



2010

POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

WA WEST



Canada 

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK
DANIDA | INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

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

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

The District Analytical Report for the Wa 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
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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CBR	Crude Birth Rate
CDR	Crude Death Rate
CEB	Children Ever Born
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CS	Children Surviving
CHPS	Community Health Planning Services
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DFID	Department for International Development
DPs	Development Partners
DPCU	District Planning Coordinating Unit
EA	Enumeration Area
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EMIS	Education Management Information System
EU	European Union
GFR	General Fertility Rate
GDP	Gross Domestic product
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
GES	Ghana Education Service
HDI	Human Development Index
ICU	International Communication Union
ICT	Information Communication Technology
ISSER	Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research
JSS	Junior Secondary School
JHS	Junior High School
PHC	Population and Housing Census
PWD	People with Disability
SADA	Savannah Accelerated Development Authority
SSS	Senior Secondary School
SHS	Senior High School
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NCA	National Communication Authority

NDPC	National Development Planning Commission
NER	Net Enrolment Ratio
PRB	Population Reference Bureau
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
PWDs	Persons with disabilities
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Education Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
WHO	World Health Organization
W.C	Water Closet

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

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

Population size, structure and composition

The population of Wa West District, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, is 81,348 representing 11.6 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute 49.5 percent and females represent 50.5 percent. The district is entirely rural. The sex ratio of the district is 97.8. The population of the district is youthful (45.5%) depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of elderly persons (5.8%). The total age dependency ratio for the district is 105.6, the age dependency ratio for males is higher (118.2) than that of females (94.6).

Fertility, mortality and migration

The Total Fertility Rate for the district 4.1. The General Fertility Rate is 111.1 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 24.3 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the district is 5.6 per 1000. Accident/violence/homicide/suicide accounts for 10.2 percent of all deaths while other causes constitute 89.8 percent of deaths in the district. 37.3 percent of migrants living in the district are born in another region while 49.6 percent are born elsewhere in Upper West Region. For migrants born in another region, those born in Ashanti Region constitute 29.0 percent followed by Brong Ahafo 20.2 percent and Upper East Region, 16.7 percent.

Household Size, composition and structure

The district has a household population of 80,382 with a total number of 11,486 households. The average household size in the district is 7.0 persons per household. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household structure accounting for 50.5 percent. Spouses form about 10 percent. Nuclear households (head, spouse(s) and children) constitute 22.1 percent of the total number of households in the district.

Marital status

About five in ten (51.1%) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 40.7 percent have never married, 0.5 percent are in consensual unions, 5.9 percent are widowed, 0.9 percent are divorced and 1.1 percent are separated. By age 25-29 years, more than eighty percent of females (80.8%) are married compared with a little above 49 percent of males (49.4%). At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 48.0 percent while widowed males account for only 7.7 percent. . Among the married, 82.2 percent have no education while about 29.5 percent of the unmarried have never been to school. Over 80

percent of the married population (84.3%) are employed, 1.0 percent are unemployed and 14.7 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who have never married (54.7%) are economically not active with 1.0 percent unemployed.

Nationality

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the district is 96.0 percent. Those who have naturalised constitute 0.6 percent and the non-Ghanaian population in the district is 1.7 percent.

Literacy and education

Of the population 11 years and above, 36.7 percent are literate and 63.3 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (44.4 %) than that of females (31.8%). Six out of ten people (59.9%) indicated they could speak and write both English and Ghanaian languages. Of the population aged 3 years and above (75,217) in the district, 75.2 percent has never attended school, 36.3 percent are currently attending and 6.5 percent have attended school in the past.

Economic Activity Status

About 75.1 percent of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active while 27.9 per cent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 98.4 percent are employed while 1.6 percent is unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a large percentage of them are students (43.2%), 22.4% perform household duties and 5.9 percent are disabled or too sick to work. About four out of ten unemployed (40.7) are seeking work for the first time.

Occupation

Of the employed population, about 75.0 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 8.0 percent in service and sales, 7.0 percent in craft and related trade, and 5.0 percent are engaged as managers, professionals, and technicians.

Employment status and sector

Of the population 15 years and older, 56.8 percent are self-employed without employees, 37.1 percent are contributing family workers, 0.5 percent are casual workers and 0.7 percent are domestic employees (house helps). Overall, males constitute the highest proportion in Self-employed without employee(s)(64.2%) while females also contribute the highest in Contributing family worker (37.1). The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district, employing 97.0 percent of the population followed by the public sector with 2.2 percent.

Information and Communication Technology

Of the population 12 years and above, 9.7 percent have mobile phones. Males who own mobile phones constitute 14.4 percent as compared to 5.3 percent of females. Less than one percent (0.6%) of the population 12 years and older uses internet facilities in the district. Only 62 households representing 0.5 percent of total households in the district have desktop/laptop computers.

Disability

About 3.0 percent of the district's total population has one form of disability or the other. The proportion of the male population with disability is slightly higher (3.2%) than females (2.9%). The types of disability in the district include sight, hearing, speech, physical,

intellect, and emotion. Persons with sight disability recorded the highest 33.6 percent followed by physical disability (25.1%). Of the population disabled, 74.0 percent have never been to school.

Agriculture

As high as 91.6 percent of households in the district are engaged in agriculture. Majority of households in the district (97.2%) are involved in crop farming. Poultry (chicken) is the dominant form of animal rearing in the district constituting 33.4 percent.

Housing

The housing stock of Wa West District is 10,444 representing 12.7 percent of the total number of houses in Upper West Region. The average number of persons per house is 7.7.

Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

About 45.8 percent of all dwelling units in the district are compound houses; 41.3 percent are separate houses and 5.5 percent are semi-detached houses. Over 93 percent of the dwelling units in the district are owned by members of the household; 2.5 percent are owned by private individuals; 2.3 percent are owned by a relative who is not a member of the household and only 1.3 percent are owned by public or government. Less than one percent (0.3%) of the dwelling units is owned through mortgage schemes.

Material for construction of outer wall, floor and roof

The main construction material for outer walls of dwelling units in the district is mud/mud bricks or earth accounting for 89.9 percent with cement/concrete constituting 7.3 percent of outer walls of dwelling units in the district. Earth/Mud (52.7%) and Cement (45.2%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the district. Metal sheets are the main roofing material (63.9 %) for dwelling units in the district.

Room occupancy

One room constitutes the highest percentage (47.4%) of sleeping rooms occupied by households in housing units in the district. About 0.3 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 (61.6%), kerosene lamp (25.0%) and electricity (9.5%). The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the district is wood (91.1%). The four main sources of water in the district are borehole, river stream, Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal and Pipe-borne outside dwelling. Over 79.0 percent of households drink water from boreholes.

The most common toilet facility used in the district is Pit latrine representing 8.8 percent, followed by pit latrine (3.1%). Close to 86.0 percent of households have no toilet facility but use (bush/beach/field) for defecation. A third of households (31.8%) in the district share separate bathrooms in the same house while 25.6 percent own bathrooms for their exclusive use.

Waste disposal

The most widely used method of solid waste disposal is Indiscriminate dumping which accounts for 45.8 percent, followed by Dumping in open space also accounting for 34.3 percent. House to house waste collection accounts for 8.1 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste onto the street/outside (67.3%) and onto the compound (23.0%) are the two most common methods used by households in the district.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The District was carved out of Wa District in 2004 by legislative instrument (LI 1751) under the Local Government Act 463, 1993. Wechiau is the capital of the District. The District has 27 electoral areas and 5 area councils and is headed by District Chief Executive as the political leader.

1.1.1 Location and size

The District is located in the western part of the Upper West Region, approximately between longitudes 9° 40' N and 10° 10' N and also between latitudes 2° 20' W and 2° 50' W. It shares boarders to the south with Northern Region, north-west by Nadowli District, east by Wa Municipal and to the west by Burkina Faso (see Fig. 1.1).

The total area of the District is approximately 1492.0 square km, representing about 10 percent of the region's total land area. It is roughly trapezium in shape with the District capital, Wechiau, almost on the extreme western perimeter. The District capital is about 15.0 km away from Wa Municipal by rough road.

The proximity of Wa West District to Burkina Faso, however, places it in a good position to take advantage of suggestions made by the "Northern Development Initiative" which proposes the promotion of a Savannah-Sahel Regional Market amongst other initiatives.

1.2 Physical Features

Topography

The topography of the Wa West District is gently rolling with a few hills ranging between 180 and 300 meters above sea level. It is drained by one main river – the Black Volta - to the West marking the boundary between the District and the Republic of Burkina Faso.

The Black Volta with its tributaries is the main drainage system in the District. The river and its several feeder tributaries present opportunities for irrigation in the District which can promote all-year round farming. Most of the tributary streams are seasonal, thus disrupting free commuting during the rainy season along all the major roads to the District capital.

1.2.1 Geology and mineral deposits

The District is predominantly of Pre-Cambrian, granite and metamorphic rock types which have experienced less weathering than similar rocks elsewhere in the country due to low rainfall, high evapo-transpiration and less vegetation.

Nevertheless, water harvesting from boreholes has been successful in the District because the rocks have well-developed fracture system.

1.2.2 Climate (temperature and rainfall)

The District has two marked seasons namely, the wet and dry seasons. The South-Western Monsoon winds from the Atlantic Ocean bring rains mostly between April and August, whilst

the North-Eastern Trade winds from the Sahara Desert bring the long dry season between November and March. The mean annual rainfall varies between 840mm and 1400mm. Most of the rainfall occurs, between June and September, and it is not unusual to have very high rainfall figures concentrated on a few rainy days.

One feature of the rainfall pattern is that it tends to occur in heavy downpours thus, resulting in run-offs rather than soil moisture retention. The erratic rainfall regime is clearly shown in the water balance, which is a reflection of the poor soil moisture conditions in the area.

It has been calculated that there are four (4) humid months (June - September), in terms of soil moisture conditions it is only adequate for the cultivation of crops such as millet, guinea corn, yam, groundnuts and beans. The rainfall pattern is sometimes irregular and unreliable thus affecting the farmers' crop yields.

1.2.3 Soil

The soils in the District are mostly sandy loamy, clayey loamy and loamy types. There are also strips of alluvial soils along the flood plains of the Black Volta as well as sandy loams along some of its tributaries. The general nature of the soils, coupled with the traditional land use practices and limited rainfall, tend to have adverse effect on crop production. This situation forces the youth to look for sustenance elsewhere.

1.2.4 Vegetation and forest reserve cover

The vegetation is one of the Guinea Savannah grassland type; made up of short trees with little or no canopy and shrubs of varying heights and luxuriance, with grass ground cover in the wet season. Commonly found trees are the shea, dawadawa, kapok and baobab. Cashew and mango are exotic species that also grow well in the area.

1.3 Political Administration

The District Assembly is the highest political, administrative and planning authority in the District with deliberative, legislative and executive functions. The Wa West District Assembly has a membership of 35 composed of 27 elected and 8 government appointees representing the traditional authority and organized economic groupings in the District. The Presiding Member, Member of Parliament and the District Chief Executive are all political heads in the District. The Presiding Member chairs the assembly sittings. There are five area councils made up of Dorimon, Ga, Gurungu, Vieri and Wechiau. There are also 140 Unit Committees to complete the Sub-District Structures as envisaged in the decentralization programme.

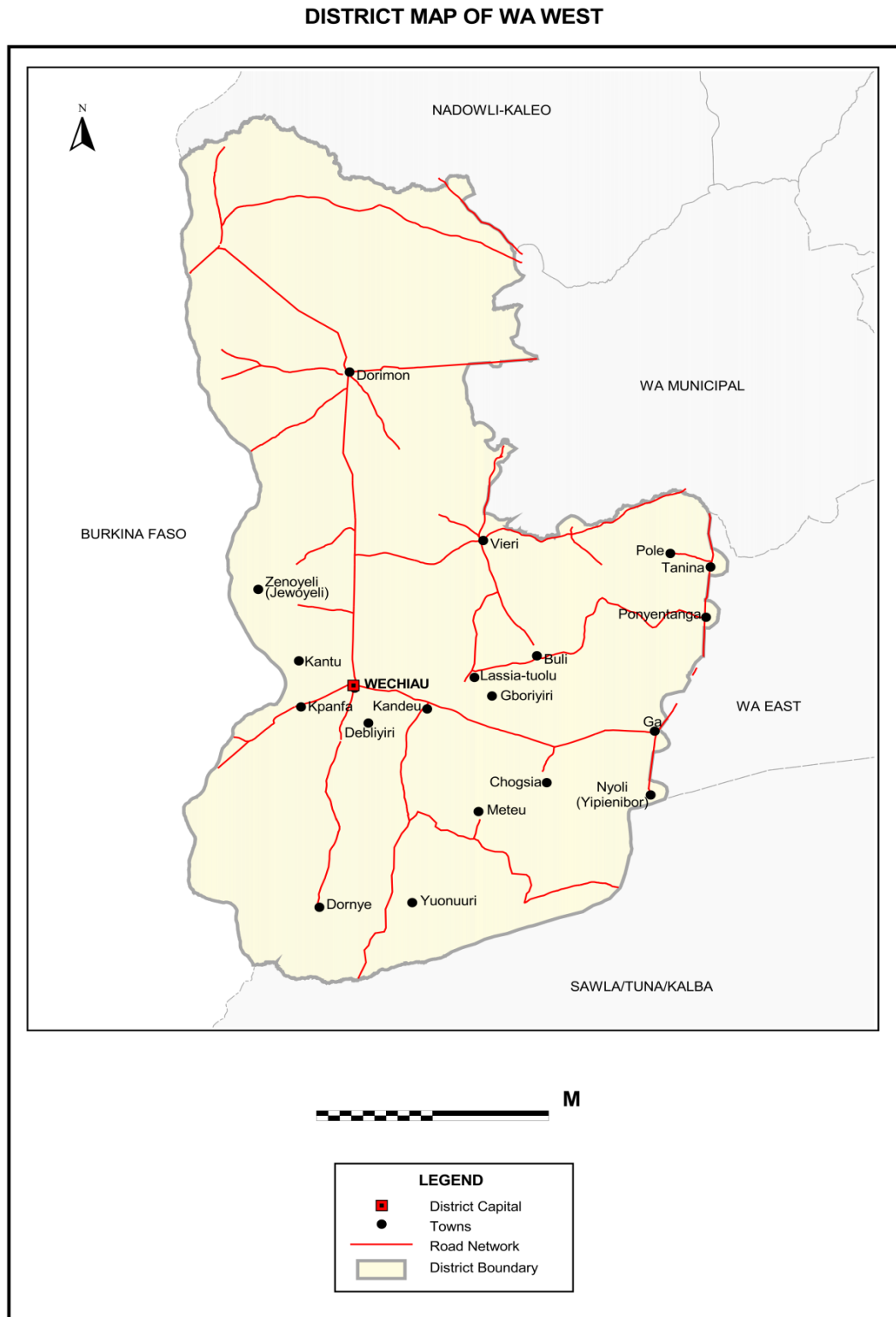
1.4 Social and Cultural Structure

1.4.1 Traditional set up and culture

Alongside the decentralized governance system is a parallel traditional governance system which appears to be at variance with the District assembly system.

Even though the two governance systems seek the development of the area, they are not able to team up towards achieving the common goal of development in the District. This may be traced to the subtle power dynamics and competition for control of resources between the two systems.

Figure 1.1: Map of Wa West District



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

The District has two paramountcies: Wechiau and Dorimon with titles ‘WechiauNaa’ and ‘DorimonNaa’ respectively. There are also divisional and sub-divisional chiefs under the authority of the two paramountcies. The succession to the throne is patrilineal.

1.4.2 Education

An analysis of the educational situation in the District covers available physical infrastructure, strength of available teaching staff and ownership of existing facilities. There are a total of 108 public schools in the Districts comprising of 68 Primary Schools, 40 Junior High Schools and 1 Senior High School (SHS). The District also has 171 trained teachers and 466 untrained teachers in the public schools (GES, 2010).

1.4.3 Health

The District is deprived in terms of health infrastructure and personnel. In terms of actual health facilities, the District has one health centre and 12 CHPS Compounds (SADA, DPCU Report-2010).

1.4.4 Ethnicity

The District is dominated mainly by Mole-Dagbani group, which comprises the Waalas who are the indigenous people, Dagaabas and Sissalas. Other minority groups are the Akans, Ga-Dangme, Ewes, and Guans.

1.4.5 Religious composition

Traditionalists are the largest religion with 29.5% of the people. Islam is the second dominant religion with 23.5% followed by Christianity. Christian denominations in the District include Catholics, Pentecostal/Charismatics and Protestant (Anglican Lutheran, etc.).

1.5 Economy

The major economic activities in the District include agriculture, rural commerce and industry, tourism and social services.

1.5.1 Agriculture

Agriculture accounts for 86.0% of district’s economy. The predominant agriculture activity is farming. Most farmers undertake a combination of crops and animal production. The main crops grown are maize, millet, cowpea and groundnut. The District has comparative advantage in groundnuts and cowpea production.

The District is blessed with a number of water bodies including the Black Volta. Inland fishing is practised as an economic activity in the District. The proceeds from the sale of fish supplement household income, though on a small scale.

There are eight marketing outlets in the District. These are located at Dorimon, Dabo, Taanvare, Wechiau, Vieri, Ponyentanga, Nyoli and Gurungu. These markets are organized on a 6-day cycle. Agro-products and inputs are readily sold and purchased in these markets. Marketing of food crops and household commodities is mostly done by women.

The purchase and sale of livestock is, however, done by men. Physical access to markets is poor due to poor road network and condition. The improvement of road infrastructure has the potential of increasing revenue mobilisation in the District.

1.5.2 Tourism

The potential of tourism as a source of revenue to the Wa West District is found in its rich natural, cultural, historical and man-made attractions. The most significant of them is the Wechiau Community Hippo Sanctuary which is 18 km from Wechiau. Other potential tourism sites in the District are the Ga crocodile pond, the Lobi Architecture, a three hundred year old Mosque, the Chief Palace and local grinding mills.

These, however, have not received the needed support and development. Besides these natural and manmade sites, the culture of the people is also captivating. When managed well, these attractions could make the Wa West District a good tourist destination for local and foreign tourists.

1.6 Census Methodology, Concepts and Definitions

1.6.1 Introduction

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

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

1.6.2 Pre-enumeration activities

Development of census project document and work plans

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

Census secretariat and committees

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

The Census Secretariat was initially headed by an acting Census Coordinator engaged by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in 2008 to support GSS in the planning of the

Census. In 2009, the Census Secretariat was re-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 organizations and development partners were given the opportunity to indicate the type of questions they wanted to be included in the census questionnaire.

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

Pre-tests and trial census

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

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

A trial census which is a dress rehearsal of all the activities and procedures that are planned for the main census was carried out in October/November 2009. These included recruitment and training, distribution of census materials, administration of the questionnaire and other census forms, enumeration of the various categories of the population (household, institutional and floating population), and data processing. The trial census was held in six selected districts across the country namely; Saboba (Northern Region), Chereponi (Northern Region), Sene (Brong Ahafo Region), Bia (Western Region), Awutu Senya (Central Region), and Osu 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, Kasafo and Techiman were not properly demarcated and some were characterized by large EAs, some enumerators were unable to complete their assigned tasks within the stipulated time.

1.6.4 Post Enumeration Survey

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

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

1.6.5 Release and dissemination of results

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

1.6.6 Concepts and Definitions

Introduction

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

The concepts and definitions in this report cover all sections of the 2010 Population and Housing Census questionnaires (PHC1A and PHC1B). The sections were: geographical location of the population, Household and Non-household population, Literacy and

Education, Emigration, Demographic and Economic Characteristics, Disability, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Fertility, Mortality, Agricultural Activity and Housing Conditions.

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

Region

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

District

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

Locality

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

Population

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

Household

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

Head of Household

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

Household and Non-household population

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

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

Age

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

Nationality

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

Ethnicity

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

Birthplace

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

Duration of Residence

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

Religion

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

Marital Status

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

Literacy

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

Education

School Attendance

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

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

Level of Education

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

Activity Status

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

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

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

Occupation

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

Industry

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

Employment Status

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

Employment Sector

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

Disability

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

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

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

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

Fertility

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

Mortality

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

Agriculture

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

Housing Conditions and Facilities

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

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

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

1.7 Organization of the Report

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

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

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

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

CHAPTER TWO

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

2.1 Introduction

Population size, composition and age-sex structures are critical in understanding the population characteristics of any country. The age-sex structure is useful for population projection. A country's population composition, for example, greatly influences its needs and wellbeing. The objective of this chapter is to analyse the size, composition, age-sex structure, and changes in the population of the Wa West district based on the 2010 Population and Housing Census.

2.2 Population Size and Distribution

The 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) recorded a population size of 81,348 for the Wa West District, representing 11.6 percent of the regional population. Table 2.1 shows the population by age, sex and type of locality in the District. From the Table, it can be seen that the total population of males is 40,227 (49.5%) and female is 41,121 (50.5%). Wa West is basically a rural district with all its population living in rural localities.

Table 2.1: Population size by locality of residence by district, region and sex

Region/District/Sex	All Localities		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Upper West	702,110	100.0	114,653	16.30	587,457	100.0
Wa West	81,348	100.0	-	0.00	81,348	100.0
Male	40,227	49.5	-	0.00	40,227	49.5
Female	41,121	50.5	-	0.00	41,121	50.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3 Age-Sex Structure

The data in Table 2.2 showing population by sex and age indicate that the highest proportion among the age group is 16.5 percent in age group 5-9 years. In addition the data show that the 0-14 age groups have a high proportion, 45.5 percent of the population. This implies that the District has a youthful population. The adult population 15 to 64 years constitute 48.7 percent while the aged population, those 65 years and older forms only 5.8 percent. The age structure for males and females show a pattern similar to the one described above.

The overall sex ratio in the District is 97.8 percent. This means that for every 100 females there are about 98 males. However sex ratio is much higher among the young age group. Thus age group 0-4 years has a sex ratio of 101.4, 5-9 years, 111.7, 10-14, 120.3 15-19, (130.5) and 20-24, 103.1. Sex ratio then falls sharply from (77.9) age 25-29 to 63.1 at 40-44. It then rises again from 88.4 at age 45-49 until it settles at 102.1 at age 85 years and older.

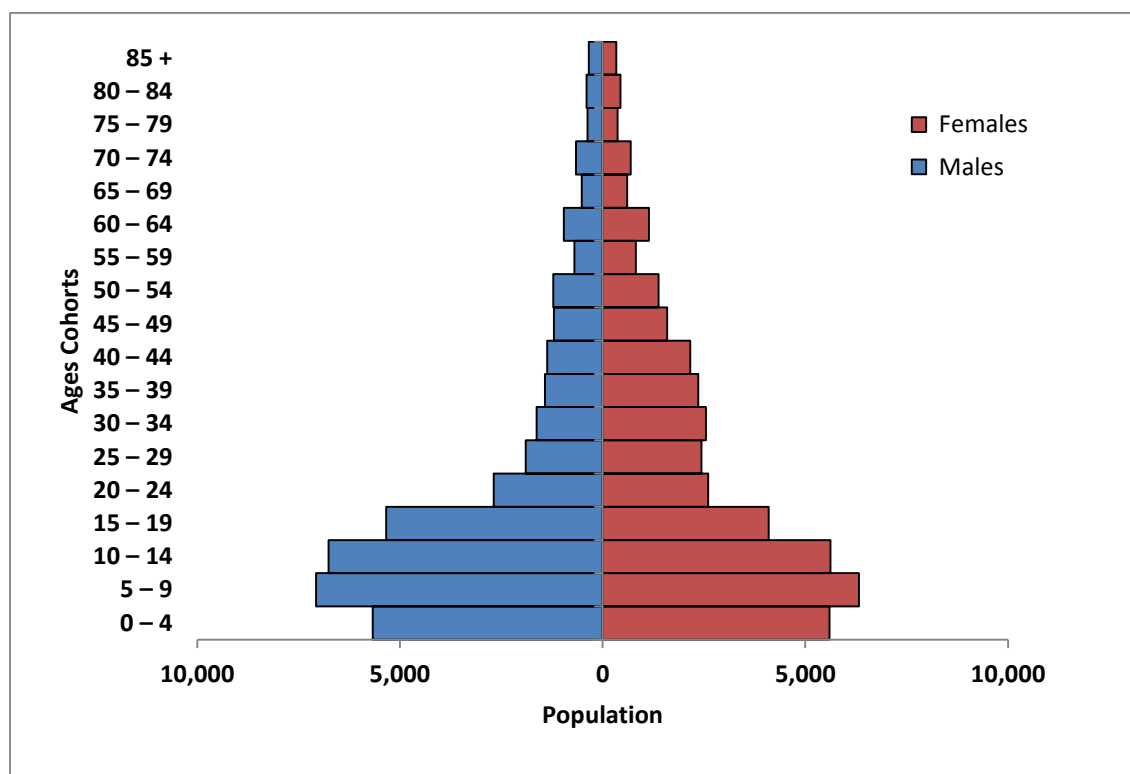
Table 2.2: Age structure by sex and sex ratio

Age Group	Total		Male		Female		Sex ratio
	Both Sexes	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All Ages	81,348	100.0	40,227	100.0	41,121	100.0	97.8
0-4	11,265	13.8	5,672	14.1	5,593	13.6	101.4
5-9	13,395	16.5	7,069	17.6	6,326	15.4	111.7
10-14	12,387	15.2	6,764	16.8	5,623	13.7	120.3
15-19	9,435	11.6	5,342	13.3	4,093	10.0	130.5
20-24	5,289	6.5	2,685	6.7	2,604	6.3	103.1
25-29	4,340	5.3	1,901	4.7	2,439	5.9	77.9
30-34	4,176	5.1	1,631	4.1	2,545	6.2	64.1
35-39	3,787	4.7	1,426	3.5	2,361	5.7	60.4
40-44	3,527	4.3	1,365	3.4	2,162	5.3	63.1
45-49	2,798	3.4	1,206	3.0	1,592	3.9	75.8
50-54	2,592	3.2	1,216	3.0	1,376	3.3	88.4
55-59	1,522	1.9	700	1.7	822	2.0	85.2
60-64	2,102	2.6	960	2.4	1,142	2.8	84.1
65-69	1,122	1.4	518	1.3	604	1.5	85.8
70-74	1,354	1.7	659	1.6	695	1.7	94.8
75-79	748	0.9	377	0.9	371	0.9	101.6
80-84	832	1.0	394	1.0	438	1.1	90.0
85+	677	0.8	342	0.9	335	0.8	102.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The population pyramid of Wa West district is shown in Figure 2.2. The pyramid has a broad base with each of the age groups 0-4, 5-9, 10-14 and 15-19 having population of more than 10 percent. The broad based pyramid signifies a youthful population. From age 20 to 24, the population starts decreasing sharply more for males than females. This sharp decrease implies out-migration of more males than females. This is confirmed by the very low sex ratios from age 25-29 to 65-69 (Table 2.2). The pyramid then ends with a small apex implying a small portion of the aged.

Figure 2.1: Population pyramid



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4 Age Dependency Ratio

The age dependency ratio measures dependency on the basis of age only. It assumes that all persons aged 0-14 years and 65 years and older do not work or cannot work and are therefore dependent on others. It also assumes that all persons aged 15-64 years are working and therefore not dependent on others.

The Upper West regional dependency ratio of 91.28 is a little higher than the national figure.

Table 2.3 shows the age dependency ratio in the District. It shows the child and old age dependency and also the total dependency.

The District has total dependency ratio of 105.6 which implies that one person in the working age group looks after one person in the dependent age group. The child dependency ratio is 93.6, which means that there are fewer children to be taken care of by the working age group.

Table 2.3: Age dependency ratio by locality

Age group	Total	Urban	Rural
All Ages	81,348	-	81,348
0-14	37,047	-	37,047
15-64	39,568	-	39,568
65+	4,733	-	4,733
Total dependency ratio	105.6	-	105.6
Child dependency ratio	93.6	-	93.6
Old age dependency ratio	12.0	-	12.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.5 Fertility, Mortality and Migration

2.5.1 Fertility

Fertility refers to the number of life births per woman during her reproductive life span. Fertility is determined by a number of factors, including the physiological capacity of the woman to reproduce. These, in turn, are affected by a variety of social, cultural, health, economic and other environmental factors.

The Table also shows the number of women 15-49 years in the District is 17, 796 representing 10.7 percent of the regional population. Furthermore, the District has a total of 1,978 number of births in the last 12 months preceding the census.

Table 2.4 also shows the general fertility rate, crude birth rate and total fertility rate of all the Districts in the region. The crude birth rate for the Wa West District is 24.32 births per 1000 population. This is greater than the regional figure of 23.06 per 1,000 population.

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

The general fertility rate for the District is 111.15. This implies that, in the District about 111 children are born in a year to 1000 women. The District figure is greater than the regional figure of 97.41.

2.5.2 Children surviving

Table 2.5 illustrates female population 12 years and older by children ever born (CEB) and children surviving (CS) by sex. The Table shows that the District has a total of 26,690 females aged 12 years and older with 89,575 CEB of which 71,799 are CS. For the CEB, 46,457 (51.9%) are males and 43,118 (48.1%) are females, whereas 37,117 (51.7%) of the CS are males and 34,682 (48.3%) are females.

For the age groups, the 60+ age group has the highest number of CEB, whilst the 12-14 group, has the lowest CEB. Also, for the age group 60+ there are more male CEB (11,318)

than female CEB (10,729). Similarly, the age group 60+ has the highest number of CS (15,739) than any other age group.

Table 2.5: Female population 12 years and older by 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	26,690	89,575	46,457	43,118	71,799	37,117	34,682
5-9	3,111	14	4	10	13	4	9
15-19	4,093	416	214	202	354	179	175
20-24	2,604	2,582	1,328	1,254	2,307	1,165	1,142
25-29	2,439	6,090	3,212	2,878	5,453	2,849	2,604
30-34	2,545	10,214	5,293	4,921	8,804	4,530	4,274
35-39	2,361	12,007	6,377	5,630	10,203	5,401	4,802
40-44	2,162	12,410	6,504	5,906	10,229	5,363	4,866
45-49	1,592	9,865	5,067	4,798	7,878	4,045	3,833
50-54	1,376	8,772	4,499	4,273	6,889	3,521	3,368
55-59	822	5,158	2,641	2,517	3,930	2,025	1,905
60+	3,585	22,047	11,318	10,729	15,739	8,035	7,704

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.6 Mortality

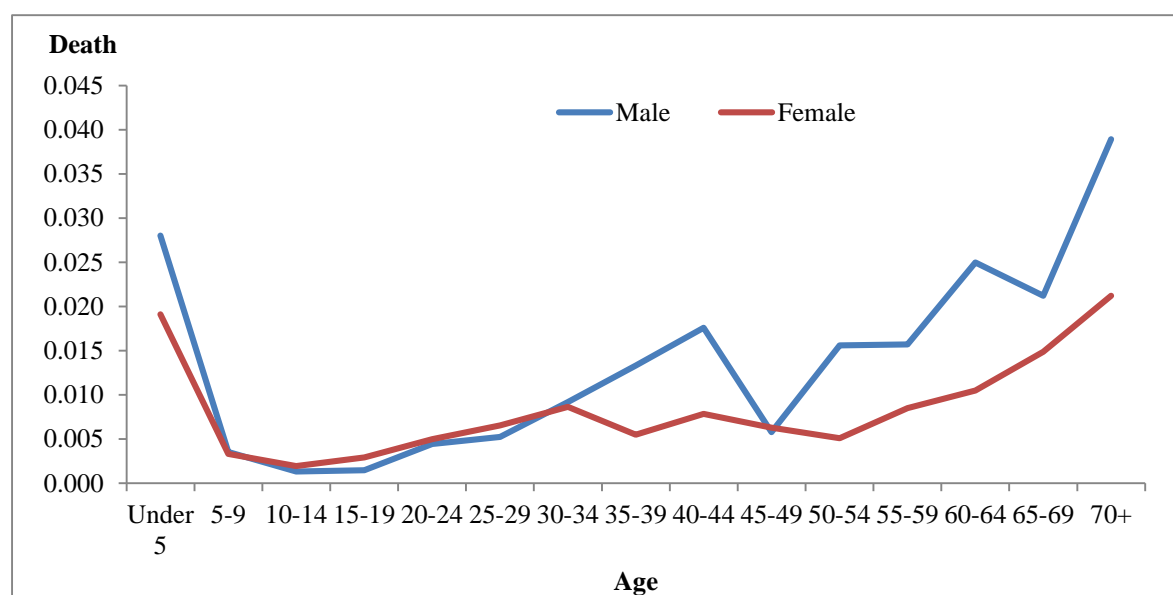
Mortality levels, patterns, trends and differentials are very important indicators of the health status of the population. They provide information about the major causes of illness, disability and death.

They also provide indications on variations in the causes of illness and death between sub-groups of the population, locality type, and changes in the different causes of mortality over time. This information plays a vital role in development planning in general, and the planning, monitoring and evaluation of the expansion and efficiency of healthcare delivery in particular.

Figure 2.2 shows the reported age specific death rate by sex. As expected, the age group 70+ recorded the highest death rate for both males and females [(3.9%) and (2.1%) respectively], followed by the under 5 age group [(2.8%) for males and (1.9%) females]. Whereas the age group 10-14 recorded deaths rates of 0.1 percent for male and 0.2 percent for females that of 15-19 are 0.1 percent for males and 0.3 percent for females.

Figure 2.2 also share female deaths are higher than male deaths from the age groups 30-34 to 40-44 probably due to high maternal mortality

Figure 2.2: Reported age specific death rate by sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.6.1 Crude death rate

Crude death rate (CDR) is the number of deaths per 1000 population in a given year. The Wa West District recorded 738 households' deaths in the 12 months preceding the 2010 census. Similarly, it recorded a crude death rate of 9.1 deaths per 1,000 population (Table 2.6).

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

2.6.2 Cause of death

Table 2.7 illustrates the causes of death by districts in the Upper West Region. The deaths are categorised into accident, violence, homicide, suicide and all other deaths. From the Table, it can be seen that the District has the fifth highest number of deaths in the region which represents 11.6 percent. Also 10.2 percent deaths are by accident and related causes whilst all other deaths accounted for 89.8 percent.

Table 2.7: Causes of death by district

District	Death due to		
	Total deaths	Accident/violence/ homicide/suicide	All other causes
Upper West	346	6.6	93.4
Wa West	738	10.2	89.8
Wa Municipal	538	7.4	92.6
Wa East	761	5.5	94.5
Sissala East	346	4.3	95.7
Nadowli	1,108	7.4	92.6
Jirapa	938	7.8	92.2
Sissala West	373	3.8	96.2
LambussieKarni	590	5.4	94.6
Lawra	954	5.1	94.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.7 Migration

The 2010 Population and Housing Census sought information on place of birth in relation to locality of enumeration. Birthplace and migratory pattern are, therefore, analysed by comparing locality of birth with locality of enumeration. Persons born in the locality of enumeration are assumed not to have had any migratory history.

This may not necessarily be the case since some people who might have moved outside their locality of birth could have returned to that locality for the census or on visit or on retirement. Their migratory movements would thus be lost. Birthplace in relation to place of enumeration is, therefore, only a crude measure of migration. The information is restricted to Ghanaians by birth and therefore does not capture the true volume of movement into the District.

Table 2.8 shows that a total of 6,772 people migrated into the District, 3831 were born elsewhere in the region. Those born elsewhere in the Upper West Region constitute 57.0percent. About 43.0 percent were born outside the Upper West Region.

Of those born in another region most of them are from Ashanti region (29.8%). Significant proportions are also from Brong Ahafo 20.3 percent Upper East 16.7 percent Northern 15.5

A large proportion of migrants from Upper East 38.5 percent has also stayed in the District for 20 and more years. However most of those born elsewhere in another region (15.6% to 30.8%) have stayed for 1 to 4 years

Of those born elsewhere in the region, the majority (36.1%) have lived there for 20 or more years but (12.3%) has stayed between 5-9 years.

A high proportion (41.2%) of those from outside the country has lived in the District for between 1-4 years.

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	7,726	16.1	26.3	13.9	15.7	28
Born elsewhere in the region	3,831	13.9	20.8	12.3	16.9	36.1
Born elsewhere in another region:						
Western	246	24	31.3	18.7	16.3	9.8
Central	23	52.2	30.4	4.3	4.3	8.7
Greater Accra	83	14.5	39.8	15.7	8.4	21.7
Volta	58	24.1	39.7	12.1	20.7	3.4
Eastern	124	17.7	33.1	16.1	18.5	14.5
Ashanti	837	24.6	24.1	14.7	16.4	20.2
Brong Ahafo	584	17.1	35.6	21.2	18.5	7.5
Northern	447	17.9	34	10.3	13.9	23.9
Upper East	480	18.3	15.6	11	16.5	38.5
Upper west	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outside Ghana	1,013	11.6	41.2	16.7	10	20.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER THREE

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Introduction

This chapter looks at the social characteristics of the population in Wa West District. The social characteristics discussed include household, composition and headship, marital status of the population, nationality, religious affiliation and literacy and education.

3.2 Household Size by type of locality

The Wa West District has a total population of 81,348. However, the entire district is rural. The distribution of household size is presented in Table 3.1. The average households per house and average household size are 1.1 and 7.0 persons respectively.

Table 3.1: Household Size by type of locality

Categories	Total country	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total population	24,658,823	702,110	81,348	-	81,348
Total household population	24,076,327	688,333	80,382	-	80,382
Number of households	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	-	11,486
Average households per house	1.6	1.3	1.1	-	1.1
Population per house*	7.1	8.4	7.7	-	7.7
Average household size	4.4	6.2	7	-	7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

*This excludes homeless and institutional Population

3.3 Household Size, Composition and Headship

Table 3.1 portrays household population by composition and sex in the Wa West District. Household composition and structure in Ghana has a common feature in that the head is predominantly male.

It shows that household heads constitute 14.3 percent of total household composition while spouses and children and put together constitute 60.5 percent of all households. The rest (25.2%) are made up of parent/parent-in-law, son/daughter-in-law, grandchildren, brothers/sisters, step children, foster children, other relatives and non-relatives.

About twenty-three (23.2%) of male household population are heads whilst 5.6 percent of the female population are heads. It also shows that there are more male children (57.5%) in the households than females (43.6%).

One interesting revelation of the sex composition of the combined parent/parent-in-law, son/daughter-in-law, grandchildren, brothers/sisters, step children, foster children, other relatives and non-relatives is that for males, it is less (19.0%) than that of the female (32.0%).

Table 3.2: Household population by composition and sex

Household composition	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	80,382	100.0	39,745	100.0	40,637	100.0
Head	11,486	14.3	9,225	23.2	2,261	5.6
Spouse (wife/husband)	8,034	10.0	154	0.4	7,880	19.4
Child (son/daughter)	40,563	50.5	22,862	57.5	17,701	43.6
Parent/Parent in-law	1,616	2.0	246	0.6	1,370	3.4
Son/Daughter in-law	939	1.2	67	0.2	872	2.2
Grandchild	5,253	6.5	2,578	6.5	2,675	6.6
Brother/Sister	3,163	3.9	1,811	4.6	1,352	3.3
Step child	1,377	1.7	725	1.8	652	1.6
Foster child	323	0.4	158	0.4	165	0.4
Other relative	7,340	9.1	1,790	4.5	5,550	13.7
Non-relative	288	0.4	129	0.3	159	0.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Also, other relatives staying in households in the District constitutes 9.1 percent made up of 4.5 percent males and 13.7 percent females.

The fact that other relatives constitute a significant proportion of household members suggests that the extended family system persists in Upper West and is common in the Wa West District.

The head of household is generally the person identified by the members of the household as the one responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the household, including the exercise of authority over household resources.

Table 3.3 shows that households with head only (i.e. single person household) constitute 0.6 percent in the District. The proportion of male single person household in the District is 0.7 percent compared to 0.5 percent for female single person households.

Table 3.3: Household population by structure and sex

Household structure	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	80,382	100.0	39,745	100.0	40,637	100.0
Head only	460	0.6	276	0.7	184	0.5
Head and a spouse only	422	0.5	211	0.5	211	0.5
Nuclear (Head, spouse(s) and children)	17,758	22.1	9,724	24.5	8,034	19.8
Extended (Head, spouse(s), children and Head's relatives)	43,673	54.3	21,338	53.7	22,335	55.0
Extended + non relatives	930	1.2	437	1.1	493	1.2
Head, spouse(s) and other composition	1,739	2.2	806	2.0	933	2.3
Single parent Nuclear	4,561	5.7	2,068	5.2	2,493	6.1
Single parent Extended	7,308	9.1	3,316	8.3	3,992	9.8
Single parent Extended + non relative	378	0.5	163	0.4	215	0.5
Head and other composition but no spouse	3,153	3.9	1,406	3.5	1,747	4.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Nuclear families (head, spouse and children) constitute 22.1 percent of household structure while the extended families (head, spouses, children and head’s relatives) constitute 54.3 percent. This is a further indication of the extended family system in the District.

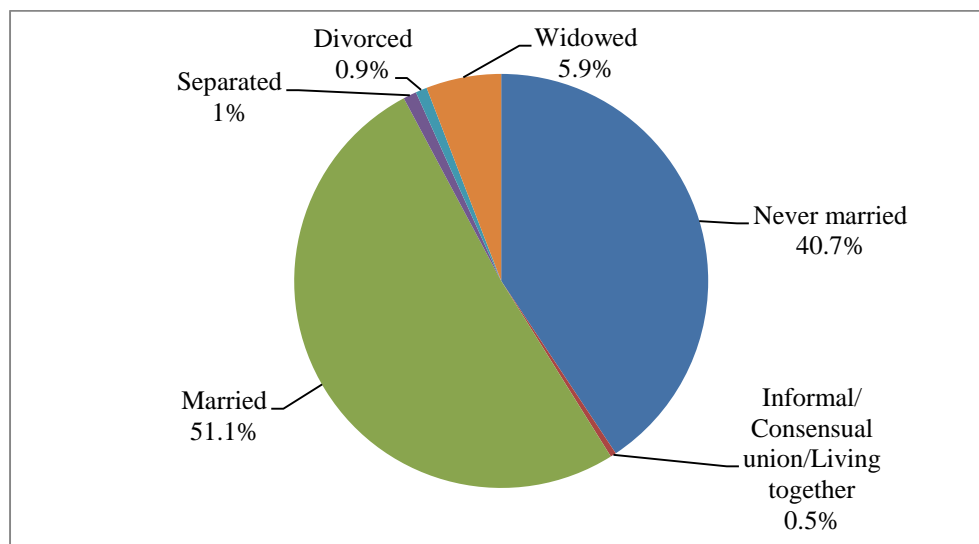
Furthermore, there are more (6.1%) female single parents than male single parent (5.2%). There are also more female single parent extended families (9.8%) than male (8.3%).

3.4 Marital Status

Marriage is a legal union between a man and woman. Figure 3.1 is a pie chart showing the marital status of the population in the District.

Figure 3.1 shows that 51.1 percent of the population 12 years and older is married compared to 40.7 percent of the population who have never married. It also shows that 5.9 percent is widowed while divorced and separated constitute 0.9 and 1.0 percent respectively. Informal/consensual unions form 0.5 percent in the District.

Figure 3.1: Marital status



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 3.4 shows persons 12 years and older by sex, age group and marital status. It shows more females (56.3%) than males (45.4%) are married. The lower proportion of males never married reflects the fact that men are more likely to postpone marriage since traditional practices expect the man to initiate the marriage by preparing the bride price and the responsibility for family maintenance.

The Table also shows that more males (51.0%) are never married than females (31.2%). Furthermore, slightly more females (1.2%) than males (0.8%) are separated. The proportion of females (9.9%) who reported being widowed is almost five times that of the males (1.5%). The reason for this substantial imbalance may be that the death of one woman results in only one male widowed in a monogamous marriage or no widow at all if the man is in a polygamous union. On the other hand, the death of one man results in more than one widowed female in a polygamous marriage. On the whole, the data reveal differences in marital status between males and females. The percentage of females (56.3%) who have ever been married is higher than that for males (45.4%). The percentage of females either

widowed or divorced is higher [(0.9%) and (9.9%) respectively] than the percentage of males in these two marital status categories.

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	51,205	100.0	40.7	0.5	51.1	1.0	0.9	5.9
12 - 14	6,904	100.0	96.6	0.2	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	9,435	100.0	92.0	0.3	7.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
20 - 24	5,289	100.0	60.1	0.8	37.2	0.9	0.7	0.3
25 - 29	4,340	100.0	27.7	1.4	67.0	1.7	1.2	1.0
30 - 34	4,176	100.0	10.0	1.0	83.3	2.3	1.4	2.0
35 - 39	3,787	100.0	4.8	0.2	88.7	1.9	1.3	3.1
40 - 44	3,527	100.0	3.0	0.3	87.8	1.6	1.8	5.4
45 - 49	2,798	100.0	2.3	0.4	85.8	1.4	1.5	8.6
50 - 54	2,592	100.0	2.0	0.1	84.7	1.4	1.1	10.7
55 - 59	1,522	100.0	1.9	0.1	78.8	1.1	1.4	16.7
60 - 64	2,102	100.0	2.9	0.3	73.8	1.1	1.7	20.2
65+	4,733	100.0	3.7	0.1	65.2	1.2	1.3	28.5
Male								
Total	24,515	100.0	51.0	0.4	45.4	0.8	0.9	1.5
12 - 14	3,793	100.0	96.8	0.1	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	5,342	100.0	95.4	0.1	4.4	0.1	0.0	0.1
20 - 24	2,685	100.0	79.3	0.5	19.0	0.7	0.5	0.1
25 - 29	1,901	100.0	45.2	2.1	49.4	1.5	1.3	0.4
30 - 34	1,631	100.0	18.6	1.2	75.7	1.8	1.8	0.8
35 - 39	1,426	100.0	8.7	0.2	86.3	2.0	1.8	1.1
40 - 44	1,365	100.0	5.2	0.2	89.5	1.5	2.4	1.2
45 - 49	1,206	100.0	3.3	0.2	91.0	1.1	1.4	3.0
50 - 54	1,216	100.0	2.9	0.2	91.7	1.3	1.5	2.5
55 - 59	700	100.0	2.1	0.3	91.1	1.1	2.1	3.1
60 - 64	960	100.0	4.1	0.4	88.8	0.8	1.8	4.2
65+	2,290	100.0	4.9	0.1	84.7	1.1	1.5	7.7
Female								
Total	26,690	100.0	31.2	0.5	56.3	1.2	0.9	9.9
12 - 14	3,111	100.0	96.4	0.2	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	4,093	100.0	87.7	0.6	11.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
20 - 24	2,604	100.0	40.4	1.2	56.1	1.1	0.9	0.4
25 - 29	2,439	100.0	14.0	0.8	80.8	1.9	1.1	1.4
30 - 34	2,545	100.0	4.4	0.8	88.2	2.6	1.1	2.8
35 - 39	2,361	100.0	2.5	0.3	90.2	1.8	1.0	4.3
40 - 44	2,162	100.0	1.6	0.4	86.8	1.8	1.5	8.0
45 - 49	1,592	100.0	1.5	0.4	81.8	1.7	1.6	12.9
50 - 54	1,376	100.0	1.2	0.1	78.6	1.5	0.7	18.0
55 - 59	822	100.0	1.7	0.0	68.2	1.0	0.9	28.2
60 - 64	1,142	100.0	1.9	0.2	61.2	1.4	1.6	33.7
65+	2,443	100.0	2.6	0.1	47.0	1.2	1.1	48.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Considering the various age groups, the group 12-14 has the highest proportion (96.6%) never married for both sexes. Interestingly, the age group 65+ have more female widows (48.0%) than males who are widowed (7.7%). The 35-39 age group has the highest percentage of married persons (88.7%).

3.5 Marital status and level of Education

Table 3.5 shows persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and level of education. The number of married people in the District is 26,158 and out of this figure 88.2 percent has no education, 8.6 percent and 1.8 percent completed basic and secondary levels respectively, whilst only 0.2 percent made it to the tertiary level.

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	Secondary	Voc/ Tech/ Comm	Post middle/ secondary certificate diploma	Tertiary
Both Sexes								
Total	51,205	100.0	64.5	29.9	4.0	0.3	1.1	0.2
Never married	20,821	100.0	29.5	61.5	7.3	0.3	1.2	0.2
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	233	100.0	55.8	21.5	10.3	6.0	3.9	2.6
Married	26,158	100.0	88.2	8.6	1.8	0.2	1.0	0.2
Separated	531	100.0	81.7	13.0	4.0	0.2	1.1	0.0
Divorced	457	100.0	82.9	12.0	2.6	0.7	1.8	0.0
Widowed	3,005	100.0	96.4	3.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Male								
Total	24,515	100.0	56.6	35.3	5.8	0.3	1.6	0.3
Never married	12,496	100.0	30.0	59.4	8.5	0.3	1.5	0.2
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	104	100.0	47.1	19.2	13.5	8.7	5.8	5.8
Married	11,123	100.0	84.4	10.3	2.8	0.3	1.8	0.4
Separated	199	100.0	77.9	15.6	4.0	0.5	2.0	0.0
Divorced	227	100.0	81.1	12.3	4.0	0.4	2.2	0.0
Widowed	366	100.0	95.1	4.4	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0
Female								
Total	26,690	100.0	71.8	25.0	2.4	0.2	0.6	0.0
Never married	8,325	100.0	28.8	64.5	5.5	0.3	0.9	0.0
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	129	100.0	62.8	23.3	7.8	3.9	2.3	0.0
Married	15,035	100.0	90.9	7.4	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.0
Separated	332	100.0	84.0	11.4	3.9	0.0	0.6	0.0
Divorced	230	100.0	84.8	11.7	1.3	0.9	1.3	0.0
Widowed	2,639	100.0	96.6	3.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Basic: Primary, Middle and JSS/JHS

Secondary: SSS/SHS and Secondary

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

Tertiary: Bachelor Degree and Post Graduate or higher

Twenty thousand eight hundred and twenty-one (20,821) respondents indicated to have never married and 29.5 percent had no education, with as high as 61.5 percent of them having basic education and a low of 7.3 percent with secondary education.

The number of divorced respondents in the District is also 457 with 82.9 percent of them having no education and only 12.0 percent with basic education, the rest of the educational levels had percentages less than 3.0 percent. Those widowed are 3,005 with 96.4 percent of them having no education.

From the above, it can be deduced that the majority (40.7%) of the population who are never married have a greater proportion of their population who have had one or more educational levels. On sex distribution, the Table shows that there are more males who are never married than married, with as low as 0.4 percent in informal/consensual union/living together.

A total 56.6 percent of males had no education whilst that of the female is 71.8 percent; also there are more females (90.9%) who are married than males (84.4%). This can be attributed to the polygamous nature of the District since 23.5 percent of the population are Moslems.

The status of economic activities significantly influences preference in marriage partner's selection. Evidence of ability to support a spouse financially or mere perception of ability to support a spouse financially, is a key determinant in a man's decision to get married.

3.6 Marital status and Economic activity status

Table 3.6 shows marital status by status of economic activity of the population aged 12 years and older. Of the total population 12 years and older who are married, those employed are more (84.3%) compared to those who are unemployed (1.0%) and economically not active (14.7%).

On sex of currently never married, the proportion of male is higher (47.7%) than that of females (39.2%) regardless of activity status. The proportion of females who are employed and currently married (81.5%) is less than that of males (88.1%).

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

Sex/Marital status	Total		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	51,205	100.0	33,872	66.1	512	1.0	16,821	32.9
Never married	20,821	40.7	9,227	44.3	207	1.0	11,387	54.7
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	233	0.5	172	73.8	8	3.4	53	22.7
Married	26,158	51.1	22,044	84.3	268	1.0	3,846	14.7
Separated	531	1.0	414	78.0	6	1.1	111	20.9
Divorced	457	0.9	345	75.5	8	1.8	104	22.8
Widowed	3,005	5.9	1,670	55.6	15	0.5	1,320	43.9
Male								
Total	24,515	100	16,404	66.9	218	0.9	7,893	32.2
Never married	12,496	51.0	5,964	47.7	126	1.0	6,406	51.3
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	104	0.4	82	78.8	4	3.8	18	17.3
Married	11,123	45.4	9,796	88.1	80	0.7	1,247	11.2
Separated	199	0.8	166	83.4	4	2.0	29	14.6
Divorced	227	0.9	174	76.7	4	1.8	49	21.6
Widowed	366	1.5	222	60.7	0	0.0	144	39.3

Table 3.6: Persons 12 years and older by sex, marital status and economic activity status (cont'd)

Sex/Marital status	Total		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female								
Total	26,690	100	17,468	65.4	294	1.1	8,928	33.5
Never married	8,325	31.2	3,263	39.2	81	1.0	4,981	59.8
Informal/Consensual union/Living together	129	0.5	90	69.8	4	3.1	35	27.1
Married	15,035	56.3	12,248	81.5	188	1.3	2,599	17.3
Separated	332	1.2	248	74.7	2	0.6	82	24.7
Divorced	230	0.9	171	74.3	4	1.7	55	23.9
Widowed	2,639	9.9	1,448	54.9	15	0.6	1,176	44.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.7 Nationality

Table 3.7 shows the population of the District by nationality and sex. The nationality is divided into seven categories which are Ghanaian by birth, dual nationality, Ghanaian by naturalisation, ECOWAS, Africa other than ECOWAS and other nationalities.

The 2010 PHC defines nationality as the country to which a person belongs. It draws a distinction between Ghanaians and other nationals. The data show that 94.6 percent of the population is Ghanaian by birth, 2.5 percent has dual nationality, 0.7 percent is Ghanaian by naturalization, 1.3 percent is ECOWAS national and 0.9 percent is other national.

The Table further portrays that 94.6 percent of the male population is Ghanaian by birth compared to 94.5 percent of the female population.

Table 3.7: Population by nationality and sex

Nationality	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	81,348	100.0	40,227	100.0	41,121	100.0
Ghanaian by birth	76,932	94.6	38,059	94.6	38,873	94.5
Dual Nationality	2,004	2.5	963	2.4	1,041	2.5
Ghanaian by naturalization	546	0.7	262	0.7	284	0.7
ECOWAS	1,081	1.3	572	1.4	509	1.2
Africa other than ECOWAS	440	0.5	200	0.5	240	0.6
Other	345	0.4	171	0.4	174	0.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.8 Religious Affiliation

Table 3.8 shows the main religions in the District, which include Christianity (comprising Catholics, Protestants, Pentecostal/Charismatic, and other denominations) which is the highest with 38.6 percent, followed by Traditional Religions 29.5 percent, Islam 23.5 percent and others including no religion (8.4%).

There is a slight difference between Islamic male (23.7%) compared to Islamic female (23.4%). This is in contrast with Christianity (put together) which has more female Christians (38.6%) than male Christians (35.9%).

The traditionalists have more male adherents (30.1%) than female (28.8%). Despite the religious difference of the population, they live happily with each other without any problems in the District.

Table 3.8: Population by religion and sex

Religion	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	81,348	100.0	40,227	100.0	41,121	100.0
No Religion	6,479	8.0	3,329	8.3	3,150	7.7
Catholic	17,169	21.1	8,278	20.6	8,891	21.6
Protestant (Anglican Lutheran etc.)	4,868	6.0	2,404	6.0	2,464	6.0
Pentecostal/Charismatic	7,971	9.8	3,724	9.3	4,247	10.3
Other Christians	1,418	1.7	685	1.7	733	1.8
Islam	19,142	23.5	9,523	23.7	9,619	23.4
Traditionalist	23,960	29.5	12,115	30.1	11,845	28.8
Other (Specify)	341	0.4	169	0.4	172	0.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.9 Literacy and Education

Literacy is the ability to read and write with understanding. The inability to do so is called illiteracy or analphabetic. The primary sense of literacy represents the lifelong, intellectual process of gaining meaning from a critical interpretation of the written or printed text.

3.9.1 Literacy Status

Table 3.9 presents data on population 11 years and older by sex, age, literacy status and language. The data show that a high proportion of the population 63.3 percent is non-literate while 36.7 percent is literate. The data also show that more males 44.4 percent compared to females 29.5 percent are literate. The data further show that younger persons, particularly those in age groups 11-14, 15-19 and 20-24 are more literate than those in the other age groups. This is true irrespective of sex.

The table further shows that, among the literate population the majority 60.0 percent can read and write English and Ghanaian language. About 35 percent is literate in English only. Only about 5.4 percent can read and write a Ghanaian language. A higher proportion of males 61.6 percent compared with females 57.5 percent is literate in English and a Ghanaian language. However more females 36.6 percent and 5.6 percent compared to males 32.7 percent and 5.2 percent are respectively literate in English only and a Ghanaian language only.

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

Age group	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	33,613	19,465	100.0	34.4	5.4	59.9	0.1	0.3
11-14	2,317	6,460	100.0	40.2	7.5	52.2	0.0	0.0
15-19	2,413	7,022	100.0	33.1	4.8	61.8	0.1	0.2
20-24	2,754	2,535	100.0	29.5	3.4	66.5	0.1	0.6
25-29	3,070	1,270	100.0	28.0	3.9	67.6	0.0	0.5
30-34	3,497	679	100.0	28.6	4.1	66.7	0.1	0.4
35-39	3,387	400	100.0	29.3	3.3	67.3	0.0	0.3
40-44	3,283	244	100.0	37.3	4.9	56.6	0.0	1.2
45-49	2,620	178	100.0	28.7	5.6	64.0	0.0	1.7
50-54	2,411	181	100.0	30.4	3.3	64.1	1.1	1.1
55-59	1,426	96	100.0	22.9	2.1	72.9	1.0	1.0
60-64	1,977	125	100.0	20.0	2.4	76.8	0.0	0.8
65+	4,458	275	100.0	40.4	8.0	51.6	0.0	0.0
Male								
Total	14,204	11,334	100.0	32.7	5.2	61.6	0.1	0.3
11-14	1,354	3,462	100.0	38.8	7.2	53.9	0.1	0.1
15-19	1,272	4,070	100.0	32.9	5.0	61.8	0.1	0.2
20-24	1,067	1,618	100.0	26.6	3.0	69.6	0.1	0.8
25-29	1,092	809	100.0	26.9	4.9	67.5	0.0	0.6
30-34	1,189	442	100.0	25.1	4.8	69.2	0.2	0.7
35-39	1,156	270	100.0	24.4	3.3	71.9	0.0	0.4
40-44	1,233	132	100.0	40.2	1.5	57.6	0.0	0.8
45-49	1,094	112	100.0	22.3	4.5	70.5	0.0	2.7
50-54	1,101	115	100.0	27.0	4.3	67.0	0.0	1.7
55-59	634	66	100.0	16.7	3.0	77.3	1.5	1.5
60-64	869	91	100.0	20.9	2.2	75.8	0.0	1.1
65+	2,143	147	100.0	42.2	4.8	53.1	0.0	0.0
Female								
Total	19,409	8,131	100.0	36.6	5.6	57.5	0.0	0.2
11-14	963	2,998	100.0	41.8	7.8	50.4	0.0	0.0
15-19	1,141	2,952	100.0	33.3	4.5	61.9	0.0	0.3
20-24	1,687	917	100.0	34.6	4.0	61.1	0.1	0.2
25-29	1,978	461	100.0	29.9	2.0	67.9	0.0	0.2
30-34	2,308	237	100.0	35.0	3.0	62.0	0.0	0.0
35-39	2,231	130	100.0	39.2	3.1	57.7	0.0	0.0
40-44	2,050	112	100.0	33.9	8.9	55.4	0.0	1.8
45-49	1,526	66	100.0	39.4	7.6	53.0	0.0	0.0
50-54	1,310	66	100.0	36.4	1.5	59.1	3.0	0.0
55-59	792	30	100.0	36.7	0.0	63.3	0.0	0.0
60-64	1,108	34	100.0	17.6	2.9	79.4	0.0	0.0
65+	2,315	128	100.0	38.3	11.7	50.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The level of education which one attains is very important in determining the educational status of an individual. People who attain higher educational levels are revered and respected most in our societies.

3.9.2 School Attendance and level of Education

Table 3.10 presents data on population 3 years and older by school attendance and level of education by sex. The first part of the Table covers population currently in school by level of education. The data show that of 27,287 persons currently attending school 16.4 (added from table) percent is the pre-primary level (nursery and kindergarten) while 77.5% is at the basic level (primary (60.3%) and JSS/JHS, 17.2%) About 5.19 percent is in SSS/SHS while 0.2 percent and 0.4 percent are in Vocational/Technical/Commercial and Post Middle/Secondary certificate respectively. In addition 0.4 percent is at the tertiary level. The data on those currently in school show that with the exception of the pre-primary and basic level, male proportions are higher than those of females. The gender gap is higher with increase in level of education. Thus while 6.4 percent males are attending SSS/SHS the proportion for females is 3.5 percent.

The second part of the Table provides data on past school attendants by level of education and sex. The data shows that of the 4,899 persons who previously attended school, 75.9 percent attained basic education (primary 47.3% JSS/JHS 2.1% and middle 7.6%). In addition 13.9 percent attained SSS/SHS and secondary level while 1.6% were at Vocational/Technical/Commercial schools. In addition 4.6 percent and 4.2 percent attended post middle/secondary schools and tertiary institutions respectively. The data on past school attendants by sex show higher female proportion 82.7 percent than male proportion 71.2 percent attended basic education. A slightly higher proportion of females 1.8 percent than males 1.4 percent attended Vocational/Technical/Commercial schools. At all the other levels (SSS/SHS 16.1% males, 10.6% females, post middle/secondary certificate 5.5% male and 3.2% female and tertiary 5.9% and 1.7% female) more males than females advanced to those levels.

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

Level of education	Currently attending						Attended in the past					
	Both sexes		Male		Female		Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	27,287	100.0	14,810	100.0	12,477	100.0	4,899	100.0	2,929	100.0	1,970	100.0
Nursery	2,933	10.7	1,401	9.5	1,532	12.3	-	0	-	0	-	0
Kindergarten	1,552	5.7	739	5	813	6.5	-	0	-	0	-	0
Primary	16,466	60.3	8,751	59.1	7,715	61.8	2,315	47.3	1,264	43.2	1,051	53.4
JSS/JHS	4,693	17.2	2,794	18.9	1,899	15.2	1,027	21	558	19.1	469	23.8
Middle	-	0	-	0	-	0	370	7.6	261	8.9	109	5.5
SSS/SHS	1,380	5.1	944	6.4	436	3.5	547	11.2	372	12.7	175	8.9
Secondary	-	0	-	0	-	0	134	2.7	101	3.4	33	1.7
Vocational/ Technical/ Commercial	60	0.2	39	0.3	21	0.2	76	1.6	40	1.4	36	1.8
Post middle/secondary certificate	98	0.4	67	0.5	31	0.2	224	4.6	161	5.5	63	3.2
Tertiary	105	0.4	75	0.5	30	0.2	206	4.2	172	5.9	34	1.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FOUR

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

4.1 Introduction

The 2010 Population and Housing Census collected information on economic activities of persons five years and older who worked for at least an hour in the seven days preceding the census night. Information was also collected on those who did not work during the reference period but had jobs to go back to. This chapter seeks to discuss the issue of employed, unemployed, economically active and economically not active population.

The analysis however is done with reference to the population 15 years and older. Concerning the employed population, the kind of occupation they engaged in, the kind of industry they found themselves as well as their employment status and sectors are also dealt with. Governments all over the globe at certain stage of the development of their countries seek to know how many people are employed or unemployed.

4.2 Economic Activity Status

Table 4.1 shows the population 15 years and older by activity status and sex. Out of the total population of 44,301, 31,930 are economically active while 12,371 are not active. Of the economically active population, 98.4 percent were employed and 1.6 percent unemployed as at the period of the enumeration.

Of the economically not active population, 43.2 percent is in full time education which is good for the District in terms of educational development. . About 73.4 percent of the male population and 70.9 percent of the female population are economically active. Of these 98.6 percent of the males are employed and 1.4 percent unemployed. For the females, 98.3 percent of the economically active is employed while 1.7 percent is unemployed. For the economically not active, 26.6 percent are males while 29.1 percent are females.

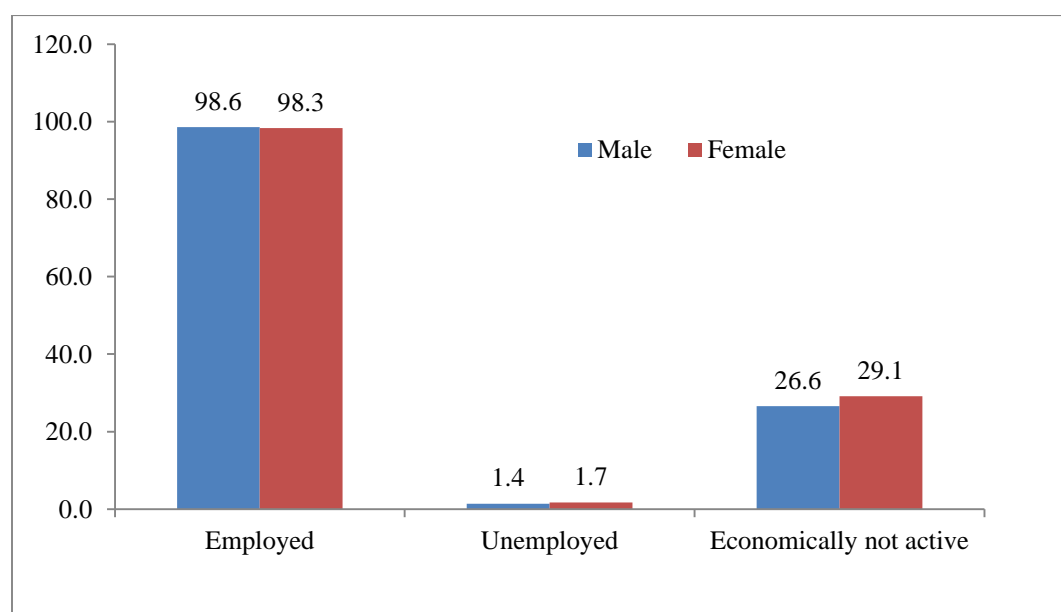
Table 4.1: Population 15 years and older by activity status and sex

Activity status	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	44,301	100.0	20,722	100.0	23,579	100.0
Economically active	31,930	72.1	15,208	73.4	16,722	70.9
Employed	31,426	98.4	14,994	98.6	16,432	98.3
<i>Worked</i>	30,726	97.8	14,668	97.8	16,058	97.7
<i>Did not work but had job to go back to</i>	579	1.8	267	1.8	312	1.9
<i>Did voluntary work without pay</i>	121	0.4	59	0.4	62	0.4
Unemployed	504	1.6	214	1.4	290	1.7
<i>Worked before, seeking work and available</i>	299	59.3	117	54.7	182	62.8
<i>Seeking work for the first time and available</i>	205	40.7	97	45.3	108	37.2
Economically not active	12,371	27.9	5,514	26.6	6,857	29.1
Did home duties (household chore)	2,769	22.4	786	14.3	1,983	28.9
Full time education	5,347	43.2	3,183	57.7	2,164	31.6
Pensioner/Retired	85	0.7	53	1.0	32	0.5
Disabled/Sick	733	5.9	306	5.5	427	6.2
Too old/young	2,859	23.1	960	17.4	1,899	27.7
Other	578	4.7	226	4.1	352	5.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 4.1 shows the population 15 years and older by sex and activity status. The graph shows that about equal proportion of males 98.6 percent and females 98.3 percent are. Furthermore, the figure shows that unemployed females formed 1.7 percent of the economically active females compared to 1.4 percent for male economically active. The figure further shows that there are more economically not active females (29.1%) than males (26.6%).

Figure 4.1: Population 15 years and older by sex and activity status



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.2.1 Population 15 years and older by sex, age and activity status

Table 4.2 shows the employed population 15 years and older by sex, age and activity status. The data shows that the highest proportion employed, 13.1percent is in age 15-19. This proportion decreases to 10.7percent at age 20-24. It then increased to 11.6 percent at age 30-34 before decreasing gradually to a lower of 4.1 percent at age 55-59.

The data for the male and female employed show some variations while the highest proportion for males is 16.3 percent for age group 15-19, for females the highest proportion is 13.3 percent for age group30-34. In addition the data show that males proportions employed is 10.0 percent and more only for those aged 15-19 (16.3%) 20-24 (10.9%) and 25-29 (10.2%). However, for females employed, proportions 10.0 percent and more are spread over age groups 15-19 to 40-44 years.

Proportions unemployed are relatively high for younger persons (age groups 15-19 to 30-34) then older person with increase in age. The highest proportion unemployed 27.0 percent is in age group 20-24: significant proportions unemployed are 13.1 percent (15-19), 19.2 percent (25-29) and 11.1 percent (30-34). The lowest proportion is in the 65 years and older age group. This pattern of the unemployed is replicated for unemployed males and females with few differences. The economically not active data show that majority (57.0%) are in age groups 15-19 (42.5%) and 20-24 (14.5%) are proportion then decrease sharply to 6.2 percent (for age 25-29) to lowest proportion 1.9 percent at age 55-5. The concentration of the economically not active on young age groups is a reflective of the high proportion of person in full time education.

The data also show a significant proportion of the economically not active (16.9%) in age group 65 years and older. This may be due to retirement of, persons in that age group.

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

Age group	All Status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both sexes								
Total	44,301	100.0	31,426	100.0	504	100.0	12,371	100.0
15 - 19	9,435	21.3	4,108	13.1	66	13.1	5,261	42.5
20 - 24	5,289	11.9	3,356	10.7	136	27.0	1,797	14.5
25 - 29	4,340	9.8	3,471	11.0	97	19.2	772	6.2
30 - 34	4,176	9.4	3,657	11.6	60	11.9	459	3.7
35 - 39	3,787	8.5	3,372	10.7	44	8.7	371	3.0
40 - 44	3,527	8.0	3,202	10.2	15	3.0	310	2.5
45 - 49	2,798	6.3	2,530	8.1	12	2.4	256	2.1
50 - 54	2,592	5.9	2,273	7.2	16	3.2	303	2.4
55 - 59	1,522	3.4	1,279	4.1	13	2.6	230	1.9
60 - 64	2,102	4.7	1,546	4.9	39	7.7	517	4.2
65+	4,733	10.7	2,632	8.4	6	1.2	2,095	16.9

Table 4.2: Population 15 years and older by sex, age and activity status (cont'd)

Age group	All Status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male								
Total	20,722	100.0	14,994	100.0	214	100.0	5,514	100.0
15 - 19	5,342	25.8	2,450	16.3	33	15.4	2,859	51.8
20 - 24	2,685	13.0	1,640	10.9	58	27.1	987	17.9
25 - 29	1,901	9.2	1,529	10.2	33	15.4	339	6.1
30 - 34	1,631	7.9	1,473	9.8	29	13.6	129	2.3
35 - 39	1,426	6.9	1,332	8.9	13	6.1	81	1.5
40 - 44	1,365	6.6	1,290	8.6	7	3.3	68	1.2
45 - 49	1,206	5.8	1,143	7.6	3	1.4	60	1.1
50 - 54	1,216	5.9	1,148	7.7	4	1.9	64	1.2
55 - 59	700	3.4	638	4.3	6	2.8	56	1.0
60 - 64	960	4.6	801	5.3	23	10.7	136	2.5
65+	2,290	11.1	1,550	10.3	5	2.3	735	13.3
Female								
Total	23,579	100.0	16,432	100.0	290	100.0	6,857	100.0
15 - 19	4,093	17.4	1,658	10.1	33	11.4	2,402	35.0
20 - 24	2,604	11.0	1,716	10.4	78	26.9	810	11.8
25 - 29	2,439	10.3	1,942	11.8	64	22.1	433	6.3
30 - 34	2,545	10.8	2,184	13.3	31	10.7	330	4.8
35 - 39	2,361	10.0	2,040	12.4	31	10.7	290	4.2
40 - 44	2,162	9.2	1,912	11.6	8	2.8	242	3.5
45 - 49	1,592	6.8	1,387	8.4	9	3.1	196	2.9
50 - 54	1,376	5.8	1,125	6.8	12	4.1	239	3.5
55 - 59	822	3.5	641	3.9	7	2.4	174	2.5
60 - 64	1,142	4.8	745	4.5	16	5.5	381	5.6
65+	2,443	10.4	1,082	6.6	1	0.3	1,360	19.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.3 Occupation

The kind of occupation one does is an important factor in determining one's economic status. Table 4.3 looks at the various occupations which the population 15 years and older are engaged in the District.

From the Table, 83.5 percent of the population 15 years and older are engaged in skilled agricultural forestry and fisheries whilst 0.1 percent is engaged in clerical services. The Table further shows that 0.4 percent of the population are managers, 1.5 percent professional, 7.2 percent craft and related workers and 0.3 percent technicians and associated professionals.

This indicates that the District is agrarian since a greater percentage of its active population is engaged in agriculture activities. Table 4.3 also shows the sex distribution of the major industries in the District. Ninety percent (90.3%) of the male population is engaged in agriculture and compare with 77.3 percent for female. This means that there are more males engaged in agriculture than females. Interestingly, with the craft and related trades, there are more females

(11.7%) than males (2.3%). More females 5.7% than males 1.8% are engaged as service and sales workers.

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	31,426	100.0	14,994	100.0	16,432	100.0
Managers	112	0.4	57	0.4	55	0.3
Professionals	478	1.5	339	2.3	139	0.8
Technicians and associate professionals	93	0.3	59	0.4	34	0.2
Clerical support workers	28	0.1	21	0.1	7	0.0
Service and sales workers	1,205	3.8	271	1.8	934	5.7
Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers	26,238	83.5	13,542	90.3	12,696	77.3
Craft and related trades workers	2,265	7.2	350	2.3	1,915	11.7
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	237	0.8	176	1.2	61	0.4
Elementary occupations	767	2.4	178	1.2	589	3.6
Other occupations	3	0.0	1	0.0	2	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.4 Industry

Industrial activities are an important sector of the economy of every nation. Countries that are well developed in the industrial sector are considered as world developed countries such as the USA, UK, Germany, France, among others. In Africa, Ghana is one of the countries that have not been able to develop their industrial sector adequately due to myriad of problems.

Table 4.4 shows the employed population 15 years and older by industry and sex. The Table shows that, the major industry the people are engaged in include agricultural, forestry and fishing which employs 84.0 percent. The less dominant industrial activities are mining and quarry (0.4%), manufacturing (6.9%), construction (0.2%), accommodation and food service activities (1.3%), education (1.4%), among others.

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	31,426	100.00	14,994	100.0	16,432	100.0
Agriculture forestry and fishing	26,401	84.00	13,425	89.5	12,976	79.0
Mining and quarrying	113	0.40	61	0.4	52	0.3
Manufacturing	2,182	6.90	328	2.2	1,854	11.3
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	3	0.00	3	0.0	0	0.0
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	20	0.10	9	0.1	11	0.1
Construction	61	0.20	57	0.4	4	0.0
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	910	2.90	277	1.8	633	3.9
Transportation and storage	63	0.20	58	0.4	5	0.0
Accommodation and food service activities	406	1.30	22	0.1	384	2.3
Information and communication	45	0.10	24	0.2	21	0.1
Financial and insurance activities	7	0.00	7	0.0	0	0.0
Real estate activities	0	0.00	0	0.0	0	0.0
Professional scientific and technical activities	31	0.10	10	0.1	21	0.1
Administrative and support service activities	53	0.20	32	0.2	21	0.1
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	139	0.40	106	0.7	33	0.2
Education	434	1.40	327	2.2	107	0.7
Human health and social work activities	106	0.30	57	0.4	49	0.3
Arts entertainment and recreation	9	0.00	8	0.1	1	0.0
Other service activities	190	0.60	69	0.5	121	0.7
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods - and services - producing activities of households for own use	252	0.80	113	0.8	139	0.8
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	1	0.00	1	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The sex distribution shows a similar pattern like the occupational distribution discussed above. It shows that, there are more males (89.5%) than females (79.0%) engaged in the agriculture, forestry and fishing, but there are more females (11.3%) than males (2.2%) engaged in manufacturing.

It is interesting to note that none of the sexes are engaged in real estate activities, with only a few males engaged in financial and insurance activities (7), electric gas steam and air conditioning supply (3) and arts, entertainment and recreation (9).

4.5 Employment Status

Table 4.5 shows the employed population 15 years and older by employment status and sex. The data show that 56.8 percent of the working population is self-employed without employees while contributing family workers constitutes 37.1 percent. The percentage of those who are employed with employees is 3.2.

Apprentices and domestic employees (house help) account for only 0.6 percent and 0.7 percent respectively of employment status. One peculiar feature of the employment status of the District is that most people are engaged in informal activities. . This may account for the greater percentage of the population categorised as self-employed.

The data further show, 50.0 percent of females are self-employed without employees while the male accounts for 64.2 percent of that population. One interesting revelation also is the difference between the male and female employees. Whilst the male employees constitute 4.8 percent, females constitute 1.8%. This may indicate that more employers have a preference for males than females or because males are more qualified academically or vocationally than the females.

In this predominantly peasant agricultural economy, if the District economy does not diversify, grow rapidly and create jobs sufficiently to match the demand there will be a constant pool of unemployed labour. The already existing proportion of unemployed may be a factor in current and future social and economic unrest in the District.

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

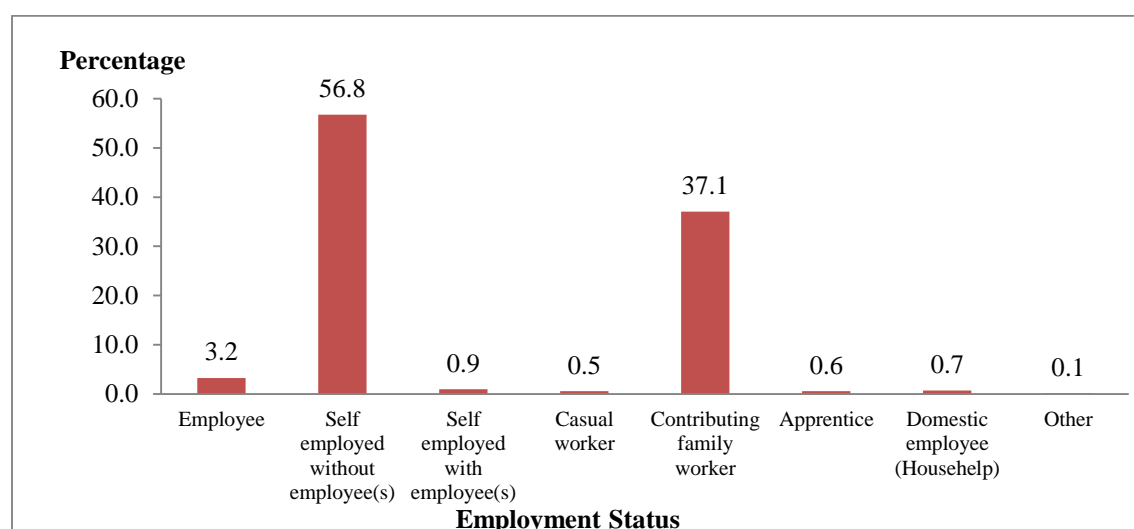
Employment Status	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	31,426	100.0	14,994	100.0	16,432	100.0
Employee	1,015	3.2	722	4.8	293	1.8
Self-employed without employee(s)	17,838	56.8	9,619	64.2	8,219	50.0
Self-employed with employee(s)	294	0.9	137	0.9	157	1.0
Casual worker	172	0.5	96	0.6	76	0.5
Contributing family worker	11,650	37.1	4,286	28.6	7,364	44.8
Apprentice	182	0.6	25	0.2	157	1.0
Domestic employee (House help)	228	0.7	82	0.5	146	0.9
Other	47	0.1	27	0.2	20	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 4.2 looks at the employment status of the population in the District.

The figure shows that 56.8 percent of the population are self-employed without employees, followed by contributing family worker which constitutes 37.1 percent of that population. The employee constitutes 3.2 percent of that population. The rest of the employment status recorded percentages less than one percent.

Figure 4.2: Population 15 years and older by employment status



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.6 Employment Sector

This section looks at the various employment sectors in the District. The sectors were categorised into public, private formal, private informal, semi-public/parastatal, NGOs, and other international organisations.

Table 4.6 shows that 97.0 percent of the population is engaged in the private informal sector compared to 0.4 percent in the private formal sector. The semi-public/parastatal and other international organisations recorded zero percent in those sectors. More females are engaged in the private informal sector (98.1%) than males (95.9%).

Interestingly, both sexes have about the same percentage in the private formal and NGOs of 0.4 percent and 0.3 percent respectively. The figures, from this table, give an indication that the District is still lagging behind in terms of private formal employment.

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	31,426	100.0	14,994	100.0	16,432	100.0
Public (Government)	701	2.2	503	3.4	198	1.2
Private Formal	137	0.4	70	0.5	67	0.4
Private Informal	30,488	97.0	14,373	95.9	16,115	98.1
Semi-Public/Parastatal	8	0.0	4	0.0	4	0.0
NGOs (Local and International)	92	0.3	44	0.3	48	0.3
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

Information Communication Technology (ICT) means computer-based management of data or ideas. Communication serves as an important tool in the economic and social lives of people. Business is transacted through communication, and the availability of effective and reliable communication channels can enhance economic activity and improve incomes. Recent developments in communication include the use of mobile phones and desktop or laptop computers and the internet (GSS, 2012a, 2012b).

5.2 Ownership of Mobile Phones

Ghana benefited from this global diffusion of mobile telecommunication, when in 2003; mobile telephones became the primary mode of communication for social and business activities for the majority of Ghanaians (Ayensu, 2003). According to the NDPC (2012), the total number of mobile phone subscribers was 21,165,843 in 2011, corresponding to a penetration rate of 84.9 percent of the population (GSS, 2012b).

According to the National Communications Authority's monthly mobile (voice) market share statistical analysis for July 2013, the total country-wide mobile voice subscribership increased by 0.9 percent bringing the figure to 27,244,579.

Data from 2010 PHC shows that, the Upper West region has a total population of 460,954 aged 12 years and older out of which 99,946 representing 21.7 percent own mobile phones. Table 5.1 indicates that 4,949 out of 51,205 people in Wa West District have mobile phones. Among males 14.4% own phones while for females the proportion is 5.3%.

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	51,205	100.0	4,949	9.7	288	0.6
Male	24,515	100.0	3,526	14.4	197	0.8
Female	26,690	100.0	1,423	5.3	91	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.3 Use of Internet

The percentage of individuals using the internet continues to grow worldwide and by the end of 2011, about 2.3 billion people were using the internet. However, there is a wide gap in access to internet between the developed and developing countries. By the end of 2011, 70.0percent of households in developed countries used the internet compared to only 20.0 percent of households in developing countries (International Communications Union, 2012).

The 2010 Population and Housing Census recorded 1,312,971 users of internet facilities out of 16,886,306 people aged 12 years and above. This indicates that only 7.8 percent of the population 12 years and older have access to internet.

Out of the 51,205 population aged 12 years and older only 288 that is 0.6 percent of the population aged 12 years and older use internet facility. The low level of usage of internet in the District could be attributed to the fact that it is a rural district. Internet use is very low for both males and females. Among males 0.8% use internet while among females only 0.3 use the facility.

Table 5.2: Households having desktop/laptop computers by sex

Sex	Number of households		Households having desktop/laptop computers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	11,486	100.0	62	0.5
Male	9,225	100.0	47	0.5
Female	2,261	100.0	15	0.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.4 Household Ownership of Desktop or Laptop Computer

The distribution of households with ownership of desktop/laptop and sex of household heads is shown in Table 5.4. According to the 2010 PHC only 0.2 percent (730) households in the Upper West Region aged 12 years and older, has desktop/laptop computers whereas only 0.5 percent (62 households) out of the 11,486 households for Wa West district owns a desktop/laptop computer.

Among male headed household only 0.5 percent have laptop/desk top computers compared with 0.7 percent for female headed households.

CHAPTER SIX

DISABILITY

6.1 Introduction

Persons with disability (PWDs) are defined as “those who are unable to 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” (GSS, 2012a). People with disability are mostly regarded as less productive and not capable of contributing to development compared to their non-disabled counterparts.

Accordingly, they are often seen as a burden on society and their unfortunate circumstances are viewed sometimes as a curse or punishment. Furthermore, they have poorer health status, lower educational achievements, less economic participation and higher levels of poverty than people without disabilities (WHO, 2011).

This chapter analyses the distribution of the population with disability in Wa West by disability type, sex and level of education. It is however worth noting that within the population with disability, some individuals have multiple disability conditions hence the computed percentages of disability types in Figure 6.1 may not add up to or may be more than 100.0 percent.

6.2 Population with Disability

Disabled population by type of locality, disability type and sex is shown in Table 6.1. The Wa West has a total population of 81,348 of which 3.0 percent has different forms of disability according to 2010 Population and Housing Census. The highest proportion (33.6%) of the disabled has sight problem. Of the rest, 25.1 percent are physically challenged, 15.9 percent has hearing impairment while those with speech problems constitute 10.6 percent

More females 35.5 percent compared to males 31.7 percent have sight problems. Females are also more physically challenged 27.6 percent than males 22.8 percent However fewer females 9.0 percent have speech impairment than males 12.1 percent Males also tend to have a higher proportion of emotional problems 14.4 percent than females 12.6 percent In addition both sexes have about equal proportion of disabled with hearing and intellectual challenges.

Wa West is wholly rural area and hence there is no data showing the distribution of people with disability in urban areas in the District.

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

Disability Type	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All localities/Rural						
Total	81,348	100.0	40,227	100.0	41,121	100.0
Without disability	78,895	97.0	38,953	96.8	39,942	97.1
With disability	2,453	3.0	1,274	3.2	1,179	2.9
Sight	823	33.6	404	31.7	419	35.5
Hearing	389	15.9	203	15.9	186	15.8
Speech	260	10.6	154	12.1	106	9.0
Physical	615	25.1	290	22.8	325	27.6
Intellect	383	15.6	198	15.5	185	15.7
Emotion	331	13.5	183	14.4	148	12.6
More than one form of disability	313	12.8	180	14.1	133	11.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.3 Disability and Economic Activity Status

Table 6.3 shows that 53.1 percent of the disabled are employed, 1.2 percent unemployed and the remaining 45.6 are economically not active. PWDs with hearing impairment have the highest employment percentage of 61.4 percent and the lowest is Sight, 45.0 percent. Sight disability has the highest proportion (53.7%) of economically not active PWDs and Speech disability has the minimal unemployment rate of 0.6 percent.

Considering the sexes, 59.3 percent are employed as against 46.8 percent female. The female unemployed and economically not active proportion are however higher than that of the male proportions.

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

Sex/Disability type	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	44,301	100.0	31,426	70.9	504	1.1	12,371	27.9
No disability	42,449	100.0	30,442	71.7	481	1.1	11,526	27.2
With a disability	1,852	100.0	984	53.1	23	1.2	845	45.6
Sight	709	100.0	319	45	9	1.3	381	53.7
Hearing	295	100.0	181	61.4	2	0.7	112	38
Speech	164	100.0	97	59.1	1	0.6	66	40.2
Physical	500	100.0	228	45.6	7	1.4	265	53
Intellectual	261	100.0	135	51.7	4	1.5	122	46.7
Emotional	217	100.0	116	53.5	5	2.3	96	44.2
Other	188	100.0	103	54.8	2	1.1	83	44.1
Male								
Total	20,722	100.0	14,994	72.4	214	1	5,514	26.6
No disability	19,781	100.0	14,436	73	207	1	5,138	26
With a disability	941	100.0	558	59.3	7	0.7	376	40
Sight	352	100.0	183	52	2	0.6	167	47.4
Hearing	149	100.0	96	64.4	0	0	53	35.6
Speech	97	100.0	65	67	0	0	32	33
Physical	238	100.0	120	50.4	0	0	118	49.6
Intellectual	132	100.0	68	51.5	2	1.5	62	47
Emotional	118	100.0	63	53.4	3	2.5	52	44.1
Other	98	100.0	64	65.3	0	0	34	34.7
Female								
Total	23,579	100.0	16,432	69.7	290	1.2	6,857	29.1
No disability	22,668	100.0	16,006	70.6	274	1.2	6,388	28.2
With a disability	911	100.0	426	46.8	16	1.8	469	51.5
Sight	357	100.0	136	38.1	7	2	214	59.9
Hearing	146	100.0	85	58.2	2	1.4	59	40.4
Speech	67	100.0	32	47.8	1	1.5	34	50.7
Physical	262	100.0	108	41.2	7	2.7	147	56.1
Intellectual	129	100.0	67	51.9	2	1.6	60	46.5
Emotional	99	100.0	53	53.5	2	2	44	44.4
Other	90	100.0	39	43.3	2	2.2	49	54.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.4 Disability, Education and Literacy

Table 6.3 displays data on the distribution of population aged 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education. The data show that the total population of persons aged 3 years and older is 75,217. Out of this population, those who never attended school are 43,031 (57.2%).

The Table shows that, 74.0 percent of the disabled population in the Wa district have never attended school, 3.2 percent had Pre-Primary education, Basic education, 20.8 percent and Secondary/SHS and Higher 2.0 percent. From the table it is seen that persons with Sight disability are the least educated. They have the highest 'Never' attended School proportion of

83.9 percent while those with Emotional disability has the highest proportion (4.7%) of Sec/SHS and higher.

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

Sex/Disability type	Number					Percent				
	Total	Never	Pre-Prim	Basic	Sec/SHS and higher	Total	Never	Pre-Prim	Basic	Sec/SHS and higher
Both Sexes										
Total	75,217	43,031	4,485	24,871	2,830	100.0	57.2	6.0	33.1	3.8
No disability	72,835	41,269	4,409	24,375	2,782	100.0	56.7	6.1	33.5	3.8
With a disability	2,382	1,762	76	496	48	100.0	74.0	3.2	20.8	2.0
Sight	809	679	16	99	15	100.0	83.9	2.0	12.2	1.9
Hearing	384	302	8	64	10	100.0	78.6	2.1	16.7	2.6
Speech	247	171	14	58	4	100.0	69.2	5.7	23.5	1.6
Physical	599	464	17	106	12	100.0	77.5	2.8	17.7	2.0
Intellectual	370	258	18	86	8	100.0	69.7	4.9	23.2	2.2
Emotional	316	192	18	91	15	100.0	60.8	5.7	28.8	4.7
Other	295	181	17	91	6	100.0	61.4	5.8	30.8	2.0
Male										
Total	37,109	19,370	2,140	13,628	1,971	100.0	52.2	5.8	36.7	5.3
No disability	35,867	18,476	2,099	13,356	1,936	100.0	51.5	5.9	37.2	5.4
With a disability	1,242	894	41	272	35	100.0	72.0	3.3	21.9	2.8
Sight	398	329	8	50	11	100.0	82.7	2.0	12.6	2.8
Hearing	201	151	6	35	9	100.0	75.1	3.0	17.4	4.5
Speech	147	96	8	39	4	100.0	65.3	5.4	26.5	2.7
Physical	284	221	10	43	10	100.0	77.8	3.5	15.1	3.5
Intellectual	192	131	8	48	5	100.0	68.2	4.2	25.0	2.6
Emotional	174	99	7	56	12	100.0	56.9	4.0	32.2	6.9
Other	171	105	8	52	6	100.0	61.4	4.7	30.4	3.5
Female										
Total	38,108	23,661	2,345	11,243	859	100.0	62.1	6.2	29.5	2.3
No disability	36,968	22,793	2,310	11,019	846	100.0	61.7	6.2	29.8	2.3
With a disability	1,140	868	35	224	13	100.0	76.1	3.1	19.6	1.1
Sight	411	350	8	49	4	100.0	85.2	1.9	11.9	1.0
Hearing	183	151	2	29	1	100.0	82.5	1.1	15.8	0.5
Speech	100	75	6	19	0	100.0	75.0	6.0	19.0	0.0
Physical	315	243	7	63	2	100.0	77.1	2.2	20.0	0.6
Intellectual	178	127	10	38	3	100.0	71.3	5.6	21.3	1.7
Emotional	142	93	11	35	3	100.0	65.5	7.7	24.6	2.1
Other	124	76	9	39	0	100.0	61.3	7.3	31.5	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Comparing the Sexes, 72.0 percent of the Disabled males did not attend school as against 62.1 percent for the females. Also, more male disabled persons have higher education (5.3%) than their female counterparts (2.3%) in the Wa West district.

CHAPTER SEVEN

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

7.1 Introduction

Agriculture has for many decades dominated the economy of the country and contributed more than one-third of gross domestic product (GSS, 2012). The sector's contribution to GDP also declined from over 40.0 percent in the 1990s to 30.0 percent in the 2000s (ISSER, 2011). The economy of the Wa West District is mainly agrarian, with 91.6 percent of households engaged in the cultivation of food crops (grains such as millet, sorghum and maize; roots and tubers, particularly yams, and legumes, including groundnuts and beans) (see Table 7.1). Households in the region are also actively engaged in rearing livestock, including cattle and ruminants.

Table 7.1: Households by agricultural activities and locality

Agricultural Activity	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Households	11,486	100.0	-	0.0	11,486	100.0
Households engages in Agriculture	10,524	91.6	-	0.0	10,524	91.6
Households not engaged in Agriculture	962	8.4	-	0.0	962	8.4
Crop Farming	10,229	97.2	-	0.0	10,229	97.2
Tree Planting	129	1.2	-	0.0	129	1.2
Livestock Rearing	7,316	69.5	-	0.0	7,316	69.5
Fish Farming	8	0.1	-	0.0	8	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

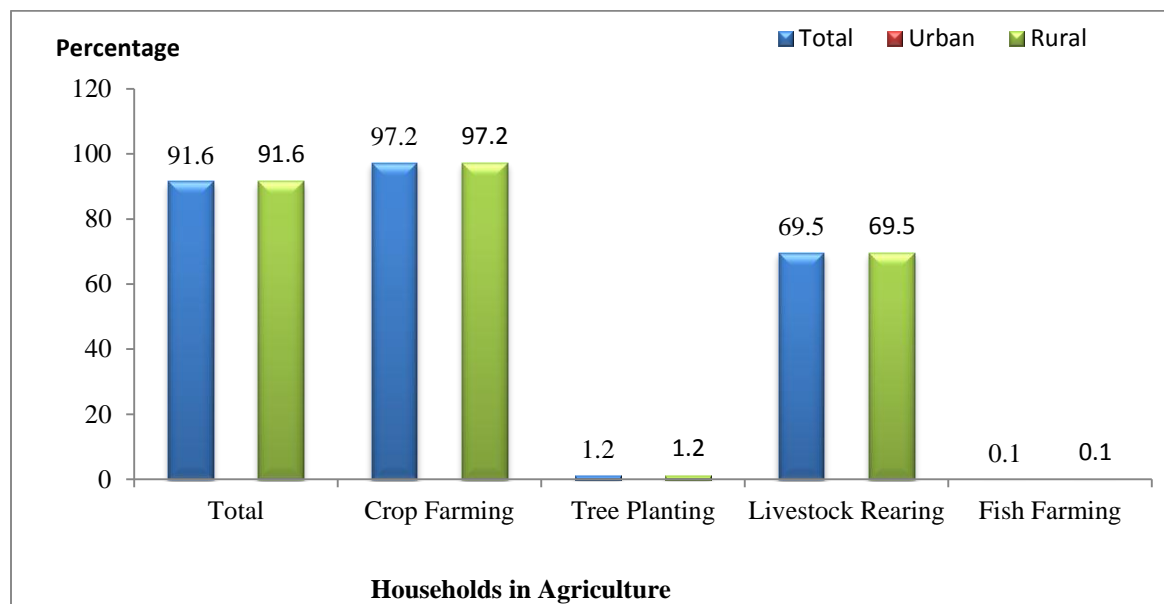
7.2 Households in Agriculture

The population of agricultural households in 2010 for the District was 10,524 which accounted for 91.6 percent of the total household of 11,486. For the census, an agricultural household was defined as households with at least, one person engaged in any type of agricultural activity, namely crop farming, tree growing, livestock rearing and fish farming (GSS, 2012). The definition then identified households in which various agricultural activities were undertaken.

Figure 7.1 shows households by agricultural activities. The data show that the District has a total household of 11,486 with a high proportion (91.6%) engaged in agriculture. Among the population engaged in agriculture, 97.2 percent are into crop farming, followed by livestock rearing (69.5%), with only 1.2 percent and 0.1 percent in tree planting and fish farming respectively.

The figure shows that, Wa West District is wholly a rural area and has a high proportion of agriculture households. This is basically due to the fact that agriculture is essentially a rural activity.

Figure 7.1: Households by agriculture activities and locality



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

7.3 Types of Farming Activities

Wa West economy is typically agrarian with more than 90.0 percent of the economically active population working in that sector. The data show that the District has a total household of 11,486 with a high proportion (91.6%) engaged in agricultural activities.

The farming activities (in Table 7.1) are crop farming (97.2%), tree planting (1.2%), livestock rearing (69.5%) and fish farming (0.1%). Tree planting and fish farming are not common agriculture activities among agricultural households in the District.

Table 7.3 shows the distribution of livestock and keepers. The four most dominant livestock reared are chicken, goats, sheep, and cattle. Cattle farming have an average of 17.1 animals per keeper with goats and sheep having an average of 13.0 and 13.1 animals per keeper respectively. Chicken has an average animal per keeper of 18.3. However, the least reared animal is turkey with an average of 8.0 birds per keeper.

The Table further indicates that goat rearing (34.1%) is dominant in the District, followed by chicken (27.5%) and sheep rearing (11.6%). The least reared animal is grass-cutter with 0.3 percent.

Goats, guinea fowl and sheep have proportions of 29.4 percent, 10.9 percent and 10.0 percent animals respectively, with the percentages of keepers as 34.0 percent, 8.9 percent and 11.6 percent respectively.

It is important to note that snails and fish farming are not practiced in the District. Interestingly, even though chicken in the District out number that of goats, goat keepers (34.0%) out number chicken keepers (27.5%).

Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock, other animals and keepers

Type of livestock	Animals		Keepers		Average Animal per Keeper
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All livestock	242,404	100.0	16,096	100.0	15.1
Beehives	1,693	0.7	63	0.4	26.9
Cattle	23,183	9.6	1,358	8.4	17.1
Chicken	81,078	33.4	4,423	27.5	18.3
Dove	260	0.1	17	0.1	15.3
Duck	2,154	0.9	123	0.8	17.5
Goat	71,175	29.4	5,469	34.0	13.0
Grass-cutter	655	0.3	47	0.3	13.9
Guinea fowl	26,443	10.9	1,438	8.9	18.4
Ostrich	251	0.1	21	0.1	12.0
Pig	9,765	4.0	1,143	7.1	8.5
Rabbit	149	0.1	17	0.1	8.8
Sheep	24,353	10.0	1,860	11.6	13.1
Silk worm	131	0.1	6	0.0	21.8
Snail	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Turkey	463	0.2	58	0.4	8.0
Other	401	0.2	47	0.3	8.5
Fish farming	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Inland fishing	249	0.1	5	0.0	49.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER EIGHT

HOUSING CONDITIONS

8.1 Introduction

In 2010, the policy framework of the Government of Ghana, the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda, emphasized the need for increased access of the population to safe, adequate and affordable housing and shelter (NDPC, 2010). Earlier frameworks also underscored the importance of housing to social development. For example, in the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (2003-2005) policy framework, housing interventions were prescribed implicitly within the context of social development objectives (NDPC, 2002).

The achievement of health objectives was linked, among others, to the provision of safe water supply and sewerage, improved housing, and well planned settlements. The provision of periodic information on housing and housing conditions is therefore important both to assess what has been achieved and to plan ahead.

This chapter presents information about housing characteristics in the Wa West District. These include housing stock, type of dwelling, materials used for building, number of sleeping rooms occupied by household members, ownership of houses, fuel for cooking, and solid and liquid waste disposal.

8.2 Housing Stock

The Wa West District has a total population of 81,348. However, the entire district is rural. The distribution of housing stock is presented in Table 8.1. There are 10,444 houses in the district and a total household of 11,486. The average household per house is 1.1. Also the average population per house is 7.7.

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	81,348	-	81,348
Total household population	24,076,327	688,333	80,382	-	80,382
Number of houses	3,392,745	82,293	10,444	-	10,444
Number of households	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	-	11,486
Average households per house	1.6	1.3	1.1	-	1.1
Population per house*	7.1	8.4	7.7	-	7.7
Average household size	4.4	6.2	7	-	7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

*This excludes homeless and institutional Population

8.3 Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement

Table 8.2 indicates a total of 110,174 households for the Upper West region and 11,486 for the District. Male heads are dominant (94.9 %) in the households where the house is owned by a household member, compared to female headed households (86.1%). Only a small number of dwelling units 38 are being purchased (e.g. mortgage 0.3%).

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

Ownership status	Total country	Region	District					
			Total		Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent				
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Owned by household member	2,883,236	91,264	10,702	93.2	94.9	86.1	0.0	93.2
Being purchased (e.g. mortgage)	45,630	608	38	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.0	0.3
Relative not a household member	851,630	5,362	269	2.3	1.7	5.1	0.0	2.3
Other private individual	1,439,021	9,534	289	2.5	1.8	5.5	0.0	2.5
Private employer	83,610	353	9	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other private agency	21,123	273	11	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Public/Government ownership	118,804	2,410	151	1.3	1.1	2.2	0.0	1.3
Other	24,000	370	17	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4 Type of occupied dwelling unit by sex of household head and type of locality

Most dwelling units are either compound houses 45.8 percent or separate houses 41.6 percent. Only 5.5 percent of dwelling units are semi-detached while another 4.3 percent dwelling units are huts in the same compound.

Table 8.3 indicates a higher proportion of male headed household (47.6%) live in compound houses compared to (38.7%) their female counterparts. The Table further indicates that 46.4 percent of female heads live in separates houses compared with 40.5 percent male headed households. Improvised homes (kiosk/containers, etc.) and uncompleted building hardly exist in the District (0.0% and 0.1% respectively).

Table 8.3: 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	11,486	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Separate house	1,471,391	33,704	4,782	41.6	40.5	46.4	0.0	41.6
Semi-detached house	391,548	9,993	632	5.5	5.3	6.5	0.0	5.5
Flat/Apartment	256,355	1,400	42	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.4
Compound house (rooms)	2,942,147	58,161	5,264	45.8	47.6	38.7	0.0	45.8
Huts/Buildings (same compound)	170,957	3,715	498	4.3	4.4	4.0	0.0	4.3
Huts/Buildings (different compound)	36,410	1,853	198	1.7	1.4	2.9	0.0	1.7
Tent	10,343	283	29	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.3
Improvised home (kiosk/container etc.)	90,934	39	2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Living quarters attached to office/shop	20,499	261	18	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2
Uncompleted building	66,624	611	16	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.1
Other	9,846	154	5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.5 Construction Materials

8.5.1 Main materials for outer wall

Table 8.4 provides information on the type of materials used for construction of outer walls of dwelling units in the District. The main construction material for outer walls is mud/mud bricks or earth, (89.9%) The extensive use of mud bricks/earth is expected since Wa West is entirely rural.

This is followed by the use of cement blocks/concrete (7.3%). The use of metal sheet/slate/asbestos and palm leaf/thatch (grass)/raffia constitute 0.4 percent each. Bamboo, stone and burnt bricks are hardly used (0.1%).

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

Material for Outer wall	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	118,292	12,713	100.0	0.0	100.0
Mud brick/Earth	1,991,540	88,739	11,423	89.9	0.0	89.9
Wood	200,594	883	113	0.9	0.0	0.9
Metal sheet/Slate/Asbestos	43,708	568	56	0.4	0.0	0.4
Stone	11,330	230	15	0.1	0.0	0.1
Burnt bricks	38,237	408	13	0.1	0.0	0.1
Cement blocks/Concrete	3,342,462	24,924	930	7.3	0.0	7.3
Landcrete	104,270	1,159	72	0.6	0.0	0.6
Bamboo	8,206	87	10	0.1	0.0	0.1
Palm leaf/Thatch (grass)/Raffia	38,054	888	47	0.4	0.0	0.4
Other	39,206	406	34	0.3	0.0	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.5.2 Main materials for floor

The type of material used for the floor of a house affects the appearance, quality and health status of the house. Some floors are easily contaminated and are difficult to clean or disinfect depending on the material used.

Table 8.5, shows the main construction materials for floors in the District. Earth/mud is the most common (52.7%) material used in the District. This is followed by cement/concrete (45.3%). Burnt brick terrazzo/terrazzo tiles are hardly used in the District.

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

Materials for the floor	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100.0	0.0	100.0
Earth/Mud	872,161	42,447	6,049	52.7	0.0	52.7
Cement/Concrete	4,255,611	65,714	5,198	45.3	0.0	45.3
Stone	32,817	310	27	0.2	0.0	0.2
Burnt brick	6,537	67	6	0.1	0.0	0.1
Wood	52,856	8	1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vinyl tiles	57,032	176	1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ceramic/Porcelain/Granite/Marble tiles	88,500	700	73	0.6	0.0	0.6
Terrazzo/Terrazzo tiles	85,973	238	2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	15,567	514	129	1.1	0.0	1.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.5.3 Main materials for roof

Table 8.6 shows the main materials for roofing dwelling units in the District. Corrugated metal sheet is the main roofing material in the District, accounting for 63.9 percent. The next most common roofing material used in the District is mud/mud bricks/earth (28.6%) and thatch/palm leaf or raffia (4.2%) in that order. The least used roofing materials are asbestos/slate and bamboo (0.1%) and (0.2%) respectively.

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

Main Roofing material	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	118,292	12,713	100.0	0.0	100.0
Mud/Mud bricks/Earth	80,644	14,910	3,630	28.6	0.0	28.6
Wood	45,547	1,399	186	1.5	0.0	1.5
Metal sheet	4,152,259	91,046	8,122	63.9	0.0	63.9
Slate/Asbestos	759,039	245	17	0.1	0.0	0.1
Cement/Concrete	141,072	717	47	0.4	0.0	0.4
Roofing tile	31,456	362	71	0.6	0.0	0.6
Bamboo	71,049	283	20	0.2	0.0	0.2
Thatch/Palm leaf or Raffia	500,606	8,394	530	4.2	0.0	4.2
Other	35,935	936	90	0.7	0.0	0.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6 Room Occupancy

The number of 'sleeping rooms' provides an indication of the extent of crowding among household members. Overcrowded rooms have health implications arising from, among others, disturbed sleep. More importantly, crowded living conditions increase the risk of the spread of infectious diseases, such as meningococcal disease, tuberculosis and respiratory infections (GSS, 2012).

Considering the hot and humid condition of the District, overcrowding can lead to psychological distress; lack of tolerance, reduced levels of concentration and or mental health problems (GSS, 2012).

Most single person households (47.4%) occupy one room. About 29 percent also occupy two rooms, but significant proportion 25.4 percent of two person households, 18.2 percent three person households and 12.8 percent four person households also occupy one room.

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

Household size	Total		Number of sleeping rooms								
	Number	Percent	One room	Two rooms	Three rooms	Four rooms	Five rooms	Six rooms	Seven rooms	Eight rooms	Nine rooms or more
Total	11,486	100.0	8.2	20.8	23.4	18.2	10.5	7.9	4.2	2.8	4.2
1	460	100.0	47.4	29.3	13.9	5.0	1.1	0.9	1.5	0.2	0.7
2	668	100.0	25.4	40.7	21.0	7.2	1.8	1.8	1.2	0.6	0.3
3	946	100.0	18.5	34.8	25.7	12.9	3.5	1.6	1.9	0.3	0.8
4	1,155	100.0	12.8	34.1	27.5	14.3	5.5	2.9	1.6	0.4	0.8
5	1,315	100.0	6.8	26.6	32.8	16.8	8.5	4.3	2.1	1.1	1.0
6	1,367	100.0	4.9	23.3	28.6	22.6	10.2	5.2	2.5	1.7	1.1
7	1,206	100.0	3.1	20.9	29.4	24.2	9.2	7.0	3.0	1.2	2.1
8	1,028	100.0	2.3	13.8	25.8	24.9	14.3	9.8	4.6	1.7	2.8
9	745	100.0	1.2	9.9	23.2	22.6	15.6	11.8	7.0	3.5	5.2
10+	2,596	100.0	0.3	4.5	11.6	18.6	17.8	17.0	9.0	8.1	13.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.7 Access to Utilities and Household Facilities

8.7.1 Main source of lighting

Lighting as part of housing facility was captured by the 2010 Population and Housing Census. The nature of the source of lighting is one of the indicators of quality of life. As a society improves, the source of lighting shifts from use of low quality sources such as fuel wood to more efficient ones, such as electricity.

Table 8.8 and Figure 8.1 are the main source of lighting for households in the District is flash lights/torch accounting for 61.6 percent. Kerosene lamp constitutes 25.0 percent of lighting source, while electricity (mains) is used by 9.5 percent of households and constitutes the third main source of lighting in households.

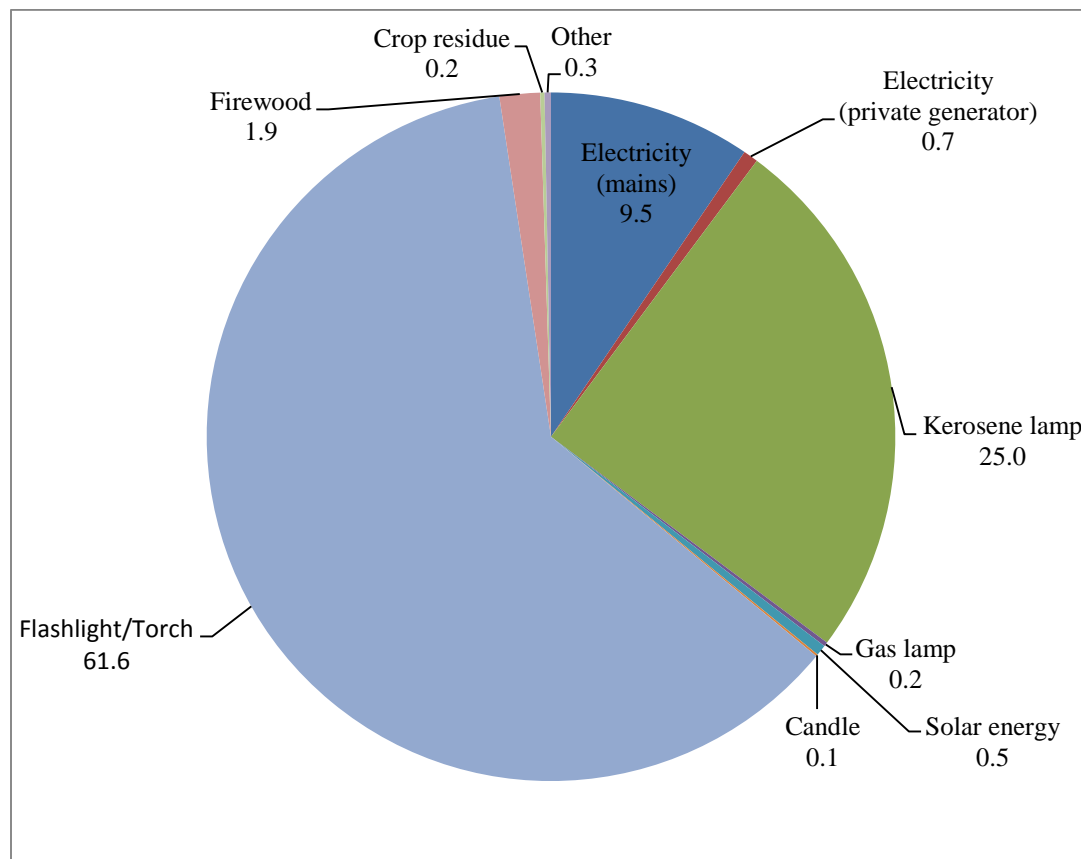
Gas lamp (0.2%) and crop residue (0.2%) account for the low proportions of source of lighting used by households while candle has the lowest proportion of 0.1 percent.

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	11,486	100.0	0.0	100.0
Electricity (mains)	3,511,065	34,044	1,095	9.5	0.0	9.5
Electricity (private generator)	36,142	613	80	0.7	0.0	0.7
Kerosene lamp	971,807	21,455	2,871	25.0	0.0	25.0
Gas lamp	9,378	303	25	0.2	0.0	0.2
Solar energy	9,194	804	53	0.5	0.0	0.5
Candle	41,214	333	10	0.1	0.0	0.1
Flashlight/Torch	858,651	49,606	7,077	61.6	0.0	61.6
Firewood	13,241	1,332	213	1.9	0.0	1.9
Crop residue	4,623	361	28	0.2	0.0	0.2
Other	11,739	1,323	34	0.3	0.0	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 8.1: Source of energy or power



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.7.2 Main source of cooking fuel

Information on the type of fuel used for cooking in the Wa West District, they include wood, crop residue, gas, electricity, kerosene and charcoal. Overall, the main source of cooking fuel in the District is wood (91.1%), followed by charcoal (4.2%) and crop residue (2.0%). The least used fuel for cooking are kerosene and gas (0.1%) each.

The use of wood as main source of cooking fuel may be due to the nature of economic activities (farming) in these areas.

8.7.3 Main source of cooking space

The availability of cooking space sometimes presents problems for households. Table 8.9 shows the percentage distribution of cooking space in occupied housing units. In the District, 55.9 percent of households have separate rooms exclusively for cooking. Other households also use open space in compound (21.4%) and verandas (9.2%).

Also, 3.0 percent of households use enclosure without roof for cooking. Only 2.0 percent each of households use structure with roof but without walls and bedroom/hall/living rooms as cooking space.

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

Source of cooking fuel/cooking space	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of cooking fuel for household						
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100.0	0.0	100.0
None no cooking	306,118	2,269	142	1.2	0.0	1.2
Wood	2,197,083	80,916	10,462	91.1	0.0	91.1
Gas	996,518	4,553	120	1.0	0.0	1.0
Electricity	29,794	400	34	0.3	0.0	0.3
Kerosene	29,868	278	9	0.1	0.0	0.1
Charcoal	1,844,290	20,921	488	4.2	0.0	4.2
Crop residue	45,292	720	225	2.0	0.0	2.0
Saw dust	8,000	63	4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animal waste	2,332	20	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	7,759	34	2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cooking space used by household						
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100.0	0.0	100.0
No cooking space	386,883	4,511	343	3.0	0.0	3.0
Separate room for exclusive use of household	1,817,018	46,063	6,425	55.9	0.0	55.9
Separate room shared with other household(s)	410,765	2,849	379	3.3	0.0	3.3
Enclosure without roof	117,614	1,967	344	3.0	0.0	3.0
Structure with roof but without walls	349,832	1,440	233	2.0	0.0	2.0
Bedroom/Hall/Living room)	74,525	1,190	235	2.0	0.0	2.0
Veranda	1,173,946	19,012	1,054	9.2	0.0	9.2
Open space in compound	1,115,464	32,914	2,460	21.4	0.0	21.4
Other	21,007	228	13	0.1	0.0	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.8 Main Source of Water for Drinking and for other Domestic Use

8.8.1 Main source of drinking water

The availability of and accessibility to improved drinking water is an important aspect of the health of household members. The UN Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Seven aim to reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water by 2015 based on 1990 levels. The source of water supply particularly for drinking has a tremendous effect on burden of diseases. For instance, one of the main health benefits of clean drinking water supply is a reduction in diarrhea.

Water sources are often classified as ‘improved’ or ‘unimproved’: Sources considered as improved are piped public water into homes, public standpipe, borehole, protected (lined) dug well, protected spring, and rainwater collection; unimproved are unprotected wells and springs, vendors, and tanker-trucks (WHO and UNICEF, 2000).

Source of drinking water is one of the indicators used to assess the standard of living of people. Table 8.10 provides information on various sources of drinking water for households. These can be categorised broadly into pipe-borne water, boreholes/wells, rain water and river/stream.

Of these sources of drinking water, the use of borehole/pump/tube well is the commonest, accounting for more than three-quarters (79.3%) households in the District. A small percentage (8.8%) of households also uses river/streams as source of drinking water. Use of Pipe-borne water inside dwelling and rain water are common and are by 0.2 percent each of household.

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

Sources of water	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of drinking water for household						
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100	0	100
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	790,493	5,933	19	0.2	0	0.2
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,039,667	12,542	396	3.4	0	3.4
Public tap/Standpipe	712,375	4,807	106	0.9	0	0.9
Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well	1,267,688	70,759	9,113	79.3	0	79.3
Protected well	321,091	4,011	190	1.7	0	1.7
Rain water	39,438	172	26	0.2	0	0.2
Protected spring	19,345	368	30	0.3	0	0.3
Bottled water	20,261	50	2	0	0	0
Sachet water	490,283	823	53	0.5	0	0.5
Tanker supply/Vendor provided	58,400	302	2	0	0	0
Unprotected well	112,567	1,719	124	1.1	0	1.1
Unprotected spring	12,222	287	36	0.3	0	0.3
River/Stream	502,804	7,037	1,010	8.8	0	8.8
Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal	76,448	1,344	374	3.3	0	3.3
Other	3,972	20	5	0	0	0

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

Sources of water	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of water for other domestic use of household						
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100	0	100
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	905,566	5,864	39	0.3	0	0.3
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,089,030	12,144	392	3.4	0	3.4
Public tap/Standpipe	704,293	4,314	104	0.9	0	0.9
Bore-hole/Pump/Tube well	1,280,465	68,035	8,389	73	0	73
Protected well	465,775	5,057	179	1.6	0	1.6
Rain water	39,916	360	77	0.7	0	0.7
Protected spring	18,854	301	31	0.3	0	0.3
Tanker supply/vendor provided	100,048	316	3	0	0	0
Unprotected well	152,055	1,897	133	1.2	0	1.2
Unprotected spring	15,738	330	60	0.5	0	0.5
River/Stream	588,590	8,759	1,399	12.2	0	12.2
Dugout/Pond/Lake/Dam/Canal	96,422	2,546	635	5.5	0	5.5
Other	10,302	251	45	0.4	0	0.4

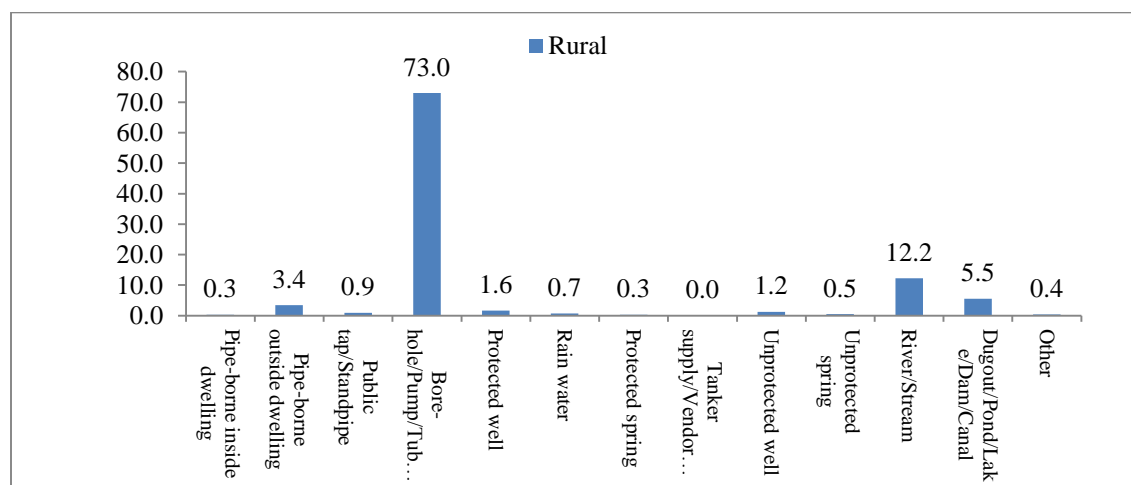
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.8.2 Main source of water for other domestic use

The quality of water for domestic use is essential for the health of members of households. Table 8.10 shows that a high proportion (73.0%) of households uses borehole/pump/tube well for domestic purposes. This is followed by river/stream (12.2%). Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal (5.5%) is the third households' source of water for other domestic use.

Water from protected spring and pipe-borne water inside dwelling used for other domestic purpose by 0.3 percent each of households.

Figure 8.3: Source of water for other domestic use



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

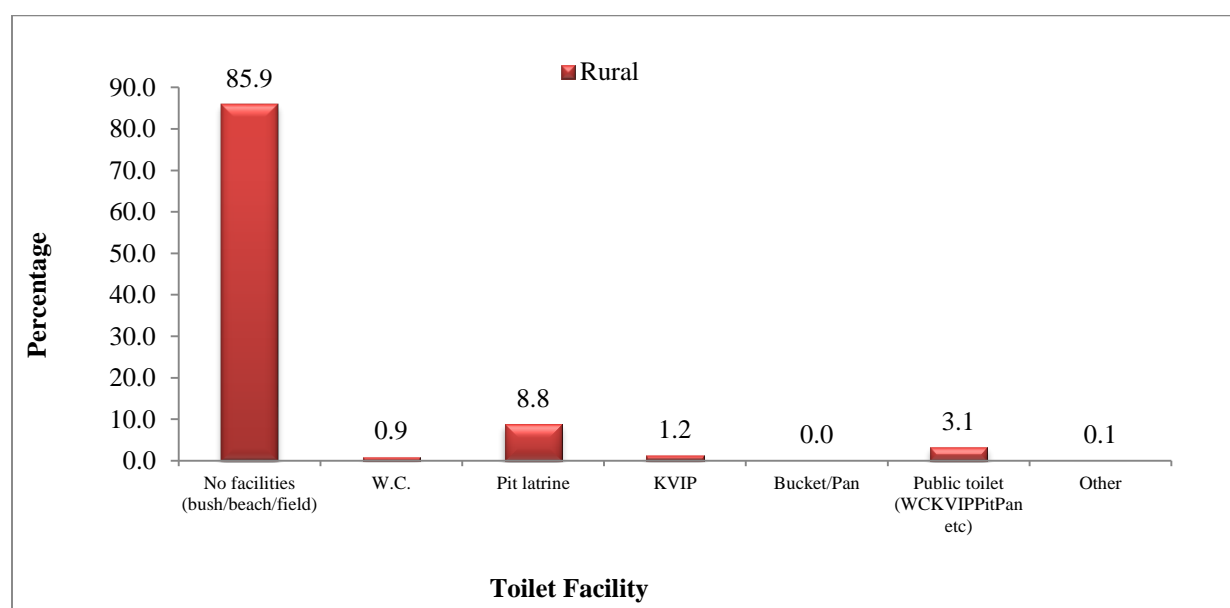
8.9 Bathing and Toilet Facilities

8.8.1 Toilet facilities

Many district authorities have been grappling with the problem of sanitation, especially the disposal of solid waste and provision of toilet facilities. Figure 8.4 presents the distribution of households by type of toilet facility. The data show the various types of toilet facilities available to households in the District.

Most households 85.9 percent do not have any toilet facility and use bush/beach or open field for toilet. Use of pit latrine constitutes about 9.0 percent. About 3.1 percent of households use public toilet. KVIP is the fourth highest toilet facility with 1.2 percent followed by W.C with 0.9 percent. Bucket/pan is not used in the District.

Figure 8.4: Toilet facility



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.8.3 Bathing facilities

The 2010 PHC also collected data on the availability and type of bathing facility. Table 8.11 shows types of bathing facility available to households in the District.

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

Toilet facility/Bathing facility	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Toilet facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100.0	0.0	100.0
No facilities	1,056,382	80,321	9,868	85.9	0.0	85.9
W.C.	839,611	3,440	101	0.9	0.0	0.9
Pit latrine	1,040,883	6,853	1,011	8.8	0.0	8.8
KVIP	572,824	4,929	138	1.2	0.0	1.2
Bucket/Pan	40,678	112	2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit, Pan etc.)	1,893,291	14,016	354	3.1	0.0	3.1
Other	23,385	503	12	0.1	0.0	0.1
Bathing facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100.0	0.0	100.0
Own bathroom for exclusive use	1,535,392	47,176	5,204	45.3	0.0	45.3
Shared separate bathroom in the same house	1,818,522	23,638	1,836	16.0	0.0	16.0
Private open cubicle	381,979	11,927	1,558	13.6	0.0	13.6
Shared open cubicle	1,000,257	11,561	909	7.9	0.0	7.9
Public bath house	140,501	1,643	53	0.5	0.0	0.5
Bathroom in another house	187,337	898	99	0.9	0.0	0.9
Open space around house	372,556	12,856	1,780	15.5	0.0	15.5
River/pond/lake/dam	14,234	180	21	0.2	0.0	0.2
Other	16,276	295	26	0.2	0.0	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The results show that, 45.0 percent of households own bathrooms for exclusive use, while 16.0 percent of households share separate bathroom in the same house. This is followed by open space around the house (15.5%). Private open cubicle constitutes 13.6 percent and shared open cubicle 7.9 percent. The type of bathing facility that is least used is bathing by river/pond/lake/dam (0.2%).

8.10 Method of Waste Disposal

8.9.1 Solid waste

There has been a growing concern all over the country about the indiscriminate disposal of solid waste into places such as open drains and rivers. Table 8.12 shows that 45.8 percent of households dispose of their solid waste indiscriminately. Households that dispose of their solid waste in a public dump or open space constitute 34.3 percent.

Households that have their solid waste collected constitute 8.4 percent, while 4.9 percent and 3.2 percent burn and dump into public container respectively. Household that bury solid waste constitute 1.8 percent.

8.9.2 Liquid waste

Table 8.12 shows that throwing liquid waste onto the street/outside (67.3%) is most common in the District. Also, 23.0 percent of households dispose of their liquid waste onto compound. A small proportion of households (3.2%) throw their liquid waste into the gutter with 2.9 percent throwing theirs through the drainage into the pit (soak away). About 1 percent of households dispose of liquid waste through sewerage system.

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

Method of waste disposal	Total country	Region	District		
			Total		Rural
			Number	Percent	
Solid waste					
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100.0	100.0
Collected	785,889	5,123	962	8.4	8.4
Burned by household	584,820	6,518	559	4.9	4.9
Public dump (container)	1,299,654	13,969	362	3.2	3.2
Public dump (open space)	2,061,403	40,538	3,943	34.3	34.3
Dumped indiscriminately	498,868	39,635	5,260	45.8	45.8
Buried by household	182,615	3,515	207	1.8	1.8
Other	53,805	876	193	1.7	1.7
Liquid waste					
Total	5,467,054	110,174	11,486	100.0	100.0
Through the sewerage system	183,169	1,746	84	0.7	0.7
Through drainage system into a gutter	594,404	3,573	290	2.5	2.5
Through drainage into a pit (soak away)	167,555	3,633	337	2.9	2.9
Thrown onto the street/outside	1,538,550	71,344	7,727	67.3	67.3
Thrown into gutter	1,020,096	3,958	363	3.2	3.2
Thrown onto compound	1,924,986	25,348	2,646	23.0	23.0
Other	38,294	572	39	0.3	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER NINE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Introduction

The 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC), the eleventh in the history of Ghana, derived its basic features from the United Nations Principles and Recommendations (2010) for countries taking part in the 2010 round of population and housing census and experiences from previous censuses. Following the publication of the results of the 2010 Census, the Ghana Statistical Service produced an analytical report which provided insight into the information collected and helped to disseminate results from the census beyond the statistics which were produced. This report is the first for the Wa West District and is produced with the aim of providing useful data for planners, academics and policy makers as well as the general reader on some of the results from the 2010 PHC.

The report is an analysis of the characteristics of the Wa West District in the Upper West Region of Ghana, using data mainly from the 2010 Population and Housing Census. Other sources of secondary data and administrative records are used to supplement the census data.

The characteristics analyzed include the District profile, demographic profile, social and economic characteristics, and housing conditions.

9.2 Summary of Findings

9.2.1 Population size, composition and age-sex structure

In the 2010 PHC, Wa West District had a total population of 81,348 representing 11.6 percent of the regional population, comprising 40,227 (49.5%) males and 41,121 (50.5%) females. The population of the District is almost equally divided between the sexes with females exceeding males by 985, thus giving a sex-ratio of 97.8. The District is entirely rural. This means that all localities have population of less than 5,000.

9.2.2 Household size, structure and composition

Wa West District has a total of 11,486 households. The extended family (head, spouse(s) children, head's relatives) has the highest proportion of 54.3 percent; the nuclear family (head, spouse(s) and children) is the second highest with 22.1 percent. Both are higher than the regional average of 45.5 percent and 15.0 percent respectively. Single parent (extended and nuclear) are the third and fourth highest with a proportion of 9.1 percent and 5.7 percent respectively. The total dependency ratio for the District is 105.5.

9.2.3 Marital characteristics

In the 2010 PHC, the Wa West District recorded 51,205 persons 12 years and older of which 40.7 percent have never married, 51.1 percent are married, 0.5 percent are in an informal/consensual union, 1.0 percent are separated/divorced and 5.9 percent are widowed. The

proportion of females (31.2%) who have never married is lower than that of males (51.0%). Females are more likely to be married, in an informal/consensual union, divorced and widowed than males.

The incidence of marriage is high (64.5%) among persons without formal education, followed by those with basic education (29.9%). Informal/consensual union is highest (2.6%) among persons with tertiary education. The proportion widowed is highest (96.4%) among the uneducated while divorce is also very high among those with basic education (12.0%).

9.2.4 Literacy and Education

Out of a total population of 65,853 who are 11 years and older, about 49.0 percent are literate. The proportion among males is 56.0 percent compared to females (44.0%).

The data show that, for Wa West District, more females are literate in English only (23.6%) and Ghanaian Language only (12.6%) than the males who have 18.5 percent for English only, 10.0 percent for Ghanaian Language only. However, more males 70.9 percent compared with females 63.3 percent are literate in both English and Ghanaian Language. The situation is the same at the regional level, as literacy for females in English only (32.3%) and Ghanaian Language only (8.5%) are higher than proportions for the males which are 28.6 percent and 6.2 percent respectively.

In general, for the District as well as the region, older persons have lower literacy rates compared with the young ones especially in English only. Among the age group 11-14 years 38.8 percent are literate in English only followed by the age group 15-19 years (34.7%). The proportion decreases steadily to below 2.0 percent for ages 60 and older.

Persons aged three years and older in the District currently attending school are 27,287 and of these, males constitute 54.2 percent whilst 45.8 percent are females. Apart from the pre-primary and primary level, the proportions of males in all levels are only slightly higher than those of females who are currently attending school.

9.2.5 Information communication technology

The 2010 PHC data show that, Upper West Region has a total population of 460,954 aged 12 years and above with only 99,946 or 21.7 percent having mobile phones. Only 9.7 percent of persons 12 years and older have mobile phones. About 14.4 percent of males and 5.3 percent of females of that population own mobile phones.

Out of the 51,205 persons aged 12 years and older only 288 (0.7 percent) of the population aged 12 years and older use internet facility 0.8 percent of males and 0.3 percent of females use internet.

The District has only 8 (0.1 percent) households having fixed telephone lines. In Wa West District only 0.5 percent (62) out of the 11,486 households have laptop/desk top computers.

9.2.6 Fertility, mortality and migration

Fertility

Three measures of fertility are used to measure fertility. The crude birth rate (CBR), general fertility rate (GFR) and the total fertility rate (TFR). The total fertility rate for the region is 3.45 per woman.

The total fertility rate for Wa West District of women aged 15-49 is about 4.06 births per woman and 111.15 live births per 1000 women aged 15-49 in 2010 for General Fertility Rate. This rate is slightly higher than the regional average of 97.4 births per 1,000 women aged 15-49. Crude birth rate given as the number of live births per 1,000 population is 24.3 for the District.

Mortality

The District recorded total deaths of 738 of which 57.2 percent were males and 42.8 percent were females. About 10.2 percent were as a result of accident/violence/homicide/suicide with all other death causes recording 89.8 percent during the 12 months preceding the 2010 Census. The under-five mortality is 266 (36.0% of total deaths), of which 60.0 percent are males and 40.0 percent for females.

Migration

The data indicate that, a total of 6,713 migrants are resident in the District. Out of this number of migrants, 57.1 percent are born elsewhere in the region whilst the remaining 42.9 percent are born elsewhere in another region.

9.2.7 Economic characteristics

There are 44,301 persons 15 years and older of which 72.1 percent are economically active and 21.9 percent economically not active. For the economically active category, a higher proportion (98.4%) is employed with a lower proportion (1.6%) unemployed.

Agricultural, forestry and fishing industrial sector employs the highest proportion of employers (84%) in the District. Manufacturing (6.9%) is second largest employers in the District. Females dominate the manufacturing sector (11.3%) while males dominate construction 0.4 percent and transportation and storage 0.4 percent. The self-employed (without employees) has the highest proportion (56.8%) in terms of employment status. More males' self-employed and casual workers, while more females are in the contributing family workers and domestic employee categories.

The private informal sector accounts for 97.0 percent of all employed persons in the Districts, followed by public (government) (2.2%) and the private formal sector accounting for (0.4%).

9.2.8 Disability

There are 2,453 persons with disability in the District constituting 3.0 percent of the population. About 33.6 percent of all PWDs has sight or visual impairments which is the dominant disability type, followed by physical disability (25.1%) with speech disability (10.6%) being the least in the District. Female PWDs have a higher proportion 35.5 percent with sight improved compared with males 31.7 percent. Emotional disability is higher among males

(14.4%) than among females (12.6%). Additionally, females have a higher proportion of males physical disability 27.6 percent while for males it is 22.8 percent.

9.2.9 Agricultural activity

About 91.6 percent of all households in the District are engaged in agriculture. Crop farming (97.2%) and livestock rearing (69.5%) are the most dominant agricultural activities in the District. The main crops grown in the District are millet, maize, yam, groundnut, among others. The major livestock reared in the District are chicken (33.4%), goat (29.4%), and sheep (10.0%), among others.

9.2.10 Housing conditions

The housing stock of the District is 10,444 with an average of one household per house. The average household size is 7.7. Of the 10,444 dwelling units in the District, compound house (45.8%) is the most common followed by separate house (41.6%). Almost forty-seven (46.6) percent of household with female heads live in separate houses whilst most (47%) males headed household live in compound houses.

Mud brick/earth is used for 89.9 percent of outer walls of houses while cement blocks/concrete is used for 7.3 percent.

For roofing, metal sheets is the most used material for 63.9 percent, houses followed by mud/mud bricks/earth 28.6 percent. Thatch/palm leaf or raffia is the third highest with a proportion of 4.2 percent.

The main source of lighting for most household in the District is flash light/torch 61.6 percent. Followed by kerosene lamp with a proportion of 25.0 percent. Only few households use electricity (mains) 9.5 percent candle and crop residue by less than 0.9 percent.

Drinking water of households obtain their from six main sources as follows: bore-hole including pump or tube well (79.3%), pipe-borne water outside the dwelling (3.4%), pipe-borne water inside the dwelling (0.2%), public tap or standpipe (0.9%), river or stream (8.8%), and sachet water (0.5%).

Majority of the households (85.9%) in the District have no toilet facilities. The others use pit latrine (8.8%), public toilet 3.1 percent KVIP 1.2 percent and W.C has a proportion of 0.9 percent.

About 45.0 percent of households in the District have their own bathrooms, while 16.0 percent share separate bathrooms in the same households. About 1.0 percent and 15.5 percent household's bath in another house or in open space around the house respectively.

Over 45.0 percent of households dump their solid waste indiscriminately, while 34.3 percent use public dump (open space). Rubbish is collected in only 8.4 percent of households. The rest are either burned or buried. Most households (90.0%) throw their liquid waste onto the compound, street or into a gutter. Only 6.1 percent of households dispose of liquid waste through the drainage system into a gutter or soak away.

9.3 Conclusion

From the discussions, it is observed that Wa West District has a youthful population. The youthful population implies there would be many potential workers in the future.

The population size has been affected by immigration and high births rates among teenagers. The high birth rates suggest the low patronage of contraceptives and other family planning methods. Health is a major concern in the District. Mortality levels are relatively high. It can thus be said that there are gaps in measures developed to improve the health of persons in the District especially children under five years.

The role of the private sectors to employment cannot be overemphasized. It remains the main sector of employment in the District. Agriculture, especially food crop farming, is the main occupation for people in the District.

The advocacy for household latrine as stipulated in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is not really reflecting in the District. Public toilets and open space defecation are still on the ascendancy in the District. The presence of few public containers has increased disposal of refuse in open spaces and this can lead to more diseases like malaria and diarrhoea. Many houses are built with mud/brick/earth. There are a lot of privately owned houses in the District from which the District Assembly can tap sufficient revenue to improve their revenue base.

There are small proportions of households using desktop/laptop computers, internet and fixed telephone lines. Mobile phones which are important for learning and effective communication are owned by about 9.7 percent of persons in the District.

9.4 Policy Implications

The data collected have provided the basis and platform for several policies which when implemented will improve the standard of living in the District.

Education must be attractive to prevent children from dropping out from school to work. There must be vocational and technical education to secure the youth employment after school. Pre-primary departments should be established in the basic schools so as to lay a solid educational foundation for children before they progress to primary school.

The Health Ministry should intensify health policies on family planning and contraceptive use to check the rate of fertility especially among the teenagers. Immunization policies and sensitization programmes should be extended beyond the health centres and health post to include platforms such as community durbars, radio discussions, church visits, etc.

Sanitation byelaws and policies should be intensified, more rubbish containers should be provided to the various communities. The statutory planning committee and other concerned bodies should insist on household latrine in building plans to reduce the dependency on public toilet and open space defecation.

The various communities should be encouraged to use gas for cooking instead of wood which has some health hazards and can also lead to deforestation. The District Assembly should endeavour to provide pipe borne water to more communities in addition more houses should be connected to the national grid (electricity) which will help students to learn after school. The District Assembly should make good use of the various livestock to improve their internally generated funds for efficient and effective development in the District.

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APPENDICES

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

S/No.	Community Name	Sex			House holds	Houses
		Total	Male	Female		
1	Wechiau	2,187	1,041	1,146	367	357
2	Tanina	2,058	1,024	1,034	273	263
3	Meteu	1,970	984	986	217	203
4	Ga	1,886	941	945	309	320
5	Nyoli(Yipienibor)	1,697	816	881	296	237
6	Dornye	1,595	785	810	245	202
7	Kpanfa	1,546	770	776	328	250
8	Vieri	1,470	772	698	201	156
9	Dorimon	1,461	704	757	212	200
10	Yuonuuri	1,432	674	758	195	182
11	Buli	1,371	655	716	190	204
12	Lassia-Tuolu	1,342	621	721	196	198
13	Ponyentanga	1,263	564	699	170	175
14	Chogsia	1,157	547	610	198	117
15	Kandeu	1,118	557	561	168	137
16	Pole	1,084	565	519	141	70
17	Gboriyiri	1,069	556	513	108	122
18	Kantu	1,063	506	557	156	119
19	Debliyiri	1,034	473	561	121	122
20	Zenoyeli(Jewoyeli)	1,024	496	528	159	192

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

S/No.	Community Name	Age Group																
		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	Wechiau	2,187	350	369	282	251	171	173	145	106	106	56	38	29	25	15	23	48
2	Tanina	2,058	220	310	305	272	157	115	115	112	69	45	73	46	47	38	53	81
3	Meteu	1,970	219	373	401	215	96	84	78	71	90	98	71	43	67	21	16	27
4	Ga	1,886	197	273	272	289	198	128	109	90	93	45	40	24	46	16	31	35
5	Nyoli(Yipienibor)	1,697	204	242	286	260	147	93	58	67	70	49	50	17	35	15	36	68
6	Dornye	1,595	261	286	225	171	105	56	56	56	80	42	71	54	57	24	28	23
7	Kpanfa	1,546	250	259	178	167	104	127	101	76	58	50	58	22	28	12	18	38
8	Vieri	1,470	239	248	208	142	71	76	120	83	76	36	44	14	34	12	21	46
9	Dorimon	1,461	231	221	201	146	113	91	101	50	59	45	48	27	41	12	27	48
10	Yuonuuri	1,432	183	279	263	160	54	36	47	63	92	54	41	28	35	25	30	42
11	Buli	1,371	191	188	213	179	81	51	56	55	57	66	44	20	49	23	28	70
12	Lassia-Tuolu	1,342	182	202	234	205	73	81	55	65	48	49	36	28	31	19	11	23
13	Ponyentanga	1,263	156	201	221	164	108	56	61	62	59	36	35	26	26	12	13	27
14	Chogsia	1,157	154	210	177	131	85	64	57	44	34	37	29	22	29	16	15	53
15	Kandeu	1,118	168	158	192	116	82	49	59	35	48	49	24	19	41	6	21	51
16	Pole	1,084	103	186	146	162	89	56	54	46	42	28	30	30	34	14	21	43
17	Gboriyiri	1,069	98	136	163	179	126	80	37	42	43	51	31	23	24	10	14	12
18	Kantu	1,063	154	144	162	145	90	66	63	54	42	36	23	15	20	10	20	19
19	Debliyiri	1,034	161	174	178	116	45	31	24	59	44	36	43	26	28	23	15	31
20	Zenoyeli(Jewoyeli)	1,024	136	215	162	107	68	44	54	32	45	37	46	7	16	12	14	29

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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