.7 reveals that household size increases with the number of sleeping rooms occupied in dwelling units in the district. A very substantial proportion of households with ten or more members (87.9%) occupied a minimum of four sleeping rooms in their dwelling unit. This means on average one sleeping room is occupied by two or more household members.

More than half (55%) of the single member households' occupy one sleeping room and 45 percent of such households have additional sleeping rooms in their dwellings. Also of the 752 households that have six members, about 76 out of every 100 occupy three or more sleeping

rooms in their dwellings. All these attest to the fact that on the average more than a room is occupied by two household members in a dwelling irrespective of the household size.

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

| House hold size | Total | | Number of sleeping rooms | | | | | | | | Nine rooms or more |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | One room | Two rooms | Three rooms | Four rooms | Five rooms | Six rooms | Seven rooms | Eight rooms | |
| Total | 7,116 | 100.0 | 10.0 | 19.6 | 19.9 | 17.3 | 10.6 | 8.4 | 5.0 | 3.2 | 6.2 |
| 1 | 400 | 100.0 | 55.0 | 25.8 | 10.8 | 5.8 | 1.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| 2 | 439 | 100.0 | 29.4 | 40.1 | 17.1 | 7.3 | 3.4 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.9 |
| 3 | 563 | 100.0 | 21.3 | 38.0 | 20.1 | 11.0 | 3.7 | 3.0 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 1.4 |
| 4 | 677 | 100.0 | 14.3 | 32.5 | 26.0 | 14.9 | 5.2 | 3.7 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| 5 | 817 | 100.0 | 8.0 | 27.1 | 30.1 | 15.8 | 8.7 | 3.9 | 2.4 | 1.5 | 2.6 |
| 6 | 752 | 100.0 | 4.1 | 23.0 | 29.9 | 22.3 | 9.0 | 6.1 | 2.3 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| 7 | 759 | 100.0 | 3.3 | 16.2 | 24.5 | 22.5 | 13.2 | 8.8 | 5.3 | 2.9 | 3.3 |
| 8 | 622 | 100.0 | 1.8 | 12.7 | 20.1 | 26.2 | 14.0 | 11.9 | 5.6 | 2.9 | 4.8 |
| 9 | 535 | 100.0 | 1.3 | 6.9 | 16.6 | 23.2 | 18.7 | 13.8 | 9.3 | 3.9 | 6.2 |
| 10+ | 1,552 | 100.0 | 0.3 | 3.0 | 8.8 | 16.5 | 16.1 | 16.6 | 11.1 | 8.7 | 18.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.6 Access to Utilities and Household Facilities

### 8.6.1 Sources of energy and light to households

Information on lighting as part of housing condition was captured by the 2010 Population and Housing Census. Households were asked about their main sources of domestic lighting. Table 8.8 indicates that 46.5 percent of households in the district use flashlight/torch as their main source of lighting. More than one- third (41.9%) of households use electricity and 5.9 percent use kerosene lamp as the main source of lighting. Candle is the least used (0.1%) as a source of lighting to households in the district.

**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 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100 | - | 100.0 |
| Electricity (mains) | 3,511,065 | 34,044 | 2,982 | 41.9 | - | 41.9 |
| Electricity (private generator) | 36,142 | 613 | 22 | 0.3 | - | 0.3 |
| Kerosene lamp | 971,807 | 21,455 | 422 | 5.9 | - | 5.9 |
| Gas lamp | 9,378 | 303 | 27 | 0.4 | - | 0.4 |
| Solar energy | 9,194 | 804 | 82 | 1.2 | - | 1.2 |
| Candle | 41,214 | 333 | 10 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| Flashlight/Torch | 858,651 | 49,606 | 3,309 | 46.5 | - | 46.5 |
| Firewood | 13,241 | 1,332 | 131 | 1.8 | - | 1.8 |
| Crop residue | 4,623 | 361 | 13 | 0.2 | - | 0.2 |
| Other | 11,739 | 1,323 | 118 | 1.7 | - | 1.7 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

### 8.6.2 Source of cooking fuel for households

In developing countries, especially in rural areas people rely on biomass, such as fuel-wood, charcoal, agricultural waste and animal dung, to meet their energy needs for cooking. The use of biomass in itself is not a cause for concern but, when resources are used unsustainably and

energy conversion technologies are not efficient, there are serious adverse effects for health, the environment and economic development.

Table 8.9 shows the source of cooking fuel used by households in the district. Wood fuel/firewood contributes to a substantial proportion of households' source of cooking fuel (87.5 %) in the district, charcoal 6.4 percent, and gas about 1.0 percent. It is however important to know that the proportion of households that use charcoal in the district is quite minimal when compared to the regions' proportion of about 19 percent in spite of the fact the district is a notable charcoal producing area in the region. The use of kerosene, animal waste, and saw dust as cooking fuel by households is insignificant in the district as well as the Upper West Region.

### 8.6.3 Cooking space for households

As part of housing conditions, households were asked: what type of cooking space a household uses. Table 8.9 shows that the use of open space in the compound ranks first in the district (42.2 %) followed closely by separate room set aside exclusively for cooking (40.7 %) while 6.2 percent of households use their veranda as cooking space. On the whole, 94.3 percent of households have some space available to them that is used as cooking space.

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

| | | | District | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | | Total | | | |
| Source of cooking fuel/cooking space | country | Region | Number | Percent | Urban | Rural |
| **Main source of cooking fuel for household** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| None no cooking | 306,118 | 2,269 | 298 | 4.2 | - | 4.2 |
| Wood | 2,197,083 | 80,916 | 6,223 | 87.5 | - | 87.5 |
| Gas | 996,518 | 4,553 | 63 | 0.9 | - | 0.9 |
| Electricity | 29,794 | 400 | 39 | 0.5 | - | 0.5 |
| Kerosene | 29,868 | 278 | 2 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Charcoal | 1,844,290 | 20,921 | 452 | 6.4 | - | 6.4 |
| Crop residue | 45,292 | 720 | 34 | 0.5 | - | 0.5 |
| Saw dust | 8,000 | 63 | 3 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Animal waste | 2,332 | 20 | 1 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Other | 7,759 | 34 | 1 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| **Cooking space used by household** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| No cooking space | 386,883 | 4,511 | 409 | 5.7 | - | 5.7 |
| Separate room for exclusive use of household | 1,817,018 | 46,063 | 2,896 | 40.7 | - | 40.7 |
| Separate room shared with other household(s) | 410,765 | 2,849 | 223 | 3.1 | - | 3.1 |
| Enclosure without roof | 117,614 | 1,967 | 63 | 0.9 | - | 0.9 |
| Structure with roof but without walls | 349,832 | 1,440 | 26 | 0.4 | - | 0.4 |
| Bedroom/Hall/Living room) | 74,525 | 1,190 | 46 | 0.6 | - | 0.6 |
| Verandah | 1,173,946 | 19,012 | 440 | 6.2 | - | 6.2 |
| Open space in compound | 1,115,464 | 32,914 | 3,001 | 42.2 | - | 42.2 |
| Other | 21,007 | 228 | 12 | 0.2 | - | 0.2 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

## 8.7    Main Source of Water for Drinking and for other Domestic Use

The human right to water is the fundamental right to life, health, and livelihood. The essence to meet basic human water needs are more than just moral, they are rooted in social justice and law and the responsibilities of individuals and governments. Acknowledging this right call for its' translation into specific national and international legal obligation to set specific priorities for water policy – which is focused on providing more portable water for some people, rather than some water for all people. It makes clear that meeting a basic water requirement for all humans to satisfy this right should take precedence over other water management and investment decisions.

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

| Sources of water | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Main source of drinking water for household** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Pipe-borne inside dwelling | 790,493 | 5,933 | 68 | 1.0 | - | 1.0 |
| Pipe-borne outside dwelling | 1,039,667 | 12,542 | 668 | 9.4 | - | 9.4 |
| Public tap/Standpipe | 712,375 | 4,807 | 303 | 4.3 | - | 4.3 |
| Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well | 1,267,688 | 70,759 | 5,169 | 72.6 | - | 72.6 |
| Protected well | 321,091 | 4,011 | 120 | 1.7 | - | 1.7 |
| Rain water | 39,438 | 172 | 3 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Protected spring | 19,345 | 368 | 27 | 0.4 | - | 0.4 |
| Bottled water | 20,261 | 50 | 0 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Sachet water | 490,283 | 823 | 4 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| Tanker supply/Vendor provided | 58,400 | 302 | 0 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| Unprotected well | 112,567 | 1,719 | 193 | 2.7 | - | 2.7 |
| Unprotected spring | 12,222 | 287 | 10 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| River/Stream | 502,804 | 7,037 | 544 | 7.6 | - | 7.6 |
| Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal | 76,448 | 1,344 | 7 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| Other | 3,972 | 20 | 0 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |
| **Main source of water for other domestic use of household** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Pipe-borne inside dwelling | 905,566 | 5,864 | 73 | 1.0 | - | 1.0 |
| Pipe-borne outside dwelling | 1,089,030 | 12,144 | 647 | 9.1 | - | 9.1 |
| Public tap/Standpipe | 704,293 | 4,314 | 282 | 4.0 | - | 4.0 |
| Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well | 1,280,465 | 68,035 | 5,106 | 71.8 | - | 71.8 |
| Protected well | 465,775 | 5,057 | 136 | 1.9 | - | 1.9 |
| Rain water | 39,916 | 360 | 26 | 0.4 | - | 0.4 |
| Protected spring | 18,854 | 301 | 25 | 0.4 | - | 0.4 |
| Tanker supply/Vendor provided | 100,048 | 316 | 4 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| Unprotected well | 152,055 | 1,897 | 217 | 3.0 | - | 3.0 |
| Unprotected spring | 15,738 | 330 | 10 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| River/Stream | 588,590 | 8,759 | 563 | 7.9 | - | 7.9 |
| Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal | 96,422 | 2,546 | 24 | 0.3 | - | 0.3 |
| Other | 10,302 | 251 | 3 | 0.0 | - | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Improved water sources' as an indicator measures the proportions of the population who use any of the following types of water supply for drinking: piped water, public tap, borehole or pump, protected well, protected spring or rain water. Improved water sources do not include vendor-provided water, bottled water, tanker trucks or unprotected wells and springs.

Almost 9 out of every 10 (89.4%) households in the district use improved sources of water as their main source of drinking water in their dwelling units. The various proportions are Borehole (72.6 %), Pipe-borne (14.7 %), protected well (1.7 %), and protected spring (0.4 %).

For other domestic uses such as cooking and washing, a similar proportion of households (88.6%) rely on improved sources of water.

## 8.8    Bathing and Toilet Facilities

The inability of households to provide places of convenience for their members should be of great worry to the district assembly since this situation will negatively impact sanitation in the district. Table 8.11 reveals that a great proportion, (74.8 %) of households in the district does not have toilet facility. They either use the bush or field for such purposes. In effect, pit latrine (14.2 %) public toilet (3.7 %), KVIP (5.2 %) and the WC (0.8 %) are the main types of toilet facilities used by households. These are however used by a little over one-fifth (23.9 %) of households.

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

| Toilet/bathing facilities | Total country | Region | District | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Total | | Urban | Rural |
| | | | Number | Percent | | |
| **Toilet facility used by household** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| No facilities (bush/beach/field) | 1,056,382 | 80,321 | 5,325 | 74.8 | - | 74.8 |
| W.C. | 839,611 | 3,440 | 56 | 0.8 | - | 0.8 |
| Pit latrine | 1,040,883 | 6,853 | 1,008 | 14.2 | - | 14.2 |
| KVIP | 572,824 | 4,929 | 372 | 5.2 | - | 5.2 |
| Bucket/Pan | 40,678 | 112 | 4 | 0.1 | - | 0.1 |
| Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit/Pan etc) | 1,893,291 | 14,016 | 265 | 3.7 | - | 3.7 |
| Other | 23,385 | 503 | 86 | 1.2 | - | 1.2 |
| **Bathing facility used by household** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Own bathroom for exclusive use | 1,535,392 | 47,176 | 3,052 | 42.9 | - | 42.9 |
| Shared separate bathroom in the same house | 1,818,522 | 23,638 | 1,369 | 19.2 | - | 19.2 |
| Private open cubicle | 381,979 | 11,927 | 521 | 7.3 | - | 7.3 |
| Shared open cubicle | 1,000,257 | 11,561 | 758 | 10.7 | - | 10.7 |
| Public bath house | 140,501 | 1,643 | 168 | 2.4 | - | 2.4 |
| Bathroom in another house | 187,337 | 898 | 96 | 1.3 | - | 1.3 |
| Open space around house | 372,556 | 12,856 | 994 | 14.0 | - | 14.0 |
| River/Pond/Lake/Dam | 14,234 | 180 | 12 | 0.2 | - | 0.2 |
| Other | 16,276 | 295 | 146 | 2.1 | - | 2.1 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

On the other hand more than three-quarters (79.9 %) of households has one kind of bathing facility or the other. These are: own bathroom for exclusive use (42.9 %), shared separate bathroom in the same house (19.2 %), private open cubicle (7.3 %), and private shared

cubicle (10.7 %). The proportions of households who use public bathhouse are 2.4 percent and those who use bathroom in another house are 1.3 percent.

## 8.9 Method of Waste Disposal

Sanitation generally refers to the provision of facilities and services for the safe disposal of household waste (such as domestic waste, urine and feaces). The word 'sanitation' also refers to the maintenance of hygienic conditions, through services such as garbage collection and wastewater disposal. Inadequate sanitation is a major cause of disease world-wide and improving sanitation is known to have a significant beneficial impact on health both in households and across communities. Aspiring to a good quality of life includes a number of issues; access to sanitation, clean water and waste management services; has an important relevance to a general well-being.

### 8.9.1 Solid waste Disposal

This section deals with method of collection and disposal of solid waste (rubbish) generated by the households. The methods are categorized as "collected" where the solid waste is collected by authorized or self-appointed agents (e.g. Zoomlion). "Burnt by households" implies that the household disposes of the solid waste by burning it either inside or outside the dwelling unit, and "buried by household" is the situation where the rubbish is buried inside or outside the dwelling unit. Disposal at a public dump (container) refers to the situation where the household carries the waste to a designated place that has a container, and public dump (open space) refers to the situation where the household disposes solid waste at a locally designated dumping place. Dumping indiscriminately is when the household disposes of solid waste in the bush, along streets, at abandoned or uncompleted building sites etc.

In Table 8.12, the proportion of households that dispose their solid waste indiscriminately (35.2 %) though close to the region's proportion (36.0 %), is quite disturbing since this can lead to serious health hazards in the district if not well managed. Again, 46.6 percent of households dispose their solid waste in a public dump, while only 1.1 percent of households have their solid waste collected.

### 8.9.2 Liquid Waste

Again liquid waste disposal have the likelihood of impacting negatively on sanitation in the district. This assertion is due to the fact that more than four-fifth (84.0 %) of households in the district do not dispose their liquid waste neither through the sewage system nor through drainage. Table 8.12 reveals that 58.7 percent of households dispose their liquid waste by throwing it on to the street outside their homes, 25.3 percent of the households dispose theirs by throwing onto the compound whilst 5.2 of households dispose the waste by means of throwing into the gutter.

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

| Method of waste disposal | Total country | Region | District Total Number | District Total Percent | Urban | Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Solid waste** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Collected | 785,889 | 5,123 | 81 | 1.1 | - | 1.1 |
| Burned by household | 584,820 | 6,518 | 338 | 4.7 | - | 4.7 |
| Public dump (container) | 1,299,654 | 13,969 | 634 | 8.9 | - | 8.9 |
| Public dump (open space) | 2,061,403 | 40,538 | 3,317 | 46.6 | - | 46.6 |
| Dumped indiscriminately | 498,868 | 39,635 | 2,504 | 35.2 | - | 35.2 |
| Buried by household | 182,615 | 3,515 | 163 | 2.3 | - | 2.3 |
| Other | 53,805 | 876 | 79 | 1.1 | - | 1.1 |
| **Liquid waste** | | | | | | |
| Total | 5,467,054 | 110,174 | 7,116 | 100.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Through the sewerage system | 183,169 | 1,746 | 213 | 3.0 | - | 3.0 |
| Through drainage system into a gutter | 594,404 | 3,573 | 77 | 1.1 | - | 1.1 |
| Through drainage into a pit (soak away) | 167,555 | 3,633 | 341 | 4.8 | - | 4.8 |
| Thrown onto the street/outside | 1,538,550 | 71,344 | 4,180 | 58.7 | - | 58.7 |
| Thrown into gutter | 1,020,096 | 3,958 | 369 | 5.2 | - | 5.2 |
| Thrown onto compound | 1,924,986 | 25,348 | 1,800 | 25.3 | - | 25.3 |
| Other | 38,294 | 572 | 136 | 1.9 | - | 1.9 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# CHAPTER NINE
# SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

## 9.1    Introduction

Populations all over the world have been recognized as an important and greatest national resource. The protection and enhancement of the populations' welfare therefore assumes central stage in Governments' policies and service provision. This is because of the mutual relationship between population and development. This has necessitated the Ghana Government to implement and conduct periodic population census with the first post-independence being 1960. Policy makers' understanding of the population characteristics and its dynamics is therefore crucial for achieving a realistic development planning to meet the needs and aspirations of the people.

This report is the first of its kind of the District Level Census Report produced with the aim of providing valuable information for planners and policy makers as well as the public for relevant decision making towards national development.

## 9.2    Summary of Findings

### 9.2.1    Political administration

Sissala West District has 4 administrative zones or area councils; Gwollu, Pulima, Zini and Fielmua. The area councils were further decentralised into unit committees. The district is made up of just one electoral constituency to elect a representative for the National Legislative Assembly or Parliament.

### 9.2.2    Demographic characteristics

**Population Structure**

The Sissala West district has a population of 49,573 people, with 48.7 percent males and 51.3 percent females. The district has a population density of approximately 25 persons per square kilometre. The age structure of the population in the Sissala West District shows that the district has a youthful population which is typical of developing countries the world over.

About one-six (15.5%) of the population in Sissala West district is below five years of age, slightly higher than the 'regional average of 13.9 percent' (GSS, 2013[3]). About 45.3 percent of the district's population is below 15 years of age.

The segregated age and sex structure revealed that in the age groups from 0-19 years, there are more males than females. However, at age 20 years and older, the proportion of females is higher. The district has a dependency ratio of 102.4 which is higher than the Upper West Regional average of 91.0 percent.

**Fertility and Mortality**

Sissala West district has a Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 4.3 which is the highest in the region. The fertility levels in the district may be explained largely by levels of education. Thus, in districts where women have low education, the TFR is high. This has the potential of rapidly

increasing the population and its associated socioeconomic development needs. Analysis of the data shows that the rate of children ever born surviving is inversely related to age (thus, it decreases as age increases).

**Migration**

Information available indicates that 3.4 percent of the district's population are non–Ghanaians migrants. Approximately 18 people out of every 100 (17.8%) living in the district are Ghanaian who migrated from other parts of the country.

### 9.2.3 Social characteristics

The district has a total of 7,116 households with an average household size of 7.0 persons. Majority of households are headed by males (79.3%). This therefore shows the dominance of males over the females. The highest proportion of household population is made up of biological children (48.4%), followed by relatives to the head (24.5%) and the heads (14.5%).

The highest proportion of the household population (50.6%) are in the dependent age groups of 0-14 and 65 years and above. Over 56.4 percent of households' population has membership that is made of the head, spouse(s), biological and adopted children and relatives of the head only while 0.8 percent was heads only.

The extended family system ((head, spouse(s), children and head's relatives) is the most predominant (56.4%) household system while single parent extended and non-relatives being the lowest with 0.3 percent. Single parent extended family with non-relatives is high (56.2%) among the female headed households.

About 52.7 percent of the population aged 12 years and olderare married with the least (0.5%) being those in informal/consensual union/living together. Thus, majority of the population who reached marrying age are married. Approximate nine out of every 10 (93.9%) of those aged 12-14 years are never married while those in consensual or informal union is highest (1.0%) for age group 20-24 years.

About 92.8 percent of the District's population are Ghanaians by birth, followed by Dual Nationals (2.8%) and those from ECOWAS (2.5%). Non Ghanaians accounts for 3.4 percent of the district's total population. More than half (51.1%) of the Non-Ghanaians in the district are females. This might have been largely accounted for by cross-border marriage.

Of persons aged 11years and above, 60.0 percent are not literate. Over half (54.9%) of the literate population are males. This shows that females are less educated compared to males. Also, about 77.7 percent of the literate population can read and write in only the English language.

The proportion (55.8%) of the population age three years and older who are currently in school are in primary school while only 0.8 percent are in the tertiary level. A little over a third (44.8%) of those who attended school in the past had primary education as the highest with only 5.3 percent attaining tertiary education.

### 9.2.4 Economic characteristics

Over three-quarters (74.7%) of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active and the remaining 25.3 percent are economically not active. Out of the economically active population, 98.3 percent are employed. Unemployment rate in the district stood at 1.7 percent. However, unemployment rate is high (1.9%) among males as compared to females

(1.5%). A higher proportion (37.0%) of the economically not active population are in full time education.

Of the employed population 15 years and older, 82.3 percent are skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers while less than one-tenth (7.2%) are craft and related trade workers.

Slightly more than half (55.8%) of the employed population are self-employed without employees, 36.6 percent are contributing family workers while only 1.1 percent are self-employed with employees. Among the male employed population, 63.5 percent are self-employed without employees while the females' proportion is a little below half (49.1%).

The private sector constitutes the largest employer of the economically active population (98.9%) of which the private informal sector accounts for 96.3 percent. The public sector employs 2.6 percent of all employed persons.

### 9.2.5 Information Communication Technology

The benefits of effective communication are many and obvious as they enhance all aspects of lives be it personal, social, or professional. Of the population 30,808 who are 12 years or older, 47.0 percent are males and the rest females. Proportionately, 14.4 percent of the population in this age category owned mobile phones, with more males than females owning mobile phones in the district.

With internet usage, only 0.5 percent of the population 12 years or older have access and use the internet. Household ownership of fixed telephone is uncommon in the district. Also, 0.7 percent of the total households owned computers (either desktops or laptops or both).

### 9.2.6 Disability

Disability is a physical or mental condition that limits a person's movements, senses, or activities. Of the total population (49,573), 3.5 percent are identified with at least one form of disability. Out of these, 29.8 percent of them had multiple forms of disability.

Emotional disability is predominant (27.7%) among the males while visual/sight impairment is highest (28.9%) among the females. Males on the other hand have more proportion of physical disability (17.0 %) than the females (14.8%).

### 9.2.7 Agricultural households

Anoverwhelming majority (91.8%) of the households in Sissala West District are engaged in agriculture. This represents about 82.3 percent of the entire district population.

Many of the households are engaged in more than one agricultural activity. Including multiple counting, 98.0 percent of households are in crop farming, 60.3 percent in livestock rearing, 1.6 percent in tree growing and 0.1 percent in fish farming. Among animals reared, Chicken recorded the highest (30.0%) proportion, followed by goats (25.2%) and cattle (16.7%). There was no fish farming activity going on in the district.

Fishery activities (fish farming, inland and marine fishing) and snails rearing are not prominent among the populace of the district. The complete absence of fish farming in the area might be as a result of lack of technical knowhow and the high initial investment cost associated with fish farming.

### 9.2.8 Housing conditions

The housing stock available for the district's total household of 7,116 is 5,185. Averagely, there are 1.6 households per house at the district level compared to 1.3 at the region and 1.4 at the national level.

With regards to the type of occupied dwelling units, the compound house is the most common as it has a proportion of 58.6 percent of households occupying such types of dwelling units with 27.4 percent of households occupying separate houses. A situation where households live in uncompleted buildings is almost nonexistent in the district.

A substantial proportion of households in the District (96%) live in houses owned by either a household member or a relative of a member or head. Of this proportion, 94.3 percent are owner occupied.

On the whole, mud brick/earth is the most commonly used materials in the construction of outer walls of houses. They constituted about 83.8 percent of all materials used in this regard.

The proportion of households in the district that have their floors constructed with cement as the main material is 63.5 percent. Roofing styles in the district is gradually adopting a modern form. Corrugated metal sheet (66.7%), thatch (15.3%), and mud/earth (14.0%) emerged as the most dominant materials used as materials for the roofing in the District.

More than one third (41.9%) of households used electricity as source of light aside the use of flashlight/ torch which is mostly used (46.5 %).Wood fuel/firewood contributes to a substantial proportion of households' source of cooking fuel (87.5 %) in the district while LPG accounted for only 1.0 percent.

Almost nine out of every 10 households (89.4%) use improved sources of water. The remaining 10.6 percent predominantly relied on water from unprotected wells, springs among others. This exposes them to various health problems especially water borne diseases.

**Toilet Facilities**

More than three quarters (74.8%) of households in the district neither have nor use toilet facility of any form. These households resort to the use of the bush/field as places of convenience. Only 3.7 percent of households have access to public toilet and pit latrine (14.2%) and KVIP (5.2 %).

**Solid and liquid waste disposal**

Waste disposal is quite appalling in the district. Slightly more than one-third of household population (35.2 %) disposes their solid waste indiscriminately while 58.7 percent of households dispose their liquid waste by throwing it on to the street outside their homes and 25.3 percent of the households dispose theirs in the open compound.

## 9.3    Conclusion

**Population**

The district recorded the highest CBR, GFR and TFR in the whole region hence could lead to rapidly increase population in the district. This will exert pressure on the limited socio-economic facilities which has a harmful impact on the physical environment. The CBR, GFR and TFR need to be checked in order to reduce their contributions to the population growth. The reported total fertility and general fertility rates are more likely to decline with an

increase in education of females in the reproductive age group, contraceptive use, higher age at marriage, and females working out of home.

**Education and literacy**

Education and literacy are vital ingredients in every community or nation's development. These boost the gaining of knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that develop individual capacities for socio-economic well-being. Government policies, programmes and projects geared towards encouraging high school attendance of children have contributed immensely to increasing the proportion of children currently in school. However, school dropout still remains high especially among the female. This might probably be as a result of teenage pregnancy, early marriage, long walking distances to school, high cost of school materials and lack of teachers. The negative socio-economic consequences of high illiteracy might gain prominence in a globalised world where ICT is largely used.

**Employment**

Unemployment is a major social problem that has serious social and economic repercussions for development. A lack of employment opportunities, particularly for the educated youth, has been a major problem. This is an important factor in pushing the educated youth to migrate to the cities in search of jobs that they perceived exist. The private sector which employs over 70 percent of the economically active population in the district is faced with inadequate capital to expand. The largest private sector that employed the majority of the economically active population was agriculture.

**Housing conditions**

The material for the construction of dwelling units' outer walls was basically mud bricks/earth, floors were paved with cement/mud and thatch and metal sheets were used for roofing. The use of cement and metal sheets make them able to withstand rain and other harsh weather conditions. This is a sign of improvement in the quality of dwelling units.

Government efforts to protect the environment and wild animal species have not yet yielded the desired effect as nearly 70 percent of dwelling units use charcoal and wood as fuel for cooking. The absence of LPG filling stations and its irregular availability might have resulted in its low usage.

Almost eight out of every 10 (74.8%) households in the district have no toilet facility with only 3.7 percent having access to public toilets. This shows that more than half of the district's population has no access to improved toilet facility hence resort to easing in the bush. This practice is not the best for the district as it could negatively impact the health of the people hence affecting their social, political and economic lives.

## 9.4    Policy Recommendations

The following policy recommendations are suggested for action to uplift the living conditions of the people of Sissala West district:

Sustainable measures should be put in place to increase school enrolment and retention to at least the second cycle level.

The implementation of the programmes designed to reduce the fertility rate should be intensified and sustained especially in remote areas.

Government should intensify programmes and projects that provide job opportunities for school leavers and support the private sector to create more job opportunities.

To decrease high illiteracy rate, the adult Education programme should be intensified to benefit more people.

The private sector should be supported with relatively easy access to capital and reasonable interest rates for long-term investment.

Provisions should be made to ensure reliable market threshold both domestically and externally to sustain private sector activities.

The agro-ecological environment support farming activity; Therefore farming should be made attractive to the educated youth in order to stop them from migrating to the urban areas.

The Government should encourage the network providers to target increasing network accessibility in the rural areas.

More community information centers should be provided to make ICT readily available to the majority of the people.

In order to protect the environment and animal species, the government should put in place measures to discourage the use of wood and charcoal as fuel for cooking and to encourage the use of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).

The Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) among other programmes should be intensified to ensure the provision of safe toilet facilities to curb the negative health implications associated with indiscriminate defecation.

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# APPENDICES

**Table A1: Population 11 years and older by sex, age and literacy status**

| Sex/Age group | None (Not literate) | Literate | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number | Total | English only | Ghanaian language only | English and Ghanaian language | English and French | English French and Ghanaian Language |
| **Total** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 19,231 | 12,799 | 100.0 | 77.7 | 2.5 | 19.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| 11-14 | 872 | 4,015 | 100.0 | 82.8 | 2.4 | 14.6 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 15-19 | 1,505 | 3,999 | 100.0 | 80.1 | 2.6 | 17.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 20-24 | 2,017 | 1,805 | 100.0 | 75.2 | 1.3 | 23.0 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| 25-29 | 2,163 | 1,038 | 100.0 | 72.1 | 2.2 | 25.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| 30-34 | 2,277 | 585 | 100.0 | 67.2 | 3.9 | 27.7 | 0.9 | 0.3 |
| 35-39 | 1,967 | 391 | 100.0 | 72.4 | 4.1 | 22.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| 40-44 | 1,788 | 221 | 100.0 | 68.3 | 3.2 | 28.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 45-49 | 1,278 | 160 | 100.0 | 66.9 | 3.8 | 28.1 | 1.3 | 0.0 |
| 50-54 | 1,271 | 164 | 100.0 | 62.2 | 6.7 | 31.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 55-59 | 686 | 120 | 100.0 | 60.8 | 4.2 | 34.2 | 0.8 | 0.0 |
| 60-64 | 949 | 107 | 100.0 | 61.7 | 1.9 | 36.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 65+ | 2,458 | 194 | 100.0 | 73.7 | 3.6 | 22.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 8,123 | 7,024 | 100.0 | 74.8 | 2.5 | 22.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 11-14 | 540 | 2,077 | 100.0 | 80.5 | 2.4 | 16.9 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 15-19 | 840 | 2,117 | 100.0 | 78.9 | 2.2 | 18.6 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 20-24 | 815 | 1,041 | 100.0 | 73.9 | 1.2 | 24.8 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 25-29 | 808 | 584 | 100.0 | 66.4 | 3.1 | 30.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| 30-34 | 908 | 330 | 100.0 | 60.3 | 4.5 | 34.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| 35-39 | 783 | 246 | 100.0 | 67.9 | 4.1 | 28.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 40-44 | 700 | 144 | 100.0 | 63.2 | 2.1 | 34.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 45-49 | 516 | 98 | 100.0 | 68.4 | 4.1 | 25.5 | 2.0 | 0.0 |
| 50-54 | 493 | 110 | 100.0 | 61.8 | 5.5 | 32.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 55-59 | 300 | 98 | 100.0 | 55.1 | 4.1 | 39.8 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| 60-64 | 397 | 70 | 100.0 | 50.0 | 2.9 | 47.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 65+ | 1,023 | 109 | 100.0 | 68.8 | 2.8 | 28.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 11,108 | 5,775 | 100.0 | 81.3 | 2.6 | 15.6 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| 11-14 | 332 | 1,938 | 100.0 | 85.3 | 2.5 | 12.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 15-19 | 665 | 1,882 | 100.0 | 81.5 | 3.0 | 15.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 20-24 | 1,202 | 764 | 100.0 | 77.0 | 1.4 | 20.5 | 0.9 | 0.1 |
| 25-29 | 1,355 | 454 | 100.0 | 79.3 | 1.1 | 19.2 | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| 30-34 | 1,369 | 255 | 100.0 | 76.1 | 3.1 | 19.2 | 1.2 | 0.4 |
| 35-39 | 1,184 | 145 | 100.0 | 80.0 | 4.1 | 13.1 | 2.8 | 0.0 |
| 40-44 | 1,088 | 77 | 100.0 | 77.9 | 5.2 | 16.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 45-49 | 762 | 62 | 100.0 | 64.5 | 3.2 | 32.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 50-54 | 778 | 54 | 100.0 | 63.0 | 9.3 | 27.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 55-59 | 386 | 22 | 100.0 | 86.4 | 4.5 | 9.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 60-64 | 552 | 37 | 100.0 | 83.8 | 0.0 | 16.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 65+ | 1,435 | 85 | 100.0 | 80.0 | 4.7 | 15.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

| Sex/Disability type | Total | Never attended | Nursery | Kinder garten | Primary | Middle/ JSS/ JHS | Sec./ SSS/ SHS | Voc./ Tech./ Comm. | Post sec | Bachelor degree | Post graduate (Cert. Diploma Masters PHD etc.) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | Educational level attained |
| **Both Sexes** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 45,231 | 22,945 | 1,326 | 2,531 | 11,982 | 4,264 | 1,479 | 154 | 467 | 72 | 11 |
| No disability | 43,576 | 21,817 | 1,304 | 2,482 | 11,727 | 4,138 | 1,427 | 144 | 454 | 72 | 11 |
| With a disability | 1,655 | 1,128 | 22 | 49 | 255 | 126 | 52 | 10 | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Sight | 432 | 366 | 6 | 5 | 34 | 18 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hearing | 228 | 182 | 6 | 2 | 24 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Speech | 160 | 96 | 1 | 12 | 33 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Physical | 266 | 199 | 0 | 5 | 29 | 17 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Intellectual | 212 | 122 | 0 | 12 | 42 | 26 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Emotional | 391 | 223 | 1 | 21 | 71 | 45 | 24 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 447 | 272 | 8 | 13 | 82 | 45 | 19 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| **Male** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 21,941 | 10,104 | 659 | 1,350 | 6,162 | 2,242 | 933 | 65 | 349 | 66 | 11 |
| No disability | 21,125 | 9,577 | 646 | 1,325 | 6,029 | 2,174 | 902 | 57 | 338 | 66 | 11 |
| With a disability | 816 | 527 | 13 | 25 | 133 | 68 | 31 | 8 | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| Sight | 187 | 147 | 5 | 3 | 19 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hearing | 102 | 77 | 3 | 1 | 13 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Speech | 91 | 58 | 0 | 4 | 16 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Physical | 140 | 101 | 0 | 2 | 15 | 11 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Intellectual | 117 | 66 | 0 | 6 | 26 | 15 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Emotional | 216 | 122 | 1 | 12 | 35 | 29 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 216 | 112 | 4 | 8 | 45 | 25 | 14 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| **Female** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 23,290 | 12,841 | 667 | 1,181 | 5,820 | 2,022 | 546 | 89 | 118 | 6 | 0 |
| No disability | 22,451 | 12,240 | 658 | 1,157 | 5,698 | 1,964 | 525 | 87 | 116 | 6 | 0 |
| With a disability | 839 | 601 | 9 | 24 | 122 | 58 | 21 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Sight | 245 | 219 | 1 | 2 | 15 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hearing | 126 | 105 | 3 | 1 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Speech | 69 | 38 | 1 | 8 | 17 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Physical | 126 | 98 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Intellectual | 95 | 56 | 0 | 6 | 16 | 11 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Emotional | 175 | 101 | 0 | 9 | 36 | 16 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 231 | 160 | 4 | 5 | 37 | 20 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

| Households/ Type of crop | Households | Population in occupied units | | | Population engaged in agricultural activities | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female |
| Total households in occupied units | 7,116 | 49,021 | 23,879 | 25,142 | 17,137 | 9,098 | 8,039 |
| Households engaged in agricultural activities | 6,535 | 46,769 | 22,787 | 23,982 | 17,137 | 9,098 | 8,039 |
| Households engaged in crop farming or tree growing | 6,403 | 46,007 | 22,426 | 23,581 | 16,812 | 8,927 | 7,885 |
| Households engaged in crop farming | 6,402 | 46,006 | 22,425 | 23,581 | 16,811 | 8,926 | 7,885 |
| Households engaged in tree growing | 107 | 720 | 351 | 369 | 256 | 150 | 106 |
| Agro forestry (tree planting) | 107 | 720 | 351 | 369 | 256 | 150 | 106 |
| Alligator pepper | 4 | 40 | 18 | 22 | 9 | 6 | 3 |
| Apples | 9 | 94 | 37 | 57 | 33 | 15 | 18 |
| Asian vegetables (e.g. tinda, cauliflower) | 17 | 150 | 81 | 69 | 36 | 24 | 12 |
| Banana | 20 | 142 | 83 | 59 | 67 | 35 | 32 |
| Beans | 1,746 | 13,629 | 6,684 | 6,945 | 5,096 | 2,658 | 2,438 |
| Black pepper | 3 | 22 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 4 | 5 |
| Black berries | 8 | 64 | 39 | 25 | 23 | 14 | 9 |
| Cabbage | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Carrot | 496 | 3,411 | 1,670 | 1,741 | 1,258 | 659 | 599 |
| Cashew | 206 | 1,633 | 856 | 777 | 685 | 389 | 296 |
| Cassava | 52 | 464 | 246 | 218 | 163 | 98 | 65 |
| Citronella | 5 | 44 | 24 | 20 | 20 | 6 | 14 |
| Cloves | 4 | 39 | 16 | 23 | 22 | 11 | 11 |
| Cocoa | 1 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Coconut | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Cocoyam | 21 | 164 | 71 | 93 | 70 | 34 | 36 |
| Cocoyam / Taro (kooko) | 8 | 47 | 19 | 28 | 21 | 5 | 16 |
| Coffee | 3 | 14 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 7 | 3 |
| Cola | 3 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Cotton | 604 | 4,921 | 2,484 | 2,437 | 1,719 | 966 | 753 |
| Cucumber | 27 | 205 | 86 | 119 | 82 | 40 | 42 |
| Egg plant | 5 | 41 | 29 | 12 | 19 | 12 | 7 |
| Garlic | 4 | 27 | 16 | 11 | 13 | 9 | 4 |
| Garden eggs | 26 | 241 | 111 | 130 | 82 | 54 | 28 |
| Ginger | 9 | 60 | 24 | 36 | 23 | 10 | 13 |
| Groundnut | 4,015 | 30,074 | 14,498 | 15,576 | 11,104 | 5,708 | 5,396 |
| Guava | 15 | 117 | 58 | 59 | 58 | 29 | 29 |
| Kenaf | 8 | 69 | 23 | 46 | 25 | 9 | 16 |
| Lemon grass | 6 | 62 | 28 | 34 | 25 | 12 | 13 |
| Lettuce | 19 | 121 | 60 | 61 | 49 | 23 | 26 |
| Maize | 4,734 | 35,285 | 17,392 | 17,893 | 12,765 | 6,926 | 5,839 |
| Mango | 184 | 1,440 | 731 | 709 | 572 | 312 | 260 |
| Melon (agusi) | 1 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 |

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

| Households/ Type of crop | Households | Population in occupied units | | | Population engaged in agricultural activities | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female |
| Millet | 1,970 | 14,873 | 7,168 | 7,705 | 5,644 | 2,991 | 2,653 |
| Mushroom | 44 | 283 | 134 | 149 | 142 | 69 | 73 |
| Nut meg | 10 | 89 | 33 | 56 | 38 | 19 | 19 |
| Oil palm | 2 | 15 | 11 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 2 |
| Okro | 145 | 1,019 | 518 | 501 | 348 | 190 | 158 |
| Onion | 4 | 40 | 21 | 19 | 7 | 6 | 1 |
| Pawpaw | 7 | 33 | 15 | 18 | 15 | 9 | 6 |
| Peas | 53 | 363 | 169 | 194 | 127 | 76 | 51 |
| Pepper | 40 | 287 | 161 | 126 | 121 | 65 | 56 |
| Pineapple | 1 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| Plantain | 22 | 156 | 91 | 65 | 49 | 29 | 20 |
| Potatoes | 6 | 42 | 17 | 25 | 22 | 13 | 9 |
| Rice | 584 | 4,779 | 2,299 | 2,480 | 1,595 | 873 | 722 |
| Shallot | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Shea tree | 4 | 24 | 12 | 12 | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| Sorghum | 364 | 2,907 | 1,433 | 1,474 | 1,089 | 594 | 495 |
| Soya beans | 415 | 3,425 | 1,677 | 1,748 | 1,072 | 561 | 511 |
| Spinach | 3 | 21 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 4 | 7 |
| Sun flower | 4 | 48 | 20 | 28 | 17 | 8 | 9 |
| Sweet pepper | 5 | 44 | 18 | 26 | 15 | 7 | 8 |
| Sweet potatoes | 20 | 132 | 76 | 56 | 48 | 34 | 14 |
| Tiger nut | 1 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Tobacco | 8 | 64 | 30 | 34 | 19 | 13 | 6 |
| Tomatoes | 103 | 685 | 371 | 314 | 287 | 180 | 107 |
| Water melon | 6 | 46 | 19 | 27 | 22 | 9 | 13 |
| Yam | 1,022 | 8,772 | 4,429 | 4,343 | 3,237 | 1,805 | 1,432 |
| Other (specify) | 286 | 2,200 | 1,067 | 1,133 | 854 | 455 | 399 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

| S/No. | Community Name | Total | Male | Female | House holds | Houses |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Gwollu | 4,854 | 2,445 | 2,409 | 797 | 464 |
| 2 | Fielmua | 2,995 | 1,397 | 1,598 | 450 | 297 |
| 3 | Buo | 2,824 | 1,320 | 1,504 | 420 | 286 |
| 4 | Jeffisi | 2,321 | 1,128 | 1,193 | 330 | 264 |
| 5 | Sorbelle | 2,203 | 1,043 | 1,160 | 292 | 201 |
| 6 | Pulima | 2,133 | 1,079 | 1,054 | 259 | 194 |
| 7 | Lipilime | 1,914 | 948 | 966 | 279 | 232 |
| 8 | Bullu | 1,813 | 873 | 940 | 207 | 180 |
| 9 | Jawia | 1,720 | 840 | 880 | 240 | 208 |
| 10 | Bouti | 1,633 | 837 | 796 | 249 | 167 |
| 11 | Liero | 1,266 | 580 | 686 | 193 | 106 |
| 12 | Dasima | 1,061 | 529 | 532 | 135 | 119 |
| 13 | Kusali | 1,001 | 473 | 528 | 165 | 135 |
| 14 | Nyimeti | 940 | 470 | 470 | 148 | 100 |
| 15 | Kuntulo | 904 | 480 | 424 | 111 | 77 |
| 16 | Wasai | 886 | 455 | 431 | 114 | 81 |
| 17 | Dakuma | 861 | 433 | 428 | 137 | 101 |
| 18 | Gapari | 857 | 390 | 467 | 94 | 52 |
| 19 | Wiiro | 849 | 369 | 480 | 118 | 101 |
| 20 | Nyimenti | 846 | 433 | 413 | 104 | 83 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

**Table A5: Population by Age group in the 20 largest communities**

| S/No. | Community Name | All ages | 0-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | 50-54 | 55-59 | 60-64 | 65-69 | 70-74 | 75+ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Gwollu | 4,854 | 625 | 738 | 658 | 619 | 398 | 338 | 309 | 295 | 191 | 163 | 136 | 91 | 90 | 59 | 43 | 101 |
| 2 | Fielmua | 2,995 | 511 | 433 | 437 | 311 | 212 | 179 | 181 | 150 | 125 | 89 | 72 | 53 | 65 | 44 | 43 | 90 |
| 3 | Buo | 2,824 | 505 | 485 | 348 | 242 | 197 | 167 | 155 | 108 | 117 | 87 | 100 | 62 | 66 | 30 | 49 | 106 |
| 4 | Jeffisi | 2,321 | 375 | 358 | 288 | 277 | 191 | 154 | 137 | 104 | 87 | 81 | 62 | 30 | 53 | 14 | 43 | 67 |
| 5 | Sorbelle | 2,203 | 313 | 322 | 292 | 266 | 207 | 127 | 147 | 113 | 89 | 66 | 67 | 31 | 34 | 15 | 47 | 67 |
| 6 | Pulima | 2,133 | 295 | 336 | 277 | 237 | 212 | 182 | 111 | 110 | 92 | 62 | 52 | 32 | 29 | 16 | 33 | 57 |
| 7 | Lipilime | 1,914 | 296 | 309 | 273 | 217 | 150 | 128 | 123 | 82 | 73 | 42 | 52 | 32 | 33 | 17 | 35 | 52 |
| 8 | Bullu | 1,813 | 322 | 308 | 225 | 216 | 168 | 133 | 87 | 82 | 68 | 43 | 40 | 23 | 27 | 18 | 22 | 31 |
| 9 | Jawia | 1,720 | 270 | 281 | 234 | 190 | 128 | 146 | 106 | 83 | 66 | 44 | 51 | 11 | 26 | 23 | 24 | 37 |
| 10 | Bouti | 1,633 | 231 | 264 | 251 | 176 | 117 | 111 | 105 | 90 | 71 | 50 | 47 | 18 | 30 | 14 | 21 | 37 |
| 11 | Liero | 1,266 | 270 | 212 | 171 | 98 | 88 | 64 | 84 | 50 | 48 | 25 | 37 | 14 | 32 | 15 | 28 | 30 |
| 12 | Dasima | 1,061 | 169 | 188 | 135 | 102 | 82 | 56 | 51 | 60 | 43 | 43 | 33 | 13 | 24 | 18 | 20 | 24 |
| 13 | Kusali | 1,001 | 177 | 156 | 142 | 108 | 80 | 69 | 55 | 48 | 48 | 29 | 22 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 11 | 17 |
| 14 | Nyimeti | 940 | 152 | 157 | 131 | 105 | 77 | 55 | 56 | 40 | 29 | 31 | 24 | 17 | 27 | 5 | 12 | 22 |
| 15 | Kuntulo | 904 | 136 | 168 | 94 | 85 | 73 | 78 | 49 | 43 | 24 | 19 | 18 | 22 | 22 | 16 | 15 | 42 |
| 16 | Wasai | 886 | 125 | 144 | 143 | 98 | 50 | 66 | 53 | 36 | 30 | 25 | 32 | 25 | 21 | 14 | 11 | 13 |
| 17 | Dakuma | 861 | 94 | 124 | 142 | 132 | 68 | 51 | 33 | 35 | 29 | 26 | 33 | 15 | 19 | 9 | 17 | 34 |
| 18 | Gapari | 857 | 129 | 128 | 130 | 90 | 64 | 60 | 60 | 37 | 29 | 29 | 28 | 18 | 16 | 5 | 4 | 30 |
| 19 | Wiiro | 849 | 185 | 156 | 104 | 56 | 58 | 39 | 50 | 43 | 38 | 28 | 20 | 11 | 15 | 13 | 18 | 15 |
| 20 | Nyimenti | 846 | 98 | 140 | 140 | 121 | 64 | 33 | 37 | 41 | 56 | 27 | 19 | 15 | 18 | 4 | 8 | 25 |

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

# LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

**Project Secretariat**

Dr. Philomena Nyarko, Government Statistician

Mr. Baah Wadieh, Deputy Government Statistician

Mr. David Yenukwa Kombat, Acting Census Coordinator

Mr. Sylvester Gyamfi, DISDAP Project Coordinator

Mrs. Abena A. Osei-Akoto, Data Processing

Mr. Rochester Appiah Kubi Boateng, Data Processing

Mrs. Jacqueline Anum, Data Processing

Mrs. Samilia Mintah, Data Processing

Mr. Yaw M**is**efa, Data Processing

Mr. Ernest Enyan, Data Processing

Mr. Jeremiah Dery Sixtus, Regional Statistician

Ms. Hanna **Fre**mpong **Konadu**, Formatting/Typesetting

Mrs. Victoria Sottie, Formatting/Typesetting

**Writers**

Mr. Sinto Mustapha Nuhu

Mr. Gershon Doe Tekpli

**Consultant**

Dr. Frank K. Teng-Zeng

Dr. Sylvester Z. Galaa

**Editor/ Reviewers**

Dr. Afua Smile Dzisi

Ms. Ernestina Turkson

Mr. Jeremiah Dery Sixtus

Mr. Francis Nyarkoh –Larbi